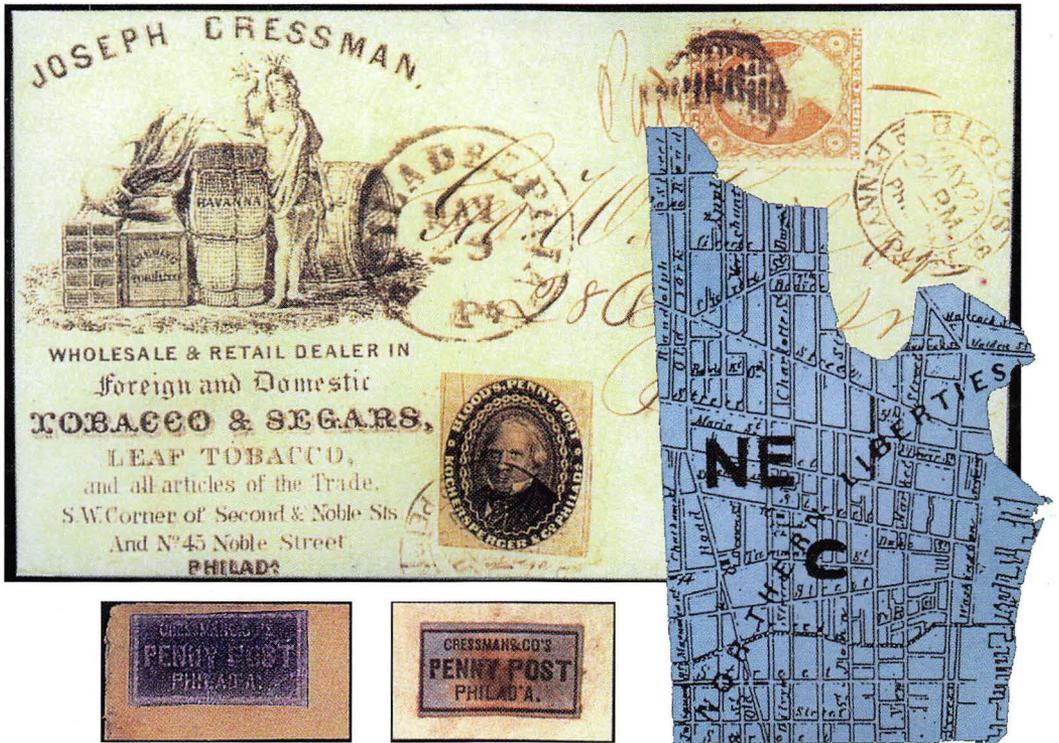


# THE PENNY POST

Official Journal Of The Carriers And Locals Society

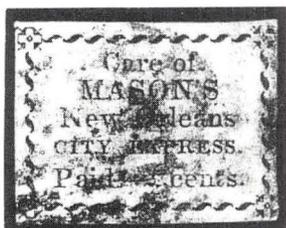


- C** Cressman & Co's Penny Post at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Buttonwood Sts. from December 1854 until at least October 1857.
- NE** The Northeastern District Sub Post Office in the Northern Liberties section of Philadelphia at 5<sup>th</sup> and Coates Street. Established on December 1, 1857.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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 ADAM'S EXPRESS CO. N.Y. ENVELOPE CORNERS  
 BAYONNE CITY DISPATCH  
 CANCELS ON PRINCE'S LETTER DISPATCH  
 TRANSFER TYPES OF BOYD'S FRAMED EAGLES  
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# THE PENNY POST

VOL. 10. NO. 4



OCTOBER 2002

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APS Affiliate 211

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## Official Journal Of The Carriers and Locals Society

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*THE PENNY POST/Vol. 10 No. 4 / October 2002*

## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

The July issue of *The Penny Post* received a lot of praise. Many have said that it's our best issue yet. Please participate in keeping our magazine the best philatelic society journal on the planet by writing something to contribute to our reading enjoyment. It can be a one page article about a single stamp or cover or a commentary of historical reference. If you want to write but don't have a subject, call me and we can discuss it.

John Bowman has written up some "guidelines for writing philatelic articles". A copy is available by dropping a note to either him or me. Our addresses are in the masthead on page 1.

We all need to be reminded to give credit to previous authors when using their material. I'm guilty of failing in this regard on occasion. In my Hussey series I pictured the Hussey ad from mid-1865. This I obtained from Herbert A. Trenchard's article in *The Penny Post*. It comes from Part II of his article "Deceit and Dispersal", Hussey and Taylor and Their Products", *The Penny Post*, Vol. 6, No. 4, page 11. Part I of his informative article appeared in *The Penny Post*, Vol. 5, No. 3. These were issues of July and October 1996. Mr. Trenchard is a well-known historian and his articles are based on advertisements and other written records as well as previous students' works. His acknowledgement includes libraries and reference collections. My Hussey series of these articles which appeared in *The Penny Post*, Vol. 10, Nos. 1-3, concentrated on expanding the work of previous students by identifying the forgery types that appeared in the Wood's memorandum and the Hussey ads. My study is based on stamp research of paper types (wove, laid, mesh, pelure) and paper colors (creamy, amber, white, buff, manila). Mr. Trenchard's article and Warren Hale's book (compiled by Elliot Perry) are further sources for study of the Hussey material.

This issue of *The Penny Post* starts with an article on Cressman's & Co's by Vernon Morris, MD, a collector of local posts of Philadelphia. His article informatively explains the districts in Philadelphia and who among Blood's, Cressman's and the earlier Northern Liberties handled the different areas by either local delivery or delivery to the post office. Much thanks to Dr. Morris for his research.

John Bowman, our president, has contributed two articles to this issue. His first article is a study of the stamps, covers and history of the "Bayonne City Dispatch". His second article is research and description of "The Ten Transfer types of Boyd's 20L32-36 Framed Eagle". Much thanks to John Bowman for being our president and for his contributions to fine philatelic research.

Calvet Hahn has a two-part article on "The Hoogs and Madison Conundrum" which starts in this issue. He begins with background on the California Letter Expresses. The series continues in our next issue with the forgery—not a forgery "conundrum". Much thanks to Cal Hahn for continuing to provide us with historical research.

I have two articles in this issue. The first is about a specific 59 Broadway Adam's Express corner card which my research contributes to George Hussey. My second article pictures and discusses the cancels which can be associated with the

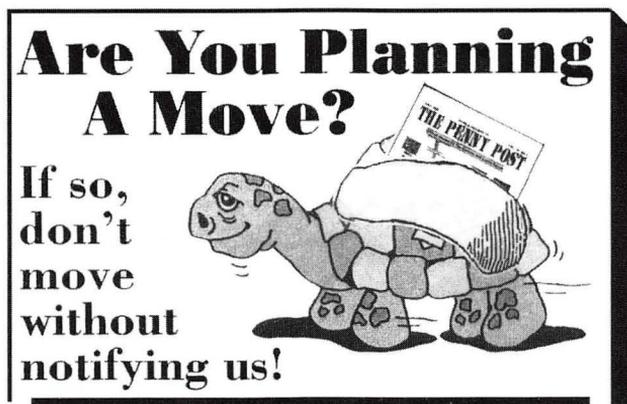
Prince's Letter Dispatch. I hope to continue this type of analysis with other local posts. This information can prove to be valuable when analyzing the genuineness of cancels and covers.

It's not too early to start thinking about joining us at NAPEX in McLean, Virginia when we hold our yearly society meeting. The dates are June 6-8, 2003.

I hope that you enjoy this issue of *The Penny Post* and gain insights into different aspects of our hobby.

Congratulations to Dr. Vernon Morris for his Grand Award at the Philadelphia Stamp Show. Now it's on to the Champion-of-Champions competition.

Larry Lyons



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# Cressman & Co's

By  
Vernon Morris, MD

Two excellent Cressman & Co's Penny Post articles were published in the August 1992 Penny Post. Steven Roth's postal history article with census<sup>1</sup> indicated that none of nine recorded covers revealed a year of origin, that the private post probably existed for less than twelve months in 1856, and that it was located in the Spring Garden district just north of the Old City. Roth researched the Public Ledger in January 1856 and the Philadelphia City Directory from 1855 through 1858. The second article by Gordon Stimmell<sup>2</sup> focused on the Cressman & Co's Penny Post adhesives, forgeries, and their resemblance to Blood's Penny Post issues. Although the past five years have produced considerable Carrier and Local Post material from the Meyersburg, Golden, Schwartz, and Hall auctions, only one additional Cressman & Co's Penny Post cover has come forward.

## Adhesive Types

Two types of CRESSMAN & CO'S / PENNY POST / PHILAD'A adhesives exist. The 2002 Scott Specialized Catalogue lists 53L1 as "Gold on Black Glazed" and 53L2 as "Gold on Lilac". Both are rectangular. No panes exist. Only one multiple is recorded. A vertical pair of 53L1 was offered as lot 595 on November 14, 2000 in Siegel sale #830 of the "Hall Collection".

Roth's census included eight 53L1 and one 53L2 covers. **Figure 1** is the additional 53L1, not included in the Roth census which is uncanceled. It was offered as lot 994 in Siegel sale #817 of the "David Golden Collection" on November 15, 1999. Altogether, only ten Cressman & Co's Penny Post covers are recorded. One of them has never been seen at auction. Of the nine 53L1 adhesives on cover, six are uncanceled, one is "scratch cancelled" (probably creased or cracked paper rather than a true cancel), one is tied to the cover by an acid cancel, and the status of one is unknown. The prior is also apparently cancelled by pencil.

53L2 is a unique adhesive! Not only is it found on cover, but **Figure 2** shows that it is tied by an acid cancel. Only one of the other nine recorded Cressman & Co. Penny Post covers is known to be tied.

## Dates of Service

According to Steven Roth "conventional wisdom is that Cressman & Co's Penny Post operated for less than twelve months in 1856".<sup>3</sup> Postmark or manuscript datelines apparently specify the month and date in only four of the ten covers, one of which includes the year. **Figure 1** is one of four covers that possesses a post office

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<sup>1</sup> "CRESSMAN & CO'S PENNY POST", by Steven Roth, *The Penny Post*, Vol. 2 No. 3, August 1992, p. 4-9.

<sup>2</sup> "CRESSMAN ORIGINALS", by Gordon Stimmell, *The Penny Post*, Vol. 2 No. 3, August 1992, p.10-12.

<sup>3</sup> Roth, p. 4.

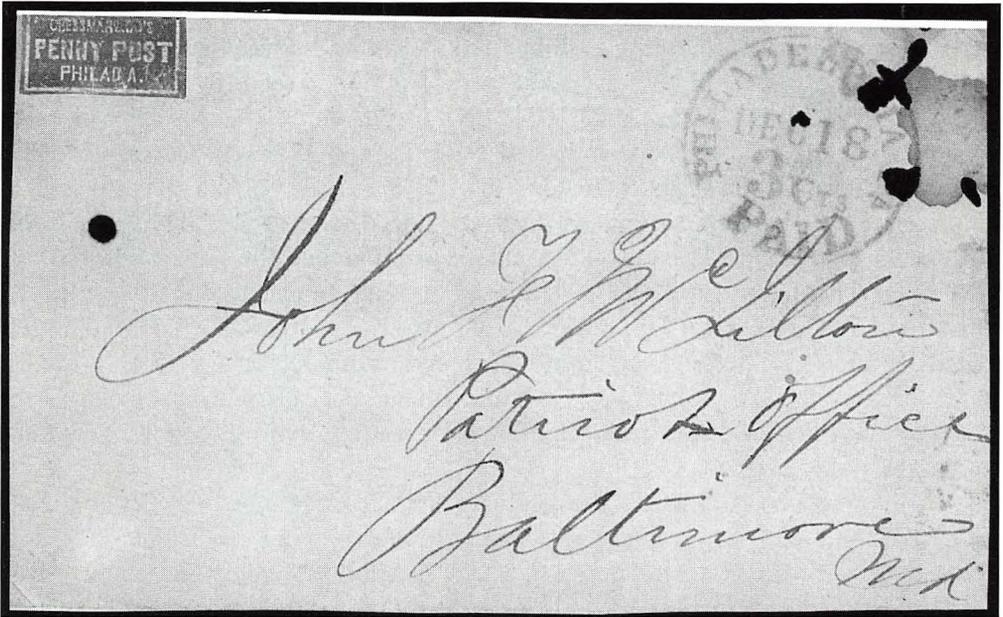


Figure 1. An uncanceled 53L1 “Gold on Black Glazed” adhesive on an outbound cover delivered by Cressman & Co’s Penny Post to the Philadelphia Post Office.



Figure 2. The unique “Gold on Lilac” 53L2 adhesive tied by an acid cancel to a cover addressed to the Cressman & Co’s Penny Post office.

cancellation datestamp. The red “PHILADELPHIA/ DEC 18 / 3 Cts/ PAID” circular datestamp is Type 68 according to Tom Clark.<sup>4</sup> The earliest known use for type 68 is January 28, 1854, and the latest known use is September 18, 1855. Only one December falls within this interval. 1854! Improbable are the chances that this cover advances the Type 68 postmark EKV 5 weeks earlier into 1853, or extends the LKV by an additional 8 weeks later into 1855.

Moreover, additional circumstantial evidence supports an 1854 year for this cover. Cressman & Co’s Penny Post adhesives mimicked the then current Blood adhesives. The 53L1 “Gold on Black Glazed” is very similar to the Blood’s Penny Post 15L16 “Bronze on Black Glazed”. **Figure 3** is the earliest recorded 15L16 dated February 17, 1854. The ten month interval until December 18 is sufficient time for Cressman & Co’s Penny Post to evaluate and select a style, such as the 15L16, in addition to the time required for printing, selling, and usage of the facsimile.

The cover in Lot 730 in the Caspary sale held on March 18, 1957 originated from Trenton, Tenn. and was described by H.R. Harmer, Inc. as October 17, 1857. The cover was offered again on March 1, 1973 as lot 1811, by Robson Lowe who also confirmed this date. This cover is the basis for the last known Cressman cover.

It appears that Cressman & Co’s Penny Post was operational at least by December 1854 and lasted until October 1857 or possibly later.

### **Tobacco Shop Network**

Roth’s article provides a list of twelve persons named Cressman in McElroy’s 1856 City Directory for Philadelphia.<sup>5</sup> Virtually all are located in and around the northeastern part of the Old City or adjacent northern districts. Five of the twelve listed individuals handled tobacco products. An advertising cover for Joseph Cressman is shown in **Figure 4**. The Cressman Tobacco shops may have been owned by an extended family. Many shops may have doubled as a letter collection location for patrons, much like Blood engaged hundreds of drug and medicine stores in the Old City.

The Frank Hollowbush newspaper abstracts locate the Cressman & Co’s Penny Post office at the “S.E. Corner of Third and Buttonwood Streets”.<sup>6</sup> Roth has identified “STOLZ ADAM R, tobacconist 3d & Buttonwood” in the Philadelphia City Directory for 1855.<sup>7</sup> The listing was unchanged through 1858. The partial cover in Lot 529 of the Frajola Net Price Sale held on June 7, 1990 of the “Middendorf Collection” is addressed to Adam K. Stolz at nearby 307 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, most likely his residence. The middle initial of this example and **Figure 2** could easily pass for an “R”.

Conceivably, many other shops in the tobacco trade in this area under different names may have enjoyed a personal or business relationship with

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<sup>4</sup> A Catalogue of Philadelphia Postmarks, 18<sup>th</sup> Century to the Present, Part 1, by Tom Clark, 1991, pg. 19.

<sup>5</sup> Roth, p.9.

<sup>6</sup> Roth, p.5.

<sup>7</sup> Roth, p.8.

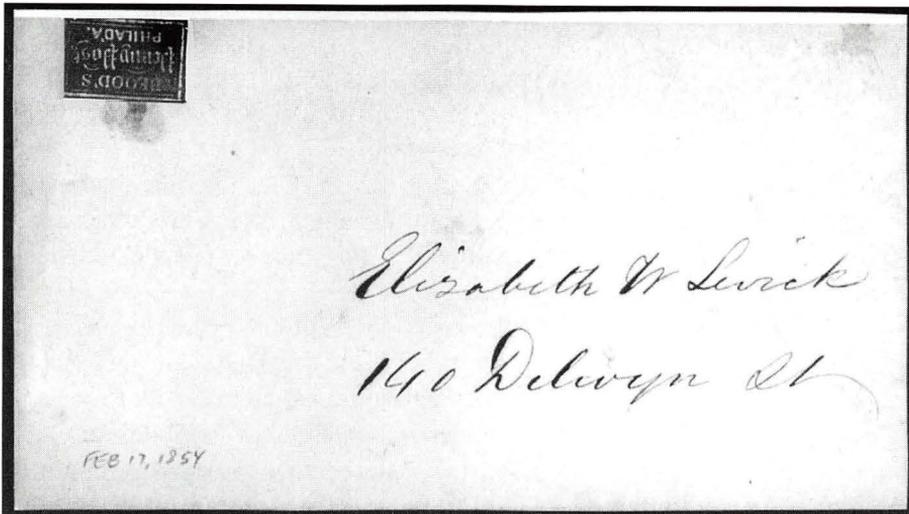


Figure 3. The earliest recorded Blood's Penny Post 15L16 "Gold on Black Glazed" adhesive on a locally used cover. Notice the similarity with the Cressman adhesive in Figure 1.

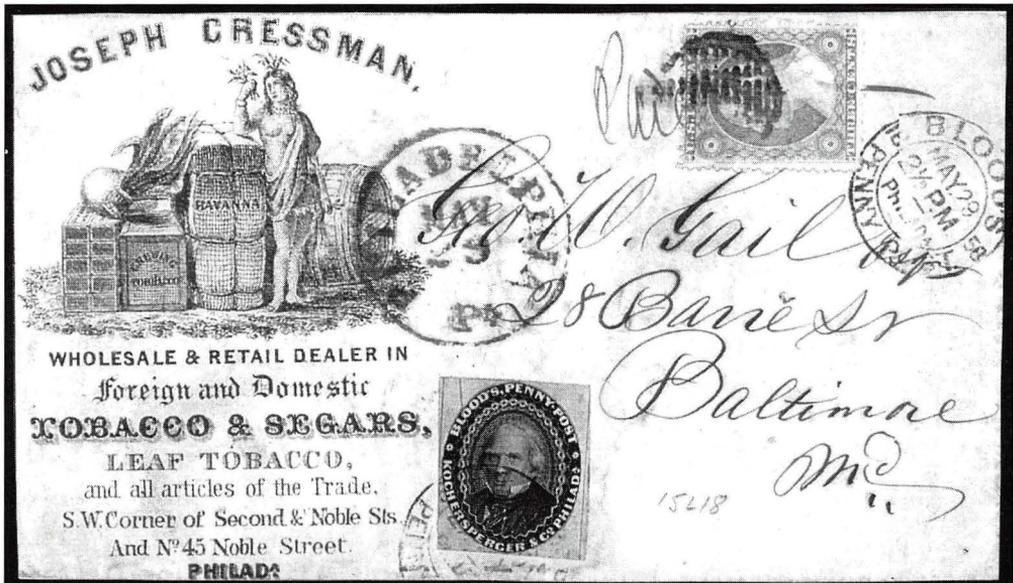


Figure 4. An advertising corner card for Joseph Cressman "Tobacco & Segars". Second and Noble Streets was 1-1/2 blocks from the Cressman & Co's Penny Post office. The company was probably out of business by May 1858.

