

Purpose: This exhibit shows letters passed to shipping agents in New York, and letters mailed from a selection of other US post offices via New York, to illustrate Freight Money rates charged by pioneer steam and sailing packet companies from New York to England between 1838 and 1848. Letters are shown indicating to whom monies were paid, inland postage and packet ship details.



Dateline Baltimore 11th January 1840, 1oz letter (4 rates) via New York to London showing Baltimore payments: '50' '75' (4x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ freight money + 4x 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ postage). Red Star Line 'Stephen Whitney' first voyage departing New York 14th Jan, arriving Liverpool 3rd February. British ship letter fee of 8d ('8') charged. Back stamps: 'LIVERPOOL / SHIP LETTER' [Rob S14] and London cds 'H/4FE4/1840'

Treatment: In approximate chronological order from 1838

- Return voyages of the initial steamers 'Sirius' and 'Royal William'
- Examples of letters passed to shipping agents at New York for steamers 'Great Western', 'Liverpool', 'British Queen', 'President' and 'United States'.
- Examples of Freight Money cover payments made to provincial Post Offices including some alongside New York origin covers on the same voyage.
- Examples of use from Quebec, Canada, to UK via New York.
- Examples of sailing packet Freight Money charges by various sailing packet companies overlapping with the steam ship sailings.
- Examples of late use from 1845 to 1848.

Scope & Study: Examples from the five principal post offices using the service are shown: Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans, Charleston and Richmond, plus Auburn and Norfolk. These post offices give rise to 311 of the 318 Freight Money covers known from the USA. Significant items are highlighted in red.

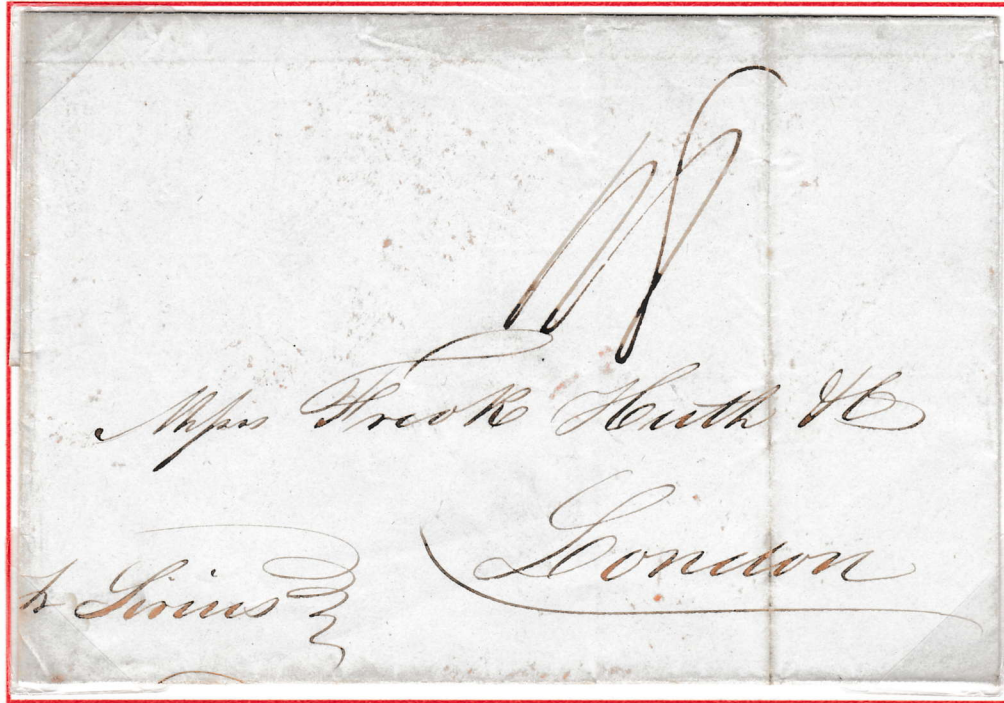
Background:

- US steamship freight charge for letters was 25¢ per sheet from 30th June 1838. US sailing packets charged 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per sheet from 26th October 1838, paid to the shipping agents, directly or by the US Post Office.

Staff, F: The Transatlantic Mail, Quarterman Publications, Inc, Lawrence, Mass, 1980, pp 155-6
Winter, Richard F: The Origins of Freight Money, USPCS, Chronicle Vol 39 No 3, August 1987, pp 208-214
Arnell, J.C.: Handbook on Transatlantic Mail, British North America Philatelic Society, 1987, pp 55-56
Hahn, C: Freight Money Letters 1837-1847, Exhibition Photocopy Committee, USPCS, 29th November 1988
RF Winter's Anniversary Presentation to the GB Postal History Society in 2011
Pullin, J: North Atlantic Packets Departures & Arrivals 1818-1840, The Author, 2009
Tabcart, C: Robertson Revisited, James Bendon, Ltd., Limassol, 1997

Additional sailing data from the online archives of the New York Times and The Times

Unpaid single letter sent from New York via Falmouth to London
on board pioneer steamer 'Sirius' in May 1838



The New York Albion for May 5, 1838 reported as follows:

"The Sirius (the first commercial transatlantic steamer) sailed on Monday for London... It is stated that the Sirius took with her 17,000 letters, for which no charge whatever was made... Supposing each letter had been charged at a quarter of a dollar, it would have yielded upward of \$4000 say £1000 sterling!"

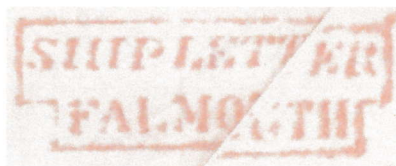
The shipping agents for the 'SS Great Western' responded quickly, and an advertisement that appeared June 19, 1838 in the New York Commercial Advertiser stated:

"Letters received on board will be charged 25 cents per single sheet; large letters and parcels in proportion."

Arnell, J.C.: Handbook on Transatlantic Mail, British North America Philatelic Society, 1987

Letter annotated 'p Sirius' and passed to the ship's agents at New York without payment.

Carried on the return leg of the maiden voyage of the 'Sirius'.



GB inbound ship rate: 8d per increment (effective 1815) plus inland postage rate of July 1812 to December 1839.

British & American Steam Navigation Co.
'Sirius'
dep New York 1 May 1838
arr Falmouth 18 May

On reverse:
Red 'SHIP LETTER / FALMOUTH'
Rob. S7 (in use 1835-1840)
Red London double ring 'F 21MY21 1838'

At London, postage due assessed as:
Ship fee 8d
Inland (230 - 300 miles) 12d
Total due 1/8d ('1/8')

Pioneer Steamer 'Royal William'
Freight Money paid to Shipping Agent

Double Rate
New York, NY

Unpaid double letter sent from New York via Liverpool to London
on board pioneer steamer 'Royal William' in August 1838



The letter is dated New York 21st July 1838 and was taken to the mail bag at the ship agent's office (not to the post office), where 50¢ steam freight money fee was paid (2x 25¢), but not shown on the letter. It was carried on the return leg of the first of three round trip voyages.

GB inbound ship rate: 8d per increment (effective 1815) plus inland postage rate of July 1812 to December 1839.

City of Dublin Steam Packet Company
'Royal William'
dep New York 4 August 1838
arr Liverpool 19 August

'LIVERPOOL / SHIP LETTER'
Rob. S13 (in use 1834-1838)

London arrival 'A / 21AU21 / 1838'

At Liverpool, postage due assessed as:
Ship fee 2x 8d
Inland (170 - 230 miles) 2x 11d
Total due 3/2d ('3/2')

Six rate letter sent from Philadelphia via New York and Liverpool to London
on board pioneer steamer 'Royal William' in October 1838



'PAID' 'PHILADELPHIA PA OCT 19'

'1 1/2 oz 2.25'

[6x (12 1/2¢ postage + 25¢ freight money)
= 6x 37 1/2¢ = \$2.25]

Letter carried on the return leg of the
second of three round trip voyages:

City of Dublin Steam Packet Company
'Royal William'
dep New York 20 October 1838
arr Liverpool 5 November

'LIVERPOOL / SHIP LETTER'

Rob. S14 (in use 1838-1841)

At Liverpool, postage due assessed as:

Ship fee	6x	8d
Inland (170 - 230 miles)	6x	11d
Total due		9/6d ('9/6')

London dbl ring 'C 6 NO 6 1838'

Also one of the earliest possible
Philadelphia freight money covers

Paid double letter sent from Philadelphia via New York and Liverpool
to Sheffield on board pioneer steamer 'Royal William' in October 1838



This is one of the earliest known covers from Philadelphia
bearing a freight money charge. [Arnell page 56]

'PHILADELPHIA Pa OCT 19' 'PAID' '75'
where 75¢ steam freight money fee
and postage was paid at the post office
[2x (12½c inland + 25c freight money)]

It was carried on the return leg of the
second of three round trip voyages.

