

1884

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
— & —
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Aurania



B 981



July 8, 1884. Cover directionally endorsed: per SS. Aurania/
from New York. It was paid at the 5¢ U.P.U. rate by American
Bank Note Company Issues.

R.M.S. Aurania departed from New York July 9.



July 18, 1884. London "hooded scroll" arrival backstamp.

BY CABLE TO THE NEW YORK TIMES, Queenstown July 17, 1884.
The Cunard Line steamship Aurania, Capt. Hains from New-York
July 9 for Liverpool, arrived here at 6 AM today.

TAS 025.575

1885

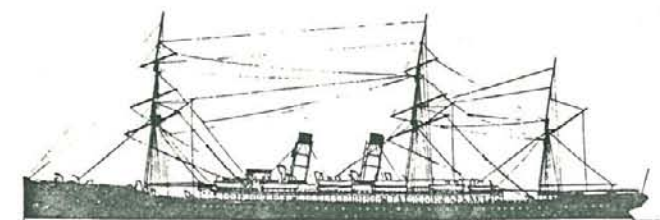
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL



THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Aurania

7269 tons, 470' x 57', straight stem, iron screw steamer, 16 knots. J. & G. Thompson, Glasgow, launched Dec. 26, 1882. Maiden voyage, June 23, 1883, L'pool-Queenstown-New York; engines disabled in mid-Atlantic, arrived N.Y. July 4 under sail and tow. April 12, 1884



1883 AURANIA 7,269 tons
Consort of SERVICIA, but built with reduced ratio of length to beam.

resumed service after engine refit. 1899 Boer War transport. Last voyage L'pool-New York Sept. 29, 1903. Scrapped 1905 at Genoa.



May 15, 1885. Postal card put into the mail at Rue Cambon, Paris at the 10 centimes U.P.U. postal card rate. It went to England to meet the transatlantic sailing of the R.M.S. Aurania.



By cable from Queenstown May 17: Cunard Line steamship Aurania, Capt. Hains, from Liverpool sailed hence today for New York.

May 25. Per N.Y. Times: Arrived N.Y. May 24, S.S. Aurania, Liverpool and Queenstown, 8 days, to Vernon H. Brown & Co. Transit the next day at the Boston Foreign Division, closed bags New York to Boston.



May 25. Same day (1 pm) arrival at Portland.



B. 961

1886

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Aurania

GEORGE E. CRAWLEY,
ART GOODS,
171 Tremont Street,
BOSTON.



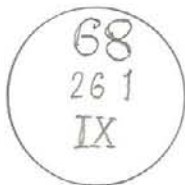
*M Adolph Schwabe
19 Markgrafenstr
Berlin
Germany*



January 14, 1886. A letter paid to Germany at the 5¢ U.P.U. rate by the Issue of 1882, cancelled by the Boston duplex.

January 15. Transit as a PAID letter at the Boston Foreign Department.

January 16. R.M.S. Aurania of the Cunard Line departed from New York.



N.Y. Times. BY CABLE, QUEENSTOWN, January 24, 1886. The Cunard Line steamship Aurania, Capt. Hains, from New-York Jan. 16, arr. here at 9 o'clock this morning.

January 26. Berlin arrival backstamp.

1892

THE CUNARD LINE

R. M. S. Aurania



May 13, 1892. Letter posted at Brussels, Belgium and paid at the 25 centimes U.P.U. rate by a strip of 5 of the 1 centime gray Issue of 1884; strip of 5 of the 2 centimes purple brown, Issue of 1888, and the 10 centimes rose on bluish, Issue of 1884. The letter was routed via England where the R.M.S. Aurania departed from Liverpool for New York via Queenstown on May 14.



N.Y. Times. Arrived Sunday, May 22. SS Aurania, (Br.,) Walker, Liverpool and Queenstown 8 ds., merchandise and passengers to Vernon H. Brown & Co. Arrival backstamp.

N.B.: Another possible steamship would be as follows, except late arrival at the Bar would indicate handling on May 23 at N.Y.: Times, Arrived 22nd. SS Alaska (Br.,) Murray, L'pool and Q'town 8 ds. to A.M. Underhill & Co. Arrived at the Bar at 5:20 PM.

1893

THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Aurania

PATERSON, DOWNING & CO.,
No. 154 FRONT STREET,
NEW YORK.

Per S. S. *Aurania*



ROB. ROESENER, Esq.,

MAINZ,

GERMANY.

January 27, 1893. A letter to Germany posted at New York and paid at the 5¢ U.P.U. rate by the Issue of 1890. A printed envelope with the steamship designation filled in: Per S.S. Aurania.

N.Y. Times: Outgoing steamships, Saturday January 28, Aurania, Liverpool. Mails Close 12M, Sails 2 P.M.



February 7. German receiving backstamp.

1894

THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Aurania



January 19, 1894. A letter posted at New York to Germany paid at the 5¢ U.P.U. rate by the 1¢ and 4¢ Columbian Issue of 1893. Letter is endorsed: SS Aurania. The time-dated machine cancellation shows the letter was mailed at 12 PM (midnight of the 19th.)

N.Y. Times, January 20, 1894. OUTGOING STEAMSHIPS, TO-DAY (SAT.): Aurania, Liverpool, mails close 11:30 A.M., ship sails 3:00 P.M.

N.Y. Times. BY CABLE. London January 28. Cunard Line SS Aurania, Capt. McKay, from New York Jan. 20, arr. at Liverpool at 10:09 A.M. to-day.



