

1816

SHIP LETTERS

LIVERPOOL TO BOSTON

Brig Falcon, Capt. Lewis

September 26, 1816. A letter dated at London by Andrew Bigelow, who had been a passenger out aboard the brig Falcon. He informs his mother that Capt. Lewis has kindly offered to return to Boston his mattress, pillow and davenport aboard the Falcon, free of freight. This was Capt. Lewis' usual courtesy to his passengers.

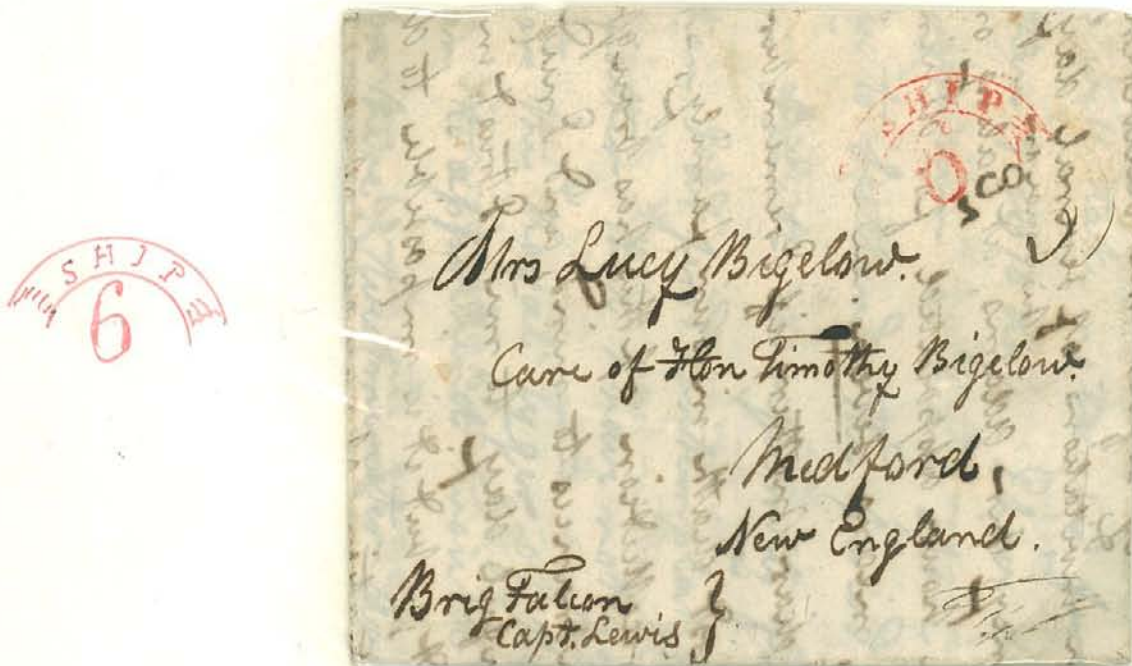
September 30. Andrew sent his letter under cover to a forwarding agent in Liverpool who endorsed it on the reverse in pen and ink:

Received & forwarded by

Your mo. obt. servt.

John S. Carter, Liverpool 30 Sepr 1816 (N.L. Rowe)

October 6. The brig Falcon departed from Liverpool for Boston.



Newburyport Herald, November 12, 1816. HERALD SHIP NEWS. BOSTON, November 7. Arrived the fast sailing brig Falcon, Lewis, Liverpool 32, dry goods, crates, &c. Passengers in the Falcon Rev. Joseph Tuckerman and lady.

Letter rated at 6¢ due for a single Ship Letter addressed to the port of arrival. The postmaster at Boston passed this letter as such even though it was addressed to nearby Medford.

This exceptionally sharp strike of the Boston fancy arc SHIP/6 mark is the earliest recorded. Blake and Davis record the earliest use on October 21, 1817, some 11 months after this example.

1819

SHIP LETTERS

MARSEILLES TO BOSTON VIA GIBRALTAR

Schooner Zephyr, Capt. Ripley

September 4, 1819. Letter datelined at Marseilles and concerns the death of the addressee's brother, Dr. Thomas Mendenhall, aged 36 years. The letter is endorsed: Schr Zephyr/for Boston.



0.274

Arrived Boston November 6, 1819, Schr. Zephyr (sic), Ripley, of Boston, from Gibraltar, 32 days - 1590 casks, 1075 Boxes Raisins; 100 sacks Almonds; 1 cask Sicily Madeira Wine; 22 Jars Grapes.

Raisins, Almonds consigned to Bixby, Valentine & Co.

Letter rated, Act of 1799, 6¢ for a single Ship Letter addressed to the Port of Entry.

1820

SHIP LETTERS

CALCUTTA, INDIA TO BOSTON

Brig Barbara

January 5, 1820. A letter datelined at Calcutta, India and endorsed: p. Barbara. The brig Barbara, Captain Turner sailed shortly after this date for Boston via the Cape of Good Hope.



Boston Patriot & Daily Mercantile Advertiser, SATURDAY, May 27, 1820. Arrived Friday, May 26. Brig Barbara, Turner, from Calcutta, 104 ds. fr. Pondichery and 61 frm the Cape of Good Hope with sugar and piece goods to S.G. Perkins & Co. Passengers E.A. Newton and lady.

Letter rated as a single Ship Letter at 6¢ for a letter addressed to the port of arrival.

