May 30, 1845

Example showing a "12 o'c" time.

the mails and delivered by Boyd's. .

The basic stamp designed was changed to a smaller adhesive sometime between September and October, 1844. This basic design and its variations remained in used until 1867.



Type II Characteristics: Smaller design, lithographed. No period after "EXPRESS". Eagle perched atop globe. Plain background of central oval. Inner oval frame has thicker inner





September 26, 1844

A very early example of the new issue used to pre-pay the local delivery fee of 2¢. The "FREE" cancellation still in use.

Boyd's increased their pickup and delivery schedules to fourtimes daily, 9 AM, 12, 2 and 4 PM, effective September 30, 1844. The red oval postmark was introduced at this time.



Type II stamps were used September 1844 to May 1845. The red oval postmarks were used September 1844 to March 1848.

The adhesives issued during the 1844 - 1867 period were variations of the same basic design. A representation of the symbolical American eagle, wings spread, standing on the upper segment of a globe, enclosed in an oval with the inscription "BOYD'S CITY EXPRESS" above and the value below. Eleven variants of this design type were issued.



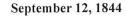
1844 STAMP ISSUES

Type I Characteristics: Large design, lithographed. Period after "EXPRESS". Netted background of central oval. Eagle floating above globe.

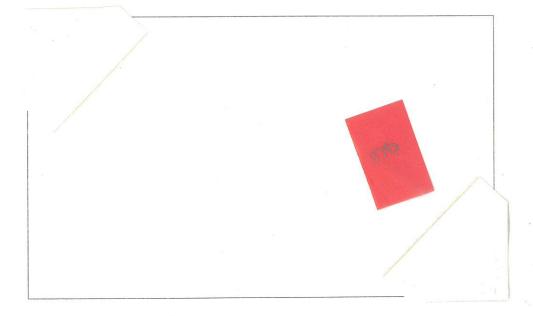


August 16, 1844

The red "FREE" indicated that the 2¢ delivery fee had been paid by the stamp, NOT that the delivery was free.

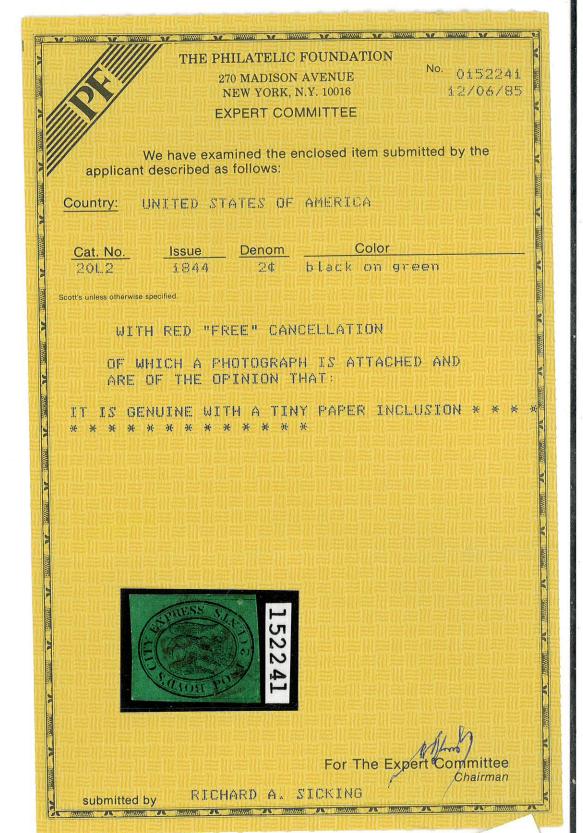


Datelined September 2, 1844, this letter originated in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. No indication of being carried by another post it was probably handed to Boyd's by an individual traveling from Indiana.



Boyd's provided two deliveries per day, at 9 AM and 3 PM.

Recent census figures report 18 covers with the Type I stamp.



TOTAL SERVICES

Melon Sam I Howland & Many Aspinwall)
Thew York

2012 Nay 30, 1845 Types 6,72 Types to MYC Boston to MYC

Delivery to the Post Office Type III Adhesive Double Transfer

The Postal Acts of 1827 and 1836 prohibited the carrying of mail on any post road. An 1844 judgement in Federal Court ruled in favor of intercity and intracity mail services such as Hale's. The Postal Act of 1845 finally eliminated mail delivery using intercity post routes. Hales stopped their intercity services June 30, 1845.

