

LOCAL POSTS

SPENCE & BROWN EXPRESS POST

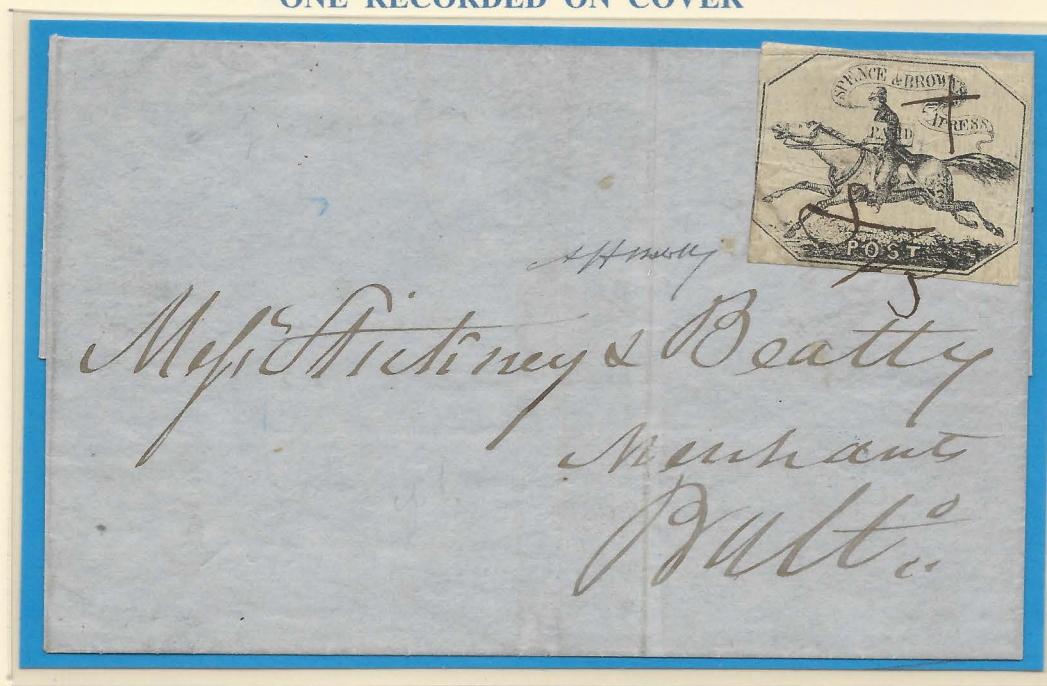
OPERATOR : JAMES SPENCE AND  
EMMANUEL D. BROWN  
LOCATION : 48 SOUTH 6TH STREET (?)  
RATE : 2 CENTS  
DATE : 1847-48

1848 BLACK - 2 CENTS



2 CENTS :  
2 CENTS LOCAL DELIVERY  
TRANSPORTED OUTSIDE THE MAILS

ONE RECORDED ON COVER



JANUARY 28, 1848

SPENCE AND BROWN ADHESIVE  
ADDRESSED TO BALTIMORE

MANUSCRIPT "S/B" CANCEL  
PFC 2003

Very little is known of this short lived local post.\* The stamp is tied to the cover, and likely delivered to an agent on route to Baltimore.

\* "A REPORT ON SOME SHORT-LIVED LOCAL POSTS OF PHILADELPHIA," STEVEN M. ROTH, *THE PENNY POST*, VOL.3, NO.4, OCTOBER 1993, P. 24-25

OPERATOR : UNKNOWN  
 LOCATION : UNKNOWN  
 RATE : 3 CENT  
 DATE : 1856

1856 PINK - 3 CENTS



6 CENTS :  
 3 CENT TO THE POST OFFICE  
 3 CENTS 1/2 OUNCE UNDER 3000 MILES

TWO RECORDED STAMPS, ONE ON COVER

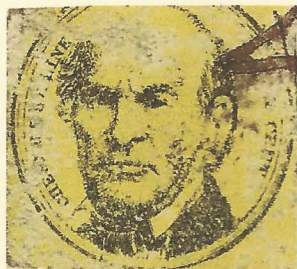


JUNE 7, 1856 PINK ADHESIVE PEN CANCEL, TWICE 3 CENT 1851 GENERAL ISSUE  
 PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP CANCEL MANUSCRIPT "DANIEL MURRAY, RECD. 10TH JUNE 1856"  
 ADDRESSED TO WEST RIVER, MARYLAND PFC 2000

Only two Chesnut Street Line covers of any type have survived. Both were outbound letters delivered to the Philadelphia post office. The portrait is probably Stephen Girard, owner of the Girard Bank. A few years earlier the Girard Bank housed D.O. Blood & Co. and immediately thereafter the Eagle Post, the two most successful private posts in Philadelphia.



1856 YELLOW - 1 CENT



6 CENTS :  
 3 CENT TO THE POST OFFICE  
 3 CENTS 1/2 OUNCE UNDER 3000 MILES

## ONE RECORDED STAMP



MAY 20, (1856) YELLOW ADHESIVE PEN CANCEL 1851 3 CENT GENERAL ISSUE  
 PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP CORNERS REPAIRED  
 ADDRESSED TO BALTIMORE, MARYLAND PFC 2000

The Chesnut Street Line mounted collection boxes on **horse drawn passenger wagons**. The above non denominated stamp without name prepaid delivery to the post office. This "Line" extended from the Schuylkill River two miles along Chesnut Street [sic] ending at 3rd and Dock Street at the Merchant Exchange Building and the Philadelphia post office.

Street railways were not inaugurated in the old city until January 20, 1858.\* Carrier department collection lamp boxes weren't established in Philadelphia until 1857.

\* "CLANG CLANG CLANG WENT THE TROLLEY! THE EARLY STREET RAILWAYS IN PHILADELPHIA," GUS SPECTER, *THE PENNSYLVANIA POSTAL HISTORIAN*, VOL. 30, NO.1, FEBRUARY 2002, P. 19-23



# LOCAL POSTS

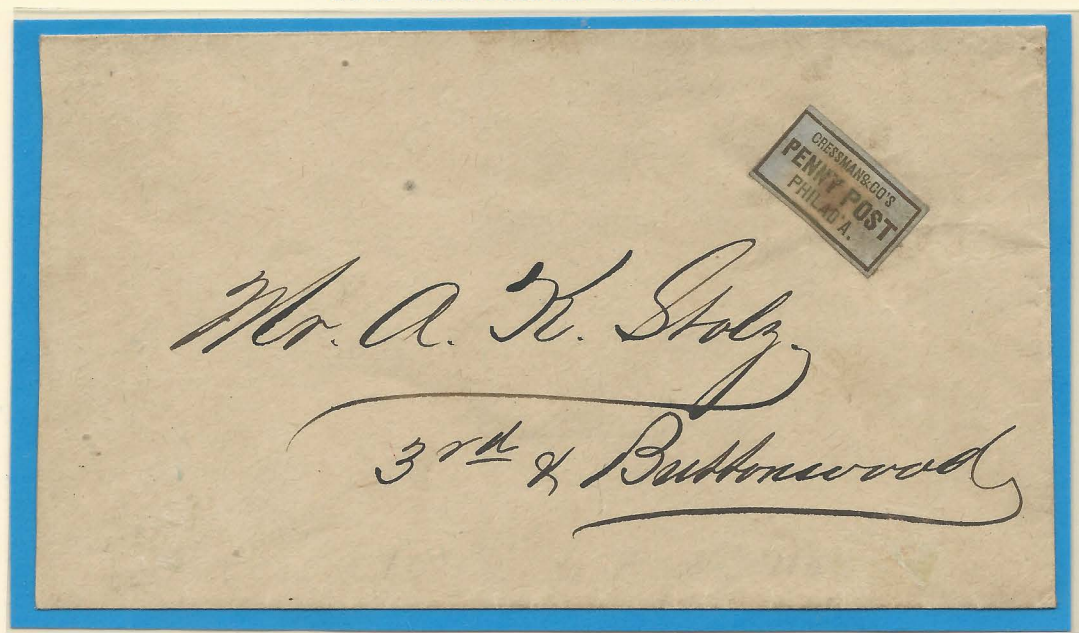
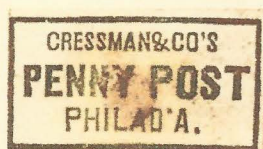
# CRESSMAN & CO'S PENNY POST

OPERATOR : UNKNOWN  
LOCATION : 3 RD AND BUTTONWOOD  
RATE : UNKNOWN  
DATE : 1854 - 1857

1854 "GOLD ON LILAC" - 1 CENT

1 CENT :  
1 CENT LOCAL DELIVERY

## ONE RECORDED STAMP



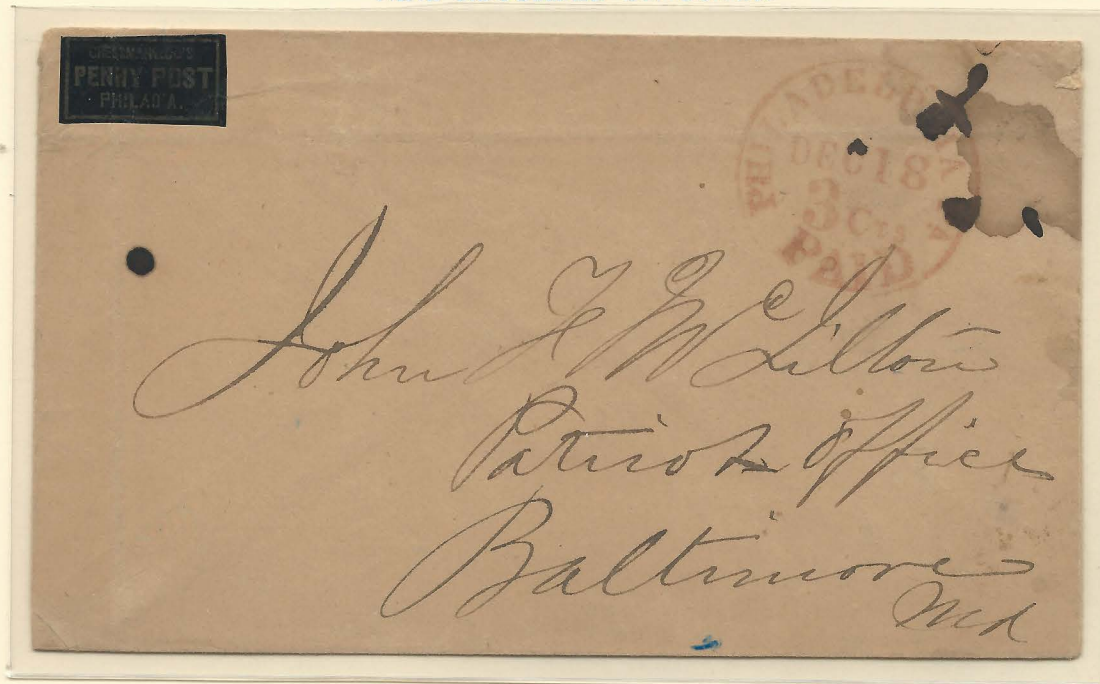
UNDATED LILAC ADHESIVE ACID CANCEL LOCAL ADDRESS PFC 1999

"GOLD ON BLACK" - 1 CENT

## NINE RECORDED ON COVER



DECEMBER 18, (1854)  
BLACK ADHESIVE  
UNCANCELLED  
RED PHILADELPHIA  
DATESTAMP  
DELIVERED TO  
BALTIMORE, MD  
PFC 2000



The Lilac issue at top resembled Blood's contemporaneous "Bronze on Lilac" stamp. The Black issue at bottom resembled Blood's contemporaneous "Bronze on Black Glazed" stamp. **Size, shape, and "Penny Post" mimicked Blood's Penny Post.** Located in the Northern Liberties district, Cressman & Co. may have passively benefited from Blood's nearby success. The Philadelphia postmark type at bottom *proved Cressman's existence in 1854*, two years earlier than reported.\*

\* "CRESSMAN & CO'S," VERNON R. MORRIS JR., MD., *THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST*, VOL. 81, NO. 5, SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2002, P. 237-246

\* "CRESSMAN & CO'S PENNY POST," STEVEN M. ROTH, *THE PENNY POST*, VOL. 2, NO. 3, AUGUST 1992, P. 5



LOCAL POSTS

BRIGG'S DESPATCH

OPERATOR : GEORGE W. BRIGGS  
LOCATION : 61 SOUTH 8TH ST.  
RATE : 2 CENTS  
DATE : 1848 - 1850

1848 GOLD ON PINK - 2 CENTS

2 CENTS :  
2 CENTS LOCAL DELIVERY



ONE RECORDED STAMP

ONE RECORDED OF ANY BRIGGS WITH MULTIPLE HANDSTAMPS



*Sept 29. 1848*



SEPTEMBER 29, 1848    GOLD ON PINK ADHESIVE    PEN CANCEL  
BRIGG'S DESPATCH "2" HANDSTAMP    BRIGG'S DESPATCH "PAID" HANDSTAMP, TWICE  
LOCAL ADDRESS    PFC 1998

Prepayment by above adhesive stamp was not initially identified by the Brigg's clerk, so handstamp "2" due recipient was applied. Realizing his **mistake**, two "PAID" handstamp strikes attempted to obliterate the incorrect "2" due marking.

1848 "GOLD ON YELLOW GLAZED" - 2 CENTS

## THREE RECORDED STAMPS



SEPTEMBER 1, (1849-50) GOLD ON YELLOW GLAZED ADHESIVE PEN CANCEL  
 BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP ADDRESSED TO FREDERICA, GEORGIA

PFC 2001

1848 "BLACK ON YELLOW" - 2 CENTS

## EIGHT RECORDED STAMPS



JULY 26, (1848?)

OVAL BRIGG'S  
 DESPATCH ADHESIVE

"X" CANCEL

MANUSCRIPT "PAID"

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 1999



Like many small local posts in the late 1840's, **Brigg's Despatch** mimicked leader **Blood's Despatch**. The top example is similar to many Blood's small rectangular stamp designs. The "hands and envelope" oval example at bottom resembles the 1848 Blood's Despatch green oval "dove and envelope" stamp.



1848 "GOLD ON BLACK GLAZED" - 2 CENTS

FIVE RECORDED STAMPS, TWO ON COVER



Honorable John Munroe  
Mt Pokono P Office  
Munroe Co Pa

NOV 9, (1848)

GOLD ON BLACK  
GLAZED ADHESIVE

"PAID" MARKING

BLUE PHILADELPHIA  
DATESTAMPADDRESSED TO MT  
POKONO, PA

PFC 2008

FOUR RECORDED OF  
EACH HANDSTAMP

Mr Robert Smithurst  
57 No 6th

SEPTEMBER 8, 1848  
RED BRIGGS DESPATCH NEGATIVE "2"  
LOCAL ADDRESS PFC 2010

SEPTEMBER 28, 1848

MANUSCRIPT "10"

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

BLACK BRIGGS "PAID"

ADDRESSED TO NEW YORK

PFC 2009

Only negative "2" exists in red, perhaps to alert or warn Briggs agent to collect money.

LOCAL POSTS

PRIEST'S DESPATCH

OPERATOR : SOLOMON PRIEST  
LOCATION : 141 CHESTNUT ST.  
RATE : 2 CENTS  
DATE : 1851-1855

1851 "BLACK ON EMERALD" - 2 CENTS



2 CENTS:  
2 CENTS LOCAL DELIVERY

ONE RECORDED STAMP

*Phila. Nov 21<sup>st</sup> 1851*



NOVEMBER 21, 1851    BLACK ON EMERALD ADHESIVE  
UNCANCELLED    LOCAL ADDRESS    PFC 2001

Although Priest's Despatch also mimicked Blood's Despatch small rectangular adhesive stamps, perhaps striking metallic colors were hoped to provide Priest's an attractive advantage\*

\* "PRIEST'S DESPATCH," STEVEN M. ROTH, *THE PENNY POST*, VOL. 4, NO. 1, JANUARY 1994, P. 4-12

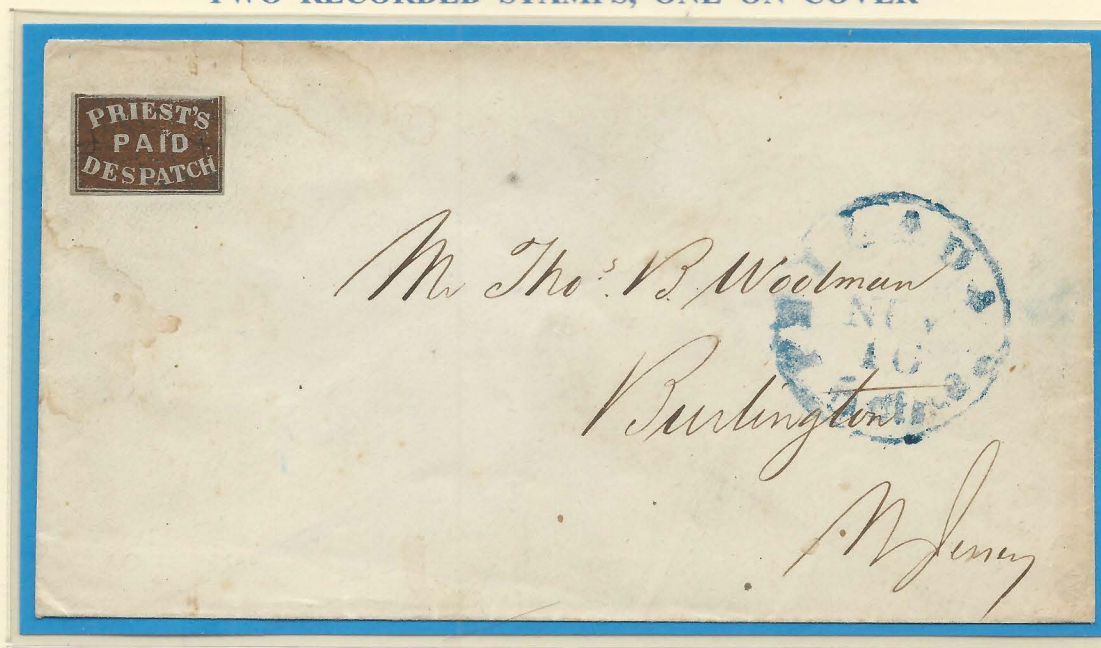




1851 "BRONZE ON BLUISH" - 2 CENTS

5 CENTS:  
2 CENTS TO THE POST OFFICE  
3 CENTS UNDER 3000 MILES

TWO RECORDED STAMPS, ONE ON COVER



NOVEMBER 16, (1850-51)

BRONZE ON BLUISH ADHESIVE PEN CANCEL  
ADDRESSED TO BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
PFC 1997

1851 "SILVER ON VERMILLON GLAZED" - 2 CENTS

FOUR RECORDED STAMPS, TWO ON COVER



August 11/51

AUGUST 8, 1851

SILVER ON VERMILLION GLAZED ADHESIVE

UNCANCELLED

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

ADDRESSED TO MILLVILLE, N.J.

