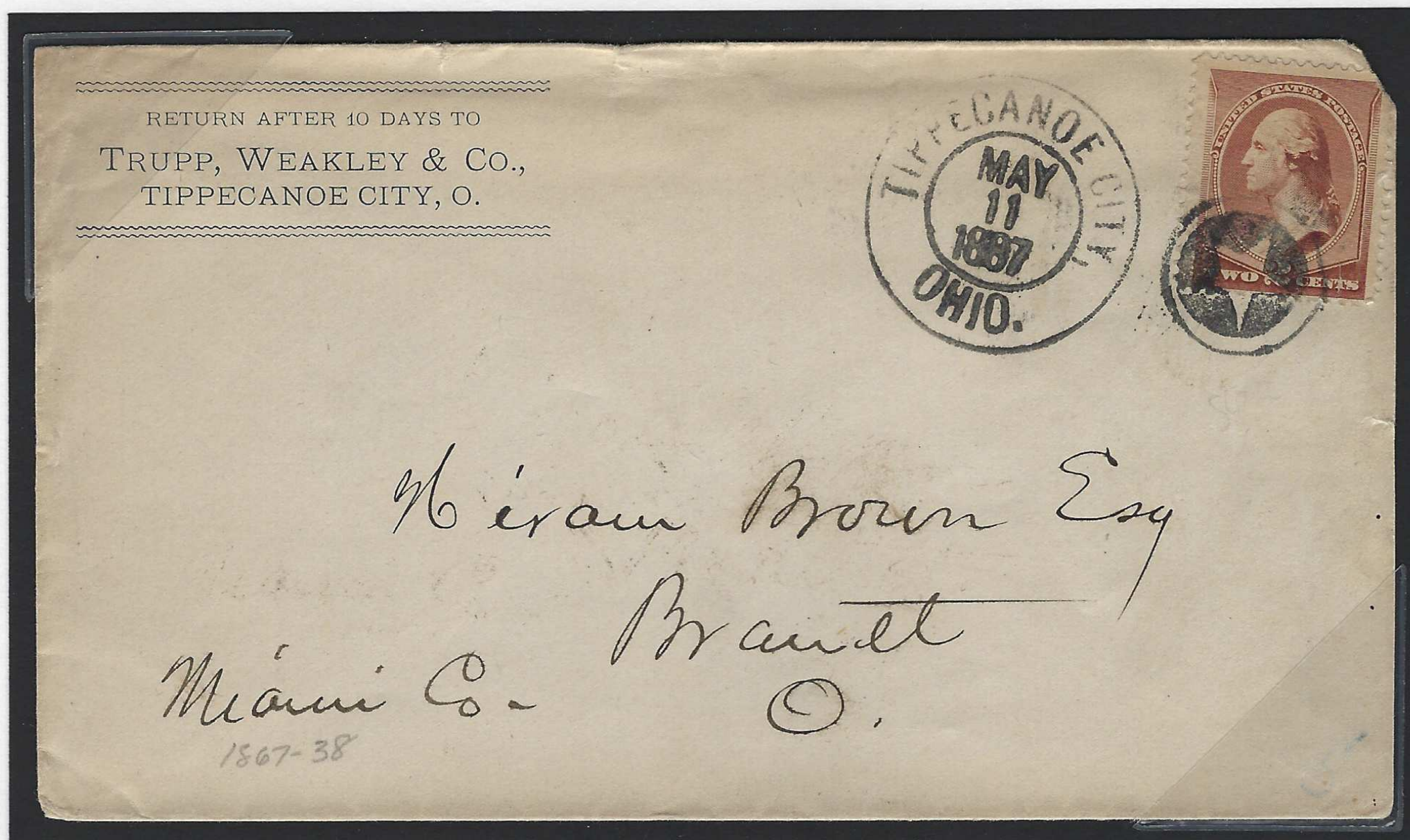




Castine, Darke County

What distinguishes this cancel is the postmaster's name that appears in the double-circle circular date stamp. Note the asterisks on opposite sides in this rather sophisticated design. The star killer is 17.5 millimeters in diameter.