January 30. Arrival backstamp at Schmölln, Sachsen-Altenberg, Germany.

1895

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
— & —
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Aurania

TOO LATE for S.S. Paris



Feb. 5, 1895. Letter to Rugby, England at the 5¢ U.P.U. rate paid by the Columbian embossed envelope. Letter is endorsed: Per S.S. Paris/ Sailing 6th Feb.



TOO LATE

Feb. 6, 1895. Letter arrived at New York at 12 noon, backstamp. The mails by S.S. Paris to Southampton had closed at 8 AM, the vessel sailed at 11:00 AM. Cover stamped "TOO LATE" to show it didn't leave by the Paris

There were no European sailings Thursday or Friday, Feb. 7th or 8th.



Feb. 9. Steamship Aurania departed from N.Y. for Liverpool at 1:30 AM.

Feb. 19. Arrival back stamp at Rugby Station.

1862

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL



THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Australasian



July 18, 1862. Letter paid at Clonakilty, County Cork, Ireland, and stamps cancelled by the "138" in a diamond of bars, Irish type of British Post Office number assigned to Clonakilty. Backstamp circular date stamp. The 1 shilling (12d.) U.S.-British Treaty rate was made up of 3 copies of the 4d. Issue of 1862.

July 19. R.M.S. Australasian departed this date from Liverpool for New York via Queenstown the 20th.

July 30. N.Y. Times, Wed. July 30. Arrived Steamship Australasian (Br.), Cook, at 4:10 P.M. to Kunhardt & Co. July 28 met steamship City of New-York hence for Liverpool.

Scarce New York Exchange Office mark with year date at top restates that 24¢ (1 shilling) had been prepaid. Credit to U.S. for 5¢ U.S. Inland. Britain retained 3¢ British Inland + 16¢ Sea postage = 19¢.



5
CENTS

1865

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Australasian

September 8, 1865. Letter by Baring Bros. & Co. at London advising Archer & Bull of the arrival of the ship Benefactor from Hong Kong with 548 chests and 198 boxes of tea costing \$5594.72 at Foochow and 20 bales of silk overland costing \$7126.65. Silk is to be transshipped to New York via Southampton.



19
CENTS

Sept. 9. Letter endorsed: "pr Australasian", posted unpaid at London. R.M.S. Australasian departed from Liverpool this date, picked up London mails at Queens-town on the 10th. Exchange Office marked a debit to U.S. of 16¢ Sea (British Packet) + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢.



Sept. 20. Australasian arrived at N.Y., letter processed at the Exchange Office Sept. 21. 24¢ in U.S. coin was due for the U.S.-British Treaty rate of 1848. This was converted to 33¢ in depreciated greenbacks (U.S. NOTES) at the day's rate of greenbacks to silver coins.

1866

TRANSATLANTIC SHIPPING LINES

THE CUNARD LINE

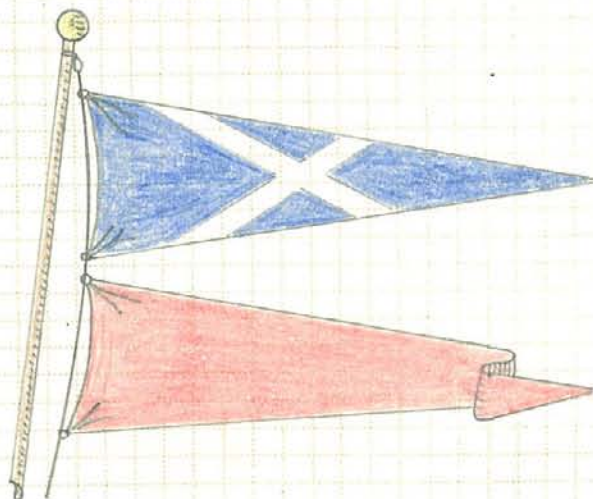
S.S. Australasian

U.S. Depreciated Currency

2,902 tons, 332 ft. x 42 ft. beam, clipper bow, 2 funnels, iron screw steamer. June 10, 1857 launched at J. & B. Thompson yard, Glasgow for European & Australian. 1859 purchased by Cunard. Feb. 25, 1860, first voyage Liverpool-New York. Re-named Calabria after reconstruction 1869-70, funnels reduced to one. Scrapped 1898.



March 10, 1866. Letter unpaid at London. The manuscript pr "Australasian via Cork notes handling by Irish Night Mail to Cork (Queenstown), where the Cunard Line had established a port of call in Nov. 1859 to save several hours over sending mail from London to Liverpool. Red cross is inspector's mark.



House Flag of the Cunard Line, 1840-1881.

19 CENTS

19¢ debit mark to U.S. struck aboard ship allowing Britain 16¢ sea (British Packet) + 3¢ Inland = 19¢.



March 22. Arrival New York, 24¢ in coin or 30¢ in depreciated greenbacks was due, being the contract rate, Britain to U.S.



1873

THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Batavia

2552 tons, 327'-5" x 39'-4", iron screw steamer, built at Wm. Denny & Bros., Dumbarton. Purchased on stocks, launched Feb. 1, 1870. Maid en voyage May 10, 1870, Liverpool-Queenstown-N.Y. Feb. 6, 1884, last voyage Liverpool-Queenstown-Boston. 1884 acquired by John Elder & Co. in part payment for Umbria and Etruria. Various owners until seized by Japanese during Russo-Japanese War March 15, 1905.



