

HARNDEN'S EXPRESS



HARNDEN'S

Express Package Car, and Foreign Letter Office,



S. N. Dickinson, Printer.

NO. 9 COURT STREET, BOSTON, & NO. 2 WALL STREET, NEW-YORK.

PACKAGES FORWARDED DAILY FROM NEW YORK AND BOSTON.

LETTERS FORWARDED FROM 9 COURT ST. BOSTON, TO ANY PART OF THE WORLD.

Boston, Sept 25 1839.

Mr. D. P. [unclear]

To W. F. HARNDEN, Dr.

To Freights on 8 Key Boxes from New-York, \$ 34.50

Received Payment, W. F. H.
D. Brigham

September 25, 1839. A bill for freight during the first year of Harnden's Express.

Boston Evening Traveller.
March 15, 1862.

Harnden's Express offers freight to soldiers at half rates.

PAWNERS' BANK,
No. 48 Union street..... Boston,
New open for the loan of Money on Pledge of Goods and Chattels only
Jan 18 City E. B. FORSTER, Cashier.

HARNDEN'S
SOUTHERN AND WESTERN EXPRESS,
ESTABLISHED 1839.

OFFICE REMOVED FROM
No. 8 Court st. to
 No. 98 Washington street.
Offers unsurpassed facilities for the conveyance of
Freight of every kind, Small Parcels,
Money, &c., &c.

To New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Annapolis, Wash-
ington, Cincinnati, St. Louis, and all intermediate cities
and towns. Also, to all accessible points South.

ARMY EXPRESS DAILY.
Packages for the Soldiers conveyed AT HALF THE
USUAL RATES.

HARNDEN'S EXPRESS,
dec 27 No. 98 Washington street.

CALIFORNIA STEAMERS,
(VIA PANAMA RAILROAD)

Leaving New York 1st, 11th and 31st of each
month.
Steamer ARIEL, Friday, March 21.
Tickets, Berths and State Rooms secured at the Old Es-
tablished Boston Agency Office.
C. L. BARTLETT,
15 Broad street.

HARDEN'S EXPRESS
No. 8 Court St., Boston

1858



Harnden's Express,

No. 8 Court Street,

General Forwarding

And Commission Office.

Proprietors.—THOMPSON, LIVINGSTON & Co.

FOR NEW-YORK, PHILADELPHIA, BALTIMORE,
WASHINGTON, AND THE SOUTH AND WEST,
New Orleans, Mobile, Savannah, &c.

Boston, July 27 1858

Yankee Bank has delivered to us

one Package (containing) Eighty Pecanias or thirty two 5/16 in. canes

Marked *A. G. 100*

New York

To be forwarded to _____ only. It is further agreed, and is part of the consideration of this contract, that the HARDEN EXPRESS is not to be responsible for any LOSS or DAMAGE arising from the dangers of Railroad, Steam or River Navigation, Leakage, Fire, or from any cause whatever, unless the same be proved to have occurred from the fault or gross negligence of ourselves, our Agents or Servants; and we, in no event, to be liable beyond our route, as herein receipted. VALUED UNDER FIFTY DOLLARS, unless otherwise herein stated. All articles of GLASS will be taken at *Shippers' Risk only*, the Company refusing to be responsible for injury or damage by breakage or otherwise.

For the Proprietors,

Freight,

Thompson

J. C. Beale, Stationer and Printer 75 Wall Street, N.Y.

July 27, 1858. Receipt from Harnden's Express for one sealed package, value \$832.57.

c. 1842



FORWARDING AGENTS

HARNDEN & CO.
BOSTON

Aug. 14, 1842. This letter originated at Havana, and (by the amount of postage) was evidently an outer cover for a packet of several letters. This packet went by private carrier, ex-post office, to Boston and not "via New York" as indicated in the manuscript notation.



Harnden then applied their mark and forwarded the letters "per Columbia", a 1,154 ton steamship of the Cunard Line in service 1840-43.

RMS Columbia
left Boston
9-1-41
RMS
Britannia
left Boston
9-1-42



Undated Packet Letter mark used by the Cunard Line at Liverpool.