Cressmans & Co's Penny Post, which may have served as an entree to housing Cressman & Co's Penny Post collection boxes<sup>2</sup>. Similar family tobacco – private post connections have been suggested by Calvet Hahn.

### Service Area

It appears that the Cressman & Co's Penny Post service area may have illegally crossed the Old City boundary. Eight of the ten covers are either addressed to a street location in the Old City, or involved the Philadelphia Post Office. Two covers are addressed to Northern Liberties.

Vine Street was the northern boundary of William Penn's Greene Country Towne, two square miles in the narrows between the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers. The Old City was served by only one post office at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Dock Street, several blocks south of Market Street which was the east-west middle divider, and close to the Delaware River. During the nineteenth century the remainder of Philadelphia County contained 21 additional post offices sprinkled throughout another 127 square miles containing numerous villages.<sup>9</sup> The burgeoning population was moving north into two adjacent districts. Since 1803 the incorporated Northern Liberties ("Sub-Post News Room" fame in 1836) bordered the eastern one third of Vine Street from the Delaware River to Sixth Street. The Spring Garden district was incorporated in 1813 and expanded further west and also north in 1827. It ran along the western two thirds of the Vine Street border from Sixth Street to the Schuylkill River.<sup>10</sup> Poplar Street was its eventual northern border.

When the Independent Mails were terminated on July 1, 1845, the private delivery of letters between these districts and the Old City was forbidden. The strong arm of the Federal Government confined the upstart D. O. Blood & Co. to the Old City (see **Figure 5**). Even when Blood's Penny Post of the 1850's became a high profile target of the Postmaster General in Washington D.C., the ongoing, numerous, and surely expensive legal battles contained this juggernaut inside the Old City of Philadelphia.

However, the **Northern Liberties district had never enjoyed having their own post office** (See **Figure 9**). Some of its residents may have been closer to the Kensington Post Office to the north, whereas location or business would otherwise draw them south into the Old City. Although always possessing at least one post office, **the Spring Garden district post offices relocated westward** on several occasions, away from Northern Liberties (See the map in **Figure 9**). From 1828 until 1837 the "Penn Township, Pa." post office was located in the vicinity of 9<sup>th</sup> and Callowhill Streets.<sup>11</sup> From 1836 until 1842 the "Francisville, Pa." post office was further west at 18<sup>th</sup> and Ridge Avenue.<sup>12</sup> The Spring Garden Post Office was

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<sup>8</sup> Independent Post Offices of Philadelphia County, 1800-1867, by Robert J. Stets and John L. Kay, 1979, p.3.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid, p. 3.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid, p. 39.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid, p. 34.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid, p. 18.

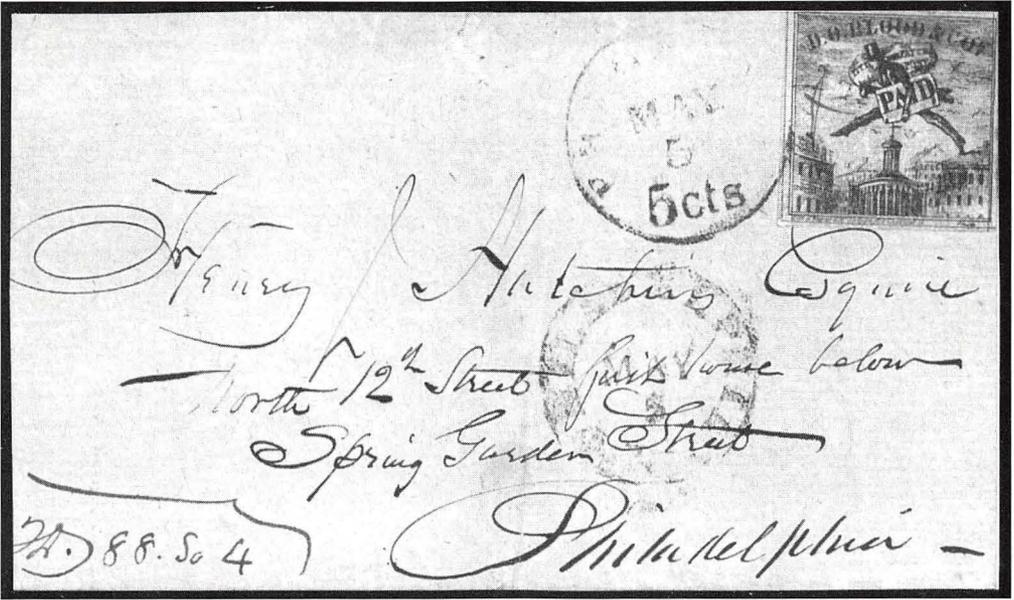


Figure 5. On May 5, 1847 D.O. Blood & Co. would not deliver this cover directly to Spring Garden Street, which was outside of the Old City, but would transport it to the Philadelphia Post Office, which charged 5-cents collect for intercity mail to the post office in the Spring Garden district.



Figure 6. Blood's Penny Post 15L15 "Bronze on Lilac" adhesive on an outbound cover to Holyoke, Mass. Notice the similarity with the Cressman & Co's Penny Post 53L2 in Figure 2.

probably at 24<sup>th</sup> and Callowhill Streets from 1831 until 1857.<sup>13</sup> This is contrary to the location reported by Elliot Perry in one of his articles.<sup>14</sup>

Did the Vine Street boundary ever have much significance to these citizens in the course of their daily life? Sentiment may have changed further in the mid 1850's. The Pennsylvania Consolidation Act of 1854, effective February 2, expanded the City of Philadelphia to the boundary limits of Philadelphia County. Assimilation of the 21 county post offices was a slow process which required thirteen years.<sup>15</sup> The northern boundary of the Old City may have suddenly become an even more blurred construct to the respective citizens and business community. A business opportunity certainly existed in Northern Liberties, the eastern portion of the Spring Garden district, and the northeastern part of the Old City.

A small private company such as Cressman & Co's Penny Post may have conceivably filled this long standing void (See the map in **Figure 9**). Furthermore, mimicking the color, shape, and "Penny Post" slogan may have provided the necessary camouflage to operate within the Old City, and do well, possibly riding the coat tails of Blood's Penny Post.

On December 1, 1857 this service area was invaded by the Philadelphia Sub Post system (See the map in **Figure 9**). It may not be coincidental that the latest recorded Cressman & Co's Penny Post cover was only six weeks earlier on October 17, 1857.<sup>16</sup>

### **Adhesive Timing**

Two adhesive types exist. We do not know if the Type 1 and Type 2 were sequential or contemporaneous.

If the types were issued at different times, it is more likely than not that the 53L1 preceded 53L2. Both mimicked the then current Bloods Penny Post issues. Earlier the similarity of 53L1 and Blood's Penny Post 15L16 was reviewed. Similarly, 53L2 "Gold on Lilac" resembles Blood's Penny Post 15L15 "Bronze on Lilac", shown in **Figure 6**. Whereas Blood's Penny Post 15L16 was issued in mid February 1854 and very short lived, production apparently switched by May to 15L15 which became the common adhesive for the next 4 to 8 years. It doesn't seem unreasonable that Cressman & Co's Penny Post also converted to the ubiquitous lilac paper concurrently with Blood's Penny Post. Whereas Cressman & Co's Penny Post faded away leaving only one surviving lilac adhesive, Blood's Penny Post was a thriving success (although much of their profits may have been consumed by their war chest fighting the Federal Government in court) and has left behind many hundreds of examples.

### **Adhesive Function**

If the two Cressman & Co's Penny Post types were issued simultaneously, perhaps they served different functions. Since only one 53L2 exists it is a sensible starting place. The Hollowbush newspaper abstract references the Saturday January

<sup>13</sup> Ibid, p. 39.

<sup>14</sup> "The Carrier Stamps of the United States – Philadelphia", by Elliot Perry, *The Chronicle*, Vol. 34, No. 4 November 1982, p. 241.

<sup>15</sup> *Postal Historian* #137 Vol. 25 No. 3, September 1998, p. 8-9.

<sup>16</sup> The Caspary Collection, Sale 8, lot 730, March 18-21, 1857, H.R. Harmer, P.117.

12, 1856 Public Ledger “list of letters being held at its office”<sup>17</sup> at the “S.E. Corner of Third and Buttonwood Streets.”<sup>18</sup> **Figure 2** is addressed to Adam Stolz a tobacconist at that location. The adhesive prepaid service to the Cressman & Co’s Penny Post office and appears to have been a “drop” letter sent to the Cressman office. Many other letters may have been likewise sent to the Cressman office consistent with the Hollowbush notice.

To the contrary none of the nine 53L1 covers are addressed to the Cressman office to be held for pick up. One cover is a local delivery in Northern Liberties. Three covers are delivery (across the forbidden border) to the Old City! Three covers are outbound “To the Mails” via the Philadelphia Post Office. Two are inbound “From the Mails” for delivery in the Old City. Whereas all nine probably included collection service to the Cressman office and subsequent dissemination to a second location, only the 53L2 was a direct unconnected service to the Cressman office. Could the lower cost of a less complicated and probably shorter service have generated the need for a second perhaps cheaper adhesive type, after the practice of D. O. Blood & Co. In 1846 the Blood rate structure differentiated between services. **Figure 7** shows the Striding Messenger used for service to an address in the Old City. However, the “For the Post Office” in double circle issues such as **Figure 8** would go directly to one Philadelphia location, the Philadelphia Post Office (but in the D.O. Blood case probably bypassed the Blood’s office).

### Competition

Although Blood’s Penny Post remained within the Old City, they offered formidable competition: 500 collection boxes, hourly service, and a 1 cent fee was difficult to beat. Mimicking was pragmatic. Even the Philadelphia Post Office couldn’t compete with Blood’s Penny Post! The Philadelphia Post Office found it necessary in 1857 to reorganize. The Sub Post Office system was designed with tentacles reaching out into adjacent districts which had been forbidden to Blood’s Penny Post and the other local posts such as Cressman & Co’s Penny Post. Four Sub Post Offices were established effective December 1, 1857. Two were north of Vine Street and divided by 10<sup>th</sup> Street.<sup>19</sup> The “Northwestern district Sub Post Office” was located at 13<sup>th</sup> and Spring Garden Street in the Spring Garden district. The “Northeastern Sub Post Office” was at 447 Coates Street near 5<sup>th</sup> Street, in the Northern Liberties district, approximately two blocks north and two blocks west of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and Buttonwood address of Cressman & Co’s Penny Post. Northern Liberties finally received a post office. The Sub Post Office system provided at no additional charge the transmission of mail to the main Philadelphia Post Office. Although the Federal Act of 1851 provided for and possibly placed some Philadelphia carriers in eastern Spring Garden and Northern Liberties, the Philadelphia 1857 Reorganization established a serious and organized corps of carriers on the streets of these two districts. My research and study lead me to believe that **the final blow for Cressman & Co’s Penny Post may have been the Philadelphia Post Offices effort to beat Blood’s Penny Post.**

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<sup>17</sup> Roth, p. 4.

<sup>18</sup> Roth, p. 5.

<sup>19</sup> Perry, Op cit.



Figure 7. D.O. Blood & Co. 15L5 “striding messenger” adhesive cancelled by a red “PAID” on an undated cover for city delivery to a street address. In 1847 one dollar purchased 96 adhesives.

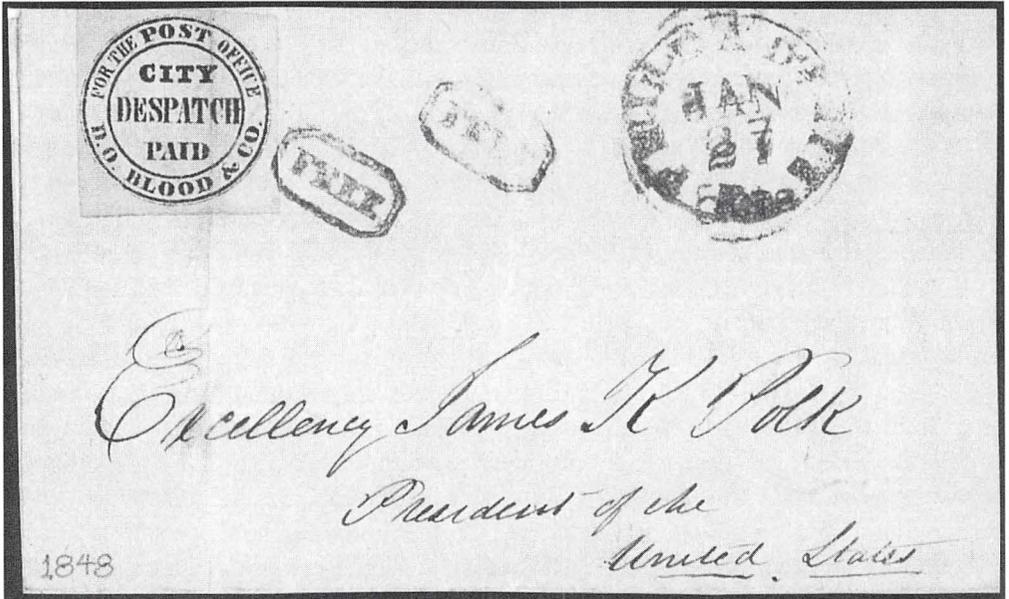


Figure 8. D.O. Blood & Co. 15L9 “For the Post Office” circular adhesive cancelled by a blue “FREE” in lozenge on January 27, 1848 cover to President Polk. These adhesive stamps were cheaper at 100 for 75 cents.

## Conclusion

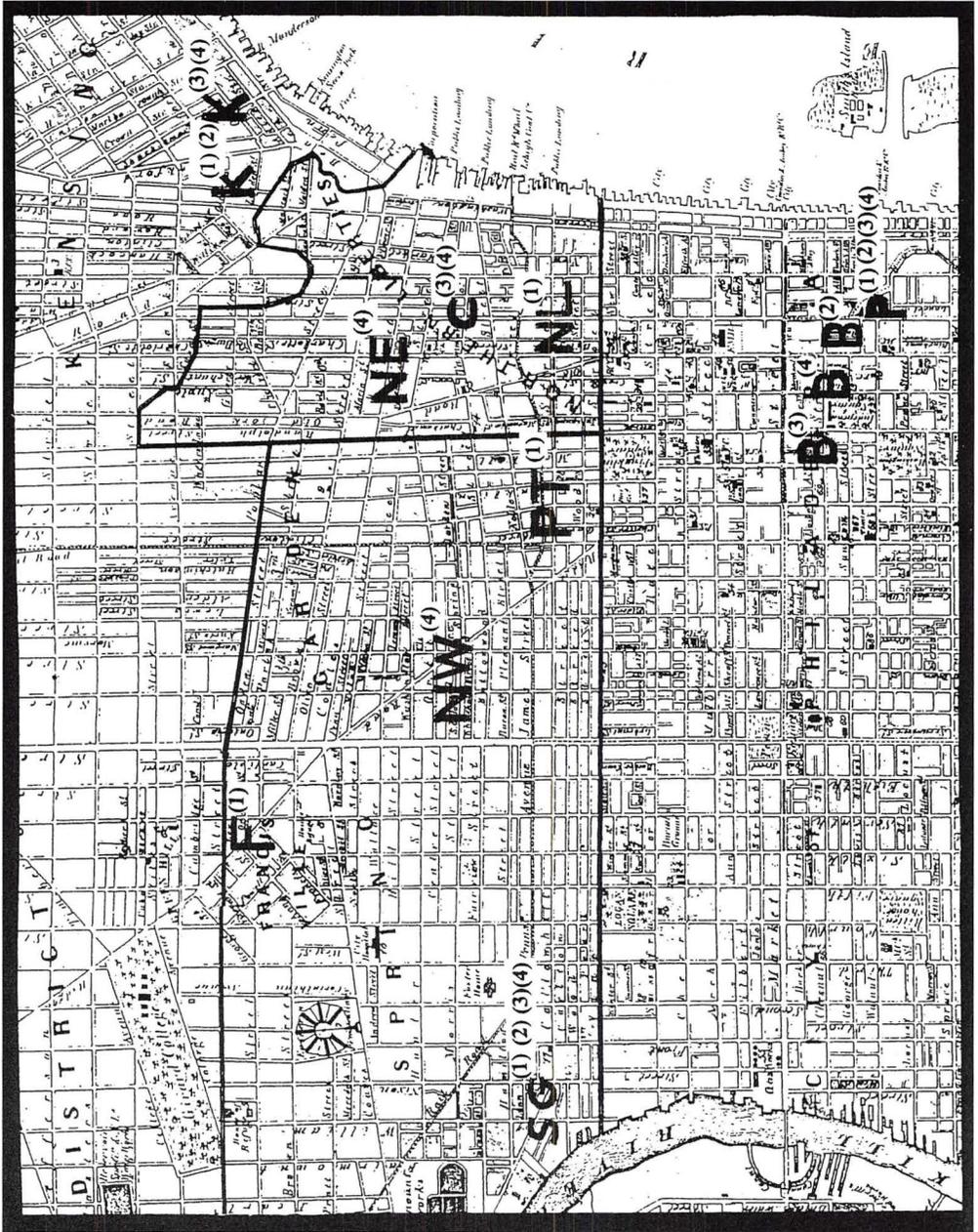
Although it has always been assumed that Cressman & Co's Penny Post existed only during 1856, it now seems likely that it was in operation from December 1854 until October 1857 or longer. The company was based in the incorporated Northern Liberties and not Spring Garden. They served the citizens of Northern Liberties, who never had their very own post office, in addition to those citizens in the eastern portion of Spring Garden, who were abandoned by a nearby post office in 1837! They also serviced the Old City of Philadelphia. Cressman & Co's Penny Post was probably a full service private post, including "drop" letters held for pick up, city mail, and service to and from the Philadelphia Post Office.

Cressman & Co's Penny Post adhesives mimicked the size, shape, color, and inscription "Penny Post" of the then current Blood's Penny Post issues, perhaps to seize upon Blood's success and use it competitively against them along their northern fringe. Cressman & Co's Penny Post may have been an extended family or enjoyed access to a network of tobacco shops similar but on a much smaller scale than to Blood's use of drug stores in the Old City.

Cressman & Co's Penny Post was not in operation for very long. They were unfortunately competing with Blood's hourly service. By December 1, 1857 the region was swallowed by the Philadelphia Sub Post Office system, with a nearby branch post office, and with carriers on the streets probably causing Cressman & Co's Penny Post to circle their wagons! Cressman & Co's Penny Post had boldly crossed the boundary forbidden to private posts during the previous 10 years, and not surprisingly their time was short.

