

Honour's City Express Post

Purpose – To show all of the adhesives issued by John Henry Honour for the Charleston Carrier Department and present the determined order of issue based on the exhibitor's study.

Treatment – The six stamp designs will be presented in the order in which they are *Catalogue* listed.

Study and Personal Research – The exhibitor's original research will show the period of use of each of the adhesives, the number of recorded examples of each and the typesetting errors that occurred. The census data can be found online in *The Penny Post*, October 2007, Vol. 15, No. 4.

Rarity – Twenty of the items exhibited are the only recorded examples and 31 are known in a quantity of three or less.

- An example of a Charleston carrier adhesive on an incoming letter requesting carrier delivery.
- The two known examples of a Charleston carrier adhesive on a letter to a foreign destination.
- Borders signify importance. “*” will indicate exhibitor's original research.

History – The Charleston S.C. carrier department was first announced in a May 8, 1849 advertisement in the city newspaper, the *Charleston Mercury*. The appointed superintendent of the carrier department was Dr. John H. Honour. A two-cent carrier fee applied to all categories of letters in Charleston, including service to the mail as well as from the mail service. A letter to a local resident could also be prepaid by the correspondent outside the city using a carrier adhesive.

Importance – This was an important and successful attempt by the government to control the local delivery of mail in Charleston.

First Stamp Design

Four recorded singles.

This is the only recorded example of the black/pink adhesive



Only recorded example of a black on rose brown adhesive



**Black
on
rose
adhesive**

**Black on rose adhesive on a cover dated August 16, 1849 to New York.
Three covers are recorded with this color adhesive. PF**

First Design, Three Colors
Black on Rose, Black on Yellow,
Black on Bluish Gray

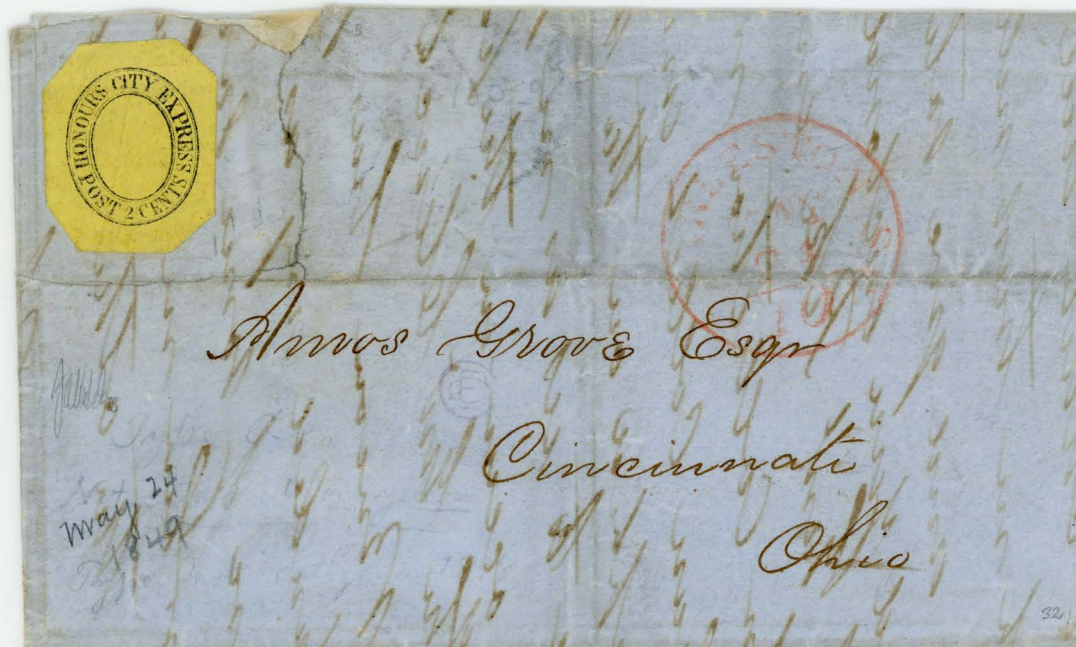
Use: May 24, 1849 – June 26, 1850*

Honour's City Express Post

Carrier Service to the Post Office

Black
on
yellow

Earliest
example
of First
Design*



Black on yellow adhesive on a cover dated May 24, 1849 to Cincinnati.
Three covers are recorded with this color adhesive. PF

The Unique Black on Bluish Gray Adhesive
Local Carrier Delivery of an Incoming Letter



