

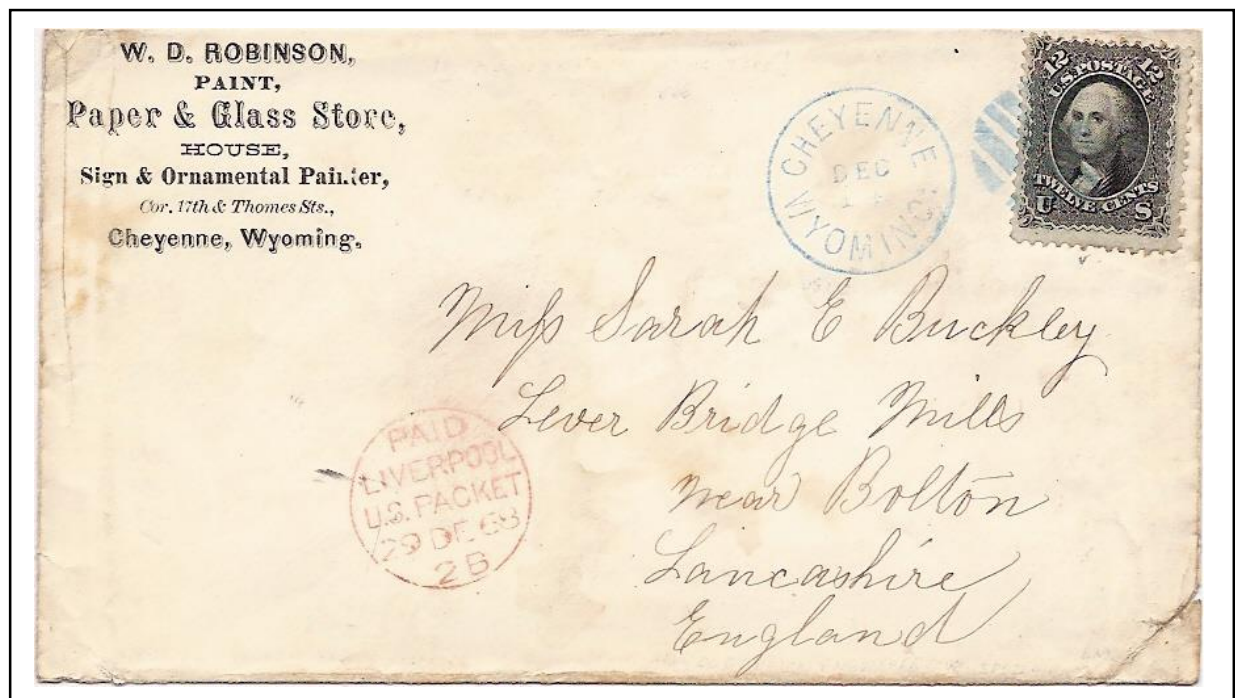
POSTAL USES OF THE UNITED STATES 12¢ 1861 ISSUE

The period of the U.S. 1861-68 issue was one of great change. The Civil War wrenched the country apart at the same time that international trade and communication expanded.

When the 12¢ Washington stamp was issued in August 1861, it was something of an outlier. At that time, there was no 12¢ postal rate to any destination in the world and there would not be one for over six years. It was used on domestic mail requiring multiple rates or fees for special services.

Internationally, the stamp was used in multiples or with other stamps to pay the higher rates dictated by the numerous postal treaties in effect.

This exhibit shows the breadth, depth, and operations of the U.S. Post Office; the worldwide network of interconnected and overlapping postal systems; and the complexity of navigating a message from sender to recipient using the 12¢ stamp as a unifying theme.



Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory to Lancashire, England. December 14, 1868.
Paying the reduced treaty rate for letters under ½ oz. effective that year.

The exhibit is organized to show:

- **Getting to the U.S. Mails**, including mail that originated outside of the United States, mail handled by forwarding agents, express companies, and carriers;
- **Post Office Operations**, including the steps taken to prevent the reuse of adhesives; postal services, and anomalies to normal operations;
- **Domestic Mail**, including domestic mail rates, registration, and special services;
- **International Operations**, including international routing, accounting, and markings;
- **International Carriers and Conventions**, including British, French, Prussian, Bremen, Hamburg, North German Union, BNA,, Belgian, Italian, and Brazilian treaty mails;
- **International Forwarding of the Mails**, including private and governmental forwarding.

To the U.S. Mails

From British Columbia

LOCAL POSTAGE PAID BY STAMP



New Westminster, via Victoria and San Francisco, to Canada West.

September 20, 1863.

Rose 2½d Victoria pays local postage.

New Westminster, BC numeral “1” cancellation.

U.S. postage fees paid in cash as indicated by black oval “PAID” and red “15.”

U.S. stamps affixed in Victoria over GPOBC datestamp.

Cancelled in transit in San Francisco October 12, 1863.

“Dunnville / NO 7, 1863” datestamp on verso.

Only three covers with both the U.S. 12¢ and the Victoria 2½ pence issues are recorded,



GPOBC Datestamp
under U.S. adhesives

All mail from British Columbia was routed through Victoria and San Francisco until about 1868 when rail connections improved. U.S. postage stamps were available in Victoria and were cancelled upon arrival in San Francisco.

To the U.S. Mails

From British Columbia

LOCAL POSTAGE PAYMENT INDICATED BY HANDSTAMP



Victoria, British Columbia, through San Francisco, to Canada West.

Payment of colonial postage indicated by blue handstamp.

U.S. postage applied at Victoria, BC paying 2x the 15¢ per ½ oz rate from the West.

Stamps cancelled in transit in San Francisco on November 24, 1862.

Red arched "U. States" exchange handstamp applied in Detroit.



Post Office Victoria
handstamp



Victoria, British Columbia, through San Francisco, to Canada West.

Payment of 3d (5¢) Colonial postage indicated by blue handstamp.

Stamps applied at Victoria, BC and cancelled in transit in San Francisco.

Steamer via Panama to New York; Train to Niagara Falls; Great Western Railroad from Niagara Falls to Toronto.

GWR and Toronto transit datestamps on verso.

To the U.S. Mails

From British Columbia

EXPRESS AGENT CARRIAGE TO VANCOUVER



Cariboo Gold Rush Region (likely Yale), via Victoria and San Francisco, to London, Ontario, Canada West.

Barnard's Cariboo Express to Victoria.

Payment of 3d (5¢) Colonial postage indicated by blue handstamp.

U.S. postage applied in Victoria over Barnard's orange "PAID" label.

Cancelled in transit in San Francisco on May 18, 1864.

London, July 3, 1864 receiving datestamp on verso.

Fewer than five covers with Barnard's Cariboo Express "Paid" labels and the 12¢ U.S. stamp are recorded.



Barnard's Express
"Paid" Label

To the U.S. Mails

From Hawaii

LOCAL POSTAGE PAID BY STAMP



PFC

Honolulu, via San Francisco, to Illinois. May 24, 1862.

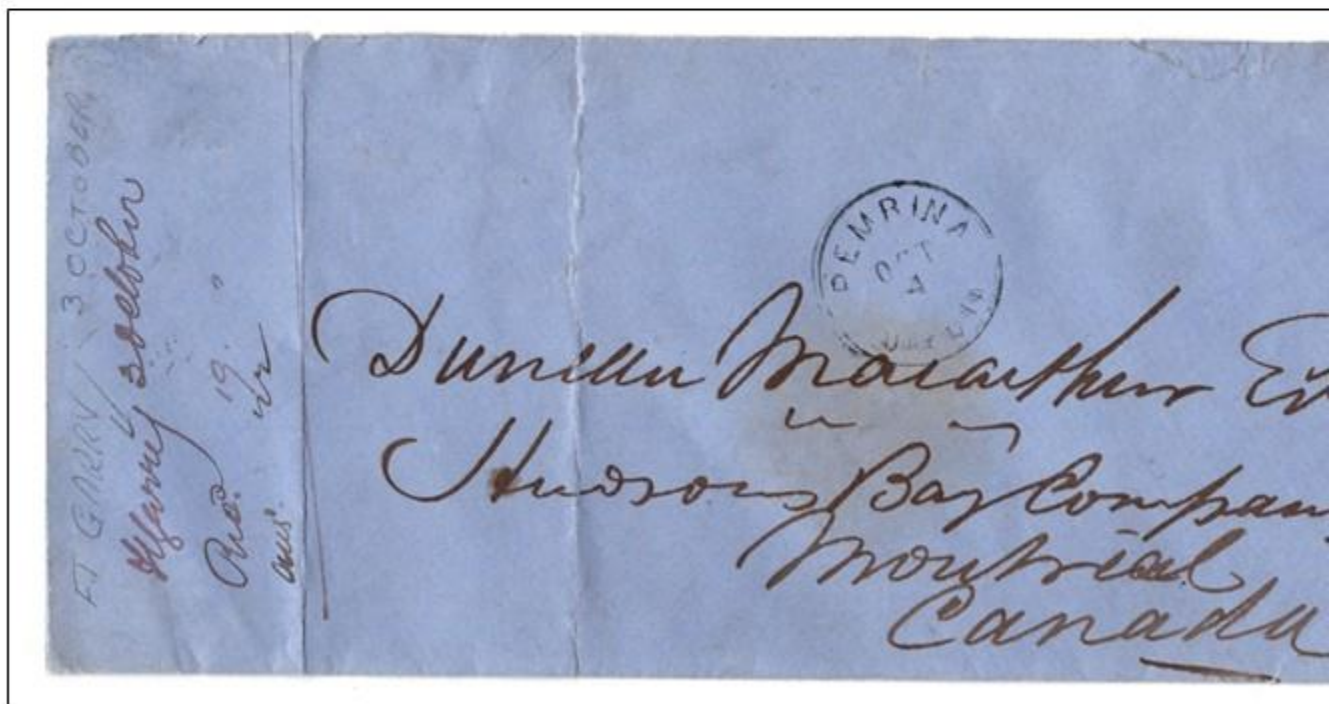
5¢ Hawaiian adhesive paying local postage.

12¢ U.S. adhesive prepays the 2¢ ship fee and the 10¢ U.S. postage rate.

Red Honolulu circular datestamp applied to mail with U.S. postage in Hawaii.

May 24, 1862 voyage of the ship *Comet*.

From Red River Settlement, Manitoba



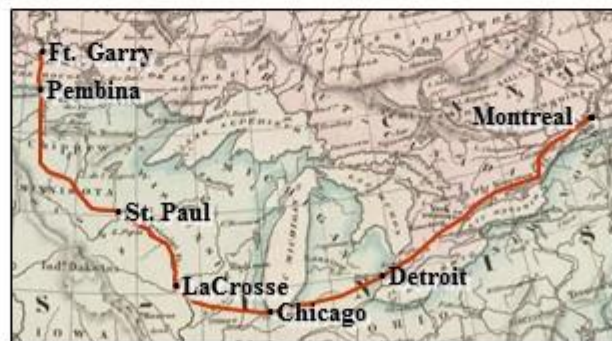
Ft. Garry, in what is now Winnipeg, Manitoba, was established by the Hudson Bay Company as a trade post. With the settling of **Pembina, Dakota**, 68 miles to the south, mail could be routed through there with some regularity.

LOCAL POSTAGE PAID BY CASH



PFC

Honolulu, via San Francisco, to Iowa. February 17, 1863.
U.S. postage stamps were available from postal agents in Hawaii.
Carried on the February 17, 1863 voyage of the ship *Yankee*.
U.S. stamps were cancelled upon entry to the U.S. in San Francisco.



