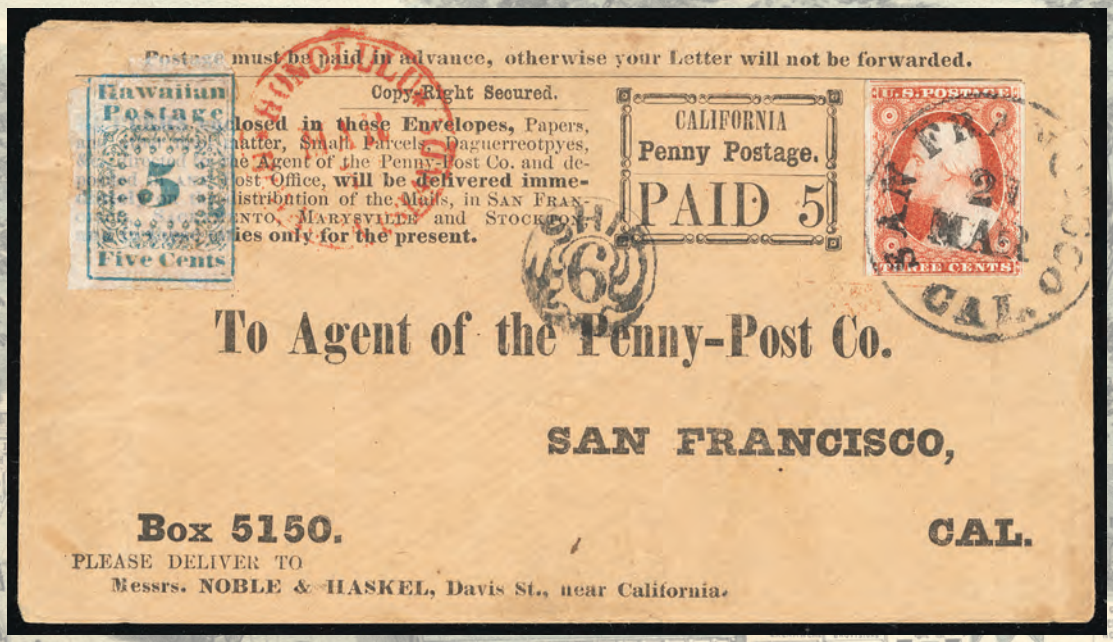
George J. Kramer Collection of Western Trails and Routes



Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auctions

APRIL

27

2018

The George J. Kramer Collection of Western Trails and Routes

Public Auction No. 79

Friday, April 27, 2018 at 10:00 AM

To be held at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront in the Bayside Ballroom II
1800 Old Bayshore Hwy, Burlingame, CA 94010
www.westpex.org



Presale Viewing of all lots in the Bayside Ballroom Room:
Wednesday, April 25 (10:00AM to 5:00 PM)
Thursday, April 26 (10:00AM to 8:00PM)

Live auction bidding via Stamp Auction Network (www.stampauctionnetwork.com)

SCHUYLER J. RUMSEY

Philatelic Auctions, Inc.

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San Francisco, CA 94108, USA
Telephone: 415-781-5127 Fax: 415-781-5128
E-mail: srumsey@rumseyauctions.com

Catalogs, Internet Bidding and Resources at our Website: www.rumseyauctions.com

Catalog Price $20

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Bidding Increments

$10-$300 . . . . . $10	$3,000-$7,500 . . . . . $250	$75,000-$150,000 . . . . . $5,000
$300-$750 . . . . . $25	$7,500-$15,000 . . . . . $500	Over $150,000 . . . Auctioneer's discretion
$750-$1,500 . . . . . $50	$15,000-$30,000 . . . . . $1,000	
$1,500-$3,000 . . . . . $100	$30,000-$75,000 . . . . . $2,500	

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Fax: (02) 738-4439
Email: gbstamps@iol.it

Symbols

**	Mint (never hinged)	✉	Cover	S	Specimen
*	Mint (hinged)	(✉)	Cover Front	//	Incomplete Set
(*)	Mint (no gum/regummed)	B	Booklet or Booklet Pane	▲	On Piece
o	Used	E	Essay		
❑	Block	P	Proof		

Grading and Condition

Superb Extraordinary item in the finest condition.

Extremely Fine Outstanding and exceptional quality.

Very Fine Choice, first-class condition.

Fine-Very Fine (F-VF) Stamp or cover in sound condition; if a stamp, it is slightly less well-centered than Very Fine but better centered than Fine.

Fine Sound in all respects. Perforated stamps will have the designs clear of the perforations; the designs of imperforate stamps will not be cut in to any significant degree.

Very Good (VG) Imperfect centering (stamps) or poor general appearance.

Any stamp faults such as a thin spot, tear, crease etc., will be described at all times. Postally used covers should be expected to have the normal degree of wear associated with them and this wear is not grounds for return. The grade of a cover is independent of the grade of the stamps on it. Covers from the famous Carroll-Hoy correspondence will normally have a small unobtrusive staple hole. In lots containing several items, degrees of condition denote the overwhelming average and examples above and below such condition can be expected.

Terms of Sale

Bidding

I. All bids (whether by floor bidders, mail bidders, or telephone bidders) will have a premium of 15% added to the auction sale price.

II. All bids are per lot as numbered in the catalog unless otherwise announced by the auctioneer at the time of sale. The right is reserved to withdraw any lot prior to sale, to divide a lot, or to group two or more lots, or to act on behalf of the seller. Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auctions, Inc. will execute bidding instructions on behalf of clients, but will not be responsible for any errors in the execution of such bids. Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auctions, Inc. is not liable for bidding errors related to live auction internet bidding and/or the loss of internet connection during the live auction.

III. The highest bidder shall prevail; lots are sold at one increment over the second highest bid. Should any dispute arise between bidders, the decision of the auctioneer as to the successful bidder and the reoffering or resale of the lot under dispute shall rest entirely on the judgment of the auctioneer. The auctioneer shall regulate the bidding and reserve the right to refuse any bid believed by him not to be made in good faith.

IV. Consignor has and retains the right to bid personally, or by his duly appointed agent, through the auctioneer, unless the sale is advertised and announced as one restricting such bidding by consignors or their agents.

Payments of Purchases

V. FLOOR BIDDERS. Floor bidders shall furnish the auctioneer their names and addresses prior to bidding on any lot. The name and address of the buyer of each lot shall be registered with the auction house following the sale of each lot. Payment of the whole purchase price shall be made by the floor buyer in such manner as the auctioneer may determine. Special credit arrangements must be made prior to the sale.

VI. MAIL BIDDERS. A successful mail bidder will be notified of lots purchased and must remit payment before the lots are sent. Auction bills are due and payable upon receipt of notification. If buyer's payment is not received within ten (10) days, Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auctions, Inc. may resell all lots without notice. Any and all losses incurred as a result of resale will be passed on to the defaulting buyer. Cost of postage, registration, etc. will be charged to buyer. Proof by the auctioneer of receipt of sending at the advised address shall constitute delivery.

VII. DIRECT DRAFTS/TRANSFERS. A successful mail bidder known to us may contact our office at (415) 781-5127 for the information necessary to pay directly into the vendor bank account. Any additional charges resulting from processing payments by this method shall be borne by the buyer. Method of payment should be noted on the bid sheet.

VIII. Title shall not pass to the buyer until full payment is received by Schuyler J. Rumsey Philatelic Auctions, Inc.

IX. All of our lots are sold as genuine. Lots accompanied by recent (within 5 years of sale date) expert certificates are sold “as is” based on the description in the certificate. The aforementioned expertized lots may not be returned under any circumstances including those instances in which subsequent certificates yield conflicting opinions. The accepted authorities for U.S. stamps are the Philatelic Foundation (P.F.), the Philatelic Stamp Authentication and Grading, Inc. (P.S.A.G.) and the Professional Stamp Expertizing Committee (P.S.E.), however we do not accept “graded certificates”, nor do we accept “encased” certified items.

X. All extensions must be paid in full, in advance. There will be no exceptions.

XI. All lots on extension must be submitted for expertizing by the auctioneer exclusively. Each lot is sold as genuine, except those described “as is”, but when, in the opinion of a competent authority acceptable to Schuyler J. Rumsey Philatelic Auctions, Inc., the lot is declared otherwise, the purchase price will be refunded in full. The lot must be received by Schuyler J. Rumsey Philatelic Auctions, Inc. within a period of 21 days from the date of auction. Expenses incurred for purposes of expertizing shall be borne by the purchaser except where the lot is found by said competent authority to be materially not as described, in which case the consignor will be responsible for expertizing costs incurred. Proof of the inability of said competent authority to express a definite opinion is not grounds for return of an item.

XII. Any lot, description of which is incorrect, is returnable (A) within three (3) days of receipt and (B) if received by Schuyler J. Rumsey Philatelic Auctions, Inc. within twenty-one (21) days from the date of the auction. All disputed lots must be returned intact, in the condition received; no adjustments will be made. The following lots are not returnable: collection lots containing ten (10) or more items; lots from purchasers OR THEIR AGENTS who had the opportunity to examine them before the auction; items described as having defects or of a quality standard “Very Good” (V.G.) or below; lots with disputed centering or margins when the item is photographed; lots described “as is”.

XIV. JURISDICTION. In the event of any dispute between the auctioneer and bidders, or between any parties requesting inspection of any of the lots and the auctioneer, or between persons offering their lots to be auctioned and the auctioneer, the jurisdiction over the dispute shall be in the City and County of San Francisco, State of California.

XV. In the event of any dispute, the prevailing party shall be entitled to court costs and reasonable attorney's fees.

California Sales Tax

XIII. The California State Sales Tax - or that of another state as ordered by the laws of such a state (as appropriate) - is payable by buyers liable to tax. See below.

This sale will be held in California and the buyer will be liable for any applicable California sales tax for this auction. Any lots purchased by buyers in California are subject to State Sales Tax unless:

1.) You have a verifiable California resale license number, which must be on file with us prior to the Auction.

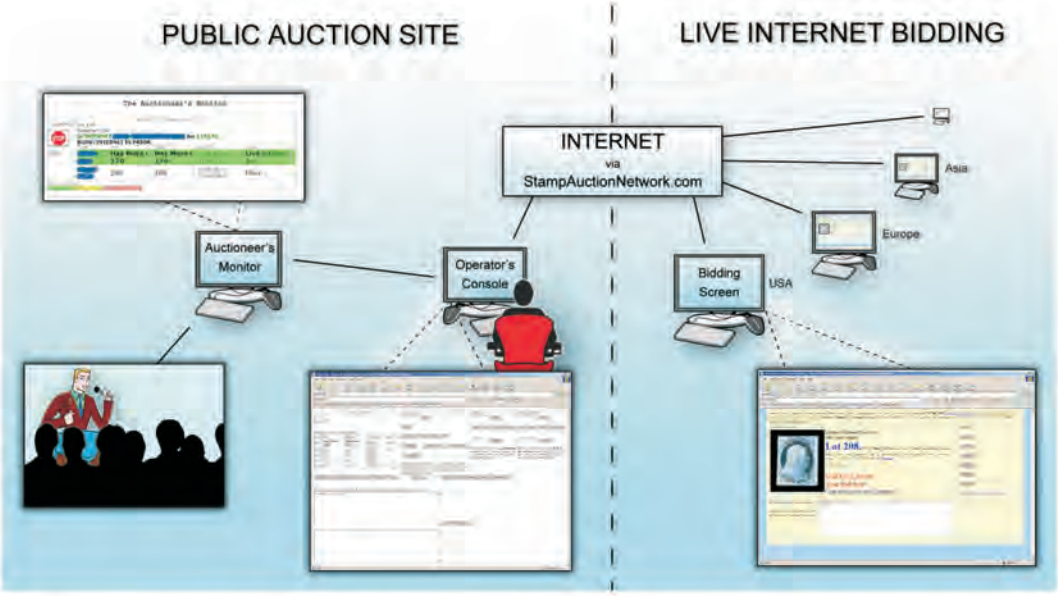
OR

2.) You are not a California resident and your lots are being shipped to your out-of-state or out-of country mailing address.

XVI. THE PLACING OF A BID SHALL CONSTITUTE ACCEPTANCE OF THE FOREGOING TERMS OF SALE.

Live Auction Bidding Hosted by Stamp Auction Network

Bid Live via the internet as tough you were on the auction room floor!



I have already registered with SAN and have been approved by Rumsey for internet bidding.

I have not bid through SAN before.

Go to **www.stampauctionnetwork.com**, hover over the Membership tab at top and select "Register" from the options. Fill out the online form and select Schuyler J. Rumsey Auctions from the list of auction companies. If you are a prior Rumsey client, simply put us as reference #1. If not, please provide proper trade references (no family members or credit card companies). Once registered at SAN and approved by Rumsey for bidding, you will be ready for live internet bidding

I have bid through SAN before, but this is the first time I have bid in a Rumsey sale.

You will just need to be approved by Rumsey for bidding. Go to **www.stampauctionnetwork.com**, login in to your account and then hover over the My San tab at top and select "Update Registration" from the options. Select Schuyler J. Rumsey Auctions from the list of auction companies and submit your information to us for approval. Once approved you will be ready for bidding.

Before bidding by internet for the first time, we recommend finding a sale in progress on SAN and listening to the public broadcast or login as a registered bidder. This will allow you some familiarity with the bidding interface.

Auction Day - Log on at www.stampauctionnetwork.com

After you logon, Select our sale from the list at the top right of the screen.

The auction interface will show an image of the lot (if enabled) and a brief description, the current bidding status, etc.

Retracting a bid is usually not acceptable, so please bid accordingly.

If you are done bidding, please click the "PASS" button. This will allow us to ensure we know you are done bidding and it will speed up the auction.

For any questions or concerns during the auction, please contact our office:

srumsey@rumseyauctions.com

(415) 781-5127

The George J. Kramer Collection of Western Trails and Routes

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Welcome to the sale of George Kramer's outstanding collection of Western Trails and Routes!

Many of you know George personally, but for those who don't, the following is but a short resume of his accomplishments in the philatelic world. He has competed in the APS Champion of Champions competition with six different exhibits, and is the only individual to have won it three times. He received the Grand Prix National at PACIFIC 97 and won the One-Frame Grand in 1995, the Grand Prix in Australia in 2005, the Marcus White Grand for his "Wells Fargo" exhibit, and a host of other honors.

His contributions to Philately equal and frankly in my mind, surpass all of the awards that have been bestowed upon him for his great collections. He became a Trustee for the Philatelic Foundation in 1988. From 2003–2011, he served as Chairman of the Philatelic Foundation and is still on its board as Chairman Emeritus.

George was the recipient of the prestigious APS John N. Luff award in 2013 for Exceptional Contributions to Philately. He signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 2005 and was recognized with the Distinguished Philatelist Award of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society in 1999, the Mortimer L. Neinken Medal of the Philatelic Foundation in 2007, and the list goes on.

Additionally, he has been a generous donor to the American Philatelic Society, National Postal Museum, and the Philatelic Foundation. His $100,000 gift to name the George & Carole Kramer Gallery at the American Philatelic Center is one of the largest gifts to the APS by a living member.

The highlights of George's Western collection is too lengthy to list in a few words and would be a disservice to the rest of the collection. I hope the following pages will let you discover the collection and appreciate both its beauty and historical value.

George, known for his kind demeanor, gentle smile and inquisitive mind. He has achieved so much in philately and in life, and yet he is always so humble and quick to give praise to all of his friends and colleagues. During a recent visit, George told me that he runs a stamp club at some of the local schools in New Jersey area, teaching young students about stamp collecting. He takes stamps to give to the students, and recounts the fascinating stories that go along with those stamps. This is not a talk or presentation to the New York Collectors Club or at the Royal Philatelic Society of London, but at the local elementary school or middle school. His motivation is simple, the pleasure it gives him and his desire to share his enthusiasm for philately.

My wife, Wilma and I were lucky enough to spend a few days in Vermont with George and his wife, Barbara. In this relaxed atmosphere we were able to understand and appreciate George and Barbara's love of Vermont, of his family, which includes his beloved dog, Marci. We spent the days on leisurely walks, visiting local sites, lots of good food and a little "stamp talk".

I would like to thank George and Barbara for their kindness and hospitality. I salute him for having built such a magnificent collection and thank him for his confidence in my firm to handle the sale of his collection. I'm sure George will miss his treasures found herein and yet I know he will rejoice that they have gone on to new collectors who will enjoy them the way he has over the years.

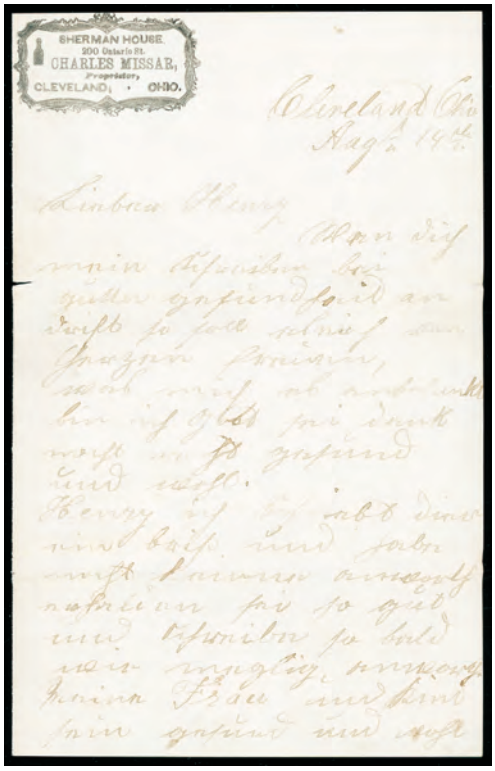
We need more people like George in our hobby. If only we could clone him!

Schuyler Rumsey

The George J. Kramer Collection of Western Trails and Routes

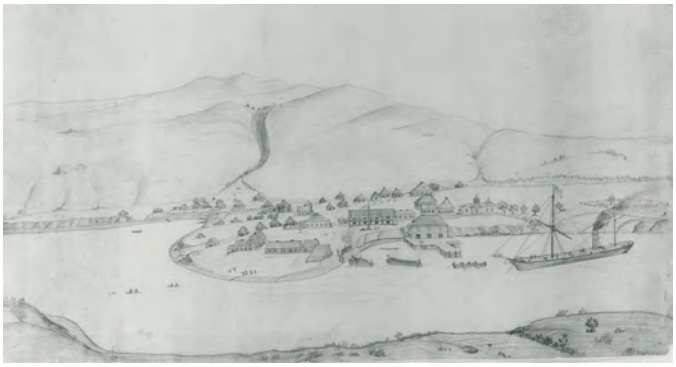
Town Markings





3001 ✉ **(Alaska) 1869 (Aug. 15) Cleveland Oh. to San Francisco Cal., forwarded to Kodiak, Alaska Territory, Russian America,** orange Sherman House corner card cover bearing 3¢ rose, grilled (94) tied by cork cancel duplexed with "Cleveland O. Aug 15" cds to Henry Back, Co. G. 2nd U.S. Artillery, Alcatraz Island, San Francisco Harbor, readdressed and forwarded to "**Kodiak, Alaska Territory, Russia America**", matching Sherman House letterhead enclosure docketed in pencil "***I receipt this letter on the 8th day of April 1869 at Fort Kodiak, Alaska Ter, Henry Barry***"; reduced at left, faults.
Estimate. . . . . $1,500 - 2,000

Although the Post Office Department authorized mail service between Sitka, Alaska Territory and San Francisco in July 1867, only four or five covers can be proven to have originated in Alaska Territory before 1870. Possibly less covers are known which arrived in the same time period. This letter was written.



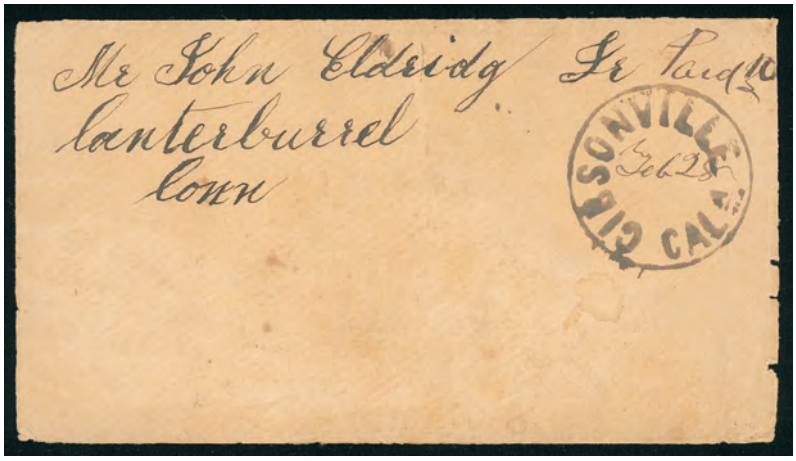
Early View of Kodiak

Starting with the first pioneers that settled in the United States at the East, the country has been expanding westward. When President Thomas Jefferson bought the Louisiana territory from the French government in 1803, it doubled the size of the existing United States. Jefferson believed that, for the republic to survive, westward expansion was necessary to create independent, virtuous citizens as owners of small farms. He wrote that those who "labor the earth" are God's chosen people and greatly encouraged westward expansion. The pioneers who flocked to the West, all had their own set of reasons for taking on the long, treacherous journey to settle there.

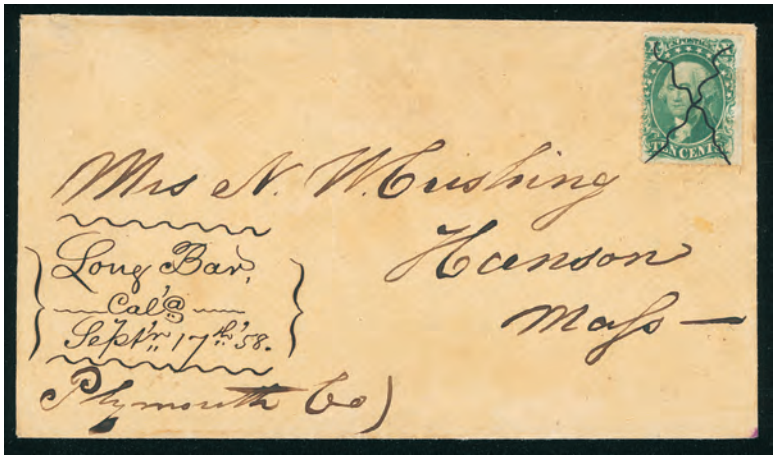
The transcontinental mail systems, and western trails and routes developed as a result of westward emigrations that populated the West and raised the need for communications with those who remained back east. The United States Post Office Department was slow to extend its services westward, so the first U.S. contract postal routes did not start until 1850. Prior to that, a combination of private and semi-official mail services inadequately addressed the need for communication.

The following show some of the western trails and routes served by the U.S. postal service starting with California in 1849 and Utah Territory in 1850, until the 1880s when the mails systems were well established.

California Towns

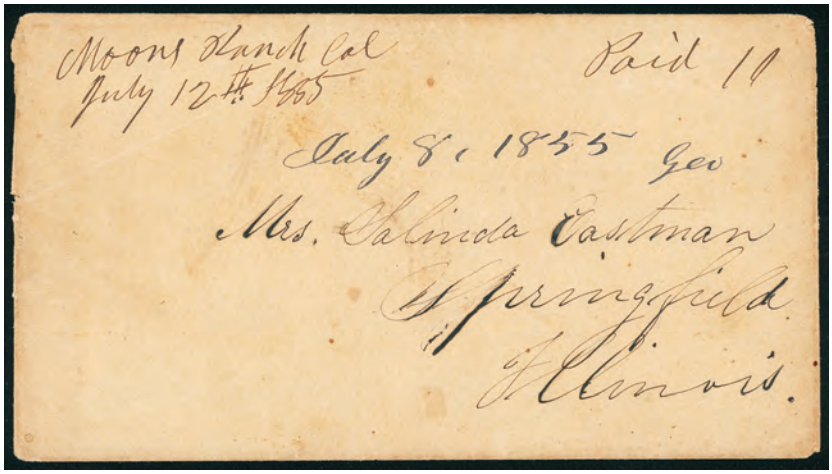


3002 ✉ **Gibsonville, Cal., "Feb 28",** bold cds with manuscript date (SIE-720) and manuscript "Paid 10" rating above on buff cover to Canterburrel, Conn., with original 1859 two-page enclosure; minor edge wear, **Very Fine.**
Estimate . . . . . $200 - 300



3003 ✉ **"Long Bar, Cal'a, Sept'r. 17th '58",** flowery manuscript postmark (YUB-750) with matching pen cancel on 10¢ green on light buff cover to Hanson Mass., **Very Fine and unusual,** *ex-Tatham.*
Estimate . . . . . $500 - 750

Located between Sacramento and Oroville to the west, tiny Long Bar had a Post Office between April 1858 and June 1864.



3004 ✉ **"Moons Ranch Cal, July 12th 1855",** manuscript postmark (TEH-880) and matching "Paid 10" rating on light buff cover to Springfield Ill., 1855 docketing, original long letter concerning sickness, fire, hogs, destroying grain, etc., **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300



3005 ✉ **Mud Springs, Cala., "Sept 27th",** bold strike of circular town postmark with manuscript date (ELD-2550) and matching manuscript "10" rating to Assyria P.O., Michigan; cover wear, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300



3006 ✉ **Placerville, Cal. Nov 16,** manuscript postmark (ELD-2910) with matching manuscript "Paid 40" rating on blue 1850 folded letter to St. Louis Mo.; some wear & staining, **Fine and scarce.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300





3007 ✉ **Sacramento, Oct 24 1849, Paid, 40,** clear strike of straightline postmark with integral rating on 1849 datelined gray folded letter to Yellow Spring Iowa, carried by PMSS *California* from San Francisco Nov. 1st to Panama arriving Nov. 22nd, then overland to Chagres, then per *Crescent City* Nov. 28th to New York arriving Dec. 7th, and back overland to Yellow Spring, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $3,000 - 4,000

A WONDERFUL EXAMPLE OF THE RARE SACRAMENTO STRAIGHTLINE POSTMARK.

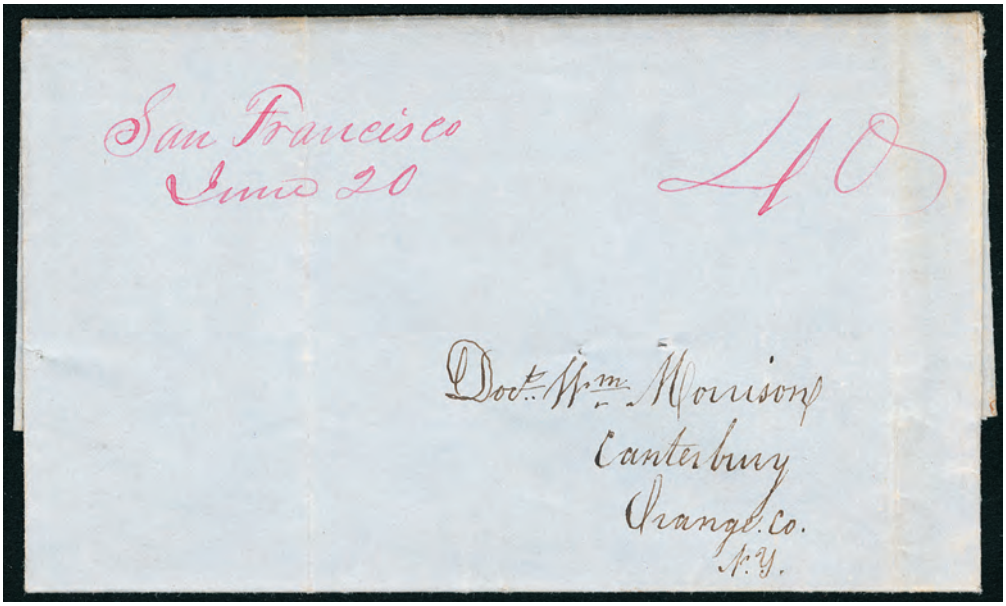


3008 (✉) **Sacramento, Cal., Jan 1,** oval datestamp (SAC-2480) duplexed with "Paid 40."double-oval rating on blue 1850 cover front to Augusta, Ga., *ex-Straley*.
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3009 ✉ **Sacramento Cal. Jan 31,** sharp strike of red cds with matching "80" cent rating handstamp for double the 40¢ rate on blue 1851 folded letter to Independence Mo., carried by PMSS *Panama* from San Francisco Feb. 1st to Panama, then overland to Chagres and per *Crescent City* Feb. 25th to New York arriving Mar. 8th, back overland to Independence, some interesting content: "*…The 11 per cent is a mere nothing as money is worth so much more here - California is still rich in gold & I predict that great discoveries will be made this season but Oh! I do long to be at home & can't stay away much longer. Farewell my beloved wife*"; some edge wear, **Very Fine and choice Sacramento "80" use.**
Estimate. . . . . $400 - 600

San Francisco Postmarks



3010 ✉ **"San Francisco, June 20",** red manuscript postmark with matching "40" cent rating on blue 1849 datelined folded letter to Canterbury N.Y., carried by PMSS *Panama* from San Francisco Jun. 20th to Panama City arriving Jul. 12th, then overland to Chagres where placed on U.S. Steamship Co. *Falcon* departing July 28th to New York arriving Aug. 17th; long interesting letter about the journey west and the gold mining boom, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $2,000 - 3,000

THE LATEST RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THE SAN FRANCISCO MANUSCRIPT POSTMARK, THE ONLY RECORDED FROM THE FIRST CONTRACT SAILING OF THE S.S. PANAMA.

Beginning in March, the red manuscript postmark was used for the monthly sailings to Panama. Evidently, the straightline postmark arrived during the day of June 20th. There are a total of 9 recorded letters carried on the first contract sailing of the "Panama", eight of which are struck with the San Francisco straightline. This is the sole example with the red manuscript postmark.



San Francisco Post Office



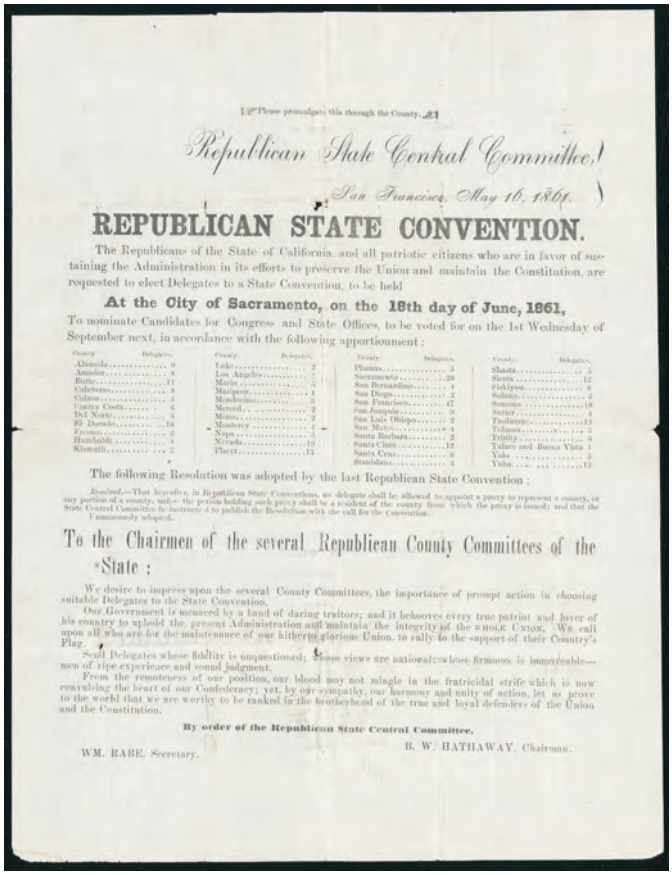
3011 ✉ **San Francisco "June 20",** straightline postmark with magenta dating and matching "40" cent rating on 1849 buff cover to Philadelphia Pa., carried by PMSS *Panama* from San Francisco Jun. 20th to Panama City arriving Jul. 12th, then overland to Chagres where placed on U.S. Steamship Co. *Falcon* departing July 28th to New York arriving Aug. 17th; couple trivial light stains, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $750 - 1,000

A RARE FIRST DAY OF USAGE OF THE SAN FRANCISCO STRAIGHT LINE HANDSTAMP, ONE OF ONLY EIGHT RECORDED FROM THE FIRST CONTRACT SAILING OF THE S.S. PANAMA.

The San Francisco straight line postmark was used only on mail dispatched on the third, fourth, and fifth contract sailings from San Francisco to Panama in 1849. It was used on some mail dispatched on the first departure of the S.S. "Panama" on June 20 (including this folded letter), all mail dispatched on the second departure of the S.S. "Oregon" on July 2, and some mail dispatched on the second departure of the S.S. "California" on August 1. The straight line postmark was preceded by manuscript postmarks and succeeded by cds postmarks.



3012 ✉ **San Francisco, 40, 1 June,** red integral-rate cds on 1850 gray datelined folded letter to Anderson's Store Tenn., endorsed "Via New Orleans", carried on the PMSS Oregon to Panama arriving Jun. 21st, then by USMSS *Georgia* from Chagres Jun. 26th, the long letter describes the arrival of a gold miner at the San Francisco harbor, reads in part "*…After a long and tiresome voyage of 34 days from Mazatlán, we arrived … about three o'clock yesterday morning. We sailed into the beautiful harbour where thousands of vessels can repose in perfect safety. Owning to the fact that our baggage had to go through Custom House, we were not able to get it to shore until today…There has been a very destructive fire in the city some 3 or 4 weeks ago which consumed almost three entire locks. The loss is estimated at 5 millions of dollars…We are now in a small Steamer and will leave for Stockton and the Southern diggins tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock. It is a 24 hour run and the price of passage is $25.00. I suppose the Northern mines are the most productive, but the snow is just beginning to melt and they cant do much in the next 4 - 6 weeks. The Southern mines are more healthy than the Northern so we have concluded to go to the mines above Stockton and if we do well, stay there, if not go to the mountains after the waters run down. I feel like we shall make something, I am more encouraged since we got here and the prospects brighter than since I left home, I saw a lump of gold this morning in its original state…J.L Rushing*"; some wear and edge faults, address leaf separate, **Fine and interesting gold miner's letter.**
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400



Republican State Central Committee,

San Francisco, May 16, 1861.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

The Republicans of the State of California, and all patriotic citizens who are in favor of sustaining the Administration in its efforts to preserve the Union and maintain the Constitution, are requested to elect Delegates to a State Convention, to be held

At the City of Sacramento, on the 18th day of June, 1861,

To nominate Candidates for Congress and State Offices, to be voted for on the 1st Wednesday of September next, in accordance with the following apportionment:

County.	Delegates.	County.	Delegates.	County.	Delegates.	County.	Delegates.
Alameda	9	Lake	2	Plumas	3	Shasta	3
Amador	8	Los Angeles	1	Sacramento	20	Sierra	12
Butte	11	Marin	5	San Bernardino	4	Siskiyou	8
Calaveras	8	Mariposa	4	San Diego	2	Solano	6
Colusa	3	Mendocino	3	San Francisco	47	Sonoma	16
Contra Costa	6	Merced	2	San Joaquin	9	Sutter	4
Del Norte	3	Mono	2	San Luis Obispo	2	Tuolumne	13
El Dorado	16	Monterey	1	San Mateo	4	Tehama	3
Fresno	2	Napa	5	Santa Barbara	2	Trinity	6
Humboldt	4	Nevada	19	Santa Clara	12	Tulare and Buena Vista	4
Klamath	2	Placer	12	Santa Cruz	6	Yolo	3
				Stanislaus	4	Yuba	12

The following Resolution was adopted by the last Republican State Convention:

Resolved,—That hereafter, in Republican State Conventions, no delegate shall be allowed to appoint a proxy to represent a county, or any portion of a county, unless the person holding such proxy shall be a resident of the county from which the proxy is issued; and that the State Central Committee be instructed to publish the Resolution with the call for the Convention.

Unanimously adopted.

To the Chairmen of the several Republican County Committees of the State:

We desire to impress upon the several County Committees, the importance of prompt action in choosing suitable Delegates to the State Convention.

Our Government is menaced by a band of daring traitors; and it behooves every true patriot and lover of his country to uphold the present Administration and maintain the integrity of the WHOLE UNION. We call upon all who are for the maintenance of our hitherto glorious Union, to rally to the support of their Country's Flag.

Send Delegates whose fidility is unquestioned; whose views are national—whose firmness is immoveable—men of ripe experience and sound judgment.

From the remoteness of our position, our blood may not mingle in the fratricidal strife which is now convulsing the heart of our Confederacy; yet, by our sympathy, our harmony and unity of action, let us prove to the world that we are worthy to be ranked in the brotherhood of the true and loyal defenders of the Union and the Constitution.

By order of the Republican State Central Committee.

WM. RABE, Secretary. B. W. HATHAWAY, Chairman.

3013 ✉ **San Francisco, May 16, 1861, Republican State Convention,** printed 8.25"x11" broadside requesting the election of Delegates to a State Convention to be held June 18th, including listing number of delegates by county; some wear and folds, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300



3014 ✉ **San Francisco, Cal Oct 8,** double-circle datestamp with matching fancy cogwheel cancels tie **5¢ brown (76)** and **30¢ orange (71)** together on 1866 cover **to Switzerland** at the 35¢ Prussian Closed Mail rate, red printed International Hotel corner card, red "N.York 'Paid' Am. Pkt. Nov 3" exchange cds with matching "12" credit handstamp, blue "Aachen Franco" (11.17) framed handstamp and magenta "f 2" rating, reverse with Heidelberg-Basel (11.17) and Basel-Olten (11.18.66) backstamps, rating updated in red crayon to "6", **Very Fine and attractive use.**
Estimate. . . . . $500 - 750



3015 ✉ **(San Francisco) Steamer "*Paul Pry, June 19, 1865*"**, manuscript steamer endorsement cancels 3¢ pink (U59) buff entire to San Francisco Cal., **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $1,500 - 2,000

A RARE SAN FRANCISCO INLAND STEAMER "PAUL PRY" MARKING.

Several steamships worked the waters in and around San Francisco, Stockton and Sacramento. In addition to carrying their cargo, they occasionally took mail from passengers on board to place in the convenient post office as way letters. The "Paul Pry" was a 300-ton steamer in operation from 1859 to 1881.

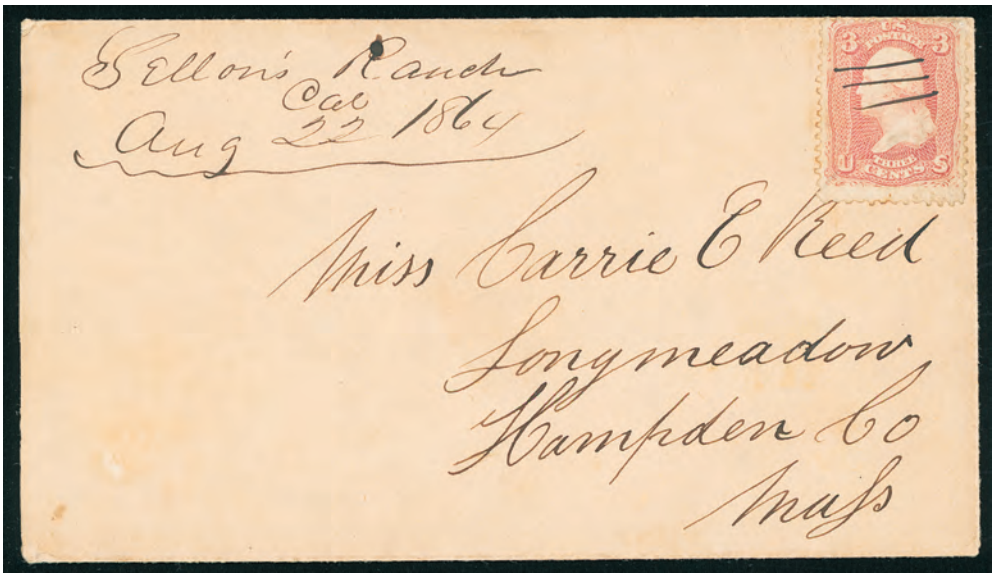


3016 ✉ **(San Francisco) Steamer "*Princess, Sept. 13, 1866*"**, manuscript steamer endorsement cancels 3¢ pink (U59) buff entire to Suisun Cal., pencil note; top edge tear, accompanied by earlier Steamer Princess bill receipt, **Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $1,500 - 2,000

A RARE SAN FRANCISCO INLAND STEAMER "PRINCESS" MARKING.

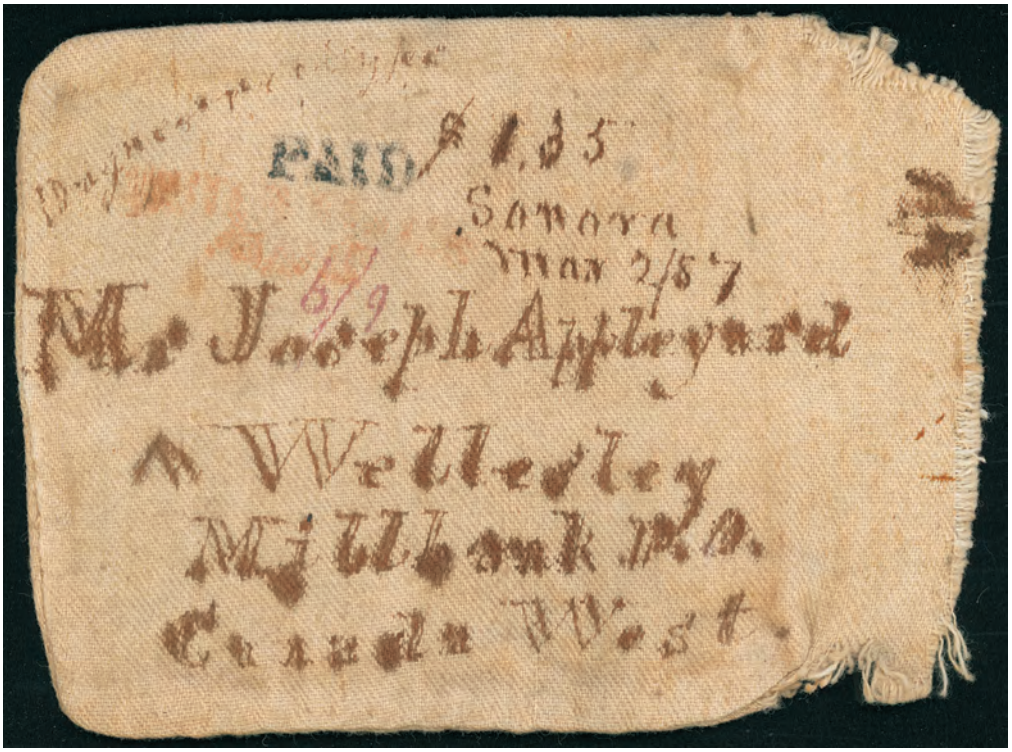
The "Princess" was a 230-ton steamer owned by California Steam Navigation Co. in operation from 1860 to 1870.





3017 ✉ **"Sellon's Ranch, Cal, Aug 22, 1864",** manuscript postmark (YUB-1320) and matching manuscript strokes cancel 3¢ rose (65) on light buff cover to Longmeadow, Mass.; small perf flaw, **Very Fine,** *One of only three recorded covers from Sellon's Ranch., ex-Polland.*
Estimate. . . . . $400 - 600

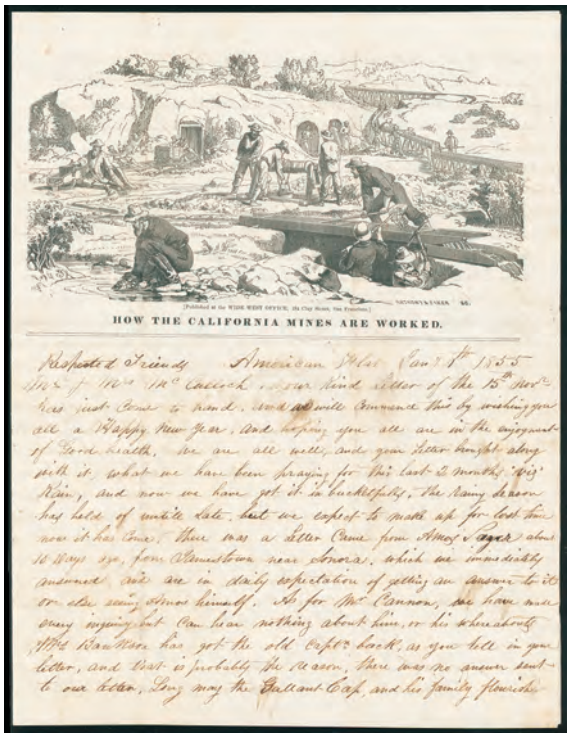
Between July 1861 and July 1866, Sellon's Ranch served as a post office. The location is unknown, other than being listed in Yuba county, and serviced by Marysville.



3018 ✉ **"Sonora mar 2/57",** manuscript postmark with "Paid" handstamp and ms. "$1.35" rating for nine-times the 15¢ rate on canvas cover to Wellesley, Canada West, endorsed "Daguerreotype" at upper left, red "United States / Paid 6" exchange office handstamp, Canada red manuscript "6/9" 6s 9d rating for the nine-times the 9 pence rate, **Very Fine and rare use.**
Estimate. . . . . $500 - 750

A RARE $1.35 NINE-TIMES WEST COAST RATE TO CANADA USE.





3019 ✉ **"Spanish Flat, Cal Jan 13",** manuscript postmark and matching "Paid 6¢" rating on buff cover to Milan Oh. with illustrated "**Mining Scene**" design depicting **Miner Panning for Gold with Long Tom in Background** with imprint "J.M. Hutchings' California Envelope" at left and "Anthony & Baker SC" engraver's imprint at bottom right of design, original letter with matching "**How the California Mines are Worked" (Baird 104)** finely executed wood engraved letterhead on a folded 10.75x17" white double sheet, shows placer miners using the pan, rocker, long tom, and sluice, Anthony & Baker engravers and The San Francisco Wide West newspaper publisher, with lengthy three-page letter datelined "American Fla, Jany 4th 1855" from miner reading in part, "*…Willie is mining away now, although he has been to school four months through the Summer and is as tough as a "grissly"…and thinks California is ahead of the World…there has not been one single death here since I came out. With the exception of an old Spaniard and 2 differ Indians who were killed in a fight with a hostile tribe that came through here…the American Indians burnt the bodies of their dead on the top of the hill opposite our house. the whites never interfere in any of their quarrels, and all the inconvenience we were put to was by the squaws running into our yards, to keep out of the way till the battle was over…Willie is nearly half Indian himself now, and talks with them and trades for bows and arrows until all the tribe knows him…when they come to the Bakery to trade the must always see the "Wheelans" before they will sell their gold dust or buy anything. Upon teh whole they are a harmful race of mortals…*"; small cover edge flaws and wear at top, slight stain, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $1,000 - 1,500

A REMARKABLE MATCHED PAIR OF MINING SCENE COVER AND LETTERSHEET FROM CALIFORNIA BACK EAST.



3020 ✉ **Sta. Barbara, Cal., "Feb 9, 1859",** bold rimless cds with manuscript date (SBA-1370), tying 3¢ dull red (26), perfs trimmed at top and bottom on embossed ladies cover to San Francisco Cal.; some faint cover toning, **a Very Fine strike,** *ex-Polland.*
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300



3021 ✉ **"Staples Ranch, Cal., Mar 18",** manuscript postmark (SAJ-2210) cancelling **1851 1¢ blue, type IV (9)** and **1857 3¢ dull red (26) strip of three** combination franking on small ladies cover to North Haverhill N.H., forwarded to Bristol with greenish blue "North Haverhill N.H., Apr 17" cds also tying 1¢ and manuscript "*Fwd due 3*" rating at left; accompanied by original 1851 newspaper clipping advertising Staples Ranch as a way stop for travelers, **Extremely Fine and choice,** a wonderful mixed issue 10¢ rate cover.
Estimate. . . . . $750 - 1,000

There was a Post Office at Staples Ranch between 1851 and 1863.



3022 ✉ **Stockton Cal, Jun 26,** neat blue cds with matching bold "12½" oval rating handstamp on blue folded cover to John McDougal, Governor of California, Vallejo Cal., **Extremely Fine and choice.**
Estimate. . . . . $400 - 600

By the Act of August 14, 1848, "letters conveyed from one to any other place in California: 12 ½ cents". This letter was mailed June 26, 1851, four days before the end of the rate.



3023 ✉ **Table Rock Cal. Mar 31,** gem strike of cds (SIE-1770) with matching framed "Paid" and "10" rating handstamps on blue cover to Rochester N.H., **Extremely Fine and choice,** *ex-Tatham.*
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300



3024 ✉ **Uniontown H.B., Cal.,** blue oval postmark (HUM-4870) with manuscript cancelled 10¢ green type II (14), rich color, on cover to Leominster, Mass.; minor cover soiling and two tears at top, one affecting adhesive, **F.-V.F.,** *one of the rarest California postmarks*.
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400



3025 ✉ **1855 (c. May 21) New York N.Y. to San Francisco, Cal.,** light buff cover with blue Shippers Line of California Packets, Earle & Weed, Agts. illustrated cameo showing full rigged ship bearing **10¢ green, type II (14)**, large margins to just in, tied by "New York May 21" **ocean mail cds**, docketed "Dated May 21, Rd. June 10, Inv. Swordfish"; missing part of top flap and central file fold, some toning and wear, **Fine and scarce early use of the New York Ocean Mail cancel,** *ex-Chase*.
Estimate. . . . . $500 - 750

This was sent on the regular contract route via Panama and contained an invoice for goods sent by the clipper ship "Swordfish" that went via Cape Horn.



3026 ✉ **Weaverville. Cal. "Apr 10",** oval postmark with red manuscript dating on buff cover with illustrated "**Rocking the Cradle**" miner's design depicting miners working with "Long Toms", Hutchings imprint at left, "Anthony & Baker SC" engraver's imprint at bottom of design, from the Abby Peirce correspondence to Boston Mass. bearing replacement 3¢ dull red (11A) horizontal pair for stamps removed, manuscript cancel in black, **Very Fine appearance,** a rare design, *ex-Poland, Jarrett*; with 2017 P.F. certificate.
Estimate. . . . . $500 - 750

Illustrated in Letters of Gold on p. 272. According to Kutz, this design was first used by miners from Georgia.



3027 ✉ **Yankee Jim Cal., Jun 4,** cds ties 10¢ green (14) as forwarding postage on buff cover back to Hanover N.H., originally posted with **1¢ blue (9)** and **3¢ dull red (11A) strip of three**. pos. 88-89-90L3 showing double and triple frameline varieties, each cancelled by manuscript "X" and 1¢ tied by blue "Hanover N.H. Apr 5" cds to Yankee Jim's Cal., **Very Fine and attractive 1851 issue forwarded transcontinental use**; with 1985 and 1989 P.F. certificates.
Estimate. . . . . $750 - 1,000



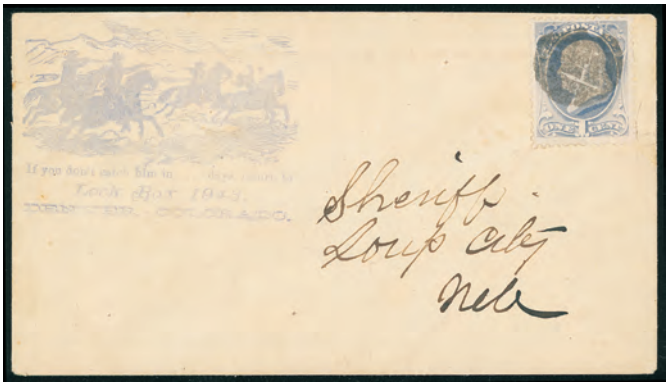
Ex 3028

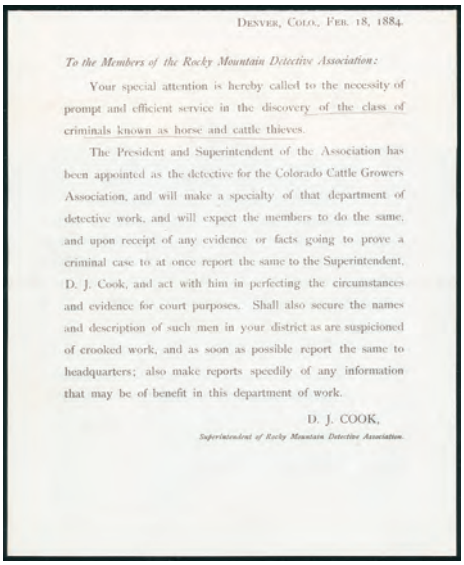
3028 ✉ **California Town Balance,** small group of **5** covers comprising Fort Jones Cal. with #65 to Brunswick Me., 1884 Fort Jones Cal. duplex on #210 to Ashland Ore.; 1879 Fort Ross Cal. use to San Francisco, "San Francisco, 40, 18 June" integral cds 1850 cover to Providence R.I., 1862 San Francisco transatlantic use to France; small faults, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200

Colorado Towns



3029 ✉ **Denver City, Sep 23,** blue cds duplexed with four-ring target cancel ties 3¢ rose (65) vertical pair on legal-size cover to Pueblo, Colorado Terr., matching "Due 6" oval due handstamp, **patriotic "Floyd Off for the South" cutout** affixed at top left; cover tear, **F.-V.F.,** *ex-Risvold* mounted on his exhibit page.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150





DENVER, COLO., FEB. 18, 1884.

