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THE PENNY POST

Official Journal Of The Carriers And Locals Society



1¢ Blue Eagle Carrier (L02) used with 3¢ rose (65). Both tied by Washington D.C. June 21, 1862 datestamp on a cover to Urbana, Ohio. Siegel sale 888 Lot 216, Ex-Ackerman, Hall and Lakeshore. Was the Eagle Carrier stamp being used after demonetization?

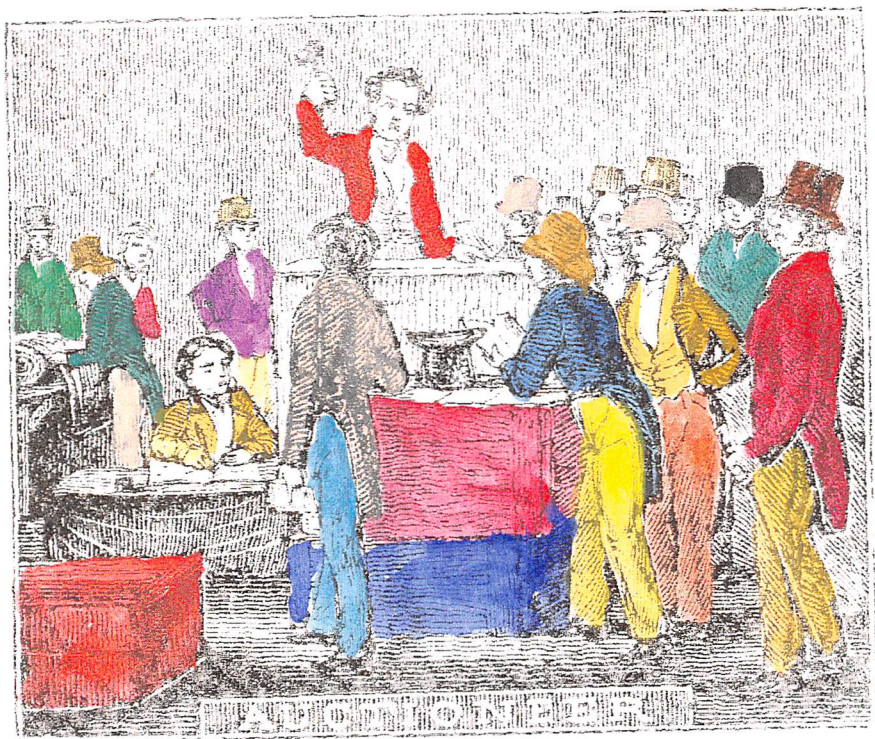
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MAIL COMPANY

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AND MORE



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Editor's Message

By
Larry Lyons

Cycles in Collecting

In the last issue of *The Penny Post* I spoke about cycles in collecting. I mentioned that our Society consists of mostly intermediate and upper-level collectors and there is a need for entry-level collectors, some of whom in time will rise up to the intermediate and upper levels. How certain is this? I feel it is inevitable. Recently the stock market dropped and one individual called me to get my advice knowing that I manage my own pension account. I told him the worst thing you could do was to sell when the market is down. It is a time to seek out good buys and add to your account (collection). The same is true in stamp and cover collecting. For example, David Golden amassed one of the largest holdings of carriers and locals, some of which he purchased cheaply and some of which he bought at exorbitant prices. If you hold back from making an acquisition at 20-50% of catalogue value you may just see these items next time at 60-80% of catalogue price and ultimately there will be new higher catalogue prices on the rarities. Think about it—if there are only two known examples and there are 3-5 competitive collectors, the item will go to the highest bidder, which will be at or over the catalogue price. Some of those buyers are already out there. I have recently sold some items at 135-150% of catalogue price and these are items known in quantities of 18-20 examples. These were not exceptional rarities and I happened to have more than one example, so one was expendable. (Obviously I have kept the better quality example). Sellers should be patient. In the past dealers put away rare items they were able to obtain and only brought them out when motivated buyers came onto the scene; sometimes this was years later.

If you are a seller you want to get the best possible prices for your items. This requires time and strategy. I urge sellers to seek out sale venues which will result in satisfactory sales. I will be happy to consult and advise anyone who wishes to speak with me on the subject. As a last thought on this subject I suggest you consider donating material to a not-for-profit organization and getting a tax write-off for the donation. I will be happy to advise on this subject as well.

Articles in This Issue

We have three wonderful articles for you in this *Penny Post*. All three articles happen to be part of a series on three different subjects. Our president, Cliff Alexander, has given us an article on the “Use of the Eagle Carrier with the 3¢ 1861 Issue after Demonetization.” Cliff also addresses the question “why the Eagle Carrier stamp was not demonetized.” This well-researched article presents an image of the one cover in the Miller collection at the Public Library that is not in public hands and has not been seen before. Cliff plans at least four more articles on the Eagle Carrier. The difficult census for the articles has been assembled. The articles all deal with combinations with the U.S. regular issue stamps and will appeal to members of our big sister club, The U.S. Classics Society. A very high percentage

of our membership also belong to the Classics Society and we often give joint presentations at stamp conventions. Much thanks to Cliff Alexander for his article.

The second article from First Vice President John Bowman is about “The Second Adhesive Stamp of the American Letter Mail Company.” This article is Part VII in his continuing series. This is a very in-depth article on these stamps and John has even plated the twenty positions. Special thanks to John for his research article.

Last and definitely not least we have a 58-page article by Vernon Morris, our Bloods guru. This is Part 12 in his series and features the small rectangular, 15L17, “~~P~~ost Office” stamp. Vern examined and studied 159 covers in the production of his article. Vern positions the time use of this stamp, examines correspondences, destinations and presents his theories. It is a fascinating and very complete study. Much thanks to Vernon Morris for his research and thorough study of this bloody subject.

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. Any article in these fields can be submitted to me for publication (email: llyons@philatelicfoundation.org). These articles are reviewed and assistance is provided by the Editor’s section heads who comprise the editorial board. *The Penny Post* continues to be at the top of society publications.

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 sixteen years and counting and thanks to David Snow for joining this group three years ago. Special thanks to Scott Trepel for his efforts in our field and for being our patron saint in memory of Richard Schwartz.

Volunteers

We need volunteers to get involved with the work required to keep the Society functioning. If you have a few hours you could spare and the inclination to participate and lend a helping hand then drop me a line so we can chat. (llyons@philatelicfoundation.org).

Final Comments

If you can’t give of your time to do some work for the Society and you cannot write an article—please make a financial contribution to allow us to continue to bring this award-winning journal to you. Printing this journal is expensive and our low dues covers less than the cost of two issues a year. We are dependent on your generosity to help pay our expenses. Send your tax-deductible donation today.

Very Final Message

I would be remiss if I didn’t encourage you to talk with your fellow collectors. I have always felt the strong positive social aspect of our hobby and I urge you to “feel” its soothing effects. If you are puzzled by an item you have in

your collection just send me a scan and I will have my very knowledgeable staff and friends tell you what they know.

This Issue

In the 26-year history of *The Penny Post* this is the highest page journal we have ever published. This also completes our 23rd volume. After a hiatus of a year I started in January 2000 as your editor with Vol. 8 No. 3. In order to reset to 4 issues a year an extra issue (Vol. 8 No. 5) was issued in October 2000 and Vol. 9 began in January 2001. In January 2016 I will begin my 16th year as your editor.

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



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Use of the Eagle Carrier with the 3¢ 1861 Issue after Demonetization

By
Clifford J. Alexander

The Eagle Carrier Stamp

The Eagle Carrier stamp was designed and printed by Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co. of Philadelphia in the fall of 1851 to replace the Franklin Carrier stamp, which the post office believed was too easily confused with the blue 1¢ Franklin regular issue stamp. The Eagle stamp was primarily utilized only in four cities, including Washington, D.C., where the stamp continued to be accepted after demonetization in 1861 until the very end of the carrier fee paid period. This article includes the first detailed and illustrated survey of the five covers with the Eagle Carrier and blue 1¢ 1861 issue stamp. It also revisits the debate on whether the Eagle Carrier stamp was demonetized and offers additional explanations for why it continued to be used in Washington.

The Eagle Carrier stamp was primarily used in four cities: Cincinnati, Kensington, PA, Philadelphia and Washington, DC. In a 2003 *Penny Post* article, Stephen Gronowski reported uses from 13 other cities¹; but it is not clear whether they received shipments of stamps. It is also unclear how many stamps were issued to these four cities. The only reported record of a Post Office Department delivery that has been found so far is that 20,000 stamps were supplied to Philadelphia on November 17, 1853.² Because accounting for carrier departments was separate from the regular post office operations,³ it is possible that the carrier stamps were not accounted for as part of the regular record system. This might explain the lack of data on how many stamps were delivered to which cities.

John Luff quoted an 1869 letter from W.H.H. Terrell, Third Assistant P.M. General, stating the Eagle Carrier stamp “was withdrawn January 27th, 1852.”⁴ The meaning of the statement is unclear because we know the stamp was commonly used well after that date. It appears that post offices continued to use the stamp until their supplies ran out.

Notwithstanding Terrell’s statement in an 1869 letter, deliveries of the Eagle Carrier stamp might have been made after January 1852. Meyersburg and Perry thought “A few post offices, possibly including Philadelphia, were supplied with Eagle stamps in the period July 1, 1853 to June 30, 1859.”⁵ However, they offered no reference source or reason for their opinion. During most of the 1850s, circular

¹ Stephen Gronowski, “LO2 Usages Outside of Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Cincinnati and Kensington Pa.” *The Penny Post*, Vol. 11, No. 3 (July 2003), page 9 (“Gronowski Article”).

² See Elliott Perry and Robert B. Meyersburg, Editor, “The Carrier Stamps of the United States,” *Chronicle* 117, Vol. 35, No. 1 (February 1983), pages 16, 25

³ See Scott Trepel, “Carrier Stamps During the 1861 Period,” Hubert C. Skinner and Charles J. Peterson Editors, “The 1851 Issue of United States Stamps: A Sesquicentennial Retrospective (2006), page 202. (“Trepel Article”)

⁴ Elliott Perry and Robert B. Meyersburg, Editor, “The Carrier Stamps of the United States,” *Chronicle* 120, Vol. 35, No. 4 (November 1983), page 29.

⁵ John N. Luff, “The Postage Stamps of the United States,” (1938 ed.), page 194.

date stamps on covers only provided the month and day. They did not include the year. Less than 25 percent can be dated from docketing notes.

The earliest recorded use of an Eagle stamp was November 17, 1851 in Philadelphia.⁶ The carrier departments of Philadelphia and Kensington appear to have depleted their stocks in 1856 and 1857. The last reported use in Philadelphia is March 12, 1857. In Kensington, which was not part of the Philadelphia post office district at the time, the last reported use was in 1856. Supplies lasted longer in Cincinnati where the last recorded date of use is December 22, 1860. In Washington, the Eagle stamp continued to be used until the end of the carrier fee paid period (June 30, 1863). The last recorded Washington use was May 27, 1863.

Below is a table with information on each of the five recorded covers with the Eagle Carrier stamp used after August 1861. All of the Eagle Carrier known uses after August 1861 were in Washington, D.C. with the 3¢ Rose 1861 regular issue stamp (Scott 65) and paid for carrier service “to the mails.”⁷ See **Figures 1 and 2.**

Table 1. List of Eagle Carrier Stamps on Cover used after August 1861.

<u>Figure</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Addressee</u>	<u>Sources/Comments</u>
1	Nov. 2, 1861	To: “Mrs. Charles Willing/Spence Street above 9th Street/Philadelphia/Penn”	Siegel (Meyersburg) Sale 791, Lot 70. Ex Hollowbush and Meyersburg.
2	June 21, 1862	To: “S.G. Talbott Esqr/Urbana/Ohio”	Siegel (Hall) Sale 830, Lot 33; Siegel Sale 888 (Lake Shore), Lot 216; Ex Ackerman and Hall.
3	June 23, 1862	To Providence with “Missent & Forwarded” in box.	Siegel (Sapperstein) Sale 761. Lot 110.
4	Sep 26, 1862	To “Eichelberger Esq/Atty at Law/Frederick, Md”	Miller Collection of the NYC Public Library. Ex Chase.
5	May 27, 1863	To: “Mr. G.Y. Meyers/Westminster/Carroll County/MD.”	Siegel Sale 791(Meyersburg), Lot 71; Siegel Sale 1051, Lot 1624. (Ex Hollowbush and Meyersburg).

The Demonetization Debate

In 1963, Henry A. Meyer, then an editor of *The Chronicle*, published a survey of dates when stamps were demonetized based on his own research as well as

⁶ Scott Trepel, “Carrier Stamps During the 1861 Period,” in *The 1861 Issue of United States Stamps: A Sesquicentennial Retrospective* (2006) edited by Hubert C. Skinner and Charles J. Peterson, at page 203. (Trepel Article).

⁷ Robert Meyersburg also reported he saw a single stamp off cover with a clear July 23, 1862 cds. Meyersburg Fn. 2, page 226.

information he received from members of the *U.S. Philatelic Classic Society*. In the article, he stated without referencing a source, that both the Franklin and Eagle stamps were demonetized.⁸

Other authors also have stated flatly that all of the stamps issued in the 1850s, including both carrier stamps, were demonetized in 1861. Their statements might have been based on the Meyer survey article.

Thirty years later, Robert B. Meyersburg, then the U.S. Carriers Section Editor of *The Chronicle*, published an article in which he concluded that the Eagle stamp was never demonetized. Meyersburg did not refer to a legislative source or to a POD interpretation or to any instructions issued by the POD. Meyersburg relied on circumstantial evidence consisting of three covers with the Eagle stamp plus one off cover copy with what he described as a clear year and date cancel used after demonetization. Meyersburg wrote that the use of the Eagle Carrier stamp on covers after 1861 “provided conclusive proof that the eagle carrier stamp was not demonetized at the outbreak of the Civil War.”⁹

Confusion regarding the 1851 and 1857 issues exists because the pertinent published orders of the POD were not specific. Neither the Postal Act of March 3, 1851 nor the Postal Act ten years later, of March 3, 1861 addressed the status of outstanding old stamps. It was the post office officials in office at the time of enactment of these laws who determined that action should be taken to remove old stamps from circulation.

In 1851 the U.S. Government was concerned about the possible unauthorized issuance of the 1847 issue stamps because the POD had failed to obtain adequate contractual control of the design and dies when it entered into an agreement with Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.¹⁰ When the 1847 issues were demonetized, there was no opportunity for confusion regarding what stamps would no longer be accepted to prepay postage. Only two stamps were in use prior to the June 11, 1851 order issued by Postmaster General Nathan K. Hall, the 1847 issue.

In 1861, the U.S. had a different concern, the “fraudulent use of the large quantity of stamps remaining unaccounted for in the hands of postmasters in the disloyal States.”¹¹ The 1861 PMG Report dated December 2, 1861 stated that “although the destruction of the old stamps and envelopes is not yet completed, there is ample evidence that few received in exchange were sent from disloyal states.”¹²

As noted above, Third Assistant PMG A.N. Zevely’s order calling for old stamps to be returned to the POD did not specifically identify the stamps covered. The order stated that, “immediately” after receiving the new issue of stamps, postmasters should give public notice that the post office will “exchange stamps of

⁸ Meyer did note that the 1¢ Star Die envelope, newspaper wrapper and compound (3¢ plus 1¢) envelope continued to be used. Henry A. Meyer, “Demonetization: A Tabulation of Reports Received from Our Route Agents,” *The Chronicle* 46, Vol. 16, No. 3 (Dec. 1963) pages 17, 18.

⁹ Robert E. Meyersburg, “More About Washington, D.C.” *The Chronicle* 160, Vol. 45, No. 4 (Nov. 1993), pages 235, 236.

¹⁰ See Thomas J. Alexander, “The United States 1847 Issue: A Cover Census” (2001), page 857.

¹¹ “Report of the Postmaster General” For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1861 (Dec. 2, 1861) in Appendix to the Congressional Globe, 37th Cong., 2d Sess., pages 4-11, at p. 8.

¹² Ibid.

the new style” and that the “old issue [after six days] ... will not thereafter be received in payment of postage on letters sent from your office.”

Why the Eagle Carrier Stamp Was Not Demonetized

The recorded five covers and one cancelled stamp are strong circumstantial evidence that the Eagle carrier stamp was never demonetized. Other explanations are possible but there are a number of reasons why this is the only logical conclusion.

One reason is that the five recorded covers with the Eagle stamp were all accepted by the post office in Washington DC. It is highly unlikely that, for a period of over 18 months, both carriers and post office clerks in Washington would mistakenly continue to accept invalid Carrier Eagle stamps. And there are no recorded covers where the Eagle stamp was not accepted as payment for the carrier fee.

The Eagle stamp was provided only to post offices in Cincinnati, Washington, Philadelphia and Kensington (which is now part of the city of Philadelphia). As noted above, Gronowski recorded one or two uses in thirteen cities besides these four. Only one known use was in a Southern city, Charleston, SC. Gronowski concluded that the letter was addressed to “Abington (PA) near Philadelphia,” and “in all likelihood the sender was from Philadelphia and carried an LO2 with him when he traveled to Charleston.”¹³

Because there were no deliveries to any Southern cities, there was no need to demonetize the Eagle stamp. The POD would have had no reason to be concerned that Eagle stamps held by Southern post offices might be used to finance the Confederate cause. The only city where the Eagle stamp was being used during the Civil War was Washington. Even if the CSA had obtained a quantity of the stamps, there was virtually no possibility that the CSA could sell them for use in other Union cities. Stanley Ashbrook concluded that this was also the reason why the 1¢ envelope, newspaper wrapper and compound (3¢ plus 1¢) envelope continued to be used.¹⁴

In addition, the Eagle stamps were not billed to the local post offices. Instead, they were billed to carrier departments.¹⁵ It is possible that the Washington carrier department had already paid for a large supply of the stamps. It is not unreasonable to assume that, as supplies were exhausted in other cities, those post offices discontinued requesting additional shipments. In Washington, it would make good business sense for the post office to continue using the remaining inventory.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the New York Public Library for permission to publish for the first time an illustration of the cover in the Miller Collection. I also would like to thank Steven Roth, Daniel Piazza and the Smithsonian National Postal Museum for their assistance. In addition, the Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc. Power Search database was helpful in connection with research for this article.

¹³ Gronowski Article, pages 19-21.

¹⁴ See Stanley B. Ashbrook, “Ashbrook Special Service: Issue No. 24 (Mar. 1, 1953) at pp. 172-173; Issue No. 30 (Sept. 1, 1953), page 216; and, Issue No. 73 (Apr. 10, 1957), page 592.

¹⁵ See Trepel Article, page 202.



Figure 1. Eagle Carrier stamp on a cover dated September 26, 1862, more than 13 months after the stamp was possibly demonetized. From the Benjamin K. Miller stamp collection. Compliments of the New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations.



Figure 2. Eagle Carrier stamp with the 1861 three cent rose stamp tied by Washington D.C., May 27, 1863 circular datestamp on a cover to Westminster, Maryland. The latest recorded use of the Eagle Carrier stamp. Ex-Hollowbush and Meyersburg. Siegel sale 1051, July 23-24, 2013, Lot 1624.

BLOOD'S 15L17: Part 12

By

Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD

D.O. Blood & Co. began on July 1, 1845 by acquiring the Philadelphia Despatch Post with the remaining inventory, 15L3, the **world's first pictorial stamp**. During the next three years, three variations of the "striding messenger" stamps were printed, and *the final two issues* (15L5 and 15L6) *serviced outbound letters*,¹ reserved primarily for local door delivery in the city. By January 1846, Blood & Co. had developed an entirely new stamp dedicated for *outbound letters only*. An inscription "**For the POST OFFICE**," headed an entirely new geometric double circle stamp design.² The **world's first special purpose stamp** formally introduced a **new business paradigm of bifurcated private postal service**. The company had divided and specialized its business model, with delivery of letters to *either* a local street address *or* a government post office. During the next two years Blood & Co. printed two additional similar double circle stamp designs, virtually *all* servicing outbound letters. Altogether, Blood & Co. printed six different stamp designs.

In early 1848, however, many profound changes appeared. A new company name appeared "**Blood's Despatch**." Second, an entirely different adhesive stamp design. Third, stamps in color! Fourth, stamps which were smaller and rectangular (rather than large and square). Fifth, on May 25, 1848 Blood's Despatch principal office moved³ several blocks west to 28 South Chesnut Street in the Shakespeare Building, across from Independence Hall.

By summer's end 1848 Blood's Despatch introduced another new prototype of **very small rectangular stamps**. "Small rectangulars" went on to become the standard for virtually all subsequent Blood stamps, except the final issue. The topic of this article was the first "small rectangular," 15L17, which gradually replaced their recent 15L10 "post office stamp."

15L17 "Bronze on Black Glazed"

The horizontal rectangular design measured 11 by 15 mm long, and has been listed in the *Scott Catalogue* as 15L17 "bronze on black glazed" for 2 cents.⁴ Thin black perpendicular guidelines defined boundaries. 1mm inside the guidelines was another thin outer line with rounded corners framed the vignette, shown well in **Figure 1** right example. 15L17 simply declared "**BLOOD'S**" at top and "**DESPATCH**." at bottom, in large capital letters with serifs, identical to the immediate functional predecessor 15L10. Furthermore, 15L17 center omitted the

¹ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, "Blood's Part 6: 15L6," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 22, No. 2, April 2014, Whole No. 87, page 58.

² Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, "Blood's Part 7: 15L7," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 22, No. 3, July 2014, Whole No. 88, pages 29, 53.

³ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, "Blood's Part 11: 15L11," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 23, No. 3, July 2015, Whole No. 92, pages 46, 50, 51, 54.

⁴ *Scott 2012 Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps & Covers, Nineteenth Edition*, Scott Publishing Co., 2011, Sidney Ohio, page 545.



Figure 1. Upper left corner copy, and top margin with right guideline; both used “Bronze on black glazed” 15L17 “Post Office” stamp.

leading words “For the,” and converted the remainder to smaller font “**Post Office**” in “Old English Text MC” defining the **special purpose stamp**,^{5,6,7} and conceptual continuation of prior outbound “**For the POST OFFICE**” 15L7, 15L8, 15L9, and 15L10 stamps.

No panes or sheets have been identified. However, most surviving stamps must have been derived from block panes and/or sheets, clearly suggested by three corner margin examples, one shown in **Figure 1** left example. Individual stamps had to be separated from likely panes, and guidelines served this purpose very well for “cut rectangle” separation, much like Blood’s Despatch 15L10. No 15L17 stamps were perforated. None were die cut.

As with all predecessor issues, 15L17 stamps were not monetarily denominated. Since mid-1846 a single of either stamp type was 2 cents. No specified monetary value facilitated wholesale volume discounts, different pricing by type of service, and quantity, yet retained potential for global single stamp retail reduction.

15L17 Description Census

1. August 24, 1848; folded letter; outbound to New York; cut rectangle, faint grid cancel, tied by red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line double strike handstamp; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPS ID 6194, cancel-tied by second straight line handstamp; manuscript “*Paid*”. To: “Benjamin Flanders Esq / Corner Burling Slip & South St- / New York”. Siegel 771 December 12, 1995 lot 498; Siegel 925 November 15, 2006 lot 1340, Kuphal. February 14, 2008 PFC 461544. Morris collection.
2. August 25, (1848); folded letter; outbound Mississippi, cut rectangle, four bar grid-tied⁸ faint blue Clarke 79 Philadelphia cds; manuscript “*Important*”. To:

⁵ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, “Blood’s Part 7: 15L7,” *The Penny Post*, Vol. 22, No. 3, July 2014, Whole No. 88, pages 52, and 55.

⁶ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD “Blood’s, part 9: 15L9,” *The Penny Post*, Vol. 23, No. 1 January 2015, Whole No. 90, pages 51, 52, 55 and 60.

⁷ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD “Blood’s, part 10: 15L10,” *The Penny Post*, Vol. 23, No. 2 April 2015, Whole No. 91, pages 20, 55, and 57.

⁸ Morris, Type D; recorded from April 7, 1848 until July 27, 1849.

“Mr Sam^l H. Lambdin / Natchez / Mississippi”. January 26, 2009 PFC 473123. Morris collection.