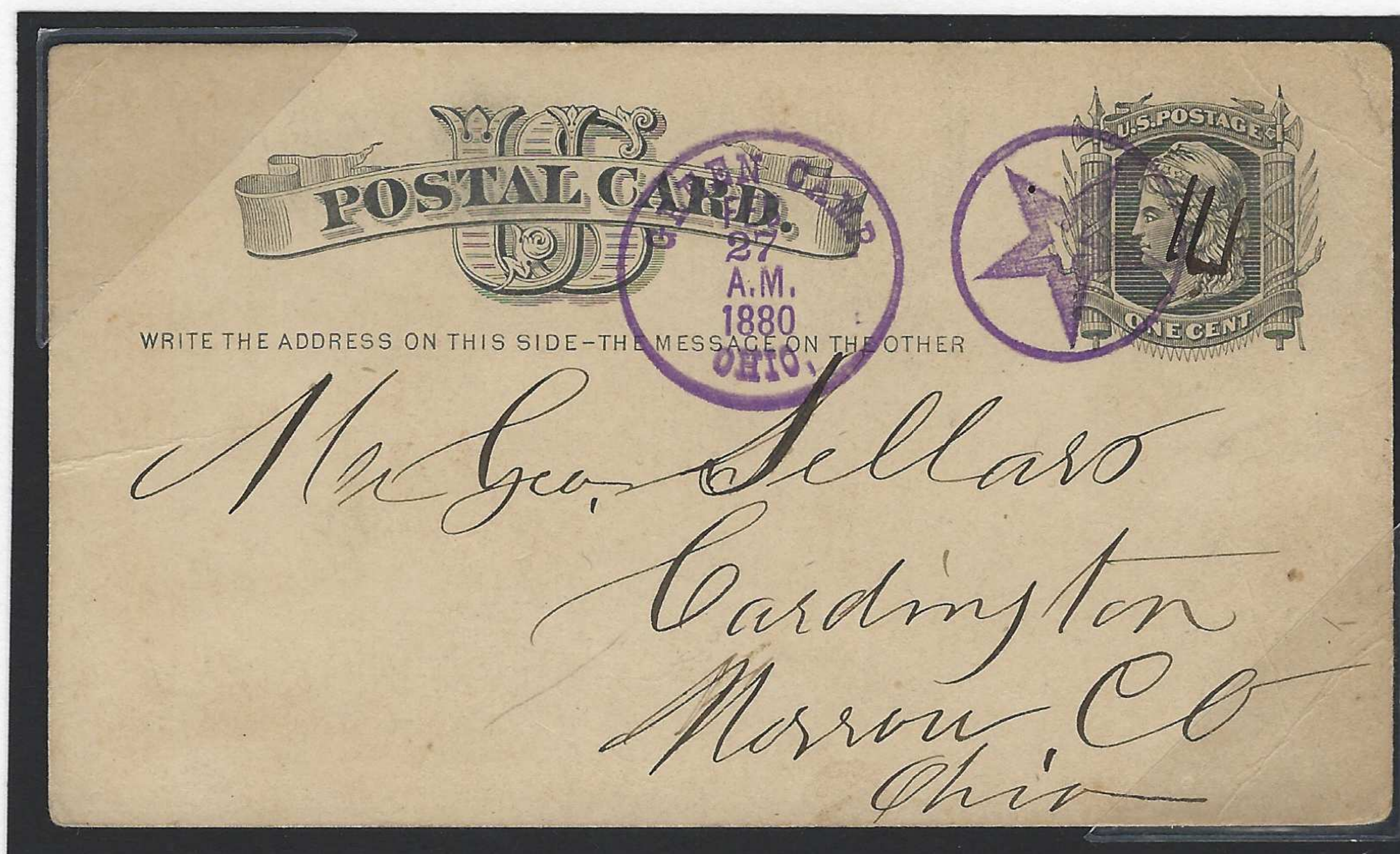


Tippecanoe City, Miami County

The negative star in this design is smaller at 12 millimeters across and is surrounded by an outer circle. The almost imposing style of double circle circular date stamp dominates the overall design.

5. Stars within Stars

The stars within stars will vary by size and even by orientation within the outer star.



Green Camp, Marion County

A common style of privately produced postmarks is seen in this example of Feb. 27, 1880. The circular date stamp has a font with narrow, thick letters with serifs. The killer, with tiny negative star within a large star, almost matches the size of the CDS at 22.5 millimeters.



Pyrmont, Montgomery County

Star in circle postmarks appear in several varieties. This example of October 8, 1881 finds a negative star within a star, all within a circle. The external star is 19 millimeters across.

**Lima,
Allen County**
A small star
appears within
the star killer of
this variety of
January 15, 1880
in blue ink. The
postmark
includes a
double-circle
circular date
stamp.

