

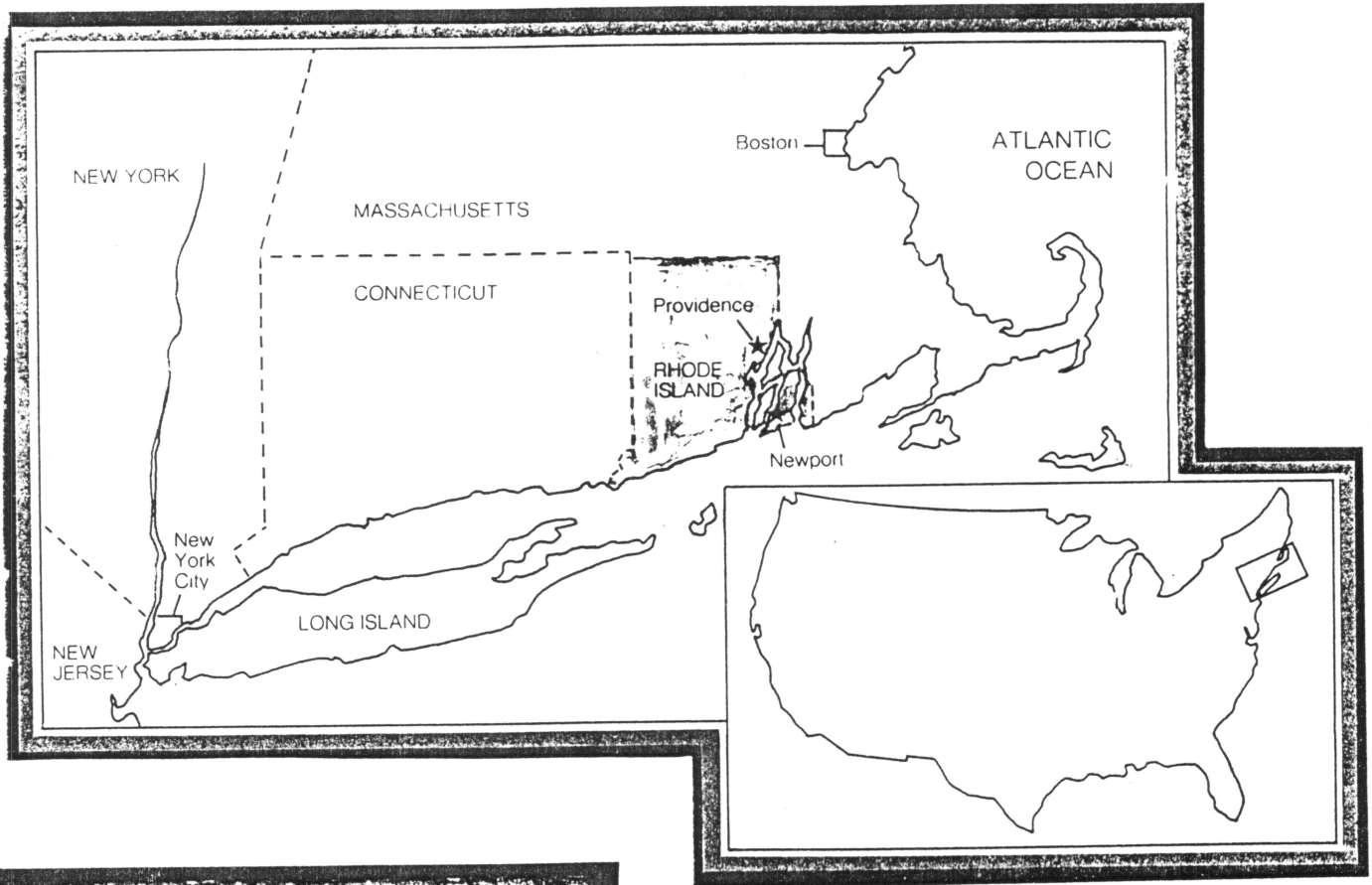
RHODE ISLAND
POSTAL HISTORY

RICHARD B. JORDAN

AS RECEIVED BY
THE EXHIBITION PHOTOCOPY COMMITTEE
OF THE
U.S PHILATELIC CLASSICS SOCIETY, INC.

11 NOVEMBER 1988

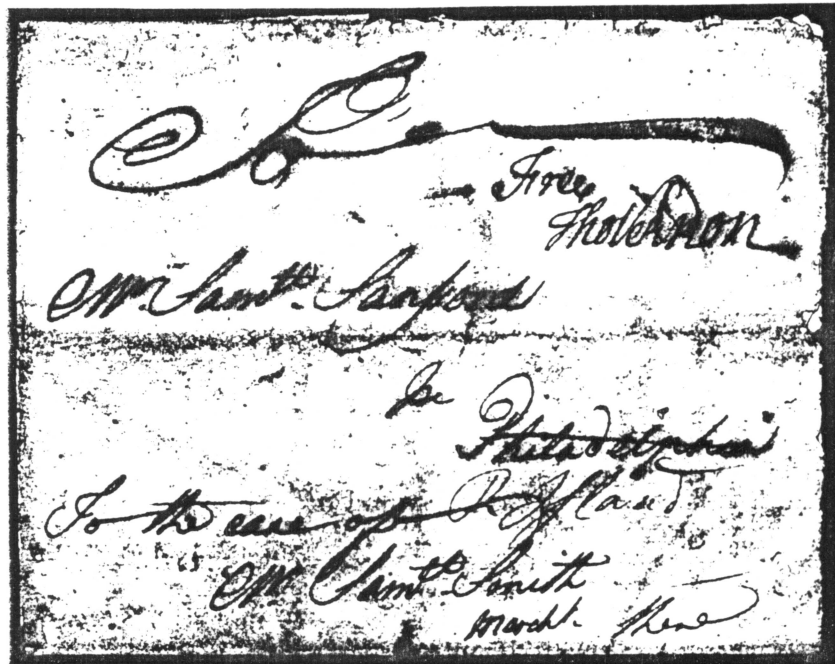
RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



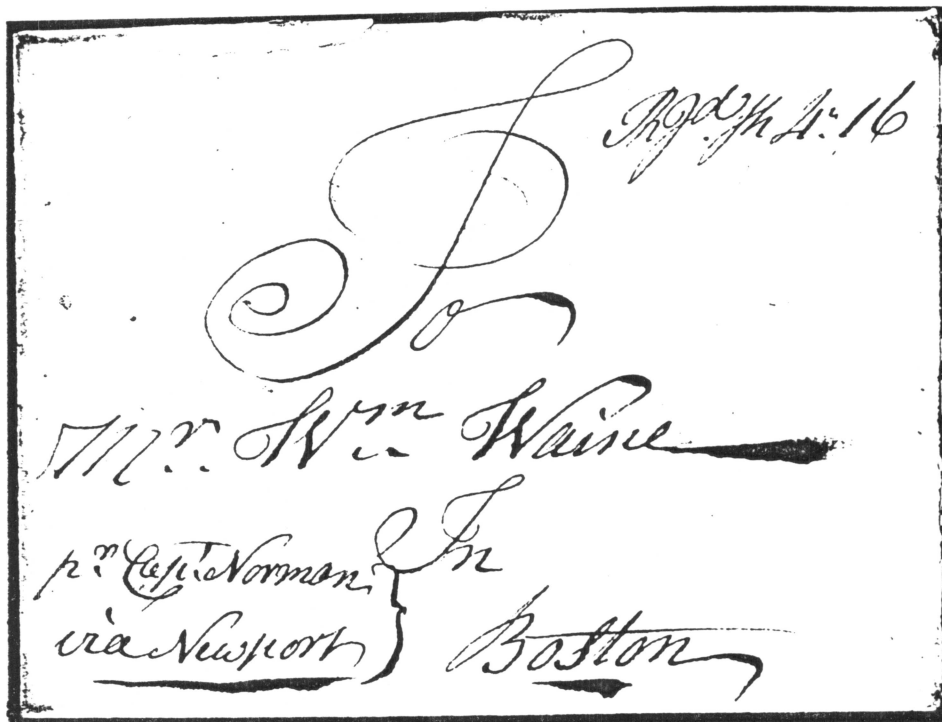
Newport, 1744. The City and the Colony were then synonymous, hence postmarking "R." Prepayment = 1 shilling, 2 pence.

This exhibit defines and recreates the postal past of Rhode Island through the presentation of items inimitable to the state, such as the Providence Postmaster's Provisional and the Newport Ovals. In addition, items previously unrecorded are illuminated: for example a letter identifiable as carrier delivered in Providence. Lastly, this exhibit introduces original research being conducted in areas such as the "Providence Blues" and the pencil-ruled stamps of that city.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



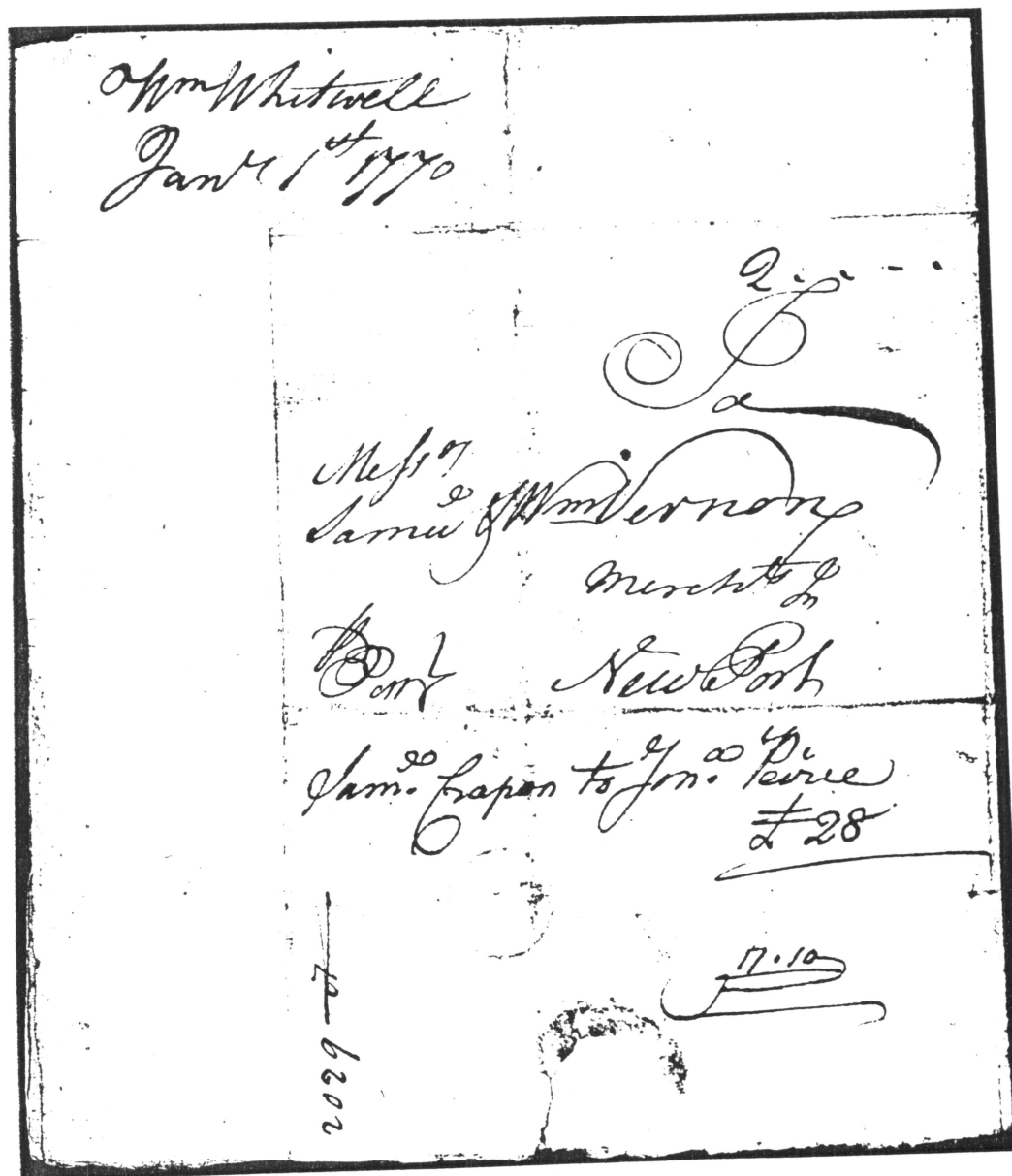
July 14, 1760. Earliest Rhode Island Free Frank.



Datelined St. Christopher, Feb^r 4, 1760.
One enclosure, double rate:

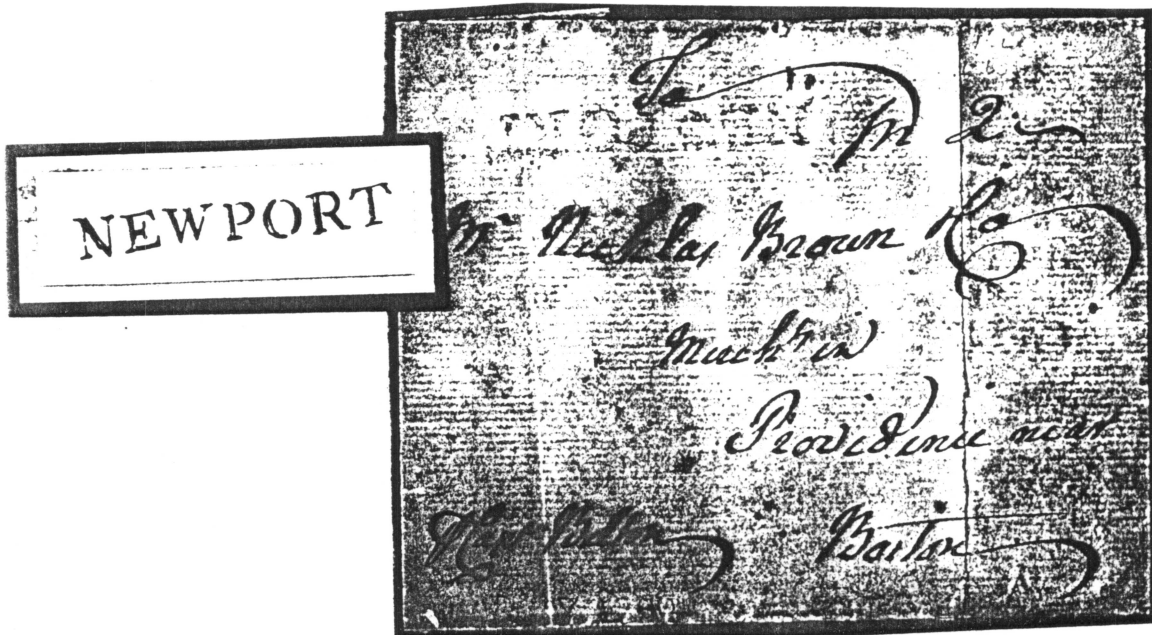
Zone rate, 6d x 2 = 12d = 4 dwts.
Ship fee 2d = 16 grns.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



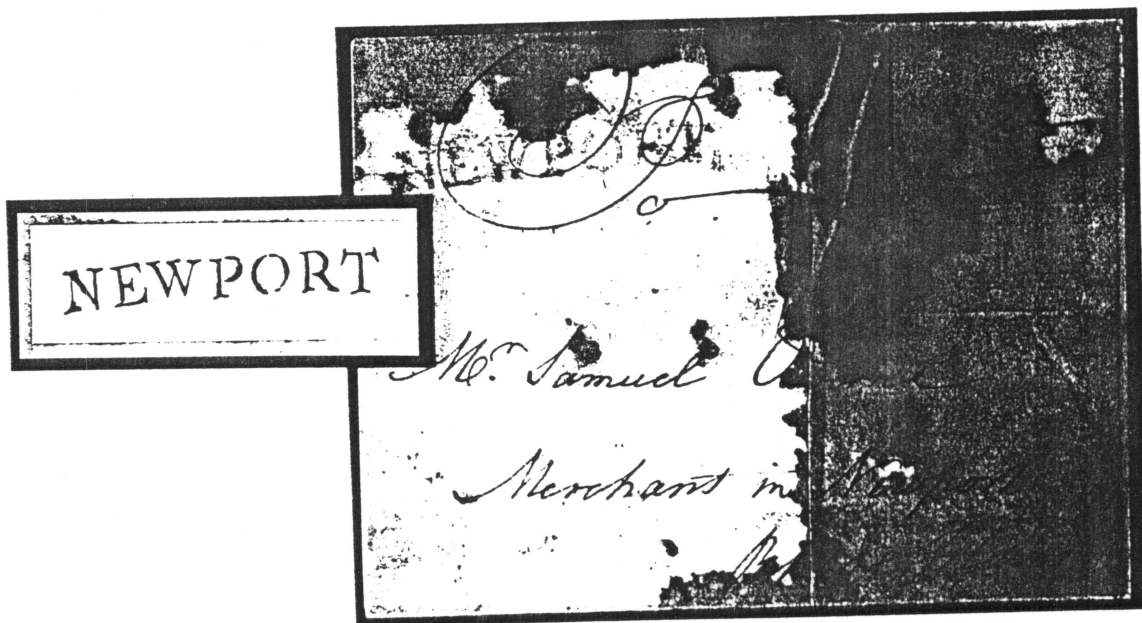
2 dwts. = 6d., rate Boston to Newport.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



August 31, 1771.

Two pennyweights paid. NEWPORT 42 x 5 mm. Small "W."



December 5, 1771.

Again, two pennyweights. NEWPORT 43 x 6½ mm. Large "W."

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

Miss^{rs} Sam^l & Wm^m Vernon / Boston April 2: 1770

Gentlemen I Rec^d
by the Hand of Mr Peter Mumford y^e 27th of
March Last 27-12-0 in Cash & ~~by order~~
on said Mumford for Ten pounds Nine
Shillings & 2^d which this day he Rec^d &
is the Balance of your acct with
Gentlemen yours to serve

W^m Whitwell

Miss^{rs} Sam^l & Wm^m Vernon

Brotherly Rhode Island
2 DC

"Peter Mumford rides between Boston and Newport.....
He avers that he is an expeditious rider...; publick
report is against him; it is said that he carries
more letters for his own private profit* than are
sent from all the offices he stops at..." Possibly
he carried this folded letter for his own benefit!

*The Hugh Finlay Journal 1773-1774.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

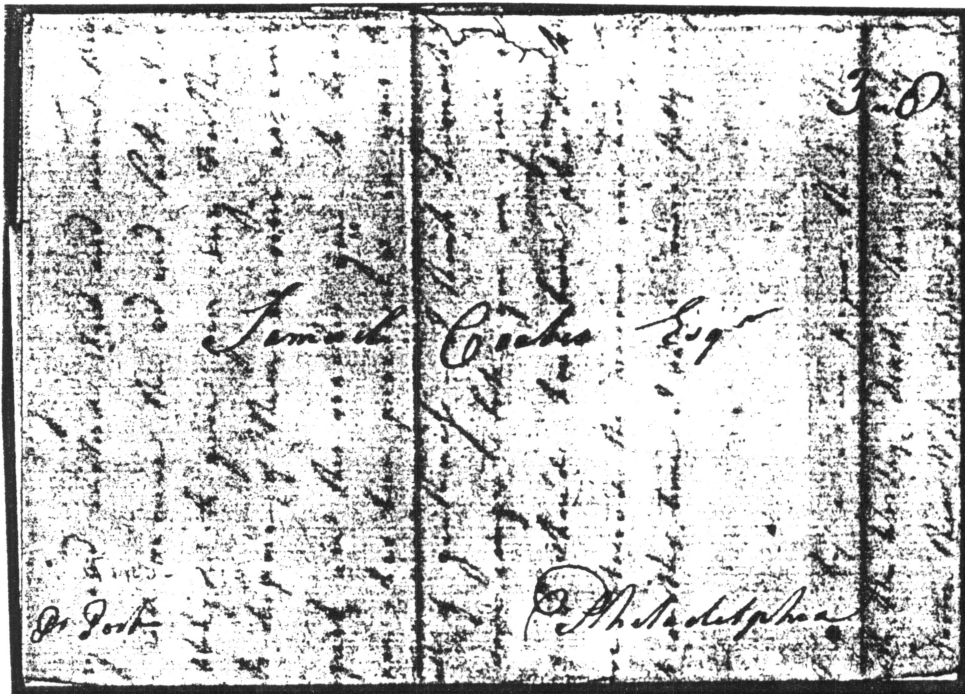
Ca. 1773.

Double rate Boston - Providence. Mis-carried past destination and NEWPORT handstamp applied as transit marking. Double zone rate of 8 pence = 2 pennyweights, 16 grains.*



Cf. Ter Braake, II-105; analysis corrected.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



Newport, February 24, 1783. Prepaid in silver, no depreciation calculation. Rated under 1775 Act as re-enacted October 18, 1782:

Zone rate to 100 miles.....2 pennyweights;
16 grains each additional 100 miles....32 grains

Total (2 dwts., 32 grns.) = 80 grns. = 3 dwts. 8 grns.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

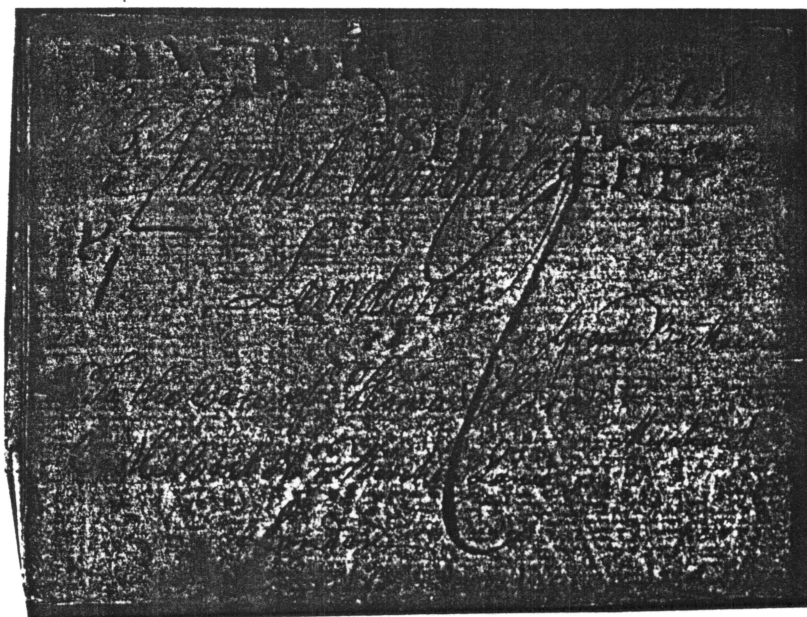
N·P



Newport, le 6 Aout, 1785. Rated under 1782 re-enactment of 1775 Act for 200 - 300 mile zone at 3 dwts. 8 grns. The local currency depreciation calculation was 50%, or "1/8:"

3 dwts. 8 grns. = 10 pence Sterling;
1 sh. 8 pence = 20 pence Sterling.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



Datelined Richmond, R.I., March 13, 1790 (77 days before joining the Union). Contents indicate enclosures, hence double rate. Handed in at Newport and erroneously rated single. In England correctly charged double. "NEWPORT" handstamp differs significantly from Colonial style; see previous page, with usage in 1771. Note also the use of an outbound ship fee.

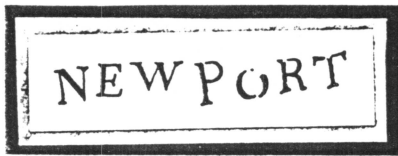
Federation postage:

Zone rate to 60 miles.....	1 dwt.
Outbound ship fee.....	8 grns.
Total <u>1 dwt. 8 grns.</u>	

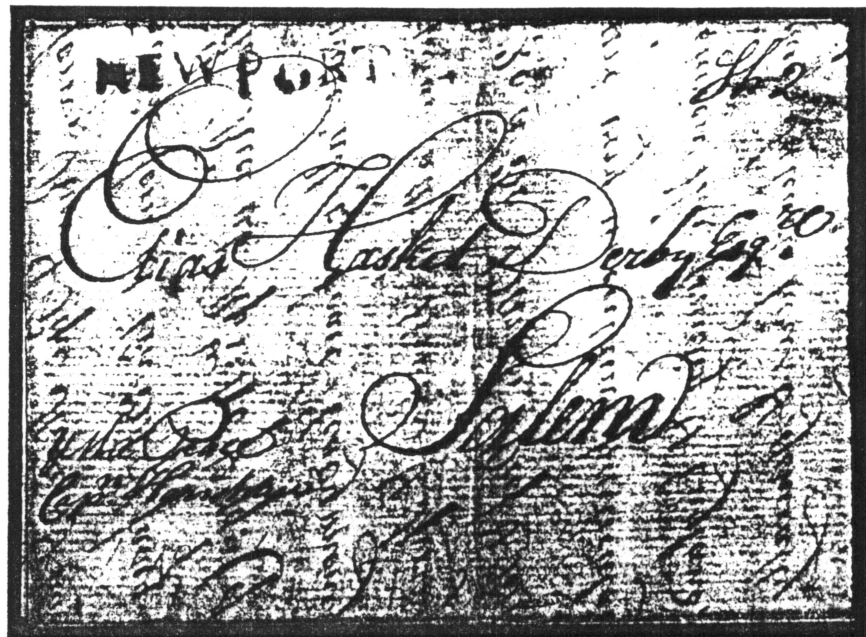
United Kingdom postage:

Inland (Deal to London) 4d x 2 =8d.
"Master's gratuity"1d.
Total <u>9d.</u>	

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



"P" = 7 mm.



Cadiz, 7 September, 1790.

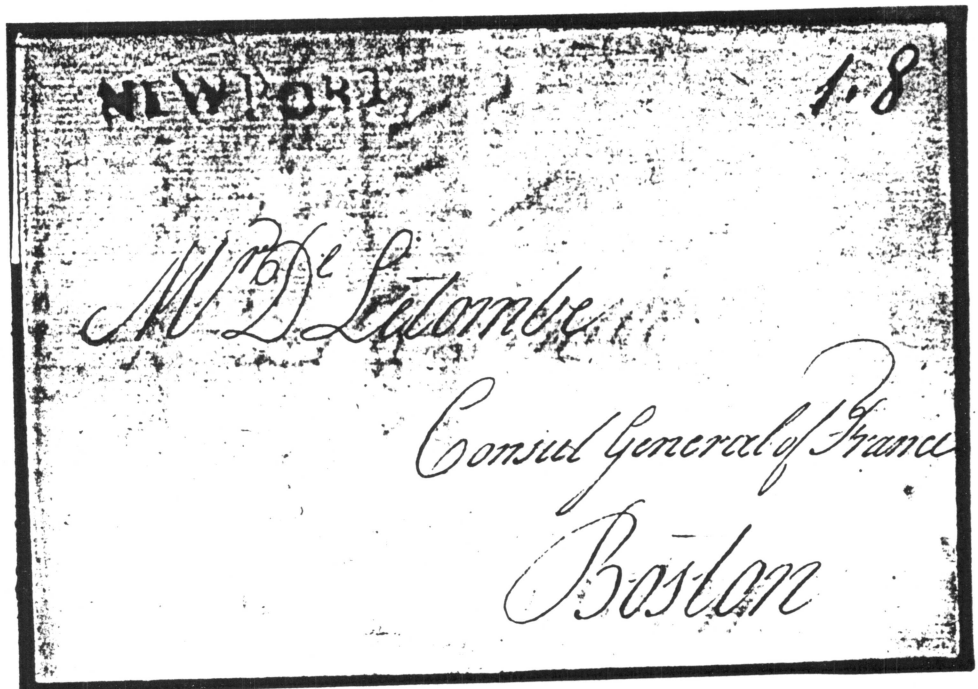
Zone rate Newport - Salem.....1 dwt., 8 grns.

Ship fee..... 16 grns.

1 dwt. 24 grns. = 2 dwts.



"P" = 6 mm.



Newport, October 31, 1791.

1 dwt. 8 grns. = 4d., zone rate to 60 miles.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



February 17, 1792. 2 dwt., 16 grns. zone rate.

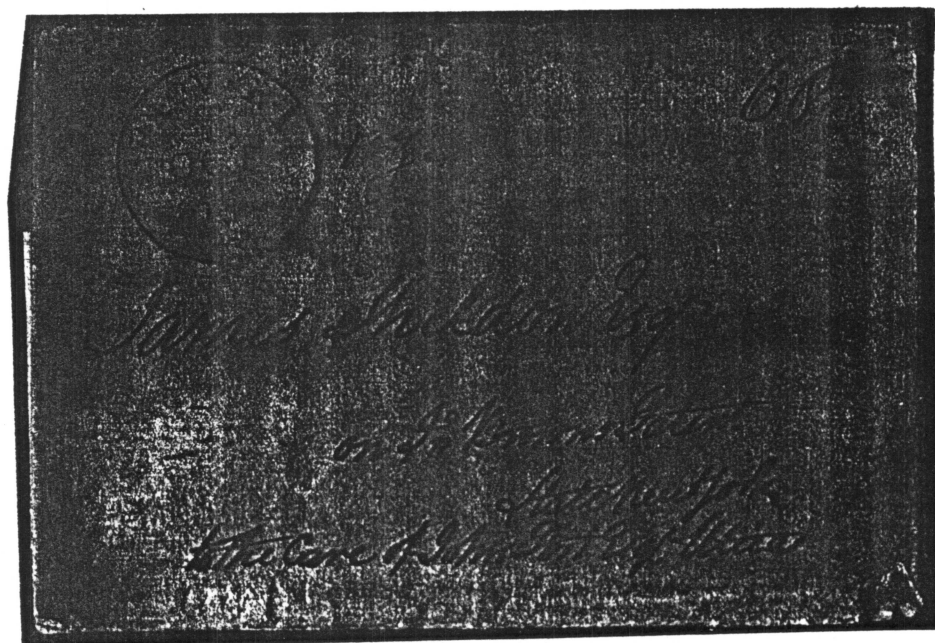
RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

PROVIDENCE

Usage 7/29/93 to 5/23/99



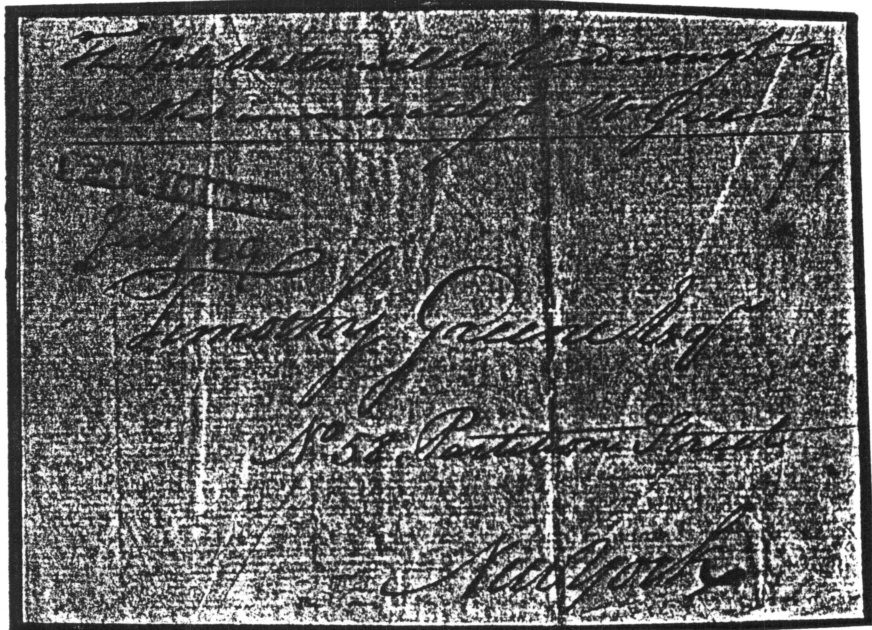
Way letter free-franked to Congressman.



October 18, 1799. First circular datestamp supplied by post office. In use till July 18, 1810. Only four 1799 usages recorded. 68¢ = 4 x 17¢; letter over one ounce.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

"Special Delivery."

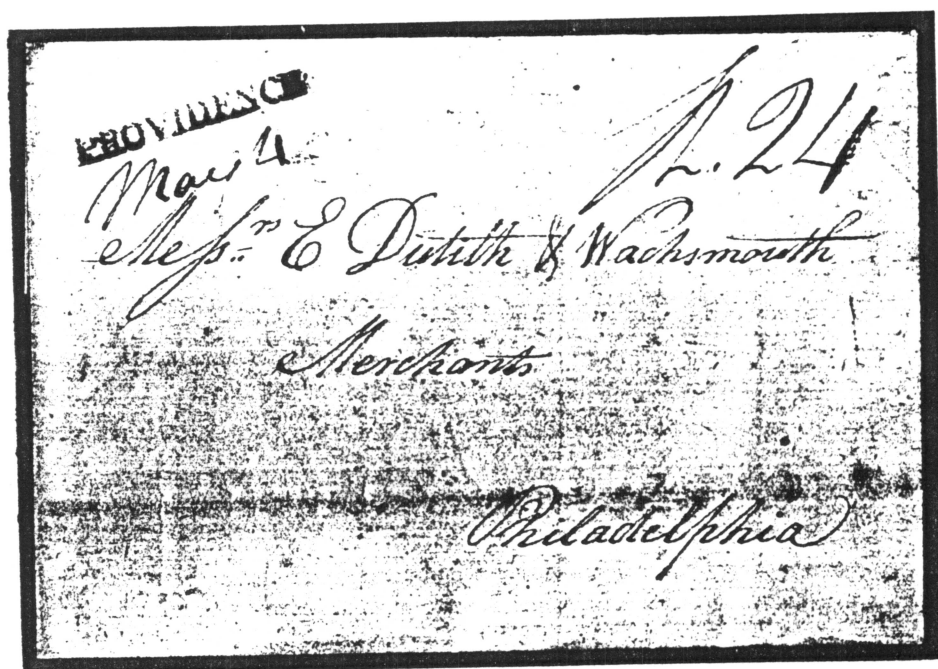


February 4, 1796. 17¢ zone rate to New York.
Per request, letter sent at once, not after a
48 hour delay. 2¢ handed to carrier directly
as an emolument; not part of rate structure.

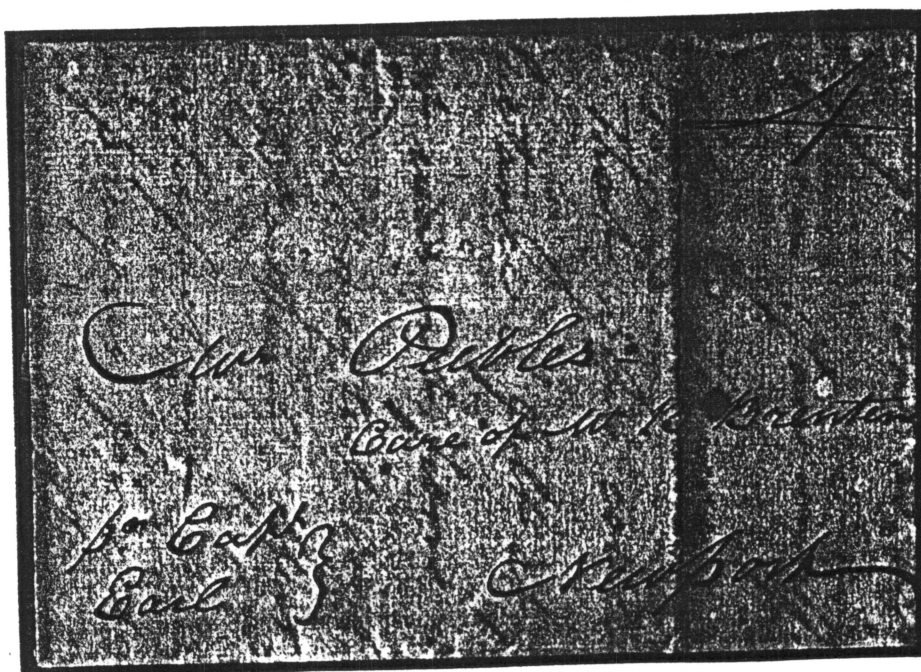
RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

THE FOUR CENT SHIP FEE

ONLY RECORDED R.I. USAGES

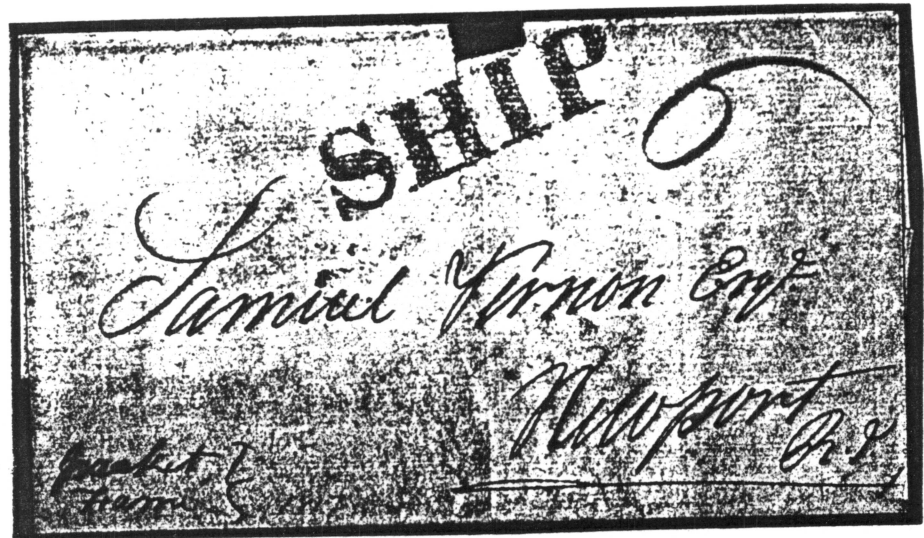
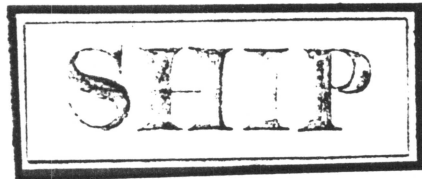


1795. 4¢ ship fee plus 20¢ zone rate. Act of February 20, 1792.

