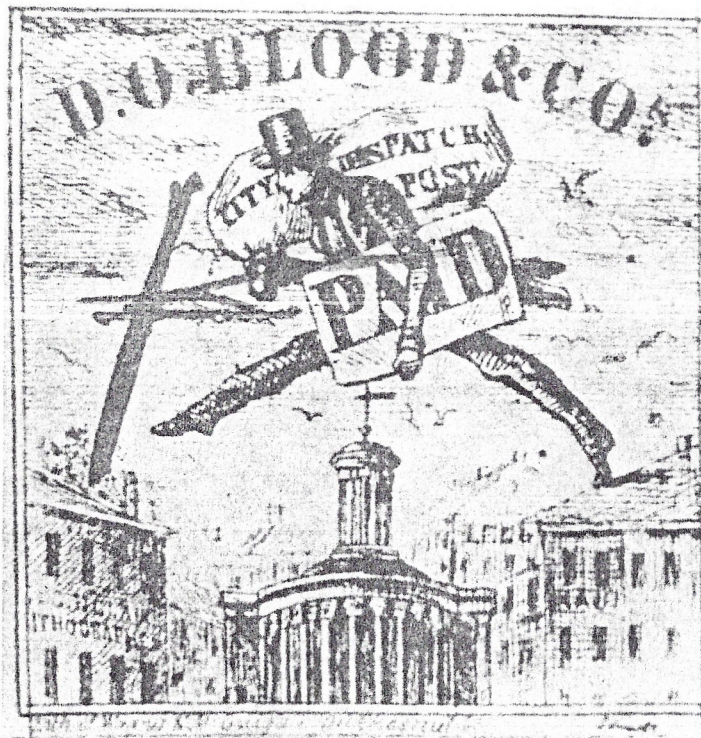


D. O. BLOOD & CO.

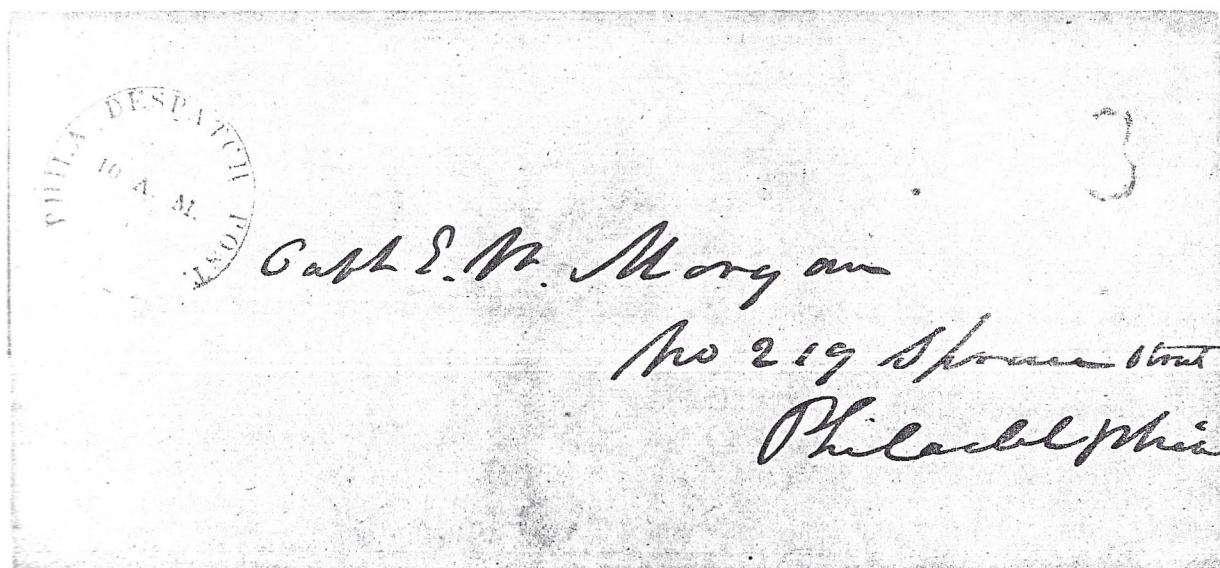
PHILADELPHIA
1845 - 1862



During the period between 1842 and 1883 there were over fifty private posts in business within the United States. D. O. Blood & Co., having existed for sixteen years, was one of the oldest and best known. The story of these companies is really that of the struggle between Private Enterprise and Government Monopoly. Blood's best illustrates this struggle, as they spent many years and dollars in legal battles with the Government. The results of these battles had profound effects on Local Posts and the United States Post Office.

Predecessors: Philadelphia "City" Despatch Post

The Philadelphia Despatch Post is believed to be the predecessor of D. O. Blood & Co. It appears to have been owned by Robertson & Co. The first public announcement for this post appeared in the Dec. 8, 1842 issue of the *Public Ledger*. It was the first private post within the Philadelphia city limits.



May 13, 1843

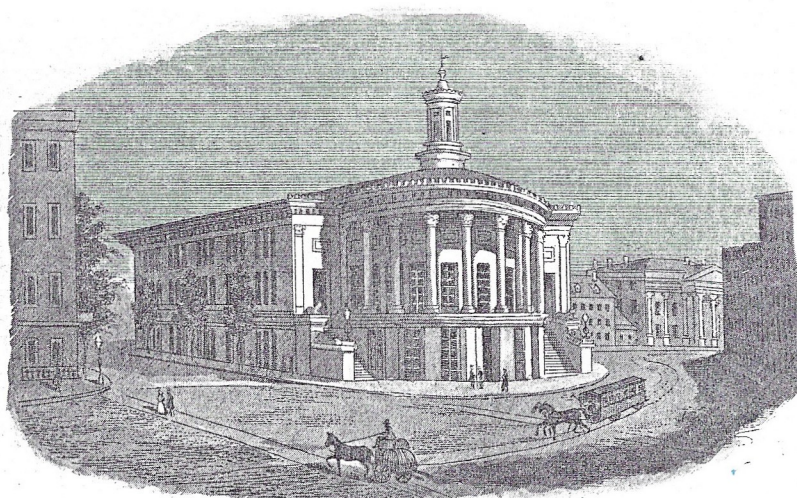
PHILA. DESPATCH POST. / 10 A. M. handstamp with 3 (due). Letter originated in West Chester, Pa.

Predecessors: Philadelphia "City" Despatch Post

The origin and ownership of the City Despatch Post is not clear. The first stamp issued by this post was the "Striding Messenger" design. These stamps are only found initialed "R. & Co.". If Robertson & Co. did not start the City Despatch Post, they certainly were operating it. If this post was a separate entity it is not clear. The wording on the stamps, "City Despatch Post / Paid", may simply have implied that mail service within the city was paid. These stamps may actually be issues of the Philadelphia Despatch Post.

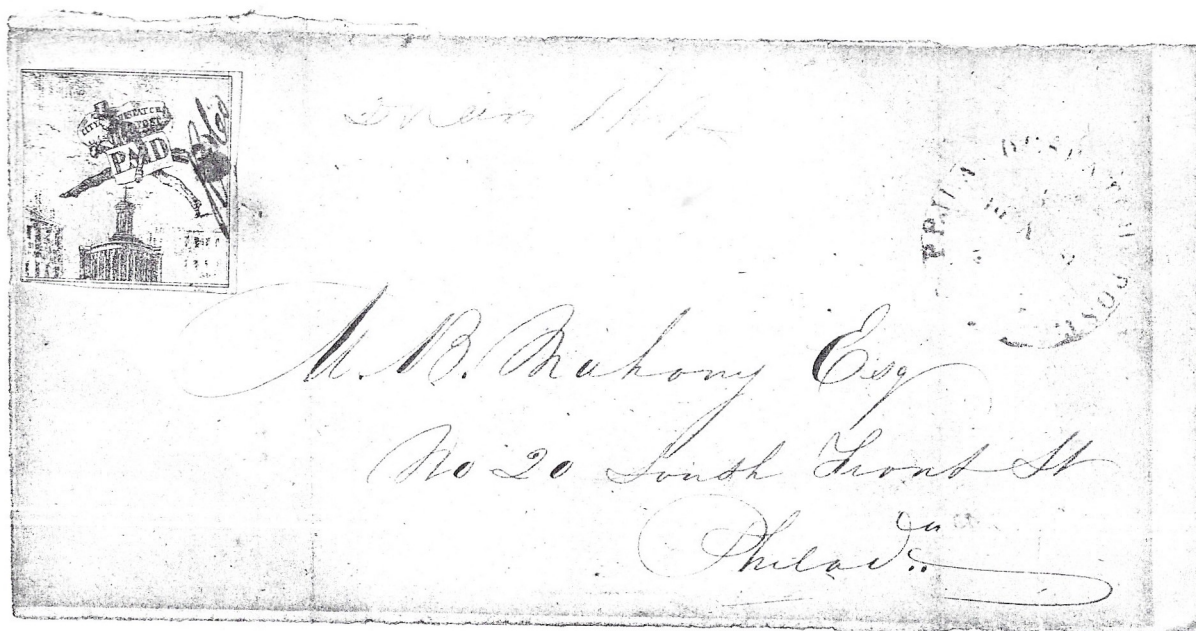


A copy from the second printing illustrating the "R. & Co." handwritten initials. Although issued three years after the Penny Black of Great Britain, this stamp is considered the first pictorial stamp design in the world.



MERCHANTS EXCHANGE
PHILADELPHIA

The design shows a messenger striding over the Merchants Exchange Building, which then housed the government post office, perhaps implying the private post gave faster service.

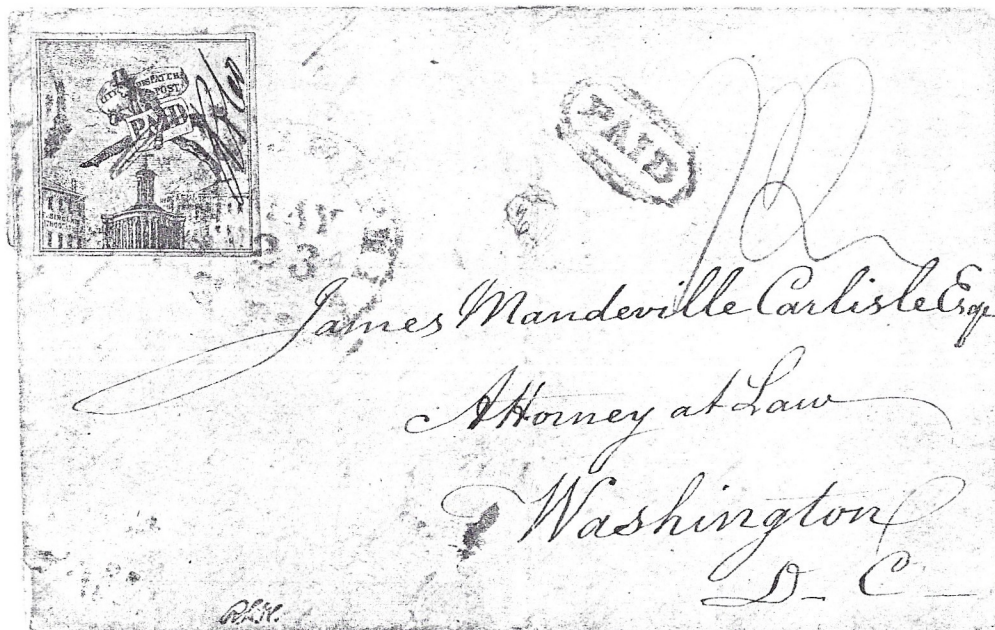


1844

Letters for delivery within the city were charged 3¢ as shown by the red "3" cancel of this stamp. The fact that this letter has a "PHILA DESPATCH POST" postmark would seem to imply that the two posts, City Despatch Post and the Philadelphia Despatch Post were one in the same.

Predecessors: City Despatch Post

Letters for delivery outside the city were carried to the government post office for a fee of 3¢.



May 23, 1844

The 12 1/2 ¢ fee for delivery to Washington, DC was prepaid as indicated by the red "PAID" handstamp applied by the Philadelphia post office.

Blood's "Provisional" Issue

On July 7, 1845 Daniel Otis Blood, chief cashier of the *Daily Public Ledger*, and his brother Walter, purchased the City Despatch Post from Robertson's manager, John W. Halsey. The remaining stock of stamps were inscribed, "D. O. B. & Co's," until a supply of new stamps could be prepared.



September 16, 1845

Delivered to the agent at the railway station and sent to Boston via the New York post office at the 10¢ rate.

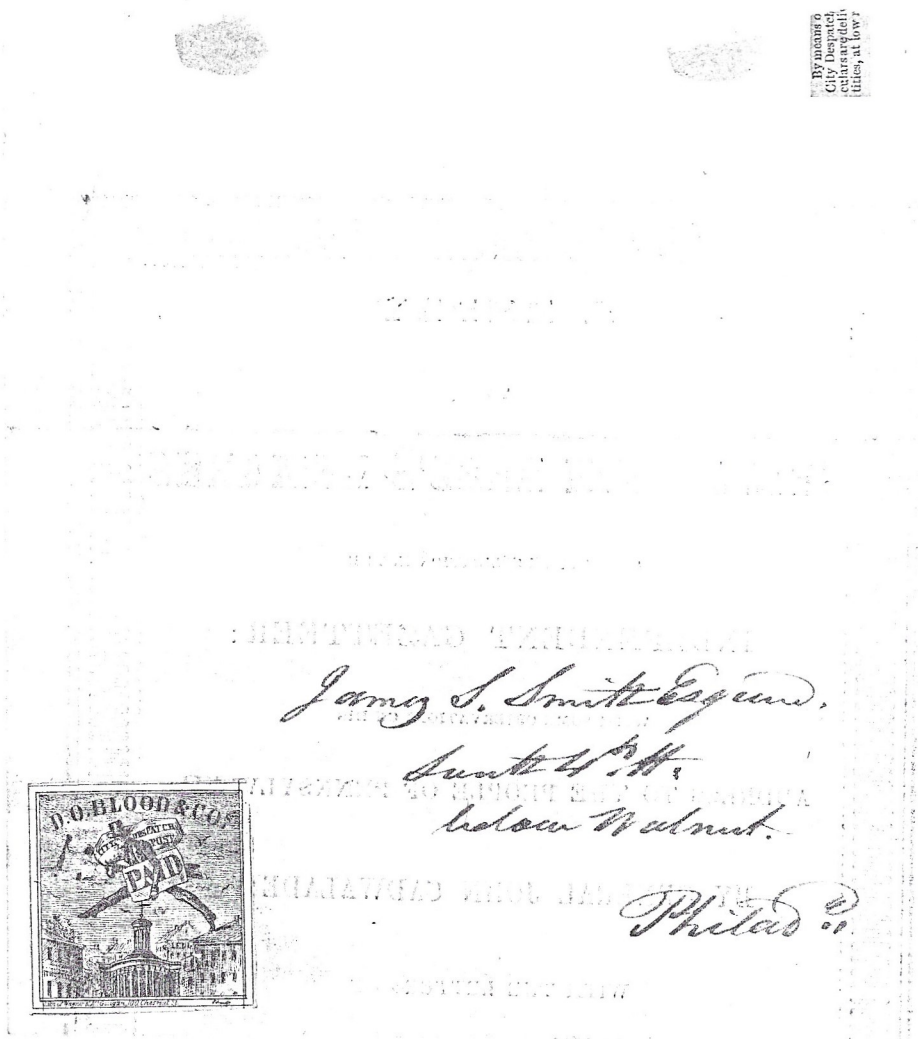
Blood's version of the stamp was printed with the wording "D. O. BLOOD & CO'S City Despatch Post Paid." Known used from August 27, 1845 to April, 1848.



June 22, 1846

Delivered to the Philadelphia post office by Blood's. The rate on this letter to Bridgewater, MA was corrected from 5¢ to 10¢. The Blood's stamp prepaid the 3¢ delivery fee to the post office.

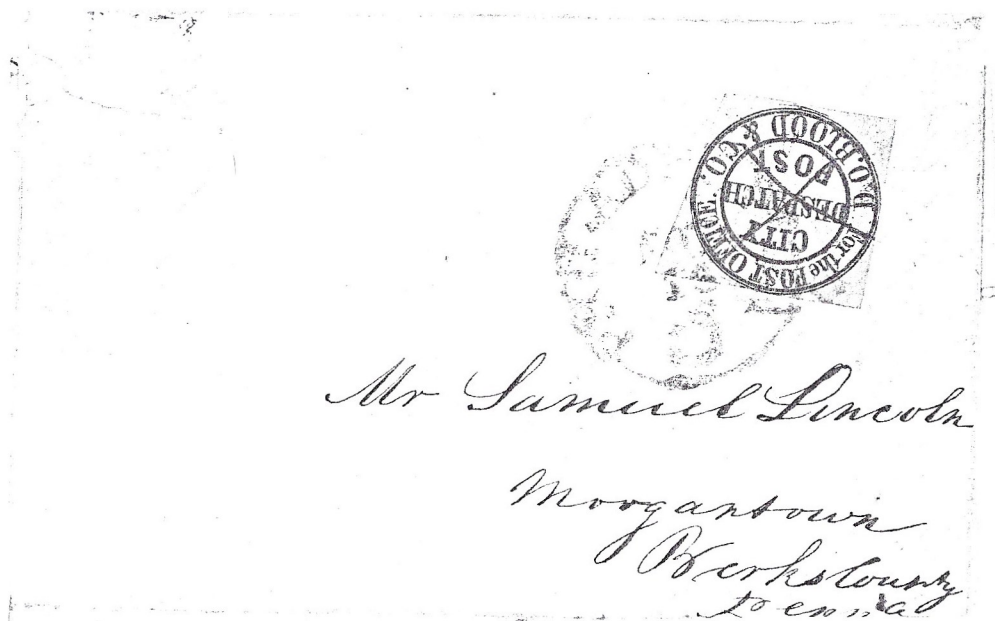
A large amount of Blood's business consisted of the delivery of advertising.



Circular advertising a pamphlet containing the remarks of General John Cadwalader. The green label reads; "By means of Blood & Co's. City Despatch, removal circulars are delivered in quantities, at low rates."

1846 "For the POST OFFICE" Issue

The rates were reduced on June 1, 1846 from 3¢ to 2¢ for city delivery. Prepayment was optional. Delivery to the post office was also reduced to 2¢ but required prepayment. A new stamp was issued for post office delivery which bore the wording; "For The POST OFFICE." These are normally found only on mail addressed out of town.



The Act of July 1, 1845 reduced the rate for prepaid letters, to be delivered within 300 miles, to 5¢ per ½ ounce. Delivered to the post office by Blood's where the 5¢ fee was prepaid. The Blood's fee of 2¢ was prepaid by the circular stamp.

CIRCULAR.

SIR:

Your attention is invited to the prompt, cheap and convenient method of conveying *Letters, Papers, and Small Parcels* to the Post-Office, and from one part of the City and Districts to another, (except Kensington and Spring Garden,) through the medium of

D. O. BLOOD & CO'S CITY DESPATCH.

By personal attention to the business, the proprietors mean to *deserve* the confidence of all who wish to make use of their facilities. Boxes are placed in careful hands in various parts of the city, from which three deliveries are made each day, at the low rate of 2 cents each letter.

City Letters may be pre-paid, or paid by the person to whom addressed.

All Letters for the Post-Office must be pre-paid.

Paid Stamps, at 2 cents each, may be had at most of the Box Stations.

Boxes in your immediate vicinity may be found at

Persons making constant use of the City Despatch, will find it convenient to have *Stamps always by them*. To such, a notice of the following prices of City and Post-Office Stamps (to be had at the Office, 48 South Third Street,) may be interesting:




| | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|-----------|
| $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen, | - | - | 10 Cents. |
| 1 " | - | - | 20 " |
| 2 " | - | - | 35 " |
| 4 " | - | - | 60 " |
| 6 " | - | - | 80 " |
| 8 " | - | - | \$1.00 |

STAMP.



| | | | |
|------------|---|---|----------|
| 3 stamps, | - | - | 5 Cents. |
| 6 " | - | - | 8 " |
| 1 dozen, | - | - | 12 " |
| 2 " | - | - | 20 " |
| 50 stamps, | - | - | 40 " |
| 100 " | - | - | 75 " |

STAMP.

 Funeral Notices, Circulars, Notices of Meetings, &c., (*in quantities*), delivered with promptness, at low rates.

