

LOCAL POSTS

SPENCE & BROWN EXPRESS POST

OPERATOR : JAMES SPENCE AND  
EMMANUEL D. BROWN  
LOCATION : 48 SOUTH 6TH STREET (?)  
RATE : 2 CENTS  
DATE : 1847-48

1848 BLACK - 2 CENTS



2 CENTS :  
2 CENTS LOCAL DELIVERY  
TRANSPORTED OUTSIDE THE MAILS

ONE RECORDED ON COVER



JANUARY 28, 1848

SPENCE AND BROWN ADHESIVE  
ADDRESSED TO BALTIMORE

MANUSCRIPT "S/B" CANCEL  
PFC 2003

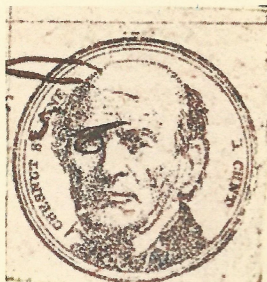
Very little is known of this short lived local post\* The stamp is tied to the cover, and likely delivered to an agent on route to Baltimore.

\* "A REPORT ON SOME SHORT-LIVED LOCAL POSTS OF PHILADELPHIA," STEVEN M. ROTH, *THE PENNY POST*, VOL.3, NO.4, OCTOBER 1993, P. 24-25



OPERATOR : UNKNOWN  
 LOCATION : UNKNOWN  
 RATE : 3 CENT  
 DATE : 1856

1856 PINK - 3 CENTS



6 CENTS :  
 3 CENT TO THE POST OFFICE  
 3 CENTS 1/2 OUNCE UNDER 3000 MILES

TWO RECORDED STAMPS, ONE ON COVER



JUNE 7, 1856 PINK ADHESIVE PEN CANCEL, TWICE 3 CENT 1851 GENERAL ISSUE  
 PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP CANCEL MANUSCRIPT "DANIEL MURRAY, RECD. 10TH JUNE 1856"  
 ADDRESSED TO WEST RIVER, MARYLAND PFC 2000

Only two Chesnut Street Line covers of any type have survived. Both were outbound letters delivered to the Philadelphia post office. The portrait is probably Stephen Girard, owner of the Girard Bank. A few years earlier the Girard Bank housed D.O. Blood & Co. and immediately thereafter the Eagle Post, the two most successful private posts in Philadelphia.

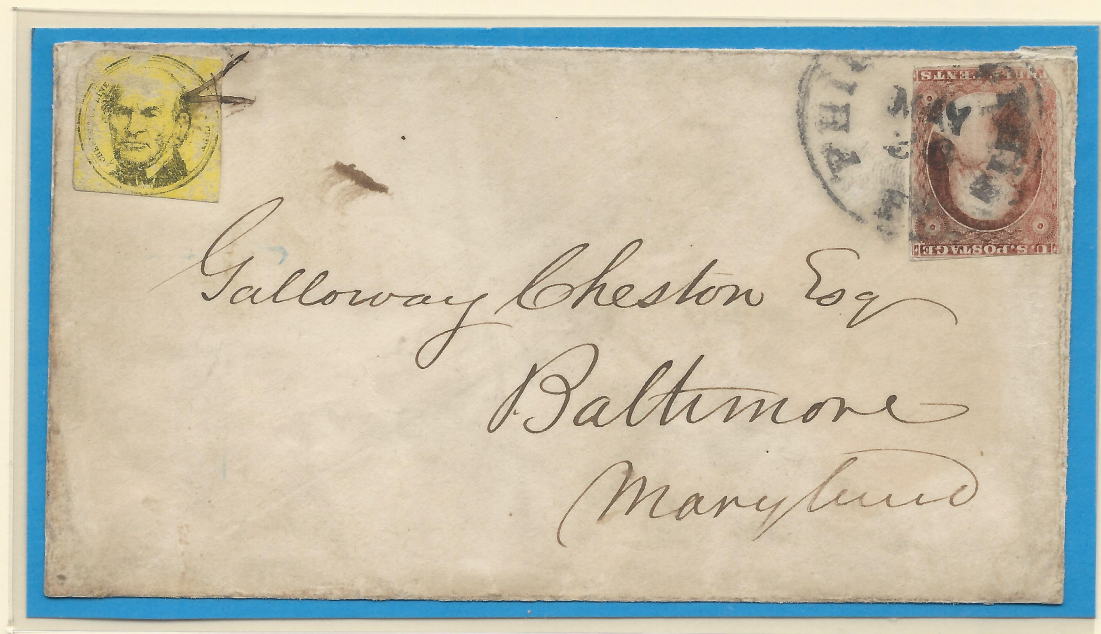


1856 YELLOW - 1 CENT



6 CENTS :  
 3 CENT TO THE POST OFFICE  
 3 CENTS 1/2 OUNCE UNDER 3000 MILES

## ONE RECORDED STAMP



MAY 20, (1856) YELLOW ADHESIVE PEN CANCEL 1851 3 CENT GENERAL ISSUE  
 PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP CORNERS REPAIRED  
 ADDRESSED TO BALTIMORE, MARYLAND PFC 2000

The Chesnut Street Line mounted collection boxes on **horse drawn passenger wagons**. The above non denominated stamp without name prepaid delivery to the post office. This "Line" extended from the Schuylkill River two miles along Chesnut Street [sic] ending at 3rd and Dock Street at the Merchant Exchange Building and the Philadelphia post office.

