

POSTAL HISTORY

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

RATES

POSTAL MARKINGS

12



U.S. NOTES
128



21
CENTS



BRITISH

MARITIME POSTAL HISTORY

NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM EXHIBITION 1960 FIRST DAY COVER 6th APRIL



NEW YORK
PENSACOLA
ST AUGUSTINE
SAVANNAH
CHARLESTON
W INDIES
MEXICO
HAYTI
BRAZIL
BUENOS
AYRES

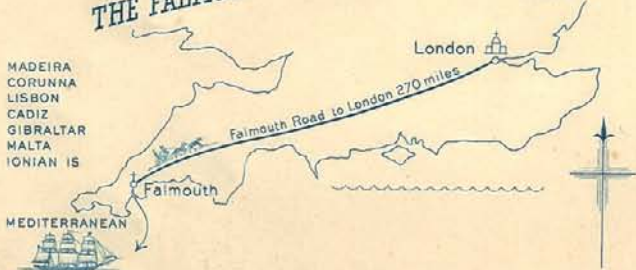
1688

THE FALMOUTH POST OFFICE PACKETS

1850

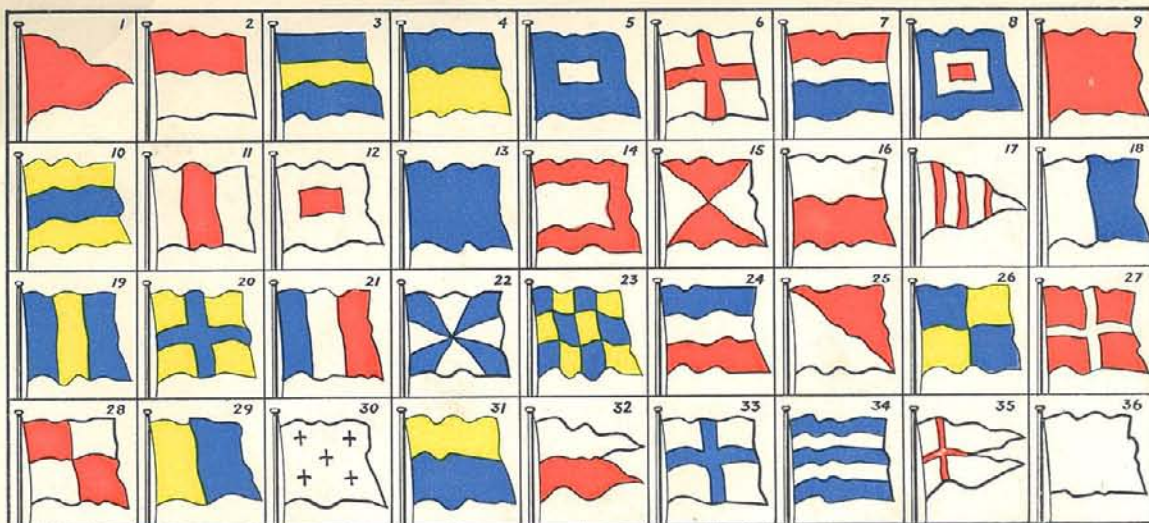
MADEIRA
CORUNNA
LISBON
CADIZ
GIBRALTAR
MALTA
IONIAN IS

MEDITERRANEAN



Healey & Wise Ltd.,
14, Wormwood Street,
London, E.C.2.

FALMOUTH POST OFFICE PACKETS AND COMMANDERS IN 1827



- | | | |
|------------------------|-----|----------|
| 1. Duke of Marlborough | ... | Bull |
| 2. Magnet | ... | Porteous |
| 3. Duke of Kent | ... | Lawrance |
| 4. Stammer | ... | Sutton |
| 5. Sandwich | ... | Schuyler |
| 6. Goldfinch | ... | Walkie |
| 7. Dove | ... | Forster |
| 8. Hope | ... | Wright |
| 9. Salisbury | ... | Graham |
| 10. Cynthia | ... | White |
| 11. Lord Hobart | ... | James |
| 12. Lady Louisa | ... | Figg |
| 13. Redpole | ... | Bullocke |
| 14. Queensbury | ... | Hannah |
| 15. Osborne | ... | Leslie |

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----|------------|
| 16. Nocton | ... | Morphew |
| 17. Spynx | ... | Passingham |
| 18. Duke of York | ... | Snell |
| 19. Lord Melville | ... | Furse |
| 20. Francis Freeling | ... | Cunningham |
| 21. Princess Elizabeth | ... | Scott |
| 22. Swallow | ... | Baldock |
| 23. Camden | ... | Tilly |

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----|----------|
| 24. Lady Pelham | ... | Carey |
| 25. Frolic | ... | Barron |
| 26. Eclipse | ... | Griffin |
| 27. Kingfisher | ... | Poore |
| 28. Chichester | ... | Kirkness |
| 29. Rinaldo | ... | Moore |
| 30. Emulous | ... | Croke |
| 31. Cygnet | ... | Gooding |
| 32. Plover | ... | Jennings |
| 33. Zephyr | ... | Church |
| 34. Wellington | ... | Lugg |
| 35. Sheldrake | ... | Ede |
| 36. Mutine | ... | Pawle |
| 37. Tyrian | ... | Dwyer |
| 38. Skylark | ... | Aplin |