Ft. Garry, through Pembina, Dakota Territory, to Montreal –
October 3, 1870. 12¢ adhesive pays double the 6¢ per ½ oz. rate from Pembina to Montreal. 1870 Montreal backstamp.

center for the Red River fur
the U.S. postal system with

To the U.S. Mails

From Cuba

Private Forwarder to New York

BY FORWARDING AGENT FROM HAVANA TO NEW YORK



Havana, Cuba, via New York, to Genoa, Italy. July 21, 1868.

July 21, 1868 dateline on "J. Demestre Y. C^a" printed letter sheet.

July 23, 1868 blue sender's Havana datestamp.

Carried out of the mails from Havana to New York.

August 1, 1868 J. De Rivera & Co. forwarder's New York datestamp on verso.

Re-endorsed "by City of Paris by England" and mailed by forwarding agent.

August 1, 1868 NY exchange office datestamp.

Genoa August 15, 1868 receiving datestamp on verso.

Adhesives pay the **15¢ direct treaty rate to Italy.**



Mailer's datestamp



J. Demestre Y C^a printed lettersheet



Forwarder's datestamp
on verso



Transcontinental carriage by Wells, Fargo & Co.

Blue “Paid Through” indicates postage fees paid to Wells Fargo at origination.

Entered the mails in New York.

Triple 15¢ rate (½ to ¾ oz.) from San Francisco to France.



Transcontinental carriage by Wells, Fargo & Co.

Wells Fargo printed imprint on stamped envelope as required by postal regulations.

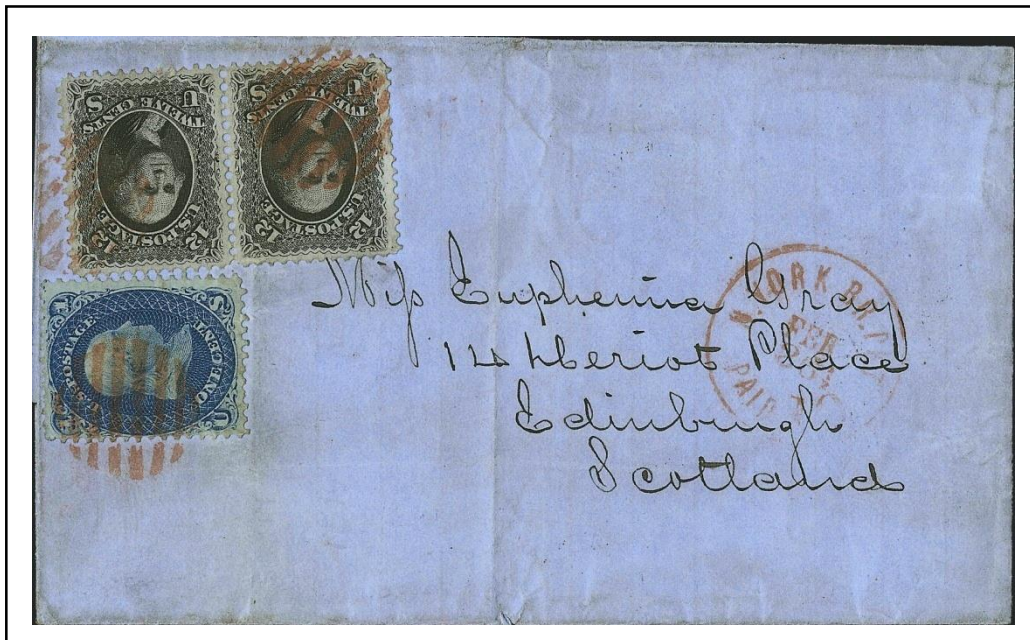
Wells Fargo carriage to New York and entered mails there.

15¢ single rate from San Francisco to Saxony by NGU mails.

To the U.S. Mails

Post Office Carrier Service

CARRIER FEE PAID BY STAMP



New York, NY to Edinburgh, Scotland. February 26, 1862.

1¢ carrier fee plus 24¢ treaty rate to Edinburgh, Scotland.

“N. York Br. Pkt. / Feb 26 / Paid All” Exchange Office datestamp.

Edinburgh March 12, 1862 receiving backstamp.

Fees for carrier services were abolished on July 1, 1863.

Postal Operations

Revenue Protection

Illegal Reuse of Stamp

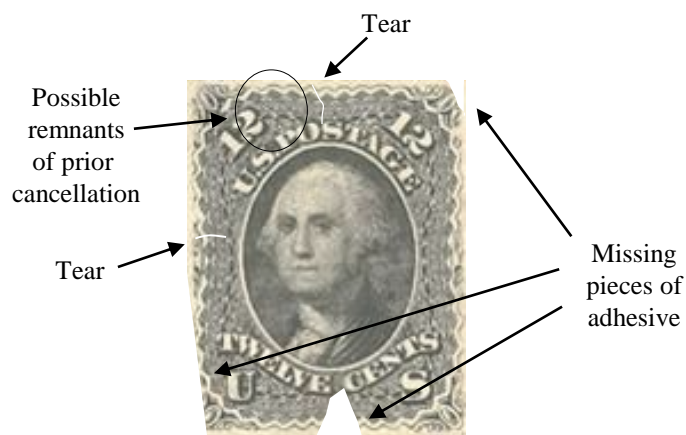


Reuse of 12¢ Adhesive. October 29, 1862.

12¢ stamp partially covered by 3¢ to hide damage. Large chunk missing from bottom of adhesive, tear at top, trimmed at left, and remnants of previous cancellation at top.

Boston, MA to France at 15¢ rate.

Reuse went undetected by both postal services.



Defects indicate likely reuse



Toledo, Ohio – Negative “T”. November 16, 1868.

12¢ single paying the reduced British treaty rate.

Addressed to sailor on board "USS Swatara" care of BF Stevens.

Carried on NGL's *Weser II* to Southampton.

Red BF Stevens "United States Despatch Agent" handstamp, "Nov. 30, 1868."



Philadelphia, PA – “F”. November 17, 1868.

Purple exchange office datestamp on cover to London, England.

Departed NY on the Cunard *Java* on November 18, arriving Queenstown November 27 and London November 28, 1868.

Cancellation was used by the Philadelphia Foreign Exchange Office for 3½ weeks between November 3-27, 1868.



Cambridge, MA – Shield. July 14, 1869.
On 12¢ adhesive with “F” grill to England.
Red Boston Exchange office date stamp and London receiving datestamp.



Sacramento, CA - Shield. January 13, 1866.
Shield cancellation on vertical pair used to London, England.
Red New York exchange office and red London receiving marks.

Postal Operations

Revenue Protection

Cancellations



**Newburgh, NY –
Star in Segmented Circle.**
April 30, 1867.
On horizontal pair to England.
Red New York Exchange Office
date stamp with “19” credit.



**New Haven, CT –
Negative 6-Pointed Star.**
July 21, 1868.
On grilled adhesive to London.



**New Hamburg, NY –
Hollow Star.**
June 9, 1869.
Z-grill adhesive to Brighton, England.
Red New York exchange office and
London datestamps.

Postal Operations

Revenue Protection

“Patent” Cancellations



Albany, NY
February 10, 1863



Buffalo, NY
September 25, 1864



PFC



Rochester, NY
June 7, 1863



Postal Operations

Revenue Protection



New York City Foreign
Geometric. Mar
Red "New York F
31" exchange offi
Brighton April 13
receiving datestar



New York City Foreign
Bars. July 3, 1866
Red "New PAID York /
12" exchange office date
Red French transit and
handstamps. Black French
and receiving backstamp



New York
Leaf. Oc
Red "New
All" excha
Black "2"
mark on v

New York City Foreign Mail Cancellations

Foreign Mail –
March 31, 1869
Paid All / Mar
ce datestamp.
1869
mp on verso.



Mail –
Oct 9 /
stamp.
PD”
h transit
s.

New York City Foreign Mail – Union Soldier Head. May 5, 1869.

To Palermo, Sicily.

2x the 21¢ per ½ oz rate by French Mail.

Red New York exchange office and French transit date stamps.

Only recorded example of this cancellation on a 12¢ cover.

City Foreign Mail –
October 14, 1866
New York / Oct 14 / Paid
exchange office datestamp.
AP 69 / 30” receiving
verso.





PFC

First production grill – “Z” grill (13-14 x 17-18 points; horizontal ridges).
February 12, 1868. 12¢ single paying the reduced British treaty rate.

Earliest Recorded Use of a Griled 12¢ Stamp



APS,
PFC

New York, NY to Ireland. February 15, 1868. Adhesive with “Z” grill

Earliest recorded use of a griled stamp on a patriotic cover.

In early 1868, the Post Office experimented with the addition of a waffle-shaped grill impressed into the stamp to allow better penetration of the cancellation ink to make washing and reuse of stamps more difficult. Too big, and the stamp itself became too fragile. Too small, and the grill may not be effective.

The first production grill, termed the “Z” grill, was used to produce griled 2¢ and 3¢ stamps in late January 1868. Approximately 1000 sheets of 12¢ stamps were griled with the Z grill roller shortly thereafter.

Fewer than 100 covers with 12¢ Z grill adhesives are estimated to have survived.

Postal Operations

Revenue Protection

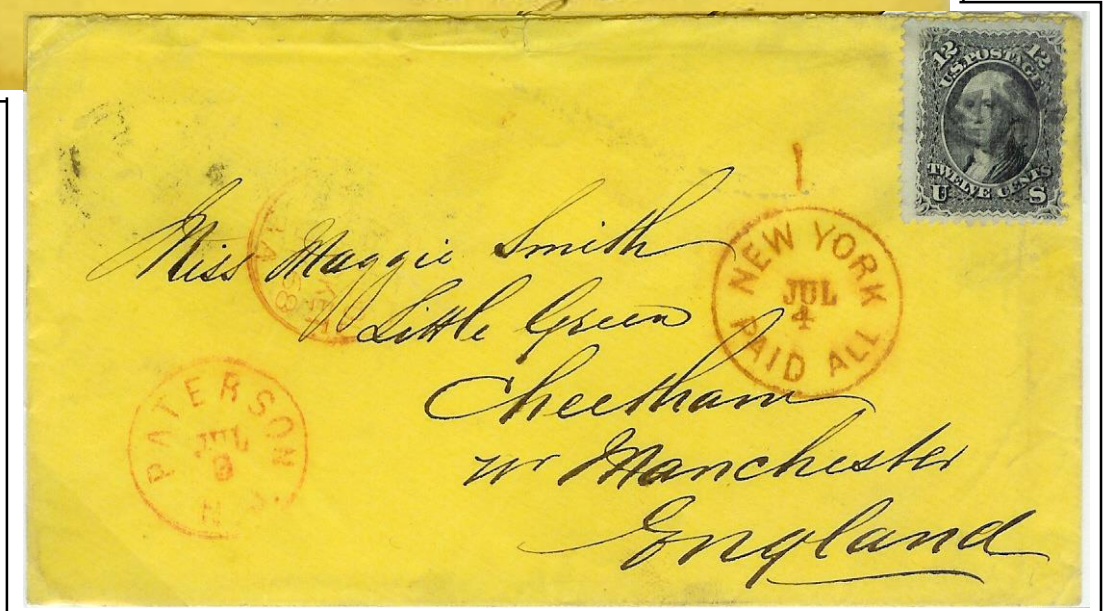
Grilled Stamps



Ungrilled Stamp
January 9, 1868.



"E" Grill Stamp
(14 x 15-17 points)
April 29, 1868



"F" Grill Stamp
(11-12 x 15-17 points)
July 3, 1868

Postal Operations

Auxiliary Markings

“TOO LATE”



San Francisco, CA, through New York, to London, England. April 9, 1869.
Handstamp applied in San Francisco indicating that cover did not arrive in time for a recently departed steamer. Likely routed overland (12-15 day transit), as it would have to have left New York on or before April 24 to arrive in London by May 6th.

