

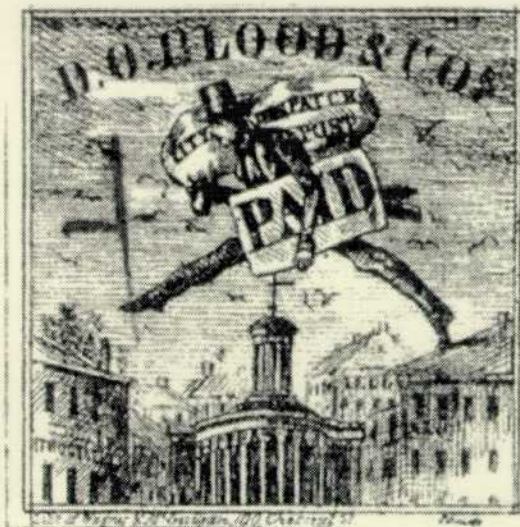
D. O. BLOOD & CO.

Philadelphia: 1845 - 1862

Background: During the period between 1842 and 1883 there were over fifty private posts in business within the United States. D. O. Blood & Co., having existed for sixteen years, was one of the best known. The story of these companies is really that of the struggle between Private Enterprise and Government Monopoly. Blood's best illustrates this struggle, as it spent many years and dollars in legal battles with the Government. The results had profound effects on Local Posts and the United States Post Office.

Objective: This is a traditional exhibit showing the development of Blood's starting with a look at it's predecessor and continuing from establishment in 1845 to closing in 1862. Emphasis is on the development of their letter carrying and delivery services. Stamps, post marks and postal stationery are shown.

Organization: The exhibit is chronological with the various issues and postmarks shown as they were issued or used. All of the major types of the stamps and postal stationery are shown.



Significant items in the exhibit include:

Advertising circular explaining rates and including examples of available stamps.

The only recorded multiple of the 1848 "for the POST OFFICE" stamp.

1848 issue used with a 10¢ 1847 US Post Office issue.

One of two known examples of the blue paper postal stationery envelopes.

Numerous trans-Atlantic examples with 1851-1857 US issues.

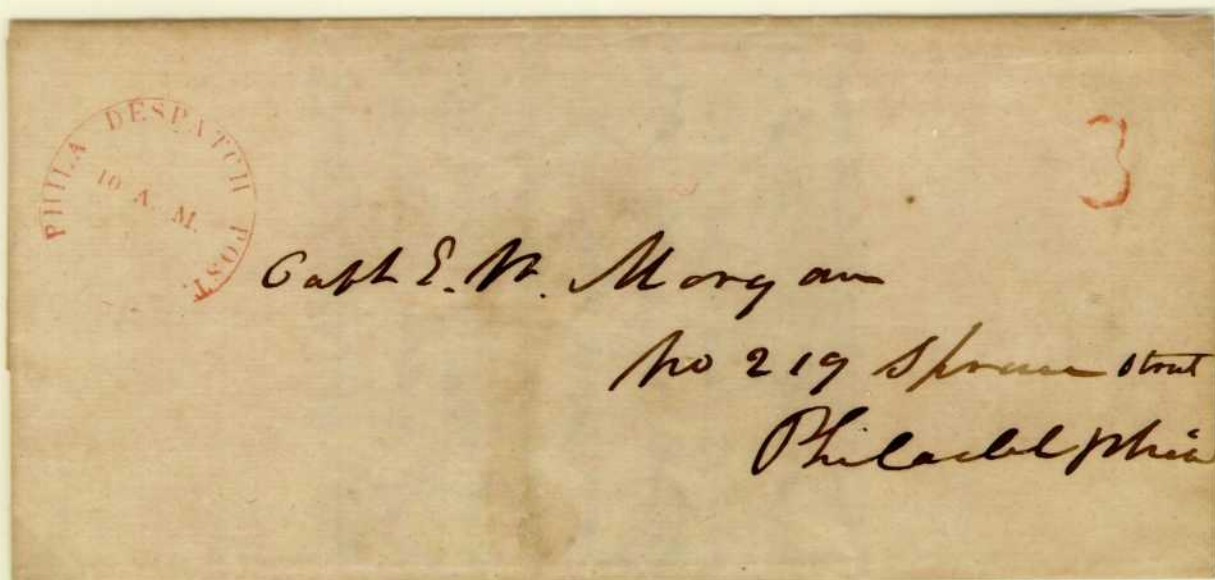
Earliest recorded use of the "OLD STAMPS NOT RECOGNIZED" marking.

Letters carried by Wells, Fargo & Co.

I. Predecessors

Philadelphia Despatch Post

The Philadelphia Despatch Post is believed to be the predecessor of D. O. Blood & Co. It appears to have been owned by Robertson & Co. The first public announcement for this post appeared in the Dec. 8, 1842 issue of the *Public Ledger*. It was the first private post within the Philadelphia city limits.



May 13, 1843

"PHILA DESPATCH POST./ 10 A.M." handstamp with "3" (due).
Letter originated in West Chester, Pa.

I. Predecessors

Philadelphia "City" Despatch Post

The origin and ownership of the City Despatch Post is not clear. The first adhesive stamp issued by this post was the "Striding Messenger" design. These stamps are found initialed "R. & Co." If Robertson & Co. did not start the City Despatch Post, they certainly were operating it. If this post was a separate entity, it is not clear. The wording on the stamps, "City Despatch Post / Paid", may simply have implied that mail service within the city was paid. These stamps may actually be issues of the Philadelphia Despatch Post.



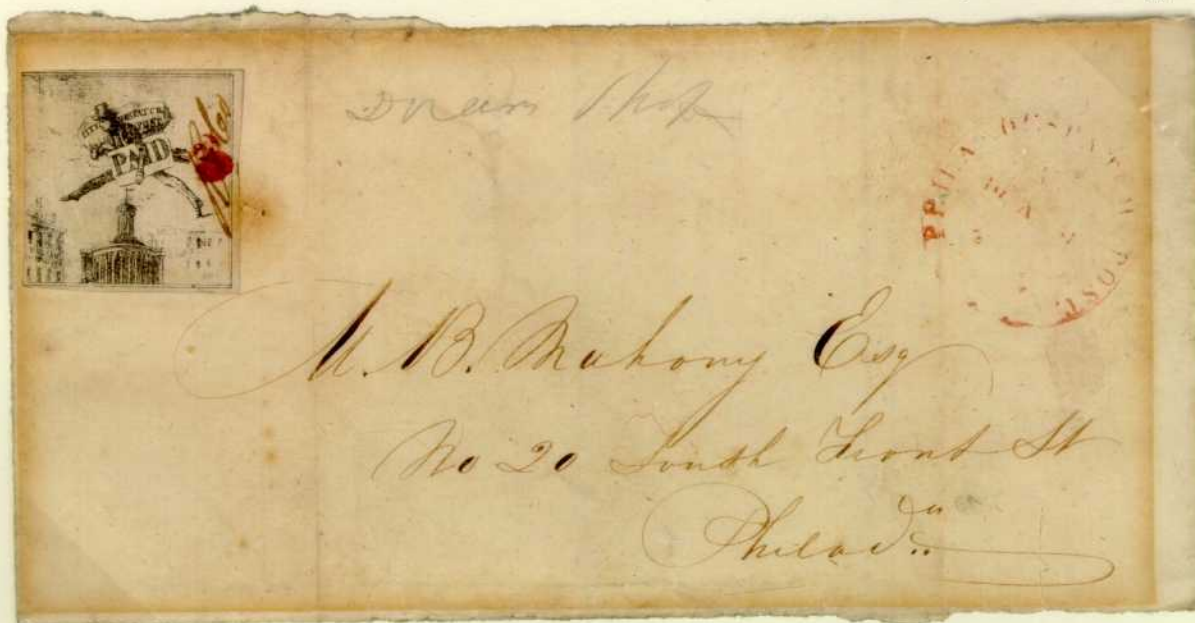
Stamp from the second printing illustrating the "R. & Co." handwritten initials. Although issued three years after the Penny Black of Great Britain, this is considered the first pictorial stamp design in the world.



The stamp design shows a messenger striding over the Merchants Exchange Building, when then housed the Government Post Office, perhaps implying the private post gave faster service.

I. Predecessors

Philadelphia "City" Despatch Post
Local Delivery
Delivery to the Post Office



1843 Usage

Letters for delivery were charged 3¢ as shown by the red "3" cancel on this stamp. The fact that this letter has a "PHILA DESPATCH POST" postmark would seem to imply that the two posts, City Despatch Post and the Philadelphia Despatch Post, were one in the same. The stamp is from the first printing which was done on a hard paper unsuitable for lithography, resulting in weak impressions.



May 23, 1844

The 12½¢ fee for delivery by the post office to Washington, DC was prepaid as indicated by the red "PAID" handstamp applied by the Philadelphia post office.

The Philadelphia City Directories for 1843-1844 contain no mention of the City Despatch Post.

On July 7, 1845 Daniel Otis Blood and his brother Walter, purchased the City Despatch Post from Robertson's manager, John W. Halsey. The remaining stock of stamps were inscribed "D. O. B. & Co's.", until a new supply could be prepared. The first office of Blood's Despatch Post was opened on Spetember 2, 1845 at No. 48 South Third Street, a few doors down from the "Ledger" building. He employed four boys to make the collections and deliveries.¹

PUBLIC LEDGER,
A DAILY MORNING PAPER,
Published by
SWAIN, ABELL & SIMMONS.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.

For 1 Square,	1 insertion, \$0 50
1 do	2 insertions, 0 75
1 do	3 insertions, 1 00
1 do	1 week, 1 75
1 do	2 weeks, 2 75
1 do	1 month, 4 00
1 do	2 months, 7 00
1 do	3 months, 10 00
1 do	6 months, 16 00
1 do	1 year, 30 00

Ten lines or less, for any period within two weeks, or eight lines when over that time, constitute a square. If an advertisement exceed a square, the price will be in exact proportion. All advertisements are payable in advance. Two line Business Cards will be inserted one year for Eight dollars, or six months for Five dollars, invariably in advance.

Philadelphia, *Ap. 12* 184*1*

Mr Bradford, Brigade Major
To Swain, Abell & Simmons, Dr.

To Advertising in DAILY PUBLIC LEDGER,
17/10 Squares, *1c.*

Head Quarters B. Order No. 46 \$ *85.70*

Received Payment for
Swain, Abell & Simmons, } *D. O. Blood*

D. O. Blood was chief clerk and cashier of the Public Ledger from 1837-45.



September 16, 1845

Delivered to the agent at the railway station, the 3¢ fee paid by the stamp.
Sent to Boston via the New York post office at the 10¢ rate.

1. "Recollections of Blood's Despatch Post" by W. Otis Blood, Sr.: *The Penny Post*, Vol. 5, No. 2, (April 1995), pp. 4-9.

III. 1845 Stamp Issue

To the post office example

New stamps were issued in 1845. They are essentially the same design with "D. O. BLOOD & CO." at the top. Lithographed in sheets of 12 by Wagner & McGingan, 100 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia. The lithographer's name is in the lower left margin of each stamp. Known used from August 27, 1845 to April, 1848.



June 22, 1846

Delivered to the post office for mailing to Bridgewater, Mass. The rate was corrected from 5¢ to 10¢. The Blood's stamp prepaid the 3¢ fee.

III. 1845 Stamp Issue

Local delivery examples



April 15, 1847

Pen cancelled with a cross
on a local delivery letter to
G. W. Carpenter announc-
ing a Board of Directors
meeting of the Pennsylvania
Company.

May 14, 1847

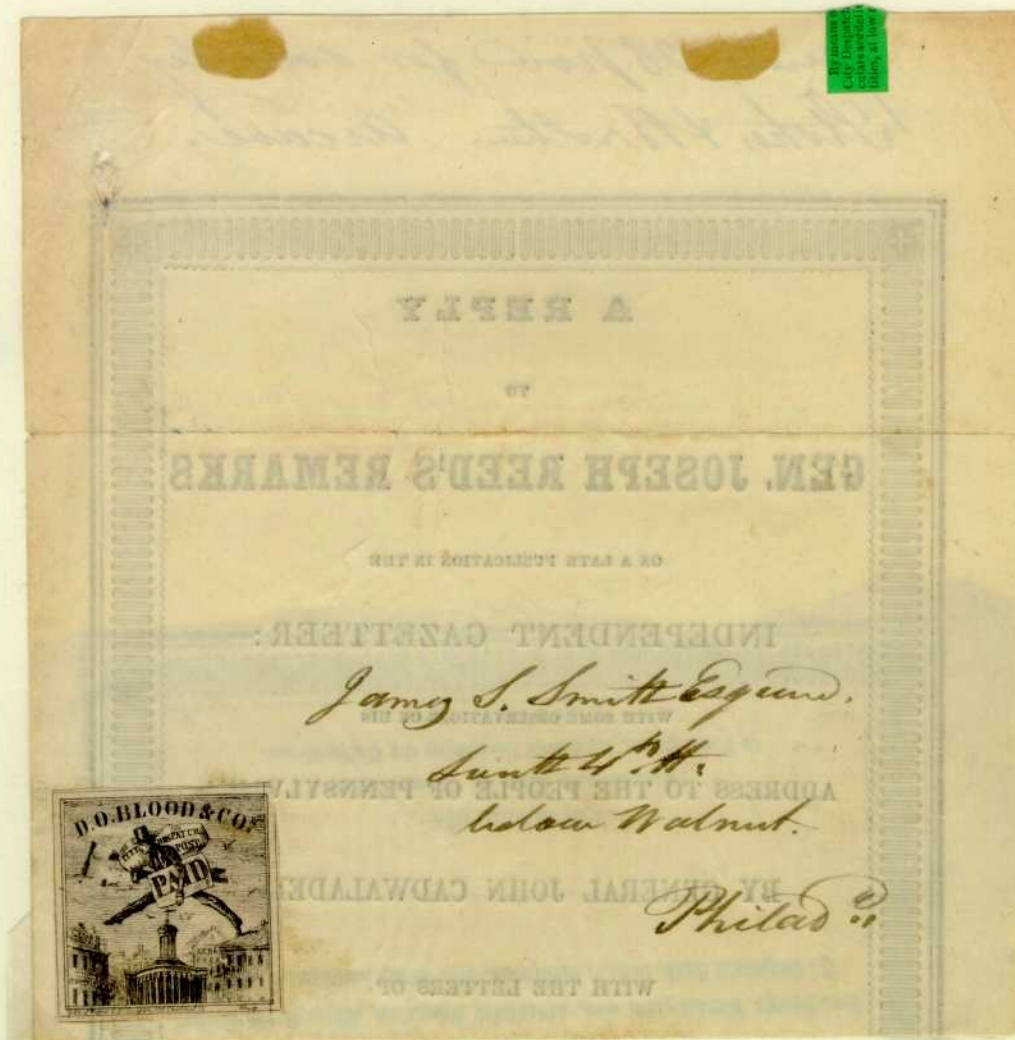
Similar announcement with
the stamp cancelled with a
dot pattern.



III. 1845 Stamp Issue

Advertising Circular

Just prior to the opening of Blood's Despatch Post, Blood had tin letter boxes placed in most of the drug stores in Philadelphia proper, to receive letters for collection and delivery. Stamps were also sold in these stores on commission. Collections were made at least four times per day. The U. S. Post Office made only two deliveries per day and had no collection boxes so conveniently located. A large amount of Blood's business consisted of the delivery of advertising.



Circular, advertising a pamphlet containing the remarks of General John Cadwalader. The green label reads; "By means of Blood & Co's. City Despatch, removal circulars are delivered in quantities, at low rates."

IV. 1846 Stamp Issue

"For the POST OFFICE" Stamp

The rates were reduced on June 1, 1846 from 3¢ to 2¢ for city delivery. Prepayment was optional. Delivery to the post office was also reduced to 2¢ but required prepayment. A new stamp was issued for post office delivery which bore the wording; "For the POST OFFICE". These are normally found only on mail addressed out of Philadelphia.



Unused example



The Act of July 1, 1845 reduced the rate for prepaid letter, to be delivered within 300 miles, to 5¢ per ½ ounce. The new 2¢ stamp prepaid delivery to the post office where this letter was sent prepaid to Morgantown, Pa.

CIRCULAR.

SIR:

Your attention is invited to the prompt, cheap and convenient method of conveying *Letters, Papers, and Small Parcels* to the Post-Office, and from one part of the City and Districts to another, (except Kensington and Spring Garden,) through the medium of

D. O. BLOOD & CO'S CITY DESPATCH.

By personal attention to the business, the proprietors mean to *deserve* the confidence of all who wish to make use of their facilities. Boxes are placed in careful hands in various parts of the city, from which three deliveries are made each day, at the low rate of 2 cents each letter.

City Letters may be pre-paid, or paid by the person to whom addressed.


All Letters for the Post-Office must be pre-paid.

Paid Stamps, at 2 cents each, may be had at most of the Box Stations.

