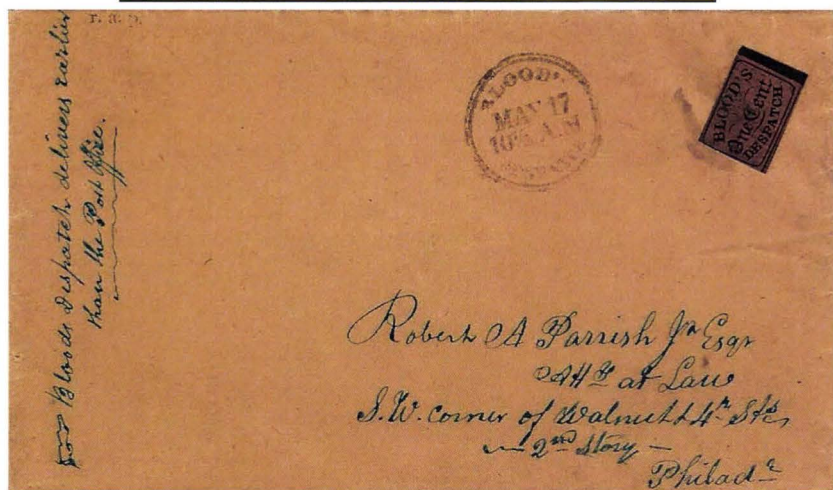


THE PENNY POST

Official Journal Of The Carriers And Locals Society



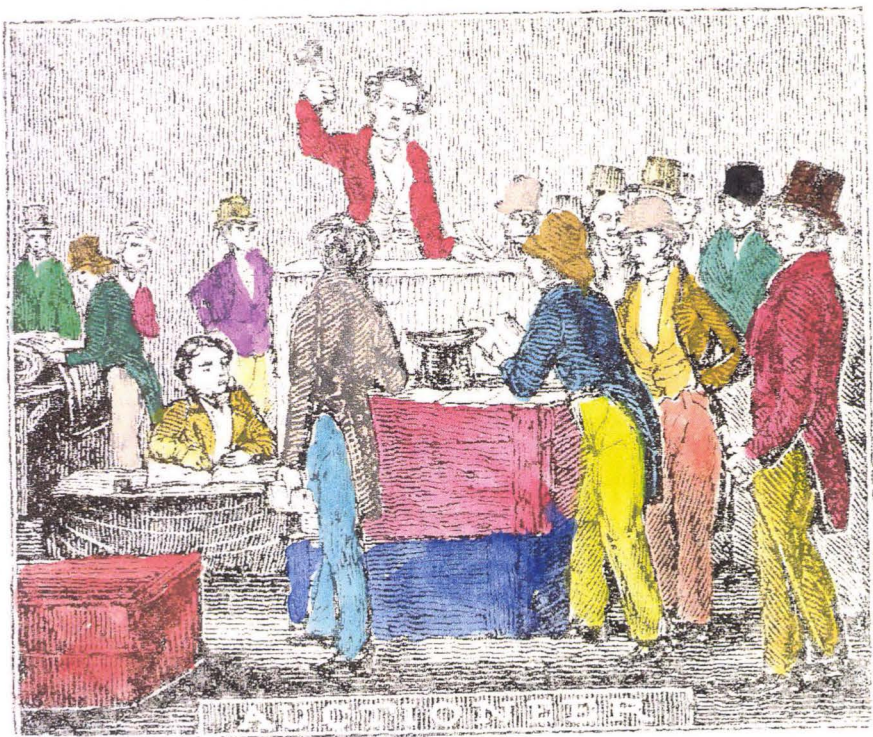
**Letter locally delivered by Blood's Despatch Post with message at left
"Blood's Despatch delivers earlier than the post office."**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

NEW INFORMATION ON THE HISTORY OF HUSSEY'S POST

SOME NEWLY IDENTIFIED BOYD'S ENVELOPE TYPES

BLOOD'S 15L13: PART 14



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THE PENNY POST

VOL. 24 NO. 3



JULY 2016

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

Editor's Message

By

Larry Lyons

NY2016, May 28, 2016

I have been the Editor-In-Chief of *The Penny Post* since January 2000, a period of seventeen years. We have published 95 issues of *The Penny Post* since January 1991. Gordon Stimmell was the editor for the first 30 issues and I have done 65 so far through April 2016. The 95 issues of *The Penny Post* contain some 5,324 pages of research. *The Penny Post* has won 23 gold medals in literature and five Reserve Grand Awards. *The Penny Post*, and its Editor, has won the coveted Diane D. Boehret award for excellence in literature three times. (1994, 2009 and 2011). *The Penny Post* has been described as the research Journal that other Societies should emulate.

The Carriers and Locals Society signed up twenty new members at NY2016, an unprecedented and remarkable accomplishment. Much thanks to Vern Morris and Cliff Alexander for their recruitment efforts. Also a special thank you to this same special duo for sponsoring a Society breakfast before the show opened for the day.

Mission Statement

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

Appreciation

I wish to thank the section editors for their contributions and hard work. Special thanks to Alan Cohen for being my constant critic and proofreader for the last seventeen years and counting and David Snow, who joined the proofreading group in the fall of 2012.

Auctions

Our last auction (#27) was held on January 22, 2015. We are still looking for an Auction Manager.

Articles in this Issue

In this issue we have Part 14 of Vern Morris' continuing series on Blood's Despatch. This article is about Blood's small rectangular stamps, 15L13, with "One Cent" in the middle. This is once again a very thorough study. Much thanks to Vernon Morris for his research and efforts to present the full Blood's story.

Our specialty field continues to have "finds" and items not seen, described, or fully understood since they were issued some 150 years ago. I have authored an article on "some Boyd's City Dispatch envelope types missing from the *Scott Catalogue*." In the article I present three envelope corners on paper types not previously known. There will be a second article with Boyd's envelope types in the 1863 issue, not previously recorded, in our next issue of *The Penny Post*.

I have uncovered a wealth of Hussey material with lots of information that has never been researched, studied or presented. Over the next few issues of *The Penny Post* I will try to provide this wonderful information to you. My first article on this subject is "New information on the history of Hussey's Post" gleaned from a letter written in 1921 by James T. Handford who was a Hussey employee for 15 years.

Liaison Committee

The trustees of the Carriers and Locals Society, have established a liaison committee to review items proposed for listing or removal from the *Scott Catalogue*. The Committee chair is Steven Roth and the Committee members are Larry Lyons, Cliff Alexander and Byron Sandfield. The Committee will spend a year reviewing previous research and items that have not yet been *Catalogue* listed. Items that receive positive review will be proposed for listing.

Advertisers and our Patron

I would be remiss if I didn't thank our advertisers without whose support our journal would not be possible. Extra thanks to Scott Trepel for his efforts in our field and for being our patron saint in remembrance of Richard Schwartz.

Your Participation

"Ask not what the *Society* can do for you but what you can do for the *Society*." Someone needs to step up to the plate and answer our call for an Auction Manager. Training will be provided. Also, we are always in need of articles. Please write about one cover or stamp or do a research piece. My editors and friends will help with information and provide answers to your questions. If you have something of interest or are puzzled by something please write a letter to the editor which I will place in *The Penny Post*.

Final Message

My message to you is to plan on participating more. I know you enjoy the hobby, the journal, and the collecting but if you don't give a contribution the Society will come to an end. Don't leave it up to the other guy. Also, our auctions are critical to our existence and we are in need of an Auction Manager. Very, very special thanks to Alan Cohen for his 14 years of service to our *Society* over which he managed 27 auctions. My parting message to you is to relax and get away from it all by looking, examining, researching, exhibiting, and sharing and talking with fellow stamp collectors and *Society* members. Forget the world and enjoy your stamps and covers.

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BLOOD'S 15L13: Part 14

By

Vernon R. Morris Jr. MD

On June 30, 1845 private post D.O. Blood & Co. was established by acquiring the Philadelphia Despatch Post and their remaining 15L3 **world's first pictorial stamps**. The following day, July 1, 1845 our government eliminated private sector inter-city mail, for which the public was compensated by reduction of inter-city rates to the heretofore private market level. The precious few local posts were somehow overlooked or ignored, as if under the radar and not significant. During the next few years D.O. Blood & Co. printed three variations of the iconic "striding messenger" stamp. The final two, 15L5 and 15L6,¹ had been reserved for *local door delivery*, and were classified "city stamps." Bigger than life, the famous messenger carried a huge **PAID** letter tucked under his left arm.

Within six months, by January 1846, D.O. Blood & Co. developed a profoundly different geometric double circle stamp design dedicated for *outbound* letters, and classified as a "post office stamp." Inscribed "**For the POST OFFICE**," was the **world's first special purpose stamp**.² This innovative **paradigm shift** quietly created bifurcated private local postal service.

Two years later, by January 1848, the company was renamed "**BLOOD'S DESPATCH**," and appropriately named handstamps appeared. The next five adhesive stamp issues were no longer large squares, but instead oval or rectangular, and trended smaller. By April 10, 1848 Blood's Despatch advertised "stamped envelopes"³ sold for 20 cents a dozen inclusive of service. On May 25, 1848 the company moved slightly west to Sixth Street,⁴ immediately north of Chesnut and directly across from Independence Hall.

The 1848 Blood's Despatch city stamp 15L11 oval light green "**PAID**" dove carrying envelope⁵ gave way by years end to small dark rectangular 15L12 *Paid*.⁶ The corresponding 1848 counterpart post office stamp was light blue oblong 15L10 "For the POST OFFICE,"⁷ which too soon gave way to the small dark rectangular 15L17 "**Post Office**" stamps⁸ for outbound letters. Driving a bifurcated postal business was less labor and cost servicing outbound letters, all to one address, the post office. Discounts were different for each service type, to a greater degree for post

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

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

³ Public Ledger Vol. XXV, No.14.

⁴ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, "Blood's 15L11: Part 11," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 23, No. 3, July 2015, Whole No. 92, page 50.

⁵ Morris, *The Penny Post*, July 2015, pages 21, 23, 30.

⁶ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, "Blood's 15L12: Part 13," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 24, No. 1, January 2016, Whole No. 94, pages 29, 36, 62, 63.

⁷ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, "Blood's 15L10: Part 10," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 23, No. 2, April 2015, Whole No. 91, pages 20, 21, 53.

⁸ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, "Blood's Part 12: 15L17," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 23, No. 4, October 2015, Whole No. 93, pages 10, 11, 54, 55, 56.

office stamps, but in the largest volumes were both close to 1 cent, and service type became relatively insignificant. Accordingly, patron and messenger compliance began to fall,⁹ and by 1849 trended toward a universal program.

Despite government monopoly power, private local posts such as Blood's Despatch thrived. By 1849 Congress had to consider competitive mechanisms for relatively weak large city carrier departments, as reviewed in a January 6, 1849¹⁰ Philadelphia newspaper, see **Figure 1**. It was an unsettled and tense situation for both sides. The public was the winner as the cost for city letters was going down. The topic of this article is the fifth and final "Blood's Despatch" adhesive, the **dominant stamp** by volume and duration from late 1849 until 1853, and reviews the relevant milestones.

15L13 "Bronze, Black, Glazed"

The stamp design in **Figure 2** measured 11 mm high by 14.5 mm wide, and is listed in *Scott Catalogue* 15L13 "bronze, black, glazed," correctly under the group 1848-1854 for 1 cent,¹¹ but incorrectly listed this particular stamp origin year as 1850. The company name in bold capital letters **BLOOD'S** arched proudly across the top, and at bottom was an inverted **DESPATCH** arch. Cursive fonts in the center declared "**One Cent.**" 15L13 was denominated and compatible with universal service of both city letters and post office letters.

15L13 pane format has been confirmed by **Figure 3**. Black pane margins were approximately 3 mm wide, and thin guidelines surround each framed vignette.

