

1858

PACKET LETTERS
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
BRITISH PACKETS: FRANCE TO U.S. - UNPAID

Treaty of April 1, 1857 Rates

This Treaty established rate of France to U.S. at 15¢ per 1/4 ounce letter. Mail by way of England was to bear a red stamp "Serv. Br." or its equivalent.

Rate was made up: 3¢ U.S. Domestic; 3¢ French Domestic; 3¢ Channel crossing; 6¢ Transatlantic.



Sept. 23, 1858. Letter posted unpaid at Paris. Office "J" was in Place de la Bourse.

Sept. 23, 1858. Paris to Calais, night train, 3rd Section, Brigade C.

Regulations stated letters by way of England (via L'pool steamer, mms. at L.L.) be marked "British Service" in red.



October 9, 1858. Letter marked incoming at Boston showing 15¢ due from recipient (see above).

The French had marked mail in U.L. corner showing 12¢ debit to U.S. for all charges save the U.S. Domestic postage as per the Treaty of April 1, 1857.

R.M.S. Canada arrived at Boston Oct. 9 from Liverpool via Halifax.

1857

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

U. S. TO FRANCE: BRITISH PACKET

Treaty of April 1, 1857 Rates

R. M. S. Canada

Forwarding Agent:

John Munroe & Co., Paris



1857

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

U.S. TO FRANCE: BRITISH PACKET

Treaty of April 1, 1857 Rates

R. M. S. Canada

Forwarding Agent:

John Munroe & Co., Paris



PAID 15



June 23, 1857. Paid letter into mails at Baltimore. 15¢ per ¼-ounce, divided: U.S. Inland 3¢, sea 6¢, British transit 2¢, French Inland 4¢ = 15¢ total.

June 24. Transit at New York Exchange Office. Debit to U.S. of 12¢, leaving U.S. with 3¢ inland. The Cunard Liner R.M.S. Canada left N.Y. this date, arrived Liverpool July 7.

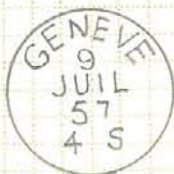


Trouvé à la Boîte J



July 8. Paris arrival backstamp. Letter now in hands of forwarding agents, John Munroe & Co., who readdressed it to Elizabeth White at Geneva, Switzerland.

July 8. Letter dropped by John Munroe & Co. into outgoing mail, unpaid. "Trouve a la Boîte" literally means "Found in the Box", and that all previous postage had been paid. "J" of the Bureau de Quartiers station.



35

July 9, 1857. Arrival backstamp at Geneva. 35 shows amount due in Swiss currency.

1857

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
NEW ORLEANS TO PARIS VIA BOSTON

CUNARD LINE

R. M. S. Niagara



30

April 11, '57.
Unpaid letter
posted at New
Orleans charged
at the April 1,
1857 Treaty
rate, only 10
days after it
was effective,
at 15¢ per 1-
oz. x 2 = 30¢.
Mail went over-
land to Boston.



April 22. Two Boston Exchange Office marks, one debiting France with 3¢ U.S. Inland x 2 = 6¢ (double rate.) France would retain 6¢ Sea (British Packet) + 2¢ British transit + 4¢ French inland = 12¢ x 2 = 24¢. R.M.S. Niagara departed from Boston April 22.

May 4. Niagara arrived at Liverpool.

May 5. French entry mark showing U.S. mail, British Service, Ambulant Calais (A.C.), a T.P.O. mark. Interestingly, cds dated 3 AVRIL in error, restruck with correct 5 MAI date. Collect 16 decimes, equivalent to 30¢ U.S.

1857

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET: FRANCE TO U.S. - PAID

R.M.S. Niagara

Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates

Rates per ¼-oz. or 7½ grams were divided:

French Inland	4¢	16 centimes
British-French transit	2	(incl.)
Sea (Anglo-French Convention)	6	48
U.S. Inland	3	16
	<u>15¢</u>	<u>80 centimes (8 decimes).</u>



June 17, 1857. Prepaid letter at the 80 centimes rate, early usage in the 3rd month of the rate, paid by a vertical pair of the 40 cent. Issue of 1860. "644" is the Petits Chiffres French Bureau cancellation of Castillon-Sur-Dordogne, Gironde. "32" is the Department number of Gironde.



3

PD

June 17-18. Railway transit backstamps. Night train (circular center) to Paris, 1st Section; day train (octagonal center), Paris to Calais, 2nd Section, Brigade M handled the mail. Marked "3" in red pen, credit to U.S. for 3¢ U.S. Inland.

June 20. Transit through Britain, R.M.S. Niagara departed this date from Liverpool on her 55th outbound voyage.

Br. Service



B.863

July 1. Niagara arrived at Boston. Letter marked "Br. Service" showing handling through Britain. Boston Exchange Office mark showed that the 15¢ rate had been paid.

July 9. Arrival "balloon" date stamp shows arrival at New Orleans and transit by the N. Orleans U.S. City Post.



August 21. Letter bears certification inside by the Custom House, New Orleans on entry of wine shipped by the Ship Arlington, Capt. Norton, arrival at N. Orleans.

1857

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

U.S. TO FRANCE : British Packet

R.M.S. Persia

Treaty of April 1, 185 rates

Forwarding Agent:
John Munroe & Co., Paris

Letters under this Treaty were rated:

	Per ¼-oz.		Per ½-oz.
U.S. Inland	3 ¢		6 ¢
Sea	6	} = 12¢	12
British Transit	2		4
French Inland	4		8
	<u>15 ¢</u>		<u>30 ¢</u>
			} = 24¢*



PAID

30

September 28, 1857. Letter prepaid in cash put into mails at Baltimore. Double rate (¼ to ½-oz.) paid of 30¢.



Sept. 30. Transit at N.Y. 24¢ credit to France for all but 6¢ U.S. Inland (see above). Persia departed this date from N.Y. for Liverpool.

Oct. 12. French entry mark at Calais (U.S. mail, British Service, Ambulant or RR at Calais). Per-
sia had arrived at L'pool Oct. 10.

Oct. 13. Arrival backstamp at Paris. Privately forwarded, docket notes letter received Oct 31st in Florence.

1857

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

U.S. TO FRANCE, British Packet

R.M.S. America

Treaty of April 1, 1857 Rates

Paid Letter

Treble Letter

Letters under this treaty were rated:

	Per 1/4-oz.	Per 1/2-oz.	Per 3/4-oz.
U.S. Inland	3¢	6¢	9¢
Sea	6	12	18)
British Transit	2	4	6) = 36¢
French Inland	4	8	12)
	<u>15¢</u>	<u>30¢</u>	<u>45¢.</u>



45

July 28, 1857. Letter, endorsed: p America, was prepaid 45¢ in cash, weighed over 1/2-oz., but not over 3/4-oz. Triple rated letters are remarkably uncommon. The New York Exchange Office credited France with 36¢, being all charges except the 3¢ x 3 = 9¢ U.S. Inland. This is a scarce Exchange Office mark.

July 29. R.M.S. America departed from Boston on her 64th return voyage to Liverpool.

August 11. America arrived at Liverpool Aug. 10, this French entry mark struck aboard the Calais to Paris T.P.O. (A.C. = Ambulant Calais.) Brigade A handled the mail.

Aug. 11-12. Backstamps trace the route of the letter from Paris to Jarnac. French marked the letter "Paid to Destination."



1858

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

U.S. TO FRANCE, British Packet R.M.S. Europa
Treaty of April 1, 1857 Rates Unpaid Treble Letter

Letters under this Treaty were rated:

	Per 1/4-oz.	Per 1/2-oz.	Per 3/4-oz.
U.S. Inland	3¢	6¢	9¢ = Debit to Britain
Sea	6	12	18
British Transit	2	4	6
French Inland	4	8	12
	15¢	30¢	45¢.



December 14, 1858. An unpaid letter posted at New York to France. The Exchange Office debited Britain for U.S. Inland of 3¢ x 3 = 9¢. Letter is endorsed: pr. Europa.

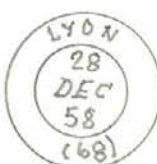
December 15. The British Packet mails had been forwarded from New York to Boston to meet the sailing of R.M.S. Europa, Cunard Line, to Liverpool on December 15.



16

December 25. Europa arrived at Liverpool.

December 27. French entry mark showing U.S. mail, British Service A.C. = Ambulant Calais. British debited France for 16d., or all charges except French Inland.



21

December 28. Transit backstamps, Paris to Lyon. Recipient charged at 8 decimes x 3 (letter weighed over 15 grams, not over 22½) = 24 decimes, shown in the hand-stamp.

1859

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET: U.S. TO FRANCE

R.M.S. Arabia

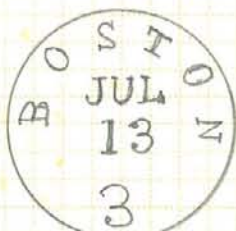
Treaty of April 1, 1857 Rates

Single letter

Single letter rate per 1/4-oz. was divided: U.S. Inland 3¢, Sea 6¢, British Transit 2¢, French Inland 4¢ = 15¢ total (equivalent to 8 decimes French).



B704



B847A

Jul. 13, 1859. Unpaid letter at Boston. British Packet (Cunard) R.M.S. Arabia sailed from Boston Jul. 13 for Liverpool. As British Packet, U.S. was to get only 3¢ Inland, thus debited Britain for that amount per B.847A. Unusual and nice combination of two Boston marks on one cover.



July 25, 1859. The Arabia arrived at Liverpool July 23. French entry

mark, translated: United States, British Service, Ambulant (RR) Calais. Brigade K handled the mail. 8 decimes (15¢) due as shown by handstamp charge mark.

July 26. Paris arrival backstamp.

8

1858

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKETS: U.S. TO FRANCE

Treaty of April 1, 1857 Rates

Double letter

Single rate per $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce was divided: U.S. Inland 3¢, Sea 6¢, British transit 2¢, French Inland 4¢ = 15¢ total. Double letter ($\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.) x 2 = 30¢.



March 27, 1858. Letter rated double (15¢ x 2 = 30¢), unpaid at Charleston. Very scarce Charleston rate mark showing double rate to France.

March 31. Letter transit at New York. As it was to go by the British Cunarder Arabia via L'pool U.S. was only entitled to her 3¢ Inland x 2 = 6¢, shown as a debit to France.

April 12. French entry mark showing "United States mail - British Service - Ambulant Calais - Brigade J" Salles 1778. Brigades A to H and J to M are seen.

April 13. French transit backstamps, Paris to Nantes. French marked letter 8 decimes (15¢) due, an error. Double letter should have been 16 decimes (30¢) due.



1859

MADRID, SPAIN TO U.S. U.S.-France Convention Period
The Cunard Line R.M.S. Canada

February 6, 1859. A letter docketed at Madrid. It was sent under cover to a forwarder at Paris who posted it unpaid to New Orleans.

This was a quadruple rated letter. At one rate per 1/4-oz., it weighed over 3/4-oz, not over 1 oz. The U.S.-French Convention rate of April 1, 1857 was divided:

	Single	Quadruple	
French Inland	4¢	16¢)
British Transit	2	8) = 48¢ debit to U.S.
British Packet	6	24)
U.S. Inland	3	12)
	15¢	60¢)



Feb. 10. Posted at Paris, U.S. debited for 48¢ in manuscript. It went on the Paris to Calais night train, backstamp.



Feb. 12. R.M.S. Canada of the Cunard Line (British Packet) departed from Liverpool.



60

Feb. 26. Canada arrived at Boston. Quadruple rate due from recipient.



1859

HAVANA TO FRANCE VIA NEW YORK AND BOSTON
UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMSHIP CO. S.S. Star of the West

Last Voyage under the Contract, Aspinwall to N.Y. via Havana
CUNARD LINE. R.M.S. Canada, Boston to Liverpool



Oct. 8, 1859.
Letter datelined at Havana endorsed: Via New York. It was sent in a bundle to a forwarder in New York. The S.S. Star of the West, Capt. Harrison, left Aspinwall for New York

Oct. 3 via Havana, picking up the mails en route. This was the last voyage of the U.S. Mail Steamship Co. on the Panama route as that company withdrew from the New York-Aspinwall service in September 1859. Star of the West was placed on the New York-Havana-New Orleans Line.

October 17. N.Y. Herald: Arrived October 16, steamship Star of the West, Aspinwall Oct. 3 via Havana with passengers and specie to M.O. Roberts

October 18. Forwarding agent noted: p Canada. As an unpaid letter, the New York Exchange Office debited France for a double letter for U.S. Inland at 3¢ per 1/2-oz. x 2 = 6¢ as shown, and sent the letter on to Boston where the R.M.S. Canada departed for Liverpool on October 19.

October 30. Canada arrived at Liverpool, French entry mark at Calais Ambulant (T.P.O.) on the 31st.

November 1-2. French backstamps trace the route of the letter, Paris to Bordeaux. Octagonal center shows day train, Paris to Bordeaux, 1st section.

Treaty of April 1, 1857, rate was 15¢ (8 decimes) per 1/2-oz. (7 1/2 grams), here x2 or 16 decimes collect, held equal to 30¢ U.S.



1860

U.S. TO FRANCE - BRITISH OPEN MAIL

R.M.S. America

Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates

Rates per the Treaty were divided:

	¼-oz. (7½ grams)	½-oz. (15 grams)
U.S. Inland	3¢	6¢
Sea (Anglo-French Convention)	6¢	12¢
British-French Transit	2¢	4¢
French Inland	4¢	8¢
	<u>15¢</u>	<u>30¢.</u>



15



16

January 31, 1860. Letter datelined and posted unpaid at New Orleans. That office struck the charge mark of 15¢ for a single letter. Letter went overland to New York.

February 7. Letter processed by the New York Exchange Office who recognized that this was a double letter (over ¼-oz., not over ½-oz.) so they debited France for 6¢, the double U.S. Inland portion of the Treaty rate.

February 8. R.M.S. America of the Cunard Line departed from Boston. She arrived at Queenstown February 20.

February 22. French entry mark at Calais, Ambulant (T.P.O.), British Service.

February 23. Arrival backstamp at Paris. 16 decimes due, equivalent to 30¢ U.S., for a double letter.

1860

NEW ORLEANS TO PARIS VIA NEW YORK
UNITED STATES MAIL LINE, S.S. Augusta
CUNARD LINE, R.M.S. Africa

15



Sept. 4, 1860. Unpaid letter posted at New Orleans. It was erroneously rated at 15¢ (probably per ½-oz.), should have taken a double French rate at 15¢ per ¼-oz.

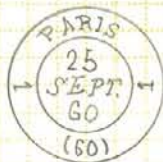
Sept. 11. Steamship Augusta, Woodhill, master, arrived at New York from Savannah to S.L. Mitchell & Son. She had arrived at Savannah Sept. 4 on her outbound trip from N.Y.



Sept. 12. N.Y. Times, "R.M.S. Africa, N. Shannon, Master, will sail from the Company's dock at Jersey City, Sept. 12." The New York Exchange Office caught New Orleans' rating error and debited France for U.S. Inland at 3¢ per ¼-oz. x 2 = 6¢ as shown in the cds.



Sept. 24. Africa arrived at Queenstown Sept. 22, letter transit at Calais. French entry mark shows United States mail, British Service, A.C. (Ambulant Calais), T.P.O.



16

Sept. 25. Paris arrival backstamp. Treaty of April 1, 1857, rate was 15¢ (8 decimes) per ¼-oz., here x 2 or 16 decimes collect, equivalent to 30¢. French actually rated at 8 dec. per 7½ grams.

