

FIRST POSTAL STATIONERY

1864 "Eagle" Design on Laid Paper



Red on white diagonally laid and watermarked paper. The embossing indicates it was done on the envelope after folding. The size is unusual. This may be a reprint.

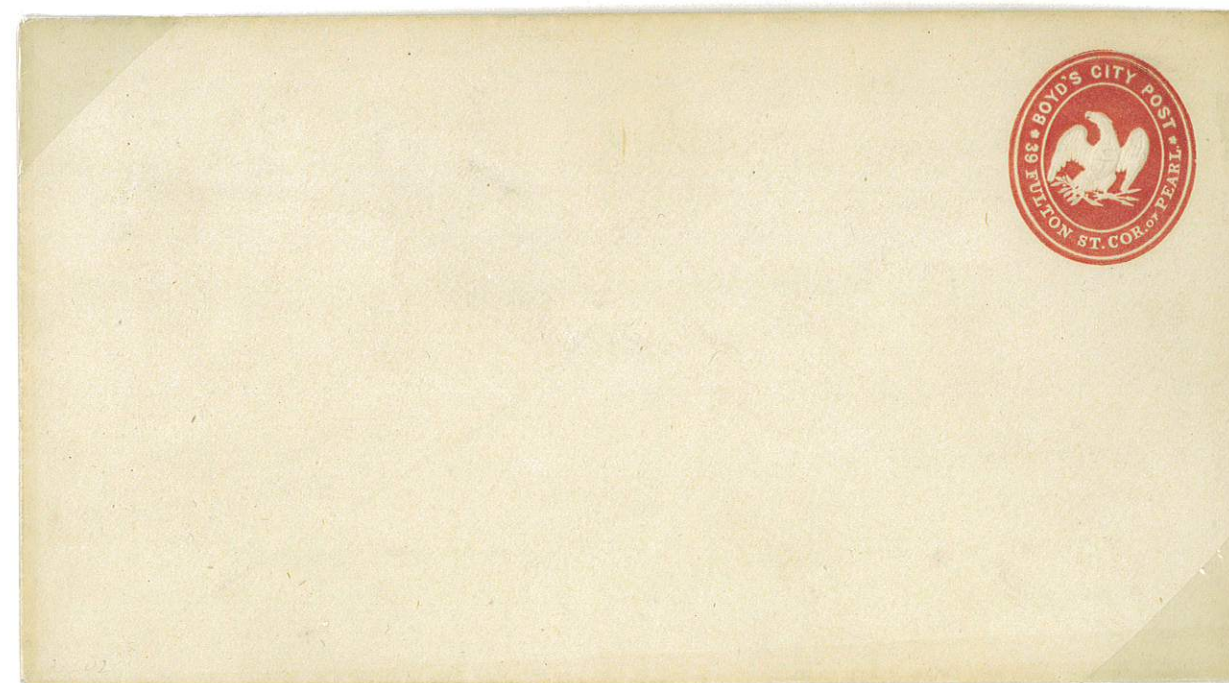
FIRST POSTAL STATIONERY

1864 "Eagle" Design on Laid Paper

Stamped envelopes were first issued in early 1864. The design featured an eagle with wings spread. They were embossed in red and blue on various colors of envelopes and showed no value.



Red on off-white diagonally laid paper.



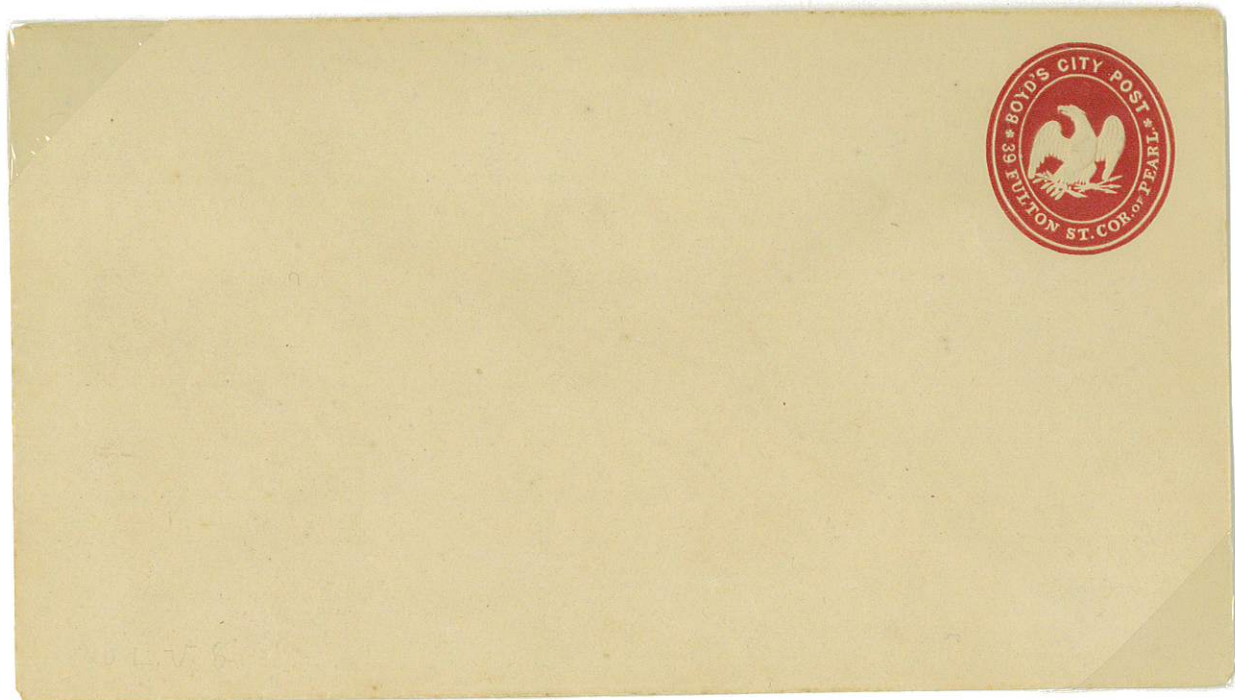
Red on amber diagonally laid paper.

