

CITY DISPATCH

Little is known about this Philadelphia local post. It only existed for a few months in 1860, delivering within the old city of Philadelphia.

The stamps, printed from plates of 100, were printed on papers of varying thickness. The design appears to be, at least partially, based on the Kochersperger & Co. Blood's Penny Post stamps. It has a similar dark oval border with white text. The central design of the City Dispatch stamps feature a woman holding scales and a sword, representing Justice.



41L1
GENUINE
1¢ BLACK
ON THIN WOVE



41L1
GENUINE
1¢ BLACK
ON MEDIUM WOVE



41L1
GENUINE
1¢ BLACK
ON THICK WOVE

A common handstamp cancel used by the City Dispatch was a small circle with crosshatching or a "grille" in the center.



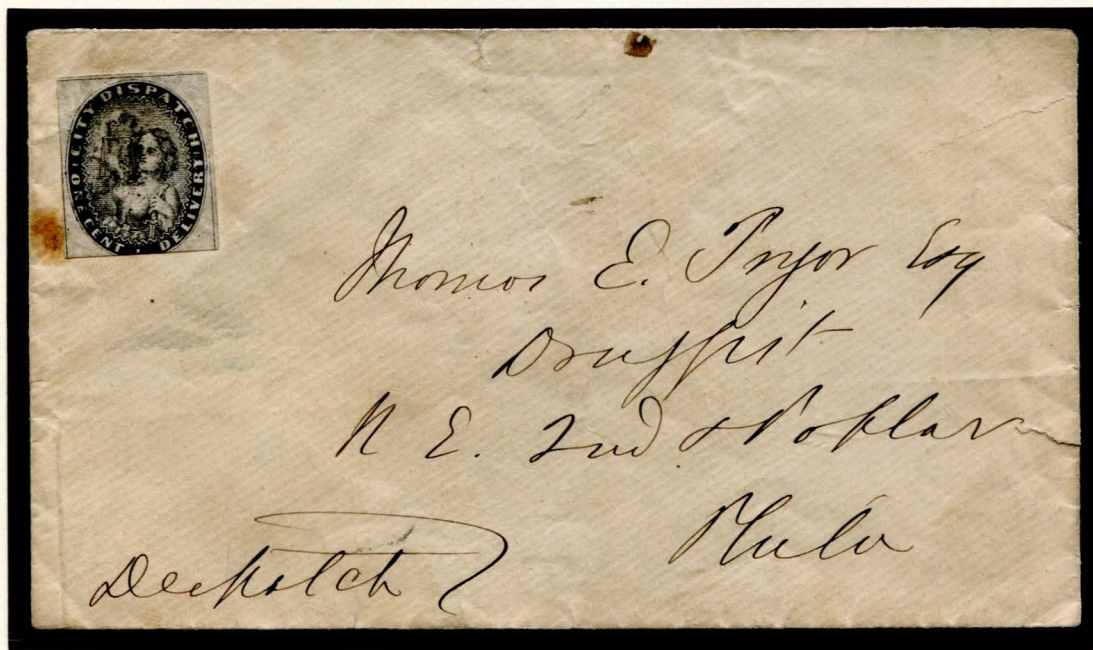
41L1
GENUINE
1¢ BLACK
ON MEDIUM WOVE
CIRCLE GRILLE CANCEL



41L1
GENUINE
1¢ BLACK
ON PIECE
CIRCLE GRILLE CANCEL

CITY DISPATCH

The cover below features a stamp lightly cancelled with a simple black smudge. It represents a local delivery within Philadelphia.



41L1 : 1¢ BLACK ON WHITE WOVE
GENUINE - USED ON COVER
LIGHTLY CANCELLED IN BLACK



41L1
GENUINE
1¢ BLACK ON THIN WOVE
BLOCK OF SIX

CITY DISPATCH

Below is a stampless cover, mailed by a City Dispatch handstamp. The City Dispatch of Philadelphia used three handstamps: a circular "PAID" stamp (type I); a circular "Prompt Delivery" time and datestamp (type II); and a circular stamp with crosshatching in the center (type III), which was primarily used as a killer for stamps. The type II handstamp, featured below, is listed in the *American Stampless Cover Catalog*, Vol. II, on page 68.

"Collect 2^{cts}" is written in pencil on the front. This indicates that along with 1¢ prepaid delivery, the City Dispatch provided a collect-on-delivery service for an additional cent.



