

### Sale 1005—Wednesday, March 2, 2011, at 1:30 p.m.

### The "New Amsterdam" Collection of City Despatch Post 1842-1852

Live auction to be held at Siegel Auction Galleries, 60 East 56th Street (Park/Madison), 4th Floor, New York City Lots are sold subject to a 15% buyer's premium and any applicable sales tax (or customs duty for non-U.S. buyers)



### Wednesday, March 2, at 1:30 p.m. (lots 201-317)

1842 Greig's City Despatch Postlots	201-213
1842-46 United States City Despatch Post	214-253
1846-47 Mead's Post Office City Despatch	254-259
1847 Cummings & Wright's Post Office City Despatch	260-267
1847-52 Cole's Post Office City Despatch	268-315
Post-1852 City Despatch Post	316-317

Pre-Sale Viewing—Monday, February 28, 10-4 and by appointment

Robert a. Siegel
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Nathaniel Estes Catalogue and Digital Production

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- **3) Phone Bidding:** Bidders can be connected to the sale by phone and bid through a member of staff. Requests for phone bidding are subject to approval (please contact our office at least 24 hours before the sale). A signed Bid Form is required.
- 4) Absentee Bids. All bids received in advance of the sale, either by mail, fax, phone, e-mail or internet, are Absentee Bids, which instruct the auctioneer to bid up to a specific amount on one or more lots in the sale. Absentee Bids sent by phone, fax or e-mail should arrive at least one hour prior to the start of the sale session. Bids entered through Live Internet Bidding will be visible to the auctioneer during the sale. Written bids should be entered legibly on the Bid Form in the sale catalogue. E-mail and internet bids should be carefully typed and double-checked. All new bidders must provide references. We recommend calling or e-mailing to confirm that Absentee Bids sent by mail, fax or e-mail have been received and entered.

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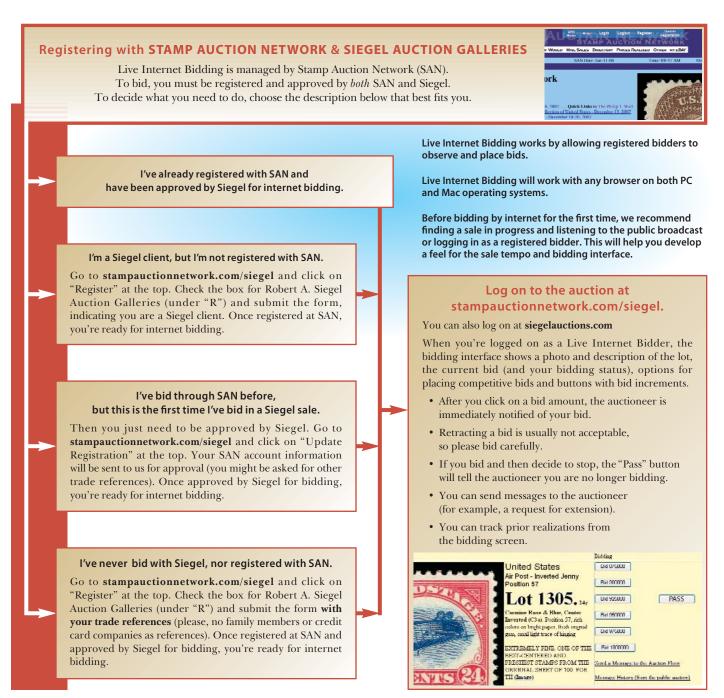
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SCOTT R. TREPEL, Principal Auctioneer

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Revised 10/2010

### **Grades, Abbreviations and Values Used in Descriptions**

#### **Grades and Centering**

Our descriptions contain detailed information and observations about each item's condition. We have also assigned grades to stamps and covers, which reflect our subjective assessment. For stamps, the margin width, centering and gum are described and graded according to generally-accepted standards (an approximate correlation to numeric grades is provided at right). Although we believe our grades are accurate, they are not always exactly aligned with third-party grading terms or standards for all issues. A lot may not be returned because a certification service grades a stamp lower than the grade stated in the description. Information from the P.S.E. Stamp Market Quarterly and P.S.E. Population Report<sup>5M</sup> is the most current available, but lots may not be returned due to errors or changes in statistics or data.

**Extremely Fine Gem (90-100):** The term "Gem" describes condition that is the finest possible for the issue. This term is equivalent to "Superb" used by grading services.

**Extremely Fine (80-90)**: Exceptionally large/wide margins or near perfect centering.

**Very Fine (70-85):** Normal-size margins for the issue and well-centered with the design a bit closer to one side. "Very Fine and choice" applies to stamps that have desirable traits such as rich color, sharp impression, freshness or clarity of cancel.

**Fine (60-70):** Smaller than usual margins or noticeably off center. Pre-1890 issues may have the design touched in places.

**Very Good (below 60):** Attractive appearance, but margins or perforations cut into the design.

#### **Guide to Gum Condition**

Gum Categories:	MINT N.H.	ORIGINAL GUM (O.G.)				NO GUM	
	Mint Never Hinged Free from any disturbance	Lightly Hinged Faint impression of a removed hinge over a small area	Hinge Mark or Remnant Prominent hinged spot with part or all of the hinge remaining	Part o.g. Approximately half or more of the gum intact	Small part o.g. Approximately less than half of the gum intact	No gum Only if issued with gum	
Catalogue Symbol:	**	*	*	* *		(★)	
PRE-1890 ISSUES		90 stamps in these co a premium over Sco		Scott Value for "O.G."		Scott "No Gum" Values thru No. 218	
1890-1935 ISSUES	Scott "Never Hinged" Values for Nos. 219-771	Scott Value for "O.G." (Actual value will be affected by the degree of hinging)		effects of humidi half of the gum.	inal Gum: Gum showing noticeable ity, climate or hinging over more than The significance of gum disturbance amp in any of the Original Gum		
1935 TO DATE	Scott Value for "Unused"	categories depe rarity and nor other variables issued in tropic gum disturbanc			nds on the degree of disturbance, the nal gum condition of the issue and affecting quality. For example, stamps al climates are expected to have some due to humidity, and such condition I a negative factor in pricing.		

#### Covers

Minor nicks, short edge tears, flap tears and slight reduction at one side are normal conditions for 19th century envelopes. Folded letters should be expected to have at least one file fold. Light cleaning of covers and small mends along the edges are accepted forms of conservation. Unusual covers may have a common stamp with a slight crease or tiny tear. These flaws exist in virtually all 19th century covers and are not always described. They are not grounds for return.

#### **Catalogue Values and Estimates**

Unless otherwise noted, the currently available *Scott Catalogue* values are quoted in dollars with a decimal point. Other catalogues are often used for foreign countries or specialized areas and are referred to by their common name: *Stanley Gibbons* (SG), *Dietz, American Air Mail Catalogue* (AAMC), *Michel, Zumstein, Facit*, etc. Estimates are indicated with an "E." and reflect our conservative valuation in dollars. Reserves will never exceed the low end of the estimate range; they will sometimes exceed Scott Catalogue value for stamps in Extremely Fine condition.

Because of certain pricing inconsistencies in the *Scott Catalogue*—for example, blocks that have no gum, the absence of premiums for Mint N.H. items, etc.—we cannot guarantee the accuracy of values quoted for multiples, specialized items and collection lots. We generally try to be conservative, but buyers may not return a lot because of a discrepancy in catalogue value due to Scott pricing inconsistencies.

#### Symbols and Abbreviations (see chart above for gum symbols)

$\blacksquare$	Block	E	Essay	pmk.	Postmark	No.	Scott Catalogue Number
$\boxtimes$	Cover	P	Proof	cds	Circular Datestamp	hs	Handstamp
FC	Fancy Cancel	TC	Trial Color Proof	var.	Variety	ms.	Manuscript



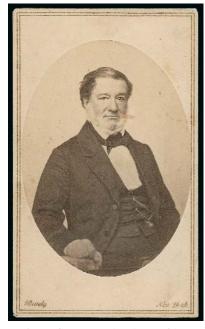
Complete sheet of 42 of Greig's 3c stamp (40L1), the first adhesive stamp issued in the Western Hemisphere. (204)

# THE "NEW AMSTERDAM" COLLECTION OF CITY DESPATCH POST 1842-1852

#### INTRODUCTION

THE CITY DESPATCH POST WAS ESTABLISHED IN New York City in February 1842. According to an account published in 1894 and provided by Charles Windsor, the post was founded by his father, Henry Thomas Windsor, a London merchant who at the tme was living in Hoboken, New Jersey. Inspired by Rowland Hill's postal reforms in Great Britain, Windsor and his friend, Alexander M. Greig, started operating the City Despatch Post during the first week of February 1842, in time for the busy Valentine season. Greig was advertised as the post's "agent," and his name is usually used alone by historians and philatelists when referring to the post's proprietor.

The City Despatch Post was operated as a private letter-carrying firm briefly from February to August 1842. During this time, it introduced significant conveniences and services, such as letter boxes placed throughout the city; three daily mail deliveries for three cents per letter (postage could be prepaid or collected from the addressee); the use of "Free" stamps, the first adhesive stamps issued in the Western Hemisphere (with a discount for bulk purchase); free service for newspaper editors; delivery of large parcels and registration of valuable letters.



Alexander M. Greig pictured in a contemporary carte-de-visite. (201EX)

In August 1842 Greig's City Despatch Post was acquired by the United States Post Office Department and re-established as a government carrier department on August 16. The U.S. City Despatch Post served New York City's population until November 1846, when its assets were sold to a letter carrier named Abraham Mead, who re-named it the Post Office City Despatch. Mead and his successors ran the local post from 1846 until it vanished in 1852.

Over the 10-year lifespan of the City Despatch Post, it produced a philatelic legacy of "firsts" and a treasure trove of fascinating artifacts. A large number of extraordinary City Despatch Post stamps and covers, including many of the finest and most important pieces, have been gathered together in the "New Amsterdam" collection.



Greig's 3c stamp (40L1) tied by "FREE" cancel on an embossed cover carried during the 1842 Valentine season. (211)

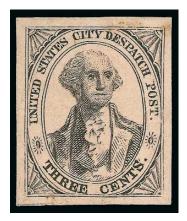


Greig's 3c Black on Grayish (40L1) on a letter carried to the post office and sent free by United States mail to the Simsbury Conn. postmaster. (212)

The 3-cent stamp issued by Greig's City Despatch Post in 1842 was the first adhesive stamp issued in the Western Hemisphere. It followed Great Britain's Penny Black and Two-Pence Blue by a mere 21 months and predated the U.S. 1845 Postmaster's Provisionals and 1847 General Issues by three and five years, respectively. The first City Despatch Post stamps were printed from a metal plate of 42 subjects. Five complete sheets of 42 survive, one of which is contained in the "New Amsterdam" collection (ex Caspary, Lilly, Boker, Klein, Golden and Gordon N. John). The stamp was used primarily on letters addressed within New York City limits, but in a few rare cases the stamp paid for delivery to the post office, from which point the letter entered the regular U.S. mail. One of these "to the mails" covers is shown above.

After the Post Office Department acquired the City Despatch Post in August 1842 and reestablished it as a carrier department, Greig's stamps were honored in payment of the carrier fee. Examples of Greig's stamp used for carrier service, as evidenced by the "U.S." markings, are listed in Scott as 6LB1. Only fifteen 6LB1 full covers are confirmed as genuine, two of which are present in the "New Amsterdam" collection (shown below).







The first U.S. City Despatch Post issues of 1842 on unsurfaced paper, 3c Black on Rose (6LB2) and 3c Black on Light Blue (6LB3). The extremely rare Rose stamp is only known in unused condition and is believed to be a trial printing. The unused pair of the Light Blue stamp is one of two recorded multiples, both unused pairs. (216 AND 218)

Shortly after the post was re-established as a government carrier department, stamps with the inscription "United States City Despatch Post" were printed from a new plate of 50 subjects (two panes of 25). Except for the wording, the old and new stamps were identical. The first printing from the new plate was made on unsurfaced colored paper (that is, paper without the enamel coating used for later printings). A few copies are known on Rose paper (6LB2), but all of these are unused and probably come from a trial printing (the collection contains two examples, one of which is shown above). The earliest used stamps from the new plate are on Light Blue unsurfaced paper (6LB3). The 6LB3 stamps are scarce in used condition and very rare unused. Only two multiples are recorded, both unused, one of which is contained in the "New Amsterdam" collection (shown above).

The 3c carrier stamp paid the 2c carrier fee and 1c drop-letter postage, which was required on intra-city mail. The stamp was used less frequently on letters carried to the post office for transmission to another office.





Block of twelve 3c Black on Blue Glazed Paper (6LB5b) with original gum, Positions 8-10/13-15/18-20/23-25L—the only recorded block of any U.S. City Despatch Post issue. (242)

The use of an enamel-coated paper ("glazed") for the U.S. City Despatch Post stamps evidently started at the end of 1842, based on covers dated in late November and early December of that year. With the exception of one recorded stamp on Pink glazed paper and a few unusual "Apple Green" shades, the coloring of the typical glazed paper progresses from Green to Bluish Green to Bright Blue. These are the most common of the various City Despatch Post issues, but multiples are rare, and the only recorded block of any kind is the original-gum block of twelve on Blue Glazed paper (6LB5), ex Hawkins, Caspary, Lilly, Hall and Gordon N. John, which is shown at left and now reposes in the "New Amsterdam" collection.

The U.S. City Despatch Post carrier department served a large and prospering New York City from 1842 until its discontinuance in 1846. Many covers date from this period of the post's operation, and the "New Amsterdam" collection contains a variety of attractive and unusual examples. Of particular interest are the covers carried to the post office and sent by mail to other offices. Two representative examples of "to the mails" carrier covers are shown below. A remarkable "from the mails" cover from France to New York City is shown on the opposite page.