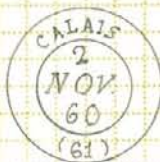
1860

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET: FRANCE TO U.S. - Part Paid

R. M. S. Canada

Ship Letter Rate



PD



Nov. 2, 1860. This letter was posted in France at the 80 centimes (15¢) Treaty of April 1, 1857, rates to U.S., which rates included 3¢ for U.S. inland delivery. Mail processed in France invariably went through Paris then out to Calais on the Paris to Calais sorting tender where U.S. bags were made up and each letter marked with a 3¢ credit to the U.S. This letter, however, was posted at Calais, and as the through bags were already sealed, it went aboard the Calais to Dover ferry in the open mail.

Nov. 3, 1860. R. M. S. Canada of the Cunard Line left Liverpool this date. The letter had been made up in London with the Irish mails and forwarded in bulk to Queenstown where the mail went aboard Canada Nov. 4.

5
Nov. 15. Canada arrived at Boston. The raters here ignored the French "PD" and, as no credit (either the French 3¢ or a U.S. Inland 5¢ by British-U.S. Treaty) had been allowed, they treated the letter as an incoming Ship Letter and rated it as 5¢ collect in manuscript, being the Act of March 3, 1855 rate of 3¢ for a letter going not over 3000 miles inland plus the 2¢ Ship Letter charge.

1861

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET: FRANCE TO U.S. - PAID

R.M.S. Persia

Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates

Rates per 1/4-oz. or 7 1/2 grams were divided:

French Inland	4¢	16 centimes
British-French transit	2	(incl.)
Sea (Anglo-French Convent'n)	6	48
U.S. Inland	<u>3</u>	<u>16</u>
	15¢	80 centimes (8 decimes.)



March 28, 1861.
Prepaid letter at the
80 centimes per 1/4-oz.
Treaty of April 1, 1857
rate, paid by imperfor-
ated issue of 1860.
"455" is the Petits
Chiffres French Bur-
eau cancellation of
Boulogne-sur-Mer.



March 29. Backstamps. Letter routed to Paris on the Quiervrain (Belgium) to Paris night train (circular center), then on the Paris to Calais T.P.O. day train (octagonal center), 1st section,

PD

Brigade E handled the sorting. Even though Boulogne-sur-Mer is on the coast close to Calais, mail had to be routed through Paris for proper sorting aboard the Paris to Calais T.P.O. Marked "3" in red crayon, credit to U.S. for 3¢ U.S. Inland. Also marked "PD" = Payee au Destination.

March 30. R.M.S. Persia departed from Liverpool for N.Y. This letter was made up in the London bags and forwarded to Queenstown with the Irish mails and picked up by Persia on the 31st.

Br Service

April 9. Letter marked "Br. Service" showing handling through Britain. Persia arrived at New York this date. Exchange Office recognized letter as PAID 15 (¢), which included U.S. Inland delivery to Pomona Cottage near Pikesville, Baltimore County, Maryland.



1861

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
BRITISH PACKET: FRANCE TO U.S. - PAID

R.M.S. America

Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates

Rates per ¼-oz. or 7½ grams were divided:

French Inland	4¢	16 centimes
British-French transit	2	(incl.)
Sea (Anglo-French Convention)	6	48
U.S. Inland	<u>3</u>	<u>16</u>
	15¢	80 centimes (8 decimes).

455



PD

May 16, 1861. Pre-paid letter at the 80 centimes per ¼-oz. Treaty of April 1, 1857 rate, paid by imperforated Issue of 1860. "455" is the petit chiffres French Bureau number of Boulogne-sur-Mer.



3

Br Service

May 16. Backstamps. Letter routed to Paris on the Calais to Paris night train (circular center), then on the Paris to Calais T.P.O. day train (circular center,) 1st Section, Brigade F Handled the mail. Even though Boulogne-s-Mer is on the coast close to Calais, mail had to be routed back through Paris for proper sorting aboard the Paris to Calais T.P.O. Marked "3" in red pen, credit to the U.S. for 3¢ U.S. Inland. Also marked PD + Payee au Destination.



May 18. R.M.S. America departed from Liverpool for Boston. This letter went aboard her May 19 at her port-of-call at Queenstown.

May 31. Letter marked "Br. Service" showing handling through Britain. America arrived at Boston this date, mail processed June 1, Boston mark shows 15¢ rate prepaid.

1861

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET: FRANCE TO U.S. - PAID

R.M.S. Australasian

Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates

Rates per 1/4-oz. or 7 1/2 grams were divided:

French inland	4¢	16 centimes
British-French transit	2¢	(incl.)
Sea (Anglo-French Convention)	6¢	48 centimes
U.S. inland	<u>3¢</u>	<u>16</u> "
	15¢	80 " (8 decimes)

455



May 23, 1861. Prepaid letter at the 80 centimes per 1/4-oz. Treaty of April 1, 1857 rate, paid by imperforated Issue of 1860. "455" is the Petits Chiffres French Bureau cancellation of Boulogne-sur-Mer.



9

May 24. Although Boulogne-s-Mer is but a few miles from Calais, which is the French terminal of the Calais to Dover ferry, letter was handled back through Paris where it went out on the Ambulant (R.R.) sorting car of the Paris to Calais Line, day train as shown by the octagonal center of the circular backstamp. Marked "3" in red crayon, credit to U.S. for 3¢ U.S. Inland. Originally it had been erroneously marked "P.P." (Porte Payee or Paid to the Port). This was deleted and the correct "P.D." (Payee au Destination) was substituted.

May 25. R.M.S. Australasian, Cunard Line, departed from Liverpool for New York direct on her 4th westbound voyage.



June 6. Australasian arrived at New York June 5. Exchange Office recognized letter as PAID 15 (¢), which included U.S. Inland delivery to Pomona Cottage near Pikesville, Baltimore County, Maryland.

1861

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET: FRANCE TO U.S. - PAID

R.M.S. Asia

Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates

Rates per ¼-oz. or 7½ grams were divided:

French inland	4¢	16 centimes
British-French transit	2¢	(incl.)
Sea (Anglo-French Convention)	6¢	48 centimes
U.S. inland	3¢	"
	<u>15¢</u>	<u>80</u> " (8 decimes).

455



August 16, 1861.
Letter paid at the
Treaty of April 1,
1857 rate of 80 cent.
per ¼-oz. by a pair
of the 40 cent. imper-
forate Issue of 1853.
"455" is the Petits
Chiffre French Bureau cancellation of Boulogne-sur-Mer.



P.D.

Although but a few miles from Calais, terminus of the Calais to Dover ferry, the Boulogne-sur-Mer mail destined for British transit was handled by the Paris Foreign Department for inclusion in the foreign mail bags through England as noted in the directional endorsement at top, "Les Etats Unis - Voie d'Angleterre". Paris marked it in script with a 3¢ credit to U.S. for U.S. Inland. It had been marked erroneously as "P.P." (Porte Payee or Paid to the Port), which was corrected in pen to "P.D." (Payee au Destination).

Aug. 17. R.M.S. Asia, British Packet (Cunard Line) departed from Liverpool for New York, direct.



Aug. 29. Arrival mark at the New York Exchange Office agrees with the recorded arrival of Asia at that port. N.Y. accepted letter as PAID 15 (¢), which included Inland delivery to Pomona Cottage near Pikesville, Maryland.

1861

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET: FRANCE TO U.S. - PAID

R.M.S. Africa

Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates

Rates per ¼-oz. or 7½ grams were divided:

French inland	4¢	16 centimes	
British-French transit	2¢	(incl.)	
Sea (Anglo-French Convention)	6¢	48 centimes	
U.S. Inland	3¢	16 "	
	15¢	80 "	(8 decimes).

455



October 11, 1861. Letter paid at the single (¼-oz.) rate by 80 centimes stamp, Issue of 1860. "455" is the Petits Chiffres Bureau number of Boulogne-sur-Mer.



9^c



Letter was processed through the Foreign Letter Office at Paris, even though Boulogne-sur-Mer is but a short distance from Calais, terminus of the Paris-a-Calais Ambulant (RR). French marked it "British Service" indicating transit through Britain and handstamped 3¢, a credit to U.S. for U.S. Inland postage. It

was erroneously marked "Port Payee" indicating payment only to the port of U.S. entry, whereas Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates paid to destination in the U.S.

Oct. 12. R.M.S. Africa of the Cunard Line (British Packet) departed this date from Liverpool for New York, direct.



Oct. 26. Recorded arrival date of Africa at New York is Oct. 25. N.Y. Exchange Office marked it as PAID 15 (¢), which included U.S. Inland delivery to Pomona Cottage, near Pikesville, Maryland.

1860

FRANCE TO U.S.
BRITISH PACKET

U.S. - France Convention Period
R.M.S. Canada

The U.S.-French Convention rate of April 1, 1857, was divided:

French Inland	21 centimes	4¢ U.S.
British Transit	11 "	2
British Packet	32 "	6
U.S. Inland	16 "	3¢ = Credit to U.S.
	80 "	15¢.



July 11, 1860. A paid letter posted at Bordeaux with the 1857 Convention rate of 80 centimes paid by the imperforate France Issue of 1860, die I. It is cancelled by the petit chiffres "441" of Bordeaux.

July 11. Railroad travelling P.O. backstamp, Bordeaux to Paris, night train (circular center), Brigade D handled the mail.



June 12. Paris to Calais, railway backstamp, day train (octagonal center). U.S. was credited for 3¢ U.S. Inland under the Convention, manuscript "3".

July 14. R.M.S. Canada of the Cunard Line departed from Liverpool, touched at Halifax July 25.

July 27. Canada arrived at Boston, where the Exchange Office noted that 15¢ had been paid.



B. 864

The Boston mark (B. 864) is noted used from March 14, 1857 to August 22, 1860.

1860

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

FRANCE TO U.S.
The Cunard Line

BRITISH PACKET
R.M.S. Canada



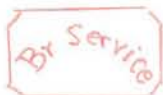
October 31, 1860. Letter paid at Bordeaux at the U.S.-French Convention rate of 80 centimes per 1/4-oz. by the Issue of 1854, type I. This rate included 21 cent. French Inland; 11 cent. British Transit; and 32 cent. British Packet, leaving 16 cent. for U.S. Inland. This was equivalent to 3¢ U.S. which was shown as a credit in French script at upper left. Letter is endorsed: Per Steamer via Liverpool & New York. The stamp is cancelled by the petits chiffre "441" of Bordeaux.

October 31 - November 1. Backstamps trace the route of this letter, Bordeaux to Paris day train (octagonal center), Paris to Calais night train (circular center). The mails then went closed through England.

November 3. R.M.S. Canada left Liverpool.

November 15. Canada arrived at Boston where the paid rate was noted in the Boston Exchange Office handstamp.

The rate included delivery to San Francisco.



1860

NEW ORLEANS TO PARIS VIA NEW YORK
UNITED STATES MAIL LINE, S.S. Augusta
CUNARD LINE, R.M.S. Asia



15

Oct. 31, 1860.
Unpaid letter
posted at New
Orleans. Charge
mark of 15¢ due
for the Treaty
of April 1, 1857
U.S.-French rate.



Nov. 7. Arrival at New York. The mail went over-land to Savannah, Georgia to meet the United States Mail Line. Advertisement N.Y. Times, "Cars of the Central Rail Road leave Savannah every day for Macon, Columbus, Montgomery, etc. at 5 o'clock A.M. and 1 P.M. connecting with the great Southern Mail." The U.S. Mail Steamer Augusta, Capt. Woodhull, departed Savannah Nov. 3, arrived at New York Nov. 6.

R.M.S. Asia departed from N.Y. Nov. 7 for Liverpool.



Nov. 19. Asia arrived at Liverpool this date. French entry mark Nov. 20 shows mail from the United States, British service, Ambulant (R.R.) at Calais.



8

Nov. 20. Paris arrival backstamp. French charge mark shows 8 decimes due, equivalent to 15¢. U.S. had debited the French for 3¢ U.S. Inland shown as the "3" at the top of the New York date stamp.

1860

NEW ORLEANS TO FRANCE VIA SAVANNAH AND NEW YORK

By Rail to Savannah, Georgia

Samuel L. Mitchell & Son, Savannah to New York

S.S. Augusta

Cunard Line, New York to Liverpool

R.M.S. Arabia



30

Feb. 19, 1860. Letter posted unpaid at New Orleans. It was rated as a double letter per 4-oz. per the Treaty of 1 April 1857 with France.

15¢ x 2 = 30¢ shown by the charge mark applied at New Orleans. The mail went by rail from New Orleans to Savannah.

February 27. Arrived N.Y. steamship Augusta, Woodhull, Savannah with mdse and passengers to S.L. Mitchell & Son. Augusta was a 1310 ton wooden side paddle wheel steamer built 1853 at New York.

February 28. Letter went by error to Boston where the R.M.S. Canada had departed Feb. 22 and the R.M.S. Europa would not sail until March 7 for Liverpool. Boston forwarded the mail back to New York to make the Feb. 29 sailing of R.M.S. Arabia for L'pool.

Boston Exchange Office debited France for U.S. Inland 3¢ x 2 = 6¢. France would retain 6¢ Sea (British Packet) + 2¢ British Transit + 4¢ French Inland = 12¢ x 2 = 24¢.

March 12. Arabia arrived at Liverpool.

March 13. French entry mark aboard the Calais to Paris T.P.O. (round center = night train.) Mark indicated U.S. mail, British service, Ambulant(RR) Calais. 16 decimes due, equivalent to 30¢ U.S.



16



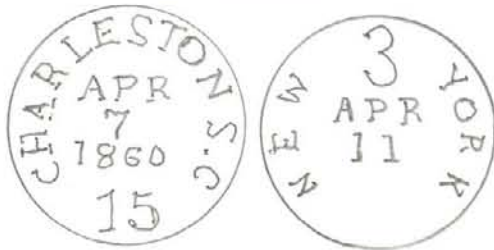
1860

U. S. TO FRANCE - BRITISH OPEN MAIL

Spofford Tileston & Co., S.S. Columbia - Charleston to New York
Cunard Line, R.M.S. Arabia - New York to Liverpool

Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates were divided:

	Per ¼-oz. (7½ grams)
U.S. Inland	3¢ = Debit to France
Sea (Anglo-French Convention)	6¢
British-French transit	2¢
French Inland	4¢
	15¢.



April 7, 1860. Unpaid letter posted at Charleston and endorsed: pr. Steamer from New York/ 11th Instant. The Charleston post office struck their circular mark showing 15¢ due per the 1857 Treaty. S.S. Columbia departed for New York.

N.Y. Times. April 9. Arrived Steamship Columbia, Berry, Charleston, with mdse. to Spofford, Tileston & Co. The Columbia was detained 10 hours outside the Hook by fog.

April 11. R.M.S. Arabia of the Cunard Line departed from New York where the Exchange Office debited France for 3¢ U.S. Inland.

April 22. Arabia arrived at Liverpool.

April 23. French entry mark, Ambulant (T.P.O.) at Calais.

April 24-25. Paris transit and Bordeaux backstamps. 8 decimes due.



1861

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
BRITISH PACKET: U. S. TO FRANCE, UNPAID

CUNARD LINE

R. M. S. Canada

Single rate, Treaty of April 1, 1857, per $\frac{1}{4}$ -oz. was 15¢; per $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. was 30¢, the latter divided:

U.S. Inland	6¢ = debit to France
Sea	12
British Transit	4
French Inland	8
	<hr/> 30¢.



January 8, 1861. An unpaid letter posted at New York and endorsed: p "Canada" from Boston. As it was a double weight letter ($\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$ -oz.), France was debited with U.S. 3¢ Inland x 2 = 6¢, shown in the New York Exchange Office handstamp.