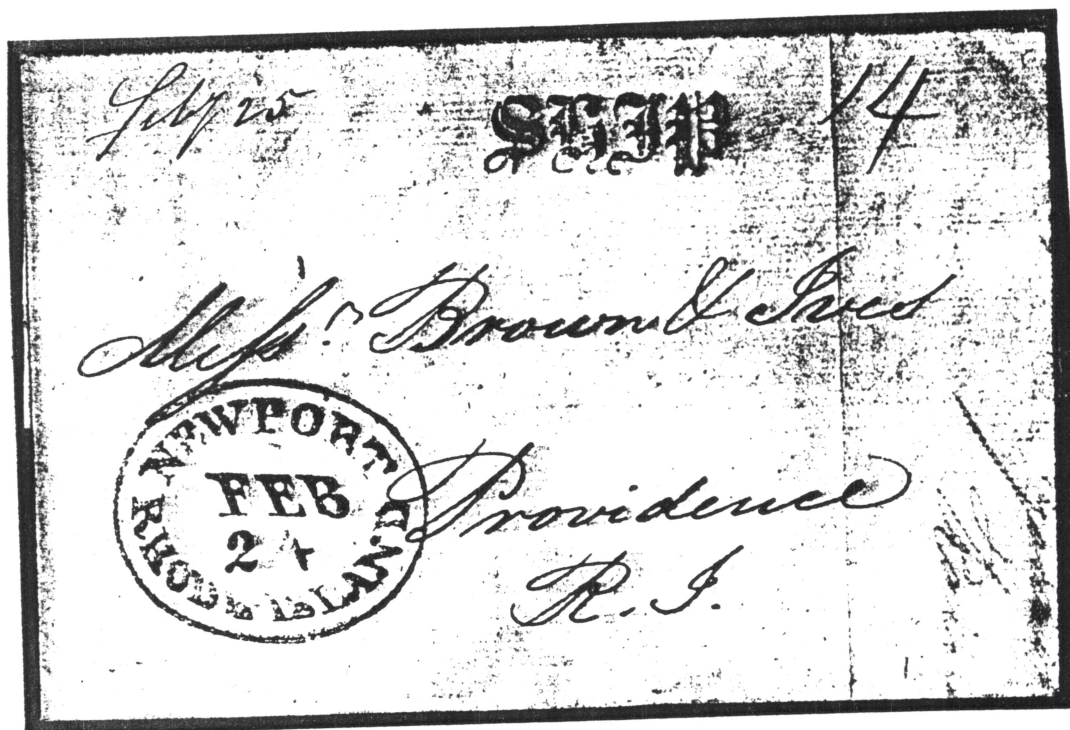


1797. 4¢ arrival port delivery.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

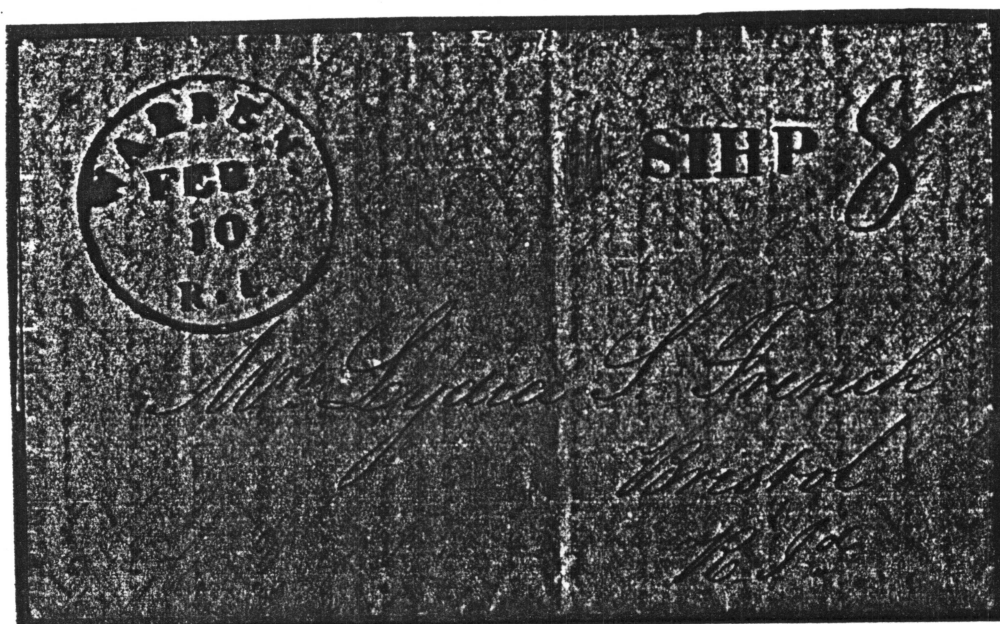


Largest R.I. "SHIP" marking. Usage 1815-17. Arrival port delivery 6¢.

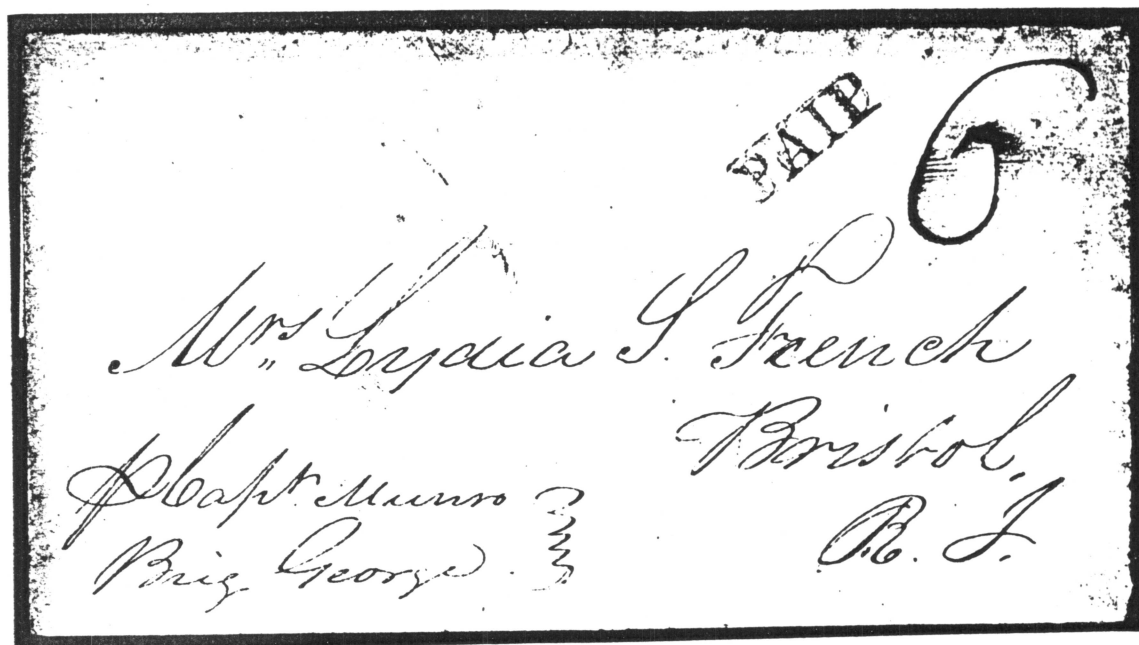


1826. "SHIP" 32 x 11 mm. Unrecorded size and date. Double, 6¢ x 2 + 2¢.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



Not altered or catalogued.



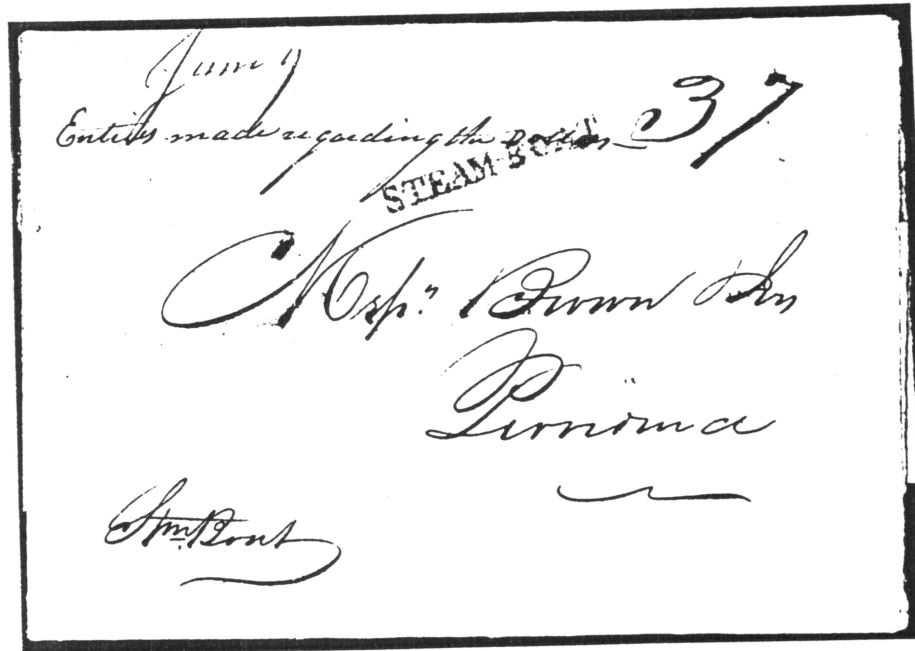
Marked PAID in error; over stamped SHIP.

See Exhibitor's "Letters to Lydia," SPA Journal, Nov. '81.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

EARLIEST RECORDED RHODE ISLAND STEAMBOAT MARKING

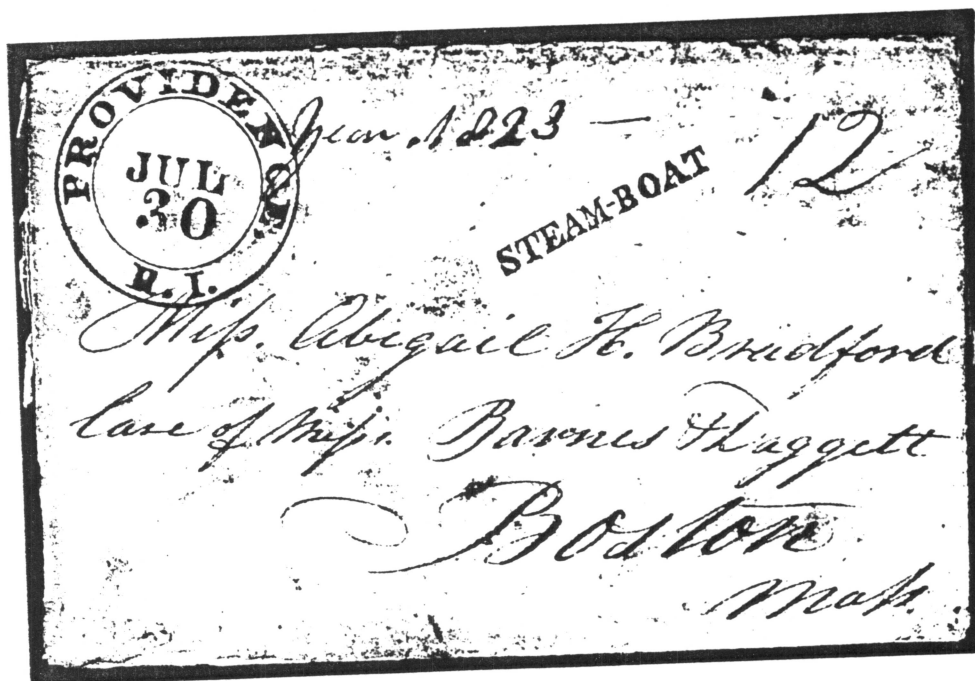
JUNE 7, 1823



Double since carried invoice; $18\frac{1}{2} \times 2 = 37\text{¢}$.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

This letter was long thought to be the earliest recorded steamboat usage into Rhode Island. Today it records the initial visit of the steamboat Fulton, on July 30, 1823. It is also the first known usage of this Providence date stamp with concentric circles; latest use, Nov. 1, 1831.

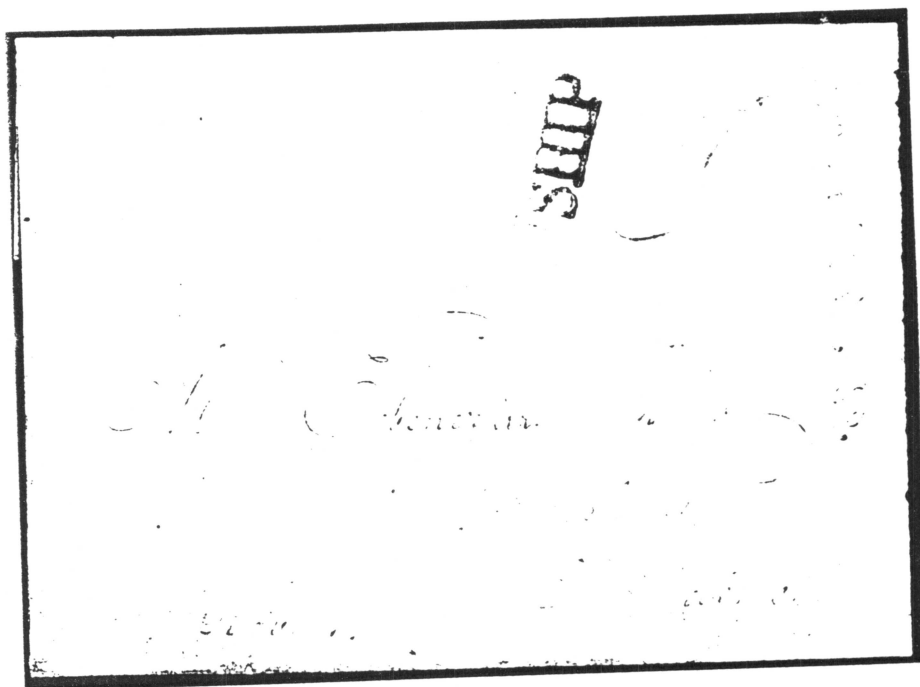


This Fulton was owned by the New York and Rhode Island S.S. Co.

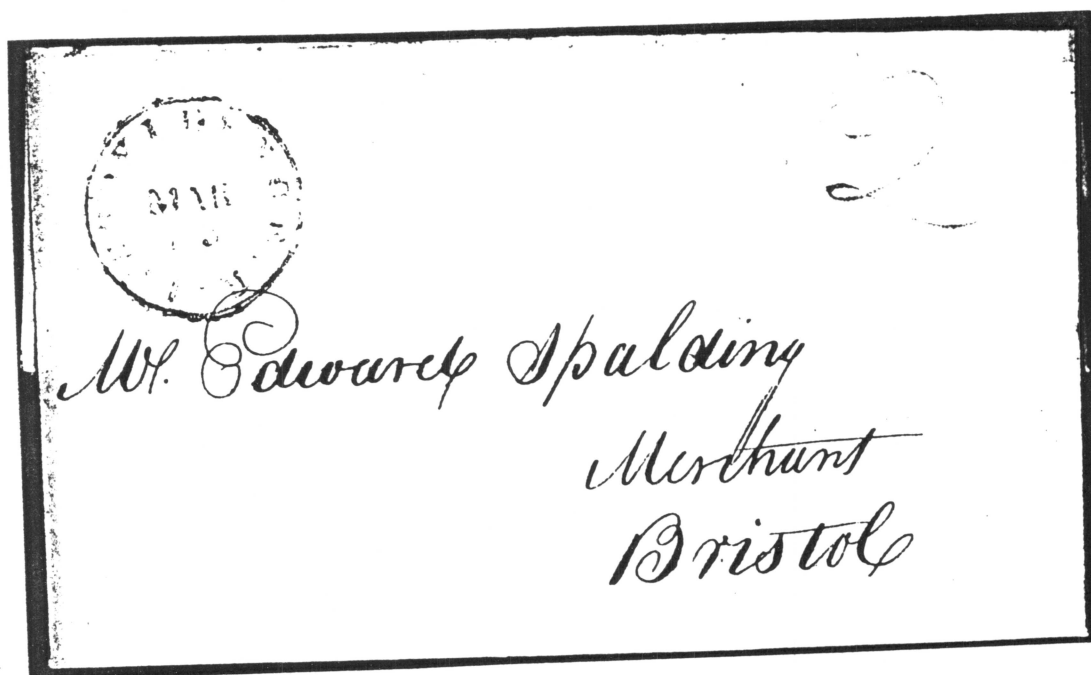
RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

WAR RATE COVERS

(PROGRESSION BY RATE, NOT DATE)

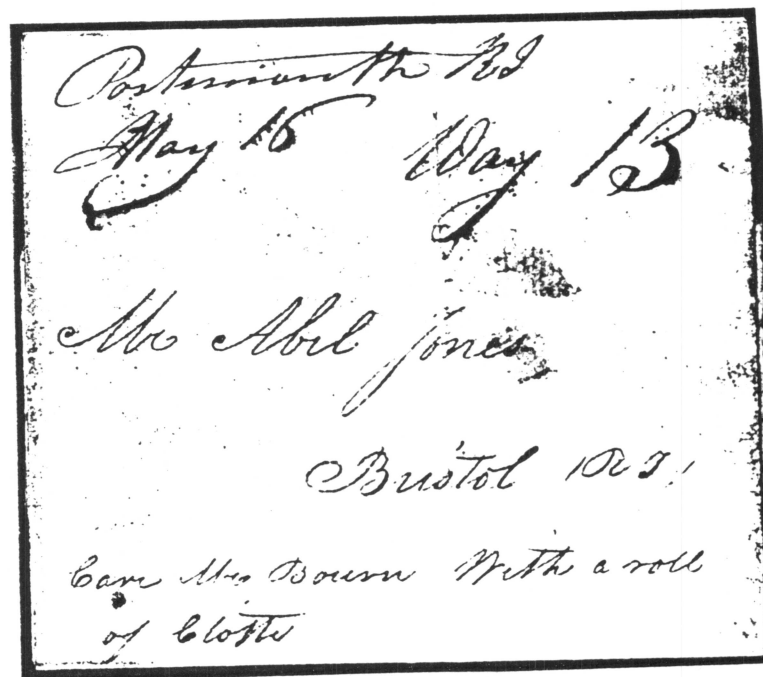


Ship 6¢ + 50% = 9¢. Lowest possible War Rate. One of the two recorded into R.I.



8¢ + 50% = 12¢

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

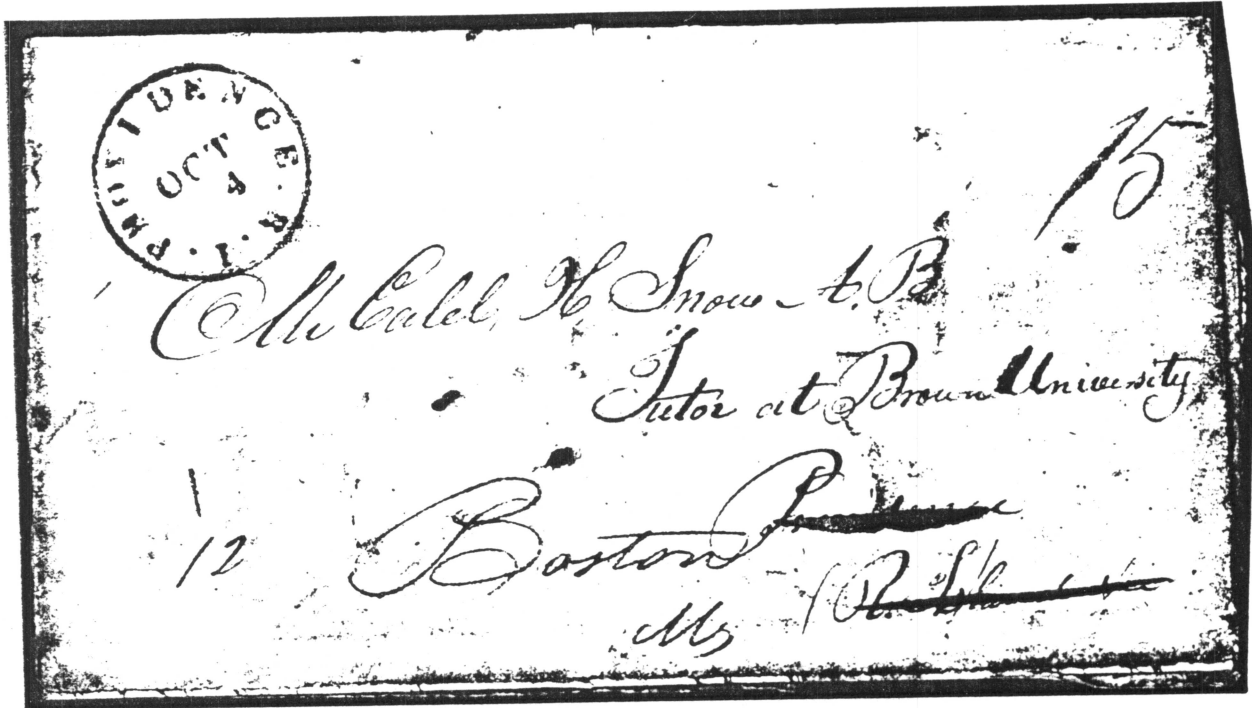


May 13, 1815. Entered mails at Portsmouth.

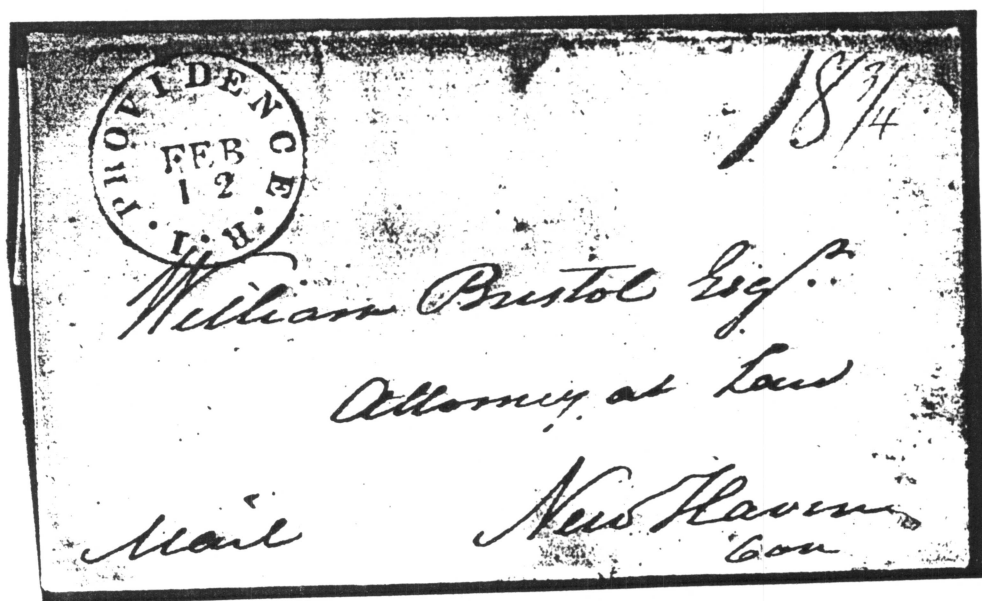
Zone rate + 50% =	12¢
Way fee.....	<u>1¢</u>
	<u>13¢</u>

Way 1¢ not subject to the surcharge; it was properly a fee, not a rate of postage.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

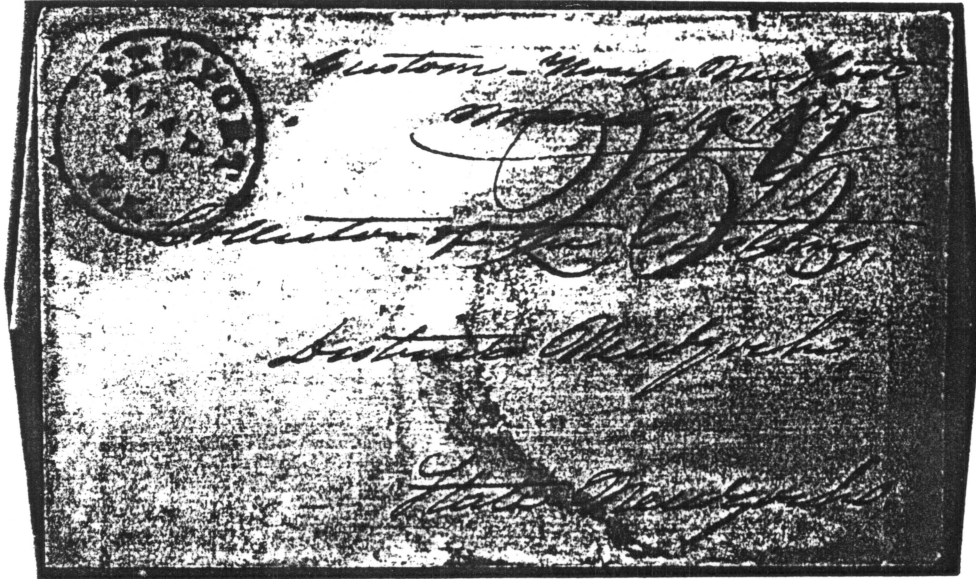


February 28, 1815. 10¢ + 50% = 15¢.

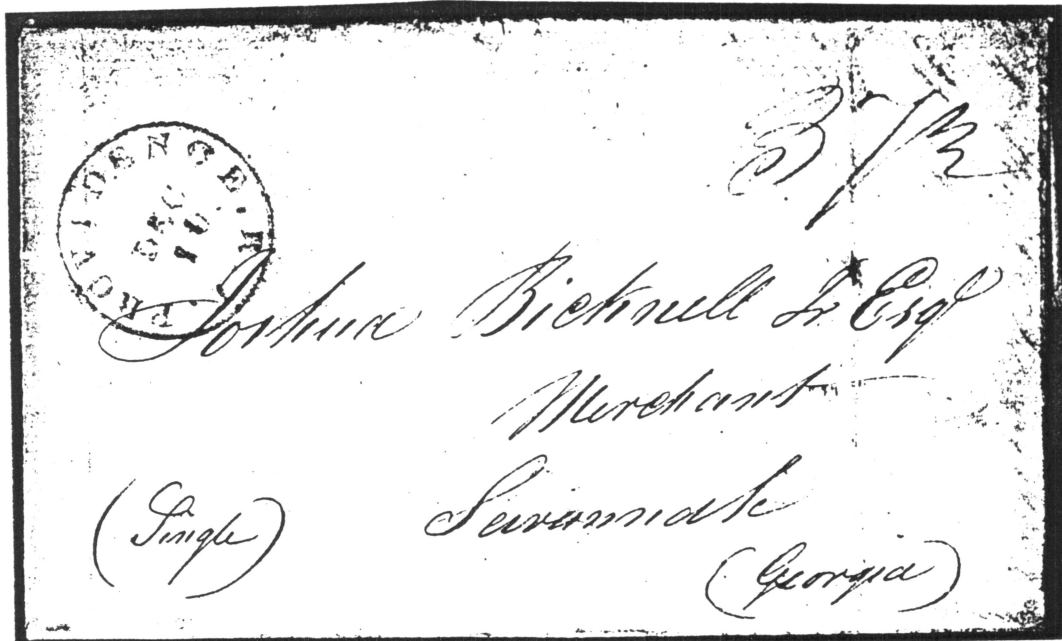


12 1/2¢ + 50% = 18 3/4¢.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

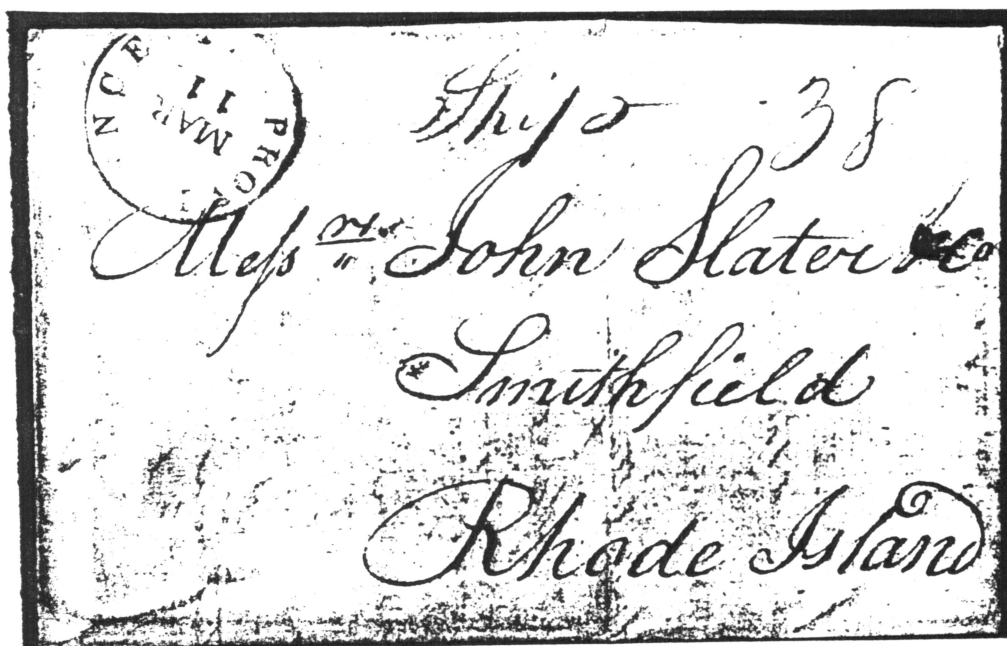


$$17\text{¢} + 50\% = 25\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}.$$

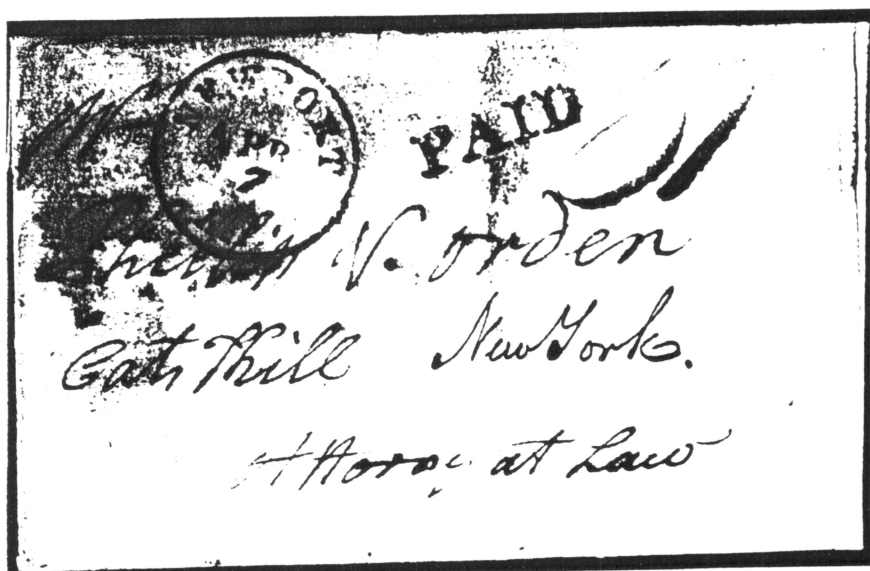


$$1815. \quad 25\text{¢} + 50\% = 37\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}.$$

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

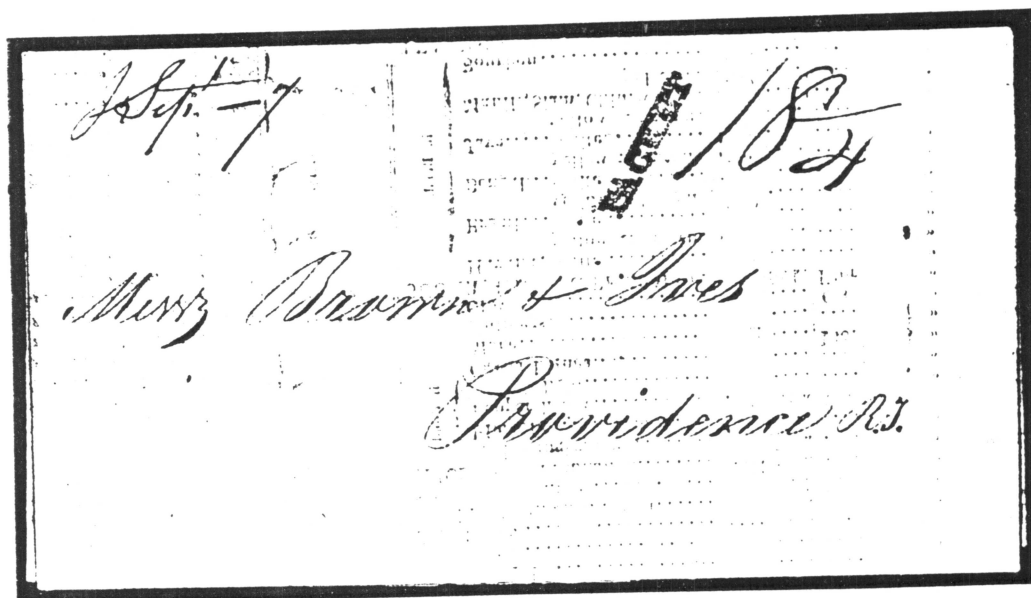


Triple. $8\text{¢} + 50\% = 12\text{¢}$; $\times 3 = 36\text{¢} + 2\text{¢}$ ship fee = 38¢ .



Double. $17\text{¢} + 50\% = 25\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$; $\times 2 = 51\text{¢}$.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

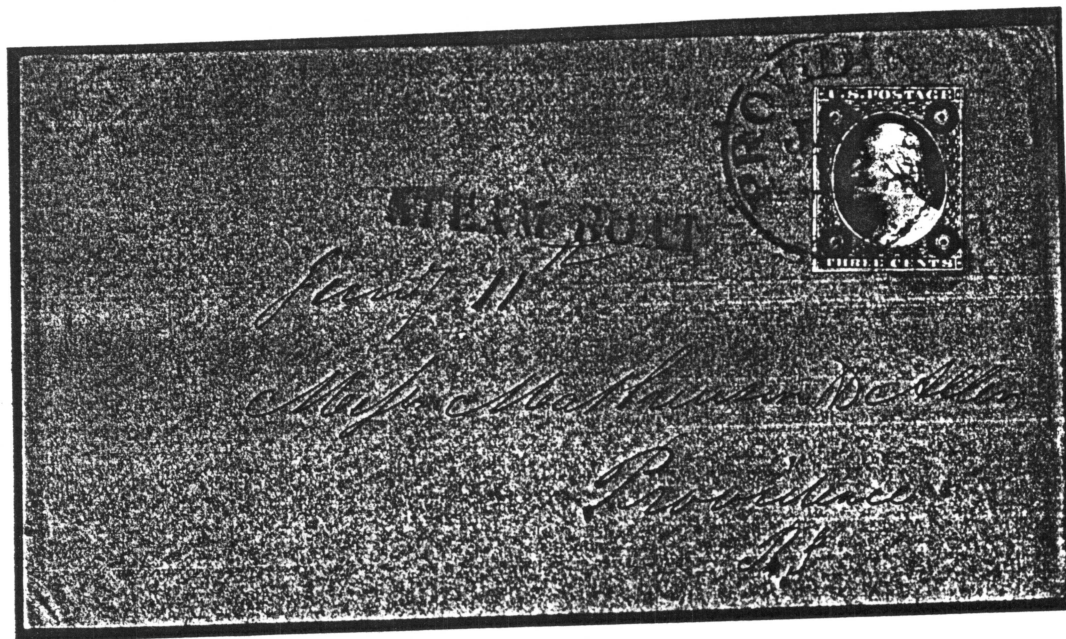


In 1825 a revenue increase was sought by classifying certain waterways as post roads. Providence used the marking PACKET to denote this new - and expensive - tariff. Four recorded.

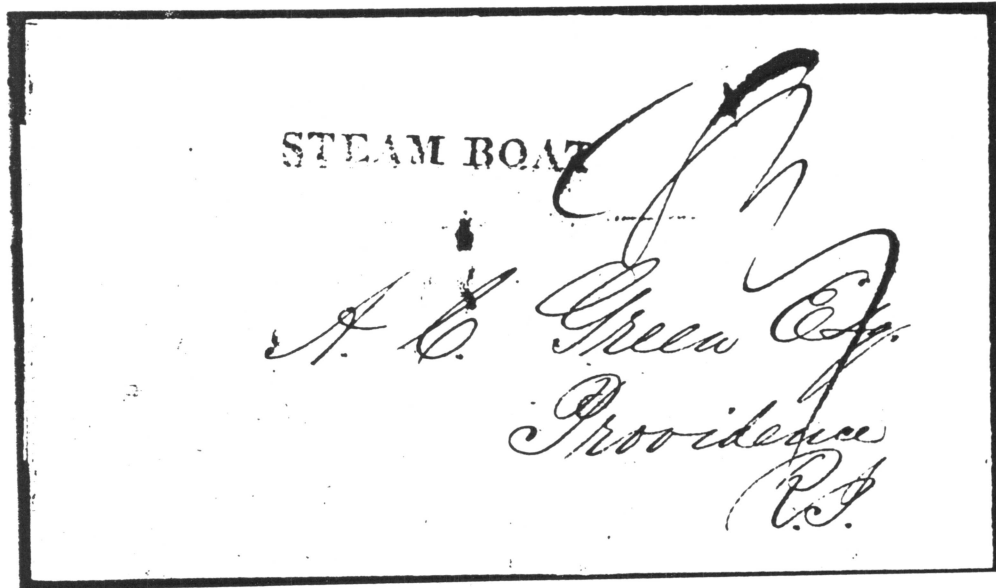
RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



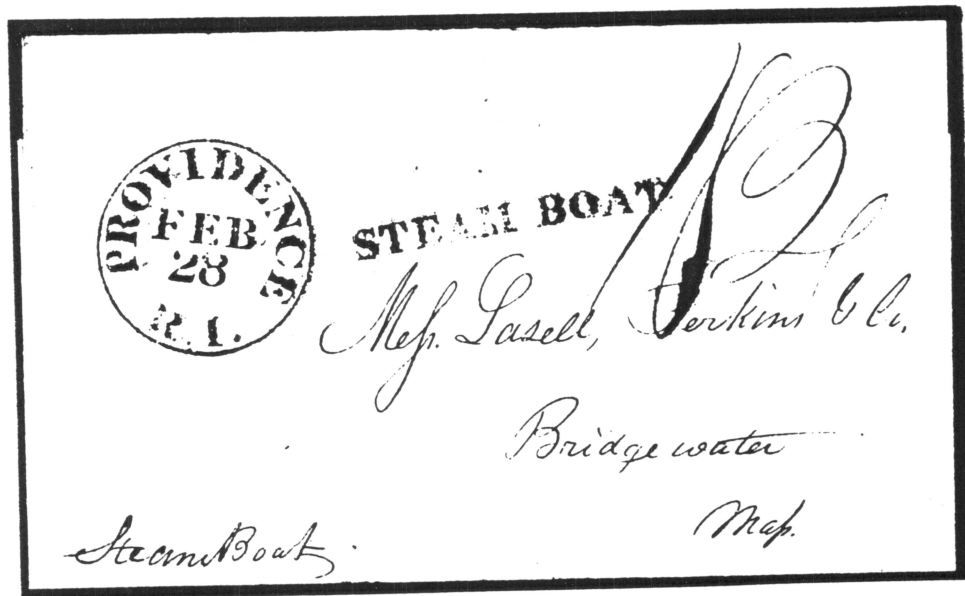
In the early 1850s Providence had but one STEAMBOAT marking.



RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



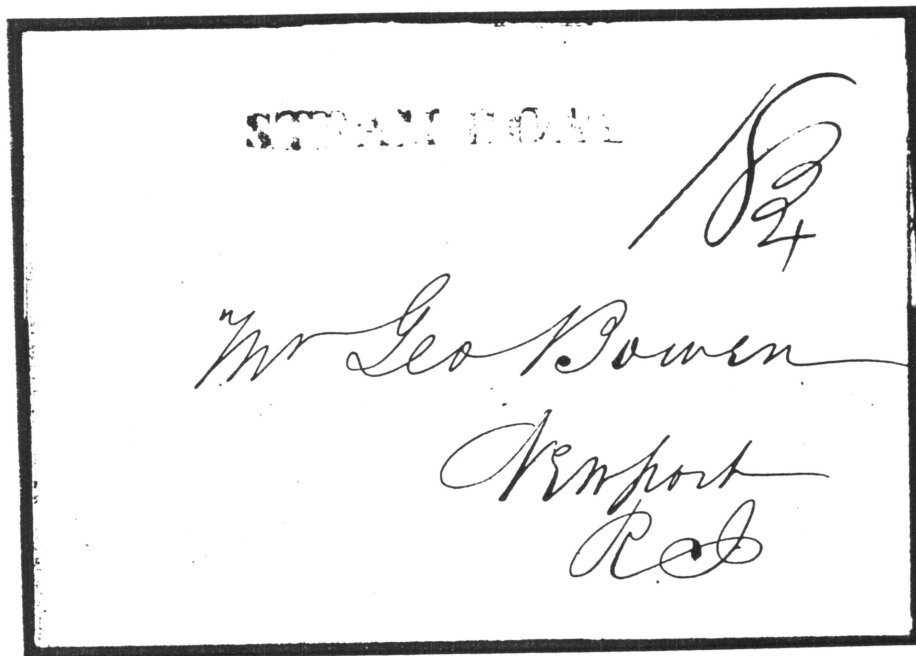
No circular date stamp - arrival port delivery.



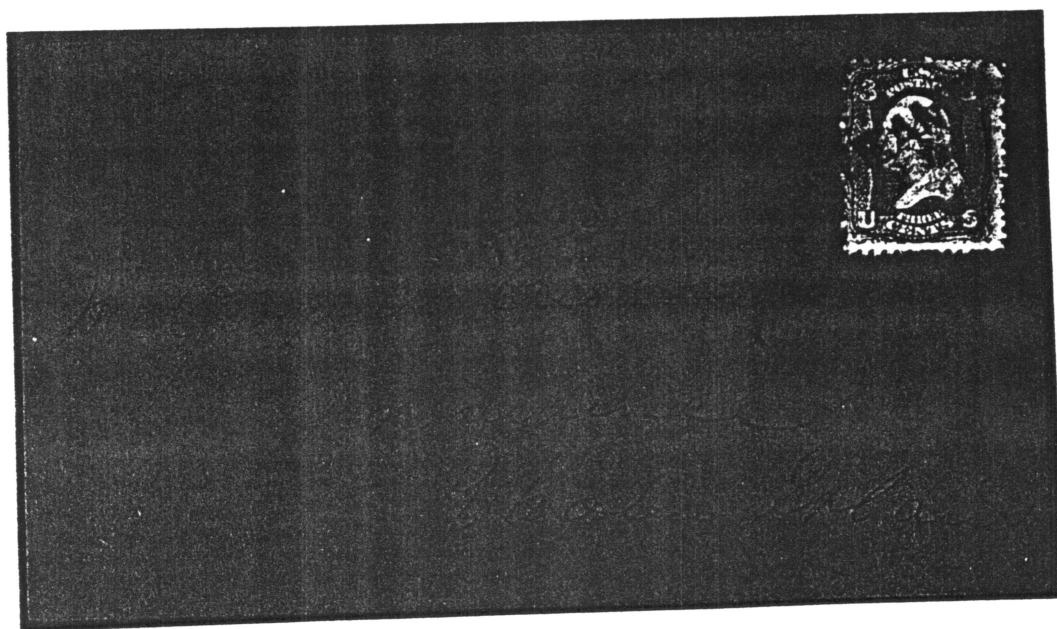
With CDS - delivery inland from arrival port.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

STEAM-BOAT



Hyphenated handstamp of Newport used mid 1830s to 1850s.



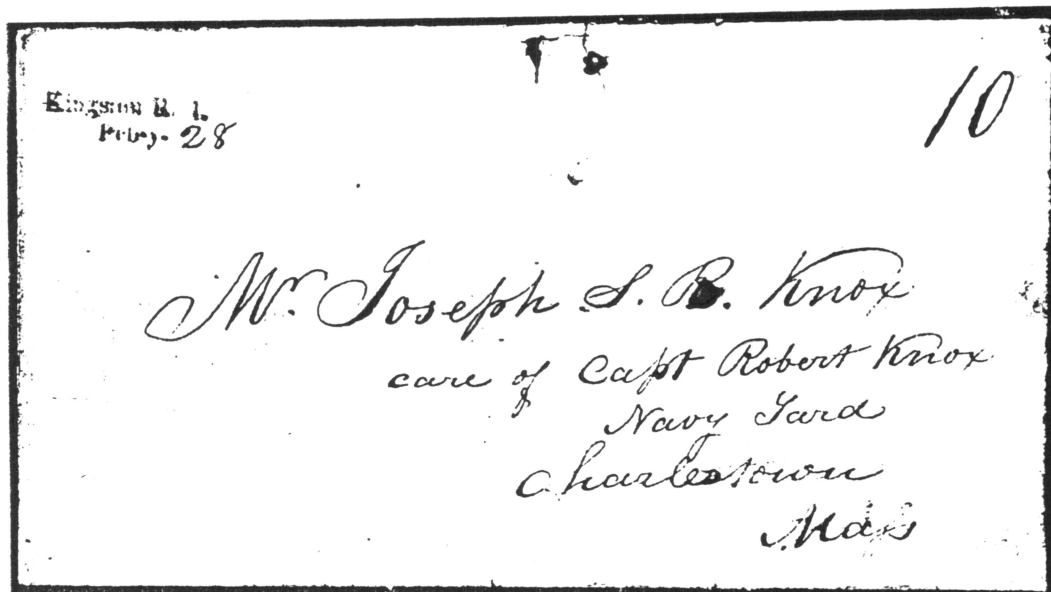
The Act of February 27, 1861 mandated 5¢ for non-contract steamboat letters delivered in the arrival port. Partial payment was accorded to the above three cent stamp, while the "DUE 2 cts." indicates balance owing.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

Straight Line Townmarks are scarce in 19th Century Rhode Island; three or less are recorded from each of these post offices.

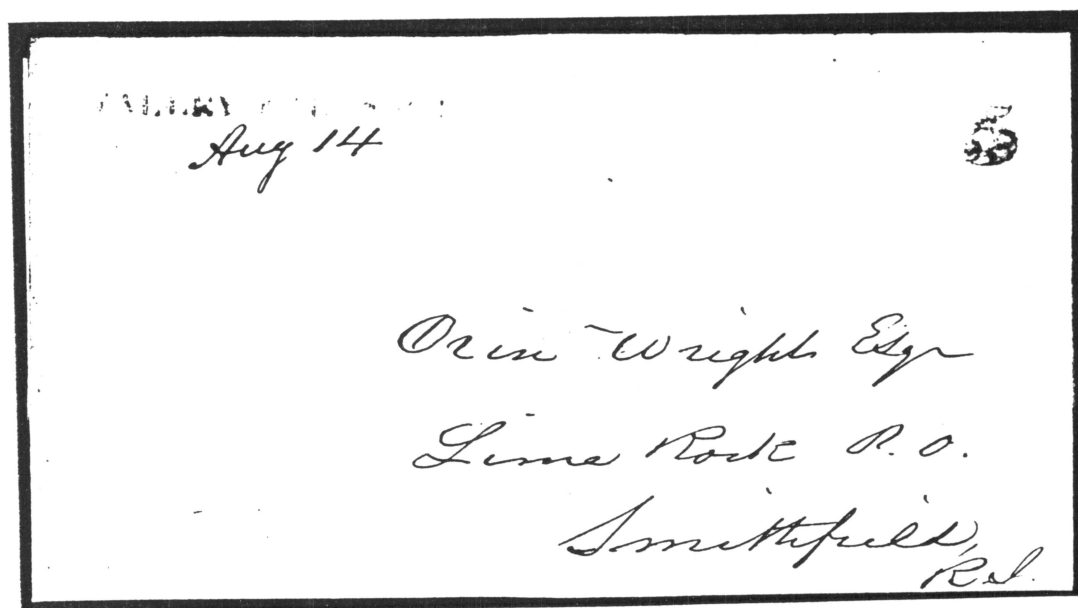
Kingston, R. I.
Febry. 28

22 x 12 mm. 1827.



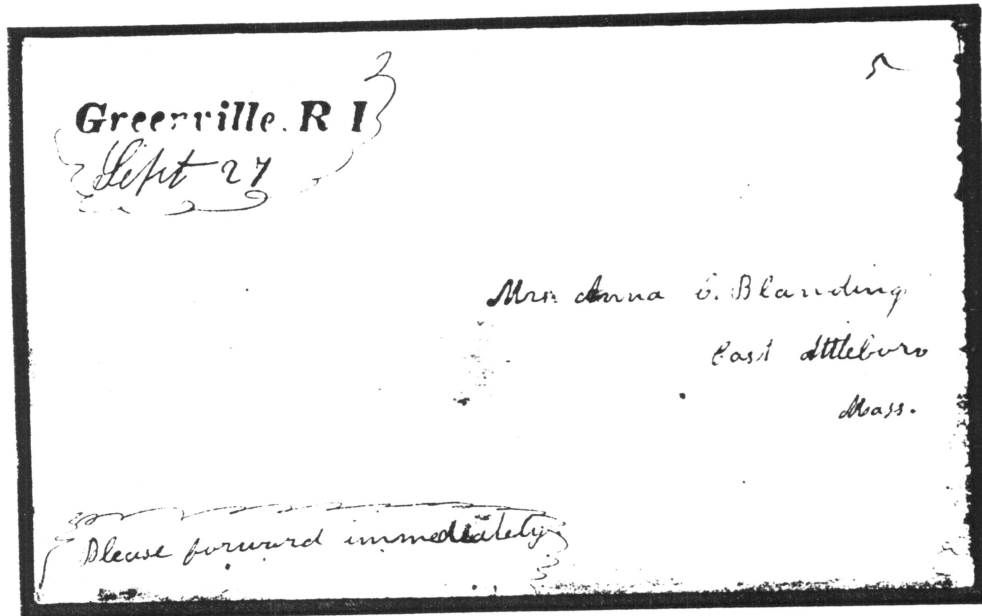
VALLEY FALLS R I

48 x 3 mm. 1849.

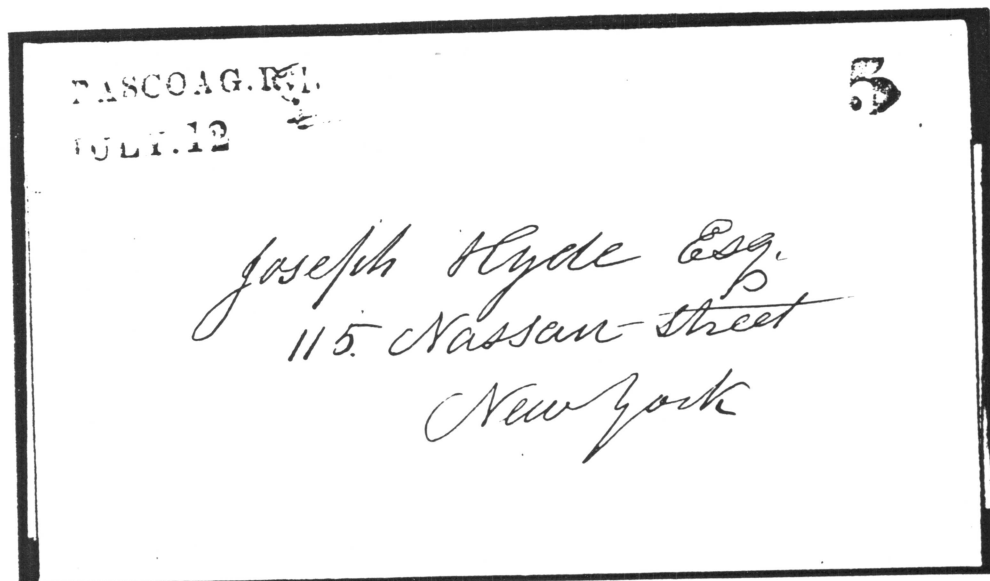


RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

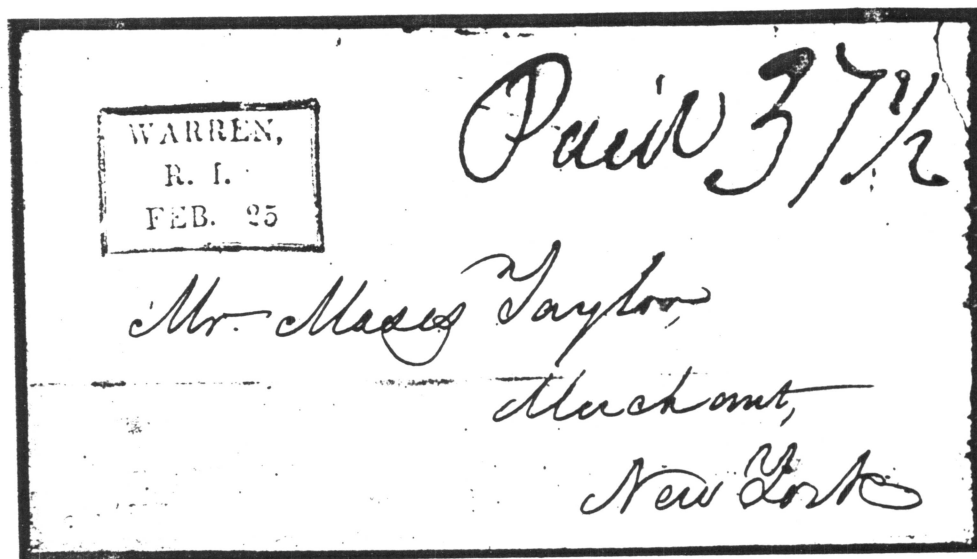
1846.



1848.



RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

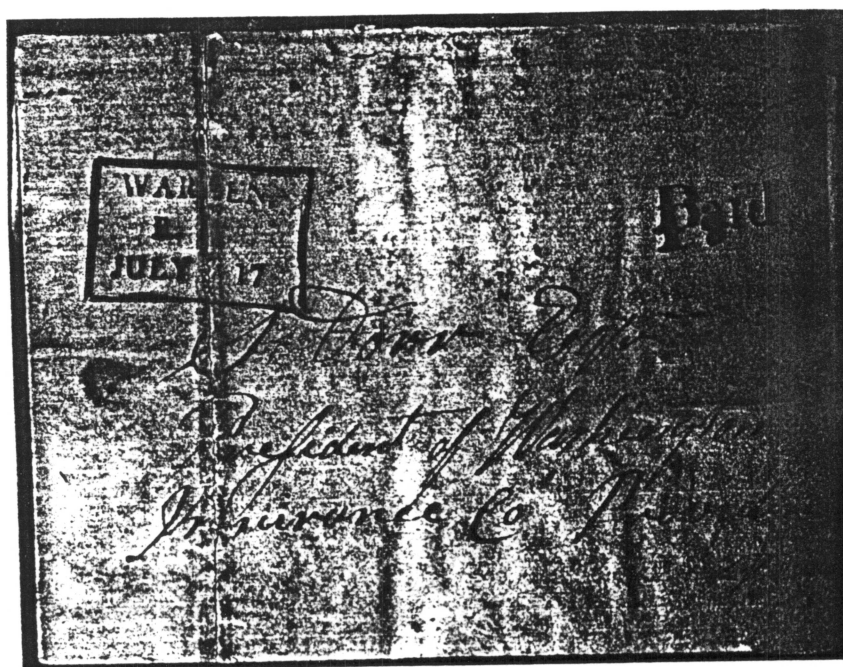


1837

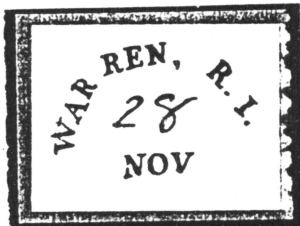
37½¢ = double rate
for 150-400 miles.

The Warren double-line box is fairly common....,

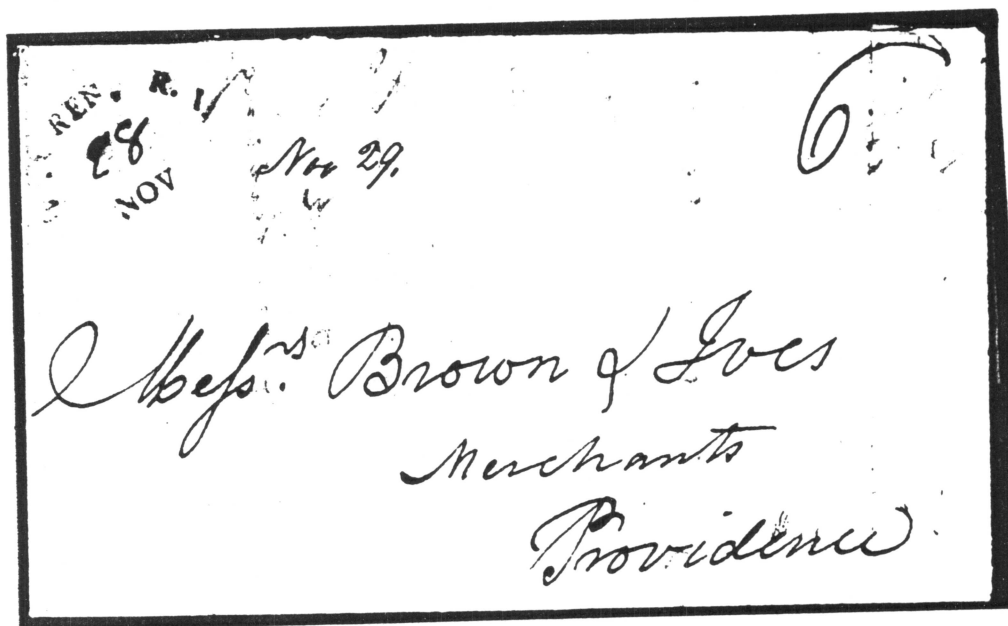
1839
6¢ rate to 30 miles.



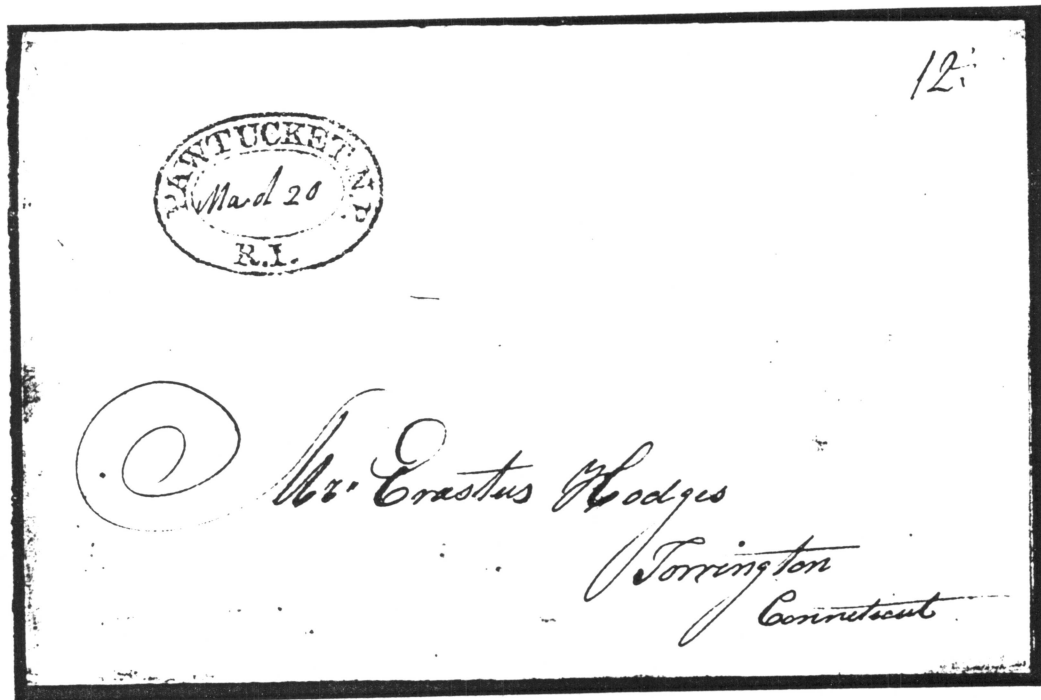
RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



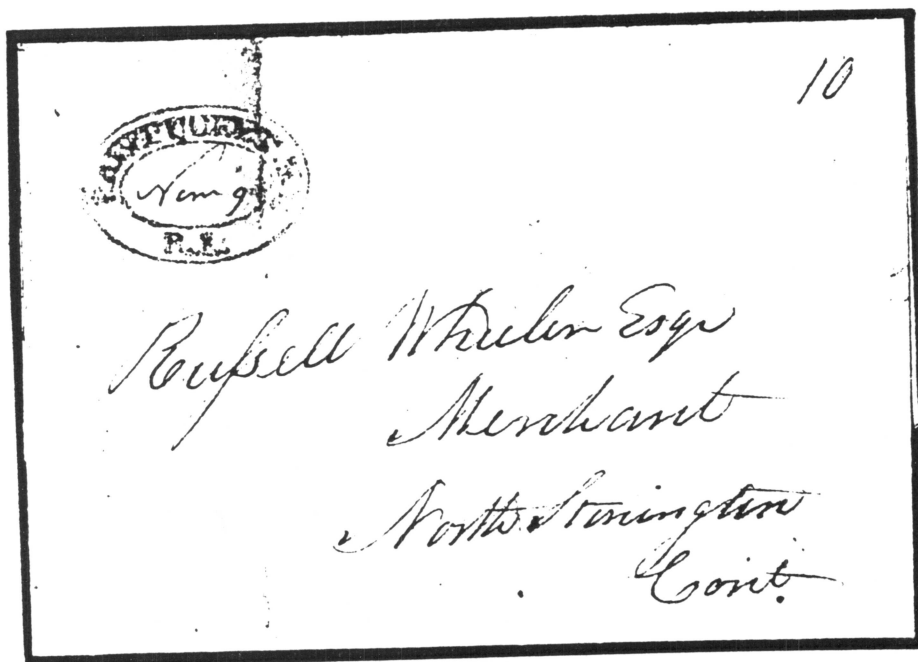
...While this - the only Rhode Island arc marking - is seldom seen.



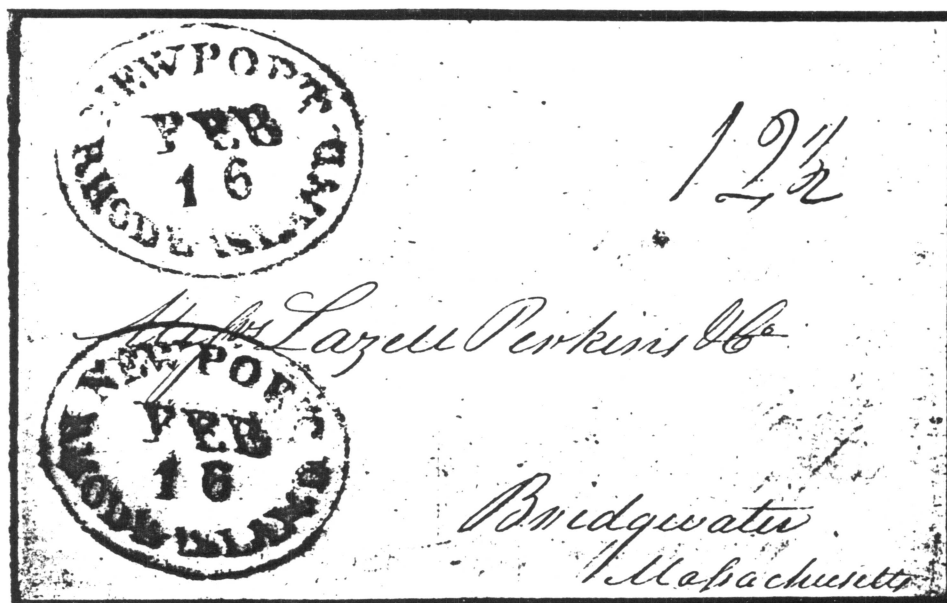
RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



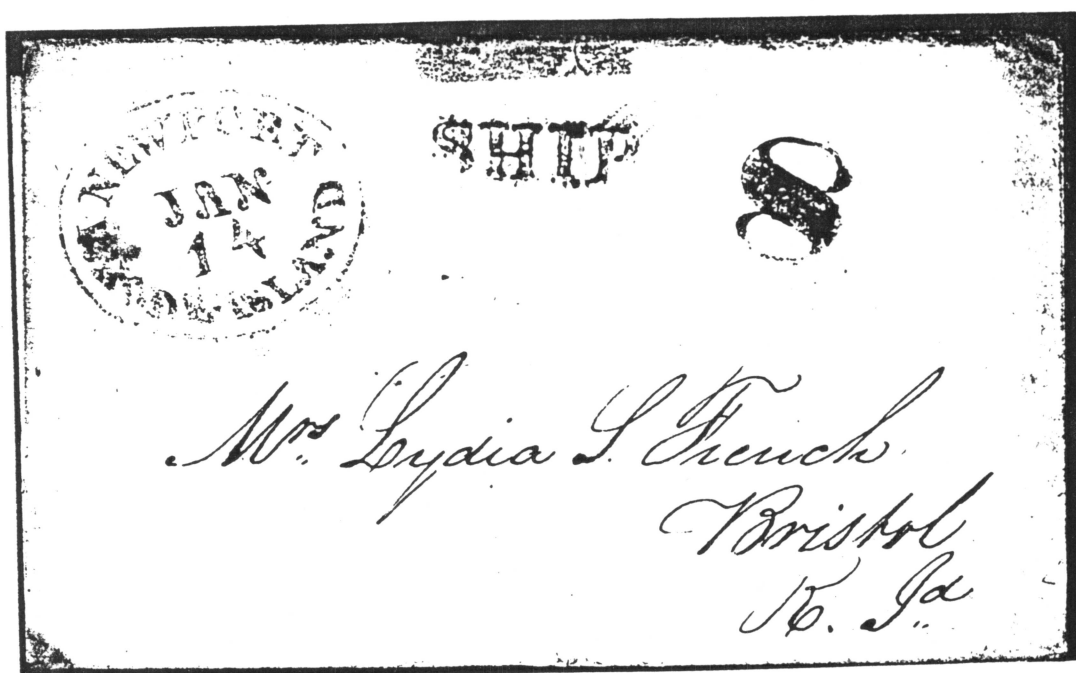
N.P. indicates North Providence. This marking was used 1825 to 1833; then the "N.P." was eliminated.



RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

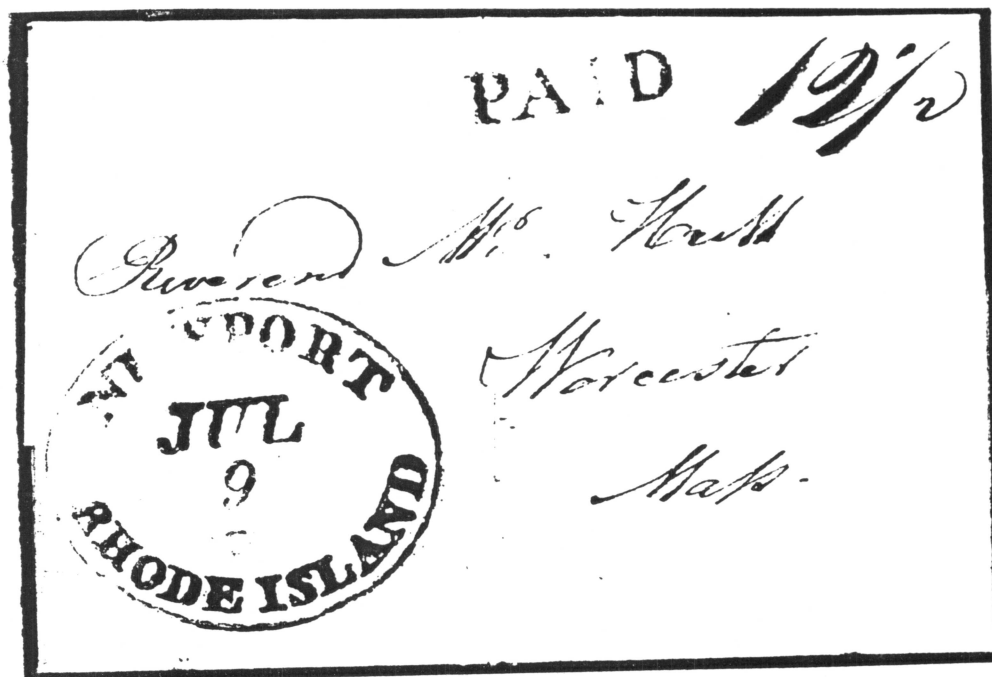


.....Newport Ovals are known in green.....

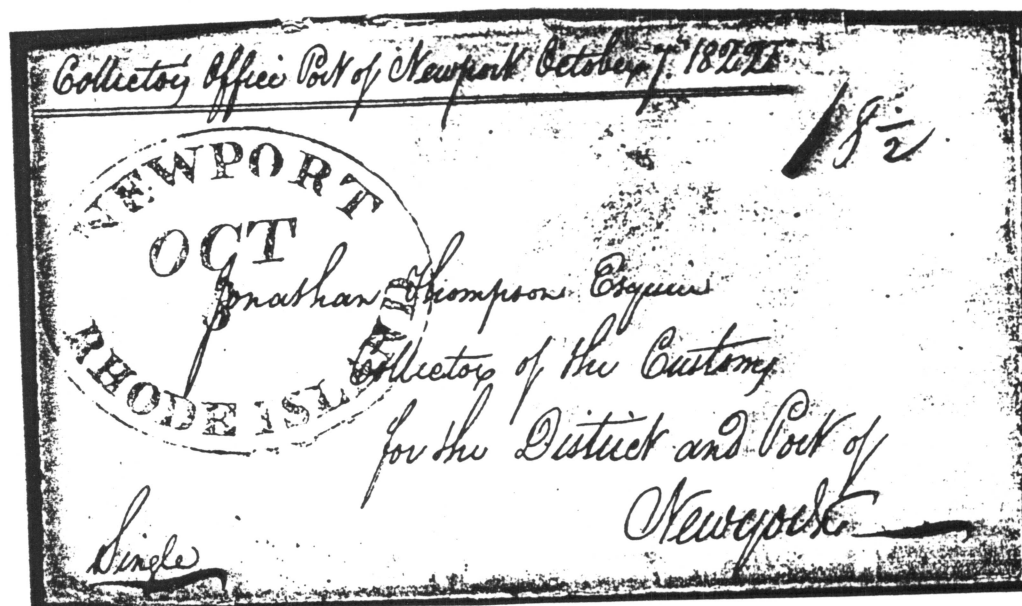


.....and in red; all 41 x 34 mm. And.....

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



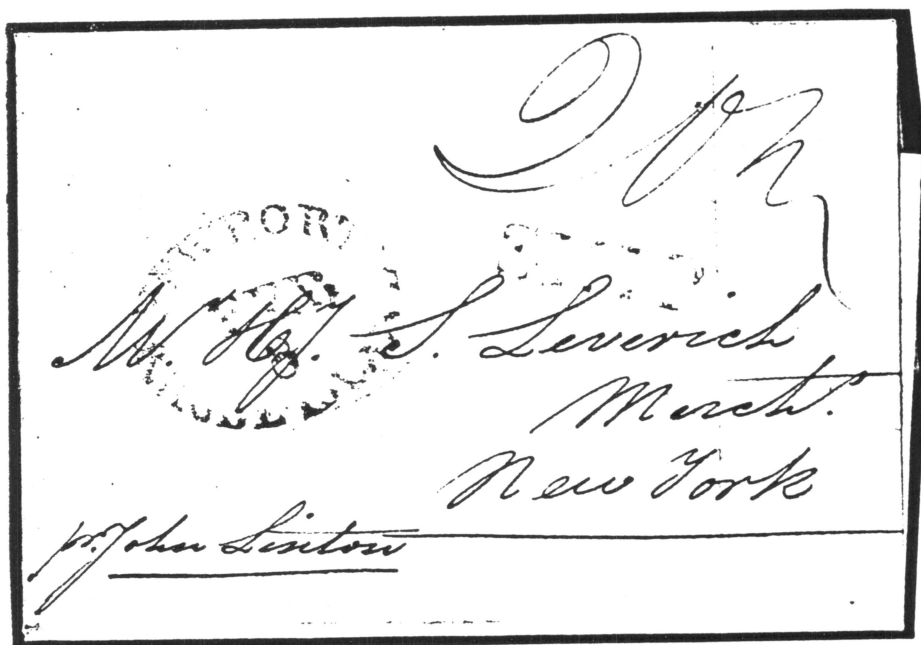
.....and in BIG RED! And.....,



.....even in black (the scarcest). Both ovals 53 x 44. mm.

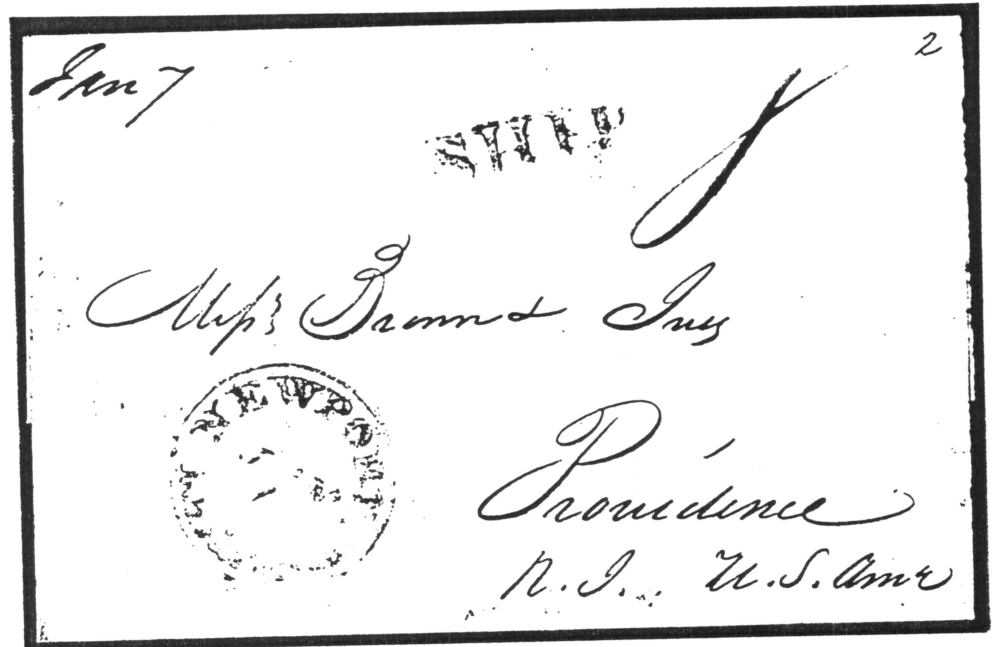
RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

And there are Rimless Ovals....,

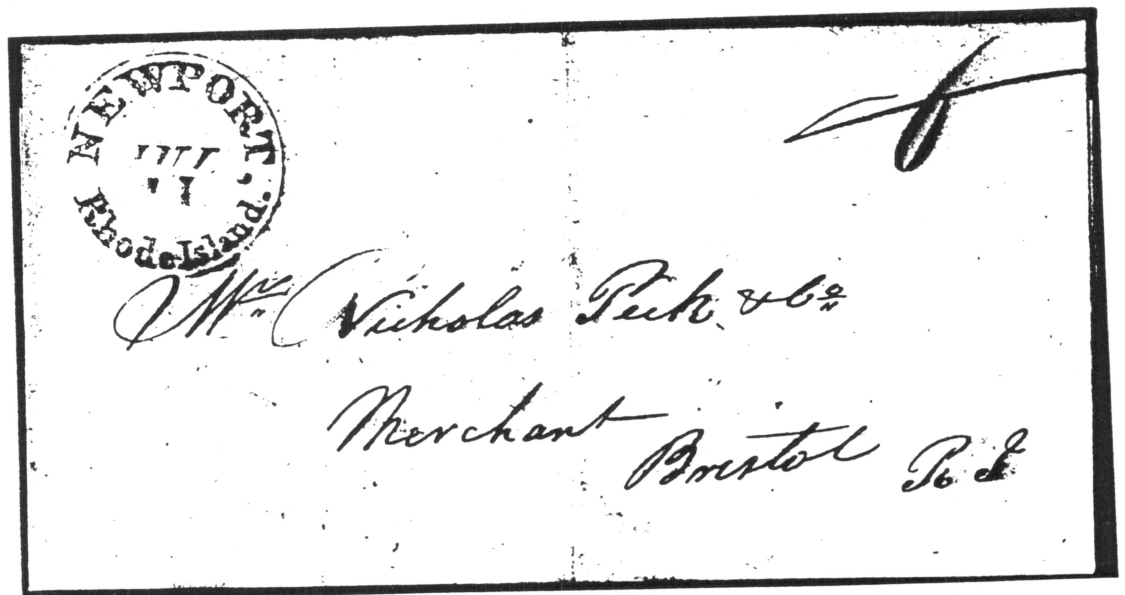


From New Orleans, December 23, 1830.
By ship; 2¢ and 18 3/4¢ to New York.