Boxes in your immediate vicinity may be found at

Persons making constant use of the City Despatch, will find it convenient to have *Stamps always by them*. To such, a notice of the following prices of City and Post-Office Stamps (to be had at the Office, 48 South Third Street,) may be interesting:

CITY STAMP.		POST-OFFICE STAMP.	
			
$\frac{1}{2}$ dozen, - - -	10 Cents.	3 stamps, - - -	5 Cents.
1 " - - -	20 "	6 " - - -	8 "
2 " - - -	35 "	1 dozen, - - -	12 "
4 " - - -	60 "	2 " - - -	20 "
6 " - - -	80 "	50 stamps, - - -	40 "
8 " - - -	\$1.00	100 " - - -	75 "

 Funeral Notices, Circulars, Notices of Meetings, &c., (in quantities,) delivered with promptness, at low rates.

N. B.—All of our Boxes have the name of D. O. Blood & Co. on them in large letters.

DANIEL O. BLOOD. }
WALTER H. BLOOD. }

D. O. BLOOD & CO.

Office, 48 South Third Street,

(Above the Girard Bank.)

Job Printing Office, Ledger Building, Phila.

Advertising circular explaining services and rates. Samples of the two stamps were affixed.

V. 1847 Stamp Issue

Examples of use for city delivery

A new supply of stamps printed in 1847 had minor changes in the design including the addition of the wording "CITY DESPATCH". It remained in use from August 1847 to January 1848.

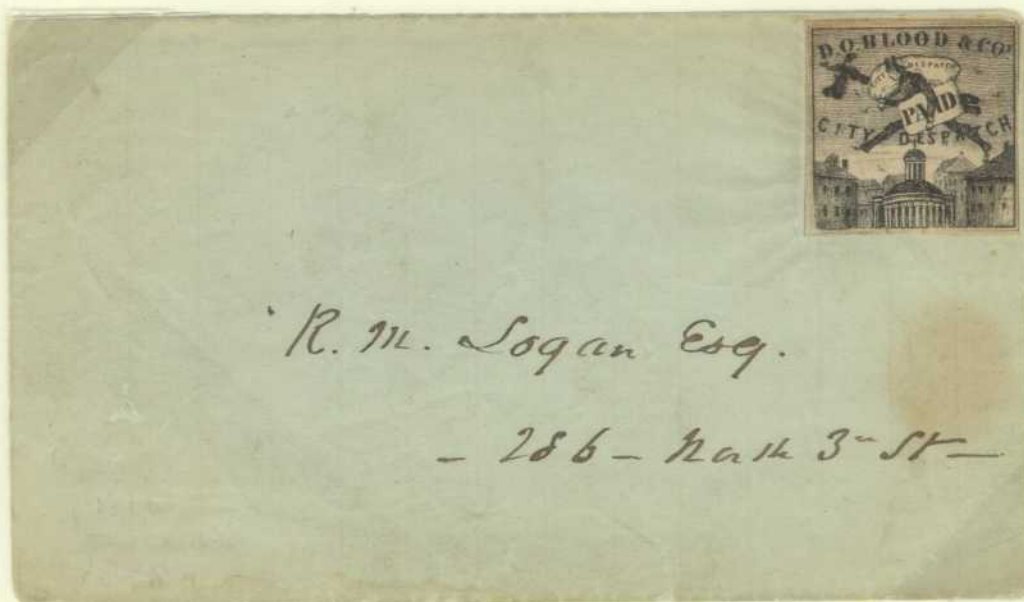


October 4, 1847

Printed announcement for a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad Co.

January 29, 1848

Latest recorded use.



V. 1847 Stamp Issue

Examples of use for post office delivery

April 5, 1847

First printing

Sent to St.Louis, Mo., the
post office fee being 10¢.



June 12, 1847

First printing

Prepaid to Howard,
Pa. at the 5¢ rate.

V. 1847 Stamp Issue

Example of use with 1847 USPO issue

The US Post Office's first postage stamps were authorized by the Act of March 3, 1847, effective July 1, 1847. The Philadelphia post office received their first delivery of stamps on July 7, 1847.



September 14, 184(7)

First printing of the Blood's stamp.

Prepaid to Mount Holly, New Jersey by the new 5¢ government stamp. Delivered to the post office agent at the Philadelphia railroad station.

VI. 1848 Stamp Issue

Examples of use

At sometime in 1848 a second printing of the "For the POST OFFICE stamps was made.



January 23, 1848

First printing

Addressed to Keen, New Hampshire, the fee was 10¢ as shown by the "10" marking applied in New York.



May 29, 1848

Second printing

Red "5" marking applied upon arrival in New York City.

VII. Handstamp Markings: 1846 - 1848

Red Circular PAID

Blood's delivered both prepaid and unpaid letters without making any distinction between them with respect to fees. The first handstamps to indicate the prepayment of fees were issued in July 1846.

Red circular "PAID" known used from July through December 1846.

October 27, 1846

Local delivery



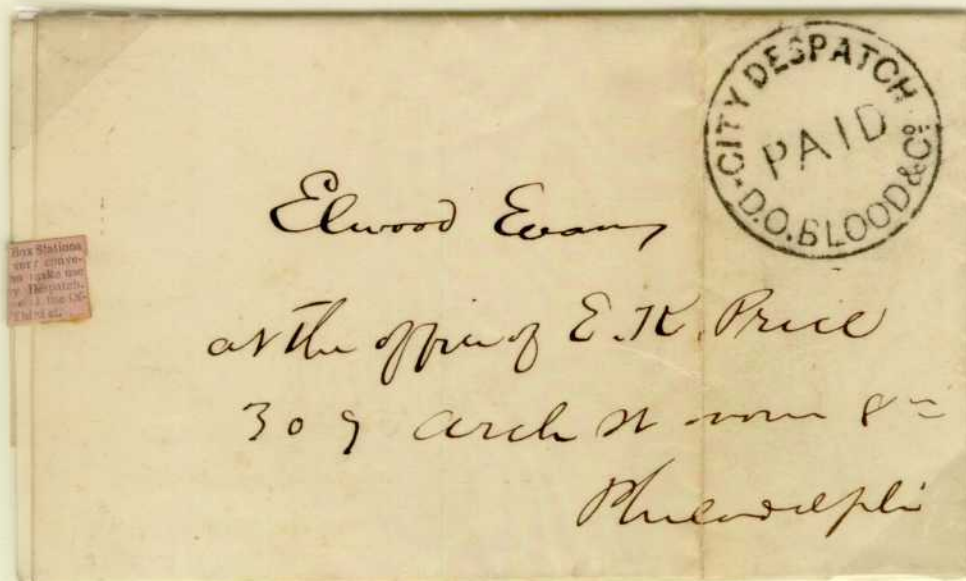
December 17, 1846

Delivered to the post
office for Carlisle, Pa.

VII. Handstamp Markings: 1846 - 1848

Black Circular PAID

The black "PAID" handstamp was used from January 1847 through May 1848.



July 14, 1847

Local delivery



May 2, 1847

Local delivery
(Note the use of ad labels.)

VII. Handstamp Markings: 1846 - 1848

To the Post Office, postage "FREE"

Delivered to the Philadelphi post office for a fee of 2¢, sent "FREE" to Presidnet James K. Polk.



February 23, 1848

VII. Handstamp Markings: 1846 - 1848

"2 Cts" in red and black

An additional handstamp, found in red and black, was used by Blood's during this time period. There is no evidence that the color indicated payment was due or prepaid.

Known used in red from July through December 1846.



July 27, 1846

Earliest recorded use.

Found used in black from March 1847 through February 1848.



VII. Handstamp Markings: 1846 - 1848

*"PAID" and "2 Cts" in black
Examples used in 1848*

Two handstamps were introduced in 1848, both circular and black. One was worded "PAID", the other "2 Cts". They are first found used in May 1848, and through 1849. The first notice of the requirement to prepay fees appeared in the *Public Ledger* on Jan. 3, 1849. On Jan. 11 a notice stated that unpaid letters would be held by Blood's pending payment.



May 2, 1848

Prepaid local delivery

August 7, 1848

Not prepaid

Sent to a Mr. Rogers, coach maker, an irate customer states he was forced to hire a wagon as his has yet to be repaired by Mr. Rogers.



VIII. "Blood's Despatch" - 1848 New Issues

"for the POST OFFICE" stamp

Walter Blood left the business in 1848 and Charles Kochersperger joined as the assistant manager. The firm's name was changed to Blood's Despatch. The previous stamps were replaced with three new issues having values of 2¢ each.



Only recorded multiple.



August 15, 1848

To Rahway, NJ at the 5¢ rate.



September 4, 1848

To Clearfield Town,
Pa at the 5¢ rate.

VIII. "Blood's Despatch" - 1848 New Issues

"for the POST OFFICE" stamp
First use of acid cancellation

September 23, 1848

Pivately carried by ship from Stuttgart, Germany to Philadelphia, then given to Blood's for delivery to the post office. The 10¢ fee for delivery to New Brunfels, Texas was pre-paid.



In 1849 Blood's began using acid to cancel their stamps and prevent reuse.



January - , 1849

Delivered to the post office for mailing to Orwigsburg(h), Pa. The 5¢ fee prepaid.

VIII. "Blood's Despatch" - 1848 New Issues

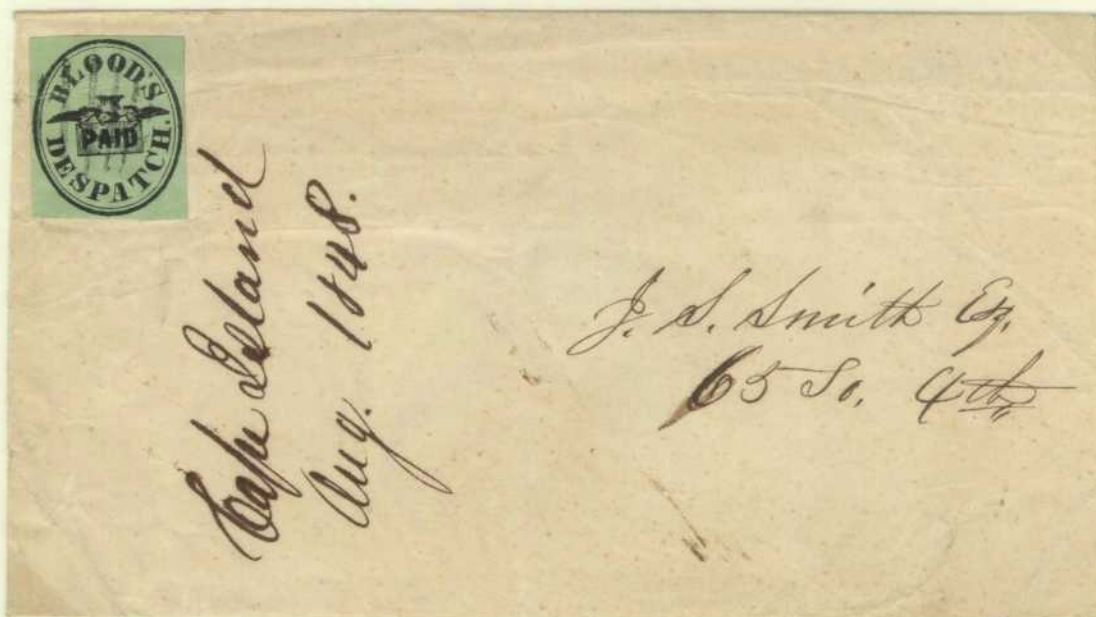
Green "PAID" stamp

The second stamp issued in 1848 is unusual in that the design is completely different than any previous issue.



Not dated

There is a small "S" above the "L" in "BLOOD'S".



August, 1848

Local delivery with typical 4 bar black cancel.

Multiples of this issue have not been found.

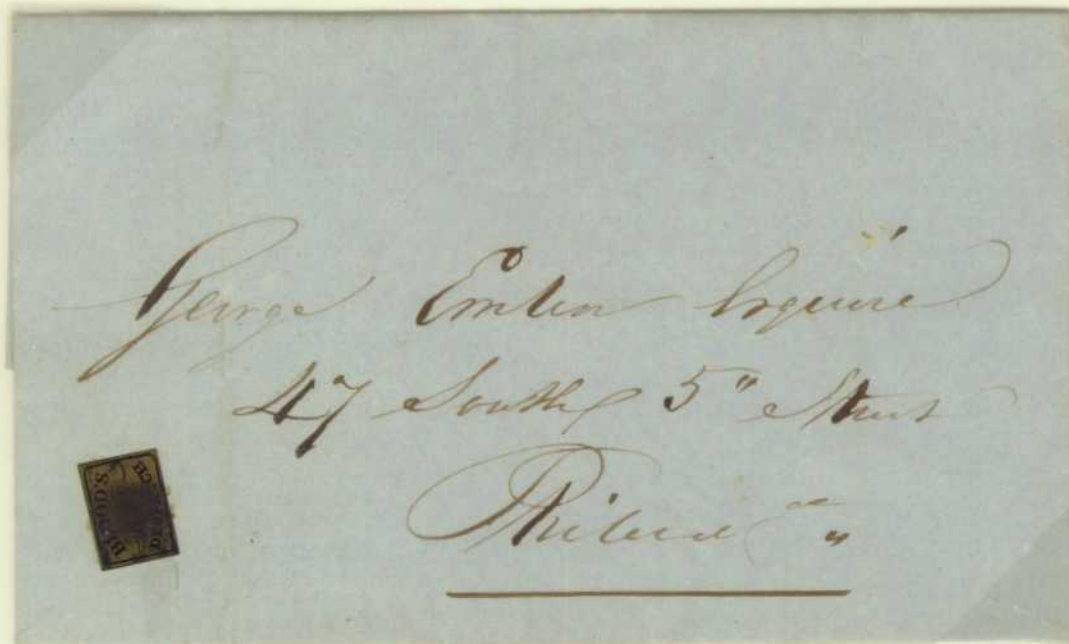
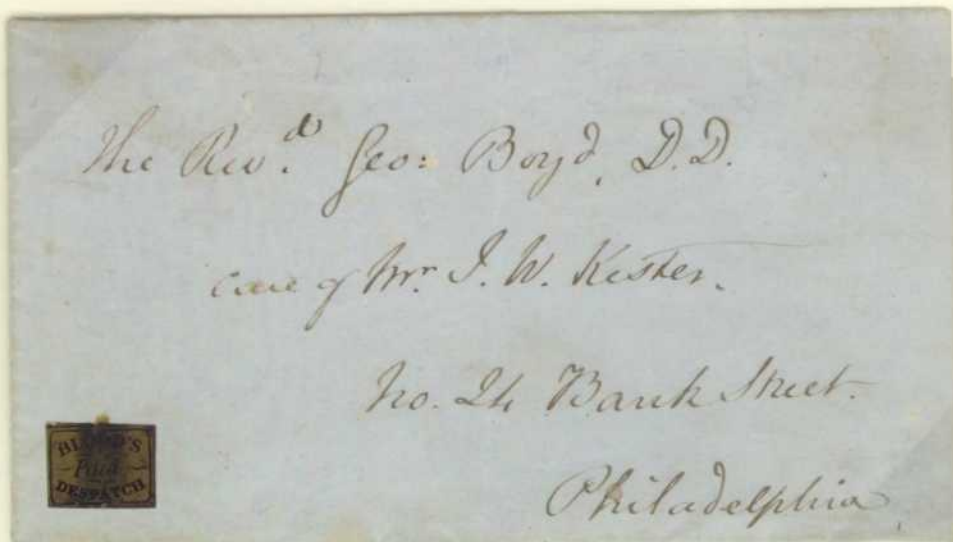
VIII. "Blood's Despatch" - 1848 New Issues

Bronze on black "PAID" stamp

The third stamp issued was printed with bronze ink on glazed black paper. It bore the word "PAID". They were printed in sheets of 192, 8 panes of 4 by 6 stamps per pane. No full panes have been found to date. Issued late in 1848 the period of use of this stamp is brief, as indicated by its scarcity, and was probably only a year in the 1848-49 period.

February 5, 1849

Local delivery for the
2¢ fee.



February 26, 1849

Local delivery

VIII. "Blood's Despatch" - 1848 New Issues

To the post office example



Not dated

To the post office for delivery to Newtown, Long Island, NY, the 5¢ fee prepaid.



Not dated

Ornate Ladies envelope delivered within the city.

IX. "Blood's Despatch" - 1849 Changes

*To the post office example
Rate reduction*

Throughout its history Blood's was embattled with the government post office. The government tried to suppress the Independent Mail Companies, to make them go out of "the letter carrying" business by passing a statute effective July 1, 1845, declaring that the roads between main post offices were "post roads" over which the government had a monopoly. Prior to the Philadelphia Consolidation Act of 1854, the districts of Spring Garden and Kensington, adjoining the city of Philadelphia, had their own U.S. Post Offices. Blood's thus avoided delivery to these districts.

There are time periods when mail handled by Blood's does not have stamps affixed, only handstamps, even though stamps were issued. This may have been an attempt to avoid pressure from the government, but more likely it was simply due to a temporary lack of stamps.

