

THE PENNY POST

Official Journal of The Carriers And Locals Society



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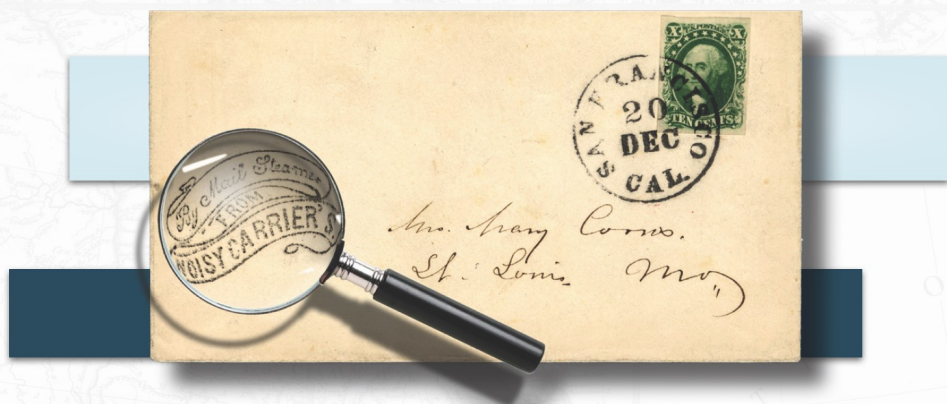
H.R. HARMER

EST. 1940

FINE STAMP AUCTIONS

When it comes time to choose an auction house, what is more important: the items they sell, or the items they won't sell?

We recently had the opportunity to sell this cover bearing a "Noisy Carrier's" handstamp. Of the several types of handstamp used by the Noisy Carrier's Publishing Hall to indicate their handling of mail, this ornate scrollwork design is arguably the rarest and most attractive. The cover was accompanied by a recent certificate with a positive opinion, and potentially would have realized a handsome price.



The only problem? It was detailed in 1968 by Dr. W. Scott Pollard that this handstamp is a forgery that can clearly be distinguished from the genuine device. Rather than rely merely on the merits of a certificate, our team conducted extensive research—including both a review of the literature and an analysis of the handstamp itself—to prove the true nature of this cover, thereby removing it from the philatelic market and helping to protect future generations of collectors.

At H.R. Harmer, we realize that our job is not merely to sell rare postage stamps and covers. We are stewards of the hobby, and it is our responsibility to put the wellbeing of philately as a whole before our own interests. Without firm trust in dealers and auctioneers, there is no way our industry can grow and prosper.

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Auction catalogs for research and
reference

Editor's Message

By Casey Jo White

Welcome to the Penny Post's first issue of 2023. Last issue concluded my first year as editor of the journal, and I'm excited for what this new year will bring.

Appropriately, this issue starts with a recap of carriers and locals material sold at auction in 2022. Auction records are an important resource for research, providing records of the material on the market and its value. Clifford Alexander reviews some of the highlights of recent sales and gives his thoughts on the current carriers and locals market.

Following Alexander's review of past auctions, society auction manager Angelo Ismirnioglou provides a preview of the upcoming CALS auction 35, which will be held in late March. This is an excellent opportunity to add some excellent new material to your collection while also supporting the society.



Design element from 1855
Valentine card (see page 16)

Showcasing the use of auctions as philatelic resources, author John Bowman has written this issue's cover story about a cover he saw in a past Siegel auction. Although the cover is not in his own collection, he was able to use the pictures and information published in the catalog to start researching an elegant valentine delivered by Barr's Penny Dispatch in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. In this article, Bowman uses this piece of postal history as a starting point to learn more about the city of Lancaster and the people who live there.

Last issue, John Bowman wrote an article on the history of the New York Despatch Post and its relationship to the New York Post Office. This issue, Clifford Alexander writes about The Other NYC City Dispatch Post. Alexander provides a detailed analysis of the stamps, covers, and cancellations.



Finally, the issue closes with a new forgery discovery by John Bowman. This variation on the Gahagan & Howe Type III Scott forgery, with consistent differences in the text on the stamps.

I want to take a moment to thank all Carriers and Locals society members for their support. If you would like to take a more active role in supporting the society and our specific collecting interest, there are several things you can do. First, the Penny Post is always accepting new journal articles. If you would like to write for us, please contact me at editor@pennypost.org or any of our editorial board members. If you have an idea, but need assistance with research or writing, our members are willing to help.

Another thing you can do to help the society grow is to invite collectors to join. If you know someone who is interested in carriers, locals, or expresses, invite them to the society. Our website, pennypost.org, has an online library of past Penny Post journals and many other interesting resources you can show them. Sharing this information is one of the best ways to show what society offers collectors.

We are also looking for volunteers to give presentations for the society, either online or at stamp shows this year. If you are interested, please reach out to Clifford Alexander at chairman@pennypost.org.

As you enjoy this issue, take a moment to check out our current advertisers. Their support helps make this journal possible.

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Review of Auctions Held in 2022

by Clifford J. Alexander

Major philatelic auction firms held six important auctions in 2022 with covers and stamps from collections of Carriers and Locals Society members. Over 1000 lots were of carriers, local posts, and independent mail companies, as well as Eastern, Western and Civil War express company postal history.

Several auctions in 2022 included important offerings of carriers and local posts. Some are reported here to illustrate current market conditions. Our Editor Casey Jo White published an article on the first two auctions in the April issue of the *Penny Post*. Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auctions held an auction in March at the WESTPEX stamp show that featured over 225 lots of express company material. And in mid-May, R. A. Siegel offered twenty lots of very fine stamps. Of course, the Carriers and Locals Society also held its 34th auction featuring 200 lots in April 2022, with Angelo Ismirmiolou the Auction Manager.

The following lists some of the highlights of the auctions held in the second half of 2022.

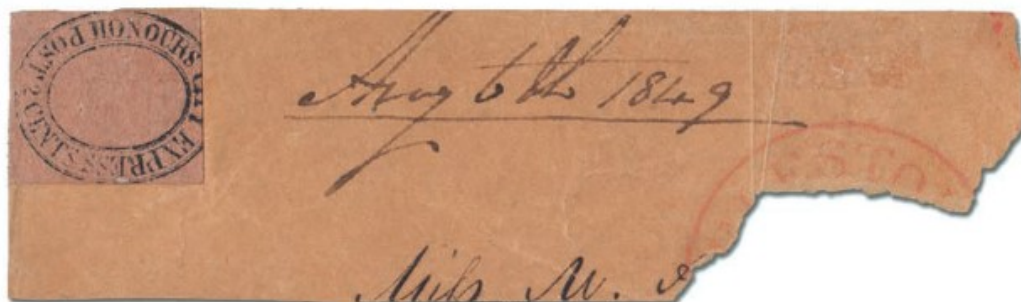


Figure 1. Honour's City Express 2¢ (Kelleher Sale 774, Lot 3827)

Daniel Kelleher Auction, September 16, 2022

Member David Wilcox consigned his collection of US carriers and locals to Kelleher to be sold on September 16. The collection was offered in 96 lots, with 21 covers and 95 stamps, blocks and sheets. Thirty-three lots sold for more than the high estimate and eleven topped the Scott catalog price. Ten did not sell.

The sale offered an Honour's City Express 2¢ Black on Brown rose 4LB1 on a large piece. **Figure 1.** Other important stamps included 5LB3, a used Brown & McGill's 2¢ Black stamp; 6LB2, unused US City Despatch Post 3¢ black on Rosy Buff; 6LB4, unused US City Despatch Post 3¢ Black on Green; 2L2, Adams' City Express Post 2¢ Black on Buff; 5L3, American Letter Mail Blue on Gray on cover; 129L1, Roche's City Dispatch black on green cut to shape; 40L3, City Despatch Post 2x Black on Pink, used; 68L3, Floyd's Penny Post 1¢ Green used; 71L1a, Glen Haven Daily Mail 1¢ black on Green "Gien" variety; 92L1, Kellogg's Penny Post 1c Vermilion used; and 143L4, Wells Fargo \$2 Green, used.

H. R. Harmer Auction, October 26-27, 2022

H. R. Harmer held an auction on October 26 and 27. The first day of the auction included 218 lots of Boyd's City Express covers and stamps from member John D. Bowman's Collection. On the next day, Harmer offered sixty lots of covers from member Steven M. Roth collection of carrier service mail.

John Bowman had one of the most important Boyd's collections and exhibits and the sale offered scarce covers from famous collections. Highlights of independent mail company covers delivered by Boyd's in New York City included a Pomeroy's Letter Express 117L1 on a cover with a two-line arc "Pomeroy's Mail" handstamp **Figure 2** and a Freeman & Cos. Express embossed corner card. **Figure 3** Another unusual cover was a "sewing machine" perforation variety 20L14 stamp on a local conjunctive cover with a "Madison Square Post Office" handstamp.



Figure 2.
Pomeroy's Letter
Express conjunctive
with Boyd's City
Express
(Harmer Sale 3061,
Lot 414)

Figure 3.
Freeman & Co.'s
embossed cover card
conjunctive use with
Boyd's City Express
(Harmer Sale 3061,
Lot 418)



The Steve Roth collection offered only carrier covers. Highlights included a red Baltimore "Horseman" 1LB9 precancelled with the post office carrier's initial "J." **Figure 4** It also included a U28 compound star die envelope from New York City to New Jersey **Figure 5**; and a 1962 cover to Paris, France, franked with an 1861 1¢ Blue 63 paying the carrier fee. **Figure 6**.

