

1839 stampless wrapper sent by the "Liverpool" of the Transatlantic Steamship Co., on her 6th return voyage, leaving on Oct. 19, 1839 : The postage charged was 3/d=2x8d ship postage & 2x11d inland to London. Cover is ex Tabcart

by unk

Condition: file folds-no content

The Pioneer Steamships

Prior to 1838 much of the mail between England & the US was carried on sailing ships which were part of large companies with names like "The Black Ball Line, Copes Line, the Dramatic line, and many others.

In 1838, with the organization of the British and American Steam Navigation Company, began the age of steam vessels which traveled between England and the US, carrying mail. The 1st of these was the Sirius, which made 3...



A wrapper addressed to Rothschilds, probably from New York (there are no charges shown). It was put on the "Liverpool" on her 6th Return Voyage leaving on 19th October 1839. She arrived in Liverpool on 6th November, a slow 18 day passage. Here the cover was struck with Robertson S 16 and as a double letter charged 3/2d – 2 x 8d Ship and 2 x 11d inland to London. Ex Tabcart.

1840 entire stampless letter carried on the famous "British Queen" of the British and American SS Co : The British Queen was among those ships called the Pioneers steamships & replace by the faster Cunard & Collins Lines.

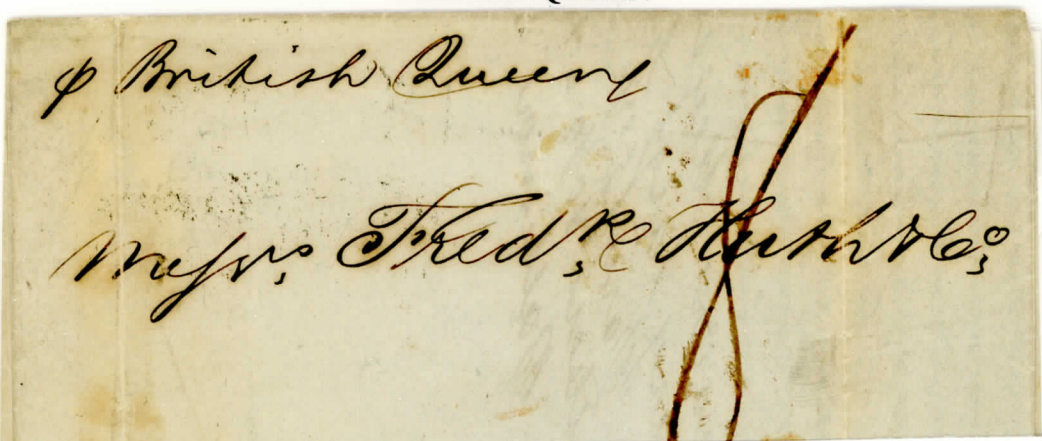
Condition: fine-file folds

The Pioneer Steamships

Prior to 1838 much of the mail between England & the US was carried on sailing ships which were part of large companies with names like "The Black Ball Line, Copes Line, the Dramatic line, and many others.

In 1838, with the organization of the British and American Steam Navigation Company, began the age of steam vessels which traveled between England and the US, carrying mail. The 1st of these was the Sirius, which made 2 voyages to NY. At the same time another company, The Great Western Steamship Co was formed, and it too carried mail to New

BRITISH & AMERICAN STEAMSHIP Co BRITISH QUEEN



An entire from New York dated 27th November 1840 with a postscript dated 1st December which also contained the duplicate of a letter sent on 18th November (no longer present). As is very common it carries no American markings but must have paid Freight Money and been put directly on board. She sailed on her penultimate return voyage under the British flag on 1st December and arrived in London on the 22nd without discharging her mail at Cowes as the reverse carries a London Ship Letter (Robertson S36). Despite the presence of a second letter it was only rated 8d under the new regulations applicable from January as it weighed less than a 1/2 oz

Stampless letter carried on the famous Great Western steamship which sailed from NY City to Bristol, England in May of 1840

