

THE  
MIKE FARRELL  
COLLECTION  
OF INDEPENDENT MAILS

INCLUDING THE HISTORY, FORGERIES, & FANTASIES OF  
UNITED STATES, LOCAL POSTS, CARRIERS,  
INDEPENDENT MAIL ROUTES, & EXPRESS CO.S

ACKER'S SPECIAL DELIVERY

The information and identification within these selections is the individual work of the Farrell Collection. It is always recommended to consult multiple sources for additional information or opinions. Local post company descriptions are based on information available at the time of writing. Descriptions in the Farrell Collection were written based on personal research and sources including, but not limited to: Articles in the Carriers and Locals Society's The Penny Post; Amos Media's Scott Catalogue; Patton's The Private Local Post of the United States; Springer's Handbook of North American Cinderella Stamps; Lyons' Identifier for Carriers, Locals, Fakes Forgeries and Bogus Posts of the United States; articles in the USPCS's The Chronicle; Mosher's Catalog of Private Express Labels and Stamps; The Eastern Independent Mail Company Study Group's Eastern Independent Mail Companies and Express Mail Companies 1840-1845; Elliot Perry's Pat Paragraphs; James N. Drummond's Catalog of Philatelic Miscellany; and the notes of George Sloane and Gordon Stimmell.

Colors listed for stamps and forgeries are the opinions of the Farrell Collection based on viewing physical copies of the pieces under consistent lighting. Colors in the .pdfs may be slightly inaccurate due to manipulations from the scanning process, computer monitor settings, or (in event that the files are printed for offline viewing) the printing process.

Unless otherwise noted, stamps are identified by their Scott Catalogue numbers and forgeries are identified by their Lyons Identifier type. Scott numbers in parenthesis under listed forgeries represent approximately what stamp the forgery is attempting to imitate.

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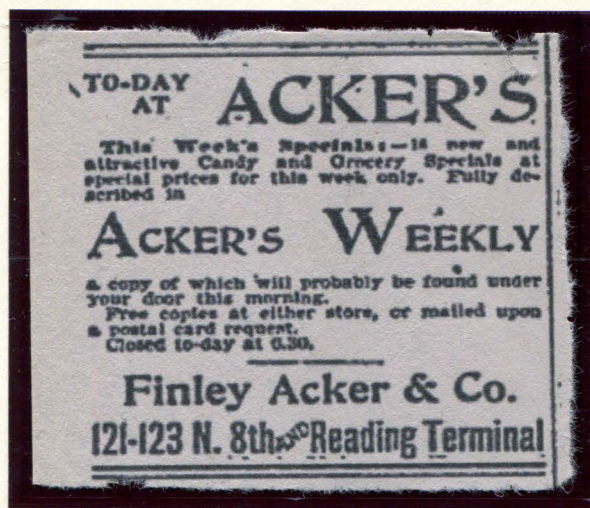


# ACKER'S SPECIAL DELIVERY

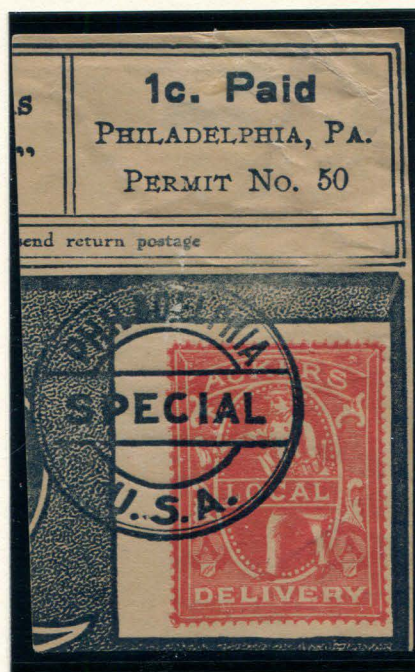
Finley Acker was the founder and president of the family owned Finley Acker Company, which operated several grocery stores in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from 1882 to 1920. Acker's stores specialized in drinks (coffees, teas, and hot chocolates), candies, and cigars; but they also offered weekly special food items.

To advertise products, Acker created a detailed circular that was delivered weekly by request. These circulars were originally delivered by a private messenger, with an adhesive stamp. These stamps, reading "Special Delivery" were privately printed by Acker, and applied to the circulars until around 1898.