May 16, 1873. Letter posted at Boston and paid at the 6¢ (3d. British) rate, effective Jan. 1, 1870 to July 1, 1875. Rate is paid by two copies of the National Bank Note Company Issue of 1870.

May 17. R.M.S. Batavia of the Cunard Line departed from New York for Liverpool via Queenstown.

May 27. Batavia arrived at Queenstown. Transit at London May 28.



1875

TRANSATLANTIC SHIPPING LINES
—*—
THE CUNARD LINE

SS Bothnia

4,354 ton steamer in service 1874-96. She ran to New York and Boston.



June 19, 1875. Glasgow Type B-5 numbered cancellation obliterates stamps prepaying 3d. (6¢ U.S.) transatlantic rate, effective January 1, 1870 to July 1, 1875.

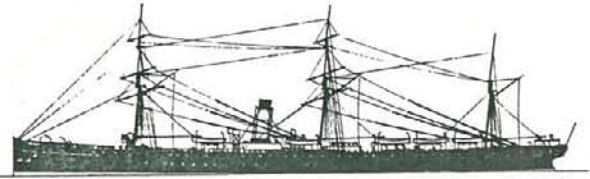
2d. stamp, Plate 14, Issue of 1869 in the deep blue shade.
1d. stamp, Plate 161, Issue of 1864.

1882

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Bothnia

4535 tons, 422 ft. x 42 ft.
Straight stem, iron screw
steamer. Built by J. & G.
Thompson, Glasgow, launched
Mar. 4, 1874. Maiden voyage
Aug. 8, 1874 Liverpool -
Queenstown-N.Y. April 15,
1885 first voyage L'pool-
Q'town-Boston. Served
both ports until sold in
1898, scrapped at Marseilles
1899.



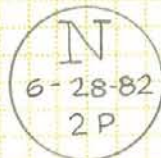
1874 BOTHNIA 4,535 tons
Cunard reply to the White Star OCEANIC. Sister ship
SCYTHIA.



June 17, 1882.
Letter at L'pool
paid at the 2½d.
U.P.U. rate
with stamp, Issue
of 1881, Plate 23.
R.M.S. Bothnia,
McMickan master,
departed L'pool
this day and
called at Queens-
town the 18th.
She arrived at New
York June 27 to
Vernon H. Brown & Co.



B. 945



2322



B. 2027



2068

June 28. Boston mail had been bulked and
went by rail N.Y. to Boston where bulk was
broken and the letter received identity on
June 28 with this Foreign Mail marking:
BOSTON/PAID. It also went through the
Boston Receiving Distribution where it
received the June 28 backstamp (B. 2322)
Blake records used 1886-88, here used 1882.

July 2. As Captain Harvey Mills had left
the Quincy House the letter was forwarded on
to him at Thomastown, Maine at no extra charge,
even though five days later. BOSTON/E
backstamp received the letter back into the
mails.

1840

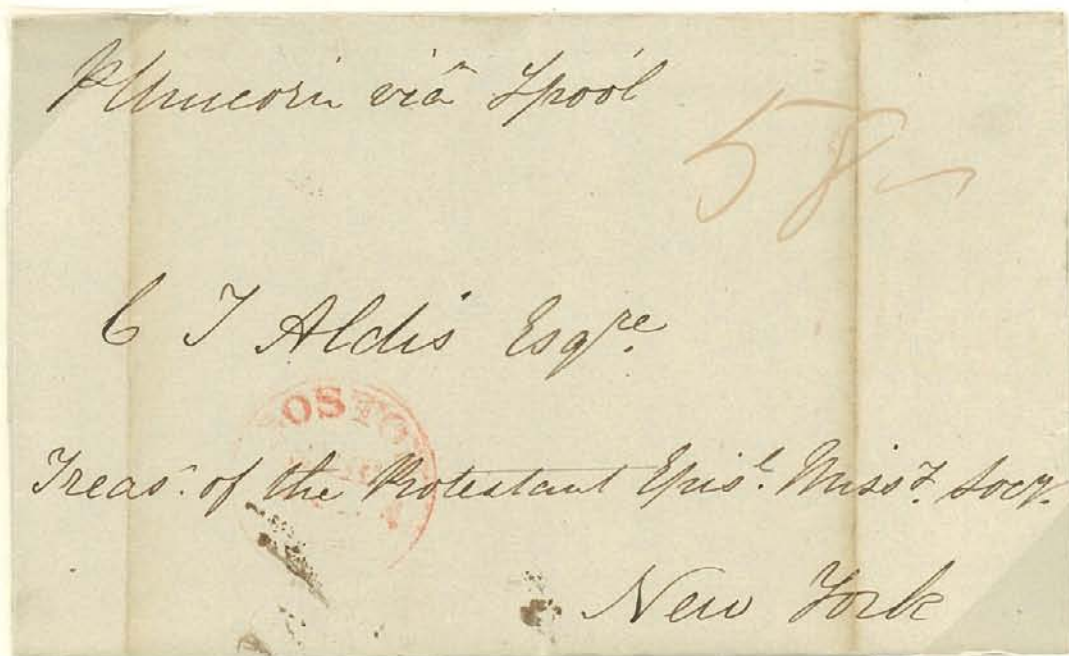
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Unicorn

This Voyage Inaugurated the Cunard Line

Unicorn made the first transatlantic crossing for the Cunard Line to inaugurate a feeder service between Pictou, Nova Scotia and Quebec during the months the St. Lawrence was navigable. The contract between Cunard and the British Admiralty was to commence on July 4, 1840, with the R.M.S. Britannia to call at Halifax and Boston.