“MISSENT”



Plaquemine, LA to Germantown, TN. March 28, 1869.
Routed towards Germantown, PA. Intercepted and marked “MISSENT” and notated “missent to Phila, Pa.” with hand-drawn pointing hand. Rerouted to Tennessee.

Missent mail is very unusual with registered letters.

Postal Operations

Monitoring the Post Office



Monitoring the Post Office. Hussey “Time Posted” label applied and marked by sender to indicate letter was mailed at 2:00 on Jan. 31 (1868).

Adhesive cancelled by the Post Office later the same day.

12¢ per ½ ounce reduced treaty rate to Great Britain became effective January 1, 1868..

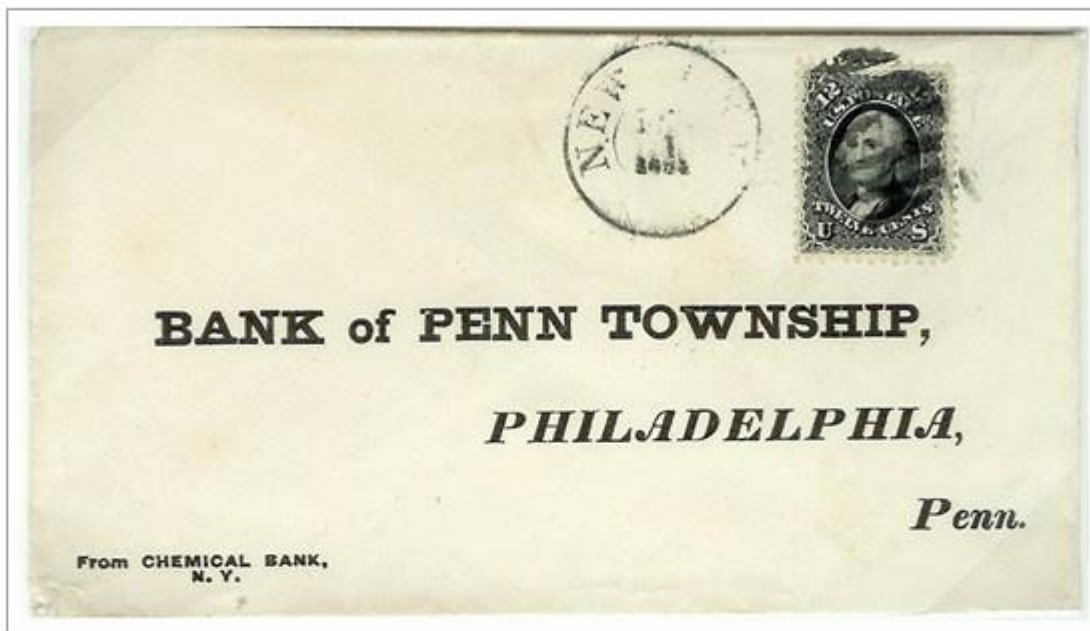


George Hussey sold these labels “as a monitor to the Postman, to the Post Office Clerk, and to the recipient.” Fewer than ten covers with these labels have been recorded.

Domestic Mail Services

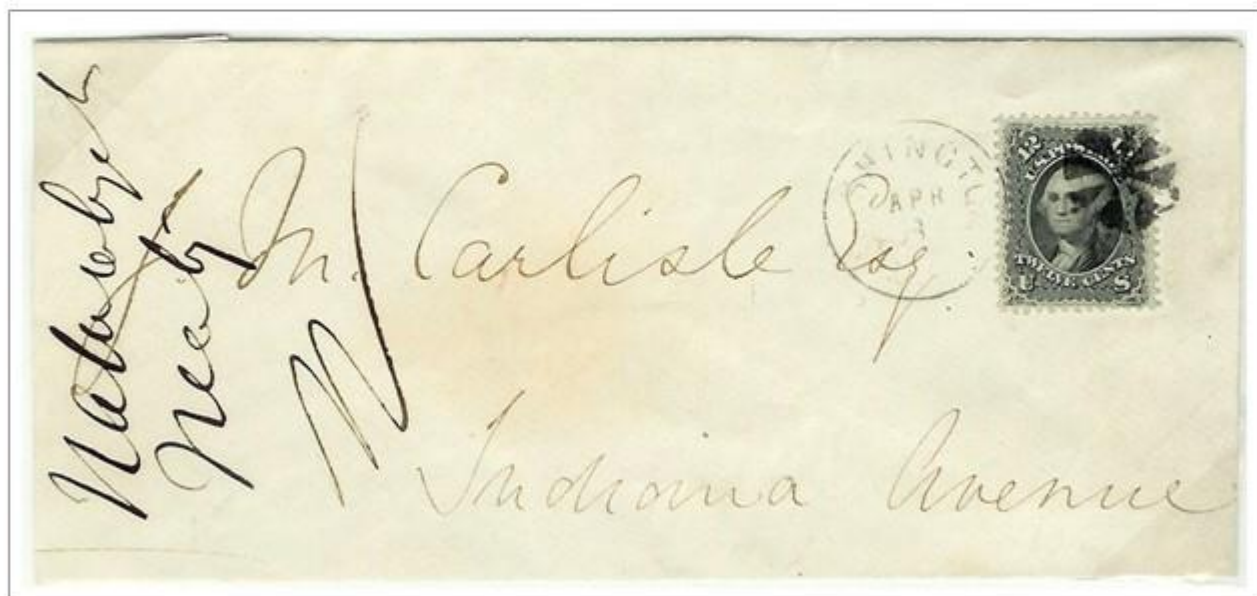
Letter Rates

QUADRUPLE LETTER RATE



Four times the 3¢ per ½ ounce domestic letter rate (1½ to 2 oz.).
Fold marks at the edges and backflap confirm use to mail bulky items.

SEXTUPLE LOCAL RATE



Local Letter, Washington, DC.

Six times 2¢ local rate (2½ to 3 oz.) on a small envelope mailed and delivered locally within Washington, DC.

Likely held a small, heavy item, such as a tintype photograph.

Cancellation indicates a probable 1867 or 1868 usage.

QUINT

V
M
F
V

DOUBLE LETTER RATE



Washington, DC to Reading, PA. August 20, 1861.

Mailed free with frank of Adjutant General Lorenzo Thomas.

Re-mailed to Washington, DC on September 16, 1861 with 12¢ Black and 3¢ Pink paying 5x the 3¢ rate per ½ oz.

Washington postmark crossed out by Reading post office.

Third-earliest recorded usage of the 12¢ of the 1861 issue (EKU August 30, 1861)

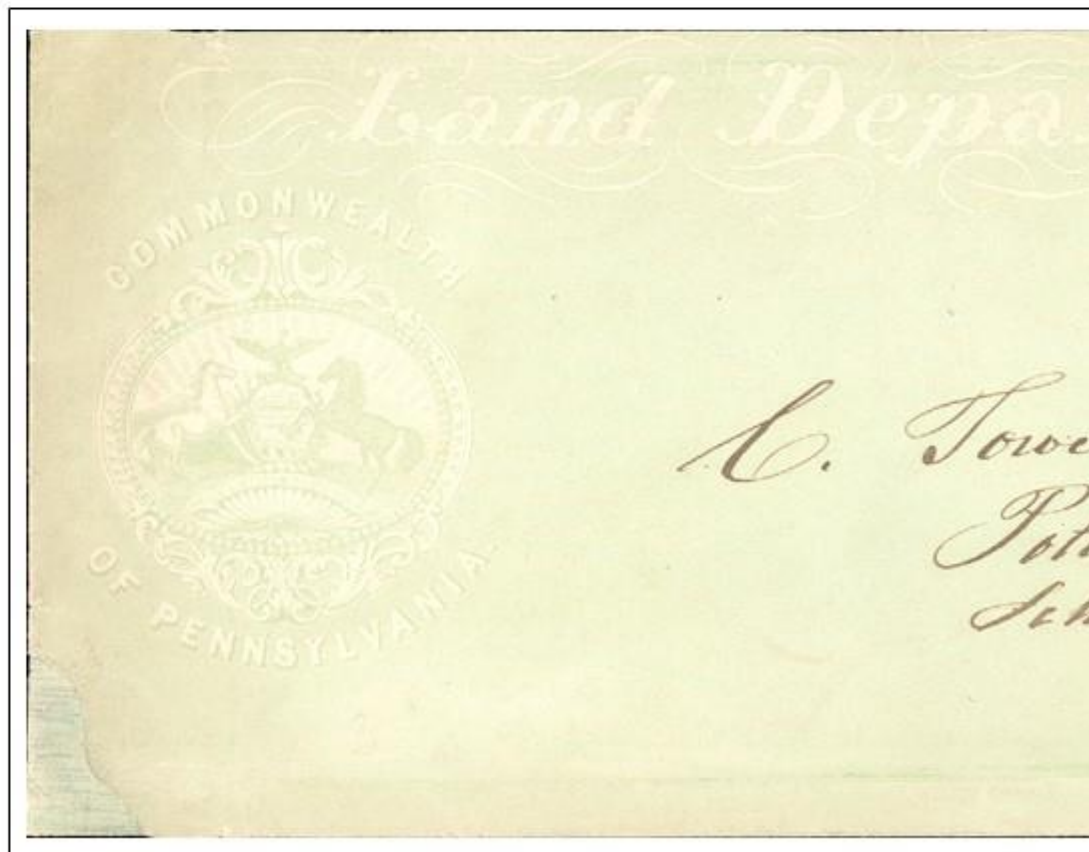
Domestic Mail Services

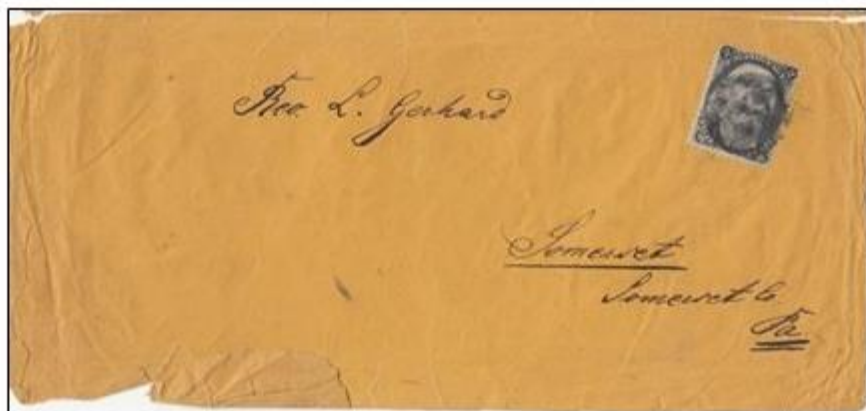
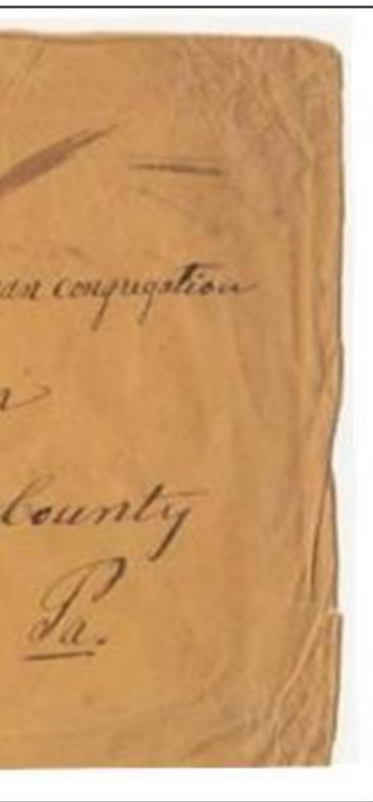
Letter Rates

QUADRUPLE LETTER RATE – TURNED COVER



SEXTUPLE LETTER RATE





Initially sent as drop letter within Somerset, PA. Refolded and readdressed to Elizabethtown, PA with 12¢ adhesive paying 4x the ½ oz. rate (1½ to 2 oz.) Circa 1867.



