

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857-1870

1 April 1857-31 December 1869



(Reverse) (Blue)



Envelope: Paris to New York, 17 June 1867

Ship: *Union*

Company: Norddeutscher Lloyd
(North German Lloyd Line)

Depart: Southampton, 18 June 1867

Arrive: New York, 28 June 1867

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid
6¢ French debit to U.S.
15¢ postage due in coin in New York
20¢ postage due in notes in New York

Notes: Blue marking of Hotel du Jardin des Tuileries of Paris on the reverse probably means letter posted in a hotel mail box and delivery to the Paris post office on Rue St. Honore by hotel employee. Postage due calculated upon arrival of the steamer was 20¢ in depreciated greenback notes, a thirty three percent premium over the postage due in coin.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

British Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857-1870

1 April 1857-31 December 1869



Folded Letter: Paris to New York, 15 November 1867

Ship: *Persia*

Company: British & North American Royal Mail Steam Packet Company
(Cunard Line)

Depart: Queenstown, 17 November 1867

Arrive: New York, 26 November 1867

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate
24¢ French debit to U.S.
30¢ postage due in coin in New York
41¢ postage due in notes in New York

Notes: Letter weighed over 7½ grams and required two rates, but only one rate prepaid with 1862 80 centime rose on pinkish adhesive (Scott No. 28). "AFFR. INSUFF./[4]" handstamp applied in red at Paris Bureau Office 4, Rue D'Enghien to show letter insufficiently prepaid and pencil "2" marked in upper left corner. Paris debited U.S. 2x12¢=24¢. Under the treaty insufficiently paid letters were treated as wholly unpaid. New York marked 2x15¢=30¢ due in coin or 41¢ due in depreciated greenback currency.

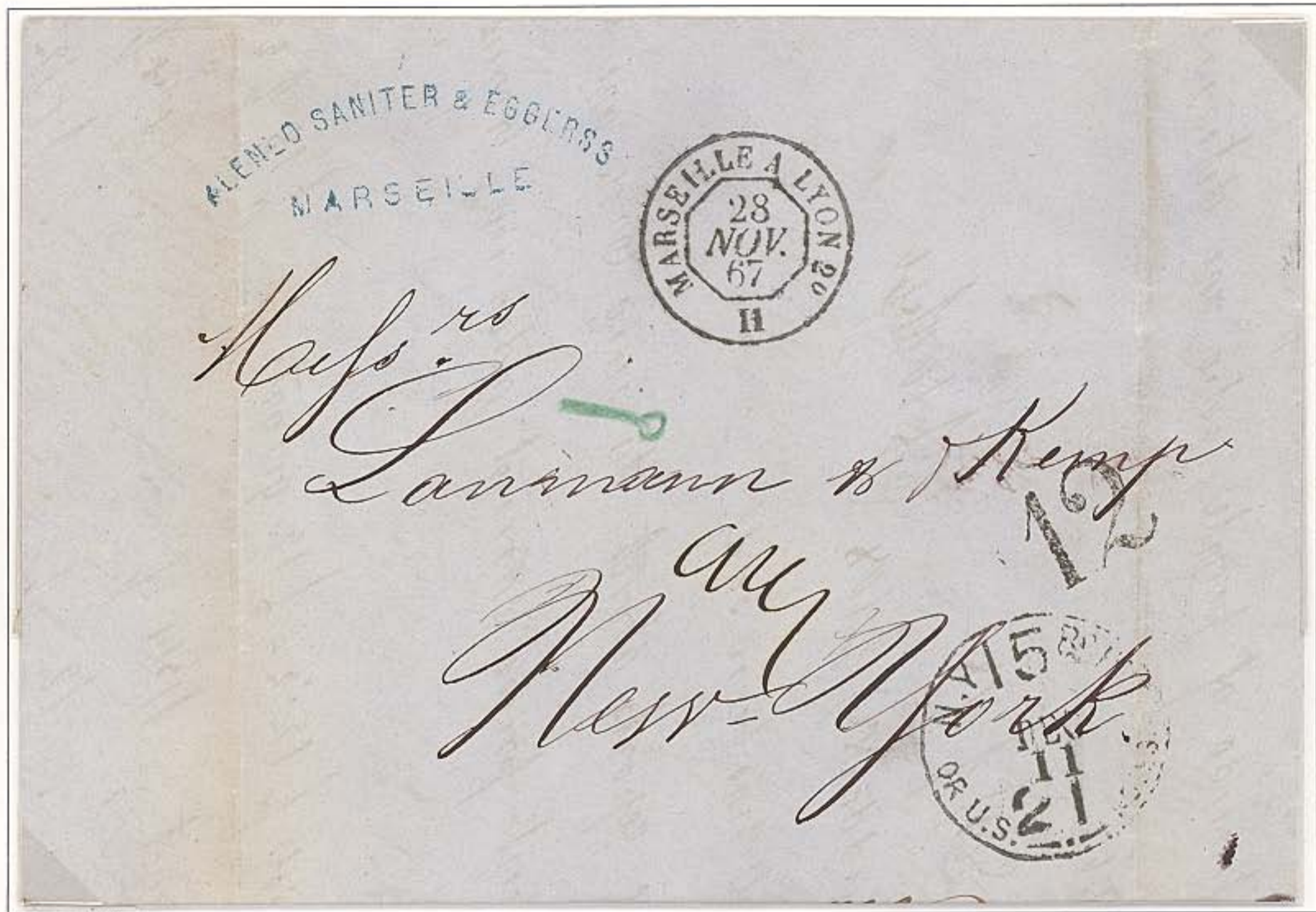
U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

British Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857-1870

1 April 1857-31 December 1869



Folded Letter: Marseille to New York, 28 November 1867

Ship: *Russia*

Company: British & North American Royal Mail Steam Packet Company
(Cunard Line)

Depart: Queenstown, 1 December 1867
Arrive: New York, 11 December 1867

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid
12¢ French debit to U.S.
15¢ postage due in coin in New York
21¢ postage due in notes in New York