15L13 Description Census

The census of 304 covers can be viewed on the C&LS website.

15L13 Photographic Census

Three hundred four examples bearing a **One Cent** 15L13 have been identified in auction catalogs and/or philatelic literature. Only one (census number 264) has not been photographed, and another photograph included only the companion 1847 general issue (census number 266). The census and all available photos have been posted on the Carriers and Locals Society website.

Five suspicious examples have been withheld, leaving a data base of 299, of which 298 were photographed, and 297 showing the local stamp. Two Hundred forty five are **color**, **82%**, while 53, or 18%, are black and white (census number 1, 2, 8, 10, 16, 25, 44, 47, 51, 53, 58, 62, 76, 88, 98, 102, 103, 108, 115, 130, 131, 132, 136, 138, 150, 157, 162, 165, 167, 170, 171, 175, 176, 179, 187, 190, 194, 200, 201, 205, 208, 209, 211, 213, 217, 228, 255, 257, 266, 274, 281, 292, 293).

All too often old auction catalog photos did not include a cover's entire address. Of 15L13 data 18 photographs revealed only a partial address (census number 2, 10, 25, 44, 47, 58, 102, 108, 150, 157, 162, 170, 171, 190, 201, 213, 217, 274); another 8 photos omitted the entire address (census number 36, 114, 136, 140, 175,

⁹ Morris, loc.cit., *The Penny Post*, January 2016, page 62.

¹⁰ Public Ledger (Philadelphia), January 6, 1851, XXVI, No. 89, page 2.

¹¹ *Scott 2012 Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps & Covers, Nineteenth Edition*, Scott Publishing Co., 2011, Sidney Ohio, page 545.

179, 208, 266) offering no destination information. Accompanying auction catalog descriptions of postal markings and destinations, however, sometimes partially compensated by providing useful collateral information.¹² These 26 difficult covers comprise only 9% of 299 covers; 16 of which 5.5% are entirely unknown, and so designated. Conversely, **95% are destination known.**

15L13 Cover Data Base

A 2% survival rate for private post covers had been previously selected for this series of articles,¹³ but no longer seems applicable, and explained later in this article. During the very early 1850's the quantitative scale of Blood's Despatch as measured by enormous numbers of collection boxes, numerous deliveries each day, cheap postal costs, and huge quantities lost by fire, created an environment of unpredictable survival numbers. Although certainly far from complete, a meaningful data base has nonetheless been compiled, providing a critical mass to appreciate, examine, further interpret company behavior, and form logical conclusions for this great private post.

15L13 Service Time

Editor's Note: All of the tables can be viewed on the C&LS website.

Evidence based data is associated with *varying degrees of certainty*. **Table I** data include 90 *date certain* examples, given *direct* and specific day, month, and year. Another 42 are *indirectly date specific*, but well supported by collateral information¹⁴ (including census 108). Altogether, 132 of 299, or **44%** are certain dates. The annualized spread of these 132 are demonstrated in **Figure 4**. Greatest volume was 1850, and dropped slowly year by year.

A different set of 91 covers can be reasonably determined to within a two calendar year period, based largely upon auxiliary markings of known service periods. Another 29 examples can be determined to within a three year period, and 9 covers fall within a four year period.

Ten covers are partially dated with day, month, but not year (census number 257 through 266). The final 33 (census number 267 to 299) have no information of any type, and are entirely date unknown.

Table I evidence confirms 15L13 **One Cent** began in early 1849. The earliest recorded date certain is tied **March 6, 1849, Figure 5** (census number 1). A second March 1849 example has also been recorded, as well as another in May. However, not until November and December 1849 did a typical crescendo sequence develop, consistent with new issue introduction, and likely slow replacement of outstanding city stamps and post office stamps.

The **latest recorded date certain 15L13 One Cent** cover is a *very far outlier*, by more than 12 years, **June 9, 1861** (census number 256), **Figure 6**.

Philatelic 15L13 lifespan has been derived from 250 covers between date certain **March 6, 1849** and year specific **October 18, (1854)** (census number 222),

¹² Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, October 2015, pages 21, 60.

¹³ Morris, loc. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2014, page 38.

¹⁴ Ibid.

beyond which only *far outliers* (although year specific) exist. This period of 2051 days, or 291 weeks, is equivalent to 68 months.

The *cluster* of 15L13 **One Cent** stamps, defined by monthly consecutive examples, extended from **November 20, 1849** (census number 4) until **July 11, 1853** (census number 217) and clearly include all 214 covers within that run. From this number 118 were date certain covers (census numbers 4 through 54; 78 through 108; 135 through 163; 180 through 186). Also, 96 were two year interval examples, none of which extend the period earlier or later than mentioned index date certain covers. The total domain of 214 cluster examples reflects the period of greatest business activity. The cluster period spanned 1306 days, or 187 weeks, equivalent to 44 months. During these 44 months 214 surviving covers was **4.86 covers per month**.

Immediate Blood's Despatch stamp predecessors **Post Office** 15L17 and ***Paid*** 15L12 (contemporary counter-partners), were largely **one year stamps, during 1849**, although with some prevalence several months before, and a few scattered examples after. **One Cent** 15L13, was the final Blood's Despatch stamp, but had demonstrated considerable staying power with significant volumes during three calendar years. One may even consider a philatelic virtually exclusive **One Cent** 15L13 three year period from March 1, 1850 until April 15, 1853.

15L13 Service Location

Final destinations are summarized in **Table II**. Letters were collected by Blood's Despatch from several hundred boxes, and sorted at the principal office before being appropriately distributed. Sixteen 15L13 destinations are unknown, lacking sufficient information to distinguish between outbound versus local delivery.

Of 283 known destinations, local deliveries totaled 63, from which 14, or 22%, were delivered to an adjacent district. Six to Spring Garden (census number 135, 139, 183, 235, 242, 280); 4 to Southwark (census number 98, 229, 249, 283); 2 Northern Liberties (census number 228, 254); 1 Penn District (census number 233); 1 Moyemensing (census number 288). The most contentious destination was Spring Garden, and 3 of six are italicized because they also bear a government cds with matching "numeral 1 in double octagon" handstamp, i.e. government combination with Bloods service which was a drop letter (either held for pick up, or carrier department door delivery Spring Garden District).

Of 283 known destinations 220, or **80% were outbound** letters via a United States post office. **Philadelphia's post office** now several blocks east, received 145 from Bloods Despatch; 138 outbound examples (63% of 220 outbound) in addition to 7 drop letters (census number 135, 139, 146, 147, 183, 251, and probably unknown 176). Moreover, Blood's Despatch expedited many letters directly to a rail road route agent for entry into the government mail at a post office in another city: **44 to New York City post office**, distinct from New York State final destination, (census number 9, 20, 22, 30, 39, 40, 47, 50, 51, 55, 56, 57, 59, 61, 64, 65, 68, 70, 75, 77, 82, 95, 100, 102, 103, 108, 110, 113, 115, 116, 117, 119, 120, 221, 260, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 275, 276, 277); **17 to Baltimore's post office** (census number 1, 11, 15, 18, 19, 49, 67, 87, 218, 244, 257, 259, 262, 263, 278, 279, 295); **2 to Richmond's post office** (census number 187, 241); **1 to the Washington DC post office** (census number 225); **3 via Potomac Steamboat** agent (census number 124, 260, 264); and another 10 via

Philadelphia Rail Road agent (census number 35, 41, 42, 45, 52, 72, 78, 114, 118, 148) on the “Southern Mails,” and some on to the deep South¹⁵ For the first time in this series of articles, Blood’s Despatch reached the West Coast. Another special outbound cover serviced by Blood’s Despatch surprisingly originated in **Denmark** (census number 13), **Figure 7**.

15L13 Cover Type

Table III summarized various cover types bearing a 15L13 **One Cent** stamp. From a data base of 299, envelopes of various types accounted for 190 examples, over 64% of the entire data. Most of the remaining 104, over 34%, folded covers, letters and printed circulars.

Only four examples are cover *fronts* (census number 9, 262, 263, 294), portions of earlier envelopes or folded letter sheets. Data also include one small remnant “piece of cover” (census number 140). No wrappers were identified.

Table I is only the second data base comprised of **more envelopes than folded letters**, although this group was dramatically so. At the risk of repetition, envelopes were clearly the mid-century trend. Fancy caricature envelopes, **Figure 8** (census number 252), and cameo advertising envelopes (census number 247), **Figure 9**, appeared later in the data base. Three envelopes were proprietary (census number 178, 207, 236) with an embossed name on reverse. Blood’s Despatch accordingly had advertised “self sealing” envelopes by September 11, 1852,¹⁶ **Figure 10**.

15L13 Cancel Types

Table IV revealed that 295 of 299 **One Cent** 15L13 covers, **99%, were cancelled** by Blood’s Despatch, an exceedingly high amount, and especially noteworthy given the great majority were outbound. Virtually all were cancelled by **acid**, recent mid-January 1849 introduction.¹⁷

Only 4 were not cancelled (census number 39, 85, 164, 298). Moreover, the stamps inherent glazed surface did not apparently readily absorb or succumb to “death by acid,” with cancels often difficult to detect.

Finally gone from Blood’s Despatch repertoire were manuscript “X” penstroke cancel, “group of dots” cancel, red PAID cancel, multiple punctures cancel, or four and six bar grid cancels.

Bloods Handstamps

Bloods handstamp markings provide a mechanism to date covers. **Table 5** data reveal that 122 covers, or 41% of the total data were handstamped by Blood’s Despatch. Of 122 examples the overwhelming preponderance were 111 with Handstamp Type 17,¹⁸ accounting for 91% of the Blood’s handstamp subset. Type 17 was the first Blood’s handstamp to include partial date information, documenting month, day, hour, but not year. This small advancement was mentioned in September

¹⁵ Morris, loc. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2015, pages 49, 50, 52.

¹⁶ Public Ledger Volume XXXIII, No. 146

¹⁷ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2015, pages 33, 34.

¹⁸ American Stampless Cover Catalog, Volume II, Fourth Edition, Phillips Publishing, 1987, page 67, Type 12.

20, 1851 newspapers, **Figure 11**.¹⁹ The earliest date certain Type 17 handstamp appeared on a *stampless* October 15, 1851 cover, because Type 17 was obviously not restricted to only **One Cent**, 15L13 covers. Possibly even earlier is *date likely* September 4, (1851) (census number 99) **Figure 12**. The cluster of Type 17 Handstamp's latest example was October 15, (1854) (census number 221). A January 15, (1854-55) outlier does exist (census number 251). A curious possible very far late outlier was Dec 10, (1856) (census number 254), **Figure 13**.

15L13 Cover Auxiliary Marking

Auxiliary markings provide additional useful philatelic information regarding postal handling and delivery. In the context of private posts, all markings not intended to prevent reuse of the private post stamp have been considered auxiliary markings, both manuscript and handstamp, government and private. More than one marking may appear on a single cover. Identical markings repeated on a single cover were not included in this assessment. The greatest number of auxiliary markings per cover were found on transatlantic covers (census numbers 24, 196, and 206), **Figure 14**, due to the very high number of *foreign* transit markings.

Table V identified 284 of 299 15L13 **One Cent** covers graced with a domestic auxiliary marking, **95%**. Only 15 covers had no auxiliary marking. The majority of covers displayed more than one marking on a cover, accounting for approximately 534 domestic markings on 284 covers. If spread over the entire data base of 299 covers, the average was 1.78 auxiliary markings per cover; or if restricted to the known subset, the average was 1.88 markings per cover. In short almost **two markings per 15L13 cover**. Of 534 domestic marking, 408 were government and 126 private sector.

Of the 408 government markings, 351 were handstamp markings and 57 were manuscript markings. Also, from the 408 government markings, 170 were applied by the **Philadelphia post office, about 42%**.

