

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty
American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1847–1857
1 September 1851–1 January 1857



Folded Letter: Paris to New York, 6 September 1855

Ship: *Baltic*

Company: New York & Liverpool United States Mail Steamship Company
(Collins Line)

Depart: Liverpool, 8 September 1855
Arrive: New York, 19 September 1855

Rate: 13 decimes prepaid for rate by British packet from G.B.
21¢ postage due in New York

Notes: Prepayment of 130 centimes (Scott No. 14 + 3x18) indicated desire to send letter by British contract steamship from G.B.; however, Paris placed letter in mail bag for American contract steamer. Letter in closed mail bag through G.B.

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty

British Contract Steamship via G.B.

1840–1857

1 September 1851–1 April 1857

Voie d'Angleterre & Panama



Folded Letter Outer Sheet: Bordeaux to San Francisco, 14 December 1856

Ship: *Atrato*

Company: Royal Mail Steam Packet Company

Depart: Southampton, 17 December 1856

Arrive: Chagres, about 12 January 1857

Rate: 25 decimes prepaid for transit fees to Panama
20¢ postage due in San Francisco

Notes: Letter endorsed for the West Indies route by British packet, a 2 Franc 50 centime rate, and prepaid with 1853, 1860 10 and 80 centime adhesives (Scott Nos. 14, 3x20). Pacific Mail Steamship Company steamer *Sonora* carried letter from Panama City to San Francisco. French prepayment was to Panama only leaving 20¢ postage due for American contract steamer transit to San Francisco. Pencil "1077" was post office box number in San Francisco of the addressee. Uncommon routing via West Indies route.

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty
American Contract Steamship Direct

1850–1857
1 July 1851–1 April 1857



Envelope: Havre to New York, 13 January 1857

Ship: *Arago*

Company: New York & Havre Steam Navigation Company
(Havre Line)

Depart: Havre, 14 January 1857

Arrive: New York, 28 January 1857

Rate: 60 centimes prepaid for double outgoing ship letter rate
20¢ postage due in New York

Notes: Letter prepaid 60 centimes with 1853–54, 20 and 40 centimes adhesives (Scott Nos. 15, 18). New York marked letter for 20¢ postage due, the incoming American packet rate by direct steamer from Havre. Uncommon incoming three-month period cover as there were only two voyages from Havre during the three-month period before U.S.–French Convention became effective.

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty

British Contract Steamship via G.B.

1840–1857

1 January 1857–1 April 1857



Envelope: Bordeaux to New York, 17 March 1857

Ship: *Asia*

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

Depart: Liverpool, 21 March 1857

Arrive: New York, 4 April 1857

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for British Open Mail rate by British packet
5¢ postage due in New York

Notes: Letter prepaid with 1854, 80 centime adhesive (Scott No. 19) and carried on 12th of 13 Cunard voyages from G.B. to the U.S. during the three-month period before the U.S.–French Convention became effective. French prepayment covered all transit fees to U.S. border. New York marked 5¢ postage due, the British Open Mail rate by British packet.

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

Pre 1857 Treaty

British Contract Steamship via G.B.

1840–1857

1 January 1857–1 April 1857



Folded Letter: Tours, France to New York, 20 March 1857

Ship: *Niagara*

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

Depart: Liverpool, 28 March 1857
Arrive: Boston, 11 April 1857

Rate: 50 centimes prepaid for British Open Mail rate by American packet
5¢ postage due in New York

Notes: Letter prepaid with 1853, 10 and 40 centime adhesives (Scott Nos. 14, 18) and carried on 13th and last Cunard voyage from G.B. to the U.S. during the three-month period before the U.S.–French Convention became effective. Letter mistakenly put in British packet mail bag (probably at Paris). Since letter in a closed mail bag through G.B. the mistake was not noticed. Boston marked 5¢ postage due, the British Open Mail rate by British packet.

