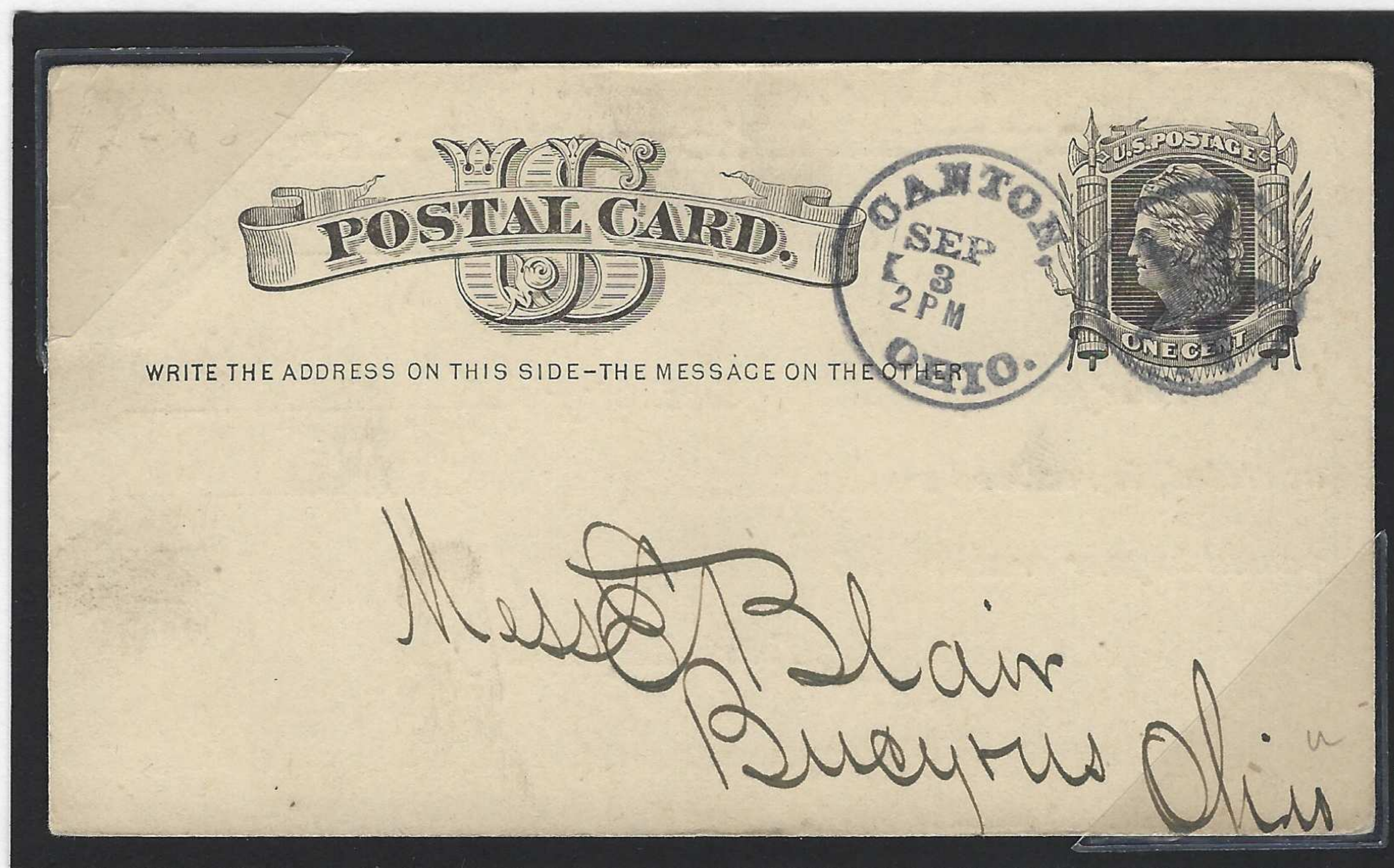


### 3. Stars in Circles

Star in circle killers come in many styles and with circles of various diameters.



#### Canton, Stark County

Two styles of circular date stamps were paired with the star in circle killers in these examples dated nearly three years apart. The December 29, 1877 example includes a year date while the later usage of September 3, 1880, indicated by the dated message on reverse, finds the year date replaced by a time slug. The more recent postmark is not as sharp, indicating wide usage over the years.



Return to THE FOSTORIA STAVE & BBL. CO.,  
FOSTORIA, Ohio,  
If not delivered within 10 days.

Feb 25-1879

G. S. Groshon  
Frederick  
Md.



### Fostoria, Seneca, County

An early use of a postmark with a star in circle killer, dated February 25, 1879, illustrates the numerous styles that were produced by private firms.

### Bucyrus, Crawford County

This purple ink example from July 28, 1879 shows a star 12 millimeters across in a circle 17 millimeters in diameter. The circular date stamp is a fancier style with serif letters and two tiny stars.



WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE-THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER



Levi's July 28

D. S. Kent & Co  
East Dorset  
Vt.



### Florence, Lorain County

A late Banknote Era postmark shows a killer with a heavier circle around the star. The circular date stamp shows a combination of fonts and the date is on a single line.