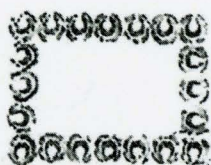
The newly discovered and newly listed unique example of the first design on bluish gray paper. The folded letter is dated August 11, 1849, and was received from Granitville, S.C. The manuscript "5" indicates the postage due. This is an incoming letter with an Honour's adhesive for carrier delivery of which three examples are recorded.* PF

Honour's City Post

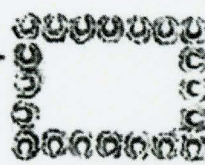


Position 2

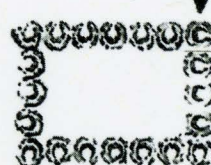
Four Positions
have been
identified by
the exhibitor



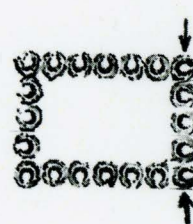
Position 1



Position 2

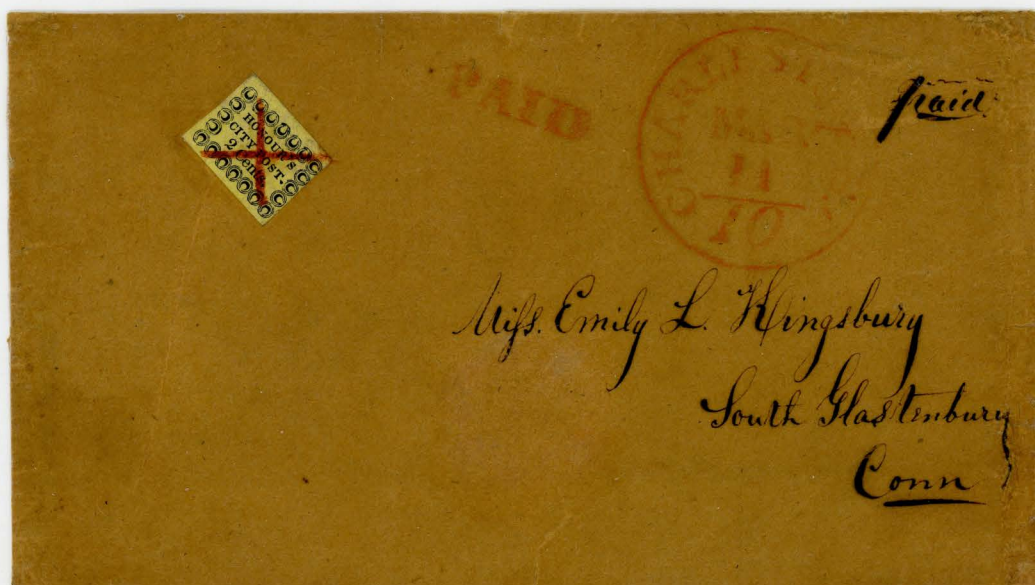


Position 3



Position 4

Carrier Service to the Post Office



This is
Position 3

Black on yellow adhesive on a cover dated March 11, (1850) to South Glastenbury, Connecticut. The 10¢ U.S. postage rate was in effect until July 1, 1851. **Twelve covers are recorded with this color adhesive.** PF



This is
Position 4

Black on yellow adhesive on a cover dated March 20, (1850) to Castleton, Vermont. **Twelve covers are recorded with the yellow third design adhesive. This is the only recorded example from Position 4.*** PF

