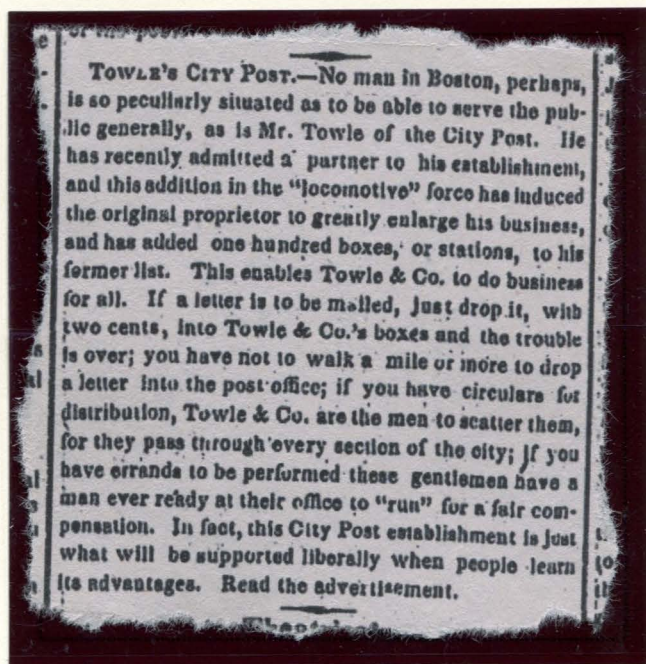


CHEEVER & TOWLE

Towle, an employee for Hale & Co., established his own Boston post office, known as "Towle's City Post" or "Towle's City Despatch," around 1846. Although the post changed its name after taking on Cheever as a partner in 1848, advertisements and handstamps continued to use the previous names. Delivering within Boston for 2¢, this post used stamps similar in appearance to Hale & Co.'s.



37L1
GENUINE
2¢ DARK BLUE
ON WHITE
TYPE 9
RED "PAID" CANCEL



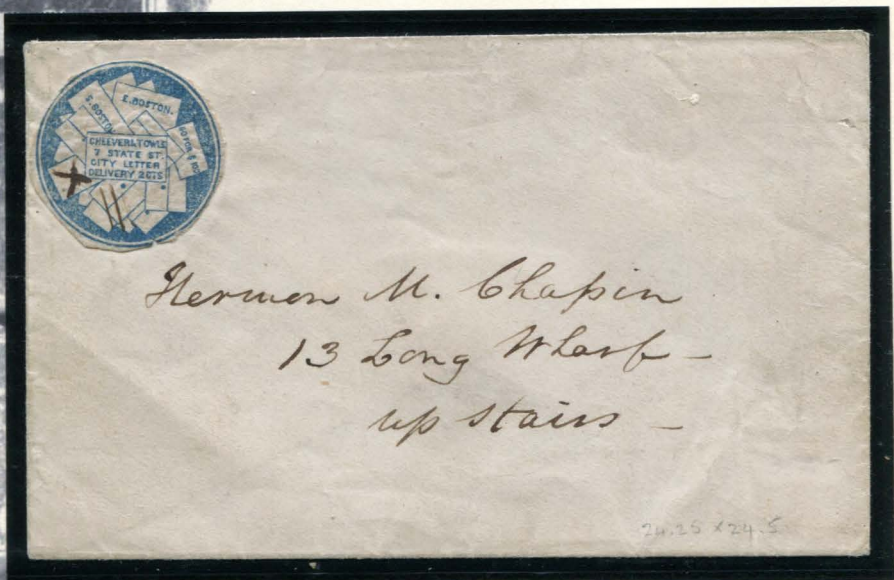
ADVERTISEMENT
BOSTON DAILY BEE
NOVEMBER 27, 1849

In 1852, the business was purchased by George Barker, who changed the name to Barker's City Post and continued deliveries until 1861.