### Street Map Legend for Figure 9

- B D.O. Blood & Co's from 1845 until 1848 was at 48 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.  
Blood's Despatch from 1848 until 1854 was near 6<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut Street.  
Blood's Penny Post from 1854 until 1862 was on 5<sup>th</sup> near Chestnut Street.
- C Cressman Penny Post from 1854 until 1857 was at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Buttonwood Sts.
- F Francisville, Pa. Post Office from 1836 until 1842 was on Ridge Avenue.
- K Kensington, Pa. Post office from 1826 until 1854 was near Maiden and (New) Market Sts.; from 1854 until 1859 on Queen Street.
- NE The Northeastern District Sub Post Office of Philadelphia, Pa. was established on December 1, 1857 at 5<sup>th</sup> and Coates Street.
- NL The Northern Liberties News Room from 1832 until 1836 (Sub-Post Office began in 1835) was near 3<sup>rd</sup> and Callowhill Streets.
- NW The Northwestern District Sub Post Office of Philadelphia, Pa. was established on December 1, 1857 at 13<sup>th</sup> and Spring Garden Streets.
- P The Philadelphia, Pa. Post Office from 1826 until 1863 was The Merchants Exchange Building at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Dock Streets.
- PT Penn Township, Pa. Post Office from 1828 until 1837 was near 9<sup>th</sup> and Callowhill Streets.
- SG Spring Garden, Pa. Post Office from 1831 until November 28, 1857 was at William (24<sup>th</sup> Street) and Callowhill Streets.



**Figure 9. 1849 Street Map of central Philadelphia.**

- 1836 posts indicated by <sup>(1)</sup>.
- 1846 posts indicated by <sup>(2)</sup>.
- 1854 posts indicated by <sup>(3)</sup>.
- 1857 posts indicated by <sup>(4)</sup>.

# Adam's Express Company: 59 Broadway Corner Cards

By  
Larry Lyons

In doing this research I found and examined twenty-eight covers with the Adam's Express Company embossed eagle corner. I also have numerous cut squares of this type which I will call Forgery A. It is my firm belief that this corner and cut square was produced by George Hussey. As evidence I present in **Figure 1**, a piece containing a design pair of Forgery A on amber mesh paper. This is indicative of Hussey's work. All of the twenty-eight envelopes I have encountered are on orange laid paper identical to the New Jersey Express envelope corner which has been previously presented as a suggested Hussey product (*Penny Post Vol. 10, No. 3, pages 42-52, Lyons and Bowman*). The reverse side of the Adam's and New Jersey envelopes indicate that they were embossed after the envelope was created. I have found the Hussey Forgery A cut squares on amber mesh paper, dark amber mesh paper, orange buff laid paper, (same as entires) yellow mesh paper and pinkish paper.

I believe that Hussey got his idea from a genuine blue embossed Adam's money envelope, see **Figure 2**. The embossed money envelope has the eagle holding four or five arrows at the right, whereas the Hussey design has the eagle holding six arrows. The "5" in "59" in **Figure 2** is squarish on the Adam's money envelope and the eagle has lots of differences in the Hussey design. The position of the stars relative to the lettering is also different.

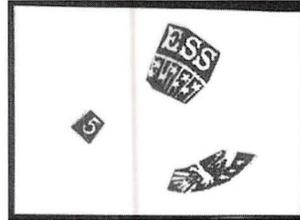
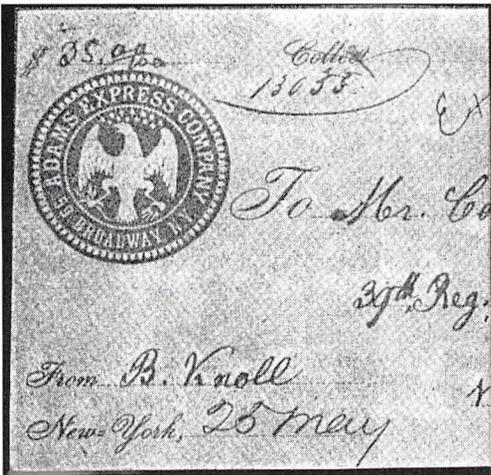
Someone, possibly Hussey himself, created philatelic covers from Forgery A entires. **Figure 3** shows a Hussey Adam's Express envelope with an 87L22 stamp at the upper right. The 87L22 is distinguished as design L177 by the line over the "I" in "DELIVERY". This stamp is a Hussey imitation of the earlier 1858 design L174. Hussey made these stamps in 1862 presumably to sell in bulk as philatelic stamps. He would have accepted them for use at his post and therefore they are listed in the *Scott Catalogue* as genuine stamps. The L177 (87L22) stamp is Wood #9 in his printer's log of stamps printed for Hussey and the first printing was made on March 20, 1862. Reprints of the L177 (87L22) were made on brighter, whiter paper on January 5, 1866 and again on February 16, 1866.

The Hussey stamps 87L6 and 7 (L173) are reprints in black and rose red respectively. These stamps are listed in the Wood's memorandum as Numbers 3 and 10. The 87L6 reprints were printed on April 19, 1862 and again on June 8, 1864. The 87L7 reprints were printed on March 30, 1862 and again on June 8, 1864.

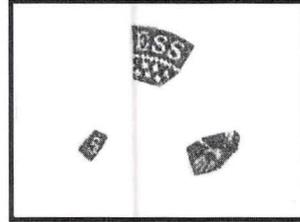
The Hussey 87L26 stamp (L180) was a reproduction of his earlier 87L4 stamp (L172). The 87L26 is listed as number 15 in the Woods' book. These stamps were reprinted on April 29, 1862, again on November 25, 1863 and yet again on June 8, 1864.



Figure 1. Pair of Hussey cut squares. Blue on amber mesh paper.



Details of Hussey forgery.



Details of genuine impression.

Figure 2. Genuine blue embossed Adam's money envelope.

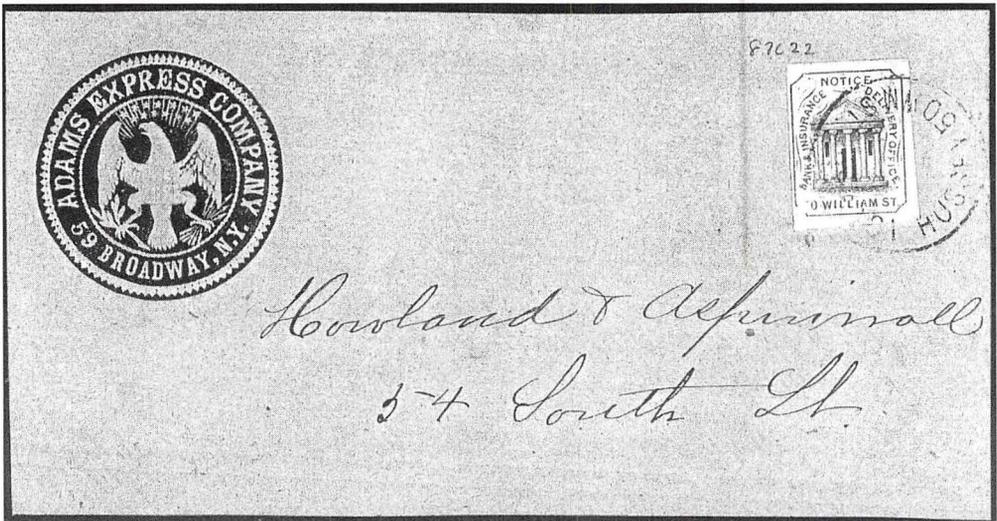


Figure 3. Entire to Howland & Aspinwall with 87L22 stamp.



**Figure 4. Entire to Howland & Aspinwall with Hussey's Adam's corner.  
Lot 35318, David Feldman November 19-23, 1985. Previously Lot 647  
John Fox sale of November 12, 1959.**

Mr. Herb Trenchard in his article "Deceit and Dispersal—Hussey and Taylor and their products" (*Penny Post*. Vol. 6. No 3 Pages 22-34 and Vol. 6. No. 4 pages 4-21) attributes a Hussey ad shown on Page 11 of Vol. 6 No. 4 to mid-1865.

I agree with his dating of the Hussey ad based on the listings in the Woods' book and the items for sale in the Hussey ad. **Figure 9** is an excerpt from the top of the ad. The second item under envelopes is "Adams Express, embossed, 2cts".

It is my belief that Hussey sold the Adam's corner envelopes and used his reprint stamps on these envelopes. It is quite possible that Hussey used the Adam's corner envelopes as return envelopes for Howland and Aspinwall, a firm to which most of the known covers are addressed. It is also quite possible that the June 8, 1864 reprints of 87L6, 7 and 26 were used on the Hussey Adam's envelopes.

I found nineteen covers with the Hussey Adam's Express corner used with Hussey reprint stamps. Seventeen of these covers are addressed to Howland & Aspinwall and two covers do not have the addressee visible. I would bet that these two are also addressed to Howland & Aspinwall. Furthermore it is my belief that most of these covers are addressed in the same hand. This reinforces my premise that they are return envelopes that were prepared at the same time.

A census list of these nineteen covers of which seventeen are confirmed as addressed to Howland & Aspinwall is as follows:

**87L6 stamps.** 1) Lot 944 Harmers January 18-20, 1965 and again as Lot 1219 David Phillips May 14, 1994. 2) Lot 202 Lazarus December 11-12, 1962. 3) Lot 607 Wolffers May 2-3, 1994. 4) Lot 1367 Harmers July 22, 1976.

**87L7 stamps.** 1) Lot 519 John Kaufmann June 9, 1979. 2) Lot 862 Greg Manning November 21, 1981. 3) Lot 400 Al Zimmerman November 24, 1982. 4) Lot 401 Al Zimmerman November 24, 1982.

**87L22 stamps.** 1) Lot 512 Siegel October 6, 1981 and again as Siegel Lot 502 April 27, 1990. 2) Lot 35317 David Feldman November 19-23, 1985. 3) Mounted cover from the Schwartz collection. 4) Cover in the Lyons collection, ex-Golden.

**87L26 stamps.** 1) Lot 1612 Christies June 12, 1990. 2) Lot 35318 David Feldman November 19-23, 1985. Previously Lot 647 John Fox November 12, 1959 see **figure 4**. 3) Lot 522 William Fox May 26-27, 1991. 4) Lot 1365 Harmers July 22, 1976. Previously Lot 397 Siegel's April 9-12, 1969. 4) Lot 180 Mohrmann October 15,-17, 1973. 5) Lot 313 Siegel's January 30-31, 1992 pictured as Lot 513 and withdrawn from the sale. 6) Lot 800 John Fox May 9, 1962 addressee not visible. 7) Lot 234 Lazarus February 26-27, 1963 addressee not visible.

I also found a cover with the Hussey Adam's Express corner addressed to Mrs. M.A. Hunt, Broadway which was delivered by Hussey's Special Delivery Post and the cover has an adhesive which is Hussey's 87LE3. (This is Lot 2139 Feldman October 30, 1976. Previously Lot 1847 Siegel's September 26-28, 1972). My belief is that someone wanted to send a rushed message to Mrs. Hunt and needed an envelope. The Hussey Post sold this person one with the Hussey Adam's Express corner.

**Figure 5** is a cover with the Hussey Adam's embossed corner. This cover is addressed to San Francisco. It is a philatelic creation and never made the journey. It is not date stamped. The interesting part of this cover is the "FREE" cancel in a creative box. I believe that the "FREE" is quite identical to the "FREE" we see on typical Hussey covers such as lots 1196-8 in the David Golden sale sold at Siegel's November 15-17, 1999. See **Figure 6**. It could be an imitation of Hussey's "FREE". The box around the "FREE" is another matter. Perhaps whoever made this octagonal boxed "FREE" was trying to imitate the Adam's & Co. boxed "PAID" shown in **Figure 7**. The cover in **Figure 7** was carried by Adam's & Co. in 1853 and is a western marking.

I found seven Hussey Adam's Express corner envelopes without Hussey stamps. These covers were placed into the mail in New York. I presume that these were envelopes that Hussey sold. Lot 516 in the Richard Frajola sale of June 15, 1985 is the Hussey Adam's Express envelope creation sent through the mail with a 2¢ black US #73 stamp. The postmark is dated May 28, 1864. I found another example in a John Kaufmann sale of January 17, 1985, Lot 312. This cover with the Hussey creation of Adam's corner has a U.S. 3 ¢ #65 stamp. The date stamp is December 11, 1862. I found another in Lot 578 of a Frajola sale of March 14, 1987. This one has a U.S. 1¢ #63 stamp for mailing. The date of this cover is August 11, 1862. Similarly, there is Lot 623 in Phillip's sale of March 21, 1981 which has a U.S. 3¢ #65 stamp and a date stamp of September 26, 1863. Still another is Lot 609 in Phillip's sale of January 27, 1989. This cover is addressed to Washington D.C. and has no postal markings. I found yet another cover as lot 518 in Phillip's sale of August 20, 1983. This cover has a U.S. #65 stamp and is date stamped October 12, 1868. So in all I found seven covers with the forged Adam's corner and usages from 1862-1868.

Summarizing what we have thus far as to usages of the Hussey Adam's Express envelope we have four used with Hussey 87L6 stamps, four used with Hussey 87L7 stamps, four used with Hussey 87L22 stamps, seven used with Hussey 87L26 stamps, one with a possible Hussey "FREE" cancel and seven without Hussey stamps mailed August 11, 1862 through October 12, 1868. At least seventeen of the covers go to the same addressee. (The addressee is not visible on



Figure 5. Hussey envelope corner with “FREE” in box. John Kaufmann sale January 17, 1985 Lot 602. Previously Siegel sale Sept. 6-7, 1984.

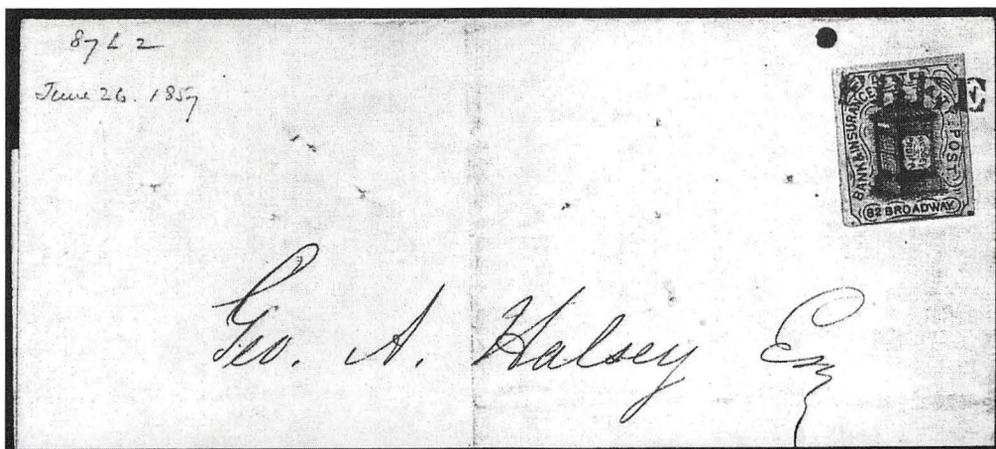


Figure 6. Genuine Hussey 87L2 with Hussey “FREE”. Golden Lot 1197.

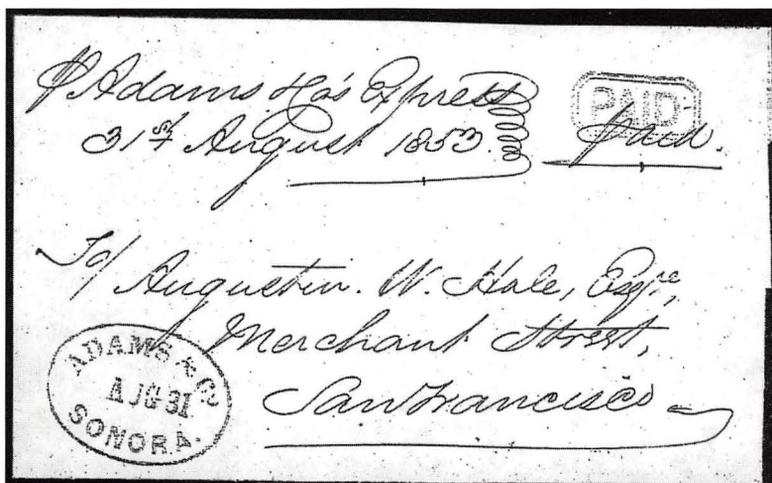


Figure 7. Adam's & Co., Sonora, August 31, 1853. Blue “PAID” in box. Christie's “Jarrett” sale, October 10, 1990, Lot 1219.

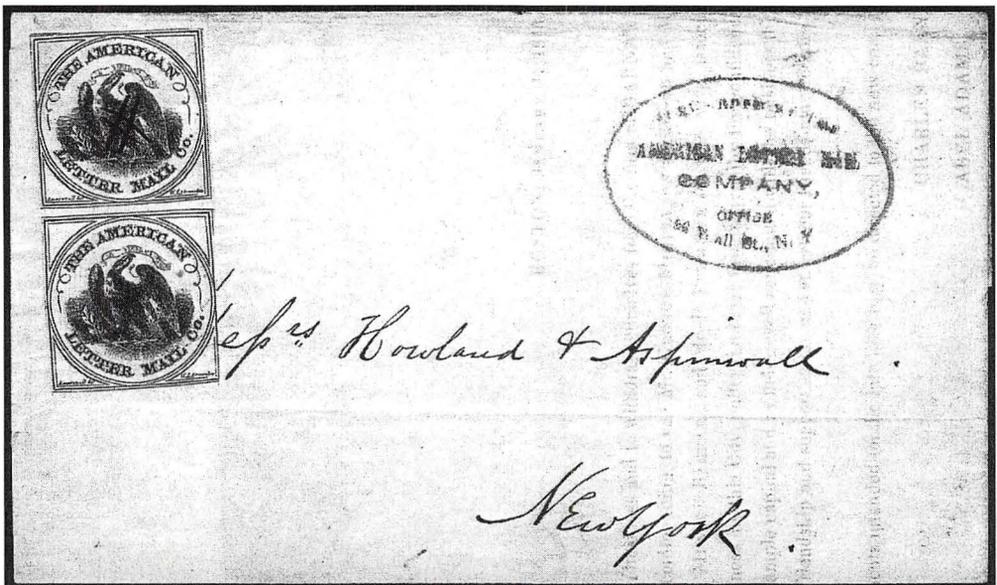
two covers). I also have found one unused entire with the Hussey Adam's Express embossed corner.

### Howland & Aspinwall

Howland & Aspinwall was one of the great shipping houses. They were very active in the china trade. They also had ships going to Mexico and the West Indies. They are known for having fleets of fast clipper ships. William H. Aspinwall was later seen having a role in connection with the California trade using steamships. Aspinwall had been brought up in the house of G.G. & S., another major shipping house. The Howland family was big in the shipping business as early as 1820. Howland and Aspinwall became open partners in 1837 when the two older Howlands retired.