The Scott U. S. Specialized Catalog lists 12 varieties of these envelopes, seven on laid and five on wove papers. Students of the area have only been able to vouch for the authenticity of six, four in blue and two in red. This situation is complicated by the fact that in the 1870's the master die came into the possession of J. Walter Scott who made reprint cut squares from the die. Later in the 1880's the die was used to make envelopes. If this is true, the reason for doing so is obscure. Very few entire envelopes are known and corners cut from envelopes are seldom found. If made to sell to collectors large quantities would have to have been produced.¹

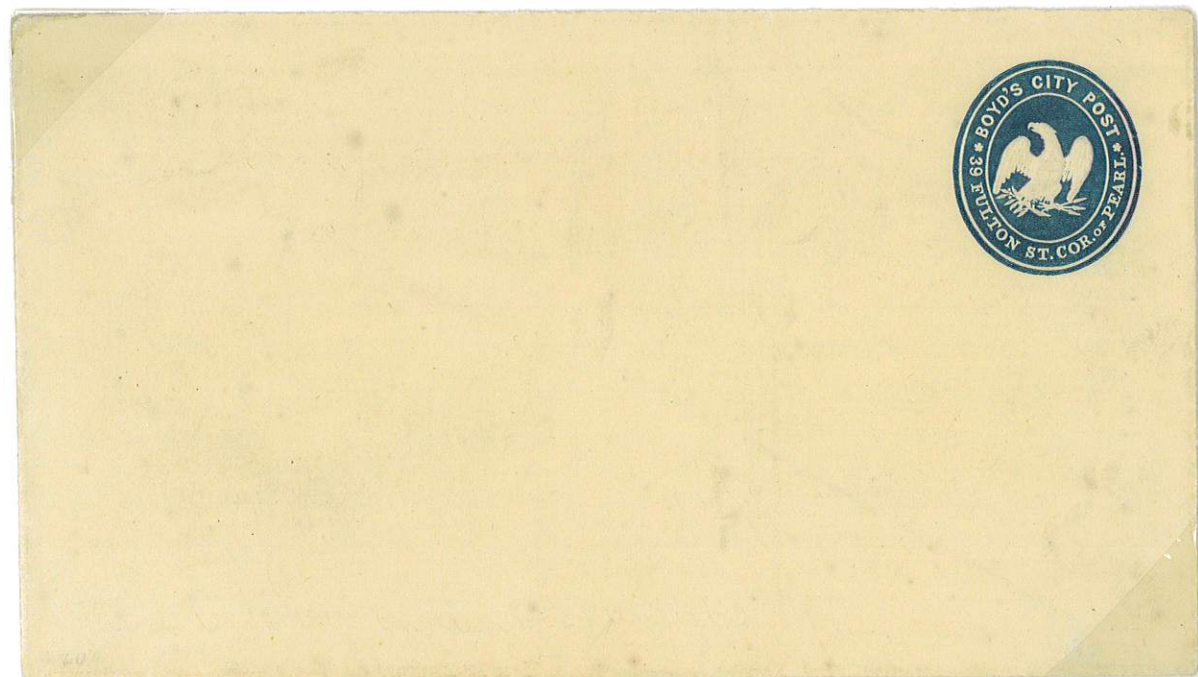
1. "The Private Local Posts of the United States, Vol. I, New York State" by Donald S. Patton, pgs.93-94.

