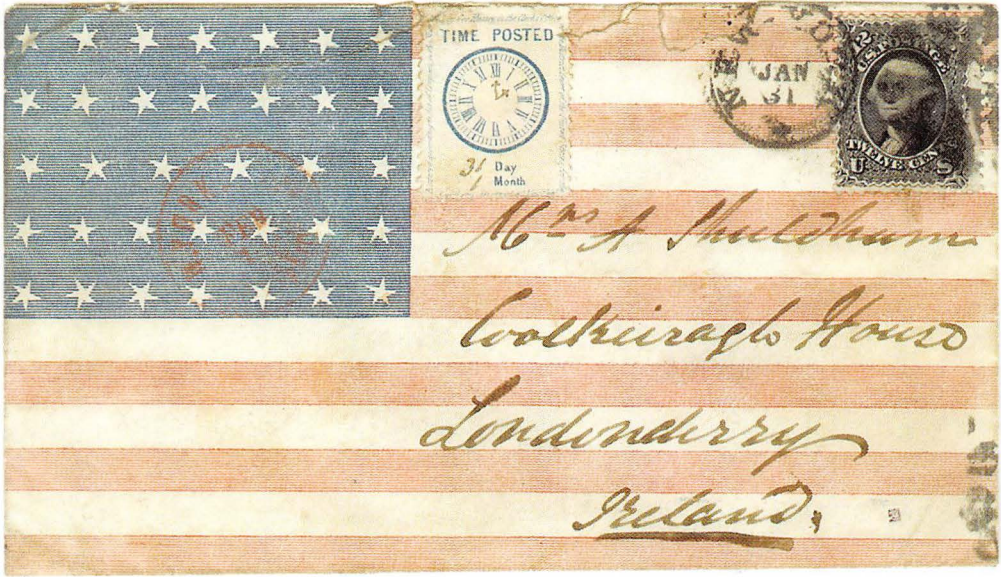


THE PENNY POST

Official Journal Of The Carriers And Locals Society



Patriotic cover to Ireland with Hussey's time posted label. Black January 31 (1868?) cancel and 12¢ U.S. stamp (SC69) of 1861-62. Illustrated in Chip Gliedman's "The 1861-1869 Twelve Cent Washington Issue", The U.S. Philatelic Classics Society.

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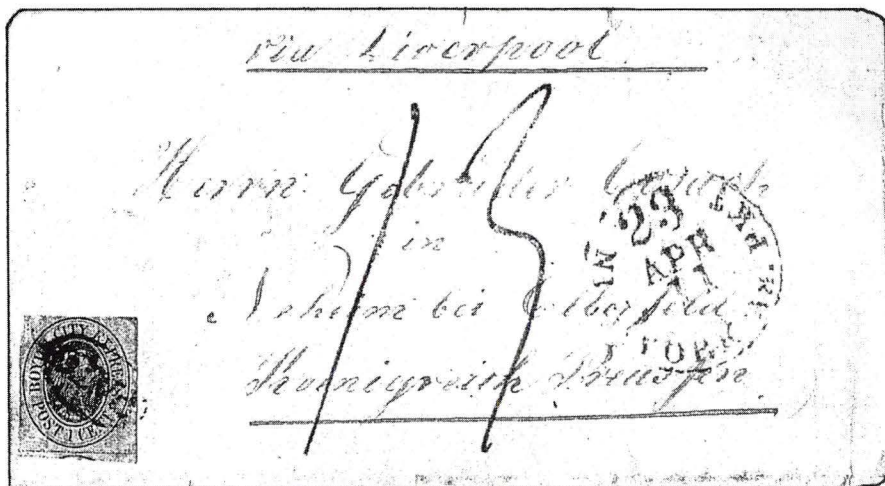
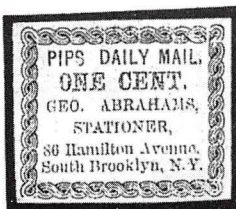
HUSSEY'S TIME POSTED LABELS

LANGTON'S FRANKS AND A HUMBOLDT COVER CENSUS

FORGERY UPDATE

METROPOLITAN NUMBERED DIE PROOFS

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THE PENNY POST

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Editor's Message

By

Larry Lyons

I am very pleased to announce that the *Carriers and Locals Society* Auction #7 held on December 16, 2004 was a tremendous success. Very special thanks to Alan Cohen, our Auction Manager for his very fine efforts. We are pleased to report a total hammer price of over \$12,000.00. There were 220 lots in the sale and more than 67% were sold. The auction set records for the number of lots sold and the hammer total. It's never too early to consider consigning to our next auction which will be held on June 9, 2005. The consignment deadline is May 2, 2005.

I wish to point out and honor three medal winners at StampShow 2004 held in Sacramento. Marty Richardson's exhibit *Boyd's Local Post, New York City: 1844-1911* won a gold medal and the United States Philatelic Classics Society award. Tom Mazza's *Steet Fighting: New York City Carrier & Local Mail 1840-1863* won a gold medal and Vernon Morris, Jr.'s *Fighting the Fed in Philadelphia: Independent, Carrier and Local Posts, 1836-1879* also won a gold medal. Congratulations to each of you. If you haven't seen these exhibits I strongly recommend that you see them. They are incredible and share a lot of learning about our unique section in philately. We are in the planning stages of offering CDs of carrier and local exhibits. I will keep you informed.

In this issue you will find an article on Hussey's time posted labels written jointly by John Bowman and Cliff Alexander. This article shines a lot of light on these labels with more to come in a follow-up article. A hardy thank-you to Cliff on his first authorship of a *Penny Post* article. Thanks twice to John Bowman for his co-authoring of the Hussey time post label article and an article on numbered Metropolitan die proofs which is a follow-up to our local proofs and essays article in the October issue. I have prepared for you a forgery update article and a lengthy piece on Langton's franks and a Humboldt cover census.

A Very Happy New Year to you all and may our hobby bring you peace and tranquility in 2005.

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Metropolitan Die Proofs

By
John D. Bowman

In the July and September 2004 issues of *The Penny Post*, Larry Lyons and I offered a two-part article on the essays and proofs of US local stamps. This was a ground-breaking series, as no article on this subject has ever been published. In response to our request for input, member Stanley Piller has submitted three Metropolitan Errand & Carrier Express Company proofs.

Mr. Piller states that these proofs are from the American Bank Note Company archives. It is noteworthy that in Part 1 of our series, we illustrated three similar items: an American Letter Mail Company 5L1 proof with inscribed number 25874, and two different Blood Kochersperger proofs with numbers 25871 and 25872.

Because the American Bank Note Company acquired or merged with other bank note companies, it is likely that the dies engraved by the printers of these three companies fell into the ABN Company's hands, and were inscribed with these die numbers by them. These items were then printed in the form illustrated as a record of the dies held by the company. Each is very likely unique.



**Figure 1. American Bank Note Company die proofs.
Compliments of Stanley Piller.**

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Hussey's Time Posted Labels

By

John D. Bowman

Clifford J. Alexander

George Tuttle Hussey was born on February 27, 1812, and in 1836, began a 35-year career at the Bank of New York. In 1854, while he was with the Bank, Hussey co-founded the Bank & Insurance City Post at 50 William Street. Four years later, the name was changed to Hussey's Post.

Hussey's local post distributed bank and insurance notices, bills, circulars and other deliveries. His services never really met the traditional definition of a "local post" in that he did not have street boxes, store boxes, or other conveniences for the public to readily transport its mail to or from the US post office or between local addresses. Instead, he ran a delivery service for businesses. The "typical" local post services he provided were more incidental than intentional. In fact, the nature of his business did not really require any adhesive stamps. Nonetheless, being a very unique entrepreneur, Hussey saw fit to issue adhesive stamps and make reprintings of them. He always said any of his stamps would be honored for postal services, thus they are listed in the *Scott Catalog*. He also purchased dies and plates of stamps of defunct local posts and prepared reprintings of them for sale to collectors. His own stamps, reprintings of other posts, and new forgeries were heavily advertised as he extended his business aims to include stamp collectors. As a result, Hussey inadvertently discouraged many collectors from viewing his postal enterprises as legitimate, and for many years his postal issues were ignored by collectors.

One of the most curious of his ideas was the Time Posted label. Appearing in 1865, this label bore the picture of a clock face without hands. The idea of the label was that the user would affix it to his envelope and fill in the time and date of mailing. Hussey's advertisements described the label's function:

Its object is to show the recipient of a letter just the hour and day the letter was mailed, that in case of its non-receipt at the proper time, the blame can be placed on the right party. It very frequently becomes not only an object of great interest but of importance to know just when a letter was mailed. It serves as a monitor to the Postman, to the Post Office clerk, and to the recipient. The party sending a letter marks a pointer at the hour it leaves his hands, and also fills out the blank below with the month and day.

The Three Types

There are three types of the Time Posted label, which can be designated as A, B and C (see **Figures 1, 2, 3**). All three types have the same clock face 11 mm in diameter and the words "TIME POSTED" in capital letters across the top. All three have the hours identified by Roman numerals and two inner circles resembling a railroad track with 60 cross ties – one for each minute of the hour. The labels are found in different colors as well as perforate and imperforate. These will be discussed later. The differences among the types are as follows:

Type A. In Type A, the words “Time Posted” measure 11 mm across. Type A does not have a rectangular box around it. Instead, the 21 x 27 mm outline of the label is formed by the sentence “Entered according to act of Congress in the year 1865 by Geo Hussey, in the clerk’s office of the District Court of the United States, for the Southern District of New York.” Type A also has the words “Day” and “Month” in the bottom right center to facilitate entry by the sender of the day and month.

Type B. In Type B, the words “Time Posted” measure 10 1/2 mm across. It has a 19 1/2 x 25 mm rectangular box around it. The bottom is blank.

Type C. Type C has the same dimensions as Type B. The words “Time Posted” measure 12 mm across; and the rectangular box is 19 1/2 x 25 mm. Immediately below the clock face, however, it has “50” on the left side and “Wm St” on the right. The words “Hussey Post” are at the bottom of the label.



Figure 1.
Type A

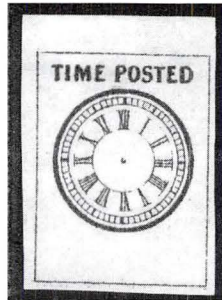


Figure 2.
Type B

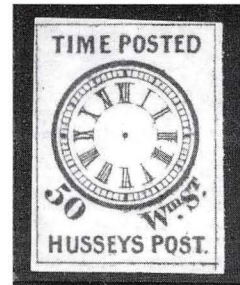


Figure 3.
Type C

Historical Records

During the period 1862-1866, Thomas Wood printed stamps that Hussey used in his business. Wood also printed for Hussey a number of forgeries of existing local posts, stamps of bogus posts and the three types of Time Posted labels. The Wood journal is discussed later in this article. According to Hale and Perry in *Byways of Philately*, Wood printed eight versions of Types A, B and C on February 25, 1865, which established the “issuance” date for all three labels. On March 7, 1865, Hussey deposited a copy of Type A with the District Court in order to perfect a statutory copyright claim. It appears that this is the only U.S. stamp or label to have been copyrighted under a federal statute.

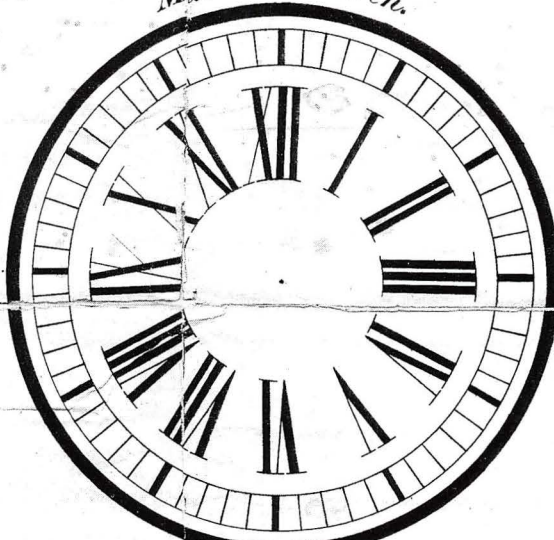
Perhaps the first published advertisement for the Time Posted label is a broadside by Hussey (see **Figure 4**), illustrated in Hale’s *Byways of Philately*.

"TIME IS MONEY"

1865 by G.^{EO} HUSSEY, in the clerk's office

TIME POSTED

Mark it with Pen.



**Day
Month**

Southern District of New York.

FOR SALE HERE

also at

HUSSEY'S Instant Special Message Post.
50 WILLIAM ST. NEW YORK.

Entered according to act of Congress in the year

of the District Court of the United States, for the

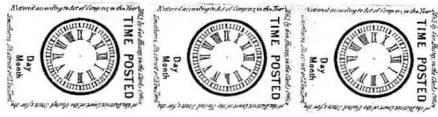


Figure 4. Poster advertisement for the Hussey time posted label.
Byways of Philately, page 137.

In May 1865, S. A. Taylor announced Hussey's new label in the *Stamp Collector's Record* from Albany, NY, stating:¹

HUSSEY'S CITY POST. – A new stamp has lately been issued by the well known Mr. Hussey of New York. The design (which has been copyrighted) exhibits the face of a clock (without hands), the hour and minutes of the dispatch of a message is instantly indicated by two strokes of the pen. This is certainly a novel idea, and exhibits an undoubted new thing in local stamps; the design is in black on yellow ground.

On June 1, 1865, the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* of London commented:

New specimens of Mr. Hussey's ingenuity have just reached us. This gentleman's name is well known to the timbrophilic world, and he may perhaps be designated the postal Barnum. We observe three variations in pattern. Two strokes of the pen or pencil, made by the sender of the message, show the recipient how long the dispatch has taken to reach its destination.

In the *Independent Philatelist*, Vol. II, No. 10, Bayonne City, NJ, July-Aug 1885, Whole #22, Dr. William H. Mitchell wrote the following:

Local – Hussey's Post N.Y. Mr. Handford has sent us specimens of what may be termed Hussey's Dial stamp, 2 varieties, 1863, (sic) (must have meant 1865) "Time Posted" above "50 Wm St" – "Hussey's Post" below, dial of clock without hands in centre; the second variety: "Time Posted" above, dial in centre, "...Day"—"... Month" below, border framed of words on left. "Entered according to act of Congress in the year" above, "1865 by Geo. Hussey in the Clerk's office" on right, "of the District court of the United States for the" and below "Southern District of New York."