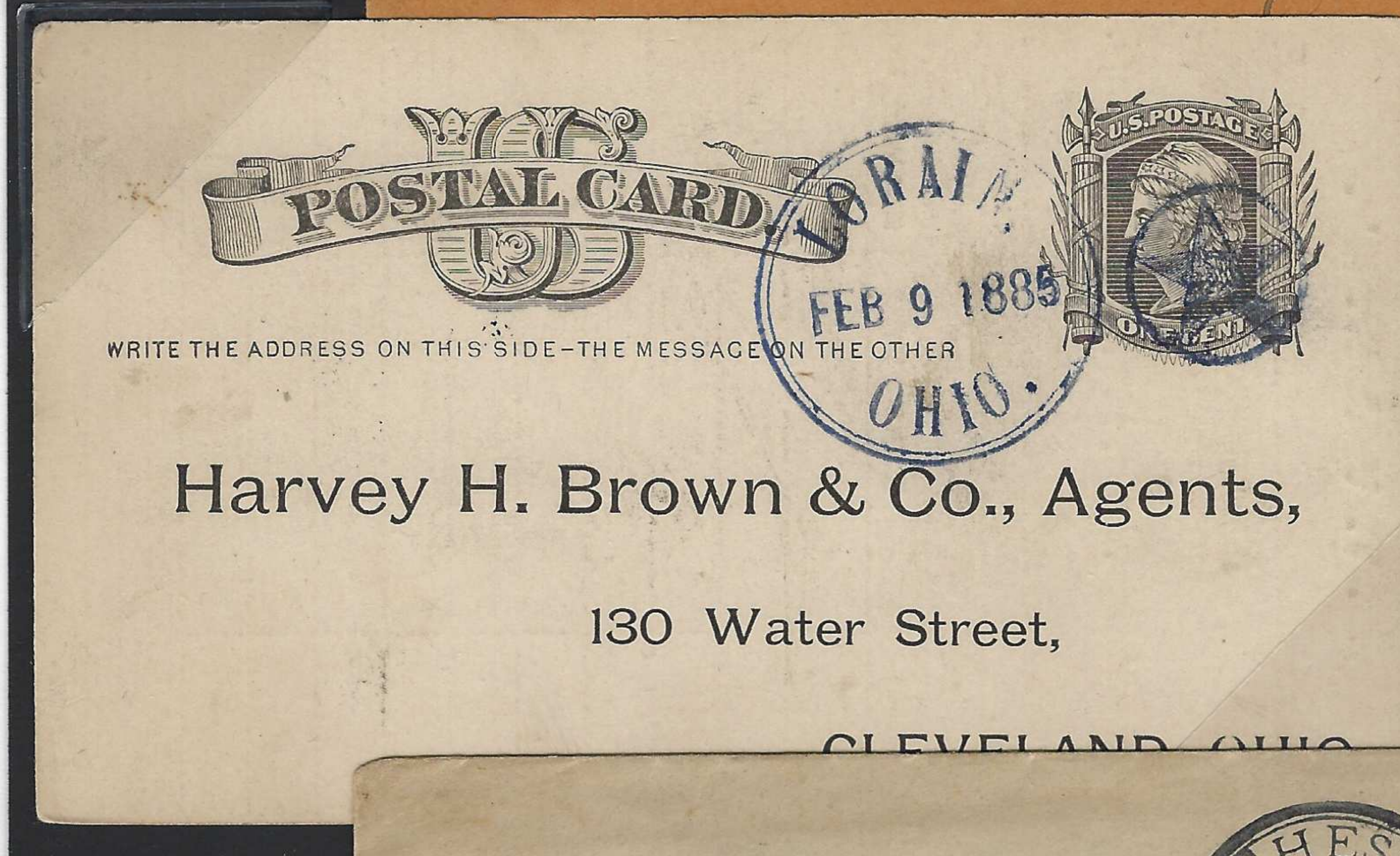
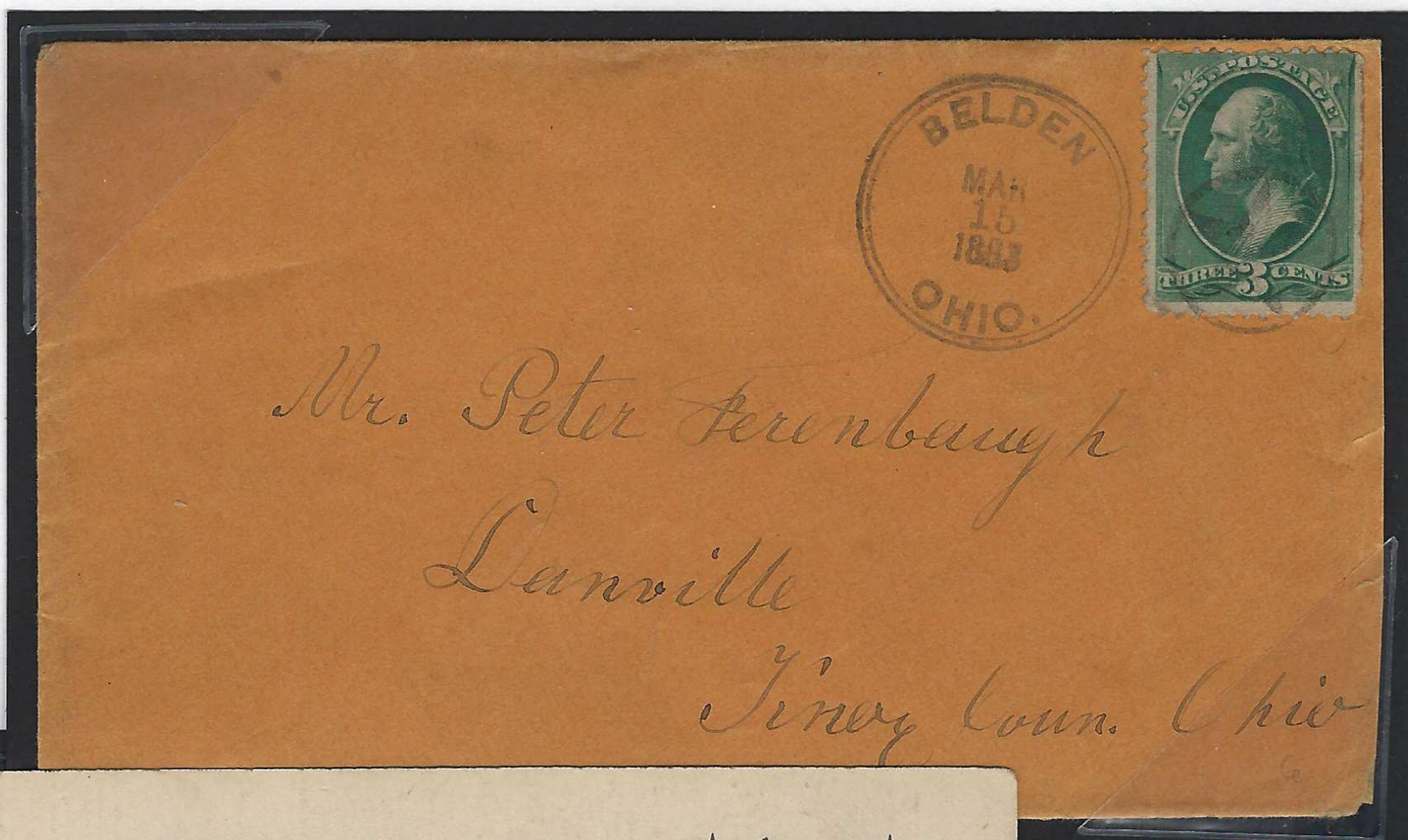
24 23  
10 608