R.M.S. Unicorn departed from Liverpool May 16, 1840, touched at Halifax on June 1, and arrived at Boston on June 3. The 640 ton wooden paddle steamer Unicorn had previously operated for the Burns Line between Glasgow and Liverpool.



8.293

Letter is endorsed: p Unicorn viâ Lpool.

June 3, 1840. Unicorn arrived at Boston, letter processed on June 4. It was rated as a treble letter, Act of 1825, 150 to 400 miles, Boston to New York at 18-3/4¢ x 3 = 56¼¢ plus 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 58¼¢ due, shown in manuscript.

1840

British & North American Royal Mail Steam Packet Co.
The Cunard Line

R.M.S. Britannia

Maiden Voyage

With the final negotiations with the British Admiralty on July 4, 1839, Samuel Cunard won the bid to provide subsidized fortnightly mail packet service by steamship between Liverpool and Boston with a side port of call at Halifax. A slight reduction in the subsidy allowed only monthly sailings between November and February. Cunard had wooden paddle steamers ready, and the Britannia departed from Liverpool on July 4, 1840, on the first subsidized passage.



ERAD
JY 30
1840 O
M

PAID AT
LIVERPOOL

BOSTON
SHIP
JUL 18
MS

July 3, 1840. A tobacco market letter with prices current was paid at the One shilling packet letter rate to Boston, manuscript 1/-. Endorsed: p Britannia/ via Boston.

July 4. R.M.S. Britannia departed from Liverpool on her maiden voyage.

July 18. Britannia had touched at Halifax on July 17 and arrived at Boston July 18. Letter rated at Boston, Act of 1825, for a single letter over 400 miles at 25¢ + 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 27¢ due, shown by the red "27".

While the Cunard Line mail was subsidized by Britain, there was no contract with the U.S., so incoming Cunard Line mail was handled in the U.S. as ordinary Ship Letters. This lasted until the U.S.-British Treaty of 1848.

1840

THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Britannia

Maiden Return Voyage

On July 4, 1840, the 1135 ton wooden paddle steamer R.M.S. Britannia sailed from Liverpool to inaugurate the regular British & North American Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's transatlantic service. She arrived at Boston July 18. The line was more commonly known as The Cunard Line.

N.B.: A previous westbound voyage by R.M.S. Unicorn was to station her on the feeder service between Pictou and Quebec on the St. Lawrence River.



July 29, 1840. Letter dated at Boston. It is endorsed: Britannia.

August 1. Britannia departed from Boston for Liverpool on her maiden homeward voyage.

August 14. Britannia arrived at Liverpool. London mails were forwarded by rail.

August 15. London arrival backstamp. This letter was subject to the one shilling Packet Letter rate, shown as 1/- in manuscript.

PACKET LETTER

15 AUG 15
1840

1840

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Britannia, 2nd Westbound Voyage

August 30, 1840. Seth Sprague, Jr. correspondence datelined at London. He informs his wife he has completed a tour through Ireland and Scotland and has arrived at London. He is to get ready to embark for New York in the packet ship Roscius (Dramatic Line, Liverpool to New York - E.K. Collins,) sailing on the 13th of September. He notes, "We should have taken passage in the Steamer Britannia which sails on the 4th, but Edward does not seem ready & wishes to make a tour through Wales. We shall save 200 dollars in our passage only we shall be 10 days longer. If I had my choice I should have taken passage in the steamer, but I think there is more danger than in a Packet Ship."



September 2. Letter paid 1 shilling (1/- in red mss.) at the Charing Cross, London post office. This was the Packet Letter rate by Cunard steamer to the United States. Letter is endorsed: Per Steamer/Britannia via Liverpool/& Boston.

September 4. R.M.S. Britannia sailed from Liverpool for Boston on her 2nd Westbound passage.

September 18. Britannia arrived at Boston. Letter rated, Act of 1825, single, 30 to 80 miles at 10¢ plus 2¢ Ship Letter = 12¢. Letter had originally and erroneously rated at only 10¢.



1840

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET - Cunard Line

R.M.S. Britannia - 2nd outbound voyage

Quadruple rated letter - British

Septuple rated letter - United States

ERPO
SE 40
H 1840
A-E-A

1 3/4 oz



133 1/4

Abraham Beech
New York

In Britannia
via Halifax

A

Sept. 4, 1840. Letter paid at the British transatlantic packet rate of 1 shilling per 1/2-oz. Noted at 1-3/4 oz., i.e. over 1 1/2-oz., but not over 2 oz., it took four rates shown as 4/- in manuscript (equivalent to 96¢ U.S.)

This was the third regular westbound voyage of the Cunard Liners from Liverpool to Boston via Halifax, departures being Britannia July 4, 1840; Acadia Aug. 4 and Britannia Sept. 4 (this voyage.) Unicorn had gone out May 16, 1840 to go on station at British North America.



Sept. 18. Arrival of Britannia at Boston. Letter was rated at the zone rate of 18-3/4¢ (Act of March 1825) for a letter going 150 to 400 miles, Boston to N.Y. As U.S. rated per 1/2-oz., this letter was subject to 7 rates (1-3/4 ounce) or 18-3/4 x 7 = 131 1/4 to which was added the 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 133 1/4¢ due as shown in manuscript.

British and U.S. charges total \$2.29 1/4, a lot of money in 1840.

