

The earliest U.S. perfin sent outside the country

From Richard Learn (#3265) comes an electronic scan of the first known U.S. perfin cover sent outside the United States: it is post-marked July 17, 1908. It is also the first U.S. perfin cover with a perfin added to an embossed envelope (U91) and the first U.S. perfin cover with two perfined stamps on it (Scott 300 and 319). Learn says it is also the 10th oldest U.S. perfin cover known at this time.

The perfins on the stamps are the RJR (R96) pattern of Roberts, Johnson and Rand Shoe Company of St. Louis. It's a B-

rated pattern. Learn, who is compiling a checklist of early U.S. perfin uses on cover, is working on a list of the first known use of perfins from each of the 50 states. We will include that list in the *Bulletin* soon with the hope that it will lead to the discovery of more early uses of U.S. perfins.