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857–1870

1 April 1857–31 December 1869



Folded Letter: Havre to Philadelphia, 7 August 1857

Ship: *North Star*

Company: Vanderbilt European Line
(Vanderbilt Line)

Depart: Southampton, 12 August 1857
Arrive: New York, 24 August 1857

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate
9¢ French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid 80 centimes with 1854 lake on yellowish adhesive (Scott No. 19), the treaty rate for a 7½ gram letter. Draper & Hagenow sent this Bill of Lading for shipment of a package on steamer *City of Washington*. Havre sent letter to Paris where it was placed in a closed mail bag for Philadelphia under the new U.S.–French Convention. Letter was not carried on board the *City of Washington* as endorsed, but on *North Star* returning from Bremen on her second mail voyage for the Vanderbilt

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

British Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857–1870

1 April 1857–31 December 1869



Folded Letter Outer Sheet: Bordeaux to New Orleans, 21 April 1858

Ship: *Europa*

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

Depart: Liverpool, 24 April 1858

Arrive: Boston, 5 May 1858

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single rate
3¢ French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid 80 centimes with 1860 rose on pinkish adhesive (Scott No. 20), the treaty rate for a 7½ gram letter. Paris indicated 3¢ credit to U.S. with red pen upper left. Boston marked the boxed Br. Service in red to show letter transported at French expense (France paid British for transit across the Atlantic) via England. Boston also restated the prepaid amount as 15¢.

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

British Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857–1870

1 April 1857–31 December 1869



Envelope: Montargis, France to Meriden, Connecticut, 14 March 1860

Ship: *Arabia*

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

Depart: Liverpool, 17 March 1860
Arrive: New York, 30 March 1860

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single rate
3¢ French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid 80 centimes with 1860 rose on pinkish adhesive (Scott No. 20), the treaty rate for a 7½ gram letter. Paris placed letter in closed mail bag for New York and marked 3¢ credit to U.S. New York exchange office marked letter paid 15¢ and boxed "Br Service" to show letter transported by British steamship and at the expense of the French.

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

British Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857–1870

1 April 1857–31 December 1869

AFFRANCHISSEMENT
15 INSUFFISANT 15



Folded Letter Outer Sheet: Paris to New York, 13 September 1860

Ship: *Persia*

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

Depart: Queenstown, 16 September 1860

Arrive: New York, 27 September 1860

Rate: 20 centimes prepaid for single domestic rate
12¢ French debit to U.S.
15¢ postage due in New York

Notes: Letter prepaid 20 centimes in error, the domestic rate, with 20c blue on bluish, Scott No. 15. Correct rate to U.S. was 80 centimes. Paris Bureau central marked letter AFFRANCHISSEMENT/15 INSUFFISANT 15 to indicate foreign mail route No. 15 with a red boxed handstamp and debited U.S. 12¢ for unpaid letter sent by Cunard steamer from G.B. Letter contained a Bill of Lading for a merchandise shipment. It received the large red Customs House handstamp across the front when the shipment cleared customs on 5 October 1860. Custom House handstamps are uncommon on transatlantic covers.

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

British Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857–1870

1 April 1857–31 December 1869



Envelope: Clermont–Ferrand, France to Philadelphia, 31 October 1860

Ship: *Canada*

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

Depart: Queenstown, 4 November 1860

Arrive: Boston, 15 November 1860

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate
3¢ French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid 80 centimes with 1860 rose on pinkish adhesive, Scott No. 20, and placed in a closed mail bag from Paris to Philadelphia where letter was marked to show equivalent of 15¢ prepaid. Unfortunately, Philadelphia forgot to change the date in their marking and showed an arrival at Philadelphia one day before the steamer actually got to Boston.

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857–1870

1 April 1857–31 December 1869



Folded Letter Outer Sheet: Havre to New York, 18 February 1861

Ship: *Bremen*

Company: Norddeutscher Lloyd
(North German Lloyd Line)

Depart: Southampton, 20 February 1861
Arrive: New York, 7 March 1861

Rate: 160 centimes prepaid for double treaty rate
18¢ French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid 2x80=160 centimes with a pair of 80 centime rose on pinkish 1860 adhesives, Scott No. 20. Havre credited U.S. 2x9=18¢ in red pencil. New York marked letter PAID as did Havre with the boxed red PD.