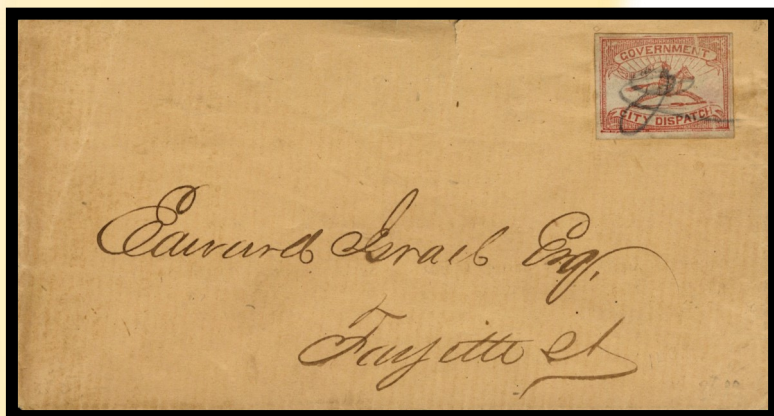


Figure 4. Cover with Baltimore carrier stamp precancelled with a “J,” the initial of the carrier. (Harmer Sale 3061, Lot 819)



Figure 5. Compound star die envelope tied by New York Duplex (Harmer Sale 3061, Lot 852)

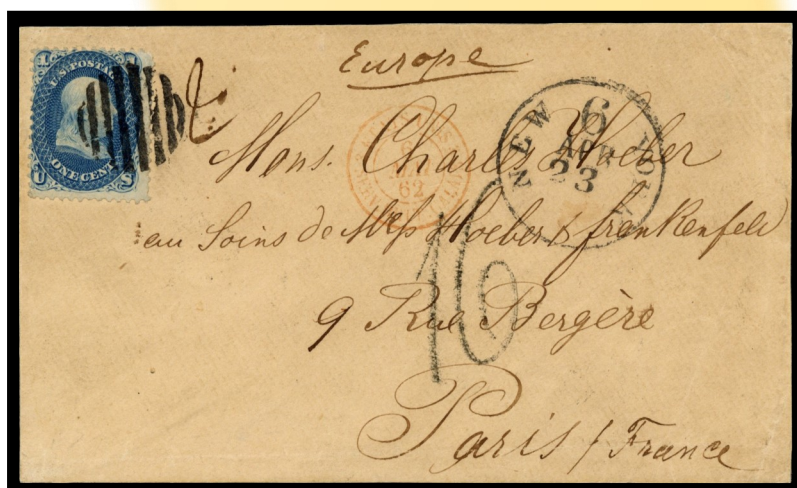


Figure 6. 1862 cover to Paris, France, with 1¢ Blue for carrier fee paid in New York City (Harmer Sale 3061, Lot 854)



Figure 7. LO1 Franklin Carrier stamp on cover with P.F. certificate declining opinion whether it passed through the mails (Rumsey Sale 106, Lot 795)



**Figure 8. Partial reconstructed pane of
A. M. Huntley's Express Co. stamps
(Rumsey Sale 106, Lot 817)**



**Figure 9.
"Superb" Black on Buff 3¢ 40L1 N.Y. City
Despatch Post stamp graded S 98
(Rumsey Sale 106, Lot 2372)**

Schuyler Rumsey Auction Galleries, December 6-8, 2022

On December 6-7, Schuyler Rumsey Auction Galleries featured an auction of late Society member Stanley M. Pillar's inventory which included 40 lots of covers and 30 lots of stamps. On December 8, Rumsey held its Gems of Philately sale with 32 lots of covers and stamps.

The Stanley Pillar sale featured four copies of the Franklin carrier stamp LO1. Three were off cover and one on cover but with a Philatelic Foundation certificate declining opinion whether it passed through the mails. **Figure 7** It also offered a full top pane of 50 Eagle Carrier Stamps LO2. In addition, the sale offered a copy of the Blue Bishop's City Post 10LB1 and a partial reconstructed sheet of A. M. Hinkley's Express Co. **Figure 8**

Rumsey's Gems sale included a "Superb" example of the New York City Despatch Post stamp that was graded S 98 **Figure 9**; examples of scarce PIPS Daily Mail stamps 116L2 and 116L3; and a full sheet of Teese & Co. 137L1.

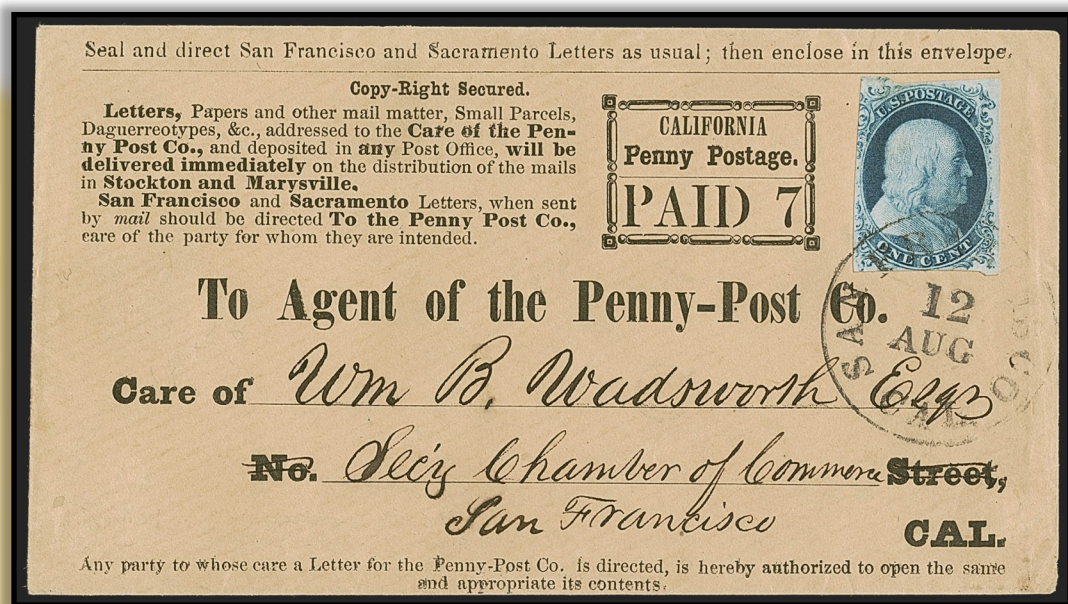


Figure 10. California Penny Post 7¢ Black on Buff entire 34LLU9 with 10¢ Green Scott #13 (Siegel Sale 1270, Lot 3030)

R. A. Siegel Auction Galleries, December 14, 2022

On December 14, R. A. Siegel Auction Galleries offered Society member Gordon Eubank's collection of California Penny Post Co. and seventy lots of carriers, independent mail companies and local posts. This extraordinary collection included various rare covers. A 7¢ Black on Buff entire 34LU14 with a 1¢ blue Type IV No. 9 sold for \$29,000+. **Figure 10** A 5¢ Black on Buff entire 34LU9 with a 10¢ Green Type I No. 13 and a 3¢ Dull Red Type II No. 11A sold for \$10,000+. And a California Penny Post 5¢ Blue 34L4 on an envelope imprinted "Via Nicaragua" with a 10¢ Green Type II No. 14 sold for \$32,500+. **Figure 11.**

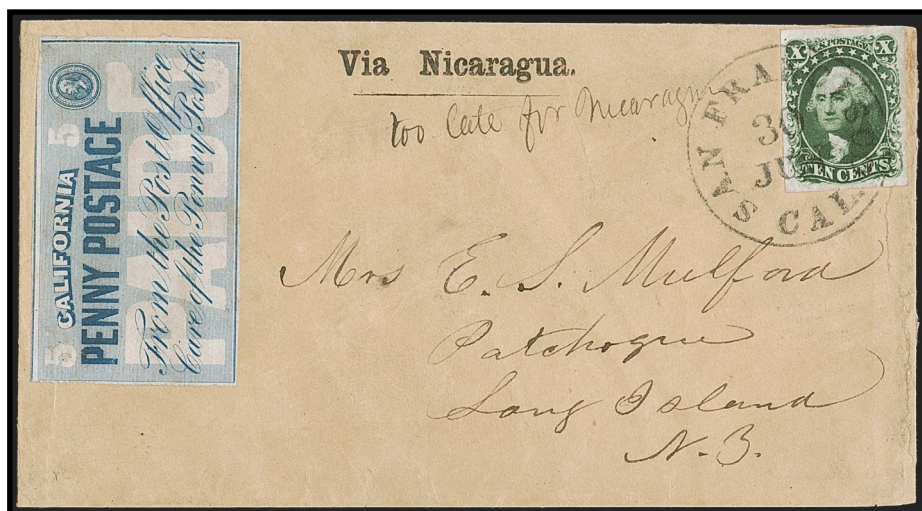


Figure 11. California Penny Post 5¢ Black on Buff “via Nicaragua” entire 34LU9 with 10¢ Green Scott #13 and 3¢ Dull Red Scot #11A

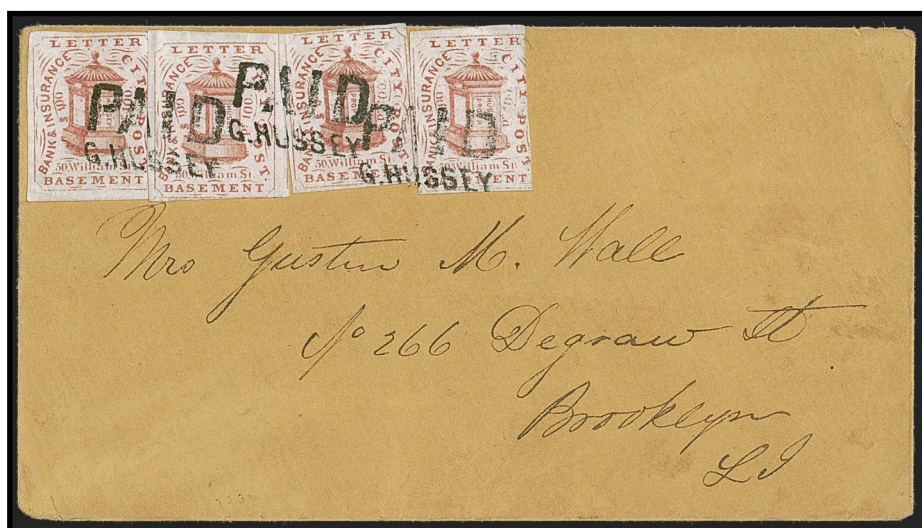
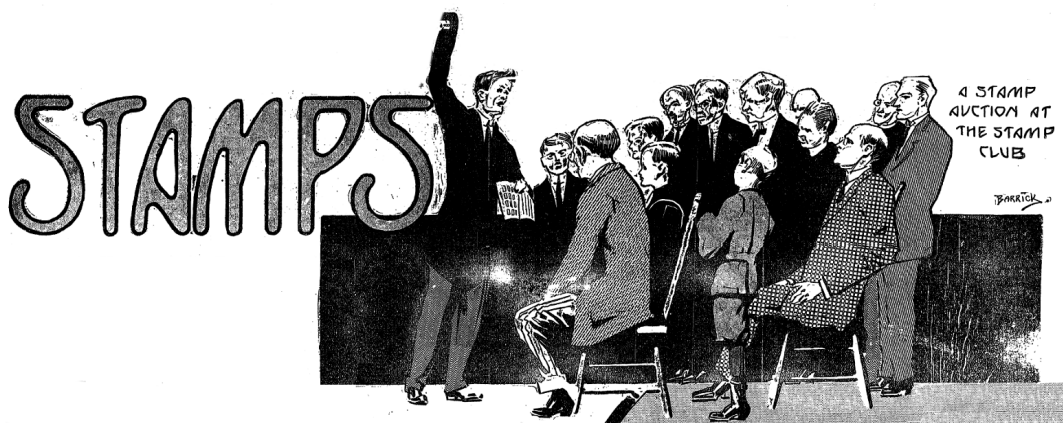


Figure 12. Hussey's Post 1¢ Brown Red Scott #87L4 on cover to Brooklyn

The next section of the auction included an East River Post Office cover with the Black on Green Glazed 62L4 Figure 11; An envelope with four copies of the Hussey's Post 1¢ Brown Red 87L4 stamp **Figure 12**; and a large collection of Hussey's Post that was estimated to sell for \$2,000-\$3,000 and hammered at \$5,750+.

Conclusions

For collectors, 2022 presented interesting opportunities to increase and expand areas of focus. For sellers, prices were mixed, in part due to the large number of high-quality stamps and covers entering the market. However, significant increases in supplies can sometimes generate interest among collectors and bring new people into a collecting area.



