Australia

12c Franks First American Mail Under Canadian PO/U.S. PMG Agreement Via Allan Line Setting the Stage for Portland as Exchange Office



16 Jan, 1859, Freeport, IL, to Melbourne, Australia. Receives New York British pkt back stamp. No voyages were planned for 5 days. Letter Dep Portland 23 Jan on Allan Line's *North American*, Arr LP 3 Feb, London on 4 Feb, Arr Melbourne 30 April, 1859 (back stamp). 45c rate/½ oz by British pkt.; 12c stamps pos. 11-12R1, 2 Type II 1855 10c, and 1 Type IV 1c. (E)

4 recorded uses to Australia for the 12c imperforate, this the only one with the correct rate.

The postage rate to Australia had changed in Jan, 1857.

12c Franking Carries Letter to the Gold Fields



Small town Piqua, OH, 18 Nov, 1856, by British Mail, Am pkt Collins Line Baltic, Dep NY 22 Nov, Arr LP 5 Dec, Arr Melbourne, Victoria, 21 Mar, 1857 (back stamp), finally forwarded to Mount Korong, Victoria, 26 Mar, 1857.

37c was 4c overpaid by older private ship rate from England. This went at 33c rate via Southampton. 12c pos. 1-3L1, 1c Type IV.

A new rate to Australia for this mailing had been established in Oct, 1854, and 5 other rate changes.

Cape Verde Islands Greece Complete Top Row, Relief "A"

Largest Continuous 12c Imperforate Multiple On-Cover (6X) in Private Hands
Only Recorded 1851 12c Double Rate Cover to the Cape Verde Islands



Norfolk, Virginia, to Porto Grande, St. Vincent Island, Cape Verde Islands, 21 July, 1857. (E)
Via British open mail under 1849 treaty. Am Pkt Havre Line's Arago Dep NY 25 July 1857, Arr London 6 Aug 1857, then transferred to Royal Mail Steam Packet, Arr Porto Grande 23 Aug, 1857. Pos. 1-6R1 and 7-10R1. See Discovery, page 6.
All 12c stamp copies show top row Relief "A" characteristics, the latter discovered by the exhibitor.
One month earlier than this cover date, US PMG extended the contract for the Havre Line carrier. This was the only American carrier to survive the decade without government subsidies. By the end of 1861, the Havre Line suspended operations.

Prussian Closed Mail Rate, New York to Athens, Greece, 1854



Dep New York, 4 Mar, 1854, on Am. Pkt. Collins Line "Baltic," Arr Liverpool, 19 Mar, 1854, Arr Aachen, 21 Mar, Arr Trieste, 25 Mar, "19" credit, via Prussian Closed mail. 12c Pos. 75-77R1. (E)

3 Recorded Examples of 12c Use to Destination Greece in this period.

To Peru From Hawaii Mixed Franking Partial Payment

12c Mixed Franking to Peru



Two 10c Type III and 12c, position 41R1, pay 32c single letter rate by Am Pkt from New Bedford, MA, Feb. and Brit Pkt from Panama to Paita, Peru. This rate was active until 1856 year end or was carried over. 12c credit. (E)

12c Stamp Used as Partial Payment from Hawaii to U.S.



Honolulu, Hawaii, Nov 30 "U.S. Postage Paid", 1856 Arr San Francisco 20 Dec, 1856, then to New Bedford, MA (E). 12c stamp pays letter rate and ship fee. Hawaii postage paid with cash. San Francisco rerates the letter greater than ½ oz., applies the "DUE 10" for the second rate per Regulation 92, Act of 1855 regardless of Hawaii markings. Pos. 12L1. The Act of 1855 altered rates/ rules that would apply to Hawaii mail. Application of rules between the U.S. and Hawaii were often inconsistent during periods of change. One of 4 examples of partial payment by stamps from Hawaii with deficiencies collected at delivery (Gregory Census).

From Hawaii

Hawaii Incoming Mail Without Hawaii Stamp, Forwarded



Letter mailed from from Hawaii 11 March, 1857, to New Haven, CT. Hawaii fee paid in cash. Red Honolulu hand stamp.

12c stamp (pos. 38R1, pays 10c rate per ½ oz. established April 1, 1855 for over 3000 miles plus 2c ship fee.

Letter carried by ship Yankee 11 March, Arr San Francisco, 3 April, 1857.

Sent to New Haven 30 April, 1857, where it was forwarded to Plymouth, CT for 3c.