To the Members of the Rocky Mountain Detective Association:

Your special attention is hereby called to the necessity of prompt and efficient service in the discovery of the class of criminals known as horse and cattle thieves.

The President and Superintendent of the Association has been appointed as the detective for the Colorado Cattle Growers Association, and will make a specialty of that department of detective work, and will expect the members to do the same, and upon receipt of any evidence or facts going to prove a criminal case to at once report the same to the Superintendent, D. J. Cook, and act with him in perfecting the circumstances and evidence for court purposes. Shall also secure the names and description of such men in your district as are suspicioned of crooked work, and as soon as possible report the same to headquarters; also make reports speedily of any information that may be of benefit in this department of work.

D. J. COOK,

Superintendent of Rocky Mountain Detective Association.

3030 ✉ **"Denver, Colo., Feb. 18, 1884",** dateline on printed circular enclosed in cover with illustrated corner card showing horseback Law Men shooting Bandits, bearing 1¢ gray blue (206) tied by cork cancel to Loup City Neb., circular reads in part "*To the Members of the Rocky Mountain Detective Association: Your special attention is hereby called to the necessity of prompt and efficient service in the discovery of the class of criminals known as horse and cattle thieves. The President and Superintendent of the Association has been appointed as the detective for the Colorado Cattle Growers Association…*"; light folds, **F.-V.F.,** *ex-Risvold.*
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3031 ✉ **Greeley Colo., Jan 7,** bold strike of red cds duplexed with circle of wedges ties 3¢ green (158) on cover to Mt. Pulaski Ills., **Very Fine and attractive,** *ex-Risvold.*
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3032 ✉ **Kit Carson Colo., Oct 22,** sharp complete strike of cds duplexed with cork cancel ties 3¢ green (158) on orange cover to Centre Rutland, Vermont.
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3033 ✉ **Nevada C.T., Apr 11,** bold strike of cds with matching "Paid 3" fancy cancels tie 3¢ rose (65), deep rich color, on orange cover to New York N.Y.; reduced at right, **otherwise Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3034 ✉ **Pueblo C. Ty. Mar 15,** sharp strike of cds duplexed with cork cancel ties 3¢ ultramarine (114) on orange cover to Idaho, Colorado Territory, **fresh and Very Fine,** *ex-David New*.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3035 ✉ **Tin Cup, Gunnison Co., Colo. Jun 28, 1880,** purple cds duplexed with star cancel ties 3¢ green (184) on cover to Pagtown Oh.; some edge wear, reduced slightly at left, **a Very Fine strike.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



Ex 3036

3036 ✉ **Colorado, Territorial and State, 1860s-1880s,** group of 9 items comprising Golden City Col. T. ties 3¢ #114 to Canon City; Empire City C.T. with #65, Mountain City Col with #65, 1887 Fort Moroan, 1878 Colorado Springs, 1884 Coal Creek with wheel of fortune fancy cancel ties #210, 1883 Fort Garland with #207, 1887 Fort Lewis w/ #210, and a Boon City C.T. type cds on 1864 letter (ex-Risvold), **F.-V.F. and interesting group.**
Estimate. . . . . $400 - 600

Dakota Territory Towns



3037 ✉ **Fort Bennett, D.T.,** clear strike of cds on cover with matching target cancel ties 2¢ green (213) to care of General Howard at Fort Mason, San Francisco Cal.; reduced at left, **otherwise Very Fine and fresh.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3038 ✉ **Fort Laramie Daka. Sep 19, 1865,** sharp strike of cds duplexed with four-ring cancel ties 3¢ rose (65) on orange cover to Barryville Mich.; reduced slightly on three sides.
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3039 ✉ **"Fort Stevenson, D.T., July 10. 75",** manuscript postmark with matching ms. cancelling 3¢ green (158) horizontal pair, faulty at top, on cover to Victor Ia., **Very Fine and rare use.**
Estimate. . . . . $250 - 350



3040 ✉ **Fort Sully, Dak, Jul 9, 1883,** clear strike of cds duplexed with target cancel ties 3¢ green (158) on cover to Albert Dollemayer, 8th Ca., Ft. Leavenworth Kans.; reduced slightly at right, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3041 ✉ **Fort Totten, Dak, Jan,** cds on 1875 cover bearing 3¢ green (158) horizontal pair tied by cork cancels on cover to St. Mary's College, Montreal, Canada, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3042 ✉ **Fort Yates, Dak. Apr 30 1889,** complete bold strike of cds duplexed with fancy star cancel ties 2¢ green (213) on cover to Mrs. General Howard at Omaha Neb., May 3rd arrival backstamps; small edge tear at top.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

Idaho Towns



3043 ✉ **Hailey, Idaho, Sep 1, 1886,** bold strike of purple cds duplex, the shield cancel ties two 2¢ red brown (210) singles on 2¢ red brown entire **to Chile**, reverse with New York (9.6), Coquimbo (10.17) and Serena (10.17) arrival cds; left stamp tear, **a Very Fine use,** *ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3044 ✉ **Jessie, Cassia Co., Idaho, Dec 1, 1884,** brown serrated datestamp duplexed with fancy star ties 2¢ red brown (210) on cover to East Waterford Pa., **Fine,** *ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3045 ✉ **Junction, Idaho, Nov 20, 1884,** purple cds on cover bearing 2¢ red brown (210) tied by target cancel on buff cover with Bashaw Stock Ranch illustrated ad cover showing horse to East Schuyler N.Y., **F.-V.F.,** *ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3046 ✉ **Rocky Bar, Idaho, Feb 2, 1885,** cds on cover with match oval grid cancels tying 2¢ red brown (210) vertical strip of three **to Sweden**, reverse with New York (2.9) transit and Norrkoping (2.18) arrival backstamp, **Fine,** *ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



Ex 3047

3047 ✉ **Idaho Territory, 1884-87,** group of **5** comprising 1887 Salmon City registered with #210 and 209; 1887 Albion, Cassia Co. cds with honeycomb fancy cancel tying #210; 1884 Bruneau Valley with #210, 1887 Ketchum with #210, and 1886 Murray with #210, **F.-V.F. group,** each *ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200

Indian Territory Towns



3048 ✉ **Flint, Ind. Ter., Apr 6, 1885,** sharp strike of blue cds and matching blue manuscript cancelling two 2¢ red brown (210) singles on reduced legal-size yellow cover to Hon. D.W. Bushyhead, Tahlequah, Cherokee Nation, **Very Fine,** *ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

Flint is a small Cherokee town and is addressed to the Principal Chief Hon. D.w. Bushyhead at Teahlequah, the capital of the Cherokee Nation.



Ex 3049

3049 ✉ **Fort Gibson Ark.,** group of four covers with "Fort Gibson Ark." cds and bearing 3¢ rose (65) dated Oct. 13th 1867 to Jul. 14th 1868, three with original letters, faults, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



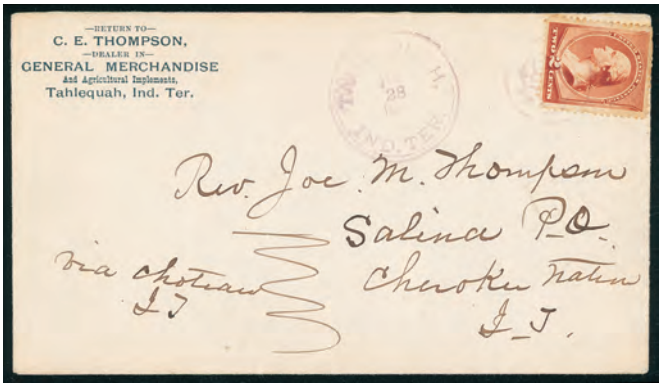
3050 ✉ **Fort Smith Ark. Mar 12,** red cds and manuscript "25¢" cent rating on folded cover to E.W. Hitchcock, 2d Infantry, Fort Stansbury, near Tallahassee, Mid. Florida; manuscript "1843" docketing; file folds, **Fine,** *ex-Helbock.*
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

Fort Stansbury was a frontier outpost created during the Seminole War (1835-1842) as well as used during the Civil War. The fort was located south of Tallahassee.

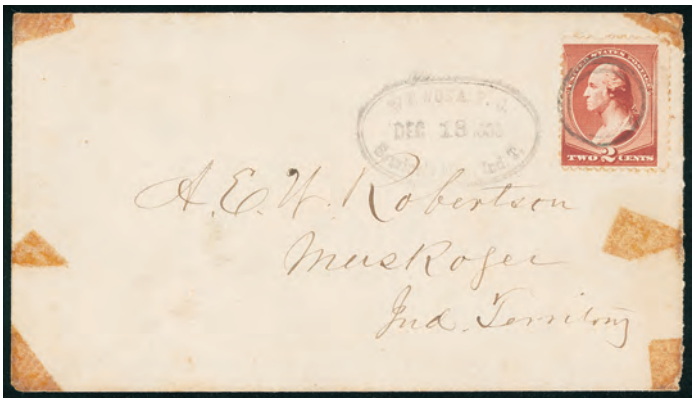


Ex 3051

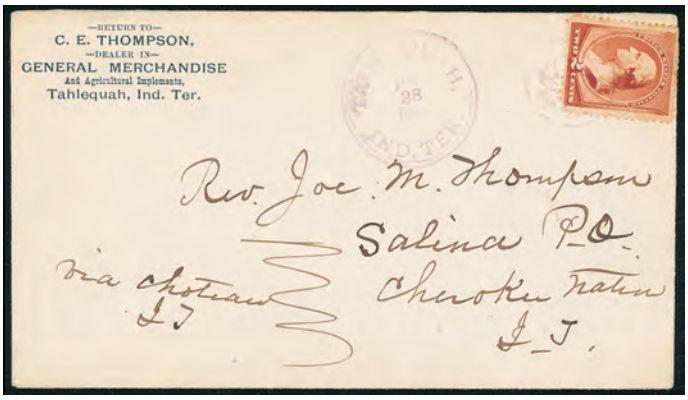
3051 ✉ **Indian Territory, 1885-87,** group of three #210 covers comprising 1887 Claremore (Cherokee Nation) including original letter, Vinita M.O.B. octagon-datestamp (Cherokee Nation), and 1885 Atoka oval datestamp (Choctaw Nation); faults, **Fine,** each *ex-Willard* on his exhibit pages with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3052 ✉ **Tahlequah, Cherokee Nation, Jan 28, 1887,** purple cds with matching "U.S. Mail" fancy cancel ties 2¢ red brown (210) on cover to Rev. Joe M. Thompson, Salina, Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory, endorsed "via Choctaw I.T." at left, printed dark blue C.E. Thompson General Merchandise corner card; 2¢ faulty from edge placement, **F.-V.F.,** *ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3053 ✉ **Wewoka P.O. Seminole Nation, Dec. 13, 1883,** double-oval datestamp ties on 2¢ red brown (210) on cover to Muskogee Ind. Territory; tape stains on front, **Fine,** *ex-Helbock.*
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3054 ✉ **White Bead Hill, Ind. T., Sep 1, 1887,** blue cds duplexed with fancy square grid and matching auxiliary markings of "Advertised" in circle and "Unclaimed" straightline, cover originally mailed bearing 2¢ red brown (210) tied by cork cancel duplexed with "Vermontville Mich. Jul 23" cds to White Bend Ind. Ter., Chickasaw Nation; reduced at right and minor edge stain, **Fine,** *ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



Iowa Towns



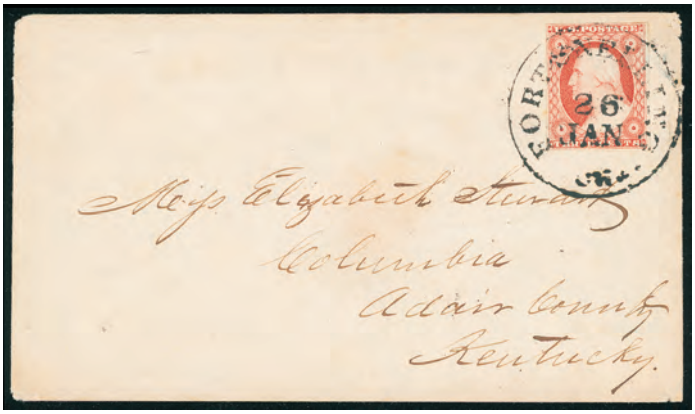
3055 ✉ **Dubuque, Iowa, Apr 18 1857,** cds ties 3¢ dull red (11), clear to large margins, on buff cover to North Cambridge, Mass. with blue **Steamer Key City** illustrated Galena, Dubuque, Dunleith & Minnesota Packet Company corner card showing steamboat; minor edge wear and small tear, **F.-V.F.,** *ex-Risvold*.
Milgram No. **755** . . . . . Estimate $1,500 - 2,000

THIS IS THE MILGRIM LISTING EXAMPLE FOR THE STEAMER KEY CITY, AND THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE.

This design for the "Key City" was one of a number of printed corner cards used only during the late 1850s for different vessels. The "Key City" was a side-wheeler of 359 tons built at Cincinnati in 1857 for the Minnesota Packet Co. She was abandoned in 1870.



3056 ✉ **Dubuque, Iowa, Feb 9, 1856,** bold strike of cds ties 3¢ dull red (11A), tiny tear, on light buff cover to Bellows Falls Vt., original datelined letter enclosing a promissory note, **a Very Fine use.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3057 ✉ **Fort Snelling, Iowa., 26 Jan,** cds ties 3¢ dull red (11A), fresh with four margins, on cover to Columbia Ky., **Very Fine,** *ex-Darlington*.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3058 ✉ **Iowa City, Iowa, May 1,** sharp strike of blue cds with manuscript "Free" rating on 1843 folded letter to Moses Eastman Postmaster at Salisbury N.H., **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

In 1839, Iowa City was selected as the capital of the Territory of Iowa. The legislature met for the first time in 1841 and held its sessions in Iowa City until 1857, when Des Moines became the capital.

Kansas Territory Towns



3059 ✉ **Arkansas City, Kan., Jul 22, 1887,** cds duplexed with fancy quartered cork cancel ties 2¢ red brown (210) on St. Charles Hotel corner card cover to Fort Reno, Indian Territory, endorsed "Proposals for Services of Merchanics", magenta Quarter Master General's Office receiving handstamp, **F.-V.F.,** *ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3060 ✉ **Burlingame, K.T., Jan 19,** clear strike of cds on blue cover bearing three 1¢ blue (24) singles, each cancelled by four-ring targets, addressed to Hiram Oh., minor docketing on face, **F.-V.F.,** *a scarce 1¢ 1857 issue use from Kansas Territory, ex-Eggen.*
Estimate. . . . . $500 - 750

ONE OF ONLY THREE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS BURLINGAME, KANSAS TERRITORY CDS.

Settle in 1857, Burlingame was the second most important Kansas stop on the Sante Fe Trail. The post office name was changed to Council City in 1861.



3061 ✉ **Doniphan, K.T., Oct 24,** bold sharp strike of cds and circular grid cancel tie 3¢ dull red (26), small nick, on orange cover to Butler Pa.; partial back flap, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3062 ✉ **Fort Scott, Kan., Apr 6,** cds duplexed with cork cancel ties 3¢ green (158) on cover to Sioux City Ioa., **fresh and Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3063 ✉ **Free State Emigration, the Kansas Aid Committee,** 1856 printed circular soliciting funds for the "*People of Kansas…in defending themselves and their families from the unjustifiable invasions and lawless incursions and attacks of the Missouri Borderers upon their lives and liberty*", bearing 1¢ blue (7) tied by "Albany N.Y., Paid" cds to New York City, **fresh and Very Fine,** *ex-Eggen.*
Estimate. . . . . $400 - 600

Kansas and Nebraska Territories were formed in 1854. Various groups and societies were formed with the intent of having Kansas became either a pro-slavery or "free state". The "border war" lasted from 1854 to 1861.



3064 ✉ **"Grasshopper Falls, Oct 28",** manuscript postmark with matching manuscript canceling 3¢ dull red (26) on light buff cover to Cleveland Oh.; some docketing offset, **Fine and rare cover from an important "Border War" town,** *ex-Eggen.*
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300

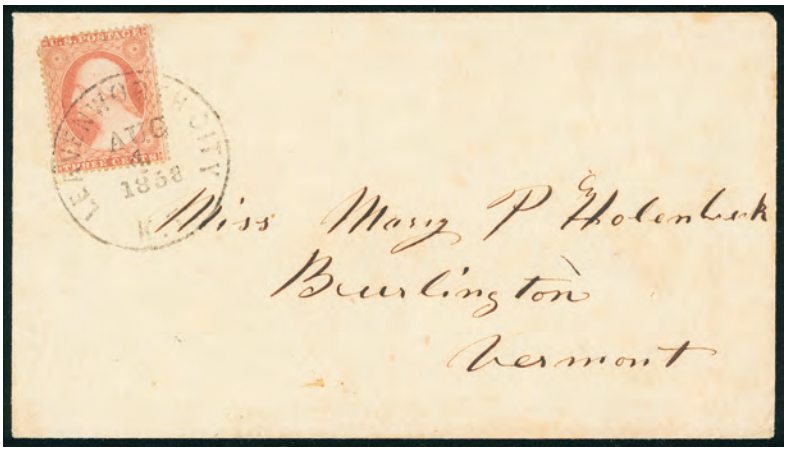
ONE OF ONLY FOUR RECORDED TERRITORIAL USAGES.

Settled in 1854, the town of Grasshopper Falls in Jefferson County was founded in 1855. It was named after its location on the falls of the Grasshopper River, now called the Delaware. In 1856, A.T. Pattie, a proslavery man was run out of town. This resulted in a reprisal raid on the free-state town in September 1856.

The Mass and Delegate Free State Convention met at Grasshopper Falls August 26, 1857, to decide whether to participate in the scheduled election. This meeting unified the free staters, and they in turn carried the October election and defeated most of the Democratic Party pro-slavery candidates. This virtually assured that Kansas would be admitted as a free state, but by no means did it put an end to the conflict.



3065 ✉ **Leavenworth City, K.T., Dec 15, 1857,** sharp strikes of cds ties 3¢ dull red (26) on buff cover with blue "Ewing, Denman & Co. Real Estate Agents" shield cameo corner card; light bottom right stain, **still Very Fine and scarce Kansas Territory cameo.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300



Ex 3066

3066 ✉ **Leavenworth Kan.,** group of three comprising "Leavenworth City, K.T., Aug 4, 1858" cds ties 3¢ dull red (26) to Burlington Vt.; "Leavenworth City, Kan. Oct 22" duplex ties 3¢ ultramarine (114) on cover to St. Clair Pa., and "Fort Leavenworth Kan. Jun 19" duplex with honeycomb fancy cancel to Salem Mass., **F.-V.F. trio.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3067 ✉ **"Sac & Fox Agency, K.T., May 15",** manuscript postmark on 1858 folded letter to Ohio, franked with 3¢ 1857 (Scott 26), lengthy contents give great detail on the Kansas Territory, cost of living, etc., **Very Fine and scarce Indian Agency use,** *ex-Eggen.*
Estimate. . . . . $1,000 - 1,500

ONE OF ONLY FOUR RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE SAC & FOX AGENCY KANSAS TERRITORY POSTMARKS.

Located in Franklin County on the Marias des Cygnes River, this was one of the Indian reservations created for relocation of the eastern tribes. After several moves from their home on Lake Huron, the Sac and Foxes were given land in the unorganized territory of Kansas. In 1867, this reservation was ceded back to the United States in exchange for land in Indian Territory, thus opening the Kansas lands for white settlement.



3068 ✉ **"Wakarusa, K.T., Apr 26, 1859",** manuscript postmark on small cover bearing pen cancelled 3¢ dull red (26) to Athol, Mass., interesting original contents refer to both slavery question and Rocky Mountain gold rush including "*…I would not advise any eastern friend to come out here with the intention of settling…folks do not consider what a step they are taking till perhaps it is too late to recant; they have to then make the best of it, but many of them live discontented and wishing for the comforts that they have left behind…*", **Very Fine and rare,** *ex-Eggen.*
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400

ONE OF TWO RECORDED TERRITORIAL COVERS FROM WAKARUSA.

The Wakarusa War: *Because law enforcement was biased in favor of the pro-slavery forces, Governor Shannon called for establishment of a Kansas Militia. In response to an armed threat against the free state town of Lawrence, free staters formed their own forces. On December 1, 1855, almost 1500 pro-slavery men began a week-long siege of Lawrence. Fearing large casualties and loss of the Governor's support, the pro-slavery Sheriff Samuel L. Jones was reluctant to attack the town. Ultimately, Governor Shannon visited the emplacements and negotiated a "peace treaty", so after eight days the Wakarusa War ended with only one casualty and the disbanding of the attackers. No battle was fought and a grand party ensued in Lawrence by the "victorious" residents.*





3069 ✉ **Wyandott, K.T., Feb 14,** two clear strikes of balloon-style cds, one tying **3¢ dull red (26) horizontal pair**, on large embossed **valentine** cover to Massachusetts with original ornate multicolor valentine enclosure, both cover and contents with some age toning and minor flaws, **F.-V.F.,** *ex-Eggen.*
Estimate. . . . . $750 - 1,000

THIS IS THE ONLY RECORDED VALENTINE FROM KANSAS TERRITORY.



3070 ✉ **Wyandott Kan., Aug 20,** forwarding cds after receipt on orange cover with manuscript "3¢ due" to Leavenworth City, originally mailed bearing **3¢ dull red (26)** tied by "Brunswick Me., Aug 10, 1858" cds, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3071 ✉ **Wyandott K.T., Jun 20,** bold strike of balloon-style cds on 3¢ red (U10) buff entire to Philadelphia Pa.; flap torn and light horizontal crease, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

Michigan Towns



3072 ✉ **Detroit, Mic T. Sep 22,** double-oval brownish-red postmark with matching "Free" rating handstamp on 1821 letter from Paymaster's Office to Genl. Daniel Parker, Paymaster General, U.S. Army at Washington D.C.; file fold toning, **Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3073 ✉ **Detroit, Michigan, Jan 21,** red cds and matching "Free" rating handstamp and "Jno. Morvell, P.M." free frank endorsement on 1833 folded letter to Philadelphia Pa., **F.-V.F.**
Estimate . . . . . $75 - 100



3074 ✉ **Lake City M.T., Jan 1,** bold balloon-style cds with additional strike tying 3¢ dull red (26) on buff cover to Henderson Minn.; 3¢ corner crease, refolded at top, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3075 ✉ **"Prairie du Chien M.T., Jany. 16",** manuscript postmark with matching "25" rating on folded letter datelined "***Fort Snelling, January 1, 1829***" to Albany N.Y.; some edge wear, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $750 - 1,000

Letter carried by military express to Prairie du Chien, Michigan Territory taking 16 days. The Fort, then located in unorganized territory at the confluence of the Mississippi and St. Anthony Rivers. This January 1, 1829 marking precedes the date shown in Minnesota Territory *by Floyd Risvold by five months.*

Minnesota Towns



3076 ✉ **Lesueur, M.T., Aug 8,** bold strike of balloon-style cds ties 3¢ dull red (11A), four margins, on orange cover to Laconia N.H.; tiny edge tear, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3077 ✉ **Nininger, M.T., May 5,** balloon-style cds ties 3¢ dull red (26), perfs trimmed at top, on cover to Huntsburg Oh., **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3078 ✉ **Red Wing M.T. Sep 13,** bold red cds ties 3¢ dull red (26) on buff cover to Galena Ill.; refolded, **otherwise Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3079 ✉ **Rochester M.T., Jun 25,** bold strike of balloon-style cds with matching "PAID" handstamp on orange buff cover to Cannon Falls M.T., forwarded with "Cannon River Falls M.T., Jul 7" balloon-style cds and manuscript "Due 3" rating to Hastings; reduced at right and light stain top right, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400



3080 ✉ **Saint Anthonys Falls, M.T., Jun 25,** bold strike of cds ties 3¢ dull red (11) large margins with huge left sheet margin showing vertical centerline, on buff cover to Shoreham Vt., **Very Fine and choice use.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300



3081 ✉ **Saint Paul M.T., Jul 14, 1853,** clear strike of cds and matching "10" rating handstamp on mourning cover to Cobourg, Canada West, Detroit black "U.States, 10" exchange office handstamp and large Windsor "6" pence due handstamp, **Very Fine,** *ex-Steinhart*.
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300



3082 ✉ **Saint Paul, M.T., May 31, 1853,** cds ties 3¢ dull red (26) on cover to Lawrence Mass., **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3083 ✉ **Saint Paul, Min. Ter., Apr 4,** cds with accompanying fancy "**PAID 3 U.S.**" with stars rating handstamp addressed to The Governor of Tennessee at Nashville Tenn., **fresh and Very Fine,** *a rare Minnesota Territory fancy rate marking*.
Estimate. . . . . $500 - 750

This black cds type is known used between October 1850 and June 1852, as the postal rate for this distance.



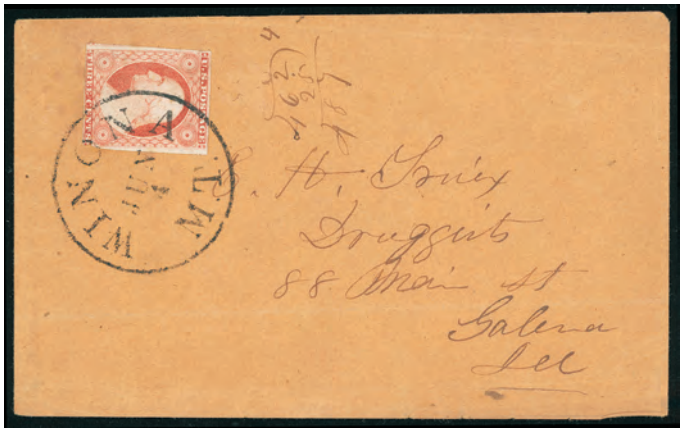
3084 ✉ **Saint Paul, Min. Ter., Sep 23,** bold red cds with matching "10" canceling 3¢ orange brown (10A), intense shade, on embossed lady's cover to Fayetteville N.Y.; staining, **a Very Fine cds strike.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3085 ✉ **Saint Peter M.T., Dec 12,** perfect sharp strike of balloon-style cds ties 3¢ dull red (26) on orange cover to Baltimore Md.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3086 ✉ **St. Anthonys Falls, M.T., Aug 1, 1856,** cds ties 3¢ dull red (11A), with huge sheet margin at bottom, on enamel embossed valentine cover to Johnsburgh N.Y., **Very Fine and attractive.**
Estimate. . . . . $250 - 350



3087

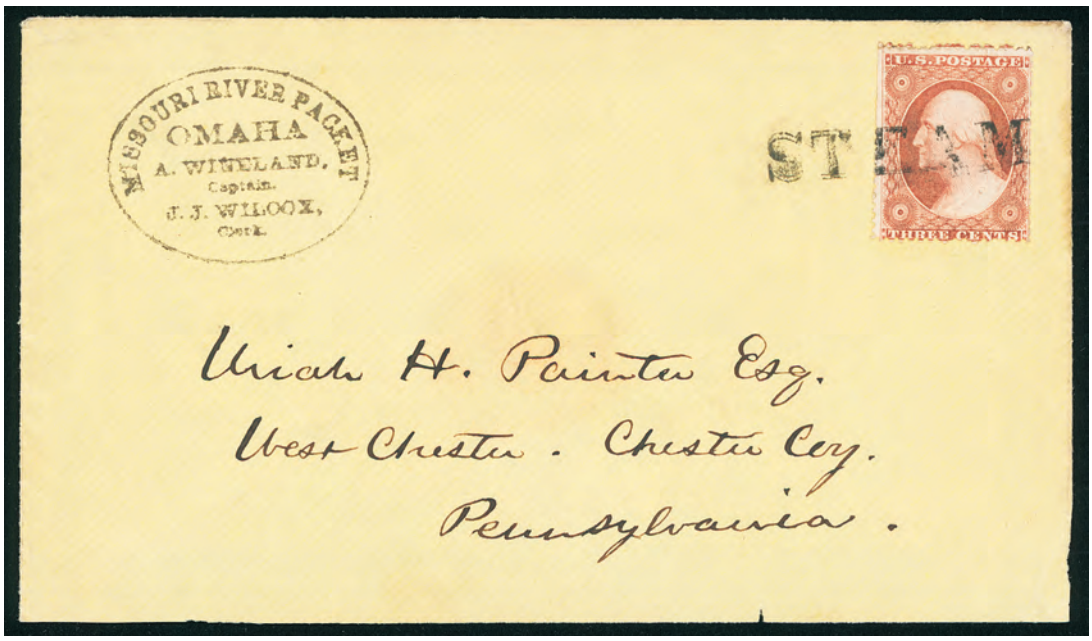


3088

3087 ✉ **Winona M.T. Jun 4,** balloon-style cds ties 3¢ dull red (11A) on orange buff cover to Galena Ill.; ms. notation, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

3088 ✉ **Zumbrota, M.T., Apr "21",** balloon-style cds with manuscript date ties 3¢ dull red (26) on cover to Barrington Station, Ill., **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

Missouri Towns



3089 ✉ **Missouri River Packet Omaha,** oval handstamp on yellow cover bearing 3¢ dull red tied by St. Louis "STEAM" straightline to West Chester Pa., **Very Fine and attractive,** *ex-Risvold*.
Milgram No. **1027** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

A CHOICE EXAMPLE OF THE MISSOURI RIVER PACKET OMAHA HANDSTAMP

Montana Towns



3090 ✉ **1867, $50 Territory of Montana Bond,** 6"x11.75" red and black bond with illustrated vignettes including sailor, signed by James Tufts, Secretary of the Territory, blue "Kountze Brothers, Bankers, New York, Paid, Jan 1873" cds and additional "Paid" double-circle, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



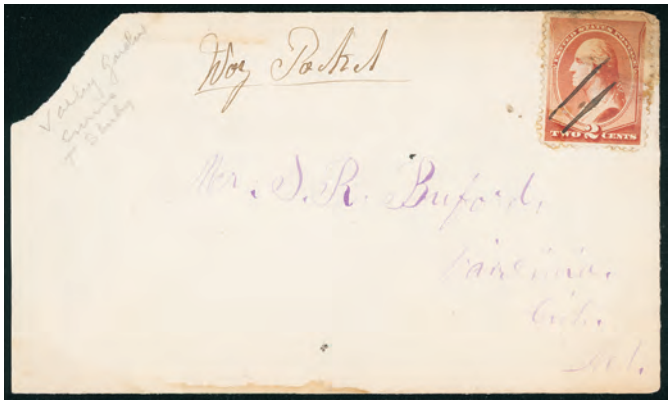
3091 ✉ **Cedar Junction, Mont. Aug 16,** bold cds and matching target cancel on 3¢ green (147) on orange cover to Sterling Montana Terr., pencil 1870; paper missing at left, **a Very Fine strike of this rare town.**
Estimate. . . . . $400 - 600



3092 ✉ **"Etchetah M.T. 11-20-84",** manuscript postmark with matching "X" cancels on 2¢ red brown (210) strip of five on registered 2¢ carmine entire to New York N.Y., Nov. 28th arrival backstamp, **Very Fine,** *This is the earliest known use of this town., ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3093 ✉ **Fort Missoula, Mont. Jul 19, 1889,** clear strike of cds with matching target cancel on 2¢ green (213) on cover to Portland Me., original enclosure accompanies, **Very Fine.**
Estimate . . . . . $50 - 75

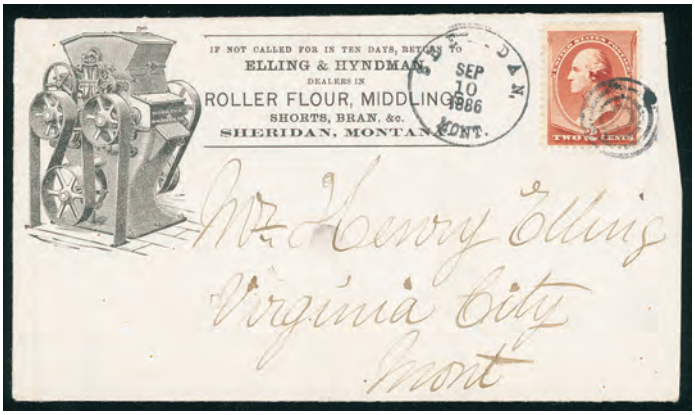


Ex 3094

3094 ✉ **(Montana) "Way Packet",** two covers, first with manuscript "*Way Packet*" postmark and matching pen strokes cancel 2¢ red brown (210) on cover to Virginia City Mont., original City Treasurer's Office letterhead enclosure datelined "Bozeman, Mont. April 16th 1887", second use with manuscript "W.P." (Way Packet) postmark on 3¢ green entire to same addressee in Virginia City Mont., pencil "Red Bluff" origin docketing; faulty pair, **Fine.**
Estimate . . . . . $50 - 75



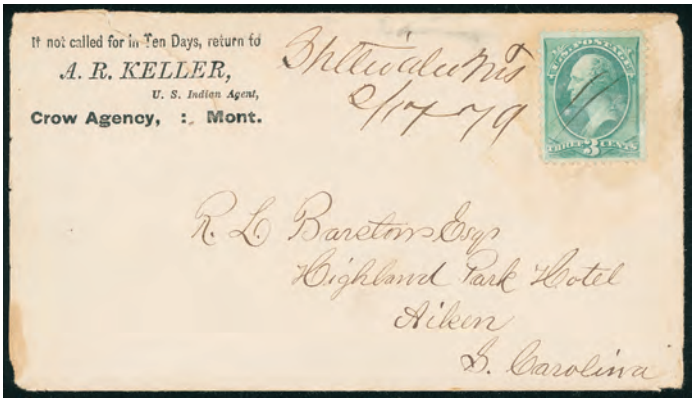
3095 ✉ **"Pony, Mont. 1/16/81",** manuscript postmark on 3¢ green entire to Virginia City Mont., **Very Fine and scarce.**
Estimate . . . . . $50 - 75



3096 ✉ **Sheridan Mont., Sep 10, 1886,** cds duplexed with four-ring cancel ties 2¢ red brown (210) on cover with illustrated Elling & Hyndman, Dealers in Roller Flour, Middling" ad showing machine, addressed to Virginia City Mont.; reduced at right, **Very Fine.**
Estimate . . . . . $50 - 75



3097 ✉ **Skalkaho, Mont., May 21, 1887,** bold strike of cds with matching target cancels tying 2¢ red brown (210) and 10¢ brown (209) on registered cover to Boston Mass.; slightly rough opening at top, **Very Fine,** *ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



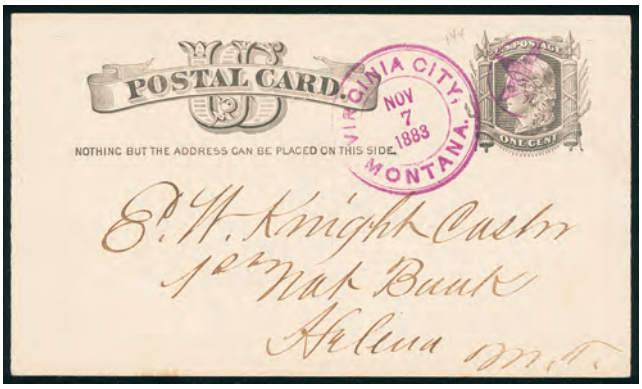
3098 ✉ **"Stillwater Mont, 2/7 - 79",** manuscript postmark with matching pen strokes cancelling 3¢ green (158) on cover with printed "A.R. Keller, U.S. Indian Agent, Crow Agency, Mont." corner card to Aiken S.C.; small flaws, **F.-V.F. and scarce.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3099 ✉ **Stillwater Mont, Nov 15, 1881,** purple octagon datestamp on registered yellow cover to Chicago bearing 3¢ green (207) pair and 10¢ brown (188), each cancelled by blue manuscript matching registry "No 32" at upper left, purple "Received, Nov 26 1881, Chicago, Ill" three-line backstamp, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

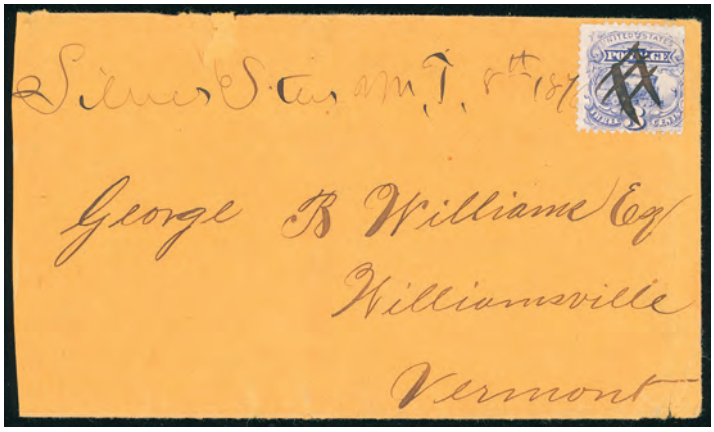


3100 ✉ **Stillwater, Mont. Apr 21 1880,** sharp strike of purple octagon datestamp with additional strike cancelling two 3¢ green (184) singles on yellow cover with printed "**Crow Agency, : Mont.**" corner card to Boston Mass., purple "Rec'd in Boston Mass., Apr 27" cds and Carrier backstamp; reduced at left, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



Ex 3101

3101 ✉ **Virginia City, Mont.,** two different datestamps on 1¢ postal cards, first with purple "Virginia City, Montana, Nov 7, 1883" cds with circled star fancy cancel; and other black 1878 "Virginia City, Mont. Aug 24" use; also includes Willard page with hand-drawn map, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



Ex 3102

3102 ✉ **Montana Territory, 1870-80s,** better group of **11** comprising "Silver Star M.T. 8th 1870" manuscript postmark ties 3¢ #114, 1875 Philipsburg Mont. with #147, 1881 White Sulphur Springs with #207, 1884 Livingston with #210, 1884 Terry with #210, 1883 Frenchtown purple cds with #206 pair, 1886 Marysville with #210, Helena with #210 to Ann Arbor Mich with 1¢ postage due pair, Pony cds with missing stamp, 1886 Laurin on 2¢ red brown entire, and "Home Park MT Mar 19/89" postmark with #213; some faults, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $400 - 600



Ex 3103

3103 ✉ **Montana Territory, 1880s,** group of 9 covers mostly with #210s, comprising 1886 Butte City, 1884 Cooke, 1886 Helena, 1885 Lewistown, 1886 Marysville, 1886 Roberra, 1885 Stanford, 1887 Virginia City duplex with scarab on 2¢ red brown entire (ex-Chase), 1880 White Sulphur Springs blue octagon on cover with 3¢ green #184; also includes Fort Maginnis on #210 piece; small faults, **F.-V.F.,** seven are *ex-Willard* on his exhibit pages with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400



Ex 3104

3104 ✉ **Montana Territory, 1880s,** group of 9 items comprising 1889 Sheridan on cover with #213, 1881 Ulidia on registry return receipt, 1881 Glendale purple duplex on 1¢ postal card, 1880 Sheds Bridge on registry return receipt, 1888 Junction on 1¢ postal card with Fort Benton receiver, and four Bozeman duplexes (two styles in magenta and black) on 1¢ postal cards, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200

Nebraska Towns



3105 ✉ **Bellevue N.T., Jun 28,** intense bold strike of balloon-style cds ties 3¢ dull red (26) on orange buff cover with navy **H.T. Clarke & Bro. Grocers, Forwarding & Commission Merchants & General Steamboat & Collecting Agents illustrated cameo corner card** showing steamboat, addressed to Newville Pa., docketed "Ans July 20 /58"; reduced slightly at right, **Very Fine,** *ex-Gabriel*.
Estimate. . . . . $1,000 - 1,500

A REMARKABLE NEBRASKA TERRITORY CAMEO CORNER CARD COVER SHOWING A MISSOURI RIVER STEAMBOAT.

Nebraska Territory was established May 30, 1854, and Bellevue in 1855 as one of only fourteen post offices in the territory. Bellevue was the oldest and most important Nebraska city of the time. It is well located, just north of the Platte River on the Missouri River. The steamboat vignette is quite appropriate for the time and history of the area.



3106



3107

3106 ✉ **Cottonwood Springs, Neb., Apr 19,** double-circle datestamp with matching target cancel just ties 3¢ rose (65), faulty at top, on cover to Jacksonville Ills.; some doodling; reduced at left, **Fine and scarce town.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

3107 ✉ **Fort Laramie N.T., June 21,** clear strike of cds with matching circular grid cancels tie 3¢ rose (65), trimmed at left, on yellow cover to Douglas, Iowa, manuscript "June, 18, '62" docketing; reduced at left and small tears, **Fine and scarce.**
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400

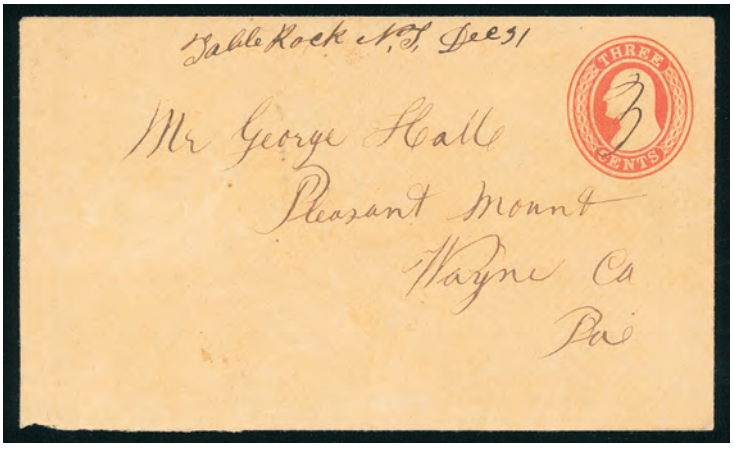


Ex 3108

3108 ✉ **Omaha City, Neb.,** two covers, "Omaha City Neb., Aug 11, 1860" cds ties 3¢ dull red (26) on yellow cover to Delaware Oh.; and "Omaha City, Neb., Sep 7, 1864" double-circle datestamp on cover with 3¢ rose (65) to New Lisbon Oh.; accompanied by exhibit pages, **F.-V.F. pair.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3109 ✉ **Rock Bluffs N.T., Dec 28,** clear strike of balloon-style cds on orange cover bearing 3¢ dull red (26) cancelled by circular grid cancel to Woodsboro Md.; reduced slightly at right, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300



3110 ✉ **"Table Rock N.T. Dec 31",** manuscript postmark with matching "3" canceling 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire to Pleasant Mount Pa., **Very Fine,** *Only seven Table Rock covers are recorded.*
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300

200 families established homes here by 1857; however, in 1858, flood waters inundated the town site. Elder Charles Giddings recorded: "So greatly discouraged were the settlers, that by the end of the year only 15 families remained - and they were too poor to leave." In 1860, the Table Rock post office recorded receipts of $26.90.

Nevada Towns



3111 ✉ **Alpha, Nevada, Aug 28,** blue cds duplexed with Maltese cross cancels 6¢ red (U182) amber entire to Italy, partial New York (1.4.79) backstamp; soiling and creasing, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3112 ✉ **Carson City, Nev. Apr 28,** clear strike of cds duplexed with cork cancel ties 24¢ Interior (O22), well centered with vibrant color, on U.S. Land Office, Carson City, Nevada official imprint to Virginia City, Nev., 1874 docketing, with original U.S. Land Office letterhead 1874 enclosure; reduced slightly at left, *ex-Starnes*.
Estimate. . . . . $4,000 - 6,000

ONE OF THE FINEST OF EIGHT RECORDED 24¢ INTERIOR DEPARTMENT COVERS IN THE CAMPBELL CENSUS, THE ONLY ONE USED FROM NEVADA.

This is number 9 in the Campbell census of high-value official stamps on cover by Alan C. Campbell (Chronicle No. 188, November 2000, pp. 287-299). The use of a 24¢ stamp on a small non-registered cover is enigmatic, but perhaps confusion of the stamp value resulted from all values of a department having the same color.



3113 ✉ **Carson City, Nev. T., Nov 17, 1862,** blue double-circle datestamp ties 3¢ rose (65) on orange cover to Santa Rosa, Cal.; reduced slightly at ends; accompanied by exhibit page, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3114 ✉ **Esmeralda, N.T., 20 Jun,** bold strike of cds on buff cover to Mukwonago Wisc. with matching segmented cork cancels on ten **1¢ blue (63)**, beautiful deep rich color, 10 examples in two pairs and six singles, small flaws with one faulty, some cover wear and reduced slightly at right, **Fine and rare Nevada Territory use.**
Estimate. . . . . $1,000 - 1,500

This cover was used just prior to the 10¢ transcontinental rate reduced to 3¢ effective June 30, 1863.



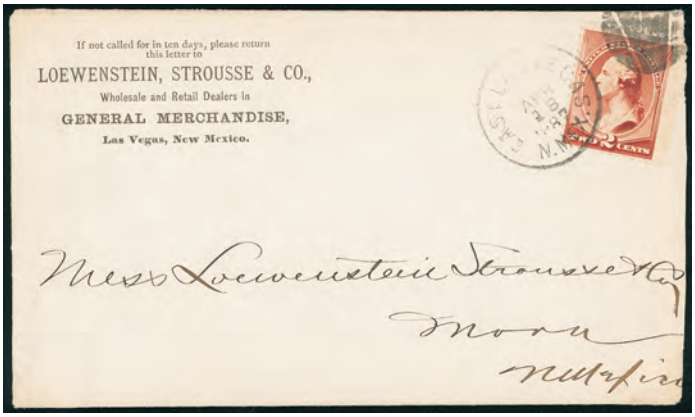
3115 ✉ **Esmeralda, Nev. Nov 7 '64,** cds duplexed with four-ring target cancel ties 3¢ rose (65) on orange cover to Yreka Cal., docketed from "C.F. Collins, M.D., Recd Nov. 12. 1864" at left.
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3116



Ex 3117



3118



3119

3116 ✉ **Virginia City, N.T., 31 Jan 1863,** sharp strike of cds with matching bold circle of wedges ties 10¢ green (68), well centered, on orange buff cover to Tiffin Oh.; reduced at left, **otherwise Very Fine and attractive.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300

3117 ✉ **Nevada, Town and Express Balance, 1860s,** group of **6** covers comprising Pacific Union Express use from Virginia City Nev., Austin Nev. use of #65 to Newark NJ, 1864 Ophir Nev. manuscript postmark with #65, Wells Fargo "Virginia Cty" blue oval datestamp ties 3¢ #65 with printed "From Wells, Fargo & Co., Virginia City, N.T." corner card, "Wells Fargo Co., Virginia Cty N.T." blue oval datestamp on 3¢ #U35 entire with printed frank, and "Wells Fargo Co., Hamilton Nev." blue oval datestamp on 3¢ #U59 entire with printed frank; some mixed condition, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400

New Mexico Towns

3118 ✉ **East Las Vegas, N. Mex., Apr 18, 1887,** cds duplexed with cork cancel ties 2¢ red brown (210) on cover with printed Loewenstein, Strousse & Co. General Merchandise corner card to Mora N.M., Apr 19th receiving backstamp, original letterhead enclosure accompanies; reduced slightly at right, **F.-V.F.,** *ex-Willard.*
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

3119 ✉ **Las Vegas Hot Springs, N. Mex., Jan 4, 1885,** cds duplexed with four-ring target ties 2¢ red brown (210) on cover with printed Hot Springs Hotel, Las Vegas Hot Springs N.M. corner card to Penn., 1885 docketing at left; reduced slightly at right, **F.-V.F.,** *ex-Willard.*
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

Los Vegas Hot Springs was, at this early date, a health resort spa in San Miguel County. A spur line of the Atchison Topeka & Sante Fe Railroad running northwest from Las Vegas, about 10 miles away, served its guests.

Oregon Towns



3120 ✉ **Jacksonville Ogn., Oct 18,** bold strike of cds ties 10¢ green (68), rich color, on red and blue **Lady Liberty & Flag patriotic** cover to Montfort Wisc.; faults including cover tear and reduced at right, **Fine appearance,** a rare patriotic use, *ex-Pearce.*
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400

There is no evidence of patriotic covers having been printed in Oregon. A handful are known, two of which are from Jacksonville.



3121 ✉ **"O&C RR Sept 27 -73",** Oregon & California Railroad manuscript postmark with matching squiggle on 3¢ green (147) on cover to Roseburg Ore., original letter headlined "Comstock Coalbank", also includes Oregon and California Railroad company ticket; some soiling, **Fine,** *ex-Helbock.*
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300



Ex 3122

3122 ✉ **Oregon, 1862-84,** group of **4** covers including manuscript "The Dalles Ogn, Sept 19/62" postmark with 10¢ #68 to Wisc.; No. Canyonville Or. with #65 to Roseburg Or., Portland Ore. on #U58 to New London Conn., and 1884 Grant's Pass, Jackson County Ore. duplex on #210 to Jacksonville Ore.; some faults, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300

Texas Towns



3123 ✉ **Belton, Tex. Jun 1,** cds ties **5¢ blue, Stone 2 (4)**, position 38, four margins, over indicia of U.S. 3¢ red (U27) buff star die entire to Fort Worth Tex., endorsed "Via Dallas" at bottom left, circa 1862; reduced at left with small corner flaw, stamp lifted and placed adjacent to show indicia, **Very Fine**; signed Kimbrough.
Estimate. . . . . $400 - 600

The addressee, Mrs. Junius W. Smith was the wife of a prominent Fort Worth area attorney.



3124 ✉ **Camp Rice, Texas, Sep 19, 188,** cds duplexed with matching cancel on yellow cover to Knoxville Ill., Sep. 20th receiving backstamp, reduced slightly at right, **Very Fine,** *ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400

Camp Rice was a garrisoned military post established in 1884. It was first noted in the Postal Guide of 1885. The camp was located about 50 miles south of El Paso on the Rio Grande. It was on the Galveston, Harrisburg & San Antonio Railroad probably to protect against the Apache incursion into Mexico via Texas.

Eagle Pass

Eagle Pass was the first American settlement on the Rio Grande. Eagle Pass borders the city of Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico, which is to the southwest and across the Rio Grande. Originally known as Camp Eagle Pass, it served as a temporary outpost for the Texas militia, which had been ordered to stop illegal trade with Mexico during the Mexican-American War.

The United States Army established the presumably permanent Fort Duncan on March 27, 1849, a few miles upstream from Camp Eagle Pass. The fort was named after Colonel James Duncan, who had fought in the Mexican War. After the war, trade flourished under the protection of the fort. The fort was near the trail of westward immigration to California. It also served as an outpost against hostile Apache. It was abandoned and reopened several times. Texas seceded from the Union February 1st 1861 and joined the Confederacy March 6th 1861. After that date the fort was garrisoned by Confederate troops volunteers and Texas Rangers until the end of the war. They renamed it Rio Grande Station, which became an important port for the export of cotton into Mexico. On March 23rd 1868, it was reoccupied by Federal troops.