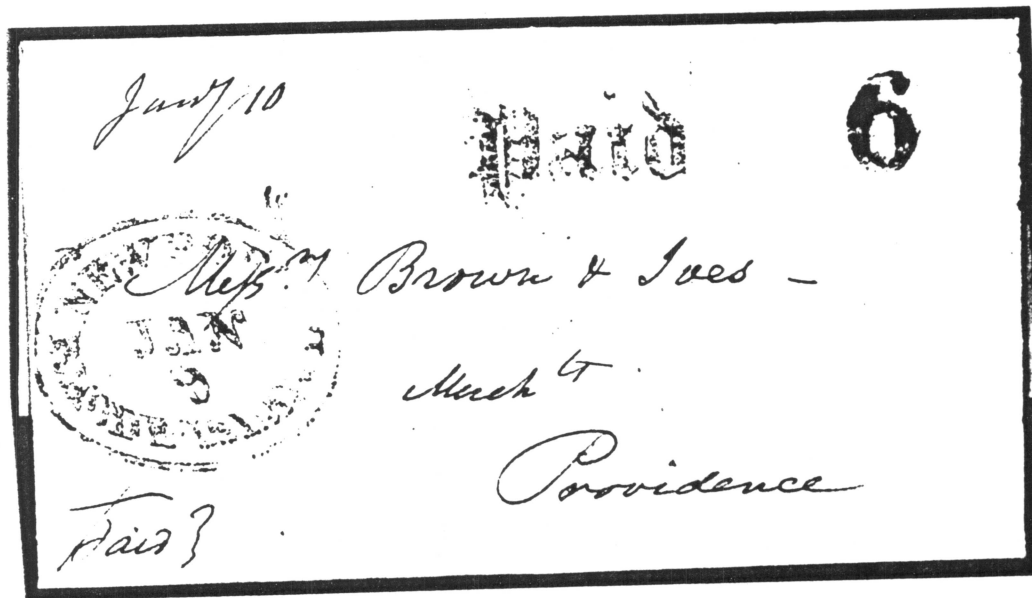
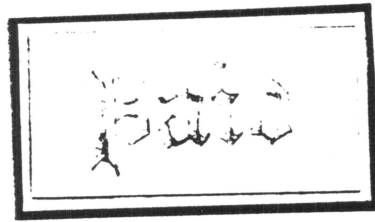
RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



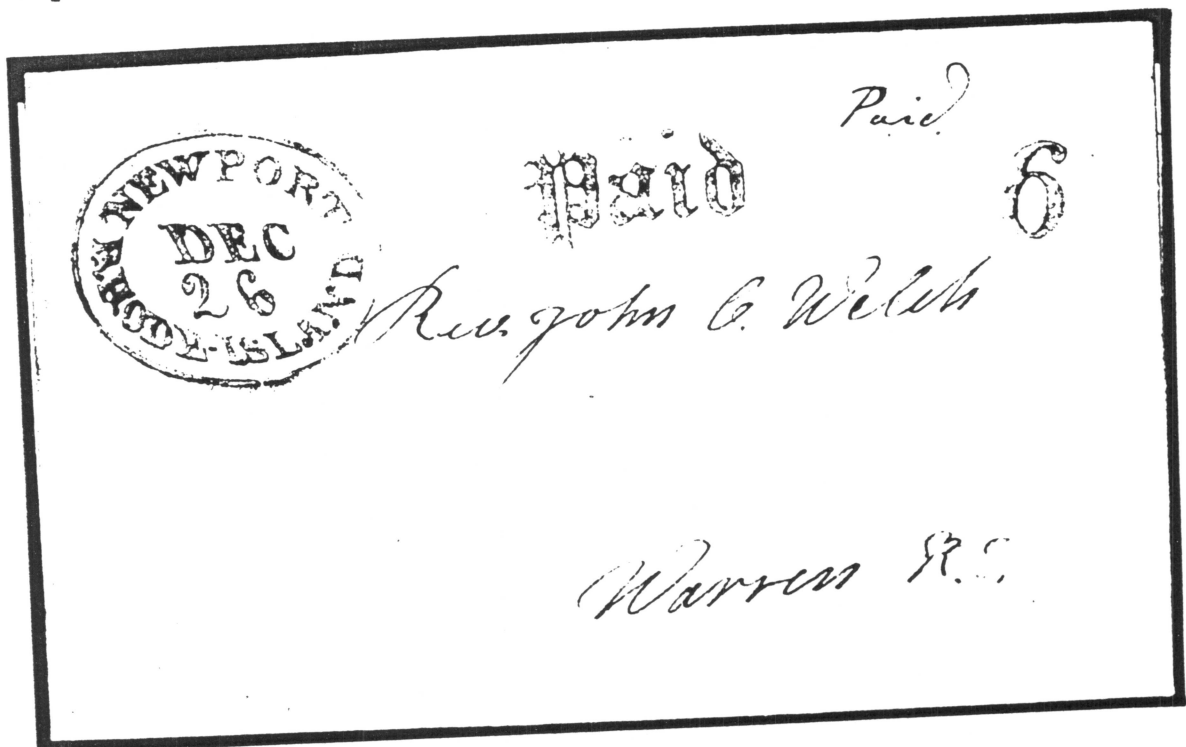
Newport's scarcest marking. A simple circular with Rhode Island spelled out. Twelve known, seven in institutions.



RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



And Newport's Old English is in two styles: both upper and lower case....,

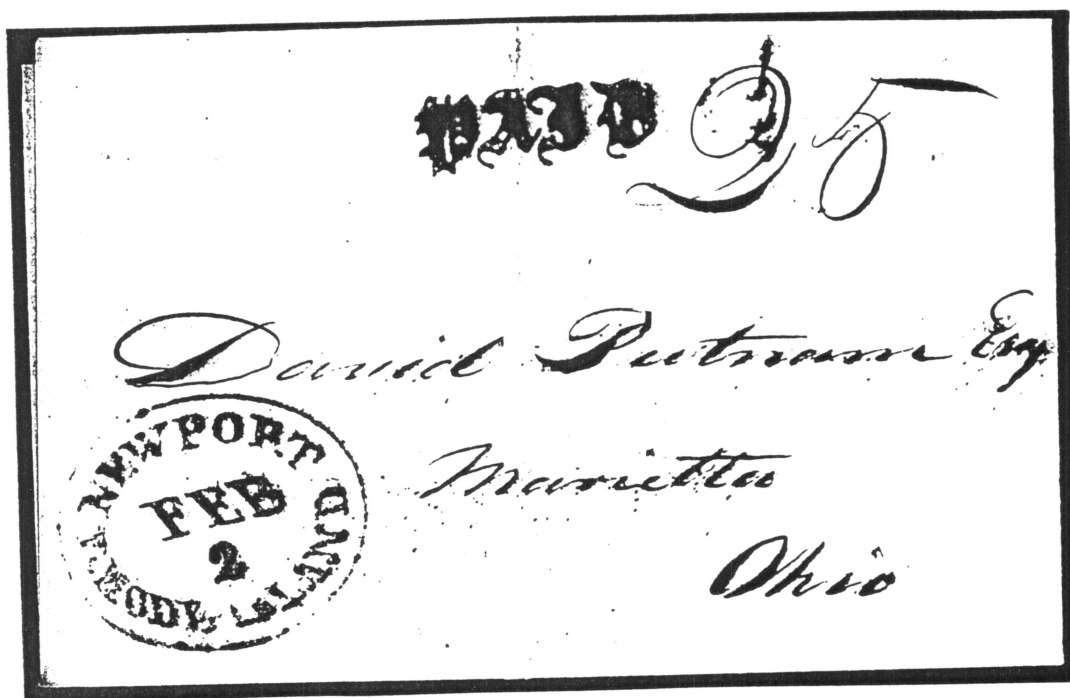


P.38

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



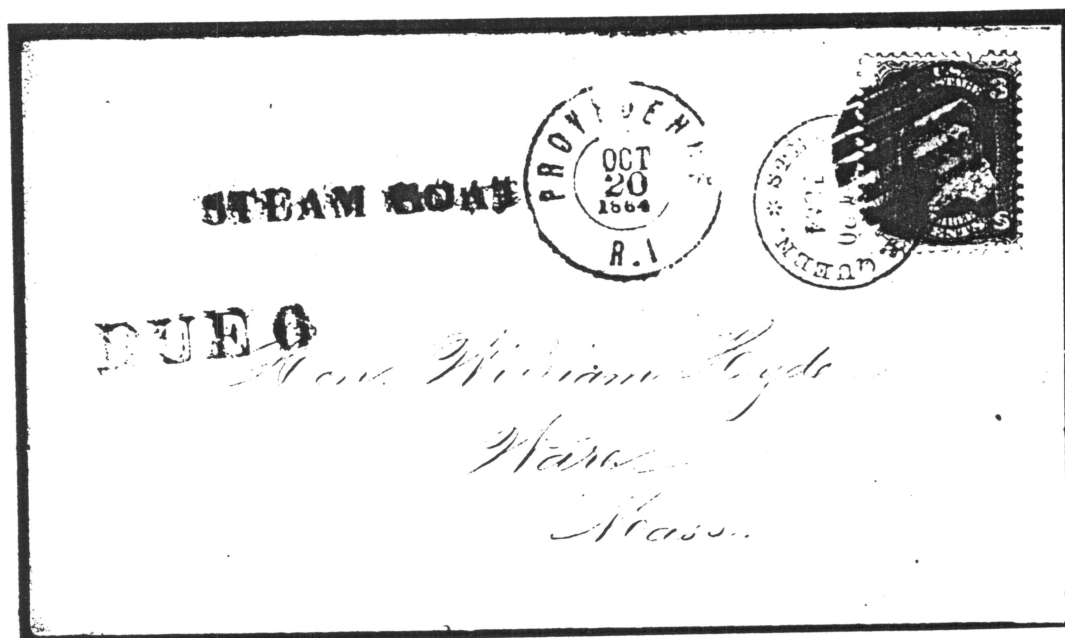
...and upper case only.



RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



The River Queen ran on the Providence-Newport route from her launching March 31, 1864 until December 12, when she was chartered by the War Department. In February of 1865 the famous "Peace Conference," between President Lincoln and three Confederate representatives was held aboard in her main salon. Below is discovery copy for Klein list.

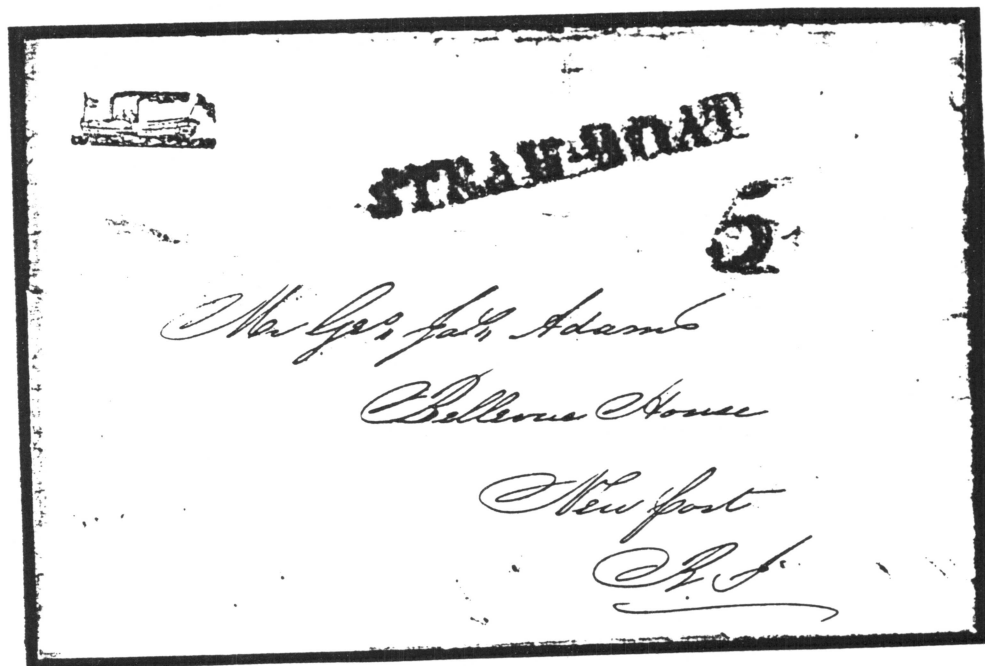
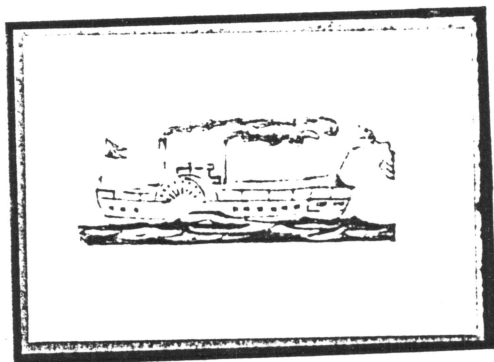


By Act of March 3, 1863, private ship letters were rated at twice the regular rate, and an under-payment incurred a penalty double. The "DUE 6" reflects this penalty for the unpaid three cents of the correct six cent rate.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

PRIVATE STEAMER MARKINGS

The Perry.

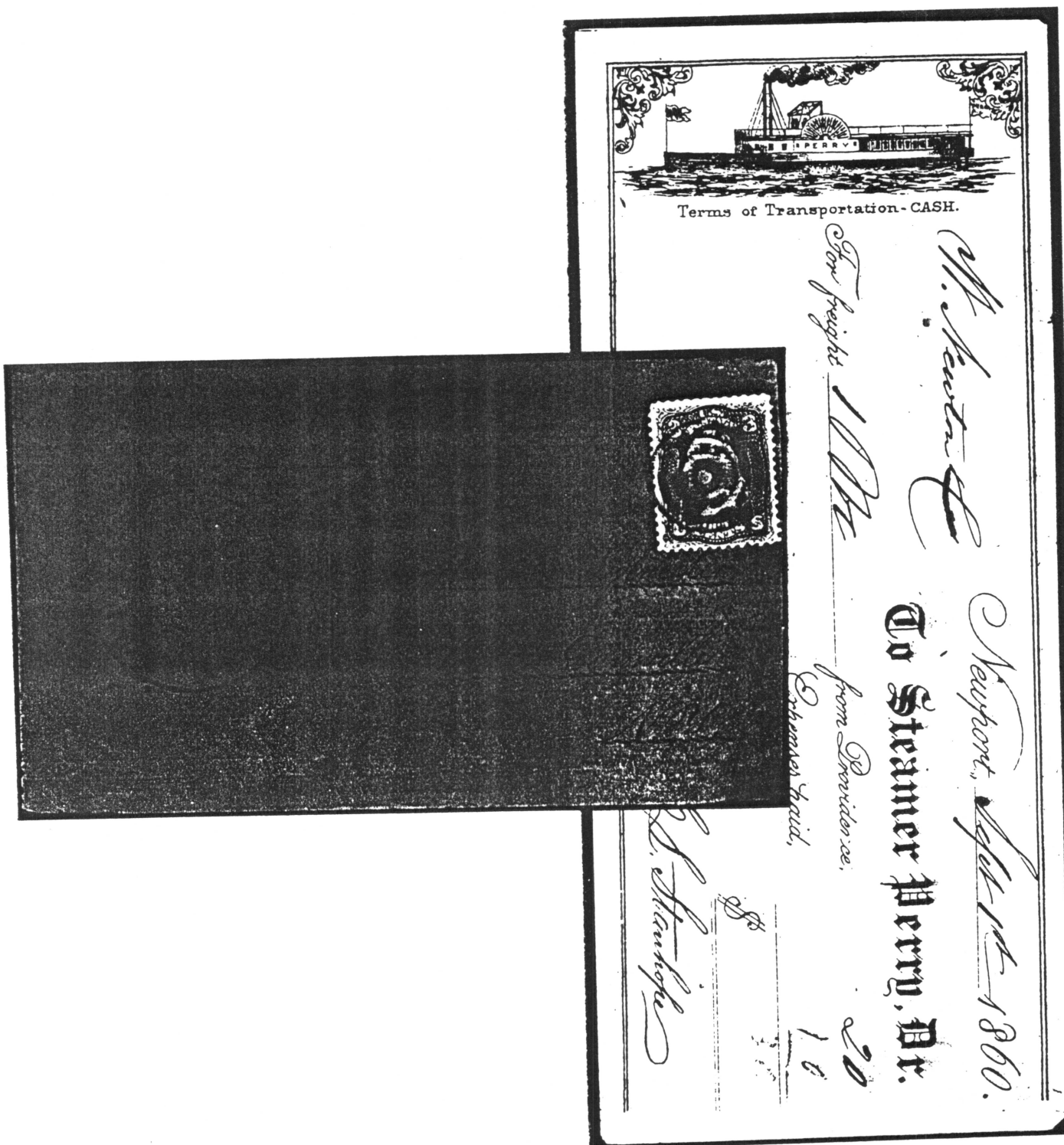


Built in 1846 for R.B. Kinsley of Newport.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

PRIVATE STEAMER MARKINGS

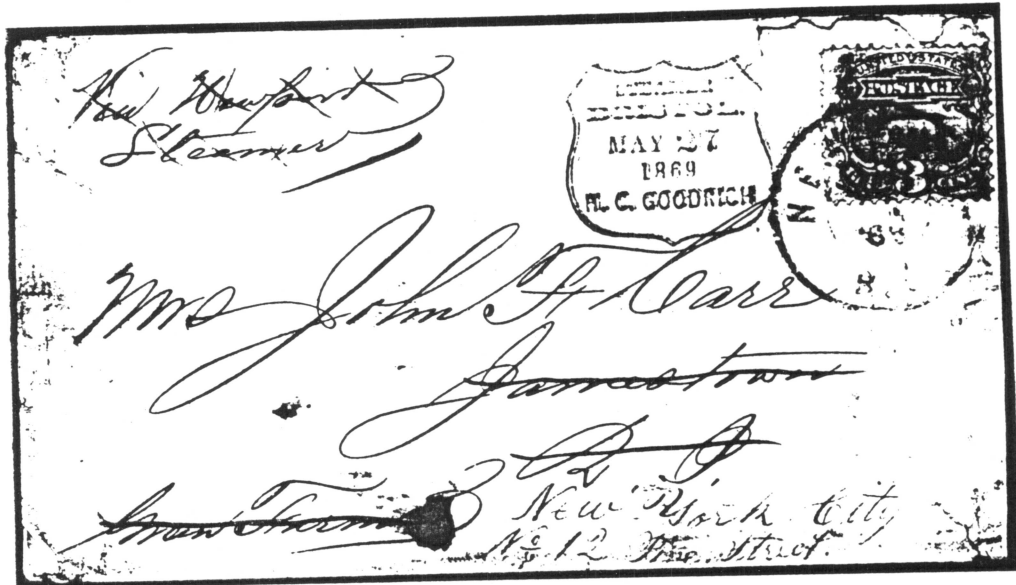
The Perry.



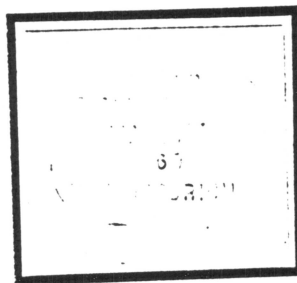
P.42

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

PRIVATE STEAMER MARKINGS



Built in 1866, burned at Newport 1888.

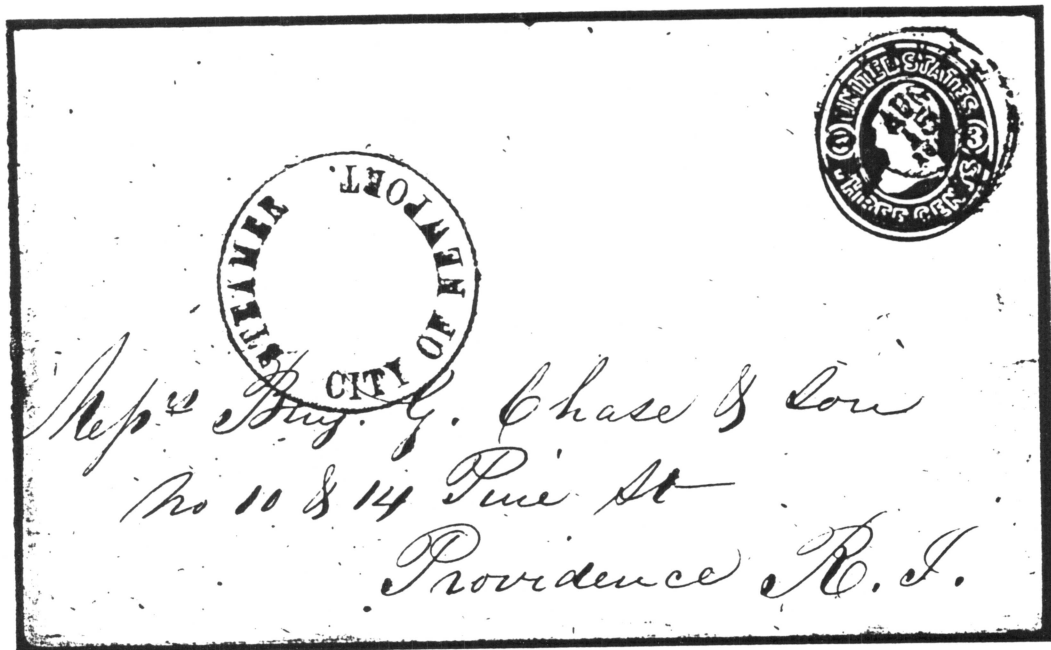


Only recorded

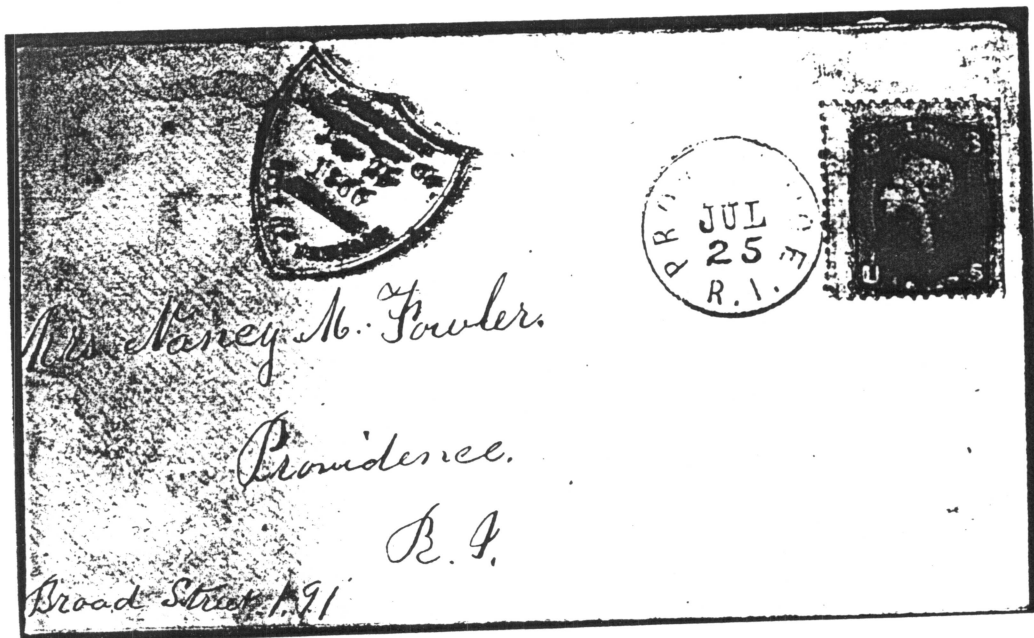
Bristol.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

PRIVATE STEAMER MARKINGS

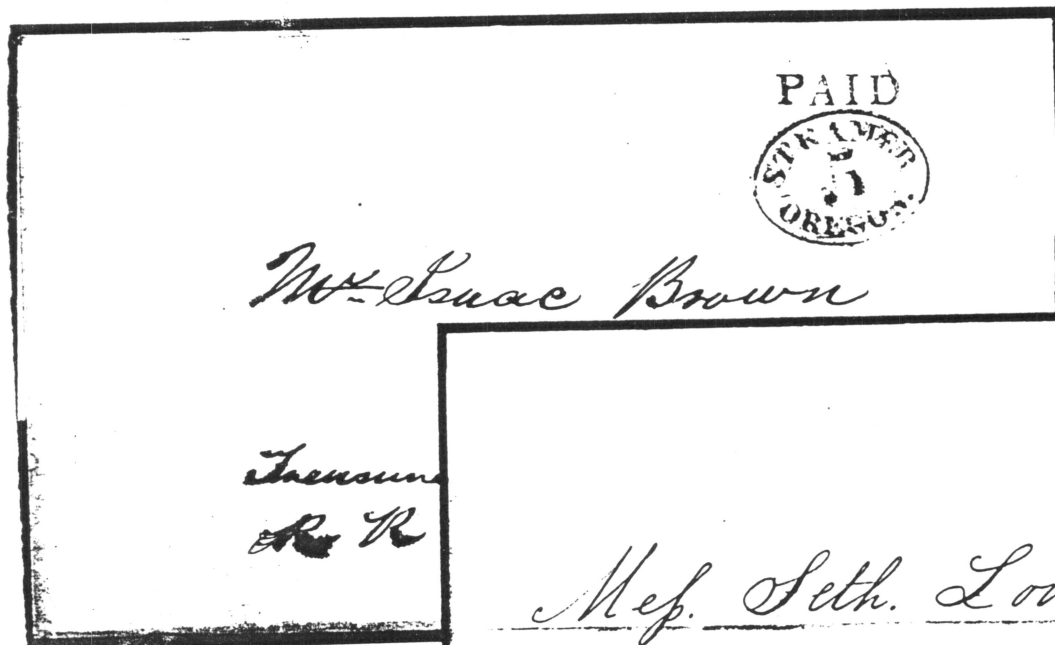


Built 1863. 177.5 feet long, 28.5 feet wide, 561 tons.



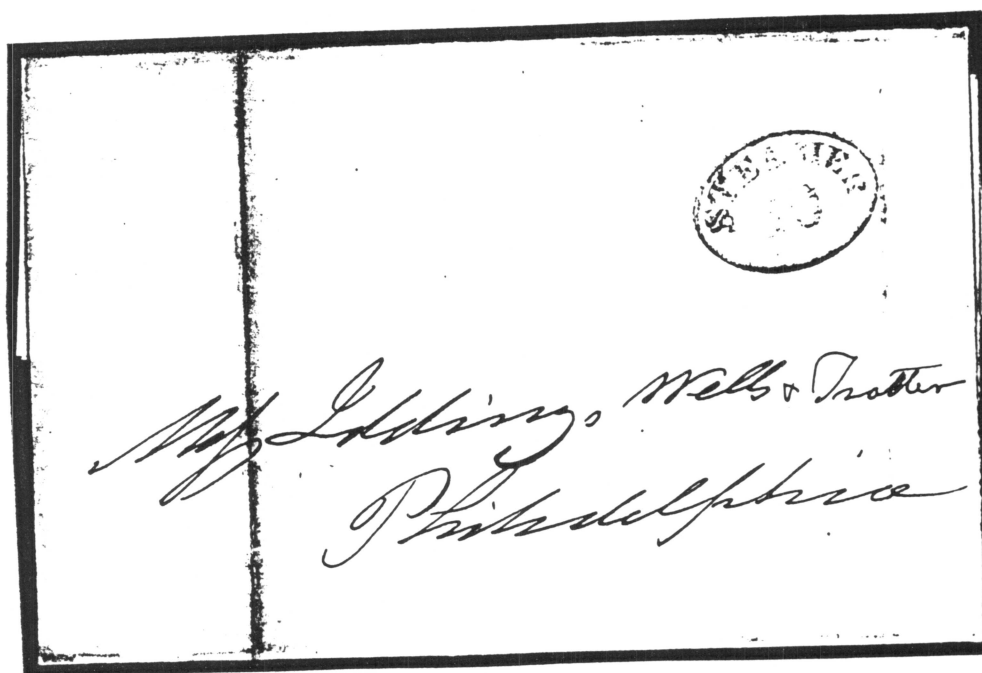
RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

RAILROAD AND ROUTE AGENT MARKINGS



Same handstamp used first by the Oregon, then by other ships.

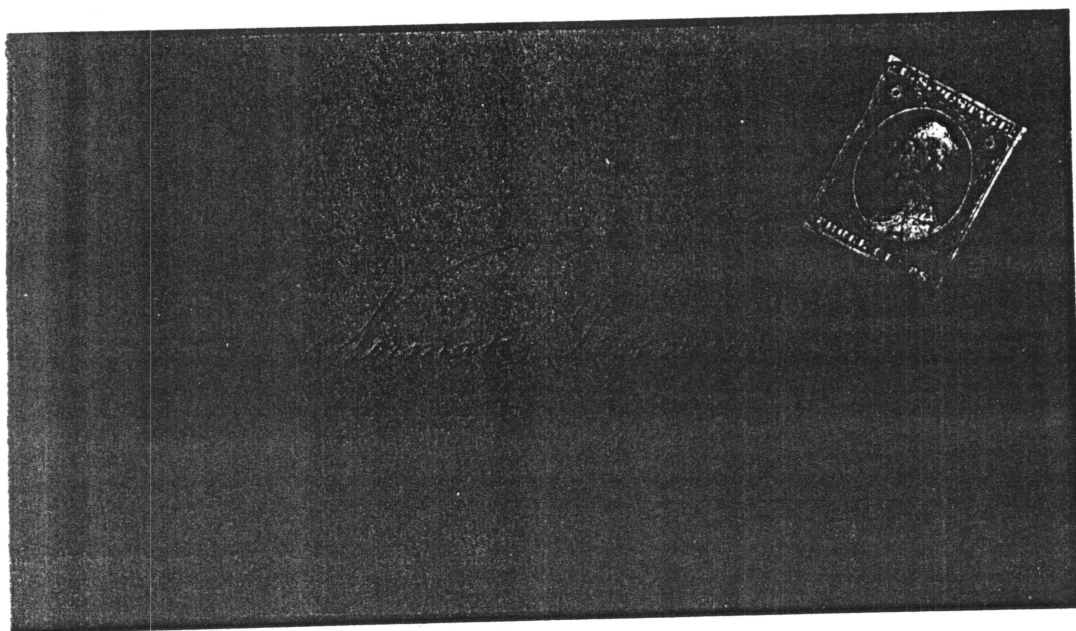
Long Island Sound was the main over-water route.



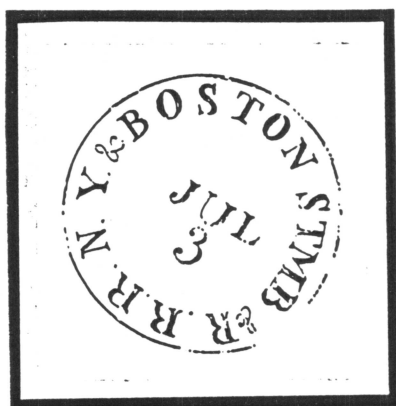
No Oregon 10 mark existed.

See Long Island PHS Jnl., #4, Spring '82.

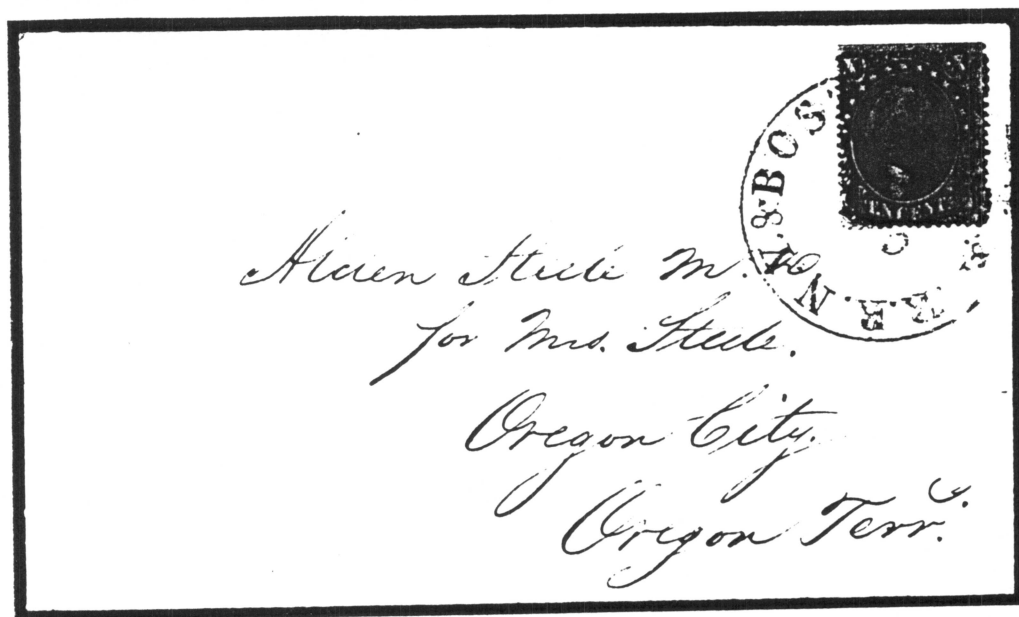
RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



"Providence, Hartford & Fishkill," the scarcest R.I. railroad handstamp.

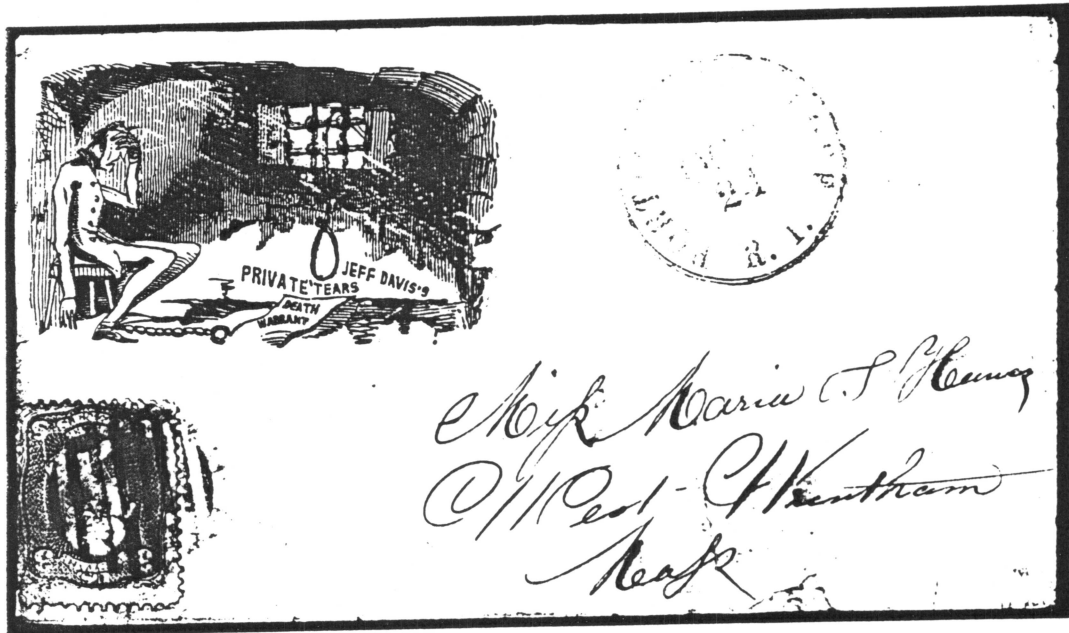


"R.R.R." for Rail Road Route.