One of the operations of Howland and Aspinwall was as a mail forwarder. Philatelically there are a lot of Howland and Aspinwall covers. Use of the New York Provisional from Boston is represented by approximately 20-25 covers, most of which are addressed to the shipping firm of Howland & Aspinwall.

Lot 232 in the Hall sale at Siegel's November 13-14, 2000 is a cover addressed to Howland & Aspinwall with a pair of American Letter Mail Co. stamps (5L2) and a red American Letter Mail Co., New York oval handstamp. This genuine cover is dated January 1, 1845. See Figure 8.



**Figure 8. 1845 Cover to Howland & Aspinwall with pair of American Letter Mail Co. adhesives 5L2.**

It is quite possible that Howland & Aspinwall provided their services to George Hussey and the Hussey Post or vice versa. Howland & Aspinwall was an established firm in 1854 when Hussey began his post. The two firms offices were about five blocks apart in lower Manhattan with Hussey being at 82 Broadway and then 50 William Street. Howland and Aspinwall was located on South Street. It is

TO STAMP DEALERS' AND COLLECTORS.

BEING THE SOLE PROPRIETOR OF



ALL THE GENUINE VARIETIES OF

ENVELOPES.—Boyd's red and blue, 2 cts. each.

→ Adams Express, embossed, 2 cts.

Metropolitan Errand and Carrier Express Co., 2 cts.

New Jersey Express Co., 2 cts.

Figure 9. Excerpt from Hussey Advertisement, mid-1865. *THE PENNY POST* Vol 6. No.4, October 1996.

1853

58

# ADAMS & CO.,

Principal Office, 59 BROADWAY, N. Y.

# EXPRESSES.

---

## The New Orleans Express

Is dispatched by the United States Mail Steamers on the 12th and 27th of each month.

# CALIFORNIA,

## OREGON AND AUSTRALIA,

---

VIA PANAMA,

By the United States Mail Steamers, on the 5th and 20th of each month.

Each and all of these Expresses are accompanied through to destination by special trusty messengers.

OFFICES :

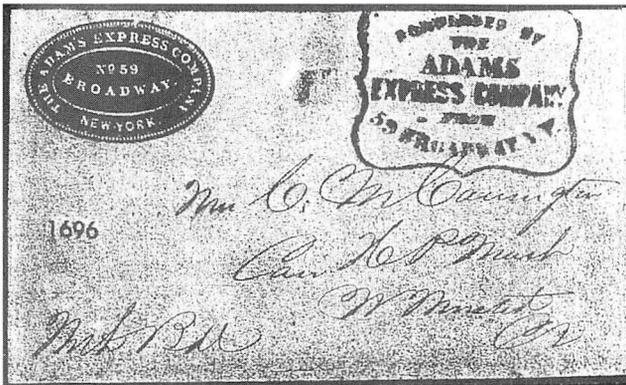
BOSTON,	84 Washington Street,	RICHMOND,	7 Fourteenth Street,
NEW YORK,	59 Broadway,	PITTSBURG,	Penn. Street,
PHILADELPHIA,	116 Chestnut Street,	CINCINNATI,	15 East Third Street,
BALTIMORE,	162 Baltimore Street,	ST. LOUIS,	
WASHINGTON,	Pennsylvania Avenue,	NEW ORLEANS,	72 Camp Street,
	LOUISVILLE,		536 Main Street.

**ADAMS & Co., BANKERS.**

Drafts furnished on California at par. Drafts from California on our Agents in the principal Cities of the Atlantic States, and on London.

1853

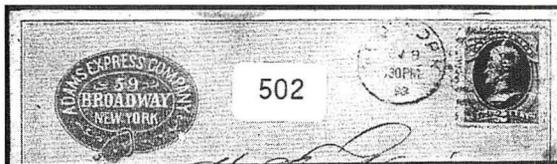
Figure 10. Adam's & Co. Advertisement from 1853.



B. Different Corner.

A. Red Embossed Corner

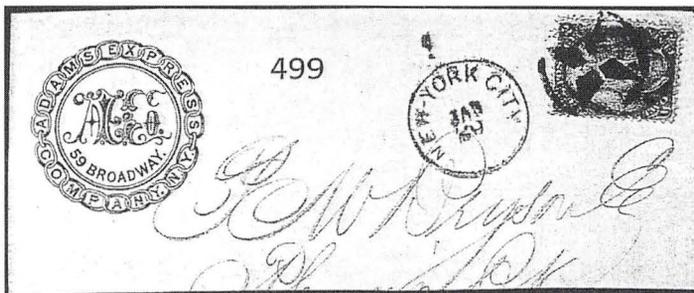
John Kaufmann Sale, March 10-12, 1981, Lot 1696.



C. 1883 Cover with Logo

Black on Yellow Label.

David Phillip's Sale, May 25, 1990, Lot 502. Lyons Collection.



D.

Red Corner

Matthew Bennett Sale, March 23, 2002, Lot 499.



Black Corner

Figure 11. Genuine Adam's Express Company envelopes and corners.

also quite possible that the seventeen covers to Howland & Aspinwall carried by The Hussey Post originated from George Hussey and that he used his own forged Adam's Express corner envelopes.

### Dating

The Hussey 87L22 (L177) stamp was not printed until March 20, 1862. The Hussey 87L26 (L180) stamp was first printed on April 29, 1862 with a second printing on November 25, 1863. The one posted cover with the 87L26 stamp is dated May 28, 1864. The seven covers that I found that did go through the mail were dated August 11, 1862 through October 12, 1868. I would have to conclude that Hussey made the Adam's corner envelope and cut squares between May and August of 1862. Hussey did not advertise the Adam's corner card in his December 1863 ad but they do appear in his mid-1865 ad. This ad also advertises the New Jersey envelopes, the Boyd's envelopes and the Metropolitan Errand and Carrier envelopes. See *The Penny Post*, October 1996, Vol. 6, No. 4, page 11. **Figure 9** is an excerpt from the Hussey advertisement.

The Adam's envelope corner is not recorded in the Wood's Memoranda Book. It was printed at the same time that Thomas Wood was making forgeries and stamps for Hussey. As pointed out in my Hussey series of articles I attribute at least 34 items to Hussey which do not appear in the Thomas Wood Memoranda Book and were either unrecorded by Wood or were printed by another printer. (Other Hussey products, Part III, *Penny Post*, Vol. 10 No.2 pages 3-23, Lyons).

### Adam's & Co.

Adam's & Co. had a principal office at 59 Broadway. **Figure 10** is an 1853 advertisement from that company. They carried express articles to New Orleans, California, and other out of town locations. They also received express articles from out of town. By 1864 Adam's & Co. was capitalized at 10 million dollars and by 1864 they employed 15,000 people. They did not take local letters to the post office in New York during the 1862-1868 period. **Figure 11** shows genuine Adam's envelope corners from 59 Broadway. These are probably a fraction of the numerous types of envelope corners that were used by this enormous business operation. **Figures 12-15** show four additional genuine Adam's Express Company covers from New York.

**Figure 11(B)** is known used on covers with US #24 and #26 stamps. The dates of useage of these stamps are 1857-1860 and 1857 into the 1860's respectively.

**Figure 11(D)** is on cover with a US #73 stamp which was used during the 1861-66 time period.

**Figure 12** shows the New York handstamp of Adam's Express Company, Great Eastern, Western & Southern Express Forwarders. This is known on cover in the 1861 time period. Regency sale December 8, 2001 Lot 1687.

**Figure 13** shows a genuine Adam's & Co. corner from 59 Broadway. This cover is dated January 21, 1854. Frajola sale December 14, 1985 Lot 167.

**Figure 14** shows a genuine handstamp of Adam's Express that was used in New York in the early 1860's. Siegel sale June 18-19, 1991 Lott 131.

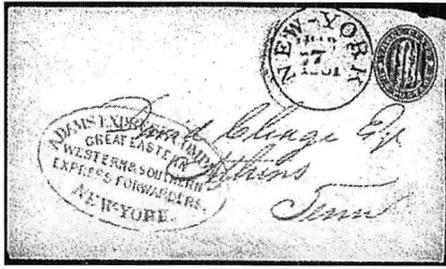


Figure 12. New York Handstamp for Adam's Express Company, Great Eastern, Western & Southern Express Forwarders.

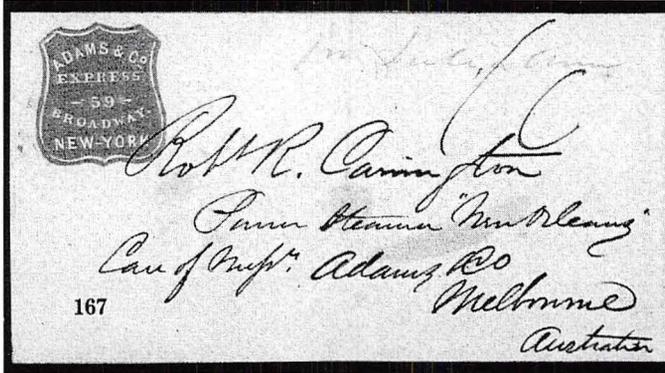


Figure 13. Genuine Adam's Co. envelope corner from 59 Broadway.



Figure 14. Adam's Express Company handstamp used in New York in early 1860's.

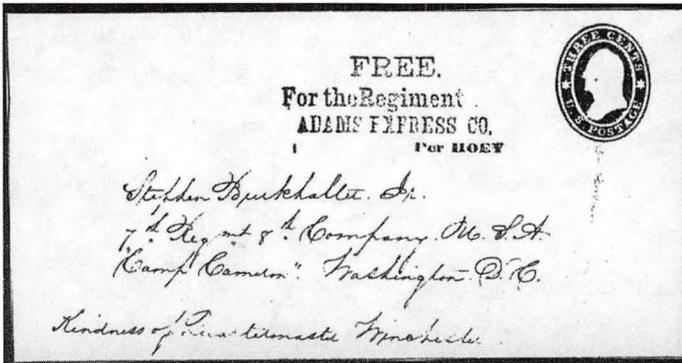


Figure 15. Adam's Express, Free for the regiment, from New York.

**ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY'S**  
 GREAT EASTERN, WESTERN AND SOUTHERN  
**PACKAGE EXPRESS.**

New-York, *Oct 27* 1854



Received of *Imp Jones*

MARKED *W. A. Chapman*

*W. A. Schell*

*W. A. Schell*

Freight, \_\_\_\_\_  
 For the Proprietors, \_\_\_\_\_

which we agree to transport to \_\_\_\_\_ only. It is further agreed, and is part of the consideration of this contract, that the ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY are not to be responsible for any LOSS OR DAMAGE arising from the dangers of Railroad, Steam or River Navigation, Leakage, Fire, or from any cause whatever, unless the same be proved to have occurred from the fraud or gross negligence of ourselves, our agents or servants; and we, in no event, to be liable beyond our route, as herein specified. Valuable and soot, unless otherwise herein stated. Fragile fabrics, or fabrics consisting of or contained in GLASS, will not be received, unless the character of the same is fully and clearly marked on each package; and even then the Company reserves to itself the right to refuse such Goods.

THE ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY, No. 69 Broadway, New-York.  
 HESSITY AND CO., PRINTERS, CORNER WALL AND WATER STS.

Figure 16. Adam's Express Company Bill of Lading Dated October 27, 1854. The color is blue on bluish. Cal Hahn collection.

**Figure 15** is an Adam's Express Company handstamp from New York. This marking was associated with mail to the 7th regiment from New York. This mail was free for a few months in 1861. See Simpson's U.S. postal markings by Thomas J. Alexander, page 393.

**Figure 16** is a bill of lading used by the Adam's Express Company, Great Eastern, Western and Southern Package Express. The address at the left and under the building is 59 Broadway.



**Figure 17. Forgery B. A cut square by another forger.**

### **Another Forged Cut Square**

Figure 17 shows another forgery of the Adam's envelope corner. This forgery has four arrows at the right and a different outer ring.

### **Conclusions**

Hussey produced the Adam's envelope corner Forgery A and produced cut squares to sell to collectors. Either Hussey or someone else posted about three-quarters of the known covers through the Hussey Post. The others went to the post office in 1862-68 and had their postage paid by U.S. Stamps. In my opinion all of these covers are Hussey products and are all philatelic in nature.

### **Acknowledgment**

I wish to thank Cal Hahn for providing postal history assistance.

# Bayonne City Dispatch

By

John D. Bowman

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The Bayonne City Dispatch (Scott Nos. 9L1 and 9LU1, **Figures 1 and 2**) was a short-lived local post in 1883. Although Bayonne and other post-1861 local posts might be considered to be philatelically inspired, some of them have been recognized as providing legitimate local mail delivery service and are listed in the Scott catalog. Some of these later local post issues are not common today, and the Bayonne City Dispatch is no exception.

The issues of Bayonne were not forged or reprinted, so copies available to collectors are normally not suspect. The stamp was printed in black on white paper, and was typeset with an image of a horse-drawn stagecoach. Used copies are cancelled with a purple concentric circle killer. Covers bearing stamps show the stamp cancelled with this killer and postmarked with one of two types of a three-line typeset handstamp (**Figure 3**), both in purple and usually lightly struck. The first type reads “DISPATCH” at the bottom while the second type reads “DISPATCH PAID.”

This article will present a brief overview of Bayonne and its post offices, a detailed historical record from the philatelic literature and a description of the post’s emissions and some of the known covers.



**Figure 1. Bayonne City Dispatch unused adhesive (9L1).**

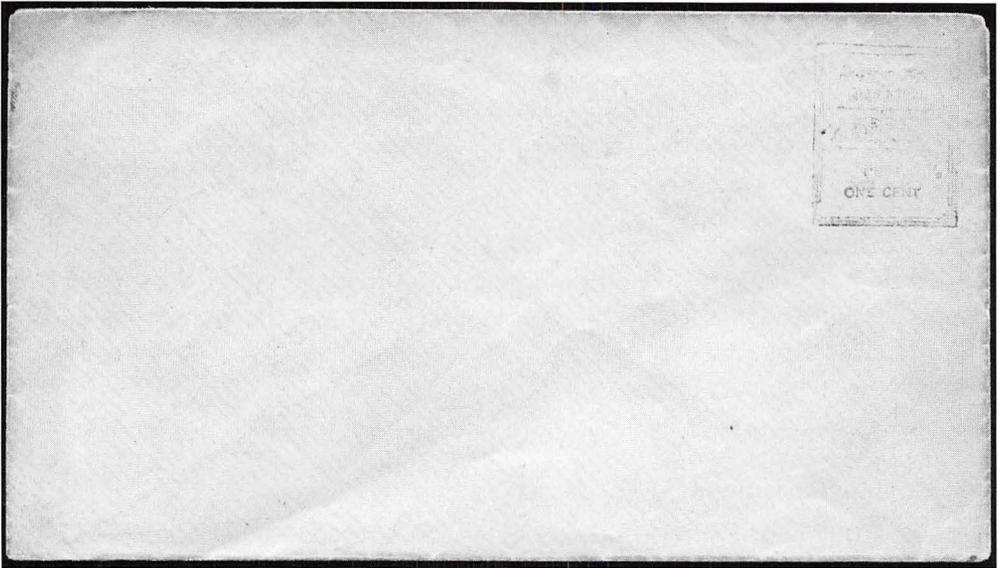


Figure 2. Bayonne City Dispatch unused stationery (9LU1 entire).

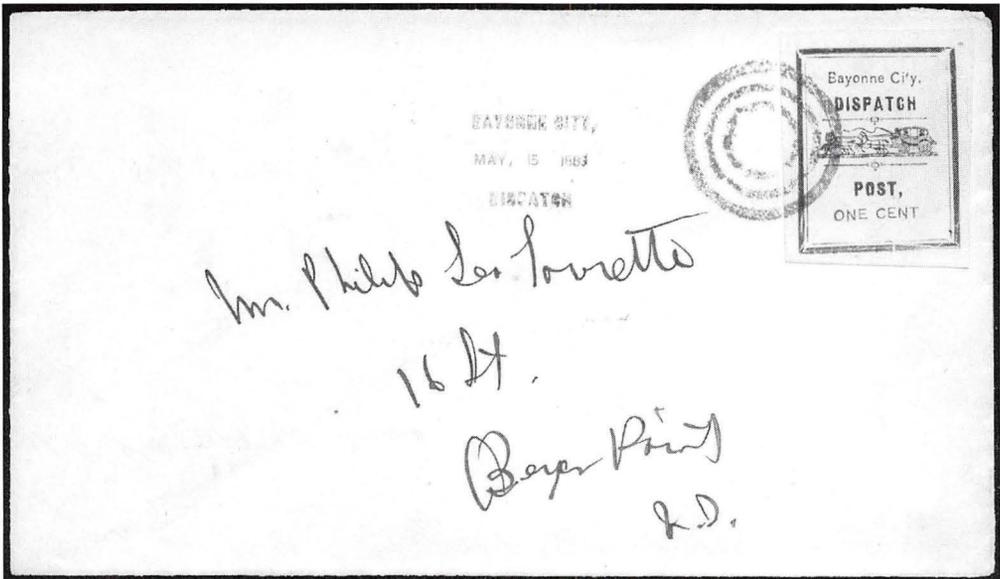


Figure 3. 9L1 on cover with three line purple handstamp and stamp cancelled with a purple killer.

## Bayonne, New Jersey

Bayonne was settled about 1665-1670 by the Dutch and was first set off as a separate township from Bergen in 1861, and later chartered as a city in 1869.<sup>1</sup> The population in the 1880's was around 10,000, increasing to 19,033 in 1890 and 32,722 in 1900. It occupies a four square mile peninsula, approximately 5.5 miles long and 0.75 miles wide south of Jersey City. After the Standard Oil Company Trust was formed in 1870 and Rockefeller decided to locate his refineries and oil warehouses there, Bayonne became the third largest manufacturing city in New York and the leading petroleum distribution center on the Atlantic seaboard.

The old Bayonne post office was transferred to Jersey City on Oct. 14, 1874, and a new one established the same day with Luther Van Buskirk as postmaster.<sup>2</sup> Coles reports that a post office was established at the Bergen Iron Works on June 22, 1848, with Lara E. Dungan as postmaster, who probably continued to serve as office clerk for the company.<sup>3</sup> The Bergen post office became Bayonne on Jan. 14, 1889. There was an office at Van Buskirk (also known as Centerville) from 1878 until 1887 when it became Constable Hook, and later in 1889 became Bergen Point. There was also an office at Saltersville (also known as Pamrapo) from 1852 until Jan. 1889 when it too became Bergen Point. Another office existed at Greenville, which was not part of Bayonne, from 1867 until 1889 when it became part of the Jersey City office. From south to north on the peninsula, the Bayonne group of four offices included Bergen Point, Bayonne, Van Buskirk and Saltersville, and then Greenville and Jersey City directly north of the Bayonne offices. **Figure 4** is a map with these offices marked.