Sept. 15. London receipt mark. Letter rated 6/- . Normal rate was 1/- per 1/4 oz. Heavy packet required 6X normal or 6 shillings due from Fredr. Huth & Co.

1841

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

R.M.S. Acadia

FORWARDING AGENT
Harnden's Express
Boston



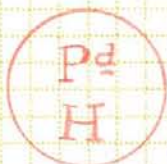
1841

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

RMS Acadia

FORWARDING AGENT
Harnden's Express
Boston

January 30, 1841. Letter datelined at Boston. At this time the U.S. and Great Britain had no treaty and postage had to be paid at both sides of the Atlantic. To avoid this dupli-



B. 432

B. 433

cate cost, the forwarding agents Harnden's Express made arrangements to accept mail for Europe to be prepaid at their Boston office as "Paid to the Frontier" of France. Here the red oval of Harnden's Express and the circular "Pd H(arnden)" show this arrangement.

February 1, 1841. The Cunarder R.M.S. Acadia left Boston for Liverpool on this date.



Feb. 15. Dated handstamp at Liverpool agrees with the recorded arrival date of the Acadia at that port. Letter accepted as "PAID AT/LIVERPOOL".



Feb. 16. "PAID" transit tombstone mark at London.



Feb. 18. Entry mark at Calais showing mail from England entering France at that port. The P-F is a French mark, Payee au Frontier, indicating letter had been paid to the border at Calais. 25 decimes due from the recipient, shown in manuscript.

1841

U. S. TO FRANCE - PRE-TREATY COVER R.M.S. Britannia
FORWARDING AGENT- Harnden's Express, New York

March 13, 1841. Letter headed at New York. It was handed to Harnden's Express at No. 2 Wall St., who struck their red cachet on the cover face. They debited the customer one shilling (1/- at upper right), marked the letter "Steamer Britannia" and sent it on the railroad cars to Boston in a closed bag, i.e. closed to England.

March 16. R.M.S. Britannia of the Cunard Line departed from Boston on her 4th return voyage.



March 31. Britannia arrived at Liverpool, Cunard AMERICA/L backstamp. Transit at London April 1, backstamp. London debited France for one shilling, the Packet Letter rate and also noted "Packet Letter" by handstamp. ¶ April 3. French entry mark, mail from England entering at Calais, Paris transit backstamp. ¶ Letter rated in France at British transatlantic and handling (British nms. deleted) at 12 decimes equivalent to 1 sh. + French inland rate of March 1839 per Anglo-French Treaty of 7½ grams inland 601-750 kilometers (Calais to Cognac) of 14 dec., total 26 dec., shown in manuscript. ¶ April 5. Cognac backstamp.

1841

FORWARDING AGENTS

BRITISH PACKET

R.M.S. Columbia

HARNDEN & COS.

Philadelphia



Oct. 29, 1841.
Letter datelined at Philadelphia and endorsed "Pr Steamer Columbia". It was handled by forwarder Harnden & Co. at their Philadelphia office, ex-post office to Boston where Cunard's R.M.S. Columbia sailed November 1, 1841 for Liverpool via Halifax.



November 15 is the recorded arrival date of Columbia at Liverpool where this fine strike of the Liverpool Packet Letter Office was struck on the reverse. Nov. 16 arrival backstamp at London where one shilling (24¢) was due as shown in black manuscript "1/-". As U.S.-Britain had no treaty at this time, U.S. received no portion of the transatlantic postage.

1841

NEW ORLEANS TO LONDON VIA NEW YORK AND BOSTON
CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Acadia

FORWARDING AGENTS

E. & T. POPPE

HARNDEN'S EXPRESS

New York

2 Wall St., New York

March 23, 1841. Letter docketed at New Orleans. It went in a packet of letters to E. & T. Poppe in New York for forwarding.

April 16. E. & T. Poppe endorsed in manuscript on the reverse of the letter: forwarded New York April 16, 1841 by E. & T. Poppe.