CHEEVER & TOWLE



AT LEFT: TOWLE LETTER BOX
PHOTO BY DONALD JOHNSTONE
FROM PENNY POST VOL. 1, NO. 3



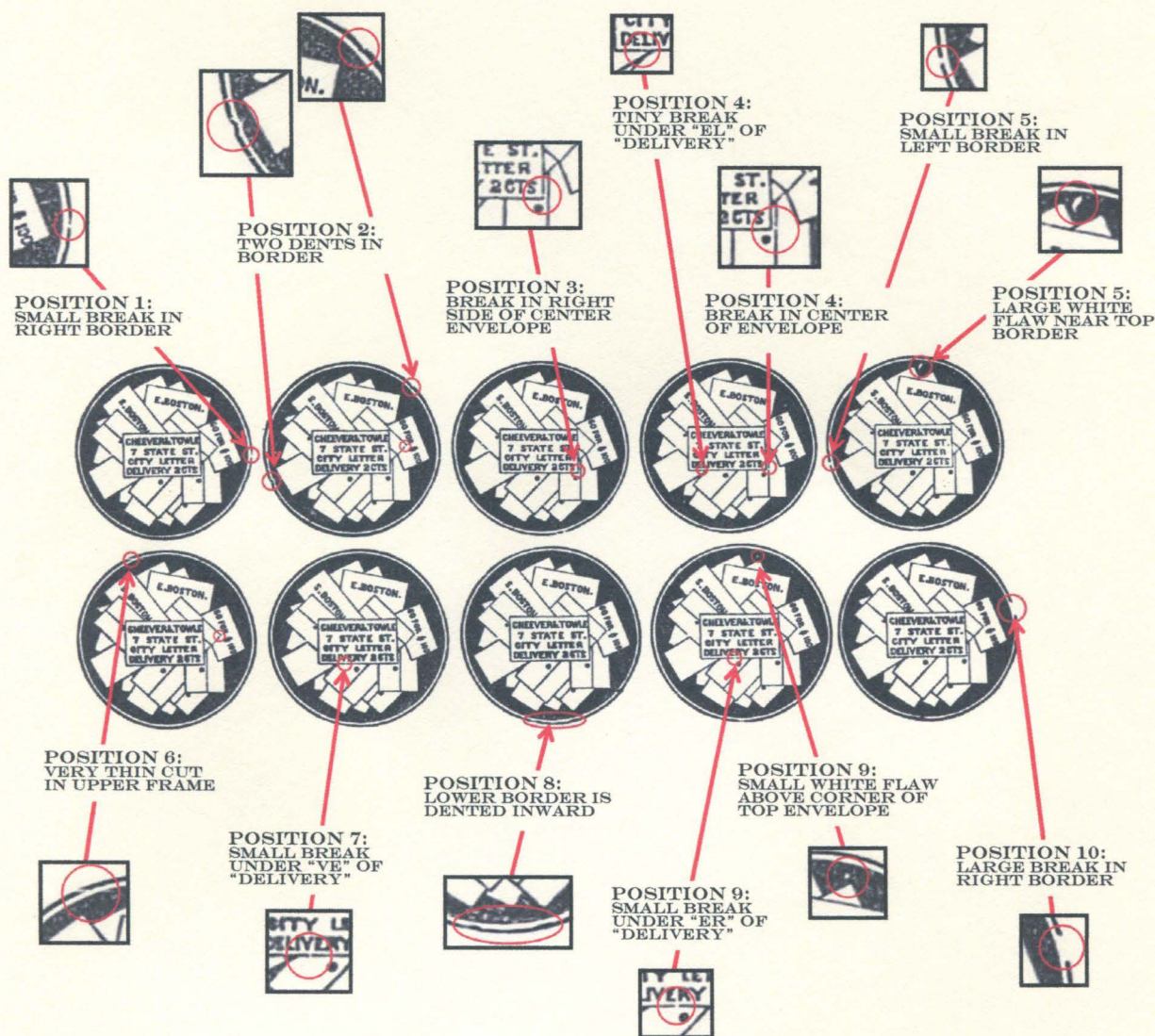
37L1 : 2¢ BLUE
GENUINE ON COVER
MANUSCRIPT CANCELLATION
"XII" IN BLACK INK

The cover above was mailed locally to Herman M. Chapin at Long Warf. The stamp used is a pale, chalky blue color. This shade indicates that it was most likely from an early 1848 printing. The "XII" manuscript cancel signified an afternoon delivery time.