3. September 1, 1848; folded letter; outbound Maryland; bright right sheet margin cut rectangle, penstroke cancel-tied; manuscript “Way 5.” To: “Mssrs Seimore & Gleau / Baltimore, M^d. March 10, 2011 PFC 495075. Stromberg collection.
4. September 18, 1848; folded letter; outbound to Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, uncanceled; blue Clarke 79b Philadelphia cds; 10 cent 1847 Scott #2 general issue, USPCS ID 11739 cancel-tied by second cds. To: “Mssrs E. Euenia McAllister / D^r G.D.Bruce / Smithfield Street / Pittsburgh / Penn ---.”⁹ Siegel 927 December 20, 2006 lot 1105, Richardson; Siegel 933 April 25, 2007 lot 238; Bennett International 326 lot 324; Bennett International 331 September 21, 2010 lot 124. August 15, 1980 PFC 89,472; January 31, 2007 PFC 448260; December 27, 2011 PFC 501184.
5. September 30, 1848; folded letter; outbound to Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, uncanceled; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 10603, cancel-tied by blue indistinct Philadelphia cds; clear blue Clarke 71a Philadelphia cds. To: “Samuel Griscom Jun(ior) / Collector / Pottsville / Schuyl^r Co^r / Penn”. Siegel 817 November 15, 1999 lot A539, Golden; Bennett International 252 November 2, 2002 lot 112. (2000 PFC).
6. November 5, 1848; folded letter; outbound Maryland; bright cut rectangle, faint four bar grid cancel (Morris Type D), blue Clarke 71A¹⁰ Philadelphia cds. To: “Messrs Garrett & Sons / Baltimore”. Stromberg collection.
7. November 13, 1848; wrapper; outbound Maryland; heavily damaged cut rectangle, (uncanceled); faint blue Clarke 71a Philadelphia¹¹ cds; non-contemporaneous pencil manuscript “Post / Office”. To: “Mr. Wm E. Tenbrook / Hancock / Maryland”. Stromberg collection.
8. November 22, 1848; folded letter with contents; outbound Washington D.C.; cut rectangle, (ink spots); blue indistinct Philadelphia cds. “To: Truxton D. Beale Esq / Washington / D.C.” Alexander collection.
9. December 16, (1848); folded cover; outbound Washington D.C.; cut rectangle, (uncanceled), tied by blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds with line through 5 (free).¹² To: “(Hon)ble G.R. Ingersoll / -House of Representatives - / Washington City.” Siegel 825 June 27, 2000 lot 1624.
10. December 17, (1848); folded letter; outbound to New York; left sheet margin cut rectangle, penstroke cancel-tied; blue Clarke 71a Philadelphia cds;¹³ blue advertisement label; manuscript “1.2.3.4.5.6.7.8.” To: “W^m. B. Platte Esqr /

⁹ Letter sent in care of Dr. George D. Bruce.

¹⁰ May 5, 2015 email communication Tom Clarke.

¹¹ Clarke 71a recorded from January 7, 1847 until March 18, 1848.

¹² New earliest 74a; previously listed in *Clarke 2012 Interim* from December 25, 1848 until October 12, 1849.

¹³ Clarke 2012 Interim page 24 reports 71 recorded from January 7, 1847 until September 1848.

Rhmelee St / Daehep Cty / New York". Gibbons-Merkur 5 October 11, 1974 lot 1302; Gibbons-Merkur 8 September 24, 1976 lot 3888. July 16, 2015 PFC 529291. Ex Bowman. Morris collection.

11. December 22, 1848; folded letter; outbound New York; cut rectangle, uncanceled; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 12753, cancel-tied by red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line handstamp, clear matching handstamp at center. To: "Mr Hamilton Patterson / U.S. Ship North Carolina / New York".
12. January 11, 1849; folded letter; outbound North Carolina; bottom left sheet margin corner cut rectangle, faint ink (cancel); bottom margin cut rectangle vertical pair, heavy ink pen (cancel); blue Clarke 81 Philadelphia cds. To: "Mr. B. Gould / Yanceyville / Caswell Co / N. Carolina". Siegel 285 March 31, 1965 lot 698. June 18, 2014 PFC 520529 "the pair of Scott 15L17 did not originate on this otherwise genuine usage of the single Scott 15L17."
13. January 11, 1849; envelope; outbound Pennsylvania; top margin partially torn rectangle, uncanceled; blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds. To: "Thos Kreamer Esqr / Palmyra / Lebanon County / Pa." Schachat collection.
14. January 24, 1849; folded cover; outbound New York; bright, right margin cut rectangle, acid cancel; blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds; blue advertising label on reverse. To: "H.S.Leverich Esqs / New York." Frajola 4 June 7, 1990 lot 401, Middendorf. Corwin collection.
15. January 27, (1849); folded letter with contents; local delivery; cut rectangle, blue 4 bar grid cancel-tied (Morris Type D); beige advertising label on reverse. To: "William D. Lewis, Esqr / York Court / Fifteenth between Walnut & / Spruce Street". Morris collection.
16. January X, 1849; (folded letter); outbound Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, (acid cancel), tied by blue Philadelphia cds; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 21564, cancel-tied by blue Philadelphia Clarke 74 cds. To: Unknown #1. Siegel 285 April 1, 1965 lot 702.
17. February 1, 1849; folded letter with contents; outbound Rhode Island; slightly damage cut rectangle, acid cancel; beige advertisement label on reverse; red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line double strike handstamp; two matching red New York cds double strike, small portion at top right. To: "Mr. Edward J. Thompson / Bristol / R Island". Ivy Manning 96 May 17, 2005 lot 2392. April 27, 2010 PFC 486189. Morris collection.
18. February 7, 1849; folded letter; outbound New York; cut rectangle, acid and blue ink smudge cancel-tied; blue advertisement label; red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line double strike handstamp; matching red numeral 5 in circle handstamp. To: "Messr Van Wagener & Tucker / Merchants / New York". Kennedy 126 June 1, 1975 lot 753; Siegel 927 December 20, 2006 lot 1106, Richardson.

19. February 9, (1849); folded letter; outbound to Washington DC; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; blue BALTIMORE RAILROAD cds, matching blue italicized numeral 5 handstamp, two matching blue FREE handstamp. To: "Hon. J.R. Ingersoll / U.S. Congress / Washington / D.C." Siegel 875 April 27, 2004 lot 1180; Siegel 927 December 20, 2006 lot 1108, Richardson.
20. February 9, (1849) folded letter; outbound New York; cut rectangle; red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line double strike handstamp; matching red New York cds; blue advertisement label on reverse; non-contemporaneous pencil manuscript "9.Feb. 1849" and "15L17". To: "Miss Helen Floyd Jones / Care of General H. Floyd Jones / South Oyster Bay / New York. Long Island". Alexander collection.
21. February 13, 1849; folded letter; outbound Maryland; slightly damaged cut rectangle, uncanceled; blue advertisement label on reverse; blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds. To: "M^r. Joseph R. Forman / at the office of Green Mount Cemetery / Baltimore / M^d." Bowman collection.
22. February 13, (1849); embossed valentine envelope; outbound Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 11284, cancel-tied by blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds; matching blue cds in center; manuscript "*Paid 5 / Unpaid 5*" on backflap. To: "Miss Mary Vandeling / Northumberland / North^a / County. Pa". Siegel 358 September 25, 1969 lot 87; Siegel 811 May 15, 1999 lot 34; Siegel 869 November 15, 2003 lot 3013; Siegel 1023 April 24, 2012 lot 2436, Mirsky. July 1, 1985 PFC 147104; July 12, 1999 PFC 341300. Ex Garrett.¹⁴ Morris collection.
23. February 27, (1849); (folded letter); outbound Pennsylvania; (cut rectangle); (uncanceled), blue indistinct Philadelphia cds. tied. To: Unknown #2 / (Reading, Pennsylvania). Lowe "Americana" October 8, 1974 lot 253a. NO PHOTO.
24. February 28, 1849; folded letter; outbound Connecticut; cut rectangle; acid cancel, blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds tied; non-contemporaneous pencil "*28.2.49 / I pos 17*". To: "Messrs / Pratt Spencer & Co: Deep River / Conn". October 15, 2009 PFC 480626.
25. March 3, 1849; folded letter with contents; outbound New York; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds. To: "L Fatman & Co / New York". Kelleher 662 January 23, 2015 large lot 212.
26. March 8, 1849; folded letter; outbound Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied, blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds tied; manuscript "*E.K. Price / Mar. 8/49*". To: "R. Rundle Smith, Esquire, / House Reps: / Harrisburg.". March 20, 1998 PFC 323215. Morris collection.

¹⁴ Duane B. Garrett, "Domestic Postal Rates for the 1847 Issue Period," *The Chronicle of the US Classics Postal Issues*, Whole No. 108, November 1980, Vol. 32, No. 4, page 231.

27. March 8, 1849; folded letter with dated contents; outbound Pennsylvania; crack in left margin cut rectangle, acid cancel; blue double strike Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds. To: "McInis & Haywood / C^o / Pottsville / Sch C^o / P".¹⁵ Ex Pearson. Morris collection.
28. March 8, 1849; envelope; outbound Washington D.C.; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; manuscript "Way". To: "Hon^{bl} M. Meredith / Sect^{ry} of the Treasury / Washington / D.C." Stromberg collection.
29. March 12, 1849; folded letter; outbound Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, acid cancel; manuscript "*Isaac Collins / Mch 12/49*" tied; blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds. To: "Craig Biddle Esq / House of Representatives / Harrisburgh / Penn^a". Alexander collection.
30. March 22, 1849; (envelope); outbound Massachusetts; left margin with portion of adjacent stamp cut rectangle, acid cancel; red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line double strike handstamp; matching red New York cds; manuscript "*Ans 26 May 1849.*" To: "Miss Mary Louisa Clancy. / Female Seminary. / South Hadley. / Mass." Siegel 927 December 20, 2006 lot 1107, Richardson.
31. March 25, 1849; (folded letter); outbound New York; (cut rectangle, acid cancel). To: (Theodore Sedgwick / New York).¹⁶ NO PHOTO.
32. April 6, 1849; folded letter; outbound New Jersey; left guideline cut rectangle, acid cancel; blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, cancel-tied by second cds.; manuscript "*P.mail.*" To: "Abr. Robert: Chiswell / (Auctioneer) Main Street / Patterson, New Jersey". Kelleher 674 October 26, 2015 lot 264. Morris collection.
33. April 9, 1849; folded letter with contents; outbound New York; left sheet margin cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied, red numeral 5 in circle handstamp tied; matching red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line double strike handstamp. To: "Theod. Sedgwick, Esq^r. / Counselor at Law / New-York". Siegel 820 January 18, 2000 lot 931. March 8, 2000 PFC 351716. Morris collection.
34. April 12, 1849; folded letter; outbound Virginia; cut rectangle, acid cancel; blue green RICHMOND POTOMAC cds. tied, matching italicized numeral 5 handstamp. To: "William Green Esqr / Culpepper CT House / Virginia". Regency Superior 91 February 3, 2012 lot 2297a. March 31, 2011 APS cert 195461. Morris collection.
35. April 15, 1849; folded letter; outbound Michigan; cut rectangle, acid cancel; tied by two blue Clarke 81a Philadelphia cds handstamps; 5 cent 1847 general issue vertical pair, USPCS ID 10705, each separately cancel-tied by

¹⁵ Steven M Roth, "Philadelphia Local & Intercity Posts and U.S. Post Office Department," U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, 1993, page 80.

¹⁶ Lawyer at 29 Wall Street, The New York City Directory for 1843, page 286, John Doggett, 1842.

Philadelphia cds; clear third cds to left; manuscript “PAID”. To: “J.W. Brooks Esq / Supt. Mich Central R.R. / Detroit / Mich”. Siegel 817 November 15, 1999 lot A538, Golden; Bennett International 262 June 12, 2003 lot 396, Craveri. March 8, 2000 PFC 351746.

36. April 18, 1849; folded letter; outbound Virginia; bottom sheet margin cut rectangle, acid cancel; green RICHMOND RAIL ROAD cds, matching green italicized numeral 5 handstamp. To: “William Green Esqr / Culpepper CT House / Virginia”. Regency Superior 91 February 3, 2012 lot 2297b. March 31, 2011 APS cert 195460. Ex Morris. Alexander collection.
37. April 22, 1849; folded letter; outbound (New York); cut trapezoid, acid cancel; red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line handstamp; matching red New York cds; manuscript “*Recd April 23, 1849*”. To: “Rev W P. Newb(---) / Broo(klyn) / N(ew York)”. Eastland 59 July 9, 1971 lot 424.
38. April 23, (1849); folded letter; outbound New York; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID, cancel-tied by blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds; clear strike in center. To: “Rev. Wm A Hallock / No 150 Nassau St.” / (New York). Shreves September 26, 1996 lot 185. (1996 PFC).
39. May 9, (1849); small envelope; outbound Delaware; top margin cut rectangle, uncanceled, tied by blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 11372, cancel-tied by one of two matching blue cds; clear matching blue Philadelphia cds in center. To: “Mrs Meredith Clymer / Eden Park / Wilmington / Delaware.” Siegel 830 November 13, 2000 lot 466, Hall; Bennett International 262 June 12, 2003 lot 395, Craveri. August 12, 2003 PFC 400826.
40. May 10, 1849; envelope; outbound to Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, acid cancel; 10 cent 1847 Scott #2 general issue, USPCS ID 11739 cancel-tied by blue Clarke 81 Philadelphia cds; second blue Clarke 81 Philadelphia cds in center; manuscript “*May 10/49*” docket. To: “Henry Johnson Esqr. / Muncy- / Lycoming Co: / Penn^a”. February 25, 2003 PFC 394526. Lyons collection.
41. May 16, 1849; folded letter; outbound Illinois; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; 10 cent 1847 Scott #2 general issue, USPCS ID 11788 and 11914, cancel-tied by blue Clarke 81a Philadelphia cds; second clear cds at left; non-contemporaneous pencil “1849”. To: “Mr. Moses Smith / albion / Illinois”.¹⁷ Siegel 512 May 18, 1977 lot 175, Rohloff. Siegel 820 January 18, 2000 lot 453. February 28, 2011 PFC 494866. Lyons collection.
42. May 20, 1849; envelope; outbound New York; cut rectangle, acid cancel; red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line double strike handstamp; matching red New York cds. To: “Mary House Sellers / 14 College Stage / Brooklyn, NY.” Alexander collection.

¹⁷ Roth, loc. cit. page 73.

43. May 21, (1849); folded letter; outbound Washington D.C.; right margin cut rectangle, acid-cancel-tied; blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds.; manuscript "free". To: "To / The Hon^{ble} W^m. M. Meredith / to X his / Washington". Siegel 887 November 10, 2004 lot 4225.
44. May 23, 1849; (folded letter); outbound Pennsylvania; top margin cut trapezoid, faint acid cancel; 5 cent 1847 general issue, Scott #1, USPS ID 10734, penstroke "X" cancel, tied by blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds; clear matching Philadelphia cds at left. To: "Mr Lewis L. Walker / Pottsville / Schuylkill Co / Pa". Bennett International 287 April 1, 2005 lot 1133; Bennett International 330 December 4, 2008 lot 1028.
45. May 26, (1849); folded letter; outbound New York; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds. To: "S & E Willetts Mer^{ts}. / for Maria Willetts / 202 Clinton St / New York". Lyons collection.
46. June 11, 1849; folded letter; local delivery; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied. To: "Mr WD Lewis / Non 360 Spruce st Phila". Stromberg collection.
47. June 12, 1849; folded letter; outbound Virginia; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; blue italicized numeral 10 handstamp; manuscript "June 12? 19? 1849". To: "Charles Ellet Jr. / Wheeling / Virg^a". Siegel 1063 December 19, 2013 lot 1800. Morris collection
48. June 13, 1849; folded letter, outbound Delaware; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds. To: "A. Stockly Esq. / Smyrna. / Del." Alexander collection.
49. June 15, 1849; folded letter; outbound Maryland; cut rectangle, acid cancel; blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds.; non contemporaneous pencil manuscript "6/15/49". To: "James (Lerner) & Sons / Baltimore." Harwood collection.
50. June 29, (1849); envelope; outbound New Jersey; cut rectangle uncanceled, blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds. tied; 5 cent 1847 general issue, Scott #1, USPS ID 11432, cross hatch cancel. To: "Margareta Bullock / Mount Holly / New Jersey". Siegel 1101 June 23, 2015 lot 662, Stimmell.
51. July 5, 1849; small envelope; local delivery; bright cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; contemporaneous pencil manuscript "7 mo 5th. 1849", and (incorrect) non-contemporaneous pencil manuscript "June 5th 1849". To: "Rodman Wharton / No. 110 So. Front st".¹⁸ Stromberg collection.
52. July 6, 1849; envelope; local address; cut rectangle, acid cancel; manuscript "7 mo 6.49 morning". To: "Rodman Wharton / No. 110 S. front st." May 26, 1999 PFC 337623. Ex Morris. Alexander collection.

¹⁸ Rodman Wharton, 1824-1854 was the older brother of the famous Joseph Wharton, who in 1864 was a founder of Swarthmore College, and in 1881 the "Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania."

53. July 7, 1849; envelope; local delivery; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; manuscript "7 mo 7. 49". To: "Rodman Wharton / No 110. So. front st." Kelleher 662 January 23, 2015 large lot 212. Kelleher 662 January 23, 2015 large lot 212.
54. July 9, (1849); folded letter with contents; outbound Washington D.C.; right sheet margin cut rectangle, acid cancel; blue Clarke 430d PHILAD^A RAIL.ROAD cds; matching blue italicized numeral 5 handstamp. To: "Mrs. M.A Beale / Care of Truxton D Beale Esqr. / Washington / D.C." Carrier & Locals sale 18 July 15, 2010 lot 37. Morris collection.
55. July 18, (1849); folded letter; outbound New York; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied, blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds. tied. To: "Mr. Chas. K. Hamilton / N. York". Corwin collection.
56. July 22, 1849; front; outbound Maine; right sheet margin cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied, red New York cds tied; 5 cent 1847 general issue horizontal pair, USPCS ID 6528, cancel tied by two matching red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line handstamps, clear third strike at right; manuscript "July 21, 1849". To: "M^{rs} Eliza L Dwight / Portland / Maine". Siegel 512 May 18, 1977 lot 135, Rohloff; Siegel 527 April 5, 1978 lot 184; Christies 6776 March 15, 1989 lot 1021; Bennett International 262 June 12, 2003 lot 397, Craveri.
57. July 27, (1849); small envelope; outbound Pennsylvania; right sheet margin cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied, faint blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds. tied; 5 cent 1847 general issue, USPCS ID 11427, manuscript "X" cancel. To: "For / Miss Mary Elwyn / Care of Lewis Lewis / Westchester / Pennsylvania". Siegel 475 August 20, 1975 lot 138; Siegel 593 March 4, 1982 lot 55; Siegel 784 October 29, 1996 lot 2027; Regency 65 February 29, 2008 lot 2560; Siegel 1101 June 23, 2015 lot 661, Stimmell. (APS certificate)
58. July 28, (1849); (folded letter); outbound Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; 5 cent 1847 general issue, USPCS ID 11453, cancel-tied twice by blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds. To: "For / Miss Mary Elwyn / Westchester / Penn^{a.}". Siegel 771 December 12, 1995 lot 501, Stollnitz; Siegel 774 March 27, 1996 lot 552; Siegel 784 October 29, 1996 lot 2027.
59. August 6, 1849; folded letter; local delivery; cut rectangle, acid cancel- tied. To: "Samuel Wood Esq / 6th Street near / Arch". Kelleher 662 January 23, 2015 large lot 212.
60. August 12, (1849); (folded letter); outbound New Jersey; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 21576, cancel-tied by blue grid cancel; clear blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds. To: "Miss Emma L. Newbold / care of Miss Hale." / (Pennington / New Jersey). J.Kaufmann 79 November 19, 1981 lot 97; Frajola 15 November 24, 1984 lot 391.

61. August 13, 1849; folded letter; outbound Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, acid-tied; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 1079, cancel-tied by blue grid cancel; clear blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds. To: "M^r Hickman / Att^y At Law / West Chester". Siegel 294 January 6, 1966 lot 245; David Feldman 42 April 1986 lot 22738; Frajola 44 July 28, 1990 lot 292. November 29, 1990 PFC 233262. Ex Gibson, Simpson.
62. August 22, 1849; folded letter; local delivery; top sheet margin cut rectangle, acid cancel; manuscript "*Politeness of Miss E. Sanderdon*". To: "Edw^d. Carpenter Esq / No 56 Walnut Str / Philada". Alexander collection.
63. August 31, (1849); envelope; Philadelphia District of Penn; cut rectangle, acid cancel; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 11483, cancel-tied by blue grid; clear blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds. To: "Miss Benjaline French / North 7th St. above ___ / Poplar, West side / Philadelphia".¹⁹ Siegel 751 June 30, 1993 lot 1094; Bennett International 277 June 7, 2004 lot 260.
64. September 5, 1849; folded letter with dated contents; outbound Washington D.C.; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; blue Clarke 430d PHILADA RAILROAD cds, matching blue italicized numeral 5 handstamp. To: "E. Riggs J^r / Washington City / D.C."
65. September 6, 1849; folded letter with dated contents; outbound Washington D.C.; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; manuscript "W 5". To: "E. Riggs J^r / Washington City / D.C."
66. September 11, 1849; envelope; outbound New York; bright cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds. To: "Rev D.P. Noyes. / Brooklyn. / N.Y." Stromberg collection.
67. September 13, 1849; folded letter; outbound Illinois; right sheet margin cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; 10 cent 1847 Scott #2 general issue, USPCS ID 11806 cancel-tied twice by two blue indistinct Philadelphia cds; clear third blue Clarke 81a Philadelphia cds. To: "M^r Moses Smith / Albion, / Edwards County / Illinois." Siegel 526 April 4, 1978 lot 61; Siegel Rarities 645 April 20, 1985 lot 55; Siegel 723 April 27, 1990 lot 102; (Shreves 144). October 15, 1998 PFC 329436. Morris collection.
68. September 17, (1849); envelope; outbound New Jersey; bright left sheet margin cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 11510, cancel-tied by several blue indistinct Philadelphia cds; clear blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds. To: "Miss Emma L. Newbold / care of Miss Hale / Pennington / N. Jersey". Lowe "USA 1" March 1, 1973 lot 1681; Lowe "USA" October 26, 1973 lot 1908b; Lowe "Americana" October 8, 1974 lot 254; Siegel 706 February 15, 1989 lot 31; Siegel 906 March 13, 2006

¹⁹ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, "What is a 'Drop Letter' and a 'Drop Dead Letter?'" *Chronicle*, November 2004, Vol. 55, No. 4, Whole No. 200, page 264.

- lot 1498. May 19, 1989 1989 APS 68259. Ex Hollowbush. Stromberg collection.
69. September 18, 1849; folded letter; local delivery; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied. To: "John Farnum Esq. / No 257 Arch St". Bowman collection.
 70. September 19, (1849); (envelope); outbound Maryland; cut rectangle, (acid cancel); 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 11514, cancel-tied blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds, second Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds at center. To: "Messrs Fielder Israel & Co / Baltimore / Md." Siegel 622 September 14, 1983 lot 653; (David Feldman September 3, 1981). July 19, 1976 PFC 55817. Ex Garrett.
 71. September 20, (1849); envelope; outbound New Jersey; cut rectangle, acid cancel; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 11516, cancel-tied by several indistinct blue Philadelphia cds, clear Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds at center.²⁰ To: "Margaretta Bullock / Mount Holly / New Jersey". Siegel 830 November 13, 2000 lot 467, Hall. Bennett International 277 June 7, 2004 lot 327.
 72. September 21, (1849); folded letter; outbound Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, acid cancel; blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds. tied. To: "Rev. George Diehl / Easton / Pa". Ex Morris. Alexander collection.
 73. September 25, 1849; folded letter; outbound New Hampshire; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied, red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line double strike handstamp tied; 5 cent 1847 general issue horizontal pair, USPCS ID 6571, cancel-tied by same two strikes of red straight line handstamp; clear third double strike of same; matching red New York cds. To: "Charles Hazletine Esq^r / Littleton. / New Hampshire"²¹ Siegel 285 April 1, 1965 lot 703. Eubanks collection.
 74. October 2, 1849; folded letter with dated contents; local delivery; bright cut rectangle; acid cancel. To: "W H Drayton Esq / Walnut Sr. below 6th.. / South Side ---". Morris collection.
 75. October 16, 1849; folded letter; outbound New York; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; blue Clarke 73 Philadelphia cds. tied. To: "Mess Stark Day Stauffer / New York / NY." McCusker 316 lot 189. Morris collection.
 76. October 18, 1849; (folded letter); outbound New York; cut rectangle, (acid cancel); blue Clarke 73a Philadelphia cds. To: "Mr Robert (Wampler) / (New York)". (Spelman lot 131)
 77. October 19, 1849; envelope with letter contents; outbound Washington D.C.; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; blue Clarke 73a Philadelphia cds; red

²⁰ Tom Clarke email communication on February 10, 2015 reports Type 74a from December 25, 1848 to October 12, 1848.

²¹ Charles Hazletine (1828-1860) was a musician.

Washington DC October 24 cds.; manuscript "Dr. J.M. Greene". To: "W.J.W. Ruchenberger M.D. / Surgeon, U.S. Navy. / ~~Williard's~~ Hotel / Washington City / ~~DC~~" and in different pen "Philadelphia / Pa". Lowe "Americana" October 8, 1974 lot 253b; Siegel 797 December 12, 1997 lot 1938. February 10, 1998 PFC 323201. Morris collection.

