

1824

U.K. TO LOWER CANADA VIA NEW YORK

Ship New York

BLACK BALL LINE



October 1, 1824. Letter concerning Pot Ashes and Pearl Ashes trading datelined at Liverpool. It contains a duplicate letter "Original p James Cropper". James Cropper was a 495 ton Black Baller in service 1822-28.

This letter went directly into the Letter Bag of the Black Ball Ship New York, 516 tons, in service 1822-34, then lying in Liverpool harbor. No British postal markings necessary as it did not go through the British postal system.

November 3. Transit at New York. Arrived N.Y. November 2, Ship New York, Maxwell, from Liverpool.



SHIP

Letter rated Act of April 9, 1816, for a single letter inland, 150 to 400 miles, at $18\frac{1}{2}\text{¢} + 2\text{¢}$ Captain's gratuity = $20\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$ due, which took the letter to the Canadian border. The $20\frac{1}{2}\text{¢}$ was converted to $12\frac{1}{2}\text{d.}$ Canadian currency, 60 to 100 miles, border to Montreal rate was $6\frac{1}{2}\text{d.}$, total 19d. This was shown as 1 shilling 7 pence ($1\frac{1}{7}$) currency due.

1829

U.K. TO LOWER CANADA VIA NEW YORK

Packet Ship Birmingham

RED STAR LINE

Robert Kermit

September 5, 1829. Letter dated at South Shields, England, concerning pot ashes. It went under cover to a forwarding agent at Liverpool who deposited it directly into the letter bag of the packet ship Birmingham of the Red Star Line, then lying at Liverpool.



SHIP

N.Y. Shipping List and Price Current.
Arrived at New York Oct. 10-11, 1829,
Ship Birmingham, Harris....Liverpool.

Letter was rated, Act of March 3,
1825, single letter 150 to 400 miles
inland at 18-3/4¢ + 2¢ Ship Letter charge
= 20-3/4¢ due, shown at upper right.

The U.S. charges took the letter only to the Canadian border.
This charge was converted to 12½d. Canadian currency, and charges
added:

U.S. Ship Letter Postage @ 20-3/4¢	= 12½d.
Canadian Postage, up to 60 miles	4½
Ferriage fee	2
	<hr/>
	19 d. = 1sh.7d.

The collect amount is shown as 1/7 in red manuscript at upper
left.

1830

U.K. TO LOWER CANADA VIA NEW YORK

Ship Silas Richards

BLUE SWALLOW TAIL LINE

Grinnell, Minturn & Co.



May 8, 1830. Letter datelined at South Shields, but went by favor to a forwarding agent at Liverpool who deposited it directly into the Letter Bag of the Ship Silas Richards of the Blue Swallow Tail Line, then lying in Liverpool harbor.

July 6. N.Y. Shipping and Commercial List:
Arrived July 5-6, Ship Silas Richards, Holdredge,
at New York from Liverpool.



SHIP

Letter was rated, Act of March 3, 1825, 150 to 400 miles at 18-3/4¢ + 2¢ Captain's gratuity = 20-3/4¢ due. This only took the letter to the Canadian border. This charge was converted to 12½d. Canadian currency, and charges added:

U.S. Ship Letter Postage 20-3/4¢	= 12½d. currency
Canadian Postage, up to 60 miles	4½d.
Ferriage Fee	2 d.
	<hr/>
	19 d. = 1sh.7d.

Collect amount shown as 1/7 in red at upper left.

1834

U.K. TO LOWER CANADA VIA NEW YORK

Packet Ship Silas Richards BLUE SWALLOW TAIL LINE

Grinnell, Minturn & Co.

January 23, 1834. Letter headed at South Shields, England. It went under cover to Liverpool care of a forwarding agent, who penned a note on the reverse:

Forwarded by your mo. obt.
Liverpool A. Parlane
25 January 1834 p W.M.S.

The forwarder deposited the letter directly into the letter bag of the packet Silas Richards, lying at Liverpool.



March 6, 1834. N.Y. Shipping and Commercial List. Arrived at New York March 5, ship Silas Richards, Bursley.....Liverpool.

Letter was rated, Act of March 3, 1825, as a single letter 150 to 400 miles at 18-3/4¢ + 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 20-3/4¢, shown in red manuscript, upper right.

The U.S. charges took the letter only to the Canadian border. This charge was converted to 12½d. Canadian currency, and charges added:

U.S. Ship Postage @ 20-3/4¢	=	12½d. currency
Canadian Postage, up to 60 miles		4½d.
Ferriage fee		2 d.
		<hr/>
		19 d. = 1sh.7d.

The collect amount was shown as 1/7 at upper left.

1836

LOWER CANADA TO U.K. VIA NEW YORK

Packet Ship St. James

RED SWALLOWTAIL LINE



PAID

37 1/2

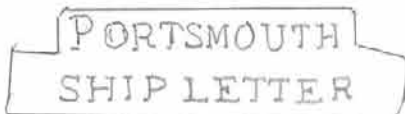
PAID 1/2

August 19, 1836. A letter posted at Montreal and endorsed: Paid to New York, and: Packet to Liverpool. The pre-payment to New York was done in two steps, each shown by the proper PAID and rate charges as follows:

1. U.S. rate of 1825, letter conveyed 150-400 miles, Canadian border to New York at 18-3/4¢ x 2 (double letter) = 37½¢.
2. Montreal to Border, Canadian postage, single, up to 60 miles:

4d. sterling or	4½d. Canadian currency
2d. " or	2½d. " " ferriage
7 d. x 2 (double) = 14d. or 1/2d. currency.	

N.Y. Shipping & Commercial List: VESSELS UP FOR FOREIGN PORTS: London, Ship St. James, 1st September, Grinnell, Minturn & Co. The 641 ton vessel, in service 1835-1848, sailed Sept. 1 for London via Portsmouth.



September 27. St. James arrived at Portsmouth. Letter received at London September 28, backstamp.

Letter rated, postage due, Portsmouth to London (72 miles) at Act of 1812 rate 50-80 miles at 8d. x 2 = 1sh.4d. plus double 8d. Ship Letter = 1sh.4d. x 2 = 2sh.8d. due.

1840

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
CUNARD LINE

Quebec to Pictou Feeder Service

Boston-Halifax to L'pool

R.M. Steamer Unicorn

R.M.S. Britannia

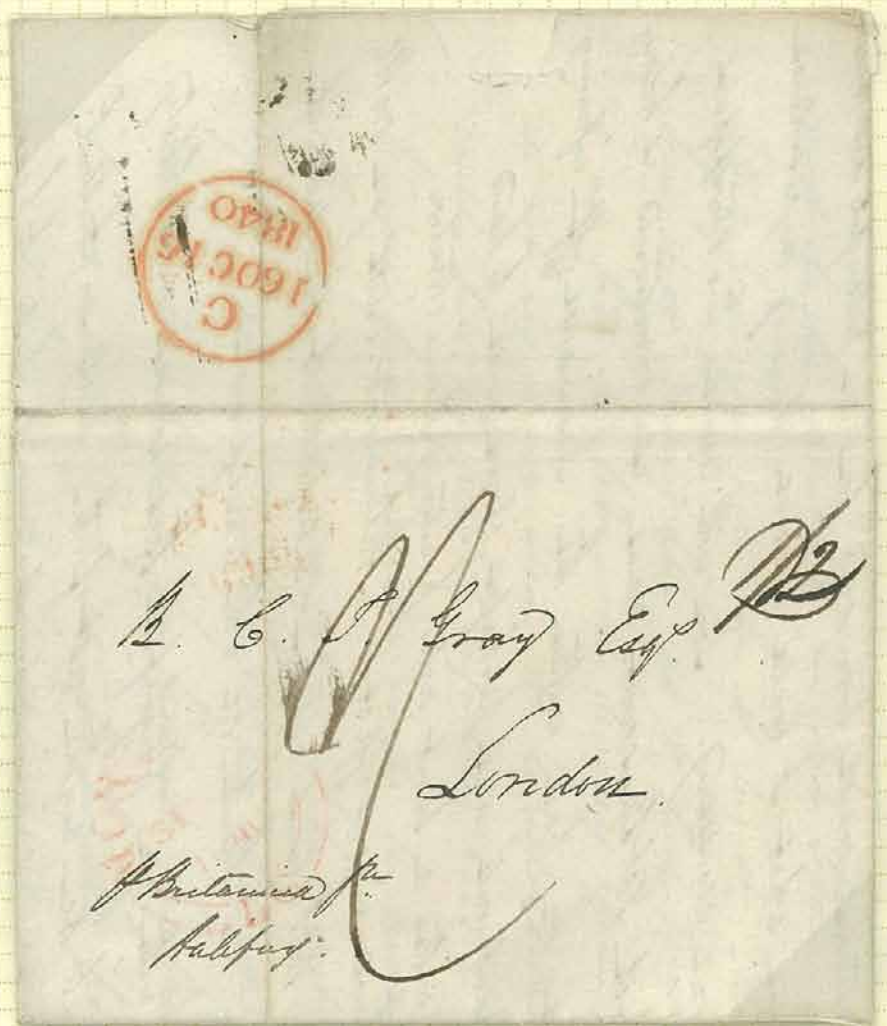
MONTREAL
SEP 26
1840
L.C.

Sept. 26, 1840. Letter datelined at Montreal and posted unpaid, directionally endorsed "p Britannia via Halifax." The 640 ton Royal Mail steamer Unicorn ran a feeder service during the summer of 1840 from Montreal, Quebec and Halifax, later to Pictou to deliver the Canadian mails to Halifax at which port the Cunard steamers touched to and from Liverpool and Boston. Unicorn cleared Quebec Sept. 28 for Pictou, Nova Scotia. Arrangements had been made to convey the

mails from Pictou to Halifax by stagecoach to meet the British steamer sailings. Britannia departed Boston Oct. 1, arrived Halifax Oct. 3, where this letter went aboard. Originally rated 1 shilling 2d. sterling due as noted at upper right of face. Presumably Unicorn returned to England after this voyage as she no longer appears on the shipping lists.

C
160016
1840

Oct. 16. Britannia on her 2nd return voyage arrived L'pool Oct. 14, letter cleared London Oct. 16. Canadian "beyond Halifax" rate of 1sh.2d. was deleted in favor of the 1/- sterling rate. This is no doubt a rating error possibly due to the weak Montreal postmark, the clerk thinking the letter originated at Halifax from which port the Canadian rate was indeed 1/-. However, by Treasury Order of 6 July 1840, Canadian mail from places beyond Halifax was 1/2d. as had been originally and correctly noted.