### Historical Record of the Bayonne City Dispatch

Early students of locals such as Charles Coster preceded the issues of this post. The leading student of the period was Dr. William H. Mitchell, a dentist who owned and edited several stamp publications including the monthly *The Bayonne Philatelist* (1883-84) and its successor, *The Independent Philatelist* (1884-91). Harry M. Craft (1864-85) was co-editor with Mitchell of *The Bayonne Philatelist* and co-edited three issues of *The Independent Philatelist* (Nov 1884–Jan 1885) from 2-4 Stone St., New York City, where he had apparently joined William P. Brown's stamp business, which was later located in Brooklyn and then on Nassau St. in New York.<sup>4</sup> Craft fell ill shortly after moving to New York and died on May 14, 1885 at the age of 21. Dr. Mitchell dedicated his 1888 *History of the Local Private Post Offices in the US* to Craft, his old schoolmate. Philip LaTourette, a stamp dealer

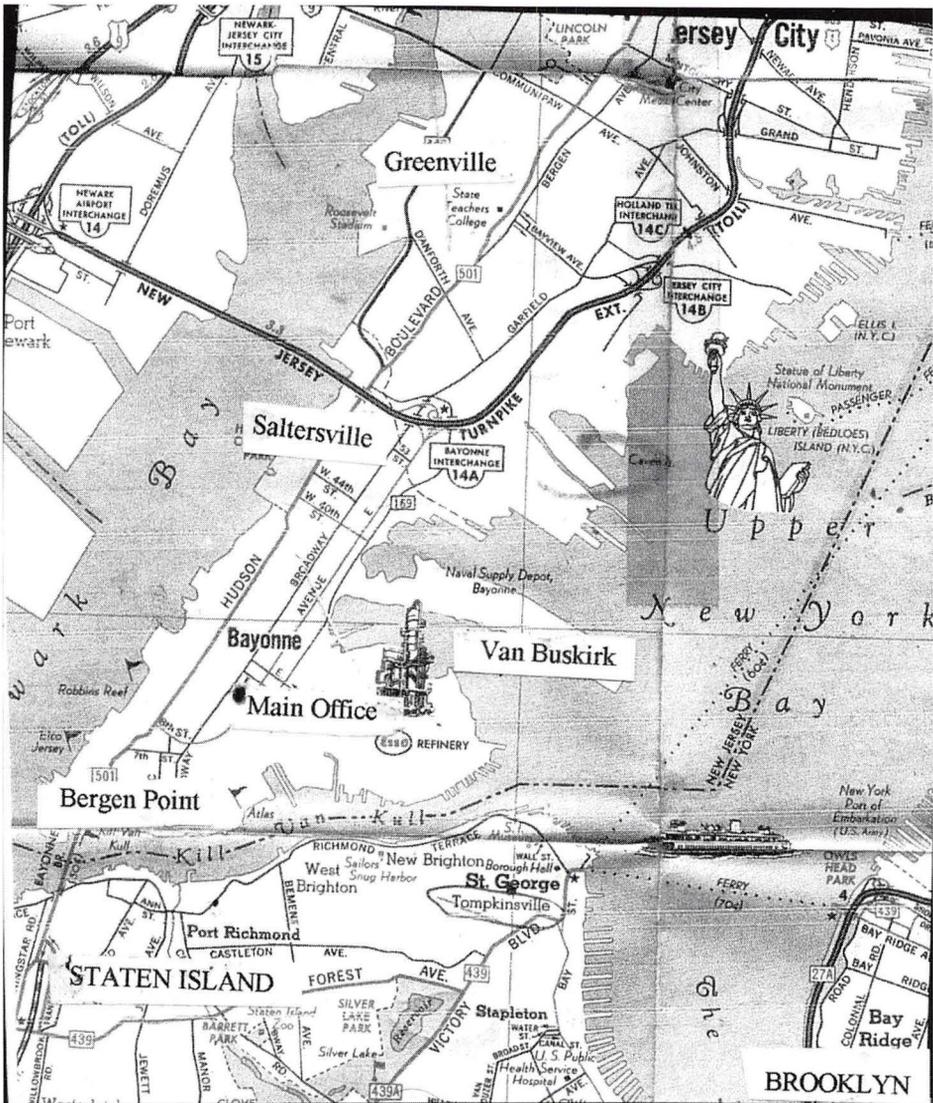
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<sup>1</sup> Data on Bayonne and its history were kindly provided by Calvet M. Hahn.

<sup>2</sup> Kay JL and Smith CM. *New Jersey Postal History 1776-1956*. Reprinted by Quarterman Publications, Lawrence, MS, 1977.

<sup>3</sup> Coles WC. *The Postal Markings of New Jersey Stampless Covers*. Published by The Collectors Club of Chicago, 1983.

<sup>4</sup> Wm. P. Brown is listed as the printer in the November, 1884 issue, which was the first issue of *The Independent Philatelist* but numbered consecutively with *The Bayonne Philatelist*. Mitchell was sole editor of this journal beginning with the February, 1885 issue and continued its publication from Bayonne City, NJ.



**Figure 4. Map showing the proximity of Bayonne<sup>(1)</sup> to Bergen Point<sup>(2)</sup>, Van Buskirk<sup>(3)</sup>, Saltersville<sup>(4)</sup>, Greenville and Jersey City. The Bayonne N.J. post offices were located at (1-4).**

friend of Dr. Mitchell, was an editorial writer and advertiser in many of Mitchell's journals and an acknowledged contributor to his 1887 reference list.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Mitchell WH. The Standard Reference List of the Private Local Postage Stamps of the United States of America. Published in Sterling's Standard Descriptive and Price Catalogue of the Adhesive Postage and Stamped Envelopes of the United States Only, Sixth Ed., Trenton, NJ, Jan. 1, 1887.

The Bayonne post was first described in the philatelic literature in an anonymous article published in 1885 that provided a transcript of their advertising circular of April 10, 1883, a transcript of their rate card dated April 1, 1883, and quotations from Jersey City and Bayonne newspapers<sup>6</sup>. The rates for service varied from one to three cents by distance. The stamps were described as type-set and printed in sheets of ten, imperforate.

In Dr. William H. Mitchell's Jan. 1, 1887 reference list, the Bayonne City Dispatch is listed with R. E. Smith as Superintendent and the location as Sixteenth St. and Avenue D. Mitchell lists a typeset stamp, black on white, measuring 22x28mm, a red on yellow envelope measuring 84x142mm, and a red on amber envelope measuring 76x130mm. The postal stationery envelope listed in the current catalog (9LU1) is purple on amber, and the example in **Figure 2** measures 85x152mm.

Hahn reviews Mitchell's March 1887 article in *The Independent Philatelist*,<sup>7</sup> in which Mitchell cites the stamps were reported in the *Bayonne Evening Journal* of June 12, 1883.<sup>8</sup> In this article, Mitchell cites one of his sources as an article by R. B. Maxwell in the *Bayonne Times* of August 5, 1886. However, the anonymous September, 1885 article in *The Capital City Philatelist* ends with *Bayonne Times*, implying the article was abstracted or copied from the *Bayonne Times*, so that perhaps Mitchell meant August 5, 1885. In any event, there are some inconsistencies in the anonymous 1885 article and Mitchell's 1887 article, which may or may not be significant.

The 1885 article transcribes the Bayonne circular as:

## **NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

**The Bayonne City Dispatch Co. would give the following notice to the People of Bayonne City:**

**That their Messengers will call at the residences and places of business to receive and deliver any Local Mail and Packages that may be intrusted (sic) to them.**

**Mail Matter collected for outgoing U.S. Mails.**

**Matter addressed "Care B.C.D. Co." will be promptly delivered on arrival of U.S. Mails at all offices.**

**Telephone connections will soon be made with the N.Y. & N. J. Tel. Co.'s System.**

**Rate card furnished by Carriers.**

**R. EDWARD SMITH, Supt.**

**Form 3-2,000-2 Ed.-4-10-83**

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<sup>6</sup> Anon. The Bayonne City Dispatch Co. *The Capital City Philatelist*, Vol. 2, pp. 114-115 (Sept., 1885).

<sup>7</sup> Hahn C.M. Letter to the editor. *The Penny Post*. Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 32-33 (April, 1995).

<sup>8</sup> This is in contradiction or in addition to the information in reference 4 which quotes a notice from the *Evening Journal* of Jersey City on the same date.

The rate card in the 1885 article was transcribed as:

**RATE CARD**

**South of Twentieth Street . . . . 1 cent.**  
**South of Thirtieth Street . . . . 2 cents.**  
**East of Avenue F . . . . . 3 “**  
**South of Division street . . . . . 2 “**  
**North of Division street . . . . . 3 “**  
**Commutation per 100 . . . . . 80 “**  
**Messengers per hour . . . . . 20 “**  
**Patrons will kindly report any delay.**  
**B. C. D. Co.**  
**Form 5-1,800-4-1-83.**

Based on the earlier discussion of Bayonne area post offices, the rate of one cent would be for letters in the Bergen Point area (south of 20<sup>th</sup> street), two cents in the Van Buskirk area south of 30<sup>th</sup> Street, and three cents north of Division Street (Saltersville and Greenville areas).

The 1885 article states “Early in the career of the Post it was suggested to the proprietors by a New York businessman that the business could be facilitated by the use of a postage stamp, and in keeping with this suggestion, the Superintendent visited Boyd’s and Hussey’s in New York City, and, on his return, at once made preparations for issuing a stamp, and the well-known design was accordingly prepared and issued to the public on April 15, 1883.” Hahn suggests that the New York businessman may have been stamp dealer William P. Brown who was at 25 Ann Street in Manhattan at the time.

Robert Kaufmann wrote that in 1883, the present city of Bayonne, New Jersey, was composed of three small towns (Bergen Point, Pamrapo and Centerville) with four government post offices among them (Bergen Point, Bayonne, Van Buskirk and Saltersville).<sup>9</sup> He noted that the delivery of mail among these post offices was often done by sending it to New York and back again, resulting in delivery times of four or five days. Thus, he suggested that the need for faster service for businessmen and residents stimulated the introduction of the Bayonne City Dispatch Company. If his observations are correct, the local post offices must have offered poor service indeed!

Henry C. Needham also discussed the post in his Concise History.<sup>10</sup> Most of Kaufmann’s article repeats the information supplied by Needham, who is known as a notoriously unreliable historian. As a result, both articles need independent verification of the “facts.” Needham stated “mail boxes were placed in the following Hotels: LaTourette, Shore House, Stringham’s, also in the City Hall, and in each of the Railroad stations (four) in the City. From three to ten messengers were employed.”

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<sup>9</sup> Kaufman R. Bayonne City Dispatch Company. *Postal History Journal*, No. 82, pp. 48-49 (June, 1989). This article was reprinted from the *New Jersey Postal Historian* of Jan., 1981.

<sup>10</sup> Needham HC. Bayonne City Dispatch Post. *The Philatelic Gazette*, Vol. 6, p. 153 (1916).

LaTourette's Hotel was owned by the family of Philip LaTourette and was located in Bergen Point, which is on the southwestern part of the peninsula. According to Perry, LaTourette and Mitchell were friends.<sup>11</sup> Perry goes on to state that "covers addressed to LaTourette occasionally seen are more or less philatelic." The cover in **Figure 3** is addressed to Philip LaTourette, 16 St., Bergen Point.

Hahn also notes that Dr. Mitchell's office was opposite the company's depot at Bergen Point, whereas the main office was in the A. J. Theobald hardware store on Sixteenth Street near D (Avenue D was later renamed Broadway) in Bergen Point. Later issues of *The Independent Philatelist* give Mitchell's address as PO Box 265, 27 West 8<sup>th</sup> St., Bergen Point. He even advertised his services as a mailing agency for price lists, circulars and catalogs which he would mail to the subscribers of his journal at forty cents per 100.

According to the 1883 *Poor's Manual of Railroads* map, Bergen Point was where the Central Railroad of New Jersey (formed Feb. 22, 1849) crossed from Elizabethport to Bayonne on the way to the Jersey City terminal, where ferries went to New York City as of 1864.

Gordon Stimmell provides some interesting viewpoints in his article on the 1888 Blizzard Mail stamp and its history, as recounted by Dr. Mitchell.<sup>12</sup> This post was created by Dr. Mitchell in Bergen Point, who said it had a legitimate existence in carrying mail to the New York City Post Office when the rail lines were closed, and that remainders of the stamp were given to friends. However, no covers survive today and Stimmell raises the question of the Blizzard Post's authenticity.

Hahn wrote extensively about Dr. Mitchell, noting that his research filled the period after Coster and before Needham.<sup>13</sup> LaTourette authored many articles in Mitchell's journals, and also advertised buying and selling of locals, including selling pairs of the Brooklyn Ledger Dispatch stamp (Scott 95L1), which is a scarce stamp today. Dr. Mitchell is an important contributor of descriptions of new US and foreign issues in his journals, and offered a number of articles about local posts (although LaTourette wrote more than one article berating the collecting of telegraph stamps and express labels).

During the 1880's, several local posts in various larger cities opened for brief periods of time. These include Allen's in 1882, Cincinnati and St. Louis in 1883, Faunce's in 1884, Hackney and Bolte in 1886, and Ledger Dispatch in 1882. All were quickly closed, probably as a result of intervention by the US Post Office. Hussey and Boyd's continued to operate in New York City until they were raided in May of 1883 by postal inspectors and forced to close. The reason these later local posts sprang into existence is not clear today, but Dr. Mitchell and LaTourette chronicled some of them after their appearance, and they found their way into catalogs and price lists.

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<sup>11</sup> Perry E. Letter to Donald Patton, Feb. 15, 1963. A copy was graciously provided to the author by Calvet M. Hahn.

<sup>12</sup> Stimmell G. The Blizzard Mail Stamp. *The Penny Post*, Vol. 5, No. 1, pp. 4-9 (Jan., 1995).

<sup>13</sup> Hahn CM. Dr. Mitchell and His Stamp Journals. *The Penny Post*, Vol. 6, No. 2, pp. 12-25 (April, 1996).

If no government carrier service was available in Bayonne, New Jersey in 1883, the Bayonne City Dispatch may have considered its operations legal. If no carrier service was available in a town, it appeared that a loophole in the postal laws and regulations existed. Without carrier service from the US post office, a city's roads and streets might not be regarded as "postal routes" and therefore private companies might be able to deliver mail to and from the post office.

I have presented this detailed history to permit the reader to draw his own conclusions about the legitimacy of the postal operations of Bayonne City Dispatch. The associations among Mitchell, Craft, LaTourette and Brown suggest the post may have been philatelically inspired. Brown had his own post in 1876 (Scott Nos. 31L1-31L5) which was almost certainly of philatelic inspiration. It is possible Mitchell wrote the anonymous 1885 article about Bayonne's. Stimmell has already pointed out some inconsistencies in Mitchell's accounts of his Blizzard Mail Post.

### **Issues of the Bayonne City Dispatch**

The stamps and envelopes were discussed and illustrated earlier in this article. Stamps measure 22 x 28mm along the top and right sides, and 22.5 x 28.5mm along the bottom and left. No multiples are known. The 1885 article states they were printed in sheets of ten. Most stamps show a complete break in both the inner and outer frame lines below the "E" of "CENT", while others show an indentation in the same place. There seem to be minor differences among the stamps, so it is entirely possible that a sheet of ten was prepared, each position showing different characteristics.

I have discovered two double transfer varieties that have never been noted before (**Figures 5 and 6**). In **Figure 5**, the doubling occurs most prominently in the ornament below the stagecoach and the line to the left below the stagecoach, although it is also apparent in the "O" and "NT" of "ONE CENT" and in other places. In **Figure 6**, the doubling occurs throughout the interior of the stamp.

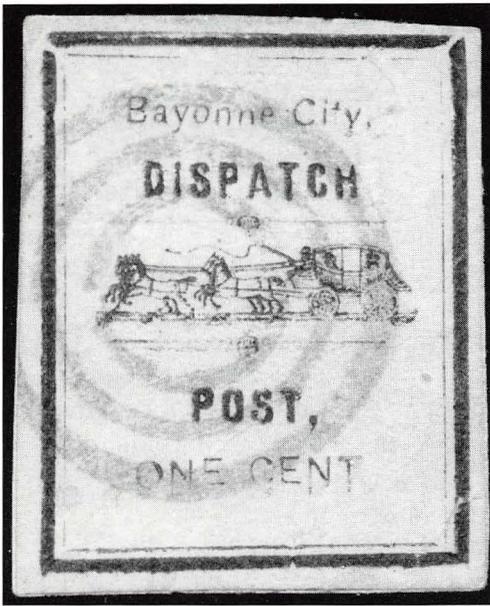
Fewer examples of the stamps off-cover are known in auction records than on cover. Unused stamps are probably rare.

The post used two types of three-line typeset datestamps, one with "Dispatch" on the bottom line and the other with "Dispatch Paid." More covers to persons with unknown philatelic associations to Mitchell exist with the second type, which may be less common and may indicate non-philatelic usage. The stamps were killed with a concentric circle device with three circles, which always ties the stamp to its cover.

The only cover recorded bearing more than the one cent rate for Bergen Point is a wrapper with two copies of the stamp, addressed to Chas. M. Packard, 28 Street, Hook, and dated May 10, 1883.<sup>14</sup> Since the two cent rate applied south of 30<sup>th</sup> Street (Van Buskirk) and this area became Constable Hook in 1887, it is likely "Hook" on the cover refers to Van Buskirk, although this point has not been noted in the auction descriptions.

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<sup>14</sup> Sold in the Christie's 1989 sale of the Weill Brothers stock, again in the Siegel dispersal of the Schwartz collection in 2000, and recently in Shreve's auction of June 21-22, 2002 as lot 914 for \$1800.00.



**Figure 5. Double transfer in ornament below stagecoach and at the line to the left below the stagecoach. Type I.**



**Figure 6. Double Transfer at interior of stamp. Type II.**

About 30-40 covers are recorded in the Frank Levi records of auctions, the Siegel sales of Hall, Golden and Schwartz, and other auctions. About half are addressed to LaTourette at 16<sup>th</sup> Street, perhaps the location of his hotel, or else deposited at the main 16<sup>th</sup> Street office to be forwarded to or picked up by LaTourette. Two are addressed to Mitchell and two to his friend Craft. These observations suggest that the post may have had a legitimate existence but also that many examples may have been philatelic in nature.

One cover apparently entered the US mail at Bergen Point, with US one cent and two cent stamps (Scott Nos. 183, 206) as well as the Bayonne stamp, all tied by two strikes of a Bergen Point May 19 circular date stamp with two cork killers.<sup>15</sup> In addition, the local stamp is tied by the purple target cancel. It is addressed to Mr. Henry P. Hyde, No 9 Barnes Street, New York. This is the only known “to the US mails” use of the stamp.

The next lot in the same sale bears a US 3c stamp (Scott No. 207) and the Bayonne stamp on a printed envelope for Agent, Adams Express Company, which has been crossed out. It is addressed to A. J. Theobald, Sixteenth St., which, according to Hahn, was where the main office was located. The cover bears a circular date stamp of Bergen Point, June 14, 1883, both stamps are killed with a smudged cork, and there appears to be a second Bergen Point CDS canceling both stamps. No Bayonne cancel appears. Since this is apparently an intracity use, there

<sup>15</sup> Lot 1574 in the Siegel sale of the Schwartz collection, 2000.

is no adequate explanation for the stamps and handstamps, and is likely philatelically inspired.