N. B.—All of our Boxes have the name of D. O. Blood & Co. on them in large letters.

DANIEL O. BLOOD, }
WALTER H. BLOOD. }

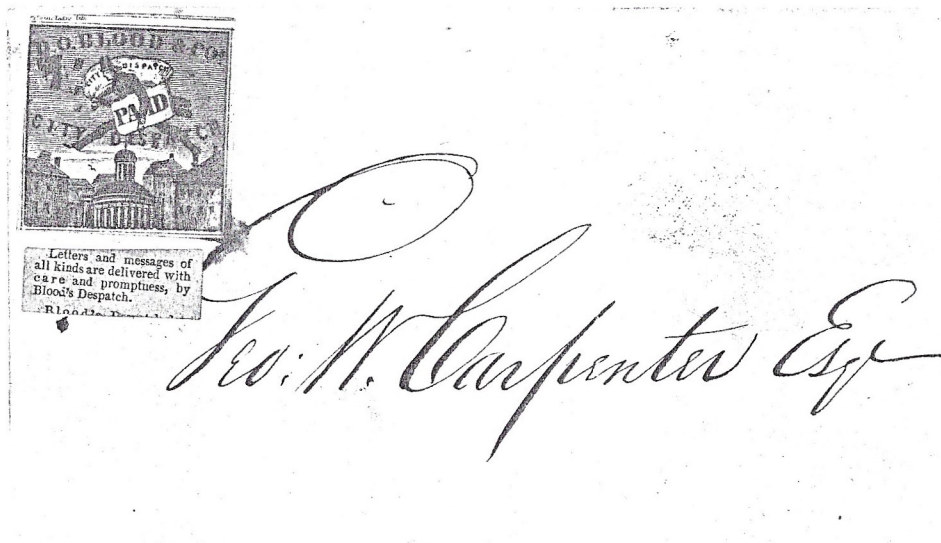
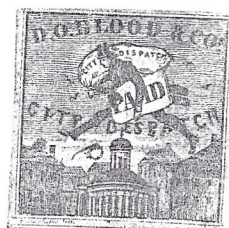
D. O. BLOOD & CO.

Office, 48 South Third Street,

(Above the Girard Bank.)

Job Printing Office, Ledger Building, Phila.

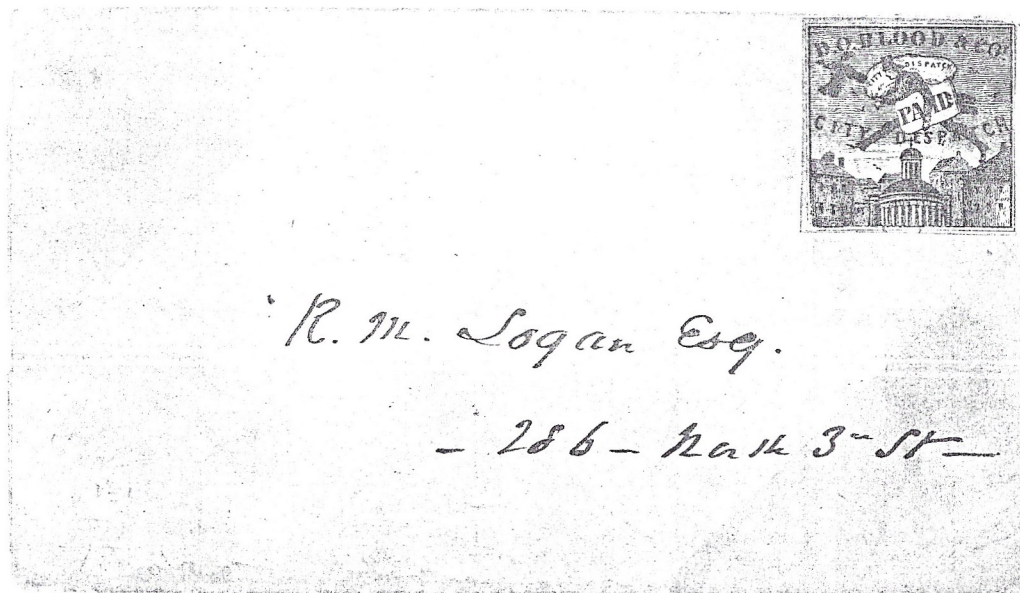
A new supply of stamps printed in 1847 had minor changes in the design including the addition of the wording "CITY DESPATCH." It remained in use from August, 1847 to January, 1848



October 4, 1847

Printed announcement for a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. An advertising label is affixed below the stamp.

Issue of 1847



January 29, 1848

Latest recorded use.

1847 "For The POST OFFICE" Issue

The government's first postage stamps were authorized by the Act of March 3, 1847, effective July 1, 1847. The Philadelphia post office received their first delivery of the stamps on July 7, 1847.



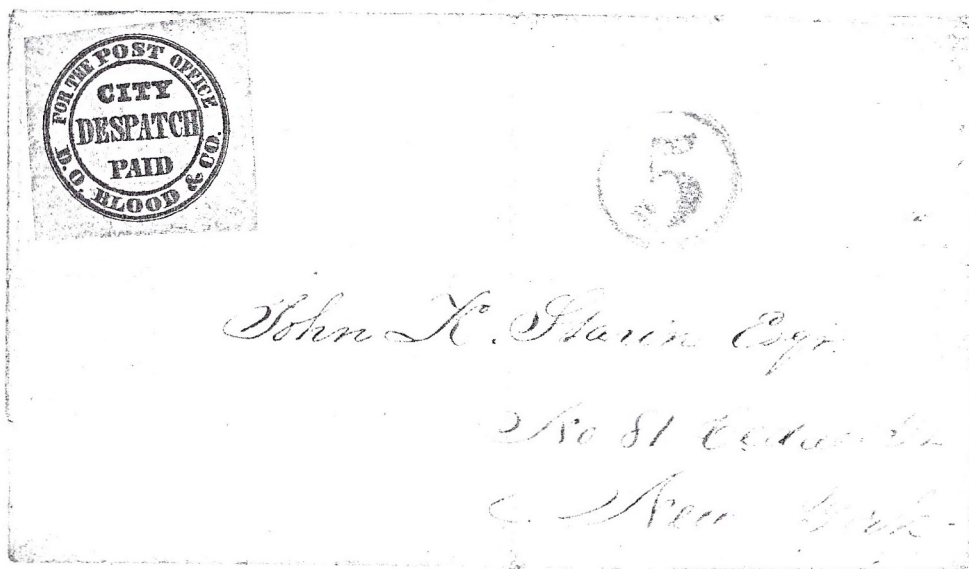
September 14, 1847
First printing.

Prepaid to New Jersey by the new 5¢ stamp. Delivered to the agent at the Philadelphia railroad station.



January 23, 1848
First printing.

Ten rate marking applied by the post office agent at the railroad station.

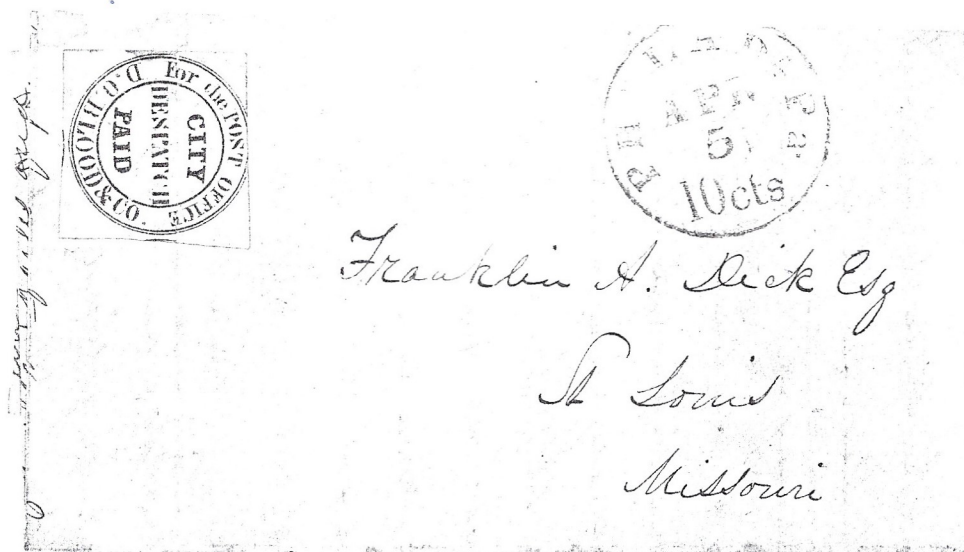


May 29, 1848
Second printing.

Red 5 marking applied by the post office agent upon arrival in New York.

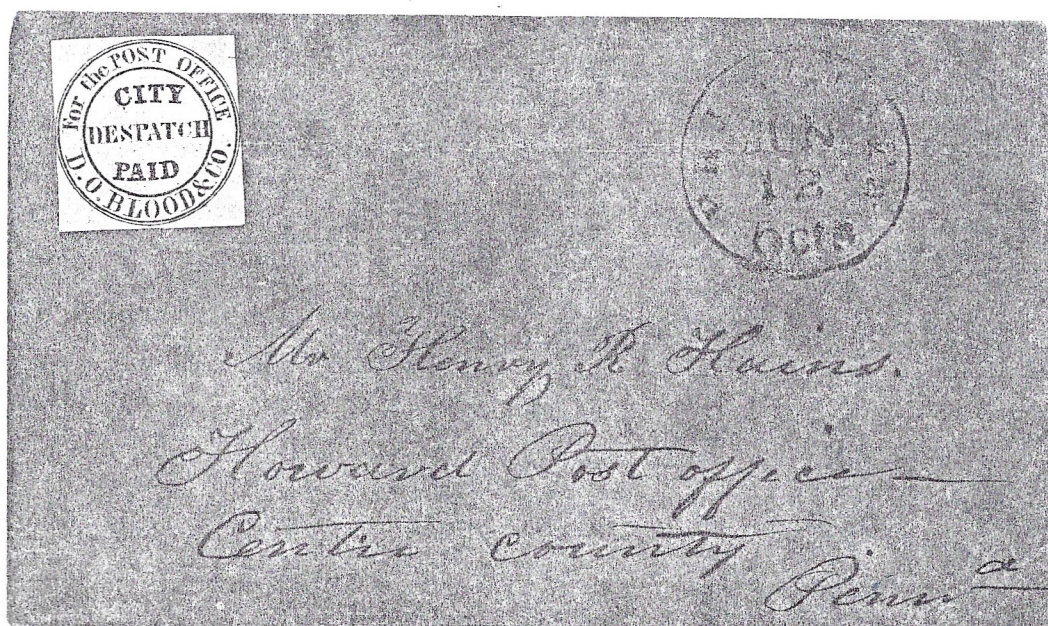
1847 "For The POST OFFICE" Issue

In 1847 and 1848 two further printings were made. These stamps were sold at the rate of 2¢ each and at varying discounts up to 100 for 75¢.



April 5, 1847
First printing.

Sent to St. Louis, Missouri, the post office fee being 10¢. 2¢ was paid for delivery to the post office.



June 12, 1847
First printing.

Prepaid to Howard, Pa. at the 5¢ rate. Delivered to the post office for a 2¢ fee.

Handstamp Markings: 1846 - 1848

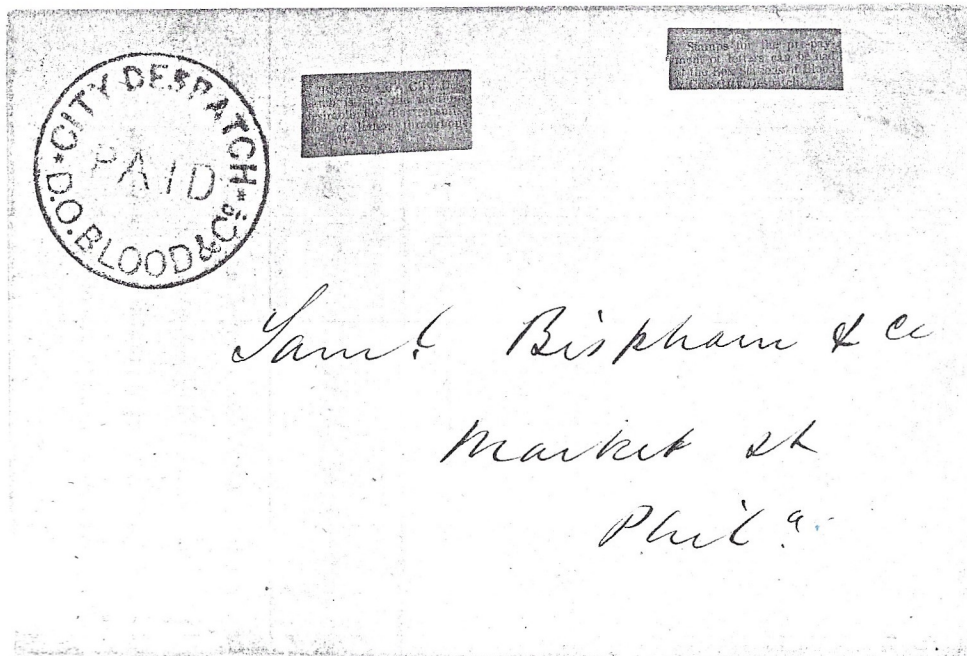
Handstamps to indicate the prepayment of fees were first used in July, 1846. The red circular "PAID" is known used from July through December, 1846, and the black "PAID" from January, 1847 through May, 1848.



Dr Coates

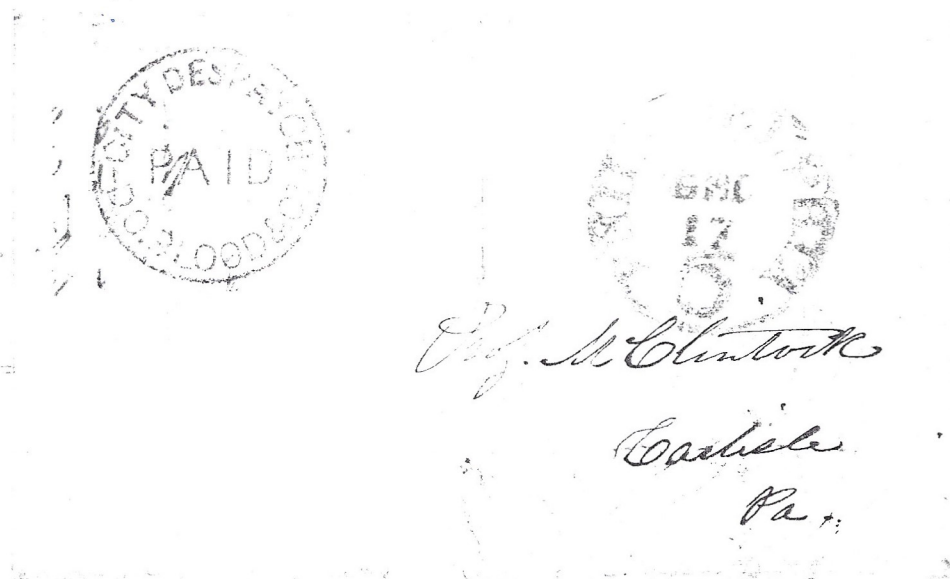
7th & Walnut

October 27, 1846

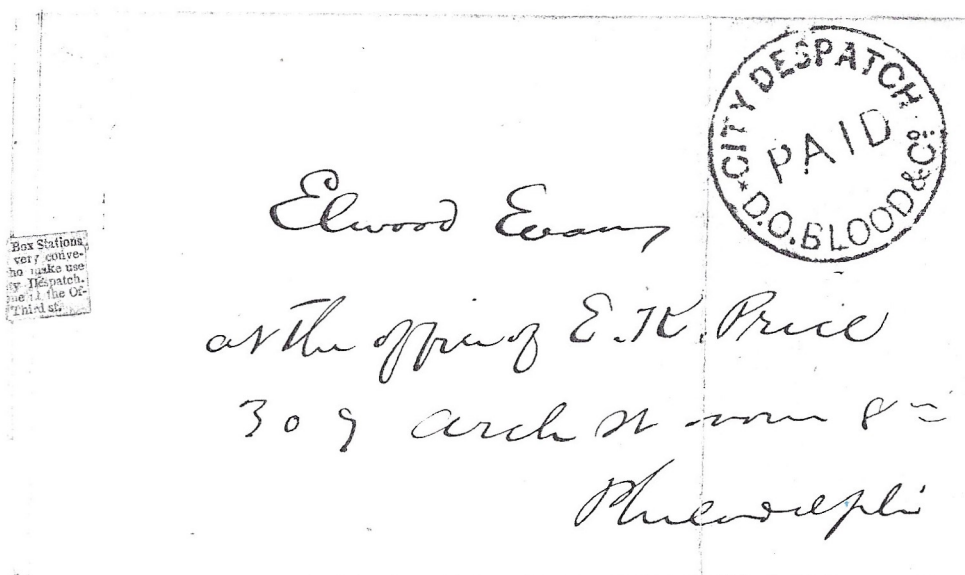


Saml Bigham & Co
Market st
Phil^a

October 2, 1847



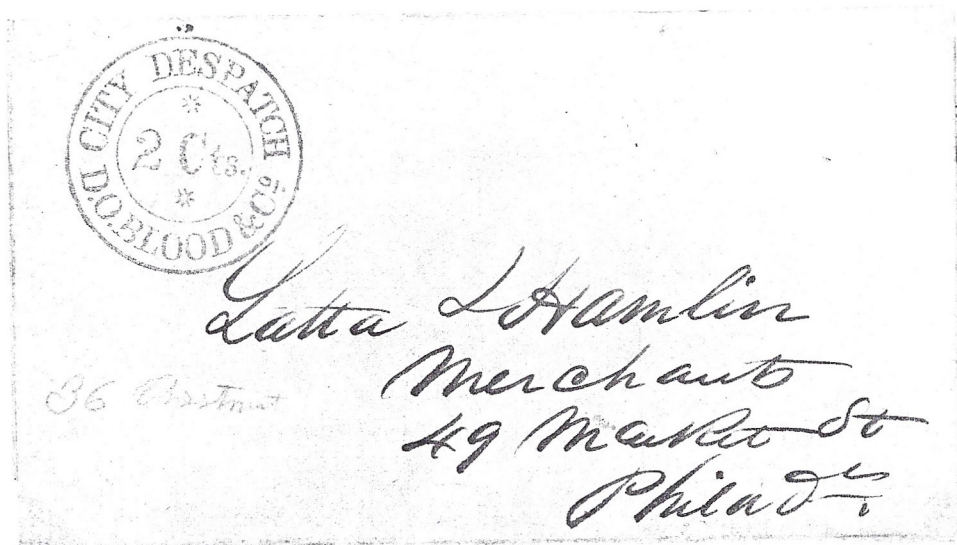
December 17, 1846



July 14, 1847

Handstamp Markings: 1846 - 1848

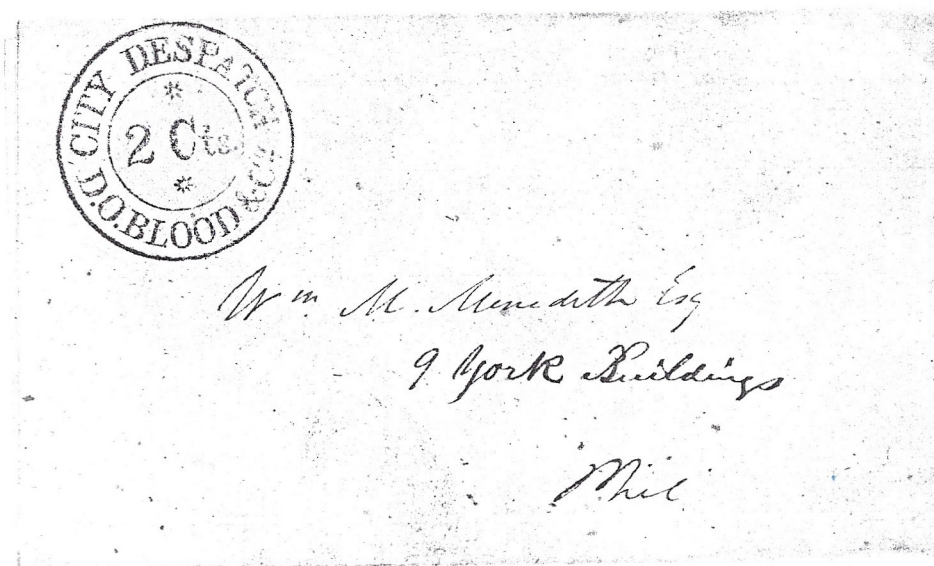
An additional handstamp, found in black and red, was used by Blood's during this time period. The wording "2 Cts." indicated payment was due on delivery.



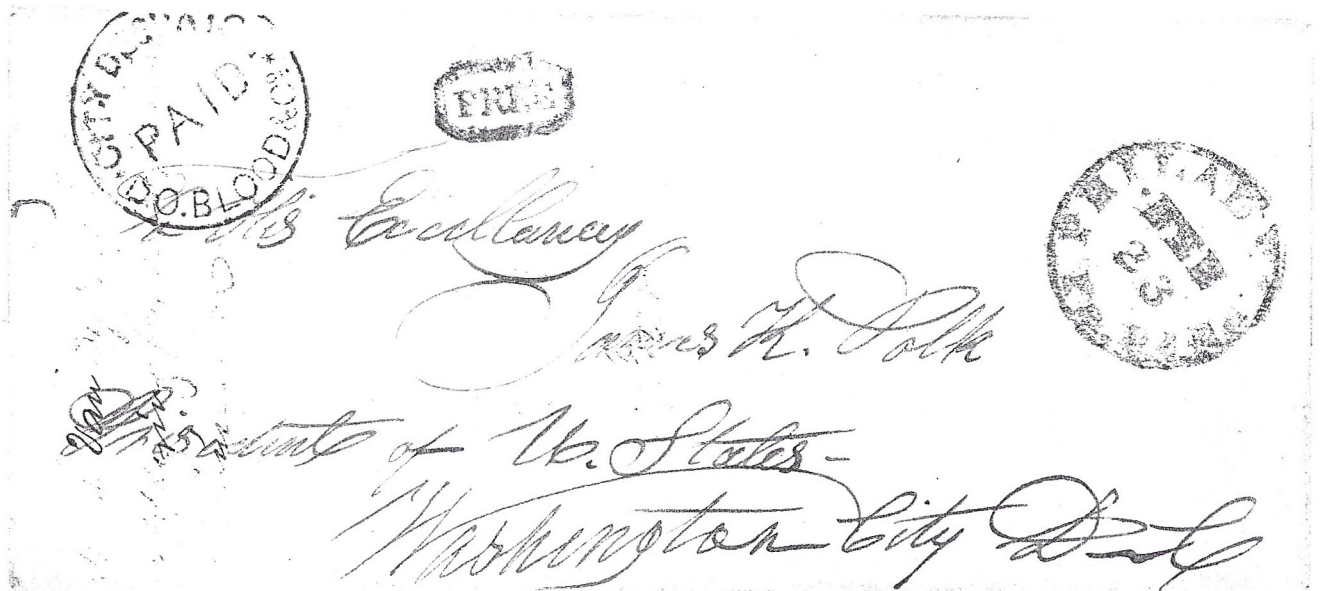
July 27, 1846

Earliest recorded use.