Harrisburgh, PA to Pottsville, PA. 6x the 3¢ rate per ½ ounce (2½ to 3 oz.) on envelope with all-over "Land Department Commonwealth of Pennsylvania" design. Fancy "shield" cancellation.

Domestic Mail Services

Territorial Origination

MONTANA TERRITORY



Beartown, Montana Territory to Hanover, Germany. May 11, 1871,

Convenience overpayment of 10¢ NGU closed mail rate.

Beartown was a mining town between Helena and Missoula. Post office operated 1868-1873.

NEW MEXICO TERRITORY



WASHINGTON TERRITORY



Intra-Territorial use. Olympia, Washington Territory to Port Townsend, Washington Territory.
7x rate cover (3 to 3½ oz.) to U.S. Indian Agent at Port Townsend, WT.
"Olympia W.T. Jan. 29, 1866" double-circle datestamp.



Fort Cummings, New Mexico Territory to Chicago, Ill. 7x the 3¢ rate per ½ ounce (3 to 3½ oz.) on envelope that likely carried business papers. Endorsed "Via Santa Fe" in lower left.

Domestic Mail Services

Registered Mail

20¢ FEE PERIOD – JUNE 30, 1863 - DECEMBER. 31, 1868



Beaufort, SC to Grahamville, SC. June 25, (1868).

4x domestic letter rate (1½ to 2 oz.) plus 20¢ registration fee.

This “REGISTERED” handstamp known to have been used 1867-68.

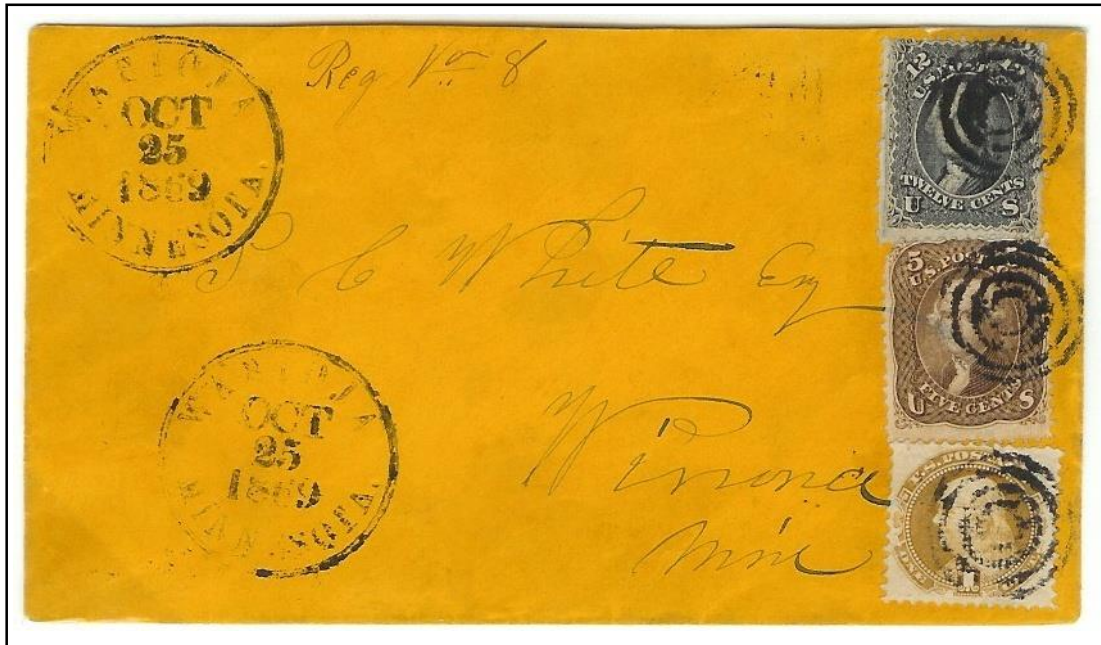
REGISTERED

Changes in regulations effective June 1, 1867 mandated that stamps be used to show payment of registrations fees. Prior to this date, registration fees were to be paid in cash only.

Domestic Mail Services

Registered Mail

15¢ FEE PERIOD – JANUARY 1, 1869 - DECEMBER 31, 1873



Wasioja, MN to Winona, MN. October 25, 1869.

Adhesives of 1861 and 1869 issues combining to pay the 3¢ postage and the 15¢ registration fee.

10¢ FEE PERIOD— JULY 1, 1875 - DECEMBER 31, 1892



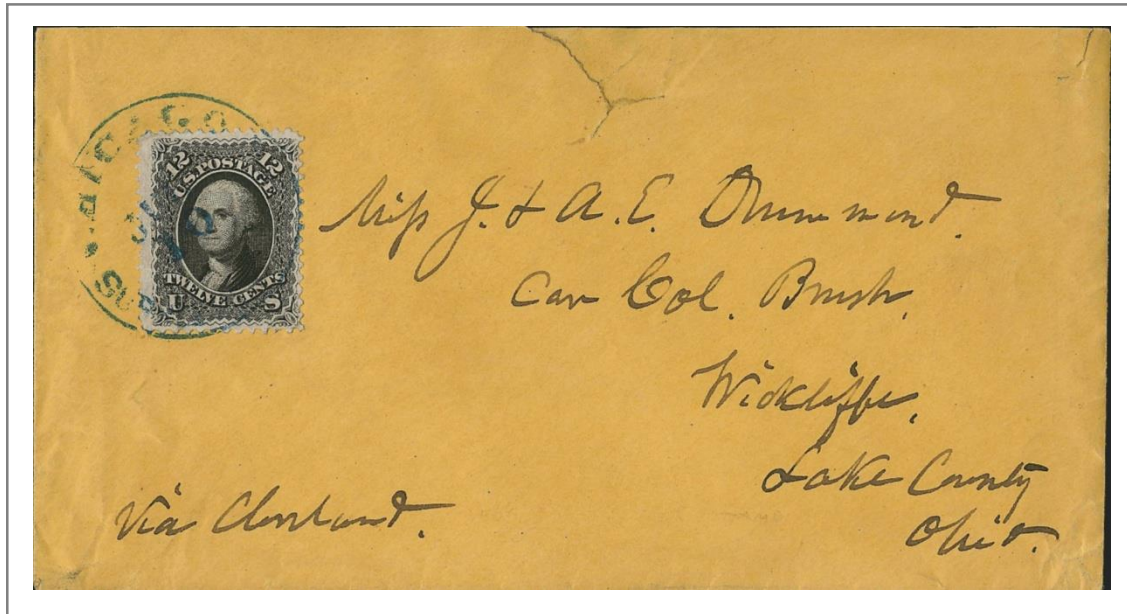
South Weymouth, MM to New York, NY. January 21, 1878.

3¢ domestic postage plus 10¢ registration fee.

Domestic Mail Services

Supplementary Mail

Chicago



Chicago, IL to Wickliffe, OH (via Cleveland).

Adhesive pays 4x the 3¢ domestic rate (1 ½ to 2 oz.).

Chicago Supplementary Mail datestamp indicating special handling.



Unlike the NY Supplementary Mail marking which indicated late dispatch to steamers, the Chicago version was for special railroad schedules to the East. Contemporary accounts indicate that there was no additional charge for this service, unlike ship-oriented supplementary mail services in other cities.

International Operations

Exchange Offices

New York and Boston were the first Exchange Offices handling the routing and accounting for transatlantic (and transpacific) mails. Other Exchange Offices were added over time.

PHILADELPHIA, PA



Philadelphia was established as an exchange office for mail to France by the U.S.-France Postal convention of March 2, 1857.

PORTLAND, ME



Portland was established as an exchange office for mails to Britain by an 1859 amendment to the U.S.-British treaty of 1848. Portland also served as the winter terminus of the Allen Line's Liverpool and London mail steamers.

The Allen Line *North American* departed March 3, 1869 arriving in Liverpool on March 14. The *North American's* sailing was delayed for four days awaiting the arrival of the Canadian mails carried by a snowbound train.

International Operations

Exchange Offices

SAN FRANCISCO, CA



San Francisco, CA to Dundee, Scotland.

12¢ with “F” grill paying the reduced treaty rate to Great Britain.

Mailer or forwarder’s Jul 2, 1869 datestamp.

San Francisco exchange office July 5 datestamp.

Routed “Overland” approximately 2 months after completion of transcontinental railroad.

Sent in closed bag through New York onto the July 14th sailing of the Cunard *Java* arriving Liverpool July 22.

By rail to London where received July 23 transit datestamp.

By rail to Dundee, Scotland (July 24 datestamp on verso).

San Francisco became an exchange office for mail between the U.S. and Great Britain in 1868.

International Operations

Dispatch and Routing

DISPATCH BY BRITISH PACKET



Bagged and sent to Boston for the November 27, 1862 sailing of the Cunard *Europa*.
Adhesives pay twice the 24¢ per ½ oz rate.
38¢ credit to Britain representing 2x 16¢ for British packet transatlantic fees and
2x 3¢ credit for British inland delivery.

DISPATCH BY AMERICAN PACKET



Intended for Cunard's *Asia* from Boston and so marked (NY Brit Pkt/38).
Exchange office marking cancelled with red grid.
Red "6" credit stamp applied representing 2x 3¢ credit to Britain for inland delivery.
Routed on HAPAG's *Hammonia* from NYC to Southampton instead.

International Operations

Dispatch and Routing

DISPATCH BY FRENCH PACKET



New York, NY to Paris, France. March 29, 1865.

Endorsed to be carried by the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique (CGT) steamer *Washington* from New York through Le Havre.

12¢ credit to France for transatlantic and French local carriage.

Red octagonal April 11 “ETATS-UNIS PAQ. FR./2 LE HAVRE 2” entry marking applied in transit to Paris.



Buffalo, NY to Paris, France. May 30, 1867.

12¢ credit to France for transatlantic and French local carriage.

French postal agent on CGT steamer *Europe* applied black octagonal ETATS-UNIS PAQ. FR. H No 3 signifying entry into French mail system the day the steamer departed New York.



International Operations

Auxiliary Markings

SHORT PAID (UNDER PAYMENTS DISALLOWED)



Partial payment not accepted and treated as completely unpaid.
Red credit datestamp applied but deemed overweight.
Marked “SHORTPAID” and overstamped with black debit datestamp and manuscript “48^{cts} due.”
Black “S2” due marking applied in Galway.

SHORT PAID (NON-EXISTENT RATE)



Attempted payment of non-existent triple rate.
Red “PAID NEW YORK” crossed out with blue crayon and reassessed at 2oz. quadruple rate.
Black “SHORTPAID” and “84” (4x 21¢) applied. No credit allowed for the adhesives and charged in full “4/-” on arrival.
Until December 1867, rate progression was up to ½ oz, single; to 1 oz, double; to 2 oz, quadruple; to 3 oz, sextuple; etc.

International Operations

Auxiliary Markings

INSUFFICIENTLY
PAID



Philadelphia, PA to Paris, France. May 8, 1864.

Philadelphia exchange office deemed letter overweight, marked it as “Insufficiently Paid,” and applied black “6” debit datestamp as though unstamped. Upon receipt in France, letter was determined not to have been overweight and due handstamp crossed out in red ink and boxed “PD” (paid to destination) applied.



INSUFFICIENTLY PAID

New York , NY to Pau, France. Nov. 17, 1868.

12¢ adhesive under paying the 15¢ rate and marked with “INSUFFICIENTLY PAID” auxiliary handstamp. New York foreign mail cancellation and “New York / 9 / Nov 17” debit datestamp.