Notes: Paris debited U.S. 12¢ with large black "12" handstamp. New York marked 15¢ due in coin or 21¢ due in depreciated greenback currency. The New York dual rate handstamp exists in two major varieties, one with a "mustache" under the lower rate marking and the other without.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

American/French Contract Steamship Service

1867-1870

August 1867-31 December 1869



Folded Letter: Buenos Ayres, Argentina to New York, 11 January 1868

Ship: *Aunis,*
Mississippi

Company: French Line K,
U.S.-Brazil Steamship Line

Depart: Buenos Ayres, 12 January 1868
Arrive: Rio de Janeiro, 20 January 1868
Depart: Rio de Janeiro, 29 January 1868
Arrive: New York, 26 February 1868

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid
16¢ French debit to U.S.
26¢ postage due in New York

Notes: A combined U.S.-French mail steamship service between New York and Montevideo was established in August 1867. The American steamships ran between New York and Rio de Janeiro and the French steamships between Rio de Janeiro and Montevideo. The combined rate was 10¢ per ½ oz. for the U.S. portion and 7½¢ per ¼ oz. for the French portion. The French debited the U.S. 16¢ rather than 15¢ for reasons unknown on this double rate letter. New York added 10¢ for the U.S. steamship transit fee for a total postage due of 26¢. Depreciated currency premiums were not applied to unpaid mail on this route.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty
British Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857-1870
1 April 1857-31 December 1869



Folded Letter: Havre to New York, 26 February 1868

Ship: *Siberia*

Company: British & North American Royal Mail Steam Packet Company
(Cunard Line)

Depart: Liverpool, 29 February 1868
Arrive: New York, 13 March 1868

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid
12¢ French debit to U.S.
15¢ postage due in coin in New York (not shown)
21¢ postage due in notes in New York

Notes: Letter was Bill of Lading endorsed to go to Liverpool for the 29 February 1868 sailing of Cunard steamship *Siberia*. Paris debited U.S. 12¢ with large black "12" handstamp. In January 1868 New York stopped using the dual rating circular date stamps and started using markings that showed the postage due in depreciated currency only.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty
American/French Contract Steamship Service

1867-1870
August 1867-31 December 1869



Folded Letter: Buenos Ayres, Argentina to Providence, Rhode Island, 10 June 1868

Ship: *Aunis,*
South America

Company: French Line K,
U.S.-Brazil Steamship Line

Depart: Buenos Ayres, 12 June 1868
Arrive: Rio de Janeiro, 20 June 1868
Depart: Rio de Janeiro, 25 June 1868
Arrive: New York, 20 July 1868

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid
16¢ French debit to U.S.
25¢ postage due in New York

Notes: A combined U.S.-French mail steamship service between New York and Montevideo was established in August 1867. The American steamships ran between New York and Rio de Janeiro and the French steamships between Rio de Janeiro and Montevideo. The combined rate was 10¢ per ½ oz. for the U.S. portion and 7½¢ per ¼ oz. for the French portion. The French debited the U.S. 16¢ rather than 15¢ for reasons unknown on this double rate letter. New York marked the correct postage due of 25¢. Depreciated currency premiums were not applied to unpaid mail on this route.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

American/French Contract Steamship Service

1867-1870

August 1867-31 December 1869



Folded Letter: Montevideo, Uruguay to New York, 13 June 1868

Ship: *Aunis,*
South America

Company: French Line K,
U.S.-Brazil Steamship Line

Depart: Montevideo, 15 June 1868
Arrive: Rio de Janeiro, 20 June 1868
Depart: Rio de Janeiro, 25 June 1868
Arrive: New York, 20 July 1868

Rate: - - - letter sent unpaid
8¢ French debit to U.S.
18¢ postage due in New York

Notes: A combined U.S.-French mail steamship service between New York and Montevideo was established in August 1867. The American steamships ran between New York and Rio de Janeiro and the French steamships between Rio de Janeiro and Montevideo. The combined rate was 10¢ per ½ oz. for the U.S. portion and 7½¢ per ¼ oz. for the French portion. The French neglected to strike the French Line K circular datestamp on this cover. Depreciated currency premiums were not applied to unpaid mail on this route. Letter did not go via Bordeaux as endorsed.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

American/French Contract Steamship Service

1867-1870

August 1867-31 December 1869



Folded Letter: Buenos Ayres, Argentina to New York, 11 July 1868

Ship: *Aunis,*
Mississippi

Company: French Line K,
U.S.-Brazil Steamship Line

Depart: Buenos Ayres, 12 July 1868
Arrive: Rio de Janeiro, 20 July 1868
Depart: Rio de Janeiro, 20 July 1868
Arrive: New York, 20 August 1868

Rate: - - - letter sent unpaid
8¢ French debit to U.S.
18¢ postage due in New York

Notes: A combined U.S.-French mail steamship service between New York and Montevideo was established in August 1867. The American steamships ran between New York and Rio de Janeiro and the French steamships between Rio de Janeiro and Montevideo. The combined rate was 10¢ per ½ oz. for the U.S. portion and 7½¢ per ¼ oz. for the French portion. The French debited the U.S. 8¢ rather than 7½¢ for reasons unknown on this single rate letter using an 8 decime postage due marking device. New York added the 10¢ steamship fee for a total postage due of 18¢. Depreciated currency premiums were not applied to unpaid mail on this route.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

American/French Contract Steamship Service

1867-1870

August 1867-31 December 1869

7 1/2



Folded Letter: Buenos Ayres, Argentina to New York, 7 August 1868

Ship: *Aunis,*
Merrimack

Company: French Line K,
U.S.-Brazil Steamship Line

Depart: Buenos Ayres, 8 August 1868
Arrive: Rio de Janeiro, 16 August 1868
Depart: Rio de Janeiro, ~26 August 1868
Arrive: New York, 20 September 1868

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid
7 1/2¢ French debit to U.S.
18¢ postage due in New York