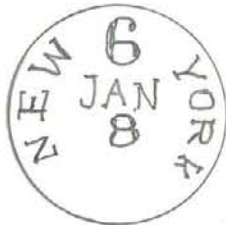
January 9. Letter was forwarded by rail to Boston to meet the Jan. 9 sailing of R.M.S. Canada for Queenstown.

Jan. 20. Canada arrived at Queenstown. French mails were forwarded "Via Calais" as endorsed on the Dover-Calais ferry.

Jan. 22. Transit mark ET. UNIS SERV. BR. A(mbulant) C(alais).

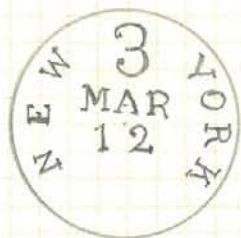
Jan. 22. Transit backstamp at Paris.

Jan. 23. Arrival backstamp at Marseilles where 16 decimes, equivalent to 30¢ U.S. was due. France settled up with Britain for all but the U.S. Inland 6¢.



1862

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
U.S. TO FRANCE, BRITISH PACKET, UNPAID



March 12, 1862. Letter posted unpaid at New York. As rate was 3¢ U.S. Inland, 9¢ Sea transit and 3¢ French Inland, the New York Exchange Office marked the "3" in the circular date stamp to show a 3¢ debit to France for the U.S. Inland.

Letter directed "Per steamship "Arabia" for Liverpool". The Arabia was a 2400 ton Cunarder, wooden paddle steamer, in service 1853-64.

She sailed from New York March 12, 1862 and arrived Queenstown Mar. 24 (Cf. Chronicle 91, Pg. 225).



March 26. French entry mark showing "British Service" entering at Calais. Salles 1785. 3rd echelon mark.



March 26-27. Paris transit and Nantes receipt backstamps.

Eight decimes (15¢ U.S.) due.



8

1862

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
BRITISH PACKET: U.S. TO FRANCE, UNPAID
R.M.S. Europa



June 10, 1862. Unpaid letter posted at New York and endorsed: Per steamship "Europa" for Liverpool. Rate of April 1, 1857 applied, 15¢ per ¼-oz., equivalent to 8 decimes French. Of this 3¢ was the portion due to the U.S. for internal postage. The "3" in the New York Exchange Office handstamp debits France for this amount.

June 11. R.M.S. Europa departed from Boston on this date.



S. 1875

June 23. Europa arrived at Liverpool June 23, having put the European mails ashore at Queenstown June 22. Transit French entry mark shows mail from the U.S. handled by British Packet entering France at Calais.



June 23-24. Transit and arrival backstamps at Paris and Nantes. 8 decimes (15¢) due from the recipient. France and Britain settled up separately for the transatlantic postage.



1864

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
BRITISH PACKET: U.S. TO FRANCE, UNPAID
R. M. S. Europa



May 10, 1864. Unpaid letter posted at New York and endorsed: p Europa. Rates of April 1, 1857 applied, 15¢ per ¼-oz., 30¢ per ½-oz., latter equivalent to 16 decimes French. Of this 6¢ was the portion due to the U.S. for internal postage. The "6" in the New York Exchange Office handstamp debits France for this amount.

May 11. R.M.S. Europa, Cunard Line (British Packet) departed from Boston this date for Liverpool.

May 23. Europa arrived at Liverpool.

May 24. Transit mark shows mail from the United States handled by a British Packet, letter entered France at Calais.



S. 1785

May 24-25. Transit and receiving backstamps at Paris and Bordeaux. Double letter rate of 16 decimes (30¢) due from recipient. France and Britain settled up separately for the transatlantic postage.



16

1859

Br. Service

PACKET LETTERS
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

French mark showing mail handled by British Packet

BRITISH PACKETS:FRANCE TO U.S. MAIL-UNPAID

Treaty of April 1, 1857 set rate, France - U.S. at 15¢ per 1/2 oz. letter. Regulations stated that a red stamp be placed on correspondence transmitted by way of England "Serv. Br."

Rate was made up: 3¢ U.S. Domestic; 3¢ French Domestic, 3¢ Channel Crossing, 6¢ Transatlantic.

1/2 oz. letter



Mar. 16, 1859.
LeHavre receipt.



Mar. 30, 1859.
N.Y. Exc. Off.
15¢ due. Black mms. "12" U.R. shows share due France for all but 3¢ U.S. domestic.

1/2 oz. letter



April 27, 1859.
LeHavre c.d.s.



May 11, 1859.
Double rate, N.Y. Exc. Off., 30¢ due. 24¢ to France, mms. U.R.

1857

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
BRITISH PACKETS: U. S. TO FRANCE, PREPAID



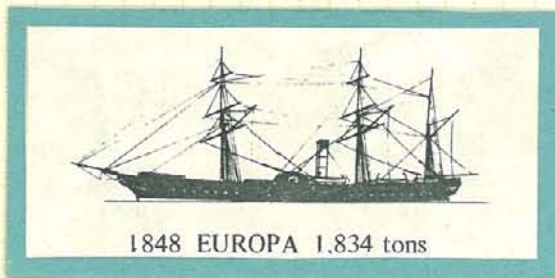
15



May 19, 1857. Letter paid 15¢ in cash as shown by mms. "15" under red postmark. As it was directed by a Cunard Liner (British) U.S. could keep only her 3¢ Inland. The 9¢ sea transit + 3¢ French Inland or 12¢ was credited to France as shown by the red "12" in the c.d.s. (Treaty of April 1, 1857).

June 1, 1857. French entry mark at Calais (Ambulant Calais) showing British Service.

Salles 1778, who notes Brigades A to H and J to M. Here we see K.



Routed "per Europa", 1834 ton Cunarder in service 1848-67. Europa collided with Arabia off Cape Race in 1858. Europa lengthened to 286' (1900 tons) while under repairs.

June 2, 1857. Paris receipt backstamp.

1859

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Co., San Francisco to Panama

S.S. Golden Gate

2. North Atlantic Steamship Co., Aspinwall to New York

S.S. Baltic

3. North German Lloyd, New York to Southampton

S.S. Bremen



1859

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Co., San Francisco to Panama

S.S. Golden Gate

2. North Atlantic Steamship Co., Aspinwall to New York

S.S. Baltic

3. North German Lloyd, New York to Southampton

S.S. Bremen

Rates of April 1, 1857, U.S. to France were 15¢ per ¼-oz. This is a treble letter at 15¢ x 3 = 45¢. Rate was apportioned:

	<u>Single</u>	<u>Treble</u>	
French Inland	4¢	12¢) = 18¢ Credit to France
Transit (British)	2	6	
Sea	6	18	
U.S. Inland	<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>	
	15¢	45¢	



Handwritten orange scribble, possibly '45', with a line pointing to the treble rate in the table above.

October 5, 1859. Letter paid in cash at San Francisco at the treble rate for a letter ½-oz. to ¾-oz. at 45¢. The S.S. Golden Gate of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. departed from San Francisco this date for Panama. She arrived at the latter port October 17.

N.Y. Times. October 25. The North Atlantic Steamship Company's steamer Baltic, ALFRED G. GRAY, Esq., commanding, left Aspinwall Oct. 18 for New York where she arrived last evening. The Baltic brings 707 passengers and \$1,871,554.76 in treasure... These left S.F. on the Golden Gate, Capt. R.L. Whiting October 5. The run through to New-York was therefore made in 19 days 7 hours.



October 29. New York Exchange Office transit mark. 18¢ credit to France for 12¢ French Inland + 6¢ British Transit = 18¢ treble rate. U.S. retained 18¢ Sea (American Packet) + 9¢ U.S. Inland = 27¢. S.S. Bremen of the North German Lloyd Line departed from New York this date for Bremen via Southampton.



November 11. Bremen arrived at Southampton. French entry mark notes mail from the U.S., American Packet, Ambulant (RR) via Calais.



Nov. 13-14. French transit backstamps trace route of letter Paris to Bordeaux to Cognac. France marked letter paid to destination.

1863

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Company

S.S. St. Louis., San Francisco to Panama

2. Atlantic & Pacific Steamship Company

S.S. Champion, Aspinwall to New York

3. Inman Line

S.S. City of New York, New York to Liverpool via Queenstown



15



Monsieur Veillon Freres

Bordeaux.



France.

15

6/3/1863

June 3, 1863. Unpaid letter posted at San Francisco, endorsed: Steamer "St. Louis". Rate, Treaty of April 1, 1857, 15¢ per 4-oz.

Alta California: Pacific Mail Steamship Co., June 3, steamship St. Louis, W.H. Hudson, Commander, sailed for Panama. Passengers and mail to go from Panama to Aspinwall by Panama Railroad Co.

June 17. Steamship Champion, Jones, of the Atlantic & Pacific Steamship Company, departed Aspinwall for New York.



June 26. N.Y. Tribune. Arr. steamship Champion, Jones, Aspinwall June 17, treasure, mails and pass. to D.B. Allen. The N.Y. Exchange Office debited France for 6¢ Sea (American Packet) + 3¢ U.S. Inland = 9¢.

June 27. S.S. City of New York, Inman Line, departed for Liverpool via Queenstown, arriving Q'town July 7.



July 9. French entry mark mail incoming at Calais, U.S. mail, American Service. Transit backstamp at Paris. July 10. Bordeaux arrival backstamp. 8 decimes, equivalent to 15¢ U.S. due. France retained 2¢ British Transit + 4¢ French Inland = 6¢.

1864

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

FRANCE TO U.S. VIA BRITAIN Rate of April 1, 1857

R.M.S. Persia

CUNARD LINE

DEPRECIATED CURRENCY

Rates of 1 April 1857 were 80 centimes per 7½ grams, equivalent to 15¢ U.S. per ¼-oz, apportioned:

French Inland	4¢)	
Transit (British)	2)	= 12¢ debit to U.S.
Sea	6)	
U.S. Inland	3	
	<u>15¢</u>	



12



July 11, 1867. An unpaid letter posted at Marseilles to New York. Backstamp shows routing aboard the Marseilles to Paris T.P.O. nad Paris transit. U.S. was debited for all except the U.S. 3¢ Inland, or 12¢. Letter is endorsed: Via Queenstown.

July 13. The Cunard Line R.M.S. Persia departed from Liverpool, picked up this letter with the bagged French mails at Queenstown July 14.

July 24. Persia arrived at New York. 15¢ rate of April 1857 was due in hard currency, or in the depreciated U.S. NOTES (greenbacks) at 21¢, a 1.4 ratio of depreciation.

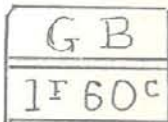


1865

U.S. TO FRANCE PER AMERICAN PACKET

INMAN LINE

S.S. City of Boston



Nov. 10, 1865. Letter datelined at New York and headed, "Str. Europe". It was similarly endorsed on the face. This was intended to go by the French Line's S.S. Europe which departed from N.Y. on Nov. 10, but the steamer sailed before the letter could go aboard her. It was re-endorsed: St. "City of Boston". This Inman Line steamer left N.Y. Nov. 11 with this letter aboard. The letter was handed directly to the purser of the City of Boston, hence no U.S. markings.

Nov. 21. City of Boston arrived at Queenstown, Ireland, where this letter went ashore and received the Queenstown postmark. This is a most unusual marking due to the open mail nature of the letter. The Queenstown post office marked the letter at 1 shilling due (1/- in black manuscript) because (probably) it came in a contract packet even though an open letter.

Nov. 22. London transit backstamp. The London post office ignored the one shilling charge and handled the letter as an unpaid open mail letter brought to the U.K. at British expense. They further struck the "tray" or accountancy mark showing 1 franc 60 centimes per 30 grams bulk of mail to France from the U.S. via Great Britain by British Packet. Because the U.S. did not handle this letter, the Inman Line steamer (actually an American Packet) was considered here as a "British Packet."



8

Nov. 23. French entry mark, mail from England Ambulant (RR) at Calais. Paris arrival backstamp. The French charged this letter at 8 decimes due, equivalent to the 15¢ rate from the U.S., actually the normal rate for an unpaid letter from overseas via England.

"This combination of markings is quite uncommon on covers due to the loose letter aspects of the cover's handling. Very few letters were handled in this way." (Quote from R. Winter, private correspondence.)

1865

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Company

S.S. Constitution, San Francisco to Panama

S.S. Baltic, Aspinwall to New York

2. Inman Line.

S.S. City of New York (II), New York to Queenstown



Per steamer Constitution

15

Ruinart père & fils



15

Reims.

(France)

(Marne)

November 18, 1865. Unpaid letter posted at San Francisco, endorsed: Per steamer Constitution. Rate shown 15¢ per ½-oz., Treaty of April 1, 1857 with France.

San Francisco Examiner, Fri., Nov. 17. PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.. The following steamship will be dispatched: Nov. 18 - CONSTITUTION, Capt. E.S. Farnsworth from Folsom Street Wharf at 11 o'clock A.M. punctually FOR PANAMA. Passengers will be conveyed from Panama to Aspinwall to New York by the Atlantic and Pacific Steamship Company. OLIVER ELDRIDGE - Agent, P.M.S.Co.

December 3. Constitution arrived at Panama. Mails went by rail to Aspinwall.

N.Y. Times. Arr. Dec. 13, steamship Baltic, Horner, Aspinwall Dec. 4 to Pacific Mail S.S. Co. N.B.: Baltic was the ex-Collins Liner. She made only this one round voyage in 1865 to Aspinwall for P.M.S.S. Co.

Dec. 16. Transit N.Y., debit to France for U.S. inland + 6¢ Sea (Am.Pkt.) = 9¢. S.S. City of New York departed this date to Q'town.

Dec. 28. City of New York arrived at Queenstown.

Dec. 29. French entry, via Calais, Am. Service.

Dec. 29-30. Paris transit and Reimes arrival back-stamps. 8 decimes due, equivalent to 15¢ U.S.



1866

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Company

S.S. Sacramento, San Francisco to Panama

S.S. Arizona, Aspinwall to New York.

2. Hamburg-American Line (HAPAG)

S.S. Borussia, New York to Hamburg via Southampton



15

Alta California: Pacific Mail Steamship Co.'s Through Line to New York, Carrying the U.S. MAIL, leave FOLSUM ST. Wharf at 11 o'clock AM for PANAMA, connecting via Panama Railroad with one of the Company's splendid steamers for ASPINWALL for NEW YORK.

May 30. SACRAMENTO, Capt. J.M. Cavarly, connecting with ARIZONA, Capt. Maury.

OLIVER ELDRIDGE, Agent.

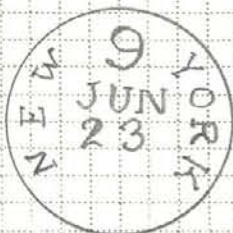
May 31. S.S. Sacramento sailed for Panama. Letter rated 15¢ per ¼-oz., U.S.-French Treaty rate of April 1, 1857.

June 12. S.S. Arizona, Maury, sailed from Aspinwall for N.Y.

June 20. Arizona arr. N.Y. to P.M. SS. Co.

June 23. N.Y. marked debit to France of 3¢ U.S. Inland + 6¢ Sea (Am. Pkt.) = 9¢. France retained 2¢ Brit. transit + 4¢ French Inland = 6¢. S.S. Borussia of HAPAG sailed for Hamburg via S'pton.

July 4 (postmark in error = JUIN). Borussia arrived at Southampton. French entry mark shows U.S. Mail, American Service, entry at Calais. July 5. Bordeaux arrival backstamp. 8 décimes due, equivalent to 15¢ U.S.



