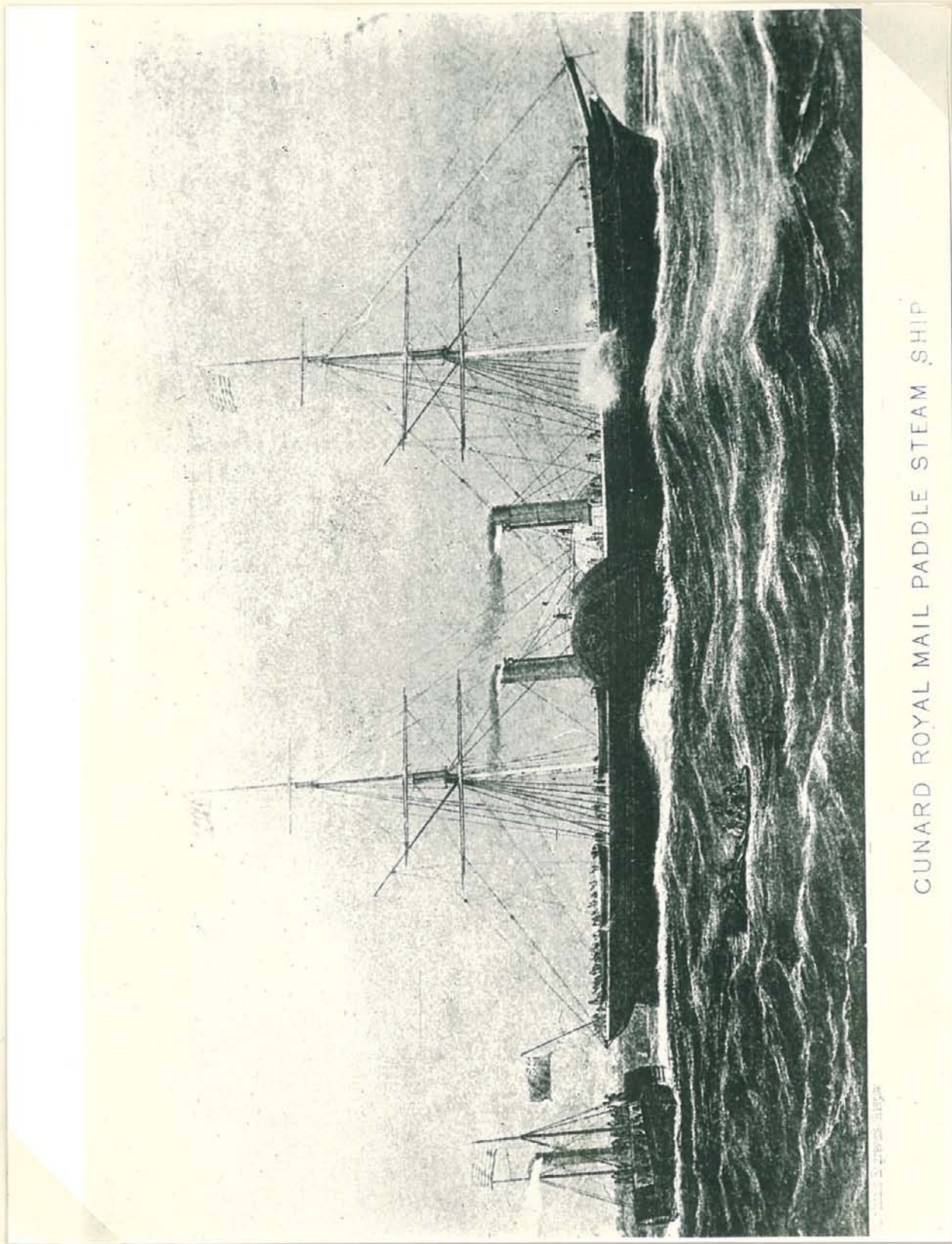


R.M.S. Arabia. Built 1852 at Greenock, Scotland CUNARD LINE



CUNARD ROYAL MAIL PADDLE STEAM SHIP

1856

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL



THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Arabia



((498))

PAID



5 CENTS



October 10, 1856. Letter paid at the 1/- (24¢) U.S.-British Treaty rate. Receipt backstamp at sub-station of Upper Mill and stamp cancelled at Manchester with the number under name duplex of the England and Wales series, British Post Office number "498" of Manchester. Letter endorsed: per steamer "Arabia"/from Liverpool.