US inland rate effective 1825 - 1845
GB inbound ship rate: 8d per increment
(effective 1815) plus inland postage rate
of July 1812 to December 1839.

City of Dublin Steam Packet Company
'Royal William'
dep New York 20 October 1838
arr Liverpool 5 November

'LIVERPOOL / SHIP LETTER'
Rob. S14 (in use 1838-1841) on reverse

At Liverpool, postage due assessed as:
Ship fee 2x 8d
Inland (80 - 120 miles) 2x 9d
Total due 2/10d ('2/10')

Letter sent from New York via Liverpool to Sheffield on board pioneer
steamer 'Royal William' in October 1838



Dated 8th Oct 1838: No Freight money
shown - paid to New York ship agents

'LIVERPOOL / SHIP LETTER'
Rob. S14

Letter carried on the return leg of the
second of three round trip voyages:

At Liverpool, postage due assessed as a
double letter:

City of Dublin Steam Packet Company
'Royal William'
dep New York 20 October 1838
arr Liverpool 5 November

Ship fee	2x	8d
Inland (170 - 230 miles)	2x	9d
Total due		2/10d ('2/10')

On appeal found to be a single letter and
endorsed "Allowed 1/5"

Pioneer Steamer 'Royal William'
Freight Money paid to Post Office

Single Rate
Baltimore, Md

Paid single letter sent from Baltimore via New York and Liverpool
to Halifax on board pioneer steamer 'Royal William' in January 1839



'BALTIMORE MD JAN 13' 'PAID''Ship 25''18 3/4'
Steam freight money 25¢
US inland postage 18 3/4¢ (150-400 miles)
'NEW-YORK JAN 15' transit

It was carried on the return leg of the
last of three round trip voyages.

US inland rate effective 1825 - 1845
GB inbound ship rate: 8d per increment
(effective 1815) plus inland postage rate
of July 1812 to December 1839.

City of Dublin Steam Packet Company
'Royal William'
dep New York 16 January 1839
arr Liverpool 3 February

'LIVERPOOL / SHIP LETTER'
Rob. S14 (in use 1838-1841)

At Liverpool, postage due assessed as:
Ship fee 8d
Inland (50 - 80 miles) 8d
Total due 1/4d ('1/4')

Pioneer Steamer 'Great Western'
Freight Money paid to Shipping Agent

Double Rate
New York, NY

Double letter sent from Boston via New York and Bristol by
Harnden's forwarding agents to Llanelly in September 1839



Annotated 'Boston 19
Sep^t 1839', the letter
was carried to New York
by Harnden's forwarding
agency who paid the
shipping agent 2x 25¢
steamship freight money
at double rate.

Double letter sent from New York via Bristol to London in August 1839

Steamship freight
money of 2x 25¢
paid directly to
shipping agent.

London receiver
'H 15AUG15 1839'
on reverse.



Great Western Steam Ship Company
'Great Western'
dep New York 21 September 1839
arr Bristol 4 October

At Bristol, postage due assessed as:
Ship fee 2x 8d
Postage (80-120 miles) 2x 9d Total 2/10d

'Great Western'
dep New York 1 August 1839
arr Bristol 14 Aug

'BRISTOL / SHIP LETTER'
Rob. S8 (used 1833-44 in black at Bristol)

Pioneer Steamer 'Great Western'
Freight Money paid to Post Office

Triple Rate
Baltimore, Md

Triple rate entire sent from Baltimore via New York and Bristol
to London on board 'Great Western' in September 1839



Copy of London receiver on reverse



'BALTIMORE MD JAN 13' 'PAID' '75' '56¼'

Freight Money (steam) 3x 25¢ 75¢
Triple rate to New York 3x 18¾¢ 56¼¢

Baltimore normally showed both payments on
the cover and as 'PAID'.

US inland rate for 150 to 400 miles was
18¾¢ per sheet effective 11th March 1825
to 1st July 1845.

GB inbound ship rate: 8d per increment
(effective 1815) plus inland postage rate
per sheet from July 1812 to December 1839.

'NEW-YORK SEP 21' transit

Great Western Steam Ship Company
'Great Western'
dep New York 21 September 1839
arr Bristol 4 October

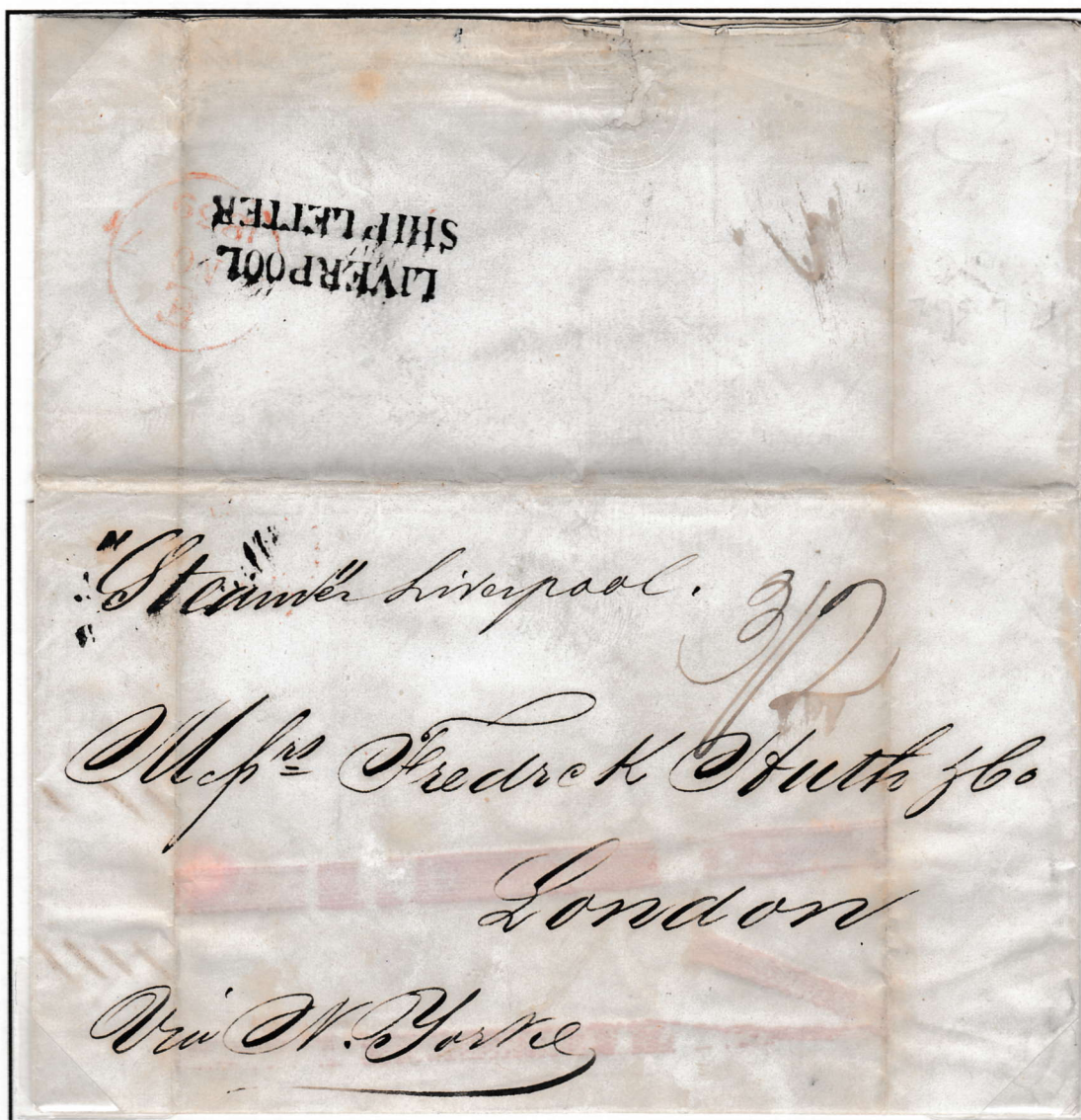
'BRISTOL / SHIP LETTER'
Rob. S8 (used 1833-1844)

London arrival 'C / 5 OCT 5 / 1839'

At London, postage due assessed as:
Ship fee 2x 8d
Mileage (80-120 miles) 2x 9d
Total due 2/10d ('2/10')

Letter assessed as 3 sheets at Baltimore but as only two sheets at London.