Known used in red from July through December, 1846.



Found used in black from March, 1847 through February, 1848.



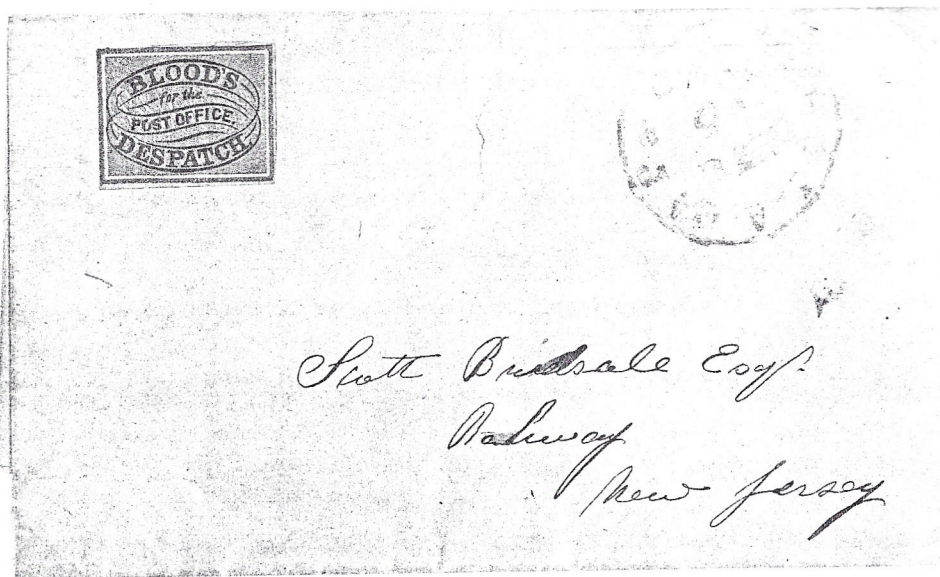
February 23, 1848

Delivered to the Philadelphia post office by Blood's for a fee of 2¢, as indicated by the black handstamp, sent "FREE" to President James K. Polk.

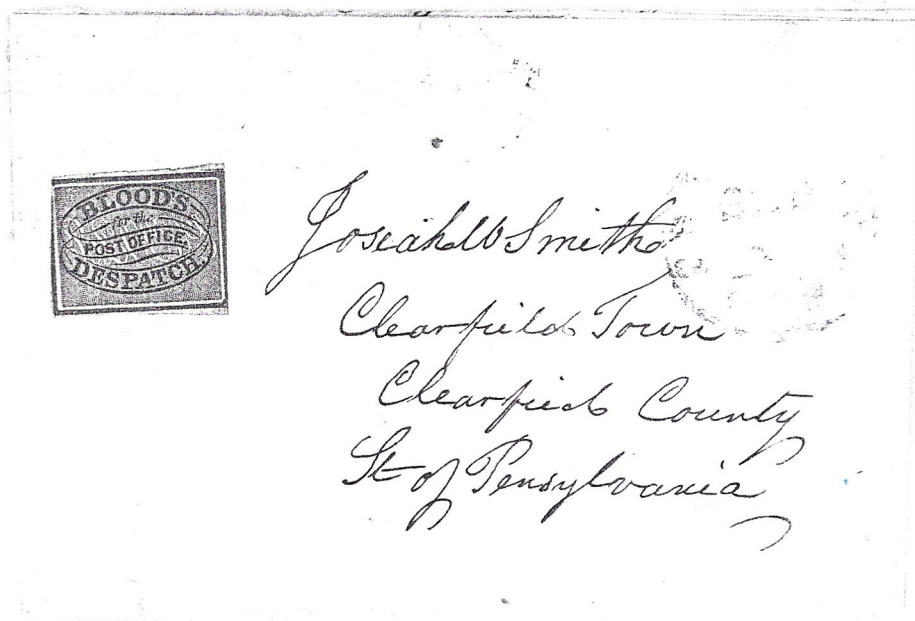
Blood's Despatch: 1848 Issues

Walter Blood left the business in 1848 and Charles Kochersperger joined as an assistant. The firm's name was changed to Blood's Despatch. The Striding Messenger and circular "For The POST OFFICE" stamps were replaced with three new issues having face values of 2¢ each.

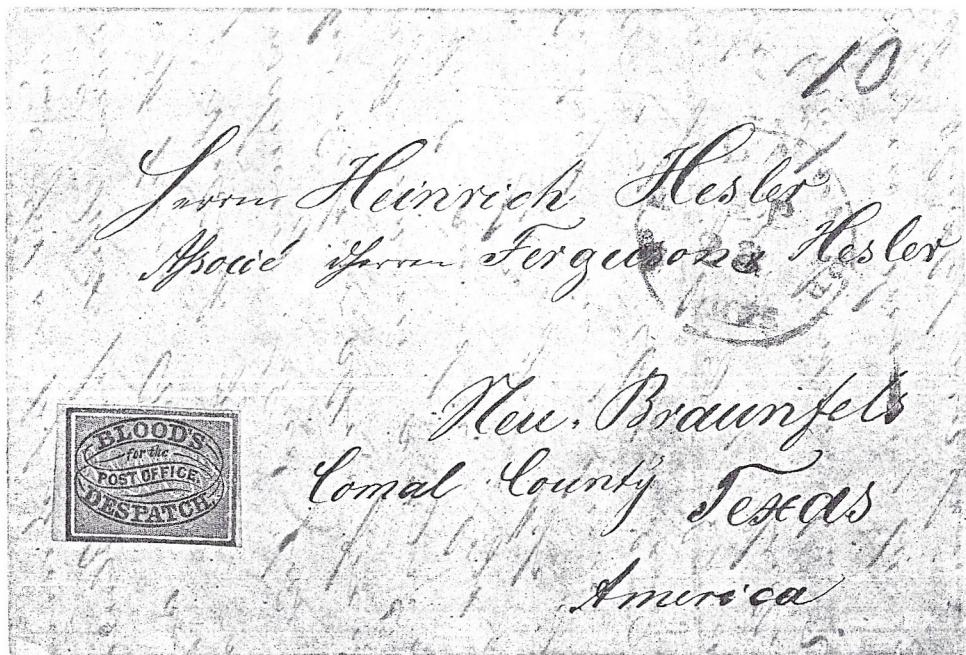
Examples of the new "for the POST OFFICE" stamp.



August 15, 1848



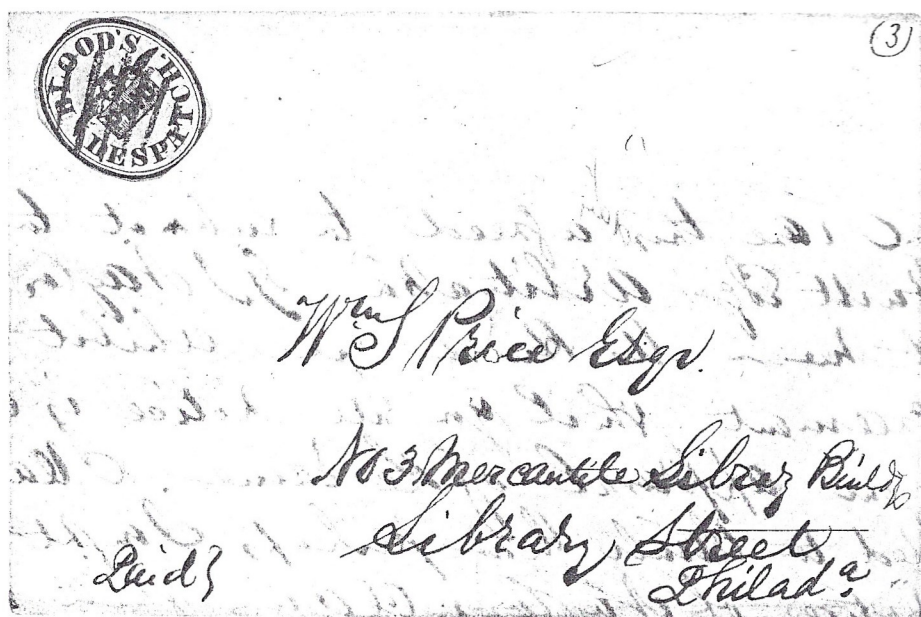
September 4, 1848



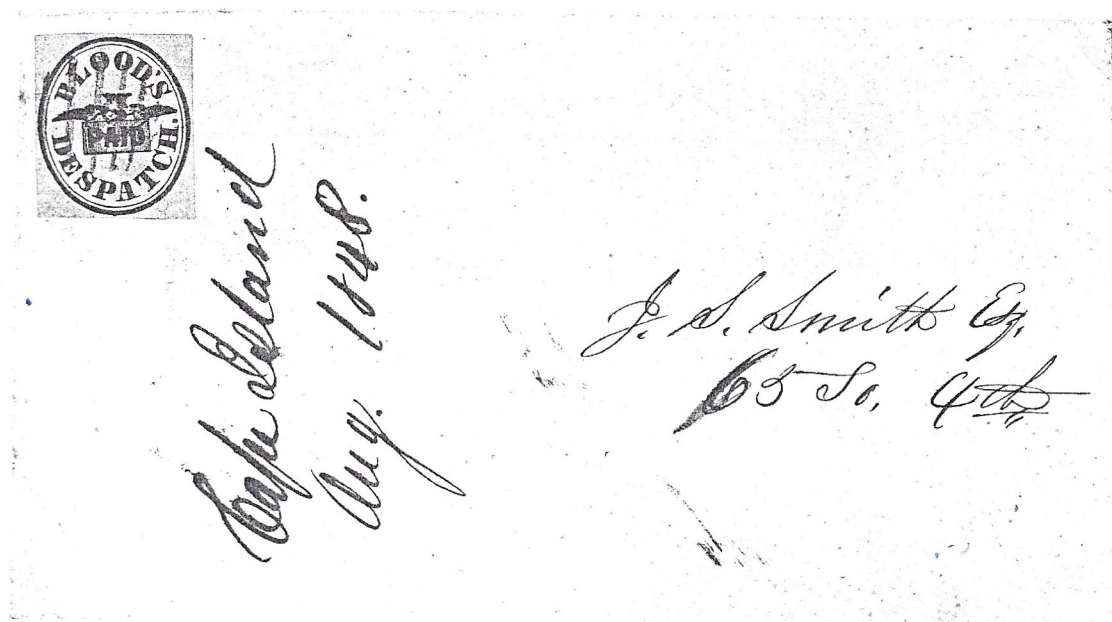
September 23, 1848

Privately carried from Stuttgart, Germany to Philadelphia, then given to Blood's Despatch for delivery to the post office. The 10¢ fee for delivery to New Brunfels, Texas was prepaid.

The second stamp issued in 1848 is unusual in that the design is completely different than any previous issue. This stamp was also sold die cut, the only issue thus prepared.



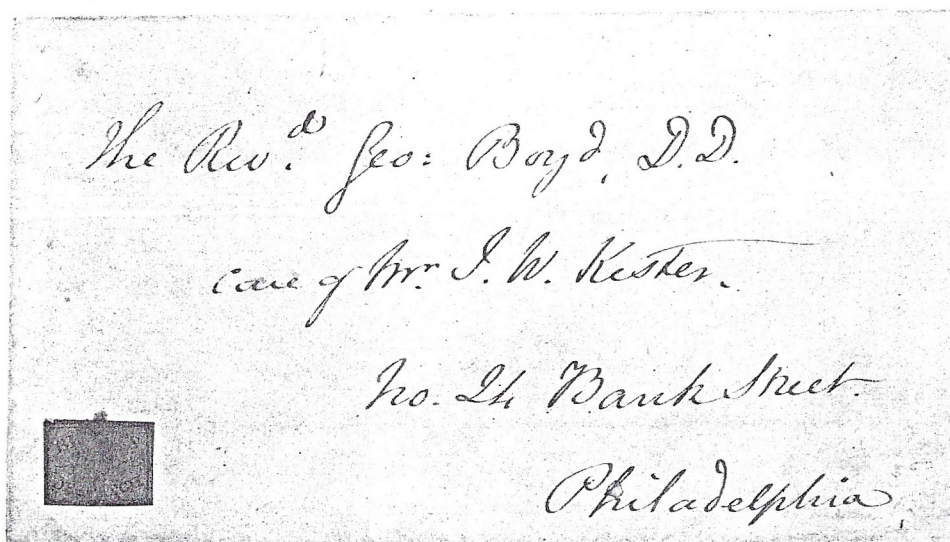
Die cut.



Not die cut.

Blood's Despatch: 1848 Issues

The third stamp issued was printed with bronze ink on a glazed black paper. It bore the word "PAID". This is the first issue that saw the use of acid for cancellation to prevent reuse of the stamps.



February 5, 1849

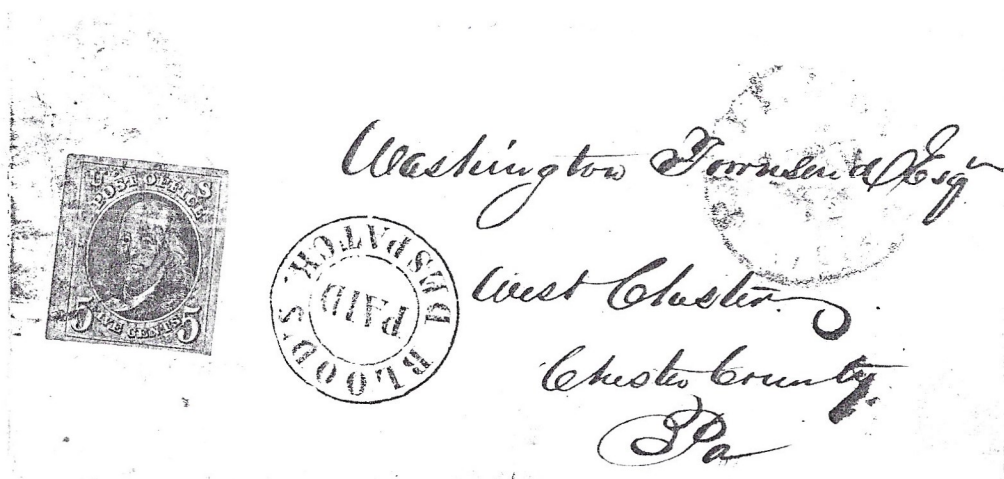
Delivered for the 2¢ fee, the stamp canceled with acid.

Blood's Despatch: 1848 Handstamps

New handstamps were also introduced during 1848. Two versions were used, a "PAID" to indicate prepayment of the 2¢ fee, and another with "2 Cts." to indicate the fee was due on delivery. First used in May, 1848 and found used through 1849.

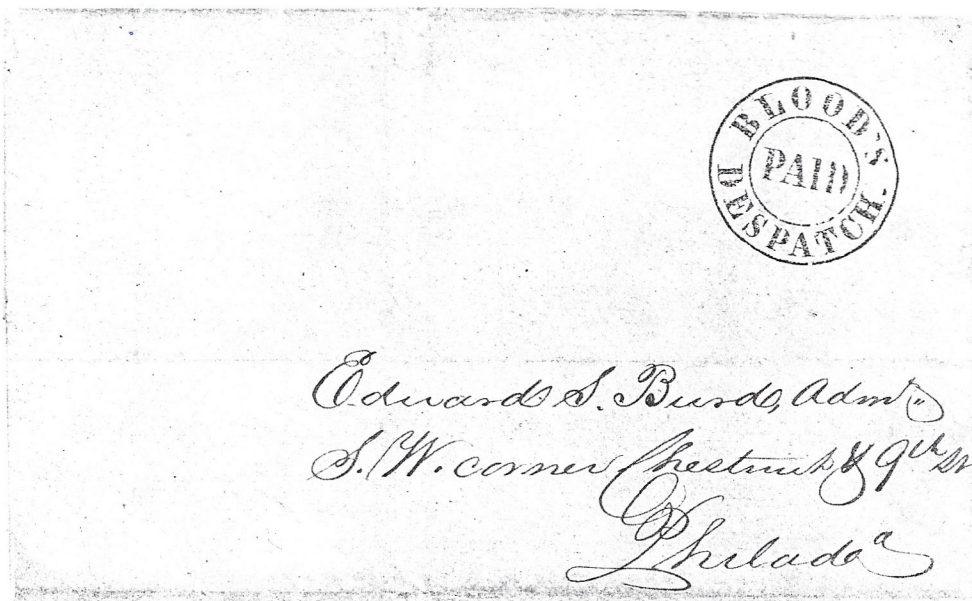
Throughout it's history Blood's was at war with the government post office. The government did everything possible to suppress the private posts thriving in the 1840's and 1850's. The private concerns were generally cheaper and more efficient. They cost the government post office revenue.

There are time periods when the mail handled by Blood's does not have stamps affixed, only handstamps, even though stamps were issued. It is probable that the lack of stamps may have been in response to pressure from the government or perhaps to avoid government response.



November 15, 1849

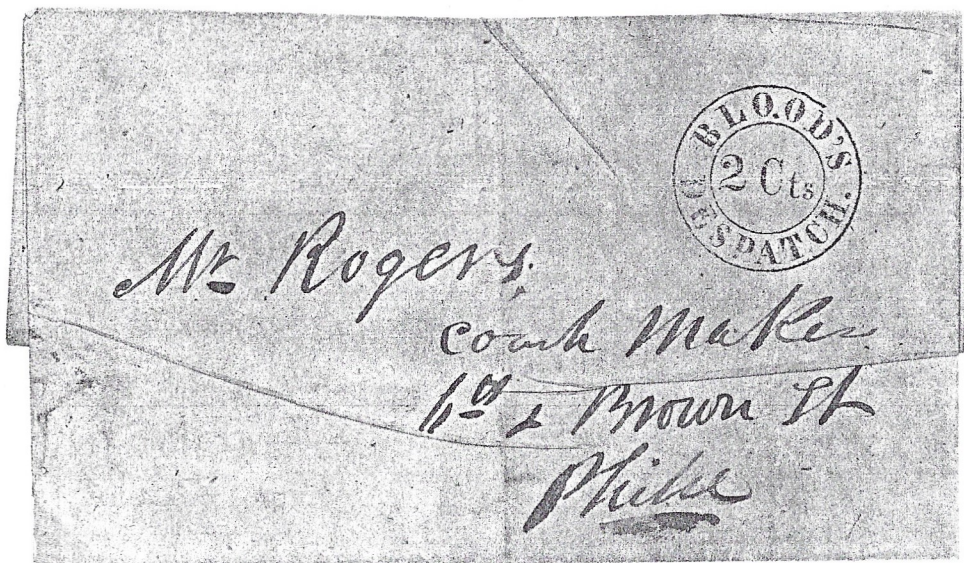
To the post office, the 2¢ fee prepaid. The 5¢ stamp prepaid the postage to West Chester, Pa.



Edward S. Burd, Admt.
S.W. corner Chestnut & 9th St
Phila^a

May 2, 1848

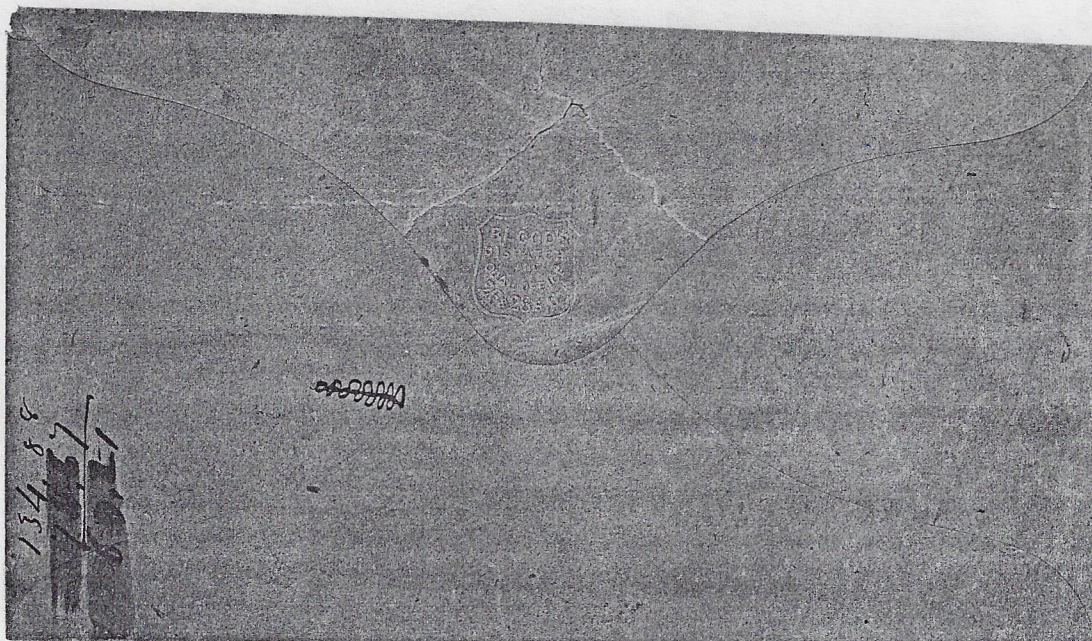
Prepaid local delivery.