U.S. City Despatch Post 3c used to pay carrier fee on a letter sent by mail from Paris, France, to Prime, Ward & King in New York City, who forwarded the letter to Mrs. Prime at 18 Bond Street. (240)



The 1845 postal reforms which created the new under and over-300 miles rates of 5c and 10c also increased the drop-letter rate from one to two cents (a drop letter is one that enters a post office, but is not transmitted to another office in order to reach the addressee). The U.S. City Despatch Post 3c rate included 2c for the carrier fee and 1c for the drop-letter postage. However, on July 1, 1845, the cost of a carrier letter rose to 4c. The higher rate made the U.S. City Despatch Post uncompetitive with local posts such as Boyd's, and by November 1846 it was no longer considered viable, causing the New York City postmaster to close it down and sell off the assets and good will.

The July 1845 postal reforms created a new 5c and 10c rate structure for inter-city mail and raised the drop-letter rate from 1c to 2c. These changes led to the creation of the world's first overprinted stamp, the "2" cents on 3c U.S. City Despatch Post (6LB7), of which four examples are recorded. After July 1, 1845, U.S. City Despatch Post covers sent by mail to other cities have rate markings indicating 5c or 10c postage. The cover at right was sent to Tallahassee, Florida. (252 AND 253)



The second period of private ownership of the City Despatch Post began on November 30, 1846, and continued until its unceremonious demise in 1852. The first proprietor of the post was a former letter carrier government Abraham B. Mead, who advertised the reconstituted business as the Post Office City Despatch. Mead acquired the old Greig plate of 42 and had it reworked by Rawdon, Wright & Hatch, a New York engraving and printing firm. RW&H burnished out the word "THREE" from each subject and reengraved "TWO" in its place, creating a 2c stamp that conformed to the local post rate of 2c per letter (the drop-letter postage was not mandatory on mail carried by private firms). Mead's new stamps were printed on brilliant Green Glazed paper and delivered by RW&H in early December 1846.

Mead stayed involved for the 1847 Valentine season and then sold out by March 1847. An example of a beautiful Valentine carried by the Post Office City Despatch under Mead's ownership is



Mead's 2c Black on Green Glazed stamp (40L2) from the modified Greig plate, used on a Valentine cover during the February 1847 Valentine season when Mead still operated the Post Office City Despatch local post. (256)

shown at right. The new owners were two experienced letter carriers named Alfred H. Cummings and Robert Wright. They continued to operate the post without interruption and sold the Green stamps. Cummings & Wright also used the Greig/Mead modified 2c plate to print more stamps on Pink Glazed paper, and they accepted their own Cummings City Post stamps for prepayment of the Post Office City Despatch rate.



Examples of Mead's 2c Black on Green stamp (40L2) used after the Post Office City Despatch was taken over by Alfred H. Cummings and Robert Wright. The letter at top, which originated in Scotland, has the double strike of "Free" cancel, a postmarking pattern seen only after the Cummings & Wright takeover. The stamp at right has the manuscript "Cummings & Wright" overprint. The Cummings adhesive (55L3) is used on cover with Post Office City Despatch markings. (260, 261 AND 264)





The rare 2c Black on Pink Glazed (40L3) was printed in 1847 sometime during the Cummings & Wright ownership of the Post Office City Despatch. The finest recorded example is on the cover shown at left (detail of stamp superimposed). The use of black ink for the "Free" cancel might indicate transfer of ownership to Charles Cole in October-November 1847. (265 AND 266)

The transfer of ownership of the Post Office City Despatch from Cummings & Wright to a man named Charles Cole probably occurred sometime in October or November 1847, the point when black ink for the "Free" cancel comes into use. Examples of the rare Pink Glazed stamp (40L3) cancelled in black are featured in the collection and shown above.

Charles Cole made a third major modication to the Greig/Mead plate. Still working with the same piece of metal that started life in 1842 and had served three prior owners (Greig, Mead and Cummings & Wright), Cole had his initials "CC" incised into each of the 42 subjects. The modified "CC" plate was then used to print stamps on four kinds of paper: an unsurfaced Grayish White paper (40L5), and glazed paper in Green (40L4), Vermilion (40L6) and Buff (40L8). The "CC" stamps were issued and used from January 1848 through early 1852.

The "New Amsterdam" collection is the largest holding of these scarce to rare issues ever formed. It could only have been achieved after the dispersal of the Boker, Middendorf, Kapiloff, Schwartz, Golden, Hall and Kuphal collections, since virtually all known examples were tied up in those collections for decades. The "New Amsterdam" collection was used as the basis for the successful plate reconstruction documented in *The City Despatch Post 1842-1852 Issues: A Study of America's First and Most Versatile Stamp-Producing Plate* (Scott R. Trepel, Siegel Auction Galleries, 2003).







The second modification of the original Greig plate was made no later than January 1848 by Charles Cole, who had his initials "CC" punched or hand-etched into each of the 42 subjects. The "CC" stamps were printed on Green Glazed, Grayish (Unsurfaced), Vermilion Glazed and Buff Glazed papers from 1848 to 1852. (269, 285, 302)



Two of the finest known covers with the "CC" on Grayish stamp (40L5) are shown above and illustrate an interesting conflict between the Post Office City Despatch and the New York Post Office. The August 26 (1848) cover at top is a "to the mails" use of the post with the company's "Paid" handstamp crossed out by the New York Post Office, because the 5c U.S. postage was not prepaid. The stamp on the locally-addressed cover dated September 2 (1848) is tied by the "Paid" cancel. Beginning in September 1848, the Post Office City Despatch stopped using the "Paid" handstamp on mail brought to the post office, probably by order of the New York postmaster, who may have received complaints about the word "Paid" appearing on letters which had no prepaid U.S. postage. From September 1848 on, only city-delivery covers have the "Paid" handstamp, as the covers shown above and below demonstrate.



2c "CC" on Vermilion (40L6) on an October 1848 folded letter to New York Postmaster Robert H. Morris, regarding two lost letters to Scotland which contained money (307).







Some of the "CC" stamps (only on Grayish paper) were initialled with the letter "C" in two different styles (simple and elaborate, shown at left). Nine examples of the Manuscript "C" stamp are recorded on covers, including the cover shown above, which is addressed to City Hall and has the large Cole double-circle datestamp. (ALL 293, 294, 295)

An interesting feature of the Cole "CC" stamps is the presence of a manuscript "C" initial on some copies of the Grayish 40L5 and its plate varieties. The initial is not found on any of the stamps on colored glazed paper, although use of the initialled stamps overlaps with glazed-paper stamp use. The

initial "C" was apparently intended to serve as a control mark, since it was applied to the stamps before sale and use. Two varieties exist: a small simple "C" written at the bottom of the stamp between "Two" and "Cents", and a larger more elaborate "C" written on the center of the stamp. Examples of either control mark are rare. The "New Amsterdam" collection contains four of the nine recorded covers, in addition to unused and used examples.

Starting in mid to late 1849, the Post Office City Despatch apparently underwent further management or operational changes, based on the return of postmarking patterns from the Cummings & Wright era and the exclusive use of manuscript cancellations on letters carried to the mails. Based on the surviving covers, it appears as if the post was split into two operations. It also seems that an eighteen-month hiatus in service occurred between June 1850 and late 1851. When the post reactivated—in late 1851 or early 1852—it was apparently a



mere shell of its former self. The January 1852 cover (ex Knapp and Hall, shown at left) with the finest known example of the "CC" stamp on Buff (40L8) is one of the few pieces of evidence extant proving that the post was still functioning in 1852.

The finest known example of the 2c Black on Buff Glazed, "CC" (40L8) on or off cover, used on a January 1852 letter to Philadelphia. (313)







Seven different positions along the perimeter of the plate show the Hand-Etched "C" at Left variety, which apparently was created when an effort was made to inscribe the letter "C" on the metal plate with an etching tool. Examples of the Hand-Etched "C" at Left variety are rare on any of the four papers, but the Vermilion and Buff papers are the rarest. (299, 311, 315)

The modification of the Greig/Mead plate by Cole was an exercise in amateur engraving. While Mead had Rawdon, Wright & Hatch rework the plate and print his stamps, Cole undoubtedly sought a cheaper method to put his "CC" initials on each stamp. The result was an aesthetic failure, but it was also the source of an array of varieties for future philatelists.

The first effort to put the "CC" initials on the plate was a failed attempt to inscribe the letters into the metal using a hand-etching tool. The letter "C" was etched once in each of seven positions around the perimeter of the plate with very poor results. Based on its crooked appearance, the Scott Catalogue lists the Hand-Etched "C" at Left positions as the "'C' at Left Sideways" variety on the four different papers (40L4b, 40L5b, 40L6b and 40L8b). All of them are rare, with the Vermilion and Buff papers qualifying as extremely rare. The "New Amsterdam" collection contains the largest number of the Hand-Etched "C" at Left stamps ever assembled in one collection.

Another major rarity to come from the modified Cole plate is the so-called "Inverted 'C' at Right," which was produced by Position 36, the last stamp at right in the sixth row. The right-hand "C" is actually not inverted, but is a mirror image from a right-reading engraved letter on the plate. In this one place, a different "C" letter punch instrument was used, which had the wrong orientation. Two examples are in the "New Amsterdam" collection: one on Green (40L4a) and another on Buff (40L8a).





One position on the plate (Position 36) furnished the so-called "Inverted C at Right" variety. In fact, the "C" was punched with a different tool that created a right-reading engraved "C" on the plate, which in turn printed a mirror-image "C" on the stamp. Very few examples of this variety are recorded, including the two shown above on Green and Buff papers (40L4a and 40L8a). (277 AND 314)



Examples of the Hand-Etched "C" at Left variety on covers carried to the post office: Green (40L4b) to Portchester N.Y.; Grayish (40L5b) to New Haven Conn.; and Vermilion (40L6b) to Farmington Me. (280, 300, 312)



Hand-Etched "C" at Left variety on Green paper (40L4b) used on June 27, 1850, folded letter to Germany. This is the only recorded Post Office City Despatch cover addressed to a foreign country. (282)



Big Pupil plate variety on Green paper (40L4) used on December 12, 1849, cover to Springfield Mass. When the "CC" initials were punched into the plate, Positions 5 and 6 were retouched by enlarging Washington's eye, creating the peculiar Big Pupil variety. Very few examples are recorded. (275)

## AFTERNOON SESSION (LOTS 201-317) WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2011, AT 1:30 P.M.

# THE "NEW AMSTERDAM" COLLECTION OF CITY DESPATCH POST 1842-1852

#### GREIG'S CITY DESPATCH POST—FEBRUARY-AUGUST 1842

Carte-de-Visite and Official Correspondence of Alexander M. Greig, Superintendent of the U.S. City Despatch Post. Four items of historical significance: 1) Carte-de-visite with three-quarter half-length portrait photograph of Alexander M. Greig with Matthew Brady imprint on front and back; 2) Letter on New York Post Office stationery dated Nov. 26, 1844, from Postmaster John Lorimer Graham to Alexander M. Greig acknowledging receipt of letter dated Nov. 25 tendering Greig's resignation as superintendent of the U.S. City Despatch Post, "in consequence of having determined to make Cuba your future residence", 3) Letter datelined "New York Nov. 30th, 1844" to "Alexander M. Gregg" (note phonetic spelling of last name), which states in part, "The undersigned, carriers in the 'Despatch' department of the New York Post Office, have learned, with regret, your determination to leave the service for foreign parts. They have, almost all of them, been connected with the Department since its formation, under You as their Chief, and they are not willing that the conexion should be severed without conveying to you their earnest sense of your uniform kindness, friendship, and faithful discharge of duty, towards them and the Government, whose servants they are.", signed by fifteen letter carriers; and 4) Letter datelined "Brooklyn 2nd December 1844" from Greig "To the Carriers of the U.S. City Despatch Post", acknowledging with gratitude their Nov. 30th letter, the cross-outs, corrections and the fact that this letter is with the others suggest that it is Greig's retained draft; an outstanding group, we are unaware of any other examples of Greig's photograph or similar correspondence......(Photo Ex) E. 750-1,000

201



201EX

City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., Collateral Items. Three: 1) proof of full-length standing portrait of Washington (the head portion was used on the City Despatch Post stamp); 2) Aug. 1, 1842 printed notice from 1st Asst. PMG Hobbie to New York Postmaster J. L. Graham authorizing establishment of U.S. City Despatch Post; and 3) Sep. 1842 circular from Graham notifying public that "Free" stamps must be affixed to all to-themails" letters deposited at stations, interesting and exhibitable collateral lot............Not illustrated E. 200-300



203



204

204 ★⊞ (Greig's) City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Grayish (40L1). Complete sheet of 42, original gum, some very minor paper adherence along right, large margins except frameline just touched at upper right, very fresh, sound except for a small sealed tear between stamps at upper left (Positions 7 and 13), a couple of stamps lightly soiled

EXTREMELY FINE. ONE OF FIVE RECORDED COMPLETE SHEETS OF THE 1842 3-CENT CITY DESPATCH POST STAMP — THE FIRST ADHESIVE STAMP ISSUED IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE. AN IMPORTANT AND WELL-PEDIGREED ARTIFACT OF AMERICAN POSTAL HISTORY.

This sheet was printed from the plate of 42 subjects that produced the first adhesive stamps issued in the Western hemisphere. The same plate was modified in 1846 by changing the denomination from "Three" to "Two" cents (under Abraham Mead's ownership) and again in late 1847 or early 1848 by letter-punching (or etching) the initials "CC" on each subject (under Charles Cole's ownership). No other single plate in American philately is believed to have produced such an unusual variety of stamps over such a long period (see *The City Despatch Post 1842-1852 Issues: A Study of America's First and Most Versatile Stamp-Producing Plate*, Scott R. Trepel).