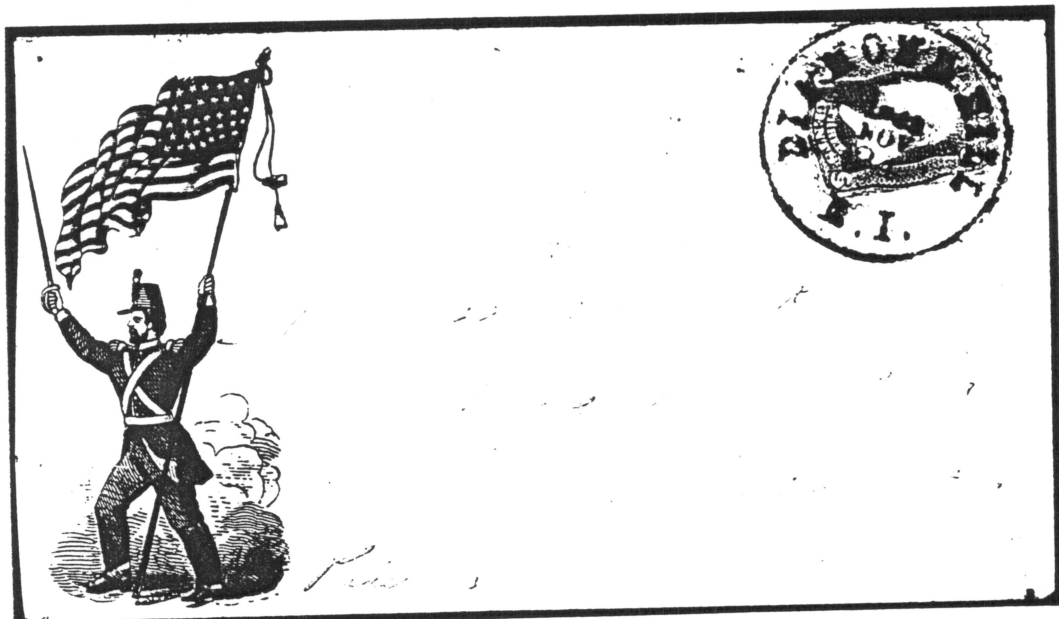


RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

CIVIL WAR USAGES

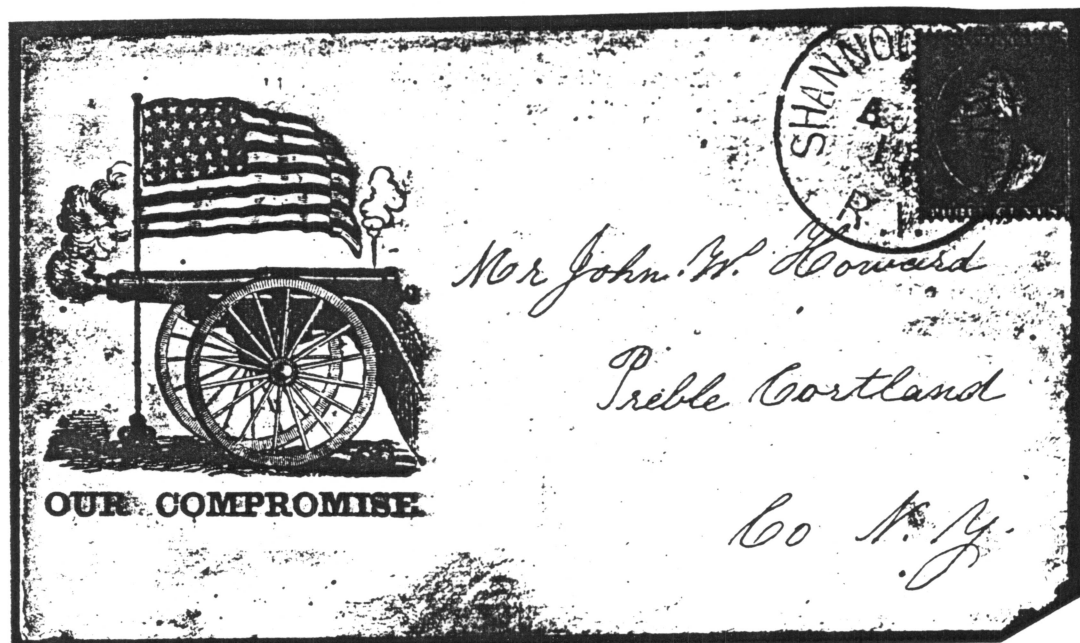
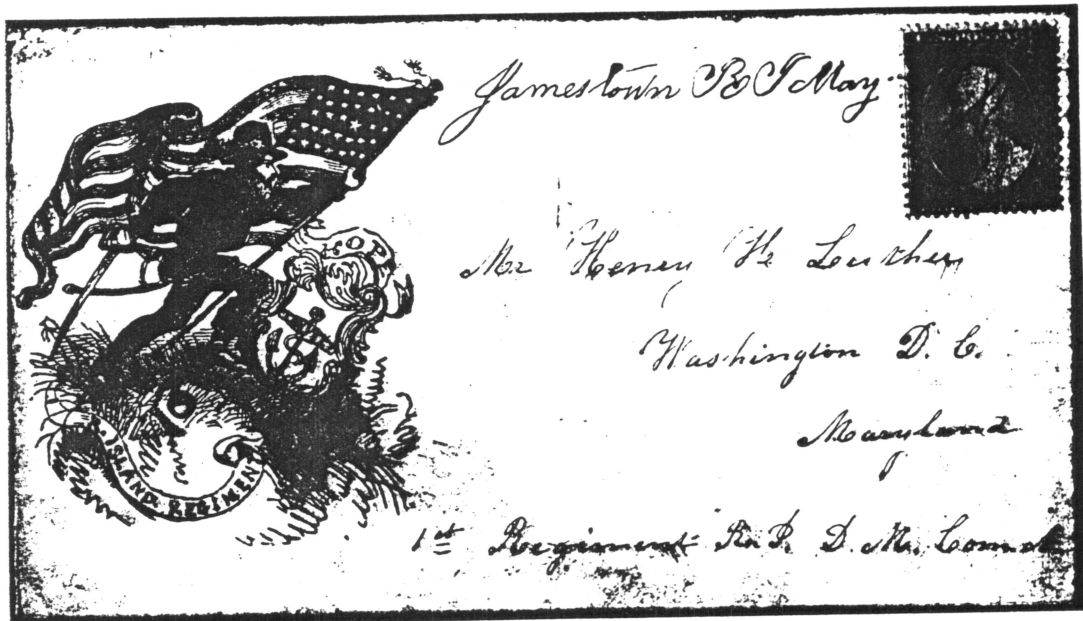


Note play on words - Jeff Davis a "Privateer?"

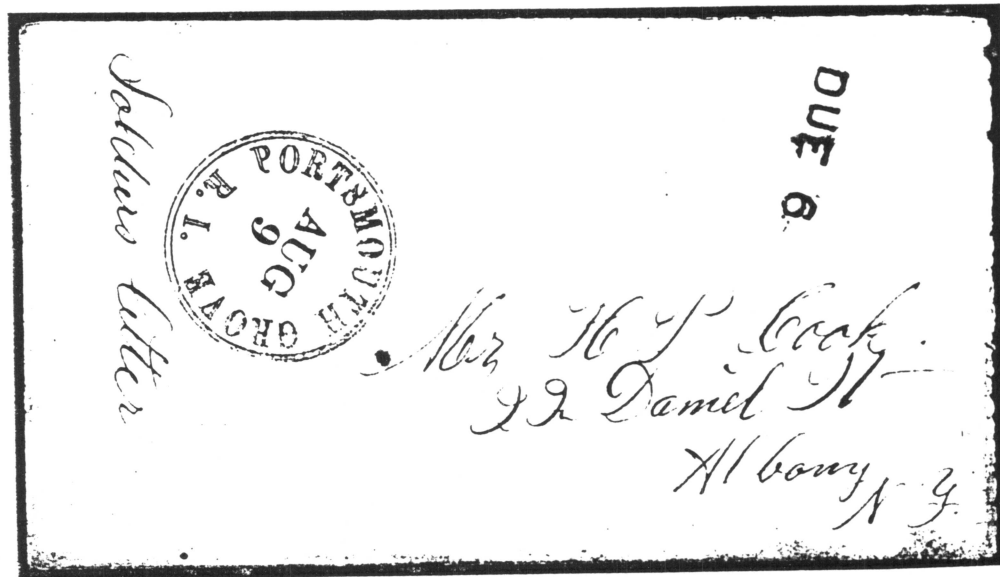


RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

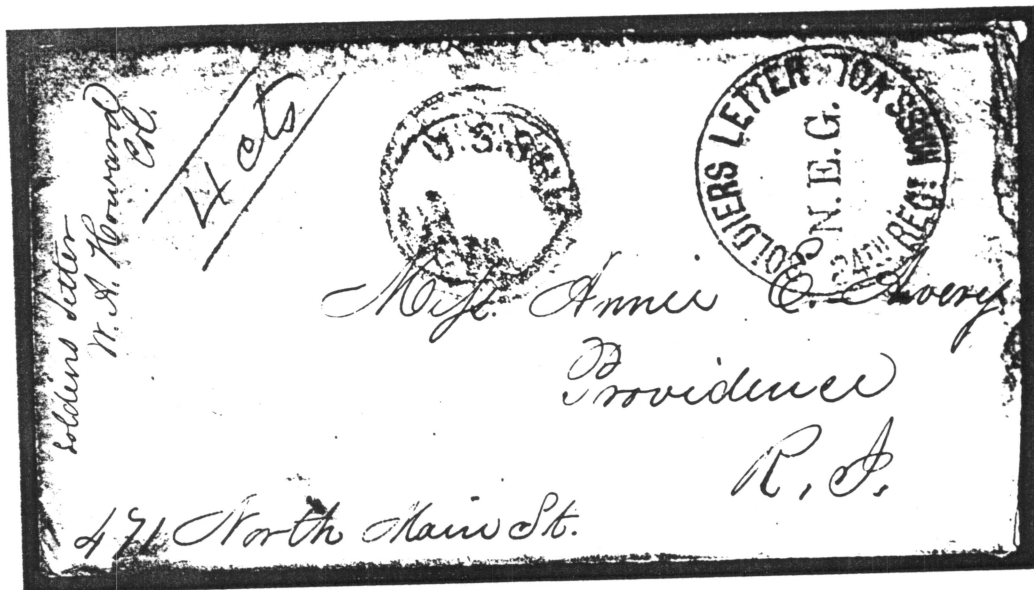
CIVIL WAR USAGES



RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY



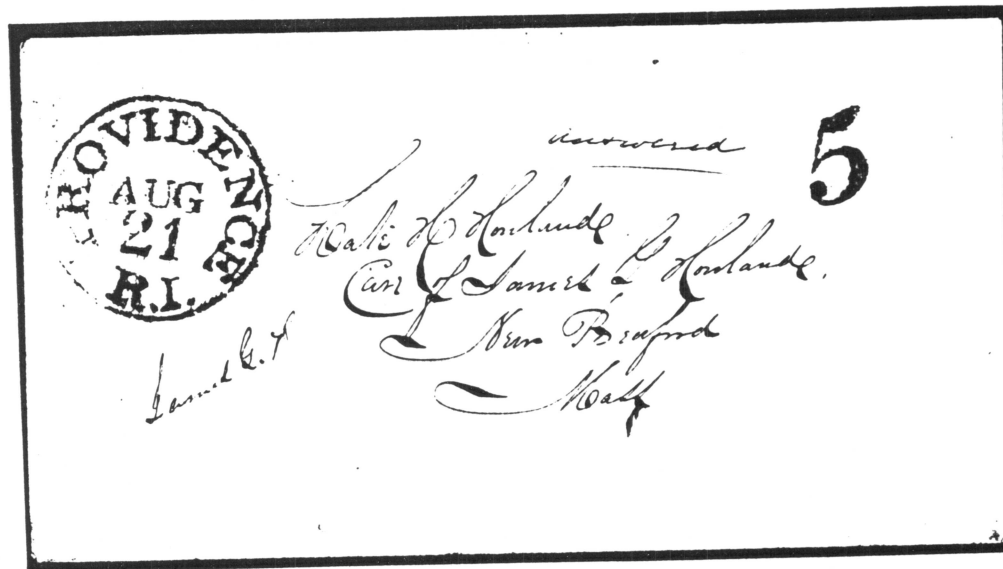
Had Private Hobart Cook put his name and rank on the outside of this envelope, his father would have paid only three cents. Without, it was "DUE 6."



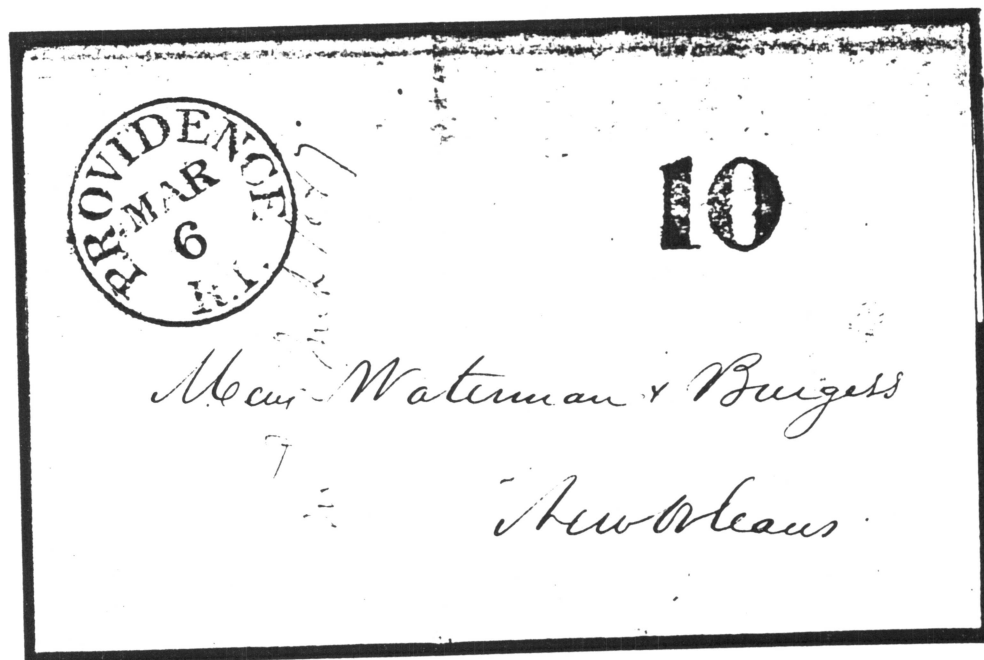
Soldier's letter handstamp of the New England Guard, and government vessel transport (U.S. SHIP), allowed this letter to be sent collect for only 3 cents. At Providence, a fourth cent was collected by the penny postman. City delivery known in Providence from 1846.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

DOMESTIC RATES - 1840s

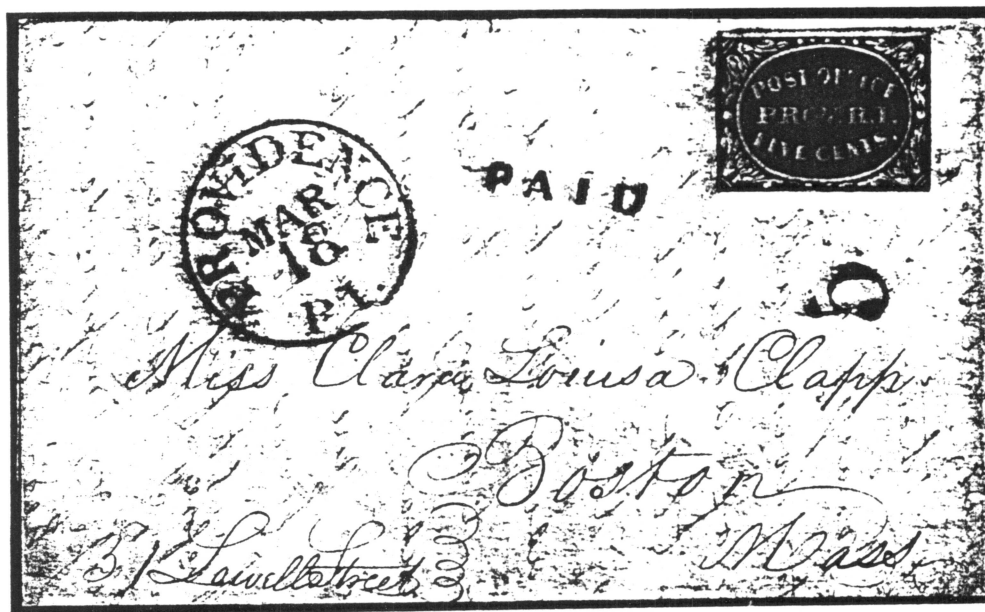


As the stampless era neared an end, Congress reacted to popular outcry and reduced postal rates to 5¢ & 10¢, under and over 300 miles.



RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

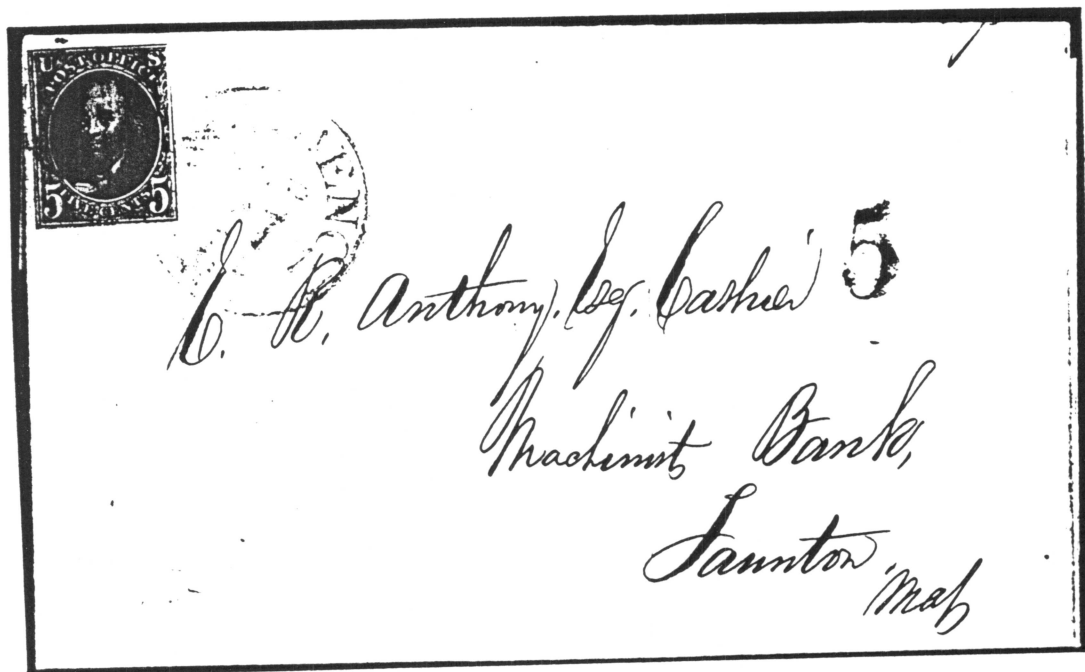
DOMESTIC RATES - 1840s



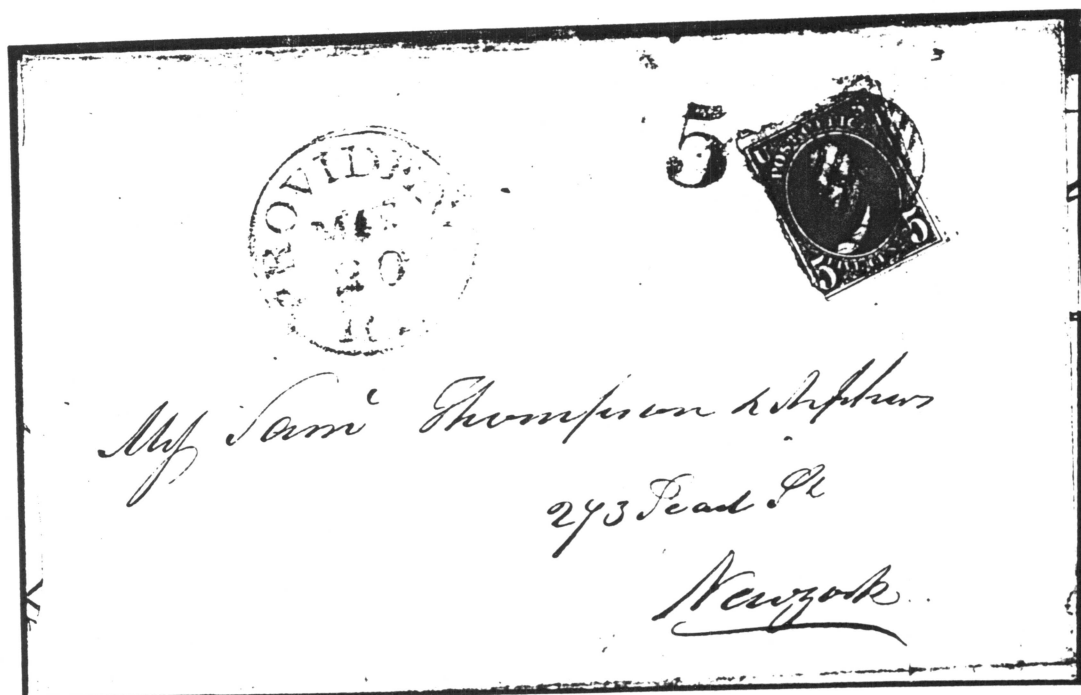
The Provisional stamps of the Providence postmaster were put on sale August 24, 1846, and were withdrawn upon the arrival of the first Federal stamps, which at Providence was July 31, 1847.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

DOMESTIC RATES - 1840s



1847

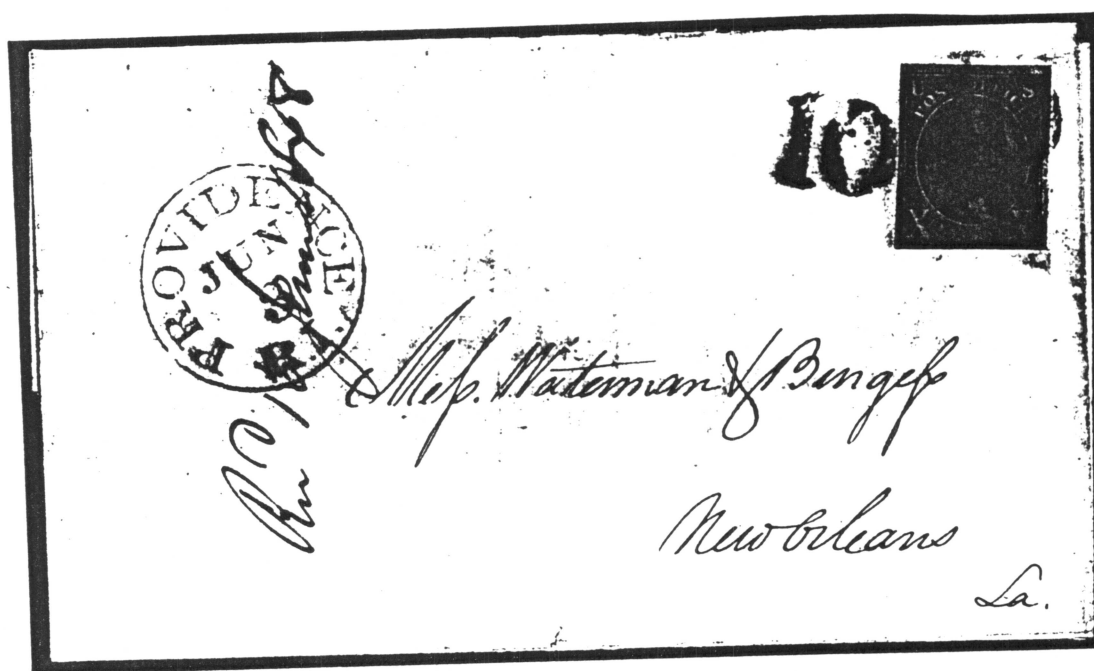


1848

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

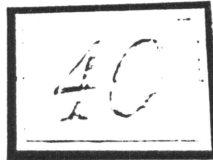
DOMESTIC RATES - 1840s

1848

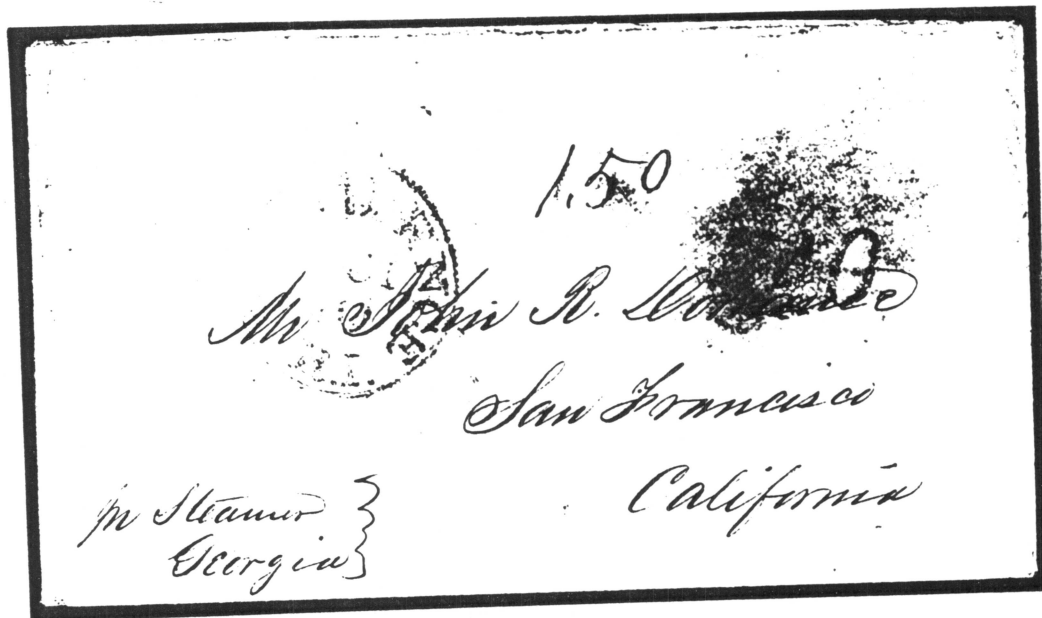


RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

DOMESTIC RATES - 1840s



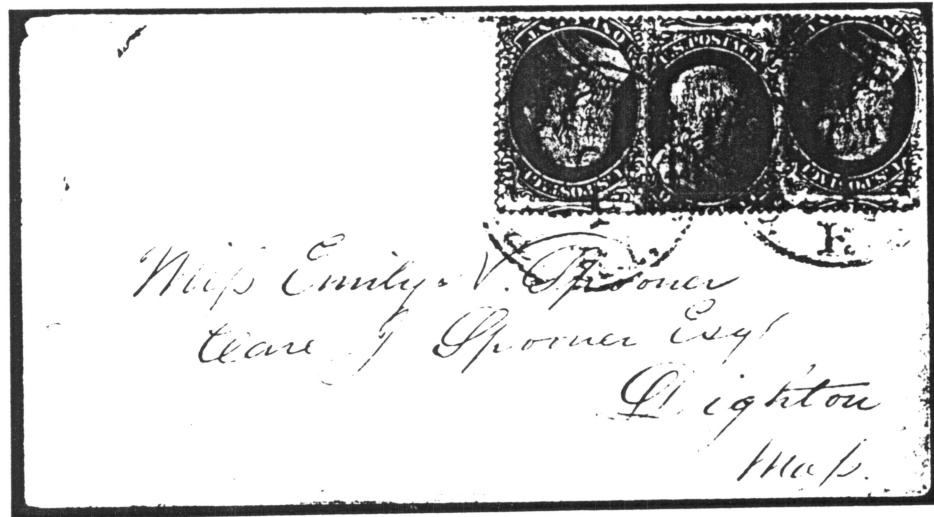
Pacific Coast rate. Three recorded.



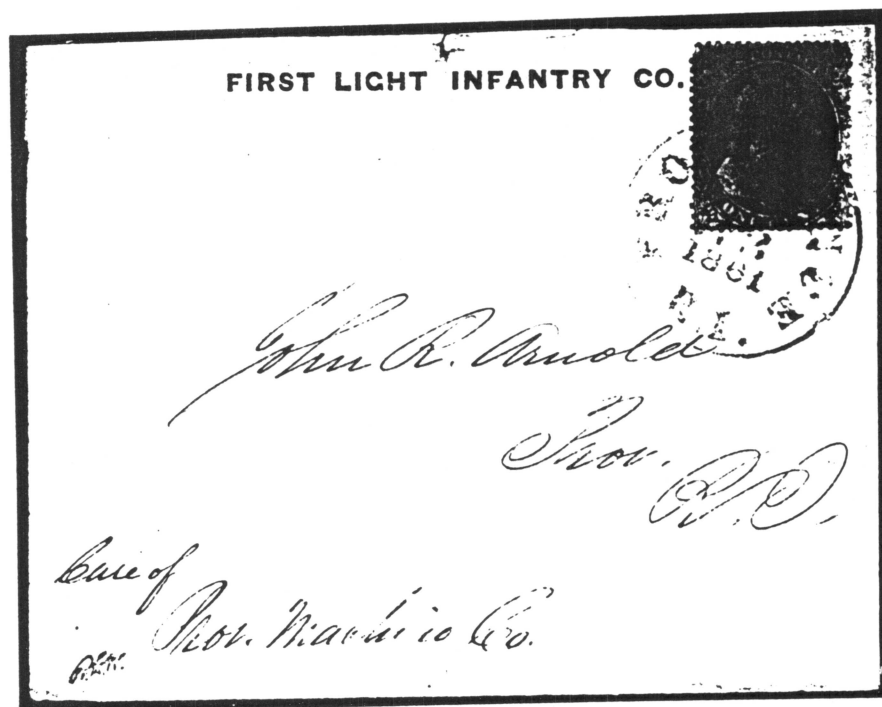
Addressee left forwarding instructions;
letter sent via Express, charged \$1.50.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

DOMESTIC RATES - 1850s



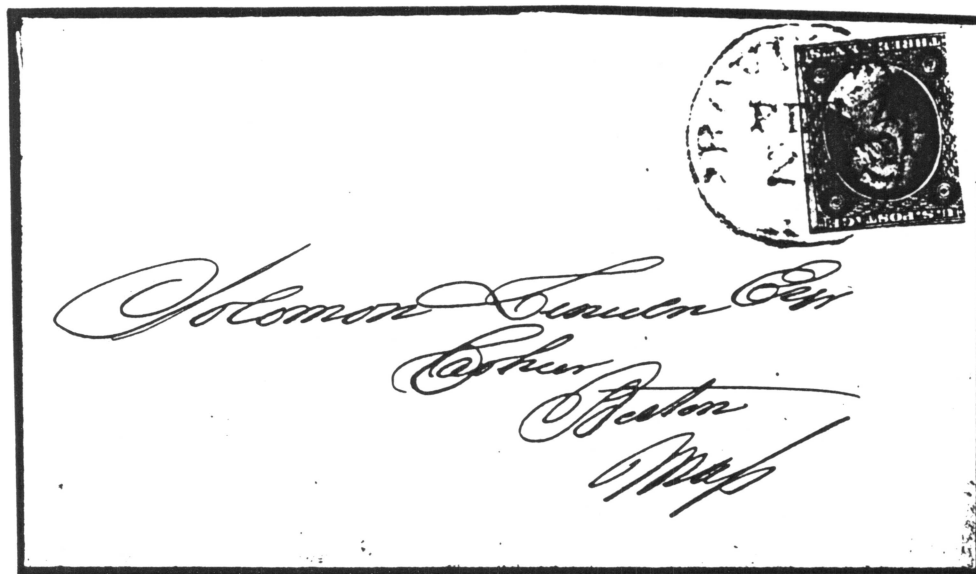
An observant sender saw the "Big Plate Crack," and framed it by inverting the outside stamps in his strip of three.



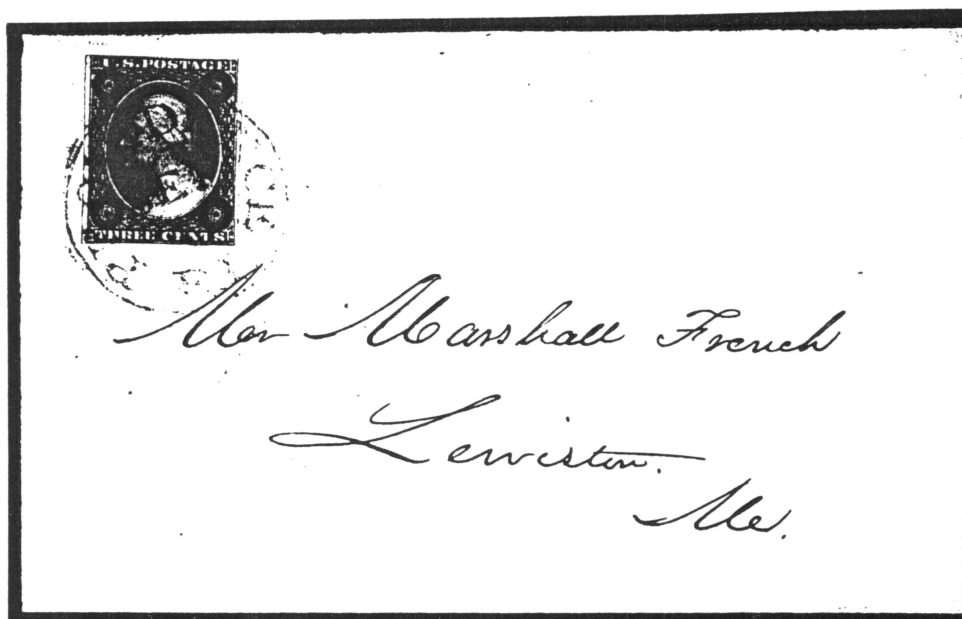
Drop letter rate.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

DOMESTIC RATES - 1850s



1856 - Leap Year.

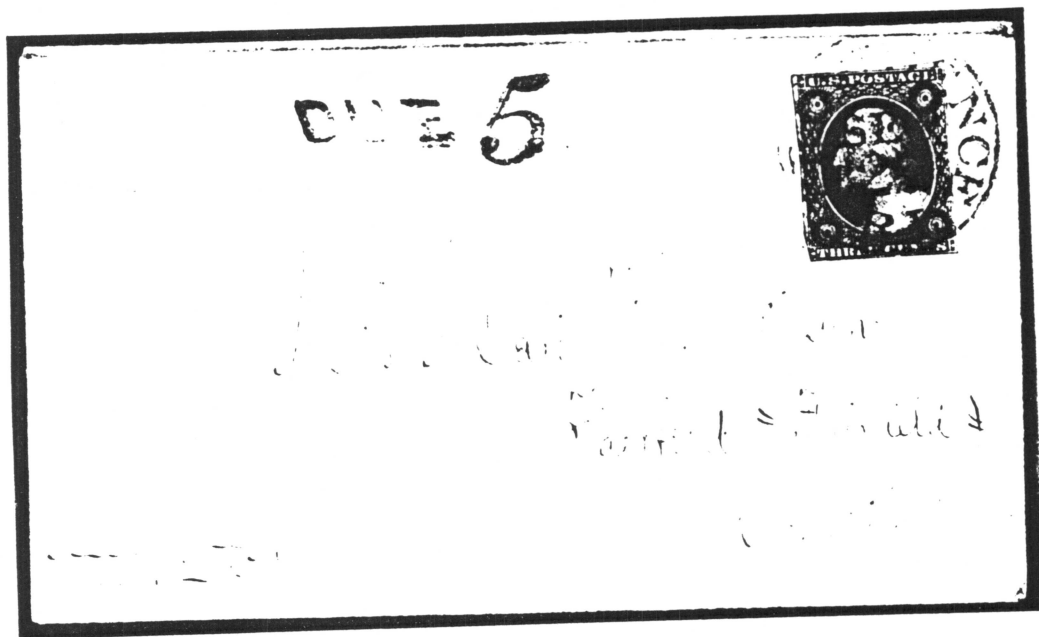


66R2E - three lines recut.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

DOMESTIC RATES - 1850s

1853

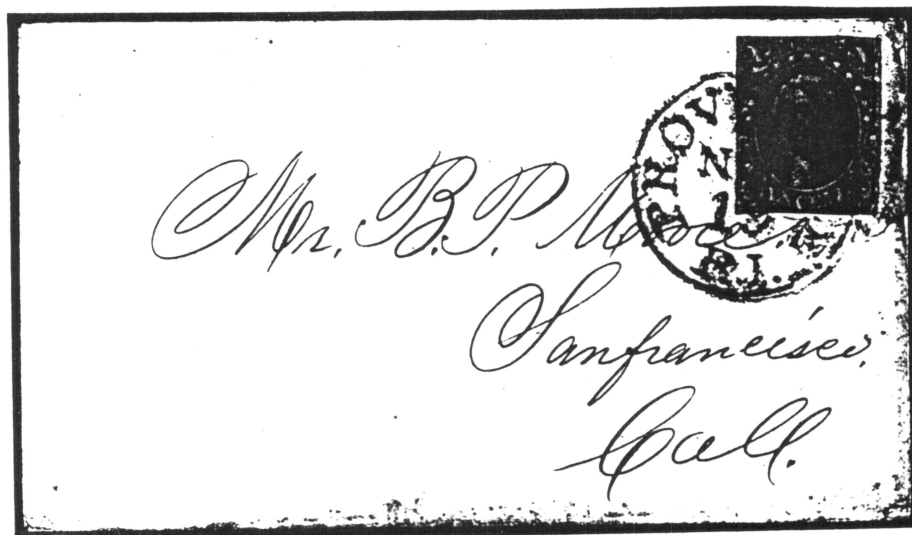


Double weight, 3¢ recognized, "DUE 5," the unpaid rate.