1840. Sailing dates from N.Y. Shipping List and Price Current.

Boston: Arrived June 3, Br. steamer Unicorn from L'pool via H'fax.
Boston: Cleared June 10, Br. steamer Unicorn, Douglass, for H'fax.
Halifax: Arrived June 12, Br. steamer Unicorn from Boston.
Halifax: Arrived June 21, steamer Unicorn, from P.E. Island.
Quebec: Arrived June 29, steamer Unicorn from Halifax.
Quebec: Cleared July 3, steamer Unicorn for Halifax.
Halifax: Arrived July 9, steamer Unicorn from Quebec.
Halifax: Arrived July 17, Br. steam-ship Britannia, Woodruff, fr.L'pool.
Quebec: Cleared July 23, steamer Unicorn for Halifax.
Halifax: Arrived July 27, steamer Unicorn from Quebec.
Quebec: Arrived Aug. 1, steamer Unicorn from Halifax.
Halifax: Arrived and Cleared, ^{Aug. 4} steamer Britannia from Boston for L'pool.
Montreal, L.C.: Arrived Aug. 5, steamer Unicorn from Halifax.
Montreal: Cleared Aug. 8, steamer Unicorn for Quebec.
Quebec: Cleared Aug. 10, steamer Unicorn for Pictou.
Halifax: Arrived Aug. 15, steamer Acadia, Miller, from Liverpool.
Boston: Arrived Aug. 17, steamer Acadia from Liverpool (via H'fax.)
Halifax: Arrived Sept. 3, steamer Acadia from Boston.
Halifax: Arrived Sept. 16, steamer Britannia from Liverpool.
Halifax: Sailed Sept. 16, steamer Britannia for Boston.
Quebec: Cleared Sept. 28, steamer Unicorn for Pictou, N.S.
Halifax: Arrived and Sailed Oct. 1, steamer Caledonia fr.L/P to Boston.
Halifax: Arrived Oct. 3, steamer Britannia from Boston.
Boston: Arrived Oct. 3, steamer Caledonia from Halifax.
Halifax: Arrived Oct. 31, steamer Britannia from Liverpool.
Halifax: Arrived Nov. 3, steamer Acadia from Boston.
Halifax: Arrived Nov. 17, steamer Caledonia from Liverpool.
Halifax: Arrived Dec. 3, steamer Britannia from Boston.
Halifax: Sailed Dec. 5, steamer Britannia for Liverpool.

Sailing table of the British Steamer Unicorn, Capt. Douglas.

1841

N.Y. Shipping and Commercial List shows no Unicorn sailings for 1841.

1842

<u>Depart Halifax</u>	<u>Arr. Boston</u>	<u>Dep. Boston</u>	<u>Arr. Halifax</u>
(Feb. 25)	Feb. 27	March 1 *	March 3
March 6 #			March 6
March 8 +	Mar. 11	March 15	March 17
(March 25)	Mar. 27	(April 2)	April 4

N.B.: Dates in brackets are estimated as these departures were not on the shipping lists.

*N.Y. S.L. & P. Current lists departure for Liverpool, evidently the start of her proposed return to England, see below.

#Caledonia was damaged in a hurricane and returned to Liverpool on Feb. 17, after putting into Cork for repairs. When she did not arrive at Halifax by the regular sailing date for England, the Unicorn sailed for England with the mails on March 6. When a few hours out, she met the Acadia and returned to Halifax.

+Because of the break in the mail service due to the Caledonia incident, the Acadia returned directly to England and Unicorn took the American mails to Boston, arriving there March 11.

March 16, 1842. N.Y. Shipping and Commercial List - Disasters, etc.

Br. steamer Caledonia, Lott, from Liverpool about which so much anxiety has been felt, returned to that port in consequence of damage received in violent gales from 7th to 11th ult.

1841

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
UNITED KINGDOM TO CANADA VIA HALIFAX

R.M.S. Caledonia

6th Outbound Voyage

A treasury order effective July 6, 1840, established a rate of one shilling 2 pence sterling or one shilling 4 pence Canadian currency, prepayment optional, for a ½-ounce letter to or from Britain to or from a place beyond Halifax, within the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island.



September 3, 1841. Letter datelined and paid at Liverpool at the 1sh.2d. sterling rate (see above), and endorsed: p Caledonia/ Steamer. Cunard Line's R.M.S. Caledonia sailed from Liverpool September 4 on her 6th westbound voyage.

September 16. Caledonia arrived at Halifax and at Boston the 18th. Canadian mail via Halifax was bulked to Montréal during the warm months by feeder steamer up the St. Lawrence after overland from Halifax to Pictou.

N.B.: On Feb. 14, 1845, these same rates applied to closed mail through Boston, ultimately through New York.

1842

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

British Packet to Canadian Destination, RMS Caledonia

Rates effective July 6, 1839, provided for a single letter charge of 1 shilling, Britain to Halifax with an additional charge of 2 pence for delivery beyond Halifax, total 1sh.2d. sterling.



Oct. 18, 1842.
Unpaid letter
at Liverpool.
Significance
of the code
"L" at base
not known,
Late designa-
tion. 1/2 in
manuscript
notes amount
due in sterl-
ing (see above).

RMS Caledonia
departed L'pool
Oct. 19, 1842,
Arrived Halifax
Oct. 31, Boston
Nov. 2.

7/4cy.

Rate converted
to equivalent
1sh. 4d. Canad-
ian currency for
delivery to
Montreal.



3-33

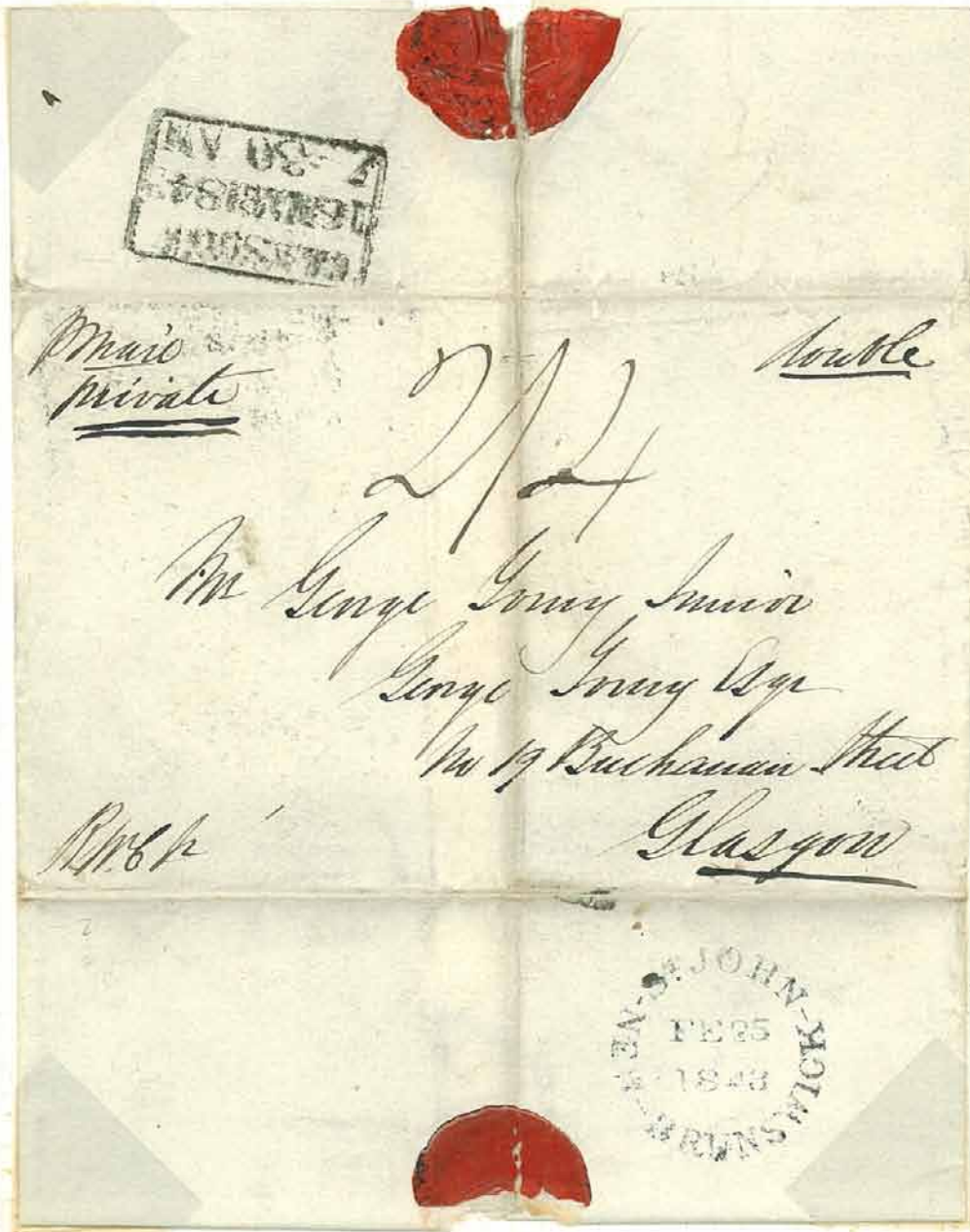
William, Sher & Co
London Oct 18th October 1842

1843

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

CANADA TO THE UNITED KINGDOM

Canadian Postal Services under the control of the General Post Office, London: 6th July 1840 - Treasury order effective 4 September. From a place beyond Halifax, within the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward Island. Prepayment optional
.....ls.2d. sterling per single sheet.



ST. JOHN'S - NEW-BRUNSWICK
FE 25
1843

Feb. 25, 1843.
Letter received
unpaid at St.
John and marked
"double", mms.
U.R.

GLASGOW
16 MAR 1843
7 30 AM

Mar. 16, 1843.
Letter received
at Glasgow. Rate
of 1sh.2d.x2 =
2s.4d. was noted
on face of letter
and collected
from recipient.

1843-44

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

UNITED KINGDOM TO NOVA SCOTIA VIA HALIFAX

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Britannia



INVERNESS
DEC 16
1843

DEC
S 17 N
1843

L
19DE43
A

Mr. John H. Simpson
care of
Mr. Gordon -
Merchant -
Pictou
North America

December 16, 1843. A letter dated at Inverness, Scotland, unpaid. Rates effective July 6, 1839, provided for a single letter rate of one shilling, Britain to Halifax, by British Packet with an additional charge of 2d. for delivery beyond Halifax, total 1sh.2d. sterling. This letter had originally been rated at 1/-, corrected to 1/2.

December 17. Edinburgh transit backstamp.

December 19. Liverpool Packet Letter Office oval backstamp. In 1843-44, the Cunard Line (British Packets) ran on a winter schedule monthly in December through March inclusive, Liverpool-Halifax-Boston. These packets left Liverpool on the 4th of the month.

January 4, 1844. R.M.S. Britannia departed from L'pool.

January 19. Britannia arrived at Halifax. Here the 1sh.2. sterling rate was converted to 1sh.4d. currency due, shown by the handstamp.

$\frac{1}{4}^d C^y$

1844

PACKET LETTERS
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITISH PACKET-CANADIAN DESTINATION

After March 1839, packet letters to Canada from anywhere in the U.K. were rated a 1/- sterling per ½oz. plus 2d. for inland postage.