In response to the Post Office reducing its carrier fee to 1¢, Blood's announced, "... on and after Monday next (i.e., Jan. 8), will deliver prepaid letters at one cent, and will not carry unpaid letters." (*Public Ledger*, Saturday, Jan. 6, 1849)²



November 15, 1849

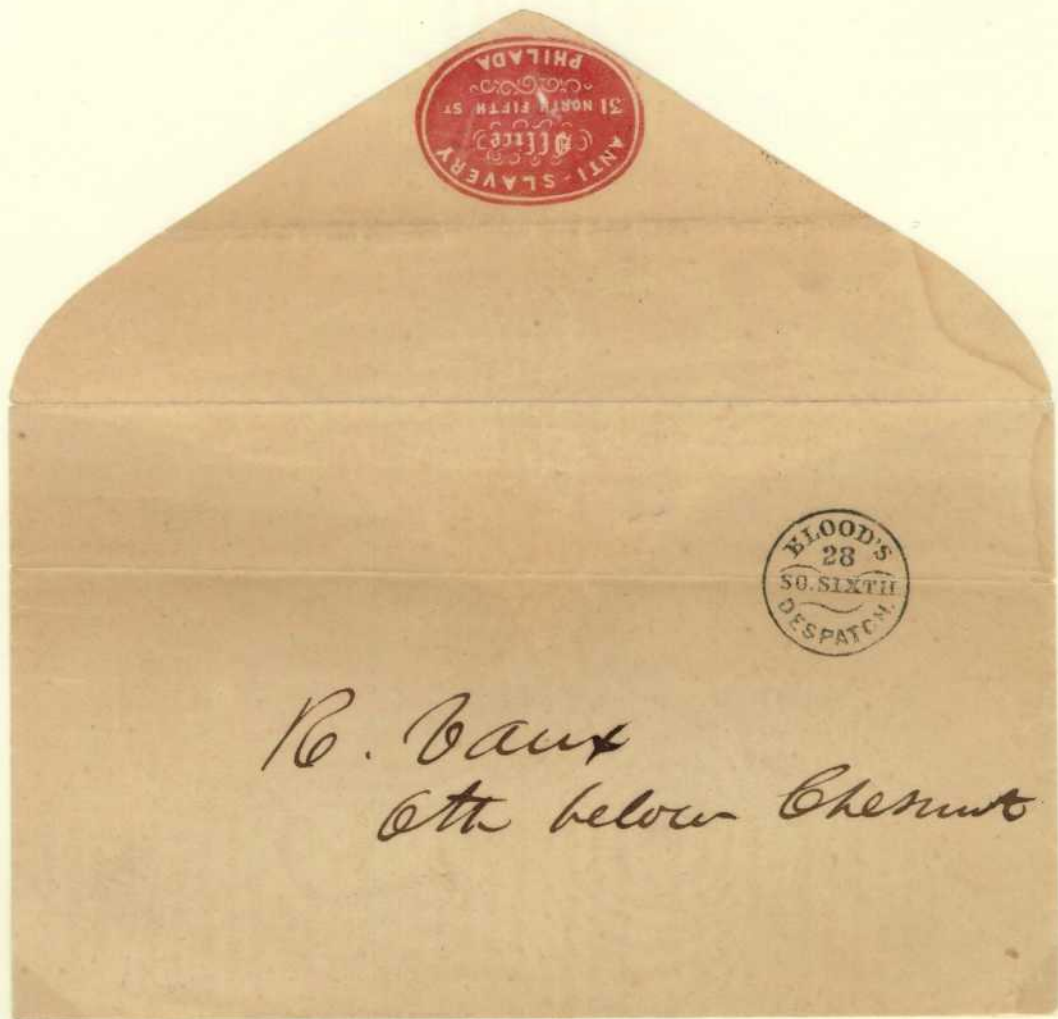
To the post office, the now 1¢ fee prepaid. The 5¢ stamp prepaid postage to West Chester, Pa.

2. "Blood's Despatch Revisited", Steven Roth, *The Penny Post*, Vol. 1, No. 4, (Nov. 1991), pp. 12.

IX. "Blood's Despatch" - 1849 Changes

New location and handstamp

The office was moved late in 1848. Handstamps incorporating the new address, 28 South Sixth St., appeared in 1849 and were used into 1850. Blood's had several competitors in Philadelphia and was handling eight to ten thousand letters per day, also thousands of circulars and newspapers. By 1849 they had 112 mail boxes throughout the city.



Addressed to R. Vaux, former mayor, envelope with imprint of the "Anti-Slavery" office in Philadelphia.

IX. "Blood's Despatch" - 1849 Changes

1849 handstamp - to the mails example

Prior to 1847 each government post office used postmarks and cancellers whose design, color and shape were the choice of the local postmaster. The issuance of stamps in 1847 resulted in some standardization. Many offices used a government furnished seven bar grid canceller.



August 30, 1849

Letter to Harrisburg, Pa. showing the new Blood's handstamp, the government stamp cancelled by a seven bar grid cancel.

X. 1849 Stamp Issues

"Post Office" stamp - To the mails examples

New stamps were prepared when Blood's lowered their rates to 1¢. The design was identical to the previous issue. They were printed in the same configuration and color and were worded "One Cent" and "Post Office".



February 7, 1849

Delivered to the local agent at the railroad station and despatched to New York City, 5¢ postage was not pre-paid.

March 22, 1849

To "Female Seminary" in South Haley, Mass, delivered to the agent at the railroad depot. The 5¢ fee collect as shown in the New York post office postmark in red.



X. 1849 Stamp Issues

"Post Office" stamp - Local delivery examples

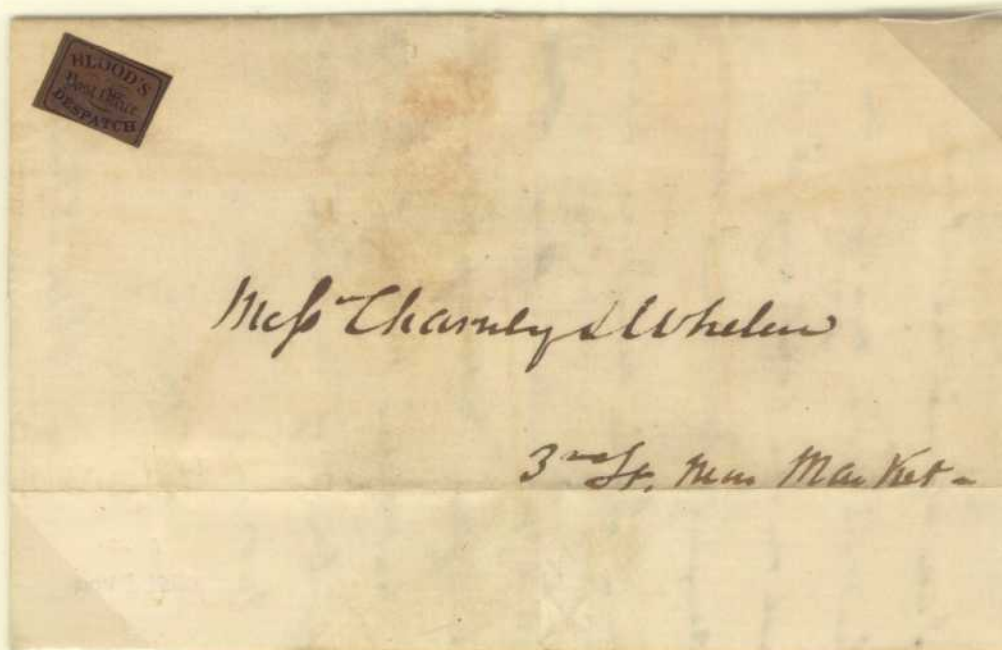
Although meant for post office delivery, the stamp could be used for city delivery as the fee was the same.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Co. used Blood's services almost exclusively.



September 12, 1849

Adressed to Col. W. C. Patterson, President of the railroad. A prominent businessman and member of Philadelphia society, a simple address was sufficient.



November 3, 1849

Locally delivered to the firm of Charnley and Whelen.

X. 1849 Stamp Issues

"Post Office" stamp - 10¢ 1847 usage
Trans-Atlantic usage to London, England



September 18, 1848

Delivered to the post office for mailing to Pittsburgh, Pa. The 10¢ fee paid by the government stamp.

PFC certif.

November 5, 1849

To the post office for mailing to New York and then by packet to London. The U.S. internal postage of 5¢ prepaid as shown by the "5" marking, the 1½ pence British postage collected upon delivery, which was November 19th.





November 30, 1849

Taken directly to the route agent for the steamship Potomac . Delivered to
Montgomery, Alabama, the 10¢ fee due.

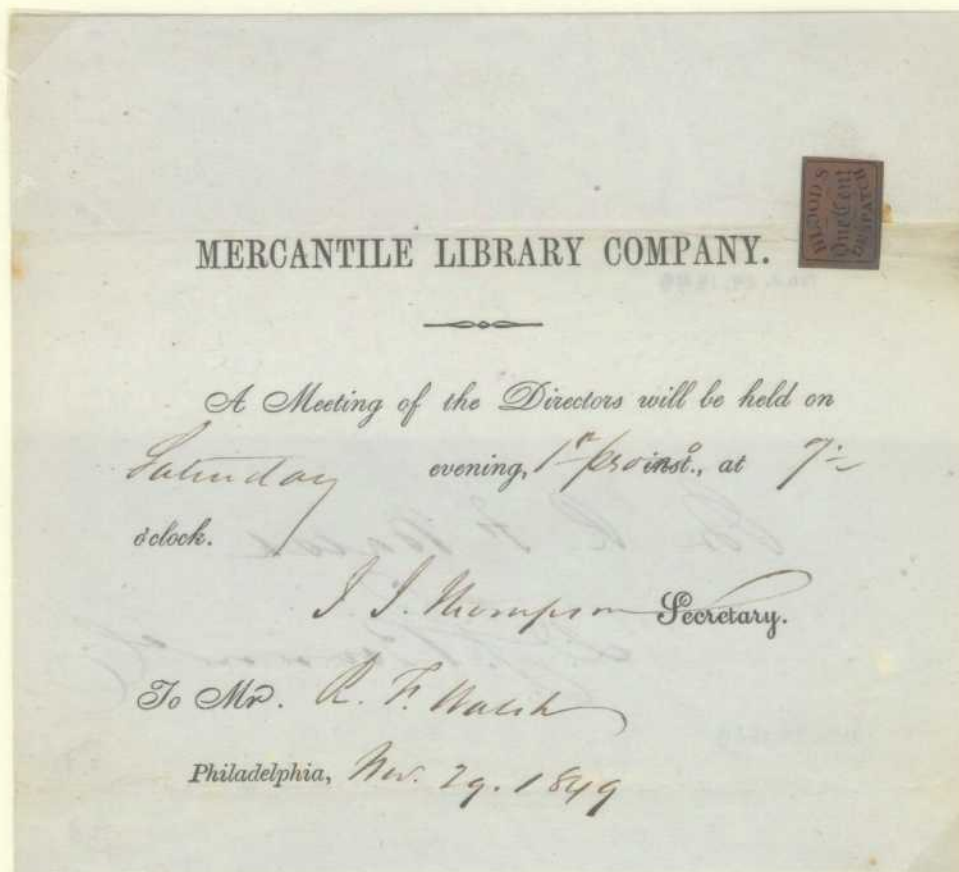
X. 1849 Stamp Issues

"One Cent" pane of 24
Local delivery example

The "One Cent" issue was prepared from the same plates as the 1848 stamp, the word "PAID" being replaced with an Old English typset "One Cent".



Pane of 24 "One Cent" stamps



November 29, 1849

4 or 5 panes are known to exist

X. 1849 Stamp Issues

"One Cent" examples to Railroad route agents



Not dated

Delivered to the route agent at the Philadelphia railway station. The 5¢ fee due.



November 4, 1850

Delivered to the route agent for mailing to Mobile, Alabama, the fee being 10¢

X. 1849 Stamp Issues

"One Cent" examples to Railroad route agents



Not dated

Delivered to the route agent. The New York post office sent the letter unpaid at the 10¢ rate to Portland, Maine.

Not dated

Delivered to the route agent. The 10¢ fee for delivery to the Canadian border was prepaid by the stamps. The 4½ pence for delivery to Montreal was collected on delivery.



X. 1849 Stamp Issues

"One Cent" examples prepaid to the post office

September 9, (1850)

5¢ fee for delivery to
Luray, Virginia



November 8, 1850

5¢ fee for delivery to
Smyrna, Delaware





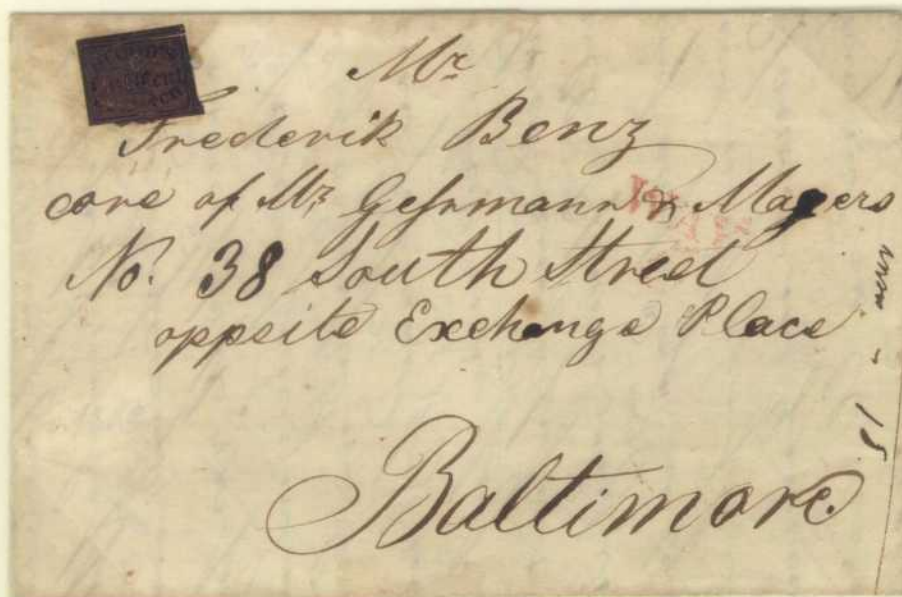
March 2, 1850

Posted in Copenhagen, Denmark and sent via Hamburg and Liverpool to Boston, arriving on March 25th as shown by the "Br. Packet Boston" exchange marking in black. Placed in the mails for delivery to the Philadelphia post office. Addressed to S. S. Haldeman Esq. at the Academy of Natural sciences, it was redirected by them and returned by Blood's to the post office where it was forwarded to Columbia, Pa. for an additional 5¢ fee.

X. 1849 Stamp Issues

"One Cent" Baltimore Way letters

Although mentioned in the literature for over 80 years, there is no evidence that Blood's operated offices in Washington or Baltimore. Letters thought to have originated in these cities, bearing Blood's stamps, are actually WAY letters. Delivered directly to the train station and handled as loose mail, bypassing the Philadelphia post office. Treated as WAY letters they were deposited in the Baltimore or Washington post offices upon arrival.



May 15, 1850

Delivered to the train by Blood's and entered the mails in Baltimore. The "WAY 5" marking indicates 5¢ due for postage from the addressee.

March 13, 185-

Placed on a train to Baltimore. Upon entering the post office it was marked "FREE" as it is addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury, Washington, DC.





July 7, 1850

Unpaid way letter to Cincinnati, Ohio via Baltimore post office. Marked "Way 10" indicating the 10¢ rate for over 300 miles.

X. 1849 Stamp Issues

"One Cent" Washington Way letter
"Post Office" Washington Way letter



Not dated

Entered the mails in Washington, DC where the manuscript "W 5" was added indicating the fee.

July 27, 185?

Although the Way marking appears to be missing, it is safe to say that this letter to Fayetteville, NC was taken by train and entered the mails in Washington, DC, the rate being 10¢ due.



XI. 1849 Postal Stationery

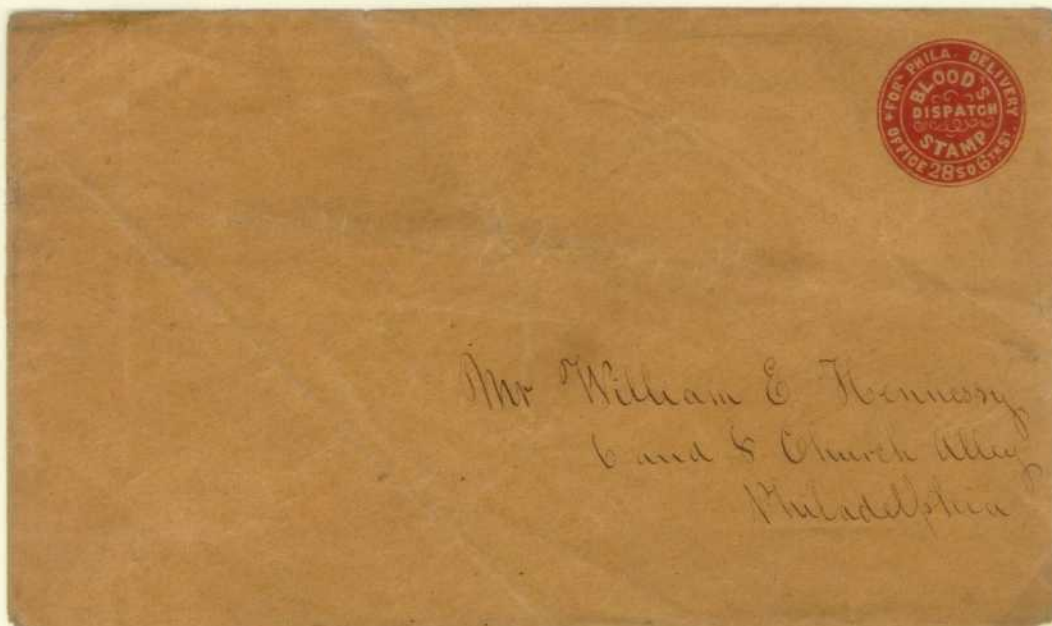
Paper types and a double impression

Blood's originated many innovative ideas, later adopted by the government post office. They introduced prepaid envelopes with embossed stamps in 1849, four years before the government.