1841

TRANSATLANTIC SHIPPING LINES
CUNARD LINE

Baltimore to London via Boston

R.M.S. Columbia

per Boston Steamer of 1st March

Miss Fredrick Math Co

PAID

BALTIMORE
MAR 27
1841

London

Am 18th
see 17th

J. W. Moore
see 17th

AMERICAN
BALTIMORE

1841

1841

TRANSATLANTIC SHIPPING LINES

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Columbia

Baltimore to London via Boston

This letter was posted at the pre-Treaty transatlantic rates between the U.S. and Britain. This rate required the prepayment in the U.S. of the zone rate from point of mailing to Boston. Upon arrival in Britain a 1 shilling (24¢) packet letter fee was collected. As no treaty existed between the countries, letters could not be fully prepaid. Letters from the U.K. to the U.S. were prepaid 1 shilling in Britain and were subject to a U.S. collect charge of the U.S. Domestic zone rates plus a 2¢ Ship Letter charge. In either event, the charges were substantial. Common people did little corresponding, most of the letters surviving are from business correspondence.



PAID



Feb. 27, 1841. Letter paid at Baltimore with circular date stamp (Maryland Postal History Cat. Type 24, 32 mm.), rated U.S. zone rate, Act of Mar. 3, 1825, 150-400 miles, 18-3/4¢ x 3 (treble rate) = 56 1/4¢ (shown in red mss.). The RMS Columbia, Cunard steamer, sailed from Boston March 1, 1841 for Liverpool.

This handsome mark was used by the Packet Letter Office, Liverpool on incoming Cunard Line mail from Boston.

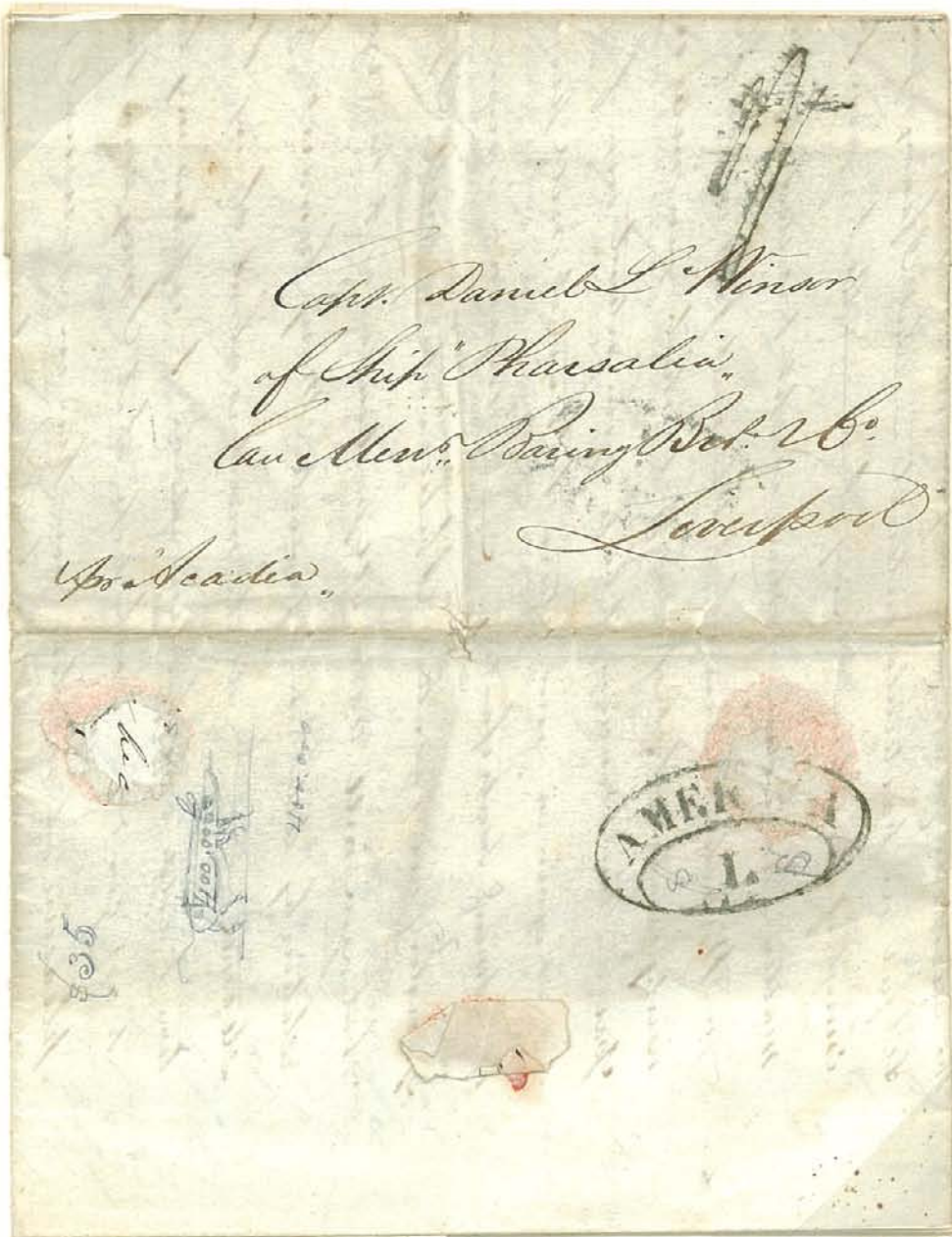
[Handwritten signature]



March 17, 1841. Arrival backstamp at London. Letter subject to a collect charge of 1 shilling (1/- in mss. mark). Total cost of this letter 80 1/4¢ !