Our records show five complete sheets of the City Despatch Post stamp issued by Alexander M. Greig in 1842. These are 1) the sheet offered here, ex Caspary, Lilly, Boker, Klein, Golden and Gordon N. John (Siegel Sale 868, lot 2001, realized \$26,000 hammer); 2) ex Middendorf; 3) ex Kapiloff, sold in our 1995 Rarities sale (lot 339, realized \$30,000 hammer); 4) ex Norvin Green; and 5) illustrated in Perry's 100 Years Ago, ex Ackerman and Hall (Siegel Sale 830, realized \$25,000 hammer).

Ex Caspary, Lilly, Boker, Klein, Golden and Gordon N. John. Scott Retail \$27,500.00 ...... E. 25,000-35,000



205

205 ★⊞ (Greig's) City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Grayish (40L1). Positions 1-4/7-10, top left corner sheet margin block of eight, original gum, large margins all around, fresh and bright, negligible corner crease in sheet margin at extreme top left

EXTREMELY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING ORIGINAL-GUM SHEET-MARGIN BLOCK OF EIGHT OF GREIG'S CITY DESPATCH POST ISSUE — THE FIRST ADHESIVE STAMP ISSUED IN THE WESTERN HEMISHPERE.



206



207



208



209

209 ★ (Greig's) City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Grayish (40L1).
Positions 19-20, horizontal pair with left sheet margin, original gum, large margins all around, Very Fine-Extremely Fine, with 1993 P.F. certificate .. 850.00

210 (Greig's) City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Grayish (40L1). Position 42 from the bottom right corner of the sheet, huge margins, clear strike of red "Free" in frame cancel, Extremely Fine, a superb used example of this historic issue. 275.00







211 with enclosure

211 ⋈ (Greig's) City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Grayish (40L1). Position 18, large margins, tied by red "Free" in frame on embossed Valentine cover to local addressee, with original enclosure, stamp has faint gum toning

VERY FINE. A SPECTACULAR VALENTINE COVER WITH GREIG'S CITY DESPATCH POST STAMP TIED. THIS IS THE FIRST ADHESIVE STAMP ISSUED IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

Ex Caspary, Middendorf and Geisler. With 2009 P.F. certificate. Scott Retail \$2,500.00 without premium for Valentine usage ...... E. 1,500-2,000



212

212 ⋈ (Greig's) City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Grayish (40L1). Position 34, large margins, tied by manuscript "X" cancel on 1842 folded letter addressed in blue to the Postmaster of Simsbury Conn., red "New-York Apl 21" circular datestamp, manuscript "f" for free delivery to a postmaster

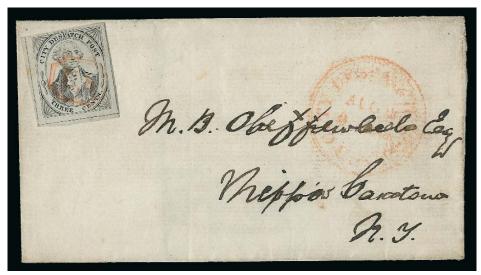
EXTREMELY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE USE OF THE CITY DESPATCH POST ISSUE ON AN OUTBOUND LETTER. THIS IS THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE USED ON "FREE" MAIL TO A POSTMASTER IN ANOTHER CITY.

This rare cover dates from the two-month period (April-May 1842) when letters carried by the City Despatch Post to the mails for delivery outside the city were cancelled in manuscript and received no local post markings. Very few examples of the City Despatch Post stamp are known on covers to other cities. This example has the added feature of the postmaster's franking privilege.

Ex Caspary and Meroni. With 2005 P.F. certificate ...... E. 2,000-3,000



# UNITED STATES CITY DESPATCH POST CARRIER DEPARTMENT AUGUST 16, 1842-NOVEMBER 28, 1846



214

U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Grayish (6LB1). Position 17, three huge margins showing surrounding dividing lines, ample at top, cancelled by orange-red "U.S." in frame cancel, matching "U.S. City Despatch Post Aug. 20, 9 O'Clock" (1842) Type I double-line circular datestamp on small folded cover to local addressee (name and address altered in manuscript many years ago), one side panel missing

AN EXTREMELY RARE EXAMPLE OF GREIG'S 3-CENT STAMP USED FOR UNITED STATES CITY DESPATCH POST CARRIER SERVICE. ONLY NINETEEN 6LB1 COVERS/FRONTS ARE RECORDED IN LYONS CENSUS. THIS IS ONE OF FIVE RECORDED EXAMPLES DATED PRIOR TO THE SEPTEMBER 1842 FIRST "UNITED STATES CITY DESPATCH POST" ISSUE.

In August 1842 the privately-owned City Despatch Post was bought out and re-established as the carrier department of the New York City Post Office. Stamps sold by Greig for the City Despatch Post remained valid for prepayment of carrier fees and were used months after the buyout. In the period before U.S. City Despatch Post stamps were issued (August 16-31, 1842), the use of Greig's stamps has provisional status among collectors. By September 1842 Greig's stamps in public hands were accepted concurrently with the government carrier issues (6LB3 and 6LB5, primarily). The carrier stamp, 6LB1, can be distinguished from 40L1 only when cancelled with the "U.S."-designated cancel or postmark. Such examples are very rare, with 19 covers contained in the Lyons census, as well as ten off-cover stamps. Of the 19 6LB1 covers recorded by Lyons, only 15 are confirmed as genuine full covers (two are fronts or pieces, one is unconfirmed, and a fourth 6LB1 stamp is on an 1844 cover). There are five pre-Sep. 1 uses in the Lyons census, including one front only.



215

215 
U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Grayish (6LB1). Position 6 from upper right corner of sheet, tied by two strikes of orange-red "U.S." in frame cancel, matching "U.S. City Despatch Post Dec. 2 9 O'Clock" Type I double-line circular datestamp on folded invoice to local street address, trivial ink erosion spots in address, light fold at center

AN EXTREMELY FINE TIED EXAMPLE OF GREIG'S 3-CENT STAMP USED FOR UNITED STATES CITY DESPATCH POST CARRIER SERVICE. ONLY NINETEEN 6LB1 COVERS/FRONTS ARE RECORDED IN LYONS CENSUS, OF WHICH ONLY SEVEN FULL COVERS HAVE A POSTMARK OR CANCEL TYING THE STAMP.

In August 1842 the privately-owned City Despatch Post was bought out and re-established as the carrier department of the New York City Post Office. Stamps sold by Greig for the City Despatch Post remained valid for prepayment of carrier fees and were used months after the buyout. In the period before U.S. City Despatch Post stamps were issued (August 16-31, 1842), the use of Greig's stamps has provisional status among collectors. By September 1842 Greig's stamps in public hands were accepted concurrently with the government carrier issues (6LB3 and 6LB5, primarily). The carrier stamp, 6LB1, can be distinguished from 40L1 only when cancelled with the "U.S."-designated cancel or postmark. Such examples are very rare, with 19 covers contained in the Lyons census, as well as ten off-cover stamps. Of the 19 6LB1 covers recorded by Lyons, only 15 are confirmed as genuine full covers (two are fronts or pieces, one is unconfirmed, and a fourth 6LB1 stamp is on an 1844 cover). There are eight *tied* examples, including one large piece and seven covers.

#### FIRST ISSUE ON ROSY BUFF (UNSURFACED)



216

216 (\*\*) U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Rosy Buff Unsurfaced (6LB2). Position 21R, unused (no gum as always), large even margins, without any thins, beautiful impression on bright paper, certificate notes "tiny gum soiling in the margins at top right and bottom left" but this is of absolutely no significance

EXTREMELY FINE. THE FINEST OF THE APPROXIMATELY TEN KNOWN EXAMPLES OF THE 3-CENT ON ROSY BUFF PAPER.

We have tracked sales of the Rosy Buff paper for nearly 20 years, and this is the only example of this rare stamp we have encountered that is not thinned.

Ex Ferrary and Hall. "W.H.C." (Colson) backstamp. With 2001 P.F. certificate 2,500.00



217

#### FIRST ISSUE ON LIGHT BLUE (UNSURFACED)



218

218 (★) U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Light Blue Unsurfaced (6LB3). Positions 13-14R, horizontal pair, unused (no gum), full to large margins, tiny scissors cut at top between stamps, faint crease

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. ONE OF TWO RECORDED UNUSED PAIRS OF THE FIRST STAMP PRINTED AND ISSUED BY THE UNITED STATES POST OFFICE FOR THE NEW YORK CITY CARRIER DEPARTMENT.

The other recorded pair of 6LB3 (Pos. 4-5R) was last offered in our sale of the Kuphal collection (Sale 925, lot 1215), where it realized \$3,750 hammer. The Scott value was never changed to reflect that sale.

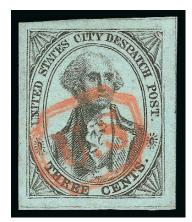
219 (★) U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Light Blue Unsurfaced (6LB3). Unused (no gum), three large margins, ample at bottom, Very Fine, the first issue on unsurfaced Light Blue paper is rare in unused condition, ex Golden, with 2000 P.F. certificate...... 550.00



219



220



221



222

222





224 ⋈ U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Light Blue Unsurfaced (6LB3). Large even margins, tied by orange-red "U.S. City Despatch Post Feb. 15, — O'Clock" Type I double-line circular datestamp on 1843 folded letter of condolence dated Feb. 14, 1843, to local street address, endorsed "P. Despatch Post"

EXTREMELY FINE. ONE OF THE FINEST COVERS KNOWN WITH THE UNITED STATES CITY DESPATCH POST FIRST ISSUE. EXAMPLES TIED BY THE CIRCULAR DATESTANMP ARE VERY RARE.

Ex Crocker, Mason, Duckworth and Golden. With 2000 P.F. certificate. Scott Retail \$2,000.00 .....

E. 2,000-3,000



225

225 
U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Light Blue Unsurfaced (6LB3). Large even margins including bottom sheet margin, cancelled by orange-red "U.S." in frame and tied by matching "U.S. City Despatch Post Oct. 26, 9 O'Clock" Type I double-line circular datestamp on Oct. 15, 1842 folded printed notice to local street address, vertical file fold clear of stamp

EXTREMELY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING AND RARE EXAMPLE OF THE UNITED STATES CITY DESPATCH POST FIRST ISSUE TIED BY THE CIRCULAR DATESTAMP ON COVER.

Ex Kapiloff and Golden. With 1984 P.F. certificate. Scott Retail \$2,000.00...... E. 1,500-2,000



226 ⋈ U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Light Blue Unsurfaced (6LB3). Large margins all around, tied by three strikes of orange-red "U.S." in frame, matching "U.S. City Despatch Post Nov. 5, 9 O'Clock" Type I double-line circular datestamp on 1842 folded letter, an unsigned love poem begging for forgiveness from a Miss Fulton, lightly cleaned, Extremely Fine, Scott Retail \$2,000.00......................... E. 1,000-1,500



227

227 

U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Light Blue Unsurfaced (6LB3).

Large margins, tied by two strikes of red "U.S. in frame, matching "U.S. City Despatch Post Nov. 24, 9 O'Clock" Type I double-line circular datestamp on 1842 folded letter to local street address, diagonal fold barely causes slight crease in corner of stamp, otherwise Very Fine, with 1994 A.P.S. certificate (does not mention crease), Scott Retail \$2,000.00 ...... E. 500-750



- 228 ⋈ U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Light Blue Unsurfaced (6LB3). Position 6L, large even margins including part of left sheet margin, orange-red "U.S." in frame cancel, matching "U.S. City Despatch Post Sep. 12, 1 O'Clock" Type I double-line circular datestamp on 1842 folded letter to local street address from a merchant stating his intention to declare bankruptcy, Extremely Fine Gem, a superb and early use of the scarce first printing on cover, ex Kapiloff, with 1991 P.F. certificate ..... E. 1,000-1,500
- 229 
  U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Light Blue Unsurfaced (6LB3). Large margins, cancelled by neat strike of orange-red "U.S." in frame, impression ties thru paper, matching "U.S. City Despatch Post Dec. 31, 4 O'Clock" Type I double-line circular datestamp on 1842 printed notice to local addressee, slight toning along horizontal file fold away from stamp, still Extremely Fine, a beautiful example of the scarce first issue on cover, with 1993 P.F. certificate................................ E. 500-750

#### GLAZED PAPER ISSUE



231



232

U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on "Apple Green" Glazed (6LB5d var). Position 6L, distinctive "Apple Green" shade of paper, large margins, red "U.S." in frame cancel, tiny pinhole in bottom center

EXTREMELY FINE APPEARANCE. AN EXTREMELY RARE SHADE VARIETY OF THE UNITED STATES CITY DESPATCH POST 3-CENT ON "APPLE GREEN" GLAZED PAPER.



233 ⋈ U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Green Glazed (6LB5d). Position 2R, large margins including part of top sheet margin, bold orange-red "U.S." in frame cancel, matching "U.S. City Despatch Post Aug. 31, 1 O'Clock" Type I double-line circular datestamp on small folded letter (ca. 1843), stamp has negligible corner crease in extreme top right margin, still Extremely Fine and rare use of the early Green Glazed paper, ex White, Knapp and Kapiloff, Scott Retail \$900.00 used off cover... E. 500-750



234



235 ⋈ U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Green Glazed (6LB5d). Large to huge margins, distinctive Moss Green paper shade, cancelled by red "U.S." in frame (impression ties thru paper), red "New-York Mar. 17" circular datestamp and blue ms. "12½" rate on folded letter to Philadelphia street address, datelined "768 Broadway, March 16th Thursday" (1843)

EXTREMELY FINE. A RARE USE OF THE UNITED STATES CITY DESPATCH POST 3-CENT GREEN ON INTER-CITY MAIL.

The shade of this stamp paper is a distinctive Moss Green, which was evidently used for an early printing on glazed paper. We have seen very few examples. This use of the early Moss Green on inter-city mail is exceedingly rare.