78. October 19, 1849; envelope; outbound Kentucky; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; 10 cent 1847 Scott #2 general issue, USPCS ID 11815 cancel-tied by three blue indistinct Philadelphia cds; clear blue double Clarke 81a Philadelphia cds. To: "John M. Justin / Morgantown / Butler County / Kentucky". Siegel 704 December 15, 1988 lot 97; Regency Superior 103 January 18, 2004 lot 2904. (2013 APS 204088)
79. October 27, (1849); front; outbound Maine; cut rectangle, acid-tied, tied by blue Clarke 81a Philadelphia cds; 10 cent 1847 Scott #2 general issue, USPCS ID 11946, cancel-tied by blue indistinct Philadelphia cds. To: "Mrs. Eliz (Dwight)" / (Portland Maine).²² J Fox 260 March 30, 1961 lot 312; Siegel 494 June 23, 1976 lot 70.
80. October 28, 1849; folded letter; outbound Virginia; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 14305 and USPCS ID 11661, red indistinct (POTOMAC STEAMBOAT) cds cancel-tied. To: "James E. Heath Esqr / ----- General / Richmond. / Virginia." Siegel 204 October 31, 1957 lot 300; Siegel 285 April 1, 1965 lot 701.²³
81. November 2, 1849; folded letter; local delivery; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied. To: "GD Wethrill & co / Front below Arch." Stromberg collection.
82. November 5, 1849; folded letter with contents; outbound England; cut rectangle, acid cancel, tied by blue Clarke 61 Philadelphia cds; manuscript "I/-" shilling due; red London datestamp on reverse. To: "C. Prior Esq / 48 York Terrace / Regents Park / London / England". R Kaufmann 58 May 13, 1989 lot 855; Siegel 927 December 20, 2006 lot 1109, Richardson. February 14, 2008 PFC 461545. Morris collection.
83. November 7, 1849; envelope; outbound Massachusetts; bright left sheet margin cut rectangle, acid-tied; blue Clarke 81 Philadelphia cds.; manuscript "Nov. 5. 1849 / Lirrer". To: "Mr Ariel S. Noyes / Bayfield. / Mass." Stromberg collection.
84. November 18, 1849; folded letter; outbound Maryland; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; blue italicized numeral 5 handstamp. To: "Mssrs Stickney & Beatty / Baltimore / Md." Carrier & Locals 18 July 15, 2010 lot 36. Morris collection.

²² Wife of Rev. William T. Dwight, pastor of the Third Congressional Church in Portland, ME. and president of the Maine Missionary Society.

²³ Robert B. Meyersburg, "1847 Postage Stamps Used in Combination with Carrier and Local Adhesives," *The Chronicle*, Vol. 44, No. 1, February 1992, Whole No. 153, page 13.

85. November 23, 1849; folded letter; outbound Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, acid cancel; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 10854, cancel-tied by blue Clarke 73a Philadelphia cds; same clear cds twice in center, partial at bottom. To: "John Bannan Esqr / Councillor at Law Orwigsburg / Schuylkill County / Penn". HR Harmer 2970 February 15, 2007 lot 4071. (2004 PSE).
86. November 30, 1849; folded letter; outbound Alabama; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; red POTOMAC STEAMBOAT cds., matching red italicized numeral 10. To: "Mr Scott Burdsall / Care of / Mess Mitchell Burdsall / Montgomery / Ala." NO PHOTO.
87. December 10, 1949; envelope; outbound Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 10865, cancel-tied by blue indistinct Philadelphia cds; clear blue Clarke 73a Philadelphia cds; manuscript "1849" docket tied. To: "H.G.Long Esqr / Lancaster / Penn." Siegel 645 April 20, 1985 lot 55; Bennett International 252 November 2, 2002 lot 113. October 27, 2000 PFC 362126. Lyons collection.
88. December 20, (1949); (folded letter); outbound New York; (cut rectangle), acid cancel-tied; blue (Clarke 71) Philadelphia cds. To: "Unknown #3. HR Harmer 1071 March 20, 1957 lot 597, Caspary. NO PHOTO.
89. December 29, 1949; folded letter; outbound Delaware; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 10883, cancel-tied twice by blue Clarke 73a Philadelphia cds; manuscript "*Paid*". To: "Ayres Stockley, Esqr. / Smyrna, / Delaware." Bennett International 287 April 1, 2005 lot 1132. August 23, 1976 PFC 56143.
90. 1849; folded letter; outbound New York; cut rectangle, acid cancel; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue USPCS ID 10886, cancel-tied by black Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line double strike handstamp; manuscript "*Paid 5 cts*". To: "David H. Davis / Box 675 PO / NYork". Rumsey 35 November 17, 2009 lot 1978. June 5, 2009 PFC 476844.
91. 1849; envelope; outbound New York; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue USPCS ID 10889, twice cancel-tied by red numeral 5 in circle handstamp; clear third numeral at center. To: "Miss Clara R. Reynolds / 22 Bayard st. / New York". Siegel 204 October 31, 1957 lot 299, Mathies; Siegel 830 November 13, 2000 lot 465, Hall.
92. January 10, 1850; folded letter; outbound to Washington DC; cut rectangle, uncanceled, tied by blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds.; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 10893, also cancel-tied by the cds. To: "Mr Jos. R. Ingersol / Washington / District of Co." Siegel 896 June 4, 2005 lot 520; (Feldman 505 lot 1152). Ex Rust, Hill.

93. January 10, 1850; envelope; outbound Washington D.C.; cut rectangle, acid cancel; manuscript "W". To: "Hon: W. M. Meredith / Washington D.C."²⁴ Ex. Roth. Alexander collection.
94. January 21, (1850); folded letter; outbound New York; right margin cut rectangle, acid cancel; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 10899, cancel-tied by blue indistinct Philadelphia cds.; clear blue Clarke 81a Philadelphia cds.; manuscript "*Put in pouch if / Mail is closed*". To: "Messrs Carpenter, Burnsby & Trevor / New York". Corwin collection.
95. February 12, 1850; folded letter; local delivery; left sheet margin cut trapezoid, acid cancel. To: "Messrs A M & B W. Jones / Iron dealers / N° 17 South wharves / Philad^a". Harmer 85 July 11, 2010 lot 916. Morris collection.
96. February 28, (1850); folded letter; outbound Massachusetts; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds.; manuscript "*Rec pf 28 fei. Repul 2 Mars*". To: "Morris And Guyot /at Prof / Agasnif / Cambridge / Mass." Corwin collection.
97. May 1, 1850; folded letter; outbound Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; (blue) Clarke 73a Philadelphia cds; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 USPCS ID 10960, general issue cancel tied by two indistinct Philadelphia cds.; manuscript "*Paid 5 cts*". To: "Cha^s.F. Wells Esqr / Wyalusing / Bradford County / Penna". June 26, 1981 PFC 99447.
98. November 5, 1850; folded letter; outbound Ohio; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 11083, cancel-tied by blue grid; clear blue Clarke 81 Philadelphia cds. at left; manuscript "*Paid 10 cts / Due 5*". To: "J.M. Williams Esqr / Attorney at Law / Lebanon / Warren Co / Ohio". Siegel 618 April 23, 1983 lot 12; Siegel 886 November 10, 2004 lot 3037; Christies March 14, 1990 lot 1623, Weill. December 7, 1990 PFC 233928; January 19, 2005 PFC 420533; (1983 Alcuri certificate).
99. (1850); (folded letter); outbound Maryland; cut rectangle, (acid cancel); "WAY / 5" handstamp. To: "Mr. Robert Turner / Baltimore". Ex Roth.²⁵
100. May 9, (1849-50); folded letter; outbound Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, acid cancel; 10 cent 1847 Scott #2 general issue, USPCS ID 11911, cancel-tied by two blue Clarke 81a Philadelphia cds. To: "John Snyder Esq / Cashier / Pittsburgh / Penn^a." Siegel 925 November 15, 2006 lot 1342, Kuphal; Siegel 1023 April 24, 2012 lot 2400, Mirsky. April 15, 1993 PFC 271223. Morris collection.
101. May 19, (1849-50); folded letter; outbound Illinois; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied, tied twice by blue Clarke 81a Philadelphia cds; 10 cent 1847 Scott #2 general issue, USPCS ID 11918, cancel-tied three by blue indistinct Clarke 81a cds markings; manuscript "*10 / Postage paid / to Bloods Dispatch*". To:

²⁴ Roth, op. cit., page 81.

²⁵ Ibid., page 86.

“Isaac Underhill Esq / Peoria, Peoria County, / Illinois.” Lowe “USA 1” March 1, 1973 lot 1680; Lowe “USA” October 26, 1973 lot 1908a; Lowe “Americana” October 8, 1974 lot 255; (Cherrystone 1006). (PFC 442197). Gronowski collection.

102. June 4, (1849-50); folded letter; outbound Ohio; cut rectangle, acid cancel; two 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 11399, blue rectangular and grid cancel-tied; clear blue Clarke 81a Philadelphia cds at center. To: “Thos K. Smith Esqr. / Miss Read Piatt & Smith / Cincinnati / O.” Siegel 567 September 16, 1980 lot 146; (Sam Houston Philatelic 3002 lot 296); Regency Superior 101 October 6, 2013 lot 4343. April 2, 1984 PFC 129744; May 9, 2013 PFC 512028. Morris collection.
103. July 19, (1849-50); small envelope; outbound Washington D.C.; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; (blue) Clarke 470o (PHILAD^A RAIL.(RD) cds.²⁶, (matching blue) ~~FREE~~ handstamp; manuscript numeral “5”. To: “Hon. W.M Meredith / Washington / (D.C.)”. Kover King May 26, 1976 (lot 11 or 68).
104. October 3, (1849-50); small envelope; outbound New York; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; blue Clarke 73 Philadelphia cds. To: “Miss Elen Levitt / c/o JW Levitt / 261 Water Street / New York -----”. Wolffers 59 September 8, 1977 lot 68.
105. October 30, (1849-50); envelope; outbound to Washington D.C.; bright, cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; blue Clarke 73 Philadelphia cds; manuscript “*Private*”. To: “Hon: N.M. Meredith. / Secretary of the / Treasury / Washington / D.C.” Morris collection.
106. November 14, (1849-50); envelope; outbound Maryland; cut rectangle, acid cancel; blue Clarke 73a Philadelphia cds. To: “Mssrs Analunter R. Smith / Georgetown X Roads / Kent County / Maryland.” Schachat collection.
107. (1851); folded letter; outbound Ohio; cut rectangle, acid cancel; blue Baltimore cds; manuscript “*Way*” and “*IO*”. To: “Dr H.E. Highway / Cincinnati / Ohio.” Carrier & Local 18 July 15, 2010 lot 38.
108. May 7, 1852; folded letter with dated contents; outbound Washington D.C.; bright left sheet margin cut rectangle, acid cancel; red Clarke 67b Philadelphia cds²⁷ To: “P R Tendell Esquire / Washington / D.C.” March 17, 2015 PFC 526214 “decline opinion whether the local stamp originated”.
109. November 27, (1848-51); envelope; outbound Virginia; top sheet margin cut rectangle, acid cancel; blue Baltimore cds; manuscript “*Way 20*”. To: “To Jesemiah B Sheppard / No 111 Main st / Wheeling / Va.” Carrier & Locals 18 July 15, 2010 lot 34. August 30, 2010 PFC 489857. Morris collection.

²⁶ Clarke, Interim 2012 page 221.

²⁷ Clarke, 2012 Interim page 28 reports earliest is July 9, 1851 and latest September 20, 1854.

110. October 29, (1851-2); (folded letter); outbound Washington D.C; cut rectangle, acid cancel; Bloods double circle handstamp²⁸ blue Clarke 62 Philadelphia cds,²⁹ (matching FREE in lozenge. To: (Commissioner of Pensions) / (Washington D.C.). (Phillips October 4, 1976 lot 796).
111. November 19, (1851-4); folded letter; outbound Connecticut; cut rectangle, (acid cancel); Bloods double circle handstamp;³⁰ 3 cent 1851, Scott #11, general issue, tied by Philadelphia cds. To: "Rev: J: Gaddock / Stratford / Conn:" Winter July 7, 1974 lot 32.
112. December 5, (1851-4); envelope; local delivery; cut rectangle, acid cancel; Bloods double circle handstamp;³¹ manuscript "*I Ct / Paid*". To: "James R. Ludlow Esq. / 28 Washington / Square / Phil." Snow collection.
113. June 16, (1852-3); envelope; outbound Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; Bloods double circle handstamp³² blue Clarke 75a Philadelphia cds.³³ To: "Mrs. James. M Dorlan / Downingtown / Chester County / Pa". Alexander collection.
114. March 8, (1852-4); envelope; local delivery; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; Bloods double circle handstamp.³⁴ To: "James Fay, Esq / So 15 Carson St / Delaware & 8th / Phila." Alexander collection.
115. April 14, (1852-4); envelope; local delivery; right sheet margin cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; Bloods double circle handstamp;³⁵ second cut rectangle 15L13 sealed backflap, acid cancel; pink advertising label. To: "Mr E. Pinkard / Walnut St above Eight". Lyons collection.
116. November 7, 1854; embossed envelope; outbound New York; (cut rectangle) acid cancel; Bloods Handstamp (Type unknown). To: Unknown #4 / (New York). Lowe "USA 1" March 1, 1973 lot 1682; Lowe "USA" October 26, 1973 lot 1909. NO PHOTO.
117. May 31, 1855; (envelope); outbound Massachusetts; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; 3 cent 1851, Scott #11, general issue, tied by Clarke 63b Philadelphia cds.; Bloods handstamp.³⁶ To: "Henry Lyman / No 40 State Street / Boston / Mass". Stromberg collection.
118. July 25, 1855; (envelope); outbound New York; cut rectangle, acid cancel; pair Scott #1, general issue, Philadelphia cds. cancel. To: Unknown #5 / (New York). Lowe "USA 1" March 1, 1973 lot 1683; Lowe "USA" October 26, 1973 lot 1910. Ex Gibson.

²⁸ Morris, Type 17, ASCC Type 12.

²⁹ Clarke, 2012 Interim page 27 reports earliest example is June 25, 1851 and latest June 12, 1853.

³⁰ Morris, Type 17, ASCC Type 12.

³¹ Morris, Type 17, ASCC Type 12.

³² Morris, Type 17, ASCC Type 12.

³³ Clarke, 2012 Interim page 28 reports earliest example is September 7, 1851 and latest August 29, 1853.

³⁴ Morris, Type 17, ASCC Type 12.

³⁵ Morris, Type 17, ASCC Type 12.

³⁶ Morris, Type 19, ASCC Type 13.

119. February 6, 1856; (envelope); local delivery; (cut rectangle, acid cancel); To: Unknown #6 / (Philadelphia). Lowe "USA 1" March 1, 1973 lot 1684. Ex Gibson. NO PHOTO.
120. October 9, (1858-61); envelope; cut rectangle, acid cancel; Bloods double circle handstamp³⁷ manuscript "*Private*". To: "Mr. R A Parish / North East corner of 4th & Walnut / Philada". July 16, 2015 PFC 529290. Ex Alexander. Morris collection.
121. January 19, 18xx; (folded letter); outbound (Virginia); cut rectangle, 4 bar grid cancel-tied (Morris Type D); red POTOMAC STEATMBOAT cds.; italicized numeral 10 handstamp. To: Unknown #7 / (Virginia). (WFOxx October 17, 1965).
122. February (14), 18xx; large ornate envelope with valentine enclosure; local delivery; cut rectangle, acid cancel. To: "For Miss Catherine Marsh / Present". Siegel 925 November 15, 2006 lot 1343, Kupal.
123. March 16, 18xx; (folded letter); outbound Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, acid cancel; 5 cent 1847 general issue, (USPCS ID unknown), several indistinct blue (Clarke 74) Philadelphia cds. cancel-tied. To: Unknown #8 / (West Chester). Lowe "Americana" October 8, 1974 lot 251.
124. April 26, 18xx; (folded letter); outbound Pennsylvania; (cut rectangle, acid cancel). To: (Maynard) / (Lancaster, Pa.). NO PHOTO.
125. May 31, 18xx; folded letter; local address; cut rectangle, acid cancel. To: "Doctor J.H. Bradford / no 347 Walnut below 12th Street / Philad^a." Alexander collection.
126. June 1, 18xx; (folded letter); outbound Ohio; (cut rectangle, acid cancel). To: (Thomas R. Smith) / (Cincinnati / Ohio). NO PHOTO.
127. July 12, 18xx; envelope; outbound New York; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied, red New York cds. tied; 5 cent 1847 general issue, USPCS ID 7561, cancel-tied by two red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line handstamp; manuscript "*Paid*" in box. To: "Mrs. Philo. J. Williams / No 42 Willow St / Brooklyn / NY". Siegel 311 January 13, 1967 lot 1816, Hicks. November 6, 1950 PFC 2660.
128. July 15, 18xx; (envelope); outbound Massachusetts; cut rectangle, (acid cancel), tied by red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line handstamp; matching red New York cds. To: "William J. Bonditch, Esq / Boston, / Mass." (Fox March 31, 1961 lot 534).³⁸ Ex Roth.
129. July 22, 18xx; envelope; outbound Connecticut; bottom left sheet margin corner cut trapezoid, acid cancel-tied; red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line handstamp tied; matching red New York cds. tied.

³⁷ Morris, Type 21, ASCC Type 15.

³⁸ Roth, op. cit., page 82.

To: "Mrs Joseph J. Pease / Norfolk, Litchfield County / Connecticut." Kaufmann 7 November 14, 1972 lot 212; Wolffers 72 September 14, 1978 lot 472.

130. August 23, 18xx; (folded letter); outbound Louisiana; cut trapezoid, acid cancel; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue horizontal pair, USPCS ID 14312, penstroke "X" cancel-tied; clear red POTOMAC & STEAMBOAT cds. (Towle G-21-a). To: "D^r D. Warren Brickell. / New Orleans. / L^a." Harmer Rooke 571 October 17, 1950 lot 31, Shenk; Siegel 417 September 26, 1972 lot 237; Siegel 670 October 23, 1986 lot 264; Siegel 751 June 30, 1993 lot 1100. December 16, 1982 PFC 113201. Stromberg collection.
131. September 2, 18xx; envelope; outbound Massachusetts; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line double strike handstamp; matching red New York cds. To: "Miss Mary E. Fisher / (Care of F. Fisher Esq.) / Dedham / Mass." Nutmeg 161 December 11, 2007 lot 2995. Morris collection.
132. September 10, 18xx; folded letter; outbound New York; cut rectangle, tied by blue indistinct Philadelphia cds; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 USPCS ID 11498, cancel-tied by blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds. To: "Robt. Freeman Esq / Schenectady, N.Y." May 15, 1981 PFC 97912.
133. September (19), 18xx; folded letter; outbound Virginia; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; red POTOMAC & STEAMBOAT cds.; (matching red) italicized numeral 5 handstamp. To: "Eugene Dav(is)" / (Manassas city) / Virg(inia). Harmer Rooke February 15, 1977 lot 134.
134. October 19, 18xx; (folded letter); outbound Kentucky; (cut rectangle, acid cancel). To Unknown #9 / (Kentucky). NO PHOTO.
135. October 30, 18xx; folded letter; outbound Washington D.C.; two cut rectangles, each left sheet margin, each acid cancel; indistinct blue Philadelphia cds. To: "Rev. Ulysses Ward. / Missouri, Ave. near 4th Street / Washington City D.C." Corwin collection.
136. November 12, 18xx; folded letter; outbound Maryland; cut rectangle, acid cancel; blue Baltimore cds; manuscript "W 5". To: "Mr W^m E. Tenbrook / Hancock / Maryland". Carrier & Locals 18 July 15, 2010 lot 33. Morris collection.
137. November 19, 18xx; wrapper; outbound Maryland; cut rectangle, uncanceled; blue Clarke 430d PHILAD^A RAILROAD cds, matching blue italicized numeral 5. To: "C. Morfit, Esq. / Pikesville / Baltimore Co. / Md." Stromberg collection.
138. December 30, 18xx; envelope; outbound Georgetown D.C.; top left sheet margin corner, cut trapezoid, acid cancel; tied by blue Baltimore cds.; manuscript "Way / 10". To: "Mrs Tillighast. / Care Rev^d A.P. Tillighast. / (at Miss Gioynns) / Georgetown D.C." Lyons collection.

139. Undated; folded letter; outbound New York; cut rectangle, (acid cancel); blue advertising label on reverse; 5 cent 1847 general issue, USPCS ID 7885, cancel-tied by red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line handstamp; second clear double strike of straight line. To: "Hon. / Alongo Page / Schenectady / New York." Siegel 204 October 31, 1957 lot 298, Mathies; Siegel 1109 September 30, 2015 lot 352, Gilbart. (1977 PFC).
140. Undated; folded letter; outbound Maine; cut rectangle; uncanceled; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue horizontal pair, USPCS ID 12774, tied by manuscript "X" cancel and red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line handstamp; clear second strike in center; manuscript "*paid*". To: "Miss Freman / Cherryfield, Main". Siegel 1101 June 23, 2015 lot 663, Stimmell.
141. Undated; ladies embossed envelope; outbound Virginia; top sheet margin cut rectangle, uncanceled, tied by blue italicized numeral 5 handstamps; clear matching numeral 5 beneath, and matching RICHMOND RAIL ROAD cds. To: "Mr R.B. Maxwell. / Richmond / Va". March 20, 1998 PFC 323213. Ex Roth.³⁹ Morris collection.
142. Undated; small envelope; outbound Washington D.C.; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; manuscript "*W 5*" and "*for / W.M. Esq*". To: "Hon W.M. Meredith / Washington / D.C." Wolffers 59 September 8, 1977 lot 67.
143. Undated; (folded letter); outbound Washington D.C.; cut rectangle, acid grid cancel-tied; manuscript "*Way 5*". To: "Miss Helen ____ / Care of Major ----- / Was(hington D.C.)". (Siegel June 13, 1973 lot 1325).
144. Undated; (folded letter); outbound Washington D.C.; cut rectangle, (acid cancel); manuscript "*W/5*". To: "Mrs S.P. Lee / Washington City / DC."⁴⁰() Ex Roth
145. Undated; folded letter; outbound Washington D.C.; cut rectangle, (acid cancel); blue Clarke 430d PHILADA RAILROAD cds tied; matching handstamp numeral 5. To: "Mrs. J.D. Beale / Care Traxton D. Beale Esq. / Washington / D.C." Wolffers 168 April 29, 1992 lot 434.
146. Undated; (folded letter); outbound (Maryland); cut rectangle, (acid cancel), tied by blue indistinct Philadelphia cds. To: "Miss Analunter R. Smith / Georgetown X Road / Kent County / (Maryland)". Metro January 17, 1981 lot 329.
147. Undated; folded letter; outbound Pennsylvania; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied. To: "R Rundle Smith Esqr" / (Harrisburg). (Koerber June 17, 1977 lot 4716).
148. Undated; folded letter with watercolor enclosure; Spring Garden District; cut rectangle, acid cancel; beige Blood advertisement label. To: "Joseph M. Truman Jr / 325 Callowhill street, Philadelphia". Siegel 925 November 15,

³⁹ USPC, November 23, 1993 page 84.

⁴⁰ Roth, op. cit., page 86.

2006 lot 1344, Kuphal; Heritage 1111 December 9, 2009 lot 31113. July 16, 2015 PFC 529292 which declines opinion for label origin. Morris collection.

149. Undated; folded letter; local delivery; cut rectangle, acid cancel. To: "A. Grover J. Esq / Ericsson Sais / 19 South Wharves". Alexander collection.
150. Undated; embossed ladies cover; local delivery; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied. To: "at Mr Harding / Spruce above Sch. 7th" and "Miss K. Keusman / Care of Mr G.W. Lord / South Penn Square and ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ / ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~".
151. Undated; envelope; local delivery; cut rectangle, acid cancel. To: "Dr J.D. Young. / Wills Hospital / west Schl 5 / Race St". March 23, 1998 PFC 323214."⁴¹ Ex Roth. Morris collection.
152. Undated; tiny envelope; local delivery; bright, cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied. To: "Mr W^m. J. Camby / S.E. Cor 4th & Branch / Philad^a". Morris collection.
153. Undated; folded letter; local delivery; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; manuscript "*Answered in the Affirmative*". To: "Sarah Williams / (5th Street)". (Phillips May 1974 lot 489).
154. Undated; embossed ladies envelope; local delivery; top margin cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; beige advertisement label on reverse. To: "Miss Peters / 308 Walnut Street / Below twelfth at Mr^s Morris's". Kelleher 662 January 23, 2015 large lot 212.
155. Undated; embossed ladies envelope; local delivery; cut rectangle, uncanceled. To: "Mr George M. Heath / No 138 Market / St / Phila". Wolffers 41 May 30, 1975 lot 2085.
156. Undated; folded letter; local delivery; cut rectangle, acid cancel-tied; manuscript "88 S. 4". To: "For / William S Price Esq / 5th & Library Street". Alexander collection.
157. Undated; damaged envelope; local delivery to Northern Liberties District; cut rectangle, acid cancel. To: "Henry M. Phillips Esqr / South Forth Street / near George / Philadelphia". Alexander collection.
158. Undated; (folded letter); local delivery; left sheet margin cut rectangle, acid cancel; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 14577, penstroke "X" cancel. To: "Mr. H.R. Greis. / No. 13 N. Third St. / Philadelphia". (Harmer Schau 66 lot 18). PFC501000 "Scott #1 did not originate."
159. Undated; envelope; local delivery; cut rectangle, acid cancel; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 14578, penstroke "X" cancel. To: "Mr H.R. Greis. / No. 13 N Third St. / Philadelphia". (Harmer Schau 66 lot 19)

⁴¹ Roth, op. cit., page 80.