Notes: A combined U.S.-French mail steamship service between New York and Montevideo was established in August 1867. The American steamships ran between New York and Rio de Janeiro and the French steamships between Rio de Janeiro and Montevideo. The combined rate was 10¢ per 1/2 oz. for the U.S. portion and 7 1/2¢ per 1/4 oz. for the French portion. The French debited the U.S. 7 1/2¢ in manuscript on this single rate letter. New York added the 10¢ steamship fee and rounded the total postage due up to 18¢. Depreciated currency premiums were not applied to unpaid mail on this route.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty
American/French Contract Steamship Service

1867-1870
August 1867-31 December 1869



Folded Letter: Buenos Ayres, Argentina to New York, 11 December 1868

Ship: *Aunis*,
South America

Company: French Line K,
U.S.-Brazil Steamship Line

Depart: Buenos Ayres, 12 December 1868
Arrive: Rio de Janeiro, 20 December 1868
Depart: Rio de Janeiro, 26 December 1868
Arrive: New York, 22 January 1869

Rate: - - - letter sent unpaid
8¢ French debit to U.S.
18¢ postage due in New York

Notes: A combined U.S.-French mail steamship service between New York and Buenos Ayres was established in August 1867. The American steamships ran between New York and Rio de Janeiro and the French steamships between Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Ayres. The combined rate was 10¢ per ½ oz. for the U.S. portion and 7½¢ per ¼ oz. for the French portion. French used 8 decime marking device to show 8¢ debit to U.S. Depreciated currency premiums were not applied to unpaid mail on this route.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

British Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857-1870

1 April 1857-31 December 1869

**AFFRANCHISSEMENT
INSUFFISANT**



Folded Letter: Cette, France to New Orleans, 17 March 1869

Ship: *City of New York II*

Company: Liverpool, New York & Philadelphia Steam Ship Company
(Inman Line)

Depart: Queenstown, 21 March 1869
Arrive: New York, 31 March 1869

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate
24¢ French debit to U.S.
30¢ postage due in coin in New York (not shown)
39¢ postage due in notes in New York

Notes: Letter weighed over 7½ grams and required two rates, but only one rate prepaid with 1868 80 centime rose on pinkish adhesive (Scott No. 36). "AFFRANCHISSEMENT INSUFFISANT" handstamp applied in red at Cette (?) to show letter insufficiently prepaid. Paris debited U.S. 2x12¢=24¢. Under the treaty insufficiently paid letters were treated as wholly unpaid. New York marked 39¢ due in depreciated greenback currency. "Due 39" in pencil probably marked in New Orleans.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty
American/French Contract Steamship Service

1867-1870
August 1867-31 December 1869



Folded Letter: Buenos Ayres, Argentina to New York, 11 April 1869

Ship: *Aunis,*
Mississippi

Company: French Line K,
U.S.-Brazil Steamship Line

Depart: Buenos Ayres, 12 April 1869
Arrive: Rio de Janeiro, ~20 April 1869
Depart: Rio de Janeiro, ~20 April 1869
Arrive: ---

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid
8¢ French debit to U.S.
18¢ postage due in New York

Notes: A combined U.S.-French mail steamship service between New York and Buenos Ayres was established in August 1867. The American steamships ran between New York and Rio de Janeiro and the French steamships between Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Ayres. The combined rate was 10¢ per ½ oz. for the U.S. portion and 7½¢ per ¼ oz. for the French portion. *Mississippi* ran aground on Great Pensacola Shoal, Martinique on 12 May 1869 and was a complete loss. Her mails were eventually taken to Havana. Atlantic Mail Steamship Co. steamer *Columbia* carried letter to New York arriving on 10 June 1869. Depreciated currency premiums were not applied to unpaid mail on this route.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty
American/French Contract Steamship Service

1867-1870
August 1867-31 December 1869



Folded Letter: Buenos Ayres, Argentina to New York, 11 July 1869

Ship: *Aunis*,
North America

Company: French Line K,
U.S.-Brazil Steamship Line

Depart: Buenos Ayres, 12 July 1869
Arrive: Rio de Janeiro, ~20 July 1869
Depart: Rio de Janeiro, 26 July 1869
Arrive: New York, 21 August 1869

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid
16¢ French debit to U.S. for double rate
25¢ postage due in New York

Notes: A combined U.S.-French mail steamship service between New York and Buenos Ayres was established in August 1867. The American steamships ran between New York and Rio de Janeiro and the French steamships between Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Ayres. The combined rate was 10¢ per ½ oz. for the U.S. portion and 7½¢ per ¼ oz. for the French portion. Although French debited U.S. 2x8¢ New York marked correct postage due for two French rates and one U.S. rate, 25¢. Depreciated currency premiums were not applied to unpaid mail on this route.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty
American/French Contract Steamship Service

1867-1870
August 1867-31 December 1869



Folded Letter: Buenos Ayres, Argentina to New York, 11 September 1869

Ship: *Aunis*,
South America

Company: French Line K,
U.S.-Brazil Steamship Line

Depart: Buenos Ayres, 12 September 1869
Arrive: Rio de Janeiro, ~20 September 1869
Depart: Rio de Janeiro, 25 September 1869
Arrive: New York, 20 October 1869

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid
15¢ French debit to U.S. for double rate
25¢ postage due in New York

Notes: A combined U.S.-French mail steamship service between New York and Buenos Ayres was established in August 1867. The American steamships ran between New York and Rio de Janeiro and the French steamships between Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Ayres. The combined rate was 10¢ per ½ oz. for the U.S. portion and 7½¢ per ¼ oz. for the French portion. French marked two rate with red crayon "2" and debited U.S. 15¢ (usually debited U.S. 16¢ on double rate letters). Depreciated currency premiums were not applied to unpaid mail on this route.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1874 Treaty

British & American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1870-1874

1 January 1870-1 August 1874



Envelope with letter: Paris to Cincinnati, Ohio, 24 August 1870

Ship: *City of London*

Company: Liverpool, New York & Philadelphia Steam Ship Company
(Inman Line)

Depart: Queenstown, 26 August 1870
Arrive: New York, 6 September 1870

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid
14¢ G.B. debit to U.S.
16¢ postage due in coin in Cincinnati (not shown)
18¢ postage due in notes in Cincinnati

