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THE PENNY POST

Official Journal Of The Carriers And Locals Society



Robertson & Co., 15L2 stamp, on a folded letter dated June 13, 1843 to Charles Keen, Esq., Cashier Kensington Bank. Previously unreported. Resides in the Tapling collection at the British Library.

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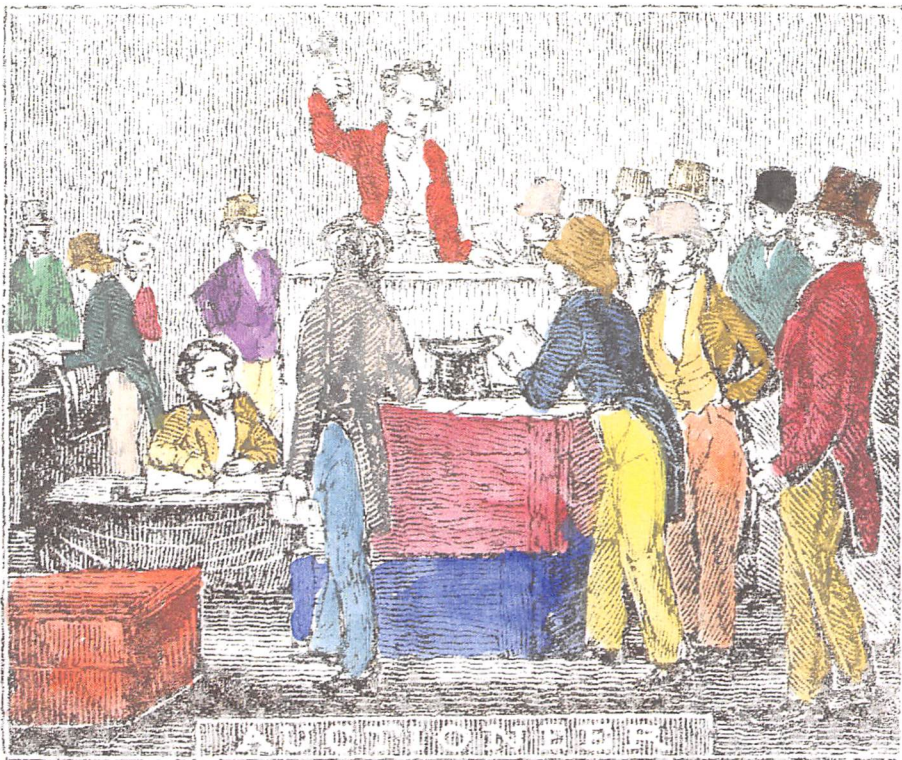
HISTORY OF BLOOD'S STAMPS BEGINS

A NEWLY DISCOVERED POMEROY HANDSTAMP

SWARTS' WASHINGTON STAMPS

HOURLY EXPRESS POST

AND MORE



Public Stamp Auction

Carriers and Locals Society Auction #24

Thursday, July 18, 2013

Closing date for consignments
June 18, 2013

To our Auction Manager, Alan E. Cohen

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THE PENNY POST

VOL. 21 NO. 1

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Address changes should be sent to the Secretary, also back issue orders, other correspondence to the Editor-in-Chief. Reports of new items or articles should be submitted to the appropriate Section Editor or Editor-in-Chief. Do not send stamps or covers unless requested. Any items sent will be protected but no liability attaches to an editor or the Society.

THE PENNY POST / Vol. 21 No. 1 / January 2013

Editor's Message

By
Larry Lyons

Happy New Year

It is a time for increased devotion to your hobby. It is a time to purchase, trade and acquire more stamps and covers. It is a time to develop a new collecting interest, hopefully in the field of carriers, locals and eastern expresses. Why not introduce one person to our field. Building a great (C&LS) society starts with the addition of a single member. Spread the word. Do an exhibit; write an article. The preceding are my suggestions for good New Year resolutions.

In This Issue

My two good friends, John Bowman and Vernon Morris have not let us down. They have delivered their promised articles. John starts us off with "Boyd's Begins," a study of Boyd's first adhesive stamp. Vernon Morris has given us "Blood's Part 1," a study of the Robertson & co. stamp, 15L2. We will have articles from both of these esteemed authors well into the future as we learn about Boyd's and Blood's, the two largest local post companies. Special thanks to these two accomplished collectors and authors. Not to be left out is my Part IV article on Swarts, the other of the big three. Part IV presents Swarts' Washington stamps.

We also have an article on a newly discovered Pomeroy handstamp jointly authored by John Bowman and William Sammis. Much thanks to them for finding and presenting this new discovery.

Justin Poklis has an article for us on the Hourly Express Post. Special thanks to Justin for his research and piquing our interest.

We also have articles from Cliff Alexander on "Why the Scott Catalogue for Many Years Contained Illustrations of Forgeries" and John Bowman on "Updates to the 2013 Scott Specialized Catalogue." Much appreciation to John who is our journal's assistant editor, and Cliff who is our President.

Appreciation

I wish to thank the section editors for their contributions and hard work. Special thanks to Alan Cohen and John Bowman for being my constant critics and proofreaders for the last thirteen years and counting and thanks to David Snow for joining this group. I wish to extend a special thank you to Alan Cohen for being our Auction Manager. We have had 23 auction sales since we began. The Society would not be able to continue without the commissions generated from these sales. Extra thanks to Scott Trepel for his efforts in our field and for being our patron saint in memory of Richard Schwartz.

Mission Statement

The purpose of *The Penny Post* is to present original research articles in the fields of United States Carriers, Local Posts and Eastern Expresses. Forgeries in these areas are also researched. Articles are reviewed and assistance is provided by the Editor's section heads who comprise the editorial board.

I hope you enjoy this issue of *The Penny Post* and Happy Collecting.

President's Letter

By

Clifford J. Alexander

On behalf of the directors and officers, we hope you all had wonderful holidays and we wish you the best for the New Year. We are excited about the great initiatives underway at the Society that we expect will be implemented in 2013 and offer significant additional membership benefits.

The Penny Post

Congratulations and thanks in particular once again to Larry Lyons for editing one of the very best postal history journals. Thanks also to the authors who contributed articles, which included in-depth, outstanding histories and analysis on such subjects as: Independent Mail Companies American Letter Mail Company and Overton & Company City Mail; local posts Swarts City Dispatch Post and Westervelts; patriotic flag stamps of the American Express Company; the eastern express Boyd's Boston & Saco Express; the early 20th Century parcel post company Chain Deliveries, Inc.; and the update of the Mosher Express catalog.

Special thanks to all of the members who contributed interesting and most useful articles: John Bowman, Larry Lyons, Bob Markovits; Bruce Mosher, Justin Poklis, Bob Rawlins, Bill Sammis and Norman Shachat. Again this year Larry Lyons authored more than his fair share of fine articles.

2013 Annual Meeting

The consensus of the Society's directors and officers is to hold our 2013 Annual Meeting at the APS Stamp Show to be held in Milwaukee on April 8-11. Please put these dates on your calendar and make every effort to attend. We already have enough commitments to assure this will be a most interesting and well-attended show and meeting. As a reminder, the Society has a staggered Board and each year we have to elect three directors. If you cannot attend, please return your proxies next summer.

The Society generally holds its meetings in conjunction with the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society's annual meeting. The USPCS meeting will be in St. Louis from March 22-24. I plan to attend, and hope to see other members there. We are working on a possible joint presentation on carriers and locals.

Album Pages

Alan Cohen is in the home stretch of his work on album pages for carrier and local stamps. This has been a huge project, and we are most grateful to Alan for the time and effort he has spent with significant help from Scott Trepel and John Zuckerman of Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.

New Web Site

Thanks again and congratulations to Marty Richardson for creating an exciting new website for the Society. It went on line in September 2010 and was a great step forward. Marty is keeping it current, and, if you have not spent any time viewing it, I encourage you to do so.

Membership Renewals

It is that time of year when we send out membership renewals. A notice will be included with your next issue of *The Penny Post*. In addition, we will also send notices by e-mail and letter. Membership is always a challenge for Societies such as ours, and we encourage all members to introduce the Society to friends who might be interested.

The Penny Post and website are two of our most important membership benefits. Another is the opportunity to spend time at meetings getting to know fellow members and their collecting interests as well as discussing new or unusual stamps and covers. The benefits and value of membership will increase significantly when back issues of *The Penny Post* are accessible on our website in a searchable format. The current policy is that it will only be available by password to members.

We are always open to suggestions on how to improve the Society and increase the benefits and value to members. Feel free to contact me or any other director or officer. Contact information is listed in *The Penny Post*. My e-mail address is clifford.alexander@klgates.com, and my phone number is 202-778-9068.

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Boyd's Begins

John D. Bowman
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This article is the first in a series about Boyd's adhesive stamps in New York City. Dr. Vernon Morris challenged me to write a series in parallel with his about Blood's stamps in Philadelphia. As readers will discern, private local post competition in New York and Philadelphia differed in many ways.¹ Nonetheless, these posts were arguably the most successful of the local posts and survived for many years, despite efforts by the government to eliminate them. Boyd's first stamp was 20L1 (**Figure 1**), and I list 21 covers in this census. I have maintained a database of Boyd's for a number of years and used this along with a census prepared privately by fellow Boyd's collector Lawrence LeBel. Thanks to Marty Richardson, Lawrence LeBel and Larry Lyons for sharing information for this article.

Federal carrier service to or from local addresses was available from at least 1836, if not earlier, as attested by a few surviving covers in some cities. In New York City, reading rooms and other venues provided travelers with some services for letter mail and newspapers. The NY City Despatch Post was established by Alexander Grieg early in 1842, and by August of that year was purchased by the NY Post Office and became the first official US carrier department office, under the name US City Despatch Post. The U.S. City Despatch Post 3c rate included 2c for the carrier fee and 1c for the drop-letter postage. Private local post enterprises sprang up and had varied degrees of success competing for intercity delivery. Boyd's operations were the most successful and longest-lasting competition, although Swarts became a formidable competitor beginning in 1847. The private local delivery fee was two cents per letter, and Boyd had numerous pick-up points throughout the city. When the 1845 postal reforms took effect on July 1, the new 4c carrier with drop rate ultimately resulted in the demise of the US City Despatch Post by November 1846.

John T. Boyd was a carrier for the US City Despatch Post from Aug. 15, 1842 until at least June 30, 1843. On June 15, 1844, he announced the opening of his new post, Boyd's City Express post at 45 William Street in New York City, to begin at nine o'clock, Monday morning, June 17, 1844. He advertised two deliveries per day to the US Mails and throughout the city to 26th Street.² His fee was two cents per letter. On June 22, he reported that he had placed over two hundred stations, chiefly in drug stores and hotels, and had engaged experienced carriers. Postage to Brooklyn was 3c. Beginning Sept 30, deliveries increased to 4 per day, at 9, 12, 2 and 4 o'clock. Postage to Brooklyn was reduced to 2c.³

During 1844, Boyd's took few letters to the US post office, but mostly delivered local and incoming mail. Much of his early business depended on the

¹ As a result, these two articles should probably not be called parallel, as we are comparing apples to oranges, so to speak.

² Boyd's handstamps show 9 o'clock and 3 o'clock.

³ Donald Patton's *The Private Local Posts of the United States*, 1967, contains a good account of the history of Boyd's City Express.

conjunctive business arrangements he made with independent mail companies that provided inter-city delivery, such as Pomeroy's, Well's, Hale's, and others and who required a local delivery agent.

Boyd prepared a stamp with an image of an eagle atop a globe that served as his logo for years to come, although his first stamp was the largest. See **Figure 1**. It was apparently copied from bank note vignettes. 20L1 is very scarce on cover, and rare off cover. The stamp was prepared from an engraved plate of unknown size, with frame lines all around.⁴ Most examples have very large margins. Individual stamps exhibit differences but it does not seem possible to plate this stamp since so few examples and no multiples exist. The degree of inking varies from gray to deep black. The stamp is surface-coated in green. All known examples are handstamped with a red "FREE" which never ties the stamp, so it is not known whether this was a cancellation or a precancel.

The earliest known stampless covers are two dated June 26, 1844 (using the date in Boyd's type 1 large red rectangular handstamp rather than the dateline). They are both incoming letters and likely bootlegged to NY as they carry no other markings to my knowledge. In subsequent weeks, most incoming mail was given to Boyd's primarily by Pomeroy's, but also American Letter Mail Co., Letter Express and other independent mails.

The earliest stamped cover is dated June 27, 1844 and is a front only See **Figure 2**.

Undoubtedly, Boyd's two hundred stations must have received some business, but the item illustrated in **Figure 3** seems to be one of the few, and certainly the earliest known, covers handled by Boyd's to the US Post Office. In addition, it is the only known example of 20L1 tied by a NYC handstamp. It is datelined July 8, 1844, from New York City, and was sent to Peekskill, NY. The manuscript ratings are for 10c in blue, and 2c in red. The 2c cancel likely represents payment for Boyd's service. The 20L1 is cancelled by the usual red "FREE" handstamp, and is tied by a red New York circular datestamp of July 8. Notably, there is no type 1 Boyd handstamp.

In fact, other than a cover with 20L1 recorded by dos Passos as Aug. 17, 1844, whose whereabouts today is unknown to the author, and a cover with 20L2 used Dec. 30, 1844, no other Boyd's covers are known to the author used to the US mails during 1844.

Datestamp	Use	Reference	Comments
Jun 27 9 o'clock	Local	Ex-Golden, from lot 700	Front only
Jun 29 9 o'clock	Local	To City Hotel, ex-Caspary (lot 619), dos Passos, Frajola	LeBel
Jul 1 9 o'clock	Incoming	Ex-Golden, lot 579, ex-Mason, Abt	Ms. Pullen & Co.'s Express

⁴ JW Scott in 1888 stated that 20L1 was lithographed and issued on Feb. 5, 1844.

Datestamp	Use	Reference	Comments
Jul 6 3 o'clock (could be Jul 8)	From Auburn NY	Ex-Petrie, Frajola, Patton	Ms. "Paid 6c Pomeroy's Post"
Jul 8	Outgoing	Tied red NY CDS. Never sold publicly.	Bowman
Jul 15 9 o'clock	From Albany	Ex-Hall, Siegel 954 lot 3135	Cover torn in half, perhaps other half had Pomeroy stamp
Jul 15 3 o'clock	Local	Ex-Golden, lot 580, ex-Abt	On printed school notice
Jul 15 3 o'clock	?	Front only, ex-Ferrari	Rupp Bros. 6/1996
Jul 19 3 o'clock	?	PFC 160882	Addressee crossed out
Jul 30 3 o'clock	?	To NY local address, ex-Schwartz	
Aug 16 3 o'clock	Local		Richardson
Aug 17	Outgoing	Tied red NY CDS to Middletown CT, Robbins 9/22/81 lot 1702 and Siegel 6/10/69 lot 286	Needs a PFC, no clear image to evaluate
Aug 19 3 o'clock	Local	Ex-Jarrett Christie's 1990, lot 1165, ex-Malcolm	
Aug 23 9 o'clock	Local	Ex-Golden, lot 577	Rupp Bros. 3/2005
Aug 27 3 o'clock	From Lake Champlain	Ex-Golden, lot 578, ex-Boker, signed Costales	20L1 placed over Pomeroy 117L4
Sept 6 3 o'clock	Incoming from Milwaukee	Siegel 868, lot 2068, ex-Schwartz, Patton, Knapp	Lyons
Sept 9 9 o'clock	Incoming from Philadelphia	Ex-Caspary lot 620	
Sept 12 3 o'clock	Local	Dateline Fort Wayne, Indiana Sept 2	Richardson
Sept 17 3 o'clock	Local	Siegel 980, lot 2995, ex-Kuphal	
Sept 23 3 o'clock	Local	2-page folded letter, PFC 216454	LeBel
Feb 15 o'clock	Local	Fox sale 7/8/66 lot 477, ex-Hollowbush	Type 2 Boyd's oval CDS

* The table lists the dates on the handstamp rather than the internal dateline.

I have notes indicating a possibility of three additional 20L1 covers that I have not been able to verify. In a Fox sale 5/20/1981 lot 325, a 20L1 cover is described as July 13 3 o'clock. A Herst sale 2/19/1960 lot 129 notes a cover dated July 16 (?). **(Readers with these catalogs, please email me with the description and a scan of the illustration, if possible.)**

Three and possibly four of the 20L1 covers represent conjunctive use with an independent mail company. The earliest is July 1 and is endorsed "Pullen & Co. Express" in manuscript (**Figure 4**). It likely originated in Albany. On July 6 a cover from Auburn NY was received with "Paid 6c Pomeroy's Post" in manuscript. An Aug. 27 cover from Lake Champlain exists with the 20L1 placed over a Pomeroy 117L4 adhesive (**Figure 5**). A possible fourth cover has been torn in half but is from Albany, and perhaps the missing half had a Pomeroy stamp affixed.

At least ten of the 21 covers in this census represent local delivery service by Boyd, not including those probably bootlegged in.

Census results are never final, and readers with additional information are encouraged to report this to the author or editor.



Figure 1. 20L1 used off cover Siegel Sale 868, lot 2068.