They noted: by Boston Steamer and delivered it to Harnden's Express.

Harnden's Package Express & Foreign Letter Office sent the letter by their courier on the train to Boston where their office delivered it directly to the R.M.S. Acadia.



April 17.
R.M.S. Acadia
departed from
Boston for
Liverpool on
her 4th return
voyage.



April 29.
Acadia arrived
at L'pool.
Letter in transit
at London
May 3. 1 shilling
(1/-),
packet letter
rate due.

N.B.: Letters
with two forwarding
agents endorsements
are 25X scarcer
than those
with a single
endorsement.



1841

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

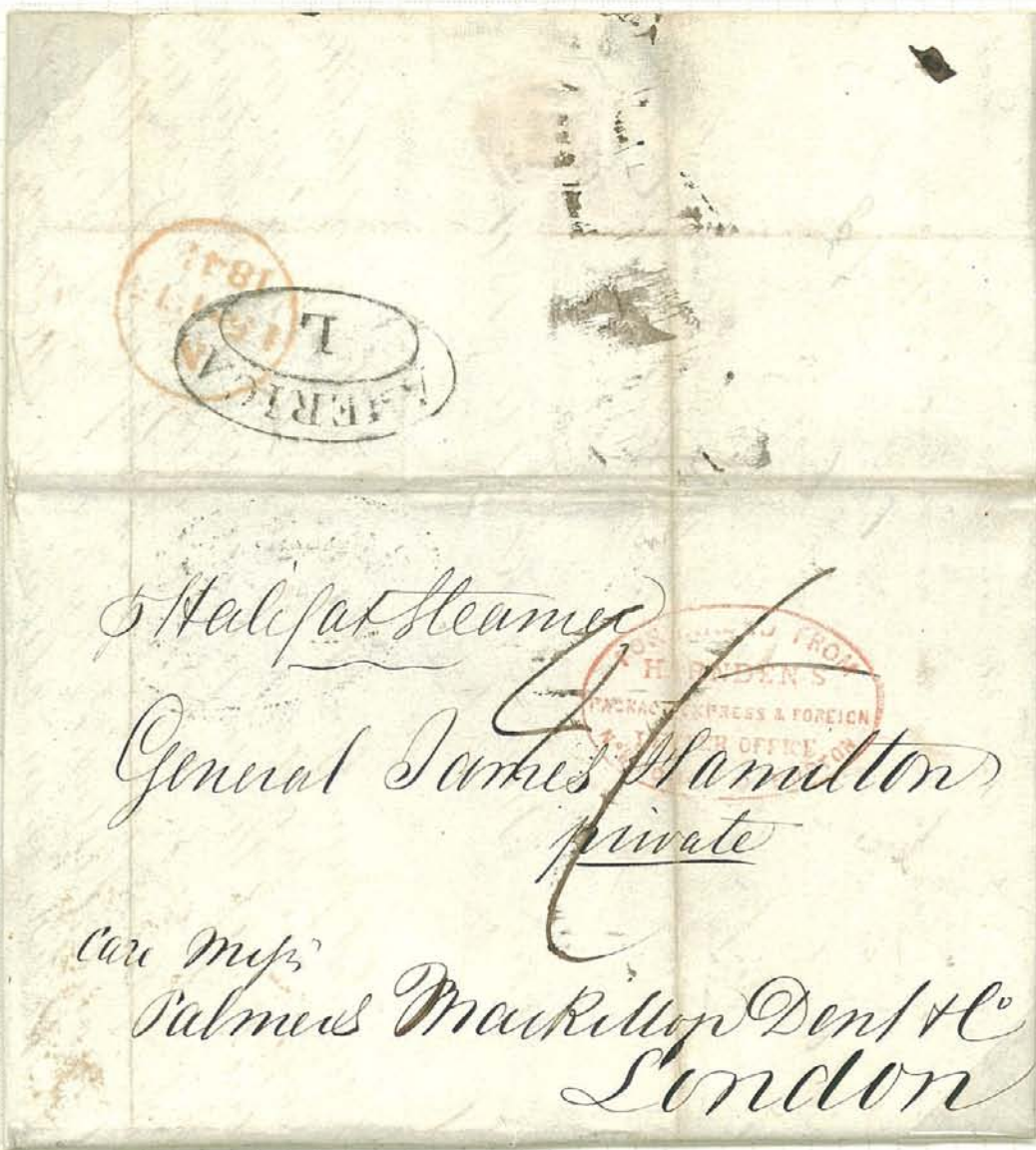
R.M.S. Columbia

FORWARDING AGENT

Harnden's Express, Boston

August 31, 1841. Letter datelined at New York. It was endorsed p. Halifax Steamer, and sent under cover to Harnden's Express & Foreign Letter Office at Boston.

September 1. Harnden's struck their oval cachet at No. 8 Court Street, and put this letter directly into the Letter Bag of the R.M.S. Columbia which departed from Boston September 1 on her 4th return voyage to Liverpool.



Sept. 14.
Columbia arrived at Liverpool, backstamp in transit at London Sept. 15.

Letter was rated as a quadruple letter (several enclosures noted) at 1sh. per 1/2-oz. x 4 = 4/- due.

Halifax Steamer
General James Hamilton
private
care Messrs
Palmer Mackillop Dent & Co
London

1842

FORWARDING AGENT

R. M. S. Britannia

Harnden & Co's Express
New York



January 31, 1842. Letter datelined at New York and directionally endorsed "Steamer 1 February". This referred to the sailing of the Cunard steamer from Boston, then the sole terminus in the U.S. for the service. The letter was forwarded by Harnden & Co. to their Boston office for direct deposit into the mail bag of the R.M.S. Britannia, which sailed on Feb. 1, 1842 on her regular schedule to Liverpool via Halifax. A scarce mark.