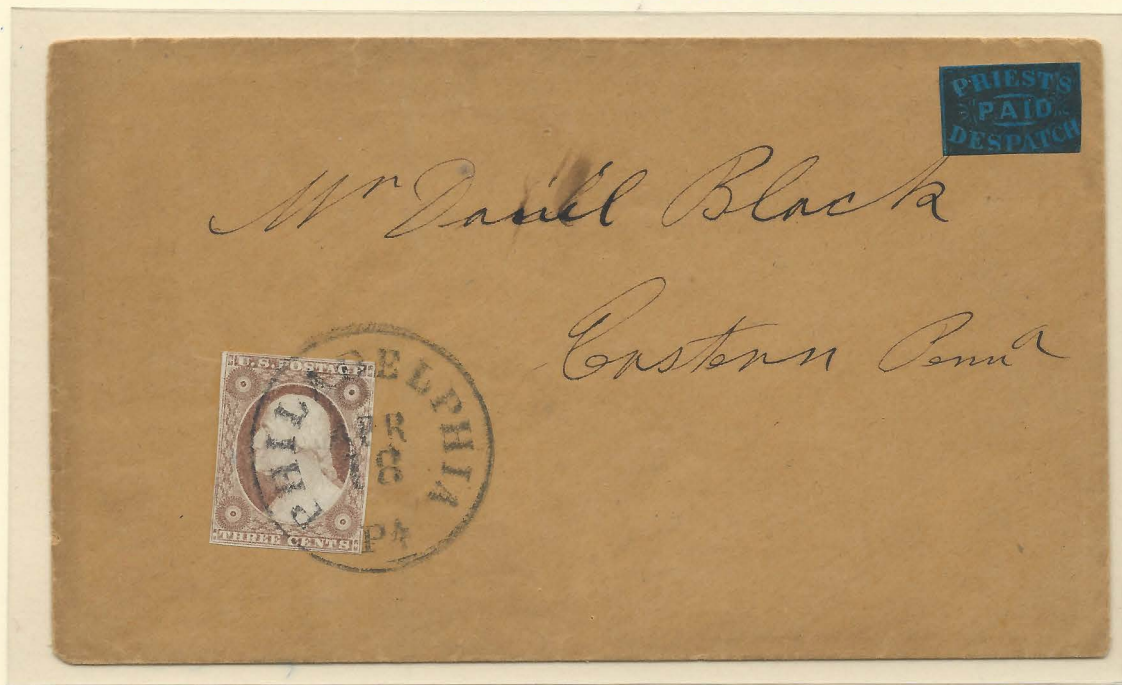
PFC 2001



1851 "BLACK ON BLUE" - 2 CENTS

5 CENTS:  
2 CENTS TO THE POST OFFICE  
3 CENTS UNDER 3000 MILES

TEN RECORDED STAMPS, FOUR WITH 1851 GENERAL ISSUE



APRIL 18., (1854) BLACK ON BLUE ADHESIVE UNCANCELLED  
PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP ADDRESSED TO EASTON, PENNA. PFC 2010

1851 "BLACK ON ROSE" - 2 CENTS

5 CENTS:  
2 CENTS TO THE POST OFFICE  
3 CENTS UNDER 3000 MILES

TEN RECORDED STAMPS, TWO WITH 1851 GENERAL ISSUE



NOVEMBER 13, (1851) BLACK ON ROSE ADHESIVE UNCANCELLED  
THREE CENT GENERAL ISSUE STAMP BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP LOCAL ADDRESS  
PFC 2009



1851 "BLACK ON YELLOW" - 2 CENTS

5 CENTS:  
2 CENTS TO THE POST OFFICE  
3 CENTS UNDER 3000 MILES

FIVE STAMPS RECORDED, THREE ON COVER



AUGUST 13, (1854)    UNCANCELLED    3 CENT 1851 GENERAL ISSUE    BLACK PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP CANCEL  
ADDRESSED TO LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY    PFC 1999



1851 "BLACK ON YELLOW - WITH ORNAMENTS" - 2 CENTS

SIX RECORDED COVERS



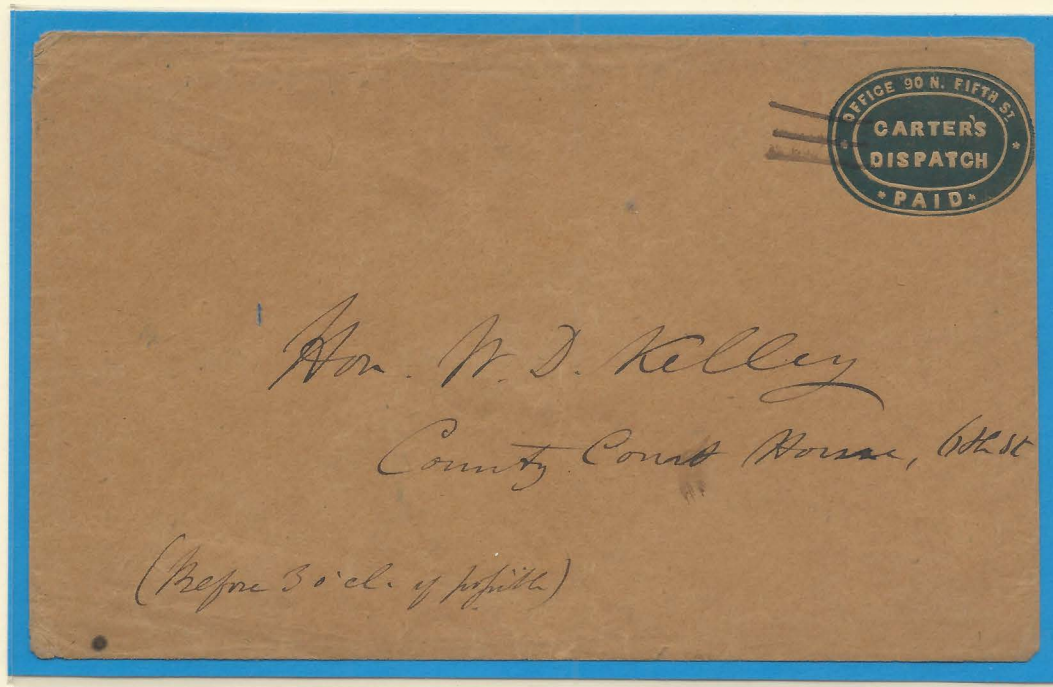
SEPTEMBER 21, (1854)    UNCANCELLED    3 CENT 1851 GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE    BLACK PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP CANCEL  
ADDRESSED TO BOSTON, MASS    PFC 1999



## "BLUE ON BUFF" POSTAL STATIONARY

OPERATOR : GEORGE CARTER  
 LOCATION : 90 N 5TH ST  
 RATE : 2 CENTS  
 DATE : 1848-1851

FIVE ENTIRES RECORDED, ONE SERVICED BY CARTER'S



UNDATED CARTER'S DESPATCH ENTIRE ENVELOPE THREE PENSTROKE CANCELS  
 MANUSCRIPT "BEFORE 3 O'CLOCK IF POSSIBLE" LOCAL ADDRESS PFC 1999



THREE RECORDED WITH 1851 GENERAL ISSUE



FEBRUARY 18, (1852) CARTER'S DESPATCH ENTIRE ENVELOPE UNCANCELLED  
 3 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE BALTIMORE CDS ADDRESSED TO PHILADELPHIA PFC 2009

Carter's Despatch was viable from mid **November 1848** until **March 1851**.<sup>\*</sup> At top is the singular example of postal stationery actually handled by Carter's Despatch. Four others are 1852 **inbound envelopes** with a government stamp postmarked in the city of origin, not delivered by Carters, and probably represented left over stationary.

\* "G. CARTER'S DESPATCH," STEVEN M. ROTH, *THE PENNY POST*, VOL. 2, NO.4, NOVEMBER 1992, P. 22-28



LOCAL POSTS

G. CARTER'S DESPATCH

1849 BLACK - 2 CENTS

ONE RECORDED  
BLUE PRECANCEL

7 CENTS:  
2 CENTS TO THE POST OFFICE  
5 CENTS UNDER 300 MILES



RED PRECANCEL



12 CENTS:  
2 CENTS TO THE POST OFFICE  
10 CENTS OVER 300 MILES

ONE RECORDED BY RAILROAD



FEBRUARY 1, 1850

CARTER ADHESIVE

MANUSCRIPT "X" CANCEL

RED NEW YORK CIRCULAR  
DATESTAMP CANCEL TIED

RED STRAIGHTLINE "PHILADA  
RAILROAD" HANDSTAMP

PFC 2003

Carter's Despach was also the **only private post in Philadelphia to employ precancels**, shown at top via red brush stroke, and the single surviving example of blue wash.

At bottom is the only **Philadelphia local post outbound cover expedited to an agent at the railroad station** (other than Blood's Despach), bypassing the Philadelphia post office, to enter the mails in New York for delivery in New Hampshire.





1849 BLACK - 2 CENTS

FIVE RECORDED WITH 1847 GENERAL ISSUE

7 CENTS:  
2 CENTS TO THE POST OFFICE  
5 CENTS UNDER 300 MILES



NOVEMBER 26, 1849  
CARTER'S ADHESIVE  
KILLER "X" CANCEL  
1847 GOVERNMENT  
GENERAL ISSUE  
BLUE PHILADELPHIA  
DATESTAMP CANCEL  
MANUSCRIPT "PAID 5"  
ADDRESSED TO RAHWAY,  
NEW JERSEY

PFC 2009

JUNE 27, 1849

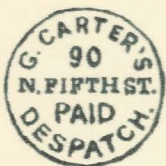
CARTER'S ADHESIVE

MANUSCRIPT STAR CANCEL

CIRCULAR CARTER  
HANDSTAMPCARTER'S STRAIGHT LINE  
"PAID" HANDSTAMP

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 1998



UNDATED

CARTER'S ADHESIVE  
WITH RIBBED PAPER

MANUSCRIPT "X" CANCEL

CIRCULAR CARTER  
HANDSTAMPCARTER'S "PAID IN ARC"  
HANDSTAMP

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2000



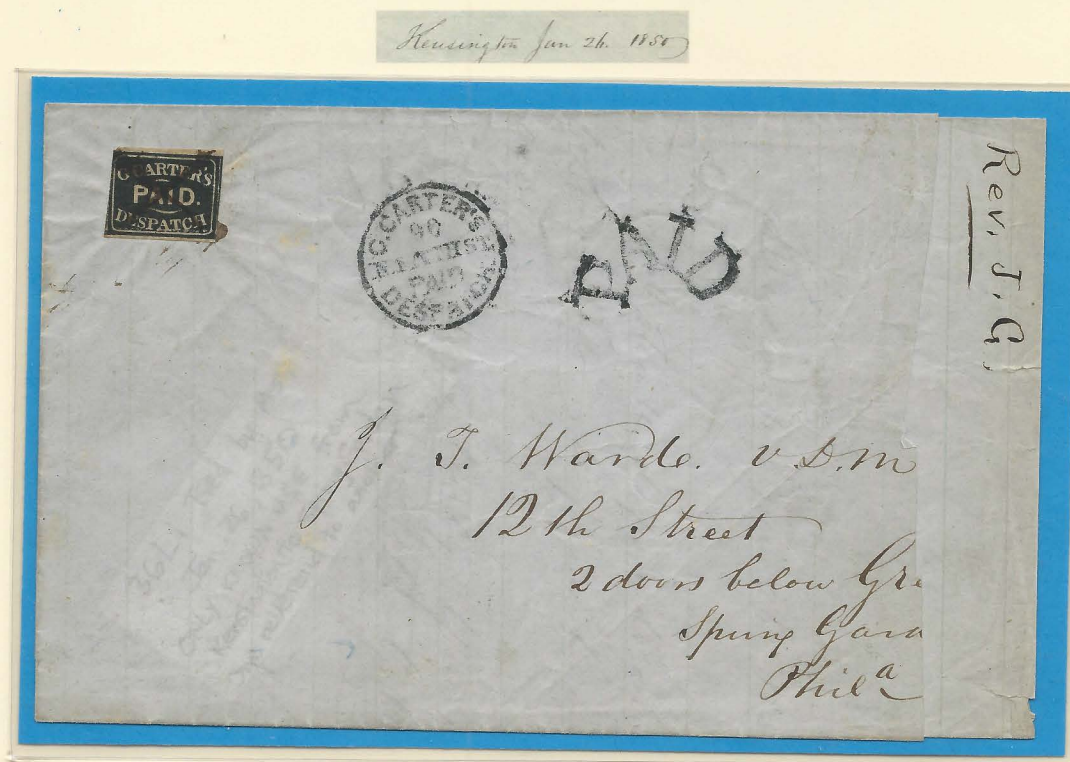
Carter's Despatch issued only **one adhesive stamp** and **three handstamps**. The circular handstamp in the bottom two covers mimicked Blood's Penny Post. The Carter's Despatch straight line "PAID" is demonstrated on the middle example and "PAID" in arc at bottom.



## FORBIDDEN ZONE

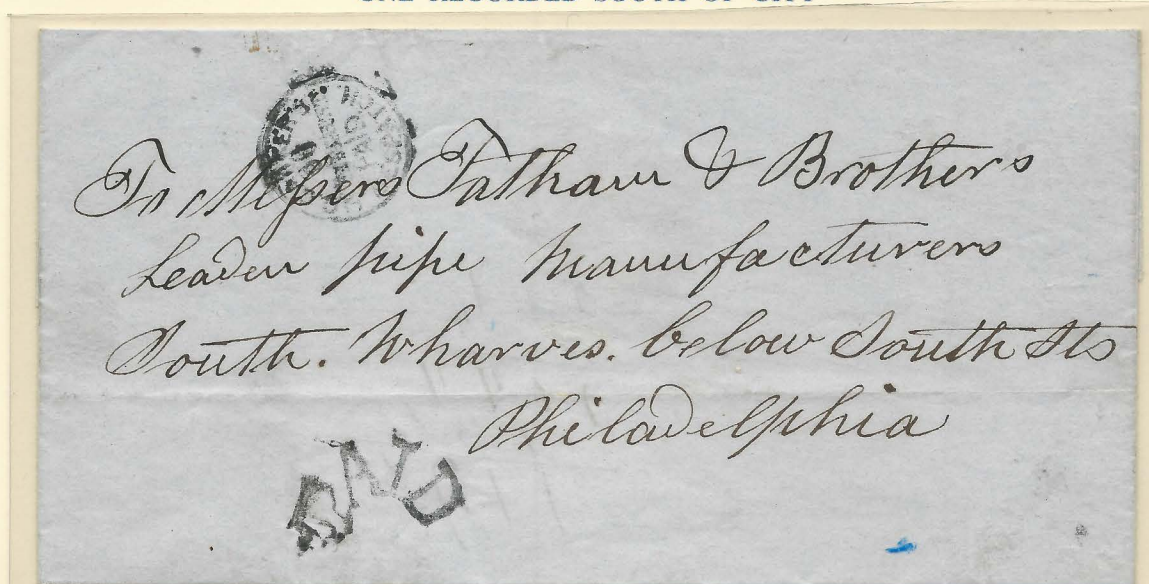
2 CENTS:  
2 CENTS LOCAL DELIVERY

## ONE RECORDED LOCAL POST ORIGINATED AND DELIVERED OUTSIDE THE CITY



JANUARY 26, 1850      CARTER ADHESIVE      MANUSCRIPT "X" CANCEL      CARTER CIRCULAR HANDSTAMP  
CARTER'S "PAID IN ARC" HANDSTAMP      ADDRESSED TO THE SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT      PFC 2010

## ONE RECORDED SOUTH OF CITY



? 9, 1850  
STAMPLESS  
CARTER CIRCULAR  
HANDSTAMP  
CARTER'S "PAID IN  
ARC" HANDSTAMP  
ADDRESSED TO THE  
SOUTHWARK DISTRICT  
PFC 1998

**Kensington to Spring Garden**, at top. Since July 1, 1845 private inter-city mail service between municipalities with their own post office was *forbidden by law*. The above evidence proves that Carter's Despatch served beyond the old city limits **into surrounding districts**. The top example from Kensington, immediately north the old city, was delivered in Spring Garden District, both contiguous with the old city, all three with a post office. It passed through Carter's office in the old city, or was handled **entirely outside of Philadelphia**. The bottom example was delivered to **Southwark** District, which did not have a post office.



## LOCAL POSTS

## GUY'S DISPATCH POST

OPERATOR : UNKNOWN  
 LOCATION : 1123 CHESTNUT ST.  
 RATE : 1 CENT  
 DATE : 1879



UNDATED  
 GUYS CITY DESPATCH  
 BLUE STAMP  
 LOCAL ADDRESS  
 PFC 2000

JUNE 20, 1879

GUY'S DESPATCH PINK STAMP

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2010

After seventeen year years expensive 2 cents "city mail," the spirit of free enterprise could no longer resist the vacuum. Suddenly in **April 1879** **Guys's City Dispatch** appeared. from The public may have remembered that Blood's Penny Post had been thriving at one cent per letter. However, the Fed's watchful eye and strong arm quickly extinguished this upstart by **July 1879**.

The local posts of Philadelphia had their "day in the sun" for 16 years following the July 1, 1845 termination of Independent Mail companies. With Blood's Penny Post as standard bearer, the local posts too, whipped the government in every way conceivable, including introduction of street collection boxes, multiple daily deliveries, and above all **reduced door to door letter service in Philadelphia from 4 to 1 cent!** The government struggled, shown in Frame 6 through 8, but by early 1862 resorted to their weapon of last resort: **legislated monopoly**. Just like mid 1845.



# CARRIERS

In 1753 Benjamin Franklin established a "penny post" for door delivery of inbound mail. In 1836 the Postmaster General established a system of bonded letter carriers. The carrier's fee up to 2 cents was his compensation. However, the fee could vary from city to city at the Postmaster General's discretion, depending upon local conditions and competition, but was never implemented until 1849. In 1863 the "fee" system was abolished when carriers became salaried federal employees, with uniform carrier "rates."