3125 ✉ **Eagle Pass Tex, Oct 28,** bold strike of cds ties **C.S.A. 5¢ blue (7) horizontal pair**, large margins to in at left, on blue folded cover that **originated in Mexico** to San Antonio, carried out of the mails across the River to Eagle Pass, docketed on reverse "October 23 - 1862, Don Jesus Silba on Flour + Wheat", **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $3,000 - 4,000

This folded cover originated somewhere in Mexico and was carried over the border privately to Eagle Pass where it was placed in the Confederate mails.





3126 ✉ **Houston, Texas "May 2nd",** fancy red cds with manuscript date and matching red "X" rating handstamp on 1840 folded letter to New York N.Y., **F.-V.F. use from the Texas Republic period.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3127 ✉ **1858 (Jun. 11) Calmar, Sweden to Austin, Texas,** cover with partial origin cds endorsed "Via Coeln & Ostende" at top, "Aachen" (6.17) transit cds and framed "Aus Schweden per Stralsund" handstamp, blue manuscript "2½" debit rating updated with large manuscript "17" debit rating, carried by Cunard Line Arabia from Liverpool Jun. 19th to Boston arriving Jun. 30th, reverse with "Boston, Br. Pkt. Jun 30" exchange cds and "42" cent due rating, flap with "Innocence" label, **Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400

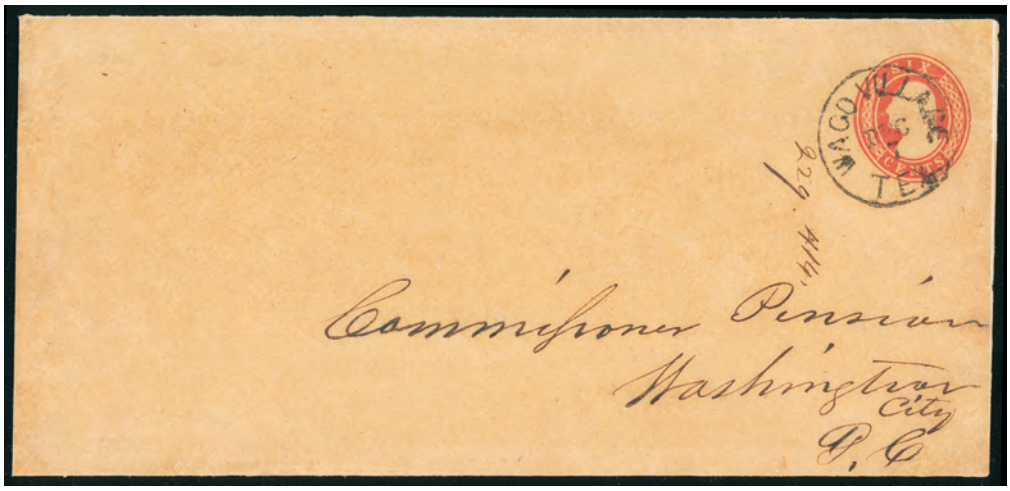


3128 ✉ **1855 (Aug. 13) Springfield, Canada to Victoria Texas,** blue folded letter with indistinct blue cds and "3d" in circle rating handstamp crossed out and updated to "6d" in circle, black Hamilton (10.14.55) transit backstamp and matching "Canada 10 Cts." straightline exchange handstamp, *ex-Steinhart.*
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3129 ✉ **"Sherman Tex., Feb. 14th",** manuscript postmark with matching "10" cent rating on light blue cover to Trenton N.J., good content: "…*I am off for California. I will start the first day of April next and take the route through the El Paso…the distance from this point to the southern extremity of the Sierra Nevada or Snow Mountains will be over 859 miles & we will make this in about 40 days…*"; some red wax adherence, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $500 - 750

Gold Mania - In 1848 gold was discovered in California. Those who could afford passage on a ship, usually took it. Many of the others - walked!



3130 ✉ **Waco Village Tex., Dec 7,** clear strike of cds cancels legal-size 6¢ red (U12) buff Nesbitt entire from nearby Fort Graham to the Commissioner of Pensions at Washington D.C.; reduced and restored.
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300



Ex 3131

3131 ✉ **Texas, 1870s-80s,** group of 4 comprising Fort Concho with #147 to Jacksonville Ill., 1886 Fort Davis with #210 to Whipple Barracks, Prescott Ariz. Terr., N. &M. Tex. R.R. railroad cds on 3¢ entire to Stoner Ky. (ex-Wyer); and stained Williamstown Mass. to Zulu 'Rifle Pits' Texas endorsed "Via Dodge City, Kansas", **F.-V.F. group.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200

Utah Towns



3132 ✉ **"Carson City, June 30/50" (Utah Territory),** manuscript postmark on 10¢ green (U16) buff Nesbitt entire to Middletown, R.I., endorsed "Via San Francisco" at lower left, missent and forwarded (most likely from New York), with photocopy of portion of original enclosure and excerpts from letter (Western Express, July 1990) datelined *"Steam Boat Valley, June 18/59…I was a jeuror orn a caise at Egelle Valley, one William Sides kill one Jessip with a knife…It was proved to be a willfull murder, there being to (two) jeurors bribed in consequence and June 24…new mines (but 12 miles from here) the gold is so plenty that it yields $100 per bucket of dird and from that down to 10 cents per bucket of dird said to be the riches mines that was ever now in california"*; couple small cover tears at top, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $500 - 750



3133 ✉ **Ephraim, Utah, Jul 29 1887,** bold serrated cds duplexed with fancy negative star cancel ties 2¢ red brown (210) on cover to Manti, Utah, printed "Canute Peterson, Ephraim, Sanpete Co., Utah" corner card, receipt docketing, **Very Fine,** *ex-Willard*.
Estimate . . . . . $75 - 100

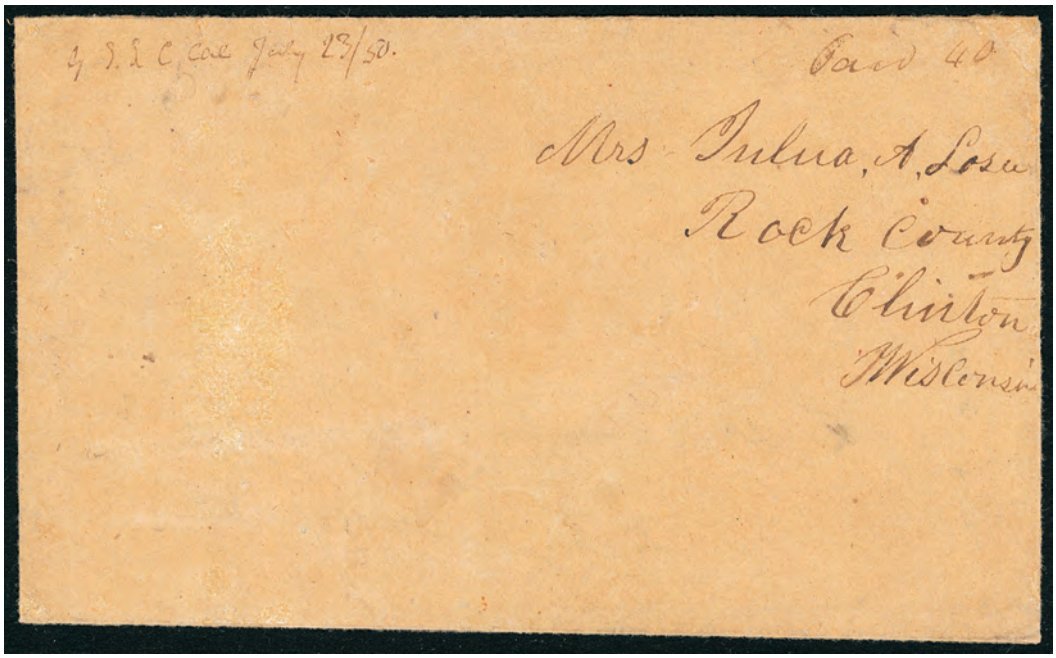


3134 ✉ **Park City, Utah. Mar 7,** cds duplexed with target cancel ties 2¢ red brown (210) on cover with illustrated Crescent City Company corner card showing crescent moon, to Grand Rapids Mich., endorsed "care GR & I RR", Mar. 11th arrival backstamp, **Very Fine,** *ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

Park City was in Summit County located about 25 miles east of Salt Lake City. It was a boom town for silver mining that did not fade out. The mines were opened about 1872 and in the 1880s, there were about 500 in operation. The Crescent Mining Company operated on Crescent Ridge.

Salt Lake City

On February 28, 1849, Brigham Young recorded in his journal that a Federal Post Office had been established as "Great Salt Lake City" with a Government sponsored express to and from Kanesville, Iowa. However, the Federal bureaucrats neglected to award any funds. Therefore, per trip express mail agreements were let to individual contractors. Letters to the "states" were charged 50 cents, with 10 cents being credited to the government.



3135 ✉ **"G.S.L.C. Cal July 23/50",** manuscript postmark and matching "Paid 40" rating on 1850 orange buff cover to Clinton Wisc.; cover restored, **Very Fine appearance**; with clear 1994 P.S.E. certificate.
Estimate. . . . . $5,000 - 7,500

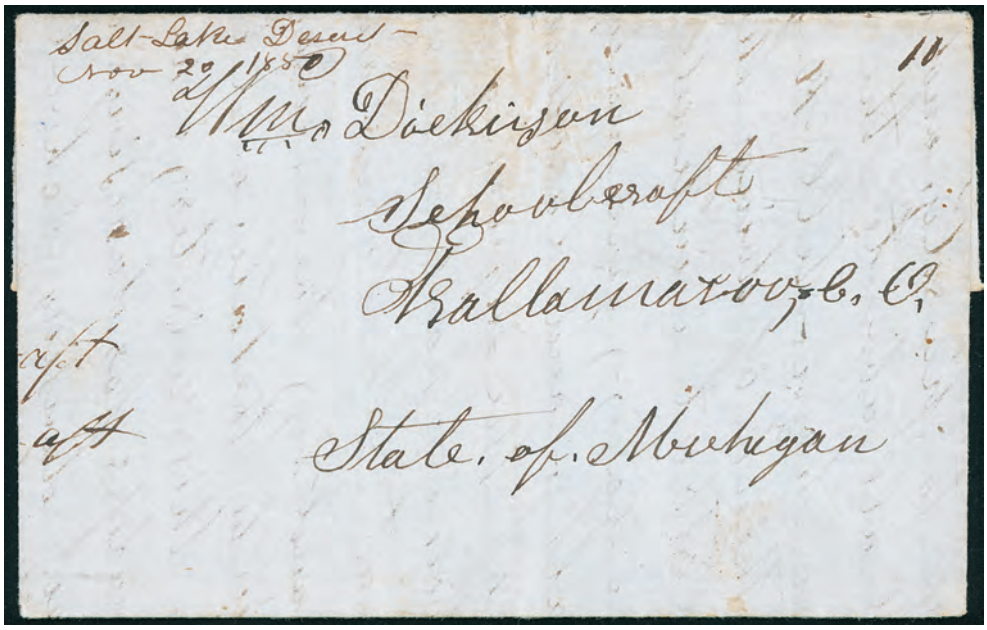
ONE OF ONLY THREE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS GREAT SALT LAKE CITY MANUSCRIPT POSTMARK DURING THE UNORGANIZED TERRITORY PERIOD.

This cover was carried by John Green and Benjamin Holladay, they left August 2nd and arrived in Kanesville on September 12th.



Early View of Salt Lake City

First-Hand Accounts of Meeting Brigham Young with References to Polygamy



3136 ✉ **"Salt Lake Deseret, Nov 20 1850",** manuscript territorial postmark and matching "10" rating on blue folded letter from gold prospector W.R. Dickinson to his father William, datelined "November 14th 1850" and again on "November 19", the contents of this letter includes several significant references to the Mormon settlement in Salt Lake City, the writer was a gold prospector headed for California, begins by describing his journey: "*…there was a plenty of mormons wageons teeams all along The road — there was estemated to be aboute 15.00 [cross-out thru second 0] Mormons. There was game a plenty — buffalo aplenty*", followed by a description of buffalo hunting. The writer also mentions difficulties with **Indians**: "*indeans hostile between hear, Salt lake and the mines*" and gives an account of a Mormon party of 10 that was attacked (all but two killed). Reference is made to "*the mail from Independence to Salt Lake 4 months in the year, once a month, it goes out in the morning at 10 oclock for the States*" and "*letters do not cost but 10 cents from hear to the States*". Of the greatest significance are **first-hand accounts of meeting Brigham Young with references to polygamy:** "*I have seen Brigam Younge and gave him Best wishes. Plade the fiddle for him to dance At a party. He has got some thirty or forty Spiritual Wives besides his own, and I talk of Takeing one for the winter as for life and What do you think of that, dad, do you think I am a goner, ha. I intend starting for Callafornia in the spring, I think. I sende my love to pardy and tell him that I will tell all aboute the Spiritual Wives when I come home…*"; accompanied by a second letter from the same writer, datelined "***State of Deserett, Salt lake City, May 29th 1851***" with a report of Indian hostilities and dissatisfaction with the Mormon community., **Very Fine.**
Estimate . . . . . $10,000 - 15,000

ONE OF ONLY TWO OR THREE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE "DESERET" MORMON POSTAL MARKING.

On March 4, 1849, the Constitution for the provisional government of the State of Deseret was approved by the Mormons, and soon submitted to Congress for approval. As of September 9, 1850, Congress created portions of the requested area as Utah Territory, and as the State of California.

The first mail under the new Government contract from Independence to Salt Lake City was received in early November. This November 20th letter was carried on the first return eastbound mail. Assuming the first mail to Salt Lake City left before September 9th, the writer would not know that the petition for "the State of Deseret" had been rejected. However, he surely would have known by the time of his later May 29th 1851 letter.

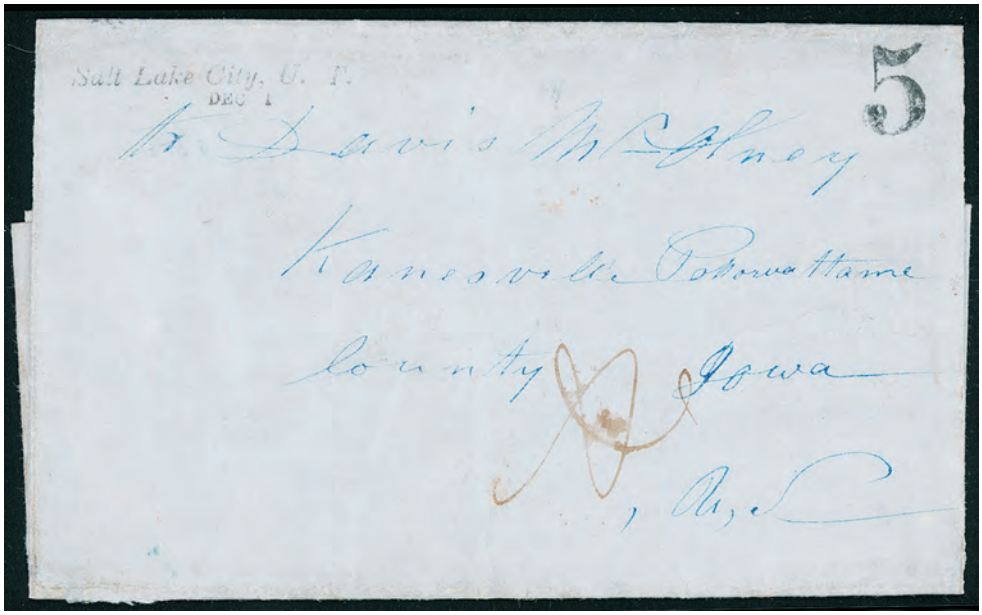




3137 ✉ **1851 (Aug. 29) Paris, France to Salt Lake City, Deseret,** blue folded cover addressed ***to Governor Brigham Young, Salt Lake City, Deseret***, bearing **France 25c blue (6) horizontal pair and 1F carmine (9)**, margins to touched, pair scissor cut between, tied by roller cancel, matching "Paris, 29 Aout 51" origin cds, small red "PD" framed handstamp, carried by Cunard Line *Europa* from Liverpool Sep. 6th to Boston arriving Sep. 17th, bold "Br. Packet, Boston, 17 Sep, 5" debit exchange cds, sent overland via Independence Mo.; small tear at right, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $2,000 - 3,000

A REMARKABLE TRANSATLANTIC USE FROM FRANCE ADDRESSED TO GOVERNOR BRIGHAM YOUNG AND ONE OF THE FEW COVERS WITH THE ADDRESS DESIGNATION "SALT LAKE CITY, DESERET".

Cover was prepaid 150 centimes (15 decimes) per British packet to Boston. Effective with July 1851 rate change, the U.S. inland postage for under 3,000 miles was 5¢ collect. Evidently, the French writer did not know that the State of Deseret was not recognized.



3138 ✉ **Salt Lake City, U. T. / Dec 1,** two-line territorial postmark and matching "5" rating on 1851 blue folded letter to Kanesville Ioa. datelined "November 7, Salt Lake City U.T.", writer mentions "**…I and my family are well fixed in this valley…You will do well to bring your cows…**"; reinforced edge wear, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $4,000 - 6,000

THIS IS THE LATEST RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THE RARE TWO-LINE SALT LAKE CITY POSTMARK.

According to the July 9th 1851 Deseret News, *"Eastern and Western Mails, The Mail Leaves this office (Salt Lake City) on the first day of every month for Independence and Sacramento." No mails arrived in Salt Lake City in December or January this winter. One can assume that this express was also substantially delayed in route. This two-line postmark is recorded from July 1st to December 1st 1851.*



3139 ✉ **Salt Lake City, Utah, May 1,** cds and matching "5" rating handstamp for unpaid rate on 1854 adversity cover made from printed East India Company form to Philadelphia Pa., **Very Fine and scarce territorial use, *The earliest recorded example of this Salt Lake City cds.*.**
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400

Since the Post Office Department prohibited collect mail beginning April 1st 1855, this cover can be dated to 1854.



3140 ✉ **Salt Lake City, Utah '5' Jul 1,** integral 5¢ due cds on 1854 gray folded cover to Edwardsville Ill., **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $500 - 750

Since the Post Office Department prohibited collect mail beginning April 1st 1855, this cover can be dated to 1854.



3141 ✉ Salt Lake City, Utah T., Nov 1, three strikes of blue 1855 cds cancel 6¢ green (U14) buff entire addressed to Orson K. Whitney at Honolulu, Hawaii care of Silas Smith, initialed "JKSW" at bottom left, pencil "John Whitney, Rec Jan 14/56" receipt docketing on reverse; some edge wear and small opening tear at left, Very Fine.
Estimate. . . . . $1,500 - 2,000

A RARE SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH TERRITORY USE VIA THE CHORPENNING MAIL ROUTE VIA LOS ANGELES AND SAN FRANCISCO.

This letter was postmarked in Salt Lake City for the November 1st 1855 departure of the Chorpenning mail to Los Angeles, and prepaid double the 3¢ letter rate for under 3,000 miles to California. Chorpenning's mail carrier arrived at Los Angeles on November 28th 1855. Then sent via San Pedro via Independent Line steamship to San Francisco. Then carried by carried by American Schooner Minna from San Francisco Dec. 19th to Honolulu arriving Jan. 14th, and received by John Whitney on the same day.



3142 ✉ **Salt Lake City, Utah, Jul 17,** blue cds ties 3¢ dull red (26), rounded corner, on cover to New York N.Y.; no back flap, **Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3143 ✉ **Salt Lake City U.T., Jul 20,** perfect bold territorial cds and matching circular grid cancel ties **10¢ green (35)** on 1860 light buff cover **to Canifton, Canada West**, red "U.S. Paid 10" framed exchange handstamp, reverse with G.W.R. (8.11.60), Belleville (8.11) and Caniftron (8.13) arrival cds; some faults and cover repairs, **Fine,** *ex-Tahoe*.
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300



Ex 3144

3144 ✉ **Utah Territory, 1860s-1888,** group of **4** items comprising "Virginia City, Utah, Mar 15" cds with matching fancy segmented star cancel ties 10¢ green (35) on small piece; manuscript "Hyrum Utah Dec 6th/88" postmark ties 2¢ red brown (210) on cover to Spruce Pine Ala.; fancy purple "Mt. Pleasant Utah, May 24 1887" oval ties 2¢ red brown #210 on cover to Boston Mass.; and "Springhill Utah, Jul 16, 1899" cds with matching negative star fancy cancel on 2¢ red brown #U277 entire to Salt Lake City; some faults, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



Ex 3145

3145 ✉ **Utah Territory, 1883-1887,** group of **4** covers comprising 1886 Ogden City with #210 to Idaho; 1887 Spring City with #210 to Pataskala, 1885 Wanship with #210 to Salem Mass., and 1883 Salt Lake City with #207 to Piqua Oh., **F.-V.F.,** the three #210s are *ex-Willard* on his exhibit pages with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



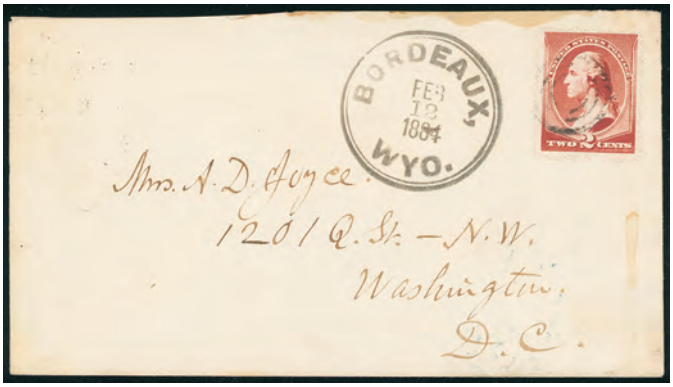
Ex 3146

3146 ✉ **Wisconsin Territory, 1840-1845,** group of **4** stampless letters comprising 1840 Madison, 1840 Green Bay, 1843 Southport, and 1845 Milwaukee with matching red "X" rating handstamp to New York, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

Wyoming Towns



3147 ✉ **Big Horn, Wyo Ter., Oct 24, 1882,** dark blue octagon datestamp with matching four-ring target cancels 3¢ green (207) on cover to Hopkins Mo.; reduced at left, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200

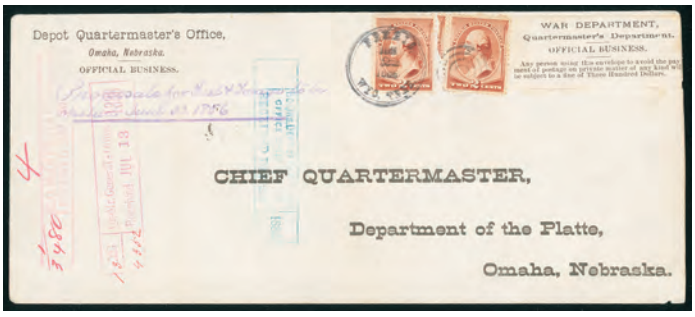


3148 ✉ **Bordeaux, Wyo. Feb 12, 1884,** bold cds on cover bearing 2¢ red brown (210) tied by four-ring target cancel to Washington D.C.; light stain at top, Washington D.C. (2.17) arrival backstamp, **F.-V.F. and scarce,** *ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

Bordeaux was located about 25 miles southwest of Fort Laramie with an estimated population of 21.



3149 ✉ **Chugwater, Wyoming, Feb 2, 1884,** bright red cds duplexed with fancy negative star cancel ties 2¢ red brown (210) on cover to Great Neck N.Y.; minor upper right corner flaw, **Very Fine and attractive,** *ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3150 ✉ **Ferris, Wyo. Terr., Jun 22, 1886,** duplex with four-ring cancel ties two 2¢ red brown (210) singles on legal-size Depot Quartermaster's Office, Omaha Neb. official business cover with preprinted return address, **War Department penalty clause** cut-out affixed at upper right; two file folds, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3151 ✉ **Fort Bridger, Wyoming, Aug 12, 1875,** blue cds duplexed with four-ring target cancel ties 3¢ green (147) on cover to Fort Howard Wisc.; reduced slightly at right, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3152 ✉ **Fort Bridger, Wyoming, May 8, 1882,** bold strike of duplex with rectangular grid cancel on cover to Prof. O.C. Marsh at New Haven Ct., receiving backstamp; reduced slightly at left, **Very Fine,** *ex-Meroni.*
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



Ex 3153

3153 ✉ **Fort Letterman, Wyo. T.,** two different types, first with blue "Fort Letterman Wyo. Jan 26" cds on 3¢ green entire cancelled by matching targets uprated with 3¢ green (158) to Fort Bridger Wyo. Terr.; and perfect strike of "Fort Letterman, Wyo. T., Apr 3, 1882" cds with matching four-ring cancel on 3¢ green (207) to Utica N.Y.; small faults, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



Ex 3154

3154 ✉ **Fort McKinney, W.T.,** two covers in purple and black, May 19th 1879 purple cds duplexed with four-ring cancel ties 3¢ green (147), faulty at top, on cover to Newburgh N.Y., and black Jun 15th 1880 cds duplexed with four-ring cancel ties 3¢ green (184) on cover to Middleborough Mass., **Fine and scarce pair.**
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400



3155 ✉ **Green River City, Wyo, Oct 8, 1885,** bold strike of cds duplexed with four-ring target cancelling 2¢ red brown entire to Minersville Pa., **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300

The post office was established in Sweetwater County Aug. 26th 1868. The site was selected as a camp and shops for the Union Pacific Railroad with the name changed to "Green River" on August 27th 1887.



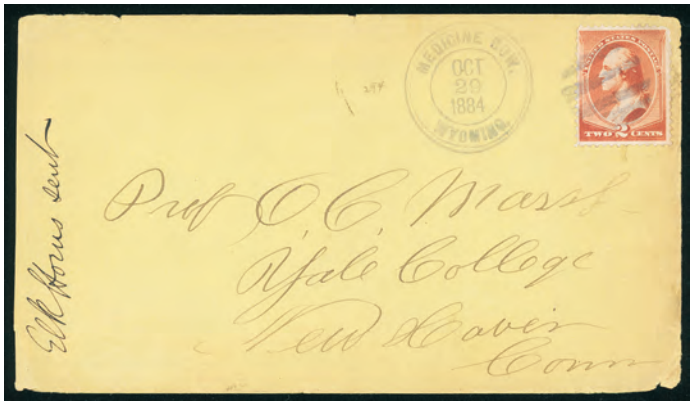
3156 ✉ **Green River City, Wyo., Dec 9, 1875,** blue octagon datestamp on cover bearing 3¢ green (158) cancelled by matching blue target cancel to Battle Creek Mich.; cover tears at right, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



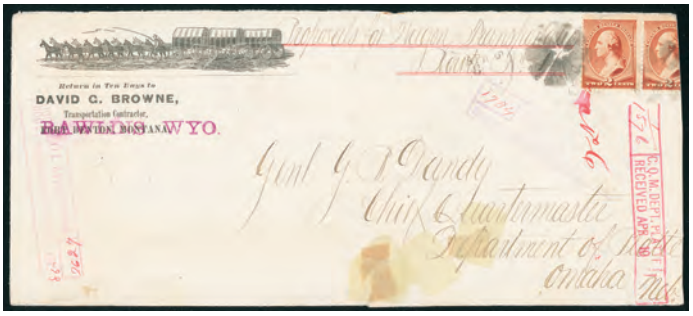
3157 ✉ **Laramie City, Wyo. Sep 9,** rimless cds duplexed with negative "L" cancel on 3¢ green (147) on cover to Battle Creek Mich.; reduced slightly at left, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3158 ✉ **Medicine Bow, Wyo., Feb 4,** clear strike of cds on cover with matching four-ring target tying 3¢ green (158) on cover to Prof. O.C. Marsh, Yale College, New Haven Conn., **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3159 ✉ **Medicine Bow, Wyoming, Oct 29, 1884,** bold strike with matching grid cancel ties 2¢ red brown (210) on yellow cover to Prof. O.C. Marsh at Yale College, New Haven Conn., edge wear.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3160 ✉ **Rawlins, Wyo., Apr 8,** cds duplexed with cork cancels tie 2¢ red brown (210) pair on legal-size cover with illustrated David G. Browne, Transportation Contractor corner card showing 12-team hose drawn three wagons illustration, to General G. B. Dandy, Chief Quartermaster, Department of Platte, Omaha Neb., endorsed "Proposals for Wagon Transportation Route No. 4" at top; reduced at right into 2¢, torn at bottom, **Fine,** *ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

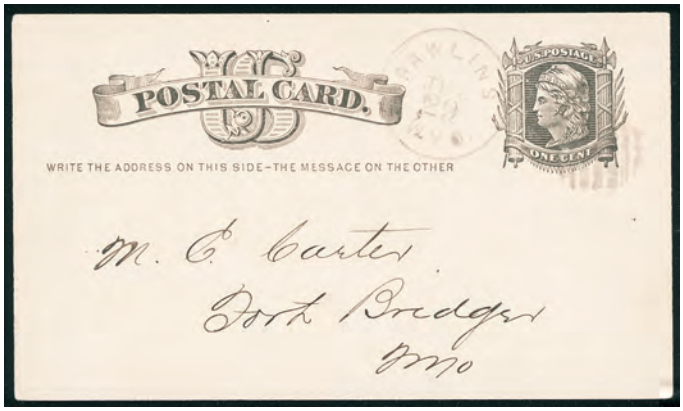


3161 ✉ **Shoshone Agency, Wyo., Feb 26, 1886,** clear strike of cds on cover with matching circular grid cancel tying 2¢ red brown (210) to Iowa; edge wear, **F.-V.F.,** *ex-Willard* on his exhibit page with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



Ex 3162

3162 ✉ **Wyoming Territory, 1870s-80s,** small better group of **8** Bank Note covers comprising 1876 Fort Laramie Wyo. with 3¢ Bank Note (stamp affixed over original) to Cheyenne Wyom., 1873 Camp Stambaugh Wyo. on 3¢ green (147) to Bellefonte Pa., 1870s Green River City Wyo. with #158 to Fort Howard; 1884 Green River City Wyo. serrated Sweetwater Co. cds with #210, 1888 Rock Creek Wyo. registered with #213, 209; 1881 Chug Water Wyo. fancy B.F. Kelley P.M. cds on #207, 187 registered cover, 1888 Buffalo Wyo. Terr. ties #213, and 1890 New Castle Wyo. registered with #216 (2) and 213.
Estimate. . . . . $400 - 600



Ex 3163

3163 ✉ **Wyoming Territory, 1870s-1900s,** group of **19** including 1882 Rawlins, 1883 Evanston, 1898 Mammoth Hot Springs, 1886 The Siding, 1883 Centennial, 1887 Laramie City, 1888 Lander forwarding cds, Cheyenne and Cheyenne City, Laramie City, 1883 Ferris, etc.; some mixed condition, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400



Ex 3164

3164 ✉ **Wyoming Territory, 1880s,** group of 12 covers with #210s except one with #213 comprising 1885 Little Bear, 1885 Rongis purple octagon, 1887 Douglas purple duplex, 1887 Douglas duplex in black, Cheyenne City: one bearing #210 and other #213; 1885 Evanston, 1886 Fort Fred Steele, 1887 Fort Washakie duplex with star cancel, 1887 black cds, 1884 Laramie City, and 1886 Meeteetse; some faults, **F.-V.F.,** ten are *ex-Willard* on his exhibit pages with hand-drawn map.
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400

Western Express



The Discovery of Gold in Colma California



Express mail is a very integral part of western postal history in North America. In the second half of the 19th century, there were times when the United States Congress failed to provide for an adequate postal service west of the Mississippi River. In fact there were many areas where the service was so bad that express agents did a lively business in handling mail to the outlying settlements. While some of the emigrants to the west went for agricultural or religious reasons, the vast majority went in search of gold.

The California Gold Rush began at Sutter's Mill near Coloma. On January 24, 1848, James W. Marshall, a foreman working for Sacramento pioneer John Sutter, found shiny metal in the tailrace of a lumber mill Marshall was building for Sutter on the American River. After the tests showed that it was gold, Sutter expressed dismay, he wanted to keep the news quiet because he feared what would happen to his plans for an agricultural empire if there were a mass search for gold.

The discovery of gold at Coloma was followed by a stream of gold-seekers "rushing" to California to find their fortune. Word was spreading rapidly by the end of 1848 and beginning of 1849, and the newcomers were nicknamed "the forty-niners". San Francisco grew from a small settlement of about 200 residents in 1846 to a boomtown of about 36,000 by 1852. This flood would quickly spread its fingers into the valleys and canyons of the mountains to the east. They had come to search the rivers, streams and gullies of these mountains for the golden ore.

The new settlers needed supplies and food to survive, in addition to news and information from back east. The infrastructure required for the new settlers led to the need for an adequate transportation network, with express companies operating where the Post Office did not provide adequate service. During the early days of expresses, many small operators sprung up over small defined routes. The larger express companies would rely on the small operators to feed into a central point and transport mail and express matter back into the remote regions. The "one man" operations gave way to small organized express companies, which in turn were consolidated into larger national express operations. This evolution took place over a thirty-year period from 1850 to 1880, until only Wells Fargo & Co. remained and a few small local operators.



Northern Mines Expresses



3165 ✉ **Alta Express Co.,** printed illustrated river scene frank showing steamboat, on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire cancelled by red "Alta Express Company, Sacramento" oval handstamp to Auburn Cal.; small part of flap missing, **Very Fine,** *ex-Knapp, Barkhausen.*
Thomas No. **ALT-001** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400

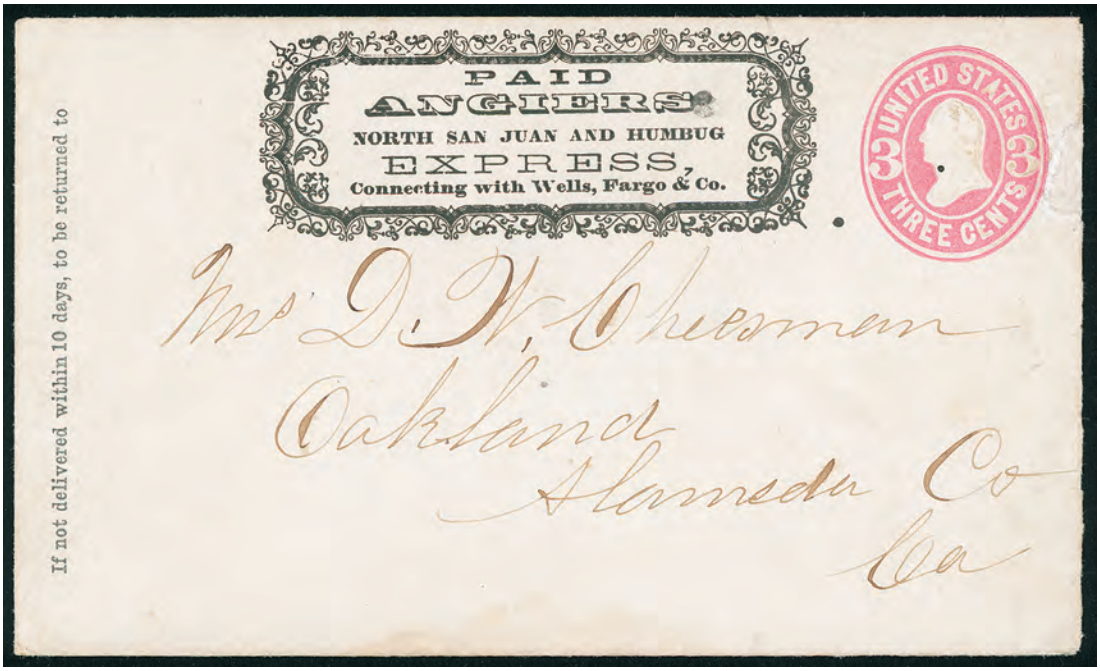
After the failure of the Pacific Express in April 1857, Belam, Farrington and Frost formed Alta Express. They operated throughout the northern and central part of California. They connected at Marysville with Everts, Wilson & Co., Langton Pioneer Express, Whitney & Co. Feather River Express and Yuba Express. From their main office in San Francisco they connected with Freeman Express for British Columbia and the Atlantic States, and Nichols Express for Oregon and Washington. After about a year they sold out to Wells Fargo.



3166 ✉ **American Express.,** printed illustrated frank showing train and steamboat, on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire cancelled by manuscript "Watsonville" to San Francisco Cal., **F.-V.F.**
Thomas No. **AME-004** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

ONE OF ONLY FOUR RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS AMERICAN EXPRESS PRINTED FRANK.

The routed for this express as reported on a company card, were along the coast of California and Oregon, Interior, Sacramento, San Jose, Monterey and San Quentin. This express was consolidated with Nichols & Co.'s in late 1858 and Nichols starting using the same pictorial frank.



3167 ✉ **Angiers North San Juan and Humbug Express,** printed frank with fancy frame on 3¢ pink (U58) entire to Oakland Cal.; repaired tear at right, **Very Fine appearance.**
Thomas No. **ANG-001** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750

ONE OF ONLY SIX RECORDED ANGIERS NORTH SAN JUAN AND HUMBUG EXPRESS FRANKS.

It is believed that this was a stage service owned by P.J. Angier that provided an express mail service. This operation ran from North San Juan into the surrounding Humbug Mining District, connecting to Cherokee to Columbia Hill/North Columbia to Lake City to Humbug/North Bloomfield and back to North San Juan. It connected with Wells Fargo at North San Juan.



3168 ✉ **Becker & Co's Express, Roses Bar,** two strikes of black oval on folded cover to French Corral, endorsed "Forwarded by Beckers Post" at bottom; no side flaps, **F.-V.F.,** *ex-Pearce.*
Thomas No. **BEK-100** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE BECKER & CO'S EXPRESS ROSES BAR OVAL.

Becker & Co. was a one-man tri-weekly express that operated from his base of French Corral Cal. along various bars of the Yuba River to Marysville. At points he connected with Gregory's Express and Wells Fargo.



3169 ✉ **"Per Berches Stage",** manuscript endorsement misspelled for Birch's, on blue folded letter datelines "Mormon Island, June 24, 1850" to Sacramento City in care of the Bull Head Hotel, letter written by the Secretary of the Natoma Mining Co. discussing company business, "*…We have made the race about 10 feet wide and have come to larger rocks and have prospects and have found gold.*", **Very Fine and rare,** *ex-"Tahoe"*.
Estimate. . . . . $1,000 - 1,500

James E. Birch, a stage driver from Rhode Island, formed a stage line bearing his name on September 1, 1849, serving the Sacramento Valley and Sierra Foothills. The fare was set at $32.00 or 2 ounces of gold dust, which made it possible to travel between Mormon Island and Sacramento, spend and hour and return the same day. Birch's business thrived and by 1851 he was running daily service between Sacramento, Mormon Island and onto Coloma. When the railroad arriving in Folsom, twenty-one separate stage lines moved to Folsom. With over 50 stages a day arriving and leaving, Folsom soon became one of the busiest towns in the state and the largest staging center in California. In December 1853, these stages were consolidated in a joint stock company, the California Stage Company, with Birch as President. It was incorporated for $1,000,000.



3170 ✉ **Forwarded by Bowers Express,** full clear strike of oval handstamp on buff cover with red "San Francisco, 40, 15 Nov" integral rate cds to Windsor Vt.; some edge wear, **Very Fine and choice strike,** *ex-Parker, Haas*.
Thomas No. **BOW-100** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

Reference: *Illustrated in Wiltsee*

John Taylor Bowers, with help of brothers, began by transporting small packages, letters and gold dust between Caldwell's Upper Crossing and Sacramento, and from there extending to San Francisco. The location at Caldwell's Upper Crossing would soon be known as Nevada City and this was the first express operating out of the area. Very quickly they were servicing new locations of Nevada City, Grass Valley, Rough & Ready, Washington and the Placer locations along Poor Man Creek and the Yuba River. They advertised connecting with Freeman in Sacramento and Adams in San Francisco. Freeman purchased this express in October 1851.



3171 ✉ **Cherokee Express Paid,** printed frank with fancy frame on 3¢ pink (U34) buff entire cancelled by "Cherokee Cal" dateless circular handstamp (CHE-101) to Oroville Cal.; pencil 1862 notation, **Very Fine,** WC3882, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **CHE-002** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS CHEROKEE EXPRESS FRANK.

This small express operated between Oroville and the diggings across the mountain range that has been referred to as the Cherokee Diggings. They connected with Wells Fargo at Oroville, California.



3172 ✉ **Cherokee Express Paid,** bold strike of blue oval handstamp on 3¢ pink (U58) entire cancelled by "Oroville Cal., Apr" cds duplexed with cork cancel to Oroville Cal., pencil "Gen. Runyon" docketing at left; reduced at left with small mend, **Very Fine appearance.**
Thomas No. **CHE-100** . . . . . Estimate $400 - 600



3173 ✉ **Copley & Co's Miners' Express,** choice strike of blue double-oval handstamp on buff cover to Marysville Cal., blue "Bennington Vt., Jul 3" origin cds and matching "Paid" and "10" rating handstamps, pencil "St. L 75" for Copley's 75¢ express fee; repaired at sides and across top, back flap added, **Very Fine appearance,** *ex-Clifford, Hahn.*
Thomas No. **COP-100a**. . . . . Estimate $3,000 - 4,000

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED BLUE COPLEY & CO'S MINERS' EXPRESS OVALS ON COVER.



3174 ✉ **Copley & Co's Miners' Express,** perfect sharp strike of red double-oval handstamp on **10¢ green (U17)** Nesbitt entire to Sempronius N.Y., entered the mails with "New-York Sep 28" cds; toned spot at center, bit of flap missing, **Extremely Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*; with 2004 P.F. certificate.
Thomas No. **COP-100b** . . . . . Estimate $2,000 - 3,000

ONE OF THE CLEAREST STRIKES OF THE DESIRABLE COPLEY & CO. MINERS' EXPRESS COVERS. A RARE WEST TO EAST USAGE THAT WAS CARRIED OUTSIDE THE REGULAR MAILS UNTIL IT REACHED NEW YORK CITY.

This express between Marysville running north to the Slate Creek Basin mining camps briefly operating circa 1856 by Jack Copley. This included but may not have been limited to Gibsonville, Saint Louis and Warren Hill, California connecting with the U.S. mail at Marysville for outgoing letters and with Wells Fargo for express items. The ovals struck in red are known only on outgoing mail. This cover has the added element of rarity in that it was carried outside the regular mails presumably by express via Panama or Nicaragua entering the mails at New York.



3175 ✉ **Cramer's Express,** violet ribbon frame with blue lettering Cramer's Express on 3¢ pink (U58) entire with company "Susanville, Vioado, Feb 27, 1870" double-oval datestamp (strengthened in pen) to San Francisco Cal., sender endorsed from "Susanville Idaho", **Very Fine and stunning express cover,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein, Tatham, Schaefer*.
Thomas No. **CRM-001** . . . . . Estimate $5,000 - 7,500

THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THIS CRAMER'S EXPRESS FRANK.

There are two types of franks, each unique, this is the type without the "connecting with Wells Fargo" text.

Charles Cramer stage and express route ran south out of Susanville along the western side of Honey Lake, down the eastern side of the Sierra Mountains and turned southeast into Nevada just before entering Reno Nev. During this period, Cramer formed stage and express partnerships with Fitch, Klein and McLellan, all of which were listed as operating over the same route.



3176 ✉ **Cramer's Express, Connecting with Wells, Fargo & Co.,** purple scroll paid frank on 3¢ pink (U58) entire to San Francisco Cal.; reduced slightly at left, **Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein*; with 2009 P.F. certificate.
Thomas No. **CRM-002** . . . . . Estimate $3,000 - 4,000

THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THIS CRAMER'S EXPRESS "CONNECTING WITH WELLS, FARGO & CO." FRANK.

Cramer's Express operated as such September 19 to October 6th 1868, and again September 8th 1869 to August 19th 1870. He connected with stages for Oroville, Surprise Valley and Camp (Fort) Bidwell, and connected with Wells Fargo & Co. at Reno.

Mining began along the Middle Fork of the American River soon after gold was discovered at Sutters Mill in 1848. Mining was begun by working the extensive shallow placers that ran from the lower plains almost to the summit of the Sierra and were among the richest in the State of California.



1858 Sardine Claim, Maine Bar, Middle Fork, American River



3177 ✉ **Crawford's Middle Fork Express,** red double-oval handstamp on cover bearing 3¢ dull red (26) tied by sharp bold "Camptonville Cal., Oct 1, 1859" cds and matching split grid cancel to Greenwood, Placer County, Cal., light pencil "*Galina Hill*"; some edge wear, **Very Fine,** Illustrated in "Letter's of Gold" on page 181.
Thomas No. **CRW-100** . . . . . Estimate $3,000 - 4,000

ONE OF THREE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE CRAWFORD MIDDLE FORK EXPRESS HANDSTAMP, ONE OF WHICH IS CONTAINED IN THE WILTSEE COLLECTION.

Crawford was a small express company that had a brief period of operation around 1855-1856. It ran between Placerville and Greenwood, servicing mining camps around the Middle Fork of the American River. Crawford connected with Wells Fargo at Greenwood. Galina Hill was located about two miles north of Camptonville where this letter apparently originated.



3178 ✉ **Downieville and Howland Flat Express,** printed paid frank on 3¢ pink (U59) buff entire to Downieville Cal., **Very Fine,** WC3966, *ex-Jessup, Parker, Haas, illustrated in Letters of Gold.*
Thomas No. **DOW-001** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

ONE OF ONLY FOUR RECORDED USED EXAMPLES OF THIS DOWNIEVILLE AND HOWLAND FLAT EXPRESS FRANK.

It is believed that D.W. Roger operated this express service between Downieville Cal. and Howland Flat, a distance of 12 miles.



3179 ✉ **English & Wells. Moore's Flat and Eureka Express,** printed frank with fancy frame, blue "Moore's Flat * Express * Sept 6" oval datestamp (ENW-200) and conjunctive "Wells Fargo Co., Nevada, Sep 7" oval datestamp on 3¢ pink (U59) entire to San Francisco Cal., 1868 docketing at left; corner stain and slightly rough opening, **F.-V.F.,** WC8343, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **ENW-003** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

A RARE CONJUNCTIVE ENGLISH & WELLS "MOORE'S FLAT AND EUREKA EXPRESS" AND WELLS FARGO USE.

L.H. Wells sold his stage and express service that ran from a base at North San Juan in May 1868. In June 1868, he purchased John Gregory's half interest of Gregory and English's express operation. With Joseph Randall English, this service now became English and Wells Express. This express operated over the same route as was run by Gregory and English. The operation ran between Middle and South Fork of the Yuba River connecting Nevada City to Lake City, North Bloomfield, Moore's Flat, Woolsey's Flat, Orleans Flat and Eureka South. They connected with Wells Fargo at Nevada City.



3180 ✉ **Eureka Express Co., Connecting with Wells, Fargo & Co. at Nevada Cal.,** printed frank on 3¢ green (U82) entire cancelled by blue target, matching "North Bloomfield, Cal. Jul 27" cds to Marysville Cal.; reduced slightly at left, **fresh and Very Fine use,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **EUR-001** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750

This express operated from a base at North Bloomfield, California between the north and south forks of the Yuba River severing the Eureka Mining areas. They connected with Wells Fargo at Nevada City and North San Juan.



3181 ✉ **Eureka Express Co.,** printed paid frank on 3¢ entire cancelled by quartered cork, two strikes of purple "North Bloomfield, Cal. Apr 29" cds **to Paris, France**, blue "Etats Unis, Paq. Fr. Brest, 18 Mai 73" double-circle datestamp; flap added, stamp missing, **Very Fine appearance and rare use to France.**
Thomas No. **EUR-002** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400



3182 ✉ **Everts & Co's Express, Feather River,** blue three-line handstamp on buff cover with blue "Culloma Cal., Sep 13" cds and matching "5" rating handstamp to Marysville Cal., original letter datelined "Coloma Sep 2/52"; cover repaired at top left, **Fine,** One of only six recorded examples of this Everts & Co. Feather River handstamp.
Thomas No. **EVE-101** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400

Frank Darwin Everts established an express service that operated from the Central House Ranch, about 12 miles northeast of Marysville. From this location he ran to the Gibsonville Ridge region and parts of Sierra County north of the North Folk of the Yuba River and south of the North Folk of the Feather River. After a fire, he moved to the Eli Lester Rabbit Creek House at Rabbit Creek, which was soon renamed Rabbit Town. In late 1851, he formed a partnership with John Adam Snell and the name of the operation was changed to Everts, Snell & Co.



3183 ✉ **Everts Snell & Cos. Express, Feather River,** blue double-oval handstamp on orange buff cover with manuscript "Coldenhan N.Y., Oct 3rd 1853" postmark and matching "5" rating addressed to "*Mr. Jesse H. Stuart of New York, Marysville P.O., Yuba County, California*", bold "New York '10' Oct 5" integral due datestamp, endorsed "*To be forwarded by Everts & cos Express to Onion Valley*" at lower left; some wear, **Very Fine,** WC5358.
Thomas No. **EVS-103** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

Covers originating in the East to mining camps in California are quite scarce, this cover with explicit forwarding instructions and a clear Everts, Snell & Co. handstamp is one of the more desirable examples we have seen.



3184 ✉ **Everts, Davis & Co., Paid., Daily Express.,** double-framed frank on 10¢ green (U18) buff Nesbitt entire to Northampton County, Pa., blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Express, San Francisco" oval handstamp, entered mails with "New-York, Jan 14" cds; slight edge wear, reduced slightly at left, **Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **EVD-001** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400

Frank Everts took on a new set of partners and turned F.D. Everts & Co. into Everts, Davis & Co. Rabbit Town was the center of operation still. During this period of operation, they served the Gibsonville Ridge region and the area north of North Fork of the Yuba River and south of the North Fork of the Feather River. They connected with Pacific Express at Marysville and later with Wells Fargo.



3185 ✉ **Everts, Davis & Co.'s Express, Forbestown, Oct 29,** blue oval datestamp cancels 3¢ red (U9) Nesbitt entire with printed Everts, Wilson & Co's Express (EVW-001) paid frank to Oroville Cal., **Very Fine and choice.**
Thomas No. **EVD-103b** . . . . . Estimate $600 - 800



3186 ✉ **Everts, Wilson & Co.'s Daily Express,** red fancy frame printed frank with "Overland Via Los Angeles" lined out, on 10¢ green (U15) entire to Mobile Ala., "Due 10" handstamp, red "Portsmouth Va." cds, straightline "Advertised" handstamp; restored, **Very Fine appearance.**
Thomas No. **EVW-006a** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750

In late 1856, Frank Everts, James Wilson, and Frank's brother formed Everts, Wilson & Co. Daily Express. They operated daily from Rabbit Town, whose name was changed to La Porte in Oct. 1857. From this location they served the Gibsonville Ridge region and parts of Sierra County north of North Fork of the Yuba River and south of the North Fork of the Feather River. They maintained offices at Marysville, La Porte, Gibsonville, Saint Louis and Nelson Creek. They had various connections including Pacific Express until 1857, and Wells Fargo after, as well as the U.S. mails.

Lined out on this special frank is "OVERLAND Via Los Angeles, which refers to the Butterfield Overland Mail; thus it was used after the demise of Butterfield in 1861.



3187 (✉) **Everts, Wilson & Co.'s Express, Marysville,** blue rimless circular handstamp on 3¢ red (U27) buff entire front with printed Everts, Wilson & Co's Express (EVW-001) paid frank to Port Wine, **fresh and Very Fine,** *ex-Risvold.*
Thomas No. **EVW-100b** . . . . . Estimate $200 - 300



3188 ✉ **Farley's Express,** double-framed handstamp with manuscript "Ina Creek" designation for Indian Creek, on cover to Burnham Me., entered mails with "Camptonville Cal., Nov 17" cds with "Paid" and circled "10" rating handstamps; repaired faults, *ex-Clifford.*
Thomas No. **FAR-100** . . . . . Estimate $1,500 - 2,000

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE FARLEY'S EXPRESS HANDSTAMP WITH MANUSCRIPT INDIAN CREEK DESIGNATION.

