

THE
MIKE FARRELL
COLLECTION
OF PRIVATE US MAIL SERVICES
INCLUDING THE HISTORY, FORGERIES, & FANTASIES OF
UNITED STATES LOCAL POSTS, CARRIERS,
INDEPENDENT MAIL ROUTES, & EXPRESS CO.S

BARR'S PENNY DISPATCH



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 histories and 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 USPS'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*; the United Postal Stationery Society's *The Western Express Companies 1850-1890 A Catalog of Their Franks and Hand Stamps*; Elliot Perry's *Pat Paragraphs*; James N. Drummond's *Catalog of Philatelic Miscellany*; auction lot descriptions from Seigel Auction Galleries, Kelleher Auctions, H.R. Harmer, and Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auctions; in-period directories and newspaper archives; 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. Express labels and forgeries are identified by their Mosher's Catalog numbers. Western express franks are identified by their listing in the United States Postal Stationery Society catalog. Scott numbers in parenthesis under listed forgeries represent approximately what stamp the forgery is attempting to imitate.

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BARR'S PENNY DISPATCH

Established around 1855 by Elias Barr in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, this post made local deliveries and also took mail to and from the post office for delivery. Elias Barr was a newsagent, publisher, and bookseller. Although there are few records of the post, it appears that the service was primarily for carrying the newspapers and periodicals of his clients, with letter deliveries made along the way.

Barr reportedly sold his stamps out of local shops and set up drop boxes throughout the city to accept mail. Mail was apparently collected from these boxes three times a day.

CRAMPS, SCALDS, BURNS, &c.

CURED IN A SHORT TIME, BY
COOPER'S ANTI-PAIN TINCTURE.

AS A PAIN ALLEVIATOR, this Tincture though not infallible, is not surpassed by any other ever offered to the afflicted, and takes the precedence of all others ever it is used, inasmuch as it is purely VEGETABLE, containing nothing POISONOUS, and may be used with SAFETY. One B has been known to cure six cases of Dysentery, besides a case of Cramp and Colic. It will relieve almost every variety of Pain, within from one minute to fifteen minutes—even the acute cases of NEURALGIA and RHEUMATISM, and is used only by Physicians, but by persons of every class and rank.

WHAT IS IT GOOD FOR?

It is good for wind and pain in the Stomach and Bowels, rheas and Dysentery, Colic, Cholera and Cholera-Morbus, Rheumatism acute, chronic and nervous, Phthisis or Asthma, Croup, Coughs, Scalds, Burns, Wounds, Bruises, Sprains, Stiff and Swollen Joints, Neuralgia or Tic Douloureux, Toothache, Sick and Nausea, Headache, to quiet a nervous Restlessness, and thus enable one to sleep calmly. Pain in the side, a Stitch in the Back, Cramps, and almost every kind of Pain, internal and external. Poisons, Stings and Bites of Poisonous Insects, FEVER AND AGUE, Cough, Heartburn, Cold Feet, Freezes, Chilblains, Pains in the Corns, Blisters, Old Sores, to allay Inflammation, and prevent Mortification, &c., &c.

Price 25 cts. a Bottle. A liberal discount will be allowed to Country Storekeepers and Druggists, by the dozen or gross.

ELIAS BARR, Agent for Lancaster County,

No. 4. Market Place, west end of Market House No. 4.

Also for sale at King's Grocery Store, East King Street, and at Dr. Budd's Drugg Store, North Queen street.

N. B.—Persons who desire it, will be served at their houses in any part of the city, if they will notify me, by dropping a few lines in any of my Dispatch Boxes.

E. BARR.

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT
PUBLISHED IN INLAND WEEKLY
LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA
MARCH 31, 1856

MANAGERS OF PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS, CONCERTS, LECTURERS and others who purpose visiting LANCASTER CITY, should call at the Office of

"THE DAILY EVENING EXPRESS," where they can have Bills and Programmes PRINTED and DISTRIBUTED in the most prompt and satisfactory manner.

POSTERS, of any size of sheet or type, printed at the EXPRESS STEAM PRINTING OFFICE, at Philadelphia prices.

ADVERTISERS are reminded that THE EVENING EXPRESS is the only newspaper in the city of Lancaster, for which the publishers are prepared to give satisfactory evidence.