Very Late Use of 12c Imperforate Stamp with Hawaii Postage, Traveling Overland

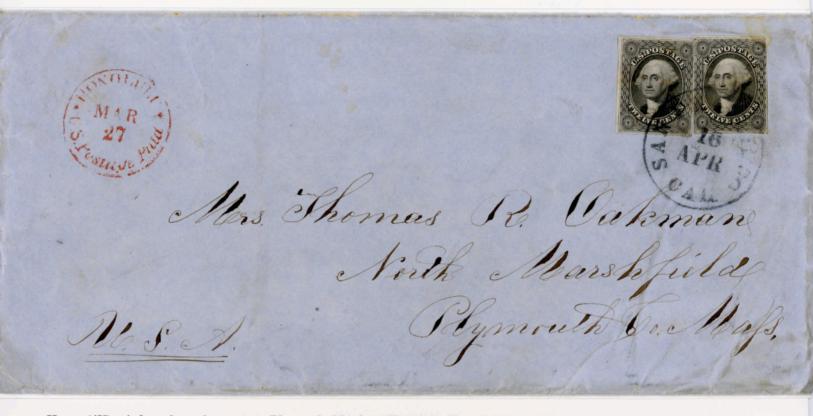


Hawaii 1857 5c stamp pays Hawaii postage and 12c U.S. stamp pays 10c transcontinental rate plus 2c ship fee. Red Honolulu 28 Feb departure, Arr San Francisco 21 Mar, 1861, moved to Proctorsville, VT, via Butterfield Overland route. Pos. 92R1. San Francisco regularly sent to Hawaii imperforate stamps rather than the more recent perforated stamps.

Change: Butterfield Overland Route closed on April 5 1861 directly after this letter was transferred.

From Hawaii

Quadruple Transcontinental Rate, Hawaii to U.S. Mainland, 1855



Heavy (4X) reinforced envelope sent to Plymouth, MA from Honolulu, Hawaii (March 27), arr San Francisco, 16 April, 1855. While in transit, the rate changed from 6c to 10c per letter (per ½ oz.), effective, 1 April, 1855. Ship fee paid in cash (2c). 12c pos. 37R1 and 3L1. Listed in Gregory census. Cover likely contained cash from whaler to wife, hence, the weight.

New rates had gone into effect 1 April, 1855, after being approved March 3, 1855.

The transcontinental single letter rate of 6c rose to 10c with ship fee of 2c paid throughout, Hawaii officials do not discover the new change until 16 May, 1855.

The latter date marks the beginning of the termed "Middle Treaty Period."

Prior to this date, all Hawaii mail is accepted into the U.S. under previous rates.

Cover is 4 X ½ oz. letter rate and was accepted as fully paid.

Communication of changes to Hawaii was slow.

To Hawaii

Only Recorded Single 12c Use to Hawaii - Early Treaty Period



2X Transcontinental rate, Boston to Hawaii, 19 August, 1853 (E)

Ship *Illinois* Dep New York, Arr Aspinwall 30 Aug, Dep Panama City 3 Sept on the *Winfield Scott*, Arr San Francisco 19 Sept, Dep 1 Oct on schooner *E. L. Frost*, Arr Hawaii 17 Oct, 1853. Red crayon "10" for postage due marked at Honolulu. 12c stamp, pos. 19R1.

New rates went into effect 1 July, 1851. 2c ship fee was absorbed in the postage rate at this time (until 1856).

Boston "PAID" cancel was new in 1852.

Historical context: The writer Charles Brewer, recipient J. Anthon, had long and successful careers in Hawaii as agents for 50 of 70 whaling ships in Honolulu, owning huge sugar plantations and real estate.

Letter concerns Brewer properties in Hawaii. Listed in Gregory census.

British North America

Treaty Rate to New Brunswick



New York to New Brunswick, 23 March, 1853. Correct 10c treaty rate. (E)
Mailed on board express train from New York to Boston. St. John back stamp receiving 30 March, 1853.

12c bisects to foreign destinations are very uncommon.

Finer of the 2 Recorded Examples of Complete 1851 Series with 12c Bisect to BNA On-Cover

10c treaty rate for over 300 miles to New Brunswick went into effect 1 July, 1851.

Bisects were not legal for use but were allowed by several post offices,

New York being the most visible on the east coast.

The PMG formally disallowed them by Sept. 1853.

British North America

Single 12c Use to Nova Scotia



Richmond, VA, 16 May, 1854, to Halifax, Nova Scotia, received 25 May, 1854. 2c overpay of 10c treaty rate. St. John, St. Andrews, and New Brunswick back stamps. 12c pos. 37L1

4 examples are recorded, all are overpays.

While new treaty rates would be issued 1 July, 1851, no conforming 10c stamps would be issued for 4 more years.