- A. December 3, 1849; folded letter; outbound Pennsylvania; cut rectangle **15L13**, acid cancel-tied, blue Clarke 73a tied; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 10861, cancel-tied by second blue Clarke 73a Philadelphia cds. To: "William Orbison Esquire / Huntingdon / Pa." Siegel 771 December 12, 1995 lot 499 as 15L13; Siegel 925 November 15, 2006 lot 1341, Kuphal as 15L17.
- B. January 25, 1849; envelope; outbound Pennsylvania; cut rectangle **15L13**, acid cancel-tied; 5 cent 1847 Scott #1 general issue, USPCS ID 11133, blue grid in circle cds. cancel-tied; blue Clarke 73a Philadelphia cds.; manuscript "John Hickey / Jan 21/51". To: "John Hickman Jr Esqr / West Chester Chester Co. / Pa". Christies 7180 October 25, 1990 lot 841 as 15L17; Siegel 773 March 26, 1996 lot 170; Siegel 791 June 25 1997 lot 360; Siegel 834 March 6, 2001 lot 195 as 15L13. November 29, 1990 PFC 233262; (1997 PFC). Ex Chase.
- C. May 21, 18xx; envelope; outbound Massachusetts; cut rectangle **15L13**, acid cancel; two vertical 5 cent 1847 general issue, USPCS ID 7483, red square grid cancel-tied each, top stamp cancel tied by two matching red Clarke 430e PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line handstamp (one faint); clear matching red New York cds. at right. To: "Doctor Chr. Fr. Geist / Boston."⁴² Siegel 204 October 31, 1957, Mathies as 15L13; Siegel 681 June 25, 1987 lot 231, Rust"; Siegel 825 June 27, 2000 lot 901 **incorrectly as 15L17**; Siegel 1023 April 24, 2013 lot 2370, Mirsky as 15L13. June 21, 2012 PFC 505637 as 15L13. (Ex Knapp, Garrett, Arch)

Excluded 15L17 Covers

Three covers have been excluded from the data base. Census letters A, B and C do not possess a 15L17 stamp, but instead a 15L13 incorrectly described by auction catalogs. Although they will each be included in the respective future article on 15L13, they are mentioned to minimize confusion from other sources.

15L17 Photographic Census

The above Description census has identified 159 genuine 15L17 stamps on cover. Of 159 examples 150 have been photographed, 93%, identified in auction catalogs, philatelic literature, USPCS website 1847 census, and three found only on microfilm by the kind assistance of the Philatelic Foundation. Most of the 150 have been posted on the Carriers and Locals Society website. Absent are photographs for 9 (census number 23, 31, 86, 88, 116, 119, 124, 126, 134). Some images are extremely poor, but nonetheless helpful. For example, undated census numbers 158 and 159 by description are virtually identical. The distinguishing feature is only revealed by photograph. Census number 158 address added a period after "N." abbreviation for "North" and a low dash following the street address "No. 13 N. Third St. ____".

⁴² Practitioner of homeopathy in Boston, Lowell, MA, and Portland, ME.

Of 150 photographed covers, 28 are black and white, almost 20%. Old auction catalogs all too often did not reveal a cover’s entire address, the case in 18%, 29 Of 159 examples (census number 8, 16, 23, 31, 33, 37, 49, 60, 76, 79, 80, 88, 103, 104, 110, 116, 118, 119, 121, 123, 124, 126, 129, 133, 134, 139, 143, 147, 153), one reduced to the stamps only (census number 123).

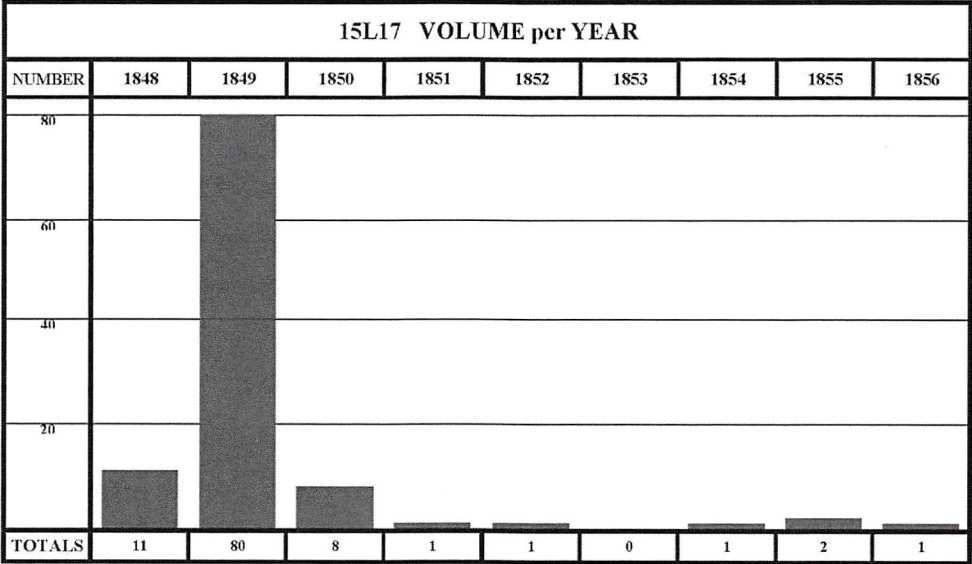


Figure 2. One hundred five 15L17 were year specific.

15L17 Cover Data Base

A 2% survival rate of private posts covers during this period has been selected for this series of articles.⁴³ A sample of 159 genuine examples suggests an original population of *almost 8000*.

15L17 Service Time

Evidence based data unfortunately is associated with *varying degrees of certainty*. **Table I** indicates that only 76 of 159, 47%, are *date certain* inclusive of day, month, and year: 9 in 1848; 57 in 1849; 5 in 1850; 0 in 1851; 1 in 1852; 0 in 1853; 1 in 1854; 2 in 1855; and 1 in 1856. Moreover, 105 examples, 65% of the evidence is *year specific*, and determined by Clarke Type and catalog description. This larger group can be reasonably allocated to a single year: 11 in 1848; 80 in 1849; 8 in 1850; and so forth as delineated in **Figure 2**.

Another 15 covers are not year specific, but can be restricted to a limited time period by auxiliary markings such as Philadelphia circular datestamps.⁴⁴Nine covers can be reasonably determined within a two calendar year period (census numbers 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 110, and 113). Two covers are restricted to a three calendar year period (census number 114, 115), and 4 examples to a four year period (census numbers 109, 111, 112, 120). Partial date information without

⁴³ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2014, page 38.

⁴⁴ Ibid.

any range of year likelihood amounts to 18 covers (census numbers 121 through 138). The final 21, however, come with no information of any type pertaining to date, month or year, and are entirely year and date unspecified (census number 139 through 159).

The *Scott Catalogue* has correctly listed 15L17 during 1848 to 1854. The **earliest recorded 15L17 is August 24, 1848**, a tied fully dated cover (census number 1), shown in **Figure 3**. The second earliest was the following day August 25, (1848). The third was tied and fully dated September 1, 1848. Three covers within eight days supports **15L17 appeared before any other small rectangle Blood stamps, and prior to Scott 15L12**.

The **latest recorded 15L17** cover is the only *very far outlier*, more than ten years later on **October 9, (1858-61)**, an untied but PF certified example shown in **Figure 4** (census number 120). The latest date specific and *fully* photographed example is May 31, 1855 (census number 117); latest date specific *partially* photographed is July 25, 1855 (census number 118). However, the *cluster* of 15L17, defined by at least 2 likely examples per month, extends only until February 28, 1850 (census number 96). Perhaps another 10 examples are no later than 1850 (through census number 106), and considered *mild outliers*. Including year dated *far outliers* the total population of dated material reaches 119.

The *cluster* with 15L17 ranged from August 24, 1848 until February 28, 1850 for 553 days, or 79 weeks, or 18.4 months. During the 18.4 most active months 96 covers represents **5.22 covers per month** of peak business activity. The 15L17 *philatelic lifespan*, however, is somewhat longer, deemed 106 covers between date certain **August 24, 1848 and November 5, 1850** (census number 98), for two years eleven weeks, beyond which only year approximate *far outliers* exist.

In short, **15L17 can be considered largely an 1849 stamp** with some prevalence during the six months before and after.

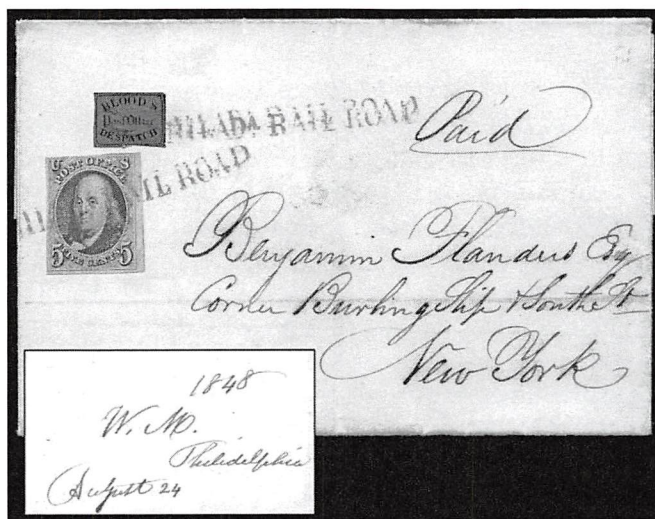


Figure 3. The earliest recorded 15L17 was postmarked in New York on August 24, 1848.



Figure 4. The latest far outlier 15L17 was October 10, (1858-61).

15L17 Service Location

Final destinations are summarized in **Table II**. *All covers* were collected of course by Blood's Despatch from their boxes, and sorted at the Blood's office. However, **not all were outbound** transported to a United States post office, as would be expected for a "**Post Office**" stamp, confirmed by several previous issues. The unexpected surprise was **20%**, 30 of 159, were delivered locally by Blood's Despatch. The great majority 29 in the old city, and 1 to an adjacent district (census number 148), not including one delivered to a nearby district by government mail (census number 63). **Figure 6** map delineates these distribution locations.

Therefore, *129 were indeed outbound*. The most common final destination state was **New York 17%**, receiving 27 covers. Second place again went to **Pennsylvania 15%**, (excluding Philadelphia) with 23 covers. Washington D.C. was third with 21 covers, for 13%. Maryland received 12 for 8%, Virginia 8 covers for 6%, and Massachusetts 6 for 4%.

More covers than previously were addressed to the Deep South; one each to Alabama, Mississippi, and for the first time Louisiana. Also new for Bloods was Michigan and Kentucky. Surprisingly not one was addressed to Canada. One trans-Atlantic cover, to England, was recorded (census number 82), shown in **Figure 5**.

None were associated with carrier markings or delivered by the Philadelphia carriers to an adjacent district (or local city door delivery). None were "drop letters" delivered to the Philadelphia post office and held for pick up.

No inbound bootlegged letters were handed over to Blood's Despatch, for local delivery, largely excluded by the special purpose nature of 15L17 for outbound service.^{45,46}

⁴⁵ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2014, page 42.

⁴⁶ Ibid., pages 47, 55.

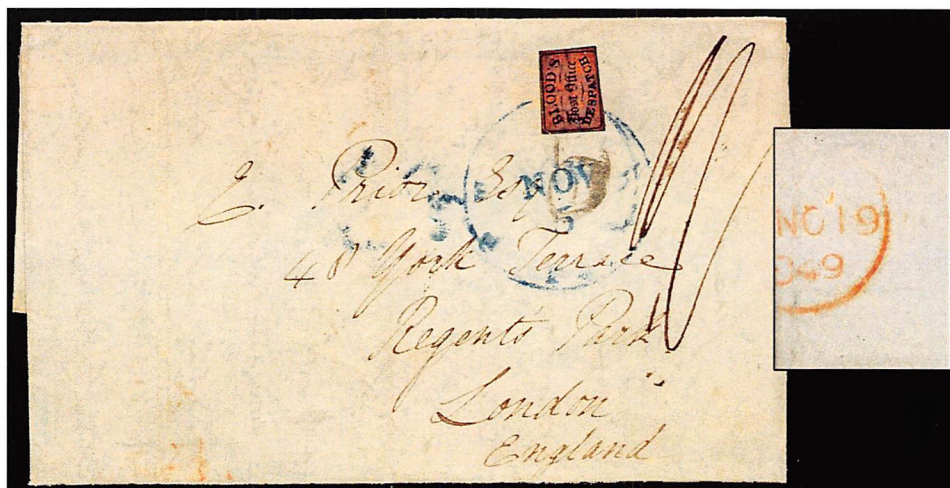


Figure 5. One transatlantic 15L17, with Liverpool backstamp on reverse.

15L17 Cover Type

Table III is a summary of various cover types bearing a 15L17 stamp. Of 159 recorded examples the great majority, 103, were *folded letters*, represented 65%, down significantly from previous articles, and an understandable trend toward greater consumer use of commercially available envelopes. Folded letters are demonstrated in **Figures 3** and **5**.

Envelopes were the vehicle for 52 stamps, 33%, shown in **Figure 4**, a corresponding *increase* from three prior issues of post office stamps. Of 52 envelopes, 11 were small “ladies covers,” one large cover (census number 122), and 2 fancy embossed covers (census number 22 and 116), **Figure 7**.

The balance consisted of 2 *front only* (census number 56 and 79) and 2 folded *wrappers* (census number 7 and 137). Understandably, no business circulars exist, since Philadelphia companies did not generally solicit business in other cities.

Table I listing of “cover types” relies upon auction catalog descriptions, authenticating certificate descriptions, and first hand inspection by current owners. When those sources are not available, the photographic image alone is often helpful, and may strongly suggests a folded letter by *imperfect folded under* portions exposed on the right or left side. Furthermore, envelope corners were vulnerable to becoming blunted from original handling/transportation, and/or 170 years of philatelic handling. A *front only* derived from a likely damaged folded letter, may appear at first glance in catalogs as a fresh envelope with perfect edges and corners, while in reality had been cut down or photographically cropped, and best detected by personal examination.

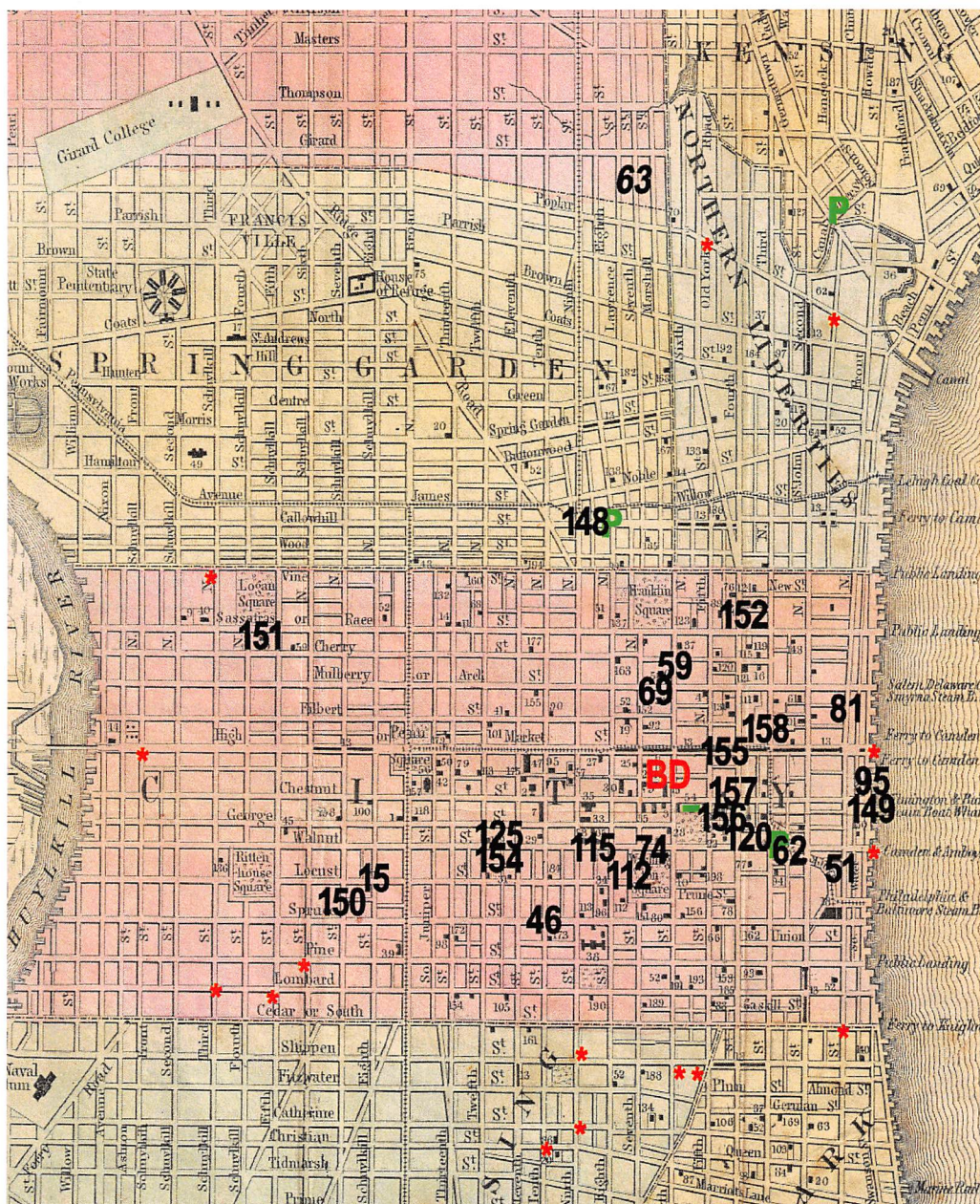


Figure 6. Red for Blood's Despatch office and boxes. Green for government post offices and Independence Hall.



Figure 7. Embossed valentines large envelope.

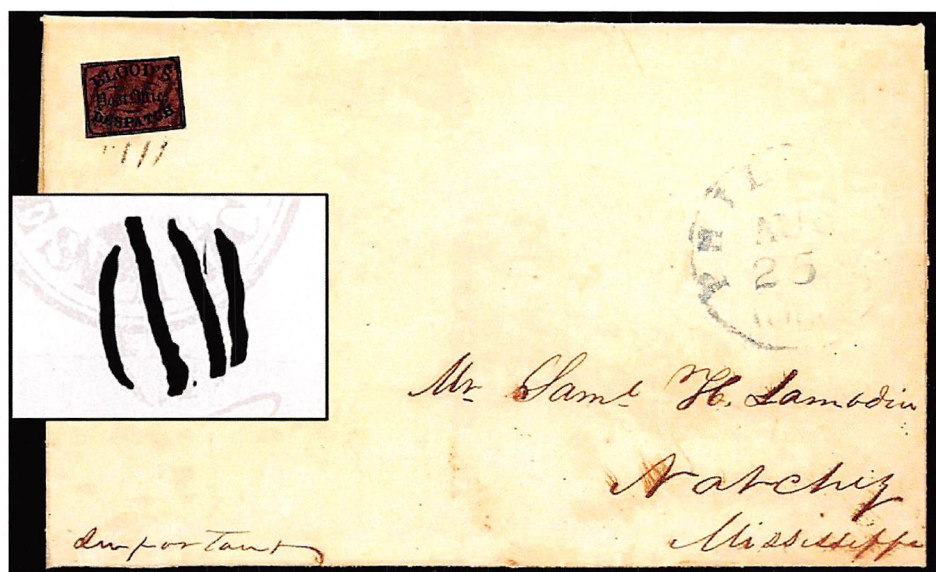


Figure 8. Bold 4 bar grid cancel with superimposed sketch; second earliest August 25, 1848.

15L17 Cancel Types

Table IV is a summary of 15L17 cancels. Cancels are defined as handstamp or manuscript markings applied by the private post to their own pre-paid stamps intending to prevent reuse. As many as **91%** were cancelled by Blood's Despatch, 144 of 159 covers. An exceedingly high rate, and profound break from previous outbound service to other cities where virtually no risk of reuse existed, and for which post office stamps were rarely cancelled! Conversely, only 15 examples, 9%, were *not* cancelled.

Acid was employed for 135 of 144 cancelled examples, for 94% of the subset of all stamps cancelled. Blood's Despatch "4 bar grid" handstamps,⁴⁷ appeared on 5 early examples (census number 1, 2, 6, 15, and 121) for 3%, **Figure 3** faint strike, and **Figure 8** (census number 2) bold.

Prior "pen stroke" style cancel was found on 3 examples (census number 3, 10, 12). No traditional bold manuscript "X," or diminutive "group of dots" cancels have been identified. Blue ink was identified on two (census number 15 and 18). Ink spots (census number 8) may have been accidental. D.O. Blood & Co. red "PAID" and numeral "3" handstamps had disappeared, never to be seen again.

15L17 Cover Auxiliary Marking

Auxiliary markings provide additional postal information regarding handling and delivery. In the context of private posts, all markings *not* intended to prevent reuse of the private post stamp has been considered auxiliary markings, both manuscript and handstamp, government and private. More than one marking may appear on a single cover. **Figure 3** reveals two strikes of the red straightline PHILAD^A RAILROAD (census number 1), but which counted once. Moreover, **Figure 14** shows two blue Philadelphia cds markings. One is Clarke Type 81a, whereas the other is indistinct type although probably the same 81a. They are not visibly identical, and therefore each counted separately.

Table V reveals that 83% of the covers, *133 of 159* were graced with 230 auxiliary markings, 1.7 markings per cover. 20 covers have no recorded auxiliary markings, all delivered by private post (20 of 30, for 66%); 7 are unknown (census number 31, 32, 119, 124, 126, 134, 147). Only one type of auxiliary marking appeared on 52 covers, two or more types on 80 covers.

Of 230 auxiliary markings, **three quarters were handstamps and one quarter manuscript**, *173 handstamped, 57 manuscript*. Of 173 handstamp markings, 164 were government and 9 private post. Of the 164 government handstamp markings, 120 were government circular datestamps: 91 were blue Philadelphia (4 probably applied in Baltimore; census numbers 54, 64, 139, 146), **Figures 5, 7**; 12 were red markings applied in New York, **Figure 3**; five were blue Baltimore (census number 19, 107, 109, 136, and 138), **Figure 9**; three blue Richmond (census number 34, 36, 141), **Figure 10**; and five red Potomac circular markings (census number 80, 86, 121, 130, and 133), **Figure 12**; one each red in Washington, **Figure 11**, and London, **Figure 5**. None were Canada.

⁴⁷ Morris, Type D Handstamp cancelled 26 examples between April 7, 1848 and July 24, 1849.

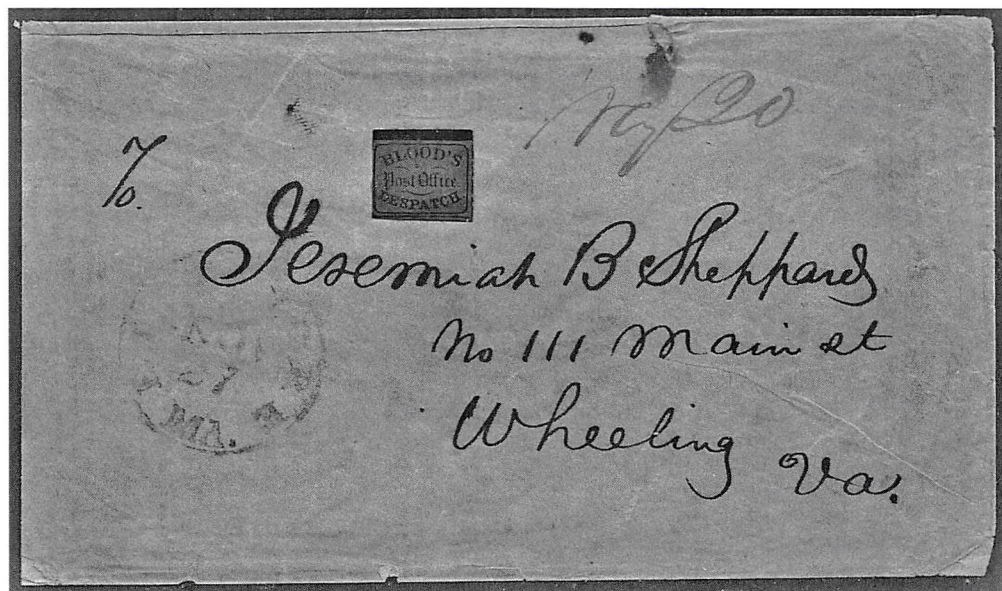


Figure 9. Top margin 15L17 with bottom guideline, postmarked in Baltimore, manuscript “Way 20” double rate.



Figure 10. Top margin 15L17 via Richmond Railroad on small embossed ladies cover.