International Operations

Auxiliary Markings

“TOO LATE”



New York, NY to Jersey, Channel Islands. September 1863.

Endorsed “By Mail to Great Britain / Leaving U.S., September 30, 1863.”

Handstamp applied by New York Exchange Office indicating that cover did not arrive in time to be placed on the September 30th sailing of the *Cunard Arabia*.

Exchange office datestamp indicates routing on HAPAG *Bavaria* departing New York on October 3.

TOO LATE

New York Exchange Office
Auxiliary Marking



New York
3 Oct. 63



Liverpool
15 Oct. 63



London
16 Oct. 63



Jersey
17 Oct. 63

International Operations

Registered Mail



New Orleans, LA via New York and Aachen, to Palermo, Italy. Jan. 30, 1867.
Prepaid at 42¢ French mail rate.
Routed via Prussian Closed Mail. 5¢ registration fee paid in cash.

REGISTERED

New Orleans



New York



Aachen

The New Orleans post office accepted the letter as prepaid at the French mail rate, but it is likely that the New York exchange office chose to send it by Prussian Closed Mail, as a postal treaty with France including registration services was not signed until 1869. Registration was included in an 1855 amendment to the 1852 postal convention with Prussia. The treaty rate by Prussian Closed Mail to Palermo was 47¢ with an additional 5¢ due to the U.S. for the registration fee on an international letter. By treaty, the U.S. and Prussia each retained registration fees for mail that originated within their borders, so there was no revenue loss to Prussia for this underpayment.



Type A
"Supplementary
Mail" handstamp

PFC

New York, NY to Liverpool, England. April 11, 1868.

12¢ supplementary mail fees paid in cash by mailer.

"Liverpool / 22 AP 68" receiving stamp.



PFC

New York, NY to London, England. May 23, 1868.

Double rate letter (½ to 1oz) with 24¢ additional cash payment for special service.

Postal patrons could deliver transatlantic letters to the docks after the normal closure of the mails and up to the time of sailing with the payment of a 100% premium.

International Operations

Notable Steamer Sailings

FIRST VOYAGE OF THE CUNARD *PALMYRA*



East Liverpool, Ohio, to Shrewsbury, England. February 21, 1868.
Sent by train to New York and placed on the first Eastbound voyage of the Cunard *Palmyra*, sailing on February 26, 1868, arriving Queenstown on March 8th.

FINAL VOYAGE OF THE CUNARD *PERSIA*



Boston, MA to Glasgow, Scotland. January 21, 1868.
Bagged and sent to New York for the final sailing of the *Persia* on January 22, 1868. The 3300 ton *Persia* was the first iron Cunarder built to compete with the Collins Lines. First voyage on January 26, 1856. She held several transatlantic speed records.

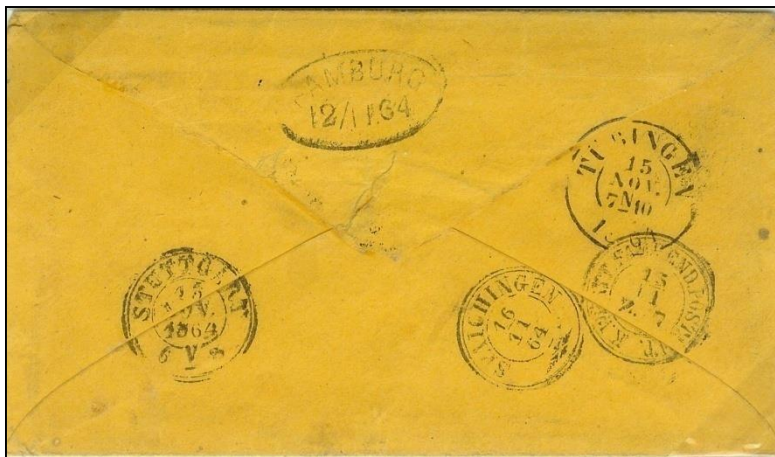
International Operations

Notable Steamer Sailings

SHIP PROBLEMS – VOYAGE NOT COMPLETED



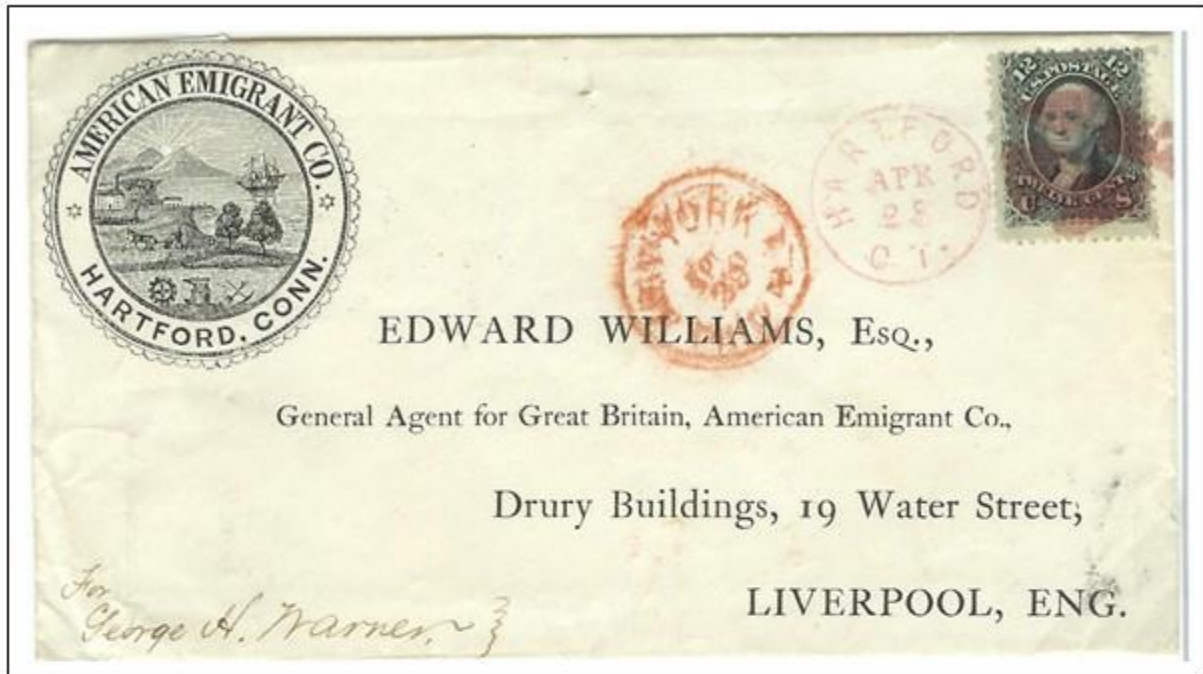
Strawberry Valley, CA to Wurttemberg, Germany. October 5, 1864.
Placed on HAPAG line *Saxonia* from New York, October 15, 1864.
Arrived Southampton November 10th (two weeks late) badly damaged by a gale.
Bavaria, which had arrived Southampton on October 25th from Hamburg, sailed for Hamburg on November 10th with *Saxonia*'s mail and passengers.



Reverse 75%

British Treaty Mail

To Great Britain



Hartford, CT, to Liverpool, England. April 28, 1868.

Grilled 12¢ adhesive paying the reduced treaty rate to Great Britain.

Magenta Hartford datestamp and cancellation; red New York Paid exchange marking; black Liverpool "9 MY 68" receiving mark on verso.



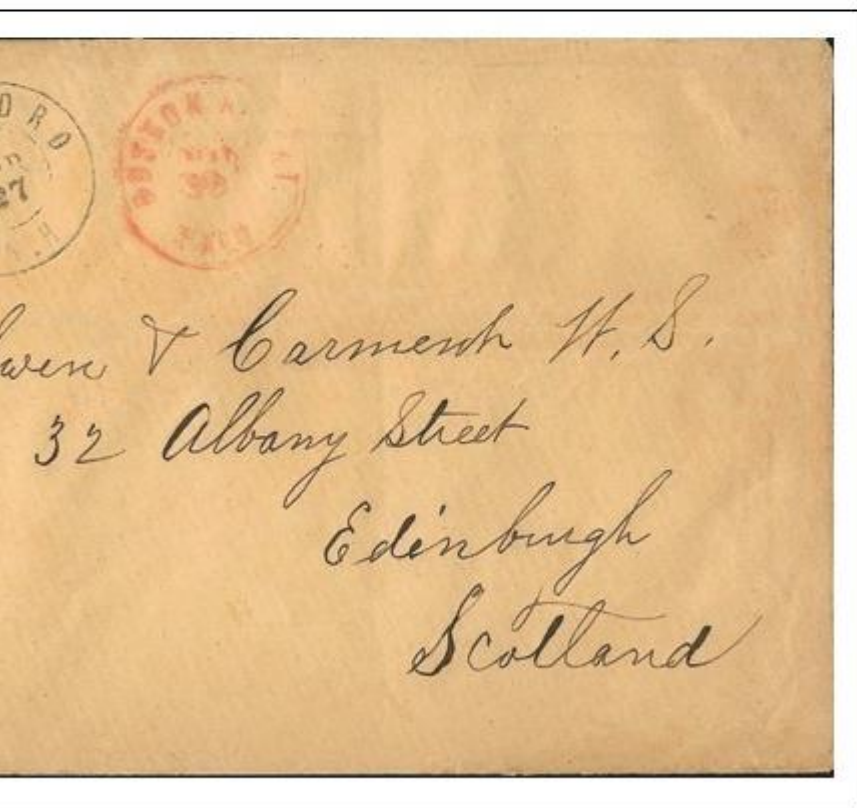
Wilford, NH to Edinburgh, Scotland. March 27, 1867. 2x the 2¢ Exchange office datestamp; red "6" crayon credit to GB (2x3¢); 1

Only three covers with bl



New York, NY to Dublin, Ireland. June 19, 1869.

Grilled 12¢ adhesive paying the reduced treaty rate to Great Britain on Grant/Colfax political envelope. Forwarded between hotels in Dublin with Dublin, June 30 (verso) and July 1 datestamps.



4¢ rate per ½ oz. "Wilford N.H. Mar. 27" datestamp; red Boston 1867 receiving backstamp.

Blocks of four are recorded

British Treaty Mail

To Great Britain

... in Search of Mr. Ward



New York to Sutton, England, January 27, (1868).

12¢ adhesive paying the ½ oz. reduced treaty rate to Great Britain.

Arrived February 8, 1868 on the Cunard *Australasian*.

From there, it traveled on a three week search for Mr. Thomas Ward.



Reverse 75%

British forwarding and transit datestamps from:

St. Helens	FEB 10
Chester	FEB 12
Chester	FEB 17
Preston Brook	FEB 18
Preston Brook	FEB 19
Chester	FEB 20
Sutton-Cheshire	FEB 24
Chester	FEB 24
Macclesfield	FEB 25
Macclesfield	FEB 27
Macclesfield	FEB 28
RETURNED TO LONDON FEB 29	

British Treaty Mail

To South America

AMERICAN PACKET TO PANAMA; BRITISH PACKET TO PERU



Newburyport, MA to Callao, Peru. April 12, 1865.

“Panama AP 22, 1865” British transit and “12” credit handstamp. “Lima 3 May 65” transit backstamp. **S. Crosby & Co, Callao, Peru** forwarding agent handstamp. 22¢ single rate effective December 1856 through September 1867.



North Edgecomb, ME to Callao, Peru. April 25, 1870.

“Callao 6 Jun 1870” arrival backstamp. 34¢ rate became effective October 1, 1867. The rate was reduced again to 22¢ on March 1, 1870.

