

MOCK UNITED STATES LOCAL POSTS

An exhibit of some of the classic frauds in the field of United States carriers and local posts. Not content with producing only fakes of the many carriers and locals that genuinely existed, early dealers, and some collectors, often fabricated bogus companies complete with "fantasy" issues of carrier or local stamps.

Exhibit is arranged by the date the fantasy post was first reported in the philatelic press. In most cases this date is soon after the fabrication was made because the producer wanted to gain the needed recognition in order to better sell his wares. The exceptions are those frauds reported by Charles Coster, an early authority on U.S. local posts, between 1874 and 1879 which were originally reported by Coster as being the frauds that they were. Many of the producers of these early frauds were either stamp dealers or publishers, or both. S. Allen Taylor, who in 1864 began publishing "The Stamp Collector's Record," the first stamp paper in North America, was exceptionally prolific in his production of fantasies as well as fakes. Other noted manufacturers include John W. Scott, George Hussey and Wuestoff.

Fantasy post locals and carriers is an area that is infrequently exhibited and is only now beginning to receive the authoritative documentation that it deserves; largely through the efforts of the Carriers and Locals Society and its' journal *The Penny Post*. Little, if any, mention is made here of relative scarcity although much of the material exists in less than ten examples.

Note that this is a working reference collection. The notes, printed in italics, which appear on the last page of each fantasy post contain additional reference information and are not essential for an understanding of the exhibit. Also, colors are noted on all adhesives so as to facilitate the sharing of pertinent information by the use of photostatic copies. The nucleus for this collection is the reference collection assembled by the late George Sloane.

The three fantasy local posts shown below were probably produced prior to 1875. None, however, were chronicled before 1900. Each is known in less than three examples and nothing further is known.

Cole's City Post



3c black on pink

Murr's Utah Express



3c black on red

Lee's Dispatch



3c red on yellow

Hourly Express Post

First reported in 1862

Produced by Taylor, Hussey and others, a genuine post

TYPE 1. - comma after 'STAMP,' ornament at bottom joined to frame, believed to be a genuine original



1c black on green

TYPE 2. - comma after 'STAMP,' stems of bottom ornament touching each other but not frame, produced by Hussey



1c black on green



full sheet of twelve

TYPE 3. - comma after 'STAMP,' stems of bottom ornament do not touch each other, maker unknown



1c black on white



1c black on green

Hourly Express Post

First reported in 1862

Produced by Taylor, Hussey and others, a genuine post

TYPE 4. - no comma after 'STAMP;' produced by S.A. Taylor



1c black on white



1c black on green



1c black on yellow



1c black on orange



1c black on pink



1c black on blue



1c black on magenta



1c black on salmon



1c black on pale green



1c black on green, laid



1c blue on white



1c pale blue on white



1c red on buff



1c red on lavender



1c black on pale blue, SC



1c black on orange, SC



1c black on dark blue, SC



1c black on green, SC



1c black on purple, SC



1c red on yellow, SC

Hourly Express Post

First reported in 1862

Produced by Taylor, Hussey and others, a genuine post

TYPE 5. - no comma after "STAMP" and "V" instead of "Y" in "HOURLY," maker unknown



1c green blue on white



1c pale blue on white



Type 4., 1c black on blue, S.C.
with fake "Staats Despatch. S.
Third Street Paid" cancel

Hourly Express Post was first listed in Mount Brown's catalog of June, 1862 and in Moens' 1862 supplement. At this early date S.A. Taylor was still in Canada and is not known to have started his production of fakes and fantasies until 1864. Hussey first printed his version of Hourly Express Post, Wood's Memorandum Book # 88, on June 22, 1866. This was among the last of the locals that he printed.

Because this local post appears in listings prior to both Taylor and Hussey activity it can be presumed that the 1862 listings emanated from a genuine local post. As type 2 is the Hussey production, type 4 the Taylor production, type 3 derived from Moens and type 5 is in the wrong color as listed in 1862, this leaves type 1 as being the likely candidate for being a genuine example. Although type 1 is substantially scarcer than the other types it is not a rarity.

Nothing is known about the sphere of operation of this post. There is only negative evidence in the New York City directories of the 1848 - 1860 period. The example above with the fake "Staats Despatch" cancel may indicate that the post operated in Philadelphia. The early forger was in a better position to know the true history of the post than we are now. I believe that it was a genuine post and that it probably operated in Philadelphia.

International Letter Express

First reported in 1862

Produced by Hussey and others, some possibly genuine

DESIGN A. TYPE - "TWO CENTS" spelled out

TYPE 1. - diamond corner ornaments repeated in top and bottom borders, *possibly genuine*



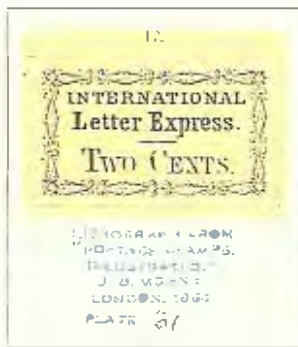
2c black on yellow
ex Bunus

TYPE 2. - diamond corner ornaments, horiz. dash extends over 'E' of 'CENTS' and 'C' nearly closed, *possibly genuine*



2c black on green
ex Bunus

TYPE 3. - as type 2. but 'C' of 'CENTS' open, outer frame line, copied from Mocus



2c black on scarlet, SC



2c black on lavender, SC

TYPE 4. - as type 2. but horiz. dash extends over 'C' only, last 's' of 'Express' broken, *possibly genuine*



2c black on pale rose



2c black on pale rose

International Letter Express

First reported in 1862

Produced by Hussey and others, some possibly genuine

DESIGN A. TYPE - "TWO CENTS" spelled out

TYPE 5. - as type 4. but 's' not broken, produced by Hussey



2c black on pale rose,
possibly genuine



2c black on rose

The Hussey printing was in strips of five stamps. It is believed that he used refurbished original clichés. The pale rose paper may distinguish the originals from the Hussey productions. Type 5c. is from the same cliché as type 4. and the stamp on pale rose is type 5c. The other subtypes may be derivatives.

SUBTYPES OF TYPE 5.

TYPE
5a.



SUBTYPE a. - bottom border broken at left, final 's' of 'Express' not dented

TYPE
5b.



SUBTYPE b. - border ornaments complete except NE corner diamond with shorn ray

TYPE
5c.



SUBTYPE c. - as subtype b. except first 'T' of 'International' malformed

TYPE
5d.



SUBTYPE d. - as subtype b. except NE corner ornament with complete rays

TYPE
5e.



SUBTYPE e. - as subtype a. except final 's' of 'Express' slightly dented

2c black on rose

International Letter Express

First reported in 1862

Produced by Hussey and others, some possibly genuine

DESIGN A. TYPES - "TWO CENTS" spelled out

TYPE 6. - as type 3, but crude 'ss' in 'Express,' produced by S.A. Taylor

White Wave Paper



2c magenta

Surface Colored Paper



2c black on rose



2c black on scarlet



2c black on orange



2c black on lavender



2c black on yellow



2c black on green

TYPE 6. - different ornamental border, produced by Hussey



2c black on grayish blue



2c black on rose



2c black on grayish blue



2c black on rose

International (Letter) Express

First reported in 1862

Produced by Hussey and others, some possibly genuine

DESIGN B. TYPES - "2 CENTS"

TYPE 7. - typeset design, 'E' of 'EXPRESS' irregular at left, produced by Hussey, possibly a reprint from original plate



2c black on orange glazed

SUBTYPES OF TYPE 7.