George S. Farley operated from a base at Camptonville Cal. He ran express service from Camptonville to the mining camps at Indian Creek and Young's Hill in the Yuba County area. He used the Camptonville post office for connections. It is reported he had a number of drop boxes attached to trees at different locations along streams that he would check as he made his rounds on his express runs.



3189 ✉ **Forwarded By, Ford & Co's Express,** perfect bold stroke of blue segmented oval handstamp on buff cover to Keytesville Mo., entered mails with bold "Sacramento City, Cal. 13 Dec" cds and matching "10" rating handstamp, docketed "Feby 13th 1852 came to hand" at left; some edge wear, **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **FOR-101** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

ONE OF ONLY SIX KNOWN EXAMPLES OF THIS FORD & CO'S EXPRESS MARKING.

This express operated between Sacramento and Greenwood in El Dorado County.



3190 ✉ **Ford & Co.'s Express,** green circle and star handstamp on flap of orange buff cover to Brunswick Me., entered the mails with red "Sacramento City, Cal., Apr 21" cds and matching large "40" rate handstamp; flap patched slightly affecting handstamp, **Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **FOR-100** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

ONE OF ONLY SEVEN RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS FORD & CO'S EXPRESS HANDSTAMP, OF WHICH ONLY TWO ARE USED TO THE MAILS.

Ford & Co.'s Express operated in 1851 and 1852 between Sacramento and Greenwood in El Dorado County.



3191 ✉ **Francis & Co.'s Express,** red fancy paid frank on 3¢ red (U27) buff star die entire cancelled by "La Porte Cal., Jul 26" cds to Secret Ravin Cal., blue "Wells, Fargo Co., Marysville, Jul 21" double-oval datestamp; reduced slightly at right, some edge wear, **Very Fine,** WC8246, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **FRE-100a** . . . . . Estimate $1,500 - 2,000

THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THIS RED FRANCIS & CO.'S EXPRESS FRANK.

Robert Francis and James S. Bump formed Francis & Co's that was based in Gibsonville. From that location they ran to La Porte, Onion Valley and Nelson Point. They connected with several firms including Wells Fargo at Marysville. It is reported that Charles Nelson was employed to carry express mail during the winter months by snow skies. The express was sold to Holland, Morley & Co. in May 1862.



Daguerreotype View of Freeman Express Office



3192 ✉ **Freeman & Cos. Express,** perfect strike of red double-oval handstamp of Sacramento on complete *The Daily Index* newspaper of Sacramento City Feb. 13th 1851, manuscript "Courier", contains several advertisements of express companies including Freeman's, Palmer's, Gregory's, Haven & Co., Adams', Dodge & Co., etc., plus ad for passage to New Orleans "Via the Isthmus of Tehuantepec", and back page is the discussion of California postal routes; file folds, **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **FRE-102** . . . . . Estimate $400 - 600

When Adams Express collapsed in February 1855, John Freeman was their agent in Panama. He quickly formed a partnership with Joseph Hedden, John Hoey and John E. Stiman and purchased from the eastern firm of Adams Express Co. his old interest in the New York and California business as Freeman & Co's New York and California Express. He established routes between New York and California over both the Panama Isthmian and Nicaragua. He expanded internationally in Australia, South America and Canada. In 1855, they established offices in interior California at many towns and mining camps that lasted until November 1859. At the end of 1860, they sold out to Wells Fargo.



3193 ✉ **Gregory & English's, Moore's Flat and Eureka Express,** printed frank with fancy frame on 3¢ pink (U59) buff entire cancelled by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Nevada, Apr 24" oval datestamp to San Francisco Cal.; some edge restoration, **still Very Fine**, WC4741, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **GRG-001** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

John Sandifer Gregory and Joseph R. English ran a service that consisted of a stage and a pony run from Nevada City Cal. to Lake City, North Bloomfield, Moore's Flat, Woolsey's Flat, Orleans Flat an Eureka South. They connected with Wells Fargo at Nevada City and with Jefferis' Saddle Train for the movement of express material to the mines at Meadow Lake Cal. Gregory sold his interest to Wells in June 1868.



3194 ✉ **D.W. Harrier's Express. Paid.,** fancy printed frank on 3¢ pink (U34) entire cancelled by bold strike of blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Nevada, Apr 3" oval to Dalles City, Oregon; small tone spot, **Very Fine,** Census #WC2011, *ex-Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **HAR-007** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THIS FANCY D.W. HARRIER'S EXPRESS FRANK.

Operated from a base in Nevada City, Harrier's connected with Wells Fargo at that location. D.W. Harrier used his express to serve the mining camps between Nevada City, Moore's Flat and North Bloomfield.



3195 ✉ **D.W. Harrier's Express. Paid.,** printed frank with ornate frame on 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire cancelled by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Nevada, May 20" oval datestamp to Sacramento City, Cal.; restored at left affecting frank, **Extremely Fine appearance.**
Thomas No. **HAR-unlisted**. . . . . Estimate $500 - 750

THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THIS UNLISTED D.W. HARRIER'S EXPRESS ORNATE FRAMED FRANK.

Operating from a base in Nevada City, Harrier's connected with Wells Fargo at that location. D.W. Harrier used his express to serve the mining camps between Nevada City, Moore's Flat and North Bloomfield.



3196 ✉ **S. Hervey's Express. Nevada. Cal.,** bold strike on front page of May 1859 Hutchings' California Magazine showing forest illustration; top edge reinforced, **a Very Fine strike,** WC5990, *ex-Edwards & Vogel*.
Thomas No. **HER-100** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS S. HERVEY'S EXPRESS, NEVADA CAL. OVAL HANDSTAMP.

Samuel Hervey ran an express operation from Nevada City, Cal. into the surrounding areas. This service was most likely a single man feeder line between Nevada City, Red Dog and Dutch Flat.



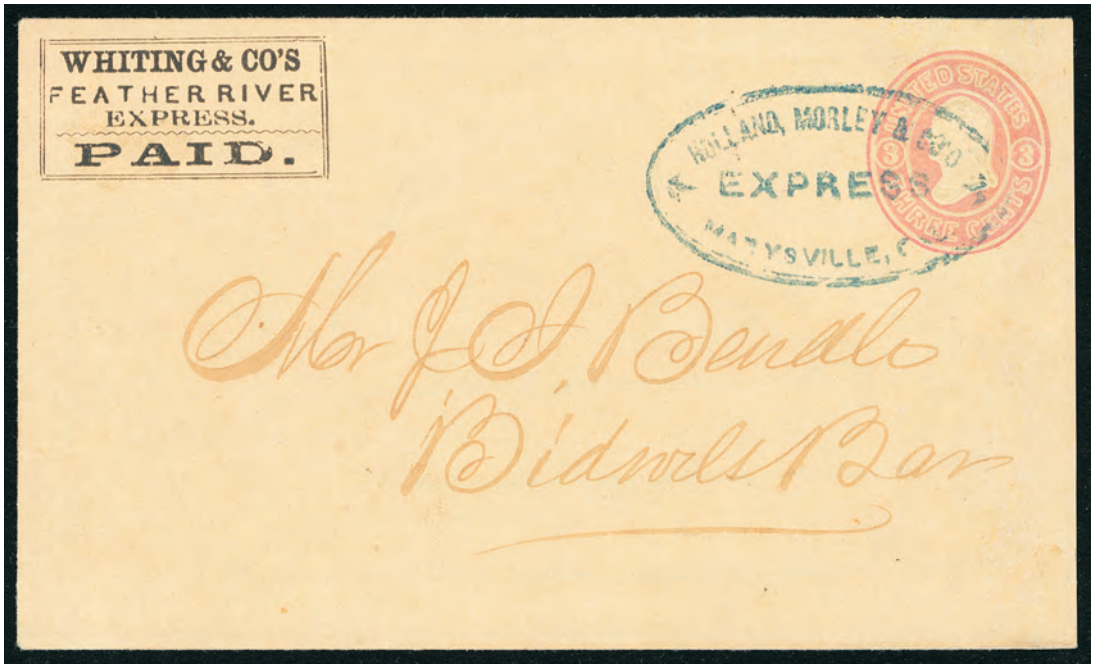
3197 ✉ **Hogan & Co., North San Juan and Humbug Express,** frank with fancy floral frame on 3¢ green (U84) cream entire cancelled by conjunctive "Wells Fargo & Co., North San Juan, Mar 1" oval datestamp in blue to New York N.Y., entered mails with blue "North San Juan, Cal., Mar 1" cds; flap missing; upper left corner stain, **Very Fine,** WC2181, ***One of only 5 recorded used examples of this rare frank.***, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **HOG-001** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

William Hogan operated from the Nation Hotel in North San Juan Cal. From this location the express ran into the surrounding Humbug Mining District. He ran a route from North San Juan to Cherokee to Columbia Hill/North Columbia to Lake City to Humbug/North Bloomfield and back to San Juan. This express was a feeder route for Wells Fargo connecting at North San Juan.



3198 ✉ **Holland & Wheeler's Daily Express.,** black printed paid frank with fancy frame on 3¢ pink (U34) entire cancelled by blue "Holland & Wheeler's Express, La Porte, Aug 26" double-circle datestamp (HOW-101) to Howlands Flat, Sierra County, Cal.; restored at left with part of another envelope, **Fine appearance,** *Thomas WC6008, ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **HOW-003**. . . . . Estimate $250 - 350

George W. Morley sold his interest of Holland, Morley & Co. to Sam Wheeler in late 1862. Holland & Wheeler operated over the same routes. From La Porte they ran to Marysville where they connected with Wells Fargo. From La Porte they serviced the Gibsonville Ridge and Feather River mining camps. Sam Wheeler left the company in late 1863 and it is believed that Homer B. Holland continued operating for a short time.



3199 ✉ **Holland, Morley & Co. Express, Marysville, Cal.,** blue oval handstamp cancels 3¢ pink (U34) buff entire to Bidwells Bar, printed "Whiting & Co's Feather River Express, Paid" frank; restored at top right, **Very Fine appearance, A rare conjunctive use**, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **HOW-100** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750



3200 ✉ **Hopkinson's Express,** printed frank with fancy frame, on 3¢ pink (U58) entire with indicia cancelled by manuscript "Dutch Flat, Jany 22 1866, By Hopkinsons Express" to Nevada City Cal., receipt docketing at left; reduced slightly at left, **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **HOP-004** . . . . . Estimate $200 - 300

E.B. Hopkinson operated between Nevada City and Dutch Flat via the Red Dog and Little York mining camps 1862-1864. In late 1864, he sold his route to J.A. Stone. After a short try, Stone returned the route back to Hopkinson who operated from it from 1865 to 1867. Hopkinson connected with Wells Fargo at Nevada City and Dutch Flat.



3201 ✉ **Hopkinson's Express, Red Dog, Nevada Co., California,** printed frank with printed Red Dog triple-circle cachet at left on 3¢ pink (U58) entire cancelled by "New-York, Feb 26" duplex to South Hope Me.; some wear, **F.-V.F.,** WC4278.
Thomas No. **HOP-009** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE HOPKINSON'S EXPRESS RED DOG FRANK.



3202 ✉ **Hopkinson's Express.,** red fancy framed frank on 3¢ pink (U58) entire addressed to Nevada City Cal., docketed "Darius Holmes, Aug 9/65" at left, **Very Fine,** WC4286.
Thomas No. **HOP-103** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

ONE OF ONLY FOUR RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS RED HOPKINSON'S EXPRESS FRANK.



3203 ✉ **La Porte Express Co.,** fancy paid frank on 3¢ pink (U58) entire cancelled by perfect strike of blue "La Porte Express Co., La Porte, May 10" oval datestamp LAP-100c to San Francisco Cal., conjunctive strike of "Wells Fargo Co., Maysville, May 11" double-oval; partial flap and small edge tear, **Very Fine,** WC2390, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **LAP-001** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

A CHOICE LA PORTE EXPRESS CO. CONJUNCTIVE USE WITH WELLS FARGO & CO. EXPRESS.

This express operated between La Porte Cal. and the mining camps in the Gibsonville Ridge area. For mail going south, a connection with Wells Fargo was made at Marysville. A connection with Whiting & Co. was established for mail going into Northern California. This operation sold out to Wells Fargo in 1866.



3204 ✉ **Lamping & Co's Express,** fancy printed frank on 3¢ pink (U58) entire cancelled by "Lamping & Co. Express, Downieville" oval handstamp and blue "Wells Fargo & Co., Marysville, May 3" double-oval, addressed to San Francisco Cal.; part of back missing, **Very Fine and scarce conjunctive use,** *Thomas WC2744, ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **LAM-002** . . . . . Estimate $400 - 600

P.A. Lamping ran an express between Marysville and Downieville. From Downieville he supported the local mines. At first he connected with Wells Fargo at Marysville. In 1865, he switched to Langton for his connecting support. After the death of Samuel Langton, he purchased Langton Express from the family. Wells Fargo refused to honor the Lamping franks. With no connecting express for material outside his area of operation, he was forced to sell all of the combined express activity to Wells Fargo.



3205 ✉ **Langton's Pioneer Express,** printed frank on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire cancelled by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co. Express, Nevada." oval to Negro Hill, pencil "Nov. 26. 1856" at left; edge faults, **Fine.**
Thomas No. **LAN-008** . . . . . Estimate $200 - 300

Negro Hill was located near Mormon Island. A man named Kelsey, an African-American from Massachusetts and a Methodist minister along with other Black miners rediscovered the diggins in 1849. Together, these men established a community of African-American, Caucasian, Chinese, and Portuguese miners that were to grow as large as 400 persons by 1855.



3206 ✉ **Langton's Pioneer Express,** fancy printed paid frank on 3¢ red (U10) buff entire to Timbuctoo, manuscript "Oct 5th 1858." dating, partial backflap, **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **LAN-008** . . . . . Estimate $200 - 300

Sam Langton was surely the most outstanding of the independent expressmen, operating a variety of routes beginning in 1850 for almost fifteen years.



3207 ✉ **Langton's Pioneer Express,** fancy printed paid frank on 3¢ red (U9) entire cancelled by "North San Juan" oval with "May 25" dating to San Francisco Cal., blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Marysville, May 26" double-oval datestamp; no back flap, **Very Fine,** *ex-J.R. Hill Jr.*
Thomas No. **LAN-008** . . . . . Estimate $100 - 150



3208 ✉ **Langton's Pioneer Express,** fancy printed paid frank on 3¢ red (U10) buff entire cancelled by red "Langton's Pioneer Express, Downieville" oval handstamp to San Francisco Cal., conjunctive blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Marysville, Nov 01 " double-oval datestamp, **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **LAN-008** . . . . . Estimate $100 - 150



3209 (✉) **Langton's Pioneer Express from Marysville,** two black on off-white illustrated labels showing stagecoach and steamboat, along with two "**Wells, Fargo & Co's Express from San Francisco**" black on orange labels and Wells Fargo & Co. "**C.O.D.**" black on yellow label, all used on large piece of package front addressed to Downieville Cal., endorsed "COD" at top right; some creasing, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $400 - 600

Sam Langton was surely the most outstanding of the independent expressmen, operating various routes for almost 15 years. His relationship with Wells, Fargo & Co. at Marysville is illustrated here.



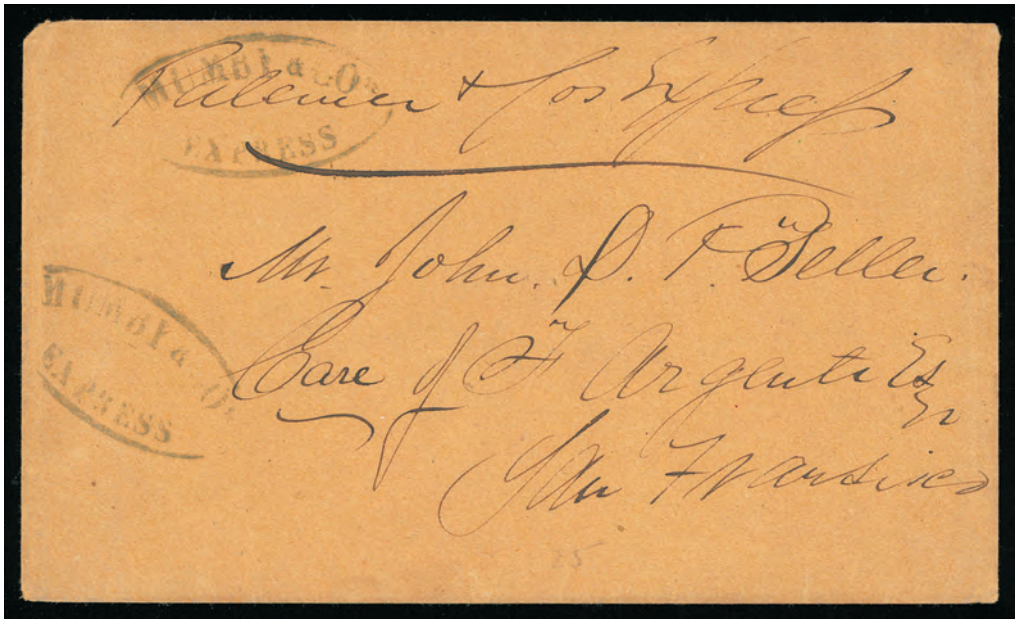
3210 ✉ **Langton's Pioneer Express, Paid,** printed frank on 3¢ pink (U34) entire to Downieville Cal. cancelled by blue "Langton's Pioneer Express, Virginia City" oval, additional blue "Langton's Pioneer Express, Marysville" oval; restored at right, **Fine appearance,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **LAN-002a**. . . . . Estimate $500 - 750

Samuel W. Langton was a major force in the Northern California express business. The express business he formed stretched across northern California and into Nevada, extending from the Comstock area up to the Humboldt Mines. He died as a result of a buggy accident in Silver City, Nevada in August 1864.



3211 ✉ **Morley, Caulkins & Co's, Paid, Daily Express,** printed rectangular frank on 10¢ green (U18) buff Nesbitt entire to Point Pleasant Oh., entered mails with bold "Strawberry Valley, Cala., 'July 2' " cds with manuscript dating and matching ms. canceling indicia; repaired, **Very Fine appearance.**
Thomas No. **MOR-001** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400

George W. Morley and Silas Caulkins combined to service the mining camps of the Gibsonville Ridge area from La Porte, California. From La Porte they would have ran to Marysville for an exchange of express material with another express company. This partnership dissolved when Morley formed an express operation with Homer B. Holland. The newly formed operation became Holland, Morley & Company.



3212 ✉ **Mumbly & Co.'s Express,** two strikes of blue oval on orange buff cover to San Francisco Cal., endorsed "Palmer & Cos Express" at top, **Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein*.
Thomas No. **MUM-100** . . . . . Estimate $2,000 - 3,000

ONE OF ONLY THREE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE MUMBLY & CO.'S EXPRESS HANDSTAMP.

Joseph H. Mumbly and Henry Reed combined to carry express material between San Francisco, Sacramento and Marysville. Joseph Mumbly had started in the express business as a messenger for Palmer & Co. It appears that he relied on Palmer's as a connection for eastern cities. Palmer got out of the California express business in early 1851 and it appears that Mumbly carried on for a short while and then sold out to Freeman in the summer of 1851.



3213 ✉ **Nevada City and Meadow Lake Express,** printed paid frank on 3¢ pink (U58) entire to Gold Run, Placer County Cal.; cover cleaned and edges strengthened, **Very Fine appearance,** WC2276, *ex-Dale-Lichtenstein*.
Thomas No. **NCM-001** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750

ONE OF ONLY THREE RECORDED NEVADA CITY AND MEADOW LAKE EXPRESS FRANKS.

Between 1866 and the summer of 1867, the town of Meadow Lake Cal. was established below Donner Summit at an elevation of over 7,000 feet. From this location ran an express to Nevada City where it connected with Wells Fargo. The small amount of gold found at this location and the heavy snow fall in the winter ended the mining activity and the need for an express after the first year.



3214 ✉ **Organ & Tibbetts, Excelsior Express, Paid.,** printed frank with fancy ornate frame on 3¢ pink (U58) entire cancelled by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Dutch Flat, Oct 18" oval handstamp to Gold Run, Placer County, Cal.; some minor cover restoration, **Very Fine appearance,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **ORG-001** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

William Tibbett and an express man named Organ ran an express service from Nevada City to Dutch Flat, California and on to the Excelsior mining district around Meadow Lake.



3215 ✉ **Oroville & Quincy Express Co. and Wells,** printed illustrated frank showing six-horse stage, on 3¢ green (U164) amber entire cancelled by conjunctive "Wells Fargo & Co., Oroville, Jun 3" oval datestamp in blue to San Francisco Cal., **Very Fine**, WC2290, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **ORO-002** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

This express operated between Oroville and Quincy, Cal. From Quincy they serviced the upper area of Plumas County. They connected with Wells Fargo at several locations within Plumas.



3216 ✉ **Pauly & Nohrman's Express,** printed fancy paid frank on 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire cancelled by partial blue "Wheeler's Express, La Porte" double-circle to Port Wine, Sierra Co., Cal., manuscript "Ansd Nov 14/64" docketing; edge restoration, **Very Fine appearance,** WC2330, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein*.
Thomas No. **PUN-002** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS PAULY & NOHRMAN'S EXPRESS FRANK.

Nicholas O. Pauly and G.H. Nohrman combined forces to form an express operation for the Gibsonville area. This express serviced the mining camps along the Gibsonville Ridge. This operation connected with Pacific Express.



3217 ✉ **N.O. Pauly's Express,** printed frank on 3¢ pink (U58) entire cancelled by partly readable strike of blue "Wheeler's Express La Porte" double-circle handstamp to Quincy Cal., straightline "Eureka & Jamison" beneath frank (PUL-101) and "Gibsonville Apr. 16" straightline (PUL-100) across embossed stamp; repaired at left with part of frank's border added, **Very Fine appearance.**
Thomas No. **PUL-003** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

Reference: *Illustrated in Nathan.*

Nicholas Oscar Pauly operated an express in the GIbsonville area for a short period before forming a partnership with G.H. Norman (Nohrman) that resulted in Pauly & Nohrman Express. Pauly bought out Nohrman in 1866 and again operated for a period of time as a single express operator.



3218 ✉ **F. Rumrill & Cos. Express, Connecting with Wells, Fargo & Co.,** blue double-oval handstamp and manuscript "Coll 1.00" rating on small gray lady's cover with red "Georgetown N.Y. Feb 7" cds and matching "Paid" handstamp and manuscript "6" cent rating to Marysville Cal., small "Farewell!" label affixed, **Very Fine and scarce use.**
Thomas No. **RUM-104** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

Frank Rumrill operated an express between Marysville and Downieville from 1851 until he sold to Sam Langton in April 1855. He connected at Marysville at first with Gregory's Express and then with Wells Fargo & Co. Nathan reported that his frank was in use from January through April 1854. This letter illustrates his $1.00 fee.



3219 ✉ **Spargur's Honey Lake Express. Paid.,** printed frank with ornate frame on buff cover with "Quincy Cal., Jul 6" cds and manuscript "Paid 10" rating to Boston Mass., endorsed "Via Panama", **Very Fine**; signed Bartels.
Thomas No. **SPA-001**. . . . . Estimate $2,000 - 3,000

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS SPARGUR'S HONEY LAKE EXPRESS FRANK.

H.L. Spargur operated an express service from Oroville to Quincy, California that may have extended to the Honey Lake area.



3220 ✉ **Stolp's Express, Nevada,** oval handstamp on blue folded letter datelined "Washington, June 11, 1854" to Oriskany N.Y., entered mails with "Nevada City '5' 26 Jun" integral-rate cds with proper "10" rating handstamp, **Very Fine,** *ex-Clifford.*
Thomas No. **STO-100** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750

ONE OF ONLY THREE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE STOLP'S EXPRESS NEVADA CITY OVAL HANDSTAMP.

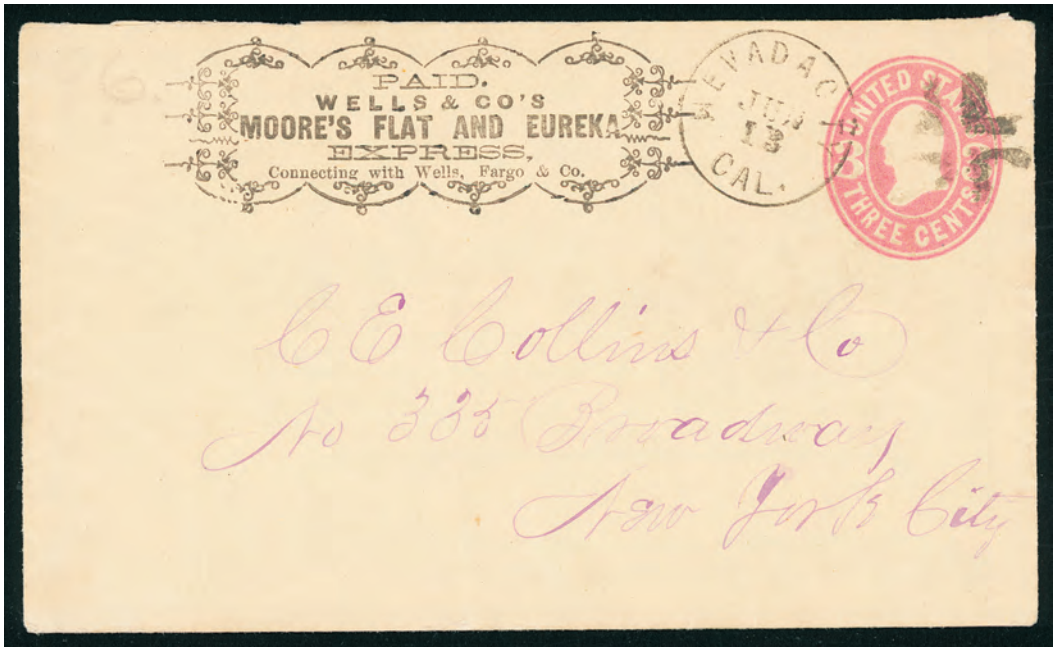
Cornelius Stople ran en express service to the mining camps north of the Bear River. This run would include the camps of Red Dog, You Bet and Little York.



3221 ✉ **Tibbett's & Co's, Excelsior Express, Paid.,** printed frank with fancy ornate frame on 3¢ pink (U59) buff entire cancelled by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Dutch Flat, Apr 18" oval handstamp to San Francisco Cal.; slightly rough opening at right, **Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **TIB-001** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

ONE OF ONLY FOUR RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE TIBBETT'S & CO'S EXCELSIOR EXPRESS FRANK, ONE IS CONTAINED IN THE WILTSEE COLLECTION.

William Tibbett started running an express operation between Nevada City and Dutch Flat Cal. From Dutch Flat he extended his route on to the Excelsior mining district around Meadow Lake. In 1866 this operation became Organ & Tibbett Express.



3222 ✉ **Wells & Co's, Moore's Flat and Eureka Express,** printed frank with fancy frame, on 3¢ pink (U59) buff cover cancelled by "Nevada City, Cal. Jun 13" duplex to New York City, **Very Fine,** WC4062, ***One of only five recorded examples of this Well's & Co's "Moore's Flat and Eureka Express" frank.***.
Thomas No. **WEC-005** . . . . . Estimate $400 - 600

L.H. Wells sold one-half interest in his express to Absalom W. Herring and this operation became Wells & Company. This operation ran over the same route from Nevada City to Lake City, North Broomfield, Moore's Flat, Woolsey's Flat, Orleans Flat and Eureka South. They connected with Wells Fargo at Nevada City.



3223 ✉ **Wells & Herring's, Moore's Flat and Eureka Express,** printed frank with fancy frame on 3¢ green (U82) entire cancelled by conjunctive "Wells Fargo & Co., Nevada" oval datestamp in blue to Santa Cruz Cal., **Very Fine,** WC4066, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein*.
Thomas No. **WEH-006** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED USED EXAMPLES OF THIS WELLS & HERRING'S MOORE'S FLAT AND EUREKA EXPRESS FRANK.

L.H. Wells took on Absalom W. Herring as a partner in March 1870 and operated as Wells & Co. In July 1871, this operation started referring to itself as Wells and Herring Express. They operated over the same route as Wells & Co.



3224 ✉ **J.P. Wharton's Express.,** printed frank with fancy border on orange cover bearing 3¢ rose (65), tied by two strikes of "Holland & Wheeler's Express, La Porte" double circle handstamp to Folsom Cal., "Wells Fargo & Co., Marysville, Mar 1" double-oval datestamp; trivial stain affects 3¢, reduced slightly at left, **Very Fine,** Thomas WC5950, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein*.
Thomas No. **WHA-001** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

ONE OF ONLY THREE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS J.P. WHARTON EXPRESS FRANK, A RARE TRIPLE CONJUNCTIVE USE WITH WELLS FARGO & CO. AND HOLLAND & WHEELER EXPRESS.

James P. Wharton purchased William Ford's express route that operated out of Gibsonville Cal. and ran into Plumas County camps. This included La Porte, Jamison City and the camps along Hopkin's Creek, Poorman Creeks, Nelson Point and Richmond Hill. He connected with Wheeler Express at La Porte, Cal. In 1864, this operation was sold and became Garland Express.

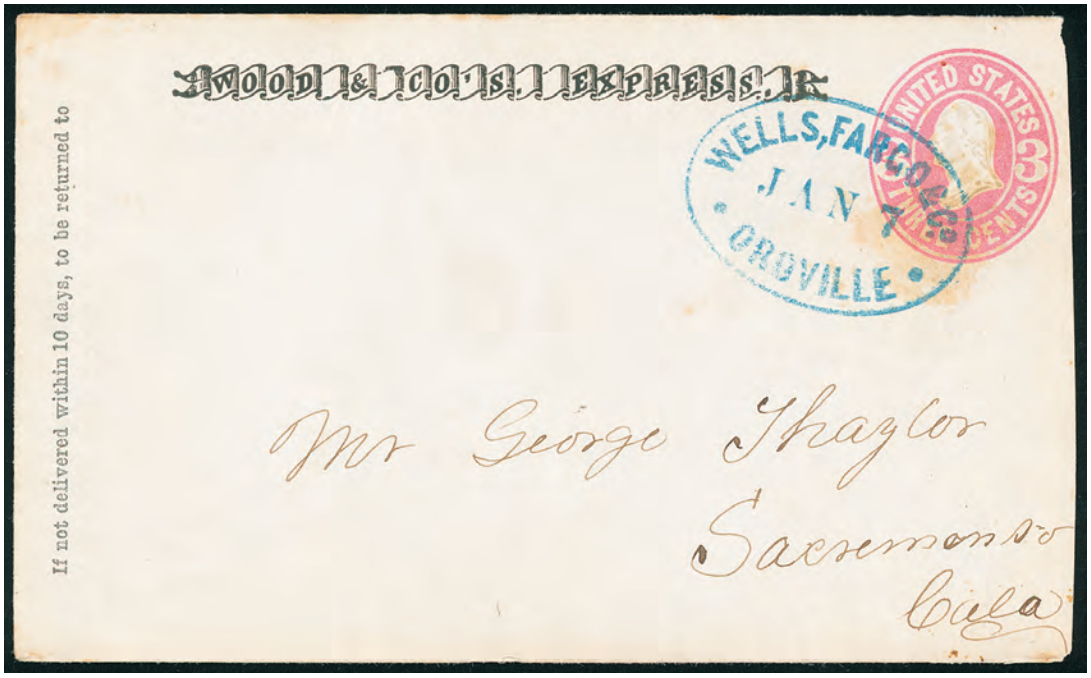


3225 ✉ **Wheeler, Rutherford & Co.'s Express,** printed ribbon frank (Haller FW11) on 3¢ pink (U59) buff entire cancelled by light strike of blue Wheeler's Express double-circle datestamp to Morristown Cal., printed "W.T. Ellis, Forwarding & Commission Merchant, Marysville" return address, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400



3226 ✉ **Whiting & Co.'s Feather River Express,** banner frank on 3¢ pink (U58) entire cancelled by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Oroville, Dec 14" oval to San Francisco Cal., **Very Fine and scarce.**
Thomas No. **WHI-009** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400

This express was a major force in Northern Plumas County and the Magalia Ridge area of Butte County. From a base at Quincy, this express connected with the Everts expresses, who would move material to Marysville for connection with Wells Fargo.



3227 ✉ **Wood & Co's Express.,** fancy straightline ribbon frank on 3¢ pink (U58) entire cancelled by sharp "Wells, Fargo & Co., Oroville, Jan 7" datestamp to Sacramento Cal.; reduced at right, **Very Fine,** WC6062, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **WOO-004**. . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

ONE OF ONLY THREE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS WOODS & CO.'S EXPRESS FRANK, ONE OF WHICH IS CONTAINED IN THE WILTSEE COLLECTION.

Allen J. Wood Sr. and Jr. teamed up to run a stage and express service for a period of time from Oroville into Plumas and Lassen Counties. This express service, which ran primarily between Oroville and Susanville, was sold to Wells Fargo in 1868.



3228 ✉ **Wood & Co's Express.,** illustrated fancy frank showing miner with pick, on 3¢ pink (U58) entire cancelled by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Oroville, Nov 18" oval datestamp addressed to Oroville Cal.; some minor edge toning, **Very Fine and attractive frank,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **WOO-001** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500



3229 (✉) **Zach's Express, Paid,** blue illustrated oval frank showing snow shoe expressman in the mountains, on 3¢ pink (U59) buff cover front addressed to Kleckner & Bro. at Port Wine, Cal., reduced roughly at right into the indicia, **Fine**; signed Frajola, with 2010 P.F. certificate.
Thomas No. **ZAC-002** . . . . . Estimate $1,500 - 2,000

ONE OF ONLY THREE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS ZACH'S EXPRESS FRANK, ALL OF WHICH ARE ON U59 FRONTS.

Reference: *Illustrated and discussed in Chronicle 213 (January, 2007) on pages 71-76.*

Granville Zackariah operated a one man express that traversed the Gibsonville Ridge between Downieville, Port Wine and La Port in 1865-66. There were no roads between these two points. From Downieville to Port Wine the route was via Marysville southwest and then northeast to La Port and the Gibsonville mines. Zack took a direct route northerly over the ridges, canyons and rivers stemming from the high Sierra Mountains on show shoe in the winter and horseback at other times, thus he avoided a long circuitous route.

Central Mines Expresses



The Central Mine area of California is a loosely defined area, generally considered to lie in the mountainous area east and northeast of Sacramento. The area extends through El Dorado and Placer Counties. The Northern boundaries are defined by the American River while the Southern Boundaries are defined by the Mokelumne River. It was serviced through Sacramento.



3230 ✉ **W.T. Gibbs' Express.,** printed frank on buff cover with two strikes of blue "Wells Fargo Express, Sac. City, Feb 4" double-oval, one obliterating the printed frank to Middle Fork, Placer Cal., address updated in pencil "via Coloma, El Dorado", **Very Fine and rare,** *ex-Dale-Lichtenstein,* Thomas WC4231.
Thomas No. **GIB-001**. . . . . Estimate $1,500 - 2,000

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE PRINTED W.T. GIBBS' EXPRESS FRANK, THE OTHER IS IN THE WILTSEE COLLECTION.

William T. Gibbs was postmaster at Georgetown from October 1851 for about two years. In 1854, Gibbs began an express between Sacramento, Coloma and Georgetown. It lasted about a year.



3231 ✉ **Forward by Hoffman & Co's Express,** small black oval handstamp on blue 1850 folded cover with red "Drakeville Iowa" cds with manuscript "May 29" date and matching "40" cent rating to Sacramento City; some wear and missing side flaps, **Fine and rare express handstamp,** *ex-Pearce.*
Thomas No. **HOF-100** . . . . . Estimate $400 - 600

F.J. Hoffman operated an express in 1850 and 1851, running from Sacramento to Weberville and Placerville.



3232 ✉ **Hunter & Co's. Express,** clear strike of double-oval with left facing horse and rider with manuscript "M. Bar" (Murderers Bar) and "1.25" express rating on orange buff cover with blue "Fairfield Ct. Dec 25" Christmas Day cds and manuscript "10" rating to Sacramento City Cal.; no back flap, **Very Fine and unusually clear strike,** *ex-Emerson.*
Thomas No. **HUN-101** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

AN EXCELLENT STRIKE OF THIS INTRICATE EARLY EXPRESS MARKING.

Alexander Hunter, one of the early pioneer express men, started by running as a single man pick up service. From this operation he quickly expanded into a service running between Sacramento and Placerville, and Sacramento and Mormon Island. From Mormon Island and Placerville, his operation would finer out to service most of the mining camps and river bars on the south, middle and north forks of the American River. Hunter connected at first with Gregory's Express and later Adams & Co. In 1854, facing increasing competition, he started to sell off pieces of his operation including offices to Adams & Co., and then the entire operation to Wells Fargo and became their agent at Placerville.



3233 ✉ **Forwarded by Hunter & Co's. Express, Mud Springs, Cala.,** sharp strike of shield handstamp with double-oval "Paid" handstamp on light buff cover to San Francisco Cal.; cover repaired at bottom left with small part of shield frame drawn in, left flap missing, **Very Fine appearance**; with 2003 P.F. certificate.
Thomas No. **HUN-111** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400

ONE OF ONLY 5 RECORDED STRIKES OF THE HUNTER & CO. EXPRESS MUD SPRINGS SHIELD HANDSTAMP.



3234 ✉ **W.H. Robinson, Express Agent, Sacramento,** double-oval handstamp on cover with manuscript "Jonesville N.Y., Sep 10" postmark at left and bearing pen cancelled 3¢ dull red (11A), horizontal pair, rich color, to Sacramento Cal., docketing below postmark at left, cover wear and restoration, **Fine and scarce.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300

This one man operation ran 1852-1853 between Sacramento and Murphy's. This cover would indicate a local delivery.



3235 ✉ **Stanton & Co, Sacramento & Folsom Express,** illustrated printed paid frank showing steam locomotive and cars, at left on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire bearing 3¢ dull red (11), tied along with indicia by partial "Fall River, Mass, Nov 4" cds, addressed to Fond du Lac County, Wisc.; soiled with some repaired faults, **Fine,** WC8108.
Thomas No. **SAF-700**. . . . . Estimate $1,500 - 2,000

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS STANTON FRANK.

According to Thomas, this express never operated.



3236 ✉ **(Tracy & Spear's Express) "Tracy & Spear",** manuscript endorsement with boxed "Paid" handstamp overstruck used as frank on 3¢ Nesbitt (U10) entire used as a paste-up, carried from the Placerville area to San Francisco Cal., operating north of Placerville T&S turned this letter over to the Wells Fargo at Spanish Flat with dateless "Spanish Flat" circular handstamp struck, from Spanish Flat the letter was carried north by Wells Fargo to its center at Georgetown where it received "Wells, Fargo & Co., Express, Georgetown" oval handstamp canceling indicia and strike on the paste-up, Wells Fargo then carried it to San Francisco, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $1,500 - 2,000

A GREAT EXPRESS RARITY WITH ONLY THREE EXAMPLES KNOWN. THIS BEING ONE OF ONLY TWO IN COLLECTOR'S HANDS AS THE THIRD IS IN THE WILTSEE COLLECTION.

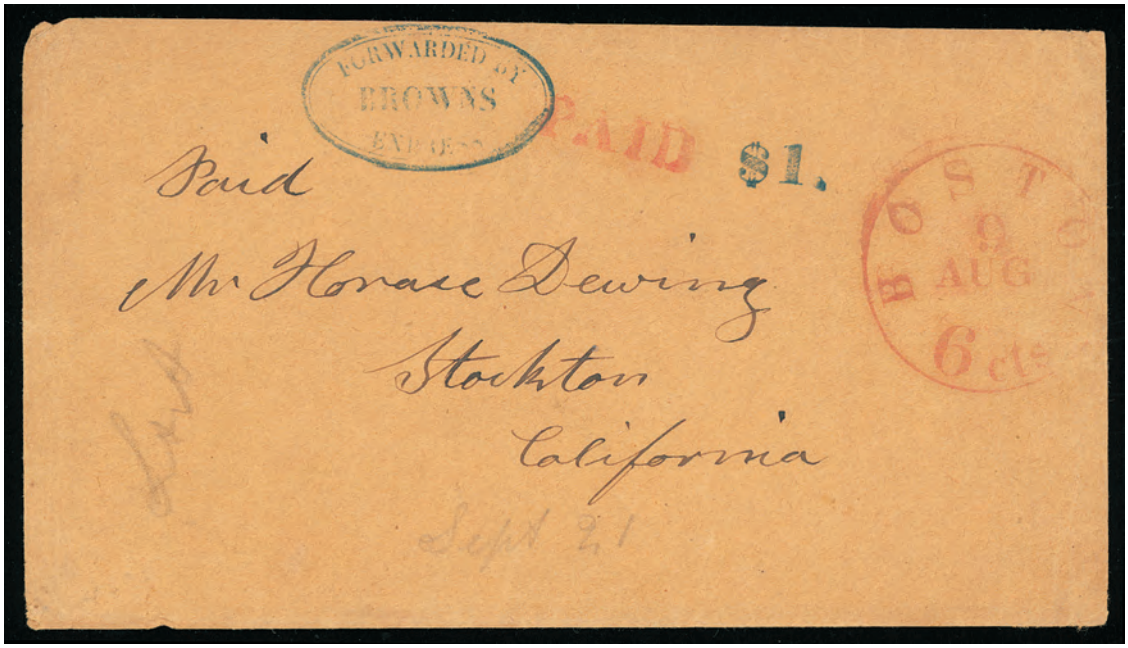
Tracy & Spear's Express is very rare as it operated but a few months in 1858 around the city of Placerville. By 1859 Spear had departed and Theodore Tracy was working as Wells Fargo's agent in Placerville. In 1864 he became the mayor of Placerville. His brother, Edward was his agent at some earlier point and in 1859 moved to Portland to start his own express operation in conjunction with Wells Fargo. We know from other letters that the agent at Spanish Flat was using the same canceling device for both the U.S. Mail and WF material.

Southern Mines Expresses



3237 ✉ **Forwarded by Browns Express,** blue double oval and matching "**$1.**" express rating handstamp on buff cover with "Boston '10cts' 10 Sep" integral due cds to Stockton Cal., **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **BRW-101** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

William A. Brown became one of the early expresses to the Southern Mines with a base office at Stockton. One route ran from Stockton to Angels Camp, Murphy's and the Carson's Diggings. From this route he also ran to Sonora. The other route ran from Stockton to the mines along the Mokelumne River. He connected at first and later competed with Todd & Co. By October 1851, Brown's had established a connecting service with Newell and Adams. In April 1853, Brown was shot and killed. Adams & Co. continued the express under the Brown name until Adams failed in February 1855.



3238 ✉ **Forwarded by Browns Express,** blue double oval and matching sharp "**$1.**" express rating handstamp on orange buff cover with red "Boston '6 cts' 9 Aug" integral cds and matching "Paid" handstamp to Stockton Cal., **Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **BRW-101** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750



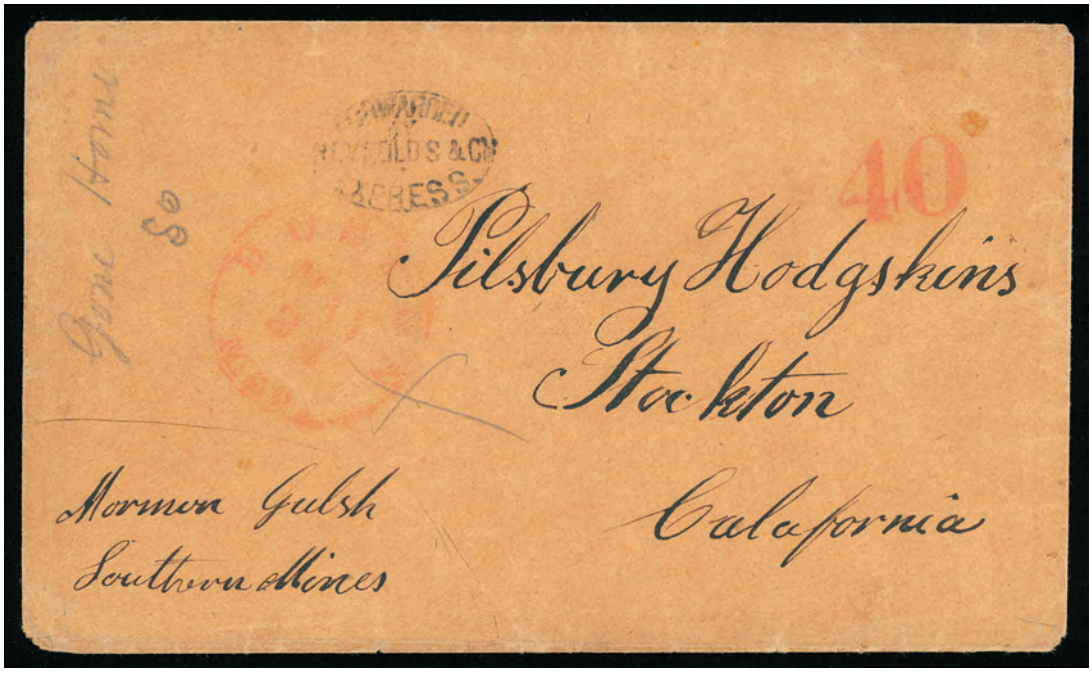
3239 ✉ **Freeman & Co's Express,** sharp red printed frank with matching printed "Brittan & Ayers, San Francisco" return address on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire cancelled by "Freeman & Co's Stockton Mess., Jul 1" oval datestamp to Columbia Cal., **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **FRM-002** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400



3240 ✉ **Newell & Co's Express, San Francisco,** sharp strike of blue double-oval and matching "COLLECT" straightline on orange buff cover to Mormon Gulch near Littletown Cal., endorsed "***pr. Todd's Expss.***" at bottom left; opening tears at right, **otherwise Very Fine and choice,** *WC7802, ex-Tahoe.*
Thomas No. **NEW-100** . . . . . Estimate $1,500 - 2,000

ONE OF ONLY FOUR RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE NEWELL & CO'S EXPRESS SAN FRANCISCO OVAL.

L.W. Newell of Sonora and C.W. Colt of Stockton began a competing line against Alexander Todd in August 1851. They carried between Sonora and Sonora, and from San Francisco to Portland Ore. They operated until 1853, when the company was sold to Adams & Co. Both Newell and Colt were former partners in Todd & Co. Express, which undoubtedly accounts for the Todd endorsement.



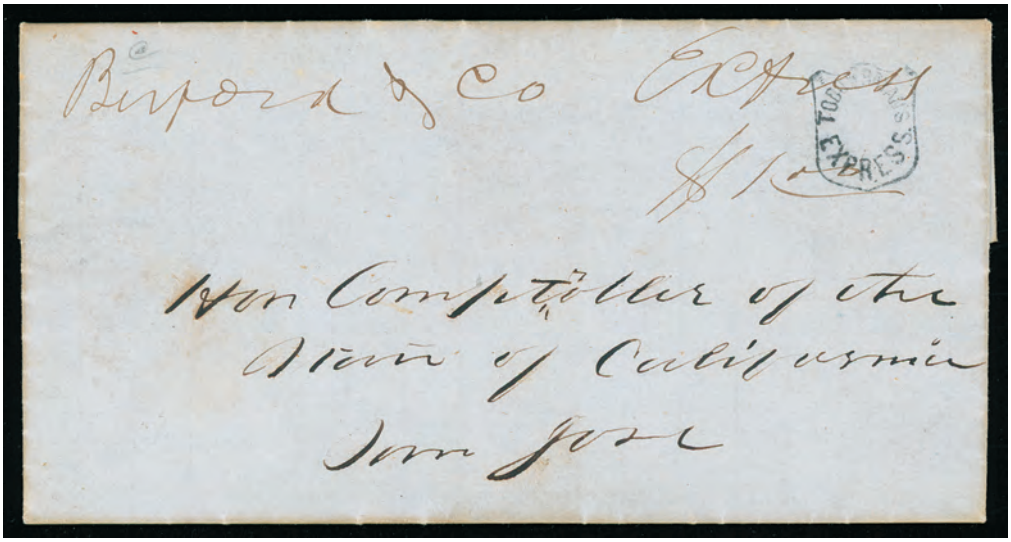
3241 ✉ **Forwarded by Reynolds & Co. Express,** oval handstamp on orange cover with red "Boston Mass., May 21" cds and matching "40" rating handstamp to "Chips" Hodgskins at Stockton Cal., endorsed "Mormon Gulch, Southern Mines" at bottom left, pencil "Gone Home" at left, **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **REY-100** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750

Angervine Reynolds formed an express along with A.S. Reynolds and J.P.D. Wilkins. This express operation ran from Stockton into the southern mines. They connected with Todd & Company for transportation to San Francisco and with Adam & Company for the Eastern States and Europe. Starting in 1851, they also began connecting with Gregory's Express. In 1851, Reynolds combined with Todd's and A.S. Reynolds left the company. The new express was called Reynolds, Todd & Co.'s Express.



3242 ✉ **Forwarded by Reynolds Todd & Co Express, Stockton,** large blue oval handstamp with matching "Collect" straightline on folded letter datelined "Stockton 8th Dec 1851" to San Francisco Cal., **fresh and Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **RTO-101** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

The express operations of Reynolds & Co. and A.H. Todd & Co. joined forces in the fall of 1851 to form Reynolds, Todd & Co. This express ran from the southern mines to Stockton and into San Francisco. They connected with Gregory's Express, but turned to Adams & Co. shortly before selling out to Charles Todd (no relation) in April 1852, forming the new company Todd's Express.



3243 ✉ **Todd & Bryan's Express,** shield handstamp on blue folded letter datelined from "Sonora, June 18th 1850" to San Jose Cal., manuscript **"Berford & Co Express"** and matching "$1.00" rating, **Very Fine**, WC4180. One of only 8 recorded examples of this express handstamp., *ex Dale-Lichtenstein*.
Thomas No. **TOD-100** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

A SCARCE TODD & BRYAN AND BERFORD & CO. CONJUNCTIVE EXPRESS USE.

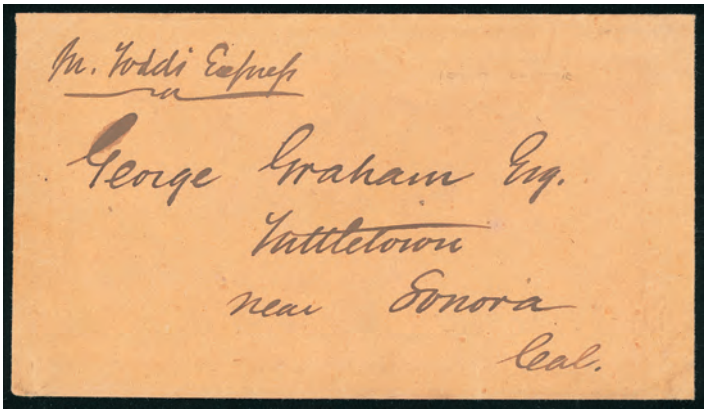
In July 1849, Alexander Todd began an express that was based in Stockton. He serviced the southern mining areas, and carried into San Francisco. In February 1850, he took in Benjamin Bryan as a partner as business was more than he could individually handle. They connected with Berford for correspondence to San Jose. Bryan's would sell out as a partner in July 1850. Todd and silent partner E.W. Colt formed into Todd and Company that ran over the same route.

Todd & Bryan's operation ranks as the first express with handstamp markings, and is considered to be one of the earliest gold rush express operations to penetrate into the interior mining area of California.