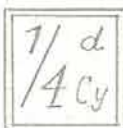


April 17, 1844.
Southampton, England
receipt mark.

Backstamp: April 18.
London transit.

April 18.
Liverpool transit.

RMS Hibernia:
Dep. L'pool April 19. 1844
Arr. Halifax May 3
" Boston May 4.



Canadian charge mark showing
1sh. 4d. due from recipient in
Canadian currency. Letter originally
rated (ms.) 1sh. 2d. sterling.

1846

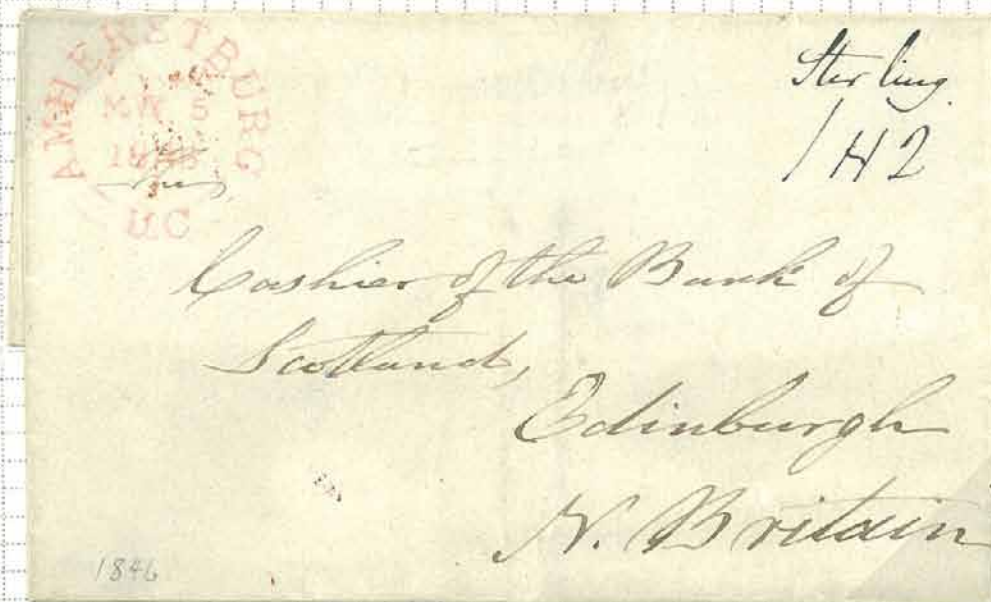
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

CANADA TO UNITED KINGDOM, Closed Mail through Boston

R.M.S. Cambria

CUNARD LINE

On February 14, 1845, a closed mail rate through Boston was instituted of 1 shilling 2 pence sterling, which was equivalent to 1 shilling 4 pence Canadian currency. This was to take advantage of the Cunard steamers which ran regularly Liverpool-Halifax-Boston.



Sterling
1/42

May 5, 1846. Unpaid letter posted at Amherstburg, Upper Canada, a village on Lake Erie on the Detroit River. It went by closed bag to Boston to meet the May 16, 1846, sailing of the Gunarder R.M.S. Cambria via Halifax May 18. Letter noted due 1 shilling 2 pence sterling, shown as 1N2.

May 27. Cambria arrived at Liverpool.

May 30. Arrival backstamp at Edinburgh where the 1/2d. rate was paid by the Bank of Scotland.



1847

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

CANADA TO UNITED KINGDOM, Closed Mail through Boston
R.M.S. Caledonia CUNARD LINE

On February 14, 1845, a closed mail rate through Boston was instituted of 1 shilling 2 pence sterling, which was equivalent to 1 shilling 4 pence Canadian currency. This was to take advantage of the Cunard steamers which ran regularly Liverpool-Halifax-Boston.



August 30-31, 1847. Letter is headed "St. Lawrence River, Saturday 28th Augt." and was penned by Frederick Browne, a recent emigrant en route to Toronto. He mentions a rush to post the letter as no more outgoing mail for a fortnight. He posted it unpaid at Quebec.

September 16. Letter went overland to Boston where the R.M.S. Caledonia departed on Sept. 16 for Liverpool via Halifax.

September 30. Caledonia arrived at Liverpool, same day arrival at Cheltenham, backstamp. Frederick's parents paid the 1sh.2d. sterling rate.

1848-49

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

UNITED KINGDOM TO CANADA, Closed Mail through Boston

R.M.S. America

CUNARD LINE

PARK RD. LIVERPOOL

LIVERPOOL
DE 22 1848
D

L
DE 23
A



December 22, 1848. Backstamp. An unpaid letter posted at the receiving office, Park Rd., Liverpool. It was processed by the mail Liverpool office and rated at the Feb. 14, 1845, closed mail rate to Canada by Cunard Line via Boston of 1 shilling 2d. sterling.

December 23. Packet Letter office oval of Liverpool, backstamp. Letter was held for the December 30, 1848, sailing of R.M.S. America on her 6th Westbound voyage.

ONDO
JAN 21
1849
UC

s/d
1/4c

January 12, 1849. America arrived at Boston, closed mail bags were delivered to Canada where bulk was broken.

January 21. Arrival backstamp at London, Upper Canada. Letter was struck with the 1sh.4d. Canadian currency due mark, equivalent to 1sh.2d. sterling.

1849

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
LIVERPOOL TO HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA
CUNARD LINE R.M.S. Niagara



PAID AT
LIVERPOOL
JA 27 1849

H
FE 9
1849
NS

January 27, 1849.
Letter paid 1 shilling, transatlantic rate, in cash as shown by the Liverpool Packet Office Paid datestamp. Amount is indicated by the red handstamp representing 1 sh. (1/-). The R.M.S. Niagara sailed from Liverpool on this date to Boston via Halifax.

Feb. 9. Receiving backstamp at Halifax. The N.Y. Shipping List shows that the Niagara arrived at Boston Feb. 11, thus was at Halifax two days earlier. The 1 shilling rate was all inclusive. Interestingly, this was the first westbound trip of the Niagara under the restored rates (America and Canada had each made one westbound voyage prior) following the "retaliatory rate" period. These rates involved mail between U.S. and Britain.

1850

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
CANADA TO U.K., CLOSED MAIL THROUGH U.S.
CUNARD LINE R.M.S. Asia Maiden Return Voyage



June 8, 1850. Cover paid in cash at Quebec at the 1sh.2d. sterling or 1sh.4d. Canadian currency rate established in February 1845 for closed mail to Britain through the U.S. Payment shown in manuscript at both currencies and noted by the crowned PAID AT QUEBEC. The mail went overland to Boston.

June 12. The R.M.S. Asia departed from Boston on this date on her return maiden voyage to Liverpool via Halifax. She cleared the latter port on June 13.

June 22. Asia arrived at Liverpool.

June 24. Arrival backstamp at Ledbury, Herefordshire, England.



1850

PACKET LETTERS
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
CANADA TO BRITAIN - CLOSED MAIL THROUGH U.S.



July 31, 1850.
Galt, Upper Canada
receipt mark.

PAID *1/2 Stg - 1/4 Cy*

Correct prepaid transatlantic rate
of 1sh. 2d. sterling or 1sh. 4d. Canadian
currency.



Aug. 1, 1850.
Hamilton transit.



Aug. 3, 1850.
Montreal transit.



Aug. 18, 1850. London
"tombstone" paid receipt.

R. M. S. A. S. C.
Dep. Boston Aug. 7
Ass. Lpool Aug. 17

1852

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

CANADA TO U.K., CLOSED MAIL THROUGH U.S.

R.M.S. Africa

CUNARD LINE

July 4, 1852. Letter datelined at Caledonia in Ontario on the Grand River. It was also known as Seneca where it received the Seneca, Canada West handstamp on July 6.

It was paid at the 1sh.2d. sterling (1sh.4d. Canadian currency) closed mail rate through the U.S. of Feb. 14, 1845, as shown by the manuscript note.

*PAID 1/2 ster
1/4 cy*

SENECA
JY 6
1852
C.W

HAMILTON
JY 6
1852
C.W

MONTREAL
JY 9
1852
L.C

AMERICA
PAID
JY 25
1852
LIVERPOOL

CHELLENHAM
JY 26
1852



July 6, 9. Transit back-stamps at Hamilton and Montreal. The letter was marked in

large red manuscript 1/4 being the total paid in Canadian currency. Canada was debited for 1/2 currency for transit through the U.S., Sea and British Inland. Canada retained 2d. cy. for her inland.

July 14. R.M.S. Africa sailed from N.Y. on her 14th return voyage.

July 25. Arrival mark at the Liverpool Packet Office. This postmark was used on Cunard Line mail.

July 26. Arrival backstamp at Cheltenham.

1852

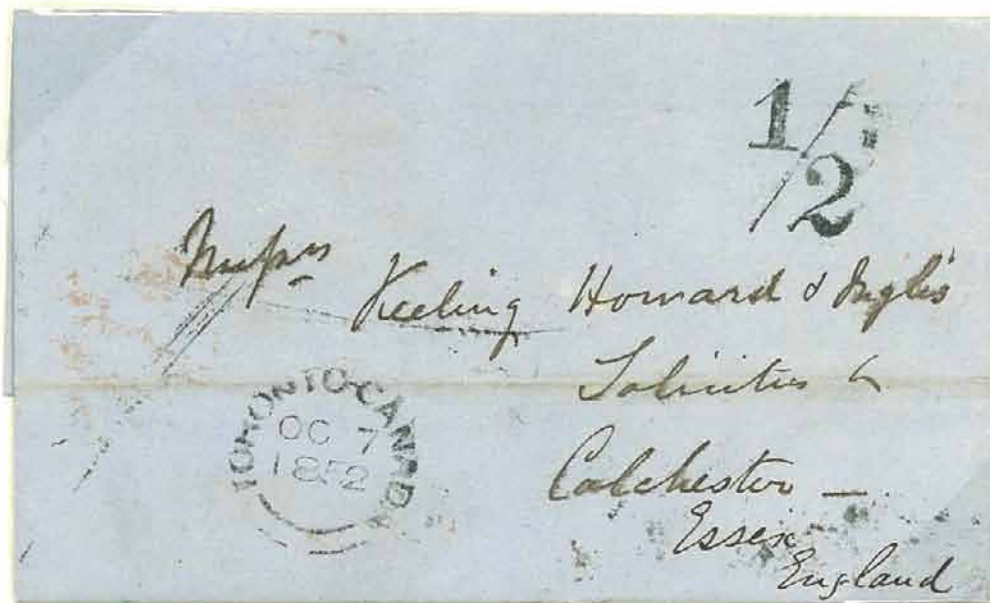
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
CANADA TO U.K. - CLOSED MAIL VIA BOSTON
CUNARD LINE R.M.S. Canada

On February 14, 1845, a Closed Mail rate through Boston was instituted of 1 shilling 2 pence sterling per ½-oz. In September 1850 this rate was extended to the weekly Closed Mail through the U.S. via New York.