A single cover exists with a four-bar cork grid cancel addressed to Harry Craft at 16<sup>th</sup> St.<sup>16</sup> Because all other covers have their stamps killed with the purple concentric cancellation, this cover is very likely philatelically inspired.

The stamped envelope is much scarcer than the stamped covers. Whether to refer to the color as amber or yellow is a matter of judgment. An unused example was sold as lot 194 in the Eno sale of Harmer Rooke Mar. 7, 1951, and later at the Irwin Heiman sale of Feb. 24, 1965 as lot 121. A specimen that was not illustrated was sold in the Josiah K. Lilly Part V sale of Robert A. Siegel on Sept. 13-14, 1967 as lot 607. A used example addressed to George Thomas, Ave. D in Bergen Point was lot 1218 in the Robert Kaufmann sale of Sept. 5, 1970, in his 1979 net price sale as lot 322, and as lot 1580 in the Siegel sale of the Schwartz collection in 2000. More examples undoubtedly exist, but are rare or scarce. It is not known whether all examples are of the same size or on the same color envelope.

### **Conclusions**

What can we conclude in 2002 about Bayonne City Dispatch? It is a fact that there are not many examples of this post, suggesting that they were not prepared on a large scale to sell to collectors. Dr. Mitchell's proximity to the post in 1883 and his failure to write about them for several years seem to constitute a "smoking gun." Perhaps he did create the post and it did carry some letters. Perhaps those covers to LaTourette were intended to create a profit some years later after the existence of the post was "revealed." I choose to view the examples of this post as probably legitimate, possibly philatelically inspired, and collectible in light of their scarcity. The average collector would be fortunate to have examples of the stamp in both used and unused condition, as well as the stamped envelope.

### **Acknowledgement**

Calvet M. Hahn kindly reviewed the original draft of this article and supplied information and inspiration to enhance it.

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<sup>16</sup> Lot 856 in the Siegel sale of Oct. 23, 1962 and lot 1597 in Robson Lowe's sale of Mar. 1, 1973.

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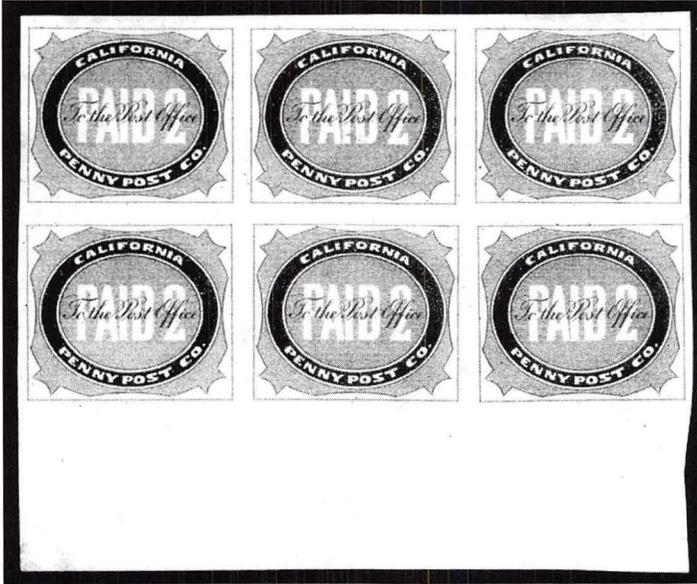
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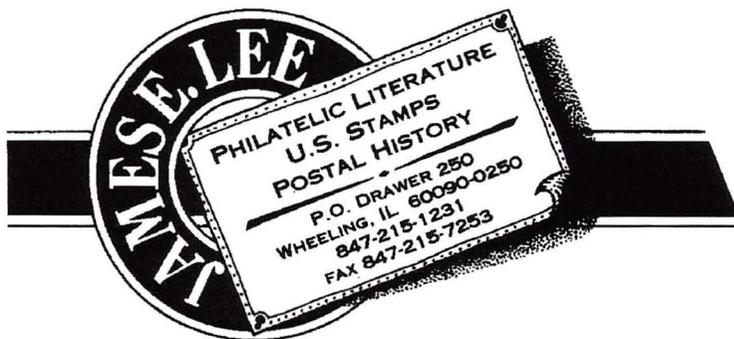
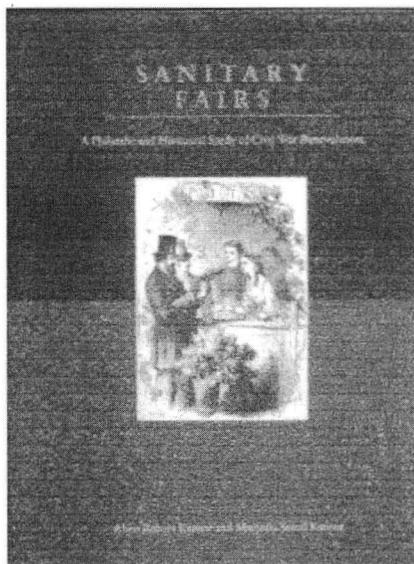
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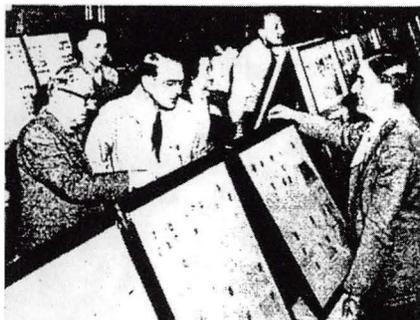
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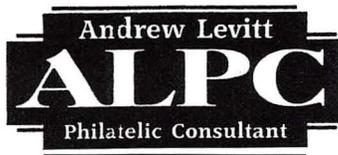
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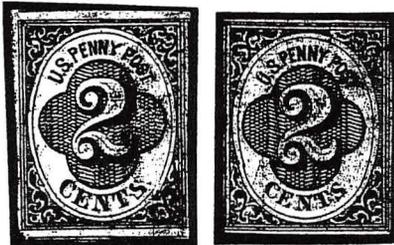
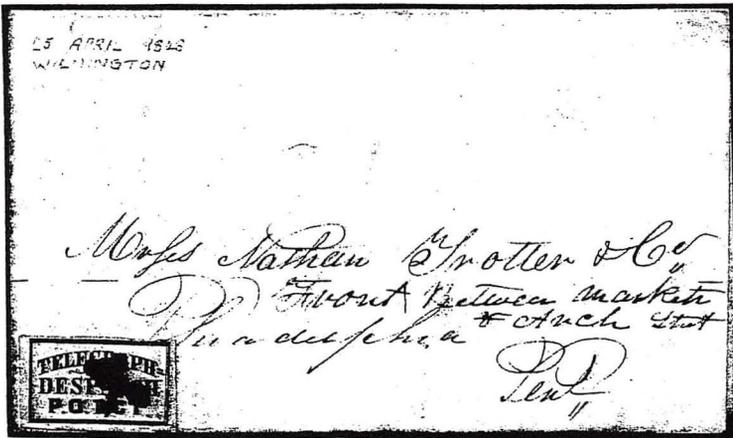
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THE PENNY POST/Vol. 10 No. 4 / October 2002

# Cancels on Prince's Letter Dispatch

By

Larry Lyons

The Prince's Letter Dispatch Stamp (122L1) from Portland, Maine is a quite common stamp. In unused condition this stamp is valued at \$7.50 in the *2002 Scott Specialized Catalogue*. However, a used stamp has a catalog value of \$125.00 in italic, indicating it to be rare in used condition. A Prince's Letter Dispatch stamp on cover tied by a handstamp, with a 3¢ Rose Washington stamp #65 of 1861-1862 has a value of \$8,000.00 in the *2002 Scott Specialized Catalogue*. This value is also in italic indicating rarity. Similarly a Prince's Letter Dispatch on cover tied by a handstamp with a 3¢ Red Washington stamp #94 of 1867 has a value of \$4,750.00 in the *2002 Scott Specialized Catalogue*. There is also a listing for a Prince's Letter Dispatch stamp tied on cover by a handstamp for \$5,000.00. All of the values for stamps used on cover are in italic.

This article will investigate the cancels known on the Prince's Letter Dispatch stamps and covers.

## History

The Prince's Letter Dispatch was established by J.H. Prince of Portland, Maine. Mail was carried nightly by messengers traveling by steamer to Boston.<sup>1</sup> The steamboat carrier was the issuer of the J.H. Prince adhesives.

The J.H. Prince's Letter Dispatch stamp was applied on letters carried by steamboat from Portland, Maine to Boston. One certified example is known on a cover carried into Portland, presumably from Boston. The stamp depicts the steamship. The stamps were engraved by Lowell & Brett of Boston and "Lovell Eng." appears on the stamp just below the steamship. These stamps were printed in sheets of 40 (5x8). The *2002 Scott Specialized Catalogue* value for a sheet is \$550.00. The Golden sale of November 15-17, 1999 had a sheet in Lot 1449. The Hall sale at Siegel's November 13, 14, 2000 had a sheet as Lot 749. A sheet also appeared as Lot 1633 in the Siegel sale of December 17-19, 2001. The Christies sale of September 27, 1995 had a sheet in Lot 4150 with an owners handstamp in the bottom selvage. There are other examples of full sheets and I would guess that 7-10 intact sheets exist.

## Cover Usage

Now I would like to focus on the known covers and specifically on the cancels found with the Prince's Letter Dispatch stamp.

In my research I found eleven covers with the Prince's Letter Dispatch stamp. Of these I found eight examples with a 3¢ Washington #65 stamp and one example with two 3¢ Washington #65 stamps to New Jersey. I found two examples without U.S. stamps. I also found two used stamps on piece.

Focusing attention on the cancels that appear on the covers I found that a few different tying cancels are possible. **Figure 1** shows a double circle Portland cds. **Figure 2** shows a single circle Boston cds and a quartered cork handstamp from Boston. **Figure 3** is a duplex single circle Boston cds with a quartered cork cancel.

<sup>1</sup> 2002 Scott Specialized Catalogue, p. 382.



Figure 1. Boston double circle cds. Caspary sale March 1957 Lot 947.



Figure 2. Red single circle Boston cds. and black quarter cork cancel on US #65. Michael Aldrich June 23, 2001 Lot 557. Ex dos Passos.

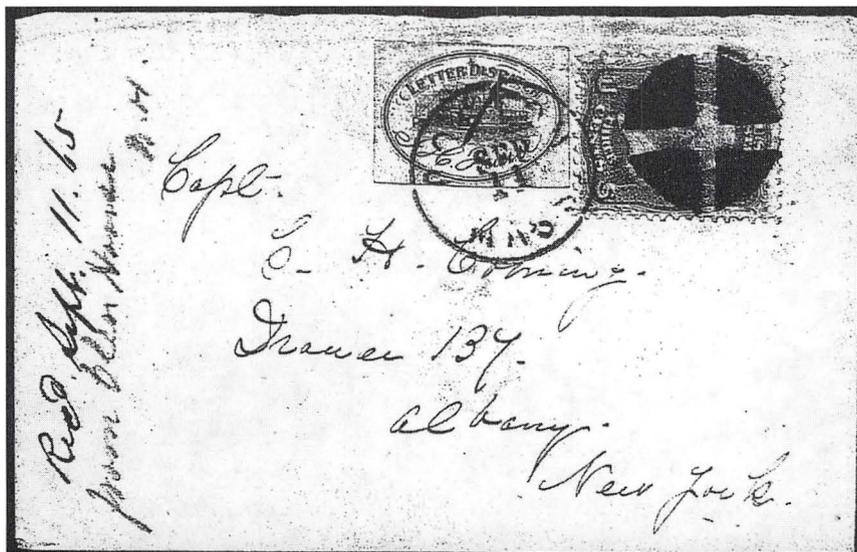


Figure 3. Duplex single circle Boston cds with a quartered cork cancel. Golden sale, Siegal sale November 15-17, 1999 Lot A1451.

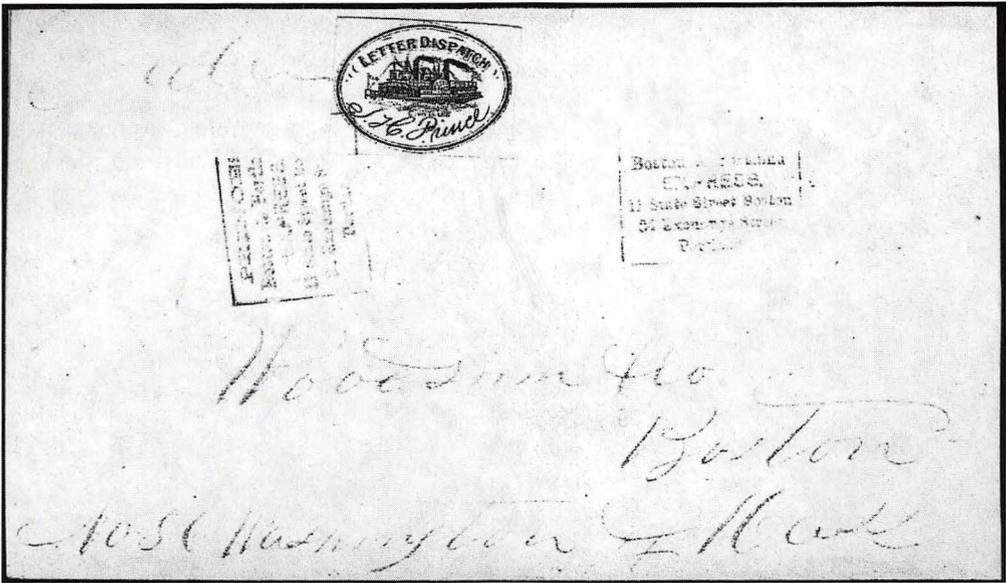


Figure 4. Handstamp of Prince's Boston & Portland Express. Siegel sale, May 19, 2001 Lot 403.

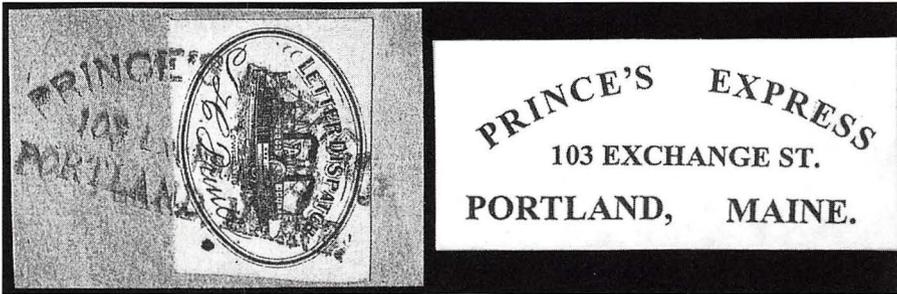


Figure 5. Purple handstamp of "Prince's Express, 103 Exchange St., Portland, Maine. Hall sale at Siegel sale November 13-14, 2000 Lot 748.



Figure 6. Double blue company oval and single blue company oval.

**Figure 4** is a handstamp of the “Boston & Portland Express”. **Figure 5** shows a purple “Prince’s Express, 103 Exchange St., Portland, Maine” handstamp. **Figure 6** is the blue company double oval cancel. **Figure 7** is a census of the Prince’s Letter Dispatch covers and stamps on piece. In **Figure 8** I have assembled a chart of the cancels on the census covers including the cancels on the covers that tie the U.S. stamp or just occur on the covers not typing stamps.

**Figure 9** is a list of the dates of usage of the census covers.

### **Figure 7. Census of Prince’s Letter Dispatch covers**

1. To Capt. C. H. Corning, Drawer 137, Albany, N.Y., Local tied with #65. Golden Sale, Siegel’s, November 15-17, 1999 Lot A1451. Previously Siegel sale June 18, 1986 (Sheriff).
2. Addressee not visible, Local tied by Boston cds.
3. To Baldwin & Utter, Rhinebeck, Dutchess County, New York, Local and #65 tied. Front only. Frajola Lot 229, September 14, 1986, previously Kelleher Lot 1302 November 1, 1983, Robert Kaufmann Lot 1696, March 31-April 1, 1982, Sotheby’s Lot 375, October 30, 1979, John Kaufmann Lot 217, November 22, 1977.
4. To (partially blocked) Woodman, Esq, apothecary, Roxbury, Mass. Local tied by Boston cds. Siegel’s Lot 1875 September 26-28, 1972.
5. To Jason Johans (?) Boston, Mass, Local tied by Blue Oval Co. handstamp and #94? tied by Boston cds. Siegel’s Lot 1158, December 9-12, 1969, (where the US stamp was described as a red F grill #94). Siegel’s Lot 541 April 27, 1990 where the US stamp was described as a rose #65.
6. To Mr. John C. Dennis, Boston Mass, (Care M Winston & Mywick) Local with pencil cancel. Bennett Lot 325, November 15, 1998. Previously Siegel’s Lot 1584 February 14-16, 1973.
7. To M & H. F. Brook (?), Boston, Mass. Ventura Stamp Co. sale 128 Lot 196.
8. To Mrs. Mary D. Lea Brocek, care of Edward P. Ten Brocek Esq, Clinton, Clinton Co. Iowa, Local not tied. Jackson Winter Lot 337, June 24, 1973.
9. To Woodson Ho, No 56 Washington, Boston, Mass, Local tied by “Boston & Portland Express” boxed handstamp. No. U.S. postage Siegel’s Lot 403 May 19, 2001.
10. Address partially blocked, \_\_\_iff Esq. Portland, ME. Local with pen cancel in purple, not tied. PF. Bennett Lot 1520, March 29, 1999.
11. Addressee not visible. Sender: Hodgdon & Soule, Produce commission merchants, 128 Commercial Street. Harmer Rooke, Duckworth sale, Lot 256, March 27, 1963.

### Prince's Letter Dispatch on Piece

1. On partial cover front to Nathaniel Harris Esq., M.D., Local tied by red Boston cds. Michael Aldrich Lot 557 June 23, 2001, Ex. Morgan, Ex dos Passos at Robbins Lot 1931 September 22-23, 1981.
2. On piece tied by purple "Prince's Express, 103 Exchange St., Portland Maine. Siegel's, Hall Sale Lot 748 November 13-14, 2000.

Census #	MS	Black quartered Cork	Red Boston cds	Black 6 section cork	Duplex			Purple Arched Handstamp	Portland cds double	Blue co. Oval	Exp Box
					Black quartered cork	Black Boston cds single circle	Black Boston cds double circle				
		fig. 3		fig. 1				fig. 5		fig.6	
1	1				1	1					
2				1			1				
3 front	1				1	1					
4					1	1					
5							1			1	
6	1				1	1					
7	1				1	1					
8									1		
9											1
10	1										
11					1	1				1	
Pieces 1		1	1								
2									1		

**Figure 8. All Cancels on Census covers (not just the tying cancels).**

<u>Census Number</u>	<u>Cover Date</u>
1	September 11, 1865
2	August 19
3	September 26
4	Illegible
5	Illegible
6	April 7
7	Illegible
8	March 17, 1862
9	Undated
10	Undated
11	August 29

**Figure 9. Dates of usage of the census covers.**

### **Forgeries**

On pages 901-905 of the *Lyons Identifier* the forgeries A-E are discussed and described. Forgery B by S. Allan Taylor was printed on at least three separate occasions.