Notes: Paris struck "F*R/2^F" handstamp to show G.B. debited 2 Francs per ounce bulk letter weight under Franco-British postal treaty. British debit to U.S. included 10¢ payback to France, 2¢ British transit and 2¢ sea postage. U.S. added 2¢ for total 16¢ due in coin (not shown) or 18¢ in depreciated greenback currency.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1874 Treaty

British & American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1870-1874

1 January 1870-1 August 1874



(Red) (Reverse)



Folded Letter: Havre to Wiscasset, Maine, 10 March 1871

Ship: *Abyssinia*

Company: British & North American Royal Mail Steam Packet Company
(Cunard Line)

Depart: Queenstown, 12 March 1871
Arrive: New York, 23 March 1871

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid
14¢ G.B. debit to U.S.
16¢ postage due in coin in Wiscasset (not shown)
18¢ postage due in notes in Wiscasset

Notes: Letter carried from Havre by non-government mail vessel to London where SHIP-LETTER LONDON circular datestamp applied. London debited U.S. 14¢ in blue crayon. Postage due in depreciated greenback currency only marked at New York.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1874 Treaty

British & American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1870-1874

1 January 1870-1 August 1874



Folded Letter: Havre to New York, 11 November 1872

Ship: *City of Montreal*

Company: Liverpool, New York & Philadelphia Steam Ship Company
(Inman Line)

Depart: Queenstown, 22 November 1872
Arrive: New York, 6 December 1872

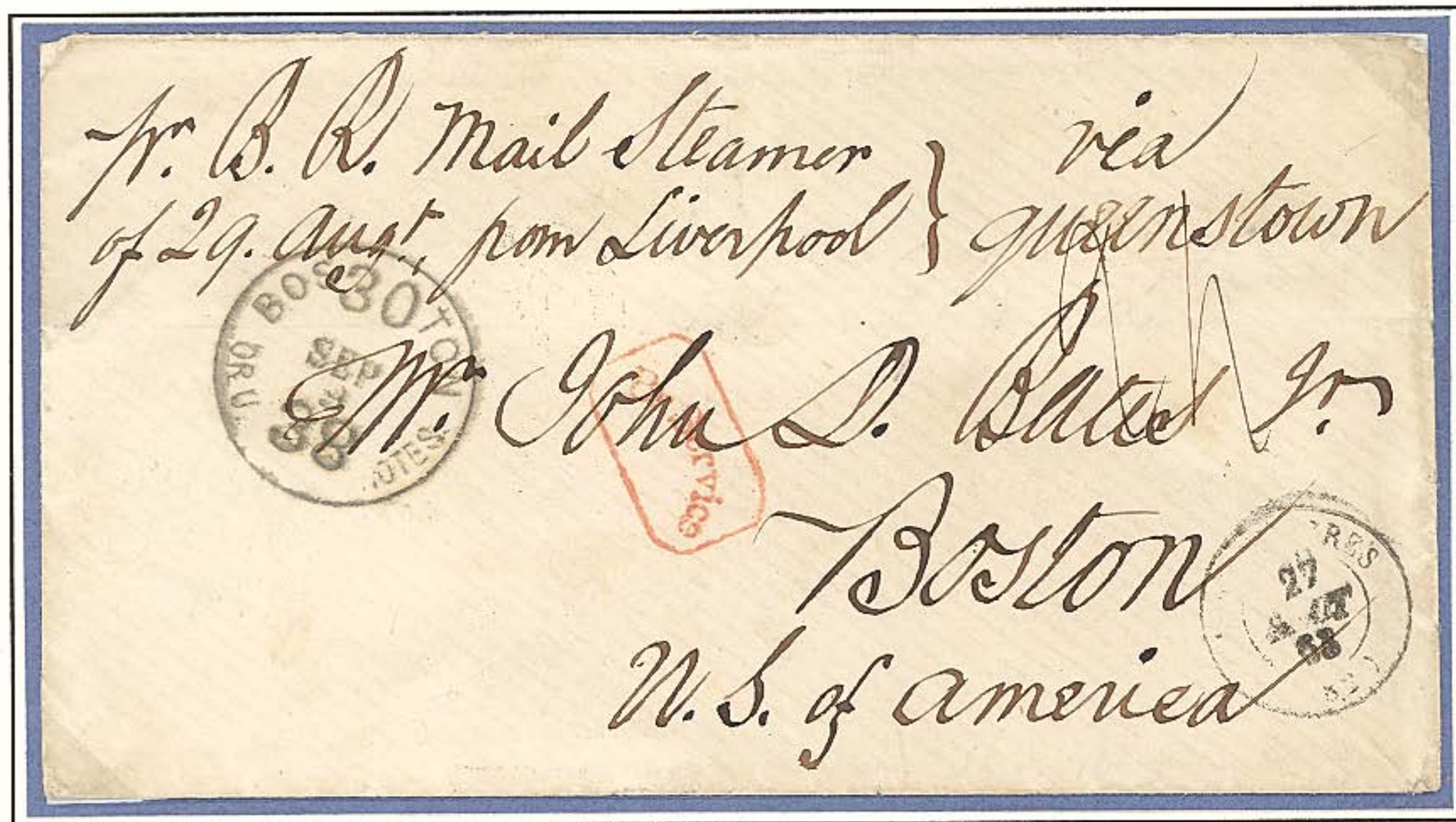
Rate: --- letter sent unpaid
14¢ G.B. debit to U.S.
16¢ postage due in coin in New York (not shown)
18¢ postage due in notes in New York

Notes: Letter intended to go on the North German Lloyd steamer *Donau* which called at Southampton on 12 November 1872. Apparently it missed that vessel and was placed on the Inman Line steamer 10 days later. It is not known why it did not go on the next available contract mail steamer. London struck the black handstamp "14."

