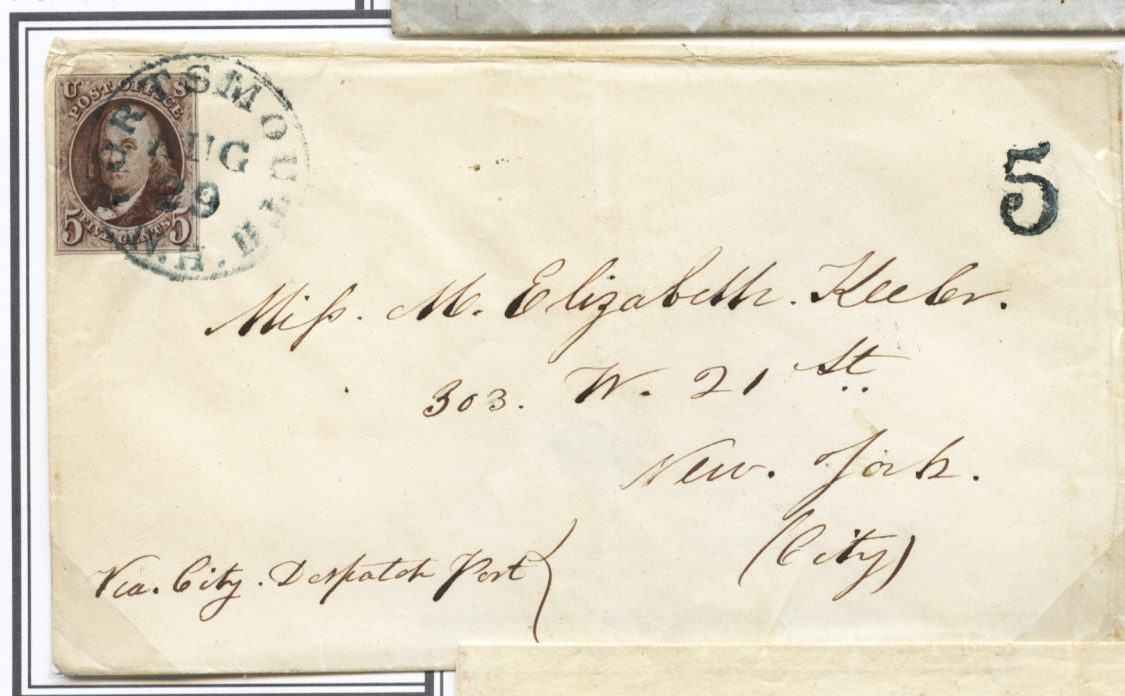


July 1848 folded letter
from New York City to
Morristown NJ.
Carried to the mail by
Bouton's.



From the mail



Cover from Portsmouth
NH to New York City.
Manuscript 'Via City
Despatch Post' for
delivery from the mail by
City Despatch local post.

August 1849 folded address sheet
from New York City to Portland ME.
Kenyon's handstamp 'KENYON'S/
LETTER OFFICE/NEW YORK'
indicating delivery to the mail.



Bouton's City Dispatch Post

New York City

The New York City local post "Rough & Ready" design, depicting Zachary Taylor, was inspired by the election of 1848. The design was used first by Bouton and then by his successor Swarts.

Two of eight recorded from Bouton in New York with the 1847 issue



Cover from New York City to York ME. U.S. Express Mail route agent marking. Red 'PAID' at top applied by post office. Local, with corner dots (18L2), red two line 'PAID BOUTON' cancel. Bouton's delivered to the mail.



Nov 1848 folded address sheet from New York City to Andover MA. Local with corner dots (18L2) uncanceled. Bouton's delivered to the mail.



Swarts handstamp 'SWARTS/B/POST OFFICE/N.Y./CHATHAM SQUARE'.

December 1847 folded address sheet, delivered to the mail by Swarts, from New York City to Kingston on Thames England. 5 cent stamp paid the rate to Boston where it was placed on the *Britannia* to Liverpool. 1 shilling was collected from the recipient.

Only recorded Trans-Atlantic use of this marking with a 5 cent stamp.



March 1849 folded letter from New York City to Buffalo NY. Swarts paid handstamp.
Delivered to the mail by Swarts.



Boyd's local stamp (20L4). Boyd's delivered to the mail.

March 1849 cover from New York City to Montreal Canada.

Two 5 cent stamps pay postage to the border. 4 ½ pence due for Canadian postage.



Boyd's local stamp (20L7). Boyd's delivered to the mail.