Ex Schwartz and Gordon N. John. Scott Retail \$900.00 used off cover... E. 1,500-2,000



236

U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Green Glazed (6LB5d). Distinctive Moss Green shade, large margins, slight creasing and cracks in enamel, tied by red "U.S." in frame cancel and "New-York Mar. 19" circular datestamp on 1844 folded letter to Canton, Illinois, ms. "25" rate unpaid, Very Fine, the Moss Green stamp is very scarce, this example on a letter to Illinois is extremely rare, ex Kapiloff and Gordon N. John, Scott Retail \$900.00 used off cover ................................... E. 750-1,000





238

U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Blue Green Glazed (6LB5). Ample to large margins, cancelled by red "U.S." in frame (impression ties thru paper), red "New-York Jun. 29" circular datestamp on folded letter to Stockbridge Mass., sender's note at top "Despatch Office June 29th Paid", the postal clerk was careful to cross out "Paid" and rate the letter "12½" due in blue, datelined "Saturday morning" (Jun. 29, 1844) and writer mentions sending letter to the "Despatch" office, Very Fine, scarce use on intercity letter, ex Abt and Golden, with 2000 P.F. certificate.................... E. 500-750



U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Blue Green Glazed (6LB5). Distinctive intermediate Green/Blue-Green shade, large even margins, left uncancelled by the carrier department and tied by red "New-York Jun. 2" circular datestamp with matching "Paid" arc on 1843 folded letter to Boston, blue ms. "18¾" prepaid rate, ms. notation next to stamp "Postage 19", interesting contents re business with China, stamp has a couple minute surface blemishes endemic to the issue

EXTREMELY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING COVER SHOWING USE OF THE UNITED STATES CITY DESPATCH POST 3-CENT ON MAIL TO ANOTHER CITY. A WONDERFUL ARTIFACT FROM THE BEGINNINGS OF ADHESIVE STAMP USAGE IN THE UNITED STATES.

This cover is remarkable not only for its quality, but for the fact that inter-city postage was fully prepaid and the stamp is tied by the post office datestamp.

Ex Kapiloff. With 1995 P.F. certificate..... E. 2,000-3,000



240

U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Blue Green Glazed (6LB5). Ample to large margins, bright and fresh, cancelled by red "U.S." in frame (impression ties thru paper), clear strike of matching "U.S. City Despatch Post Mar. 30, 1 O'Clock" Type II circular datestamp on folded letter originating in Paris, France, and forwarded by carrier within New York City, letter datelined "Paris, February 15th 1844" from Cornelia Ray (nee Prime) to her mother in care of the banking firm of Prime, Ward & King, red "Greene & Co. Paris" and "T. B. Green & C. Havre" oval handstamps on backflap, bold red "Bureau Maritime Havre 16 Fevr. 1844" double-circle datestamp and matching "P.P." (paid to port) framed handstamp, manuscript "6" private ship-letter rate crossed out, forwarding address reads "Lower Office 1/4 P. 9 AM 30 Mar 1844" and "No 18 Bond Street", immaculate condition

EXTREMELY FINE. A COLORFUL AND REMARKABLE FOLDED LETTER SENT FROM PARIS TO NEW YORK VIA HAVRE, THEN FORWARDED TO BOND STREET BY UNITED STATES CITY DESPATCH POST. THIS COVER ONLY RECENTLY CAME TO LIGHT.

Cornelia Ray was a member of the famous Prime family of New York, whose patriarch, Nathaniel, was the head of the preeminent banking firm, Prime, Ward & King. This letter was sent by Cornelia to her mother in February 1844, while she, her husband and their children were staying in Paris. Her letter mentions prior mailings by ships and expresses hope for an early departure of a "steamer." This letter was carried on a private vessel that sailed from Havre to New York. On arrival it was forwarded to 18 Bond Street by the U.S. City Despatch Post carrier at 1:00 p.m. on March 30.

With 2008 A.P.S. certificate...... E. 2,000-3,000



241

U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Blue Green Glazed (6LB5). Large even margins, bright and fresh, cancelled by red "U.S." in frame (impression ties thru paper), clear strike of matching "U.S. City Despatch Post Mar. 25, 1 O'Clock" Type II circular datestamp on folded letter originating in Paris, France, and forwarded by carrier within New York City, the lettersheet is complete but there must have been an additional internal sheet with dateline, written from Cornelia Ray (nee Prime) to her mother in care of the banking firm of Prime, Ward & King, red "Greene & Co. Paris" oval handstamp on backflap, carried under cover to New York, forwarding address reads "No 18 Bond Street", immaculate condition, stamp has tiny corner crease at top right

EXTREMELY FINE. A COLORFUL AND REMARKABLE FOLDED LETTER SENT UNDER COVER FROM PARIS TO NEW YORK, THEN FORWARDED TO BOND STREET BY UNITED STATES CITY DESPATCH POST. THIS COVER ONLY RECENTLY CAME TO LIGHT.

Cornelia Ray was a member of the famous Prime family of New York, whose patriarch, Nathaniel, was the head of the preeminent banking firm, Prime, Ward & King. This letter was sent by Cornelia to her mother in February 1844, while she, her husband and their children were staying in Paris. This letter was carried under cover on a vessel that sailed from France to New York. On arrival it was forwarded to 18 Bond Street by the U.S. City Despatch Post carrier at 1:00 p.m. on March 25.

With 2008 A.P.S. certificate...... E. 1,000-1,500



242

242 ★⊞ U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Blue Glazed (6LB5b). Positions 8-10/13-15/18-20/23-25L, block of twelve from the lower right corner of the left pane, original gum, full even margins except touched at lower left, beautiful impression on bright blue paper, four creases causing cracks in paper have been reinforced with hinges, small burn hole at lower right rebacked with paper, faint stain in two stamps at upper left

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. THIS REMARKABLE BLOCK OF TWELVE IS THE LARGEST RECORDED MULTIPLE AND ONLY KNOWN BLOCK OF THE UNITED STATES CITY DESPATCH POST CARRIER ISSUE. AN IMPORTANT ARTIFACT OF UNITED STATES PHILATELY.

The United States City Despatch Post government carrier issues are extremely rare in multiples, either used or unused. The largest multiples of 6LB3 (unsurfaced Light Blue paper) are two unused pairs. There are a few used strips of the glazed surface-colored shades (Blue Green, Green, Blue) — a strip of five being the largest — and in unused condition there is at least one pair, one strip of three and this block of twelve, which is the only block extant. Sometime after Ezra D. Cole acquired this block for Josiah K. Lilly at the 1957 Caspary sale, its margins were trimmed slightly, and a small hole was burned through the paper at lower right.

Ex Hawkins, Caspary, Lilly, Hall and Gordon N. John (realized \$21,000 hammer). Scott Retail \$23,000.00..... E. 20,000-30,000

243 ★ U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Blue Glazed (6LB5b). Positions 5/10/15R, vertical strip of three from the upper right corner of right pane, original gum, large margins to cut in at bottom, horizontal creases

THE SECOND LARGEST UNUSED MULTIPLE OF THE UNITED STATES CITY DESPATCH POST CARRIER STAMP.

As noted in the description of the unique block (lot 242), unused multiples of any of the U.S. City Despatch Post government carrier issues are rare. This strip is identical in shade and gum color to the block, and it possibly originated from the upper right corner of the same sheet (the block from the left pane, and the strip from the right pane).

Ex Ackerman, Hall and Gordon N. John. With 2004 P.F. certificate. Scott Retail \$2,500.00.... E. 750-1,000



243



244EX

U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Blue Glazed (6LB5b). Three, one with part original gum and slight creases, other two cancelled by red "U.S." in frame on small pieces, large margins, one on piece has faint scratch in enamel, otherwise Very Fine-Extremely Fine ..........(Photo Ex) 1,250.00



245 ⋈ **U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Blue Glazed (6LB5b).** Large margins, cancelled by red "U.S." in frame, matching "U.S. City Despatch Post Feb. 15, — O'Clock" Type II circular datestamp on small embossed Valentine cover to local street address, mended along bottom edge, some splits along embossing, otherwise Extremely Fine, illustrated in Perry's 100 Years Ago (p. 36), ex Walcott and Hall ....... E. 200-300



246

246 
U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Blue Glazed (6LB5b). Large margins, cancelled by red "U.S." in frame, matching "U.S. City Despatch Post Jan. 22, 9 O'Clock" Type II circular datestamp on 1845 folded letter to local street address, stamp has tiny corner crease at top left, otherwise Very Fine...... E. 200-300



U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Blue Glazed (6LB5b). Cancelled by red "U.S." in frame, matching "U.S. City Despatch Post Oct. 21, 4 O'Clock" Type II circular datestamp, used to forward inbound letter from Ohio, faint blue town datestamp, stamp affixed over crossed-out rate, file fold away from stamp, stamp with light corner crease at top right, otherwise Very Fine, with 1985 P.F. certificate, Scott Retail \$750.00 ..... E. 300-400



248



249 
U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 3c Black on Blue Glazed (6LB5). Large margins, cancelled by "U.S." in frame on folded cover to Charleston S.C., red "New-York Feb. 17" (1845) circular datestamp, blue manuscript "25" rate, part of back panels removed, otherwise Very Fine, with 1991 P.F. certificate...................... E. 300-400







252

#### "2" SURCHARGE



253

U.S. City Despatch Post, New York N.Y., 2c on 3c Black on Blue Green Glazed, Red Surcharge (6LB7). Large to huge margins, clear overprint and deep paper shade, vertical crease

EXTREMELY FINE APPEARANCE. ONE OF FOUR RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE WORLD'S FIRST GOVERNMENT-ISSUED OVERPRINTED STAMP. A MAJOR RARITY OF TREMENDOUS PHILATELIC SIGNIFICANCE AND APPEAL.

The world's first government-issued, overprinted stamp is the 2c on 3c U.S. City Despatch Post carrier issue, Scott 6LB7. It was overprinted in late 1845 or early 1846 to meet the need for a 2c stamp to prepay the carrier fee after the drop-letter rate was modified on July 1, 1845. Only four stamps are recorded, including three genuinely used on covers.

To understand why it was necessary to revalue U.S. City Despatch Post stamps from 3c to 2c, it is helpful to look at the effects of the July 1, 1845, postal reform (as per the Act of March 3, 1845). As is well-known to most U.S. stamp collectors, the July 1st reforms created the simplified 5c and 10c postage rates and laid the foundation for adhesive stamps to be used in this country. The postmasters' provisionals appeared first, followed in 1847 by the first General Issue (Scott 1 and 2). However, at the same time inter-city rates were lowered, Congress raised the drop-letter rate from 1c to 2c. A drop letter is one brought to a post office that is not transmitted to another post office. Congress raised the drop-letter rate out of fear that the new postage structure would cause a severe decline in postal revenues. By raising the intra-city rate, Congress hoped to offset some of the anticipated losses.

The consequences of this legislation for the U.S. City Despatch Post were immediate and dire. Prior to July 1, 1845, a drop letter could be taken by the carrier to or from the post office for 3c, which included 2c for the carrier department and 1c for the post office (drop postage). Beginning July 1, an extra cent was required for the drop postage, making the total amount equal to 4c. Although other classes of mail were unaffected by the drop-rate increase (including carrier letters that by-passed the main post office), the U.S. City Despatch found itself at a severe disadvantage competing with local posts, who generally charged 2c for a city letter. In the post-July 1 period, not only did Boyd flourish, but many smaller local posts entered the scene, hoping to capture a share of the market for intra-city letter delivery. By November 1846, the U.S. City Despatch Post was closed. Government carrier service would not appear again in New York City until 1849 under Robert Roberts' supervision.

The three recorded 6LB7 covers were mailed during the first eight months of the 2c drop-rate period. The covers are listed chronologically as follows: 1) Jan. 9, 1846 (red "New York 2 cts"), stamp cut in and tied by filing crease, addressee's name crossed out, no carrier markings, ex Ferrary, Hind, Waterhouse and Middendorf; 2) Feb. 14, 1846 (red "New-York 2 cts" and red carrier datestamp), stamp tied by filing crease, to Rev. R. S. Cook, Tract House, ex Hunter, Caspary, Boker, Golden and "D.K." (realized \$62,500 hammer); and 3) Mar. 2, 1846 (red carrier datestamp), stamp originally affixed on back over folds and torn in half upon opening, to W. A. Sesley, 213 Fulton St., no other markings, ex Caspary. This off-cover stamp was previously affixed to a cover dated Oct. 29 (1845 or 1846), but did not originate.

The rarity of the 2c on 3c stamp suggests that it was used on a very limited basis, during a period of decline for the U.S. City Despatch Post. By overlaying the "2" overprint on the "2" in the drop-rate datestamp, we have determined that they are identical in size and shape. The overprint was probably made from a modified integral-rate marker and struck by hand on each stamp.

Ex Grunin and Gordon N. John (Sale 868, lot 2045, realized \$15,500 hammer). With 1985 P.F. certificate...... E. 15,000-20,000

# POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH UNDER ABRAHAM B. MEAD NOVEMBER 30, 1846-MARCH 1847



254



255



256

256 ⋈ (Mead's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed (40L2). Position 8, full to large margins, couple tiny corner creases, red "Free" in frame cancel, impression ties thru paper, matching "P.O. City Despatch Post Feb. 15 — O'Clock" circular datestamp on silver and blue decorative Valentine cover to local street address, beautiful design on front and back, sealed with a small label (opened for display)

EXTREMELY FINE. ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL EXAMPLES OF MEAD'S 2-CENT GREEN STAMP ON COVER, USED IN FEBRUARY 1847, THE FIRST VALENTINE SEASON OF MEAD'S POST.

Abraham B. Mead, a New York City postal clerk, took control of the U.S. City Despatch Post carrier operation after it was discontinued. Mead announced the start of his "Post Office City Despatch" on November 30, 1846. Evidence indicates that Mead turned the post over to Alfred H. Cummings and Robert Wright, two New York City local post operators, as early as March 1847. Mead had the old City Despatch Post plate (used by Grieg to print 40L1) modified by changing "Three" to "Two" cents. Stamps were printed by Rawdon, Wright & Hatch on Green and Pink enameled paper.