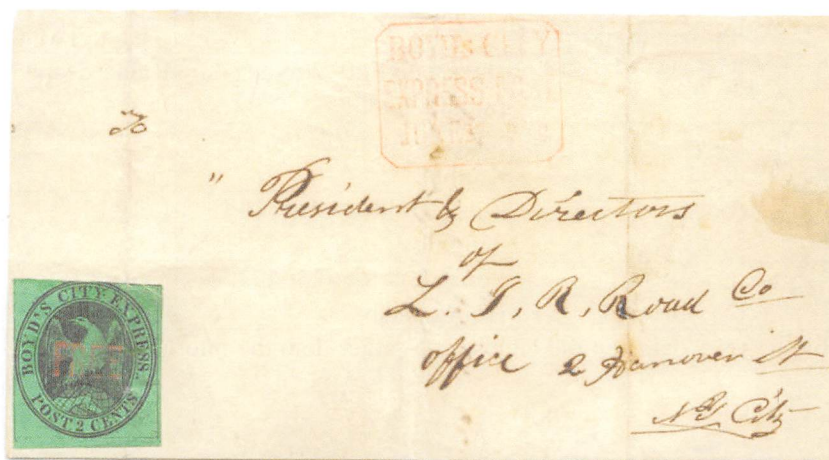


Figure 2. 20L1 on cover front, June 27, 1844, 9 o'clock, the earliest known use of this stamp. Siegel sale 817, lot 700, ex-David Golden.



Figure 3. July 8, 1844 cover to Peekskill NJ with 20L1 tied by NY datestamp, manuscript 10c in blue and 2c in red. Earliest known use of a Boyd's cover taken to the Post Office. A recent find sold privately.



Figure 4. July 1, 1844 9 o'clock cover with 20L1 and manuscript Pullen & Co.'s Express, likely from Albany.



Figure 5. Aug. 27, 1844 3 o'c cover from Lake Champlain with 20L1 affixed over Pomeroy's 117L4, Siegel sale 817 lot 578, ex-David Golden, ex-Boker, signed Costales.

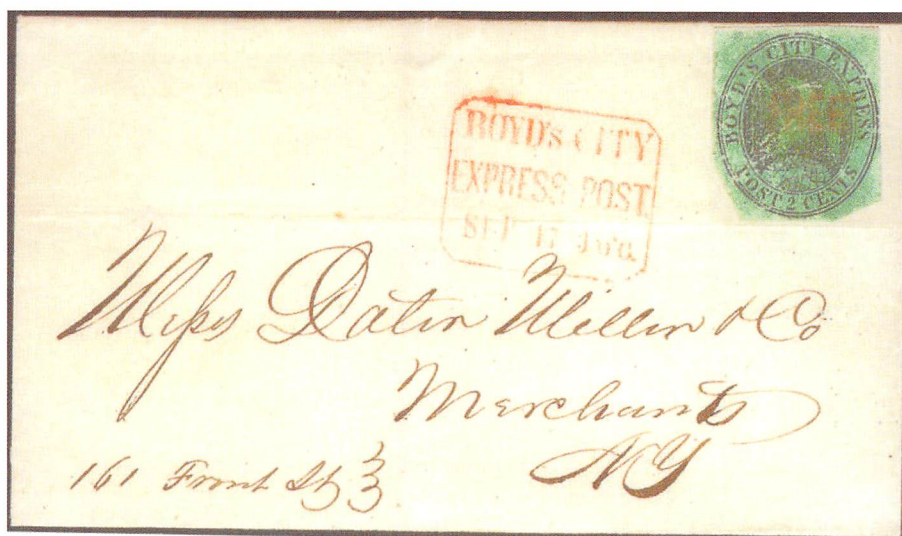


Figure 6. Sept. 17, 1844 3 o'c cover with 20L1. Local delivery to 161 Front Street. Siegel (Kuphal), Nov. 15-16, 2006, Lot 1378, Siegel sale 980, Lot 2995.

This series will continue in the next issue of *The Penny Post*.

A Newly Discovered Pomeroy Handstamp

By

John D. Bowman and William W. Sammis

Between June 26th and August 3, 1844 George Eltwed Pomeroy ran Pomeroy's Letter Express on the Buffalo-Albany-New York City route. It operated during the Independent Mails Period and was considered a competitor of the Post Office Department with regard to letter-matter. Postal history from this company is known from circa June 27th – October 1, 1844. Adhesive stamps (117L1-117L7¹) are well known and appreciated within our philatelic niche but Pomeroy's Letter Express also used handstamps and the authors believe they have found a new one.

A recent auction² included as lot 1288 a folded letter (**Figure 1**) addressed to the chief clerk of the State Banking Department in Albany, NY. The letter is datelined July 10, 1844 and signed by Platt Adams with no origin indicated. Two handstamps are struck on the front: a red "PAID" with lines above and below, and a red "2". The shades of ink are not the same, the "2" being brighter (**Figure 2**). The auction description notes "based on the year and the 2c rate (US drop rate was 1c in 1844) this is almost certainly a local delivery for 2c by Pomeroy."

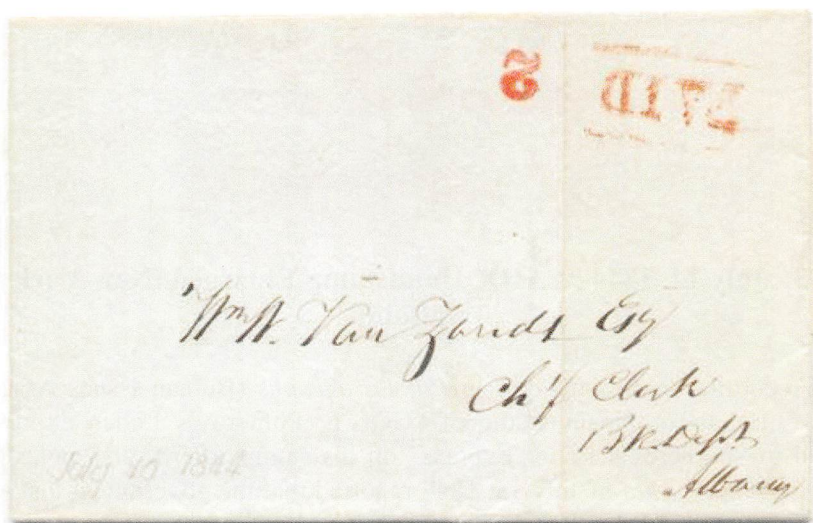


Figure 1. July 10, 1844 folded letter to Albany, NY via Pomeroy's Express and delivered locally for a 2c charge.

¹ *Scott Specialized Catalogue of U.S. Stamps & Covers*, various editions.

² Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Sale 1016, Nov. 15-17, 2011.



Figure 2. July 10, 1844 “PAID” and “2” Handstamps Enlarged.

Identical “PAID” handstamps in red are known to have been used by Pomeroy’s Letter Express with or without the upper and lower outer lines. A scan of another example of this “PAID” handstamp is provided as **Figure 3** for comparison.



Figure 3. July 14, 1844 “PAID” Handstamp Enlarged (New York City to Buffalo).

According to Elliott Perry in *Pat Paragraphs* (Bureau Issues Association, 1981, p. 306), the company name of “Geo. E. Pomeroy’s Letter Express” was shortened to “Pomeroy’s Letter Express” on his stamps. Perry also notes that the *Albany Evening Journal* of July 13, 1844 reported that the government lost its battle against the private independent mails, but in fact the government cracked down on the railroads. The subject cover of this article is dated July 10th, shortly before this “crackdown.”

Prior to opening his Letter Express, George E. Pomeroy, along with eventual partners Crawford Livingston and Henry Wells, ran an Albany-Buffalo package express based in Albany, N.Y. under the name of Pomeroy & Company that eventually secured its own route to New York City. This company used a handstamp (**Figure 4**³) that incorporated the “PAID” later used by Pomeroy’s Letter Express.

³ Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Sale 1016, Lot 1287, Nov. 15-17, 2011.



**Figure 4. October 27, 1843 Pomeroy & Company's Handstamp
Enlarged (New York City to Albany).**

The red “2” (**Figures 1 and 2**) is a previously unknown marking and thus currently thought to be unique. It is believed by the authors (as Siegel Galleries surmised) to be a handstamp used at Pomeroy’s Albany office to indicate a two-cent charge for local delivery. The letter was prepaid to Albany but not to the Banking Department.

Figure 5 shows a notice in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* for July 1, 1844 confirming Pomeroy’s presence in Albany, an already established fact.

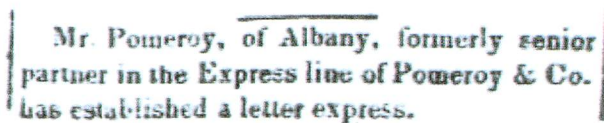


Figure 5. Philadelphia Inquirer, July 1, 1844.

After searching on the Internet without success for Platt Adams (the sender of our July 10, 1844 letter) a hit eventually occurred that amazed us! At <http://historybyhand.com> is an outer folded letter and contents datelined Durham (New York), Jan. 18, 1844 (**Figures 6 and 7**). The letter is franked “free Platt Adams/PM” at upper right and also handstamped “FREE” twice. It is written in the same hand and addressed to the same person in Albany (William W. Van Zandt) as our July 10, 1844 letter. The confirmation that the **Figure 1** letter originated in

Durham, NY gives more credence to the supposition that Pomeroy brought it to Albany because Durham was close to Pomeroy's New York City to Albany route.

Of further interest is the contents of the January 18, 1844 Durham to Albany letter. It seems to indicate that Adams and Van Zandt had previously used the services of Pomeroy & Company to transport securities and that a trunk containing them had gone missing with some of the contents subsequently being found. This provides a further connection between the two letters, the correspondents and the two George Pomeroy companies, all available for our entertainment one hundred and fifty years later.

The authors invite correspondence at jbowman@stx.rr.com and cds13@cornell.edu.



Figure 6.

W. W. Van Zandt,
Reg't. H.

Wuhan Jan. 18. 1844.

Dear Sir,

Since the discovery
of the Treasury trunk and a part of
the contents, I have written Mr. Thompson
to procure such testimony as to the loss,
by burning, of the registered notes as may
have been elicited by the authorities
there and forward to you by the
middle of next week - when I expect
to be in Albany -

If the evidence already
received, or to be obtained through Mr.
Thompson shall be satisfactory to your
Mind of the destruction of these notes
I shall wish you to procure an account
corresponding, with those lost at your
convenience and I will call for them -

I would suggest the numbering
them from the Reg't. No. of those lost -

I am, Sir, Dear Sir,

Wm Adams



P.S. I hope you will give me some proof instead of
the paper found - I believe the State will want it -

Figure 7.

BLOODS Part 1: 15L2

By

Vernon R. Morris Jr., MD

The private post juggernaut of Philadelphia during the 1840's and 1850's was the product of Daniel Otis Blood. He took control of the first private post in Philadelphia, founded in 1842 by Robertson & Co. Through a series of brilliant innovations and savvy undaunted business aggressiveness, Bloods reached the zenith of local mail service. The city government "was no match,"¹ and by 1862 resorted to the "nuclear option" of federal government monopoly! Daniel Blood had been the chief clerk of the Public Ledger newspaper, see **Figure 1**.

A twenty-year legacy for the centuries! The author will attempt to re-live this story through a series of postal history articles. Each article is dedicated to a single stamp issue, and will advance chronologically by earliest recorded date for each issue, irregardless of Scott Catalogue listing, from the data base compiled by the author over the past fifteen years. Each article will present a description census and photographic census to the extent reasonably possible. For issues greater than thirty five recorded examples, the census will be reserved for special covers displaying important combinations, foreign countries, and earliest recorded postal service. A comprehensive review of handstamp markings will be reserved for a future series.

First Local Posts

By the late 1830's several private companies beginning with Harndens, Adams, and Hales, took advantage of the latest transportation technology, *railroads*! Their companies prospered by *independently* transporting parcels and packets of letters between cities in the northeast, and for much cheaper than the government. By August 5, 1839 Harnden advertised delivery to "any part of the City."² Precious few examples, however, from the various companies, messengers, and forwarders definitively *prove* delivery to a street address.³ Many came to operate in conjunction with private city posts for delivery to a street address.

The **New York Penny Post** was the first private company in the United States⁴ dedicated solely to local city delivery of mail. On December 20, 1839 the *New York Journal of Commerce* announced 75 deposit locations, three cents due on delivery.⁵ No prepayment stamps were issued. Approximately 52 stampless covers

¹ Rumsey Philatelic Auction 13, lot 1033, December 3, 2004. 2010 PFC 483752.

² <http://www.genealogybank.com/gbnk/newspapers/doc/v2%3A10945F2563DD7908%40GB>

³ Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, sale 834 lot 694 (March 6, 2001) is an American Letter Mail Co. example from February 4, 1844.

⁴ Calvet M. Hahn, "The First New York Local, Part IV," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 8, No. 4, July 2000, (Whole Number 32), pages 37-43.

⁵ Calvet M. Hahn, "The Beginning of Adhesive Postage In The U.S.," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 5, No. 4, October 1995, pages 9-10.

have survived.⁶ By not requiring prepayment, however, liquidity problems caused the New York Penny Post to fail,⁷ and by necessity reorganization under Alexander Greig on January 14, 1842 as the City Despatch Post.

England issued the first prepaid stamps in the world on May 6, 1840. By February 1, 1842⁸ the **City Despatch Post** distributed solicitation circulars. "Ornamental stamps"⁹ could be purchased at 36 cents per dozen prior to depositing letters into any of their 75 collection boxes. Volume discounts of \$2.50 per 100 stamps were available.¹⁰ The earliest recorded stampless cover was February 7, 1842. Greig's City Despatch Post was the second producer of adhesive stamps in the world! *Scott Catalogue* 40L1, in the Locals Section, was also the first stamp issued in the Western Hemisphere.

Greig's company was so successful that by May 31, 1842 the federal government was interested in ownership. Consummated by August 16, 1842,¹¹ the 40L1 adhesive stamp design was altered by simply adding "United States," converting into government "carrier" stamps, *Scott Catalogue* 6LB2. The **United States City Despatch Post** series of stamps can be found in the Carrier Section.¹² The first recorded day for both stamp and stampless postal service was August 16, 1842.¹³

Another dedicated private post did not return to New York for almost two years until **Boyd's Local Post** was established on June 17, 1844. The first recorded Boyd's stampless cover is June 26, 1844.¹⁴ The first cover prepaid by stamp was the next day, June 27, 1844.¹⁵

Philadelphia Despatch Post

Philadelphia was the second city in the United States to be privileged with a private company dedicated solely to delivery of local mail within the city. By Monday December 5, 1842 *The Pennsylvania Inquirer & National Gazette* announced the Philadelphia Despatch Post delivered letters twice every day to any part of the city, three cents, and had a Principal Office at No. 83 south Second sty.[sic] see **Figure 2**. James Halsey is believed to have managed the Philadelphia Despatch Post. Halsey was listed in McElroy's *Philadelphia City Directory* for

⁶ Robert B. Meyersburg, "More About the New York Penny Post," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 6, No. 2, April 1996, (Whole Number 22), page.26.

⁷ Robert B. Meyersburg, "The New York Penny Post," *The Penny Post*, Vol.5, No. 3, July 1995, page 22.

⁸ Calvet M. Hahn, "The Beginning of Adhesive Postage In The U.S.," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 5, No. 4, October 1995, page 13.

⁹ Elliot Perry and Arthur Hall, *100 Years Ago / February-1842-August*, American Philatelic Society, New York, 1942, pages 9-10.

¹⁰ Gordon Stimmell, "Local Mail Posts In The United States," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 7, No. 3, July 1997, (Whole Number 27), page 17

¹¹ Elliot Perry and Arthur Hall, *loc. cit.*, pages 19-21.

¹² Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, sale 1005 lot 216 (March 2, 2011).

¹³ Scott Trepel, "City Despatch Post," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 2, No. 3, August 1992, pages14-19.

¹⁴ Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, sale 908 lot 4626 (March 17, 2006).

¹⁵ Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, sale 817 lot 700 (November 15, 1999).

1843, at the same address, 83 South Second Street as a shoemaker. He was not listed in either 1841 or 1842.¹⁶

Three days later, on Thursday December 8, 1842 the “local affairs” column of the *Public Ledger*, **Figure 3a**, promoted the “Philadelphia Despatch Post,” as a City Despatch Post for the delivery of letters and papers, similar to one in New York, which had been a “great accommodation to business men.”

In the same issue under “classified advertisements,” Robertson & Co., **Figure 3b**, announced that the PHILADELPHIA DESPATCH POST established a City Despatch with letter boxes stationed at most public places, and on a corner of nearly every square. They had two deliveries per day, 10 AM and 3 PM. Postage was three cents paid by receiver. Also, “free” **stamps would soon be available at 37 ½ cents per dozen**. Important letters could be *registered* at the Principal Office for 6 ¼ cents each. This private company’s **name was The Philadelphia Despatch Post, described as a City Despatch Post, owned by Robertson & Co., and fashioned after the former City Despatch Post in New York founded by Grieg.**

Robertson

Not much is known about the likely proprietor of the Philadelphia Despatch Post. Wm. H. Robertson was a merchant in 1841-2 at 20 Walnut Street, and during 1843-4 at Prince and Jupiter.¹⁷ In 1843 a *second* W.H. Robertson was located at 673 N. 2nd Street. He was a retiring gentleman, and apparently betrothed in 1842 to a Perot, possibly from the family of the contemporary postmaster in Bermuda.¹⁸

Robertson was the proprietor for over two and one half years, from very late 1842 until mid 1845. Under Robertson’s tenure, three different stamp types were issued. The first two were “*primitive*” octagonal stamps, one in black, another in red. The third stamp launched the famous series of “*striding messenger*” pictorial stamps.

Circular Handstamp Marking

The Philadelphia Despatch Post promptly created a 28 millimeter circular time handstamp with peripheral inscription “PHILA. DESPATCH POST”. The center of the marking stated either “10AM” or “3PM,” the time of delivery from the principal office.¹⁹ The earliest recorded example, December 19, 1842, within two weeks of opening, and from the 10 AM delivery, shown in **Figure 4**, is the *only example in black ink*. During Robertson’s several year’s ownership, the author has identified a timed circular handstamp on 29 stampless covers, and another 32 handstamp markings in combination with any of the three types of Philadelphia Despatch Post prepaid stamps. The marquee circular handstamp appears

¹⁶ Steven M. Roth, “PHILADELPHIA DESPATCH,” *The Penny Post*, Vol. 5, No. 4, October 1995, page 29.