Mr. ELIAS BARR, the only experienced Poster and Carrier in Lancaster, is now the General Agent for the Daily Express, and can be consulted at the Office, in regard to Advertising, renting Halls, &c.

Address PEARSON & GEIST, Publishers,
204t Lancaster City, Pa.

NEWSPAPER NOTICE
PUBLISHED IN SUNDAY DISPATCH
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA
DECEMBER 7, 1856

It appears that in addition to using the mailboxes for letter collection, the boxes were also used to place orders for products. In 1856, Barr advertised himself as the Lancaster County agent for Cooper's Anti-Pain Tincture. His ads for the medicine included the note: "Persons who desire it, will be served at their houses in any part of the city, if they will notify me, by dropping a few lines in any of my Dispatch Boxes."

Elias turned over his bookstore and business to his sons sometime around 1860. Very few examples of the Barr's stamps exist on cover, and it was likely that the local post was short lived. Elias Barr's grandson, Jeremiah Hess Barr, was an established philatelist who collected the stamps of the post.

BARR'S PENNY DISPATCH

Barr's Penny Dispatch stamps were typographed using two design types that are mostly the same design except for the presence or absence of a period after "DISPATCH". The first design has no period. These first stamps are scarce, and are known to exist in red on white (8L1) and in black on green (unlisted 8L2). The second design, with the period, is more common and was used to print the stamps in black on green (8L2). The green stamps without the period are lighter in color than the stamps with the period.

Because of variations in the typesetting, it is possible to identify different varieties for each design. Over the years, there have been attempts to identify and lists all of these variations, but it is still unclear how many different variations exist. The stamps shown here are all variations of the first (no period) design.



8L1
GENUINE
1¢ RED
ON WHITE
PF CERT 552049



8L1
GENUINE
1¢ RED
ON WHITE
PF CERT 536829



8L1
GENUINE
1¢ RED
ON WHITE
PF CERT 552048



8L1
GENUINE
1¢ RED
ON WHITE
PF CERT 493983

The red on white stamps here all have different apostrophes in "BARR'S". Additionally, the first stamp has the "RR" in "BARR'S" really close to each other; the second stamp has a short right leg on the first "R" of "BARR'S"; the third stamp has only half of the "D" in "DISPATCH"; and the fourth places the apostrophe much closer to the "S".



8L2 VAR
GENUINE
1¢ BLACK
ON GREEN
PF CERT 552050



8L2 VAR
GENUINE
1¢ BLACK
ON GREEN
PF CERT 577557



8L2 VAR
GENUINE
1¢ BLACK
ON GREEN
PF CERT 577558

The black on green no-period stamps above show additional differently shaped apostrophes in "BARR'S". They all have wider openings in the border ornaments, and show different states of wear on the border.

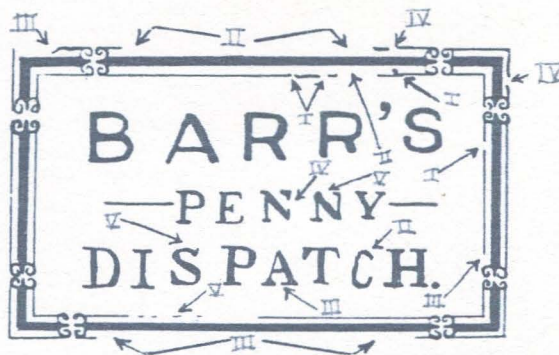
BARR'S PENNY DISPATCH

While the second design is most often noticed by the period after "DISPATCH", it is worth mentioning that another way to tell it apart from the first design is by the wider lettering of "PENNY". The word measures 7.5 mm wide on this design, while it is only 6 mm wide on the first design.

The second design is known in five distinguishable types. D. S. Patton illustrated the composite diagram at right to showcase all the main differences used for identifying the five types.

COMPOSITE DIAGRAM OF THE TYPES
AS LISTED BY PATTON

The stamps below represent all five types of this second design.