Third Design – Two Colors
Black on Bluish Pelure

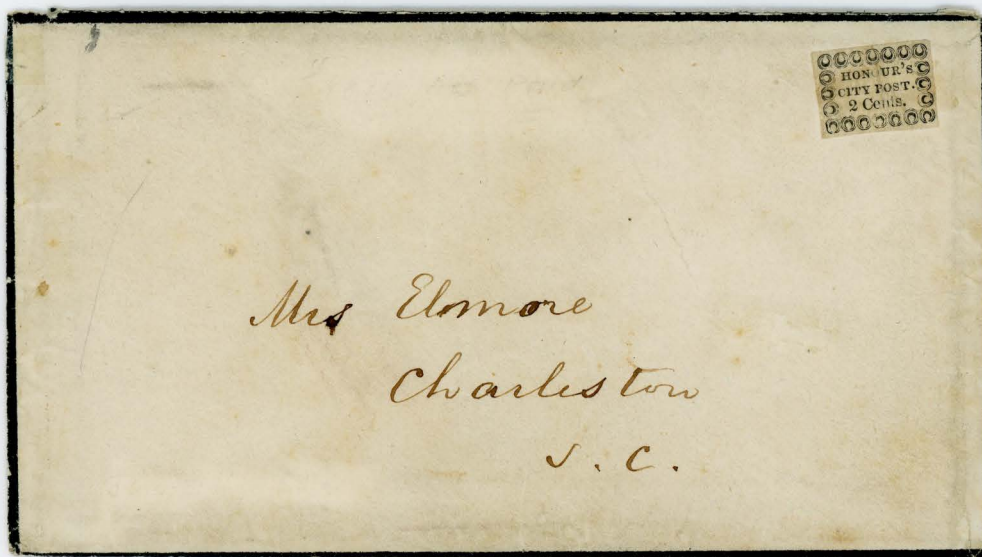
Use: June 2, 1850 – February 9, 1852*

Honour's City Post

Local Delivery by Carrier

Earliest
example of
Third Design*

This is
Position 1.

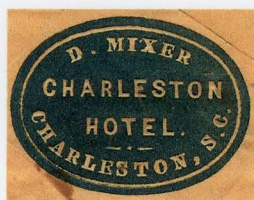


Mourning cover with contents dated June 2, 1850. Ten covers are recorded with this color adhesive. Two locally delivered covers are recorded with this color adhesive. PF

Carrier Service to the Post Office with Postage Paid by the Sender

Latest example of
Third Design*

This is Position 1



Backflap



A Black on bluish pelure adhesive on a cover dated February 9, 1852 to New York .
The 3¢ U.S. postage was paid by the Type II brownish carmine 1851 issue. Sent from the Charleston Hotel.
Ten covers recorded with this color adhesive. PF

Honour's City Post

Black on Bluish Pelure Paper

The "Ceuts." Error
Position 1



Ceuts.

The "Ceuts." Error.

This error is only found on the black on bluish pelure adhesive.

The error was corrected in 1852.

The only recorded example. PSE, PF

Black on Yellow Paper



Cents.
Position 1

The "Cents." Error.

This error is only found on the black on yellow adhesive.

The only recorded example. PF

Fourth Design – Four colors
Black on White Paper
Black on Bluish Paper

Use: January 1850 – May 1854*
Period after Paid. December 17, 1850 – April 28, 1851*

Paid, Honour's City Post

Primary listing, with Comma After Paid

White Wove Paper

Black on white wove This is position 4 of 12 recorded positions of the adhesive with a comma after "Paid.". This cover was brought to the post office for local pick-up. The handstamp is the one cent drop rate. PF
Only recorded example on white wove paper.*
(Unlisted).



Bluish Paper Period after Paid.

Black on bluish adhesive on cover dated January 3, (1851) to Pittsfield, Massachusetts. The 10¢ U.S. postage rate was in effect until July 1, 1851. There is a period after "Paid." PF



Bluish Paper Comma after Paid,

Cover dated July 12 and docketed July 16, 1852, rerouted to Beaufort, S.C. This is position 3 of the 12 recorded positions of the adhesive with a comma after "Paid,"