PACKET LETTERS
LIVERPOOL

The subsidized Cunard Service from Liverpool to North America began in July, 1840. Special^{VA} dated and, later, dated oval marks came into use at Liverpool.



Liverpool Packet
Letter stamp,
Cunard Line.

Rate handstamp,
showing 1/- due
from recipient

Letter posted August 16, 1841 at Boston for Liverpool via the Packet Ship "Acadia", a 1,154 ton ship in service 1840-1849, then sold to Germany, renamed "Germania".

1842

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

CUNARD LINE: R.M.S. Caledonia, Liverpool, returned damaged
R.M.S. Acadia, Liverpool to Halifax
R.M.S. Unicorn, Halifax to Boston

January 20, 1842. A letter from Baring Brothers & Co., London to George Skolfield, Harpswell, Maine, showing a balance of £146.5. for their account current of 1841.



PAID
Ct
20 JA 20
1842

Jan. 20, 1842. Letter paid at the one shilling packet letter rate, London.

Feb. 4. R.M.S. Caledonia of the Cunard Line departed from Liverpool. On her way to Halifax she experienced severe damage in violent storms on Feb. 7th and 11th. She arrived back in Liverpool under sail on Feb. 17.

Feb. 19. R.M.S. Acadia was got ready "with utmost dispatch" and sailed from Liverpool with Caledonia's mails for Boston. By chance, about 16 miles off Halifax, she fell in with the Cunard steamer Unicorn which, in consequence of the non-arrival of Caledonia had been dispatched with mail and passengers for Liverpool. Unicorn put about, and both vessels arrived back in Halifax on March 7.

March 8. Unicorn departed from Halifax with the Acadia and Caledonia's mails. She arrived at Boston on March 11, mail processed on the 12th. Letter was rated, Act of 1825, single letter 150 to 400 miles at 18-3/4¢ + 2¢ Ship Letter = 20-3/4¢ due.

BOSTON
SHIP
MAR 12
MS.

B.293

Shipping & Commercial List, N.Y. Arrived Boston
March 11, Br. steamer Unicorn, Douglass.....Halifax.

1842

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

FRANCE TO U.S. VIA LONDON & LIVERPOOL

R.M.S. Columbia

Southampton Ship Letter

London Ship Letter

Boston Ship Letter



Feb. 28, 1842.
Paid Ship Letter
at Le Havre.
French noted mss.
"15" on reverse
to show 15 decimes
postage paid.

SOUTHAMPTON
SHIP-LETTER

Backstamped in-
coming to Britain
at Southampton.
Robertson S 10.



March 2. Fine
transit strike
at London.
Rob. S 51.



March 3. Transit at
Liverpool Packet Office.
The R.M.S. Columbia
sailed on March 4 for
Halifax and Boston.



Arrival Ship Letter mark
at Boston. 6¢ due for a
single letter addressed
to port of entry. The
Columbia got into trouble
on this trip. Shipping and Commercial
List, Mar. 30, 1842, "Br. steamer Columbia,
Judkins, from Liverpool for Boston on the
18th inst. lat 44.33 lon. 46, broke her
shaft, after which she proceeded under
canvass, and arrived Halifax on the 24th.

1843

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Britannia

OXFORDST
MANCHESTER



March 18, 1843. Letter posted paid at the 1 shilling packet rate to the U.S. in cash at the Oxford Street sub-office of Manchester, England.



March 19. Transit backstamp at Liverpool. As the letter was endorsed: Pr. Royal Mail Steamer, it was held until the next sailing of a Cunard steamer, which was the R.M.S. Britannia. She departed April 4 on her 15th outward bound passage to Boston via Halifax.



April 19. Britannia arrived at Boston. Letter rated as a Ship Letter, double the 1825 inland rate for a letter conveyed 150 to 400 miles at $18\text{-}3/4\text{¢} \times 2 = 37\frac{1}{2}\text{¢} + 2\text{¢}$ Ship Letter charge = $39\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$.

The charge mark is the type exhibiting part of the stamp frame as a partial broken rim. Blake 298 numerals are 11 mm. high, this example is only 8 mm. This is a mark not shown in Blake.

39 1/2

1846

CUNARD LINE, R.M.S. Cambria - On the beach at Truro

Transatlantic Mail - Part way by oxcart

Forwarding Agent

Fordati, Coxhead & Co, London

April 11, 1846. Letter originated in Marseilles at the offices of Liquier, Dalbis & Holmes, who sent it under separate cover to the London forwarders Fordati, Coxhead & Co.

PAID
L.S.
18AP 18
1846

Apr. 18. Forwarding agent paid 1/- packet rate (in red), deposited letter at the Lombard St. P.O., London. It was endorsed: p. steamer April 19th via Liverpool.

Apr. 19. R.M.S. Cambria, Cunard Line, departed L'pool for Boston.