Later that year, Dr. Mitchell wrote in the *Independent Philatelist*, Vol. II, No. 11, Bergen Point, NJ, Nov. 1885, Whole # 23, that a copy of Type A (blue on white paper) was shown at a Monday evening, September 14, meeting of the National Philatelic Society.

Perry wrote in *Byways* that Hale reported an attempt by S. A. Taylor to ascribe imitations of Hussey's Time Posted labels to one Robert McLachlan, a Montreal dealer. However, the philatelic press never agreed with this, and Perry believed that Hale was never able to find any of these imitations. The authors have not seen any imitations.

Most interesting is a full-page advertisement that Hussey placed in a stamp album sold by Wm. H. Hill of Boston in 1865. (See **Figure 5**). In this ad, Hussey lists the Time Posted stamp at 15¢ per hundred and illustrates the Type A variety. The Type A label depicted the same as the one in the Hussey broadside. It is noteworthy that J. A. Nutter and S. Allan Taylor shared the ad space with Hussey.

¹ Hale, H. Warren K. Canadian Locals. *Collectors Club Philatelist* 14(3): 139-41, July 1935.

GEORGE HUSSEY,
50 William Street, New York,
LOCAL AND EXPRESS STAMPS,

THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT TO BE FOUND ANYWHERE.

Also, the New York P. O. 5 cent Washington Oval black and four essays, and many of the genuine Confederate Stamps, at reasonable prices.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE DISCOUNT TO DEALERS.

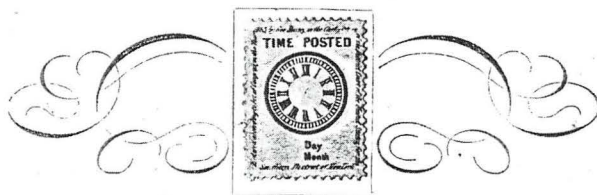
FOR SALE AT

HUSSEY'S INSTANT SPECIAL MESSAGE POST,

No. 50 William Street, New York.

"HUSSEY'S POSTAL LABEL."

This is a new, original, and very useful little Stamp just now becoming popular, and having a large sale. A specimen is given below. It is the size of the Postage Stamp. In its center is a miniature clock dial, with the figures 1 to 12, without hands, and underneath are the words—Day—Month—



Its object is to show the recipient of a letter just the hour and day the letter was mailed, that in case of its non-receipt at the proper time, the blame can be placed on the right party. It very frequently becomes not only an object of great interest but of importance to know just when a letter was mailed. It serves as a monitor to the Postman, to the Post Office clerk, and to the recipient. The party sending a letter marks a pointer at the hour it leaves his hands, and also fills out the blank below with the month and day. It is for sale at 15 cents per hundred at

Hussey's, No. 50 William Street, New York.

J. A. NUTTER.

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS,

No. 519 P. O., Montreal, Canada.

Price Lists forwarded on application.

S. ALLAN TAYLOR,

Publisher of the

"STAMP COLLECTOR'S MONTHLY RECORD,"

AND DEALER IN FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS, &c.,

Box 179 P. O.,

Albany, N. Y.

Figure 5. Full page advertisement by Hussey in a stamp album sold by Wm. H. Hill Jr. & Co. in Boston in 1865.

The Type A stamp is again seen in another advertisement of Hussey's, from an unknown source and date, but presumably from around 1865 (see **Figure 6**).

Hale illustrated an envelope with the Type A design printed directly on it, with handwriting indicating the labels were being sold at 15¢ per hundred. (See **Figure 7**).

The previous advertisements list the label for sale at 15¢ per hundred. In May of 1868, there was a brief article by F. Trifet in *Stamp Mercury* on page 49 illustrating the Type A label, indicating the label's usefulness and advertising it for sale at 20¢ per hundred.

Some correspondence about these labels appeared in *The Eastern Philatelist*, Volume 9, 1892. Most notable is one appearing under the heading "New York Notes" on page 84 by "Universitatis." In it, the author states:

I procured about a year ago, the entire remainder, and out of about fourteen thousand, I have found nine varieties, but some much rarer than others. As for their value, in 1868 they were sold at 20¢ per hundred. In 1890, \$1.00 per hundred wholesale, and 25¢ for a set of from 5 to 9 varieties retail. They were issued in 1865 by Hussey, at 50 William St., N. Y., and, as has been said, were intended as a monitor to the post-man, the post-office clerk, and the recipient. All the varieties have the clock dial without the hand, and "Time Posted" above.

- No. 1. Black on white, single line frame, perforated.
- No. 2. Blue on white, single line frame, perforated.
- No. 3. Black on light blue, glazed paper, single line frame, perforated.
- No. 4. Black on orange, glazed paper, single line frame, perforated.
- No. 5. Same as No. 4, with "50 Wm. St., Hussey's Post" below.
- No. 6. Same as No. 5, but blue on white, instead of black on orange.
- No. 7. Same as No. 3, with "50 Wm. St., Hussey's Post" below.
- No. 8. Blue on white, "Day - Month" below, with frame of the following printed very small: "Entered according to an Act of Congress, in the year 1865, by Geo. Hussey, in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the United States, for the Southern District of New York."
- No. 9. Same as No. 8, only black on white.

No. 7 is the scarcest of the lot, and I have, out of the fourteen thousand, only been able to get about ten complete sets, and have only one complete set left of nine varieties, but hundreds of sets of 6 and 7 varieties. I don't think these stamps have any philatelic value, but to me as well as many other collectors of United States stamps, they are very interesting, and have a little story of their own.

The final, and most controversial, historical record is the journal or memoranda book prepared by Thomas Wood, Hussey's printer. It is controversial because some stamps have been replaced over the years, and we do not know which ones. Hale and Perry recorded the entries in *Byways of Philately*, but this record does not completely agree with photocopies of the Wood journal that are available today.

NOTICE TO COLLECTORS.

As many collectors do not know where Stamps can be purchased, we give a few notices of some of the principal and most reliable Stamp Dealers in the United States and Canada, of whom all kinds of Stamps can be obtained, at fair prices.

THIS ALBUM FOR SALE AT WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

Sets of Flags and Coats of Arms adapted for this Album furnished, of various sizes and beautifully colored, at 50cts. per full set of each.

CONFEDERATE STAMPS, WARRANTED GENUINE, AND UNCANCELLED.

5 cents, at 10 " " 10 " " 5 cents. | 2 cents (very rare), at 15 cents.
10 " " 20 " " 25 " "

OR, 50 CENTS FOR THE SET.

Parties sending on \$1.00, or more, with Stamp for return postage, will receive Stamps for approval.

☐ All letters promptly answered. Letters requiring answer must enclose Stamp for return postage. ☐

ADDRESS BOX 1310, HARTFORD, CONN.

GEORGE HUSSEY, 50 WILLIAM STREET, NEW YORK, LOCAL AND EXPRESS STAMPS,

THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT TO BE FOUND ANYWHERE.

Also, the New York P. O. 5 cent Washington Oval black and four Essays, and many of the genuine Confederate Stamps, at reasonable prices. Send for Catalogue. Discount to Dealers.

FOR SALE AT

HUSSEY'S INSTANT SPECIAL MESSAGE POST,
No. 50 William Street, New York.

"HUSSEY'S POSTAL LABEL."

This is a new, original, and very useful little Stamp, just now becoming popular, and having a large sale. A specimen is given below. It is the size of the Postage Stamp. In its centre is a miniature clock dial, with the figures 1 to 12, without hands, and underneath are the words—Day—Month—



Its object is to show the recipient of a letter just the hour and day the letter was mailed, that in case of its non-receipt at the proper time, the blame can be placed on the right party. It very frequently becomes not only an object of great interest, but of importance, to know just when a letter was mailed. It serves as a monitor to the Postman, to the Post Office clerk, and to the recipient. The party sending a letter marks a pointer at the hour it leaves his hands, and also fills out the blank below with the month and day. It is for sale at 15 cents per hundred at

HUSSEY'S, No. 50 WILLIAM STREET, NEW YORK.

J. A. NUTTER,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS,
NO. 519 P. O., MONTREAL, CANADA.

☐ Price Lists forwarded on application.

Figure 6. Hussey advertisement.

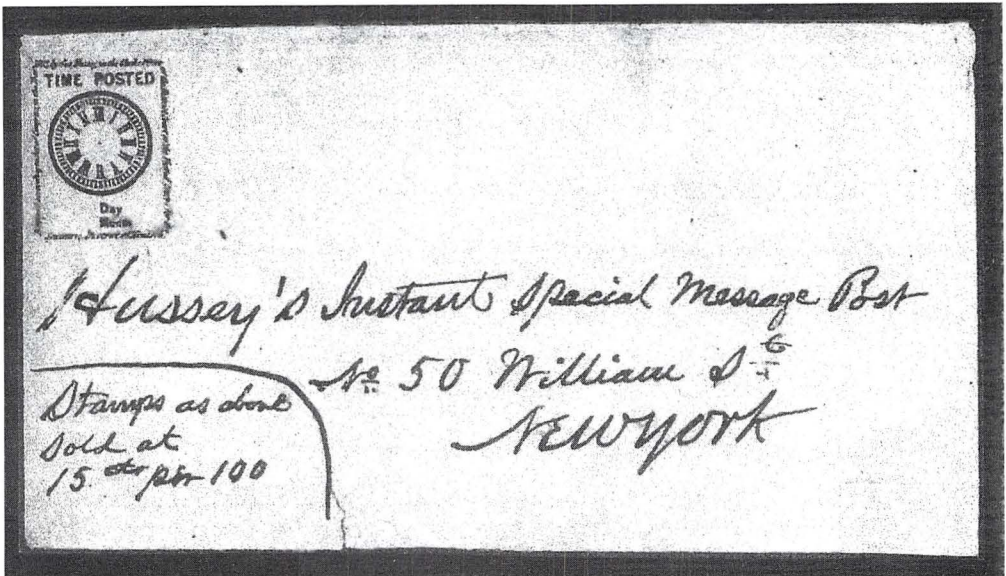


Figure 7. Envelope with a type A design printed in black directly on it.
Byways of Philately, page 135.

In Thomas Wood's journal, entries numbered 77-84 include specimens of Time Posted labels. Entries 77-81 have the Type B label attached, while entries 82-84 have the Type C label. However, the Hale-Perry list in *Byways of Philately* says that entries 77 and 78 are Type A, in black and blue, respectively. Entries 79-81 are Type B on lavender, blue and yellow, respectively. Entries 82 and 83 are Type C in rose and black, respectively, while entry 84 is omitted from the listing. All entries are noted as being printed on February 25, 1865.

It is best to compare the Wood journal photocopy with the Hale-Perry records in a table as follows.

Wood #	Wood Type	Perry Type	Perry Color	Wood Quantity	Perry Quantity
77	B	A	Black	100,000	100,000
78	B	A	Blue	7000	7000
79	B	B	On Lavender	7000	7000
80	B	B	On Blue	7000	7000
81	B	B	On Yellow	6000	6000
82	C	C	Rose	14,500	1000
83	C	C	Black	14,100	1000
84	C	-	-	11 1/2 M	-

Summary notations in the Wood journal indicate 127M for No. 77-81 and 40M for No. 82-84.

What can we conclude from these historical sources about which stamps were printed, when they were printed, and how many of each were printed? It is certain that Wood first printed copies of three types in February 1865. As to the other questions, however, we can conclude very little. Although the Wood journal indicates that 100,000 of Type A were printed, it is much rarer than Type B or C. Today, we find sheets of 100 of Types B and C and copies of both seem plentiful, both in imperforate and perforate form. Our historical records did not inform us about the imperforate examples, but we do have a “caveat emptor” from none other than the infamous Henry C. Needham. Writing in his “A Concise History and Memoranda” about Hussey, he states:²

In 1888 Mr. Easson sold and distributed to numerous dealers throughout the world the dies, plates, reprints, &c., which had accumulated at the old stand.

Because the Wood ledger only seems to account for a few years of Hussey’s activities, and the fact remains that his dies and plates seemed to survive under Easson’s proprietorship until they were sold, it is likely that many examples of Hussey’s original products, including the Time Posted labels, were reproduced in later years.

Cover Survey

Copies of the Time Posted label on cover are rare. Hussey had an ingenious plan when he designed his Time Posted label. But it appears that his creation was little appreciated or used. The following represents a preliminary census of covers with a Time Posted label.

Type	Addressee	Sender	Comments
(1) Type A (Blue)	“Miss M. Hussey/ No. 84 17 th Street/ Brooklyn, NY.	None	Label at center of cover back; 7 p.m., May 9, 1865. “Rec. May 13 th 1865” at top left. Sc #64 3-cent pink tied at top right by 4 circle black target cancel. Also black circle cancel “Delaware City/Del./May 10” at top right center of cover.

² Needham, Henry C. United States Local Stamps. “A Concise History and Memoranda,” *The Philatelic Gazette*, Vol. 8: 255, 1918.

Type	Addressee	Sender	Comments
(2) Type A (Blue)	“Miss M. Hussey/ No. 84 17 th Street/ Brooklyn/NY.	None	Label at center of cover back; 2 p.m., May 14, 1865 “Rec’d May 17 th 1865” at top left. Sc #64 3-cent pink top right tied by 4 circle target cancel. Also black circle cancel “Delaware City/Del/May 15” at top right center of cover.
(3) Type A (Blue)	“Mrs A. Shuldham/Coolkreigh House/Londonberry/ Ireland”	None	Label at top center; 2:00, Jan 31; 12¢ Scott 69 12-cent black tied at top right by black, Jan. 31 [1868?] cancel on colorful patriotic U.S. flag cover with 35 stars. Illustrated in Chip Gliedman, “The 1861-1869 Twelve Cent Washington Issue,” The U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, Inc. Additional red “New York/Feb 1” cancel at top left.
(4) Type C (Blue)	“Mr. John Graham/126 Grand St./New York/City”	None	Label at top right; no date, 2:00 “Instant/Special/Message/Hussey Post/50 Wm. St. Free.” Perry No. PM S-g at top left. Perry notes that this postmark is “seen also on covers of August 21, 1867, and May 30, 1868.” Perry, <i>Byways of Philately</i> (1966) at p. 165.
(5) Type A (Blue)	“Prof. Alfred C. Port MD/ 269 Madison Ave”	None	Label at top left; Dec. 18; no year. Perry No. MMS-g cancel at top right (see (1) above). Ex Sloan. Illustrated in <i>Byways</i> , at p. 136.
(6) Type A (Blue)	Unknown	“Fort Riley/ Dec. 19 th ”	Label right side at top left; Dec. 18, no year; 3:30. Note at right “Mailed 19 th /Recd 24 th .” Illustrated in <i>Byways</i> at p. 136.