1866

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Company

S.S. Golden City, San Francisco to Panama

S.S. Arizona, Aspinwall to New York

2. North German Lloyd

S.S. America, New York to Southampton



June 30, 1866. An unpaid letter posted at San Francisco at double the Treaty of April 1, 1857, rate of 15¢ per ½-oz., or 30¢. San Francisco date stamp is with no year date and the constant rim break beneath CAL. A similar break occurs in the "30" charge mark. Letter is endorsed: pr. Steamer Golden City.

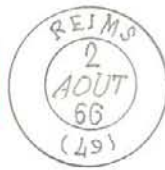
Daily Examiner, San Francisco. PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.'s THROUGH LINE TO NEW YORK CARRYING THE UNITED STATES MAIL. June 30th. - GOLDEN CITY, Captain J.T. Watkins, connecting with ARIZONA, Captain Maury.

July 12. Golden city arrived at Panama. Mail went by rail across the Isthmus to Aspinwall.

N.Y. Times. Arrived July 21, steamship Arizona, Gray, Aspinwall July 13, with mails and passengers to Pacific Mail Steamship Co. July 16, Cape Mayse N. by W. 15 miles spoke steamship Henry Chauncey, hence for Aspinwall.

July 21. N.Y. debited France for 3¢ U.S. inland + 6¢ Sea (Am. Pkt.) = 9¢ x 2 (double letter) = 18¢. S.S. America of NGL sailed this date for Bremen via Southampton, arrived latter port July 31.

Aug. 2. French entry mark, American Packet via Calais. Back-stamps trace route of letter, Paris to Reims. French charged 8dec. x 2 = 16dec for double letter. 16 dec. equivalent to 30¢ U.S.



1866

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Company

S.S. Golden City, San Francisco to Panama

S.S. New York, Aspinwall to New York

2. French Line - Ligne H

Paquebot Périere, New York to Havre



Aug. 30, 1866. Letter posted unpaid at San Francisco, rated French Treaty of April 1, 1857, at 15¢ per ¼-oz. x 2 = 30¢. The San Francisco date stamp without year date is with the constant break in the rim below CAL. The "30" rate stamp also has a similar break.

Daily Alta California, Aug. 30. PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.'s through line to New York, Carrying the United States mail: August 30 - GOLDEN CITY, Capt. W.F. Lapidge, connecting with NEW YORK, Capt. Bradbury.

September 8. Golden City arrived at Panama.

N.Y. Times, Arrived N.Y. Sept. 19, Steamship New-York, Weir, Aspinwall Sept. 9 with mdse, passengers and treasure to S.F. Holman.

The New York Exchange Office marked a debit to France of 3¢ U.S. inland x 2 = 6¢.

September 22. Paquebot Periere of the French Line departed from N.Y. She was designated No. 2 of Ligne H on this passage. The mark was struck at N.Y. aboard the steamer.

October 3. Periere arrived at Havre via Brest on October 2. Paris transit and Cognac arrival backstamps. French charged 16 decimes for a letter over ¼-oz., but not over ½-oz. This was equivalent to 30¢ U.S.



1866

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Company

S. S. Constitution, San Francisco to Panama.

S. S. Arizona, Aspinwall to New York

2. Cunard Line, R. M. S. Java, New York to Queenstown



Letter rated as a double letter to France, over 1-oz., but not over 1-oz. at 15¢ x 2 = 30¢.

September 10, 1866. Departed San Francisco, S.S. Constitution, Capt. E.S. Farnsworth, for Panama to connect via Panama Railroad with the company's steamer Arizona, Capt. Maury, from Aspinwall. Constitution arrived at Panama September 22.

N.Y. Tribune: Arrived N.Y. Oct. 1, steamship Arizona, Maury, Aspinwall Sept. 23 to Pacific Mail Steamship Co.

Oct. 3. Letter transit at New York. Debit to France of 3¢ U.S. Inland x 2 (double letter) = 6¢. R.M.S. Java of the Cunard Line departed from N.Y. this date for Queenstown.

Oct. 13, Java arrived Q'town. French mail entered Oct. 15 via Calais, British Service. Back-stamps trace letter Paris to Bordeaux. French reweighed letter, found it under 1-oz. so charged only 8 decimes (15¢). They absorbed the double debit per N.Y. mark.



1867

FRANCE TO U.S.
INMAN LINE

U.S.-French Convention Period
S.S. City of Paris

The U.S.-French Convention rate of April 1, 1857 was divided:

French Inland	21 centimes	4¢ U.S.) = 6¢ debit to U.S.
British Transit	11 "	2	
Transatlantic	32 "	6	
U.S. Inland	16 "	3	
	<u>80</u> "	<u>15¢</u>	



Par Steamer
P^r les États-Unis.
Via England

May 1, 1866. An unpaid letter handled by the forwarding agent John Munroe & Co. at Paris who struck their oval cachet as well as the directional endorsement: By Steamer per the United States. It was posted at Paris and endorsed: Via England. The Paris P.O. made a debit to the U.S. of 4¢ French Inland + 2¢ British Transit = 6¢, shown in manuscript. The U.S. mails were made up in closed bags in Paris for transit by the Paris a Calais railway and closed bags through England.

May 2. The Inman Line's S.S. City of Paris departed from Liverpool and touched at Queenstown the 3rd, where the French mails went aboard.

May 13. City of Paris arrived at New York, mail processed May 14. The 15¢ U.S.-French rate per ½-oz. was due in hard currency or 19¢ in U.S. NOTES (greenbacks). This represented an inflation ratio of 1.27.



1867

FRANCE TO U.S.
INMAN LINE

U.S. - French Convention Period
S.S. City of London

The U.S.-French Convention rate of April 1, 1857, was divided:

French Inland	21 centimes	4¢ U.S.	
British Transit	11 "	2	
Transatlantic	32 "	6)	= 9¢ Credit to U.S.
U.S. Inland	<u>16</u> "	<u>3</u>)	
	80 "	15¢	

549

BOULOGNE-S-MER
24
JUN
67
(61)

LILLE A PARIS
25
JUN
67
8

9

PD



June 24, 1867. A letter paid at the 80 centimes Convention of 1857 rate by the perf. 14 x 13½ Issue of 1862, die I. Cancellation by the gros chiffres "549" of Boulogne-sur-Mer.

January 25. The letter was sent eastward by local rail to meet the main line, Lille to Paris. Railway post office backstamp, night train (circular center), Lille to Paris. The U.S. mails were made up in Paris to be sent by closed bag through England. U.S. was credited for 6¢ Sea (American Packet) + 3¢ U.S. Inland = 9¢.

June 26. S.S. City of London departed from Liverpool, touched at Queenstown the 26th, where this letter went aboard.

July 8. City of London arrived at New York. This letter processed there as a PAID letter.

This N.Y. Exchange Office mark (W.46) is found used March 5, 1864 to Jan. 14, 1868. It is also noted with year date 1863, here "1867."

N.YORK AM. PKT.
1867
JUL
8
PAID

W.46

1867

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Company

S. S. Constitution, San Francisco to Panama

S. S. Henry Chauncey, Aspinwall to New York

2. Cunard Line, S. S. Cuba, Boston to Liverpool via Queenstown



pr Constitution via New York

Messrs. Dubos Freres



Bordeaux
France



15

1867

Nov. 9, 1867. Letter posted unpaid at San Francisco, 15¢ per 1-oz., Treaty of April 1, 1857, with France. Letter endorsed: pr "Constitution" via New York.

Alta California: Pacific Mail Steamship Company's Steamships will be dispatched: Nov. 9, CONSTITUTION, Capt. J.M. Cavarly, connecting with HENRY CHAUNCEY, Capt. Gray. Constitution cleared and sailed from San Francisco on Nov. 9.

November 23. Mails went trans-isthmus by Panama Railroad Co., S.S. Henry Chauncey sailed from Aspinwall for New York.

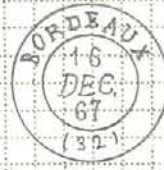
Dec. 1. N.Y. Times, arr. Sun., Dec 1, Steamship Henry Chauncey, Aspinwall Nov. 23. to F. R. Baby. Transit Dec. 3 to Boston. Debit to France, 3¢ U.S. Inland. French retained 6¢ Sea (British Packet) + 4¢ French Inland and 2¢ British Transit or 12¢



Dec. 4. R.M.S. Asia, Cunard Line departed from Boston.

Dec. 13. Asia arrived at Queenstown.

Dec. 15. Letter transit at Calais. French entry, British Service. Paris to Bordeaux, night train. Dec. 16. Bordeaux arrival backstamp. 8 decimes due, equivalent to 15¢ U.S.



ALTA CALIFORNIA, 1865

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.

The following steamships will be dispatched on the following named days:

Feb. 22. SACRAMENTO, Capt. Wm. H. Hudson
Mar. 3. GOLDEN CITY, Capt. W.F. Lapridge
Mar. 13. GOLDEN AGE, Capt. E.S. Farnsworth
FROM FOLSOM STREET WHARF
at 10 o'clock A.M. punctually
FOR PANAMA.

Passengers will be conveyed from Panama to Aspinwall by the Panama Railroad Company, and from Aspinwall to New York by the Atlantic and Pacific Steamship Co.

A baggage master will be sent through each trip.

OLIVER ELDRIDGE, Agent, P.M.S. Co.
Cor. Sacrament and Leidendorff Sts.

Feb. 22, 1865. Cleared Stm. Sacramento, Hudson, Panama, O. Eldridge.
Sailed same day. Arr. back March 30.

THE NEW YORK HERALD, March 16, 1865.

Panama March 7.

The arrival of the steamship Sacramento at this port at a very early hour this morning took everyone by surprise, being one day earlier than expected.

Arrived N.Y. March 15, 1865:

Steamship Ocean Queen, Weir, Aspinwall, March 7, with treasure and passengers to D.B. Allen. At West Indies station spoke U.S. Gunboat Galaten, all well on board. Luke Moleson of Thorndyke, Me., died.

CLEARED Mar. 18, 1865. Steamship City of Baltimore (Br.), Mierhouse, Liverpool, John G. Dale. Sailed Mar. 18.

1865

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Co.; San Francisco to Panama

S.S. Sacramento

2. Atlantic & Pacific Steamship Co., Aspinwall to New York

S.S. Ocean Queen

3. Inman Line, New York to Liverpool via Queenstown

S.S. City of Baltimore



1865

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Co., San Francisco to Panama
S.S. Sacramento
2. Atlantic & Pacific Steamship Co., Aspinwall to New York
S.S. Ocean Queen
3. Inman Line, New York to Liverpool via Queenstown
S.S. City of Baltimore



45

February 22, 1865. Letter posted unpaid at San Francisco at the triple rate per 1/4-oz., Treaty of April 1, 1857 with France. 3/4-oz. letter at 15¢ x 3 = 45¢. The steamship Sacramento, as endorsed on the letter, left the Folsom Street Wharf at 10 o'clock A.M. punctually for Panama in charge of Capt. Wm. H. Hudson.

March 7. "Panama. The arrival of the steamship Sacramento at this port at a very early hour this morning took everyone by surprise, being one day earlier than expected." Mails and passengers were conveyed from Panama to Aspinwall by the Panama Railroad Company. S.S. Ocean Queen, Capt. Weir, sailed from Aspinwall for New York the same day.



27

March 15. Ocean Queen arrived at New York with treasure and passengers to D.B. Allen.

March 18. Steamship City of Baltimore, Mierhouse sailed from N.Y. for Liverpool via Queenstown. The New York Exchange Office debited France for 6¢ Sea (American Packet) + 3¢ U.S. Inland = 9¢ x 3 = 27¢. France would retain 2¢ British transit + 4¢ French Inland = 6¢ x 3 = 18¢.



gn

March 31. French entry mark showing American Service, mail entering at Calais (T.P.O., octagonal center = day train). French marked letter at 24 decimes due, equivalent to 45¢ U.S.

Transit backstamps trace the letter's route to Paris, mail carriage on railway Paris to Strasbourg (octagonal center = day train), arrival at Reimes, all on March 31.



On a contemporary voyage, the S.S. Western Metropolis, which had been chartered by the Central American Transit Company to replace the S.S. Golden Rule while the latter was laid up for repairs. Central American ran New York to Greytown, Nicaragua.

Arrived N.Y. March 18, 1865. Steamship Western Metropolis, Hilton, Greytown, Nic., March 6 via Havana 12th with passengers and mails to the Central American Co. Has had heavy weather the entire passage: put into Havana for a supply of water. The bark J.A. Bishop, McClellan, was to leave Havana for Naussau on the 13th inst. The blockade-runner steamer Wren (owned at Havana) arrived at Havana 11th inst. from Galveston, with 600 bales of cotton on board. The W.M. brings the mails from Nicaragua and Havana.

The N.Y. Times of March 19, 1865, tells of near trouble on the voyage to Havana and while in that port:

From Havana.

The steamship Western Metropolis, Wm. H. Hixon, Master, which left this port on the 20th ult., arrived at Greytown, Nicaragua, on the 3d instant, after a smooth but long passage, which was owing to an accident to the port boiler, making it necessary to reduce the steam to three or four pounds. At Greytown, took on board 704 California passengers, consigned to the Central American Transit Company, the Western Metropolis being chartered to take the place of the Golden Rule. Left Greytown at 4:45 P. M., and being short of water, sailed direct for Havana. Had a heavy cross sea in the Caribbean Sea and a norther in the Gulf. Arrived at Havana at 9 A. M. on 11th. On 11th, the Confederate steamer Wren came in with 700 bales of cotton from Galveston. There were numerous threats from the shore that the Western Metropolis would be burned before she got to New-York. They were so prevalent that the American Consul sent off word that the officers must be on the lookout. The watches were doubled and armed for all emergencies. We were suspicious and, as was afterward learned, very dangerous characters were found on board, some of whom were sent on shore. Their sympathizers had a desire to give trouble, as Capt. Hixon captured in this same steamer, while in Government service, a blockade-runner in the Gulf, owned at Havana. The Western Metropolis sailed from Havana on the 12th, at 2:10 P. M., and throughout the passage had very heavy weather, with high cross seas.

Flour had been selling in Havana as high as 840 per barrel, for the week previous.

The Western Metropolis brings the Nicaragua and Havana mails, and one day later than the Golden Rule.

N.Y. Times (ad) March 21.

NOTICE - THE SAILING OF THE STEAMER GOLDEN RULE for San Francisco, via Nicaragua, is postponed to TUESDAY, Mar. 21, at noon.
D.N. CARRINGTON, Agent.

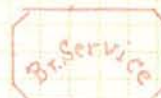
1858

PACKET LETTERS
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
BRITISH PACKETS: FRANCE TO U.S. - UNPAID

Treaty of April 1, 1857 Rates

This Treaty established rate of France to U.S. at 15¢ per 1/4 ounce letter. Mail by way of England was to bear a red stamp "Serv. Br." or its equivalent.

Rate was made up: 3¢ U.S. Domestic; 3¢ French Domestic; 3¢ Channel crossing; 6¢ Transatlantic.



Sept. 23, 1858. Letter posted unpaid at Paris. Office "J" was in Place de la Bourse.

Sept. 23, 1858. Paris to Calais, night train, 3rd Section, Brigade C.

Regulations stated letters by way of England (via L'pool steamer, mms. at L.L.) be marked "British Service" in red.



October 9, 1858. Letter marked incoming at Boston showing 15¢ due from recipient (see above).

The French had marked mail in U.L. corner showing 12¢ debit to U.S. for all charges save the U.S. Domestic postage as per the Treaty of April 1, 1857.

R.M.S. Canada arrived at Boston Oct. 9 from Liverpool via Halifax.