CHEEVER & TOWLE

The genuine Cheever & Towle stamps were supposedly printed from a plate of twenty. According to rumors, the plate was broken into two plates of ten, only one of which was used to print reprints.

All the reprints have flaws that are unique to the reprints alone, and as such they can be positioned to the plate of ten. A brief guide to most of the constant flaws is presented below.



The flaw shown at left is present on both position 6 and position 2.

POSITION 6 & POSITION 2:
BREAK IN ENVELOPE CORNER
UNDER "R" OF "FOR"

Reprints from the top row are (positions 1-5) measure about 24.5 mm in diameter, while reprints from the bottom row (positions 6-10) measure about 25 mm.

CHEEVER & TOWLE



REPRINT
2¢ DARK BLUE (SHADE) ON WHITE WATERMARKED V LAID
FULL PANE OF TEN
(37L1)



REPRINT
2¢ DARK BLUE (SHADE) ON CREAM WATERMARKED V LAID
FULL PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE



REPRINT
2¢ BLUE (SHADE) ON WHITE WATERMARKED
FULL PANE OF TEN
(37L1)



REPRINT
2¢ DARK BLUE (SHADE) ON WHITE
FULL PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE



REPRINT
2¢ BLUE (SHADE) ON WHITE
FULL PANE OF TEN
(37L1)



REPRINT
2¢ BLUE (SHADE) ON WHITE
FULL PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE



REPRINT
2¢ GRAY BLUE ON WHITE
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)



REPRINT
2¢ GRAY ON WHITE
FULL PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE

POSITION 1	POSITION 2	POSITION 3	POSITION 4	POSITION 5
POSITION 6	POSITION 7	POSITION 8	POSITION 9	POSITION 10

REPRINT
2¢ DARK BLUE ON WHITE H LAID
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

POSITION 1	POSITION 2	POSITION 3	POSITION 4	POSITION 5
POSITION 6	POSITION 7	POSITION 8	POSITION 9	POSITION 10

REPRINT
2¢ BLUE ON GRAYISH H LAID
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE



REPRINT
2¢ BLUE ON GREENISH BLUE H LAD
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)



REPRINT
2¢ BLUE ON LIGHT YELLOW H LAD
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE

POSITION 1	POSITION 2	POSITION 3	POSITION 4	POSITION 5
POSITION 6	POSITION 7	POSITION 8	POSITION 9	POSITION 10

REPRINT
2¢ RED ON WHITE
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

POSITION 1	POSITION 2	POSITION 3	POSITION 4	POSITION 5
POSITION 6	POSITION 7	POSITION 8	POSITION 9	POSITION 10

REPRINT
2¢ RED ON PINK H LAID
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE



REPRINT
2¢ VIOLET PINK ON WHITE
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)



REPRINT
2¢ PINK ON WHITE
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE











POSITION 1	POSITION 2	POSITION 3	POSITION 4	POSITION 5
POSITION 6	POSITION 7	POSITION 8	POSITION 9	POSITION 10

REPRINT
2¢ PINK ON PEACH
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

POSITION 1	POSITION 2	POSITION 3	POSITION 4	POSITION 5
POSITION 6	POSITION 7	POSITION 8	POSITION 9	POSITION 10

REPRINT
2¢ VIOLET PINK ON HOT PINK
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE

POSITION 1	POSITION 2	POSITION 3	POSITION 4	POSITION 5
				
				
POSITION 6	POSITION 7	POSITION 8	POSITION 9	POSITION 10

REPRINT
2¢ ORANGE RED ON BRIGHT YELLOW
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