May 2. Cambria while running half speed in fog ran aground on the beach off Truro, Cape Cod, and could not immediately

got off. The passengers were all put ashore safely. The letter bags were landed (with this letter among them) and were transported by ox team to Plymouth, and from there by the Old Colony Railroad to Boston. One of the rare times transatlantic mail was handled by an ox team!!

By lightening her cargo and with the help of the steam tow-boat R.B. Forbes, Cambria was got off the bar on May 4.

May 5. Mails finally arrived at Boston. 6c Ship Letter charge for a letter addressed to the port of entry (here actually Truro Beach).

SHIP
6

Forwarded by Fordati, Coxhead & Co London 18 April 1846

Steamer April 19th via Liverpool

*Geo Howe Esq Treasurer
of the Cocheco Manufacturing Company
Boston*

MS FWD Agent

1846

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Britannia

April 18, 1846. A duplicate letter to George Skolfield at Brunswick, Maine from Baring Brothers & Co., London, informing him that Capt. A. Skolfield has remitted £200 from Londonderry on the Bank of England at sight. The original letter had been sent by the R.M.S. Cambria.



May 4. This duplicate letter was paid at the old Lombard Street post office, London at the rate of one shilling, the packet postage rate to the U.S.

May 5. R.M.S. Britannia of the Cunard Line departed from Liverpool for Boston.



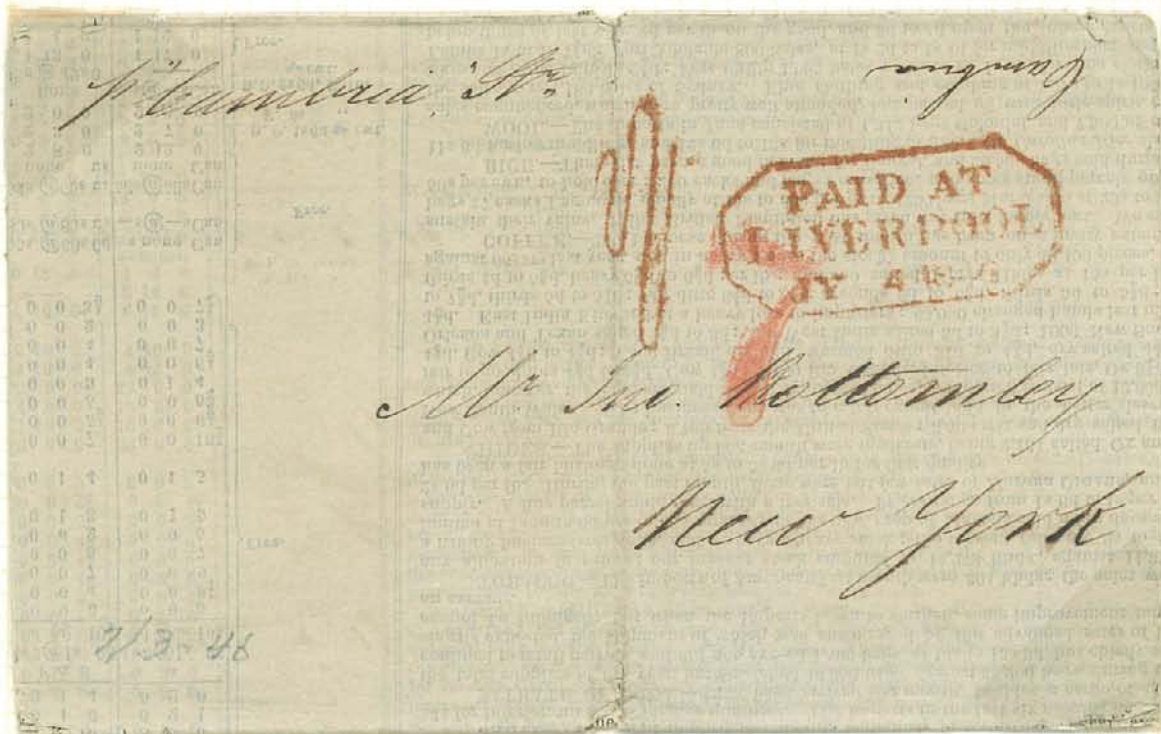
May 21. Britannia arrived at Boston. Letter rated as a Ship Letter: Act of 1845, ½-oz. letter under 300 miles at 5¢ + 2¢ Ship Letter fee = 7¢ due.

It is interesting to note that the Brunswick, Maine post office deleted the "PAID" in the London Maltese Cross mark so that there would be no confusion about whether the letter payment at London applied to the U.S. or not.

1846

PACKET LETTERS
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

From 1st May 1816 to 26th Feb. 1861, the rate (U.S.) for incoming letters (Foreign prepaid) addressed to other than the port of arrival was 2¢ plus the inland rate.



PAID AT
LIVERPOOL
JY 4 1846



1 shilling pre-paid handstamp rate mark.

July 4, 1846. Packet rate paid at L'Pool.

U.S. Inland rate (Act of Mar. 3, 1845) 1/2 oz. letters 5¢ under 300 miles (Boston-N.Y.) plus 2¢ = 7¢ due.

"Cambria" Cunard Liner, 1422 tons in service 1845-56. Sold to Italy.

Cambria arr. Boston 7-17-46.