From the entire set of 534 markings, 126 were applied by a private company: 2 by a private entity other than Blood's (census number 99, 296); 124 or **23% by Blood's Despatch**, via circular handstamps, typically Bloods Handstamp Type 17, shown in **Figure 8** (census number 146).

15L13 Tied to Cover

Table VI summarized 15L13 **One Cent** tied to cover. Of 298 known covers (excluding census number 266) only 60 were *not* tied, whereas 236 were **tied, 80%**: 216 by Blood's Despatch, 45 by accidental government handstamp. Also, 25 covers were tied by both (bold font census numbers 6, 47, 51, 59, 69, 97, 110, 116, 119, 126, 177, 179, 182, 183, 186, 187, 192, 195, 201, 204, 210, 239, 257, 263, 265). **Figure 15** (census number 183) was *triple tied*; Bloods Despatch handstamp, Blood's acid, and government cds.

¹⁹ Public Ledger Vol. XXXI No.152.

15L13 Stamp Shape

Table VII summarized various types of **One Cent** 15L13 stamp shapes. Several **One Cent** 15L13 panes have been identified.²⁰ Mechanical separation of stamps has not been recorded, contrary to predecessor **PAID** 15L11.²¹

Thin guidelines facilitated manual separation. Black sheet margins were identified on 39 examples. Six corner margin stamp have been recorded (census number 30, 59, 148, 181, 183, 207).

Cut rectangles accounted for 92%, 269 of 299 covers. Thirteen were partially hand torn rectangles, **Figure 16** (census number 146), similar to several 15L10 examples.²²

15L13 Correspondence

From any philatelic group of covers, multiple examples sent to the same person or address constitute a philatelic correspondence. The greatest amount were seven **One Cent** 15L13 covers, addressed to each of two persons. James Chapman (census numbers 37, 130, 266, 269, 270, 271, 272) was a New York City attorney for Stanford & Swords at 137 Broadway. Also, Sarah Catherine Rush received 7 (census numbers 67, 69, 125, 134, 157, 262, 267) at several locations in and near Baltimore and Washington DC.

Three persons each received five 15L13 **One Cent** covers. William Price (census numbers 14, 232, 239, 248, 263), two of which were addressed to Cincinnati. Also, Reverend William Markoe or his wife in Wisconsin received five (census numbers 12, 16, 41, 46, 158). Third but not least was William Meredith Esq. (census numbers 118, 141, 152, 236, 240), **Figure 8**, in Philadelphia, Washington DC, and Princeton. Meredith had been the topic of previous articles.^{23,24} Furthermore, a sixth was addressed to his son William Meredith, discussed later in this article.

Four 15L13 **One Cent** covers (census number 15, 52, 117, 122) were addressed to C(ambell) Morfit of Pikesville, MD near Baltimore,^{25, 26, 27} but distinguished from Henry Morfit, the recipient of three covers (census numbers 81, 173, and 204).

Three 15L13 **One Cent** covers were received by the following 4 persons: Margaretta Proctor (census number 127, 133, 257); Reverend Harry Lyman (census number 64, 92, 94); Corliss Haydock & Co. (census number 3, 26, 132); and the mentioned Henry Morfit.

Two 15L13 **One Cent** covers were received by the following 14 persons: T.D. Lincoln (census number 18, 38); George Smith (census number 10, 40); Mary Hahn (census number 66, 76); Robert Yuille (census number 42, 78); George Sykes (census

²⁰ Gordon Stimmell, "Detecting Blood Types," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 1, No. 2, April 1991, page 29.

²¹ Morris, loc. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2015, pages 21, 39, 41, 43, 55.

²² Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2015, pages 37, 38, 39, 53.

²³ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2015, pages 43, 44, 46.

²⁴ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, Jan. 2016, pages 31, 33, 51.

²⁵ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, "Blood's Part 5: 15L5," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 22, No. 1, January 2014, Whole No.86, pages 27, 34, 51, 57.

²⁶ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, October 2015, pages 27, 62.

²⁷ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, January 2016, pages 33, 51.

number 32, 107); Ch.F. Geist (census number 109, 113); Dr. Swann (census number 226, 279); Gen. Cadwalader (census number 142, 285); Edwin Metcalf (census number 110, 119); Rev W. Henry Greene (census number 159, 166); Eli Price (census number 149, 227); Col. William Chew (census number 5, 90); Sophie Greene (census number 246, 293); and post office Box 851 (census number 146, 147).

Persons known from prior articles, but received only a single 15L13 **One Cent** cover were: George Campbell (census number 28);²⁸ Tatham & Brothers (census number 229);²⁹ Lindsay & Blackiston (census number 53)^{30,31} who was Blood's Despatch next door neighbor; and Nathan Potts (census number 242).³²

Furthermore, a few famous Americans appeared in this data base such as Honorable Henry Clay (census number 29); John Rockefeller (census number 220); and William Drayton (census number 34) of Charleston.

15L13 Valentines

Table I data revealed 3 valentine candidates. Only one is February specific (census number 237) and appropriately displays 5 single **One Cent** 15L13 stamps on a large envelope. Another example (census number 280) is a large highly ornate envelope with strip of 5 **One Cent** 15L13 stamps, and includes a large fancy enclosure, **Figure 17**. This special example is likely the only strip of 5 stamps from *all* Blood's stamp issues.

A third undated candidate is mentioned for completeness on the basis of non-contemporaneous pencil notation "a valentine," (census number 282) but only a single stamp, and not verified by enclosure.

15L13 Multiple Stamps

Four examples from **Table 1** data bear multiple stamps. Two were confirmed large valentines just reviewed, properly charged five **One Cent** stamps each. A third example, **Figure 18**, shows three 15L13 stamps (census number 23). It's address curiously included pencil "788 Exchange," and also per "*Politeness of Capt. Benja. Rush.*" The fourth example was shown in **Figure 6**, bearing a single **One Cent** 15L13, with an odd companion future Blood's Penny Post 15L14 (census number 256). Perhaps the sender of this very late May 29, 1861 letter may have applied long ago misplaced 15L13 Blood's Despatch stamps, and was uncertain of Blood's Penny Post future.

15L13 Blood Advertising Labels

An advertisement label appeared on 1%, 3 of 299 **One Cent** 15L13 data, shown in **Figure 19**. Only 1 of 3 is date certain March 17, 1852 (census number 143). This interesting cover was addressed to William Meredith's son^{33,34} per docket on the

²⁸ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, January 2016, pages 32, 33, 51.

²⁹ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2015, pages 31, 34, 35, 42.

³⁰ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, "Blood's Part 3: 15L3," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 21, No. 3, July 2013, Whole No. 84, page 44.

³¹ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2015, pages 34, 35, 42, 43.

³² Morris, loc. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2013, pages 41, 46, 50.

³³ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2015, pages 43, 44, 46

³⁴ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, January 2016, pages 31, 33, 51.

reverse, who had been attending Princeton University. The other two are undated (census number 247, 294). All are different colors. In numerical census order the colors were pink, beige, and dark green.

15L13 Circulars

Although mass business circulars had always been encouraged by D.O. Blood & Co., only 2 printed notices have been identified in this data base (census number 162, 243). Furthermore, **Table 1** does not include a special self-advertisement circular intended to demonstrate sample new stamps.³⁵ This monetarily denominated and universal service stamp obviated the need for a complex sliding scale of volume discounts.

15L13 Rate

One Cent 15L13 was the first numerically denominated adhesive stamp in this entire series of articles, **Figure 1** and **Figure 2**. Clearly a two part policy change, however, and the second part may have been often overlooked. **One cent for all services. Prepayment was required; no unpaid letters delivered.**

15L13 Government Combinations

1847 general issue government stamps in combination with **One Cent**, 15L13 were possible from July 1, 1847 through June 30, 1851, the first and last day of federal 1847 general issue stamps. However, **One Cent** 15L13 data doesn't begin until March 6, 1849 and extends well beyond July 1, 1851 into the period of 1851 government stamp issues. The overlapping time period of 1847 general issues with 15L13 **One Cent** is 846 days, or 121 weeks, equivalent to almost 28 months. Approximately 138 of the 299 covers qualify as potential combinations (census numbers 1 through 93; 109 through 134; 164; and 257 through 273; and 295), approximately 45% of all data.

In 1992 Robert Meyersburg assembled a casual census of Blood's stamps in combination with 1847 general issue stamps.³⁶ Meyersburg reported 56 combinations: 43 with single 5 cent stamp; 7 with two 5 cent stamps; and 6 with a single 10 cent 1847 stamp. Meyersburg provided only one black and white photograph (census number 260), and did not source his references. The United States Philatelic Classics Society 1847 census has greatly facilitated a much wider search search.

Table VIII confirmed **87 combination One Cent 15L13 with 1847** general issue stamps, **63 %** of the potential subset of 138, or 29% of the 15L13 full data base. Five cent rate for under 300 miles included 64 examples. Ten cent rate for over 300 miles included 23 examples: 8 were two 5 cent stamps, **Figure 20**; and 15 were a single 10 cent stamp, **Figure 21**. Not included in 87 combinations are two 5 cent 1847 stamps (census number 298, 299) which did not originate on the otherwise genuine 15L13 cover.

Furthermore, **76 combination One Cent 15L13** covers with 1851 imperforated general issue stamps have been identified, **52%** of the potential subset

³⁵ Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, "Blood's Part 7: 15L7," *The Penny Post*, Vol. 22, No. 3, July 2014, Whole No. 88, pages 48-50.

³⁶ 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 12.

of 147 (census number 94 to 108; 134 to 163; 165 to 256; 274 to 279; and 296 to 299), or 25% of the entire 15L13 data base. The great majority, 73 of 76, combined with 3 cent 1851 general issues; 2 combined with one or more 1 cent 1851 stamps; and one was combined with a pair of 12 cent 1851 postage stamps, **Figure 22**.

In total, government general issue stamps combined with **163 One Cent** 15L13 covers, **55%** of the entire database (excluding census numbers 298, 299).

15L13 Transatlantic

Three of 299 **One Cent** 15L13 were transatlantic, for a 1% incidence rate. **Figure 14** was addressed to Germany (census number 206). **Figure 22** was addressed to England (census number 196), and displays a magnificent pair of 1851 twelve cent government postage stamps, Scott number 17. **Figure 23** (census number 24) was addressed to France, but not photographed for the past 30 years. Its image is a composite of two partial photographs.

15L13 Canada

Two 15L13 covers were addressed to Canada. **Figure 24** was addressed to New Brunswick on the east (census number 145), and **Figure 25** to Canada West (census number 101).

15L13 Transcontinental

One 15L13 cover was addressed to the West coast. **Figure 12** (census number 99), but not seen in public or photographed during the last 27 years. September 4, (1851) was the first Blood's Despatch California destination in this series of articles creating a new category of study.

15L13 Volume – Time Analysis

The **One Cent** 15L13 data *cluster period* included 214 covers between November 20, 1849 and July 11, 1853. The respective 44 months of greatest **One Cent** 15L13 philatelic activity was 4.86 covers per month survived, **Figure 26**. 90% of the cluster subset were outbound letters, and only 10% were local delivery in the old city or adjacent districts.

Editor's Note: Figures 26-39 can be viewed on the C&LS website.

15L13 Time Line

The most active cluster period for **One Cent** 15L13 was late 1849 until mid-1853. **Figure 27** reveals several far outliers through 1861, with an incidence rate of only 1 to 3 per year, sometimes skipping a calendar year. 1853 also ushered in a new company name, the topic of the next article.

Cluster periods greater than three years is extraordinary and unprecedented. Such longevity suggests tranquility and satisfaction, consistent if not attributable to a specific monetarily denominated stamp readily utilized for both types of postal service. Of course, many previous stamps which had been purchased in large volumes, were still outstanding, and perhaps some misplaced for a period of time, but always remained valid.