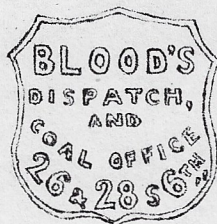
Mr Rogers
coach maker
1st & Brown St
Phila

August 7, 1848

Sent collect to a Mr. Rogers, coach maker, this letter is from an irate customer who states he has been forced to hire a wagon as his has not yet been repaired by Mr. Rogers.

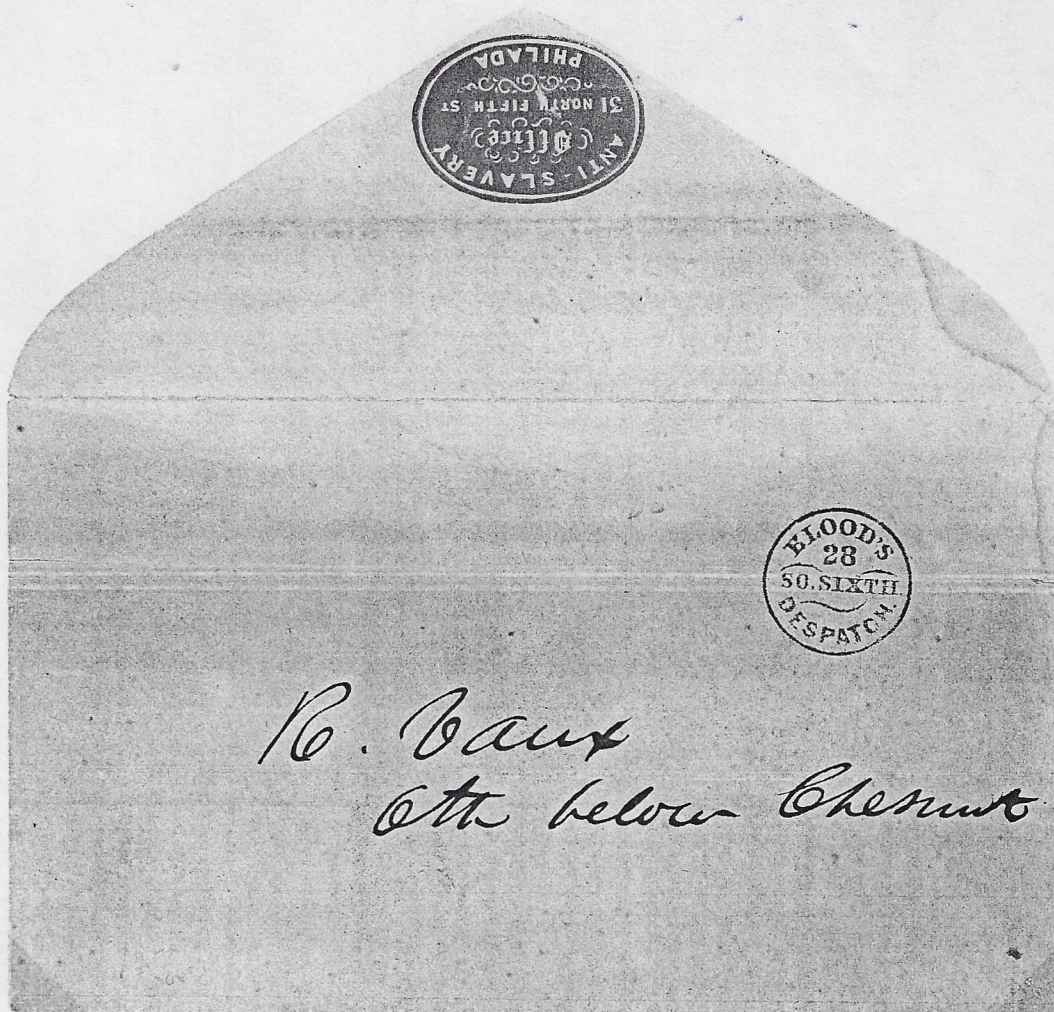


Daniel Blood and his assistant Charles Kochersperger operated not only the local despatch post, but also a public laundry. For a short time they even sold coal as noted on the flap of this envelope.



Blood's Despatch: 1849

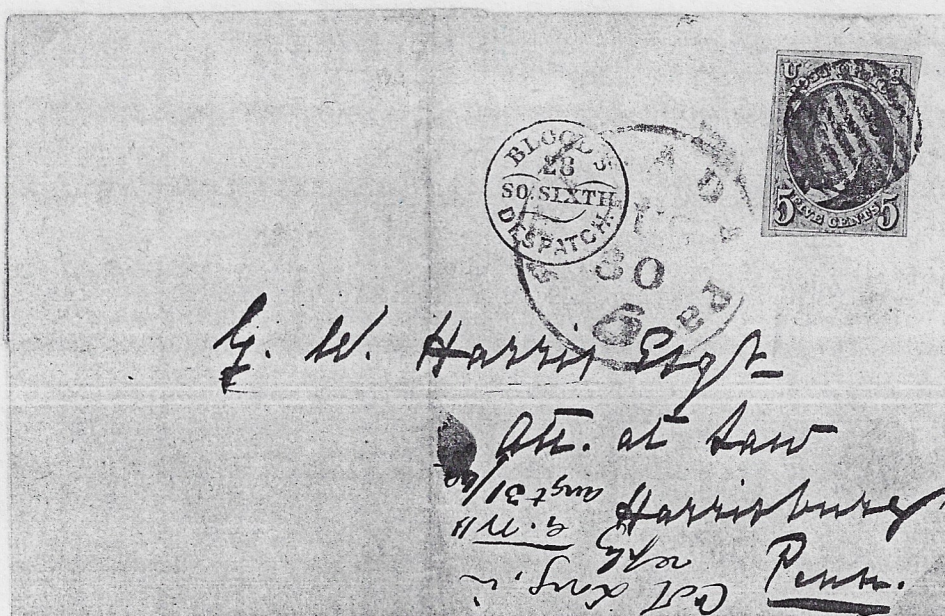
During 1849 the main office was moved to 28 South Sixth Street. This relocation resulted in several new handstamps.



Addressed to R. Vaux, former mayor, envelope with the imprint of the "Anti-Slavery Office" in Philadelphia.

Blood's Despatch: 1849

Prior to 1847 each government post office used postmarks and cancellers whose design, color and shape were the choice of the local postmaster. The issuance of stamps in 1847 resulted in some standardization. Many offices used a government furnished seven bar grid cancel.



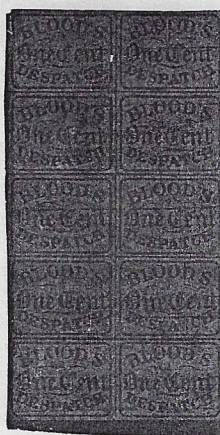
August 30, 1849

Letter to Harrisburg, Pa. showing the new Blood's handstamp. The government stamp is cancelled with a seven bar grid cancel.

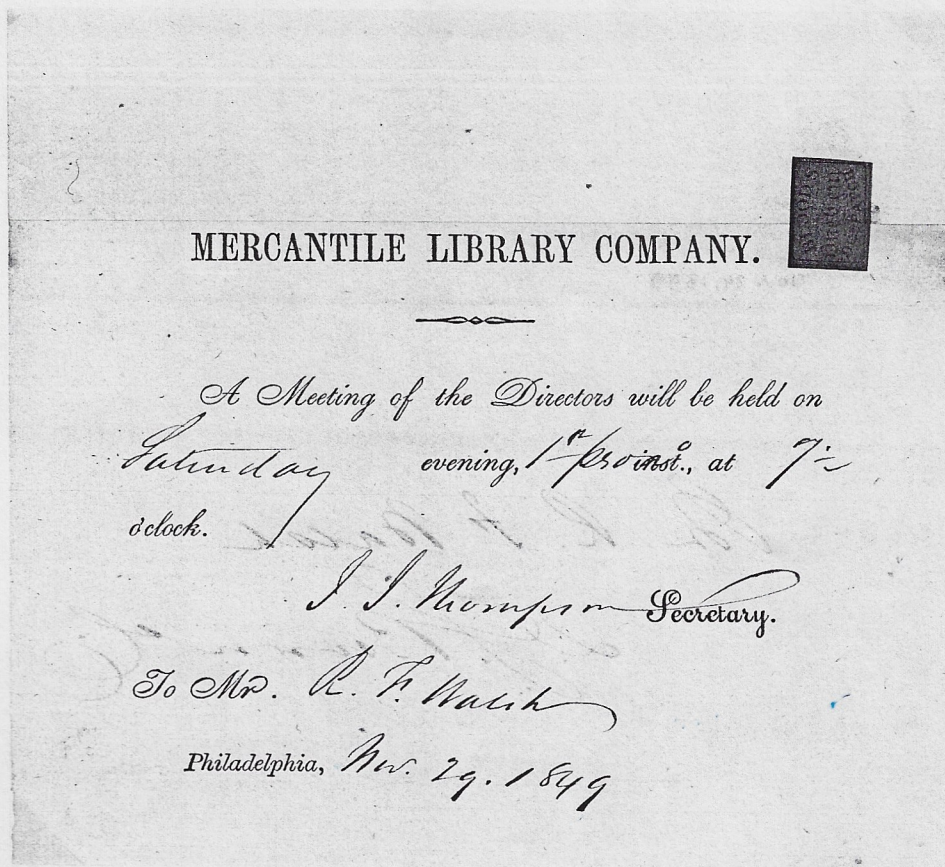
Blood's Despatch: 1849 Issues

Blood's had several competitors in Philadelphia. Blood's was handling eight to ten thousand letters per day, also thousands of circulars and newspapers. By 1849 they had 112 mail boxes throughout the city.

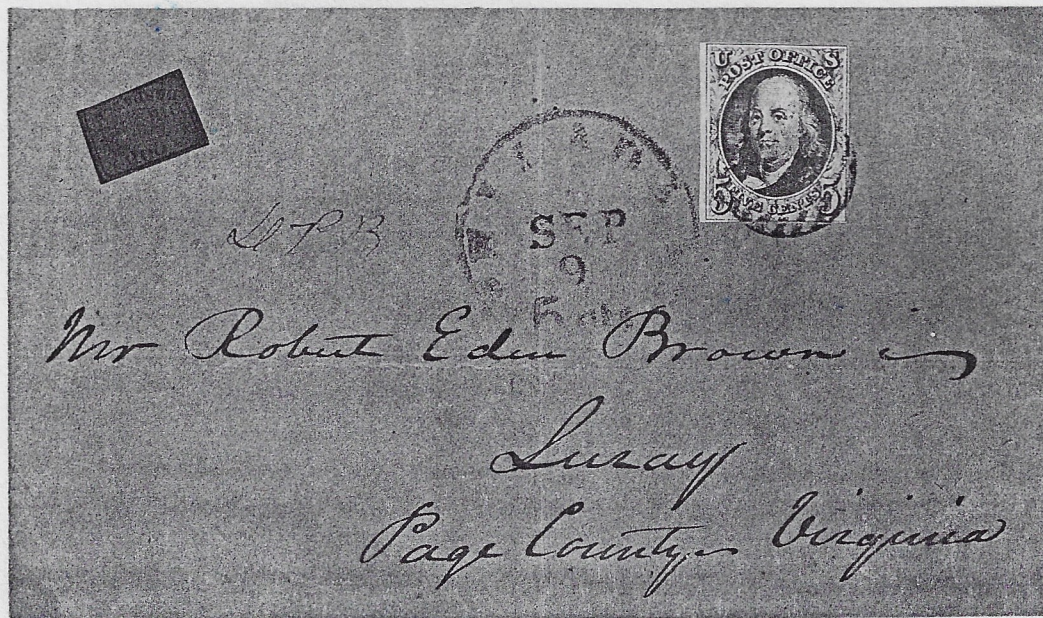
In response to competition and the Philadelphia post office lowering the carrier fee, Blood's lowered their rate to 1¢ prepaid. Two new stamps, identical in design to the 1848 stamp, were issued. One stamp was worded "One Cent", the other "Post Office".



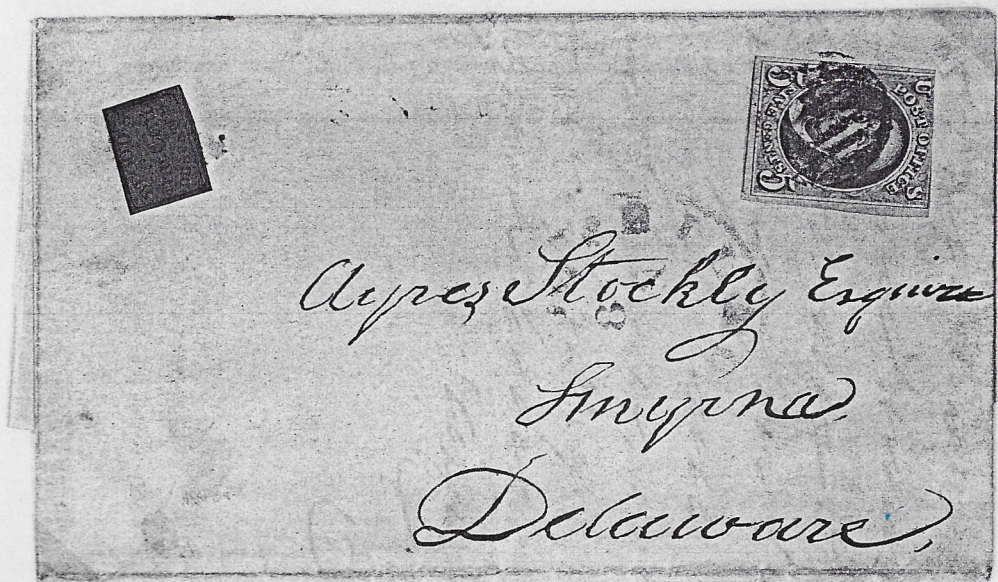
Block of 10, the new "One Cent" issue.



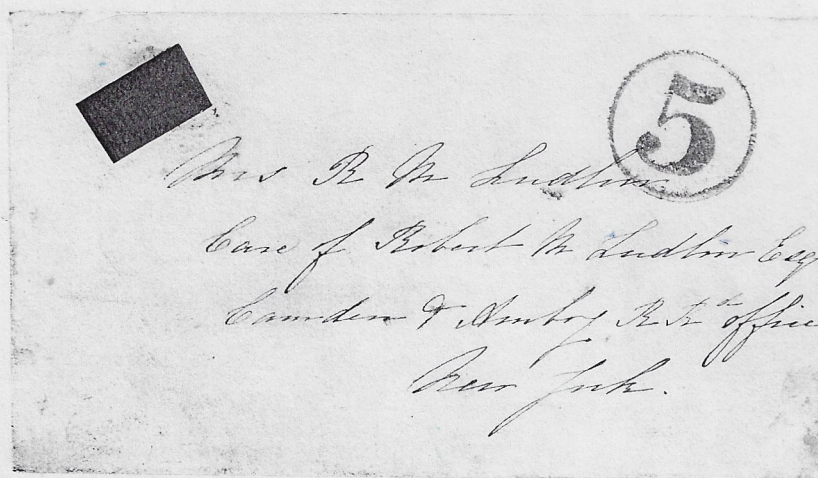
November 29, 1849



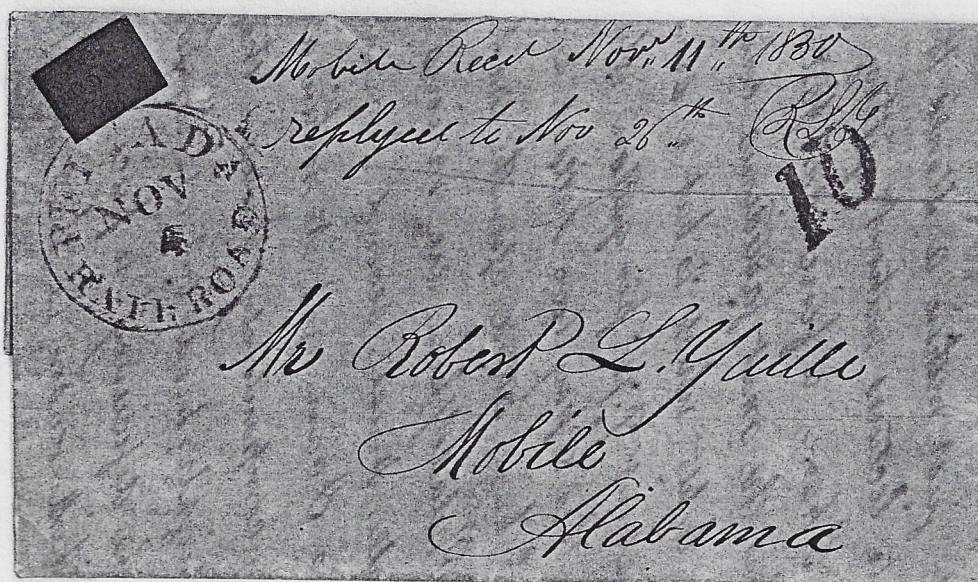
September 9, (1850)



November 8, 1850

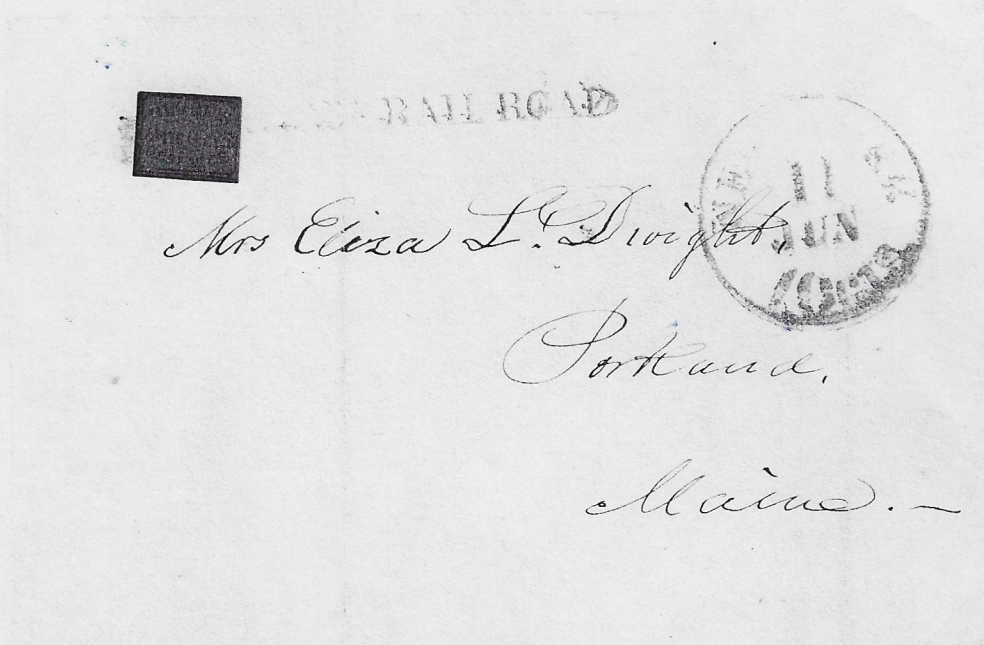


Delivered prepaid to the agent at the Philadelphia railroad station.