April 16, 1845

Delivered to the U.S. post office by Boyd's for posting to New Orleans. The postage rate at this time was 25¢ for over 400 miles as shown by the manuscript 25 in blue. The 25¢ was to be collected from the addressee, the 2¢ Boyd's fee was prepaid by their stamp.





April 22, 1845

The stamp on this locally delivered letter shows a strong double transfer in the oval right side frame line, not uncommon with this type.

1845 STAMP ISSUES

Type III Adhesive Earliest Known Use

The Type III stamp was in use beginning in February 1845. These stamps were engraved. The plate was poorly produced as indicated by the number of double transfers found and the weak impressions which give the stamps a worn look.³ The appearance of the Type IV stamps in May 1845 may be attributed to the overall poor quality of the Type III stamps.



Type III Characteristics:
Engraved.
Central oval has plain background.
Only globe with light diagonal shading.
No land masses outlined on globe.
Inner and outermost oval frame lines
thicker and blacker.



February 14, 1845

A Valentine poem sent prepaid with one of the new stamps.

Earliest Known Use



The Postal Act of 1845 reduced the U. S. postage rates per half ounce to 5¢ for under 300 miles and 10¢ for over 300 miles. Local (drop) letters were increased to 2¢. This increase made it difficult for the USPO to compete for local delivery.





Type IV Characteristics:
 Typographed.
Both inner frame lines of equal thickness.
Area to right of the left wing is shaded with diagonal lines.





December 1, 1846

Delivered by Boyd's to the U. S. post office route agent for delivery to Troy, NY. The route agent's postmark at the left. The red "5" indicates the post office fee to be collected from the addressee. The second red "5" cancels the Boyd's stamp, an unusual use.

March 6, 1848

Given to the U.S. route agent at the RR station by Boyd's for delivery to Cincinnati, Ohio, this letter was treated as a Way letter when received and postmarked by the Baltimore post office. The 10¢ fee for over 300 miles was prepaid as the manuscript "Paid 10" indicates. The payment of the 1¢ Way fee is not indicated, which is not unusual for such letters.





April 22, 1845

Notice of legal judgment to the Clerk of Kings County, Brooklyn. Boyd's operated in Brooklyn from September 1844 through June 1845.

May 7, 1845

Carried to the post office for delivery to Philadelphia. The rate was 12½ ¢ as noted in blue ink. The Boyd's fee of 2¢ was paid by the stamp.



Cross Border to Canada Posted From Hotel



PFC

August 31, 1847

A printed invoice from Conover & Woody, grate and fender mfg., sent to Toronto, Canada. Carried to the Post Office by Boyd's. The 10¢ postage prepaid and noted in the upper left. The manuscript "4 1/2" pence due in Canada, for up to 60 miles. The U.S. rate was 10¢ per half ounce for over 300 miles to the exchange point at Queensland U.C.



Circa 1848-50

Hotels provided mail service and used handstamps on letters as early as 1842. Delmonicos Hotel carried guest's mail to Boyd's or it was picked up by them for delivery.

1845 STAMP ISSUES

"Social Notice" Issue Usage To the Mails 10 cent US Rate



Not Dated

Boyd's issued several stamps with gold lettering on white. Their intended use was local delivery of invitations, social event announcements and similiar. The stamp used on this ladies envelope has a small pen "C" cancel. Of the three known examples, only one is tied by a cancellation.

September 16, 184(6)

For local delivery, this letter is postmarked with the earlier version of the oval cancel. The stamp is cancelled with an obscure cancel.

The stamp has been privately perforated with pin holes, probably by a sewing machine.



The earlier Boyd's stamp were issued imperforate. At sometime in 1848 he began to sell his stamps die cut to shape, at a premium, for his customers convenience.



December 1, 1848

Addressed to the Postmaster of New York. The 2¢ fee paid by the stamp. Black grid cancel used on letters sent to the post office.

The oval postmark was changed in 1847 and now contains serif letters in the lower half.



Delivered to the post office for mailing to Mabbettsville, NY. The 5¢ U.S. mails rate is indicated in the New York postmark. The Boyd's stamp was cancelled with the 5-bar black grid cancel.



This letter also has a partial strike of a red Boyd's oval postmark and a "PAID/J.T.B." marking. The paid marking should not have been used on mail to the post office. The latter has been carefully struck out with the black grid cancel to avoid any problems with the post office.