U.S. – France Mails by Steamship

U.S. – French Treaty of 1857
British Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857–1870
1 Apr 57–1 Jan 70



27 August 1863 Plombieres to Boston
Letter sent unpaid (double rate)
38¢ postage due in greenback notes
30¢ postage due in coin

Scotia 9 days (West)
2x12¢ = 24¢ French debit to U.S.
Boston's dual rating cds showed postage due
in coin (top) or greenback notes (bottom)

U.S. – France Mails by Steamship

U.S. – French Treaty of 1857
British Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857–1870
1 Apr 57–1 Jan 70



26 November 1863 La Rochelle to New York
Letter sent unpaid
22¢ postage due in greenback notes
15¢ postage due in coin

Canada 15 days (West)
12¢ French debit to U.S.
New York's dual rating cds showed postage
due in coin (top) or greenback notes (bottom)

*P^a Steamer
via Queenstown*



24

Messrs. Williams Black & Co.,

New-York.

15 February 1867 Le Havre to New York
Letter sent unpaid (double rate)
39¢ postage due in greenback notes
30¢ postage due in coin

Asia 14 days (West)
2x12¢ = 24¢ French debit to U.S.
Le Havre used distinctive small numeral
rate marks for indicating debits and credits

Via Liverpool
Per first English or American Steamer.



Messrs

Lammont & Henry



New-York

(U. S. A.)



Cousinery & fils

28 July 1865 Smyrna, Turkey to New York
Letter sent unpaid (30¢ rate)
42¢ postage due in greenback notes
30¢ postage due in coin

Borussia 14 days (West)
21¢ French debit to U.S.
French steamer *Menzaleh* carried letter to Marseille
Error cachet, *Mensale*, used on six voyages of the steamer

78 54

78 54

~~1/10~~



Che' Signo edno sig.

Mont. Gio: Martino Henry
Vesovo di

Milwaukee

America St. Un.

16 November 1865 Rome, Papal States to Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Letter sent unpaid (2x27¢ rate)

78¢ postage due in greenback notes

54¢ postage due in coin

Bremen 13 days (West)

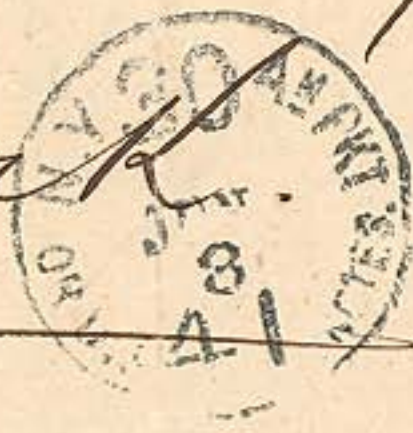
2x18¢ = 36¢ French debit to U.S.

Since New York had no dual rating cds for double 27¢, rates were written by hand

Via Bordeaux



Messrs. Lamman & Kemp
New York



11 April 1866 Buenos Ayres, Argentina to New York via Bordeaux
Letter sent unpaid (30¢ rate)
41¢ postage due in greenback notes
30¢ postage due in coin

Hermann 11 days (West)
21¢ French debit to U.S.
French steamer *Carmel* carried letter to
Rio de Janeiro and *Navarre* to Bordeaux

U.S. – France Mails by Steamship

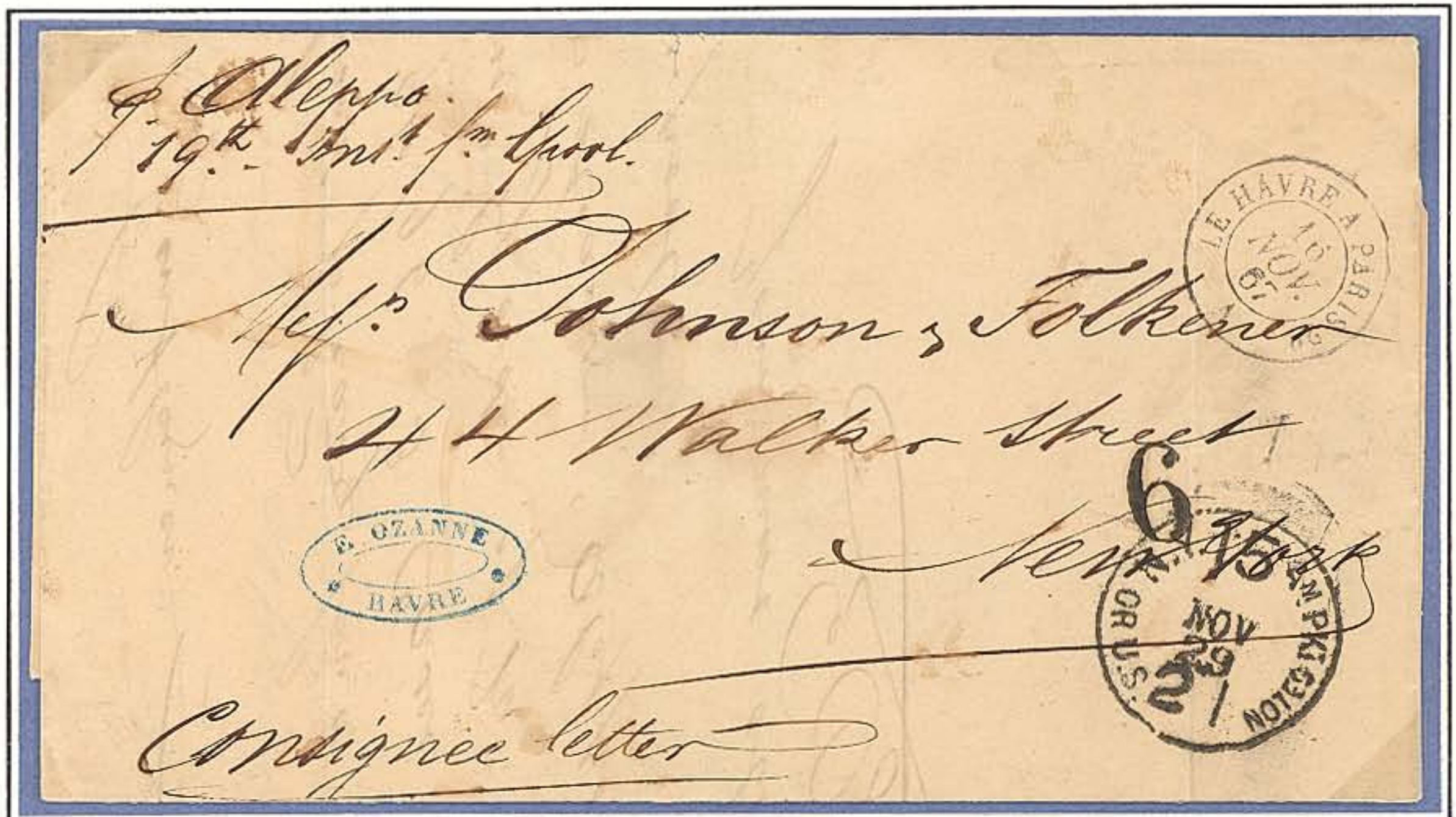
U.S. – French Treaty of 1857
 American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857–1870
 1 Apr 57–1 Jan 70