¹⁷ Calvet M. Hahn, “The Beginning of Adhesive Postage in the U.S.,” *The Penny Post*, Vol. 5, No. 4, October 1995, page 22.

¹⁸ Robson Lowe, “Philadelphia Local Posts,” *The Chronicle*, Vol.28, No. 2, May 1976, (Whole No. 90), page 84.

¹⁹ Vernon R. Morris Jr., “Robertson and The City Despatch,” *The Chronicle*, Vol. 54, No. 3, August 2002, (Whole No. 195), pages 177-182.

approximately equally divided between covers “collect” (stampless), and “prepaid” (by stamp).²⁰

Sixty of the 61 recorded hand stamps were in red ink, such as the one shown in **Figure 5**, an excellent early strike of the 10 AM delivery.²¹

Prepayment Stamp

To avoid liquidity problems experienced by the New York Penny Post, the Philadelphia Despatch Post offered prepaid stamps and volume discounts. “Primitive” octagonal stamps were produced from the “3 PM” handstamp, manuscript initialed “R & Co,” but all lacked adhesive gum and were affixed by wax. “**Primitive**,” as created from a handstamp. Primitive, as flawed stamp design specific for delivery time. Primitive, as “soon to be extinct octagonal shape.” Primitive, as lack of adhesive gum. Primitive, as precursor of pictorial and “head” stamp images. And primitive, positioned at the base of the “family tree” of postage stamps of the world for the subsequent one hundred seventy years. Although the term “primitive” may not be very flattering, the author uses this term complimenting the transformative and innovative advancements in human services and industry.

The Philadelphia Despatch Post was the third entity in the world to produce prepayment stamps, after Great Britain, and New York City.²² The Philadelphia Despatch Post initially issued two octagonal stamps, which were the ninth and sixteenth different prepayment stamp issued in the world, as each entity issued more than one stamp.²¹ Discovery of this octagonal stamp was not until 1889.²³

The earliest recorded prepayment stamp issued by The Philadelphia Despatch Post was the black octagon, classified in the 2013 *Scott Catalogue* as 15L2. For many decades it has been incorrectly believed that only five stamps had survived. While true that only five are available to stamp collectors, a sixth has been quietly resting in the famous Taping Collection,²⁴ incarcerated in the British Library for over 120 years!²⁵ High resolution scans of this cover and letter contents are provided for **the first time in philatelic literature**, with grateful permission from the British Library.

Descriptive Census

- (1) (December) 1842; year docket on reverse; folded letter, local delivery; bold “3 P M”, manuscript “R&Co”; two black PAID handstamp cancels, one bold, red large single line numeral 3 cancel, and indistinct red cancel; red 10 AM circular “PHILA DESPATCH POST” handstamp. To: “*Treasurer of the Am. Sunday /*

²⁰ For an article in a future series on stampless Blooms.

²¹ Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, sale 927 lot 1062 (December 20, 2006).

²² Scott Trepel, *Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries*, sale 868, November 14, 2003, pages 4-5.

²³ John Tiffany, “BLOOD & CO.’s DESPATCH POST.,” *The American Philatelist*, Vol. III, No. 4, January 10, 1889, pages 102-103.

²⁴ Stanley M. Bierman, M.D., *The World’s Greatest Stamp Collectors*, Linn’s Stamp News, 1990, pages 51-58.

²⁵ Gordon Stimmell, “A Voyage To View Ancient Treasures,” *The Penny Post*, Vol. 5, No. 1, January 1995, pages 22- 23.

School Union / 146 Chesnut St [sic]". Siegel sale 868, November 14, 2003, lot 2046; Harmer sale 1071, March 20, 1957, lot 561, Caspary. Ex Hollow bush.

- (2) January 13, 1843; folded letter, local delivery; faint "3PM," manuscript "R&Co"; bold black PAID handstamp cancel, large red "T configuration of many letters" cancel; red timed circular "PHILA. DESPATCH POST" handstamp on reverse, red auxiliary PAID. To: "*The Revd. Georges Boyd D.D. / Rector of St. John's Church N.L. / North 2d. Street above Poplar. Lane / Philadelphia*". Siegel sale November 13, 2000 lot 428. PFC 365,986. Lyons collection.
- (3) March 20, (1843); folded letter, local delivery; "3 P M," manuscript "R&CO;" faint black PAID, and red circle of dots cancel; red 3PM circular "PHILA. DESPATCH POST" handstamp, red auxiliary PAID, manuscript "20". To: "*N.R. Potts Esq / No. 304 N. 6th. / on N. E. cor. 7th & Spring Garden*". Siegel sale 830, November 13, 2000 lot 427. Morris collection.
- (4) April 20, 1843; cover front, local delivery; "3 P M", manuscript "R&Co"; red double outline numeral 3 cancel, faint black PAID cancel; magenta manuscript April 20; non-contemporary pencil year date 1843. To: "*Mr Shrack & Co / No 80. 4 St near Race*". Frajola, June 7, 1990 Middendorf sale lot 375; Siegel 927 December 15, 2006 lot 1058, Richardson. Ex Gibson. PFC 320504.
- (5) May 19, 1843; folded letter, local delivery; "3 P M", manuscript "R&Co"; (red) large single line numeral 3 cancel, bold black PAID; (red) 10 AM circular "PHILA. DESPATCH POST" handstamp. To: "*Mr.. J H. Booth / No 145 N..10th Street / Philad / Pa*". Harmer sale 1071, March 20, 1957 lot 562, Caspary. Ex Boker. The 1889 Discovery copy.
- (6) June 13, 1843; folded letter, local delivery; "3 P M", manuscript "R&Co"; red large single line large numeral 3 cancel, bold black PAID; red 3PM circular "PHILA. DESPATCH POST" handstamp; To: "*Charles Keen Esq / Cashier Kensington Bank*". Tapling Collection, British Library.

Photographic Census

- (1) **Figure 6 a,b,c:** Treasurer; cover, stamp, and time handstamp
- (2) **Figure 7 a,b,c,d:** Boyd; cover, stamp, cancel, and time handstamp.
- (3) **Figure 8:** Potts; cover.
- (3) **Figure 9:** Potts; letter contents.
- (4) **Figure 10:** Shrack; cover.
- (5) **Figure 11:** Booth; cover.
- (6) **Figure 12 a,b:** Keen; cover and stamp
- (6) **Figure 13 c:** Keen; letter contents.

Cover Types

All six surviving stamps are on cover! Five on folded letters, one on a cover front panel. None on envelopes, which were not quite yet available.

15L2 Characteristics

Figure 14 is an analysis of the six 15L2 survivors. The stamp design is the circular Philadelphia Despatch Post handstamp inscription “PHILA. DESPATCH POST / 3 PM” on paper without gum. A “primitive” *octagonal* stamp was created by cutting the paper as close to the circle as possible, apparently in a random manner by hand, rather than by a uniform machined process. The many corners do not consistently align on the stamps. *15L2 by definition is a black stamp.* The earliest recorded Philadelphia Despatch Post stamp of any type was 15L2, on a cover nonspecifically dated “1842.” *The earliest recorded stamp being black is certainly consistent with the earliest handstamp marking in black ink* (December 19, 1842). See **Figure 4!**

The center of the stamp is home to numerous markings, all too often cluttered in an indecipherable pattern, such as census number 1. Two characteristics, however, are uniformly present. All six examples were initialed “R&Co,” as a likely control marking. See **Figure 15**. Furthermore, on close inspection, all six surviving stamp designs are “3 PM,” in black of course, quite precisely and consistently located in the same configuration and placement as the handstamp markings. No stamps are “10AM”. The author submits that of the two handstamps available, **“3PM” and not 10AM was selected to create 15L2 stamps.** As an unusual characteristic, P was closer to the 3 than the M. See **Figure 16a**.

Numeral “3” is best seen on census numbers 3 and 4. The numeral appears just to the right and below the mid point of the vertical line of “P” in PAID. “P” is best seen on census numbers 1, 3, and 6, as high and just left of “A” in PAID. See **Figure 16b**. “M” is best seen on census numbers 1, and 5, as it overlaps between the top of “I” and “D” of PAID. See **Figure 16c**. Some examples reveal the underlying time more clearly than others simply because PAID was *not* precisely and consistently struck.

Since PAID in black appears on all six examples, it was considered, but rejected as a possible third stamp design characteristic. Location of PAID on the stamps, is regularly in the center, but not as consistently positioned as “3PM.” PAID in black was more likely an obliterator of the inappropriately predetermined “3PM” stamp delivery time. Perhaps expedient, it may have been more trouble to fabricate a new mechanical handstamp without time marking, than to manually handstamp obliterate “3PM” on all stamps sold.

Cancellation Types

Figure 17 summarizes 15L2 cancellation types. *All six surviving examples possess a black PAID handstamp.* See **Figure 18**, for the cancellation *presumably* at the time of service. Moreover, census number 1, and 5 demonstrate more than one strike of PAID in black.

Every member of the entire census was also cancelled in red by various markings. Three of the six examples were cancelled by a red 12 mm tall single line

numeral “3,” census numbers 1, 5, and 6, shown in **Figure 19**.²⁶ Although census number 5, to the author’s best knowledge, has not been photographed in color, no tall numeral “3” markings for the Philadelphia Despatch Post in black ink have been recorded. It may be safe to assume census number 5 was red.

Figure 20, census number 4, is the only example canceled by a red 6mm short small double outline numeral “3.”

Figure 21, census number 2, is the only huge red “T configuration of letters” cancel, which appears to have been composed be many *letters*, perhaps forming many small red “PAID” markings, and *possibly unique*. The cross members of the “T” shape, however, are not 90 degrees to each other.

Figure 22 is census number 3, the only cancel by a red small “circle of dots,” one of *two recorded* from all Philadelphia Despatch Post covers.

It appears that the stamp *time* was intended to be obliterated by the black PAID handstamp, since the stamp design had no bearing upon the delivery time. PAID in black most likely consummated sale of a stamp. Two examples, census number 1 and 5, each reveal more than one black PAID marking, as if the second strike better obliterated the time. Two of these three occur on 10AM deliveries, perhaps to better obliterate the incorrect 3PM design, and avoid possible delivery time confusion.

The author believes that PAID in black may have been useful at time of sale, and also time of service, but it’s primary purpose was not to prevent reuse. Red cancellations were much more conspicuous, served best to prevent reuse, and were applied at time of service.

Auxiliary Handstamps

Auxiliary handstamp markings on the cover did not cancel the stamp. **Figure 23** summarizes the markings which appear on the small group of covers with a 15L2 stamp. Auxiliary markings are *all in red ink*, which the author maintains was *applied at the time of service*. All five of the folded letters had been handstamped *in red by the company timed circular marking*, shown in **Figure 5**. Four of these five appear on the cover front, whereas census number 2 appears on the reverse flap.

Only census number 4 has no handstamp marking, but also is the sole example remaining only as a front panel. The author speculates that the original full cover probably included a red circular time handstamp. The author further speculates that the red timed handstamp was “3 PM,” since only one faint PAID in black appears on the stamp center!

The other auxiliary handstamp marking is PAID in red. See **Figure 24**. Census number 2 and 3 demonstrate this marking.

²⁶ Vernon R. Morris Jr. MD, “Robertson And The City Despatch,” *The Chronicle*, Vol. 54, No. 3, August 2002, (Whole No. 195), page 179.

Service Location

Figure 25 summarizes the addressee locations. All six examples were local Philadelphia delivery, five to a street address, and one to a business without address. None were delivered to the post office for outbound mail. None of course are “from the mail” as the post office carrier department had a monopoly delivering all incoming inter-city mail. Also, it appears that none of these six originated outside of present day Philadelphia carried privately (bootlegged) from far away.²⁷

Figure 26 is a contemporary map which displays the data base delivery locations. Only three were delivered within the old city of Philadelphia, census numbers 1, 4, and 5. The remaining three were delivered slightly north of the old city, one each to adjacent districts. Census number 3 was addressed to Spring Garden district. Census number 2 was delivered to the Northern Liberties. Census number 6 was delivered just beyond Northern Liberties to Kensington. Not until July 1, 1845 was delivery outside the old city forbidden.

Dates of Service

The Philadelphia Despatch Post inaugurated prepayment service during its first month of operation, December 1842, via black octagonal stamps, designated in the *Scott Specialized Catalogue* as 15L2. The earliest recorded stamp, census number 1, was 1842, and must have been subsequent to the December 8, 1842 announcement that “stamps would soon be available,” and prior to December 31, 1842. The latest recorded 15L2 was six months later, June 13, 1843.

15L2 was the ninth different issued prepayment stamp in the world! It was manufactured by the third geopolitical entity to issue prepayment stamps!²⁸ Furthermore, during these six months, no other private post was in operation throughout the United States! From this six month period, the six known examples are distributed relatively equally, one in each month, except February 1843. Given a 0.5 to 1% survival rate, the original universe of 15L2 covers may have ranged been 300-600.²⁹

Combinations

No combinations with federal use exists. None in the data base are outbound via the federal government. No “drop” letters to the Philadelphia Post Office are recorded.³⁰

Theory

The author submits the first circular time handstamps were in black ink, and soon converted to red. Sixty of the recorded 61 markings during well over two years were red. Only the first, on December 19, 1842, was black, see Figure 4. The author also suspects the entire first group of black 15L2 stamps was likely produced before

²⁷ *Ibid*, page 184.

²⁸ Scott Trepel, *Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries*, sale 868, November 14, 2003, pages 4-5.

²⁹ Personal email communication from Richard F. Winter on January 11, 2013.

³⁰ Vernon R. Morris Jr., MD, “What is a ‘Drop Letter and a ‘Drop Dead Letter’?,” *The Chronicle*, Vol.55, No. 3, August 2003, (Whole No. 199), pages 171-177.

conversion to red ink, and further asserts that conversion was before the end of 1842.

Census number 1 was date unspecific, but designated “1842,” and therefore prior to December 31, 1842. Census number 1 also bears a red auxiliary time handstamp in *red*! Since the Philadelphia Despatch Post was using black ink through December 19th, it appears that census number 1 bears a black stamp placed into postal service after December 19, 1842, but before December 31, 1842. Also, the timed handstamp conversion to red ink likely occurred during that twelve day interval.

The stock of black stamps appears to have been sold and exhausted within six months, as the latest recorded 15L2 example is June 13, 1843. The next article will discuss, the “primitive” red stamps, which begins and ends several months later than the respective black stamps. ***The author maintains the Scott Specialized Catalogue listing numbers are chronologically incorrect for the first two issues of the Philadelphia Despatch Post. 15L2 predates 15L1!***

Of the two types of available Philadelphia Despatch Post time handstamps, *3PM rather than 10AM was selected to produce octagonal shaped stamps.* All six examples reveal a 3PM (no 10AM) delivery time, barely decipherable among the various handstamp markings in the stamp’s center.

As neither part of the stamp design, nor intended to prevent reuse, *PAID in black instead served as an obliterator of the flawed stamp design which inappropriately included a delivery time.* At the time of sale, a black PAID handstamp likely obliterated the black “3PM,” since the actual delivery time in the future was indeterminate. A second strike of a black PAID may have been applied *on the day of service for 10 AM deliveries*, to better obliterate a known incorrect delivery time, and minimize potential addressee confusion.

The author believes the various **red handstamps were applied on the day of service.** The auxiliary markings were applied on the folded letter after it was deposited into a collection box, since the covers certainly would not have been available to the company prior to service. Red cancellation of black stamps was sufficiently conspicuous to better prevent reuse and cause additional service by the Philadelphia Despatch Post. **The red cancellation served to prevent reuse, but the black PAID served to obliterate an inappropriate stamp design “time” of delivery.**

Resale of a stamp from one patron to another prior to service should not have been a concern, and would not adversely affect the company to any significant extent since no service had been performed yet, and the company already received payment. No shortage of stamps is known to have existed for potential upward black market pricing.

Significance

Two important United States postal history milestones occurred circa 1842. The Philadelphia Despatch Post was the **third geopolitical entity in the world to issue prepayment stamps.** Predating the Philadelphia Despatch Post was only England in May 1840, and the City Despatch in New York City in February 1842. To put this important event into perspective, fourth was Switzerland in March 1843,

and fifth Brazil in August 1843. Postmaster Provisional stamps in the United States were years away, July 1, 1845, and the United States did not issue federal stamps until July 1, 1847!

Secondly, the Philadelphia Despatch Post was **for eighteen months the only private post in the United States dedicated solely to city delivery of letters**. Another private post did not appear in New York, or elsewhere in the United States, for the sole purpose of prepaid intra-city letter service until Boyd's Local Post on June 17, 1844. Although other private independent mail companies, individual forwarders, and a few maverick carriers privately delivered letters, their primary mission and service was intercity letter transportation.

1842 transformed postal service to a new level through specialization and innovation. Greig's City Despatch Post, and Robertson's Philadelphia Despatch Post were a **new paradigm** of postal service, restricted exclusively to intra city mail and introduced many innovations such as letter registration, prepayment stamps for patron convenience, scores of deposit boxes throughout the city, multiple deliveries each day, and volume discounts!" This was an evolutionary step in mail service which developed by the late 1840's to a level virtually unchallenged by the government in *Philadelphia, the city with the second largest population in the United States, and third largest English speaking population in the world.*

Summary

The Philadelphia Despatch Post, described as a City Despatch Post, and owned by Robertson & Co., had been fashioned after the former City Despatch Post of New York founded by Greig. New York, however, had no private post company from August 1842 until June 1844. Early in this interval, the Philadelphia Despatch Post advertised on December 5, 1842 three cent delivery paid by recipient, twice a day, letter boxes at nearly every corner, and *registered letters* for 6 ¼ cents! The Philadelphia Despatch Post was the third geopolitical entity in the world to issue prepayment stamps for postal service!