Sept. 19. Docket notes letter received at New York this date.

133 1/4

1840

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

R.M.S. Britannia

CUNARD LINE

3rd outbound voyage



October 19, 1840. Letter paid at Birmingham, England at the one shilling packet letter rate, noted at upper left. Birmingham receiving backstamp.

This letter makes reference to the importance of the early steam packets for merchants of

the day, *inter alia*, "Your favor of the 1st Instant pr. British Queen is received this morning. As the Britannia (via Boston) is detained till morning I trust this will be in time for her - to advise you of our receipts.

"The order for Messrs. Green & Morley is put in hand & we hope will be shipped by the British Queen on the 1st Proximo..."

October 20. Britannia departed from Liverpool for Boston on her 3rd outbound voyage.



November 3. Britannia arrived at Boston. Letter rated at the zone rate of 18-3/4¢ (Act of March 1825), single, 150 to 400 miles, Boston to N.Y. plus 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 20-3/4¢ due as shown in manuscript.

1840

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET- Cunard Line

R.M.S. Britannia - 3rd outbound voyage



October 20, 1840. Letter paid at the British transatlantic packet rate of 1 shilling per ½-oz., noted in the "PAID AT/LIVERPOOL" handstamp and the red 1/- (1 sh.) mark at left. It was endorsed: p "Britannia", which departed this date for Boston via Halifax on her 3rd voyage.

November 3. Ship Letter handstamp at Boston agrees with the recorded Nov. 3 arrival of Britannia at Boston.

The letter was rated at the zone rate of 18-¾¢ (Act of March 1825) for a single letter going 150 to 400 miles, Boston to Albany plus the 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 20-¾¢ due as shown in manuscript.



S. 293

1841

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
— * —
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Britannia



J

PAID AT
LIVERPOOL
FE 4 1841

February 4, 1841. Paid letter at Liverpool at the 1 shilling transatlantic rate by Royal Mail Steamer, which payment took the letter as far as the U.S. port of entry at Boston. Handstruck mark for 1 shilling.

Letter from Baring Bros. & Co., Liverpool Office, telling Magoun & Son that their ships Dencalion and Timoleon had sailed from New Orleans for Liverpool and that Dencalion sailed Liverpool - N. Orleans on Jan. 26, and that Timoleon was to follow shortly.

R.M.S. Britannia departed from Liverpool this date on her 4th outbound voyage to Boston via Halifax.

SHIP
6

Feb. 22. Recorded arrival date of the Britannia at Boston. 6¢ due for a single ship letter addressed to the port of arrival.

B. 274

7AS 0310

1841

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL



THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Britannia



Oct. 16, 1841. Letter prepaid at Paris, transit through England. This prepayment carried letter trans-Atlantic to the U.S. port of entry. Endorsed "pr Steamer of/19th from Liverpool".



October 18. Paid transit mark at London with serif letters.

R.M.S. Britannia departed from Liverpool on the 19th for Boston.



Nov. 8. Britannia arrived at Boston on the 7th, received at the Boston Post Office as a Ship Letter on the 8th.

It was originally rated as a triple letter, Act of March 3, 1825, 150 to 400 miles, Boston to Philadelphia at $18\frac{3}{4}\text{¢} \times 3 = 56\frac{1}{2} + 2\text{¢}$ Ship Letter charge = $58\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$. Rating was then corrected as noted at upper left "Double only", thus $18\frac{3}{4}\text{¢} \times 2 = 37\frac{1}{2} + 2\text{¢}$ Ship Letter charge = $39\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$ due from recipient.