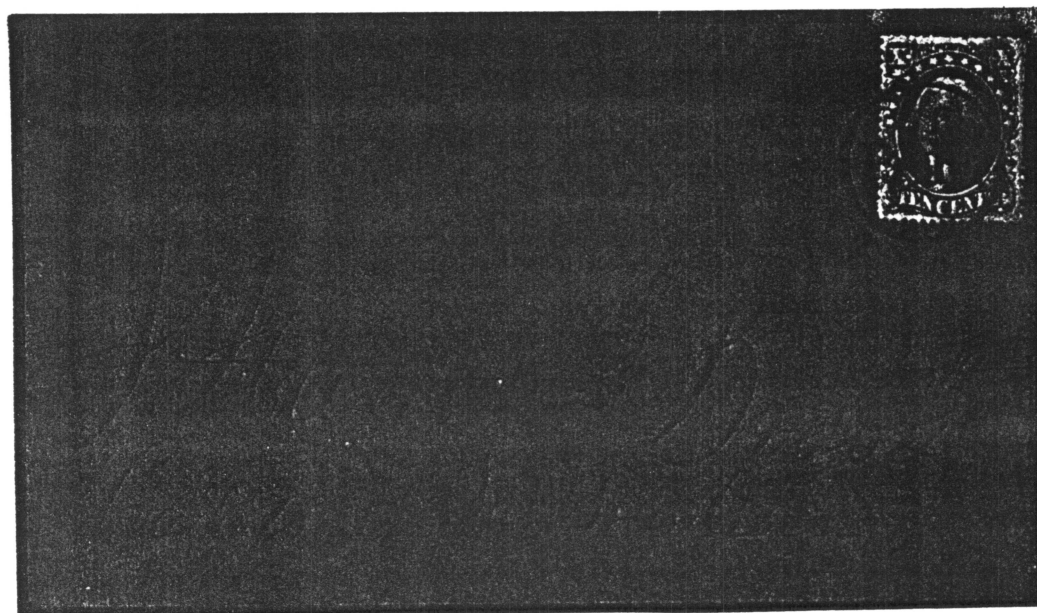
R . Simpson, p.5.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

DOMESTIC RATES - 1850s



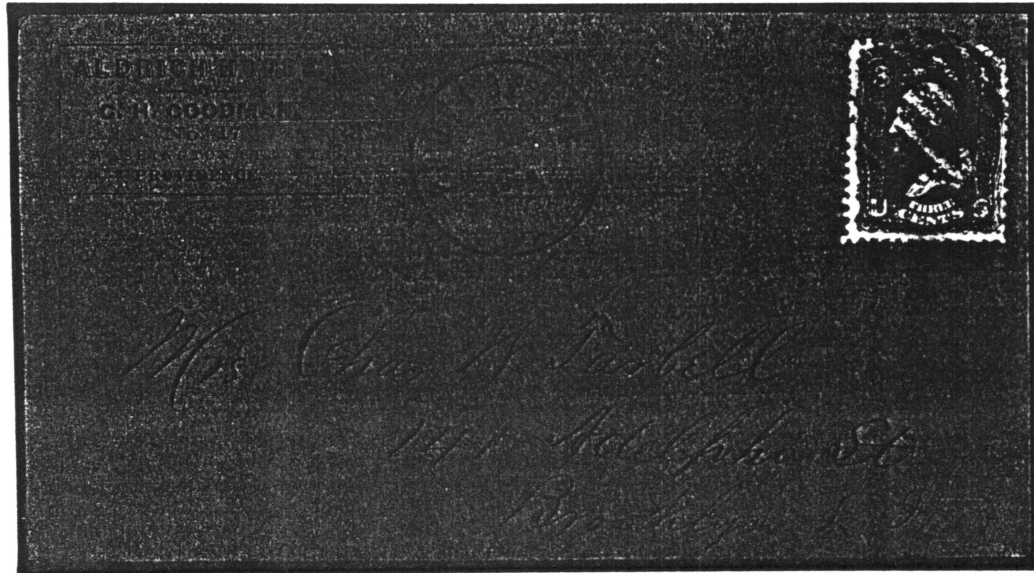
10¢ 1851-56, Type I; the over 3000 mile rate.



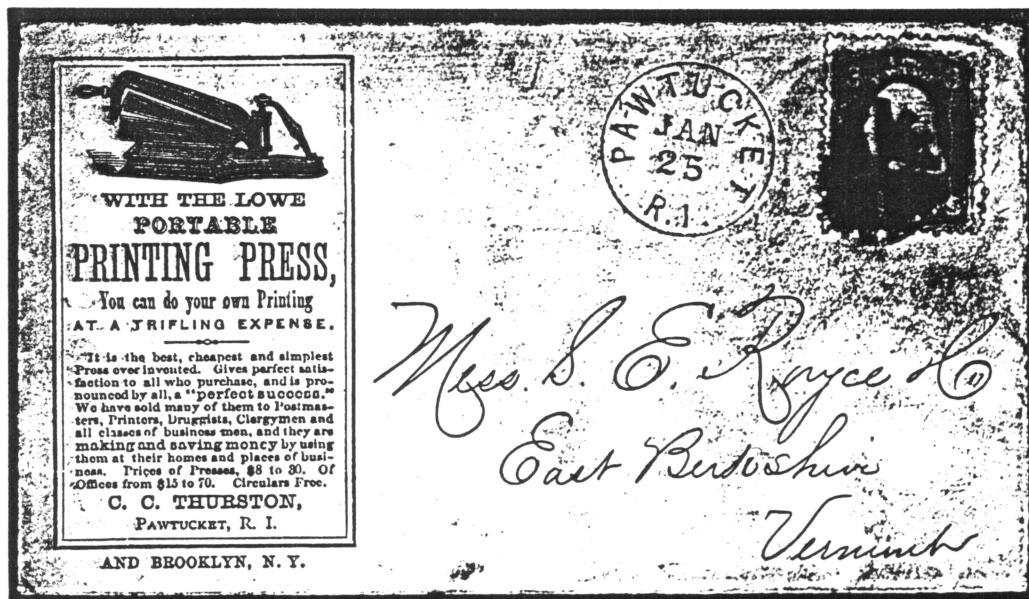
10¢ 1857-61; Type III.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

DOMESTIC RATES - 1860s

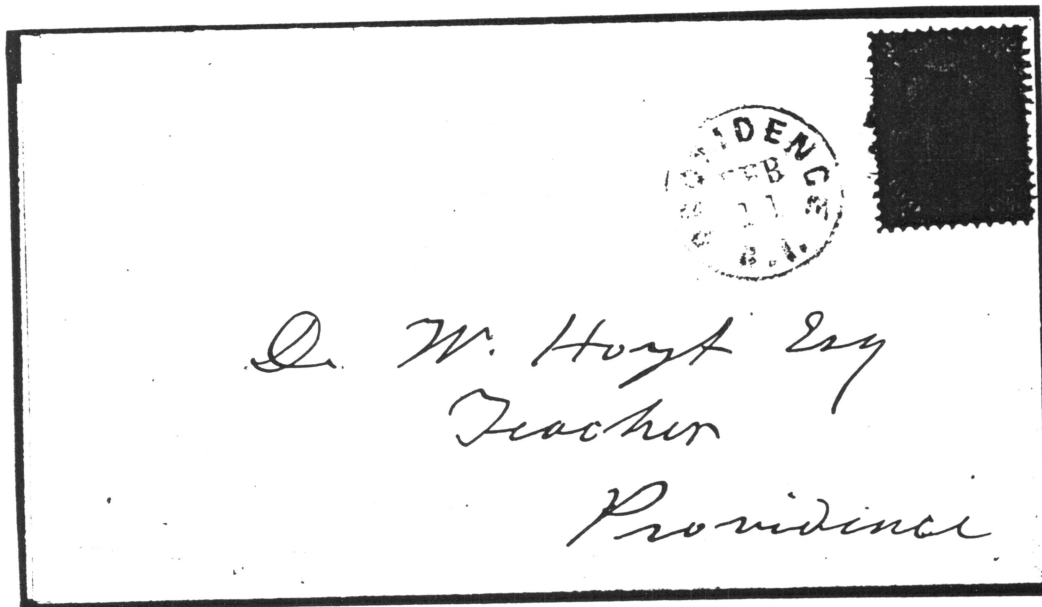


3¢ any distance. Act of March 3, 1863.

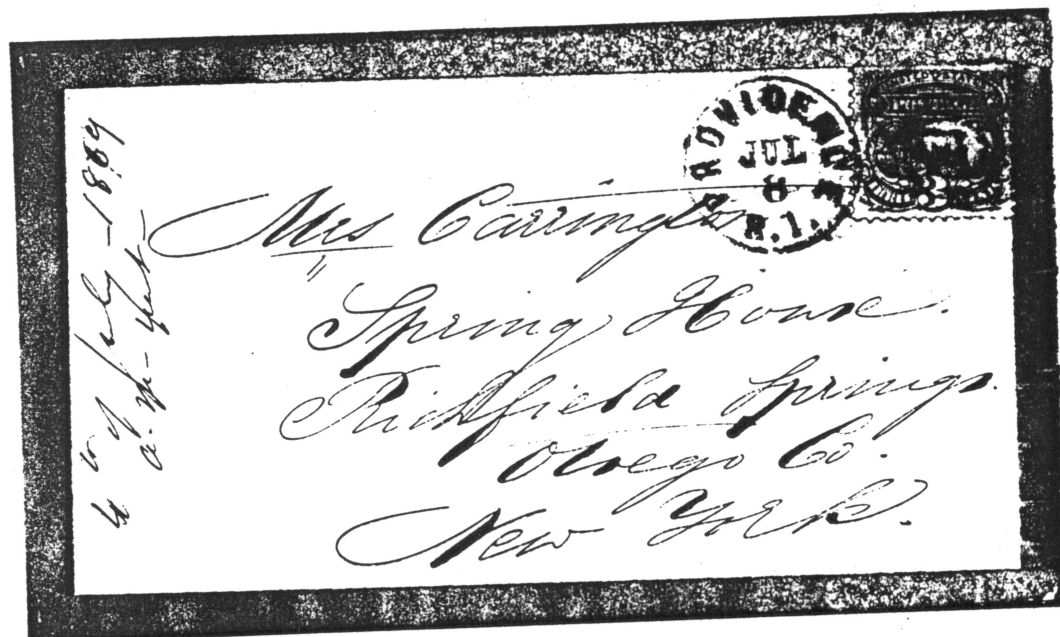


RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

DOMESTIC RATES - 1860s



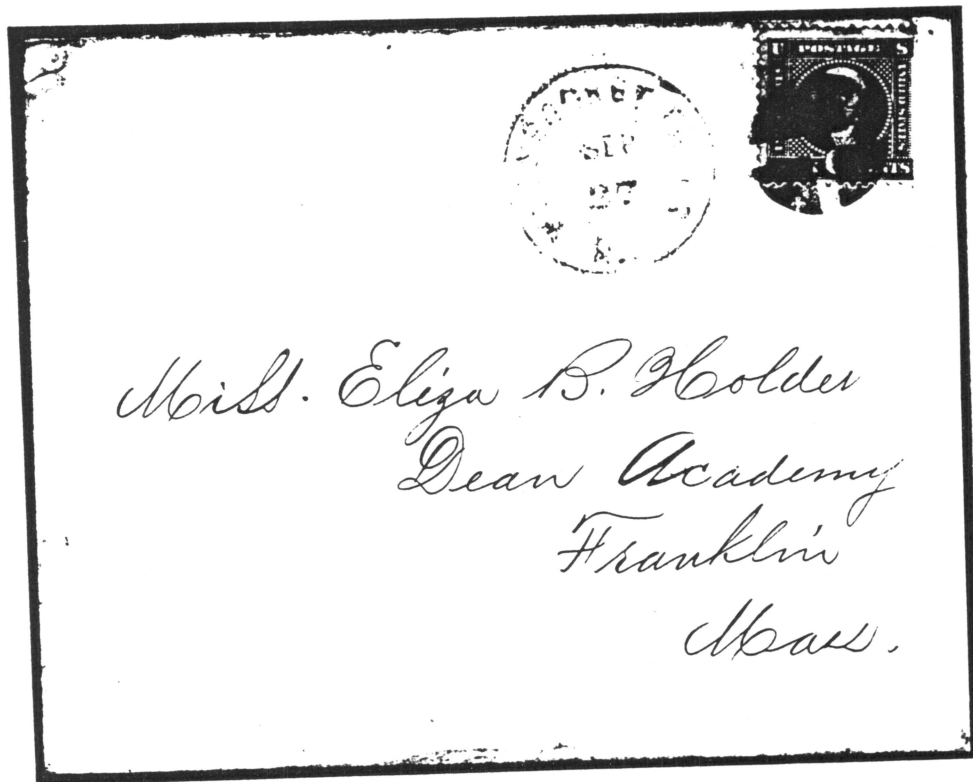
Drop rate.



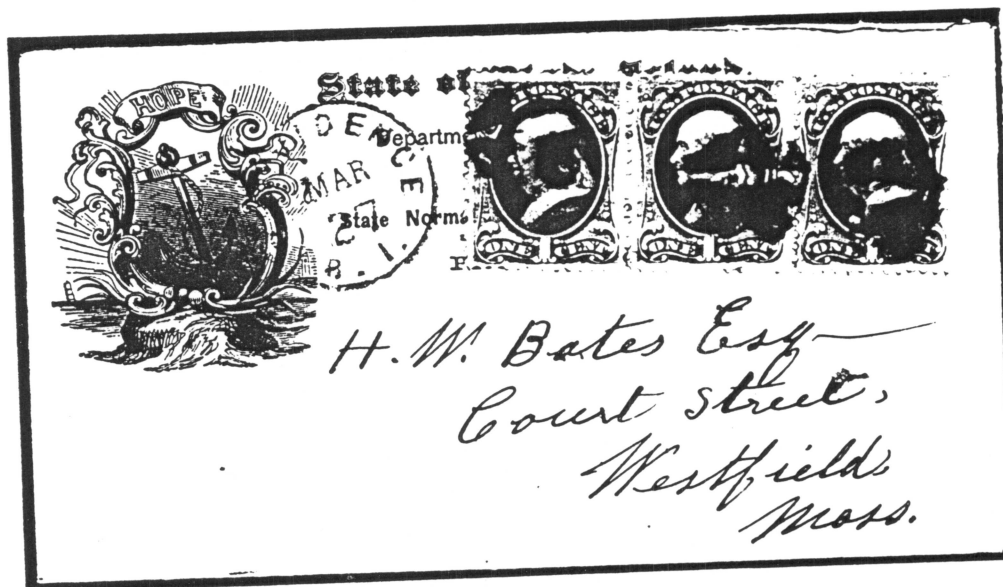
First class.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

DOMESTIC RATES - 1870s



Double rate.



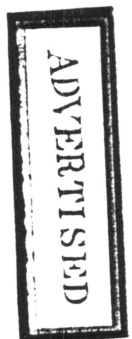
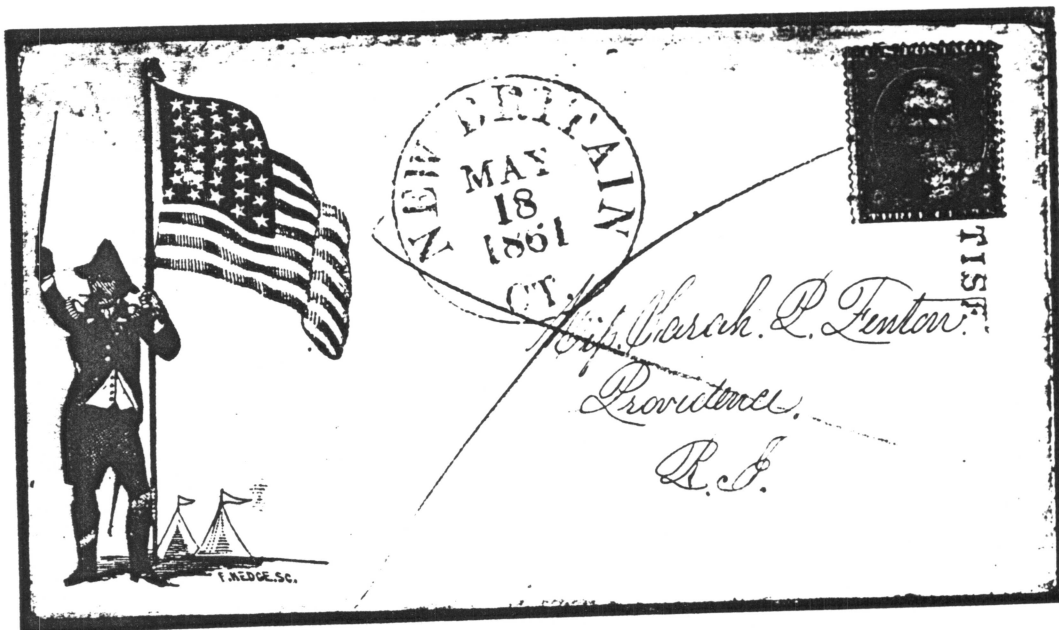
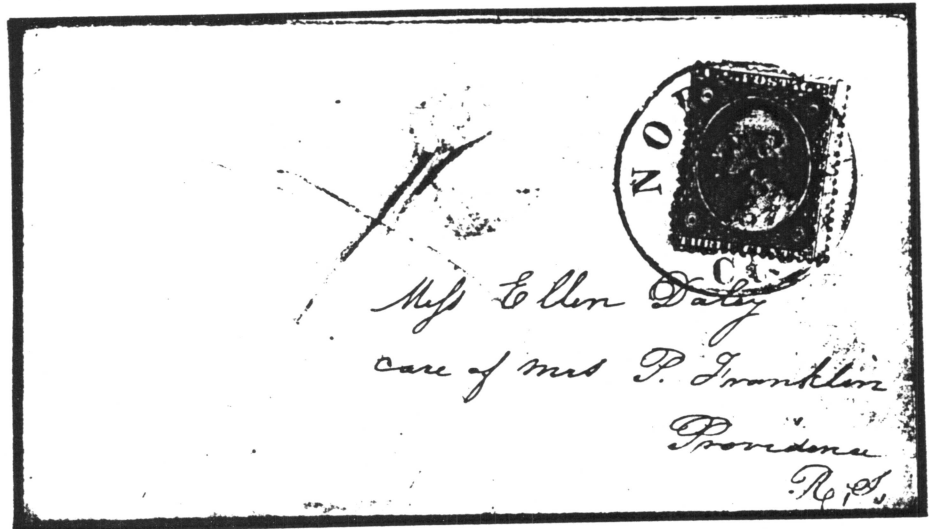
Single.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

SPECIAL SERVICE AUXILIARY MARKINGS



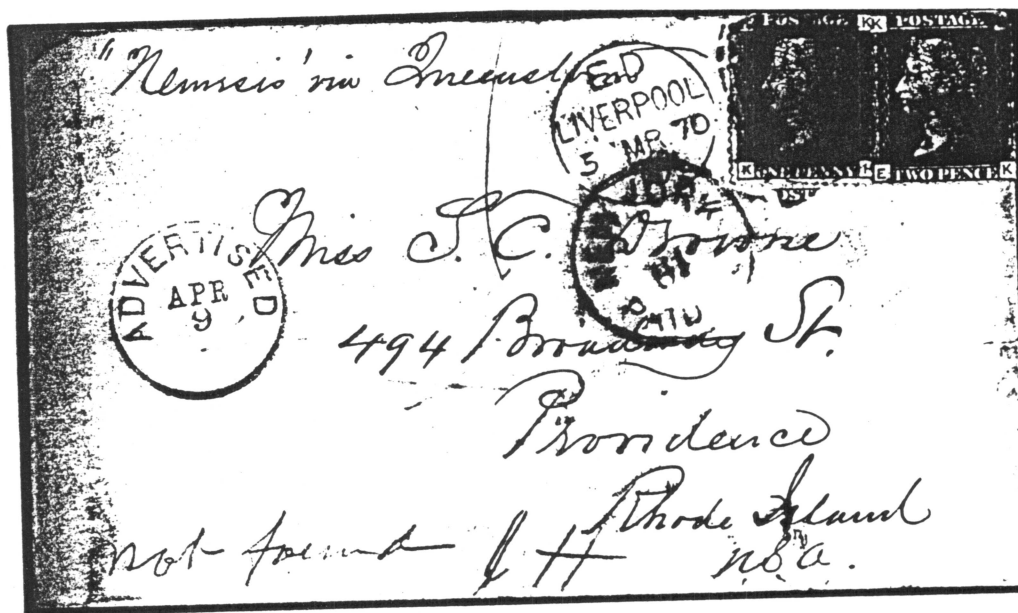
Box 24 x 19 mm.
Three recorded.



36 x 3 mm.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

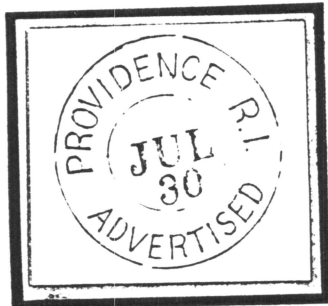
SPECIAL SERVICE AUXILIARY MARKINGS



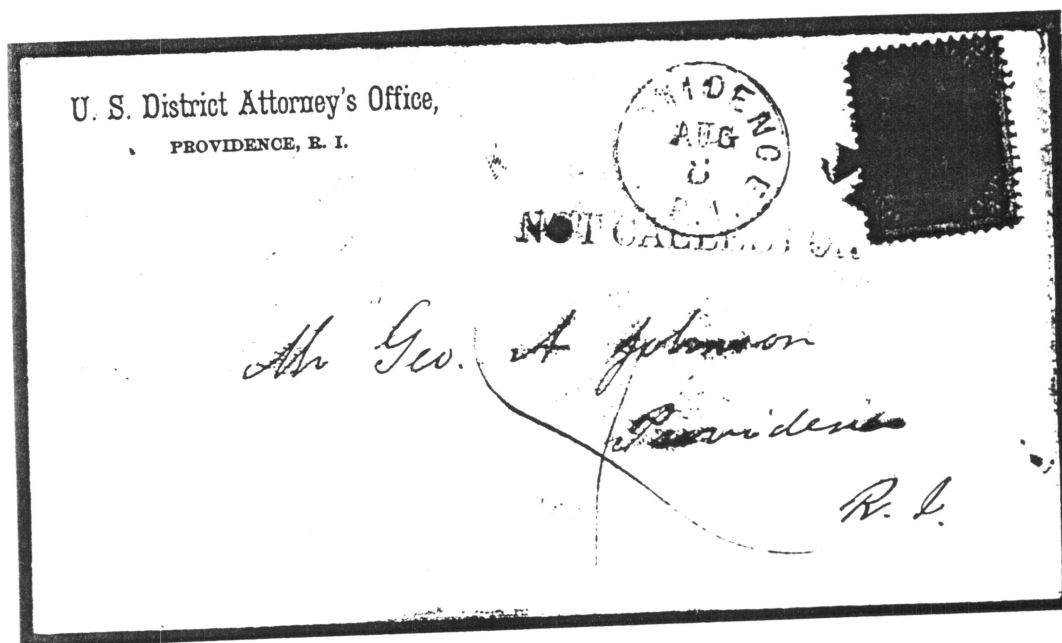
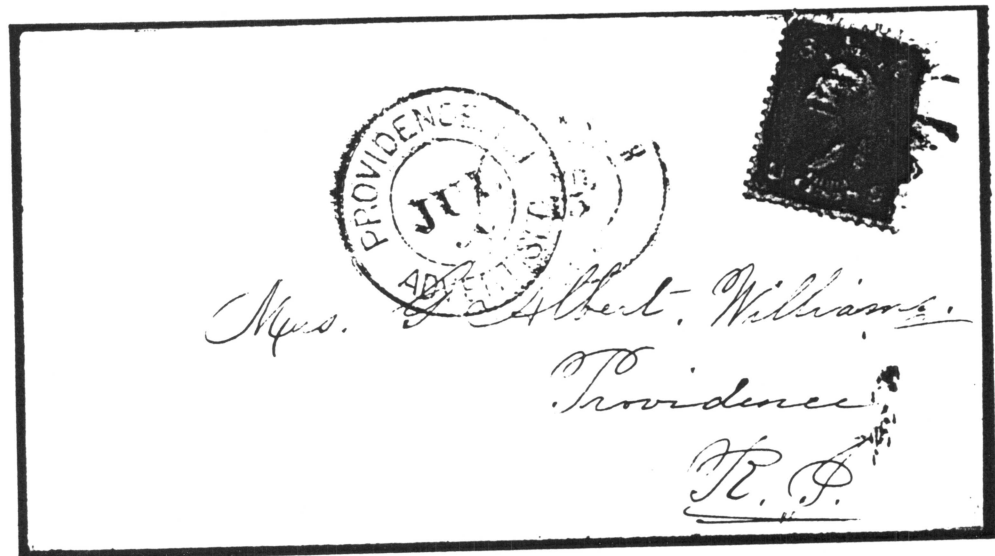
Penciled "not found," and clerk's initials.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

SPECIAL SERVICE AUXILIARY MARKINGS



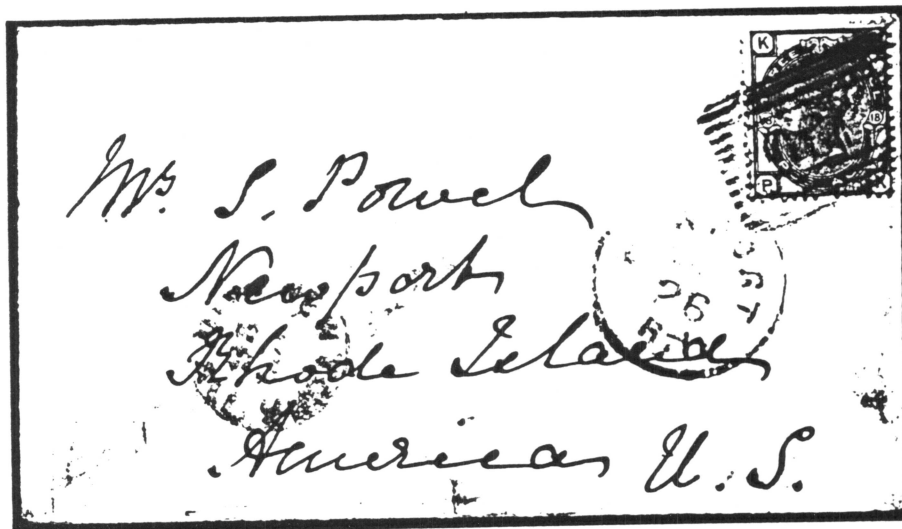
Unrecorded



NOT CALLED FOR

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

LETTERS TO RHODE ISLAND



ECCLEFECHAN/B/AU 17/1875
NEW YORK/AUG 26/PAID ALL
NEWPORT/AUG 26.R.I.

Indistinct Backstamp:

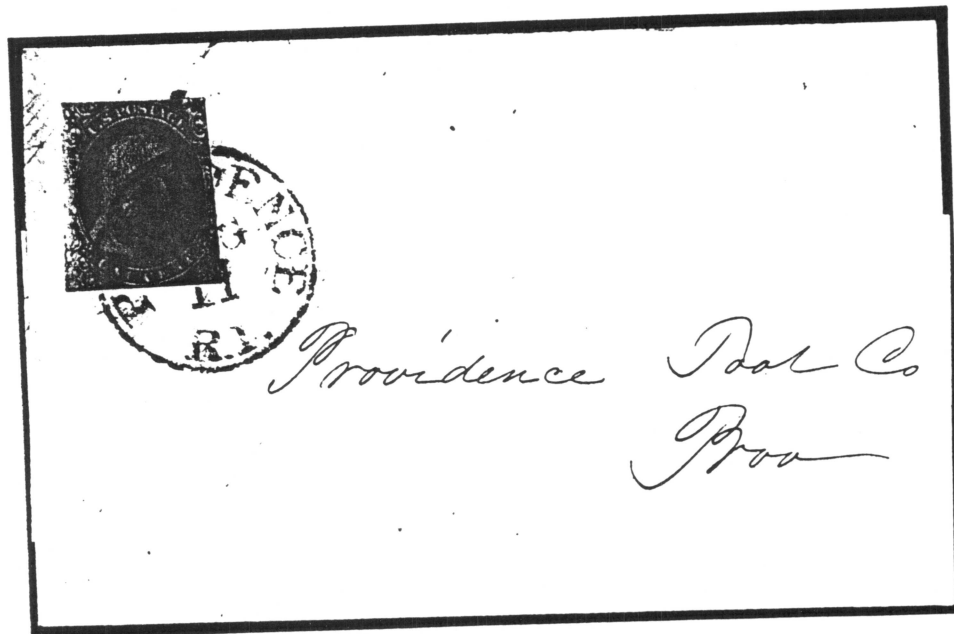


RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

THE PROVIDENCE "BLUES"



Providence postmasters experimented with blue ink at least three times between 1840 and 1851. The objective of these efforts is as yet unclear, but familiarity with these Blue Periods can be of great help to the expertizers.



The third "Blue Period" was long thought to be August 28 to September 9, 1851; the early date now becomes August 11, as seen above.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

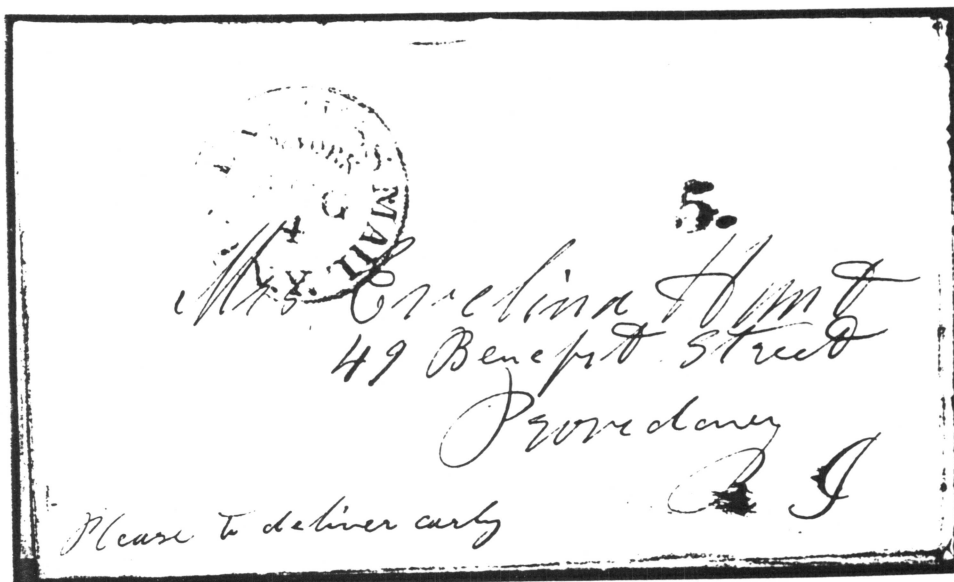
THE PROVIDENCE LINE-RULED STAMPS



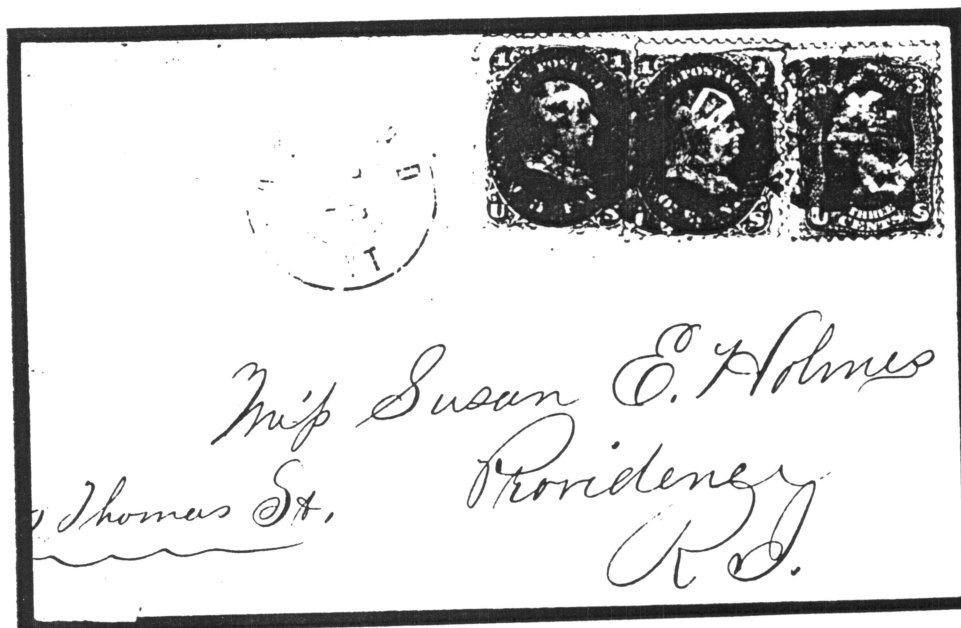
The 3¢ 1851 is found on cover with perpendicular ruled pencil lines in both red and black. These are control markings applied to full panes within the post office. Their exact purpose has yet to be determined.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

Archives testify to a Carrier service in 1846; until discovery of this cover, no extant item conclusively demonstrated this service. Here, a specific instruction to "deliver early" coupled with a street address, is such proof.



Effective July 1, 1863, carrier fees were eliminated and the carriers became salaried employees of the post office. Thus began a true free city delivery. Concomitantly, the drop, or local letter rate, became two cents, yet included the free city delivery.

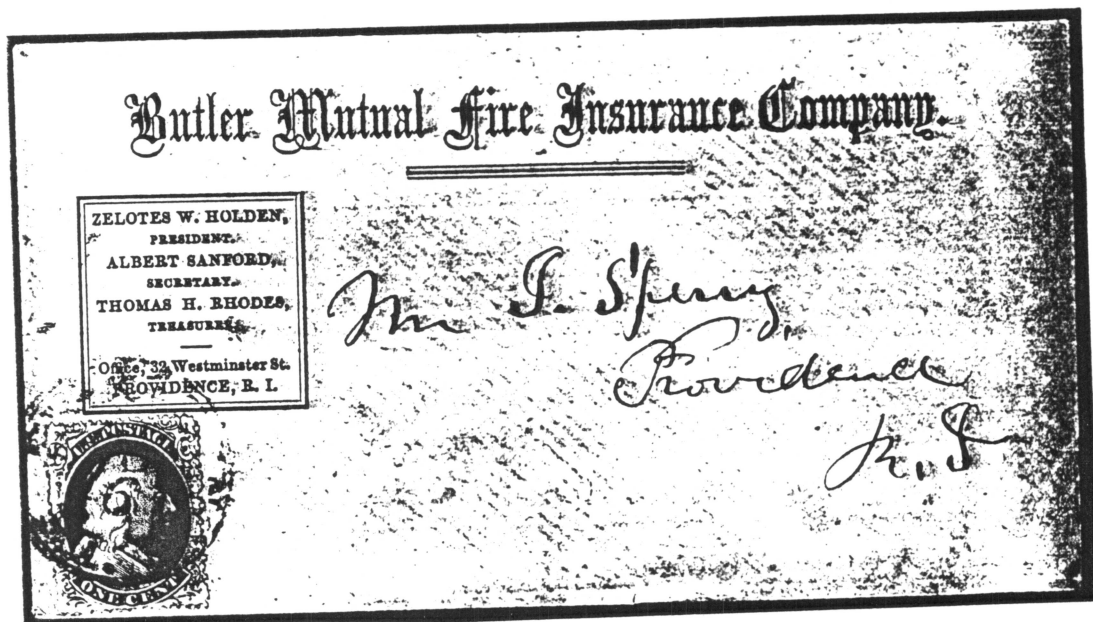


The language used in the new regulations led to some confusion; usage in July and August, 1863, is (rarely) found franked with 5¢ postage & on such letters 3¢ was the correct payment and included free delivery from-the-mails. The 2¢, for local letters only, was an overpayment.

Cf. Kohlhepp corres.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

LOCAL AND PRINTED MATTER RATES



Type IIIa.

Providence datestamp chronology
shows early use, probably 1857.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

LOCAL AND PRINTED MATTER RATES

Providence, Aug. 10, 1867.

M-----

Dear Sir:

Our Post Office has, within the past 6 months, been robbed of a large number of Letters, by means of Lock Boxes, and as a number of Letters being taken from the boxes, it is not improbable that you have been written us during this time. We are sorry to hear of the killing of an business case, so, the foregoing explanation, receiving a prompt reply, has been arrested, and the loss of this trouble having been happy to hear from you, you can feel assured of your communication coming safe to hand by due course of mail.

Yours Respectfully,

Perry Davis & Son.