Type	Addressee	Sender	Comments
(7) Type A (Black)	“Miss Anna E. Lloyd/Hollidaysbury/ Pa”	None	Label at bottom left corner; 7:30, April 29. Sc #114 ultramarine 3-cent in top right corner tied by round black cork cancel. Also black circle cancel “Altoona Pa./APR/2 31.” PFC #0210689 (6/28/89) states “it is genuinely used on cover and an apparently legitimate use of the seal.”
(8) Type A (Blue)	“Mr. William L. Williams/care of/Lawrence & Co./ Milk St./Boston.	None	Label at bottom left corner; 7:00, May 11. SC #64 3-cent pink turned on its left side at top right corner with black cork cancel.

The authors have not found any covers where the label is tied. Obviously, that can raise questions with respect to the genuineness of the use on cover. Cover (7) is the only one that has received a Philatelic Foundation certification (#0210689; June 28, 1989), which states that the label “is genuinely used on cover and an apparently legitimate use of the seal.”

Figure 8 shows the front and back of the earlier of two May covers. The Time Posted label on the back establishes a time of “7:00 p.m.” on May 9, 1865, perhaps making it the earliest known use. The cover was dated May 10 by the Delaware City, Delaware post office. It was addressed to “Miss M. Hussey” at “No. 84 17th Street, Brooklyn, NY.” A note at the top states it was “Rec. May 13th 1865.” The address is George Hussey’s home and the addressee doubtlessly is his daughter, Mary. George Hussey and his wife, Mary Jane Alexander Hussey, had two children, Mary and George Alexander. According to the 1880 census, Mary was born in “about 1846” and would have been 19 when she received the letters. The handwriting on the two May letters indicates that they were addressed by one person and notations at the top indicate that they were subsequently received in Brooklyn by the same second person.

The last known use currently is believed to be 2:00 p.m. on February 23, 1864 (**Figure 9**). However, the labels do not have a line for a year to be included, and the majority of used labels do not show a year. Accordingly, it is very difficult to determine when the use of the labels was discontinued.

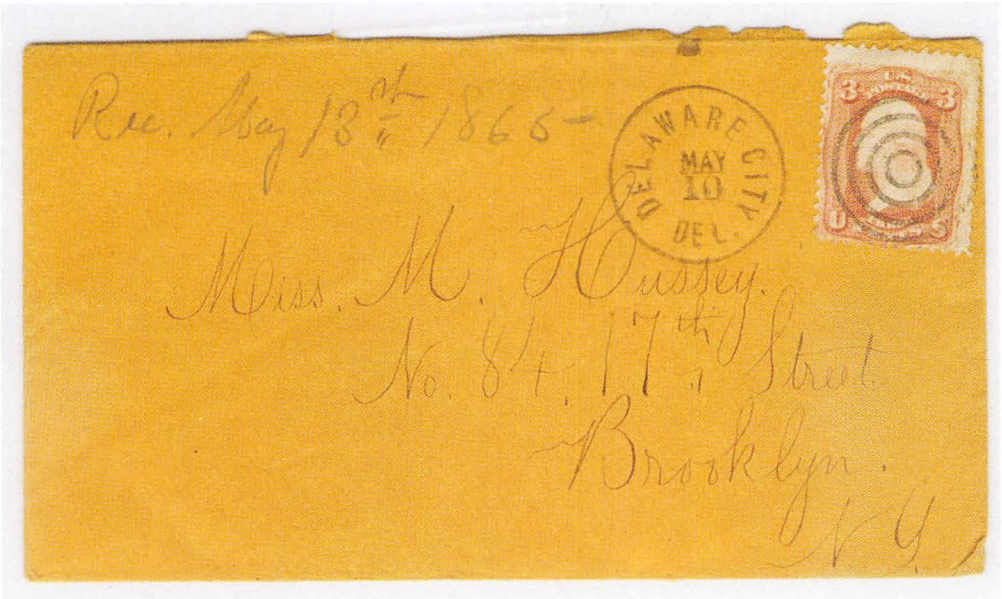


Figure 8. Front and back of cover sent May 9, 1865.



Figure 9. Type A label dated February 23, 1864.

A Summary of Hussey's Time Posted Labels known to the Authors

We believe it is reasonable to conclude that Type A was the design that Hussey hoped would become popular. It also appears that Types B and C were made by Hussey to satisfy collector desires in response to his advertisements for them. Other dealers apparently also purchased these stamps to satisfy their own customers.

Type A, Perforated

- | | | |
|----------|--------|------|
| 1. Black | unused | used |
| 2. Blue | unused | used |

Type B, Perforated (Imitation, never used)

1. Black on off-white
 - a. Black on white, imperforate
2. Blue
 - a. Imperforate
3. Black on pale gray
 - a. Black on lavender, imperforate
4. Black on orange
 - a. Imperforate
5. Black on blue
 - a. Imperforate

Type C, Perforated (Imitation, never used)

1. Blue
 - a. Imperforate
 - i. Translucent paper
 - ii. Laid paper
2. Black on pale gray
 - i. Medium white paper
 - ii. Thick, slightly toned paper
3. Black on orange

Plating the Type B

Examination of the sheet suggests that it was printed by lithography (**Figure 10** has a sheet of 100 of the type B stamp) and that there were intermediate transfer stones of 20 subjects each (4 x 5). These were laid down on the final stone so that four complete transfers were made in the first eight columns of the sheet, and the last two columns consisted of the right half of the transfer stone. There seem to be enough characteristics to establish the intermediate printing stone of 20, as the final plate positions exhibit these constant characteristics. In addition, many positions on the final stone show individual characteristics apart from the constant characteristics

of the intermediate stone, so that it may be possible to assign plating characteristics to every position on the final printing stone of 100 subjects.

In addition, odd-numbered columns and even-numbered columns have constant characteristics. This observation suggests that the intermediate printing stone could have been built up from two master dies. Stamps in columns 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 have a 1/2 to 1 mm flaw to the right of the "VIII." The 4 minute line (just before the "II") generally is short at the bottom. Stamps in columns 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 have a colored dot to the left of the "IIII" 1 mm from the bottom. There is generally a light colored dot 1 mm below the bottom right serif of the "X" in "IX." Labels in these columns also have extended right side frame lines at the bottom right corner.

Figure 10 shows a sheet of 100 of Type B with pencil notes that identify the positions of the 20 intermediate transfer stone positions. The following describes the recurring positions.

Plating the Intermediate Transfer Stones

Position A

The characteristics of the odd-numbered columns are present.

- A1 The clock center has a small piece missing on the top right and resembles a heart.
- A2 Three colored dots about 1mm apart extend out from the "IIII."
- A3 The bottom line connecting the 35- and 36-minute lines is missing.
- A4 The 27 second line is deformed and there is a flaw between it and the outer clock circle.

Position B

The 48-minute line (third above "IX") is short at the top.

Position C

There is a small flaw just above the clock center, at the "10:30" position. (Unlike position J, there is no flaw to the right of the clock center.)

Position D

There is a white flaw in the bottom right side of the dot in the clock center. In positions D1 and D2, the dot is barely closed. In D3-6, the center is open and appears to be a crescent.

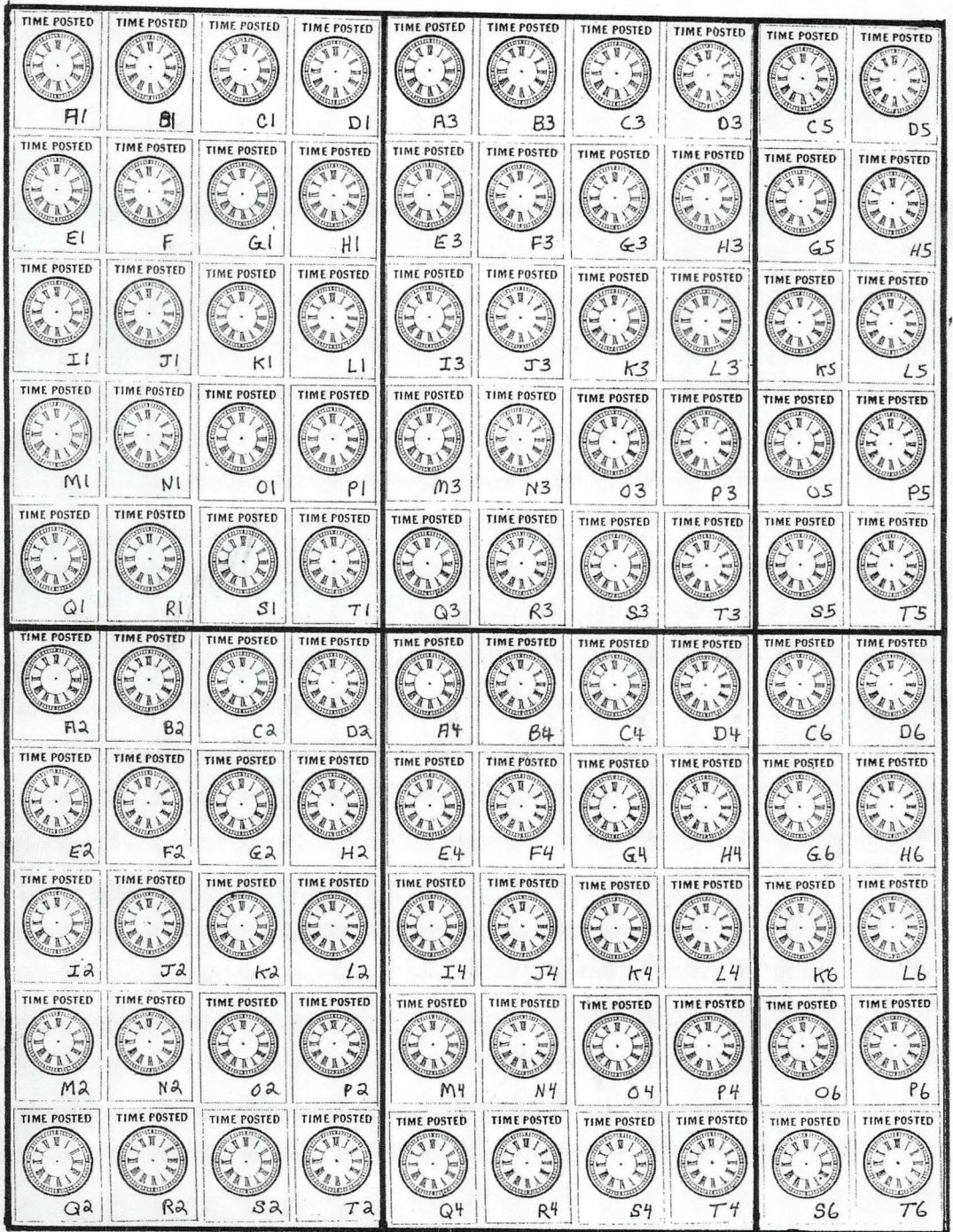


Figure 10. Sheet of 100 of the Type B label with pencil notes identifying the positions.

Position E

There is a small white flaw at the bottom line of the clock 1mm right of 6 o'clock. In position E3, it is barely noticeable. On E3, the track lines are missing 2mm left of 12 o'clock.

Position F

The bottom frame line extends past the right frame line 1/2 mm. There is a 3mm break in the bottom right frame line.

Position G

The characteristics of the odd-numbered columns are generally present.

G1 The 31 and 32 second lines are not connected.

G1 There is a bold dot between the top serifs of the "X" and "XI."

G3 The bottom line connecting the 25 and 26 minute lines is missing.

G4 There are only two color flaws in the middle of the circle: there is a 1mm flaw to the right and a light dot about 1/2 of the way from the circle and the 33 second line.

Position H

There is a white flaw 1/2 mm from the top of the "X" in the "IX."

Position I

There is a white flaw in the middle of the clock center and a very small break in the right frame line 2mm from the top right corner. There is a flaw in the outer clock circle between the V and the VI. There is no dot beside the "IIII."

Position J

There is a small flaw 1mm to the right of the clock center. There is also a small flaw just above the clock center in the 10:30 position.

Position K

There is a 2mm break in the bottom frame line 5mm from the left corner. There is a bulge in the frame line 2mm right of the break.

Position L

There is a dot 1/2 mm from the left frame line 7mm from the top left corner.

Position M

There is a dot and a 1mm break in the right frame line across from the bottom of the clock.

Position N

There is a 2mm break in the left frame line across from the VIII. There is a dot just above the bottom frame line 7mm from the bottom right corner.

Position O

There is a dot outside the left frame line left of the "VIII" and 9mm from the bottom.

Position P

There is a faint white flaw in the middle of the clock circle; and a black dot to the left of the "IIII" 1mm from the bottom.

Position Q

There is a 4mm break in the top frame line above the "OS" in "posted."

Position R

There is a dot below the bottom frame line 3mm from the left corner. The bottom and right frame lines extend beyond the corner and there is a dot between them.

Position S

There is a dot in the bottom right corner 1mm from the right frame line and 2mm from the bottom.

Position T

The dot in the clock center is deformed by bulges at the top and bottom left.