The Carriers and Locals Society's **35th Auction** will go live in late **March of 2023!**

Currently we are seeking consignments from society members.

We are looking for carriers, locals and express items that you have. Even as few as five items would add tremendous variety to the auction. Any research you have with detailed descriptions of each item would be greatly appreciated to include. We know many of you are specialists in many areas and sharing your knowledge benefits all of us.

Please contact Angelo Ismirnioglou, the Auction Manager for CALS, at auctions@pennypost.org for further information about the consigning process, descriptions format and other details. Please do not mail any items out before contacting Angelo, as he has a new mailing address.

Thank You for supporting our society and helping make the next auction a success!

CALS Auction 35

CARRIERS
AND LOCALS SOCIETY

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The Carriers and Locals Society is currently accepting items for consignment from society members and collectors. We will accept any of the following items valued at \$20.00 or more.

- Carriers
- Local Posts
- Independent Mail Companies
- Express Companies
- Fakes and Fantasies

Check out our
past auctions
at pennypost.org

CALS Auction 35 Preview

by Angelo Ismirnioglou with foreword by Casey Jo White

With the auctions of 2022 complete, it's time to look forward to auctions of 2023. The Carriers and Locals Society periodically runs auctions on our website. These auctions are important for the society in several ways: they facilitate the sale of carrier and local post stamps to interested collectors, they assist members in selling items from their collection, and they serve as a fundraiser for the society. Records of the auctions, including images of items and prices realized, are archived on the society website for future reference. These auctions are open to all collectors – both members and non-members can consign and bid on lots.

Our auction manager, Angelo Ismirnioglou, has provided the following preview of several items that will be offered in the upcoming CALS Auction 35. This will be our largest auction yet, with over 250 items! The auction is planned to go live in late March, but is still currently accepting consignments – anyone wishing to list their material alongside these lots can contact him at auctions@pennypost.org.

This was the first adhesive stamp used in the United States.



City Despatch Post, New York, N.Y., 1842, Unused, OG, previously hinged
PF Certificate Graded XF-S 95

Scott 40L1 - CV \$375 - Reserve \$225



Adams' City Express Post, New York, N.Y. 1850 2c black, gray, unused single placed over ms. "PAID" on 1849 folded cover with ms. "Circular" to Providence, R.I., Red Express Mail, N.York Pmk. with PF Certificate

Left: high resolution photo of stamp, enlarged for clarity

Scott 2L4 - CV \$5,500 - Reserve \$1,500



Chestnut Street Line, Philadelphia, Pa. 1856 black, pink glazed.

Scott 169L1 - CV \$17,500 - Reserve \$5,500



Hale & Co., 1844, Cut to shape tied to folded letter by black F-15 forwarding handstamp (30 recorded), F-3 red forwarding handstamp.
Boston to NYC Aug 14, 1844. Cover with Stain, filed folds.

Right: high resolution photo of stamp, enlarged for clarity



Scott 75L5 - CV \$300 - Reserve \$100



Third Avenue Post Office,
New York, N.Y. 1885 2¢
Black on Maroon Glazed,
unused, no gum with PF
Certificate.

Scott 139L2 - CV \$3,250 - Reserve \$1,800



Spence & Browns Express Post, Philadelphia, Pa. 1848 black with Horse & Rider, unused, retouched in small thin area.

Scott 159L2 - CV \$2,500 - Reserve \$450



1861 Wells, Fargo & Company Red \$1.00 Horse & Rider "Broken Leg" Variation Issue with PF Certificate.

Scott 143L3var - CV \$1,850 - Reserve \$350

Figure 5b. Original Valentine card enclosed in envelope mailed with red Barr's Penny Dispatch stamp.



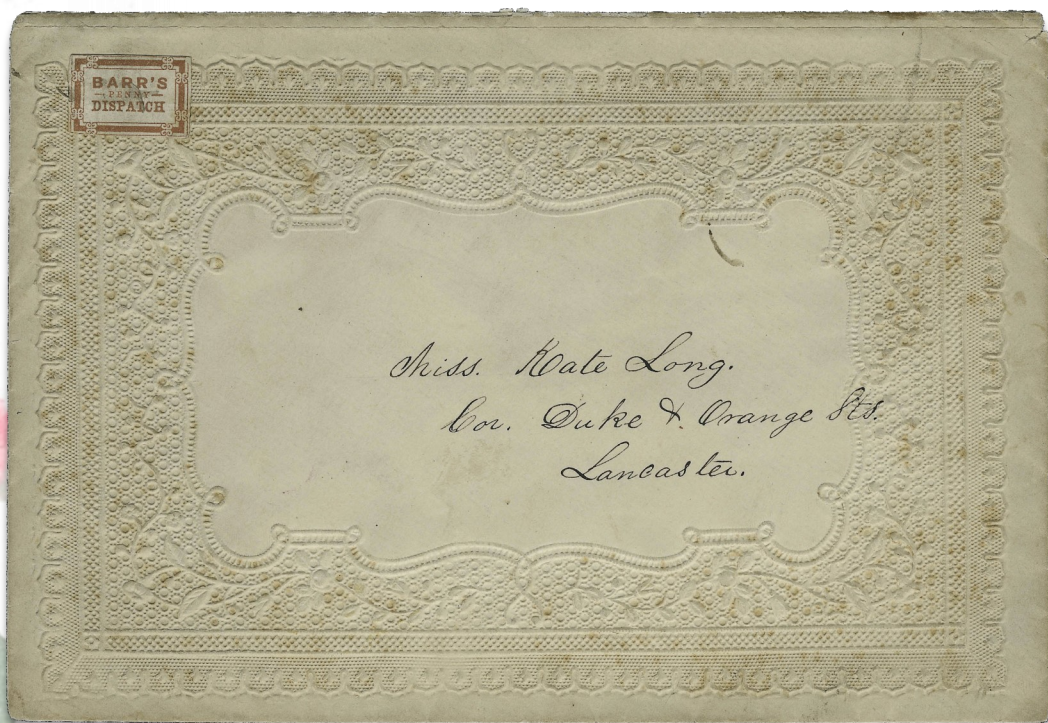


Figure 5a. Red Barr's Penny Dispatch stamp tied to Valentine envelope with original enclosure. Addressed to "Miss Kate Long, Cor. Duke & Orange St, Lancaster." Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Sale 925.

A Case Study in Using a Genealogy Database to Explore Cover History - The Red Barr's Penny Dispatch Stamp on Valentine Cover by John D. Bowman

Some years ago, I asked philatelic friend and fellow Carriers and Locals Society member Bill Sammis how he had found so much information concerning private express companies that carried mail in the northeastern United States, and he said, "old newspapers." Knowing that he had access to a university library, I thought that was what he meant. He went on to say that he used an online genealogy database.

I found that there are several on-line newspaper services. Many newspapers are in more than one database and none of the services has a complete collection of U.S. newspapers. As a result, if a person is interested in conducting research regarding a specific city, a particular service might not have in its database an important newspaper published at that time.

Most require payment of annual fees but offer free trials. One free service is offered by the Library of Congress. It is called "Chronicling America." The subscription services include Genealogybank.com (13,000 "newspapers"), Newspapers.com (15,000 "newspapers"), NewspaperArchive.com (15,500 "titles") and LexisNexis.com (45,000 "sources").

I signed up for GenealogyBank, a subscription service that has digital copies of many newspapers and some other resources, like a search engine for the decennial Federal Census. In order to demonstrate how a philatelic student might use this resource, I chose a rare cover franked with Barr's local post.

Elias Barr operated the Penny Dispatch Post in Lancaster, PA during 1855. According to the *Scott U.S. Specialized Catalogue 2021*, it is known in two colors, red on white and black on green with Scott numbers 8L1 and 8L2. The catalog notes there are five varieties of each, which were originally illustrated by Donald S. Patton in his series on U.S. local stamps.

The red stamps are scarcer and valued more than the green in the Scott catalogue (\$1,000 vs \$300 for unused examples.) There are two listings for the red stamp on cover, one which is tied by manuscript and valued at \$5,000, and one not tied, manuscript cancel, with certificate valued at \$2,000. I could not find the 8L1 stamp on cover with certificate on the Philatelic Foundation website.

Full disclosure, I do not own any covers with the Barr's stamp and chose the more expensive cover just out of curiosity.

Background of Barr's

Not much has been written about this local post, but recently the website of the Carriers and Locals Society posted a section from the Farrell Reference Collection which summarizes the little information that can be gleaned from newspapers on genealogy sites (<https://www.pennypost.org/farrell.asp>). Please stop and look over this before continuing.*



(Use your smartphone to scan the code at left to quickly open the CALS Online Reference Collection file for Barr's)

I will demonstrate how to locate the same information later in this article, but first I wanted to discover what the decennial Federal Census records might hold concerning Elias Barr.

Federal Census

Elias Barr was born in 1819 according to the U.S. Federal Census for 1860 and 1870, which lists his ages as 41 and 51 respectively. **Figures 1a and 1b.** I used Genealogybank.com for the census information, although it can be found on several other internet sites. There were a number of entries for "Elias Barr" and I had to examine each of them to find the most likely candidate for a possible letter carrier. None of the results suggested an occupation related to letters, but it was easy to rule out "Farmer" and other suspects.

* Farrell reports that one group of stamps in red and green do not have a period following "DISPATCH" and shows seven variations of design among these. A group with the period is found in green only, and he shows the five types reported by Patton and noted in the Scott catalog.

Elias Barr 1860 U.S. Census	others: Ann Barr, Zaratheia Barr, Jacob E Barr, C E Barr, C H Barr...	residence: SE Ward City of Lancaster, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, United States birthplace: Pennsylvania birth year: 1819	
Elias Barr 1870 U.S. Census	others: Ann Barr, Zerephina Barr, Catharine E Barr, Charles H Barr, William U Barr...	residence: Pennsylvania, United States birthplace: Pennsylvania birth year: 1819	

Figure 1a & 1b. Screen grabs from Genealogybank.com for two of the Elias Barrs. Note the birth year is the same, but the family members’ names are not identical; for example, “Zarathea” and “Zerephina” are likely the same person.

A scan of the original handwritten census can be viewed by pressing the camera icon next to the entry in the search results table. The Elias Barr recorded in **Figures 2a and 2b** listed his occupation as bookseller, and we see that the 1870 census includes his sons as bookstore clerks.

35	416 446	Elias Barr	111	m		Book Seller
36		Ann Barr	41	f		
37		Zarathea Barr	19	f		
38		Jacob E Barr	17	m		
39		C. E Barr	14	f.		
40		C H Barr	11	m		

12	335 339	Barr Elias	51	m	W	Bookseller
13		Ann	51	f	W	Keeping house
14		Zerephina	29	f	W	
15		Catharine E	26	f	W	
16		Charles H	22	m	W	Book ^{store} Clerk
17		William U	20	m	W	Book Store Clerk
18		Annie E	15	f	W	
19		John	10	m	W	
20		Walter H.	8	m	W	

Figures 2a & 2b. Original Federal Census records for Elias Barr in 1860 and 1870.

