

Sale 750

Wednesday, May 5, 1993

THE LOUIS GRUNIN COLLECTION OF
FREE FRANKS AND AMERICANA



Robert A. Siegel

AUCTION GALLERIES, INC.

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Robert A. Siegel

Chairman

Scott R. Trepel

President

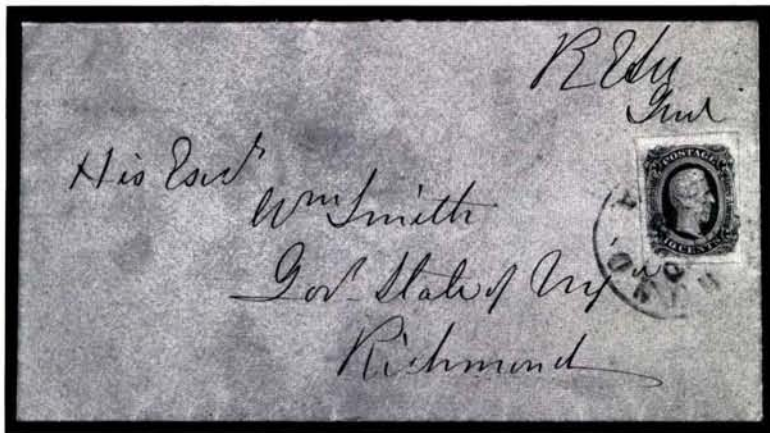
Administration

Helen Galatan-Stone

Rosanne Trepel

Descriptions

Scott R. Trepel



Robert E. Lee autograph endorsement on field letter with Confederate States 10c General Issue (lot 162)

The Louis Grunin Collection of Free Franks and Americana

Sold by Order of the Owner

Wednesday, May 5, 1993
at 1:30 p.m. (Lots 1-163)

Followed immediately by the sale of
Autographs and Historical Documents
(Sale 749A - separate catalogue)

Pre-Sale Exhibition

Monday, May 3 10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 4 10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 5 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Additional viewing by appointment.

Arrangement of Sale

Category	Pages
Signers of the Declaration of Independence	5-17
Presidents and Delegates of the Continental Congress ..	17-23
Revolutionary War	24
Presidents	25-68
Presidential Widows' Franks	69-73
Presidential Secretaries ..	74-75
Politicians and Statesmen	76-79
Frontiersmen and Western Americana ...	80-89
Civil War Figures	90-91
Confederate Military and Political Leaders ...	92-96

On The Cover

Abraham Lincoln free frank and
autograph letter signed as postmas-
ter, state representative and county
deputy surveyor (lot 96)

Conditions of Sale for Autographs

The property described in this catalogue will be offered at public auction by Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc. ("Galleries") on behalf of various consignors and itself or affiliated companies. By placing a bid on any lot, the bidder acknowledges acceptance of and will be bound to these Conditions of Sale.

1. The highest bidder acknowledged by the auctioneer shall be the buyer. The term "final bid" means the last bid acknowledged by the auctioneer, which is normally the highest bid offered. **The purchase price payable by the buyer will be the sum of the final bid and a commission of 10% of the final bid ("buyer's premium"), together with any sales tax or use tax which may be due on the sale.**

2. The auctioneer has the right to reject any bid, to advance the bidding at his discretion and, in the event of a dispute between bidders, to determine the successful bidder, to continue the bidding or to reoffer and resell the lot in dispute. The Galleries' record of the final sale shall be conclusive.

3. All bids are per numbered lot in the catalogue unless otherwise announced by the auctioneer at the time of sale. The right is reserved to group two or more lots, to withdraw any lot or lots from the sale, or to act on behalf of the seller. The Galleries will execute bidding instructions on behalf of clients, but will not be responsible for any errors in the execution of such bids.

4. Lot numbers followed by the symbol ° are offered subject to one or more of the following conditions: (i) the lot is subject to a minimum final bid ("reserve"), below which it will not be sold, (ii) the Galleries have advanced monies to the seller and have a financial interest in the lot, (iii) the Galleries have guaranteed the seller a minimum sale price, and (iv) the Galleries may have ownership interest in the lot, either in part or whole. The absence of the symbol ° means that the lot is offered without reserve.

5. Any lot, the description of which is obviously incorrect, is returnable, but only if the lot is returned within 14 days of receipt. All disputed lots must be returned intact with the original packing material. **The following lots may not be returned for any reason: Lots containing ten or more items; lots from buyers who have registered for the pre-sale exhibition or received lots by postal viewing, thereby having had the opportunity to inspect them before the sale; any lot described with "faults" or "defects" may not be returned because of any fault or defect.**

6. Successful bidders, unless they have established credit with the Galleries prior to the sale, must make payment in full before the lots will be delivered. Buyers not known to the Galleries must make payment in full within three days from the date of sale. The Galleries retain the right to demand payment at the time the lot is knocked down to the highest bidder, for any reason whatsoever. In the event that any buyer refuses or fails to make payment in cash for any lot at the time it is knocked down to him, the auctioneer reserves the right to reoffer the lot immediately for sale to the highest bidder.

7. If the purchase price has not been paid within the time limit specified above, nor lots taken up within seven days from the date of sale, the lots will be resold by whatever means deemed appropriate by the Galleries, and any loss incurred from resale will be charged to the defaulting buyer. Any account more than thirty days in arrears will be subject to a late payment charge of 1½% per month as long as the account remains in arrears. Any expenses incurred in securing payment from delinquent accounts will be charged to the defaulter.

8. All lots are sold as genuine. **Any lot proven to be other than genuine by a competent authority may be returned for a refund of the purchase price and buyer's premium. The Galleries shall have no additional liability under any circumstances.**

9. Until paid for in full, all lots remain the property of the Galleries on behalf of the seller.

10. Agents executing bids on behalf of clients will be held responsible for all purchases made on behalf of clients unless otherwise arranged prior to the sale.

11. The buyer assumes all risk for delivery of purchased lots, and agrees to pay for all out-of-pocket costs incurred in shipping.

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RASAG 10/92-A

Terms and Abbreviations Used in Descriptions of Autographs

Definition of Terms

Autograph Letter Signed (ALS): A complete or large part of manuscript letter with signature, entirely in the hand of the person identified.

Typed Letter Signed (TLS): A mechanically typed letter with the autograph signature of the person identified.

Letter Signed (LS): A manuscript letter written in another hand, which bears the autograph of the person identified.

Autograph Document Signed (ADS): A manuscript document with signature, entirely in the hand of the person identified.

Document Signed (DS): A document, either printed or in another's hand, which bears the autograph signature of the person identified.

Autograph Endorsement Signed (AES): An endorsement with signature, entirely in the hand of the person identified.

Autograph Note Signed (ANS): A note or endorsement with signature, entirely in the hand of the person identified.

Signed: The autograph signature of the person identified, unless otherwise indicated (autopen, secretarial signature, etc.)

Condition

Documents and letters should be expected to have folds, staple holes or minor defects caused by previous mounting. Photographs may have creases at corners or mount remnants on back. **Such faults will be described when they affect the text or signature.**

Estimates

Estimates have been provided as a guide to bidding. Lots may realize more or less than the printed estimates. Reserves, where they exist, will not exceed the estimate.

Abbreviations

ADS Autograph document signed
AES Autograph endorsement signed
ALS Autograph letter signed
ANS Autograph note signed
cds Circular datestamp postmark
DS Document signed
LS Letter signed
ms. Manuscript
p. page(s)
pmk. Postmark

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INTRODUCTION

LOUIS GRUNIN IS PRINCIPALLY a philatelist, having assembled several award-winning collections. However, inspired by his interest in American history, Mr. Grunin "adopted" the collection of autograph free franks and historical Americana begun by his long-time friend, the late Seymour Kaplan. Building on what was already a significant collection, Mr. Grunin filled in gaps and acquired important items to create one of the finest free frank collections ever formed. Now, with fewer and fewer opportunities to expand or upgrade the collection, it will be returned to the market.

Though narrower in scope than the great Edward Stern and Theodore Stevens collections, this group of free franks, autograph letters and documents is a comparable, if not superior, concentration of rarities. Among the examples of free franks by Signers of the Declaration of Independence, we find not just ordinary franked covers, but extraordinary 1776 year dates, associations and seldom-seen franks by Signers such as Lyman Hall and Francis Lightfoot Lee. In addition to simple addressed lettersheets, we have complete autograph letters signed by Benjamin Franklin and Elbridge Gerry, the latter being a remarkable account of the Battle of Bunker Hill.

The depth of this collection is further demonstrated in the section of presidential franks. While most collectors are satisfied to own just one example of each president, Mr. Grunin has attempted to show a frank for every significant office held by each president. Thus, we have not one, but *five* George Washington free franks (as general, private citizen and president). John Adams is presented as vice-president, president and ex-president, one of the latter being a splendid letter written by John Quincy Adams to his brother, Thomas, and franked by the father. Abraham Lincoln, whose signature is highly prized in any form, is represented by one of the greatest of all free frank items, the 1835 autograph letter signed and franked by Lincoln as postmaster of New Salem. This

remarkable and historic letter is followed by two more Lincoln letters with free-franks, which, in turn, are followed by two more covers with Lincoln congressional and presidential franks. Finally, the Lincoln group closes with two covers addressed to him as president, one with an autograph endorsement.

Mr. Grunin's taste for unusual postal usages is evident throughout the whole collection. John Tyler, whose franks are not uncommon, is represented in part by a wonderful group of four covers addressed to his brother-in-law, David Gardiner, at San Diego, California, one of which was returned with the rare San Diego post office marking in manuscript. Franklin Pierce's free frank is not especially scarce, but in this collection we find it on a newspaper wrapper mailed in the Bahamas at the British Post Office, on which a British stamp was canceled. And, while U.S. Representative William H. Kelsey's free frank is not significant by itself, its use with the local post stamp of the Washington, D.C., One Cent Dispatch is quite remarkable.

Those who savor history and covet the rare artifacts of America's heritage will delight in the presence of two covers franked by California politicians and sent by Pony Express from Washington to their home state. Finally, from the dark, yet fascinating, chapter of our history, the Civil War, we find an excellent representation of the political and military leaders of that conflict.

The opportunity to create a reference to this collection is viewed by our firm as a responsibility to two collecting worlds: philately and historical Americana. In each catalogue entry we have tried to identify all features and facts that will be helpful to prospective buyers, as well as students of the subject.

This sale will be held in conjunction with our Autographs and Historical Documents sale on May 5th. We are pleased to bring together two offerings that will appeal to two groups who share many interests.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 1993, AT 1:30 P.M.

THE LOUIS GRUNIN COLLECTION OF
FREE FRANKS AND AMERICANA

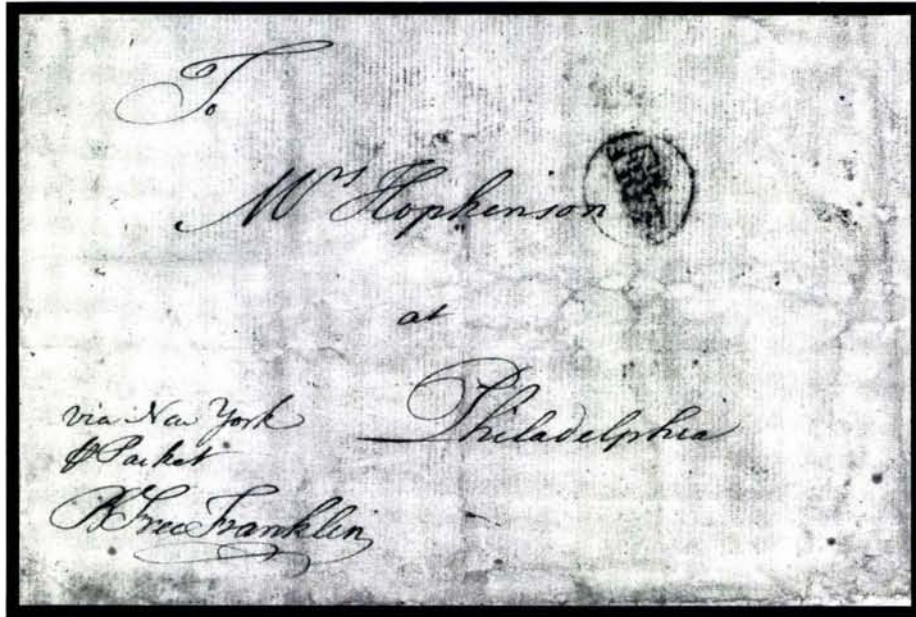
SIGNERS OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE



- 1° **Josiah Bartlett.** Signer, delegate from New Hampshire (Continental Congresses of 1775-78). Autograph free frank "Frank J. Bartlett} N Hampsh" and address on folded cover to **John Langdon**, fellow delegate from New Hampshire and framer of the Constitution, neatly docketed Feb. 1776, lightly cleaned and refolded, Very Fine, a desirable 1776 year date and rare in free frank form, the use of the word "frank" is unusual, even for this Signer E. 1,500-2,000



- 2° **William Floyd.** Signer, delegate from New York (Continental Congresses of 1774-77 and 1778-83). Autograph free frank "Wm. Floyd Free" and address on large part of folded cover to Samuel Hazard at Newtown Conn., the cover has been cleaned, silked and refolded, pencil note indicates that the letter (no longer present) was dated at Philadelphia on Feb. 14, 1780, a Fine and attractive example of this scarce Signer's signature, very rare as a free frank E. 1,500-2,000



- 3° **Benjamin Franklin.** Colonial and United States postmaster general; signer of the Declaration of Independence, the Treaty of Alliance with France, and the peace treaty with England; inventor, philosopher and publisher.

A COMPLETE AUTOGRAPH LETTER ON DR. JOHN MORGAN'S *DISCOURSE ON THE INSTITUTION OF MEDICAL SCHOOLS IN AMERICA* WITH SIGNATURE AND FRANKLIN'S CHARACTERISTIC "B. FREE FRANKLIN" FREE FRANK

One page, folio, with "Pro Patria" watermark, integral address leaf (can be separated from letter) entirely in Franklin's hand, addressed to Mrs. Hopkinson of Philadelphia, endorsed "Via New York pr Packet," datelined London, May 9, 1766, well-struck brownish 10/MA Bishop's Mark of London Post Office, bright red FREE in circle and black NEW/YORK two-line Colonial handstamps applied on arrival.

The letter is a brief note of congratulations to Mrs. Hopkinson on the marriage of her daughter to Dr. Morgan and a grateful acknowledgement of Dr. Morgan's book.

Franklin's play on words, to "Be Free," is infrequently found in free franks, this being an early example and quite rare with the complete letter E. 15,000-20,000

41

My dear Madam,

London, May 9. 1766

I received your Favour of Oct. 1. with the Order on M^r Barclay, of which I have not yet made any use, but shall when I next see him, tho' it was not necessary for you to take Notice of these small Expenses till my Return. Your Acknowledgements are far beyond ^{your} Oursion, and bring me in Debt. I had a Pleasure in the Success of my Endeavour, that sufficiently repaid me for the little Trouble they gave me. Pray present my Respects to your new Son-in-law T Morgan, whose Letter I have reciev'd but cannot now write to him. I thank him for his Book which is well spoken of here. I congratulate him and you on his Marriage, and wish for you and your whole Family all Sorts of Prosperity. Being with sincerest Esteem and Respect

Dear Madam,

Your affectionate Friend,
 I most obedient humble
 Servant



W^m Hopkinson



4

- 4° **Elbridge Gerry.** Signer, delegate from Massachusetts (Continental Congresses of 1776-81 and 1782-85), framer of the Constitution, member of Congress, governor of Massachusetts, and vice-president under James Madison; Gerry's political maneuvering inspired the term "gerrymandering." Autograph free frank "free E. Gerry" and address to Mrs. Gerry at Cambridge Mass. on small neat folded cover, brownish-black 25/1A Franklin Mark and matching FREE handstamp, both of Philadelphia, neat 1791 docketing on backflap, Very Fine and scarce Signer's free frank E. 1,000-1,500

- 5 **Elbridge Gerry.** Signer, delegate from Massachusetts (etc., see previous lot). Four pages, folio, autograph letter signed "Elbridge Gerry", endorsed "Copy letter to Members of Cont. Congress, June 20, 1775."

A REMARKABLE FOUR-PAGE ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL, DESCRIBING THE DEATH OF GENERAL WARREN AND THE PLIGHT OF THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMY AT CAMBRIDGE

"... notwithstanding which Care was not taken to place a sufficient Number of Artillery & Cannon on ye Hill to defend it, At Noon the Enemy bro't in Two or Three Ships of the Line with which, the Lively & Batteries of Boston, they endeavored to Dislodge our Forces, soon after they landed about 3000 Regulars & a warm Engagement began, in which our Forces in the Intrenchment behaved like Heroes, but were not sufficiently provided with Artillery nor timely reinforced from Cambridge. They soon found it necessary to abandon an intrenchment on a Hill to the Eastward of Bunkers. . . our beloved Friend Doctor Warren was on Bunkers Hill when the Lines were forced & is no more, he was two Day before Chosen second Major General. Accepted on Friday & on Saturday dyed like a Hero . . ."

The letter contains sharp criticism of the lack of strong military leadership and implores the members of Congress to remedy the situation. Shortly thereafter, on July 3, General George Washington took command of the American army at Cambridge and began the siege of Boston, which resulted in the British evacuation on March 17, 1776.

Fine and clean condition, separated along the fold with some adhesive tape still present (can be easily removed). A remarkable contemporary account of this legendary battle in the War for Independence. Ex Sang collection E. 10,000-15,000

Bunker Hill

Watertown June 20th 1775

Gentlemen

I Rec^d the Letters, with which you were pleased to favor me by M^r Suspenden, on Saturday last being the 18th Instant, at a critical Time for the Army posted at Cambridge - The Evacuing preceding Orders were Issued in consequence of a Consultation between y^e General Officers and Committee of Safety to take possession of Dochester Hill and Bunkers hill in Charlestown which I must confess gave me most sensible Pain on hearing, more especially as it had been determined about Ten Days before by y^e former Council by a ~~Resolution~~ ^{Resolution} of the Committee of Supplies by their desire, that it would be a great ^{expence} ~~expense~~ of Ammunition by Ordinance and that therefore it was inexpedient & hazardous

As soon as it was discovered by y^e Enemy on Saturday Morning, a firing began from the Sively in Charlestown River & also from y^e Batteries in Boston, which was returned against the latter by the American Forces untill it subsided on the side of y^e Enemy & only one Man was lost in y^e Morning. Our Forces waited themselves in getting entrenched & soon discovered that a Warm engagement must take place, notwithstanding which care was not taken to place a sufficient Number of Artillery & Cannon on y^e Hill to defend it, At Noon the Enemy bro^g in Two or Three Ships of the Line with which the Sively & Batteries at Boston, they endeavored to Dislodge our Forces, soon after they landed about 3000 Regulars & a warm Engagement began, in which our Forces in the Intrenchment behaved like Heroes, but were not sufficiently provided with Artillery nor timely reinforced from Cambridge, they soon found it necessary to abandon an intrenchment on a Hill to the Eastward of Bunkers



- 6° **Lyman Hall.** Signer, delegate from Georgia (Continental Congresses of 1775-78, 1780), governor of Georgia. Autograph free frank "Free Lyman Hall" and address on folded cover to Elnathan Street Jr. at Wallingford Conn., ms. "Free" in another hand, with straightline PHILA SEP 28 handstamp on back

A VERY RARE EXAMPLE OF THIS SIGNER'S SIGNATURE AND POSSIBLY THE ONLY FREE FRANK IN PRIVATE HANDS

This style of Philadelphia straightline is recorded from June 26, 1776, to August 12, 1777. The British occupied Philadelphia from September 26, 1777, until June 18, 1778, during which time the Congress met at Lancaster (one day only) and York (Town), Pennsylvania. Use of this postal marking in September points to a 1776 year date.

Very Fine appearance, skilfully cleaned to lighten foxing, manuscript strengthened in places, ex Stevens (Siegel Sale 556, \$5,250) and illustrated in his article on free franks of the Continental Congress E. 4,000-5,000



7° **John Hancock.** Signer, delegate from Massachusetts. Autograph free frank "Congress Philada. John Hancock" and address to Joseph Trumbull, Commissary General at New York on folded cover, with PHILA JULY 27 straightline handstamp on back, neat docketing on back dated July 27, 1776, ms. "Free"

A RARE HANCOCK FREE FRANK AS PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS IN JULY 1776

Other similar examples from the Trumbull correspondence are recorded, but none other is dated in July 1776 as far as we can locate. John Hancock's signature, among the most desirable of all Signers, is scarce in free frank form and extremely rare in any form with the July 1776 month of Independence date.

Two folds, one at left through signature with slight foxing and partly broken, otherwise a clean and attractive example of this desirable frank, ex Lehman E. 4,000-5,000



- 8° **Francis Lightfoot Lee.** Signer, delegate from Virginia (Continental Congresses of 1775-80). Autograph free frank "*free F. L. Lee*" and address on folded cover to Landon Carter in Virginia, docketed January 23, 1776, on backflap, brownish 23/1A Franklin Mark of Philadelphia, red wax seal (mostly intact)

AN EXTREMELY RARE SIGNER'S FREE FRANK AND POSSIBLY THE ONLY EXAMPLE IN PRIVATE HANDS

Francis Lightfoot Lee served with his two brothers, Richard Henry Lee and Henry Lee, the former also having signed the Declaration of Independence. Autograph letters of Francis Lightfoot Lee are very scarce. This rare free frank is especially desirable with the 1776 year of Independence date.

Clean and Very Fine condition with minor reinforcement of folds E. 7,500-10,000



10



9

9° **Richard Henry Lee.** Signer, delegate from Virginia (Continental Congresses of 1774-80, 1784-87), president of Continental Congress (1784), senator from Virginia. Autograph free frank "By Express R. H. Lee" and address to **His Excellency Patrick Henry, Esquire, Governor of Virginia at Williamsburg**, on folded cover, opened folio and silked for display, with photocopy of original letter (no longer present) **announcing the surrender of General Burgoyne's army at Saratoga**, enclosing a copy of the articles of capitulation, the letter was datelined October 31, 1777, and signed by Joseph Jones, Francis Lightfoot Lee, Jonathan Harvie and Richard Henry Lee, the cover is docketed "Recd. November 10, 1777" on front and "R. H. Lee to gov. Hen(ry)/Burgoyne's sur(render)/Loycaute" on back, some soiling along folds, otherwise a Fine and important example of this Signer's frank, a rare military usage and historic communication E. 5,000-7,500

10° **Robert Morris.** Signer, delegate from Pennsylvania (Continental Congresses of 1776-78), superintendent of finance (1781-84), known as the "financier of the Revolution," and senator (1789-95). Autograph free frank "Free R Morris" as senator on Jan. 1, 1795, folded cover to James Carey at Baltimore, brownish 1/1A Franklin Mark and matching FREE handstamp, both of Philadelphia, neatly docketed on backflap with 1795 year date, slight foxing along left fold, bold franking signature and Very Fine E. 500-750



- 11° **William Whipple.** Signer, delegate from New Hampshire (Continental Congresses of 1776-79), brigadier general in Revolutionary Army.

AN AUTOGRAPH LETTER SIGNED AND FRANKED BY WHIPPLE ON MAY 18, 1776, TO FELLOW NEW HAMPSHIRE DELEGATE, JOHN LANGDON, ENCLOSING "A RESOLUTION OF CONGRESS WHICH I KNOW WILL NOT DISPLEASE YOU"

Autograph free frank "Free W: Whipple" and address, brownish 18/MA Franklin Mark, one page letter (can be separated) datelined Philadelphia, May 18, 1776, remarks "...you see how we come on, a Confederation permanent and lasting ought in my opinion to be the next thing, & I hope is not far off [and] then the establishment of foreign [ag]-encies I hope will fill our ports w[ith] ships from all parts of the world..."

Small part of lettersheet missing around wax seal, sealed opening tear, only affecting a few words of letter. Otherwise, in excellent condition and a desirable 1776 Signer's letter with free frank E. 3,000-4,000

Philad^a 16th July 1776

My Dear Sir

Your favor of 1st inst^o came duly to hand
 there can be no objection to your contracting for gun
 where ever they are to be had, I find by the back
 -map of the families here that they must be got some
 -where else, Gov^r: Hopkins has wrote agreeable to
 I wrote last post, however I think it wd not be amiss
 for you to contract, if they write, spare you those
 already made, which they will if they consider
 the good of the service as they may make more
 by the time their ships are ready for them —
 You may depend the officers will be appointed
 agreeable to your recommendation, their commissions
 not being sent need be no hindrance to you in re-
 -solving ^{to} settle in said matter. Provision I wrote you
 about last post, I agree with you that these matters
 have not been properly attended too, but I by no means
 take any part of the charge of neglect to my self
 for no poor Devils ever beg'd for arms with more
 earnestness than I have to get these matters settle
 & am still determin'd if possible to have every thing
 compleat before I leave this, — Two of the ships
 were launch'd here last week viz. the Randolph
 & Delaware, but when they will get to sea is un-
 -certain as they have no anchors yet —
 Independence was proclaimed ~~in~~ on the army
 at New-York last Wendsday, when the Leaden King
 in the Bowling Green was dismounted & is by this
 time cast into Bullets for the destruction of this
 Tools of Tyranny may every one of them be properly commisioned . . .

William Whipple

12° **William Whipple.** Signer, delegate from New Hampshire. 1½ page, folio, autograph letter signed "Wm: Whipple"

WHIPPLE WRITES FROM PHILADELPHIA ON JULY 16, 1776

"Independence was proclaimed in the army at New-York last Wendsday [sic], when the Leaden King in the Bowling Green was dismounted & is by this time cast into Bullets for the destruction of this Tools of Tyranny may every one of them be properly commissioned . . ."

Whipple describes the raising of state militia and remarks, "this Declaration has had a Glorious [effect and] has made these Colonies all alive, all the Colonies forming Governments as you'll see by the papers . . ."