Ex Kapiloff and Kuphal (Sale 925, lot 1227, realized \$5,750 hammer) ...... E. 3,000-4,000



# POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH UNDER CUMMINGS & WRIGHT MARCH-OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1847



260

(Cummings and Wright) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed, Manuscript "Cummings & Wright" Overprint (40L2 var). Mostly huge margins, ample at top, cancelled by part of red New York integral-rate circular datestamp, bold manuscript overprint, slightly thinned, horizontal crease at top

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. ONE OF TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF MEAD'S 2-CENT STAMP WITH THE CUMMINGS & WRIGHT OVERPRINT — THE ONLY ONE WITH THE NAMES FULLY SPELLED OUT. AN UNLISTED AND SIGNIFICANT ISSUE IN THE SEQUENCE OF OWNERSHIP OF THE CITY DESPATCH POST.

Abraham B. Mead took over the former U.S. City Despatch Post in November 1846 and had stamps printed from the altered plate ("Three" changed to "Two" cents) by Rawdon, Wright & Hatch on Dec. 5-6, 1846. About one year later (probably October-November 1847), Charles Cole acquired the post, and, by January 27, 1848, he issued stamps printed from the Mead plate with "CC" initials engraved or etched into each subject.

The existence of Mead stamps with the Cummings & Wright overprint was for many years the only available evidence suggesting that ownership of the City Despatch Post Office might have changed hands prior to the sale to Cole. Thomas C. Mazza, in his "Cummings' City Post Redux" *Collectors Club Philatelist* article (Sep.-Oct. 1995), revealed a new and documentary form of evidence: a receipt dated May 15, 1847, from the "P.O. City Despatch" signed "Cummings & Wright, Proprietors". Through the 1847-48 city directory, it has been established that Cummings was Alfred H. Cummings and Wright was Robert Wright, and that the two operated the Post Office City Despatch from 42½ Nassau Street. Covers are known that bear Cummings' City Post stamps in combination with the "P.O. City Despatch Post" and "Free" markings used by Mead, dated as early as March 25, 1847. The overprinted stamps, the Cummings/P.O. City Despatch covers, together with the Mazza receipt discovery, are solid evidence that Cummings and Wright were the successors to Abraham Mead, probably beginning in March 1847 and ending by November 1847.

The Scott Catalogue lists overprinted stamps such as Blood's "D.O.B. & Co." on Philadelphia Despatch Post (15L4), "Bouton" on Franklin City Despatch Post (16L1a) and "Swarts" on Bouton (136L13). The Cummings & Wright overprints should be listed in the Scott Catalogue. The two recorded examples are the off-cover stamp offered here and a cover with the "C&W" manuscript overprint on a Mead 40L2 stamp.

Signed Sloane. Ex Patton and Golden (Sale 817, lot 999, realized \$4,000 hammer). With 2000 P.F. certificate ...... E. 3,000-4,000



(Cummings and Wright) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed (40L2). Position 26, huge margins all around, brilliant color, tied by vivid red "Free" in frame, second strike and matching "P.O. City Despatch Post Mar. 25, 4 O'Clock" circular datestamp on 1847 folded prices-current list from Glasgow, Scotland, to local New York City address, Extremely Fine, this March 25, 1847, use of the Mead 40L2 stamp falls into the Cummings and Wright period, this is one of the finest 40L2 covers in existence and shows the use of the Post Office City Despatch to deliver transatlantic mail that was brought into New York City outside the regular mails to save money, ex Hall, with 2001 P.F. certificate................................... E. 750-1,000



262

262 ⋈ (Cummings and Wright) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed (40L2). Position 21, huge margins all around, brilliant color, cancelled by red "Free" in frame (impression ties thru paper), second strike and matching "P.O. City Despatch Post Mar. 12, 4 O'Clock" circular datestamp on 1847 buff cover to local New York City address, couple vertical folds clear of stamp, Extremely Fine, this March 12, 1847, cover is the earliest with the double strike of "Free", which is indicative of the change in ownership from Mead to Cummings & Wright ........................ E. 400-500



263 (Cummings and Wright) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed (40L2). Full to large margins, manuscript "C&P" initials similar to the "C&W" initials indicating ownership of the City Despatch Post by Cummings and Wright after Mead's departure, a few other ink spots, small faults, otherwise Fine, this stamp only recently came to light after having

been hidden in an album since the 1930's. E. 300-400

263



264

264 ⊠ Cummings' City Post, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Yellow Glazed (55L3). Large margins to just in, cancelled by "Free" in frame, second strike to right of stamp, used on folded letter to local street address, red "P.O. City Despatch Post Mar. 25, 4 O'Clock" circular datestamp, stamp with surface rubs

VERY FINE. ONE OF TWO RECORDED COVERS SHOWING USE OF THE CUMMINGS' CITY POST STAMP IN CONJUNCTION WITH POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH MARKINGS, WHICH OCCURRED AFTER CUMMINGS AND WRIGHT TOOK OVER THE CITY DESPATCH FROM ABRAHAM MEAD.

Abraham B. Mead operated the "Post Office City Despatch" only briefly after buying it from the New York carrier department on November 30, 1846. A "P.O. City Despatch" receipt dated May 15, 1847, is signed by "Cummings & Wright, Proprietors", so we know for certain that Alfred H. Cummings and Robert Wright bought out Mead by that date. The cover offered here, with the Cummings' City Post stamp used with Post Office City Despatch markings dated in March 1847, is evidence that Cummings and Wright took over by then.

Ex Geisler. With 2009 P.F. certificate ...... E. 1,500-2,000



(Cummings and Wright) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Pink Glazed (40L3). Position 36, phenomenally huge margins including right sheet margin, cancelled by light strike of black "Free" in frame, used on undated folded cover (with letter written on inside) to Baltimore street address, red "New-York 5 Cts. 13 Dec." (1847) integral-rate circular datestamp, worn at edges, someone tried to cut out upper left corner of cover where the stamp is affixed, but this has been rejoined with paper tape on the inside — as foolish as this attempt to remove the stamp was, it helps to authenticate the usage (see lot 298, for another cover from this correspondence)

EXTREMELY FINE STAMP — WITHOUT QUESTION THE FINEST OF THE TWELVE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF 40L3 — AND ONE OF FOUR RECORDED COVERS. THIS IS THE LATEST RECORDED USE OF THE POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH 2-CENT BEFORE COLE BEGAN ISSUING HIS OWN STAMPS AT THE BEGINNING OF 1848.

The Post Office City Despatch was operated by former government letter carrier Abraham B. Mead from November 30, 1846, until shortly after the 1847 Valentine season. By March 1847 the post was owned and managed by Cummings & Wright. Sometime in October-November 1847, the post's ownership changed again, and Charles Cole became the proprietor. The 2c on Pink glazed paper (Scott 40L3) was first issued by Cummings & Wright (the earliest documented use is May 15, 1847 — see Sale 830, lot 567). Examples cancelled in red were probably used during the Cummings & Wright period, while the use of black ink probably signifies the change in ownership to Cole (October-November 1847). The Pink 40L3 stamp is very rare, with approximately twelve known, including four on covers, of which only two are confirmed genuine uses. The four are listed here: 1) May 15, 1847 folded letter, red "P.O. City Despatch Post" datestamp and "Free" in frame, to Dr. Joslin, 7 Amity St., ex Ferrary, Needham, Caspary, Hall; 2) Aug. 31, 1847, New York datestamp on dated folded letter to Philadelphia, black "Free" cancel on stamp (not tied), PFC as genuine stamp but decline opinion as to usage, ex Sheriff (Siegel Sale 665); 3) Nov. 26 (1847) New York datestamp on cover to Newburgh N.Y., "Free" cancel (red or black?), not tied, ex Needham; and 4) Dec. 13 (1847) New York datestamp on folded cover to Baltimore, black "Free" cancel (not tied), cut out and replaced, the cover offered here, ex Ackerman, Hall.

Ex Ackerman and Hall. With 2001 P.F. certificate ...... E. 3,000-4,000



266

(Cummings and Wright) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Pink Glazed (40L3). Large margins, lightly cancelled by black "Free" in frame, two minute pinholes and tiny thin speck, truly negligible flaws considering the rarity of 40L3

EXTREMELY FINE APPEARANCE. AN EXCEEDINGLY RARE STAMP AMONG THE VARIOUS SCOTT-LISTED ISSUES PRODUCED FROM THE ORIGINAL CITY DESPATCH POST PLATE. APPROXIMATELY TWELVE KNOWN, THIS BEING ONE OF THE FINEST KNOWN.

The Post Office City Despatch was operated by former government letter carrier Abraham B. Mead from November 30, 1846, until shortly after the 1847 Valentine season. By March 1847 the post was owned and managed by Cummings & Wright. Sometime in October-November 1847, the post's ownership changed again, and Charles Cole became the proprietor. The 2c on Pink glazed paper (Scott 40L3) was first issued by Cummings & Wright (the earliest documented use is May 15, 1847 — see Sale 830, lot 567). Examples cancelled in red were probably used during the Cummings & Wright period, while the use of black ink probably signifies the change in ownership to Cole (October-November 1847). The Pink 40L3 stamp is very rare, with approximately twelve known, including four on covers. We have not offered an example since the 2000 Hall sale.



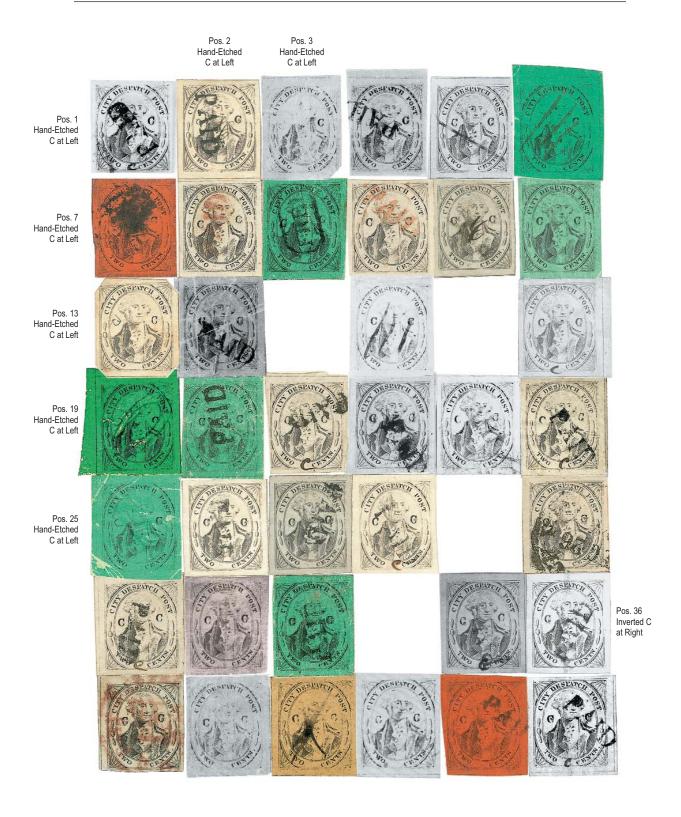
267

## POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH UNDER CHARLES COLE OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1847 TO 1852



268

268 ⊠ **Coles City Despatch P.O. Jul. 1** Red double-circle datestamp and red "New-York 10 cts. 1 Jul." integral-rate circular datestamp on blue 1848 folded letter to Geneva N.Y., Very Fine, ex Hahn ...... E. 200-300



This compilation of digital scans shows 38 different "CC" stamps in their correct position on the sheet of 42. The Hand-Etched "C" at Left and Inverted "C" at Right varieties are identified. The location of the seven Hand-Etched "C" at Left positions along the left and upper left corner of the sheet indicates that the crude attempt to hand-etch letters started on the right side of the metal plate.

#### "CC" ISSUE ON GREEN GLAZED



269

269 ★ (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed, "CC" at Sides (40L4). Position 12, original gum, large margins, tiny thin spots, slight creases and negligible cracks in enamel

EXTREMELY FINE APPEARANCE. THIS IS THE ONLY RECORDED ORIGINAL-GUM EXAMPLE OF ANY OF THE COLE "CC" STAMPS. AN IMPORTANT RARITY PRODUCED FROM THE MODIFIED GREIG PLATE.