TYPE
7a.



subtype a - second 'E' of
'EXPRESS' tilted

TYPE
7b.



subtype b - top central
border ornament with
solid dot at bottom right

2c black on orange glazed

Types In Left Hand strip

Type 7a.

Type 7b.

Type 7a.

Type 7b.

Type 7a.

Type 7b.

Type 7a.

Type 7b.

The Hussey printing was done in sheets of 16 stamps. The sheet layout was two vertical rows of 8 subjects each. The right row, with identical type sequence, inverted with respect to left row. The pair of different clichés was repeated from top to bottom in left row. These two clichés may have been used to print originals.

International (Letter) Express

First reported in 1862

Produced by Hussey and others, some possibly genuine

DESIGN B. TYPES - "2 CENTS"

TYPE 8. - lithographed design, 'E' of 'EXPRESS' not irregular at left, copied from Moens



2c black on greenish



2c black on lavender



2c black on orange, S.C.

TYPE 9. - different frame, maker unknown



2c black on lavender

TYPE 10. - different frame, maker unknown



2c black on grayish

Adhesives from this company are first known through two illustrations in a 1862 Moens supplement. The date of this precedes the first Hussey printings in November, 1862. And, as Taylor did not start producing these until 1864, the most plausible conclusion is that it was a genuine local post.

Nothing is known of the history of this local post. It may be related to an International Express that operated in Philadelphia in the 1850's or possibly a New York City local post operated by Westcott in the 1850's. Because Hussey usually reprinted stamps of existing companies whenever possible it is likely that the genuine originals are very close to the Hussey productions.

Winans' City Post

First reported in 1862

Produced by Hussey, Scott, Taylor and others

GROUP A. TYPES - 1 star below upper wing

TYPE 1. - Smoke at top, period after "POST," each exists in four subtypes as below, produced by Hussey



2c black on horiz. laid



5c black on yellow



10c black on green



20c black on orange

SUBTYPES OF TYPE 1.

TYPE
1d.



SUBTYPE a. - "OS" of "POST" close together, retouched bottom right corner

early state - no solid spot flaw

late state - solid spot flaw in ball

TYPE
1a.
early



SUBTYPE b. - "OS" of "POST" close together, no flaw in bomb

TYPE
1c.
early



SUBTYPE c. - "OS" of "POST" spaced correctly, white flaw in bomb below wing

early state - oval shaped flaw

late state - circle shaped flaw

TYPE
1b.



SUBTYPE d. - "OS" of "POST" spaced correctly, no flaw in bomb

TYPE
1a.
late



TYPE
1d.



TYPE
1c.
late



TYPE
1b.



2c black on vert. laid

2c black on wave

Winans' City Post

First reported in 1862

Produced by Hussey, Scott, Taylor and others

GROUP A. TYPES - 1 star below upper wing

TYPE 2. - Similar to type 1d. but more ragged left edge, crude print, maker unknown



2c black



5c black on yellow



20c black on orange

TYPE 3. - Similar to type 1 but no period after "POST." maker unknown



20c black

TYPE 4. - Similar to type 3 but deformed "S" in "WINAN'S." maker unknown



20c purple

TYPE 5. - Similar to type 1 but no smoke coming out of bomb, produced by J.W. Scott



2c black



5c black on yellow



10c black on green



20c black on orange

Winans' City Post

First reported in 1862

Produced by Hussey, Scott, Taylor and others

GROUP B. TYPES - No stars below upper wing

TYPE 6. - With apostrophe after "WINANS," produced by S.A. Taylor



2c black on green
small numerals



5c black on ivory
small numerals



10c black on red orange
small numerals



20c black on blue
small numerals



20c black on blue green
small numerals



20c black on mauve
small numerals



20c black on pink
small numerals



10c black on yellow



10c black on crimson



10c black on green



10c black on orange



10c blue, vert. laid



10c blue, horiz. laid



10c black on pink, vert. laid



10c black on flesh, horiz. laid

Winans' City Post

First reported in 1862

Produced by Hussey, Scott, Taylor and others

GROUP B. TYPES - No stars below upper wing

TYPE 6. - With apostrophe after "WINANS," produced by S.A. Taylor



10c black on white



10c black on blue green



10c black on bluish



10c black on gray



10c black on blue violet



10c black on rose



10c black on salmon



10c black on pale yellow



20c black on dark blue



20c black on gray



20c black on violet

TYPE 7. - No apostrophe after "WINANS," maker unknown



2c black



5c black on yellow



10c black on pale green



10c black on blue green

Winans' City Post

First reported in 1862

Produced by Hussey, Scott, Taylor and others

GROUP B. TYPES - No stars below upper wing

TYPE 8. - With apostrophe after "WINANS," value tablet inverted, maker unknown



10e black on blue green

TYPE 9. - No apostrophe after "WINANS," blotchy background, copied from Moens, maker unknown



2c black on white



5c red on yellow



10c black on purple



20c black on crimson



Winans' City Post

First reported in 1862

Produced by Hussey, Scott, Taylor and others

GROUP B. TYPES - No stars below upper wing

TYPE 10. - No apostrophe after "WINANS," short wings, maker unknown



5c orange brown



10c yellow green



10c carmine



10c orange brown



10c violet



10c black



20c black



20c yellow green



20c red



20c gray blue



20c blue green

Winans' City Post

First reported in 1862

Produced by Hussey, Scott, Taylor and others

GROUP C. TYPES - Two stars below upper wing

TYPE 11. - Small colored flaw in "Y" of "CITY," heavy shade lines, maker unknown



2c black on white



2c black on orange



5c black on yellow



10c black on blue green



20c black on orange



vignette only



10c black on blue green
tete-beche pair

TYPE 12. - Similar to type 11. but larger value tablet and no stop after "CENTS," maker unknown



10c black on green

TYPE 13. - The "NA" of "WINAN'S" nearly joined, maker unknown



5c black on yellow



5c black on yellow
numeral lower



5c black on orange brown
numeral lower

Winans' City Post

First reported in 1862

Produced by Hussey, Scott, Taylor and others

GROUP C. TYPES - Two stars below upper wing

TYPE 14. - No stop after "POST," larger design, maker unknown



10c black on violet

TYPE 15. - No stop after "POST," malformed "S" in "POST," maker unknown



20c black on pale yellow

Purported to be a local post operating in Baltimore, Maryland. The name was appropriated from the Winans family, famous steam locomotive designers and manufacturers living in Baltimore from 1848 to 1861.

This fantasy post is the oldest on record. It is known that George Hussey was printing them in four different denominations as early as November, 1862 and it is presumed that the idea originated with him. The first philatelic record of Winans' City Post is noted in December, 1863 in the British philatelic press. The design for the stamps was apparently inspired by a hand grenade of Crimean War vintage.

The Winans' design fantasies were very popular with early collectors as virtually all of the known makers of local post fakes had their own version. Hussey was producing his line (type 1.) in several different printings through 1866. J.W. Scott produced his version (type 5.) at least until 1886 and it is interesting to note that in 1871 he attempted to describe the originals in the American Journal of Philately and commented that they were "amongst the scarcest locals known." S.A. Taylor got into the act with his version (type 6.) that was offered in several of his early price lists.