Double impression of the stamp,
one being colorless.

Various sizes and papers were used.

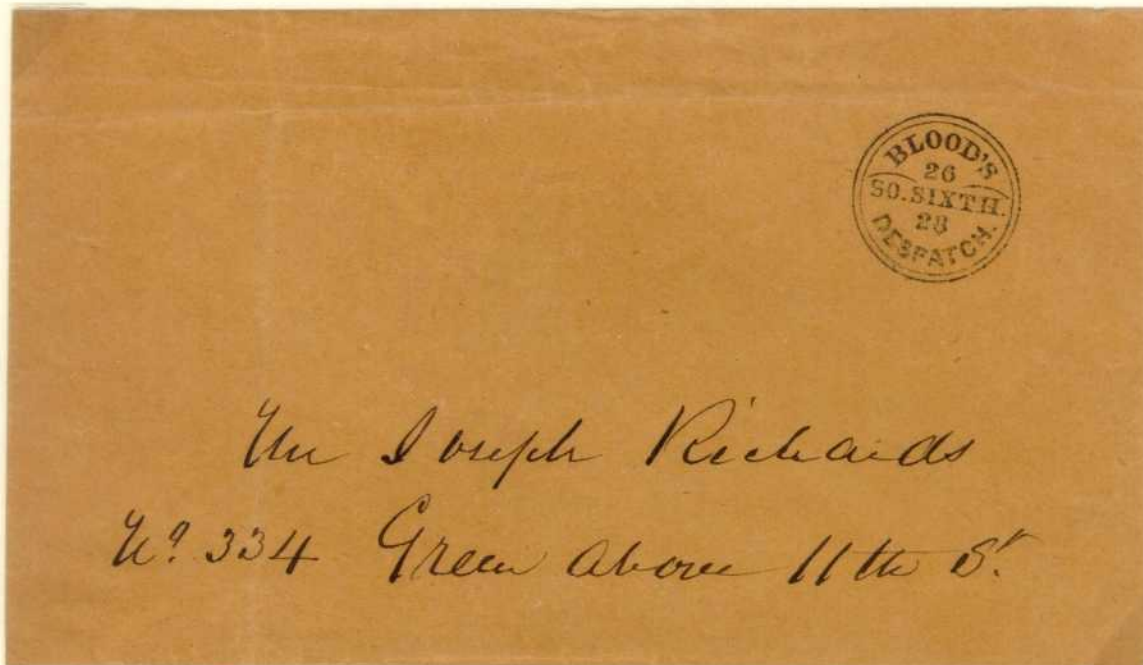


Lower quality buff colored paper.

XII. 1849 Office Expansion

New handstamp

Sometime between March 27, 1849 and May 8, 1849, the offices were expanded to include the adjoining building at 26 South Sixth Street. A new handstamp was created and saw use through December, 1851.



April 24, 1850

Earliest recorded use.



November 23, 1851

Latest recorded use.

XII. 1850 Office Expansion

New handstamp prepaid to the post office
Local delivery example

September 2, 1850

Addressed to the Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ. This later became Princeton University. The 5¢ postage prepaid by the government stamp.



Not dated
Local delivery

XIII. 1850 Postal Stationery

Usages to the post office

New prepaid stamped envelopes were issued showing the address change.



March 24, 1851

Delivered to the route agent at the railway station for posting to Cincinnati, Ohio. The 10¢ fee was due.

November 7, 1850

Delivered to the post office for mailing to Lebanon, Ohio, the 10¢ fee being prepaid.



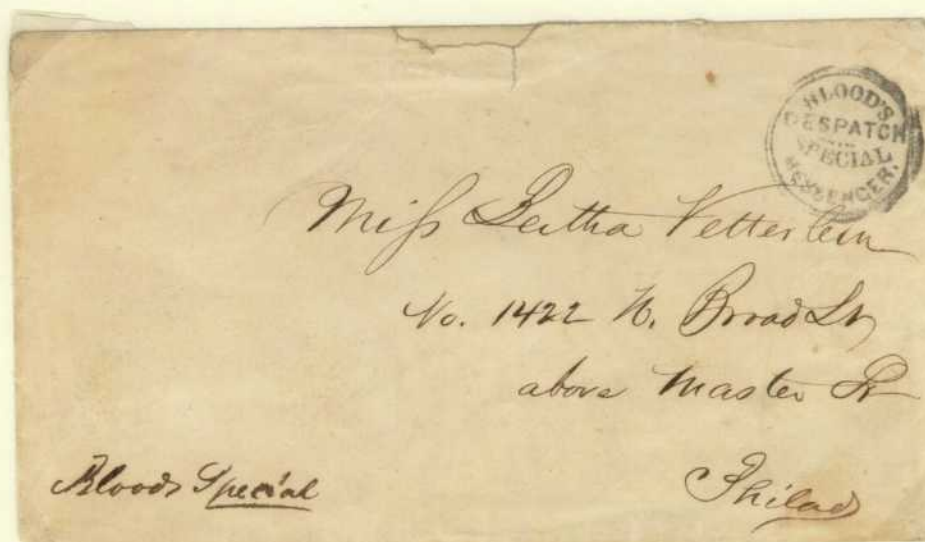
XIV. 1850 Special Messenger Service

Examples with new handstamp

Blood's began a "Special Messenger Service" in 1849. Messengers were sent from the main office to all parts of the city at a charge of 5¢ and up, according to distance. Money, valuables and important documents were delivered at any time of the day by these messengers.



Request for the urgent delivery of goods, sent by "Special Messenger".



Notice the annotation, "Blood's Special"

XV. 1851 Rate Reduction

New "ONE-CENT / PRE-PAID" handstamp

The Postal Act of March 3, 1851 resulted in changes which greatly effected Blood's. The Postmaster General was authorized to establish **postal routes within cities or towns**, and to provide for collecting and conveying to the chief office of the general post, letters intended for transportation to other cities; and to reduce the total charge, inclusive of delivery fee, upon drop letters to 2¢. A Court ruling held that post routes were roads between main post office and subordinate stations, not roads and ways within a city. This ruling meant that the Government's attempt at gaining a monopoly over the streets and ways within a city was not valid. To avoid being considered an Independent Mail Carrier, Blood's did not pickup or deliver mail outside the cities original boundaries. It was also during 1851 that Blood's established their rates as 1¢ prepaid and 2¢ collect.

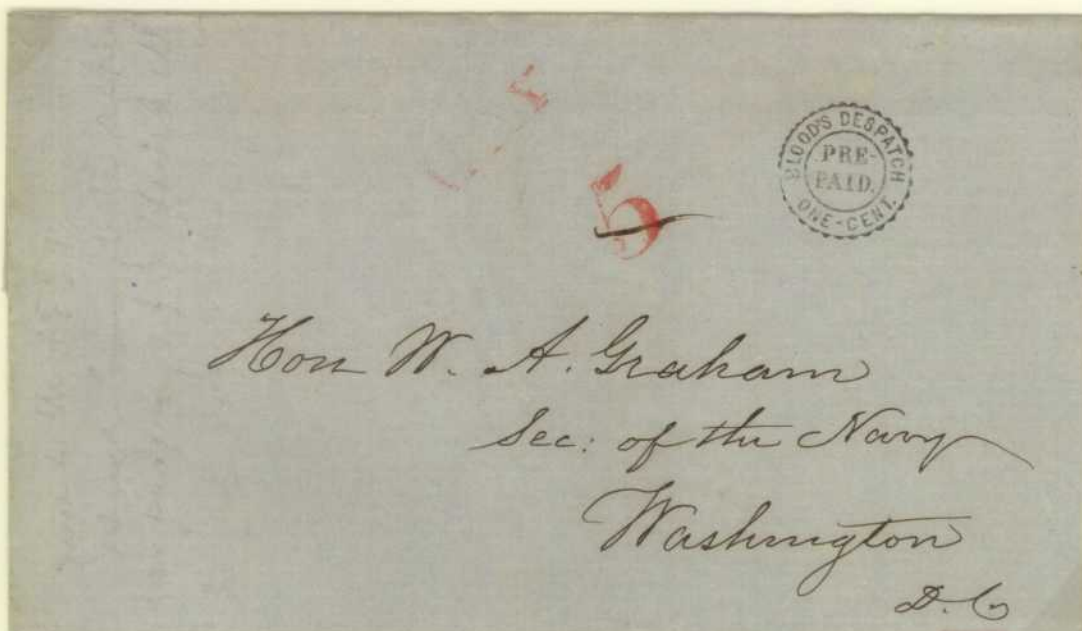


A new handstamp was used to indicate the 1¢ prepaid rate.

The seal on this envelope is that of the Executive Committee of the first International Exhibition held in the United States.



Delivered to the route agent at the railway station for delivery to New York, collect 5¢.



Not dated

Delivered to the route agent and marked by him as "WAY 5". Upon arrival in Washington, DC the 5¢ fee was paid as indicated by the check mark.

September 6, 1851

To "Physicians to the Penitentiary, Philadelphia". Prepaid delivery by Blood's to the post office as this address was outside Blood's operating area. At first rated 5¢, the error was corrected by overstriking the 5 with a grid cancel and the 1¢ drop charge was added.



XV. 1851 Rate Reduction

Drop letters

Drop letters comprise all those letters brought to the post office and dropped in a special drop letter box. They were placed in the letter box of the addressee at the post office, if they had one, or delivered to them or their agent when they called at the office. The Act of March 3, 1851 provided that the rate for this service be 1¢ regardless of weight.



March 31, 1851

Taken to the post office by Blood's as they could not deliver to the Eastern Penitentiary as it was outside the city borders. It was treated as a drop letter and charged 1¢ by the post office.

April 6, 1851

The Blood's stamp paid the 1¢ fee for delivery to the post office. Addressed to "Box 851" it was placed in the drop letter box. The octagon "1" handstamp indicates the 1¢ fee was to be collected from the box holder or his agent.



XV. 1851 Rate Reduction

"2 CTS" not prepaid handstamp

Unpaid letters were delivered for a 2¢ fee. A new handstamp was used to indicate unpaid letters.



Unpaid letter dated April 2, 1857

SCHENCK'S
PULMONIC SYRUP,
The best and most positive cure for
Coughs, Colds, Consumption, Dyspepsia, Liver
Complaint, Palpitation of the heart, & Scrophula.
The reputation that this medicine has obtained during the three
years it has been before the public, renders it useless to puff it. Those
people who have been benefited by its use, testify to its merits.
Bottle throughout the U. S. \$1.00 per bottle, or six for \$5.00.
Principal Office, N. W. corner 5th & Chestnut Sts.

BLOOD'S DESPATCH POST
Over Three Hundred Box Stations
in the City and District.
Covering a Circuit of Twelve Miles.
Fees which regular and prompt delivery are made at the authors
rate of
ONE CENT.
EACH LETTER PREPAID.

E. DURAND & SONS
S. W. COR. Chestnut & Sixth Sts.
PHILADELPHIA.

An advertisement which appeared in the 1851 edition of Rae's Chestnut Street Panorama business directory. It mentions the new rates and that Bloods had over 300 box stations.

XV. 1851 Rate Reduction

Late use with 5¢ 1847 Government stamps

Although the 1851 Act left the prepayment of letters optional, it did reduce the rate for letters under 3,000 miles to 3¢ paid and 5¢ if not prepaid. Distances over 3,000 miles were 6¢ and 10¢ respectively. The new rates became effective in July 1851. The Government stamps issued in 1847 were demonetized on June 30, 1851.



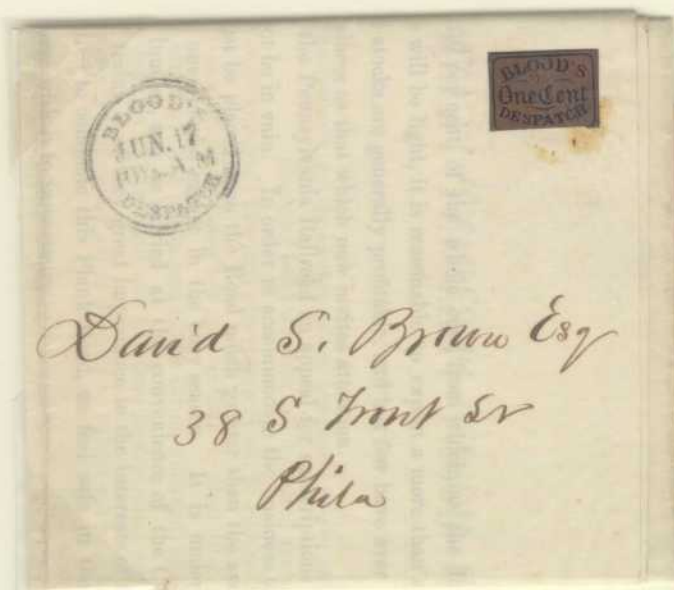
May 7, 1851

Delivered to the post office by Blood's and sent to Doylestown, Pa. Doylestown was only 20 miles from Philadelphia. The fee of 10¢ indicates the letter weighed more than ½ ounce and thus required the double rate.

XVI. 1851 Time of Pickup Handstamps

Four different time dated cancels

"In response to letters to the Public Ledger stating that it was impossible to determine the efficiency of Blood's messengers since a patron could not tell when the letter delivered to him had been collected from the boxes, Blood's announced on Saturday, May 24, 1851, that thereafter new handstamps would show the time of the pickup."³



June 17, 1852 - 10½ A.M.



8 A.M.



2 P.M.



January 15, 1852 - 9 P.M.

3. "Blood's Despatch Revisited", Steven Roth, *The Penny Post*, Vol. 1, No. 4, (Nov. 1991), pp. 22.

A destructive fire started early on Saturday morning December 27, 1851 in the Hart's building on the N.E. corner of Sixth and Chestnut Streets. The fire spread to the Shakespeare building on the N.W. corner and to adjoining buildings on Chestnut and Sixth St. Blood's Despatch office in the Shakespeare buildings was completely destroyed with a loss of \$1200. In spite of this loss the letters of Saturday were delivered as usual. Blood advertised on Monday:

"BLOOD'S DESPATCH."—TO THE PUBLIC.—During the fire of Saturday morning, our Office was totally destroyed, with everything in it. A new location will be secured as soon as possible; meanwhile, regular deliveries, from all our Boxes, will be made as usual.

§

BLOOD & Co.

After the fire, Blood's opened its new offices at No. 15 Arcade, West Avenue (*Public Ledger*, Dec 31, 1851).



XVII. 1851 Government Stamps

Usages with the 1¢ and 3¢ Government stamps

The Government issued three new stamps for the rates established by the act of 1851. Issued during July, they had values of 1¢, 3¢ and 12¢.

October 29, 1851

To the post office by Blood's. The 3¢ fee for delivery to Newbern, North Carolina was pre-paid by three of the new 1¢ stamps.



July 29, 1851

Delivered to the route agent at the railway station and posted to Boston via New York. The 3¢ fee paid by the new government stamp.



July 24, 1852

Despatched to the post office at 9 p.m. Mailed to Orwigsburgh, Pa and from there forwarded to Pottsville, Pa. The additional 3¢ forwarding fee also paid with a stamp.



February 21, 1852

Blood's fee of 1¢ and post office fee of 3¢ paid by stamps.

XVII. 1851 Government Stamps

*Richmond, Virginia office?
Trans-Atlantic rate to France*

No records have been found that indicate that Blood's operated in Richmond, Virginia. Two letters have been recorded with examples of the "One Cent" stamp indicating possible use for delivery to the Richmond, Va. post office. The blood's stamp is actually cancelled by the Richmond postmark on the second example. These were undoubtedly Way covers which received no additional markings.



April 8, 185-



November 21, 1851

Taken to the post office for delivery to Paris, France "by the first mail steamer", this letter was routed per the Collins Line Steamer Atlantic which departed New York Dec. 6, 1851. The letter is overpaid by 3¢ as it went British Open Mail via American Packet at 21¢ per half ounce. It weighed between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce as the French charged 16 decimes on arrival.