The Philadelphia Despatch Post designed a circular handstamp incorporating their name just inside the perimeter, and delivery time in the center. The earliest surviving stampless example was December 19, 1842, **Figure 4**, and the only one recorded in black ink, of 61 known. Of the two handstamps available, the author maintains that "3 PM" was selected to manufacture derivative "primitive" octagonal prepayment stamps. A flawed stamp design, however, had been produced which inappropriately designated delivery time. By necessity, the time was obliterated by a large black PAID struck across the center, probably at the time of sale; and, for 10AM deliveries, a second black PAID was likely struck to better obliterate the incorrect 3PM. *It appears that black PAID was not a cancellation mechanism, but rather a black obliterator of a black stamp design.*

The Philadelphia Despatch Post issued primitive stamps first in black, consistent with initial use of black ink for the first circular time handstamps. Only six stamps have survived, all on cover. The earliest recorded cover was in "1842," and by process of deduction must have been in late December. The latest recorded example, June 13, 1844 has been incarcerated in the British Library for well over a

century as part of the *Tapling Collection*. Photos of the cover and letter contents are believed to be the first released to the philatelic literature.

On the day of service each 15L2 was cancelled in red to prevent reuse. Various configurations included two different style numeral threes, circle of dots, and a huge "T." At the time of service, auxiliary handstamp markings in red were applied on the cover, typically the red circular company time handstamp, and sometimes also a red PAID. The address destinations were local but diverse, with half confined to the old city, the other three to several districts immediately north.

The Philadelphia Despatch Post deserves and has secured its special place on the world stage of written communication advancement, and in the pantheon of philatelic rarities.

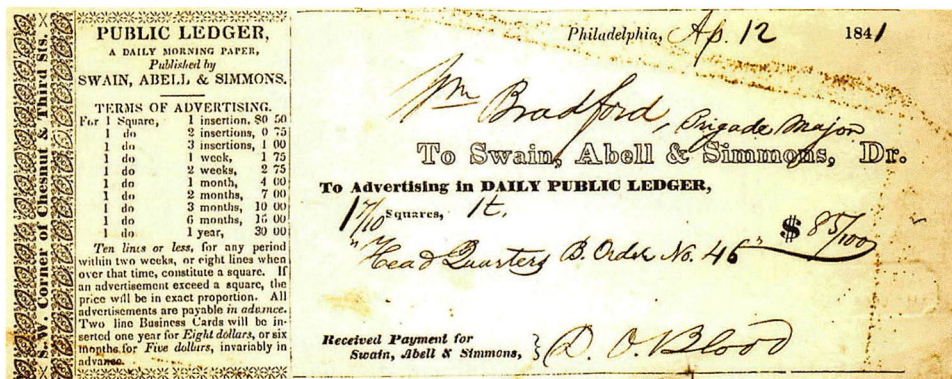


Figure 1. Receipt of \$85. on April 12, 1841 by Daniel Otis Blood, chief clerk at the *Public Ledger* newspaper, for advertisements.

The newspaper was founded in 1836 and located on the Southwest corner of 3rd and Chestnut Streets. Courtesy of Martin Richardson.

An Accommodation.
We invite attention to the following. The enterprise is one which deserves a generous support from the community.

Philadelphia Despatch Post.
Letters, &c. deposited before 9 o'clock, A. M.—
Taken for delivery at 9½ o'clock, A. M.
Letters, &c. deposited before 2 o'clock, P. M.—
Taken for delivery at 2½ o'clock, P. M.
A delivery of Letters, &c. twice every day: by which means answers may be received the same day that Letters are deposited.
Letters, &c. deposited at the Principal Office, before the hours of 10, A. M., or 2, P. M., will be taken for delivery at that time. The Postage, to any part of the city or vicinity, 3 cents.

ROBERTSON & CO.,
Principal Office, No. 83 south Second st.

Figure 2. The first known announcement of the Philadelphia Despatch Post appeared on Monday December 5, 1842 in *The Pennsylvania Inquirer & National Gazette*.

Philadelphia Despatch Post for the Delivery of Letters—A City Despatch Post for the delivery of letters and papers, has just been established in the city by Robertson & Co, for the accommodation of business men. Letter boxes have been placed at most of the public places, and on the corners of the principal squares, when the letters will be taken and delivered twice a day, if deposited within certain hours. The postage is a trifle, to be paid by the receiver. A similar Post was established in New York, and was considered a great accommodation to business men.

PHILADELPHIA DESPATCH POST.—
The subscribers inform the citizens that they have established a CITY DESPATCH POST for the delivery of LETTERS, PAPERS, &c., from any part of the city or its vicinity to another, with greater promptness and despatch. They have stationed letter boxes in careful hands at most of the public places, and at a corner of nearly every square, where, if letters, &c., are deposited before 9 A. M., will be taken out for delivery at 10 A. M.
And if deposited before 2 P. M., will be taken out for delivery at 3 P. M.
If deposited at the principal office before 10 A. M., or 3 P. M., they will be taken out for delivery at that time.
The charge of postage is 3 cents, paid by the receiver of the letter. Those wishing to pay, may deposit the same in the boxes with their letters. There will soon be Free Stamps left for their accommodation at the different stations. Price 37½ cents per dozen.
ROBERTSON & CO'S,
Principal Office, 83 South SECOND Street.
N B—Letters and Notices of importance may be registered at the Principal Office, and delivered at 6½ cents each. d7-91*

Figure 3. Three days after the first announcement, on Thursday December 8, 1842 the *Public Ledger* ran an editorial in the local affairs column, as well as an advertisement in the classified section.



Figure 4. December 19, 1842 cover addressed to Hudson, Ohio, manuscript 25 for federal rate over 300 miles. The only example of the timed Philadelphia Despatch Post circular handstamp in black ink. Ex Hollowbush and Schwartz. Offered in Lowe September 1, 1972, lot 1624; last sold in the Lowe October 26, 1973 sale, lot 1897.

An excellent early strike.



Figure 5. 28 millimeter circular time stamp for the 10 AM delivery by the Philadelphia Despatch Post. The “A” is slightly closer to the “10” than to the “M.”



Figure 6a.



Figure 6b.

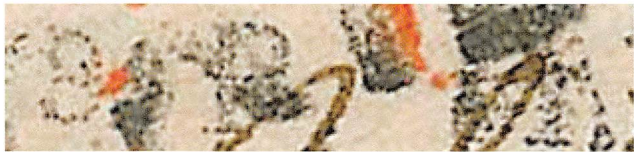


Figure 6c.

Figure 6. Census Number 1, addressed to “Treasurer” shown as cover in Figure 6a, stamp in Figure 6b, and the time stamp partially obliterated by black PAID in Figure 6c.



Figure 7a



Figure 7b.

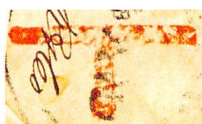


Figure 7c.



Figure 7d.

Figure 7. Census Number 2, addressed to “Rev. Boyd,” shown in cover in Figure 7a, stamp in Figure 7b, and huge “T” configuration cancel in Figure 7c, and auxiliary marking “PAID” in red as Figure 7d.



Figure 8. Census Number 3, addressed to "Potts."

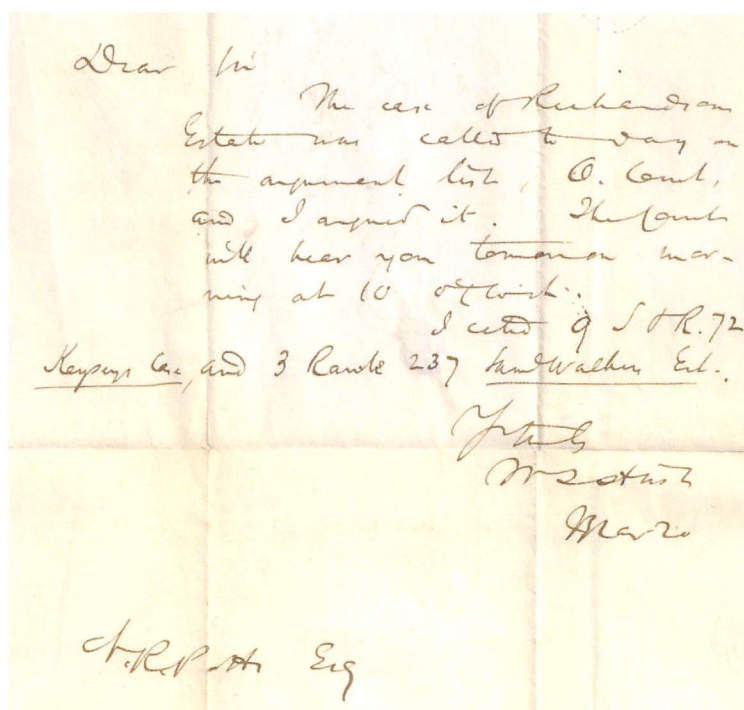


Figure 9. Census Number 3 letter contents.



Figure 10. Census Number 4, addressed to “Shrack.”



Figure 11. Census Number 5, addressed to “Booth.”



Figure 12a.



Figure 12b.

Figure 12. Census Number 6, addressed to “Keen,” shown as cover in Figure 12a, and stamp in Figure 12b.

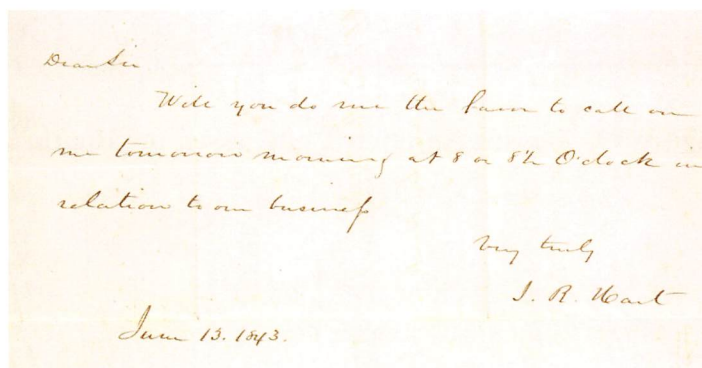


Figure 13. Census Number 6 letter contents.

DATE	COVER	BLACK 15L2	15L2 CANCEL	AUXILIARY HANDSTAMP	ADDRESSEE
1. (December) 1842	Folded letter	1. Bold "3 P M" 2. "R&Co"	1. Red 12mm single line numeral "3." 2. Red indistinct mark 3. Two black PAID, one bold	1. Red "10 AM" circular "PHILA. DESPATCH POST"	"Treasurer of the Am. Sunday School Union/ 146 Chesnut St" OLD CITY
2. January 13, 1843	Folded letter	1. Faint "3 P M" 2. "R&Co"	1. Large red "T" configuration 2. Bold black PAID	1. Red PAID 2. Red "10 AM" circular "PHILA. DESPATCH POST" on reverse	"The Revd. Georges Boyd D.D./ Rector of St. John's Church N.L./ North 2d. Street above Poplar. Lane/ Philadelphia" NORTHERN LIBERTIES
3. March 20, (1843)	Folded letter	1. "3 P M" 2. "R&Co"	1. Red circle of dots 2. Faint black PAID	1. Red PAID 2. Red "3 PM" circular "PHILA. DESPATCH POST"	"N.R. Potts Esq/ No. 304 N. 6 th / on N.E. cor. 7 th & Spring Garden" SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT
4. April 20, (1843)	Front	1. "3 P M" 2. "R&Co"	1. Red 6mm double line numeral "3" 2. Faint black PAID	none	"Mr Shrack & Co/ No 80. 4 St near Race" OLD CITY
5. May 19, (1843)	Folded letter	1. "3 P M" 2. "R&Co"	1. (Red) 12mm single line numeral "3" 2. Two black PAID, one bold	1. (Red) "10 AM" circular "PHILA. DESPATCH POST"	"Mr. J.H. Booth/ No 145 N.. 10 th Street/ Philad/ Pa" OLD CITY
6. June 13, 1843	Folded letter	1. "3 P M" 2. "R&Co"	1. Red 12mm single line numeral "3" 2. Bold black PAID	1. Red "3 PM" circular "PHILA. DESPATCH POST"	"Charles Keen Esq./ Cashier Kensington Bank." KENSINGTON DISTRICT

Figure 14. 15L2 Data Base.



Figure 15. Manuscript “R&Co” was a control mark applied on the stamps in each and every surviving cover.



Figure 16a.



Figure 16b.



Figure 16c.

Figure 16. 15L2 stamp marked in center of all examples with “3 P M” time, shown in its entirety best by Census Number 1 in Figure 16a. “P” is best shown by Census Number 6 in Figure 16b. “M” is best shown by Census Number 5 in Figure 16c.

15L2 CANCEL		
Total	Cancel Type	Census Number
6	Black PAID	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
3	Red 12mm single line 3	1, 5, 6
1	Red 6mm double outline 3	4
1	Huge red “T”	2
1	Red small “circle of dots”	3

Figure 17. 15L2 Cancel Analysis.



Figure 18. All six surviving stamps were cancelled by black “PAID,” best shown in Census Number 6.



Figure 19. Half of the surviving stamps were cancelled by the red Philadelphia Despatch Post 12 mm tall numeral “3” single line handstamp.



Figure 20. Only one of six was cancelled by a red 6mm short numeral “3” in double outline.



Figure 21. Only one of the six was cancelled by a red huge “T” configuration composed of many not quite distinguishable letters.



Figure 22. Only one of the six examples was cancelled by a red “Circle of Dots” configuration.

AUXILIARY HANDSTAMPS		
Total	Handstamp Type	Census Number
3	PHILA. DESPATCH POST / 10 AM	1, 2, 5
2	PHILA. DESPATCH POST / 3 PM	3, 6
1	PHILA. DEPSTACH POST / unknown	4
2	PAID	2, 3

Figure 23. 15L2 Auxiliary handstamp analysis.

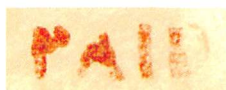


Figure 24. A third of the census demonstrated a red PAID elsewhere on the cover, no contact with the prepayment stamp.

ADDRESS		
Total	District	Census Number
2	Old City	1, 4, 5
2	Spring Garden	3
1	Northern Liberties	2
1	Kensington	6

Figure 25. Address Analysis.

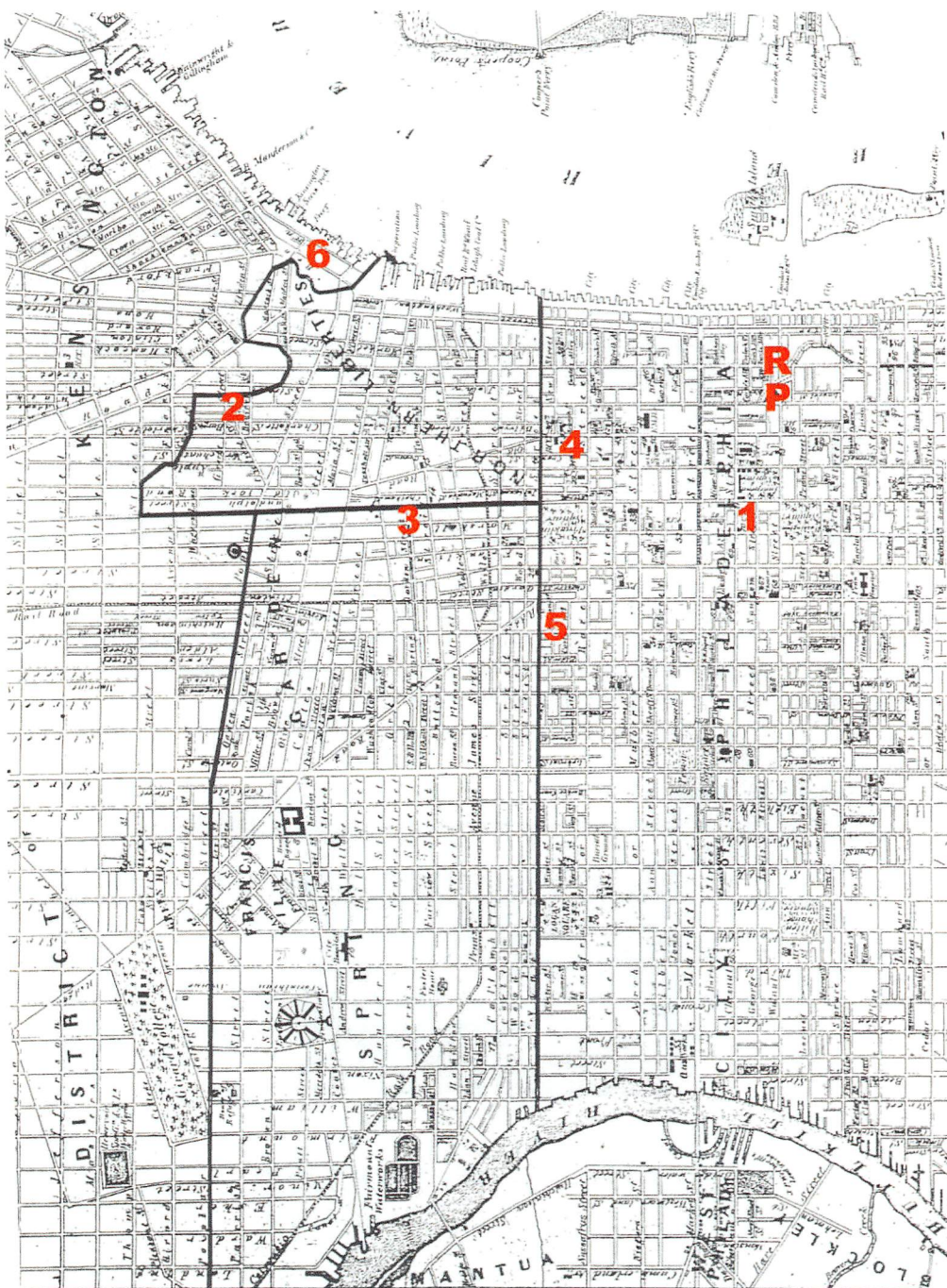
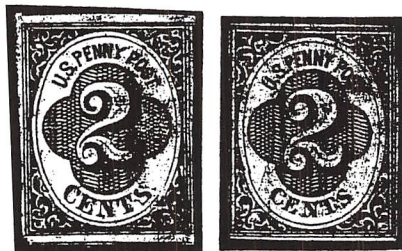
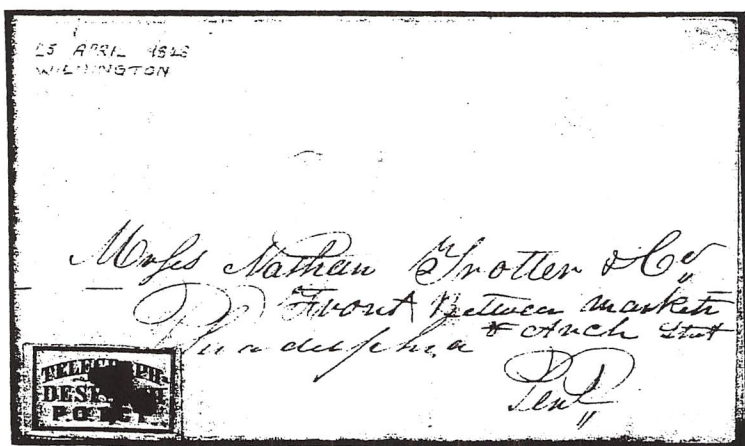