Ker's City Post

First reported in 1863

Produced by S.A. Taylor and others

DESIGN A. TYPE - royal arms in center

TYPE 1. - produced by S.A. Taylor



1p black on orange



1p black on green



1p black on magenta



3p black on orange



3p black on green



3p black on magenta



3p black on yellow

DESIGN B. TYPES - Prince of Wales feathers in center

TYPE 2. - denomination is all upper case, produced by S.A. Taylor



1p black on orange



1p black on magenta



3p black on yellow



3p black on orange



3p black on magenta



3p black on green



3p black on pale blue

TYPE 3.- denomination is mixed upper case and lower case, maker unknown



3p black on yellow



3p black on orange brown

DESIGN C. TYPES - portrait of S.A. Taylor

TYPE 4. - 2 cents, dots on bridge of nose, thin "E" in "CENTS," produced by S.A. Taylor



2c blue



2c pale blue
vert. laid



2c blue on blue



2c red
horiz. laid



2c carmine



2c orange
(early print)



2c green



2c bronze



2c pale brown
(late print)

TYPE5. - 5 cents, no dots on bridge of nose, 3 vertical rows of dots in center of bow tie, produced by S.A. Taylor



5c blue



5c pale blue
vert. laid



5c green



5c orange



5c bronze



5c red
horiz. laid



5c carmine



5c brown carmine

DESIGN C. TYPES - portrait of S.A. Taylor

TYPE 6. - 2 cents, no dots on bridge of nose, thick "E," produced by S.A. Taylor



2c red
horiz. laid



2c red on yellow
horiz. laid



2c carmine



2c carmine
horiz. laid



2c pale carmine



2c pale carmine
quadrilled



2c blue



2c blue
(late print)



2c blue
quadrilled



2c green



2c bronze

TYPE 7. - 5 cents, no dots on bridge of nose, four squares in center of bow tie, maker unknown



5c red



5c blue
vert. laid



5c dark blue
vert. laid



This fantasy post was first chronicled in 1863. It was purported to be a local post operating in Montreal, Canada.

The third design, design C., bears a portrait of S.A. Taylor. The design is very similar to his advertising labels produced both in Montreal and later in Boston. This fantasy post was apparently his first attempt at a bogus Canadian local post.

Roadman's Penny Post

First reported in 1863

Produced by S.A. Taylor and others

TYPE 1. - floral border, maker unknown



orange red on white

TYPE 2. - link border, "POST" is 12mm long, deformed comma, maker unknown



carmine



red



red, partial double
print at left

TYPE 3. - link border, "POST" is 12mm long, normal comma, maker unknown



red
period after "POST"



red
dash after "POST"



red
dash after "POST",
cancelled "Zeitung"

TYPE 4. - link border, frame line around design, copied from Moens



carmine

Roadman's Penny Post

First reported in 1863

Produced by S.A. Taylor and others

TYPE 5. - link border, "POST" 14mm long, produced by S.A. Taylor



black on orange



black on crimson



black on yellow



black on green

TYPE 6. - as type 3. but top left corner link sprung, produced by S.A. Taylor



black on orange



carmine on white



black on yellow



black on green

TYPE 7. - as type 3. but "P" of "PENNY" broken, produced by S.A. Taylor



black on buff



black on pale violet

This fantasy was first listed among local posts in April, 1863 where it appeared in "Addenda to the catalog of Postage Stamps by Mount Brown" as published in "Stamp Collectors Review." No additional information is given beyond the name.

The first manufacturer is unknown but it was apparently soon picked up and added to S.A. Taylor's repertoire.

Springside Postage / Springside Post Office

First reported in 1864

Genuine original / S.A. Taylor re-creation

Springside Postage - genuine original



part strike
(Pitts)field
Mass pmk

1/2c black on
white laid
ex Caspary

Springside Post Office - Recreation produced by S.A. Taylor



black on green,
S.C.



black on red
orange, S.C.



black on pink, S.C.



black on yellow

S.A. Taylor advertised his Springside Post Office stamp as a Pittsfield, Massachusetts issue starting in 1864. It was dismissed as a bogus issue and was not listed by Coster or Ricketts.

However, it now appears that Taylor's stamp was patterned after a genuine local post. This is in keeping with his usual methods. Springside is an area of Pittsfield that is about 2 miles from the location of the Pittsfield Post Office in the 1850's. The above stamp bears a part strike of the Pittsfield postmark. No advertisements for the local post have been found yet, and the denomination is unique, but it does appear to have been a genuine post.

McRobish & Co. Acapulco - S. Francisco Line

First reported in 1864
Produced by S.A. Taylor and others
some possibly genuine

TYPE 1. - steamer with three masts, possibly genuine



1r blue green



1r rose

TYPE 2. - steamer with 2 masts, engraved design by Moens



1r black

TYPE 3. - lithographed copy of Moens design, maker unknown



1r blue
ex Burrus



1r rose
ex Burrus

TYPE 4. - negative letters at top and bottom, produced by S.A. Taylor



1r black on white



1r carmine on
white



1r red on white



1r green on
white



1r green on pale
gray brown



1r green on
yellow

This post was first reported by Moens in 1864. Purported to have operated between Acapulco, Mexico and San Francisco by steamer. Possibly derived from a genuine steamship line but nothing is known of its' existence.

C. & W. Bridge Despatch

First reported in 1864

Produced by S.A. Taylor and others

TYPE 1. - crossed logs border, 'DESPATCH' 14 mm, copied from Moens



gold on straw,
laid paper



gold on green,
S.C.



gold on magenta,
S.C.

TYPE 2. - crossed logs border, 'DESPATCH' 13 1/2 mm, frame break under "A", copied from Moens



bronze on yellow



bronze on green



bronze on orange,
S.C.

TYPE 3. - crossed logs border, 'DESPATCH' 12 mm, copied from Moens



gold on green



gold on yellow, S.C.

TYPE 4. - solid border; produced by J.W. Scott



gold on green,
S.C.



gold on orange,
S.C.

C. & W. Bridge Despatch

First reported in 1864

Produced by S.A. Taylor and others

TYPE 5. - double ruled border, 14 mm tall, produced by S.A. Taylor



black on red
orange



black on straw



black on violet
gray



black on gray
violet



black on pale
violet



black on violet
blue



black on pink



black on green,
S.C.



black on lavender,
S.C.



brown on yellow



red on violet,
S.C.



red on green blue,
S.C.



blue on white,
horiz. laid

TYPE 6. - double ruled border, 17 mm tall, produced by S.A. Taylor



brown red



black on green,
S.C.



black on orange buff



black on yellow

TYPE 7. - inscribed Penny Post instead of Despatch, maker unknown



bronze on crimson



bronze on greenish

This post first appeared in the 1864 Moens catalog. The name apparently related to a bridge across the Susquehanna river connecting Columbia and Wrightsville, Pennsylvania. Although it is possible that such a post existed, there is no evidence that the post is anything other than pure fantasy.

Bell's Dispatch

First reported in 1864

Produced by S.A. Taylor and others

TYPE 2. - very short middle bar in "E" of "MONTREAL," maker unknown



2c black on
vert. laid



2c blue on
vert. laid



2c blue on
horiz. laid



2c pale red on
horiz. laid



2c red on wove

TYPE 3. - top left circle around numeral "2" touches frame line at left, maker unknown



2c blue



2c red



2c green

TYPE 4. - no stop after "DISPATCH" or "CENTS," maker unknown



2c black



2c blue



2c red

TYPE 5. - stop after "DISPATCH" but not after "CENTS," maker unknown



2c blue

Purported to be a local post operating in Montreal, Canada. It was first reported by S.A. Taylor in December, 1864 and although exposed as a fantasy post in August, 1865, was apparently a good seller for Taylor.

The design for this fantasy post incorporated the seal of the city of Montreal.

