

### **3. Missent Mail**

## No “Missent” Marking - “The Portsmouth Cover” Manuscript “Missent”

The 1847 edition of the *Postal Laws & Regulations* states that postmasters must note the number of missent letters and write on the letters “Missent and Forwarded” and the date. There is no mention of postage to be charged for forwarding.



**Red brown** - SE 25, 1849 to Portsmouth, NH, VA, OH and RI.  
Underpaid 5¢ for the > 300 mile rate. No postage due or forwarding charges levied.



**Dark brown** - SE 7, 1850 to New York City. Missent to Norfolk, VA.



B. Auxiliary Postal Services  
3. Missent Mail

"Missent" Markings



AP 30, 1850, to Elizabethtown, NJ and missent to New York, NY.  
Postal clerk forwarded on May 2 and charged 5¢ for the service.



AU 26, 1850, to Port Hope, CW via Rochester, NY which exchanged with Cobourg, CW by steamer.  
Steamer was not operating. The letter was sent on to Lewiston, NY to cross at the Queenston, CW exchange office.



B. Auxiliary Postal Services  
4. Forwarded Mail

Forwarded at Post Offices

Additional postage fees were applied to forwarded or redirected letters.



OC 19, 1847 to New York, NY. *e*  
New York 2¢ datestamp for intra-city forwarding,  
then re-addressed to Utica, NY, total 7¢ collect.



AU 11, 18?? mourning cover from Hartford, CT to Richmond, VA. Forwarded to Baltimore, MD.  
5¢ due for a distance of < 300 miles from Richmond to Baltimore.



B. Auxiliary Postal Services  
4. Forwarded Mail

Hotel Forwarders

A hotel handstamp on a cover is a forwarding mark indicating that it was carried to the post office by a hotel employee acting in a private carrier capacity. Printed or embossed hotel indicia are, in contrast, a return address or advertising corner card.



Dark brown pair - MR 11, 1848 to Lockport, NY. e

The hotel's blue grid cancel was applied prior to delivery to the post office where the pair was struck with a red grid.



JU 16, 1850 to Vergennes, VT.



## B. Auxiliary Postal Services

### 4. Forwarded Mail

## "Bootleg" Mail – British Isles

### Same Day, Same Forwarder, Different Addresses

Both covers were carried outside the mail to Boston, MA. Dated June 7, 1851, at Liverpool, England, they both originate from the same source. They were likely carried to Boston by a passenger on the Cunard packet *Niagara* leaving Liverpool on June 7 and arriving at New York, NY on June 20.



to Springfield, MA.

to New York, NY.

The letters were handed to a commission merchant, Wm. Bailey Lang, who acted as a forwarder. Mr. Lang placed his cachet on the reverse of the cover, affixed the 5¢ 1847 on both covers, and placed the letters in the Boston post office, thus saving the British client 19¢ of the 1/- (24¢) British packet postage.

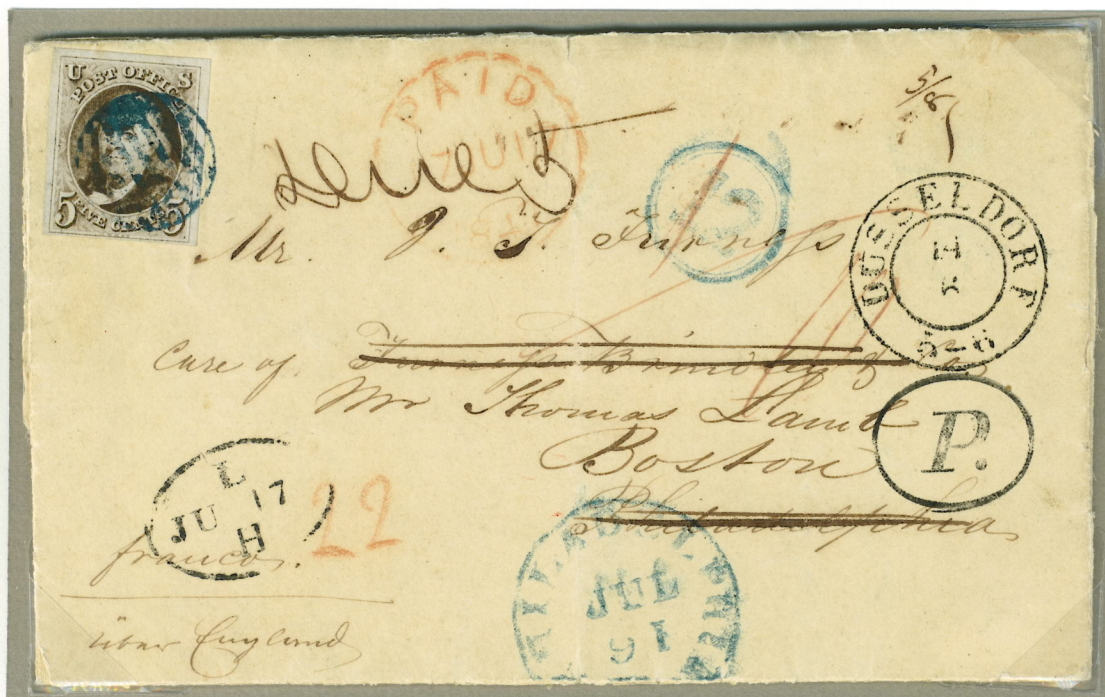
Such letters as this are commonly called "Bootleg" covers. The U. S. Post office was aware of the practice and it was legal.