Packet Letter.

Feb. 16. Transit backstamp at London. Britannia had arrived Liverpool Feb. 14. British noted 1 shilling (1/-) rate on upper right corner of letter face.

Packet Letter mark of the Foreign Branch, London (R. P5) used to explain the carry-forward of packet charges.



Feb. 18.
French entry mark at Calais. Recipient charges 22 decimes, equivalent to 1 shilling 10d, being 1/- transatlantic packet + 10 pence British rate to France through London (2 & 3 Vict. Cap 96, Sect. 73).



1842

BELIZE, HONDURAS TO LONDON VIA NEW YORK & BOSTON

Brig Florida Blanca, Honduras to New York

R.M.S. Acadia, Boston to Liverpool

Forwarding Agents: O.F. Gleim

New York

Harnden & Co.

New York



1842

BELIZE, HONDURAS TO LONDON VIA NEW YORK & BOSTON

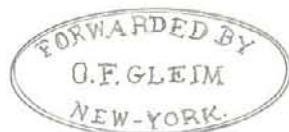
Brig Florida Blanca, Honduras to New York

R.M.S. Acadia, Boston to Liverpool

Forwarding Agents: O. F. Gleim Harnden & Co.
New York New York

May 2, 1842. Letter datelined at Belize, Honduras, a report of the Honduras Bay Schools for 1841. It details the year's activities at the Belize, Boom and Charibb Towne schools, total student body 117 boys and girls.

Letter was sent ex-post office care of a forwarding agent in New York. The Brig Florida Blanca, Pederson sailed from Belize May 8 for New York,



New York Tribune, May 28, 1842. Arrived N.Y. May 27, Brig Florida Blanca, Pederson, 20 ds fm Belize, Honduras, indigo, &c. to B. Blanco.

The New York forwarder O. F. Gleim received the letter, struck his oval backstamp (RF 3) and turned the letter over to a 2nd forwarding agent, Harnden & Co.



PAID

Harnden also struck his red oval mark (RF 3) and paid the letter May 31, New York to Boston after adding the directional endorsement: p Str. Acadia via Boston & Liverpool. Letter paid Act of 1825, single 150 to 400 miles at 18-3/4¢.