Utah (Terr.) Postage

First reported in 1864

Produced by S.A. Taylor and others

TYPE 1. - "Utah Terr." at top, maker unknown



5c black on yellow

TYPE 2. - colored cravat, produced by S.A. Taylor



5c green



5c carmine



5c carmine



5c violet

TYPE 3. - uncolored cravat, a fake of the Taylor product



2c vermillion



5c green



8c mauve



12c orange

"twelve"

Purported to be a Mormon post operated by Brigham Young from April, 1852 to May, 1853.

First reported in England in June, 1864. The news story was repeated by S.A. Taylor, complete with an illustration of his fake (type 2) which he called a facsimile, in his publication "The Stamp Collectors Record" for December, 1864. The story also appeared in the "U.S. Mail and Post Office Assistant" in 1864 giving details of the alleged post. It was reported there that the post was stopped when letters arrived in Washington, bound for England, that bore the Mormon stamps and were detected by postal authorities.

Nothing is known of the type 1 adhesive which is the only recorded example. The type 2 adhesives were offered for sale by Taylor in 1865 for 10c for the set of three. The type 3 stamps were apparently copied from the Taylor production at a later date.

Hackett's City Post

First reported in 1865

Produced by H.W. Becket and others

TYPE 1. - ruled border, produced by H.W. Becket



2c red on white



2c black on yellow



2c black on orange



2c black on blue

TYPE 2. - border of circular rosettes, maker unknown



2c black on lavender

TYPE 3. - oval border with ornaments, produced by S.A. Taylor



2c black on violet



2c black on green

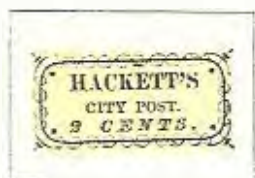


2c black on yellow



2c red on white

TYPE 4. - border of squared rosettes, produced by S.A. Taylor



2c black on white



2c black on blue



2c black on violet



2c black on green



2c black on yellow



2c black on bluish



2c black on buff



2c black on purple



2c black on orange



2c brown on buff

This fantasy was first reported in February, 1865 in England in "Stamp Collector's Magazine." No information beyond a description of the stamps was given. In 1866 S.W. Taylor published an article in his "Stamp Collector's Record" accusing Hugh Becket, a Montreal stamp dealer, of manufacturing bogus local posts and cited the Hackett's City Post as an example.

Albany Letter Express

First reported in 1865
Produced by S.A. Taylor



black on straw
"Albany Letter Express Paid" red cancel
applied by Wuestoff



black on straw



black on orange



blue on white



green on white laid



carmine on blue



carmine on violet



Pomeroy Express
model for frame
(genuine)



Boyd's Despatch
model for center
(genuine)

Purported to be an express post operating from Albany, New York.

This fantasy was first reported in 1865 and its production probably coincided with S.A. Taylor's move from New York City to Albany.

The design of the stamp frame was copied from the Pomeroy's Letter Express adhesive of 1844 while the design for the center is copied from Boyd's City Express of the same period. Taylor utilised the frame portion of this design for his Page & Keyes City Letter Express as well as his Franklin City Despatch Post. The stamp on piece is cancelled with a red "Albany Letter Express Paid" cancel applied by Wuestoff. Compare this cancel with his cancels on Hoogs & Madison Dispatch Post and New Haven City Despatch. The example here is the only reported copy that is cancelled.

Baldwin's Railroad Postage

First reported in 1865

Produced by Craig & Melvin and S.A. Taylor

TYPE 1. - design showing locomotive, no colored flow at lower left corner, produced by Craig & Melvin



2p red on thin white



2p blue on thin white



2p bistre on thin white



2p red on thick white



2p blue on thick white



2p black on thick white



2p mauve on thick white



2p red on bluish



2p black on bluish



2p blue on bluish



2p blue on blue gray



2p red on green



2p blue on green



2p black on green



2p red on yellow



2p blue on yellow



2p black on yellow

Baldwin's Railroad Postage

First reported in 1865

Produced by Craig & Melvin and S.A. Taylor

TYPE 2. - design showing locomotive, colored flaw at lower left corner, S.A. Taylor copy



2p plum on thick white



2p dark blue on thick white



2p blue on thick white



2p red on blue
surface coated



2p plum on blue
surface coated



2p black on pink
vert. laid

TYPE 3. - text only design, produced by S.A. Taylor



2p black on rose



2p black on green

This fantasy post was first reported in June, 1865 when Craig & Melvin, stamp dealers living in St. John, New Brunswick announced that they were sole agents for the stamps. The inspiration for the name apparently came from a H. Baldwin who worked in the express office of a local railroad.

The fraud was uncovered in March, 1866 by George Stewart, publisher of "Stamp Collector's Monthly Gazette." His article mentioned that four hundred examples were sold to S.A. Taylor of Boston who tried to pass them off as originating in New Brunswick, N.J. in spite of the 2 pence denomination.

After the locomotive design was thoroughly discredited, S.A. Taylor issued a limited number of his new design, type 3., and accused George Stewart of being the original culprit.

Hunt's Despatch

First reported in 1865

Produced by S.A. Taylor and others

TYPE 1. - square design, maker unknown



1c black on
vermilion, S.C.



1c black on
yellow, S.C.



1c black on
green, S.C.



1c black on
wove paper



1c black on vert.
laid



1c black on vert.
laid

double
impression

TYPE 2. - rectangular design, produced by S.A. Taylor



1c black on blue,
S.C.



1c black on violet,
S.C.



1c green on white



1c green on buff



1c green on brown



1c green on yellow



1c green on yellow,
hor'z. laid



1c carmine on
white



1c pale carmine
on buff



1c orange on white

This post was first reported by Taylor in 1865 without mention of any sphere of operation. Although the name may have been appropriated from some unknown genuine local post, there is no evidence that it is anything other than pure fantasy. The stamps were produced only by Taylor.

Bancroft's City Express

First reported in 1865

Produced by S.A. Taylor and J.A. Nutter

TYPE 1. - full face portrait, clear shading lines in jacket, produced by S.A. Taylor

early impression, clear shading lines, NE corner undamaged



5c blue on white



5c blue on bluish
vert. laid

intermediate impression, clear shading lines, NE corner damaged



5c black on orange



5c black on green



5c black on blue



5c black on pale
red



5c dark blue
on white



5c blue on pink
horiz. laid



5c pale blue
vert. laid



5c pale blue
horiz. laid

late impression, shading lines in spandrels weak, especially at top right



5c pale blue



5c mauve

Bancroft's City Express

First reported in 1865

Produced by S.A. Taylor and J.A. Nutter

TYPE 2. - full face portrait, shading in jacket obscured, cruder print, maker unknown



5c dark blue on
cartridge paper



5c pale blue on
cartridge paper



5c dark blue on
wave paper

TYPE 3. - profile portrait, perforated $12\frac{3}{4}$, plate of twenty subjects with minor varieties, produced by J.A. Nutter



5c blue



5c blue
wide perforation



5c blue
damaged "S" in name



5c blue
flaw below ear



5c blue
plate flaw in neck



model
J.A. Nutter
advertising stamp

Purported to be a local post operating in Montreal, Canada. Although there was in fact a Bancroft's Express operating as a package delivery service in Montreal, the fantasy post was the brainchild of James A. Nutter; a young stamp dealer.

In May, 1865 Nutter announced to the philatelic press that a stamp was soon to be released for the post, but that the initial design had been rejected. S.A. Taylor evidently got a hold of the rejected design and issued his version, type 1, before Nutter was able to get his engraved and perforated version, type 3., out. Nutter's rejected design which Taylor copied is very similar to his advertising adhesive shown above.