A **relatively exclusive** three year philatelic period of 15L13 stamp service had existed from **March 1, 1850 until April 15, 1853**. During this special period extremely few outlier stamps of previous Blood stamps had periodically appeared, thereby classifying this period as “relatively” exclusive. The prior stamp, 15L17, cluster period ended February 28, 1850,³⁷ and the next issue 15L15 may have appeared by mid-April 1853.

No absolutely exclusive philatelic period has been identified since late 1846. These special circumstances had been previously highlighted by red in bar graphs, but were not complicated by outliers.

Business Cards

By September 11, 1848 Blood's Despatch introduced “**pocket cards**”,³⁸ **Figure 28**. Another innovative promotion by this ambitious company.

Bloods Collection Boxes

Figure 29 top shows an undated Blood's Despatch business pocket card promoting 300 company box stations and 4 deliveries per day. Charles Kochersperger's name appears on the top left, but otherwise he was not listed in newspapers until June 28, 1851.³⁹ **Figure 29** bottom proudly declares 400 box stations and 4 deliveries per day by October 29, 1851.⁴⁰

Figure 30 top is a different style and color business pocket card which advertised 500 box stations along a 12 mile circuit, in addition to five deliveries per day. Newspapers had advertised 500 box stations no later than August 10, 1852.⁴¹

A tremendous increase of collection box stations from 300 to 500 within less than one and a half years was likely attributed to the spirit of Charles Kochersperger.

1849 Price Reduction

July 1, 1845 D.O. Blood & Co. advertised **3 cents single** service, with significant volume discounts of 25 cents per dozen.⁴² By early 1846 bifurcated service began,⁴³ because post office delivery was much less labor intensive or costly than city door delivery. To Blood's credit, savings derived from the cheaper post office service were passed along to the public via lower charges. By January 1848, volume discounts were becoming much more attractive. City stamps were 8 dozen, or 96 for \$1.00 equivalent to a very attractive 1.05 cents each; but post office stamps were not much cheaper at 12 cents a dozen, or exactly one cent each.⁴⁴ Several months later post office stamps caught up and were indeed offered at less than one cent through much larger volumes than previously, 100 stamps for 75 cents, an incredible ¾ cent each! The lowest rates of the era were advertised in newspapers on April 25,

³⁷ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, October 2015, page 49.

³⁸ Public Ledger, Vol. XXV No. 145.

³⁹ Public Ledger, Vol. XXXI No. 81.

⁴⁰ Public Ledger, Vol. XXXII No.29.

⁴¹ Public Ledger, Vol. XXXIII No.118.

⁴² Vernon R. Morris, Jr., MD, “Blood's Part 4: 15L4,” *The Penny Post*, Vol. 21, No. 4, October 2013, Whole No. 85, page 42.

⁴³ Morris, loc. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2014, pages 52,53.

⁴⁴ Public Ledger, January 24, 1848, Vol. XXIV No. 104.

1848,⁴⁵ but when restated May 19, 1848,⁴⁶ prepayment was required unless addressee themselves pay collect at the door.

A **July 1, 1848 price reduction**⁴⁷ offered the benchmark **2 cents single** service, collect cash *or* prepaid by stamp, city delivery or post office delivery. Only five weeks after their office relocation, and perhaps an excellent business promotion. Five months later was the latest 2 cent single service publication date of December 8, 1848.⁴⁸ Huge volume discounts had been reaffirmed on July 21, 1848⁴⁹ and October 9, 1848.^{50,51}

Leading up to January 1849, Washington D.C. had recognized that the carrier departments in several large cities were struggling and losing market share. **Figure 31** couldn't express it better, and underscored **Figure 1**. Blood's Despatch had been well prepared, and ready to respond to intensified Philadelphia carrier department competition. First advertised three days beforehand on January 5, 1849,⁵² **Figure 32**, the **January 8, 1849 reduction to 1 cent single** stamp, but prepayment required. Three days afterwards on January 11, 1849,⁵³ **Figure 33**, clearly warned that unpaid letters would not be delivered, but could be found at Blood's office.

Conceptual bifurcation of local service for this juggernaut private post had been graciously yielding to simple universal charge for stamps of any quantity at the approximate lowest volume discounted price. Since city stamp greatest volume discount had been 1.05 cents each, the new **One Cent** 15L13 stamp was cheaper. Post office stamp greatest volume discount, however, which had been an incredible $\frac{3}{4}$ cent each, quietly increased to one cent, and slightly more expensive. Since three years of 15L13 cluster activity had been 90% outbound mail, **Figure 26**, Blood's Despatch must have realized a net **increase in total revenue**. Brilliant business savvy under the guise of magnanimity. Blood's Despatch had already been cheap enough. Simplicity was the order of the day, and mere repackaging with specific denominated single stamps of one cent gave the appearance of a good deal.

The first philatelically recorded **One Cent**, 15L13 was only eight weeks later on March 6, 1849, although leaving the door open for a yet discovered example closer to January 8th. Prepayment was mandatory, however, or the letter was not delivered. Unforeseen consequences were thousands of unpaid letters dropped into Blood's Despatch collection boxes but held at 28 South Sixth Street.

Fire of 1851

On Saturday morning December 27, 1851 a great fire on Sixth near Chesnut completely destroyed many buildings including Blood's Despatch, **Figure 34 top**.⁵⁴

⁴⁵ Public Ledger, April 25, 1848, Vol. XXV. No. 27 page 2.

⁴⁶ Public Ledger, January 24, 1848, Vol. XXV No. 48, page 2

⁴⁷ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2014, pages 47, 49, 50, 51, 53.

⁴⁸ Public Ledger, Vol. XXXVI, No. 65.

⁴⁹ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2015, pages 47, 48.

⁵⁰ Public Ledger, Vol. XXXVI No. 65.

⁵¹ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, January 2016, pages 25, 27.

⁵² Public Ledger, Vol. XXXVI No.88, page 2

⁵³ Public Ledger, Vol. XXXIV No. 93.

⁵⁴ Philadelphia Inquirer, Monday, December 29, 1851.

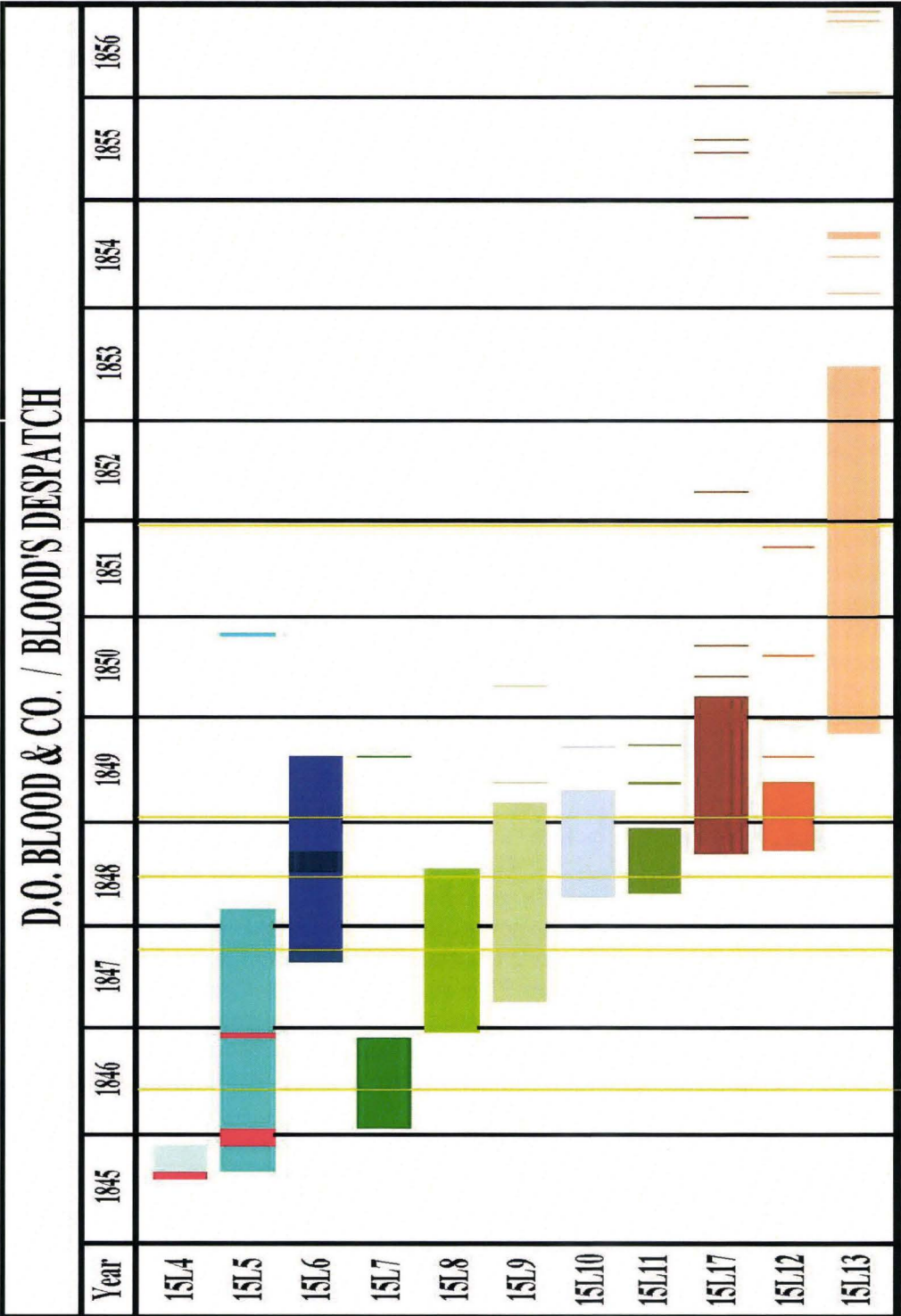


Figure 27. For three years 15L13 was the only Blood's Stamp.

Monday newspapers reported ⁵⁵ “Messrs Blood & Co., loss \$1200., and notwithstanding their establishment was entirely destroyed, through the indomitable perseverance of the proprietors, the letters of Saturday morning were despatched during the day as if nothing had occurred...” In the same issue appeared a very understandable explanation for the fire: “In addition to our own city, New York and Buffalo suffered even more severely in loss of property, though not of life. The spreading of the fire in all these instances, is attributed to the extreme cold, which froze the hydrants, and prevented the fireman procuring the necessary quantity of water, in time to check the progress of flames. In some instances in this city fire had to be built around the hydrants to thaw the ice, before the water could be obtained. Had not the roofs of the homes be covered with snow, the fire have been much more extensive than it was. Formerly, the fire-plugs were wrapped in straw at the beginning of the cold weather, but the recent mild winters have probably been the reason why this important precaution has been abandoned.”

Tuesday newspapers reported Blood’s Despatch loss of 90,000 letters, **Figure 34 middle**,⁵⁶ no doubt largely unpaid letters held at Blood’s office.

Perhaps not a coincidence, public outcry may have been precipitated by the great loss of letters from the fire. Within three and a half months the company repealed its prepaid policy. On April 6, 1852⁵⁷ Bloods Despatch reinstated collect service, but at the previous 2 cents charge at the door, **Figure 35**. Blood’s Despatch satisfied that segment of the public who did not care to prepay, and had been dropping unpaid letters into Blood collection boxes. Meanwhile Blood’s Despatch earned double for those accommodations, all at the expense of the innocent recipient.