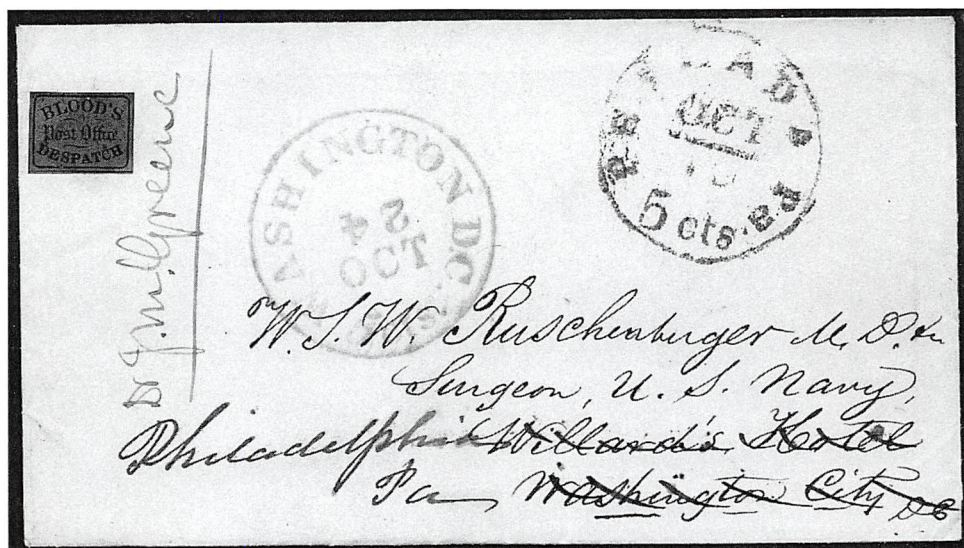


Figure 11. Blood's Despatch to Philadelphia post office, and returned by Washington D.C. post office.

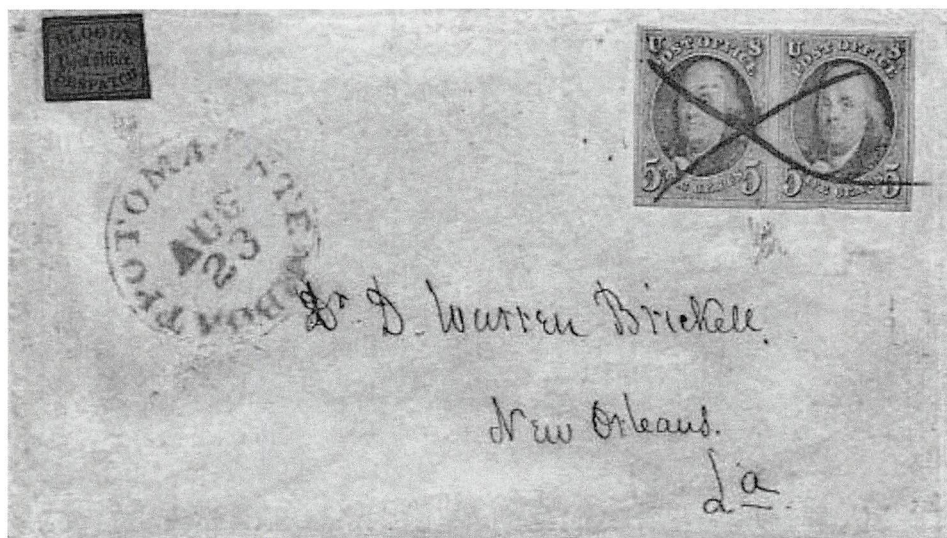


Figure 12. 15L17 via Potomac Steamboat, and on to New Orleans.



Figure 13. 15L17 on cover with message “10 / Postage paid to Blood’s Dispatch,” for the Philadelphia post office.

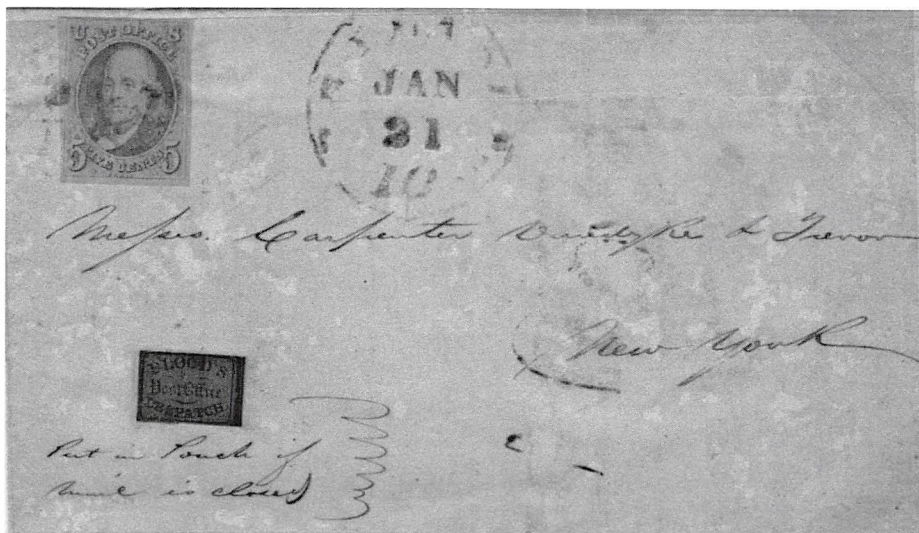


Figure 14. Right margin 15L17 on cover with message “Put in pouch if / Mail is closed.”

Manuscript markings appeared on 57 covers. Manuscript “date” markings accounted for 13, and were useful forming **Table I**. Manuscript “way” markings accounted for 11 (census number 3, 28, 65, 93, 107, 109, 136, 138, 142, 143, and 144), including the rarest type “Way 20” **Figure 9** (not to mention one handstamp WAY cover in census number 99). Manuscript instructions or memos accounted for 11. **Figure 13** (census number 101) “10 Postage paid to Blood’s Dispatch” is very telling of a transaction giving Blood’s Despatch money to pay the government inter-city mail. Furthermore, the sender of cover in **Figure 14** (census number 94) to New York instructed Blood’s Despatch to “Put in pouch if Mail is closed”. Manuscript “paid” in several types appeared on 10 (census number 1, 22, 35, 89, 90, 97, 98, 112, 128, 141), one “free” (census number 43).

15L17 Tied to Cover

Table VI revealed that almost **54%** were tied to their cover, 86 of 159, via 101 various markings; **Blood’s Despatch was 44%** (70 of 159); by **government was 18%** (28 of 159). Twelve were tied by two different mechanisms (census numbers 15, 18, 26, 33, 55, 56, 57, 73, 75, 79, 127, and 129), numbered in bold.

Blood’s Despatch accounted for 70, the most common was 65 by acid. Acid prevented re-use, sometimes damaged the stamp, but often serendipitously philatelically tied the stamp to its cover. The earliest hint of acid tied stamp was one week into February 1849 (census number 18, 19). The earliest 15L17 examples tied by any mechanism by Blood’s Despatch, however, were more than five months earlier via “4 bar grid” cancels (census number 2, 15, and 121); penstrokes tied 2 other early examples (census number 3 and 10). Such a high percentage had been unprecedented on outbound letters.

Government postmarks accidentally tied 28 private post 15L17 stamps to their covers. Blue Philadelphia cds tied 18, shown in **Figure 5** and **13**. Seven were various red markings applied at the New York post office (census number 1, 33, 56, 73, 127, 128, 129) drawn from “favor bags” on the Eastern Mail;⁴⁸ 3 were Southern Mail examples (census number 34, 138, 141), two shown in **Figure 10** and **15**. An incidental manuscript marking tied 1 (census number 29).

15L17 Stamp Shape

No panes or sheets have been identified. An off cover pair, *unused* without gum, has been reported.⁴⁹ A vertical pair on cover (census number 12) has been recorded, but which apparently did not originate on its cover.

Three *corner* margin examples, however, have been recorded. Bottom left corner, bottom right corner, and top left corner (census number 12, 129, and 138 respectively), **Figure 15**, consistent with pane/sheet format known for other contemporary Blood’s Despatch issues (15L13). Moreover, another 27 *margin* examples have been identified in **Table VII**, shown in **Figures 9, 10, and 14**. Such wide prevalence, 30 of 159, almost 20%, suggests all were derived from panes. No direct evidence exists that 15L17 was perforated or mechanically separated.

⁴⁸ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2015, pages 50-56.

⁴⁹ August 16, 2015 personal email communication from Marc Stromberg.

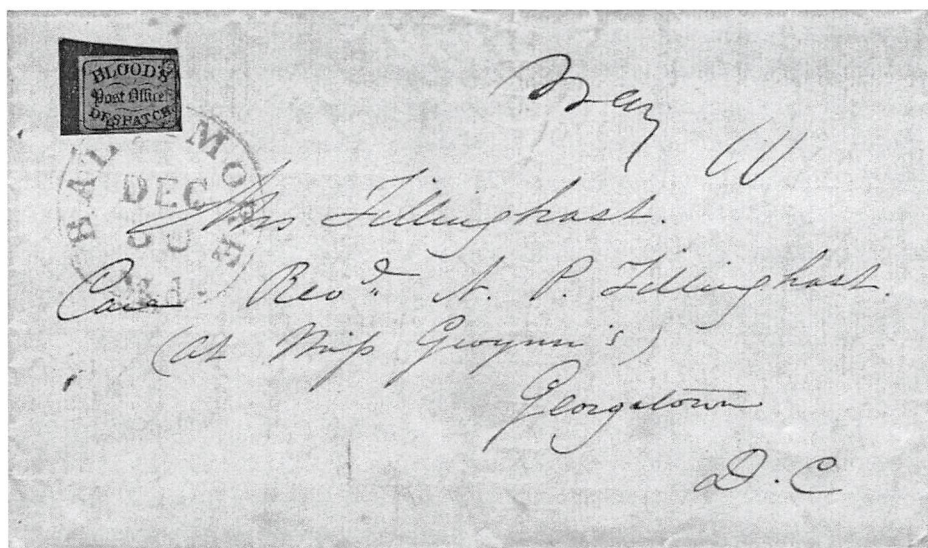


Figure 15. Upper left corner margin 15L17, double “Way 10” to Baltimore post office for Georgetown D.C.

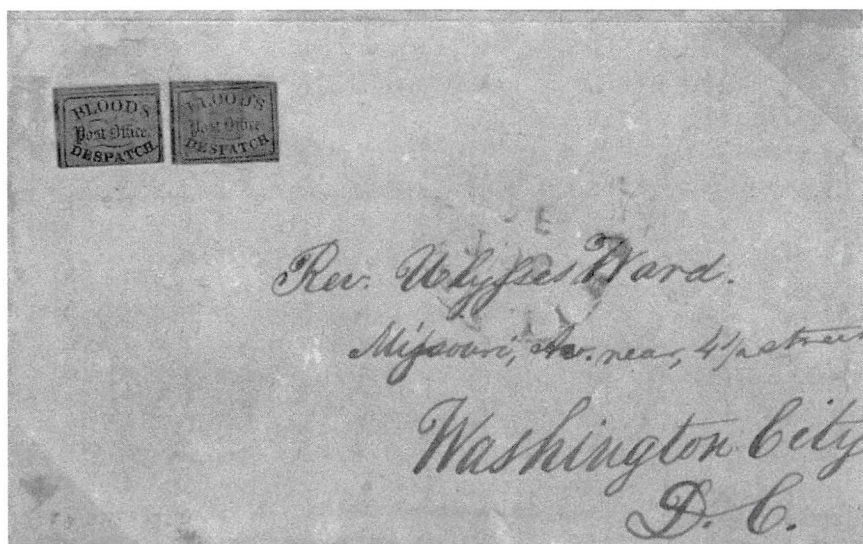


Figure 16. Two left margin 15L17, each showing guidelines at top.

Guidelines between stamps facilitated **cut rectangle** stamp separation, the style identified in 152 of 159 examples, 96%, similar to other recent Blood's Despatch introductions such as rectangular framed 15L10.⁵⁰ One "torn rectangle" was identified (census number 13). Six examples, however, were "cut trapezoid," **Figure 15** (census number 37, 44, 95, 129, 130, 138), similar to the immediately prior unframed Blood's Despatch issue 15L11,⁵¹ perhaps sloppy or expedient separation. No hand "cut to shape," "octagon," or "cut square" examples have been identified.

Three examples of Blood's Despatch multiple stamps on cover have been identified from the 15L17 data base. **Figure 16** (census number 135) displays two single 15L17 stamps, each a left margin example, each clearly revealing the guideline at top, and each with acid cancel although not tied. The second stamp on this cover was redundant, unnecessary, and superfluous. No double weight or double rate existed for Blood's outbound letters. Moreover, October was far from an expensive Valentine's Day special messengers. Another similar cover showed 15L13 as the second stamp (census number 115) sealing the back flap. Three stamps are found on one cover (census number 12) as mentioned above, but included a vertical pair not contemporaneously applied.

15L17 Correspondence

Any philatelic census including more than one letter sent to the same person or address defines a philatelic correspondence. Fifteen individuals received more than one 15L17 cover. William H. Meredith by far received the greatest number, 6 covers with 15L17 stamp (census number 28, 43, 93, 103, 105, 142).⁵² Three examples were addressed to 3 individuals, and two examples to 13 individuals.

Rodman Wharton (census number 51, 52, 53),⁵³ received letters on three successive dates in early July 1849! Born in 1826 and died in 1909, Rodman was the older brother of James Wharton who founded the prestigious Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania (ranked among the top few Business Colleges in the United States).⁵⁴

The Honorable JR Ingersol (census number 9, 19, 92),⁵⁵ born 1786 in Philadelphia and died 1868, was a member of the US Congress 1835-1837 and 1841-1849, and Ambassador to England from 1852-1853.⁵⁶ Also, Truxton D. Beale (census number 8, 54, 145) was an Esquire in Washington.

Eleven other persons received two each. Addresses within Philadelphia include two: William D Lewis Esqr (census number 15, 46); H.R. Greis (census number 158, 159). In Pennsylvania were R. Rundle Smith, House of Representatives

⁵⁰ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2015, pages 37, 38, 39, 53.

⁵¹ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2015, page 42.

⁵² Ibid., pages 44, 46.

⁵³ <http://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Wharton-20>.

⁵⁴ http://pabook.libraries.psu.edu/palitmap/bios/Wharton_Joseph.html

⁵⁵ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Reed_Ingersoll.

⁵⁶ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, "Blood's Part 8: 15L8," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 22, No. 4, October 2014, Whole No. 89, pages 13, 18,

(census number 26, 147); Miss Mary Elwyn (census number 57, 58) on consecutive days in late July (1849); E. Riggs of Washington D.C. (census number 64, 65) also on consecutive days in early September 1849. Noteworthy were two sent to William E. Tenbrook (census number 7, 136) of Hancock, Maryland, who had also received five 15L10 covers.⁵⁷ Also, Ayres Stockley Esq (census number 48, 89) of Symrna, Delaware received two; Margaretta Bullock (census number 50, 71) of Mount Holly, New Jersey; Miss Emma L. Newbold of Pennington, New Jersey; Analunter Smith of Maryland (census number 106 and 146); William Green Esq (census number 34, 36) of Culpepper Court House, Virginia; and Mrs. Eliza L. Dwight (census number 56, 79) of Portland, Maine.

Noteworthy for just one cover was one to Scott Burdsall (census number 86) of Montgomery, Alabama.⁵⁸ Significant individuals receiving a cover are included, such as William Ruschenberger (census number 77), fleet surgeon of the East India Squadron 1847-50. He eventually rose to rank of commodore; had been president of the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia 1870-1882; and president of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia 1879-1883.⁵⁹

15L17 Valentines

Table I reveals only two obvious valentines. **Figure 7** (census number 22), was a large embossed February 13, (1849) envelope without enclosure. Second was undated **Figure 17** (census number 122) which included a fancy embossed valentine enclosure. This outbound example was an exception to the hypothesis that *distant romances were generally too far away for valentines to other cities*.⁶⁰ Only two other possible mid-February candidates exist, but are unlikely based upon addressee: one addressed to Green Mountain Cemetery (census number 21) and the other to an iron dealer (census number 95).

15L17 with Advertising Labels

The data base of 159 covers with 15L17 stamp include 11 with advertisement label, for a prevalence of 7%, quite high for outbound purpose stamp. The majority were year specific (census number 10, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21), **all early and during a two-month period** from December 17, 1848 until February 13, 1849, more than one per week. This period is also from just before the winter holidays until Valentine's Day.

Blue advertising labels were the most common, and found on 6 (census number 10, 14, 18, 20, 21, 139). Second in number were four beige labels (census number 15, 17, 148, 154), shown in **Figure 18**. One pink label (census number 115).

Since Blood labels had made their appearance in early July 1847,⁶¹ all members of the 15L17 census were combination candidates. Advertising, however, was more likely reserved for local door delivery, and of little use in other towns.

⁵⁷ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, January 2015, page 29.

⁵⁸ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2015, pages 25, 33.

⁵⁹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Ruschenberger.

⁶⁰ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, "Blood's Part 7: 15L7," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 22, No. 3, July 2014, Whole No. 88, page 44.

⁶¹ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, "Blood's Part 5: 15L5," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 22, No. 1, January 2014, Whole No. 86, page 34.

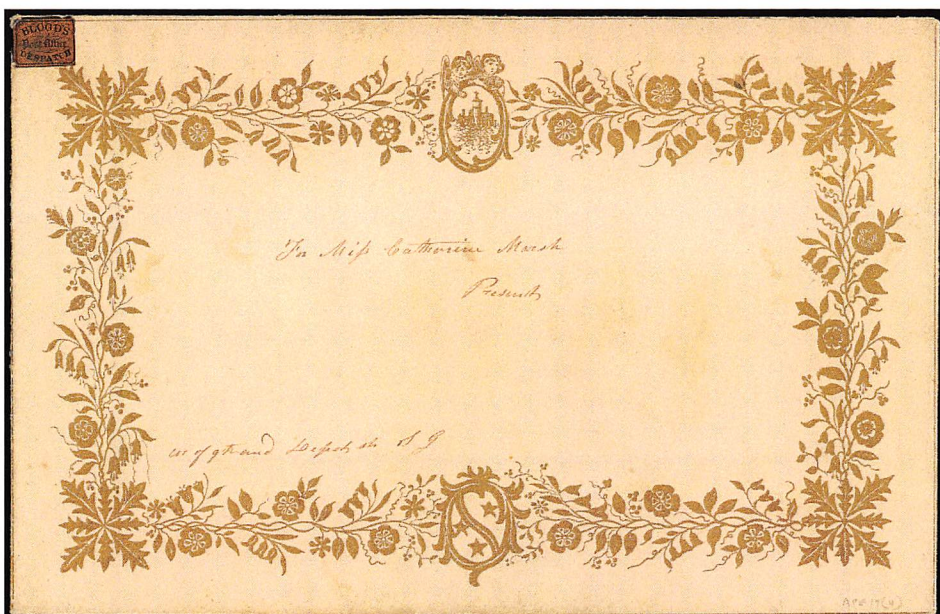


Figure 17. Top margin 15L17 with embossed valentine enclosure.



Figure 18. Beige advertising label on 15L17 illegal delivery in Spring Garden District; watercolor enclosure.

15L17 Circulars

Although business circulars had been encouraged by D.O. Blood & Co., *none* bear a Blood's Despatch 15L17 stamp. The reason is simple, 15L17 was a less expensive stamp not intended to service the more involved and expensive door delivery in Philadelphia. Furthermore, **Table 1** 15L17 data do not include special Blood self-advertisement circulars with sample demonstration stamps types defining service type options and volume discounts.⁶²

15L17 Rate

The last third of 1848 during of 15L17 early days, Blood's Despatch charged two cents for each prepaid single service stamp of either type, including easy outbound letters delivered to the nearby post office or outbound train. Two cents had been the prevailing charge since the rate reduction of mid July 1846.⁶³ A profound change in cost structure was in the making, and will be reviewed in the next article.

Volume discounts had been widely available throughout for twelve cents a dozen! Moreover, one hundred post office stamps were only 75 cents, or $\frac{3}{4}$ cent each. As much as a 63% discount, and perhaps explaining the large numbers of 15L9 and 15L10 stamps probably still in the hands of Blood's principle office, retail stores, and patrons all valid for current and future service.⁶⁴

15L17 Government Combinations

1847 general issue government stamps in combination with 15L17 were possible from July 1, 1847 until the July 1, 1851 demonetization of 1847 general issue. Each combination represents full prepayment by sender of private post collection and government inter-city mail transportation to destination city.

In 1992 Robert Meyersburg assembled a casual census of Blood stamps in combination with 1847 general issue stamp.⁶⁵ Meyersburg reported 34 examples of 15L17 combinations: 24 with single 5 cent stamp; 3 with two 5 cents stamps; and 7 with single 10 cent stamp. He provided one black and white photograph (census number 29), but did not include any source references for his information.

Table I identified 48 combinations. Two examples (census number 158, 159), however, are not genuine use of 1847 stamp, both to the same Philadelphia city address, one confirmed by Philatelic Foundation as Scott #1 did not originate.” **Table VIII** identified **46 genuine combinations, 29%** of total data: 34 were single 5 cent 1847, **Figures 3, 7, 10**; 4 were two 5 cent 1847, **Figures 12**; and **8** with single 10 cent 1847, **Figure 13**. From the data base subset of 46 combinations, 12 (26%) *were 10 cent rates*, of which twice as many were paid by single 10 cent than two 5 cents stamps.

The 46 combinations also include a subset of 3 *pairs* of 1847 stamps, all 10 cent rate prepaid by two 5 cent 1847 stamps. Two horizontal pairs (census number 56 and 130) and one vertical pair (census number 35) have been identified. Three pairs from 46 combinations is only 7%.

⁶² Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2014, pages 48-50.

⁶³ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2015, pages 48, 54.

⁶⁴ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2014, pages 47-51.

⁶⁵ Meyersburg, loc. cit., page 13.

15L17 Transatlantic

Only one 15L17 transatlantic covers has been identified (census number 82), shown in **Figure 5**, dated November 5, 1849. Auxiliary markings on this cover include the England domestic charge of one shilling (1/-), and red London cds on reverse, in addition to a blue Philadelphia cds.

15L17 Volume – Time Analysis

Figure 19 reveals that 96 covers with 15L17 stamp have been recorded during the 79 week **cluster period August 24, 1848 until February 28, 1850** of 18.4 months. The business activity was therefore approximately 5.22 covers per month. A very *high* number, unprecedented, increasing, and approximately double the prior four post office stamps 15L7, 15L8, 15L9, and 15L10.

15L17 Time Line

The evidence from data collected from the combination of D.O. Blood & Co. and Blood's Despatch stamp supports the following appearance sequence and therefore likely introduction of: **15L4, 15L5, 15L7, 15L8, 15L6, 15L10, 15L11, and 15L17** demonstrated graphically in **Figure 20**. 15L17 must have been actively sold while slowly dwindling numbers of outstanding 15L9 and 15L10 were still available and too placed into service.

15L9 and 15L10 "For the POST OFFICE" stamps appeared 16 months and 5 months respectively prior to 15L17, and likely prevalent in large numbers because their clustered examples were greatest throughout 1848, and many in February 1849 (disregarding very far outliers).⁶⁶ 15L17 "~~Post~~ Office" stamps were largely 1849, with a minority late the year before and year after.

"For the Railroad or Ferry"

Blood's Despatch 15L10 "For the POST OFFICE" and 15L17 "~~Post~~ Office" stamps increasingly seemed to be "For the Railroad" or "For the Ferry," officially entering the government mail system in *another city*.

Of 159 covers in **Table I**, 129 were outbound. Eighty six of 129 outbound examples, 67% were postmarked by the Philadelphia post office, down significantly from immediately preceding 15L10 of 80%. Therefore, 43 of 129 entered the government mail system elsewhere because Bloods Despatch had expedited the letter bypassing the Philadelphia post office.

"Eastern Mail" north to New York could be delivered to the Philadelphia post office, or bypassed to *either* the Kensington Station (for the Philadelphia and Trenton railroad) *or* the nearby Walnut Street Ferry to that railroad's partner (Camden and Amboy Railroad).⁶⁷ Not until January 1847 had a post office route agent been placed onboard contract trains in custody of a closed mail bag (from the post office) and an additional unlocked "**favor bag**" mail pouch for un-postmarked outbound letters deposited last minute by merchants, passengers, or Bloods at the

⁶⁶ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, January 2015, pages 19, 20, 25, 27, 46.

⁶⁷ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2015, pages 49-53.

rail station.⁶⁸ Expedited letters delivered to the New York post office were typically handstamped red in New York by either PHILAD^A RAILROAD straight line, New York circular datestamp, or numeral 5 in circle (analogous to a "Way" cover). Evidence shows 18 outbound covers were *absent* a Philadelphia cds (census numbers 1, 11, 17, 18, 20, 30, 33, 37, 42, 56, 73, 91, 127, 128, 129, 131, 139, 140) Conversely, 15 examples to New York City destinations had been processed by the Philadelphia post office (census number 10, 14, 25, 38, 45, 55, 66, 75, 76, 88, 94, 104, 116, 118, 132) and show a blue Philadelphia cds.

