

**Pre U.S. – British Treaty  
Retaliatory Rate Period: 24 June 1848 to 3 January 1849**



**18 July 1848 Bremen, GR to Petersburg, VA**

**Acadia**

Black Bremen postmark and black FRANCO indicating that 40 grote (not shown) paid postage to U.S. frontier (Anglo-Bremen Convention of 1841). London and LP transits. 1/6 indicates British share of postage (1s. packet fee + 6d Bremen-Britain postage). **Acadia** d. LP 29 July, a. Bos. 13 Aug. Boston red 34 retaliatory rate due (24 cts. transatlantic fee + 10 cts. U.S. inland).



**24 July 1848 Rotterdam to Philadelphia**

**Acadia**

ROTTERDAM/FRANCO indicates prepayment to U. S. frontier. 120 Dutch cts. (reverse) Red ink 1/8 (Convention of Oct. 1844) refers to Britain-Belgium "open mail" between U.S. and Belgium through Britain: 1s. + 8. **Acadia** d. LP 29 July, a. Bos. 13 Aug. Boston retaliatory rate of 34cts. postage due from recipient in Philadelphia.

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26 June 1848 Malaga, Spain to Boston

Hibernia

Forwarded U.S./CONSULATE/MALAGA via Baring Brothers, London. London post office paid 1/- packet rate. July 7. **Hibernia** d. LP 8 July, a. NY 21 July. Closed bag mail to Bos. 22 July. Retaliatory rate of 29: 24 cts. packet rate + 5 cts. U.S. inland rate.



14 September 1848 Malaga, Spain to Boston

Britannia

Forwarded U.S./CONSULATE/MALAGA via Baring Brothers, London. London red transit mark (reverse) 25 Sept; paid 2/ Packet rate. **Britannia** d. LP 30 Sept., a. NY 17 Oct. Closed bag mail to Bos. 18 Oct. Blue ink Retaliatory rate of 58 cts. Double Packet rate + 10 cts. U.S. inland.



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1 November 1848 Southampton to New York

Acadia

Written and posted in Southampton and prepaid 1/- . The letter was forwarded to the London exchange office, struck with the orange red PAID date handstamp on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and sent to Liverpool where it received the black transit L/NO 3/B. It was placed on the **Acadia** which sailed on the 4<sup>th</sup>, its third and final voyage in the retaliatory period, a. Bos. 19 Nov. A red **BOSTON/SHIP** postmark and retaliatory 29 cts. were struck: 24 cts packet rate + 5 cts. inland rate.

14 November 1848 Antwerp, Belgium to Castine, ME

Britannia

Folded letter with red Anvers/14 Nov origin cds and mss. 24 decimes prepaid rating on reverse for all transit fees. Mss. 1/8 (1s8d) Belgium credit to G.B. London and Liverpool transits. Carried by **Britannia**, d. 18 Nov., a. Bos. 6 Dec. Red **Boston, Ms. SHIP** and 29: 24 cts. Packet fee + 5 cts. inland.