This is a long letter dealing with the technicalities of wool.

Oct. 11. Transit at Liverpool Packet Letter Office. R.M.S. Arabia departed this date for Boston via Halifax, 22nd out voyage.

Oct. 24. Arabia arrived at Boston. Letters bulked on to New York where docketed same day at John Bottomley's office. 5¢ credit to U.S. for U.S. Inland postage.

1856

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Arabia



Hampstead



November 21, 1856. An unpaid letter posted at the Hamstead Receiving House at London. The receiving house mark (L514/HAMP 66) is identified as from the Hamstead North Office, found used 1855-57 in blue, as here.

November 22. Letter was forwarded to Liverpool to meet the sailing of R.M.S. Arabia, which departed from that port for Boston on November 22. The U.S. was debited for 16¢ Sea (British Packet) + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢.

19
CENTS



December 5. Arabia arrived at Boston, letter processed December 6. It was subject to a collect amount of 24¢, the U.S.-British Treaty of 1848 rate per ½-oz. U.S. retained 5¢ U.S. Inland after crediting Britain with the 19¢.

1858

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE CUNARD LINE

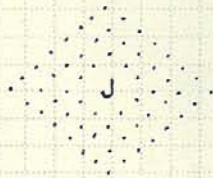
R.M.S. Arabia

July 12, 1858. This letter was datelined at Ipswich, Mass. to a member of the prominent Heard family at 3 White Lion Court, Cornhill, London. It describes various sailing arrangements as passengers aboard various Cunard steamships: Africa, Arabia, and America.

The letter is endorsed: pr "Arabia", however, the writer took advantage of another person who was sailing on the Arabia to hand carry the letter. Heading date and receipt at Paris track with the Arabia's dates.

July 14, 1858. R.M.S. Arabia departed from Boston for Liverpool via Halifax.

July 24. Arabia arrived at Liverpool. The courier carried this letter on to Paris hoping to meet up with Albert F. Heard.



July 27, 1858. Letter posted at Paris back to London. Double rate at 40 centimes per $7\frac{1}{2}$ grams x 2 = 80 centimes paid by a copy of the Issue of 1854. It was cancelled at the Bureau de Quartier "J".

July 27. Transit backstamp aboard the Paris to Calais T.P.O., 3rd Section, Brigade A handled the mail. Night train as shown by the circular center.

July 28. Arrival mark at London.



1858

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Arabia

Liverpool "dots" cancel



24

October 12, 1858. An unpaid letter posted at Templeton, Mass. The U.S.-British Treaty of 1848 rate per $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. of 24¢ is shown in manuscript, as due.



October 13. Transit at New York. R.M.S. Arabia of the Cunard Line sailed from New York for Liverpool that same day. The New York Exchange Office debited Britain for 5¢ U.S. Inland.

October 25. Arabia arrived at Liverpool. The Liverpool receiving mark is the seldom seen marking with LIVERPOOL and the bottom arcs in dots.



Handwritten signature or initials.

Britain marked the letter one shilling (24¢) due, shown by the 1/- handstamp. Britain retained 16¢ Sea (British Packet) + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢.

1861

TRANSATLANTIC SHIPPING LINES
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Arabia

2402 tons, 284 ft. x 41 ft. beam. Wooden paddle steamer. Side lever engines, cylinders 103" diameter x 9 ft. stroke !! These were deemed too powerful for her wooden hull. Built by R. Steele & Co., Greenock (engines Robert Napier, Glasgow). Laid down as Persia, launched June 21, 1852 as Arabia. Maiden voyage Jan. 1, 1853 Liverpool-New York. 1854 Crimean War transport.



1853 ARABIA 2,402 tons
Last of the wooden Cunarders.



19 CENTS

March 2, 1861. Letter unpaid at Liverpool. Directed to pick up the Cunard steamer Arabia at Queens-town (Cork, Ireland) where since Nov. 6, 1859, the Cunarders maintained a fortnightly call outwards and homewards.

Debit struck aboard ship charges U.S. for 16¢ sea (British Packet) + 3¢ British Inland.