Blood’s Despatch Office

A major milestone had been Blood’s Despatch May 25, 1848 office relocation to 28 South Sixth Street, adjacent to the northwest corner of Chesnut and Sixth, directly across from Independence Hall.⁵⁸ Within 20 months the company had expanded northward to include adjacent 26 South Sixth Street, identified in newspapers by January 10, 1850⁵⁹ **Figure 36**, and by Handstamp Type 15.⁶⁰

Almost two years later, the great fire of December 27, 1851 was catastrophic. In desperate need of an immediate new office Blood’s Despatch promptly secured No. 15 Arcade, West Avenue, **Figure 34 bottom**⁶¹ several doors down the north side of Chesnut Street toward 7th. **Figure 37** is an 1851 sketch of Chesnut Street^{62,63} in the same year as the fire, and showing Blood’s Despatch huge second floor sign at right on the northwest corner at Chesnut, although facing Sixth Street. Five doors toward the left was the Arcade building. Apparently, two corridors (walkways) of retail shops

⁵⁵ Public Ledger, December 29, 1851, Vol. XXXII No. 80, page 2.

⁵⁶ Public Ledger, December 30, 1851, Vol. XXXII No. 81, page 2.

⁵⁷ Public Ledger, Vol XXXIII No.14.

⁵⁸ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2015, pages 50, 52.

⁵⁹ Public Ledger, Vol. XXXIII No. 92.

⁶⁰ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, January 2016, pages 32, 39, 47, 49.

⁶¹ Public Ledger, December 31, 1851 Vol. XXXII No.82, page 3.

⁶² Julio Rae, Philadelphia Pictorial Directory and Panoramic Advertiser, 1851.

⁶³ http://lcpdams.librarycompany.org:8881/R/-?func=dbin-jump-full&object_id=123484&silo_library=GEN01

passed through this wide building. West Avenue was the corridor on the left side of the image.

The two story Arcade Building was opened in 1828⁶⁴ with fronts and two internal avenues of marble, shops along each avenue, which were enclosed overhead with glass roofs. This fashionable building eventually degenerated into shops of petty tradesman, and upstairs amusements. Dr Jayne tore it down in 1860. Of special interest to these articles was the Public Ledger newspaper first opened during 1836 in the Arcade.

Within nine months, and by early September 1852 Blood's Despatch moved to No. 30 Arcade, East Avenue, **Figure 10**⁶⁵ presumably for more suitable space to facilitate improved more efficient mail service. **Figure 38** from 1859⁶⁶ shows the intervening roofline one story higher between an unchanged Arcade Building and corner of 6th and Chesnut, reflecting new reconstruction since the fire of December 27, 1851. Respective addresses had been renumbered during the 1854 Philadelphia Consolidation.⁶⁷

Spring Garden District

On July 1, 1845 private posts were effectively forbidden from intercity mail. Philadelphia County had no post offices south of the old city. Immediately north of the old city, however, post offices were available in well populated Kensington⁶⁸ on the Delaware River, and also just west in sparsely populated but westward growing Spring Garden District.⁶⁹ D.O. Blood & Co. and Blood's Despatch respectfully avoided these municipalities,⁷⁰ but had established nearby collection boxes.^{71,72}

On December 18, 1848, in the context of imminent carrier department enhanced competition, **Figure 1**, Blood's Despatch *reversed* company policy and announced 143 collection box locations, of which 22 were within eastern Spring Garden District.^{73,74}

Table II data and **Figure 39** map of Philadelphia reveal 14 of 299 covers were addressed to adjacent Philadelphia districts, 7 of which were supported by their own United States Post Office, making at least four, or **1.3% illegal**. None to Kensington; but one to Penn District (census number 233), **Figure 40**. Also, six covers were addressed to Spring Garden District (census number 135, 139, 183, 235, 242, 280). Three of the six were door delivered by Blood's, **Figure 41** (census number 235); three italicized numbers, however, combined with government handstamp markings, Philadelphia post office cds and matching "numeral 1 in double octagon, such as **Figure 15**, and addressed to the far western portion of the District closer to

⁶⁴ *Annals of Philadelphia, and Pennsylvania Volume III*, John Watson, 1891, Stuart, pages 190, 191.

⁶⁵ Public Ledger, September 11, 1852 Vol. XXXIII, No. 146.

⁶⁶ http://dc02kg0559na.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com:48992/F?func=direct&doc_number=000221399

⁶⁷ *Annals of Philadelphia, and Pennsylvania Volume III*, John Watson, 1891, Stuart, page 499.

⁶⁸ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2015, pages 49-51.

⁶⁹ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, October 2015, pages 52, 56.

⁷⁰ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2014, page 53.

⁷¹ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, July 2015, page 53.

⁷² Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, October 2015, page 35.

⁷³ Public Ledger, XXVI No.73, page 4.

⁷⁴ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, January 2016, pages 60, 61, 64.

the Schuylkill River. Blood's Despatch delivered these 3 to the Merchants Exchange building as a drop letter, held by postmaster for addressee pick up, or unlikely carrier department transportation to most remote portion of Spring Garden district. Three other similar Blood's examples were clearly old city drop letters (census number 146, 147, 251) delivered to the post office, **Figure 42**.⁷⁵

Other short lived private posts also entered this region north and west of the old city. A November 22, 1849 T.A.Hampton cover was delivered to Penn District.⁷⁶ On January 26, 1850 Carter's Despatch⁷⁷ delivered to Spring Garden District.

Theory

Benchmark single service charge progressively decreased during 1848; first half year at 3 cents, second half 2 cents, and one week after the year at 1 cent.

Second, bifurcated postal service pragmatically yielded to a simple universal system.

Third, the universal one cent service probably netted Blood's Despatch **greater income**.

Forth, **One Cent** 15L13 enjoyed **relative exclusivity** for 3 years.

Fifth, collect service was discouraged in May 1848, and terminated on January 8, 1849; only by popular demand was it reinstated three years later in April 1852.

Sixth, prepayment was strongly encouraged by prepayment adhesive stamps, and prepaid stamped (embossed) envelopes.

Seventh, Charles Kochersperger propelled Blood's Despatch to a quantum level higher.

Eight, continued Blood's Despatch presence in Spring Garden and Penn District, but not west of Broad Street.

Ninth, the first partially dated Blood's handstamp has been especially useful for philatelic collateral data, and was commonly associated with 15L13.

Tenth, *Scott Catalogue* incorrectly lists 15L13 beginning in 1850 rather than evidence based 1849.

15L13 Summary

Blood's Despatch formed in early 1848, and introduced a new line of prepaid adhesive stamps that were smaller and rectangular. The world's first specialized postal business model functioned with complementary counterpart adhesive stamps, outbound and local delivery: 15L10 "For the POST OFFICE" and 15L11 **PAID** persisted into late 1848; 15L12 ***Paid*** and 15L17 ~~**Post Office**~~ were largely in service throughout 1849. By early 1849 bifurcation yielded to uniformity in the ~~**One Cent**~~ 15L13 which endured more than three years through 1853.

⁷⁵ 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 250-255, 267.

⁷⁶ Robert Siegel's Auction Galleries, Sale 817, November 15, 1999, lot 1150, Golden Sale.

⁷⁷ <http://www.usps.org/resource-center/philatelic-exhibits/carriers-locals-and-independent-mails-exhibits/> Fighting the Fed in Philadelphia: Carrier, Locals, and Independent Mails; 1835 to 1868, Frame 5, page 15 top.

1848 was a year of unprecedented Blood's Despatch price changes. Collect or prepaid, **single service reduced over nine months from 3 to 1 cent** (May 1848 to January 1849). Volume discounts were also expanded, progressively more attractive, and settled near 1 cent. Business "pocket cards" were introduced.

By early 1849 competitive pressure from other private posts and government was associated with another paradigm shift and Blood's Despatch finally converted to uniform cost for service one cent prepaid **One Cent** 15L13 stamp.

During these few years Blood's Despatch moved its office on several occasions. May 1848 was away from the Merchants Exchange and post office neighborhood to the growing business district near Independence Hall at 28 South Sixth Street. Within 2 years, by January 1850, the company expanded next door into 26 South Sixth Street. The great fire of December 27, 1851 destroyed their entire office. Although mail delivery continued without missing a step, on an emergency basis 15 Arcade was secured, several doors away on Chesnut. Nine months later in September 1852 the company moved within the Arcade Building to No 30.

Charles Kochersperger joined by June 1851, and was associated with an explosion of collection boxes over the next year from 300 to 500 by August 1852. Blood's Despatch dominated postal service throughout the old city of Philadelphia. Required prepayment must have further streamlined efficient postal service. Unintended consequences, however, were thousands of letters, were incorrectly deposited without payment, and held at Blood's Despatch principal office. 90,000 letters burned during the great fire.

A data base of 304 covers has been compiled, from which 299 genuine **One Cent** 15L13 examples have been identified, 298 photographed (82% in color), and 283 destinations known. The earliest recorded **One Cent** 15L13 was date certain tied **March 6, 1849, Figure 5**. **One Cent** 15L13 cluster of greatest business activity was from **November 20, 1849 until July 11, 1853** for almost 4 years. If far outliers are included **One Cent** 15L13 philatelic lifespan was much longer, five and one half years, from March 6, 1849 until October 18, 1854. The latest recorded date certain cover is a June 9, 1861 very far outlier, **Figure 6**. Quantitative analysis revealed 1850 through 1852 were the years of greatest presence, shown in **Figure 4**. Furthermore, this period witnessed no other Blood's Despatch stamps, a virtually exclusive presence without any other issue actively at play, **Figure 27**. Data has produced evidence of 8 genuine examples during 1849, one year earlier than classified by the *Scott Catalogue*.

The evidence in **Table 1** confirms the great preponderance serviced outbound letters; during the cluster period 90% were outbound and only 10% local delivery; from the entire data base 80% were post office letters and 20% city letters. Almost two thirds were envelopes, a strong continuation of the mid-century transition away from folded letters.

99% were cancelled, virtually all by **Blood's acid**, recently introduced mid-January 1849,⁷⁸ and concurrent with other Blood's Despatch charges such as the Reduction of 1849. The United States carrier Reorganization of 1849,⁷⁹ was also in

⁷⁸ Morris, op. cit., *The Penny Post*, April 2015, pages 33, 34, 36, 39, 55.

⁷⁹ Morris, op. cit., *The Chronicle*, page 252.

progress, and perhaps more than coincidental with introduction of one cent carrier department adhesive stamps in Philadelphia by March 1849.

Domestic auxiliary markings appeared on **95%** of the covers, **Table V**, typically more than one per cover, provide additional postal handling information, and aiding today's philatelic analysis, **Figure 11**. The great majority were government in nature. Of the **One Cent** 15L13 stamps **80% were tied** to their cover, an exceedingly high amount. The great majority were tied by Blood's Despatch acid cancel. Moreover, Blood's Despatch first time **dated handstamps**, were also present on more than 40%.

Given no mechanical separation from panes, all were manual. Rectangular shapes accounted for well over 90%, with the balance unintentional trapezoidal configuration.

Advertising labels were becoming a thing of the past, and appeared on only 1%. Also, only 1% of 15L13 data displayed multiple stamps. Of four examples, 2 were valentines, each with five stamps.

Well over half of the **One Cent** 15L13 stamps combined with government stamps. Of 163 private-government combinations, **87 examples were 1847 general issue, and 76 with 1851 general issue stamps.**

About 1% were 3 transatlantic covers. Less than 1% were addressed to Canada. For the first time, a Blood's Despatch was addressed to the West Coast and California.