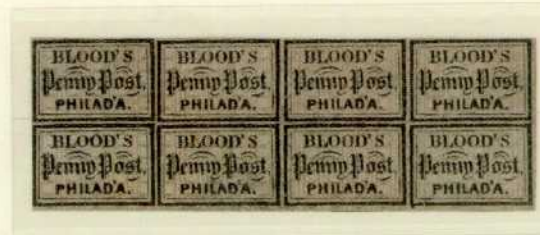
February 9, 1852

Delivered to the post office for mailing to London, England. The 24¢ postage being paid by two of the new 12¢ stamps. Under the British Treaty, a credit of 19¢ was indicated in red.

XVIII. Name Change "Blood's Penny Post" 1852-53

New "Penny Post" Stamp

Charles Kochersperger became the manager of the post in 1852. He changed the name to "Blood's Penny Post" to emphasize the lower rates. A new stamp was issued in 1853. Printed in blue and pink on light blue colored paper. with the new name of the post. Printed in sheets of 200 arranged in 8 panes of 25, each 5 by 5 stamps in size.



Trail color - black and buff on bluish paper



Pane of 25



December 21, 1853

To the post office for delivery to Princeton, NY

3¢ stamp position 92L1(L), double transfers of rosettes, line through "THREE CENTS"

XVIII. Name Change "Blood's Penny Post" 1852-53

New "Penny Post" Stamp



January 14, 1855

Wilmington, Delaware.



March 25, 1854

Delafield, Wisconsin

XVIII. Name Change "Blood's Penny Post" 1852-53

Philadelphia post office cancel types

The Philadelphia post office used several different postmarks at any one time between 1851 and 1857.

June 1, 1853

Large "A" in PA.



August 24, 1853

Small "a" in Pa.

XVIII. Name Change "Blood's Penny Post" 1852-53

6¢ Rate to California

Trans-Atlantic usage to Scotland



September 7, 1853

To San Francisco, California, the prepaid rate for over 3,000 miles was 6¢.

September 26, 1853

To the post office for mailing to Aberdeen, Scotland. The rate was 24¢ (2 of the 3¢ stamps are missing). 19¢ credited to Gt. Britain. Backstamps indicate the letter was forwarded to Boston and sent by British packet, arriving via Liverpool on October 10th.



XVIII. Name Change "Blood's Penny Post" 1852-53

Forwarded unpaid letter
Usage on mail to Germany



April 5, 1854

To the post office by Blood's and mailed unpaid at the 5¢ rate to Ashland, Ohio, forwarded from there to Hudson, Ohio and from there to Middlebury, Ohio. Each forwarding was charged 5¢ for a total of 15¢ due from the addressee.



April 16, 185(5)

Posted to Germany by the Philadelphia post office. Sent to New York for delivery by British Packet, the 5¢ prepaid for the British open mail rate, 23¢ debit against Prussia, 13 Silbergroschen due from addressee for single rate (30¢ equivalent). Aachen, May 3rd and Augare, May 5th receiving marks on reverse.

XIX. Blood's Penny Post: 1853 Postal Stationery

*Local delivery usage
To the post office usage*

New envelopes with the wording "For Philadelphia Delivery Prepaid" were issued in 1853. Sold in several colors and sizes, they did not employ the new name of the post.

Red stamp embossed on white wove paper.



March 15, 1853

Earliest recorded use.



October 11, 1853

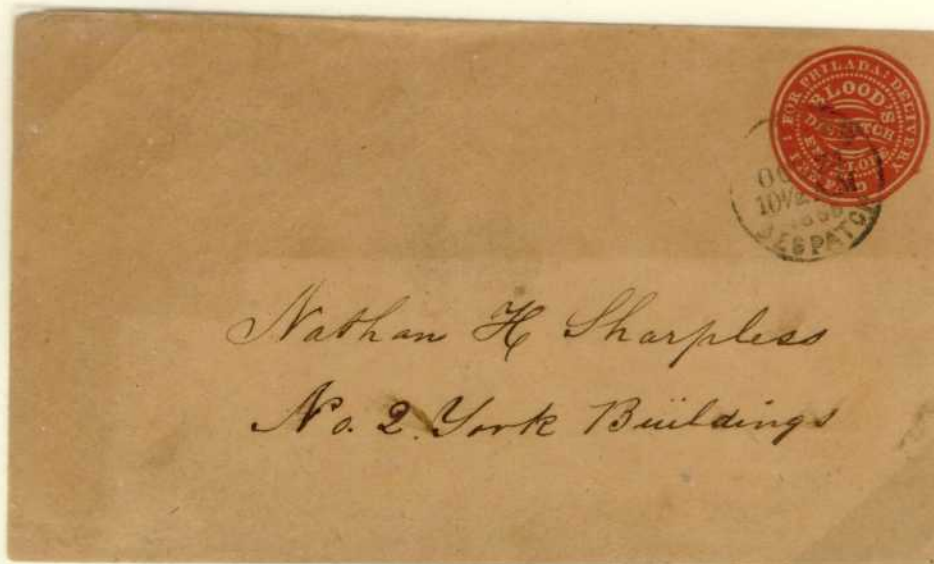
To the post office for mailing to Providence, Rhode Island.

XIX. Blood's Penny Post: 1853 Postal Stationery

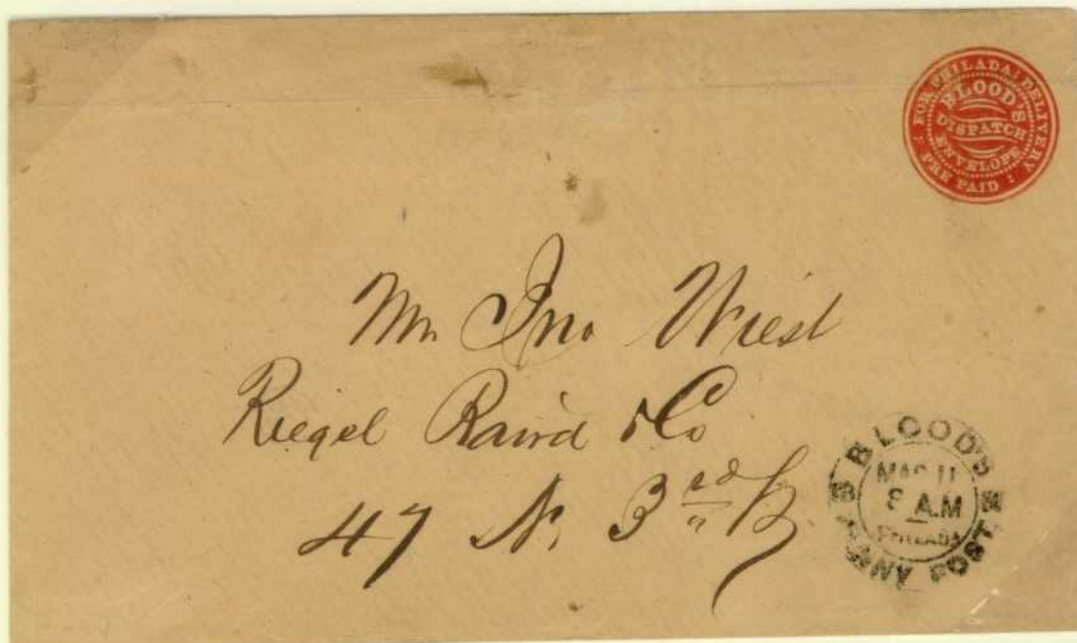
Local delivery usage

October 24, 1855

Buff colored wove paper



Amber colored paper
90 x 55 mm
"Ladies" envelope



March 11, 1854

Buff colored laid
paper

XIX. Blood's Penny Post: 1853 Postal Stationery

Combined with Government issue

Authorized by the Act of August 31, 1852, the first Government stamped envelopes were not issued until June 1853. As a convenience for their customers, Blood's embossed their new stamps on the new Government envelopes.



November 5, 1853

Delivered to the post office for mailing to Horn Post Office, Indiana County, Pa.



April 23, 1859

A late example example on the Government issue of 1854.
Mailed to Farmville, Cumberland County, Virginia.

XX. Blood's Penny Post: 1854 Stamp Issue

To the post office and local delivery usages

The stamp was changed early in 1854 to bronze on a black glazed paper. The reason for the change in printing is unknown. These stamps are found primarily used during March and April of 1854. Examples used as late as October are known.



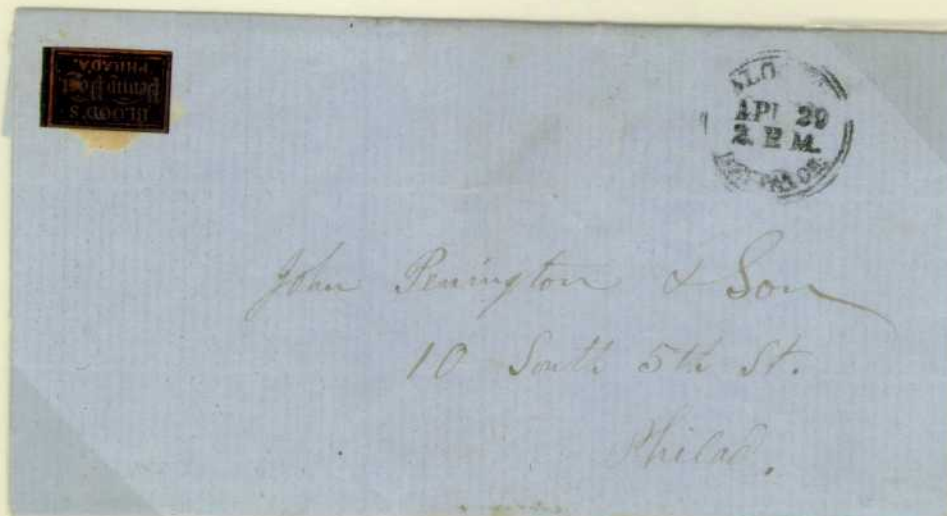
March 3, 1854

Sent 5¢ collect to Doe Run P.O.,
Chester Co., Pa.



March 7, 1854

Delivered to the post office for the
1¢ fee and posted to Harboro, Pa.



April 29, 1854

Local delivery letter.

XX. Blood's Penny Post: Second 1854 Stamp

Pane of 25

To the post office usage

The stamps were changed again to a bronze ink, as before, but printed on a light blue colored paper. The same layout was used as the previous issue.



Pane of 25.



May 3, 1854

To the post office for mailing to Pottsville, Pa.

Earliest recorded use.



July 31, 1854

Delivered to the post office by Blood's for posting to Aberdeen, Scotland. The fee of 24¢ was prepaid with eight 3¢ stamps (3 are missing). Sent to the Exchange office as indicated by the "PHILA. BR. PKT" postmark. Arrived via Liverpool in Aberdeen on August 14th. The British post office was credited 19¢. The Philadelphia Exchange office opened in January, 1854.

XX. Blood's Penny Post: Second 1854 Stamp

*Post office paid in cash
Sent "Free"*

Although the Act of March 3, 1855 made prepayment of postage compulsory, the use of postage stamps for payment did not become mandatory until January 1, 1856.



January 16, 1855

Sent prepaid without stamps to Doe Run P.O., Pa.

Free postage was granted by the government under certain conditions.



October 8, 1856

Sent "FREE" to the Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, DC. The Blood's fee was paid however.



December 4, 1854

Overweight letter to Wilmington, De., requiring an additional 5¢ postage. Marked "5 Cts. Due" as the rate was 3¢ prepaid and 5¢ collect.

February 16, 1857

Double rate letter to Rexford Flats, NY properly prepaid with two 3¢ stamps. (The month is inverted in the Philadelphia postmark.)



October 12, 1855

Delivered to the post office for mailing to Peoria, Ill. Forwarded to Mofvile Sta., the additional 3¢ paid by a stamp.



October 31, 1856

To Bethlehem, Pa.

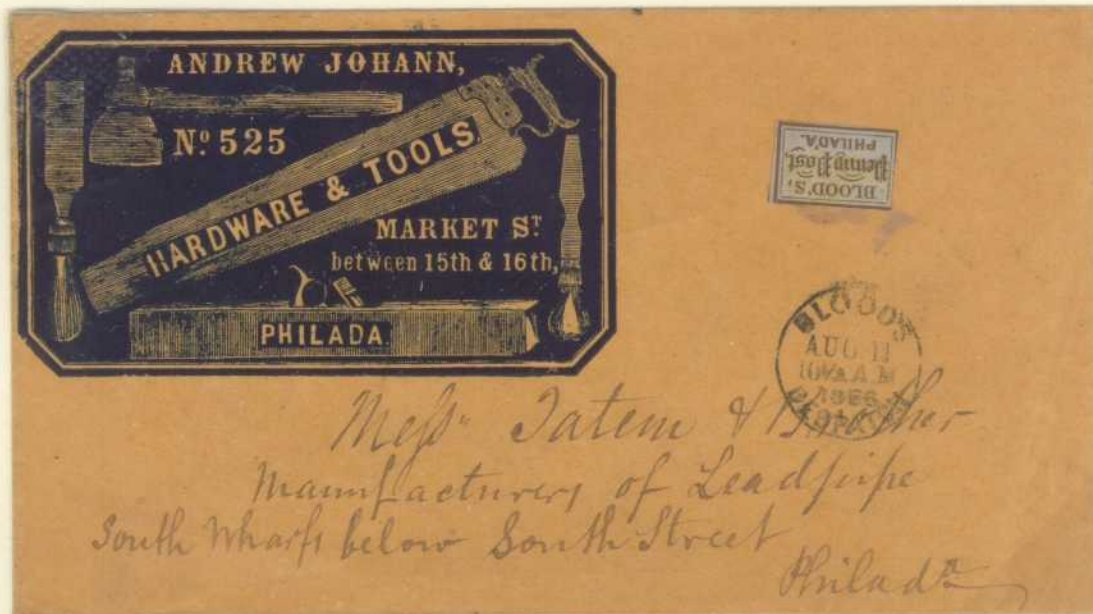
XX. Blood's Penny Post: Second 1854 Stamp

Deliveries increased

By 1854 Blood's had increased their deliveries to eight times per day.

August 11, 1856

Local delivery. Note the specific address.



July 17, 1857

To the post office for mailing to New York City.



January 13, 1857

To Minersville, Pa.



August 5, 1857

To Leacock
P.O., Pa.

XX. Blood's Penny Post: Second 1854 Stamp

Late use of 1851 1¢ stamps



Oct. 31, 1857

Addressed to Painesville, Ohio. A late use of the 1¢ 1851 Government stamps to pay the 3¢ rate.

(?) 1, 1861

Local delivery.



XX. Blood's Penny Post: Second 1854 Stamp

Business mail

By the late 1850's Blood's had over 300 post boxes for the deposit of mail. Their routes covered over 12 miles. The majority of their business consisted of business mail with the city limits.





February 15, 185(5)

Sent to London on board an American packet, this letter was rated at 24¢ unpaid by the Philadelphia exchange office.



December 22, 1856

Carried by Blood's to the post office and sent to New York for delivery to France. Carried in British open mails by British packet. Accountancy marking applied at London to show French were being debited 1 Franc 60 Centimes per 30 grams letter weight. These markings, resulting from the Anglo-French Treaty of 1856, appear on letters from the U.S. during the three month period just before the first U.S.-French treaty became effective.

XX. Blood's Penny Post: Second 1854 Stamp

Usage with 10¢ 1855 Government issue

During the period from June 30, 1851 until May 1855, the Government had no 10¢ stamp. When the new rate of 10¢ for over 3,000 miles and compulsory payment for domestic mail, went into effect April 1, 1855, a new stamp was rushed into production, first appearing in May 1855.



February 9, 1857

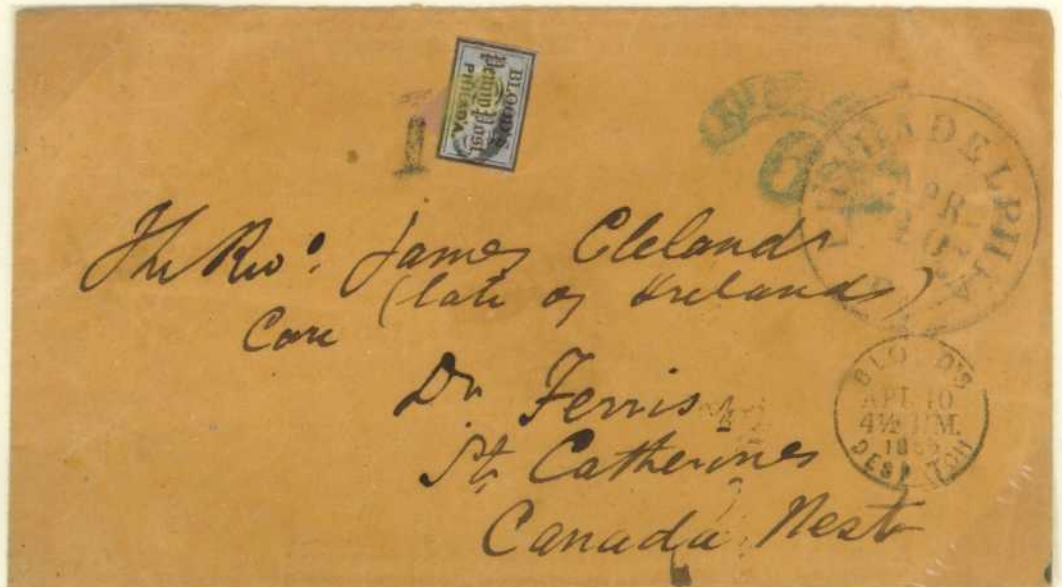
The rate for a ½ ounce letter to Cuba was 10¢ in 1857. Carried to the post office by Blood's and sent prepaid to Santiago, Cuba. Upon arrival in New York on February 14, it was placed on board a Havana bound steamer. The blue "NA 1" is a Havana receiving mark. A backstamp indicates the letter arrived in Santiago on February 27th.

