

THE
MIKE FARRELL
❧ COLLECTION ❧
OF INDEPENDENT MAILS

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

CHESTNUT ST. LINE

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.

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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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CHESTNUT ST. LINE

The Chestnut St. Line was a local post that operated out of traveling mail boxes affixed to the horse-drawn buses in Philadelphia. Letters could be dropped into the boxes as they moved along the route and carried to the post office located at the Merchant Exchange Building at 3rd and Dock streets.

The stamps for the service featured a portrait of Stephen Girard. Girard was a very wealthy banker who left most of his fortune to the city of Philadelphia after his death in 1831. The Girard House was a notable hotel located on Chestnut Street in the 1850s.

The stamps were issued on pink glazed and yellow glazed paper. They are very rare, with only three recorded examples known.



PORTRAIT OF
STEPHEN GIRARD

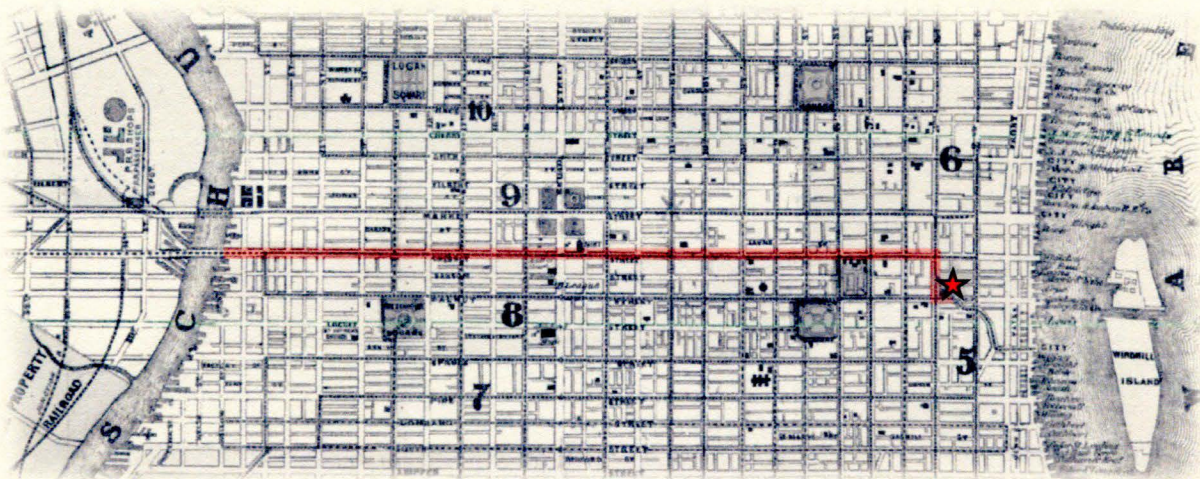


PHOTOCOPY
FROM SIEGEL AUCTION
GOLDEN SALE
SALE 817, LOT 911

The map below shows the route of the Chestnut Street Line from the Schuylkill River to the Merchant's Exchange building, which is marked by a star.



QR LINK TO LARGE MAP



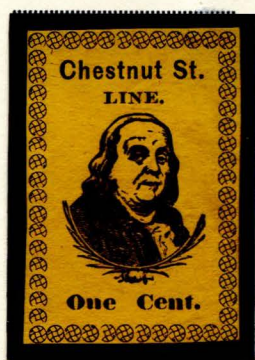
MAP OF CHESTNUT STREET MAIL ROUTE
MODIFIED FROM A MAP PUBLISHED BY J.L SMITH IN 1859
HARVARD UNIVERSITY MAP COLLECTION [G3824 P5 1859 B3 6541205450]

CHESTNUT ST. LINE

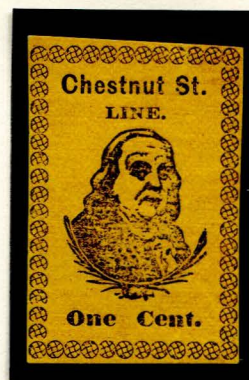
S. Allan Taylor produced a bogus stamp under the Chestnut Street Line name. Taylor created the entirely fictitious design, which used a portrait of Benjamin Franklin as its central image. The border of the stamp uses the same waffle-shaped ornaments that Taylor used to create his Flynn's Penny Post bogus stamp. (An example of this Flynn's bogus is present at right for reference.)



FLYNN'S BOGUS 1
TAYLOR - FORM C
1¢ BLACK ON YELLOW



BOGUS
TAYLOR - FORM CC2
1¢ BLACK
ON ORANGE BUFF



BOGUS
TAYLOR - FORM CC2
1¢ BLACK
ON GOLD YELLOW SC