Unpaid double letter sent from Havana via New York and Liverpool to
London on board steam ship 'Liverpool' in October 1839



The letter is dated Havana 14th Sep^r 1839 and was carried out of the mails to New York where it was deposited in the mail bag at the shipping agent's office and 50¢ steam freight money fee paid (2x 25¢), not shown on the letter.

GB inbound ship rate: 8d per increment (effective July 1815) plus inland postage rate of July 1812 to December 1839.

Transatlantic Steam Ship Company
'Liverpool'
dep New York 19 October 1839
arr Liverpool 6 November

'LIVERPOOL / SHIP LETTER'
Rob. S14 (in use 1838-1841)

London arrival 'E / 7 NO 7 / 1839'

At Liverpool, postage due assessed as:
Ship fee 2x 8d
Inland (170 - 230 miles) 2x 11d
Total due 3/2d ('3/2')

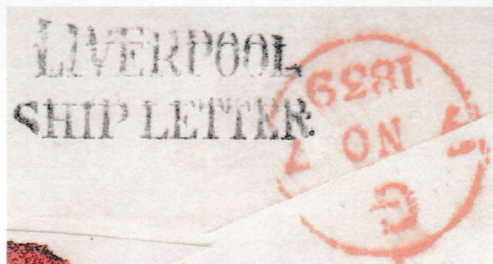
Pioneer Steamer 'Liverpool'
Freight Money paid at Post Office

Triple Rate
Philadelphia, Pa

Paid triple rate letter sent from Philadelphia via New York and Liverpool
to London on board steam ship 'Liverpool' in October 1839



Copy of marks on reverse



US postage calculated as:
Freight Money (steam) 3x 25¢ 75¢
Triple rate to New York 3x 12½¢ 37½¢
Total \$1.12½

Philadelphia showed the combined payments
on the cover as '1.12½' and 'PAID'.

US inland rate for 81 - 150 miles was 12½¢
per sheet effective 11th March 1825 to 1st
July 1845. Progression: 3 sheets equals 3
rates, 1 oz equals 4 rates

GB inbound ship rate: 8d per increment
(effective July 1815) plus inland postage
rate of July 1812 to December 1839.

Transatlantic Steam Ship Company
'Liverpool'
dep New York 19 October 1839
arr Liverpool 6 November

'LIVERPOOL / SHIP LETTER'
Rob. S14 (in use 1838-1841)

London arrival 'G / 7 NO 7 / 1839'

At Liverpool, postage due assessed as:
Double ship letter 2x 8d
Inland (170 - 230 miles) 2x 11d
Total due 3/2d ('3/2')

Pioneer Steamer 'British Queen'
Freight Money Paid to PO & Agent

Single Rate
Baltimore, Md & New York, NY

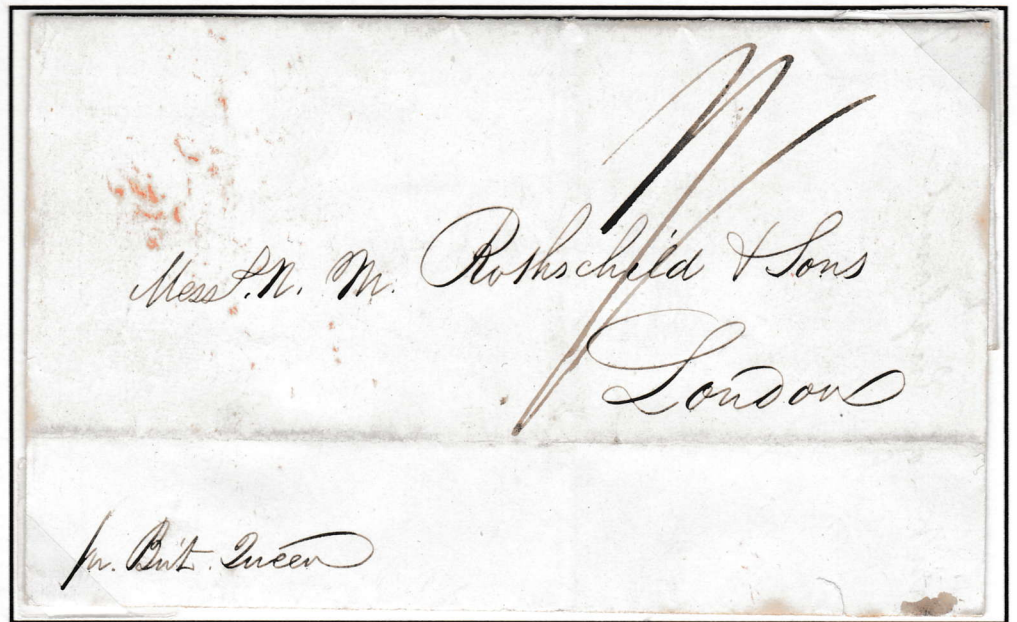
Paid letter sent from Baltimore, via New York and Gravesend
to London on pioneer steamer 'British Queen' in December 1839



Applied to reverse:
'SHIP LETTER / GRAVESEND'
Rob. S8 (in use 1835-40)

London single ring
'B 26DE26 1839'

Paid letter sent from New York to London on 'British Queen' in December 1839



Applied to reverse:
'SHIP LETTER / GRAVESEND'

London double ring
'A 26DE26 1839'

US Postage, Baltimore Post Office:

Freight Money 25¢
Inland to New York 18¾¢
Separate charges shown: 'PAID' '25' '18¾'

British & American Steam Navigation

'British Queen'
dep New York 2 December 1839
mail landed at Gravesend, Kent
arr London 26 December

US inland rate for 151 to 400 miles: 18¾¢
per sheet, 11th March 1825 to 1st July 1845.

Freight money paid at New York directly to
Steamship Agent (not shown on cover) 25¢

GB postage assessed as
Single ship fee: 8d per ½oz
plus 4d per ½oz inland postage 1s0d ('1/-')
(5th December 1839 to 9th January 1840)

The 'British Queen' was the only steam ship to arrive from
the USA during the GB 4d Uniform Inland rate period.

Arnell, J.C.: Handbook on Transatlantic Mail, BNAPS, 1987

Tabcart, C: Robertson Revisited, James Bendon, Ltd., Limassol, 1997

Pioneer Steamer 'British Queen'
Freight Money paid to Post Office

Single Rate
Philadelphia, Pa

Prepaid single rate letter sent from Philadelphia via New York and Portsmouth
to London on steam ship 'British Queen' in March 1840



US postage calculated as:
Freight Money (steam packet) 25¢
Single rate to New York 12½¢
Total 37½¢

Philadelphia showed the combined payments
on the cover as '37' and 'PAID'.

US inland rate for 81 - 150 miles was 12½¢
per sheet effective 11th March 1825 to 1st
July 1845.

GB ship fee and inland postage combined at
8d per ½ oz effective 10th January 1840.

British & American Steam Navigation
'British Queen'
dep New York 1 April 1840
arr Bristol 16 April
Fourth of nine voyages

'SHIP LETTER / PORTSMOUTH'
Rob. S15 (in use 1834-40)

London arrival 'FV / 16AP16 / 1840'

At Portsmouth, letter assessed as:
Single ship letter ½ oz

8d

Double rate entire sent from New Orleans via New York and
Bristol to London on board 'Great Western' in June 1840



Copy of London receiver on reverse

US Postage:

Freight Money (steam) 2x 25¢ 50¢ ('50')
Double rate to New York 2x 25¢ 50¢ ('50')

New Orleans normally showed both payments
on the cover and as 'PAID'.

US inland rate for more than 400 miles was
25¢ per sheet effective 11th March 1825 to
1st July 1845.