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

British Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857–1870

1 April 1857–31 December 1869

G^c



Envelope: Boulogne-sur-mer, France to Pikesville, Maryland, 17 October 1861

Ship: *Europa*

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

Depart: Queenstown, 20 October 1861
Arrive: Boston, 1 November 1861

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate
3¢ French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid 80 centimes with pair of 40 centime 1853 orange on yellowish adhesives, Scott No. 18. Paris marked 3¢ credit to U.S. using a 3 centime postage due handstamp and red ink. While this is not a scarce usage of this marker, it is uncommon.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty
British Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857-1870
1 April 1857-31 December 1869



(Reverse)



Envelope: Paris to New Orleans, 15 May 1863

- Ship: *Asia*
- Company: British & North American Royal Mail Steam Packet Company
(Cunard Line)
- Depart: Queenstown, 17 May 1863
Arrive: Boston, 27 May 1863
- Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate
3¢ French credit to U.S.
- Notes: Letter prepaid 80 centimes with 1854 lake on yellowish adhesive (Scott No. 19). Paris marked 3¢ credit to U.S. using a 3 centime postage due handstamp and red ink. While this is not a scarce usage of this marker, it is uncommon. Although New Orleans was in Federal hands at the time, addressee lived across Lake Pontchartrain in Mandeville (Confederate territory). Adams & Express Company carried letter from New Orleans to addressee and marked 8¢ postage due in blue crayon on the reverse (Erin Gunter note on reverse).

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857–1870

1 April 1857–31 December 1869

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Folded Letter Outer Sheet: Bordeaux to New York, 25 May 1863

Ship: *America*

Company: Norddeutscher Lloyd
(North German Lloyd Line)

Depart: Southampton, 27 May 1863

Arrive: New York, 7 June 1863

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate
9¢ French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid 80 centimes with 1860 rose on pinkish adhesive (Scott No. 20). Paris marked 9¢ credit to U.S. using a 9 centime postage due handstamp and red ink. While this is not a scarce usage of this marker, it is uncommon. Letter carried on maiden voyage of NGL steamer *America*.

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857–1870

1 April 1857–31 December 1869

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Folded Letter: Havre to New York, 18 July 1863

Ship: *City of Manchester*

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

Depart: Queenstown, 23 July 1863
Arrive: New York, 4 August 1863

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate
21¢ postage due in New York

Notes: Letter prepaid 80 centimes with 1862 rose on pinkish adhesive (Scott No. 28). Originator prepaid single treaty rate, but Paris put letter in open mails to London, probably because the letter weighed over 7½ grams. The prepayment satisfied double rate to England. London placed letter in British open mails to U.S. on American contract packet requiring 21¢ postage due for up to ½ oz. Open mail covers to U.S. during French treaty period are uncommon.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty
British Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857-1870
1 April 1857-31 December 1869

NE.2.



Envelope: Paris to Havana, Cuba, 21 January 1864

Ship: *Arabia*

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

Depart: Queenstown, 24 January 1864
Arrive: Boston, 6 February 1864

Rate: 120 centimes prepaid for single rate
10¢ French credit to U.S.
2 reales postage due in Havana

Notes: Letter prepaid with 1862 40 centime orange on yellowish and 80 centime rose on pinkish adhesives (Scott Nos. 27, 28) for the 12 decime rate to Cuba via the U.S. Credit of 10¢ to the U.S. covered the transit fee between New York and Cuba. Boston indicated the letter was fully paid and struck the scarce circle "22" rate marking to show the prepayment in U.S. currency. Letter carried from New York on 10 February 1864 by mail steamship *Matanzas* to Havana, where 2 reales postage due was marked. French treaty covers to Cuba via the U.S. are quite uncommon.

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, 20 April 1864

Ship: *Scotia*

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

Depart: Queenstown, 24 April 1864
Arrive: New York, 3 May 1864

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate
3¢ French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid 80 centimes with 1862 rose on pinkish adhesive (Scott No. 28). Paris marked 3¢ credit to U.S. using a 3 centime postage due handstamp and red ink. This marking is a larger version than the one previously shown. While this is not a scarce usage of this marker, it is uncommon.

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

French Contract Steamship Direct

1857–1870

15 June 1864–31 December 1869



Folded Letter Outer Sheet: Bordeaux to San Francisco, 14 June 1864

Ship: *Washington*

Company: Compagnie Générale Transatlantique
(French Line H)

Depart: Havre, 15 June 1864

Arrive: New York, 29 June 1864

Rate: 160 centimes prepaid for double treaty rate
6¢ French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid 2x80=160 centimes rate by two 1862 rose on pinkish adhesives (Scott No. 28). Paris credited U.S. 2x3=6¢. Letter carried on maiden voyage of French Line H steamer *Washington*. New York struck blue "Fr Service" handstamp to show letter brought in by French mail service. Pencil notation was post office box number of addressee in San Francisco. Covers from the early voyages of this steamship company are quite difficult to find.