1821

SHIP LETTERS

LIVERPOOL TO BOSTON

Ship Falcon

D. Sohier, Esq.

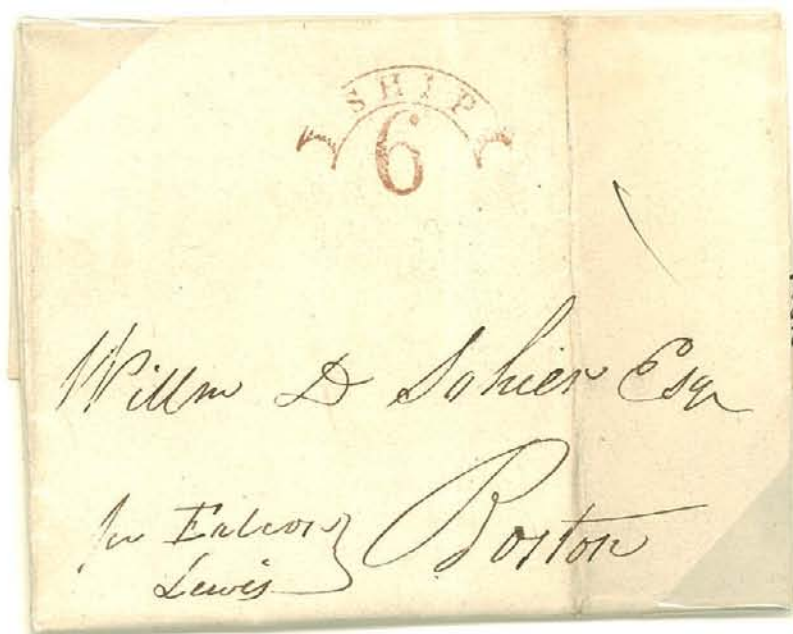
Liverpool 20 feb 21

D. Sir. I have committed the shawl bought for Mrs. S. to the care of the steward of the Falcon. He is an honest man and may be the only person I know who would be likely to take care of it. You had best to go on board for it the moment you receive this letter. I trust it may be approved by Mrs. Sohier.

In great haste Yrs. etc.

J.H. Bradford.

Letter is endorsed: per Falcon/Lewis. The Falcon sailed from Liverpool February 22.



Independent Chronicle and Boston Patriot, Wed., April 4, 1821. PORT OF BOSTON, arrived March 31. Ship Falcon, Capt. Lewis, 36 ds fm Liverpool, dry goods to S. Austin, Jr., the master and 72 consignees. Sailed 22d. Feb. in co with ship Meteor, Glover for Boston...Spoke March 21, 1at 41 lon 50, ship Meteor, under jury topsails, having on the 8th in 1at 49 lon 34 experienced a tremendous squall in which she lost all her top masts and yards with the head of her mizzenmast.

The Falcon experienced the same squall and was obliged to stand to the east for 6 hours and lost her foreyard. The Steward of the Meteor died with the small pox on the 15th of March. Passengers Mr. Wm. Taylor, Mr. Dawson and sister, and 33 in the steerage.

Letter rated 6¢ single Ship Letter, port of entry. (Blake 274).

1821

SHIP LETTERS

LIVERPOOL TO BOSTON in 28 Days

Ship Triton

July 2, 1821. Letter datelined at Liverpool and endorsed to the Ship Triton.



B. 274

Independence Chronicle and Boston Patriot: Aug. 1, 1821.
Arrived at Boston: Ship Triton, Capt. Bussey, in 28 days from
Liverpool. Messrs. James Boott and Cushing came as passengers.
The Triton has a full cargo of dry goods for sundry persons.

Letter incoming as a Ship Letter, rated at 6c, the rate for
a single Ship Letter addressed to the port of entry.

1822

SHIP LETTERS

AMSTERDAM TO BOSTON VIA NEW DIEPPE, FRANCE

Brig Pembroke

December 21, 1821. Letter (prices current) datelined at Rotterdam and endorsed: p:Pembroke/via Amsterdam. Letter went overland to the Pembroke at Amsterdam.

January 29, 1822. Pembroke departed Amsterdam and sailed for New Dieppe in France on the English Channel.

March 1. Pembroke departed from New Dieppe for Boston.



BOSTON COMMERCIAL GAZETTE, April 8, 1822

RUSSELL & GARDNER'S

SHIP NEWS DEPARTMENT

PORT OF BOSTON, THURS., April 4

Arr. brig Pembroke, Church, Amsterdam, 64 (days). Left Jan. 7 the Eight Sons, Boston, March 1 - at New Dieppe, Paterson, Providence, 3 or 4 weeks; Merrimack, doing nothing.

April 4. Upon Pembroke's arrival at Boston the letter was marked with a textbook strike of the Boston Ship Letter mark (B. 274) showing the 6¢ Ship Letter rate due for a letter addressed to the port of entry.

1822

SHIP LETTERS

Liverpool to Boston
Brig Palmer

Forwarding Agent
J. Hardman & Sons, L'pool

September 14, 1822. The writer of this letter, Thomas Bolton, advises he wrote to Boston on the 14th of August per the ship Mount Vernon sending documents. This letter, written at Birmingham, was sent under cover to the firm of J. Hardman & Sons at Liverpool which acted as a forwarding agent per their Sept. 20 manuscript endorsement on the reverse. They routed the letter: p "Palmer". Rowe notes this manuscript marking used in 1836, here seen used 13 years earlier.