1846

PACKET LETTERS
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

From 1st May 1816 to 26th Feb. 1861, the rate (U.S.) for incoming foreign letters addressed to other than the port of arrival was 2¢ plus the inland rate.



Letter posted Brighton, England for New York. Prepaid 1/- (mms. red at left) for British Inland plus packet. Probably received at Boston and sent overland to New York.



7

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Sept. 1, 1846 | Sept. 2, 1846. | Sept. 2, 1846. | U.S. Inland rate |
| Brighton receipt. | London transit. | Liverpool Packet | (Act of Mar.3,1845) |
| | | Office transit. | ½ oz. letters 5¢ |
| | | | under 300 mi.(Boston- |
| | | | N.Y. plus 2¢ = 7¢. |

RMS Cambria sailed Lpool 9-9-46
Arr Boston 9-18-46

1847

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
PACKET LETTERS

DUBLIN TO NEW YORK VIA LIVERPOOL AND BOSTON

1
PAID
JY 3
1847
F

July 3, 1847.
Paid mark of the
Chief Office at
Dublin (A&H 793).
Sender had to pre-
pay the 1 shilling
(1/- in red mms.)
transatlantic post-
age, and letter was
sent on to L'pool.

L
JY 4
C

July 4, 1847.
Transit backstamp
of the packet
letter office at
Liverpool.

Cunard steamers
sailed from here
to Boston.



Letter went from Boston to New York at the
5¢ rate (Act of 3 March 1845) for letters
not over ½ ounce and under 300 miles, plus
the 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 7¢ due.

This letter mentions the Irish potato
blight, and speculates that the 1847 crop
would be good. Actually, the blight in
1847 and 1848 proved disastrous.

Cunard R.M.S. Britannia
arrived Boston July 17, 1847.

7

1847-48

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Cambria

First regular sailing to N.Y. from Liverpool via Halifax

This letter was carried on the first direct sailing of the Cunard Line to New York from Liverpool via Halifax. Previously all Cunard mail was to Boston. With this sailing was inaugurated alternate sailings to Boston and New York via Halifax. R.M.S. Hibernia had made a regular trip to Boston, arriving Dec. 25, 1847. On Dec. 27 she sailed for New York, arriving Dec. 29, and started the New York-Liverpool service, sailing for Liverpool via Halifax Jan. 2, 1848. Cambria sailed in the opposite direction, departing from Liverpool Jan. 1, 1848.



Tooley St

December 31, 1847. Letter paid as a double packet letter at the Tooley Street office, London. It was directionally endorsed: pr "Cambria", which departed from Liverpool January 1, 1848, for New York via Halifax, the first regular direct sailing of the Cunard Line to New York.

January 18, 1848. Cambria arrived at New York. Docket inside letter notes arrival at A. Bell & Son offices on January 19.

Letter subject to the Act of March 3, 1845 rate of 6¢ for a single letter addressed to the port of entry.



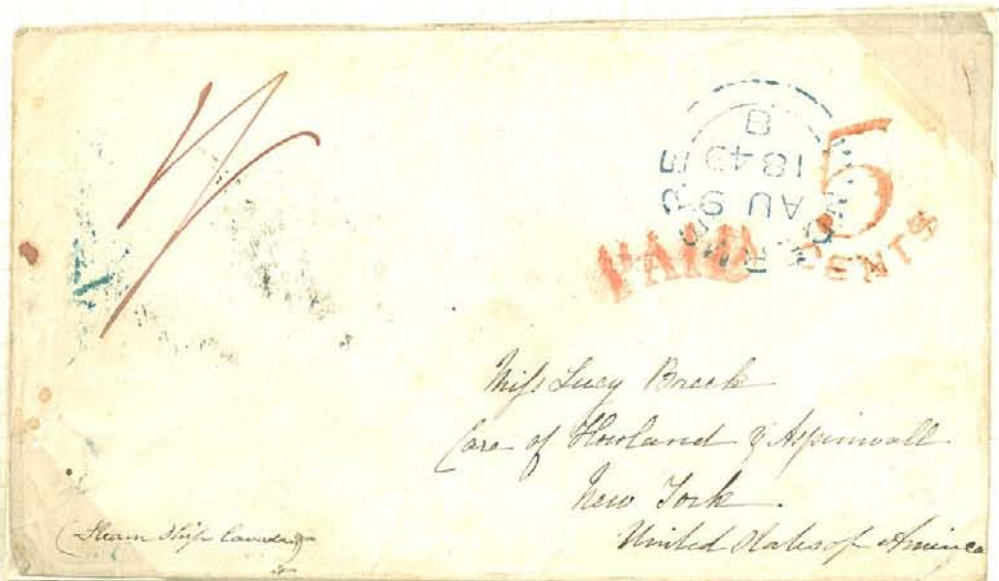
BRITISH POSTAL MARKINGS

**PACKET LETTERS
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL**

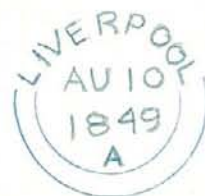
EXCHANGE OFFICE MARKS

Prepaid letters were credited by the British Exchange Office by marking in red ink the amount due the United States Exchange Office.

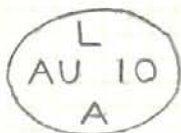
This letter, sent to New York from Windermere, England via British Packet, Steam Ship "Canada", was rated at 1 sh. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. (as noted in mms.) in accordance with Post Office Instructions, June 1847. 5 cents in red, upper right, shows proportion of prepaid charge credited to U.S.