Blood's Despatch certainly "came of age" during the three year tenure of relatively exclusive **One Cent** 15L13 period, late 1848 into 1853. Five hundred omnipresent collection boxes, 5 daily deliveries, high volume, inexpensive, simple, single stamp cost structure, and driven since an ambitious Charles Kochersperger. Undaunted by complete destruction of their principal office by fire on December 27, 1851. Blood's Despatch sold self-sealing envelopes, and the nation's first postally prepaid envelopes. Blood's Despatch even sold government stamps for convenience. Blood's Despatch eventually capitulated to public demand by April 1852 to restored collect service. Whatever the public wanted, Blood's Despatch provided. **Figure 31** tells it best: "**Blood's Dispatch delivers earlier than the Post Office.**"

Probably unnoticed was Blood's Despatch price reduction in very early 1849 likely increased their net revenue, by rounding up to 1 cent outbound post office letters to a much greater degree and quantity than rounding down city letters. 80 to 90% were outbound letters.

A small private local post was conceived on June 30, 1845, the last day before the mighty United States government eliminated private sector intercity postal service. Within five years, by 1850 the company was in full bloom, severely beating all other local posts, and pushed the Philadelphia post office carrier department back on its heels. Blood's Despatch was the top dog for letter delivery in the 4th largest English Speaking city in the Western World.⁸⁰ How proud the immortal figurative striding messenger must have been, able to leap tall (post office) buildings in a single bound.

⁸⁰ *Annals of Philadelphia, and Pennsylvania Volume III*, John Watson, 1891, Stuart, page 250

Above the James Farley Post Office in New York City, and quite visible to many visitors arriving at Penn Station, especially for the recent NY2016 World Stampshow, is deeply inscribed “Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of appointed rounds.”⁸¹ How appropriate it would have been in Philadelphia at the time, for Blood’s office to have inscribed the same but add “nor fire stays Blood’s messengers from swift completion of appointed rounds.”

Reduction of Postage.—The Government now proposes to reduce drop-letter postage, so as to make it one cent for postage when pre-paid and one cent for delivery. If not prepaid, the postage will be two cents, the delivery one. So that pre-paid drop-letters will cost two cents each and unpaid letters will cost three cents. This is the substance of the regulation proposed in the bill now before Congress. This matter is important to the entire business community. The Government has hitherto been undercarried by Blood's Despatch, which has delivered letters for two cents, and even under when their stamps were purchased in quantities, whilst the Post-office charged four. In view of the proposed reduction, Blood's Despatch proposes to still farther reduce the rates of carriage, and on and after Monday next, will deliver pre-paid letters at one cent, and will not carry unpaid letters. This matter is important to business people, and we give it as an item of interesting information.

Figure 1. Public Ledger on January 6, 1849 review of proposed reduction of postage.

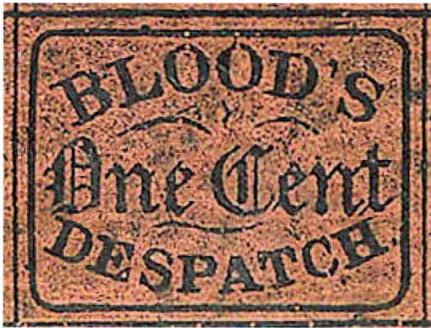


Figure 2. Single 15L13 “Bronze, Black on Glazed.



Figure 3. Full pane of 15L13 “Bronze, Black on Glazed.”

⁸¹ Herodotus’ Histories, Book VIII, paragraph 98 referring to ancient Persian Empire courier service.

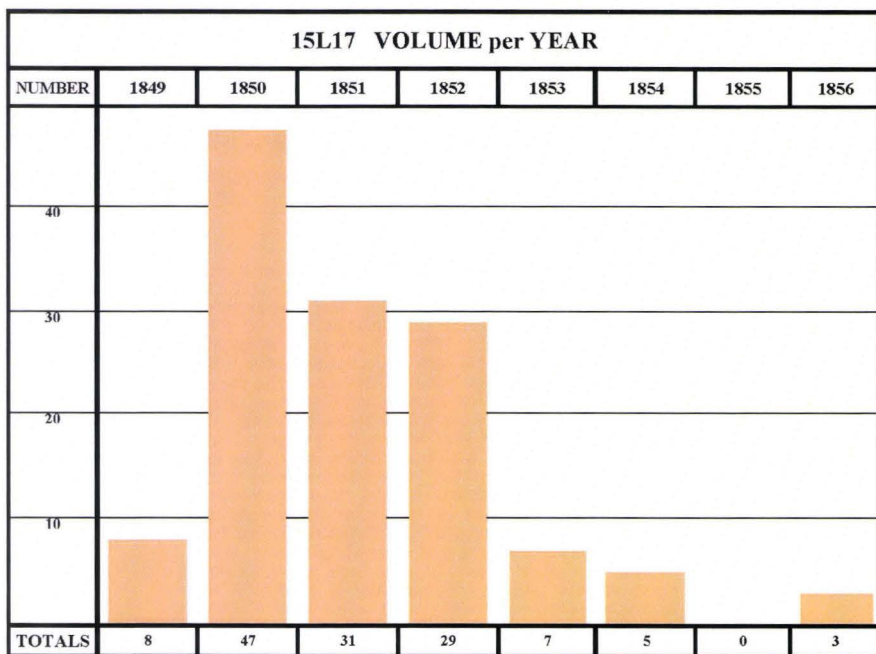


Figure 4. One hundred thirty two 15L13 covers were year specific.



Figure 5. The earliest recorded 15L13 was March 6, 1849.

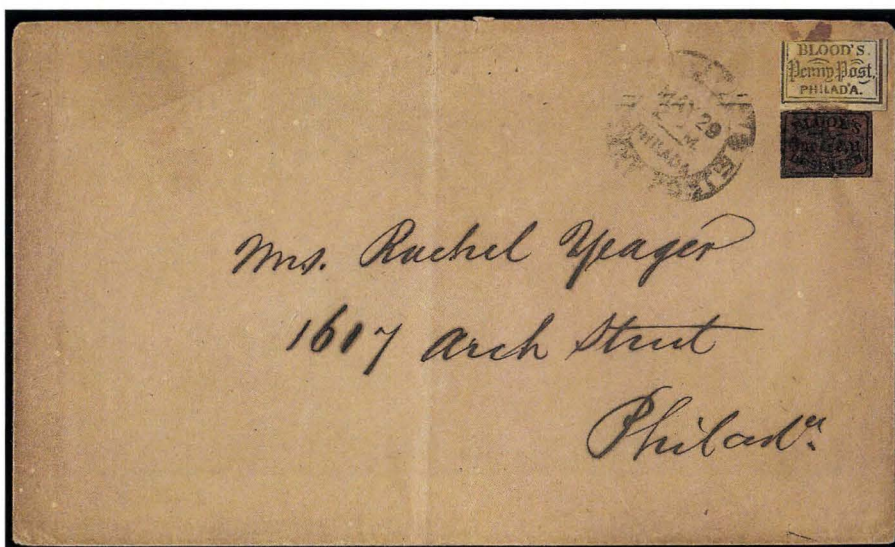


Figure 6. The latest recorded 15L13 was May 29, 1861.



Figure 7. Origin was Denmark.



Figure 8. Fancy caricature envelope.

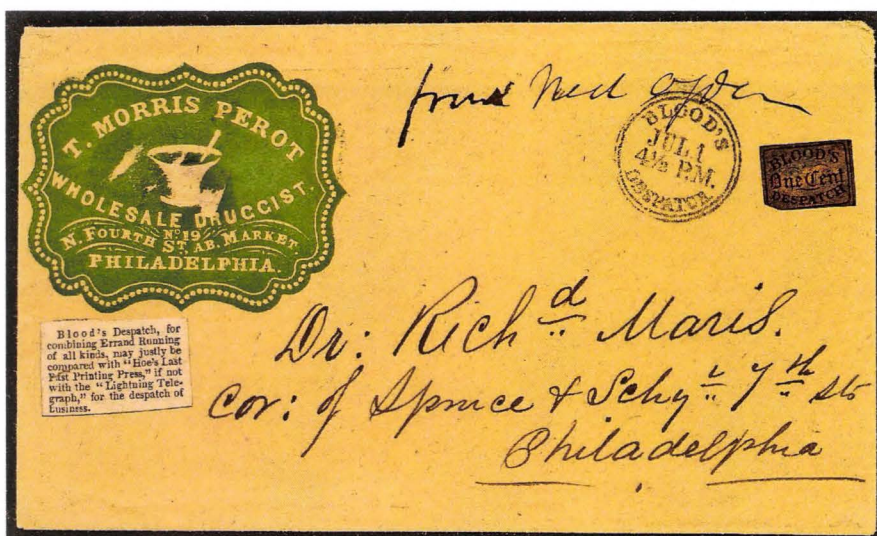


Figure 9. Fancy cameo advertising envelope.

**SELF SEALING ENVELOPES—Cheapest and best in
the city, at Blood's Despatch Office, No. 30 Arcade,
East Avenue.**

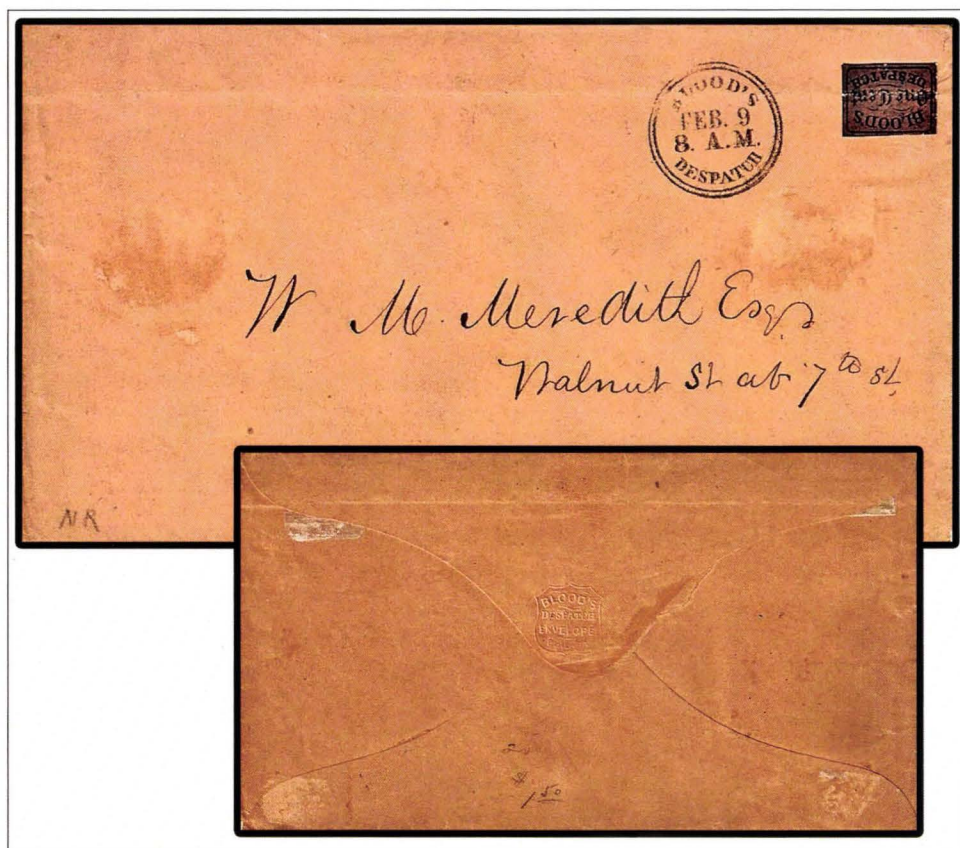


Figure 10. September 1852 self-sealing Blood's Despatch envelop.