Street railways were not inaugurated in the old city until January 20, 1858.\* Carrier department collection lamp boxes weren't established in Philadelphia until 1857.

\* "CLANG CLANG CLANG WENT THE TROLLEY! THE EARLY STREET RAILWAYS IN PHILADELPHIA," GUS SPECTER, *THE PENNSYLVANIA POSTAL HISTORIAN*, VOL. 30, NO.1, FEBRUARY 2002, P. 19-23



# LOCAL POSTS

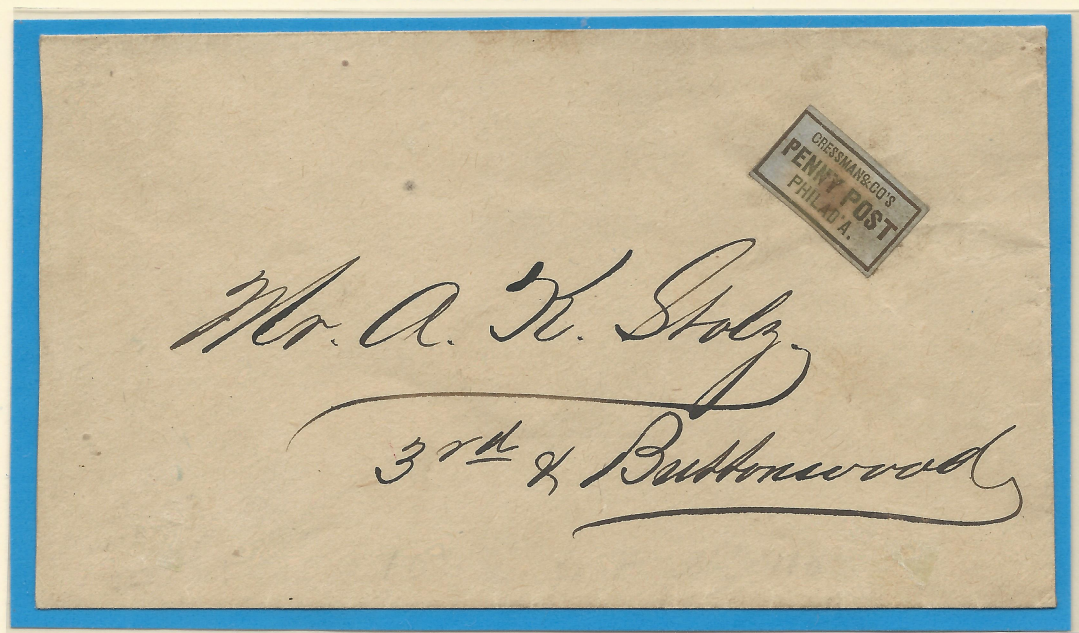
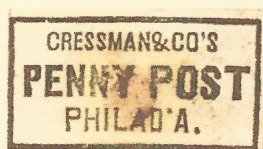
# CRESSMAN & CO'S PENNY POST