3244 ✉ **Todd & Co., Express,** clear sharp strike of shield handstamp on blue cover with red "Boston Mass., Nov 23" cds and matching bold "40" rating to Carsons Creek, Calaveras County, Cal., endorsed "Todd & cos Express From San Francisco", additional "A" handstamp may indicated advertised, pencil "2.00" express $2.00 rate at center; some minor edge restoration, **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **TOC-100** . . . . . Estimate $400 - 600

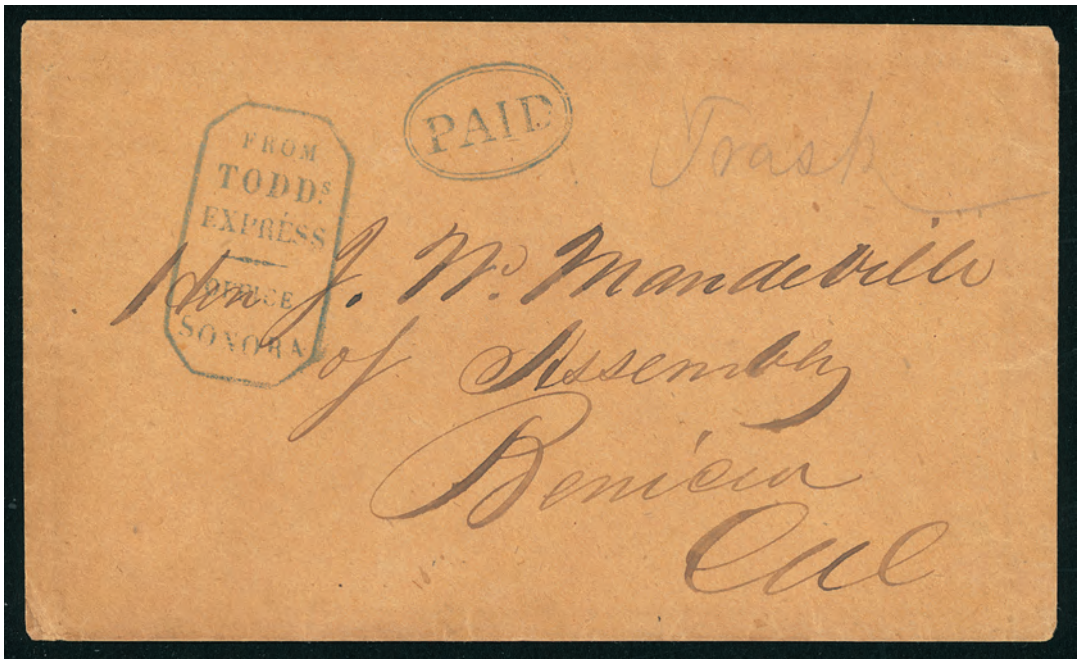
Alexander H. Todd began operating in late July 1849 as a one man express service between San Francisco and Stockton and from there into the southern mines. Benjamin L. Bryan joined as a partner in December 1850 and E.W. Colt as a silent partner shortly thereafter. After Bryan's departure in July 1850, Todd and Colt formed Todd and Company's Express. E.W. Colt operated out of Stockton and serviced the southern mines through merchant agents, while A.H. Todd anchored the operation in San Francisco. In San Francisco they connected with Adams & Co. and in Sacramento Hawley & Co.





3245 ✉ **Todd's Express,** two covers from same correspondence, first with manuscript "pr Todd's Express" endorsement on orange cover to George Graham, Tuttletown near Sonora, Cal.; second with blue "Forwarded by Todd's Express, San Francisco" oval handstamp (TOE-100) and matching "NOT PAID" double octagon (TOE-201b) on blue 1852 folded letter to George Graham, Tuttletown near Sonora, Cal., **Very Fine,** *ex-Tahoe*.
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400

Charles A. Todd purchased all of the assets of the assets of Reynolds, Todd & Co. He continued to service the southern mines from his offices in San Francisco and Stockton. He then started to make inroads into the northern mining area. At first he exchanged with Gregory's Express, and then later shared an office with Wells Fargo in San Francisco. He sold his operation to Wells Fargo in September 1853.



3246 ✉ **From Todds. Express, Office Sonora,** sharp strike of blue tombstone handstamp and matching "PAID" double-oval handstamp on orange buff cover to J.W. Mandeville of Assembly, Benicia Cal., **Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **TOE-104** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400

Southern California Expresses



3247 ✉ **Buckley's Express,** blue rectangular handstamp frank and conjunctive printed Wells Fargo & Co. frank on 3¢ green (U163) entire cancelled by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., San Francisco, May 19" oval datestamp to San Francisco Cal., *ex Dale-Lichtenstein*; with 2004 P.F. certificate.
Thomas No. **BUK-100** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

This was a stage company operated by William Buckley that provided some type of letter service between Bakersfield and Lone Pine. It provided service to the mines and claims along the Kern River, the Coso mining area in Owens Valley and the mines at Panamint.



3248 ✉ **Mead & Davis Letter Express,** blue double-oval handstamp on 3¢ pink (U59) buff entire cancelled by blue "Wells Fargo & Co., Express, Visalia" oval handstamp to San Francisco Cal.; some edge restoration and flap replaced, **Very Fine appearance, a scarce conjunctive use,** Thomas WC2049, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **MED-100** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750

ONE OF ONLY FOUR RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE MEAD & DAVIS LETTER EXPRESS HANDSTAMP.

Mead & Davis operated out of Visalia in an area between Visalia and Havilah. They connected with Wells Fargo at Visalia.

San Francisco Based Expresses



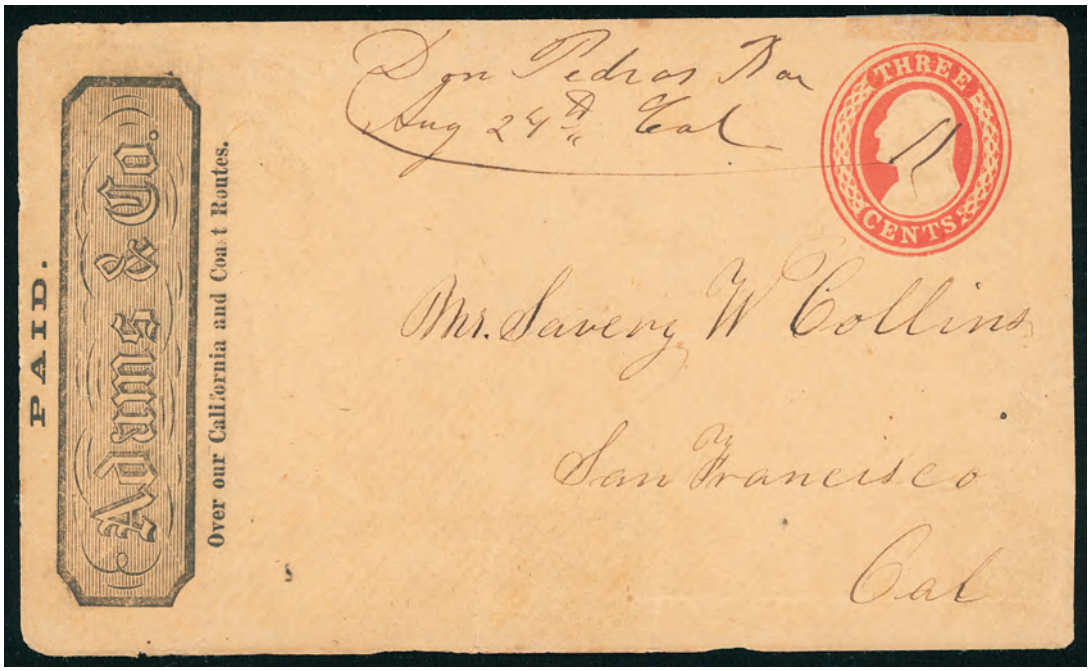
The 1848 California Gold Rush established San Francisco as the principal city on the American west coast, and San Francisco's large natural harbor made it an excellent terminus for Pacific Ocean steamships. These factors quickly solidified San Francisco as the central point for postal operations in the American West. San Francisco grew from a small settlement of about 200 residents in 1846 to a boomtown of about 36,000 by 1852.

Express operators, including Adams & Co. and Wells, Fargo & Co., based their operations in San Francisco. From there, the networks ran as spokes from the hub into the interior regions of California.



View of the Golden Gate from Nob Hill

The First Printed Frank Used by Any of the Western Express Companies



3249 ✉ **Adams & Co.,** printed Over Our California and Coast Routes frank at left on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire with manuscript "Don Pedro's Bar, Aug. 24th Cal." postmark to San Francisco Cal.; backflap with some adhesive staining and couple tears, small edge tear at bottom, **Very Fine,** *ex-Lyons.*
Thomas No. **ADA-001a** . . . . . Estimate $3,000 - 4,000

ONE OF ONLY SEVEN RECORDED ADAMS & CO. PRINTED FRANKS, ONLY TWO OF WHICH ARE PRINTED AT THE LEFT SIDE.

The Adams & Company's printed paid franks were produced in 1853, making them the earliest franks actually printed on envelopes or stamped entires. Their function was to facilitate the deposit of mail in letter boxes after the normal business hours of the express, or in lieu of waiting in line during normal hours similar to prestamped mail. There are a total of seven printed Adams & Co. franks in three slightly different formats on plain envelopes (two printed vertically at left), both stamped and stampless, and on the 3¢ Nesbitt entire.



Adams Express Log Book



3250 ✉ **Adams & Co., Grass Valley, April 5,** sharp strike of red oval datestamp on blue folded letter datelined "Grass Valley, April 4 1854" to Tandler & Co., San Francisco, endorsed as enclosing draft, **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **ADA-101e**. . . . . Estimate $300 - 400



3251 ✉ **Adams & Co., Sacramento, Aug 11,** blue double-circle datestamp on light buff cover to San Francisco Cal. with "**Miner's Coat of Arms**" illustrated Barber & Baker design showing miner and bear hold up cross with various miner implements; some edge tears and wear, **Very Fine,** *ex-Dale-Lichtenstein*.
Estimate. . . . . $1,000 - 1,500

ONE OF THE FINEST OF ONLY TWELVE EXAMPLES OF THIS SCARCE DESIGN RECORDED BY KUTZ.

Until its failure in the financial panic of February 1855, Adams & Co. Express was one of the largest and most successful express companies in California. One of its strongest hubs was Sacramento City.



3252 ✉ **Anthony & Co's, Northern Express, Paid,** wonderful strike of oval frank handstamp on orange buff cover to San Francisco Cal., pencil "X" marking, **Very Fine and choice.**
Thomas No. **ANT-100** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750

ONE OF ONLY THREE RECORDED USED EXAMPLES OF THE ANTHONY & CO'S NORTHERN EXPRESS OVAL.

This express operated between San Francisco, Benicia, Sacramento and the Northern Mines. It had an office in Sacramento and may have carried the mail only as far as Marysville and Nevada City.



3253 ✉ **Bamber & Co's Express,** printed ribbon frank on 3¢ pink (U58) entire to San Francisco Cal., printed "Ehrman & Bachman, General Store, Mission San Jose, Cal." corner card; small edge tear, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

By 1858, John J. Bamber had consolidated R.T. Lockwood's Contra Costa Express, W.F. Herre's Contra Costa Express and Hoag & Co. Express under the heading of Bamber & Co. and began operating throughout the eastern bay area of present day Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. He exchanged with Wells Fargo & Co. at San Francisco. Bamber & Co. sold out to Whitney & Co. on December 31, 1873.



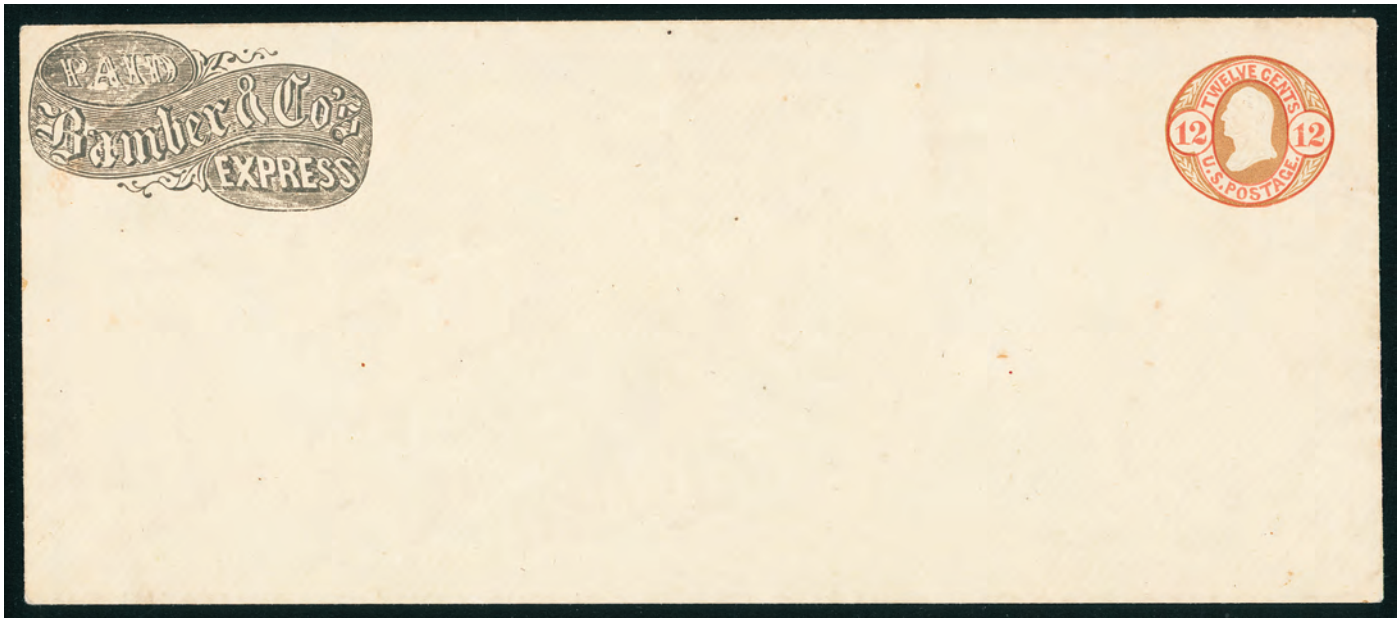


3254 ✉ **J. Bamber & Cos. Contra Costa Express, W.K. Bacon's, Oakland Office, Paid,** bold strike of oval handstamp on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire to San Francisco Cal., endorsed "P.D.G., B & H"; some edge wear, **Very Fine,** WC0980.
Thomas No. **BAM-105** . . . . . Estimate $400 - 600

ONE OF ONLY THREE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS J. BAMBER & CO. OAKLAND OFFICE OVAL.



3255 ✉ **J. Bamber & Cos. Express, Bacon & Hardy, Oakland Office,** shaded frank on 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire cancelled by blue J. Bamber & Cos. Express, S.F., Dec 20" double-circle datestamp to San Francisco; small edge tear and no flap, **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **BAM-005** . . . . . Estimate $200 - 300



3256 ✉ **Bamber & Co's Express,** printed frank at left of legal-size **12¢ lake & brown on buff (U42a)** mint entire, **Very Fine.**
Scott No. **U42a**; $1,250 . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400

The Remarkable Unique Three-Value Berford & Co Express Use



3257 ✉ **Berford & Co.'s Express, 1851, 3¢ black, 6¢ green, 25¢ red,** one 3¢ black, two 6¢ green singles and one 25¢ red, each cut to oval shape, used to pay 40¢ rate on cover from New York N.Y. addressed to "Capt. Walter Taber, Ship Louisiana, Paita", endorsed "By Express" at lower left, faint pencil docketing on front "Dated August 3, 1852, Received August 30, 1852", cover originated in New York City and was sent by Berford's to Panama where red "Forwarded By Wm. Nelson & Co. Panama" forwarding agent's framed handstamp was applied on backflap, docketed "Augt. 28, 1852" twice on front, once tying a 6¢ stamp, note on reverse in same hand reads "If not in Tambez [Tumbes, Peru] Dr. Oakford will please return this pr first opprty & oblige. Yours truly, A Bathurst, Paita, Aug. 28, 1852, I mean if Cap. Taber has been in and sailed", based on pencil Aug. 30 receipt notation on front, the letter reached Captain Taber in Tumbes; flaps opened and top refolded to flatten both 6c stamps that were affixed over top edge, **Fine,** *ex-Chapman, Mason, Horner, Golden and "DK"*; with 1983 and 1999 P.F. certificates.
Scott No. **11L1, 11L2 (2), 11L4** . . . . . Estimate $50,000 - 75,000

A REMARKABLE THREE-VALUE BERFORD & CO EXPRESS FRANKING FOR THE 40¢ RATE TO THE WEST COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA. NO OTHER COMBINATIONS OF DIFFERENT VALUES ON THE SAME COVER ARE RECORDED.

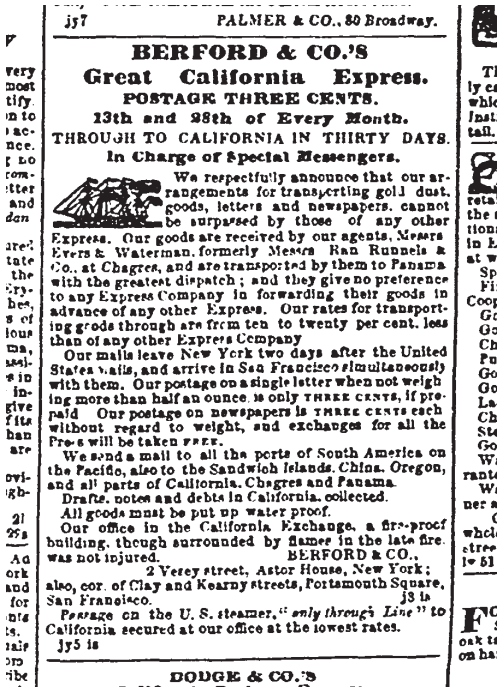
THIS IS THE ONLY RECORDED ON COVER USE OF THE 25¢ STAMP, OF WHICH ONLY TWO STAMPS ARE KNOWN.

Richard G. Berford and Loring L. Lombard operated the Berford & Co. letter-carrying business beginning in 1851. Berford & Co.'s Express primarily served the West Coast of North, Central and South America, but also advertised rates to Hawaii, Hong Kong and China. Although their letter and package express business was fairly large, the adhesive stamps for letter mail are rare. During the course of their operation, there were several bitter clashes with the government over their mail route. They sold out to Wells Fargo & Co. in June 1854.

There are only a handful of Berford & Co's Express stamps recorded for any value. There are four 3¢ (11L1) stamps recorded (two off-cover and two on-cover including the one offered here), seven 6¢ (11L2) and two 25¢ (11L4) comprising one uncancelled off cover, ex-Caspary, Lilly and Hall, and the stamp on this cover.

Four covers are recorded with Berford & Co. stamps paying the 40c rate from New York to the West Coast of South America, the other three all bearing quadruple 10¢ frankings. Berford's June 17th 1851 advertisement in the New York Herald announced the "New Postage Law" and included a "Table of Postage" listing this 40¢ prepaid rate to the west coast of South America. In the advertisement, the stamps (3¢, 10¢ and 25¢) are described and various rates are given effective July 1, 1851.

The Louisiana noted in the address is probably the 1,056-ton screw-vessel registered in 1850 at New York City.


jy7 PALMER & CO., 80 Broadway.

BERFORD & CO.'S
Great California Express.
POSTAGE THREE CENTS.
13th and 28th of Every Month.
THROUGH TO CALIFORNIA IN THIRTY DAYS.
In Charge of Special Messengers.

We respectfully announce that our arrangements for transporting gold dust, goods, letters and newspapers, cannot be surpassed by those of any other Express. Our goods are received by our agents, Messrs Evers & Waterman, formerly Messrs Ran Runnels & Co., at Chagres, and are transported by them to Panama with the greatest dispatch; and they give no preference to any Express Company in forwarding their goods in advance of any other Express. Our rates for transporting goods through are from ten to twenty per cent. less than of any other Express Company

Our mails leave New York two days after the United States mails, and arrive in San Francisco simultaneously with them. Our postage on a single letter when not weighing more than half an ounce, is only THREE CENTS, if prepaid Our postage on newspapers is THREE CENTS each without regard to weight, and exchanges for all the Press will be taken FREE.

We send a mail to all the ports of South America on the Pacific, also to the Sandwich Islands, China, Oregon, and all parts of California, Chagres and Panama.

Drafts, notes and debts in California, collected.

All goods must be put up water proof.

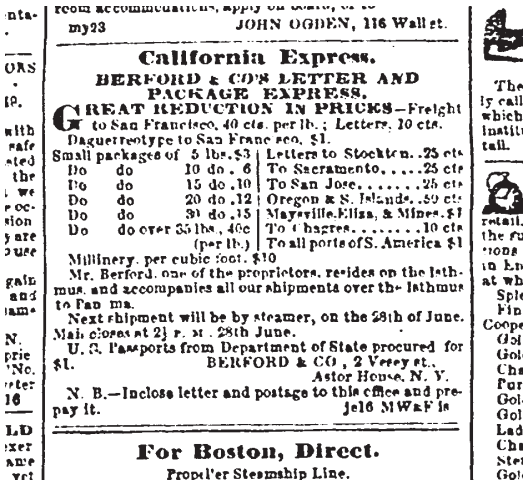
Our office in the California Exchange, a fire-proof building, though surrounded by flames in the late fire, was not injured. BERFORD & CO.,

2 Vesey street, Astor House, New York; also, cor. of Clay and Kearny streets, Portsmouth Square, San Francisco. j3 1s

Passage on the U. S. steamer, "*only through Line*" to California secured at our office at the lowest rates.

jy5 1s

DODGE & CO.'S


my23 JOHN OGDEN, 116 Wall st.

California Express.
BERFORD & CO'S LETTER AND PACKAGE EXPRESS.

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES—Freight to San Francisco, 40 cts. per lb.; Letters, 10 cts.

Daguerreotype to San Francisco, $1.

Small packages of	5 lbs.	$3	Letters to Stockton.		25 cts
Do	do	10 do.	6	To Sacramento,	25 cts
Do	do	15 do.	10	To San Jose,	25 cts
Do	do	20 do.	12	Oregon & S. Islands,	50 cts
Do	do	30 do.	15	Marysville, Ellis, & Mines,	$1
Do	do over 35 lbs.,		40c (per lb.)	To Chagres,	10 cts
				To all ports of S. America	$1

Millinery, per cubic foot, $10

Mr. Berford, one of the proprietors, resides on the Isthmus, and accompanies all our shipments over the Isthmus to San Francisco.

Next shipment will be by steamer, on the 28th of June. Mail closes at 2½ P. M. 28th June.

U. S. Passports from Department of State procured for $1. BERFORD & CO, 2 Vesey st., Astor House, N. Y.

N. B.—Inclose letter and postage to this office and prepay it. je16 MW&F 1s

For Boston, Direct.
Propel'er Steamship Line.

One of Only 7 Recorded Examples of the 5¢ California Penny Post Stamp Used on Cover



3258 ✉ **California Penny Post Co., 1855, 5¢ blue,** usual close-cut margins to slightly in at top, uncancelled with small flaws and tiny ink mark, affixed on 10¢ green (U18) buff entire cancelled by "San Francisco Cal. 5 Jun" cds to Duxbury Mass., **Very Fine,** *ex-Kuphal, Lyons*; with 2015 P.F. certificate.
Scott No. **34L4** . . . . . Estimate $5,000 - 7,500

AN EXCEPTIONALLY RARE USE OF THE CALIFORNIA PENNY POST CO. 5¢ BLUE STAMP ON A 10¢ GREEN ENTIRE.

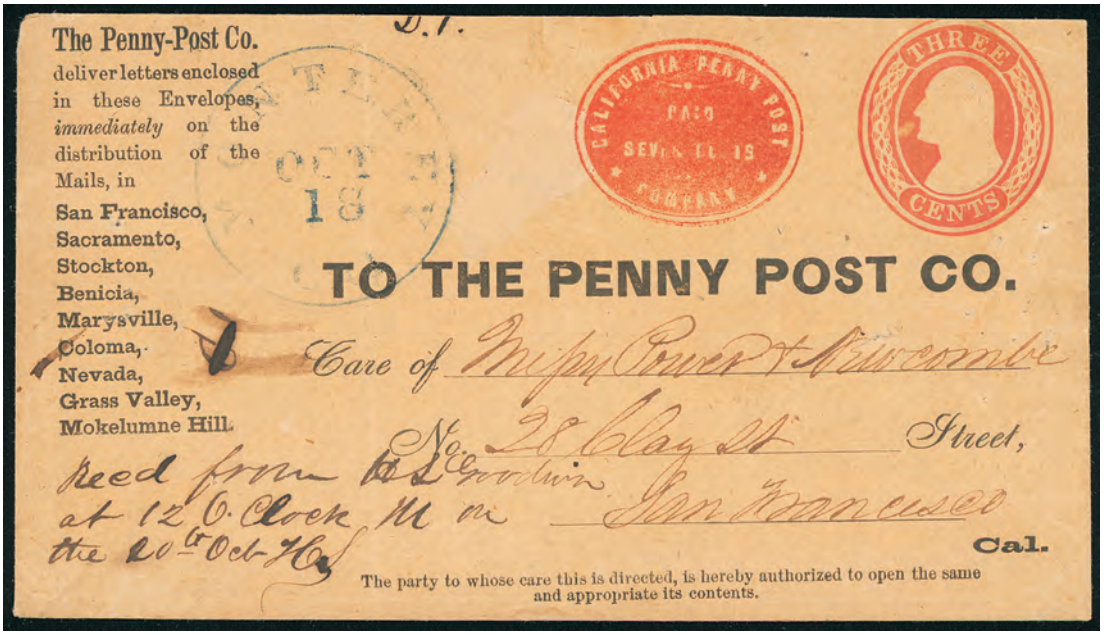
The 34L4 stamp is cataloged by Scott in combination with a 10¢ #14 stamp at $55,000. It is not listed on a 10¢ Nesbitt entire.



3259 ✉ **California Penny Post Co., 1855-59, 5¢ black on buff,** impressed on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire with printed directive at left, addressed to Messrs. Tandler & Co. in San Francisco, cancelled by blue "**Penny Post Co., Sacramento**" circular handstamp; soiling and wear, **Fine.**
Scott No. **34LU3a** . . . . . Estimate $3,000 - 4,000

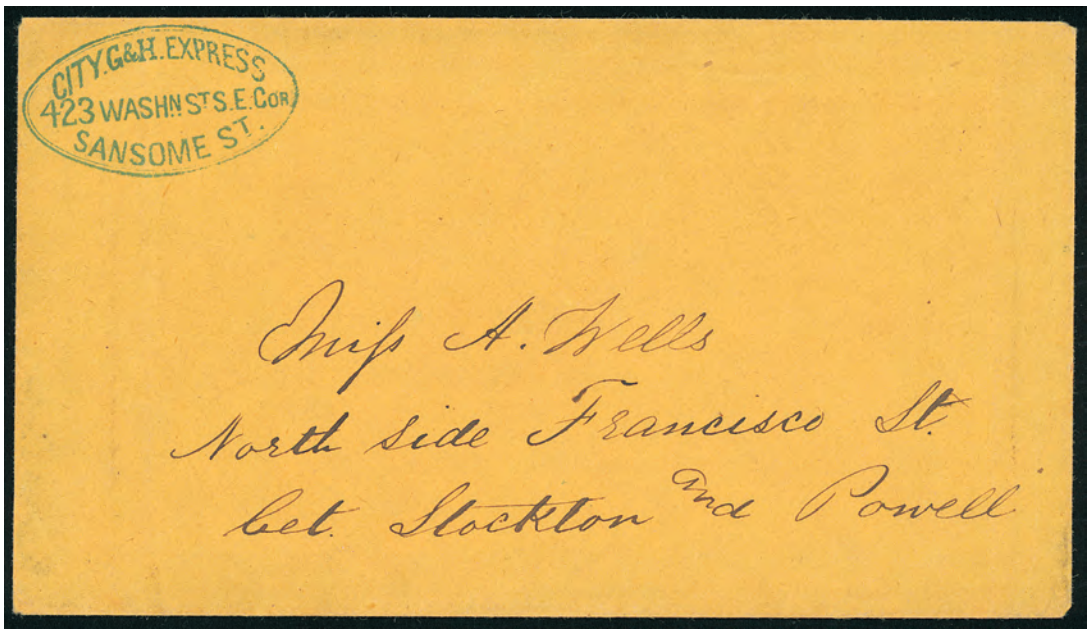
ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE SACRAMENTO CIRCULAR HANDSTAMP IN BLUE.

We offered the other recorded example of the Sacramento circular handstamp in blue in our Sale 45, lot 110, realized $8500 hammer.



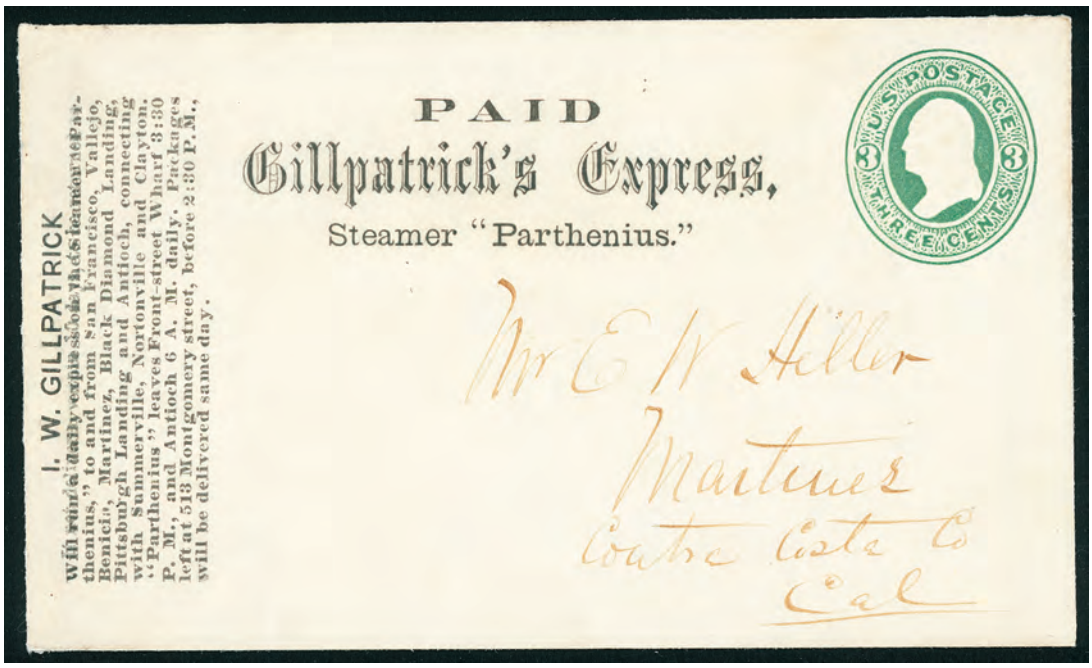
3260 ✉ **California Penny Post Co., 1855-59, 7¢ vermilion,** impressed on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire addressed cancelled by blue "Monterey Cal., Oct 18" cds to San Francisco Cal., printed explanatory ad text at left listing eight cities and towns where service was offered, manuscript "recd from H.S. Goodwin at 12 O.Clock, Ans on the 20th Oct" who was the proprietor of the Penny Post Co.; tiny pinholes and small scuff, slightly reduced at top, **Very Fine appearance,** *ex-Knapp, Meroni, Boker, Hawley, Kuphal, Walske.*
Scott No. **34LU7** $1,750

Genuine used examples of this entire are extremely rare with 16 entires reported in the Lyons census in July 2005 Penny Post. Remainders were used to create forged Wells Fargo express usages. One of the fascinating aspects of this issue is that both the Penny Post oval and 3c U.S. stamp were embossed in the same color by George F. Nesbitt.



3261 ✉ **City G. & H. Express,** sharp strike of blue double-oval handstamp on orange buff cover addressed locally, **Very Fine and choice use,** *ex-Wiltsee.*
Estimate. . . . . $500 - 750

Gahagen & Howe was a city express operating for over one year during 1864 to 1865.



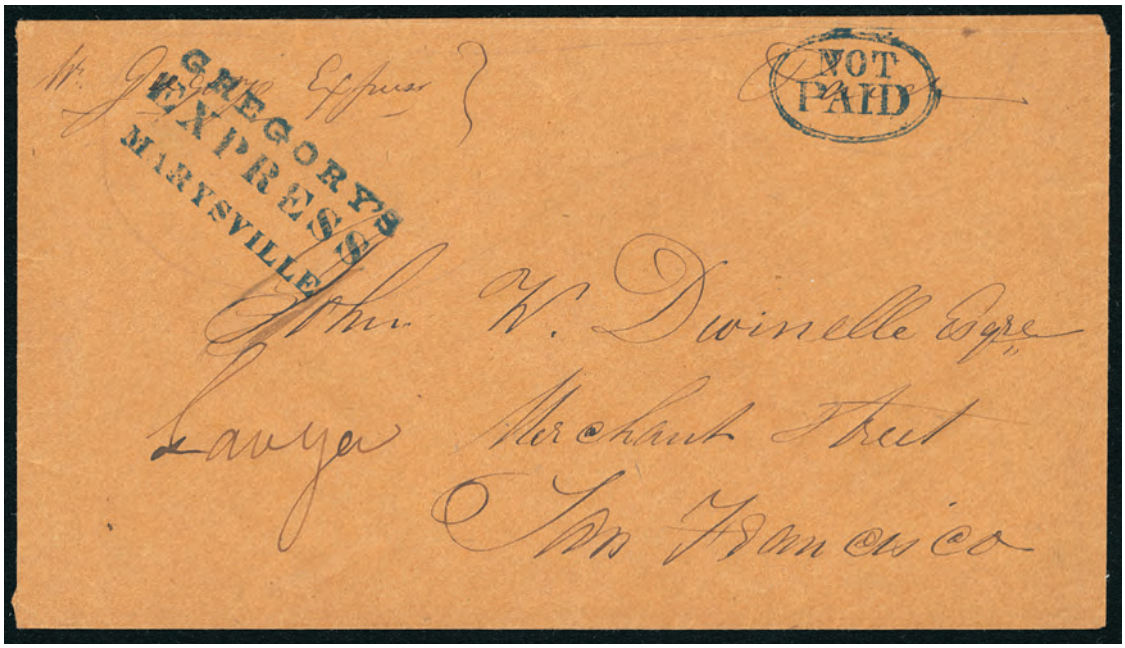
3262 ✉ **Gillpatrick's Express, Steamer "Parthenius.",** printed frank on 3¢ green entire to Martinez Cal.; restored at left, **Very Fine,** WC4243, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **GLL-001** . . . . . Estimate $2,000 - 3,000

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED USED EXAMPLES OF THE GILLPATRICK'S EXPRESS STEAMER "PARTHENIUS" FRANK.

Isaiah W. Gillpatrick advertised that he would run a daily express service through the use of the Steamer "Parthenius". This express provided a service between San Francisco and the river ports of Vallejo, Benicia, Martinez, Black Diamond landing, Pittsburg Landing and Antioch. He also connected inland to the coal mining towns of Somersville, Nortonville and Clayton. He lasted from May 1871 to about July 1872.

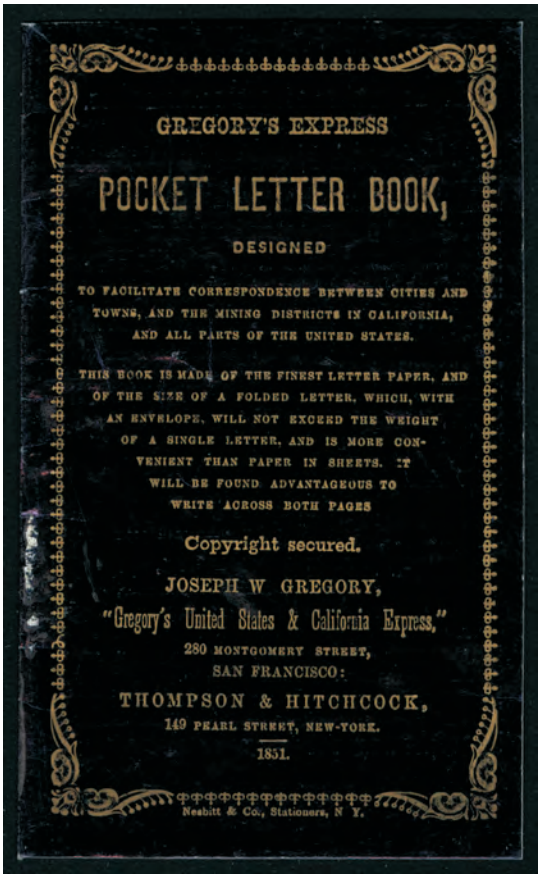


3263 ✉ ***"pr Gregory's Express Mail"***, endorsement at upper left and Gregory's blue "**Paid**" lined oval handstamp on blue folded letter datelined "San Francisco March 1st 1852" to New York City, content mentions "*The mail for tomorrow's steamer being closed, I avail myself of Gregory's Express…*", carried per PMSS *Northerner* from San Francisco Mar. 2nd to Panama arriving Mar. 18th, across the Isthmus on the new Panama Railroad to Chagres, then by USMSS *Empire City* Mar. 26th to New York arriving Apr. 4th, "Boyd's City Express Post, Apl 14" oval datestamp and matching "PAID / J.T.B." handstamp, **Very Fine and scarce Gregory's and Boyd's conjunctive use,** *This was the first steamer mail carried on the "Panama Railroad" across the Isthmus.*
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400



3264 ✉ **Gregory's Express Marysville,** blue three-line handstamp and matching "Not Paid" oval on orange buff cover to San Francisco Cal., endorsed "pr. Gregory's Express" and "Paid" at top right that was overstruck by the oval, **Very Fine,** Census WC1915, *ex-Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **GRE-117** . . . . . Estimate $200 - 300

Joseph Gregory established a very extensive express business beginning in 1850 that lasted until the Spring of 1853. Marysville was his collection hub for the northern mines, from there he carried south to Sacramento and then into San Francisco.


GREGORY'S EXPRESS

POCKET LETTER BOOK,

DESIGNED

TO FACILITATE CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN CITIES AND TOWNS, AND THE MINING DISTRICTS IN CALIFORNIA, AND ALL PARTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

THIS BOOK IS MADE OF THE FINEST LETTER PAPER, AND OF THE SIZE OF A FOLDED LETTER, WHICH, WITH AN ENVELOPE, WILL NOT EXCEED THE WEIGHT OF A SINGLE LETTER, AND IS MORE CONVENIENT THAN PAPER IN SHEETS. IT WILL BE FOUND ADVANTAGEOUS TO WRITE ACROSS BOTH PAGES

Copyright secured.

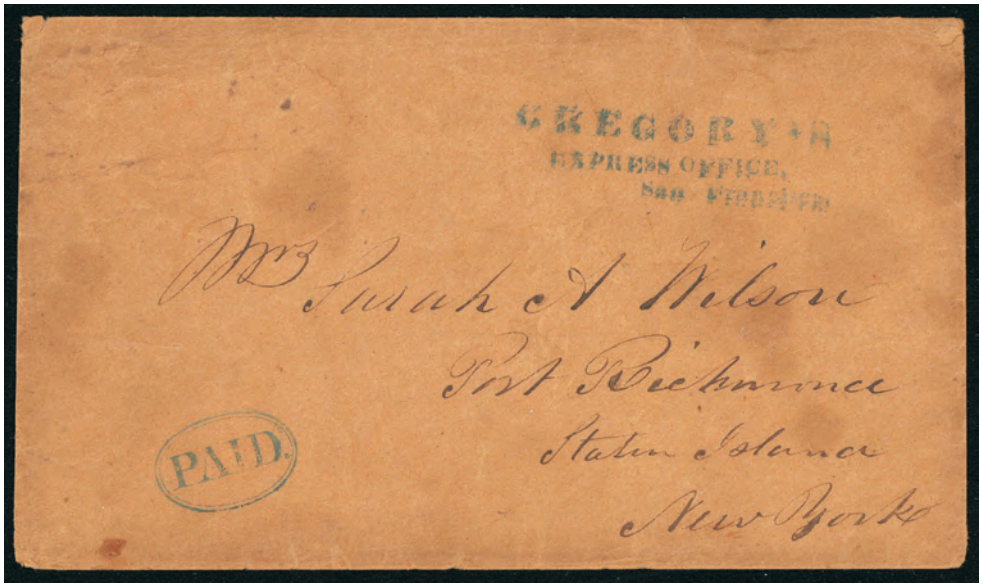
JOSEPH W GREGORY,
"Gregory's United States & California Express,"
280 MONTGOMERY STREET,
SAN FRANCISCO:

THOMPSON & HITCHCOCK,
149 PEARL STREET, NEW-YORK.

1851.

Nesbitt & Co., Stationers, N Y.

3265 ✉ **Gregory's Express "Pocket Letter Book",** unused 1851 gold on black glazed letter book, Thompson & Hitchcock imprint, printed by Nesbitt & Co., with original buff envelope, surface scuff, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300



3266 ✉ **Gregory's, Express Office, San Francisco,** blue three-line handstamp and matching "Paid." oval on circa 1851 orange buff cover to Port Richmond N.Y., **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200

Gregory's Express operated from 1850 until early 1853. Initially Joseph W. Gregory established his express operation between San Francisco and Sacramento and from those two locations pushed into Marysville. He quickly established an east coast operation and extended with use of agents to Hawaii, Europe, Oregon and China. Pressure from Adams & Co. hurt profit and he would dissolve in early 1853, selling assets to Wells Fargo. The "Paid" indicated prepaid postage plus express charges.



3267 ✉ **J.W. Hoag's & Cos. San Francisco & Contra Costa Express,** clear strike of double-oval in dark red and matching "Paid" framed handstamp on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire with red manuscript "Haywards" at top right to San Francisco Cal., **Very Fine,** WC2165, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **HOA-102** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

THE ONLY RECORDED STRIKE OF THIS J.W. HOAG'S & COS. SAN FRANCISCO & CONTRA COSTA EXPRESS HANDSTAMP.

Late in 1855, J.W. Hoag, John Bamber and Charles Gable purchased the Contra Costa Express from R.T. Lockwood. In 1856, the also purchased W.F. Herre's Contra Costa Express. This gave them control of the western Contra Costa and Alameda county area. A July 12, 1858 advertisement announced that John Bamber bought our his other partners and would be operating as Bamber & Cos Express.



3268 ✉ **The Holladay Overland Mail and Express Company,** fancy printed ribbon paid frank on 3¢ pink (U58) entire bearing 3¢ rose (65) tied by cogwheel fancy cancels duplexed with "San Francisco, Cal. Nov 18" cds to New York N.Y., docketed "Recd Decr. 8th"; edge fault at left, **Very Fine appearance,** *ex-Beals.*
Thomas No. **HLY-001** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

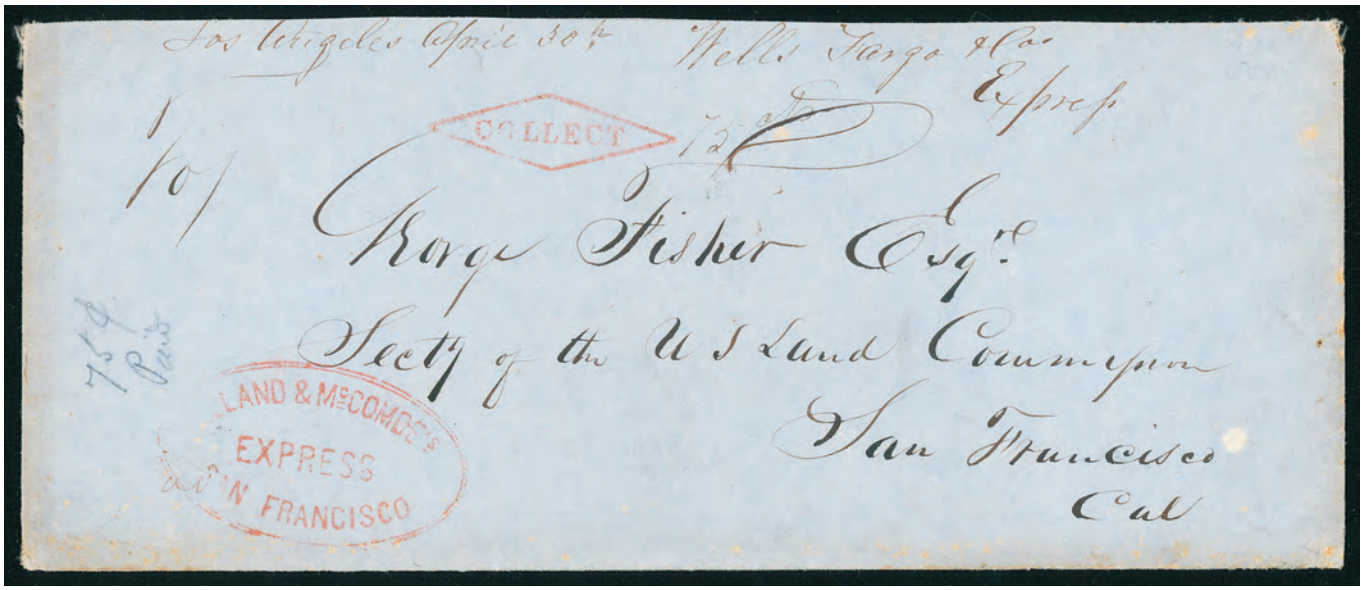
By 1866, Ben Holladay controlled a vast stage and express empire that extended from the Missouri River into Idaho, Montana, Washington and Oregon. Holladay had eliminated all competing stage and express operations and his empire blocked the movement of express material east for Wells Fargo. On November 1st 1866, Wells Fargo purchased this empire from Holladay that gave them control of virtually all of the major stage lines from the Pacific to the Missouri River.



3269 ✉ **Kennedy & Co.'s Half Moon Bay & Pescadero Express,** blue printed rectangular frank on 3¢ pink (U58) entire cancelled by "San Francisco Cal., Jul 30" duplexes to local address, "Returned -To- Writer" handstamp; reduced slightly at left; small tear at right just into indicia, **F.-V.F.,** WC2212, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein*.
Thomas No. **KEN-003** . . . . . Estimate $400 - 600

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS KENNEDY & CO.'S HALF MOON BAY & PESCADERO EXPRESS PAID FRANK.

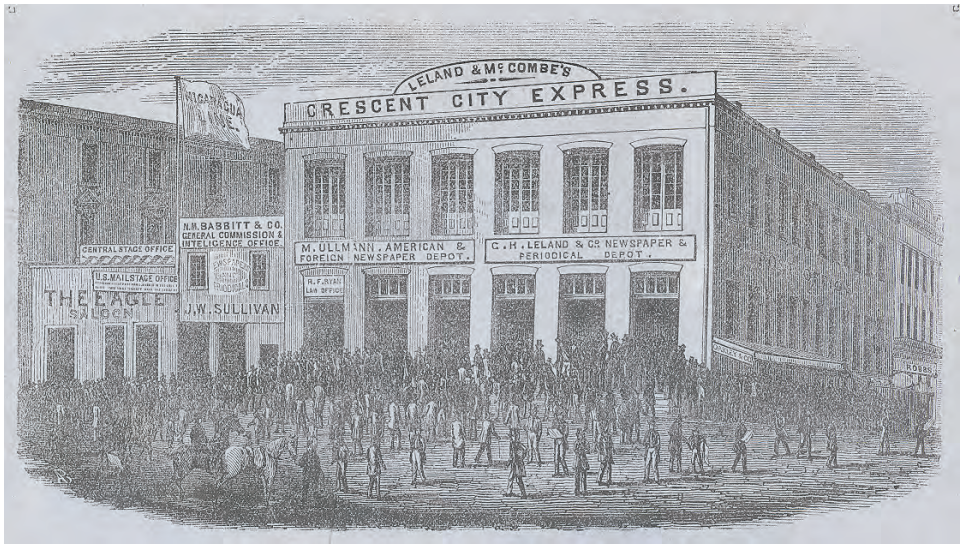
M.G. Kennedy and F.M. Utter operated this express service between San Francisco and Half Moon Bay.



3270 ✉ **Leland & McCombe's Express, San Francisco,** red double-oval handstamp and matching diamond "Collect" handstamp on legal-size blue cover to George Fisher, Secy. of the U.S. Land Office, San Francisco Cal., manuscript "*Los Angeles April 30th, Wells Fargo & Cos. Express*" and matching "***75cts***" express rating, pencil "75¢ Paid" at left; reduced slightly at top, slight edge toning, **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **LEL-100** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE LELAND & MCCOMBE'S EXPRESS SAN FRANCISCO OVAL AVAILABLE TO COLLECTORS, TWO ADDITIONAL ARE CONTAINED IN THE WILTSEE COLLECTION.

Beginning in late 1853, Leland & McCombe's Express operated in a circular fashion from San Francisco south to Santa Clara and then up to Alamo. They had an additional route by ship up to Crescent City and other towns in Humboldt Bay. The company lasted about eight months.



Early View of Leland & McCombe's Express Office, San Francisco



3271 ✉ **Nichols & Co.'s Express,** sharp printed illustrated frank showing train and steamboat, on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire cancelled by blue "Nichols & Co's Express, San Francisco" oval handstamp (NIC-101a) to San Francisco Cal.; right edge strengthened and staining cleaned, **Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein*.
Thomas No. **NIC-001**. . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

In early 1858, C.P. Nichols and Edward Ludlow formed a daily express to run between San Francisco, San Mateo, Belmont, Redwood City, Santa Clara and San Jose, and semi-monthly to run by way of steamer from San Francisco to Oregon and Washington. They connected with Alta Express for the northern and southern mines and Freeman for the Atlantic States. After about a year of operation, the express was sold or changed its name to the American Express of California.



3272 ✉ **From the Noisy Carriers' Publishing Hall, San Francisco, Cal.,** black on pink label, affixed on light buff cover bearing 10¢ green 1855 issue, rich color, large margins to in at top, tied by "San Francisco, Cal., 20 Mar" cds to Wilmington Del.; entire restored at bottom left and bottom flap added, **Very Fine appearance**; with 2005 P.F. certificate.
Estimate. . . . . $1,000 - 1,500

A RARE USE OF THE NOISY CARRIERS' LABEL ON COVER.

Charles Kimball operated a bookstore for a few years in the mid-1850s. His Noisy Carriers was a private express company located on a wharf near the San Francisco Post Office. His label is known used to and from river locations.

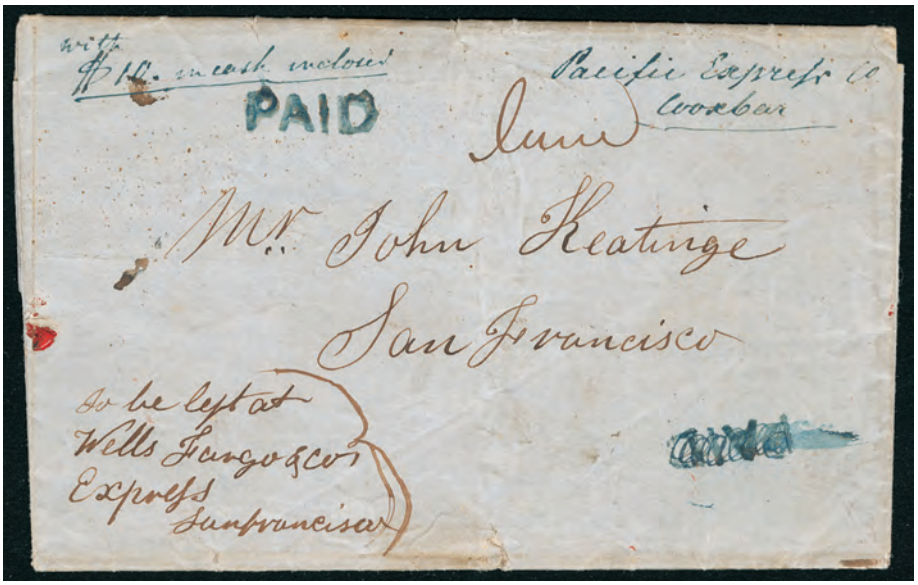


3273 ✉ **From Noisy Carrier's, Mail, 77 Long Wharf S.F. Cal.,** clear strike of fancy rectangle handstamp in green on front and as flap seal, on 6¢ green (U14) buff Nesbitt entire to Philadelphia Pa. bearing **1¢ blue (9)**, vertical strip of three and single, top stamp position 7R1L, recut state of Type I from plate 1E, strip large margins to barely in, single in at top, tied by light strikes of "San Francisco Cal. Jun 1" cds; small part of flap missing, stamps with some excess gum at edges removed, **F.-V.F.,** *ex-Knapp, Grunin*.
Estimate. . . . . $2,000 - 3,000

A COLORFUL AND RARE COMBINATION OF THE GREEN NOISY CARRIER HANDSTAMP AND 1¢ 1851 ISSUE FRANKING ON A 6¢ NESBITT ENTIRE PREPAYING THE 10¢ RATE.