1857

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

U. S. TO FRANCE: BRITISH PACKET

Treaty of April 1, 1857 Rates

R. M. S. Canada

Forwarding Agent:

John Munroe & Co., Paris



1857

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

U.S. TO FRANCE: BRITISH PACKET

Treaty of April 1, 1857 Rates

R.M.S. Canada

Forwarding Agent:

John Munroe & Co., Paris



PAID 15



June 23, 1857. Paid letter into mails at Baltimore. 15¢ per ¼-ounce, divided: U.S. Inland 3¢, sea 6¢, British transit 2¢, French Inland 4¢ = 15¢ total.

June 24. Transit at New York Exchange Office. Debit to U.S. of 12¢, leaving U.S. with 3¢ inland. The Cunard Liner R.M.S. Canada left N.Y. this date, arrived Liverpool July 7.

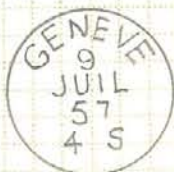


Trouvé à la Boîte J



July 8. Paris arrival backstamp. Letter now in hands of forwarding agents, John Munroe & Co., who readdressed it to Elizabeth White at Geneva, Switzerland.

July 8. Letter dropped by John Munroe & Co. into outgoing mail, unpaid. "Trouve a la Boîte" literally means "Found in the Box", and that all previous postage had been paid. "J" of the Bureau de Quartiers station.



35

July 9, 1857. Arrival backstamp at Geneva. 35 shows amount due in Swiss currency.

1857

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
NEW ORLEANS TO PARIS VIA BOSTON

CUNARD LINE

R. M. S. Niagara



30

April 11, '57.
Unpaid letter
posted at New
Orleans charged
at the April 1,
1857 Treaty
rate, only 10
days after it
was effective,
at 15¢ per 1-
oz. x 2 = 30¢.
Mail went over-
land to Boston.



April 22. Two Boston Exchange Office marks, one debiting France with 3¢ U.S. Inland x 2 = 6¢ (double rate.) France would retain 6¢ Sea (British Packet) + 2¢ British transit + 4¢ French inland = 12¢ x 2 = 24¢. R.M.S. Niagara departed from Boston April 22.

May 4. Niagara arrived at Liverpool.

May 5. French entry mark showing U.S. mail, British Service, Ambulant Calais (A.C.), a T.P.O. mark. Interestingly, cds dated 3 AVRIL in error, restruck with correct 5 MAI date. Collect 16 decimes, equivalent to 30¢ U.S.

1857

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET: FRANCE TO U.S. - PAID

R.M.S. Niagara

Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates

Rates per 1/4-oz. or 7 1/2 grams were divided:

French Inland	4¢	16 centimes
British-French transit	2	(incl.)
Sea (Anglo-French Convention)	6	48
U.S. Inland	3	16
	<u>15¢</u>	<u>80 centimes (8 decimes).</u>



June 17, 1857. Prepaid letter at the 80 centimes rate, early usage in the 3rd month of the rate, paid by a vertical pair of the 40 cent. Issue of 1860. "644" is the Petits Chiffres French Bureau cancellation of Castillon-Sur-Dordogne, Gironde. "32" is the Department number of Gironde.

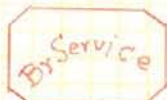


3



June 17-18. Railway transit backstamps. Night train (circular center) to Paris, 1st Section; day train (octagonal center), Paris to Calais, 2nd Section, Brigade M handled the mail. Marked "3" in red pen, credit to U.S. for 3¢ U.S. Inland.

June 20. Transit through Britain, R.M.S. Niagara departed this date from Liverpool on her 55th outbound voyage.



July 1. Niagara arrived at Boston. Letter marked "Br. Service" showing handling through Britain. Boston Exchange Office mark showed that the 15¢ rate had been paid.



July 9. Arrival "balloon" date stamp shows arrival at New Orleans and transit by the N. Orleans U.S. City Post.

August 21. Letter bears certification inside by the Custom House, New Orleans on entry of wine shipped by the Ship Arlington, Capt. Norton, arrival at N. Orleans.

1857

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

U.S. TO FRANCE : British Packet

R.M.S. Persia

Treaty of April 1, 185 rates

Forwarding Agent:
John Munroe & Co., Paris

Letters under this Treaty were rated:

	Per ¼-oz.		Per ½-oz.
U.S. Inland	3 ¢		6 ¢
Sea	6	} = 12¢	12
British Transit	2		4
French Inland	4		8
	<u>15 ¢</u>		<u>30 ¢</u>
			} = 24¢*



PAID

30

September 28, 1857. Letter prepaid in cash put into mails at Baltimore. Double rate (¼ to ½-oz.) paid of 30¢.



Sept. 30. Transit at N.Y. 24¢ credit to France for all but 6¢ U.S. Inland (see above). Persia departed this date from N.Y. for Liverpool.

Oct. 12. French entry mark at Calais (U.S. mail, British Service, Ambulant or RR at Calais). Per-
sia had arrived at L'pool Oct. 10.

Oct. 13. Arrival backstamp at Paris. Privately forwarded, docket notes letter received Oct 31st in Florence.

1857

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

U.S. TO FRANCE, British Packet

R.M.S. America

Treaty of April 1, 1857 Rates

Paid Letter

Treble Letter

Letters under this treaty were rated:

	Per 1/4-oz.	Per 1/2-oz.	Per 3/4-oz.
U.S. Inland	3¢	6¢	9¢
Sea	6	12	18)
British Transit	2	4	6) = 36¢
French Inland	4	8	12)
	<u>15¢</u>	<u>30¢</u>	<u>45¢.</u>



45

July 28, 1857. Letter, endorsed: p America, was prepaid 45¢ in cash, weighed over 1/2-oz., but not over 3/4-oz. Triple rated letters are remarkably uncommon. The New York Exchange Office credited France with 36¢, being all charges except the 3¢ x 3 = 9¢ U.S. Inland. This is a scarce Exchange Office mark.

July 29. R.M.S. America departed from Boston on her 64th return voyage to Liverpool.

August 11. America arrived at Liverpool Aug. 10, this French entry mark struck aboard the Calais to Paris T.P.O. (A.C. = Ambulant Calais.) Brigade A handled the mail.

Aug. 11-12. Backstamps trace the route of the letter from Paris to Jarnac. French marked the letter "Paid to Destination."



1858

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

U.S. TO FRANCE, British Packet R.M.S. Europa
Treaty of April 1, 1857 Rates Unpaid Treble Letter

Letters under this Treaty were rated:

	Per 1/4-oz.	Per 1/2-oz.	Per 3/4-oz.
U.S. Inland	3¢	6¢	9¢ = Debit to Britain
Sea	6	12	18
British Transit	2	4	6
French Inland	4	8	12
	15¢	30¢	45¢.



December 14, 1858. An unpaid letter posted at New York to France. The Exchange Office debited Britain for U.S. Inland of 3¢ x 3 = 9¢. Letter is endorsed: pr. Europa.

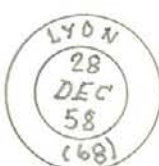
December 15. The British Packet mails had been forwarded from New York to Boston to meet the sailing of R.M.S. Europa, Cunard Line, to Liverpool on December 15.



16

December 25. Europa arrived at Liverpool.

December 27. French entry mark showing U.S. mail, British Service A.C. = Ambulant Calais. British debited France for 16d., or all charges except French Inland.



21

December 28. Transit backstamps, Paris to Lyon. Recipient charged at 8 decimes x 3 (letter weighed over 15 grams, not over 22½) = 24 decimes, shown in the hand-stamp.

1859

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET: U.S. TO FRANCE

R.M.S. Arabia

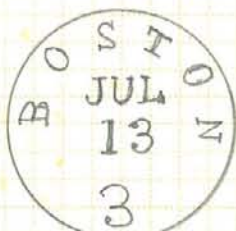
Treaty of April 1, 1857 Rates

Single letter

Single letter rate per 1/4-oz. was divided: U.S. Inland 3¢, Sea 6¢, British Transit 2¢, French Inland 4¢ = 15¢ total (equivalent to 8 decimes French).



B704



B847A

Jul. 13, 1859. Unpaid letter at Boston. British Packet (Cunard) R.M.S. Arabia sailed from Boston Jul. 13 for Liverpool. As British Packet, U.S. was to get only 3¢ Inland, thus debited Britain for that amount per B.847A. Unusual and nice combination of two Boston marks on one cover.



July 25, 1859. The Arabia arrived at Liverpool July 23. French entry

mark, translated: United States, British Service, Ambulant (RR) Calais. Brigade K handled the mail. 8 decimes (15¢) due as shown by handstamp charge mark.

July 26. Paris arrival backstamp.

8

1858

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKETS: U.S. TO FRANCE

Treaty of April 1, 1857 Rates

Double letter

Single rate per $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce was divided: U.S. Inland 3¢, Sea 6¢, British transit 2¢, French Inland 4¢ = 15¢ total. Double letter ($\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.) x 2 = 30¢.



March 27, 1858. Letter rated double (15¢ x 2 = 30¢), unpaid at Charleston. Very scarce Charleston rate mark showing double rate to France.

March 31. Letter transit at New York. As it was to go by the British Cunarder Arabia via L'pool U.S. was only entitled to her 3¢ Inland x 2 = 6¢, shown as a debit to France.

April 12. French entry mark showing "United States mail-British Service - Ambulant Calais - Brigade J" Salles 1778. Brigades A to H and J to M are seen.

April 13. French transit backstamps, Paris to Nantes. French marked letter 8 decimes (15¢) due, an error. Double letter should have been 16 decimes (30¢) due.



1859

MADRID, SPAIN TO U.S. U.S.-France Convention Period
 The Cunard Line R.M.S. Canada

February 6, 1859. A letter docketed at Madrid. It was sent under cover to a forwarder at Paris who posted it unpaid to New Orleans.

This was a quadruple rated letter. At one rate per 1/4-oz., it weighed over 3/4-oz, not over 1 oz. The U.S.-French Convention rate of April 1, 1857 was divided:

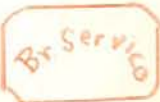
	<u>Single</u>	<u>Quadruple</u>	
French Inland	4¢	16¢)	
British Transit	2	8)	= 48¢ debit to U.S.
British Packet	6	24)	
U.S. Inland	3	12	
	15¢	60¢.	



Feb. 10. Posted at Paris, U.S. debited for 48¢ in manuscript. It went on the Paris to Calais night train, backstamp.



Feb. 12. R.M.S. Canada of the Cunard Line (British Packet) departed from Liverpool.



60

Feb. 26. Canada arrived at Boston. Quadruple rate due from recipient.



1859

HAVANA TO FRANCE VIA NEW YORK AND BOSTON
UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMSHIP CO. S.S. Star of the West

Last Voyage under the Contract, Aspinwall to N.Y. via Havana
CUNARD LINE. R.M.S. Canada, Boston to Liverpool



Oct. 8, 1859.
Letter datelined at Havana endorsed: Via New York. It was sent in a bundle to a forwarder in New York. The S.S. Star of the West, Capt. Harrison, left Aspinwall for New York

Oct. 3 via Havana, picking up the mails en route. This was the last voyage of the U.S. Mail Steamship Co. on the Panama route as that company withdrew from the New York-Aspinwall service in September 1859. Star of the West was placed on the New York-Havana-New Orleans Line.

October 17. N.Y. Herald: Arrived October 16, steamship Star of the West, Aspinwall Oct. 3 via Havana with passengers and specie to M.O. Roberts

October 18. Forwarding agent noted: p Canada. As an unpaid letter, the New York Exchange Office debited France for a double letter for U.S. Inland at 3¢ per 1/2-oz. x 2 = 6¢ as shown, and sent the letter on to Boston where the R.M.S. Canada departed for Liverpool on October 19.

October 30. Canada arrived at Liverpool, French entry mark at Calais Ambulant (T.P.O.) on the 31st.

November 1-2. French backstamps trace the route of the letter, Paris to Bordeaux. Octagonal center shows day train, Paris to Bordeaux, 1st section.

Treaty of April 1, 1857, rate was 15¢ (8 decimes) per 1/2-oz. (7 1/2 grams), here x2 or 16 decimes collect, held equal to 30¢ U.S.



1860

U.S. TO FRANCE - BRITISH OPEN MAIL

R.M.S. America

Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates

Rates per the Treaty were divided:

	¼-oz. (7½ grams)	½-oz. (15 grams)
U.S. Inland	3¢	6¢
Sea (Anglo-French Convention)	6¢	12¢
British-French Transit	2¢	4¢
French Inland	4¢	8¢
	<u>15¢</u>	<u>30¢.</u>



15



16

January 31, 1860. Letter datelined and posted unpaid at New Orleans. That office struck the charge mark of 15¢ for a single letter. Letter went overland to New York.

February 7. Letter processed by the New York Exchange Office who recognized that this was a double letter (over ¼-oz., not over ½-oz.) so they debited France for 6¢, the double U.S. Inland portion of the Treaty rate.

February 8. R.M.S. America of the Cunard Line departed from Boston. She arrived at Queenstown February 20.

February 22. French entry mark at Calais, Ambulant (T.P.O.), British Service.

February 23. Arrival backstamp at Paris. 16 decimes due, equivalent to 30¢ U.S., for a double letter.

1860

NEW ORLEANS TO PARIS VIA NEW YORK
UNITED STATES MAIL LINE, S.S. Augusta
CUNARD LINE, R.M.S. Africa

15



Sept. 4, 1860. Unpaid letter posted at New Orleans. It was erroneously rated at 15¢ (probably per ½-oz.), should have taken a double French rate at 15¢ per ¼-oz.

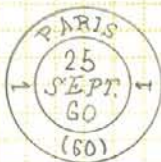
Sept. 11. Steamship Augusta, Woodhill, master, arrived at New York from Savannah to S.L. Mitchell & Son. She had arrived at Savannah Sept. 4 on her outbound trip from N.Y.



Sept. 12. N.Y. Times, "R.M.S. Africa, N. Shannon, Master, will sail from the Company's dock at Jersey City, Sept. 12." The New York Exchange Office caught New Orleans' rating error and debited France for U.S. Inland at 3¢ per ¼-oz. x 2 = 6¢ as shown in the cds.



Sept. 24. Africa arrived at Queenstown Sept. 22, letter transit at Calais. French entry mark shows United States mail, British Service, A.C. (Ambulant Calais), T.P.O.



16

Sept. 25. Paris arrival backstamp. Treaty of April 1, 1857, rate was 15¢ (8 decimes) per ¼-oz., here x 2 or 16 decimes collect, equivalent to 30¢. French actually rated at 8 dec. per 7½ grams.

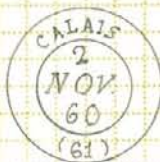
1860

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET: FRANCE TO U.S. - Part Paid

R. M. S. Canada

Ship Letter Rate



PD



Nov. 2, 1860. This letter was posted in France at the 80 centimes (15¢) Treaty of April 1, 1857, rates to U.S., which rates included 3¢ for U.S. inland delivery. Mail processed in France invariably went through Paris then out to Calais on the Paris to Calais sorting tender where U.S. bags were made up and each letter marked with a 3¢ credit to the U.S. This letter, however, was posted at Calais, and as the through bags were already sealed, it went aboard the Calais to Dover ferry in the open mail.

Nov. 3, 1860. R.M.S. Canada of the Cunard Line left Liverpool this date. The letter had been made up in London with the Irish mails and forwarded in bulk to Queenstown where the mail went aboard Canada Nov. 4.