XX. Blood's Penny Post: Second 1854 Stamp

Examples used to Canada paid and unpaid

April 10, 1855

Sent to St. Catherines, Canada West. Prepayment was not compulsory on foreign mail. Sent 10¢ unpaid. The blue Buffalo, N.Y. Exchange office marking indicates that 6 pence was due for delivery from the border. St. Catherines backstamp showing delivery on April 13th.



August 5, 1857

Prepaid and sent to Granby, Canada East. A "Montreal/AU 6?1857" receiving mark on the reverse.

XX. Blood's Penny Post: Second 1854 Stamp

Used with 3¢ 1857 Govenment stamps

Experiments by the British in the 1840's led to issuance in 1854 by Gt. Britain of perforated postage stamps. In February 1857, the printers of United States stamps, Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co., were awarded a contract to produce perforated sheets of the then current stamps.



September 26, 1857

Double rate letter posted to West Chester, Pa., prepaid by a pair of the perforated 3¢ stamps. The Blood's fee prepaid by their 1¢ stamp of 1854.

XX. Blood's Penny Post: Second 1854 Stamp

Used with 1¢ & 3¢ 1857 Government stamps



December 13, 185(7)

Delivered unpaid and held by the post office until the 3¢ postage was paid before mailing to New York

December 31, 1857

Sent prepaid to Granby, Canada East. Montreal backstamp indicates arrival January 5, 1858.



XX. Blood's Penny Post: Second 1854 Stamp

Used with 1¢ & 3¢ 1857 Government stamps



February 4, 1858

Prepaid to Booneville, Missouri.

January 5, 1861
Prepaid to New York.



Blood's stamps tied by a Government postmark are the exception not the rule.

XX. Blood's Penny Post: Second 1854 Stamp

Cross border to Canada



January 4, 1857

Sent underpaid, the correct rate being 10¢, this letter to Montreal, Canada was marked "10" to indicate the postage due. No credit was given for the 3¢ stamp. The "6" indicates 6 pence was due for delivery from the border.

September 19, 1860

To St. Catharines, CWR (Canada West Region), sent underpaid. When it arrived at the U.S. Exchange office in Buffalo, N.Y. it was marked "Due 10" and stamped "UD STATES / 10 cts". Backstamped: "ST. CATHARINES/SP 21/60" in red and "C.W.R./WEST/SP 21/60" in black. The addressee paid the postage due.





September 22, 1860

Delivered to the post office by Blood's and correctly prepaid with a 10¢ stamp for mailing to Montreal, Canada.



March 10, 1856

Marked "DUE 3" by the post office, this letter originally had a stamp affixed. Was it removed because the sender assumed mail to a member of the legislature was free?

April 10, 1856

Addressed to Dayton, Montgomery Co., Md, but missent and returned by the Dayton, Montgomery, Oh post office.





March 9, 1861

To Lewisburg, Pa. marked "DUE 3" by the post office. Probably over weight.

XX. Blood's Penny Post: Second 1854 Stamp

Used on Government stationery



January 19, 1856



May 26, 1858

XXI. Blood's Penny Post: 1855 -1857 Postal Stationery Issues

Various sizes
Latest recorded use

Examples of the many sizes of prepaid envelopes sold by Blood's.



104 x 71 mm

July 3, 1857

Latest recorded use.



97 x 60 mm

April 29, 1856

94 x 53 mm





September 9, 1856

Blood's stamp added to Government envelope. Note the addressee, Miss Kate Anderson.

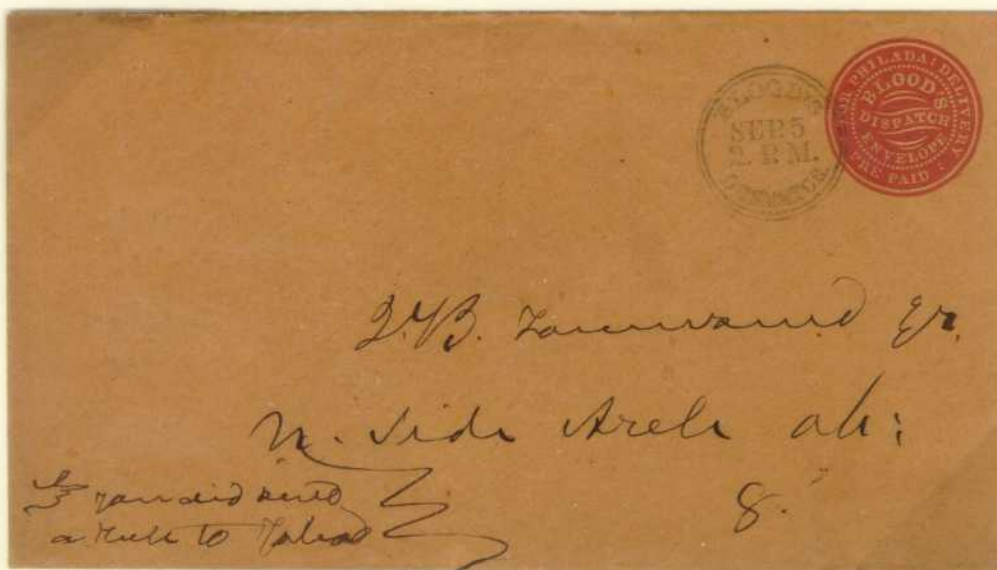
October 4, 1858

Addressed to Mrs. E. Kochersperger, the former Miss Kate Anderson. In 1855 Elbert Kochersperger, the brother of Charles, became a partner in the firm.



XX. Blood's Penny Post: 1855 -1857 Postal Stationery Issues

*Various papers and colors
Earliest recorded use*



September 5, 1854

Red stamp embossed on buff colored paper.



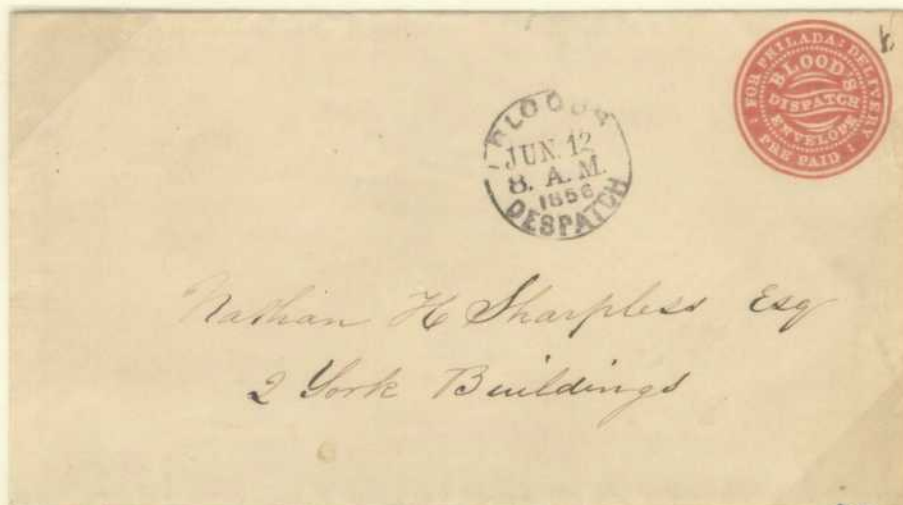
February 9, 1856

Red stamp on white laid paper.

Earliest recorded use.

XX. Blood's Penny Post: 1855 -1857 Postal Stationery Issues

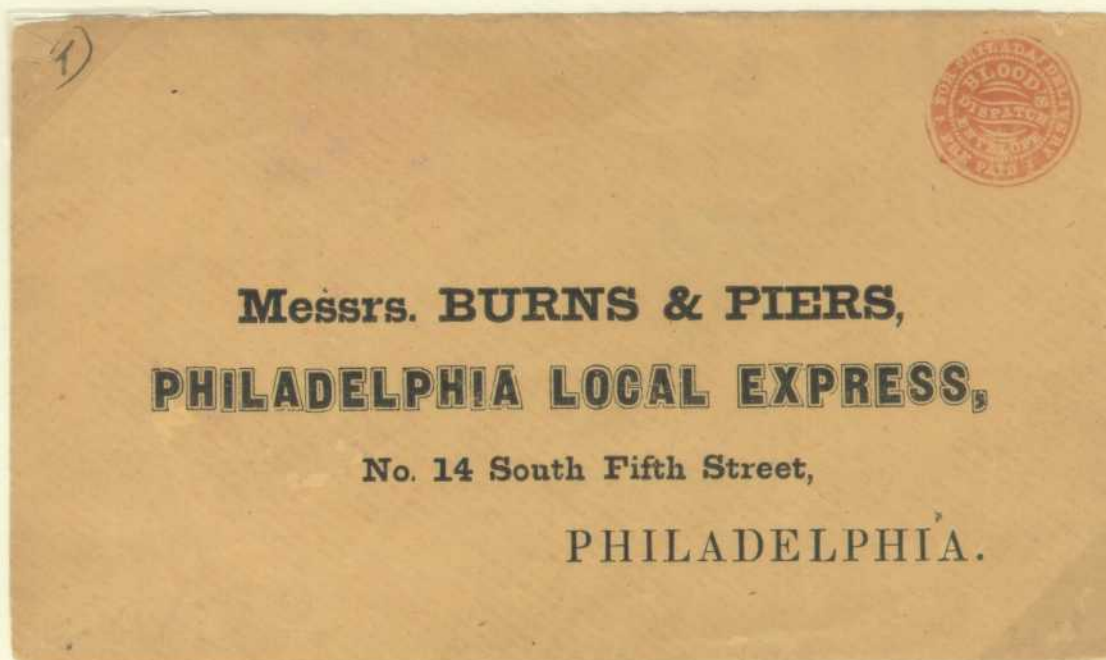
*Various papers and colors
Latest recorded use*



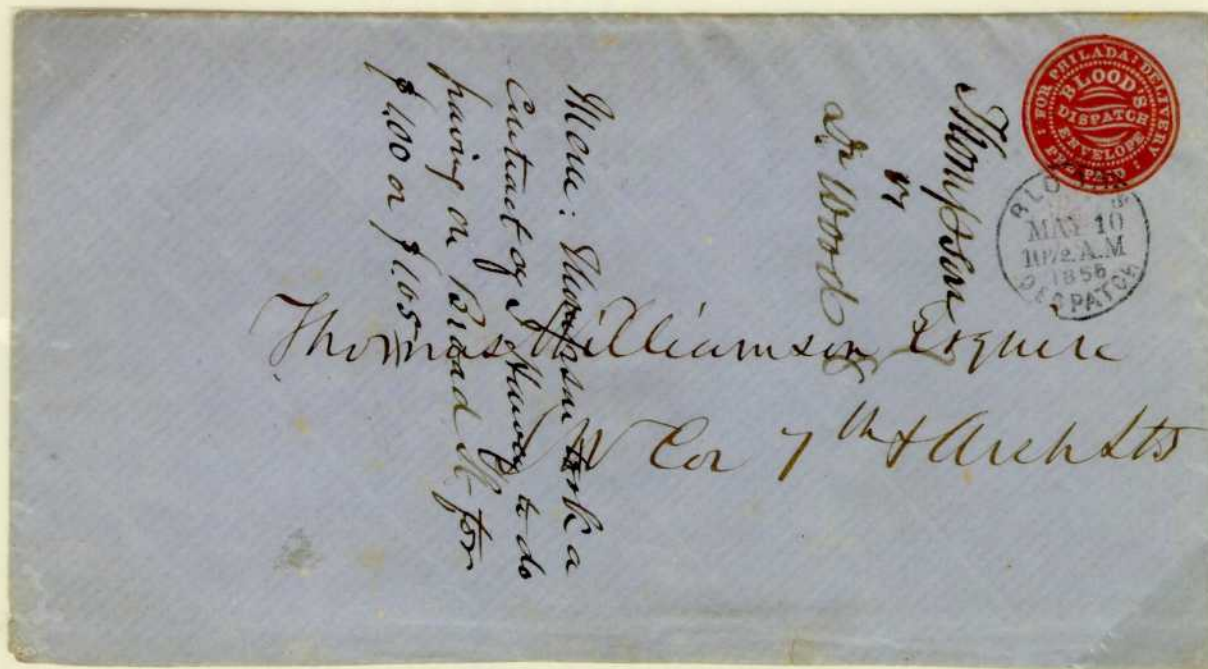
June 12, 1856

Red stamp on white laid paper.

Latest recorded use



Printed return address envelope used by an express company for the convenience of it's customers.



May 10, 1855

Red stamp embossed on blue paper.

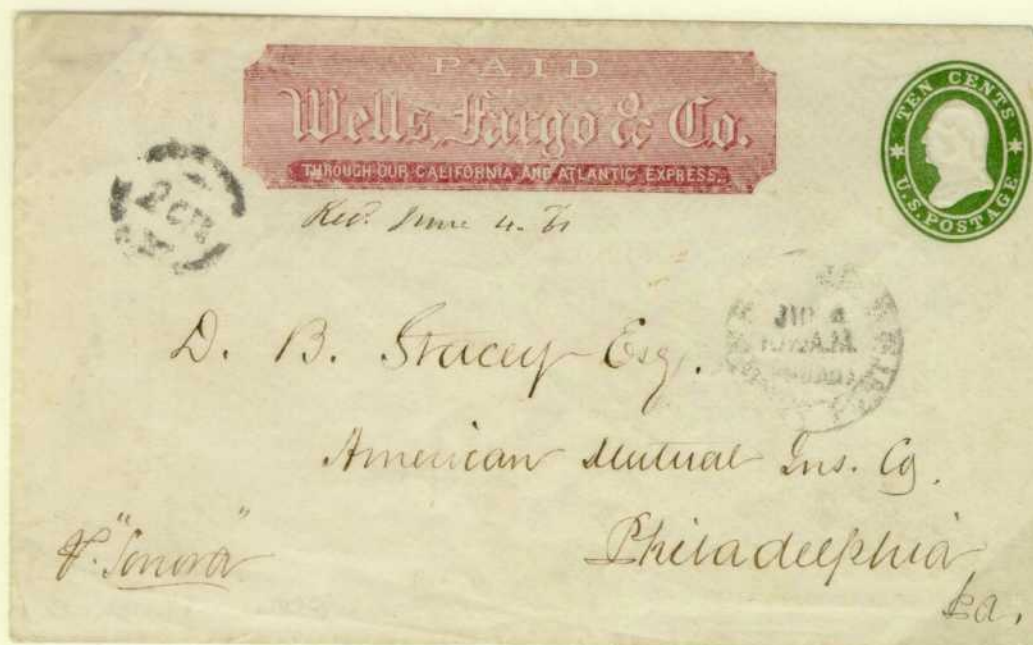
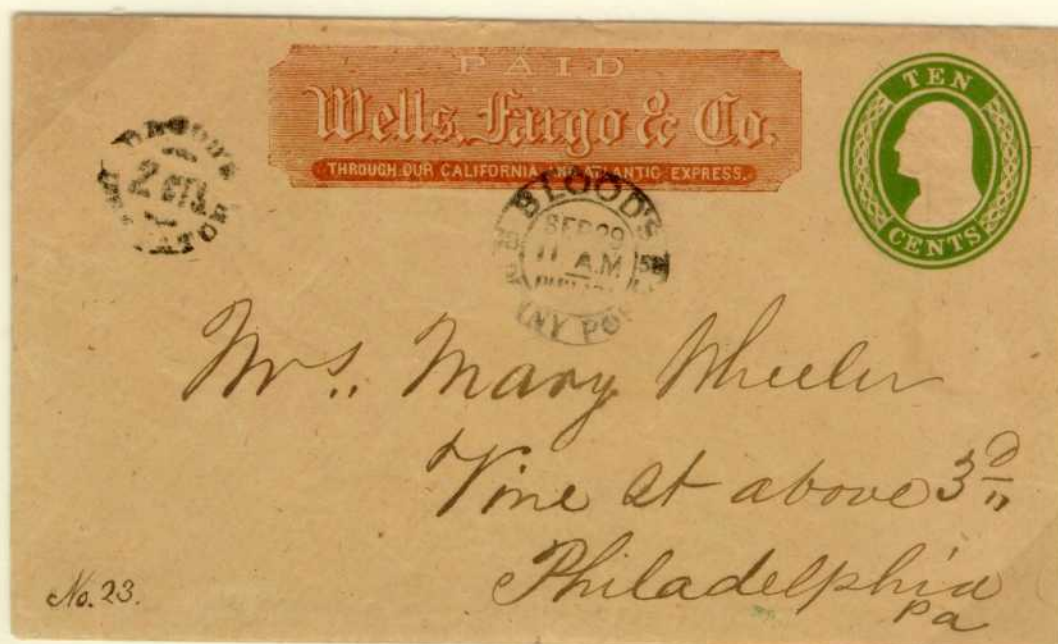
One of two recorded copies.