February 20, 1849

Delivered to the U. S. post office for mailing to Cincinnati, Ohio. The 10¢ fee being due from the addressee. The Boyd's stamp is cancelled by the black 5-bar grid cancel.

Although not conclusive, evidence seems to show the five bar grid cancel was used exclusively on letters carried to the U.S. Mails.



December 6, 1847

City delivery of circulars were charged the same rate as delivery to the P.O. This circular is from the Manhattan Fire Insurance Co., No. 68 Wall Street.



September 5, 1848

Sent to Rochester, NY, the 10 ¢ fee due from the addressee. Note that the Boyd's did not use any "PAID J.T.B." markings on mail taken to the P.O.

1848-51 STAMP ISSUES

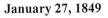
Type V Adhesive Usage with 5¢ 1847 Issue

This stamp was probably printed from a plate of 100 subjects. It was in use from early 1848 to early 1853. Boyd's had over 2,000 locations/boxes in Manhattan for the deposit of letters by 1851.



Type V Characteristics:
Engraved.
No period after "CENTS".
Inner oval frame has heavy inner line.





To the U. S. Mails for delivery to Bellona, Yates County, NY. The 10¢ postage was prepaid by the two 5¢ U. S. stamps issued in 1847.

1845 STAMP ISSUES

Type IV Adhesive Intercity Express Usage Address Correction



March 30, 1848

Gay & Co. Express carried this letter from Boston to New York City. Their office handed it to Boyd's for delivery. Boyd's fee paid by the stamp.

Intercity expresses had been banned since July 1, 1845 from carrying letters. Letters which accompanied freight or money carried by the expresses were allowed. The above letter was permitted under these provisions.

November 15, 1849

First delivery attempt failed. The address was corrected, a second stamp applied over the first, and successfully delivered for a total fee of 4¢.



During 1850-51 a printing was made on unglazed yellow-green surface colored paper.



March 22, 1851

Local delivery letter, the 2¢ fee prepaid.

The black prepayment marking "PAID / J.T.B" was used from 1851 to 1852, the black oval postmark 1849 to 1857.

April 29, 1852

Delivered to the New York Post Office and addressed to a PO box. Treated as a Drop Letter by the post office. The box holder paid 2¢ postage on pickup.





April 28, 1849

To the U. S. Mails for posting to Norwich, CT. The 5¢ postage was due from the addressee.

October 25, 1849

Sent to Saint George, New Brunswick, N. America. New Brunswick did not become a part of Canada until 1867. Boyd's stamp paid the 2¢ fee for delivery to the Post Office. The 10¢ fee for delivery to the border was prepaid as the red "PAID" marking shows. The 4½ pence for internal postage was due from the addressee.



1850-51 Printings Delivery to Route Agent Cross Border to Canada

December 10, 185(1)

Delivered to the Route Agent, New York & Philadelphia R. R., the U S. postage for delivery to Warrenton, Virginia prepaid by the 3¢ stamp.



The Postal Act of 1851, effective June 30, 1851 created a prepaid rate of 3¢ per half ounce and under 3000 miles distance. The rate was 5¢ if not prepaid. Three new stamps were issued in July, with values of 1¢, 3¢ and 12¢.



March 30, 1852

Delivered by Boyd's to the post office for posting to New Glasgow, Nova Scotia (Canada). The 10¢ postage to the border was due. Arriving in New Glasgow on April 6, the 6 pence Canadian postage was paid by the addressee.

1848-51 STAMP ISSUES

Boyd's announcement of his opening in June 1844 included this statement; "no money must be enclosed unless registered at the office, where a registry is kept."

February 15, 1851

A letter from Stephen Hills, Jr. to Oliver Heartwell. Writer explains his financial difficulties and his intentions to repay a debt. The letter was registered by Boyd at his office and endorsed "Money Encl J. T. Boyd".



Civer Heartwell in Sansing is

August 7, 1851

Addressed to Oliver
Heartwell at a local street
address, the sender (Stephen
Hills, Jr.) used the letter
written to him on Aug. 6,
1851, demanding "at least
\$5" toward money owed. He
responded by sending cash
wrapped in the letter sheet.
Boyd noted the contents and
signed his name on the front
indicating that the letter had
been registered at his office.