June 1. R.M.S. Acadia of the Cunard Line sailed from Boston for Liverpool via Halifax.



June 14. Acadia arrived at Liverpool. London arrival backstamp June 15. Letter rated 2 shillings as a double packet letter by Cunard Steamer (British Packet), this amount paid by the General Secretary of the Wesleyan Missionary Society.

1843

FORWARDING AGENTS

HOWLAND & ASPINWALL

New York

R.M.S. Caledonia

HARNDEN'S EXPRESS

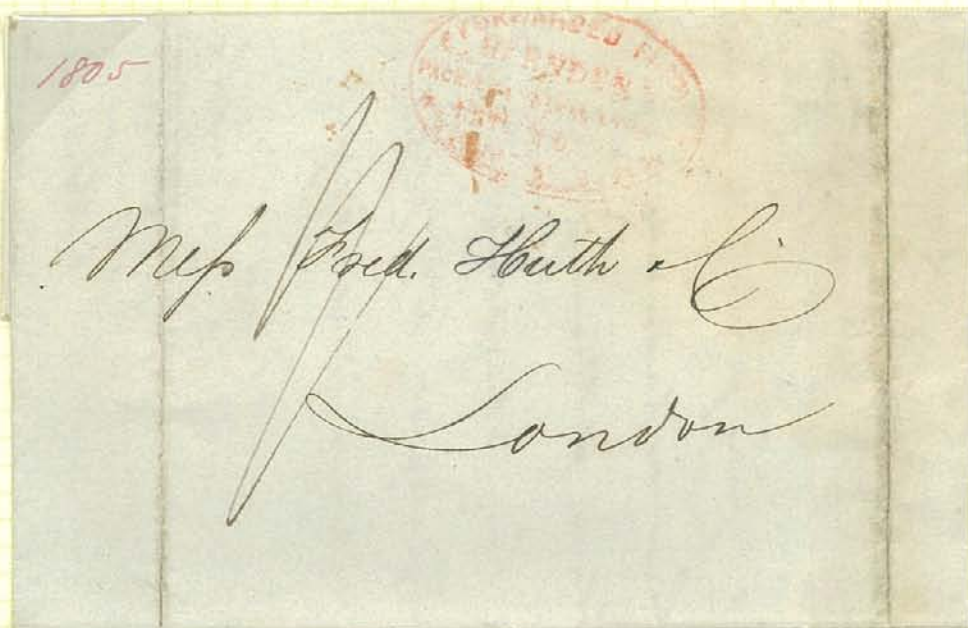
Boston

September 7, 1843. Letter datelined at Havana. It went in a packet of letters to Howland & Aspinwall in New York to take advantage of bulk mailing.



B.432

They struck their backstamp cachet (RF 3) and in turn forwarded the mail onward including some in a packet to Harnden's Letter Office in Boston who applied their forwarding agent's cachet (RF 3) on the face.



October 1. Harnden's put the letter directly into the Letter Bag of R.M.S. Caledonia which sailed for L'pool on this date on her 16th return voyage.



October 14. Caledonia arrived at Liverpool, transit at London (backstamp) on Oct. 18. The pre-treaty transatlantic packet letter rate of 1 shilling was due. Britain retained it all.



1843

FORWARDING AGENTS

HOWLAND & ASPINWALL

New York

R.M.S. Britannia

Nov. 5, 1843. Letter datelined at New York. It was handed to the New York forwarding agent Howland & Aspinwall (RF 3) who forwarded it in a packet to Harndens Express (RF 3) in Boston. Both forwarding agents applied their cachets.

Nov. 16. Harndens Express put this letter directly into the Letter Bag of the R.M.S. Britannia, which departed from Boston this date.

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1 DE 1
1843

Nov. 29. Britannia arrived at Liverpool. Transit backstamp at London December 1.

Letter was subject to the standard packet letter rate of 1 shilling (1/-) or 24¢. This was prior to the U.S.-British Treaty, so Britain retained all of the collect postage.