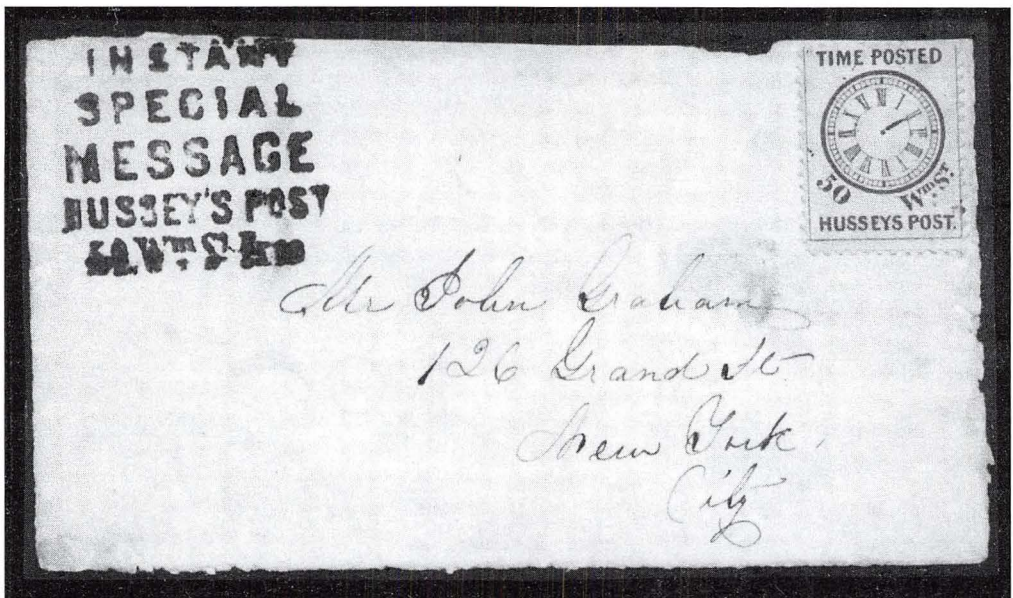
George Hussey was an innovative entrepreneur. In addition to managing a career with the Bank of New York and operating his post, Hussey designed and vigorously promoted for at least a year the Time Posted label. We can assume from the fact that he copyrighted the Type A design that he expected the labels to become popular and a financial success. However, the label may have been viewed at the time more as a novelty, rather than a device that would encourage better postal service. And the few existing copies on the cover suggest that Hussey may have been more successful selling his labels to dealers and collectors as philatelic items than he was at selling them to the general public.

Acknowledgement

The authors wish to thank Martin Richardson and Larry Lyons for their assistance in reviewing and adding information to this article.

To Be Continued

Editor's Note: More research is ongoing and will be addressed in a sequel article.



Type C Time Posted Label on a front with a Hussey instant special message handstamp, undated with the label possibly added to the front.

Differentiating Greig's 6LB1 Government Stamps and Covers from same by Greig's City Despatch Post The conclusion

By
Larry Lyons

This is the concluding segment to the article from the October 2004 *Penny Post* (Vol. 12, No. 4, pages 27-33).

As discussed earlier The City Despatch Post run by Greig started February 1, 1842 and ended August 15, 1842 when the U.S. Post Office Department acquired the City Despatch Post, turning it into an official U.S. carrier run by Greig.

The cover shown in **Figure 2** has a U.S. City Despatch Post double line circular datestamp dated November 23, on an 1842 folded letter. The "U.S." is at the bottom center of the circular datestamp. The adhesive stamp has the "U.S." in a frame in matching orange-red. This is a 6LB1 cover.

The cover shown in **Figure 3** is addressed to Thomas O'Connor, Esq. and is dated August 25, 1842. This cover has a strike of the U.S. Despatch Post handstamp tying the stamp to the cover. The cover is nine days after the Geisenhaimer cover was posted and the government service began. This is a 6LB1 cover.

The cover shown in **Figure 4** is a City Despatch Post cover which is *Scott Catalogue* listed as 40L1. The framed "FREE" ties the stamp and there is a clear City Despatch Post handstamp with a "N.Y." at the bottom center. This cover is dated August 4, 1842 and is eleven days before the City Despatch Post ceased to operate on August 15, 1842 with the U.S. City Despatch beginning on August 16, 1842.

It is hoped that the descriptions in this article help the reader to understand the differences between the private local post and the U.S. Government City Despatch, both operated by Alexander Greig.

Alexander M. Grieg
100 Years Ago by
Elliott Perry and Arthur G. Hall
American Philatelic Society, 1942



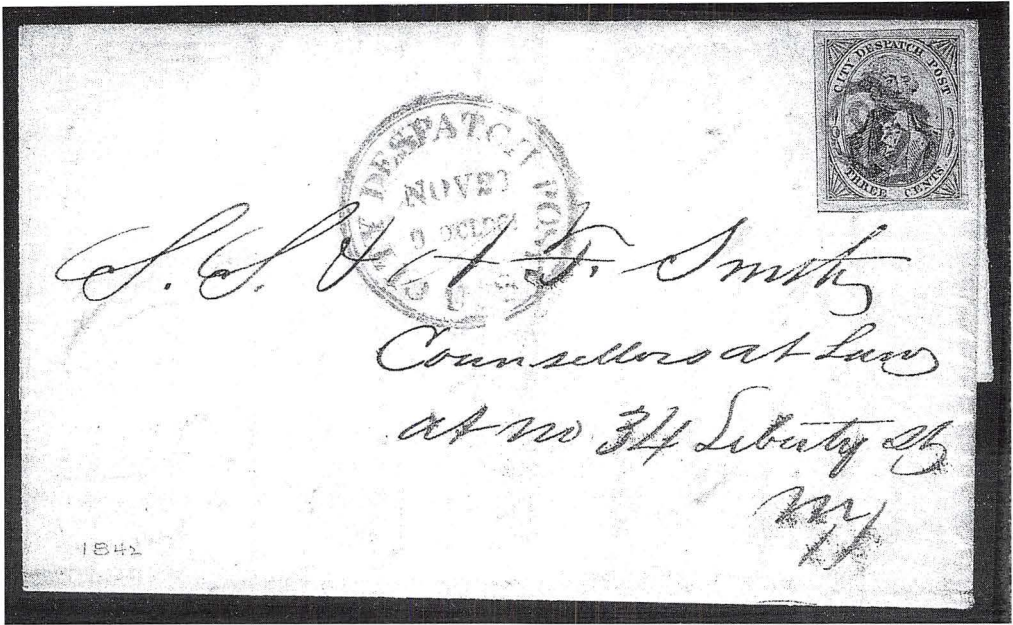


Figure 2. U.S. City Despatch Post cover (6LB1) dated November 23, 1842. The U.S. is at the bottom of the datestamp and in the framed cancel on the stamp.

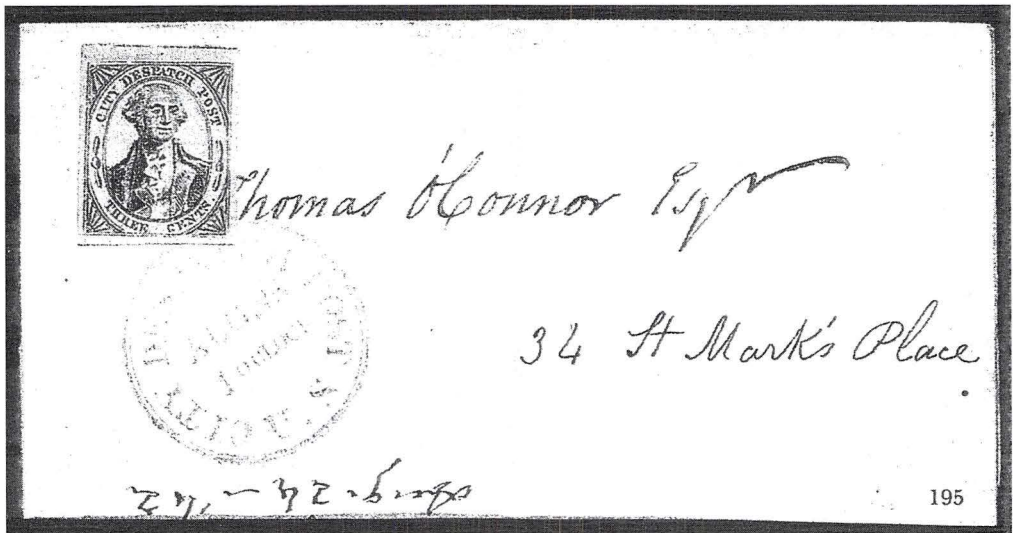


Figure 3. U.S. City Despatch Post cover (6LB1) dated August 25, 1842 which is nine days after the government service began.

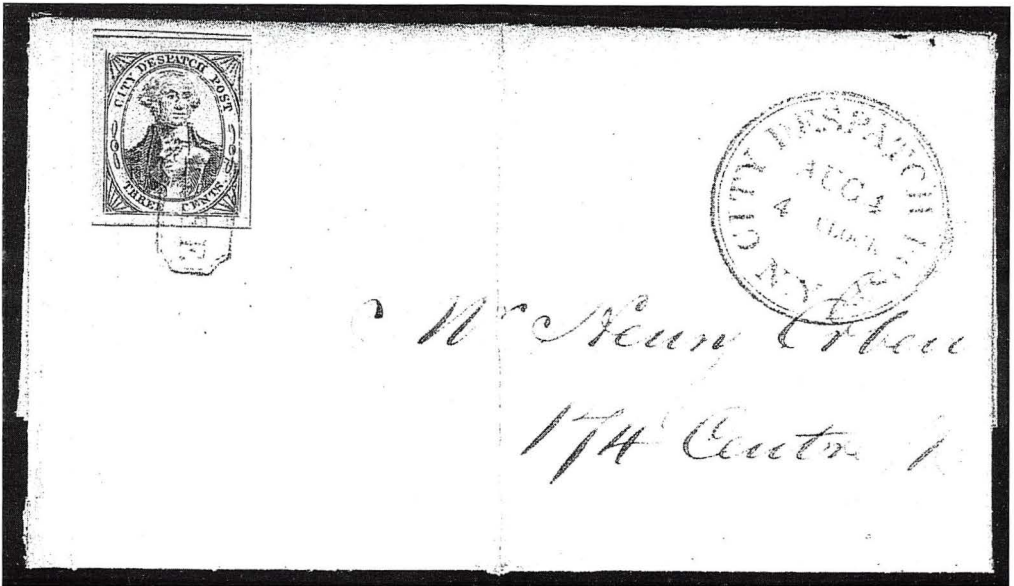
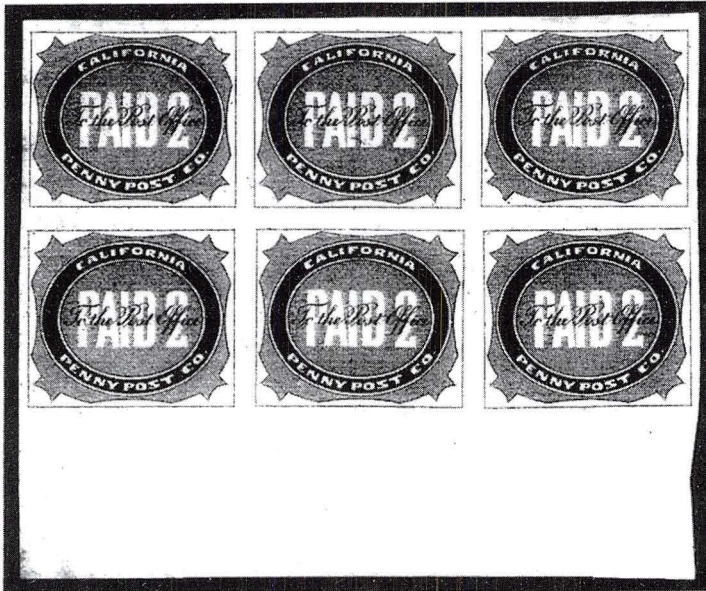


Figure 4. (Greig's) City Despatch Post cover (40L1) dated August 4, 1842. the N.Y. is at the bottom of the datestamp and the stamp is tied by a framed "FREE".

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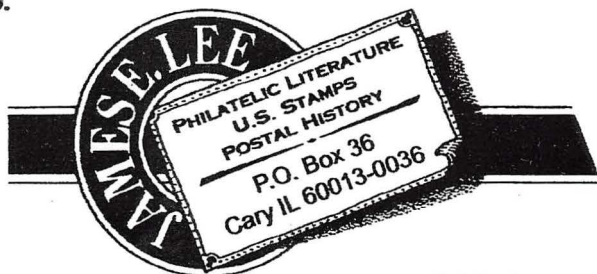
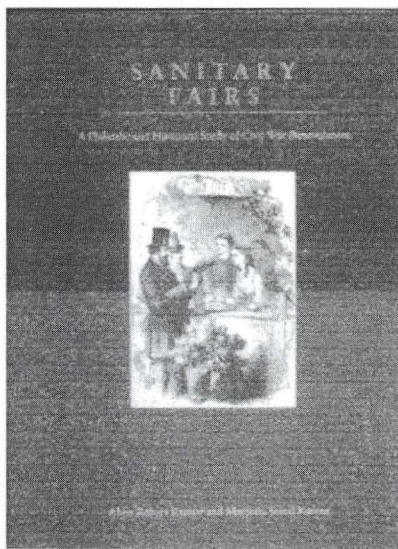
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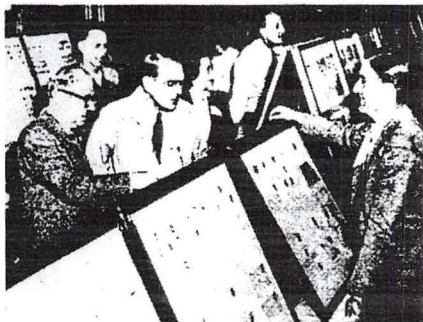
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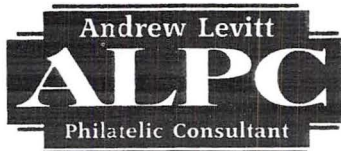
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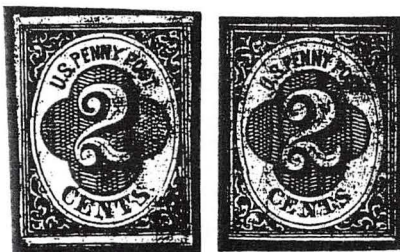
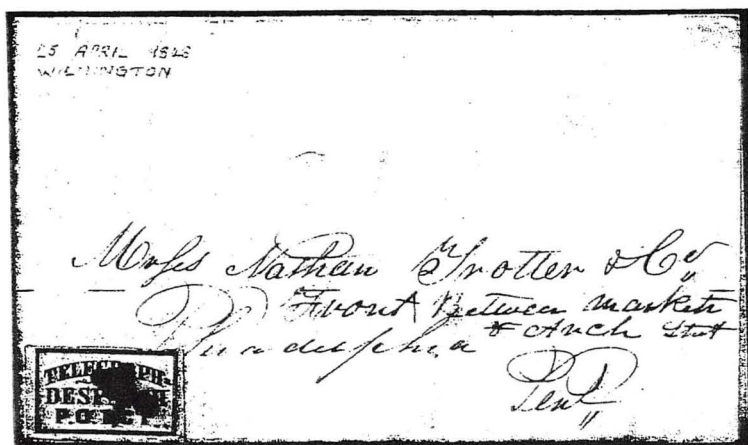
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Langton's Franks and a Humboldt Cover Census

By
Larry Lyons

The focus of this article is to show the various printed envelope corner franks used by Langton and to show the forgeries of the Langton's Pioneer Express frank. A Langton's Humboldt Express census of the 86L1 stamp on cover is also presented. The six known genuine Humboldt covers all have Langton's printed franks. First a brief history of the Langton's Express business.