Figure 26. Map of Philadelphia circa 1850. Principal Office marked as red “R” for Robertson. Red “P” locates the main post office at the Merchants Exchange Building. Census numbers address located by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

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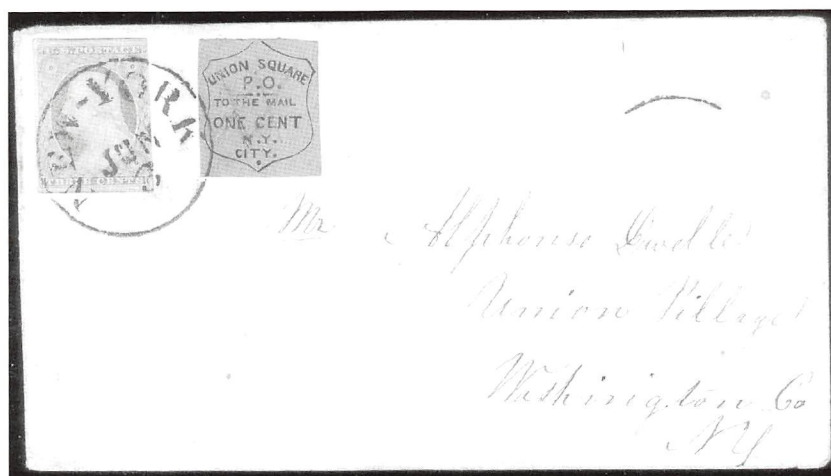
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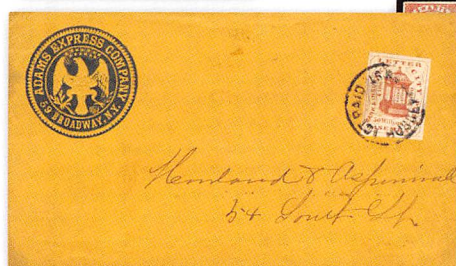
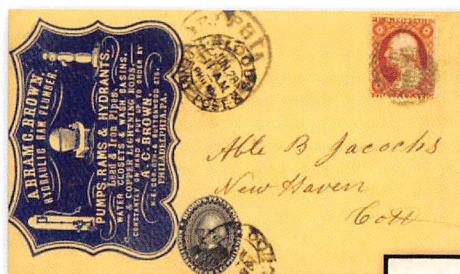
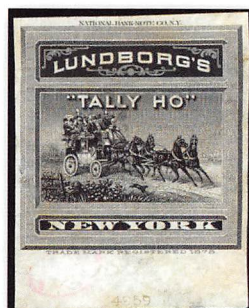
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Swarts' City Dispatch Post

The Washington Stamps

Part IV

By
Larry Lyons

This is the fourth article in a series about the Swarts' City Dispatch Post. The first article introduced the proprietor and showed his stampless covers and handstamp devices.¹ The second article fully explored the Swarts' Zachary Taylor stamps,² and the third article focused on Swarts' small square stamps.³ This article will explore Swarts' Washington stamps.

The Swarts' Washington stamps are catalogued in red (136L9), in pink (136L10), in red on bluish paper (136L11) and in pink on bluish paper (136L12). The red and the pink stamps are common on cover and the bluish paper stamps are rare on cover. The bluish paper stamps seem to come from a single batch of this paper having been used in the spring of 1856. The red and the pink Washington stamps on cover are quite often found on undated covers. I have tried to establish a census of the red and the pink Washington stamps by including only dated covers and covers with familiar Swarts' handstamps which could be attributed to time periods later in this study. My census has about 165 of the red Washington stamps on cover and more than 60 of the pink Washington stamps on cover. These 225 covers are about 60% of the estimated 250 surviving Swarts' Washington stamps on cover. This would also translate to more than 175,000 pieces of mail being handled by Swarts each year. This was not a little enterprise.

The original article by Elliott Perry and Arthur G. Hall about Swarts' City Dispatch Post⁴ has a scant page and a half on the Swarts' Washington stamps with pictures of the forgeries and no cover pictures or analysis.

Historical Background

In the 1852 presidential election General Winfield Scott was the nominee of the Whig party to succeed the Taylor-Fillmore administration (Taylor died in 1850) but he was defeated by the Democratic candidate Franklin Pierce. About this time Swarts discontinued the use of the Zachary Taylor "*Rough and Ready*" stamps and substituted for them the "*Chatham Sq. Post Office*" George Washington design. This may have been done for political motives and because the Washington design had no political significance. Dated covers bearing the Washington stamp are not

¹ *Swarts' Stampless Covers and Handstamps, The Penny Post*, Larry Lyons, April 2012, Vol. 20, No. 2, pages 41-57.

² *Swarts' Zachary Taylor Stamps, The Penny Post*, Larry Lyons, July 2012, Vol. 20, No. 3, pages 19-38.

³ *Swarts' Small Stamps, The Penny Post*, Larry Lyons, October 2012, Vol. 20, No. 4, pages 22-32.

⁴ *The Chatham Square Post Office and Swarts' City Dispatch Post, The American Philatelist*, Vol. 54, No. 10, July 1941.

common but the earliest recorded date is March 1852.⁵ The third article in this series focused on the Zachary Taylor stamps. On page 36 of that article is a table showing the eleven printings of the Stone I through Stone III Zachary Taylor stamps in various colors. All of the printings except Stone III were done prior to October 11, 1852. The Stone III Zachary Taylor stamp in deep carmine reappeared on November 5, 1857 to November 29, 1858. This was under the Lockwood ownership of the Swarts' City Dispatch Post. This fits in nicely after the end of the period of use of Swarts' Washington stamps.

Period of Use

According to Perry, the earliest recorded use of a Swarts Washington stamp on cover is recorded on a cover to Philadelphia dated March 22, 1852.⁶ I have also found a cover dated March 26, 1852 with the Swarts' red Washington stamp.

Perry reported the latest recorded use of a Swarts' Washington stamp to be on a local cover dated May 5, 1857, in the Laurence B. Mason collection. This cover has a Swarts Type E handstamp and a boxed PAID/SWARTS handstamp. I record uses of the red Washington Swarts stamp on September 1, 1857 and November 28, 1857. There is also a late unverified stray use dated March 11, 1858. I also record a late use of the pink Washington Swarts stamp on August 6, 1857.

From the above it is concluded that Swarts' Washington stamps were in use from March 22, 1852 through November 28, 1857, a period of over 5½ years. Let's take a look at some of the uses to foreign destinations.

Red Washington stamps, 136L9

To Germany	8 covers
To Canada	1 cover
To Mexico	1 cover

Pink Washington stamps, 136L10

To Germany	4 covers
To Switzerland	1 cover

Total of 15 covers to foreign destinations

Figure 1 is an example of the Swarts' pink Washington stamp on a cover dated October 7, 1854 to Bremerhaven, Germany. There are 12 recorded covers with Washington stamps to Germany. These letters are addressed to Frankfurt, Bremen, Bavaria, Odisheim, Wurttenburg, and Bremerhaven. These along with other Swarts' covers to Germany indicate a sizeable number of German immigrants living in central Manhattan in the 1850's.

Figure 2 is an example of the Swarts' red Washington stamp on a cover dated August 30, 1855 to Quebec, Canada. This is the only recorded Swarts' Washington stamp on a cover to Canada.

⁵ *The Private Local Posts of the United States of America*, Patton, Robson Lowe, 1967, Page 44.

⁶ *Ibid*, page 30.



Figure 1. The pink Swarts' Washington stamp on a cover dated October 7, 1854 to Bremerhaven, Germany. Siegel Auctions (Kuphal), November 15-16, 2006, Lot 1697.

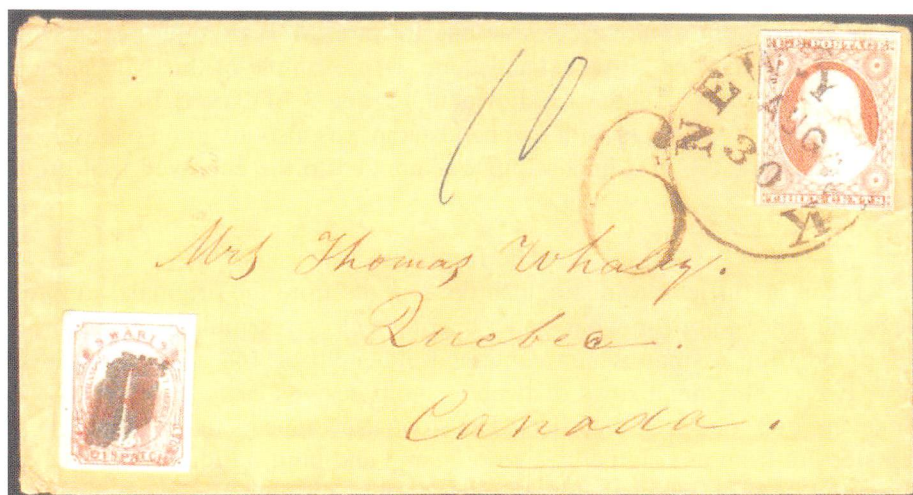


Figure 2. The red Swarts' Washington stamp on a cover dated August 30, 1855 to Quebec, Canada. David Feldman, (Hackmey), July 20, 2010, Lot 10201, PF.

The Swarts' Washington stamps are known on cover to many U.S. cities. Seven examples are recorded to Ithaca and four are recorded to Sing Sing.

About 35% of the Swarts' Washington stamps are on covers to local addresses and 65% are to the mail. This is an indication of how strong Swarts' City Dispatch Post was against the New York carrier system.

About 100, nearly 70%, of the Swarts' Washington stamps on cover have the 3¢ 1851 stamp paying the postage. Additionally, another four have the 3¢ 1857 stamp paying the postage and two are on postal stationery entires.

Handstamps Found on Swarts' Washington Stamps

Swarts stamps with the Washington portrait were frequently used on notices and other city mail and occur cancelled with one or the other of the oval framed cancellations in use. Occasionally the "PAID SWARTS" in truncated rectangular frame was used as a canceller with an oval framed handstamp applied elsewhere on the cover. When used on letters deposited in the U.S. mails for out of town delivery the stamp was usually cancelled with a killer type device, usually a grid or star.

The census reveals that the Swarts boxed "PAID" handstamp was used on local mail. This handstamp is indicated as PAID in the census table. See **Figure 3**. Similarly the Swarts' Type B handstamp is found on local mail and at some point around the tail end of 1854, the Type B handstamp was replaced with the Type E handstamp which was also used on local mail. See **Figure 3**. Mail going out of town received one of the ten fancy cancels by Swarts. See **Figure 4**.

The Engraved Stamps

There are original engraved examples of the Swarts' Washington stamps. These are trial proofs. They are scarce but not rare. Most examples exist with the early Swarts' straightline "PAID" handstamp. An example of this handstamp on a cover dated March 18, 1849 was shown in **Figure 3** of Part II of this series of articles.⁷ A list of six covers with this handstamp was also given on page 21 of that article. Perhaps the "PAID" handstamp was applied to the engraved trial proofs to prevent their use.

The Reprints

It can be difficult to distinguish the reprints from the originals. Impression in black and other colors on white paper bearing a close resemblance to the originals were printed from a stone which contained either 96 or 144 subjects arranged in eight or twelve horizontal rows of twelve stamp designs each. A block of 84 (the upper seven rows) has been recorded. The stone used appears to have been prepared by transferring from an original design or stamp and built up in blocks of 24 single transfers (6x4). No originals could be made to plate on this block and many of the so-called reprints have minor individual characteristics which do not occur on original stamps. The reprints have been noted in black, rose, carmine, orange, greenish blue, pale blue and lavender grey, the last three colors being uncommon.⁸

⁷ *Swarts' Zachary Taylor Stamps, the Penny Post*, Larry Lyons, Vol. 20, No. 2, page 22.

⁸ *The Private Local Posts of the United States of America*, Patton, Robson Lowe, 1967, page 44.



Early Boxed
"PAID"



Handstamp
Type B



Handstamp
Type E

Figure 3. Swarts' handstamps found on local mail.

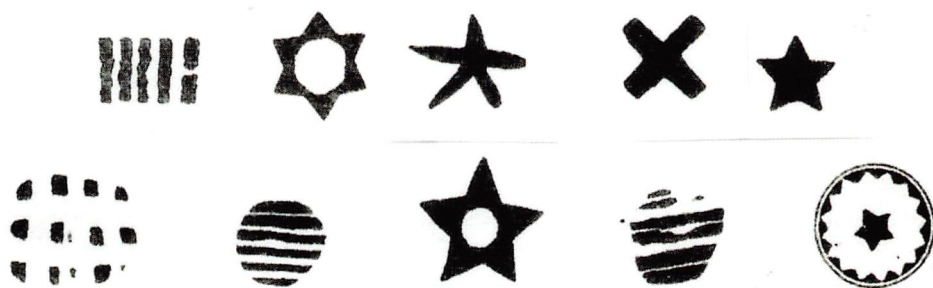


Figure 4. Swarts' postmarks used on mail going out of town.

Examples can be seen in **Figure 5**. The backs of the reprints can be a quick means of identification. The genuine stamps were gummed and the reprints were not. The backs of the reprints are usually clean and one can see the thin hard paper on which they were printed. See **Figure 6**. Also the reprints show a small colored flaw on the upright of the “M” in “CHATHAM” as well as minor individual flaws which do not occur on the genuine original stamps.



Figure 5. Examples of the reprints of Swarts' Washington stamps.

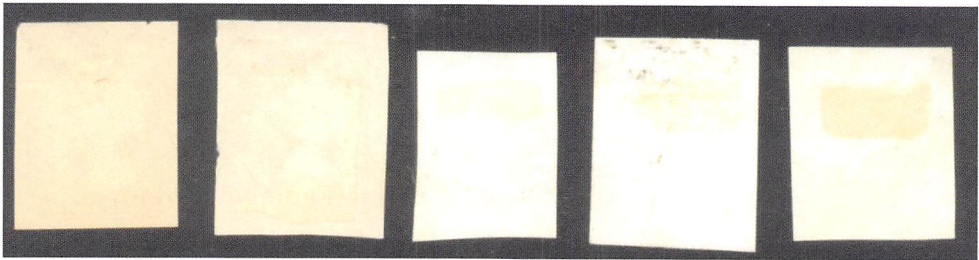


Figure 6. The backs of reprint stamps.

Forgeries

There are eight different forgeries of the Swarts Washington stamps. An explanation of the differences can be found in the Lyons *Identifier*.⁹

Part V

Part V in this series of articles will present findings and conclusions of the full study of the stamps and handstamps of Swarts' City Dispatch Post. Please address any questions to the author.