September 29, 1855

Posted from the Wells, Fargo & Co. office at Victoria, Vancouver Island, to Philadelphia. Carried outside the U.S. mails despite the use of the government envelope, which was necessary to prepay the express company fees. The black handstamp in the upper left is a customs marking, the first frank of Vancouver. The letter was picked up at the Wells, Fargo office by Blood's and delivered, their 2¢ fee collect.

September 29, 1858



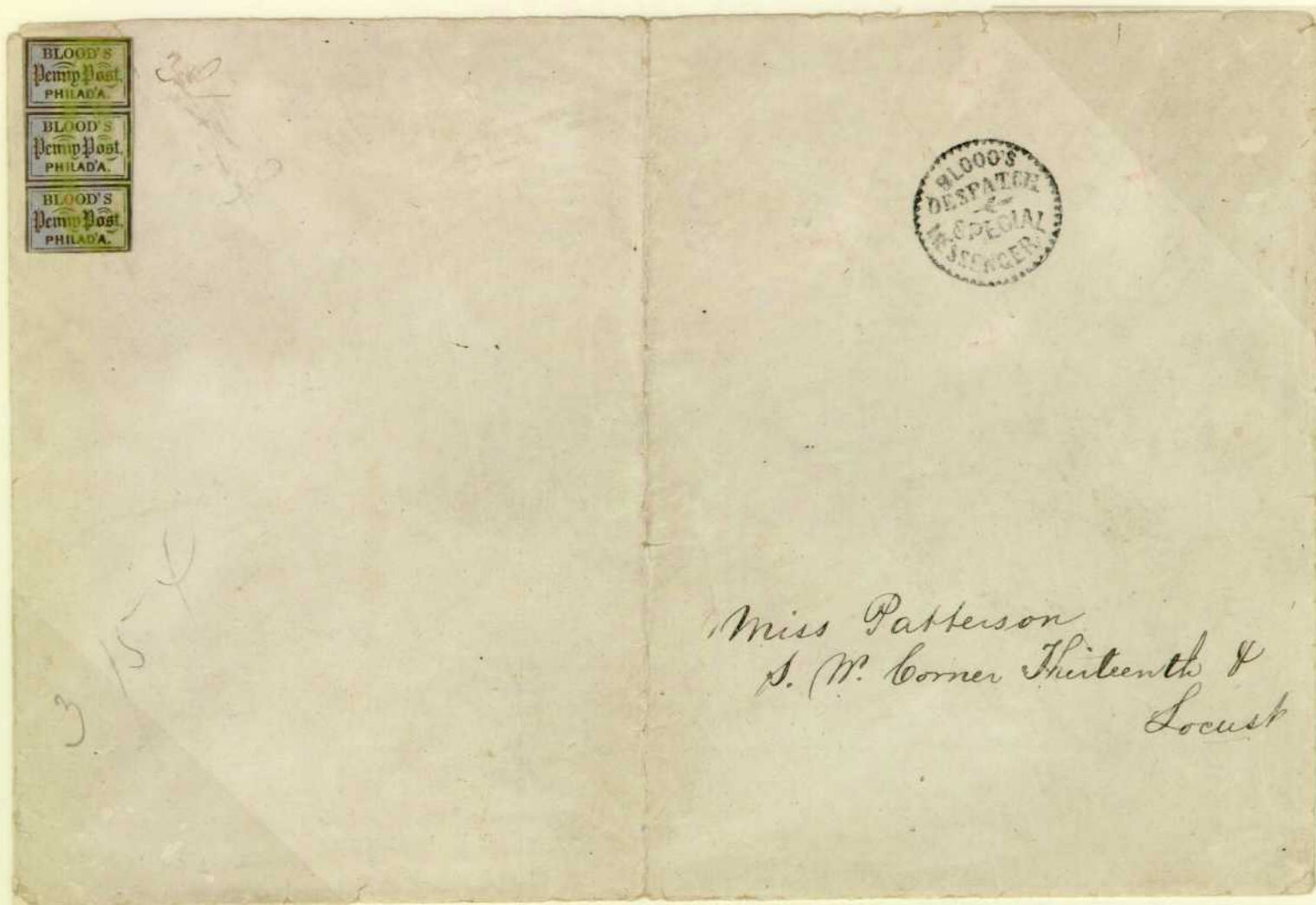
June 4, 1860 or 61

mss "Via Sonora"



February 14, 1856

Blood's continued their Special Messenger Service which guaranteed same day delivery. A valentine postmarked February 14, 1856 at 10½ A.M. and delivered the same day for a fee of 5¢, 2¢ paid with stamps and 3¢ paid in cash as indicated by the "3¢" in the upper left corner.



Circa 1857

This large envelope undoubtedly contained a greeting card for Miss Patterson. Delivered by Blood's Special Messenger, 3¢ of the 5¢ fee was paid by the strip of three stamps.



September 3, 1857

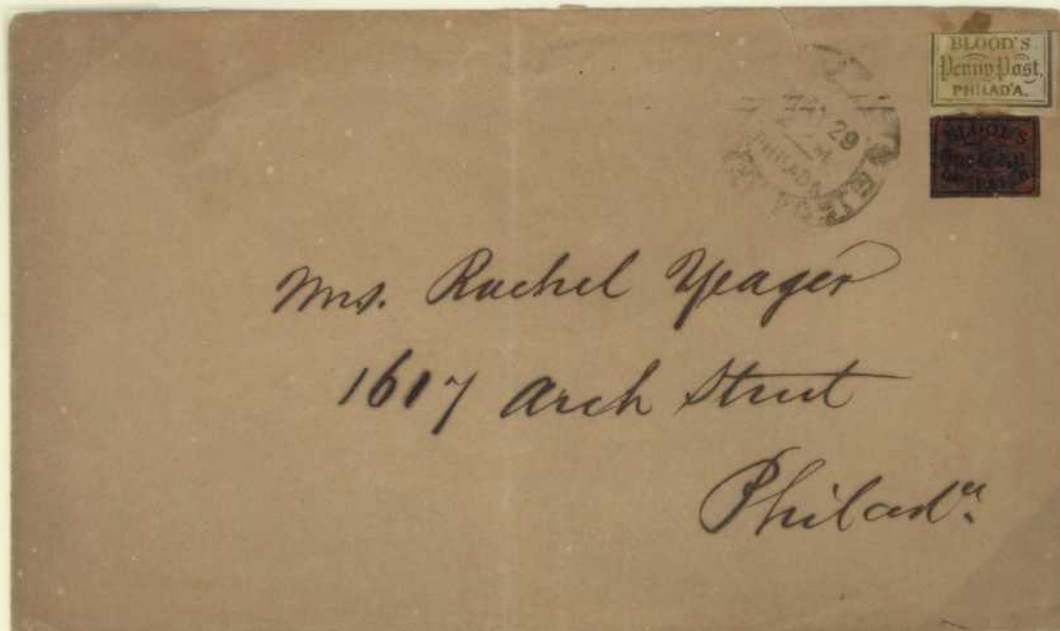
Some philatelic authorities have speculated the existence of a special service for pickup at the customer's address for immediate delivery to the post office. A record of such service, or the 3¢ fee, has yet to be documented.

XXI. Collect Fees

Multiple stamp use

In April 1852 Blood's announced that it would accept letters for city delivery which were not prepaid the required 1¢. Such letters were sent for 2¢. The letters with two stamps applied are probably examples of this rate.

December 13, 1857



May 29, 1857

Two different
issues used!

English and Classical School,

No. 84 North Tenth Street, above Arch.

The undersigned, formerly PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH LITERATURE at Haverford School, will re-open his School for Boys, on the 1st of Ninth month, 1856, where instruction will continue to be given to a limited number of Pupils in the Latin and Greek Languages, Mathematics, Chemistry, Geology, Natural Philosophy, Rhetoric, History, and the other usual branches of a good English Education.

The experience acquired by teaching four years at Haverford, and three years in his present position, will, he hopes, enable him to secure thoroughness in the instruction, and to maintain a mild but efficient discipline.

Attention will be given to preparing Students for College, or for either the Second Junior or Third Junior Class in Haverford School.

TERMS.—\$40 per Session, of five months each. Books and Stationery furnished, if desired, at the usual Store prices.

No Student admitted for less than a Session, and no deductions made for absence, except when occasioned by prolonged illness.

ALBERT K. SMILEY.



William W. Meredith
98 South 4th St.

June 26, 1856

An early example of the 2¢ fee paid with a pair of stamps.

XXII. "Henry Clay" Issue of 1858

Essays and trial colors

Charles Otis Blood died on September 21, 1855. Charles Kochersperger, along with his brother Elbert, bought the business from the heirs.

A new stamp, the last issued, was engraved by Draper, Welsch & Co. Bearing the likeness of Henry Clay, this stamp was lettered: "BLOOD'S PENNY POST - KOCHERSPERGER & CO. PHILADA". Essays show Philadelphia spelled completely. The stamp was printed in black on white paper, issued imperforate. Previously issued stamps were still valid and are often found used after 1858.

Essays



Red

Blue

Green

Brown

Black

Trial Color Printings

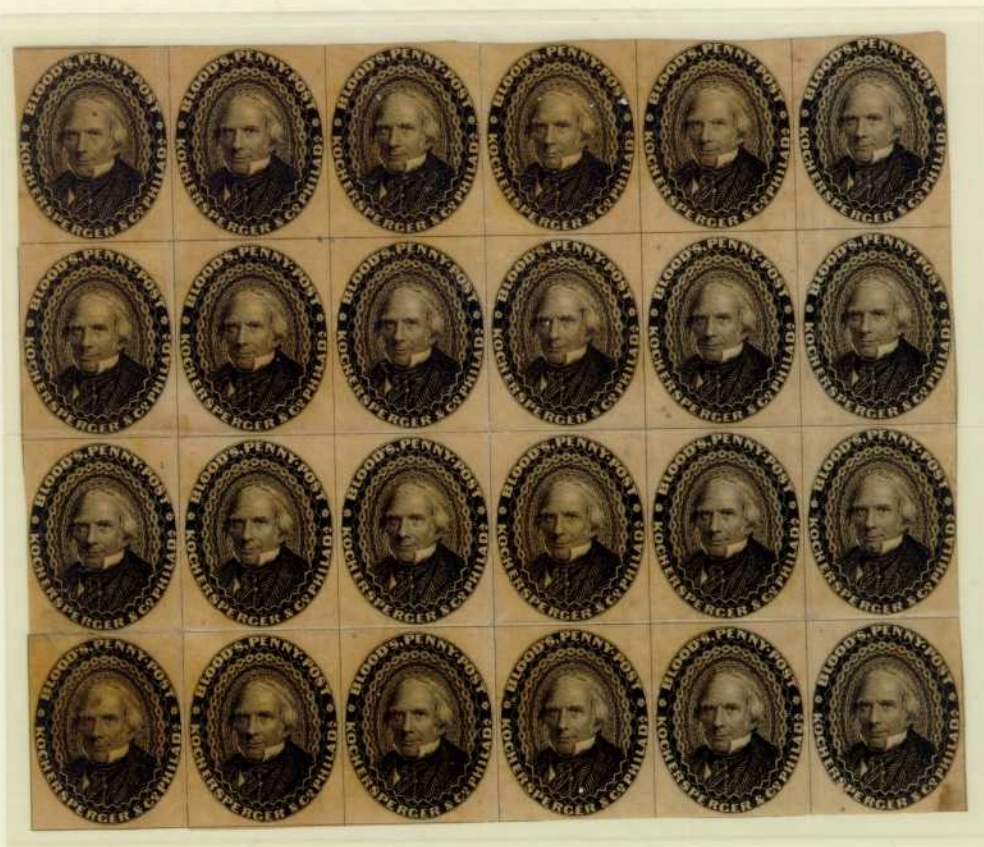


Red

Blue

Green

Brown



Unused block of 24 stamps

"Largest multiple seen." Robson Lowe (Rumor has it that a full sheet exists, but the exhibitor has yet to verify it.)

XXII. "Henry Clay" Issue of 1858

New hanstamp issued
Trans-Atlantic usage to Scotland

A new handstamp appeared in 1855 with the wording "BLOOD'S PENNY POST".



February 16, 1858

Delivery to the post
office for posting to
Washington, DC.

May 25, 1858

Sent collect for a 24¢ fee
by British packet to
Scotland.





November 15, 1859

City delivery from an alderman.



October 29, 1858

To the post office for
mailing to Baltimore.



March 30, 1859

Invitation to a public meeting of the "Ciceronian of Philadelphia", the 1¢ fee prepaid.

September 29, 1858

Usage with a 3¢ Government envelope prepaying delivery to Alabama.





January 29, 1859

Sent "FREE" to a member in Congress in Washington, D.C.

February 14, 1859

Sent "FREE" to the Postmaster, Shohola, Pa. Unusual to find Blood's stamp cancelled by post office device.



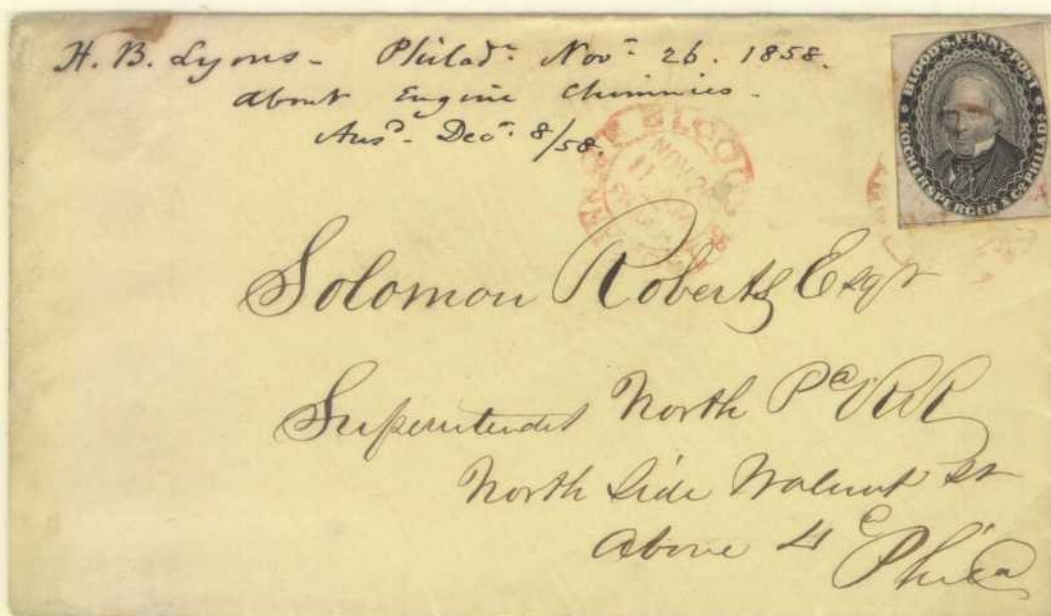


These letters show what was once a vertical pair of stamps.

XXII. "Henry Clay" Issue of 1858

Red cancel example

Drop letter



November 26, 1858

Local delivery letter.

For a period of only five days, Nov. 22 through 26, 1858, the Blood's handstamp was applied in red, the reason unknown.

May 26, 1859

Mistakenly dropped in a U.S. mail box instead of a Blood's box. The "Drop 1 ct." marking applied by the post office indicates the drop letter fee was collected from the addressee. The Blood's stamp was wasted.



XXIII. From the Post Office Delivery?

Blood's envelope used outside of Philadelphia

There is evidence that would seem to indicate that one could prepay the fee for Blood's to pickup incoming mail at the post office for delivery by them. Written instruction would have been left with the Postmaster to not deliver by post office carrier. The letter below is addressed to Elbert, the brother of Charles Kochersperger, who in turn operated Blood's Penny Post. He died in 1909.



