

Department of State
Washington, D.C.
Benjamin H. Latimer, Esquire,
Montgomery,
Alabama

William Seward suffered multiple injuries on April 5, 1865 and was cared for at home. At the same time that Lincoln was being shot at Ford's Theatre on April 14th, Lewis Powell (alias Payne) pushed his way into Seward's home and up to his bedroom. He beat Seward's son Fred over the head with a pistol fracturing his skull and stabbed a male soldier nurse and Seward's son Augustus. He stabbed Seward in the neck and face causing serious injuries. Seward gradually recovered but his wife died of the shock within 2 months and his daughter in less than a year. This Dept. of State mourning cover is probably in memory of Lincoln's death but may have been in memory of Mrs. Seward's recent death as well.

CENSUS OFFICE

John H. ...
DEC 12
FREE

Miss Emma Reynolds

*Davenport
Del. Co
N.H.*

EXECUTIVE MANSION

WASHINGTON
APR 5
7PM
1881



*Rev. W. S. Bullards
Snowville,
Pulaski Co. Va.*

Any person using this envelope to avoid the payment of postage on private matter of any kind, will be subject to a fine of Three Hundred Dollars.



FREE

Free Station

John Haywood Egerton

Raleigh
N.C. Carolina

Hon. E. Everett. Boston. Mar. 6. 1852.
Rec'd. New York. 1852.



Free

Edward Everett.

Dr J. W. Harris

Librarian

Cambridge Mass

free R.K. Call

Sgt. Benj. Robinson

Fayetteville

P.C.



Pennacuta

Orville

Wayne Co. Ohio.

FREE

NEW-YORK JAN 22

Doct. Wm. Wilson

Post Master

for Post

Chermont

Presented by Major Hagner
U. S. Army

Col. J. B. Pucknall Esq
British Army
M. P. War

J. D. Graham

London

THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT

TENCH COXE

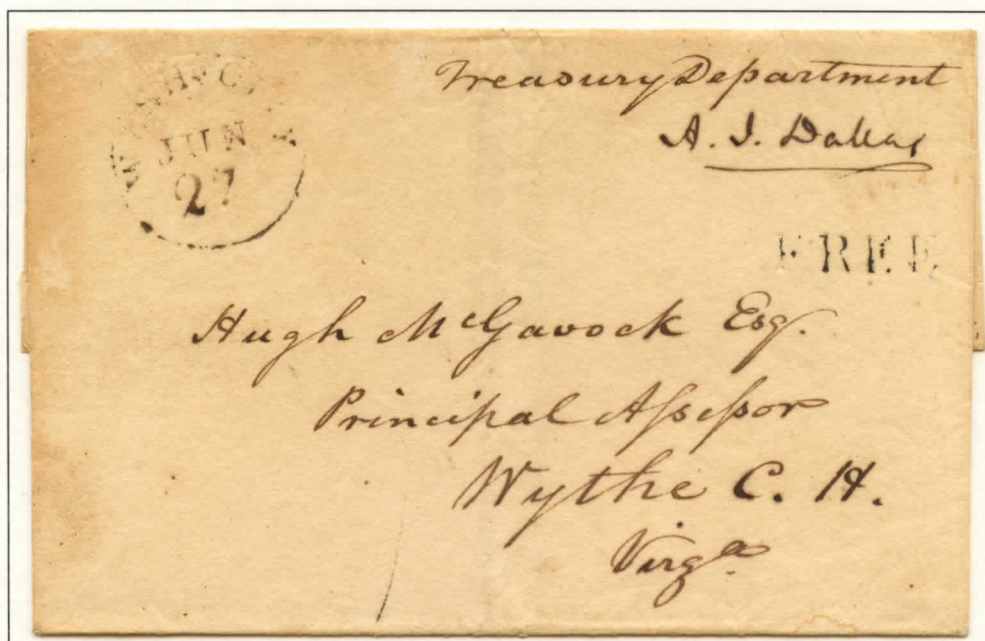


TENCH COXE Franked "Tench Coxe" as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury in 1791. He was appointed to this position on September 11, 1789.

THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT

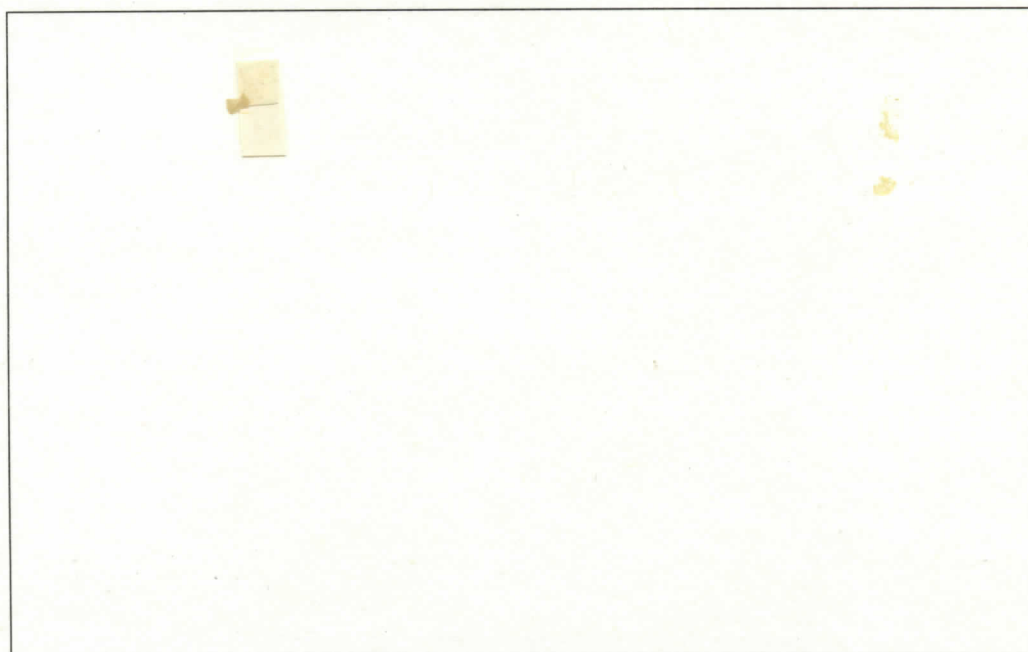


ALEXANDER HAMILTON Franked "*Free A. Hamilton*" as Secretary of the Treasury 1789—1795. With black handstamped FREE and brownish- black Franklin Mark.



ALEXANDER J. DALLAS Franked as Secretary of the Treasury 1814—1816. With brownish-red handstamped FREE and WASHN CITY postmark.

THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT



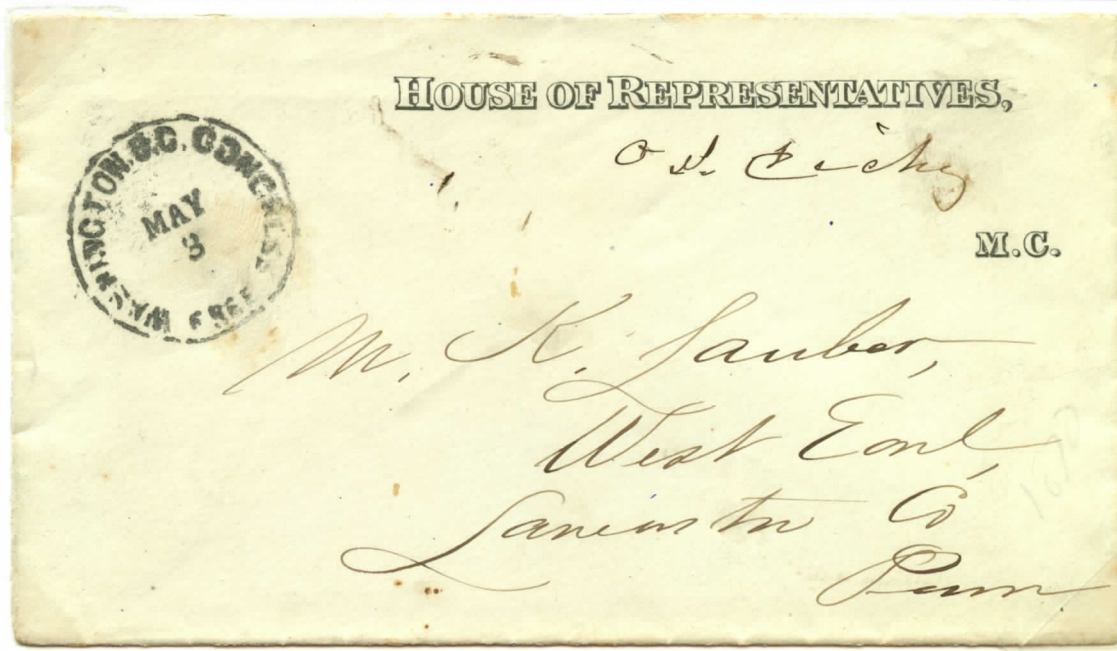
WILLIAM M. MEREDITH Letter mailed to him free under his franking privilege as Secretary of the Treasury 1849—1850. The one cent Bloods Philadelphia Local was added as his franking privilege did not cover the local post rate.



OLIVER WOLCOTT JR. Franked as Comptroller of the Treasury 1791—1795 with brownish-red handstamped FREE and Franklin Mark.

JAMES PATTERSON Senator from New Hampshire 1867—1873. Printed franks were commonly used during and after the Civil War but because of their abuse they were prohibited in 1869 and their use not permitted until 1893.

OLIVER DICKEY
Franked "O.J. Dickey M.C."
He was a Representative from Pa. 1869—1873. An Act of 1869 required all franking signatures to be written rather than printed or handstamped.



HENRY CABOT LODGE On March 30, 1895 franked "H. C. Lodge," but the letter required 5 cents postage to London and forwarded to Naples. The enclosed letter deals with Japanese spies in Manchuria. The China-Japan war broke out in July—August 1894 in Korea. Japan was victorious and a treaty was signed on April 17, 1895.

Act of January 31, 1873 Abolished the franking privilege from and after July 1, 1873, and provided that all official correspondence of whatever nature and all other mailable matter sent free or addressed to any officer of the Government or person then authorized to frank such matter shall be chargeable with the same rate of postage as may be lawfully imposed upon like matter sent by or addressed to other persons. This act also provided that no compensation or allowance shall be made to Members and Delegates of Congress on account of postage.

7

REPORT.

authority. In all cases where action has been taken on the spot, the action had must be stated. It is very necessary that each officer reviewing this report ticularly desirable that the remedy applied should be prompt, in order to be more efficacious. Inspectors must not confine themselves to the space here duties.

Twelve office chairs required for and very much needed at Fort Brown and Ringgold Barracks also a letter scale required for use in the U. S. Department at Ringgold Barracks and rendered necessary by the late Act of Congress abolishing the franking privilege

I am Sir

Very respectfully

H C Corbin

Captain 2d Infantry

Comd'g Post

Inspecting Officer

An Inspection Report from Fort Brown, Texas forwarded to the Acting Adjutant General on May 22, 1873. The attached report from Captain H.C. Corbin, the Post Inspecting Officer, requests "12 office chairs and also a letter scale rendered necessary by the late Act of Congress abolishing the franking privilege."