136L9 Red

<u>Stamps</u>	<u>Handstamps</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Auction</u>
	B, Boxed PAID		Local to Washington St	Ventura sale 124
	E, Boxed PAID	May 24	91 East 13 5 th St.	Siegel, Nov. 15-16, 2006, Lot 1698
		April 29	Frankfurt, Germany	Siegel, Nov. 15-16, 2006, Lot 1696
	E, Boxed PAID	Dec 21	62 Broadway	H.R. Harmer, Feb. 15-17, 2007, Lot 4126
	E, Boxed PAID	Dec 29	142	Nutmeg, Sep. 28, 2006, Lot 2068
U2		Dec 11	Deposit, N.Y.	Harbour, June 20-22, 2007, Lot 469
	B, Boxed PAID		133 Amity	Nutmeg, April 17, 2007, Lot 6943
	Grid	Feb 19 (1856)	Ithaca, N.Y.	Schuyler Rumsey, Dec. 5-7, 2007, Lot 456
#11		Oct 2		Weiss,
	B, <u>PAID</u>			Siegel, March 17, 2006, Lot 4980, PF
	E, Boxed PAID	Feb 12	Local	Siegel, March 17, 2006, Lot 4981
		Dec 6, 1855	Local	Siegel, March 17, 2006, Lot 4982, PF
#11	Star	Jan 18	Sing, Sing, N.Y.	Bennett, May 9-11, 2006, Lot 1893, PF
#11		Aug 16	Philadelphia	Schuyler Rumsey, June 2, 2006, Lot 244
	B, Boxed PAID		10 West 29	Schuyler Rumsey, June 2, 2006, Lot 96
#11	Star	Sept 24	Sing Sing	Bennett, June 7-8, 2004, Lot 580
#11	Grid	Aug 26	Macedon, N.Y.	Bennett, June 7-8, 2004, Lot 581
	Grid	July 16, 1855	Philadelphia	Sotheby, March 7-9, 1978, Lot 1100

⁹ *The Identifier for Carriers, Locals, Fakes, Forgeries and Bogus Posts of the United States*, Larry Lyons, December 1998, Volume 3, pages 1016-1019.

<u>Stamps</u>	<u>Handstamps</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Auction</u>
#11A	Star	June 21	New Brunswick	Bennett, June 27-28, 2008, Lot 422
	E, Boxed PAID	Mar 31	15 James St.	Schuyler Rumsey, Dec. 2-4, 2005, Lot 851
	E, Boxed PAID	Sept 1 (ca. 1857)	35 Wall St.	Schuyler Rumsey, Dec. 10-12, 2003, Lot 1415
#11	Grid	April 18, 1855	Ohio	Schuyler Rumsey, May 7-9, 2004, Lot 484
	E, Boxed PAID	Dec 1	80½ Eighth Ave.	Nutmeg, Sept. 4, 2003, Lot 3991
	E, Boxed PAID	June 6	289 Broadway	Knapp
#11	Boxed PAID	1856	Benton, N.Y.	Knapp
#11	circle	Jan 23	Dobbs Ferry	Knapp
#11	circle	Aug 24	Bangor, Maine	Knapp
#11	Grid	Jan 31 (1856)	Danbury, CT	Knapp, Christies, Jun. 20-22, 1984 Lot 596
		April 23, 1855	Huntington, N.Y.	Knapp
	B, Boxed PAID	April 21, 1854	202 Greenwich St.	Knapp, Lowe, USA1, Mar. 15, 1972, Lot 1296
	B, <u>PAID</u>	Feb 2, 1853	58 Broad St	Knapp
#11		Mar 12	Macedon	William Fox, Dec. 4-5, 1991, Lot 469, PF
#11	Grid	1855	Ithaca	Nutmeg, Jul. 8, 1999, Lot 2208
	Grid	Jul 31, (1855)	Washingtonville, N.Y.	Kutstis, Jul. 12, 1997, Lot 325
#11	Grid	March 19, 1856	Darien, Conn.	Kutstis, Nov. 24, 1997, Lot 1197
#11	Grid	July 23 (1855)	Darien, Conn.	Kutstis, Nov. 24, 1997, Lot 1198
	E, Boxed PAID	June 18, 1856	23 & 25 Wall	Suburban, Nov.15, 1997, Lot 235
	E, Boxed, PAID	May 23		Shreve (Richmond), Jan. 24, 1998, Lot 746
#11 (claret)		April 24	Kent Post Office	Shreve (Richmond), Jan. 24, 1998, Lot 747
#11	Grid	Aug 30 (1855)	Quebec, Canada	Feldman (Hackmey), Jul. 20, 2010, Lot 10201 PF
#11		Feb 13, 1857	West Winsted, Conn	Feldman (Hackmey), Jul. 20, 2010, Lot 10200 PF
#11A	Grid	Mar 22 (1856)	Macedon, N.Y.	Siegel, Oct. 21, 2010, Lot 3154
	E, Boxed PAID	Nov 26	64 E. 31 st St.	Kelleher, Oct. 24, 2010, Lot 4063
#11	Grid	Feb 11 (1856)	Marlboro, Mass.	Spink, Oct. 14-15, 2009, Lot 39
	E	Dec 6, 1855		Schuyler Rumsey, Nov. 17-20, 2009, Lot 2042
#11A	Grid	Sept 4 (1855)	Poland, Me.	Siegel, Dec. 13-15, 2010, Lot 4085

<u>Stamps</u>	<u>Handstamps</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Auction</u>
	Grid	Feb 9 (1856)	N.Y.	Harmer Schau, Jan. 28-30, 2011, Lot 1341
	E, Boxed PAID	Jan 8		Weiss, Oct. 1985, Lot 1247
	E, Boxed, PAID	Feb ____	67	John Kaufmann, Sep. 7, 1979, Lot 637
	B, <u>PAID</u>		58 Broad St.	Lowell Newman, Jan. 12-13, 1993, Lot 288
#11	E, Boxed PAID	June 21	Castle Garden, N.Y.	Lowell Newman, Jan. 12-13, 1993, Lot 291
#11		May 14	Ohio	John Kaufmann, Jun. 9, 1979, Lot 530
#11	Boxed PAID		Smiths Landing, N.J.	John Kaufmann, Mar. 27, 1976, Lot 610
	Boxed PAID	Feb ____ 1855 or 1856		Siegel (Meyersburg), Jun. 25, 1997, Lot 389
#11	Grid	Jan 18 (1856)	Sing Sing	Siegel (Meyersburg), Jun. 25, 1997, Lot 390, PF
#11	Grid	Jan 17, 1855	Ithaca	Siegel (Meyersburg), Jun. 25, 1997, Lot 391
	E, Boxed PAID	May 23		Siegel, Dec. 13-14, 1994, Lot 1645
#11		July 10	Kent Post Office	Robert Kaufmann, Dec. 10, 1990, Lot 797
	E, Boxed PAID	Jan 24	59 Market St.	John Fox, (Lehman), Oct. 29, 1954, Lot 689
	E, Boxed PAID	Dec 29	5 Broadway	Ventura sale 143, Lot 195, PF
#26		Nov 28, 1857	Orange, NJ	Shreve, Mar. 7-8, 2003, Lot 1011
#11A		July 28 (1853)	Macedon, N.Y.	Siegel, Mar. 25, 1993, Lot 382 Schuyler Rumsey, Dec. 3-5, 1996, Lot 857
	E, Boxed PAID	March 7	E 11 th St.	Siegel, Oct. 29, 1996, Lot 2201, PF
#11	circle	Feb 13, 1857	West Winsted, Conn	Siegel, Dec. 12-14, 1995, Lot 1256
#11	Grid	June 30 (1855)	Me.	Siegel, Apr. 27, 1990, Lot 553
		Aug 11, 1855	Bremen, Germany	Siegel, Sep. 5-6, 1991, Lot 496 Siegel, Apr. 27, 1990, Lot 558
	E, Boxed PAID	Sept 20	20 Nassau St.	Kelleher, Dec. 10-11, 1996, Lot 1384
	B, Boxed PAID	Rec. April 9, 1854	Stillman	Siegel, Mar. 26, 1996, Lot 317
		May 17, 1854	Bavaria, Germany	Siegel, Mar. 26, 1996, Lot 319
	E, Boxed PAID	July 9	Cor. Mercer & Fourth St.	Schuyler Rumsey, Dec. 1-3, 1998, Lot 1109

<u>Stamps</u>	<u>Handstamps</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Auction</u>
	E, Boxed PAID	Oct 29, 1855	155 W. 21 St	Harmers, Mar. 17, 1998, Lot 627
	E, Boxed PAID	Jan 30	229 Broadway	Wolffers, Oct. 19-20, 1994, Lot 450
	Grid	May 23, 1853	Odisheim, Germany	Am. Phil. Brokers, Dec. 13-14, 1977, Lot 312
	E	Nov 10	62 Clinton	Am. Phil. Brokers, Jan. 16, 1980, Lot 254
	E, Boxed PAID	Jan 14	Cor. card	John Fox, May 30, 1981, Lot 336
	E, Boxed PAID	May 9, 10, 1855	96 Chatham	Ventura, sale 108, Nov. 1990, Lot 769 Lowe (USA1), March 15, 1972, Lot 1299 Patton P45
	B, Boxed, PAID		111 Broadway	Ventura, sale 108, Nov 1990, Lot 770
#11			Yonkers	Ventura, Sale 108, Nov 1990, Lot 771
#11		April 16 (1855)	Sing, Sing	Robson Lowe, Sep. 16, 1982, Lot 530
#11		June 24	Sandusky, Ohio	Siegel, Jul. 16, 1998, Lot 1740
#11	Grid	July 1, (1855)	Warren, Me.	Harmers, Oct. 18, 1978, Lot 1142
		1854	New Brunswick	Ivy & Mader, Dec. 13-14, 2002, Lot 3538, PF
	B, Boxed PAID	April 21, 1854	202 Greenwich St.	Siegel, Dec. 12-13, 1997, Lot 1987
	E, Boxed PAID	Dec. 29		Kelleher, Nov. 10-11, 1998, Lot 1593
	E, Boxed PAID	April 16, 1855	64 John St.	Schuyler Rumsey, Nov. 30-Dec.2, 2000, Lot 708
	E, Boxed PAID	Jan 14	City Hall	Schuyler Rumsey, Nov. 30-Dec.2, 2000, Lot 709
		April 29	Wurttenburg, Germany	Ivy, Shreve & Mader, Jul.14-16, 1993, Lot 3256
#11	Odd, grid	Dec 5		Siegel, Oct. 22-25, 1968, Lot 906
U10				Siegel, Oct. 22-25, 1968, Lot 855
	E, Boxed PAID	Jan 8		Siegel, May 12-14, 1966, Lot 1437
#11	Grid ?		Newburgh, N.Y.	Mozian, Jan. 19, 1956, Lot 206
#11	Grid	Sept 29	Macedon, N.Y.	Siegel, Dec. 17-19, 2001, Lot 1647
	E, Boxed PAID	Oct 1	21 Broadway	Siegel, Sep. 26-28, 1972, Lot 1892
#11	E, Boxed PAID	May 29	Trenton to N.Y.	Siegel, Sep. 26-28, 1972, Lot 1893
#11	Boxed, PAID	April 13	Sing Sing,	Kaufmann, Summer 1988, Lot 681
#11			Chesapeake City, Md.	Kaufmann, Summer 1988, Lot 682

<u>Stamps</u>	<u>Handstamps</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Auction</u>
#11		July 28	Macedon, N.Y.	Bennett, Mar. 29, 1999, Lot 1522
#11	Grid	July 24 (1853-54)	Oswego, N.Y.	Bennett, Mar. 29, 1999, Lot 1523
	Grid	July 26, 1854	Frankfurt, Germany	Siegel, Mar. 6-7, 2001, Lot 735
	Grid	June 13		Siegel, Mar. 6-7, 2001, Lot 1772
#11		July 1, 1855	Philadelphia	Siegel, Apr. 22, 1980, Lot 73
#11		1856		Siegel, Jan. 9-12, 1968, Lot 1721
	E, Boxed PAID	Nov 1	Tribune Office	Siegel, Jun. 22-24, 1966, Lot 1659
	Grid		Vt.	Siegel, Jun. 22-24, 1966, Lot 1660
	B, <u>PAID</u>		Boston corner, to Mass.	Kaufmann, Oct. 6, 1983, Lot 608
	Grid	Aug 23	Germany	Kaufmann, Nov. 11, 1982, Lot 1455
#11	Grid	March 28 (ca. 1856)		Kaufmann, Nov. 11, 1982, Lot 1456
#11	Boxed, PAID	Nov 24	Delaware County	Kaufmann, Nov. 11, 1982, Lot 1458
	B, Boxed, PAID	1854	161 Broadway	Phillips, Mar. 21, 1981, Lot 659
#11	Grid	June 3	Philadelphia	Phillips, May 29, 1982, Lot 532
#11	Grid	June 12, 1855	Philadelphia	Siegel, Oct. 21, 1982, Lot 470
#11	Grid	May 12, (ca. 1855)	Me.	Siegel, Oct. 21, 1982, Lot 471
#11	Grid	July 10 (ca. 1855)	Kent, N.Y.	Kaufmann, Dec. 10, 1990, Lot 797
#11			Westfield, N.J.	Cee-Jay, Sep. 5, 1999, Lot 14
	B, Grid		10 Hammersky Place	Frajola, Sep. 10-11, 1988, Lot 818
	B, <u>PAID</u>		218 West 14 th St.	Siegel, Jun. 18-19, 1991, Lot 256
#11	E, Boxed PAID	May 29	From Trenton, to 82 Bway	Christies, Jun. 14, 1987, Lot 2935
#11		May 19, 1856 PAID	Wardsville, N.C.	Christies, Sep. 11, 1992, Lot 981
#26		Nov 28, 1857	Orange, N.J.	Feldman, Sep. 24-28, 1979, Lot 5791
#11		March 28 (ca. 1856)	Vt.	Feldman, Nov. 19-23, 1985, Lot 35330
No			Hotel corner to Great Falls, N.H.	Christies, Mar. 13, 1991, Lot 1543
	E, Boxed PAID	Feb 1855	106 W 17 th St.	Christies, Mar. 13, 1991, Lot 1544, PF
	B, Boxed PAID	1854	Local	Christies, Sep. 19, 1985, Lot 165
#11A		Aug 30, 1855	Quebec, Canada	Schuyler Rumsey, Dec. 3-5, 1996, Lot 855

<u>Stamps</u>	<u>Handstamps</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Auction</u>
	B, <u>PAID</u>		Clarendon Hotel	Schuyler Rumsey, Dec. 3-5, 1996, Lot 856
#11		May 20, 1854	Portland, Me.	Butterfield, Oct. 7, 1996, Lot 1847
#11	Grid	June 27		Kaufmann, Sep. 16, 1981, Lot 826
#11		April 18	Macedon, N.Y.	Kaufmann, Sep. 16, 1981, Lot 828
	Grid	Feb 4	Baltimore	Kaufmann, Sep. 16, 1981, Lot 830
#11	Grid	March 28 (ca. 1856)	Pittsfield, Vt.	Kaufmann, Jan.9, 1987, Lot 602
	E, Boxed PAID	Oct 4	Allen	Kaufmann, Jan. 9, 1987, Lot 603
	E, Boxed PAID	May 6?	Madison Sq. P.O.	Kaufmann, Jun. 26, 1987, Lot 391
	E, Boxed PAID	July 6	Local	Sotheby's, Jun. 24-26, 1980, Lot 2011
#11		Aug 16	Philadelphia	Wolffer's, Apr. 29-30, 1992, Lot 550
#11		April 14	Macedon, N.Y.	Wolffer's, Apr. 29-30, 1992, Lot 551
	B, <u>PAID</u>		Broadway P.O.	Kelleher, Mar. 5-6, 1991, Lot 1427
#11	Grid	July 17, 1856	Yonkers	Kelleher, Mar. 16, 1993, Lot 907
	E, Boxed PAID	Sept 1, 1857	Wall St.	Harmers, April 8, 1969, Lot 207
#11	Grid ?	March 26, 1852		John Fox, Jan. 17, 1985, Lot 400
#11	Boxed PAID	Sept 18 (ca. 1855)	Macedon, N.Y.	Siegel, Feb. 17-19, 1993, Lot 130
	E, Boxed PAID	May 24		Siegel, Feb. 17-19, 1993, Lot 131
	B, Boxed PAID	Feb 22, 1854	From San Jose	Newman, Sep. 1-2, 1993, Lot 1532
#11		Nov 5	Swansea	Newman, Sep. 1-2, 1993, Lot 1533
	E, Boxed PAID	May 2	158 Waverly Pl	Sotheby's Apr. 20-21, 1982, Lot 349
	E, Boxed PAID	Jan 10, 11	Cor. Card, Local	Sotheby's Oct. 30, 1979, Lot 376
	Grid	May 11, 1855	Ad corner, Germany	Siegel (Golden), Nov. 15-17, 1999, Lot 1515
#11		June 1854	Ithaca	Siegel, Sep. 17-21, 1979, Lot 2121
	E, Boxed PAID	Jan 11	Cor. Card, Local	Harmers, Jul. 22, 1976, Lot 1386
	E, Boxed PAID	May 1	236 Broadway	Siegel (Hall), Nov. 13-14, 2000, Lot 772
	E, Boxed PAID	June 18, 1856	23-25 Wall Street	Frajola, Jan. 13, 1989, Lot 524
#11	Grid	July 27, 1855	Philadelphia	Siegel, Apr. 24-25, 1968, Lot 1013
#11	Star		Nashville, Tenn.	Robbins, Sep. 2-3, 1981, Lot 1937
#11	Grid	Aug 19	Macedon, N.Y.	Phillips, Dec. 7, 1991, Lot 736
No		Dec 7, 1853	Patterson, N.J.	Phillips, Dec. 7, 1991, Lot 737

<u>Stamps</u>	<u>Handstamps</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Auction</u>
#11		Sept 27	Ferrisburgh, VT	Newman, Sep. 12-13, 1992, Lot 330
#11	Grid	Jan 17, 1855	Ithaca	Newman, May 31 – Jun. 2, 1995, Lot 1755
	E, Boxed PAID	Sept 1, 1855	Local	Siegel, Sep. 6-7, 1984, Lot 991
	E, Boxed, PAID	Aug 30	Herald Office	Kaufmann, Jul. 10-11, 1981, Lot 397
#11	Grid		Springfield	Siegel, Dec. 16-18, 1986, Lot 669
	E, Boxed PAID	Dec 29, (1854)	Local	Lowe, USA1, Mar. 15, 1972, Lot 1298
#26	Grid ?	March 11, 1858	Old Haddam, Conn.	Siegel, Sep. 5-6, 1991, Lot 495
	Grid	Sept 2, 1854	Mexico	PF
#11		March 22, 1852	Phila	American Philatelist

