

CARRIERS

In 1753 Benjamin Franklin established a "penny post" for door delivery of inbound mail. In 1836 the Postmaster General established a system of bonded letter carriers. The carrier's fee up to 2 cents was his compensation. However, the fee could vary from city to city at the Postmaster General's discretion, depending upon local conditions and competition, but was never implemented until 1849. In 1863 the "fee" system was abolished when carriers became salaried federal employees, with uniform carrier "rates."

COLLATERAL FORERUNNERS

NORTHERN LIBERTIES VIA SUB POST OFFICE

TWELVE RECORDED TYPE 1

OPERATED : 1835 - 1837
 OPERATOR : ANDREW MCMAKIN
 LOCATION : 213 NORTH 3RD ST.
 CHARGE : 3 CENTS PREPAID



MARCH 14, 1836
 TYPE 1 ORNATE MARKING
 MANUSCRIPT 12 1/2
 RED PHILADELPHIA OCTAGON
 DATESTAMP
 DELIVERED TO CARLISLE, PA.
 PFC 1999

EARLIEST OF FOUR RECORDED TYPE 2 - April 30, 1836

APRIL 30, 1836
 TYPE 2 ORNATE MARKING
 MANUSCRIPT 12 1/2
 RED PHILADELPHIA OCTAGON
 DATESTAMP
 DELIVERED TO NEW YORK
 PFC 2000



Northern Liberties District was immediately north of the old city, had no post office, but was the terminus of the New York Stagecoach. The Northern Liberties News Room was a hub of useful information and current events. On October 10, 1835 they advertised a "Sub Post Office" for mail to the Philadelphia post office. A lucrative three cent delivery service likely attracted one of the carriers who lived nearby to fill a needed service. Postage stamps were still many years away. Two type of Sub Post Office handstamps confirmed payment.

Competitive pressure from the Independent Mails forced the **Reduced Postage Act of 1845** effective July 1st. Intercity rates were greatly reduced to market levels as established by the Independent Mails: 5 cents 1/2 ounce up to 300 miles, 10 cents above 300. The inter-city revenue loss was offset by **doubling the federal "drop rate" at post office window to 2 cents.**

"TO THE MAILS"

"DROP LETTER"

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP
WITH ATTACHED NUMERAL "2"

ADDRESSED TO PHILADELPHIA



Sard
John McLane Esq
College of New Jersey
Princeton
N Jersey

JANUARY 18, (1849) 5 CENT GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE
BLUE NUMERAL "2" AND MATCHING PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP
ADDRESSED TO PRINCETON PFC 2003

Elder Chas. H. Williams
Phila
Pa

"FROM THE MAILS"

OCTOBER 9, 1845

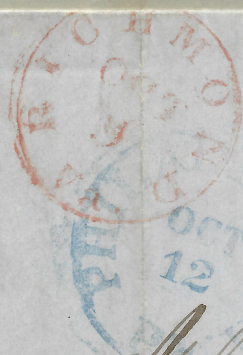
RED RICHMOND VA
CIRCULAR DATESTAMP

RED NUMERAL "5"

BLUE PHILADELPHIA
CIRCULAR DATESTAMP

BLUE NUMERAL "2" DUE

PHILADELPHIA ADDRESS



Mr Cornelius V Co
Lamp Makers
Philadelphia

Very few large cities in 1845 could support a carrier department. A "drop letter" was the simplest form of intra-city government mail,* for a letter given to the postmaster to hold for pick up. A charge of 2 cents, the "drop rate," revenue as a rate went to Washington, middle example. Any letter uncalled for after 2 days (drop or inbound), the postmaster could dispatch a carrier whose delivery "fee" was also 2 cents, bottom example, given blue numeral 2 in double circle handstamp. Moreover, an outbound letter sometimes was handed directly to a carrier on rounds, also two cents, top example.

Doubling the "drop rate" on July 1, 1845 increased the cost of drop mail and added delivery from an expensive 3 cents to 4 cents, quite exorbitant especially compared to 300 miles of inter-city transportation for only 5 cents.

