Hale & Co. Foreign Letter Mail & Domestic Independent Mail 1838 - 1845

A Study of its Postal History
Hale’s beginnings in 1838 as a foreign mail forwarder

- New York to London via the steamer Great Western Nov. 20 1838
Only known Hale Foreign Letter Office cover to France

New York Feb. 1, 1842 to Paris by private ship “St. Nicholas”
Forwarded From Hale’s News Room and Ship Letter Office, New-York

Havana to London via New York, July 13, 1841
Forwarded Through Hales Foreign Letter Office New York

New Orleans to London via New York, Feb. 21, 1842
Earliest known use of this hand stamp (7 reported, all from 1842)

By Ship “Patrick Henry”, New Orleans blue postmark.
Note curious mirror image PAID red hand stamp
Very early use 13 Court Street Boston Office hand stamp January 20 1844 to New York Domestic Mail
Very early use Boston to NY Jan 31 1844

Mr. J. W. Smyth
(care of Mr. Smith & Shafter)
No. 68 Wall Stree
New York
New York to Boston Feb 2 1844

[Image of a handwritten letter from New York to Boston dated February 2, 1844]
Early Hale Rate Markings

Single 6-1/4 cents, Mar 30 1844, and Double 12-1/2 cents, Apr 17 1844.
Hale’s Adhesive Stamps
Mysterious Number Markings from Boston Oct 1844
Springfield Mass to New York Oct 24 1844
Hale & Co.’s Mail Paid at Boston marking 1844
Haverhill Mass to New York Apr 10 1845
Double Rate Lynn, Mass to New York Dec 14 1844
Northampton Mass to NY Sep 30 1844

The Willet C. Ward
105 Frank Sturt
New York

said SEPT. 30 1844
Double Rate Collect Springfield Mass to Boston Sep 16 1844
Danvers Mass to NY Oct 2 1844

Manuscript “J. Shea”, Hale agent in Danvers.

“Penny Post Paid”
New York Mailed Late for the ____ Feb 28 1845 to Boston
Boston pre-cancel, Oct 17 1844
Unusual Adhesive Separation Boston Office Oct 26 1844

Adhesives die cut from sheet in strips were separated along sides, like crude coils.
Boston to Portland Maine Jan 16 1845
Baltimore Maryland to NY Apr 28 1845

"Benj. Brandreth M.D.
N°241 Broadway
New York"
Pre-cancel from Portsmouth, NH Feb 15 1845

No. 16 Court Street

Boston
Rare “Paid Boston” marking Oct 28 1844

To Majs Catherine Robbins
Care of Rev Joseph Lyman
Northampton
Birmingham July 3 1844 “Per Hibernia” to Hartford Ct. Jul 3 1844

Cunard Line packet steamer “Hibernia” departed Liverpool July 4, 1844 and arrived in Boston on July 17, after a stop in Halifax. This letter probably carried under a wrapper with others from Boston to NY and remailed by the Forwarder, John A. Newbould, in NYC using Hale & Co.
Jun 8 1844 Boston to Phila. & then back to Boston by Hale
Providence RI to Portsmouth NH Nov 27 1844

Albert R. Hales, Esq.

Portsmouth
Mr. Richard W. John
Trinity Church
New York
Providence RI to Albany NY Oct 28 1844 “3 = 20”
New York oval markings, two types: curved & straight addresses
Haverhill & Salem Mass., Sep & Oct 1844
Auburn NY Sep 24 1844 Pomeroy-Hale conjunctive use

Dear Sir,

We shall send you next week.

G. & L. Heavican
Bookseller
Springfield, Mass.
Brainard – Hale conjunctive use from Troy, NY to NYC
May 18 1845
Jerome – Hale conjunctive use NYC to Frankford Maine Nov 13 1844
Possibly the only known ALM Co. – Hale conjunctive use: Boston to Albany, NY June 24, 1845