8L2
TYPE I
GENUINE
1¢ BLACK
ON GREEN



8L2
TYPE II
GENUINE
1¢ BLACK
ON GREEN



8L2
TYPE III
GENUINE
1¢ BLACK
ON GREEN



8L2
TYPE IV
GENUINE
1¢ BLACK
ON GREEN



8L2
TYPE V
GENUINE
1¢ BLACK
ON GREEN



8L2
TYPE V
GENUINE
1¢ BLACK
ON BLuish GREEN

The stamp at left is a color changeling of a "Type V" stamp -- the green paper has turned into more of a bluish green.

BARR'S PENNY DISPATCH

The stamp featured here is a new discovery of The Farrell Collection. It was sent to the Philatelic Foundation for certification. Opinion was declined due to a lack of suitable reference. (2021, PF # 577556)



UNLISTED
1¢ RED
ON WHITE

This stamp uses the same typeface and text arrangement as the two known Barr's stamps, but lacks the decorative border. Instead, the text is closely boxed with a border of thin lines. In addition to the near identical text, it appears to be printed with the same ink, and on the same paper as the genuine Barr's red on white stamps. In addition, it does not match any identifiers of known forgeries.

There are several possible explanations for this new design. It might have been produced as a printing test or sample, before the decorative border was added to the stamps. It could be a different class of stamp - perhaps used on circulars or newspapers. It might not be a stamp, but instead cut away from some form of stationery made by Barr's, such as a business letterhead.

This is currently the only example known.

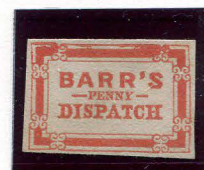
BARR'S PENNY DISPATCH



FORGERY A - SCOTT
ILLUSTRATION CUT FROM ALBUM, 1886
(8L1)



FORGERY A
SCOTT
1¢ RED (SHADE)
ON WHITE
(8L1)



FORGERY A
SCOTT
1¢ RED (SHADE)
ON WHITE
(8L1)



FORGERY A
SCOTT
1¢ RED (SHADE)
ON YELLOW
(8L1)



FORGERY A
SCOTT
1¢ DARK BROWN
ON WHITE
(8L1)



FORGERY A
SCOTT
1¢ BROWN ON
THIN FIBROUS PAPER
(8L1)

While Forgery A is known to have been made by J. W. Scott, there is reason to believe Forgery B was also made by him. The Barr's Penny Dispatch Forgery B appears in a strip alongside Clark & Co. Forgery C and AM Hinkley's Express Co. Forgery A. The latter is attributed to Scott, and the paper and ink used for this forgery are similar to other forgeries that Scott created.



FORGERY B
SCOTT
1¢ RED (SHADE)
ON WHITE
(8L1)

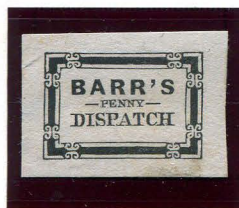


PHOTOCOPY OF FORGERY B - SCOTT
1¢ RED ON WHITE (8L1)
WITH CLARK & CO. FORGERY C AND HINKLEY'S FORGERY A
ORIGINAL STRIP IS IN THE "CLARK & CO" SECTION

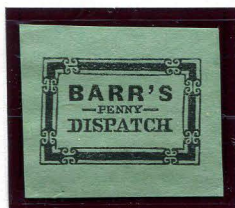
BARR'S PENNY DISPATCH



FORGERY B
1¢ RED (SHADE)
ON WHITE
PAIR
(8L1)



FORGERY B
SCOTT
1¢ BLACK
ON WHITE
(8L1)



FORGERY B
SCOTT
1¢ BLACK
ON GREEN
(8L2)



FORGERY B
SCOTT
1¢ BLACK
ON BLuish GREEN
(8L2)

BARR'S PENNY DISPATCH



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM B3
1¢ RED
ON SALMON
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM B3
1¢ RED
ON BRIGHT BLUE
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM B3
1¢ RED
ON BRIGHT ORANGE
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM B3
1¢ RED
ON CREAM
(8L1)

S. Allan Taylor's forgery comes in a wide variety of colors. There are three small variations, with the first one not having a small dot behind the word "PENNY" yet, which you can see on forms BB6 and S6. Both other variations do have the dot, and one of these two also has a small upwards dash above the very end of the line behind the word "PENNY". This last variation can be found on forms AB10, BB3, and BB5.