"Southern Mail" expedited to the post office in Wilmington or Baltimore likely departed from *either* the Dock Street wharf by steamboat at 2:45 PM, *or* the Depot at Eleventh and Market Street at 8:30AM or 10PM via City Railroad to the Southern and Western Rail Station, and subsequently ran southwest over the Schuylkill River on the historic Gray's Ferry bridge. It appears that 16 covers *absent* a Philadelphia cds are evidence (census number 19, 34, 36, 54, 64, 80, 86, 107, 109, 121, 130, 133, 136, 138, 141, 145). They are typically handstamped by various Baltimore or steamboat circular datestamps. Also, five red POTOMAC STEAMBOAT handstamps (census number 80, 86, 121, 130, 133) were applied on a 55 mile steamboat route between Aquia Creek, VA Washington D.C. (3 with Virginia destinations, and 2 to New Orleans and Alabama). One RICHMOND & POTOMAC R.R.⁶⁹ (census number 34) railroad ran 76 miles from Aquia Creek to Richmond. "Way" manuscript markings appeared along with a cds other than Philadelphia on 4 (census number 107, 109, 136, 138). Other "Way" markings without cds handstamp were "de minimus" and appeared on 8 (census numbers 3, 28, 65, 93, 99, 142, 143, 144). One interesting "Southern Mail" example (census number 107) addressed to Ohio bears a Baltimore cds, must have departed Philadelphia on the Southern route, and in Baltimore transferred to the Baltimore and Ohio railroad headed west. No 15L17 covers were postmarked by Wilmington, Delaware.⁷⁰

"Western Mail" in 1848 was transported by City Railroad to the Broad and Vine Street terminal, which departed at midnight on the Pennsylvania Railroad, a mixture however of canals and rail, which extended west to Pittsburgh. No examples were delivered by Blood's Despatch directly to post offices in the Mid-west. Although examples to Kentucky (census number 78) and Michigan (census number 35) exist, they each bear a Philadelphia cds. confirming delivery by Blood's Despatch to the Philadelphia post office.

Four Bar Handstamp Cancel

Blood's Despatch had introduced in early 1848 two new grid cancels. The earliest 4 bar grid had been recorded by April 7, 1848 (15L10), with at least 26 examples identified, possibly until July 1849. Four were applied to 15L17 examples shown in **Figure 8**, (census number 2). The 11mm by 9mm configuration was not

⁶⁸ Edward T. Harvey, "Favor Bag Mail; New York City-Philadelphia 1845-1851," LaPosta, March 1988, pages 24, 25.

⁶⁹ Email communication September 15, 2015 from Bob Lisbeth of the Virginia Postal History Society.

⁷⁰ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2015, pages 22, 29, 35, 36, 52, 53, 54.

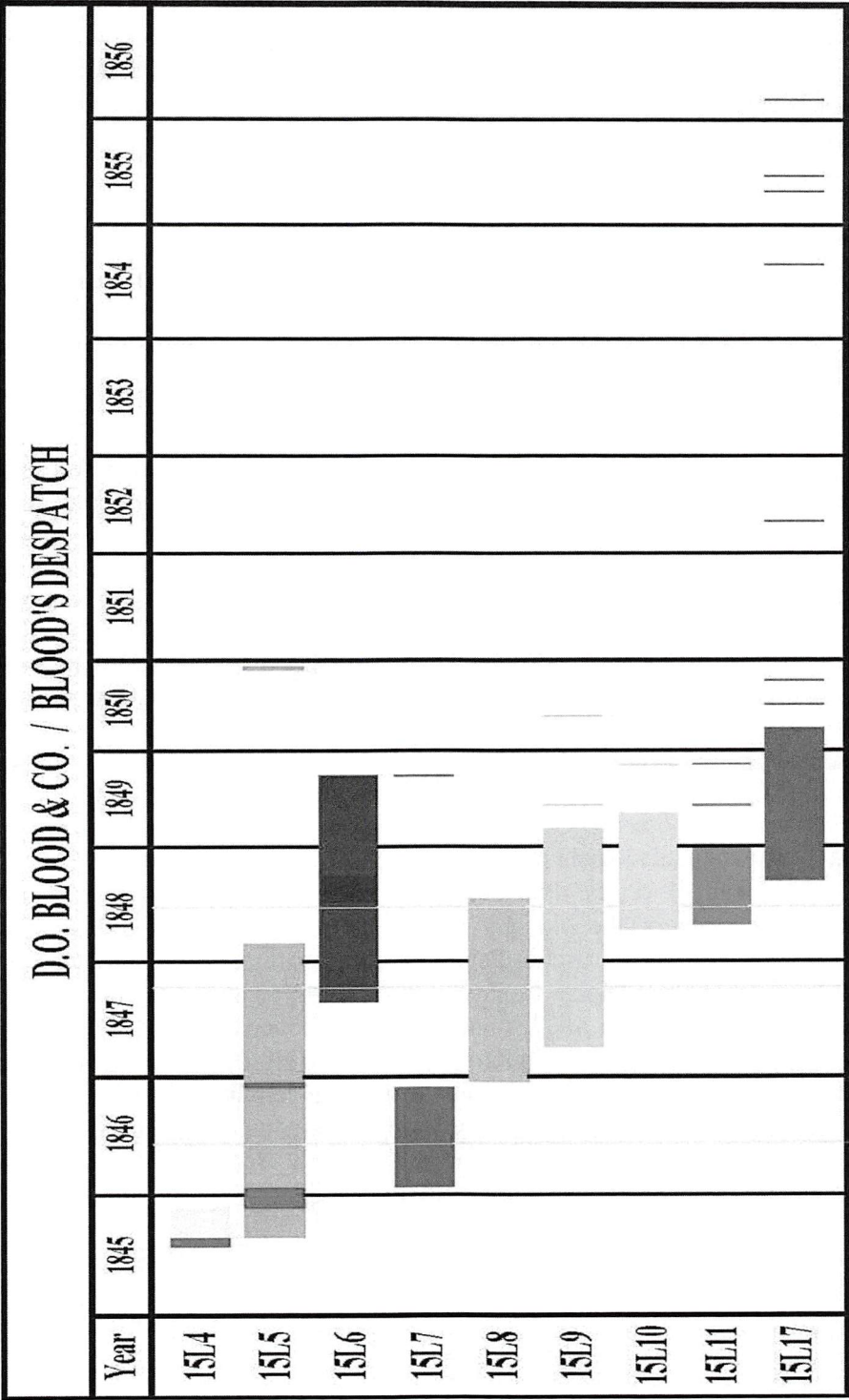


Figure 20. Graphic business activity of all Blood stamp issues in covers per month.

quite framed, as the ends of all four bars curved slightly toward the conceptual vertical axis and almost touched each other at top and bottom. Four bar configuration, Bloods Handstamp Type D, has been designated by letter rather than number because it has never been identified freestanding on a stampless cover, but always applied on a stamp.

Acid Cancel

In early 1849 Blood's Despatch introduced acid to prevent reuse of prepaid stamps. Acid often inadvertently extended beyond the stamp, discolored the cover, and philatelically tied the stamp to cover. During 1849 acid became the cancellation of choice for Blood's Despatch. The earliest 15L17 acid cancelled stamp was an untied example dated January 24, 1849 (census number 14). Only three days before was the first acid example recorded, on 15L10.⁷¹

Forbidden Districts

Northern Liberties and Southwark had no post office and were indeed eligible for Blood's Despatch business. **Figure 6** map, however, did not identify any 15L17 to either of these eligible districts.

Directly north of the old city, but just west of Northern Liberties was Spring Garden District, forbidden because a Philadelphia county post office was present, listed in many a city directories, and at various times wielded their own handstamp, **Figure 21**.^{72,73} Nonetheless, **Figure 6** reveals Blood's Despatch delivered one undated 15L17, **Figure 18**, to Spring Garden, and a first as several blocks inside the southern boundary, and within one block of their post office! Only one prior "near strike" had been delivered on the wrong side of border Spring Garden Street,⁷⁴ an undated D.O. Blood & Co. 15L8 (census number 27). Furthermore, decidedly different from two other D.O. Blood & Co examples, which had correctly been turned over to the Philadelphia post office.^{75,76}

The map of central Philadelphia County, however, also reveals another 15L17 just outside of the old city (census number 63 italicized) addressed to Benjaline French in the District of Penn, sometimes referred to South Penn District, another district in Philadelphia County, directly north of Spring Garden. Their post office may have closed in 1837,⁷⁷ but still out of bounds for Philadelphia private posts much further away.⁷⁸ Blood's Despatch correctly delivered this letter to the Philadelphia post office for transmission via the government mail consecrated by tied prepaid *Scott #1*, **Figure 22**. Although only 2 miles away, an extravagant cost of at least 6 cents was prepaid by 5 cent 1847 general issue in addition to volume discounted Blood's Despatch "**Post Office**." stamp.⁷⁹

⁷¹ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2015, pages 33, 34, 36, 39, 55.

⁷² *McElroy's PHILADELPHIA DIRECTORY for 1850*, page 501 back of book, 13th Edition, Philadelphia, 1850.

⁷³ Robert J. Stets and John L. Kay, *Independent Post Offices of Philadelphia County 1800-1867*, pages 39, Associated Stamp Clubs of Southeastern Penna. & Delaware, 1979.

⁷⁴ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2014, pages 48, 50, 51, 53.

⁷⁵ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, January 2014, pages 25, 32, 36, 45, 46, 52, 55.

⁷⁶ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, January 2015, pages 26, 30, 31, 44, 47, 48.

⁷⁷ Stets and Kay, loc. cit., page 34.

⁷⁸ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2015, page 52.

⁷⁹ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, "What is a Drop Letter, and a 'Drop Dead' Letter?" *The Chronicle*, Vol. 55, No. 4, November 2003, Whole No. 200, pages 264, 266.

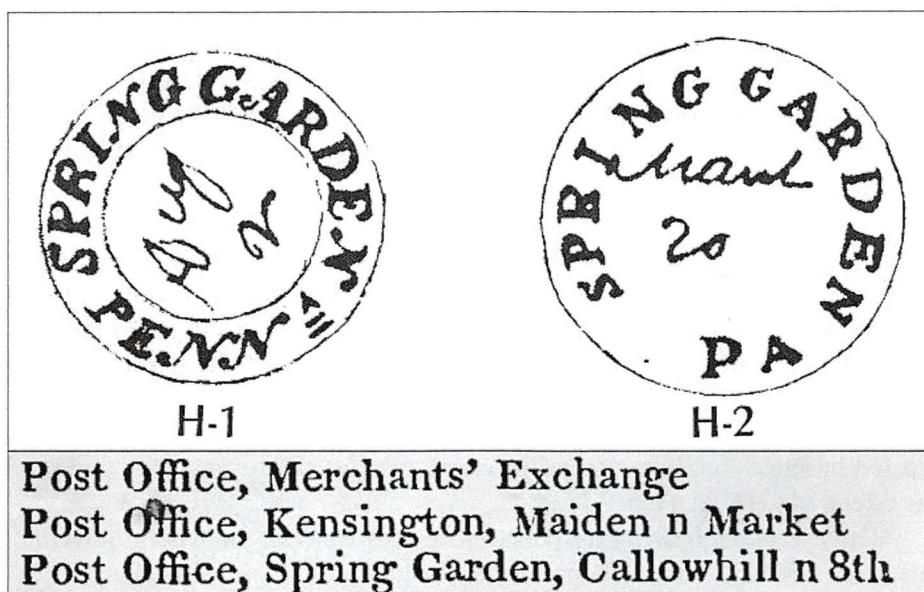


Figure 21. Spring Garden District post office circular datestamps;
 city directory listed regional post office locations.

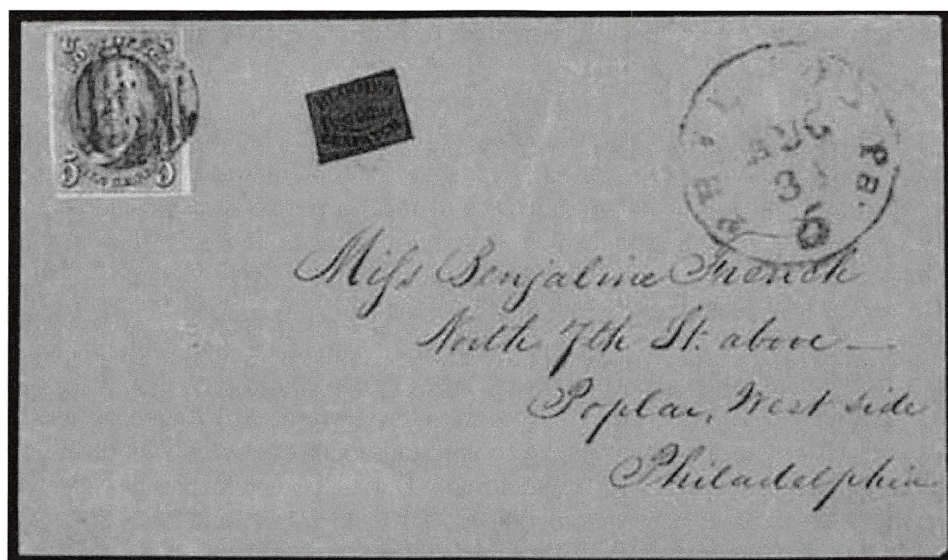


Figure 22. District of Penn was north of Spring Garden District.

Theory

New company Blood's Despatch instituted many changes during 1848. Although rates and a bifurcated business organization remained the same as D.O. Blood & Co, the principal office had moved on May 25, 1848 several blocks away from the Philadelphia post office towards the city population growth. New stamp sizes, color, design, cancelations, and stated mantra were evolving. The most profound and lasting introduction was the January 1849 introduction of acid cancelation.

If cancelation was to prevent reuse of stamp for additional unpaid services, how much more effective if not destructive would acid be over ink. For the six months leading up to acid cancels and while 15L17 was coming on line, outbound "**Post Office.**" stamps were still uncanceled, or perhaps received a penstroke, 4 bar grid, or ink spots. By very early 1849 all changed. A love affair with acid cancel took siege on all stamps, even outbound covers. Clearly the new company dynamics were changing, with less company compliance to stamp functional type. Was the bifurcated business model no longer practical, or worth the effort, time and trouble to pay attention to service type?

Only weeks following introduction of acid cancels, the federal government reorganized large city carrier departments, including of course Philadelphia^{80,81} to better compete with aggressive private local posts. Delivery of 15L17 "**Post Office.**" letters to a post office in the nation appeared to decline, and the percentage to Philadelphia's post declined.⁸²

Perhaps the time had come for Blood's Despatch to challenge the federal government by entering Spring Garden District, forbidden by law since a government post office had been serving their residents, such as **Figure 18.**

15L17 Summary

If chronological appearance of stamp issues is important for philatelic catalogs, 15L17 should be advanced 5 positions earlier to its proper location.⁸³ Otherwise new and intermediate collectors to the Carrier & Locals field may be easily confused, if not misled, which in a small way inhibit their interest in a difficult field of study. Clearly Blood's Despatch "**Post Office.**" stamp's greatest activity by far was 1849, but is surprisingly not even positioned with fellow Blood's Despatch issues, but somehow relegated toward the end of the final "Bloods Penny Post" series after 1854 issues, a potential source of great confusion.

Evidence from 159 surviving covers with genuine 15L17 stamp coalesced into a data base. No doubt that in the future, additional examples will surface, as well as hopefully missing bits from current data to complete partial dates and addresses. Most have been photographed, 80% in color, and over 80% with complete address. Approximately 80% were serviced during 1849.

⁸⁰ Ibid., page 252.

⁸¹ Steven M. Roth, "The Demise of Blood's Despatch and the Reorganization of the Philadelphia Carrier Service, *The Penny Post*, Vol. 4, No. 4, October 1994, pages 33-36.

⁸² Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2015, pages 49-53.

⁸³ Norman Shachat, "Update on Blood's Revisited," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 2, No. 3, August 1992, page 30.

The earliest recorded 15L17 was a tied **August 24, 1848** cover, and the second earliest tied the next day August 25, 1848. Although the latest example was an October 9, (1858-1861) very far outlier, the latest date certain cover was **November 5, 1850** defining a philatelic lifespan of two years and eleven weeks. After dismissing several outliers, a 15L17 cluster of peak business activity existed from August 24, 1848 until February 28, 1850 for 1 ½ years.

All covers were collected by Blood's Despatch. 15L17 was a special purpose "**Post Office.**" amp, which prepaid delivery to a United States post office, but with only **80%** compliance (129) a not insignificant reduction. Perhaps company error provided greater service than paid for, or maybe it was a deliberate company move away from a tight bifurcated system. D.O. Blood & Co. "For the POST OFFICE" 15L7, 15L8, and 15L9 compliance had been 98.6% (145 of 147 covers),⁸⁴ and intermediate Blood's Despatch 15L10 even better at 100%.⁸⁵ **15L17 represented a clear break down in special purpose outbound service**, although a very strong bias remained.

From the government subset (129) only 74, **60% were delivered to the Philadelphia post office; a significant reduction from 80%** of 15L10,⁸⁶ and the immediately prior combined series of three out bound D.O. Blood & Co covers.⁸⁷

The other 30, **20%** were locally delivered by **Blood's Despatch** to a Philadelphia street address, as far more expensive "city stamp." A clear departure from prior four post office stamps for which collectively only 1% were local Bloods delivery to a street address.

The most common outbound destination state was New York which received 17%, Pennsylvania 15%, Washington D.C. 13%, Maryland 8%, Virginia 6%, and Massachusetts 4%. Many other states were represented including more states in the Deep South and Mid-West.

Of the data base 65% were folded letters, down significantly from recent 15L10 of 80%. Consumer trend toward envelopes was clearly confirmed by 15L17. Stamp shape of 15L17 was virtually all cut rectangles.

Blood cancellation of outbound post office stamps had been traditionally low since little threat of reuse in other cities existed. However, 15L17 clearly departed from convention as over **90% were cancelled** by the private post, profoundly greater than 17% of 15L10 immediately beforehand. Early 15L17 examples were often still uncanceled, or showed a faint 4 bar cancel. By mid-January 1849, however, Blood's Despatch introduced acid cancels.⁸⁸

Approximately **80%** of the covers showed **auxiliary markings**, down from 100% of 15L10, largely because 20 covers were delivered by Bloods Despatch, most of which had no markings; another 5 are simply unknown. Of 230 auxiliary markings, **three quarters were handstamps, one quarter manuscript.** Government circular datestamps (120) were at least half, down from 80% of 15L10,⁸⁹ or 60% of prior D.O. Blood & Co. issues.⁹⁰

⁸⁴ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, January 2015, pages 52, 55.

⁸⁵ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2015, pages 30, 53.

⁸⁶ Ibid.

⁸⁷ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, January 2015, pages 50, 53, 55.

⁸⁸ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2015, pages 33, 34, 55.

⁸⁹ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2015, pages 33, 36, 55.

Table VI reveals well over **50% 15L17 tied** (86); clearly a trend much higher than 30% of 15L10,⁹¹ or 22% of prior D.O. Blood & Co series of three.⁹² Also, this table reveals that 15L17 tied by **Blood's Despatch was 44%** (70); up from 10% of 15L10, and only 2% of predecessor D.O. Blood & Co series of three collectively. Furthermore, the table reveals 15L17 accidentally tied by **government was 18%** (28); up from 14% of 15L10, down from 22% of D.O. Blood & Co. series of three collectively. At least 11 were tied by both private post and government.

Table VII reported 96% rectangles with a few trapezoids, the former greatly facilitated by guidelines. 2% were corner margin copies, **Figure 1**, and almost 20% sheet margin copies, which strongly suggests all have been derived from small planes.

Table VIII reveals that almost **30% were 15L17 in combination with 1847** general issue stamp: sender prepayment in full of private post collection, transmission to another city, and delivery to a post office, although not necessarily in that order. Clearly a trend higher compared to 20% of 15L10,⁹³ and much higher than 12% for D.O. Blood & Co. series of three.⁹⁴

In conclusion, 15L17 was Blood's Despatch continuation of a **special purpose outbound service "Post Office."** stamp, a phrase passed down from 15L10, and even prior company D.O. Blood & Co. 15L7, 15L8, and 15L9.⁹⁵ At the time they were all first issued, this series of five stamps, if purchased in volume, were less expensive than contemporary and complementary local door delivery "city stamps" 15L11 and earlier 15L5, 15L6 stamps. The bifurcated business model with separate cost structure had previously been executed well by both Blood's private post and public, with exceedingly high compliance rates exceeding 99%. However, it appears the dynamics were in flux as expressed by 15L17 compliance reduction to 80% (20% of 15L17 were curiously delivered by Blood's Despatch to a local street address). Blood's Despatch's new office was further from the Philadelphia post office, perhaps the reason why a trend for greater percentage of outbound letters bypassed Philadelphia's post office, and expedited to a train or steamboat directly to another city to be postmarked there to officially enter the government mail.

Also not keeping with years of policy, Blood's Despatch illegally delivered a letter inside Spring Garden District, and barely one block away from their post office. Given the imminent government carrier department Reorganization of 1849, saber rattling may have been the low fighter jet "fly by" order of the day. No doubt Blood's Despatch business activity was in crescendo mode, greatly exceeding many, many other private posts, and an apparent complacent local carrier department, and raised the bar set by themselves even higher.

⁹⁰ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, January 2015, pages 56, 57.

⁹¹ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2015, page 55.

⁹² Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, January 2015, page 48.

⁹³ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2015, pages 39, 43, 55.

⁹⁴ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, January 2015, page 57.

⁹⁵ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2014, pages 52, 53, 54.

Table I. Chronological 15L17 evidence, parenthesis if probably genuine, but lacks absolute certainty.