* "WHAT IS A 'DROP LETTER' AND A 'DROP DEAD LETTER'?", VERNON R. MORRIS JR. MD, *THE CHRONICLE*, WHOLE NO. 199, VOL. 55, NO. 3, PAGE 171 TO 174

In February 1849 the Postmaster General made a serious attempt to gain greater market share of carrier collections in several large cities. The Philadelphia carrier department reorganized: (1) **prepayment stamps** were printed; (2) the high drop "rate" of 2 cents was bypassed with a physically **separate carrier department for "city mail,"** collected and/or delivered in the city; (3) **"from the mails" was reduced to 1 cent.**

PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - FIRST SERIES

"LS" ADHESIVE

6 CENTS :
1 CENT CARRIER FEE "TO THE MAILS"
5 CENTS - HALF OUNCE UNDER 300 MILES

FEES:
1 CENT "TO THE MAILS"
1 CENT "CITY MAIL"
1 CENT "FROM THE MAILS"
RATES:
2 CENTS DROP LETTER

EARLIEST RECORDED PHILADELPHIA CARRIER STAMP - March 13, 1849



MARCH 13, 1849
PHILADELPHIA "LS" ADHESIVE
UNCANCELLED
BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP
ADDRESSED TO LANCASTER
PFC 1999

FIVE RECORDED ON COVER, ONE WITH 1847 GENERAL ISSUE LATEST RECORDED - January 17, 1851

JANUARY 17, 1851
PHILADELPHIA "LS" ADHESIVE
UNCANCELLED
5 CENT 1847 GENERAL ISSUE
ADHESIVE
BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP
ADDRESSED TO BALTIMORE
PFC 1997



Five "LS" covers have been previously recorded between March 13, 1849 and January 20, 1850,* all were outbound "to the mails." The bottom example *extends the period by one year*, and the **singular cover combined with 1847 stamp.**

*"CARRIER STAMPS DURING THE 1851 ISSUE PERIOD," SCOTT TREPPEL, *THE 1851 ISSUE OF THE UNITED STATES STAMPS: A SESQUICENTENNIAL RETROSPECTIVE*, P. 213, US CLASSICS SOC.

PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - FIRST SERIES

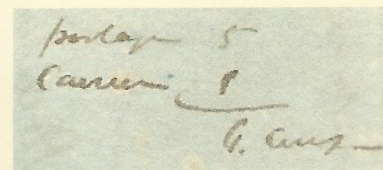
"LP" ADHESIVE

6 CENTS:

1 CENT CARRIER FEE "TO THE MAILS"

5 CENTS HALF OUNCE UNDER 300 MILES

NINE RECORDED ON COVER, TWO TIED



JULY 29, 1850

PHILADELPHIA "LP" ADHESIVE

BLUE PHILADELPHIA
DATESTAMP CANCELBLUE PHILADELPHIA "PAID"
IN OCTAGON

MANUSCRIPT "PAID"

MANUSCRIPT "POSTAGE 5 /
CARRIER 1 / 6 CENTS"

DELIVERED TO WASHINGTON

PFC 1999

ONE RECORDED DROP LETTER

3 CENTS:
1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION FEE
2 CENTS "DROP RATE"

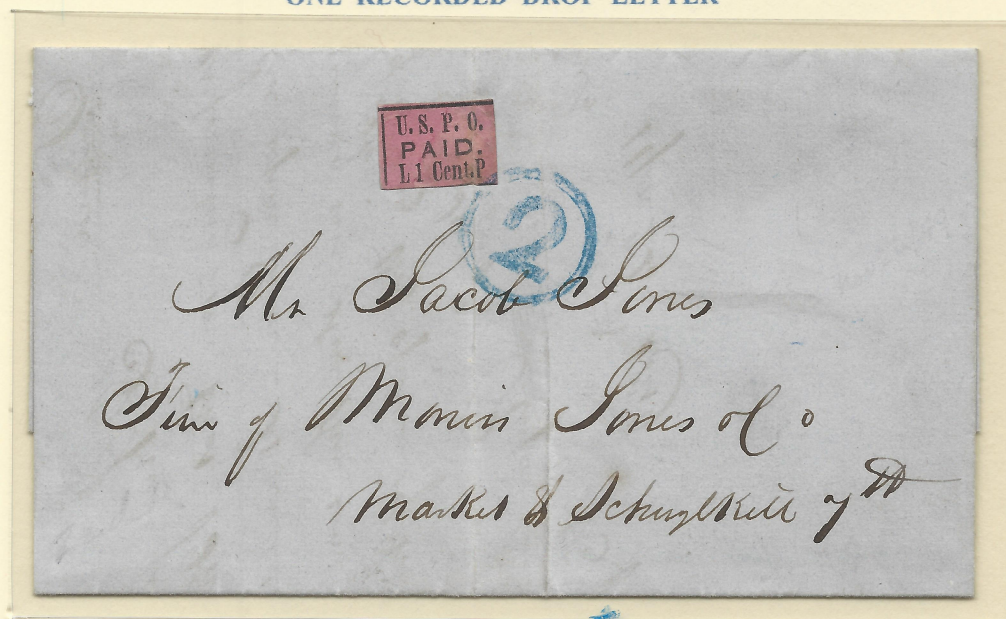
NOVEMBER 26, 1849

PHILADELPHIA "LP" ADHESIVE

BLUE NUMERAL "2" CANCEL

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2001



"LP" initialed stamps appeared between October 27, 1849 and January 9, 1851. The above are **the only tied examples**. The exhibitor's research has determined that only nine genuine examples exist, none in combination with an 1847 general issue stamp. Of the entire **first series** stamps only 3 were **carrier dropped** at the post office. The bottom, 1 cent prepaid carrier stamp, was in addition to the 2 cents drop "rate" for the postmaster (Washington) to hold the letter until picked up. Most carrier prepayment service was collection "to the mails," facilitated by stamps rather than coins.