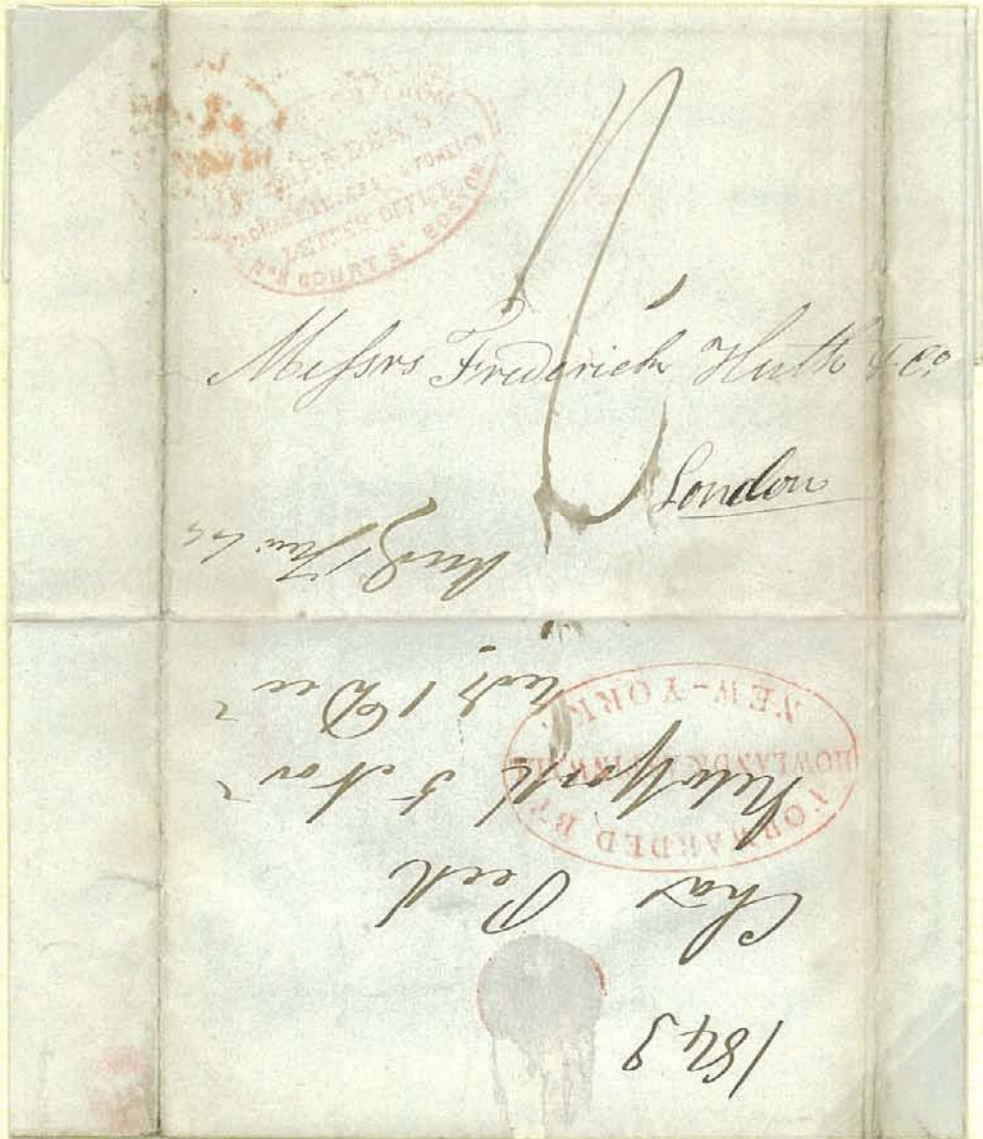
HARNDEN'S EXPRESS

Boston

FORWARDED BY
HOWLAND & ASPINWALL
NEW-YORK.