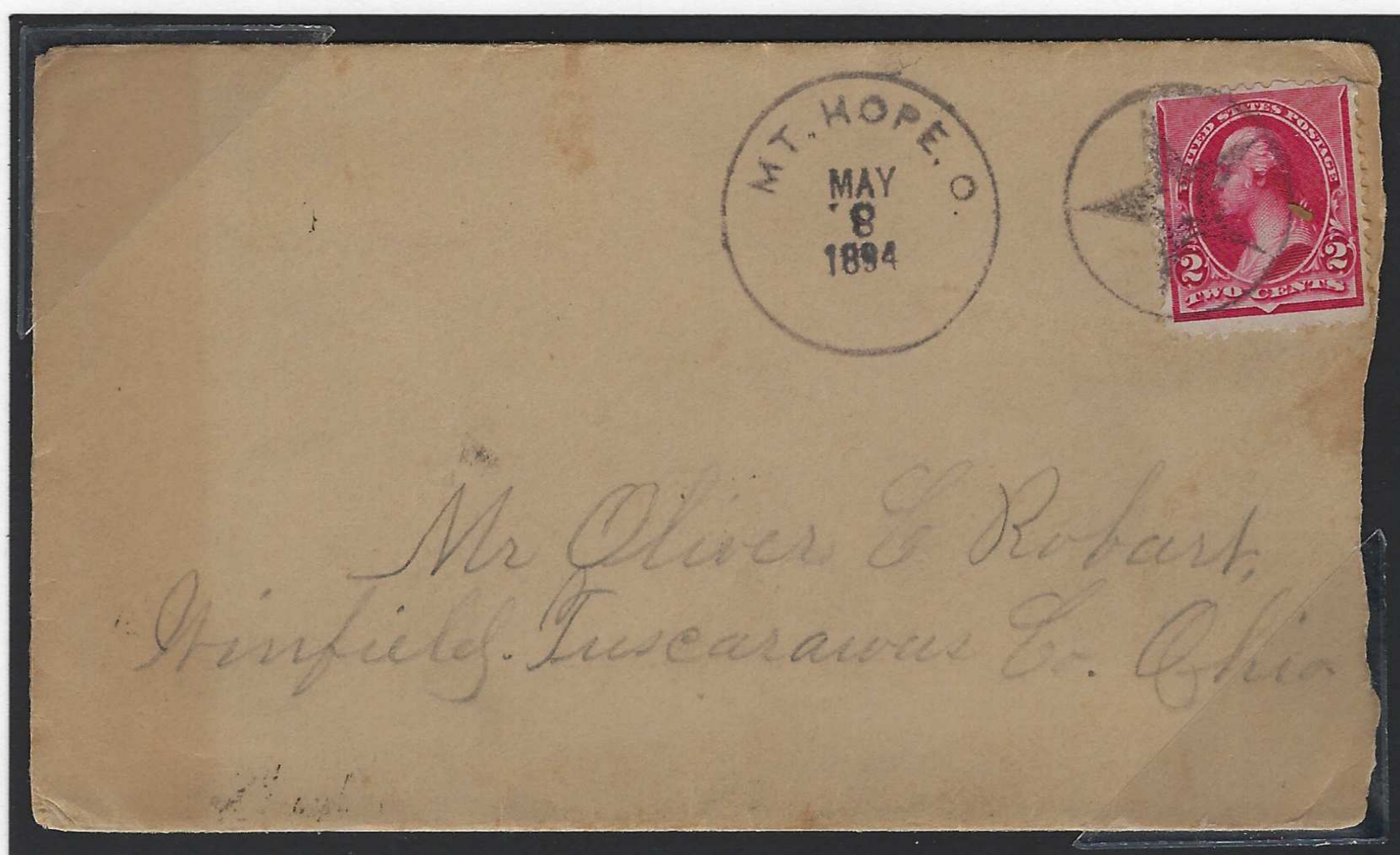


**Phalanx
Station,
Trumbull
County**
The star killer
has no outer
circle. It appears
to be separate
from the circular
date stamp
rather than
integrated into
one canceling
device.



Forest, Hardin County

Some circular date stamps included not just the town name, but the county name as well, as this example from June 14, 1882 shows.



Mt. Hope, Holmes County

Because the Banknote Era carries through 1894, fancy cancels also appear on the First Bureau Issue of 1893 from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.



Harrisburgh, Franklin County

The star within the star of this May 27, 1882 killer example is difficult to distinguish. The larger external star is 15 millimeters across and also has lines of shading within its outer frame.



