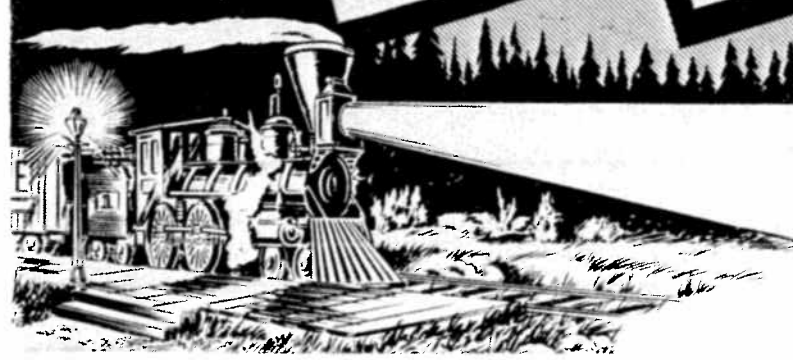


EARLY Wisconsin RAILROAD POSTMARKS
by ROLAND L. HUSTIS

1851
 •
 1857



Bulletin
 4 May 1950
 25¢

EARLY WISCONSIN RAILROAD POSTMARKS

① MILWAUKEE & MISSISSIPPI R. R.



Black on 3¢ 1853 Envelope U10
Probably 1854. Believed to be the
earliest known Wisconsin
Railroad Cancellation.



Black on 3¢ 1853 Envelope U10
Dated 1857



Black on Envelope with 3¢
1851 stamp No. 11



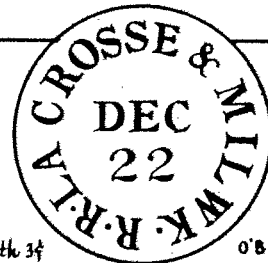
Black on Envelope with 3¢
1857 stamp No. 26

M & M R R June 2
Pencil m.ms. on Envelope
with 3¢ 1851 stamp No. 11

First Wisconsin railroad. Chartered as MILWAUKEE & WAUKESHA R. R. in 1847, as MILWAUKEE & MISSISSIPPI R. R. March 11, 1848. Work started in 1849. Opened from Milwaukee to Waukesha February 25, 1851 to Whitewater in 1852, to Milton and Stoughton in 1853, to Madison in 1854, to Prairie du Chien in 1856. In 1860 it became the MILWAUKEE & PRAIRIE DU CHIEN R. R., later the Prairie du Chien Division of MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL R. R.

② LA CROSSE & MILWAUKEE R. R.

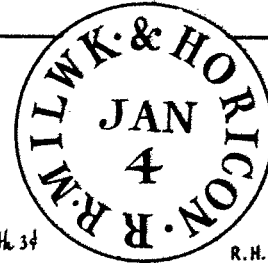
Opened from Milwaukee to Beaver Dam July 4, 1856, to La Crosse, October 14, 1858. Later became the La Crosse Division of the MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL R. R.



Black on Envelope with 3¢
1857 stamp No. 26

③ MILWAUKEE & HORICON R. R.

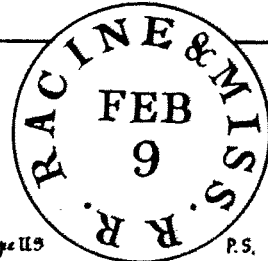
Chartered as MILWAUKEE, FOND DU LAC & GREEN BAY R. R. in 1853, Opened from Milwaukee to Horicon in 1855, over LA CROSSE & MILWAUKEE R. R. tracks. Extended to Berlin in 1856. Later became the Northern Division of the MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL R. R.



Black on Envelope with 3¢
1851 stamp No. 11

④ RACINE & MISSISSIPPI R. R.

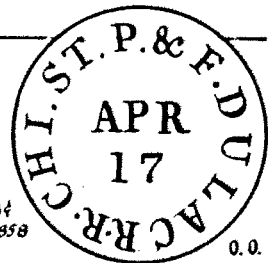
RACINE, JANESVILLE & MISSISSIPPI R. R. No postmarks known. RACINE & MISSISSIPPI R. R. its successor opened to Beloit in 1857. In the '60's and '70's known as WESTERN UNION R. R. Later the Southwestern Division of MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL R. R.



Black on 3¢ 1853 Envelope U9

⑤ CHICAGO, ST. PAUL & FOND DU LAC R. R.

Opened from Chicago via Harvard, Illinois to Janesville in 1855, thence via Watertown Junction and Burnett Junction to Fond du Lac in 1858. later became part of the CHICAGO & NORTHWESTERN R. R.



Black on Envelope with 3¢
1857 stamp No. 26 Dated 1858

Note: All Postmarks reproduced exact size.