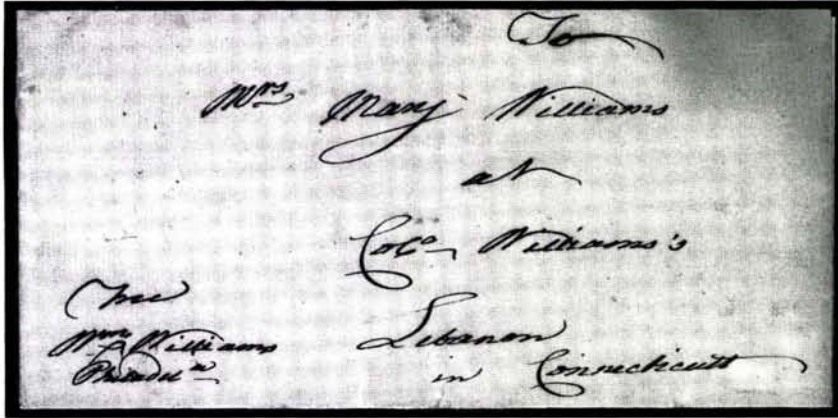
Left edge foxed and torn irregularly (mostly clear of text), reinforced folds, otherwise Fine and fully readable E. 4,000-5,000



- 13° **William Whipple.** Signer, delegate from New Hampshire. Autograph free frank "Free W: Whipple" and address on folded cover to **John Bartlett**, fellow delegate and Signer from New Hampshire, lettersheet shows watermark with allegorical figure in crowned circle, neatly docketed on backflap January 3, 1779, few minor foxed spots, Very Fine, attractive frank from one Signer to another E. 2,000-3,000

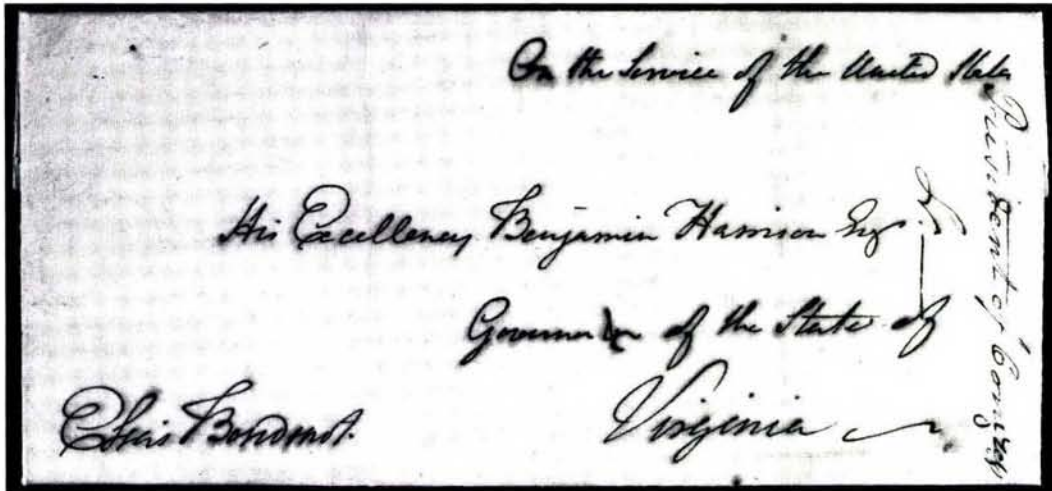


- 14° **William Whipple.** Signer, delegate from New Hampshire. Autograph free frank "W: Whipple" and address on folded cover to **John Langdon**, fellow delegate from New Hampshire, straightline PHILA MARCH 24 struck on back, neat docketing with 1779 year date, splits along folds neatly reinforced, Very Fine, despite the number of Whipple's free franks in this collection, the total number in private hands is quite small . E. 2,000-3,000

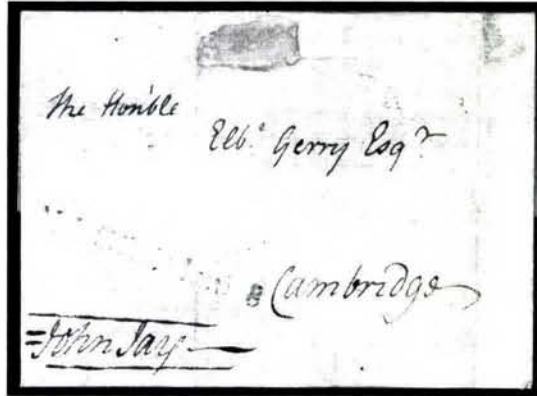


- 15° **William Williams.** Signer, delegate from Connecticut (Continental Congresses of 1776-78, 1783-84). Autograph free frank "Free Wm. Williams Philada." and address on folded cover to Mrs. Mary Williams at Colonel Williams's residence in Lebanon Conn., without date or contents, carefully silked and preserved, faint foxing at upper right, only one other example of this Signer's free frank is known to us in private hands E. 4,000-5,000

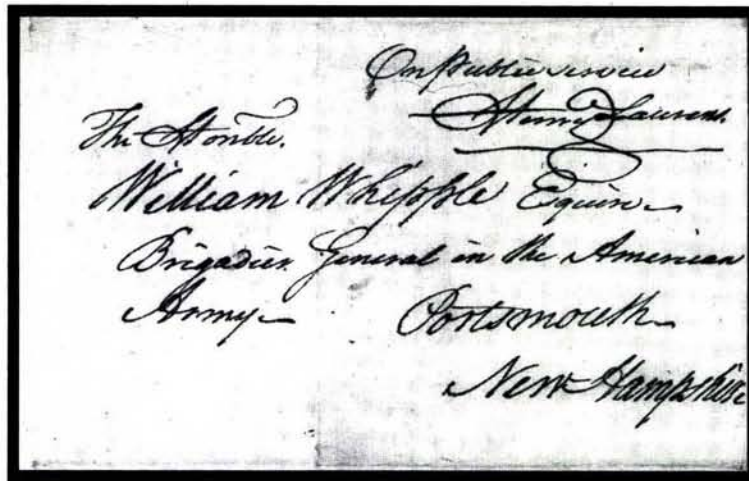
PRESIDENTS OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS



- 16° **Elias Boudinot.** President of the Continental Congress (1782-83), delegate from New Jersey (1777-78, 1781-83). Autograph free frank "On the Service of the United States. Elias Boudinot" and address on autograph letter signed (can be separated), datelined from Congress held at Princeton N.J., October 8, 1783, addressed to **Benjamin Harrison**, Virginia delegate and Signer, Boudinot encloses a copy of an Act of Congress; according to docketing the act authorized Virginia "to keep up 2 armed vessels & 25 privates," skilfully cleaned, Very Fine, scarce frank and interesting content E. 2,000-3,000



- 17° **John Jay.** President of the Continental Congress (1778-79), delegate from New York (1774-77, 1778-79), secretary of foreign affairs and secretary of state under Washington. Autograph free frank "John Jay" as secretary of foreign affairs under Continental Congress on folded cover addressed in his hand to **Elbridge Gerry**, fellow delegate, member of Congress and vice president, faint strike of straightline N.YORK Jan: 8 handstamp, neat 1787 docketing in Gerry's hand, lightly cleaned with faint stain at top, still Fine and attractive, bold frank E. 1,000-1,500



- 18° **Henry Laurens.** President of the Continental Congress (1777-78), delegate from South Carolina (1777-80). Autograph free frank "On Public Service Henry Laurens" and address on one-page autograph letter (can be separated) signed as president, datelined York Town, December 15, 1777, to **Brigadier General William Whipple**, at Portsmouth N.H. LAURENS WRITES FROM THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS HELD AT YORK, PENNSYLVANIA, WHILE THE BRITISH OCCUPY PHILADELPHIA

This letter informs General Whipple that he has been appointed to a special commission of generals to inquire "into the cause of the failure of the late intended expedition against Rhode Island under the Command of General Spencer. . ." Henry Laurens was captured at sea and held hostage by the British in October 1780.

In excellent condition, Very Fine, a rare Revolutionary War period letter E. 2,000-3,000

11
York Town 15th Decem 1777

Sir -

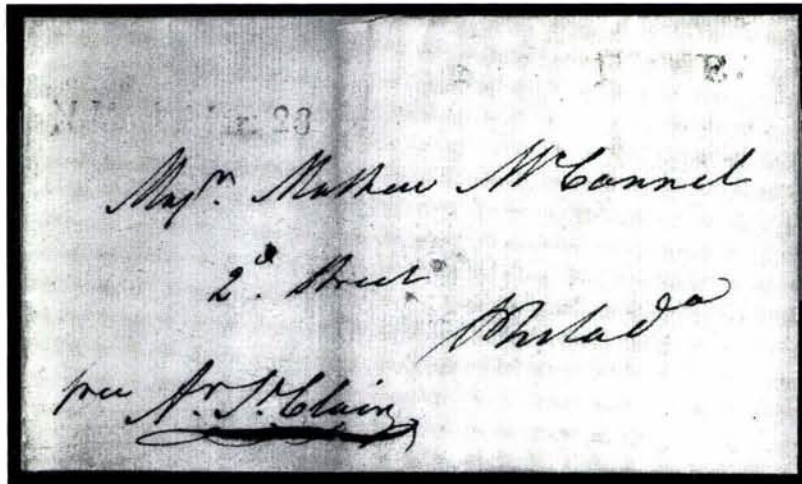
For the satisfaction of the good people of the United States & for the honour of the American Arms, Congress have judged it necessary that a proper & full enquiry be made into the cause of the failure of the late intended expedition against Rhode Island under the Command of General Spencer & into the conduct of the General Officers employed upon that occasion.

For effecting this necessary Enquiry, Congress have appointed five Commissioners & marked particular directions for their proceeding & from a confidence in your continued Zeal in the public service have included your Name in the Commission.

For your further information please to be referred to a Certified Copy of the Act of Congress dated the 19th Inst: which in company with this I have the honour of transmitting.

I am with great Regard
Sir Your Obedient
& Most humble Servt
Henry Laurens,
President
of Congress.

General Whipple
New Hampshire.



- 19° **Arthur St. Clair.** President of the Continental Congress (1787-88), delegate from Pennsylvania (1785-87), first commander-in-chief of the U.S. military and the first governor of the Northwest Territory (1791). Autograph free frank "free Ar. St. Clair" and address on folded cover to Matthew McConnel at Philadelphia, faintly struck N. York Mar. 23 straightline handstamp and FREE, docketed on flap with 1786 year date, faint toning and wear along fold, small erosion spots clear of signature, Fine, franked one year prior to St. Clair's term as president, very scarce, ex Stevens and illustrated in his article on franks of the Continental Congress E. 750-1,000

DELEGATES TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS



- 20° **Edward Carrington.** Delegate from Virginia (Continental Congresses of 1785-86), quartermaster general in the Revolutionary Army, and mayor of Richmond. 2½ pages, datelined Richmond Va., July 18, 1798, autograph letter signed by Carrington as mayor and addressed to "Lieutenant General George Washington", who was commissioned in 1798 to be a lieutenant-general and commander-in-chief of the U.S. in preparation for a possible war with France, this letter is in reply to Washington's request for assistance at this time of "crisis", a term used by Carrington to describe the European situation, but he begs out of the request by explaining that the demands of his current public office are too great, mostly clear strike of straightline RICHMOND, JULY 18, 1798 between two ornate borders, matching FREE handstamp, fresh and Very Fine E. 500-750



- 21 **Nathan Dane.** Delegate from Massachusetts (Continental Congresses of 1785-88), co-author of the Ordinance of 1787 establishing the Northwest Territory. Autograph free frank "Free N. Dane" and address on folded cover to fellow delegate, Samuel Holton, at Danvers Mass., lightly struck N. YORK Aug. 15 and FREE handstamps, lettersheet watermarked with allegorical figure in crowned circle, Very Fine E. 400-500
- 22° **Oliver Ellsworth.** Delegate from Connecticut (Continental Congresses of 1777-84), framer of the Constitution, and U.S. senator. Autograph free frank "Free Oliv. Ellsworth" as senator on one-page autograph letter unsigned from Ellsworth to Ezekiel Williams Jr. at Hartford Conn., datelined Philadelphia, March 4, 1796, brownish 5/MR Franklin Mark and FREE of Philadelphia, letters remarks "Having this day accepted an appointment in the Judiciary department, & of course closed my labours in Congress... The Algerian & Spanish Treaties have recd. the unanimous assent of the Senate. The latter gives us all that we could reasonably insist on. The former, tho' an expensive business is elligable as the least of two evils," light overall toning, Fine E. 300-400
- 23° **Alexander Hamilton.** Delegate from New York (Continental Congresses of 1782-83, 1787-88), framer and signer of the Constitution, secretary of the treasury during Washington administration (1789-95), and victim of Aaron Burr's bullet. Autograph free frank "Free A. Hamilton" on folded cover endorsed "Treasury Department" and addressed to a tax collector at Baltimore, docketed on back with 1792 year date, brownish 12/1V Franklin Mark, small piece missing from flap above wax seal, carefully cleaned, sealed tear at top center, otherwise Fine E. 500-750

- 24° **John Langdon.** Delegate from New Hampshire (Continental Congresses of 1775-77, 1786-87), framer and signer of the Constitution, and U.S. senator. Autograph free frank "free J. Langdon" as senator on one-page folio autograph letter signed by **Ebenezer Hazard**, former postmaster general, datelined New York, April 17, 1790, to the Rev. Jedediah Morse at Charlestown Mass., faintly struck New-York April 18 straightline and FREE handstamp, about half of the letter deals with business, the other offers sharp comments about Congress including the statement, "Local Politics have too great an Influence in Congress," some light foxing along folds, otherwise Very Fine, Langdon's frank is extremely rare, the combination of Langdon's and Hazard's signatures on one document is most unusual E. 1,000-1,500
- 25° **Arthur Lee.** Delegate from Virginia (Continental Congresses of 1781-84), head of the Board of Treasury Department. Autograph free frank "Free A. Lee" as commissioner of the Board of Treasury on folded cover addressed in his hand to William Ellery, commissioner of the Continental Loan Office for Rhode Island, at Newport, straightline N. YORK*NOV 15 handstamp and FREE, neat docketing on backflap with 1786 year date, Very Fine, rare Continental Congress period free frank E. 400-500
- 26° **Gouverneur Morris.** Delegate from New York (Continental Congresses of 1777-80), framer and signer of the Constitution, U.S. senator and ambassador to England and France. Autograph free frank "free Gouv. Morris" as senator and address on folded cover to New York City, brownish WASHN CITY MAR. 14 cds, docketed on back with 1802 year date, fresh and Very Fine E. 300-400
- 27° **George Partridge.** Delegate from Massachusetts (Continental Congresses of 1779-82, 1783-85). Autograph letter signed and free franked "free Geo. Partridge}", 1¼ page folio, datelined Trenton N.J., November 24, 1784, written to **Elbridge Gerry**, fellow delegate, at Marblehead Mass., interesting political contents in which Partridge complains about the long and inclimate journey to Trenton (where the brief Congress was held), the poor showing of delegates, and he throws some vitriolic words at candidates for president of the Continental Congress: of William Williams, he says "probably thinks of himself, but he is generally singular in his opinion. . . R. H. Lee is here, whose character neither entitles him to his Country's Notice." Lee was elected. Docketed by Gerry on backflap, red seal embossed with profile bust, lightly cleaned, Very Fine E. 400-500
- 28° **Philip John Schuyler.** Delegate from New York (Continental Congress of 1775-77, 1778-81), U.S. senator. Autograph free frank "Free Ph: Schuyler" as senator and address on folded cover to Stephen Van Rensselaer near Albany, straightline NEW-YORK May 27, FREE and 27/MA Franklin Mark, docketed 1790 on backflap, tiny erosion spot just above franking signature, still Very Fine E. 300-400
- 29° **Philip John Schuyler.** Delegate from New York, U.S. senator. June 16, 1764, folded letter from Philip Thomas Livingston, the son of Philip Livingston (fellow delegate and Signer), to Schuyler at Albany, written from **Kingston, Jamaica**, brownish-red NEW-YORK two-line handstamp on back, manuscript "Sh(ip) 6.16" rate for postage due applied at New York City, Very Fine, Livingston mentions his father in the letter E. 100-150
- 30° **Philip John Schuyler.** Delegate from New York, U.S. senator. March 17, 1798, letter from New York City merchants seeking legislative accommodation, addressed to General Philip Schuyler during his second term as senator in 1790, clear red NEW-YORK MAR. 17 so-called "clamshell" design, matching FREE handstamp, ms. "30" rate possibly applied in error at Albany, faint waterstaining along top, otherwise Very Fine E. 100-150



REVOLUTIONARY WAR



31

- 31° **Baron Frederick William von Steuben.** Prussian general, aide to Frederick the Great, instrumental in training and organizing Revolutionary Army troops, author of *Regulations for the Order and Discipline of the Troops of the United States* (1779).

AN EXTREMELY RARE FREE-FRANKED COVER ADDRESSED IN BARON VON STEUBEN'S HAND TO WASHINGTON'S AIDE-DE-CAMP, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL BENJAMIN WALKER

Autograph free frank "Steuben Maj. Genl" and address on folded cover to **Lt. Colonel Benjamin Walker**, formerly Steuben's aide-de-camp and Washington's aide-de-camp beginning in 1781, black 28/IA Franklin Mark and FREE handstamp, neatly docketed January 28, 1783, fold at center, Very Fine E. 3,000-4,000

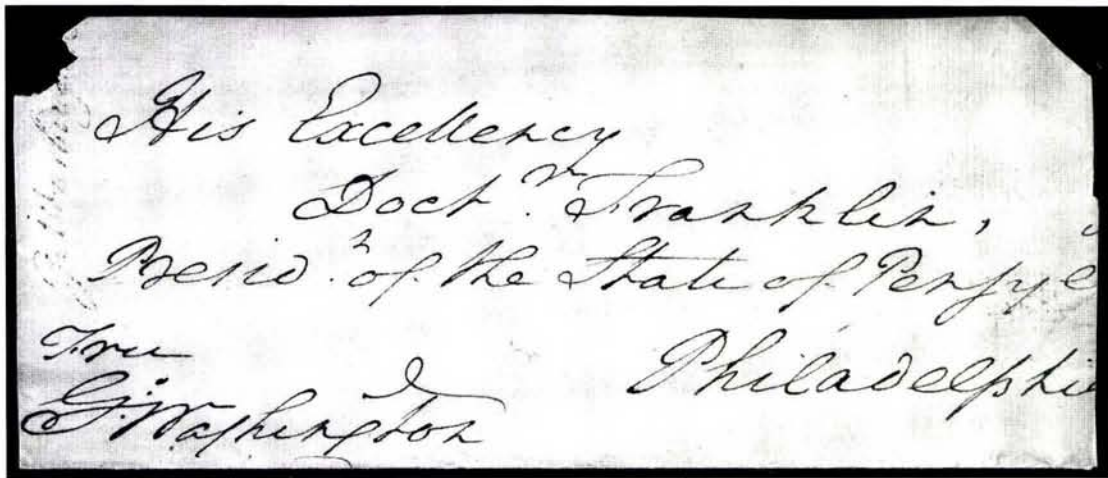
- 32° **Revolutionary War.** Well-written two-page letter from William Constable to Colonel White at Williamsburg, redirected to Boston then Philadelphia, letter datelined Baltimore, December 23, 1778, with good content regarding commerce and the disruption of shipping due to the war, mentions British request for Spain's mediation of the hostilities with France, the British occupation of Long Island, optimism for peace among Philadelphians for "no good reasons," ms. rate and forwarding charges to Philadelphia, "6" plus "5" = "11" plus "5.8" = "16.8", Very Fine and unusual war-time letter, *not illust.* E. 250-350

- 33° **Revolutionary War.** Letter datelined Parsippany N.J., Dec. 21, 1778, one-page folio, from James Parker, Prov. Council, Board of Proprietors, Legislator etc., to Deputy Quartermaster General, Col. James Abeil, at Morristown, requesting padlocks, a few pounds of steel "for which I shall be glad to pay you any price you will ask . . ." (in Continentals, no doubt), minor foxing, Fine and desirable, *not illust.* E. 100-150

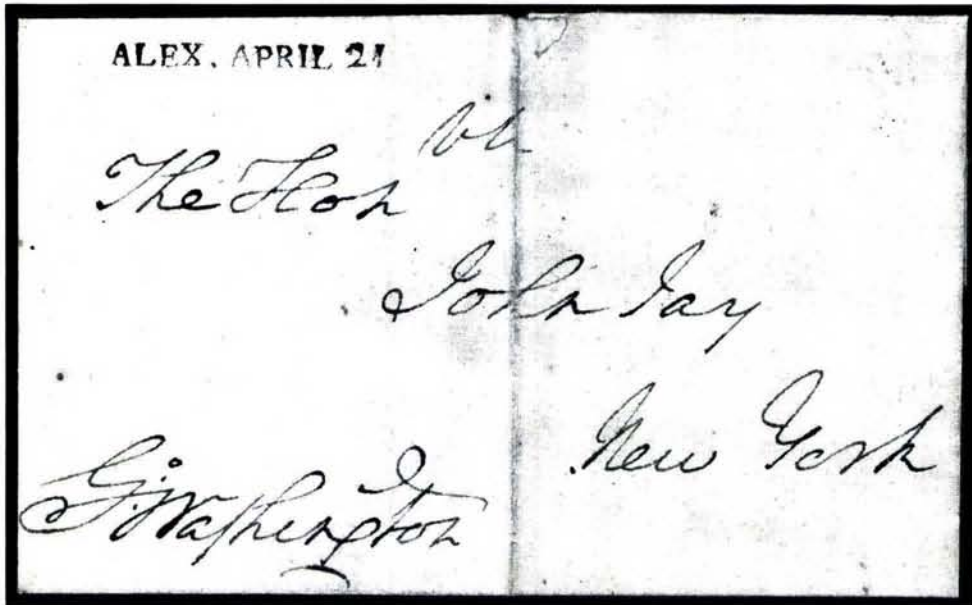
PRESIDENTS



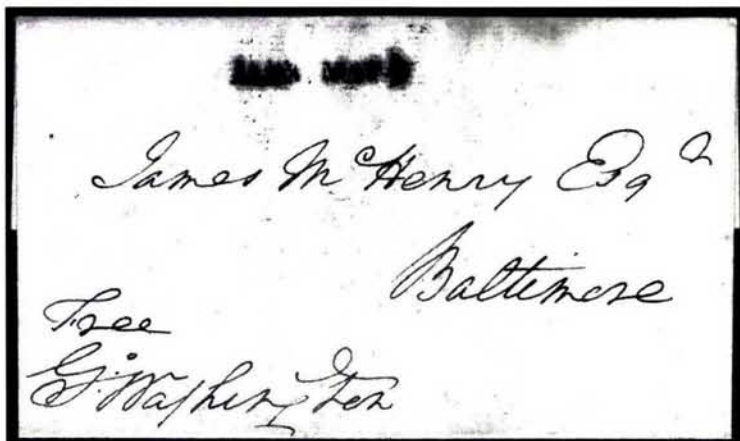
34° **George Washington.** Autograph free frank "G. Washington" as commanding general of the Continental Army on folded cover addressed in his hand to Colonel Bedel, in care of Major Whitcombe, docketing on flap dated December 1779, at which time Washington and his army were camped at Morristown, New Jersey, slight wear, lightly soiled along fold, still Very Fine E. 5,000-7,500



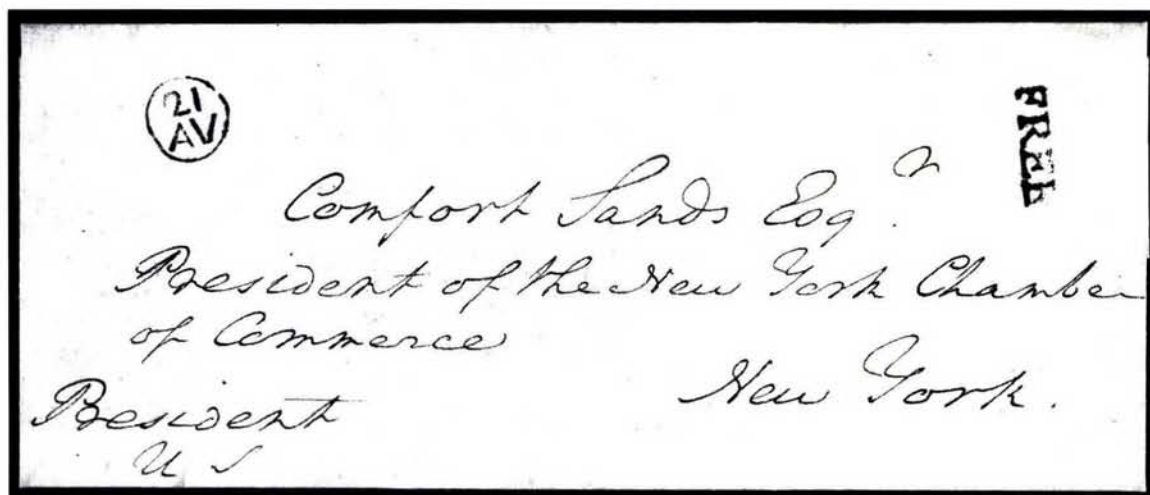
35° **George Washington.** Autograph free frank "Free G. Washington" as private citizen on large part of folded cover addressed in his hand to **Benjamin Franklin**, "His Excellency Doctr. Franklin, Presidt. of the State of Pennsyla, Philadelphia", black wax seal on back embossed with patriotic emblem, undated but probably 1785-86 during the first two years of Franklin's term as state president, traces of erased note "G. Washington" at upper left, top corners slightly clipped, a bit reduced at right just into last few letters of address, still very fresh and Very Fine, a wonderful piece associating these two founding fathers of the nation E. 4,000-5,000



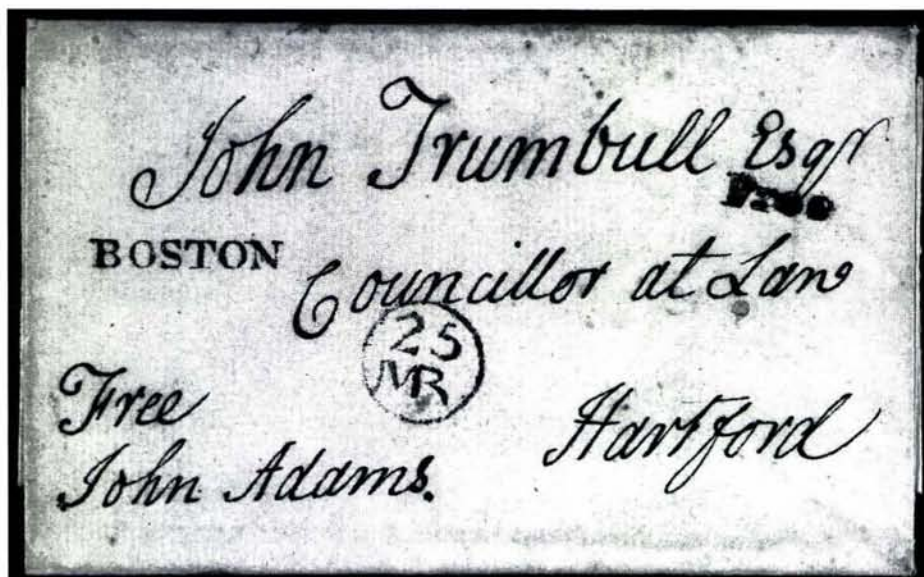
36° **George Washington.** Autograph free frank "G. Washington" as a private citizen on folded cover addressed in his hand to **John Jay**, at New York, perfectly clear strike of ALEX, APRIL 21 straightline handstamp, neatly docketed on flap in Jay's hand with 1788 year date, Jay served as a delegate to and president of the Continental Congress (1778), one year after this cover was sent, Jay was appointed secretary of state by Washington, some lightened soiling along central fold, tiny opening tear (1/4 in.) at top center, remarkably fresh and Very Fine, exceptional quality and an excellent association between Washington and one of his most influential cabinet members in foreign affairs E. 5,000-7,500