When using the census records, I have found that it is not usually obvious which record belongs to the subject of your search. By considering the person's age and listed occupation, the name can be narrowed down to some degree of certainty.

Newspaper Sources

During the mid-1800's many newspapers were published, but not all of them have been digitized or otherwise made available for easy study. Many libraries prepared microfilm or microfiche records before discarding the papers and viewing these may require personal visits or communications with the research librarian.

On GenealogyBank's home page, I entered "Elias" as first name, "Barr" as last name, selected Pennsylvania as the state, entered 1850 and 1870 as the date range, and then selected "Newspaper Archives" from the top menu bar. There were 49 results, none of which were particularly helpful, but included the advertisements noted in the Farrell Reference Collection. **Figure 3.**

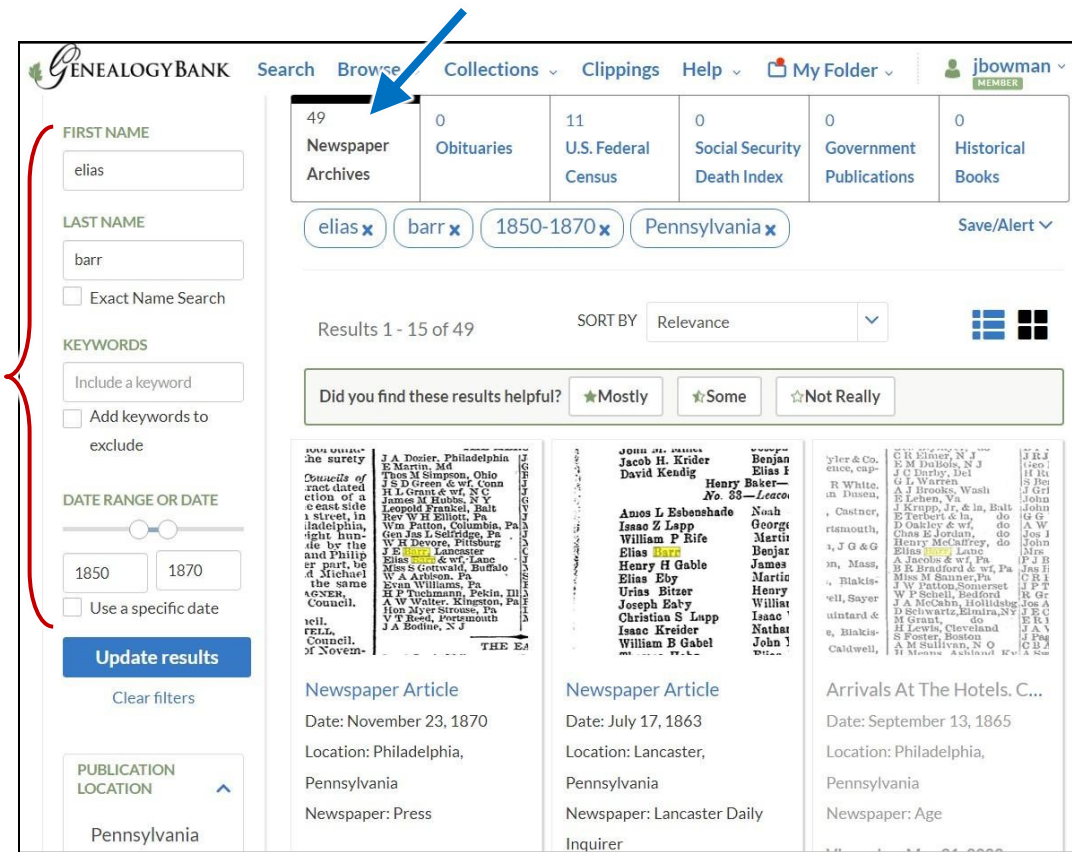


Figure 3. After filling in the data fields as shown, and pressing “Newspaper Archives” at the top, this is the resulting screen.

It shows three of the 49 total “hits” or results obtained. Changing any of the data fields will increase or decrease the number of results. It often takes trial and error to obtain the desired information.

Philadelphia newspaper articles sometimes announced that Barr was visiting the city and staying at the Merchant's Hotel, apparently while doing business there as a bookseller and as a Lancaster news agent for the *Philadelphia Press*. Several advertisements relate to his occupation as a bookseller, verifying what we found in the Federal Census.

Figure 4 shows the results when the date range was narrowed to 1850-1860. This time there were only 11 hits, but the two 1856 advertisements in the Farrell Collection are included. With more common names, it often takes several variations in date range, keywords, city, etc. in order to provide a manageable number of hits to evaluate.

GENEALOGYBANK Search Browse Collections Clippings Help My Folder jbowman MEMBER

FIRST NAME: elias

LAST NAME: barr

Exact Name Search

KEYWORDS: Include a keyword Add keywords to exclude

DATE RANGE OR DATE: 1850 1860 Use a specific date Update results Clear filters

PUBLICATION LOCATION: Pennsylvania

11 Newspaper Archives 0 Obituaries 11 U.S. Federal Census 0 Social Security Death Index 0 Government Publications 0 Historical Books

elias barr 1850-1860 Pennsylvania Save/Alert

Results 1 - 11 of 11 SORT BY Relevance

Did you find these results helpful? Mostly Some Not Really

Newspaper Article Date: June 13, 1860 Location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Newspaper: Press Viewed on May 31, 2022

Newspaper Article Date: April 7, 1852 Location: Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania Newspaper: Union Leader

Prices Date: April 14, 1857 Location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Newspaper: Philadelphia Inquirer

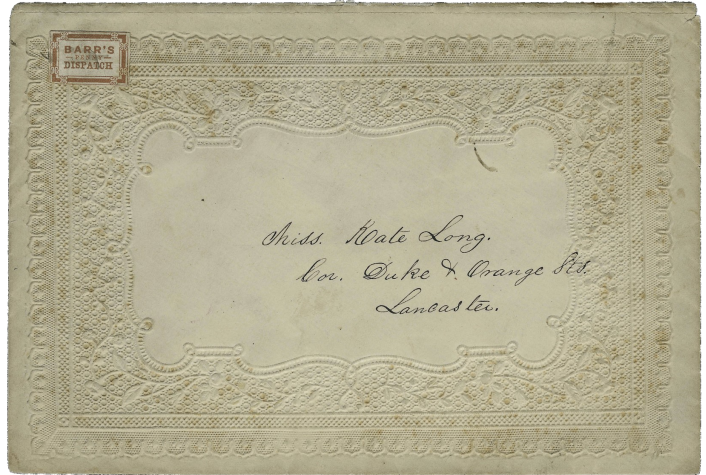
Figure 4. The same criteria as in Figure 3, except the date range was changed to 1850-1860.

Nothing else was found to add to the intriguing references in the Farrell section concerning his “Dispatch Boxes” or his experiences as a “Poster and Carrier.” Was this a typo for “Postal Carrier”? If “Dispatch Boxes” referred to letter boxes, did the drug stores and grocers collect postage for Barr or sell his stamps? Was Barr a newspaper sales agent and distributor who left his newspapers in “Dispatch Boxes” at those stores to be sold by the proprietor? Or did “Poster” mean he placed broadsides in store windows or billboards?

Red Barr's Stamp on Valentine

The Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries Sale of the Kuphal collection was held on November 15, 2006, and included lot 1281, an embossed Valentine envelope with the original enclosure, which was not illustrated. **Figure 5.** It was franked with the red Barr's stamp faintly tied by a portion of a manuscript "X" as well as toning spots.

Figure 5.
Red Barr's Penny
Dispatch stamp tied to
Valentine envelope with
original enclosure.
Addressed to "Miss Kate
Long, Cor. Duke &
Orange St, Lancaster."
Robert A. Siegel Auction
Galleries, Sale 925.
(see first page of article for
larger image)



Other than careful examination of the stamp, the only information this cover can provide regarding its authentic use is the addressee. Was there a young lady in or around 1855 who lived in Lancaster with this name? This proved to be a more difficult task, as females were rarely listed in city directories unless they were widowed, and "Kate" may be a nickname, rather than a proper name as would be expected in a census.

Using the Federal Census for several ten-year periods, I searched for "Kate Long" but found nothing useful. I then used a Lancaster city directory for 1857 and found Henry G. Long, Judge, living at "N Duke, c Orange." **Figure 6.** The "c" is an abbreviation for corner, and this address seems to be a match for the Valentine addressee.

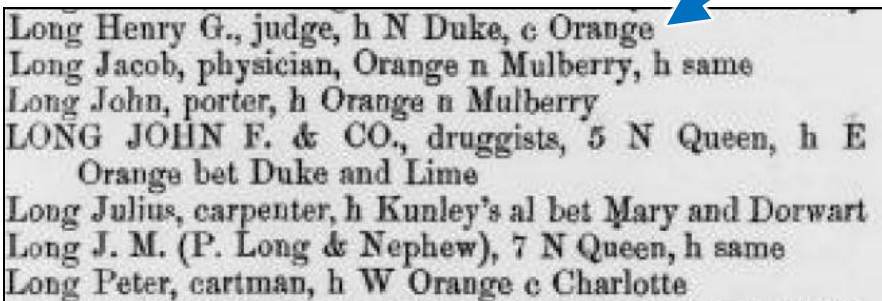


Figure 6. 1857 City Directory for Lancaster, PA, page 72.

Could Judge Long have a daughter named Kate? I searched for Henry G. Long in the Federal Censuses for 1850 through 1880 and found confirming information. **Figures 7a-7d.**

Henry G Long 1850 U.S. Census	others: Mary Long, Peter Long, Mary Long, Catharine Long, Catharine Long...	residence: Lancaster city, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, United States birthplace: Pennsylvania birth year: 1805	
Henry G Long 1860 U.S. Census	others: Catharine Long, Mary Brokey, William Hort, Mary Long, Catharina Long	residence: N E Ward City of Lancaster, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, United States birthplace: Pennsylvania birth year: 1805	
Henry G Long 1870 U.S. Census	others: Catharine H Long, Alice F Long, Mary Brokey, Bridget Gallagher	residence: Pennsylvania, United States birthplace: Pennsylvania birth year: 1805	
Henry G Long Self 1880 U.S. Census	daughter: Kate H Long others: Mary Broka, Mary Groff	residence: Lancaster, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, United States birthplace: Pennsylvania, United States birth year: 1805	

Figures 7a-7d. Federal Census data for Henry G. Long, born 1805.

Clicking on the camera icon for each entry shows Henry Long’s occupation as attorney, Presid. judge, Pres. Judge 2nd Dist Pa, and lawyer respectively for 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880. We also see that Catherine Long, Catherine H. Long, and Kate H. Long are listed in each family entry. These are clearly one and the same as the addressee on the Valentine cover.

Searching the census records for Catharine Long resulted in several entries, but those associated with Henry Long show her birth year as 1843. The original census entries are identical to those of Figures 6A-6D.

Can We Find Any Other Information about Elias Barr or his Local Post?