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857–1870

1 April 1857–31 December 1869

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Folded Letter: Havre to New York, 23 July 1866

Ship: *Germania*

Company: Hamburg–Amerikanische Packetfahrt Aktien Gesellschaft (HAPAG)
(Hamburg American Line)

Depart: Southampton, 25 July 1866
Arrive: New York, 6 August 1866

Rate: 160 centimes prepaid for double treaty rate
18¢ French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid 2x80 centimes with pair of 1862 80 centime rose on pinkish adhesives (Scott No. 28). Havre struck credit to the U.S. with small numeral handstamp in red, only example recorded to date. Although letter writer desired letter to go by non-contract Cunard steamer *Tarifa* (written inside the invoice) Havre sent it to Southampton to catch the regular mail steamer as transit instructions were not written on the letter face.

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857–1870

1 April 1857–31 December 1869



Folded Letter: Bordeaux to Charleston, South Carolina, 14 August 1866

Ship: *Nova Scotian*

Company: Montreal Ocean Steamship Company
(Allan Line)

Depart: Londonderry, 17 August 1866
Arrive: Quebec, 27 August 1866

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate
3¢ French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid 80 centimes with 1862 rose on pinkish adhesive (Scott No. 28). Paris marked 3¢ credit to U.S. because under the U.S.–French postal convention, mails carried on Allan Line steamers (American mail contract) were accounted for as mails carried on British steamers. Letter in closed mail bag put off at Riviere du Loup on the St. Lawrence River and taken by train to Portland for distribution. Portland exchange office datestamp only partially struck but reads "PORTLAND ME AM PKT Paid."

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty
French Contract Steamship Direct

1857–1870
15 June 1864–31 December 1869



Folded Letter Outer Sheet: Havre to New York, 24 October 1866

Ship: *Péreire*

Company: Compagnie Générale Transatlantique
(French Line H)

Depart: Havre, 25 October 1866
Arrive: New York, 6 November 1866

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate
3¢ French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid 2x40=80 centimes rate by two 1862 orange on yellowish adhesives (Scott No. 27). Havre credited U.S. 3¢. Uncommon New York exchange office circular datestamp showing French packet service.

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

French Contract Steamship Direct

1857–1870

15 June 1864–31 December 1869



Folded Letter Outer Sheet: Paris to New York, 9 November 1866

- Ship: *Ville de Paris*
- Company: Compagnie Générale Transatlantique
(French Line H)
- Depart: Brest, 11 November 1866
Arrive: New York, 21 November 1866
- Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate
3¢ French credit to U.S. (not shown)
- Notes: Letter prepaid 2x40=80 centimes rate by two 1862 orange on yellowish adhesives (Scott No. 27). Paris credit to U.S. of 3¢ not shown. New York marked letter PAID in red circular datestamp.

U.S. – French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty
French Contract Steamship Direct

1857–1870
15 June 1864–31 December 1869



Envelope: Nice, France to Easton, Pennsylvania, 26 February 1867

Ship: *Ville de Paris*

Company: Compagnie Générale Transatlantique
(French Line H)

Depart: Brest, 2 March 1867
Arrive: New York, 12 March 1867

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate
3¢ French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid 80 centimes with 1862 rose on pinkish adhesive (Scott No. 28). Paris credited U.S. 3¢ with red crayon marking on left side of cover. Uncommon 25 mm. New York exchange office circular datestamp showing French packet service, used in 1867 and 1868 only.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty

French Contract Steamship Direct

1857-1870

15 June 1864-31 December 1869

Par Steamer P^r les États-Unis.