Illustrated on the cover of *The City Despatch Post 1842-1852 Issues*. Ex "German Sale", Caspary, Lilly and Golden. With 2000 P.F. certificate. The Scott value of \$350.00 for an unused example seems rather modest, considering that only three are known in unused condition (the others do not have original gum)...... E. 1,000-1,500



270

270 (\*\*) (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed, "CC" at Sides (40L4). Position undetermined, unused (no gum), full margins, creased across top and minor faults, otherwise Fine, one of three recorded unused examples of the "CC" on Green paper, ex Ferrary, Scott value of \$350.00 for an unused example seems rather modest, considering that only three are known in unused condition .......... E. 400-500



271 ⊠ (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed, "CC" at Sides (40L4). Position 26, cancelled by "Free" in frame (used previously by Greig) on 1848 folded cover to Boston, overlapping red New York (Feb. 5) and City Despatch circular datestamps, stamp with some usual creasing, otherwise Very Fine, the earliest "CC" stamps are found on Green paper (earliest documented use is Jan. 27, 1848), ex Geisler, with 2009 P.F. certificate.................................. E. 500-750





(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed, "CC" at Sides (40L4). Position undetermined, cancelled by pencil swirls and tied by red "New-York 5cts 27 May" integral-rate circular datestamp on blue 1850 folded letter addressed in blue to Providence R.I., stamp has slight creasing and enamel chips endemic to the issue, otherwise Very Fine, this cover dates from the period from April 1849 to June 1850 when the Green "CC" stamp is found cancelled in manuscript and used to the post office (see The City Despatch Post 1842-1852 Issues, pp. 22-23), ex Kapiloff .... E. 500-750



274

274 ⋈ (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed, "CC" at Sides (40L4). Position 8, cancelled by pencil swirls, red "New-York 5cts 31 May" (1850) integral-rate circular datestamp on cover to Newark N.J., stamp has slight creasing and surface faults endemic to the issue, cover has corner nick and two small stains, otherwise Very Fine, this cover dates from the period from April 1849 to June 1850 when the Green "CC" stamp is found cancelled in manuscript and used to the post office (see *The City Despatch Post 1842-1852 Issues*, pp. 22-23), with 2009 P.F. certificate...... E. 400-500

#### THE "BIG PUPIL" RETOUCH



275 with detail of stamp



276 with detail of stamp

(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed, "CC" at Sides (40L4). Position 6, "Big Pupil" variety, enormous margins, manuscript cancel (not tied), used on small embossed cover to Newark N.J. street address, red "New York 5 cts. Oct. 21" (1849) integral-rate circular datestamp, trivial ink spot, stamp has corner crease and small chip in coating at left (these flaws endemic to the issue), still Extremely Fine, only two positions on the reworked "CC" plate have the Big Pupil retouch (Positions 5 and 6), during the period from October 1849 until June 1850, the Post Office City Despatch stamps are found only on to-the-mails covers, all cancelled by hand in pen or pencil, ex Ackerman, Mason and Hall................................. E. 750-1,000

#### "C" AT RIGHT INVERTED

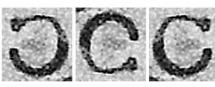


277

(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed, "C" at Right Inverted (40L4a). Position 36 with right "C" in mirror image (so-called "Inverted C"), large margins to touched at upper left, clear impression on bright green paper, neat manuscript cancel clear of "CC" initials, creases causing some cracks in enamel (endemic to this issue)

ONE OF FIVE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH 2-CENT "INVERTED C" PLATE VARIETY ON ANY TYPE OF PAPER. THIS IS THE ONLY CONFIRMED EXAMPLE ON GREEN PAPER. ONE OF THE GREAT RARITIES OF LOCAL POSTS.

Only one subject on the plate of 42 (Position 36) shows the so-called "Inverted C" variety, which was caused when a mirror-image letter punch was used to enter the righthand "C". The mirror-image punch left a right-reading engraved letter on the plate, which in turn produced a mirror-image printed letter "C". The Scott Catalogue lists this variety as "C at right inverted", but in fact it is a mirror image of the letter "C". We have photographs of five different examples of Position 36, including three we can positively identify by paper type: Green (40L4a, the stamp offered here), Grayish (40L5a on cover, Mazza collection) and Yellowish Buff (40L8a, the stamp offered in lot 314). Our records contain black-and-white photographs of two other examples, but we cannot identify the paper color (one off cover and another on a cover with 3c 1851 overlapping).



As Printed Inverted Mirror Image

### HAND-ETCHED SIDEWAYS "C" AT LEFT



278

(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed, Hand-Etched Sideways "C" at Left (40L4b). Position 25 with lefthand "C" etched into plate by hand (so-called "Sideways C" variety), strong impression (slightly doubled) on vivid Green paper, mostly huge margins including left sheet margin, cancelled by black "Free" in frame and tied by red "New-York 5 cts. 27 Jan." (1848) integral-rate circular date-stamp on large part folded letter (front with side flaps) to Newark N.J., file folds

EXTREMELY FINE STAMP AND THE EARLIEST RECORDED USE OF THE POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH ISSUE WITH COLE'S "CC" INITIALS, PRINTED FROM THE MODIFIED PLATE OF 42. ONE OF SIX RECORDED COVERS WITH THE HAND-ETCHED "SIDEWAYS C" PLATE VARIETY ON GREEN PAPER.

This January 27, 1848, part cover represents the earliest recorded use of any stamp printed from the modified plate with Charles Cole's "CC" initials. Cole probably took over the post from Cummings & Wright in late 1847 and had the plate altered between December 1847 and January 1848. The three earliest "CC" covers are dated January 27 (40L4b), February 5 (40L4) and February 8 (40L4), all 1848 year dates with stamps printed on Green paper. This particular stamp comes from Position 25, one of seven subjects on the plate that have the "Sideways C" variety, which occurred when a failed attempt was made to hand-etch the letter "C" into the plate (Positions 1, 2, 3, 7, 13, 19 and 25 show this distinctive variety). There are six recorded covers with the "Sideways C" on Green paper (40L4b).

Ex Hall. With 2001 P.F. certificate. Listed but unpriced in Scott. ...... E. 1,000-1,500



278 detail



(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed, Hand-Etched Sideways "C" at Left (40L4b). Position 25 with lefthand "C" etched into plate by hand (so-called "Sideways C" variety), cancelled by one of three strikes of "Free" in frame in black (one on front, two on back with stamp; the strike on the stamp ties by impression thru paper), red "P.O. City Despatch Post Feb. 14 — O'Clock" circular datestamp also on back of embossed Valentine cover to local street address, with Valentine enclosure which may have originated, back cut open for display, faults on front, stamp has creases and chipped enamel

A FINE AND EXHIBIT-WORTHY COVER. ONLY SIX EXAMPLES OF THE POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH HAND-ETCHED SIDEWAYS "C" VARIETY ON GREEN PAPER ARE RECORDED ON COVERS. THIS IS THE ONLY KNOWN VALENTINE.

This stamp comes from Position 25, one of seven subjects on the plate that have the "Sideways C" variety, which occurred when a failed attempt was made to hand-etch the letter "C" into the plate (Positions 1, 2, 3, 7, 13, 19 and 25 show this distinctive variety). There are six recorded covers with the "Sideways C" on Green paper (40L4b). This is the only Valentine cover.

The black "Free" in frame cancel was applied by Cole during the early stages of his operation of the post after Cummings and Wright. This is the only recorded city-delivery cover showing use of the "CC" stamp with black "Free" cancel (the others are to-the-mails covers; see *The City Despatch Post 1842-1852 Issues*, page 17, this cover was not known to the author).

Ex Eno and Kuphal. Listed but unpriced in Scott..... E. 1,000-1,500



(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed, Hand-Etched Sideways "C" at Left (40L4b). Position 19 with lefthand "C" etched into plate by hand (so-called "Sideways C" variety), large to huge margins including left sheet margin, a few scrapes in colored surface, pencil swirl cancel (impression ties thru paper), red "New York 5 cts 7 Mar." integral-rate circular datestamp on 1850 folded letter to Portchester N.Y.

VERY FINE. ONE OF SIX RECORDED COVERS WITH THE HAND-ETCHED "SIDEWAYS C" PLATE VARIETY ON GREEN PAPER.

This stamp comes from Position 19, one of seven subjects on the plate that have the "Sideways C" variety, which occurred when a failed attempt was made to hand-etch the letter "C" into the plate (Positions 1, 2, 3, 7, 13, 19 and 25 show this distinctive variety). There are six recorded covers with the "Sideways C" on Green paper (40L4b).

Ex Caspary and Golden. With 2000 P.F. certificate. Listed but unpriced in Scott. E. 1,000-1,500



281

(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed, Hand-Etched Sideways "C" at Left (40L4b). Position 13 with lefthand "C" etched into plate by hand (so-called "Sideways C" variety), ample to large margins, corner creases and small scrapes in surface color, faint pencil cancel (not tied), used on 1849 folded letter to Collinsville Conn., red "New-York 5 cts. 9 Jun." integral-rate circular datestamp

VERY FINE. ONE OF SIX RECORDED COVERS WITH THE HAND-ETCHED "SIDEWAYS C" PLATE VARIETY ON GREEN PAPER.

This stamp comes from Position 13, one of seven subjects on the plate that have the "Sideways C" variety, which occurred when a failed attempt was made to hand-etch the letter "C" into the plate (Positions 1, 2, 3, 7, 13, 19 and 25 show this distinctive variety). There are six recorded covers with the "Sideways C" on Green paper (40L4b).



282

(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Green Glazed, Hand-Etched Sideways "C" at Left (40L4b). Position 25 with lefthand "C" etched into plate by hand (so-called "Sideways C" variety), large to huge margins including part of left sheet margin, creases and scrapes in surface color, pencil cancel (impression ties thru paper), used on folded letter in Old German datelined "Williamsburgh 16 June 1850" from Brooklyn N.Y. to Germany, writer gives address in letter as "Hermann Wuller in Williamsburgh, Meserole St. No. 121, Adams County, New York, Nordamerika", sender's directive "per Havre", "New-York Jun. 27" (1850) ocean-mail circular datestamp, red "Outre-Mer Le Havre 28 Juil 50" transit datestamp, "Ligne-du-Havre 28 Juil 50" transit backstamp, "E.B. 31 Jul. 50/Cur. IV" Baden railroad backstamp ("Eisenbahn" is German for railroad, "Cur. IV" is the train route number), red and black manuscript due markings applied in German postal system, slight toning along folds

A REMARKABLE USE OF THE POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH "CC" ISSUE ON A PRIVATE SHIPLETTER COVER TO GERMANY VIA HAVRE. ONE OF SIX RECORDED COVERS WITH THE HAND-ETCHED "SIDEWAYS C" PLATE VARIETY ON GREEN PAPER AND THE ONLY RECORDED EXAMPLE OF ANY COLE "CC" STAMP ON A TRANSATLANTIC COVER.

This stamp comes from Position 25, one of seven subjects on the plate that have the "Sideways C" variety, which occurred when a failed attempt was made to hand-etch the letter "C" into the plate (Positions 1, 2, 3, 7, 13, 19 and 25 show this distinctive variety). There are six recorded covers with the "Sideways C" on Green paper (40L4b).

This cover was carried by private ship from New York (through the post office) to Havre. The U.S. post office did not mark the letter with any postage notations. The postage collected from the addressee in Germany included whatever was owed to France.

With 2000 P.F. certificate. Listed but unpriced in Scott..... E. 2,000-3,000





284

### "CC" ISSUE ON GRAYISH (UNSURFACED)

285 (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Grayish, "CC" at Sides (40L5). Position 26, large even margins, "Paid" straightline cancel

> EXTREMELY FINE GEM. ONE OF THE FINEST KNOWN EXAMPLES OF THE COLE "CC" STAMP ON ANY PAPER TYPE.

> Ex Caspary, Middendorf and Golden. With 2000 P.F. certificate ...... 500.00



285



286 (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c

Black on Grayish, "CC" at Sides (40L5). Position 27, large even margins, "Paid" straightline cancel

EXTREMELY FINE GEM. A SUPERB EXAMPLE OF THE COLE "CC" STAMP ON GRAYISH.

Ex Hall. With 2001 P.F. certificate ...... 500.00

286

287

(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Grayish, "CC" at Sides (40L5). Position 37, ample to huge margins, cancelled by brownish-red "Free" in frame and "City Despatch Post P.O." circular datestamp, faint yellowing caused by red ink (not mentioned on certificate), Very Fine, extremely rare, especially with red datestamp used as a cancel (four 40L4 covers and this one 40L5 stamp are recorded with these brownish-red markings), ex Mason and Hall, with 



287



288

(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Grayish, "CC" at Sides (40L5). Position 8, full to large margins, cancelled by red "Paid" faint oily bleed from red ink, slight horizontal crease barely visible, still Extremely Fine, rare with a red cancel...... 500.00



289 (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Grayish, "CC" at Sides (40L5). Position 38, strong impression and slightly doubled, cancelled by "Paid" with second strike and bold "P.O. City Despatch Post Sep. 2 — O'Clock" (1848) circular datestamp on blue folded cover to local street address

EXTREMELY FINE. A SUPERB STAMP ON A VERY ATTRACTIVE COVER. ONE OF THE FINEST EXAMPLES OF THE POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH 2-CENT "CC" ISSUE ON COVER.

The use of the black circular datestamp and black "Paid" indicates 1848 usage. Beginning in September 1848, the Post Office City Despatch stopped using the "Paid" handstamp on mail brought to the post office, probably by order of the New York postmaster who may have received complaints about the word "Paid" appearing on letters which had no prepaid U.S. postage. From September 1848 on, only city-delivery covers have the "Paid" handstamp, as this example demonstrates.

Ex Kapiloff and Kuphal. With 1983 P.F. certificate..... E. 2,000-3,000

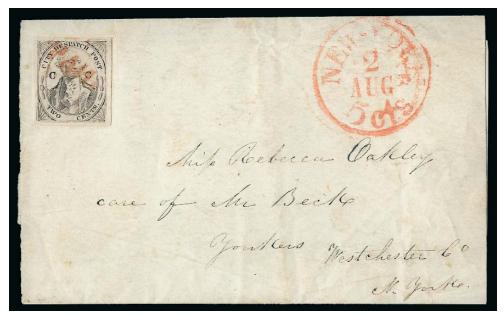


290

290 (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Grayish, "CC" at Sides (40L5). Position 42, large even margins, slightly toned from gum, red "Paid" cancel, matching strike and "Cole's City Despatch P.O. Jul. 22" double-circle datestamp on blue printed folded cover to local street address (a circular dated Jun. 12, 1848, from a liquor dealer describing "persecution" by the inspector's office, is no longer with the cover)

VERY FINE. A CHOICE EXAMPLE OF THE POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH 2-CENT "CC" STAMP ON COVER WITH THE RED COLE DOUBLE-CIRCLE DATESTAMP AND "PAID" CANCEL.

Ex Chapman, Caspary, Middendorf and Kuphal. With 1991 P.F. certificate.. E. 2,000-3,000



291 (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Grayish, "CC" at Sides (40L5). Position 10, full to large margins, cancelled by red "Paid" straightline (not tied), red "New-York 5 cts. 2 Aug." (1848) integral-rate circular datestamp on folded cover (without side flaps) to Yonkers N.Y., sometime after the Waterhouse sale the stamp was lifted to trim margins slightly (not noted on certificate)

VERY FINE. A BEAUTIFUL EXAMPLE OF THE POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH 2-CENT "CC" ON GRAYISH USED TO PREPAY DELIVERY TO THE POST OFFICE.