History

Samuel W. Langton founded the Langton's Express business. Many consider Langton to be the greatest of all the independent express men in California and Nevada. In February 1850 Samuel W. Langton was advertising that he was established in the express business between Marysville and Downieville with his headquarters in Downieville, California.

In August 1850, he took on William T. Ballou as a partner. Ballou had just sold out his southern mines express to Adams & Company. The new partnership was called Langton's Yuba River Express. Ballou left this partnership after a short time. The advertisements appeared until November 28, 1850.

In March 1851 Langton formed a partnership with Samuel L. Clapp and Z. White. The new company was named Langton & Co.'s Express. Contributing to the success of this company were the agents E.W. Tracy at Marysville, Freeman & Company at Sacramento and J. Spear at Adams & Company's office in San Francisco.¹

On September 14, 1852 the company was advertised as "Langton's Daily Express" with service to more than 20 pick-up locations. This operation ran until 1855.

In November 1853 Langton dissolved his partnership with Clapp and White and formed a new one with his brother W.T. Langton. The company's handstamped frank was "Langton & Bro.'s Express." In December 1852 an advertisement ran for the "Langton & Bros. Yuba Express." These can be found at least until September 23, 1853. The Langton & Bro's operation ran until February 1855.

Samuel Langton sold out to Adams & Company in February 1855, but this sale was cancelled after two days because of failures at Adams. Langton began again as "Langton's Pioneer Express" which connected with Pacific Express, Freeman & Company and in 1859 with Wells, Fargo & Company. There were at least 48 agents serving at his many offices. This company operated until 1865. This article will present a study of printed franks of Langton's Pioneer Express.

In July 1859 Samuel Langton formed "Langton's California and Nevada Express" to run from Downieville to Nevada mining points.

¹ *Franks of Wesern Expresses*, M. C. Nathan, Collectors Club of Chicago 1973, Biography page 257.

In February 1860 the “Langton’s Humboldt Express” began servicing the Humboldt mines of Nevada to Carson City. See **Figure 1**. This route was a difficult one to travel so an additional cost of 25 cents per half ounce was charged. In the late spring of 1863 we begin to find the use of the 86L1 adhesive to pay the additional 25-cent charge. The adhesive was probably only in use from May to October 1863. **Figure 2** shows a cover supposedly sent during the period before the adhesive was issued.

Samuel Langton died August 24, 1864 after having suffered a buggy accident. His family sold the express business to Lamping & Company on November 25, 1865.

In all Samuel W. Langton operated seven successive Western Express companies. The names of these seven companies were as follows:

1. Langton’s Yuba River Express
2. Langton & Co.’s Express
3. Langton’s Daily Express
4. Langton & Bros. Express also known as Langton & Bros. Yuba Express and Langton & Bros. Treasure Package and Letter Express
5. Langton’s Pioneer Express
6. Langton’s California and Nevada Express
7. Langton’s Humboldt Express

Langton’s Pioneer Express became affiliated with Pacific Express, Freeman & Company and in 1859 with Wells, Fargo & Company.² An example of the Wells Fargo & Company connection is shown in **Figure 3**. There are many examples of the Langton’s Pioneer Express printed frank with Wells Fargo & Company handstamps.

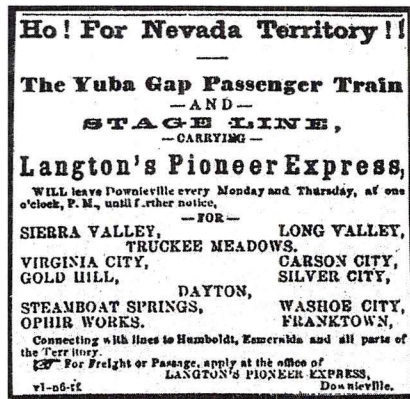


Figure 1. An ad in J. Well Kelley’s *First Directory of Nevada Territory* was dated February 1862 but was supposedly compiled in 1861. This ad from the *Sierra County News* dated May 3, 1862 says “Connecting with lines to Humboldt.”³

² Christies, October 12, 1989, page 119.

³ *Nevada Express, Wells Fargo & Co. and Other Letter Expresses 1857-1895*, James M. Gamett, Western Cover Society, 2002, pages 92-93.

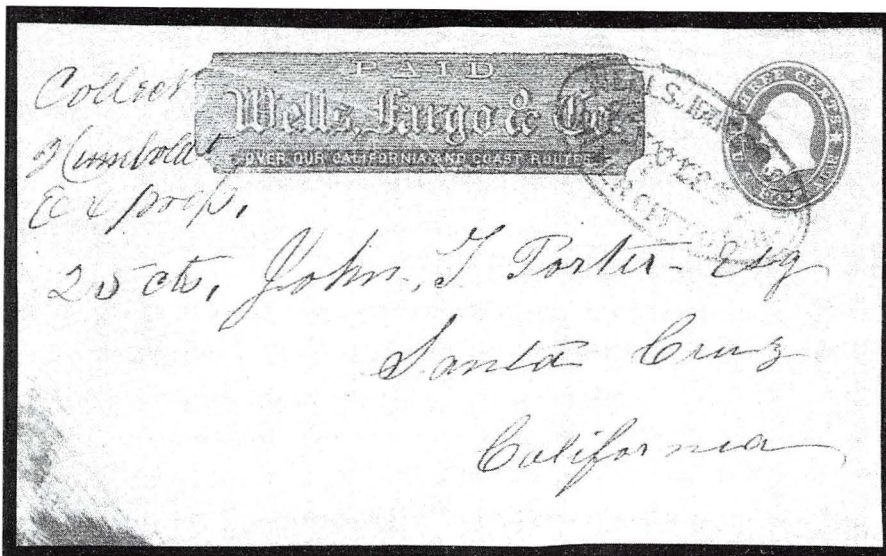


Figure 2. Wells, Fargo & Co. Express cover with a manuscript notation. “Collect/Humboldt/Express/25 cts”. Perhaps an early use of Langton’s Humboldt Express before the 25¢ adhesive stamp was used.⁴



Figure 3. Blue oval Langton’s handstamp, black oval J. Bamber & Co, Contra Costa Express in San Francisco handstamp, blue oval Wells, Fargo & Co. Marysville handstamp, Langton’s black Type 5 frank on cover to Brooklyn, Cal. in Alameda County. A triple express combination. Siegel’s, July 16, 1998, Lot 1338.

⁴ Nevada Express, Wells, Fargo & Co, and other Letter Expresses, 1857-1895, James M. Gamett, Western Cover Society, 2002, page 93.

What follows is a description and picture illustration of ten different Langton franks. This is followed by a presentation of a Langton label and a description of the forgeries of the Langton express franks. You will then find a census of the known stamped Langton's Humboldt Express covers. For good measure I have included the forgeries of the Humboldt express stamp.

The Langton's Pioneer Express Franks

Type 1

The Type 1 frank, as identified by Haller⁵ is UPSS #26 and Thorp #31. A cover with this frank has a Nevada City, Cal cds. dated Feb. 18, 1857. This cover is postal stationery U16. See **Figure 4**.



**Figure 4. The Type 1 frank on cover dated Feb. 18, 1857.
Frajola, April 22, 1989, Lot 338.**

Type 2

The type 2 frank is not pictured in Haller. The description is of a circle. I believe that the negative Pioneer Express Downieville ringed circle image at the upper left in **Figure 5** is what Haller was referring to. I also note the double line oval "PAID" by Langton. This is a handstamp and not a printed frank.

⁵ *Private Printed Franks on U.S. Government Envelopes*, Austin P. Haller, The United Postal Stationery Society, 1988, page 49.

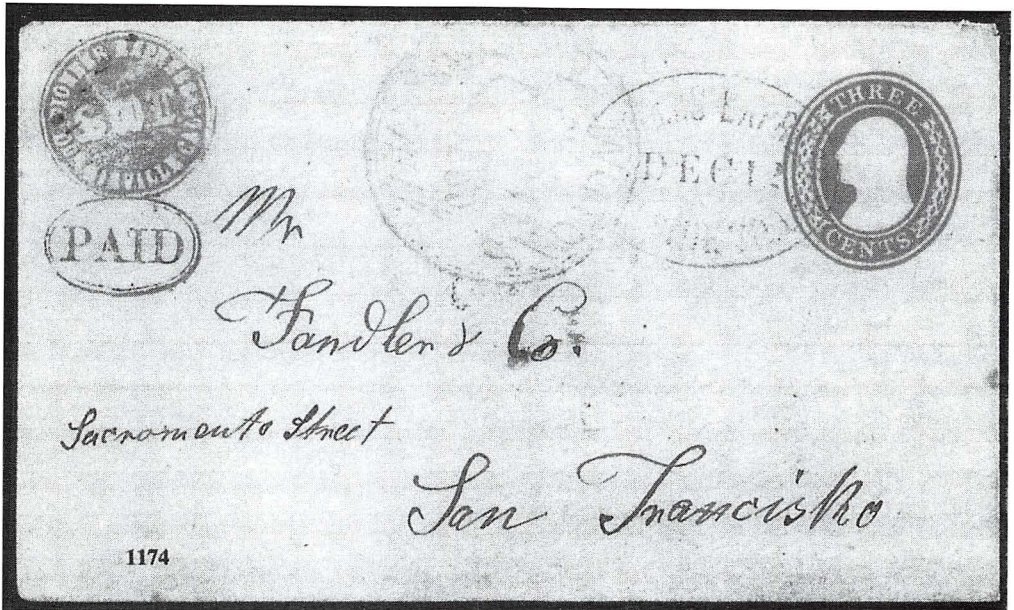


Figure 5. Langton's Pioneer Express, Marysville, a blue ringed handstamp and a negative handstamp with an oval "PAID" below.

The oval handstamp at the right is LANGTON'S EXPRESS DOWNIEVILLE DEC. 12. Harmers, Dale-Lichtenstein, May 13, 2004, Lot 1174.

Type 3

The type 3 frank as identified by Haller is UPSS #18 and Thorpe #21. It is found on postal stationery U10. See figure 6.

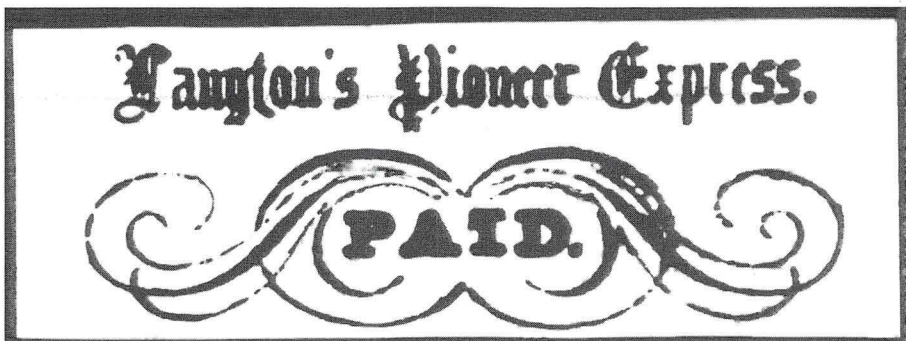


Figure 6. The Type 3 frank of Langton's Pioneer Express. Private, printed franks on U.S. Government Envelopes, Austin P. Haller, United Postal Stationery Society, 1989, page 49.

Types 4, 4A and 5



Type 4

Type 4A

Type 5

See **Figures 7, 8, and 9** for covers with the types 4, 4A and 5 franks of Langton's Pioneer Express.

Original Type 4

1. There are 13 rectangles at the left and at the right of the top frame.
2. The lower serif on the "S" in "LANGTON'S" connects to the curve of the "S".
3. There is no white spot on the "SS" of "EXPRESS" which are very clear.
4. There is a serif on the top right of the "X" in "EXPRESS" and the top of the "X" seems filled.
5. The "P" in "EXPRESS" has bottom serifs and is clear.
6. The inner ornament at the right is different from the arrow in Type II.
7. The apostrophe touches the "S" in "LANGTON'S".
8. The colors: Brown on buff diagonally laid.

Original Type 4A

1. There are 13 rectangles at the left and at the right.
2. The lower serif on the "S" in "LANGTON'S" does not connect to the curve of the "S".
3. There is a white spot between the "SS" of "EXPRESS".
4. There is no serif on the top right of the "X" in "EXPRESS".
5. The "P" in "EXPRESS" can look like an "R."
6. There is a clear arrow with a triangular head at the right ornament.
7. The colors: Black on white
Blue on white

Original Type 5

1. There are 11 rectangles at the left and at the right of the top frame.
2. The lettering of "LANGTON'S" is heavier with a distinctly different "S" which has longer arms
3. The "SS" in "EXPRESS" are unserified and thin.
4. The letters of "PIONEER EXPRESS" are not serified.
5. There is a large period after "EXPRESS".
6. There is a single arrow in the ornaments.



Figure 7. The Type 4 frank on cover to Bridgeport, Connecticut. Schuyler Rumsey, Dec. 1-3, 2001, Lot 82.

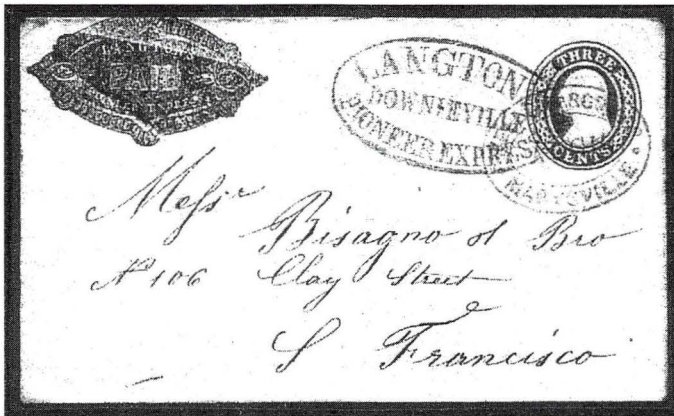


Figure 8. The Type 4A frank, on cover to San Francisco, used in conjunction with Wells Fargo & Co., Schuyler Rumsey, Tahoe Collection, December 4-6, 2002, Lot 480.