Boyd's first Brooklyn agent was Wellington Walton who continued Boyd's original Brooklyn service as a separate enterprise, the Brooklyn City Express Post. It continued in operation until 1863-64.





1853

Delivered to the Brooklyn City Express Post by Boyd's for a 2¢ fee prepaid by their stamp. The delivery to the Brooklyn address was paid by the blue 2¢ Brooklyn City Post stamp.

Type VI Characteristics
Lithographed.
Period after "CENTS".
Inner oval frame has heavy inner line.







Printed from a new stone made from the die used for the previous issue, in black on green and gold ink on cream paper, the latter probably intended for special letters, invitations, etc.



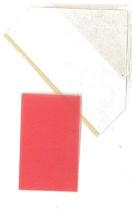
July 1, 185-

Die cut example on a mourning letter.

Jan 31, 185-

A small ladies envelope for local delivery, probably an invitation.







September 9, 1852

To the post office by Boyd's for mailing to Morristown, New Jersey. The 3¢ U.S. postage was not prepaid, thus 5¢ was due from the recipient. The "PAID/J.T.B" marking has been crossed out by the PO clerk to avoid confusion.

October 5, 1854

Local delivery letter.

Latest Known Usage



Boyd's first Brooklyn agent was Wellington Walton who continued Boyd's original Brooklyn service as a separate enterprise, the Brooklyn City Express Post. It continued in operation until 1863-64. No. 62 513 July 19, THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION 99 PARK AVENUE NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016 EXPERT COMMITTEE We have examined the enclosed item submitted by the applicant described as follows: Country USA Issue __ Denomination 2¢+2¢ Color dark blue + Cat. No.

Brief description or additional Catalogue numbers are Scott's unless otherwise specified. Cancelled Brooklyn City/2 cents/Express Post and with black "PAID" marking.
of which a photograph is attached and are of the opinion that they are genuinely used on cover, the 20L8 being defective. -----For The Expert Committee Chairman submitted by Alex Adelman

One of the three P. F. Cert. #62513

THE FAMILY-MAGE-

Type VII Characteristics:
 Lithographed.

Inner frame has heavy outer frame line.
 Eagle's tail pointed.
 Period after "CENTS".

Seven lines of longitude and two of latitude.





December 9, 1854

Mourning letter to Baltimore delivered to the P.O., the 5¢ U.S. postage was due from the recipient, Boyd's 2¢ fee paid by their stamp.



August 2, 1859

Originally for local delivery by Boyd's, this letter was taken to the P.O. (not by Boyd's) and forwarded to the Portuguese Legation, London, England. The Treaty Rate of 24¢ was prepaid by the two 12¢ stamps.

Although the Act of 1851 left the prepayment of letters optional, it did reduce the rate for letters under 3,000 miles to 3¢ if prepaid; if not prepaid the old rate of 10¢ was collected. The new rates became effective in July 1851.



June 13, 1856

The sender applied a 3¢ U. S. stamp and a Boyd's 2¢ stamp to this letter for Canada. It was placed in a Boyd's letter box and delivered to the U. S. post office. The correct postage is 10¢, however there is no marking to indicate this amount was due. The "UNITED STATES 6" indicate that 6 pence was to be collected form the addressee in Ingersoll, Canada West.

March 21, 185-

1856 STAMP ISSUE

Taken to the post office for delivery to a post office box in Philadelphia. The 3¢ postage prepaid by the three 1¢ blue stamps, Ty II, Plate 2.





December 19, 185-

Boyd's collected $5 \, \phi$ for delivery of this letter to the post office. Addressed to Rochester, NY, the post office fee was $3 \, \phi$, the Boyd's fee was $2 \, \phi$.

2nd Printing (Dull Orange on White)
U. S. Mail Cancel
Local Delivery
Cross Border to Canada



September 20, 1856

Delivered to the post office this letter was treated as a drop letter and marked 1¢ due with two strikes of the "U. S. MAIL CITY DELIVERY" postmark.

Summer of 1856

Cinnamon-Orange shade.



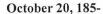
October 25, 1856

Sent underpaid to Montreal, Lower Canada, the correct rate being 10¢. Marked with a "10", the amount of postage due. The "6" showing that 6 pence, equivalent to 10¢, is to be collected from the recipient.



July 12, 185-

For local delivery to the office of the Illinois Central R. R.



Delivered to the post office the 3¢ postage for delivery to North Branford, Connecticut prepaid as was the Boyd's 2¢ fee.