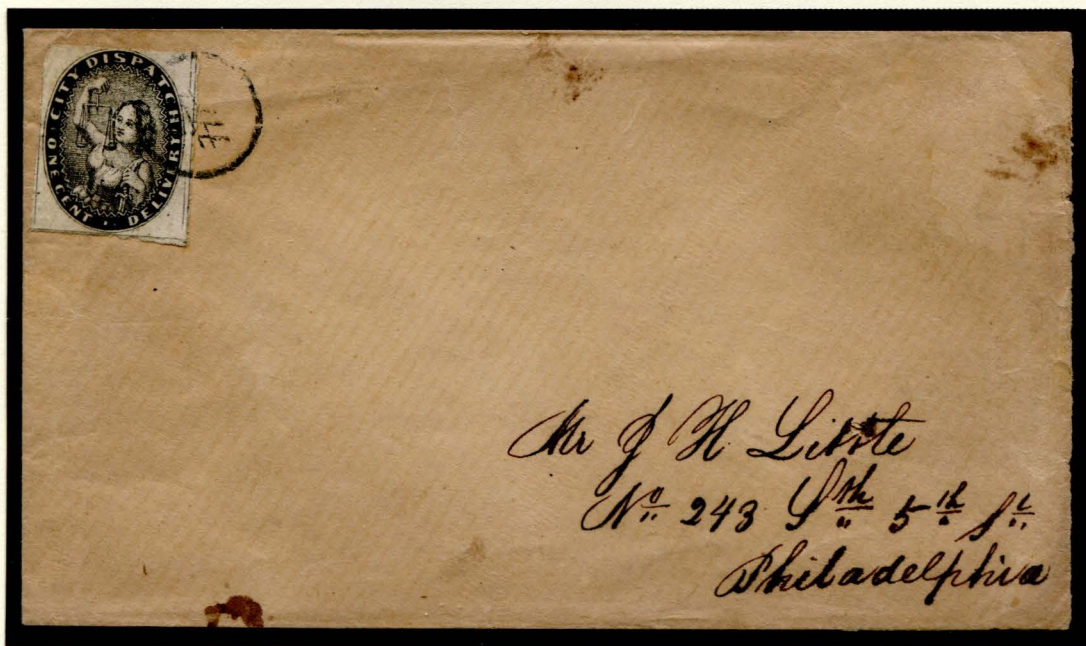
"CITY DISPATCH PROMPT DELIVERY" CDS HANDSTAMP
TYPE II HANDSTAMP : GENUINE ON COVER
"COLLECT 2 CTS" MANUSCRIPT



This cover features an embossed corner advertisement for the Continental Hotel. This hotel, located on the Southeast corner of 9th and Chestnut streets in Philadelphia, completed its construction in February of 1860.

CONTINENTAL HOTEL : LITHOGRAPH BY JOHN H. BUFFORD (CIRCA 1860-1870)
FROM HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA (IMPAC DIGITAL COLLECTION)