Whitteley's Express

Produced by S.A. Taylor

early printing (ca. 1865)



2c carmine



2c dark carmine



model
Taylor's Bancroft
City Express

intermediate printing



2c orange red



2c brown



2c pale green



2c brown on
brown



2c brown on
yellow



2c black on lilac

late printing, cliché wearing out



2c red



2c dark red

This is a fantasy post produced by S.A. Taylor. Probably intended to be a fantasy for a "Whituelsey" with the "s" omitted.

The design was derived from Taylor's fantasy Bancroft's City Express of Montreal and uses the same portrait. I can find no mention of this post in the early literature. It appears that the printing cliché wore very rapidly as there is a distinct deterioration in the quality of the impressions.

Bowery Post Office

first reported in 1865
Produced by S.A. Taylor

TYPE 1.- side panels nre solid, produced by S.A. Taylor



2c yellow



2c green



2c brown



2c purple



2c blue



2c carmine rose



2c rose brown



2c brown carmine



2c black on white
horiz. laid



2c blue on white
horiz. laid



2c black on pink
vert. laid



2c black on lavender
vert. laid



2c brown on orange



2c black on blue



2c brown on
chocolate



2c black on greenish
blue



2c black on violet
blue



2c black on pale
purple



2c purple on yellow

Bowery Post Office

First reported in 1865

Produced by S.A. Taylor

TYPE 2. - side panels with cross batching, produced by S.A. Taylor



2c salmon red



2c violet



2c green



2c pale green



2c black on lavender



2c red on orange



2c red on blue



2c red on pink



2c purple on pink



2c purple on
lavender

Purported to be a local post which operated in New York, New York between 1850 and 1852. Apparently derived from a post that did exist but did not use adhesives or handstamps. The "CC" at sides was most likely inspired by the initials of Charles Cole that appear on the City Despatch stamps. The real Bowery post was operated by an Abraham Van Winkle.

The post was first reported by S.A. Taylor in April, 1865 and the stamps were apparently exposed as fantasies soon after Taylor marketed them as no one else seems to have followed with another fake. They are listed by W. Dudley Atlee in his list of "Fictitious Locals" published in 1871.

Down's Dispatch

First reported in 1865
Produced by S.A. Taylor

White Wave Paper



1c brown



1c purple



1c black brown



1c green



1c blue



1c black brown
on horiz. laid

Surface Colored Paper



1c brown on
chocolate



1c brown on
orange



1c black on
green



1c black on
dark blue

Paper Colored Through



1c black on
pale pink



1c black on
orange buff



1c black on
green



1c black on blue



1c black on lilac



1c black on
yellow



1c black on
violet



1c black on
purple



1c purple on
cream



1c purple on
yellow

This post was first reported by Taylor in April, 1865 without mention of any sphere of operation. Although the name may have been appropriated from some unknown genuine local post, there is no evidence that it is anything other than pure fantasy. The stamps were produced only by Taylor.

J.M. Chute Letter Despatch

First reported by Taylor in 1865
Produced by S.A. Taylor and others

TYPE 1.- clear printing, frame lines complete, produced by S.A. Taylor



black on orange



red



green



green on bluish

TYPE 2. - frame line at foot damaged, produced by S.A. Taylor



black



blue



red



purple and red



green on bluish, wmkd



black on orange



black on yellow



black on pink



black on green



black on blue

TYPE 3. - blurred printing, a fake of the Taylor type 1. product by an unknown party



blue, wove paper



blue, wmkd paper



red, wmkd paper



rose, wmkd paper

Purported to be a letter express operating between Portsmouth, New Hampshire and Portland, Maine.

This fantasy was first reported by S. A. Taylor in November, 1865. The name for the post was derived from one of Taylor's friends, J.M. Chute, who was a young stamp collector in Boston at the time and a frequent letter to the editor contributor in Taylor's journal. The design for the stamp was taken from the J.H. Prince Letter Despatch adhesive of 1861 and used again by Taylor for his E.D. Prince Letter Despatch fantasy.

The type 1. printings are the earliest printings done by Taylor. The die became damaged at the bottom, apparently from the heads of the two pins used on the press as a guide for paper placement. The type 3. printings are lithographed copies of the typographed type 1. stamps.

Le Beau City Post

First reported in 1865
Produced by S.A. Taylor



5c dark brown



5c pale brown



5c dark red



5c brown on brown
surface coated



5c brown on yellow
surface coated

This fantasy post was first chronicled by S.A. Taylor in April, 1865. It was purported to be a local post operating in Montreal, Canada.

Very little else is known regarding the issue. It was included by W. Dudley Atlee in his listing of fictitious locals in 1871. It appears to have been produced in very limited numbers.

New Haven And N.Y. Exp. Post

First reported in 1865
Produced by S.A. Taylor

TYPE 1. - clear printing, left leg of 'N' in 'N.Y.' not broken, produced by S.A. Taylor



10c black on pale gray



10c black on salmon



10c black on magenta



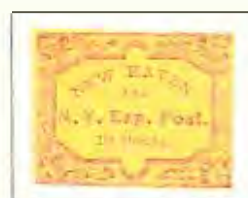
10c black on orange



10c black on pink



10c red on yellow



10c red on yellow, horiz. laid

TYPE 2. - later printing, left leg of 'N' broken, produced by S.A. Taylor



10c black on pink



10c black on bluish



10c black on pale green, vert. laid



10c black on red, S.C., wmkd.



10c blue on white, vert. laid



10c brown on white



10c brown on yellow

Purported to be a letter express operating between New Haven, Connecticut and New York City.

This fantasy was first reported by S. A. Taylor in November, 1865. It was soon dismissed as the pure fantasy that it was. Stamps were produced only by S.A. Taylor.

Langton & Co. Money Package

First reported in 1865

TYPE 1 - 'MONEY' spelled correctly, maker unknown



5 for \$1, gold



5 for \$1, bronze



10 for \$1, black on red, S.C.



15 for \$1, black



15 for \$1, black on yellow



15 for \$1, black on green, S.C.



20 for \$1, black



20 for \$1, black on buff



20 for \$1, black on lavender



30 for \$1, black on pale pink



30 for \$1, black on pale orange



30 for \$1, black on orange, S.C.



30 for \$1, black on red, S.C.



30 for \$1, black on blue

TYPE 2 - 'M' instead of 'N' in 'MONEY'; maker unknown



10 for \$1, blue



20 for \$1, blue



30 for \$1, green



10 for \$1, blue, fake cancel



30 for \$1, green, perforated

This post was first reported in Stamp Collector Magazine in February, 1865. The article announced 5 denominations, with 12 in complete set of colors. It was soon denounced as a bogus post although the name was taken from a genuine Western Express Company.

Prince Edwards Island

First reported in 1866
Produced by S.A. Taylor



10c black on white



10c black on green



10c black on
magenta, S.C.



10c black on green,
S.C.



10c black on yellow,
S.C.



10c brown on green,
S.C.



10c brown on yellow,
S.C.



10c brown on
orange, S.C.



10c pink on buff



10c red on white



10c red on magenta



10c red on green



10c red on yellow;
S.C.

Purported to be a regular issue for Prince Edward Island. First reported in 1866 by S.A. Taylor but soon dismissed because the Colony's name was spelled incorrectly. The frame design was adapted from his New Haven and New York Express fantasy.