U. S. POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

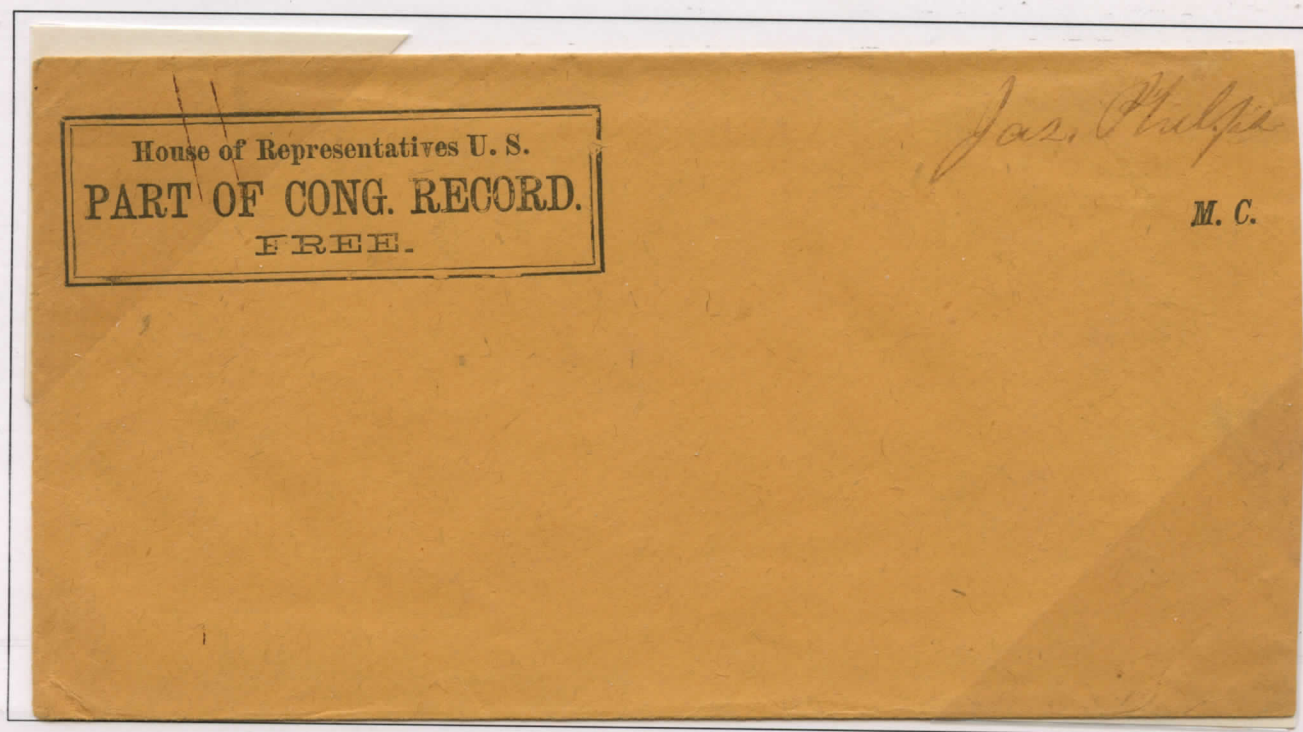
REGISTERED BUSINESS

Postmasters could frank official business mail continuously between the years 1798 and 1873. This cover was franked by *R Miller PM* the cover being marked **Official Business** and **Reg. Bus.** (Registered Business). It included a return Registered Letter Receipt stamped **Guilford Ohio Sep II** with manuscript, Due 3 in blue pencil.