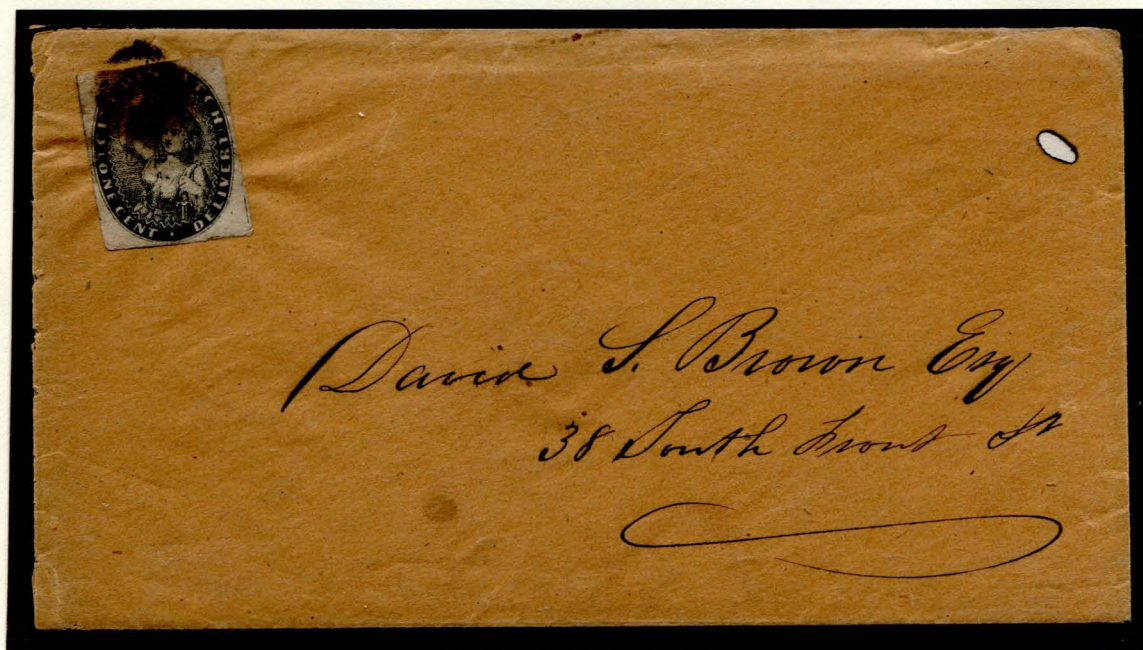
CITY DISPATCH



411.1 : 1¢ BLACK ON WHITE WOVE
GENUINE - TIED ON COVER
TYPE III HANDSTAMP CANCELLATION
CIRCLE WITH CROSSHATCHING

The cover above is cancelled with the City Dispatch type III handstamp, a circle with crosshatching in the center. This is most common of the handstamp types.

The cover below is tied by a plain, black solid circle stamp.



411.1 : 1¢ BLACK ON WHITE WOVE
GENUINE - TIED ON COVER
BLACK SOLID CIRCULAR CANCEL

CITY DISPATCH

The cover below is cancelled with this post's type III handstamp, a circle with crosshatching in the center.

A corner advertising cameo for the Reliance Mutual Insurance Company of Philadelphia is embossed and printed on the envelope. The cover is addressed to Charles Ryan, a tea dealer, at 215 South Front St.

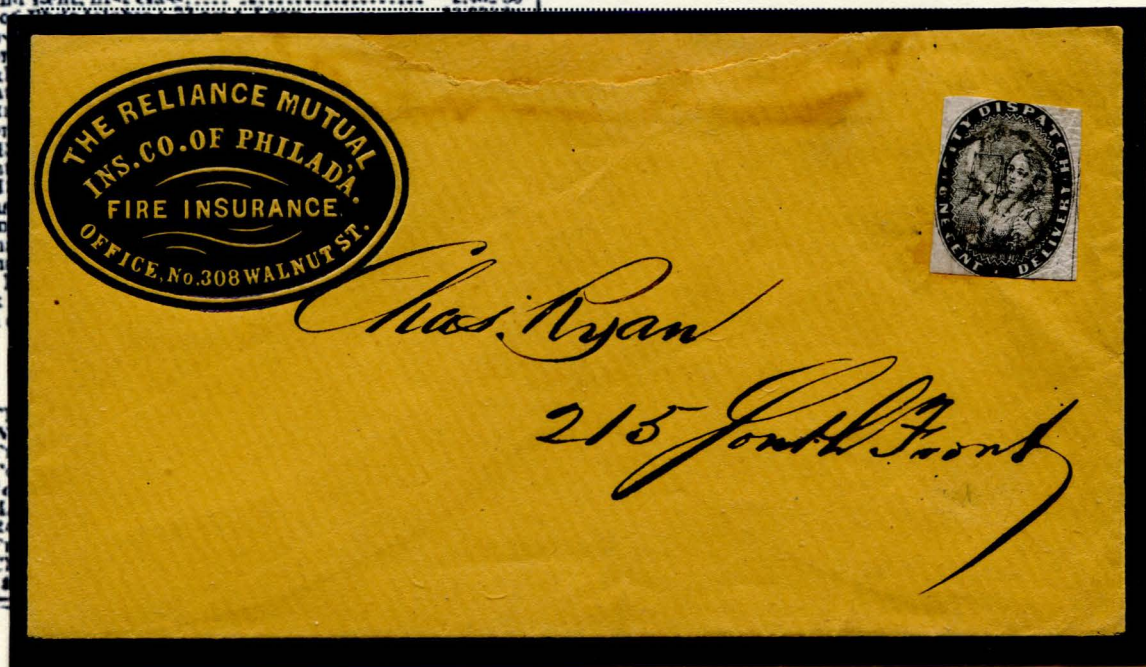
FIRE INSURANCE
by the
RELIANCE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY
OF PHILADELPHIA.
On Buildings, Limited or Perpetual, Merchandise, Furniture, &c., in town or country.
Office—No. 308 Walnut street.