POSITION 1	POSITION 2	POSITION 3	POSITION 4	POSITION 5
				
				
POSITION 6	POSITION 7	POSITION 8	POSITION 9	POSITION 10

REPRINT
2¢ ORANGE RED ON DULL YELLOW
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE

POSITION 1	POSITION 2	POSITION 3	POSITION 4	POSITION 5
POSITION 6	POSITION 7	POSITION 8	POSITION 9	POSITION 10

REPRINT
2c RED ON YELLOWISH
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

POSITION 1	POSITION 2	POSITION 3	POSITION 4	POSITION 5
POSITION 6	POSITION 7	POSITION 8	POSITION 9	POSITION 10

REPRINT
2c RED ON ORANGE
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE

POSITION 1	POSITION 2	POSITION 3	POSITION 4	POSITION 5
				
				
POSITION 6	POSITION 7	POSITION 8	POSITION 9	POSITION 10

REPRINT
2¢ RED ON GRAYISH BLUE
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)



REPRINT
2¢ LIGHT BLUE ON WHITE
FULL PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE



REPRINT
2¢ LIGHT BLUE ON YELLOWISH SC
FULL PANE OF TEN
(37L1)



REPRINT
2¢ LIGHT BLUE ON ORANGE RED SC
FULL PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE



REPRINT
2¢ LIGHT BLUE ON YELLOW SC
FULL PANE OF TEN
(37L1)



REPRINT
2¢ LIGHT BLUE ON DULL YELLOW SC
FULL PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE

At some point, the reprint plate changed hands and second reprinting was produced by the new owner. It is widely believed that it was J. W. Scott who acquired the plate. These later reprints can be identified by some changes and additional flaws. In general, most of the flaws from the first reprinting are more pronounced. A few of the most significant changes are shown here.



POSITION 1
·BREAK IN THE LEFT
BORDER



POSITION 2
·TOP FRAME LINE
BENT AND BROKEN
·BREAK IN LEFT
BORDER



POSITION 3
·CUT THROUGH THE
BOTTOM BORDER



POSITION 4
·NO SIGNIFICANT
CHANGES



POSITION 5
·NO SIGNIFICANT
CHANGES



POSITION 6
·THIN CUT FLAW IS
REMOVED



POSITION 7
·"BOSTON"
CHANGED TO
"BOSVON"



POSITION 8
·BREAK IN RIGHT
BORDER



POSITION 9
·WHITE FLAW ABOVE
ENVELOPE IS
REMOVED



POSITION 10
·BREAK AT BOTTOM
BORDER

J. W. Scott used the reprint position eight to illustrate the stamp in his catalogues. He also had a separate die of only position eight that he used to create a number of individual reprints. These were separate reprints from the plate reprints as evidenced by the large margins on several cuts.

These Scott reprints have additional thick ink flaws on the top and bottom border.



SCOTT - ALBUM CUT
2¢ BLACK
ON WHITE
(37L1)



SCOTT REPRINT
2¢ BLUE
ON WHITE
(37L1)



SCOTT REPRINT
2¢ DARK BLUE
ON WHITE
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE



REPRINT (SCOTT ?)
2¢ BLUE ON WHITE
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

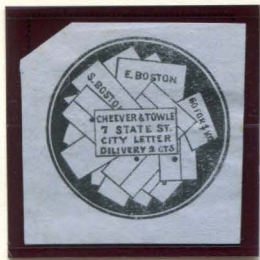


REPRINT (SCOTT ?)
2¢ PALE BLUE ON WHITE
RECONSTRUCTED PANE OF TEN
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE

This first forgery of the "Cheever & Towle" stamp was made by George Hussey, and was printed in sheets. Different compositions exist, with smaller and larger margins between the stamps, and also with the rows not directly above each other.

There are various ways to tell Hussey's design apart. The "R" in "FOR" is next to the corner of the envelope left to it, and often has a period underneath it. The "2" in "2 CTS" is squat and pointy, and the "L" in "DELIVERY" has a flaw attaching it to the border of the envelope.