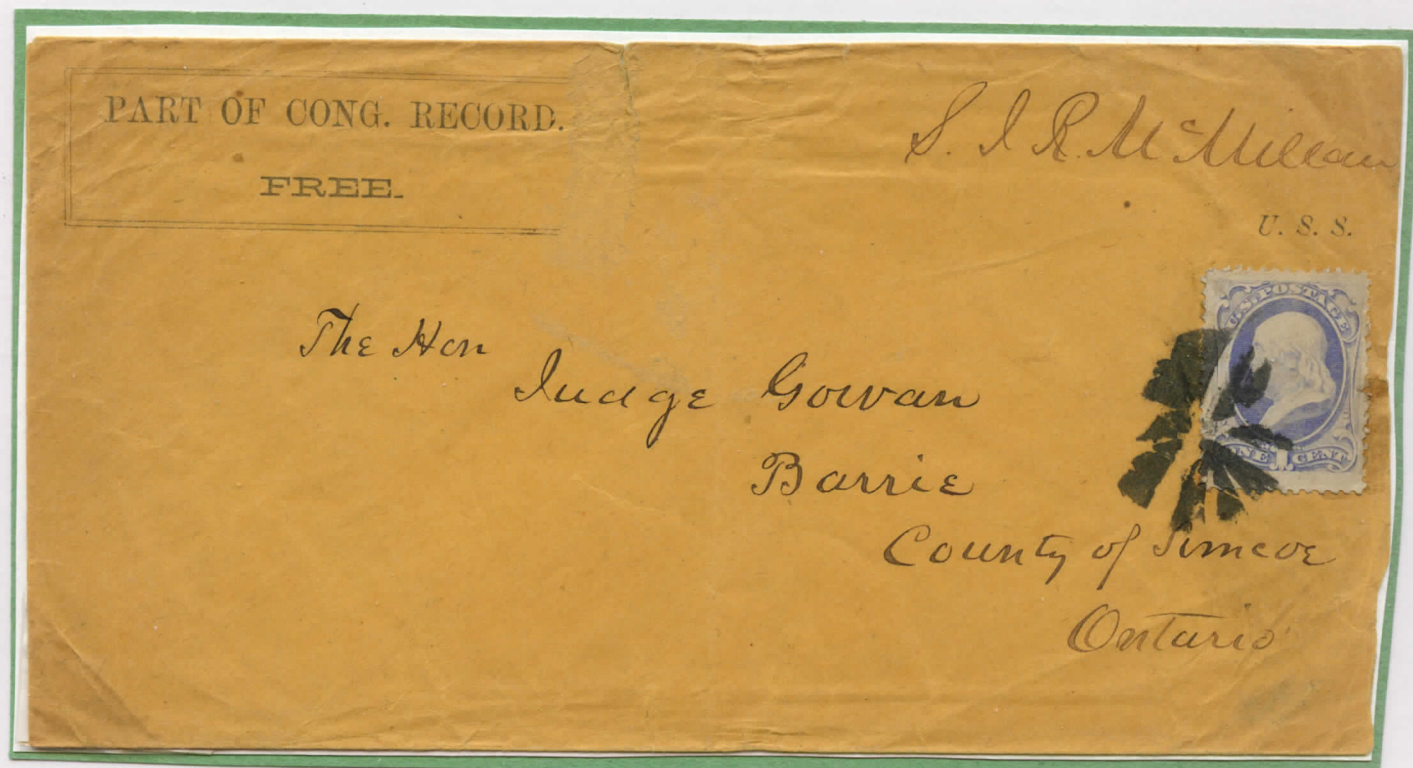


RETURN RECEIPT SERVICE The Registry Service began in 1855 and the first return receipt service was on July 1, 1863. The service was initially free and supposedly the first fee charged was April 15, 1925. However, the sender of this registered letter in 1872 appears, in this instance, to have been charged 3 cents.

