

THE  
MIKE FARRELL  
❧ COLLECTION ❧  
OF INDEPENDENT MAILS

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

VAN BENTHUYSEN'S NEWS OFFICE

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 USPS'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.

Colors listed for stamps and forgeries are the opinions of the Farrell Collection based on viewing physical copies of the pieces under consistent lighting. Colors in the .pdfs may be slightly inaccurate due to manipulations from the scanning process, computer monitor settings, or (in event that the files are printed for offline viewing) the printing process.

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.

Copyright Amos Media Company - 2020

The Scott Numbers are the copyrighted property of Amos Media Company, and are used here under a licensing agreement with Amos. The marks Scott and Scott's are Registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and are trademarks of Amos Media Company. No use may be made of these marks or of material in this publication, which is reprinted from a copyrighted publication of Amos Media Company., without the express written permission of Amos Media Company, Sidney, Ohio 45365.



# VAN BENTHUYSEN'S NEWS OFFICE

Van Benthuyesen was a book binder and news agent in Lansingburgh, New York - a village in Troy, near Albany. Operating at 223 State Street, one of the publications that listed him as an agent was *The Gavel: A Monthly Periodical Devoted to Odd Fellowship & General Literature*.

In addition to publishing and distributing periodicals, Van Benthuyesen was also an agent for Brainard & Co. Although the four recorded letters forwarded from this office were all directed to New York City, it advertised deliveries throughout New England.

**Brainard & Co's  
INDEPENDENT MAIL ARRANGEMENT.**

**LETTERS** forwarded daily at 61 cents to New-York, Boston, Philadelphia, Bangor, Providence, New Bedford, Lowell, Albany, Troy, Rochester, Buffalo, Portland, and the principal cities and towns in Maine, from the New Room and Express office 223 State street.  
**J. H. VANBENTHUYSEN.**  
Lansingburgh, July 10, 1844.

ADVERTISEMENT PUBLISHED IN  
LANSINGBURGH DEMOCRAT AND  
RENSSELAER COUNTY GAZETTE  
JANUARY 11, 1845

Letters were carried for 6¼¢. Two circular handstamps for the News Office were used. These handstamps use the same design: one reading "PAID", and the other "6¼".

Two of the known Van Benthuyesen covers were partially carried by Boyd's City Express in New York City.



VAN-C-1 : RED J.H. VAN BENTHUYSEN'S NEWS-OFFICE HANDSTAMP  
ORIGINAL COVER - UNDATED

# VAN BENTHUYSEN'S NEWS OFFICE



VAN-P-1 : RED J.H. VAN BENTHUYSEN'S NEWS-OFFICE HANDSTAMP  
ORIGINAL COVER - JANUARY 10, 1845

The cover above was delivered to Philip Dater in New York City. The letter was prepaid by the sender, as shown by the "PAID" Van Benthuyesen's handstamp.