From one of his 1856 ads, we see that Elias Barr can be found at the office for the *Lancaster Daily Evening Express*. An internet search indicates that the Library of Congress has these newspapers for the years 1856-1876 but they are not digitized. The search also found a sample newspaper indicating its office was located at No 9 West King St opposite Market.

Finally, the research aroused my curiosity about finding the addresses on a map, so I searched for “Lancaster city directory 1850” and found a high-resolution survey map in the Library of Congress. (I omitted the year date in the search bar of my browser at first, and looked at many older maps before I found this one with street names.) **Figure 8** shows a portion of the city map that includes the street names, but no street numbers are shown. However, it does add interest to the story behind this cover. It took some additional digging for me to find that Market Street is the one that runs parallel to Queen and Duke, and crossed King Street.

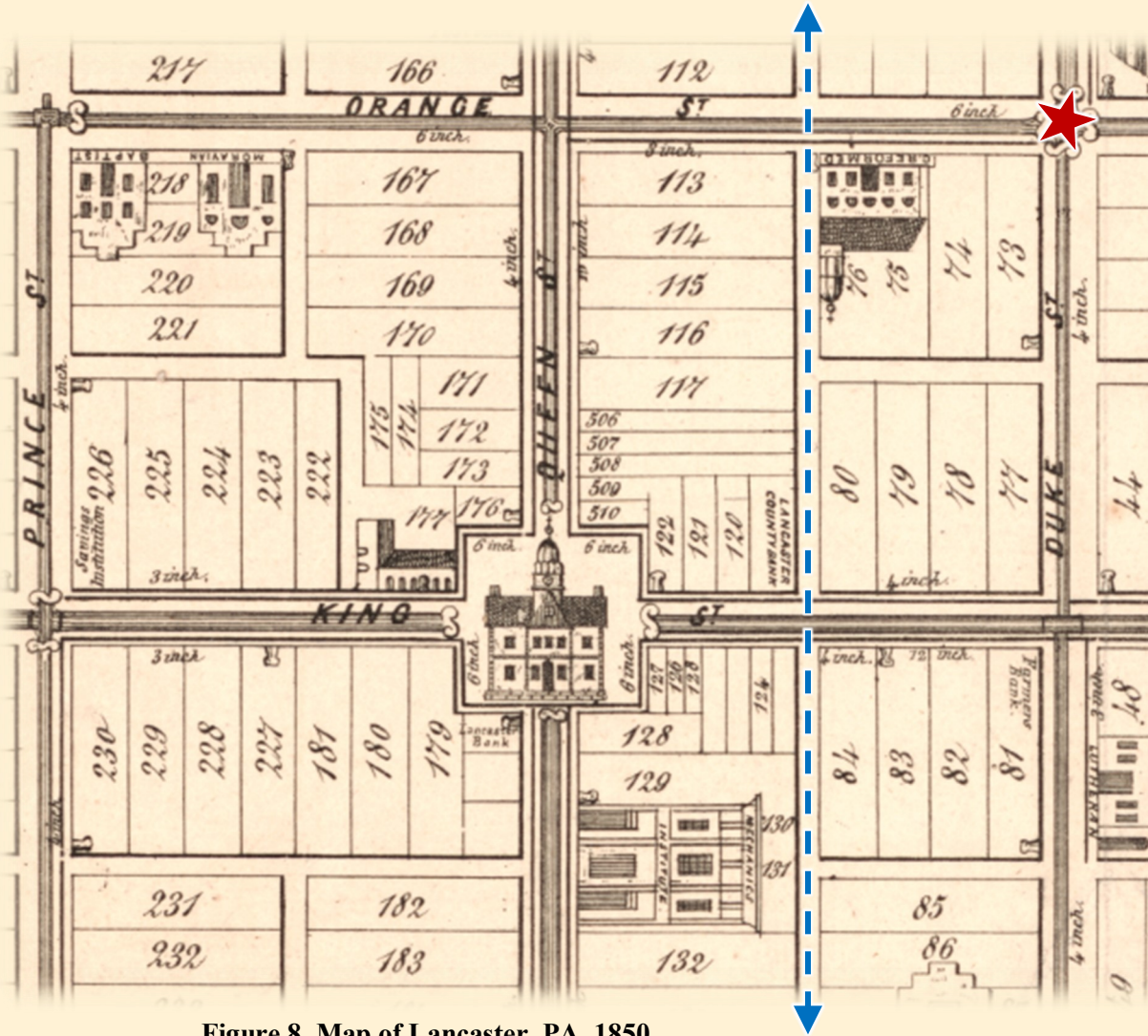


Figure 8. Map of Lancaster, PA, 1850.

Conclusion

Although we do not know who sent the Valentine to Miss Long, we can be sure that she was the daughter of Judge Henry Long of Lancaster in 1856-57. She was noted as 27 years old in the 1870 census and 16 in the 1860 census. **Figure 9.** If Elias Barr, bookseller and stationer, delivered this Valentine in 1855, Miss Kate Long would have been only 12 years old. Call me old-fashioned, but I think that's a bit young for a male admirer that could afford a fancy Valentine. Perhaps it was from one of her relatives?

Does this analysis prove that the stamp belongs on this Valentine, or that Barr brought it to the judge's home? No, but it does provide support for a legitimate use of this rare stamp. I leave it to others to apply a similar approach to other Barr stamps on covers, some of which have been certified by the Philatelic Foundation.

37	315	314	Henry G. Long	55	M	Presid. Judge
38			Catharine ..	16	F	
39			Mary Brokey	25	"	Domestic
30			William Hort	17	M	
31			Mary Long	62	F	
32			Catharine ..	59	"	

Figure 9. Portion of 1860 Federal Census of Henry G. Long family in Lancaster, PA.

★ Star on map indicates corner of Orange and Duke Streets - address of the Valentine cover

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2. Donald S. Patton, "Barr's Penny Dispatch, Lancaster, Pennsylvania," *The Philatelist* (London), Sept., 1959, pp. 355-358.
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4. *The Guardian*, Pearsol & Geist, 1857 (https://www.google.com/books/edition/The_Guardian/z-wWAAAAAYAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=daily+evening+express+lanchester+pa&pg=RA2-PT33&printsec=frontcover)
5. *Plan of Lancaster City; a correct survey of the whole; representing all the streets, lots, roads, lanes, alleys, water courses, extension of water mains & their several calibres, plugs, stop cocks, & beautiful views of the city.*, P.S. Duval & Co., circa 1850 (<https://www.loc.gov/item/77693132/>)



Photo of Catherine H Long mansion, circa 2022
photo by Eric Fonseca, Google Reviews



Photo of Catherine H Long mansion, circa 1920



Duke & Orange Street - Then and Now

afterword by Casey Jo White

In 1889, Judge Henry G. Long died. After his death, his estate required a new house for his daughter to be built at the corner of Duke and Orange Streets - the same address on the Valentine mailed to "Miss Kate Long."

Construction on the Catherine Haldeman Long Mansion was completed around 1891. Catherine Long lived in the mansion until her death. In 1912, the mansion was purchased by the Hamilton Club. Today the building stands as a Historic Preservation Trust Site, and still serves as the headquarters of the Hamilton Club.

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**Figure 1. Used 160L2 with blue pen squiggle cancel.
Philatelic Foundation Cert 350411. (Siegel Powersearch)**

The Other NYC City Dispatch Post – Scott 160L1

by Clifford J. Alexander

Little is known about City Dispatch Post, whose only stamp is listed in the Scott U.S. Specialized Catalog as 160L1. Philatelic scholars have not been able to determine the name of its owner or address of its office. It has been assigned to Boston and New York City, and it has been called a semi-official carrier and a local post.

This article explores statements, questions and conclusions about City Dispatch Post published in the last 150 years by philatelic authors. It follows changes in opinions reflected in different Scott Catalogue listings of the post's stamp from 1874 to today. It describes the five known covers with genuine stamps, two covers with fake stamps, the only recorded pair, and six off cover stamps recorded by the author. In addition, this article provides censuses of the recorded covers and stamps.

Statements in Philatelic Articles and Auction Catalogs

The 2¢ red stamp with a portrait of George Washington is not one of the most attractive carrier or local stamps. **Figure 1** illustrates a used copy of the stamp with a blue manuscript ("MS") squiggle cancel that has been called "the legitimate cancellation on this issue." Early philatelic scholar Charles Coster belittled it as "a very rare local, and, from its extreme ugliness, it is almost to be regretted that it is not still rarer."

Early albums and catalogues did not include the stamp. In 1862, Justin Lallier, a Parisian stamp dealer and bookseller, published the first stamp album to include pages containing both a description of stamps and boxes in which stamps could be affixed. His albums did not include the 2¢ red stamp. Two years later, J.B. Moens published his groundbreaking *Les Timbres-Poste Illustres* ("Postage Stamps Illustrated") without a reference to the 2¢ City Dispatch Post stamp.

Coster in 1877 attributed City Dispatch Post to New York City but could not identify the proprietor or when it was in business. He listed it in Chapter VII of his book, which he called a “chapter of veritable ‘stragglers;’ i. e., of posts which, though accredited to the [New York City] Metropolis, cannot be assigned to any place in the preceding chapters, owing to my inability to ascertain or approximate the years in which they severally existed.”

In a November 1888 article in the *American Journal of Philately* that was part of his series on locals, J. W. Scott listed (with a question mark) the stamp as having been used in “Boston Mass., 1845?” Unfortunately, Scott did not provide a source for his opinion that it was a Boston local post.

Dr. William Mitchell, in *The Standard Reference List of the Private Local Postage Stamps*, published in 1887, ascribed the stamp to “_____ Baldwin” of Boston. In an 1889 *Philatelic Journal of America* article, Dr. Mitchell stated that “There is almost nothing known of this post – recently Mr. J.W. Scott has located it in Boston, but he is still uncertain of the date of origin, he places it at 1845, if not earlier....The portrait is evidently intended of Washington, but no one would be aware of it unless informed. It is, however, one of the most valuable of U.S. locals.”

In *The Postage Stamps of the United States*, published in 1902, John N. Luff stated that City Dispatch Post was part of the New York City carrier service:

Nothing is known of the history of this stamp. The older philatelic publications assign it to Boston and give 1845 as the year of issue. We now know it to belong among the New York carriers’ stamps and to have been the successor of the United States City Despatch post. The stamps are roughly typographed, probably from metal clichés reproduced from a wood cut. Size: 19x24 ½ mm. There are no varieties. The number of stamps in a sheet is not known.

Henry C. Needham did not include City Dispatch Post in his series of articles on U. S. local posts that appeared in the *Philatelic Gazette from 1917 to 1921*.

In its March 15, 1972, “USA 1 Basil” Sale, Robson Lowe Ltd. stated that City Dispatch Post “is believed to have been operated by Edward N. Barry, who purchased the City Despatch Post from Coles in 1851. The Greig plate was so worn by then that it must have been useless. The stamp was probably issued in 1851.”