RETURN REGISTERED LETTER RECEIPT.	
<p>NOTE. - This return receipt, after being signed by the party to whom the letter or package which accompanies it is delivered, must be immediately inclosed to the Postmaster at the office where it originated.</p> <p>Should the registered letter not be delivered, this receipt must be forwarded with it, in due course, to the Dead-Letter Office.</p>	
No. <u>7</u>	<u>Sep 6</u> , 18 <u>72</u>
Mailed at <u>West Farmington Ohio</u>	
by <u>Henry Thompson</u>	
a letter addressed to <u>Mr Arthur Gray</u>	
<u>Scville Medina Co Ohio</u>	
<p>Stamp here the office and date of delivery.</p>	<p>Received the above-described letter.</p> <p>Sign here. <u>A T Gray</u> <u>R J Mc</u></p>



JAMES PHELPS Franked "*Jas. Phelps M.C.*" He was a Representative from Connecticut 1875—1883. On July 1, 1873 all franking privileges were abolished. A congressional enactment in 1875, however, permitted members to mail copies or portions of the Congressional Record containing their speeches or reports to be franked under their written signatures.



SAMUEL JAMES RENWICK McMILLAN Franked *S. J. R. McMillan U.S.S.* He was a Senator from Minnesota, franking a similar cover which in this case required one cent postage paying the one cent per ounce rate to Canada for printed papers and pamphlets.

THE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENTS

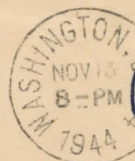
USE OF A PERSONAL HANDWRITTEN FRANK WHEN WRITING THE PRESIDENT

Two covers franked by Claude Pepper who was Senator from Florida from 1936 to 1951. The first cover is franked by his usual imprinted signature and was sent on November 13, 1944. Paris had been liberated in August and the Battle of the Bulge was about to begin. He evidently attached more importance to the second letter for he franked it himself, which he rarely did. It is addressed to President Harry Truman and was sent on August 9, 1945 at 4:30 P.M. This was the day the second atom bomb was dropped on Nagasaki.

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

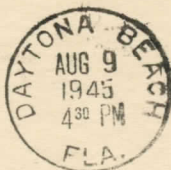
FREE



Claude Pepper
U.S.S.

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C.



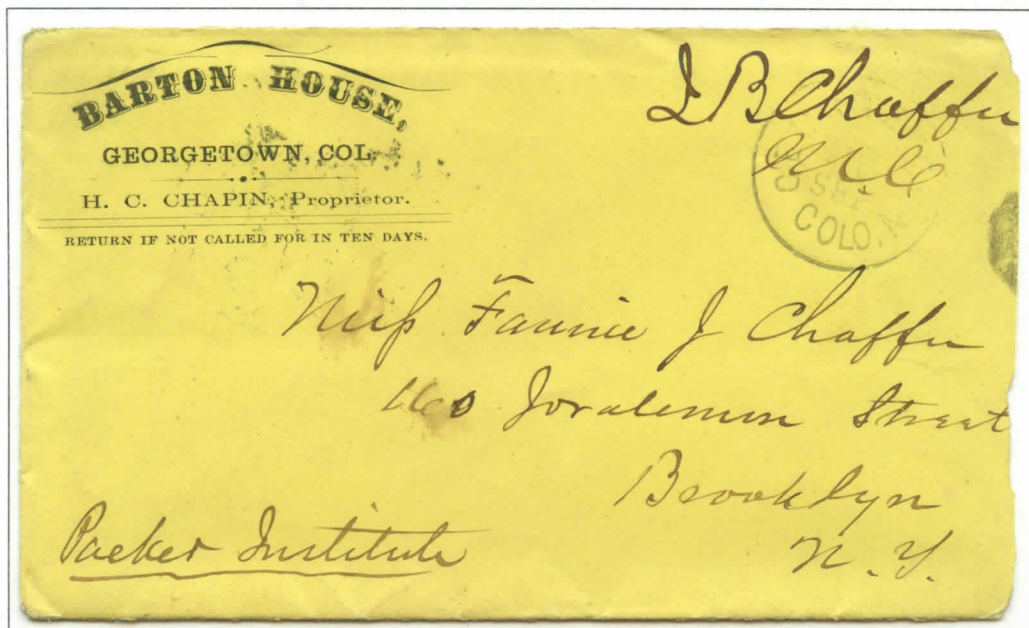
Claude Pepper
W.S.