Envelope: Paris to Cobham, Virginia, 27 September 1867

Ship: *Péreire*

Company: Compagnie Générale Transatlantique
(French Line H)

Depart: Brest, 28 September 1867

Arrive: New York, 7 October 1867

Rate: 160 centimes prepaid for double treaty rate
6¢ French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid 160 centimes with two 1862 rose on pinkish adhesives (Scott No. 28). Paris credited U.S. 2x3¢=6¢ with red handstamp credit marking. Uncommon 25 mm. New York exchange office circular datestamp showing French packet service, used in 1867 and 1868 only. Black routing handstamp was a private marking of John Munroe & Co. of Paris.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty
French Contract Steamship Direct

1857-1870
15 June 1864-31 December 1869



Folded Letter: Havre to New York, 3 June 1869

Ship: *Lafayette*

Company: Compagnie Générale Transatlantique
(French Line H)

Depart: Havre, 3 June 1869
Arrive: New York, 15 June 1869

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate
3¢ French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid with 80 centimes rose on pinkish 1868 adhesive (Scott No. 36) and rated on board the steamer by postal agent who accompanied mails on the French Line H steamer. His handstamp is on the reverse. The red handstamp "3" credit marking is identical to one used in Paris and was apparently supplied to the postal agent for use on the steamer. The letter was not sent to Paris but put on board the steamer just before its departure.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1874 Treaty
French Contract Steamship Direct

1870-1874
1 January 1870-1 August 1874



(Reverse)



Folded Letter: Marseille to New York, 11 June 1871

Ship: *Lafayette*

Company: Compagnie Générale Transatlantique
(French Line H)

Depart: Brest, 24 June 1871
Arrive: New York, 6 July 1871

Rate: 60 centimes prepaid for direct rate to U.S.
10¢ postage due in New York

Notes: Letter prepaid with pair and a single 1867 20 centimes blue on bluish adhesive (Scott No. 33) for the direct rate by steamship to the U.S. Letter processed by French mail agent on board steamer who applied circular datestamp LIGNE H PAQ. FR. No.2 (cachet de ligne) when the steamship began its westward voyage. New York marked 10¢ postage due for the incoming steamship rate.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1874 Treaty
French Contract Steamship Direct

1870-1874
1 January 1870-1 August 1874



Folded Letter: Grenoble, France to New York, 13 March 1872

Ship: *Périere*

Company: Compagnie Générale Transatlantique
(French Line H)

Depart: Brest, 16 March 1872
Arrive: New York, 27 March 1872

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for rate via England to U.S.
10¢ postage due in New York

Notes: Letter prepaid with pair 1868 40 centimes orange on yellowish adhesive (Scott No. 35) for the rate via G.B. Paris marked letter insufficiently paid and sent the letter to Brest to catch the French steamship because at least 50 centimes had been paid. Letter processed by French mail agent on board steamer who applied circular datestamp LIGNE H PAQ. FR. No.4 (cachet de ligne) on reverse when the steamship began its westward voyage. New York marked 10¢ postage due for the incoming steamship rate.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1874 Treaty
French Contract Steamship Direct

1870-1874
1 January 1870-1 August 1874



Folded Letter Outer Sheet: Havre to New York, 28 August 1872

Ship: *Washington*

Company: Compagnie Générale Transatlantique
(French Line H)

Depart: Havre, 29 August 1872
Arrive: New York, 12 September 1872

Rate: 50 centimes prepaid for direct rate to U.S.
10¢ postage due in New York

Notes: Letter prepaid with two 1871 25 centimes blue on bluish adhesives (Scott No. 58) for the 50 centimes rate directly to U.S. Letter processed by French mail agent on board steamer who applied circular datestamp LIGNE H PAQ. FR. No.1 (cachet de ligne) on reverse when the steamship began its westward voyage from Brest on 31 August 1872. New York marked 10¢ postage due for the incoming steamship rate.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1874 Treaty
British & American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1870-1874
1 January 1870-1 August 1874

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Folded Letter: Marseille to New York, 10 April 1873

Ship: Cuba
Company: British & North American Royal Mail Steam Packet Company (Cunard Line)
Depart: Queenstown, 13 April 1873
Arrive: New York, 22 April 1873
Rate: 120 centimes prepaid for open mail rate via G.B.

Notes: Letter prepaid with 1870 40 centimes orange on yellowish (Scott No. 59) and 1872 80 centimes rose on pinkish (Scott No. 63) adhesives for the fully paid 120 centimes rate by open mail via G.B. London credited U.S. with 2¢ using the handstamp "2" without "CENTS," an uncommon rate marking.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1874 Treaty
French Contract Steamship Direct

1870-1874
1 January 1870-1 August 1874



Folded Letter Outer Sheet: Havre to New York, 5 June 1873

Ship: *Périère*

Company: Compagnie Générale Transatlantique
(French Line H)

Depart: Havre, 6 June 1873
Arrive: New York, 17 June 1873

Rate: 50 centimes prepaid for direct rate to U.S.
10¢ postage due in New York

Notes: Letter prepaid with pair of 1871 25 centimes blue on bluish adhesives (Scott No. 58) for the 50 centimes rate directly to U.S. New York marked 10¢ postage due for the incoming steamship rate.