Figure 9. The Type 5 frank on extremely rare U37 stationery, to Sacramento, used in conjunction with Wells Fargo & Co., Robson Lowe, March 2, 1973, Lot 1913.

7. The colors:

- Black on white diagonally laid up to the right
- Black on white diagonally laid up to the left
- Black on creamy diagonally laid
- Black on white diagonally laid

<u>Type 4</u>			
<u>UPSS #</u>	<u>Thorp#</u>	<u>Postal Stationery</u>	<u>Frank</u>
15	20	U9	
18	21	U10	
25	30	U15	
26	31	U16	
28	33	U18	
53	72	U27	
15	20	U9	Blue
18	21	U10	Blue
25	30	U15	Blue
27	32	U17	Blue
28	33	U18	Blue

The blue frank is known used from Virginia City to Carson City.⁶ It has been identified as green in some catalogs. It does not exist in green.

<u>Type 5</u>			
<u>UPSS #</u>	<u>Thorp#</u>	<u>Postal Stationery</u>	<u>Frank</u>
28	33	U18	
50	71	U26	
53	72	U27	
65	86	U33	
70	90	U34	
71	92	U34	
73	100	U34	
76	91	U35	
77	93	U35	
79	101	U35	
88	111	U39	
92	119	U40	

⁶ *Nevada Express, Wells Fargo & Co. and Other Letter Expresses 1857-1895*, James M. Gamett, Western Cover Society, 2002, page 98.

<u>Type 5</u>			
<u>UPSS #</u>	<u>Thorp#</u>	<u>Postal Stationery</u>	<u>Frank</u>
71	92	U34	All blue
76	91	U35	
77	93	U35	
92	119	U40	
94	116	U41	Red

The red frank was intended for transcontinental letters carried by express.⁷ The author knows of only three covers and one cut square paste-up cover with the red Langton's Pioneer Express frank. See **Figures 13, 16 and 17** on pages 45 and 48.

Langton's Pioneer Express Type 4 covers

<u>Date</u>	<u>Stationery</u>	<u>Auction Record</u>
March 15, 1857	U18 (1855)	Harmer's, Dale-Lichtenstein, May 13, 2004, Lot 1176
April 15, 1857		
July 18, 1856	U15 (1855)	Frajola, May 20, 1995 lot 315, same cover Bennett, Feb. 10, 1999, lot 640 says "1858"
	U17 (1855)	Siegel, Hale sale, Nov. 13-14, 2000, Lot 891
	U18 (1855)	Knapp, May 7, 1941, Lot 1416
	U17 (1855)	Schuyler Rumsey, Dec. 1-3, 2001, Lot 82
	U16 (1855)	Phillips, Feb. 24, 1979, Lot 357.
May 29, 1860	None	Siegel, Schwartz, June 27-29, 2000, Lot 1799 (catalog description says "envelope prepared with a handstamp in advance of use")
	U16 (1855)	Siegel, May 3-4, 1972, lot 361
	U10	David Phillips, June 26, 1999, lot 883
	U17 (1855)	Kaufman, Nov. 11, 1982, lot 1012
June 16	U18	Wolffers, Oct. 19-20, 1994, Lot 39
Aug. 2	U10 (1854)	Costales, Feb. 3-4, 1949, Lot 190 and again Kelleher, Jan. 20-22, 1988, lot 3208

⁷ *Nevada Express, Wells Fargo & Co. and Other Letter Expresses 1857-1895*, James M. Gamett, Western Cover Society, 2002, page 98.

**Langton's Pioneer Express
Type 4A covers**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Stationery</u>	<u>Auction Record</u>
June 14, 1858		Frajola, Sept. 21, 1991, lot 422
May 4	U33 (Began 10/6/57)	John Fox, July 20, 1980, lot 138
	U10 (1854)	David Phillips, Sept. 3, 1994, lot 301
July 14, 1855		Harmer's, Nov. 7-8, 1955, lot 159
		Schuyler Rumsey, Dec. 4-6, 2002, lot 480
Dec. 20, 1858	U10 (1854)	Henry Spellman III, Sept. 27, 1985, lot 1303
May 20 ⁸	U10 (1854)	Frajola, Sept. 7, 1985, Lot 198
May 5	U9	Bennett, Dec. 8, 1998, Lot 370
Oct. 6, 1858	U9 (1854)	Schuyler Rumsey, Tahoe Collection, Dec. 4-6, 2002, Lot 477
May 16 ⁹	U10 (1854)	Christie, Jarrett sale, Oct. 10, 1990, Lot 1257
Sept. 1859	U10 (1854)	Christie, Jarrett sale, Oct. 10, 1990, Lot 1255

**Langton's Pioneer Express
Type 5 covers**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Stationery</u>	<u>Auction Record</u>
July 5, 1860	U34 (1861)	Knapp, May 7 1941, Lot 1716
	U27 (1860-61)	Ivy & Mader, Dec. 13, 2002, Lot 3548
June 7	U27(1860-61)	Schuyler Rumsey, Dec. 4-6, 2002, Lot 475
May 15, 1861	U37! (1861)	Robson Lowe, March 2, 1973, Lot 1913
May 31,	U31 (1861-62)	Siegel's, July 16, 1998, Lot 1338
	U40 (1861)	Kaufmann, Dec. 10, 1990, Lot 246
Aug. 17	U34 (1861)	Schuyler Rumsey, Dec. 1-3, 2001, Lot 83
July 28, 1861	U32 (1860-61)	Harmers, Sept. 25, 1997, Lot 91
	U34 (1861)	Harmers, Nov. 7-8, 1955, Lot 161
July 2, 1861	U26 (1860-61)	John Fox, July 20, 1980, Lot 136
Dec. 29 (62-64)	143L8 (1862-4)	Harmers, Feb. 21, 1973, Lot 30
(May-Oct 1863)	U35, 86L1	Harmers, Dale-Lichtenstein, May 13, 2004, Lot 1171.
July 11, 1863	U35, 86L1	Harmers, Feb 21, 1973, Lot 47
	3cU65 (1861)	Christies, October 12, 1989, Lot 340

⁸ Wells Fargo & Co. 11-9a "Nevada" handstamp. late usage ca. 1870.

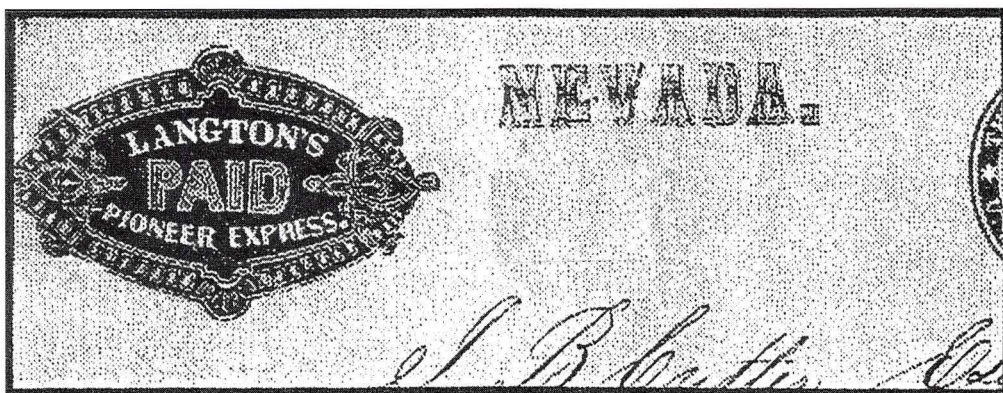
⁹ Ibid.

The dates on the above fourteen Type 5 covers range from July 5, 1860 to May-October of 1863. This date period is significant. In January 1860 after the discovery of the Comstock lode in Nevada, Langton formed the “Langton’s California and Nevada Express” which ran from Downieville to Nevada points¹⁰. In February 1860 Langton organized a branch in Nevada known as the “Langton’s Humboldt Express with the 86L1 adhesive being used in the May-October 1863 time period. On August 24, 1864 Langton was accidentally killed and his family sold the express business to Lamping and Company on November 25, 1865.

I am suggesting that the type 5 printed frank was the one primarily used by the Langton’s Pioneer Express during the 1860 to 1865 time period. The U.S. Postal stationery franks are primarily U26 to U41 which were issued in the 1860 to 1862 time period. The few listed as printed on U18 were printed on postal stationery that was lying around for a few years and was outdated but not replaced.

Type 5a

Haller describes the Langton’s type 5a frank simply as “NEVADA.” printed across the top. It is UPSS #50, Thorpe #71 and the postal stationery is U26. See **Figure 10**.



**Figure 10. The Type 5a “NEVADA” frank.
Harmer’s, Nov. 7-8, 1955, Lot 160.**

Type 6

The type 6 as identified by Haller is a new design. It is primarily found on postal stationery U58 to U61. This postal stationery was issued in the 1864-1865 time period. The usages are from the 1864-1865 time period right up until the company ended it’s operation on November 25, 1865 when Langton’s family sold the business to Lamping & Company. See **Figure 11**.

¹⁰ *Franks of Western Expresses*, M.C. Nathan, Collectors Club of Chicago, 1973, page 126.



Figure 11. The Type 6 frank. Spellman sale, July 15, 1983, Lot 1262.

**Langton's Pioneer Express
Type 6 Covers**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Stationery</u>	<u>Auction Record</u>
	U58 (1864)	Harmer's, Nov. 7-8, 1955, Lot 166
	U58 (1864-5)	Ivy & Mader, Dec. 13-14, 2002, Lot 3549
	U58 (1864-5)	Schuyler Rumsey, Dec 4-6, 2002, Lot 482
	U34	Siegel, June 24-30, 1953, Lot 397
	U59	Siegel, Jan 30-31, 1974, Lot 536
	U59	Frajola, May 20, 1995, Lot 317
	U59	Frajola, May 20, 1995, Lot 318
	U59	Frajola, Sept. 21, 1991, Lot 423
	U58	Siegel, July 10-11, 1986, Lot 46
	U59	Sotheby's, March 30, 1978, Lot 3104
Aug. 24	U59	David Phillips, Sept. 3, 1994, Lot 303
*	U59	Harmer's, Sept. 25, 1997, Lot 95
1865 docket	U59	Harmer's, Sept 25, 1997, Lot 96
	U59	Costales, March 23, 1944, Lot 90
	U58	Costales, Feb. 3-4, 1949, Lot 187
	U58	Robson Lowe, Sept 10, 1981, Lot 827
	U58	Greg Manning, Nov. 21, 1981, Lot 973
Sept. 10, 1865	U61 (1865)	Am. Phil. Brokers, Dec. 16, 1978, Lot 116
Nov. 6	U35	Spelman, Feb. 27-28, 1981, Lot 1152
Bamber & Co. HS**	U34	Schuyler Rumsey, Nov. 30 – Dec. 2, 2000, Lot 67

* Lamping & Co. Downieville handstamp

** Bamber began operations in 1858

Type 7

The Haller designated type 7 frank was never used. It is found on unused entires. Samuel Langton never got the Langton's Nevada Mail and Express Company into operation because he was killed in an accident on August 24, 1864. See **Figure 12**.

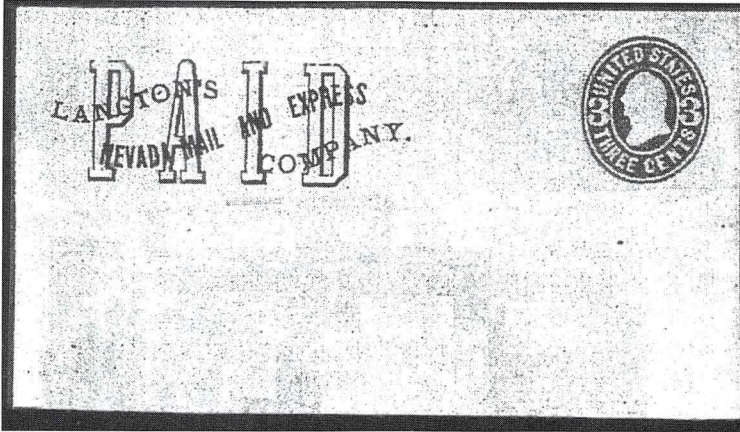


Figure 12. The Type 7 frank that was never used.

<u>UPSS #</u>	<u>Thorpe #</u>	<u>Postal Stationery</u>
125	164	U58
128	165	U59

Noted Sales: Costales, April 26, 1949, Lot 149,
Harmer's, November 7-8, 1955, Lot 169



Figure 13. A Type 5 red frank from Sierra City. The red frank was for transcontinental carriage. This cover went to New York. The 3¢ entire was used after the July 1863 rate reduction.

Compliments of Richard Frajola.

Type 8

This type does not appear in the Haller listings. The lettering suggests that it is a predecessor to type 5. The Langton's handstamp is from Downieville and the cover is addressed to Sacramento. See **Figure 14**.



Figure 14. The Type 8 frank of Langton's Pioneer Express. Harmer's, Dale-Lichtenstein sale, May 13, 2004, Lot 1175.

Types 9 and 10



Type 9



Type 10

The type 9 and type 10 franks can be found on the back flaps of envelopes ca.1854.¹¹ The type 10 is noted as embossed in red or blue¹² and the type 9 is noted in black and red. Auction sales for type 11, see Siegel's, May 3-4, 1972, Lot 361. These are corner cards and are classified as such by Bruce Mosher in his *Catalog of Private Express Labels and Stamps*.

¹¹ *Catalog of Private Express Labels and Stamps*, Bruce H. Mosher, 2002, page 97.

¹² *Franks of Western Expresses*, M.C. Nathan, Collectors Club of Chicago, 1973, page 129.

Langton's Pioneer Express The Label

The Langton's Pioneer Express label is black on yellow and depicts a stagecoach and a steamboat. This label was reputedly intended for Special Fast Delivery.¹³ Some experts believe that this was just a myth. I was able to find three covers with these labels. Two of the covers are docketed in 1863. See **Figure 15**.