FIRST POSTAL STATIONERY

1864 "Eagle" Design on Wove Paper



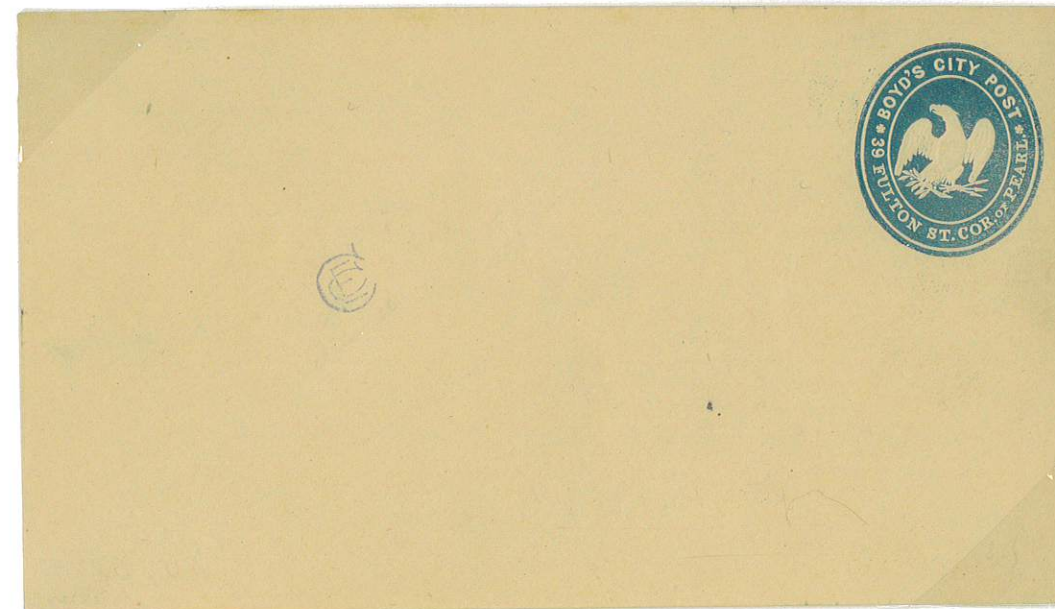
Red on cream wove paper.



Blue on amber wove paper.

FIRST POSTAL STATIONERY

1864 "Eagle" Design on Laid Paper



Light blue on amber diagonally laid paper.



Blue on white diagonally laid paper.

1867 POSTAL STATIONERY

1867 Envelopes
Essays, paper colors and types

The second series of envelopes were issued in 1867 and went through numerous printings. They were printed in various sizes on both laid and wove papers and in five colors varying from white to yellow and blue. The stamps are typographed in varying shades of red from dark to pink.

ESSAYS?



Described by Patton as being forgeries, these embossed designs from the G. B. Sloane archives were considered by him and others to be essays.

ISSUED PAPER COLORS AND TYPES



White laid paper



Amber laid paper



Pink shade on amber



Cream laid paper



Yellow laid paper



Orange laid paper



Blue wove paper

Research has shown that two dies were used in printing these envelopes, not two "states" of the same die as discussed in Patton's work and in Scott's U. S. Specialized Catalog.¹

1. "Two Boyd's Forgeries in the Scott Catalog", John D. Bowman, *The Penny Post*, Vol. 6 No. 4

1867 POSTAL STATIONERY

1867 Envelopes Laid papers



White diagonally laid paper

Amber diagonally
laid paper



Amber horizontally
laid paper



The horizontally laid papers are not listed in Patton or Scott.