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 Outer Sheet: Havre to New York, 12 September 1873

Ship: *Hansa*

Company: Norddeutscher Lloyd
(North German Lloyd Line)

Depart: Southampton, 13 September 1873
Arrive: New York, 26 September 1873

Rate: 120 centimes prepaid for open mail rate via G.B.
2¢ G.B. credit to U.S. (not shown)

Notes: Letter prepaid with 1872 5 centimes yellow green on pale blue (two pairs, Scott No. 53) and 1871 25 centimes blue on bluish (strip of three and single, Scott No. 58) adhesives for the fully paid 120 centimes rate by open mail via G.B. London neglected to mark 2¢ credit to U.S.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1874 Treaty
French Contract Steamship Direct

1870-1874
1 January 1870-1 August 1874



Folded Letter Outer Sheet: Havre to New York, 26 February 1874

Ship: *Périere*

Company: Compagnie Générale Transatlantique
(French Line H)

Depart: Havre, 27 February 1874
Arrive: New York, 11 March 1874

Rate: 50 centimes prepaid for direct rate to U.S.
10¢ postage due in New York

Notes: Letter prepaid with pair of 1871 25 centimes blue on bluish adhesives (Scott No. 58) for the 50 centimes rate directly to U.S. New York marked 10¢ postage due for the incoming steamship rate.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1874 Treaty
French Contract Steamship Direct

1874-1876
1 August 1874-1 January 1876



Folded Letter: Marseille to New York, 9 September 1874

Ship: *Péreire*

Company: Compagnie Générale Transatlantique
(French Line H)

Depart: Havre, 11 September 1874
Arrive: New York, 25 September 1874

Rate: 50 centimes paid for single treaty rate

Notes: Letter prepaid with two 1871 25 centimes blue on bluish adhesives (Scott No. 58) for the 50 centimes per 10 grams treaty rate. Rate in effect for only 17 months before G.P.U. rates went into effect for France.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1874 Treaty

Contract Steamship via G.B.

1874-1876

1 August 1874-1 January 1876

AFFR. INSUFF.

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Envelope: Paris to Hartford, Connecticut, 9 September 1874

Ship: *City of Brussels*

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

Depart: Queenstown, 11 September 1874

Arrive: New York, 20 September 1874

Rate: 50 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate
4¢ postage due in Hartford

Notes: Letter prepaid for single rate but weighed over 10 grams. Paris Bureau 34 post office at Avenue Josephine marked red insufficiently prepaid handstamp and red crayon "2" for two rates. New York considered letter single rate (single rate in U.S. up to 15 grams). Instead of allowing 50 centimes prepayment as full amount New York calculated postage due under new treaty as single unpaid letter rate of 9¢ + insufficiently paid letter fine of 5¢ less 10.4¢ paid by adhesives (treaty established \$1 = 520 centimes) which equaled 3.6¢, rounded up to 4¢ postage due.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1874 Treaty

Contract Steamship via G.B.

1874-1876

1 August 1874-1 January 1876



Folded Letter: Marseille to New York, 3 October 1874

Ship: *Parthia*

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

Depart: Queenstown, 7 October 1874

Arrive: New York, 18 October 1874

Rate: 120 centimes paid for single treaty rate

Notes: Letter prepaid with 1870 40 centimes orange on yellowish (Scott No. 59) and 1872 80 centimes rose on pinkish (Scott No. 63) adhesives. This was the old fully paid open mail rate via G.B. (120 centimes). Letter overpaid 70 centimes for new treaty rate to U.S. which became effective on 1 August 1874.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1874 Treaty
Contract Steamship via G.B.