Aug. 9, 1849.
Windermere date stamp. (Note inverted B).



Backstamp:
Aug. 10, 1849.
Liverpool date stamp.



Backstamp:
Aug. 10, 1849.
Liverpool transit mark.

5
CENTS

PAID

BRITISH Exchange Office U.S. "Paid to Destination" stamp, indicates amount due to U.S. of 1/- prepaid postage.

RMS Canada left Liverpool Aug. 11, 1849, arrived N.Y. Aug. 25.

1849

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

SINGAPORE TO BOSTON
via Marseilles.

FORWARDING AGENT
Baring Bros., London

| |
|-----------|
| SINGAPORE |
| 18 |
| Bearing |

Sept. 1, 1849. Letter, headed Singapore, put aboard ship at Singapore by the well-known merchants and forwarding agents, Boustead & Co. Directed to London, care of Baring Bros. & Co.

Struck at Singapore with the transit backstamp.

"Bearing" = Postage Due.



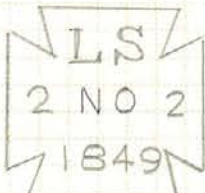
October 27, 1849. London receipt backstamp. Letter, which had gone via P & O packet to Suez, thence by camel train across Egypt and by French packet to Marseilles, was received by Baring Bros., who paid 2sh. 3d. for the postage Singapore - London.

Nov. 2, 1849. Baring Bros. put letter into mail, unpaid, at the 1/- (24¢) packet letter rate to the U.S.

2/3 rate was deleted when letter posted into the old Lombard Street (L.S. in handstamp) Post Office.

24
19
CENTS

British restated amount due in U.S. currency or 24¢. Exchange Office allowed British 19¢ out of total, i.e., 16¢ transatlantic and 3¢ Inland. U.S. retained 5¢ Domestic.



RMS America: L'pool Nov. 3, 1849 arrived N.Y. Nov. 17.

1850

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

U. S. TO IRELAND

CUNARD PACKET



PAID

24

19

March 5, 1850. Letter posted at Ithaca, N.Y. for Londonderry, Ireland, prepaid in cash at the 24¢ trans-Atlantic rate for letters up to ½ oz., and so noted by the mms. "24" at U.R.

As letter went by British Packet (Cunard), England received 16¢ trans-Atlantic rate plus 3¢ Inland or 19¢ total out of the 24¢ rate, credit shown by the red "19". U.S. retained 5¢ for her domestic postage.



April 2, 1850. Receipt mark at Liverpool, this PAID mark is connected with the Cunard line.



April 3, 1850 London "PAID" transit mark.



April 4, 1850. Londonderry, Ireland receipt backstamp.

R.M.S. Canada left NY March 20. arrived L'pool April 1.

1850

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

CUNARD LINE

R. M. S. Canada



March 20, 1850. An unpaid letter posted at New York and endorsed: pr "Canada". The New York Exchange Office struck this mark debiting Britain for 5¢ U.S. Inland. The total U.S.-British Treaty of 1848 rate was 24¢ (one shilling) per ½-oz. Britain would retain 16¢ Sea (British Packet) + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢.

This mark is recorded (Hubbard & Winter) in use from April 3, 1850 to March 23, 1853. This example extends the earliest usage back to March 20, 1850, 2 weeks earlier. Another cover in this collection extends the use forward to March 28, 1854.

March 20. R.M.S. Canada of the Cunard Line departed from N.Y.

April 1. Canada arrived at Liverpool, transit backstamp at London April 2.



Letter rated at one shilling collect, equivalent to 24¢ U.S., shown by the manuscript 1/-.

1850

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET, Paid

R. M. S. Niagara

Listowel, Co. Kerry to U.S.

June 9, 1850. Letter datelined at "Ballibannion", Listowel, Co. Kerry. Into the mails there, but no local postmark. It didn't pick up a postal marking until it got to Kildare, Co. Kildare, near Dublin. Post paid 1/- (24¢), rate to U.S. under the Treaty.



June 12. Back-stamp at Kildare, transit.



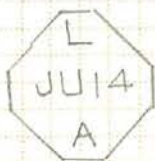
June 12. Strange routing via Rathangan, Co. Kildare, just N/W of Kildare en route to Dublin.

Possible alternate routing was letter went ex-post to Rathangan, posted there, thence transit via Kildare. 1/- (24¢) prepaid.



DUBLIN

June 13. Transit at London via Irish mail.



June 14. L'pool transit backstamp "lozenge". The Cunarder Niagara sailed June 15 for Boston.



Stamped aboard steamer, 5¢ debit to Britain for U.S. Domestic.



June 26. Paid arrival Boston Exchange Office mark. Blake 701.

1850

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
—  —
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. America



June 19, 1850. Unpaid letter at New York endorsed: pr. America Steamer. Cunard Line R.M.S. America departed from New York for Liverpool via Halifax this same date.

The New York Exchange Office debited the British for 10¢ U.S. Inland as a double letter (5¢ x 2), i.e., over $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz., but not over 1 oz.



July 1. Arrival backstamp at London. America had arrived at Liverpool June 30.