The Noisy Carriers handstamp was applied by Noisy Carriers Publishing Hall to indicate or advertise their handling of mail put on steamers departing for Nicaragua or Panama. It is scarce in green and very rare on 6c entires uprated with the 1c 1851 Issue.

Pacific Express Company



3274 ✉ **"Pacific Express Co., Cookbar",** blue manuscript endorsement and matching "with $10 in cash enclosed", bold strike of blue "PAID" handstamp (PAC-200e) on blue folded letter datelined "Cooks Bar April 16th" to San Francisco Cal., endorsed "To be left at Wells Fargo & Co. Express, San Francisco" at bottom left, **Very Fine and rare**.
Estimate. . . . . $750 - 1,000

Discovered in 1855 by Dennis Cook, this area which lasted a short time, was serviced by the newly formed Pacific Express Co. and taken in to Wells, Fargo & Co. in San Francisco.



3275 ✉ **Pacific Express Co., Stockton, Paid,** blue double-oval frank handstamp on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire cancelled by matching "Pacific Express Co., Stockton, Feb 14" oval to San Francisco Cal., Hewlett & Collins General Merchandise flap oval, **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **PAC-102a**. . . . . Estimate $250 - 350

When Adams & Co. failed in February 1855, a number of its former employees established the Pacific Express Co. under the leadership of Russell G. Noyes. Most of the locations that had an Adams office quickly found they had a Pacific office. Pacific Express failed in April 1857 due to embezzlement and lacking funds.



3276 ✉ **Pacific Express Co.,** illustrated horse and rider design frank on 3¢ red (U9) Nesbitt entire uprated with 1¢ blue (9) and two 3¢ dull red (11a) singles, all tied by strikes of "San Francisco, Cal., 5 Nov" cds to Sackets Harbor N.Y., cover with manuscript "LR" initials of Levi Robie alongside printed frank, **Very Fine**, *ex-Walske*.
Thomas No. **PAC-002** . . . . . Estimate $1,500 - 2,000

Carried by PMSC Sonora from San Francisco Nov. 5th 1855 to Panama arriving Nov. 19th, then USMSC "George Law" from Aspinwall Nov. 20th 1855 to New York arriving Nov. 30th.



3277 ✉ **Pacific Express Co.,** black printed Running Pony frank on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire cancelled by blue "Pacific Express Co., Marysville, Jul 25" oval datestamp to Noisy Carriers Book Co., San Francisco Cal., **fresh and Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **PAC-004** . . . . . Estimate $150 - 200



3278 ✉ **Pacific Express Co., Sacramento, Blue Oval Handstamp,** sharp strike of blue double-oval handstamp on buff cover to San Francisco Cal., endorsed "***With 11. Ozs Gold doust***" at top, **Very Fine scarce early handstamp,** One of only six recorded examples of this Pacific Express Co. Sacramento handstamp.
Thomas No. **PAC-108** . . . . . Estimate $200 - 300



3279 ✉ **Pacific Express Co., San Francisco, Aug 18,** blue double-circle datestamp on 6¢ green (U14) buff Nesbitt entire cancelled by "New-York, Oct 1" cds to Johnson's Creek, Niagara Co., N.Y., **F.-V.F.,** a scarce use on the 6¢ Nesbitt entire.
Thomas No. **PAC-100a**. . . . . Estimate $500 - 750



3280 ✉ **Pacific Union Ex. Co., San Francisco, Dec 16,** sharp strike of blue double-circle datestamp on yellow "From Pacific Union Express Company" corner card (PAU-401) cover to local address, **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **PAU-100** . . . . . Estimate $100 - 150

The Pacific Union Express Company began operating in early 1868 competing with Wells Fargo by offering a stage and express service from the rail line at Reno to Virginia City Nev. This service quickly followed by the opening of several offices in Nevada. In May 1868, the Central Pacific Railroad granted exclusive right to move express mail and material over the railroad to Lloyd Tevis and associates. The management of Wells Fargo had severely underestimated the speed at which the two railroads would complete their unification at Promontory Point and were not facing the danger of not having a way to move transcontinental express material. Tevis and associates bought Wells stock at reduced prices as a result. This exclusive contract forced Wells Fargo into agreement of exchange cash and stock in October 1869 with Tevis and assoc. The firms consolidated over time, and Tevis assumed control of Wells Fargo.



3281 ✉ **Pacific Union Express, San Francisco, Apr 2,** double-circle datestamp and matching large "Paid" in oval frank handstamp on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire to Volcano Cal., endorsed "Pacific Express" at top left; restored, **F.-V.F. appearance,** *ex-Pearce*.
Thomas No. **PAU-100** . . . . . Estimate $100 - 150



3282 ✉ **Palmer & Co's Express,** shield handstamp on blue folded letter datelined "San Francisco Novembr 15 1850" to New York N.Y., endorsed "*p Palmer & Co's express*" at bottom left, carried by PMSS *Tennessee* from San Francisco Nov. 15th to Panama arriving Dec. 1st, across the Isthmus to Chagres and carried by *Cherokee* to New York arriving Dec. 20th, docketed as "Rec December 23", letter states "*You will receive per Palmer & Co's Express One Package of Gold…40½ oz…*", **F.-V.F.** Thomas No. PAL-100a.
Estimate. . . . . $2,000 - 3,000

ONE OF ONLY 5 RECORDED PALMER & CO'S EXPRESS SHIELD HANDSTAMPS, ONLY TWO IN BLACK.

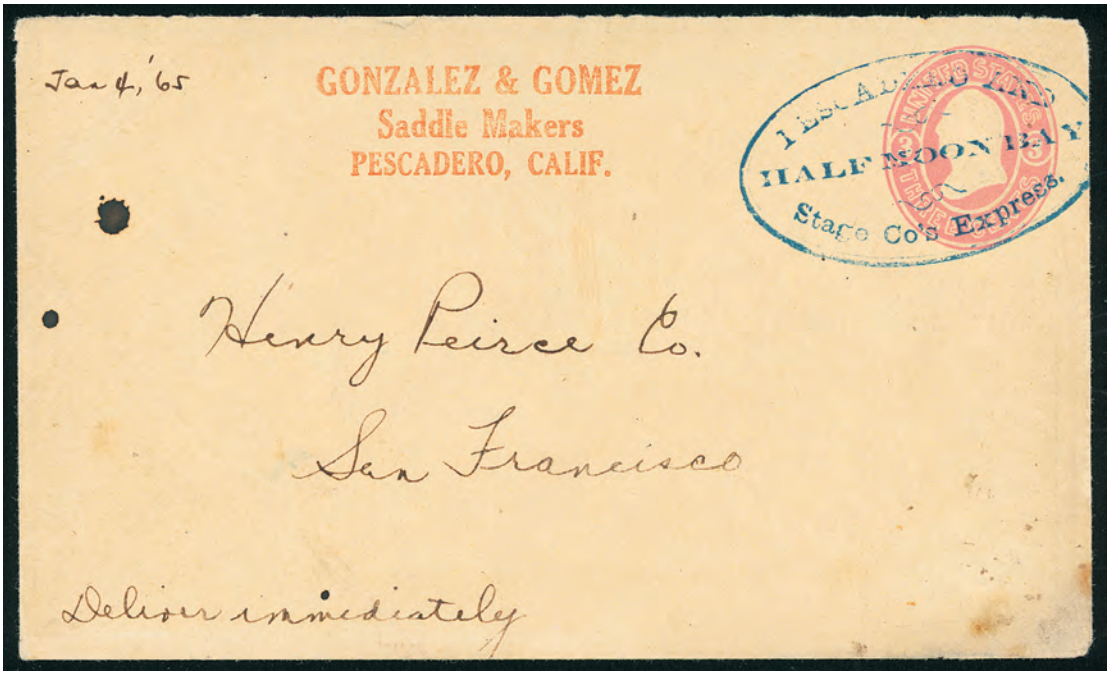
C.S. Palmer had established offices in Boston Mass. and New York, N.Y., and in March 1850 expanded westward by establishing offices in San Francisco, Sacramento and Marysville. His handstamps are not seen after early 1851. There are only five recorded strikes in two colors, black and red.



3283 ✉ **Palmer & Co's Express,** bold strike of red shield handstamp on folded cover with pencil "Dec 1850" dating to Flushing, Long Island, N.Y., bold clear strike of red "**Palmer & Co's Express**" shield handstamp, endorsed "*pd. through to N. Yk*" at top and "Express" at bottom, **Very Fine,** *ex-Haas*.
Thomas No. **PAL-100b**. . . . . Estimate $2,000 - 3,000

ONE OF ONLY 5 RECORDED PALMER & CO'S EXPRESS SHIELD HANDSTAMPS, ONLY THREE IN RED.

Apparently, Palmer carried this letter beyond his office to Flushing N.Y., as there is no evidence of it having entered the mails.



3284 ✉ **Pescadero & Half Moon Bay Stage Co. Express,** blue frank handstamp cancels 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire to San Francisco Cal., printed red "Gonzalez & Gomez, Saddle Makers, Pescadero, Calif." return address, endorsed "Deliver immediately" at bottom left, manuscript "Jan 4, '65" dating, part of flap missing, couple small stain spots, **Very Fine,** *ex-Pearce*.
Thomas No. **PSE-100**. . . . . Estimate $1,500 - 2,000

A BEAUTIFUL EXAMPLE OF THE OF PESCADERO & HALF MOON BAY STAGE CO. EXPRESS FRANK.



3285 ✉ **River Express, Stockton & San Francisco,** green frank on 2¢ green entire cancelled by blue "River Express Co., San Francisco, Cal." double-oval datestamp (RIV-100) to San Francisco, **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **RIV-001**. . . . . Estimate $300 - 400

This company existed under a variety of proprietors as a freight, storage and package forwarder around the San Francisco Bay area. It operated primarily between Stockton and San Francisco, but had agents or offices in Alameda, Antioch, Benicia, Berkeley, Napa, Oakland, Petaluma and Vallejo.



3286 ✉ **Robinson & Co's Express,** printed illustrated paid frank showing grizzly bear on 3¢ pink (U59) buff entire to Wells Fargo & Co., Boston Mass., partial strike of Wells Fargo & Co., California Express, Boston" shield frank and matching "Wells Fargo & Co., Boston, Aug 10" double-circle datestamp, **Very Fine,** WC6670, *ex-Barkhausen, Dale-Lichtenstein*; with 2004 P.F. certificate.
Thomas No. **ROI-700**. . . . . Estimate $2,000 - 3,000

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED USED EXAMPLES OF THIS DESIRABLE ROBINSON & CO'S EXPRESS ILLUSTRATED GRIZZLY BEAR FRANK.





3287 ✉ **San Francisco Letter Express,** blue oval Running Pony handstamp on locally addressed cover; small repair lower right, lightly cleaned, **Very Fine appearance,** *ex-Dale-Lichtenstein*.
Estimate. . . . . $500 - 750



3288 ✉ **San Francisco Letter Express.,** blue printed rectangle frank and rectangular "PAID" handstamp on light buff cover to D.W. Cheeseman, U.S. Mint, San Francisco, pencil "3 P.M.", **Very Fine,** *ex-Saltzer*.
Estimate. . . . . $2,000 - 3,000

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE SAN FRANCISCO LETTER EXPRESS PRINTED FRANK, THIS BEING THE ONLY ONE IN BLUE.

The other recorded printed San Francisco Letter Express printed frank is in black with the same rectangular "PAID" handstamp adjacent. It was offered in the 2004 Dale-Lichtenstein sale (lot 1261).



3289 ✉ **Swift & Co's Express, Paid,** printed rectangular frank on 3¢ red (U10) Nesbitt buff entire cancelled by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Express, Petaluma" oval handstamp to San Jose Cal., **F.-V.F. appearance,** *One of only four recorded examples of this Swift & Co's Express frank.*
Thomas No. **SWI-002** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400

E. Swift operated an express on the peninsula north of San Francisco. This operation ran from a base at Santa Rosa and followed present day highway 101 north to Cloverdale and possibly Ukiah. It also extended west from Santa Rosa to Bodega Bay area. This express connected with Wells Fargo at Petaluma and Santa Rosa.



3290 ✉ **Swift & Co. Express, Paid,** fancy printed shield frank on 3¢ red (U10) Nesbitt buff entire endorsed "Immediate" to San Francisco Cal.; flap and edge repairs, **Very Fine appearance,** *ex-Barkhausen*.
Thomas No. **SWI-001** . . . . . Estimate $200 - 300



3291 ✉ **Paid Over, Thompson & Co's & Wells, Fargo & Co's California Routes,** printed frank on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire to San Francisco Cal., docketed "$200" at bottom left, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Estimate. . . . . $1,000 - 1,500

ONE OF ONLY FIVE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS CONJUNCTIVE THOMPSON & CO'S AND WELLS FARGO FRANK, ONE OF WHICH IS IN THE WILTSEE COLLECTION.

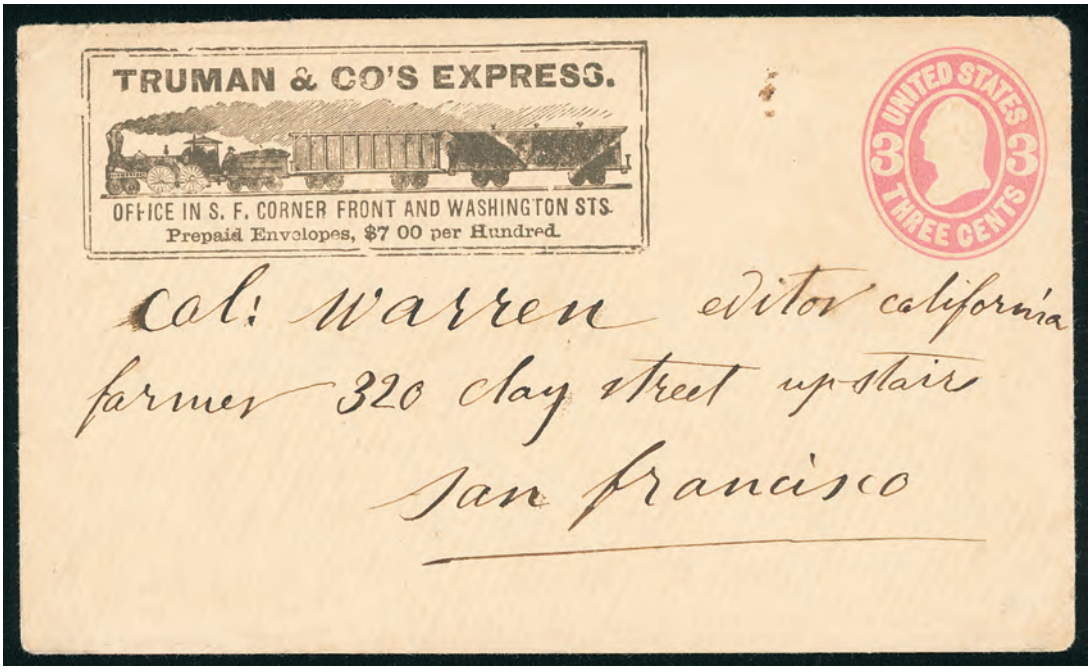
E.B. Thompson ran a small operation from Petaluma to Santa Rosa, and on to Healdsburg Cal. He connected with Wells Fargo at Santa Rosa and acted as a feeder route for them.



3292 ✉ **Truman & Chapman's Express. S.F. & S.J. Rail Road.,** illustrated train frank on 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire cancelled by manuscript "June 1st/65" to San Jose Cal., **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **TRE-600** . . . . . Estimate $400 - 600

Although J.C. Truman had begun an express in 1861, he took in a partner, Mr. Chapman in 1864. They operated between San Francisco and San Jose, with a messenger on the San Francisco & San Jose R.R., their operation was extended down the coast to Santa Cruz and Watsonville. The partnership was dissolved in January 1865 and this use of the frank is during the Truman & Co's Express period.





3293 ✉ **Truman & Co's Express,** two examples of the steam locomotive train illustrated frank in blue and black on 3¢ pink (U59) buff entires, blue cancelled with manuscript "January 13th 1865" to San Jose and other addressed to Col. Warren editor California Farmer, San Francisco, **a Very Fine pair.**
Thomas No. **TRE-001, TRE-001a** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400

James Christopher Truman carried on the express operation as Truman & Co. after Chapman withdrew in early 1865. Truman & Co's Express operated over the same route between San Jose and San Francisco. By 1869, Wells Fargo had gained control over all of the express business of this route.

Wells, Fargo & Co.



The name Wells Fargo is forever linked with the image of a six-horse stagecoach thundering across the American West, loaded with gold. In 1852, Henry Wells and William Fargo founded Wells, Fargo & Co. to serve the West. The new company offered banking (buying gold and selling paper bank drafts as good as gold) and express (rapid delivery of the gold and anything else valuable).

Wells Fargo opened for business in the gold rush port of San Francisco, and soon Wells Fargo's agents opened offices in the other new cities and mining camps of the West. In the boom and bust economy of the 1850s, Wells Fargo earned a reputation of trust by dealing rapidly and responsibly with people's money. In the 1860s, it earned everlasting fame — and its corporate symbol — with the grand adventure of the overland stagecoach line.

Wells Fargo delivered business by the fastest means possible whether it was by stagecoach, steamship, railroad, pony rides or telegraph. In 1858, Wells Fargo helped start the Overland Mail Company — the famed "Butterfield Line" — to meet the demand for speedy communications across the west. In 1861, Wells Fargo also took over operations of the western leg of the famed, but short-lived, Pony Express.

In 1866, Wells Fargo combined all the major western stage lines. Stagecoaches bearing the name Wells, Fargo & Co. rolled over 3,000 miles of territory, from California to Nebraska, and from Colorado into the mining regions of Montana and Idaho.

After the completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869, Wells Fargo increasingly rode the rails. In 1888, after expanding along the new steel network across the Northeast into New York, Wells Fargo became the country's first nationwide express company. It adopted the motto "Ocean-to-Ocean" to describe its service that connected over 2,500 communities in 25 states, and "Over-the-Seas" to highlight its lines linking America's increasingly global economy. Wells Fargo agents in towns large and small offered basic financial services like money orders, travelers checks, and transfer of funds by telegraph. Always, though, wherever there was mining, from Alaska to Arizona, Wells Fargo guarded the gold.



The Unique Wells Fargo & Co. First Day Cover



3294 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., California Express.,** orange buff cover with red two-line handstamp and matching bold "FREE" rating handstamp to Sacramento Cal., pencil "Recd Jul 13 1852" by Latham; professionally restored at right, **Very Fine appearance.**
Estimate. . . . . $5,000 - 7,500

THE ONLY RECORDED COVER WITH THE CALIFORNIA EXPRESS HANDSTAMP.

Rueben H. Washburn carried this cover on his initial journey to San Francisco where he established a branch on July 13, 1852. On that day, this cover was carried "Free" to William Latham Jr., Sacramento agent for Adams Express. Wells, Fargo & Co. would become the largest express carrier in the world. It operated from 1852 until 1895, when they determined that it would be no longer economical to carry the mails.

WELLS, FARGO & CO.
CALIFORNIA EXPRESS.



3295 ✉ **Per Wells, Fargo & Co's Express.,** printed endorsement and "J. Dillon & Co., Stage Proprietors, Stockton, Cal." return address on 3¢ red (U10) buff entire cancelled by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Stockton, Sep 11" double-oval datestamp to San Francisco Cal., Cal.; bit of flap missing, **fresh and Very Fine,** an unusual printed Wells Fargo endorsement envelope.
Estimate. . . . . $500 - 750





3296 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co.,** printed frank on 3¢ pink (U59) buff entire cancelled by fancy cross-roads duplexed with partial "Yreka Cal., Jul 25" cds to Canyon City Cal., Wells Fargo pencil "**Coll 50¢**", reverse with large "Wells, Fargo & Co's Express 'Dalles O' " black on blue label; tape stain and scuff, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300



3297 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co.,** printed frank on all-over gray shaded McCracken, Merril & Co., Shipping & Commission Merchants, Portland Oregon on 3¢ pink (U58) entire cancelled by blue "Savannah Ga., Jan 10" duplex to Portland Maine, **Fine and unusual eastern use of entire.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3298 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co.,** red printed frank on 10¢ green (U18) buff Nesbitt entire **to Havana, Cuba**, carried by express to New York City where black strike of square grid cancel and "New-York Mar. 16" cds were applied, additional red "New-York Mar. 17, 1857" cds, blue "Habana, 24 Mar 1857" backstamp and matching "NA" and "2" reales due markings; small central stain and some edge wear, **Very Fine,** *ex-Barkhausen (backstamp), Kouri.*
Thomas No. **WFE-22**. . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

THIS IS THE ONLY REPORTED USE OF THE WELLS, FARGO & CO. FRANKED ENTIRE TO CUBA.

A Spectacular Rarity from the Kramer Collection



3299 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co.,** red printed paid frank on 10¢ green (U18) buff entire to **Pesth, Hungary**, endorsed "via Panama & Liverpool" at bottom left, bearing twenty-two copies of **1¢ blue (24)** in two blocks of eight and six overlapping singles on reverse and slightly over edge, each cancelled by matching red N.Y. foreign mail circular grid cancel, matching strike on indicia, red "N. York 'Paid 7' Br. Pkt." credit exchange cds, carried by Cunard Line *Asia* from New York Feb. 16th 1859 to Liverpool arriving Feb. 27th, red "Aachen Franco 4. 1" framed handstamp, Pesth (3.3) arrival cds; open on three sides for display, small stamp faults, **Very Fine,** *ex-Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Estimate . . . . . $25,000 - 35,000

A REMARKABLE WELLS FARGO EXPRESS COVER TO AUSTRIA VIA PRUSSIAN CLOSED MAIL WITH A STUNNING 1¢ 1857 ISSUE FRANKING.

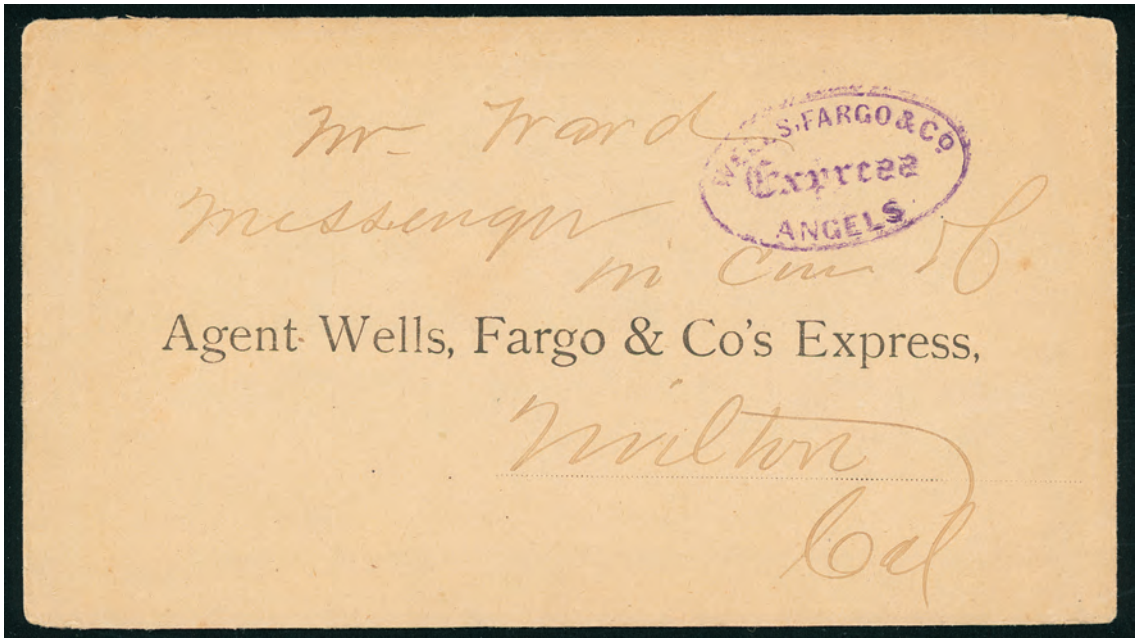
The 32¢ postage overpays the 30¢ Prussian Closed Mail rate to Austria effective October 1852 to August 30th 1861.



3300 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., Bankers & Express Forwarders, 82 Broadway NY,** red shield handstamp ties **3¢ dull red (11A) horizontal pair**, huge margins except touched at top right, on 1855 light buff cover to San Francisco Cal. with red Shippers Line of California Packets, Earle & Weed, Agts. illustrated cameo showing full rigged ship bearing; small edge tears and some wear, **Very Fine and attractive,** *ex-Haas*. Estimate. . . . . $2,500 - 3,500

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED RED WELLS FARGO NEW YORK SHIELD MARKINGS.





3301 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co. Express, Angels,** clear strike of purple oval handstamp on buff cover addressed to "Mr Ward, Messenger in care" with printed "Agent Wells, Fargo & Co's Express" at Wilton Cal., **Very Fine,** *This is the only recorded example of this Wells Fargo Angels oval handstamp in purple., ex-Clifford.*
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400



3302 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co's California Express, San Francisco,** large blue oval handstamp on February 28th 1858 San Francisco Prices Current and Shipping News, one page with part of ad excised, **Very Fine strike of this handstamp.**
Estimate. . . . . $400 - 600



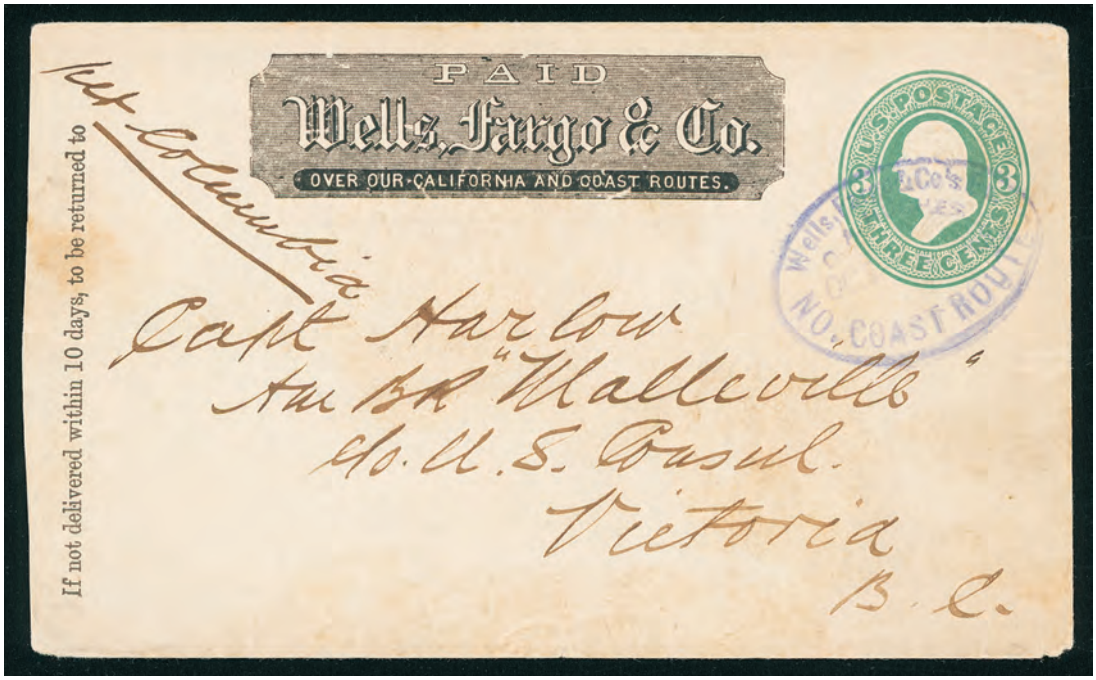
3303 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co. Express, Nevada,** blue oval handstamp and dark blue "Moore's Flat" oval handstamp on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire to San Francisco Cal., **Very Fine and choice,** *ex-Marcus White*.
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300



3304 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., Nevada, Nov 13,** perfect bold strike of oval datestamp cancels 3¢ pink (U35) entire with printed Wells Fargo frank to Dutch Flat Cal., docketed received Nov. 17th 1864 at left; reduced slightly at left, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150



3305 ✉ **Wells, Fargo Express, New-York, Nov 21,** blue double-circle datestamp on large-size **18¢ red on buff (U70)** entire to San Francisco Cal.; Wells, Fargo & Co. printed frank at top, small edge tear and some wear, **F.-V.F. and rare used entire.**
Scott No. **U70**; $800 . . . . . Estimate $400 - 600



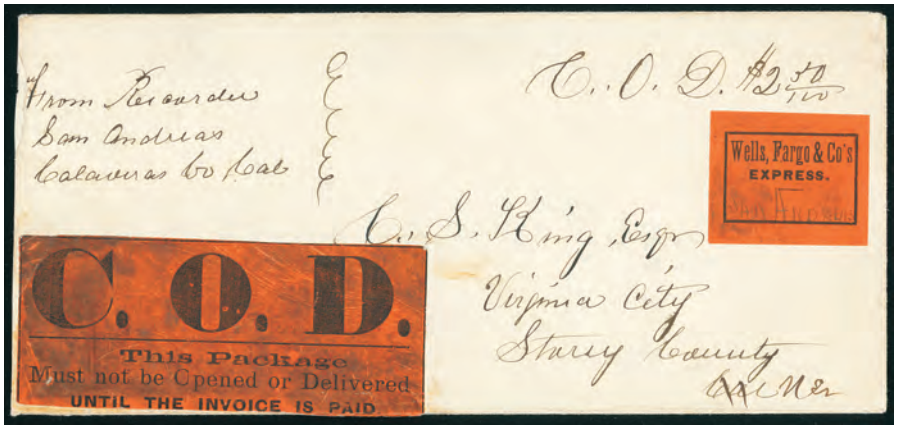
3306 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co's No. Coast Route, G.A. Hughes, Oct,** purple oval datestamp (Leutzinger 9-1) cancels 3¢ green entire with printed Wells Fargo & Co. frank **to Victoria, British Columbia**, in care of the U.S. Consul, endorsed "Per Columbia"; reduced slightly at left, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400



3307 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., Over our California and Coast Routes,** printed woodcut frank on 3¢ red (U9) Nesbitt entire bearing **1¢ blue (9)** and **3¢ dull red (11) horizontal pair**, each tied by bold strikes of "San Francisco Cal., 20 Dec" cds to Sackets Harbor N.Y., **Extremely Fine and choice,** *ex-Walske*.
Thomas No. **WFE-002** . . . . . Estimate $1,500 - 2,000

A BEAUTIFUL WELL FARGO & CO. WOODCUT FRANK TRANSCONTINENTAL USE FRANKED WITH THE 1¢ AND 3¢ 1851 ISSUE.

This was carried by the PMSS Co "Sonora" from San Francisco Dec. 20th 1855 to Panama arriving Jan. 3rd 1856. Panama Railroad to Aspinwall, then by US Mail S.S. "Empire City" departing Jan. 3rd to New York arriving Jan. 14th.



3308 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co's Express "San Andreas",** black on orange label with manuscript town designation, and large "C.O.D. / This Package Must not be Opened or Delivered Until the Invoice is Paid" black on orange label, each affixed on legal-size cover to Virginia City Nev., manuscript "From Recorder, San Andreas, Calaveras Co. Cal." return address, endorsed "C.O.D. $2 50/100" at top right; reduced slightly at left, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300

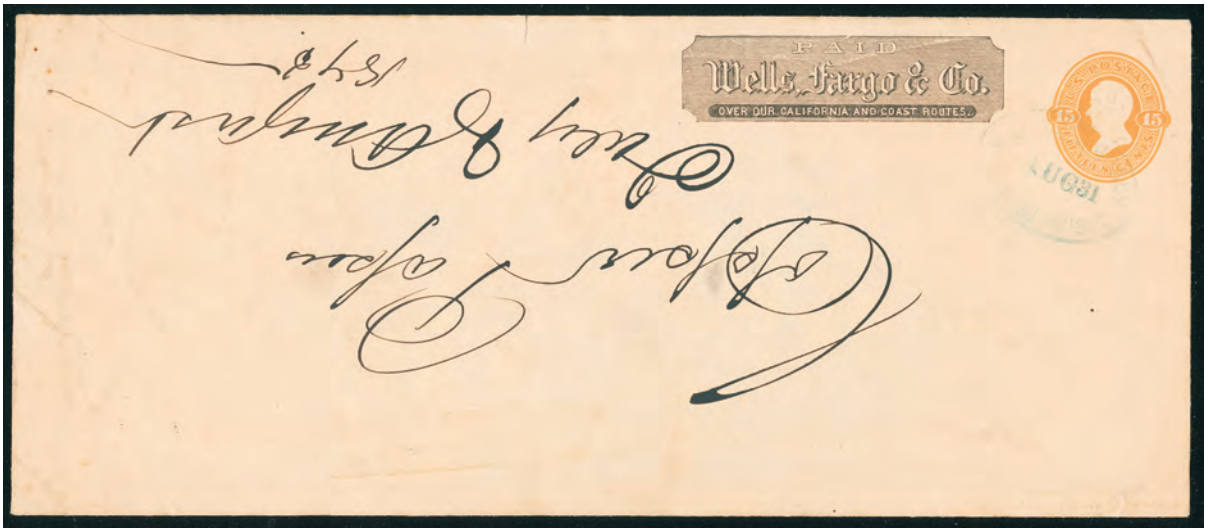


3309 ✉ **Wells Fargo & Co., Express, San Francisco,** bold strike of blue shield frank handstamp and matching "Paid" double-oval handstamp alongside on 3¢ red (U3) Nesbitt entire to Sacramento City; small edge tears and nicks, **Very Fine and choice strike of this very scarce express handstamp.**
Estimate. . . . . $1,000 - 1,500



3310 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., San Francisco, Sep 1,** blue oval datestamp cancels 3¢ pink (U59) buff entire to Puebla, Nevada Territory, "Advertised" straightline, manuscript "I guess at Peubla Mines" at bottom right and "Try Humboldt Mines" and finally back to San Francisco with "San Francisco Cal, Advertised, Dec 8" backstamp; reduced slightly at left, **Fine well-traveled Wells Fargo use.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300

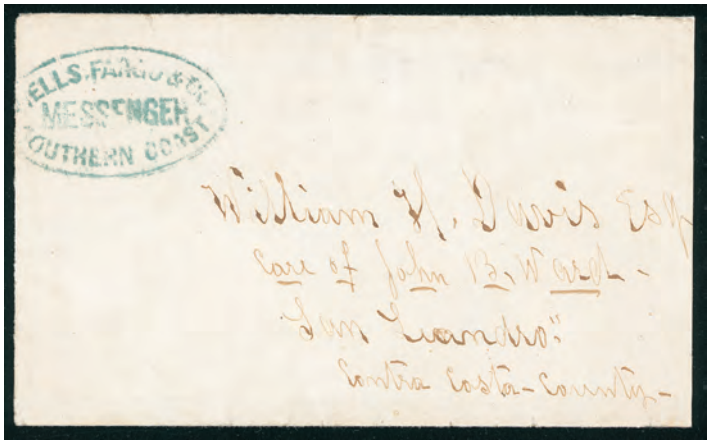
The Puebla Road Mill & Mining Company was incorporated February 20, 1864. This was addressed to Nevada Territory, which did not become a state until October 31, 1864.



3311 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., San Francisco, Aug 31,** blue oval datestamp cancelling **1874, 15¢ orange on cream** large-size entire used as paste up, printed Wells Fargo imprint and docketed "Copper Papers, July & August 1875"; small edge tear and wear, **F.-V.F. and scarce used entire.**
Scott No. **U200** $300



3312 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co. "Shasta",** blue "SHASTA" straightline handstamp on 3¢ red on buff Nesbitt entire with printed Wells Fargo Paid frank to Yreka Cal.; small flaws and wear, **Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300



3313 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., Southern Coast, Messenger,** clear strike of blue oval on cover to San Leandro, Contra Costa County; reduced slightly at right, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3314 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., Express, Steamboat.,** fancy shield frank handstamp and conjunctive strike of blue **"W.E. Singer & Co's Feather River Express" oval handstamp (SIN-100)** on 3¢ red (U1) buff entire with Nesbitt flap seal, addressed to Bidwells Bar, Yuba, Cal., endorsed "W.F. & Co Express" at lower left, **Very Fine and choice.**
Estimate. . . . . $1,000 - 1,500

A REMARKABLE CONJUNCTIVE W.E. SINGER EXPRESS AND WELLS FARGO & CO STEAMBOAT USE.



3315 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co. Express, Steamboat,** clear strike of blue oval handstamp on 3¢ red (U10) buff entire with printed Wells Fargo & Co. frank to San Francisco Cal., reverse with "Helwett & Collins, General Merchandise, Stockton Cal" backstamp; some edge wear, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400



3316 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., Stockn. Messenger, Oct 25,** bold strike of oval datestamp along with partial Stockton oval canceling 3¢ pink (U58) entire with printed Wells, Fargo & Co. printed frank to Sonora Cal., **Very Fine and choice strike.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

This way letter was brought into the Stockton office for delivery to Sonora.



3317 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co. "W.F. & Co.",** printed frank with additional large red "W.F. & Co." surcharge on paste-up 3¢ pink (U58) entire with all-over red shaded "Meagher, Taaffe & Co" ad design and cancelled by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., San Francisco" oval datestamp, **Very Fine,** WC9770.
Thomas No. **WFE-621** . . . . . Estimate $1,500 - 2,000

THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THIS LARGE RED "W.F. & CO." SURCHARGE.

This large "W.F. & Co." red surcharge was used to obliterate the text of the all-over red shaded "Meagher, Taaffe & Co" ad design.



3318 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co. "W.F. & Co.",** large surcharge frank used to obliterate H. Engelbrecht shaded advertising, on 3¢ pink (U58) entire with printed Wells Fargo & Co. frank at left and addressed **to Neah Bay, Wash. Terr. care of Wells, Fargo & Co., Victoria B.C**. cancelled by two partial strikes of blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., San Francisco, Aug" oval datestamp, two strikes of matching "Collect" oval.
Thomas No. **WFE-620** . . . . . Estimate $1,500 - 2,000

THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THIS LARGE BLACK WELLS FARGO & CO. "W.F. & CO." SURCHARGE FRANK USED TO OBLITERATE THE SHADED ADVERTISING.



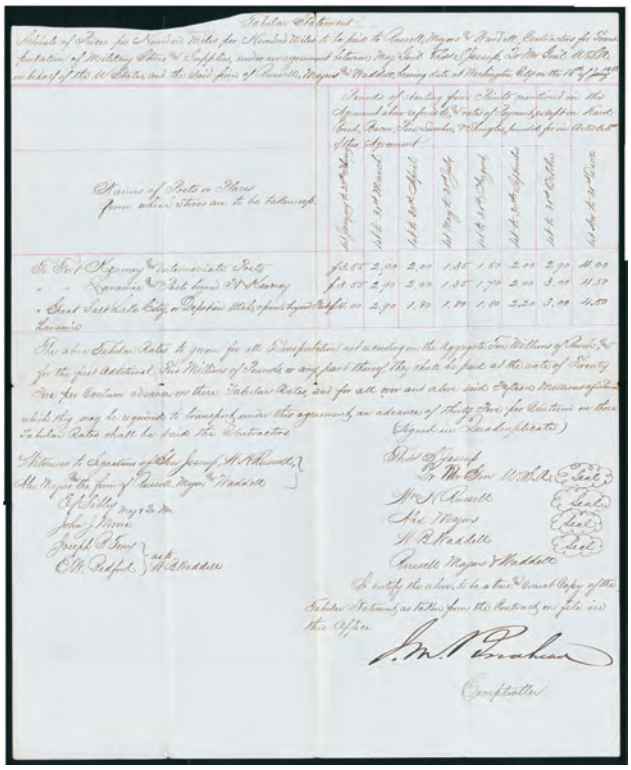
3319 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., 1876, Blue Publishers' Stamp,** clear to huge margins, couple small internal faults, tied by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co's Express, San Diego, Cal." oval handstamp on wrapper to Poway, Calif., **Very Fine**; with 1982 and 2016 P.F. certificates.
Scott No. **143LP10** $1,750



3320 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., Elliott Perry's Reference Collection of Newspaper Stamps plus Pony Express Clipping File,** mounted album containing genuine, reprints and fake examples of 143LP1//143LP10, mint and used, a handful of Pony Express clippings from Knapp sale, etc.; mixed condition as a reference file, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $400 - 600

This is a priceless lot going back to the 1930s.

Pony Express



3321 **(Russell, Majors and Waddell) Pony Express, 1858 (Jan. 16) Tabular Statement for Military Stores to be Paid to Russell, Majors and Waddell,** original handwritten copy of folio-size contract reading "Schedule of Prices per Hundred Pounds per Hundred Miles to be paid to Russell, Majors and Waddell, Contractors for Transportation of Military Stores and Supplies, under arrangement between Maj. Gen'l Thos. S. Jessup, Qr Ms Gen'l U.S.A." and with a tabular listing transportation rates for three routes: "To Fort Kearney and intermediate posts"; "Fort Laramie and posts beyond Ft Kearney"; and "Great Sate Lake City or Depot in Utah, and points beyond Laramie"; some separation along folds, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400

The freighting and staging firm of Russell, Majors and Waddell, formed in 1854 to supply military posts in the American West and Southwest, played a significant role in the history of transportation in the Great Plains. Among the firm's achievements was the creation of the legendary Pony Express. The founding of Russell, Majors and Waddell was rooted in the U.S. Army's need for an efficient means of transporting military supplies between a new depot in Santa Fe and six new army posts in New Mexico Territory, all established at the end of the Mexican War in 1848. In 1854 the War Department decided the best way to efficiently supply these and other posts would be to award two-year contracts to private freighting companies. The quartermaster awarded the first of these contracts to the firm of Russell, Majors and Waddell, a partnership of William H. Russell, Alexander Majors, and William B. Waddell, headquartered in Leavenworth, Kansas. They also transported civilian freight on a large scale.



The transcontinental Pony Express is the most iconic mail system in the history of the American West. It operated for just over a year between April 3, 1860 and October 26, 1861. The idea for a transcontinental Pony Express began in 1859 when the vision and self-interest of William Russell converged in a scheme to transport mail rapidly between California and Missouri using relays of horse mounted riders. William Russell, along with his two partners, Alexander Majors and William Waddell, ran the ten-day Pony Express private mail service over the central route from St. Joseph, Missouri, across the Great Plains, over the Rocky Mountains, via Salt Lake City to San Francisco.

The hope was that by demonstrating that mail could be carried with regularity on the Central Route, it would induce the Post Office to award them the lucrative $600,000 per year mail contract for a daily stagecoach mail service. The aforementioned contract was currently held by the Overland Mail Company and was operating over the southern route. As a demonstration of the viability of carrying mail on the Central Route, the Pony Express was a huge success. However, as a business venture, it was a miserable failure, with Russell and his partners incurring large losses.

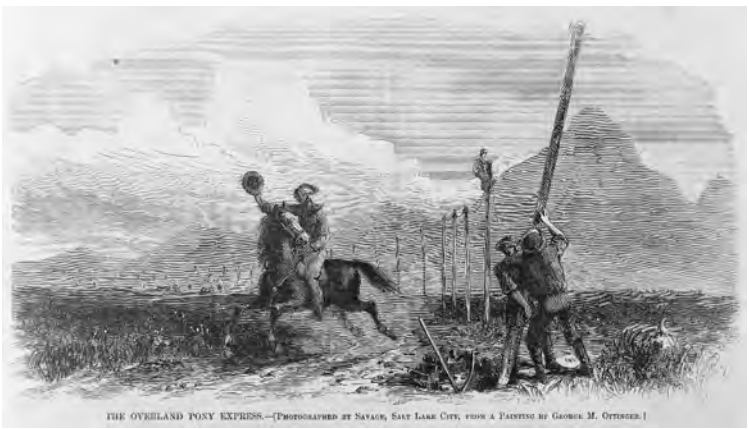


3322 (✉) **Pony Express, San Francisco,** red Running Pony oval handstamp along with matching "Central Overland California & Pike's Peak Express Company, San Francisco, Cal." red oval handstamp canceling 10¢ green (U18) rebacked front with red Wells, Fargo & Co. printed frank addressed to New London, Conn., endorsed "Pr Pony", clear strike of green "St. Joseph, Mo., Apr. 26" cds; the indicia and most of the printed frank have been replaced with portions of the markings expertly drawn in, **Very Fine appearance.**
Estimate . . . . . $10,000 - 15,000

ONE OF THE FEW USAGES WITH THE PONY MARKINGS IN RED, A GORGEOUS USE.



Pony Express Riders



THE OVERLAND PONY EXPRESS.—[Photographed by Savage, Salt Lake City, from a Painting by George M. Ottinger.]

Virginia City Pony Express

In 1859, a great silver strike was made in what was western Utah Territory. This strike became the Comstock Lode and the town of Virginia City, Nevada Territory appeared virtually overnight. By 1862, great fortunes were being made in silver and even greater fortunes were being made at the San Francisco stock exchange trading stocks of the silver mines.



Wells, Fargo Office, Virginia City

As a result of the need for quick communication between San Francisco and Virginia City, Wells Fargo & Co. established a Pony Service that would cut the express time between the two points from 45 hours to 24 fours. This service used a fast running pony from Virginia City south to Carson City on to Genoa, and then over the Sierra Mountains to Placerville, California. From Placerville, the mail would travel by train to Sacramento and then by steamer to San Francisco.

During the life of this special express, three different colored stamps were used for prepayment of the mail rates. The stamps were printed in brown, blue and red to be attached to Wells Fargo franked envelopes. During the first six months of operation the supplemental rate was 10 cents. Afterwards, it was increased to 25 cents. In addition, Wells Fargo also created franked government envelopes with overprinted copies of the stamps.



3323 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., 1862-64, 10¢ brown,** large margins to touched at top left, bright and fresh, tied by "Wells Fargo & Co., Virginia Cty. N.T., Oct 19" oval datestamp on 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire with printed Wells Fargo frank and preprinted address to Sol. Wangenheim, San Francisco; reduced slightly at left, minor edge restoration, **Very Fine appearance,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Scott No. **143L7** . . . . . Estimate $7,500 - 10,000

A BEAUTIFUL AND SCARCE COVER WITH THE 10¢ BROWN VIRGINIA CITY PONY EXPRESS STAMP.

Solomon Wangenheim was an immigrant from Saxony, Germany, who was naturalized on April 30, 1855. He is listed as a merchant at 211 Powell in San Francisco as of July 25, 1866.



3324 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., 1862-64, 25¢ blue,** full margins to touched, rich color, tied by blue "Wells Fargo & Co., Virginia Ct. N.T., Jun 10" oval datestamp, additional strike at right cancels 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire to Sacramento Cal., pencil "$2-" rating; some repaired edge flaws at top and flap mend, **Very Fine appearance,** *ex-F.D.Roosevelt (backstamp).*
Scott No. **143L8** $4,500



3325 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., 1862-64, 25¢ red,** large margins all around including right sheet, bright paper, tied by blue "Wells Fargo & Co., Virginia Cty. N.T., Jun 14" oval datestamp, additional strike at right cancels 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire to San Francisco Cal., pencil "Jun 17/64" arrival docketing; some edge wear with trivial corner flaw, **Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Scott No. **143L9** . . . . . Estimate $7,500 - 10,000

A CHOICE 25¢ RED VIRGINIA CITY PONY EXPRESS COVER WITH THE WELLS FARGO VIRGINIA CITY DATESTAMP.



3326 ✉ **G.H. Wines & Co.'s Express, California, Paid,** spectacular eagle and shield design printed frank on 3¢ red (U10) buff entire cancelled by blue bold "**Rhodes & Whitney's Express, Weaverville**" oval and red "**Pacific Express Co., Shasta, Jul 22**" oval handstamps to San Francisco Cal.; cover with opening tear on back ending in a tear on front at bottom left corner, **otherwise Very Fine,** *ex-Risvold*. Thomas No. **WIE-001** . . . . . Estimate $4,000 - 6,000

A STRIKING THREE COMPANY CONJUNCTIVE USE WITH G.H. WINES & CO'S EXPRESS, RHODES & WHITNEY'S EXPRESS AND PACIFIC EXPRESS CO.

G.H. Wines was based in San Francisco and ran into Sacramento. From these locations they extended into both the northern and southern mining areas of early California., and into Oregon through the use of other feeder expresses. They had offices in Sacramento, San Francisco and New York. They connected with the east coast through Nicaragua.

Northwest Expresses




F. W. BLAKE & CO.'S
Express and Banking
OFFICE,
Wells, Fargo & Co.
WELLS, FARGO & CO.'S EXCHANGE
FOR SALE ON
Special and General Deposits Received.
GOLD DUST
F. W. BLAKE & CO.

3327 ✉ **F. W. Blake & Cos., Express, Weaverville,** blue double-line oval handstamp cancels 3¢ red (U10) Nesbitt buff entire with Wells, Fargo & Co. printed frank, to Yreka Cal., pencil "1857"; minor edge wear; accompanied by a newspaper ad from the Trinity Journal Jul. 25, 1857 that shows Blake was still operating his Shasta-Weaverville express connecting with Wells Fargo after 1855, **Very Fine,** *ex-Haas*.
Thomas No. **BAK-100** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

Francis Wheeler Blake arrived in California in 1852 and in the fall of that year found employment at Rhodes & Lusk as their agent in Weaverville. By September of 1855, Rhodes & Lusk had become Rhodes & Co. About this time, Blake resigned and formed F.W. Blake & Co's Banking and Express. He initially ran from a base at Shasta City to Weaverville, but in October switched to a Weaverville base with a terminus at Shasta. While advertising that he connected with both Wells Fargo and Pacific Express at Shasta, he was closely aligned with Wells Fargo.



3328 (✉) **Brown & Maguire's Copper City Express.,** printed rectangular frank on 3¢ pink (U35) buff cover front with "Red Bluff, Cal, May 26" cds to Prairie P.O., Yolo Co., Cal.; faulty with part pasted to backing card, **Fine,** Census #WC7670, *ex-Dale-Lichtenstein*.
Thomas No. **BRO-001** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE BROWN & MAQUIRE'S COPPER CITY EXPRESS FRANK.

It is believed that this express operated between Red Bluff and Copper City Cal. along the Yreka Road.



3329 ✉ **Cram Rogers & Co. Express. Shasta,** clear strike of double-oval handstamp on cover from Philadelphia Pa. to Yreka City, Cal., clear strike of "Blood's Despatch, Oct 29, 10½ A.M." cds and acid tied **Bloods, 1¢ blue & pink on bluish (15L15)** at upper left, entered mails with blue "Philadelphia Pa. '10' Oct 29" integral due cds, **Very Fine and choice**; with 2017 P.F. certificate.
Estimate. . . . . $4,000 - 6,000

A REMARKABLE TRIPLE-CONJUNCTIVE USE OF BLOOD'S PENNY POST, U.S. POST OFFICE AND CRAM, ROGERS & CO EXPRESS.

Cram, Rogers was the major express operator in North California and Southern Oregon during the early 1850s. The express was formed from a conglomerate of a number of smaller express companies that had operated in this area. They covered an enormous territory stretching from Crescent City on the coast to Jacksonville, Oregon and down through Yreka to Shasta and surrounds.



3330 ✉ **Crooks' Express, Scotts River,** blue oval handstamp on buff cover to Yreka Cal., **Very Fine and choice,** *ex-Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Estimate. . . . . $1,200 - 1,500

AN EXCEPTIONAL STRIKE OF THE CROOK'S EXPRESS SCOTTS RIVER OVAL.

A.D. Crook ran an express service from Yreka to the mines along the Scott and Klamath Rivers.