OPERATOR : UNKNOWN  
LOCATION : 3 RD AND BUTTONWOOD  
RATE : UNKNOWN  
DATE : 1854 - 1857

1854 "GOLD ON LILAC" - 1 CENT

1 CENT :  
1 CENT LOCAL DELIVERY

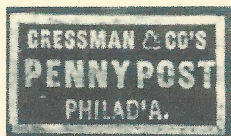
## ONE RECORDED STAMP



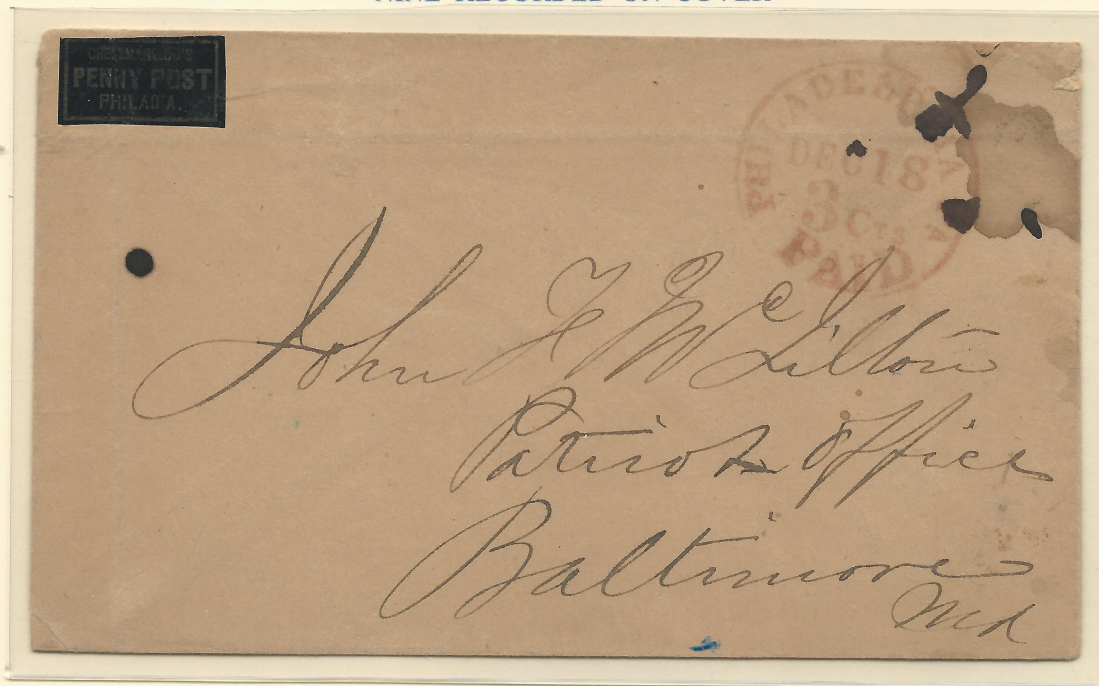
UNDATED LILAC ADHESIVE ACID CANCEL LOCAL ADDRESS PFC 1999

"GOLD ON BLACK" - 1 CENT

## NINE RECORDED ON COVER



DECEMBER 18, (1854)  
BLACK ADHESIVE  
UNCANCELLED  
RED PHILADELPHIA  
DATESTAMP  
DELIVERED TO  
BALTIMORE, MD  
PFC 2000



The Lilac issue at top resembled Blood's contemporaneous "Bronze on Lilac" stamp. The Black issue at bottom resembled Blood's contemporaneous "Bronze on Black Glazed" stamp. **Size, shape, and "Penny Post" mimicked Blood's Penny Post.** Located in the Northern Liberties district, Cressman & Co. may have passively benefited from Blood's nearby success. The Philadelphia postmark type at bottom *proved Cressman's existence in 1854*, two years earlier than reported.\*

\* "CRESSMAN & CO'S," VERNON R. MORRIS JR., MD., *THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST*, VOL. 81, NO. 5, SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2002, P. 237-246

\* "CRESSMAN & CO'S PENNY POST," STEVEN M. ROTH, *THE PENNY POST*, VOL. 2, NO. 3, AUGUST 1992, P. 5



OPERATOR : GEORGE W. BRIGGS  
 LOCATION : 61 SOUTH 8TH ST.  
 RATE : 2 CENTS  
 DATE : 1848 - 1850

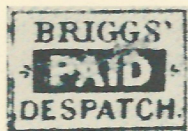
1848 GOLD ON PINK - 2 CENTS

2 CENTS :  
 2 CENTS LOCAL DELIVERY

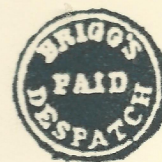


### ONE RECORDED STAMP

ONE RECORDED OF ANY BRIGGS WITH MULTIPLE HANDSTAMPS



*Sept 29. 1848*



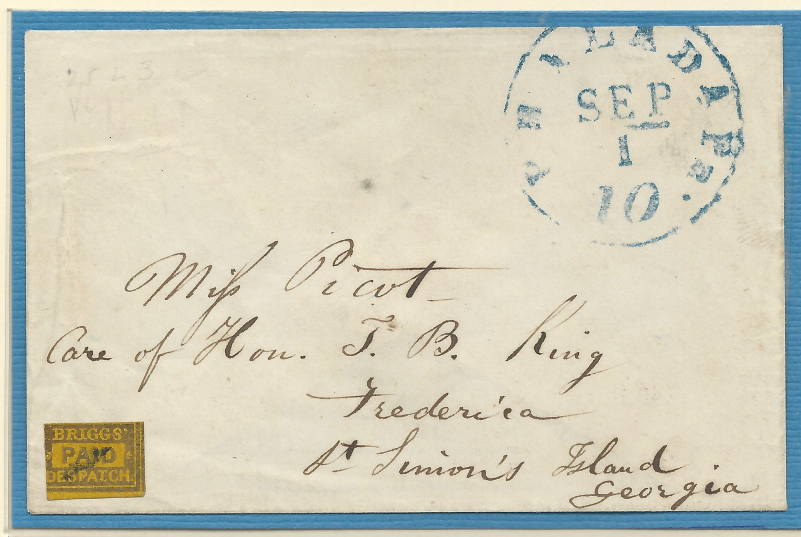
SEPTEMBER 29, 1848 GOLD ON PINK ADHESIVE PEN CANCEL  
 BRIGG'S DESPATCH "2" HANDSTAMP BRIGG'S DESPATCH "PAID" HANDSTAMP, TWICE  
 LOCAL ADDRESS PFC 1998

Prepayment by above adhesive stamp was not initially identified by the Brigg's clerk, so handstamp "2" due recipient was applied. Realizing his **mistake**, two "PAID" handstamp strikes attempted to obliterate the incorrect "2" due marking.



