MIKE FARRELL COLLECTIONS OF INDEPENDENT MAILS

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

FITZ'S EXPRESS

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 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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FITZ'S EXPRESS COMPANY HISTORY

The company known as Fitz's Express, started as "Fitz & Choate's Express" in 1856. In 1857, it produced labels under the name "Fitz's Express" or "G.C. Fitz's Express". The proprietor was George C. Fitz, who lived in Ipswich, Massachusetts. The express carried parcels and private mail between Ipswich and Boston.

EXPRESS LABELS

Four types of label are recorded from Fitz's Express. Two similar labels, shown below, were square shaped with an accordion-style border. These labels were issued as "Fitz & Choate's" and "G.C. Fitz's" Express.



F&CX-L1
BLACK ON ORANGE SC



FTZX-L5
BLACK ON ORANGE SO

The other two label types used by Fitz's Express are a rectangular label with a decorative border, and a square label with a simple double line border. This latter stamp is known used on a cover with a September 1863 enclosure.