B. 293

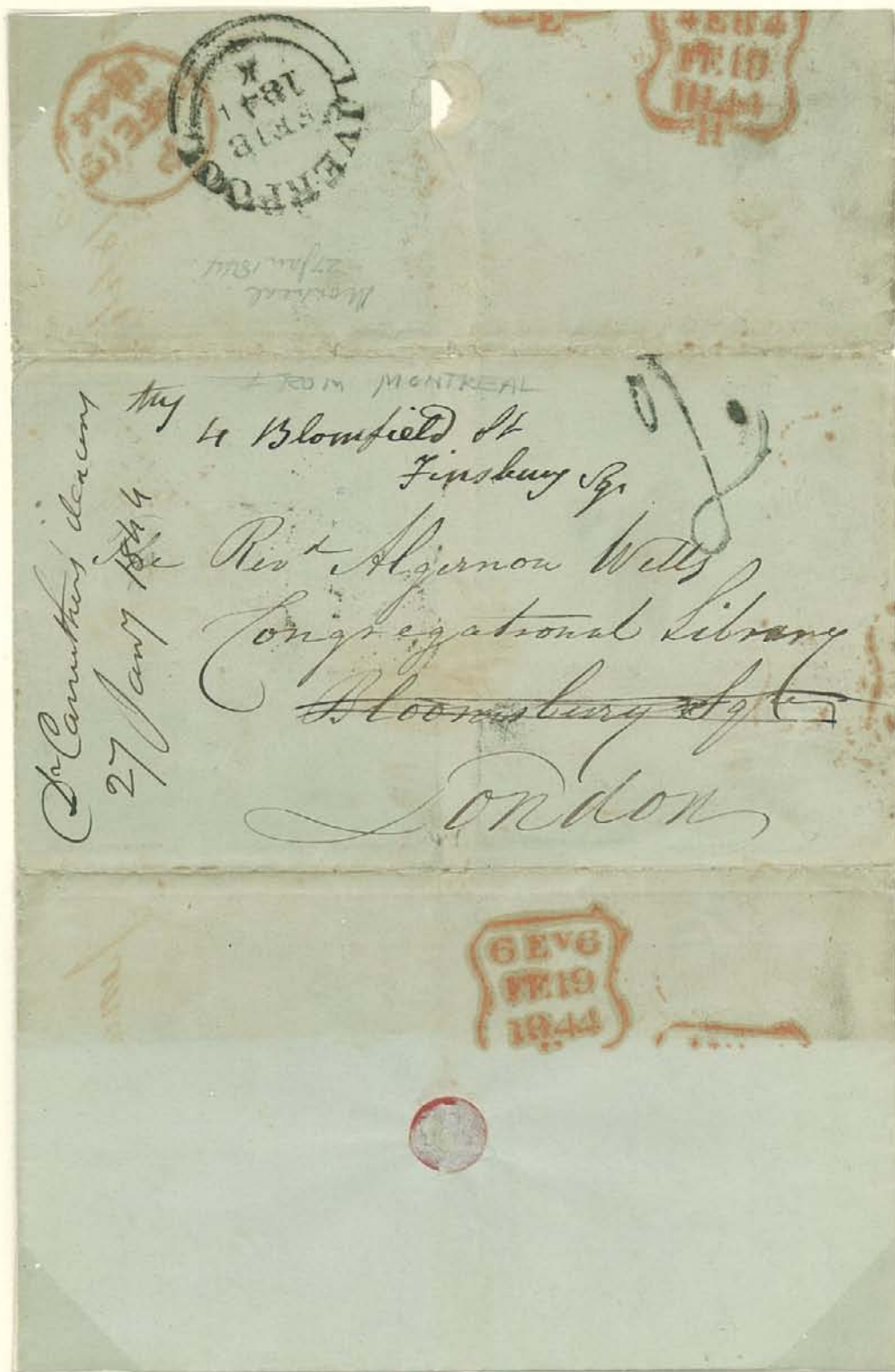
1844

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

R. M. S. Britannia

Boston to Liverpool

Britannia frozen in the ice of Boston Harbor, Feb. 1844



1844

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

R.M.S. Britannia

Boston to Liverpool

Britannia frozen in the ice of Boston Harbor, Feb. 1844

Double British Penny Rate - Unpaid

January 27, 1844. Letter from the deacons of the Second Congregational Church at Montreal to the Committee of the Colonial Missionary Society at London entreating for more funds to continue the Church and to pay the pastor, Dr. Carruthers.

February 5, 1844. Letter was carried out of the mails by favor by a passenger bound for Boston where the R.M.S. Britannia departed on Feb. 5 for Liverpool via Halifax. This was no ordinary departure as the Britannia had become frozen solid in the ice of Boston Harbor. The great esteem that the Bostonians had for the Cunard packets was demonstrated when the inhabitants themselves cut a passage way in the ice seven miles long to enable her to reach the open water. When the Company asked for a bill to be sent to it, it was told there was nothing to pay! This letter was aboard her when she went out through the ice channel.

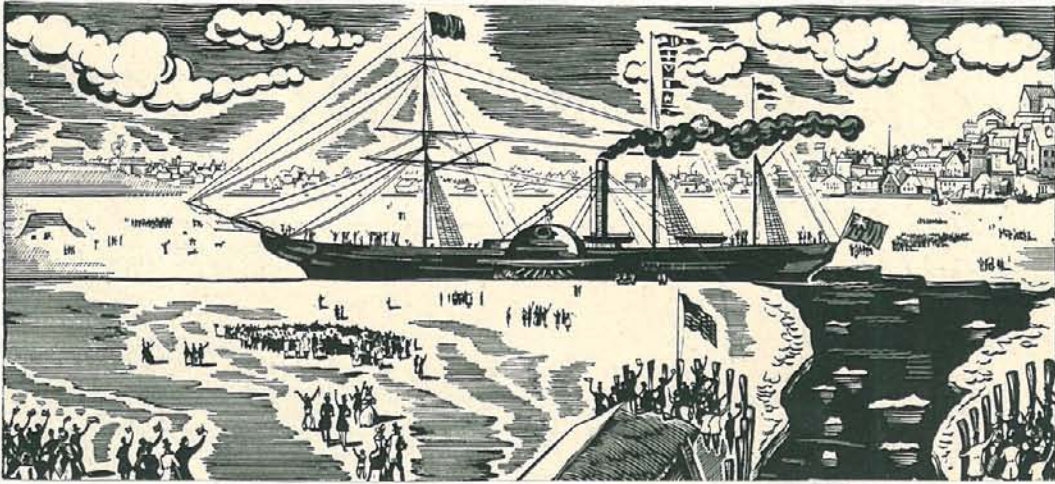


Feb. 18, 1844. Britannia arrived at Liverpool on Feb. 18 and the unknown benefactor of the Second Congregational Church posted the letter into the British postal system there unpaid, thus saving the expensive transatlantic postage, then at the rate of 1sh.2d. (28¢) per half ounce.