## COLLATERAL FORERUNNERS

## NORTHERN LIBERTIES VIA SUB POST OFFICE

### TWELVE RECORDED TYPE 1

OPERATED : 1835 - 1837  
 OPERATOR : ANDREW MCMAKIN  
 LOCATION : 213 NORTH 3RD ST.  
 CHARGE : 3 CENTS PREPAID



MARCH 14, 1836  
 TYPE 1 ORNATE MARKING  
 MANUSCRIPT 12 1/2  
 RED PHILADELPHIA OCTAGON  
 DATESTAMP  
 DELIVERED TO CARLISLE, PA.  
 PFC 1999

### EARLIEST OF FOUR RECORDED TYPE 2 - April 30, 1836

APRIL 30, 1836  
 TYPE 2 ORNATE MARKING  
 MANUSCRIPT 12 1/2  
 RED PHILADELPHIA OCTAGON  
 DATESTAMP  
 DELIVERED TO NEW YORK  
 PFC 2000



Northern Liberties District was immediately north of the old city, had no post office, but was the terminus of the New York Stagecoach. The Northern Liberties News Room was a hub of useful information and current events. On October 10, 1835 they advertised a "Sub Post Office" for mail to the Philadelphia post office. A lucrative three cent delivery service likely attracted one of the carriers who lived nearby to fill a needed service. Postage stamps were still many years away. Two type of Sub Post Office handstamps confirmed payment.



Competitive pressure from the Independent Mails forced the **Reduced Postage Act of 1845** effective July 1st. Intercity rates were greatly reduced to market levels as established by the Independent Mails: 5 cents 1/2 ounce up to 300 miles, 10 cents above 300. The inter-city revenue loss was offset by doubling the federal "drop rate" at post office window to 2 cents.

## "TO THE MAILS"

## "DROP LETTER"

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
WITH ATTACHED NUMERAL "2"

ADDRESSED TO PHILADELPHIA



*Card*  
*John M'lane Esq*  
*College of New Jersey*  
*Princeton*  
*N Jersey*

JANUARY 18, (1849) 5 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE  
BLUE NUMERAL "2" AND MATCHING PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
ADDRESSED TO PRINCETON PFC 2003

*Elder Chas. H. Williams*  
*Phila*  
*Pa*

## "FROM THE MAILS"

OCTOBER 9, 1845

RED RICHMOND VA  
CIRCULAR DATESTAMP

RED NUMERAL "5"

BLUE PHILADELPHIA  
CIRCULAR DATESTAMP

BLUE NUMERAL "2" DUE

PHILADELPHIA ADDRESS



*Mr Cornelius V Co*  
*Lamp Maker*  
*Philadelphia*

Very few large cities in 1845 could support a carrier department. A "drop letter" was the simplest form of intra-city government mail,\* for a letter given to the postmaster to hold for pick up. A charge of 2 cents, the "drop rate," revenue as a rate went to Washington, middle example. Any letter uncalled for after 2 days (drop or inbound), the postmaster could dispatch a carrier whose delivery "fee" was also 2 cents, bottom example, given blue numeral 2 in double circle handstamp. Moreover, an outbound letter sometimes was handed directly to a carrier on rounds, also two cents, top example.

Doubling the "drop rate" on July 1, 1845 increased the cost of drop mail and added delivery from an expensive 3 cents to 4 cents, quite exorbitant especially compared to 300 miles of inter-city transportation for only 5 cents.

\* "WHAT IS A 'DROP LETTER' AND A 'DROP DEAD LETTER'?", VERNON R. MORRIS JR. MD, THE CHRONICLE, WHOLE NO. 199, VOL. 55, NO. 3, PAGE 171 TO 174



In February 1849 the Postmaster General made a serious attempt to gain greater market share of carrier collections in several large cities. The Philadelphia carrier department reorganized: (1) **prepayment stamps** were printed; (2) the high drop "rate" of 2 cents was bypassed with a physically **separate carrier department for "city mail,"** collected and/or delivered in the city; (3) **"from the mails" was reduced to 1 cent.**

# PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - FIRST SERIES

## "LS" ADHESIVE

6 CENTS :  
1 CENT CARRIER FEE "TO THE MAILS"  
5 CENTS - HALF OUNCE UNDER 300 MILES

FEES:  
1 CENT "TO THE MAILS"  
1 CENT "CITY MAIL"  
1 CENT "FROM THE MAILS"  
RATES:  
2 CENTS DROP LETTER

## EARLIEST RECORDED PHILADELPHIA CARRIER STAMP - March 13, 1849



MARCH 13, 1849  
PHILADELPHIA "LS" ADHESIVE  
UNCANCELLED  
BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
ADDRESSED TO LANCASTER  
PFC 1999

## FIVE RECORDED ON COVER, ONE WITH 1847 GENERAL ISSUE LATEST RECORDED - January 17, 1851

JANUARY 17, 1851  
PHILADELPHIA "LS" ADHESIVE  
UNCANCELLED  
5 CENT 1847 GENERAL ISSUE  
ADHESIVE  
BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
ADDRESSED TO BALTIMORE  
PFC 1997



Five "LS" covers have been previously recorded between March 13, 1849 and January 20, 1850,\* all were outbound "to the mails." The bottom example *extends the period by one year*, and the **singular cover combined with 1847 stamp.**

\* "CARRIER STAMPS DURING THE 1851 ISSUE PERIOD," SCOTT TREPEL, *THE 1851 ISSUE OF THE UNITED STATES STAMPS: A SESQUICENTENNIAL RETROSPECTIVE*, P. 213, US CLASSICS SOC.



## PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - FIRST SERIES

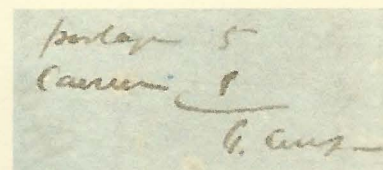
## "LP" ADHESIVE

6 CENTS:

1 CENT CARRIER FEE "TO THE MAILS"

5 CENTS HALF OUNCE UNDER 300 MILES

NINE RECORDED ON COVER, TWO TIED



JULY 29, 1850

PHILADELPHIA "LP" ADHESIVE

BLUE PHILADELPHIA  
DATESTAMP CANCELBLUE PHILADELPHIA "PAID"  
IN OCTAGON

MANUSCRIPT "PAID"

MANUSCRIPT "POSTAGE 5 /  
CARRIER 1 / 6 CENTS"

DELIVERED TO WASHINGTON

PFC 1999

## ONE RECORDED DROP LETTER

3 CENTS:

1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION FEE

2 CENTS "DROP RATE"

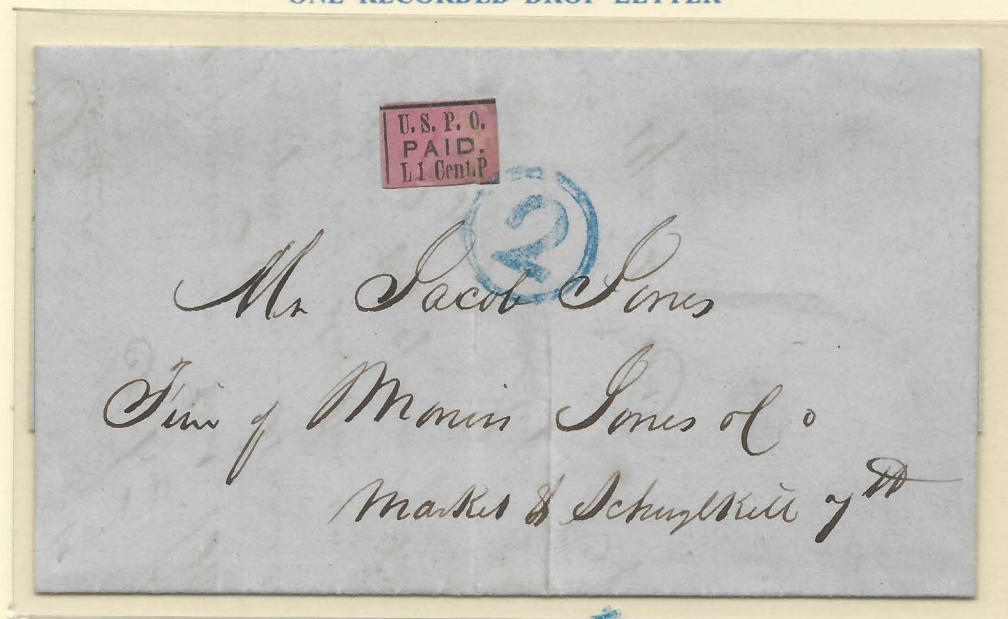
NOVEMBER 26, 1849

PHILADELPHIA "LP" ADHESIVE

BLUE NUMERAL "2" CANCEL

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2001



"LP" initialed stamps appeared between October 27, 1849 and January 9, 1851. The above are **the only tied examples**. The exhibitor's research has determined that only nine genuine examples exist, none in combination with an 1847 general issue stamp. Of the entire **first series** stamps only 3 were **carrier dropped** at the post office. The bottom, 1 cent prepaid carrier stamp, was in addition to the 2 cents drop "rate" for the postmaster (Washington) to hold the letter until picked up. Most carrier prepayment service was collection "to the mails," facilitated by stamps rather than coins.

The top example enlargement reveals "postage 5 / Carrier 1 / 6 cents" itemized costs.



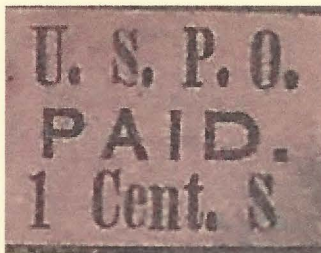
## PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - FIRST SERIES

## "S" ADHESIVE

11 CENTS:

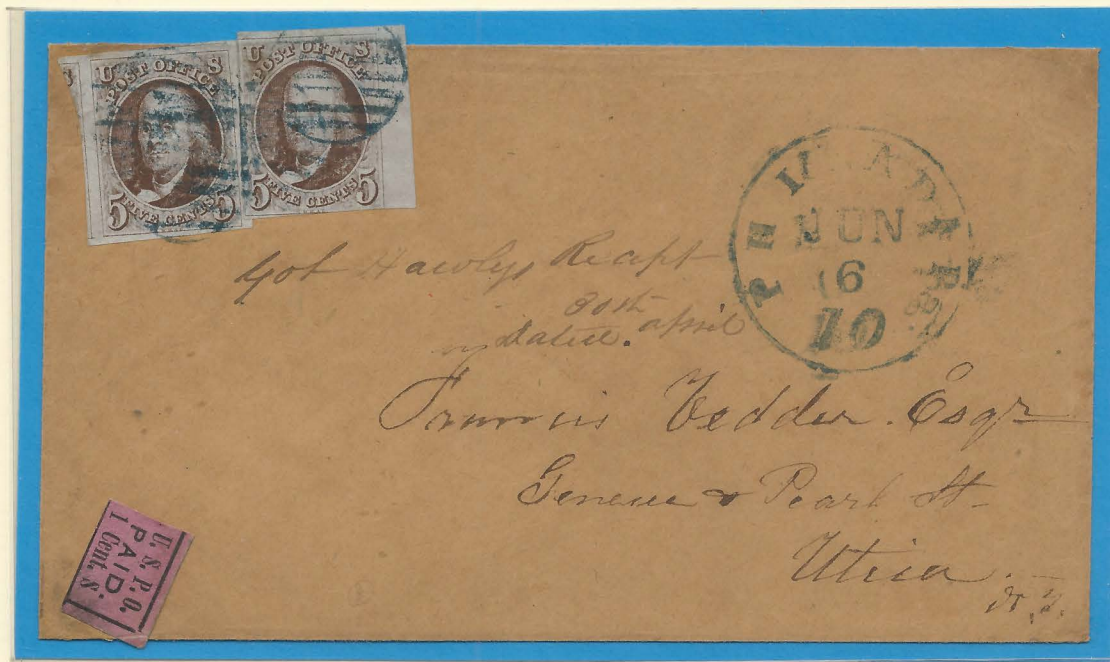
1 CENT CARRIER "TO THE MAILS"

10 CENTS ONE OUNCE UNDER 300 MILES



## FIVE STAMPS RECORDED

EARLIEST OF THREE ON COVER - June 6, 1849; ONE WITH 1847 GENERAL ISSUE



JUNE 6, 1849      PHILADELPHIA "S" ADHESIVE      UNCANCELLED  
 TWO 5 CENT 1847 GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVES      BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
 DELIVERED TO UTICA, NEW YORK      PFC 1999

The **three covers** bearing a Philadelphia Carrier Department "S" stamp are all from **June of 1849**. "S" may be the initial of James Stevens, George Schoch, or John Smith. The crude Philadelphia First Series are not found dated between July 1849 and September 1850. The Philadelphia *carriers understandably would not be happy with a 50% fee reduction mandated by the Postmaster General in Washington D.C. to be more competitive with Blood's local post.*\*

\* "THE FRANKLIN CARRIER STAMP ON COVER," VERNON MORRIS, *THE CHRONICLE*, WHOLE NO. 229, VOL. 63, NO. 1, FEBRUARY 2011, P. 27, 46, 48.



## PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - FIRST SERIES

## "JJ" ADHESIVE

6 CENTS:

1 CENT CARRIER "TO THE MAILS"

5 CENTS HALF OUNCE UNDER 300 MILES



TWO STAMPS RECORDED  
ONE COVER WITH 1847 GENERAL ISSUE



AUGUST 28, 1850      PHILADELPHIA "JJ" ADHESIVE      UNCANCELLED      MANUSCRIPT "PAID"  
5 CENT 1847 GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE      BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
DELIVERED TO WEST CHESTER, PA      PFC 1999

Only two "JJ" adhesives stamps exist, both summer of 1850 covers, but only one in combination with 1847 general issue government stamp. The initials "JJ" match carrier John Johnson. The newly reorganized carrier department issued its own stamps for the convenient prepayment of carrier pick up at a residence, business, or on his route, to avoid cumbersome coin exchange. A late response to years of Blood's Despatch hundreds of collection boxes strategically placed throughout the Philadelphia old city. The crude First Series carrier department stamps lacked imagination and style, but were clearly denominated "1 Cent."



## PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - FIRST SERIES

## "H" ADHESIVE

TWO COMBINED WITH 1847 GENERAL ISSUE



EARLIEST RECORDED ON COVER -

May 23, 1849

THREE OF SEVENTEEN TIED



AUGUST 22, (1849-50)

PHILADELPHIA "H" ADHESIVE, UNCANCELLED

1847 GENERAL ISSUE STAMP

BLUE PHILADELPHIA CDS CANCEL

ADDRESSED TO NEW YORK

PFC 2012

## "ROSE" ADHESIVE

EARLIEST OF ELEVEN RECORDED ON COVER - May 14, 1849  
TWO TIED

6 CENTS:

1 CENT CARRIER FEE "TO THE MAILS"

5 CENTS HALF OUNCE UNDER 300 MILES



MAY 14, 1849

PHILADELPHIA "ROSE" ADHESIVE

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
CANCEL

DELIVERED TO NEW YORK

PFC 1992

The initial "H" stamp at top, recorded from May of 1849 until mid 1850. "H" may represent Philip Henty, H.R. Hamilton, David Horner, Joseph Hallowell, William Hood, or William Hall. The bottom example **without initials** was conceivably sold by any Philadelphia carrier. The **earliest examples of each type** are shown above.



## PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - FIRST SERIES

## "BLUE GLAZED" ADHESIVE

EARLIEST RECORDED ON COVER - May 3, 1850  
THREE TIED



6 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER "TO THE MAILS"  
5 CENTS HALF OUNCE UNDER 300 MILES

MAY 3, 1850

PHILADELPHIA "BLUE  
GLAZED" ADHESIVECANCELLED BY BLUE  
PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

ADDRESSED TO NEW YORK

PFC 2001

LATEST RECORDED - February 19, 1851  
TWO WITH 1847 GENERAL ISSUE



FEBRUARY 19, (1851)

PHILADELPHIA "BLUE  
GLAZED" ADHESIVE

UNCANCELLED

5 CENT 1847 GENERAL  
ISSUE ADHESIVEBLUE PHILADELPHIA  
DATESTAMPDELIVERED TO  
NORTHUMBERTON, PA

PFC 2007

The Philadelphia "Blue Glazed" carrier department stamp has been recorded from May 3, 1850 until February 19, 1851, as shown above. The exhibitor's independent research has confirmed only 13 of the reported 17 are genuine,\* one of the 2 combined with an 1847 general issue stamp is above.

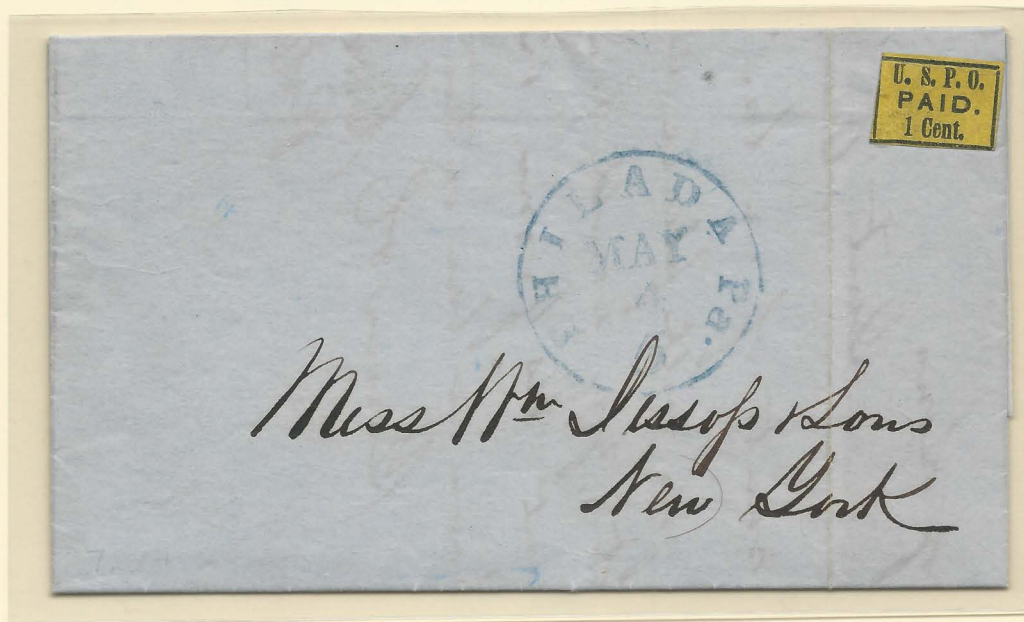
\* "THE FIRST PHILADELPHIA TYPESET CARRIER ADHESIVE STAMPS 7LB1 TO 7LB9," LARRY LYONS, *THE PENNY POST*, VOL.14, NO.3, JULY 2006, P.51-72.



## PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - FIRST SERIES

## "YELLOW GLAZED" ADHESIVE

6 CENTS:

1 CENT CARRIER FEE "TO TGE MAILS"  
5 CENTS HALF OUNCE UNDER 300 MILESEARLIEST OF EIGHT RECORDED ON COVER - May 4, 1849  
NONE TIED, NONE WITH 1847 GENERAL ISSUE

MAY 4, 1849

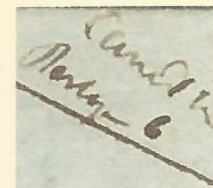
PHILADELPHIA "YELLOW GLAZED"  
ADHESIVE

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

DELIVERED TO NEW YORK

PFC 2000

## "VERMILLION GLAZED" ADHESIVE

FOURTEEN RECORDED ON COVER, TWO WITH 1847 GENERAL ISSUE  
NONE TIED

MARCH 7, (1851)

PHILADELPHIA "VERMILLION  
GLAZED" ADHESIVE

UNCANCELLED

5 CENT 1847 GENERAL ISSUE

BLUE PHILADELPHIA  
DATESTAMP

MANUSCRIPT "PAID"

MANUSCRIPT "CARRIER 1 /  
POSTAGE 6"

DELIVERED TO RICHMOND, VA.

PFC 1999

Only eight covers have survived with "Yellow Glazed" stamps, between May 4, 1849 and the Spring of 1851, the earliest shown at top. "Vermillion Glazed" on cover have been recorded between April 9, 1849 and December 1850. This example is another of the precious few of all carrier department covers revealing their itemized postal costs: "Carrier 1 / Postage 6."



## PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - SECOND SERIES

## "GOLD ON BLACK GLAZED" ADHESIVE



6 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER "TO THE MAILS"  
5 CENTS HALF OUNCE UNDER 300 MILES

EARLIEST RECORDED TIED - March 30, 1851

MARCH 30, 1851

PHILADELPHIA "GOLD ON  
BLACK GLAZED" ADHESIVE

PENCIL CANCEL

5 CENT 1847 GENERAL ISSUE

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

DELIVERED TO NEW YORK

PFC 1997



## TWO RECORDED DROP LETTERS

3 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION FEE  
2 CENTS DROP RATE



APRIL 22, 1851

PHILADELPHIA "GOLD ON  
BLACK GLAZED" ADHESIVEPHILADELPHIA BLUE NUMERAL  
"2" CANCEL

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2003

Due to severe competition from Blood's Despatch, in early 1851 the Philadelphia carrier department reorganized again, and over five years produced a set of 3 ornately lithographed adhesive stamps and 4 handstamp markings.

Of entire Second Series of Philadelphia carrier department stamps, approximately 135 examples have survived,\* at least half from the first issue "Gold on Black Glazed." Eighty percent are outbound "To the Mails," the balance were city letters. A few were "drop letters," at bottom, one cent prepaid by carrier stamp for delivery to the post office and held by postmaster for recipient pick up, 2 cents due for holding.

\* "THE PHILADELPHIA CARRIER ADHESIVES 7LB13 TO 7LB13," LARRY LYONS, *THE PENNY POST*, VOL. 14, NO. 4, OCTOBER 2006, P. 41-59



By 1851 continuing public pressure for cheap postage brought: (1) prepaid intercity Mail reduced to 3 cents; (2) postage stamps in new **denominations** and designs including a 1 cent stamp; (3) **"drop rate" returned to 1 cent** as prior to July 1, 1845. The Postmaster General declared postal routes included all large city public roads, directly targeting local posts similar to the Independent Mails in 1845.

He proposed **free "To the Mails"** collection, to undercut Blood's 1 cent service, and **doubled "From the Mails"** fee to 2 cents, as prior to 1849, since the post office had a monopoly on inbound letters.

# PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - SECOND SERIES



NUMERAL ONE IN  
DOUBLE OCTAGON

"GOLD ON BLACK GLAZED" ADHESIVE

LATEST RECORDED - February 28, 1852

FEES:  
FREE "TO THE MAILS"  
1 CENT CITY MAIL  
2 CENTS "FROM THE MAILS"  
RATES:  
1 CENT "DROP" LETTER

2 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION FEE  
1 CENT CARRIER DELIVERY FEE

TWO RECORDED TIED  
BY RED STAR



4 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER FEE "TO THE MAILS"  
3 CENTS HALF OUNCE UNDER 3000 MILES

DECEMBER 27, 1851

PHILADELPHIA "GOLD ON  
BLACK GLAZED" ADHESIVE

RED STAR TIED CANCEL

3 CENT 1851 GENERAL ISSUE STAMP

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

ADDRESSED TO NEW YORK



At top the carrier collection and delivery to the Penn District was 2 cents. One cent "drop" at post office window, and one cent prepaid carrier department door delivery. Previously conducted by intercity mail from the old city for 5 cents explaining the obliterated "5 cts" datestamp. The carrier department enjoyed an unfair **competitive advantage just outside the old city where local posts were forbidden.**

The exhibitors submits that the Philadelphia carrier department autonomously continued the 1849 one cent carrier fee for all services in defiance of the Postmaster General's mandate.\*

\* "THE FRANKLIN CARRIER STAMP ON COVER," VERNON R MORRIS JR MD, THE CHRONICLE, WHOLE NO. 229, VOL. 63, NO. 1, FEBRUARY 2011, P.48.



## PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - SECOND SERIES

## "BLUE" ADHESIVE

11 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION FEE  
10 CENTS HALF OUNCE OVER 300 MILES

## EARLIEST RECORDED SECOND SERIES - August 25, 1850



AUGUST 25, 1850

PHILADELPHIA "BLUE" ADHESIVE

RED STAR TIED

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

ADDRESSED TO NEW YORK

PFC 1982 &amp; 1992 &amp; 2010

## LATEST RECORDED SECOND SERIES - September 28, 1853

6 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION FEE  
5 CENTS "COLLECT" UNDER 3000 MILES

SEPTEMBER 28, 1853

PHILADELPHIA "BLUE" ADHESIVE

RED STAR CANCEL

MANUSCRIPT "5" DUE

ADDRESSED TO  
WILLIAMSBURG, PA

PFC 2010



The above examples are the earliest and latest recorded Second Series covers, and *substantially extend the service period, earlier by 11 months and later by 10 months.* The majority of 51 recorded "Blue" adhesive stamps are recorded between August 3, 1851 and December 4, 1852.\*

\* "THE PHILADELPHIA CARRIER SAUSAGE ADHESIVES 7LB11 TO 7LB13," LARRY LYONS, *THE PENNY POST*, WHOLE NO. 57, VOL. 14, NO. 4, OCTOBER 2006, P. 44-45.



## PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - SECOND SERIES

## "BLUE" ADHESIVE

4 CENTS:

1 CENT CARRIER FEE "TO THE MAILS"  
3 CENTS PREPAID UNDER 3000 MILES

MAY 17, (1852)

PHILADELPHIA "BLUE" ADHESIVE

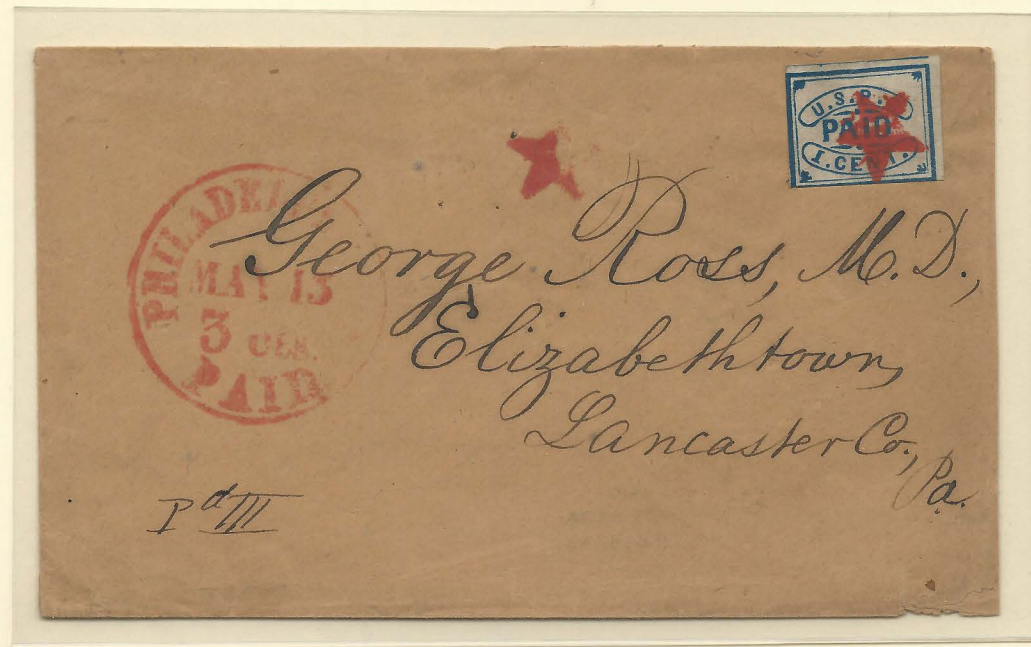
RED STAR CANCEL TWICE

RED PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

MANUSCRIPT "PD 111"

MAILED TO ELIZABETHTOWN, PA.

PFC 2000



## ONE RECORDED BOSTON CANCELLATION

2 CENTS:

1 CENT CARRIER PREPAID  
FREE OUTSIDE THE "MAILS"  
1 CENT DROP RATE

JULY 13, 1852

PHILADELPHIA "BLUE" ADHESIVE

BLACK BOSTON DATESTAMP

ADDRESSED TO BOSTON  
MASSACHUSETTES

PFC 1997

The cover at **top** was **fully prepaid**; carrier collection fee prepaid by stamp, and intercity postage 3 cents coin given the carrier to relieve the recipient of an expensive 5 cents collect.

The lower example does not show a Philadelphia post office marking, suggesting the letter was privately transported outside of the mails to Boston. Perhaps the sender incorrectly believed the Philadelphia carrier stamp would have been accepted by the Boston post office for local delivery. The Boston cds suggests the cover was held as drop letter for addressee to pick up. The contents reveal that the sender had relocated to Philadelphia. **No mechanism existed to compensate another city's autonomous carrier department. The only Philadelphia carrier department stamp cancelled in another city.**



## PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - SECOND SERIES

## "BLACK" ADHESIVE

EARLIEST OF TWELVE RECORDED - March 27, 1852

4 CENTS:

1 CENT PREPAID "TO THE MAILS"

3 CENTS PREPAID UNDER 3000 MILES



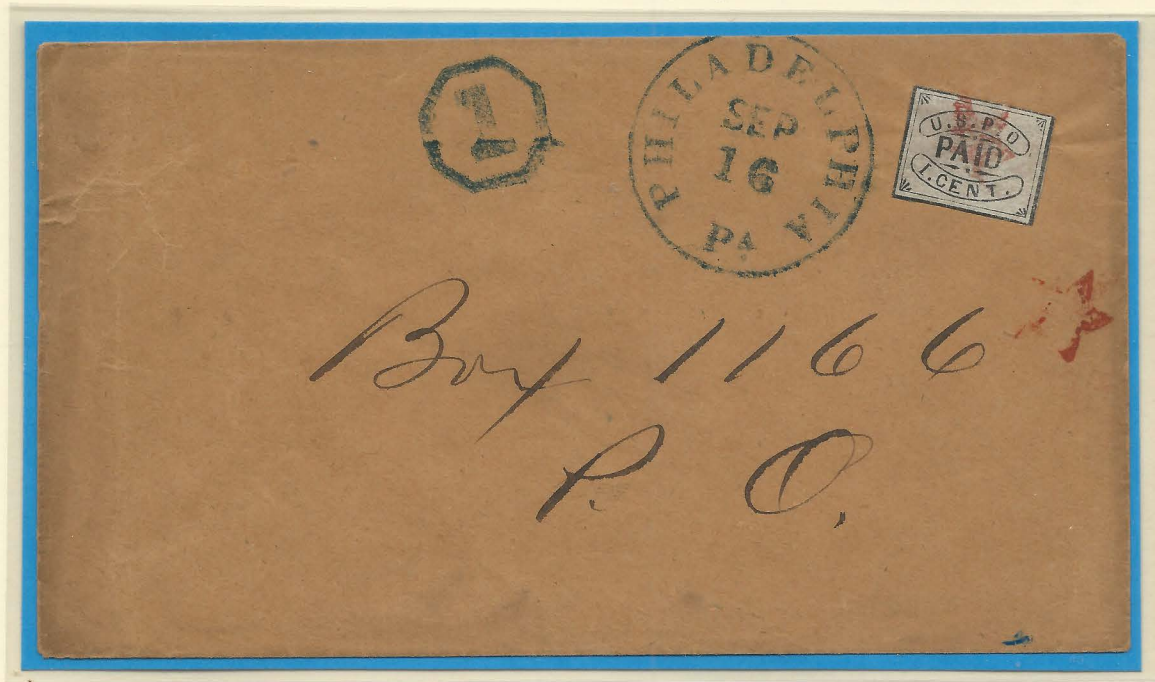
MARCH 27, 1852

ADDRESSED TO NEW YORK  
PFC 1997

MAY 15, 1852

PFC 1984 &amp; 2011

LATEST RECORDED "BLACK" - September 16, 1853



2 CENTS:

1 CENT COLLECTION FEE

1 CENT "DROP RATE"

SEPTEMBER 16, (1853)

PHILADELPHIA "BLACK" ADHESIVE

RED STAR CANCEL TWICE

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

BLUE NUMERAL "1" IN OCTAGON

ADDRESSED TO POST OFFICE BOX

PFC 1997

The top example is the earliest recorded date certain "Black." According to the exhibitors research the bottom example extends the recorded period by more than 9 months\*, to **within 12 days of the latest for any type** (see 2 pages earlier). Of the 12 recorded, 6 covers are combined with an 1851 general issue stamp "to the mails," one "from the mails" (next page), and 5 "city letters," only one "dropped" at the post office, at bottom.

\* "THE PHILADELPHIA CARRIER SAUSAGE ADHESIVES 7LB11 TO 7LB13," LARRY LYONS, *THE PENNY POST*, WHOLE NO. 57, VOL. 14, NO. 4, OCTOBER 2006, P. 46, 57-59.



## PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - SECOND SERIES

"FROM THE MAILS"

4 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER DELIVERY FEE "  
3 CENTS PREPAID UNDER 3000 MILES



NOVEMBER 9, (1852)

PHILADELPHIA "BLUE" ADHESIVE

TIED BY RED STAR CANCEL

BLACK BATON ROUGE, LA  
DATESTAMP

ADDRESSED TO PHILADELPHIA

PFC 1985



JANUARY 11, (1852-3)

PHILADELPHIA BLUE STAMP

RED STAR CANCEL

BLUE HARRISBURG, PA  
DATESTAMP & PAID

ADDRESSED TO PHILADELPHIA

FEBRUARY 13, 1852

PHILADELPHIA "BLUE" ADHESIVE

RED STAR CANCEL

MANUSCRIPT "PAID"

RED NEW YORK DATESTAMP

DELIVERED TO PHILADELPHIA

PFC 2000



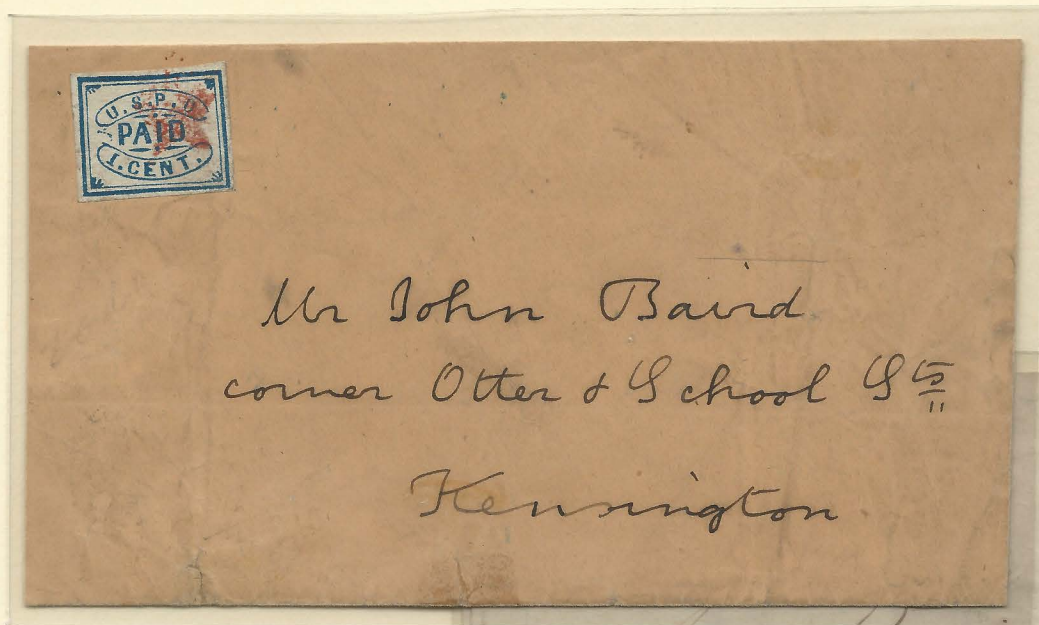
Carrier revenue was largely earned from delivering inbound letters "from the mails," since the government had a virtual monopoly on their destiny. Since cash was collected from the recipient, and no stamps appeared on the cover, or carrier markings necessary. Stamps on a precious few may have been originally purchased in Philadelphia, perhaps by a friend. Alternatively, the addressee was an established entity perhaps with an account. The above examples originated in Baton Rouge, Harrisburg, and New York City. The carrier department in *Philadelphia did not comply with the Postmaster General's mandated 2 cent fee for delivering inbound letters.*\*

\* "TWO PHILADELPHIA EAGLE CARRIER CANCELLATION DISCOVERIES, NEW LRD, AND A NEW THEORY," VERNON MORRIS, *THE PENNY POST*, VOL. 17, NO. 2, APRIL 2009, P. 24-5.



## PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - SECOND SERIES

## KENSINGTON OFFICE



1 CENT:  
1 CENT CARRIER "CITY MAIL"



4 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER FEE "TO THE MAIL"  
3 CENTS PREPAID UNDER 3000 MILES

AUGUST 11, 1851

PHILADELPHIA "GOLD ON BLACK  
GLAZED" ADHESIVE

PENCIL CANCEL

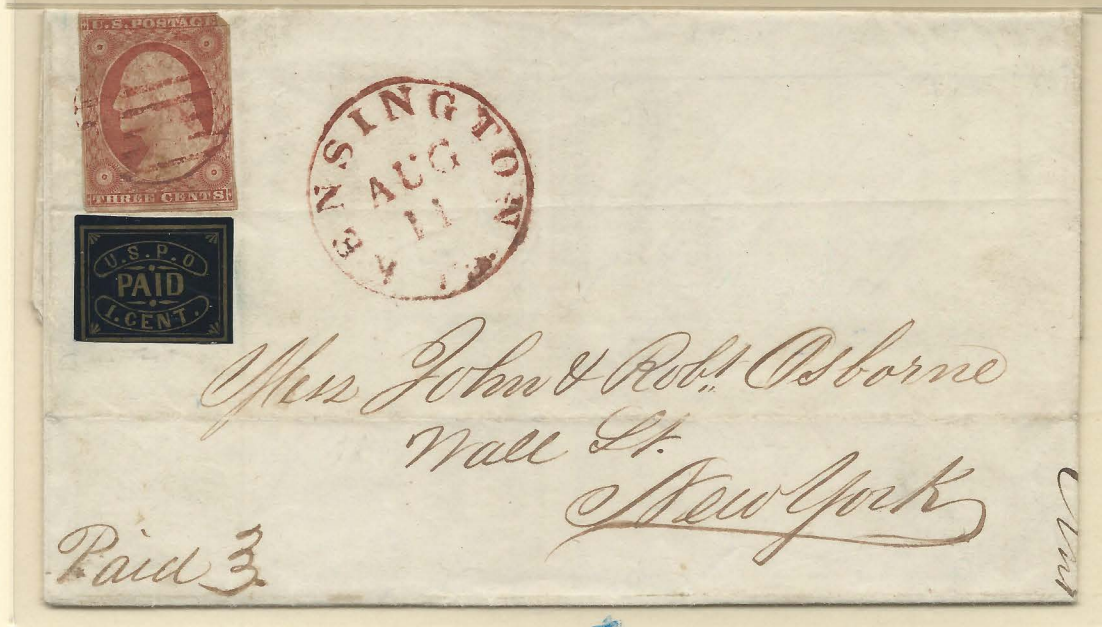
3 CENT 1851 GENERAL ISSUE

MANUSCRIPT "PAID 3"

RED KENSINGTON DATESTAMP

DELIVERED TO NEW YORK

PFC 1997



Kensington is on the Delaware River immediately north of the old city of Philadelphia, had a post office since 1826, and shared close working relationship with the Philadelphia post office in the 1850's. The top examples are "Blue" Philadelphia carrier department stamps from late 1851 through 1852 which serviced "city letters" between the two municipalities, going in both directions.

The bottom example was outbound from Kensington to New York, with collection service in Kensington prepaid by Philadelphia carrier department "Black on Gold" stamp.



## 1851 GENERAL ISSUE CARRIER ADHESIVE - FRANKLIN

"CITY MAIL"

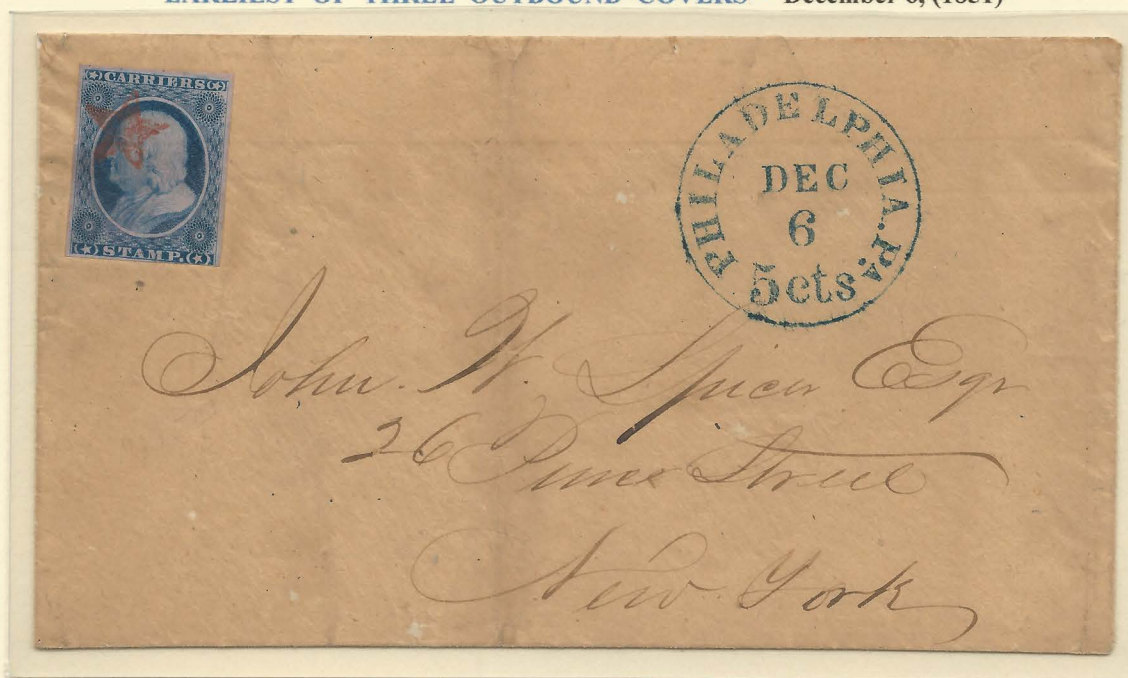
EARLIEST OF FIFTEEN COVERS - December 3, 1851



DECEMBER 3, 1851    FRANKLIN CARRIER ADHESIVE    RED STAR CANCEL  
LOCAL ADDRESS    PFC 2009

"TO THE MAILS"

EARLIEST OF THREE OUTBOUND COVERS - December 6, (1851)



DECEMBER 6, (1851)    FRANKLIN CARRIER ADHESIVE    RED STAR CANCEL  
ADDRESSED TO NEW YORK    BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
PFC 2011

Of the 18 surviving covers, 14 were Philadelphia, 3 New York, and 1 New Orleans; however 3 are sequestered in the New York Public Library leaving only **15 available to private collectors**. The "Franklin Carrier" stamps were issued by the federal government on September 27, 1851 as part of the **1851 General Issue** in a serious **centralized effort by Washington to develop a uniform national prepayment carrier service**.\*

Of the 18 surviving covers, 14 are city letters, 4 outbound, and no inbound letters. The above two examples are the earliest for each service in private hands.

\* "THE FRANKLIN CARRIER STAMP ON COVER," VERNON MORRIS, *THE CHRONICLE*, NO. 229, VOL. 63, NO. 1, FEBRUARY 2011, P. 27-50.



## 1851 GENERAL ISSUE CARRIER ADHESIVE - FRANKLIN

## ONE TIED BY RED STAR



JANUARY 26, 1852    FRANKLIN CARRIER ADHESIVE    RED STAR CANCEL    LOCAL ADDRESS    PFC 1976 &amp; 1997

## ONE RECORDED 1851 GENERAL ISSUE WITH RED STAR CANCEL

UNDATED

1 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE

PHILADELPHIA RED STAR CANCEL

1 CENT EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE

PHILADELPHIA RED STAR CANCEL

BLOOD'S POSTAL STATIONARY

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2007



Post office officials quickly realized the similarity of the "Franklin Carrier" and the 1 cent 1851 general issue released three months earlier. The bottom cover is evidence of confusion with a general issue stamp cancelled by Philadelphia carrier department red star (appropriate for the top cover). The carrier stamp differed by Franklin facing left rather than right.\* Also, the Franklin carrier stamp **did not specify monetary denomination**, consistent with the Postmaster General's discretionary prerogative to vary carrier fees by year, city, and type of service depending on local factors such as competition from the private posts. Within five weeks the "Franklin carrier" was succeeded by the "Eagle carrier" stamp, also shown at bottom.

\* "THE FRANKLIN CARRIER STAMP ON COVER," VERNON R MORRIS, *THE CHRONICLE*, NO. 229, VOL. 63, NO. 1, FEBRUARY 2011, P. 28-9.

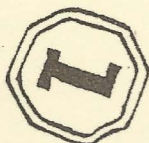


## 1851 GENERAL ISSUE CARRIER ADHESIVE - EAGLE

CITY MAIL

TWO CENTS:  
ONE CENT CARRIER COLLECTION  
ONE CENT "DROP RATE"

ONE RECORDED "NUMERAL 1 IN DOUBLE OCTAGON" CANCEL



*J. B. Townsend*

*Arch above*

*Philadelphia*



*Sw Gray*  
*given*  
*15th Pine*



ONE CENT:  
ONE CENT CITY LETTER

MARCH 12, 1857

PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

LOCAL ADDRESS PFC 2012

DECEMBER 11, 1854

EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE

RED STAR CANCEL

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2003



*Re Dec 11/54*  
*Mr. Crokey*



*Messrs Clay & Jones*  
*No. 47 South 5th Street*  
*Philadelphia*

The exhibitor submits "city mail" was the primary purpose in 1851 for the federal government to issue carrier stamps.\* The top example cancelled by "numeral one" in octagon was recently discovery by the exhibitor. An 1857 late example, in middle, was cancelled by the main post office, and bottom example by the much more typical Philadelphia red star.



## 1851 GENERAL ISSUE CARRIER ADHESIVE - EAGLE

## CITY MAIL

ONE RECORDED COMBINATION WITH ANY LOCAL POST  
ONE RECORDED ELEVEN BAR GRID CANCEL

UNDATED

EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE

BLACK 11 BAR GRID CANCEL

BLOOD'S PENNY POST ADHESIVE  
ACID TIED

PFC 1997



UNDATED

EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE

BLACK 7 BAR GRID CANCEL

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2000



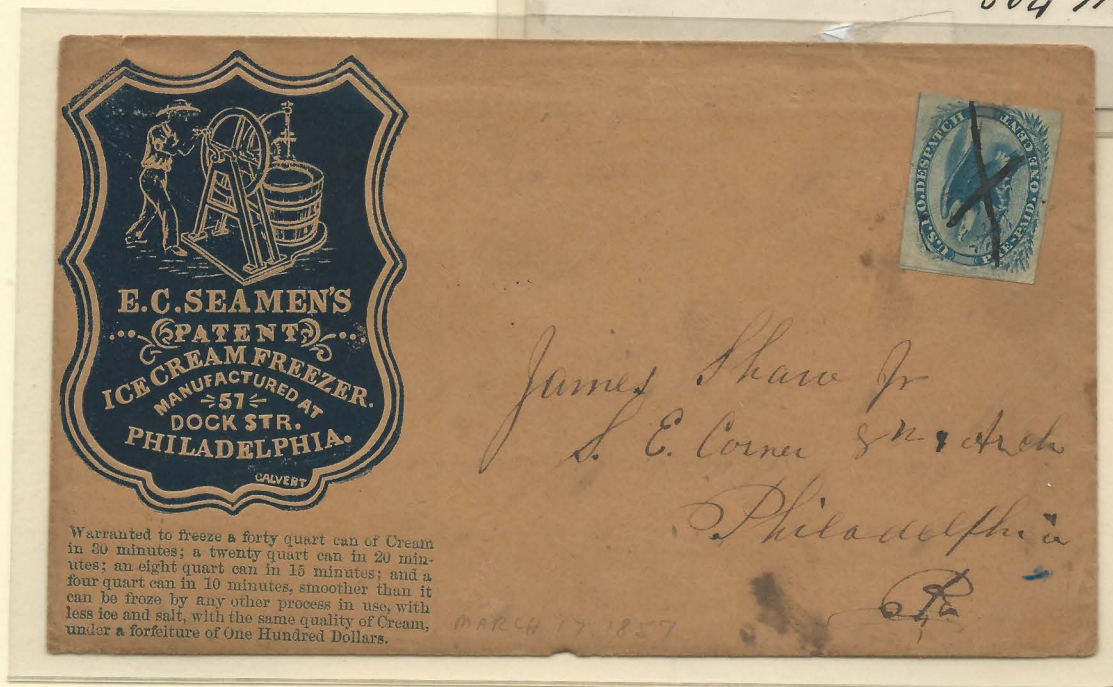
MARCH 17, 1857

EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE

MANUSCRIPT CANCEL

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2000



By January 1854 all Philadelphia cancels were black, in various styles such as eleven and seven bar grids. The top example may have been addressed to a district forbidden to local posts such as Blood's Penny Post, who gave it over to carrier delivery. The second latest cover, March 17, 1857, at bottom, was cancelled by simple penstroke.



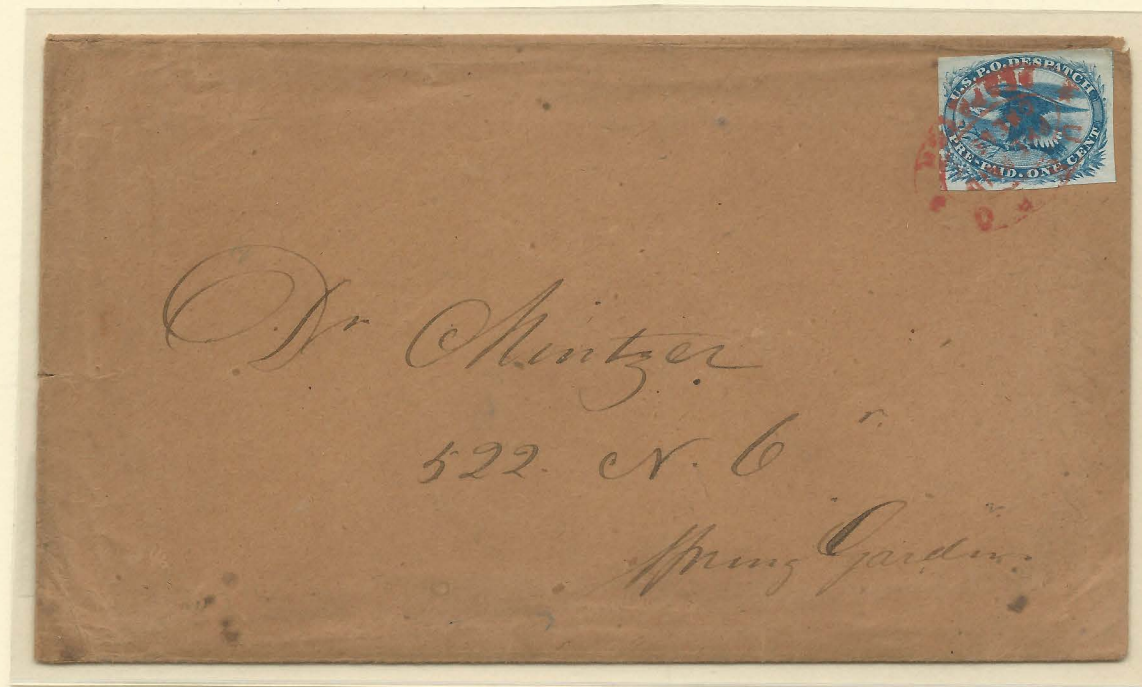
## 1851 GENERAL ISSUE CARRIER ADHESIVE - EAGLE

U.S.P.O. DESPATCH CANCEL

ONE CENT:  
ONE CENT CITY LETTER



FOUR RECORDED IN RED



OCTOBER 3, 1853

EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE

RED U.S.P.O. DESPATCH  
DOUBLE OVAL CANCEL

DELIVERED TO THE  
SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT

PFC 1997

The author submits the 1853 red double oval example above was a very early delivery by the Philadelphia carrier department north of the old city, a growth area where according to exhibitors original research *Blood's Despatch* had illegal entered.\*

THREE RECORDED IN BLACK

DECEMBER 1, (1854-57)

EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE

BLACK U.S.P.O. DESPATCH CANCEL

3 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE

BLACK PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
CANCEL

ADDRESSED TO BANGOR, MAINE

PFC 2003



All Eagle carrier covers cancelled by a black double oval U.S.P.O. Despatch handstamp of the Philadelphia carrier department were to the Bruce correspondence to Bangor **Maine**, and typically with poor strike.

\* "BLOOD'S 15L12: PART 13," VERNON MORRIS, *THE PENNY POST*, VOL 23, NO.1, WHOLE NUMBER 94, JANUARY 2016, PAGE 56, 59-61.



## 1851 GENERAL ISSUE CARRIER ADHESIVE - EAGLE

"TO THE MAILS"

4 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION  
3 CENTS PREPAID UNDER 3000 MILES

JUNE 15, 1852

EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE

3 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
CANCEL

ADDRESSED TO WARREN, MASS

PFC 2003



MARCH 3, (1852-54)

EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE

RED STAR CANCEL

RED "3 cts. PAID" PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

MANUSCRIPT "HASTE"

ADDRESSED TO BURLINGTON, N.J.

PFC 2009



6 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION  
5 CENTS COLLECT UNDER 3000 MILES

JUNE 14, (1853)

EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE

RED STAR CANCEL

BLUE 5 CENT DUE  
PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

DELIVERED TO NEW YORK

PFC 1999



In late 1851 Postmaster General Hall exercised his discretionary privilege ordering the few carrier departments to **collect outbound letters free**, which in Philadelphia would greatly undercut Bloods Despatch. The exhibitor submits that in *defiance the Philadelphia carriers refused to work for free and continued "1 cent for all services."* Evidence above is 1852 and 1853.