*Recd for J. Hardman & Sons
L'pool 20/9/22*



The Palmer was anticipated at Boston earlier: Boston Patriot & Daily Mercantile Advertiser. October 17, 1822. Arrived October 16, ship Jasper, Crooker, 32 days from Liverpool. Left brig Palmer, Mellus, for Boston the 20th.

September 20. Brig Palmer departed from Liverpool for Boston.

Boston Patriot et al. Tuesday, November 19. Arrived Boston MONDAY, November 18. Brig Palmer, Mellus, 49 days from Liverpool... Passengers Messrs. John Bell and F.W. Apthorp.

Letter rated 6¢ as a single Ship Letter addressed to the port of arrival.

1823

SHIP LETTERS

New Orleans to Boston

Brig Louisiana



April 3, 1823, Letter docketed as from: Wm. G. Hewes Apl. 3, 1823, New Orleans. Directionally endorsed on face: pr. Louisiana.



9.274

Boston Patriot & Daily Mercantile Advertiser, May 9, 1823. Arrived at Boston THURS., May 8, Brig Louisiana, keel, 29 days from New Orleans and 24 from the Balize with cotton, dyewood, raisins, sugar, molassas and leather. Sailed from the Balize the 12th in co. with schr. Five Sisters, Kellog, for Havana.

Letter rated at 6¢ due, Ship Letter rate for a single letter addressed to the port of entry.

N.B.: The Louisiana, 202 ton brig, is listed by Cutler in 1824 as a packet for the Regular Packet Line, Boston to New Orleans. Boston agents were John Pratt & Son, 19 India Wharf, Boston.

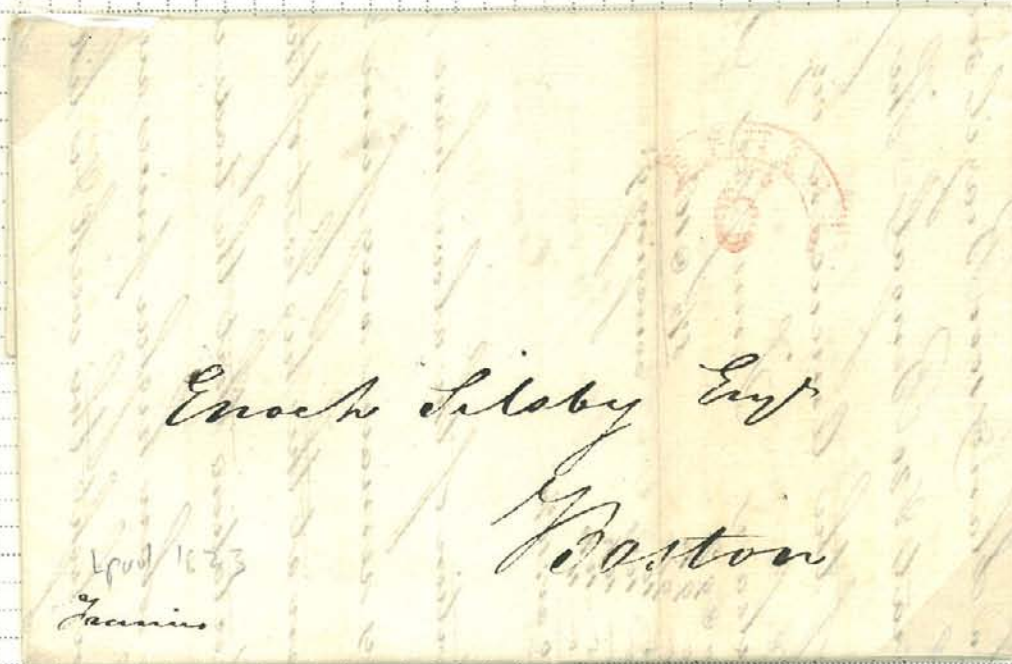
1823

SHIP LETTERS

LIVERPOOL TO BOSTON

Ship Frances

September 20, 1823. Letter datelined at Liverpool and is endorsed: Francis (sic.) The ship Frances left Liverpool on September 28 for Boston.



B. 274

BOSTON COMMERCIAL GAZETTE
RUSSELL & GARDNER'S
SHIP NEWS DEPARTMENT

PORT OF BOSTON

TUES. NOV. 4, 1823. Arrived ship Frances, Adams, Liverpool 36 days - Left 28th Sept. ship Warren, Webb, for Boston.

Letter incoming as a Ship Letter, rated at 6c, the rate for a Ship Letter addressed to the port of entry.

1824

SHIP LETTERS

Liverpool to Boston

Ship America

January 20, 1824. A letter datelined Liverpool written by J. Hardman & Sons, a Liverpool business firm which also acted as forwarding agents. They note, "We avail of the 'America' departing in half an hour..." Actually, America departed January 22 in company with the packet ship Topaz of the Boston Jewel Line. The latter arrived at Boston on March 6, the America did not arrive until March 10.



Boston Patriot & Daily Mercantile Advertiser, THURSDAY, March 11. Arrived Wednesday, March 10. Ship America, Turner, 47 days from Liverpool. Spoke nothing. Capt. F (sic) states that he has had adverse winds for the last 30 days, and has been 6 or 7 days in the South Channel with the wind ahead. (N.B.: The America left Liverpool in company with the packet ship Topaz. The latter had already arrived at Boston on March 6.)