1874-1876
1 August 1874-1 January 1876



Envelope: Paris to Wilmington, Delaware, 8 November 1874

Ship: *Hermann*

Company: Norddeutscher Lloyd
(North German Lloyd Line)

Depart: Southampton, 10 November 1874
Arrive: New York, 21 December 1874

Rate: 50 centimes paid for single treaty rate

Notes: Letter prepaid with pair of 1871 25 centimes blue on bluish adhesives (Scott No. 58) for the 50 centimes per 10 grams treaty rate. Rate in effect for only 17 months before G.P.U. rates went into effect for France.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1874 Treaty

Contract Steamship via G.B.

1874-1876

1 August 1874-1 January 1876



Folded Letter: Bordeaux to New York, 24 November 1874

Ship: *City of Brooklyn*

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

Depart: Queenstown, 27 November 1874

Arrive: New York, 7 December 1874

Rate: 50 centimes paid for single treaty rate

Notes: Letter prepaid with 1873 10 centimes bistre on rose (Scott No. 55) and 1870 40 centimes orange on yellowish (Scott No. 59) for the 50 centimes per 10 grams treaty rate. Rate in effect for only 17 months before G.P.U. rates went into effect for France.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1874 Treaty

Contract Steamship via G.B.

1874-1876

1 August 1874-1 January 1876

50^c



Folded Letter: Paris to Havana, Cuba, 24 December 1874

Ship: *Algeria*

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

Depart: Queenstown, 27 December 1874

Arrive: New York, 9 January 1875

Rate: 100 centimes paid for single treaty rate
50 centimes French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid 1 Franc with pair of 1873 10 centimes bistre on rose (Scott No. 55) and 1872 80 centimes rose on pinkish (Scott No. 63) adhesives. This paid all transit fees from France through the U.S. to Cuba under the 1874 treaty. Paris credited U.S. with 50 centimes (equivalent to 10¢) for transit fees from New York to Cuba. Scarce rate beyond U.S.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1874 Treaty

Contract Steamship via G.B.

1874-1876

1 August 1874-1 January 1876



Folded Letter Outer Sheet: Havre to New York, 6 August 1875

Ship: *Cimbria*

Company: Hamburg-Amerikanische Packetfahrt Aktien Gesellschaft (HAPAG)
(Hamburg American Line)

Depart: Havre, 7 August 1875
Arrive: New York, 17 August 1875

Rate: 100 centimes prepaid for double treaty rate

Notes: Invoice for shipment on board the steamer *Cimbria*, prepaid letter with two pairs of 1871 25 centimes blue on bluish adhesive (Scott No. 58) for twice the 50 centimes treaty rate (10-20 grams weight). Rate in effect for only 17 months before G.P.U. rates went into effect for France.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

General Postal Union
Contract Steamship via G.B.

1876-1878
1 January 1876-1 May 1878



Folded Letter Outer Sheet: Bordeaux to Philadelphia, 21 August 1876

Ship: *City of Berlin*

Company: Inman Steamship Company Limited
(Inman Line)