British Treaty Mail

To South America

BRAZIL – VIA ENGLAND



Oberlin, OH to Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. September 11, 1863.
Endorsed "Via Southampton, England." and paid at 45¢ rate via England.
Red "40" manuscript credit to Great Britain

ARGENTINA – VIA ENGLAND



Cambridge, MA to Rosario, Argentina. January 25, 1869.
34¢ rate by British packet via Southampton.
Rate was only in effect from January, 1868 to January, 1870.

British Treaty Mail

To South America

URUGUAY – VIA ENGLAND



Memphis, TN to Montevideo, Uruguay. October 23, 1865.

45¢ rate by British mail via England.

North German Lloyd line *Hansa* (Nov. 4 sailing) to Southampton.

Missed the November RMSPC sailing to Rio and Montevideo.

Sent to London foreign office (Nov 17) and then on *Oneida* (Dec. 9, 1865).

Red "24" credit to Great Britain.

British Treaty Mail

To Europe

HOLLAND



Fulton, IL to Holland. July 16, 1867.

Red New York exchange office and London transit datestamps.

Prepaid for single 27¢ rate per ½ oz. via British mail.

Red "5" exchange office credit to U.S. for domestic carriage; remainder to Great Britain.

Red Dutch August 3, 1867 receiving datestamp on verso.

British Treaty Mail

To Europe

PORTUGAL



PFC

Cambridge, MA, to Lisbon, Portugal. October 30, 1865.

45¢ rate by British mail via London.

Black Lisbon 17.11 65 receiving mark on verso..

The USS Colorado served as flagship for the U.S. European squadron from June 1865 to 1867.

SPAIN



New Orleans, LA to Ygualada, Spain. September 4, 1868.

Red New York exchange office and London transit datestamps.

Prepaid for single 22¢ rate per ¼ oz. but determined to be over the single-rate weight class, thus the absence of 12¢ credit and presence of "Paid Only to England" handstamp.

British Treaty Mail

To Africa

CAPE COLONY (NOW SOUTH AFRICA)



Tioga, PA to Cape Town, Cape Colony, Africa. June 12, 1868.

2x 34¢ rate per ½ oz. by British Mail via Plymouth.

Red "48" credit to Great Britain; red "2"[d] credit to colonial postmaster.

London transit and Cape Town receiving datestamps.

Lower left stamp a replacement.

To the Middle East

ADEN (NOW YEMEN)



New York to Aden, Arabia. October 10, 1868.

36¢ rate by British mail via Marseilles.

Red "26" credit to Great Britain; red "1"[d] credit to colonial postmaster.

London transit and Aden receiving datestamps.

British Treaty Mail

To Asia

INDIA



New York, NY to Bombay, India. February 3, 1865.

39¢ rate for under ¼ oz. by British mail via Marseilles. Red New York exchange; London transit, and Bombay receiving datestamps; “34” credit to Great Britain; “1” (d) credit to colonial postmaster.

INDIA – PAID NGU TREATY RATE SENT BY BRITISH MAIL



Newburyport, MA, to Bombay, India. May 15, (1865).

Sender paid 72¢ as required for North German Union Mail to India. New York Exchange office routed the letter through British Mail via Marseilles which only required 45¢ postage (40¢ credit to Great Britain). London transit datestamp and red “1^d” credit for colonial postmaster.

British Treaty Mail

To Asia

CHINA



PFC

Via Southampton. July 11, 1862. 45¢ rate by British mail via Southampton. Red New York exchange datestamp and “40” credit to Great Britain; “1” (d) credit to colonial postmaster; red London transit; black Hong Kong and Shanghai backstamps.

HONG KONG



Via Southampton. November 18, 1863. Five different denominations of the 1861-68 issue paying the 45¢ rate by British mail via Southampton. Incorrectly marked with “48” credit marking rather than proper “40.” Red London Nov. 30, 1863 and blue Hong Kong, “Jan. 23, 1864” datestamps. Dates and markings correspond to Nov. 18 sailing of the *China* from NY, the Dec. 4, 1863 sailing of the P&O steamer *Ripon* to Alexandria, then by *Nemesis* from Suez to Galle, and by *Ottawa* from Galle to Hong Kong.

It appears that stamps were trimmed to fit between the writing on the face of this diminutive cover.

British Treaty Mail

To Asia

JAPAN



New York, NY to Yokohama, Japan. January 18, 1869.

42¢ British mail rate to Japan via Marseilles.

Red "32" credit rating with matching "New York British Transit" circular datestamp on reverse.

London transit, Hong Kong and Yokohama 1869 backstamps.

Red "1"(d) credit to colonial postmaster.

Mail to Japan is far less common than mail to China.

PHILIPPINES



Boston, MA to Manila, Philippines. January 18, 1868.

42¢ rate by British mail via Marseilles that became effective January 1, 1868 for two years. Red Boston exchange, London transit, and Hong Kong datestamps. Red crayon "32" credit to Great Britain and "1" (d) credit to colonial postmaster.

British Treaty Mail

To Australia

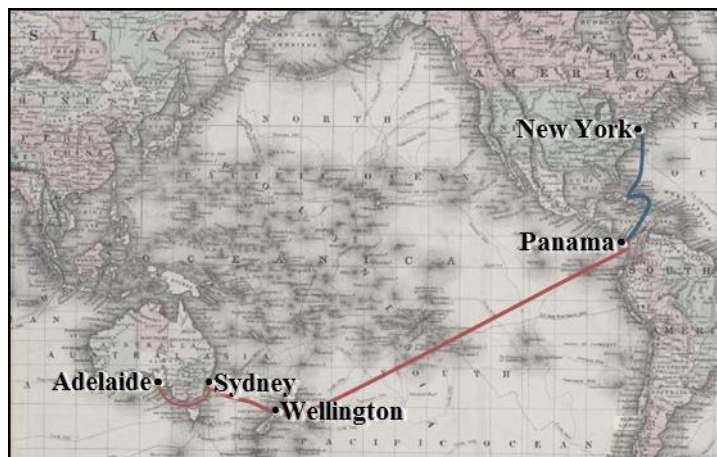
AMERICAN PACKET TO PANAMA; BRITISH PACKET TO AUSTRALIA



Bethany, WV, via New York, Panama and New Zealand, to Adelaide, Australia.
22¢ rate on black-bordered mourning cover .

Bethany, WV, October 12, 1867 by rail to New York
Red "12" credit to Great Britain applied by New York Exchange Office
By contract mail steamer to Panama arriving October 30, 1867
Apparently missed the steamer *Mataura* that departed Panama on October 24, 1867
Placed on steamer *Kaikoura* on November 27, 1867
Arrived Wellington on December 26, 1867
Arrived Sydney on January 2, 1868.

22¢ per ½ oz. treaty rate in effect from August 1866 through December 1868.
U.S. retained 10¢ for service to Panama and credited Great Britain with 12¢ for transpacific carriage.



British Treaty Mail

To Australia

AMERICAN PACKET TO PANAMA; BRITISH PACKET TO AUSTRALIA – VIA SOUTHAMPTON



San Bernadino, CA, via Panama and Southampton, to Sydney, Australia.
22¢ rate on black-bordered mourning cover.

San Bernadino, CA, March 3, 1868 by costal steamer to San Francisco.
By contract mail steamer to Panama departing San Francisco mid-March 1869.
Date stamped at British office in Panama on March 24, 1869 and sent across isthmus.
By RMSP *Elbe* departing Colon April 5, 1869, arriving Plymouth April 26, 1869
By P&O *Pera* from Southampton on May 15, 1869, arriving Alexandria May 28, 1869.
By P&O *Deccan* depart Suez May 30, 1869, arriving Galle June 13, 1869.
By P&O *Geelong* depart Galle June 16, 1869, arriving Sydney July 9, 1869.

Steamer service from Panama to Australia ended in December 1868, but the *Post Office Assistant* listed 22¢ rate via Panama until March 1869. Rather than sending overland to New York as would be expected, SF Exchange Office sent it to Panama, where it was routed to Southampton and onward to Australia, bypassing the New York Exchange Office.



British Treaty Mail

To Australia

BRITISH PACKET TO AUSTRALIA – VIA MARSEILLE



Boston, MA to Melbourne, Australia. May 3, 1865.

39¢ rate by British mail via Marseille.

Routed by Boston Exchange Office to New York.

Cunard line *Persia* from New York arriving Queenstown May 13.

London May 15, 1865 transit datestamp.

Calais by rail to Marseille.

P&O *Masilia* from Marseille May 28, arriving Alexandria June 3.

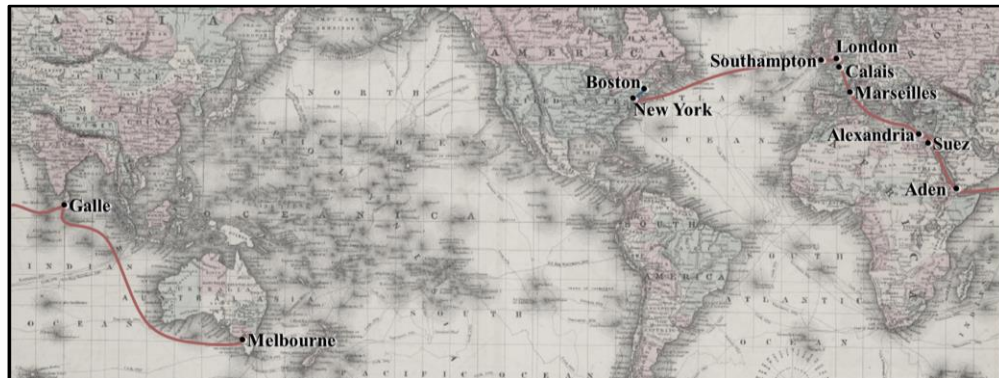
Overland to Suez.

P&O *Simla* from Suez June 4, arriving Galle, Ceylon June 18.

P&O *Jeddo* from Galle June 20, arriving Melbourne July 15.

Blue Melbourne July 15, 1865 receiving datestamp.

Red "34" credit representing 16¢ transatlantic; 6¢ to France (< ¼ oz.) and 12¢ British uniform rate to Australia.



French Treaty Mail

To France

SINGLE RATE



Fair Haven, CT, to Bordeaux, France. March 20, 1862.

15¢ single treaty rate per quarter ounce.

Traveled on HAPAG *Hammonia* departing New York on March 22nd.

6¢ credit to France for 2x 3¢ for French internal postage and delivery per ¼ oz.

QUINTUPLE RATE



New York to Lyon, France. September 2, 1862.

5x the 15¢ treaty rate per ¼ ounce (1 to 1¼ oz.) to France.

New York exchange office applied datestamp with rating slug removed and applied magenta "60" credit marking.

French Treaty Mail

To France

SEPTUPLE RATE



PFC

New Orleans, LA to Bordeaux, France. December 14, 1864.

7x the 15¢ treaty rate per ¼ ounce (1½ to 1¾ oz.) to France.

Sent from Union-occupied New Orleans to New York.

New York exchange office applied datestamp with rating slug removed and applied red "42" credit marking for 6¢ per rate (2¢ to Great Britain for transit from Liverpool and 4¢ French inland postage.

Cover front re-backed.

Only seven covers with both the 12¢ and 90¢ stamps are recorded

French Treaty Mail

To Europe

SWITZERLAND



Foxboro, MA, to Geneva, Switzerland. June 8, 1863.

2x the 21¢ rate by French mail for letters weighing between ¼ and ½ oz.

Red Boston / June 10 / PAID / 18 exchange office cancellation shows sender only needed to pay the single 21¢ rate.

By French mail overland to Geneva.

Black Geneva receiving back stamp.



Boston, MA to Vevey, Switzerland. March 14, 1866.

2x the 21¢ rate by French mail for letters weighing between ¼ and ½ oz.

30¢ legal-sized envelope refolded to letter size prior to mailing.

French Treaty Mail

To Europe

SICILY



Philadelphia, PA to Palermo, Sicily. April 13, 1866.