GB ship fee and inland postage combined at
8d per ½ oz effective 10th January 1840.

Great Western Steam Ship Company
'Great Western'
dep New York 30 June 1840
arr Bristol 15 July

'BRISTOL / SHIP LETTER'
Rob. S8 (in red, used 1840-41 at London)

London arrival 'A / 16JY16 / 1840'

At London, postage due assessed as:

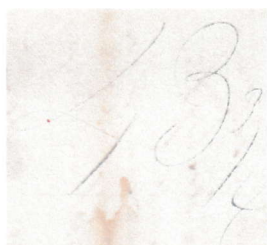
Ship fee	2x 8d
Total due	1/4d ('1/4')

Single rate entire sent from Auburn via New York and Bristol to
London on board 'Great Western' in October 1840



Combined Freight money and postage

Copy of London receiver on reverse



US Postage:
Freight Money (steam) 25¢
Single rate to New York 18¾¢
Combined total 43¾¢

Great Western Steam Ship Company
'Great Western'
dep New York 10 October 1840
arr Bristol 24 October

Auburn post office marked 'PAID' '43¾'.

'BRISTOL / SHIP LETTER'
Rob. S8 (in black, used 1833-44)

US inland rate for 151 to 400 miles was
18¾¢ per sheet effective 11th March 1825
to 1st July 1845.

London arrival 'S / 250C25 / 1840'

GB ship fee and inland postage combined at
8d per ½ oz effective 10th January 1840.

At London, postage due assessed as:
Ship fee 8d ('8')

Prepaid single rate letter sent from Norfolk via New York, Liverpool
and London to Paris on steam ship 'President' in October 1840



US postage calculated as:
Freight Money (steam packet) 25¢
Single rate to New York 25¢
Total 50¢

Norfolk showed the payments on the cover
as 'Inland 25 / Steamer 25' and 'PAID'

US inland rate for over 400 miles was 25¢
per sheet effective 11th March 1825 to 1st
July 1845

GB ship fee and inland postage combined
at 8d per ½ oz effective 10th January 1840

Anglo-French postal convention of 1836
debited France 1sh 6d for letters from
USA carried via GB by non-contract packet
ship

British & American Steam Navigation
'President'
dep New York 2 November 1840
arr Liverpool 27 November
Second of 2½ voyages

'SHIP LETTER / LIVERPOOL'
Rob. S14 (in use 1838-41)
'8' for 8d ship letter fee

At London foreign branch: '1/6'
under 1836 Anglo-French convention

At Paris:
'ANGL 2 CALAIS 30 NOV'
'7½' gm '33' decimes due
[18 dec = 1sh 6d,
15 dec for postage from Calais to Paris]

ex Winter

The only freight money cover from Norfolk recorded by Winter

Paid letter sent from Quebec via New York and Liverpool to London
on board Black Ball Line's 'Columbus' in January 1840



'QUEBEC JA 7 1840'
'PAID 11' to US border
'PAID 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ ' to New York
'PAID 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' sailing ship
freight money.

Black Ball 'Columbus'
dep New York 20th Jan
arr Liverpool 7th Feb

'8' British ship letter
fee of 8d

On reverse:
'LIVERPOOL / SHIP
LETTER' [Rob.S14]
London 'N 8 FE 8 1840'

Paid letter sent from Quebec via New York and Bristol to London
on board GWSSC's 'Great Western' in July 1840

'QUEBEC JUN25 1840
L.C.'
'PAID 11'
'PAID 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ '
'PAID 25' steam
ship freight money

'NEW YORK JUN ...'

GWSSC
'Great Western'
dep New York 1st Jul
arr Bristol 15th Jul

'BRISTOL /
SHIP LETTER'
[Rob S8]
'8' ship letter fee
On reverse:
'+ 16JY16 1840'



Rates: 11d Cy Canadian postage to the US border; 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ US postage from the border to New York.

From mid-September 1838 the Montreal, Kingston and Queenston exchange offices could make up mails for the respective steamer agents, accompanied by special letter bills for the New York postmaster whereby the letter bags would be delivered to the ship's agents. A Canadian postmaster circular dated 26th December 1838 added that sailing vessels were included. A Canadian Post Office circular dated 4th December 1840 stopped the collection of freight money.

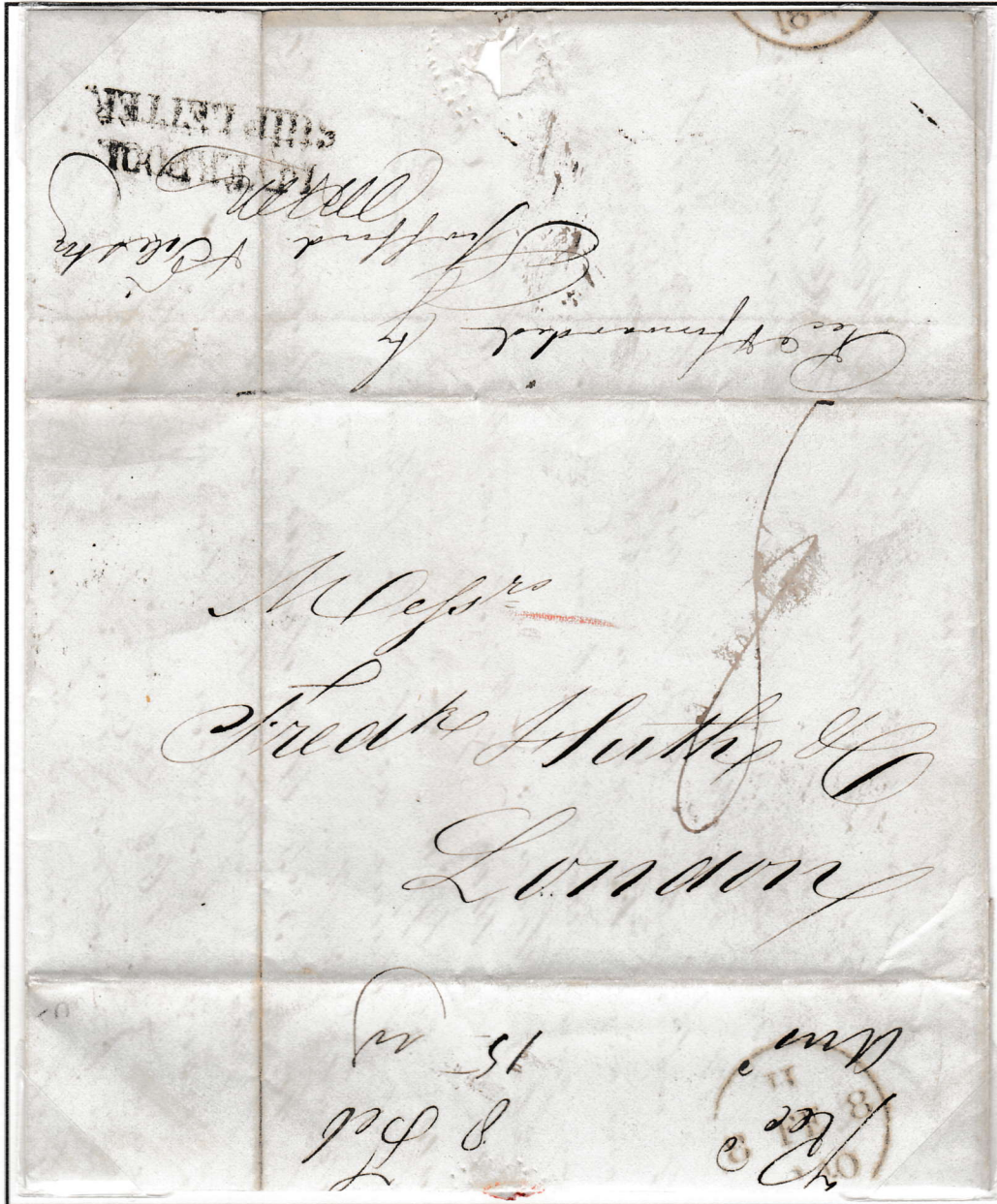
References:

Arnell, J.C.: Handbook on Transatlantic Mail, British North America Philatelic Society, 1987
Tabcart, C: Robertson Revisited, James Bendon, Ltd., Limassol, 1997

Sailing Packet 'Columbus'
Freight Money paid by Forwarding Agent

Single Rate
New York, NY

Entire sent from Havana to London via New York and Liverpool by forwarding agent on board Black Ball line's 'Columbus' in January 1840



Sent by Drake Brothers & Co, Havana, 24th December 1839, to agents in New York who, in turn, paid the Black Ball shipping agent a sailing ship Freight Money fee of 12½¢

Black Ball line 'Columbus'
dep New York 20th Jan 1840
arr Liverpool 7th Feb

'LIVERPOOL SHIP LETTER' [Rob. S14]

Postage due in GB '8'
Ship fee and postage to destination, ½ oz. 8d
(effective 7th Jan 1840 to 31/12/1857)

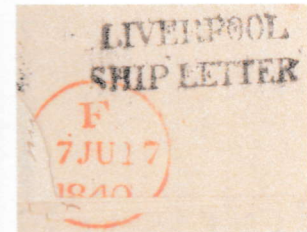
London receiver 'H 8 FE 8 1840'

From October 1838 US sailing packets competing with the pioneer steamships began to charge 12½¢ per sheet. Charges applied only on voyages from New York to England and were paid to the shipping agents.