3331 ✉ **Dugan & Wall, Express, Forwarding & Commission Merchants, Crescent City, Cal.,** printed double-oval on buff cover bearing 3¢ dull red (26), small flaws, tied by "San Francisco Cal., Jan 19, 1859" cds to Sacramento Cal.; some edge wear and flap tear, **Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **DUG-400** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750

THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THIS PRINTED DUGAN & WALL EXPRESS FRANK.

Richard Dugan and Joe Wall operated from California's northern sea port at Crescent City serving Northern California and southern Oregon. At first they relied on Nichol's Express and Freeman Express to connect them by water to San Francisco. From Crescent City they connect overland with Johnson Express for service into southern Oregon. In December 1859, Wells Fargo replaced Nichols and Freeman as a connecting partner. They concentrated on serving Northern California and Southern Oregon as a package and parcel carrier.



3332 ✉ **Greathouse & Slicer, Yreka, Connecting with Wells Fargo & Co.,** sharp strike of blue octagon handstamp cancels 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire to San Francisco Cal.; small edge flaw at left and torn flap, **Very Fine and rare handstamp,** *ex-Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **GRT-100** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

George, Henry and Ridgley Greathouse started by operating a pack line express service between Shasta, California and Callahan's Rancho in Siskiyou County, Cal. They were soon into banking, and a stage service that supported an express and passenger service. With the addition of Hugh Slicer as a partner in late 1855, they expanded the state/express business throughout Northern California and into Oregon and Idaho. They became the Yreka agents for Wells, Fargo & Co. From the Shasta Courier *of December 22, 1855: Greathouse and Slicer were "now prepared to run a Daily Express from our office in Yreka to all parts of California and Oregon, connecting at Shasta with Wells, Fargo & Co.".*

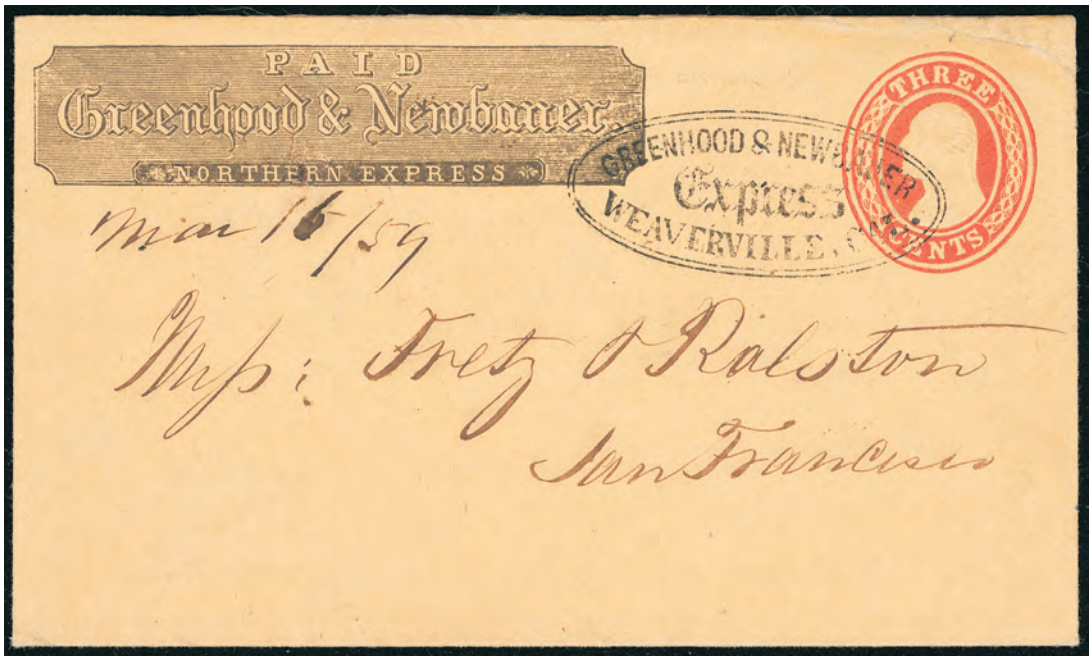


3333 ✉ **Greenhood & Newbauer Northern Express,** printed paid frank on 3¢ pink (U58) entire cancelled by scarab cancel and matching "Weaverville Cal." cds to San Francisco Cal.; reduced slightly at right, **F.-V.F.,** *ex-Pearce.*
Thomas No. **GRH-001** . . . . . Estimate $150 - 200

In late 1856, Herman Greenhood and Joseph Newbauer started an express operation from a base in Weaverville. They assumed Rhodes & Whitney's assets in early 1857. In the following year they purchased Rowe Express. The consolidation of the feeder expresses into Weaverville along with the establishment of a bank and a connection to Wells Fargo at Shasta, gave them control over the express business in Trinity County. This forced their competitor Blake's Express to close their Weaverville office in January 1859 and Wells Fargo switched all support. Further expansion gained penetration into the Trinity River area and as far northwest as Humboldt Bay area. In August 1867, the Greenhood & Newbauer banking business failed, taking the express operation with it, which business Grant I. Taggart's Stage operation quickly took over.



3334 ✉ **Greenwood & Newbauer Express, Weaverville, Cal.,** blue double-oval handstamp and manuscript "May 21" cancels 3¢ red (U9) Nesbitt entire to San Francisco Cal., printed "Greenhood & Newbauer frank (GRH-001), conjunctive strike of blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Sac. Messenger, May 28" oval datestamp; some edge wear and reduced slightly at left, **Very Fine and scarce conjunctive use,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **GRH-100** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400



3335 ✉ **Greenwood & Newbauer Express, Weaverville, Cal.,** sharp strike of black double-oval on 3¢ red (U10) Nesbitt buff entire to San Francisco Cal., printed "Greenhood & Newbaner" error frank (GRH-002), manuscript "Mar 16/59" dating; upper right corner tear, **otherwise Very Fine,** *ex-Bauer.*
Thomas No. **GRH-100** . . . . . Estimate $150 - 200



3336 ✉ **Horn's Yreka, Fort Jones and Scott River Tri-Weekly Express,** violet cigar band shaped paid frank handstamp used in conjunction with printed Wells Fargo & Co. paid frank on 3¢ green (U164) entire cancelled by blue "Wells Fargo & Co's, Fort Jones" oval datestamp to San Francisco Cal., Chinese character endorsements; small top edge tear and small part of flap missing, **Very Fine,** *ex-Clifford*.
Estimate. . . . . $1,500 - 2,000

Dave Horn began operating an express in the mid 1870s between Fort Jones and Yreka. This express serviced the mining area along the Scott River and connected with Wells Fargo at Yreka and Fort Jones.



3337 ✉ **Prindles Express, From Yreka to Scott & Klamath Rivers,** clear strike of double-oval handstamp on 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire cancelled by blue "Wells' Fargo & Co., Yreka, Jun 20" oval datestamp to Dalles Oregon, printed Wells Fargo paid frank; reduced slightly at right, **Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **PRI-001** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

Charles W. Prindles ran from Yreka to the Scott & Klamath River Mines. In 1863, he purchased Chase's Indian Creek operation and during the life of this express he had several partners. He connected with Wells Fargo at Yreka.



3338 ✉ **Rhodes & Whitney's Express, Weaverville,** blue oval handstamp on buff cover to Gills Flat, North Salsman, Cal.; small burnt notch out of top, **F.-V.F. and scarce,** *ex-Tatham*.
Thomas No. **RHW-100** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400

James H. Rhodes sold his express operation to his uncle Jesse Rhodes and his partner Cornelius Whitney in July 1855. They operated in Northern California advertising they ran from Sacramento to Marysville, Shasta, Weaverville, Scott Bar and Crescent City. From Weaverville, they extended as far north as Yreka and had an office in Jacksonville Ore. They connected and cross-partnered with G.H. Wines & Co. as Whitney was a partner in both companies, connecting at Sacramento. Wines sold out in December 1855, and the firm would fail in 1857 with Greenhood & Newbauer assuming the remaining property.



3339 ✉ **Rhodes & Whitney's Express, Weaverville,** sharp bold strike of blue double-oval frank handstamp with matching "Paid" double-oval handstamp on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire to San Francisco Cal., red "Pacific Express Co., Shasta, Sep 9" oval datestamp; minor edge restoration, **Very Fine appearance,** *ex-Dale-Lichtenstein*.
Thomas No. **RHW-100** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750



3340 ✉ **Rowe & Co, Weaver,** choice strike of oval Weaverville Cal. handstamp on legal-size orange cover to Sacramento Cal., conjunctive strikes of red "Pacific Express Co., Shasta, Jun 16" and blue "Pacific Express Co., Marysville, Jun 17" oval datestamps, **Extremely Fine and attractive combination use of three office markings from two express companies,** Thomas WC6632, Illustrated in Letters of Gold, *ex-Haas, Edwards*.
Thomas No. **ROW-100** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS ROWE & CO. OVAL.

This express is believed to have operated between Shasta and Weaverville. It connected with Pacific Express in Shasta and may have connected with Blake's Express at Weaverville.



3341 ✉ **Schoch's Copper City Express,** printed frank with fancy frame on 3¢ pink (U59) buff entire to Gen. Furman at Shasta Cal.; no markings, restored with piece added along left edge slightly affecting frank, **Very Fine appearance,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein*.
Thomas No. **SCH-002** . . . . . Estimate $400 - 600

ONE OF ONLY FOUR RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS SCHOCH'S COPPER CITY EXPRESS FRANK, ONE OF WHICH IS CONTAINED IN THE WILTSEE COLLECTION.

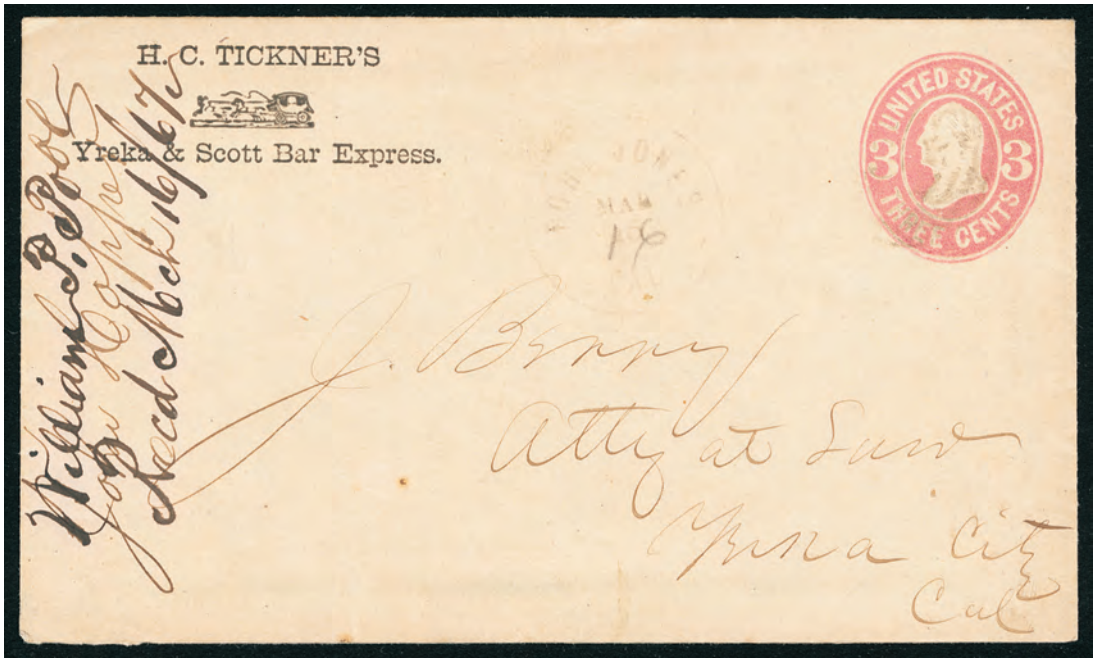
From the city of Shasta, this express ran northeast into the Pittsburg mining district to Cooper City, which was located near the junction of the Pit and McCloud Rivers.



3342 (✉) **Grant I. Taggart's Shasta & Weaverville Express,** frank with ornate frame on 3¢ pink (U58) entire front cancelled by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co, Shasta, Jul 1" oval datestamp to San Francisco Cal.; reinforced faults at right, **Fine appearance,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **TAG-001** . . . . . Estimate $600 - 800

THE ONLY RECORDED USED EXAMPLE OF THE GRANT I. TAGGART'S SHASTA & WEAVERVILLE EXPRESS FRANK.

In 1866, Grant Taggart, a hotel operator has entered the stage business by purchasing the equipment of the California Stage Co. At the same time, he acquired the U.S. mail carrier contract between Shasta and Weaverville. With Greenhood & Newbaurer failing in August 1867, he took over their express business between Shasta and Marysville, with Wells Fargo's blessing.



3343 ✉ **H.C. Tickner's, Yreka & Scott Bar Express.,** two-line printed frank with illustrated stage coach, on 3¢ pink (U59) buff entire to Yreka, Cal., with light "Fort Jones, Cal., Mar 16" cds (Williams SIS-1460), 1867 docketing at left, Very Fine, **Very Fine,** *ex-Weiss, Tatham*. Thomas No. **TIC-001** . . . . . Estimate $3,000 - 4,000

The Tickner family of Father and Sons operated several express companies under a variety of names throughout the Siskiyou and Klamath Mountains of California. At first H.C. Tickner was operating from Yreka and running to the mining camps along the Klamath River. Later in life of this express he expanded into the Scott River Valley. At some point he began connecting with Wells Fargo at Yreka and Fort Jones. He sold all or part of the routes to A.B. Carlock and Ward in late 1872.

Oregon Expresses



3344 ✉ **Beekman's Express, Jacksonville Oregon,** ribbon frank on 3¢ red (U10) buff entire to Yreka, Cal., docketed "Rec'd March 24, 1861"; reduced at right, horizontal fold at top, **F.-V.F.,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **BEE-001** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750

After the failure of Adams in 1855 which was followed a few weeks later by Cram Rogers, Cornelius Beekman started an express from a base of operation at Jacksonville Ore. Terr. Routes ran to Yreka, Crescent City and Roseburg Ore. Beekman connected with Wells Fargo at Yreka and Tracy at Jacksonville. He left for an east coast during most of 1859, but returned and ran the company until selling out to Wells Fargo in 1863 and becoming the Wells Fargo agent at Jacksonville.



3345 ✉ **Buchanan & Co.'s Express, over our Dalles & Canyon City Route.,** green frank on 3¢ pink (U58) entire cancelled by partial blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Jun 8" oval datestamp to Idaho City, Idaho Terr., **Very Fine**, WC1502, *ex-Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **BUC-002** . . . . . Estimate $2,000 - 3,000

ONE OF ONLY FIVE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS BUCHANAN & CO'S EXPRESS FRANK, ONE OF WHICH IS CONTAINED IN THE WILTSEE COLLECTION.

In 1866, Wells Fargo withdrew from the John Day Mine area by canceling their The Dalles to Canyon City express run. Their agent at The Dalles, A.J. Buchanan purchased the rights from Wells Fargo. He ran his express over the same route for about a year and cased operation in late 1867.



3346 ✉ **Hastings' Express,** black pony express rider frank on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire to Portland, Oregon Terr., endorsed "$40" at lower left, **Very Fine and choice,** WC2472, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **HAS-002** . . . . . Estimate $1,500 - 2,000

ONE OF ONLY FIVE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS HASTINGS'S EXPRESS FRANK, ONE OF WHICH IS CONTAINED IN THE WILTSEE COLLECTION AND ONE WITH STAMP REPLACED.

E.L. Hasting operated an express service for about a year in Oregon and up the Columbia River. It has been reported that he also operated throughout the Willamette Valley. He connected with Wells Fargo. Seymour Express purchased Hasting Express in the summer of 1859.



3347 ✉ **Jones & Edgar's Canyon City Express. Paid,** printed frank on 3¢ pink (U34) entire cancelled by conjunctive "Wells, Fargo & Co., Dalles O., Jan 31" oval datestamp in blue to Yreka Cal., endorsed "Valuable", entire freshened, **Very Fine appearance.**
Thomas No. **JON-001** . . . . . Estimate $1,500 - 2,000

ONE OF ONLY SIX RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS JONES & EDGAR'S CANYON CITY EXPRESS FRANK.

Horatio L. Jones and Addison Edgar ran a semi-weekly express between Canyon City and John Day Mines in central Oregon to The Dalles on the Columbia River. At The Dalles they connected with Wells Fargo. The partnership broke up with Jones becoming the Wells Fargo agent in latter 1864, and Edgar becoming the Wells Fargo agent in 1865.



3348 ✉ **Jones & Edgar's Canyon City Express. Paid.,** printed frank on uncancelled 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire to Dalles, Oregon, manuscript Sep. 17th docketing on reverse, **Very Fine,** *One of only six recorded examples of this frank.*
Thomas No. **JON-006** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750



3349 ✉ **McBean & Co.'s Middle Fork Express,** printed frank and conjunctive Wells Fargo frank on 3¢ pink (U59) buff entire cancelled by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Canon City, Nov 21" oval datestamp to San Francisco Cal.; restored at right with paper added, **Very Fine appearance.**
Thomas No. **MCB-002** . . . . . Estimate $1,500 - 2,000

THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THIS MCBEAN & CO'S MIDDLE FORK EXPRESS FRANK AVAILABLE TO COLLECTORS, ONE OTHER IS CONTAINED IN THE WILTSEE COLLECTION.

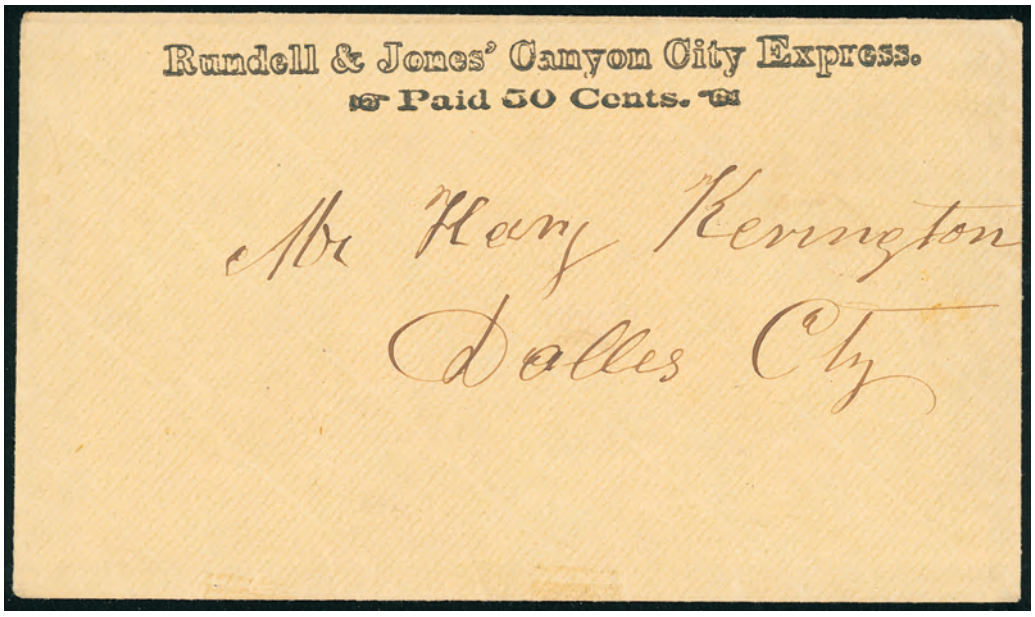
For a brief period from 1865 to 1866, Frank W. McBean ran an express operation between Canon City, Oregon, and the Middle Fork of the John Day River in Oregon.



3350 ✉ **Oregon & California R.R. Express, Portland "James McCraken, Portland, Oregon",** turquoise double-circle with manuscript endorsement, on 3¢ green (U84) cream entire cancelled by "Portland Ore., Jul 11" cds duplexed with cork cancel to San Francisco Cal., **Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **ORC-600** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED USE EXAMPLES OF THE OREGON & CALIFORNIA R.R. EXPRESS DOUBLE-CIRCLE HANDSTAMP, THE OTHER IS CONTAINED IN THE WILTSEE COLLECTION.

Virtually nothing is known about this express. Construction of the Oregon & Railroad began 1870-71, and it is thought that its rails were completed between Portland and Roseburg by 1873. James McCraken was a well-known Portland merchant.



3351 ✉ **Rundell & Jones' Canyon City Express. Paid 50 Cents.,** printed frank on light buff cover to Dalles City, Ore., **Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **RUJ-001** . . . . . Estimate $2,000 - 3,000

ONE OF ONLY THREE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE RUNDELL & JONES' CANYON CITY EXPRESS "PAID 50 CENTS" FRANK.

In 1863, George Rundell and Horatio Jones formed a partnership for an express operation between The Dalles, Oregon and the gold fields in the John Day and the Canyon City mining area of Oregon. In October of the same year, Jones formed a partnership with Addison Edgar that began operation over from The Dalles to the mines of John Day and Canyon City.



3352 ✉ **Tracy & Co.'s Express,** fancy printed frank on 3¢ red (U9) Nesbitt entire cancelled by bold blue "Tracy & Co's Express, Dalles" oval handstamp to Portland Ore., **Very Fine and choice,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **TRA-004** . . . . . Estimate $2,000 - 3,000

A RARE AND BEAUTIFUL TRACY & CO.'S EXPRESS USE FROM DALLES TO PORTLAND, OREGON.

Edward W. Tracy arrived in Portland Ore. on July 8, 1859 as Wells Fargo's General Agent for the Washington and Oregon Territories. He established the Wells Fargo office and as early as July 22nd formed a partnership with E. Norton Jr. and E.L. James to operate his own express service throughout the interior of Oregon. At first this service ran tri-weekly from Portland through the Willamette Valley to Eugene City Ore. It extended overland from this point to Roseburg, Winchester and Oakland Ore. This southern route would eventually connect with Beckman's Express at Jacksonville and Wells Fargo at Portland. A second route would soon follow based out of Portland following the Columbia River to The Dalles, then up river to Walla Walla Wash. From Walla Walla it ran overland to service the mines in the eastern Washington area. When gold was discovered in Idaho Terr., a route from Walla Walla was pushed into Lewiston where the mining activity along the Clearwater and Salmon Rivers were supported. In March 1862, the partial with Norton and James dissolved, and Tracy sold his Portland to Idaho express service to Wells Fargo.



3353 ✉ **Tracy & Co. Oregon Express,** rare printed frank on 3¢ pink (U34) entire with "Tracy & Co." ribbon frank (TRA-007) at left and struck with blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Portland" oval handstamp to Bodago, Sonoma County, Cal.; edge wear and flap missing, **F.-V.F., A rare conjunctive use**.
Thomas No. **TRA-207** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750

The "One Dollar" printed frank is the rarest of the Salmon River & Nez Perces Express franks. During 1861 and 1862, this company carried between the Salmon River and Nez Perces Mines and Walla Walla, Washington Territory where it connected with Wells, Fargo & Co. as well as Tracy & Co.



3354 ✉ **Tracy & Co's Oregon Express,** four-line printed frank **in conjunction with Wells Fargo & Co. paid frank** on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire addressed to Hon. L.F. Grover at Salem Ore., **Very Fine,** WC2880, *ex-Pearce, Haas*.
Thomas No. **TRA-100** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

THIS COMBINATION FRANK IS ONE OF THE RAREST OF THE TRACY & CO. OREGON EXPRESS FRANKS WITH ONLY THREE EXAMPLES RECORDED.



3355 ✉ **Tracy's & Co. Express, Dayton,** bold oval handstamp and blue "Tracy & Co., Portland, Sep 15" double-circle datestamp on 3¢ red (U27) buff Star die entire to Champoeg, Oregon, black Tracy & Co. Oregon Express company scroll frank (TRA-007); light cover toning and right edge repaired including small portion of indicia, **Fine appearance,** A wonderful cover showing the **only recorded example of the Dayton handstamp**, illustrated in the Forster book.
Thomas No. **TRA-101d** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750



3356 ✉ **Tucker's Siskiyou Express,** double-rectangle handstamp frank on 3¢ pink (U58) entire addressed to Byron Cole, Oregon Road; wear and light staining, **Fine.**
Thomas No. **TUC-100** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750

ONE OF FOUR RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS TUCKER'S SISKIYOU EXPRESS FRANK HANDSTAMP.

This cover is addressed to Byron Cole, co-owner of Cole's Roadhouse located on the "Oregon Road". Listing books record Louis Tucker as having operated his express for a short while in 1858, but we now believe this to be 1868 operating along the stage route north from Yreka into the area that is now Southern Oregon. Afterwards, he worked as a stage driver for other companies. This entire though proves that he must have gone into business for himself after 1864.



3357 ✉ **Wells Fargo & Co., S.S. Oregon Messenger,** violet oval handstamp (type 8-4) cancels 2¢ red entire to Portland Ore., printed Wells Fargo & Co. domestic frank and red San Francisco origin datestamp; reduced at right, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

Washington Expresses



3358 (✉) **Tracy. &. Co. Express, Walla. Walla.,** sharp bold strike of oval frank on legal-size orange cover front to Washington D.C. bearing two 10¢ green (68) singles tied by "New York, Aug 4, 1862" duplex, "Department of the Interior, Aug 5 1862, Pension Office" shield receiver; file folds affect 10¢ stamps, **otherwise Very Fine,** WC2882, *ex-Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **TRA-101n** . . . . . Estimate $200 - 300

Although Isaac Mossman is generally acknowledged as the first expressman (with a known franking), E.W. Tracy, Wells Fargo & Co.'s agent in Oregon and Washington Territory from 1861 established his own express company and also extended the lines of Wells Fargo & Co. into the Nez Perces and Salmon River mining regions.

"The discovery of gold in 1860 at Pierce City created a boom in Walla Walla. There was no quick way to Pierce City. Mail from San Francisco came north by sea to Astoria, Oregon. Thence, by sternwheeler up the Columbia River to the Dalles, Oregon. Here everything had to be taken overland above Celilo Falls and put on another sternwheeler, Colonel Wright, to Old Lewistown, then Washington Territory." partially excerpted from La Posta *May 2006.*

Idaho Expresses



3359 ✉ **M. Fettis's Oro Fino Express — Paid.,** printed frank on unused 6¢ pink (U63) entire, 1870 file docketing; edge flaws and flap creased, **Fine and rare,** this frank is not known used. Thomas No. MFE-001.
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

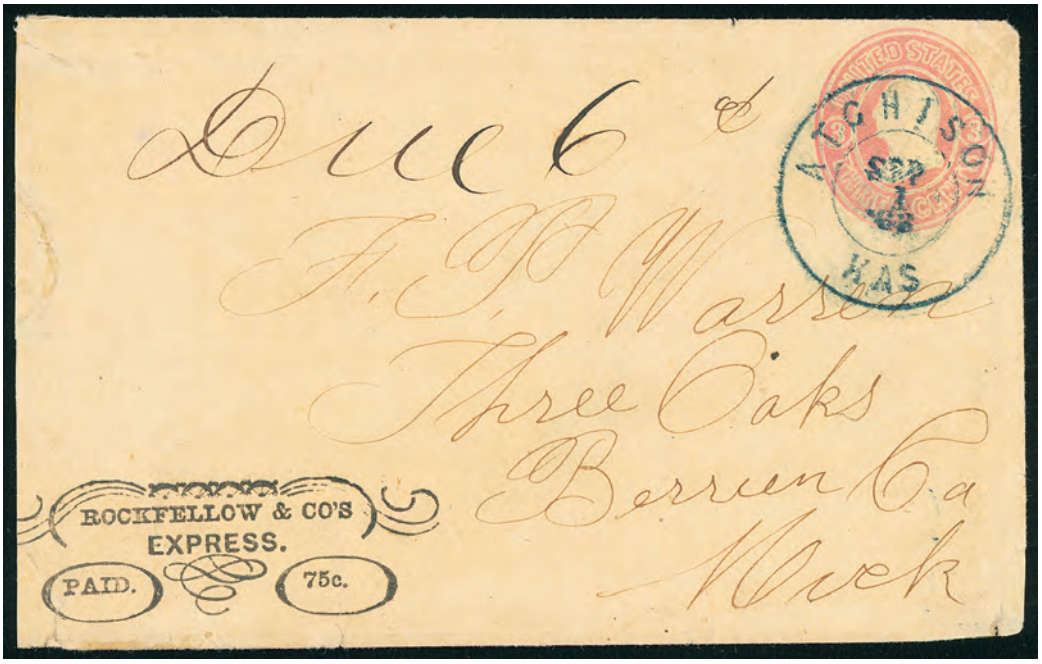
Matthew Fettis operated an express service between Lewiston, Oro Fino and Pierre City, Idaho. He took over this express from E.E. Davidson. By 1872, he was the proprietor of the Lewiston and Walla Walla Stage Line that was carrying the U.S. mails and express articles for Wells Fargo.



3360 ✉ **J.S. Ramey & Co's Express "Paid - 50 Cts.",** ribbon frank on 3¢ pink (U58) entire cancelled by "Lewiston I T, 'Jany 22' " cds and manuscript dating to Oswego Or., blue "ADVERTISED" straightline and "Aug, 3" handstamps, entire restored at right, **Very Fine appearance,** WC4800, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein*.
Thomas No. **JSR-001**. . . . . Estimate $2,000 - 3,000

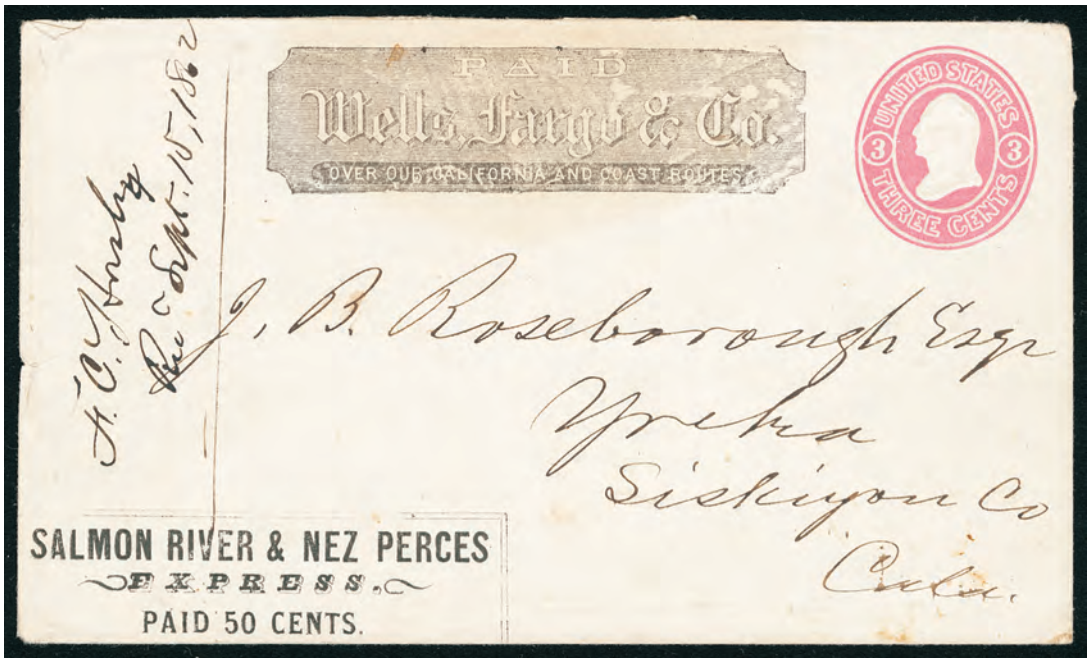
THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THE J.S. RAMEY & CO'S EXPRESS FRANK.

J.S. Ramey and Al Ripson ran an express operation between Lewiston and Florence, Idaho by way of Elk City. It is believed that this was a stage/express service. This run was over the same route that had been established by the Dwight Brothers. In May 1865, the operation was sold to Rigg & Kinn.



3361 ✉ **Rockfellow & Co's Express "Paid 75c.",** fancy printed frank at lower left, on 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire cancelled by bold "Atchison Kas, Sep 1 '63" cds in blue addressed to Three Oaks Mich., manuscript "Due 6¢" rating, reduced at left with repaired tear, **F.-V.F. and scarce frank,** WC6383.
Thomas No. **ROC-002** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

William Hurst Rockfellow established a route from Walla Walla, Washington Territory over the Blue Mountains into the Boise Basin in Idaho Territory. This route extended to Boise City. He connected with Wells Fargo at Wall Walla and was entrusted with Wells Fargo deliveries into the basin when Wells Fargo withdrew from the route in May 1863. After a few months, Wells Fargo reentered the area and he sold his express routes to them in September or October 1863.



3362 ✉ **(Tracy & Co.) Salmon River & Nez Perces Express, Paid 50 Cents,** boxed frank on fresh 3¢ pink (U34) entire to Yreka, Cal., additional Wells, Fargo & Co. printed frank at top center, "Sept 15, 1862" receipt docketing; faint stain, **otherwise Very Fine,** *Thomas WC9460.*
Thomas No. **TRA-601** . . . . . Estimate $150 - 200



3363 ✉ **Tracy & Co., Oregon Express "Boise Express. Paid 50 Cts.",** ribbon frank with printed two-line Boise Express at bottom left, on 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire cancelled by blue "Wells Fargo & Co., Bannock City I.T., May 5" oval and additional strike over Tracy & Co. frank; reduced slightly at right, **Very Fine and choice,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **TRA-007, TRA-600** . . . . . Estimate $2,000 - 3,000

On November 16, 1863, The Oregonian *reported: "Tracy & co. have disposed of their express business between Portland and the Idaho mines to Wells Fargo & Co. for the sum of $3,000, conditioned that T & Co. not establish another line for six months…" The Bannock City oval handstamp on both the frank and the entire confirm that Wells Fargo was in total possession of this former Tracy line.*



3364 ✉ **Wells Fargo & Co., "Boise Mines - Paid 50 Cts.",** red printed frank on 3¢ pink (U34) entire bearing 3¢ rose (65), nat. s.e., tied by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Portland, Jun 3" oval datestamp to San Francisco Cal., **Very Fine and rare use from Boise Mines,** WC9836.
Thomas No. **WFE-210a** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

Nevada Expresses



3365 ✉ **D.W. Earl & Co., Forwarding & Commission Merchants, Reno, Nevada,** framed corner card handstamp on 2¢ green entire cancelled by "Reno, Nev., Jul 7, 1889" duplex to Cedarville Cal., original D.W. Earl & Co. freight invoice and payment receipt, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300

D.W. Earl & Co. established offices at Nevada railroad depots and handled freight to and from the Washoe mines. This cover shows the use of the company datestamp on an envelope as a processing device.



3366 ✉ **Elko & Mountain City Pony Express, M.P. Freeman & Co., Prop's, Paid One Dollar.,** printed frank with fancy frame, and conjunctive printed Wells Fargo & Co. frank on 3¢ green (U82) entire cancelled by "Portland Oreg. Jan 19" duplex to San Francisco Cal., endorsed "pr. Steamer "State of California"; small top edge tear, **Very Fine,** WC8320, *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Thomas No. **ELK-001** . . . . . Estimate $4,000 - 6,000

ONE OF ONLY TWO POSTALLY USED EXAMPLES OF THE ELKO & MOUNTAIN CITY PONY EXPRESS FRANK.

This express operated out of Elko, Nevada servicing the mines of northern Nevada around Mountain City. Merrill P. Freeman worked in this area for a number of years at jobs relating to the movement of the mails and may have operated this express in some capacity. The only reference is in the Territorial Enterprise *of August 19, 1871: "The stage running between here (Elko) and Mountain City will be discontinued on Monday next. A pony express by M.P. Freeman & Co. will carry the mail between the above points.".*

Langton's Humboldt Express

Shortly after the discoveries at Comstock, gold and silver deposits were also located in northwest Nevada in the Humboldt Mountain Range. Langton established a branch connection to the Humboldt Mines that was known as Langton's Humboldt Express. He maintained offices in Unionville and Starr City to service the general Humboldt area. A tri-weekly service was established that left Carson City every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday for the Humboldt mining area. By 1862, he was connecting Downieville, Cal. to Carson City, Nevada. He sold his property in Downieville and relocated to Carson City shortly before his death in a buggy accident.



3367 ✉ **"Collect Humboldt Express. 25 cts.",** manuscript endorsement on 3¢ red (U27) buff Star die entire with printed Wells Fargo & Co. paid frank and cancelled by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co. Express, Silver City, Utah" oval handstamp to Santa Cruz, Cal.; light soiling at bottom left, **Very Fine**; with 2003 P.F. certificate.
Estimate . . . . . $10,000 - 15,000

THIS IS THE EARLIEST RECORDED HUMBOLDT EXPRESS USE, AND THE ONLY RECORDED MANUSCRIPT FRANKED EXAMPLE.

With the establishment of Unionville and Humboldt City in the spring of 1861 because of the discovery of major gold and silver deposits, Samuel Langton expanded his express business into the region. Langton connected with Wells, Fargo & Co. at Silver City for delivery to the California coast.

This cover is extensively discussed by Jim Gamett in Nevada Express, 2002, pp 83-87.

One of the Great Western Express Rarities



3368 ✉ **Humboldt Express, 1863, 25¢ brown,** four large even margins, tied by blue "Langton's Pioneer Express, Star City" oval handstamp on 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire with black Langton's printed frank, addressed to Bidwell's Bar Cal. "Care of Capt. Singer", entire restored at right, trivial stamp cleaning causing some barely discernable discoloration of cancel, **Very Fine appearance,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein*, with 2004 P.F. certificate.
Scott No. **86L1** . . . . . Estimate $30,000 - 40,000

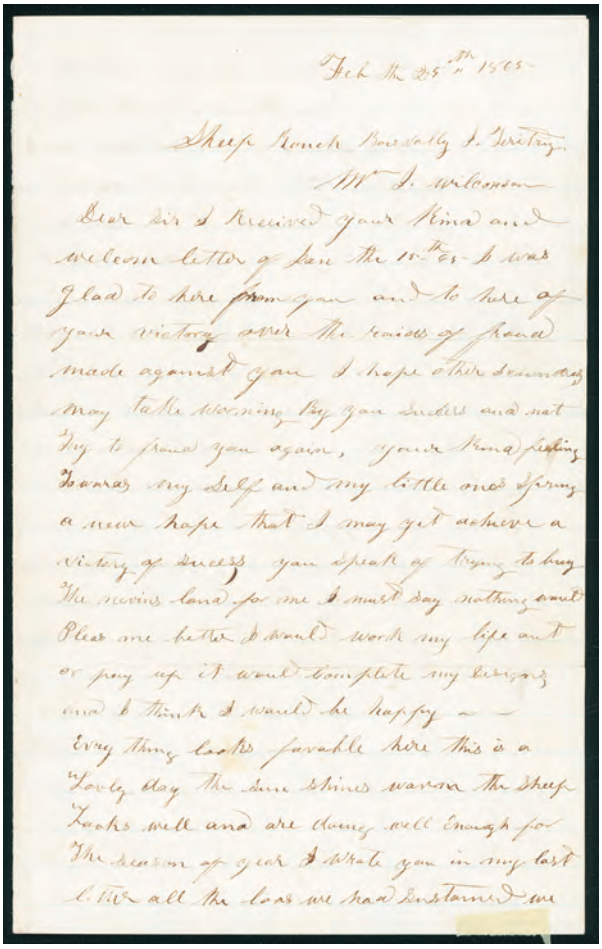
ONE OF ONLY SIX INTACT COVERS RECORDED WITH LANGTON'S HUMBOLDT EXPRESS STAMP.

The Humboldt Express was the last of seven successive Western express services operated by Samuel W. Langton, who has been described by historians as the most energetic and persevering of the numerous expressmen of the period. Langton launched the Humboldt Express in February 1860 and oversaw its operation until his accidental death in 1864. Service was provided between the Humboldt mines in Nevada to Carson City, the state capital. For transportation across this difficult route, 25c was charged in addition to the $2.00 per letter fee. To facilitate prepayment of this surcharge, Langton issued the 1860 25c Brown adhesive stamp. The stamp, with its exceptionally detailed depiction of a stagecoach drawn by a four-horse team, is widely regarded as the finest example of a pictorial stamp issued by the numerous local posts operated in the United States between 1842 and the 1870's. The style, lettering, color and lithographic technique used to print Langton's stamp are identical to those of the Wells, Fargo & Co. pony express stamps of the same period, and it is accepted, though unproven, that the issues of both companies were made by the same printer (Britton & Rey of San Francisco).

The six recorded Humboldt Express 25c Brown covers:
1) Unionville (blue oval) to J. S. Bendle, Bidwell's Bar Cal., "Care of Capt. Singer", U34 with Langton frank, ex-Brown, Moody, Simpson, Hertz
2) Star City (blue oval) to J. S. Bendle, Bidwell's Bar Cal., "Care of Capt. Singer", U35 with Langton frank, ex- Dale-Lichtenstein (the cover offered here)
3) Unionville (blue oval) to J. S. Bendle, Bidwell's Bar Cal., "Care of Capt. Singer", U34 with Langton frank, ex-Caspary, Nathan
4) Star City (blue oval) to G. Borzo, Placerville Cal., U34 with Langton frank, WF Nevada Jun. 10 oval, ex-Jessup, Hawley, Polland, Jacobitz
5) Unionville (red oval) and "Paid" in oval tying 25c, to Charles Lott, Oroville Cal., U34 with WF frank and WF Carson City May 11 oval, PFC, ex-Haas, Edwards
6) Star City (blue oval) to S. W. Holladay, San Francisco, U34 with Langton frank, 3c 1861 tied by "Paid" and WF Nevada Jul. 11 (1863) oval, with enclosure, PFC, ex-Hall, Kapiloff.

In addition to these six intact covers, there are two restored fronts or pieces and a few faked examples. Our census has been compiled independently of the Gamett census.



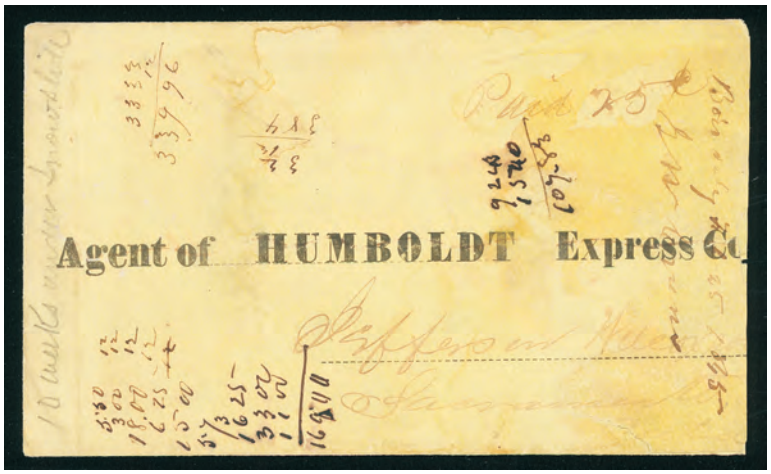


Feb the 25th 1865

Sheep Ranch Boise Valley I. Territory

Mr S. Wilcoxson

Dear sir I Received your Kind and welcome letter of Jan the 15th 65 I was glad to here from you and to here of your victory over the reviews of fraud made against you I hope other seemingly may take warning by your suckes and not try to fraud you again, your Kind feeling towards my Self and my little ones Spring a new hope that I may get achieve a victory of success you speak of trying to buy the nevins land for me I must say nothing would Please me better I would work my life out or pay up it would complete my happyness and I think I would be happy a — Every thing looks favorable here this is a lovely day the sun shines warm the sheep looks well and are doing well Enough for the season of year I Wrote you in my last letter all the loss we had Lost none



3369 ✉ **Humboldt Express Co.,** printed reply envelope with "Agent of Humboldt Express Co." crossed out and addressed to Sacramento Cal., original enclosure datelined "Sheep Ranch, Bois Valley, I.Territory, Feb. 25th 1865", used as paste-up with manuscript "Paid 25¢" express rating, pencil "***10 Weeks under Snowslide***" at left, pasted to 3¢ pink (U34) entire with printed Wells Fargo frank and cancelled by blue "Wells Fargo & Co., La Grande" oval handstamp, pencil "Came to Hand, May 31st 1865" endorsement; covers separated and faulty as to be expected, **Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $750 - 1,000

A REMARKABLE CONJUNCTIVE HUMBOLDT AND WELLS FARGO EXPRESS USE DELAYED DUE TO SNOW SLIDE, ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED.

This letter should have been carried into Wells Fargo at Virginia City, Nevada, however, because of heavy snow on that route, the letter was carried north to Oregon. En route, it was buried "Ten weeks under Snowslide". After the spring thaw, it was retrieved with note "Came on Hand May 31, 1865" into Wells Fargo & Co. at La Grande Oregon for transit to Sacramento. There is one other cover with an identical "snowslide" inscription, which was written and signed by "Vincent Norten".

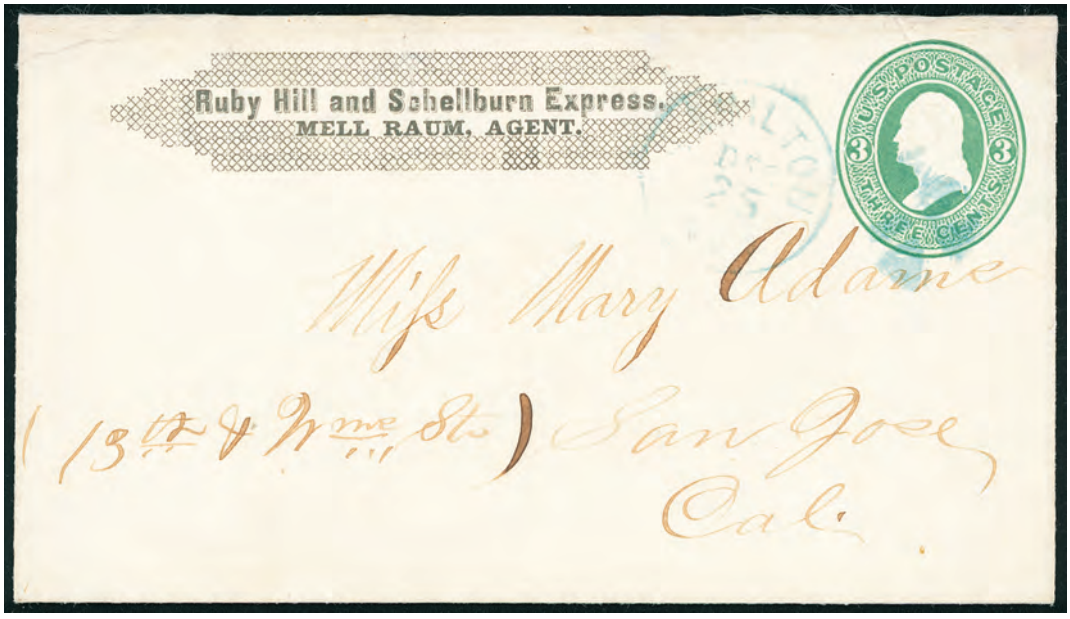
The Humboldt Express Co. establishment was announced in the Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman of August 1864. It operated for about one year and ran a "pony express" from Boise, Idaho Territory area to Virginia City, Nevada Territory. It ceased operations because of the Paiute-Bannock Indian uprising.



3370 ✉ **Raum's Ruby Hill, Schellburn and Rubyville Express, Agency White Pine Daily News.,** printed frank with fancy frame, on 3¢ green (U82) entire cancelled by manuscript "Schellburn Nev., Mar. 27/72" postmark and matching ms. strokes cancel indicia to San Francisco Cal.; reduced slightly at right, **Very Fine**.
Thomas No. **RAU-001** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

ONE OF ONLY FOUR RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THIS RAUM'S RUBY HILL, SCHELLBURN AND RUBYVILLE EXPRESS FRANK.

After Lovell left the partnership of Raum & Lovell's Express, Mell Raum continued to operate as Raum Express through the same North-central area of Nevada connecting with the U.S. mail at Schellbourne Nev.



3371 ✉ **Ruby Hill and Schellburn Express, Mell Raum, Agent.,** fancy printed frank on 3¢ green (U82) entire cancelled by blue "Hamilton Nev., Dec 25" duplex to San Jose Cal.; upper left corner repair and sealed edge tears, **F.-V.F. appearance,** WC2368.
Thomas No. **RAU-005** . . . . . Estimate $750 - 1,000

THIS IS THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THIS RAUM'S EXPRESS FRANK.



3372 ✉ **Raum's Centerville, Ruby Hill and Shelburn Express / Agency White Pine Daily News.,** printed frank on 3¢ green entire cancelled by target cancel and matching "Schellbourne Nev., Aug 16" cds with pencil address to Sacramento City Cal.; reduced slightly at left, small edge tear, **F.-V.F.,** WC2364.
Thomas No. **RAU-006** . . . . . Estimate $300 - 400

ONE OF SIX RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THIS RAUM'S CENTERVILLE, RUBY HILL AND SHELBURN EXPRESS FRANK.



3373 ✉ **Thomes & Skadan's Express, Susanville & Reno, Connecting with Wells, Fargo & Co.,** printed paid ribbon frank on 3¢ green entire cancelled by blue partial "Wells Fargo & Co, Reno" oval datestamp to Roseburg Ore., docketed "David Evans, Feb 11/73" at left, **Very Fine,** WC2817.
Thomas No. **THO-003** . . . . . Estimate $500 - 750

THIS IS THE ONLY RECORDED THOMAS & SKADAN'S EXPRESS USE TO OREGON.

This was a stage operation that provided an express letter service. They operated between Susanville Cal and Reno Nev., a distance of about 70 miles. They connected with Wells Fargo at Reno.





"Snowshoe" Thompson Express



3374 ✉ **Thompson's Carson Valley Express,** bold red ornamented handstamp on 3¢ Red on buff entire (#U10) carried over the Sierra Nevada to Auburn, California with Wells, Fargo & Co. printed frank, entered the mails with clear "Carson Valley, U.T./Oct 9" datestamp, cover reduced at right and with original indicia cut out and replaced, **Very Fine appearance**, WC5050, *ex-Risvold*; with 1978 P.F. certificate. Thomas No. **TSS-100** . . . . . Estimate $20,000 - 30,000

ONE OF ONLY TWO KNOWN EXAMPLES OF THE "SNOWSHOE" THOMPSON'S HANDSTAMP, BOTH ARE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE WELLS, FARGO & CO. FRANK.

Thompson's Carson Valley Express was established by John A. "Snowshoe" Thompson in 1857-58 and operated between Genoa, Nevada and Placerville, California. He also carried the overland mails for Chorpenning during the winter months of 1861. Snowshoe died on 15 May, 1876. (see Across The Sierra Nevada Mountain by Snow-Shoe, by Risvold and Frajola in Chronicle #215).





3375 ✉ **Wellington Express,** perfect strike of blue oval handstamp on paste-up envelope affixed to 3¢ pink (U58) entire cancelled by "Esmeralda Nev., Dec 27 '65" cds to New York N.Y., manuscript "Due 3" rating; edge faults, **Very Fine appearance**.
Estimate. . . . . $6,000 - 8,000

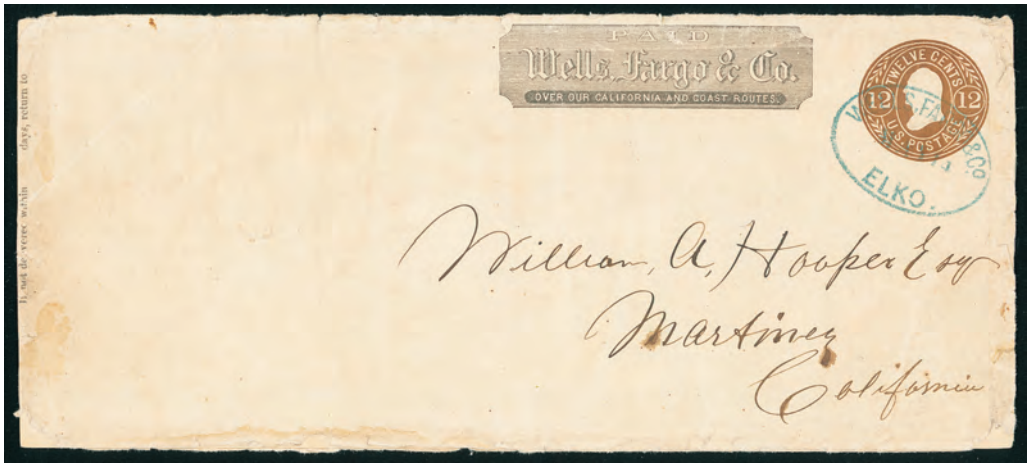
ONE OF ONLY FIVE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE WELLINGTON EXPRESS OVAL HANDSTAMP, ONE OF WHICH IS CONTAINED IN THE WILTSEE COLLECTION.