T. M. Sandy,  
Chester,  
Conn.



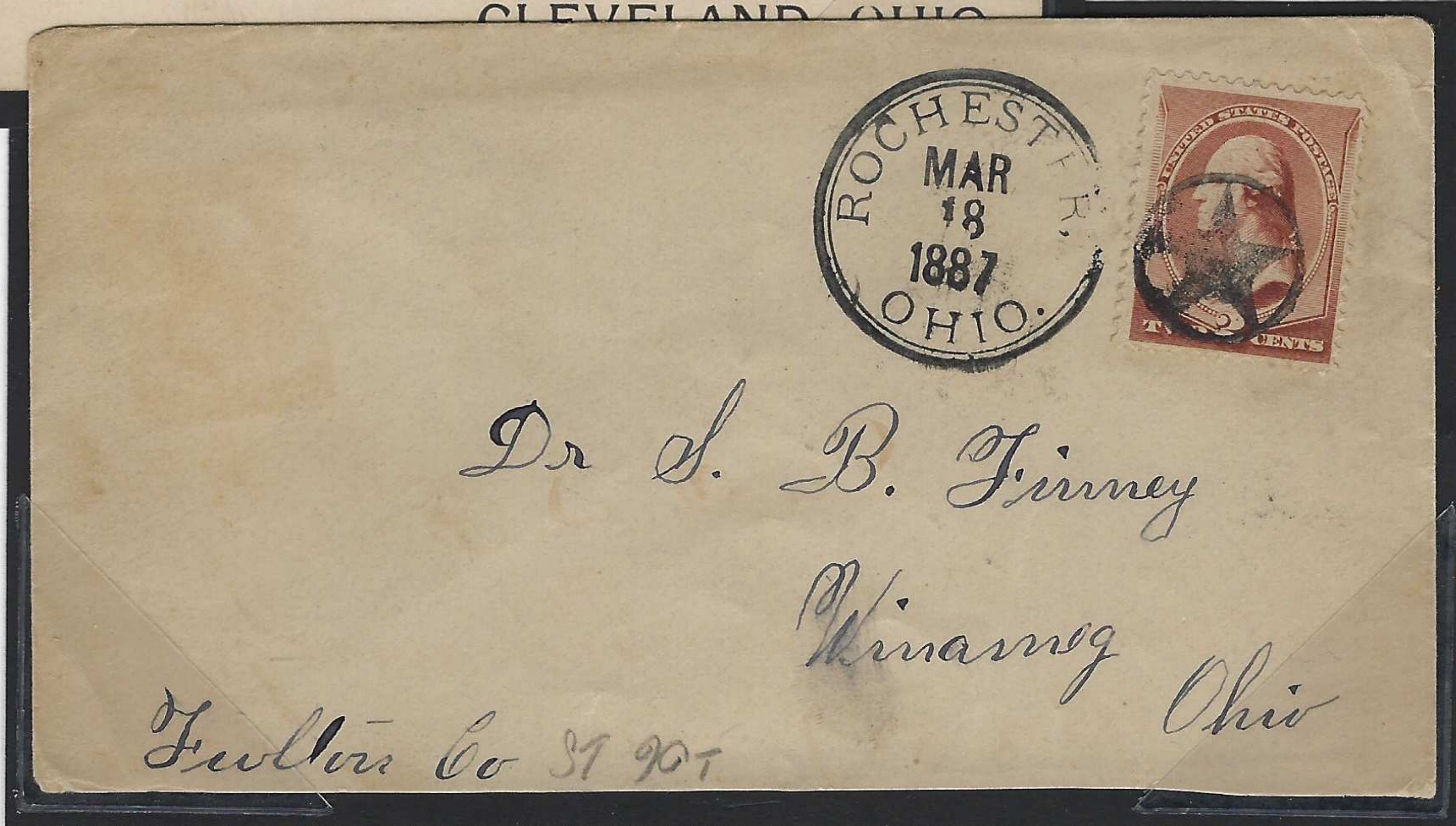
In Lorain County, three post offices used postmarks with star-in-circle killers of similar size, but with circular date stamps that are readily distinguishable by size and font.