By Sophia E Waite

The Steamship Great Western was the 1st steamship to be designed to carry enough coal to carry her across the Atlantic Ocean. The ship was designed by Mr. I. K. Brunel, and built of wood by Mr. Patterson, of Bristol, England in 1837. She sailed on her maiden voyage from Bristol on 7 April, 1838 to New York city in America. She carried mail on her voyages, and in 1847, she was sold to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co., and continued in their service for many years. She was sold as scrap in 1856 and destroyed at Vauxhall in 1857. Offered is a vf example of a letter carried on the famous "Great Western" steam ship from New York, to Bristol, England, it's home port. Upon arrival the letter received a red straight line Bristol Ship letter hand stamp, and a manuscript 8 for the British sea postage. Mr Waite's sister in law refers to the sailing of the Great Western tomorrow, which would have been May 9th, 1840. The letter concerns an inheritance she has obtained



Philadelphia blue cds on 1841 stampless letter, sent to New York to sail on the famous steamship "Great Western"

By Horace Bumey

The Steamship Great Western was the 1st steamship to be designed to carry enough coal to carry her across the Atlantic Ocean. The ship was designed by Mr. I. K. Brunel, and built of wood by Mr. Patterson, of Bristol, England in 1837. She sailed on her maiden voyage from Bristol on 7 April, 1838 to New York city in America. She carried mail on her voyages, and in 1847, she was sold to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co., and continued in their service for many years. She was sold as scrap in 1856 and destroyed at Vauxhall in 1857. the letter offered here was mailed from Philadelphia to New York in August of 1841. It bears a faint manuscript 12.5 rate for distance from Phila to NY. It sailed on the SS Great Western to Bristol, England. Upon arrival in Bristol the letter received a black Bristol Ship letter, the home port of the GT. Western. The letter regards a land trust in the state of New York





PIONEER STEAM SHIP LETTER

BRITISH AND AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET Co. PIONEER STEAM SHIP "BRITANNIA"

(Launched 5 February 1840 and built by Robert Duncan & Co. Greenock; Wood/paddle; 1,156 tons gross; 228ft. length overall. The first steamer to carry Contract mails across the Atlantic. Sold to Germany for conversion to a warship, she was eventually broken up at Kiel in 1880-81)

The **AMERICA/L** (Tab. P2) oval hand stamp is recorded in use from 1840 to 1844 in black and in red during 1850 (single example).



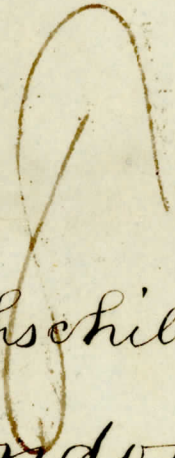
15th March 1841 - Philadelphia to Manchester via Boston and Liverpool

Carried by the Britannia on her fourth eastbound voyage, leaving Boston 16 March and arriving Liverpool on 31 March 1841. The letter marked **PAID**, in Philadelphia, where it was charged "37½" in manuscript indicating that the double rate internal postage for 151-400 miles had been prepaid. Rated "1/-" (Tabart M67), the UK rate for incoming Packet Letters up to ½oz.

1841 stampless outer letter sheet with a manuscript 8 for British sea postage. The letter is addressed to London, and was handled by the forwarders Collomb & Iselin of New York City

By unk

Excellent example of a forwarder's oval used on a 1841 stampless ship cover from NY to London. The sea postage is shown in manuscript, and the oval for the forwarder Collombs & Iselin, of New York is shown on the back. There is a small Liverpool Ship letter handstamp on the back of the cover, indicating carriage on one of the ships that sailed between New York and Liverpool in 1841.