No.	DATE	COVER	15L17	CANCEL	TIED	LABEL	FEDERAL STAMPS & MARKS	ADDRESSEE	OUTBOUND No.
1	August 24, 1848	folded letter	cut rectangle	faint 4 bar grid	red rd	-	5 cent 1847 tied by red Clarke 430c PHILAD ⁸ RAILROAD all manuscript "Paid"	Benjamin Flanier Esq/ Corner Building Ship & South St. / New York	New York
2	August 25, (1848)	folded letter	cut rectangle	4 bar grid	4 bar grid	-	blue Clarke 79 Philadelphia cds & manuscript "Importuna"	Mr Saml H Lambdin / Matcher / Mississippi	Mississippi
3	September 1, 1848	folded letter	E margin cut rectangle	penstroke	penstroke	-	manuscript "Way 5"	Messrs / Simone & Glean / Baltimore, Md	Maryland
4	September 18, 1848	folded letter	cut rectangle	no	no	-	blue Clarke 79c Philadelphia cds 10 cent 1847 tied by blue Clarke 79c Phila cds	Messrs E. Erena McAllister / D ⁹ G D Ence / Southfield Street / Pittsburgh / Penn ..	Pennsylvania
5	September 30, 1848	folded letter	cut rectangle	no	no	-	blue Clarke 71a Philadelphia cds 5 cent 1847 tied by blue indistinct Phila cds	Samuel Giscoon Junction / Collector / Pottsville / Schuyl. Co. / Penn	Pennsylvania
6	November 5, 1848	folded letter	cut rectangle	faint 4 bar grid	no	-	blue Clarke 71A Philadelphia cds	Messrs Garrett & Sons / Baltimore	Maryland
7	November 13, 1848	wrapper	damaged cut rectangle	no	no	-	faint blue Clarke 71a Philadelphia cds	Mr. Wm E. Tenbrook / Hancock / Maryland	Maryland
8	November 22, 1848	folded letter	cut rectangle	(ink spots)	no	-	indistinct blue Philadelphia cds	Trouton D Beak Esq / Washington / D.C	Washington, DC
9	December 16, (1848)	folded letter	cut rectangle	no	blue cds	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds	(triple) G.R. Ingersoll / House of Representatives- Washington City	Washington, DC
10	December 17, 1848	folded letter	L margin cut rectangle	penstroke	penstroke	blue	blue Clarke 71a Philadelphia cds manuscript "7/23.4.5.6.7.8."	Wm. B. Plate Esq / Rumeler St / Deep Ctry / New York	New York
11	December 22, 1848	folded letter	cut rectangle	no	no	-	red Clarke 430c PHILAD ⁸ RAILROAD all 5 cent 1847 tied by red Clarke 430c PHILAD ⁸ RAILROAD all	Mr Hamilton Patterson / U.S. Ship North Carolina / New York	New York
12	January 11, 1849	folded letter	L B corner rectangle & E margin, vertical pair	faint penstroke heavy pen	no	-	blue Clarke 81 Philadelphia cds	Mr. B. Gould / Yanceyville / Curwell Co / N. Carolina	North Carolina
13	January 11, 1849	envelope	T margin torn rectangle	no	no	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds	Thos Kremer Esq / Palmyra / Lebanon County / Pa	Pennsylvania
14	January 24, 1849	folded letter	E margin cut rectangle	and cancel	no	blue	blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds	HS Leventh Esq / New York	New York
15	January 27, (1849)	folded letter	cut rectangle	4 bar grid blue ink	beige blue ink	beige	-	William D Lewis, Esq / York Court / Fifteenth between Walnut & / Spruce Street	no
16	January x, 1849	(folded letter)	cut rectangle	(and cancel)	blue cds	-	5 cent 1847 tied by blue Clarke 74 Phila cds two red New York cds	Unknown #1	(Pennsylvania)
17	February 1, 1849	folded letter	damaged cut rectangle	acid	no	beige	red Clarke 430c PHILAD ⁸ RAILROAD all	Mr. Edward J. Thompson / Bantol / R Island	Rhode Island
18	February 7, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid blue ink	acid blue ink	blue	red Clarke 430c PHILAD ⁸ RAILROAD all red numeral 5 in circle handstamp	Messrs Van Wagener & Tucker / Merchants / New York	New York
19	February 9, (1849)	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue BALTIMORE RAIL ROAD cds blue indistinct numeral 5 & blue FREE, twice	Hon. J.R. Ingersoll / U.S. Congress / Washington / D.C	Washington, D.C.
20	February 9, (1849)	folded letter	cut rectangle	and	no	blue	red Clarke 430c PHILAD ⁸ RAILROAD red New York cds	Miss Helen Floyd Jones / Care of General H. Floyd Jones / South Oyster Bay / New York Long Island	New York
21	February 13, 1849	folded letter	damaged cut rectangle	no	no	blue	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds	M ^c Joseph R. Fennan / at the office of Green Mount Cemetery / Baltimore / M ^c .	Maryland
22	February 13, (1849)	embossed envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	5 cent 1847 tied by one of two blue Clarke 74 Phila cds manuscript "Paid 5 / Uppard 5"	Miss Mary Vandoring / Northumberland / North / County Pa	Pennsylvania
23	February 27, (1849)	(folded letter)	cut rectangle	no	blue cds	-	blue Philadelphia cds	Unknown #2 / Reading, Pa	(Pennsylvania)
24	February 28, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	blue cds	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds	Messrs / Pratt Spencer & Co / Deep River / Conn	Connecticut

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No.	DATE	COVER	15L17	CANCEL	TIED	LABEL	FEDERAL STAMPS & MARKS	ADDRESSEE	OUTBOUND No.
25	March 3, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds	L. Farnam & Co. / New York	New York
26	March 8, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds manuscript "E.K. Price / Mar. 8/49"	R. Roudie Smith, Esquire, / House Reps / Harrisburg	Pennsylvania
27	March 8, 1849	folded letter	L. margin cut rectangle	acid	no	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds	Michas & Haywood / C ^t / Pottsville / Sch C ^t / P	Pennsylvania
28	March 8, 1849	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	manuscript "Way"	Hon ^{ts} W ^m M. Meredith / Sec ^y of the Treasury / Washington / DC	Washington, D.C
29	March 12, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	manuscript	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds	Craig Fiddle Esq / House of Representatives / Harrisburg / Penn ^a	Pennsylvania
30	March 22, 1849	(envelope)	L. margin cut rectangle	acid	no	-	red Clarke 430c PHILAD ^a RAILROAD st red New York cds & manuscript "June 26 May 1849"	Miss Mary Louisa Clancy / Female Seminary / South Hadley / Mass	Massachusetts
31	March 25, 1849	(folded letter)	(cut rectangle)	(acid)	(no)	-	unknown	(Theodore Sedgwick / New York)	(New York)
32	April 6, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds 5 cent 1847 tied by blue Clarke 74 Phila cds	Abr. Robert Churchill / (Auctioneer) Main Street / Patterson, New Jersey	New Jersey
33	April 9, 1849	folded letter	L. margin cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	red Clarke 430c PHILAD ^a RAILROAD st red numeral 5 in circle handstamp	Theodore Sedgwick Esq. / Counselor at Law / New York	New York
34	April 12, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	blue green cds	-	blue green RICHMOND & POTOMAC R.R. blue green italicized numeral 5	William Green Esq / Outlepper Q House / Virginia	Virginia
35	April 15, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	blue cds	-	three blue Clarke 81a Phila cds & manuscript "PAID" 5 cent retinal pair 1847 tied by two blue Clarke 74 Phila cds	J.W. Brooks Esq / Supt. Mich Central R.R. / Detroit / Mich	Michigan
36	April 18, 1849	folded letter	E. margin cut rectangle	acid	no	-	green RICHMOND RAIL ROAD cds & italicized numeral 5	William Green Esq / Outlepper Q House / Virginia	Virginia
37	April 22, 1849	folded letter	cut trapezoid	acid	no	-	red Clarke 430c PHILAD ^a RAILROAD st	Rev W.P. Newt(-) / Brooklpm / New York	(New York)
38	April 23, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	5 cent 1847 tied by two of three blue Clarke 74 Phila cds	Rev. Win A Hancock / No. 150 Nassau St	(New York)
39	May 9, 1849	small envelope	T. margin cut rectangle	no	blue cds	-	5 cent 1847 tied by one of two blue Clarke 74 Phila cds	Mrs Meredith Clymer / Eden Park / Wilmington / Delaware	Delaware
40	May 10, 1849	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	10 cent 1847 tied by one of two blue Clarke 81 Phila cds manuscript "May 10/49"	Henry Johnson Esq / Munsey / Lyncoming Co. / Penn ^a	Pennsylvania
41	May 16, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	10 cent 1847 tied by one of two blue Clarke 81a Phila cds	Mr. Moses Smith / Alton / Illinois	Illinois
42	May 20, 1849	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	red Clarke 430c PHILAD ^a RAILROAD st red New York cds	Mary House Sellers / 14 College Stage / Brooklyn, NY	New York
43	May 21, 1849	folded letter	E. margin cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds & manuscript "free"	To / The Hon ^{ts} W ^m M. Meredith to X / as / Washington	Washington, D.C
44	May 23, 1849	(folded letter)	T. margin cut trapezoid	faint acid	no	-	blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds	Mr. Lewis L. Walker / Pottsville / Schuylkill Co. / Pa	Pennsylvania
45	May 26, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	5 cent 1847 "X" cancel, tied second blue Clarke 74 Phila cds blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds	S&B's Willers Mer ^{ts} for Maria Willers 200 Clinton St New York	New York
46	June 11, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	-	Mr W.D. Lewis / No. 360 Spruce st Phila	no
47	June 12, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue italicized numeral 10 & manuscript "June 12/1849"	Charles Elliot Jr. / Wheeling / Virg ^a	Virginia
48	June 13, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds	A. Stocky Esq / Smyrna / Del	Delaware

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No.	DATE	COVER	15L17	CANCEL	TIED	LABEL	FEDERAL STAMPS & MARKS	ADDRESSEE	OUTBOUND No.
49	June 15, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds	James (Census) & Sons / Baltimore	Maryland
50	June 29, (1849)	envelope	cut rectangle	no	blue cds	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds 5 cent 1847 cancelled by cross hatch	Margaret Bullock / Mount Holly / <u>New Jersey</u>	New Jersey
51	July 5, 1849	small envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	manuscript "7 mo 5th, 1849"	Robtman Wharton / No. 110 So. Front st	no
52	July 6, 1849	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	manuscript "7 mo 6-49 morning"	Robtman Wharton / No. 110 S front st *	no
53	July 7, 1849	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	manuscript "7 mo 7, 49"	Robtman Wharton / No. 110 So front st *	no
54	July 9, (1849)	folded letter	R margin cut rectangle	acid	no	-	blue Clarke 430d PHILA ^A BALDROAD cds blue indolized numeral 5	Mrs M A Beale / Care of Truittin D Beale Esq. / Washington / D.C	Washington, D.C
55	July 18, (1849)	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid / blue cds	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds	Mr. Chas K. Hamilton / NY York	New York
56	July 22, 1849	front	R margin cut rectangle	acid	acid red cds	-	red NY cds & Clarke 430e st & manuscript "July 21, 1849" 5 cent 1847 horizontal pair, tied by two red Clarke 430e st	M ^{rs} Eliza L. Dwyght / Portland / Maine	Maine
57	July 27, (1849)	small envelope	R margin cut rectangle	acid	acid blue cds	-	faint blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds 5 cent 1847 manuscript "Y" cancel	For / Miss Mary Elwyn / Care of Lemis Lewis / Westchester / Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania
58	July 28, (1849)	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	5 cent 1847 tied twice by blue Clarke 74a cds	For / Miss Mary Elwyn / Westchester Penn ^a	Pennsylvania
59	August 6, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	-	Samuel Wood Esq / 6th Street near / Arch	no
60	August 12, (1849)	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds 5 cent 1847 tied by blue grid	Miss Emma L. Newbold / Care of Miss Hale, / (Pennington, New Jersey)	New Jersey
61	August 13, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds 5 cent 1847 tied by blue grid	M ^{rs} Hickman / Att ^y At Law / West Chester	Pennsylvania
62	August 22, 1849	folded letter	T margin cut rectangle	acid	no	-	manuscript "Politeness of Miss E. Sanderdon"	Esm ^d Carpenter Esq / No 36 Walnut Str / Philada	no
63	August 31, (1849)	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds 5 cent 1847 tied by blue grid	Miss Benjamine French / North 7th St. above ___ / Poplar, West side / Philadelphia	Philadelphia District of Penn
64	September 5, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 430d PHILA ^A BALDROAD cds & indolized 5	E Ruggs / Washington City / D.C	Washington, D.C
65	September 6, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	manuscript "Wry 5"	E Ruggs / Washington City / D.C	Washington, D.C
66	September 11, 1849	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds	Rev D P. Noyes / Brooklyn, NY	New York
67	September 13, 1849	folded letter	R margin cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 81a Philadelphia cds 10 cent 1847 tied by two blue indolized Phila cds	M ^{rs} Moses Smith / Albion / Edwards County / Illinois.	Illinois
68	September 17, (1849)	envelope	L margin cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 74 Philadelphia cds 5 cent 1847 tied by several blue indolized Phila cds	Miss Emma L. Newbold / care of Miss Hale Pennington / N. Jersey	New Jersey
69	September 18, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	-	John Faroum Esq / No 257 Arch ^a	no

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No.	DATE	COVER	15L17	CANCEL	TIED	LABEL	FEDERAL ST AMPS & MARKS	ADDRESSEE	OUTBOUND No.
70	September 19, 1849	(envelope)	cut rectangle	(acid)	no	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds 5 cent 1847 tied by second blue Clarke 74a cds	Messrs Fiedler Israel & Co / Baltimore / Md	Maryland
71	September 20, 1849	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds 5 cent 1847 tied by several blue indistinct Phila cds	Margaretta Bullock / Mount Holly / New Jersey	New Jersey
72	September 21, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	blue cds	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds	Rev George Diehl / Easton / Pa	Pennsylvania
73	September 25, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid red oil	-	red Clarke 43b Phila cds & manuscript "Dr. J.M. Greene" 5 cent 1847 tied by two Clarke 43b Phila cds 5 cent 1847 tied by two Clarke 43b Phila cds	Charles Hazebroe Esq / Lincolnton / New Hampshire	New Hampshire
74	October 2, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	-	WH Drayton Esq / Walnut St. below 6 th / South Side ---	no
75	October 16, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid & blue cds	-	blue Clarke 73 Philadelphia cds	Mess Stark Day Stauffer / New York / NY	New York
76	October 18, 1849	(folded letter)	cut rectangle	(acid)	no	-	blue Clarke 73a Philadelphia cds	Mr Robert (Wampler) / (New York)	(New York)
77	October 19, 1849	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 73a Phila cds & manuscript "Dr. J.M. Greene" red Washington DC October 24 cds	W / W F. Rothenberger M.D. / Surgeon, U.S. Navy / White & Hester / Washington City / DC & Philadelphia / Pa	Washington, D.C.
78	October 19, 1849	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 81a Philadelphia cds 10 cent 1847 tied by three blue indistinct Phila cds	John M. Justin / Morgantown / Butler County / Kentucky	Kentucky
79	October 27, 1849	front	cut rectangle	acid	acid blue cds	-	blue Clarke 81a Philadelphia cds 10 cent 1847 tied blue indistinct Philadelphia cds	Mrs Eliz (Dwight) / (Portland Maine)	(Maine)
80	October 28, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	5 cent 1847 tied by red indistinct (POTOMAC STEAMBOAT) cds	James E. Heath Esq / ----- General / Richmond / Virginia	Virginia
81	November 2, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	-	GD Wetherill & co / Front below Arch.	no
82	November 5, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	blue cds	-	blue Clarke 61 Philadelphia cds red London datestamp reverse & manuscript "J.L."	C. Prior Esq / 48 York Terrace / Regent's Park / London / England	England
83	November 7, 1849	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 81 Phila cds & manuscript "Nov. 5, 1849 Liver"	Mr Ariel S. Noyes / Bayfield / Mass	Massachusetts
84	November 18, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue inked numeral 5 handstamp blue Clarke 73a Philadelphia cds twice	Mess Siskney & Beatty / Baltimore / Md	Maryland
85	November 23, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	5 cent 1847 cancelled by hand blue Clarke 73a Phila cds	John Banum Esq / Counsellor at Law Orangetown / Schuylkill County / Penn	Pennsylvania
86	November 30, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	red POTOMAC STEAMBOAT cds red inked numeral 10	Mr Scott Burdall / Care of Mess Merrill Burdall / Montgomery / Ala	Alabama
87	December 10, 1849	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 73a Philadelphia cds & manuscript "1849" 5 cent 1847 cancelled by blue indistinct Philadelphia cds	H.G. Long Esq / Lancaster / Penn	Pennsylvania
88	December 20, 1849	(folded letter)	(cut rectangle)	acid	acid	-	blue (Clarke 71) Philadelphia cds	Unknown #3 / (New York)	(New York)
89	December 29, 1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	5 cent 1847 tied by two blue Clarke 73a cds manuscript "Paul"	Ayres Stockley Esq / Smyrna / Delaware	Delaware

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No.	DATE	COVER	15L17	CANCEL	TIED	LABEL	FEDERAL STAMPS & MARKS	ADDRESSEE	OUTBOUND No.
90	1849	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	5 cent 1847 tied by black Clarke 43le PHILAD th RAILROAD ad manuscript * <i>Find 5 cts</i> *	David H. Dens / Box 675 PO / New York	New York
91	1849	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	red numeral 5 in circle handstamp 5 cent 1847 tied by two numeral 5 in circle	Miss Clara R. Reynolds / 22 Bayard st. / New York	New York
92	January 10, 1850	folded letter	cut rectangle	no	blue cds	-	5 cent 1847 tied by blue Clarke 74 cds	Mr Jos. R. Ingersol / Washington / District of Co.	Washington, D.C.
93	January 10, 1850	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	manuscript * <i>W</i> *	Hon W M Meredith / Washington D.C.	Washington, D.C.
94	January 21, (1850)	folded letter	R margin cut rectangle	acid	no	-	blue Clarke 81a Philadelphia cds 5 cent 1847 tied by blue indistinct Phila cds manuscript * <i>Put in pouch yf / Mail is closed</i> *	Messrs Carpenter, Bunsby & Trevor / New York	New York
95	February 12, 1850	folded letter	L margin cut trapezoid	acid	no	-	-	Messrs A M & E W. Jones / Iron dealers N ^o 17 South wharves / Philad ^a	no
96	February 23, (1850)	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 74a Philadelphia cds manuscript * <i>Rec'd 28 Feb. Equal 2 Mors</i> *	Morris And Guyot / at Prof. Agassiz / Cambridge / Mass.	Massachusetts
97	May 1, 1850	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	(blue) Clarke 73a Philadelphia cds & manuscript * <i>Find 5 cts</i> *	Chas F. Wells / Wyandung / Bradford County / Penna	Pennsylvania
98	November 5, 1850	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	5 cent 1847 tied by two (blue) indistinct Phila cds blue Clarke 81 Phila cds & manuscript * <i>Find 40 cts / Due 5</i> *	J M. Williams Esq / Attorney at Law / Lebanon / Warren Co / Ohio	Ohio
99	(1850)	(folded letter)	cut rectangle	(acid)	no	-	* <i>W.A.Y. 5</i> * handstamp	Mr. Robert Turner / Baltimore	Maryland
100	May 3, (1849-50)	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	10 cent 1847 tied by two blue Clarke 81a Philadelphia cds	John Snyder Esq / Cashier / Pittsburgh / Penn ^a	Pennsylvania
101	May 19, (1849-50)	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	10 cent 1847 tied by three blue indistinct Philadelphia cds manuscript * <i>101 Postage paid / to Blood's Dispatch</i> *	Isaac Underhill Esq / Peoria, Peoria County, Illinois	Illinois
102	June 4, (1849-50)	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	blue Clarke 81a Philadelphia cds two 5 cent 1847 cancelled by blue grid and rectangle	Thos E. Smith Esq / Miss Reed Post & Smith Cincinnati / O	Ohio
103	July 19, (1849-50)	small envelope	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	blue Clarke 470b (PHILAD th) P.A.L. (ED) cds (blue) 5 cts handstamp & manuscript numeral * <i>5</i> *	Hon. W. M. Meredith / Washington / (D C)	Washington, D.C.
104	October 3, (1849-50)	small envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 73 Philadelphia cds	Miss Elm Levent / 616 JW Levent / 261 Water Street / New York	New York
105	October 30, (1849-50)	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 73 Phila cds & manuscript * <i>Prove</i> *	Hon N.M.Meredith / Secretary of the Treasury / Washington / D.C	Washington, D.C.
106	November 14, (1849-50)	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	blue Clarke 73a Philadelphia cds	Messrs Ashbaker P. Smith / Georgetown X Roads / Kent County / Maryland	Maryland
107	1851	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	blue Baltimore cds & manuscript * <i>Way</i> * and * <i>10</i> *	Dr H.E. Highway / Cincinnati / Ohio	Ohio
108	May 7, 1852	folded letter	L margin cut rectangle	acid	no	-	red Clarke 67b Philadelphia cds	P F. Tondel Esquire / Washington / D.C.	Washington, D.C.
109	November 27, (1848-51)	envelope	T margin cut rectangle	acid	no	-	blue Baltimore cds & manuscript * <i>Way 20</i> *	To Jeremiah B Sheppard / No 111 Main st / Wheeling / Va	Virginia
110	October 29, (1851-52)	(folded letter)	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	Bloods Handstamp Type 17 (ASCC old Type 12) blue Clarke 62 Philadelphia cds & FREE in large	(Commissioner of Pensions) / (Washington D.C)	Washington D.C.
111	November 19, (1851-4)	folded letter	cut rectangle	(acid)	no	-	Bloods handstamp Type 17 (ASCC old Type 12) 3 cent 1851 tied by Philadelphia cds	Rev J. Gadsbck / Stratford / Conn	Connecticut
112	December 5, (1851-4)	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	Bloods handstamp Type 17 (ASCC old Type 12) manuscript * <i>1 Q / Find</i> *	James R. Locklow Esq / 28 Washington / Squares / Phil	no

Table I. Chronological 15L17 evidence, parenthesis if probably genuine, but lacks absolute certainty.

No.	DATE	COVER	15L17	CANCEL	TIED	LABEL	FEDERAL STAMPS & MARKS	ADDRESSEE	OUTBOUND No.
113	June 16, (1852-3)	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	Black handstamp Type 17 (ASCC old Type 12) blue Clarke 75a Philadelphia cds	Mrs. James M. Doxlar / Downingtown / Chester County / Pa	Pennsylvania
114	March 8, (1852-4)	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	Black handstamp Type 17 (ASCC old Type 12)	James Fay, Esq. / So. 15 Carson St. / Delaware & 8th. Phila.	no
115	April 14, (1852-4)	envelope	R margin cut rectangle 15L13 scaled handlap	acid acid	acid no	pink	Black handstamp Type 17 (ASCC old Type 12)	Mr E. Pinard / Walnut St. above Eight	no
116	November 7, 1854	embossed envelope	(cut rectangle)	acid	no	-	indistinct Bloods Handstamp	Unknown #4	(New York)
117	May 31, 1855	(envelope)	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	Black handstamp Type 19 (ASCC old Type 13) 3 cent 1851 tie by blue Clarke 63b Philadelphia cds	Henry Lyman / No. 40 State Street / Boston / Mass	Massachusetts
118	July 25, 1855	(envelope)	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	3 cent 1851 year, unknown Philadelphia cds cancel	Unknown #5	(New York)
119	February 6, 1856	(envelope)	(cut rectangle)	(acid)	(no)	-	unknown	Unknown #6	(no)
120	October 9, (1858-61)	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	Black handstamp Type 21 (ASCC old Type 15)	Mr. R. A. Parish / North East corner of 4th. & Walnut / Philada	no
121	January 19, 1858	(folded letter)	cut rectangle	4 bar grid	4 bar grid	-	red POTOMAC STEAMBOAT cds & indurized numeral 10	Unknown #7	(Virginia)
122	February 14th, 1858	large envelope	T margin, cut rectangle	acid	no	-	-	For Miss Catherine Marsh / Present	no
123	March 16, 1858	(folded letter)	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	5 cent 1847 tied by blue indistinct Phila cds	Unknown #8 / (West Chester, Pennsylvania)	(Pennsylvania)
124	April 26, 1858	(folded letter)	(cut rectangle)	(acid)	(no)	-	unknown	(Maynard) / (Lancaster, Pennsylvania)	(Pennsylvania)
125	May 31, 1858	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	-	Doctor J. H. Bradford / no 347 Walnut below 12 th Street / Philad ^a	no
126	June 1, 1858	(folded letter)	(cut rectangle)	(acid)	(no)	-	unknown	(Thomas R. Smith) / (Cincinnati / Ohio)	(Ohio)
127	July 12, 1858	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid red cds	-	red New York cds & manuscript "Find" in box 5 cent 1847 tied by two red Clarke 430e PHILADA RAILROAD	Mrs. Philo. J. Williams / No. 42 Willow St. / Brooklyn / NY	New York
128	July 15, 1858	(envelope)	cut rectangle	(acid)	red af	-	red Clarke 430e PHILAD ^a RAILROAD af red New York cds	William J. Bonditch, Esq. / Boston, / Mass	Massachusetts
129	July 22, 1858	envelope	L B corner cut trapezoid	acid	acid red af	-	red Clarke 430e PHILAD ^a RAILROAD af red New York cds	Mrs. Joseph J. Pease / Norfolk / Litchfield County / Connecticut	Connecticut
130	August 23, 1858	(folded letter)	cut trapezoid	acid	no	-	5 cent 1847 horizontal pair cancelled by manuscript "X" red POTOMAC STEAMBOAT cds	Dr. D. Warren Birkbeck / New Orleans / L.	Louisiana
131	September 2, 1858	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	red Clarke 430e PHILAD ^a RAILROAD af red New York cds	Miss Mary E. Fisher / (Care of F. Fisher Esq.) / Dedham / Mass.	Massachusetts
132	September 10, 1858	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	blue cds	-	blue indistinct Phila cds	Robt. Freeman Esq Schenectady, N.Y.	New York
133	September 19th, 1858	Folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	5 cent 1847 tied by blue Clarke 74a cds	Eugene Davis / (Madison city) / Virginia	Virginia
134	October 19, 1858	(folded letter)	(cut rectangle)	(acid)	(no)	-	red POTOMAC STEAMBOAT cds & indurized numeral 5 unknown	Unknown #9	(Kentucky)
135	October 30, 1858	folded letter	L margin cut rectangles	acid	no	-	blue indistinct Phila cds	Rev. Ulysses Ward / Masson, Ave. near 4th Street / Washington City D.C.	Washington, D.C.
136	November 12, 1858	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	blue Baltimore cds & manuscript "Way 5"	Mr. Win. E. Tenbrook / Harrocks / Maryland	Maryland
137	November 19, 1858	wrapper	cut rectangle	no	no	-	blue 430a PHILADA RAILROAD cds & indurized numeral 5	C. Morfit, Esq. / (Pikesville) / Baltimore Co. / Md	Maryland
138	December 30, 1858	envelope	L top corner, cut trapezoid	acid	blue cds	-	blue Baltimore cds & manuscript "Way 10"	Mrs. Thilghast / (Care Revd A.P. Thilghast / (at Miss Gwynns) / Georgetown D.C.	Washington, D.C.

Table I. Chronological 15L17 evidence, parenthesis if probably genuine, but lacks absolute certainty.