Letter rated at 6¢, the single Ship Letter rate for a letter addressed to the port of arrival. Rate shown by the Boston "ribbon 6" charge mark.

1824

SHIP LETTERS

London to Boston

Brig Duxbury

February 20, 1824. Letter, dated at Birmingham, England, concerns a prior shipment of unsatisfactory porter ale shipped from Liverpool. This letter is in the form of a consignee's letter and ships:

Four Casks each 8 Doz. is 32 Doz. Barclay's

Dbl. Brown Stout, Bottles & Packages on Bd.

Shipped on board the Duxbury, Capn. Drew from London for Boston.



Boston Patriot & Daily Mercantile Advertiser, April 16. Arrived THURSDAY, April 15, Brig Duxbury, Drew, from London, 35 days from Cowes. Left at London 27th Feb. ships Prince George, Lewis, doing nothing -- Wm. Thompson and Jos. Nohill, seamen, died on her passage... [The D has a cargo of saltpetre, Roman cement and merchandise to 58 consignees.]

Letter rated at 6¢ for a single Ship Letter addressed to the port of entry. Rate shown by a clear strike of the Boston "ribbon 6" charge mark.

1824

SHIP LETTERS

COPENHAGEN TO BRISTOL, R.I. VIA BOSTON

Brig Cipher, Capt. Howes

May 6, 1824. A letter headed at Elsinor, Denmark concerning Prices Current in Russia and that a new tariff has gone into effect in Russia on sugar and coffee and yet there appears to be no increase in the Russian market for these goods. Letter is endorsed: p Cipher.

The brig Cipher left from Copenhagen and touched at Elsinor where this letter went on board.



B.207

SHIP

B.277

N.Y. Shipping List & Price Current. Arrived at Boston, June 26:
Brig Cipher, Howes...Copenhagen.

Letter rated, Act of 1816, single letter conveyed 30 to 80 miles,
Boston to Bristol, R.I., at 10¢ + 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 12¢ due,
shown in manuscript.

1827

BOSTON, MASS.
SHIP LETTER MARKS



January 29, 1827. Letter, headed at Palermo, Italy, was handed to the captain of the ship Pharos (mms., L.L. of cover face) to be deposited into the U.S. mails at first port of arrival.

A fine strike of the Blake 274 Boston ship letter mark. From March 2, 1799 until April 1, 1855, unpaid incoming ship letters were charged 6¢ due, if addressed to the Port of Entry.



Shipping and Commercial List, April 4, 1827:

March 31, 1827, Brig Pharos, Rogers, arr. Boston from Palermo.

1826

SHIP LETTERS

Liverpool to Providence via Boston

Ship Delta



May 6, 1826. Letter from Rathbone Brothers & Co., datelined at Liverpool. It concerns a good market in cotton. Letter was handed directly to the captain of the ship Delta outbound with a mixed cargo.



SHIP

B.208

B.274

B.283

June 27. Shipping and Commercial List and New-York Price Current, July 15, 1827. Importations at Boston, June 25 from Liverpool, Ship Delta (misc. cargo listed).

Letter incoming as a Ship Letter was originally rated at 6¢, the rate for a Ship Letter addressed to the port of entry. The error was noted and the straightline SHIP was struck over the SHIP/6 as an obliterator.

Correct rate was then charged, Act of 1825, single letter 30 to 80 miles, Boston to Providence, at 10¢ plus 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 12¢, shown in red manuscript at upper right.

1828-29

SHIP LETTERS

MALTA TO U.S. VIA LONDON AND BOSTON

Brig Ceres

November 15, 1828. A letter written at Malta to the Custom House at Boston, and endorsed: pr. Brig Ceres. This "opportunity" was not to be direct as the Ceres, a 248 ton brig built in 1826 at Wiscasset, Maine, went back by way of London. The writer, Charles Inglie, notes a passage out from Boston of 39 days, having passed Gibraltar in 23 days, but light head winds made the voyage 16 days more to Malta.

Mr. Welch's son was aboard and Inglie reports, "I am sorry to say that (your son) has got the rumitism [sic] in his right shoulder writing love letters to a Young Lady that resides in the District of Maine."



N.Y. Shipping and Commercial List. Arrived at Boston, April 22, 1829: Brig Ceres.....London.

Letter rated as a single Ship Letter addressed to the port of arrival at 6¢.

1834

SHIP LETTERS

St. Petersburg, Russia to Boston

Brig Samos, Capt. Brewer

June 13, 1834. A letter headed at St. Petersburg. It is endorsed to the Samos, then lying in the harbor of Cronstadt, the port city of St. Petersburg.



Shipping and Commercial List, N.Y. Arrived at Boston August 13, 1834. Brig Samos, Brewer...Cronstadt.

Letter rated at 6¢ due for a single Ship Letter addressed to the port of arrival. The Samos' passage of 60 days from Cronstadt to Boston was remarkably fast.

The Samos brought a mixed cargo. IMPORTATIONS: N.S. iron 2992 bars - Sheet do 116 packs - sailcloth 450 do - Raven's duck 130 bales - cordage 275 coils - flems 372 bales - feathers 689 do - quills 3 cases, 37 baskets - oakum 90 bales - down 2 do.