Sailing Packet 'Sheridan'
Freight Money paid to Post Office

Single Rate
New York, NY

Entire sent from Burlington, NJ, to London via New York and Liverpool
on board Dramatic line's 'Sheridan' in May 1840



Marks on reverse,
reduced

NEW LINE OF LIVERPOOL PACKETS.
To sail from New York on the 25th, and Liverpool on the 13th of each month.
FROM NEW YORK.

Ship **SHERIDAN**, Captain F. A. Depeyster, 25th Jan.
Ship **GARRICK**, Captain A. S. Palmer, 25th Feb.
Ship **ROSCIUS**, (new) Captain John Collins, 25th March.
Ship **SIDDONS**, Captain N. B. Palmer, 25th April.

FROM LIVERPOOL.

Ship **SIDDONS**, Captain N. B. Palmer, 13th Feb.
Ship **SHERIDAN**, Captain F. A. Depeyster, 13th March.
Ship **GARRICK**, Captain A. S. Palmer, 13th April.
Ship **ROSCIUS**, (new) Captain John Collins, 13th May.

These ships are all of the first class, upwards of 1000 tons built in the city of New York, with such improvements as combine great speed with unusual comfort for passengers. Every care has been taken in the arrangement of their accommodations. The price of passengerage is \$140, for which ample stores, including wines &c, will be provided. These ships will be commanded by experienced masters, who will make every exertion to give general satisfaction.

Neither the captains or owners of these ships will be responsible for any letters, parcels or packages sent by them, unless regular bills of lading are signed therefor.

The ships of this Line will hereafter go armed, and their peculiar construction gives them security not possessed by any other but vessels of war.

For freight or passage, apply to
E. K. COLLINS & CO, 58 Southst., N. York, or to
WM. & JAS. BROWN & CO., Liverpool.

Letters by the packets will be charged 12½ cents per single sheet, 50 cents per ounce, and newspapers each.

Advert from New York Evening Post of 22nd May 1840 naming Dramatic line ships and noting charge for letters at the foot of the advert.

Entire taken to New York by favour where the New York Post Office was paid in cash for the sailing ship letter fee of 12½¢

'NEW-YORK MAY 24' transit mark

Dramatic line 'Sheridan'¹
dep New York 25th May 1840
arr Liverpool 16th June

'LIVERPOOL SHIP LETTER'
(Rob. S14, 1839-1841)

Postage due in GB '8'
for ship fee and postage 8d

On reverse:
London receiver 'F 17JU17 1840' and
London '10 FN 10 JU 17 1840'

[Jay type 459]²

¹ New York Daily Herald 25 May 1840, Ship News, & Lloyd's List 17th June 1840

² Jay, B: British County Catalogue of Postal History 3 - London, London Postal History Group, 2005 (2nd edition)

Prepaid quadruple rate letter sent from Baltimore via New York and Liverpool
to London on board Black Ball's 'England' in February 1840



'BALTIMORE M^o FEB 19'
'PAID'
'50' 4x 12½¢ 50¢
Sailing Packet
Freight Money
'75' 4x 18¾¢ 75¢
Four rates to
New York

No GB rates apparent,
docketed as received
23 March 1840.

Black Ball 'England'
dep New York 24th Feb
arr L'pool 18th Mar

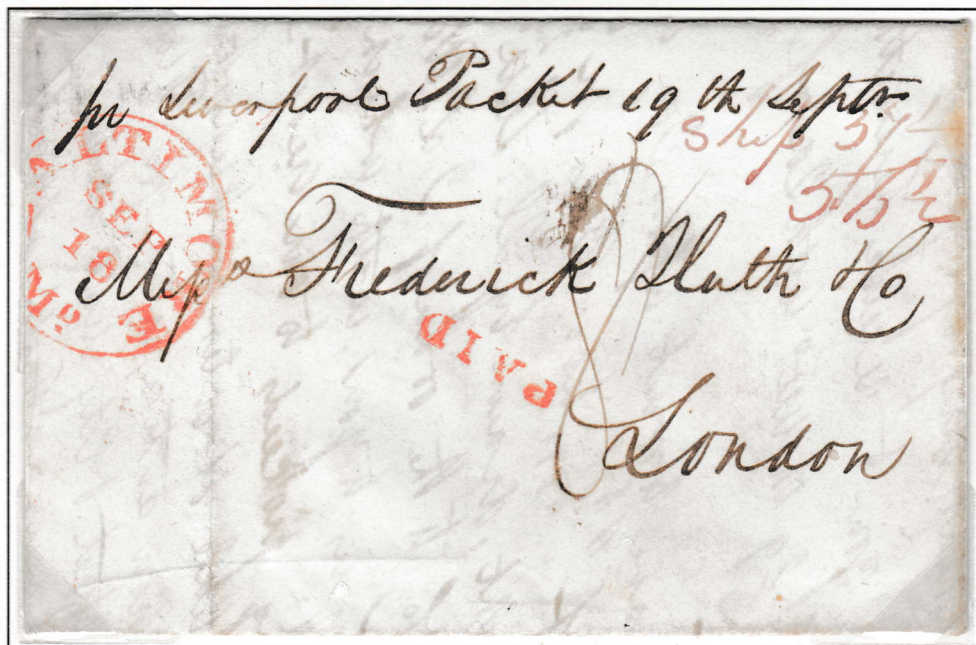
Paid triple rate letter sent from Baltimore via New York and Liverpool
to London on board Black Ball's 'Columbus' in September 1840

'BALTIMORE M^o SEP 18'
'PAID'
'Ship 37½' 3x 12½¢ 37½¢
Sailing Packet Freight Money
'56¼' 3x 18¾¢ 56¼¢
Three rates to New York

Black Ball 'Columbus'
dep New York 19th Sep
arr Liverpool 18th Oct

'8' for 8d British ship
letter fee

On reverse:
'LIVERPOOL / SHIP LETTER
[Rob. S14]
London '+ 19 OCT 1840'



US progression rate by sheets of paper, GB progression by weight.
US progression: 3 sheets for 3 rates; up to 1 oz for four rates.
Freight Money charge per single rate for US sailing ship: 12½¢
US postage single rate, Baltimore to New York, 199 miles: 18¾¢
GB ship letter fee, including postage, up to ½oz: 8d

References:

Pullin, J: North Atlantic Packets Departures & Arrivals 1818-1840, The Author, 2009
Tabcart, C: Robertson Revisited, James Bendon, Ltd., Limassol, 1997.