E.D. Prince Letter Dispatch

First reported in 1866
Produced by S.A. Taylor

TYPE 1. - frame line at foot damaged



black on blue



black on yellow



black on green



black on pale pink



black on cream



black on orange buff



black on purple



black on violet



black on bluish



black on pale green



blue



ultramarine



bronze



purple on yellow



black on rose



gray violet on
vert. laid



black on pale pink
horiz. laid



black on pale green
vert. laid

TYPE 2. - figures of value added at bottom, repaired frame line



2c black on green



2c black on blue gray



2c black on ivory



2c green on greenish
vert. laid



2c green on yellow
vert. laid

Purported to be a letter express operating between Portsmouth, New Hampshire and Portland, Maine.

Although there was a J.H. Prince Letter Dispatch there never was an E.D. Prince Letter Dispatch. S.A. Taylor adapted his J.M. Chute Letter Dispatch fantasy by changing only the name and later adding numerals at the bottom of the design. On the earlier type there is evidence of the final "E" of "Chute" visible to the right of the word "Prince" and the frame line flaws at the bottom are identical to the Chute type 2. stamps.

Warwick's City Dispatch Post

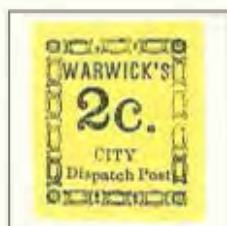
First reported in 1866

Produced by Hussey, Taylor and others

GROUP A. TYPES - border of links

TYPE 1. - inverted semicolons separate links at bottom, produced by Hussey

SUBTYPES OF TYPE 1.



2c black on yellow

SUBTYPE a. - two colons separate links at top

TYPE 1a.

SUBTYPE b. - comma and colon separate links at top

TYPE 1b.



2c black on yellow
raised "I" in "CITY"
variety

TYPE 1b.

TYPE 1b.



2c black on yellow

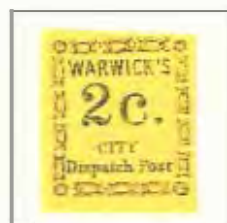
TYPE 2. - small colons separate links at bottom, copied from Moens illustration



2c gold on yellow



2c blue on pink



2c black on yellow



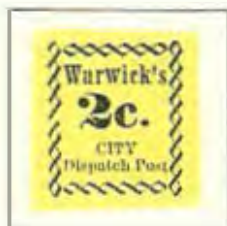
Warwick's City Dispatch Post

First reported in 1866

Produced by Hussey, Taylor and others

GROUP B. TYPES - border of open diamonds

TYPE 3. - no frame line, normal apostrophe in "Warwick's," produced by Hussey



2c black on yellow

SUBTYPES OF TYPE 3.

SUBTYPE a. - no spur on "2"

SUBTYPE b. - spur on "2"

TYPE

3a.

TYPE

3b.

TYPE 4. - with frame line, copied from Moens illustration



2c black on yellow



TYPE

3b.

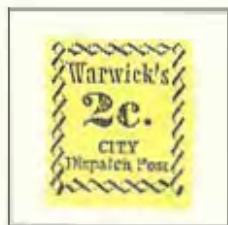
TYPE

3b.



2c black on yellow

TYPE 5. - no frame line, deformed apostrophe in "Warwick's," maker unknown



2c black on yellow



2c black on yellow

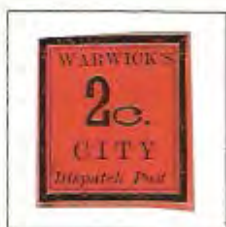
Warwick's City Dispatch Post

First reported in 1866

Produced by Hussey, Taylor and others

GROUP C. TYPES - border of ruled lines

TYPE 6. - "Dispatch Post" in italic type, period after "Post," produced by Taylor



2c black on orange



2c black on blue

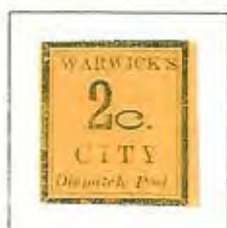
TYPE 7. - "Dispatch Post" in italic type, no period after "Post," produced by Taylor



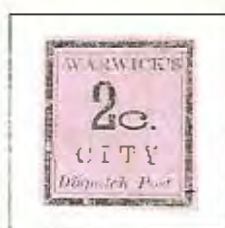
2c red on blue
vert. laid



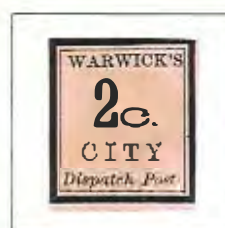
2c black on white



2c black on yellow



2c black on mauve



2c black on pale
pink



2c black on pink
horz. laid

TYPE 8. - "Dispatch Post" in normal type, maker unknown



2c black on mauve



2c black on buff



2c black on blue

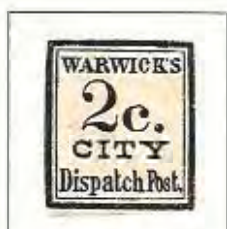


6c red on white

TYPE 9. - "Dispatch Post" in normal type, serif of "p" slants upward at left, maker unknown



2c green on white



2c black on white



2c red on white



2c blue on white

Warwick's City Dispatch Post

First reported in 1866

Produced by Hussey, Taylor and others

GROUP C. TYPES - border of ruled lines

TYPE 10. - "City" in upper and lower case, **maker unknown**



2c green on white



2c green on pale pink, ribbed



2c pale green on white



6c green on white



6c pale green on white

TYPE 11. - break in "s" of "Dispatch," **maker unknown**

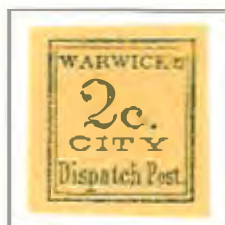


2c black on white
(india proof)



2c red on white

TYPE 12. - similar to type 11. but no break, smaller period, **maker unknown**

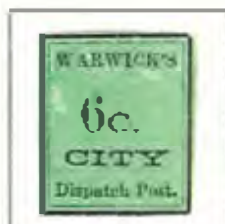


2c black on yellow

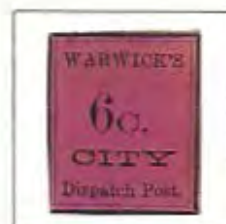


2c black on mauve

TYPE 13. - 6c value, taller design, **maker unknown**



6c black on green



6c black on red

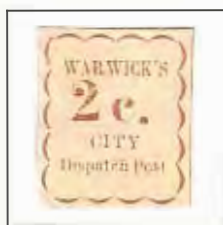
Warwick's City Dispatch Post

First reported in 1866

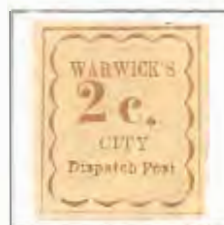
Produced by Hussey, Taylor and others

GROUP D. TYPES - border other than diamonds, links or rules

TYPE 14. - scallop shaped inner frame, maker unknown



2c red on white



2c red on buff

TYPE 15. - border of double diamonds, maker unknown

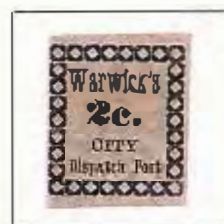


2c black on yellow

TYPE 16. - border of negative diamonds, maker unknown

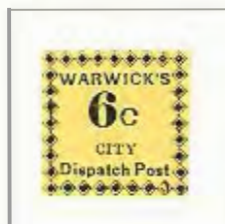


2c black on buff

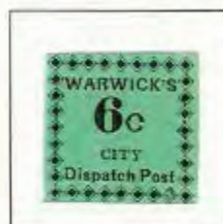


2c black on mauve

TYPE 17. - border of diamonds with solid centers, maker unknown



6c black on yellow



6c black on green



6c red on white



6c red on pink
horiz. laid

Purported to be a local post operating in New York, New York.