No.	DATE	COVER	15L17	CANCEL	TIED	LABEL	FEDERAL STAMPS & MARKS	ADDRESSEE	OUTBOUND No.
139	Undated	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	no	blue	red Clarke 430c PHILAD ^A RAILROAD 4c 5 cent 1847 tied by second Clarke 430c PHILADA RAILROAD	Hon. /Alonso Page / Schenectady / New York	New York 139
140	Undated	folded letter	cut rectangle	no	no	-	red Clarke 430c PHILAD ^A RAILROAD 4c & manuscript "your" 5 cent 1847 tied by "X" and second red 4c	Miss Freeman / Cherryfield, Main	Maine 140
141	Undated	small envelope	T margin cut rectangle	no	numeral 5	-	blue RICHMOND RAILROAD and two indistinct numeral 5	Mr R.B. Maxwell / Richmond / Va	Virginia 141
142	Undated	small envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	manuscript "WY" and "for / W.M. Esq"	Hon W.M. Meredith / Washington / D.C.	Washington, D.C. 142
143	Undated	(folded letter)	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	manuscript "Way 3"	Miss Helen _____ / Care of Major _____ / Washington D.C.	Washington, D.C. 143
144	Undated	(folded letter)	cut rectangle	(acid)	no	-	manuscript "W / 3"	Mrs S.P. Lee / Washington City / D.C.	Washington, D.C. 144
145	Undated	folded letter	cut rectangle	(acid)	blue cbs	-	blue Clarke 430c PHILAD ^A RAILROAD 4c & indistinct 5	Mrs J.D. Beale / Care Truxton D. Beale Esq / Washington D.C.	Washington, D.C. 145
146	Undated	(folded letter)	cut rectangle	(acid)	blue cbs	-	blue indistinct Phila cbs	Miss Anaheter R. Smith / Georgetown X Road / Kent County (Maryland)	(Maryland) 146
147	Undated	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	unknown	R. Rundle Smith Esq / (Harrisburg)	(Pennsylvania) 147
148	Undated	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	no	beige	-	Joseph M. Truman Jr / 325 Callowhill street / Philadelphia Spring Garden District	Philadelphia 148
149	Undated	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	-	A. Grover J. Esq / Ironsion Sar / 19 South Wharves	no 149
150	Undated	small envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	-	at Mr Harding / Spence above Sch. 7th Miss R. Keishman / Care of Mr G.W. Lord / South Penn Square	no 150
151	Undated	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	-	Dr J.D. Young / White Hospital / west Sch 5 / Race St	no 151
152	Undated	tiny envelope	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	-	Mr W ^m T. Canby / S.E. Cor 4th & Branch / Philad ^A	no 152
153	Undated	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	-	Sarah Williams / (5th Street)	no 153
154	Undated	small envelope	T margin cut rectangle	(acid)	(acid)	beige	-	Miss Peter / 308 Walnut Street / Below twelfth at Mr Morris's	no 154
155	Undated	small envelope	cut rectangle	no	no	-	-	Mr George M. Heath / No 133 Market / St / Phila	no 155
156	Undated	folded letter	cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	manuscript "28 3 4"	For / William S Price Esq / 5th & Liberty Street	no 156
157	Undated	damaged envelope	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	-	Henry M Phillips Esq / South Fourth Street / near George / Philadelphia	no 157
158	Undated	(folded letter)	L margin cut rectangle	acid	no	-	(5 cent 1847 cancelled by "X")	Mr H.R. Gress / No 13 N Third St. / Philadelphia	no 158
159	Undated	envelope	cut rectangle	acid	no	-	(5 cent 1847 cancelled by "X")	Mr H.R. Gress / No 13 N Third St. / Philadelphia	no 159
A	December 3, 1849	folded letter	15L13 cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 73a Philadelphia cbs 5 cent 1847 tied by second blue Clarke 73a Phila cbs	William Octison Esquire / Huntingdon / Pa	Pennsylvania A
B	January 25, 1851	envelope	15L13 cut rectangle	acid	acid	-	blue Clarke 73a Philadelphia cbs 5 cent 1847 tied by blue grid manuscript "John Hickey / Jan 21 / 51"	John Hickman Jr Esq / West Chester Chester Co. / Pa	Pennsylvania B
C	May 21, 18xx	envelope	15L13 cut rectangle	acid	no	-	red New York cbs two 5 cent 1847 tied by red Clarke 430c PHILAD ^A RAILROAD	Doctor Ch. Fr. Gast / Boston	Massachusetts C

Table II. Summary of 15L17 address destinations.

15L17 ADDRESS		
Total	Location	Census Number
29	Philadelphia old city	15, 46, 51, 52, 53, 59, 62, 69, 74, 81, 95, 112, 114, 115, (119), 120, 122, 125, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159
1 & 1	Philadelphia district	63 , 148
1	ENGLAND	82
27	New York	1, 10, 11, 14, 18, 20, 25, 31, 33, 37, 38, 42, 45, 55, 66, 75, 76, 88, 90, 91, 94, 104, 116, 118, 127, 132, 139
23	Pennsylvania	4, 5, 13, 16, 22, 23, 26, 27, 29, 40, 44, 57, 58, 61, 72, 85, 87, 97, 100, 113, 123, 124, (147)
21	Washington D.C.	8, 9, 19, 28, 43, 54, 64, 65, 77, 92, 93, 103, 105, 108, 110, 135, 138, 142, 143, 144, 145
12	Maryland	3, 6, 7, 21, 49, 70, 84, 99, 106, 136, 137, (146)
8	Virginia	34, 36, 47, 80, 109, 121, 133, 141
6	Massachusetts	30, 83, 96, 117, 128, 131
5	New Jersey	32, 50, 60, 68, 71
4	Ohio	98, 102, 107, (126)
3	Connecticut	24, 111, 129
3	Delaware	39, 48, 89
3	Maine	56, 79, 140
3	Illinois	41, 67, 101
2	Kentucky	78, (134)
1	Alabama	86
1	Mississippi	2
1	Louisiana	130
1	North Carolina	12
1	New Hampshire	73
1	Rhode Island	17
1	Michigan	35
0	Unknown	0
159	All Locations	

Table III. Summary of 15L17 cover types.

15L17 COVERS		
Total	Cover Type	Census Number
103	Folded Letter	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 41, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 64, 65, 67, 69, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 88, 89, 90, 92, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 107, 108, 110, 111, 121, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 130, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 139, 140, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 153, 156, 158
38	Envelope	13, 28, 30, 40, 42, 50, 52, 53, 63, 66, 68, 70, 71, 77, 78, 83, 87, 91, 93, 105, 106, 109, 112, 113, 114, 115, 117, 118, 119, 120, 127, 128, 129, 131, 138, 151, 157, 159
2	Embossed envelope	22, 116
11	Small envelope	39, 51, 57, 103, 104, 141, 142, 150, 152, 154, 155
1	Large envelope	122
2	Front	56, 79
2	Wrapper	7, 137
0	Business circular	no
159	All Types	

Table IV. Summary of 15L17 cancel types.

15L17 CANCEL		
Total	Cancel Type	Census Number
5	4 bar grid	(1), 2, (6), 15, 121
3	pen stroke	3, 10, (12)
2	blue ink	15, 18
1	ink spots	(8)
135	acid	14, (16), 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, (31), 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, (70), 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, (76), 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, (99), 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, (111), 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, (119), 120, 122, 123, (124), 125, (126), 127, (128), 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, (134), 135, 136, 138, (139), 142, 143, (144), (145), (146), 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, (154), 156, 157, 158, 159
15	Uncancelled	4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 21, 23, 39, 50, 92, 138, 141, 142, 156
146	Total (159 covers)	

Table V. Summary of 15L17 auxiliary markings.

15L17 AUXILIARY MARKINGS		
Total	Marking Type	Census Number
1	blue Philadelphia Clarke 61 cds	82
1	blue Philadelphia Clarke 62 cds	110
1	blue Philadelphia Clarke 63b cds	117
1	red Philadelphia Clarke 67b cds	108
1	blue Philadelphia Clarke 71 cds	88
3	blue Philadelphia Clarke 71a cds	5, 7, 10
1	blue Philadelphia Clarke 71A cds	6
3	blue Philadelphia Clarke 73 cds	75, 104, 105
7	blue Philadelphia Clarke 73a cds	76, 77, 85, 87, 89, 97, 106
11	blue Philadelphia (Clarke 74) cds	14, 16, 22, 32, 35, 38, 39, 44, 68, 72, 92
24	blue Philadelphia (Clarke 74a) cds	9, 13, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 43, 48, 49, 50, 55, 57, 58, 60, 61, 63, 65, 66, 70, 71, 96, 132
1	blue Philadelphia Clarke 75a cds	113
1	blue Philadelphia Clarke 79 cds	2
1	blue Philadelphia Clarke 79b cds	4
4	blue Philadelphia Clarke 81 cds	12, 40, 83, 98
8	blue Philadelphia Clarke 81a cds	35, 41, 67, 78, 79, 94, 100, 102
18	blue Philadelphia indistinct cds	5, 8, 23, 67, 68, 71, 78, 79, 87, 94, 97, 101, 111, 118, 123, 132, 135, 146
1	blue Philadelphia Clarke 470o cds	103
4	blue Philadelphia (Clarke 430d) cds	54, 64, 138, 145
1	black Philadelphia (Clarke 430e) sl	90
17	red Philadelphia (Clarke 430e) sl	1, 11, 17, 18, 20, 30, 33, 37, 42, 56, 73, 127, 128, 129, 131, 139, 140
12	red New York cds	17, 20, 30, 37, 42, 56, 73, 127, 128, 129, 131, 139
3	red numeral 5 in circle	18, 33, 91
1	red Washington cds	78
5	red POTOMAC STEAMBOAT cds	(80), 86, 121, 130, 133
1	red London cds	82
4	blue Baltimore cds	107, 109, 136, 138
1	blue BALTIMORE RAILROAD cds	19
1	blue RICHMOND & POTOMAC R.R. cds	34
2	blue RICHMOND RAIL ROAD cds	36, 141
10	blue italicized numeral 5	19, 34, 36, 54, 64, 84, 133, 137, 141, 145
3	red / blue italicized numeral 10	47, 86, 121
2	blue FREE	19, 103
1	blue FREE in lozenge	110
1	"WAY / 5" handstamp	99
9	Bloods handstamp	110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 120
8	script "Way 5" "Way 10" "Way 20" "W5"	3, 65, 109, 136, 138, 142, 143, 144
3	manuscript "Way" "W"	28, 93, 107
3	manuscript "5" "10"	101, 103, 107
1	manuscript "I/-"	82
10	manuscript notation	2, 10, 32, 62, 77, 94, 101, 105, 142, 156
13	manuscript date	26, 29, 30, 37, 40, 47, 51, 52, 53, 56, 83, 87, 96
10	"Paid" "Paid 1" "Paid 5" "Paid 10"	1, 22, 35, 89, 90, 97, 98, 112, 128, 141
1	manuscript "free"	43
5	penstroke cancel	44, 50, 57, 127, 131, 141, (158), (159)
5	blue grid cancel	60, 61, 63, 98, 102
1	blue rectangle cancel	102
20	None	15, 46, 59, 69, 74, 81, 95, 122, 125, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 157, (158), (159)
7	Unknown	31, 32, 119, 124, 126, 134, 147
230	All Types (159 covers)	

Table VI. Summary of 15L17 Tied to Cover.

15L17 TIED to COVER		
Total	Marking Type	Census Number
18	blue Philadelphia cds	9, 16, 23, 24, 26, 35, 39, 50, 55, 57, 72, 75, 79, 82, 92, 132, 145, 146
4	red Clarke 430e PHILADA RAILROAD sl	1, 73, 128, 129
2	red New York cds	56, 127
1	red (NY) numeral 5 in circle	33
1	blue Baltimore cds	138
1	blue italicized numeral 5	141
1	blue Richmond & Potomac cds	34
3	4 bar grid	2, 15, 121
2	penstroke	3, 10
2	blue ink	(15), (18)
65	acid	18, 19, 22, 25, 26, 28, 33, 38, 41, 43, 45, 46, 47, 48, 51, 53, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 73, 75, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 83, 84, 86, 87, 88, 89, 91, 96, 97, 98, 101, 104, 105, 113, 114, 115, 117, 127, 129, 131, 133, 142, 143, 147, 150, 152, 153, 154, 156
1	manuscript	29
101	All Types (86 covers)	

Table VII. Summary of 15L17 stamp shapes.

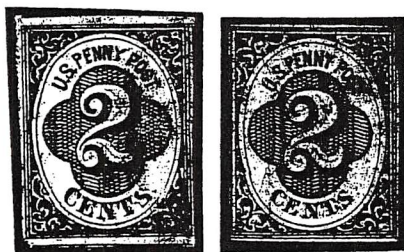
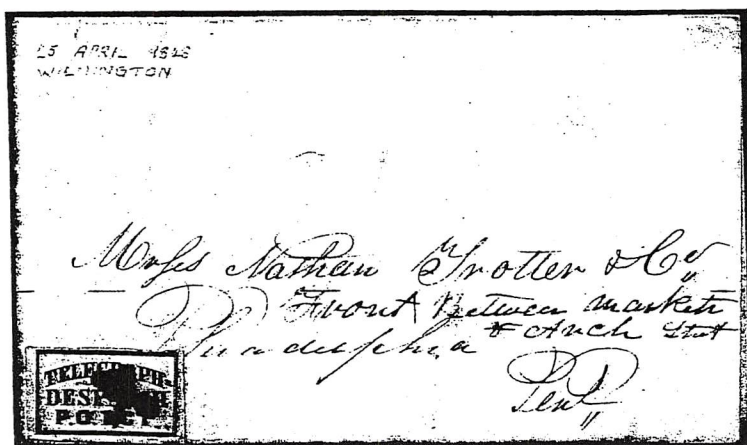
15L17 STAMP SHAPE		
Total	Shape	Census Number
152	Cut rectangle	7 Top margin: 13, 39, 44, 62, 109, 122, 141
		1 Bottom margin: 36
		9 Right margin: 3, 14, 43, 54, 56, 57, 67, 94, 115
		10 Left margin: 10, 27, 30, 33, 68, 83, 95, 108, 135, 158
6 1 0 0 0	Cut trapezoid	37, 44, 95, 129, 130, 138
	Torn Rectangle	13
	Cut square	no
	Cut to Shape	no
159	Cut to Octagon	no
	All Types	

Table VIII. Almost 30% of 15L17 were combined with 1847 stamp.

15L17 COMBINATION 1847 COVERS		
Total	Cover Type	Census Number
34	one 5 cent 1847 stamp	1, 5, 11, 16, 22, 32, 38, 39, 44, 50, 57, 58, 60, 61, 63, 68, 70, 71, 73, 80, 85, 87, 89, 90, 91, 92, 94, 97, 98, 123, 127, 132, 139, 140, (158), (159)
4	two 5 cent 1847 stamps	35, 56, 102, 130
8	one 10 cent 1847 stamp	4, 40, 41, 67, 78, 79, 100, 101
46	All Types	

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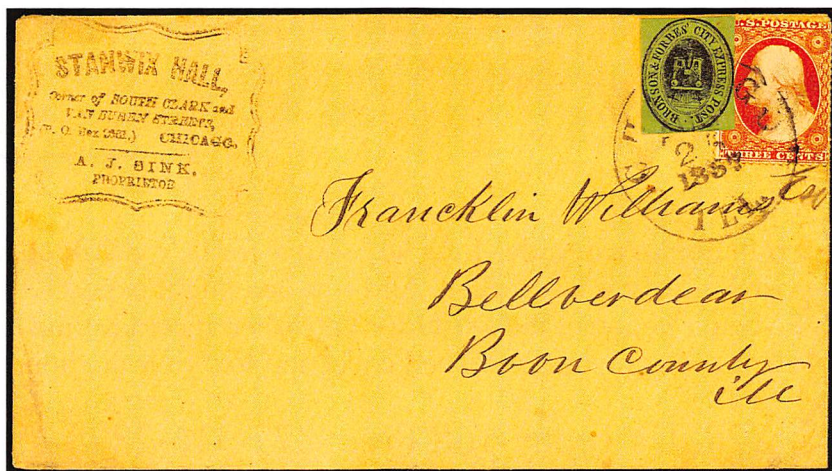
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The collage features several items of historical and philatelic interest:

- Top Left:** A vintage "LUNDBORG'S TALLY HO" label, featuring an illustration of a horse-drawn carriage and the text "NEW YORK".
- Top Center:** A yellow envelope with a blue "ABRAM C. BROWN" label, a red "PENNY EXPRESS" stamp, and handwritten text: "Able B Jacobs", "New Haven", "Conn".
- Top Right:** A "PENNY EXPRESS" label featuring a large "5" and the text "COMPANY".
- Middle Left:** A yellow envelope with a circular "PENNY EXPRESS COMPANY" stamp and handwritten text: "Hendland & Co. Agents", "54 South St.".
- Middle Right:** A large grid of red postage stamps, each featuring a portrait of a man and the text "THREE CENTS".
- Bottom Right:** A "CITY DISPATCH POST" stamp featuring a portrait of a man and the text "THREE CENTS".

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The Second Adhesive Stamp of the American Letter Mail Company

By
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Figure 1. 5L1

Figure 2. 5L2 Pair on Piece

Figure 3. 5L3

(This is Part VII of a continuing series on the American Letter Mail Company.)

The American Letter Mail Company (ALM) issued two types of adhesive stamps to indicate prepayment for service. Both have different vignettes of eagles and are engraved; one is small and the other large. The first, Scott No. 5L1 (**Figure 1**) is the smaller, and was issued about January 25, 1844.¹ Among US stamps, it is only the third printed by engraving, the first two being printed in 1842 in New York City for the City Despatch Post and later US City Despatch Post. Pomeroy printed the fourth engraved stamp, followed in several weeks by the ALM Scott Nos. 5L2 (**Figure 2**) and 5L3 (**Figure 3**).

The second adhesive stamp employed by the American Letter Mail Company, Scott number 5L2, was used from August, 1844 through June, 1845. It is larger than its predecessor 5L1, and in all probability it was ordered by the new owner after Lysander Spooner sold his business. To this day, we do not know who succeeded Spooner as owner of this private independent mail company. Perhaps Spooner's blatant activism against the government caused the new owners to prefer anonymity to shield them from lawsuits by the Post Office Department.² It seems likely that Spooner, or perhaps the new owner, kept the 5L1 printing plate after the sale of the business concern, because reprints of this stamp were made many years later.¹ We do not know today whether the new owner acquired any remaining quantity of 5L1 stamps or not. No reprints were ever made of 5L2, and it is likely the new owners ordered the new design in anticipation of running out of whatever remainder of 5L1 stamps they may have acquired, in addition to recognizing previous vs. current customers.

The second adhesive was printed by engraving from a plate of twenty subjects (4 x 5). It bears the legend "Engraved by" and "W.L. Ormsby." It is likely

¹ John D. Bowman. The First Adhesive Stamp of American Letter Mail Company and Its Proofs and Reprints. *The Penny Post*, 15(4):4-22, Oct. 2007.

² John D. Bowman and Gordon Stimmell. American Letter Mail Company – Part III: Lysander Spooner, Proprietor. *The Penny Post*, 15(3):30-34, July 2007.

that Ormsby prepared the stamp die from a stock eagle vignette and added the lettering and frame, as the eagle die was in use for at least ten years before the stamp was produced.³ By 1844 the use of engraved plates for printing had been employed for bank notes and stock certificates, and like other early engraved carrier and local stamps, the vignettes for the ALM stamps were stock dies used previously by bank note printers. It was printed in black, but around May of 1845, it was printed in blue for unknown reasons (Scott number 5L3).

The stamp was sold at twenty for a dollar although there is no indication of value on the stamp. This is discounted from the usual prevailing rate of 6 ¼ cents for a letter by independent mail operations.

As is often the case in these early engraved printings, layout lines, position dots, and availability of multiples permits the ALM stamps to be plated.

The thin paper used varies in thickness somewhat from about 2 to 3 mils, but it seems unlikely that different paper stocks were used to prepare multiple printings. However, a very few examples are known with a watermarked “ES” on the reverse on positions 1 and 20. The “E” measures 12.5 x 11.5mm. Another example shows a watermark “SUP” reading down on the reverse. Such examples are rare.



Figure 4. Watermarks have been noted.

Plating

Richard Schwartz noted that a block of twelve, four blocks of four, and a vertical strip of four exist, as well as pairs. Elliott Perry reconstructed the sheet of twenty from these multiples in the early 1940's, and reported it in the Hall-Perry manuscript on independent mail companies which was never published.⁴ The plate was laid out with horizontal and vertical layout lines for each stamp, although these lines can usually only be seen in the margins. Horizontal center lines were also ruled on the plate and position dots placed on them to guide the transfer process. Most stamp positions show one or two guide dots, although two show none (positions 3 and 6). The illustrations and descriptions herein are derived from Perry's unpublished work.

³ Gordon W. Colket. Origin of the eagle vignette on American Letter Mail Co. Type L13. *Essay-Proof Journal*, Oct. 1952.

⁴ Elliott Perry, American Letter Mail Company, draft of section planned for the Hall-Perry publication which was not completed. Various drafts of sections have been distributed to some philatelists years ago and have not been recovered. The drawings in this article were copied from one of the drafts of this section.

The black and the blue stamps were printed from the same plate. Mr. Perry proved the plating as follows: He had a block of four, positions 1, 2, 5 and 6, and a block of twelve, positions 5 to 16, as well as a block of four, positions 15, 16, 19, 20. Perry had four stamps that he placed as positions 3, 4, 17 and 18. Later, he found a vertical pair of positions 3 and 7, and a severed pair of positions 4 and 8 on a cover whose stamps can be matched. A single of position 18 became available which had a wide margin at right showing the two dots at the bottom left of position 19. Later developments confirmed the plating and this author finds no disagreement.

The plate was laid out with two vertical lines for each stamp. That means that each of the inner stamps has two guide lines in the vertical spacing between the stamps. These lines are often weak or absent unless in the margins. Horizontal guide lines were also drawn, but these were generally covered by part of the stamp design, making them difficult to identify. These were also faint or absent between the stamps.

Some positions show portions of vertical or horizontal center guide lines. In the case of horizontal guide lines, dots were placed to locate the roller when the transfer of the design to the plate was performed. Two stamps show no position dots; half of the remainder show one dot and the rest two dots, although some were partially covered up by frame lines. Mr. Perry said it appeared that the layout technician was not certain what direction the plate was to be rolled in, so he placed position dots to facilitate entry from either direction.

The space between the first three vertical columns is consistent at 2.3 mm, and between the third and fourth vertical columns is 2.8-3 mm. However, horizontal placement of subjects was less consistent and is given in the following table:

Rows	Positions	Space	Positions	Space	Positions	Space	Positions	Space
1-2	1-5	1.5 mm	2-6	1.5 mm	3-7	1.8 mm		
2-3	5-9	2.5 mm	6-10	2.3 mm	7-11	2.0 mm	8-12	1.8 mm
3-4	9-13	1.0 mm	10-14	1.3 mm	11-15	1.5 mm	12-16	1.8 mm
4-5					15-19	1.5 mm	16-20	1.5 mm

If readers with multiples can fill in the missing data, please contact me at jbowman@stx.rr.com.

No constant defect is reported concerning the eagle vignette. Some double transfers have been noted but may not appear on later printings.

To identify a position of your stamp, start by locating any position dots. Then locate guide lines and their associated dots or dashes. The drawings herein were done by Mr. Perry and show all possible descriptive aspects of each position, although individual examples are sometimes difficult to plate due to plate wear, cancellations, scissor separation, etc.

Position 1 - There is one position dot inside the right circle. A vertical layout line is to the left of the left outer frame line, and another runs obliquely from between the right outer frame lines at the top down to just outside the right outer frame line at the bottom. Part of a horizontal layout line is visible just above the left half of the top outer frame line.

Position 2 - There is a center position dot between the two circles at the left, and another at the right which is slightly above the center line of the stamp. Vertical layout lines are placed outside the left and right vertical frame lines. There is a tiny vertical dash at the noon position between the two outer horizontal frame lines.

Position 3 - No position dots are on this position. There is a short vertical dash at the top which crosses the heavy horizontal frame line where it touches the circle. One vertical layout line lies outside the right frame line. There is a heavy dash at the top right outside the vertical layout line.

Position 4 - There are two position dots, one to the left just outside the left vertical outer frame line, and another just to the left of the right vertical outer frame line. Stamps with wide right margins show two more position dots on or below the center line of the stamp, and also a long vertical dash at the lower right corner. There is a tiny gap in the top outer frame line at the right corner, and a larger gap in the bottom outer frame line at the right corner. The right vertical layout line has a rounded corner at its top. What may be a double transfer can be observed as a line passing from the right lower corner of the lower left triangle across to the inner circle, and on the right from the outer circle to the left lower corner of the right lower triangle and then down to the heavy inner frame line.

Position 5 - There is a position dot and dash at the horizontal center between the two outer vertical frame lines. There is a faint vertical layout line to the right of the right outer frame line. There is a double transfer in the upper right corner that is not always visible.

Position 6 - There are no position dots. The horizontal center line shows on both sides of the eagle, sometimes very faintly. A vertical line appears between the right outer frame lines starting a little below the horizontal center and ending opposite the "C" of Co." Another vertical line is closer to the outer frame line starting opposite the period of "Co." and ending near the "C." Another line is outside the right outer frame line starting a little below the horizontal center and going up almost to the start of the upper triangle. Sometimes a nearly horizontal line can be seen extending rightwards from the lower tip of the upper right triangle past the right outer frame line.

Position 7 - There is a position dot between the circles on the left side, slightly higher than the horizontal center line, which generally shows on both sides of the eagle. There are lines to the right at the top of the right outer frame line and also at the bottom below the bottom frame line in the lower right corner. The left vertical layout line extends downward in-between the outer frame lines starting around the center. There is a right vertical layout line outside the frame lines.

Position 8 - There is a position dot at the left slightly outside the outer frame line. Two horizontal center lines were ruled on this position, and they are both usually visible at the right of the eagle. The left vertical layout line is generally not visible above the center of the stamp, unlike position 16. There is a double transfer in the