--, 1857

Boyd's delivered letter to the Madison Square Post Office. They in turn delivered to the addressee. Started by Daniel H. Cornwell in 1855 and located at Broadway and 22nd, the post was bought by Henry Bently in 1856. Cornwell's name was removed from the oval postmark.

Addressed outside of Boyd's normal delivery area, this is an example of co-operation between local posts.





March 17, 1860

Taken to the post office by Boyd's, the 2¢ fee prepaid by the stamp. The letter was actually delivered to the addressee by the U.S. post office carrier, the 1¢ fee was due upon delivery as shown be the handstamp marking. The boxed "Delivery" marking indicates delivery was from Station "E".

The date on this cover is not clear but was concluded from the fact that the N.Y. City Delivery marking was used only during 1860-61. The "PAID / J.T.B." marking was discontinued in early 1861.

Type IX Characteristics:
Lithographed on glazed surface colored paper.
Period after "CENTS".
Eagle has four toes on each foot.
Top heavy "2" nearer the "T" than the "C".







September 12, 1857

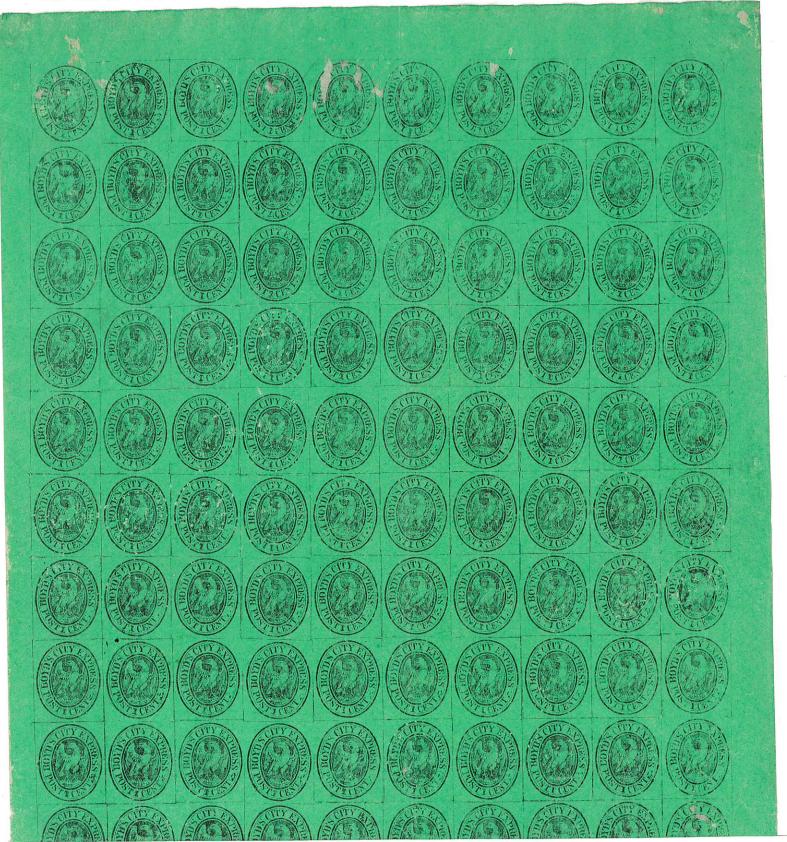
Delivered to the post office for the 2¢ prepaid fee. The postage to Trumansburg, New York was prepaid by the recently issued 3¢ U. S. stamp

January 6, 1858

The 3¢ postage for post office delivery to Perth Amboy, New Jersey was prepaid by the 3¢ government issued envelope.

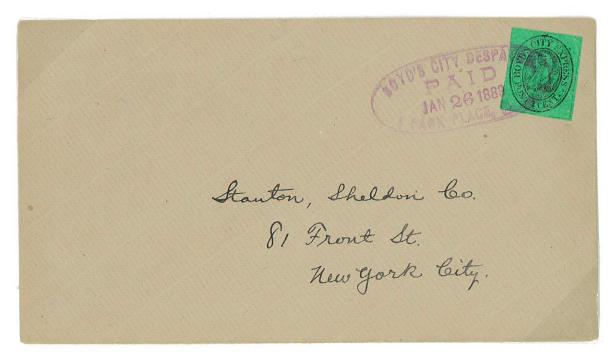
The government first issued prepaid envelopes in 1853.