5
Nov. 15. Canada arrived at Boston. The raters here ignored the French "PD" and, as no credit (either the French 3¢ or a U.S. Inland 5¢ by British-U.S. Treaty) had been allowed, they treated the letter as an incoming Ship Letter and rated it as 5¢ collect in manuscript, being the Act of March 3, 1855 rate of 3¢ for a letter going not over 3000 miles inland plus the 2¢ Ship Letter charge.

1861

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET: FRANCE TO U.S. - PAID

R.M.S. Persia

Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates

Rates per 1/4-oz. or 7 1/2 grams were divided:

French Inland	4¢	16 centimes
British-French transit	2	(incl.)
Sea (Anglo-French Convent'n)	6	48
U.S. Inland	<u>3</u>	<u>16</u>
	15¢	80 centimes (8 decimes.)



March 28, 1861.
Prepaid letter at the
80 centimes per 1/4-oz.
Treaty of April 1, 1857
rate, paid by imperfor-
ated issue of 1860.
"455" is the Petits
Chiffres French Bur-
eau cancellation of
Boulogne-sur-Mer.



March 29. Backstamps. Letter routed to Paris on the Quiervrain (Belgium) to Paris night train (circular center), then on the Paris to Calais T.P.O. day train (octagonal center), 1st section,

PD

Brigade E handled the sorting. Even though Boulogne-sur-Mer is on the coast close to Calais, mail had to be routed through Paris for proper sorting aboard the Paris to Calais T.P.O. Marked "3" in red crayon, credit to U.S. for 3¢ U.S. Inland. Also marked "PD" = Payee au Destination.

March 30. R.M.S. Persia departed from Liverpool for N.Y. This letter was made up in the London bags and forwarded to Queenstown with the Irish mails and picked up by Persia on the 31st.

Br. Service

April 9. Letter marked "Br. Service" showing handling through Britain. Persia arrived at New York this date. Exchange Office recognized letter as PAID 15 (¢), which included U.S. Inland delivery to Pomona Cottage near Pikesville, Baltimore County, Maryland.



1861

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
BRITISH PACKET: FRANCE TO U.S. - PAID

R.M.S. America

Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates

Rates per ¼-oz. or 7½ grams were divided:

French Inland	4¢	16 centimes
British-French transit	2	(incl.)
Sea (Anglo-French Convention)	6	48
U.S. Inland	<u>3</u>	<u>16</u>
	15¢	80 centimes (8 decimes).

455



PD

May 16, 1861. Pre-paid letter at the 80 centimes per ¼-oz. Treaty of April 1, 1857 rate, paid by imperforated Issue of 1860. "455" is the petit chiffres French Bureau number of Boulogne-sur-Mer.



Br Service

May 16. Backstamps. Letter routed to Paris on the Calais to Paris night train (circular center), then on the Paris to Calais T.P.O. day train (circular center,) 1st Section, Brigade F Handled the mail. Even though Boulogne-s-Mer is on the coast close to Calais, mail had to be routed back through Paris for proper sorting aboard the Paris to Calais T.P.O. Marked "3" in red pen, credit to the U.S. for 3¢ U.S. Inland. Also marked PD + Payee au Destination.

May 18. R.M.S. America departed from Liverpool for Boston. This letter went aboard her May 19 at her port-of-call at Queenstown.

May 31. Letter marked "Br. Service" showing handling through Britain. America arrived at Boston this date, mail processed June 1, Boston mark shows 15¢ rate prepaid.



1861

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET: FRANCE TO U.S. - PAID

R.M.S. Australasian

Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates

Rates per 1/4-oz. or 7 1/2 grams were divided:

French inland	4¢	16 centimes
British-French transit	2¢	(incl.)
Sea (Anglo-French Convention)	6¢	48 centimes
U.S. inland	<u>3¢</u>	<u>16</u> "
	15¢	80 " (8 decimes)

455



May 23, 1861. Prepaid letter at the 80 centimes per 1/4-oz. Treaty of April 1, 1857 rate, paid by imperforated Issue of 1860. "455" is the Petits Chiffres French Bureau cancellation of Boulogne-sur-Mer.



9

May 24. Although Boulogne-s-Mer is but a few miles from Calais, which is the French terminal of the Calais to Dover ferry, letter was handled back through Paris where it went out on the Ambulant (R.R.) sorting car of the Paris to Calais Line, day train as shown by the octagonal center of the circular backstamp. Marked "3" in red crayon, credit to U.S. for 3¢ U.S. Inland. Originally it had been erroneously marked "P.P." (Porte Payee or Paid to the Port). This was deleted and the correct "P.D." (Payee au Destination) was substituted.

May 25. R.M.S. Australasian, Cunard Line, departed from Liverpool for New York direct on her 4th westbound voyage.



June 6. Australasian arrived at New York June 5. Exchange Office recognized letter as PAID 15 (¢), which included U.S. Inland delivery to Pomona Cottage near Pikesville, Baltimore County, Maryland.

1861

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET: FRANCE TO U.S. - PAID

R.M.S. Asia

Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates

Rates per ¼-oz. or 7½ grams were divided:

French inland	4¢	16 centimes	
British-French transit	2¢	(incl.)	
Sea (Anglo-French Convention)	6¢	48 centimes	
U.S. inland	3¢	16 "	
	15¢	80 "	(8 decimes).



August 16, 1861.
Letter paid at the Treaty of April 1, 1857 rate of 80 cent. per ¼-oz. by a pair of the 40 cent. imperforate Issue of 1853. "455" is the Petits Chiffre French Bureau cancellation of Boulogne-sur-Mer.



Q



Although but a few miles from Calais, terminus of the Calais to Dover ferry, the Boulogne-sur-Mer mail destined for British transit was handled by the Paris Foreign Department for inclusion in the foreign mail bags through England as noted in the directional endorsement at top, "Les Etats Unis - Voie d'Angleterre". Paris marked it in script with a 3¢ credit to U.S. for U.S. Inland. It had been marked erroneously as "P.P." (Porte Payee or Paid to the Port), which was corrected in pen to "P.D." (Payee au Destination).

Aug. 17. R.M.S. Asia, British Packet (Cunard Line) departed from Liverpool for New York, direct.



Aug. 29. Arrival mark at the New York Exchange Office agrees with the recorded arrival of Asia at that port. N.Y. accepted letter as PAID 15 (¢), which included Inland delivery to Pomona Cottage near Pikesville, Maryland.

1861

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET: FRANCE TO U.S. - PAID

R.M.S. Africa

Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates

Rates per 1/4-oz. or 7 1/2 grams were divided:

French inland	4c	16 centimes	
British-French transit	2c	(incl.)	
Sea (Anglo-French Convention)	6c	48 centimes	
U.S. Inland	3c	16 "	
	15c	80 "	(8 decimes).

455



October 11, 1861. Letter paid at the single (1/4-oz.) rate by 80 centimes stamp, Issue of 1860. "455" is the Petits Chiffres Bureau number of Boulogne-sur-Mer.



9^c



Letter was processed through the Foreign Letter Office at Paris, even though Boulogne-sur-Mer is but a short distance from Calais, terminus of the Paris-a-Calais Ambulant (RR). French marked it "British Service" indicating transit through Britain and handstamped 3c, a credit to U.S. for U.S. Inland postage. It

was erroneously marked "Port Payee" indicating payment only to the port of U.S. entry, whereas Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates paid to destination in the U.S.

Oct. 12. R.M.S. Africa of the Cunard Line (British Packet) departed this date from Liverpool for New York, direct.



Oct. 26. Recorded arrival date of Africa at New York is Oct. 25. N.Y. Exchange Office marked it as PAID 15 (c), which included U.S. Inland delivery to Pomona Cottage, near Pikesville, Maryland.

1860

FRANCE TO U.S.
BRITISH PACKET

U.S. - France Convention Period
R.M.S. Canada

The U.S.-French Convention rate of April 1, 1857, was divided:

French Inland	21 centimes	4¢ U.S.
British Transit	11 "	2
British Packet	32 "	6
U.S. Inland	16 "	3¢ = Credit to U.S.
	80 "	15¢.



July 11, 1860. A paid letter posted at Bordeaux with the 1857 Convention rate of 80 centimes paid by the imperforate France Issue of 1860, die I. It is cancelled by the petit chiffres "441" of Bordeaux.

July 11. Railroad travelling P.O. backstamp, Bordeaux to Paris, night train (circular center), Brigade D handled the mail.



June 12. Paris to Calais, railway backstamp, day train (octagonal center). U.S. was credited for 3¢ U.S. Inland under the Convention, manuscript "3".

July 14. R.M.S. Canada of the Cunard Line departed from Liverpool, touched at Halifax July 25.

July 27. Canada arrived at Boston, where the Exchange Office noted that 15¢ had been paid.



B. 864

The Boston mark (B. 864) is noted used from March 14, 1857 to August 22, 1860.

1860

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

FRANCE TO U.S.
The Cunard Line

BRITISH PACKET
R.M.S. Canada



October 31, 1860. Letter paid at Bordeaux at the U.S.-French Convention rate of 80 centimes per 1/4-oz. by the Issue of 1854, type I. This rate included 21 cent. French Inland; 11 cent. British Transit; and 32 cent. British Packet, leaving 16 cent. for U.S. Inland. This was equivalent to 3¢ U.S. which was shown as a credit in French script at upper left. Letter is endorsed: Per Steamer via Liverpool & New York. The stamp is cancelled by the petits chiffre "441" of Bordeaux.

October 31 - November 1. Backstamps trace the route of this letter, Bordeaux to Paris day train (octagonal center), Paris to Calais night train (circular center). The mails then went closed through England.

November 3. R.M.S. Canada left Liverpool.

November 15. Canada arrived at Boston where the paid rate was noted in the Boston Exchange Office handstamp.



The rate included delivery to San Francisco.

1860

NEW ORLEANS TO PARIS VIA NEW YORK
UNITED STATES MAIL LINE, S.S. Augusta
CUNARD LINE, R.M.S. Asia



15

Oct. 31, 1860.
Unpaid letter
posted at New
Orleans. Charge
mark of 15¢ due
for the Treaty
of April 1, 1857
U.S.-French rate.



Nov. 7. Arrival at New York. The mail went over-land to Savannah, Georgia to meet the United States Mail Line. Advertisement N.Y. Times, "Cars of the Central Rail Road leave Savannah every day for Macon, Columbus, Montgomery, etc. at 5 o'clock A.M. and 1 P.M. connecting with the great Southern Mail." The U.S. Mail Steamer Augusta, Capt. Woodhull, departed Savannah Nov. 3, arrived at New York Nov. 6.

R.M.S. Asia departed from N.Y. Nov. 7 for Liverpool.



Nov. 19. Asia arrived at Liverpool this date. French entry mark Nov. 20 shows mail from the United States, British service, Ambulant (R.R.) at Calais.



8

Nov. 20. Paris arrival backstamp. French charge mark shows 8 decimes due, equivalent to 15¢. U.S. had debited the French for 3¢ U.S. Inland shown as the "3" at the top of the New York date stamp.

1860

NEW ORLEANS TO FRANCE VIA SAVANNAH AND NEW YORK

By Rail to Savannah, Georgia

Samuel L. Mitchell & Son, Savannah to New York

S.S. Augusta

Cunard Line, New York to Liverpool

R.M.S. Arabia



30

Feb. 19, 1860. Letter posted unpaid at New Orleans. It was rated as a double letter per 4-oz. per the Treaty of 1 April 1857 with France.

15¢ x 2 = 30¢ shown by the charge mark applied at New Orleans. The mail went by rail from New Orleans to Savannah.

February 27. Arrived N.Y. steamship Augusta, Woodhull, Savannah with mdse and passengers to S.L. Mitchell & Son. Augusta was a 1310 ton wooden side paddle wheel steamer built 1853 at New York.

February 28. Letter went by error to Boston where the R.M.S. Canada had departed Feb. 22 and the R.M.S. Europa would not sail until March 7 for Liverpool. Boston forwarded the mail back to New York to make the Feb. 29 sailing of R.M.S. Arabia for L'pool.

Boston Exchange Office debited France for U.S. Inland 3¢ x 2 = 6¢. France would retain 6¢ Sea (British Packet) + 2¢ British Transit + 4¢ French Inland = 12¢ x 2 = 24¢.

March 12. Arabia arrived at Liverpool.

March 13. French entry mark aboard the Calais to Paris T.P.O. (round center = night train.) Mark indicated U.S. mail, British service, Ambulant(RR) Calais. 16 decimes due, equivalent to 30¢ U.S.



16



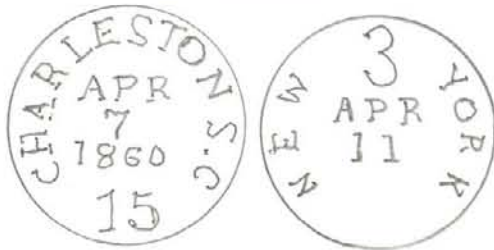
1860

U. S. TO FRANCE - BRITISH OPEN MAIL

Spofford Tileston & Co., S.S. Columbia - Charleston to New York
Cunard Line, R.M.S. Arabia - New York to Liverpool

Treaty of April 1, 1857 rates were divided:

	Per $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. (7 $\frac{1}{2}$ grams)
U.S. Inland	3¢ = Debit to France
Sea (Anglo-French Convention)	6¢
British-French transit	2¢
French Inland	4¢
	15¢.



April 7, 1860. Unpaid letter posted at Charleston and endorsed: pr. Steamer from New York/ 11th Instant. The Charleston post office struck their circular mark showing 15¢ due per the 1857 Treaty. S.S. Columbia departed for New York.

N.Y. Times. April 9. Arrived Steamship Columbia, Berry, Charleston, with mdse. to Spofford, Tileston & Co. The Columbia was detained 10 hours outside the Hook by fog.

April 11. R.M.S. Arabia of the Cunard Line departed from New York where the Exchange Office debited France for 3¢ U.S. Inland.



April 22. Arabia arrived at Liverpool.

April 23. French entry mark, Ambulant (T.P.O.) at Calais.

April 24-25. Paris transit and Bordeaux backstamps. 8 decimes due.

1861

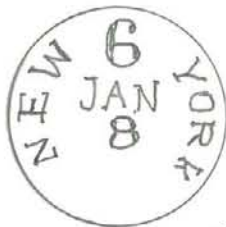
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
BRITISH PACKET: U.S. TO FRANCE, UNPAID

CUNARD LINE

R. M. S. Canada

Single rate, Treaty of April 1, 1857, per $\frac{1}{4}$ -oz. was 15¢; per $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. was 30¢, the latter divided:

U.S. Inland	6¢ = debit to France
Sea	12
British Transit	4
French Inland	8
	<hr/> 30¢.



January 8, 1861. An unpaid letter posted at New York and endorsed: p "Canada" from Boston. As it was a double weight letter ($\frac{1}{2}$ -oz.), France was debited with U.S. 3¢ Inland x 2 = 6¢, shown in the New York Exchange Office handstamp.

January 9. Letter was forwarded by rail to Boston to meet the Jan. 9 sailing of R.M.S. Canada for Queenstown.

Jan. 20. Canada arrived at Queenstown. French mails were forwarded "Via Calais" as endorsed on the Dover-Calais ferry.

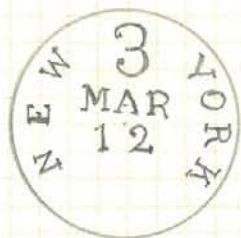
Jan. 22. Transit mark ET. UNIS SERV. BR. A(mbulant) C(alais).

Jan. 22. Transit backstamp at Paris.

Jan. 23. Arrival backstamp at Marseilles where 16 decimes, equivalent to 30¢ U.S. was due. France settled up with Britain for all but the U.S. Inland 6¢.