Wm

Leaman & Kemp

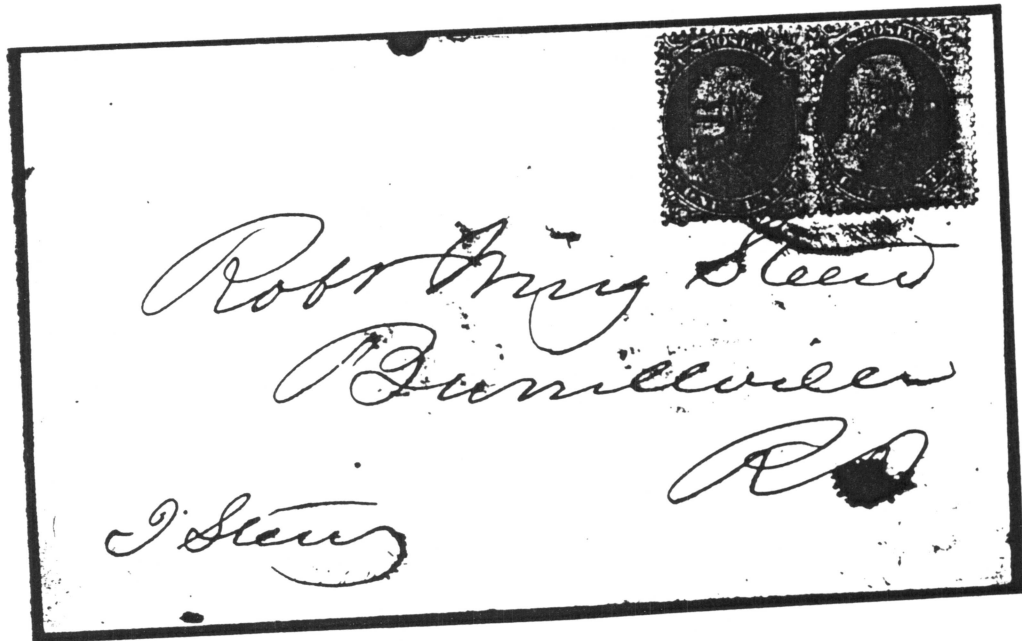
Wm

New York

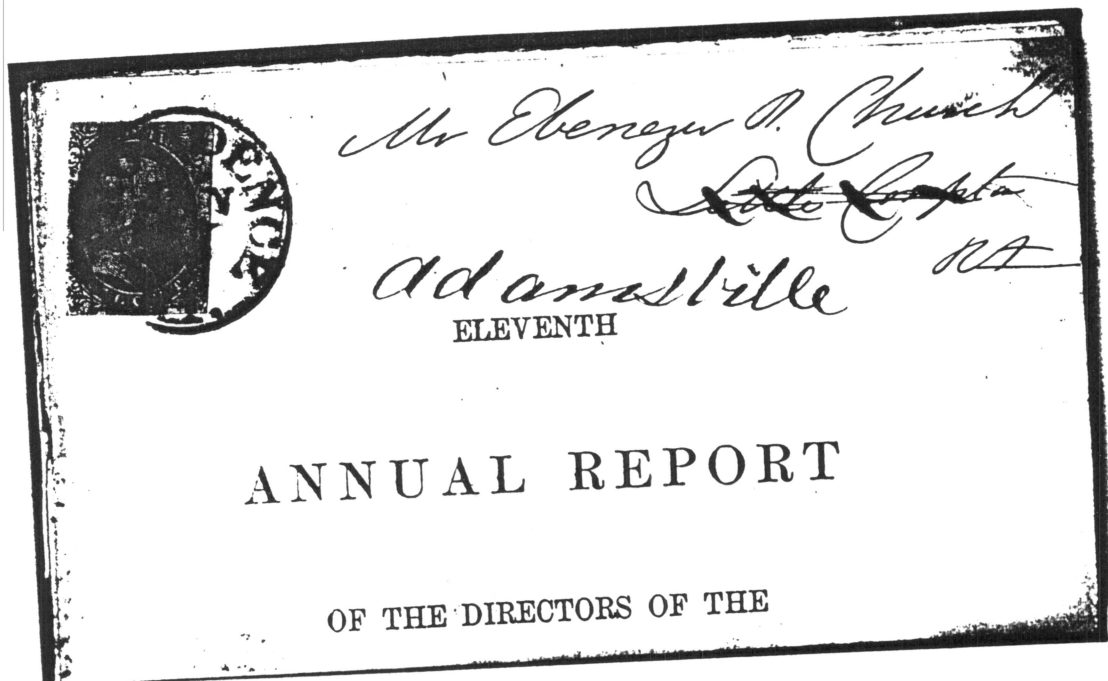


RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

LOCAL AND PRINTED MATTER RATES



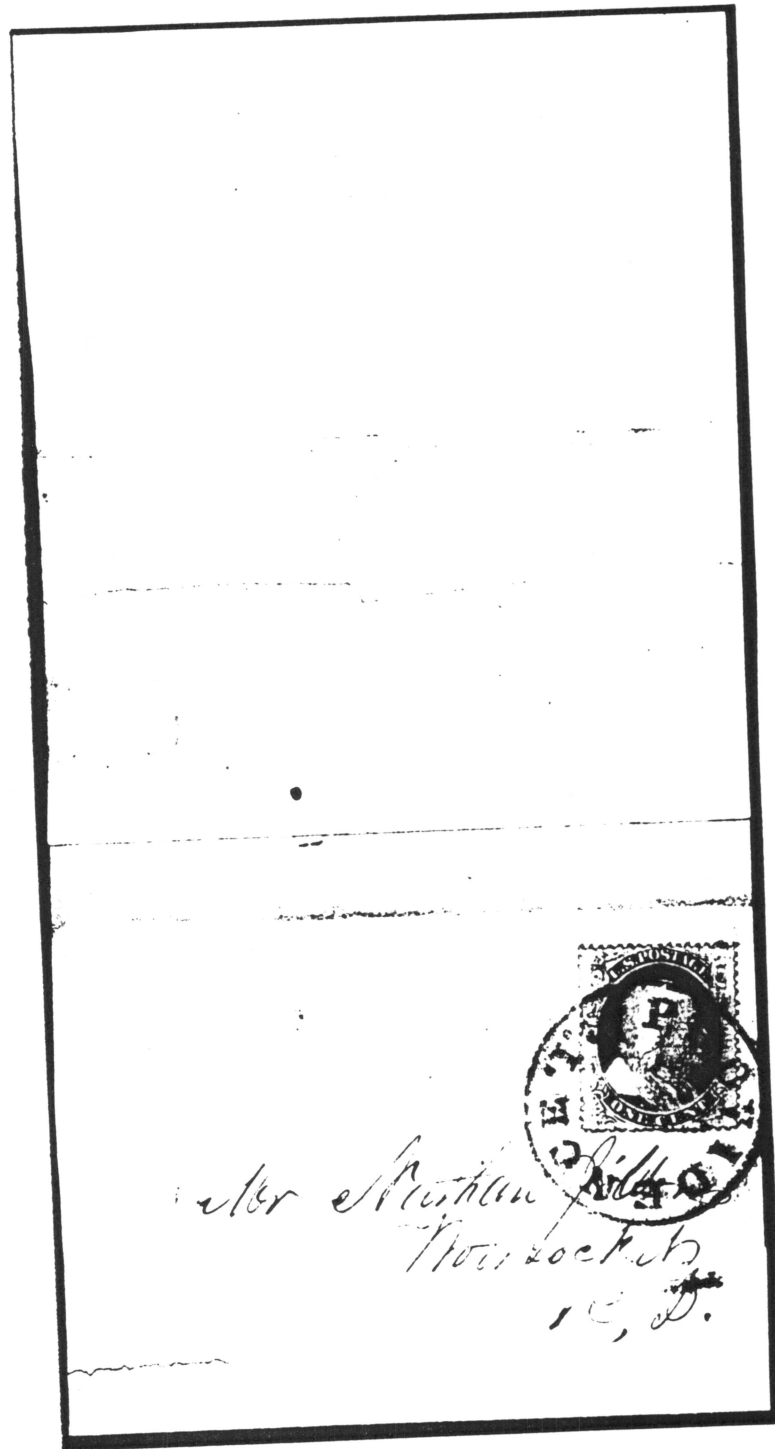
Type I. Envelope slit for wrapper use.
Carried two items; hence a double rate.



Type IV.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

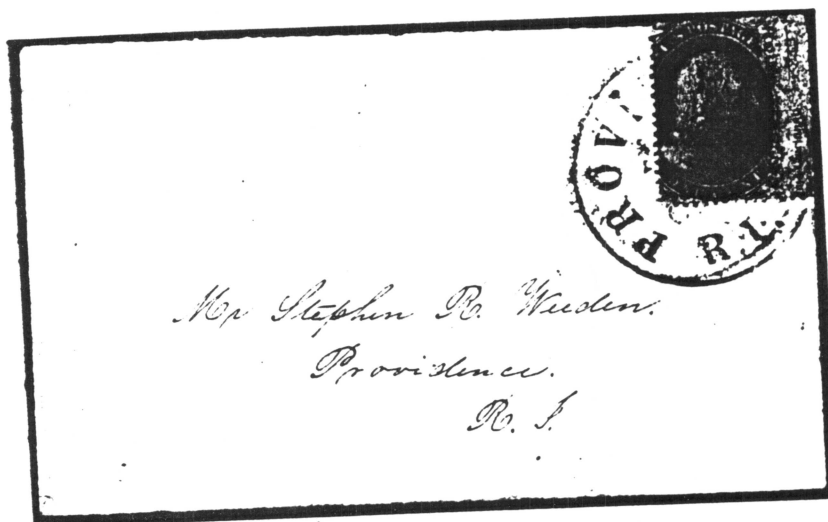
LOCAL AND PRINTED MATTER RATES



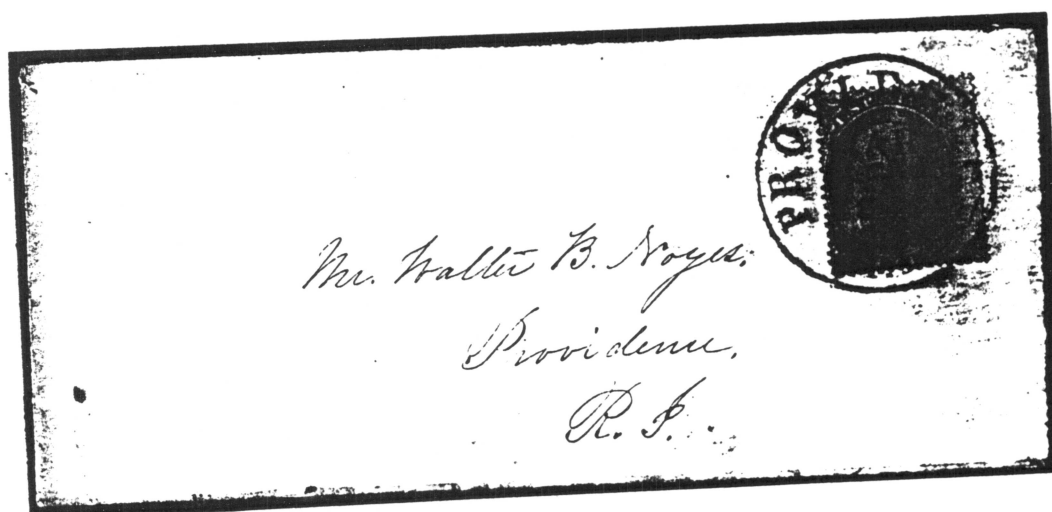
Type Va. Dry plate printing.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

LOCAL AND PRINTED MATTER RATES



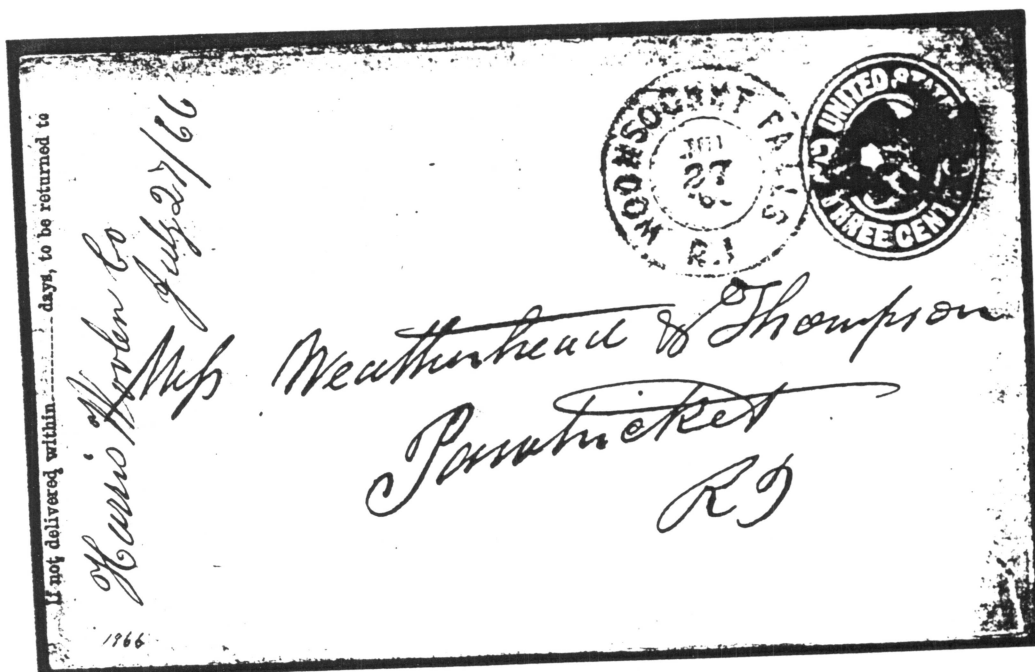
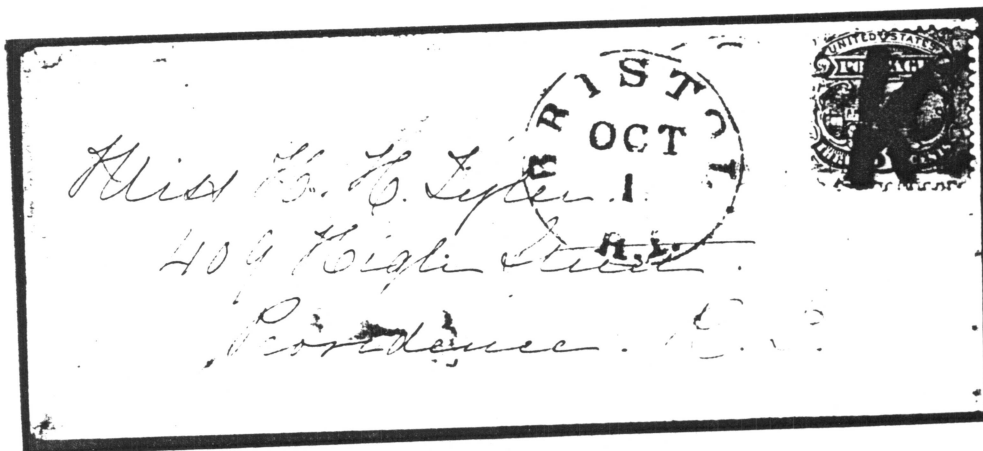
Type V. Imprint.



Rate effective April 1, 1855.

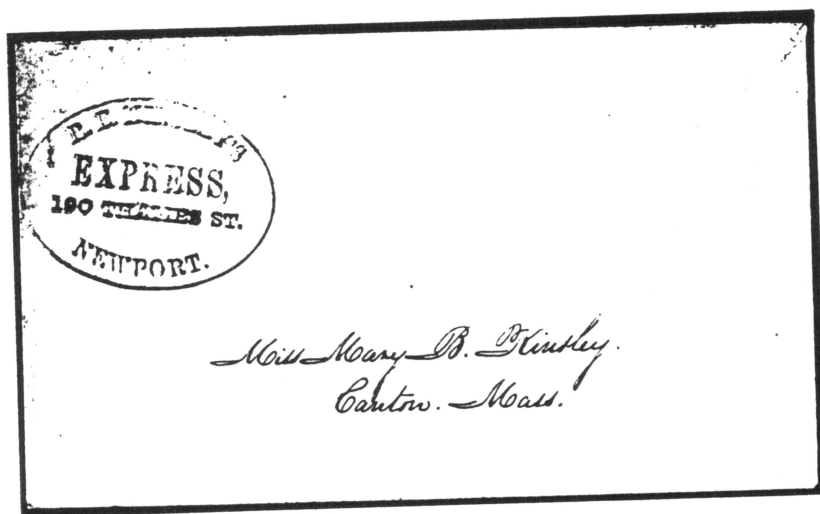
RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

FANCY CANCELS



RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

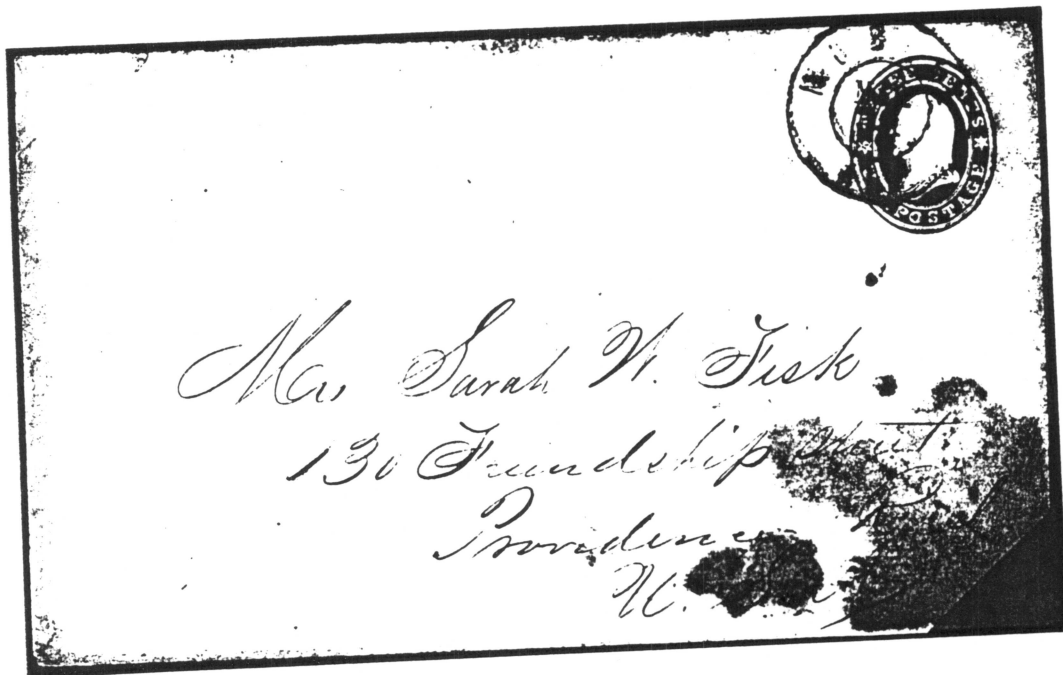
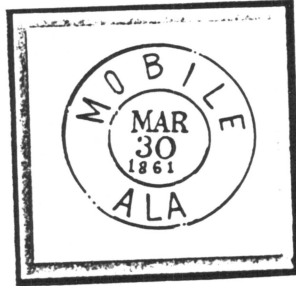
PRIVATE EXPRESS



Ca. 1850. Two known; unrecorded in black.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

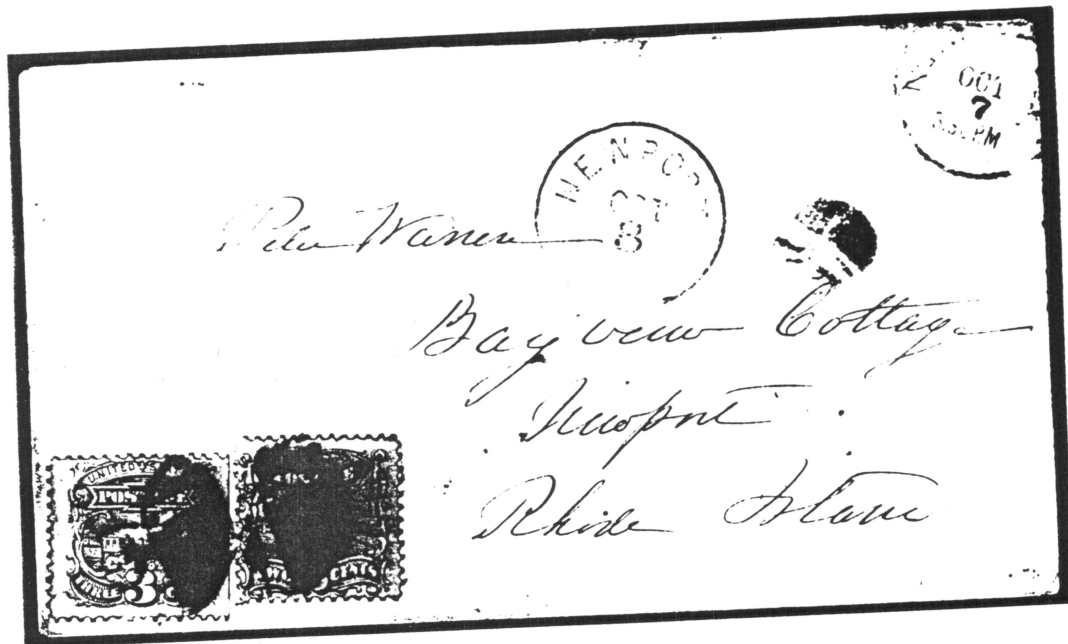
RHODE ISLAND MISCELLANY



This letter carried by U.S. Post Office, although from a Confederate State. U.S. relinquished mails June 1, 1861.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

RHODE ISLAND MISCELLANY



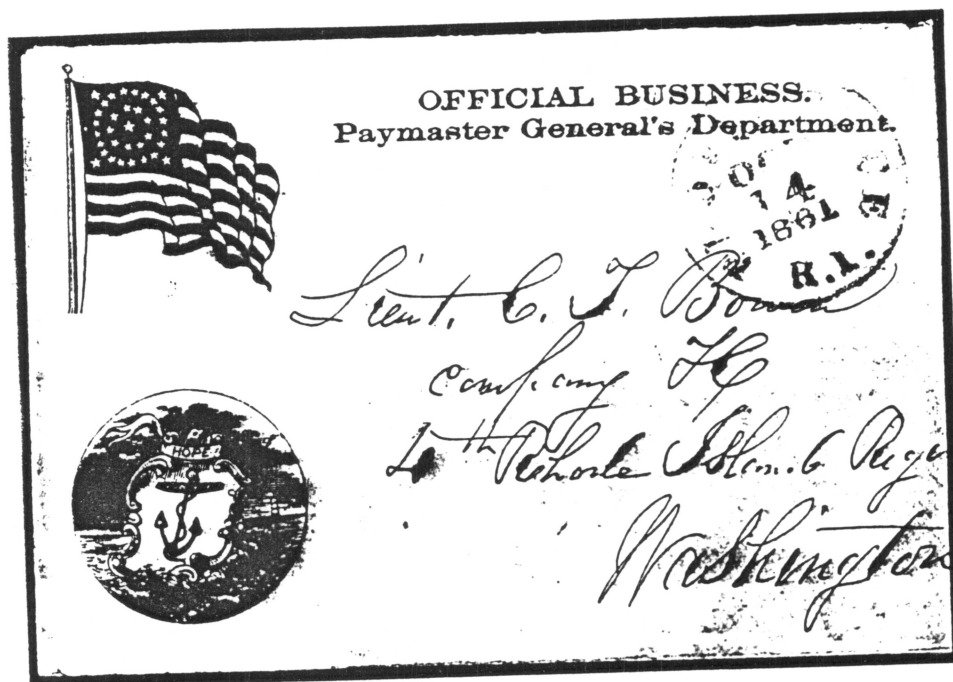
Two cent overpayment of three cent rate.
Only logical explanation would be sender
thought double rate charged for contract
ship mail service, New York to Newport.*

*Ref. Frajola Corrsp.

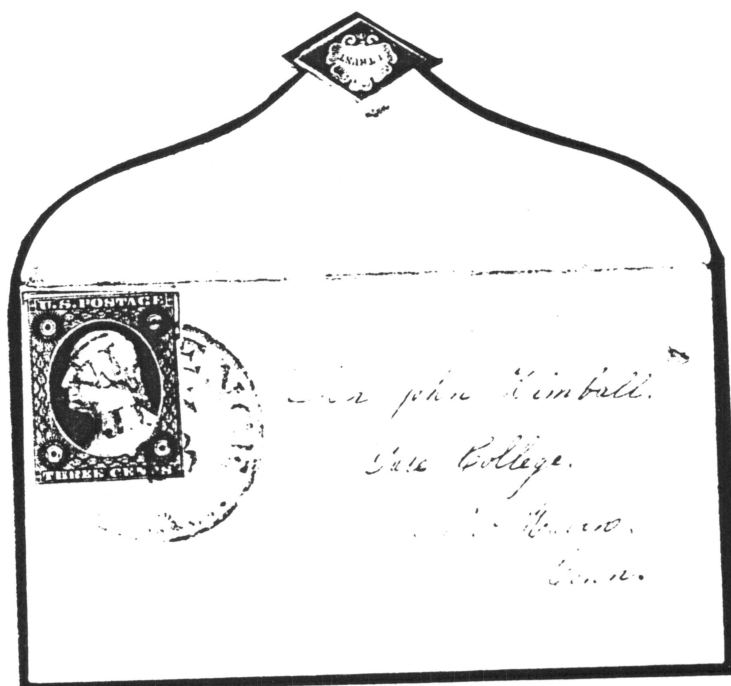
RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

RHODE ISLAND MISCELLANY

Official imprint mail....,

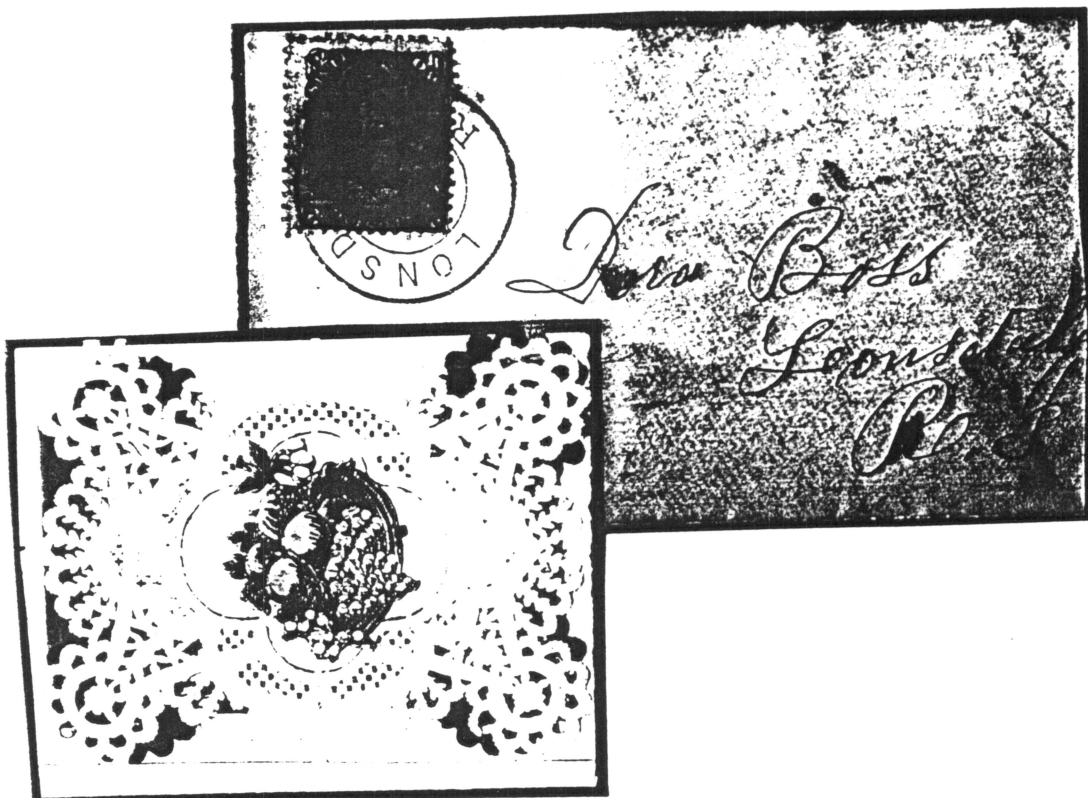


...and an unofficial "sticker" letter.

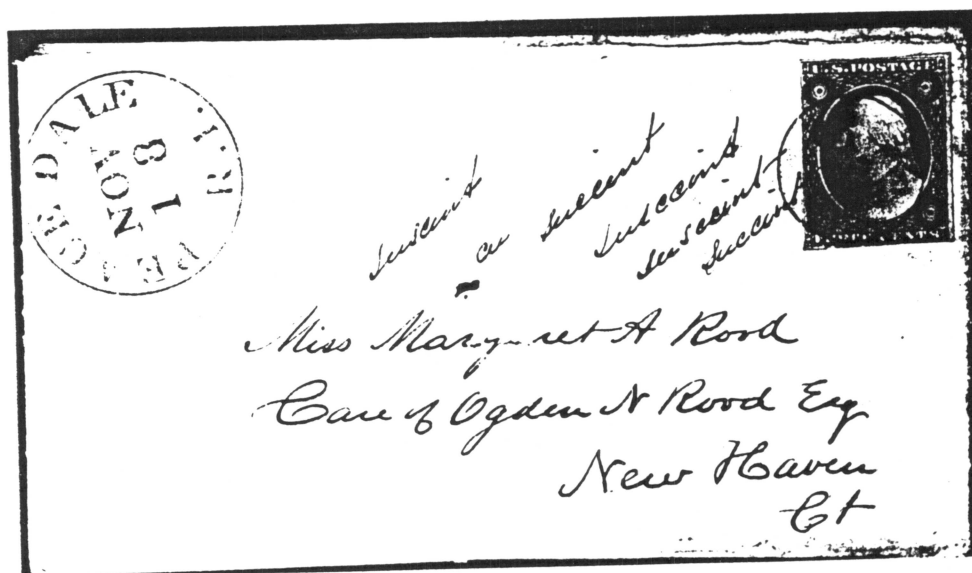


RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

TOWN MARKS



Dora's homemade Valentine was late - February 23!

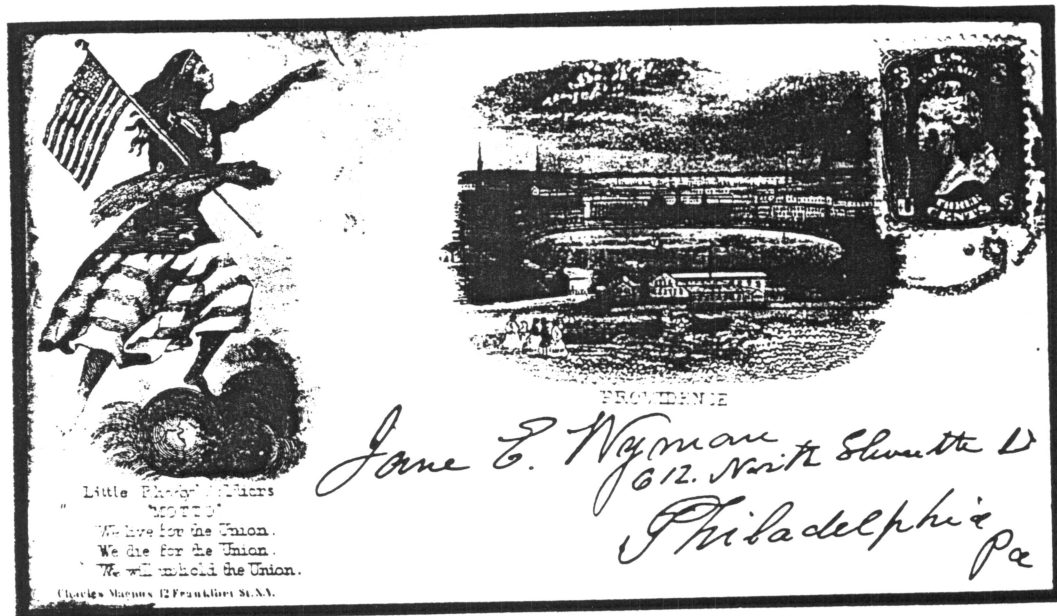


Just how do you spell ~~succinct~~ ~~succinct~~ that word?*

*succinct

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

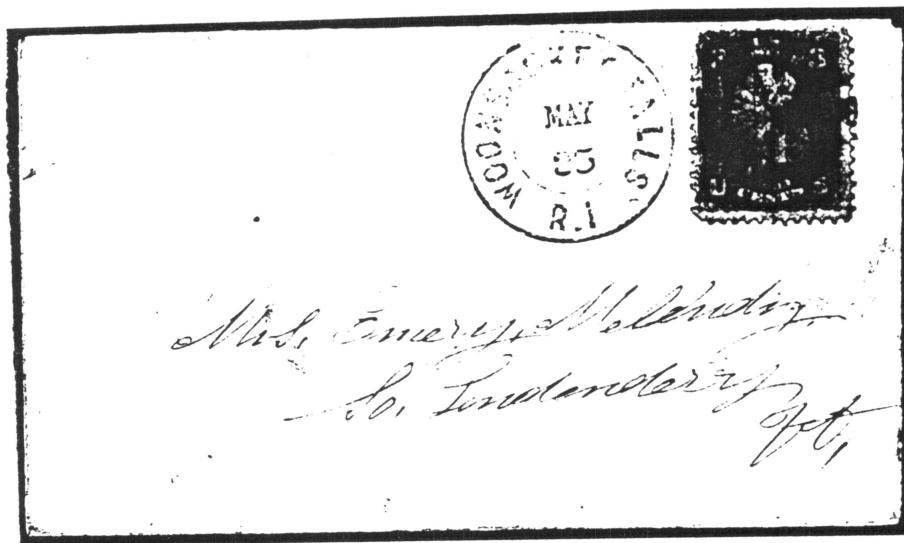
RHODE ISLAND MISCELLANY



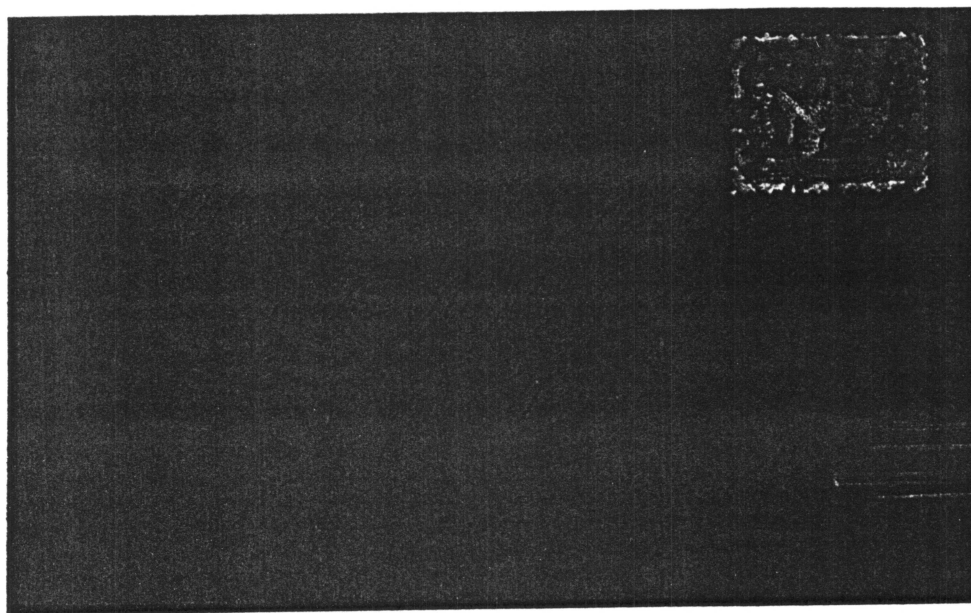
Charles Magnus scene of Providence, 1862.
Used from Baltimore; not recorded used in
Rhode Island. Original painting survives.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

TOWN MARKS



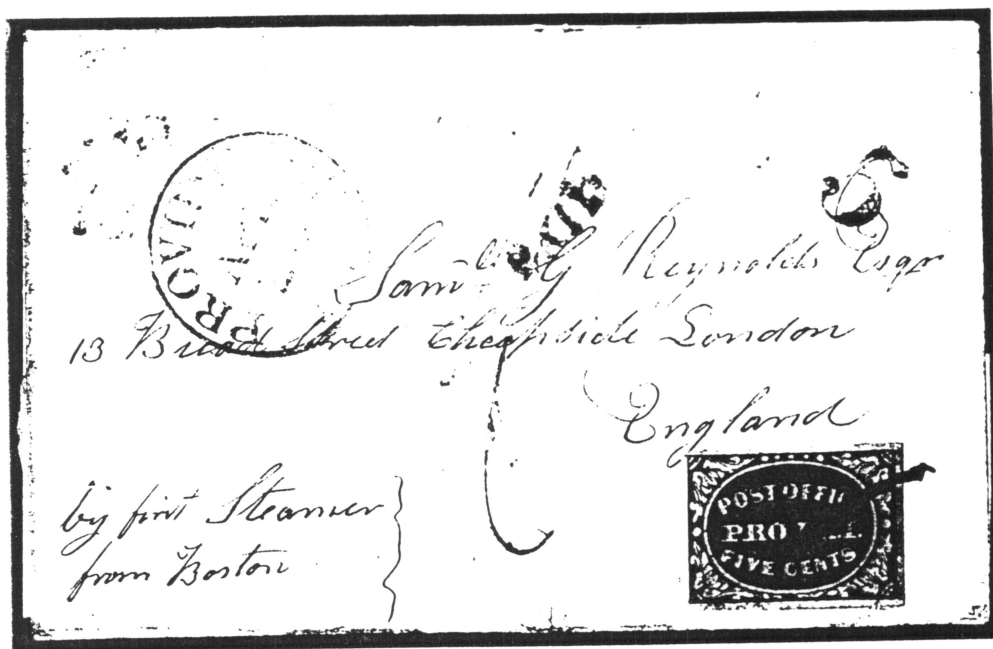
Woonsocket Falls.



Name changed, "Falls" omitted. Note Pink.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

OVERSEAS USAGES

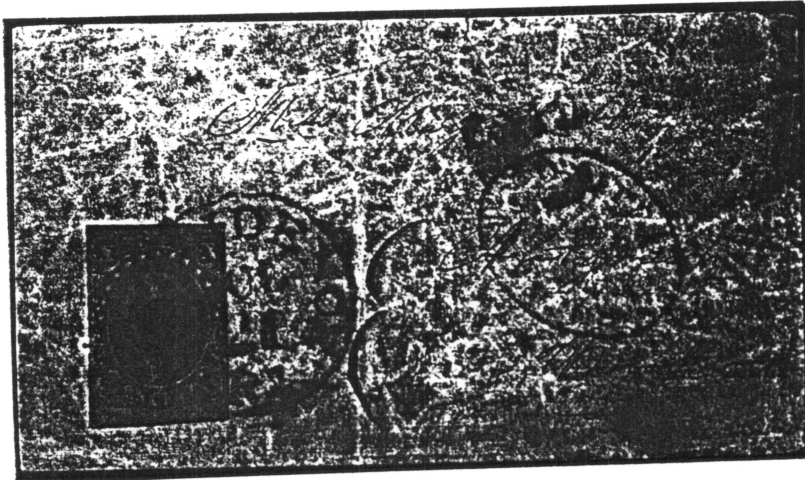


Posted April 26, 1847. One of two foreign usages. Stamp is position five, paying the "Shore to Ship" rate. Also marked one shilling, for collection in England. Arrival backstamp of May 14.

PFC. Signed Warren H. Coulson.