Ex Waterhouse. With 1995 P.F. certificate ...... E. 1,500-2,000



292

(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Grayish, "CC" at Sides (40L5). Position 30, large margins all around, tied by black "P.O. City Despatch Aug. 26 — O'Clock" circular datestamp, second strike and "Paid" handstamp at left on 1848 folded letter to Chelsea Mass., blue manuscript stroke thru "Paid" applied by post office, red "New-York 5 cts. 27 Aug." integral-rate circular datestamp, letter describes in detail the writer's journey from New England to New York City, description of Croton water works completed in 1848, etc., presumably the writer was lodging at a hotel that provided City Despatch Post service

EXTREMELY FINE STAMP AND ONE OF THE FINEST KNOWN COVERS BEARING THE POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH "CC" ISSUE.

This superb cover is not only one of the finest examples of the 2c "CC" on cover, it also illustrates an interesting aspect of New York City local post mail brought to the post office. The presence of a private post's "Paid" marking on a letter carried to the post office for delivery through the regular mails, which did not have U.S. postage prepaid, must have caused trouble for the post office. One can imagine the New York postmaster receiving complaints from postmasters in receiving offices that the recipients objected to paying postage on a letter marked "Paid". This cover has the "Paid" crossed out in blue pen (blue ink was used at the New York post office). Subsequent covers delivered to the post office by the Post Office City Despatch do not have "Paid" markings (it was used exclusively on city-delivery letters starting in September 1848). We suspect that around this time all local posts in New York City were instructed not to mark post office letters "Paid" unless government postage had been prepaid.

Illustrated in Perry's 100 Years Ago (p. 52). Ex Mason, Duckworth, Boker and Kapiloff ..... E. 4,000-5,000

#### MANUSCRIPT "C" CONTROL MARK



293



294



295 (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Grayish, "CC" at Sides, Manuscript "C" Control Mark (40L5c). Position 21, small "C" initial between "Two" and "Cents", large margins to slightly in at lower left, just tied by "Paid" straightline, red "Coles City Despatch P.O. Mar. 27" (1848) double-circle datestamp and second strike of "Paid" on folded cover to City Hall, slight wear at bottom

VERY FINE. ONE OF NINE RECORDED COVERS WITH THE POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH 2-CENT "CC" STAMP BEARING THE "C" CONTROL MARK. THIS IS THE EARLIEST RECORDED USE OF THE COLE DOUBLE-CIRCLE DATESTAMP.

The Manuscript "C" Control Mark was applied exclusively to the 2c "CC" stamps on Grayish paper. The initial comes in two styles: a small simple "C" between the words "Two" and "Cent", and a large cursive "C" at the center of the stamp. We record approximately 15 examples with the Manuscript "C", including two from positions showing the Hand-Etched "C" at Left and one from Position 36, the "Inverted C" at Right plate variety (on cover). The basic 40L5c stamps with the Manuscript "C" Control Mark include eight on covers. This is the only 40L5c cover to a local address, and it is also the earliest example of a Cole's stamp to prepay service to the post office.

Signed Perry. Ex Golden. With 2000 P.F. certificate ...... E. 1,500-2,000



296

296 (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Grayish, "CC" at Sides, Manuscript "C" Control Mark (40L5c). Position 31, small "C" initial between "Two" and "Cents", huge even margins, black "Paid" straightline cancel (not tied), used on small embossed Valentine cover to Syosset, Long Island, N.Y., red "New-York 5 cts. 13 Feb." (1848) integral-rate circular datestamp and "Paid" arc, red crayon "5" at upper left indicating prepayment of postage, long tear in cover at left not immediately noticeable

EXTREMELY FINE GEM STAMP ON A BEAUTIFUL VALENTINE COVER. ONE OF NINE RECORDED COVERS WITH THE POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH 2-CENT "CC" STAMP BEARING THE "C" CONTROL MARK. THE STAMP ITSELF IS ONE OF THE FINEST KNOWN.

Ex Golden. Signed Sloane. With 2000 P.F. certificate..... E. 2,000-3,000



297 (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Grayish, "CC" at Sides, Manuscript "C" Control Mark (40L5c). Position 28, small "C" initial between "Two" and "Cents", large margins all around, black "Paid" straightline cancel (not tied), used on Feb. 28, 1848 folded letter to Philadelphia, red "New-York 5 cts. Feb. 29" Leap Year integral-rate circular datestamp, file fold at center, stamp lifted and reaffixed

EXTREMELY FINE. ONE OF NINE RECORDED COVERS WITH THE POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH 2-CENT "CC" STAMP BEARING THE "C" CONTROL MARK. THE STAMP ITSELF IS ONE OF THE FINEST KNOWN.

Ex Mason and Schwartz.... E. 2,000-3,000



298

(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Grayish, "CC" at Sides, Manuscript "C" Control Mark (40L5c). Position 24, small "C" initial between "Two" and "Cents", large margins all around, "Paid" straightline cancel (not tied), faint red "City Despatch Post P.O. Mar. 23 — O'Clock" circular datestamp at left, red "New-York 5 cts. 23 Mar." integral-rate circular datestamp on 1848 folded letter to Baltimore, someone cut out right corner of letter with stamp, which has been rejoined with paper tape (from the same correspondence as lot 265), minor stains and edge wear, stamp has couple tiny creases and margin tears, Extremely Fine appearance, only nine covers are recorded with the Manuscript "C" Control Mark (eight are the basic 40L5c), ex Worthington and Hall, with 2001 P.F. certificate, Scott Retail \$1,900.00 for 40L5c used off cover........................ E. 500-750

#### HAND-ETCHED SIDEWAYS "C" AT LEFT



299

(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Grayish, Hand-Etched Sideways "C" at Left, Manuscript "C" Control Mark (40L5d). Position 2 with lefthand "C" etched into plate by hand (so-called "Sideways C" variety), large "C" initial at center, large margins, bold "Paid" straightline cancel, tiny pinhole at bottom right

EXTREMELY FINE APPEARANCE. ONE OF TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE "SIDEWAYS C" VARIETY WITH THE MANUSCRIPT 'C" CONTROL MARK.

Seven subjects on the plate of 42 show the hand-etched "C" variety (Positions 1, 2, 3, 7, 13, 19, 25), which resulted from a crude attempt to inscribe the letter "C" rather than use a letter punch. These are listed in the Scott Catalogue as "C at left sideways." As a plate variety, it can be found on the four types of paper used for Cole's "CC" issue (Green, Grayish, Vermilion and Yellowish Buff). However, only the Grayish paper stamps are found with the manuscript "C" control initial (two types: large at center and small at bottom). This example shows a combination of the "Sideways C" plate variety and "C" control mark. Only two such stamps are known, both off cover. There are two additional examples of the "Sideways C" variety on Grayish paper without the control mark, both on cover.

Ex German Sale, Caspary and Golden. With 2000 P.F. certificate. Scott Retail \$1,900.00 E. 1,500-2,000



300 ⋈ (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Grayish, Hand-Etched Sideways "C" at Left (40L5b). Position 13 with lefthand "C" etched into plate by hand (so-called "Sideways C" variety), huge even margins showing dividing lines all around, slightly doubled impression, cancelled by 4-bar grid (impression ties thru paper), red "New-York 5cts. 23 Nov." integral-rate circular datestamp on Nov. 22, 1848 folded letter to New Haven Conn., from the Pierpont Mallory & Co. correspondence

EXTREMELY FINE GEM STAMP AND BEAUTIFUL COVER. THE FINER OF TWO RECORDED COVERS WITH THE HAND-ETCHED "SIDEWAYS C" PLATE VARIETY ON GRAYISH PAPER.

This stamp comes from Position 2, one of seven subjects on the plate that have the "Sideways C" variety, which occurred when a failed attempt was made to hand-etch the letter "C" into the plate (Positions 1, 2, 3, 7, 13, 19 and 25 show this distinctive variety). This plate variety can be found on all four different papers, but we record only four examples on Grayish, including two off cover (each with Manuscript "C" Control Mark) and two on covers.

Ex Mason and Schwartz. Listed but unpriced in Scott. ..... E. 3,000-4,000



301

301 ⋈ (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Grayish, Hand-Etched Sideways "C" at Left (40L5b). Position 13 with lefthand "C" etched into plate by hand (so-called "Sideways C" variety), large margins except at corners where truncated, uncancelled, used on July 8, 1848 folded letter to Kingston N.Y., orange-red "Cole's City Despatch P.O. Jul. 8" double-circle datestamp, matching "Paid" straightline, pencil and pen "Paid 5", red "New-York 5cts 8 Jul." integral-rate circular datestamp and matching "Paid" in arc, some glue stains surrounding stamp

VERY FINE. ONE OF TWO RECORDED COVERS WITH THE HAND-ETCHED "SIDEWAYS C" PLATE VARIETY ON GRAYISH PAPER.

This stamp comes from Position 13, one of seven subjects on the plate that have the "Sideways C" variety, which occurred when a failed attempt was made to hand-etch the letter "C" into the plate (Positions 1, 2, 3, 7, 13, 19 and 25 show this distinctive variety). This plate variety can be found on all four different papers, but we record only four examples on Grayish, including two off cover (each with Manuscript "C" Control Mark) and two on covers.

Ex Caspary, Patton (and illustrated in his book on p. 121), Meyersburg and Golden. With 2000 P.F. certificate. Listed but unpriced in Scott...... E. 1,500-2,000

#### "CC" ISSUE ON VERMILION GLAZED



302



303



- 305 ⋈ (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Vermilion Glazed, "CC" at Sides (40L6). Position 40, large margins to close at bottom left, bright color without oxidation, black cancel (not tied), "P.O. City Despatch Post Oct. 3 O'Clock" circular datestamp on Young Bachelors' Society printed circular with letter datelined Oct. 2, 1848, to local street address, slight wrinkling, Extremely Fine stamp and attractive cover, ex Norvin Green, with 1997 P.F. certificate................................ E. 500-750
- 306 ⋈ (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Vermilion Glazed, "CC" at Sides (40L6). Position 33, large margins to just in, cancelled by "Paid" straightline (rim of device around stamp), second strike and "P.O. City Despatch Post Sep. 25 O'Clock" circular datestamp on 1848 folded letter to local addressee, stamp slightly oxidized, otherwise Fine, ex Sheriff................................. E. 400-500



307 ⋈ (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Vermilion Glazed, "CC" at Sides (40L6). Position 26, large margins, bright shade with slight oxidation, "Paid" straightline cancel (impression ties thru paper), second strike and "P.O. City Despatch Post Oct. 4 — O'Clock" circular datestamp on 1848 blue folded letter to New York City Postmaster Robert H. Morris, regarding two lost letters to Scotland containing money, stamp has two light creases (one caused by file fold), otherwise Extremely Fine, ex Mason, Norvin Green, Middendorf and Golden ................................ E. 300-400



308

(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Vermilion Glazed, "CC" at Sides (40L6). Position 23(₹), large margins to just touched at upper right, bold 4-bar grid cancel (late use and well-worn by this point), "P.O. City Despatch Post Apr. 6 — O'Clock" (1849) circular datestamp on brown cover to local street address, stamp slightly oxidized, Very Fine, between the date of this cover (Apr. 6, 1849) and November 1849 there are no examples of city-delivery covers handled by the Post Office City Despatch — the recorded covers during the interim period were carried to the post office for regular mail — Sloane notes on back, with 1999 P.S.E. certificate........ E. 400-500



309 ⋈ (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Vermilion Glazed, "CC" at Sides (40L6). Position 11, large margins, cancelled by manuscript "X" (not tied), red "New York 5cts. 25 Jan." integral-rate circular datestamp struck over "New-York Jan. 25" circular datestamp without rate on 1849 folded letter to Peekskill N.Y., toned file fold clear of stamp, stamp is much brighter and fresh than usual, Very Fine, scarce use of "CC" Vermilion on a letter carried to the post office......................... E. 500-750



310

#### HAND-ETCHED SIDEWAYS "C" AT LEFT



311

(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Vermilion Glazed, Hand-Etched Sideways "C" at Left (40L6b). Position 19 with lefthand "C" etched into plate by hand (so-called "Sideways C" variety), large to huge margins all around, bright color and clear impression showing "Sideways C", cancelled by black "P.O. City Despatch Post Aug. 31 — O'Clock" (1848) circular datestamp — earliest date of use of the Vermilion stamp — faint horizontal crease

EXTREMELY FINE APPEARANCE. ONLY THREE EXAMPLES OF THE POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH 2-CENT SIDEWAYS "C" VARIETY ARE RECORDED, INCLUDING TWO ON COVERS AND THIS OFF-COVER STAMP.

Seven subjects on the plate of 42 show the hand-etched "C" variety (Positions 1, 2, 3, 7, 13, 19, 25), which resulted from a crude attempt to inscribe the letter "C" rather than use a letter punch. These are listed in the Scott Catalogue as "C at left sideways." As a plate variety, it can be found on the four types of paper used for Cole's "CC" issue (Green, Grayish, Vermilion and Yellowish Buff). Of the 16 recorded examples of the "Sideways C" variety in our census (all types of paper), only three are on Vermilion. The other two examples are used on covers.



312

312 ⋈ (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Vermilion Glazed, Hand-Etched Sideways "C" at Left (40L6b). Position 25 with lefthand "C" etched into plate by hand (so-called "Sideways C" variety), large even margins, cancelled by 4-bar grid (impression ties thru paper), red "New-York 10 cts. 19 Nov." (1848) integral-rate circular datestamp on cover to Farmington Me.

EXTREMELY FINE. ONE OF TWO RECORDED COVERS BEARING THE RARE POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH VERMILION STAMP WITH HAND-ETCHED SIDEWAYS "C" AT LEFT. A SUPERB STAMP AND COVER.