The history of City Despatch Post (with an “e”) is interesting and has been discussed in various articles and publications. It was established by Henry Thomas Windsor in February 1842 in New York City as a private local post managed by Alexander M. Greig. The post was acquired by the U.S. Post Office Department and operated a post office carrier service, the U.S. City Despatch Post, from August 15, 1842, to November 28, 1864.

Abraham Mead acquired it from the Post Office Department on November 30, 1846, and it again provided intra-city collection and delivery services as a private local post. In late 1847 or early 1848, Mead sold it to Charles Coles, who operated the post until about 1851, when it is believed that Edward N. Barry acquired the Post.

From the Frajola Middendorf Sale #3:

(E.N. BARRY) CITY DESPATCH POST	
<i>LOCAL POST IN NEW YORK CITY. It is believed that Edwin Barry operated the City Despatch Post in the period after Coles abandoned it. The known usages are most likely from 1858. It is, however, possible that there is no connection, other than name, to the preceding City Despatch Posts.</i>	
361 City Despatch Post black oval hs and pencil "2" rate of E.N. Barry on local use cover, illustrated in "100 Years Ago" by Perry, 3 recorded examples.....	Net 1,750.

(E.N. BARRY) CITY DESPATCH POST

LOCAL POST IN NEW YORK CITY. It is believed that Edwin Barry operated the City Despatch Post in the period after Coles abandoned it. The known usages are most likely from 1858. It is, however, possible that there is no connection, other than name, to the preceding City Despatch Posts.

361 **City Despatch Post** black oval hs and pencil "2" rate of E.N. Barry on local use cover, illustrated in "100 Years Ago" by Perry, 3 recorded examples.....Net 1,750.

Scott R. Trepel, President of Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc., (“Siegel”) published a comprehensive study of City Despatch Post postal history that is available on the Siegel website. Trepel notes “The Barry connection has never been proven;” but he presents two pieces of evidence that Barry did in fact acquire the post. One is “the appearance of the yellowish buff 40L8 [stamp on a January 1852 cover],” eighteen months after the last recorded cover with a Cole’s stamp; and the second is a notation on another cover “Paid E. N. Barry.”

Siegel’s Powersearch records eighteen lots of 106L1 covers and stamps it has offered since 1992. A March 17 cover with a genuine stamp tied by a fake red “PAID” handstamp was sold by Siegel in the 2000 Hall sale. The lot description stated,

Although this cover is pictured in the Patton book, and our firm has sold these covers in the past, at the time we prepared the Golden sale we reached the opinion that the four recorded ‘Paid’ covers are fakes. By removing the fake covers from the record, the date of issue is free to be moved to circa 1852 at the end of the Mead-Coles-Barry ownership of the City Despatch Post, a more logical time.



Scott Catalogue Listings

The Scott Specialized *Catalogue* originally listed City Dispatch Post in the local post section, then switched it to the carrier section, and today lists it again as a local post. The different treatments of the 2¢ red stamp by Scott Catalogues reflects confusion due to lack of information and misinformation concerning the post over the last 150 years.

The first Scott Catalogue to include an extensive listing of local stamps was the 24th Edition published in 1874. The 2¢ red stamp was included, but no city of origin was identified. Twenty-five years later, in the 55th Edition published in 1895, Scott moved it out of the local post section of the catalogue and included it in the New York City carrier stamp section.

In the 1940 *Catalogue of United States Stamps Specialized* (18th Ed.), Scott introduced the identification system still used today that assigns one number to each private post and separate numbers to each adhesive issued by the post, separated by the letters "LB" for carriers and the letter "L" for locals. The stamp was given 6LB8 based on the belief that it was a "Successor to the United States City Despatch Post." The seven types of U.S. City Despatch Post stamps issued from 1842 to 1845 were assigned 6LB1-7; and the three U.S. Mail Pre-Paid stamps issued by the NYC Postmaster from 1849-50 were given 6LB9-11.

In 1961, the stamp was moved by Scott from the carrier section of the U.S. Specialized Catalogue back to the local post section and assigned the next available number, 160L1. The carrier section of the Specialized Catalogue merely reported that "The City Despatch 2¢ red formerly listed as 6LB8 is now listed under Local Stamps as No. 160L1." Scott also published a periodical during this time, the *Scott Monthly Journal*, that each year summarized significant changes in the Specialized Catalog. The December 1960 issue had one brief sentence noting that "the New York City Despatch 2¢ red, formerly #6LB8, has been moved to Locals."

Confusion also resulted from Scott Specialized Catalog having listed up to five different cancels for the 2¢ red stamp. In 1937 (15th Edition), the Scott Specialized Catalog listed three cancellations: "Black pen/Blue pencil/Red town." In 1958 (36th Edition), a "PAID" cancellation was added. And three years later, in 1960 (38th Edition), the "Blue pen" cancel was listed. These five continued to be listed in Scott Catalogues until 1971 (49th Edition), when four were dropped and only the "PAID" remained.

Determining the sources of the five cancellations listed in the Scott Specialized Catalogues from 1960 to 1971 is difficult because Scott does not publish the reasons for its decisions. The blue pen squiggle marking is found on three stamps and the Philatelic Foundation has certified it is genuine. It was first listed in the 1960 Catalogue but dropped in 1971 and should be reinstated.

The red arc “PAID” cancel is found on the four covers discussed below that have genuine stamps and were thought to be genuine uses for many years. The covers and stamps are genuine but the “PAID” cancels were added by a forger. The red arc “PAID” cancel is known to have been used for at least ten years in New York City from the late 1830s through the late 1840s and can also be found on New York City Postmaster Provisional covers. It appears a knowledgeable forger used this cancel to tie genuine stamps to each of the four fake covers.

The survey of covers below includes two stamps with pencil cancels, #2 and #3. One or both may have been the basis for the “blue pencil” listing.

Table I
City Dispatch Genuine Stamps on Covers

Description	Patton Ref.	Comments	Most Recent Sale
1. Three even margins, left right and bottom. On March 15 cover with fake “PAID” arc and three red MS line cancels. Figure 2	Fig. 68	Ex Ayer	Siegel Sale 1011 (June 21-24, 2011), Lot 1689
2. Four small margins on March 17 cover with MS cancel, possibly genuine use, not tied. Figure 3	Fig. 58	PFC #52478 declines opinion.	Siegel Sale 817 (Nov 15-17, 1999), Lot A960 (Golden Collection)
3. Four large margins. On October 10, 1846, cover with fake red “PAID” arc cancel. Figure 4	Fig. 57	Ex Earl of Crawford, Caspary, Boker and Golden (Currently in the author’s collection)	Siegel Sale 817 (Nov 15-17, 1999), Lot A959 (Golden Collection)
4. Three large margins, top, left and right. On December 9 cover with fake red “PAID” arc cancel. Figure 5	—	Ex Hall	Siegel Sale 830 (Nov 13-14, 2000), Lot 586 (Hall Collection)
5. Three margins at top, right and bottom. On (date unknown) cover tied by fake red “PAID” arc cancel. Figure 6	Fig. 62	Ex Ham	—

However, none have been certified by the Philatelic Foundation and it is not clear whether these are genuine cancellations. A source for the “Black pen” listing has not been found by the author.

Scott also listed a “Red town” cancellation. Luff reported that two used copies of the 2¢ red stamp have this marking—one with a cancellation dated “March 13, 1846” and the other “Dec. 9.” **Figure 5** (cover No. 4 in Table I) has a December 9 CDS; and **Figure 2** (cover No. 1) has a March 15 CDS, which Luff might have misread as March 15.



Figure 2. Genuine stamp on March 15 cover with three red pen manuscript strokes that tie stamp. (Siegel Powersearch)

Discussion of Known Covers

The following section discusses in more detail the five covers with genuine City Dispatch Post stamps. It also discusses two recorded fakes on covers: one has a Scott fake stamp and the other an unlisted fake stamp.

1. The March 15 cover in Figure 1 to “Rev. Wm. A. Hallock/Secretary of the American Tract Society/144 ____/New York” has a genuine stamp with three red pen or pencil MS strokes and a light red arc “PAID” cancel at the lower right corner.

2. The March 17 cover in **Figure 2** to “Mr. Ross/89 West 22nd Street” is the only one that has a genuine 2¢ red stamp with the genuine blue MS pen squiggle cancellation. It also has a red “New-York 2cts” CDS at the right. This cover was last sold as Lot A960 in the November 1999 Golden Collection auction. The Siegel description states that a “sender’s note ‘Paid’ and small pencil ‘2’ are strong indications that someone other than the sender delivered this to the post office...the PF has previously declined opinion as to usage – possibly genuine and if so, this is the only genuine 160L1 cover – ex Kessel, offered on its own merits.” Philatelic Foundation Certificate No. 52478 declined an opinion, leaving open the possibility it is a genuine use.

3. The October 10 cover in **Figure 3** to “Messrs. _____ [name scratched out] & Co/New York” has a genuine stamp canceled by a fake red arc “PAID” cancel that ties it to the cover and a red “New-York 2 cts” CDS in the right corner. It was in the collections of Lord Crawford, Boker, Caspary and Golden and is discussed in more detail below.



Figure 3. Genuine stamp with genuine MS blue pen squiggle cancel on March 17 cover but not tied. PF Cert. No. 52478 declines opinion. (Siegel Powersearch)



Figure 4. Genuine stamp on October 10 cover with fake red arced “PAID” handstamp. (Siegel Powersearch)

4. The December 9 cover in Figure 4 to “Mr. Joseph W. Cooper/Care of Fellows Van Ardale & Cooper/No 11 Maiden Lane/New York” **Figure 5** has a genuine 2¢ red stamp at the top left tied by the fake red arc “PAID” cancel. A “New-York/2cts” CDS is at the right. As noted in the discussion above and in **Table I**, this cover was sold by Siegel in the Golden sale.

5. An additional cover was reported by Elliott Perry in his *Collector Club Philatelist* article, titled “100 Years Ago.” Perry included an illustration only of the stamp, which is shown in **Figure 6**. Perry’s caption reads “Brownish red single on a cover to which it is tied by a red PAID. Illustrated by courtesy of Conrad St. Ham.” The author has not seen the cover. This might be the fourth genuine stamp from the reported block discussed in the section below.

Figure 7 is an October 25 cover addressed to “Messrs Pense & Erbert/Philadelphia/Pa” with a bogus stamp attributed to J.W. Scott. The cover has a red “New-York 5 cts” CDS and is the only one with an out-of-town address. It was illustrated by Elliott Perry in his article in the U.S. City Despatch Post.

Figure 8 is a se-tenant pair of an unlisted forgery type on a letter that was cut to the size of an envelope. The stamps are tied by two obviously fake small “NEW YORK” red circle cancels and has a large bold “PAID” handstamp. The letter appears to have been carried privately to New York. It is endorsed at the top “p St Hermann” and addressed to “Messrs. Unkart & Co / New York.” Edward Unkart is listed in the 1855-56 New York City Directory as an importer in Brooklyn. The steamship *Hermann* was operated by the Ocean Line between New York and Bremen between 1848 and 1857.