14 December 1866 Buenos Ayres, Argentina to New York via Bordeaux
 Letter sent unpaid (30¢ rate)
 39¢ postage due in greenback notes
 30¢ postage due in coin

City of Paris 12 days (West)
 21¢ French debit to U.S.
 Letter placed in supplementary mail by
 consular agent at Buenos Ayres



16 November 1867 Le Havre to New York
 Letter sent unpaid
 21¢ postage due in greenback notes
 15¢ postage due in coin

Weser II 10 days (West)
 6¢ French debit to U.S.
 Letter endorsed for Cunard non-contract steamer
Aleppo, but sent on North German Lloyd *Weser II*



Steamer *Pereire*
via Brest



24

Feb 27 1868

Mrs Geo J. Bourne
Messrs Arnold Constable & Co
New York City
U.S. America



27 February 1868 Paris to New York
Letter sent unpaid (double rate)
41¢ postage due in greenback notes
30¢ postage due in coin (not shown)

Pereire 10 days (West)
2x12¢ = 24¢ French debit to U.S.
In 1868, New York introduced new cds which
showed postage due in greenback currency only

U.S. – France Mails by Steamship

U.S. – French Treaty of 1857
French Contract Steamship Direct

1864–1870
15 Jun 64–1 Jan 70



11 November 1866 Buenos Ayres, Argentina to New York via Bordeaux

Letter sent unpaid (30¢ rate)
39¢ postage due in greenback notes
30¢ postage due in coin

Péreire 12 days (West)

27¢ French debit to U.S. (not shown)
French Line K operated branch service from
Rio de Janeiro to Buenos Ayres

Letter carried by French mail steamer *Carmel* from Buenos Ayres to Rio de Janeiro and by French mail steamer *Guienne* from Rio to Bordeaux. Transit time to New York by this routing was 51 days.

Conveyance by French steamships on all three legs of the transit makes this cover unusual.

U.S. - France Mails by Steamship

Pre U.S. - French Treaty
British & American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1870-1874
1 Jan 70-1 Aug 74



10 February 1870 Cette to New York
Letter sent unpaid
20¢ postage due in greenback notes
16¢ postage due in coin (not shown)

Calabria 10 days (West)
14¢ G.B. debit to U.S.
British debit included 10¢ payback to
France, 2¢ British transit, and 2¢ sea postage



16 May 1870 Paris to Philadelphia
Letter sent unpaid (double rate)
30¢ postage due in greenback notes
26¢ postage due in coin (not shown)

Nemesis 8 days (West)
24¢ G.B. debit to U.S.
British debit included 2x10¢ payback to
France, 2¢ British transit, and 2¢ sea postage