Paid letters, Canada to the U.K., showed both the 1 shilling 2d. sterling rate and the equivalent 1sh.4d. currency rate in red. Unpaid letters only showed the amount due of 1sh.2d. sterling in black.

TORONTO-CANADA
OC 7
1852

1/2^s



October 7, 1852. A letter posted at Toronto, unpaid. The collect amount in sterling of 1sh. 2d. is shown by the handstamp. This letter went overland to New York in a closed bag, and was forwarded on to Boston.

October 13. R.M.S. Canada, Cunard Line, departed from Boston for Liverpool via Halifax.

FO
250C25
1852

COLCHESTER
OC 25
1852
A

October 24. Canada arrived at Liverpool, London transit backstamp October 25.

October 25. Colchester arrival backstamp. The recipient paid the 1sh.2d. sterling rate.

1852

CANADA TO U.K. - CLOSED MAIL VIA U.S.
CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Canada



PAID

1/2 Sterling
1/4 0/4

October 6/ November 6, 1852. Letter datelined at Caledonia, Grand River, C.W. Caledonia was also known as Seneca, which was the name used in the receiving handstamp. It was prepaid at the 1sh.2d. sterling rate or 1sh.4d. Canadian currency, both shown in the manuscript notation. This was the closed mail rate via the U.S. of February 14, 1845.

November 24. Letter went overland to Boston. R.M.S. Canada of the Cunard Line departed from Boston on November 24 for Liverpool, arriving at that port December 5.

December 5. London "tombstone" receiving mark. Letter passed as "PAID".

December 6. Cheltenham arrival backstamp.



1852

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
U.K. TO CANADA, CLOSED MAIL THROUGH U.S.
R.M.S. Africa CUNARD LINE



June 18, 1852. An unpaid letter datelined and posted June 18 at London. It bears a yellow seal on the reverse: Montgomerie & Greenhorne, London, agents of the Allan Line. They note, "By your favor of the 31 May we were glad to notice that the 'City of Hamilton' had got away from Quebec on the 28th and as the winds are strong from the Westward we are expecting to have her with us on Sunday or Monday." London Post Office marked the letter with a 1 shilling (1/-) sterling debit in manuscript to Canada out of the 1sh.2d. sterling rate for closed mail via the United States.

June 19. R.M.S. Africa departed from Liverpool on her 14th outbound voyage.



July 1. Africa arrived at New York. Mail forwarded by rail to Montreal. Docket notes arrival on July 2.



The 1 shilling 2d. sterling rate was converted to the Canadian equivalent of 1 shilling 4d. currency, shown by the conversion handstamp. The latter amount was paid by Edmonstone, Allan & Co., Montreal agents of the Allan Line.

1853

GLASGOW TO CANADA, CLOSED MAIL VIA U.S.

Rate of March 14, 1851, 1/2d. Sterling or 1/4d. Cy.

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Asia



[Handwritten flourish]

August 26, 1853. An unpaid letter posted at Glasgow, Scotland and endorsed: Per Mail Steamer.

August 27. Transit backstamp at Liverpool. The rate per ½-oz. was 1 shilling 2d. sterling to Canada by closed mail via the U.S., so Canada was debited with 1 shilling sterling shown by the 1/- handstamp.

August 27. R.M.S. Asia, Cunard Line, departed from Liverpool for New York. She arrived at N.Y. September 8. The closed Canadian mails went by rail to Montreal.



1/4

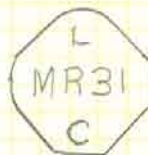
September 11. Arrival backstamp at London, Upper Canada. Letter subject to a collect amount of 1 shilling 4d. Canadian currency, equivalent to 1sh.2d. sterling.

1854

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

U.K. TO NOVA SCOTIA VIA HALIFAX

Packet Rates of April 1849, 1/- Stg. or 1/3 C_y.
R.M.S. America CUNARD LINE



10

March 30-31, 1854. This small mourning cover was posted unpaid at Swansea, Wales in Glamorgan County. It went in transit through London where it received the crown backstamp and then to Liverpool where the March 31 lozenge was struck.

The April 1849 letter rate per 1/2-oz. was 1 shilling sterling or 1/3d. Canadian currency. As the mail was by British Packet to Halifax, the British G.P.O. debited Canada for 10d. sterling, which would leave Canada 2d. stg. for her internal postage.

April 1. R.M.S. America departed from Liverpool for Boston via Halifax.

April 14. Halifax arrival backstamp agrees with the arrival date of the America at that port. Letter was struck with the 1sh.3d. (1/3) Canadian currency charge mark.



1/3



April 21. Arrival backstamp at Bridgwater, Nova Scotia. It is interesting to note that the letter took 7 days to go from Halifax to Bridgwater as opposed to 13 days all the way across the Atlantic.

1854

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

U.K. TO CANADA VIA U.S., CLOSED MAIL, Unpaid Letter

Rates of March 1854, 8d. Stg. or 10d Cy.

R.M.S. America

CUNARD LINE



7



August 4, 1854. A printed notice posted unpaid at Liverpool. It was subject to the 8d. sterling rate. The G.P.O. marked a 7d. debit to Canada for Packet and British Inland postage. Canada would retain 1d. for her inland handling.

August 5. Transit at the Liverpool Packet Office. The R.M.S. America departed this date for Boston via Halifax.

August 18. America arrived at Boston from which port the mail was bulked to Montreal by rail. Letter was subject to the rate of March 1854, at 10d. Canadian currency, equivalent to 8d. sterling.

This letter is part of the Edmonstone Allan & Co. correspondence, Allan Line agents at Montreal.

10^d
Cy?

1854

GLASGOW TO CANADA VIA U.S. CLOSED MAIL

Rate of March 1854, 8d. sterling or 10d. Cy.

COLLINS LINE

U.S.M.S. Pacific



QUEEN STREET

H
GLASGOW
NOV 24
1854

LIVERPOOL
NOV 25
1854
B2

L
NO 25
A

7

November 24, 1854. An unpaid letter datelined and posted at Glasgow, Scotland at the Queen Street Receiving House. It is strangely endorsed: Per Foreign Mail Steam Ship. This would seem to indicate forwarding by American Packet.

November 25. Transit backstamps at Liverpool. The Closed Mail via the U.S. rate to British North America was 8d. sterling. Canada was debited for 7d. sterling, leaving the province with 1d. stg. for internal postage.

November 30. U.S. Mail Steamship Pacific of the Collins Line departed from Liverpool for New York. She arrived at the latter port on December 13.

ONDO
NOV 15
1854
U.C. 10

December 15. London, Upper Canada arrival backstamp. 10d. currency due. This letter shows that Closed Mail via the U.S. by American Packet was carried at the 8d. rate. Shortly afterwards (Nov. 1854) the British Post Office notice advised that henceforth the rate by American Packet would be 1sh.2d. sterling.

1854-55

CANADA TO SCOTLAND PER AMERICAN PACKET
N.Y. & Havre Steam Navigation Co. S.S. Union

With the sailing out of New York of R.M.S. Africa on December 13, 1854, all Cunard sailings in 1855 would be from Boston and then only fortnightly, previously weekly sailings alternately from New York and Boston. This was due to the requisitioning of Royal Mail steamers for Crimean War transports. The writer of this letter in Montreal sought to expedite its passage to the U.K. by using the Havre Line steamer Union from New York on December 16, otherwise the next outbound Cunard steamer would be R.M.S. America from Boston on January 3, 1855.



December 14, 1854. An unpaid letter posted at Montreal and endorsed: Steamer "Union". The March 14, 1851, rate from Canada by "Atlantic Steam Packet Mails" was shown as a due amount of 1sh.2d. sterling in manuscript. These mails were bagged in Canada and went closed through the United States.

December 16. U.S.M.S. Union of the Havre Line departed from New York for Le Havre via Southampton.

December 30. Union arrived at Southampton.

December 31. London transit backstamp.

January 1, 1855. Glasgow arrival backstamp. The recipient paid the 1/2d. rate.



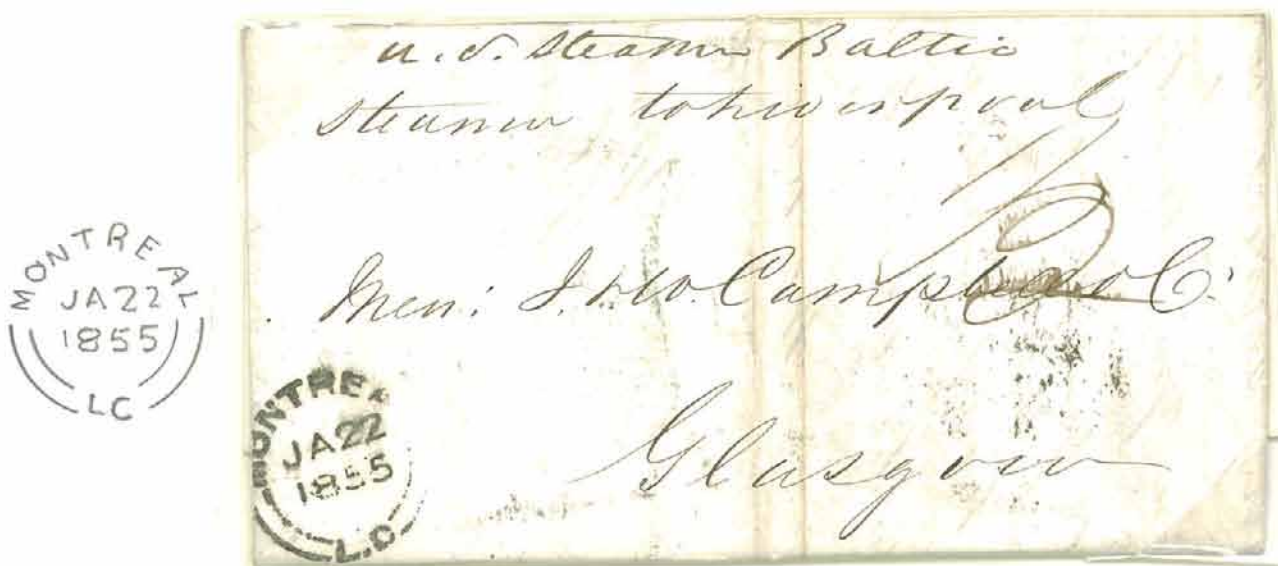
1855

CANADA TO U.K. VIA U.S. - AMERICAN PACKET
COLLINS LINE U.S.M.S. Baltic

On March 14, 1851, rates from Canada by "Atlantic Steam Packet Mails" to and from England via the U.S. were set at 1sh.2d. sterling unpaid and 1sh.4d. currency paid.