Fourth Design
Black on Bluish Wove

Use: December 17, 1850 – May 2, 1854*

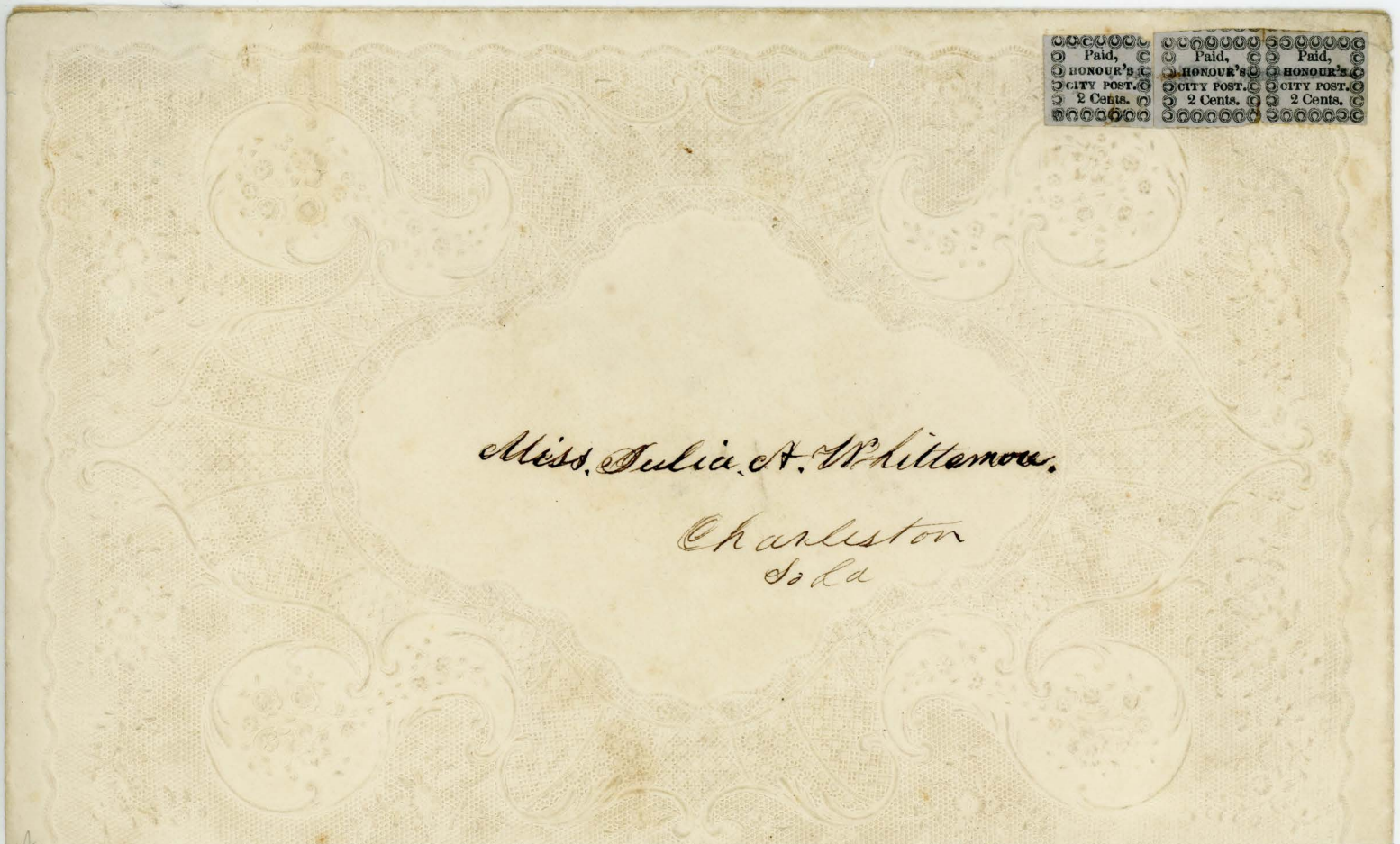
Paid, Honour's City Post

Unique Use of a Fourth Design Carrier Stamp to a Foreign Destination



Folded letter dated
June 15, 1851 to
London. **Only two
Charleston carrier
covers of any design
are recorded to a
foreign destination.***
The other is a fifth
design adhesive. PF

A Triple Rate Locally Delivered Valentine



A pair and a single of the Fourth Design carrier stamp paying a six cent triple rate to locally deliver an oversize valentine to a Charleston lady. **Three recorded examples of a multiple Honour's adhesive.*** PF

Fourth Design
Black on Bluish Green Pelure*

Use Period: Unknown, 1851?
Unlisted on cover

Paid, Honour's City Post



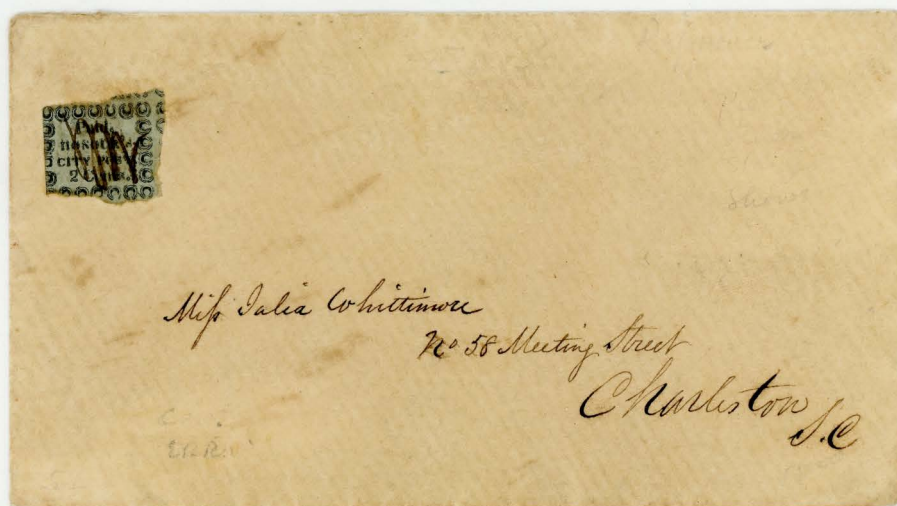
Position 3



Position 3

Two single off cover examples on bluish pelure paper are recorded.* **This is the only recorded used example.** The adhesives on pelure have a major listing in the *Catalogue*.