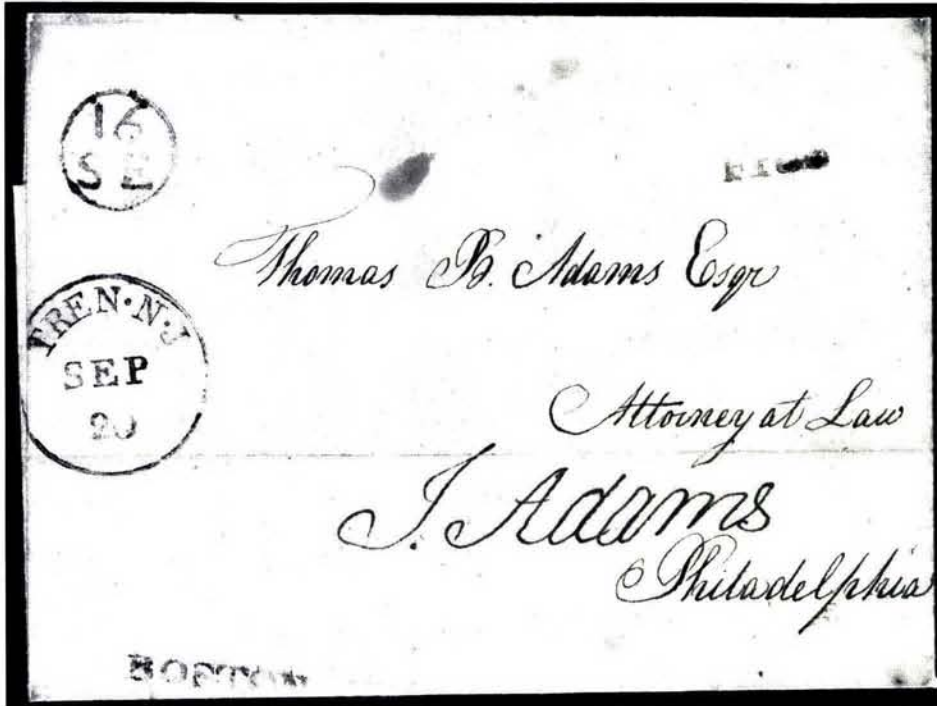
37° **George Washington.** Autograph free frank "Free G. Washington" as a private citizen on folded cover addressed in his hand to **James McHenry**, at Baltimore, McHenry was a Maryland delegate to the Constitutional Convention and signer of the Constitution, heavily inked and oily strike of ALEX MAY 9 straightline handstamp, neatly docketed on backflap with 1788 year date, Very Fine E. 5,000-7,500



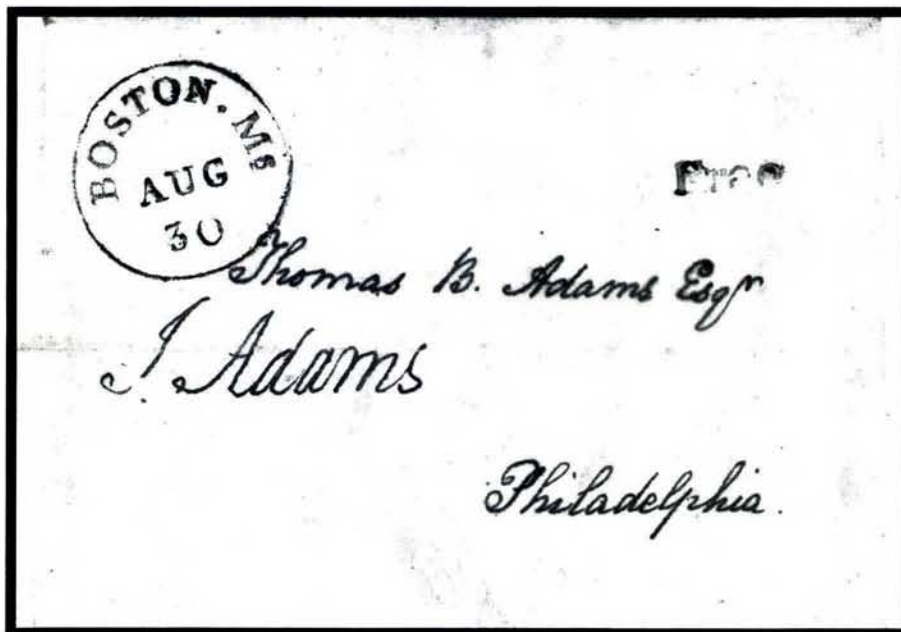
38° **George Washington.** Autograph presidential free frank "President U.S." on folded cover addressed entirely in Washington's hand to Comfort Sands, president of the New York Chamber of Commerce, brownish 21/AV and FREE handstamps, pencil note indicates August 21, 1795, date, lettersheet with allegorical watermark, Very Fine, an attractive example of the scarcer form of Washington's free frank E. 5,000-7,500



- 39° **John Adams.** Signer from Massachusetts, commissioner to France, minister to England, vice-president under Washington, second president. Autograph free frank as vice-president in scarce form "Free John Adams" on folded cover addressed in his hand to John Trumbull (U.S. senator) at Hartford Conn., neatly docketed on backflap with 1793 year date, clear strikes of BOSTON straightline, 25/MR Franklin Mark and Free handstamps, Extremely Fine, exceptional quality for this very scarce frank E. 3,000-4,000



40° **John Adams.** Autograph free frank as president "J. Adams" on folded cover to his son, Thomas B. Adams, in Philadelphia, neatly docketed "The President of the U.S." on backflap, posted at Boston with BOSTON straightline, 16/SE Franklin Mark and Free handstamp, additionally postmarked in transit with TREN NJ SEP 20 cds, small foxed spot, otherwise clean and Extremely Fine, rare presidential frank E. 3,000-4,000



41° **John Adams.** Autograph free frank "J. Adams" as ex-president.

EX-PRESIDENT JOHN ADAMS FRANKS AN AUTOGRAPH LETTER SIGNED BY JOHN QUINCY ADAMS TO THOMAS B. ADAMS, HIS SONS

The letter (which can be separated) is datelined Quincy, August 29, 1802, written and signed by John Quincy Adams ("John Q. Adams") to his brother, Thomas, at Philadelphia. The former is enclosing a letter to Thomas that had been given to him by a Mr. Murray from The Hague, but which "had got into the corner of some trunk and lain forgotten untill about three weeks ago when he found and forwarded it to me - He sent me at the same a letter from Baron Bisfield to me, which was in the same predicament." He injects a bit of humor: "it is already so ancient that a small addition to its age will not I presume be of much importance."

Another interesting feature of this letter is the presence of an incomplete line of poetry, evidently in the hand of John Adams, which reads, "I will Praise my maker with my Breath and when my voice is lost in death . . ." (the pen ran dry with the word "death").

Address panel with BOSTON MS AUG 30 cds and Free handstamps. Clean and Extremely Fine. A fascinating letter and free frank, associating the father and son presidents and John Quincy's sibling E. 6,000-8,000

Quincy 29 August 1802.

My dear Brother.

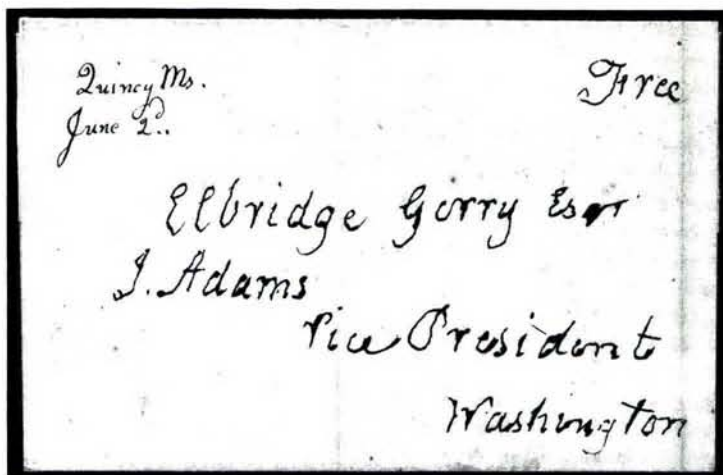
I have had some hesitation whether to keep the enclosed letter, under the expectation of delivering it in person, ^{here,} or to forward it to you - However if it should reach Philadelphia too late, I suppose you will leave such directions there as will bring it back in a few days more, and it is already so ancient that a small addition to its age will not I presume be of much importance.

I received it very recently from my friend Mr. Murray - He brought it with him from the Blague, but it had got into the corner of some trunk and lain forgotten untill about three weeks ago when he found it and forwarded it to me - He sent me at the same time a letter from Baron Bialfeld to me, which was in the same predicament.

My wife and family are here to grand the week; but I myself return to Boston

yours faithfully John Q. Adams

J. Q. Adams Esq.



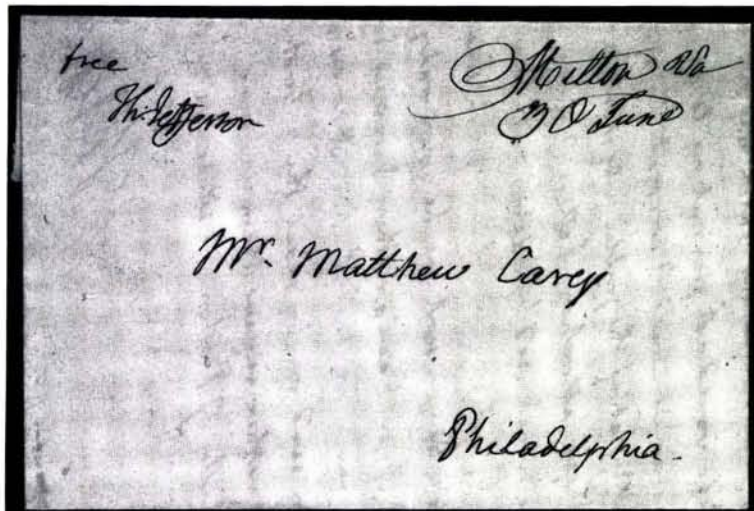
42° **John Adams.** Autograph free frank as ex-president, "J. Adams" in a very shaky hand, also marked "Free" and addressed by Adams to Vice-President Elbridge Gerry at Washington, on folded cover with ms. "Quincy Ms. June 2d." postmark, docketed in Gerry's hand with 1813 year date, fresh and Extremely Fine E. 3,000-4,000



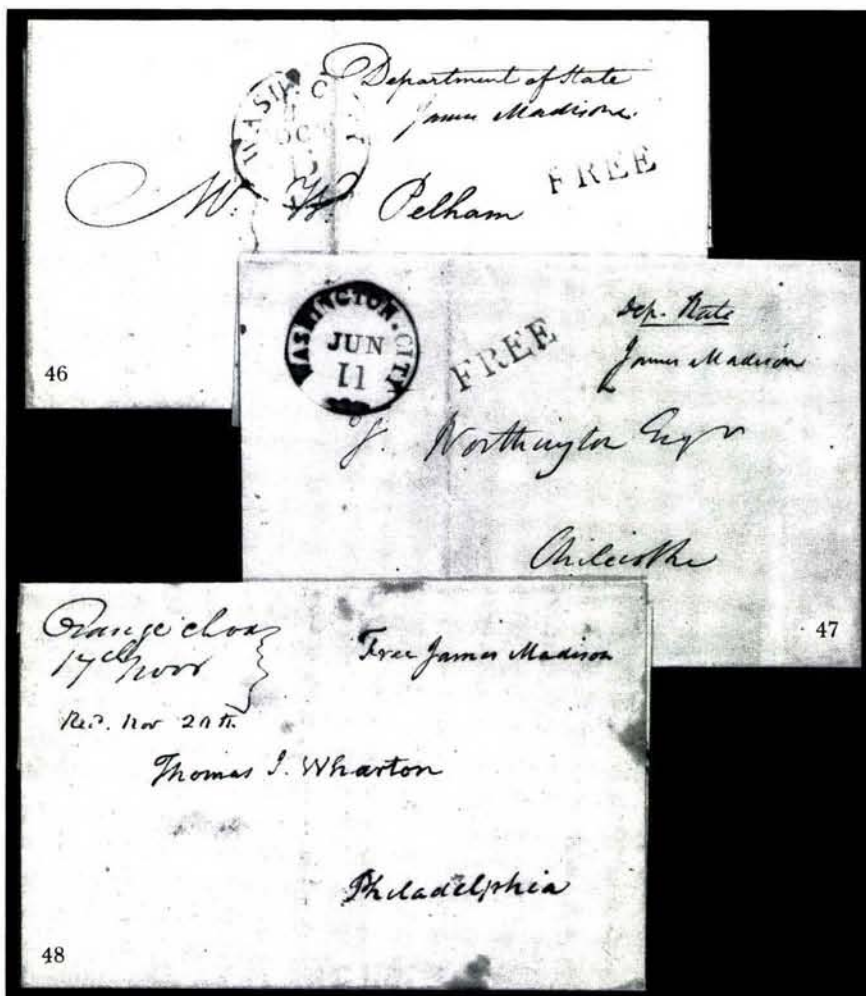
43° **Thomas Jefferson.** Vice-president under Adams, third president, author of the Declaration of Independence. Autograph free frank "free Th: Jefferson" on folded cover addressed in his hand to John W. Eppes at Bermuda Hundred "by the Petersburg mail," bold brownish WASH CITY DEC 23 cds and FREE handstamp, the style of postmark and pencil note on back date this cover to 1800, at which time Jefferson was vice-president, slight wear at top and bottom folds, still Very Fine, a bold and handsome example of this founding father's frank E. 3,000-4,000



44° **Thomas Jefferson.** Autograph free frank as president, the rare "free Th: Jefferson Pr. U.S." form of frank on beautiful green folded cover addressed in his hand to James Oldham at Richmond, well-struck red WASHN CITY MAR 13 cds and matching FREE handstamp, light fold with barest trace of foxing, Extremely Fine, the most desirable form of Jefferson's frank and in exceptionally fine condition E. 5,000-7,500



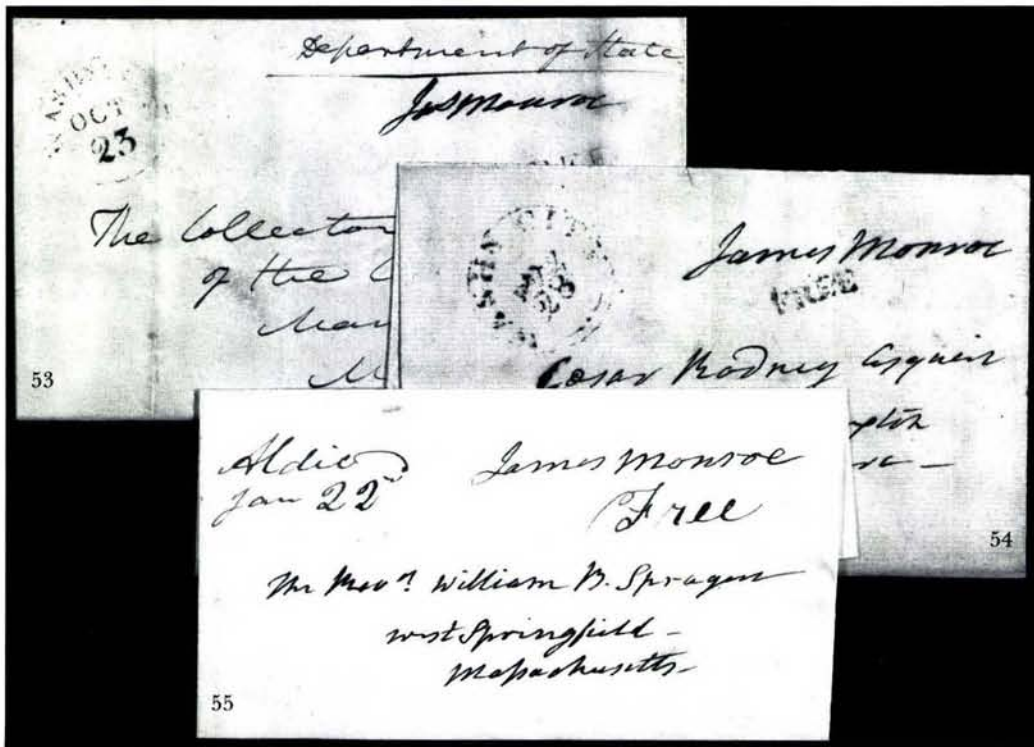
45° **Thomas Jefferson.** Autograph free frank "free Th: Jefferson" as ex-president on folded cover addressed in his hand to Matthew Carey at Philadelphia, ms. "Milton Va 30 June" postmark, undated but post-1811 when the Milton post office was established, in immaculate condition, Extremely Fine E. 3,000-4,000



- 46° **James Madison.** Delegate from Virginia to the Continental Congress, framer of the Constitution, secretary of state under Jefferson, fourth president. Autograph free frank "James Madison" on folded cover to Boston with Department of State endorsement, red WASHN CITY OCT 13 cds and matching FREE handstamp, docketed on backflap with 1804 year date, clean and Very Fine E. 600-800
- 47° **James Madison.** Autograph free frank "James Madison" with State Department endorsement and address entirely in his hand on folded cover to Senator Thomas Worthington of Ohio, bold red WASHINGTON CITY JUN 11 cds and FREE handstamp, no year date, Very Fine E. 600-800
- 48° **James Madison.** Autograph free frank "Free James Madison" as ex-president on folded cover addressed in his hand to Thomas J. Wharton at Philadelphia, ms. Orange Court House Va. postmark, neat docketing with 1826 year date, few minor toned spots, Very Fine E. 600-800



- 49° **James Madison.** Autograph letter signed "James Madison" with his free frank and address (can be separated), as ex-president and rector of University of Virginia, datelined Montpelier, December 27, 1826, to Nicholas Trist, a law student of Jefferson's who later served as Andrew Jackson's private secretary, James Polk's negotiator in Mexico and as postmaster of Alexandria Va., contents concern a report to be given by Madison on the university, ms. Orange C.H. Va. postmark, silked to reinforce fragile and browned paper, still presentable and scarce E. 500-750
- 50° **James Madison.** Autograph free frank "Free James Madison" as ex-president and addressed in his hand to **Martin Van Buren**, then vice-president elect, docketed 1833 with ms. Orange C.H. Va. postmark of Feb. 17, the letter followed Van Buren on his journey from Albany to New York City, then to Washington for the inaugural, with red circular datestamps applied at both forwarding post offices, Very Fine, Madison's 82 years show in his handwriting E. 600-800
- 51° **James Madison.** Autograph free frank "Free James Madison" on folded cover addressed in the hand of **Dolley Madison** to the Reverend William B. Sprague at Albany, bold red ORANGE-CH Va. NOV 20 cds and matching FREE handstamp, pencil note dates cover to 1835, Madison died seven months later, Sprague was an autograph collector, sensibly reinforced where split along fold at bottom, still Very Fine and attractive E. 600-800
- 52° **James Madison.** June 1, 1801, folded cover addressed to "Hon. James Maddison" [sic] as Secretary of State, docketed "Rd. Peters" in a diminutive handwriting that appears to be Madison's, red PHI/1/JE cds and matching FREE handstamp, few toned specks, Very Fine E. 100-150



- 53° **James Monroe.** Revolutionary war figure, member of Continental Congress, foreign minister under Washington, governor of Virginia, secretary of state (and war) under Madison, and fifth president. Autograph free frank "Jas. Monroe" on folded cover with Department of State endorsement, to customs collector at Marblehead Mass., faint brownish WASHN CITY OCT 23 cds and FREE handstamp, docketed on back with 1812 year date, noting "Circular in regard of Prizes and Prize Goods," lightly foxed along file folds (just thru "e" of signature), otherwise Fine E. 600-800
- 54° **James Monroe.** Autograph free frank as president "James Monroe" on folded cover and addressed in his hand to Caesar A. Rodney (the son of the signer of the Declaration of Independence from Delaware), partly readable WASHN CITY cds and FREE handstamp, no year date, but this style of circular datestamp and the "James Monroe" form of frank indicate 1820-21, Very Fine and rare presidential frank E. 1,000-1,500
- 55° **James Monroe.** Autograph free frank "James Monroe" and address on folded cover to Rev. Sprague at West Springfield Mass., entirely in Monroe's hand, ms. Aldie Va. Jan. 22 postmark and "Free", fresh and Extremely Fine E. 800-1,000
- 56° **James Monroe.** Letter addressed "To The President of the United States" from a court-martialed colonel in the marine corps, datelined Philadelphia, October 25, 1821, the colonel, Anthony Gall, refers to his letter sent nine days earlier and adds information that his court martial was held while he was in a "State Insanity", docketed at right "Secry of the Navy/Col Gall", in a hand that closely resembles Monroe's, red PHIL 25 OCT cds, few waterstains, otherwise Very Fine, not illust. E. 100-150

Thomas B. Adams Esqr

Free
John Quincy Adams.
S. U. S.

Quincy
Massachusetts.

2. February 1804.

Journals of the House, will show
and last of the amendments
raising a revenue in Louisiana -
managers for a conference. I

I suspect the Senate will finally be obliged to yield in this controversy. The project as it came from the house was much more consistent, and the title of the act more wary, than it was by the Amendment of the Senate - It did not shew so flagrantly the violation of our Republican Principles, though in fact it carried that violation farther. - I am passive in this case - having recorded my principles in the three Resolves so indignantly - by rejected almost a month ago.

Breckenridge is now speaking on the question to strike out the 8th Section of the Government Bill; - upon which we are still hammering - On this question too I am now passive - as my principles will require my vote against the bill in either shape.

I am very anxious to hear again from our dear Mother, whose Rheumatism I hope was not of long continuance.

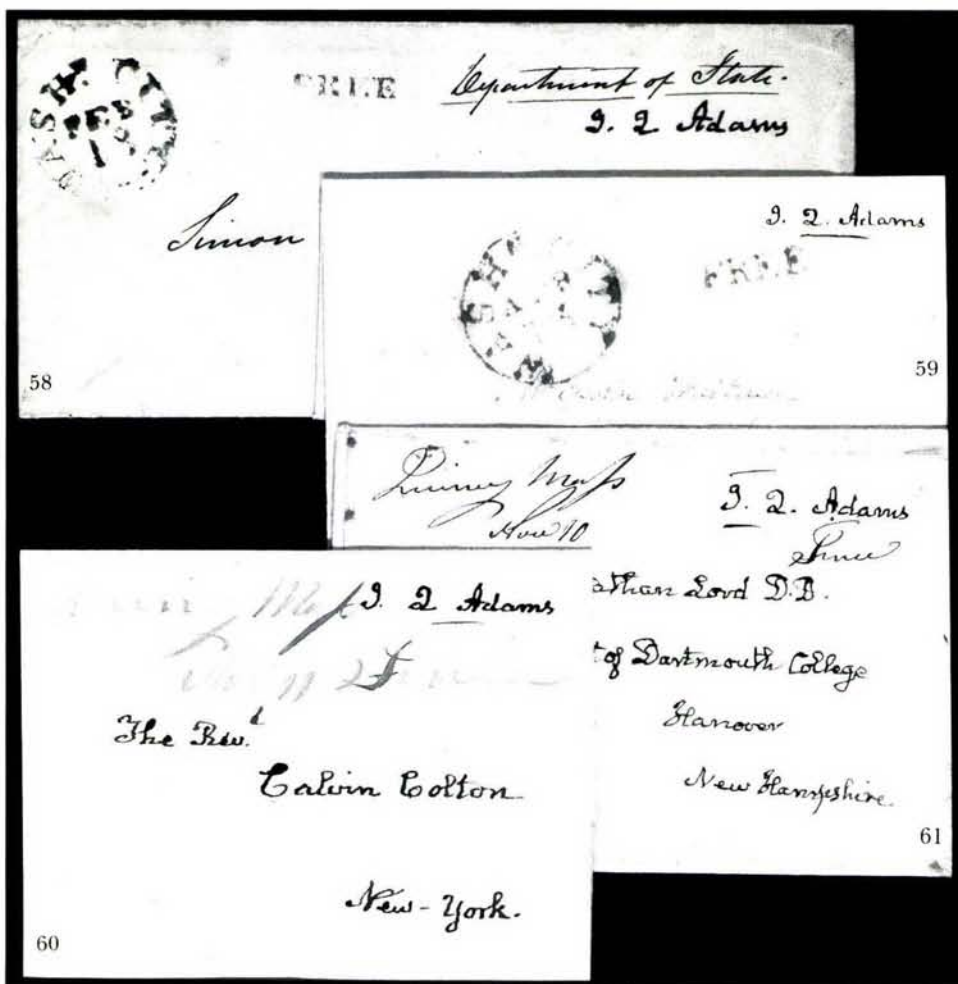
Mr. Cramer is getting better - My wife and children well, excepting that the first has a cold -

57° **John Quincy Adams.** State and U.S. senator, minister to Russia and England, secretary of state under Monroe, and sixth president.

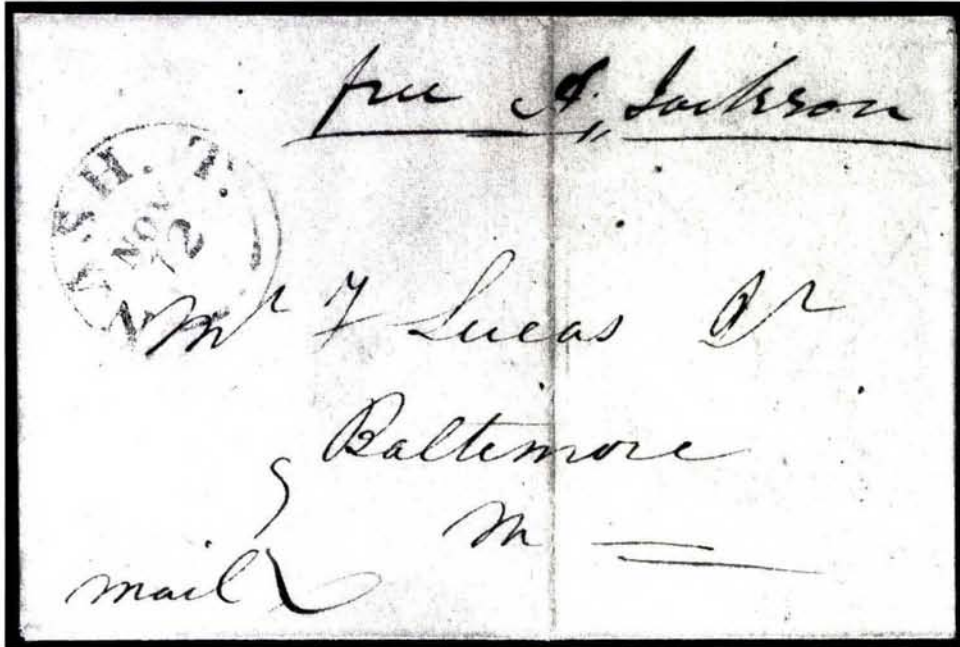
JOHN QUINCY ADAMS WRITES TO HIS BROTHER, THOMAS, DESCRIBING CONGRESSIONAL DEBATES OVER ACTS RELATING TO THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE

February 2, 1804, autograph letter begins "The inclosed Sheet of the Journals of the House . . ."; presumably complete although there is no closing salutation or signature. John Quincy bitterly describes the controversy created by the acts to raise revenue in Louisiana, commenting "The project as it came from the house was much more consistent, and the title of the act more wary, than it was by the Amendment of the Senate - It did not shew so flagrantly the violation of our Republican Principles; though in fact it carried that violation farther. - I am passive in this case - having recorded my principles in the three Resolves so indignantly rejected almost a month ago. Adams mentions Breckenridge.