# U.S. - G.B. Mails by Steamship

1840 - 1849

Pre U.S. - British Treaty  
British Contract Steamship

29 June 1848 - 3 January 1849

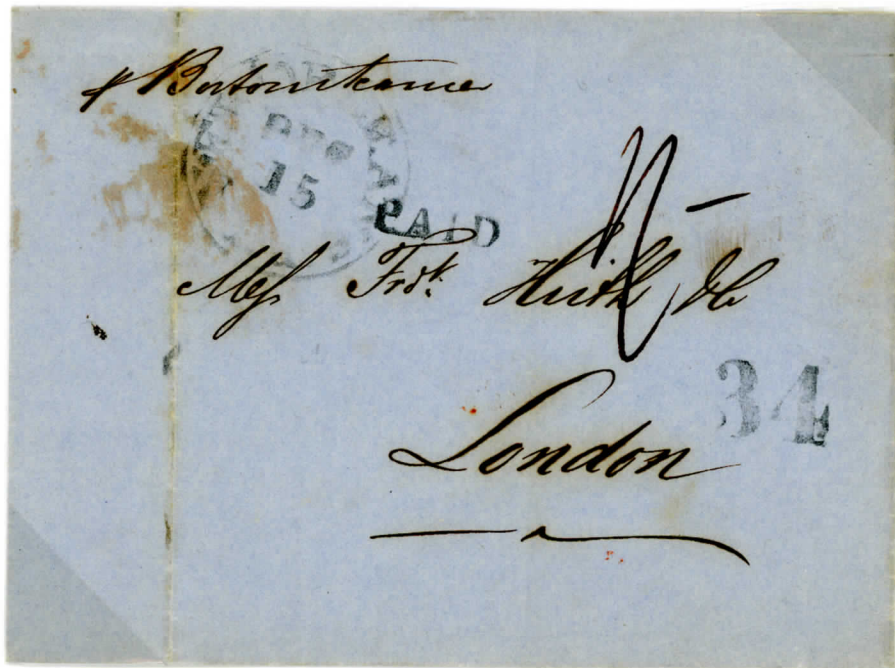


1 December 1848 Manchester, GB to Lowell, MA

Niagara

Prepaid 2/- in MANCHESTER for double the transatlantic packet rate of one shilling, the letter was postmarked in Liverpool on December 2 (reverse) and carried on the Packet *Niagara*, departing Liverpool 2 December, arriving Boston 16 December. This was the next to the last voyage of a Cunard Packet steamer during the Retaliatory rate period. The Boston post office applied its postmark (BPM 294) and the retaliatory rate hand stamp of 58 cts. postage due. There are twelve possible Cunard westbound voyages that could have borne this rate, but only three have been documented: the Packets *Acadia*, *Britannia*, and *Niagara*.

**Pre U.S. – British Treaty  
Retaliatory Rate Period: 24 June 1848 to 3 January 1849**



**15 December 1848 New Orleans to London**

**Niagara**

New Orleans PAID 34: the packet rate of 24 cts. + 10 cts. inland rate from New Orleans to Boston. Inscribed *Boston Steamer*, the **Niagara** departed Boston on December 27. It would be its final retaliatory rate voyage, arriving in Liverpool 8 January 1849. Orange red London backstamp.



Pre U.S. - British Treaty  
British Contract Steamship

29 June 1848-3 January 1849



The three 29 cts. rate marks used by the Boston post office during the Retaliatory Period.

Pre U.S. – British Treaty  
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21 September 1848 Montmorency, FR to Philadelphia, PA

Cambria

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of 25 west bound Cunard retaliatory rate voyages this letter was posted in Montmorency and rated 15 decimes prepaid (manuscript on reverse) which paid all transit fees to the end of the British mail system, i.e., U.S. shore at Boston. The London orange-red PAID datestamp was struck. The **Cambria** sailed from LP on 23 Sept., a. in Bos. 1 Oct. Gthe Boston exchange office applied the 34 cent rate handstamp: 24 cts. Retaliatory rate + 10 cts. U.S. internal fees.



23 September 1848 Liverpool to Petersburg, VA

Cambria

Paid 1/- packet rate and carried on the **Cambria** from Liverpool, d. 23 Sept., a. Bos. 6 Oct. A very rare usage of the SHIP handstamp since the term was usually in the Boston postmark. The 34 cts. rate is for 24 cts. retaliatory rate + 10 cts. for U.S. internal fees.



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**14 October 1848 Baltimore, MD to Amsterdam**

**Cambria**

The mss 34 cents refers to the amount collected by the Baltimore post office clerk for 10 cts. to Boston + 24 cts. transatlantic retaliatory fee to London. The black mss. 120 Dutch cents is the Dutch internal fee in addition to the 1/8 credit due British transit. The Cambria d. Bos. 18 Oct., a. LP 31 Oct. A rare usage.



Posted at the Fenchurch St. post office in London it was handstruck with the red 58 for double packet rate and forwarded to the London post office where it was marked PAID in an orange red date handstamp and inscribed with 2/- red ink rate mark.. The letter sailed on the **Hibernia** from LP on 26 Aug., a. Bos. 2 Sept. where received the rimless Boston Ship postmark.



**8 September 1848 London to New York**

**Acadia**

Posted at the Kent St. Rd. London post office and rated 1/- in red ink. It was struck with the red orange PAID datestamp for 8 September. The **Acadia** d. LP 9 Sept., a. Boston 24 Sept. The Boston ship postmark is dated 25 Sept. when the red retaliatory rate mark of 29 was applied: 24 cts. packet rate + 5 cts. inland rate for under 300 miles.

U.S. - G.B. Mails by Steamship

1840 - 1849

Pre U.S. - British Treaty  
British Contract Steamship

29 June 1848 - 3 January 1849



11 July 1848 New York to Cognac, FR  
d. Boston 12 July, a. Liverpool 24 July  
London exchange office COLONIES/ART.13;  
black French entry ANGL. BOULOGNE S MER/25/JUIL/48

**Cambria**  
24 decimes postage due for weight between  
7.5 - 10 grams; black PARIS transit and  
COGNAC/ 27/JUIL/48 (reverse)