1867 POSTAL STATIONERY

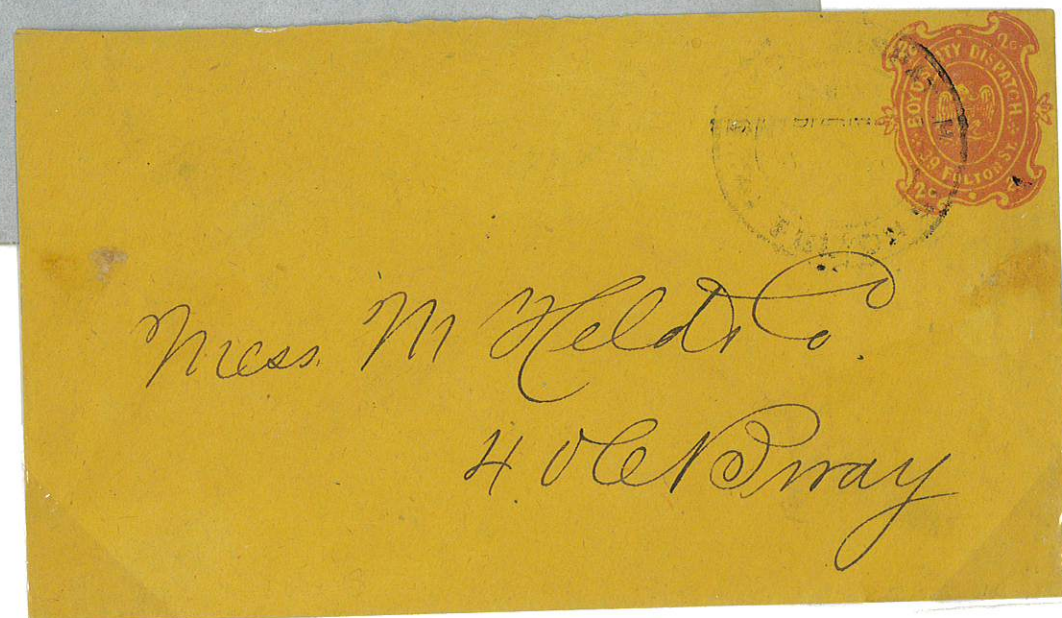
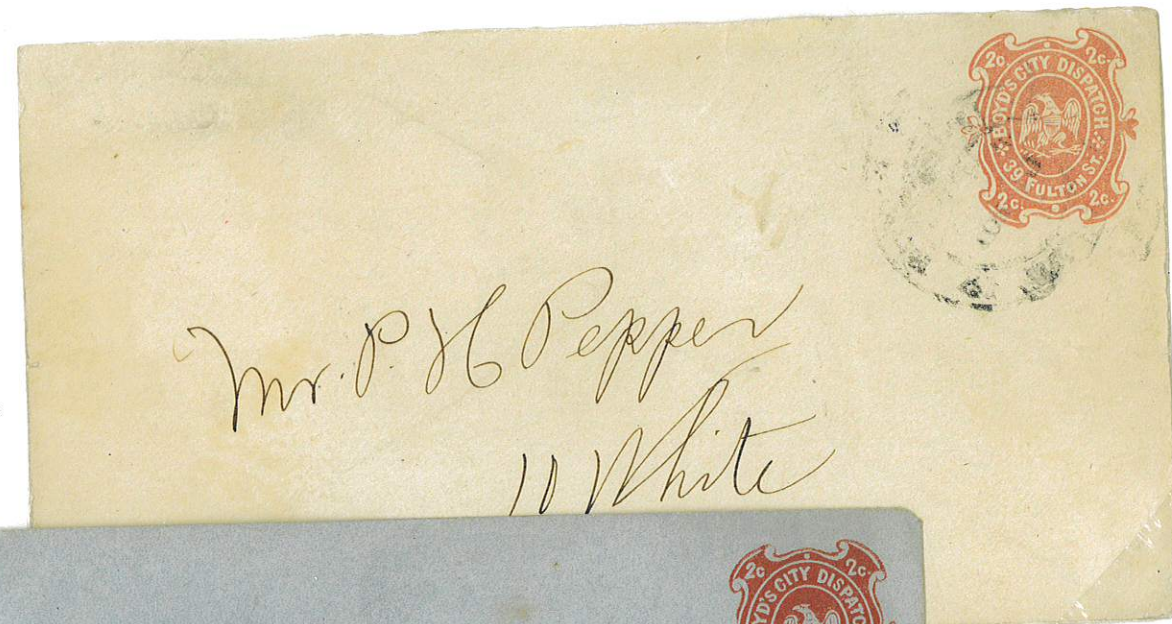
1867 Envelopes Wove papers