### **Reprints**

There are no reprints of the Prince's Letter Dispatch. On the back of the one mint sheet of 40 the following notation can be found. "These stamps were of the original lot and there has never been any "reprints" as the plates were destroyed." The notation is dated April 1894 and signed by a Mr. Green.

### **Prince's Boston and Portland Express**

The Express office was located in Boston at 11 State Street and in Portland at 84 Exchange St. The Express labels are pictured in **Figure 10**. One label is known on an advertising cover that is docketed 1854 and was sent from Boston to Nova Scotia. (The steamship left from Portland). **Figure 11** shows other Prince's Express labels.

### **Cancels on single Stamps**

All of the cancels known on the covers of Prince's Letter Dispatch are possible on used single stamps. **Figure 12** shows four of the known used stamps and the cancels on them.

### **Summary**

This is the first *Penny Post* article on the Prince's Letter Dispatch from Portland, Maine. It is hoped that the cancels used with this local stamp are now more defined.



Figure 10. Prince's Boston & Portland Express label, black on vermilion, on cover to Nova Scotia, 1854.



Figure 11. Prince's Express labels. Mosher, page 134.

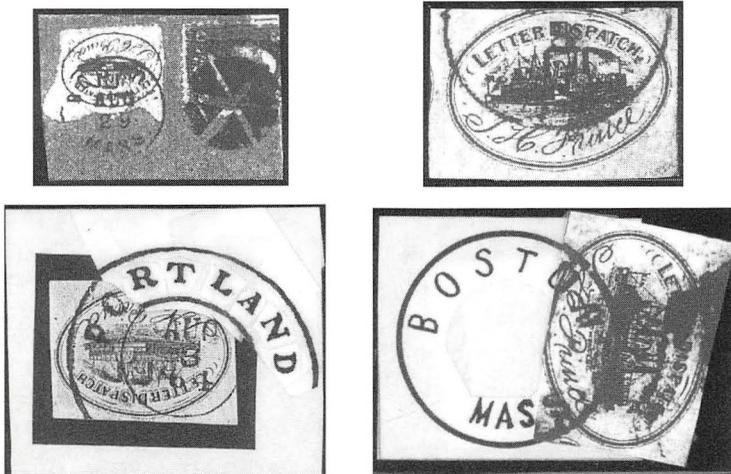


Figure 12.

# The Ten Transfer Types of Boyd's 20L32-36 Framed Eagle

By  
John D. Bowman  
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This article is a sequel to the one on the ten transfer types of 20L26.<sup>1</sup> Some of the type characteristics of 20L26 do not appear on 20L32-36, and some new characteristics do appear on these issues. The purpose of these two articles is to allow the reader to plate any stamp from the framed eagle series of Boyd's to one of the ten transfer types.

The 2002 *Scott US Specialized Catalogue* illustrations for types L63 and L64 depict numbers 20L32-34 and 20L35-36 (the latter with corner values removed), the framed eagle design taken from Boyd's postal stationery design L67b. Type L67b includes the address "39 Fulton St." at the bottom, while types L63 and L64 use "1 Park Place" for the address. The stamp was prepared by lithography, and printed on wove paper for 20L32, on laid paper for 20L33 and 20L35-36, and on yellow glazed surface paper for 20L34. These stamps were in use from around 1876 to perhaps as late as 1883. They were usually cancelled with the "PAID" in circle handstamp when used. In some cases, several printings were made as suggested by the shade differences, reviewed in an earlier article in this journal.<sup>2</sup>

It is highly probable that this issue was prepared in a sheet of 100 by laying down a lithographic transfer stone containing ten impressions (2x5) of the design ten times.<sup>2</sup> The master die used to prepare letterpress transfers for the 1874 envelope series (20LU23-28, type L67b, 39 Fulton St. address) was also used to prepare the ten-subject lithography stone that was in turn laid down ten times to form a plate of 100 of 20L26 (with the 39 Fulton St. address removed, type L62). All of the distinguishing marks found on the stamp issues are a result of the lithographic transfer process, which created ten transfer types for each stamp from 20L26 to 20L36 and include the trial color proofs.

Examination of the stamps in blocks indicates that the same transfer stone of ten subjects used to prepare 20L26 was also used to prepare the stone used for 20L32-36, but with some alterations. Most of the lithographic characteristics of the ten types of the 20L26 stone match those of the 20L32-36 stones. To make the change in design, the printer filled in the drilled-out area of the 20L26 stone and placed the address "1 Park Place" in this area. As a result, additional characteristics of the ten 20L26 transfer types occur in the address area that permit easier typing of these varieties. However, cleaning or alterations of the stone occurred since some of the smaller constant lithographic blemishes of the 20L26 transfer stone of ten do not appear on 20L32-36. In addition, some characteristics of 20L26 transfer types

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<sup>1</sup> Bowman JD. The ten transfer types of Boyd's 20L26 – The Boyd's City Dispatch framed eagle. *The Penny Post*; 9(1): 22-25, 2001.

<sup>2</sup> Bowman JD. Boyd's framed eagles – The second envelope design and the stamps made from it. *The Penny Post*; 8(5):4-15, 2000.

appear to have undergone wear because some parts of the design are weaker in the 20L32-36 stamps.

After the 2c 20L27-20L34 stamps were issued, Boyd's removed the corner values from the same stone of ten subjects to prepare type L64, *Scott* 20L35-20L36. This change probably indicates a reduction in the rates that Boyd's charged for mailing. This article illustrates the latter type (L64, without numerals) although the descriptions are comprehensive so that the ten transfer varieties of both types L63 and L64 may be determined. Thus, the distinguishing characteristics of 20L32-20L34 having to do with the "2c" corner values should be disregarded for 20L35-20L36. These are marked with an asterisk below. The characteristics that do not appear on 20L26 are noted.

The only sheet of this series that exists is a unique sheet of 20L26. Other multiples from this series are rare, with the exception of the part-perforated variety, 20L35c, which apparently was divided into blocks and pairs. It might be presumed that the part-perforated stamps came from a single sheet, but this has not been proven.

Each stamp in the framed eagle series can be plated to the transfer stone of ten subjects, however the sheet position of a specimen can be difficult or impossible to identify. It would be quite challenging to acquire sufficient examples to show the ten transfer types for each stamp in this series, although it could be done over time.

### Distinguishing Characteristics

#### Type I

1. Break in outline of left lower side scroll just above end off scroll (not on 20L26)
2. "A" of "PLACE" frequently filled in
3. Short leg on "P" of "PLACE" and the loop of the "P" is filled in
4. \*Missing areas on the right end of the line forming the bottom of the bottom scroll, SW of the "2" in "2c"



#### Type II

1. The tip of the lower leaf of the right trefoil is suspended with no sides holding it to the trefoil (variable) (not on 20L26)
2. Bottom of "C" of "PLACE" deformed
3. Break in outer line of left upper side scroll just above the trefoil
4. Large dot in top scroll NW of ball
5. \*Period after upper left "2c"



touching the outer oval

6. Tiny nick in outer oval just above the touching period in (5) above, or above the "C" of "CITY" in value-erased types

### Type III

1. Large dot of color in top scroll as in type II
2. One large and one small break in outer frame line in upper right corner
3. Upper bar of "E" in "PLACE" long and jagged
4. Period not completely erased in upper left corner, touching outer oval
5. \*Period after upper left "2c" touching the outer oval



### Type IV

1. Large dot of color in top scroll as in type II
2. Letters in Park Place are well-formed
3. There is one straight line in the middle leaf of the left trefoil, but no lines in the leaves on the right trefoil (not on 20L26)
4. Upper left "c" of "2c" nearly closed
5. \*Dot connected to top of "c" of lower left "2c" extending it too far to the right (not on 20L26)
6. There is a small indentation in the right lower side scroll on the inside NE of the "2c" that remains in value-erased types



### Type V

1. Large dot of color in top scroll as in type II, less apparent on value-erased types
2. "A" of "PARK" short
3. Tip of middle leaf of right trefoil missing
4. Heavy outline around left trefoil and



line in middle leaf

5. Light line in middle leaf of right trefoil
6. Frame sometimes broken below lower dot in center
7. \*Colored flaw in lower right corner arc just below the “2” of “2c”
8. \*No period after upper left “2c”

#### Type VI

1. Break in outer frame line below lower ball (not on 20L26)
2. Top of “P” of “DISPATCH” deformed (not on 20L26)
3. Short lower leg of “P” of “PARK”
4. Normal “A” of “PARK”
5. \*Large dot of color in arc directly below lower right “2” of “2c”



#### Type VII

1. Tip of middle leaf of right trefoil missing
2. Underside of middle leaf of left trefoil is separated from top and side (not on 20L26)
3. Long leg on “P” of “PARK”
4. \*Heavy line in the front part of the lower left “2”
5. \*No period after upper left “2c”
6. \*The “c” of the upper left “2c” is closed with a thick line and looks like an “o”



#### Type VIII

1. Ball at top is melted into outer oval
2. Squarish “P” of “PARK”
3. Thin area or break above and to the left of ball at top center
4. \*No period after upper left “2c”



### Type IX

1. Tip of middle leaf of right trefoil missing
2. Bottom of "C" of "DISPATCH" cut in straight line
3. Lower front curve of "B" in "BOYD'S" is flattened
4. The apostrophe in Boyd's is shaped like a tiny hourglass
5. Lower left part of "O" of "BOYD" is flattened
6. Outer oval is thin at the right above the "TC" of "DISPATCH"
7. Small notch in outer upper left frame to left of ball in left upper scroll and in line with "C" of "CITY" (not on 20L26)
8. \*Lower part of "c" of upper left "2c" missing



### Type X

1. "1 PARK PLACE" very low in frame
2. Dent in back of upright of "C" in "CITY"
3. Slightly short "T" of "DISPATCH"
4. Faint tiny period after upper left "2c" touching the outer oval, not completely removed in value-erased types
5. \*Break in top of "c" of lower right "2c"



# The Hoogs and Madison Conundrum

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The problem with examining the Hoogs & Madison conundrum is not only trying to peer back into time when the events took place about 140 years ago in San Francisco in the early 1860s, but also sorting out the various expert opinions expressed over the years some of which may have been influenced by personal animus. Actual factual evidence is limited. The first thing we know is that a Hoogs & Madison firm did exist. It was located at 418 Montgomery Street in San Francisco and was the location of a real estate broker operation according to the San Francisco city directory of the period. Philatelically it was also the location of the California City Letter Express (*Scott* 33L1-8) organized by J. W. Hoag, who also owned the Contra Costa express company. The two men, J. W. Hoag and Mr. Hoogs of Hoogs & Madison, were apparently not related. The California City Letter Express which was the local closely related to Hoogs & Madison was operating between 1862 and 1866 or 1867.

## California City Letter Express

The California City Letter Express and California Letter Express are both given addresses at Hoogs and Madison's offices at 418 Montgomery St. in the city directories. It first appears in print in the 1875 *American Journal of Philately* Vol. IX pg. 21-43. Notes in one old-time collection report the local handstamped its covers with PAID during its first year of operation. This same source reported a fraudulent Hoogs and Madison adhesive with a running pony design. It is this adhesive and its handstamp that is the subject of this article.

The California City Letter Express local issued three styles of adhesives in red, blue and green for a total of eight *Scott* listed varieties (33L1-8). The first style (*Scott* 33L1-3), found in red, blue or green typeset print on white, reads "10 cents/Wedding cards, Notices/and Letters delivered, by the California/ City Letter Express/ Co., Office at Hoogs/ & Madison's Real Estate, /House Bro-/ kers & Rent Collectors, /418 Montgomery St./10 cents" Caspary had an untied example of 33L1 on a cover posted October 20, 1862 (ex-Lichtenstein, Caspary, Golden, Lyons), **Figure 1**.

A second style in the same three colors (*Scott* 33L4-6) followed with slightly different wording. These read, "10 cents/ If you have Wedding/ Cards, Notices, Letters,/ etc., to be delivered,/ leave them for Cali-/ fornia City Letter Ex-/ press, at Hoogs & Madi-/ son's Real Estate, House / Brokers and Rent Collectors, Montgomery Street./ 10 cents." As can be seen there is an increase in what is to be carried with the insertion of the "etc." and the street address is omitted. The Caspary/ Edwards/Golden copy of 33L6 is on a patriotic cover where it was folded over the edge originally. It is the closest thing we have to dating unless some of the addressees can be located by date, **Figure 2**.

The third adhesive style (*Scott* 33L7/33L8) is without side ornaments and again has different wording. These adhesives are found in red (1867 use in Worthington lot 643, Caspary lot 681, Golden 865 and Lyons) and blue (Caspary and Hall cover of December 31, 1862). The wording here is "10 cents/ If you have



Figure 1. Red California City Letter Express adhesive Type I, (33L1). Golden Lot A858.

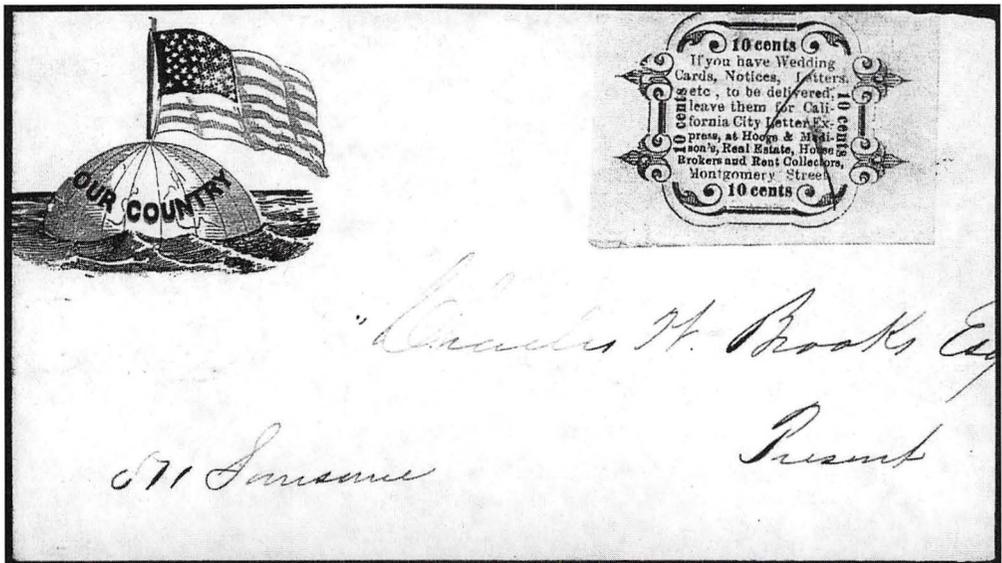


Figure 2. Green California City Letter Express adhesive, Type II (33L6). Golden Lot A863.

Wedding/ Cards, Notices, Letters, / etc. to be delivered/ leave them for Cal'a. /City Letter Express at/ **Hoogs & Madison's/** Real Estate, House Bro-/ kers & Rent Collectors Office/ Montgomery Street/ 10 cents.' Two off-cover examples, one of each color, were in the earlier cited old-time holding when I acquired it for Richard Schwartz. The torn red example was offered as lot 1688 in the Schwartz sale, **Figure 3**.

Except for the one late (1867) use, all dated copies date into the 1861-2 period, although locations of addressees might change this. However, the 1865 and 1866 city directories shows this California City Letter Express was still operating at 316 Montgomery Street, the same address found for the California Letter Express. Wiltsee notes that the 1865 city directory speaks of the 'California City Letter Express' sometimes called the 'California Letter Express Company' with both at 418 Montgomery Street. A bogus lithographed item, with still different wording and border was illustrated by J. Walter *Scott* in 1879 and can be seen in the Lyons '*Identifier*' book volume II as his Bogus 3 on page 591. This item was not known to the old-time source cited above.

### California Letter Express

The California Letter Express first shows up in the 1865 city directory with a woodcut printed frank stating, "THE CALIFORNIA LETTER EXPRESS CO, / have taken an Office at HOOGS & MADISON, Real Estate/ and House Brokers, No. 418 Montgomery Street. / Letters delivered to all parts of the City/OFFICE HOURS 8 A.M. TO 5 P.M./ PAID." An example with this PAID can be seen on page 68 of *Letters of Gold*<sup>1</sup>. It is a style I associate with the Bamber & Co. Oakland imprints. A portion of a similar franked envelope is in the Lyons holding printed in green on cream, however, with the word "PAID." being a black double chamfered boxed handstamp, **Figure 4**. It is believed to be genuine, with the PAID being an Adams & Co. California style. Wiltsee had a cover docketed as received Sept 28, 1865. It showed the same running pony with a NEWS banner as in the banner of the pony express news column in the San Francisco *Alta* newspaper. This is a stock die also used for the Hastings Express.<sup>2</sup> In it the pony is running to the left passing a milestone that seems to read 1861.

A basic question arises as to whether a separate local operation was run by the Hoogs and Madison real estate firm in 1864 that would account for the appearance of their adhesives as well as handstamped covers or whether these should be considered bogus. To make this evaluation one needs to know what was happening in San Francisco during the period in question and the people involved. Wiltsee presents the best overview we have of the events in the 1860s in his 1944 *Stamp Specialist White Book*.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Wiltsee attempts to interrelate city directory evidence with covers; however, the evidence is contradictory, as handstamps are known before directory listings in some cases.

<sup>1</sup> *Letters of Gold* by Jesse L. Coburn 1984 published by Philatelic Foundation and U. S. Classics Society.

<sup>2</sup> *Franks of Western Expresses* by M. C. Nathan 1978 Collectors Club of Chicago page 101

<sup>3</sup> 'The City Delivery Letter Expresses of San Francisco' by Ernest A. Wiltsee *Stamp Specialist White Book* 1944, pages 3-19.

## San Francisco Letter Express

The first other local with any bearing on the analysis is the San Francisco City Letter Express. In the directory of 1861 a Mr. John C. Robinson is a real estate agent at 1111 Kearney. He is then listed in the 1862 directory as proprietor of the San Francisco Letter Express at 748 Washington St. and S.W. Cor. Montgomery and Merchant. Interestingly enough the chamfered San Francisco City Letter Express 14 x 54mm box handstamp reading SAN FRANCISCO/CITY LETTER EXPRESS is known on covers of January 6, 1860 (the Knapp/Jessup copy) and on one marked in pencil "Valentine's Day" in blue as well as in black (lot 1470 in Golden), **Figure 5**. There is also a boxed PAID with an odd extra line at bottom. These covers apparently were handled at the 748 Washington St. address, for postal stationery and Robinson & Co. appears at the other Montgomery & Merchant address in 1862. There is also a blue printed undated frank "SAN FRANCISCO/Letter Express. /OFFICE 162 MONTGOMERY STREET" found with the same odd boxed PAID, which can be seen as Golden lot 1471, **Figure 6**. In the 1863 directory Dennis Gahagan is listed as a letter carrier for John C. Robinson, but this is also the year Robinson disappears from local operations and is only listed at his home at 615 Mission. This local is first discussed in philatelic literature in the *American Journal of Philately* of 1871 (Vol. IV, page 10 and Vol. V of 1872 page 38) and *Stamp Collectors Magazine* of 1873 (Vol. XI page. 68).