In 1855 many of the Cunard Line steamers (British Packets) were diverted for Crimean War transports. As a result, no Cunard sailings were made to New York that year, only to Boston.

To expedite this letter it was sent via New York with the endorsement: U.S. Steamer Baltic/ Steamer to Liverpool.



January 22, 1855. An unpaid letter posted at Montreal. The due amount of 1sh.2d. sterling is noted in manuscript at right. Letter went in a closed bag through New York.

January 25. U.S. Mail Steamer Baltic sailed from New York for Liverpool.



February 5. Baltic arrived at Liverpool. Packet Letter Office receiving backstamp.

February 6. Arrival backstamp at Glasgow, Scotland, where the 1sh.2d. rate was paid,

1855

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

Canadian Steamer Rates of May 1854



March 3, 1855. Barred oval "50", British Post Office number of Barnstaple cancels cut-to-shape 6d. issue of 1854 (Sc.7) stamp pre-paying 6 pence transatlantic rate by Canadian Steamer.

March 5. Backstamp transit at Liverpool and Liverpool Packet Office oval.

2 $\frac{1}{2}$
1



April 6, 1855. Arrival backstamp at Port Hope. Letter didn't go by way of Halifax, thus was laible to 8d. sterling rate, 2d. underpaid, and this was converted to 2½d. currency due.

The 1d. mark has not yet been satisfactorily explained.

1855

GLASGOW TO CANADA VIA U.S. CLOSED MAIL

Crimean War Transatlantic Rates

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Asia

Because of the requisition of British Packets for use as troop transports to the Crimea, the Cunard Line had to reduce weekly sailings from Liverpool alternatively to Boston and New York to fortnightly sailings and then only to Boston via Halifax. Letters endorsed "By Royal Mail Packet" would still be subject to the March 1854 rate of 8d. sterling to Canada via the United States. Letters endorsed "By American Packet" would be subject to a reversion to the old rate of 1 shilling 2d. sterling per ½-oz.



March 8, 1855. Letter dated at Glasgow and posted unpaid March 9 at the Glasgow Hope Street receiving house and was in transit same day at the Glasgow main office. Letter is endorsed, Per Royal Mail Line via United States."

March 10. Transit backstamp at Liverpool. This letter is clearly marked "Per Royal Mail Lone" so it was held for the next British Packet sailing, that of R.M.S. Asia, which departed L'pool March 17 for Boston in spite of the fact that U.S.M.S. Atlantic, Collins Line sailed from L'pool for N.Y. on March 10. This routing would have required the 1sh.2d. sterling rate. Canada was debited 7d.sterling.



March 31. Asia arrived at Boston. The closed Canada mails went by rail to Montreal.

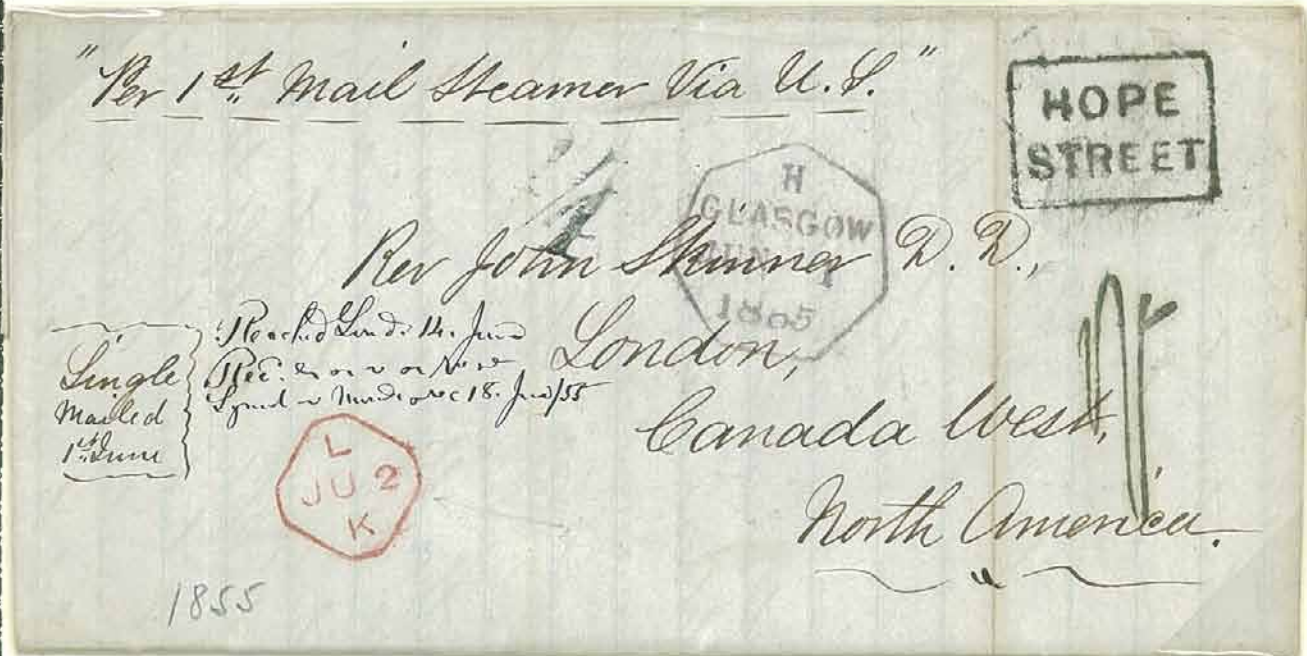
April 2. London, Upper Canada arrival backstamp.. Letter subject to the 8d. stg. rate by British Packet via the U.S., collect-at 10d. currency.

1855

SCOTLAND TO CANADA, CLOSED MAIL VIA U.S.

Special Crimean War Transatlantic Rate by American Packet
COLLINS LINE U.S.M.S. Atlantic

The ½-oz. rate by closed mail from the U.K. to Canada via the U.S. was reduced to 8d. sterling (6d. British postage + 2d. U.S. transit) in March 1854. Due to the need for troop transports to the Crimea in 1854-55, the British Admiralty requisitioned many of the Cunard steamers for that purpose, leaving insufficient vessels to make the weekly transatlantic passages, alternately to Boston and New York by Cunard. The New York calls were discontinued for 1855, and only fortnightly sailings to Boston were made. In British Post Office Notice No. 71 (November 1854) postmasters were advised that letters carried for Canada by the British Packets (Cunard) via Boston would still be subject to the 8d. rate. However, letters to Canada specifically directed to go by United States Packet would again be subject to the one shilling 2d. rate.



May 31, 1855. Letter headed at Glasgow and posted unpaid there on June 1 as shown by the heptagonal Glasgow receiving mark. It is endorsed: Per 1st Mail Steamer via U.S.

June 2. Transit lozenge at Liverpool. The endorsement directed this letter "By 1st Mail Steamer" which happened to be the U.S. Mail Steamship Atlantic of the Colling Line. This routing carried the 1sh.2d sterling rate, so Canada was debited with one

shilling sterling, shown by the 1/- black handstamp. The Atlantic departed from Liverpool this date for New York, where she arrived June 13.

June 14. London, Upper Canada arrival backstamp. Letter was subject to a collect amount of 1 shilling 4d. Canadian currency, equivalent to 1sh.2d. sterling.



1856

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

U.K. TO CANADA VIA U.S., CLOSED MAIL, Unpaid Letter
Rate of March 1854, 8d. Stg. or 10d. Cy

R.M.S. America

CUNARD LINE



April 25, 1856. Heptagonal receiving mark at Glasgow. Letter from James and Alexander Allan, Glasgow agents of the Allan Line to their counterparts, Edmonstone Allan & Co. at Montreal concerning movement of the Allan sailing vessels. It was endorsed: Pr R.M. Str "America" via L'pool & Boston. Letter unpaid.

April 26. R.M.S. America departed from Liverpool on her 58th outbound passage.

The G.P.O. in England rated the letter, Closed Mail via the U.S., as a double ($\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. to 1 oz.) at 8d. sterling x 2 = 1sh.4d. Canada was allowed 1d. sterling per rate for her internal postage, so the net amount due to the G.P.O. from Canada was $\frac{1}{4}$ d. minus 2d. = $\frac{1}{2}$ d. as shown in manuscript/

The amount to be collected in Canada was 10d. Canadian currency (equal to 8d. stg.) x 2 = 1sh.8d., shown as $\frac{1}{8}$ in manuscript.

May 10. America arrived at Boston and the Canadian mails, closed in their bags, were shipped by rail to Montreal where they were backstamped on May 11, only one day following America's arrival at Boston.



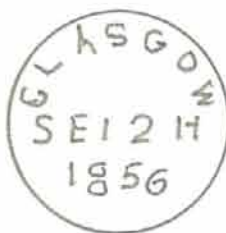
1856

SCOTLAND TO CANADA, CLOSED MAIL VIA U.S.

Rate of March 1854, 8d. Sterling or 10d. Cy.

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Canada

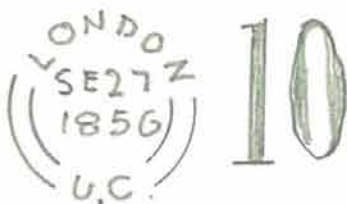


September 11, 1856. An unpaid letter datelined and posted at Glasgow, Scotland as shown by the 10-sided backstamp. Transit September 12 at the main Glasgow post office, date stamp on face. . Letter is endorsed: Per 1st Royal Mail Steamer.

September 12. Red transit lozenge at Liverpool. The March 1854 rate to Canada by closed mail via the U.S. was 8d. sterling. Canada was debited 7d. sterling by the strangely shaped "7d".

September 13. R.M.S. Canada, Cunard Line Royal Mail Packet, departed from Liverpool for Boston via Halifax. She arrived at Boston September 26. The Canadian closed bags were forwarded to Canada by rail.

September 27. Waterdown arrival backstamp. Letter subject to a collection of 10d. currency, equivalent to 8d. sterling.



1857

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

GLASGOW TO ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK VIA HALIFAX

On August 1, 1854, the Cunard rate of 1 shilling 3 pence currency (1/- sterling), unpaid, was reduced to 7½ pence when a letter was sent via Halifax and to 10 pence when sent by a British Packet from an American port. If a letter was sent by a United States or Canadian packet, the rate was 1 shilling 5½ pence currency.



Jan. 7, 1857. Septagonal receiving mark at Glasgow. Letter posted unpaid.

Jan. 8. Transit backstamps at Liverpool including Packet Letter Office oval, which office directed the letter to the Halifax packet.

05



Letter marked at St. John, 7½ pence currency due (see above). The 5d. was a debit to New Brunswick for the sea postage. 7½d. currency converts to 6d. sterling,



Jan. 31, 1857. Arrival backstamp at St. John.