15c Pacific Coast Rate to Canada



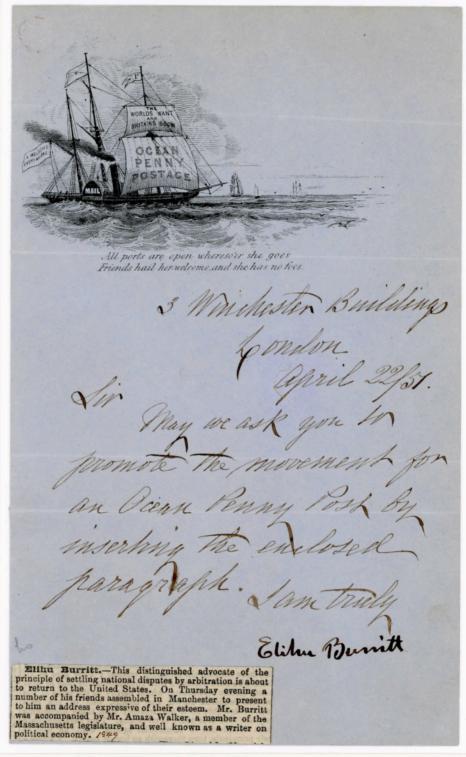
San Francisco to Compton, Lower Canada by way of the Derby Line (VT). Faint exchange arc is rarity 7 and used in 1853-1862.

Pos. 42R1. 2 examples are available to collectors.*

After 6 April, 1851, mail from the west coast to British North America required a 5c surcharge for a total of 9d or 15c / ½ oz. The postal Act of 1855 required 15c per ounce for Pacific coast mail to BNA if the distance was more than 3000 miles.

1848 International Brotherhood and Peace Conference Spawns Ocean Postage Penny Post Movement in 1849

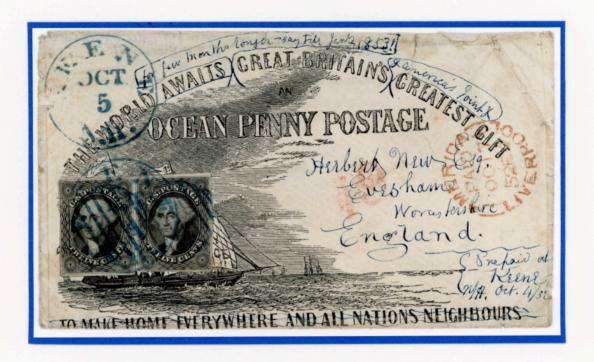
Elihu Burritt, "The Learned Blacksmith" from the United States, was a leader and organizer of the 1848 conference. Cheap Ocean Postage, following in Great Britain's footsteps, was one of his objectives. By this he sought to maximize communications, understanding, commerce and brotherhood between the US and Europe through transatlantic mails.



Request signed by Elihu Burritt sent from the London Crystal Palace, 3 Winchester Buildings,
April 22, 1851, asking for support of Ocean Penny Post, ca. 1849.

Letterhead design by Bradshaw and Blacklock, similar to adjacent cover which was a Gilpin design.

Primary 12c Stamp Use to England (24c Rate) Targeted Early by Propagandists and U.S. Senate
But Survives the Decade



This is the only recorded political propaganda envelope with the 12c stamp.

Keene, NH to Evesham, GB, 5 Oct, Dep NY 6 Oct Cunard Line's Africa, Arr Liverpool 17 Oct; Evesham, 18 Oct, 1852.12c pos. 82-83R1.

The letter writer was a vocal supporter of Burritt's and expected that the Ocean Penny Postage would become reality by Jan, 1853. The movement in the U.S. failed.

Original U.S. Senate Bill Proposal for cheap ocean postage, 9 June, 1852.

June 9, 1852. Ordered to be printed.

Mr. SUMNER submitted for consideration the following

RESOLUTION:

Whereas the inland postage on a letter for a distance within 3,000 miles is three cents when paid and five cents when unpaid, while the ocean postage on a similar letter is twenty-four cents, being a burthensome tax, amounting often to a prohibition of foreign correspondence; yet letters can be carried at less cost on sea than on land:

And whereas, by increasing correspondence and also by bringing into the mai's mailable matter, now often clandestinely conveyed, cheap ocean postage would become self-supporting:

And whereas, cheap ocean postage would tend to quicken commerce; to promote the intercourse of families and friends separated by the ocean; to multiply the bonds of peace and good will among men and nations; and thus, while important to every citizen, it would become the active ally especially of the merchant, the emigrant and the philanthropist; therefore,

Be it resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to open negotiations with the European powers, particularly with the governments of Great Britain and France, for the establishment of cheap ocean postage.