Gypsum, Ottawa County

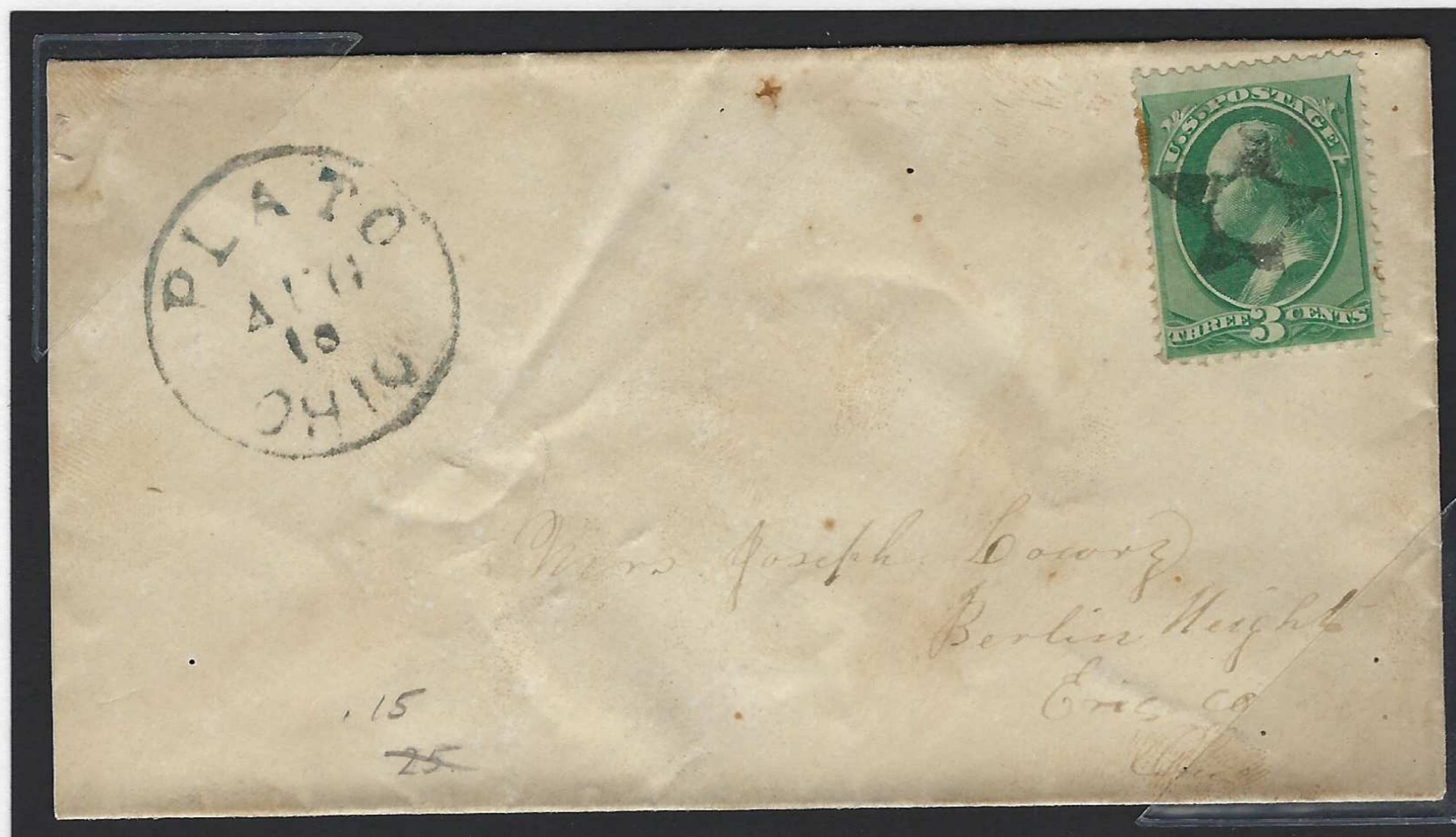
The star killer in this July 4, 1887 postmark is the same style as the example from Harrisburgh. However, the "circular" date stamp incorporates an elaborate design and includes the name of the town's postmaster. It utilizes a narrow sans serif font for the town name that is not often seen.

6. Circles inside of Stars

A variation of the stars within circles cancellatons.