Belden

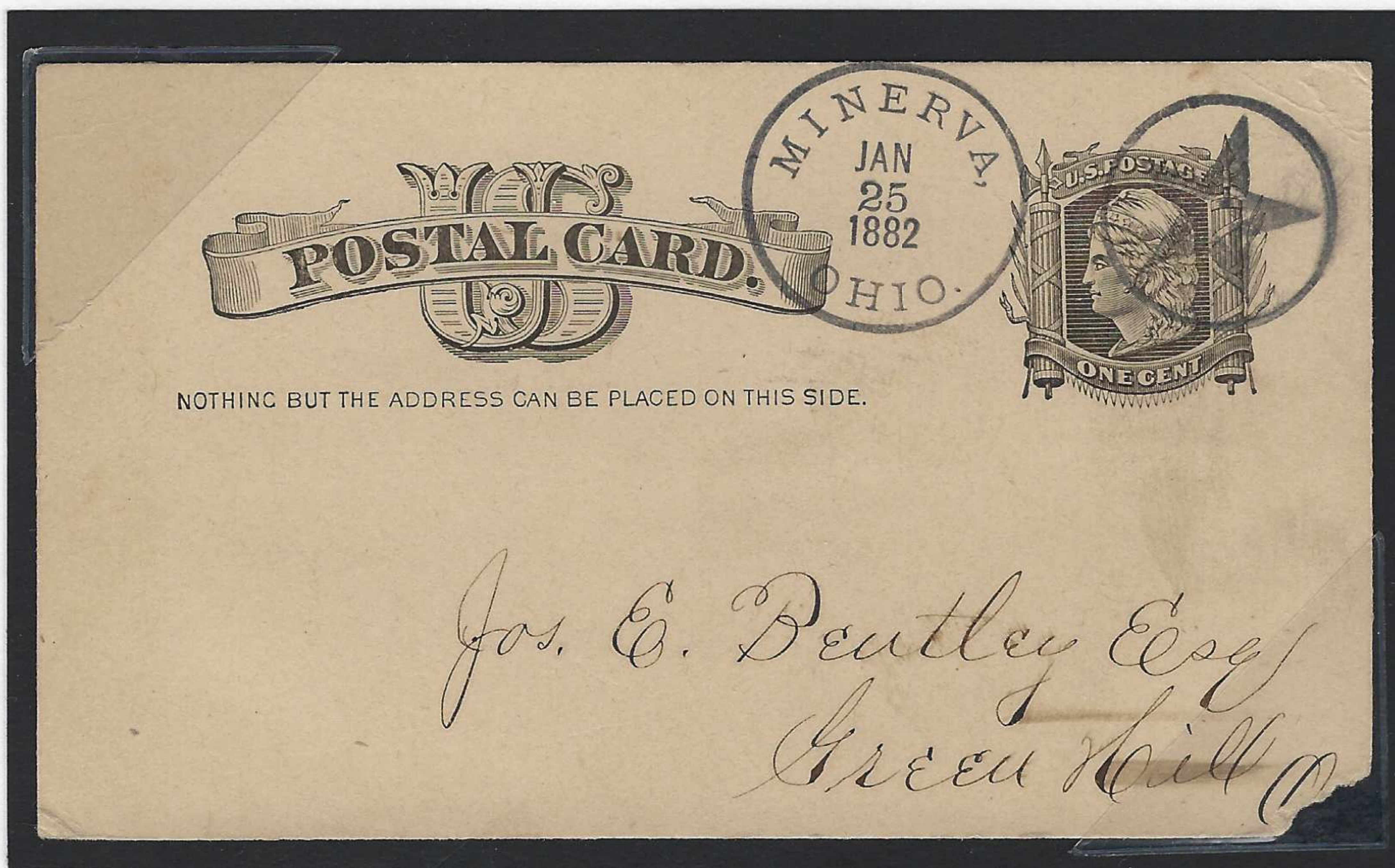


Lorain

Rochester

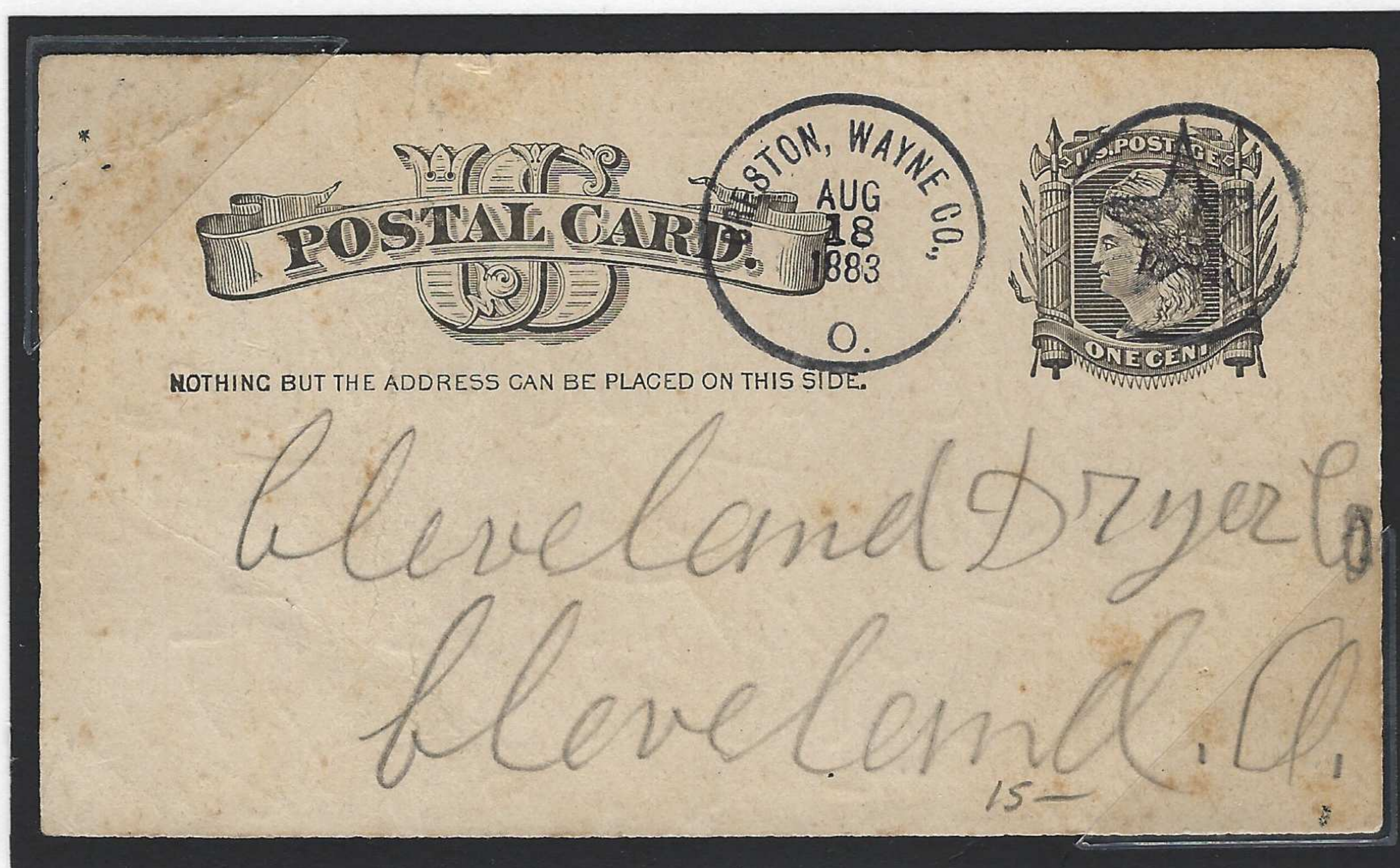






### Minerva, Stark County

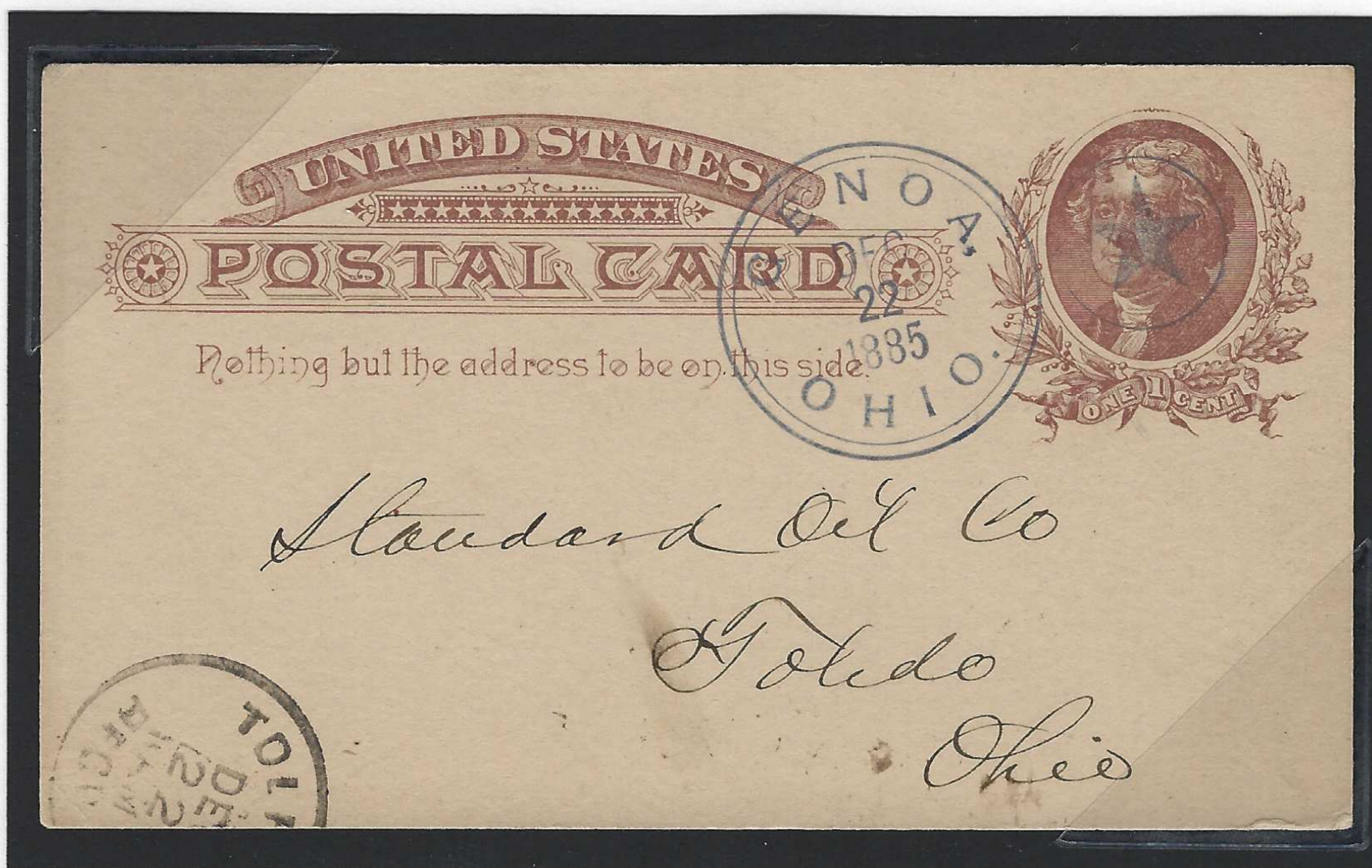
Another style shows a circular date stamp of January 25, 1882 with a