2x the 21¢ rate by French mail for letters weighing between ¼ and ½ oz.

By Havre Line *Fulton* from New York on April 14, arriving Havre April 28.

Red crayon “18/2” for double 9¢ credit to France.

SPAIN



San Francisco, CA to Barcelona, Spain. November 2, 1863.

2x the 21¢ rate by French mail for letters weighing between ¼ and ½ oz.

San Francisco double-circle datestamp and cogwheel cancellation.

4 R(eales) due for local postage. Barcelona receiving datestamp on verso.

French Treaty Mail

To Europe

BELGIUM



New Orleans, LA, to Mons, Belgium. February 17, 1865.
21¢ single rate per ¼ oz. by French mail.



Cambridge, MA, to Antwerp, Belgium. July 11, 1865.
42¢ double rate by French mail.
The USS Colorado served as flagship for the U.S. European squadron from June, 1865 to 1867.

French Treaty Mail

To Africa

ALGERIA



New London, CT to Setif, Algeria. July 21, 1865.

15¢ rate per ¼ oz. by French Mail.

Rates to the French colony of Algeria were the same as to France, itself.

MAURITIUS (ISLE DE FRANCE)



New Brunswick, NJ to Mauritius. September 15, 1865.

Sender paid 39¢ rate for British Mail via Marseilles.

Routed on the HAPAG *Saxonia* directly to France.

Black Marseilles September 29, 1865 transit marking on reverse.

Cover roughly opened and repaired at right.

The use of “Isle of France” possibly caused the NY Exchange office to route the letter directly to France. Red New York “12” credit datestamp typical for mail to France by American Packet. Mauritius became a British colony in 1814.

Prussian Closed Mail

To German States

PRUSSIA



New Orleans, LA to Berlin, Prussia. June 2, 1866.
2x the 28¢ per ½ oz rate by Prussian closed mail.
The 28¢ rate to **Prussia** became effective **September 1861**.

BADEN



Cleveland, OH to Schönau, Baden. October 12, 1866.
28¢ single rate by Prussian closed mail.
28¢ rate to **Baden** became effective **May 1863**.

Prior to unification, the German Federation was composed of numerous independent states and city/states with a complex political landscape. Rates and regulations varied by state. Rate changes effective in one state were not necessarily reflected in others.

Prussian Closed Mail

To Europe

AUSTRIA



Boston, MA to Vienna, Austria. January 31, 1863.

28¢ single rate by Prussian closed mail.

Red "Boston Am. Pkt. 7 Paid Jan 31" exchange datestamp.

Bagged and sent to Portland for the January 31, 1863 sailing of the Allen line *Hibernian* arriving in Liverpool on February 11.

By steamer and train to Aachen.

Marked Franco (Paid) and sent by rail to Vienna.

Black and red "WIEN / 14 II" (Vienna 14 Feb.) receiving marks on verso.

Prussian Closed Mail

To Europe

NORWAY



Morris, IL to Norway. Nov. 14, 1861.

46¢ rate via Prussian closed mail which was in effect from mid-1855 through April 1863. Aachen transit datesstamp on front; Hamburg, Christiana, and other transit markings on verso.

RUSSIA



PFC

Salem, MA to St. Petersburg, Russia. May 27, 1862.

2x the 37¢ rate per ½ oz. on mourning cover. to St. Petersburg, Russia from the Pierce correspondence.

Red crayon "28" credit, blue crayon "Fr 6" Prussian credit.

Prussian Closed Mail

To Europe

SILESIA (NOW POLAND)



Buffalo, NY to Silesia, Prussia. May 1, 1865.

4x the 28¢ per ½ ounce rate (1½ to 2 oz.) by Prussian closed mail.

Blue boxed "Aachen 16 5 / Franco" [May 16] transit datestamp.

"Aug. May 17" receiving backstamp.

SWITZERLAND



New Orleans, LA to Langnan, Switzerland. January 25, 1866.

33¢ single rate by Prussian closed mail.

Traveled on Inman Line *City of Boston* from New York on February 3.

Aachen, Baden, Basel, and Langnau transit datestamps.

Bremen and Hamburg Treaty Mail

To Germany and Europe

FRANKFURT, GERMANY



Newark, NJ to Frankfurt am Main, Germany. September 29, 1866.

Red "New York Brem. Pkt. 12 Paid" exchange marking.

15¢ rate to Frankfurt by Bremen/Hamburg mail became effective October 1859.

SWITZERLAND



Chicago, IL, through New York and Bremen. September 5, 1864.

Paying the 19¢ rate to Switzerland via Bremen packet.

U.S retained 16¢ (red "16" credit marking) for inland and transatlantic postage.

The 19¢ treaty rate was in effect from late 1860 through 1867.

Bremen and Hamburg Treaty Mail

To Europe

HAMBURG PACKET TO VIENNA, FORWARDED TO BERLIN



New York, NY to Vienna, Austria; forwarded to Berlin. May 3, 1862.

Magnus design cover from the Angell correspondence paying the 15¢ single rate by **Hamburg packet**. Traveled on the May 3rd sailing of the HAPAG *Teutonia* arriving in Hamburg May 18 (Hamburg transit verso). Marked “FRANCO” (Paid) and sent by rail to Vienna. Black “WIEN / 20 - V” (Vienna 20 May) receiving mark on verso. Forwarded to Berlin.

BREMEN PACKET TO BADGASTEIN, AUSTRIA



New York, NY to Badgastein, Austria. July 5, 1863.

Magnus design cover from the Angell correspondence paying the 15¢ single rate by **Bremen packet**. Traveled on the North German Lloyd line *Bremen*. Blue “America uber Bremen Franco” (Paid). Black Salzburg transit and Badgastein receiving datestamps on verso.

Bremen and Hamburg Treaty Mail

To Europe

ROME (PAPAL STATES)



Milwaukee, WI to Rome, Italy. September 13, 1867.

In February 1867, a 24¢ reduced rate to Rome prepaid through Bremen took effect. Carried from New York on September 19 on the North German Lloyd line *Hermann*.

Red "21" credit to Bremen for all but 3¢ U.S. domestic carriage.

Red "16" (kreuzer) for German transit and Wf 14 (paid beyond 14 kreuzer) totaling 30 kreuzer, or 21¢.

"P.D." (paid to destination) marking overstruck with "P.P." (paid to frontier) indicating this rate only paid transit to border of Papal States.

Black "2" indicating 2 decimes (20 centesimi) due for local postage.

Rate only in effect through December 1867 (11 months).

Only four covers to Papal States at this rate and with this handling through Bremen recorded.

North German Union Mail

To Germany

TRANSITION TO NORTH GERMAN UNION (NGU) MAIL



Newport, RI to Leipzig, Germany. January 6, 1868.

Paid 28¢ and endorsed for Prussian Closed Mail. However, Prussian Closed Mail was closed as of January 1, 1868.

This was routed through the new North German Union mail service and was thus overpaid 13¢.

MAIL AT NGU RATE



Crestline, OH, to Dortmund, Westphalia, Germany. April 7, 1869.

15¢ single rate by North German Union closed mail.

April 9 exchange office datestamp indicates it was carried on the Inman Lines *City of London* departing on April 10, 1869.

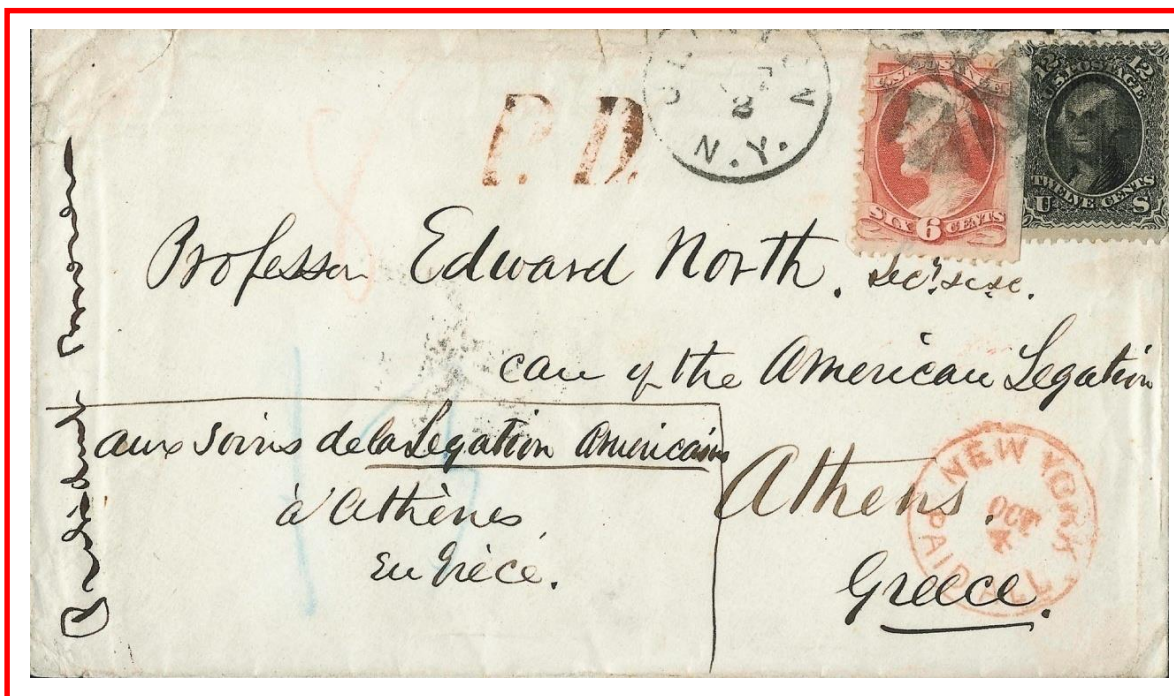
April 22 German transit datestamp.

With the formation of the North German Postal Union on January 1, 1868, mail to locations in German was greatly simplified. All locations within Germany could be reached by mail for the same rate and later rate adjustments were applicable uniformly across the country

North German Union Mail

To Europe

GREECE



Clinton, NY to Athens, Greece. October 2, 1870.

18¢ rate by North German Union closed mail. Rate was reduced 5¢ on July 1, 1870 and remained in effect for 16 months.

The recipient, Edward North, was Professor of Classics at Hamilton College, located in Clinton, NY, for 58 years, retiring in 1901. He traveled to Greece in 1870-71.

Very few covers to Greece are known from the pre-UPU period.

North German Union Mail

To Europe

ROME (PAPAL STATES)



Baltimore, MD to Rome, Italy. February 26, 1869.

19¢ single rate by North German Union closed mail.

Black "P.P." (paid to frontier) handstamp.

Blue "f 1½" postage paid past Germany equals 4¢ (incorrectly marked with red "5").

50 centesimi due for local postage (2x 25 centesimi per 7½ gr. on inbound letters).



Baltimore, MD to Rome, Italy. January 3, 1869.

2x the 19¢ North German Union closed mail rate.

Blue "f 1½" postage paid past Germany equals 8¢ (incorrectly marked with red "4" corrected with crayon to "8").

75 centesimi due for local postage (3x 25 centesimi per 7½ gr. on inbound letters).

North German Union Mail

To Europe

SWEDEN



Council Bluffs, IA, through Chicago, to Lund, Sweden. March 24, 1868.

2x the 21¢ rate to Sweden by North German Union closed mail.

Transited through Chicago where "12/U.S. Notes" handstamp was applied instead of an exchange office datestamp.

"Sodra St. Banan/18.4.68" backstamp.

The 21¢ treaty rate was in effect from January 1868 through April 1869.

SWITZERLAND



Through New York to Aargau, Switzerland. December 21, 1869.

15¢ rate for North German Union direct mail.