White wove

Cream wove

Blue wove

Orange wove



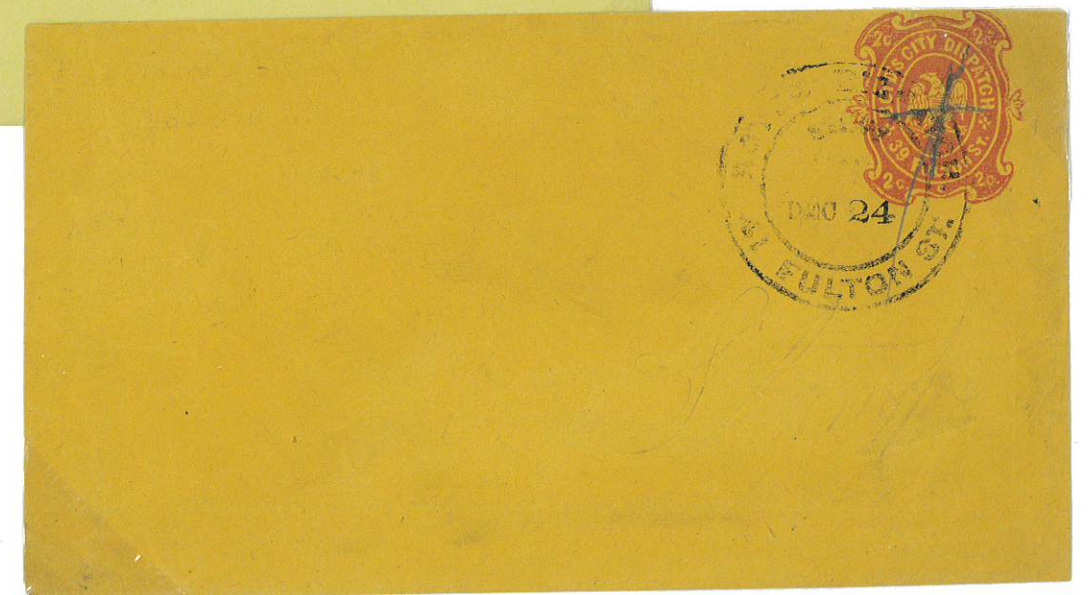
1867 POSTAL STATIONERY

1867 Envelopes Laid papers

Cream diagonally laid
paper

Yellow diagonally laid
paper

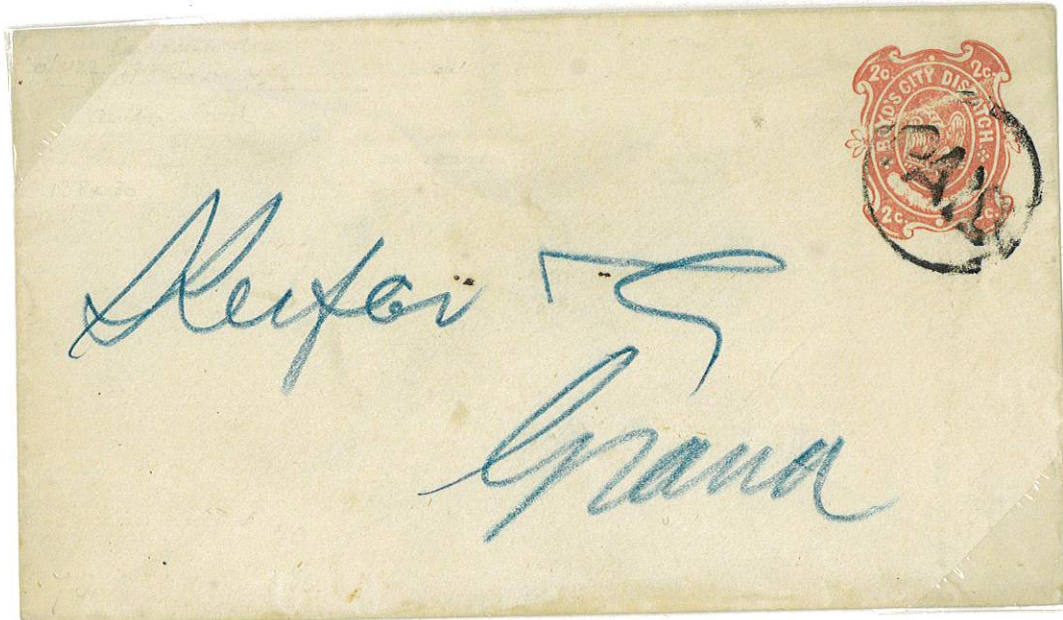
Orange diagonally laid
paper



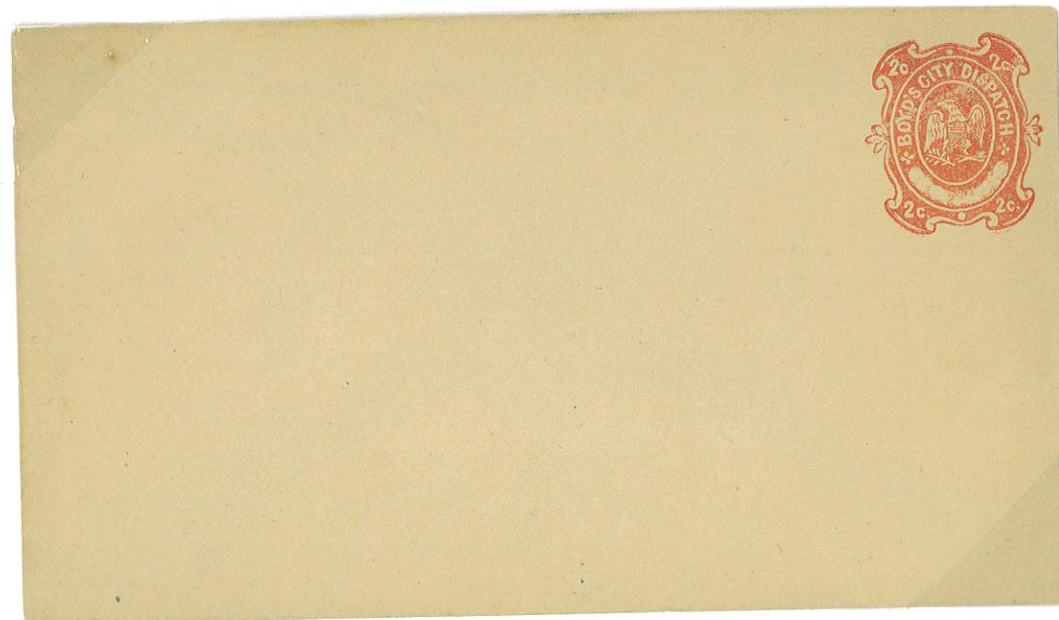
1874-75 POSTAL STATIONERY

Transition to new address

The address was also erased on the envelope dies. Envelopes printed in 1874 did not show a complete removal of the address.



2¢ Red on Amber laid paper.