shorter font with serifs and a larger (23 millimeters) star in circle design.



### Creston, Wayne County

An almost identical postmark was used at Creston on August 18, 1883. The difference lies in the circular date stamp, which finds a narrower style of letters without serifs. The county name also is included.





### Genoa, Sandusky County

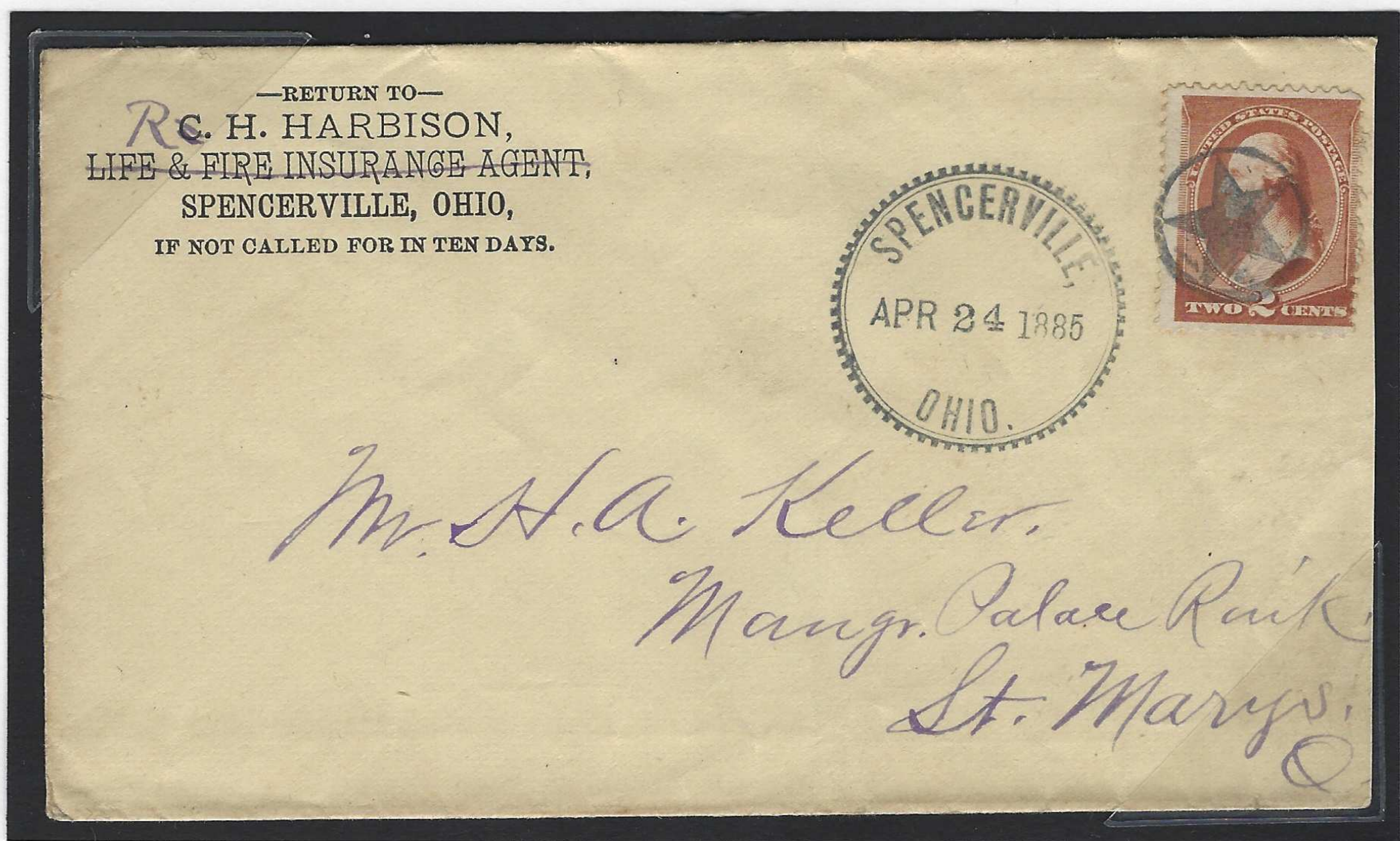
This large double circle circular date stamp with a small star in circle killer is another privately produced style.