1848 "GOLD ON YELLOW GLAZED" - 2 CENTS

## THREE RECORDED STAMPS

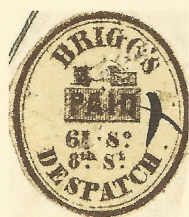


SEPTEMBER 1, (1849-50) GOLD ON YELLOW GLAZED ADHESIVE PEN CANCEL  
 BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP ADDRESSED TO FREDERICA, GEORGIA

PFC 2001

1848 "BLACK ON YELLOW" - 2 CENTS

## EIGHT RECORDED STAMPS



JULY 26, (1848 ?)

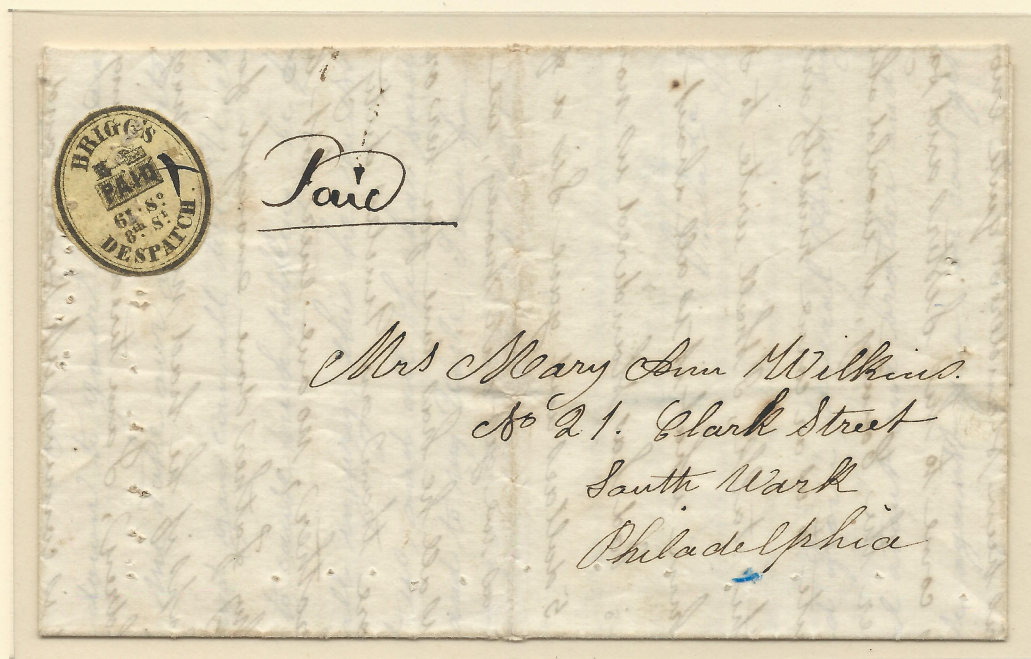
OVAL BRIGG'S  
DESPATCH ADHESIVE

"X" CANCEL

MANUSCRIPT "PAID"

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 1999



Like many small local posts in the late 1840's, **Brigg's Despatch** mimicked leader **Blood's Despatch**. The top example is similar to many Blood's small rectangular stamp designs. The "hands and envelope" oval example at bottom resembles the 1848 Blood's Despatch green oval "dove and envelope" stamp.



1848 "GOLD ON BLACK GLAZED" - 2 CENTS

FIVE RECORDED STAMPS, TWO ON COVER



Honourable John Munn  
Mt Pokono T Office  
Munn Co  
Pa

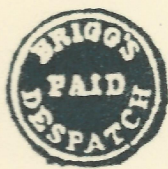
NOV 9, (1848)

GOLD ON BLACK  
GLAZED ADHESIVE

"PAID" MARKING

BLUE PHILADELPHIA  
DATESTAMPADDRESSED TO MT  
POKONO, PA

PFC 2008

FOUR RECORDED OF  
EACH HANDSTAMP

Mr Robert Smithurst  
57 No 6th

SEPTEMBER 8, 1848  
RED BRIGGS DESPATCH NEGATIVE "2"  
LOCAL ADDRESS PFC 2010



SEPTEMBER 28, 1848

MANUSCRIPT "10"

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
ADDRESSED TO NEW YORK

PFC 2009

BLACK BRIGGS "PAID"

Only negative "2" exists in red, perhaps to alert or warn Briggs agent to collect money.



OPERATOR : SOLOMON PRIEST  
LOCATION : 141 CHESTNUT ST.  
RATE : 2 CENTS  
DATE : 1851-1855

1851 "BLACK ON EMERALD" - 2 CENTS



2 CENTS:  
2 CENTS LOCAL DELIVERY

ONE RECORDED STAMP

*Philad Nov 21 1851*



NOVEMBER 21, 1851      BLACK ON EMERALD ADHESIVE  
UNCANCELLED      LOCAL ADDRESS      PFC 2001

Although Priest's Despatch also mimicked Blood's Despatch small rectangular adhesive stamps, perhaps striking metallic colors were hoped to provide Priest's an attractive advantage.\*