Honorable Harry S. Truman
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C.

THE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENTS

THE TERRITORIAL DELEGATES

Each territory was entitled to one elected Congressional Delegate who sat with the House of Representatives, but had no voting rights. They usually used the same MC franking legend of the representatives.



JEROME B. CHAFFEE The Territorial Delegate from Colorado and later served in the House and Senate.

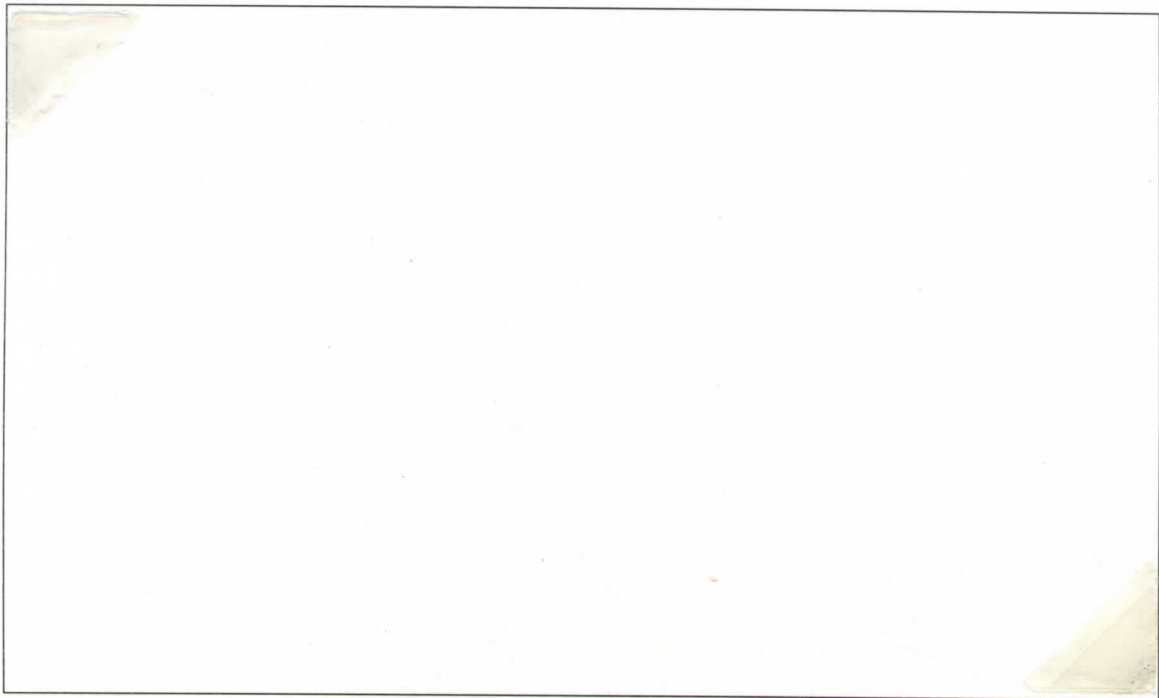


LEWIS CASS Military and Civil Governor of Michigan Territory. Letter from Detroit, Michigan Territory. A limited franking privilege was given to State Governors in 1834, but not to Governors of the territories. The letter did travel free, however, to George Gibson who held the franking privilege as Commissary General of Subsistence in the War Department.

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE



April 12, 1842 Henry L. Ellsworth franks here as the first Commissioner of Patents. This department was transferred to the Department of the Interior on May 10, 1849



CHARLES ADAMS The franking privilege was abolished on July 1, 1873 and Official Department Stamps were authorized. Endorsed "Legation U.S. to Bolivia / Charles Adams Minister" with DEPARTMENT OF STATE hand-stamp. The 6 cent Department of State official stamp pays the postage from the U.S. Legation in Bolivia to Illinois.