The top example enlargement reveals "postage 5 / Carrier 1 / 6 cents" itemized costs.

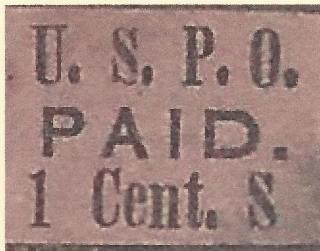
PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - FIRST SERIES

"S" ADHESIVE

11 CENTS:

1 CENT CARRIER "TO THE MAILS"

10 CENTS ONE OUNCE UNDER 300 MILES



FIVE STAMPS RECORDED

EARLIEST OF THREE ON COVER - June 6, 1849; ONE WITH 1847 GENERAL ISSUE



JUNE 6, 1849 PHILADELPHIA "S" ADHESIVE UNCANCELLED
 TWO 5 CENT 1847 GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVES BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP
 DELIVERED TO UTICA, NEW YORK PFC 1999

The **three covers** bearing a Philadelphia Carrier Department "S" stamp are all from **June of 1849**. "S" may be the initial of James Stevens, George Schoch, or John Smith. The crude Philadelphia First Series are not found dated between July 1849 and September 1850. The Philadelphia *carriers understandably would not be happy with a 50% fee reduction mandated by the Postmaster General in Washington D.C. to be more competitive with Blood's local post.**

* "THE FRANKLIN CARRIER STAMP ON COVER," VERNON MORRIS, *THE CHRONICLE*, WHOLE NO. 229, VOL. 63, NO. 1, FEBRUARY 2011, P. 27, 46, 48.

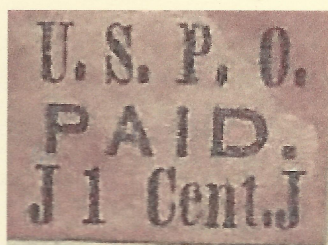
PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - FIRST SERIES

"JJ" ADHESIVE

6 CENTS:

1 CENT CARRIER "TO THE MAILS"

5 CENTS HALF OUNCE UNDER 300 MILES



TWO STAMPS RECORDED
ONE COVER WITH 1847 GENERAL ISSUE



AUGUST 28, 1850 PHILADELPHIA "JJ" ADHESIVE UNCANCELLED MANUSCRIPT "PAID"
5 CENT 1847 GENERAL ISSUE ADHESIVE BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP
DELIVERED TO WEST CHESTER, PA PFC 1999

Only two "JJ" adhesives stamps exist, both summer of 1850 covers, but only one in combination with 1847 general issue government stamp. The initials "JJ" match carrier John Johnson. The newly reorganized carrier department issued its own stamps for the convenient **prepayment of carrier pick up at a residence, business, or on his route, to avoid cumbersome coin exchange.** A late response to years of Blood's Despatch hundreds of collection boxes strategically placed throughout the Philadelphia old city. The crude First Series carrier department stamps lacked imagination and style, but were clearly denominated "1 Cent."

PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - FIRST SERIES

"H" ADHESIVE

TWO COMBINED WITH 1847 GENERAL ISSUE



EARLIEST RECORDED ON COVER -

May 23, 1849

THREE OF SEVENTEEN TIED



AUGUST 22, (1849-50)