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM AB10
1¢ BLACK
ON BRIGHT PINK V LAID
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM AB10
1¢ BLACK
ON FLESH V LAID
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM BB1
1¢ BLUE
ON BLUE VIOLET
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM BB1
1¢ BLUE
ON YELLOWISH
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM BB1
1¢ BLUE
ON WHITE
(8L1)

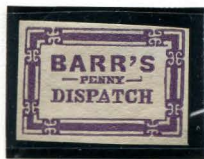


FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM BB1
1¢ DULL BLUE
ON WHITE
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM BB1
1¢ BLUE
ON APPLE GREEN
(8L1)

BARR'S PENNY DISPATCH



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM BB3
1¢ DULL PURPLE
ON YELLOWISH
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM BB3
1¢ PURPLE
ON WHITE
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM BB3
1¢ PURPLE
ON VIOLET GRAY
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM BB5
1¢ BLACK
ON BRIGHT BLUE SC
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM BB5
1¢ BLACK
ON LIGHT VIOLET SC
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM BB6
1¢ ULTRAMARINE
ON WHITE
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM BB6
1¢ ULTRAMARINE
ON ORANGE BUFF
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM BB6
1¢ ULTRAMARINE
ON WHITE WMK
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM BB8
1¢ BLACK
ON BRIGHT GREEN SC
(8L1)

BARR'S PENNY DISPATCH



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM S6
1¢ PINK
ON WHITE
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM S6
1¢ PINK
ON WHITE WMK
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM S6
1¢ PINK
ON CREAM
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM S6
1¢ PINK
ON CREAM WMK
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM S6
1¢ BRIGHT PINK
ON WHITE
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM S6
1¢ BLACK
ON WHITE
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM S6
1¢ BLACK
ON BUFF
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR - FORM S6
1¢ BLACK
ON CREAM
(8L1)



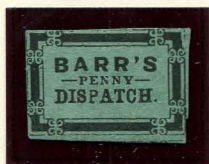
FORGERY C
TAYLOR
1¢ BLACK
ON YELLOW
(8L1)



FORGERY C
TAYLOR
1¢ BLACK
ON VERMILION SC
(8L1)

BARR'S PENNY DISPATCH

The black on green
"Forgery F" is a facsimile created
as a favor for the Lancaster
Stamp Club's Fifth Exhibition,
held in September of 1935.



FORGERY F
1¢ BLACK
ON GREEN
(8L2)



FORGERY F
1¢ BLACK ON GREEN
SHEET OF NINE
(8L2)



FORGERY F
1¢ RED ON WHITE
SHEET OF NINE
(8L1)

In April 1990, they used
the same stone to create a replica
of the scarcer red on white stamp,
this time for the successor of the
club, the Lancaster County
Philatelic Society, for its Fifth
Annual Exhibition: Lancopex.

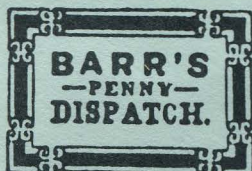
Additionally, they sent
out commemorative covers, using
replica cancelations from the time
period the post was active. One
such example can be found on
the next page.

BARR'S PENNY DISPATCH

Lancopex '90

FIFTH ANNUAL
STAMP SHOW
&
EXHIBITION

Commemorates

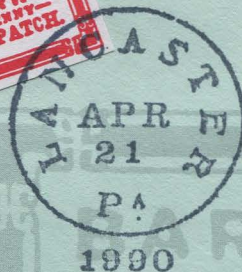


LANCASTER, PENNA.

Established in 1854 by Elias Barr
for collection and delivery of
mail to and from the post office.

Sponsored by:

LANCASTER COUNTY
PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Lancopex '90



Lancopex Sta. 17604

FORGERY F
1¢ RED ON WHITE
ON LANCOPEX 1990 COMMEMORATIVE COVER
(8L2)
SENT WITH THE INSERT SHOWN BELOW

Barr's Penny Dispatch was a Local Post established in 1854 by Elias Barr at Lancaster, PA. Local Posts were privately owned enterprises established to deposit and pick up mail at the post office prior to carrier service. Mr. Barr advertised that Barr's Penny Dispatch would deliver mail to or from the post office for a fee of 1¢. He issued stamps that could be purchased at Zahn & Jackson Jewelry Store, 15 N. Queen St. and would pick up mail from boxes he placed within the city.