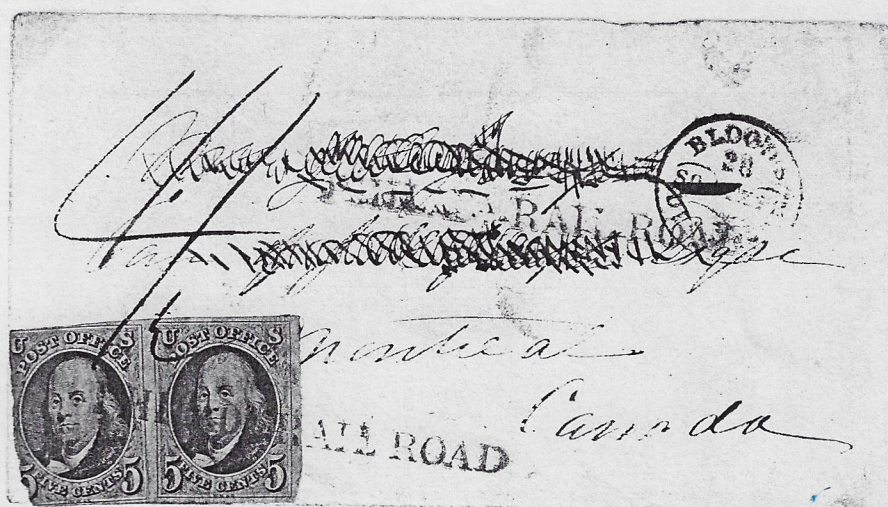


November 4, 1850

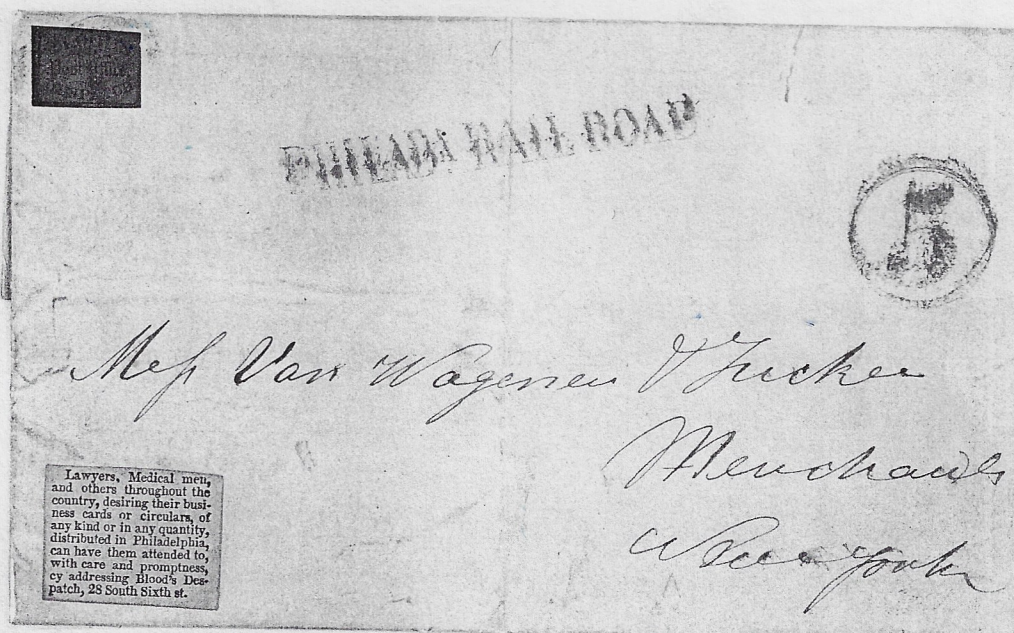
The government rate for over 300 miles was 10¢ as indicated by the handstamp on this letter to Mobil, AL. Delivered to the agent at the Philadelphia railroad station.



10¢ rate to Portland, ME delivered to the agent at the railroad depot by Blood's and routed via New York.

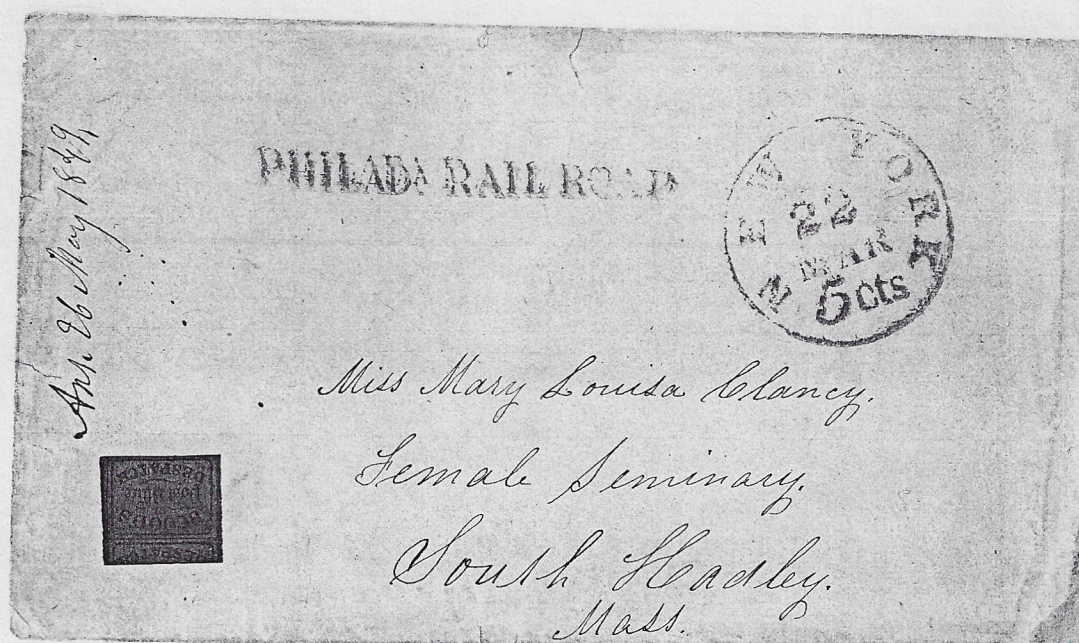


The 10¢ fee for delivery to the Canadian border was prepaid. The 4½ pence fee for delivery to Montreal, Canada was collected on delivery. Delivered to the agent at the railroad depot by Blood's.



February 7, 1849

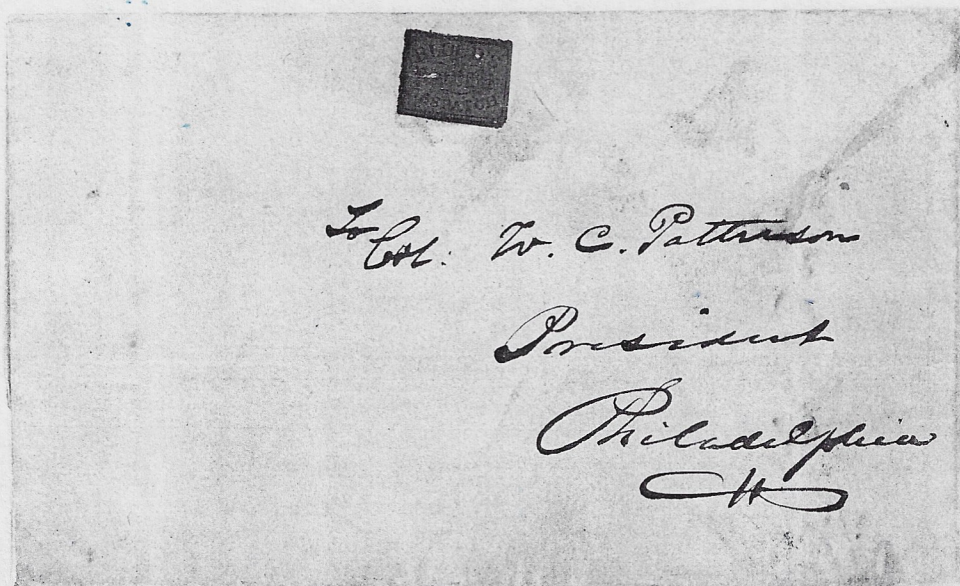
Delivered to the local agent at the railroad depot and despatched to New York.



March 22, 1849

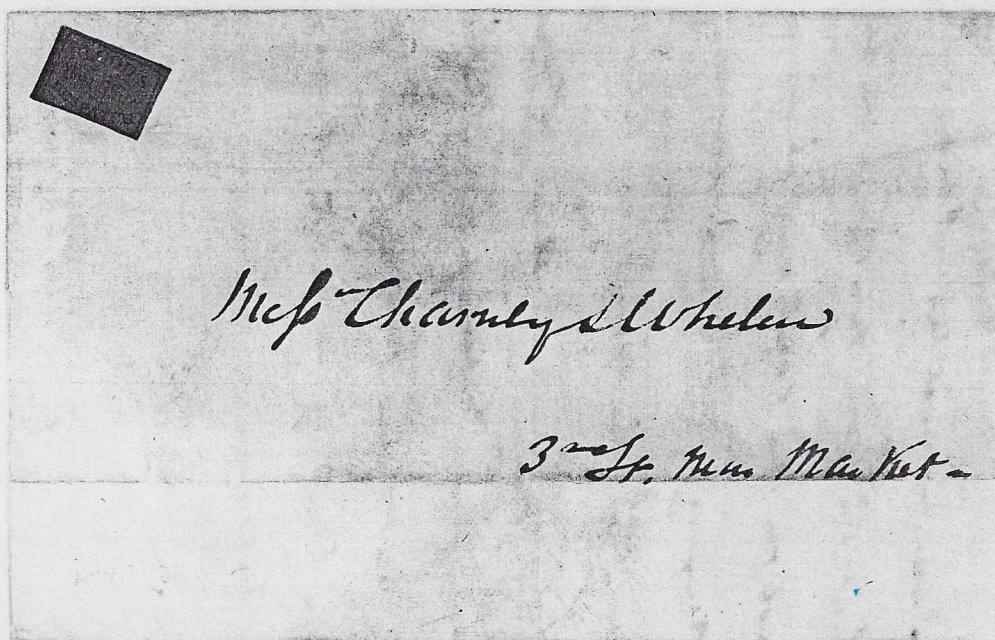
Letter to "Female Seminary" in South Hadley, MA, delivered to the agent at the railroad depot. Sent with the 5¢ fee collect. Upon arrival in New York was postmarked in red to so indicate.

Although meant for post office delivery, the stamp could be used for city delivery as the fee was the same.



September 12, 1849

The Pennsylvania Railroad Co. used Blood's services almost exclusively. Letter addressed to Col. W. C. Patterson, President of the company. A prominent businessman and member of Philadelphia society, a simple address was sufficient.



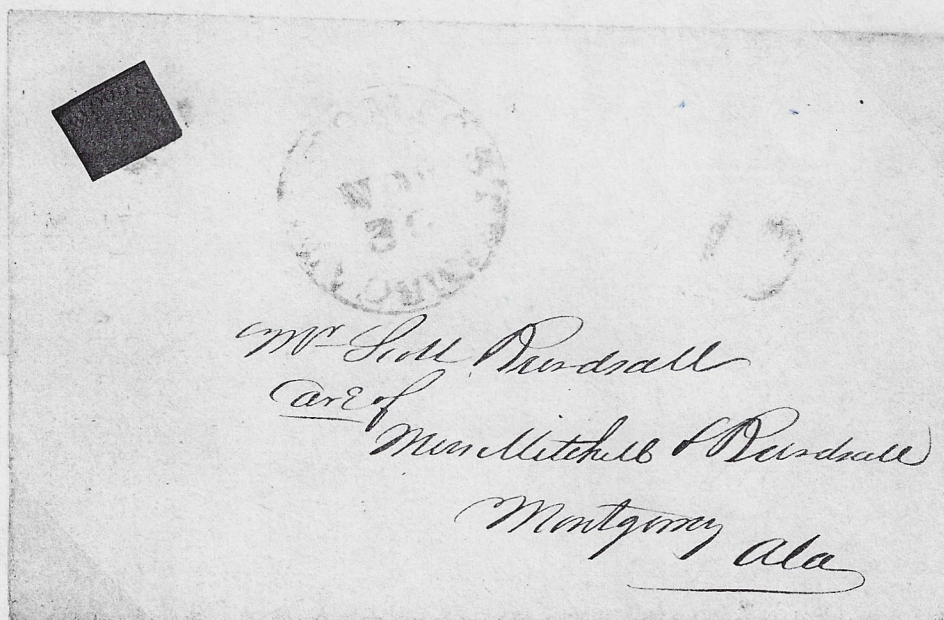
November 3, 1849

Locally delivered to the firm of Charnley and Whelen.



November 5, 1849

Carried to the Post Office by Blood's for delivery to New York and by packet to London. The U.S. internal postage of 5¢ was prepaid as shown by the "5" marking, the 1½ pence British internal postage was collected on delivery. A backstamp indicates delivery on November 19th.



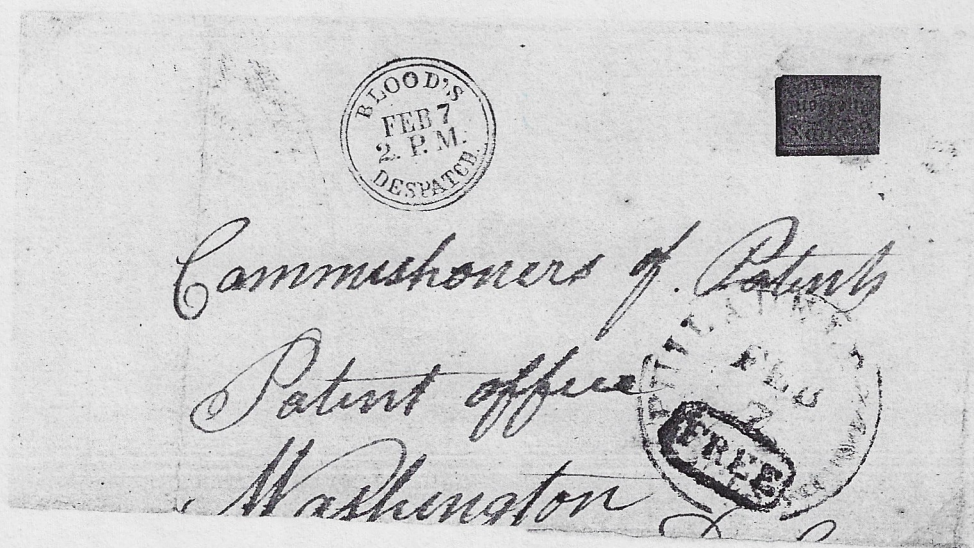
November 30, 1849

Unpaid 10¢ rate to Montgomery, Al via the steamboat Potomac.



Blood's Despatch: Time Posted Markings

Blood's were the first post to use postmarks showing the time of posting. By September 15, 1851, Blood's had increased their schedule to four city deliveries per day and five deliveries to the post office.

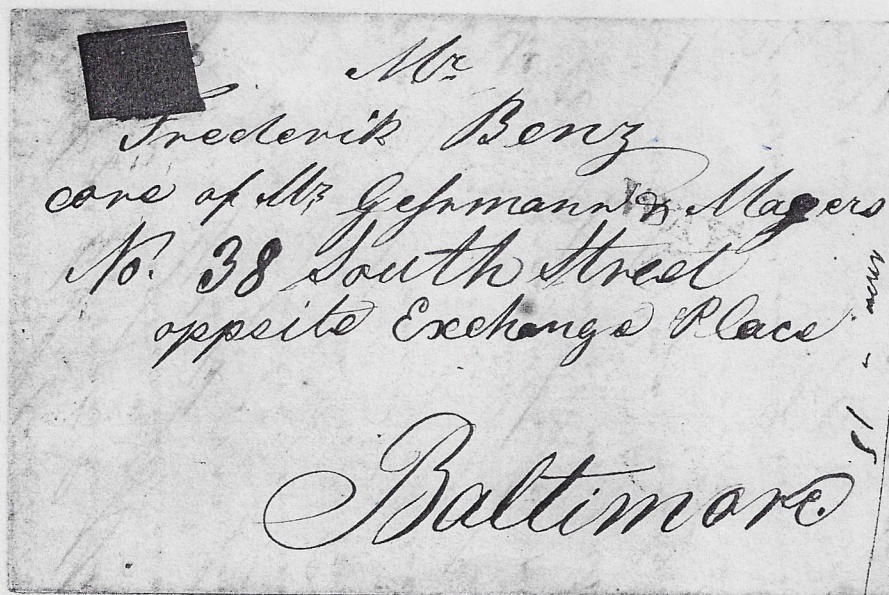


February 7, 1853

Posted at 2 P.M. by Blood's and delivered to the post office. Sender not required to pay fee for delivery to Washington Commissioner of Patents as indicated by the "FREE" marking on the Philadelphia postmark.

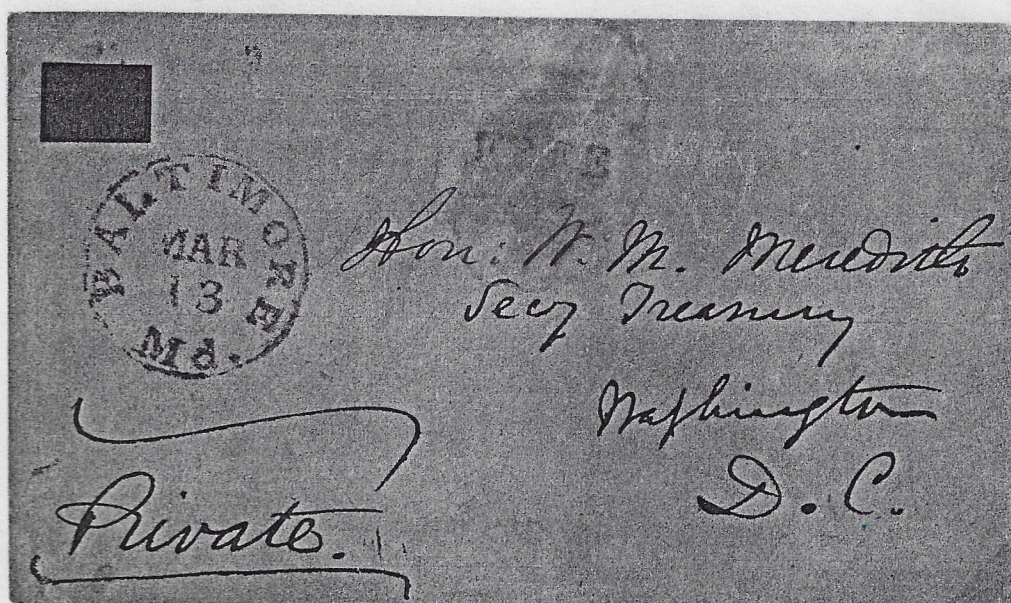
Blood's Despatch: Offices outside Philadelphia

Although mentioned in the literature for over 80 years, no proof has been found that Blood's operated offices outside of Philadelphia. Letters thought to have originated in Baltimore and Washington, bearing Blood's stamps are WAY letters. They were delivered directly to the train station and handled as loose mail, bypassing the Philadelphia Post Office. Since they bear no Philadelphia Post Office markings the trains were non-contract and the mail was treated as a WAY letter and deposited in the Baltimore or Washington Post Office on arrival.



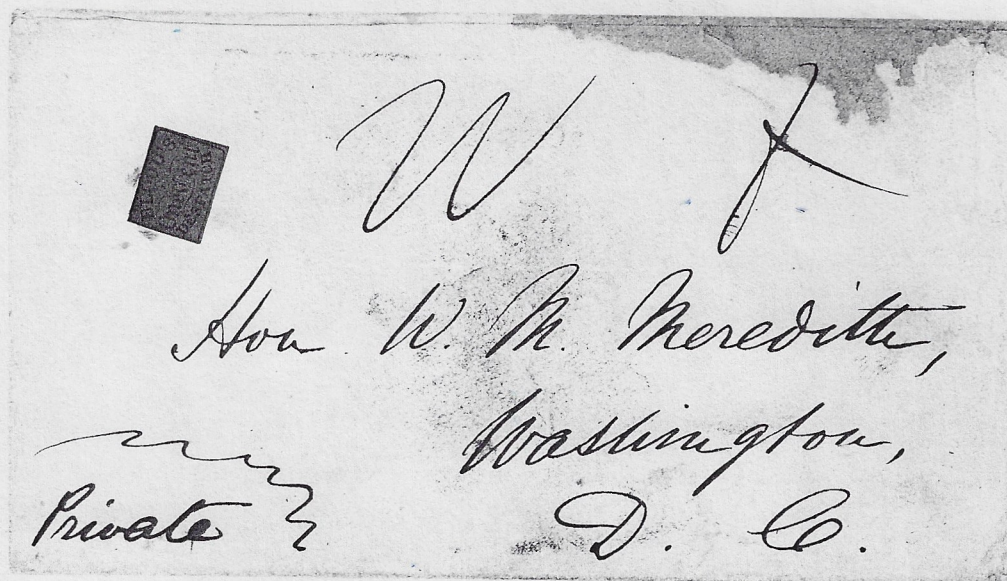
May 15, 1850

Placed on a train in Philadelphia for delivery to the Baltimore Post Office. The WAY/5 marking indicates 5¢ due for postage from the addressee.



March 13, 1850

Placed on a train in Philadelphia, delivered to the Baltimore Post Office and marked FREE as it was addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury. The Blood's stamp paid for the delivery to the train.



This letter entered the mails at either Baltimore or Washington where the "W 5" was added.



July 27, 1857

Although the Way marking appears to be missing, it is safe to say that this letter to Fayetteville, NC was taken by train from Philadelphia and entered the mails in Washington, DC.