Sometime in the early 1900's, Acker was required to purchase a "Paid in Money" permit from the government, which it printed directly onto their circulars along with a modified "Ackers Local Delivery" label image. Despite paying for the permit, the circulars continued to be delivered by private messengers until around 1906. Eventually, under pressure from the Post Office, the stamp-like label was removed from the circular altogether.



ADVERTISEMENT FOR ACKER'S WEEKLY  
 FROM THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER  
 SEPTEMBER 7, 1895



1c PRINTED PERMIT  
 "PAID IN MONEY" PERMIT  
 WITH  
 ADVERTISING LABEL 3  
 MOSHER: AKRD-L6  
 RED ORANGE ON BUFF  
 "SPECIAL" CANCEL

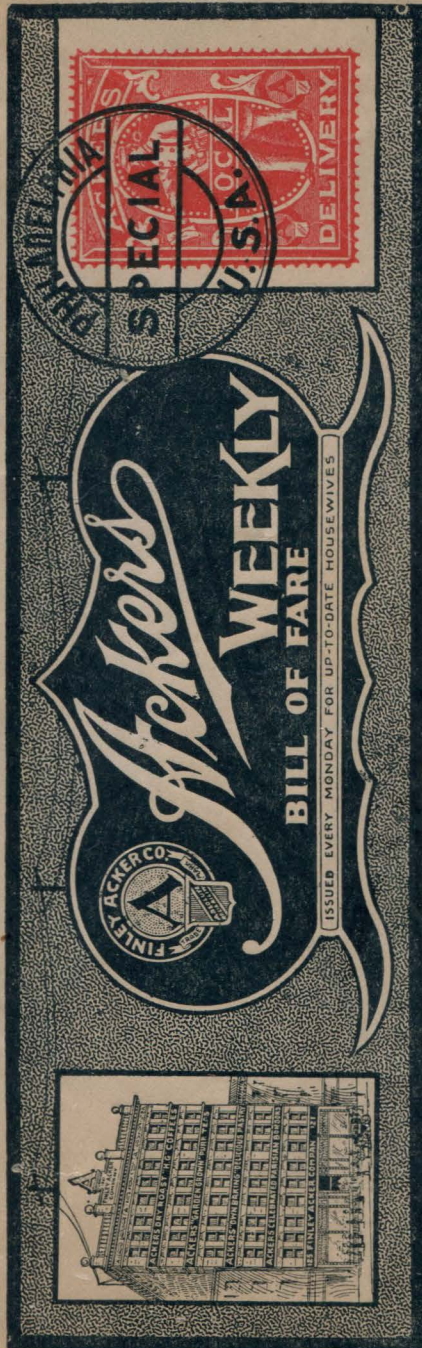
Three label designs are recorded. The first labels include a messenger with a bag reading "ACKERS". The second labels include a messenger with a bag reading "ACKERS WEEKLY". The third labels include a bar reading "LOCAL" over the messenger's body.



# ACKER'S SPECIAL DELIVERY

From Finley Acker Co. Philadelphia, Pa.		Ackermochajavablend Ackerfrenchbreakfast	1c. Paid PHILADELPHIA, P.A. PERMIT No. 50
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To the Postmaster:—In case of wrong address, kindly notify us and we will send return postage



DR J H MURRAY  
BROAD ST BANK BLDG  
TRENTON N J

1¢ PRINTED "PAID IN MONEY" PERMIT  
- WITH -  
ADVERTISING LABEL 3 :RED ON BUFF  
MOSHER: AKRD-L6  
PHILADELPHIA "SPECIAL" CIRCULAR CANCEL  
ON ENTIRE ACKER'S WEEKLY BILL OF FARE ENVELOPE



# ACKER'S SPECIAL DELIVERY



ADVERTISING LABEL 1  
MOSHER: AKRD-L1  
EXAMPLE



ADVERTISING LABEL 2  
MOSHER: AKRD-L3  
GENUINE



ADVERTISING LABEL 3  
MOSHER: AKRD-L5  
GENUINE  
DEEP RED ON WHITE  
1902 DATE CANCEL



ADVERTISING LABEL 3  
MOSHER: AKRD-L5  
GENUINE  
MAROON ON WHITE  
1902 DATE CANCEL



ADVERTISING LABEL 3  
MOSHER: AKRD-L6  
GENUINE  
BRIGHT ORANGE ON BUFF  
"SPECIAL" CANCEL



ADVERTISING LABEL 3  
MOSHER: AKRD-L6  
GENUINE  
RED ORANGE ON BUFF  
"SPECIAL" CANCEL