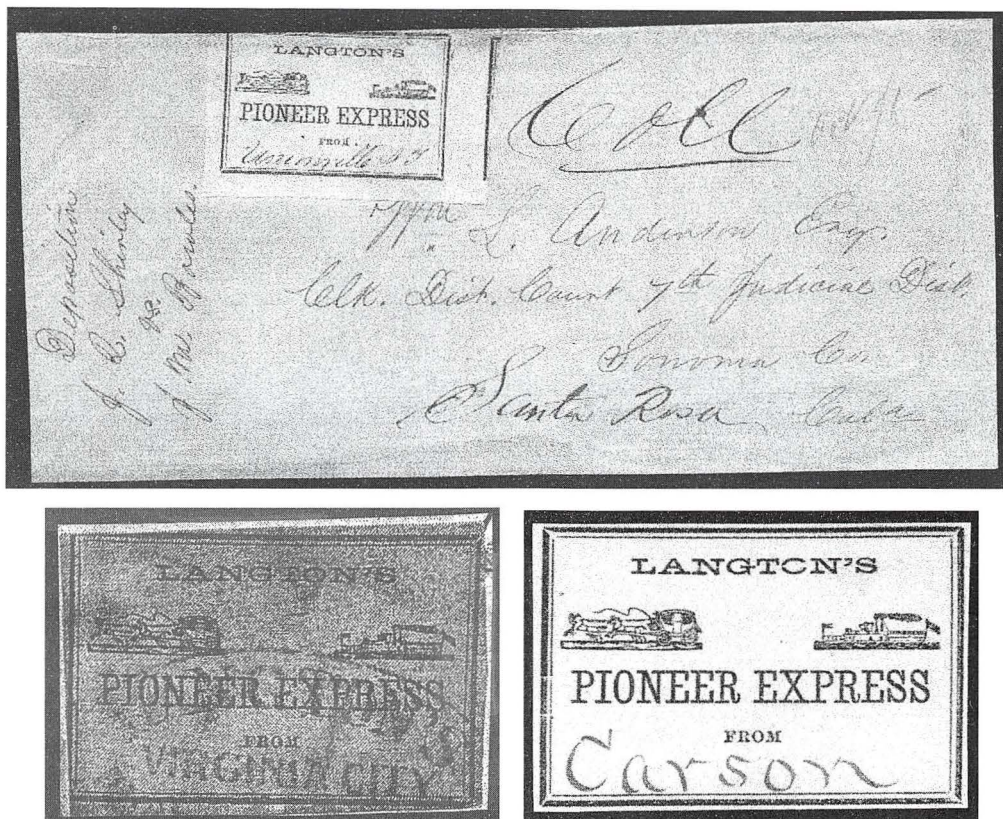


Figure 15. A label of the Langton's Pioneer Express. The label may have enhanced the "In Haste" intention. The city of origin is hand written at the bottom.

Noted: Sales: 7/15/63 docket, Frajola, May 20, 1995, Lot 316.
 5/1/63 docket, Siegel's, Haas sale, March 15, 1983, Lot 215.
 Same Schuyler Rumsey, May 12-14, 1998, Lot 604.
 With type 5 frank, U34, Kelleher, Jan. 20-22, 1988, Lot 3210.

¹³ Siegel's, Haas sale, March 15 1983, Lot 215.



Figure 16. A blue Type 5 Langton's Pioneer Express Company frank.

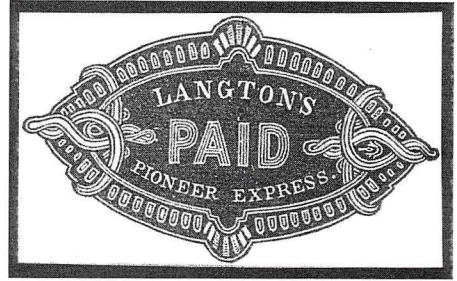


Figure 17. A red Type 5 Langton's Pioneer Express Company frank.
 The red frank was used for transcontinental carriage. This cover originated from a western pick up location and was carried to Atchison Kansas where it entered the mails to Walsville, Me.
 Compliments of Richard Frajola.

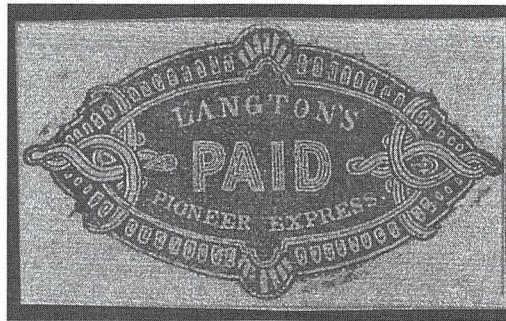
Forgeries of the Langton's Pioneer Express printed frank



Forgery A



Forgery B



Forgery C

Forgery A

1. No bottom right serif on the "X" in "EXPRESS".
2. No top serifs on the "L" in "LANGTON'S".
3. The "S" in "LANGTON'S" is flat on the bottom.
4. The printing is sloppy.
5. The colors:
 - Red on creamy H.L.
 - Orange on creamy
 - Black on amber H.L.
 - Black on creamy H.L.
 - Blue on creamy V.L.
 - Blue on creamy H.L.

Forgery B S. Allan Taylor

1. The "R" in "PIONEER" has a turned up foot.
2. The bottom serif on the "S" in "LANGTON'S" extends up and down.
3. The "X" in "EXPRESS" has all four serifs.
4. There are serifs on the final "S" in "EXPRESS".

5. The printing is clear.
6. The colors:
 - Blackish brown on white wove
 - Brown on creamy laid (H.L.)
 - Black on bright deep orange buff PCT
 - Navy blue on white wove
 - Dark blue on white wove
 - Blue on thin hard white
 - Blue on stiff light creamy
 - Red on tan wove
 - Red on hard amber wove
 - Deep black on soft white
 - Black on amber
 - Black on creamy
 - Black on salmon laid PCT (H.L.)
 - Black on gray laid PCT (H.L.)
 - Black on blue
 - Black on lilac
 - Black on aqua
 - Brown on white
 - Black on yellow
 - Blue on blue gray laid (V.L.)
 - Black on pale green (H.L.)
 - Black on amber (H.L.)

Forgery C

1. The "R" in "PIONEER" has no turned-up foot.
2. The "P" in "EXPRESS" has no top serif.
3. The final "S" in "EXPRESS" has no top serif.
4. The colors:
 - Black on green bond

In 1871 S. Allan Taylor offered his "Langton's Nevada Mail" franks on "U.S. envelope" for 10¢ each. Taylor sold Pacific Union and Bamber franks for 20¢ each and Swift's for 10¢. He also offered a Wells Fargo Omaha frank for 25¢. These were probably his own forgeries. The Langton frank is Forgery B described here. Future articles will attempt to show S. Allan Taylor's work on the other western franks.

Census of Known Stamped Langton's Humboldt Express Covers

	Addressee	Town mark	Postal Stationery	Description and Auction History
1.	J.S. Bendle Bidwell's Bar Butte County, Cal.	Unionville	U35	Stamp upside down, tied by one strike in blue. H.R. Harmer, March 21, 1957, lot 832 R.A. Siegel, June 5, 1995, lot 338
2.	J.S. Bendle Bidwell's Bar	Unionville	U35	Companion to cover #1 except the stamp is right-side up and tilted to the left. Co. oval is struck in blue. Ex-Caspary, March 21, 1957, lot 832
3.	J.S. Bendle Bidwell's Bar	Star City	U35	Stamp 4 margins, "Care of Capt. Singer" ms at LL, reduced at right into indicia. Harmer Rooke, London, Oct. 30 – Nov. 4, 1939 Harmer's, Moody sale, Nov. 27, 1950, lot 205 Siegel sale, Haas sale, March 15, 1983, lot 254 Siegel sale, Sept. 6-7, 1984, lot 431A Harmer's, Dale-Lichtenstein sale, May 13, 2004
4.	G.F. Borza Placerville	Star City	U34	A WF Nevada oval, June 10, ties the stamp along with the Star City cancel, in blue, ex-Jacobitz ex-Poland, ex-Jessup R.A. Siegel Rarities sale, March 23, 1971, lot 175, Sotheby Parke Bernet, March 30, 1978, lot 3087
5.	S.W. Holladay San Francisco	Star City	U34	Scott #65 double rate w/sans serif PAID cancel, tied by blue WF Nevada oval. The 86L1 is tied by LPE oval. W.F. marking July 11, contents dated 1863 H.R. Harmer, Feb 21, 1973, lot 47. Christies Oct. 12, 1989, lot 340
6.	A.B. Preston Bidwell's Bar	Unionville	U35	Top half of original cover w/stamp. Black frank & blue oval. 4 margin stamp. Cover repaired, added bottom and black flaps. 1991 PFC. Greg Manning, April 10, 1991, lot 402 Christies, May 5, 1993, lot 4062 R.A. Siegel, Dec. 12-13, 1997, lot 1974

See **Figure 18** for three genuine Humboldt Express covers.

Census numbers 7-11 are not believed to be genuine usages ¹⁴				
	Addressee	Town mark	Postal Stationery	Description and Auction History
7.	Charles Lott Oroville	Unionville	U35	Stamp placed over the corner of the red Langton's oval at L and tied w/double oval serif PAID mark, which is otherwise unrecorded. Jay Hertz article <i>American Philatelist</i> Aug. 1954. Despite a PFC its authenticity is questioned. Ex-Edwards, Christie's Oct. 29, 1991 lot 1226, <i>Letters of Gold</i> , page 200
8.	Frank Clark Star City, NT	MS Initials	U35	Stamp not tied, ms cancel only. Only incoming use known, is inconsistent with other incoming covers. Wiltsee Collection, WF Bank Museum
9.	None	Greenhood & Newbauer Express	U35	Stamp tied by G&N Express mark. This cover has a PFC but, authenticity of the cancel has been questioned. Torn cover front, repaired and rebacked Siegel, May 22, 1963 and 1994. Eugene Costales, May 21-22, 1951, lot 91. David Feldman, April 14-15, 1983, Lot 21715. Ventura sale 109, April 1991, lot 692 Ivy & Madder, March 29-31, 1995, lot 1091
10.	S. Goodman San Francisco	Not clear Langton Oval type. Not used in Nevada	U35	Without a Nevada cancel this cover is difficult to explain. Partial strike of Langton's oval is not the type used in Nevada (appears to be Forest City) & WF Nevada cancel is from Calif. w/1990 PFC Ventura sale 108, Nov. 15, 1990, lot 465 Siegel's Rarities, April 20, 1991, Lot 357 Wolffer's #176, April 21-23, 1993, Lot 1081. Shreve's, Jan 20, 1996
11.	Printed to WF Agent Oroville	Marysville WF Oval	None	Unused stamp added to envelope w/ms notation about 50 Humboldt stamps. Stamp does not belong. Ex-Jacobitz, Ivy & Mader, Dec. 13-14, 1995, Lot 1049 Siegel sale, Jan. 18-20, 2000, lot 972 Schuyler Rumsey, May 12-14, 1998, lot 600

¹⁴ *Nevada Express, Wells, Fargo & Co. and other Letter Expresses 1857-1895*, James M. Gamett, Western Cover Society, 2002, page 90.

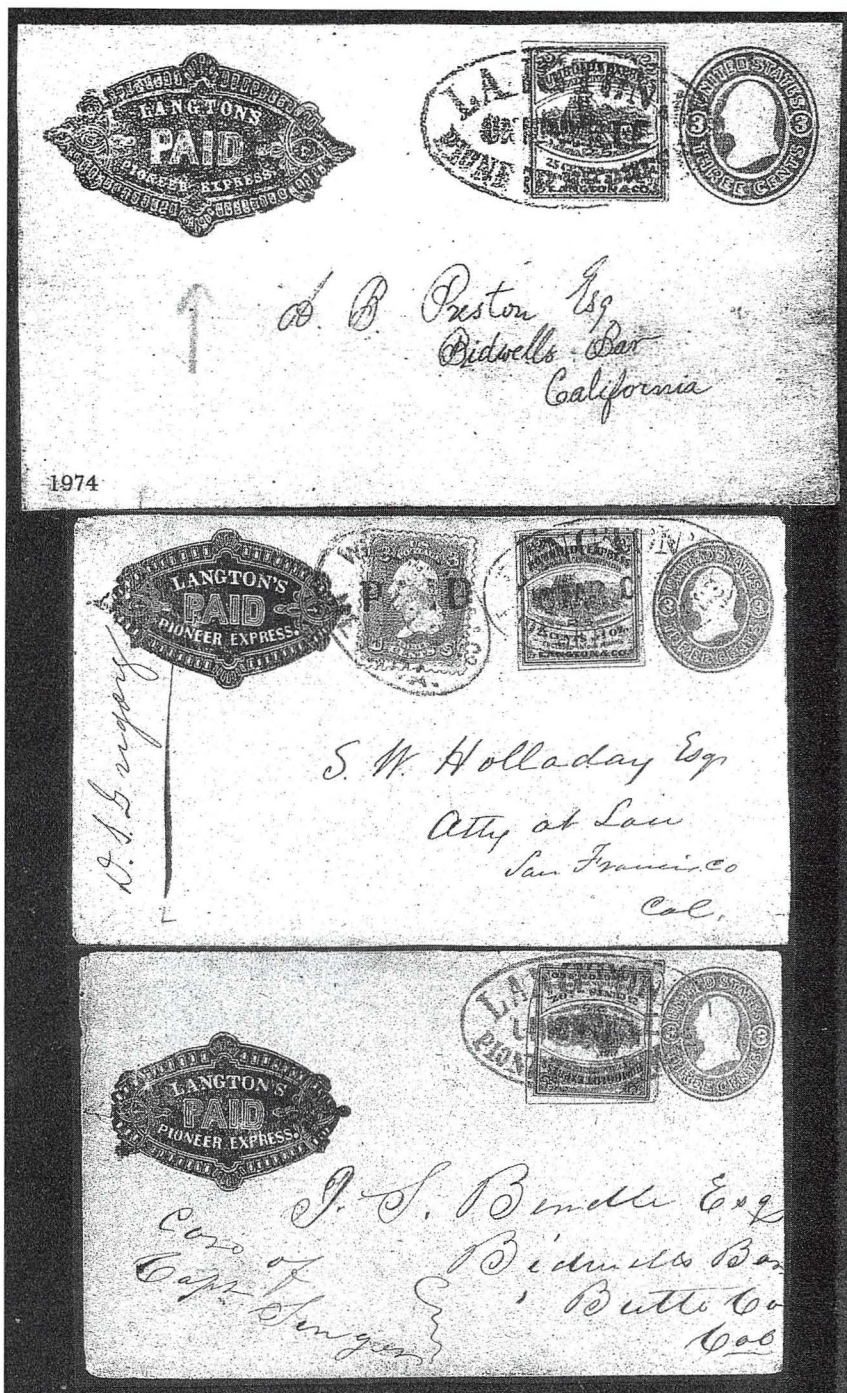


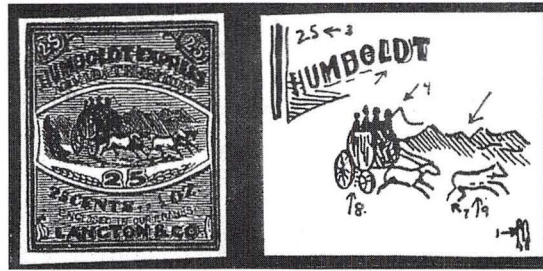
Figure 18. Three genuine Humboldt Express covers. The first with a Type 4 Langton frank and the others with type 5 Langton franks.