Local Delivery By Carrier



Fourth Design, Position 3 on a locally delivered cover. **Two examples of the black on bluish green pelure paper adhesive on cover are recorded.*** PF, PSE

Carrier Service to the Post Office

This is
Position 3



Fourth Design, Position 3 on a valentine dated February 17, ca. 1851 to Camden, S.C. with the five cents postage due. **Two examples of the black on bluish green pelure paper adhesive on cover are recorded.*** PF

Paid, Honour's City Post
The Pink Paper Adhesives – Two Types*

Carrier Service to the Post Office

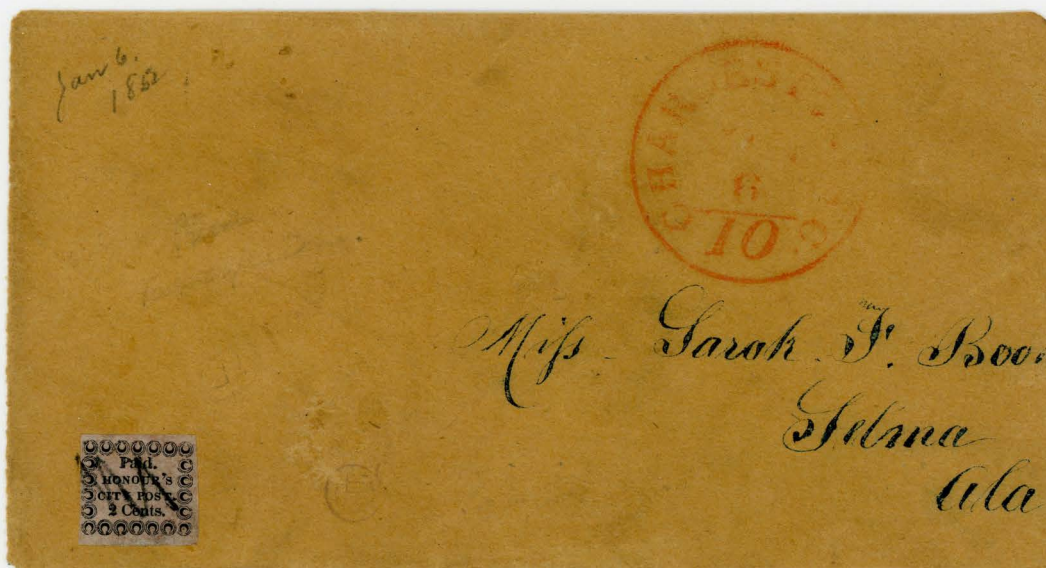
Type I – Comma After Paid,



Comma after
"Paid,"

Letter dated October 4, probably 1852 from Charleston to Bristol, Rhode Island. Taken to the post office by Honour's City Post for 2 cents. The 3¢ U.S. postage was paid by the brownish carmine 1851 issue. This rate was effective July 1, 1851. **The only recorded example. PF**

Type II – Period After Paid



Period
after "Paid."

January 6, 1852 cover from Charleston to Selma, Alabama. The 10¢ rate effective July 1, 1845 was for mail going over 300 miles, per ½ oz. **The only recorded example. PF**