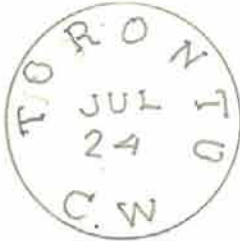
RMS ARABA
REV L'POOL JAN. 17
ARRS HALIFAX JAN. 29

the difference being retained by New Brunswick for internal postage.

1857

TORONTO TO IRELAND, CLOSED MAIL VIA BOSTON
CUNARD LINE R.M.S. America

In March 1854, the rate from Canada by British Closed Mail via the U.S. was reduced to 8d. sterling or 10d. Canadian currency. On unpaid letters, such as this one to the U.K., only the 8d. charge mark was shown in black. Paid letters showed the payment in both currencies and in red.



8

July 24, 1857. An unpaid letter posted at Toronto to County Sligo, Ireland. The March 1854 rate of 8d. sterling is shown by the "8" handstamp. Letter went by rail to Boston in a closed bag.

July 29. R.M.S. America, Cunard Line, departed from Boston for Liverpool via Halifax.



- August 10. America arrived at Liverpool, backstamp.
- August 11. Transit backstamp at Dublin, Ireland.
- August 12. Arrival postmark at Ballymote, County Sligo where the recipient paid the 8d. sterling rate.

1857

MONTREAL TO LIVERPOOL VIA NEW YORK
CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Asia

Liverpool "dotted letters" postmark.



August 3, 1857. An unpaid letter posted at Montreal concerns the writer's trip to Boston where he visited the Revere Copper (or smelter) Works. Overall, a chatty travelogue type letter to his father.

This letter was subject to to G.P.O. Order of March 1854 rate for closed mail to Britain via the United States at 8d. sterling or 10d. Canadian currency, so was marked "8" for a collect sum at Liverpool of 8 pence sterling. It is endorsed: pr. str. Asia from New York.

August 5. R.M.S. Asia of the Cunard Line departed from New York.



August 16. Asia arrived at Liverpool where the dotted rim receiving mark was struck. This postmark is seldom seen.

1857

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITAIN TO CANADA

British Packet - Closed Mail Rate via New York

R.M.S. Asia

On Aug. 1, 1854, the Cunard (British Packet) rate of one shilling 3 pence currency (1/- sterling), unpaid, was reduced to 7½ pence when a letter was sent via Halifax and to 10 pence when sent by British Packet via New York.



Aug. 21, 1857.
Unpaid letter at
Liverpool, L'pool
Packet Letter
Office oval back-
stamp. Writer
endorsed it "Via
New York" indi-
cating Canadian
Closed Mail by
Cunard packet.

R.M.S. Asia
sailed from
Liverpool Aug.
2, 1857, arrived
at New York
Sept. 3.



10d. Cy

Sept. 3. Arrival backstamp at
Montreal, Lower Canada. Letter
there subject to the 10d. currency
charge (see above) equivalent to
8 pence sterling.

Correspondence to Montreal Ocean
Steam Ship Co. agents at Montreal.

1858

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

LONDON TO YARMOUTH, N.S. VIA LIVERPOOL

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Canada

Registered Letter



1858

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
LONDON TO YARMOUTH. N.S. VIA LIVERPOOL

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Canada

Registered Letter

Rates of 1856

The rates for Nova Scotia to or from the United Kingdom were reduced in 1856 to the following:

U.K. via Halifax 6d. sterling (7½d. currency)
U.K. via U.S. by British Packet 8d. sterling (10d. currency).

A registration fee of 1 shilling sterling was in addition to the steamer postage.



January 14, 1858. Letter docketed at London where the transatlantic postage plus the registration fee, total 1 shilling 6d. was paid. The receiving office at Throgmorton St. cancelled the stamps with the "75" obliterator of the London District Post. Unframed Throgmorton St. office stamp struck twice. The small manuscript "55" on the face is the registered letter-bill number applied at Throgmorton St.



Jan. 16. Transit backstamp at Liverpool. R.M.S. Canada (Cunard Line) departed L'pool this date for Boston via Halifax, also shown as directional endorsement "pr Canada".

Jan. 28. Transit backstamp at Halifax. Records indicate the Canada arrived Halifax on Jan. 26, Boston Jan. 29, 1858.



Feb. 1. Arrival backstamp at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. (J.G.Y. Type 2).

1858-59

U.K. TO CANADA - CLOSED MAIL VIA U.S.

G.P.O. Order March 1854

8d sterling, 10d currency

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. America



December 17, 1858. Letter from Lloyds of London relative to marine insurance on the "Lady Head". The 8d. closed mail rate via U.S. was paid by two copies of the 4d. Issue of 1857 which were cancelled by the Inland Office "21" (Dubus 310e.)

December 18. Cunard Liner R.M.S. America departed from Liverpool for Boston via Halifax.



January 3, 1859. America arrived at Boston. Mail was bulked by rail to Canada for distribution.

January 6. Quebec, Lower Canada arrival backstamp.

1859

EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND TO CANADA VIA BOSTON
CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Arabia

8d. Sterling Rate

Unpaid Letter Fine

On March 1854 the rate U.K. to Canada by closed mail via the U.S. became 8d. sterling or 10d. currency. This rate applied to both paid and unpaid letters. From April 1859, an unpaid letter fine was applied to letters by this routing. The fine was 6d. sterling (7½d. cy.) split equally between the two countries. Of this amount the British kept 7d. of the 8d. rate plus half of the 6d. fine for a total of 10d. The postage due in Canada was made up of 10d. cy. plus 7½d. cy. unpaid letter fine, rounded to 17d. cy. or 1sh.5d. cy. This cover of April 5, 1859, was a very early usage of this fine, the only earlier could have been by R.M.S. Europa which departed from Liverpool April 2, 1859.



10

April 5, 1859. Letter posted unpaid at Edinburgh, Scotland. The penny red paid a late fee.

April 6. Transit lozenge at Liverpool. Canada was debited for 10d. sterling, being 7d. of

the 8d. rate + ½ of the 6d. fine = 10d. sterling. This was deleted in Canada to avoid confusion.

April 9. R.M.S. Arabia departed from Liverpool, arrived at Boston April 22.



April 23. Hamilton, Canada West arrival backstamp. The recipient charged 10d. cy. rate + 7½d. cy. unpaid letter fine, rounded off to 17d. cy total or 1sh. 5d., shown as 1/5 in manuscript.



1859. EDINBURGH TO CANADA VIA LIVERPOOL.

This cover has had me stumped for some time. It is stamped through at Liverpool on April 6, 1859, arrived Hamilton, C.W. on April 23 (or 28?). I believe the penny red was superfluous.

It seems to have been rated at the 1sh.2d. sterling rate to Canada by American Packet, eff. May 1856, with a collect amount of 1/5 in Canadian currency. I believe there was a 10d. sterling debit to Canada for this route.

My problem is that I can find no American Packet sailing that fits these dates. Actually, the closest I can come is by R.M.S. Arabia departing L/P April 9, arriving at Boston April 22.

I even checked the 1858 sailings in case the year date in the Edinburgh stamp was a distorted "8", but nothing fit.

I also considered that this cover was perhaps a double British Packet Letter in the closed mails through the U.S. This would be 8d. x 2 = 1sh4d. sterling, which would seem to convert to 1/6 currency due, but the 10d. (sterling?) debit to Canada just doesn't make sense.

Naturally, I would love to have this carried by an American Packet!

Do you have any ideas on this one?

1859 - Edinburgh to Hamilton, Canada - Thanks to the late Alan Steinhart, I can give you the rate explanation for this cover. From April 1859, an unpaid letter fine was applied to letters such as this one. The fine was 6d sterling (7½d cy) split equally between the two countries. This letter was sent by the Cunard steamer *Arabia* from Liverpool to Boston. The rate was 8d sterling (10d cy) by this route. Of this amount, the British kept 7d plus half the 6d fine or 10d. The "10d" handstamp is a debit marking of Liverpool. The postage due of 1s5d cy in Hamilton was made up of 10d cy plus 7½d cy unpaid letter fine rounded to 17d cy or 1s5d cy. I believe the penny red adhesive paid a late fee.

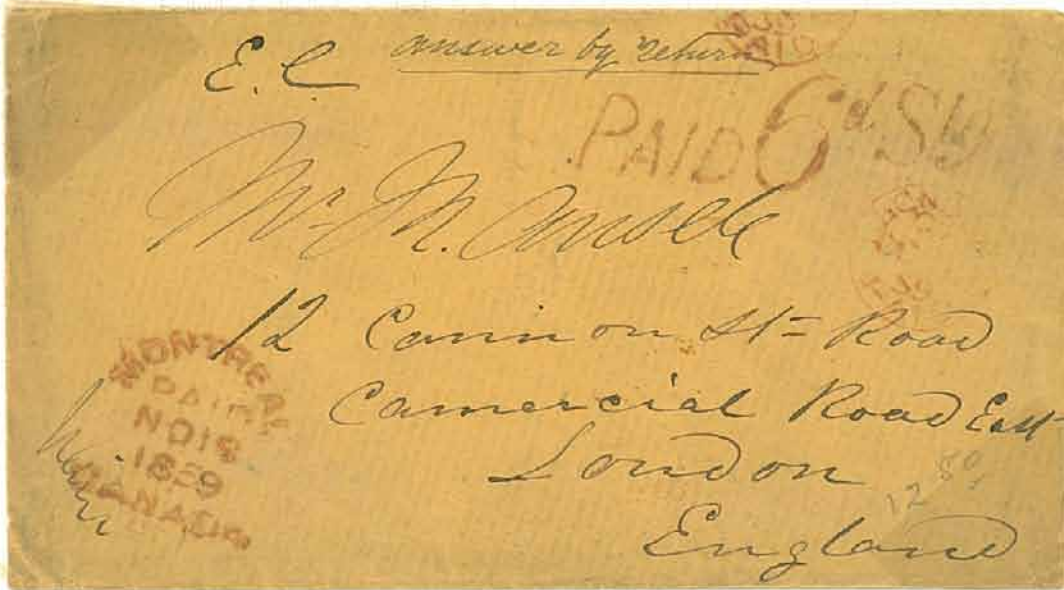
3 JUN 1859
2003
LIVERPOOL
FROM
DUE
WIPER

1859

PACKET LETTERS
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

CANADIAN PACKET

1856 RATES: By Canadian Packet were 6d. sterling, or 7½d.
Canadian Currency per ½ oz.



MONTREAL
PAID
NO 18
1859
CANADA

PAID 6d Stg

Nov. 18, 1859.
Montreal "tombstone"
paid receipt.

Montreal marking showing Canadian
packet rate of 6d. sterling had been
paid.