This fantasy was first reported in Dr. Gray's "Illustrated Catalog of Postage Stamps" in 1866. Three different types were listed. This is a rather late listing as George Hussey's note book shows that he was having them printed for him as early as November, 1862. Coster correctly listed the post as "fictitious" in 1879.

Kingman's City Post

Produced by S.A. Taylor

White Wave Paper



1c black



1c dark blue



1c light blue



1c violet



1c bronze



1c brown



1c brown ochre

Surface Colored Paper



1c black on
orange



1c black on
green



1c black on
dark blue



1c black on
pale blue



1c black on
magenta

Paper Colored Through



1c brown on
yellow



1c red on yellow



1c black on pale
green, horiz. laid



1c red on yellow,
vert. laid

This fantasy was inspired by a genuine carrier post operation in Charleston, S.C. of the same name. The stamp is a complete fantasy design which was produced only by S.A. Taylor. The design was made by routing out the center of his Gunn's Despatch fantasy.

Brown's City Post Caricature

First reported in 1877
Produced by S.A. Taylor



5c red on pink
horiz. laid



5c carmine on
pale green



5c black on lilac



5c carmine on
bluish



5c carmine on
cream



model
1c black on orange
(original)

This is a caricature fantasy post made up by S.A. Taylor in 1877.

William P. Brown, a New York City stamp dealer started a "philatelic" local post in 1876 and issued stamps portraying himself pushing a wheelbarrow and dated 1876. S.A. Taylor produced a very limited number of his caricatures in 1877. These are similar to the original design except that Brown is now being guided by a devil, the year date is changed to 1877, and they bear an added inscription around the circle which reads "3 Limps To The Post Office." The added inscription apparently a reference to the fact that Brown was lame.

Buffalo City Despatch

First reported by C.H. Coster in 1879

Believed to be the work of Wuesthoff



brown on white



black on greenish



black on white



brown on white adhesive tied by red "Paid B.C.D.P." boxed cancel



Frazer model
(Taylor fake)

Purported to be a local post operating in Buffalo. Although there is mention of such a post in the Buffalo City Directories there are no known markings or adhesives.

This fantasy was first reported by C.H. Coster in March, 1879 who wrote "A gang of scamps have been actively engaged in the concoction of 'Locals on the original letters'. They have counterfeited some stamps already known; but, for the most part, they have invented stamps of companies that never had an existence. The salesman is Wuesthoff, the Canal Street dealer."

The stamps were apparently modeled after the Frazer & Co. adhesive used in Cincinnati. Wuesthoff used a distinctive color in making his fake cancels, compare with the cancel on New Haven City Despatch cover (addressed to same person as Buffalo City Despatch cover). The black on white and black on greenish adhesives as well as the cover are ex Ferrari and Needham. The above represent four of the five reported examples.

Hoogs & Madison Dispatch Post

First reported by C.H. Coster in 1879

Believed to be the work of Wuesthoff



red on white pelure paper



red on white pelure paper



blue on white diagonally laid

red "Hoogs & Madison
Dispatch Paid" cancel



The California Letter Express Co. printed frank inspiration

(genuine)

Purported to be a local post operating in San Francisco, California.

This fantasy was first reported by C.H. Coster in March, 1879 who wrote "A gang of scamps have been actively engaged in the concoction of 'Locals on the original letters'. They have counterfeited some stamps already known; but, for the most part, they have invented stamps of companies that never had an existence. The salesman is Wuesthoff, the Canal Street dealer".

The stamps were apparently inspired by the California Letter Express Co. franks that listed their offices as being at Hoogs & Madison, Real Estate and House Brokers. Wuesthoff used a distinctive color in making most of his fake cancels, compare with the cancels on Buffalo City Despatch and New Haven City Despatch. There are thirteen total examples reported, the blue on laid paper being the only reported example on laid paper.

New Haven City Despatch

First reported by C.H. Coster in 1879

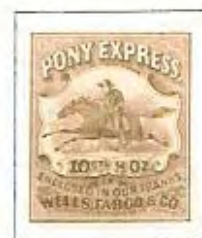
Believed to be the work of Wuesthoff



black on buff



black on grey adhesive tied by red 'New Haven City Despatch Nov 1855' cancel



Pony Express model

(genuine)

black on buff adhesive tied by red 'New Haven City Despatch Nov 7 1855' cancel

Purported to be a local post operating in New Haven, Connecticut.

This fantasy was first reported by C.H. Coster in March, 1879 who wrote "A gang of scamps have been actively engaged in the concoction of 'Locals on the original letters'. They have counterfeited some stamps already known; but, for the most part, they have invented stamps of companies that never had an existence. The salesman is Wuesthoff, the Canal Street dealer....This, too is a high priced luxury, invoiced by Wuesthoff at from \$10.00 to \$15.00."

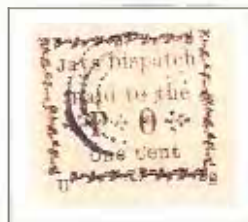
The stamps, cancelled 1855, were apparently modeled after the Wells Fargo & Co. Pony Express adhesives that were not issued until 1861. Wuesthoff used a distinctive color in making his fake cancels, compare with the cancel on Buffalo City Despatch cover (addressed to same person as these New Haven City Despatch covers). The lower cover is ex Needham. The above represent the three reported examples.

Jay's (Richwood's) Dispatch

First reported in 1888

Produced by J.C. Jay

TYPE 1. - "Paid to the P.O." inscription



1c red on white



1c red on yellow

TYPE 2. - "Paid To & from P.O." inscription



1c red on white
upper case "P"



1c red on white
lower case "p"
part strike "De Pere Iowa" pmk.



1c red on brown
lower case "p"

TYPE 3. - "FROM THE P.O." inscription



1c red on pink laid
upper case "P"

TYPE 4. - Portrait design



red on white
portrait of Mr. Jay

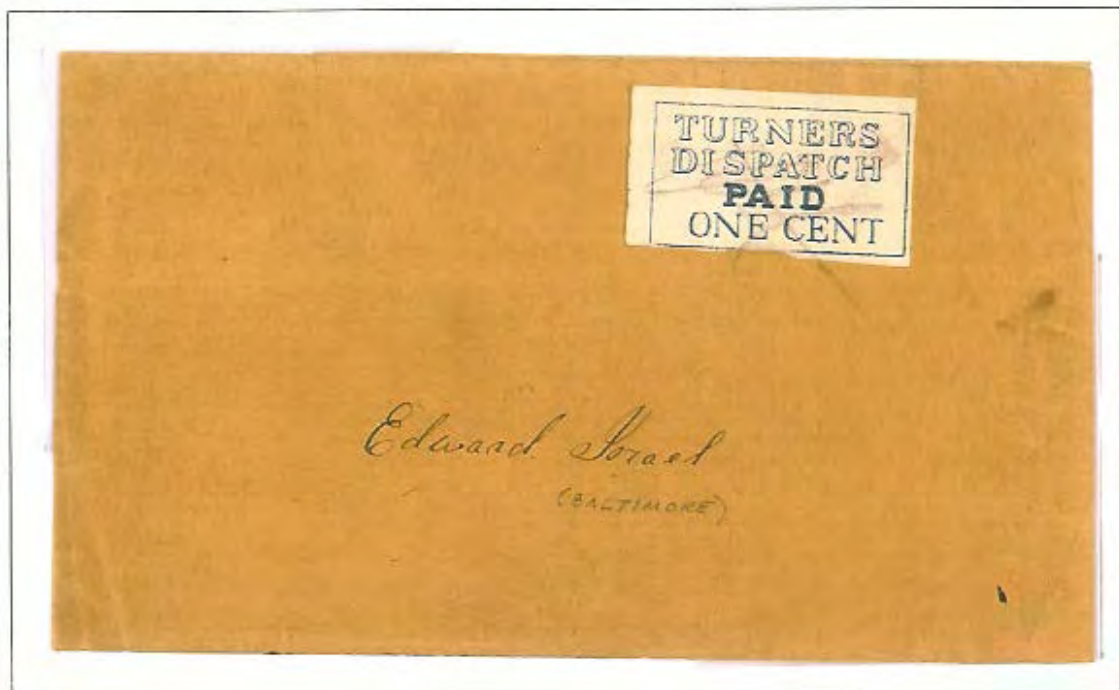
Jay's Dispatch and Richwood's Dispatch were created by James C. Jay of Richwoods, Iowa between 1887 and 1888.