Paid letter weighing 1¼ oz sent from Philadelphia via New York
and Liverpool to London on board 'Columbus' in May 1840



US Postage:
 Freight Money (sail) 5x 12½¢ 62½¢
 Five rates (1¼ oz) to New York 5x 12½¢ 62½¢
 Total 125¢

Black Ball Line 'Columbus'
 dep New York 22 May 1840
 arr Liverpool 16 June

Combined total shown '1¼ oz' '125' 'PAID'

'LIVERPOOL / SHIP LETTER'
 Rob. S14 (in use 1838-1841)

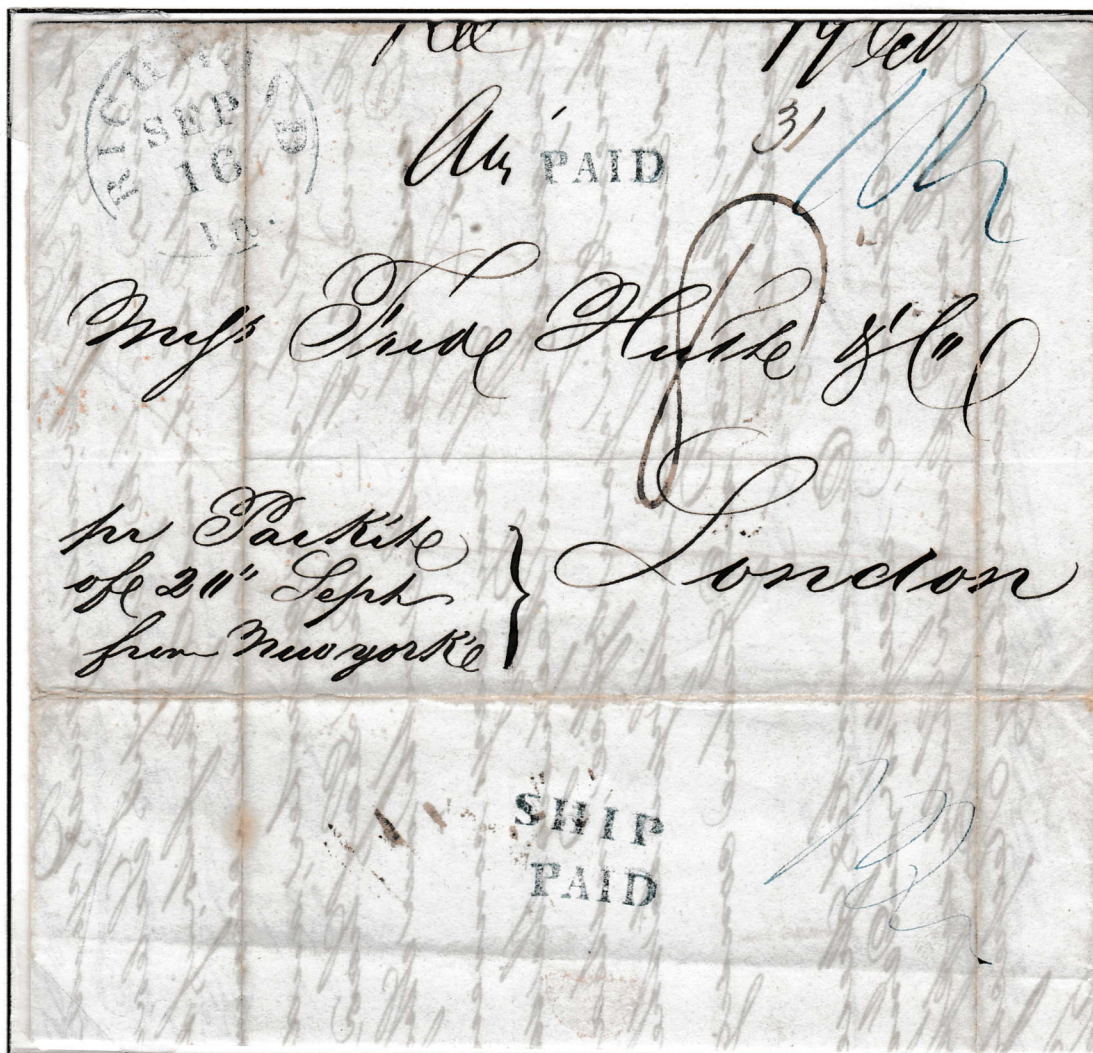
US inland rate for 81 to 150 miles was 12½¢
 per sheet effective 11th March 1825 to 1st
 July 1845. Progression: 1oz equals 4 rates,
 4 rates each additional oz.

London arrival 'G / 17JUL17 / 1840'

GB ship fee and inland postage combined at
 8d per ½ oz effective 10th January 1840.
 Progression: 2 rates every oz or part oz
 over 1oz.

At Liverpool, postage due assessed as:
 Ship letter over 1oz up to 2oz (4x 8d)
 2/8d

Paid single entire sent from Richmond via New York and
Liverpool to London on board 'Columbus' in September 1840



Copy of London receiver on reverse

US Postage:
Freight Money (sail) 'SHIP' 'PAID' 12½¢
Richmond to New York 'PAID' 18¾¢

Black Ball Line 'Columbus'
dep New York 19 September 1840
arr Liverpool 18 October

US inland rate for 151 to 400 miles was
18¾¢ per sheet effective 11th March 1825
to 1st July 1845.

London arrival '✱ / 190C19 / 1840'

GB ship fee and inland postage combined at
8d per ½ oz effective 10th January 1840.

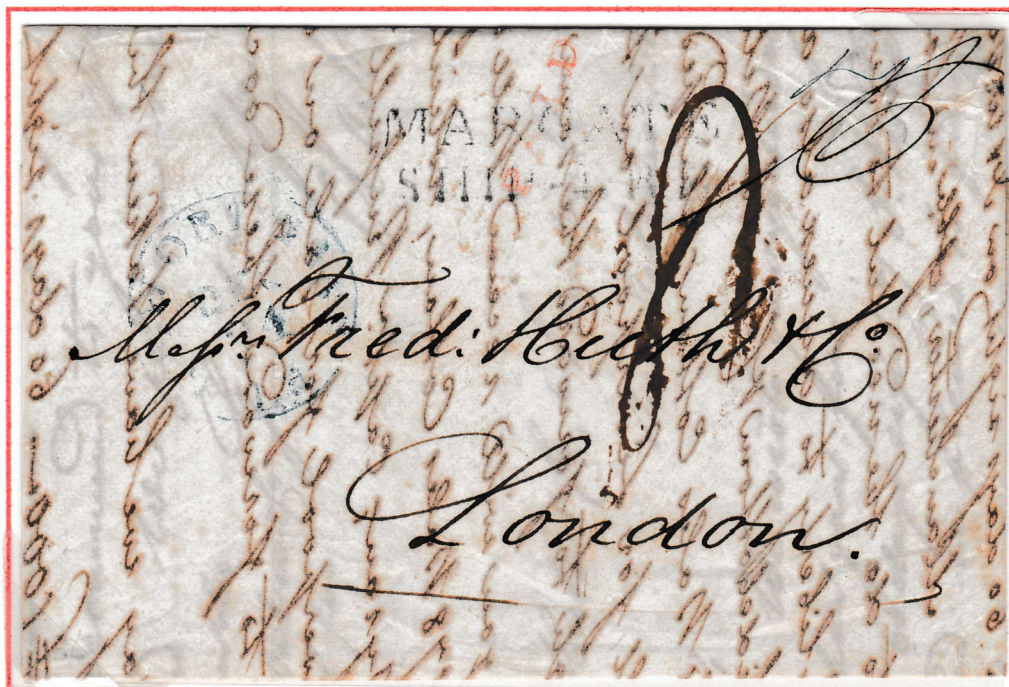
At Liverpool, postage due assessed as:
Single ship fee 8d

Nine sailing freight money letters recorded for Richmond. [Winter, PHS presentation, 2011]
Pullin, J: North Atlantic Packets Departures & Arrivals 1818-1840, The Author, 2009
Arnell, J.C.: Handbook on Transatlantic Mail, British North America Philatelic Society, 1987
Tabcart, C: Robertson Revisited, James Bendon, Ltd., Limassol, 1997

Sailing Packet 'Montreal'
Freight Money paid to Post Office

Double rate
New Orleans, La

Paid double rate letter sent from New Orleans via New York and
Margate to London on board 'Montreal' on 24 December 1841



Mail landed due to unfavourable winds

London arrival on reverse

MARGATE
SHIP-LRE



US Postage:
Freight Money (sail) 2x 12½¢ 25¢
Double rate to New York 2x 25¢ 50¢

Combined charges shown as 75¢ ('75')

US inland rate for more than 400 miles was
25¢ per sheet effective 11th March 1825 to
1st July 1845.

GB ship fee and inland postage combined at
8d per ½ oz effective 10th January 1840.