FORWARDED FROM
HARNDEN'S
PACKAGE EXPRESS & FOREIGN
LETTER OFFICE
118 COURT ST BOSTON

B.432



1845

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

R.M.S. Britannia

FORWARDING AGENT
Harnden's Express
Boston



1845

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

R.M.S. Britannia
COLONIES &c. ART. 12

FORWARDING AGENT
Harnden's Express
Boston

The accountancy mark "COLONIES &c. ART 12" indicated to the British Foreign Branch at London that the letter should be listed in the French way-bill in the column headed "Article 12". This concerned mail handled by the British from French Colonies, British Possessions, and other "overseas countries" to France. The French reimbursed the British at a bulk rate of 3 shillings 4 pence per 30 grams.

May 31, 1845. Letter docketed at New York May 31. This was the sailing date of the R.M.S. Britannia from Boston. Letter went by private despatch to Harnden's office at Boston.



Harnden's Express in Boston put letter directly into the letter bag of the Britannia. U.S. Post Office did not handle this letter at all. Scarce handstamp of Harnden's Boston Office struck as a backstamp.



June 14. Transit backstamp at London. Accountancy (tray) mark applied there (see above).

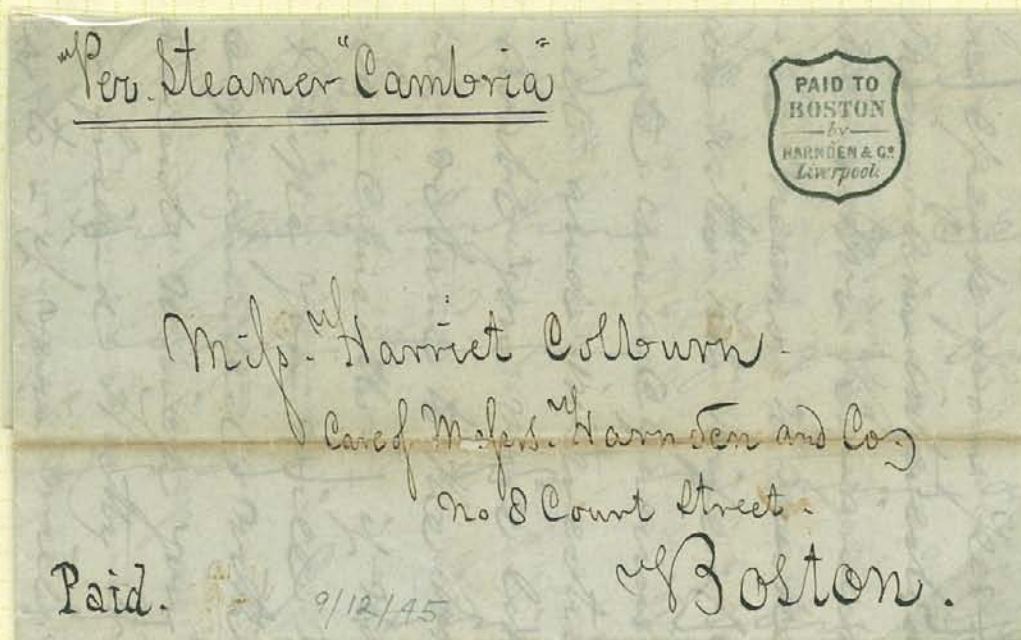
June 16. Transit at channel crossing French port of Boulogne (Noel 374). Small 2's show mark struck at Paris. 33 decimes due from recipient.

1845

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

R.M.S. Cambria, Liverpool to Boston CUNARD LINE

Forwarding Agent: Harnden & Co., Liverpool



September 12, 1845. Letter datelined at Liverpool and a further section dated Sept. 16. This was written by Thomas Colburn, an employee of Harnden & Co. at Liverpool to his sister Harriet Colburn care of Messrs Harnden & Co., No 8 Court St., Boston.

It was handled in the Harnden & Co. private bag and was struck at Liverpool with the beautiful clear shield PAID TO BOSTON by HARNDEN & Co., Liverpool.

September 19. R.M.S. Cambria of the Cunard Line departed from Liverpool for Boston via Halifax on her 5th outbound voyage.

October 2. Cambria arrived at Boston. This letter was held at the Harnden & Co. office poste restante for Miss Colburn.