November 1848 folded address sheet from New York City via Hudson River Mail to Troy NY.



Cover from New York City to Williams Town MA. Messenkope's delivered to the mail. Local Messenkope's black (106Li) on green glazed.



Cover from New York City to Cooperstown NY. G. A. Mills (109Li) stamp.



March 1849 cover from Philadelphia PA to Montreal Canada. 10 cent stamp paid to the border.
Delivered to mail by Blood. Blood's stamp(15L9). 4 1/2 pence due on delivery.



November 1848 folded letter from Philadelphia to West Chester PA. Delivered to the mail by Blood.



D. O. Blood's Despatch 1 cent black glazed bronze acid-tied on envelope flap.
March 1850 cover from Philadelphia PA to Delafield WI. 10 cent stamp underpays the double rate, thus 10 cents due.



Cover from Washington City to Philadelphia. Forwarded to Passyunk Road by Strait's Despatch.

Only recorded example of Red Eagle Post local used with an 1847 stamp



July 1850 folded letter from Philadelphia PA to Providence RI. Eagle Post stamp (61L3).



September 1849 folded address sheet from Philadelphia PA to New York City.



Section Five - Railroad and Steamboat Mail



This section presents different railroad, way and waterway markings, including Hudson River Mail steamboat and Lake Champlain Mails, along with a dozen different agent markings. 'WAY 5' and 'WAY 6' markings are present, as well as Way letters delivered by local carriers.

By 1847 railroad routes were well established across the Eastern states providing an effective way to move both people and merchandise. In this golden age of rail travel many small railroads linked industrial cities and farming communities. The Post Office Department employed route agents to ride railroads to sell stamps, collect mail, postmark and deliver it to the appropriate post office.

Housatonic Railroad



Folded address sheet to North Canaan CT carried on the Housatonic Railroad.

During the 1847 period the railroad traveled from Bridgeport CT to West Stockbridge MA. North Canaan is just south of the MA border.

Only recorded usage of 'RAILROAD' marking with an 1847 stamp

November 1849 cover to Utica NY. Blue straight-line 'RAILROAD' marking and two strikes of 7 bar grid. This marking was used on railroads traveling between Buffalo and Albany.



Michigan Central Railroad

March 1851 folded letter to Lansing MI. The letter traveled on the Michigan Central Railroad, probably to Jackson and then overland to Lansing. This mark was used from 1851-57. Manuscript 'charge drawer 56'. Most likely the letter was delivered to the post office where the blue 'PAID' and the stamp was applied and, missing the mail bags, went to the train as a loose letter.

Stamp is brown orange.



Long Island Railroad



April 1848 folded letter from Islip NY to New York City. The letter entered the mail on the Long Island Railroad on the route from Greenport Long Island to New York City.

Madison & Indianapolis Railroad

Folded letter to Fall River MA traveling on the Madison & Indianapolis Railroad to Indianapolis. From Indianapolis the letter traveled overland to Fall River.

Stamp canceled with two strikes of 'PAID' cancel to form a crisscross pattern. Red route agent postmark. Manuscript 'via Madison' and 'Chr Box 71'.

Most likely delivered to the post office where the stamp was applied and canceled and then taken to the railroad as an individual letter.

One of two recorded covers from this railroad with a 10 cent stamp.