Figure 5. Genuine stamp on December 9 cover with fake red arced “PAID” handstamp. (Siegel Powersearch)



Figure 62

Figure 6.
Illustration of stamp reported on cover (not shown) with unknown date reportedly tied by red "PAID" handstamp. (Elliott Perry. "100 Years Ago," *Collectors Club Philatelist*, Figure 62, at p. 225



Figure 7. October 25 cover with stamp forgery attributed to S. Alan Taylor. (Elliott Perry. "100 Years Ago," Reprint, at p. 55.



Figure 8. Fake se-tenant pair on cover with fake "NEW YORK" small red circle cancels. (Author's collection)

The Four Covers Tied by “PAID” Handstamps

A major source of the confusion concerning the 2¢ red stamp resulted from the appearance around 1900 of four covers with genuine stamps tied by a red arc “PAID” handstamp. In his series of articles on carriers and local posts published in 1949 in *The Collectors Club Philatelist*, Elliott Perry had the following comments on the stamp and fake covers:

The stamps are readily divided into two groups. Some copies are fairly bright red on white paper which is only slightly yellowish. Other copies appear duller and browner and the paper is less white, as if, perhaps, they were from a small block or lot to which had been in a damp place and became mildewed. Some of these dull brownish copies have been affixed to covers and “tied” with a handstamped PAID which, in a manner of speaking, is no relation of Caesar’s wife.

That is to say, with intent to make these City Despatch Post 2 cents stamps appear to be United States carrier stamps, they were affixed to covers which had been mailed and postmarked long before, and particularly to covers which showed the “NEW-YORK – 2 cts” drop letter marking because that handstamp was supposed to show delivery by United States letter carriers.

The author has seen three of the four covers, which are listed in Table 1 as numbers 1, 3 and 4. The three have a “New-York 2cts” CDS. At one time this was thought to be a carrier handstamp but it is now known that the NYC post office applied it to drop letters and printed circulars. The 2¢ drop rate reflected by the CDS on those covers was in effect from July 1, 1845, to June 30, 1851. Two of these have internal 1846 dates. Two have street addresses, which does typically indicate carrier delivery in NYC.

The history of the October 10, 1846, cover with an arc “PAID” cancel is interesting because of its provenance. This cover was first illustrated in the 1907 book *Postage Stamps and Their Collection* by Warren H. Colson. It was shown on a page titled “New York” from the Lord Crawford collection that included the following handwritten write-up:

On the 3rd March 1845 Congress by Act changed the rate for drop letters from 3¢ to 2 cents and carriers were allowed to charge the same amount. The stamps of the United States City Despatch Post were for a time used with a large figure 2 overprinted, and the word three in the lower level label blurred out. A copy of the original subtype is in the [name unclear] collection. A new stamp was made roughly printed on white wove paper from metal casts probably from a wood cut block. Nothing is known as to its author or size of the sheet.”

This cover also was in the Alfred Caspary collection. A photograph of the Caspary collection page from the library of The Collectors Club of New York has the following description: “Stamp genuine. Cancellation ‘PAID’ forged.” We do not know whether this note was written by Caspary or another person years later. The cover was sold in the March 19, 1957, Caspary sale by H.R. Harmer (Lot 433).

In 1999, Siegel offered the cover as Lot A959 in the Golden sale (No. 817), and acknowledged that, although it had offered some of the covers in the past as genuine, “we are now of the opinion that the four recorded ‘Paid’ covers are fakes.”

To test the statement that someone cut up a block of four and used them to create the four covers, I compared the illustrations available for the three stamps on fake covers to determine whether their margins are the same width. The quality of the illustrations is not good, and comparison of the actual covers might be necessary for a definitive conclusion. However, I was not able to verify from the horizontal and vertical margins of the three that any were originally joined in a block of four.

Census of Recorded Genuine 2¢ City Dispatch Post Off-Cover Stamps

The stamp is typically described as “rare” or “scarce.” Perry illustrated one pair, five singles and three genuine stamps on covers. In the May 2003 DK Collection auction catalog, Siegel states that “We estimate that 15-20 examples of 160L1 exist.” The author has been able to record one genuine pair and six genuine single stamps. The Philatelic Foundation has issued certificates for the pair, one uncanceled single, one used example with a pencil cancel and two used examples with blue pen squiggle cancels.

The following table describes in more detail the genuine stamps off cover recorded by the author.

Figure 9.
Unique uncanceled vertical pair.
(Siegel Powersearch)



Figure 10.
Uncanceled with crease
and some soiling.
(Siegel Powersearch)



Figure 11.
Uncanceled four margin
copy with nick at top left
and horizontal crease.
(Siegel Powersearch)

Table II
Off-Cover Genuine Stamps

Description	Patton Ref.	Comments	Most Recent Sale
1. Uncanceled vertical pair. Figure 9	Fig. 59	PFC #350467. Only known pair. Ex Caspary, Lilly, Middendorf Golden and "DK" Collection"	Siegel Sale No. 862 (May 31, 2003), Lot 68 (DK Collection)
2. Uncanceled but crease and some soiling. Two 1 mm margins at right and bottom. Figure 10	Fig. 69	PFC #10881. Ex Golding	Siegel Sale 745 (Oct 3, 1992), Lot 265 (1992 Rarities)
3. Uncancelled. Four margins with nick at top left and significant horizontal crease. Figure 11	Not in Patton –		Siegel Sale #958 (June 7, 2008), Lot 749 (2008 Rarities)
4. Four margins, light pencil mark and part of adjoining stamp below. Figure 12	Fig. 60	Possibly the "finest" copy (Siegel). Ex Bow-ers, Caspary, Baker and Golden	Siegel Sale (No. 817 (Nov. 15-17, 2009), Lot A956 (Golden Collection)
5. Light pencil mark, large top and right margins and part of adjoining stamp at right. Figure 13	Fig. 63	PFC #350472 Illustrated in Patton. Ex Hollobush and Golden	Siegel Sale No. 1010 (June 18, 2011) Lot 144 (2011 Rarities)
6. Canceled by blue MS pen squiggle, with faint corner crease and small pinhole. Three margins adjoining stamp margin at bottom. Figure 1	Fig. 61	PFC #350411. Ex Rumsey (Apr 26-29, Caspary, Midden-dorf and Golden (currently in au-thor's collection)	2001) Lot 4003
7. Canceled by blue MS pen squiggle. Four even margins with a small corner crease top left. Figure 14	Fig. 64	Ex Hall.	Siegel Sale 830 (Nov 13-14, 2000), Lot 585 (Hall Sale)

Conclusions

Over the last 40 years, philatelic writers have offered various explanations for the City Dispatch Post and its 2¢ red stamp. Interestingly, writers have consistently assumed that the Post was a legitimate semi-official carrier or local post. The following are summaries and comments on different explanations.

1. ***Bogus Post and Stamp.*** It is unlikely that the 2¢ red is a bogus stamp and the post did not exist. None of the early authors considered it suspect. Charles Coster was a serious student of carriers and locals who did not question its genuineness. Coster was not reluctant to question the legitimacy of other stamps sold by dealers. Although we cannot rule out the possibility of this being a bogus stamp, Coster's treatment of the stamp as being genuine, together with the similar treatment by other early students of carriers and locals, is highly persuasive.
2. ***NYC Carrier.*** Some philatelic writers believed that the carrier department in New York issued the stamp after the U.S. City Dispatch Post ceased operation late November 1846. This was primarily because at least three covers have a "New-York 2cts" CDS that was thought to be a carrier handstamp. We know the NYC post office applied this marking to drop letters and printed circulars and it was not a carrier marking.

The current consensus is that the 2¢ red stamps are not genuinely used on the four drop letters. As noted above, this was the view of Elliott Perry, who believed that a block of four might have been broken up, affixed to local drop letters from the 1845 to 1851 period and tied by fake red arc "PAID" cancels.
3. ***Boston Local Post or Carrier.*** As noted above, the earliest belief was that a Mr. "Baldwin" operated a private local post with that name in the city of Boston in 1845. There is no evidence that the stamp was issued by Boston local post or Boston semi-official carriers.
4. ***NYC Local Post.*** This leaves us with the conclusion that City Dispatch Post likely was a private local post that operated in 1852 or later in New York City. As noted above, Robson Lowe believed it was possible the proprietor was Edward N. Barry. However, this does not explain why the name on the stamp is "Dispatch," instead of "Despatch." It is more likely that another person, whose name is not yet known, operated the post.

There is more to learn about City Dispatch Post. The author is interested in hearing from readers who have additional information. If you do have examples of additional covers or stamps, information on the Post, questions or comments, feel free to contact me at chairman@pennypost.org.

I would like to thank Ron Cipolla and John Bowman for their comments and suggestions. I would like to thank Alicia Leathers and the staff of the American Philatelic Research Library for their assistance with research for this and many of my other articles. I also would like to thank Richard Morel, Curator of the British Library for confirming that the Tapling Collection does not have an example of the City Dispatch Post stamp.



Figure 12.
Four margins with light pencil mark and part of adjoining stamp Siegel describes his as possibly the “finest” copy. (Siegel Powersearch)



Figure 13.
Light pencil mark with part of adjoining stamp at right. (Siegel Powersearch)



Figure 15.
Canceled by MS blue pen squiggle, with a small corner crease at top left. (Siegel Powersearch)

References

1. Charles H. Coster, *The United States Locals and Their History* (1877) at p. 46, which republished a series of articles that appeared in the *American Journal of Philately* from 1874 to 1875.
2. Roberts A. Siegel Auction Galleries Inc. (“Siegel”) Sale 830, “The Hall Collection of Carriers, Locals & Western Expresses, Lot 585 (November 13, 2000).
3. J.B. Moens, *Les Timbres-Poste Illustre*, (1864), at p. 111.
4. Coster, at p.46.
5. J.W. Scott, *A History of Postage Stamps Being a Revised List of the Postage Stamps and Stamped Envelopes of All Nations*, *American Journal of Philately* (Nov. 1887), at p. 378.
6. Dr. William Mitchell, *The Standard Reference List of the Private Local Postage Stamps*, (1887), at p. xvi.
7. William H. Mitchell, D.D.S., “History of the Local, or Private Post-Offices in the United States of America, and of American Companies Operating in foreign Countries,” *Philatelic Journal of America*, Vol.5 (1889), p. 19 at p.23.
8. John N. Luff, *The Postage Stamps of the United States*, (1902), at p. 179.
9. Elliott Perry, “100 years Ago”, *The Collectors Club Philatelist*, Vol. XXVIII, Nos. 1-3 (1949).
10. Scott R. Trepel, *The City Despatch Post 1842-1852 Issues*, (Siegel 2003), at pp. 9 and 13.
11. Siegel Sale 830, “The Hall Collection of Carriers, Locals & Western Expresses, Lot 586 (November 13, 2000).
12. Walter Hubbard and Richard F. Winter, *North Atlantic Mail Sailings 1840-1875.*” (U.S.P.C.S. 1988), Chapter 2.
13. See Elliott Perry Article, Endnote 10, at p. 223-226.
14. Warren H. Colson, *Postage Stamps and Their Collection*, (1907), at front of book.
15. Calvet Hahn’s carriers and local post files in the Collectors Club of New York Library includes a poor photocopy of what appears to be a page from an unidentified collection that contains illustrations of a stamp and cover No. 1 in Table I. Because it is not clear whether the single stamp on the page is a genuine copy and the margins are not discernible, the image has not been included in the census.