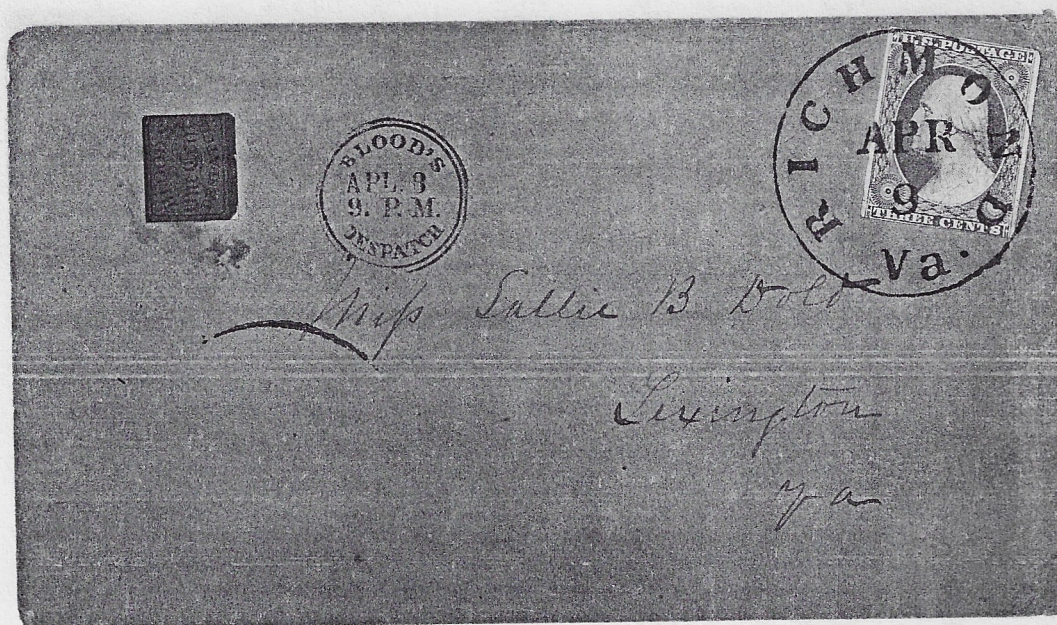


March 2, 1850

Posted in Copenhagen, Denmark and sent via Hamburg and Liverpool to Boston, arriving on March 25th. "Br. Packet Boston" exchange marking applied on arrival in Boston, March 25th. Placed in the mails for delivered to the Philadelphia post office. The address was probably corrected at the Academy of Sciences and the letter returned by Blood's to the Philadelphia post office for forwarding to Columbia, Pa. for an additional fee of 5¢.

Blood's Despatch: Richmond, Va. Use

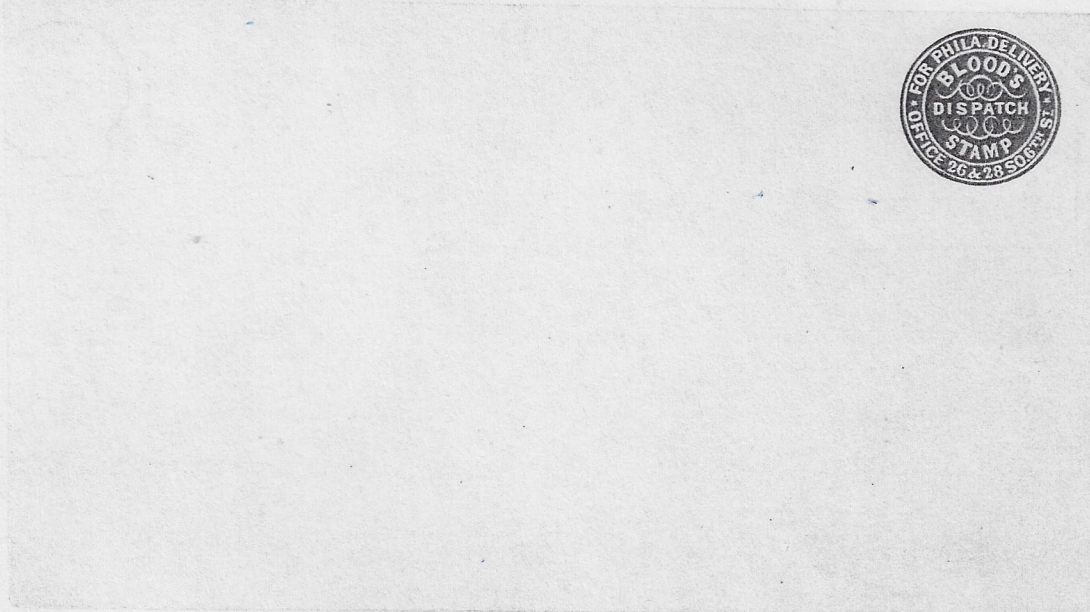
No records have been found to indicate that Blood's operated in Richmond, VA. Two letters have been recorded with examples of the "One Cent" stamp indicating possible use for delivery to the Richmond, VA, post office. The stamp is cancelled by the Richmond postmark on the second example. Forwarding by the Richmond post office is a possible explanation, however, there is no forwarding information on either cover.



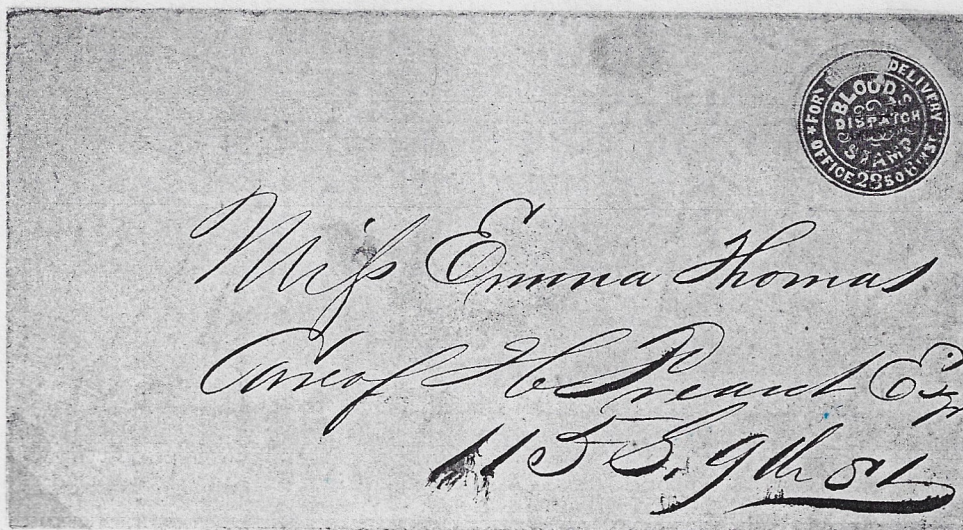
April 8, 185?

Blood's Despatch: 1849 Postal Stationery

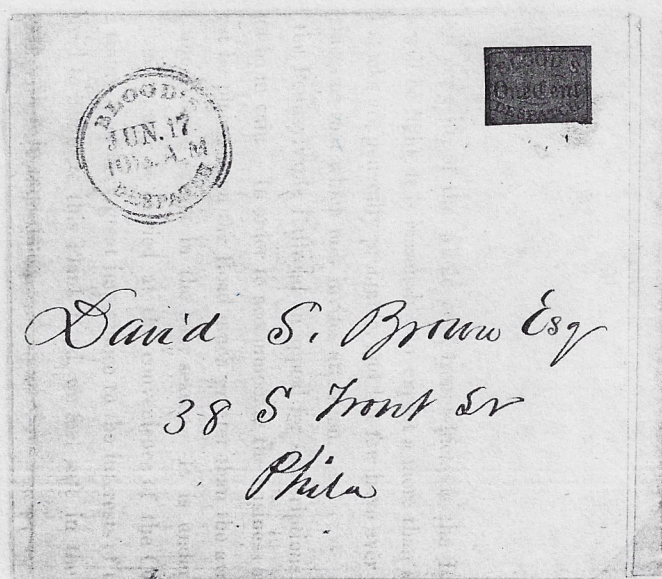
Blood's introduced prepaid envelopes with embossed stamps in 1849. The government post office did not issue such envelopes until 1853.



The first issue was embossed in red on white envelopes.



A local delivery letter showing an unusual double impression of the stamp, one is albino.

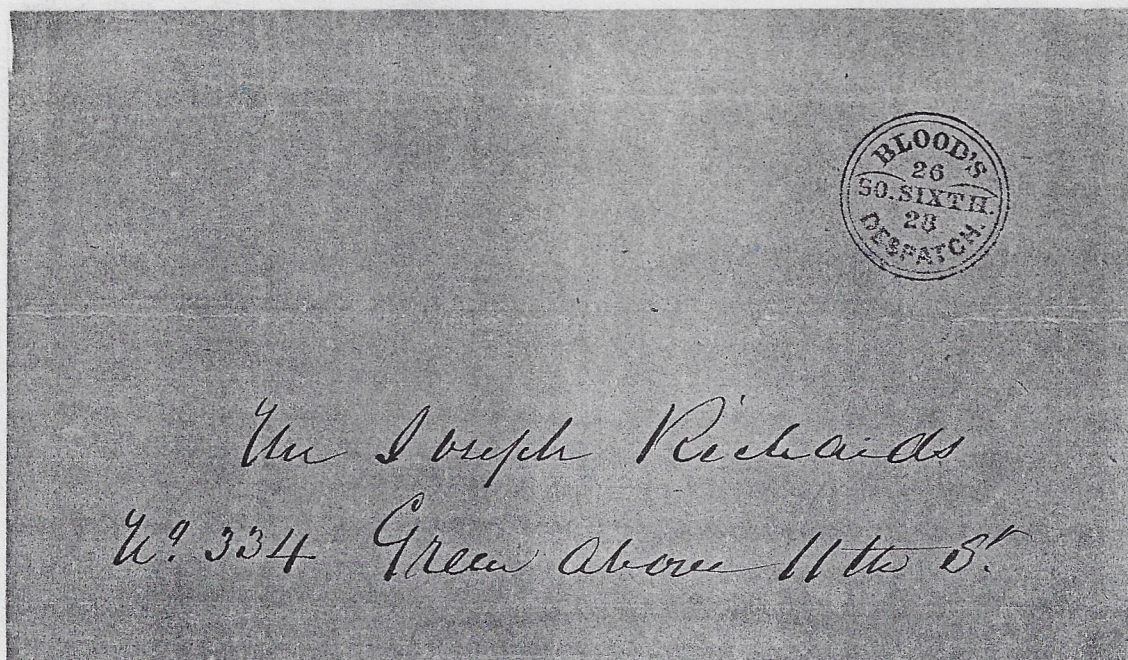


June 17, 1852

Locally delivered circular announcing the sale of shares in the Tuckahoe and Mount Pleasant Plank Road, a service line of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The cancel shows the time of mailing, 10½ A.M. Blood's were the first to use such time and date cancels.

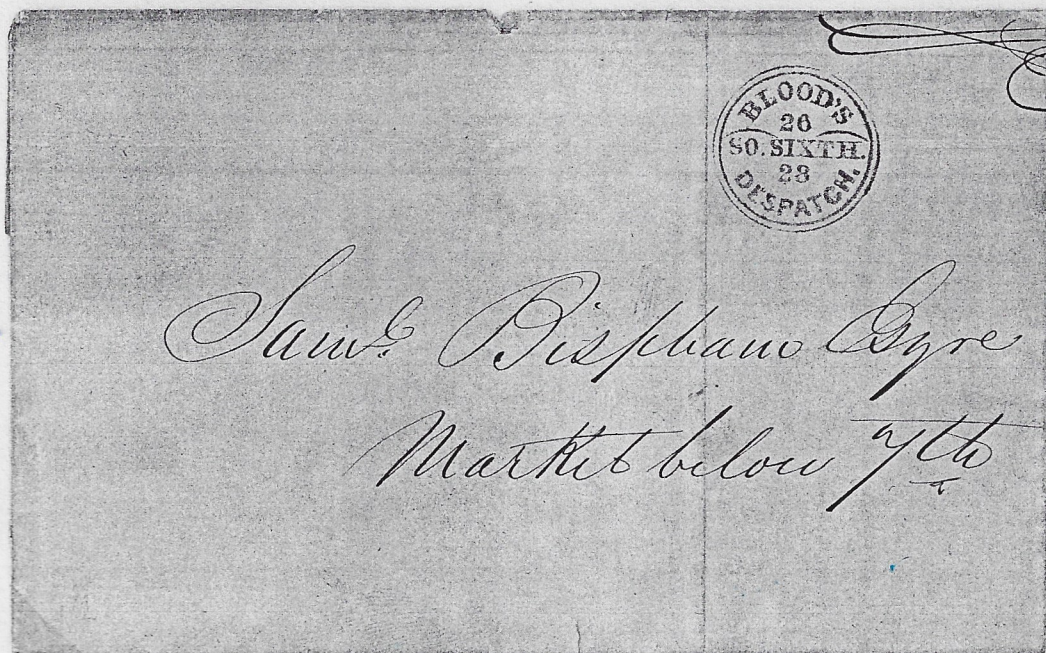
Blood's Despatch: 1850 Handstamp

In 1850 the offices were expanded to include the adjoining building at no. 26 South Sixth Street. A new handstamp was used and saw use through December, 1851.



April 24, 1850

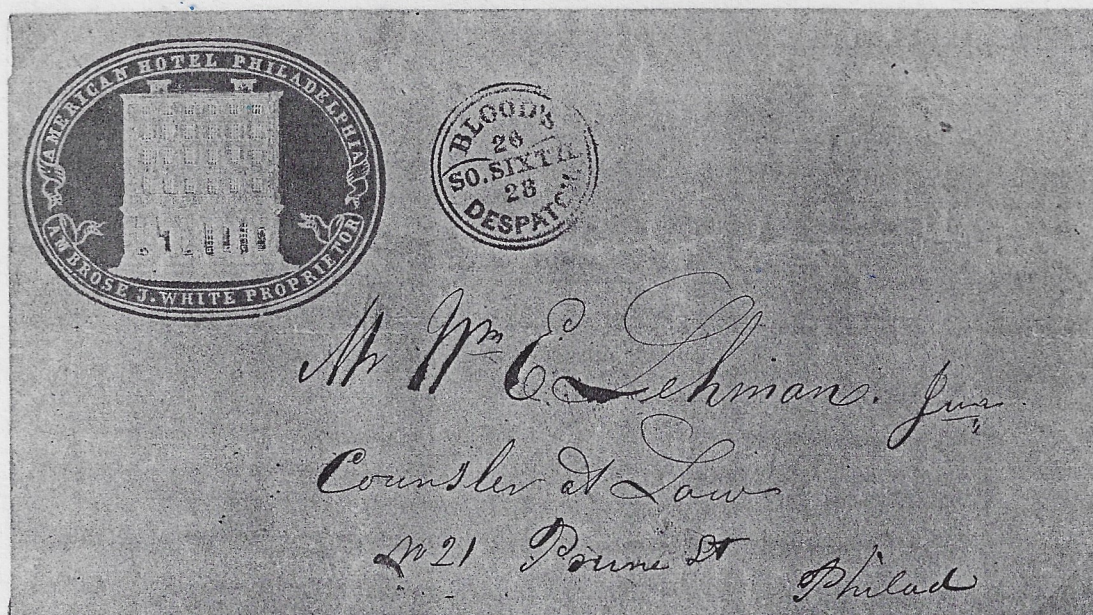
Earliest recorded use.



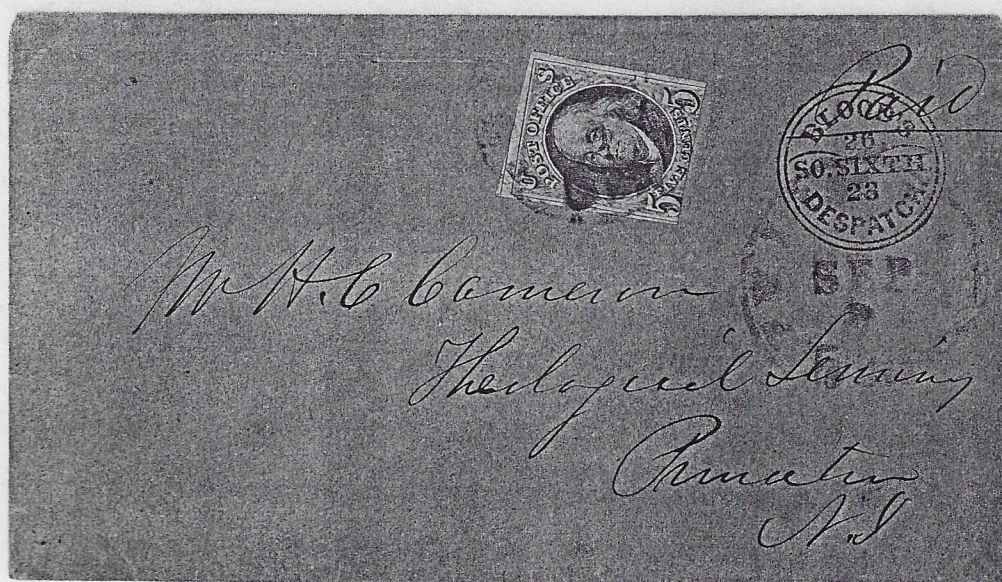
November 23, 1851

Latest recorded use.

Blood's Despatch: 1850 Handstamp



Local delivery letter with embossed corner card of the American Hotel.



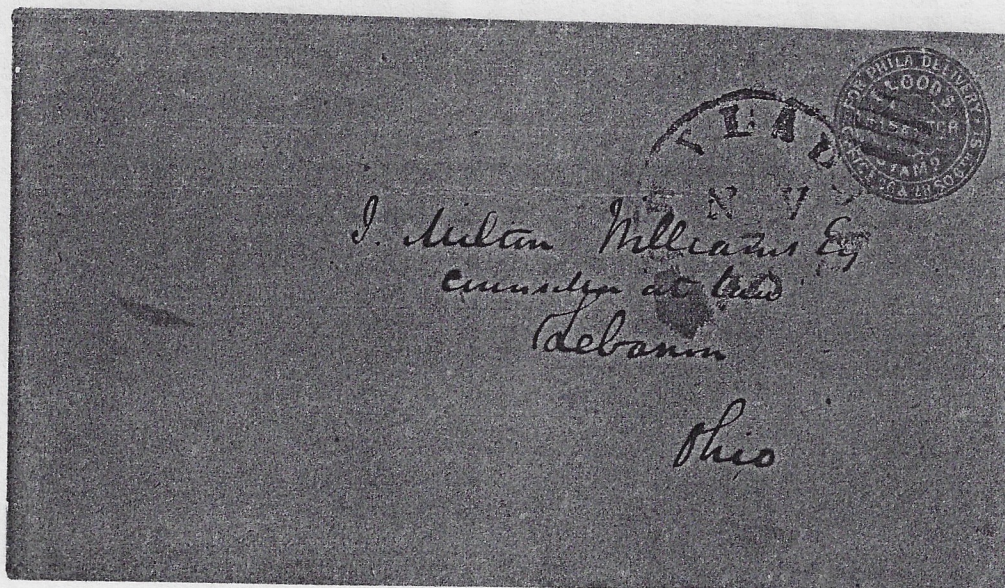
Letter to the Theological Seminary (later Princeton University), Princeton, NJ.

Blood's Despatch: 1850 Postal Stationery

In 1850 the offices were expanded to include the adjoining building at no. 26 South Sixth Street. New envelopes showing the address change were issued.



Delivered to the agent at the railroad station for delivery to Cincinnati, Ohio.

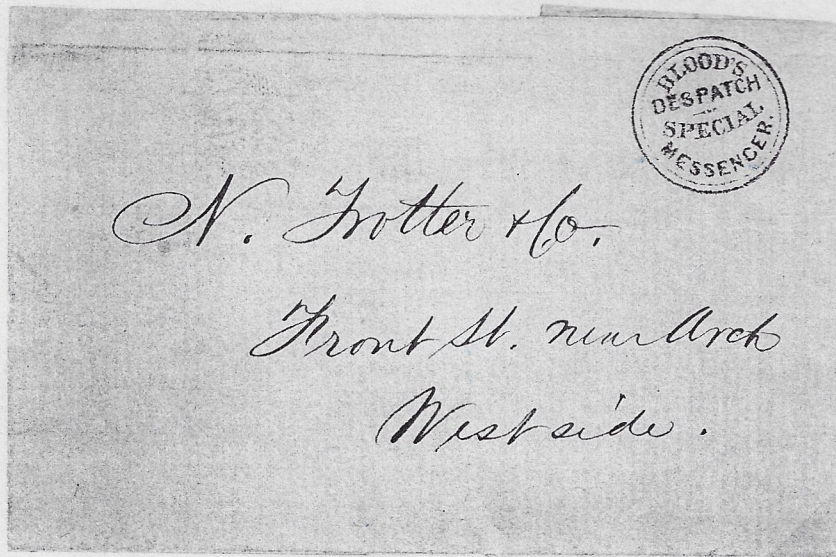


November 7, 1850

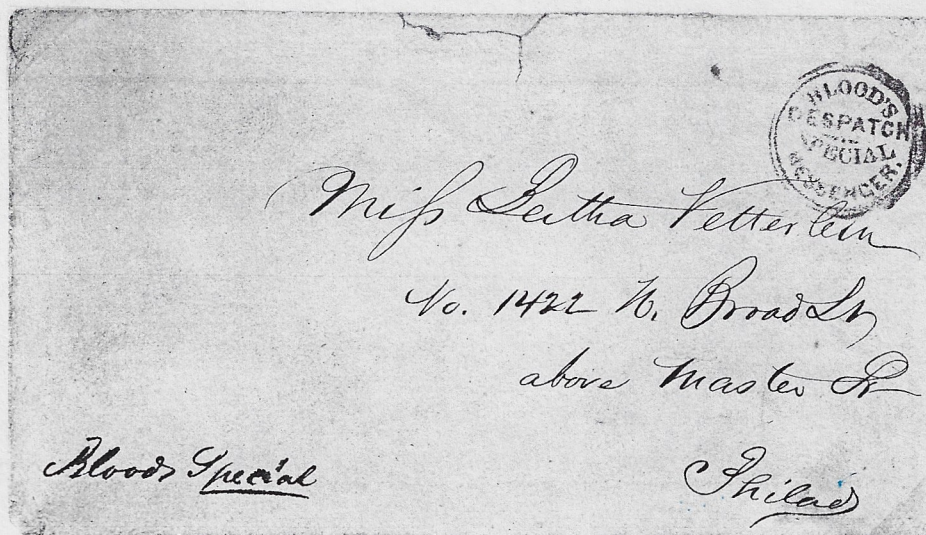
Printed on buff paper, an example of the city delivery envelope used for delivery to the post office. Sent to Lebanon, Ohio, the 10¢ fee prepaid.