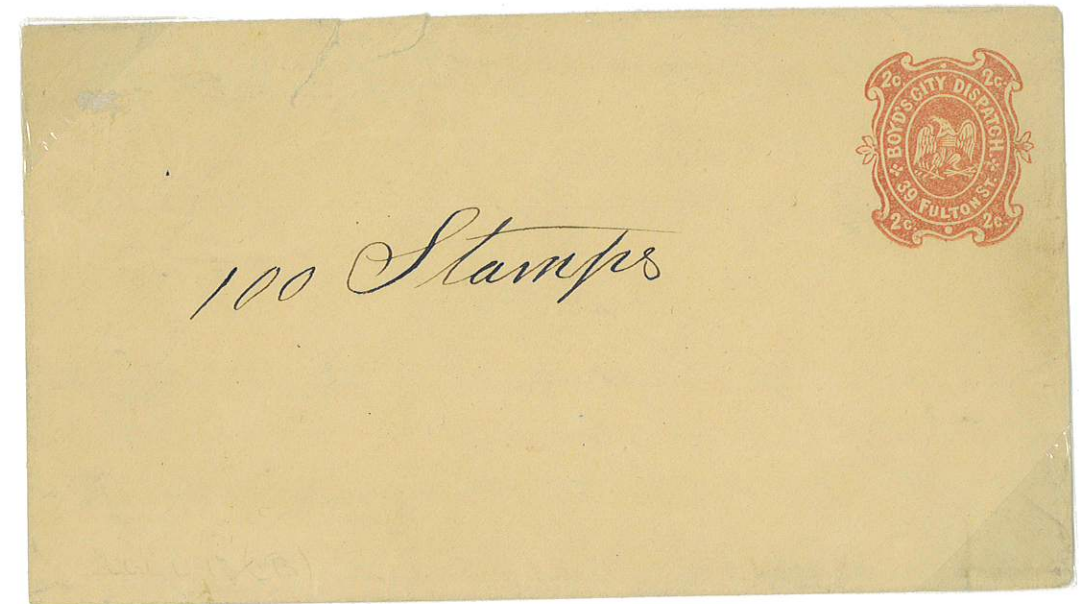


2¢ Red on Cream laid paper.

1867 POSTAL STATIONERY

1867 Envelopes for resale of stamps

A note in the G. B. Sloane reference collection states: "I have seen 1/2 dozen or more of these envelopes not addressed, with the words "100 Stamps" written on them. It is possible that this envelope because of its color, was not popular with their customers so Boyd's filled them with 100 stamps, which they delivered to clients." Sloane was referring to an orange paper envelope.