A sheet of 100 Type IX stamps showing the changes made to the "2 CENTS" value to create the 1¢ stamps. Done in haste, the workmanship is poor. Only position no's. 10, 21,62,63, 73 and 90 show a clear "1 CENT".

The Postal Act of June 15, 1860 took away the power of the Postmaster General to set rates, and made a flat carrier fee of 1¢ on all letters including city (drop) letters. Faced with the prospect of an improved government carrier service at competitive rates, Boyd's, at some time in early 1860, decided to reduce the hitherto not varied charge of 2¢ per letter to a charge of 1¢ per letter for all classes of service. A supply of 1¢ stamps was hastily prepared by altering the figure "2" to a "1" and erasing the letter "S" of "Cents" on the then current issue.



January 26, 1883

Locally delivered, the 1¢ stamp shows the partial removal of the "S" in "Cents".

John T. Boyd, the founder of Boyd's City Express, died June 8, 1859. His son, John T. Boyd, Jr. took over the business.

Although the stamp and cancel on this letter are genuine, this extremely late use was probably a philatelic favor cancel.

A 1¢ rate was retained for carrying letters to the U.S. post office and for delivery of circulars. The design of the new stamps was essentially unchanged, however the paper colors were changed.



Type X Characteristics: Lithographed. Center dots before "POST" and after "CENTS".



Lithographed in sheets of 100 (10 x 10), two dies were used. In transferring the horizontal rows the top row was inadvertently inverted, creating ten vertical tete-beche pairs in the first two rows of each sheet.



September 15, 1867

Bank notice delivered to Brown & Co. by Boyd's after being returned to the bank to have the address added. (The stamp is badly oxidized.)

A more serious aspect of Postmaster General Holt's program was a renewed attempt to apply the authority granted in Section 10 of the Act of March 1851, to declare the streets of the cities to be "post roads" and thus make the private posts illegal.

In Philadelphia, C. Kochersperger, owner of Blood's Penny Post, decided to resist the government edict, continuing the daily delivery of letters in defiance of Holt's announcement. The result of any prosecution of the Philadelphia firm would determine the fate of Boyd's City Express.

On August 1, 1860, Boyd temporarily discontinued his operations. A final court decision, reached on November 20, 1860, found in favor of the local posts. Boyd's service remained suspended until December 24, 1860, when it reopened under new ownership and management. The new owners were William Blackham and his wife Mary.



July 2, 1861

Locally delivered at the restored 2¢ rate.

The Blackhams restored the 2¢ intracity delivery charge which had been reduced by Boyd ten months or so earlier.

With the new ownership, the previously used "PAID J.T.B." marking was replaced by an oval "PAID" handstamp.

In late 1862 the Blackhams left the old Boyd office on William Street and moved to 39 Fulton Street. Early in 1863 they introduced a new circular date stamp which incorporated the new address and omitted the word "EXPRESS" from the name of the post which, from then onwards was known as "BOYD'S CITY POST".



The fee for delivery to the post office, 1ϕ , was prepaid by the stamp. U. S. postage prepaid by the 3ϕ stamp.

A small blue oval "PAID" handstamp was used by Boyd's.

The stone used for the 2¢ Type X was also used for the 1¢ stamp. The numeral "1" being inserted and the "S" of "CENTS" erased. In one of the positions of the horizontal strip of 10 transfers the printer failed to erase the "S", creating the variety "1 CENTS".

The fee for local delivery was 2¢ as shown here by the use of two of the 1¢ stamps.

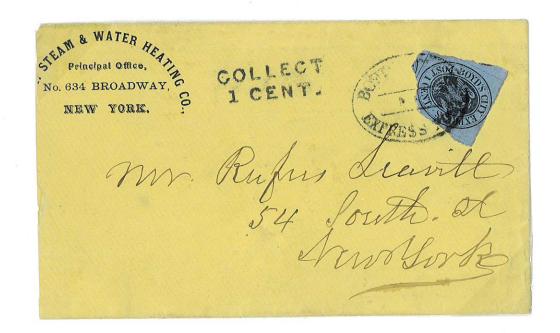


This is a late use of the older oval postmark with the word "EXPRESS".



Circa Early 1861

The new 1¢ stamp used to pay for delivery to Brooklyn. Although not dated the cancellation type, used 1861-62, and the lack of any postage due marking would indicate use prior to thye rate change in 1861.