PHILADELPHIA "H" ADHESIVE, UNCANCELLED

1847 GENERAL ISSUE STAMP

BLUE PHILADELPHIA CDS CANCEL

ADDRESSED TO NEW YORK PFC 2012

"ROSE" ADHESIVE

EARLIEST OF ELEVEN RECORDED ON COVER - May 14, 1849
TWO TIED

6 CENTS:

1 CENT CARRIER FEE "TO THE MAILS"

5 CENTS HALF OUNCE UNDER 300 MILES



MAY 14, 1849

PHILADELPHIA "ROSE" ADHESIVE

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP
CANCEL

DELIVERED TO NEW YORK

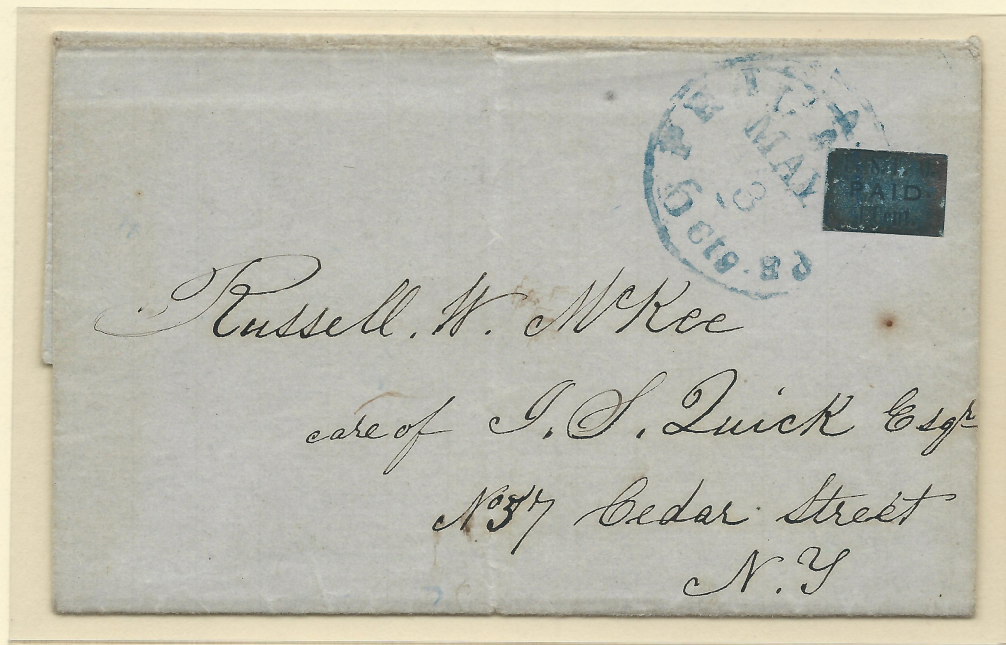
PFC 1992

The initial "H" stamp at top, recorded from May of 1849 until mid 1850. "H" may represent Philip Henty, H.R. Hamilton, David Horner, Joseph Hallowell, William Hood, or William Hall. The bottom example **without initials** was conceivably sold by any Philadelphia carrier. The **earliest examples of each type** are shown above.

PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - FIRST SERIES

"BLUE GLAZED" ADHESIVE

EARLIEST RECORDED ON COVER - May 3, 1850
THREE TIED



6 CENTS:
1 CENT CARRIER "TO THE MAILS"
5 CENTS HALF OUNCE UNDER 300 MILES

MAY 3, 1850

PHILADELPHIA "BLUE
GLAZED" ADHESIVE

CANCELLED BY BLUE
PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

ADDRESSED TO NEW YORK

PFC 2001

LATEST RECORDED - February 19, 1851
TWO WITH 1847 GENERAL ISSUE



FEBRUARY 19, (1851)

PHILADELPHIA "BLUE
GLAZED" ADHESIVE

UNCANCELLED

5 CENT 1847 GENERAL
ISSUE ADHESIVE

BLUE PHILADELPHIA
DATESTAMP

DELIVERED TO
NORTHUMBERTON, PA

PFC 2007

The Philadelphia "Blue Glazed" carrier department stamp has been recorded from May 3, 1850 until February 19, 1851, as shown above. The exhibitor's independent research has confirmed only 13 of the reported 17 are genuine,* one of the 2 combined with an 1847 general issue stamp is above.

* "THE FIRST PHILADELPHIA TYPESET CARRIER ADHESIVE STAMPS 7LB1 TO 7LB9," LARRY LYONS, *THE PENNY POST*, VOL.14, NO.3, JULY 2006, P.51-72.

PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - FIRST SERIES

"YELLOW GLAZED" ADHESIVE

6 CENTS:

1 CENT CARRIER FEE "TO TGE MAILS"
5 CENTS HALF OUNCE UNDER 300 MILESEARLIEST OF EIGHT RECORDED ON COVER - May 4, 1849
NONE TIED, NONE WITH 1847 GENERAL ISSUE

MAY 4, 1849

PHILADELPHIA "YELLOW GLAZED"
ADHESIVE

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

DELIVERED TO NEW YORK

PFC 2000

"VERMILLION GLAZED" ADHESIVE

FOURTEEN RECORDED ON COVER, TWO WITH 1847 GENERAL ISSUE
NONE TIED

MARCH 7, (1851)

PHILADELPHIA "VERMILLION
GLAZED" ADHESIVE

UNCANCELLED

5 CENT 1847 GENERAL ISSUE

BLUE PHILADELPHIA
DATESTAMP

MANUSCRIPT "PAID"

MANUSCRIPT "CARRIER 1 /
POSTAGE 6"

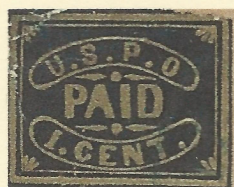
DELIVERED TO RICHMOND, VA.