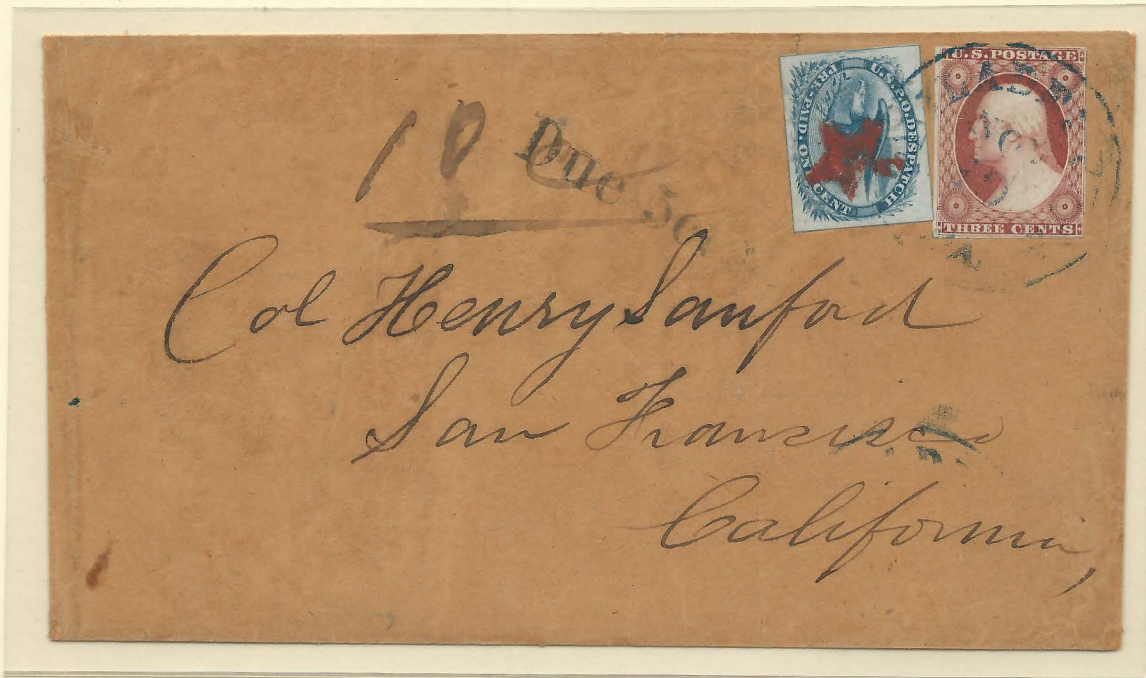


## 1851 GENERAL ISSUE CARRIER ADHESIVE - EAGLE

## TRANSCONTINENTAL

7 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION  
6 CENTS PREPAID OVER 3000 MILES

## THREE RECORDED TRANSCONTINENTAL COVERS



NOVEMBER 19, (1852) EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE RED STAR CANCEL  
3 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
MANUSCRIPT "10" DUE 5 CTS ADDRESSED TO SAN FRANCISCO / CALIFORNIA PFC 1978



JULY 2, (1852) EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE RED SMUDGE CANCEL PAIR 3 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVES  
BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP ADDRESSED TO SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA PFC 2007

Above are two of the three recorded transcontinental Eagle carrier examples, differing by payment mechanism. The transcontinental rate over 3,000 miles was 6 cents prepaid, 10 cents collect. The top example **hybrid was 8 cents**; half prepaid by single 3 cent stamp, half due collect 5 cents. The top cover was initially assumed fully unpaid manuscript 10 collect, but corrected by handstamp "Due 5 cts." The bottom example demonstrates proper prepayment by two 3 cent stamps.



## 1851 GENERAL ISSUE CARRIER ADHESIVE - EAGLE

## TRANSATLANTIC

17 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION  
16 CENTS UNIFORM SEA RATE

## ONE RECORDED WITH THE TWELVE CENT GENERAL ISSUE



UNDATED      EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE      RED STAR CANCEL  
PAIR 1851 12 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE      RED CORK CANCEL      RED NUMERAL "19"  
CORNERS REPAIRED      DELIVERED TO LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND      PFC 2001

25 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION  
24 CENTS INTERNATIONAL RATE

## TWELVE TRANSATLANTIC COVERS RECORDED



JANUARY 31, 1853  
EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE  
RED STAR CANCEL  
BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
RED "PAID" HANDSTAMP  
MANUSCRIPT "PAID 24 CTS"  
RED NUMERAL "19"  
RED 1853 LIVERPOOL RECEIVING MARKING  
DELIVERED TO LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND

PFC 2000 & 2011

Only 12 Eagle carrier stamps to the Eastern Hemisphere have been recorded. Origin was **Cincinnati six, Philadelphia five, and Washington DC one**. Destinations were Liverpool four, London one, Germany three, Paris one, France one, Denmark one, and Syria one.

The United States - British Treaty of 1848 single rate, one half ounce, was a uniform *sea rate* of 16 cents, top example, or prepaid 24 cents international rate inclusive of all inland postage, mourning cover at bottom.\*



## 1851 GENERAL ISSUE CARRIER ADHESIVE - EAGLE

## KENSINGTON



MAY 4, (?) EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE RED KENSINGTON DATESTAMP CANCEL  
DELIVERED TO CLAYMONT DELAWARE PFC 1997

## FORWARDED



BLUE DELAFIELD, WIS  
DATESTAMP

BLUE "PAID 3" HANDSTAMP

EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE

RED CANCEL

BLACK PHILADELPHIA  
DATESTAMP

MANUSCRIPT DEC 13, 1854

ADDRESS CHANGE FROM  
PHILADELPHIA TO  
BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY

PFC 2003

Nearby **Kensington** was one of only four post offices in the United States to receive Eagle carrier stamps. The Kensington post office had a close working relationship with nearby Philadelphia carrier department. **Eagle carrier stamps were printed in Philadelphia** by Toppan, Carpenter & Co. At top is a tied example from some 30 surviving Eagle carrier covers from the Kensington post office in Philadelphia County.

The bottom example inbound from Wisconsin was addressed to a Philadelphia street address. The carrier department must have been unsuccessful, since it was converted to an **outbound** forwarding to New Jersey. The Eagle carrier stamp may have been paid by the reverend's representative.



## 1851 GENERAL ISSUE CARRIER ADHESIVE - EAGLE

"TO THE MAILS"

4 CENTS:  
 1 CENT CARRIER PREPAID  
 3 CENTS PREPAID UNDER 3000 MILES

LATEST RECORDED PHILADELPHIA EAGLE CARRIER COVER - June 29, 1857  
 TWO RECORDED SQUARE GRID PHILADELPHIA CANCELS



JUNE 29, 1857    EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE    SQUARE GRID CANCEL    3 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE  
 BLACK PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP    ADDRESSED TO CLEVELAND    PFC 2009



NOVEMBER 25, 1853  
 EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE  
 RED STAR CANCEL  
 3 CENT EMBOSSED ENTIRE  
 BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
 ADDRESSED TO CAMBRIDGE,  
 MASSACHUSETTS  
 PFC 2000

The top example originated ten miles from Philadelphia in Riverton, New Jersey, summer homes for many Quaker Philadelphians. It was privately transported to Philadelphia for deposit into a carrier collection box. **June 29, 1857 is the latest** recorded Philadelphia Eagle carrier. *Philadelphia square grid cancels had not been previously recorded in Philadelphia.* At bottom is an unusual combination of Eagle Carrier and Nesbit envelope.



## MISTAKEN POSTAGE

## FIVE RECORDED TRIPLE ATTEMPTED INTERCITY USE



UNDATED

EAGLE CARRIER HORIZONTAL STRIP OF THREE

RED STAR CANCELS

BLUE PHILADELPHIA 5 CENTS DUE HANDSTAMP

ADDRESSED TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

PFC 2003

## ONE RECORDED ATTEMPTED CARRIER USE



UNDATED

3 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

BLUE NUMERAL "1" IN OCTAGON

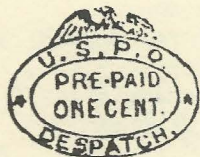
LOCAL ADDRESS

MANUSCRIPT "THE WRONG STAMP -  
J.C. MONTGOMERY ASST. P.M."

PFC 2003

Eagle carrier stamps could not pay for intercity mail, as in the top example, since **prepayment went to the carrier fund**. A 5 cent due Philadelphia datestamp was applied to **collect** postage from the recipient. The Philadelphia carrier department sold its own stamps, provided its service, and paid its carriers. Their accounting was separate from the main post office. Therefore, as in the bottom example, a general issue stamp could not pay the carrier delivery, because the money from prepayment went to the main post office for Washington. The handwriting on the back flap by Assistant Philadelphia Post Master Montgomery states **"Wrong Stamp."**

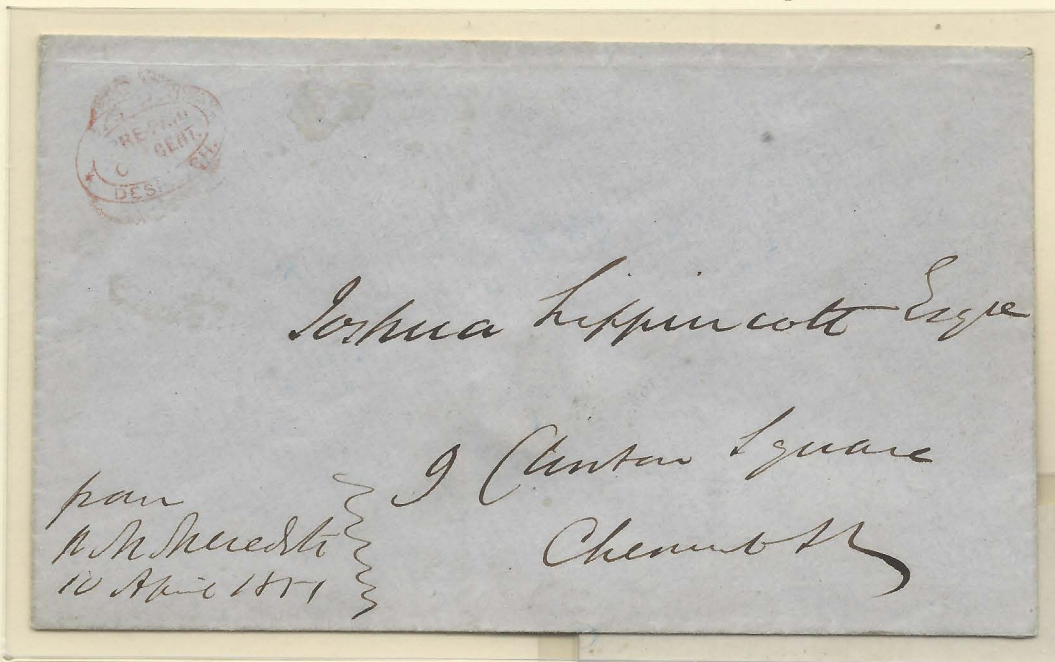




## MOUNTED EAGLE MARKING

21 X 14 MM U.S.P.O.  
DESPATCH DOUBLE OVAL  
SURMOUNTED BY A  
LEGLESS EAGLE WITH  
OUTSTRETCHED WINGS

EARLIEST RECORDED IN ANY COLOR - April 10, 1851



APRIL 10, 1851

RED USPO DESPATCH  
MOUNTED EAGLE MARKING

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 1997 & 2010

EARLIEST RECORDED IN BLUE -  
June 1851

JUNE 1851 CIRCULAR

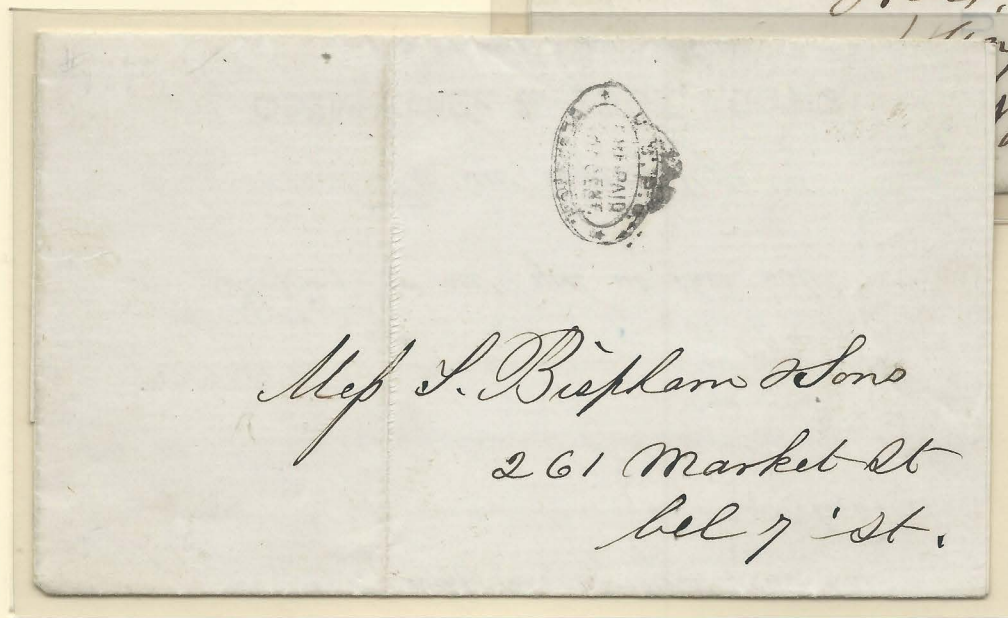
BLUE USPO DESPATCH  
MOUNTED EAGLE POSTMARK

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 1997



LATEST RECORDED IN  
ANY COLOR - June 3, 1856



JUNE 4, 1856

BLACK USPO DESPATCH  
MOUNTED EAGLE POSTMARK

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2001

Approximately 15 mounted eagles handstamp markings are recorded. The majority are red, perhaps 4 blue, and 3 black. This marking consummated payment of one cent in coins given the carrier for city letters. The color dating is consistent with the Philadelphia post office conversion to black ink in early 1854. The literature has reported the earliest date on June 4, 1852 and latest date May 20, 1856. The top two examples are well over one year earlier than previously reported.\*

\* "THE CARRIER STAMPS OF THE UNITED STATES; PHILADELPHIA," ELLIOTT PERRY, THE CHRONICLE, NO. 118, VOL. 35, NO. 2, MAY 1983





PRE-PAID ENVELOPE

UNCANCELLED

ONE CANCELLED BY  
BLACK STAR

*George T. Campbell* }



*Thompson Jones Esq.*  
*Whig State Committee,*  
*South 5th Street*  
*Philadelphia*

THREE CANCELLED  
BY RED STAR

JUNE 4, 1852

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2001

*June 4/52*  
*Letting out*

*W. J. M. Chay Esq.*  
*No 145 Walnut St.*  
*Above Sixth St.*

ONE RECORDED BLUE EAGLE  
CANCELLED BY RED STAR

UNDATED

BLUE USPO DESPATCH  
MOUNTED EAGLE MARKING

RED STAR CANCEL

RED USPO DESPATCH  
DOUBLE OVAL MARKING

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 1997 &amp; 2010



*Capt. Patrick Hayes*  
*9th & Locust*

In addition to prepaid carrier stamps, the **Philadelphia carrier department sold prepaid envelopes** indicated by a mounted eagle marking for future carrier service. To prevent reuse, at the time of service the mounted eagle was cancelled, much like prepaid stamps were cancelled. The eagle marking on top example was initially went unnoticed, mistakenly marked one cent in double octagon "due" from the recipient, but correctly crossed out. The above group represents the **great majority cancelled** by the Philadelphia signature (red) star.



## RED STAR CARRIER MARKING

4 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION  
3 CENTS UNDER 3000 MILES

EARLIEST RECORDED - October 16, 1851

OCTOBER 16, 1851  
RED STAR MARKING  
3 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE  
BLUE PHILADELPHIA POSTMARK  
ADDRESSED TO PRINCETON, N.J.  
PFC 2003



FEBRUARY 14, (1852-53)  
RED STAR MARKING  
3 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE  
BLUE PHILADELPHIA POSTMARK  
ADDITIONAL 3 CENT GENERAL ISSUE  
ADHESIVE, BLUE GRID CANCEL  
BLUE HARRISBURG POSTMARK  
ADDRESSED TO PHILA (CANCELLED)  
RE-ADDRESSED TO PLAINSVILLE, PA.  
PFC 2002

JULY 28, 1852  
RED STAR MARKING  
3 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE  
BLUE PHILADELPHIA POSTMARK  
MANUSCRIPT "PAID"  
ADDRESSED TO PHOENIXVILLE, PA.  
PFC 1998



The red star handstamp indicated cash payment to the carrier on route for outbound letters. The top example is the earliest recorded red star marking specific to the Philadelphia carrier department. The middle example inbound from Harrisburg was 3 cents. Apparently, unable to locate the addressee, the carriers returned the letter outbound for another 3 cents to Blairsville, Pa.



## RED DOUBLE OVAL "WITH SERIFS" MARKING



27 x 17 MM U.S.P.O.  
DESPATCH DOUBLE OVAL  
WITHOUT EAGLE  
WITH SERIFS

## ONE RECORDED WITH RED STAR CANCEL



LATEST RECORDED -  
MARCH 1, 1853

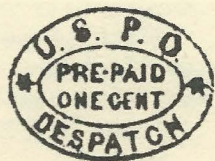


THREE COMBINED WITH  
1851 GENERAL ISSUE



Less than 20 Philadelphia carrier department large double oval "with Serifs" markings have been recorded, between 1851 and 1853. Most were locally addressed. The top example was a prepaid envelope "cancelled" at time of carrier service.





ONE RECORDED UNUSED  
PREPAID ENVELOPE  
OF ANY TYPE

DOUBLE OVAL "WITHOUT SERIFS" MARKING

BLACK

27 X 17 MM U.S.P.O.  
DESPATCH DOUBLE OVAL  
WITHOUT EAGLE  
WITHOUT SERIFS



BLACK USPO DESPATCH DOUBLE  
OVAL WITHOUT SERIFS MARKING

RED PAID CANCEL PFC 2011

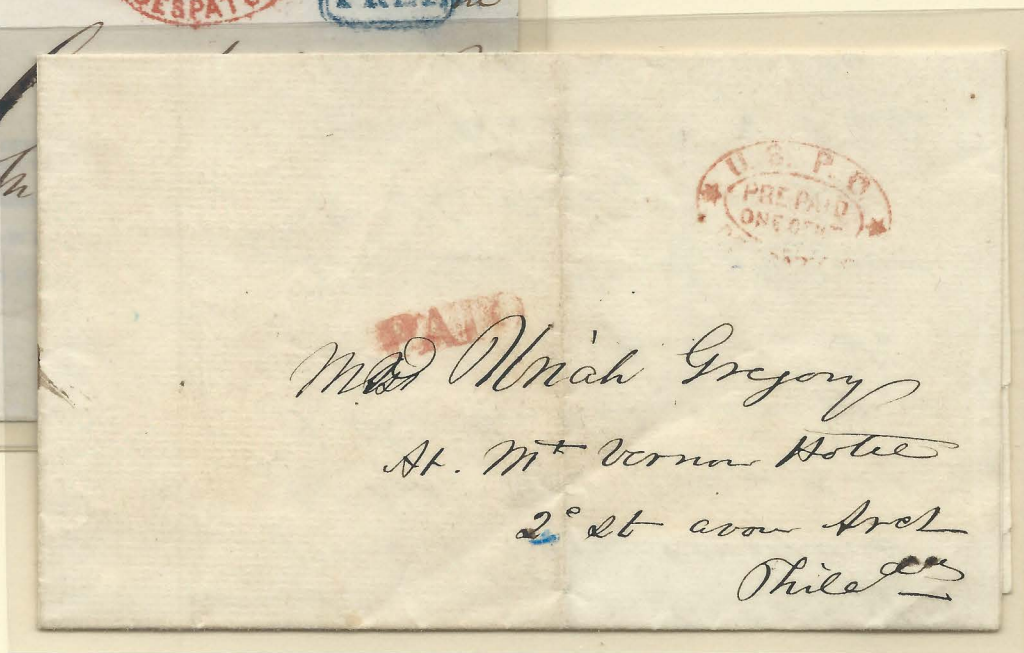
PFC 2011

RED

EARLIEST RECORDED -  
April 30, 1853



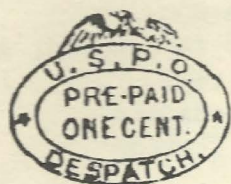
LATEST RECORDED -  
June 27, 1855



At top left is the only recorded double oval handstamp on an unused cover, representing a prepaid carrier envelope for future service. An example in each color oval handstamp is found above cancelled by red "PAID." Black handstamp markings began in early 1854. "Without serifs" was the typical font. The earliest and latest shown at bottom, at left an inter-city free frank which did not include carrier collection.