Circa 1861

The 1¢ in town delivery established in 1860 was increased to 2¢ some time in the Spring of 1861. Mail paid at the old rate was marked "COLLECT 1 CENT".

There were at least six printings of the 1¢ Type X stamps in various shades of lilac surface colored paper. Early printings were on a light shade of paper, while later printings were on a darker shade.



An example on a light shade of paper from an early printing. The postage for delivery to Mason Centre, New Hampshire prepaid by the 3¢ stamp issue of 1857.



Postage of 10¢ to San Francisco was paid by the U. S. stamp.

The Act of April 1, 1855 had made prepayment mandatory. The rate for 1/2 oz over 3,000 miles was 10¢.



As a result of the Civil War, the U. S. Post Office demonitized the previous stamp issues. New stamps were issued in August, 1861.

Examples of the later printings, all mailed in 1863. The U. S. postage prepaid with the new 3¢ stamps.



Mailed to a soldier, Army of the Potomac, near Washington, DC



In 1865 a printing was made from the plates used for the issues of 1856-57. The stamps were printed on an orange-red surface colored paper in various shades of black.





Mar 20, 1866

The postmark used in the 1865 through 1870 period differs from the previous in that the name was changed to "Boyd's Dispatch". Although the post's address was 41 Fulton St., 39 and 41 were one and the same.



This postmark was first used in 1869 and shows the address as 41 Fulton St. It also showed the time of delivery.



The popularity of the stamp collecting hobby in the 1860's led to the growing demands from collectors for new stamps. A few surviving private posts, seeing an opportunity to gain revenue and publicity, issued varieties of their stamps primarily for sale to collectors. These issue however, were valid for postage.

The Blackhams entered this field in 1861 and had stamps printed in four colors from the 2 cent lithographic stone used for the 1860-61 type X stamps.







Gold on Green

1861 PHILATELIC ISSUES

Gold on Blue

Gold on Crimson

Gold on White



Block of six
Top row Tete-beche



A rate of 4ϕ has not been documented. Posted with two 2ϕ stamps. Perhaps the mailer though the new rate increase required two stamps, mistaking the stamps for 1ϕ ?



May 11, 1866

Mailed using a $3 \notin U.S$. Post Ofice envelope. An endorsement on the reverse states" Answer by Express ab (about) my cash immediately S.W.F." No record has been found documenting a $6 \notin$ rate or fees for "special" delivery. Possibly the sender thought the Boyd's rate was the same as the $3 \notin$ post envelope and applied the stamps thinking they were $1 \notin$?

A printing was made in 1871using the plate used from 1865 to 1870. The stamps were printed on a glazed surface coated paper which was a bluish-lilac or a light shade of blue.

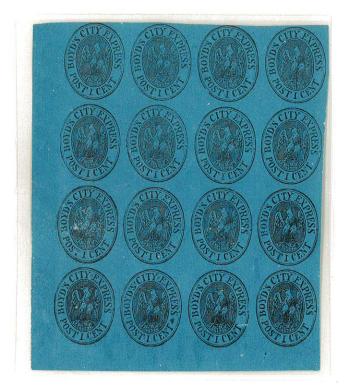


Type XI Characteristics:
 Lithographed

No center dots before "POST" and after "CENTS".

Wing tip touches oval frame.

Small constant spot of color between frames opposite space between "SS".





C

Sometime in the 1880's reprints were made from the same plate. They are impossible to distinguish from the originals.

If not called for in ten days return to F. H. HOLTON, India Rubber Goods, 48 Gold St., New York.

COMMERCIAL PAINT WORKS.

DLE & CO., DEN LANE, As the nature of Boyd's business changed to that of delivering more and more business type mail, the rate for delivery of circulars was reduced to 1¢. The stamp design was changed, the "2c" values were erased from the corners. The stamps were lithographed and perforated.



1877 Stamps (1¢)



1877 STAMP ISSUES

Red-lilac on Lilac Perf. 11½



Grey-lilac on Lilac Perf. 111/2



Red-lilac on Lilac Perf. 12½ x 12



Grey on Roseate Perf. 121/2





Violet on Lilac Perf. 111/2



Perf. 121/2



Grey on Greyish Perf. 121/2 on 3 sides Perf. 12 on 1

Imperforate horizontally



There was no need for a dated postmark on this type of mail.