

THE
MIKE FARRELL
COLLECTION
OF INDEPENDENT MAILES

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

CUTTING'S DESPATCH POST

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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CUTTING'S DESPATCH POST

Cutting's Despatch Post, opened in 1847, was the first local post of Buffalo, New York. The post was founded by Thomas S. Cutting. Cutting, an Englishman who had emigrated to the United States in 1831, ran the post in addition to a wide variety of other occupations including renting horses, selling stocks, romantic matchmaking, managing singers, and running an intelligence office.

The history of this post has been mostly documented by its advertisements, which ran in Buffalo's *Commercial Advertiser*. The post delivered mail from the post office or throughout the city locally at a rate of 2¢. Advertisements never mentioned the sale of adhesive stamps, although an advertiment for Valentine's delivery stated that prepayment would be required. Covers are known primarily marked with an oval hand-stamp in blue or green.

A single adhesive stamp for the post is known on cover. This stamp is similar to the Hartford's Pony Express stamp. It is very rare.

In 1848, the post was bought by a competing local, Spaulding's Penny Post.

The forgery of this stamp is an illustration published in Scott albums. The forgery is simpler in appearance, with smaller lettering and less detail in the line work. It is also somewhat squashed on the sides.

Modern forgeries use the Scott illustration as their base, but are printed on different papers.



ILLUSTRATION
SCOTT - ALBUM CUT
2¢ BLACK
ON CREAM
(56L1)



FORGERY
MODERN
2¢ BLACK
ON RED SC
(56L1)