

U.S. CITY DESPATCH

Collect Usages

1843



4 February 1843, 1 o'clock

Printed bankruptcy notice

1 cent drop rate included in 3 cents collected from addressee



Montreal, 27 June 1843

U.S. City Despatch, 30 June 1843, 9 o'clock

Privately delivered to box at Howards Hotel, 3 cents collected from addressee

U.S. CITY DESPATCH

Free Usage

From the Mails



Alexander Grieg's Octagonal FREE handstamp continued in use by the U.S. City Despatch



Ex Grunin

Washington D.C., 2 December 1844 post office datestamp
Free Frank of Postmaster General Charles A. Wickliffe
Straight-line post office FREE in red

New York
U.S. City Despatch, 3 Dec 1844
Octagonal boxed FREE, no payment due from addressee

Letters mailed to New York delivered by the City Despatch are seldom seen.

U.S. CITY DESPATCH

Forwarded Usages

1844



22 March 1844, 9 o'clock

Forwarded on 22 March 1844, 1 o'clock

Letter dated at Utica, 20 March 1844, carried privately to New York



18 Nov 1844, 4 o'clock

Forwarded on 19 Nov 1844, 9 o'clock

U.S. CITY DESPATCH

Type 2 CDS
1844 Collect Usages
Out of Town Origins



Philadelphia to New York, 26 Mar 1844, 1 cent drop rate part of 3 cents collect



Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 22 Feb 1844

U.S. City Despatch, 13 April 1844

A new device with larger date-slugs was introduced about the beginning of 1844.

U.S. CITY DESPATCH

Collect Usages

Type 2 CDS



Troy, dropped in Howards Hotel Box

U.S. City Despatch, 25 March 1844



Tammany Hall circular, 1 cent drop rate, U.S. City Despatch, 28 May 1845, 3 cents due

U.S. CITY DESPATCH

Free Usages

Type 2 CDS



U.S. City Despatch, 23 Dec 1845

Octagonal FREE

3 cent delivery fee paid in cash - FREE handstamp used to indicate to carrier that no money was due from addressee - no PAID handstamp was used

New York
1 May 1846,
2 cents paid to P.O.
for drop letter
(July 1845 Act),
PAID in arc of
New York P.O.

U.S. City Despatch
1 May 1846,
FREE obliterates
red "3" in ms.,
Apparently no
postage collected



Unusual use of PAID and FREE handstamps on same cover

U.S. CITY DESPATCH

2 Cent Drop Letter Rate

After July 1845



New York, 21 Nov 1845, 2 cents drop letter Delivered by City Despatch same day



New York, 13 May 1846, 2 cents drop letter Delivered by City Despatch same day
Letter headed Buffalo, 7 May 1846, carried privately to New York

Competition from Boyd's Express and the increased 2 cent drop letter rate forced the closure of the City Despatch carrier service in November 1846.

U.S. CITY DESPATCH

American Hotel

1846



Dropped in letter bag at American Hotel

11 May 1846, 9 o'clock

Three cents collected from addressee for New York City carrier delivery.

U.S. CITY DESPATCH

From Paris by Harnden's Express

1846



Paris France, 16 June 1846
Carried out of mail to Liverpool

19 May 1846, Liverpool to Boston out of mail on Cunard Hibernia
1 June 1846, Harnden's Boston red oval handstamp

Harnden's Express Boston to New York
U.S. City Despatch, 2 June 1846
3 cents collected from addressee by City Despatch

It is not clear if an extra charge was collected from addressee for Harnden's Express

U.S. CITY DESPATCH

Collect Usages

6LB3 Period



15 October 1842

1 o'clock

Printed circular – 3 cents due



21 October 1842

9 o'clock

1 in manuscript for drop letter rate – 3 cents total collected

Most letters were still sent collect during the September – December 1842 period of use of the first government adhesive on unsurfaced paper (6LB3).