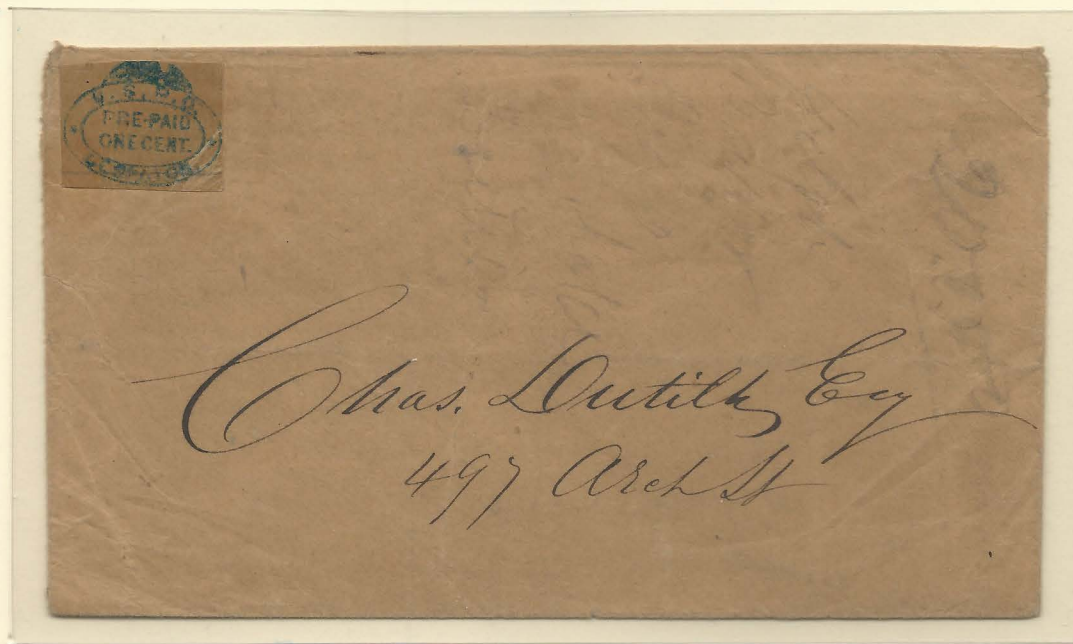


## CARRIER DEPARTMENT HANDSTAMP ADHESIVE - "MOUNTED EAGLE"



1 CENT: 1 CENT CARRIER FEE  
FOR "CITY MAIL"

TWELVE "BLUE ON BUFF" STAMPS RECORDED, FOUR ON COVER



UNDATED BLUE ON BUFF MOUNTED EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE  
UNCANCELLED LOCAL ADDRESS PFC 2001

4 CENTS: 1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION FEE  
3 CENTS PREPAID UNDER 3000 MILES

FIVE "BLACK" STAMPS RECORDED, ONE ON COVER



JULY 10, (1854-56) BLACK MOUNTED EAGLE CARRIER ADHESIVE GRID CANCEL BLACK PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
3 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE REMOVED DELIVERED TO FLORENCE HEIGHTS, NEW JERSEY PFC 2000

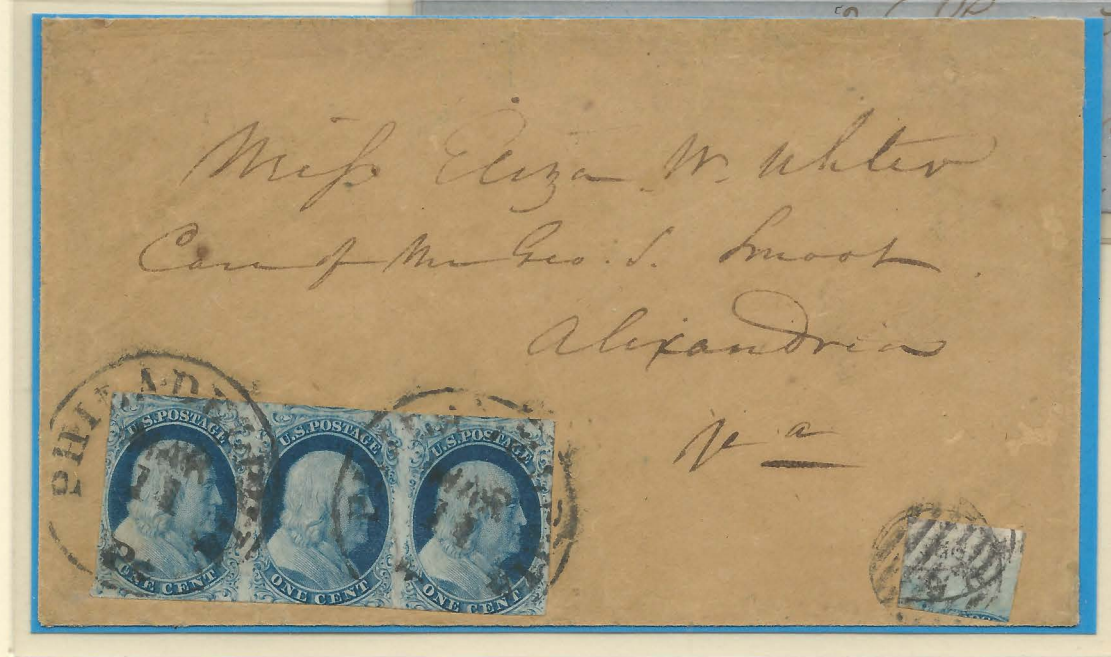
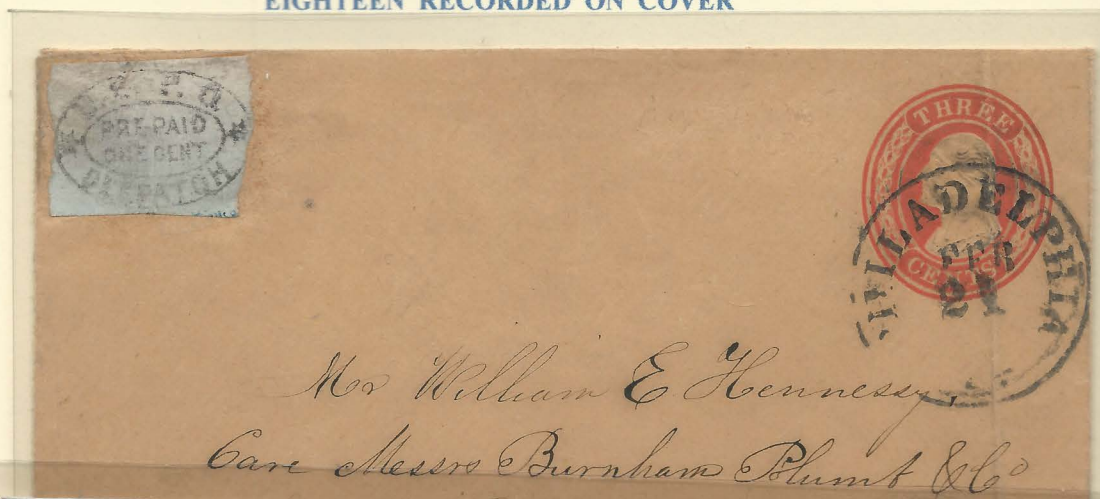
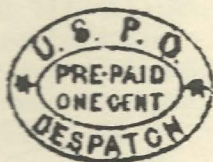
The mounted Eagle handstamp marking provided the design for these Philadelphia carrier department adhesive stamps. The top example in blue ink is on Buff paper, which may have been from *cannibalized envelopes*. The bottom example was black ink on paper likely obtained from *selvedge remnants*, and is the **only example on cover**.



## CARRIER DEPARTMENT HANDSTAMP ADHESIVE - "DOUBLE OVAL"

4 CENTS: 1 CENT CARRIER FEE "TO THE MAILS"  
3 CENTS UNDER 3000 MILES PREPAID

EIGHTEEN RECORDED ON COVER



ONE RECORDED  
QUARTER SECTION  
SELVEDGE STAMP

MARCH 11, (1854-56) USPO DESPATCH DOUBLE OVAL PHILADELPHIA CARRIER ADHESIVE GRID CANCEL  
STRIP OF THREE 1 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE BLACK PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
ADDRESSED TO ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA PFC 1981

The cost of stamp production was funded by fees collected by the carrier department. Selvedge remnants from 1 cent 1851 general issue provided paper for an inexpensive production of Philadelphia carrier department stamps. Only 3 of 18 recorded covers also include three of the partner 1 cent stamps. While on his route, the carrier may have sold these stamps while collecting letters. If low on selvedge stamps, the carrier may have divided them into **quarters**, one recorded, shown at bottom. Upper left example is a piece of cover which includes the **selvedge imprimatur**.



## PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT



During the mid 1850's the Philadelphia carrier department provided all services for one cent, despite Postmaster General directives otherwise. The Adams Express advertisement cover at top was delivered to Spring Garden district. The middle two "city letters" were delivered to a local door address for one cent. The bottom were inter-city letters: at right one cent prepaid outbound collection for Charlestown; at left an unusual New York inbound prepaid one cent carrier door delivery in Philadelphia.



Unrelenting competitive **pressure from local posts especially Blood's Penny Post** caused several changes by Philadelphia Postmaster Wescott: (1) carrier service west of the Schuylkill River, another district in Philadelphia County forbidden to local posts; (2) formalized carrier service north of the Vine Street border; (3) **four sub post offices**; (4) lamp post letter collection boxes throughout five districts; (5) elimination of the 1 cent carrier collection fee, the Federal proposal in 1851 honored in New York, but per usual not in Philadelphia.

## FEES:

2 CENTS "FROM THE MAILS"  
FREE "TO THE MAILS"  
1 CENT CITY MAIL  
1 CENT BETWEEN OFFICES  
RATES:  
1 CENT "DROP" LETTER

## SUB POST OFFICE

MARCH 12, 1860

PAIR 1 CENT 1857 GENERAL ISSUE

BLACK PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
CANCEL

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2011



## ONE QUADRUPLE NEWSPAPER WRAPPER



MAY 5, 1859

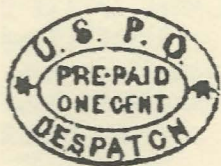
STRIP OF FOUR 1 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVES  
MANUSCRIPT "FOUR NEWSPAPERS"PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP CANCEL  
ADDRESSED TO WEST PHILADELPHIA

PFC 2001

City letters were 1 cent prepaid per office. The top example, **involved two offices, therefore 2 cents** was collected at a Sub-post Office for transportation to the Main Philadelphia post office in the old city and nearby delivery. The wrapper at bottom addressed to the West Philadelphia sub-post office contained four newspapers, delivered at the subsidized **in state newspaper rate** of 1 cent per paper.

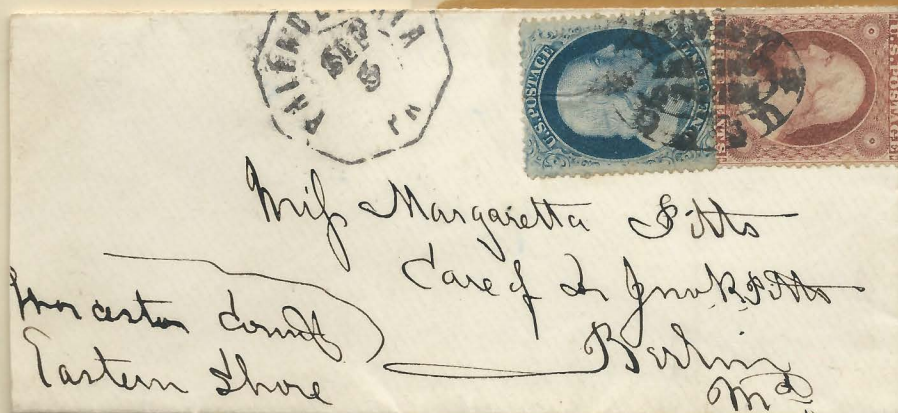


The maze of inconsistent and variable Postmaster General discretion carrier rates, although not implemented in Philadelphia, ended July 1, 1860. Thereafter, 1 cent paid for all carrier service, as had been in Philadelphia, non additive, and reflective of intense pressure from established private companies, such as Blood's Penny Post.



FEES (NOT ADDITIVE):  
 1 CENT "TO THE MAILS"  
 1 CENT "CITY MAIL"  
 1 CENT "FROM THE MAILS"  
 RATES:  
 1 CENT "DROP LETTER"

"CITY MAIL"



## “TO THE MAILS”



Thos J Ponder Secy  
Milton Del

St Phil<sup>a</sup>



Elkton Ez  
Allegheny  
Allegheny County  
Penn.,

4 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION FEE  
3 CENTS UNDER 3000 MILES

Not seen for several years, the **double oval carrier handstamp** reappeared in 1860. The 1 cent stamp in the top two examples prepaid local service; on the right a “city letter,” and left “to the mails.”

Two examples at bottom were prepaid 3 cents intercity mail, but cancelled by the double oval carrier handstamp which implied **carrier collection service paid in cash.**



## PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT

"TO THE MAILS"

ONE RECORDED TRANSATLANTIC COMBINATION

6 CENTS:

1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION  
5 CENTS PREPAID SHIP TO SHORE

APRIL 22, 1861 1 CENT 1857 GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE 5 CENT 1855 GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE  
 PHILADELPHIA OCTAGONAL CANCEL PHILADELPHIA / BRITISH PACKET EXCHANGE OFFICE CANCEL  
 "GB / IF60" ACCOUNTANCY MARKING 1861 FRENCH ENTRY POSTMARK  
 ADDRESSED TO SARDINIA 2011 PFC

"FROM THE MAILS"



NOVEMBER 25, (1860)

FEBRUARY 12, 1861

At top a 1 cent 1857 stamp prepaid Philadelphia carrier collection "to the mails," and 5 cent 1855 stamp prepaid the United Kingdom treaty "ship to shore" transatlantic cover addressed to **Sardinia, Italy via France.\***

Bottom covers show a 1 cent general issue stamp as **highly unusual prepayment of inbound carrier delivery** in Philadelphia, since neither Frederica, Georgia nor Freeport, Illinois had a carrier department circa 1860.

\* A 1 CENT (CARRIER) WITH 5 CENT TO ITALY, "MORTIMER NINEKEN, CHRONICLE 124, NOV 1984, VOL. 36, NO. 4, P. 276-7



## 1861 DEMONETIZATION

4 CENTS:  
1 CENT CARRIER FEE  
3 CENTS SINGLE LETTER

## EARLIEST RECORDED "OLD STAMPS NOT RECOGNIZED" - AUGUST 16, 1861



AUGUST 16, 1861

1 CENT GENERAL ISSUE

"OLD STAMPS NOT RECOGNIZED"  
CANCEL ACROSS REPAIR

3 CENT NESBITT ENTIRE

"DUE 3" HANDSTAMP

PHILADELPHIA HANDSTAMP

DELIVERED TO FORT PICKENS, FLORIDA

PFC 2000

SEPTEMBER 9, 1861

1 CENT GENERAL ISSUE

3 CENT GENERAL ISSUE

PHILADELPHIA POSTMARK

ADDRESSED TO CENTER  
COUNTY, PA

PFC 2011



Prepaid postage to the South was not accepted after the 1861 exchange period. In Philadelphia it was August 8-14, 1861 for postal stationary, top example, and August 19-25, 1861 for postage stamps, bottom example, after which time prior postage was not accepted. However, demonetization did not apply to carrier 1 cent service on either example.

The top example to Florida is the earliest recorded Philadelphia "OLD STAMPS NOT RECOGNIZED" marking 2 days after the earlier stationary exchange period. The 3 cent 1861 stamp on the bottom example to Pennsylvania was accepted September 9, 1861, only 14 days after the exchange period.



## U.S.P.O. DISPATCH IN OCTAGON MARKING

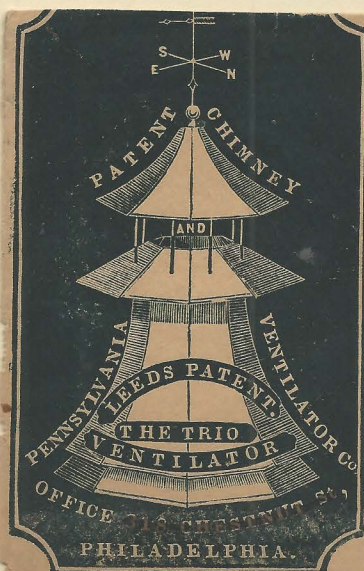
1 CENT: 1 CENT CITY MAIL FEE



JANUARY 25, 1862

TWO U.S.P.O. DISPATCH IN  
OCTAGON HANDSTAMP CANCELS1 CENT 1861 GENERAL ISSUE  
ADHESIVEADDRESSED TO THE PHILADELPHIA  
POST OFFICE BOX 1120

PFC 2009



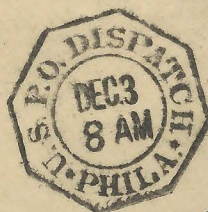
DECEMBER 3, 1861

1 CENT 1857 GENERAL  
ISSUE ADHESIVETWO U.S.P.O. DISPATCH IN  
OCTAGON HANDSTAMP CANCELS

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2000

*Samuel Hood Esq*



FEBRUARY 6, 1862

TWO U.S.P.O. DISPATCH IN  
OCTAGON HANDSTAMP CANCELS1 CENT 1861 GENERAL ISSUE  
ADHESIVE

LOCAL ADDRESS

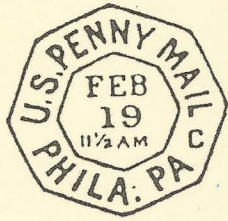
PFC 2012

*Ed: C. Biddle Esq.*  
*Post: Westmoreland Coals Co*  
*Philad*

The "U.S.P.O. DESPATCH / PHILA." in octagon has been recorded from January 6, 1861 until April 9, 1862, at the main Philadelphia post office only, none of four Sub-Posts. The middle cover 1857 general issue stamp is several months after the "exchange period," which was ignored for carrier service.