1) Siegel sale, December 12-13, 1997, Lot 1974

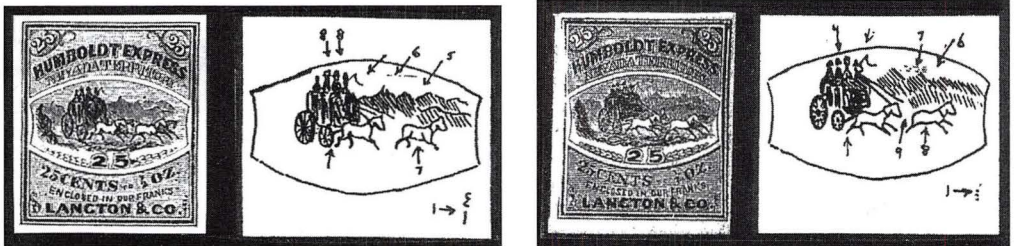
2) Christie's, October 12, 1989, Lot 340

3) Christie's, October 12, 1988, Lot 341

Forgeries of the Humboldt Express Stamp



Forgery A



Forgery B

Forgery C

Handstamps

Langton had handstamps of all kinds, sizes and designs. They were in black, red or blue. They are not presented here because the focus of this article is the franks and not the handstamps.

Robson Lowe combined the handstamps with printed franks and noted six different types.¹⁵ The numbering does not coincide with the Haller listings. The identification of printed frank types used in this article are based on the Haller listings which contain seven types and one subtype. My listings have ten types.

¹⁵ Robson Lowe, March 2, 1973, page 73, preface to Lots 1907-1914.

Bibliography

1. Franks of Western Expresses, M.C. Nathan, Collectors Club of Chicago, 1973. See pages 126-129 A-D 257-259.
2. Christie's, October 12, 1989. Preface to lots 340-342.
3. John Fox, July 20, 1980, page 19, Preface to lots 136-140.
4. Nevada Express, Wells, Fargo & Co. and other Letter Expresses 1857-1895, James M. Gamett, Western Cover Society, Leonard H. Hartmann publisher, 2002.
5. Private printed franks on US. Government envelopes, Austin P. Haller, United States Postal Stationary Society, 1989.
6. Catalog of Private Express Labels and Stamps, Bruce H. Mosher, 2002.

Langton's Pioneer Express money package receipt

Shown in **Figure 19** is a printed receipt for transportation of a Langton's Pioneer Express money package.

LANGTON'S PIONEER EXPRESS.

Chgo ✓

Value, \$1333.75 Gold Hill Sept. 8th 1864

Received of the Yellow Jacket Company

one Package, in the amount of \$1333.75

Addressed to G. S. Taylor Esq.

which we agree to forward to Empire City

and deliver as directed

In no event to be liable beyond our route as herein receipted. It is further agreed, that we are not to be responsible except as forwarders, nor for any loss or damage arising from marine or fire risks, unless specially insured by us, and so specified in this receipt.

For Langton's Pioneer Express,

Charges, \$ 5.00 R²

E. J. Hoursolles, agt.

Figure 19. A blue Langton's Pioneer Express money package receipt for transportation from Gold Hill to Empire City, September 8, 1864.

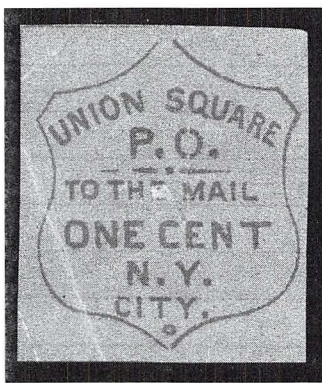
Forgery Update

By
Larry Lyons

Union Square Post Office

Forgery H

1. The shield is open at the top.
2. There is a very small opening in the bottom of the shield.
3. The “U” in “UNION” and the “E” in “SQUARE” are clear of the shield border.
4. The bottom period is not filled in and is a small circle.
5. Color: Gold on bright green S.C.



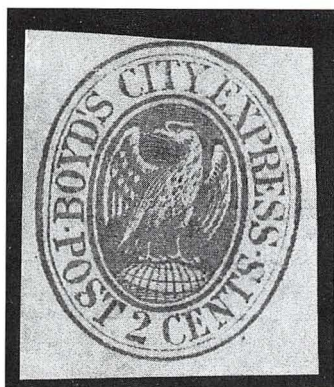
Forgery H (Moens)

Note: See *Lyons Identifier* pages 1047-1049. The Forgery H stamp described above matches the Moens 1864 catalog cut which is Forgery G.

Boyd's City Express 2¢ Type X Forgery K

- 1-7. The descriptions of this stamp are given on page 205 of the *Lyons Identifier*.
8. The “2” is unique to all of the forgery types. It is a very large.

Note: When I wrote the *Lyons Identifier* in 1998 I did not have a picture of Forgery K for the 2¢ Type X. Patton noted a Forgery K on page 83 of *The Private Local Posts of the United States of America*. His asterisk footnote says that the design is “The same as the 1-cent illustration F on page 84 and diagram F page 85.” Page 200 of the *Lyons Identifier* pictures the 2¢ Forgery K without the numeral “2”. This picture comes from the Patton 1¢ Forgery F with the “1” erased. The diagram of the 2¢ Forgery K shown on page 205 of the *Lyons Identifier* does not show a numeral. More than six years later I have found a 2¢ Type X Forgery K stamp. It is pictured below.

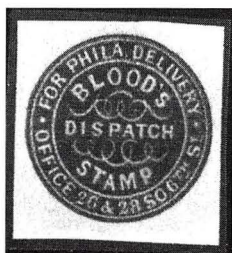


2¢ Type X
Forgery K



2¢ Type X
Forgery K

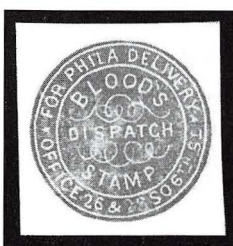
Blood's Envelope Stamp Type II (15LU3-4)



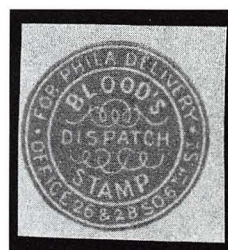
Original



Forgery A



Forgery C



Forgery D

Note: See *the Lyons Identifier* pages 136-137 for sketches and complete identification of the original stamp and forgeries A and C.

Original Type II

9. The stamp is embossed.
4. Between the upper and lower inscriptions there is a five-pointed star.
10. The "2" in "26" and the ampersand are clearly different from the forgeries.

Forgery A Type II (Scott)

9. The "2" in "26" has a turn up at the end of the footstroke. This is different from the other forgeries.
13. The stars between the upper and lower inscriptions are very clear.

Forgery C Type II (Taylor)

11. The “28” is very thinly lettered.

Forgery D Type II (New Forgery)

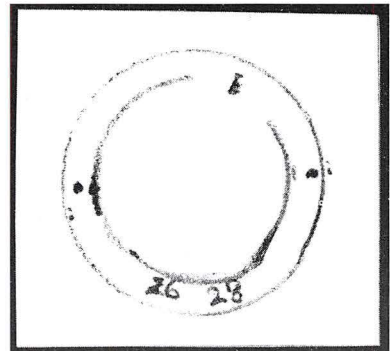
1. The “E”s in “DELIVERY” have short arms.
2. The “28” is clear and different from the other forgeries.
3. There is a five-pointed star between the inscriptions at the left and right.
4. Color: Red on orange bond PCT.

Forgery D1 Type II (New Discovery)

1. The “E”s in “DELIVERY” have short arms.
2. The “28” is clear and different from the other forgeries.
3. There is a dot instead of a star between the inscriptions at the left and right.
4. Color: Red on green PCT



Forgery D1



Forgery D1

Note: The Blood’s envelope stamp Type II is distinguished by the “Office 26 & 28 So 6th St” inscription at the bottom. The original (15LU3-4) and forgeries A, B and C are shown in the *Lyons Identifier* on pages 136-137. This information comes from the Patton article in *The Philatelist* XLII:226.

Sherwood Springer worked on the Taylor Forms 1-21 and Forms B and C. In Form 12 we find the Type I envelope stamp (28 So 6th St) and the type II envelope stamp (26 & 28 So 6th St). The Taylor forgery of the Type I stamp is Forgery A. The Taylor forgery of the type II stamp in Form 12 is Forgery C. You should note in your identifier that Taylor is the forger of these two forgeries.

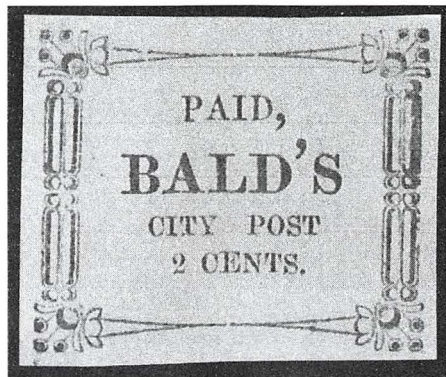
The Taylor Form 12 Blood’s Envelope stamps are printed on two different papers. The first is red on white wove paper and the second has been described as

red on grayish wove paper. The red on grayish wove paper could have been described as “bluish”. The paper is really bluish-gray but the original Springer designation of the color is grayish so we will stick with that for now. The gray paper (bluish gray) can be seen under magnification and backlight as having crossing bond lines. I believe that this led to a description as “vertically laid”. I do not now believe that the type II Forgery C Taylor Forgery can be found as “red on blue (VL)”. I believe that this is the red on grayish wove paper stamp from Form 12. If you have other proof I would like to hear of it.

Looking at Type II Forgery B, I find it extremely similar to Taylor Forgery C. I believe that they are one and the same and that the one noted color, dark red on bluish paper, is the red on grayish wove stamp from Form 12.

The Forgery D stamp has a “28” which is clear and different from the other forgeries. The Forgery D1 stamp is the same as Forgery D except that there are dots instead of stars at the left and right between the inscriptions. This is probably a variety of the Forgery D due to inking.

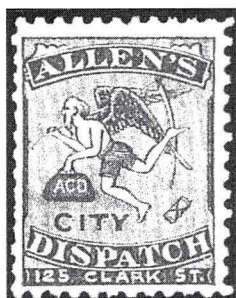
Bald’s City Post



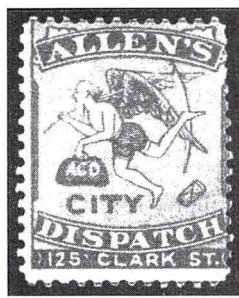
Bald’s City Post

This appears to be a bogus post. No information is known. This is the only example that I have seen. Someone went to a lot of trouble to design this stamp. The color is black on pale salmon PCT. The paper is bond. This is probably a 19th century printing. It was found in a reliable collection of forgeries which contained only Scott, Hussey and Taylor forgeries. Anyone with any further information should drop a note to this author.

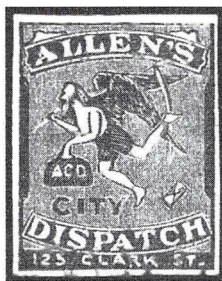
Allen's City Dispatch



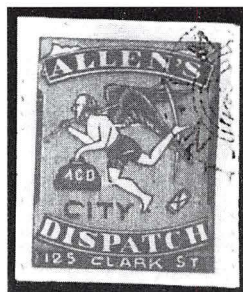
Original



Forgery A



Forgery B



Forgery C

Forgery A (Scott)

8. The man's trunk has a clear wide white border around the thighs.
11. The number "2" in "125" is different.
12. The top wing is down from the "ALLEN'S" inscription box.

Forgery B (Taylor)

7. There are no curved lines at the left and right of "125 CLARK ST."
9. The sythe handle is not colored in.

Forgery C (New Discovery)

1. The lower foot has a tack in it.
2. The "S" "DISPATCH" is different.
3. There is no period after "ST".
4. There is no finger on the left hand.
5. There is no thumb on the right hand.
6. There is one line between the left side of the top name inscription and the left border.
7. The "2" in "125" is uniquely different.
8. The trunk of the "Y" in "CITY" is not centered under the arms.
9. Color: Pink on white similar to the original.

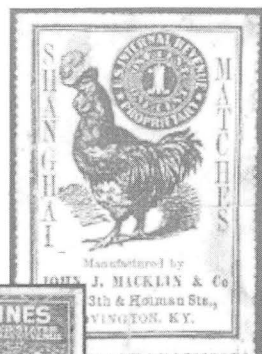
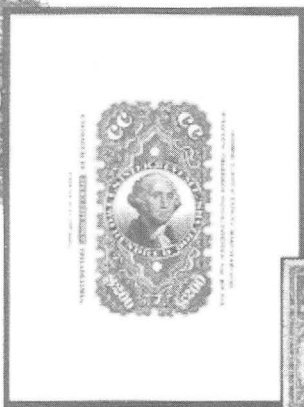
Note: See the *Lyons Identifier*, pages 26-28 for the Allen's City Dispatch. The Forgery C shown here has never before been identified. The eight identifying characteristics given here are just some of the major differences. Once you look it becomes obvious that this is a new forgery. The cancel is most probably fake and probably caused this forgery to be overlooked for so many years.

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