*Earliest recorded usage from Philadelphia, PA*

The Philadelphia, PA postmaster received 200 5¢ and 50 10¢ sheets on July 7, 1847.



JU 14, 1847, Düsseldorf, Prussia to Boston, MA via London and carried on the Cunard packet *Caledonia* (Liverpool June 19 - Boston July 4) and Philadelphia, PA (July 6 not 16). e

Sent to either Aachen or Cologne, Germany from where it went by closed mail through Belgium to London and on to Philadelphia. Postage to the US port was prepaid at Düsseldorf as indicated by the "P." in oval. Prussian credit of 22d. to Britain for the Belgian transit, British transit, and the ocean postage.

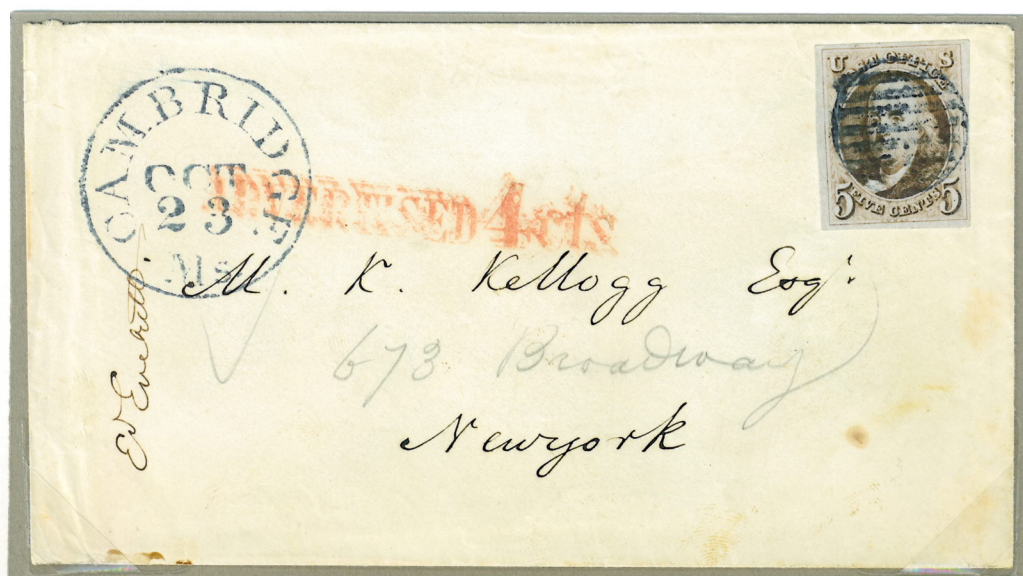
In Philadelphia the letter was rated 12¢ due (10¢ > 300 miles to Boston and 2¢ ship's fee). At Philadelphia, the forwarding agent re-addressed the letter to Boston and added a 5¢ 1847. The letter was underpaid 5¢ thus the "Due 5" endorsement.

*The writer of the letter, artist Emanuel Gottlieb Leutze (1816-1868), is renowned for his iconic US historic paintings. Two of these, 'Columbus in Chains' (1842) and 'Washington Crossing the Delaware' (1851), have been used as designs for the \$2 Columbian (1893) stamp and the American Bicentennial 24¢ souvenir sheet (1976).*



B. Auxiliary Postal Services  
5. Advertized

Postal regulations provided that unclaimed mail was to be advertized in the local paper having the largest circulation.  
The maximum charge for the service was not to exceed 4¢.



OC 23, 18?? to New York City, NY.



JU 13, 1850 to Troy, NY.



## B. Auxiliary Postal Services

### 6. Way Mail

This unusual marking was initially intended for use on unpaid letters but it is here used as a canceller. The letters were picked up by a contract carrier (other than a route agent) and the marking was applied en route – or on the “WAY” to destination. It seems that the usual 1¢ way fee was not applicable or was paid in cash.