Paid, Honour's City Post

The “Cens” Error



From
Position 2



“Cens” error
Period after
“Post” dropped PF

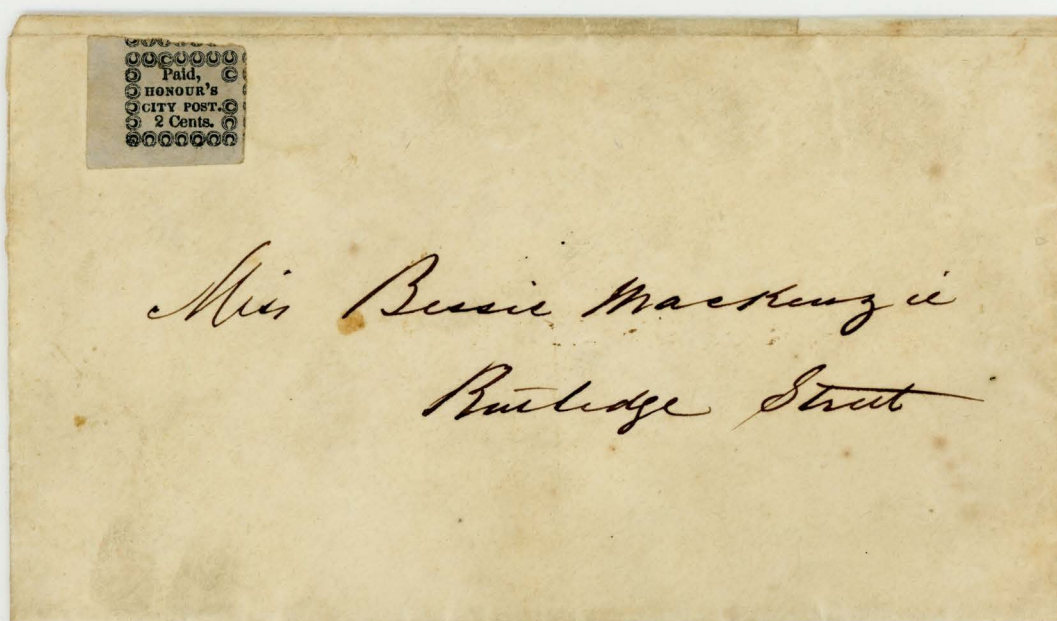
“Cens” error
“Post” dropped down
period after “Post” dropped PF

The Unique “Conour’s and Bents” Error



On a cover front dated May 25, 1851. The spelling errors were soon corrected. PF

The Unique “Missing Ornament” Error



Local Delivery by Carrier

This is Position 9.
The missing ornament should face to the right. This valentine is internally dated February 14, 1851. PF
The missing ornament was probably quickly replaced. **This error is unlisted.**

The “Cens” Error

**Carrier Service to
the Post Office with
the 1851 Issue**

Position 2
All “cens” stamps are
from this position



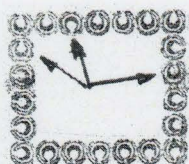
Fourth Design
Black on Bluish Wove

Use: December 17, 1850 – May 2, 1854*
Late Use: – December 7, 1858*

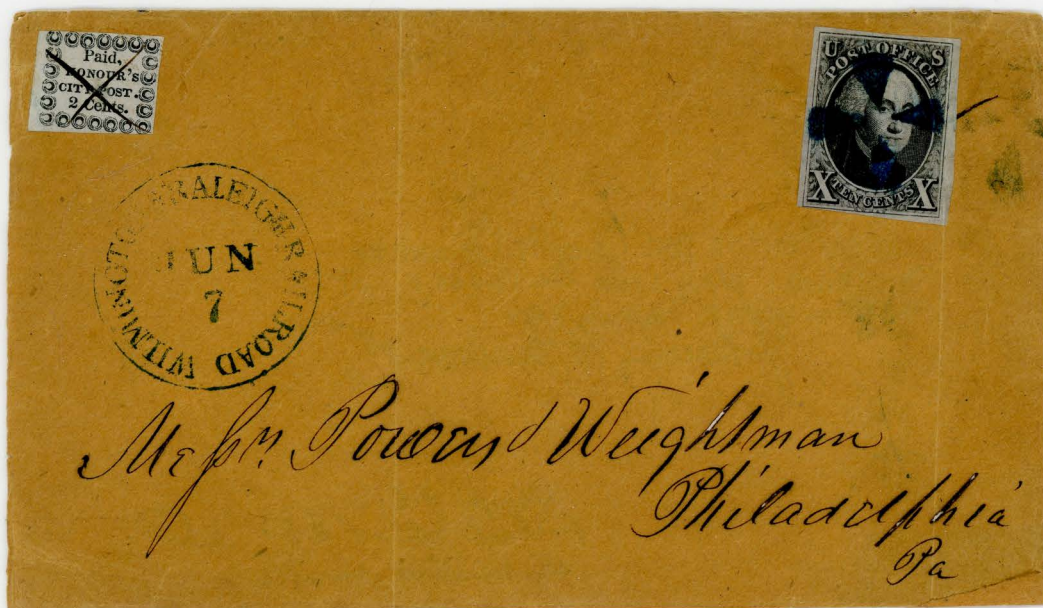
Paid, Honour's City Post

Carrier Service to the Post Office with the 1847 Issue

Comma after Paid,



Position 8



Letter dated June 7 (1851) to Philadelphia. The only recorded 10¢ 1847 stamp in combination with the fourth design carrier adhesive. PF

Carrier Service to the Post Office with the 1857 Issue

A very late use of a fourth design Honour's adhesive on a cover dated December 7, 1858. The addressee is the same as the advertising cover at the bottom of the preceding page. The only fourth design adhesive in combination with the 1857 issue. PF



Paid,
HONOUR'S
CITY POST.
2 Cents.