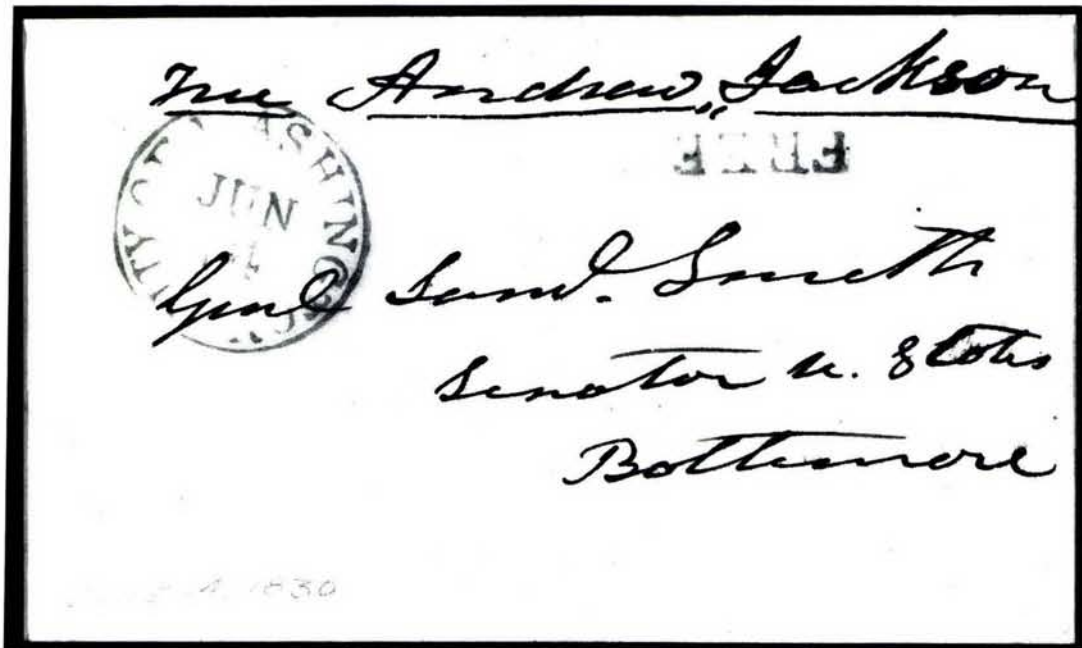
The other side is addressed in John Quincy's hand and franked "Free John Quincy Adams S.U.S.", Very Fine and fresh E. 2,500-3,500



- 58° **John Quincy Adams.** Autograph free frank "J. Q. Adams" as secretary of state on folded cover to Simon Greenleaf at Portland Me., with Department of State endorsement, red WASHN CITY FEB 18 cds and matching FREE handstamp, docketing on backflap with 1824 year date, Very Fine, franked one year after the Monroe Doctrine and in the year Adams was elected president E. 400-500
- 59° **John Quincy Adams.** Autograph free frank "J. Q. Adams" as president on folded cover to George Whitney at Cambridge Mass., oily strikes of WASHN CITY APR 13 cds and FREE handstamp, attractive black wax seal with embossed ship and "JA" monogram, Very Fine, scarce presidential frank, no year date but this style of Washington postmark and lack of State Department endorsement indicates April 1825 date E. 500-750
- 60° **John Quincy Adams.** Autograph free frank "J. Q. Adams" as ex-president and active congressman on folded cover addressed in his hand to Rev. Calvin Colton at New York City, magenta ms. Quincy Mass. Nov. 11 postmark, no year date, some shakiness evident in the aging president's handwriting, Extremely Fine, in excellent condition . E. 500-750
- 61° **John Quincy Adams.** Autograph free frank "J. Q. Adams" as ex-president and active congressman on folded cover addressed in his hand to Rev. Nathan Lord, president of Dartmouth College at Hanover N.H., ms. Quincy Mass. Nov. 10 postmark, no year date, very shaky handwriting, Very Fine E. 500-750



62° **Andrew Jackson.** Military hero, state and U.S. senator, Democratic populist, and seventh president. Autograph free frank as U.S. senator in scarce form "free A. Jackson" (using first initial only) on folded cover, docketing indicates October 8, 1823, letter, but postmarked NASH. T. NOV 12 cds, vertical fold, Very Fine and scarce franking signature E. 1,200-1,500

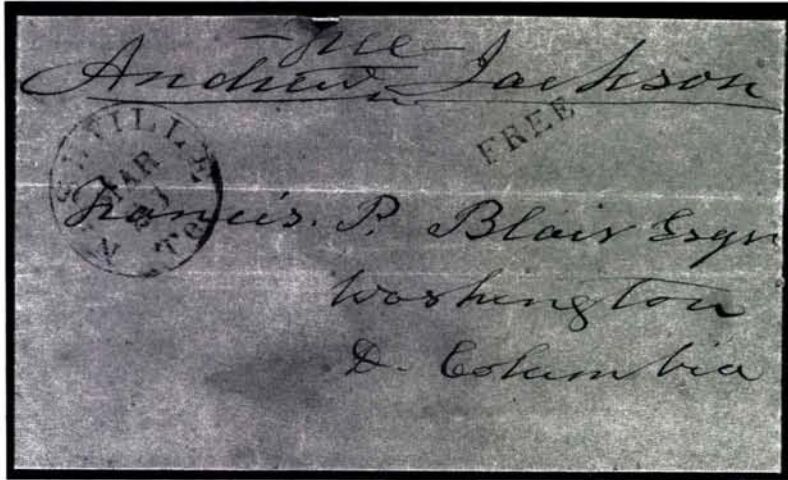


63° **Andrew Jackson.** Autograph free frank "Free Andrew Jackson" as president on 1½ page autograph letter signed (can be separated), docketed June 14, 1830, red CITY OF WASHINGTON JUN 14 and FREE handstamp.

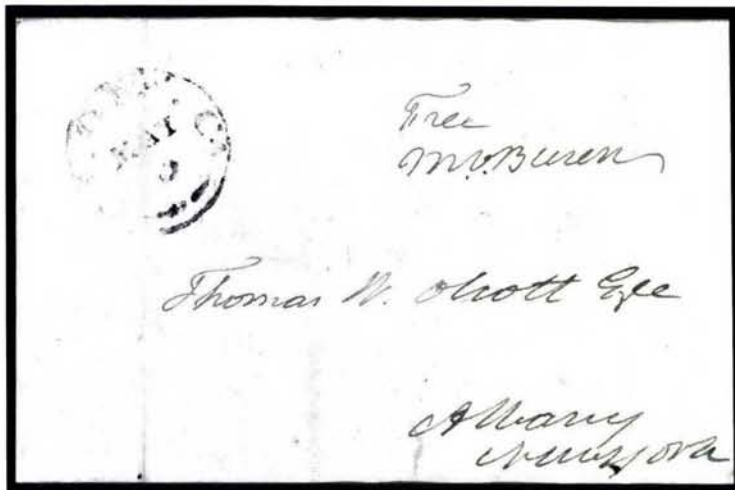
JACKSON WRITES TO SENATOR SAMUEL SMITH, THANKING SMITH FOR HIS SUPPORT OF JACKSON'S POLITICALLY MOTIVATED DECISION TO VETO THE MAYSVILLE ROAD BILL

Jackson was a staunch supporter of states' rights and limited federal government intervention in states' affairs. However, when the decision presented an opportunity to avenge a political foe, Jackson used his executive powers decisively. He vetoed twelve congressional bills during his term in office, more than all of his predecessors combined. In 1830 Jackson vetoed a bill appropriating funds for the construction of a road between Maysville and Lexington, Kentucky, the home state of his rival, Henry Clay. In this letter he thanks Senator Smith for support and invokes patriotism to defend his decision: "If the evils which it [his veto] anticipates are worth avoiding, as dangerous to the purity of the Government, and the desirability of our Union, I have the fullest confidence that their zeal in the cause of internal improvements will be so far moderated as, at best, to give me the credit of good intentions."

Extremely Fine example of Jackson's presidential frank and an interesting letter demonstrating Jackson's political sophistication E. 4,000-5,000

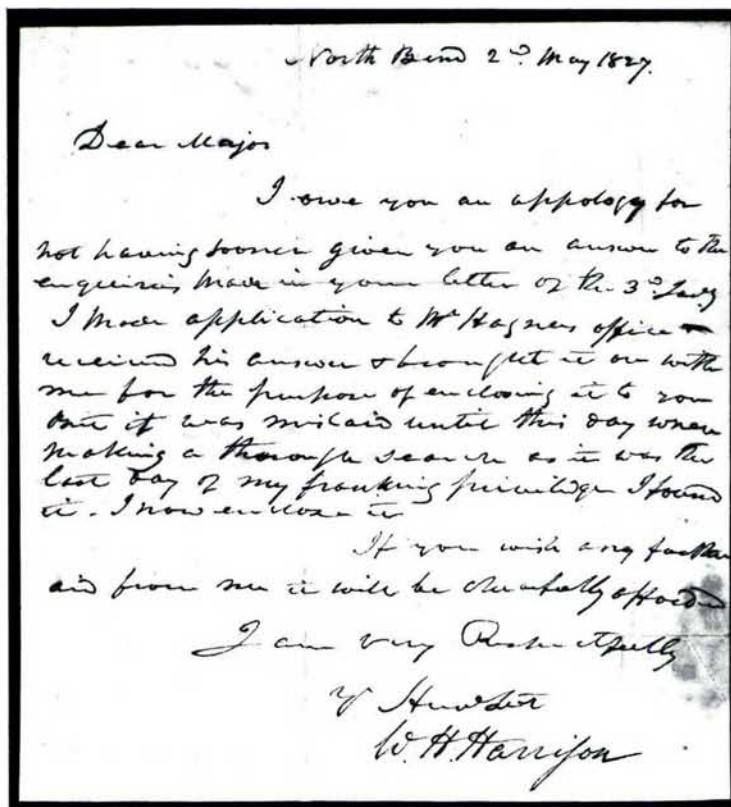


64° **Andrew Jackson.** Autograph free frank "Free Andrew Jackson" as ex-president on brown folded lettersheet addressed in his hand to Frances P. Blair at Washington, blue NASHVILLE Te MAR 21 cds and matching FREE handstamp, no year date (c. 1841), light folds, small erosion spot at top just into "Free", Fine example of Jackson's frank while in retirement at the Hermitage E. 1,200-1,500



65° **Martin Van Buren.** Member of the "Albany Regency" political machine, New York State senator, state attorney general, U.S. senator, secretary of state and vice-president under Jackson, and eighth president. Autograph free frank "Free M. V. Buren" on 2¼ page autograph letter signed, dated May 2, 1822, while Van Buren was serving his first term as U.S. senator, to Thomas L. Olcott at Albany, informing him that Olcott's claim for compensation for lost bail money has been refused by the quartermaster general, indistinct postmark, some light toning, mended opening cuts around seal, Fine and attractive example of Van Buren's frank, unusual instance of ineffectiveness from a politician accustomed to granting favors to his constituents E. 400-500

- 66° **Martin Van Buren.** Autograph free frank "Free M Van Buren" on envelope addressed in his hand to George Bancroft at Boston, blue WASHINGTON CITY D.C. NOV 20 cds and matching FREE handstamp, pencil note "1840" and appropriate style of postmark for this date, presumably franked as president, Very Fine E. 200-300
- 67° **Martin Van Buren.** Autograph free frank "Free M. Van Buren" as ex-president on small envelope addressed in his hand to Rev. Sprague, an autograph collector, mostly clear strike of OLD KINDERHOOK N.Y. DEC 18 cds and FREE handstamp, few tiny faint toned spots, Very Fine, without a year date but believed to be c. 1860 E. 200-300



68

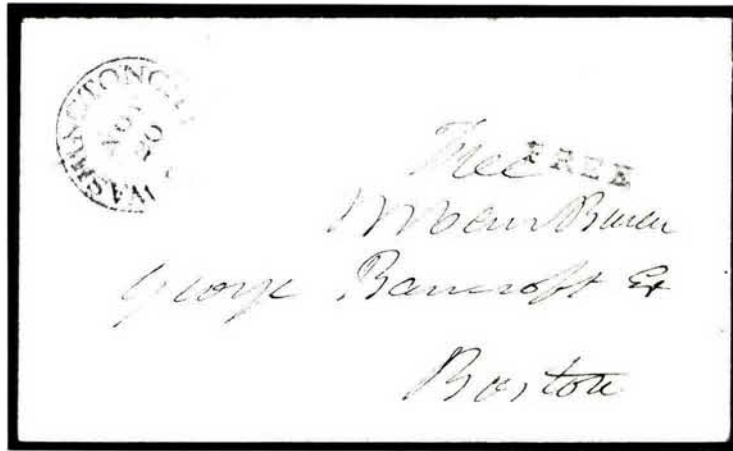
- 68° **William Henry Harrison.** Son of Benjamin Harrison (Signer), first territorial delegate to Congress, U.S. congressman and senator, minister to Colombia under J. Q. Adams, and ninth president.

RARE AUTOGRAPH LETTER TO MAJOR JOSEPH H. LAREWELL SIGNED AND FRANKED BY HARRISON ON "THE LAST DAY OF MY FRANKING PRIVILEGE"

The letter, one page folio, is datelined North Bend, May 2, 1827, at the end of the 60-day period after the second session of the 19th Congress, during which time the franking privilege still applied. In this letter, Harrison is enclosing a reply to Major Larewell which was received from a Mr. Hagner, but misplaced by Harrison. On the last day of his franking privilege, Harrison turned up the letter while sorting papers and answering correspondence.

The folded cover, which is separate from the letter, bears his autograph free frank "Free W. H. Harrison" and address. Both the cover and letter have been cleaned and pressed .

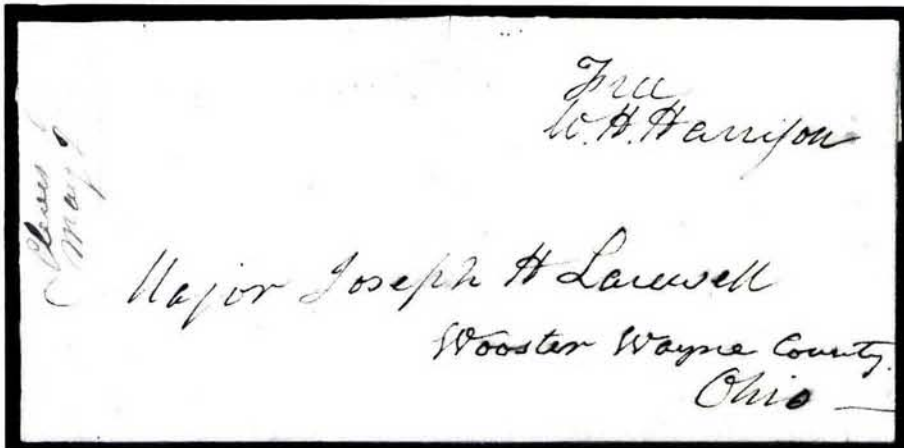
..... E. 4,000-5,000



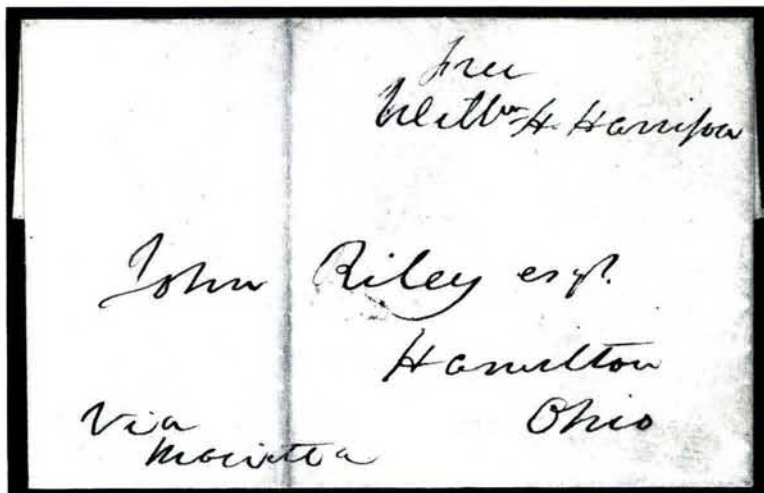
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67



68



69° **William Henry Harrison.** Autograph free frank "Free Willm. H. Harrison" as member of Congress on folded cover addressed in his hand to John Riley of Hamilton Ohio, receipt docketing on back dated July 13, 1817, lightly soiled along fold, Very Fine and very rare Harrison free frank, the five-letter abbreviation of Harrison's first name ("Willm.") is most unusual in any form E. 3,000-4,000



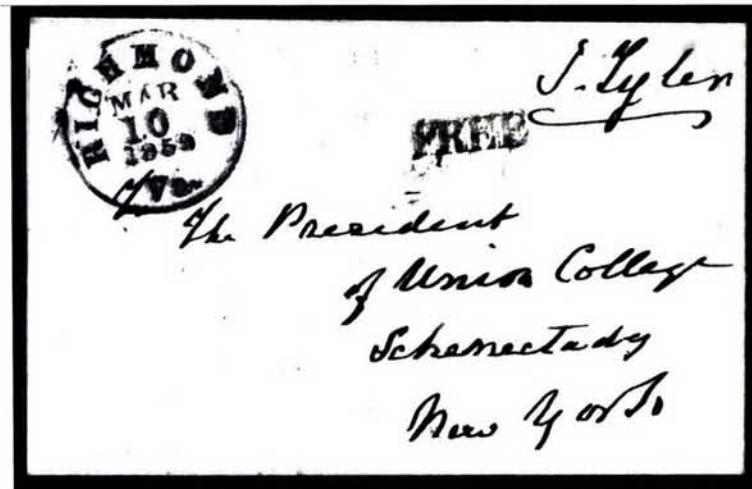
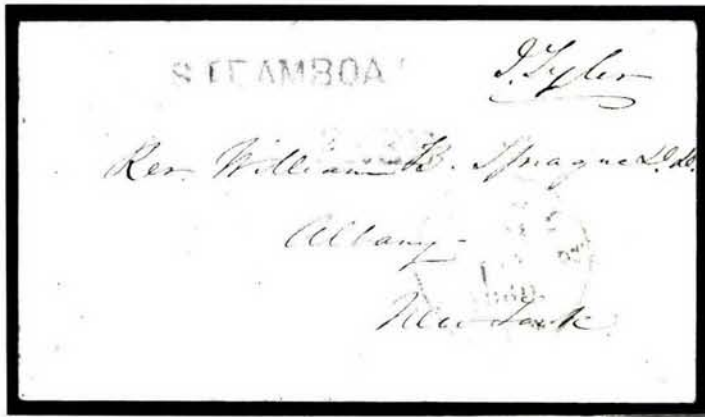
70° **William Henry Harrison.** Autograph free frank "Free W. H. Harrison" as U.S. senator on folded cover addressed in his hand to Benjamin Harrison, his brother, at Berkley Va., bold red WASHN CITY DEC 14 cds and matching FREE handstamp, no year date, but these markings indicate 1828, folds at edges with extensive splitting (can be easily rejoined), handsome appearance and a very rare frank E. 1,500-2,000



- 71° **John Tyler.** Congressman from Virginia, U.S. senator, vice president under Harrison, tenth president following Harrison's death one month after taking office. Autograph free frank "J. Tyler" as president on cover addressed to Alexander Gardiner, his brother-in-law, red WASHINGTON D.C. FEB 19 cds and FREE handstamp, two backflaps missing, still Fine presidential frank E. 200-300
- 72° **John Tyler.** Autograph free frank "J. Tyler" as president on small mourning envelope addressed by Julia Gardiner Tyler to her brother, Alexander, at New York City, red WASHINGTON CITY D.C. 16 JAN cds and matching FREE handstamp, delivered to addressee by carrier with red CITY DESPATCH POST U.S. JAN 17 4 O'CLOCK cds and matching FREE in frame, faint foxing from wax seal, colorful and desirable usage. The widower and president, John Tyler, was smitten with the considerably younger Julia Gardiner, and the two eloped a few months after Julia's father, Senator David Gardiner, was killed on board the *Princeton* in February 1844, during a demonstration of its new artillery gun, the "Peacemaker." The gun exploded while Julia and Dolley Madison were below deck, spraying the onlookers with hot shrapnel. This mourning envelope is without a year date, but probably was mailed in January 1845 E. 300-400
- 73° **John Tyler.** Autograph free frank "J. Tyler" as president on mourning envelope addressed to Phoebe D. Gardiner on Shelter Island, beautiful bold greenish-blue NORTH SHORE N.Y. 17 JUL cds and matching FREE handstamp, Extremely Fine, no year date, probably July 17, 1844, one month after Tyler and his 24-year old bride were married secretly at a Fifth Avenue church in New York City; one of the newspapers commented that Tyler's "arduous duties" were just beginning E. 200-300



74° **John Tyler.** A remarkable assembly of **four matching blue envelopes addressed to Col. David Gardiner at San Diego**, each with autograph free frank "J. Tyler" as ex-president, two addressed in his hand, no year dates (c. 1849-50), the four covers display different markings associated with ocean mail from New York City to the west coast, including red and black NEW-YORK circular datestamps with Mar. 11 and 12 dates, respectively, a scarce red NOT PAID in oval, and a large NEW-YORK APL 26 40 integral rate cds, the last cover was redirected back to New York City with ms. "San Diego Cal May 31" postmark (rare early San Diego marking), scattered toning specks, still Very Fine and impressive array of postal usages E. 1,500-2,000



75° **John Tyler.** Autograph free frank "J. Tyler" on two covers, one folded with RICHMOND Va. MAR 10, 1859 cds and FREE handstamp, addressed in his hand to the president of Union College, the other a small envelope to Rev. Sprague with blue NORFOLK Va. FEB. 12, 1860 cds and matching FREE handstamp, straightline STEAMBOAT also struck in blue, both Very Fine, a handsome pair of Tyler franks from his later life, just prior to returning to Virginia with the outbreak of the Civil War E. 500-600



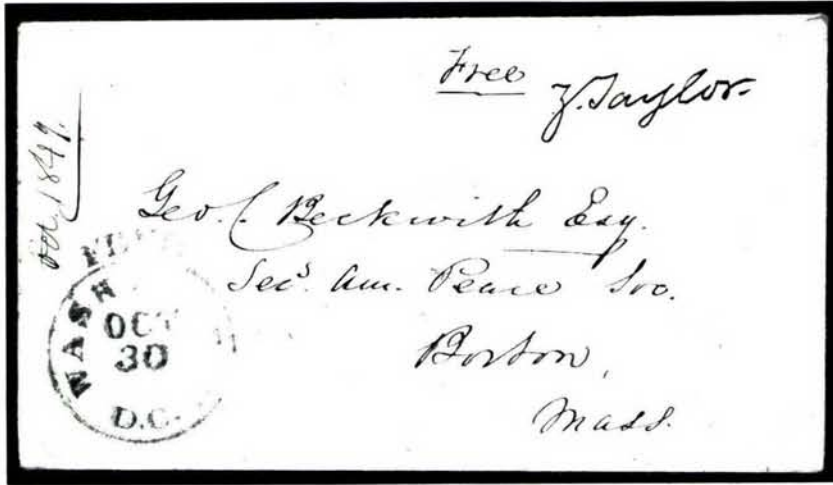
76° **James K. Polk.** Tennessee state representative, U.S. congressman, governor of Tennessee, and eleventh president. Autograph free frank "Free J. K. Polk" as president on envelope addressed in his hand to Chalres Lane et al, at Concord N.H., red FREE/WASHINGTON D.C. 21 JUN cds, no year date, c. 1845-46 according to style of postmark, fresh and Extremely Fine, very scarce presidential frank E. 2,500-3,500



77° **Jame K. Polk.** Autograph free frank "J. K. Polk" as president on envelope addressed in his hand to Edmund Burke, first commissioner of the Patent Office, readable strike of red FREE/WASHINGTON D.C. 4 JAN cds, no year date, c. 1846 according to style of postmark, fresh and Extremely Fine example of this very scarce presidential frank . E. 2,500-3,500