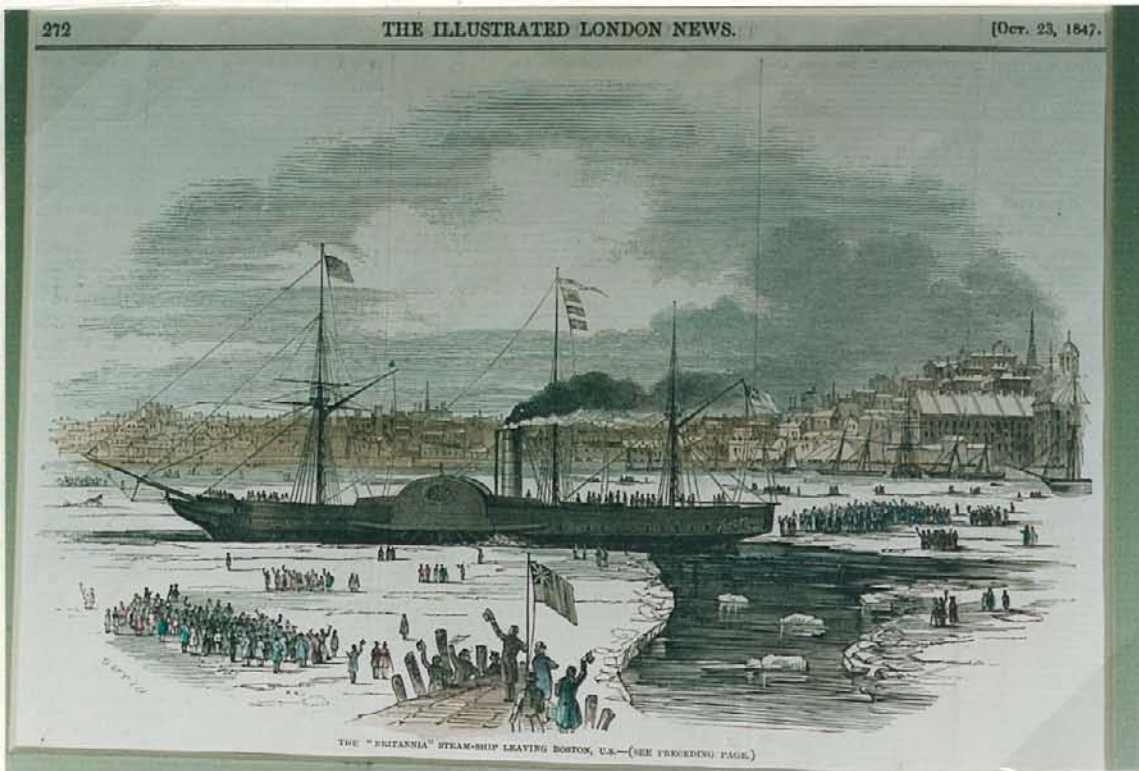


Feb. 18-19. Transit circular back-stamp at the London General Post. Mail was handled by the London Local Post (4 Evening and 6 Evening) which forwarded the letter from its incoming address at Bloomsbury Sq. to 4 Blomfield St., Finsbury Sq., London. Letter was charged at the rate of double the Uniform Penny rate as it was unpaid (Cf. 3^o and 4^o VICT Cap 96, 13, 10th Aug. 1840.)

2



BRITANNIA ICE BOUND -1844



1844

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
*
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Britannia

The Royal Mail Steamer Britannia was the pioneer Cunard mail steamer. Of 1135 tons, 207 ft. x 34 ft. beam, she was built by Robert Duncan, Greenock, launched Feb. 5, 1840, maiden voyage Liverpool-Halifax-Boston on July 4, 1840. Wooden, paddle steamer, engines by Robert Napier, Glasgow, side lever twin engine cylinders, 9 knots. In Feb. 1844 she was imprisoned in the ice at Boston and the people cut a channel to free her at no charge to Cunard (two voyages prior to this June sailing).



1840 BRITANNIA 1,135 tons
Pioneer Cunard mail steamer. Sister ships: ACADIA,
CALEDONIA, COLUMBIA.

PAID
EDINBURGH
JUN 11
1844
G

TOO LATE

June 11, 1844. Post-
ed paid at Edinburgh,
Scotland at the 1 sh-
illing (24¢) rate from
anywhere within the
U.K. to the port of
U.S. entry (Boston
only at this time) by
Cunard steamer from
Liverpool. "TOO LATE"
to make the mails out
of Edinburgh June 11.
As the Cunard liners
sailed on the 4th and
the 16th, this made
no difference.



L
JU 13
A

OSTON
SHIP
JUL 3
MS

27

June 13. Transit backstamp at L'pool. The Britannia sailed three days later.

July 3. Arrival date of the Britannia at Boston. Rated 25¢ over 400 miles (Act of Mar. 1825) + 2¢ Ship letter

charge = 27¢ due. Scarce red "27" in circle shows rate due.

1844

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Britannia

18th Out Voyage

July 3, 1844. A lengthy market report concerning sales and importations of tobacco into Liverpool. Letter is headed at Liverpool and endorsed: p Britannia.

PAID AT
LIVERPOOL
JA 4 1844

W-

January 4. Letter paid at Liverpool at the one shilling Packet Letter rate, shown by the 1/- red handstamp.

R.M.S. Britannia sailed from Liverpool this date for Boston via Halifax on her 18th out passage.



BOSTON
SHIP
JAN 20
MS.

8.293

January 20. Britannia arrived at Boston via Halifax the 19th.

Letter rated, Act of 1825, for a single letter conveyed over 400 miles at 25¢ + 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 27¢ due, shown in manuscript.