British reweighed the letter and found that it weighed just over one ounce, thus would normally have been subject to 3 rates. As Britain had no treble rate scale, they charged the letter at a quadruple rate of 4 shillings (96¢ U.S.). They thus retained 86¢. Had they agreed with the double rate (48¢), they would have charged 2 shillings and retained 38¢. The U.S. did not participate in the windfall of the extra charges and the Exchange Office credited them with 10¢ per the New York mark.

1850

BRITISH POSTAL MARKINGS

PACKET LETTERS



July 20, 1850. Dresden, Germany Postmark, 9-9½ (Time 9-9:30). German cover posted at Dresden to Belleville, Illinois via British Packet Liverpool to Boston. Fee paid to U.S. (pr. Steamship, as noted in mms.)



July 25. RR transit mark at Forbach, Alsace and Lorraine. "Tour - T" refers to ~~trip~~ Tour of Taxes (Thurs & Taxes Post)

July 26. British "PAID" transit mark.



5

P.P.

P.D.

August 8, 1850. Arrival mark at Boston, Mass. showing letter arrived via British Packet.

U.S. charge mark showing amount due from recipient. This rate appears wrong as rate over 300 miles was 10 cents (Act of Mar. 3, 1945).

"POST PAID" and "PAID TO DESTINATION" marks.

RMS Cambria: Sailed April 27
Arr. Boston Aug 8 TAA 025.0

1850

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Cambria

Quadruple rated letter



J.J.

November 26, 1850. Unpaid letter to London posted at New York. A rather mundane cover except for the seldom seen multiple rate of 4 times the 24¢ per ½-oz. rate, U.S.-British Treaty of 1848. Rate was apportioned: 5¢ U.S. Inland, 16¢ Sea, 3¢ British Inland. The New York Exchange Office debited Britain for 5¢ x 4 (quadruple rate) = 20¢ as shown in manuscript. Letter sent in bulk to Boston.

November 27. The R.M.S. Cambria, Cunard Line, departed from Boston for Liverpool.

December 11. Cambria arrived at Liverpool, London transit backstamp December 12.

Letter charged at four times the shilling (24¢) rate at 4/-, equivalent to 96¢ U.S. Britain retained 16¢ Sea (British Packet) + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢ x 4 = 76¢.



J.J.

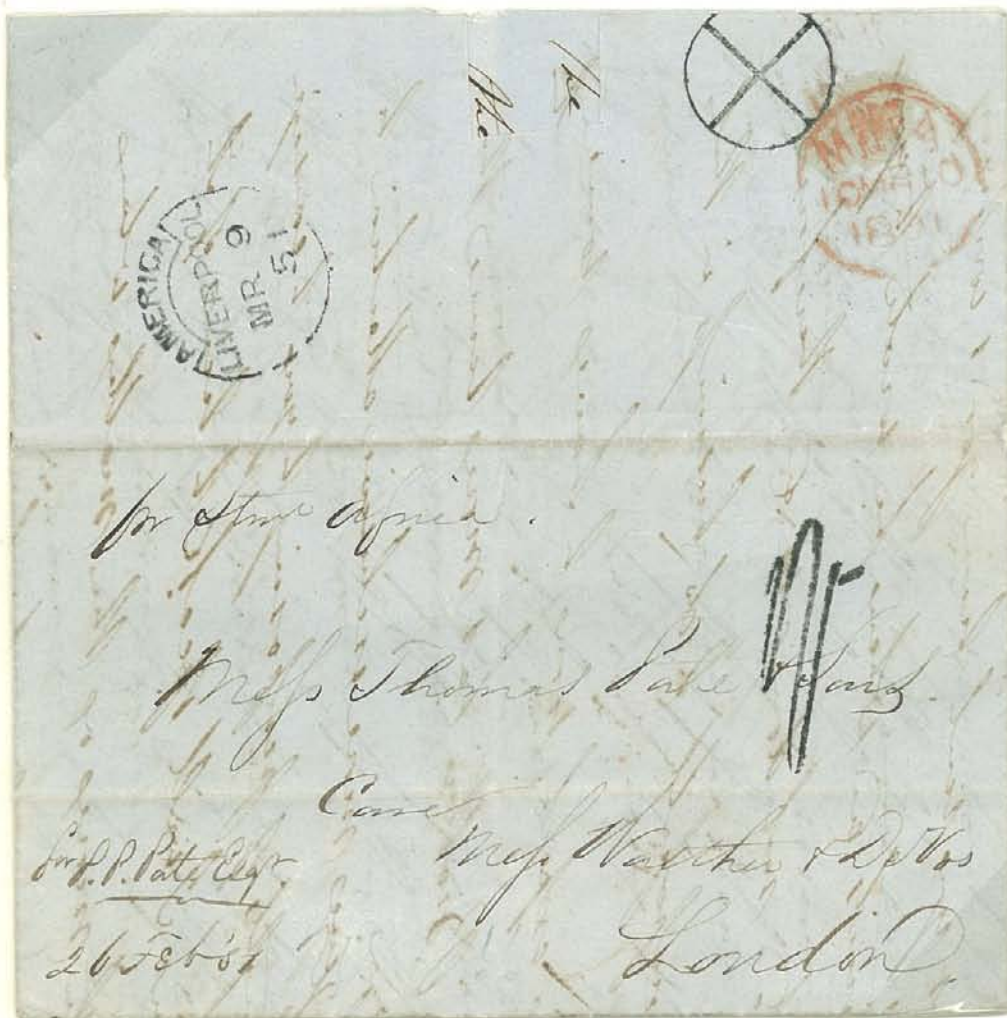
1851

CUNARD LINE

R. M. S. Africa

"Loose Letter"