Two Scott Forgery Varieties of the Gahagan & Howe Type III Stamp

by John D. Bowman

Gahagan & Howe City Express (G. & H.) succeeded the San Francisco Letter Express when Dennis Gahagan and C.E.B. Howe acquired the operation from John C. Robinson. It was essentially the same post since some adhesives of G & H are canceled with a large oval "San Francisco Letter Express" with pony rider in the central portion. The post was sold in 1865 to William Loomis, who later purchased G.A. Carnes' City Letter Express.

The *Scott Specialized Catalogue* lists four stamps for G & H, three of which were subject to forgeries by J.W. Scott (numbers 70L1-70L3). S. Allan Taylor produced forgeries in several colors of 70L3. The originals and forgeries are described in *Larry Lyons' Identifier*, Volume II.



Figure 1 (200%). Original 70L3 and J.W. Scott forgery as noted in Lyons' *Identifier*. The "C" and upright of "I" of "CITY" are both broken at the top.

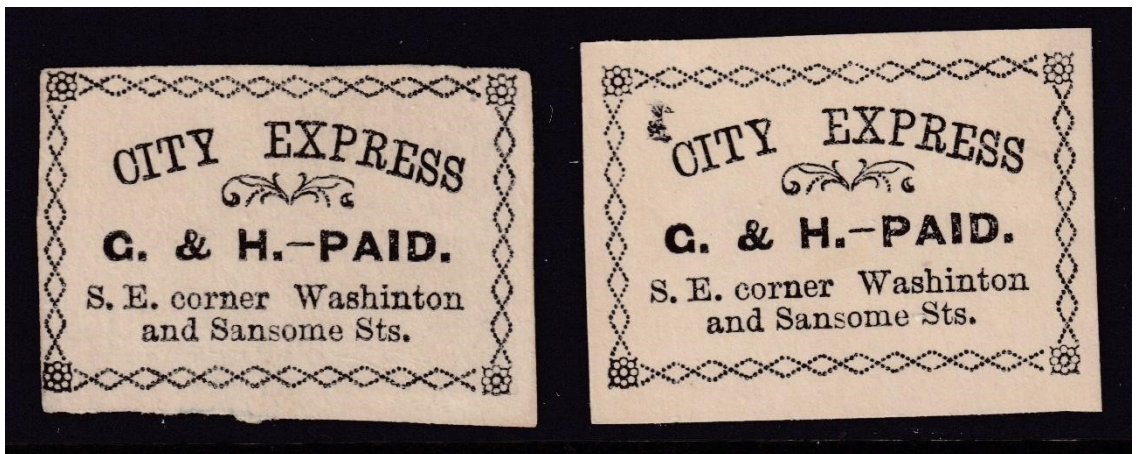


Figure 2 (200%). Additional Scott forgery varieties. The "C" and "I" of "CITY" are not broken. Two types have been seen: with and without a colored flaw northwest of the "C" of "CITY."

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

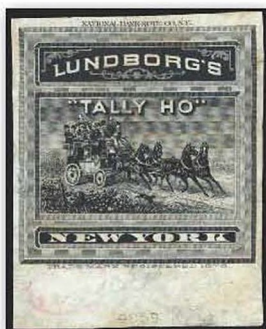
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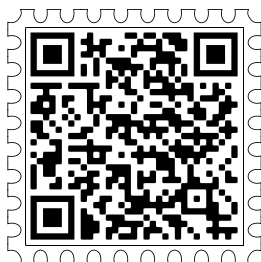
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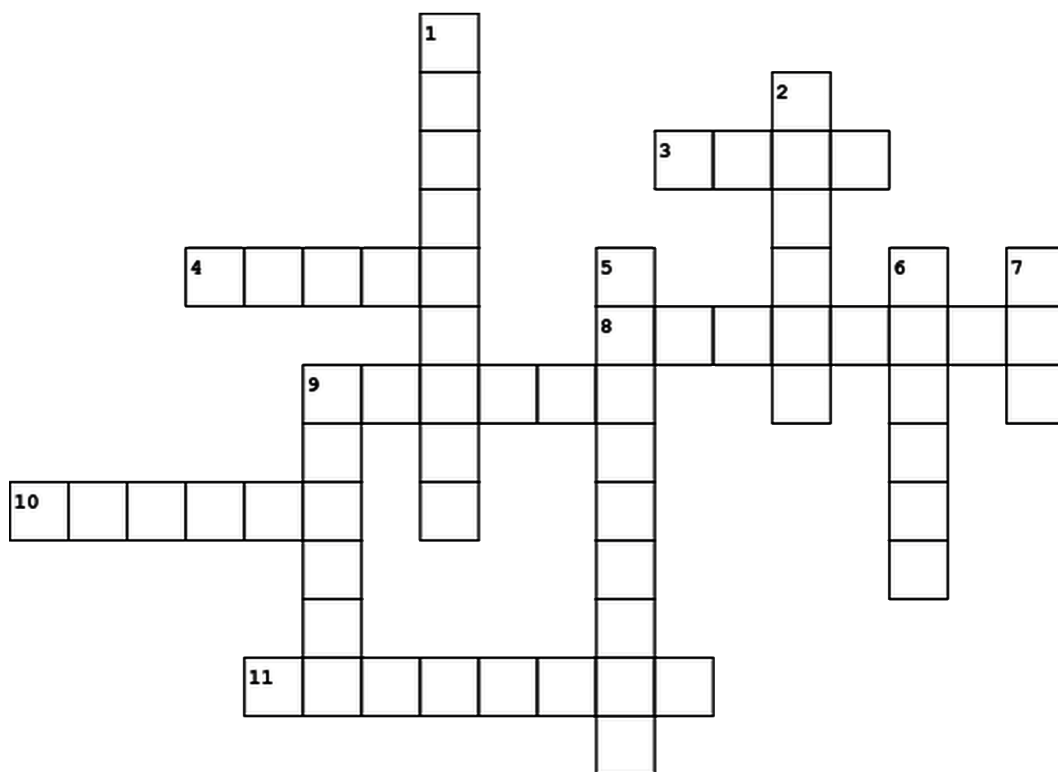
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The Penny Post Crossword - January 2023



ACROSS

3. the City Dispatch Post cancelled stamps with a _____ handstamp
4. occupation of Henry Long, the father of the Valentine's recipient
8. the City Despatch Post stamp was the first _____ stamp used in the US
9. last name of author of the book Postage Stamps and Their Collection
10. last name of man who purchased the Gahagan & Howe City Express in 1865
11. auction house that sold the Steven M. Roth collection of carrier mail

DOWN

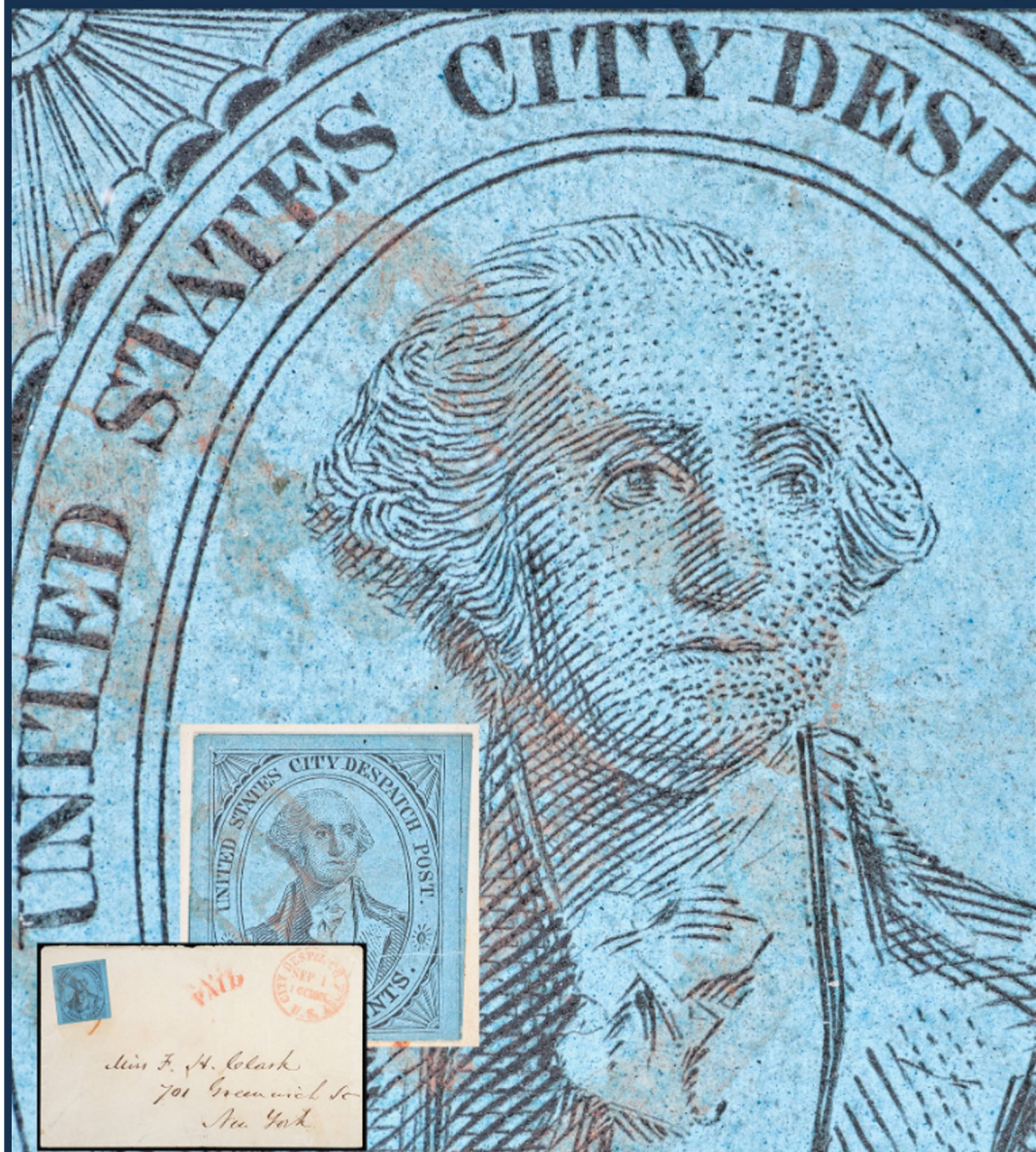
1. a Wells Fargo & Co Pony Express stamp with this variation is on sale in the upcoming CALS auction
2. auction house that sold the Valentine featured on this issue's cover
5. city where Barr's City Dispatch delivered mail
6. last name of well-known stamp dealer and CALS member who passed away last year
7. This color of Barr's stamp are the scarcer and more valuable
9. last name of notable philatelist who treated the City Disptach Post stamps as genuine

All answers can be found within this issue of *The Penny Post*.

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