Pale red brown *e* (repaired)  
“WAY/6” in dull blue.



Orange brown *e*  
“WAY/6” in bright blue.



Pale red brown *e*  
“WAY/5” in light blue.



Red brown *e*  
“WAY/5” in dark blue.



Red brown *e*  
“WAY” in red.



Orange brown  
“WAY/5” in red.



MY 1, 1851 to Baltimore, MD.



**B. Auxiliary Postal Services**  
**7. Too Late**

This cover did not arrive at New York, NY in time to make the scheduled departure of the Cunard Packet *America* on June 19, 1850. It was handstamped "TOO LATE" at the New York City Post Office and sent to Boston to be carried on the Cunard Packet *Canada* leaving on June 26. The British (July 8) and Montauban, France (July 11) backstamps confirm this crossing.



JU 18, 1850 to Montauban, France (July 11) via London, England (July 8).  
The manuscript "15" indicates 15 décimes due for ocean, British transit and French domestic postage.

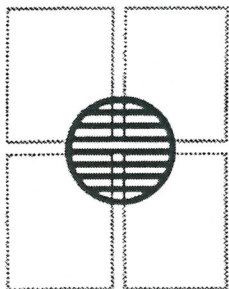
The Blood Local Post stamp is acid cancelled and exceptionally tied by a blue Philadelphia, PA dated cancel.



## B. Auxiliary Postal Services

### 8. Control Marks

Wheeling, VA



The Postmaster at Wheeling, VA applied a control marking to part or all of the first shipment of stamps he received on August 8, 1847 (5¢ - 3,400 / 10¢ - 1,300). A red seven-bar circular grid was applied to the center of each of the 25 blocks in the sheet. A second shipment of stamps was received in Wheeling on November 28, 1849 but none have a control mark applied.

Because all recorded stamps with these marks also bear another cancellation – as displayed by the covers below – experts believe that it is a control mark and not a precancel.



Control mark - upper left. e



Control mark - lower left. e



Control mark - upper left. e



NO 5, 1847 to  
South Lee, MA.

FE 8, 1848 to  
Cincinnati, OH.



Three Wheeling grid control marks are recorded on 5¢ covers between JA 22 and FE 27, 1848 and on 10¢ covers from SE 1, 1847 and MR 2, 1848.



C. With Carrier Services and Local Post  
1. Carrier Services

Massachusetts - Boston - Penny Post  
New York - New York City - U.S. Mail



MY 2, 1849 to Milwaukee, WI.  
*The only recorded Boston Penny Post - 10¢ 1847 rate recorded*



AU 13, 1849 to New York, NY (on rose paper).  
The Carrier stamp was affixed in Schenectady, NY as prepayment for delivery in New York.  
*The earliest of the six recorded 1847 covers from Schenectady, NY*  
*The only recorded use of a New York Carrier from another post office*



C. With Carrier Services and Local Post  
1. Carrier Services

Pennsylvania - Philadelphia  
U.S.P.O.

Although the carrier stamps were issued under the authority of the Postmaster General, the carrier service was not under the control of the Post Office Department.



AU 10, 18?? to Lake George, NY.

*The only known copy of this carrier stamp in conjunction with an 1847 stamp*



Written in Philadelphia on OC 11, 1850. e

*The only known use of this carrier stamp and any 1847 stamp*



C. With Carrier Services and Local Post  
1. Carrier Services

South Carolina - Charleston  
Honour's City Express Post and Honour's City Post



JY 14, 1849 to New York, NY. *e*  
***The only black on pink carrier stamp recorded***



DE 17, 1850 to Columbia, SC.  
***The only recorded cover with this carrier stamp and a 5¢ 1847***



C. With Carrier Services and Local Post  
2. Local Post

New York - New York City  
Adams' City Express Post and Bouton's City Despatch Post



JU 10, 1851 to Philadelphia, PA < 300 miles.



SE 9, 18?? to New Rochelle, NY < 300 miles.  
**One of two Bouton's covers recorded with an 1847 issue**



C. With Carrier Services and Local Post  
2. Local Post

New York - New York City  
Boyd's City Express and Halls & Mills Despatch Post



SE 22, 1847 to Detroit, MI.  
*One of two covers recorded with a 10¢ 1847 stamp*



OC 5, 1847 to Newburyport, MA. *e*  
*This is the only recorded cover of this local with an 1847 stamp*



C. With Carrier Services and Local Post  
2. Local Post

New York - New York City  
Swarts' City Despatch Post



MR 2, 1848 to Poughkeepsie, NY.



AU 1, 1849 to Drakestown, NJ.  
Double weight letter < 300 miles.

*The only recorded combination cover with a 10¢ 1847*