EARLY WISCONSIN RAILROAD POSTMARKS

- ⑥ MILWAUKEE & DETROIT R. R. (MILWKE & DETROIT / R.R. 34 mm. on envelope with 3¢ 1857 stamp No. 26
 also known as the DETROIT & MILWAUKEE R. R. (DETROIT & MILKE / R.R. 35 mm. on envelope with 3¢ 1857 stamp No. 26
Post marks above listed by Dr. Carroll Chase in his book on 3¢ 1857-1857 issue

Opened the early part of 1857. A steamboat line from Milwaukee across Lake Michigan to Grand Haven, Michigan thence a railroad to Detroit. Later became a car-ferry known as Milwaukee & Grand Haven Steamship Line.

- ⑦ MILWAUKEE & WATERTOWN R. R. *No postmarks known.* Opened from Milwaukee to Oconomowoc Dec. 18, 1854, to Watertown Sept. 21, 1855. As WATERTOWN & MADISON R. R. opened to Madison in 1857. Later became Watertown Division of MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL R. R.

- ⑧ GREEN BAY, MILWAUKEE & CHICAGO R. R. opened from Milwaukee to Wisconsin-Illinois state line as part of CHICAGO & MILWAUKEE R. R. *No early postmarks known.* Opened from Chicago to Milwaukee, May 19, 1856. Later became part of CHICAGO & NORTHWESTERN R. R.

- ⑨ SOUTHERN WISCONSIN R. R. *No postmarks known.* Opened from Milton to Janesville in 1853, from Janesville to Monroe in 1855.

- ⑩ MINERAL POINT R. R. *No postmarks known.* Opened from Mineral Point to Warren, Illinois in 1855.

- ⑪ KENOSHA, ROCKFORD & ROCK ISLAND R. R. *No postmarks known.* Opened from Kenosha to Genoa in 1862. Later became Kenosha Division of CHICAGO & NORTHWESTERN R. R.

- ⑫ BELOIT & MADISON R. R. *No postmarks known.* Opened from Beloit to Evansville in 1862, to Madison in 1864.

⑬



Same size reproduction of embossed imprint on flap of envelope.

PORT HURON & MILWAUKEE R. R. *No postmarks known.* May not have carried mail. A steamboat and railroad line similar to Milwaukee & Detroit R. R. Later became the GRAND TRUNK R. R. Steamship Line Milwaukee to Sarnia, Ontario.

- ⑭ WISCONSIN & SUPERIOR R. R. *No postmarks known.* Opened from Fond du Lac to Oshkosh, October 13, 1859, to Neenah-Menasha 1860, to Appleton 1861, to Green Bay, November 13, 1862. Later became part of the CHICAGO & NORTHWESTERN R. R.

- ⑮ SHEBOYGAN & MISSISSIPPI R. R. *No postmarks known.* Opened to Sheboygan Falls in January 1859, to Plymouth June 6, 1859, to Glenbeulah March 29, 1860. Became the SHEBOYGAN & FOND-DU LAC R. R. and opened to Fond du Lac, Feb. 14, 1869. Later became part of the CHICAGO & NORTHWESTERN R. R.

The above brief notes are given as a check-list of all railroads existing in Wisconsin in the 1851-1863 period, which carried or may have carried mail and used or may have used distinguishing railroad postmarks.

Future bulletins of this railroad series from 1863 on will continue the brief histories, name changes and consolidations of the railroads. The "runs" or mail carrying divisions of R. P. O. and R. M. S. service will follow. In the latter most postmarks indicate the terminals of the "run" rather than the railroads over which the mail was transported.

Note: If you have any Wisconsin railroad postmarks of this period not recorded in this bulletin will you kindly inform us. We need your help to complete this record. Full credit will be given you for any new listings.



This Bulletin is the fourth of a series issued by the Wisconsin Postal History Society, an affiliate of the State Historical Society. The society was organized in 1942 to "collect, record and preserve the complete postal history of Wisconsin." The ever-increasing interest in this phase of our life and progress is indicated in the steady growth of the society and the wide spread sales of its publications.

The following collectors have generously loaned their material for data and reproductions:

- C. C. Dr. Carroll Chase, Milford, New Hampshire.
 - O. O. Olaf A. Olson, Chicago, Illinois.
 - P. S. Paul Segnitz, St. Petersburg, Florida.
 - R. H. Roland L. Hustis, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
 - O' B. Neal O'Brien, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- Drawings and Calligraphy by
Ray Van Handel
Maps by the author.



Bulletin No. 1	Straight Line Cancellations of Wisconsin	15¢
" "	2 County and Postmaster Postmarks of Wisconsin	25¢
" "	3 Flag Cancellations of Wisconsin	25¢
A List of all Known Post Offices in the Territory and State of Wisconsin		\$ 2.00

The above literature may be obtained by writing the Secretary — Ray Van Handel,
221 Park Ave. Sheboygan, Wis.