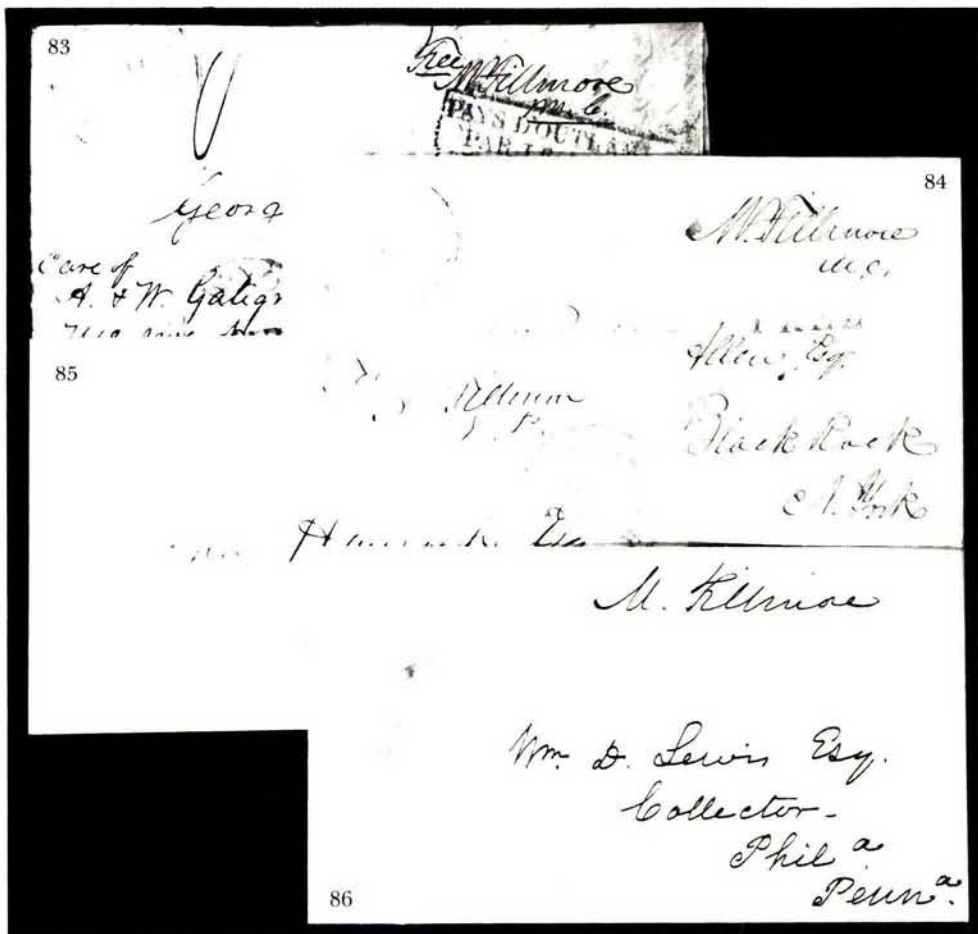
- 78° **Zachary Taylor.** Popular military hero and twelfth president. Autograph military endorsement "On Service Z. Taylor Lt. Col. U.S. Army" on folded cover addressed in his hand to Colonel Robert Jones, adjutant general U.S. Army, bold CINCINNATI O. JUL 9 rimless cds, endorsement on inside indicates July 6, 1826, date, minor stain spot at bottom, otherwise Very Fine, Taylor had no free franking privileges but almost always endorsed and signed his military correspondence E. 500-750
- 79° **Zachary Taylor.** Autograph free frank "Z. Taylor" as president on attractive greenish folded letter to **Vice-President Millard Fillmore**, at Buffalo N.Y., red ERIE Pa. AUG 30 cds, matching 5 in circle rate mark crossed out in pencil, the letter is written by Taylor's personal secretary, R. C. Wood, and datelined at Erie Pa., August 29, 1849, at which place and time Taylor was recovering from illness, Wood tells the vice-president: "His fever has left him, and the diarrhea nearly checked - some debility remains." Taylor's presidential autograph and free franks are extremely rare, because he died mid-term in July 1850 after indulging in food and wine at a July 4th celebration, which exacerbated his intestinal problems, couple light folds and ink erosion spots, Very Fine E. 1,500-2,000
- 80° **Zachary Taylor.** Autograph free frank "Z. Taylor" as president on brown envelope addressed by his secretary, R. C. Wood, to White Sulphur Springs Va., with instructions for forwarding, red ERIE Pa. AUG 31 cds and red WHITE SULPHUR S. SEP 7 forwarding cds, finally returned to Washington D.C., small ink erosion spot in franking signature, still Very Fine, see previous lot for background E. 1,200-1,500



81° **Zachary Taylor.** Autograph free frank "Z. Taylor" as president on pristine white envelope addressed in another hand to the secretary of the American Peace Society, red FREE/WASHINGTON D.C. OCT 30 cds, ms. docketing with 1849 year date, red wax seal on back, Extremely Fine, Taylor served only two years in office and his free franks are rare E. 1,500-2,000



82° **Zachary Taylor.** Autograph free frank "Z. Taylor" as president on pristine white envelope addressed in another hand, red FREE/WASHINGTON D.C. 27 MAR cds, no year date, but style of postmark and frank confirm presidential status, red wax seal on back, Extremely Fine and rare free frank E. 1,500-2,000



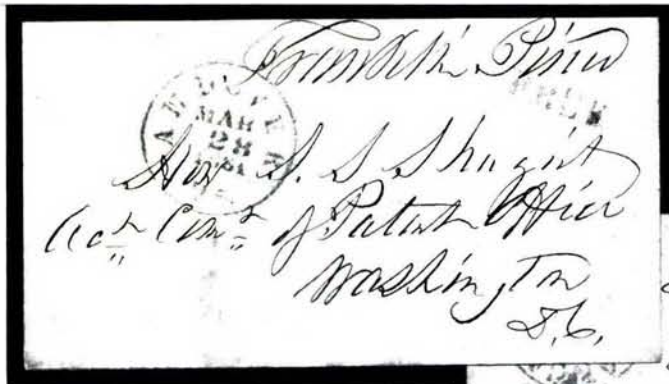
- 83° **Millard Fillmore.** U.S. congressman from New York, vice-president under Taylor, thirteenth president after Taylor's death in office. Autograph free frank "Free M. Fillmore M.C." as congressman on autograph letter signed, three pages, addressed to George W. Jonson in Paris, France, red Washington D.C and New York cds, French transit handstamp, rates and receiving backstamp, the letter is datelined March 16, 1838, during Fillmore's second term as congressman, he laments the lack of time to write, mentions the death of his brother, and comments on current political news, Very Fine, free franked mail to Europe is extremely rare E. 750-1,000
- 84° **Millard Fillmore.** Autograph free frank "M. Fillmore M.C." as congressman on Apr. 6, 1840, autograph letter signed (can be separated), all in attractive blue manuscript, greenish blue WASHINGTON CITY D.C. APR 7 cds and matching FREE handstamp, the letter is a brief reply regarding a house appropriation bill, Extremely Fine, not uncommon but desirable with the letter intact and handsomely penned E. 500-750
- 85° **Millard Fillmore.** Autograph free frank "Free M. Fillmore V.P." as vice-president on envelope addressed in his hand to a John Hancock of Albany N.Y., no year date (must be 1849 or 1850), red straightline BALTIMORE R.R. handstamp applied in transit, red NEW-YORK MAR 17 cds (ocean mail type), some minor toning from wax seal, otherwise Very Fine, scarce frank during two years as vice-president and an unusual combination of postal markings E. 300-400
- 86° **Millard Fillmore.** Autograph free frank "M. Fillmore" on blue envelope addressed to William D. Lewis at Philadelphia, no year date, mostly readable FREE/WASHINGTON D.C. NOV 21 cds, red wax presidential seal on back, faint toning on face from seal, otherwise Very Fine, scarce presidential frank from Fillmore's brief term in office .. E. 400-500



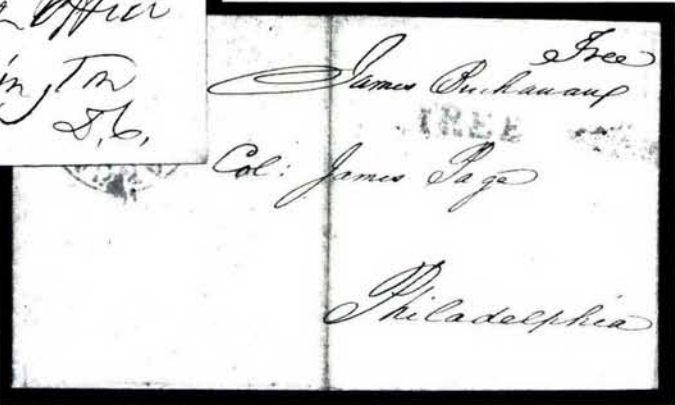
- 87° **Millard Fillmore.** Autograph free frank "Free M. Fillmore" as ex-president on small white envelope addressed to Rev. Sprague, an autograph collector, clear BUFFALO N.Y. MAY 10, 1861 cds and FREE handstamp, Extremely Fine, two years later the franking privilege for ex-presidents was revoked E. 200-300
- 88° **Franklin Pierce.** State congressman from New Hampshire, U.S. congressman and senator, federal attorney-general for N.H., brigadier-general in the Mexican War, and fourteenth president. Autograph free frank "free Fr. Pierce U.S.S." as senator on April 5, 1837, autograph letter signed and addressed to the postmaster of Hillsboro N.H., the recently elected Senator Pierce requests that his mail be held at the post office, ms. Francetown N.H. postmark, cleaned and pressed, Fine E. 300-400
- 89° **Franklin Pierce.** Autograph free frank "Fr. Frank. Pierce late U.S.S.", a rare **unauthorized use** of expired senatorial free franking privilege on autograph letter signed, datelined Concord N.H., September 20, 1843, Pierce writes to a physician in Boston regarding legal matters (Pierce resumed his legal practice in Concord after leaving his Senate seat), blue CONCORD N.H. SEP 24 cds and FREE handstamp, Very Fine, interesting example of the abuses of free franking privileges that led to the 1845 reforms just two years later E. 750-1,000
- 90° **Franklin Pierce.** Autograph free frank "Franklin Pierce" as president on white envelope addressed in his hand to Sidney Webster at Saratoga Springs N.Y., mostly readable WASHINGTON CY. D.C. SEP 17, 1856 FREE cds, Extremely Fine, ex Stern E. 300-400



91° **Franklin Pierce.** Autograph free frank "Franklin Pierce" as ex-president on **folded wrapper posted from the Bahamas**, addressed in his hand to Col. J. D. Hoover at Washington D.C., endorsed "1 Newspaper" and additionally franked with Great Britain 1-penny Red adhesive, tied by AO3 oval grid cancel, backflap with BAHAMAS MR 17 1860 C cds of the British Post Office, note on back from Col. Hoover to an autograph collector
 AN EXTRAORDINARY USE OF PIERCE'S FREE FRANK ON A NEWSPAPER WRAPPER (RARE IN ITSELF) IN COMBINATION WITH BRITISH STAMPS USED IN THE CARIBBEAN
 In excellent condition, opens nicely for display E. 1,500-2,000



92



94



95

- 92° **Franklin Pierce.** Autograph free frank "Franklin Pierce" as ex-president on small white envelope addressed in his hand to Samuel T. Shugert, acting commissioner of the U.S. Patent Office, red ANDOVER Ms. MAR 28, 1861 cds and matching FREE handstamp, Extremely Fine, franked during the turbulent secessionist movement and just two weeks prior to the opening gunshots of the war E. 300-400
- 93° **James Buchanan.** State congressman from Pennsylvania, U.S. congressman and senator, secretary of state under Polk, minister to England under Pierce, and fifteenth president. Autograph free frank "Free James Buchanan" as congressman on autograph letter signed and addressed to W. John G. Kummer at Litiz Pa., attractive red House of Representatives wax seal, bold red WASHN CITY APR 21 cds and FREE handstamp, business contents, Extremely Fine example of our bachelor president's free frank and holograph letter E. 600-800
- 94° **James Buchanan.** Autograph free frank "Free James Buchanan" as U.S. senator on autograph letter (signed, but reduced at right into signature) to Col. James Page at Philadelphia, datelined Lancaster, April 10, 1837, red LANCASTER Pa. APR 10 cds and FREE handstamp, Buchanan inquires as to whether or not a veteran who lost his leg has received a pension, soiled along vertical fold, otherwise Fine E. 400-500
- 95° **James Buchanan.** Autograph free frank "Free James Buchanan" as president on envelope addressed in his hand to Mrs. John Nevin near Lancaster Pa., mostly readable WASHINGTON CY. D.C. SEP 3, 1858 FREE cds, red presidential wax seal on back, Very Fine E. 400-500

Washington 21 April 1828

Dear Sir,

Mr. King called upon me on Friday last & informed me that he entertained no hope of obtaining ~~the~~ any part of the claims against Mr. Tamm or Mr. Hollingshead; but ^{he} expects that at some future time the account against Eliza Holman may be collected. He had not seen Mr. Stewart.

In the course of the conversation he admitted that he had received \$70 for the Institution but from whom he did not recollect; and he has promised to pay me that sum before the close of the session. I would suggest to you the propriety of sending me an order on him for that amount; as he will probably require an authority from you before he will pay me the money.

Wm. John G. Sumner

From your friend to great thanks
James Buchanan



James Buchanan

FREE

Wm. John G. Sumner

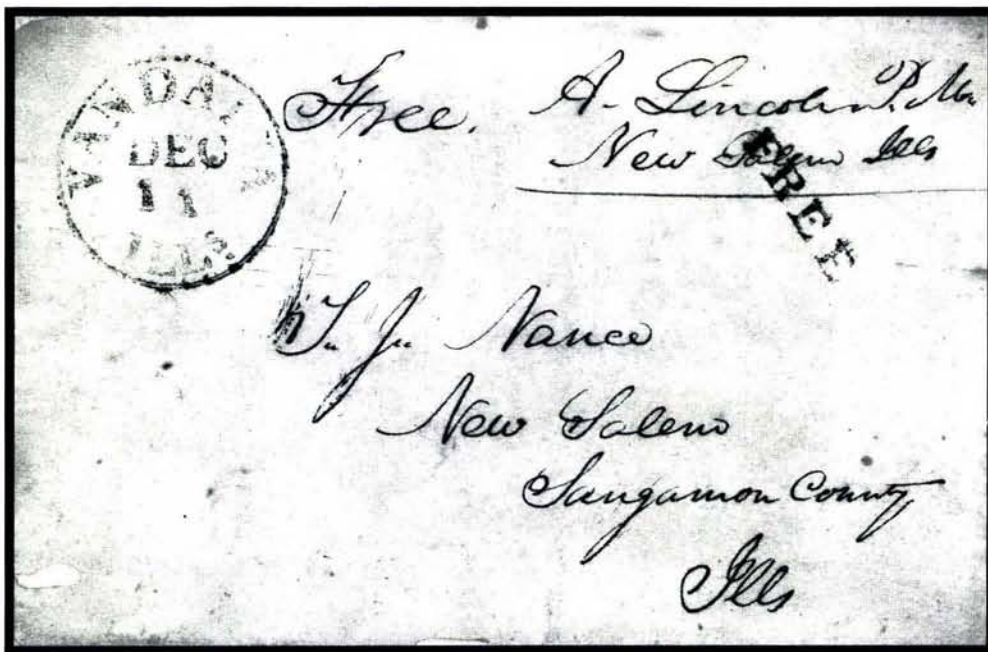
City

Lancaster County

recd Apr 21
correct 26.

with order on to King Pennsylvania
for \$70.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN POSTMASTER'S FREE FRANK



96° **Abraham Lincoln.** Postmaster of New Salem, Illinois, state congressman, U.S. congressman, and sixteenth president.

A RARE AND EARLY AUTOGRAPH LETTER SIGNED AND FRANKED AS POSTMASTER, COUNTY DEPUTY SURVEYOR AND REPRESENTATIVE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF ILLINOIS

One page autograph letter signed "A. Lincoln" and datelined Vandalia, December 10, 1835. With address leaf (can be separated) addressed in Lincoln's hand to T. J. Nance, New Salem Ill., bearing his postmaster's free frank "Free. A. Lincoln P.M. New Salem Ills" and postmarked with VANDALIA ILLS. DEC 11 cds and FREE handstamp.

The letter details property records at the Auditor's Office. It closes: "There is but little of interest doing in the Legislation as yet: owing mostly to the census returns from several counties not having been made." Lincoln was permitted to use his free franking privilege for personal correspondence, provided that each letter weighed less than one-half ounce.

Bold text and signatures, few erosion spots around edges of address panel have been skilfully mended (none affecting text), otherwise Very Fine E. 75,000-100,000

Nauvoo. Dec^r 10. 1835

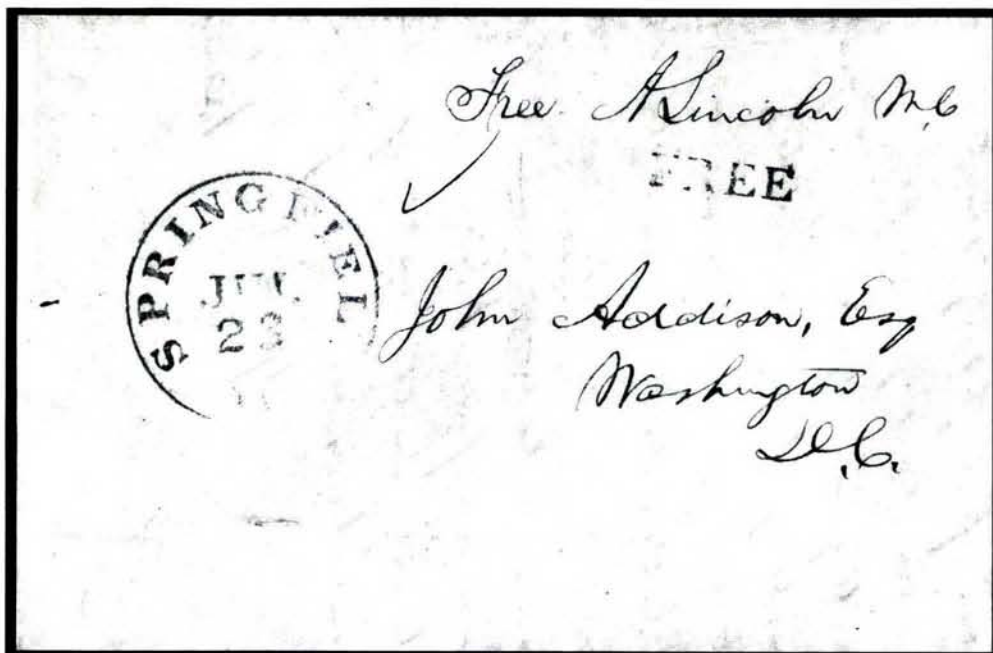
Dear Sir

In regard to the South half of Sec. 36. in Town 7 North Range 1 West the following is the only information that can be collected at the Auditors office. The E. M. quarter of said section was sold in 1825 to Daniel Hough for the tax of 1821 & 22 - Half of the other quarter was sold in 1827 to James Bartlett for the tax of 1826 - The other 80 acres have not been sold for taxes - The residence of neither of the purchasers is known at this office -

There is but little of interest doing in the Legislature as yet: owing mostly to the census returns from several counties not having been made -

Respectfully

A. Lincoln



97° **Abraham Lincoln.** Autograph free frank "Free A Lincoln MC" as U.S. congressman, addressed in his hand to John Addison at Washington D.C., mostly complete SPRINGFIELD ILL. JUL 22 cds and FREE handstamp, on the reverse is an autograph letter signed and datelined Springfield, Ills July 22, 1849.

LINCOLN WRITES TO ADDISON IN THE WAKE OF HIS FAILURE TO SECURE AN APPOINTMENT AS COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Lincoln served only one term in Congress and returned to Springfield after the session closed on March 3, 1849. In 1848 he had pursued, without success, an appointment as Commissioner of the General Land Office, a position that was awarded to Justin Butterfield of Illinois. In this letter Lincoln has obliged his colleague, John Addison, by writing "On the other half of this sheet is what I hope may be both satisfactory and serviceable to you. If any thing I have written for any body should be turned to your disadvantage, I could hardly ever forgive myself for the carelessness of so writing. . . The "other half" Lincoln refers to is no longer attached. He goes on in a tone of evident disappointment: "Give my respects to my friends about you, particularly Lucas; and tell him I am truly glad he is at a good understanding with the new commissioner. If letters have come to the Dept. in my favor since the appointment, may they not be sent to me? I should like to see them. I have now about forty such, nineteen (I believe) of which are from M.C.'s."

The last paragraph states, "I shall write Berdan to=day on the matter of which you speak concerning him. He is as much of a gentleman as lives." The next lot is the letter to Berdan.

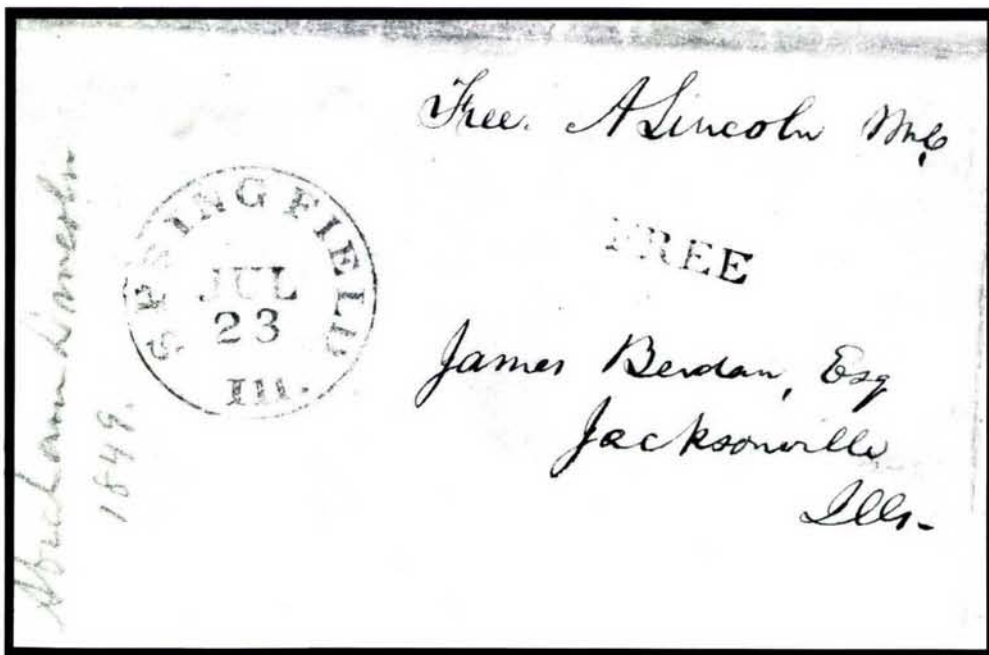
Clean and in excellent condition with dark manuscript on both sides, negligible mended tear at lower left well clear of text E. 12,000-15,000

Springfield, Ill., July 22. 1849

Dear Advertiser

On the other leaf of this sheet is what I hope may be both satisfactory and sensible to you. If any thing I have written for any body should be turned to your disadvantage, I can hardly ever forgive myself for the carelessness of so writing. Give my respects to my friends about you, particularly Lewis, and tell him I am truly glad he is at a good understanding with the new Commission. If letters have come to the Dept. in my favor since the appointment, may they not be sent to me? I should like to see them. I have now about forty such, nineteen (I believe) of which are for D. L.'s. I shall write Berdan to-day on the matter of which you speak concerning him. He is as much of a gentleman as I was.

Yours very truly
A. Lincoln.



98° **Abraham Lincoln.** Autograph free frank "Free A Lincoln MC" as U.S. congressman and addressed in his hand to James Berdan at Jacksonville Ill., clear SPRINGFIELD ILL. JUL 23 cds and FREE handstamp, on opposing leaf is an autograph letter signed (can be separated) and datelined Springfield, July 22, 1849.

LINCOLN FULFILLS HIS PROMISE TO JOHN ADDISON BY WRITING TO JAMES BERDAN WITH AN OFFER TO HELP HIM PROCURE AN APPOINTMENT IN THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE, BUT CAUTIONS "WHETHER MY FRIENDSHIP WOULD HELP OR HURT YOU WITH MR. B." (JUSTIN BUTTERFIELD, WHO WON THE COMMISSIONER'S APPOINTMENT OVER LINCOLN)

Lincoln's political savvy is reflected in this intriguing letter, which reveals that Lincoln ". . .took the precaution to withdraw the letters filed in my favor for Comr. so that the very pretty [sic] one you wrote for me, can not rise in judgment against you, if, indeed, being seen, it would affect Mr. B's feelings toward you."