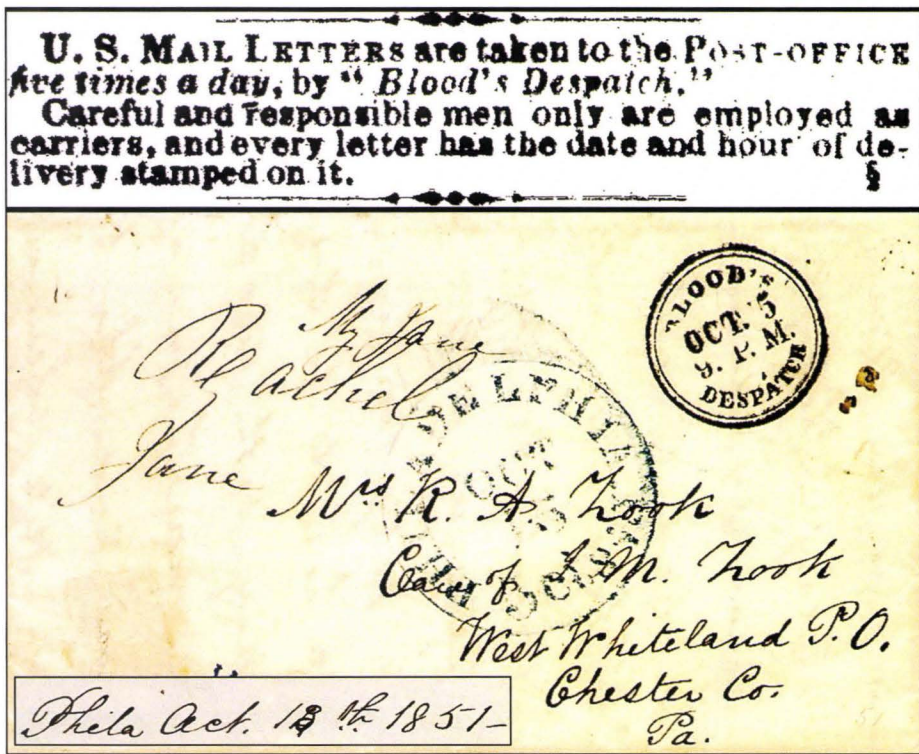


Figure 11. Earliest certain time dated Blood's handstamp.



Figure 12. Earliest likely time dated Blood's Handstamp Type 17.

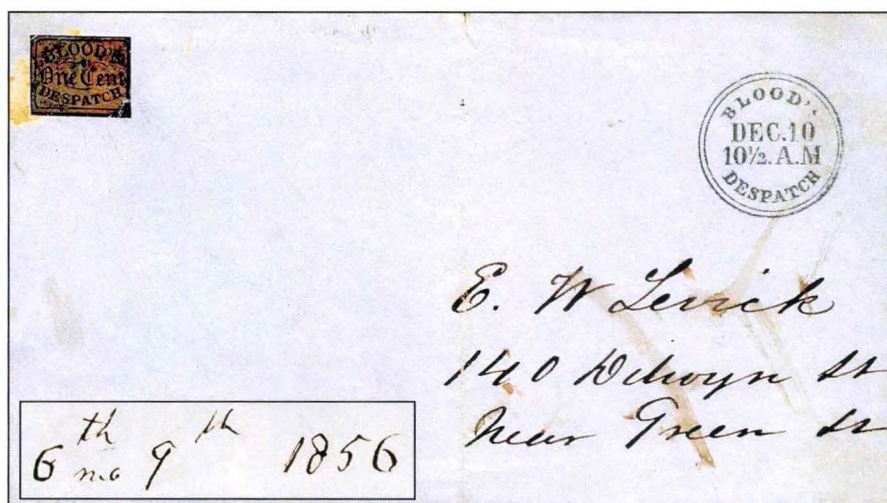


Figure 13. Latest far outlier Blood's Handstamp Type 17.



Figure 14. One addressed to Germany.



Figure 15. One 15L13 triple tied to cover.



Figure 16. Partially torn 15L13 on drop letter to post office.



Figure 17. Only recorded Blood's strip of five stamps.



Figure 18. Three individual 15L13 stamps.

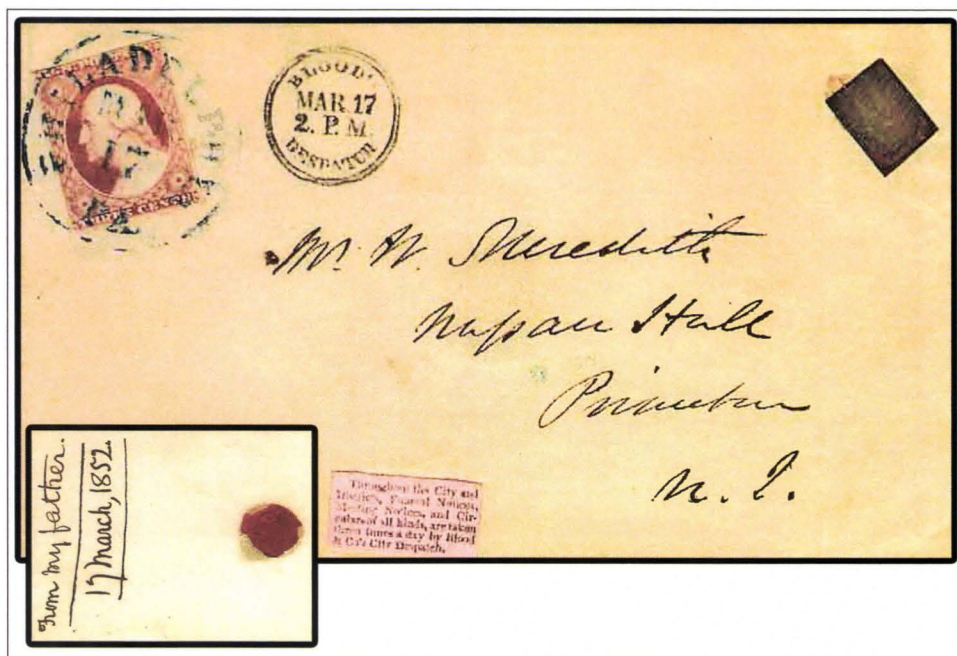


Figure 19. Only three 15L13 covers with advertising label.

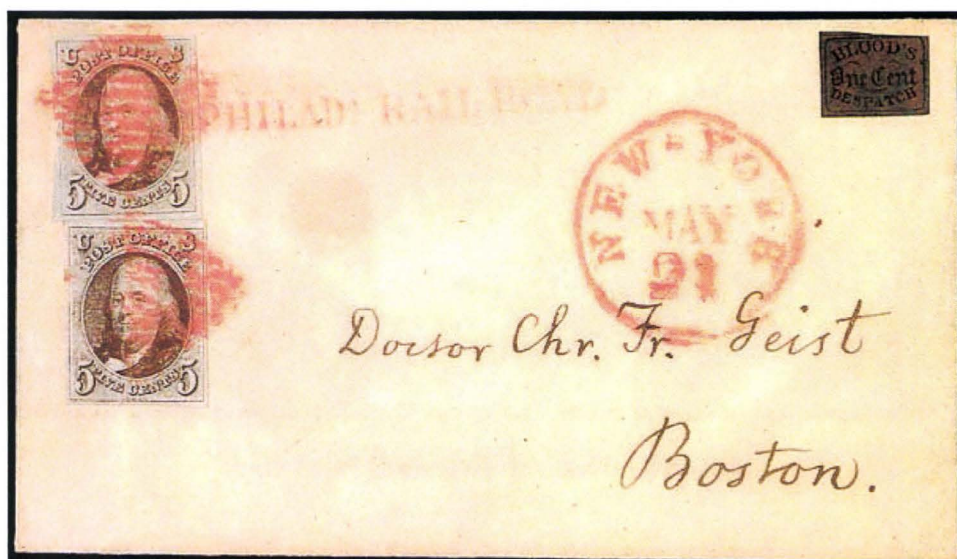


Figure 20. Cut trapezoid 15L13 over 300 miles.



Figure 21. Corner margin 15L13 over 300 miles.



Figure 22. One addressed to England, combined with pair of 12 cent general issue stamps.



Figure 23. Two partial images of the only 15L13 addressed to France.



Figure 24. One 15L13 addressed to New Brunswick, (Eastern) Canada.



Figure 25. One 15L13 addressed to Canada West.

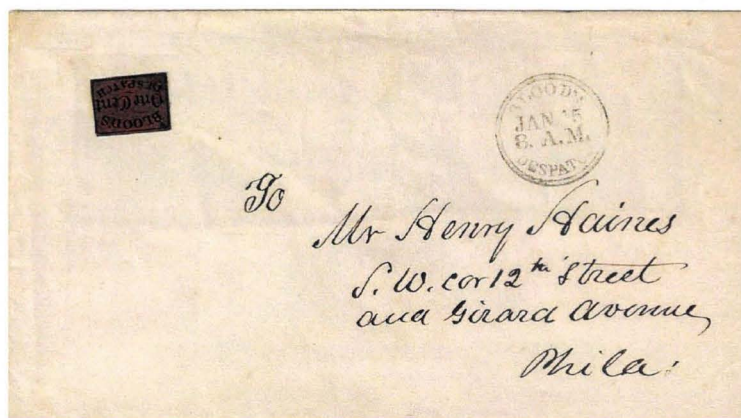


Figure 40. 15L13 delivery to Penn District.

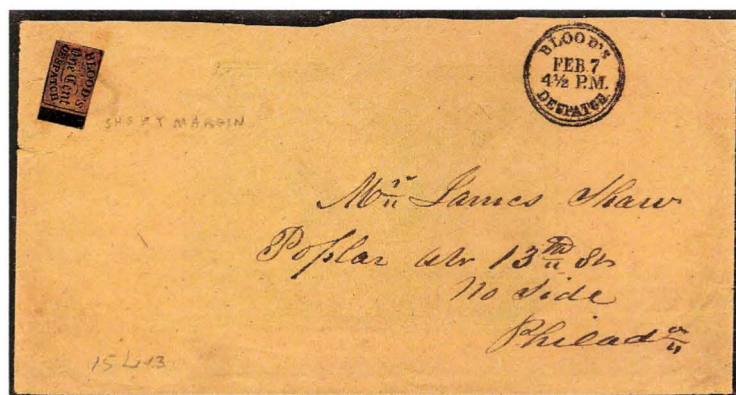


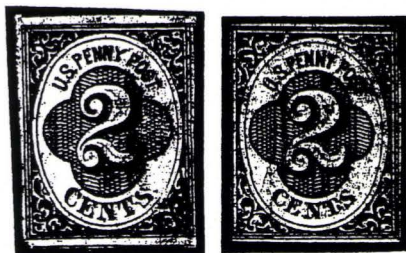
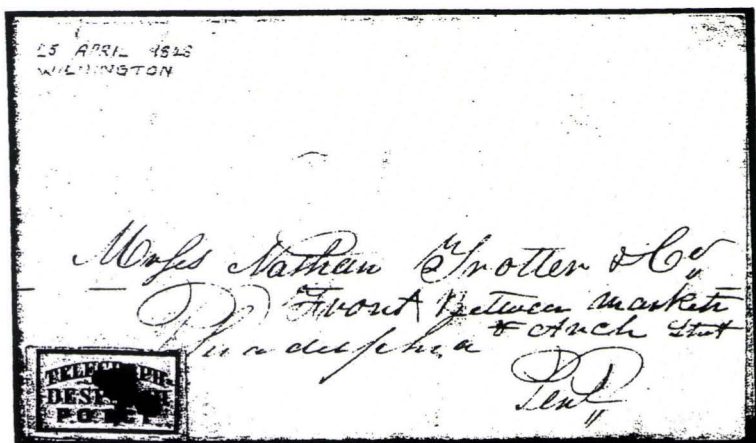
Figure 41. 15L13 delivery to Spring Garden district.



Figure 42. 15L13 drop letter to post office.