\* "PRIEST'S DESPATCH," STEVEN M. ROTH, THE PENNY POST, VOL. 4, NO. 1, JANUARY 1994, P. 4-12

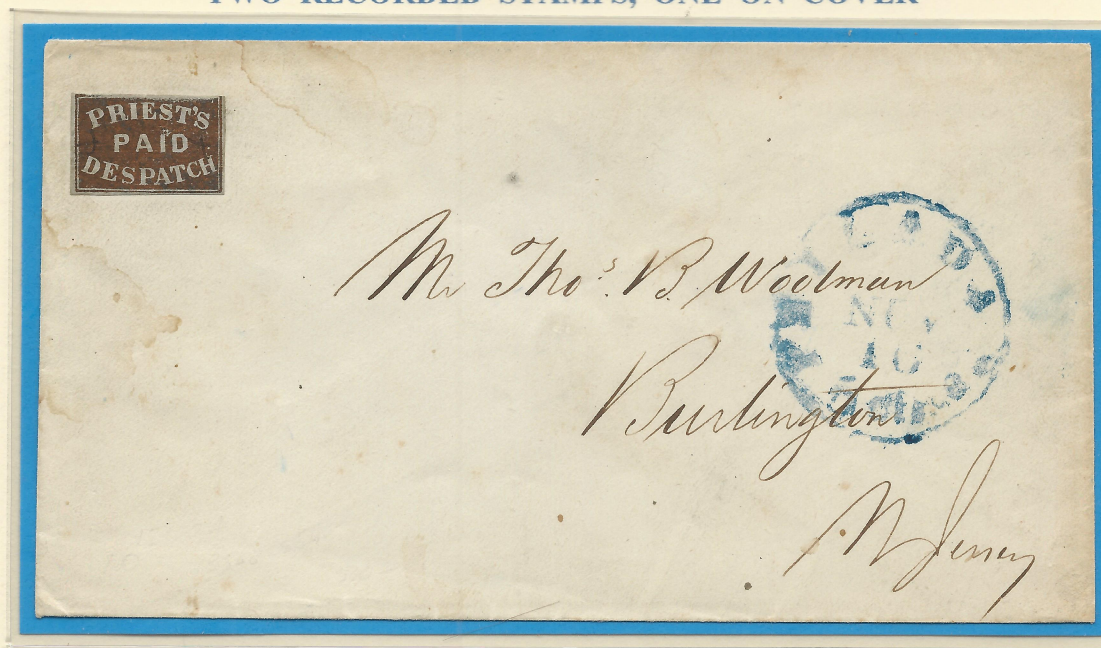




1851 "BRONZE ON BLUISH" - 2 CENTS

5 CENTS:  
2 CENTS TO THE POST OFFICE  
3 CENTS UNDER 3000 MILES

TWO RECORDED STAMPS, ONE ON COVER



NOVEMBER 16, (1850-51)

BRONZE ON BLUISH ADHESIVE PEN CANCEL  
ADDRESSED TO BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP  
PFC 1997

1851 "SILVER ON VERMILLION GLAZED" - 2 CENTS

FOUR RECORDED STAMPS, TWO ON COVER



August 7/1851

AUGUST 8, 1851

SILVER ON VERMILLION GLAZED ADHESIVE

UNCANCELLED

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

ADDRESSED TO MILLVILLE, N.J.