1835

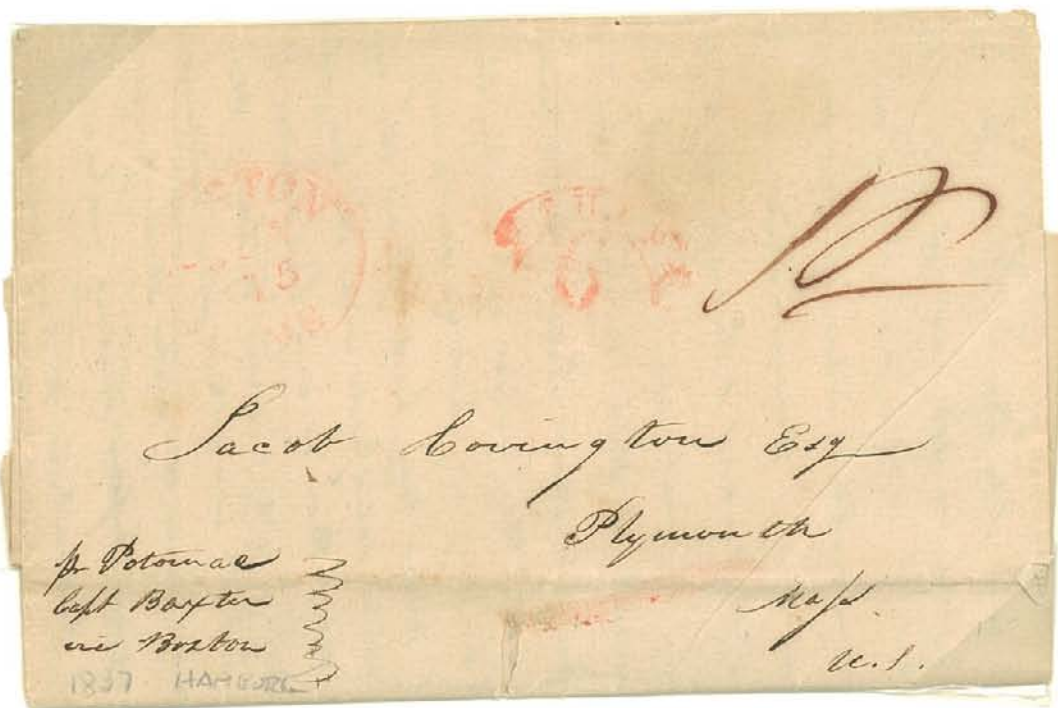
SHIP LETTERS

HAMBURG, GERMANY TO PLYMOUTH, MASS. VIA BOSTON

Barque Potomac

April 24, 1835. Captain Phineas Leach of the ship Mary & Martha writes from Hamburg of poor opportunities for cargoes, having found none at Bremen. He expects to go to Gothenburg to load 100 tons of iron for Boston.

Capt. Leach endorsed the cover: p Potomac/ Capt. Baxter/ Via Boston. The Potomac sailed from Cuxhaven April 28.



B. 207

B. 274

Boston Daily Evening Transcript, Monday June 15, 1835.
Arrived this morning, Barque Potomac, Baxter, Hamburg,
Cuxhaven, Ap. 28.

Letter rated as a single Ship Letter addressed to the
Port of Entry at 6¢ by the Boston SHIP in an arc handstamp.
This was changed to 10¢, Act of 1825, 30 to 80 miles + 2¢
Ship Letter charge = 12¢, red manuscript.

1835

SHIP LETTERS

CALCUTTA TO BOSTON

Ship Gentoo

CALCUTTA
G.P.O.
SHIP LETTER
3 JU 3
1835

June 1, 1835. Letter datelined at Calcutta refers to the refusal to honor Mr. J.M. Rulon's drafts by Messrs. George Wilder & Co., five drafts totalling 730.

June 4. Letter handled at Calcutta as a Ship Letter and delivered to the captain of the ship Gentoo.



BOSTON
OCT 18
MS

8.208

SHIP
8.263

Shipping & Commercial List (N.Y.) : Arrived at Boston October 18, Ship Gentoo, Coffin.....Calcutta.

Letter rated, Act of 1825, as a single letter conveyed 150 to 400 miles, Boston to Philadelphia, at 18-3/4¢ + 2¢ Ship Letter charge= 20-3/4¢ due, shown in manuscript.

1836

SHIP LETTERS

LONDON TO BOSTON

Ship Caledonia Brander

July 5, 1836. An interesting letter from Mrs. Aspinwall. Among other things she mentions, "Railroads and steam projects and joint-stock banks are multiplying to an unprecedented extent. We have two or three steam omnibuses that go half a dozen times each per day past the old residence of our friend Mr. S. Williams..." She also marvels at the exploits of Houston's riflemen and predicts (accurately) that Texas will become independent and "in course of time become one of our states." She urges Col. Baldwin to run for president, but says, "Perhaps you are afraid of being chosen."

This letter is endorsed: p Caledonia/Brander.



July 6. The Caledonia Brander departed from London according to Mrs. Aspinwall's letter.

Shipping List & Price Current, N.Y. Arrived at Boston September 4: Ship Caledonia Brander, Denson....London.

This letter was marked at Boston with perhaps the finest strike to be found of the Boston "ribbon" SHIP/6. The 6¢ rate for a Ship Letter addressed to the port of arrival was due.