### Adams Mills, Muskingum County

Another style of circular date stamp of December 26, 1888 finds the town and state names between the circles with a smaller star in circle killer.





### Spencerville, Allen County

A cogwheel circular date stamp was another style produced privately. This example of a star cancel from April 24, 1885 indicates that the circular date stamp was separate from the 17-millimeter diameter killer.



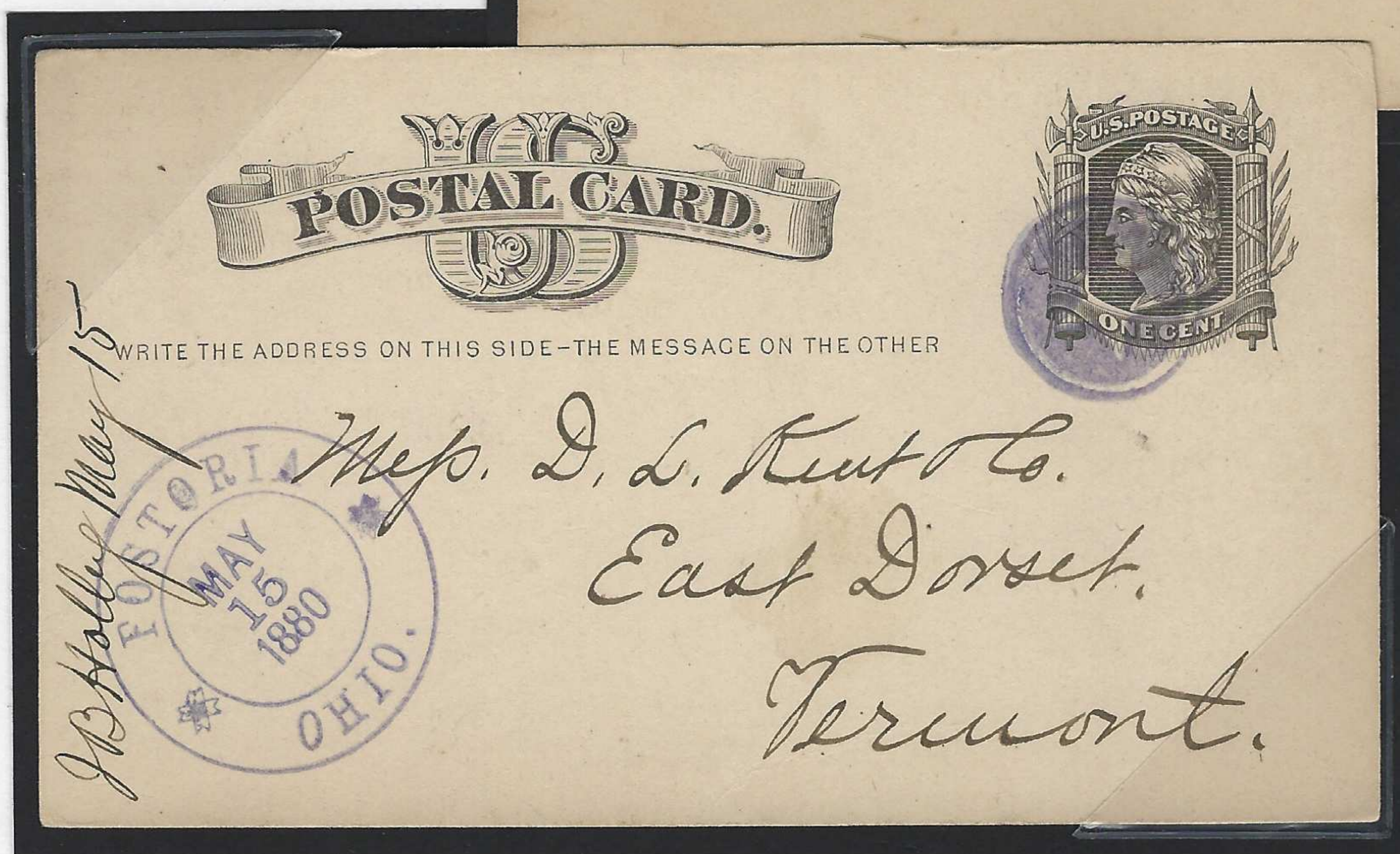
### Stantontown, Morrow County

Another privately produced postmark from March 17, 1887 finds a different smaller style of cogwheel circular date stamp with a separate star in circle killer.