February 26, 1851. This letter, endorsed: pr. Stmr Africa, is datelined at New York. It was subject to the 24¢ (one shilling) rate of the U.S.-British Treaty of 1848 per ½-oz. Instead of posting the letter through the New York post office, the sender handed it directly to the steamship as a "loose letter." Normal accounting procedures should show on an unpaid letter a debit to Britain of 5¢ for U.S. Inland. Britain would then retain 16¢ Sea (British Packet) + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢.



Feb. 26, 1851.
R.M.S. Africa de-
parted from N.Y.
for Liverpool.

March 9. Africa arrived at Liverpool where the AMERICA backstamp was struck. Because this letter arrived as a "loose letter" it received special handling as shown by the "crosshairs" inspector's backstamp. It was also marked with the one shilling (1/-) charge mark showing a letter arriving by contract packet with 1/- due.

March 10. London arrival backstamp.

1851

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE COLLINS LINE

S.S. Baltic

Philadelphia block "24"



March 16, 1851. An account current letter datelined at Sheffield, England by W. & S. Butcher, Merchants and Manufacturers of all kinds of edge tools, files, saws and joiners' tools.

March 21. Letter posted unpaid at Sheffield and endorsed: pr. Baltic SS. 22 Mar. 1851.

March 22. Backstamp in transit at Liverpool. The S.S. Baltic of the Collins Line sailed from Liverpool this date. The Exchange Office debited U.S. for 3¢ British Inland.

24

April 3. Baltic arrived at New York. 24¢ charge mark struck at Philadelphia. This heavy block mark appears in 1850 and 1851. It indicated that the U.S.-British Treaty of 1848 rate of 24¢ was due. U.S. retained 16¢ Sea (American Packet) + 5¢ U.S. Inland = 21¢. Britain had already claimed 3¢.

PACKET LETTERS
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
BRITISH PACKET - UNPAID LETTERS

Single Rate (1/2 oz)



Dec. 12, 1851.
London, Lombard
St. Receiving Off.
Per Cunard packet
"Canada".

19
CENTS

Brit. Exch. Off.
single letter rate.
British share.

24

U.S. Exchg. Off.
stamp - 24¢ due
from recipient.

Double Rate (1 oz.)



Nov. 30, 1861.
Letter posted Lon-
don. Per "Europa"
Cunard packet.

Mms. "38" is am-
ount due British
for double rate.

48

U.S. Exch. Off.
mark showing 48¢
due.

Arr. NY 28 Dec. 1852

1851-52

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Africa

December 19, 1851. A letter from Baring Brothers & Co. at Liverpool to George Skolfield at Brunswick, Maine regarding an anchor chain, inter alia, "We have now to take in regard to the Anchor chain left behind by the "Dublin" that three of your vessels having been here since these articles came into our possession and the Captains in consequence of their not returning to Boston declining to receive them, it is our purpose to offer them to the Captain of the 'Genl. Dunlap', now on the way from New Orleans to our consignment; and should it not suit him to take charge of them, we would submit the propriety of forwarding them to your order to Boston or New York as suggested by Capt. Skolfield."

Letter is endorsed: p. "Africa".



19
CENTS



December 19. Letter posted unpaid at Liverpool. U.S. was debited 16¢ Sea (British Packet) + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢. Oval backstamp at the Liverpool Packet Letter office. R.M.S. Africa of the Cunard Line departed from Liverpool on the 20th.

January 2, 1852. Africa arrived at New York. 24¢ due, being the U.S.-British Treaty of 1848 rate per ½-oz. U.S. retained 5¢ U.S. Inland.

The N.Y. Exchange Office mark (W. 83) is recorded used 20 May 52 to 22 Jun 59. Here earlier on 2 Jan.52.



W. 82 (440) W. 82a (500) W. 82a (letter)

1852

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Africa



September 10, 1852. A letter posted unpaid and headed at Liverpool by Baring Bros. & Co. to George Skolfield was endorsed: p "Africa"s.

September 11. Liverpool Packet Letter office backstamp. Letter reads:

p. Africa S, Geo. Skolfield Liverpool 10th Sept. 1852
 Brunswick, Me. Sir.

At the request of Capt. A Skolfield of the ship "Roger Stewart" we beg to advise that he has this day deposited with us the sum of £200.....Two Hundred Pounds, which according to his instructions, we shall remit to our London House for your credit.

The "Roger Stewart" is loading for New York and will probably sail about 15th instant. We remain your obt. servants,
 Baring Bros. & Co.

September 11. R.M.S. Africa departed from Liverpool. U.S. was debited for 16¢ Sea (British Packet) + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢.



September 21. Africa arrived at New York, mail processed at the Exchange Office there on September 22. The N.Y. mark shows that the U.S.-British Treaty of 1848 rate of 24¢ per ½-oz. was due. U.S. retained 5¢ U.S. Inland postage.