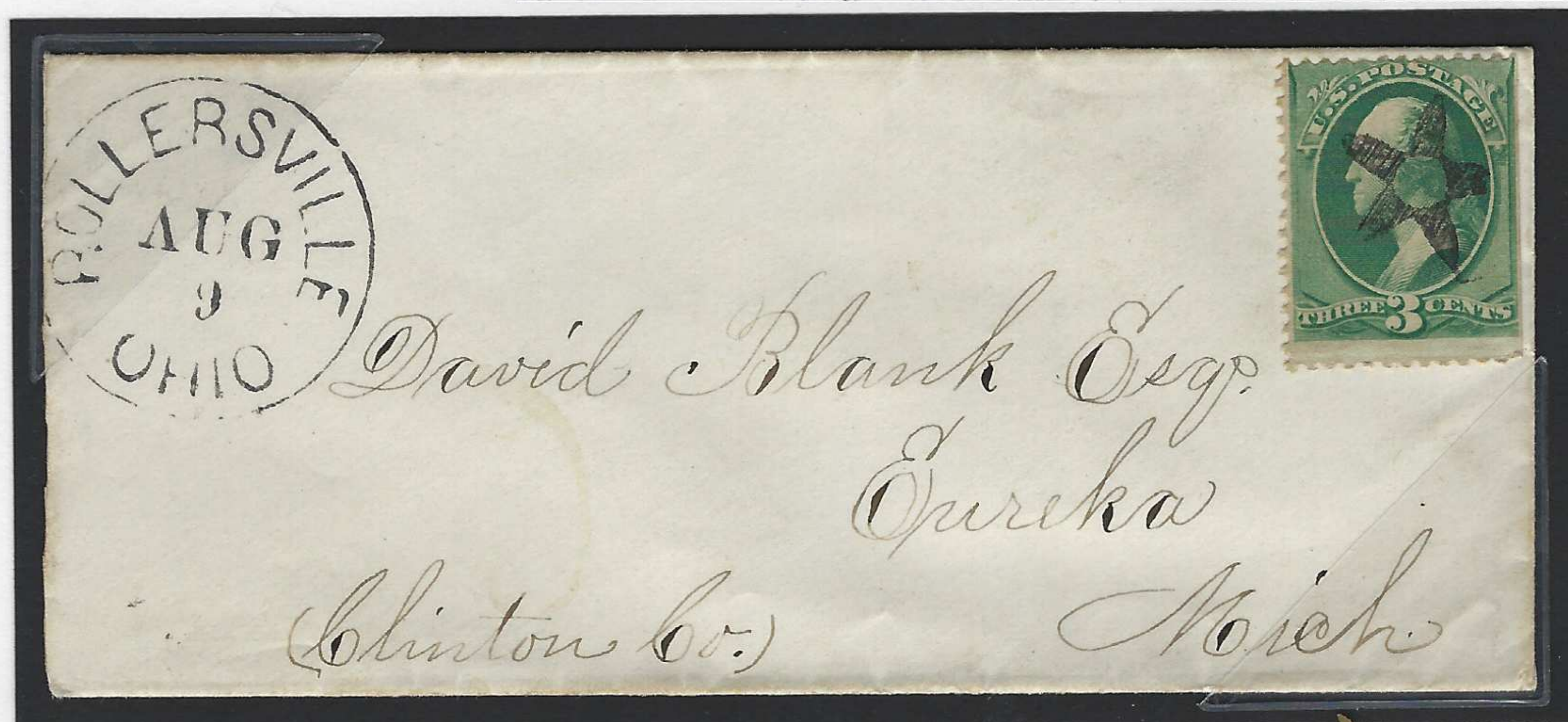
Plato, Lorain County

This well worn style of killer appears to have been carved into wood or rubber. The circle is irregular and each ray of the star has varying widths and lengths.



Rollersville, Sandusky County

This circle inside of star variety from an unknown year has long and narrow rays and a medium-size circle in the center.



Wilmington, Clinton County

This killer of November 19, 1875 has a small circle in the center with thin elongated rays in the star. The circular date stamp is typical of those provided by the post office.



