

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: New Orleans to Havre, readdressed to Ribeauville, 12 December 1867

Ship: *China*

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

Depart: Boston, 18 December 1867
Arrive: Queenstown, 27 December 1867

Rate: 15¢ prepaid for single treaty rate
12¢ U.S. credit to France

Notes: Letter prepaid with 15¢ 1866 black adhesive (Scott No. 77) for all transit fees to Havre. New York credited France with 12¢ and dated letter when mails made up for the next day sailing of the Cunard steamer from Boston. French entry marking applied in red at Havre, ET.UNIS SERV. BR. HAVRE, indicated letter from United States by British mail service and entry in France at Havre. Letter readdressed to Ribeauville with no additional French charge, perhaps because forwarding instructions were left with the Havre post office.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1874 Treaty

British & American Contract Steamship via G.B.

1870-1874

1 January 1870-1 August 1874



NYFM Cancel



Folded Letter Outer Sheet: New York to Paris, 22 August 1871

Ship: *Allemania*

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

Depart: New York, 22 August 1871
Arrive: Plymouth, 2 September 1871

Rate: 4¢ prepaid for rate to England
5 decimes postage due in Paris

Notes: Letter prepaid with two 1870 National Banknote Company 2¢ red brown ungrilled adhesives (Scott No. 146) for postage to G.B. only. London exchanged the letter with France under the 1857 G.B.-French Convention which allowed G.B. 40 centimes per 30 grams bulk letter weight. Paris marked 5 decimes postage due.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

Pre 1874 Treaty
American Contract Steamship Direct

1870-1874
1 January 1870-1 August 1874

SHORT PAID (Reverse)



Envelope: Syracuse, New York to Paris, 21 July 1874

Ship: *Hammonia II*

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

Depart: New York, 23 July 1874
Arrive: Cherbourg, 4 August 1874

Rate: 10¢ prepaid for direct rate to France
10 decimes postage due in Paris

Notes: Letter addressed care of forwarding agent Munroe & Company, Paris and prepaid with 1873 Continental Banknote Company 10¢ brown ungrilled adhesive (Scott No. 161) for the direct mail rate to France. Paris marked double circle blue entry marking indicating letter from the United States and entered France at Cherbourg. Paris marked blue crayon "2" in upper left for two rates and 10 decimes postage due for a double rate (10-20 grams) letter. Forwarding agent marked "SHORT PAID" in black on reverse to show that French postage was due from addressee.

U.S. - French Postal Treaties

1874 Treaty
French Contract Steamship Direct

1874-1876
1 August 1874-1 January 1876



Folded Letter Outer Sheet: New Orleans to Bordeaux, 26 April 1875

Ship: *France*

Company: Compagnie Générale Transatlantique
(French Line H)

Depart: New York, 1 May 1875
Arrive: Havre, 12 May 1875

Rate: 9¢ paid for single treaty rate

Notes: Letter prepaid with vertical strip of three 1873 3¢ Continental Bank Note green adhesives (Scott No. 158) for the 9¢ per 15 grams convention rate, which was in effect for only 17 months before G.P.U. rates went into effect for France.