Freight Money UNITED STATES

Freight Money — a private fee imposed by shipping companies in the U.S. on each letter they carried to the United Kingdom. These fees were levied by most of the steamship companies between mid 1838 early 1847, the fee for steamships being 25 cents. After a few months, the sailing ship lines established similar charges, the charge being 121/2 cents per single letter. Merchants in New York had little difficulty paying the fees, but merchants in other cities had to send their letters to agents in New York with instructions to pay the freight money on their behalf or directly to shipping agents along with the extra fees. Some postmasters did collect the freight money fees and would send them to New York postmasters who would see that they were given to the appropriate shipping companies.



13 Dec. 1839 Baltimore, Md. To London, England. It was rated 1834 cents (150 — 400 miles) to New York and 25 cents freight money both prepaid. Carried by the steamship *Liverpool* of the Transatlantic Steamship Company. Black LIVERPOOL / SHIP LETTER receiving mark (Robertson, Type S14) in use 1838 —1841. The *Liverpool* arrived at Liverpool 11 Jan. 1840 and was rated 8d due. This uniform rate was enacted 10 Jan. 1840.

UNITED STATES



3 January 1839 Baltimore, Md. to London, England. Triple weight letter sent to New York for 561/4 cents (183/4 x 3) plus 371/2 cents freight money (3 x 121/2) both fully paid at Baltimore. Carried by the *Roscoe* of the Blue Swallowtail Line leaving 8 Jan. and arriving at Liverpool 29 Jan. At London it was rated 3/2d sterling as a double letter, 1/4 ship and 1/10 inland to London.

UNITED STATES





11 May, 1839 Baltimore, Md. to London, England. Double weight letter rated 371/2 cents to New York and 25 cents freight money (121/2 cents x 2) both prepaid in Baltimore. The Baltimore postmaster marked all covers *ship* whether they went by steam or sail. Carried by the *Montreal* of the Black X Line leaving New York 12 May and arriving at Liverpool 11 June 1839. At London it was rated 3/2 collect (1/4 ship and 1/10 inland).





16 August 1843 Baltimore, Maryland to London, England. Rated 183/4 cents to New York plus a 121/2 cent freight money fee both of which were prepaid in Baltimore. Rated 8d sailing ship fee and back-stamped LIVERPOOL SHIP.

UNITED STATES



4 Aug. 1839 Baltimore Md. to London, England. Rated 371/2 cents to New York as a double letter and 25 cents freight money (2 x 121/2) fully paid. Carried by the *Independence* of the Blue Swallowtail Line leaving New York 7 Aug. and arriving at Liverpool 28 Aug. 1840. At London it was rated 3/2 collect (1/4 as a double ship letter and 1/10 double inland).