1836

SHIP LETTERS

New Orleans to Boston

Ship Forum

October 15, 1836. Letter datelined at New Orleans and includes Messrs. Griggs & Weld account current with Stetson Avery & Co., as of 31 August 1836. It was handed to the captain of the ship Forum which departed from New Orleans October 16.



Evening Mercantile Journal (Boston), TUES. Nov. 15, 1836.
Arrived Nov. 14, Ship Forum, Carter, New Orleans 16th. Pass
19th ult. - 28th off Mantilla Reef; parted with barque Flora,
Macloon, which sailed in co. for Gibraltar.

Rated 6¢ for a Ship Letter addressed to the port of entry.

N.B.: In 1838 the ship Forum, 294 tons, was engaged as a packet
for the Boston Packet Line, Samuel R. Allen, 110 Milk St., Boston
Agent, Boston to New Orleans.

1837

SHIP LETTERS

HAVANA TO BOSTON

Ship Shaw

June 29, 1837. Letter datelined at Havana and addressed by
Capt. Edward Lander to ship owners Magoun & Son at Boston.



B. 274

July 17, 1837. Arrived Boston, ship Shaw, Chase, Havana June
30. Left ship Russell, Robins from Newport, Wales, arr. 29th.

A rather strange strike of the Boston SHIP/6 appearing rather
worn. This mark is known used from 1817 to 1849, with strikes
known to this collector being very sharp at least until 1826.

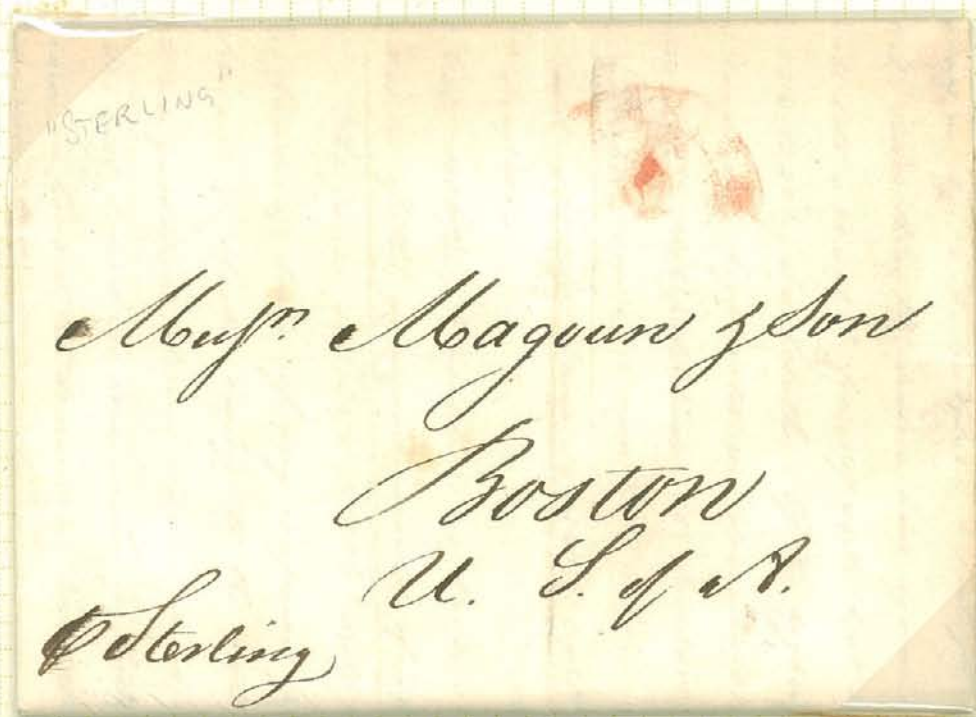
Six cents rate collect for a single letter addressed to the
port of arrival.

1840-41

SHIP LETTERS

St. Petersburg, Russia to Boston via Cronstadt

Oct. 12, 1840. Letter datelined at St. Petersburg and it is headed in the letter and directionally endorsed on the face "p. Sterling". Sterling was at Cronstadt, the Russian seaport town 20 miles from St. Petersburg. The letter also states they were shipping to Magoun & Son "2 Bales of light Ravens (cloth), 10 packs of Sailcloth and 3 bales of Table Cloths per Sterling, Capn. Conn."



B. 274

Jan. 6, 1841. Shipping and Commercial List (N.Y.) records the arrival this date of the Ship Sterling, Conn master, at Boston from Cronstadt. She was 85 days out of that Russian port on the Gulf of Finland, down the Baltic and across the North Sea to the Atlantic. Nearly three months was not considered an unusual time for this trip.

1841

SHIP LETTERS

LIVERPOOL TO BOSTON

Ship New Jersey, Capt. Adams

September 16, 1841. A consignee's letter dated at Liverpool inclosing a bill of lading for two cases shipped to E. Chadwick, Esq. by consignment p "New Jersey" for Boston. Letter is endorsed on face: "New Jersey".



Shipping and Commercial List, N.Y. Arrived at Boston November 10, 1841: Ship New Jersey, Adams....Liverpool.

The New Jersey carried a varied cargo. IMPORTATIONS. Cannel coal 100 tons - staved salt 990 sacks - seal skins 9 d^lks - wool 8 bales - pig iron 90 tons - railway bars 1103 - mdse and earthenware sundry pkgs.