Comma After
Paid,

Honour's Penny Post



The exhibitor believes the Fifth Design stamps on pelure paper were issued earlier than the Fifth Design stamps on bluish paper. * Four recorded examples, all off cover. PF

Carrier Service to the Post Office

Folded letter dated April 15, 1853 to Statesburg, S.C. with the Fifth Design carrier stamp and the postage paid by the three cent orange brown 1851 stamp. **Only example recorded with the orange brown stamp.** * PF



Unique use of a Fifth Design carrier stamp to a Foreign Destination

Cover dated March 19, 1856 to a naval surgeon at Garrison Barracks, Cork, Ireland, Transatlantic Postage unpaid, sent by packet *Arabia*, with the rare AMERICAN MAIL arched handstamp of Dublin. Manuscript notation "Not Known at Corks Barrack Try Queenstown." Honour's stamp with manuscript "2". **The only Charleston carrier cover to a foreign destination with the Fifth Design adhesive.** CERT



Honour's Penny Post



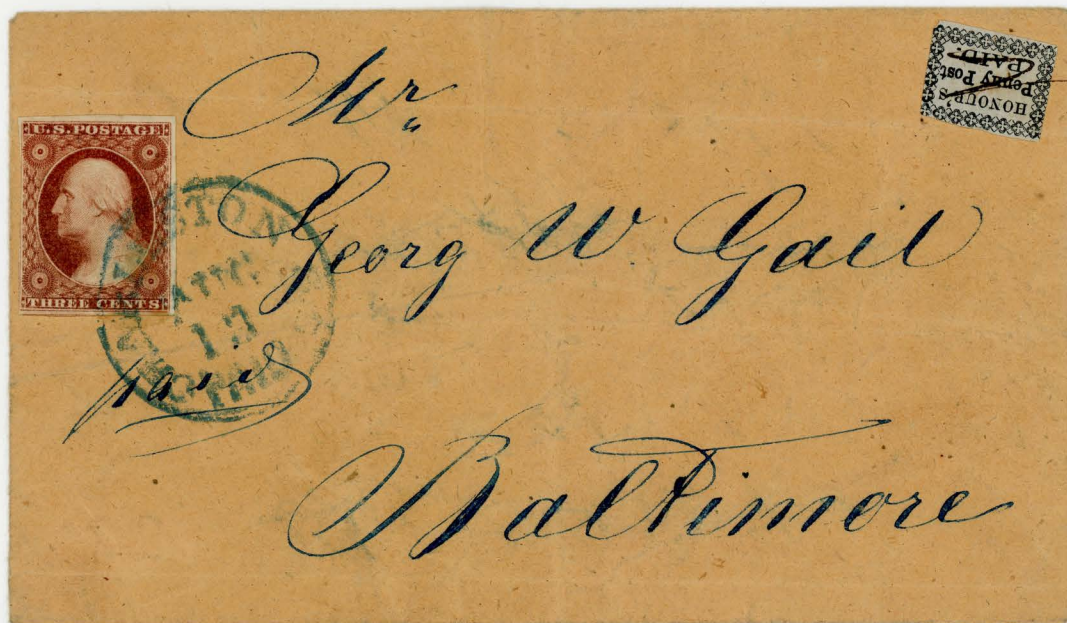
Local Use

Local cover to Hampstead in North Charleston. The carrier fee was "paid to Bellinger."

Three recorded local covers with the "Penny Post" design. PF

To The Mails

Black on bluish adhesive on cover dated August 13, (1855) to Baltimore. The 3¢ U.S. postage paid by the rose red 1851 issue. **Eighteen recorded Fifth Design covers. PF**



On Postal Stationery

Cover dated September 7, 1855 to Savannah with the Sixth Design Honour's Penny Post adhesive paying the two cents carrier rate, ms "2", to the post office and the three cent postal stationery paying the postage. **Two recorded examples on postal stationery.*PF**



