

ARTHUR I. ABELSON

723 LOEW BLDG.
SYRACUSE, N. Y. 13202

HARRISON 2-9946
ESTABLISHED 1936

March 4, 1967.

Dear Mrs. Wilson:-

Received your package of material earlier in the week. This is the first chance I have had to reply.

I regret to advise there is very little value in this lot. The Civil War material is in very poor shape, as you realize. Collectors want material in very fine condition, although I admit earlier items are seldom found that way.

As far as the stamps on the Civil War envelopes are concerned, many of them are damaged and of no value. The ones which are not damaged are still relatively common. They retail for 10¢ to 15¢ each. I have many of them in stock, and they sell slowly.

The letters in these Civil War envelopes are interesting, and of a moderate value to some collectors. Of course they are historical, and should not be destroyed, I do not handle them for re-sale, so cannot give an exact value. It depends on finding someone who is interested in buying. I had hoped these Civil War envelopes would have Patriotic designs. There are many designs, and if in nice condition, they have definite value, depending on design, relative scarcity, etc.

But, as none of yours are of that type, this does not enter into it. If they were that way, I would be glad to buy them at a fair price.

The second lot of later usage has one envelope worth about \$2.00 (The blue and red envelope from H.L. Wilson, of Smethport, Pa.)

The Columbian exposition card is worth about \$1.00. Both of these quotations are retail, and I would not be interested in buying them, as I have enough of this at present.

However, you may be able to find a buyer

over

for these. The balance of the later lot has no value, as far as I can see.

I am enclosing a name and address of a possible buyer for the other Civil War material which you have, and also the letters from this lot, of Civil War usage.

I do not know this party, so cannot tell you anything about him. I would assume he is reliable, as they do not accept advertising unless they get references, as a rule. But, I cannot tell whether he pays a good price or not.

I can only suggest you write him, and describe what you have. If he would drive up to see you when the weather is better, that would be the best way, instead of your shipping all of the material for his inspection and offer.

I am sorry this did not work out to mutual advantage. If you come across anything else in early envelopes with stamps, in nice condition, or hear of anyone else having it for sale, I will appreciate your recommending me.

Sincerely,

Arthur Belmont