PFC 1999

Only eight covers have survived with "Yellow Glazed" stamps, between May 4, 1849 and the Spring of 1851, the earliest shown at top. "Vermillion Glazed" on cover have been recorded between April 9, 1849 and December 1850. This example is another of *the precious few* of all carrier department covers revealing their **itemized postal costs: "Carrier 1 / Postage 6."**

PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - SECOND SERIES

"GOLD ON BLACK GLAZED" ADHESIVE



6 CENTS:
1 CENT CARRIER "TO THE MAILS"
5 CENTS HALF OUNCE UNDER 300 MILES

EARLIEST RECORDED TIED - March 30, 1851

MARCH 30, 1851

PHILADELPHIA "GOLD ON
BLACK GLAZED" ADHESIVE

PENCIL CANCEL

5 CENT 1847 GENERAL ISSUE

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

DELIVERED TO NEW YORK

PFC 1997



TWO RECORDED DROP LETTERS

3 CENTS:
1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION FEE
2 CENTS DROP RATE



APRIL 22, 1851

PHILADELPHIA "GOLD ON
BLACK GLAZED" ADHESIVEPHILADELPHIA BLUE NUMERAL
"2" CANCEL

LOCAL ADDRESS

PFC 2003

Due to severe competition from Blood's Despatch, in early 1851 the Philadelphia carrier department reorganized again, and over five years produced a set of 3 ornately lithographed adhesive stamps and 4 handstamp markings.

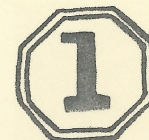
Of entire Second Series of Philadelphia carrier department stamps, approximately 135 examples have survived,* at least half from the first issue "Gold on Black Glazed." Eighty percent are outbound "To the Mails," the balance were city letters. A few were "drop letters," at bottom, one cent prepaid by carrier stamp for delivery to the post office and held by postmaster for recipient pick up, 2 cents due for holding.

* "THE PHILADELPHIA CARRIER ADHESIVES 7LB13 TO 7LB13," LARRY LYONS, *THE PENNY POST*, VOL. 14, NO. 4, OCTOBER 2006, P. 41-59

By 1851 continuing public pressure for cheap postage brought: (1) prepaid intercity Mail reduced to 3 cents; (2) postage stamps in new **denominations** and designs including a 1 cent stamp; (3) **"drop rate" returned to 1 cent** as prior to July 1, 1845. The Postmaster General declared postal routes included all large city public roads, directly targeting local posts similar to the Independent Mails in 1845.

He proposed **free "To the Mails"** collection, to undercut Blood's 1 cent service, and **doubled "From the Mails"** fee to 2 cents, as prior to 1849, since the post office had a monopoly on inbound letters.

PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - SECOND SERIES



NUMERAL ONE IN
DOUBLE OCTAGON

"GOLD ON BLACK GLAZED" ADHESIVE

LATEST RECORDED - February 28, 1852

FEES :
FREE "TO THE MAILS"
1 CENT CITY MAIL
2 CENTS "FROM THE MAILS"
RATES:
1 CENT "DROP" LETTER

2 CENTS :
1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION FEE
1 CENT CARRIER DELIVERY FEE

TWO RECORDED TIED BY RED STAR



4 CENTS:
1 CENT CARRIER FEE "TO THE MAILS"
3 CENTS HALF OUNCE UNDER 3000 MILES



DECEMBER 27, 1851

PHILADELPHIA "GOLD ON
BLACK GLAZED" ADHESIVE

RED STAR TIED CANCEL

3 CENT 1851 GENERAL ISSUE STAMP

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

ADDRESSED TO NEW YORK



At top the carrier collection and delivery to the Penn District was 2 cents. One cent "drop" at post office window, and one cent prepaid carrier department door delivery. Previously conducted by intercity mail from the old city for 5 cents explaining the obliterated "5 cts" datestamp. The carrier department enjoyed an unfair **competitive advantage just outside the old city where local posts were forbidden.**

The exhibitors submits that the Philadelphia carrier department autonomously continued the 1849 one cent carrier fee for all services in defiance of the Postmaster General's mandate.*

* "THE FRANKLIN CARRIER STAMP ON COVER," VERNON R MORRIS JR MD, THE CHRONICLE, WHOLE NO. 229, VOL. 63, NO. 1, FEBRUARY 2011, P.48.

PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - SECOND SERIES

"BLUE" ADHESIVE

11 CENTS:
1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION FEE
10 CENTS HALF OUNCE OVER 300 MILES

EARLIEST RECORDED SECOND SERIES - August 25, 1850



AUGUST 25, 1850

PHILADELPHIA "BLUE" ADHESIVE

RED STAR TIED

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

ADDRESSED TO NEW YORK

PFC 1982 & 1992 & 2010

6 CENTS:
1 CENT CARRIER COLLECTION FEE
5 CENTS "COLLECT" UNDER 3000 MILES

LATEST RECORDED SECOND SERIES - September 28, 1853



SEPTEMBER 28, 1853

PHILADELPHIA "BLUE" ADHESIVE

RED STAR CANCEL

MANUSCRIPT "5" DUE

ADDRESSED TO
WILLIAMSBURG, PA

PFC 2010

The above examples are the earliest and latest recorded Second Series covers, and *substantially extend the service period, earlier by 11 months and later by 10 months.* The majority of 51 recorded "Blue" adhesive stamps are recorded between August 3, 1851 and December 4, 1852.*

* "THE PHILADELPHIA CARRIER SAUSAGE ADHESIVES 7LB11 TO 7LB13," LARRY LYONS, *THE PENNY POST*, WHOLE NO. 57, VOL. 14, NO. 4, OCTOBER 2006, P. 44-45.

PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - SECOND SERIES

"BLUE" ADHESIVE

4 CENTS:

1 CENT CARRIER FEE "TO THE MAILS"
3 CENTS PREPAID UNDER 3000 MILES

MAY 17, (1852)

PHILADELPHIA "BLUE" ADHESIVE

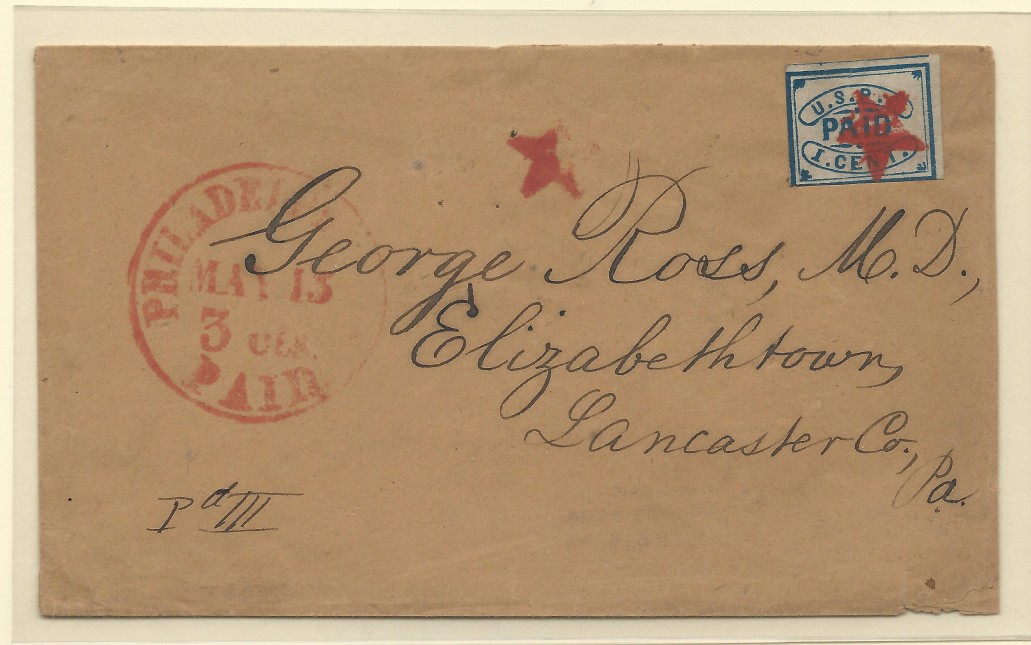
RED STAR CANCEL TWICE

RED PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

MANUSCRIPT "PD 111"

MAILED TO ELIZABETHTOWN, PA.

PFC 2000



ONE RECORDED BOSTON CANCELLATION

2 CENTS:

1 CENT CARRIER PREPAID
FREE OUTSIDE THE "MAILS"
1 CENT DROP RATE

JULY 13, 1852

PHILADELPHIA "BLUE" ADHESIVE

BLACK BOSTON DATESTAMP

ADDRESSED TO BOSTON
MASSACHUSETTES

PFC 1997

The cover at **top** was **fully prepaid**; carrier collection fee prepaid by stamp, and intercity postage 3 cents coin given the carrier to relieve the recipient of an expensive 5 cents collect.