U.S. Stamps Are Perforated for the First Time, 12c Plate 1, 1857

Mixed Use of Imperforate and Perforate Plate 1 Stamps



*Boston to London, Dep NY on Collins Line *Baltic* 26 Sept, 1857, Arr Liverpool 6 Oct, 1857, London 7 Oct.

The two 12c stamps paid the single treaty rate of 24c to Great Britain.

The imperforate is pos. 63L1 and the perforate is 47R1. (E)

Finer of the two recorded examples*

This mixed stamp use marked the transition from the imperforates to the perforated forms that were introduced in mid-1857. Additionally, the Collins Line began to have financial losses and then a major shipwreck. The U.S. government was beginning to withdraw subsidies, paying only for letters carried.

Collins Line's operations would be suspended by Feb, 1858.

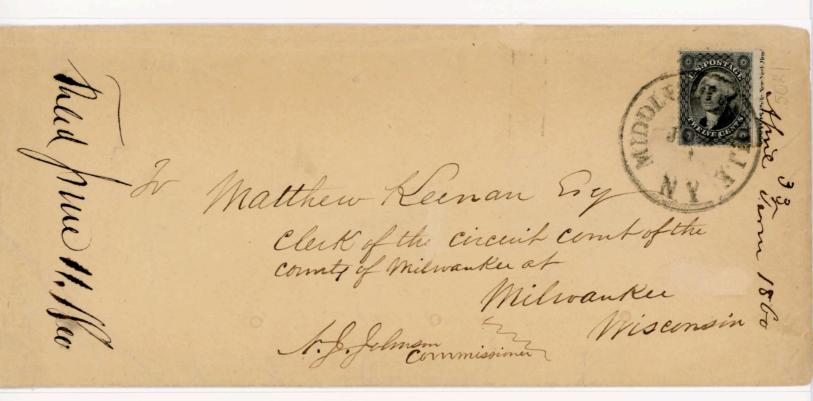
Imprints on Cover

Finest Imprint Pair



12c positions 41L1-42L1 paying the Great Britain treaty rate on cover from Cleveland, OH, 10 April, 1860, was carried by North Atlantic Steamship Company *Adriatic*, dep. NY 14 April, arr. Southampton, 25 April, arr. Loughborough, 26 April. Change: Under Postal Act 14 June, 1858, PMG contracts with this new American shipping firm, compensating them for sea and inland postage. This firm's ships completed only 6 round trips in 1860 and ceased to exist by the end of the decade.

Imprint Single Pays 4X Domestic Rate ≤ 3000 mi.



Legal use from Middleville, NY, 1 June, 1860, to Milwaukee, WI, arr. 11 June, 1860. This a "captured imprint" as opposed to a margin tab as above. 4 examples recorded on cover of any perforated 12c imprint.

Selected Plate Positions Imprints

Detail 21L1





Position 21L1
Margin capture of NEW Guide Dot
Presumed in plate model but not
recorded. Discovery Copy

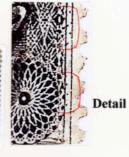




43L1

53L1

63L1



Position 5R1, rosette remnants Only Triple Transfer identified, Previously unrecognized*



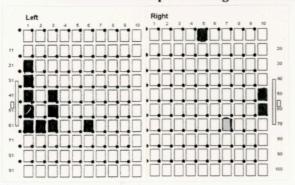


Position 66L1 (Detail)
Capture of 67L1 frame line
Narrowest gutter on the pane
Quality of perforations would be a problem

Odd Recut Lower Left
3 of 5 positions in 200 where this occurs.
Uncommon vertical pair of the rarity at top