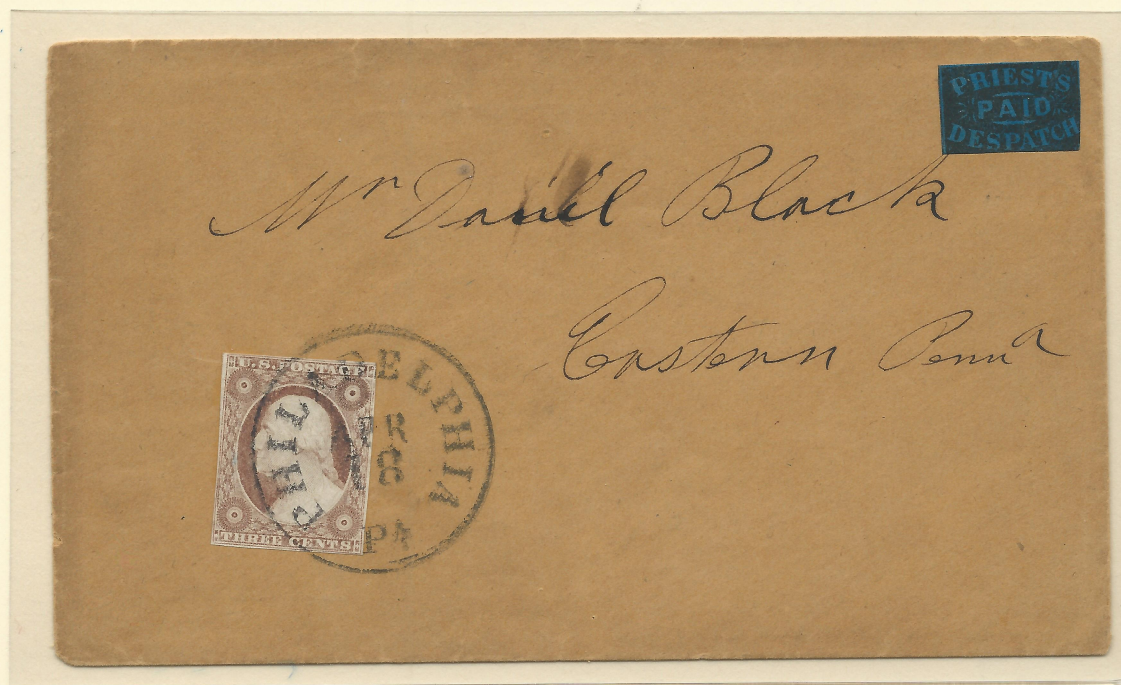
PFC 2001



1851 "BLACK ON BLUE" - 2 CENTS

5 CENTS:  
2 CENTS TO THE POST OFFICE  
3 CENTS UNDER 3000 MILES

TEN RECORDED STAMPS, FOUR WITH 1851 GENERAL ISSUE



APRIL 18., (1854) BLACK ON BLUE ADHESIVE UNCANCELLED  
PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP ADDRESSED TO EASTON, PENNA. PFC 2010

1851 "BLACK ON ROSE" - 2 CENTS

5 CENTS:  
2 CENTS TO THE POST OFFICE  
3 CENTS UNDER 3000 MILES

TEN RECORDED STAMPS, TWO WITH 1851 GENERAL ISSUE



NOVEMBER 13, (1851) BLACK ON ROSE ADHESIVE UNCANCELLED  
THREE CENT GENERAL ISSUE STAMP BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP LOCAL ADDRESS  
PFC 2009



1851 "BLACK ON YELLOW" - 2 CENTS

5 CENTS:  
2 CENTS TO THE POST OFFICE  
3 CENTS UNDER 3000 MILES

FIVE STAMPS RECORDED, THREE ON COVER



AUGUST 13, (1854)    UNCANCELLED    3 CENT 1851 GENERAL ISSUE    BLACK PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP CANCEL  
ADDRESSED TO LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY    PFC 1999



1851 "BLACK ON YELLOW - WITH ORNAMENTS" - 2 CENTS

SIX RECORDED COVERS



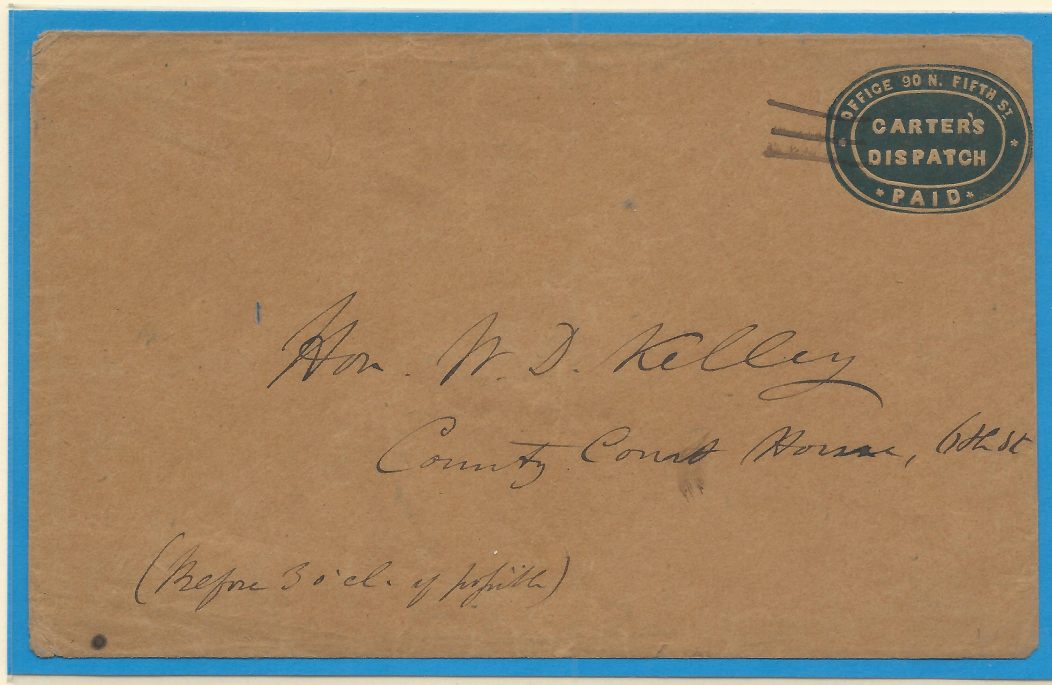
SEPTEMBER 21, (1854)    UNCANCELLED    3 CENT 1851 GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE    BLACK PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP CANCEL  
ADDRESSED TO BOSTON, MASS    PFC 1999



## "BLUE ON BUFF" POSTAL STATIONARY

OPERATOR : GEORGE CARTER  
 LOCATION : 90 N 5TH ST  
 RATE : 2 CENTS  
 DATE : 1848-1851

FIVE ENTIRES RECORDED, ONE SERVICED BY CARTER'S



UNDATED CARTER'S DESPATCH ENTIRE ENVELOPE THREE PENSTROKE CANCELS  
 MANUSCRIPT "BEFORE 3 O'CLOCK IF POSSIBLE" LOCAL ADDRESS PFC 1999