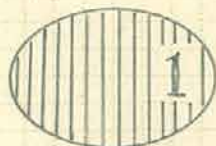
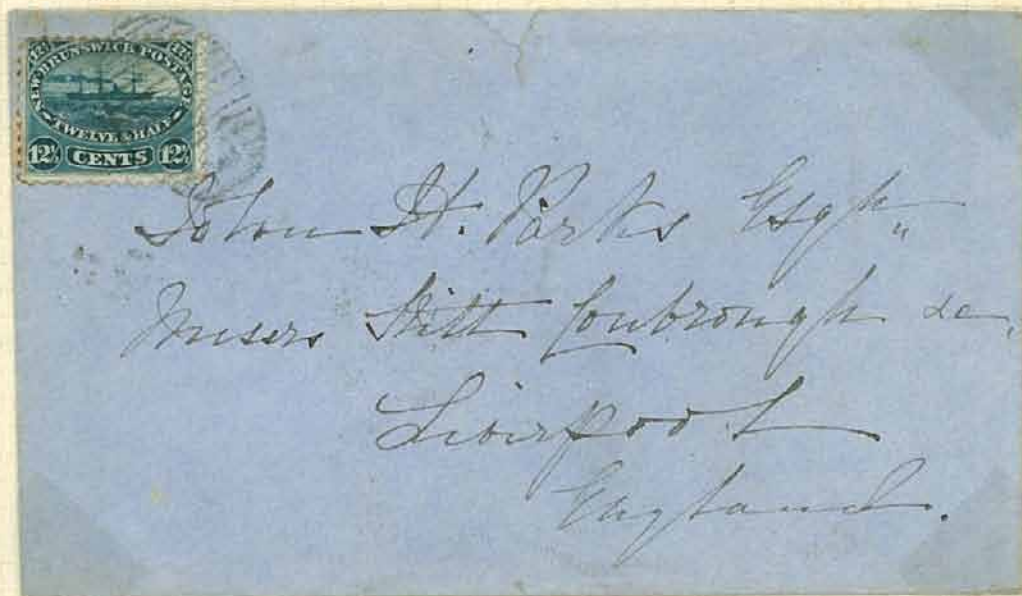


Dec. 1, 1859.
London "paid" transit.

ALLAN LINE
S.S. North American
Dep. Quebec Nov-19
Arr. Liverpool Nov-30

1861

PACKET LETTERS
 TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
 NEW BRUNSWICK TO BRITAIN RATE OF 12 JULY 1859
 By Canadian Steamer - 12½¢ Currency
 6 d. Sterling



May 15, 1861. Prepaid trans-Atlantic letter at the 12½ (currency) rate by Canadian Packet to England. The rate by Cunard Packet was 17¢.

May 25, 1861. Liverpool receipt backstamp.

The stamp, cancelled by the No. 1 barred oval or "grid" of St. John, New Brunswick, depicts the paddle steamer Washington of the Ocean Steam Navigation Co. of the United States.

St. John dated backstamp.

1862

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

CANADA - BRITAIN

RATE OF 12 JUNE 1859

By British (Cunard) Steamer

17¢ Currency

8d. Sterling

Via New York

R. M. S. China

Special stamps were issued to prepay the rate per British Packet via New York at 17¢ Canadian currency, 8d. sterling. Rate by Canadian Packet (Allan Line) was 12½¢ currency, 6d. sterling. Because of the higher rates, covers with the 17¢ stamp are decidedly scarcer than those with the 12½¢ stamp.



June 30, 1862. Letter posted at the British Packet rate of 17¢ Canadian currency with a copy of the blue Jacques Cartier Issue of 1859, cancelled by the "18" number of Kingston.

R.M.S. China sailed from New York on July 2 on her 2nd return voyage.

July 14. China arrived at Liverpool on July 13. Transit backstamp at London Southern District Office of Charing Cross. Prepayment in Canada included delivery in England.

1862

PACKET LETTERS
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

CANADA-BRITAIN

RATE OF 12 JULY 1859

By Canadian Steamer - 12½¢ Currency
6d. Sterling



October 3, 1862. Single weight letter prepaid by the special "Canada Packet Postage" stamp to London.

Stamp bears postage rates both in sterling (6d.) and Canadian currency (12½¢).

October 15, 1862. Receipt backstamp at London.

Rate by Cunard Steamer Steamer was 17¢.

ALLAN LINE: SS. Nova Scotian. departed Quebec Oct. 4. 1862
mails ashore at Londonderry Oct. 15
arrived Liverpool Oct. 16.

1863

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

LONDON TO LUNENBURGH, N.S. VIA L'POOL & HALIFAX

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. America

The rates for Nova Scotia to or from the United Kingdom were reduced in 1856 to the following:

U.K. via Halifax	6d. sterling (7½d. currency)
U.K. via U.S. by British Packet	8d. sterling (10d. currency).

In September 1850 the Treasury Board sanctioned an alteration in the route of the British (Cunard) steamers which, formerly running Liverpool-Halifax-Boston, would run alternately to Boston via Halifax and then Liverpool direct to New York. Nova Scotian letters directed via the Boston steamers would take the 6d. rate as they would be landed at Halifax. The letters directed to the New York bound Cunarders were subject to 2d. additional or 8d. for the transit forwarding New York back to Halifax.



P-21



May 2, 1863. Letter paid at the 6d. rate by British Packet direct to Halifax by a wing margin copy of the 6d. Issue of 1856. Stamp cancelled at the London Southern District Office. S/21 is identified by the 18 mm. oval and thin lines.



May 2. R.M.S. America departed from Liverpool for Boston via Halifax on her 91st outbound voyage.

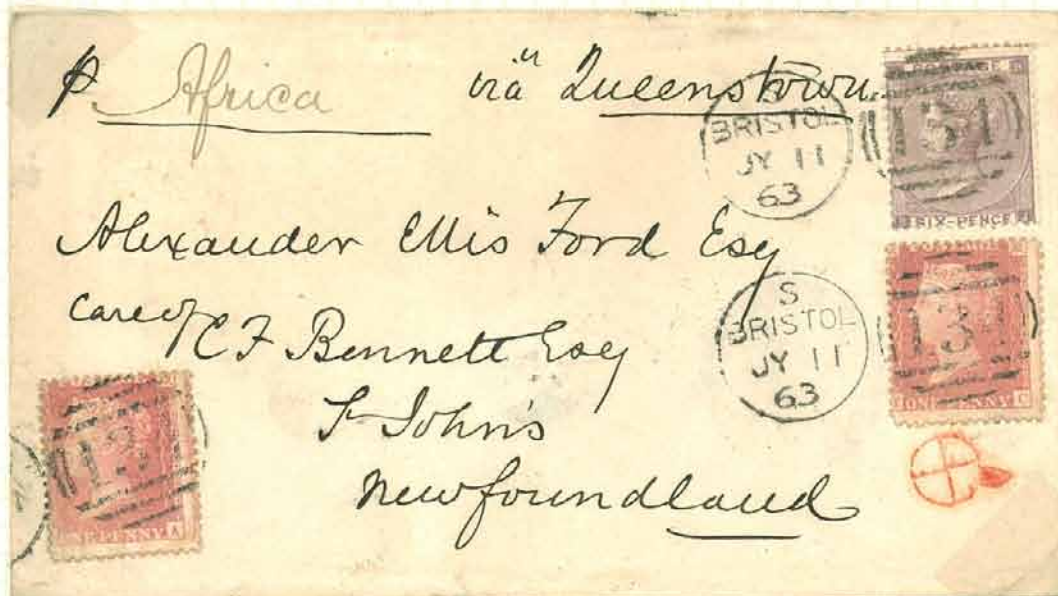
May 14. Backstamp at Halifax agrees with the recorded arrival date of America at that port.



May 15. Arrival backstamp at Lunenburg, Nova Scotia.

1863

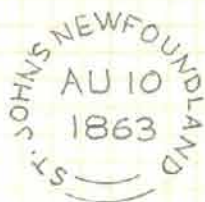
PACKET LETTERS
 TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
 BRITAIN TO NEWFOUNDLAND RATE OF 12 JULY 1859
 By Cunard Packet - 8 d. Sterling
 By Canadian Packet - 6 d. Sterling



July 11, 1863. Letter prepaid at the 8d. Cunard trans-Atlantic rate, and directed "per Africa", a 2226 ton Cunarder in service from 1850 - 1867. Stamps cancelled by the double obliterator with the British Post Office number "134" assigned to Bristol.

July 12, 1863. London transit backstamp. At this period there was no direct route to St. John's Newfoundland, and all mail from Britain was directed via Halifax.

This letter received special notice as per the inspector's cross.



August 10, 1863. St. John's, Newfoundland arrival backstamp.

1863

U.K. TO CANADA - BRITISH PACKET CLOSED MAIL VIA U.S.
CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. America

Last Voyage of America as a Transatlantic British Packet



May 2, 1863. A letter to Montreal endorsed: pr. Cunard Steamer Canada. This endorsement was in error as R.M.S. Canada had no sailings from Liverpool anywhere near this time.

Letter was paid at Glasgow, Scotland at the 8d. British Packet letter rate to Canada by closed mail via the U.S. (6d. transatlantic by British + 2d. U.S. transit charge.) Payment by a pair of the 4d. Issue of 1862.



May 2. R.M.S. America departed from Liverpool for Boston. She touched at Queenstown on the 3rd. This was her last outbound passage as a Cunard British transatlantic Packet. On her next out passage on July 23, 1863, she sailed under charter to the Montreal Ocean Steam Ship Co. (The Allan Line - The Canadian Packet.)

May 16. America arrived at Boston.



May 17. The Canadian mails had been forwarded from Boston by rail. Montreal arrival backstamp.

1863

U. K. TO CANADA - CANADIAN PACKET VIA QUEBEC
MONTREAL OCEAN STEAM SHIP CO. S. S. America
First Voyage of America under Charter from Cunard

On May 2, 1863, America made her last transatlantic voyage as a Cunard British Packet. On this July voyage she sailed from Liverpool under charter to the Montreal Ocean Steam Ship Co. (Allan Line - The Canadian Packet.) She was the only wooden paddle steamer employed by the Allan Line. In all, she made 4 round voyages, 1863-64, for the Allan Line. After her return from Portland, Maine, arriving at Liverpool April 16, 1864, she again ran for Cunard Liverpool-Havre until converted to the sailing ship Coalgaconda in 1866.



July 23, 1863. A letter datelined at London to Montreal paid at the 6d. Canadian Packet rate by the Issue of 1862. Cancellation is by the London East Central District duplex (Dubus 179.)

July 23. S.S. America, a Cunarder under charter to the Allan Line, departed from Liverpool on the first of her four charters to the Canadian Packet line. On this outbound passage she did not stop at Londonderry.



August 4. America arrived at Quebec.

August 5. Montreal arrival backstamp.

1863

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
U.K. TO NEWFOUNDLAND VIA HALIFAX
CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Africa, Liverpool to Halifax

R.M.S. Merlin, Halifax to St. John's, Newfoundland



August 21, 1863. The 6d. rate to Newfoundland by British packet was paid by a copy of the Issue of 1862, the 6d. lilac. Duplex cancellation at Clifton, Bristol with the obliterator using the British Post Office number "134" of Bristol.