FORGERY A
HUSSEY
2¢ BLACK
ON GRAY BLUE
(37L1)



FORGERY A
HUSSEY
2¢ DARK BLUE
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY A
HUSSEY
2¢ BLUE (SHADE)
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY A
HUSSEY
2¢ BLUE (SHADE)
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY A
HUSSEY
2¢ DULL BLUE
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY A
HUSSEY
2¢ PALE BLUE
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY A
HUSSEY
2¢ GREENISH BLUE
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY A
HUSSEY
2¢ RED
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY A
HUSSEY
2¢ DULL RED
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY A
HUSSEY
2¢ ORANGE RED
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY A
HUSSEY
2¢ ORANGE RED
ON BUFF
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE



FORGERY A
HUSSEY
2¢ RED
ON WHITE
BLOCK OF SIX
(37L1)



FORGERY A
HUSSEY
2¢ RED
ON WHITE
BLOCK OF FOUR
(37L1)



FORGERY A
HUSSEY
2¢ RED
ON WHITE
IRREGULAR BLOCK OF FIVE
(37L1)



FORGERY A
HUSSEY
2¢ ORANGE RED
ON BUFF
VERTICAL PAIR
(37L1)



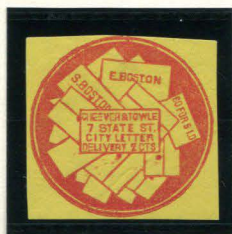
FORGERY A
HUSSEY
2¢ ORANGE RED
ON BUFF
HORIZONTAL PAIR
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE

S. Allan Taylor's forgery of the "Cheever & Towle" stamp comes in a variety of colors, and is most noticeable by the blocky lettering used.



FORGERY B
TAYLOR - FORM 5
2c RED
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY B
TAYLOR - FORM 5
2c RED
ON YELLOW SC
(37L1)



FORGERY B
TAYLOR - FORM 5
2c RED
ON GRAY VIOLET SC
(37L1)



FORGERY B
TAYLOR - FORM 6
2c BLUE
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY B
TAYLOR - FORM 6
2c BLUE
ON PINK
(37L1)



FORGERY B
TAYLOR - FORM 6
2c BLUE
ON BLUE
(37L1)



FORGERY B
TAYLOR - FORM 11
2c BLUE
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY B
TAYLOR - FORM 11
2c BLUE
ON PINK H. LAID
(37L1)



FORGERY B
TAYLOR - FORM AA12
2c RED
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY B
TAYLOR - FORM AA12
2c PURPLE BROWN
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY B
TAYLOR - FORM S21
2c BLUE
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY B
TAYLOR - FORM S21
2c BLUE ON WHITE
W/ PINK FLORAL PATTERN
OVERPRINT
(37L1)



FORGERY B
TAYLOR - FORM S21
2c BLUE
ON WHITE W/ GRID
(37L1)

CHEEVER & TOWLE

The following four designs are all by unknown forgers, except for the second design, which was made by J. B. Moens.

The first design is easily identified by the "H" in "CHEEVER" looking like a mirrored "N", while the next two designs have replaced the first "E" in "DELIVERY" with an "I". Of these two designs, the latter uses a much finer lettering. The last design on this page has a very curvy "7" in "7 STATE ST".



FORGERY C
2¢ DULL BLUE
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY C
2¢ GREENISH BLUE
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY C
2¢ BLUISH GREEN
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY C
2¢ ORANGE
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY C
2¢ PALE RED
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY C
2¢ RED
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY D
MOENS
2¢ BLACK
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY D
MOENS
2¢ BLACK
ON RED SC
(37L1)



FORGERY D
MOENS
2¢ BLUE
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY D
MOENS
2¢ PINK
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY D
MOENS
2¢ LIGHT GREEN
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY E
2¢ BLUE
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY E
2¢ ORANGE RED
ON WHITE
(37L1)



FORGERY F
2¢ BLACK
ON WHITE H. LAID
(37L1)



FORGERY F
2¢ DARK BLUE
ON WHITE
(37L1)