Albany & Buffalo Railroad

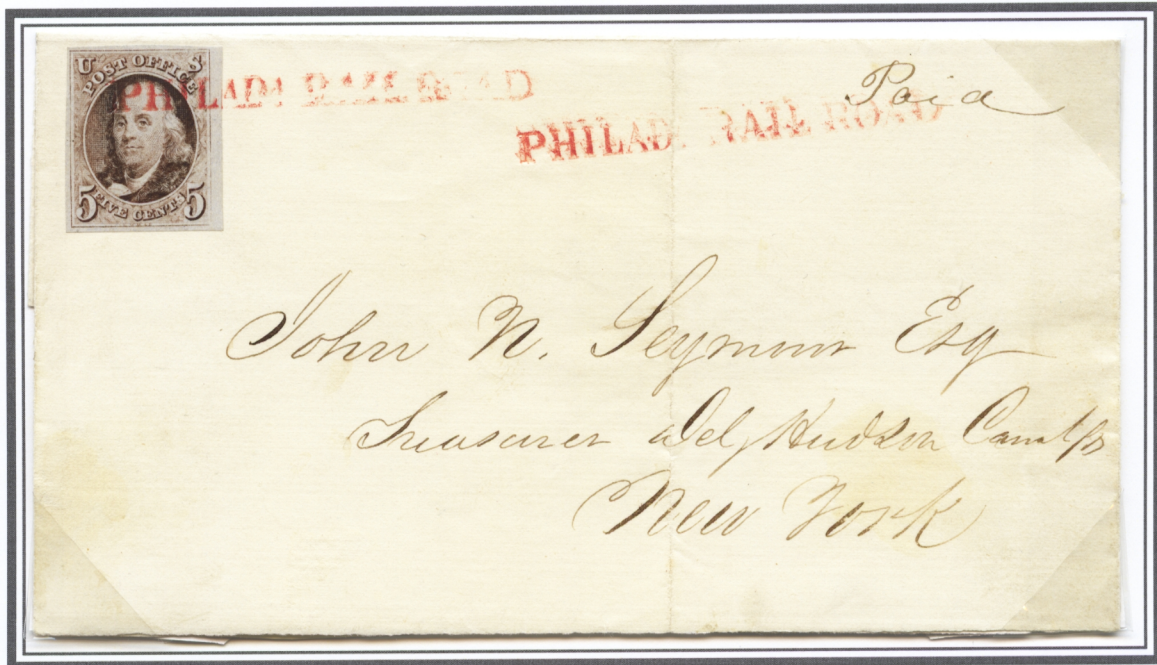
April 1848 folded
address sheet to
Detroit MI.



Western & Atlantic Railroad



Cover to Charleston SC. The letter entered the mail on the West & Atlantic Railroad on the route from Chattanooga to Atlanta. From Atlanta the letter traveled overland to Charleston.
One of two recorded covers with a 10 cent stamp.



Folded address sheet to New York City . The letter traveled on the New York & Philadelphia Railroad from Philadelphia to New Brunswick NJ and then to New York City.

Straight-line 'PHILAD^A RAIL ROAD' handstamp canceling right margin copy of 5 cent stamp.



December 1848 folded letter from Harpers Ferry VA to New York City. Traveled on the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore Railroad. Red '5' in circle canceling stamp. Straight-line 'BALTIMORE R.R.' handstamp. The letter, addressed to the New York City postmaster, is about a lost letter containing money. No money was found.

Express Mail route agents came about with the Post Office Department's attempt to compete with private express companies that were moving significant amounts of mail, ignoring the government's monopoly.



March 1850 cover
from New York to New
Bedford MA. Entered
the mail on a train from
New York City to Boston.
U.S. Express Mail route
agent datestamp



Double rate cover from
Boston to Philadelphia.
Entered the mail on a
train from Boston to
New York City. U.S.
Express Mail route agent
datestamp

Received at Troy

'TROY & NEW YORK/STEAMBOAT' blue marking applied in Troy NY on mail from non-contract boats on the New York to Troy route. This included letters picked up along the way as well as at the pier in New York. A town name and steamboat marking used together is unusual.



April 1848 folded letter to Troy on a non-contract steamboat. Unknown origin.

'2 cts. in double line circle represents amount due to steamboat captain.

Received at Albany

March 1851 folded letter from New York City to Quebec Canada. Carried on a non-contract Hudson River Steamboat. Red two line 'STEAM/BOAT' marking applied in Albany.

Montreal transit mark on front, Quebec receiving mark on back.

11 1/2 d. due for Canadian postage from 201 to 300 miles.

Letter datelined New York most likely stamped in New York and given directly to the captain of the boat that delivered it to the post office in Albany where it entered the mail en route to Quebec.



Contract Mail on the Hudson River

Hudson River Mail contract route 809 carried mail between New York City and Albany. Route agents traveling on the boats would pick up mail in mailboxes at the terminus and also along the way. The route agents frequently used a 17 bar circular grid.

May 1849 folded address sheet to Catskill NY. Letter dropped at the Catskill Landing, one of the route 809 contracted landings.



May 1849 folded letter from New York City to Buffalo NY. At Albany transferred to railroad contract route west to Buffalo.



August 1849 folded address sheet to Port Gibson NY. At Albany transferred to railroad contract route west to Port Gibson.

3 August 1849, the day this letter was postmarked, was set aside by President Taylor as a day of fasting and prayer due to the cholera epidemic. Contents of the letter discuss this.

August 1849 folded letter written onboard steamer *Burlington*, Star Mail Route 943, on Lake Champlain to New York City. 'Lake Champlain Mail' manuscript postmark.



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September 1847 folded address sheet to Buffalo NY. Blue fancy 'STEAM-BOAT' marking applied in Buffalo.



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