Blood's Despatch: Special Messenger Service

Blood's began a "Special Messenger Service" in 1850. Special messengers were sent from the main office to all parts of the city at a charge of 5¢ and up, according to distance. Money, valuables and important documents were delivered at any time of the day by these messengers.



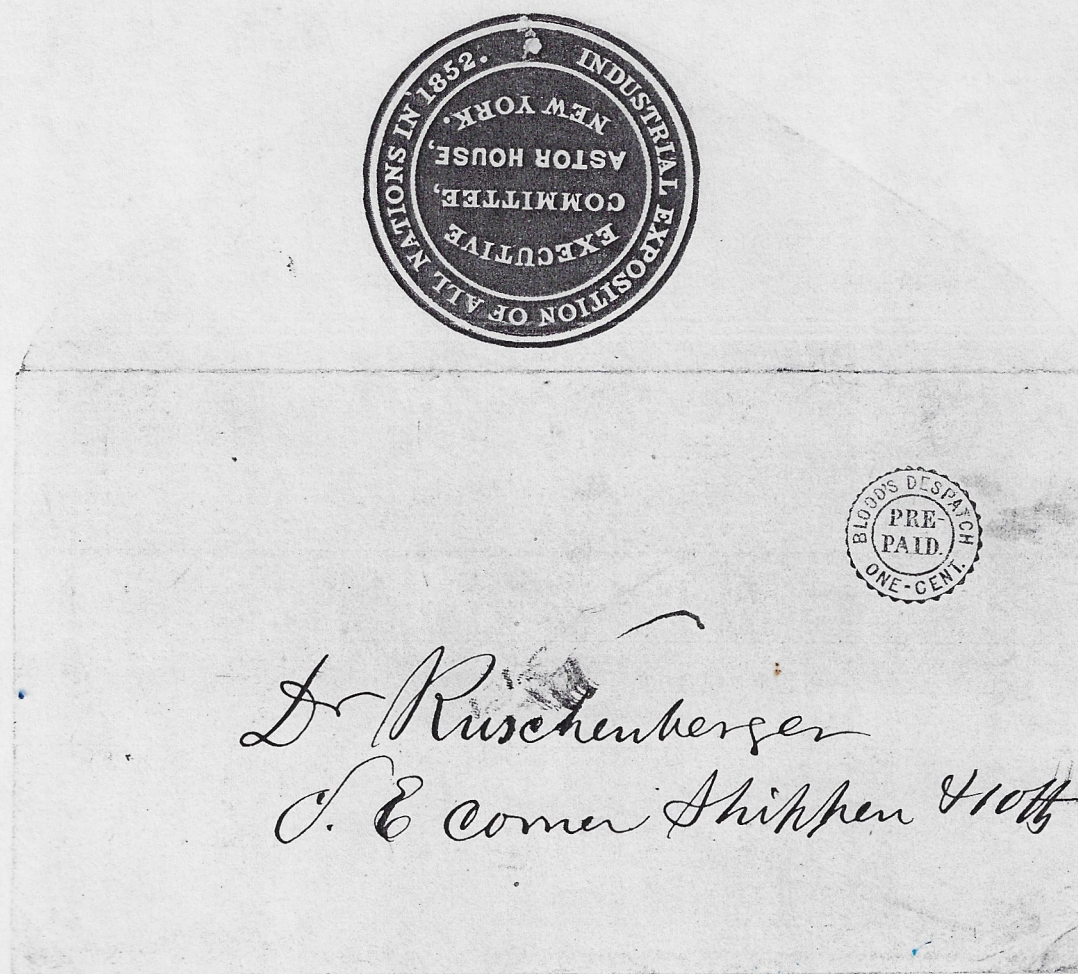
Request for the urgent delivery of goods, sent by a "Special Messenger".



Notice the annotation "Blood's Special".

Blood's Despatch: 1851 Rate Reduction

The Postal Act of March 3, 1851 resulted in changes which greatly effected Blood's. The Postmaster General was authorized to establish **postal routes within cities or towns**, and to provide for collecting and conveying to the chief office of the general post, letters intended for transportation to other cities; and to reduce the total charge, inclusive of delivery fee, upon drop letters to 2¢. A Court ruling held that post routes were roads between a main post office and its subordinate stations, not roads and ways within a city. This ruling meant that the Government's attempt at gaining a monopoly over the streets and ways within a city was not valid. To avoid being considered an Independent Mail Carrier, Blood's did not pickup or deliver mail outside of the City's original boundaries. It was also during 1851 that Blood's established their rates as 1¢ prepaid and 2¢ collect.

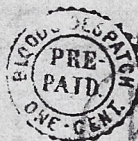


A new handstamp was used to indicate the new 1¢ prepaid rate. The seal on this envelope is that of the Executive Committee of the first International Exhibition held in the United States.



Robert L. Walsh Esq
Ct 30 South Street

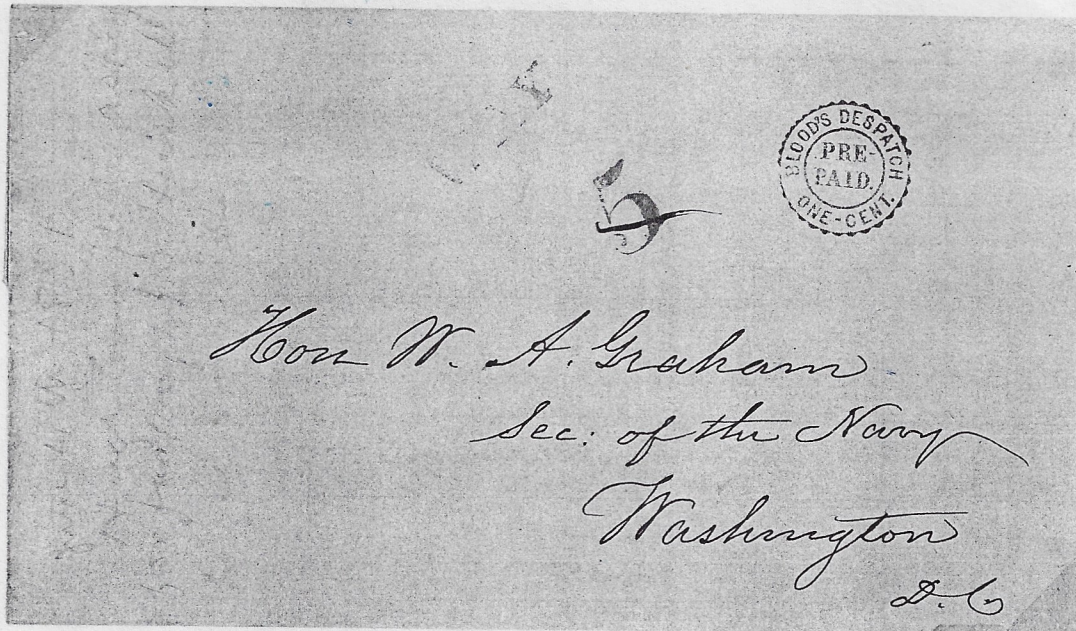
Prepaid local delivery.



D. William Gould
J. Clark Esq
U. S. Post Office
New York

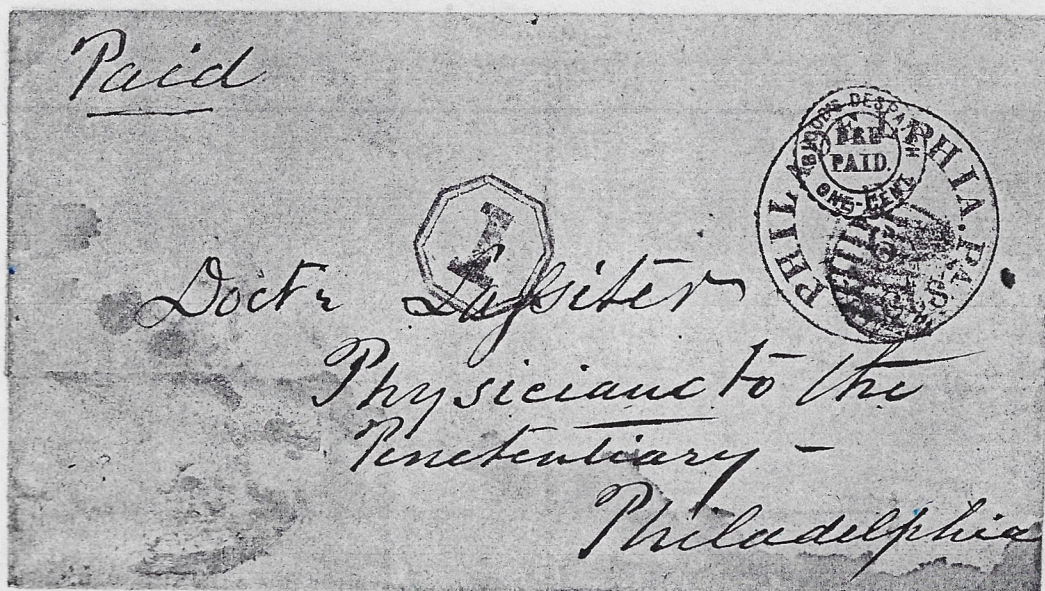
Delivered to the post office and sent to New York, collect 5¢.

Blood's Despatch: 1851 Rate Reduction

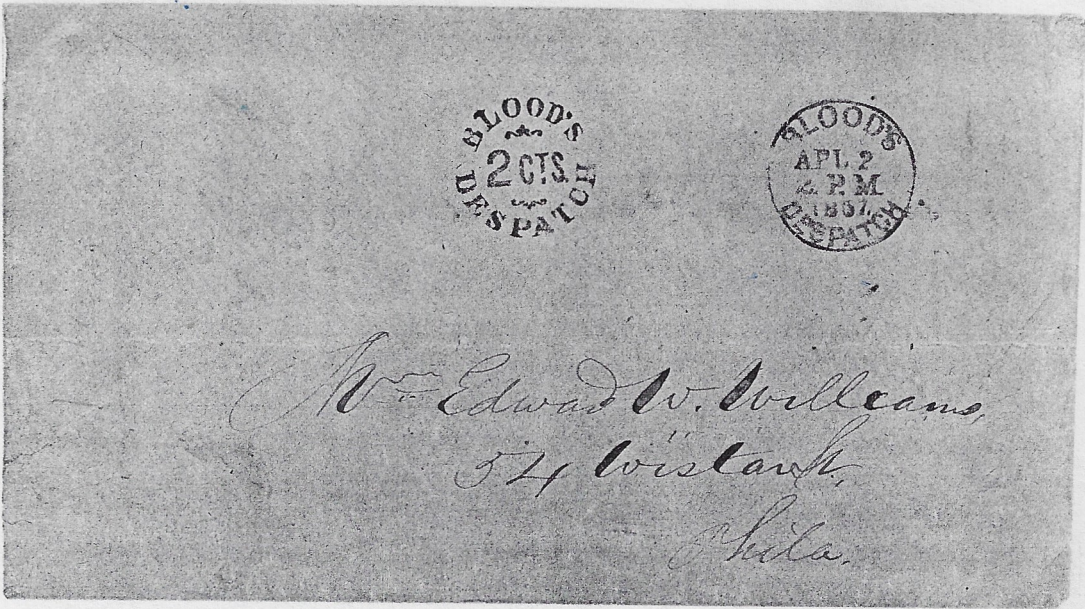


Placed on a train by Blood's for delivery to the Washington, DC Post Office where the WAY 5 was added.

Blood's did not wish to be treated by the Government as an Independent Mail Carrier. It therefore did not take mail to, or pick-up mail from outside the Philadelphia's boundaries. Blood's advertised that: "Letters are delivered throughout the City proper, Southwark, Moyamensing, Northern Liberties and all of Spring Garden East of Schuylkill Sixth, but no letters are taken out of the paved limits in direction."



Addressed to "Physicians to the Penitentiary - Philadelphia". Prepaid for delivery to the Post Office by Blood's with 1¢ due the addressee for carrier delivery within the City Limits but outside the Blood's operating area. Originally rated 5¢, the unpaid letter rate, and then changed by covering the "5 cts" with a grid cancel.



A new handstamp was also introduced to indicate the 2¢ collect fee.

An advertisement for Blood's Despatch Post. On the left is a detailed illustration of a multi-story building, identified by a sign as the "CHESTNUT ST. THEATRE". To the right of the building is a vertical text box containing the following information:

SCHENCK'S PULMONIC SYRUP.
The best and most positive cure for
Coughs, Colds, Consumption, Dyspepsia, Liver
Complaint, Palpitation of the heart, &c. Scurfula.
The reputation that this medicine has obtained during the fifteen
years it has been before the public renders it useless to puff it. Those
sufferers who have been benefited by its use, testify to its merits.
Agents throughout the U. S. \$1.00 per bottle, or six for \$5.00.
Principal Office, N. W. corner 6th & Chestnut Sts.

DANIEL O. BLOOD, CHAS. KOCHERSTERGER.

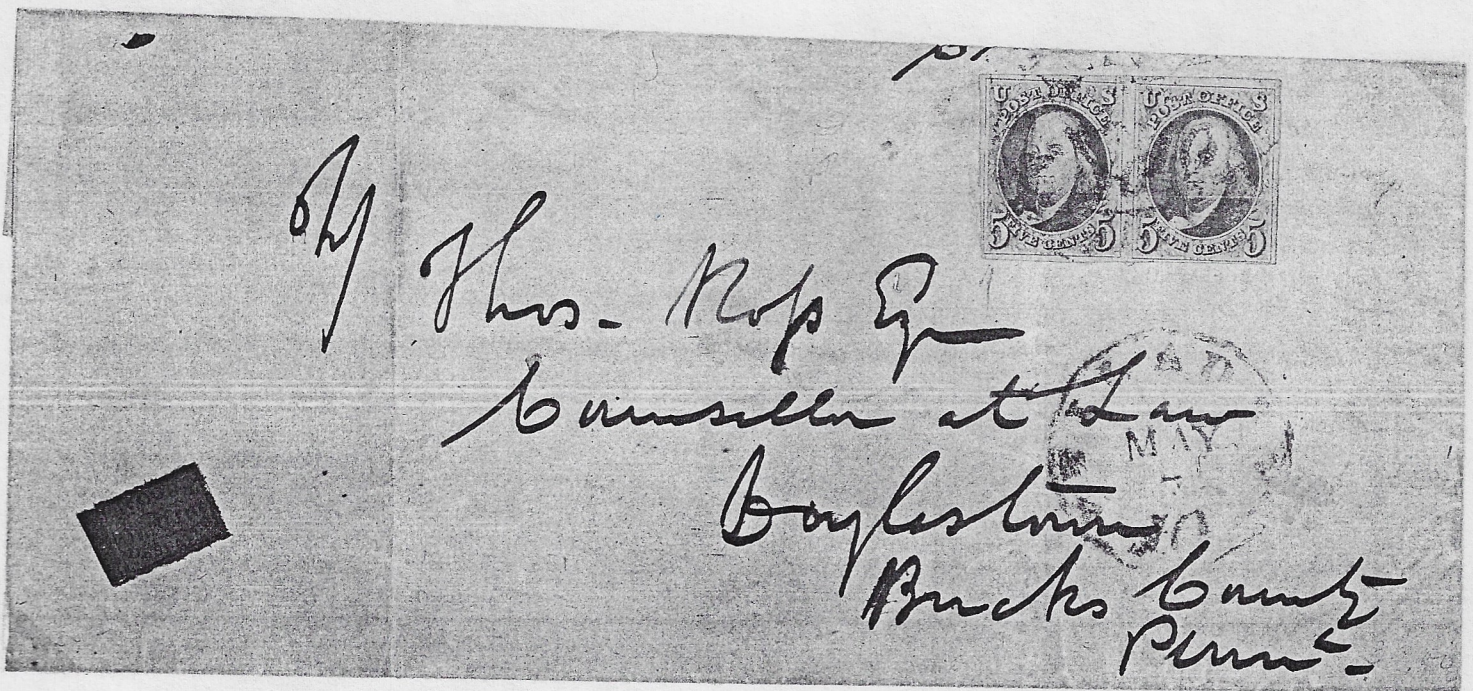
BLOOD'S DESPATCH POST
Over Three Hundred Box Stations
in the City and Surroundings.
Covering a Circuit of Twelve Miles.
From which regular and prompt deliveries are made at the uniform
rate of **ONE CENT.**
EACH LETTER PREPAID.

E. DURAND & SONS
172 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILA.
S. W. cor. Chestnut & Sixth Sts.
S. T. O. S.

An advertisement which appeared in the 1851 edition of the *Rae's Chestnut Street Panorama* business directory. The ad mentions the new rates and that Blood's had over three hundred box stations.

Blood's Despatch: 1851 Rate Change

Although the 1851 Act left the prepayment of letters optional, it did reduce the rate for letters under 3,000 miles to 3¢ if prepaid; if not prepaid the old rate of 5¢ was collected. The new rates became effective in July, 1851. The Government stamps issued in 1847 were demonetized on June 30, 1851.

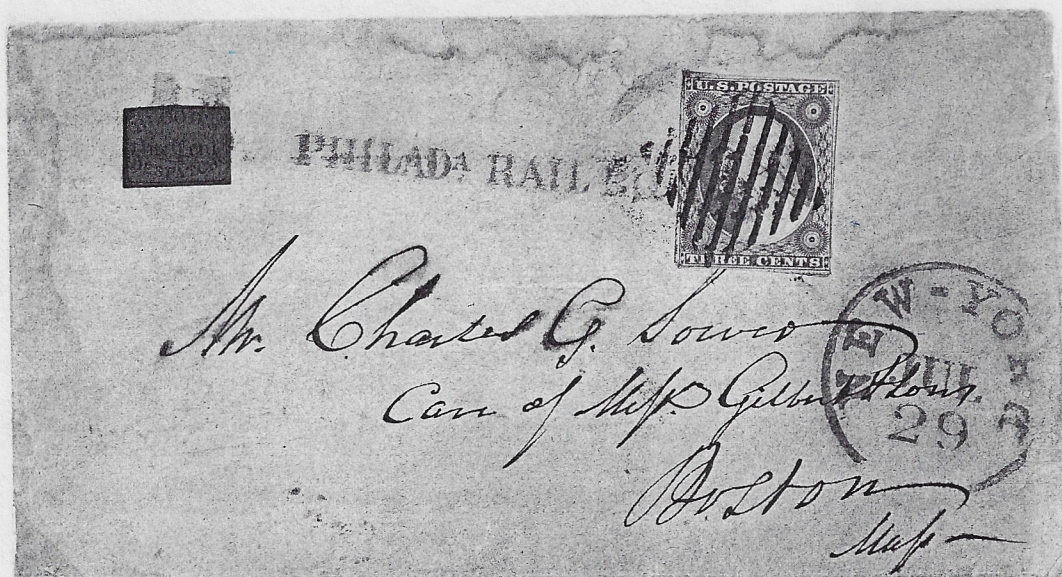


May 7, 1851

Delivered to the post office by Blood's and sent to Doylestown, PA. Doylestown was only 20 miles from Philadelphia. The fee of 10¢ indicates the letter weighed more than ½ ounce and thus required the double rate.