Fresh and Extremely Fine with dark manuscript. A rare free frank and noteworthy Lincoln letter E. 15,000-20,000

Springfield, July 22 1845

James Berdan, Esq

My dear Sir,

Last night I received a Washington letter from Mr John Addison, in which, among other things he says: "Lucas tells me this morning that Mr Butterfield was making very particular enquiries about our friend Berdan & expressed a wish to have his services in the Dept. remarking that he considered him one of the best land lawyers in the West &c. Would he like an app't? I feel satisfied that he could obtain a good one if he appeared"

I took the precaution to withdraw the letter filed in my favor for Com^{rs}; so that the very pretty one you wrote for me, can not give me payment against you, if indeed, being seen it would affect Mr B's feelings towards you. Now, my dear Sir, I do not know whether you have thought of going to Washington, or if you have, whether my friendship would help or hurt you with Mr B; still I write this to put myself at your service in the matter, & to say I shall be pleased to act as you may desire. Please write me by return mail

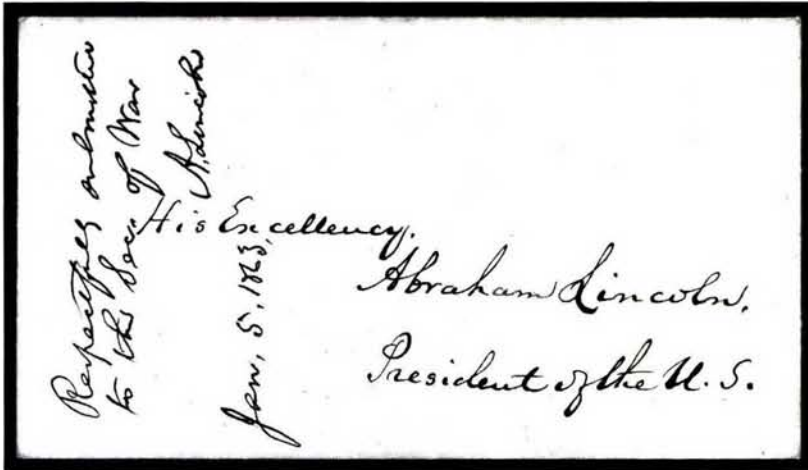
Your friend as ever
A. Lincoln



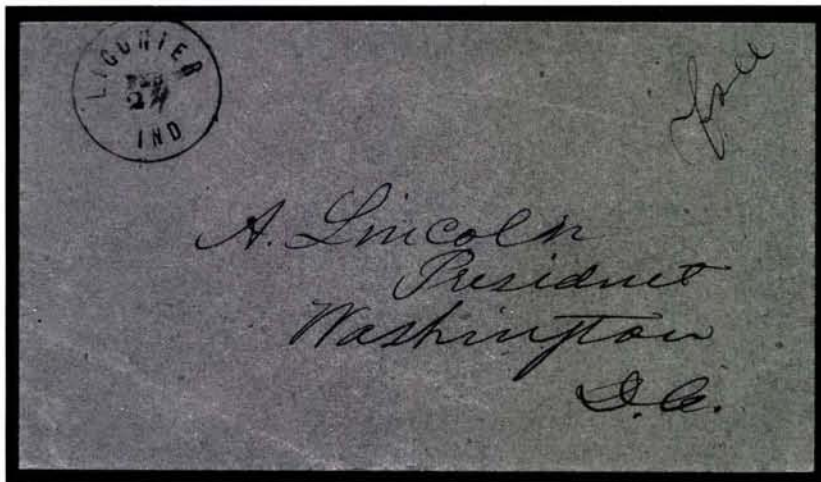
- 99° **Abraham Lincoln.** Autograph free frank "A. Lincoln MC" as congressman on light blue folded cover addressed in another hand to James Smith at the Fleetwood Academy, King & Queen, Virginia, red FREE/WASHINGTON D.C. AUG 17 cds, pencil note on back gives year date as 1848, small split in panel at center, Very Fine and handsome example of Lincoln's congressional free frank from his one term in the House, far rarer than his presidential frank E. 5,000-7,500



- 100° **Abraham Lincoln.** Autograph free frank "A. Lincoln" as president on white envelope addressed in another hand to Franklin Orvis at Manchester Vt., mostly clear WASHINGTON D.C. FREE APR 15 '64 double-circle datestamp.
 LINCOLN SIGNS HIS FREE FRANK ON APRIL 15, 1864, ONE YEAR TO THE DAY BEFORE HE DIES FROM AN ASSASSIN'S BULLET
 Very Fine and desirable presidential frank E. 5,000-7,500



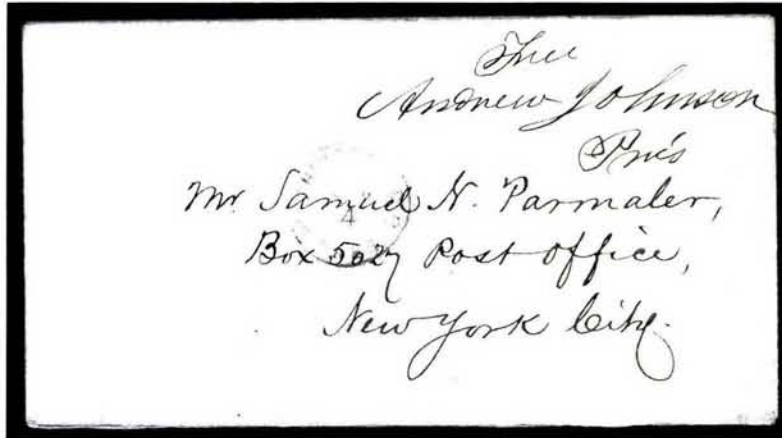
101° **Abraham Lincoln.** Autograph endorsement signed as president, "Respectfully submitted to the Sec. of War/A.Lincoln/Jan. 5, 1863. on left side of pristine white envelope addressed to "His Excellency, Abraham Lincoln, President of the U.S.," Extremely Fine, a handsome example of Lincoln's signature dated just four days after the Emancipation Proclamation E. 3,000-4,000



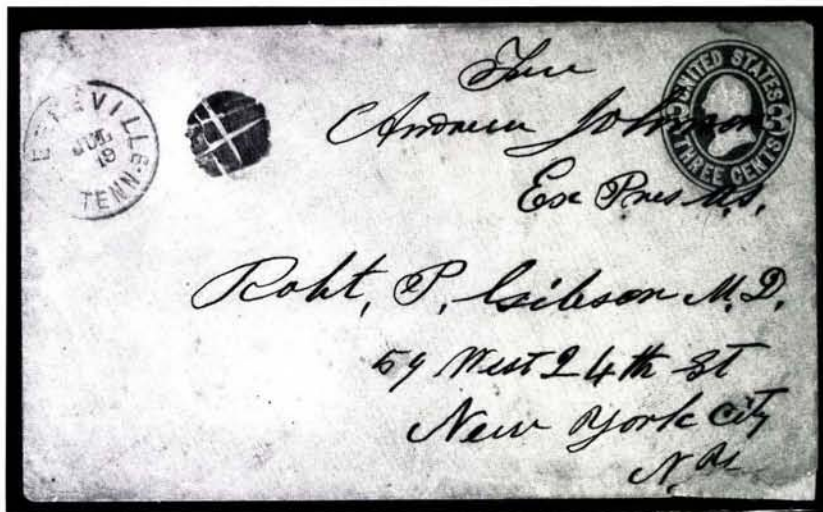
102° **Abraham Lincoln.** Buff envelope addressed to "A. Lincoln, President, Washington D.C." with LIGONIER IND FEB 24 cds and ms. "free", unsealed, so presumably it contained printed matter, covers addressed to Lincoln are very scarce E. 100-150



- 103° **Andrew Johnson.** State congressman from Tennessee, U.S. congressman and senator, governor of and U.S. military governor of Tenn. during Civil War, vice-president under Lincoln, and seventeenth president. Autograph free frank "Free Andrew Johnson M.C." on blue folded cover addressed in his hand to James C. Lowry at Greenville Tenn., readable WASHINGTON D.C. FREE 3 JUN cds, pencil 1852 date on back, this style of postmark used in 1852-53, minor bleaching along file folds, otherwise Very Fine and scarce. E. 500-750
- 104° **Andrew Johnson.** Autograph free frank "Andrew Johnson USS" on large manila envelope to Ohio, clear WASHINGTON D.C. AUG 7, 1861 cds, slightly reduced with flaps modified, handsome and Fine appearance, scarce senatorial frank during Civil War. E. 500-750
- 105° **Andrew Johnson.** Autograph free frank "Free Andrew Johnson Pres." on legal-size envelope (folded in at left) with handsome calligraphic address to the Hon. Henry Stanbery, attorney-general under Johnson, clearly struck WASHINGTON D.C. FREE JUN 10 cds, c. 1867, Very Fine despite some faults in the portion folded under at left, Stanbery played a major part in defending Johnson during the impeachment proceedings, presidential franks are exceedingly scarce E. 2,000-3,000



106° **Andrew Johnson.** Autograph free frank "Free Andrew Johnson Pres." on pristine white envelope addressed in another hand to Samuel N. Parmaler at New York City, faint Washington D.C. cds, September 4, c. 1867, a lovely small cover with this rare presidential frank E. 2,000-3,000



107° **Andrew Johnson.** Autograph free frank "Free Andrew Johnson Ex Pres U.S." on 3c Pink postal stationery entire addressed in his hand to Robert P. Gibson, M.D., at New York City, partly clear strike of GREENEVILLE TENN. JUL 9 cds and cork cancel at left, small part of bottom right corner of envelope mended, otherwise Fine, a small number of prepaid covers are known with Johnson's free frank as ex-president E. 750-1,000

Long Branch, N.J.

July 16th 1872

Dear Senator:

I was glad to learn from your letter of the 15th, rec'd last night after the last train had left Long Branch, that Mr. Carpenter & children with yourself would visit on Wednesday even if

Executive

U. S. Grant

~~Secretary~~

Hon. Matt H. Carpenter

U. S. Senate

Hoffman House

New York City

108° Ulysses S. Grant. Commanding general of the U.S. Army in the Civil War, eighteenth president. Autograph free frank "U.S. Grant" as president on envelope with "Executive/Secretary" imprint, Grant has crossed out the latter title and addressed it to Senator Matthew Carpenter at New York City, indistinct LONG BRANCH N.J. JUL 16 cds, with original enclosure, an autograph letter signed, on "Long Branch, N.J." stationery, President Grant writes to Senator Carpenter from his retreat in Long Branch, in expectation of the arrival of the senator and his family, an extremely rare Grant free frank prior to July 1873, when the privilege was revoked and Executive Department postage stamps were instituted E. 2,000-3,000



109° **Ulysses S. Grant.** Autograph signature endorsement "U.S. Grant" on "Executive" imprint envelope addressed in his hand to Postmaster General J. N. Tyner at Washington D.C., 3c Executive Department stamp affixed over "Secretary" title, canceled by purple star cancel with matching LONG BRANCH N.J. SEP 5 1 A.M. cds alongside, pencil note on back indicates 1876 year date

A RARE AND ATTRACTIVE EXAMPLE OF GRANT'S SIGNATURE IN COMBINATION WITH EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT ADHESIVE STAMP

Following the abolishment of free franking privileges in July 1873, Grant continued to sign his mail, as well as using the appropriate Executive Department stamps. Such usages are rare. Extremely Fine E. 4,000-5,000

I hereby authorize and direct the Secretary
of State to affix the Seal of the United States to
a Warrant for the pardon of Patrick Kelly,

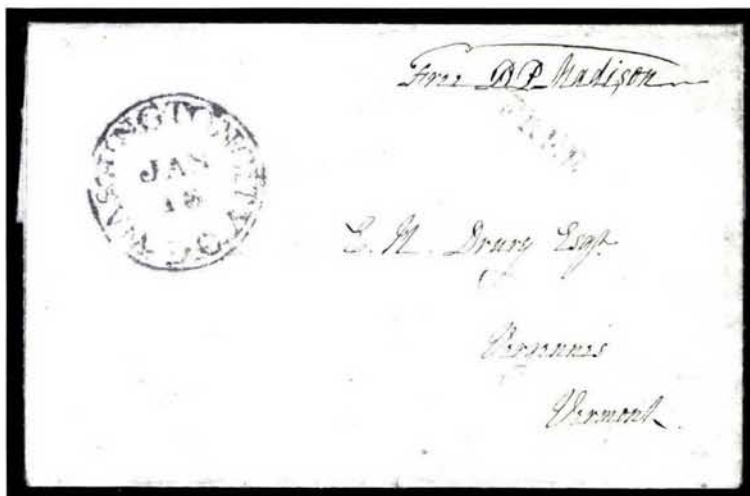
dated this day, and signed by me, and for so doing this
shall be his warrant.

U.S. Grant

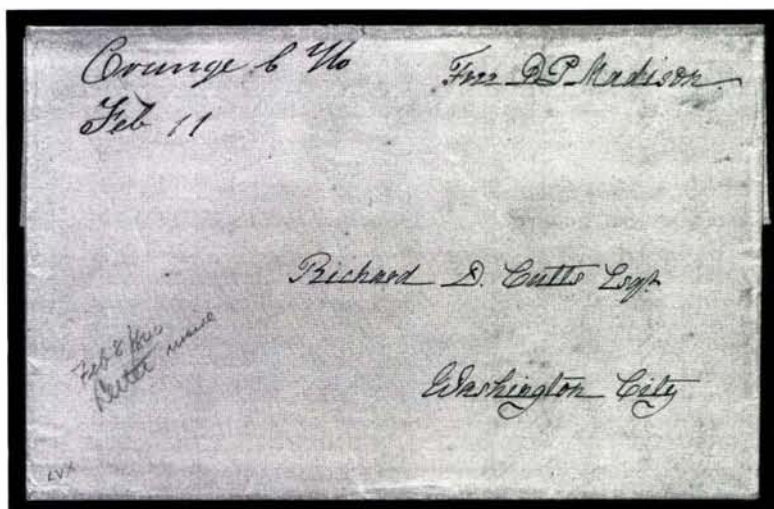
Washington, 21st December, 1872.

110° Ulysses S. Grant. Document signed "U.S. Grant" as president, authorization to affix the seal of the United States to a warrant for the pardon of Patrick Kelly, Dec. 21, 1872, Very Fine E. 750-1,000

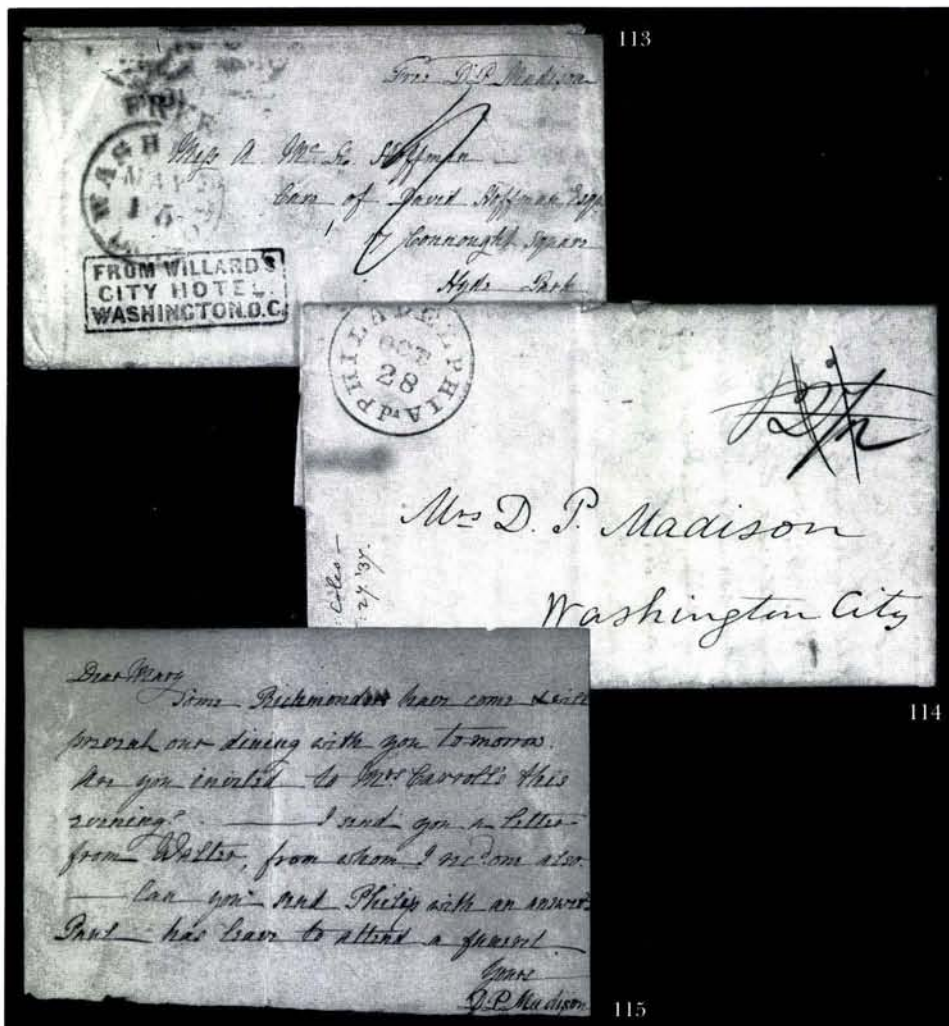
PRESIDENTIAL WIDOWS' FRANKS



- 111° **Dolley Payne Madison.** Autograph free frank "Free D. P. Madison" on folded over addressed in her hand to E. N. Drury at Vergennes Vt., red WASHINGTON CITY D.C. JAN 18 cds and matching FREE handstamp, fresh and Extremely Fine E. 1,200-1,500



- 112° **Dolley Payne Madison.** Autograph free frank "Free D. P. Madison" on autograph letter signed, dated February 8, 1840, to her nephew, Richard D. Cutts, at Washington D.C., concerning her debt to Mary Cutts, ms. Orange C.H. Va. postmark, Very Fine; the Madison's wayward son, Payne, drove them into debt, and, after President Madison's death in 1836, Dolley tried for years to persuade Congress to appropriate funds to acquire her husband's papers; this letter asks for time to repay her debt to her niece, Mary, blaming the delay on bad weather that has prevented others from paying her, an attractive example of the ever-popular Dolley Madison's frank E. 1,200-1,500



- 113° **Dolley Payne Madison.** Autograph free frank "Free D. P. Madison" on small envelope addressed in her hand to Miss A. Mc K. Hoffmann in Hyde Park, London, England, well-struck hotel forwarder's handstamp FROM WILLARD'S CITY HOTEL WASHINGTON D.C. in rectangular frame, red FREE/WASHINGTON D.C. MAY 15 cds, ms. "1/-" due marking, red London receiving datestamp on back with 1848 year date, slightest bit of wear around edges, Very Fine, franked one year before her death, at this time she finally succeeded in selling the Madison papers to Congress for \$25,000; widow's franks on mail to foreign countries are very rare, this being especially desirable with the added attraction of a hotel handstamp E. 1,200-1,500
- 114° **Dolley Payne Madison.** Autograph letter signed "D. P. Madison", 3 x 5 in., no date, to "Mary," presumably her niece, Mary Cutts, canceling dinner plans for the following evening, mounting remnants on back, otherwise Fine, attractive example of the polite social correspondence that Dolley Madison conducted most of her public life E. 750-1,000
- 115° **Dolley Payne Madison.** October 28, 1837, folded letter addressed to "Mrs. D. P. Madison, Washington City" from her cousin, Edward Coles, blue PHILADELPHIA PA. OCT 28 cds, ms. "12½" rate crossed out, letter mentions a trip to Washington to meet with congressman about purchasing the papers of the recently deceased President Madison, the free franking privilege applied to mail received as well as sent E. 150-200



116° **Louisa C. Adams.** Autograph free frank "L. C. Adams" on small envelope addressed to Charles Francis Adams (probably her son, although possibly her grandson, Charles Francis Jr.) at Boston, red straightline BALTIMORE R.R. handstamp, red FREE/NEW-YORK 27 FEB cds, Extremely Fine, a charming example of this scarce widow's frank, unusual with the railroad route agent's handstamp E. 1,000-1,500



117° **Anna Symmes Harrison.** Wife of William H. Harrison. Autograph free frank "Free Anna Harrison" on folded cover addressed in her hand to William Winkhan at Boston, ms. "Cleves O." postmark, no year date, c. 1841-44, Very Fine, very rare widow's frank E. 2,000-2,500



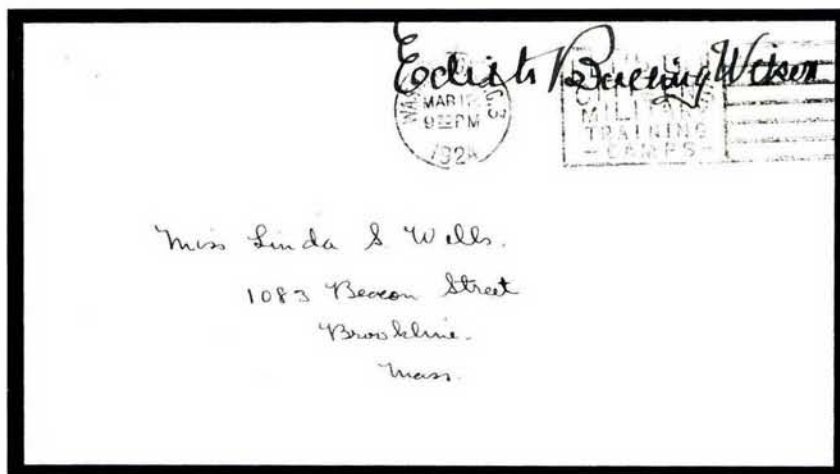
118° **Mary Todd Lincoln.** Autograph free frank "Mary Lincoln" on small mourning envelope addressed in her hand to Rhoda E. White at Suffern N.Y., lightly struck ALTOONA PA. AUG 20 cds and cork cancel, no year date, c. 1865, pristine condition, Extremely Fine, a choice example of this rare and very desirable widow's frank E. 2,500-3,500



119° **Julia Dent Grant.** Autograph free frank "Julia D. Grant" on wide-bordered mourning envelope addressed in her hand to Mrs. George W. Childs, the wife of a prominent book publisher, clearly struck New York Mar. 26, 1889, duplex cancel struck over frank, Very Fine, the ex-president, Ulysses S. Grant, spent the last year of his life completing his memoirs (after a business partnership with a swindler resulted in financial catastrophe), he died in 1885, and the publication of his memoirs made his widow a wealthy woman again, in 1886 she was presented with the largest royalty check in history - \$200,000 - by Mark Twain, her free frank is rare E. 1,200-1,500

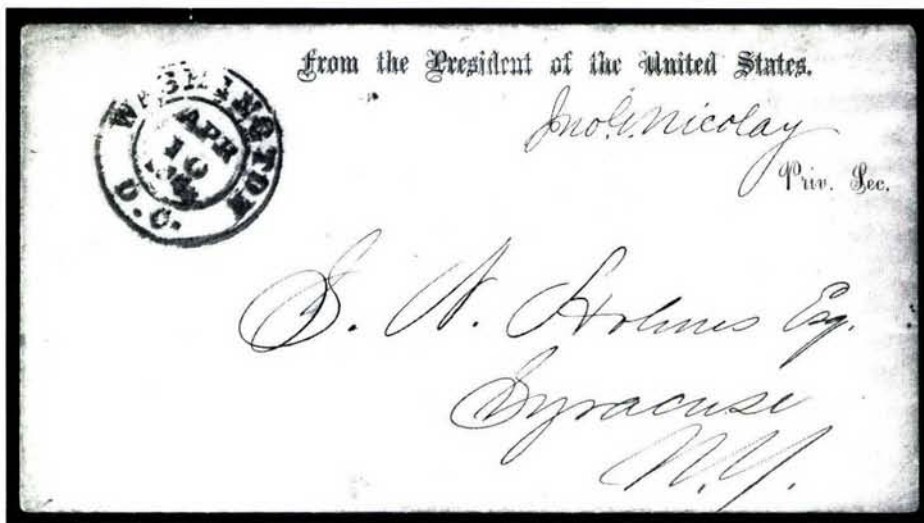


120° **Frances F. Cleveland Preston.** Autograph free frank "Frances F. Cleveland Preston" on envelope, locally addressed in Princeton N.J., with Apr. 28, 1929, machine cancel, with original autograph letter signed, regrets over canceling plans to attend a wedding, Very Fine E. 100-150

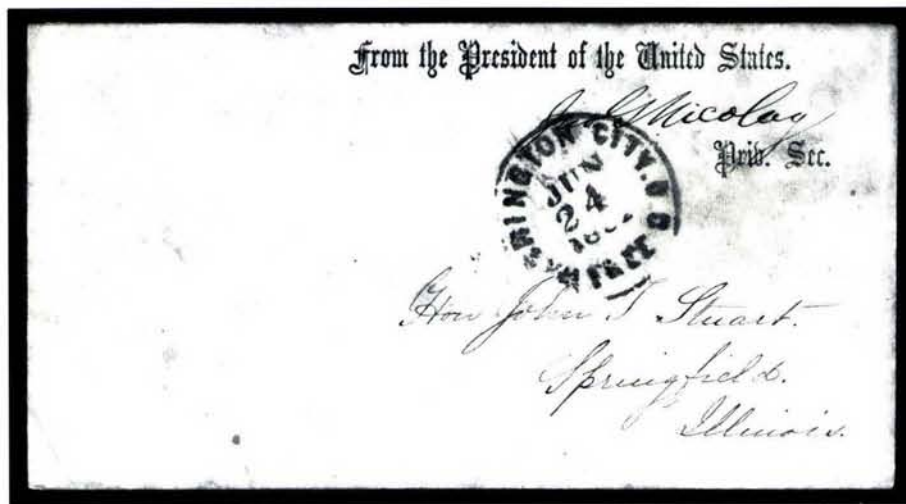


121° **Edith Bolling Wilson.** Autograph free frank "Edith Bolling Wilson" on mourning envelope, Washington D.C. Mar. 12, 1924 machine cancel, with matching printed enclosure acknowledging sympathy for the death of President Wilson (d. Feb. 3), her franking privilege took effect on Mar. 4, Very Fine, scarce E. 200-250

PRESIDENTIAL SECRETARIES

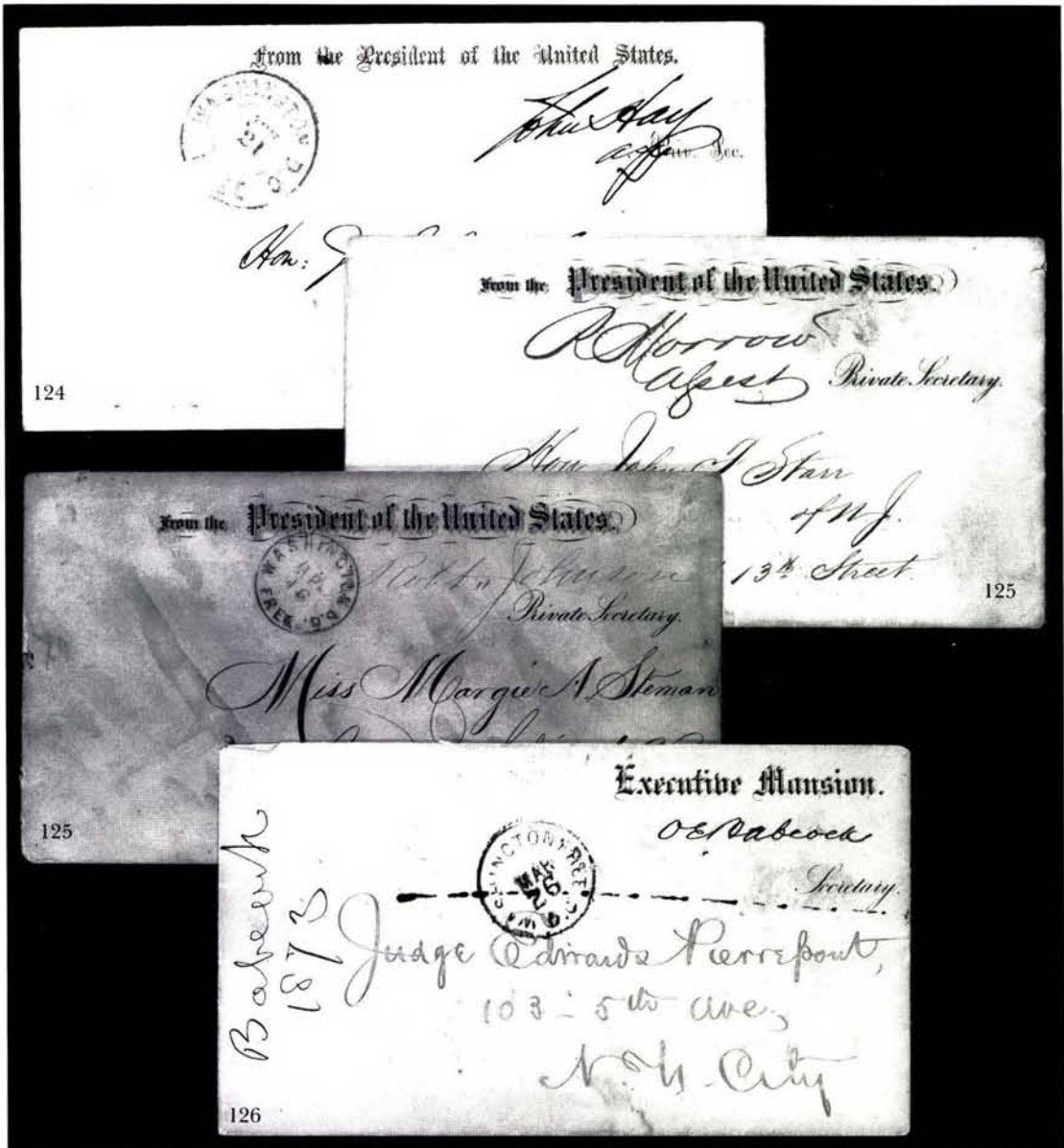


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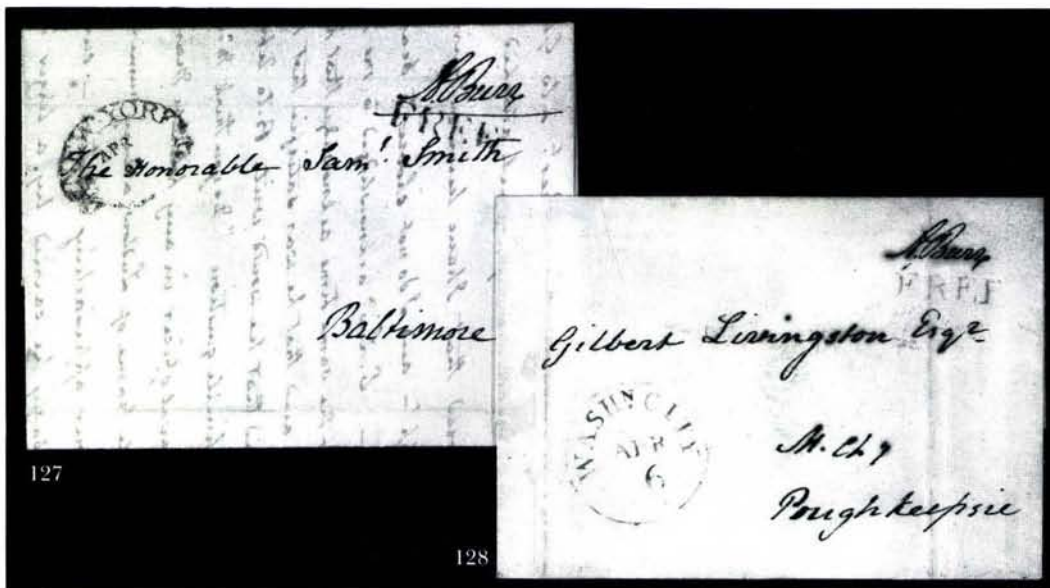
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- 122° [ABRAHAM LINCOLN] **John G. Nicolay**. Autograph free frank "Jno. G. Nicolay" as Lincoln's secretary on envelope with "From the President of the United States/Priv. Sec." imprint, addressed to S. W. Holmes at Syracuse N.Y., in the hand of and with autograph letter signed by **William O. Stoddard**, Lincoln's secretary who was authorized to sign patents, on Executive Mansion stationery, dated April 9, 1863, brief but interesting political content regarding elections, "How do you like N.H., R.I. & Conn? The tide is turning, as I told you it would. In for a big fight for the August election in Maryland." bold Washington D.C. cds, Very Fine E. 500-750
- 123° [ABRAHAM LINCOLN] **John G. Nicolay**. Autograph free frank "Jno. G. Nicolay" as Lincoln's secretary on envelope with "From the President of the United States/Priv. Sec." imprint, addressed to the **Hon. John T. Stuart** at Springfield Ill., bold WASHINGTON D.C. FREE JUN 24, 1861 cds (32 mm, this type used in 1861), Stuart was an influential figure in Lincoln's life, having induced him into the study of law and accepted Lincoln as a partner in his practice; Stuart was a fellow Whig, but in 1862 ran successfully as a Democrat for congress, a scarce franking signature and excellent Lincoln association E. 300-400

