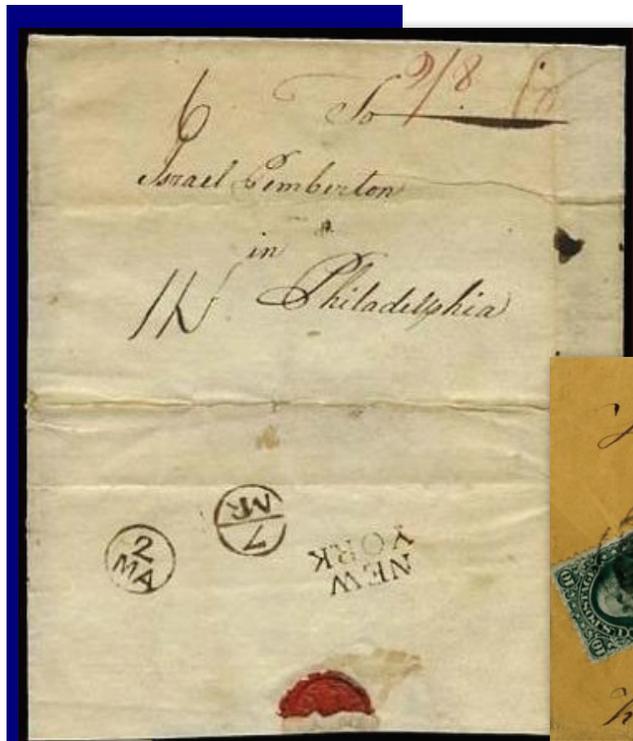


# Random Discoveries

**HAVE YOU LOOKED IN YOUR ATTIC, GARAGE OR BASEMENT LATELY?** We have asked this question to countless thousands of people over the past five decades and it's made us many friends—for it has often caused folks to take a second look at the things they have stored away. Suddenly, as if by magic sometimes, old letters and correspondences appear that end up having some value to them—not just sentimental value, but monetary! Here are some items that are now in collectors' hands, but were once hidden away for years.

Below: Full color Spanish-American War patriotic envelope depicting the wreck of **USS MAINE** in Havana Harbor. Franked with 2-1/2c U.S. Occupation of Cuba surcharged postage stamp. Manuscript notation "Soldier's Mail, 7th U.S. Cavalry, Havana, Cuba." Found many years ago by Floyd Risvold and now valued at over \$1,000.



An 1863 cover bearing two value stamps. It was sent from Albany, New York, to Hoya, Germany. Found in an old family correspondence, its value is over \$400.

The most amazing things can turn up among family memorabilia. Here is a stampless cover from 1771 that was sent from New York to Philadelphia. Value: Over \$1,500.

Below left: Take a close look at this cover. Each of the cancels on the stamps is a depiction of a 1920s era movie cameraman. It's a 1929 cover when such fancy cancels were still permitted. Value: \$200.

## What's In YOUR Attic?



An unusual—and illegal—use of the two-cent regular issue of 1922. In order to make up the 3-cent rate, the sender cut one of the two-cent stamps in half. Such bisects never have been legal. Value: \$100.



A 1925 cover sent via air mail and franked with a nice block of four of the early U.S. 8-cent airmail stamp. Note the special "Air Mail Service, New York" hand-stamp at left right. Value: Over \$100.