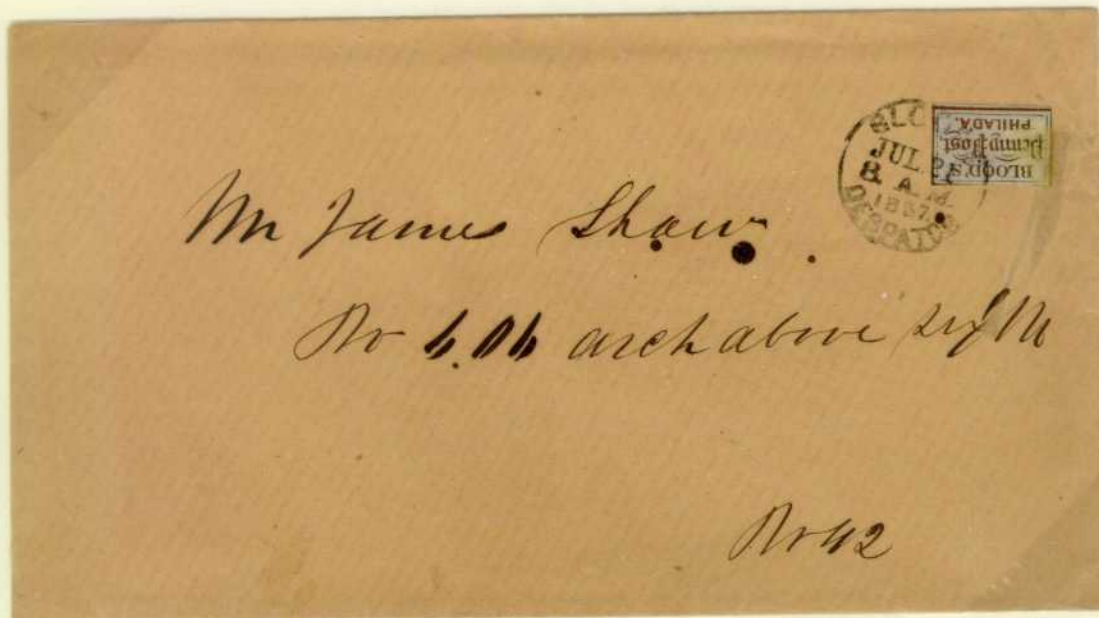
August 3, 185?

Addressed to Elbert at Blood's Post Office, Arcade, Philadelphia. Mailed from Ralston, Pa in a Blood's prepaid envelope, the post office fee of 3¢ paid in cash.

XXII. "Henry Clay" Issue of 1858

Was it issued in 1855?

Several modern and older references state that the Henry Clay stamp was issued in 1855. Covers dated 1855, '56 or '57 have yet to be found. It is this exhibitor's opinion that the stamp was first issued in early 1858, not 1855. Covers like those shown here indicate that the 1854 stamps were used well into late 1857. The earlier handstamps are also found with late usages.



July 21, 1857

"BLOOD'S DESPATCH"

December 1, 1857

"BLOOD'S PENNY POST"





January 25, 1858

Sent "FREE" to the Postmaster, Falmouth, Va.



September 11, 1861

Post office delivery to Portland,
Maine

XXIV. Customer Box Service

Newspaper announcements

Blood's provided boxes at their offices where customers could have their mail delivered for pickup by them. Shown below are examples of advertisements from the Ledger, all published on the same day in 18656. They all refer to addresses at Blood's Despatch.

A LADY wishes the loan of \$20 for three months. Address "Confidence," Blood's Despatch. It*281

TWO YOUNG LADIES, Protestants, want to travel, as Lady's Maid, Nurse, or Seamstress. Address P. A. Blood's Despatch, for one week. *146

FARMER WANTED—A single man, who is willing to go West. A Scotchman preferred. Address STRAWS, Blood's Despatch. mh21-2t*114

A GENTLEMAN and WIFE wish BOARDING, where there are few Boarders. Address A. B., Blood's Despatch, with name, &c. mh21-2t*32

TO DRUGGISTS—A smart, active, intelligent Boy wants to APPRENTICE himself to the Drug Business; good reference given. Please address DRUGGIST, Blood's Despatch. mh21-1t*274

WANTED—A small, convenient HOUSE, in a central location, or part of a House, with a respectable family. Address Y. E., Blood's Des. *230

WANTED—A HOUSE, for a family of two. Rent about \$400. Address A. C. H., Blood's Despatch. mh21-1t*212

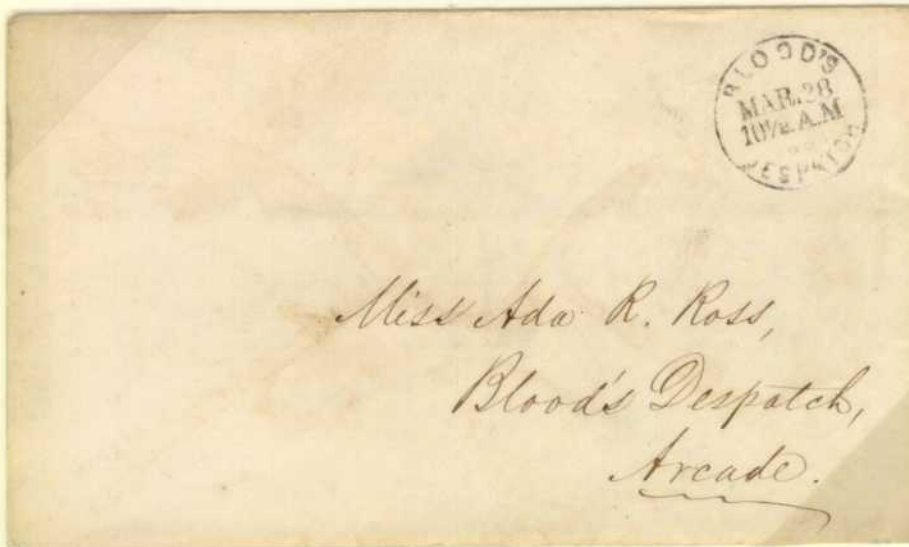
A LADY of respectability wishes to obtain a SITUATION to TEACH YOUNG CHILDREN; can do plain Sewing and Embroidery. No objection to leave the city. Address JANE TAYLOR, Blood's Despatch, for two days. mh21-1t*233

TO LET—A GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING STORE, in the best location in Chesnut st. Fixtures for sale. A chance seldom offered. Address J. W., Blood's Despatch. mh21-1t*292

WANTED—An AMERICAN WOMAN, as Seamstress, and to assist in some of the household duties of a small family without children. Address "House," Blood's Despatch, giving reference and address. mh21-1t*154

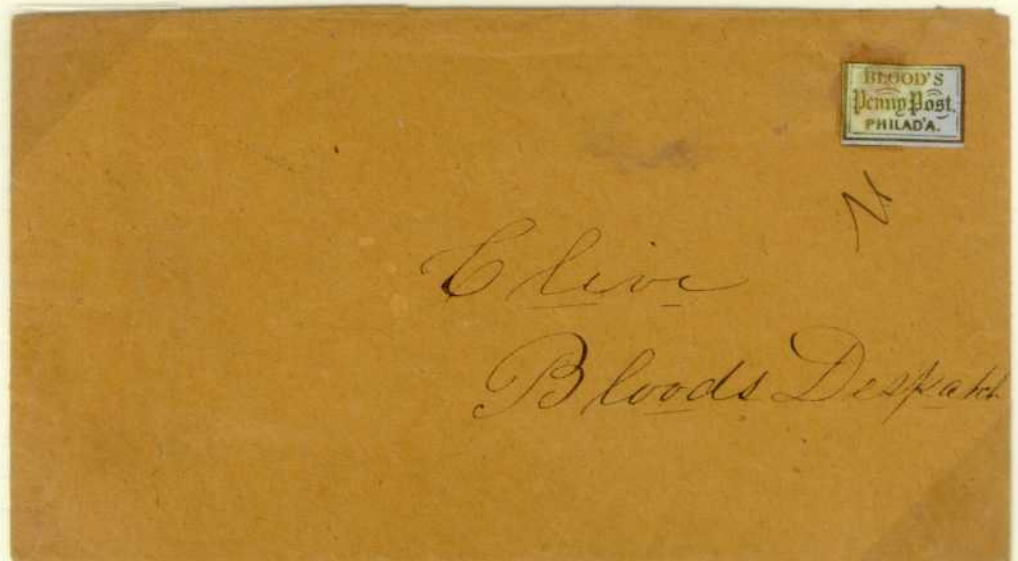
A FURNISHED PARLOR AND CHAMBER, (communicating) with gas, heater, &c., in a beautiful neighborhood in the vicinity of the Exchange, will be let, without board, to one or two single Gentlemen. Address Rooms, Blood's Despatch. mh21 2t*365

WANTED—A YOUTH in a Drug Store near the city. Address ELM, Blood's Despatch. *372



March 28, 1855

Notice that the Blood's office at the Arcade is specified in the address.



Not dated

Prepaid with a 1¢ stamp.

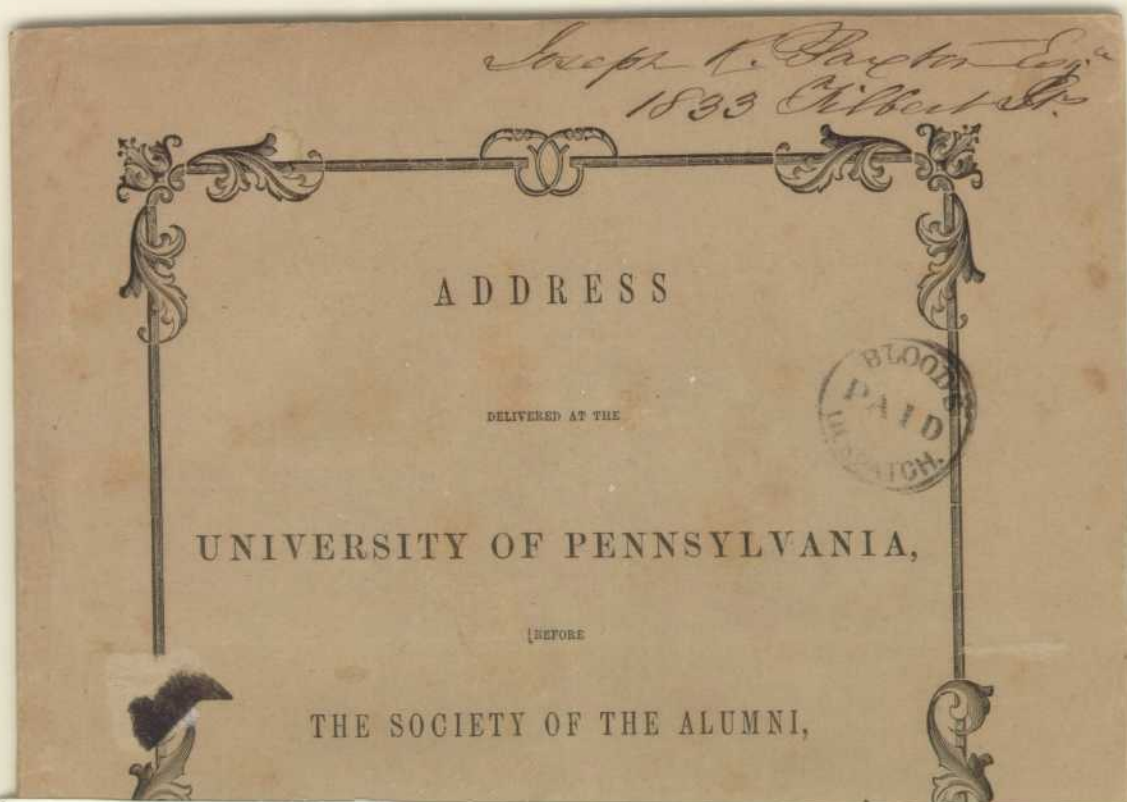
Advertisement from the March 21, 1855 edition of the Ledger & Transcript.

PERSONAL.—“ADA R.” will find a NOTE in
Blood's Despatch. mh21-1t*81



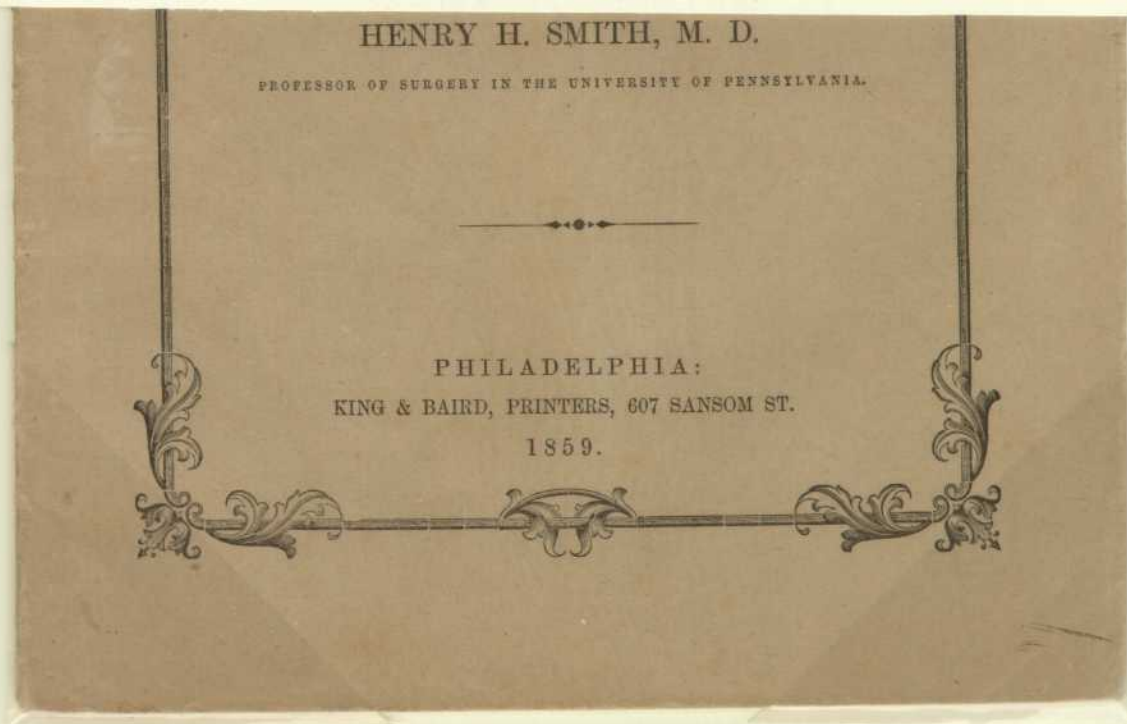
March 22, 1855

The letter addressed to Miss Ada R. as referenced in the advertisement.



A large portion of Blood's business during the late 1850's consisted of the delivery of advertisements, out of town newspapers, announcements, pamphlets and other such mail.

A pamphlet containing an address at the University of Pennsylvania in 1859. Delivered to the addressee written in the top right corner and prepaid as shown by the handstamped "BLOOD'S DESPATCH PAID".



XXVI. The Civil War Period

Uses on patriotic stationery

The breaking out of the civil war in 1861 saw the use of stationery printed with patriotic designs and slogans.

July 29, 1861

To Williamsburgh,
Mass.



June 8, 1867

Local delivery

XXVI. The Civil War Period

Demonetization of stamps

To prevent the fraudulent use of large quantities of stamps remaining in the hands of postmasters in the disloyal states, the U. S. Government post office demonetized the previously issued stamps and issued new ones.



PF Cert. #52930

August 26, 1861

Carried to the post office by Blood's and mailed with a demonetized stamp, this letter to Camp Seward, Washington, DC, was stamped "OLD STAMPS NOT RECOGNIZED" and marked "DUE 3" by the post office. August 26 was the first day on which old stamps were invalid for postage at Philadelphia, and therefore the first day of use of this handstamp.

XXVI. The Civil War Period

Uses with 1861 issue stamps

A contract for stamps of a new design was awarded to the National Bank Note Co. of New York. The stamps were issued during August 1861.



November 20, 1861

Carried to the post office for posting to Danville, Pa. Postage paid with a new issue 3¢ stamp.



December 24, 1861

Three of the new 1¢ stamps used on a letter to Flemington, NJ

The use of older issues of Blood's stamps is not unusual.

XXVI. The Civil War Period

Uses with 1861 issue stamps

Colonel Baker's California Regiment was really a Philadelphia regiment since most of it's men came from there. It later became the 71st Pennsylvania Volunteers.

September 27, 1861

Adressed to James C.
Huffy, Camp Advance,
Fairfax County, Va.



October 10, 1861

Another letter to James C. Huffy, now in Washington, DC. He was captured early in the war, just 11 days after this letter was mailed.

September 24, 1861

Blood's fee prepaid with stamp for delivery to the post office and posting to New York City.



December 5, 1861

Blood's fee paid in cash for delivery to the post office.

XXVI. The Civil War Period

Uses with 1861 issue stamps

The previously issued government prepaid envelopes were also demonetized, necessitating a new design. A contract was entered with George F. Nesbitt & Co., NY. The 3¢ envelope appeared in August 1861.



November 26, 1861



December 17, 1861

XXVI. The Closing Days

Letter posted four days before closing

The question of the right of private carriers to transport letters within the municipal limits of cities was settled by the U. S. Court of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, in a suit brought by the Government against Messrs. Kochersperger & Co. The Court decided that, by the language of the Post Office Act of March 3, 1851, the "streets" of the cities and towns were made "post routes", and that the Government alone had the power to transport letters over them. This decision was the death blow to the private companies such as Blood's.

Blood's ceased its operations on Saturday, January 11, 1862. In closing the business, much of the property, mail boxes, etc., were sold to Philadelphia Postmaster Walborn, for the sum of \$800.



January 8, 1862

Delivered to the post office on Wednesday, three days before closing.