1862

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
U.S. TO FRANCE, BRITISH PACKET, UNPAID



March 12, 1862. Letter posted unpaid at New York. As rate was 3¢ U.S. Inland, 9¢ Sea transit and 3¢ French Inland, the New York Exchange Office marked the "3" in the circular date stamp to show a 3¢ debit to France for the U.S. Inland.

Letter directed "Per steamship "Arabia" for Liverpool". The Arabia was a 2400 ton Cunarder, wooden paddle steamer, in service 1853-64.

She sailed from New York March 12, 1862 and arrived Queenstown Mar. 24 (Cf. Chronicle 91, Pg. 225).



March 26. French entry mark showing "British Service" entering at Calais. Salles 1785. 3rd echelon mark.



March 26-27. Paris transit and Nantes receipt backstamps.

Eight decimes (15¢ U.S.) due.



8

1862

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
BRITISH PACKET: U.S. TO FRANCE, UNPAID
R.M.S. Europa



June 10, 1862. Unpaid letter posted at New York and endorsed: Per steamship "Europa" for Liverpool. Rate of April 1, 1857 applied, 15¢ per ¼-oz., equivalent to 8 decimes French. Of this 3¢ was the portion due to the U.S. for internal postage. The "3" in the New York Exchange Office handstamp debits France for this amount.

June 11. R.M.S. Europa departed from Boston on this date.



S. 1875

June 23. Europa arrived at Liverpool June 23, having put the European mails ashore at Queenstown June 22. Transit French entry mark shows mail from the U.S. handled by British Packet entering France at Calais.



June 23-24. Transit and arrival backstamps at Paris and Nantes. 8 decimes (15¢) due from the recipient. France and Britain settled up separately for the transatlantic postage.



1864

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
BRITISH PACKET: U.S. TO FRANCE, UNPAID
R. M. S. Europa



May 10, 1864. Unpaid letter posted at New York and endorsed: p Europa. Rates of April 1, 1857 applied, 15¢ per 1/4-oz., 30¢ per 1/2-oz., latter equivalent to 16 decimes French. Of this 6¢ was the portion due to the U.S. for internal postage. The "6" in the New York Exchange Office handstamp debits France for this amount.

May 11. R.M.S. Europa, Cunard Line (British Packet) departed from Boston this date for Liverpool.

May 23. Europa arrived at Liverpool.

May 24. Transit mark shows mail from the United States handled by a British Packet, letter entered France at Calais.



S. 1785

May 24-25. Transit and receiving backstamps at Paris and Bordeaux. Double letter rate of 16 decimes (30¢) due from recipient. France and Britain settled up separately for the transatlantic postage.



16

1859

Br. Service

PACKET LETTERS
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

French mark showing mail handled by British Packet

BRITISH PACKETS:FRANCE TO U.S. MAIL-UNPAID

Treaty of April 1, 1857 set rate, France - U.S. at 15¢ per 1/2 oz. letter. Regulations stated that a red stamp be placed on correspondence transmitted by way of England "Serv. Br."

Rate was made up: 3¢ U.S. Domestic; 3¢ French Domestic, 3¢ Channel Crossing, 6¢ Transatlantic.

1/2 oz. letter



Mar. 16, 1859.
LeHavre receipt.



Mar. 30, 1859.
N.Y. Exc. Off.
15¢ due. Black mms. "12" U.R. shows share due France for all but 3¢ U.S. domestic.

1/2 oz. letter



April 27, 1859.
LeHavre c.d.s.



May 11, 1859.
Double rate, N.Y. Exc. Off., 30¢ due. 24¢ to France, mms. U.R.

1857

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
BRITISH PACKETS: U. S. TO FRANCE, PREPAID



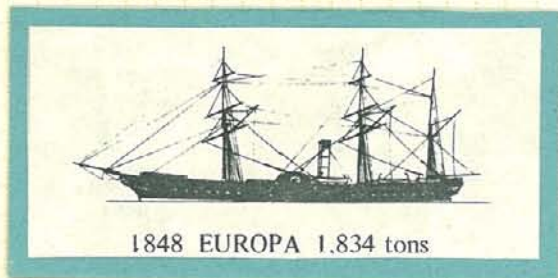
15



May 19, 1857. Letter paid 15¢ in cash as shown by mms. "15" under red postmark. As it was directed by a Cunard Liner (British) U.S. could keep only her 3¢ Inland. The 9¢ sea transit + 3¢ French Inland or 12¢ was credited to France as shown by the red "12" in the c.d.s. (Treaty of April 1, 1857).

June 1, 1857. French entry mark at Calais (Ambulant Calais) showing British Service.

Salles 1778, who notes Brigades A to H and J to M. Here we see K.



1848 EUROPA 1.834 tons



June 2, 1857. Paris receipt backstamp.

Routed "per Europa", 1834 ton Cunarder in service 1848-67. Europa collided with Arabia off Cape Race in 1858. Europa lengthened to 286' (1900 tons) while under repairs.

1859

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Co., San Francisco to Panama

S.S. Golden Gate

2. North Atlantic Steamship Co., Aspinwall to New York

S.S. Baltic

3. North German Lloyd, New York to Southampton

S.S. Bremen



1859

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Co., San Francisco to Panama

S.S. Golden Gate

2. North Atlantic Steamship Co., Aspinwall to New York

S.S. Baltic

3. North German Lloyd, New York to Southampton

S.S. Bremen

Rates of April 1, 1857, U.S. to France were 15¢ per ¼-oz. This is a treble letter at 15¢ x 3 = 45¢. Rate was apportioned:

	<u>Single</u>	<u>Treble</u>	
French Inland	4¢	12¢) = 18¢ Credit to France
Transit (British)	2	6	
Sea	6	18	
U.S. Inland	<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>	
	15¢	45¢	



45

October 5, 1859. Letter paid in cash at San Francisco at the treble rate for a letter ½-oz. to ¾-oz. at 45¢. The S.S. Golden Gate of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. departed from San Francisco this date for Panama. She arrived at the latter port October 17.

N.Y. Times. October 25. The North Atlantic Steamship Company's steamer Baltic, ALFRED G. GRAY, Esq., commanding, left Aspinwall Oct. 18 for New York where she arrived last evening. The Baltic brings 707 passengers and \$1,871,554.76 in treasure... These left S.F. on the Golden Gate, Capt. R.L. Whiting October 5. The run through to New-York was therefore made in 19 days 7 hours.



October 29. New York Exchange Office transit mark. 18¢ credit to France for 12¢ French Inland + 6¢ British Transit = 18¢ treble rate. U.S. retained 18¢ Sea (American Packet) + 9¢ U.S. Inland = 27¢. S.S. Bremen of the North German Lloyd Line departed from New York this date for Bremen via Southampton.



November 11. Bremen arrived at Southampton. French entry mark notes mail from the U.S., American Packet, Ambulant (RR) via Calais.



Nov. 13-14. French transit backstamps trace route of letter Paris to Bordeaux to Cognac. France marked letter paid to destination.

1863

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Company

S.S. St. Louis., San Francisco to Panama

2. Atlantic & Pacific Steamship Company

S.S. Champion, Aspinwall to New York

3. Inman Line

S.S. City of New York, New York to Liverpool via Queenstown



15

June 3, 1863. Unpaid letter posted at San Francisco, endorsed: Steamer "St. Louis". Rate, Treaty of April 1, 1857, 15¢ per 4-oz.

Alta California: Pacific Mail Steamship Co., June 3, steamship St. Louis, W.H. Hudson, Commander, sailed for Panama. Passengers and mail to go from Panama to Aspinwall by Panama Railroad Co.

June 17. Steamship Champion, Jones, of the Atlantic & Pacific Steamship Company, departed Aspinwall for New York.

June 26. N.Y. Tribune. Arr. steamship Champion, Jones, Aspinwall June 17, treasure, mails and pass. to D.B. Allen. The N.Y. Exchange Office debited France for 6¢ Sea (American Packet) + 3¢ U.S. Inland = 9¢.

June 27. S.S. City of New York, Inman Line, departed for Liverpool via Queenstown, arriving Q'town July 7.

July 9. French entry mark mail incoming at Calais, U.S. mail, American Service. Transit backstamp at Paris. July 10. Bordeaux arrival backstamp. 8 decimes, equivalent to 15¢ U.S. due. France retained 2¢ British Transit + 4¢ French Inland = 6¢.



1864

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

FRANCE TO U.S. VIA BRITAIN Rate of April 1, 1857

R.M.S. Persia

CUNARD LINE

DEPRECIATED CURRENCY

Rates of 1 April 1857 were 80 centimes per 7½ grams, equivalent to 15¢ U.S. per ¼-oz, apportioned:

French Inland	4¢)	
Transit (British)	2)	= 12¢ debit to U.S.
Sea	6)	
U.S. Inland	3	
	<u>15¢</u>	



12



July 11, 1867. An unpaid letter posted at Marseilles to New York. Backstamp shows routing aboard the Marseilles to Paris T.P.O. nad Paris transit. U.S. was debited for all except the U.S. 3¢ Inland, or 12¢. Letter is endorsed: Via Queenstown.

July 13. The Cunard Line R.M.S. Persia departed from Liverpool, picked up this letter with the bagged French mails at Queenstown July 14.

July 24. Persia arrived at New York. 15¢ rate of April 1857 was due in hard currency, or in the depreciated U.S. NOTES (greenbacks) at 21¢, a 1.4 ratio of depreciation.

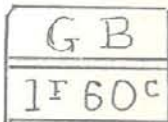


1865

U.S. TO FRANCE PER AMERICAN PACKET

INMAN LINE

S.S. City of Boston



Nov. 10, 1865. Letter datelined at New York and headed, "Str. Europe". It was similarly endorsed on the face. This was intended to go by the French Line's S.S. Europe which departed from N.Y. on Nov. 10, but the steamer sailed before the letter could go aboard her. It was re-endorsed: St. "City of Boston". This Inman Line steamer left N.Y. Nov. 11 with this letter aboard. The letter was handed directly to the purser of the City of Boston, hence no U.S. markings.

Nov. 21. City of Boston arrived at Queenstown, Ireland, where this letter went ashore and received the Queenstown postmark. This is a most unusual marking due to the open mail nature of the letter. The Queenstown post office marked the letter at 1 shilling due (1/- in black manuscript) because (probably) it came in a contract packet even though an open letter.

Nov. 22. London transit backstamp. The London post office ignored the one shilling charge and handled the letter as an unpaid open mail letter brought to the U.K. at British expense. They further struck the "tray" or accountancy mark showing 1 franc 60 centimes per 30 grams bulk of mail to France from the U.S. via Great Britain by British Packet. Because the U.S. did not handle this letter, the Inman Line steamer (actually an American Packet) was considered here as a "British Packet."

Nov. 23. French entry mark, mail from England Ambulant (RR) at Calais. Paris arrival backstamp. The French charged this letter at 8 decimes due, equivalent to the 15¢ rate from the U.S., actually the normal rate for an unpaid letter from overseas via England.

"This combination of markings is quite uncommon on covers due to the loose letter aspects of the cover's handling. Very few letters were handled in this way." (Quote from R. Winter, private correspondence.)



1865

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Company

S.S. Constitution, San Francisco to Panama

S.S. Baltic, Aspinwall to New York

2. Inman Line.

S.S. City of New York (II), New York to Queenstown



Per steamer Constitution

15

Ruinart père & fils



15

Reims.

(France)

(Marne)

November 18, 1865. Unpaid letter posted at San Francisco, endorsed: Per steamer Constitution. Rate shown 15¢ per ½-oz., Treaty of April 1, 1857 with France.

San Francisco Examiner, Fri., Nov. 17. PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.. The following steamship will be dispatched: Nov. 18 - CONSTITUTION, Capt. E.S. Farnsworth from Folsom Street Wharf at 11 o'clock A.M. punctually FOR PANAMA. Passengers will be conveyed from Panama to Aspinwall to New York by the Atlantic and Pacific Steamship Company. OLIVER ELDRIDGE - Agent, P.M.S.Co.

December 3. Constitution arrived at Panama. Mails went by rail to Aspinwall.

N.Y. Times. Arr. Dec. 13, steamship Baltic, Horner, Aspinwall Dec. 4 to Pacific Mail S.S. Co. N.B.: Baltic was the ex-Collins Liner. She made only this one round voyage in 1865 to Aspinwall for P.M.S.S. Co.

Dec. 16. Transit N.Y., debit to France for U.S. inland + 6¢ Sea (Am.Pkt.) = 9¢. S.S. City of New York departed this date to Q'town.

Dec. 28. City of New York arrived at Queenstown.

Dec. 29. French entry, via Calais, Am. Service.

Dec. 29-30. Paris transit and Reimes arrival back-stamps. 8 decimes due, equivalent to 15¢ U.S.



1866

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Company

S.S. Sacramento, San Francisco to Panama

S.S. Arizona, Aspinwall to New York.

2. Hamburg-American Line (HAPAG)

S.S. Borussia, New York to Hamburg via Southampton



15

Alta California: Pacific Mail Steamship Co.'s Through Line to New York, Carrying the U.S. MAIL, leave FOLSUM ST. Wharf at 11 o'clock AM for PANAMA, connecting via Panama Railroad with one of the Company's splendid steamers for ASPINWALL for NEW YORK.

May 30. SACRAMENTO, Capt. J.M. Cavarly, connecting with ARIZONA, Capt. Maury.

OLIVER ELDRIDGE, Agent.

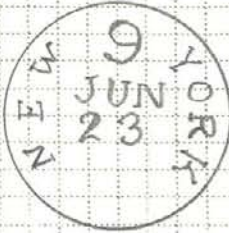
May 31. S.S. Sacramento sailed for Panama. Letter rated 15c per 1/4-oz., U.S.-French Treaty rate of April 1, 1857.

June 12. S.S. Arizona, Maury, sailed from Aspinwall for N.Y.

June 20. Arizona arr. N.Y. to P.M. SS. Co.

June 23. N.Y. marked debit to France of 3c U.S. Inland + 6c Sea (Am. Pkt.) = 9c. France retained 2c Brit. transit + 4c French Inland = 6c. S.S. Borussia of HAPAG sailed for Hamburg via S'pton.

July 4 (postmark in error = JUIN). Borussia arrived at Southampton. French entry mark shows U.S. Mail, American Service, entry at Calais. July 5. Bordeaux arrival backstamp. 8 decimes due, equivalent to 15c U.S.



1866

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Company

S.S. Golden City, San Francisco to Panama

S.S. Arizona, Aspinwall to New York

2. North German Lloyd

S.S. America, New York to Southampton



June 30, 1866. An unpaid letter posted at San Francisco at double the Treaty of April 1, 1857, rate of 15¢ per ½-oz., or 30¢. San Francisco date stamp is with no year date and the constant rim break beneath CAL. A similar break occurs in the "30" charge mark. Letter is endorsed: pr. Steamer Golden City.

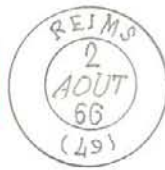
Daily Examiner, San Francisco. PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.'s THROUGH LINE TO NEW YORK CARRYING THE UNITED STATES MAIL. June 30th. - GOLDEN CITY, Captain J.T. Watkins, connecting with ARIZONA, Captain Maury.

July 12. Golden city arrived at Panama. Mail went by rail across the Isthmus to Aspinwall.

N.Y. Times. Arrived July 21, steamship Arizona, Gray, Aspinwall July 13, with mails and passengers to Pacific Mail Steamship Co. July 16, Cape Mayse N. by W. 15 miles spoke steamship Henry Chauncey, hence for Aspinwall.