Capital.....	\$20,510 00	Assets.....	\$303,500 96
Invested as follows, viz:—			
First Mortgages on Improved City Property,			
worth double the amount.....		\$155,600 00	
Ground Rent, first class.....		2,462 50	

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR
RELIANCE MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.
PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER
NOVEMBER 19, 1860



4111 : 1¢ BLACK ON WHITE WOVE
GENUINE - USED ON COVER
TYPE III HANDSTAMP CANCEL
CIRCLE WITH CROSSHATCHING
PF# 0309740

CITY DISPATCH

Featured here is a cover prepaid with both a 1¢ City Dispatch and a 3¢ US postage stamp. The City Dispatch stamp paid delivery to the post, while the 3¢ stamp paid for the letter's delivery through the US postal system to Sarah Campbell in New York.



41L1 : 1¢ BLACK ON WHITE WOVE
GENUINE - TIED ON COVER
TYPE III HANDSTAMP CANCEL
CIRCLE WITH CROSSHATCHING
MAILED WITH
26 : 3¢ DULL RED - TYPE III
PHILADELPHIA HEXAGONAL DATESTAMP CANCEL
APRIL 5, 1860
W. R. WEISS CERT # 2008/41L1/15

CITY DISPATCH

J. W. Scott's forgery of this "City Dispatch" stamp can easily be told apart due to the lack of the separation lines between "ONE CENT", "CITY DISPATCH", and "DELIVERY".



FORGERY A
SCOTT
1¢ BLACK
ON WHITE
(41L1)



FORGERY A
SCOTT
1¢ BLACK
ON CREAM
(41L1)



FORGERY A
SCOTT
1¢ GRAY
ON WHITE
(41L1)

S. A. Taylor's design has a very crude drawn lady, and the separation lines have been replaced by periods. The stamps also lack the border found on the genuine examples. Unusual for Taylor's work, this forgery comes in only a few colors.



FORGERY B
TAYLOR - FORM AB7
1¢ BLACK
ON OFF-WHITE
(41L1)



FORGERY B
TAYLOR - FORM AB7
1¢ BLACK
ON YELLOW
(41L1)



FORGERY B
TAYLOR
1¢ BLACK
ON WHITE
(41L1)



FORGERY B
TAYLOR
1¢ BLACK
ON VERMILION SC
(41L1)

CITY DISPATCH

It is unknown who made the following forgery of this post's stamp. It exists in a wide variety of colors, and often with fake cancels. One of these cancels is a Parisian handstamp, suggesting that the forger could have been French. The design is very close to the that of the genuine stamps, but one way to tell it apart is by the much more noticeable periods between the zigzags of the inner oval border.



FORGERY C
1¢ BLACK
ON WHITE
(41L1)
W/ FAKE "PARIS" CANCEL



FORGERY C
1¢ BLUE
ON WHITE
(41L1)



FORGERY C
1¢ BLUE
ON WHITE
(41L1)
W/ FAKE "PARIS" CANCEL



FORGERY C
1¢ PURPLE
ON WHITE
(41L1)
W/ FAKE GRID CANCEL



FORGERY C
1¢ PURPLE
ON WHITE
(41L1)
W/ FAKE OVAL GRID CANCEL



FORGERY C
1¢ VIOLET
ON WHITE
(41L1)



FORGERY C
1¢ RED
ON WHITE
(41L1)



FORGERY C
1¢ RED
ON WHITE
(41L1)
W/ FAKE GRID CANCEL



FORGERY C
1¢ ORANGE
ON WHITE
(41L1)



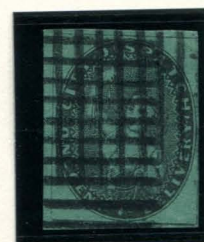
FORGERY C
1¢ BROWN
ON WHITE
(41L1)



FORGERY C
1¢ GRAY & GREEN
ON WHITE
(41L1)
W/ FAKE GRID CANCEL



FORGERY C
1¢ BLACK
ON YELLOW
(41L1)
W/ FAKE GRID CANCEL



FORGERY C
1¢ BLACK
ON BLUE GREEN
(41L1)
W/ TWO FAKE GRID CANCELS