136L9 Red Not Genuine

<u>Stamps</u>	<u>Handstamps</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Auction</u>
	B, <u>PAID</u>	Aug 19, 1850	50 Wall St.	John Fox, Jan. 17, 1985, Lot 401
		1850	Cortland Village, N.Y.	Siegel, April 27, 1990, Lot 552

136L10 Pink

<u>Stamps</u>	<u>Handstamps</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Auction</u>
#11	Boxed PAID	Sept 18	Macedon, N.Y.	Siegel, Nov. 15-15, 2006, Lot 1699
	Star	Oct. 7, 1854	Bremerhaven, Germany	Siegel, Nov. 15-16, 2006, Lot 1697 Siegel, (Golden), Nov. 15-17, 1999, Lot 1517
	B, <u>PAID</u>	Jan 25, 1853	90 John St.	Weiss, Oct. 28, 2006, Lot 2649 PF Frajola (Middendorf), May 1990, Lot 757
	E, Boxed PAID	Dec 29	5 Broadway Bank Bldg.	Schuyler Rumsey, Dec. 6-8, 2006, Lot 677, PF
#11	Grid	Feb 17, 1857	Point Pleasant, N.Y.	Nutmeg, Apr. 17, 2007, Lot 6944
	B, <u>PAID</u>		Broadway Post Office	Schuyler Rumsey, Jun. 2, 2006, Lot 97
	E, Boxed PAID	June 4	NY 1 CT	Burr, May 16, 1958, Lot 401
#11	Squares	12	Virginia	Regency, Dec. 13, 2003, Lot 1739
#11		Mar 31	Macedon	Bennett, Jun. 7-8, 2004, Lot 581
#11		Oct 16		Bennett, Jun. 7-8, 2004, Lot 583
#11		Sept 25	Macedon, N.Y.	Regency, Oct. 11, 2003, Lot 1722
#11	Grid	Jan 17, 1855	Ithaca	Weiss, Feb. 19, 1995, Lot 3604
#11		Feb 14	Wayne CT	Kukstis, Nov. 29, 1992, Lot 814

<u>Stamps</u>	<u>Handstamps</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Auction</u>
#11	Grid	May 25, 1854		Nutmeg, Feb. 24, 1998, Lot 2572, PF
	Grid	March 19, 1853	Kentucky	Kukstis, Jul. 12, 1997, Lot 324
#11		Aug 5	Saratoga Springs	Schuyler Rumsey, Nov. 11-13, 1999, Lot 1860
	B, Boxed PAID	July 17, 1854	57 W 22	Harmer Shaun, Feb. 20, 2010, Lot 1868
	B, Boxed PAID		34 Broadway	Kelleher, Oct. 24, 2010, Lot 4066
		Feb 22	Macedon, N.Y.	Sandfield, Oct. 2000
		Feb 23	Germany	Sandfield, Sep. 2009
	E, Boxed PAID	Feb 3	60 Wall St.	Heritage, Feb. 5-7, 2009, Lot 33158, PF
#26	Grid	March 11, 1858	Old Haddam, Conn.	Siegel (Geyser), Dec. 3, 2008, Lot 1259
	2 Bar	June 16, 1853	Pittston, PA	Phillips, Jun. 21, 1980, Lot 727
U10		May 8	Washington, D.C.	Phillips, Jun. 21, 1980, Lot 728
	E, Boxed PAID	Oct 11	Cor. Horatio & West	John Fox, Feb. 11, 1954, Lot 431
	E, Boxed PAID	Nov 25, 26	60 East 31 St	Robert Kaufmann, Dec. 10, 1990, Lot 799
#11		March 31	Macedon, N.Y.	Siegel, Mar. 26, 1996, Lot 320
	B, <u>PAID</u>	Jan 25, 1853	90 John	Ivy Mader, Mar. 27-28, 1996, Lot 1440, PF
		April 29	Wurttemberg, Germany	Ivy Shreve & Mader, Dec. 12-14, 1990, Lot 2364
	E, Boxed PAID	June 9	Box 59 Ret P.O. Eighth St.	Robert Kaufmann, Jun. 12, 1982 Lot 765
	B, <u>PAID</u>		Broadway P.O.	Ivy, Shreve & Mader, Jul. 14-16, 1993, Lot 3257
	E	July 26, 1856	Zurich, Switzerland	Bennett, Jun. 7-8, 1998, Lot 631 Gibbons, Oct. 1982
	B, <u>PAID</u>	ms 1847 ??	217 Greenwich St.	Harmers (Waterhouse), Jun. 30, 1955, Lot 926
	B, Boxed PAID	June 16, 1854	Tribune	Siegel (Golden), Nov. 15-17, 1999, Lot 1518
#11		Sept 2	Macedon, N.Y.	Siegel (Golden), Nov. 15-17, 1999, Lot 1519
	Grid	March 22, 1853		Siegel, Sep. 26-28, 1972, Lot 1897
	E, Boxed PAID	April 7	Local	Siegel, Sep.26-28, 1972, Lot 1895
	B, <u>PAID</u>	Dec 10, 1853	21 E 15	Frajola, Aug. 27, 1994, Lot 340
	B, <u>PAID</u>	1853		Bennett, Nov. 15, 1998, Lot 327 PF
#11		Aug 5	Saratoga Springs	Bennett, Nov. 15, 1998, Lot 328
#11		Sept 25	Macedon, N.Y.	Regency, May 18, 2002, Lot 1652

<u>Stamps</u>	<u>Handstamps</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Auction</u>
	B, PAID		58 Broadway	Shreve, Sep. 26, 1996, Lot 198
	B, Boxed PAID		111 Broadway	Kaufmann, May 13, 1989, Lot 247
#11		May 7		Frajola, Mar. 21, 1992, Lot 295
#11 on top		April 17	Seminary, N.J.	Ivy & Mader, Dec. 13-14, 1995, Lot 1055, PF
#11 claret		April 24 (1857)	Kent Post Office	Kaufmann, Dec. 10, 1990, Lot 798
	E, Boxed PAID	Nov 26	64 East 31 St.	Kaufmann, Dec. 10, 1990, Lot 799
#11		Aug 6, 1857	Columbia, PA	Sol Salkind, Jul. 2, 1974, Lot 528
#11		May 19, 1856 PAID	Wardsville, NC	Manning, Nov. 21, 1981, Lot 877 See 136L9
#11	Grid ?	Dec 5	Macedon, N.Y.	Christies, Jun. 14, 1989, Lot 2934
#11	Star		Macedon, N.Y.	Nutmeg, Jun. 18, 2002, Lot 1499
	E	Aug 2	Local	Ivy & Mader, Jun. 2002, Lot 2311
No	Grid	10 PAID	Hotel cor	Kaufmann, Sep. 5, 1985, Lot 392
#11	Boxed, PAID	Sept. 20, 1856	Benton, N.Y.	Shreve, Jun. 15-16, 2001, Lot 750
	Grid	April 7, 1853	Germany	Siegel (Golden), Nov. 15-17, 1999, Lot 1516
	E, Boxed PAID	Dec 20	Herald Office	Siegel (Hall), Nov. 13-14, 2000, Lot 773
	E, Boxed PAID	Feb ____ but 20	Brooklyn	Siegel (Hall), Nov. 13-14, 2000, Lot 774
	B, Boxed PAID		173 Canal	Kaufmann, Aug. 1980, Lot 438
	B, Boxed PAID		161 Broadway	Kroeber, Dec. 2-3, 1983, Lot 1120
#11 claret		1857	Baltimore	Harbor, May 14-17, 2002, Lot 3308
#11	Grid	Feb 19, 1856	Ithaca	Sammis collection

Table III
136L11 Red/Bluish

<u>Stamps</u>	<u>Handstamp</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Auction</u>
	E, Boxed PAID	March 18 (1856)	81 Maiden Lane	William Fox, Apr. 10-11, 1974, Lot 111 Lowe, Oct. 26, 1973, Lot 1862a Fox (Hollow bush), Aug 15, 1966, Lot 345
#14		June 6, 1856	Vallejo, Cal	William Fox, Apr. 10-11, 1974, Lot 112 Siegel, Sep. 17-21, 1979, Lot 1569 Calls it 136L9 Kelleher, Feb. 5-6, 1985, Lot 1730
#11		Oct 16 (1856)		Siegel, Mar. 31 – Apr. 1, 1965, Lot 847 Lazarus, May 22-24, 1965, Lot 320
#11	Star	March 4 (1856)	Newark, N.J.	Wolffers, Apr. 29-30, 1992, Lot 553 Kelleher, Feb. 18-19, 1998, Lot 1720
		(1856)		Siegel, Apr. 27, 1990, Lot 561, PF
		April 2, (1856)		Lowe (USA1), Mar. 15, 1972, Lot 1302
		(1856)	On piece	Hugh Barr, Mar. 17-19, 1949, Lot 434
		Aug 25	376 Washington St	Bennett, Sep. 13, 2012, Lot 598

Table IV
136L12 Pink on Bluish

<u>Stamps</u>	<u>Handstamps</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Auction</u>
#11		Oct 4 (ca. 1856)	Benton, N.Y.	Harbor, Apr. 23-25, 2001, Lot 2706
#11	Grid	1856	Chesapeake, Maryland	Kaufmann, Jul. 14, 1990, Lot 860

Alleged Bogus Express Company: Hourly Express Post

By
Justin L Poklis

Very little has been recorded in the philatelic literature about the Hourly Express Post. The stamp issued by Hourly Express Post was first listed in 1862 by Mount Brown in his 2nd edition of *The Catalogue of British, Colonial and Foreign Postage Stamps* as “1 cent” with no other description given.¹ George Hussey included an Hourly Express Post stamp on his 1863 pricelist.² Charles. H. Coster in the October 1874 issue of the *American Journal of Philately* is the first to relay any information about the post.³ The description was also included in Coster’s 1877 book, *The United States Locals and Their History*⁴ and later in French in the update version of the book published in the stamp journal *La Timbre Poste*.⁵ The following excerpt is from the Coster’s book, *The United States Locals and Their History*.

Hourly Express Post

Tradition tells us that this post was formed in 1859, and existed for about three weeks, which latter circumstance may account for the fact that no authentic specimens of its stamps are known. Reprints (or rather what are supposed to be reprints) are common, and are printed in black on green paper. The design is as follows:—diamond shaped, solid ground inscribed "Hourly Express Post, Letter Stamp, One Cent" in five lines, the first being slightly and the fifth considerably curved.

With no evidence to support Coster’s claim of genuineness of the Hourly Express Post, it was considered by many experts to be a bogus post. It is listed as such in Donald Patton’s *The Private Local Posts of the United States*⁶ and Larry Lyons’ second volume of *Identifier for Carriers, Locals, Fakes, Forgeries and Bogus Posts of the United States*.⁷ Mr. Lyons does note in the back of volume 3 of the *Identifier* that it has been proposed that the Hourly Express Post was a genuine

¹ Brown M. *A Catalogue of British, Colonial, & Foreign Postage Stamps*, 1862, F. Passmore, London.

² “Deceit and Dispersal Hussey and Taylor and Their Products, Part 1.” Trenchard, HA., *The Penny Post*, 1996 6:29.

³ “United States Locals and Their History” Coster CH., *The American Journal of Philately*, 1874 8:156-157.

⁴ Coster CH., *United States Locals and Their History*, 1877, Scott & Company, New York.

⁵ “Les Postes Privées des États-Unis d’Amérique” Coster CH., *La Timbre Poste*, 1881 18:29.

⁶ Patton DS., *The Private Local Post of the United States, Volume 1*, 1967, Robson Lowe LTD.

⁷ Lyons L., *Identifier for Carriers, Locals, Fakes, Forgeries and Bogus Posts of the United States, Volume 2*, 1998, Larry Lyons.

company and no stamps or covers have been seen.⁸ Also included is a previously unlisted type 5 stamp. This stamp is noted as perhaps the genuine stamp issued by the post.

It is now possible to confirm that the Hourly Express Post was operating in 1859 just as Coster had stated. The following article from the February 11, 1859 issue of the *New York Herald* confirms the operation of this local post.

ALLEGED BOGUS EXPRESS COMPANY.-Samuel A. Taylor, a messenger in the employment of a concern known as the Hourly Express Post, was taken into custody yesterday by Policeman Dugan, of the Second District Police Court on a charge of defrauding several citizens by delivering to them, in sealed envelopes, the prospectus of a weekly paper about to be started, for the delivery of which he invariably charged one cent. Taylor refused to tell who his employers were, and claimed that he had committed no criminal offence. He stated that he had read the Revised Statutes on fraud and could not see a single section under which he could be punished for doing what he did. Committed for examination.

The facts of the above article and with few more details were also reported in the February 11th, 1859 issue of *The New York Times*.

Police Report

A New Way of Making Money.- Policeman Dugan, of the Second District, yesterday arrested a youth aged 18, named Samuel A. Taylor, charged with defrauding the public in the following ingenious manner. He assumed to be a letter-carrier for an enterprise called the "Hourly Express Post," and delivered what purported to be letters in all parts of the City, demanding one cent each for their delivery. On opening the letters a printed circular was found, announcing the proposed publication of a new newspaper. Large sums are said to have been collected from our citizens by this dodge. The young man refuses to tell who had employed him to deliver the circulars, and claims that his business is perfectly legitimate, and that he has a right to deliver as many as he pleases, and demand a cent for each. The circulars are signed Windrow & Day, No 9 Spruce Street. The youth was committed by Justice Quackenauss for examination.

The results of the examination were included in the next day's issue of the *New York Herald* and of more importance to the philatelic world, the report confirms and describes a stamp used by the post on the envelopes that were delivered.

THE HOURLY EXPRESS POST.

Gilbert Dugan, a police officer of the 8th Precinct, showed the Court an envelope, with a postage stamp, marked the "Hourly Express Post Stamp, one cent," and alleged that the prisoner at the bar, Samuel A. Taylor, a boy, distributed such envelopes, enclosing what appeared to be letters on the 10th instant, for the purpose of defrauding the public. The envelope was

⁸ Lyons L., *Identifier for Carriers, Locals, Fakes, Forgeries and Bogus Posts of the United States*, Volume 3, 1998, Larry Lyons.

directed to Messrs. Allen & Co. in Broadway, and when arrested Taylor has in his possession 110 such envelopes, directed to persons in Broadway, Howard and Cliff streets. The envelopes did not contain letters but a prospectus of what purported to be a weekly newspaper, to be called the "News from Home."

The boy Taylor admitted that he had deposited envelopes containing the said prospectus, and that he collected one cent for each. He had been hired for this purpose by Messrs. Towndrow & Day, the printers of the prospectus, the envelope and the Hourly Express stamps. The boy contended that he had a perfect right to do so, and Mr. Towndrow, who was present, stated that Taylor was employed by him, and had distributed the prospectus at his direction. This was considered rather sharp practice by the Court. But as it was not illegal the case was dismissed and Taylor discharged.

The 18 year old, Samuel A Taylor who delivered the letters for the Hourly Express Post may have been the Samuel Allan Taylor known for his facsimile, forgeries and bogus stamps. The Taylor of note would have been 21 years of age not 18 as stated in *The New York Times*. It is known that Taylor was living New York and delivering telegraphs starting in 1853 at age 15 and was still living in New York in 1859.⁹ Could this have been one of Taylor's first grafts?

The Genuine Stamp

There are 5 types of Hourly Express stamps listed in the *Identifier* and type 5 may be the genuine stamp.^{7,8} The argument for the type 5 as the genuine stamp is one of elimination. The type 1 stamp is from a printing block used by Arthur Maury in his 1868 edition of his catalog¹⁰ and to illustrate C. H. Coster's article in *La Timbre Poste*. See **Figure 1**. The type 1 stamp can easily be identified by the top line which reads "HOURLV" with a "V" instead of a "Y". The type 2 stamp is the Samuel Allan Taylor forgery. See **Figure 2**. Even if Taylor had worked for the Hourly Express Post as the deliverer it is unlikely that he had the original die or plate in his possession. He likely produced his own forgery. On the Taylor forgery the top line of this stamp reads "HOURLY" and has no period after "stamp". The type 3 stamp is found in black on green or black on white. Known copies are often found cut square with large margins. It was printed from a single die and not a plate. The genuine stamp existed in only black on green if Charles H. Coster's description in *The United States Locals and Their History* is to be believed. In the type 3 forgery no part of the fleur-de-lys at the bottom touch each other or the frame (See **Figure 3**). The type 4 stamp is the George Hussey product. It is listed in Thomas Wood's Memorandum Book. This book includes copies of the stamps, dates, and numbers

⁹ "Caveat Emptor the Life and Works of S. Allan Taylor" Kindler J., Philatelic Literature Review, 1996, 15:59.

¹⁰ Maury A. *Catalogue descriptif de tous les timbres-poste créés de 1840 à 1868, avec leurs dates d'émission, leurs valeurs, leurs couleurs et variétés, ainsi que les prix auxquels on peut se les procurer* 3rd edition, 1868, Arthur Maury.

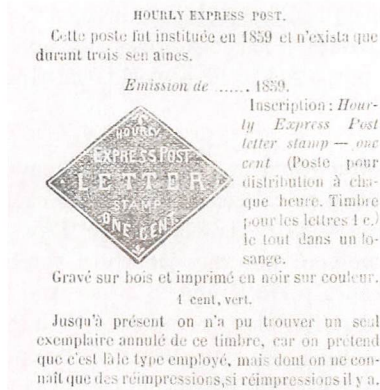


Figure 1. C. H. Coster's article from *La Timbre Poste* showing the type 1 Hourly Express Post stamp.