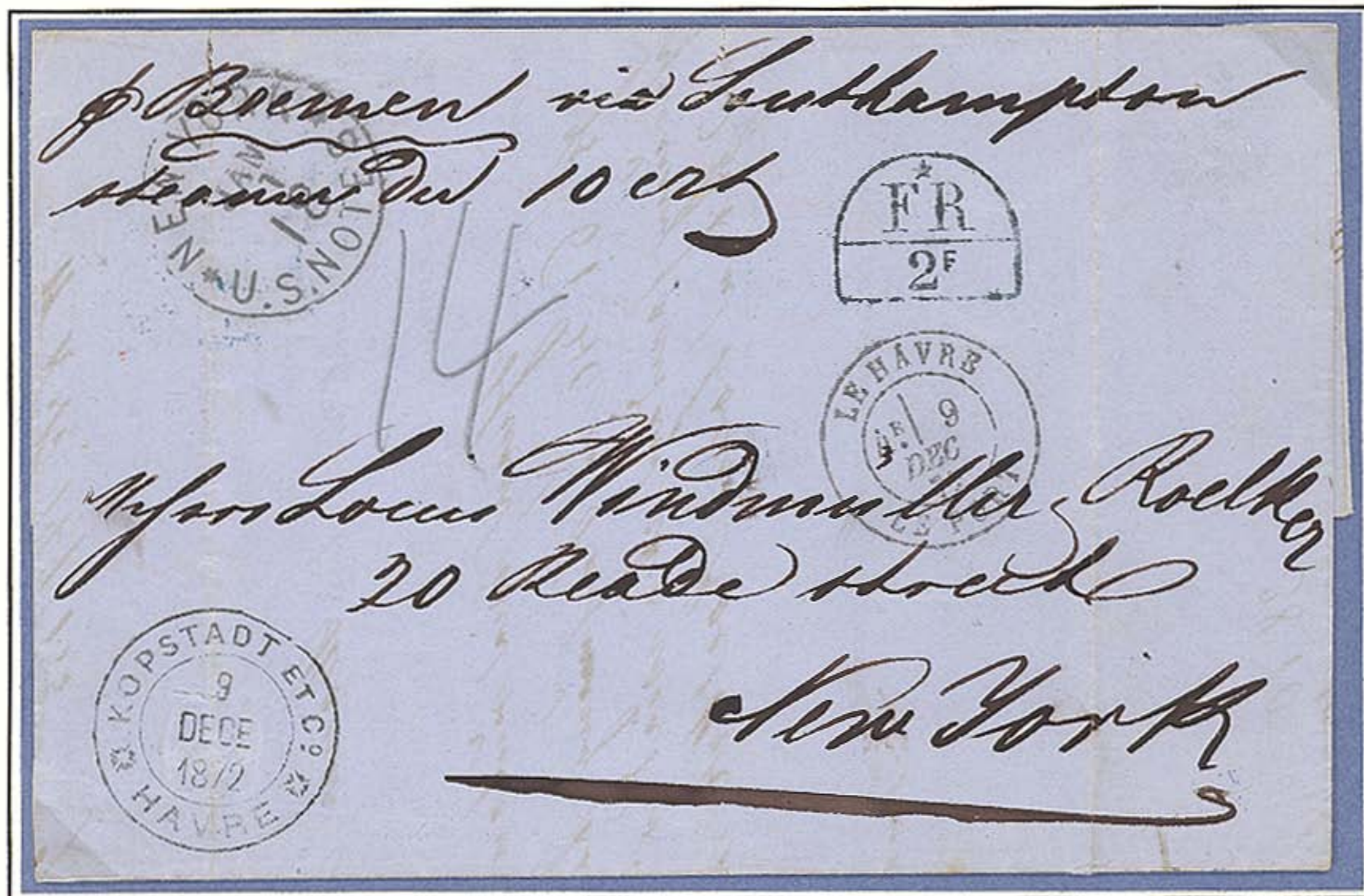
U.S. – France Mails by Steamship

Pre U.S. – French Treaty

British & American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1870–1874

1 Jan 70–1 Aug 74



9 December 1872 Le Havre to New York

Letter sent unpaid

18¢ postage due in greenback notes

16¢ postage due in coin (not shown)

Siberia 20 days (West)

14¢ G.B. debit to U.S.

Paris exchanged letter with G.B. at 2

Franc per ounce bulk letter rate

U.S. - France Mails by Steamship

U.S. - French Treaty of 1874
Contract Steamship via G.B. and Direct

1874-1876
1 Aug 74-1 Jan 76

On 1 August 1874, the second postal convention between the United States and France went into effect. Mails could again be sent fully paid between the two countries. The single letter rate was 9¢ in the U.S. or 5 decimes (50 centimes) in France per 10 grams. Each country kept the amount collected, either prepaid or postage due. Debit or credit accounting was not required on the letters. Unpaid letters were fined 5¢ in the U.S. and 25 centimes in France.



14 August 1874 Le Havre to Philadelphia
Letter sent unpaid
14¢ postage due in New York

China 10 days (West)
Cunard steamer carried letter
from Queenstown to New York

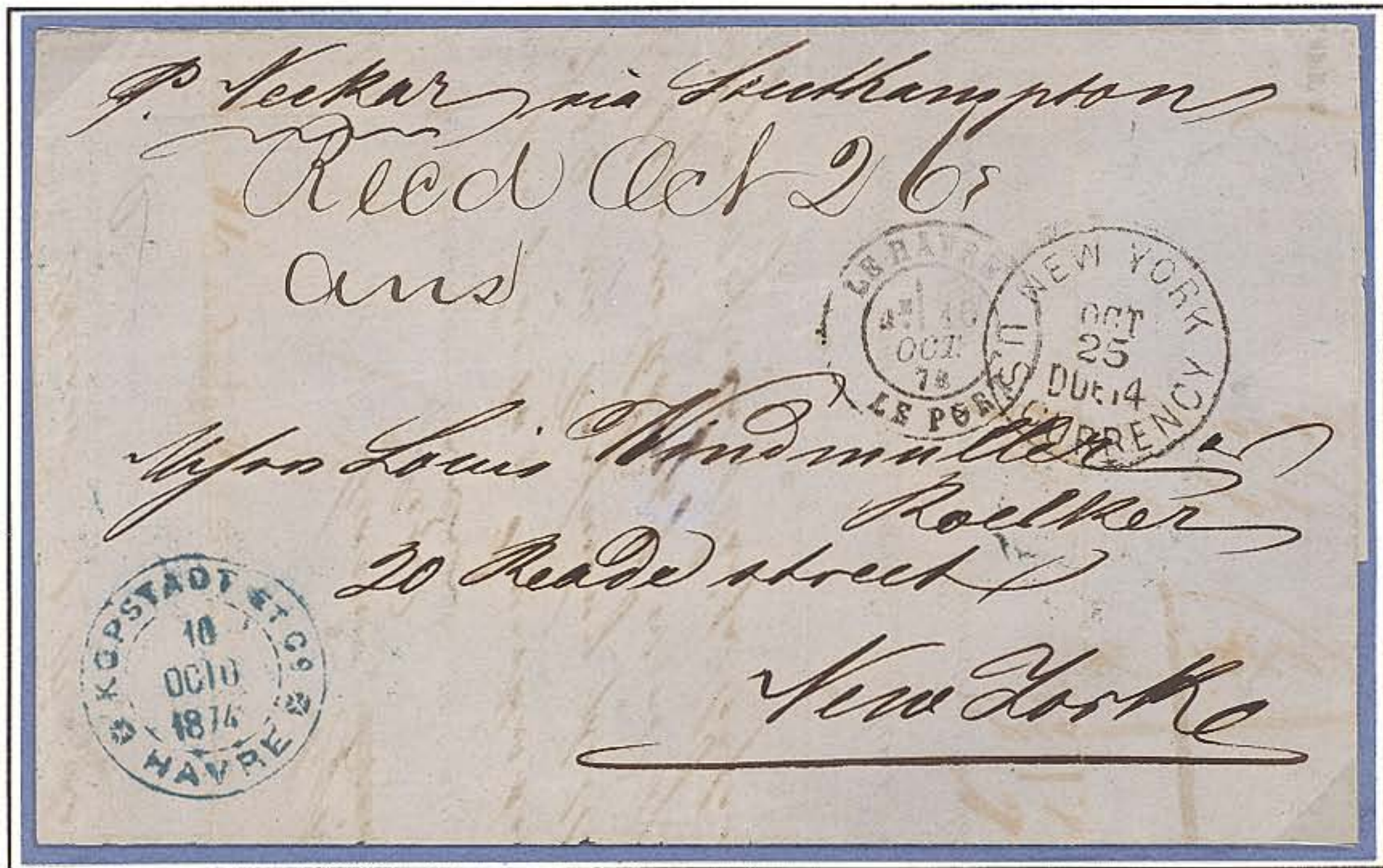


This letter was endorsed for the steamship *Indiana* of the American Line, scheduled to depart Liverpool on 19 August 1874 for Philadelphia. Paris placed the letter in a closed mail bag, which London routed to the steamer *China*. Since the letter was sent unpaid, it was subject to a 5¢ unpaid letter fine by New York. Postage due was collected in greenback currency only.