Two stamps were issued, a common black on green paper and a scarcer red on white paper.

In 1935, The Lancaster Stamp Club, the predecessor of the Lancaster County Philatelic Society, issued a souvenir sheet of the green stamp at their fifth exhibition. The red stamp has been reproduced using the same plates for the fifth anniversary of Lancopex.

The commemorative covers were prepared for Lancopex '90. The identical covers depict the Barr's Penny Dispatch stamp in correct color.

The cancelation was taken from an actual 1855 postmark of the type in use during the existence of Barr's Penny Dispatch. The "Paid 3" was used when stamps were not available.

Lancopex '90
FIFTH ANNUAL
STAMP SHOW
&
EXHIBITION

Commemorates



LANCASTER, PENNA.
Established in 1854 by Elias Barr
for collection and delivery of
mail to and from the post office.

Sponsored by:
LANCASTER COUNTY
PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Lancopex '90



Lancopex Sta. 17604

LANCASTER COUNTY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

FIFTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION



LANCASTER, PENNA.

APRIL 21-22, 1990

BARR'S PENNY DISPATCH

In addition to making forgeries of the "Barr's Penny Dispatch" stamp, S. Allan Taylor also produced a bogus stamp for the post in a completely different design. Taylor used this same design for his bogus versions of the "Macon, Ga." Confederate stamp.



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM 7
1¢ BISTRE BROWN
ON WHITE



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM 7
1¢ BROWN
ON GRAY BROWN SC



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM 7
1¢ BROWN
ON ORANGE SC



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM 12
1¢ RED
ON WHITE



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM 12
1¢ RED
ON GRAY



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AA13
1¢ RED VIOLET
ON WHITE



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AA13
1¢ RED VIOLET
ON VIOLET GRAY



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AA13
1¢ RED VIOLET
ON SALMON



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AA13
1¢ RED VIOLET
ON YELLOW



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AA13
1¢ RED VIOLET
ON YELLOW H LAID



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AA16
1¢ GRAYISH BLUE
ON WHITE



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AA16
1¢ RED BROWN
ON WHITE



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AA16
1¢ BROWN PURPLE
ON WHITE



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AA16
1¢ BLUE
ON FLESH

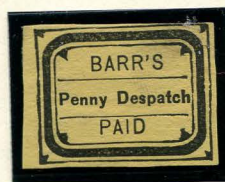
BARR'S PENNY DISPATCH



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AA19
1¢ BLUE
ON YELLOW V LAID



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AA19
1¢ BLUE
ON LIGHT PINK V LAID



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AB1
1¢ BLACK
ON YELLOW



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AB1
1¢ BLACK
ON GOLD YELLOW



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AB1
1¢ BLACK
ON PINK



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AB1
1¢ BLACK
ON GRAY



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AB1
1¢ BLACK
ON BLUE



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AB1
1¢ BLACK
ON GREEN



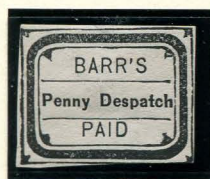
FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AB14
1¢ RED
ON CREAM



FORGERY E
TAYLOR - FORM AB14
1¢ BLACK
ON CREAM



FORGERY E
TAYLOR
1¢ BLACK
ON TAN



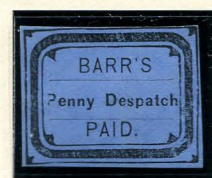
FORGERY E
TAYLOR
1¢ BLACK
ON WHITE



FORGERY E
TAYLOR
1¢ BROWN RED
ON WHITE



FORGERY E
TAYLOR
1¢ BROWN
ON WHITE



FORGERY E (VAR)
(PERIOD AFTER "PAID")
TAYLOR
1¢ BLACK
ON BLUE SC

Featured to the right is another bogus, listed as "Forgery D". This bogus has an entirely different border design. The creator of this bogus is unknown.



FORGERY D
1¢ BLACK
ON GREEN