July 21. N.Y. debited France for 3¢ U.S. inland + 6¢ Sea (Am. Pkt.) = 9¢ x 2 (double letter) = 18¢. S.S. America of NGL sailed this date for Bremen via Southampton, arrived latter port July 31.

Aug. 2. French entry mark, American Packet via Calais. Back-stamps trace route of letter, Paris to Reims. French charged 8dec. x 2 = 16dec for double letter. 16 dec. equivalent to 30¢ U.S.



1866

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Company

S.S. Golden City, San Francisco to Panama

S.S. New York, Aspinwall to New York

2. French Line - Ligne H

Paquebot Périere, New York to Havre



Aug. 30, 1866. Letter posted unpaid at San Francisco, rated French Treaty of April 1, 1857, at 15¢ per ¼-oz. x 2 = 30¢. The San Francisco date stamp without year date is with the constant break in the rim below CAL. The "30" rate stamp also has a similar break.

Daily Alta California, Aug. 30. PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.'s through line to New York, Carrying the United States mail: August 30 - GOLDEN CITY, Capt. W.F. Lapidge, connecting with NEW YORK, Capt. Bradbury.

September 8. Golden City arrived at Panama.

N.Y. Times, Arrived N.Y. Sept. 19, Steamship New-York, Weir, Aspinwall Sept. 9 with mdse, passengers and treasure to S.F. Holman.

The New York Exchange Office marked a debit to France of 3¢ U.S. inland x 2 = 6¢.

September 22. Paquebot Periere of the French Line departed from N.Y. She was designated No. 2 of Ligne H on this passage. The mark was struck at N.Y. aboard the steamer.

October 3. Periere arrived at Havre via Brest on October 2. Paris transit and Cognac arrival backstamps. French charged 16 decimes for a letter over ¼-oz., but not over ½-oz. This was equivalent to 30¢ U.S.



1866

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Company

S. S. Constitution, San Francisco to Panama.

S. S. Arizona, Aspinwall to New York

2. Cunard Line, R. M. S. Java, New York to Queenstown



Letter rated as a double letter to France, over 1-oz., but not over 1-oz. at 15¢ x 2 = 30¢.

September 10, 1866. Departed San Francisco, S.S. Constitution, Capt. E.S. Farnsworth, for Panama to connect via Panama Railroad with the company's steamer Arizona, Capt. Maury, from Aspinwall. Constitution arrived at Panama September 22.

N.Y. Tribune: Arrived N.Y. Oct. 1, steamship Arizona, Maury, Aspinwall Sept. 23 to Pacific Mail Steamship Co.

Oct. 3. Letter transit at New York. Debit to France of 3¢ U.S. Inland x 2 (double letter) = 6¢. R.M.S. Java of the Cunard Line departed from N.Y. this date for Queenstown.

Oct. 13, Java arrived Q'town. French mail entered Oct. 15 via Calais, British Service. Back-stamps trace letter Paris to Bordeaux. French reweighed letter, found it under 1-oz. so charged only 8 decimes (15¢). They absorbed the double debit per N.Y. mark.



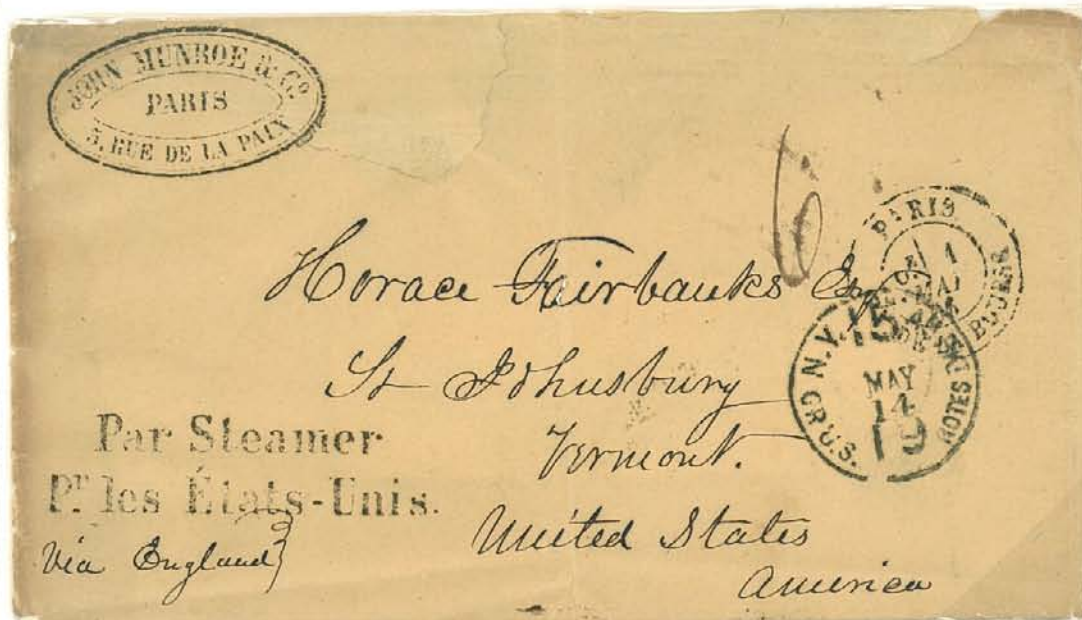
1867

FRANCE TO U.S.
INMAN LINE

U.S.-French Convention Period
S.S. City of Paris

The U.S.-French Convention rate of April 1, 1857 was divided:

French Inland	21 centimes	4¢ U.S.) = 6¢ debit to U.S.
British Transit	11 "	2 "	
Transatlantic	32 "	6 "	
U.S. Inland	16 "	3 "	
	<u>80</u> "	<u>15¢</u>	



6

Par Steamer
P^s les États-Unis.

May 1, 1866. An unpaid letter handled by the forwarding agent John Munroe & Co. at Paris who struck their oval cachet as well as the directional endorsement: By Steamer per the United States. It was posted at Paris and endorsed: Via England. The Paris P.O. made a debit to the U.S. of 4¢ French Inland + 2¢ British Transit = 6¢, shown in manuscript. The U.S. mails were made up in closed bags in Paris for transit by the Paris a Calais railway and closed bags through England.

May 2. The Inman Line's S.S. City of Paris departed from Liverpool and touched at Queenstown the 3rd, where the French mails went aboard.

May 13. City of Paris arrived at New York, mail processed May 14. The 15¢ U.S.-French rate per 1/4-oz. was due in hard currency or 19¢ in U.S. NOTES (greenbacks). This represented an inflation ratio of 1.27.



1867

FRANCE TO U.S.
INMAN LINE

U.S. - French Convention Period
S.S. City of London

The U.S.-French Convention rate of April 1, 1857, was divided:

French Inland	21 centimes	4¢ U.S.	
British Transit	11 "	2	
Transatlantic	32 "	6)) = 9¢ Credit to U.S.
U.S. Inland	<u>16</u> "	<u>3</u>)	
	80 "	15¢	

549

BOULOGNE-S-MER
24
JUN
67
(61)

LILLE A PARIS
25
JUN
67
8

9

PD



June 24, 1867. A letter paid at the 80 centimes Convention of 1857 rate by the perf. 14 x 13½ Issue of 1862, die I. Cancellation by the gros chiffres "549" of Boulogne-sur-Mer.

January 25. The letter was sent eastward by local rail to meet the main line, Lille to Paris. Railway post office backstamp, night train (circular center), Lille to Paris. The U.S. mails were made up in Paris to be sent by closed bag through England. U.S. was credited for 6¢ Sea (American Packet) + 3¢ U.S. Inland = 9¢.

June 26. S.S. City of London departed from Liverpool, touched at Queenstown the 26th, where this letter went aboard.

July 8. City of London arrived at New York. This letter processed there as a PAID letter.

This N.Y. Exchange Office mark (W.46) is found used March 5, 1864 to Jan. 14, 1868. It is also noted with year date 1863, here "1867."

N. YORK AM. PKT.
1867
JUL
8
PAID

W.46

1867

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Company

S. S. Constitution, San Francisco to Panama

S. S. Henry Chauncey, Aspinwall to New York

2. Cunard Line, S. S. Cuba, Boston to Liverpool via Queenstown



pr Constitution via New York

Messrs. Dubos Freres



Bordeaux
France
1867



15

Nov. 9, 1867. Letter posted unpaid at San Francisco, 15¢ per 1-oz., Treaty of April 1, 1857, with France. Letter endorsed: pr "Constitution" via New York.

Alta California: Pacific Mail Steamship Company's Steamships will be dispatched: Nov. 9, CONSTITUTION, Capt. J.M. Cavarly, connecting with HENRY CHAUNCEY, Capt. Gray. Constitution cleared and sailed from San Francisco on Nov. 9.

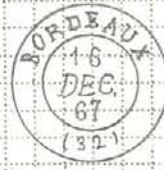
November 23. Mails went trans-isthmus by Panama Railroad Co., S.S. Henry Chauncey sailed from Aspinwall for New York.



Dec. 1. N.Y. Times, arr. Sun., Dec 1, Steamship Henry Chauncey, Aspinwall Nov. 23. to F. R. Baby. Transit Dec. 3 to Boston. Debit to France, 3¢ U.S. Inland. French retained 6¢ Sea (British Packet) + 4¢ French Inland and 2¢ British Transit or 12¢

Dec. 4. R.M.S. Asia, Cunard Line departed from Boston.

Dec. 13. Asia arrived at Queenstown.



Dec. 15. Letter transit at Calais. French entry, British Service. Paris to Bordeaux, night train. Dec. 16. Bordeaux arrival backstamp. 8 decimes due, equivalent to 15¢ U.S.

ALTA CALIFORNIA, 1865

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.

The following steamships will be dispatched on the following named days:

Feb. 22. SACRAMENTO, Capt. Wm. H. Hudson
Mar. 3. GOLDEN CITY, Capt. W.F. Lapridge
Mar. 13. GOLDEN AGE, Capt. E.S. Farnsworth
FROM FOLSOM STREET WHARF
at 10 o'clock A.M. punctually
FOR PANAMA.

Passengers will be conveyed from Panama to Aspinwall by the Panama Railroad Company, and from Aspinwall to New York by the Atlantic and Pacific Steamship Co.

A baggage master will be sent through each trip.

OLIVER ELDRIDGE, Agent, P.M.S. Co.
Cor. Sacrament and Leidendorff Sts.

Feb. 22, 1865. Cleared Stm. Sacramento, Hudson, Panama, O. Eldridge.
Sailed same day. Arr. back March 30.

THE NEW YORK HERALD, March 16, 1865.

Panama March 7.

The arrival of the steamship Sacramento at this port at a very early hour this morning took everyone by surprise, being one day earlier than expected.

Arrived N.Y. March 15, 1865:

Steamship Ocean Queen, Weir, Aspinwall, March 7, with treasure and passengers to D.B. Allen. At West Indies station spoke U.S. Gunboat Galaten, all well on board. Luke Moleson of Thorndyke, Me., died.

CLEARED Mar. 18, 1865. Steamship City of Baltimore (Br.), Mierhouse, Liverpool, John G. Dale. Sailed Mar. 18.

1865

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Co.; San Francisco to Panama

S.S. Sacramento

2. Atlantic & Pacific Steamship Co., Aspinwall to New York

S.S. Ocean Queen

3. Inman Line, New York to Liverpool via Queenstown

S.S. City of Baltimore



1865

SAN FRANCISCO TO FRANCE VIA PANAMA AND NEW YORK

1. Pacific Mail Steamship Co., San Francisco to Panama
S.S. Sacramento
2. Atlantic & Pacific Steamship Co., Aspinwall to New York
S.S. Ocean Queen
3. Inman Line, New York to Liverpool via Queenstown
S.S. City of Baltimore



45

February 22, 1865. Letter posted unpaid at San Francisco at the triple rate per 1/4-oz., Treaty of April 1, 1857 with France. 3/4-oz. letter at 15¢ x 3 = 45¢. The steamship Sacramento, as endorsed on the letter, left the Folsom Street Wharf at 10 o'clock A.M. punctually for Panama in charge of Capt. Wm. H. Hudson.

March 7. "Panama. The arrival of the steamship Sacramento at this port at a very early hour this morning took everyone by surprise, being one day earlier than expected." Mails and passengers were conveyed from Panama to Aspinwall by the Panama Railroad Company. S.S. Ocean Queen, Capt. Weir, sailed from Aspinwall for New York the same day.



27

March 15. Ocean Queen arrived at New York with treasure and passengers to D.B. Allen.

March 18. Steamship City of Baltimore, Mierhouse sailed from N.Y. for Liverpool via Queenstown. The New York Exchange Office debited France for 6¢ Sea (American Packet) + 3¢ U.S. Inland = 9¢ x 3 = 27¢. France would retain 2¢ British transit + 4¢ French Inland = 6¢ x 3 = 18¢.



gn

March 31. French entry mark showing American Service, mail entering at Calais (T.P.O., octagonal center = day train). French marked letter at 24 decimes due, equivalent to 45¢ U.S.

Transit backstamps trace the letter's route to Paris, mail carriage on railway Paris to Strasbourg (octagonal center = day train), arrival at Reimes, all on March 31.



On a contemporary voyage, the S.S. Western Metropolis, which had been chartered by the Central American Transit Company to replace the S.S. Golden Rule while the latter was laid up for repairs. Central American ran New York to Greytown, Nicaragua.

Arrived N.Y. March 18, 1865. Steamship Western Metropolis, Hilton, Greytown, Nic., March 6 via Havana 12th with passengers and mails to the Central American Co. Has had heavy weather the entire passage: put into Havana for a supply of water. The bark J.A. Bishop, McClellan, was to leave Havana for Naussau on the 13th inst. The blockade-runner steamer Wren (owned at Havana) arrived at Havana 11th inst. from Galveston, with 600 bales of cotton on board. The W.M. brings the mails from Nicaragua and Havana.

The N.Y. Times of March 19, 1865, tells of near trouble on the voyage to Havana and while in that port:

From Havana.

The steamship Western Metropolis, Wm. H. Hixon, Master, which left this port on the 20th ult., arrived at Greytown, Nicaragua, on the 3d instant, after a smooth but long passage, which was owing to an accident to the port boiler, making it necessary to reduce the steam to three or four pounds. At Greytown, took on board 704 California passengers, consigned to the Central American Transit Company, the Western Metropolis being chartered to take the place of the Golden Rule. Left Greytown at 4:45 P. M., and being short of water, sailed direct for Havana. Had a heavy cross sea in the Caribbean Sea and a norther in the Gulf. Arrived at Havana at 9 A. M. on 11th. On 11th, the Confederate steamer Wren came in with 700 bales of cotton from Galveston. There were numerous threats from the shore that the Western Metropolis would be burned before she got to New York. They were so prevalent that the American Consul sent off word that the officers must be on the lookout. The watches were doubled and armed for all emergencies. We were suspicious and, as was afterward learned, very dangerous characters were found on board, some of whom were sent on shore. Their sympathizers had a desire to give trouble, as Capt. Hixon captured in this same steamer, while in Government service, a blockade-runner in the Gulf, owned at Havana. The Western Metropolis sailed from Havana on the 12th, at 2:10 P. M., and throughout the passage had very heavy weather, with high cross seas.

Flour had been selling in Havana as high as 840 per barrel, for the week previous.

The Western Metropolis brings the Nicaragua and Havana mails, and one day later than the Golden Rule.

N.Y. Times (ad) March 21.

NOTICE - THE SAILING OF THE STEAMER GOLDEN RULE for San Francisco, via Nicaragua, is postponed to TUESDAY, Mar. 21, at noon.
D.N. CARRINGTON, Agent.