Routed on the *Westphalia* (Hamburg-American Line) which departed New York on December 28, arriving in Hamburg on January 9.

By train to Switzerland.

North German Union Mail

To Europe

TURKEY



Lancaster, NY to Constantinople, Turkey. June 1, 1871.

Through New York and Hamburg to Constantinople, Turkey by North German Union mail to German office in Constantinople.

June 6 "New York 5" exchange mark; red "2Wf" (*weiterfranco 2 silbergroschen* - paid beyond [Germany] 2 sg.).

Germany credited itself with the 2 sg. for that mail carriage. Black North German Post (NORDDEUTCHPOST) receiving mark on verso.



German
*weiterfranco 2
silbergroschen*
handstamp



(North German Post Agent)
Backstamp applied at the
German mail office in
Constantinople upon arrival

Other Postal Treaties

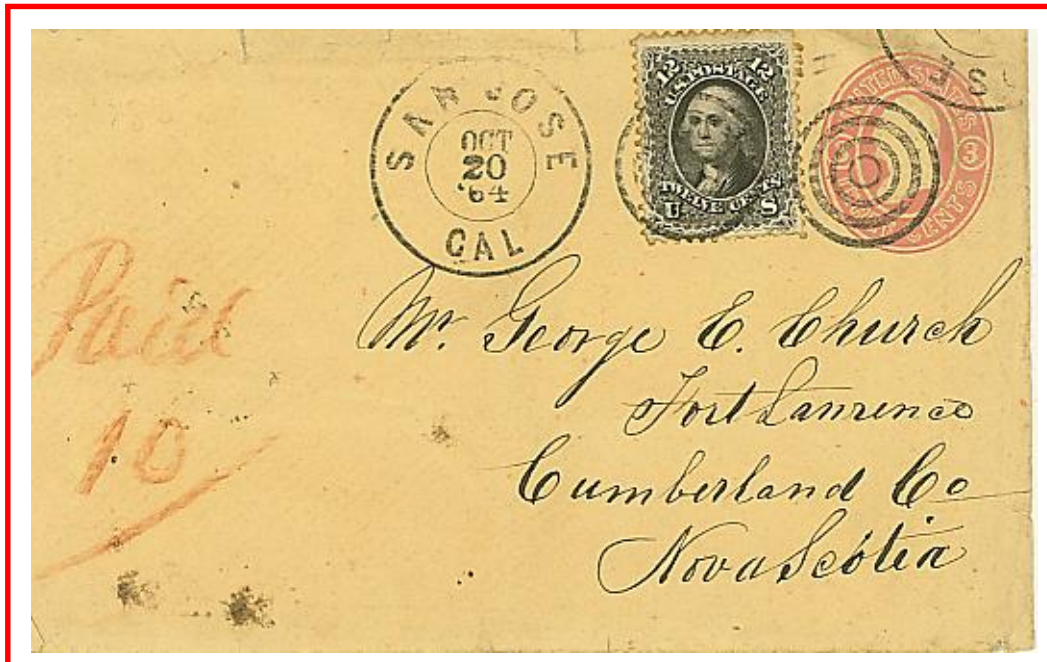
BRITISH NORTH AMERICA – LOWER CANADA



Boston to Quebec. July 6, (1864). –12¢ adhesive overpaying the 10¢ treaty rate to British North America. Black Montreal JY 7 64 transit and black Quebec JY 8 64 receiving marks on verso.

The postal treaty with Canada signed in 1851 allowed each country to prepay postage to destinations within the other.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA - NOVA SCOTIA



San Jose, CA to Nova Scotia. October 20, 1864.

12¢ adhesive on 3¢ stamped envelope paying the 15¢ treaty rate to Nova Scotia for mail traveling over 3000 miles. The red “Paid 10” was likely applied in San Jose and reflected some confusion about the transcontinental rate, as the 5¢ surcharge to most of BNA was eliminated in 1864. However, the 15¢ rate to Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island remained in effect until 1868.

Other Postal Treaties

BELGIUM



New Orleans, LA to Mons, Belgium. April 9, 1866. Red New York “7” credit exchange office datestamp. Mons receiving datestamp on verso.

The 27¢ rate by Belgian closed mail became effective January, 1860.

NETHERLANDS



New York, NY to Amsterdam, Holland. August 12, (1868)

15¢ treaty rate per ½ oz.

Both adhesives with “F” grills indicating likely 1868 use.

An 1867 treaty with the Netherlands, effective January 1, 1868, provided for closed mail between the United States and the Netherlands with a rate of 15¢ per 15 grams (½ ounce).

Other Postal Treaties

ITALY



New Orleans, LA to Turin, Italy. April 2, 1869.
15¢ treaty rate per ¼ oz.

A treaty with Italy was signed in 1868 providing for closed mail between the United States and Italy.

BRAZIL



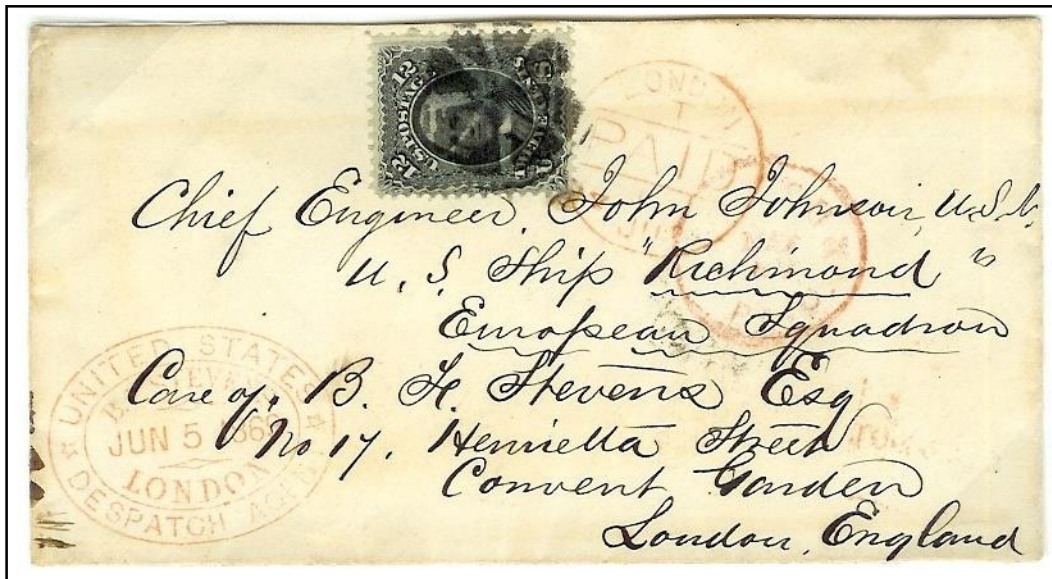
Baltimore to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. January 22, 1872.
Adhesive paying the 15¢ treaty rate to Brazil.

A postal treaty with Brazil was signed in May 1870 along with monthly packet service between New York; St. Thomas, West Indies; and Para, Bahia, Pernambuco, and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

International Forwarding

Forwarded by U.S. Despatch Agent

B. F. STEVENS



Boston, MA to U.S. Ship *Richmond* in care of B. F. Stevens. May 1869.
Red “United States Despatch Agent, BF Stevens, London, June 5, 1869” oval forwarding agent handstamp. Carried out of the mails to the *Richmond*, which was touring the Mediterranean at the time. B. F. Stevens was under contract to the U.S. government to forward mails to U.S. naval vessels.



B.F. Stevens
Type II datestamp

Evansville, IN to U.S. Ship *Franklin* in care of B. F. Stevens. August 23, 1869.
Red “United States Despatch Agent, BF Stevens, London, Sep 6, 1869” oval forwarding agent handstamp. Carried out of the mails to the *Franklin*, which was the flagship of the European Squadron from 1867-1869.

International Forwarding

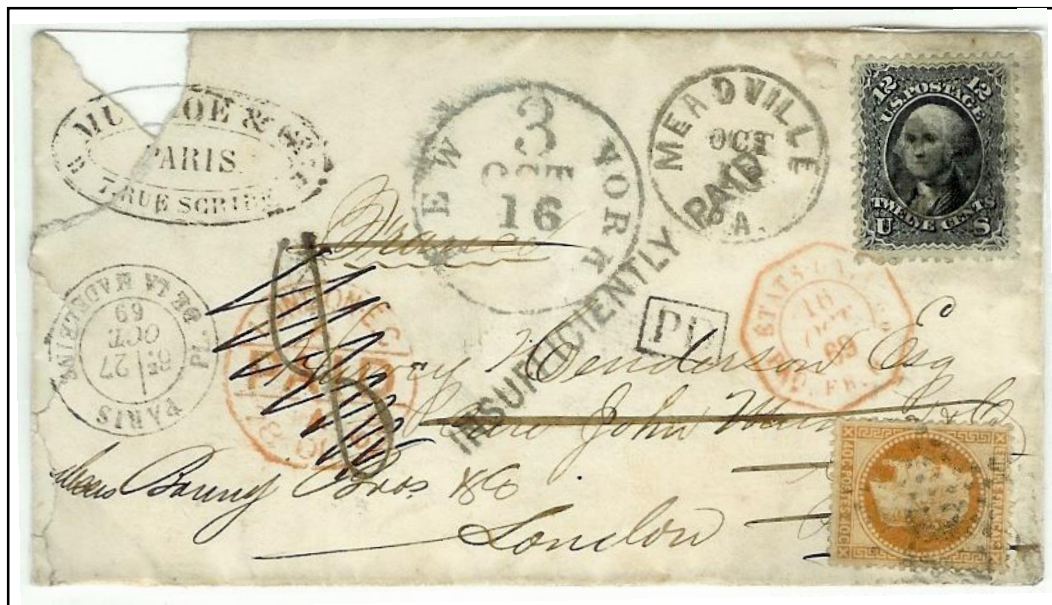
Re-mailed by Forwarding Agent



Brewster, MA to London, England. July 24, 1866.

24¢ single rate to Great Britain.

Addressed “Care Baring Brothers,” who readdressed and re-mailed per instructions with 1d British postage on August 6.



Meadville, PA to Paris France. October 13, 1869. 12¢ adhesive under paying the 15¢ rate.

Marked with “INSUFFICIENTLY PAID” and “New York / 3 / Oct 16” debit datestamp. Forwarding postage to London paid by France 40c 1863 issue.

Manuscript note on reverse “80 Centimes short paid for this letter and 40c present postage covers amount to your credit” Forwarding agent in France paid for both the unpaid postage to France and the additional postage for forwarding to London.

International Forwarding

Re-mailed by Forwarding Agent



New Orleans, LA to Paris, France. December 27, 1864.

Addressed care of Marcuard, Andre & Co. Forwarding agent readdressed letter and applied company handstamp.

Deposited in post box at Place de la Bourse office (“P.1”).

Red **Trouvé à la Boîte** (Found in the Box) handstamp applied and charged 50% surcharge for unpaid letters on top of the 20 centime inland postage rate (“30”).



Trouvé à la Boîte
(Found in the Box)

30

30 centimes due

International Forwarding

Forwarded Between Postal Systems

NORTH GERMAN UNION MAIL TO ITALY
FRENCH MAIL TO BEIRUT, SYRIA



Through New York, Cologne, Verona, Rome, and Naples to Beirut, Syria. December 1868.

Red New York December 24 (1868) datestamp.

Closed mail through England to Cologne with North German Union transit hand stamp.

Black “Verona / 6 Gen / 69” and “Roma / 8 Gen / 69” datestamps.

Forwarded with “Arrivo / 10 Gen 69 / Napoli” datestamp.

Readdressed by post office and forwarded to Beirut by French mail with French “Beiruth / 3x Janv 69 / Syrie” receiving handstamp.



Reverse 75%