THREE RECORDED WITH 1851 GENERAL ISSUE



FEBRUARY 18, (1852) CARTER'S DESPATCH ENTIRE ENVELOPE UNCANCELLED  
 3 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE BALTIMORE CDS ADDRESSED TO PHILADELPHIA PFC 2009

Carter's Despatch was viable from mid **November 1848** until **March 1851**.<sup>\*</sup> At top is the singular example of postal stationery actually handled by Carter's Despatch. Four others are 1852 **inbound envelopes** with a government stamp postmarked in the city of origin, not delivered by Carters, and probably represented left over stationary.

\* "G. CARTER'S DESPATCH," STEVEN M. ROTH, *THE PENNY POST*, VOL. 2, NO.4, NOVEMBER 1992, P. 22-28



LOCAL POSTS

G. CARTER'S DESPATCH

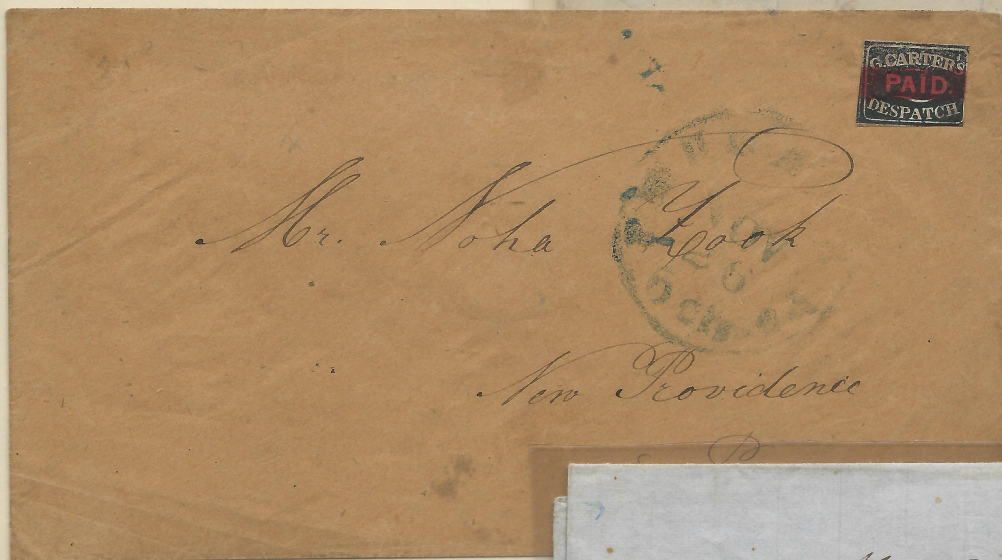
1849 BLACK - 2 CENTS

ONE RECORDED  
BLUE PRECANCEL

7 CENTS:  
2 CENTS TO THE POST OFFICE  
5 CENTS UNDER 300 MILES



RED PRECANCEL



12 CENTS:  
2 CENTS TO THE POST OFFICE  
10 CENTS OVER 300 MILES

ONE RECORDED BY RAILROAD



FEBRUARY 1, 1850

CARTER ADHESIVE

MANUSCRIPT "X" CANCEL

RED NEW YORK CIRCULAR  
DATESTAMP CANCEL TIED

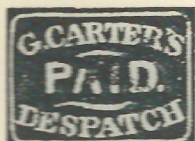
RED STRAIGHTLINE "PHILADA  
RAILROAD" HANDSTAMP

PFC 2003

Carter's Despach was also the **only private post in Philadelphia to employ precancels**, shown at top via red brush stroke, and the single surviving example of blue wash.

At bottom is the only **Philadelphia local post outbound cover expedited to an agent at the railroad station** (other than Blood's Despach), bypassing the Philadelphia post office, to enter the mails in New York for delivery in New Hampshire.





1849 BLACK - 2 CENTS

FIVE RECORDED WITH 1847 GENERAL ISSUE

7 CENTS:  
2 CENTS TO THE POST OFFICE  
5 CENTS UNDER 300 MILES



NOVEMBER 26, 1849

CARTER'S ADHESIVE

KILLER "X" CANCEL

1847 GOVERNMENT  
GENERAL ISSUEBLUE PHILADELPHIA  
DATESTAMP CANCEL

MANUSCRIPT "PAID 5"

ADDRESSED TO RAHWAY,  
NEW JERSEY

PFC 2009

JUNE 27, 1849

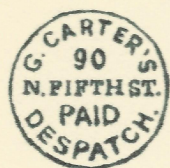
CARTER'S ADHESIVE

MANUSCRIPT STAR CANCEL

CIRCULAR CARTER  
HANDSTAMPCARTER'S STRAIGHT LINE  
"PAID" HANDSTAMP

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 1998



UNDATED

CARTER'S ADHESIVE  
WITH RIBBED PAPER

MANUSCRIPT "X" CANCEL

CIRCULAR CARTER  
HANDSTAMPCARTER'S "PAID IN ARC"  
HANDSTAMP

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2000



Carter's Despatch issued only **one adhesive stamp and three handstamps**. The circular handstamp in the bottom two covers mimicked Blood's Penny Post. The Carter's Despatch straight line "PAID" is demonstrated on the middle example and "PAID" in arc at bottom.