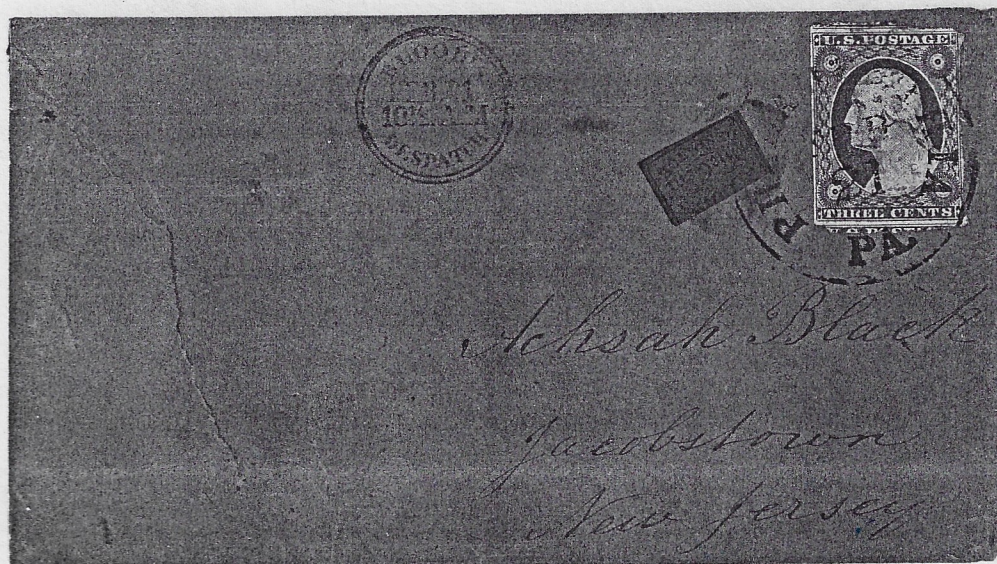
Blood's Despatch: 1851 Rate Changes

The Government issued three new stamps for the rates established by the Act of 1851. Issued during July, they had values of 1¢, 3¢ and 12¢.



July 29, 1851

Delivered to the agent at the railroad station and posted to Boston via New York. The 3¢ fee prepaid by the new Government stamp.



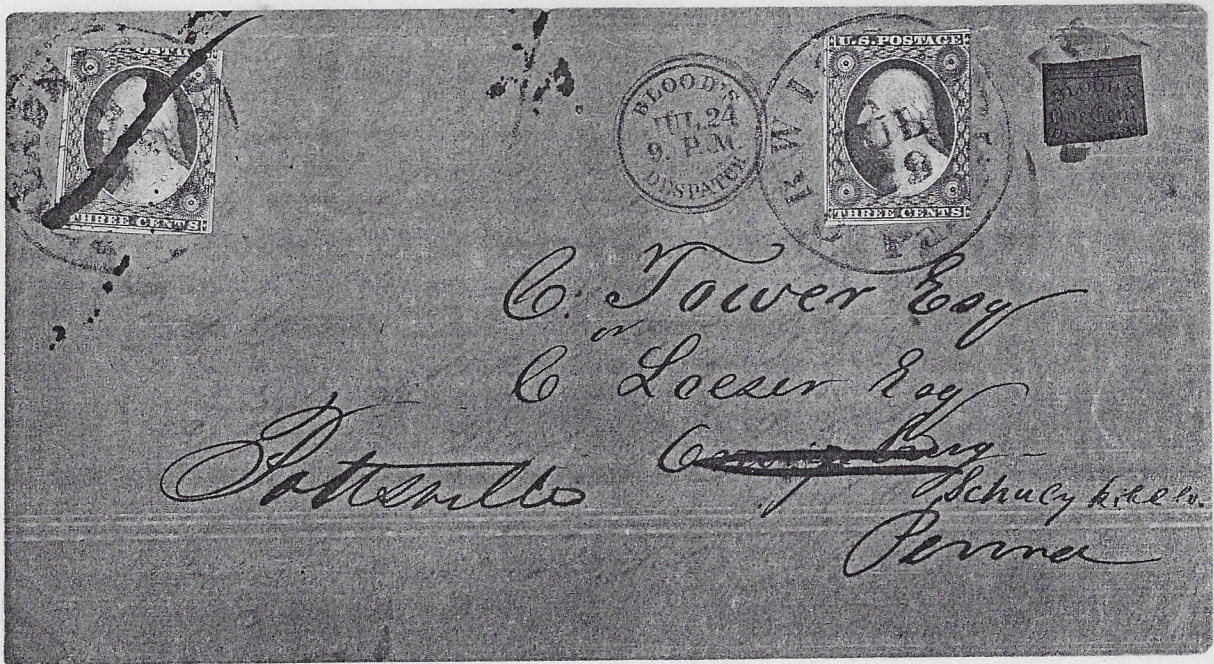
February 21, 1852

Posted to Jacobstown, NJ, delivered to the post office by Blood's.



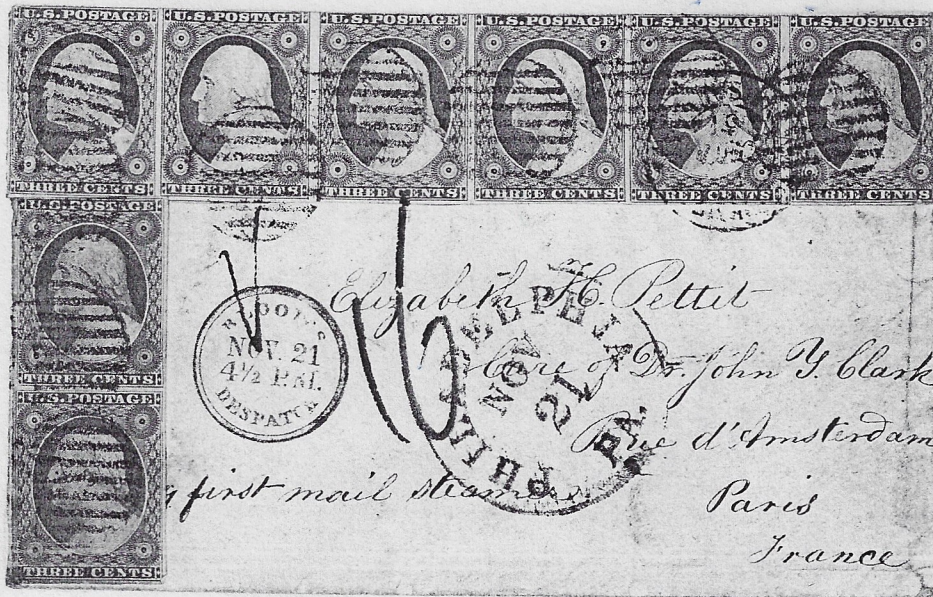
October 29, 1851

The 3¢ fee for delivery to Newbern, NC was prepaid by three of the new 1¢ stamps.



July 24, 1852

Despatched to the post office by Blood's at 9 P.M. on July 24th. The 3¢ fee for forwarding from Orwigsburgh to Pottsville, Pa. was paid by the added 3¢ stamp.



November 21, 1851

The rate for mail to France was 24¢, here prepaid by eight 3¢ stamps.



February 9, 1852

Two copies of the new 12¢ stamp used to pay the 24¢ rate for delivery to England.

Blood's Despatch: 1851 Rate Changes

Drop letters comprise all those letters brought to the post office and dropped in a special drop letter box. They were placed in the letter box of the addressee, if they had one, or delivered to them or their agent when they called at the post office. The Act of March 3, 1851 provided that the rate for this service be 1¢ regardless of weight.

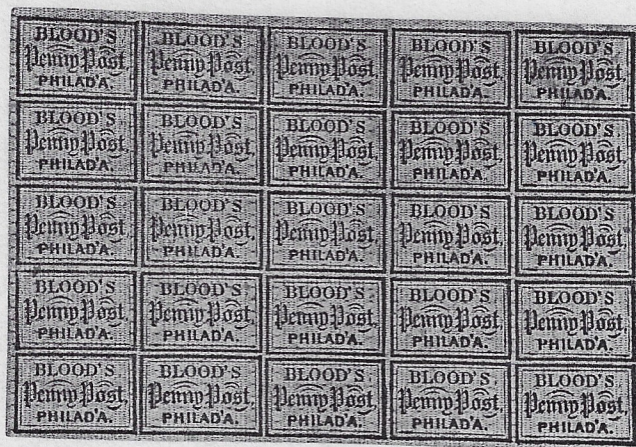


April 6, 185?

Delivered to the post office by Blood's, the 1¢ fee prepaid by the "One Cent" stamp. Placed in the drop letter box as it was addressed to "Box 851." The octagon "1" handstamp indicates the 1¢ fee was to be collected from the box holder or his agent.

Blood's Penny Post: Issue of 1853

Charles Kochersperger became the owner of the post in 1852. He changed the name to "BLOOD'S PENNY POST" to emphasize the lower rates. A new stamp was issued in 1853. Printed in blue and pink on light blue colored paper it contained the new name of the post. Printed in sheets of 200 arranged in 8 panes of 25, each 5 by 5 stamps in size.

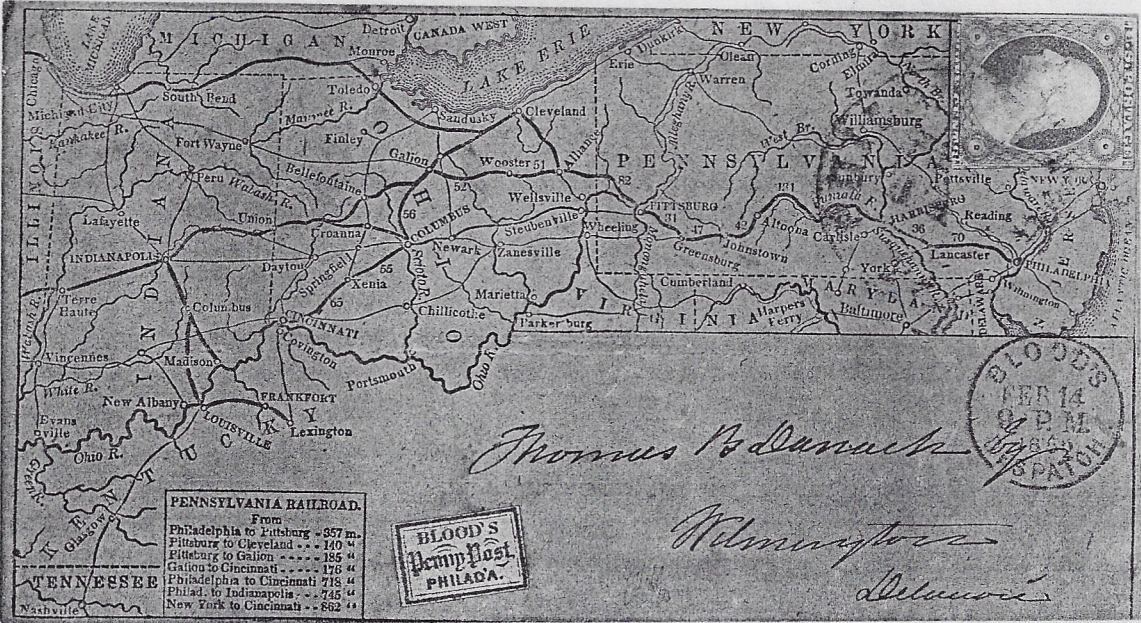


Pane of 25



December 21, 1853

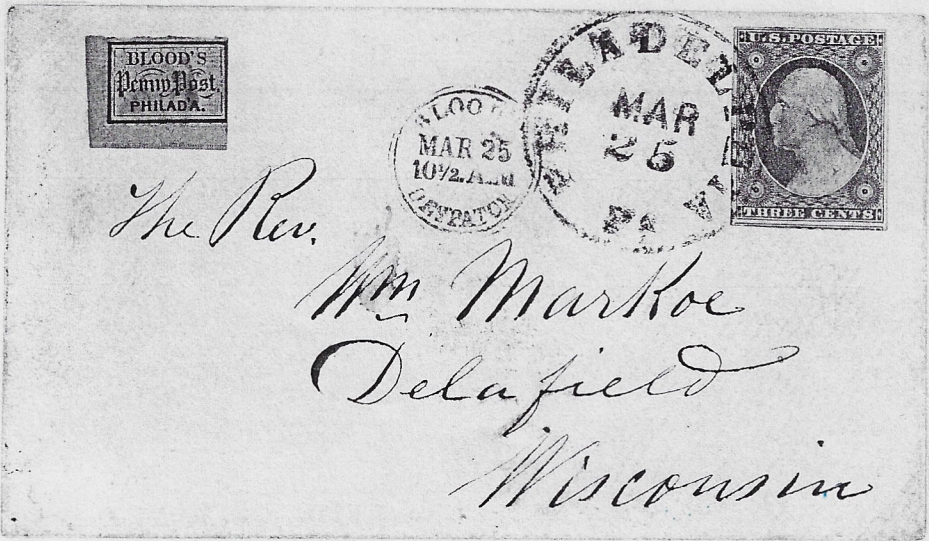
Sent to Princeton, NJ prepaid by the 3¢ Government stamp. The stamp is from sheet position 92L1(L) and has a double transfer of the rosettes as well as a line through "THREE CENTS."



January 14, 1855

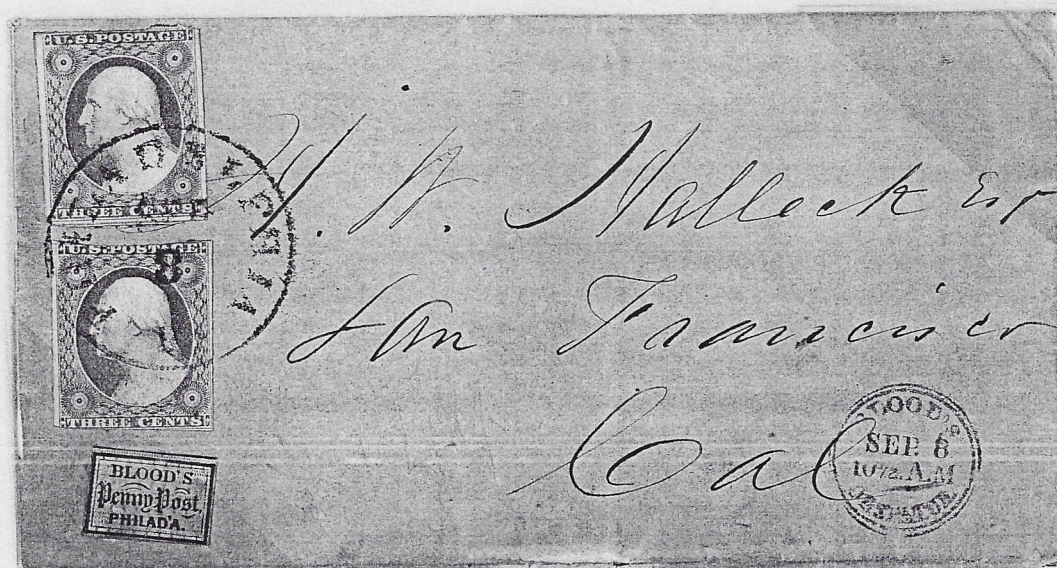
Routes of the Pennsylvania Railroad, based in Philadelphia, on illustrated envelope to Wilmington, DE.

Similar in Siegel #417 Malcolm lot 1611 dated May 2, 1855



March 25, 1854

Letter to Delafield, WI, the 3¢ rate prepaid.



September 7, 1853

To San Francisco, CA. The prepaid rate for over 3,000 miles was 6¢.



September 26, 1853

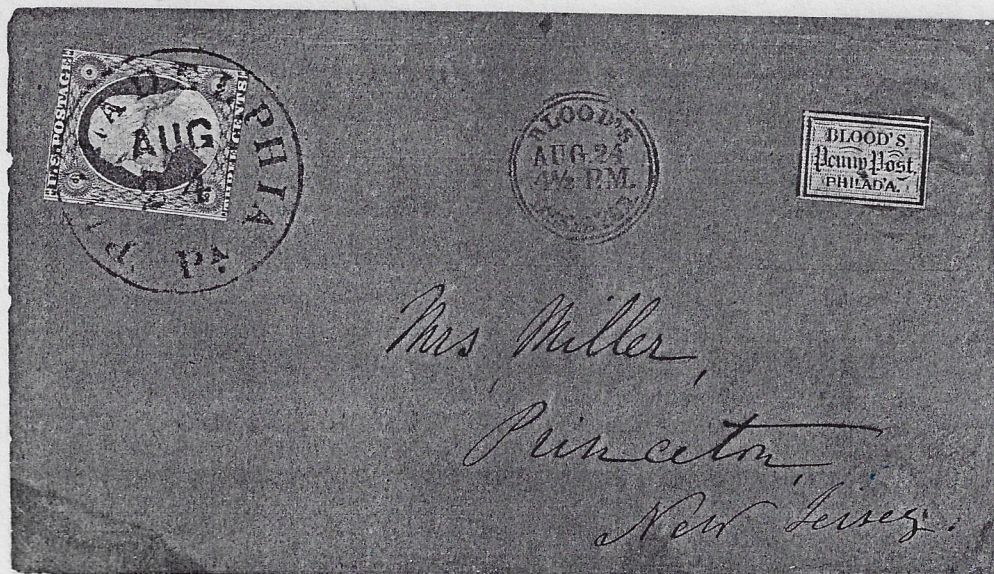
Carried to the post office by Blood's and posted to Aberdeen, Scotland at the 24¢ rate (2 of the 3¢ stamps are missing). Backstamps indicate the letter was forwarded to Boston and placed aboard a British packet boat. It arrived in Aberdeen via Liverpool, on October 10th.

Several different postmarks were in use by the Philadelphia post office at any one time during the period from 1851 to 1857.



June 1, 1853

Large 'A' in PA.

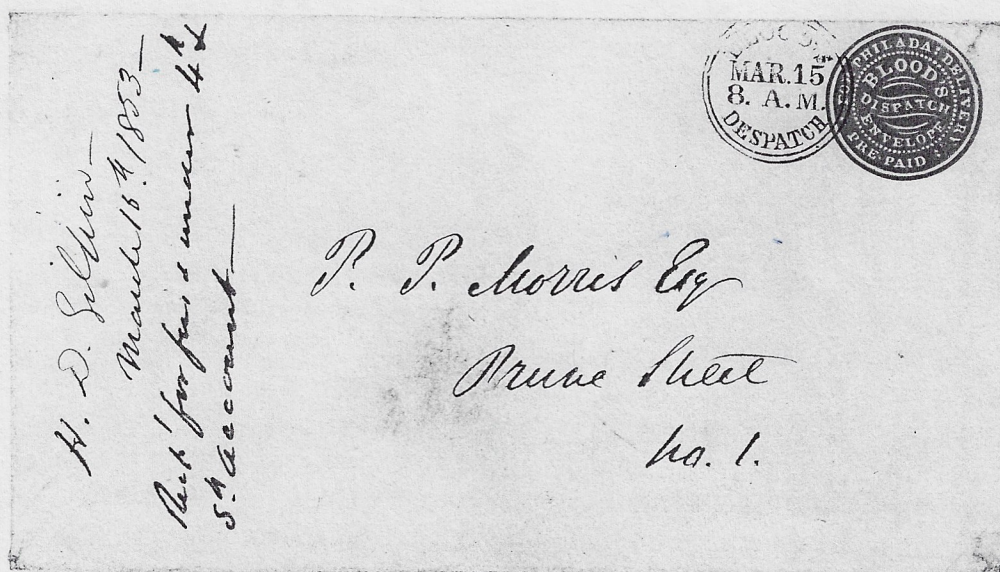


August 24, 1853

Small 'A' in PA.

Blood's Penny Post: 1853 Postal Stationery Issues

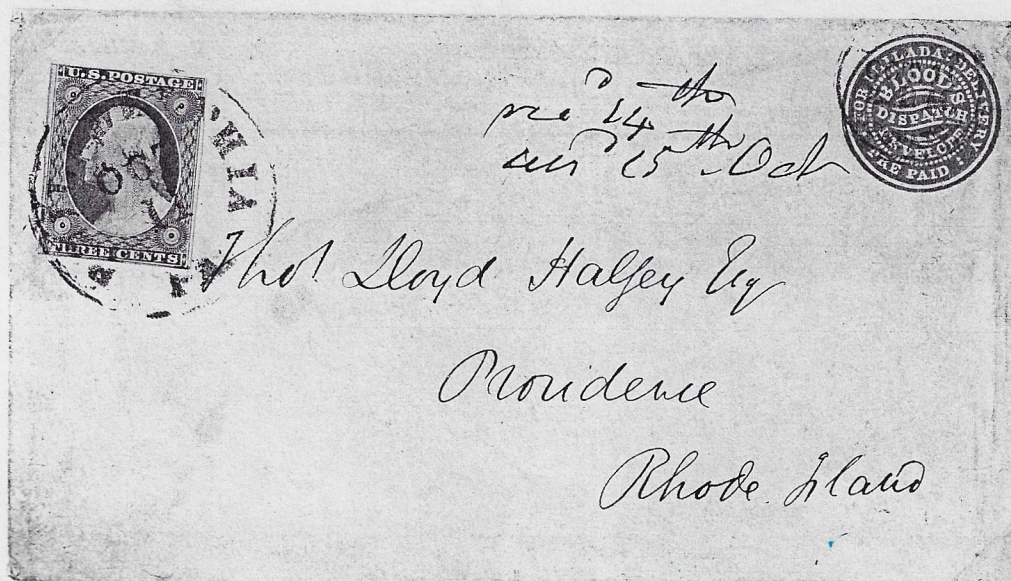
New envelopes with the wording "For Philadelphia Delivery Prepaid" were issued in 1853. Issued in several colors and sizes, they did not employ the new name of the post.



March 15, 1853

Earliest recorded use.

Red stamp embossed on a white wove paper.



October 11, 1853

These envelopes were often used for other than local delivery.