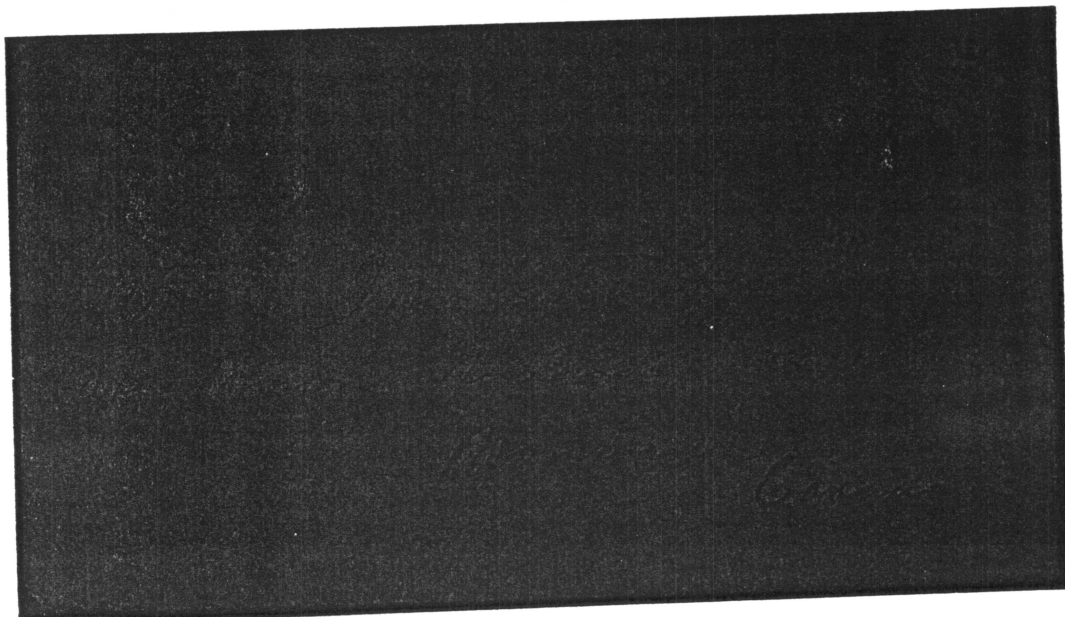
RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

OVERSEAS USAGES



Prepaid to Nova Scotia by 10¢, Type III, of the 1851 - 1856 series. PAID applied in Providence, "United States" in Boston. Barely legible, the backstamps read:

St John New Brunswick/JY/1856
PICTOU/JY/1856
ANTIGONISH/AUG 4/1856.

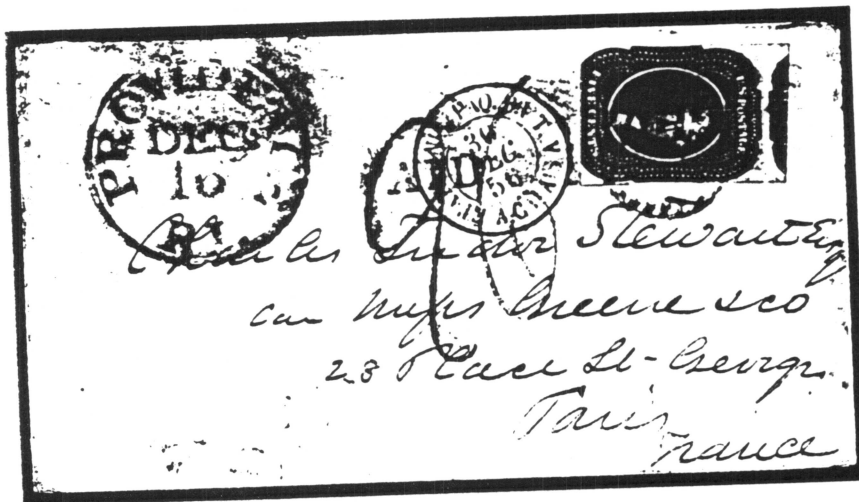


Backstamped "Montreal, 1857." Exchange Office marking is Boston. Rated 10¢ unpaid in U.S., 6 pence due in Canada.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

OVERSEAS USAGES

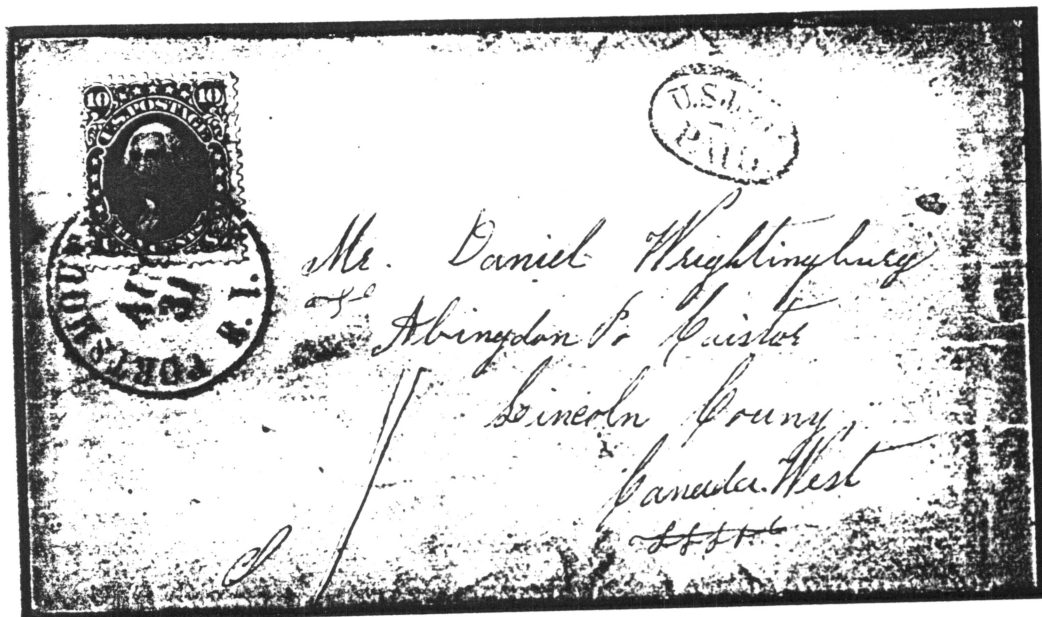
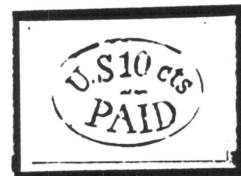
5¢ Red Brown prepays British packet service.



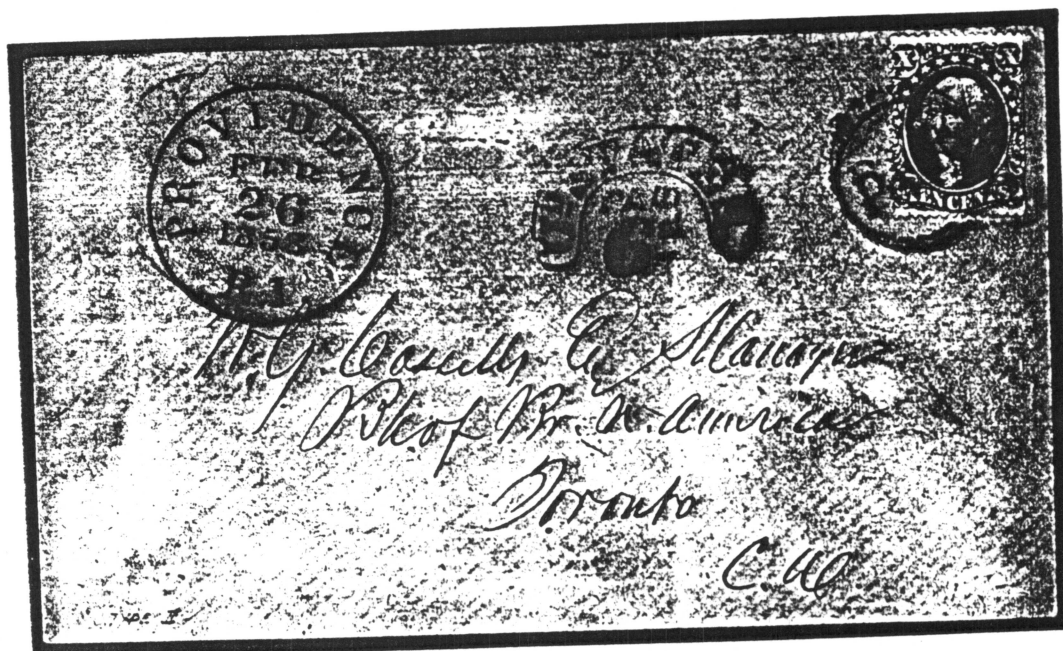
Mailed Providence December 16, 1856. Left Boston on Cunarder "ARABIA" on December 17, arriving Liverpool on the 28th. Forwarded through travelling office, Calais to Paris, arriving December 30.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

OVERSEAS USAGES



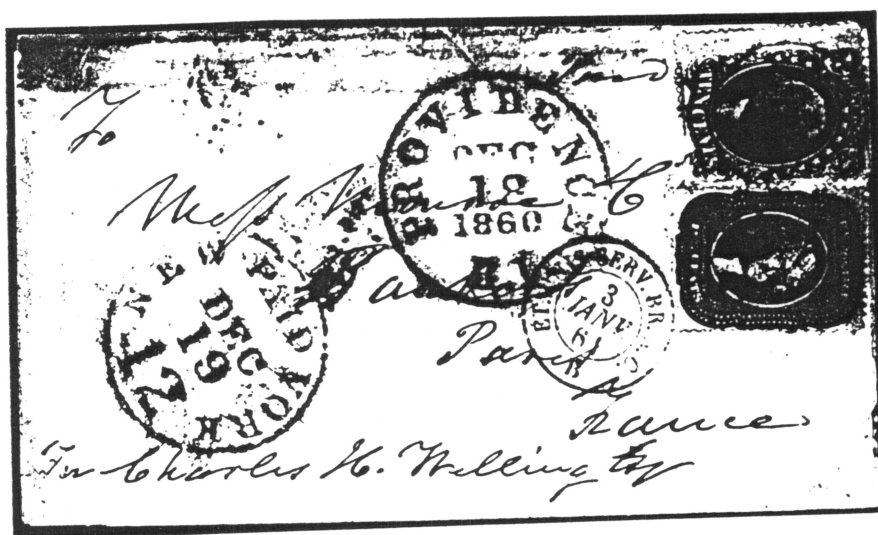
The prepaid 10¢ rate to Canada.



RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

OVERSEAS USAGES

1860. Brick Red Type I; Green Type V.



Sailed on ASIA, of the Cunard Line.

U.S. Inland.....3¢

Credit to France:

(British sea.....6¢

(British transit...2¢

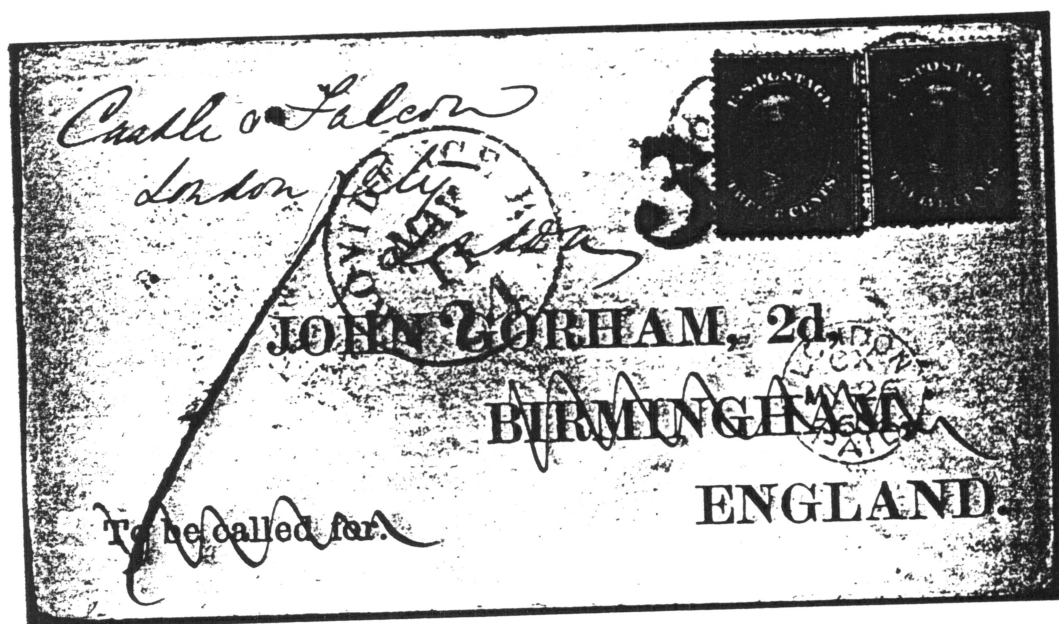
(French inland.....4¢

.....12¢

Total 15¢

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

OVERSEAS USAGES



Providence, May 11, 1860. The "NEW YORK" sailed from that city on May 12. Birmingham arrival backstamp of May 26th.

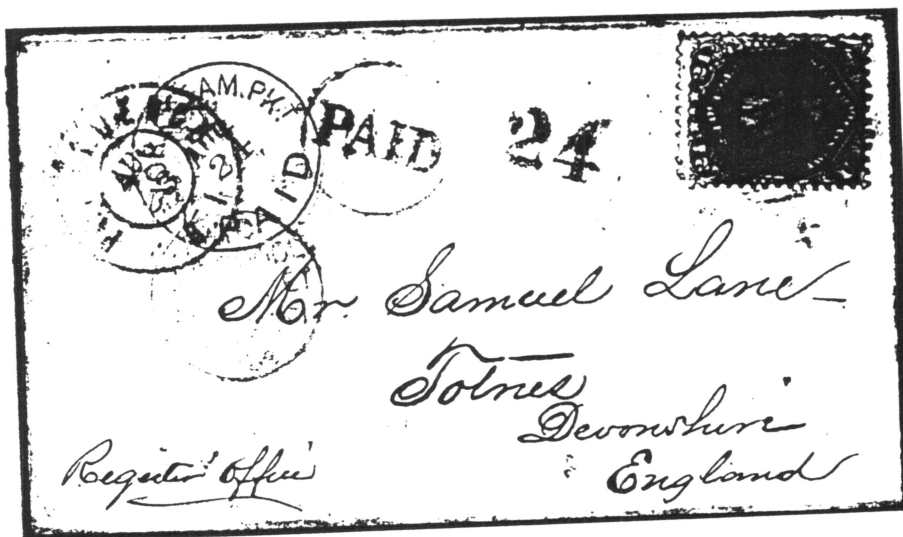
U.S. inland postage.....	5¢
Transit postage.....	16¢
Great Britain inland.....	<u>3¢</u>
Total	<u>24¢</u>

In London, one pence collect,
forwarding fee.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

OVERSEAS USAGES VIA AMERICAN PACKET

1867



Grayish
lilac

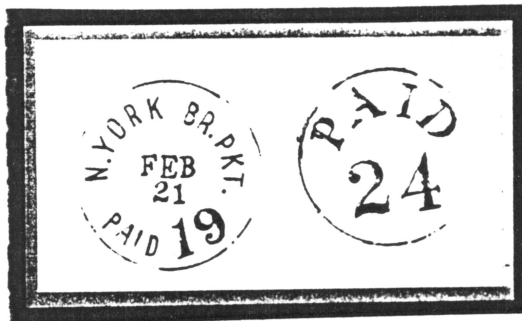
The United States-British Treaty of 1849 established the 24¢ rate between the two countries, a fee that pertained for nearly twenty years. Shown is this single rate, and Exchange Office accounting for American Packet Carriage.

U.S. inland.....	5¢
Sea (to United States)....	16¢
British inland.....	3¢
	<u>24¢</u>

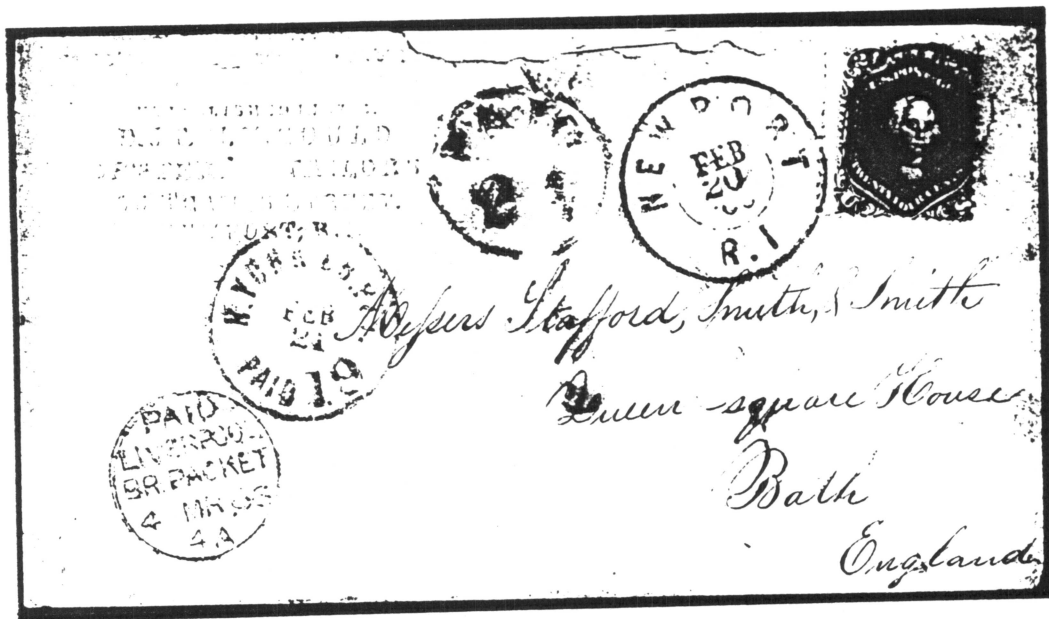
RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

OVERSEAS USAGES

VIA BRITISH PACKET



Carried by the Australasian of the Cunard Lines. Arriving on March 4 at Liverpool. Prepaid 24¢ under the Treaty signed on December 15, 1848.



19¢ credited to Britain (for 3¢ inland and 16¢ transit); 5¢ retained by United States for its inland postage. Backstamp, right:

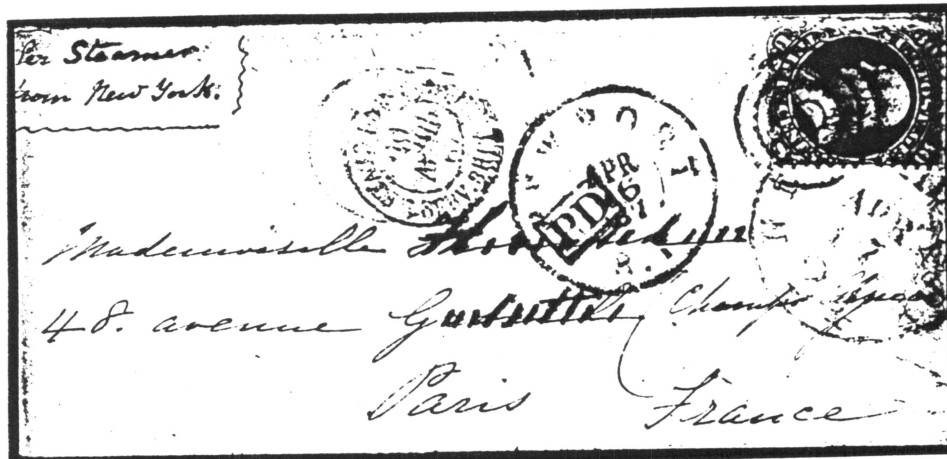


RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

OVERSEAS USAGES

VIA BRITISH PACKET

Sailed on JAVA from New York, 1867.



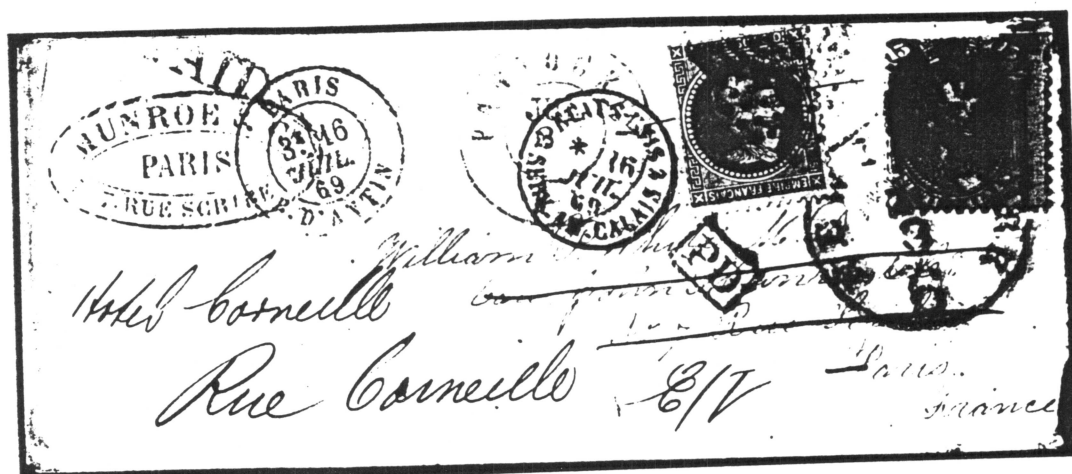
Double 15¢ rate for letter in excess of
one half ounce. 24¢ credit to Britain.
For rate division, see following page.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

OVERSEAS USAGES

"DIRECT" VIA ENGLAND

Besides the French Line, four others carried mail to France "direct" through England in sealed bags. These letters all bear a U.S. credit of 6¢ per rate and a Calais entry circle handstamp, and are without British markings.



Saturday, July 3, 1869. Via the Inman Line.

Rate Division:

U.S. inland.....	3¢
Sea (U.S.).....	6¢
Transit (France)....	2¢
French inland.....	4¢

15¢

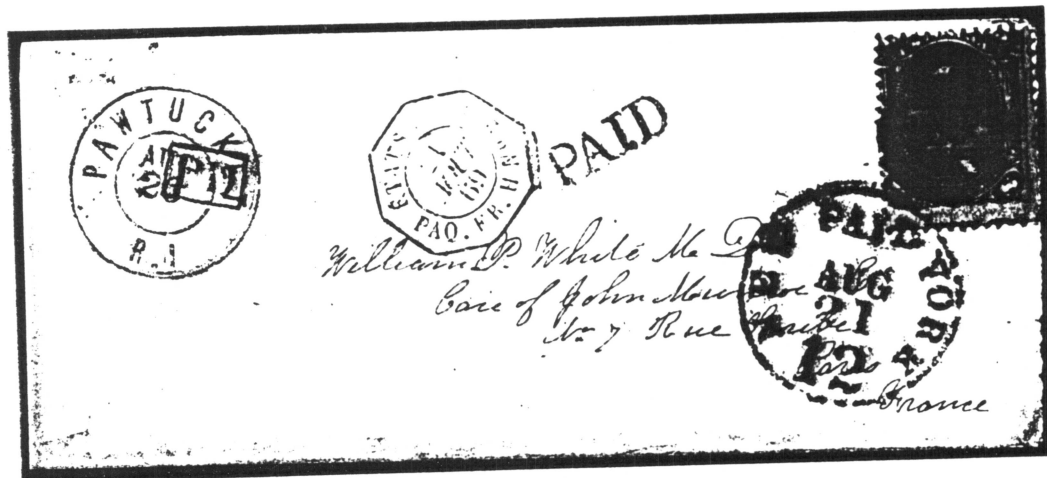
6¢ credit to France.

10 centime bistre pays French forwarding.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

OVERSEAS USAGES

VIA FRENCH PACKET



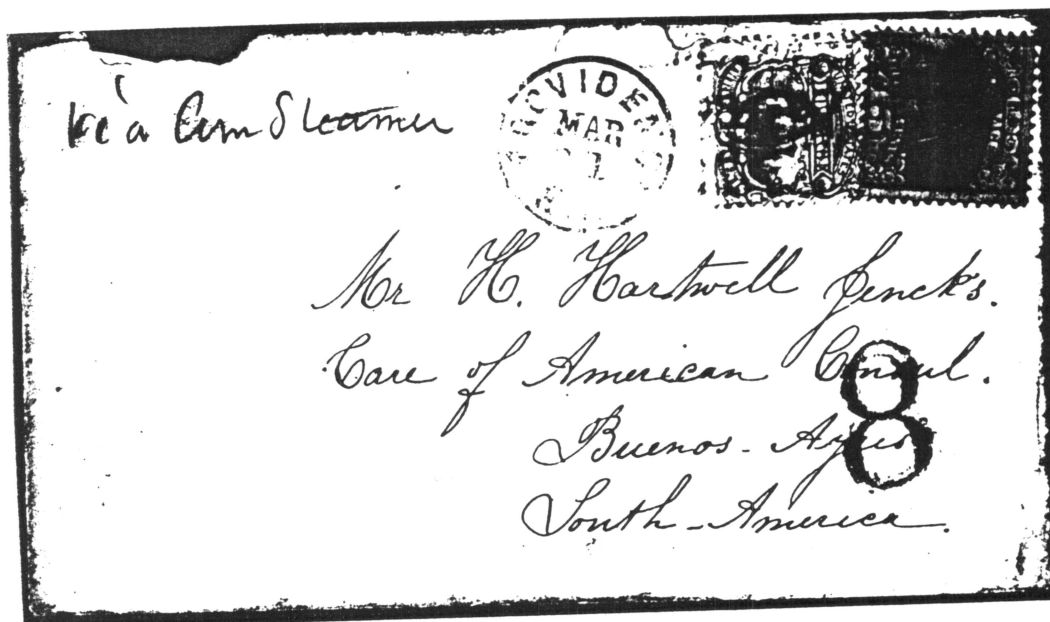
Octagon is French Mails point-of-entry marking, and contains numeral code for vessel identification; here, the Lafayette, and the St. Laurent (lower cover). 15¢ treaty rate division:

3¢ U.S. inland
 9¢ sea (to France)
 3¢ French inland
 15¢ total; French credit 12¢.

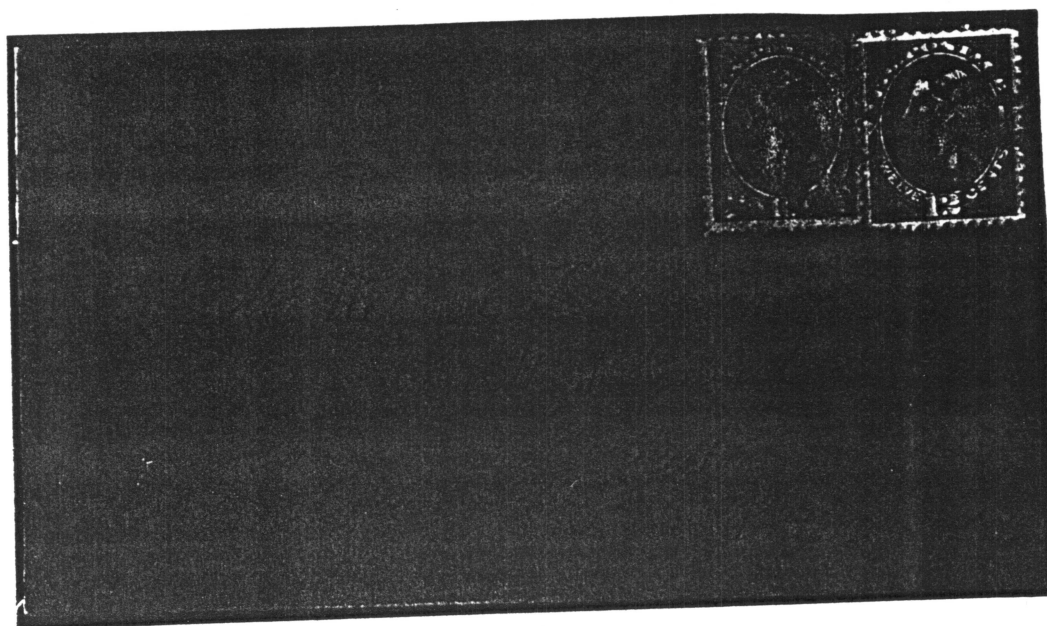


RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

OVERSEAS USAGES



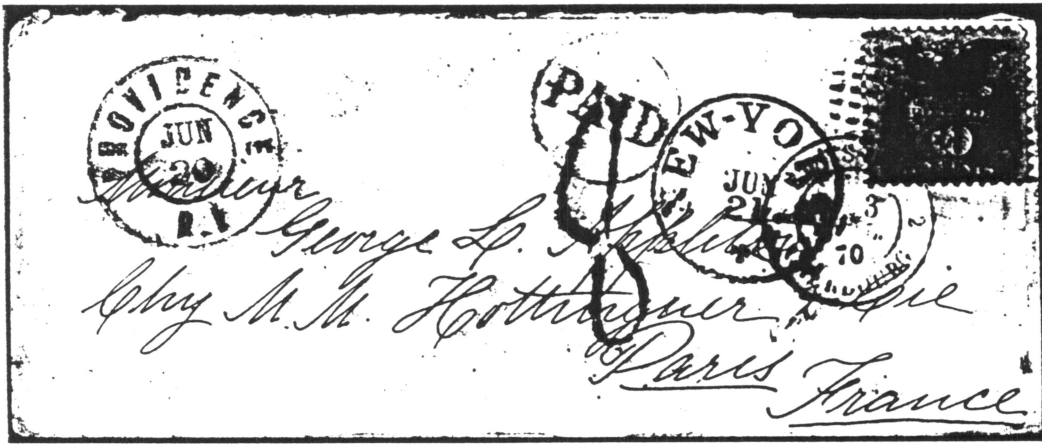
1870. Correct rate. Red eight is credit for British carriage. The 15¢ is Type II.



1872. 22¢ rate. 12¢ credit to Great Britain for carriage.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

OVERSEAS USAGES



By mutual consent, the U.S. - French Convention of 2 March, 1857 was terminated 1 January, 1870. The basic rate then becomes 10¢ to the French frontier. By Imperial Decree effective 1 January, 1870, letters delivered in France were subjected to a collection charge of eight decimes. This letter sailed on the Cimbria.



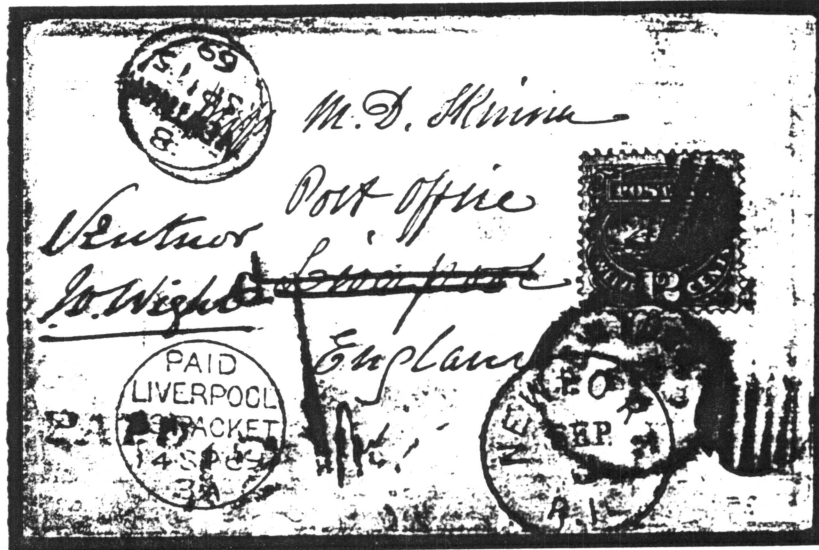
Receiving mark.



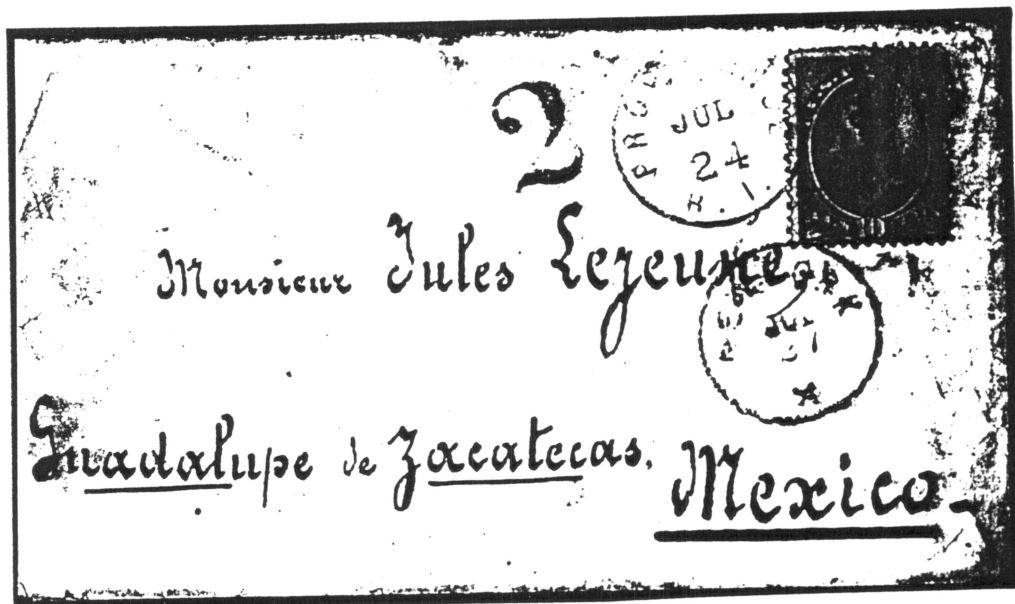
Backstamp.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

OVERSEAS USAGES



As of January 1, 1868, the single rate to England became 12¢, and the use of packet identification and accounting marks ceased. The twelve cent of the 1869 series could only pay this charge from the issue date of April 5 till the first day of 1870, when again the rate changed. This usage is shown above, with forwarding instructions and a one pence due marking for collection from the addressee.

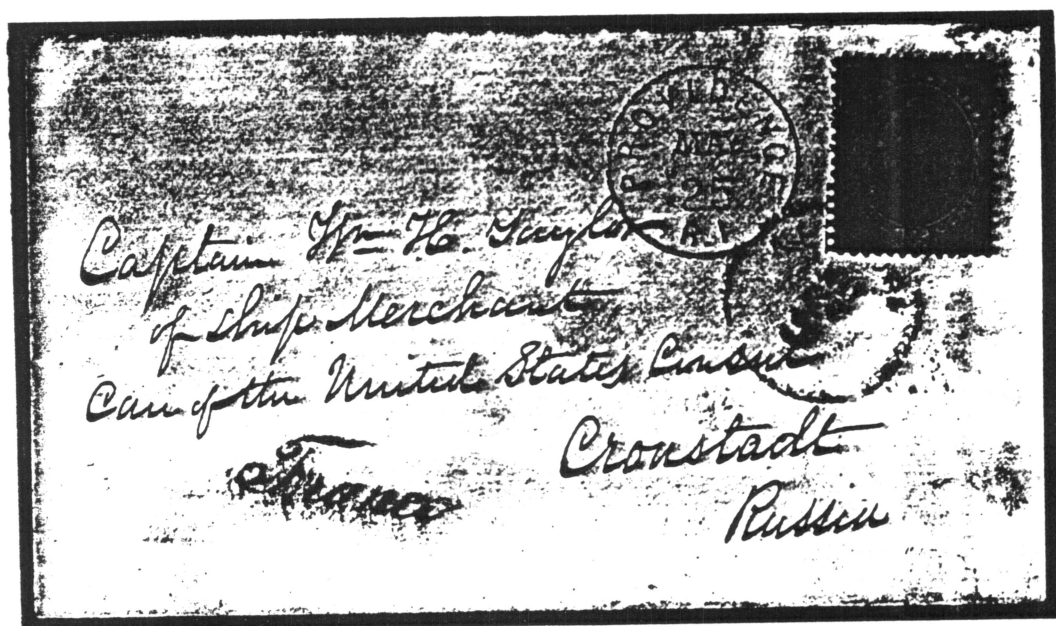


Via Matamoros. 2 Centavos due, Mexican inland.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

OVERSEAS USAGES

1871

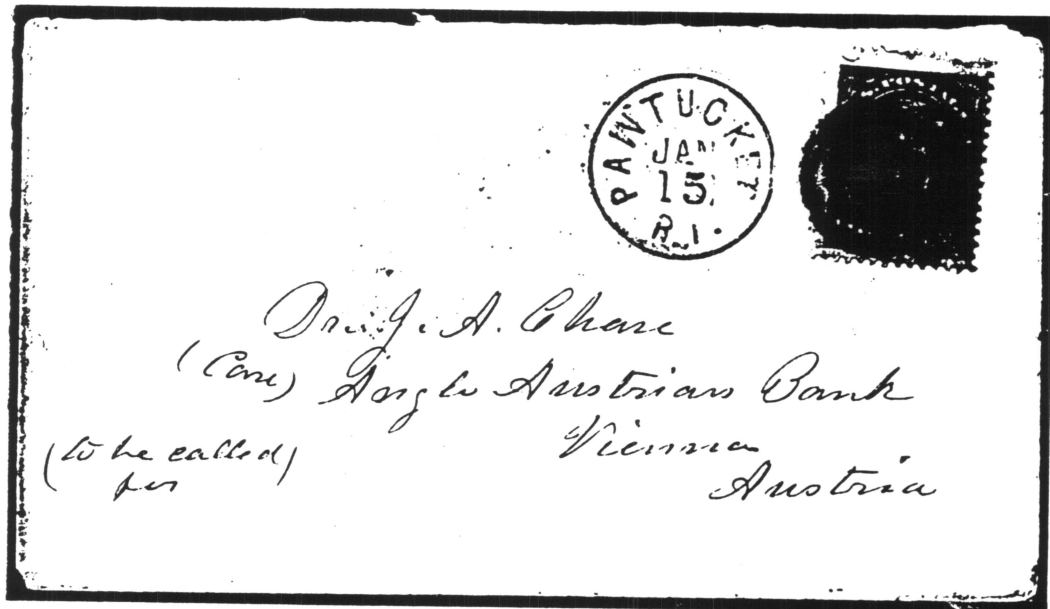


National Banknote Dull Violet prepaying
the twelve cent rate, through the North
German Union. Rate effective July, 1870.

RHODE ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY

OVERSEAS USAGES

The Universal Postal Union simplified international accounting, thus ending a colorful, but complicated, era in postal history.



5¢ or 2½ pence, almost anywhere.