Figure 2. The type 2 Hourly Express Post stamp, the Samuel Allan Taylor forgery.

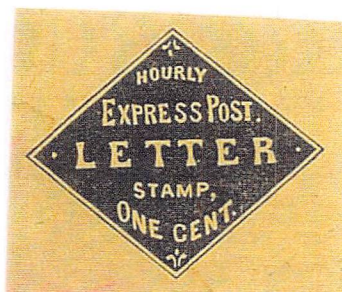


Figure 3. The type 3 Hourly Express Post Stamp (Image from the Richard Frajola website.¹¹)

¹¹ <http://www.rfrajola.com/mocks/mocks.htm>

of stamps printed by Wood for Hussey. **Figure 4** shows a sheet of 12 stamps of the type 4 stamp. The type 4 stamps can be identified by the two breaks in the bottom frame line. The type 5 stamp is the least common of the Hourly Express stamps and is found printed in the correct color of black on green only. See **Figure 5**. This stamp is similar to the Hussey forgery. Hussey is believed to have produced

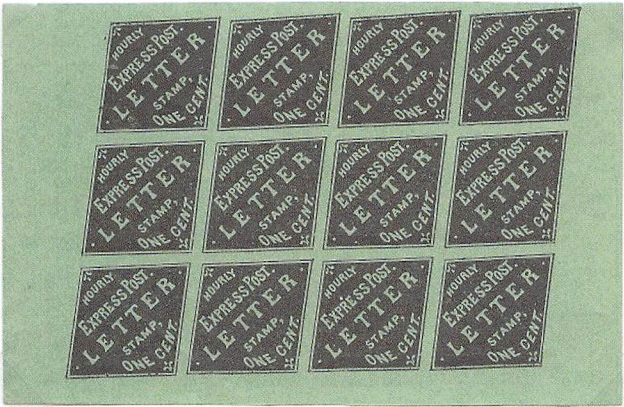


Figure 4. Sheet of 12 of the type 4 Hourly Express Post stamp. (The Hussey reprint.)



Figure 5. The type 5 Hourly Express Post Stamp. (Image from the Richard Frajola website.¹¹)

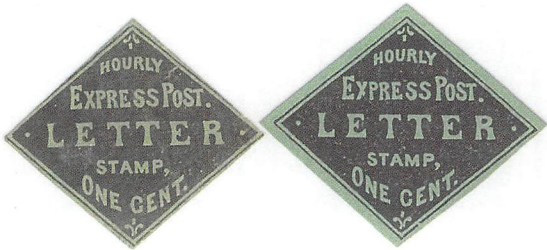


Figure 6. The two printing of the type 4 Hourly Express Post stamps. (The genuine? and the Hussey reprint.)

forgeries copied from genuine stamps and hence his forgeries closely resemble the genuine stamps. The type 5 can be identified by the fleur-de-lys, which is attached at the bottom and clearly joins the frame. The above is the case for the type 5 stamp as a candidate for the genuine stamp. The type 5 may not be the genuine stamp, it may be a forgery that is less common. A more in depth study of the type 5 stamps is needed to eliminate it or accept it as genuine. Questions such as: is it from a single die or are there multiple plate positions; were these stamps issued with gum; is the die used to produce the stamps found in any old journals or catalogs? Answers are needed.

There is one other possible candidate for the genuine stamp. It is one of the printings of the type 4 stamp. An examination of the type 4 Hourly Express stamps reveals that there are two distinctive printings.⁷ One of these printings may be genuine and the other would be Hussey's reprints. These printings are identified by the ink and paper used. The paper used is colored through for both printings. The first printing is deep black on green paper and the second is black on green thickish paper. See **Figure 6**. There is only one printing of the Hourly Express Post listed in Wood's Memorandum Book. It is #88 and there were 1000 stamps printed on June 22, 1866. See **Figure 7**. This was one of the last locals Wood printed for Hussey. The Hourly Express stamp was included on Hussey's earliest known pricelist dating from early 1863; therefore some of the stamps sold by Hussey were printed before the stamps listed in the Wood Memorandum Book. These stamps may have been genuine remainders. This may mean Hussey obtained the genuine remainders and the original printing plate. He would have sold the genuine stamps and when his supply ran out he would have had Wood reprint stamps from the original plate. This would account for the two identifiable printings of the type 4 stamp and only one listing in Wood's Memorandum Book. The true reprints would be the stamps recorded in Wood's Memorandum Book. It is worth noting that some of the type 4 stamps from the first printing have gum. The stamps from the second printing that are recorded in Wood's Memorandum Book are found without gum. This would be consistent with the second printing being the reprints and the first printing being genuine.

It is my belief that the first printing in deep black on green paper of the type 4 stamp is the genuine stamp and that the second printing listed Wood's Memorandum Book are true reprints but more research is need to confirm this belief and to eliminate the type 5 stamp as the genuine issue.

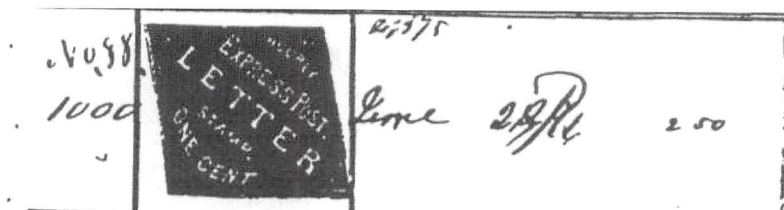


Figure 7. The Hourly Express Post listing in Wood's *Memorandum Book*.

Sherwood Springer and Why the Scott Catalogue For Many Years Contained Illustrations of Forgeries

By
Clifford J. Alexander

One of the original objectives of the postal history collectors who established the Carriers & Locals Society in 1991 was to correct longstanding errors in the *Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers*, including inaccurate illustrations. With that objective, Gordon Stimmel, then Editor of *The Penny Post*, announced in April 1993 the formation of a “*Scott Catalogue Review Committee*.” Its objective was “to feed data to the Scott folks on U.S. Carriers ... [and] help bring the Specialized Carriers section into the 21st century via accumulated wisdom and discoveries and to rectify long-standing errors.”¹

The following January, Steven Roth, the Society’s President, announced that the Committee had gathered the data and was preparing a submission to Scott Publishing Company. Mr. Roth also announced:

Now we move on to the much more onerous task of tackling Scott’s section on U.S. locals and independent mails. As many of you are aware, the current catalogue listings still contain many photos of known forgeries that have unwittingly duped collectors and dealers for decades. In addition, there are many textual errors that need to be updated based on the new research discoveries made in the last few years by members of our Society.²

Later that year, Gordon wrote a comprehensive article on the subject, titled “Lifting Ancient Veils: A Photographic Assessment of Changes A Century Overdue In The *Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers*.”³ Gordon’s article contrasted a number of genuine stamps with the inaccurate Scott illustrations and helped push the publisher toward revising the catalogue. Today, thanks to his efforts and the efforts of others, the *Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers* has correct illustrations in color.

The Sherwood Springer Letter

When I began collecting carriers and locals and first realized that many of the *Scott Catalogue* illustrations were forgeries, I wondered why and how this could happen. Certainly, many experienced collectors of carriers and locals knew the *Scott Catalogue* had included incorrect illustrations for over a century. And Scott Publishing Company likewise must have known.

In particular, three of the most dedicated and respected 20th Century students of postal history wrote extensively on genuine and fake carriers and locals: Elliott Perry in his *Pat Paragraphs*, which he published from 1931 to 1958; George B.

¹ Gordon Stimmel, “From the Editor,” *The Penny Post*, Vol. 3, No. 2 (April 1993).

² Steven Roth, “President’s Letter,” *The Penny Post*, Vol. 4, No. 1 (January 1994).

³ *The Penny Post*, Vol. 4, No. 3 (July 1994), at pp. 4-20.

Sloane, who wrote weekly columns in STAMPS from 1932 to 1958; and Donald Patton, who published a book on New York State private local posts in 1967.⁴

I recently acquired an interesting postal history collateral document. It is a one and one-half page letter written by Sherwood Springer to Ben B. Brown, a carriers and locals collector. Mr. Brown apparently wrote to Mr. Springer in 1976 complaining that by publishing inaccurate illustrations, the *Scott Catalogue* was “perpetuating [a] fraud on the public.”

At the time, Mr. Springer was a consulting editor for the *Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers*. Springer for years had studied, collected and sold many “back of the book” stamps. He published ten editions of his “Handbook of North American Cinderella Stamps,” and many of the editions are still highly useful for research. In addition, Mr. Springer had purchased a collection of S. Allan Taylor’s forgeries from Taylor’s daughter and wrote that Taylor printed his forgeries with different inks and papers using cliches with groups of individual stamp blocks.

Unfortunately, there was no copy of the collector’s original letter; and it is not clear whether Mr. Springer knew Mr. Brown or had exchanged correspondence with him before the letter. Nevertheless, Mr. Springer took the time to send the collector a thoughtful and informative letter that explained the general issue, responded to each of the collector’s specific complaints and ended on a personal note about his interest in science fiction stories. The letter speaks for itself and is reprinted in its entirety at the end of this article.

Recent Catalogue Changes

In 2000, Larry Lyons became the Chairman of the Committee. He, together with committee members John Bowman, Stephen Gronowski and Richard Frajola, undertook a major project to update the *Scott Catalogue* prices for carriers and locals. The Committee presentation was 68 pages long and recommended 1,800 price changes. As a result, Scott Publishing Company made about 1,200 changes.

A number of other Society members have also assisted the Committee over the years, including Scott Trepel, Larry Lyons, Dr. Vernon Morris and Byron Sandfield. In some cases, Society members have prompted *Scott Catalogue* changes through well researched articles example, the Society currently is proposing major revisions of the Pomeroy’s listing based on Scott Trepel’s 2004 article in *The Penny Post*.⁵

Unfortunately, Sherwood Springer did not live to see the 2001 Edition changes or the introduction of accurate color illustrations to the *Scott Catalogue* that has occurred over the last few years. He died in 2005⁶ but the work to correct, clarify and expand the *Scott Catalogue* continues under the supervision of current Committee Chairman, John Bowman. Members with recommendations should feel free to forward them to John at jbowman@stx.rr.com.

⁴ Donald Scott Patton, *The Private Local Posts of the United States, Volume 1 New York State* (1967).

⁵ Scott Trepel, “Pomeroy’s Letter Express, A Re-Classification of Issues,” *The Penny Post*, Vol. 12, No. 1 (January 2004) p. 21-30.

⁶ See Gordon Stimmel, “Tributes to Sherwood Springer and Richard Schwartz,” *The Penny Post*, Vol. 9, No. 1 (January 2001).

Updates to the 2013 Scott Specialized Catalogue

By
John D. Bowman

The Scott Catalogue Update Committee submitted recommendations for updating the 2013 catalogue and those accepted are listed below.

1. 61L3 and 61L4 are now listed with the constant cracked plate variety at \$350 in italics at our suggestion, although no sales information is known at this time.
2. The Empire City Dispatch stamp, 64L1, now notes that it was issued in panes of 100 (10x10) without marginal markings. In addition, the following items have been added to the catalog:
 - a. 64L1a Imperf pair \$35
 - b. 64L1a Imperf block of 4 \$100
 - c. 64L1b Horiz. pair, imperf btwn. \$60
 - d. 64L1c Vert. pair, imperf btwn \$40
3. 79L2 is now noted to be Litho. Or Typo. rather than the previous Typeset.
4. For Pip's Daily Mail, 116L1-116L5, additional information has been added:
 - a. Two types of each
 - b. The existence of 116L1 and 116L5 has been questioned by specialists. The editors would like to see expertized evidence of their existence.
5. The unused values for 117L1 and 117L2 have been changed to a dash due to their extreme rarity.
6. The note under 143L6 has been revised to state "No. 143L6 used only from east to west."

An additional recommendation was made supporting consideration of moving LO1 and LO2 to the front of the catalogue to be included with the 1851 issue as per the enabling legislation. Early Scott catalogues did include these with the 1851 regular issues but later catalogues moved them to the Carriers and Locals section. This would be a major change and requires additional conversation among collectors.

Please send your suggestions for any changes to the *Scott Specialized Catalogue* to me at jbowman@stx.rr.com.

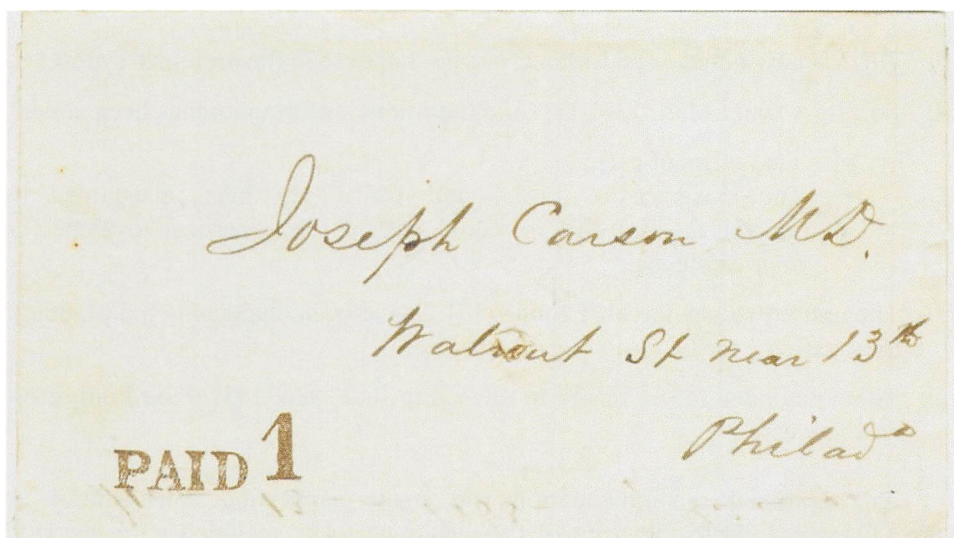
Norm Shachat's What's it

By
John D. Bowman

While I don't presume to have Norm's knowledge of Philadelphia covers, a couple of thoughts come to mind about his mystery cover on page 4 of *The Penny Post*, July 2012.

The "PAID" and the "1" are stock handstamps, and not a duplex based on their relative positions. The dates on the reverse are 1853 to 1855, crossed out. In addition, there is a faint image of an ink transfer from an enclosure that reminds me of advertisements.

During this time frame, the circular rate was 1c prepaid. I believe this item is a wrapper enclosing parts of medical journals sent to Dr. Carson prepaid with the circular rate.



The cover in question.

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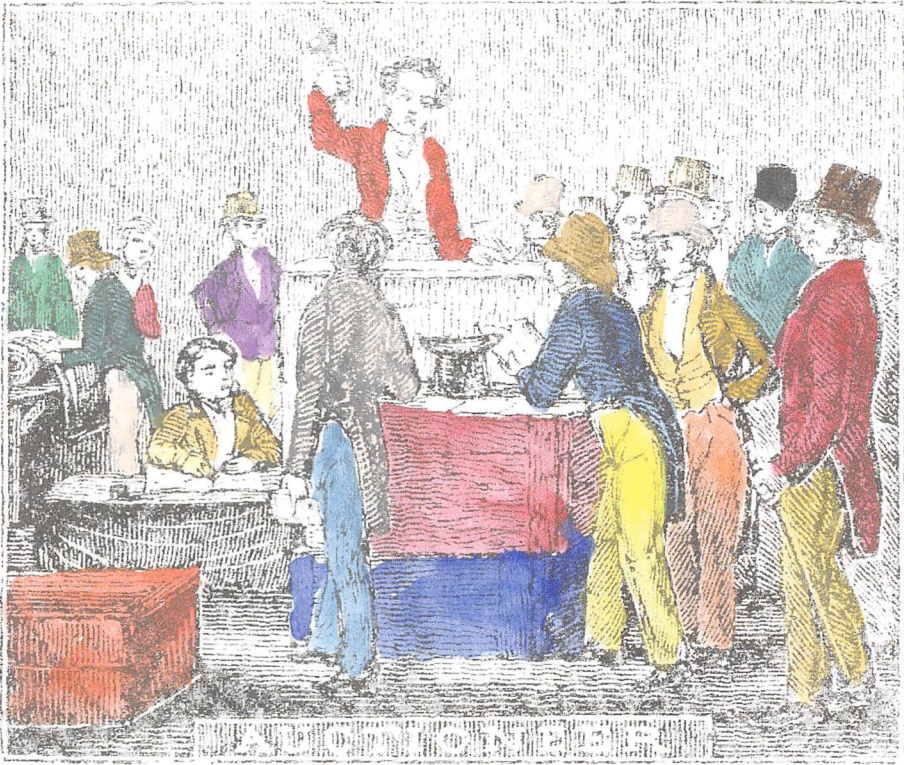
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To our Auction Manager, Alan E. Cohen

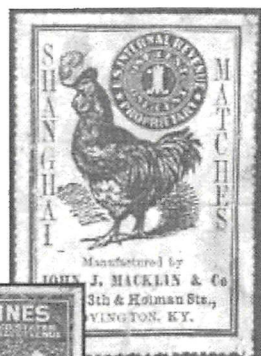
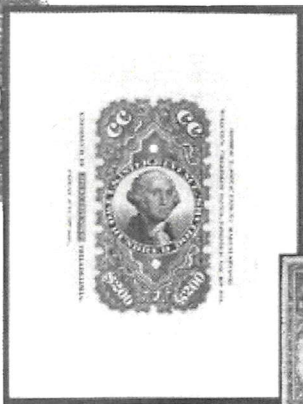
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