Red Swallowtail Line 'Montreal'
dep New York 12 January 1842
arr off Margate 2 February

'MARGATE / SHIP-LRE'
Rob. S4 (in use 1823-49)

London arrival 'K / 3 FE 3 / 1842'

Postage due in London:
Ship letter ½ oz 8d ('8')

First example recorded of both fees combined into one value at New Orleans.
Eleven sailing freight money letters recorded for New Orleans.

[Winter, Postal History Society Anniversary presentation, 2011]

Paid letter weighing 1 1/4 oz sent from Baltimore via New York and
Liverpool to London on board 'Independence' in April 1842



Rating on letter

1 1/4 oz 93 3/4
62

US Postage:
Freight Money (sail) 5x 12 1/2¢ 62 1/2¢
Five rates (1 1/4 oz) to New York 5x 18 3/4¢ 93 3/4¢
Total \$1.56 1/4

Blue Swallowtail Line 'Independence'
dep New York 10 April 1842
arr Liverpool 3 May

Separate charges shown:
'1 1/4 oz' 'PAID' '93 3/4' and 'PAID' '62 1/2'

'3 MY 1842 LIVERPOOL SHIP'
Rob. S16 (in use 1841-1855)

US inland rate for 151 to 400 miles was
18 3/4¢ per sheet effective 11th March 1825 to
1st July 1845. Progression: 1oz equals 4
rates, 4 rates each additional oz.

London arrival 'K / 4 MY 4 / 1842'

GB ship fee and inland postage combined at
8d per 1/2 oz effective 10th January 1840.
Progression: 2 rates every oz or part oz

At Liverpool, postage due assessed as:
Ship letter over 1oz up to 2oz (4x 8d)

2/8d

Sailing Packet 'England'
Freight Money paid by Forwarding Agent

Triple Rate
New York, NY

Triple letter sent from New Orleans via New York to London September 1842



Triple rate letter sent to New York forwarding agent E Beck for 'British Queen' last voyage sailing on 7th October 1842. The sailing date was missed and the letter sent by the agent on the next available ship.

Sailing packet freight money fee was paid to shipping agent and not marked on cover.

US postage, New Orleans to New York (over 400 miles)

3x 25¢ = 75¢ ('75')

At Liverpool postage assessed as:

double ship fee

2x 8d = 1s 4d ('1/4')

Black Ball Line 'England'

dep New York 19 October 1842

arr Liverpool 11 November

[The Times Digital Archive 14 Nov 1842]

Partial Liverpool Ship Letter

[Rob. S16] and London recvr.

'N 12 NOV 12 1842'

Sailing Packet 'North American'
Freight Money paid to Post Office

Double Rate
Philadelphia, Pa

Paid double letter sent from Philadelphia to Halifax, England, via New York
and Liverpool by sailing packet in November 1842



'PHILADELPHIA Pa NOV 18' and 'PAID'
US postage calculated as:
Freight Money (sail) 2x 12½¢ 25¢
Two rates to New York 2x 12½¢ 25¢
Total shown as combined rate 50¢ ('50')

US single inland rate 81-150 miles: 12½¢

Carried by
Black Ball's 'North America'¹
dep New York 19 Nov
arr Liverpool 7 Dec

At Liverpool postage assessed as:
Single ship letter ½ oz 8d ('8')

HALIFAX receiver on reverse and partial
Robertson S16 LIVERPOOL SHIP letter mark.

US Progression: two sheets equals two rates.



¹ The Times Archive

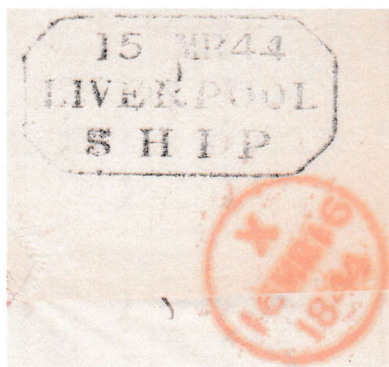
Sailing Packet 'Rochester'
Freight Money paid to Post Office

Double rate
Charleston, SC

Paid double rate letter sent from Charleston via New York and
Liverpool to London on board 'Rochester' in February 1844



Liverpool Ship mark and London arrival on reverse



US Postage:
Freight Money (sail) 2x 12½¢ 25¢
Double rate to New York 2x 25¢ 50¢

Separate charges shown as 'PAID' '50' '25'

US inland rate for more than 400 miles was
25¢ per sheet effective 11th March 1825 to
1st July 1845.

GB ship fee and inland postage combined at
8d per ½ oz effective 10th January 1840.

New Line 'Rochester'
dep New York 21 February 1844
arr Liverpool 15 March

'15 MR44 LIVERPOOL SHIP'
Rob. S16 (in use 1841-1855)

London arrival 'X / 16MR16 / 1844'

Postage due in London:
Ship letter ½ oz 8d ('8')

Ten sailing freight money letters recorded for Charleston.

[Winter, Postal History Society Anniversary presentation, 2011]

Sailing Packet 'Waterloo'
Freight Money paid to Post Office

Single rate
Charleston, SC

Paid single rate letter sent from Charleston via New York and
Liverpool to London on board 'Waterloo' in March 1846



US Postage:

Freight Money (sail) 12½¢
Single rate to New York 10¢

Red Star Line 'Waterloo'
dep New York 14 March 1846
arr Liverpool 16 April

Separate charges shown as 'PAID' '10' '12½'

'16 AP 1846 LIVERPOOL SHIP'
Rob. S16 (in use 1841-1855)

US inland rate for more than 300 miles was
10¢ per ½ oz effective 1st July 1845.

London arrival 'AC / 17AP17 / 1846'

GB ship fee and inland postage combined at
8d per ½ oz effective 10th January 1840.

Postage due in London:
Ship letter ½ oz 8d ('8')

From 'Herckenrath Lowndes & Co' dated 6th March.

Ten sailing freight money letters recorded for Charleston.

[Winter, Postal History Society Anniversary presentation, 2011]

Entire paid at four rates sent from New Orleans via New York
and Liverpool to London on board 'Great Western' in April 1845



Copy of Liverpool Ship letter mark
and London receiver on reverse

US Postage:

Freight Money (steam) 4x 25¢ 100¢ '100'
Four rates to New York 4x 25¢ 100¢ '100'

New Orleans normally showed both payments
on the cover and as 'PAID'.

US inland rate for more than 400 miles was
25¢ per sheet effective 11th March 1825 to
1st July 1845. Progression: over 3 sheets
is equivalent to 1oz equals 4 rates.

GB ship fee and inland postage combined at
8d per ½ oz effective 10th January 1840.

Great Western Steam Ship Company
'Great Western'
dep New York 24 April 1845
arr Liverpool 8 May

'9MY 1845 / LIVERPOOL / SHIP'
Rob. S16 (in use 1841-1855)

London arrival 'N / 10MY10 / 1845'

At Liverpool, postage due assessed as:
Double ship fee 2x 8d
Total due 1/4d ('1/4')

Sailing Packet
Freight Money paid at Post Office

Multiple Rates
Baltimore, Md

Prepaid quadruple rate letter sent from Baltimore via New York
and Liverpool to London, England in January 1840

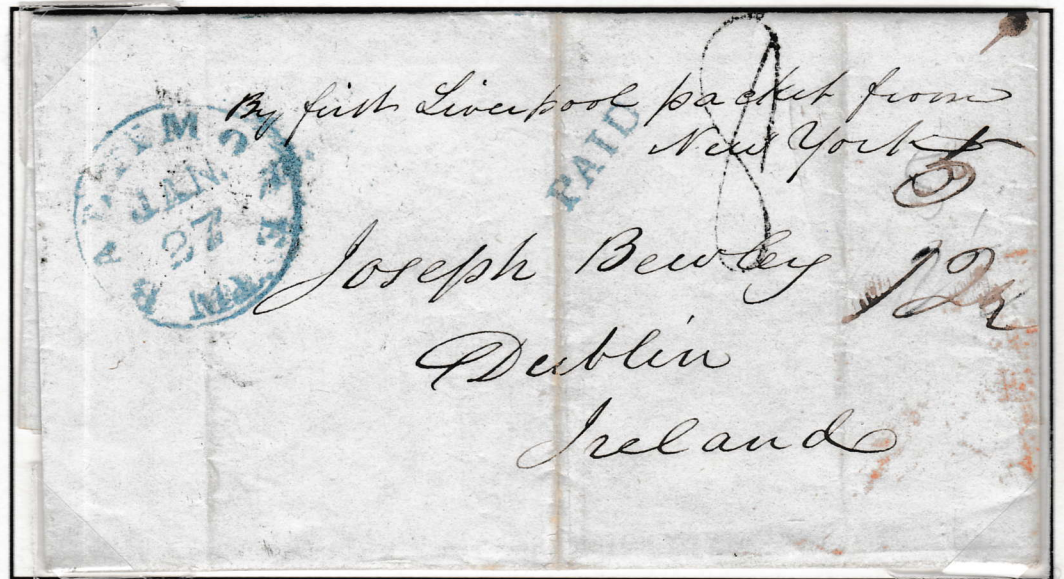
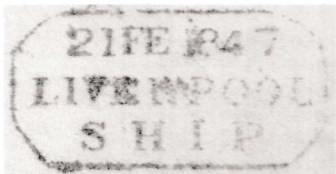


Receiver on
reverse and
Rob. S14.