This stamp comes from Position 25, one of seven subjects on the plate that have the "Sideways C" variety, which occurred when a failed attempt was made to hand-etch the letter "C" into the plate (Positions 1, 2, 3, 7, 13, 19 and 25 show this distinctive variety). This plate variety can be found on all four different papers, but we record only three examples on Vermilion, including one off cover and two on covers (this being the finer).

Ex Hall. With 2001 P.F. certificate. Scott value \$4,500.00 off cover and \$4,750.00 on cover (not tied)...... E. 3,000-4,000

#### "CC" ISSUE ON YELLOWISH BUFF GLAZED



313

313 ⋈ (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Yellowish Buff Glazed, "CC" at Sides (40L8). Position 39, large even margins, bright color and perfect surface coating, cancelled by ms. "X", used on folded letter datelined New York, Jan. 26, 1852, to Philadelphia street address, black "New-York 5 Cts. Jan. 28" integral-rate circular datestamp, file fold

EXTREMELY FINE. THE FINEST RECORDED EXAMPLE OF THE COLE'S POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH STAMP ON YELLOWISH BUFF PAPER, ON OR OFF COVER. ONLY FOUR COMPLETE COVERS ARE KNOWN.

The late period of the City Despatch Post is shrouded in mystery. By late 1851 and early 1852, the plate used to print the "CC" stamps had worn considerably, and impressions on Yellowish Buff paper show this wear. The rarity of the Yellowish Buff stamps — 15 recorded for 40L8 and varieties — together with the legitimate dated examples suggests that they were the last issue and a short-lived one.

There are four covers with complete stamps that are generally accepted as genuine Yellowish Buff uses, listed here in chronological order: 1) Sep. 7 (ca. 1851), pencil cancel, used on cover to Sarah B. Woolman, Burlington N.J., red New York 5c datestamp, ex Mason, Middendorf; 2) Jan. 28, 1852 folded letter to Caldwell & Ghrisky, Philadelphia, ms. "X" cancel, black New York 5c datestamp, discovered by a member of the Ghrisky family, ex Knapp, Hall, the cover offered here; 3) Feb. 14 (ca. 1852) cover to Peter Hall, Pomfret Conn., stamp described as repaired at top in 1951 Harmer, Rooke sale, tied by pencil squiggle cancel, black New York 5c datestamp, ex Ferrary, Needham, Boker; and 4) May 17 (ca. 1852) red New York 5c datestamp, ms. cancel, on cover to Mrs. Henry Wasserman, Southport Conn., ex Boker. In addition to these four complete covers, there is also an 1852 cover bearing a fragment of 40L8 over-written by the name "E. N. Barry" (lot 316 in this sale). There are also ten stamps off cover or at one point affixed to covers to which they did not belong.

This cover was acquired by Edward Knapp in the Jan. 21, 1936 sale held by Eugene Klein. A notation indicates that it was found by a member of the Ghirsky family in Philadelphia. The Halls acquired the cover at the 1941 Knapp sale.

Ex Hall. With 2001 P.F. certificate. Unlisted on cover in Scott...... E. 10,000-15,000

#### "C" AT RIGHT INVERTED



314

(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Yellowish Buff Glazed, "C" at Right Inverted (40L8a). Position 36 with right "C" in mirror image (so-called "Inverted C"), three large margins, close to touching at left, pencil "X" cancel and small part of handstamp cancel at top right, tiny hole at top left and small thins at top

ONE OF FIVE RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE POST OFFICE CITY DESPATCH 2-CENT "INVERTED C" PLATE VARIETY ON ANY TYPE OF PAPER. THIS IS THE ONLY CONFIRMED EXAMPLE ON YELLOWSH BUFF PAPER. ONE OF THE GREAT RARITIES OF LOCAL POSTS.

Only one subject on the plate of 42 (Position 36) shows the so-called "Inverted C" variety, which was caused when a mirror-image letter punch was used to enter the righthand "C". The mirror-image punch left a right-reading engraved letter on the plate, which in turn produced a mirror-image printed letter "C". The Scott Catalogue lists this variety as "C at right inverted", but in fact it is a mirror image of the letter "C". We have photographs of five different examples of Position 36, including three we can positively identify by paper type: Green (40L4a, the stamp offered in lot 277), Grayish (40L5a on cover, Mazza collection) and Yellowish Buff (40L8a, the stamp offered here). Our records contain black-and-white photographs of two other examples, but we cannot identify the paper color (one off cover and another on a cover with 3c 1851 overlapping).







As Printed

Inverted

Mirror Image

#### HAND-ETCHED SIDEWAYS "C" AT LEFT



315

(Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Yellowish Buff Glazed, Hand-Etched Sideways "C" at Left (40L8b). Position 13 with lefthand "C" etched into plate by hand (so-called "Sideways C" variety), large margins, clear impression, faint pencil cancel, barest trace of small diagonal crease in lower left margin

EXTREMELY FINE. THIS IS BY FAR THE FINER OF THE TWO RECORDED EXAMPLES OF THE SIDEWAYS "C" VARIETY ON BUFF PAPER (SCOTT 40L8b).

Seven subjects on the plate of 42 show the hand-etched "C" variety (Positions 1, 2, 3, 7, 13, 19, 25), which resulted from a crude attempt to inscribe the letter "C" rather than use a letter punch. These are listed in the Scott Catalogue as "C at left sideways." As a plate variety, it can be found on the four types of paper used for Cole's "CC" issue (Green, Grayish, Vermilion and Yellowish Buff). Of the 16 recorded examples of the "Sideways C" variety in our census (all types of paper), only two are on Yellowish Buff, the rarest of the paper types. The other known example of 40L8b is defective.

#### POST-1852 CITY DESPATCH POST



316

316 ⋈ (Cole's) Post Office City Despatch, New York N.Y., 2c Black on Yellowish Buff Glazed (40L8). Remnant of stamp peeled off locally-addressed cover, apparently removed at the time of mailing and before "Paid E N Barry" was applied, Barry ran a local post in New York City, an intriguing cover, with 2009 P.F. certificate...... E. 500-750



END OF SALE — THANK YOU

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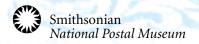
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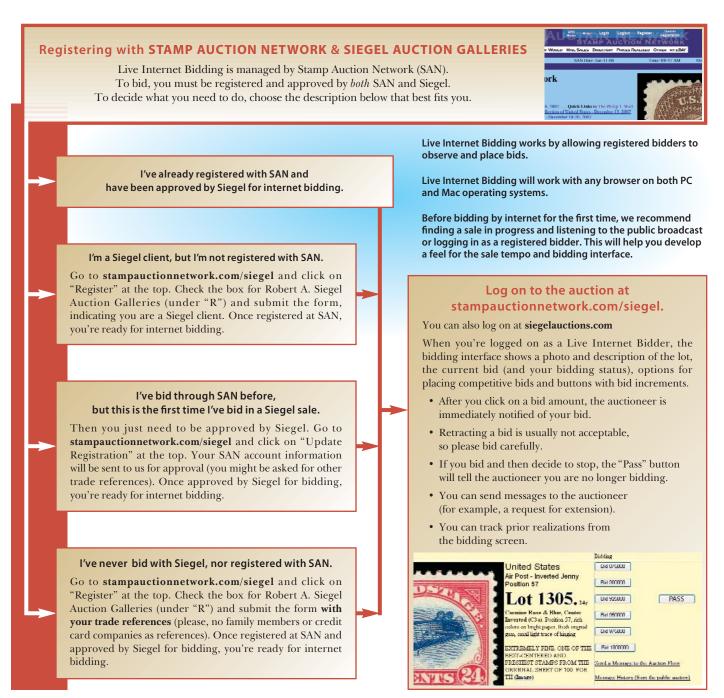
# BIDDING FROM YOUR COMPUTER LETS YOU BE PART OF THE LIVE AUCTION FROM ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD!

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Once you've been approved for bidding, you can listen to the auction and place bids with the click of a mouse.



## Bid Form—15% Premium Sale

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

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1	_	ovide the following i				PADDLE #		
1		NAMEADDRESS						
	CITY/STA							
			FAX			Do not write in box		
	E-MAIL							
9	Have you	Have you purchased from us in the past 5 years?    YES (if so, please go to Section 3)						
4	Reference	es:		NO (please pro	vide a trade reference and	bank information)		
-	Stamp Firm: Telephone							
	Bank:			Accour	nt #			
3	Please use the <b>maxi</b> your beha on other <b>include</b>	te 1005 and your te whole dollar am mum bid you wish alf, according to the side of this form. the 15% buyer's	enter the lot number corresponding bid ounts only and enter to have us execute of the bidding increment Your bid will NO's premium. We will enterement over the	the lot at lot not use "plus on one lot set between lot choices. If y	est bid; therefore, you ess than your maximu us" bids or "buy" bids. or the other, indicate number/bid entries arou wish to place a bident of your bids, please earked "Limit Bids".	m bid. Please do If you wish to bid te your "or" bid and bracket your ding limit on the		
LII includ	MIT BIDS: ing the <b>15</b> %	Check this box if you buyer's premium	you wish to limit th ) in this sale. Your b hal bids. <b>The total am</b>	e total amount	ated until your bid-	3		
	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid		
		\$		\$		\$		
4	to pay for accordance the sale of buyer's pand sales may be of Payment:  SIGNED  Please sub Mail to:R	r purchases resulting with the Condition at a logue. You also be remium, shipping at ax or use tax or lue on the total in must be made by case or mit your bids promote to the condition of the condition with the condition of the	ptly (telephone bids	n Siegel Auct n bidders, bu de against the against the these bids. h bids, includis additions of der or wire tran TODAY'S DA must be confirm	understood that these bids will be executed by Siegel Auction Galleries as a courtesy to absentee bidders, but you waive the right to make any claim against the auctioneer or the firm, arising from the these bids. You are responsible for your written bids, including any errors on your part and any additions or changes to the bids herein.  er or wire transfer. Credit cards will not be accepted.  TODAY'S DATE			
		60 E. 56th Street, 4 Felephone (212) 75	th Floor, New York, 53-6421	N.Y. 10022	OR FAX YOUR BIDS	: (212) 753-6429		

#### **Additional Bids**

#### Sale 1005—March 2, 2011

Lot	Bid	Lot	Bid Lot		Bid	
	\$		\$		\$	

#### **Shipping and Transit Insurance**

We will be pleased to arrange for shipping and transit insurance for purchases in this sale (except those described as "floor sale only"). To expedite billing and delivery of lots to hundreds of buyers per sale, we use standard charges for postage and insurance, based on the package weight and mailing requirements (see schedule). The standard charges are sometimes slightly more or less than the actual postage or Fedex fees, but we do not include any charge for our labor or packing costs. Therefore, we ask all buyers to remit the prescribed amount for shipping charges.

Transit insurance is provided in all cases, except when the buyer has furnished us with proof that insurance coverage is effective under another policy. Proof, in such cases, will be accepted in the form of a written certificate from the insurance carrier.

You are responsible for insurance charges, which will be added to your invoice. This coverage is provided for our mutual protection against theft or loss in transit.

#### **Bidding Increments**

The auctioneer may regulate the bidding at his discretion. However, to assist absentee bidders in establishing their maximum bid for each lot, the increments shown at right will be used in most cases. We recommend that written bids conform to these increments (those which do not will be reduced to the next level).

## REVISED CHARGES FOR SHIPPING EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

We have reduced the Fedex Envelope charge to \$20, reflecting the elimination of the fuel surcharge. All other charges remain the same.

#### **Current Postage & Insurance Charges**

Weight/Class	<b>Shipping Method</b>	Charges
Up to 2 lbs.	Fedex Envelope	\$20.00
Over 2 lbs.	Fedex Box	\$35.00*
Non-U.S.	Fedex/Courier	\$50.00**
Bulk Lots	UPS Preferred	By weight and value

These fees reflect additional Fedex charges for residential delivery, signature and fuel surcharge.

- \*Higher fees will be charged on packages weighing more than 5 lbs. or insured for more than \$75,000.
- \*\*Buyers are liable for all customs duties and clearance charges. An accurate declaration of value will be made on all import/export documents.

9/2009

Up to \$50	\$5	\$3,000-7,000	\$250
\$50-200	\$10	\$7,000-20,000	\$500
\$200-500	\$25	\$20,000-30,000	\$1,000
\$500-1,000	\$50	\$30,000-75,000	\$2,500
\$1,000-3,000	\$100	\$75,000 up	\$5,000





# PRICES REALIZED FOR SALE 1005---3/2/2011

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

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Lot#	Realized	Lot#	Realized	Lot#	Realized
201	1,700	243	2,100	286	2,000
202	2,200	244	550	287	425
203	2,000	245	750	288	750
204	23,000	246	650	289	3,500
205	4,250	247	425	290	1,900
206	3,500	248	350	291	2,800
207	650	249	350	292	6,500
208	900	250	500	293	1,100
209	600	251	400	294	1,000
210	3,500	252	400	295	1,600
211	2,700	253	12,000	296	2,300
212	2,500	254	2,200	297	2,700
213	2,600	255	550	298	850
214	15,500	256	4,750	299	4,000
215	10,500	257	550	300	3,750
216	4,500	258	400	301	1,100
217	5,250	259	375	302	850
218	4,500	260	2,500	303	850
219	1,400	261	750	304	475
220	900	262	475	305	500
221	5,250	263	325	306	300
222	1,500	264	1,200	307	800
223	750	265	2,600	308	275
224	4,250	266	2,600	309	325
225	3,250	267	1,400	310	300
226	1,000	268	475	311	4,000
227	900	269	1,400	312	2,800
228	1,900	270	750	313	15,500
229	850	271	550	314	7,500
230	900	272	800	315	7,500
231	1,300	273	500	316	375
232	1,900	274	300	317	1,200
233	550	275	5,250		
234	700	276	750		
235	1,900	277	3,500		
236	500	278	900		
237	650	279	800		
238	1,100	280	950		
239	6,000	281	650		
240	5,500	282	2,600		
241	2,300	283	550		
242	35,000	285	3,750		