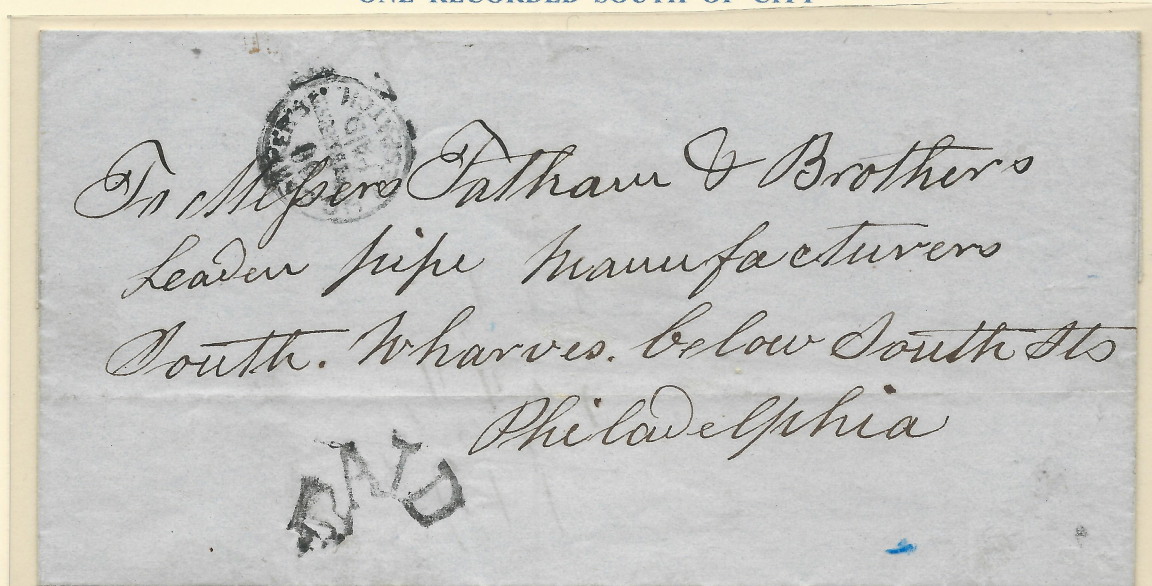
## FORBIDDEN ZONE

2 CENTS:  
2 CENTS LOCAL DELIVERY

## ONE RECORDED LOCAL POST ORIGINATED AND DELIVERED OUTSIDE THE CITY

JANUARY 26, 1850  
CARTER'S "PAID IN ARC" HANDSTAMPMANUSCRIPT "X" CANCEL  
CARTER CIRCULAR HANDSTAMP  
ADDRESSED TO THE SPRING GARDEN DISTRICT  
PFC 2010

## ONE RECORDED SOUTH OF CITY



? 9, 1850

STAMPLESS

CARTER CIRCULAR  
HANDSTAMPCARTER'S "PAID IN  
ARC" HANDSTAMPADDRESSED TO THE  
SOUTHWARK DISTRICT

PFC 1998

**Kensington to Spring Garden**, at top. Since July 1, 1845 private inter-city mail service between municipalities with their own post office was *forbidden by law*. The above evidence proves that Carter's Despatch served beyond the old city limits **into surrounding districts**. The top example from Kensington, immediately north the old city, was delivered in Spring Garden District, both contiguous with the old city, all three with a post office. It passed through Carter's office in the old city, or was handled **entirely outside of Philadelphia**. The bottom example was delivered to **Southwark** District, which did not have a post office.



## LOCAL POSTS

## GUY'S DISPATCH POST

OPERATOR : UNKNOWN  
 LOCATION : 1123 CHESTNUT ST.  
 RATE : 1 CENT  
 DATE : 1879



UNDATED

GUYS CITY DESPATCH  
 BLUE STAMP

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2000

JUNE 20, 1879

GUY'S DESPATCH PINK STAMP

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2010

After seventeen year years expensive 2 cents "city mail," the spirit of free enterprise could no longer resist the vacuum. Suddenly in **April 1879** **Guys's City Dispatch** appeared. from The public may have remembered that Blood's Penny Post had been thriving at one cent per letter. However, the Fed's watchful eye and strong arm quickly extinguished this upstart by **July 1879**.

The local posts of Philadelphia had their "day in the sun" for 16 years following the July 1, 1845 termination of Independent Mail companies. With Blood's Penny Post as standard bearer, the local posts too, whipped the government in every way conceivable, including introduction of street collection boxes, multiple daily deliveries, and above all **reduced door to door letter service in Philadelphia from 4 to 1 cent!** The government struggled, shown in Frame 6 through 8, but by early 1862 resorted to their weapon of last resort: **legislated monopoly**. Just like mid 1845.