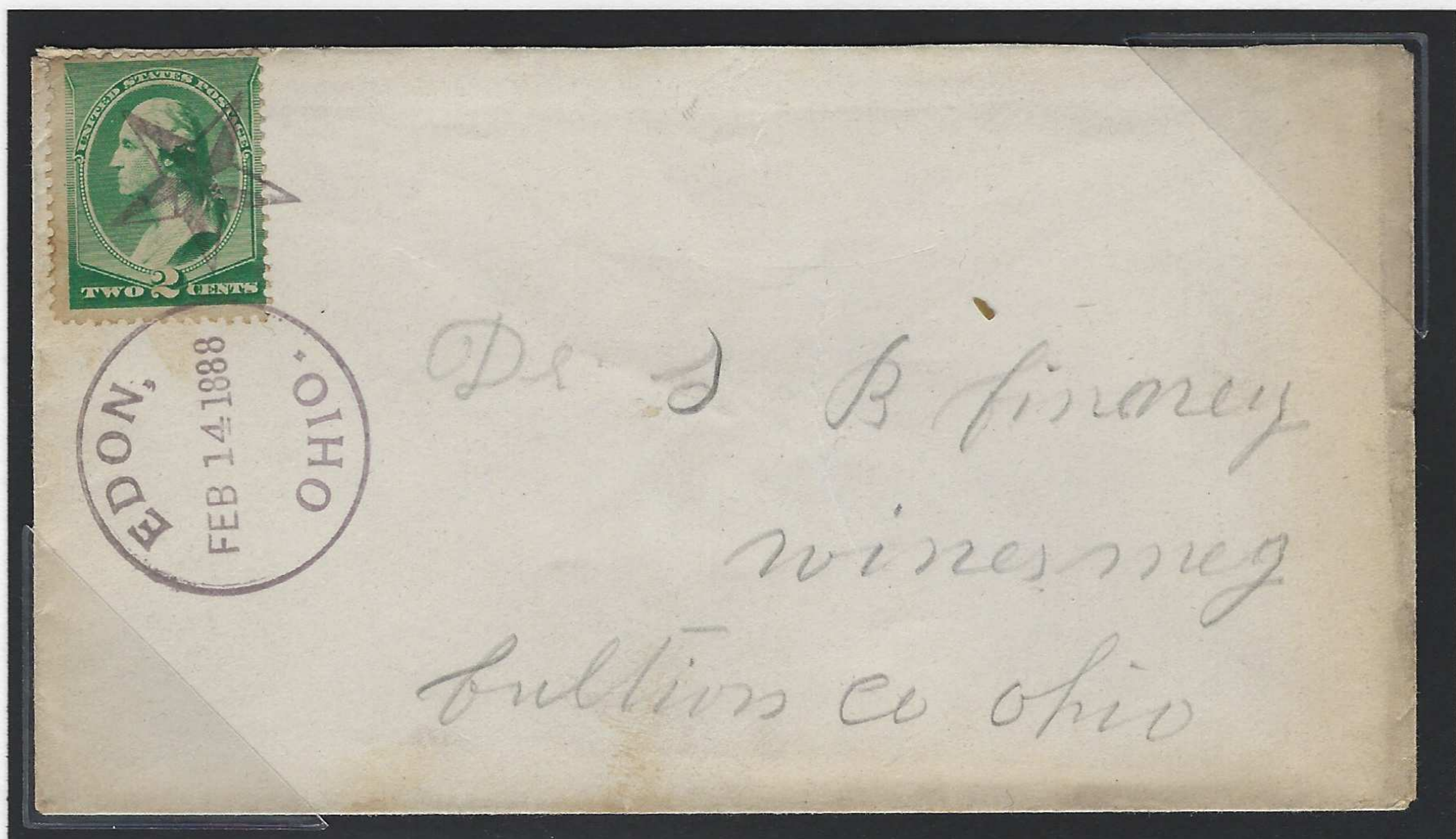
7. Shaded Stars

This style appears to have been created to give a three-dimensional effect to the killer.



Leesville Cross Roads, Crawford County

This shaded star killer of January 15, 1887 is paired with a large circular date stamp that uses a sans serif font. The name of the community is long enough to have an additional line of text inserted above the date. The star is 20 millimeters across.



Edon, Williams County

Here is another example from February 14, 1888, with a star that is 19 millimeters across. The large circular date stamp uses a different font style, however.



Waverly, Pike County

The shaded star in this example of March 8, 1884 is smaller at 16 millimeters across and has lines of shading in addition to heavier shading in each ray. The circular date stamp has two additional stars between the town name and state.



Trotwood, Montgomery County

This shaded star from May 28, 1889 is smaller, 14 millimeters across, and is contained within a double circle, as is the circular date stamp.

7. Other Examples

These are two examples of a killer with a line drawing of a star against a black background. They appear to be hand carved. The circular date stamps on the other hand are typical of the period with a month and day but no year date.



Salem, Columbiana County



Monroeville, Huron County