U.S. - France Mails by Steamship

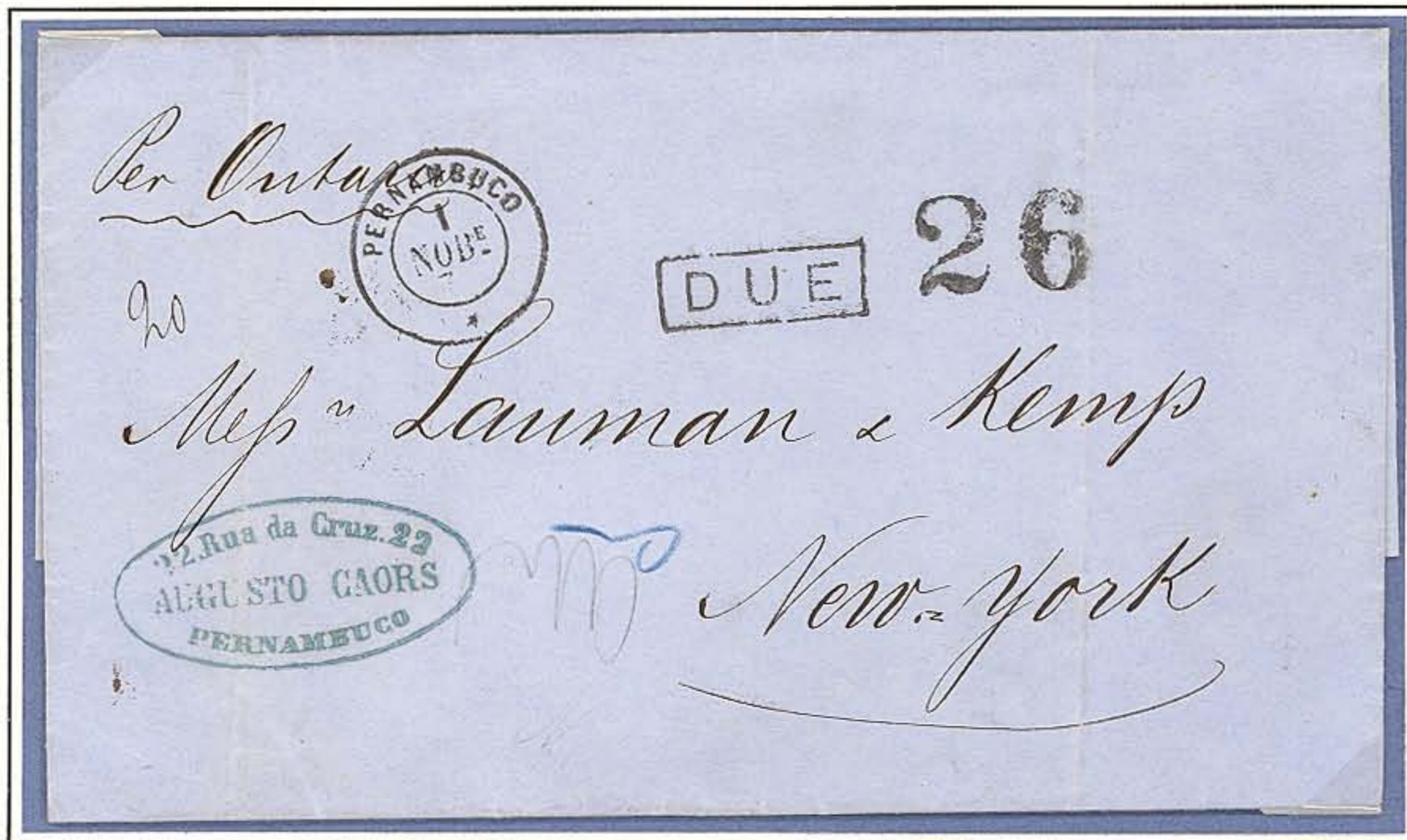
U.S. - French Treaty of 1874
Contract Steamship via G.B. and Direct

1874-1876
1 Aug 74-1 Jan 76



10 October 1874 Le Havre to New York
Letter sent unpaid
14¢ postage due in New York

Neckar 11 days (West)
Postage due = 9¢ Treaty rate plus 5¢ unpaid
letter fine, collected in greenback currency only



(Reverse)

31 October 1874 Pernambuco, Brazil to New York via France
Letter sent unpaid
26¢ postage due in New York

Abysinnia 10 days (West)
20¢ French debit to U.S.
Postage due included 5¢ unpaid letter fine
Letter by French Line J steamer *Gironde* to Bordeaux

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty
French Contract Steamship Direct

1857-1870
15 June 1864-31 December 1869



Envelope: Paris to Charleston, South Carolina, 20 December 1867

Ship: *Napoleon III*

Company: Compagnie Générale Transatlantique
(French Line H)

Depart: Brest, 21 December 1867
Arrive: New York, 5 January 1868

Rate:	---	letter sent unpaid
	12¢	French debit to U.S.
	15¢	postage due in coin in Charleston
	20¢	postage due in notes in Charleston

Notes: Paris exchange office debited U.S. 12¢. Postage due in Charleston was 15¢ if paid in coin or 20¢ if paid in depreciated greenback notes. Uncommon depreciated currency dual rate circular datestamp of New York showing French packet service.