#### 4. Negative Stars

Again, because postmarking devices varies among manufacturers, styles were many and the sizes of the stars in the killer portion of the postmark came in different diameters.



#### Fostoria, Seneca County

Within months, perhaps weeks of the earlier example of a star in circle design, the post office in Fostoria was using new styles of canceling devices. These examples from the May 7, 1879 and May 15, 1880 include a circular date stamp that is separate from the killer. The double-circle circular date stamp has flowers between the town and state names. The killer is a negative star style with an outer ring. The ink color also changed to reddish purple and then to bluish purple during the period.





### Fitchville, Huron County

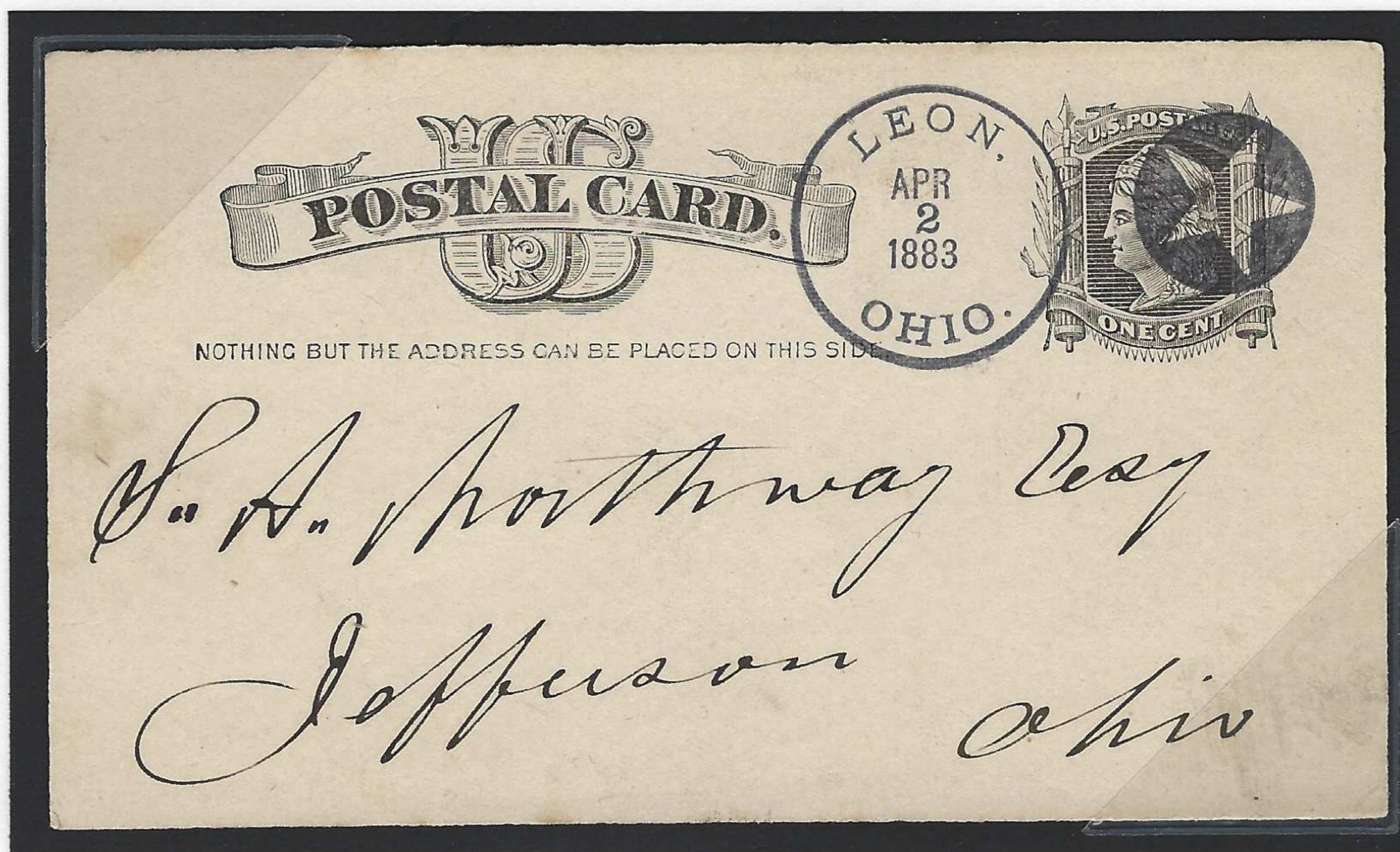
This negative star style of August 26, 1879 is similar to the Minerva, Ohio, postmark in this exhibit. The circular date stamp utilizes a font with serifs. The killer, however, is smaller at 17 millimeters in diameter.



### Ashville, Pickaway County

This style of December 7, 1881 mimics the Fitchville cancel, the difference being the font in the circular date stamp, which is a bit wider in stance. The negative star also is 17 millimeters in diameter.





### Leon, Ashtabula, County

This is a striking negative star cancel from April 2, 1883. It demonstrates that the same style of postmark was used by different post offices over the course of several years.



### Shane's Crossing, Mercer County

It's possible that this canceling device was made with the others for numerous Ohio communities. Note in the circular date stamp in this example of October 12, 1881 that the font for "Ohio" has serifs and that it contrasts with the font of the name of the community, which features square-shaped letters without serifs. The negative star in circle killer is 19 millimeters in diameter.