The lower example does not show a Philadelphia post office marking, suggesting the letter was privately transported outside of the mails to Boston. Perhaps the sender incorrectly believed the Philadelphia carrier stamp would have been accepted by the Boston post office for local delivery. The Boston cds suggests the cover was held as drop letter for addressee to pick up. The contents reveal that the sender had relocated to Philadelphia. **No mechanism existed to compensate another city's autonomous carrier department. The only Philadelphia carrier department stamp cancelled in another city.**

PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - SECOND SERIES

"BLACK" ADHESIVE

EARLIEST OF TWELVE RECORDED - March 27, 1852

4 CENTS:
 1 CENT PREPAID "TO THE MAILS"
 3 CENTS PREPAID UNDER 3000 MILES



MARCH 27, 1852

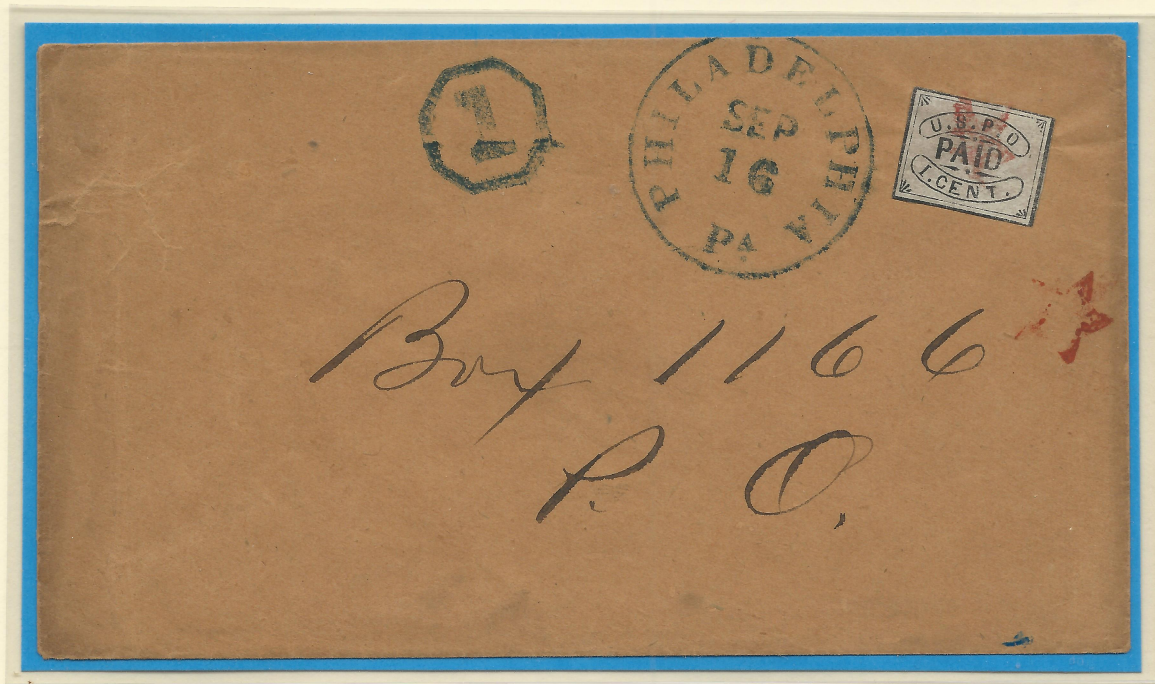
ADDRESSED TO NEW YORK
 PFC 1997



MAY 15, 1852

PFC 1984 & 2011

LATEST RECORDED "BLACK" - September 16, 1853



2 CENTS:
 1 CENT COLLECTION FEE
 1 CENT "DROP RATE"

SEPTEMBER 16, (1853)

PHILADELPHIA "BLACK" ADHESIVE

RED STAR CANCEL TWICE

BLUE PHILADELPHIA DATESTAMP

BLUE NUMERAL "1" IN OCTAGON

ADDRESSED TO POST OFFICE BOX

PFC 1997

The top example is the earliest recorded date certain "Black." According to the exhibitors research the bottom example extends the recorded period by more than 9 months*, to **within 12 days of the latest for any type** (see 2 pages earlier). Of the 12 recorded, 6 covers are combined with an 1851 general issue stamp "to the mails," one "from the mails" (next page), and 5 "city letters," only one "dropped" at the post office, at bottom.

* "THE PHILADELPHIA CARRIER SAUSAGE ADHESIVES 7LB11 TO 7LB13," LARRY LYONS, *THE PENNY POST*, WHOLE NO. 57, VOL. 14, NO. 4, OCTOBER 2006, P. 46, 57-59.

PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - SECOND SERIES

"FROM THE MAILS"

4 CENTS:
1 CENT CARRIER DELIVERY FEE "
3 CENTS PREPAID UNDER 3000 MILES



NOVEMBER 9, (1852)

PHILADELPHIA "BLUE" ADHESIVE

TIED BY RED STAR CANCEL

BLACK BATON ROUGE, LA
DATESTAMP

ADDRESSED TO PHILADELPHIA

PFC 1985



JANUARY 11, (1852-3)

PHILADELPHIA BLUE STAMP

RED STAR CANCEL

BLUE HARRISBURG, PA
DATESTAMP & PAID

ADDRESSED TO PHILADELPHIA

FEBRUARY 13, 1852

PHILADELPHIA "BLUE" ADHESIVE

RED STAR CANCEL

MANUSCRIPT "PAID"

RED NEW YORK DATESTAMP

DELIVERED TO PHILADELPHIA

PFC 2000

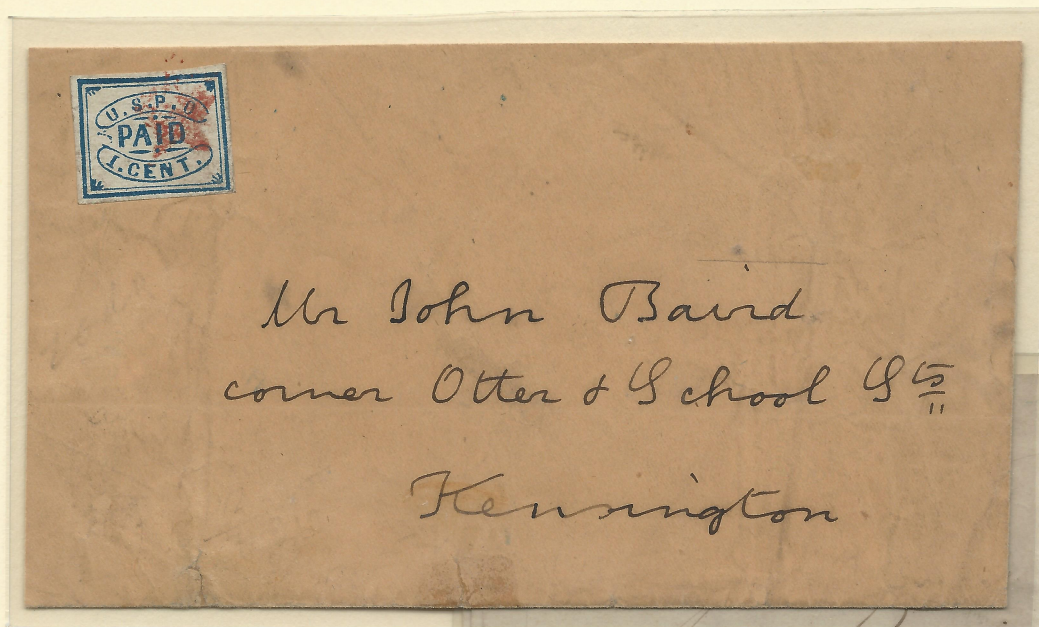


Carrier revenue was largely earned from delivering inbound letters "from the mails," since the government had a virtual monopoly on their destiny. Since cash was collected from the recipient, and no stamps appeared on the cover, or carrier markings necessary. Stamps on a precious few may have been originally purchased in Philadelphia, perhaps by a friend. Alternatively, the addressee was an established entity perhaps with an account. The above examples originated in Baton Rouge, Harrisburg, and New York City. The carrier department in *Philadelphia did not comply with the Postmaster General's mandated 2 cent fee for delivering inbound letters.**

* "TWO PHILADELPHIA EAGLE CARRIER CANCELLATION DISCOVERIES, NEW LRD, AND A NEW THEORY," VERNON MORRIS, *THE PENNY POST*, VOL. 17, NO. 2, APRIL 2009, P. 24-5.

PHILADELPHIA CARRIER DEPARTMENT ADHESIVES - SECOND SERIES

KENSINGTON OFFICE



1 CENT:
1 CENT CARRIER "CITY MAIL"



4 CENTS:
1 CENT CARRIER FEE "TO THE MAILS"
3 CENTS PREPAID UNDER 3000 MILES

AUGUST 11, 1851

PHILADELPHIA "GOLD ON BLACK
GLAZED" ADHESIVE

PENCIL CANCEL

3 CENT 1851 GENERAL ISSUE

MANUSCRIPT "PAID 3"

RED KENSINGTON DATESTAMP

DELIVERED TO NEW YORK

PFC 1997



Kensington is on the Delaware River immediately north of the old city of Philadelphia, had a post office since 1826, and shared close working relationship with the Philadelphia post office in the 1850's. The top examples are "Blue" Philadelphia carrier department stamps from late 1851 through 1852 which serviced "city letters" between the two municipalities, going in both directions.

The bottom example was outbound from Kensington to New York, with collection service in Kensington prepaid by Philadelphia carrier department "Black on Gold" stamp.