This strike of the Boston fancy arc SHIP/6 is an exceptionally clear and sharp one. Blake & Davis list this in use from October 1817 (this collection has one November 1816) to 1846. Over the years these seem to differ slightly, and one wonders whether the handstamp has been replaced from time to time. This example is remarkably sharp for so late a usage.

1829

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
SHIP LETTERS

BOSTON

December 15, 1829. Letter datelined at Manchester, England. Noted "Duplicate, original p. Canada to New York", indicating it went by the Black Ball Line's 525 ton ship in service 1823-33.

This letter was routed "p. Amethyst", private ship to Boston.



SHIP

January 18, 1830. Boston arrival handstamp (Blake 208) and SHIP letter stamp (Blake 283).

Letter rated at single letter rate (Act of April 9, 1816) at 6¢ miles inland to 30, Boston to Lowell, plus 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 8¢ due, as shown in red pen notation.

THE BOSTON & LIVERPOOL PACKET COMPANY, Second Line 1827-34.

Jan. 18. 1830. Packet Ship Amethyst, Capt. Nye, arrived at Boston from Liverpool.

1841

SMYRNA, ASIA MINOR TO AUBURN, N.Y. VIA BOSTON

Bark Fame, Capt. Scott

January 18, 1841. Letter datelined at Smyrna, Asia from a daughter with granddaughters, about to embark for home, "I have learned this morning that another vessel is expected to sail about this time from Boston & will be here in February; ready to leave here for the U.S.A. the first of March. She is a fine vessel with good accommodations for passengers. It is the Emma Isadora, which left here a few days after my arrival from Cyprus. She carried letters from me to you."

February 15. The bark Fame departed from Smyrna.



Boston Daily Courier, Friday April 30, 1841. Arrived Boston April 29, bark Fame, Scott, Smyrna Feb. 15. Passed Gibraltar Mar. 18. Touched at Fayal 3rd. inst., and sld again next day. Brig Snow, Snow, fm Norfolk for Montev d o, which put in in distress sld. abt. 24th inst. Spoke 15th inst. lat 41½ lon 54 47, Br. bark Eliza of Whitby, fm. St. John New Brunswick for

St. Jago, very leaky; saw 16th lat 41½ lon 57 20 ship Mary Caroline of St. John NB standing E. On the 22nd ult, a wreck was seen off the island, and several boats went out and towed it to a small place near Fayal. It proved to be the Myrtle of St. John NB, quite new loaded with 3-inch plank, was waterlogged and had been stripped of everything - was apparently a ship or bark. The cargo had been landed and was to be sold 5th inst. The hull sold for \$339. Heard nothing of steamer President. A brig fm Suriname was at anchor off Billingsgate Point.

Letter rated Act of 1825, single letter, 150 to 400 miles, 18-3/4¢ + 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 20-3/4¢ due. SHIP mark struck twice giving the appearance of mis-set type.

1834

SHIP LETTERS
LONDON TO NEW YORK VIA BOSTON

Quintuple Rate

Brig Neptune



1 1/4 oz 10/10

October 27, 1834. This letter was rated as a quintuple letter at 2sh.2d. per 1/4-oz. x 5 = 10sh.10d. which was pre-paid, as was required, in London. This is apparently rated at the concurrent Packet rate to North America which was 2sh.2d. per sheet, even though no British Packets went to Boston. Letter was handled by a private ship.



B.292

December 10. Arrived Boston Dec. 8, 1834, Brig Neptune, Simmons, London. Letter rated in U.S. Act of March 3, 1825, zone rate 150 to 400 miles, Boston to New York at 18-3/4¢ x 5 = 93-3/4¢ + 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 95-3/4¢ due, shown in manuscript. This is a good example showing that the 2¢ Ship Letter charge was made only once regardless of the overall weight of the letter. Quintuple rated letters are very scarce.

1840

SHIP LETTERS

LIVERPOOL TO BOSTON

Ship Congaree, Captain Justus Doane

June 3, 1840. A long chatty letter datelined at Liverpool and endorsed: Per Ship Congaree/Capt. Doane. This 231 ship was also (1838) in the Regular Line fleet, Boston to Charleston.

The writer, Mr. Sprague, makes reference to a June 2 letter, "Having a favorable opportunity to send letters to Boston I embrace it, notwithstanding I wrote yesterday by the Great Western." (N.B.: See this Great Western letter, also in this collection. It is interesting to note that the Gt. Western letter arrived at New York June 18 - or 16 days - versus the Congaree's arrival at Boston July 23 - 50 days. An illustration of steam versus sail!)



B.21

SHIP
8.283



July 24, 1840. Daily Evening Transcript, Boston, Thursday, July 23. MARINE JOURNAL. ARRIVED THIS MORNING. Ship Congaree (of Charlston,) Doane, Liverpool 6th ult. 1st instant 1at 43½ 1on 42°50 spoke barque Richmond, 38 days from Liverpool for Boston...(other speakings as recorded.)

Letter rated, Act of March 3, 1825, 30 to 80 miles, Boston to Duxbury, at 10¢ x 3 (treble letter) = 30¢ + 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 32¢ due, shown in manuscript.

