

# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet to France

prior to 1857

COLONIES  
PAR LE HAVRE



Folded Letter: Philadelphia to Paris, 11 December 1827

Ship: *France*

Company: Havre Second Line sailing packets

Depart: New York, ~15 December 1827  
Arrive: Havre, 8 January 1828

Rate: 12½¢ paid for single rate  
9 decimes postage due at Paris

Notes: Letter paid 12½¢ for a single inland rate to New York. Postage due in France consisted of 1 decime du mer plus 8 decimes inland postage for a 7½-10 gram letter going 180 km from Havre to Paris. Letter carried privately from Paris to Nice, where addressed docketed receipt of the letter. Late use of the French entry marking of Havre (Salles No. 43 used until January 1828)



# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet to G.B.

prior to 1857

**ShipLetter.**



Folded Letter: New York to Lyon, 16 May 1838

Ship: *Europe*

Company: Black Ball Line

Depart: New York, 16 May 1838

Arrive: Liverpool, 9 June 1838

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid  
4s6d G.B. debit to France  
96 decimes postage due at Lyon

Notes: Letter taken to ship's letter bag and not to New York post office. Liverpool rated letter as triple rate (two enclosures) and marked 4s9d postage due for ship letter to London (3 x 8d ship fee plus 3 x 11d inland fee = 57d = 4s9d). Foreign Office in London marked ship letter handstamp to explain 3 x 1s6d = 4s6d debit to France under 1836 Anglo-French convention. Paris marked letter weighed 20 grams and 9 francs 6 decimes (96 decimes) postage due (54 decimes to U.K. and 42 decimes internal fee for a 20 gram letter going 615 km from Calais to Lyon). Uncommon 1836 Anglo-French convention rate letter.



# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet from France

prior to 1857



Folded Letter: Vienna, Austria, to New York via Havre, 4 October 1838

Ship: *Utica*

Company: Union Line of Havre Packets

Depart: Havre, 22 October 1838  
Arrive: New York, 18 December 1838

Rate: 14 krCM paid in Vienna for single rate to Austrian border (manuscript on reverse)  
30 decimes paid in Havre  
6¢ postage due in New York

Notes: Letter sent to Welles & Greener, a forwarding agent in Havre and paid only to Austrian border with Bavaria. In France letter marked in error for 28 decimes postage due, then corrected to 30 decimes, which was paid by the agent (2 x 8 decimes for 480 km from Forbach to Havre plus 2 x 7 decimes to Germany for 10 gram letter). Letter traveled to Eger, Austria, than via Frankfurt to Forbach, France, as earlier route via Bavaria no longer available. Agent posted letter at Bureau Maritime and paid 2 decimes for outgoing ship letter (not shown). Postage due at New York was 6¢, the incoming ship letter rate to the port.



# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet to France

prior to 1857



Folded Letter: Philadelphia to Paris, 30 November 1838

Ship: Sully

Company: Union Line of Havre Packets

Depart: New York, 1 December 1838

Arrive: Havre, 22 December 1838

Rate: 25¢ prepaid for double rate  
6 decimes postage due at Paris

Notes: Letter prepaid  $2 \times 12\frac{1}{2}\text{¢} = 25\text{¢}$  for double inland rate to New York. This is not a freight money cover as Havre Line did not charge freight money fees. (See January 1839 U.S. Post Office Department notice quoted in Allan Steinhart February 1984 *American Philatelist* article "Freight Money from Canada.") Postage due consisted of 1 decime du mer plus 5 decimes inland postage for simple letter going 180 km from Havre to Paris.



# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet to France

prior to 1857



Folded Letter: Philadelphia to Paris, 21 April 1839

Ship: *Ville de Lyon*

Company: Union Line of Havre Packets

Depart: New York, 1 May 1839

Arrive: Havre, 22 May 1839

Rate: 25¢ prepaid for double rate  
9 decimes postage due at Paris

Notes: Letter prepaid  $2 \times 12\frac{1}{2}\text{¢} = 25\text{¢}$  for double inland rate to New York. This is not a freight money cover as Havre Line did not charge freight money fees. (See January 1839 U.S. Post Office Department notice quoted in Allan Steinhart February 1984 *American Philatelist* article "Freight Money from Canada.") Postage due consisted of 1 decime du mer plus 8 decimes inland postage for  $7\frac{1}{2}$ -10 gram letter going 180 km from Havre to Paris.



# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet to G.B.

prior to 1857

**ShipLetter.**



Folded Letter: St. Louis, Missouri to Bordeaux, 2 August 1839

Ship: *Siddons*

Company: *Dramatic Line*

Depart: *New York, 26 August 1839*

Arrive: *Liverpool, 13 September 1839*

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid  
1s6d G.B. debit to France  
32 decimes postage due at Bordeaux

Notes: Letter carried "out of the mails" to New York where unknown forwarding agent paid 12½ sailing ship freight money fee. Liverpool marked 1s7d postage due for ship letter to London. Foreign Office in London marked ship letter handstamp to explain 1s6d debit to France. Paris marked letter for 32 decimes postage due (18 decimes to U.K. and 14 decimes internal fee for a simple letter going 700 km from Calais to Bordeaux. Letter redirected to St. Foy.



# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet to France

prior to 1857



Folded Letter: Philadelphia to Paris, 12 August 1839

Ship: *Ville de Lyon*

Company: Union Line of Havre Packets

Depart: New York, 16 August 1839  
Arrive: Havre, 12 September 1839

Rate: 25¢ prepaid for double rate  
14 decimes postage due at Paris

Notes: Letter prepaid  $2 \times 12\frac{1}{2}\text{¢} = 25\text{¢}$  for double inland rate to New York (two sheets of paper). This is not a freight money cover as Havre Line did not charge freight money fees. (See January 1839 U.S. Post Office Department notice quoted in Allan Steinhart February 1984 *American Philatelist* article "Freight Money from Canada.") Postage due consisted of 1 decime du mer plus 13 decimes inland postage for a 15 gram letter going 180 km from Havre to Paris.



# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet to France

prior to 1857



Folded Letter: Philadelphia to Bernhausen, Württemberg, 30 December 1840

Ship: Rhone

Company: Union Line of Havre Packets

Depart: New York, ? January 1841

Arrive: Havre, 13 February 1841

Rate: 25¢ prepaid for double rate  
67 kreuzer postage due at Bernhausen

Notes: Letter probably prepaid  $2 \times 12\frac{1}{2}\text{¢} = 25\text{¢}$  for double inland rate to New York. This is not believed to be a freight money cover as there is no evidence that Havre Line ever charged freight money fees. Letter marked for 1 florin 7 kreuzer (67 kreuzer) postage due for  $7\frac{1}{2}$ -10 gram letter. France received  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 42$  kreuzer and Württemberg retained  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 4$  kreuzer.



## U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet to France

prior to 1857



Folded Letter: Dorchester, Massachusetts to Göttingen, Hannover, 8 October 1841

Ship: *Sully*

Company: Union Line of Havre Packets

Depart: New York, 16 October 1841

Arrive: Havre, 9 November 1841

Rate: 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ paid for inland fee to New York  
11 gutegroschen postage due at Göttingen

Notes: Letter carried to Boston and posted. When first taken to the post office it was marked in pencil, lower left, for 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ inland fee to New York. Later it was rated in red ink, upper right, when the letter was datestamped and prepared to send to New York. Because it was paid only to New York, the New York postmaster had to send it by sailing ship to France. Under a French-Thurn & Taxis postal convention, the French were entitled to 28 kreuzer (up to  $\frac{1}{2}$  Loth weight) for mail to Germany from overseas landed at French ports. This was equivalent to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  ggr. marked in blue ink. To this was added 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  ggr. transit fee to Hannover with the total postage due marked in red ink as 11 ggr.



# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet to France

prior to 1857



Folded Letter: Toledo, Ohio to Riegel, Baden, 1 October 1842

Ship: *Duchesse d'Orleans*

Company: Union Line of Havre Packets

Depart: New York, 9 October 1842

Arrive: Havre, 29 October 1842

Rate: 25¢ paid for inland fee to New York  
48 kreuzer postage due at Riegel

Notes: Because letter was paid only to New York, the New York postmaster had to send it by sailing ship to France. Under a French-Thurn & Taxis postal convention, the French were entitled to 42 kreuzer ( $\frac{1}{2}$  -  $\frac{3}{4}$  Loth weight) for mail to Germany from overseas landed at French ports. To this was added 6 kreuzer (very faint and mostly erased under the red ink "42") for transit fees to Baden destination. The total postage due of 48 kreuzer was marked in the upper right corner. The French marked the red C.T.F. to show letter was in transit through France from overseas.



# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet to France

prior to 1857



Folded Letter: New York to Berlin, Prussia, 15 May 1843

Ship: *Silvie de Grasse*

Company: Union Line of Havre Packets

Depart: New York, 17 May 1843

Arrive: Havre, 5 June 1843

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid  
22 silbergroschen postage due at Berlin

Notes: Letter placed in ship letter bag at New York and not taken to the post office. It was marked in Prussia for 22 silbergroschen postage due, 12 silbergroschen for transit from French port to Aachen and 10 silbergroschen for transit from Aachen to Berlin. Letter reached addressee on 11 June 1843, six days after arrival at Havre, France.



# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet to France

prior to 1857



Folded Letter: New York to Berlin, Prussia, 2 May 1844

Ship: *Utica*

Company: Union Line of Havre Packets

Depart: New York, 3 May 1844

Arrive: Havre, 6 June 1844

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid  
28 silbergroschen postage due at Berlin

Notes: Letter placed in ship letter bag at New York and not taken to the post office. It was marked in Prussia for 28 silbergroschen postage due, 18 silbergroschen for transit from French port to Aachen (1½ times French rate for 2/3 loth or 9.34 grams weight) and 10 silbergroschen for transit from Aachen to Berlin. Letter reached addressee on 12 June 1844, six days after arrival at Havre, France.



# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet from France

prior to 1857



Folded Letter: Vienna, Austria, to Baltimore via Havre, 19 May 1844

Ship: *Francois I*

Company: Union Line of Havre Packets

Depart: Havre, 2 June 1844

Arrive: New York, 11 July 1844

Rate: 55 krCM      paid for all transit fees to Havre (manuscript on reverse)  
2 decimes      paid in Havre (not shown)  
20<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>¢      postage due in Baltimore

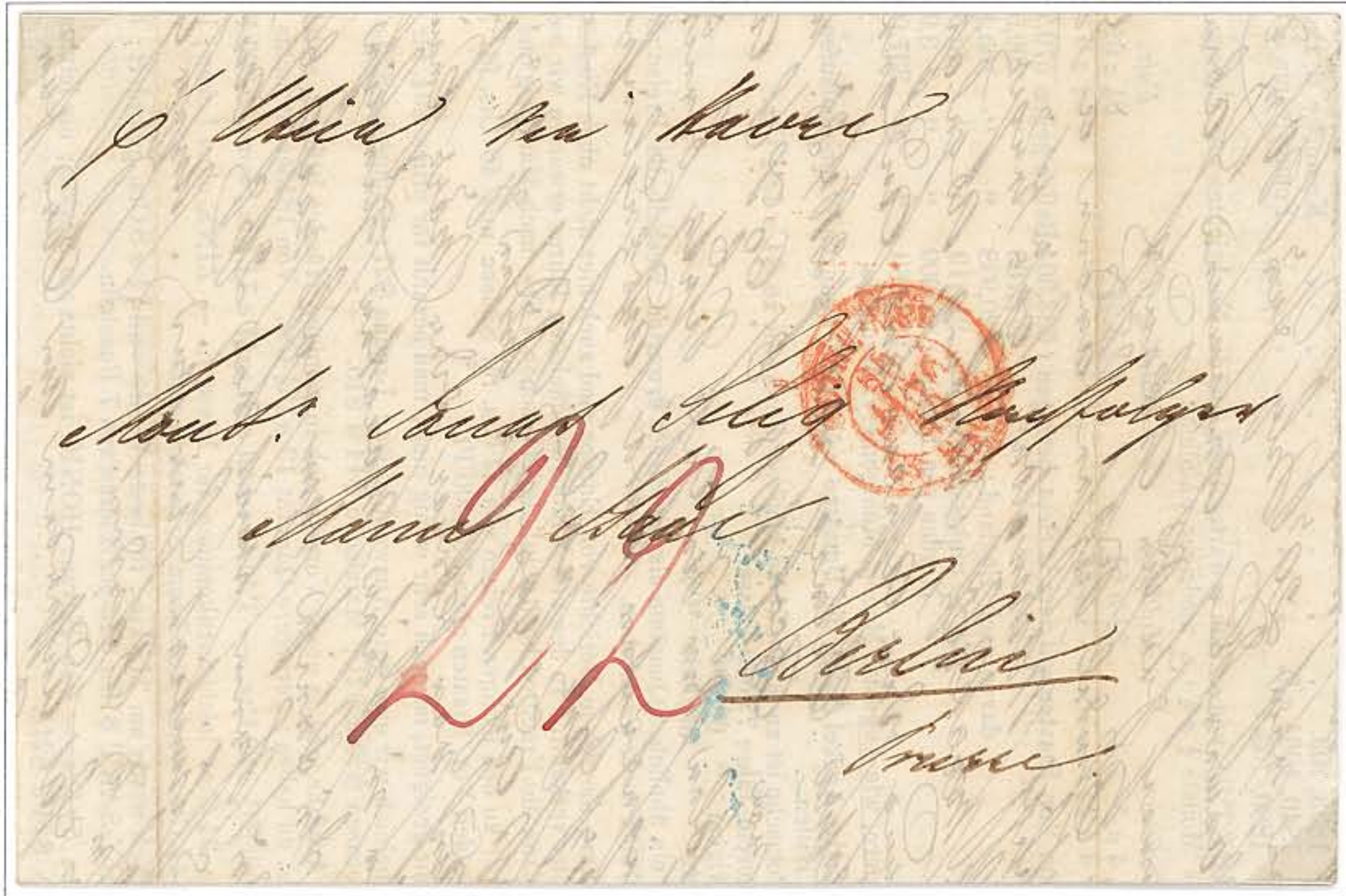
Notes: Letter sent to Henri Scholz, a forwarding agent in Havre having been paid 12 krCM for Austrian internal fee and 43 krCM for transit fee via Germany to France. The forwarding agent crossed through his name in the address label and posted letter at Havre paying 2 decimes for outgoing ship letter (not shown). New York marked 20<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>¢ postage due, 2¢ ship fee plus 18<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>¢ U.S. inland fee to Baltimore.



# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet to France

prior to 1857



Folded Letter: New York to Berlin, Prussia, 31 December 1844

Ship: *Utica*

Company: Union Line of Havre Packets

Depart: New York, 3 January 1845

Arrive: Havre, 25 January 1845

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid  
22 silbergroschen postage due at Berlin

Notes: Letter placed in ship letter bag at New York and not taken to the post office. It was marked in Prussia for 22 silbergroschen postage due, 12 silbergroschen for transit from French port to Aachen and 10 silbergroschen for transit from Aachen to Berlin. Letter reached addressee on 31 January 1845, six days after arrival at Havre, France.



# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet to France

prior to 1857



Folded Letter: New York to Berlin, Prussia, 28 February 1845

Ship: *Oneida*

Company: Union Line of Havre Packets

Depart: New York, ~ 5 March 1845

Arrive: Havre, 28 March 1845

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid  
22 silbergroschen postage due at Berlin

Notes: Letter placed in ship letter bag at New York and not taken to the post office. It was marked in Prussia for 22 silbergroschen postage due, 12 silbergroschen for transit from French port to Aachen and 10 silbergroschen for transit from Aachen to Berlin. Letter reached addressee on 31 January 1845, six days after arrival at Havre, France.



# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet to France

prior to 1857



Folded Letter: Hartford, Connecticut to Paris, 6 August 1845

Ship: *Argo, Havre*

Company: Union Line of Havre Packets

Depart: New York, 7 August 1845

Arrive: Havre, 1 September 1845

Depart: Havre, 9 September 1845

Arrive: New York, 8 October 1845

Rate: --- letter sent unpaid  
6 decimes postage due at Paris  
7¢ postage due at Hartford when letter returned

Notes: Letter carried "out of mails" to New York and placed in ship's letter bag instead of entering U.S. postal system. Postage due in France consisted of 5 decimes internal fee plus 1 "decime du mer." Forwarding agent in Paris, A D Marchand, to whom letter sent, marked blue handstamp on reverse and sent letter back to Havre. Here forwarding agent, Bonnaffe & Co., also marked blue handstamp on reverse and posted letter in Bureau Maritime to return to Hartford. New York marked 7¢ postage due, 2¢ ship fee plus 5¢ inland postage to Hartford.



# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet to U.K.

prior to 1857



(Reverse)



Folded Letter: New York to Cognac, France, 30 September 1846

Ship: *Southerner*

Company: New Line

Depart: New York, 30 September 1846

Arrive: Liverpool, 24 October 1846

Rate: 5¢ paid for U.S. inland fee (not shown)  
19 decimes postage due at Cognac

Notes: New York did not show the amount prepaid, only marked the arc PAID handstamp. Apparently, the letter missed the mail to Boston to go on board the Cunard steamship *Cambria*, so the New York postmaster sent it on a sailing packet to Liverpool. London marked the COLONIES &c.ART.13 handstamp to show that France was debited 3s4d per 30 grams under letter bill article 13. Paris marked 19 decimes postage due, 10 decimes to U.K. plus 9 decimes internal postage. Very unusual letter endorsed by steamship but sent by sailing ship to U.K.



# U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty  
Sailing Packet from France

prior to 1857



Folded Letter: Bordeaux, France, to Charleston, South Carolina, 13 February 1848

Ship: *Utica*

Company: Union Line of Havre Packets

Depart: Havre, 18 February 1848

Arrive: New York, 31 March 1848

Rate: 10 decimes prepaid for a single rate letter  
12¢ postage due at Charleston

Notes: Letter prepaid 9 decimes for one weighing up to 7½ grams going a distance of 510 km from Bordeaux to Havre plus 1 decime sea tax. New York marked 12¢ postage due in Charleston, 2¢ incoming ship fee plus 10¢ inland fee from New York to Charleston. Addressee was a prominent commission merchant in Charleston.