## Gahagan & Howe City Letter Delivery

Gahagan is the successor operator to Robinson. He takes over with financial backing of Charles E. B. Howe, a sometime silver miner and they operate as Gahagan & Howe at 423 Washington St. This local first appears in philatelic literature in the 1864 *Stamp Collectors Magazine* on pages 100 and 168. Their firm is known with two different types of handstamps as well as adhesives (*Scott* 70L1-4). Two blocks of 20 work and turn of 70L2a sold as lots 644 and 645 in the November 2000 Hall sale with another block of 16 as lot 277 in the 1997 Rarities. The first handstamp is an 18 x 20mm serrated blue oval "City Letter Delivery/ S.E. Corner Sansome & Washn. Sts." It is used in 1862 as Wiltsee, who owned it discussed. It can be seen as Golden lot 1086, **Figure 7**. Of the at least seven examples of the second handstamp that I record (five in the Golden sale lots 1081-1085), only an April date without year is reported. The handstamp in blue and black reads CITY G&H EXPRESS/123 WASH'N ST. S.E.COR/ SANSOME ST., **Figure 8**. This handstamp is also found on the successor Carnes local adhesive. By 1865 Howe is listed alone at this address as a passenger agent; it was also in this year the operation had been acquired by William E. Loomis.

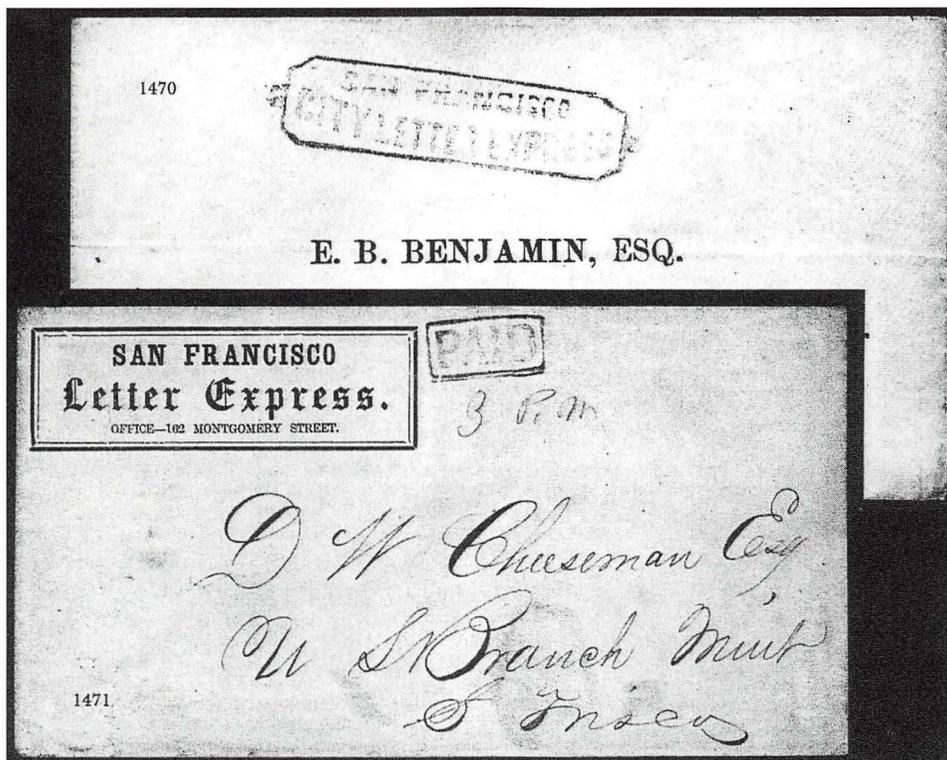
The San Francisco Letter Express is found as a handstamp 47 x 29mm oval "SAN FRANCISCO/running pony/LETTER EXPRESS." struck in blue (sometimes termed green when on yellow covers). An example, addressed to the Society of California Pioneers with a tied Carnes' adhesive on a July 4, 1868 patriotic, is seen as lot 890 in the Golden sale, see **Figure 9**. Another copy, ex-Wiltsee, has a handstamped address outside the oval reading "Office S.E. Cor. of Sansome Washingt'n." indicating that it was part of the Gahagan and Howe operation. The handstamp was remaindered and a number of addresses added at later dates usually



Figure 3. Red California City Letter Exp. adhesive, Type III (33L7). Excerpt from Golden Lot A865 in which the stamp appears on cover.



Figure 4. Green Hoogs & Madison frank.



Figures 5 & 6. San Francisco Letter Express. Lot 1470 in Black, Lot 1471 in Blue. Golden Sale at Siegel's November 15-17, 1999.

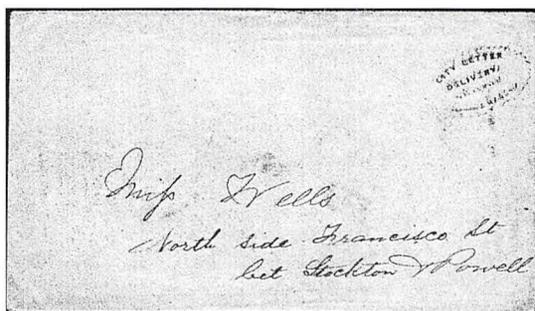


Figure 7. Gahagan & Howe City Letter Delivery. Golden sale Lot 1086.

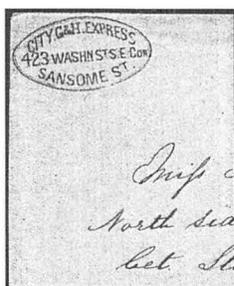


Figure 8. Gahagan & Howe handstamp known in blue and black. Golden Sale Lot 1081.

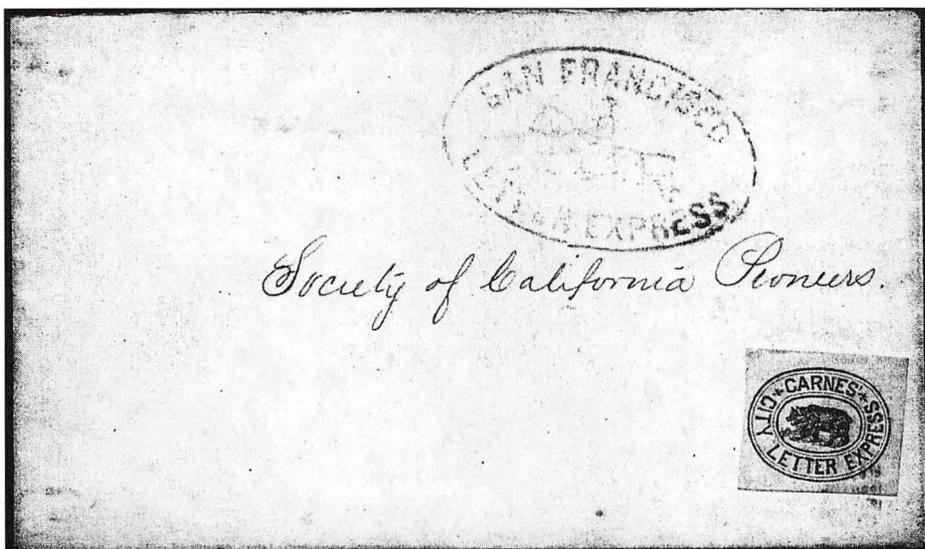


Figure 9. Blue San Francisco Letter Express handstamp on cover with Carnes adhesive (35L1). Back flap not shown Golden Sale Lot 890.

in pencil. Carnes was known to do remainders as he was flooding the English market with his own stamps and the running pony handstamp covers were also remaindered suggesting that Carnes was involved.

### Carnes City Letter Express

The spring of 1864 also sees George A. Carnes (a former post office clerk<sup>4</sup>) open a Carnes City Letter Express (*Scott* 35L1-8) at No. 29 Government House on Montgomery St. in opposition to the Gahagan and Howe local. It first surfaces in philatelic literature in the 1865 *Stamp Collectors Magazine* page 129. Wiltsee reported that Carnes had acquired the San Francisco Letter Express. Carnes initially used a red double border handstamp 32 x 21mm CITY LETTER/ CARNES/ EXPRESS, and a CARNES' EXPRESS/ SAN FRANCISCO straightline but issued his small bear adhesives, by February 7, 1865<sup>5</sup>, at which point he had moved to Washington St. between Montgomery and Sansome. (A certificated example with a March 1, 1865 **black** handstamp was lot 866 in the Bennett sale of March 16-18, 2001). See **Figure 10**. Another example with a blue Gahagan & Howe oval killer was lot 1690 in the Schwartz dispersal at Siegel.) Typical killers used by Carnes included black and blue dots. The small bears were wood engraved for typography by Mr. Boyd, a local engraver. At some point, some bear adhesives were overprinted by a blue X (*Scott* 35L2) to create a 10¢ value but none of these are recorded used. Notes in the old time collection discussed above specifically comments that **all of these** are bogus. Both J. Walter Scott and S. Allan Taylor created early forgeries of the small bears. Larry Lyons records five other typographed forgeries including one by Sterling.

According to C. W. Lomler, a well-known San Francisco collector, writing in the February 1894 issue of *Filatelie Facts and Fancies*, Lomler had the large Carnes' bear stamps, **Figure 11**, with the San Francisco name **printed by the same engraver** and some 3,000 were printed in the Abend Printing Office; Carnes got about 2,000 and Lomler 1,000<sup>6</sup>. They were printed in sheets of 18 with the bottom six tête-bêche. The reason was that Lomler had sent the small bears to the Pemberton firm in England and Pemberton had had trouble selling the small bear adhesives, as there was no city name. He also stated that Carnes turned over only the small bear electrotypes when the local was sold to Loomis.

Lomler states that Carnes did use a few of the various large bears in various colors, but having gotten an appointment in the San Francisco post office found himself unable to continue with the local. However, Mr. Carnes is not listed as a clerk in the post office as of July 1, 1866 so this may not be what happened. In late 1865 Carnes and an unnamed partner sold out to William E. Loomis, who continued

<sup>4</sup> Carnes is not listed as a clerk in the San Francisco postoffice in the 1861, 1863 or 1867 *Federal Register*.

<sup>5</sup> 'Exploring the Habitat of Carnes Bear Stamp' by Gordon Stimmell figure 7 *The Penny Post* April 1997

<sup>6</sup> Lyons reports this 'philatelic issue' was lithographed, as does the *Scott Specialized* although this conflicts with Lomler's report of how he arranged for the printing. Are there two different printings?

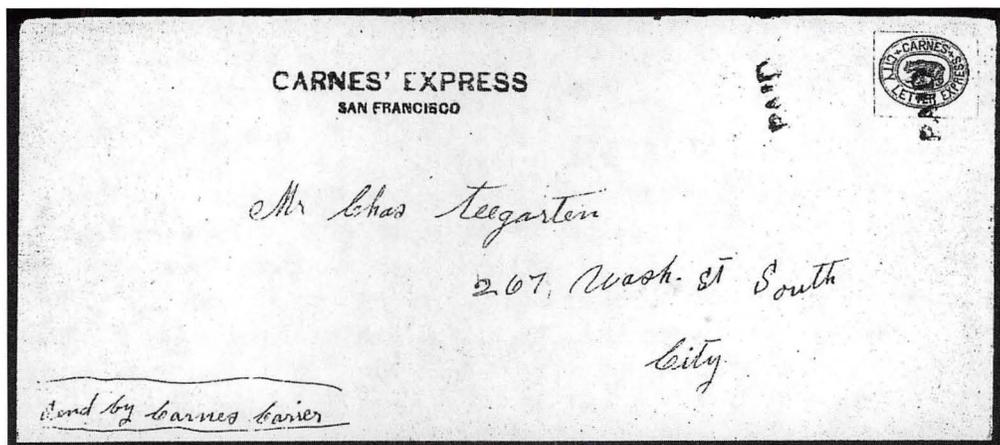


Figure 10. Carnes City Letter Express (35L1), black handstamp and black PAID. Siegel sale, May 21, 1996 Lot 210.



Figure 11. Large bear adhesive. Known in six colors 35L3-8.



Figure 14. Wm. E. Loomis Letter Express Adhesive 98L1.



Figure 12. Carnes' adhesive killed by Frey handstamp.

to use Carnes' bear stamps . Who was the partner? Wiltsee did not say, but the Carnes' adhesives are known killed by a blue oval 'Wm. A. Frey'. Three examples of Carnes' stamps killed by Frey handstamps are known, **Figure 12**. According to E. C. Stock, a Loomis carrier in early 1866, Frey was one of the best customers for both the San Francisco Letter Express stamps and Carnes small bear stamps, which he used in his Valentine and parcel business. Frey was located at 404 Kearney St.<sup>7</sup> from which location he ran the New England Valentine Co., of Massachusetts, whose envelopes have also been remaindered. After selling out, Carnes became an insurance solicitor. It is perhaps significant that S. Allen Taylor's forgeries were typographed and not lithographed. There were two reprintings in lithographic form noted by Lyons as well as a 2¢ handstamp in blue on white paper and several varieties of envelope corners<sup>8</sup>, which appear to be frauds. The old time collection had a red sheet of six counterfeits of the large bears showing work and turn in the last two stamps on the right. It also had a strip of three of the large bear reprints that were red, gold and blue in a horizontal row.

With Carnes we find the first philatelic shenanigans in the San Francisco locals. These include using out of period handstamp killers, unusual killers, reprints and stamps developed for the philatelic trade. These practices continued under his successor. It should be noted that the Hoogs and Madison adhesives fall into the Carnes/Loomis operation time period.

### **Wm. E. Loomis Letter Express**

Loomis, whose business card (see **figure 13**) shows he operated both the Gahagan & Howe and Carnes' City Letter and Parcel Express (note the addition of a parcel post to the service<sup>9</sup> which was located at 621 Montgomery St.) at his Loomis' News Depot, at the Sansome and Washington address also removed the Carnes' name from the handstamps and used them in blue. Eventually he also removed Carnes' name from the adhesives (*Scott* 98L1) and added a line below them. 'S.E. cor. Sans'e & Wash'n.', **Figure 14**. An example on an illustrated cover docketed Oct. 30, 1868 was shown on page 72 of *Letters of Gold*. Loomis continues as a San Francisco local operating until 1872. The Loomis local is first seen in print in the 1873 *Stamp Collectors Magazine* Vol. XI, pg. 22, and then in the 1875 *American Journal of Philately* Vol. 9, pg. 64. According to his carrier, Stock, the Loomis operation had a list of subscribers who paid monthly sums to receive their mail from the post office; they were charged from 10 to 25 cents for such special service, accounting for the Carnes City Package adhesives. Stimmell suggests Loomis may have used the Carnes small bear adhesives as a receipt for envelopes delivered to these patrons.

While there are other San Francisco locals even in the critical 1864-5 years, they have no apparent relationship to the Hoogs & Madison conundrum and are not discussed here. In his discussion of San Francisco locals, Mr. Wiltsee notes a large number of locals in 1864 with the quantity petering out by 1867. While he attributes

<sup>7</sup> Stock also noted the Loomis' stationery store was at 410 Kearney.

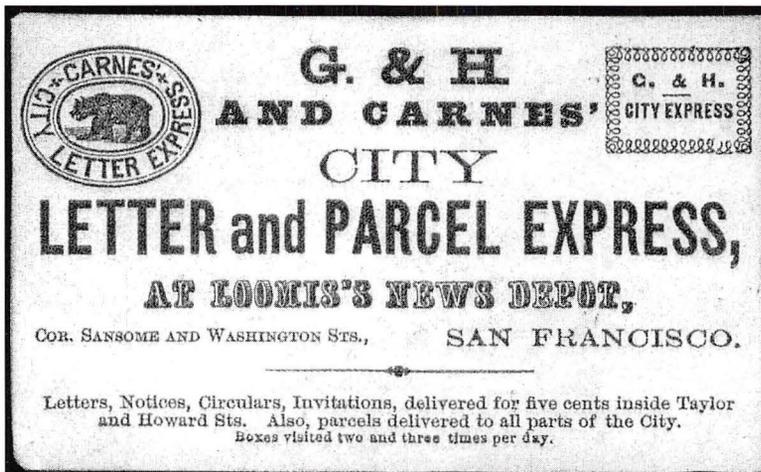
<sup>8</sup> These are first recorded in the 1873 *Stamp Collectors Magazine* Vol. XI, pg. 69.

<sup>9</sup> This may support the Carnes City Package Express envelopes reported by Lyons as being a late production and not bogus. See also footnote 4.

the revival of locals in 1860 to the Nevada Comstock Lode, he gives no reason for the quantity of locals suddenly found in 1864. Philatelic activity may be one explanation.

In the San Francisco post office, if he actually worked there, Mr. Carnes would have seen English stamp-collecting magazines as well as the November 1863 issue of the *U.S. Mail and Post Office Assistant*, which had an article on stamp collecting in England. As noted above, through Lomler, Pemberton's San Francisco correspondent, Carnes, his partner, or his successor, had made arrangements to supply the English firm of Pemberton Ltd. with special issues of his own small bear stamps and concurred in printing the philatelic large bear stamps in 1865 as reported by Phillips in *Filatelic Facts and Fancies*. Further, J. Walter Scott was in California from 1863 to about 1867 having left New York under somewhat of a cloud. He never really discussed these few years but his philatelic endeavors in California seem likely including arranging reprints or obtaining plates. He certainly would have known Carnes and Loomis and their products. Philatelic considerations might also explain the variety of the second and third styles of the Hoag California City Letter Express which may have been issued under the Carnes'/Frey/Loomis ownership. The Loomis operation definitely included philatelic considerations in issuing stamps.

*The Hoogs and Madison adhesive controversy will continue in the January 2003 issue of The Penny Post...*



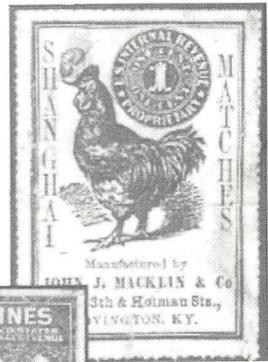
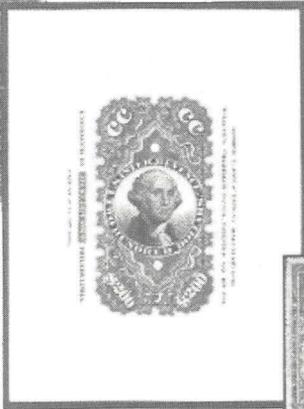
**Figure 13. Business card of Wm. E. Loomis indicating that he operated both the Gahagan & Howe and Carnes' City Letter and Parcel Express. Golden sale at Siegel's Lot 1315.**

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