US
Progression:
3 sheets for
3 rates; up
to 1 oz for
four rates.



Prepaid single letter sent from Baltimore via New York
and Liverpool to Dublin, Ireland in January 1847



Rates on 1840 cover
US postage calculated as:
Freight Money (sailing packet) 4x 12½¢ 50¢
Four rates to New York 4x 18¾¢ 75¢
US inland rate 150-400 miles

At Liverpool postage assessed as:
Single ship letter ½ oz 8d

Possibly by Black Ball Line's 'Columbus'
dep New York 20 Jan
arr Liverpool 7 Feb [Pullin]

Rates on 1847 cover
US postage calculated as:
Freight Money (sailing packet) 12½¢
Single rate to New York 5¢
US inland rate per ½ oz under 300 miles

At Liverpool postage assessed as:
Single ship letter ½ oz 8d

Possibly carried by Black Ball's 'Oxford'
dep New York 1 Feb
arr Liverpool 21 Feb [The Times Archive]

Sailing Packet
Freight Money paid at Post Office

Multiple Rates, late use
Baltimore, Md

Prepaid double rate letter sent from Baltimore via New York and
Torquay to London, England in May 1840

'BALTIMORE MD
MAY 8' 'PAID'
'25' '37½'

'Torquay /
SHIP LETTER'
[Rob S1]

'8' for 8d
incoming ship
fee

London
receiver on
reverse
'G 5 JU 5
1840'



Prepaid single letter sent from Baltimore via New York to London in
January 1848 - very late use sailing Freight Money Letter¹

'BALTIMORE MD
JAN 29' 'PAID'
'12½' '5'

'SHIP-LETTER'
[London Rob
S36]

'8' for 8d
incoming ship
fee

On reverse
London receiver
'1 MR 1 1848'



Black X Line 'Montreal'
dep New York 11th May 1840
arr Torquay 2nd June

Ex Blue Swallowtail Line 'Independence'
dep New York 1st Feb 1848
arr Gravesend 1st Mar

[Pullin]

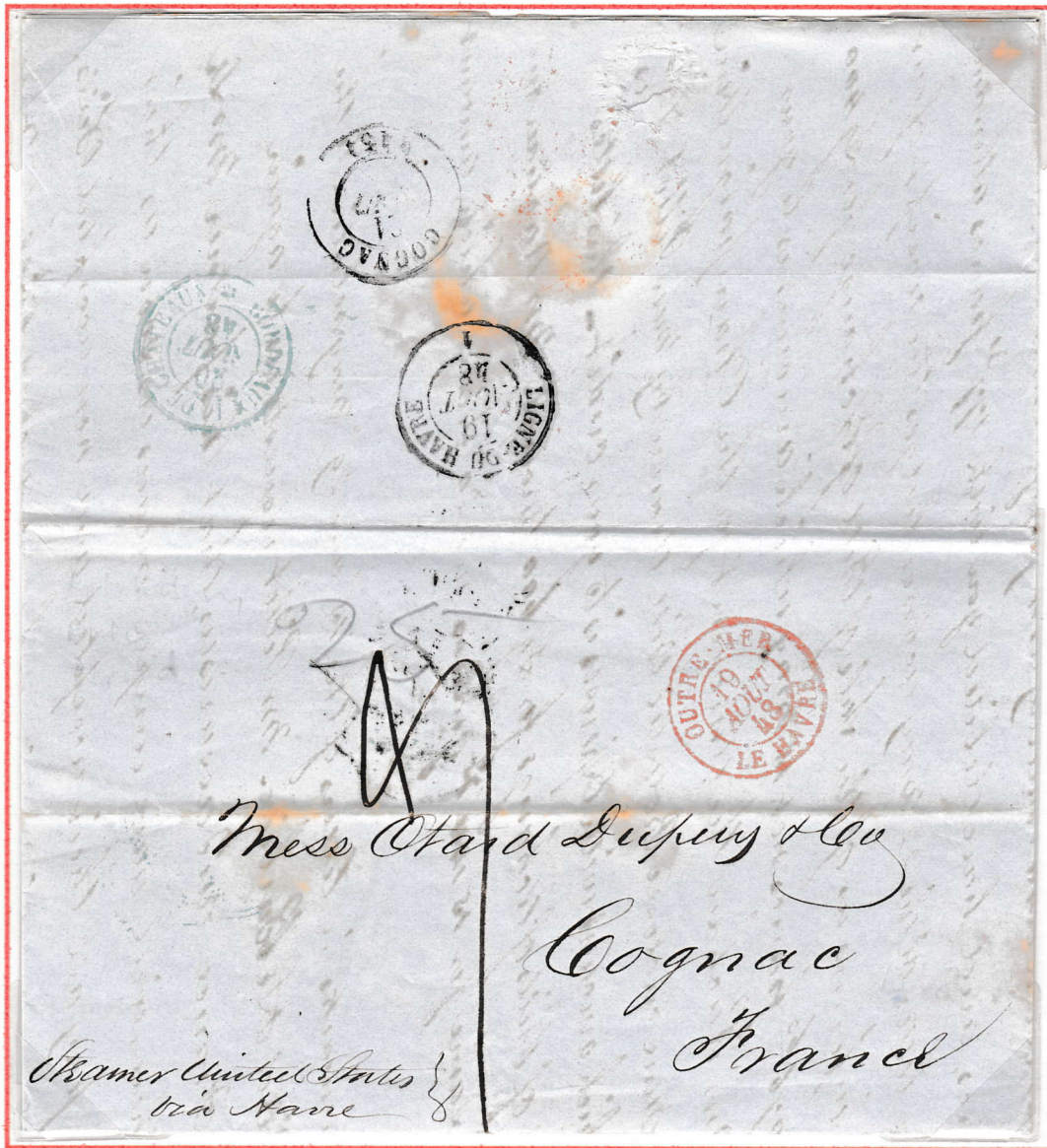
[Lloyd's List 2nd March 1848]

Paid 2x (12½¢ freight + 18¾¢ postage)

Paid 12½¢ freight + 5¢ postage

¹Very late use, see ASCC Vol 2 p81

Paid single letter sent from New York via Le Havre to Cognac
on board pioneer steamer 'United States' in August 1848



The letter was taken to the Black Ball agent and 25¢ steam ship freight money fee paid and marked in pencil: '25'

Freight money accounting is seldom seen at New York.

Second of four voyages of Black Ball's steamship 'United States'.

Backstamps show the letter traveled to Paris by train and supplementary mail carriage to Bordeaux on the line to Châteauroux.

Black Ball Line Steamship Company
 'United States'
 dep New York 5 August 1848
 arr Southampton 18 August
 arr Le Havre 19 August

'OUTRE MER LE HAVRE 19 AOUT 48'
 'LIGNE DU HAVRE 1 19 AOUT 48'
 'BORDEAUX 1 DE CHATEAUROUX * 20 AOUT 48'
 'COGNAC 21 AOUT ...'

At Le Havre, postage assessed as:
 Ship fee *decime de mer* 1 decime
 Inland 430km Le Havre to Cognac 8 decime
 Total due in decimes '9'

Freight Money - imposed by shipping companies upon each letter carried from New York via England - June 1838 to mid-1848 - R F Winter PHS presentation 2011.