1842

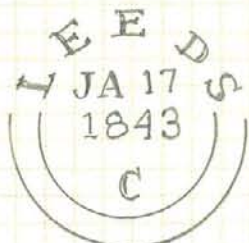
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
*
THE CUNARD LINE

R. M. S. Britannia



Dec. 27, 1842.
Letter posted
paid at Philad-
elphia. U.S.
Inland rate of
18-3/4¢ for a
single letter
150 to 400 mi.,
Phil'a. to Bos-
ton + 2¢ Ship
Letter charge
was prepaid and
shown in red
mss. Noted
"Postage Paid
to Boston" and
"Per Steamer
from Boston
Jany 1st".

The Cunarder
RMS Britannia
cleared Boston
Dec. 31, 1842,
sailed Jan. 1,
1843 for L'pool.



Jan. 17, 1843.
Leeds arrival stamp.

Arrival transit
backstamp at Liver-
pool, this AMERICA/L
being unique to Cun-
ard arriving mail.
British transatlantic
packet rate due of
1 shilling (24¢)
shown by 1/- hand-
stamp.

1844

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
—  —
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Britannia

22nd Return Voyage



November 29, 1844. Letter paid at Philadelphia under the rates by Act of March 3, 1825, single letter 150 to 400 miles, Philadelphia to Boston, at 18½ cents. Letter was endorsed: Per Boston Steamer Britannia Dec. 1.

December 1. R.M.S. Britannia departed from Boston for Liverpool via Halifax.



December 16. Britannia arrived at Liverpool, letter backstamped at London in transit December 16.

The British Packet Letter rate of 1 shilling applied, shown as 1/-.

1845

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL



THE CUNARD LINE

R. M. S. Britannia

W

PAID AT
LIVERPOOL
1845 NO 3

November 3, 1845. Letter directionally endorsed "p Britannia/4 Novbr. 1845" was paid at Liverpool at the British packet rate of one shilling, shown by the red squiggle (1/-).

Nov. 4. Britannia departed from Liverpool this date on her 26th west-bound passage to Boston.



BOSTON
SHIP
NOV
21
MS.

B. 294

12

B. 551

Nov. 21. Britannia arrived at Boston Nov. 20. Letter was rated Boston to Philadelphia at the Act of March 3, 1845 rate of 10¢ for a ½-oz. letter inland going over 300 miles + 2¢ Ship Letter charge + 12¢ due, shown by the red charge mark.

This is the earliest recorded date of the Blake 294 mark.

1846

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Britannia

27th Outbound Voyage



May 2, 1846. Letter paid at Edinburgh, Scotland at the 1 shilling British Packet rate to America. Rate shown by 1/- in red manuscript.

May 4. Transit oval backstamp at Liverpool.

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

7 May 21. Britannia arrived at Boston. Letter rated at the Act of 1845 rate for a letter not over 300 miles at 5¢ + 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 7¢ due.

May 22. Docket notes received at New York, this date.

1847

THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Britannia

Britannia sailed to New York to check out facilities

This letter reached Boston on September 19, 1847, aboard the R.M.S. Britannia. On the same day, shortly after arrival, Britannia departed Boston and proceeded to New York, arriving on September 22. She left New York September 27, arriving back at Boston on September 30, the day before her regular departure from Boston for Liverpool. This trip was to check out the facilities at New York, soon to become a western terminus for every other Cunard voyage (Cf.: Hubbard & Winter, Pg. 23.)



August 27, 1847. A prices current from Lenerson & Co., Rotterdam and endorsed: p Britannia. It went under cover to a forwarding agent in London who paid the one shilling (1/- in red manuscript) Packet Letter rate to America.

September 4. R.M.S. Britannia departed from Liverpool for Boston via Halifax.

September 19. Britannia arrived at Boston. Letter rated as a Ship Letter addressed to the port of arrival at 6¢. This letter was no doubt in a bundle with others to Silas Pierce & Co., Boston with only the top letter showing the total rate for all letters.

1847

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Britannia



November 18, 1847. Letter dated and posted at Manchester, England. The Packet Letter rate of one shilling to North America was paid, shown by the red 1/- in manuscript. Letter is endorsed: Per Britannia Steamer.

November 19. Transit backstamp at the Liverpool Packet Letter Office. R.M.S. Britannia, Cunard Line, sailed from Liverpool this day for Boston.



B.274

December 9. Britannia arrived at Boston. Letter subject to the 6¢ due rate for a single Ship Letter addressed to the port of entry.

1873

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL



THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Calabria (ex-Australasian)

Rates of Jan. 1, 1870 to July 1, 1875

Late Fee



July 15, 1873. The Jan. 1, 1870 rate of 3d. (6¢) per ½-oz., paid by a copy of the Issue of 1873, Plate 11. Cancellation (Dubus 268) is of the Nos. 71 to 88 with date stamps. This is of the 3rd series of these numbers which may be distinguished from their predecessors by the narrow ovals, cds is large (23 mm.) and close to the oval. The bars adjacent to the top and bottom of the numeral circles have been rounded to

accommodate the circle, which is 11 mm.

The sender wished the letter to be made up in the evening mails at London to catch the Cunard Liner due to call at Queenstown the next day, so he paid a one penny Late Fee by a penny red Issue of 1864, Plate 66.

R.M.S. Calabria, Capt. McMickan, departed from Liverpool July 15 and called at Queenstown the 16th where this letter went aboard with the London and Irish mails, justifying the 1d. Late Fee.



July 27, Sunday. Calabria arrived N.Y. at the dock of Charles G. Francklyn with 59 cabin and 446 steerage passengers.