Position 67R1 example of strong double transfer

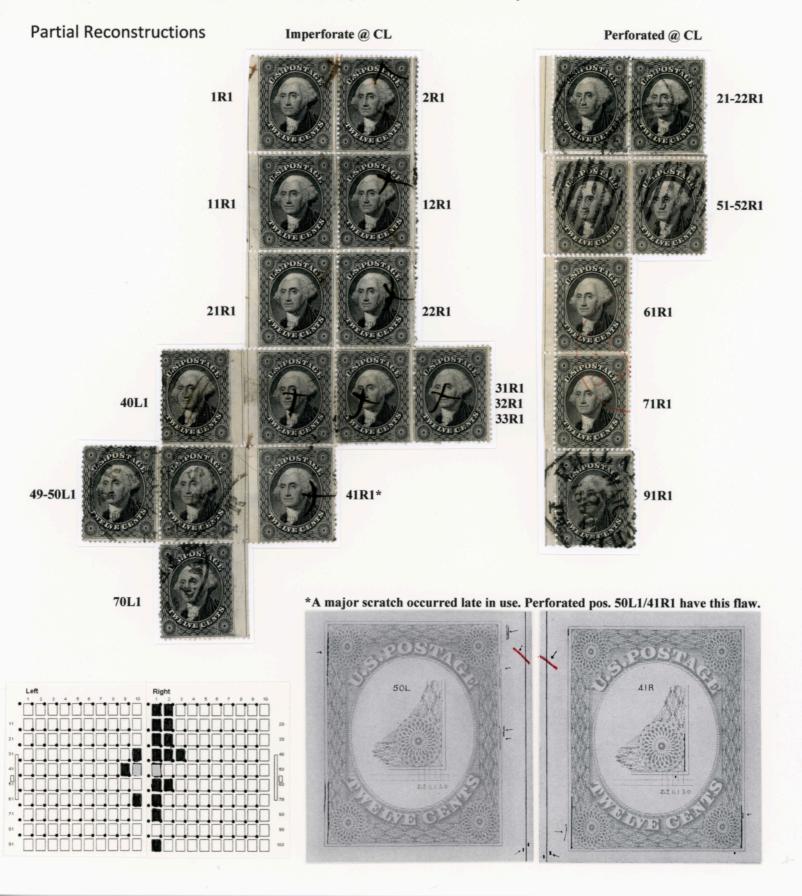




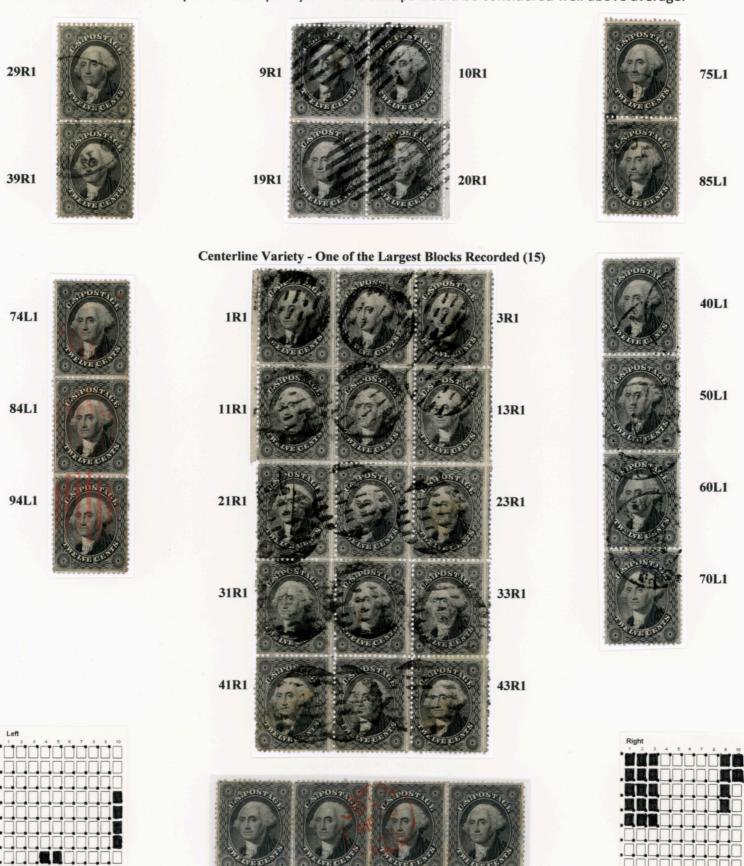
Complete reconstruction of left pane imprint and partial right pane with imprint "captures." No complete imprint strip is recorded. The imprint read, "Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co." A total of 12 imprint pieces in any form or quality is recorded.

Two Major Perforation Centerline Varieties

Perforations were introduced for the first time in 1857 following popular demand, hopefully to speed the handling of stamps as they became more commonly used. *Until recently, recorded historical models for perforation did not allow that the centerline copies could exist as perforate or imperforate.* Research by this exhibitor revealed that there were two additional perforators occasionally used, one on each side of the centerline or none.*



As with the imperforate 12c, used horizontal multiples are about 10 times more common than vertical multiples. Blocks are uncommon. The perforation quality on these stamps would be considered well above average.



92L3

93L3

94L3

95L3

Largest Recorded Unused Multiples - Blocks of 4

Position

67R1

77R1

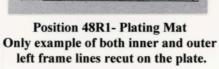
78R1

67R1 is an example of a large shift in the re-entry. Plating mat showing details of the re-entry and shifted transfers that resulted.



Position 67R1 Plating Mat







Double vertical perforations at an angle. Small margins made perforation problems worse.