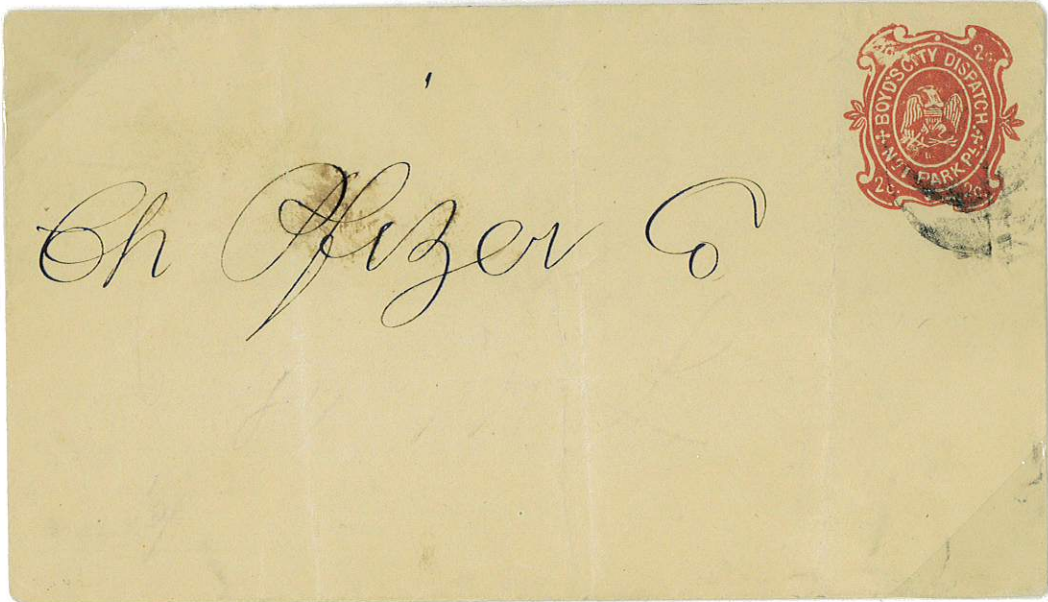


Cream colored diagonally laid paper.
"100 Stamps" notation.

1877-78 ENVELOPES

Address change
Rate Change

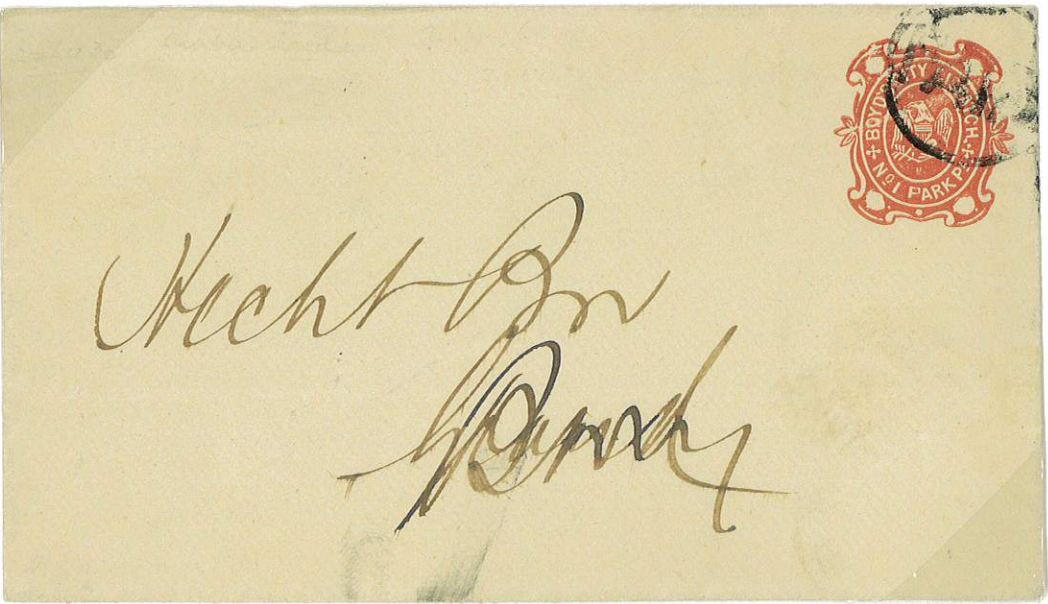
In 1877 the stamped envelope dies was changed to show the new address as "No. 1 Park Place".



Red on Amber laid paper.

Only one type of paper was used for these envelopes. The stamp is normally found in the upper left corner. They were short lived due to the impending rate change.

During 1878 the rate for circulars and similar matter was reduced from 2¢ to 1¢. The envelope die was modified by removing the values from the four corners of the design. They were in common use for several years and are seldom found with dated postmarks.



Red on Amber laid paper.

1874-75 POSTAL STATIONERY

Transition to new address

Envelopes produced in 1875 show a more complete removal of the address.



Amber laid

Cream laid

Cream laid



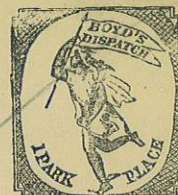
Amber wove

1878-79 MERCURY DESIGN ENVELOPES

Type IV - Design
Seldom found with postmarks.



Red on fawn
colored laid paper.



Black on cream
colored laid paper.

Mess Wm Cable Mfg. Co.
Fulton St
City



Red on amber colored
laid paper

20 L 044 IV
cream, laid
(almost
an amber)
1878-79

SPECIAL



Red on cream colored laid
paper.