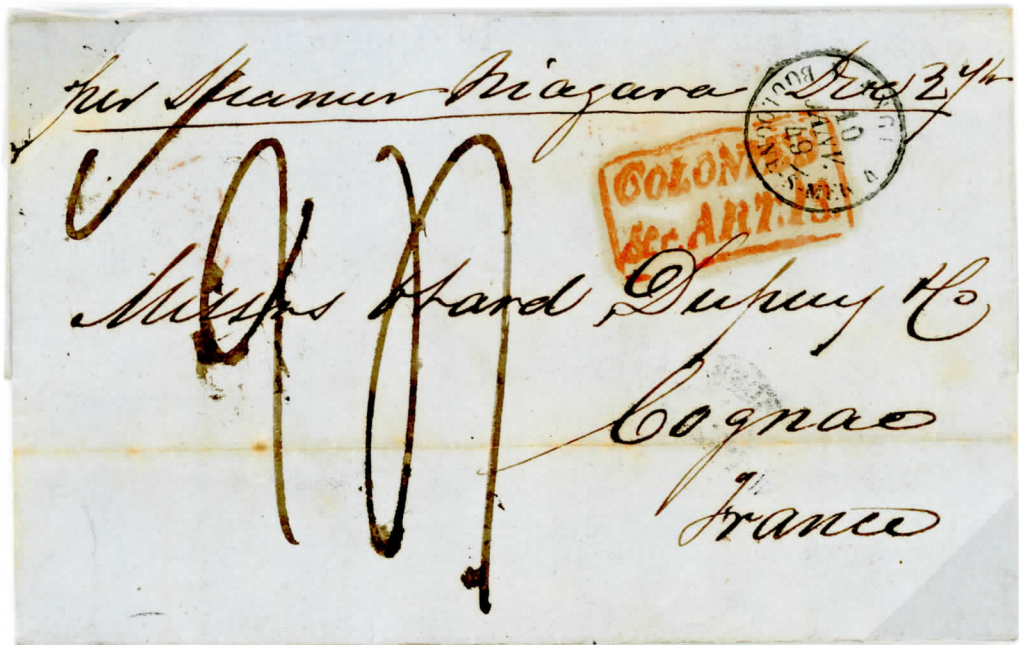


**5 August 1848 New York via Boston to Cognac**

**Europa**

Maiden eastbound voyage of the **Europa**, d. Bos. 9 Aug., a. LP 20 Aug. London red transit COLONIES /ART 12 and red Fr. Entry NAGL. BOULOGNE//22/AUG/48. 13 *decimes* postage due for weight not over 7.5 grams. Cognac receiving postmark of 24 Aug. on reverse.

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26 December 1848 New York to Cognac, FR

Niagara

Both letters were carried outside the mails to Boston and placed on board the *Niagara*, d. Bos. 27 Dec., a. LP 8 Jan. This was the last sailing of a Cunard packet ship during the Retaliatory Period. The London orange-red foreign exchange COLONIES/&ART,13 was applied to unpaid or insufficiently pre-paid letters passing through Britain to indicate to France the bulk rate of 3s/4d per ounce being claimed by the British for sea and transit passage. Each letter received the black French entry marking ANGL.& BOULOGNE-3-MER/10 JANV/49 used from January 1848 to September 1849. The single pen-stroke over the entry marking indicated a letter weighing less than 7.5 grams. The check mark on the lower letter indicated a letter weighing between 7.5 and 10 grams. Hence the differing rates of 13 decimes and 24 decimes. The letters were sent by train to Paris on the 10<sup>th</sup> and received in Cognac on the 12<sup>th</sup> (reverse).



**Pre U.S. – British Treaty  
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Eastbound mail without retaliatory rates**



**26 August 1848 Campbellton, New Brunswick to Annan, Scotland**

**Acadia**

Inscribed *Per Boston & Halifax Steamer*, the letter was posted on 28 Aug. at Campbellton and past through post offices at Dalouste and Sackville, NB on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> (transit backstamps) and placed on the **Acadia** on 29<sup>th</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup>. **Acadia** a. LP Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> (no transit mark) and then Annan Sept. 15 (boxed blue receiving post mark on reverse).



**29 August 1848 Boston to Aleppo (Halab), Syria**

**Cambria**

The letter is endorsed *Per french mediterranean Packet* (Paquebots de la Mediterranee) which carried mail from Marseille to post offices in Turkey, Syria, and other eastern Mediterranean cities. Written on the 29<sup>th</sup> of August in Boston, it was probably hand carried from Boston on the **Cambria**, d. Bos. 30 Aug, a. LP 14 Sept., then to London where an orange red PD in oval (paid to destination or frontier) was applied and the black transit London & Boulogne date handstamp was struck on 17 September. The letter was docketed in Arabic manuscript and noted by the recipient as having arrived 15 November 1848.



30 June 1848 Gibbet Lane, U.K. to Cabotville, MA

Niagara

*Post Paid* at Bilston post office with red mss. 1/- packet rate. Black oval LP transit on reverse: L/JY 1/A. Carried on **Niagara**, d. LP, 1 July, a. Bos. 12 July on its first retaliatory rate voyage. Red Boston Ship postmark and red 29 rate handstamp for 24 cts. + 5 cts. U.S. inland.