Depart: Queenstown, 25 August 1876
Arrive: New York, 3 September 1876

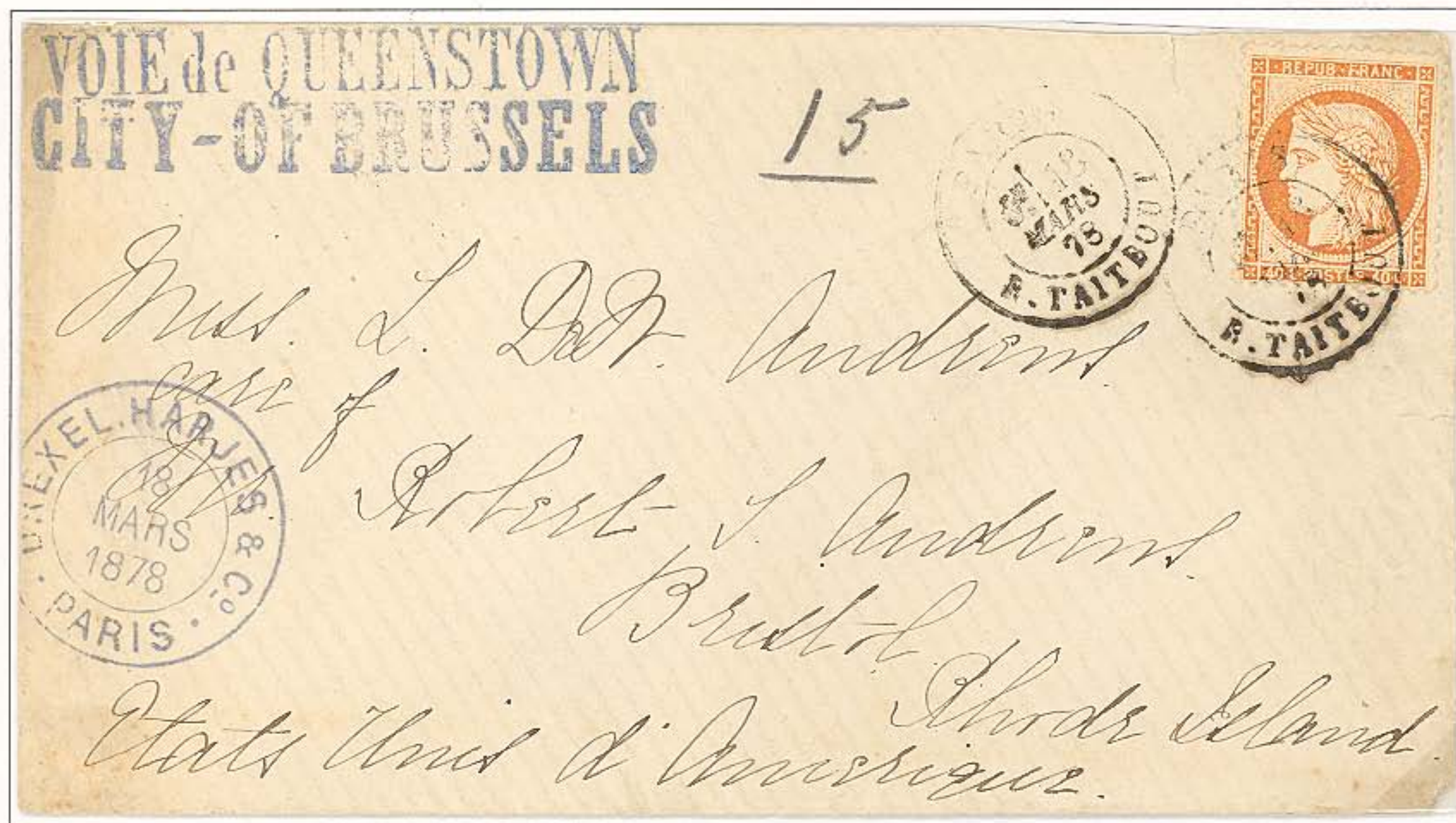
Rate: 40 centimes paid for single treaty rate

Notes: Letter prepaid 40 centimes with 1870 orange on yellowish adhesive (Scott No. 59). Letter was invoice for cargo shipment and contains a Custom House, Philadelphia handstamp inside when the merchandise cleared customs.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

General Postal Union
Contract Steamship via G.B.

1876-1878
1 January 1876-1 May 1878



Envelope: Paris to Bristol, Rhode Island, 18 March 1878

Ship: *City of Brussels*

Company: Inman Steamship Company Limited
(Inman Line)

Depart: Queenstown, 20 March 1878
Arrive: New York, 29 March 1878

Rate: 40 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate

Notes: Letter prepaid 40 centimes with 1870 orange on yellowish adhesive (Scott No. 59). Two handstamps in blue, "VOIE de QUEENSTOWN" and "CITY-OF BRUSSELS," were private markings applied as transit instructions by Drexel Harjes & Company of Paris. Pencil "15" not understood.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1857 Treaty
American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1857-1870
1 April 1857-31 December 1869

9.



Envelope: Vezelay, France to San Francisco, 13 December 1867

Ship: *Deutschland*

Company: Norddeutscher Lloyd
(North German Lloyd Line)

Depart: Southampton, 17 December 1867
Arrive: New York, 30 December 1867

Rate: 80 centimes prepaid for single treaty rate
9¢ French credit to U.S.

Notes: Letter prepaid with 1862 80 centime rose on pinkish adhesive (Scott No. 28) for treaty rate to U.S. Letter endorsement appears to request routing via Panama but this route was no longer available, so letter sent to New York. Paris exchange office credited U.S. 9¢ using handstamp provided by Prussians for Franco-Prussian mails. This use as a credit marking is not uncommon and appears on covers to U.S. during the period 1863-1869.