## U.S. PENNY MAIL IN DOUBLE OCTAGON



4 CENTS: 1 CENT CARRIER FEE  
"TO THE MAILS"  
3 CENTS UNDER 3000 MILES

JUNE 3, 1863

1 CENT 1861 GENERAL ISSUE

U.S. PENNY MAIL "D"  
DATESTAMP CANCEL

3 CENT 1861 GENERAL ISSUE

PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP CANCEL

ADDRESSED TO COLUMBIA,  
PENNSYLVANIA

PFC 1999



APRIL 11, (1861-2)

PFC 2010

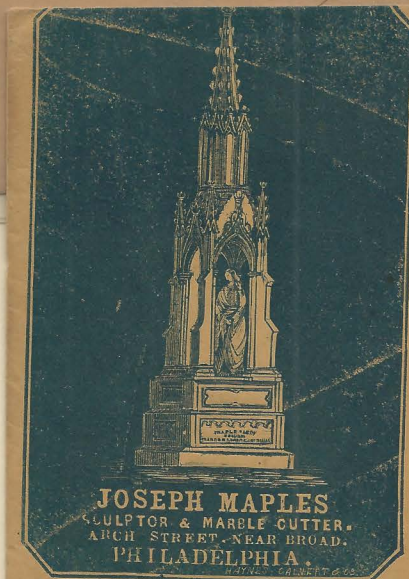


Henry Phillips Esq  
No 304 South Eleventh Street  
Phila Pa

JUNE 11, (1862-63)

U.S. PENNY POST "A" DATESTAMP  
FRONT AND BACK CANCEL

COPY OF REVERSE



George W. Ziegler Esq  
Union St  
Arch St

The "U.S. PENNY MAIL / PHILA. PA" handstamp has been recorded from Summer of 1861 until beyond July 1, 1863, but was **reserved for the branch offices**. One cent prepaid carrier stationary was sold in Philadelphia, middle example.



## 1861 1 CENT GENERAL ISSUE AS CARRIER

4 CENTS :  
 1 CENT CARRIER FEE  
 3 CENTS UNDER 3000 MILES

THREE COVERS RECORDED WITH BLOCK OF FOUR



OCTOBER 9, (1862) 1 CENT 1861 GENERAL ISSUE 3 CENT 1861 GENERAL ISSUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP CANCEL  
 U.S. PENNY MAIL STATION "C" BACKSTAMP ADDRESSED TO BOSTON, MASS PFC 1999



NOVEMBER 11, 1861

1 CENT 1861 GENERAL ISSUE

3 CENT 1861 GENERAL ISSUE

PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP CANCEL

ADDRESSED TO NEW YORK

PFC 1999

During the Civil War **patriotic covers** advertised volunteer "hospitals" in Philadelphia, at bottom, where troops passing through could be refreshed with meals, beds, and wound care. A backstamp on the top left example confirmed station "C," the Northwestern District, located in Spring Garden.



The traditional **carrier fee system ended June 30, 1863**. Private post delivery of intra-city letters had come to an end, in Philadelphia since January of 1862 when Blood's Penny Post closed its doors. Ever changing discretionary rates in response to local post competitive pressure were no longer necessary. The time was right for an uncomplicated system. Government **carriers were put on a salary** and no longer needed to be concerned about fees or work production.

For the first time, domestic mail was not charged by distance. All postage was 3 cents per half ounce, 2 cents circular rate if unsealed. A new denomination 2 cent postage stamp and embossed envelope were sold. "To the mails" collection and "from the mails" delivery **carrier service was no additional charge**. However, the **"drop" rate doubled from 1 to 2 cents, as from 1845 to 1851**. The term "drop letter," however, which previously had been restricted to a letter handed to the post office window to be held, assumed a much broader context including "city mail" door delivery.

## FREE "TO THE MAILS"

FEES: NONE

FREE "TO THE MAILS"

FREE "FROM THE MAILS"

RATES:

2 CENTS DROP LETTER (CITY MAIL)

2 CENTS CIRCULAR - 3000 MILES

## FIRST DAY OF FREE CARRIER SERVICE - July 1, 1863



COPY OF REVERSE



JULY 1, 1863

1 CENT 1861 GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE

3 CENT 1861 GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE

BLACK PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP CANCEL

US PENNY MAIL DATESTAMP ON BACK

ADDRESSED TO NEW YORK

PFC 2009

COPY OF REVERSE



JULY 13, 1863

U.S. PENNY MAIL "C" DOUBLE  
OCTAGON BACKSTAMP

1 CENT 1861 GENERAL ISSUE

2 CENT 1863 GENERAL ISSUE

PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP CANCEL

DELIVERED TO BUCKS COUNTY, PA

PFC 2000



Effective July 1, 1863 "to the mails" was free, and only 3 cents postage was necessary. **The top example mistakenly paid the one day obsolete, 1 cent carrier service; overpaid total cost of 4 cents.** The bottom example, 2 weeks later was correctly franked 3 cents. Each cover demonstrates a US PENNY MAIL handstamp on the reverse confirming carrier handling by a branch post office. The lower example was Station C, the Northwestern District, west of 10th Street and north of Vine Street.



## CITY MAIL - DROP LETTER

2 CENTS : CITY MAIL

— Women's Penn'a. Branch —  
 United States Sanitary Commission  
 1307 Chestnut Street,  
 PHILADELPHIA.



JULY 15, 1863

PAIR 1 CENT 1861 GENERAL ISSUE

PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP CANCEL

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2000

*Mrs. Charles Killing*  
*Co. 916 Spruce St.*

THREE RECORDED  
 COMBINATION COVERS

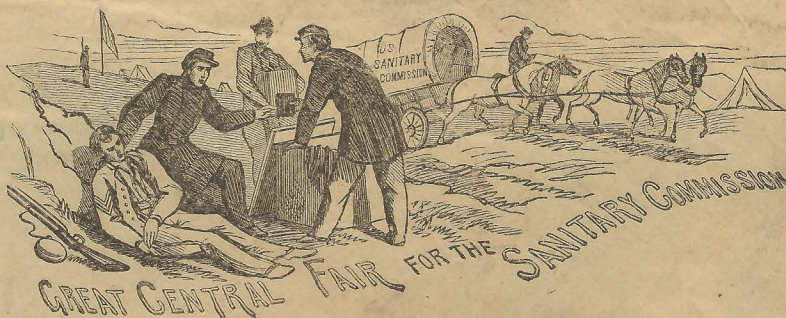
JUNE 23, 1864

2 CENT GOVERNMENT POSTAL  
STATIONARYPHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
CANCEL

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2009

PHILADELPHIA. Office 1323 Chestnut Street



*Mrs. Henry D. Gilpin*  
*300. S. 11. St.*

PHILADELPHIA. Office 1323 Chestnut St.



APRIL 12, 1864

1861 1 CENT GENERAL ISSUE  
ADHESIVE STAMP

PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 1985

*C. G. Leland Esq.*  
*1526 Locust St.*

After July 1, 1863 and without private local post competition, the federal "drop rate" for city mail doubled to 2 cents, exorbitant compared to intercity mail, which was transported 3000 miles for only 3 cents. Double the number of 1 cent stamps was required, top example. Two cent postal stationary soon was sold, middle example. All above have local address.

The Philadelphia Postmaster authorized a **special contract circular delivery reduced to 1 cent** for a special series of envelopes printed for the "Great Central Fair for the Sanitary Commission" held in Philadelphia from June 7 through June 28, 1864. Many were dated prior to the opening of the Fair, bottom cover, to promote the upcoming event.



## “DROP DEAD” LETTER



2 CENT GENERAL ISSUE  
 CIRCLE OF HEARTS CANCEL  
 1867 PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
 “NOT FOUND” HANDSTAMP  
 LOCAL ADDRESS  
 PFC 2009

## “CARRIER DEAD LETTER”

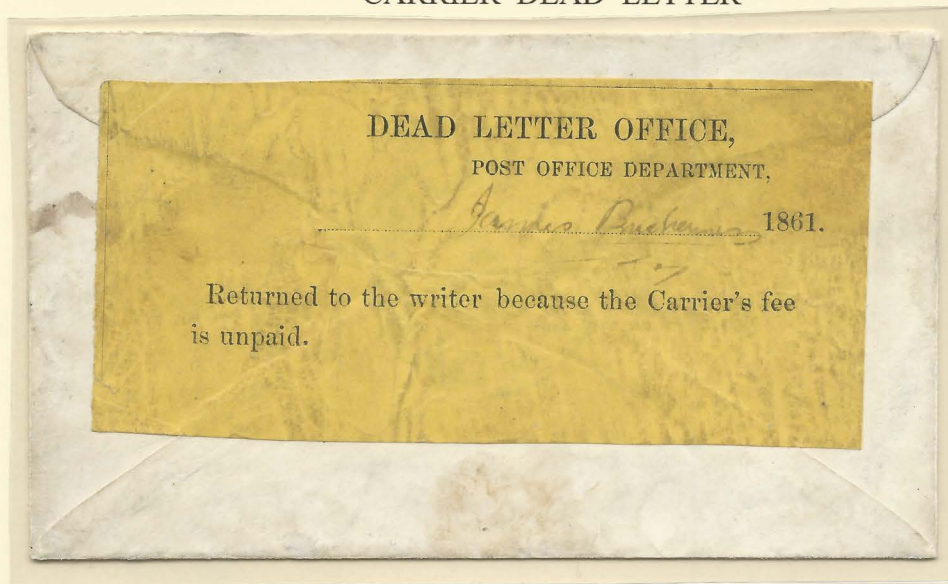


PHOTO OF COVER FRONT

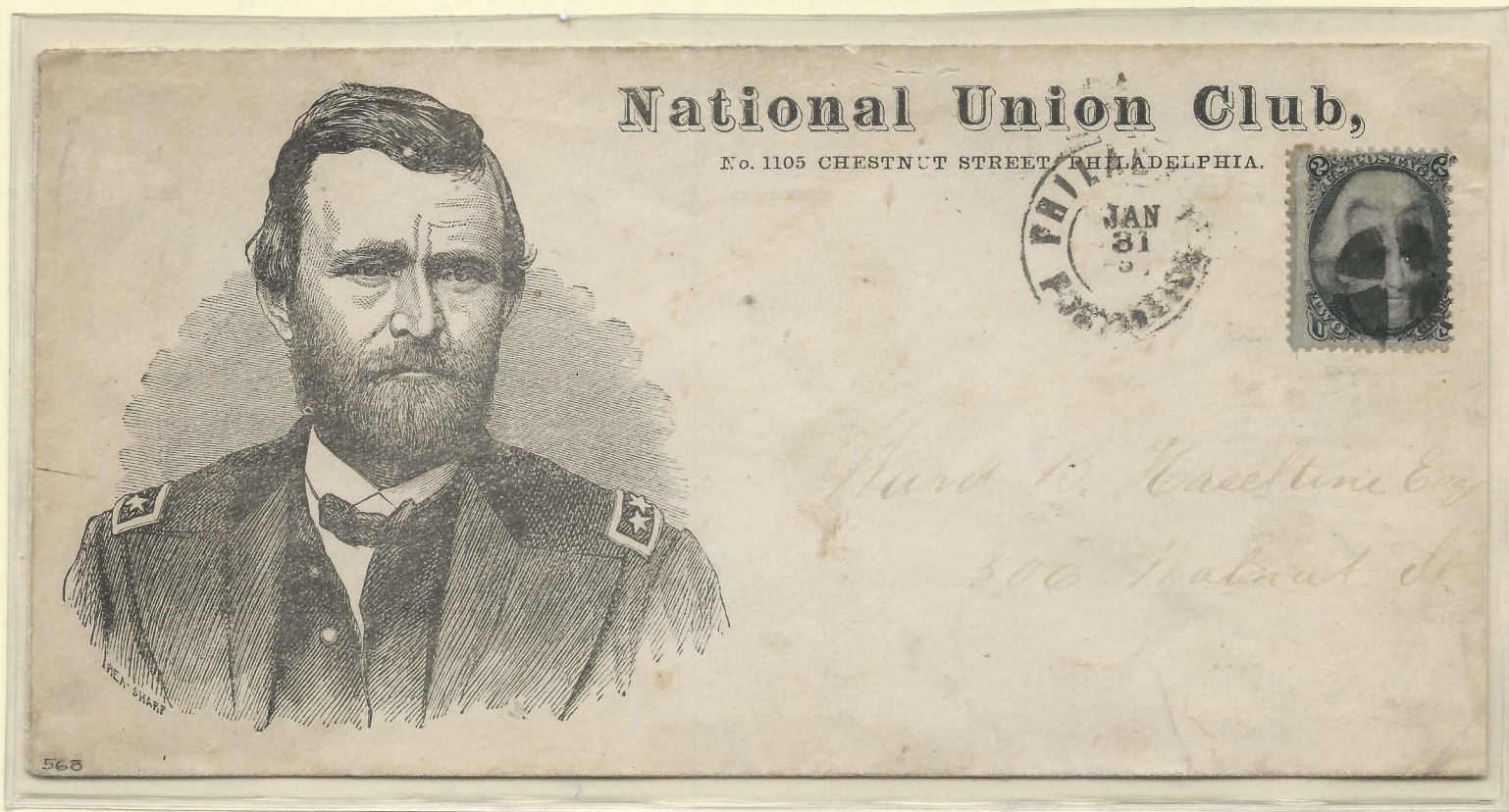
The sender failed to prepay the carrier to 1861, and the outbound letter found its way to the Philadelphia Dead Letter Office.

\* WHAT IS A 'DROP LETTER' AND A 'DROP DEAD LETTER'?, VERNON R. MORRIS JR. M.D., THE CHRONICLE, VOL. 55, NO. 4, P. 260-267



1863 2 CENT GENERAL ISSUE AS CARRIER

## ONE RECORDED "LARGE GRANT" COVER



JANUARY 31, (1864-7)

2 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE  
LOCAL ADDRESSQUARTER CORK CANCEL  
PFC 2000

PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP CANCEL

## OVERPAID "DROP LETTER"



MAY 22, 1867

2 CENT 1863 GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE

CIRCLE OF DIAMONDS CANCEL

3 CENT 1861 GENERAL ISSUE

CIRCLE OF DIAMONDS CANCEL

PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

"PLEASE FORWARD"

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2001

The top example was addressed locally prepaid 2 cents drop letter, unique for its large image of Ulysses Grant.

Much has been incorrectly written in the literature about the "Overpaid Drop Letter."\* The lower example is a true "Overpaid Drop Letter." The sender apparently had no knowledge of the recipient's probable new location. A 2 cent postage stamp satisfied city mail for the known and probable old address. A 3 cent postage stamp may have been needlessly applied for conceivably transportation to another post office, if necessary, for intercity postage. This must have been a most important letter to Miss Laura E. Cook for the sender to cover both possibilities.

\* "WHAT IS A 'DROP LETTER' AND A 'DROP DEAD LETTER'?", VERNON R. MORRIS JR. M.D., *THE CHRONICLE*, VOL. 55, NO. 4, PAGE 264-267



## 1863 2 CENT GENERAL ISSUE AS CARRIER



*J. R. Rowand*

1st Delivery



2nd Delivery



*Immediate*



3rd Delivery

FROM THE  
NATIONAL BANK  
OF  
GERMANTOWN,  
PHILADELPHIA.



4th Delivery

*Penn National Bank,*

*Philadelphia,*

*Pa.*

The 2 cent general issue stamp satisfied the new federal drop rate for "city mail." By 1864 Philadelphia delivered **city mail four times a day**, specified in the circular datestamp. Despite more frequent service, the government was still no match for the **hourly deliveries by Bloods Penny Post** many years earlier.\*

\* "BLOOD'S DESPATCH REVISITED," STEVEN M. ROTH, *THE PENNY POST*, VOL. 1, NO. 4, P. 24



## 1863 2 CENT GENERAL ISSUE - CITY MAIL



DECEMBER 29, 1868      PAIR 1863 2 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVES  
 PHILADELPHIA "CARRIER" MARKING      LOCAL ADDRESS      PFC 2010

By 1863 without serious local post competition the federal drop rate doubled: "local or drop letters, and not exceeding one-half ounce in weight, shall be uniform at two cents, and an additional rate for each half ounce"\* . Whereas Bloods Penny Post would have serviced this letter for one cent, the government charge was four cents, a **400 % increase**.

\* Don Evans, *The United States 1 Cent Franklin 1861-1867*, Linns 1997, p.203.

## EXHIBIT CONCLUSION

During the early 1840's the Independent Mail companies introduced free enterprise, competition, cheap postage, and were the catalyst for intercity postal reform in 1845. Thereafter, the energy of free enterprise redirected to many cities.

**Blood's Penny Post was the 500 pound gorilla in Philadelphia whose strength was felt in Washington D.C.** The carrier department in Philadelphia was many years behind, forever trying to catch up. The city was slow to establish street collection boxes, prepaid stamps, multiple daily deliveries, and reduced charges. The largest cities were especially encumbered by ever changing, confusing, and non uniform discretionary policies of the Postmaster General, not to mention the many Acts of Congress.

In Philadelphia numerous emerging local posts struggled, and often mimicked Blood's Penny Post including the very appearance of their adhesive stamps. Most quietly appeared and soon disappeared unable to compete, leaving precious few relics of their fleeting existence.

Both the enterprising Independent Mails and Local Posts proved that private companies **CANNOT "FIGHT THE FED"** and win. In each instance, legislative monopoly prevailed. However, they each **forced the Federal Government to greatly improve service and accommodate a sizable rate reduction** to "open market" levels. The government unchecked, however, **doubled it's drop rate in 1845 and 1863** respectively, and slipped back into abusive ways as shown at top.