1845

SHIP LETTERS

Cienfuegos, Cuba to New York via Boston

Barque Convoy

April 19, 1845. A letter headed at Cienfuegos inclosing a Bill of Lading from the schooner Lady Huntley out of Montego Bay, Jamaica. The letter as well as the outside of the cover is endorsed: pr Convoy via Boston.



SHIP

B. 216

B. 547

Shipping and Commercial List, N.Y., May 17. Arrived at Boston May 13, Barque Convoy.....Cienfuegos. Hammond, master.

This letter was rated, Act of 1825, zone rate for 150 to 400 miles at 18-3/4¢ x 2 (enclosures) = 37½¢ + 2¢ Ship Letter = 39½¢ due. The ½¢ was omitted from the manuscript "39" rate, a clerical error.

This letter was too early to utilize the much lower March 3, 1845 rate of 5¢ + 2¢ Ship Letter = 7¢, which did not become effective until July 1, 1845.

1845

SHIP LETTERS

Halifax, Nova Scotia to New York via Boston Brig Acadian

May 24, 1845. Letter datelined at Halifax and endorsed: p. Acadian via Boston. It was handed to Capt. Eldridge outbound from Halifax to Boston per the Brig Acadian. The letter concerns shipping matters inter alia: "We had this pleasure 17th inst. p. Britannia requesting you to effect an additional insurance on the Cargo of the Schr. Mary from Porto Rico and \$400 on her freight. We have now the pleasure of advising the safe arrival of this Vessel from Mayaguez 21st inst. having on board 118 hhds, 1 Tn Sugar wg 142,399 lb. p. Inv. which at \$4.80 p. cwt on board is equal to \$6102.80 - there will therefore be a small return premium to claim which please note.*.....

Your mo obt. Svts,
Fairbanks & Allisons

*Rate was 1½%. Est. premium was based on value of \$6500, less \$6102.60 = 397.20 @ 1½% = \$5.95 RP.



SHIP

B.283

B.214

June 2, 1845. N.Y. Shipping & Commercial List notes arrival of the Brig Acadian, Eldridge, at Boston from Halifax.

Letter rated under Act of 1825 for a single letter going 150-400 miles Inland of 18-¾¢ + 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 20-¾¢ due.

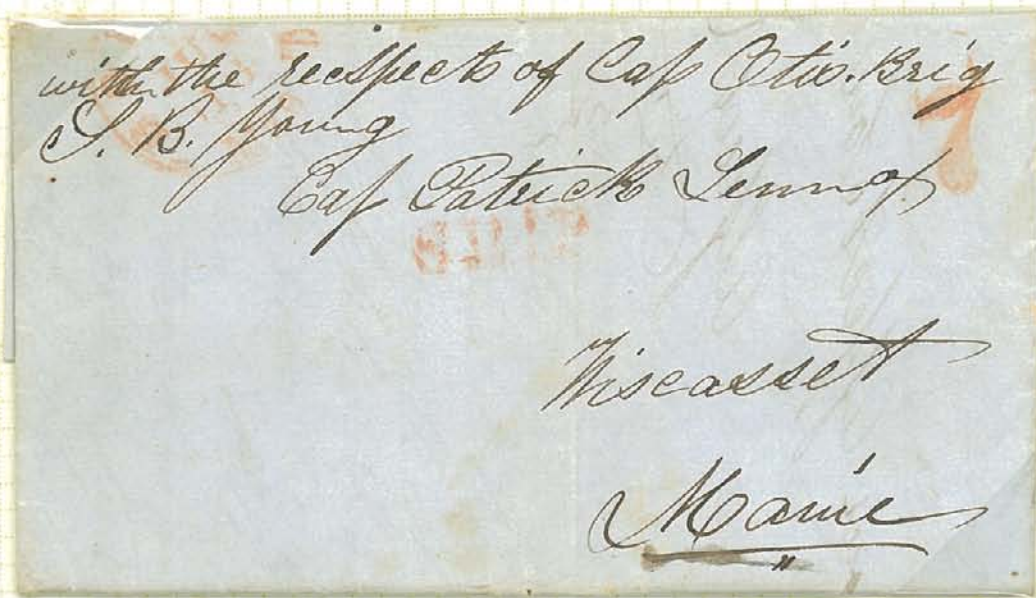
N.B.: On July 1, 1845, the March 3, 1845 rates went into effect at which time this letter would have cost 5¢ (under 300 miles) + 2¢ Ship Letter = 7¢.

1849

SHIP LETTERS

Matanzas, Cuba to Wiscasset, Maine via Boston
Schooner Susan M. Young

June 23rd (1849), datelined at Matanzas. The writer, Alfred Lennox, son of Capt. Patrick Lennox, the addressee, mentions the Cuban weather as well as yellow fever among the shipping. Captain McNear of Lennox's ship was to send his little son Henry home as well as pineapples to Capt. Lennox by "Brig S.B. Young", Capt. Otis. The writer further directionally endorsed the letter, "with the respects of Cap. Otis. Brig S.B. Young".



SHIP

7

B. 554

B. 549

B. 214

July 13. Shipping and Commercial List (N.Y.) records the arrival at Boston on July 13 of the Schooner Susan M. Young, Otis master. Evidently Otis took another of the company's vessels back to Boston, probably the one in which young Lennox went to Cuba. Letter rated at Act of 1845 rates for a letter going not over 300 miles at 5¢ + 2¢ Ship Letter charge = 7¢ due.