Second Design – One Color
Black on Bluish Gray

Use: April 2, 1854 – December 4, 1854*

(Honour's) City Post

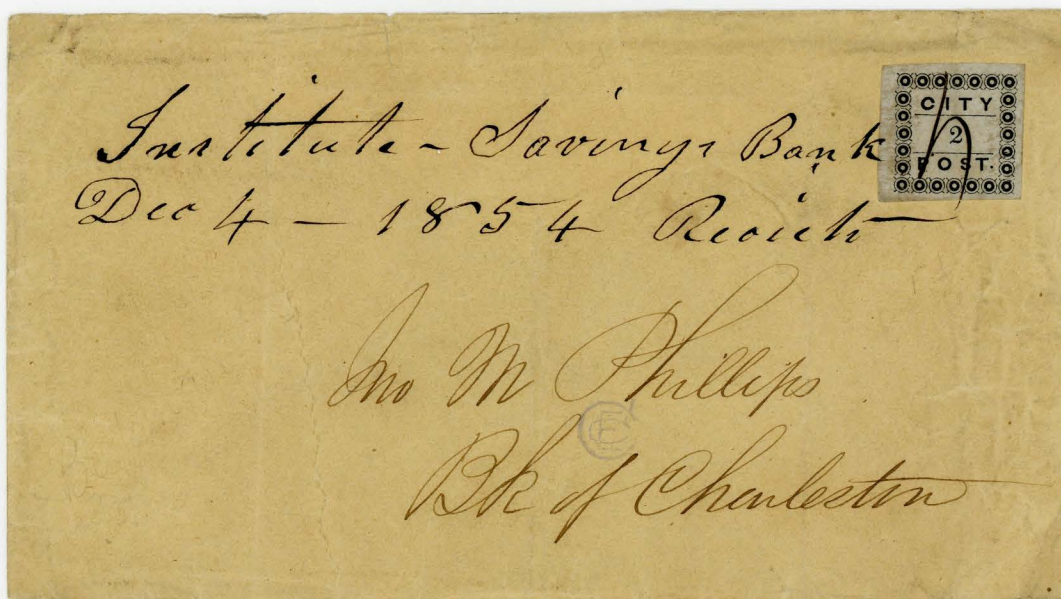
The only recorded unused single*

Three used single examples are recorded.



One of three recorded used singles*

Local Delivery by Carrier



Latest example of Second Design*

One of **two recorded local covers** with the second design adhesive.
This cover is docketed December 4, 1854. PF

Carrier Service to the Post Office



Manuscript "H"

December 2, 1854 cover to Aiken, S.C. The 3¢ U.S. postage is paid by the dull red 1851 issue.

The ms "H" cancel represents John H. Honour. PF

Eleven covers are recorded with the Honour's second design adhesive.

Honour's City Post, PAID



The Basic Design
Period after "POST."
Period after "PAID." PF



The only recorded multiple of the sixth design. Both stamps are the basic design. The right stamp has the initials of John Henry Honour. PF



First Deviation (Type a)
Period after "POST."
Comma after "PAID,"
Three examples recorded, all are off cover. PF

This stamp was probably printed in a pane of 10 (2x5). Two of the positions had major punctuation deviations. These have subcategories in the *Catalogue*.



Second Deviation (Type b)
No period after "POST"
Period after "PAID."
Only recorded example. PF

Carrier Service to the Post Office



Cover dated May 19, 1858 to Maysville, S.C. with the sixth design Honour's City Post adhesive paying the two cent carrier rate to the post office (ms "2") and the three cent dull red 1857 U.S. Issue paying the postage. **Twelve recorded examples.** PF

Sixth Design – One Color
Black on Bluish Wove

Use: June 1857* – November 1858*

Honour's City Post, PAID.

Carrier Service to the Mails on Postal Stationery

Cover dated April 16, 1858 to Sumpterville, S.C. with the Sixth Design Honour's City Post adhesive paying the two cent carrier rate to the post office and the three cent postal stationery paying the postage. **The only recorded example on postal stationery.*** PF



The One Cent Carrier Service could be Paid with U.S. Postage beginning in 1859

Letter dated April 23, 1859 to South Santu, S.C. from Charleston. The one cent Type V 1857 stamp was used to pay the one cent carrier fee and the three cent Type I stamp was used to pay the postage. PF



John Henry Honour was a member of the Convention that decreed the secession of South Carolina on December 20, 1860.

Conclusion – The order of the issued stamp designs was one, three four, five, two and six. The earliest known examples are as follows:

First Design	May 24, 1849	Fifth Design	April 1853
Third Design	October 2, 1849	Second Design	April 2, 1854
Fourth Design	January 1850	Sixth Design	June 1857