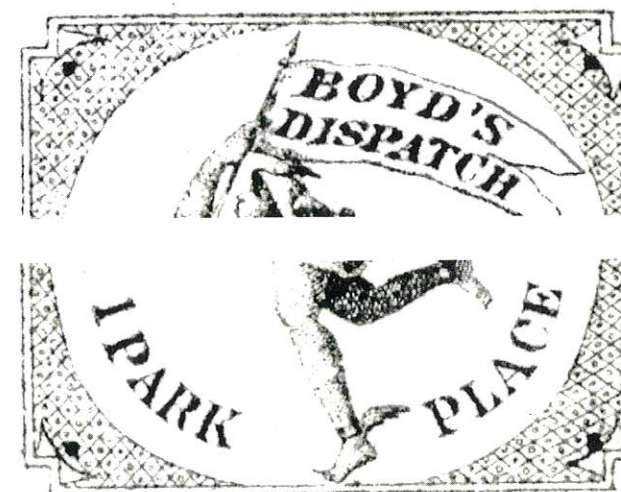
E. Faber
693 Broadway

1878-79 MERCURY DESIGN ENVELOPES

Type IV - Design

During 1878-79, Mercury designs were printed on various envelopes. The impressions were poor and often blurred. They were printed in black and later red on six different colors of paper.

Type IV



Type IV differs from Type I in that the shading lines in the banner are absent and there is no period after "DESPATCH". There is also a small short line extending from the large toe.



Mess Russell and Erwin Mfg. Co.
City

Black on amber colored wove paper.

There is an offset printing on the back and flap, showing that some, if not all, of these envelopes were folded before being printed.

1878-79 MERCURY DESIGN ENVELOPES

Type IV - Design

Red on orange colored
laid paper.



Red on white colored
wove paper.

April 8, 1880

CLINTON WIRE CLOTH CO.,
J. W. Bothem, Agent.
73 Fulton Street,
NEW YORK.



If not called for in ten days, please return to
HOLBROOK BROS.,
87 & 89 Beekman and 53 & 55 Cliff Sts.,
NEW YORK.



April 15, 1881

1882 MERCURY ENVELOPES

Type V Design

Type V.

Red on white or cream colored laid papers only.



The Type V design is similar to the Type II except that the framework surrounding the design consists of colorless cross hatching lines. There is no line extending from the toe. The overall appearance is better than the Type IV envelopes.

Vernon Bros. & Co.,
65 & 67 Duane St.,
NEW YORK, N. Y.



Mrs. Brien Love & Ritchie
218 Fulton St.
City

December 4, 1882

Red on white colored laid paper.

1882 MERCURY ENVELOPES

Type V - Size variations
"SPECIAL" Handstamp

Envelopes occur in two basic sizes, 150 x 85 mm, and 137 x 79 mm. Poor quality control resulted in variations of several millimeters.

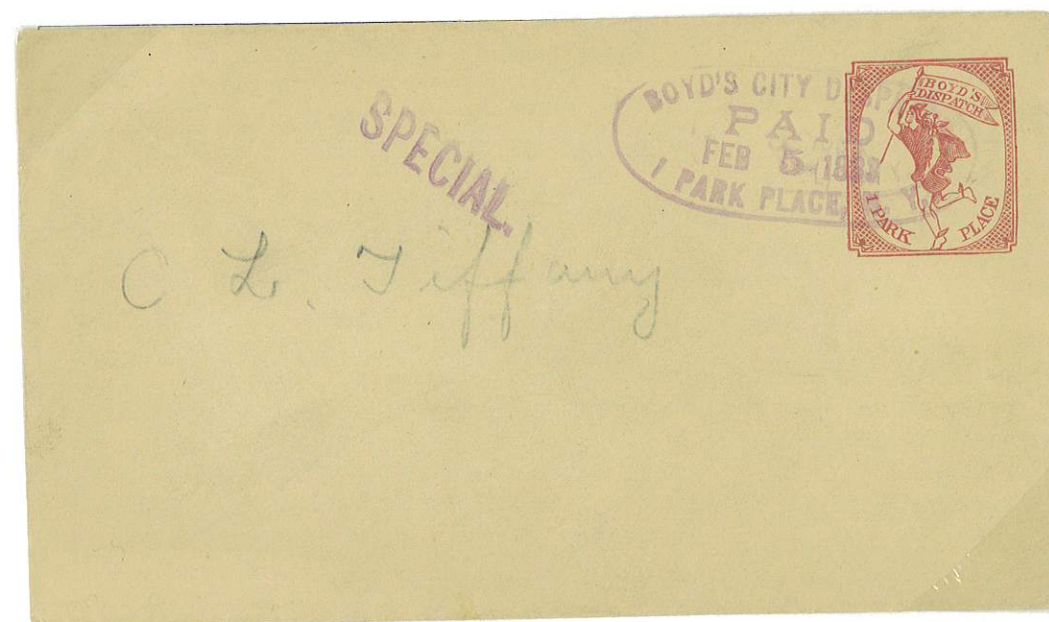
Red on cream
colored laid paper.

137 x 79 mm



Red on cream
colored laid paper.

152 x 88 mm



February 5, 1883

Red on cream colored laid paper.

The "SPECIAL" handstamp implies an additional service, however, there is no indication of any additional fees having been paid. It should be noted that Mr. Tiffany was a well known stamp collector of the period.