The address No. 8 Court Street, Boston appears on the red oval Harnden's forwarding cachet from Feb. 22, 1840 to August 1, 1845, although HARNDEN & Co./BOSTON cachets with no address are found until June 1847. (Cf.: Blake, Plate 23.)

1847

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

R. M. S. Caledonia

FORWARDING AGENT

Harnden & Co., Boston

May 1, 1847. Letter datelined at Boston, addressed to England and directionally endorsed: Steamer Cambria. Addressor knew Cambria was due to sail to Liverpool from Boston on May 16 and so marked it, figuring the letter was too late to make the May 1 sailing of R.M.S. Caledonia. Both were Cunard Liners.



6.434

Letter was handed to forwarding agent Harnden & Co. at Boston who expressed it to dockside and got it aboard Caledonia in time to make the May 1 sailing, thus ignored the Cambria endorsement.



May 14. L'pool Packet Letter Office receiving backstamp agrees with the recorded arrival date of Caledonia at Liverpool.

ARRIVING
MAY 14
1847
BOSTON

May 14. Arrival Warrington. 1sh. due, British transatlantic rate.



1847

FORWARDING AGENTS

Harnden & Co., Boston and Liverpool

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Hibernia

John Hoffman Collamer Esq.
care of
Miss Grant, Balfour & Co
To await the
arrival of Mr Collamer
and in case of his
departure for Palermo
Messrs G. B. Co will please
forward -

NEPTUNE
BEAUVOISIS
Genoa
Sardinia
Italy

PAID
POSTAGE PAID
TO BENEFIT
NATION
HARNDEN & CO
LIVERPOOL

NO. 1.

HARNDEN & CO
LIVERPOOL

E. GRANT

I

1847

FORWARDING AGENTS

Harnden & Co., Boston and Liverpool

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Hibernia

October 15, 1847. Letter headed at Boston to Genoa, Sardinia, Italy. The writer notes, "As the Steamer leaves tomorrow for Europe I have availed myself this Evening of the opportunity of writing to you..."



October 16. Letter was handed to Harnden & Co. at Boston who, for a fee, placed this letter in a closed bag to their office at Liverpool. The bag went aboard the R.M.S. Hibernia which departed for Liverpool this same day.



October 28. Hibernia arrived at Liverpool. Harnden & Co. there struck their POSTAGE PAID TO DESTINATION boxed handstamp and paid the British rate of 1845 to Sardinia through France of 1sh.3d. per ½-oz., shown in red manuscript. This rate actually paid the rate only to the border of France with Sardinia, hence the P F = Paid to the Frontier.



VJADI
PT BEAUVOISIN

5 9 BRE

October 29. Paid transit mark at London.

October 30. French entry mark at Boulogne-sur-Mer showing mail from Angleterre (England). Letter went to Sardinia through France via the Pt. Beauvoisin Exchange Office near the border of those two countries.

November 5. Arrival backstamp at Genoa. 24 decimes due. This letter reached John Collamore at Genoa, so the directional note to forward it to Palermo was not needed.

1848

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

R.M.S. Cambria, Liverpool to Boston CUNARD LINE

Forwarding Agent: Harnden & Co., Liverpool



September 22, 1848. A letter datelined at Liverpool written by Thomas Colburn, an employee of Harnden & Co. at Liverpool, to his sister Harriet Colburn at Boston.

It was handled in the Harnden & Co. private bag and was struck at Liverpool with the textbook strike: POSTAGE PAID/TO DESTINATION/ - BY -/ HARNDEN & Co./ -OF -/ LIVERPOOL. It is further endorsed: "Cambria" to Boston.

September 23. R.M.S. Cambria of the Cunard Line departed from Liverpool.

October 6. Cambria arrived at Boston where this letter was delivered ex-post office to Miss Colburn.

By using this method of transatlantic communication, the correspondents saved the Retaliatory Rates then in effect. The cost through the mails would have been one shilling (24¢) in England and 29¢ in the U.S. (5¢ U.S. Inland + 24¢ retaliatory charge.)