James Jay was a young stamp collector in 1887 and created these issues supposedly for carrying mail the three miles between Richwoods and La Hoyt, Iowa. The first issue apparently sold well to stamp collectors and were followed by the larger illustrated issues. Some were applied to envelopes that passed through the mails and bear genuine U.S. postal cancels. He was expelled from the A.P.A. in August, 1888 for making and selling these frauds which he had been advertising at 50 cents each. In later years he confessed that he had been hired by other parties to issue the stamps.

Turner's Dispatch

First reported in 1893

Believed to be the work of "Ginnity"



1c blue on white adhesive pencil tied to cover

Purported to be a local post operating in Baltimore, Maryland. There is no mention of such a post in the Baltimore directories.

First reported in American Journal Of Philately in 1893. Sloane recalled (circa 1950) that "Walter S. Scott told me many years ago it was a fake perpetrated by 'Ginnity,' a great stamp finder of the old days, that Ginnity affixed them to a number of unstamped envelopes he had found, most of them addressed to Mr. Israel."

Although not often seen, these still appear with some regularity misidentified as being genuine usages.

Nantucket Post

First reported in 1942

Maker unknown



10c black on brown
decalcomania



10c brown on brown
decalcomania

This fantasy was first reported in 1942. Nothing is known regarding its origin but it appears to be very similar in style to the Putnam's Boston City Post.

Putnam's Boston City Post

First reported in 1948

Maker unknown



3c red on white

This fantasy was first reported in 1948. Nothing is known regarding its origin but it appears to be very similar in style to the Nantucket Post. This is the only reported example.

Carr's Post, Carr's Express

First reported in 1954

Maker unknown



5c black on white



5c black on white

This fantasy was first reported in 1954. Nothing is known regarding its origin. These are the only reported examples.

Whites Dispatch (Bogus Post)



black on white



green on buff



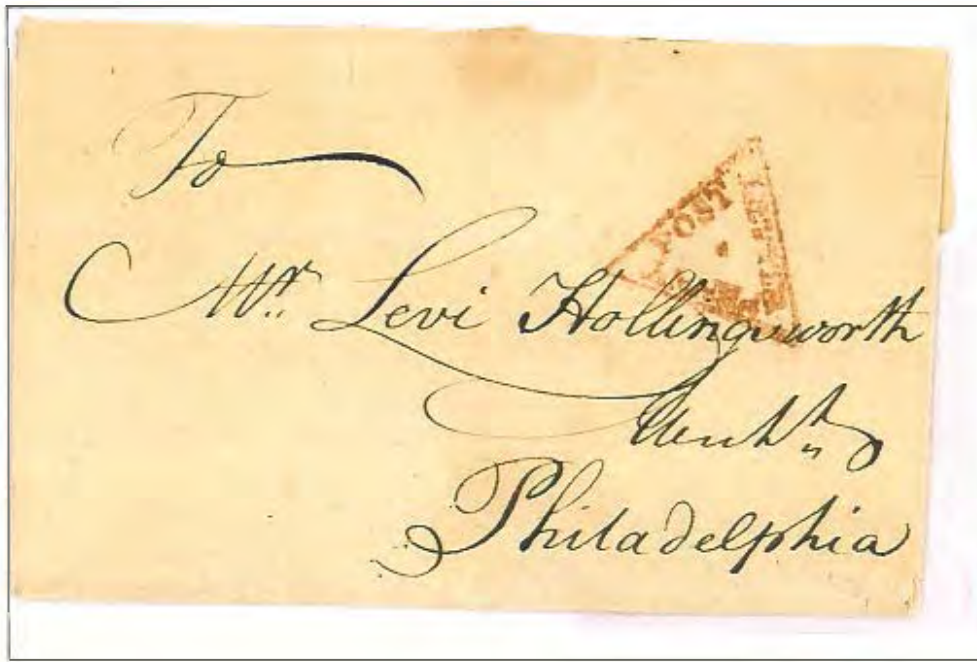
green on buff
reversed image

Virtually nothing is known regarding this fantasy post. It was probably inspired by the White's Branch Express which issued an undenominated adhesive. It is not listed in Rickett's Index.

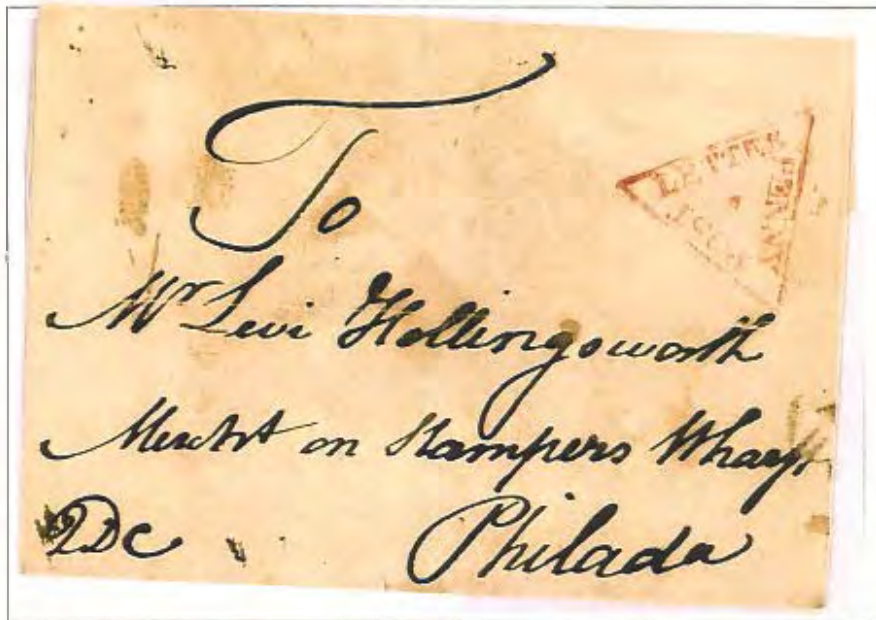
Letter Penny Post

First reported in 1960

Believed to be the work of R. de Thuin



red handstamp on 1773 letter to Philadelphia



red handstamp on 1773 letter to Philadelphia

Purported to be a local post operating in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1773.

These two 1773 folded letters are from a well known archival holding. In 1960 several letters from this correspondence, virtually all of which bore no postal markings, appeared on the market with interesting handstamps added to them. In this case the fakes, believed to R. De Thuin, added a triangular handstamp, similar to the British Dockwra markings, to hand carried letters.

Although there was a local delivery service operating in Philadelphia in 1753 there is no evidence that such a post existed in 1773. These are the only reported examples.