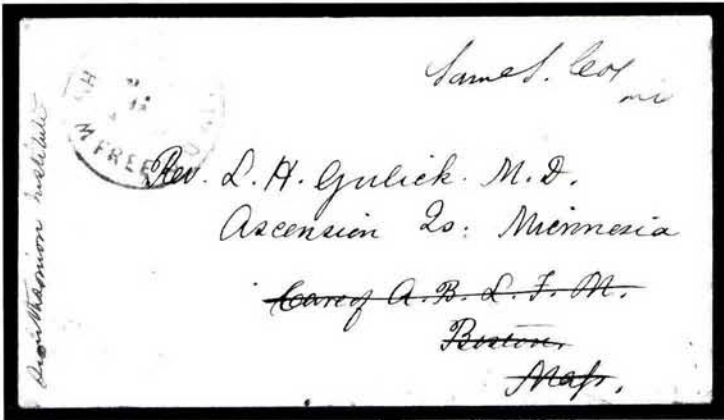


- 124° [ABRAHAM LINCOLN] John Hay. Autograph free frank "John Hay" as acting secretary to Lincoln on envelope with "from the President of the United States/Priv. Sec." imprint, to which Hay has penned "Actg." before "Priv.", addressed to **John G. Nicolay**, at St. Joseph Mo., mostly clear WASHINGTON D.C. FREE JUN. 21 cds, no year date, tiny pinholes at bottom left corner, Extremely Fine E. 300-400
- 125° [ANDREW JOHNSON] Col. Robert Johnson, Maj. Robert Morrow. Autograph free franking signatures on two separate "From the President of the United States" imprint envelopes, the Morrow cover with original enclosure, a partly printed invitation to dine with the President and Mrs. Johnson on Feb. 27, 1867, addressed to the Hon. Jonathan F. Starr of New Jersey, former toned, each with one backflap missing, the Morrow cover and enclosure are pristine E. 300-400
- 126° [ULYSSES S. GRANT] Gen. Orville E. Babcock. Autograph free frank "O. E. Babcock" as Grant's secretary on Executive Mansion imprint envelope to Judge Edwards Pierrepont at New York City, Washington D.C. cds, May 1873, Very Fine except for ink streak (well clear of signature) E. 100-150

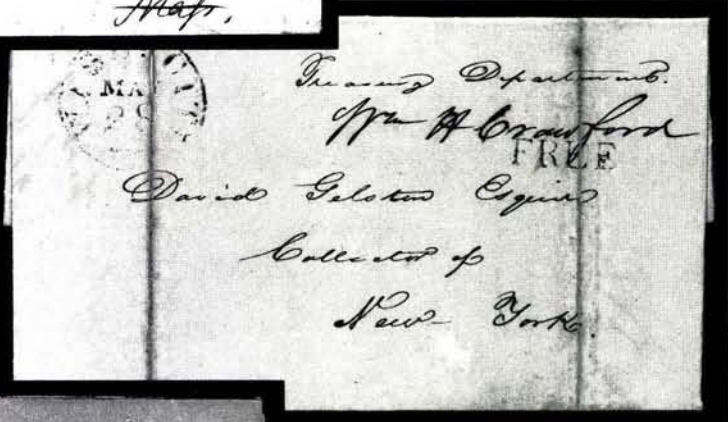
POLITICIANS AND STATESMEN



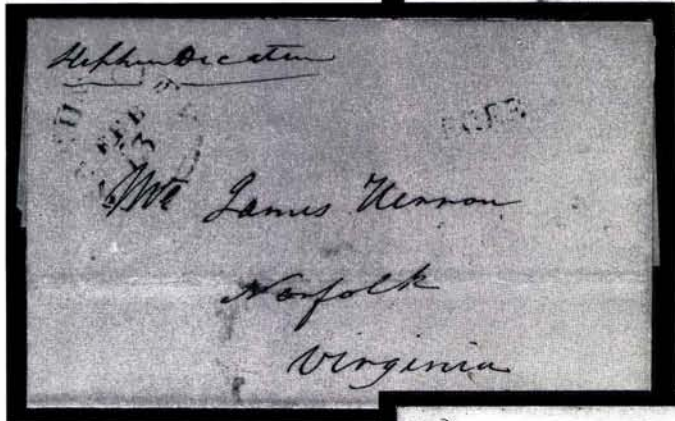
- 127° **Aaron Burr.** U.S. senator, vice-president under Jefferson, murderer of Alexander Hamilton, charged and acquitted of treason for attempting to form an independent republic. Autograph free frank "A. Burr" as vice-president on folded cover addressed in his hand to the Hon. Samuel Smith at Baltimore, NEW-YORK APR 21 clamshell-style datestamp and FREE handstamp, there is legible ghosting of the letter (no longer with the cover) which gives the year date as 1803, during Burr's term as vice-president, one year later he put a bullet into Alexander Hamilton, Very Fine E. 750-1,000
- 128° **Aaron Burr.** Autograph free frank "A. Burr" as vice-president on folded cover addressed in his hand to Gilbert Livingston at Poughkeepsie, brownish red WASHN CITY APR 6 cds and matching FREE handstamp, neatly docketed on backflap with 1802 year date, Very Fine E. 750-1,000
- 129° **Samuel S. Cox.** Congressman from Ohio, regent of the Smithsonian Institute. Autograph free frank "Saml S. Cox mc" on envelope, endorsed "Smithsonian Institute" at left, addressed to Rev. Gulick on **Ascension Islands, Micronesia**, sent in care of the missionary society in Boston and hand-carried to its destination, Washington D.C. cds (Jan. 6, year date unreadable), Very Fine, mail to this part of the world is exceedingly rare. E. 200-250
- 130° **William H. Crawford.** U.S. senator, secretary of the Treasury, secretary of War. Autograph free frank "Wm H Crawford" as secretary of the Treasury on autograph letter signed, addressed in another hand to David Gelston, tax collector for New York, datelined Treasury Department, May 28, 1818, authorizing the construction of a building for tax inspectors on the quarantine grounds on Staten Island, red WASHN CITY MAY 29 cds and FREE handstamp, Very Fine E. 75-100
- 131° **Stephen Decatur.** Prominent naval hero in the War of 1812, originator of "Our Country Right or Wrong." Autograph free frank "Stephen Decatur" as commissioner of the Board of Navy on folded cover addressed in his hand to James Herron at Norfolk Va., faint red Washington D.C. cds and FREE handstamp, no year date, c. 1816-20, split at folds along sides, still Fine and scarce E. 300-400
- 132° **George A. Halsey.** Congressman from New Jersey. Autograph free frank "Geo O Halsey M.C." on envelope to Gen. J. F. Rushing at Trenton, scarce printed Grant-Colfax campaign design with portrait and "For Governor, John I. Blair" endorsement at bottom left, faint Trenton N.J. cds, ms. docketing across left side, Very Fine condition E. 200-250



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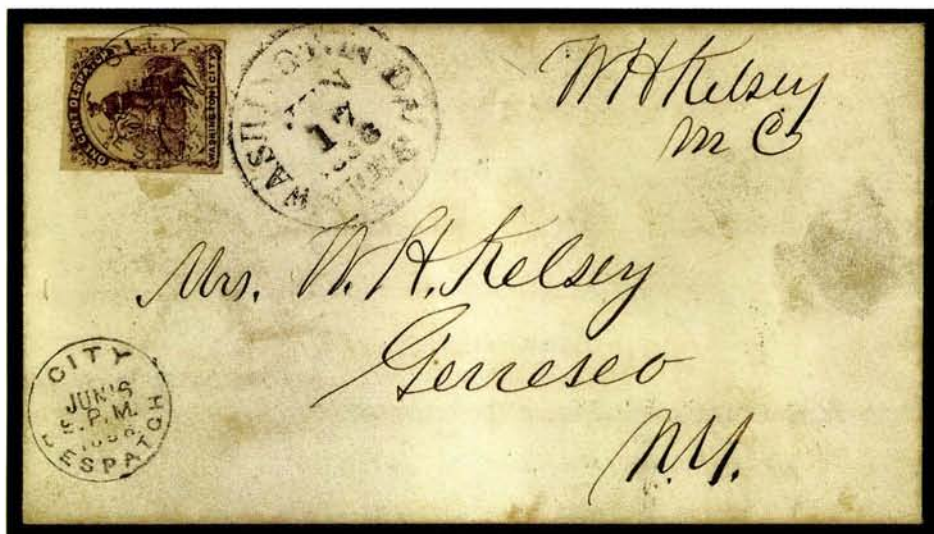
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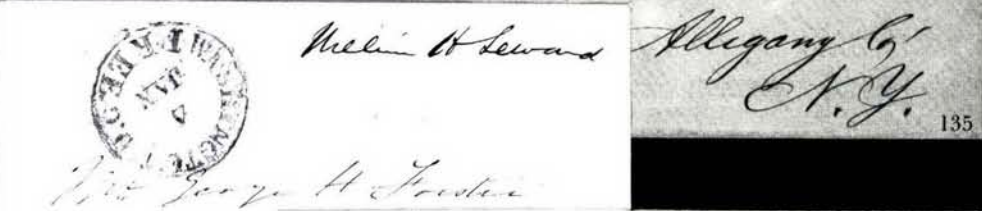
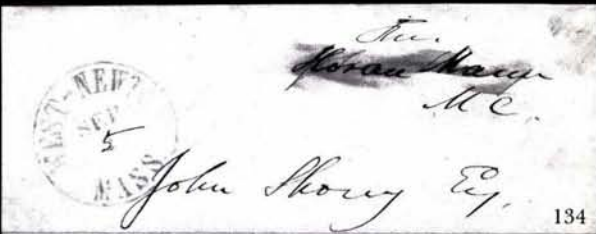


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- 133° **William H. Kelsey.** Congressman from New York. Autograph free frank "W H Kelsey MC" as congressman on envelope addressed to Mrs. Kelsey at Geneseo N.Y., free frank used in combination with **One Cent Despatch, Washington D.C., 1c Violet (112L1)**, ample margins to just touched at left, tied by CITY DESPATCH JUN 16 9 P.M. 1856 company cds, second strike at bottom left, also with WASHINGTON D.C. JUN 17 1856 FREE cds, pristine condition, Extremely Fine, an extremely rare combination of this local post adhesive and congressional free frank E. 1,000-1,500
- 134° **Horace Mann.** Famous educator, abolitionist, congressman from Massachusetts. Autograph free frank "Free Horace Mann MC" as congressman on folded cover addressed in his hand to John Shony at Boston, red WEST-NEWTON MASS SEP 5 cds, with adjoining autograph letter signed (can be separated) and dated September 4, 1848, light ink smear in franking signature, otherwise Very Fine E. 300-400
- 135° **[POSTMASTER GENERAL] Joseph Holt, P.M.G., and Horatio King, 1st Asst. P.M.G.** Interesting trio comprising the postmaster general's appointment of Alonson Skiff as postmaster of Hume N.Y. (a large printed document signed), together with the remittance slip dated Feb. 2, 1860, and the legal size Post Office Dept. official imprint cover in which it was sent, bearing autograph free frank "H. King" and Washington D.C. cds, King succeeded Holt as postmaster general, excellent exhibit item for the collector of departmental postage stamps E. 150-200
- 136° **William H. Seward.** U.S. senator, secretary of State under Lincoln. Autograph free frank "William H. Seward" on white envelope to Charlestown Mass., bold WASHINGTON D.C. FREE 4 JAN cds, flap partly cut away, otherwise Extremely Fine, a desirable frank of one of Lincoln's best known cabinet members E. 150-200
- 137° **Stephen Van Rensselaer.** Congressman from New York, founder of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Autograph free frank "Free S Rensselaer" on folded cover addressed in his hand to Professor Eaton at Troy N.Y., 1829 docketing, red WASHN CITY FEB 28 cds and FREE handstamp, light soiling along fold, accompanied by a folded cover addressed to Rensselaer at Albany, redirected with forwarding postmarks and FREE handstamp, Very Fine pair E. 100-150
- 138° **Charles Anderson Wickliffe.** Served in War of 1812, Missouri congressman, governor of Missouri, postmaster general under Presidents Tyler and Polk, member of the Peace Conference in 1861. Autograph free frank "Free C A Wickliffe" as postmaster general on envelope addressed in his hand to Alexander Gardiner, brother-in-law of President Tyler, red WASHINGTON CITY D.C. DEC 2 cds and FREE handstamp, delivered by carrier in New York City, red CITY DESPATCH POST U.S. cds and FREE in frame, Very Fine. E. 200-300



FRONTIERSMEN AND WESTERN AMERICANA



139° **David Crockett.** Frontiersman, congressman from Tennessee.

RARE AUTOGRAPH LETTER SIGNED AND FRANKED BY DAVID CROCKETT

Autograph free frank "Free D. Crockett" and address in his hand on lettersheet to Col. Joseph H. Talbott at Jackson, Tennessee, autograph letter signed on reverse "David Crockett" with Washington D.C., December 14, 1833, dateline, Crockett encloses a reply from the secretary of War regarding Col. Talbott's friend's appointment to West Point, small hole from wax seal just touches last letter of Crockett's signature on the letter, otherwise Very Fine, this legendary American hero's signature is extremely scarce in any form and of the greatest rarity as a free frank E. 10,000-15,000



140° **David Crockett.** A SECOND EXAMPLE OF CROCKETT'S FREE FRANK. Folded cover with autograph free frank "Free D. Crockett" and addressed in his hand to Mr. Sanderson at the Exchange, Philadelphia, franked during his last term as congressman, red NEW-YORK MAY 11 cds, ms. "f" for free, neat 1834 docketing on backflap, Very Fine, an extremely rare free frank of this famous frontiersman E. 8,000-10,000

Washington City 14th Decr 1938 -

Dear Sir

I enclose you the answer to my letter
from the secretary of war relative to your
friend's appointment as a cadet at West
Point I wrote you a few days ago and have
not time to add I am well and hope these
lines will find you in the also be health
I remain your old servt

David Crockett

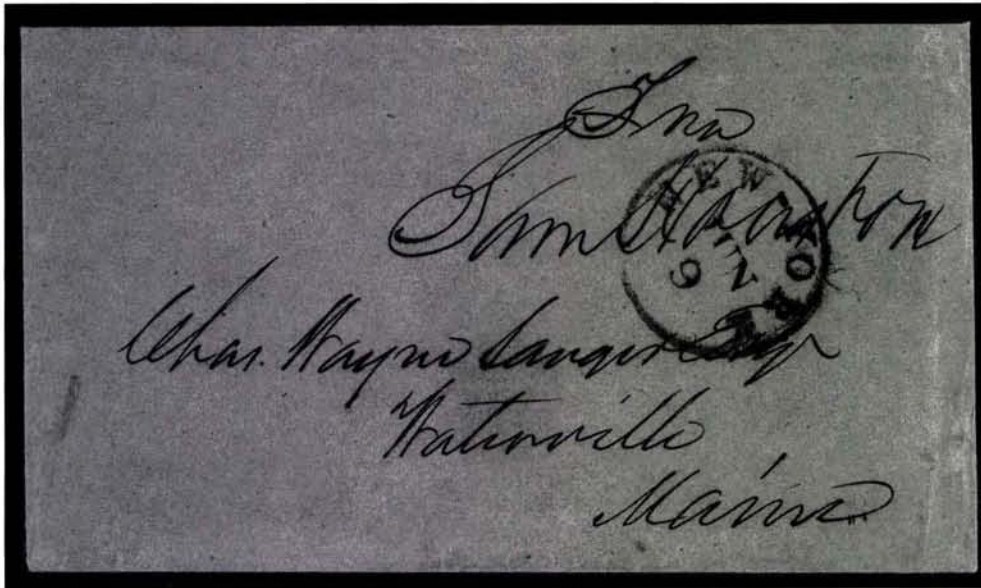
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141° **Alpheus Felch.** Senator from Michigan. Autograph free frank "Free A. Felch" on blue envelope addressed in his hand to his wife at Ann Arbor Mich., red VIA NICARAGUA/AHEAD OF THE MAILS handstamp in rectangular frame, lightly struck STEAMSHIP and FREE handstamps applied in New York City, Very Fine, this free-franked cover travelled via the Nicaragua route (Vanderbilt's line in competition with the contract Panama route) from California to New York, very rare, ex Knapp, Wiltsee E. 400-500

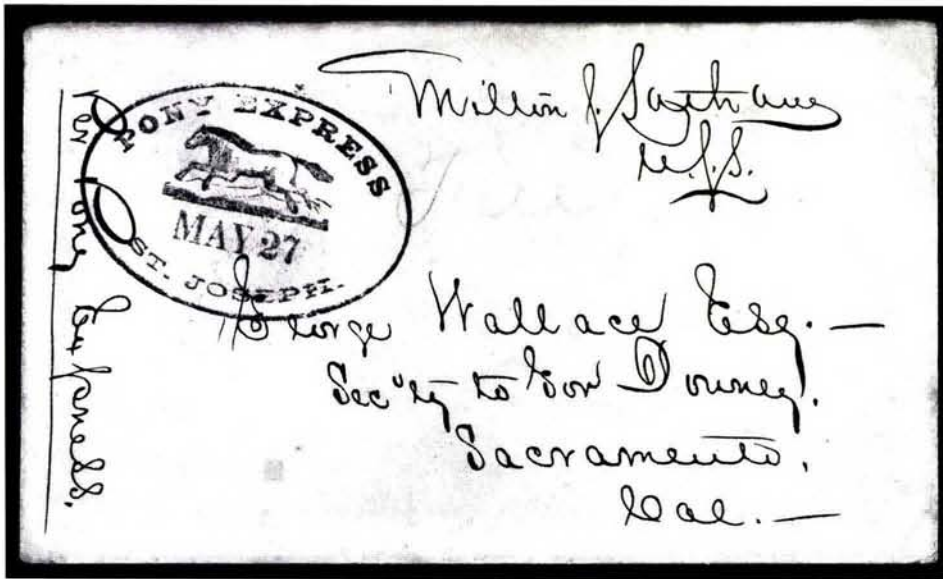


142° **John C. Fremont.** Explorer of the Rocky Mountains, the "Pathfinder", senator from California. Autograph free frank "Free J. C. Fremont" as senator on envelope addressed to Mrs. S. P. Lee at Washington D.C., mostly clear SAN FRANCISCO CAL 15 AUG cds, no year date, c. 1850, tiny scuffed spot in address, bold frank and Very Fine, scarce. E. 500-750



143° **Sam Houston.** American frontier hero, president of the Republic of Texas, U.S. senator, governor of Texas. Autograph free frank "Free Sam Houston" as senator on brown envelope addressed in his hand to Charles W. Sanger at Waterville Me., NEW-YORK JUN 9 cds, fresh and Very Fine, boldly signed example of this first of a long line of legendary Texans E. 750-1,000

as I knew he would do. — I send
him my warmest thanks & say
to him, that his bill for rent
of Court rooms in Los Angeles
passed the Senate unanimously.
The great Democratic Party is
split forever, I fear. Douglas
has made the greatest speech of
his life last week, but it has
only embittered his enemies the
more. — I think the Richmond Conven-
-tion will nominate Lane, and the
Baltimore will nominate Douglas
& Stephens. We will then have
a Northern & Southern Democratic
Party & who then can say
where it will end. — What a pity,
inasmuch as it all comes from
an abstraction about the "almighty
nigger". — W. S. is very much
dissatisfied at Seward's defeat
& if our party was only united
we could sweep the country. —
Lincoln & Hamilton, the Republicans



144° **Milton S. Latham.** Congressman and senator from California. Autograph free frank "Milton S. Latham U.S.S." on pristine white envelope to Sacramento.

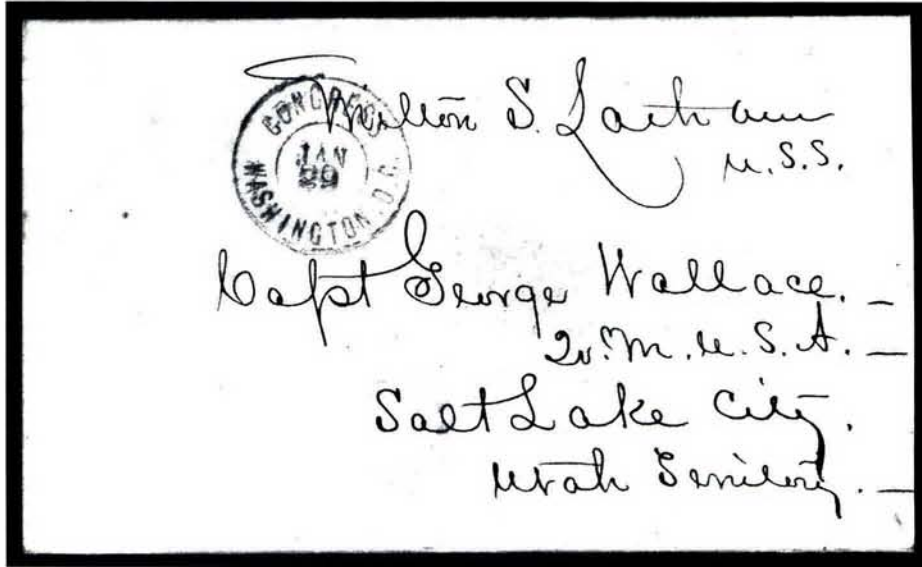
SENATOR LATHAM, THE QUINTESSENTIAL POLITICIAN, SENDS HIS FREE-FRANKED MAIL BY PONY EXPRESS VIA ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI

Milton Scott Latham went to California in 1850 and rose to prominence as a district attorney and Democratic congressman. This autograph letter signed "Latham" is datelined Washington, May 22, 1860, and addressed to George Wallace, secretary to California's Governor Downey. The content reveals Senator Latham's political views and, in typical fashion, his cronyism and partisan maneuvering on Capitol Hill.

He writes: "I called in person to see Secy. Toucey of the Navy, about Coghlan, & urged him to make the order O'Farrell wanted, and I then wrote T. a strong letter to the same effect. I recd. last night the enclosed answer, which I send you. You will see that he says 'the services of a Boatswain are not required' at Mare Island & of course I can do no more. I am sorry for this, for I should have been much pleased to favor O'Farrell. Better luck next time. I have recd. all your letters & cannot tell you how gratified I am at their contents. They keep me posted as to all Cala. matters and are very refreshing. You need not fear my Clerk, George, for he does not see your letters, and if he did, it would make no difference, for he is very reliable. You know I generally know my confidential friends, your own experience should satisfy you of this. Gordon has no connection with Cala. & although his brother, Geroge, is with Tom Williams, he is too honorable & too much attached to me to betray my friendship. . . The great Democratic party is split forever, I fear. Douglas has made the greatest speech of his life last week, but it has only embittered his enemies the more. I think the Richmond Convention will nominate Lane, and the Baltimore will nominate Douglas & Stephens. We will then have a Northern & Southern Democratic Party & who then can say where it will end. What a pity inasmuch as it all comes from an **abstraction about the 'almighty nigger'** . . ."

The envelope is addressed and endorsed "Per Pony Express" in Latham's hand. The PONY EXPRESS/ST. JOSEPH/MAY 27 handstamp is perfectly struck with the famous running pony design showing remarkable detail. The blue "Free" indicates that the \$5.00 Pony Express fee was waived in favor of Senator Latham, whose political efforts on behalf of the company were enthusiastic. This Pony Express trip left from St. Joseph on May 27, 1860. A total of ten free-franked Pony Express covers are recorded in Nathan, six of which were signed by Senator Latham (on the first he paid the \$5.00 fee; the subsequent ones were carried free). A mate to this cover, dated at St. Joseph on May 13, is illustrated in the Nathan book (p.10). Another similar cover, dated June 3, is listed in the Nathan census.