Daniel Wellington and his partner, S.P. Dorsey, ran a stage and express service from Carson City to Esmeralda, Nev. From that location, it ran to Benton, through the Owens Valley to the San Carlos mining area that is located around present day Independence Cal. This service included the towns of Camp Independence, San Carlos, Kearsage and Bend City.

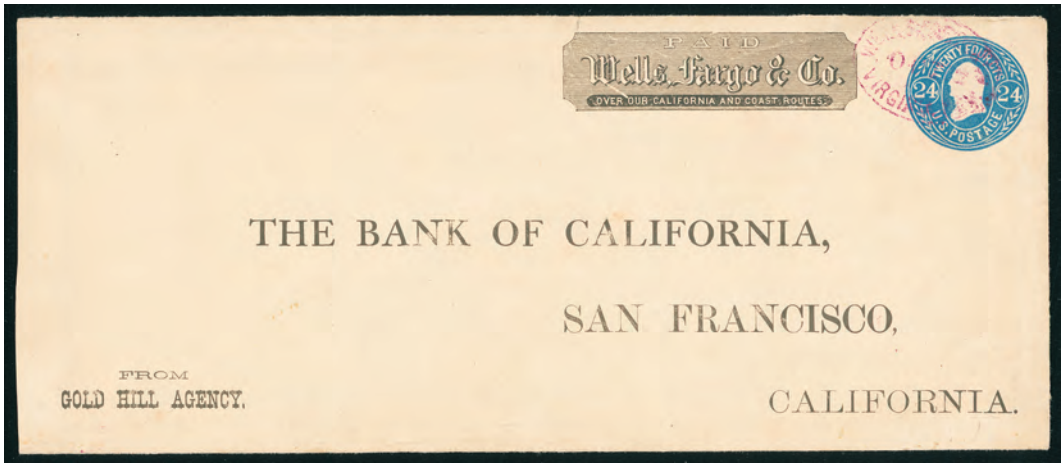
All five of the usages are paste-ups from the Mary Bush correspondence to New York N.Y.



3376 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., Virginia City, N.T., Jan,** blue oval datestamp on legal-size **12¢ red & brown on buff (U42)** entire with Wells, Fargo & Co. printed frank, addressed to A.P. Crittenden, San Francisco Cal.; reduced at left and cover tear, **Fine and rare used entire.**
Scott No. **U42**; $650 . . . . . Estimate $200 - 300



3377 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., Elko, May 14,** sharp blue oval datestamp on legal size **12¢ brown on buff (U68)** entire with Wells, Fargo & Co. printed frank, addressed to Martinez Cal.; mostly split along edges, **Fine and scarce used**; with 2013 P.F. certificate.
Scott No. **U68** $1,200



3378 ✉ **Wells Fargo & Co., Virginia City, Oct 12,** purple oval datestamp on **24¢ blue on buff (U71)** legal size entire with Wells, Fargo & Co. printed frank, entire with preprinted address to The Bank of California, San Francisco Cal.; reduced slightly at left and tiny tear at top, **fresh and Very Fine.**
Scott No. **U71** $700



3379 ✉ **Wells Fargo & Co., "Paid 25 Cts.",** printed surcharge paid frank on 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire cancelled by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., Virginia Cty. N.t., Jul 10" oval datestamp to San Francisco Cal.; reduced slightly at right, **Very Fine.**
Thomas No. **WFE-211a** . . . . . Estimate $400 - 600

ONE OF ONLY FIVE RECORDED WELLS FARGO "PAID 25 CTS." SURCHARGE FRANKS USED FROM NEVADA TERRITORY, THIS BEING THE ONLY ONE NOT FROM THE SINSHEIMER CORRESPONDENCE.



3380 ✉ **Wells Fargo & Co.'s Express, Tuscarora, Nev.,** purple oval handstamp cancels 3¢ green entire with printed Wells Fargo printed frank to San Francisco Cal., original "Grand Prize Mining Company" letterhead enclosure datelined "Tuscarora, Nev., July 17th 1882", **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $150 - 200



3381 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co., Surcharged "Paid 25 Cts.",** printed frank on 3¢ pink (U34) entire cancelled by blue "Wells Fargo & Co., Austin, N.T., Sep 6" oval datestamp from the Simon Sinsheimer correspondence to San Francisco Cal.; reduced slightly at right, **Very Fine and choice.**
Thomas No. **WFE-211a** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

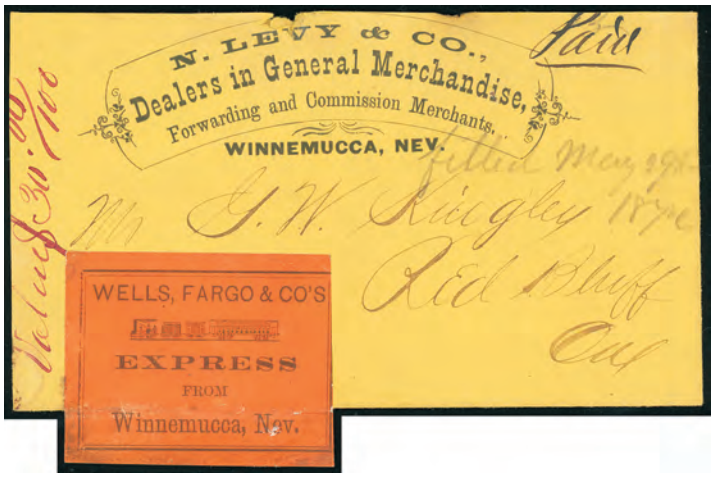
The 25¢ surcharge pays the fee for the Virginia City Pony Express. They are scarce as most Virginia Pony covers are franked with adhesives.



3382 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co's Express from "Gold Hill NT",** black on orange illustrated label showing steam locomotive and steamboat with manuscript town designation, affixed on 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire with printed Wells Fargo & Co. frank to San Francisco Cal., **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $400 - 600



3383 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co's Express from Virginia, Nev.,** black on orange illustrated label showing steam locomotive, restored at left, affixed on legal-size orange cover to Carson City Nev., purple "T.W.W. Davies, Atty at Law. Carson City, Nev." return address backstamp, **Fine appearance.**
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400



3384 ✉ **Wells, Fargo & Co's Express from Winnemucca, Nev.,** black on orange illustrated label showing steam locomotive, affixed over edge on N. Levy & Co., Dealers in General Merchandise, Winnemucca Nev. corner card cover to Red Bluff Cal., red manuscript "Value $30 00/100" docketing at left, manuscript "Paid" and pencil "filed May 29th 1872" docketing; reduced at top and left, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $600 - 800

Utah Expresses



3385 ✉ **Reticker's Poney Express,** bold strike of handstamp frank at left and conjunctive Wells Fargo & Co. printed frank at center on 3¢ green (U82) entire cancelled by bold "Wells, Fargo & Co., Salt Lake Cty. U.T., Mar 10" oval datestamp to San Francisco Cal., flap with blue "A.T. Green, San Francisco, Mar 13, 1871" double-circle arrival datestamp, **Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein*; with 2004 P.F. certificate. Thomas No. **RET-100** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500

ONE OF ONLY TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE RETICKER'S PONEY EXPRESS FRANK HANDSTAMP, A REMARKABLE CONJUNCTIVE USE WITH WELLS FARGO & CO.

An express service by Charles Reticker that ran from the Salt Lake City area and connected with Wells Fargo at that point.

Colorado Expresses



3386 ✉ **Hinckley & Co.'s Express,** scroll frank on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire cancelled by grid cancel and "Philadelphia Pa., Nov 19, 1863" octagon datestamp addressed to ***Golden City, J.T.*** **(Jefferson Territory)**, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $1,000 - 1,500

A CHOICE HINCKLEY & CO.'S EXPRESS USE INBOUND TO GOLDEN CITY, JEFFERSON TERRITORY.

An unofficial Jefferson Territory was established locally in October 1859, but it was never recognized by Congress. No postal markings of Jefferson Territory are known, although covers are known addressed to Jefferson Territory. The area was larger than what would be Colorado Territory. The sender was probably a regular correspondent and had a supply of prepaid Hinckley & Co. entires in Philadelphia.



3387 ✉ **"Care Hinckley's & Co., Express, St Joseph Mo.",** manuscript endorsement on cover bearing 3¢ dull red (26) tied by partial "Philadelphia Pa, May 12, 1861" octagon datestamp on buff cover "**to Mountain City, J.T.**" (Jefferson Territory), **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $100 - 150

Early advertisements proudly proclaiming "Hinckley's Express Company of Jefferson Territory" gave evidence of commercial backing of the group favoring the name, Jefferson, over Colorado for the new territory. Hinckley's promotional effort certainly had some effect since covers to a number of mining camps are known with "J.T." addresses.

Kansas Expresses



3388 ✉ **Forwarded by Eldridge Brothers' Kansas Express, Collect "25",** black on green printed label with manuscript collect rating, used on cover addressed to Leavenworth Kans., endorsed "(Eldridge Co's Ex.)" at lower left and additional "Collect 25" at upper right; label torn, upper right corner faulty, **Very Fine and choice,** *ex-Eggen*.
Estimate. . . . . $3,000 - 4,000

THE ONLY KNOWN EXAMPLE OF THIS ELDRIDGE BROTHERS' KANSAS EXPRESS LABEL, AND THE ONLY COVER CARRIED BY THIS EXPRESS.

In 1857, the Eldridge Brothers inaugurated the first stage line in Kansas Territory. The Kansas Express initially operated between Wyandotte and Lawrence. It was expanded to Topeka by way of LeCompton and also served the towns of Leavenworth City and Osawatomie. Three covers are recorded associated with this rare two-year express company, two of which have different all-over advertising on the reverse. This is the only known cover actually carried by the company before it was sold to the Western Stage Company in 1859.

Shalor Winchell Eldridge, the founder, was one of the most prominent Kansas and an avid free-state advocate. He was owner of the Free-State Hotel in Lawrence. As the site of the printing office of the "Kansas Free States" newspaper, the hotel was destroyed in 1856 by Sheriff Jones and his posse, a band of proslavery outlaws claiming to act under authority of the United States. The hotel was later rebuilt in 1857 as the Eldridge House.



British Columbia & Vancouver Island

When on August 17, 1862, prospector Billy Barker struck major gold deposits at the head of Williams Creek, he culminated probes of others who had come to the area as early as 1859. The 50 miles surrounding what would become Barkerville contained the greatest and richest gold deposits in the history of British Columbia. Thus began the "Cariboo" gold rush. The Cariboo gold region was 400 miles beyond the head of navigation on the Fraser River. It was located northeast of Fort Hope / Yale area, which was the scene of the "Fraser River" gold rush of a few years prior.

Victoria, Vancouver Island was a most important port. It became a supply center and jumping off point for the Fraser Gold Rush of 1858, and was incorporated as the city of Victoria in 1862. Virtually all mail to and from British Columbia traveled through Victoria. Mail to the United States and eastern Canada traveled by steamship to San Francisco**.**



3389 ✉ **1867 (Jun.) Williams Creek, British Columbia to Aylmer, Canada West,** cover bearing **Vancouver Island, 5c rose (5) and 10c blue (6) pair** tied by Williams Creek "10" numeral grid cancels, bold strike of blue "General Post Office, British Columbia, 26 Jun 1867" double-circle datestamp on right side flap, entered U.S. mails with bold "San Francisco, Cal, Jul 1" double-circle datestamp and **10¢ green (68)** tied by cogwheel fancy cancel; backflap torn, **Very Fine,** *ex-Wellburn.*
Estimate. . . . . $4,000 - 6,000

A RARE VANCOUVER ISLAND AND UNITED STATES COMBINATION COVER FROM WILLIAMS CREEK TO CANADA WEST VIA THE UNITED STATES.

The Cariboo region's Williams Creek post office began operation in June 1864. It used the numeral "10" cancel.

The separate Crown Colonies of Vancouver Island (VI) and British Columbia (BC) were established in January 1849 and November 1858. They merged into a united British Columbia on November 17, 1866. Their geographic isolation meant that virtually all mail to or from the colonies had to pass through San Francisco until 1869. Both colonial and U.S. postage was paid separately on the mail via San Francisco.



3390 ✉ **1866 (Mar. 2) New Westminster, British Columbia to Bowmanville, Canada West via San Francisco,** blue cover bearing **British Columbia, 5d blue (7) singles** tied by bold "New Westminster, British Columbia, Post Office" double-oval postmark on blue cover, reverse with black "General Post Office, British Columbian, 2 Mar 1866" double-circle backstamp, endorsed U.S. mails with **U.S. 10¢ green (68) vertical pair** tied by bold strikes of four-ring cancel duplexed with "San Francisco, Cal. Mar 9" double-circle datestamp, reverse with "Bowmanville, U.C., 3 AP" arrival backstamp; reduced slightly at right, trivial stamp flaws, **Very Fine,** *ex-Wellburn.*
Estimate. . . . . $3,000 - 4,000

A REMARKABLE DOUBLE-RATE USE FROM NEW WESTMINSTER, BRITISH COLUMBIA TO CANADA WEST VIA THE UNITED STATES.


The Calvenos Claim, Lowhee Creek

The "Post Office Victoria" Coat of Arms frank was used to indicate prepayment of VI colonial postage from September 1860 to February 1863. Franked envelopes could be purchased at the Victoria post office.

Formal post office operations began in British Columbia and Vancouver Island (BC & VI) with the November 24, 1858 Victoria Postal Notice. It set colonial postage on mail leaving the colonies at 2½d, or 5¢. The April 1, 1855 US Postal Act set domestic rates at 3¢ or 10¢ per ½ oz., according to distance. This meant that rates to Canada and Great Britain from San Francisco were 15¢ and 29¢, respectively.



3391 ✉ **1862 (February) Victoria, Vancouver Island to Yorkville, Canada West via San Francisco,** cover with "**Post Office, Victoria V.I.**" crown oval handstamp indicating British Columbia postage 2½d (5¢) paid in cash, entered mails with "San Francisco, Cal. Feb 27 1862" cds and two 1¢ blue (63) singles, 3¢ rose pink (64b), and 10¢ green (68), all cancelled and tied by cogwheel fancy cancels, "Chicago Ill, Paid 15" circular exchange handstamp, partial Yorkville, AP 3, 62" arrival backstamp; no flap, 1¢ and 3¢ small stamp flaws at top from edge placement, **Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Estimate. . . . . $2,000 - 3,000

A BEAUTIFUL THREE-COLOR 1861 ISSUE FRANKING FOR THE 15¢ RATE FROM VANCOUVER ISLAND TO CANADA WEST.

It appears this cover was originally franked with a pair of the 10¢ green, the left stamp was mostly removed leaving the top eight beneath the 3¢ rose pink.

Victoria, Vancouver Island was a most important port. It became a supply center and jumping off point for the Fraser Gold Rush of 1858, and was incorporated as the city of Victoria in 1862. Virtually all mail to and from British Columbia traveled through Victoria.





3392 ✉ **1864 (Oct.) Victoria, Vancouver Island to London, England via San Francisco and New York,** red Wells Fargo & Co. printed frank and light strike of "**Post Office, Victoria V.I.**" crown oval handstamp indicating British Columbia postage 2½d (5¢) paid in cash on 10¢ green (U40) entire, blue "Wells, Fargo & Cos Express, S.Frco., 25 Oct" double-circle datestamp, entered mails with sharp red "N.York Br. Pkt. 'Paid 19' Nov 19" credit exchange cds bearing U.S. **10¢ green (68) vertical pair** cancelled by NYFM star in circle fancy cancel, additional strike cancels indicia; cleaned and minor edge strengthening, couple small 10¢ flaws, **Very Fine appearance.**
Estimate. . . . . $1,000 - 1,500

Beginning January 1862, all ship mail (closed bags) between Victoria and San Francisco was either handled by the Consul or Wells Fargo & Co. The three other Victoria banking institutions mostly utilized Wells Fargo to carry their mail and treasure because it was often faster and always safer.



3393 ✉ **1865 (May 25) Melbourne, Australia to Victoria, Vancouver Island,** mourning cover bearing Victoria, 1s blue tied by "Melbourne, MY-25 65" duplex addressed to Hudson Bay Company, endorsed "Via Marseilles", red London Paid (7.17), then transatlantic by Inman Line City of New York II from Liverpool Jul. 19th to New York arriving Jul. 31, closed mail via Panama to San Francisco, docketed "Recd - 16 Sepr. 1865"; 1s creased from edge placement, which has been extended for appearances, **Fine,** an around the world use taking 114 days.
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300

Victoria, Vancouver Island served as the hub for most incoming and outgoing mail to the entire region.

British Columbia Expresses

Express companies carried much of the foreign mail including Canada West into and out of the colonies. BC & VI required their colonial postage to be paid on such mail, even when they did not handle it. Express companies in BC connected with each other, creating conjunctive usages. Express fees were often paid by franked envelopes, some of which carry the franks of multiple companies. Express companies created labels to indicate whether express fees had been paid by the sender or another express company.



3394 ✉ **Barnard's Cariboo Express. Paid.,** black on orange express label affixed on orange envelope addressed to Stamford, Canada West, pasted on reverse of 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire with printed Wells Fargo frank, bold strike of "Post Office, Victoria V.I." crown oval handstamp indicating British Columbia postage 2½d paid in cash, cancelled by "Atchison Kas, Jun 27 '64" duplex and bearing 12¢ black (69) tied by matching four-rings cancel, transits of "Windsor, JU 30, 1864" and "G.W.R. East, JY 1, 64", Stamford arrival cds; opened out for display and some edge wear, **Very Fine,** *ex-Haas*; with 1967 P.F. certificate.
Estimate . . . . . $10,000 - 15,000

A STUNNING BARNARD'S CARIBOO EXPRESS USE VIA WELLS FARGO TO STAMFORD, CANADA EAST.



3395 ✉ **Barnard's Cariboo Express,** black oval handstamp ties **Canada 3¢ small queen (37)** on U.S. 3¢ green entire with printed Wells Fargo Co. paid frank to China Store, New Westminster B.C., matching "Collect" oval handstamps and blue crayon "10¢", Chinese character docketing at left, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $500 - 750



3396 ✉ **Barnard's Cariboo Express, Paid,** black on green label affixed on 3¢ pink (U35) buff entire with printed Wheeler's Express (WHE-001) scroll frank and cancelled by "Wells Fargo & Co., Marysville" double-oval datestamp with matching blue "Paid" double-oval to William Roberts at Williams Creek, Cariboo, endorsed "W.B." and "150" express rating; some minor edge restoration, **Very Fine appearance,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein.*
Estimate. . . . . $5,000 - 7,500

A REMARKABLE TRIPLE-CONJUNCTIVE USE VIA WHEELER'S, WELLS FARGO & CO. AND BANARD'S CARIBOO EXPRESS.

In 1862, Francis Jones Barnard established a one-horse pony express with himself as sole rider, serving the Cariboo from Yale, where he met with Dietz & Nelson Express that provided services between New Westminster and Yale. $1 per letter carrier or delivered.

Beginning in December 1863, Samuel and Simeon Wheeler operated this express for several months. They ran between the Gibsonville Cal. mining camps and Marysville where they connected with Wells Fargo.



3397 ✉ **Dietz & Nelson's Express, B.C. & V.,** blue double-circle handstamp ties **British Columbia, 3d blue (7) right wing margin pair** on U.S. 3¢ pink (U59) buff entire cancelled by blue "Wells Fargo & Co. Express, Victoria" oval handstamp to Victoria, British Columbia, Dietz sharp "Collect" oval handstamp with manuscript "1.00" express rating for forwarding to French Creek; restored at right edge, **Very Fine appearance,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein*. Thomas No. DIE-100.
Estimate. . . . . $3,000 - 4,000

A SCARCE CONJUNCTIVE DIETZ & NELSON'S AND WELLS FARGO & CO. EXPRESS USE TO VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA FORWARDED TO FRENCH CREEK.

George Dietz and Hugh Nelson purchased Ballou Express in October 1862, and operated over two established routes that ran from Victoria B.C. to Yale and Victoria B.C. to Lillooet Flat. They formed a merger with Barnard's Cariboo Express in March 1863 for distribution of express material north. They also connected with Wells Fargo in Victoria for mail entering or leaving the Colony. Operating solely as the center piece of an express pipe line, they found that they could not generate funds beyond break even and Barnard acquired complete control of their operation in December 1867.



3398 ✉ **Dietz & Nelson's British Columbia & Victoria Express,** printed ribbon frank at left along with conjunctive Wells Fargo & Co. printed frank on 3¢ pink (U59) buff entire to San Francisco Cal. bearing uncancelled **British Columbia, 3d blue (7)** in conjunction with **U.S. 2¢ black (73), 5¢ brown (76) and 10¢ green (68)**, latter tied by **unlisted blue negative Wells Fargo & Co Express circular handstamps**, reverse with appearance of paste-up being attached, **Very Fine,** *ex Dale-Lichtenstein*. Thomas No. DIE-001**.**
Estimate. . . . . $3,000 - 4,000

A RARE CONJUNCTIVE BARNARD'S AND WELLS FARGO EXPRESS USE TO SAN FRANCISCO BEARING THREE-COLOR U.S. FRANKING.



3399 ✉ **Freeman & Co.'s California, Atlantic States and European Express,** printed paid frank on 3¢ red (U10) buff Nesbitt entire cancelled by "**Freeman & Co's Express, Victoria**" oval handstamp (FRM-105) to San Francisco Cal., clear strike of negative "Customs, Vancouver Island" crown seal handstamp; small top edge mend slightly affecting handstamp, no back flap, **otherwise Very Fine,** *ex-Wilkinson, Walske*. Thomas No. FRM-006.
Estimate. . . . . $3,000 - 4,000

Reference: *Illustrated in* Gold Fever *by Ken Kutz on page 126.*

The "Customs, Vancouver Island" crown seal handstamp indicated payment of the 5¢ Colonial postage (used July 1858 to June 1859). Freeman & Co. was active in British Columbia from April to November 1859.

Hawaiian Usages

Starting in March 1849, virtually all mail to or from Hawaii traveled between San Francisco and Honolulu. Until the December 21, 1850 start of the Hawaiian post office, the mail was handled privately.



3400 ✉ **1850 (Oct. 17) "Ship Cincinnati, Lahaina Maui, Sandwich Islands" to Mansfield Center, Conn.,** datelined blue folded letter addressed to Orwell S. Chuffee, Mansfield Center Conn., *in care of the Ship Betsey Williams, Stonington*, carried as endorsed by the American Whale Ship ***Betsy Williams*** from Lahaina Oct. 28th to Stonington arriving Apr. 6th, entered mails with "Stonington Con., Apr 7" cds and matching "Ship" straightline and manuscript "7" rating for 5¢ inland plus 2¢ ship fee, letter started earlier datelined "*At Sea Oct the 9 1850*" with some interesting whaling content "*…we have been to the Arctic Ocean to get whales and got 17…*" and "*…They are called Bowheads or Polar Whales…As quick as they are struck they will go down and run about a mile and then come up and lay still, but when thou do run you have to ty your heads on. I have struck 8 and saved 7. The first one I struck run under the ice and then we had to cut the line…*", left flap with drawing of whale spouting water captioned "Polar Whale"; some wear and stains, **Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $750 - 1,000

Before there was an official American Route, all mail, and then certain mail, between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans was given to the Captain of a ship which was bound around Cape Horn for one coast or the other.



1854 Honolulu Harbor with Whaling Vessels

The Polynesian Office began keeping a letter bag by November 2, 1850, where people could deposit letters. *The Polynesian* letter bag was the first documented official responsibility for handling mail to or from Hawaii. Letters placed in *The Polynesian* letter bag were handled by Henry Whitney as employee of the Government Printing Office and placed on board vessels headed for appropriate ports. A postmark was devised from loose printer's type and letters left in *The Polynesian* letter bag were marked with the "Honolulu Straightline". Strikes prior to the opening of the Honolulu post office on December 21, 1850 were in blue.



Old Honolulu Post Office

Prepaid Letter from Honolulu at the San Francisco 40¢ rate to the East Coast



3401 ✉ **1851 (Apr. 19) Honolulu, Hawaii to New York N.Y.,** blue folded letter datelined "Sandwich Islands, Honolulu Apl 19th/51" to G.W. Pomeroy with clear strike of "**Honolulu, Hawaiian Is. / April 19, 1851.**" two-line postmark and magenta "Paid 40" prepaid rating, carried by American Schooner *General Fanning* from Honolulu Apr. 19th to San Francisco arriving May 22nd, red "San Francisco, Cal. May 31" cds and matching "Paid" and "40" rating handstamps, then by PMSS *Tennessee* from San Francisco May 31st to Panama arriving Jun. 19th, overland to Chagres and then by US Mail S.S. *Empire City* Jun. 26th to New York arriving Jul. 6th; some edge wear, **Very Fine,** *Gregory Census No. 24.*
Estimate . . . . . $7,500 - 10,000

A RARE EXAMPLE OF THE BLACK HONOLULU STRAIGHTLINE ON A PREPAID LETTER.

San Francisco put "40" or "80" rate markings on letters where United States postage was prepaid in Hawaii, omitting the ship fee. San Francisco continued this practice until May 1st 1852.

On December 21, 1850, the Hawaiian post office began operations with Henry Whitney as Postmaster of Honolulu. He changed the ink of the Honolulu straightline from blue to black on the first day of operation. Hawaiian postage on foreign mail was 10¢ per ½ ounce. US rates were 40¢ per ½ oz. transcontinental postage plus a 2¢ ship fee. Hawaii never indicated the amount of Hawaiian postage paid on outgoing letters, except when a Hawaiian postage stamp was used.

Unpaid Letter from Honolulu at the San Francisco 42¢ ship rate to the East Coast

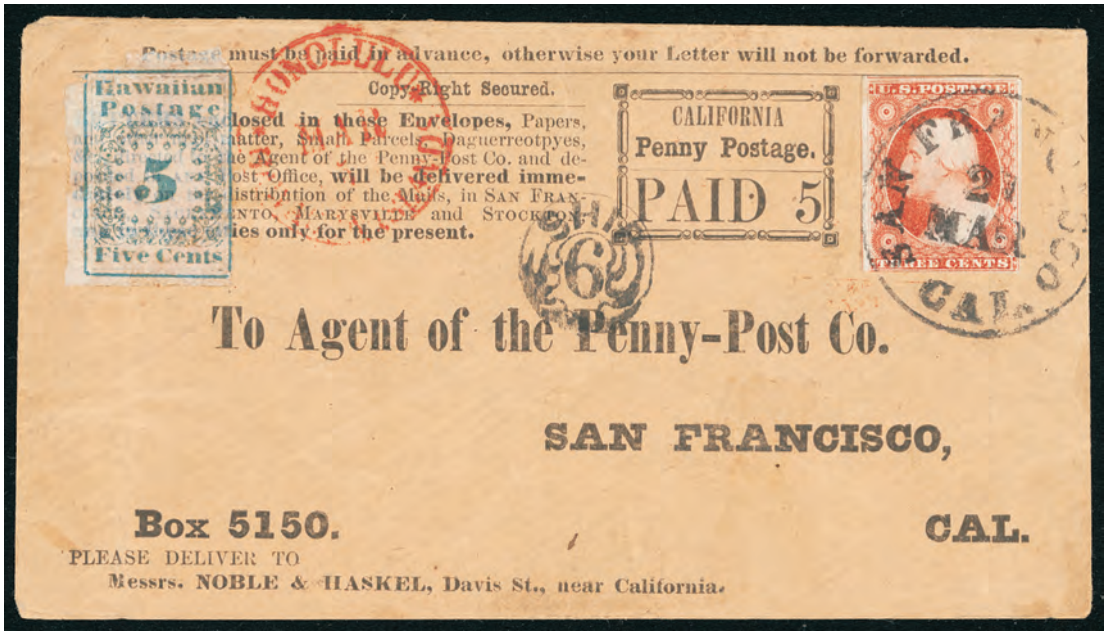


3402 ✉ **1851 (May 8) Honolulu, Hawaii to Portsmouth N.H.,** gray folded letter datelined "Oahu - May 1st 1851" addressed to Mrs. Harriet Pierrepont, bold strike of "**Honolulu, Hawaiian Is. / May 8, 1851.**" two-line postmark, carried by American Schooner *Velasco* from Honolulu May 8th to San Francisco arriving Jun. 3rd, "San Francisco, Cal. 14 Jun" cds and red crayon "42" rating for 40¢ west coast rate plus 2¢ ship fee, then by **PMSS *California*** from San Francisco Jun. 14th to Panama arriving Jul. 1st, overland to Chagres and then by US Mail S.S. *Crescent City* Jul. 10th to New York arriving Jul. 20th, **Very Fine,** *Gregory Census No. 28, ex-Rust*.
Estimate . . . . . $10,000 - 15,000

Illustrated and Described in Gregory's Hawaii Foreign Mail to 1870*, p. 227, fig. 14-6.*



The Unique Triple Mixed Franking Missionary California Penny Post Cover



3403 ✉ **1856 (Mar. 7) Honolulu, Hawaii to San Francisco, Cal.,** vivid red "Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, Mar 7" cds (HON HI28 II) and bearing uncancelled **Hawaii 1851, 5¢ blue (2)**, Type I, large to huge margins on three sides, a bit irregular at upper left and frameline just touched at right, short separation tear at upper left corner, free of any repair and very slightly creased by a vertical fold on **California Penny Post Company, 5¢ black on buff entire (34LUI3A)** with printed address "To Agent of the Penny-Post Co., San Francisco, Cal., Box 5150., Please Deliver To, Messrs. Noble & Haskel, Davis St., near California.", additionally franked with **United States 1851 3¢ dull red (11)**, bright early 1856 shade, mostly large margins, tied by "San Francisco Cal. 21 Mar." cds, matching "Ship 6" clamshell-style circular due handstamp, **Very Fine,** *ex-Richard Saffin, Honolulu Advertiser*; with 1995 P.F. certificate.
Estimate . . . . . $200,000 - 300,000

AN EXTRAORDINARY TRIPLE MIXED-FRANKING COVER SHOWING THREE DIFFERENT FORMS OF POSTAGE COMPRISING THE 5¢ HAWAIIAN MISSIONARY, UNITED STATES 3¢ 1851 ISSUE, AND PREPAID CALIFORNIA PENNY POST COMPANY ENTIRE.

Reference: *Illustrated in Letters of Gold, Jesse L. Coburn, pg. 63*
Illustrated and described in Hawaii Foreign Mail to 1870, pg. II 99-101, fig. 16-84.

This cover was carried by American Bark "Yankee" from Honolulu Mar. 5th 1856 to San Francisco arriving Mar. 20th. The 5¢ Missionary stamp correctly prepays the 5¢ Hawaiian postage for a single rate letter. The U.S. 3¢ stamp short paid the 6¢ ship letter rate delivered within port of entry, and no credit was given as the 6¢ due rating handstamp was struck. The California Penny Post Company 5¢ entire represents the correct fee for delivery from the post office to the addressees, Noble & Haskel. The Honolulu post office considered the U.S. portion of postage unpaid, as it was marked with the "Hawaiian-Islands" datestamp, not "U.S. Postage Paid."

The California Penny Post Company was started by J. B. Goodwin as a city delivery post in June 1855 and, by the beginning of 1856, faced increasing pressure from a hostile San Francisco postmaster. Service ceased after approximately one year in business. This envelope was a return envelope purchased from the Penny Post by the San Francisco firm of Noble & Haskel. They would have enclosed this in a business mailing, along with their letter, and sent it to a correspondent. Instead of mailing the reply from somewhere in the West where the pre-affixed 3¢ postage would have been sufficient, the sender mailed it from Hawaii. The box number facilitated the holding of mail at the post office until the Penny Post Co. picked up letters for delivery to the addressees. There is a pencil note on back, "Found in California Penny Post files", indicating that this may have been retained by Goodwin as evidence in his fight against the post office.

The use of a Hawaiian Missionary stamp on this March 1856 cover occurs late in the Missionary issue's life, but appropriately at a time when 5¢ stamps were in great demand and short supply in the Islands. The April, 1855 rate change in the United States effectively increased the composite rate from 13¢ to 17¢ and created an increased demand for Hawaiian 5¢ stamps that could be used in combination with U. S. 12¢ stamps. By the beginning of 1857, the shortage of 5¢ stamps had reached the critical point, and supplies of 13¢ Kamehameha III stamps were provisionally surcharged "5" cents. In the context of the new demands and shortages created by the April 1855 rate change, the use of a 5¢ Missionary stamp in March 1856 is understandable.

Of the 32 Missionary covers in Gregory's census, only six are mixed frankings with United States stamps, including one defective example and another with a repaired stamp. In the context of worldwide mixed-franking covers, the coincidence of two nations' postage stamps and local-post franking is, to our knowledge, unique in this classic period.

The Honolulu Post Office was established pursuant to a royal decree dated December 20, 1850, and published December 21st. A part of the upstairs in *The Polynesian Office* was sectioned off to make a room for the post office. The royal decree officially appointed Henry Whitney as Postmaster of Honolulu. He was born in Hawaii of missionary parents and went to New England for education and training. He returned in 1849 to work in the Government Printing Office. In his post office room at *The Polynesian Office*, Whitney designed Hawaii's famous Missionary stamps and used the Government Printing Office press in the adjoining room to print them.



The Missionaries were issued on October 1, 1851 in three denominations that prepaid the Second Treaty Period rates within Hawaii and the United States: 2¢ for newspapers to the U.S., 5¢ for the Hawaiian postage, and 13¢ for the rate to the U.S. east coast (5¢ Hawaiian, 2¢ ship fee and 6¢ U.S. postage). The dual nature of the 13¢ stamps, comprising postage of two nations, is most remarkable.

Mexican Expresses

One of the Great Rarities of Western Express Postal History and a Highlight of the Kramer Collection



3404 ✉ **Forwarded by Peterson's Lower California Express from "La Paz",** black on gray label with blue manuscript town designation, tied by sharp "San Francisco, Cal, Mar 9, 1862" double-circle datestamp, additional strike at bottom left and matching "SHIP.12" due rating handstamp on buff cover to Peacham Vt.; minor tone spot upper right, reduced slightly at right, **Extremely Fine and choice.**
Thomas No. **PET-401** . . . . . Estimate $20,000 - 30,000

A STUNNING COVER. ONE OF ONLY THREE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE PETERSON'S LOWER CALIFORNIA EXPRESS LABEL USED ON COVER.

The three recorded examples are:
1. PET-401 Label with pencil "San Francisco" origin, tied by red "Espreso de la Baja Cala." oval to La Paz, Mexico, blue Wells Fargo San Francisco double-circle, ex-Knapp, Grant, Hass, Forster and "Baja".
2. PET-401 Label with blue ms. "La Paz" origin, tied by San Francisco Cal. cds to Peacham Vt., the example offered here.
3. PET-401 Label with ms. "San Lucas" origin, red "Estafeta De Baja California" oval cancel to San Francisco Cal., manuscript "Capo St Lucas Apl 11, 1863" docket at left, ex Dale-Lichtenstein, Walske.

Reference: *Pictured in Nathan on p. 168.*

Using coastal steamers, Charles M. Peterson ran a daily service between San Francisco and La Paz, Mexico. He established an office in Henry Payot's Book Store in San Francisco. He may have established a pony/mule service between Cape San Lucas and La Paz.



3405 ✉ **Wells Fargo & Co, "Paid over our Mexican Coast and California Express — 35 Cts.",** printed frank in rare **deep olive black** shade on 10¢ brown (U89) entire cancelled by blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., San Francisco, Feb 25" oval datestamp to the **David Turner, American Consul at La Paz, Lower California, Mexico**, **Extremely Fine and scarce use to Mexico.**
Thomas No. **WFM-009** . . . . . Estimate $1,000 - 1,500



3406 ✉ **Wells Fargo & Co, "Paid over our Mexican Coast and California Express — 35 Cts.",** printed frank on 10¢ brown (U91) entire cancelled by partial strike of blue "Wells, Fargo & Co., San Francisco, Sep 6" oval datestamp to Mexico, **Very Fine and scarce use to Mexico.**
Thomas No. **WFM-009a** . . . . . Estimate $600 - 800

Western Routes

Via Nicaragua


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 719.—VOL. XXV.] SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1854. [WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS, 1s.

THE FOREIGN SOLDIERS BILL.

The Ministerial bill for the levy of foreign soldiers took the policy of Austria to follow, in a few weeks, or even days, in the same track, and complete the European alliance against the Czar, why should Great Britain go to Switzerland, to Brunswick, to British people, if such useless and stupid treason were meditated; and are not to replace the militia, or do any military service whatsoever in this country. The alleged inferiority of foreign to British

WEATHER IN THE BALTIC.—BOWS OF H.M. CORVETTE 'CRUISER."—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

VIA. NICARAGUA IN ADVANCE OF THE MAILS

FROM J.W. SULLIVAN NEWS DEPOT SAN FRANCISCO CAL.

3407 ✉ **(Via Nicaragua) From J.W. Sullivan, News Depot, San Francisco Cal., Feb 5,** sharp strike of fancy shield datestamp along with sharp "Via. Nicaragua, In Advance of the Mails, Sullivan" double-oval datestamp on front page of December 23rd 1854 The Illustrated London News showing weather in the Baltic on the bows of H.M. Corvette 'Cruiser', inside with red **Illustrated News 1d Newspaper tax impression**, probably sent by Cunard Line *Asia* from Liverpool Dec. 23rd 1854 to Boston arriving Jan. 4th, then S.S. *Star of the West* from New York Jan 12th to Nicaragua, then Independent Line *Uncle Sam* to San Francisco arriving Feb. 4th, minor edge wear and small tear, folds, **Very Fine.**

Estimate. . . . . $750 - 1,000

Via Panama



3408 ✉ **1850 (Aug. 13) New York N.Y. to San Francisco, Cal.,** blue folded letter bearing **10¢ black (2) horizontal strip of four**, pos. 77-80R, large to huge margins including part sheet margin at right, except slightly in at bottom left, tied by red grid cancels, matching red "New-York, Aug 15" cds, carried endorsed by U.S. Mail S.S. *Georgia* from New York to Chagres arriving Aug. 22nd, then overland across Panama, then per P.M.S.S. *Panama* Sep. 1st to San Francisco, docketed "Rec Sept 23" on reverse; file fold lightly affects right stamp, third stamp tiny tear, **Very Fine,** *ex-Seybold, Kapiloff*; with 2012 & 2016 P.F. certificates.
Estimate . . . . . $50,000 - 75,000

A BEAUTIFUL AND RARE COVER, ONE OF ONLY SEVEN 40¢ RATE 1847 ISSUE COVERS RECORDED.

Effective July 1, 1847, Congress provided for a 40¢ rate from the "East, to or from Astoria, Oregon or California". As there was no Overland Mail Contract, all government mail went by ships "via Panama".



The firm of Macondray & Co. has a long history dating as far back as 1848, when a retired clipper ship captain moved from New England to California and founded a commission house bearing his name. Captain Frederick William Macondray, of Scottish blood and born in Massachusetts, retired from seafaring after decades of plying the trading routes between the United States and China. He headed to California after hearing news of the gold discovery, arriving by the U.S. Mail Steamship Co. Crescent City *on July 1, 1848. The following month, he opened the office of Macondray & Co., Inc. in San Francisco. Capt. Macondray is hailed as a pioneer of both San Francisco and the Peninsula.*

Macondray started as a commission house that received merchandise shipped from Boston to San Francisco and imported tea from China. The business continued to flourish in trading and expanded into banking and other concerns, eventually passing from the founder to his son and grandson, Frederick William and Atherton, and their business partner Barry Baldwin.

New Brunswick to San Francisco via Panama



3409 ✉ **1851 (Dec. 16) Chatham, New Brunswick to San Francisco, Cal.,** cover bearing **3d bright red (1)** and **6d mustard yellow (2d)**, each cancelled by oval grid, indistinct blue New Brunswick (12.16) origin cds, reverse with Catham N.B. (12.16.1851) and St. Johns (12.22) transits, red "Paid" straightline and manuscript "15" rating, "San Francisco, 13 Feb" arrival cds, red "Advertised" and "Not Called For" straightline handstamps, black "1" cent due handstamp for advertising fee; cover faulty, 6d slightly discolored and small closed tear, **Fine,** *ex-Morton, Argenti, Cartier, "Foxbridge", Koh, Hackmey*; with 1999 B.P.A. certificate.
Estimate . . . . . $7,500 - 10,000

ONE OF ONLY TWO NEW BRUNSWICK PENCE ISSUE USAGES TO THE UNITED STATES WEST COAST.

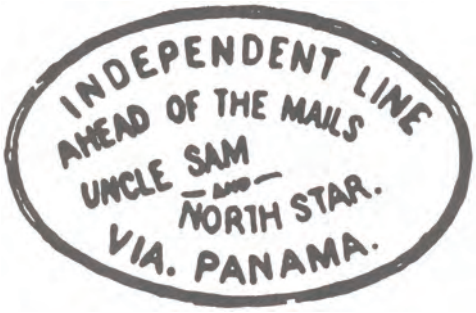
The two recorded New Brunswick Pence Issue usages to the West Coast are:
1. 1851 Dec. 16, Chatham N.B. to San Francisco Cal. with 3d #1, 6d mustard yellow #2d for 9d (15c) rate, advertised in San Francisco
2. 1856 Feb. 22, Shediac N.B. to Orphir Cal. with 3d #1, 6d olive yellow #2 for 9d (15¢) rate, forwarded to Sacramento.



3410 ✉ **(Via Panama) 1854 (Sep. 1) San Francisco Cal. to Rochester N.Y.,** blue folded letter endorsed "per steamer Uncle Sam, Sep 1st 1854" at top left, clear strike of black "**Independent Line, Via Panama, Ahead of the Mails, Uncle Sam and North Star**" oval handstamp, bearing **3¢ dull red (11A) horizontal pair**, large margins except touched at bottom, tied by "New-York, Sep 27" cds, **Very Fine,** *ex-Haas*. Estimate. . . . . $2,000 - 3,000

A REMARKABLE STRIKE OF THIS RARE VANDERBILT AHEAD OF THE LINES PROPAGANDA HANDSTAMP. THIS WAS CARRIED ON THE LAST VOYAGE OF THE "UNCLE SAM" ON THE PANAMA ROUTE.

Cornelius Vanderbilt opened a route across Nicaragua in 1851 to compete with the U.S. Mail Steamship Company and Pacific Mail Steamship Company which held the U.S. Mail Contract via Panama.His handstamps typically boasted "Ahead of the Mails." He subsequently became a competitor to the PMSS on the Panama route.





3411 ✉ **(Via Panama) Forwarded by Dodge & Co. California Express,** blue on white shield label affixed on circa 1851 buff cover with red "Conner & Son's Foundry, New York" shield cameo on flap to Panama, New Granada, endorsed "**Per Dodge & Cos Express**"at top; flap with some paper loss repaired, **still Very Fine**.
Estimate. . . . . $750 - 1,000

Beginning in September 1850, Dodge & Co. vigorously established an express business between the northeast and San Francisco. They only appeared on "Forwarding lists" in 1851.

Via Tehuantepec



3412 ✉ **(Via Tehuantepec) 1856 (Mar. 13) Minatitlan, Mexico to Middletown Point N.J. via Boston,** endorsed "Minatitlan Isthmus Tehuantepec" and with "*Letter bag of the Brig Icarian*" directive, entered the mails with red "Boston, Apr 11" cds and black "SHIP" and "5" due handstamps, with letter datelined "Minatitlan March 13, 1856" from Charles Webster, the U.S. Consul and agent for the Louisiana Tehuantepec Co. at Tehuantepec, he writes his sister Anna that the Mexican Government has made a contract with a man named Smith to construct a plank road across the Isthmus, and that work will probably commence in two or three months, and further, that the small steamers for the navigation of the river Coatzacoalcos are nearly complete, **Very Fine,** *ex-Risvold*.
Estimate. . . . . $500 - 750



3413 ✉ **(Via Tehuantepec) 1859 (Jan. 3) Oroville Cal. to Camden, Canada,** light buff cover bearing **5¢ red brown, type I (28)** and **10¢ green, type III (33)**, small faults, tied by "Oroville Cal. Jan 3 1859" cds for the 15¢ west coast rate to Canada, endorsed "Via Tehauntepec" as required for carriage, faint strike of red "U. States" exchange straightline; reduced slightly at right, some wear, **Very Fine.**
Estimate. . . . . $1,000 - 1,500

THE ONLY RECORDED "VIA TEHUANTEPEC" CROSS-BORDER COVER TO CANADA.

In October 1858, a route was contracted as 8162 from San Francisco to New Orleans using a mixed steamboat and overland route via the Tehuantepec Isthmus in Mexico. Contracted at $250,000 for 12 months with twice a month service. The course of the route was by steamboat to either Acapulco or Salina Cruz, then overland by mule to Suchile, then by river boat to Minatitlan on the Caotzacoalcos River and then by steamboat to New Orleans, La. The route was little used as the section over the mountain range by mule created a long transit time. The total revenue collected for the route was just $5,276.66 and the route was not renewed in 1859. From October 1858 to March 1859, the "Quaker City" was used on the New Orleans to Minatitlan portion of the route. A total of 28 covers endorsed as going "Via Tehuantepec" are recorded in the census.



3414 ✉ **(Via Tehuantepec) 1860 (Sep. 29) Tehuantepec, Mexico to Middletown Point N.J. via New Orleans,** cover endorsed "Tehauntepec Mexico Sept 29. 1859" to Middletown Point N.J., entered mails with double strike of "New Orleans La., Oct 10 1860" cds and matching partial "Steamship, 10" circular due handstamp, original Sep. 29th letter from Charles Webster, the U.S. Consul and agent for the Louisiana Tehuantepec Co. at Tehuantepec, reads in part "*The mail will leave in a few moments for Minatitlan and New Orleans, and as the contract with the Tehuantepec Company expires on the first of October, I greatly fear it will be the last direct opportunity I will have for some time…[I am] rather poor in pocket…from the failure of the Louisiana Tehuantepec Company to pay its debts - They owe me some $4000…*" He hopes he will get paid "*as the company besides owning the valuable privilege of the exclusive transit on this Isthmus for seventy years, has some half millions of acres of land - all of which is liable for its debts contracted in Mexico…*", **Very Fine use carried on the last mail via Tehuantepec to New Orleans,** *ex-Risvold*.
Estimate. . . . . $500 - 750

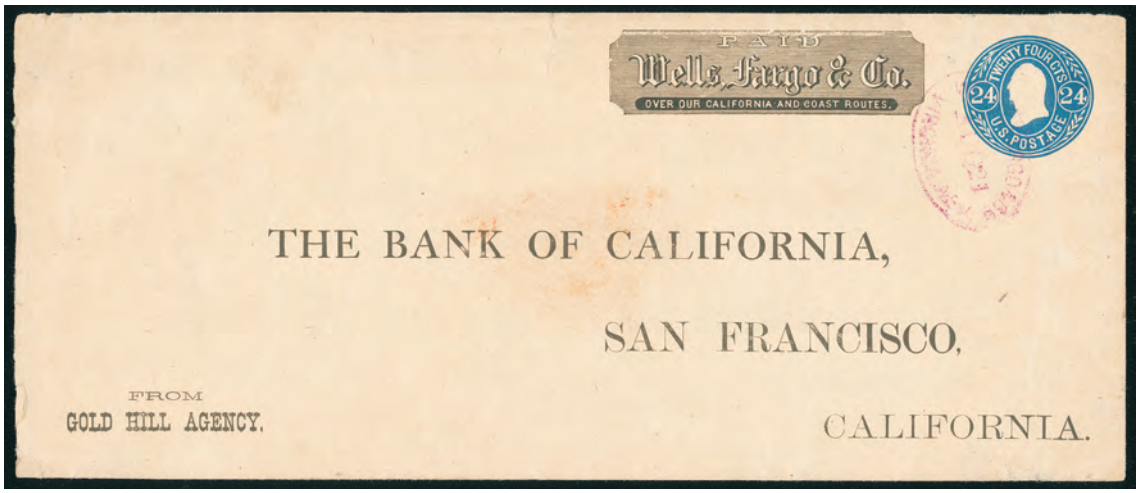
Expresses Balances



3415 ✉ **Wells Fargo & Co. Balance,** group of **6** covers and a reduced front comprising Well's Treasure City oval, 1861 Wells San Francisco with oval "Paid" frank, Wells Messenger 37 violet oval, Wells 85 Messenger purple oval, Wells Wadsworth blue oval, 1880 use with printed frank entering mails with Battle Creek Nev. duplex, and Wells Silver City, Utah blue oval on reduced front, **F.-V.F. group.**
Estimate. . . . . $400 - 600



3416 ✉ **Western Express Balance,** group of **8** covers and fronts comprising Holland, Morley & Co's Express frank on front with Marysville Cal. oval datestamp; Northern Pacific Express Co. "Steamer" use from Portland Ore., Pacific Union Express red paid frank and San Francisco datestamp; Union Pacific Express Omaha Neb. oval used on stampless cover to care of Wells Fargo & Co at San Francisco, "Singer, Meek & Co's Feather River Express" frank on 10¢ entire front, Freeman & Co. Express printed frank to St. Helena Cal., G.H. Wines & Co's Atlantic, California & Oregon Express collection envelope (folded), Shirley Mass. use to Stockton Cal. endorsed "*Per Express to Jackass Gulch*"; and also includes a "Forbes Express" eastern use, **Fine group.**
Estimate. . . . . $300 - 400



3417 ✉ **Wells Fargo - Large Size Entires,** group of **4** large-size entires comprising #U71 cancelled by purple "Wells Fargo & Co., Virginia City Nev., Aug 21" oval from Gold Hill Agency to San Francisco; U182 cancelled by pink Wells Fargo Los Angeles oval, U181 paste-up cancelled by 1882 Wells San Jose Cal. oval to San Francisco, and #U200 cancelled by 1887 Wells "Virginia, Nev" oval to San Francisco; some faults, **F.-V.F.**
Estimate. . . . . $200 - 300

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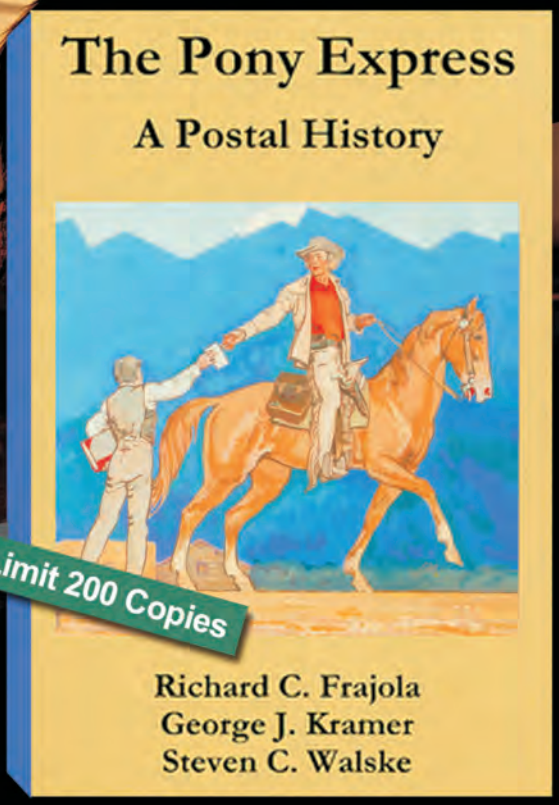

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