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1861 Pony Express \$2 red
on 10c on buff Star Die,
San Francisco "Running
Pony" and St. Joseph date
stamp, ex-Caspary

Hammered for \$37,500



1850 Baltimore, MD 1c
blue carrier, cross-gutter
tête-bêche block of 14,
largest recorded multiple

Hammered for \$5,250

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Some Boyd's City Dispatch 1867-1877 Envelope Types Missing from the *Scott Catalogue*

By
Larry Lyons

Here are three suggested upgrades necessary to tweak the Boyd's City Dispatch envelopes section of the *Scott Catalogue*. This is the section which includes images L67a, L67b, L62, L68 and L69. See **Figures 1-3**.

The 1867 section of the *Scott Catalogue* has the L67 image divided into a diagonally laid paper section and a wove paper section. Within each section the types L67a and L67b are designated by (a) and/or (b) after the color names telling us which have been previously recorded. There are five ink colors and paper colors listed on diagonally laid paper. These are red (on white), red on amber, red on cream, red on yellow and red on orange. These are catalogued as 20LU12 - 20LU16. There are also five ink colors and paper colors listed on wove paper but these do not duplicate the same five as are listed on diagonally laid paper. These are red (on white), red on cream, red on yellow, red on orange and red on blue. This group is catalogued as 20LU17 - 20LU21. A quick comparison of the two groups reveals that red on amber paper is only recorded on diagonally laid paper and red on blue paper is only recorded on wove paper.

The first additional piece of new information this author wishes to add is the discovery of 20LU14 on cream paper with trefoil, type a. See **Figure 4**. It is currently listed in the *Catalogue* as only recorded with type b trefoils.

The second additional piece of new information this author wishes to contribute is the discovery of 20LU19 on yellow paper with trefoil type b. See **Figure 5**. 20LU19 is currently listed in the *Catalogue* as only recorded with type a trefoils.

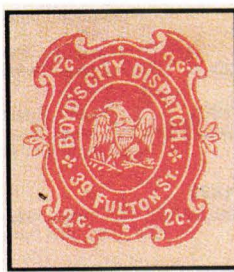
The third piece of new information this author wishes to contribute is the discovery of design L62 in red on cream wove paper which is currently not a listed item. The suggestion is to call it 20LU28A. I have a postally used example as well as an unused example. See **Figure 6**.

Three new discoveries are a lot at one time. The author will make the discovery copies and examples of the similar listed items available for review by Jim Kloetzel and will advise the readers of the comments and conclusions made by the *Scott Catalogue* representative.

The author is interested in hearing from collectors who collect cut squares of Boyd's envelope types. The author has been researching and collecting in this area for 20 years and has duplicates available. My email address is llyons@philatelicfoundation.org.



L67a



L67b

Figure 1. Envelope types L67a and L67b. The *Scott Catalogue* tells us the following:

L67a. Lines and letters sharp and clear. Trefoils at sides pointed and blotchy, middle leaf at right long and thick at end.

L67b. Lines and letters thick and rough. Lobes of trefoils rounded and definitely outlined. Stamp impressed normally in upper right corner of envelope; L67b rarely in upper left.



L62

Figure 2. Envelope type L62. The “39 Fulton St.” address has been eradicated from the L67b type to make way for the new address at “1 Park Place.”



L68



L69

Figure 3. Envelope types L68 and L69 which are new dies which are slightly shorter in design, with new lettering and new trefoils which have longer leaves.



Figure 4. 20LU14 on cream laid paper with trefoil type a. Currently unlisted.

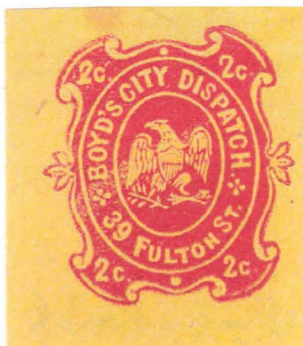
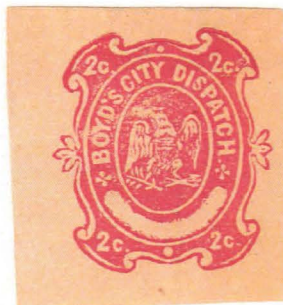


Figure 5. 20LU19 on yellow wove paper with trefoil type b. Currently unlisted.



**20LU28
Red on amber wove paper**



**New Discovery
on cream wove paper**

**Figure 6. Design L62 in red on cream wove paper. Currently unlisted.
20LU28A is suggested.**

New Information on the History of Hussey's Post

By
Larry Lyons

I have come into the possession of an original letter written in 1921 by James T. Handford who was a carrier employed by George Hussey for fifteen years. This letter is by a contemporary person who had firsthand knowledge into some of the operations of the Hussey Post. Based on this person's position to have correct knowledge we should consider his commentary as being accurate. Here are some of the interesting points I found in the letter of which I had no prior knowledge. I have also transposed the letter into a readable format which follows.

New Hussey Post Information from James T. Handford

1. Hussey absorbed the Empire City Despatch then at 23 William Street. (The Empire stamps say 23 Dey Street). Some time line data and more research is needed here.
2. The widow of the Providence Postmaster may have had the plate made which Hussey used to produce his reprint-forgery.
3. Hussey and Boyd's were raided by the P.O. inspectors on the same day and were hauled to court and find \$1000 each, the issuing of stamps being called contrary to law.
4. Both Hussey and Boyd are still doing business today. (letter written April 21, 1921).
5. Hussey's Post was bought by the Business Address Co. which operated out of 22 Barclay Street. James Handford states he was the manager of this business in 1921.

We have a lot of new information here which will hopefully spark someone to look deeper and uncover more of the story. James T. Handford was also a stamp dealer who advertised. Here is his letter transposed for readability. See **Figures 1, 2 and 3.**

History of Hussey's Post

**By James T. Handford, a Hussey Carrier
Recorded April 21, 1921**

Hussey's Post was established by George Hussey in 1854 at 82 Broadway, New York. Its principal business was the delivery of insurance, bank, lodge and society notices, reports, etc. They furnished messengers to banks to collect drafts and do the work that bank messengers do at the present time. Also messengers were furnished to the public generally for all kinds of purposes. (The) growing business

April 21/1921.

History of Hussey's Post

Hussey's Post was established by George Hussey in 1854 at 52 Broadway New York - its principal business was the delivery of Insurance Bank Dodge & Society notices reports etc they furnished messengers to Banks to collect drafts and do the work that the Bank Messengers do at the present time also messengers were furnished to the public generally for all kinds of purposes growing business required its removal to larger quarters and a large basement

Figure 1. One of five handwritten pages by James T. Handford written April 21, 1921 on the history of Hussey's Post.

required its removal to larger quarters and a large basement was secured at 50 Williams Street in 1874. The building being demolished caused the removal to 54 Pine Street where it passed into the hands of Robert Easson the manager. After a few years here removal to 59 Pine Street occurred and finally was bought by the Business Address Co. and is now the delivery department of that concern(?) at 22 Barclay Street doing the same business and having a number of the old customers. Stamps were issued and sold to the public by the hundreds and thousands. Soon after their removal to Pine Street they absorbed the Empire City Despatch then at 23 William Street. They had also issued a stamp, black on green paper. During this period Mr. George Hussey, the first proprietor, having collectors after the different issues as a number of them bore dates for each year, thought it would be a good idea to get the stamps of other posts and he kept quite a stock of them—buying among others the Wells Fargo stamps, Eagle Carrier and others, the Providence stamp became numerous in the shape of reprints and Mr. Hussey was among the very first. It seems there was a rush after the original plates that the widow of the postmaster also preserved them (then) had plates made and sold them to all comers as the Simon Pure originals. When the post was located on Pine Street it was found that these posts were taking away a lot of business from the City Post Office. Both Hussey and Boyd's Despatch were selling and using stamps so the P.O. inspectors came along one morning and raided them both. They were hauled to court and fined \$1,000 each, the issuing of stamps being called contrary to law. This did not drive them out of business as they are both doing business today. The writer of this article was an employee of Hussey's Post for fifteen years and is now manager of the delivery department of the Business Address Co, the successor of Hussey's Post.

James T. Handford

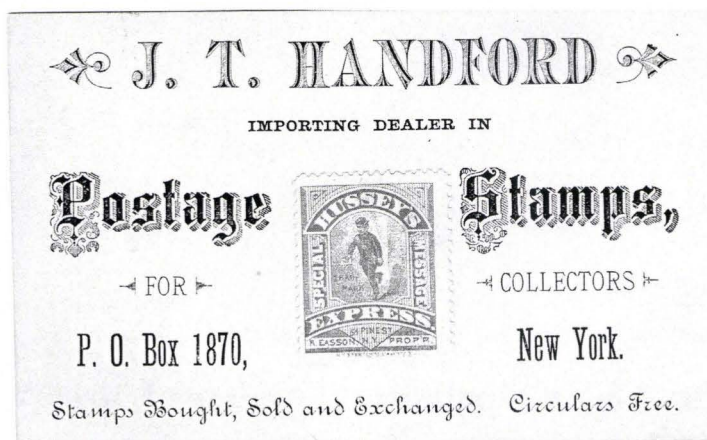


Figure 2. A business card from James T. Handford.

J. T. HANDFORD'S

Quarterly Circular.

SPRING, NEW YORK, 1881.

History of Hussey's Express.

UNDER the title of "Bank and Insurance City Post" this institution was started by Mr. George Hussey in the year 1854. He secured Room 12 at 82 Broadway and, issuing stamps and circulars, commenced business. Increasing business made larger quarters necessary, and the spacious basement at 50 William Street was secured. In 1871 Mr. Hussey retired and his manager, Mr. Robert Easson, became proprietor. In 1874, the demolition of the building at 50 William Street caused a removal to 54 Pine Street, where it is still in existence under the above title.

Below will be found a complete list of stamps issued from the start to the present time.

| | | |
|--------------|----------------|--------|
| View of Bank | 82 Broadway | Blue |
| Letter Box | " | Black |
| " " | " | Red |
| View of Bank | 50 William St. | Blue |
| Letter Box | " | Pink |
| " " | " | Black |
| " " larger | " | Red |
| 1c | one stamp | Red |
| 1c | delivery | Black |
| 1c | " | Green |
| 1c | " | Blue |
| 1c | " | Red |
| 1c | 1863 | Blue |
| 1c | " | Green |
| 1c | " | Yellow |
| 1c | " | Brown |

| | | |
|-----|---------|-----------------|
| 2c | " | Blue |
| 2c | " | Red |
| 2c | " | Brown |
| 5c | Special | Black on red |
| 10c | " | Bronze on green |
| 15c | " | Gold on black |
| 20c | " | Black on white |
| 25c | " | Gold on blue |
| 30c | " | Gold on red |
| 50c | " | Black on green |

(These two last had the value written instead of printed.)

| | | |
|------|----------------|---------|
| 2c | 1865 | Blue |
| 2c | 1866 | " |
| 2c | 1867 | " |
| 2c | 1868 | " |
| 2c | 1869 | " |
| 2c | 1870 | " |
| 2c | 1871 | " |
| 2c | 54 Pine Street | Black |
| 1876 | Daily Delivery | " |
| " | " | Blue |
| " | " | Green |
| " | " | Red |
| " | " | Maroon |
| " | " | Violet |
| " | " | Yellow |
| 1878 | Postman | Red |
| " | " | Blue |
| " | " | Proof |
| 1879 | " | Smaller |
| " | " | Black |
| " | " | Blue |

This list is complete, most of the stamps named can be supplied at moderate prices.

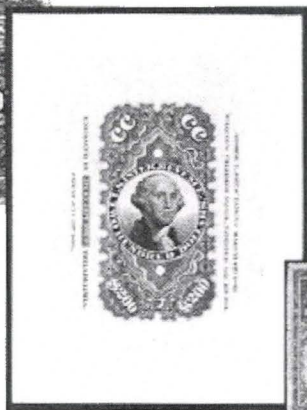
Figure 3. An advertisement from James T. Handford.

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