Messrs. M. Rothschild & Sons
London.

via N. York. —

stampless cover carried on the Pioneer steamship "Great Britain" of the Great Western steamship line from New York to Liverpool on August 1st, 1846

By unk

The Pioneer Steamships-- Prior to 1838 much of the mail between England & the US was carried on sailing ships which were part of large companies with names like "The Black Ball Line, Copes Line, the Dramatic line, and many others. In 1838, with the organization of the British and American Steam Navigation Company, began the age of steam vessels which traveled between England and the US, carrying mail. The 1st of these was the Sirius, which made 2 voyages to NY. At the same time another company, The Great Western Steamship Co was formed, and it too carried mail to New York. In 1838, the Transatlantic Steam ship Company began sailing between Liverpool and New York. Eventually these lines known as the pioneer steamship services would be replaced by the Cunard Line. The Great Britain On July 26, 1845, the largest steamship in the world, The Great Britain, built of iron, sailed from Liverpool to New York, and was a huge success. She made only a few sailings, for on September 22, 1846, while on her outward voyage, she stranded on Dundrum Bay, County Cork. No lives were lost, and everything was salvaged, her mail being sent on by another ship. She lay there for about 10 months, but was so strongly constructed that she never broke up. Eventually she was refloated, entirely refitted, and sold into the Australian service. Offered is a stampless outer wrapper sent from New York to London on August 1, 1846, on her 4th return voyage to Liverpool. The manuscript 8 represents the British sea postage, and the back has an octagonal Liverpool Ship stamp. This is Ex Robertson, and is a very fine example of a letter carried on one of the Pioneer steamships. The Great Britain



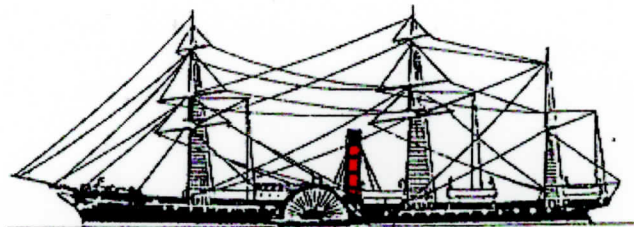
An entire from New York which as is very usual shows no marks or rates but presumably had to pay Freight Money. **It was carried on her 4th return voyage**, leaving New York on 1st August 1846 and arriving at Liverpool on the 15th. This was a transit of just under 14 days so that she was beginning to show her true potential. The cover was back stamped with an octagonal Liverpool Ship Stamp in green (Tabart S16, known 1853-58) the earliest known date, and charged 8d. Ex Robertson.

Transatlantic Mails by Cunard Line

The Anglo-US Treaty - Accountancy Markings

The Anglo-US Treaty required the sum payable to the recipient country on prepaid letters, and the amount claimed from the recipient country on unpaid letters, to be marked on each letter. Double and quadruple markings were issued from as early as July 1849. There was no treble rate until April 1866.

**1851. Unpaid quadruple rate letter
Bristol to Philadelphia by British packet.
76 Cents claim on USA**



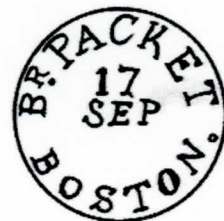
Cunarder Europa



Carried by: *Europa*, depart Liverpool 6th, arrive Boston 17th September 1851.

Rates. Over 1oz, under 2oz, i.e. 4 rates. Carried by British packet, so British claim of $4 \times 19c = 76$ cents. 96 cents charged to the addressee, in manuscript just below the 76 CENTS h/s.

**76
CENTS**



Liverpool M53

Backstamp: London cds 5 September 1851

printed stampless letter- invoice from Liverpool to Philadelphia 1859. Letter has blk Philadelphia postmark & ship handstamp, plus 6 in octagon for port to port rate from Liverpool to Philadelphia.

By Biddulph & Woods

nice example of a letter carried by private ship from Liverpool to Philadelphia in 1859. The 6 in octagon indicates the port to port rate used on mail carried by private ship, rather than a treaty mail ship, such as Cunard or Collins.. This letter was carried on the private ship "Emma", from Liverpool to Philadelphia



New York 5 red cds on 1845 stampless ols to London, via Cunard line steamer Hibernia; manuscript 1 shilling British rate.



New York 3 debit cds on 1867 stampless letter to France via the Cunard steamer Java. Letter is in French.



1868 prepaid letter from France to Philadelphia, with red 3 credit. Letter was carried on the Cunard line Java. Letter is date-lined Bordeaux, and written in French.