Both the letter and envelope are in Extremely Fine condition. Ex Knapp, Hale and Hertz, and featured on the cover of our catalogue for the Hale collection (Sale 171, April 29, 1954). One of the most outstanding Western express covers extant. E. 75,000-100,000



145° **Milton S. Latham.** Autograph free frank "Milton S. Latham U.S.S." on envelope addressed in his hand to Capt. George Wallace, quartermaster at Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, clear CONGRESS WASHINGTON D.C. JAN 29 cds, a bit reduced at right, otherwise Very Fine, this letter to Latham's friend and confidant was sent during the war, after Wallace was made quartermaster (see previous lot) E. 400-500



146° **William M. Gwin.** Senator from California. Autograph free frank "Free W M Gwin U S Senate" on white envelope addressed in his hand to Frederick Billings at San Francisco.

SENATOR GWIN FRANKS A COVER SENT BY PONY EXPRESS VIA ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI

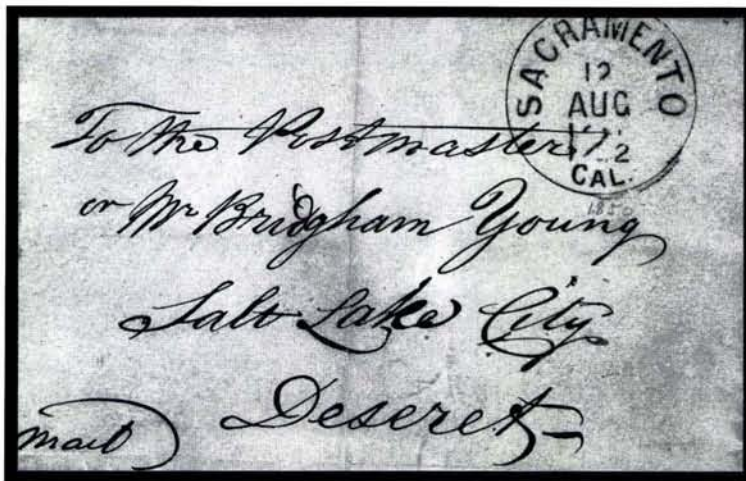
Senator Gwin, who received his medical degree from Transylvania University in 1828, was a colorful, influential and controversial figure in California politics. In 1840 he was elected to Congress and aligned himself with the Calhoun school. He left Washington for California in 1849, following the prediction of John C. Calhoun that San Francisco would become New York's great rival. Dr. Gwin and Fremont became senators, and, influenced by Senator Gwin's tireless efforts, the U.S. government authorized the establishment of the U.S. Mint in California, the survey of the Pacific coast, a navy-yard, and the commencement of steamship service between San Francisco, China, and Japan, via the Hawaiian Islands. At the beginning of the Civil War, former Senator Gwin was arrested on accusation of disloyalty and held prisoner until 1863. After his release from prison, he traveled to France and became involved in a scheme to colonize Sonora with southerners, under the authority of Napoleon and Emperor Maximilian. The plan failed without the support of Mexico's military, and Dr. Gwin finally returned to California, where he continued to participate in political affairs.

The envelope is endorsed "By Pony Express" in Senator Gwin's hand. The PONY EXPRESS/ST. JOSEPH/DEC 13 Running Pony oval handstamp is boldly struck and shows evidence of wear from extensive use. At left is a light pencil note "Paid J.T.C.", which seems to indicate that the Pony Express charge was paid. The backflap is somewhat torn from opening, and a small piece is missing from the top edge above the handstamp (small part of the oval rim pencilled in). The cover is otherwise Very Fine and clean.

One of ten free-franked Pony Express covers recorded in the Nathan census, of which only this one is franked by Senator Gwin E. 15,000-20,000



147



149

- 147° **William M. Gwin.** Senator from California. Autograph free frank "Wm. M. Gwin" as senator along right side of envelope addressed to the Hon. J. W. Denver at Washington D.C., bold VIA NICARAGUA/IN ADVANCE OF THE MAILS double-line oval forwarder's handstamp, perfectly struck N.YORK.STEAMSHIP dateless circular handstamp, Extremely Fine, from the famous Denver correspondence, illustrated in Ashbrook's One-cent 1851-57 book (Vol. 2, p. 264) with his note "Rare," referring to the use of the "Via Nicaragua" marking E. 750-1,000
- 148° **Santa Anna (Antonio Lopez de).** Letter signed "A. L. de Sta. Anna" as president of Mexico, on printed letterhead, dated January 3, 1835, with integral address leaf to Orleans, beautiful handstamped SECRETARIA DEL PRESIDENTE DE LOS ESS. UNS. MEJICAS. with coat of arms, blue Vera Cruz cds and ms. rate, Very Fine, scarce Santa Anna letter from the period of his presidency E. 1,000-1,500
- 149° **Brigham Young.** Mormon leader. Folded cover addressed "To the Postmaster or Mr. Brigham Young, Salt Lake City, Deseret" and endorsed "Mail", clearly struck SACRAMENTO CAL. 12 AUG 12½ integral rate cds, c. 1850, Very Fine, mail to or from Mormon territory officials is extremely scarce E. 300-400

SECRETARIA PARTICULAR
DEL PRESIDENTE
DE LOS ESTADOS-UNIDOS MEXICANOS.

Orleans

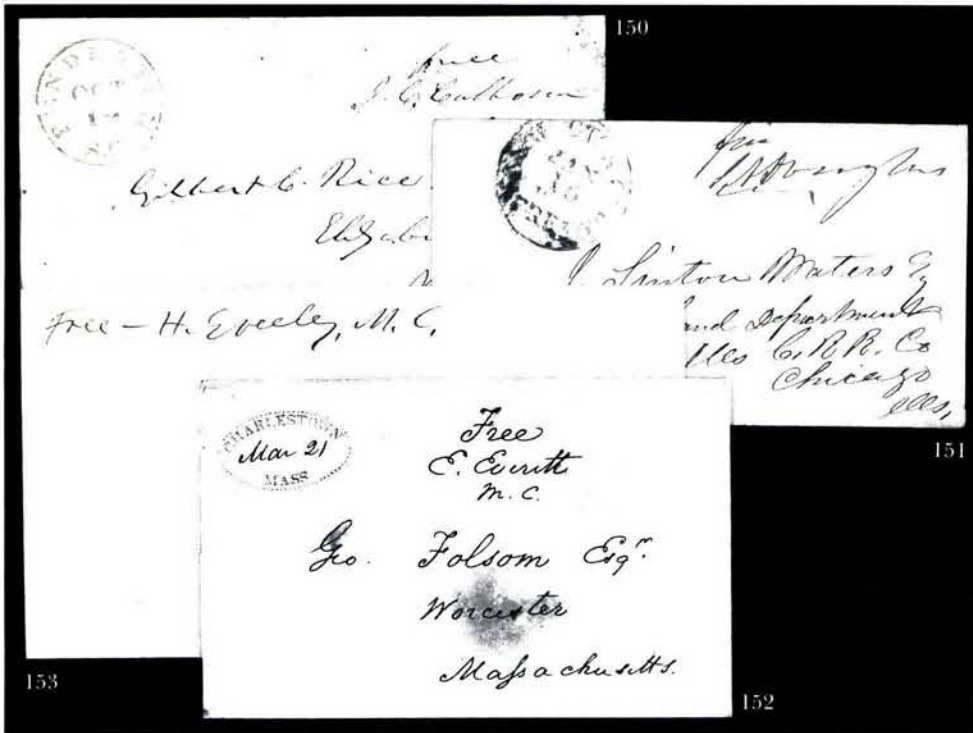
Sr. Don Luis Ma. del Valle

México Enero 3. 1835.

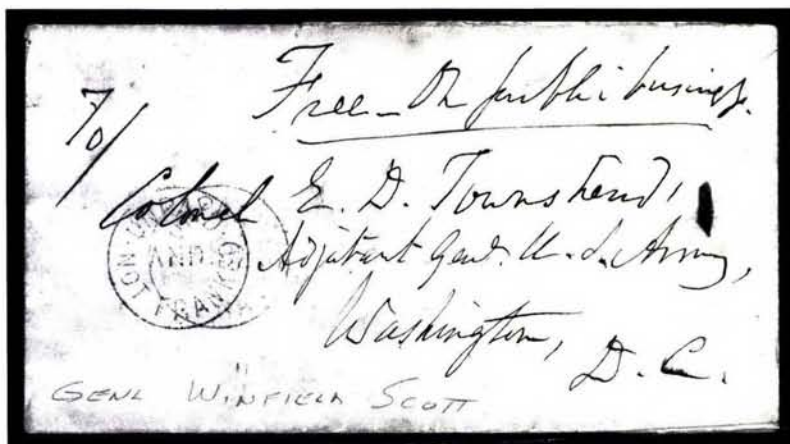
Mi ultimado amigo
La grata de V. fha. del
28. de Agosto ultimo me ha sido entregada por
el Sr. Don Gustavo Schmidt, y en ella me re-
comiendan, mas luego y si me pareciera este in-
dividuo, tendre' el gusto de ofrecerle mis servicios
y devotos, correspondiendo a sus afectos.
Apreciare' y V. siga muy
breve como le desea su afecto seg' le ovieron
L. B. S. M.

A. L. de Sta. Anna
JL

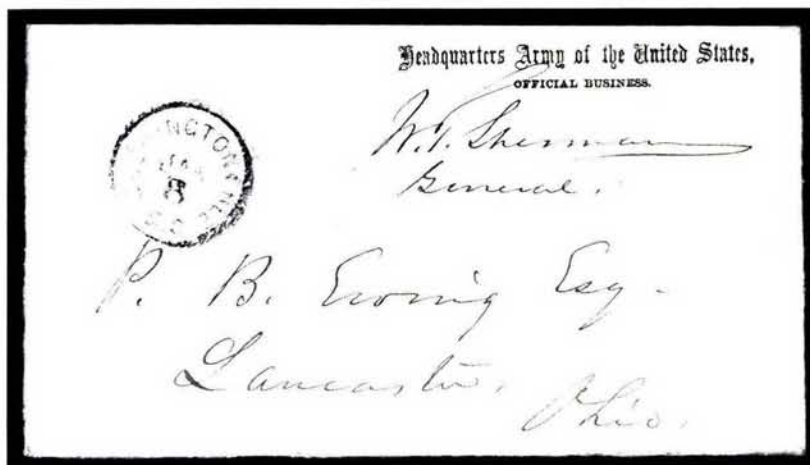




- 150° **John C. Calhoun.** U.S. congressman, secretary of War, vice-president under Jackson, senator, and secretary of State. Autograph free frank "free J. C. Calhoun" as senator on white envelope addressed in his hand to Gilbert C. Rice at Elizabethtown N.J., blue PENDLETON S.C. OCT 19 cds, with second envelope enclosed, containing an autograph letter signed and datelined Fort Hill S.C., October 16, 1848, Calhoun sends his regrets that he cannot furnish additional copies of his speech delivered at the last session of the Senate and states, "I fear the abolition question has been permitted by the North to progress too far to be arrested," Very Fine and desirable free-franked letter from this leading Southern politician E. 400-500
- 151° **Stephen A. Douglas.** Senator from Illinois, presidential candidate, famous orator and advocate of states' sovereignty. Autograph free frank "free S. A. Douglas" on envelope addressed in his hand to J. Linton Waters, Land Department, Illinois Central Railroad Co., Chicago, slightly smudged Washington D.C. cds (date illegible), Very Fine E. 100-150
- 152° **Edward Everett.** Congressman and senator from Massachusetts, best remembered for speaking 2½ hours at Gettysburg before Lincoln's address. Autograph free frank "Free E. Everett M.C." on folded cover addressed in his hand to George Folsom at Worcester Mass., well-struck CHARLESTOWN MASS dotted oval townmark with ms. date, enclosed is the original Mar. 20, 1835, 2¾ page autograph letter signed, classic Everett political content (beautifully articulated without saying much of significance), faint wax seal toning on address panel, otherwise Very Fine, desirable Lincoln association item E. 150-200
- 153° **Horace Greeley.** Newspaper editor and publisher, coined the phrase "Go West Young Man," congressman from New York. Autograph free frank "Free - H. Greeley, M.C." as congressman on folded cover to Theodore Sedgewick in New York City, no postal markings or year date, Extremely Fine, Greeley's free frank is very rare as he filled a vacant seat in Congress very briefly in 1848 and held no other post in his lifetime that would have given him the free-franking privilege E. 500-750



154° **Winfield Scott.** U.S. general, presidential candidate, first commander of the Union forces in Civil War. Envelope addressed in his hand and franked "Free - On public service" without signature, to Colonel E. D. Townshend, adjutant-general U.S. Army, at Washington D.C., magenta UNPAID AND NOT FRANKED circular handstamp, small piece of backflap missing, otherwise Very Fine, an extremely rare attempted free frank that was rejected by the post office for lack of signature E. 200-300

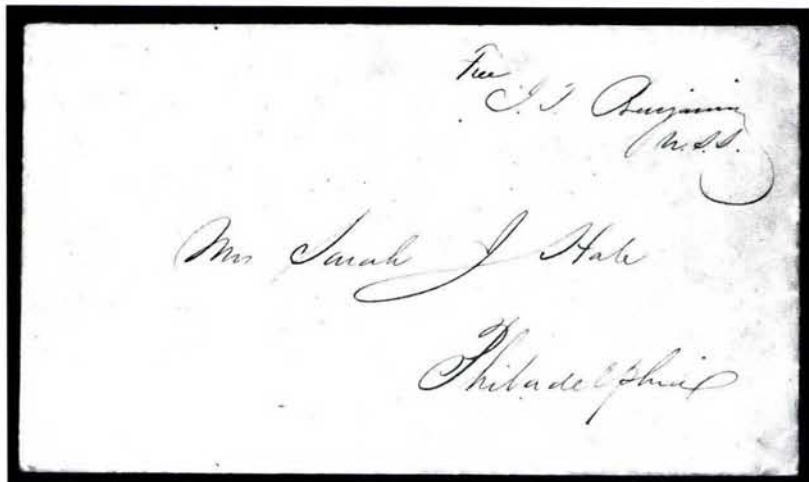


155° **William Tecumseh Sherman.** Union general, captured Atlanta. Autograph free frank "W. T. Sherman, General" on white envelope with "Headquarters Army of the United States, Official Business" imprint, addressed in his hand to P. B. Ewing at Lancaster Ohio, Washington D.C. cds, no year date, backflap missing, otherwise pristine and Extremely Fine E. 400-500

CONFEDERATE POLITICIANS AND MILITARY LEADERS



- 156° **Judah P. Benjamin.** U.S. senator, Confederate attorney general and secretary of state, fled to Europe at the close of the war. Autograph free frank "J. P. Benjamin U.S.S." as senator on envelope addressed in his hand to the Hon. P. C. Shannon at Pittsburgh, WASHINGTON CTY. D.C. FREE cds, illegible date and no year indicated, Very Fine, scarce E. 500-750



- 157° **Judah P. Benjamin.** Autograph free frank "Free J. P. Benjamin U.S.S." as senator on envelope addressed in his hand to Mrs. Sarah J. Hale at Philadelphia, no postmark or date, Very Fine, scarce E. 500-750

Wm. H. Pinkham,
Sir: I have
the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of yours of
Aug. 26th and to be very
respectfully yours &c.
Jeff. Davis

Washington D.C. }
1st Sept. 1850 }

Jeff. Davis
U.S.S.

Mr. H. Pinkham
Boston
Mass.

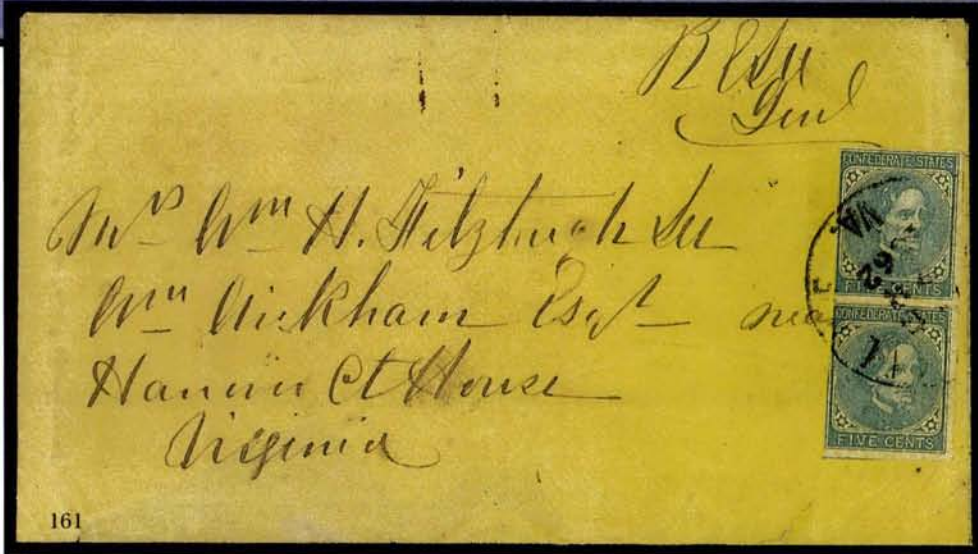
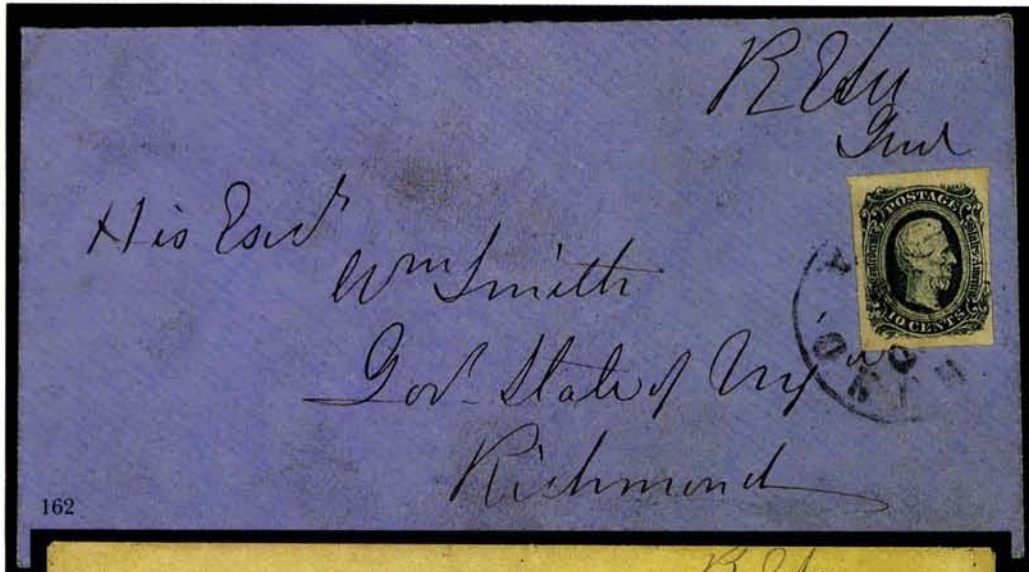
158° **Jefferson Davis.** U.S. senator, president of the Confederate States. Autograph free frank "Jeffer. Davis U.S.S." as U.S. senator on small white envelope addressed in his hand to William H. Pinkham at Boston, red FREE/WASHINGTON D.C. SEP 2 cds, with enclosure, autograph letter signed and datelined Washington D.C., September 1, 1850, a simple acknowledgement, Extremely Fine and handsome pair for exhibition .. E. 2,000-2,500



159

159° **Muscoe Russell Hunter Garnett.** U.S. congressman, Confederate congressman (died in 1863). Autograph endorsement "M R H Garnett MC" as Confederate congressman from Virginia on envelope addressed in his hand to his wife at Loretto Va., a rare endorsement signature in combination with **an extraordinary example of the scarce Confederate States 10c Milky Blue, "TEN" (9)**, huge margins including a full one-inch sheet margin at bottom, tied by RICHMOND VA. APR 25, 1863 cds, used just two days later than earliest date recorded in Scott Catalogue, there is a faint waterstain across the upper left diagonal corner of the cover, just barely affecting stamp and easily removable, Extremely Fine, the use of the 10c "TEN" is scarce in its own right; in combination with a congressional endorsement, it is rare; considering the quality and margins of this stamp, undoubtedly a unique cover E. 2,000-2,500

160° **Robert Ward Johnson.** U.S. senator prior to war, Confederate senator. Autograph endorsement "R. W. Johnson C.S.S." as Confederate senator on yellow envelope addressed in his hand to **Alexander H. Stephens**, at Crawfordsville Ga., treated as an unpaid letter with RICHMOND VA. APR 1863 (no day slug) cds and DUE 10 handstamp, backflap missing as always with Stephens correspondence, otherwise Very Fine E. 400-500



161° **Robert E. Lee.** Confederate general and commander of the Army of Northern Virginia.

A RARE ROBERT E. LEE FIELD LETTER ENDORSEMENT WITH CONFEDERATE STATES GENERAL ISSUE STAMPS, ADDRESSED TO HIS DAUGHTER-IN-LAW

Autograph endorsement "R. E. Lee Genl" on field cover addressed in his hand to Mrs. William H. Fitzhugh Lee and William Wickham near Hanover Courthouse Va., vertical pair of **Confederate States 5c Light Blue, London Print (6)**, margins to just slightly in, creased between stamps, tied by RICHMOND VA. Aug 23, 1862 cds, part of bottom backflap torn away when opened, small mended nick at bottom of envelope, Fine appearance ... E. 10,000-12,000

162° **Robert E. Lee.** Confederate general and commander of the Army of Northern Virginia.

ONE OF THE FINEST RECORDED EXAMPLES OF A ROBERT E. LEE ENDORSED FIELD LETTER WITH CONFEDERATE STATES STAMPS

Autograph endorsement "R. E. Lee Genl" on blue envelope addressed in his hand to Governor William Smith of Virginia, **Confederate States 10c Blue (12)**, margins all around, tied by RICHMOND VA. DEC 3 cds, no year date, c. 1864, pristine and Extremely Fine condition, bold signature and address, the stamp is exceptionally choice, ex Lehman E. 12,000-15,000



163° **Robert Toombs.** U.S. senator, president of the Secession Convention at Montgomery, governor of Georgia, Confederate brigadier-general and congressman. Autograph endorsement "R. Toombs, Brig Genl 1st Brig, 1st Div" as general on yellow envelope addressed in his hand to **Alexander H. Stephens**, at Richmond Va., treated as an unpaid soldier's letter with ORANGE C.H. Va. MAR 30 cds and DUE 5 handstamp, backflap missing as always for covers to Vice-President Stephens, Toombs had the free franking privilege as a U.S. senator and signed his name and rank as a Confederate general, examples of the latter are extremely rare E. 400-500

END OF SALE

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Services for Buyers

If you wish to participate in this sale, we will be pleased to assist you in many ways. The following services are provided without additional charge (except for any out-of-pocket expenses):

- Most lots may be inspected by registered or overnight mail, and all lots may be viewed by appointment or during the pre-sale exhibition
- Prospective bidders may request up-to-the-minute valuations for any lot in the sale
- We will be pleased to assist out-of-town clients in obtaining hotel reservations nearby our gallery
- Bidders who cannot attend the sale may submit bids by telephone/fax, by mail, or in special cases, we will provide a telephone link to the auction in progress (must be confirmed in advance)
- Any item sold without an expert certificate dated within the past five years may be purchased subject to certification (please see Conditions of Sale)
- Instructions for shipping purchased lots may be given to the gallery immediately after the sale
- Prices realized will be available one day after the final sale day

Services for Sellers

If you have stamps you wish to sell, we will be pleased to provide the following services and options for auction or outright sale:

- Free verbal appraisal of material brought to our gallery; Written appraisals for estate tax purposes (rates available on request)
- Free on-site consultation for any collection with fair market value of \$100,000 or more
- Auction consignments will be processed within six months of receipt, and proceeds will be paid 42 days from date of sale
- Commission rate of 10% (no other charges for lotting or illustration)
- Immediate interest-free advances up to 50% of the auction valuation
- On certain collections, we will guarantee the seller a minimum net amount, which eliminates the downside risk while still providing the potential for maximum auction realization
- If you wish to sell your stamps for immediate cash, we will be pleased to make an outright offer
- Suitable collections will be considered for single-owner sales and/or our annual Rarities of the World sale

Vandalia. Dec^r 10. 1835

Dear Sir

In regard to the South half of Sec. 36. in Town 7 North Range 1 West the following is the only information that can be collected at the Auditors office. The S.W. quarter of said section was sold in 1825 to Daniel Hough for the tax of 1821 & 2 - Half of the other quarter was sold in 1827 to Jafes Bartlett for the tax of 1826 - The other 80 acres have not been sold for taxes - The residence of neither of the purchasers is known at the office -

There is but little of interest doing in the Legislature as yet: owing mostly to the census returns from several counties not having been made -

Respectfully

A. Lincoln

PRICES REALIZED FOR SALE 750---5/5/93
The Louis Grunin Collection of Free Franks and Americana

Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc.
60 East 56th Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10022
Tel (212) 753-6421 Fax (212) 753-6429

Lot#	Realized	Lot#	Realized	Lot#	Realized	Lot#	Realized
1	1,050	45	4,250	88	325	133	1,800
2	1,200	46	550	89	675	134	375
3	38,000	47	525	90	450	135	50
4	800	48	550	91	7,500	136	160
5	26,000	49	2,700	92	280	137	180
6	6,250	50	1,000	93	800	138	75
7	3,500	51	850	94	425	139	16,500
8	6,000	52	105	95	350	140	8,000
9	3,000	53	500	96	100,000	141	650
10	575	54	1,050	97	30,000	142	750
11	4,250	55	800	98	35,000	143	1,350
12	42,500	56	300	99	6,000	144	62,500
13	1,000	57	3,750	100	8,000	146	15,500
14	1,500	58	325	101	5,500	147	2,300
16	2,800	59	375	103	800	148	1,800
17	850	60	550	104	750	149	575
18	5,250	61	525	105	1,600	150	7,500
19	1,200	62	1,000	106	2,200	151	170
20	1,800	63	5,750	107	800	152	475
21	650	64	900	108	4,500	153	425
22	1,100	65	700	109	10,500	154	130
23	850	66	260	110	1,150	155	400
24	1,600	67	160	111	800	156	800
25	625	68	4,500	112	1,400	157	525
26	400	69	2,600	113	1,150	158	2,500
27	650	70	1,500	114	600	159	5,000
28	200	71	260	115	425	161	14,500
29	170	72	425	116	1,200	162	19,500
30	150	73	425	117	1,100	163	375
31	3,000	74	1,050	118	2,800		
32	500	75	800	119	850		
33	110	76	3,500	121	170		
34	5,500	77	2,100	122	1,100		
35	16,000	78	1,000	123	750		
36	8,000	79	3,750	124	425		
37	6,500	80	1,400	125	100		
38	6,500	81	2,000	126	75		
39	5,000	82	1,350	127	750		
40	2,500	83	700	128	525		
41	6,250	84	500	129	220		
42	2,100	85	200	130	100		
43	4,250	86	200	131	500		
44	5,000	87	350	132	210		