August 22. R.M.S. Africa of the Cunard Line departed this date from Liverpool for Boston via Halifax.

September 1. Africa arrived at Halifax.

September 3. The steamer Merlin, Guifford, cleared for Sydney & St. John's Nfld. - mails and merchandise by S. Cunard and others (The Nova Scotian, Halifax, Sept. 7.)



September 8. A textbook strike of the backstamp applied upon arrival of Merlin at St. John's.

1863

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
U. K. TO NEWFOUNDLAND VIA HALIFAX
CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Arabia, Liverpool to Halifax

R.M.S. Merlin, Halifax to St. John's, Newfoundland



September 3, 1863. The 6d. rate to Newfoundland by British packet was paid by a copy of the Issue of 1862, the 6d. lilac. Duplex cancellation of Bath with the obliterator using the British Post Office number "53" of Bath.

September 4. Transit at London, backstamp, the letter received a "crosshairs" mark of an inspector.

September 5. R.M.S. Arabia of the Cunard Line departed from Liverpool this date for Boston via Halifax.

September 15. Arabia arrived at Halifax.

September 18. The steamer Merlin, Guilford, cleared for Sydney and St. John's, Newfoundland by S. Cunard & Co.

September 21. Merlin arrived at St. John's where the backstamp was struck.

S.S. Merlin: 366 tons, 140 x 23', built in Glasgow 1850, transferred from Canadian to Newfoundland registry in 1868.



1865

PACKET LETTERS

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

CANADA - BRITAIN

RATE OF 12 JULY 1859

By Canadian Steamer - 12½¢ Currency
6d. Sterling

Because of the 12½¢ rate of 1859, Canada issued a special "Canada Packet Postage" stamp, which bore both the Currency and the equivalent Sterling rates as part of the design. Rate by Cunard steamer was 17¢.



Feb. 2, 1865. Single weight letter prepaid by the special "Canada Packet Postage" stamp, Toronto to London. Inscribed, mms. U.L. "per R.M. Canadian S.S.".

S.S. Hebrides (Allan) Dep. P'land Feb. 5, 1865
Arr. Liverpool Feb. 16

1865

UNITED KINGDOM TO NOVA SCOTIA PER BRITISH PACKET
CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Cuba

Rate of March 1854

6d. via Halifax

A GPO Instructions to Postmasters of March 1854 clarified a Treasury Warrent dated 23 March 1854:

Rates by British Packet to Canada and P.E.I., 6d. Letters to Canada not endorsed "via Halifax" to go via the U.S. and the U.S. transit rate of 2d. must be added, making 8d. in all. By U.S. packet to Canada existing rates remain, i.e. 1sh.2d.



October 27, 1865. A letter to Halifax, Nova Scotia paid at the 6d. British Packet rate "via Halifax" by a strip of three and 3 singles of the perforated penny red, Issue of 1864, plate 72, an interesting franking. Adhesives cancelled by the "75" duplex of Birmingham.

October 28. The Cunard Line, British Packet, R.M.S. Cuba left Liverpool on her 8th outbound voyage.

November 8. Halifax receiving backstamp. Cuba had arrived at that Nova Scotian port on Nov. 7, and sailed for Boston, arriving there Nov. 9.



1867

U.K. TO NOVA SCOTIA VIA BRITISH PACKET DIRECT
CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Java



Sept. 13, 1867. Letter posted paid at the 6d. rate of 1854 by a copy of the Issue of 1865, plate 6 (the scarcer of the two plates). 805, British Post Office number assigned to Torquay.

Sept. 14. Transit at London. Mail was forwarded to Queenstown to meet the Java on Sept. 15. R.M.S. Java had sailed from Liverpool the 14th.



Sept. 23, 1867. Arrival backstamp at Halifax, Nova Scotia. R.M.S. Java had arrived on Sept. 22.

1869

U.K. TO NOVA SCOTIA VIA UNITED STATES

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Malta

7d rate effective January 1, 1868

On January 1, 1868, the rates from the U.K. to Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, PEI, British Columbia, Vancouver's Island and the Sandwich Islands via the U.S. and to Bermuda via New York were reduced from 8d. per ½-oz. to 7d.



September 13, 1869. The 7d. rate made up by a pair of the 2d. Issue of 1858, plate 12 and the 3d. rose, Issue of 1867, plate 5. Letter posted at Liverpool, cancellation by duplex "466" of L'pool.

September 14. This letter was strangely routed back through London. Strange as the R.M.S. Malta departed from Liverpool September 14 for Boston. This letter went aboard her at her port-of-call at Queenstown on Sept. 15. Probably a mis-direction.



September 27. Malta arrived at Boston.

Boston Daily Evening Transcript. Wed. Sept. 29. Cleared yesterday afternoon, steamer Linda, Davis, Yarmouth, NS, by J.O. Hall & Co.

Sept. 30. Transit backstamp at Halifax.
Oct. 1. Arrival backstamp at Wilmot, N.S.

1869

INMAN LINE-CANADIAN MAILS

CORK TO CHARLOTTE TOWN, PRINCE EDWARD IS. VIA H'FAX
S. S. City of Boston

In January 1868, Cunard ceased calling at Halifax leaving a void in the direct service to England. To fill this, the Canadian government gave a 3 year contract to the Inman Line for fortnightly calls. The ships did not terminate at either Halifax or Queenstown (Cork), but at Philadelphia or New York, and Liverpool, simply deviating to Halifax for the mails.

In June 1871, upon renewal, the contract went to the Allan Line which served Halifax until January 1879 when the service was discontinued.



October 21, 1869. Letter posted at Ryde, Isle of Wight, where the 6d. Canadian Packet rate was paid by a copy of the Issue of 1869. It was cancelled by a near perfect strike of the "666" duplex hammer, 666 being the British Post Office number assigned to Ryde.

October 22. Transit backstamps at London where the letter was transferred to the Canadian Mail bags for Halifax and the Maritime Provinces, thence to Cork (Queenstown) to meet the contract Inman steamer for Halifax.

October 24. City of Boston departed from Liverpool and called at Cork Oct. 25 for the Canadian Mails.

November 2. City of Boston arrived at Halifax and the mails for P.E.I. were forwarded on by land and local steamer to Charlotte Town.

N.B.: Allan Line steamer Moravian departed from L'pool Oct. 21, arrived Quebec Oct. 31 with the Canadian mails for Montreal and the U.S. Mails.



1873

PACKET LETTERS
TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

BRITAIN-CANADA

Rates of Jan. 1, 1870

Cunard Rate : 4d Sterling or 8c.

Canadian Pkt. : 3d. Sterling or 6c.

The transatlantic rate was again reduced on Jan. 1, 1870, the Cunard rate became 4d. sterling or 8c, the Canadian Packet rate 3d. sterling or 6c Canadian currency.

Letters sufficiently prepaid for the Canadian packet, but carried by the Cunard Line, were assessed only with the deficient postage. Unpaid (or insufficiently prepaid for either routing) letters were assessed double the amount of the deficiency on delivery.



INSUFFICIENTLY
STAMPED

2 1^d

March 7, 1873. Letter prepaid 3d. at London, correct rate for the Canadian packet. Issue of 1872, Plate 9, stamp cancelled with West Central District obliterator, Dubus 49.

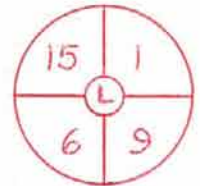
As letter was carried by a Cunard steamer, the recipient had to pay the difference between the two rates, 1d. sterling or the equivalent 2c currency.

1869

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
PACKET LETTERS

CANADIAN POSTAL SERVICE - Cunard Steamer Rate

On 16 January 1868 to 30 December 1869 the rate by Cunard Steamer was 15¢ (7d.) per ½ ounce. On the latter date this was reduced to 6¢ (3d.) and on 1 July 1878 the U.P.U. rate of 5¢ (2½d.) prevailed.



Jan. 14, 1869. Letter posted at Thrapston, England and 6d. in postage cancelled by Thrapston "798" numbered obliterator and backstamped with Thrapston c.d.s.

Jan. 15. London transit backstamps. London packet mark, mail designated "L" to Liverpool.

d

INSUFFICIENTLY
PREPAID

3

London stamped letter 1d. postage underpaid to make total correct rate of 4+2+1d. = 7d.

Canadian Exchange Office marked this 3¢ due, being underpayment of difference, 15¢ rate minus prepaid 6d. (12¢) = 3¢ due.

1874

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
COGNAC, FRANCE TO CANADA via England



1065

COGNAC
29
JUL
74
(15)

PD

BORDEAUX A PARIS
29
JUL
74
E

July 29, 1874. Letter posted at Cognac and prepaid 100 centimes (1 franc) by pair of the 10c. Issue of 1870-73 and the 80c. Issue of 1872. marked PD = Payee au Destination. Endorsed "Voie d'Angleterre", or via England.

July 29. Bordeaux to Paris, T.P.O. transit backstamp, 2nd Section, Brigade E

PARIS
30
JUL
74
E-TRANGER

LONDON
N
PAID
H
30 JUL 74

MONTREAL
AUG 11
74
C.E.

July 30. Paris "Etranger" (Foreign Office) transit backstamp.

July 30. London transit.

August 11, 1874. Arrival backstamp at Montreal, Canada East.

Allan Lane Prosser

1891

MISSISSIPPI & DOMINION STEAMSHIP COMPANY LIMITED
The Dominion Line

S.S. Sarnia, Portland to Liverpool via Halifax

P. & O. Line S.S. Victoria, Brindisi to Aden

S.S. Assam, Aden to Bombay

The Dominion Line was originally formed in 1870 to sail between Liverpool and New Orleans, but soon was running to Quebec and Montreal in summer and New Orleans winters, as well as Boston. In 1885 the Dominion Line was awarded a share of the Canadian mail contracts and ran advertisements:- "Dominion Line Royal Mail steamers sailing on Thursdays, alternately from Liverpool and Bristol for Halifax and Portland....."



Dec. 14, 1891. Letter, 5¢ U.P.U. rate, posted at Wolfville, N.S.

London Times, Dec. 17. PORTLAND, MAINE, Dec. 15. The Dominion Line s.s. SARNIA left here today for Liverpool (via Halifax.)

Dec. 26. The Dominion Line s.s. SARNIA, from Portland, arrived in the Mersey to-day.

Letter was forwarded across Europe by rail to Brindisi to meet the P. & O. Australian steamer Victoria, which departed Brindisi Jan. 3, 1892.

Times, Jan. 7. Victoria from Brindisi arrived at Port Said at 2 PM and entered the Canal at 4 PM with the India, China and Australian mails. She transferred Bombay mails at Aden Jan. 10 and proceeded for Colombo and Sydney.

Jan. 11. Backstamp Sea Post Office of S.S. Assam, left Aden Jan. 11, arrived Bombay Jan 17. Letter at Yellamanchili 22nd.