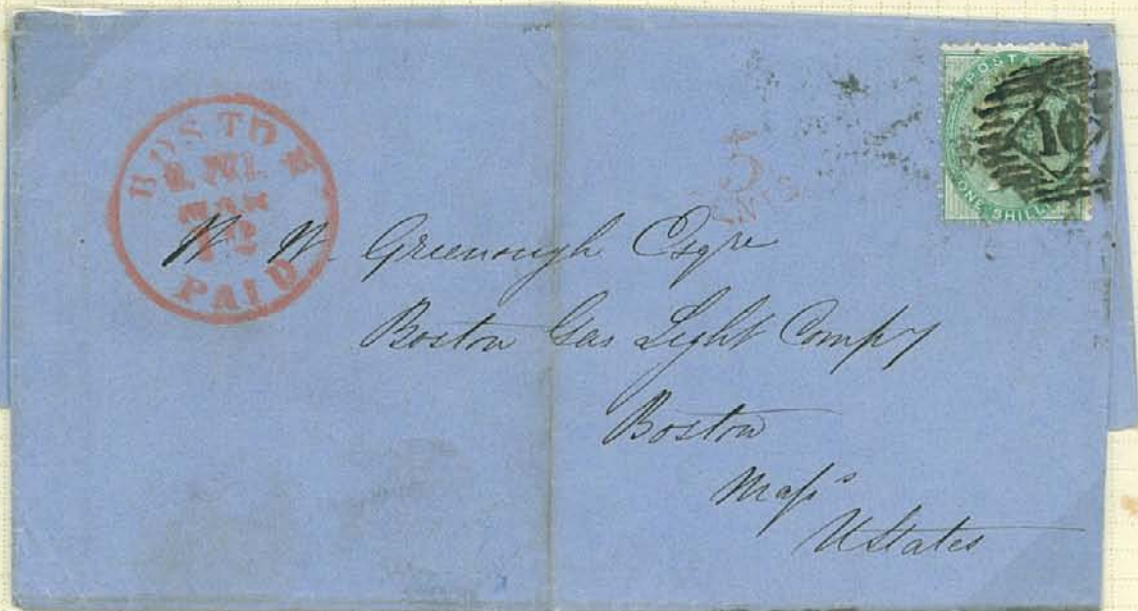
March 17. Arrival of the Arabia at New York. 24¢ total rate due. Unusual double strike, as the "24" free standing mark is redundant.



1859

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
— * —
THE CUNARD LINE

R. M. S. Arabia



February 25, 1859. Single weight (not over ½-oz.) letter paid at the 1 shilling rate, Britain to U.S. Cancelled at London by the London Inland Office obliterator (Dubus 305g) and London backstamp. Letter concerns the invoice for the Thomas Glover Patent Dry Gas Meter, sold to the Boston Gas Light Co.

R.M.S. Arabia sailed Feb. 26, 1859 from Liverpool for Boston.

5
CENTS



B. 709

5 cents credit to U.S. for Inland postage. Britain retained 16¢ sea + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢.

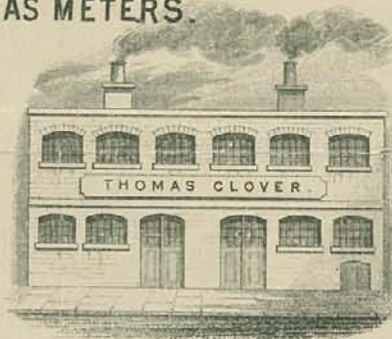
March 12, 1859. The Arabia had landed Mar. 11 at Boston, this paid mark struck next day. Hollow "B.PKT" is from under-inking.



MEDALS AWARDED TO THOMAS GLOVER'S PATENT DRY GAS METERS.



SUFFOLK STREET WORKS.



ALLEN STREET WORKS.

THOMAS GLOVER, PATENT DRY GAS METER

Manufacturer,

SUFFOLK ST. CLERKENWELL GREEN & ALLEN ST. GOSWELL STR.

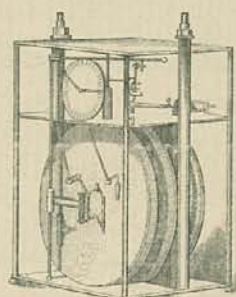
LONDON.
E.C.

When not in use the Meter should be kept upright and the Inlet and Outlet should be closed.

Warranted to register with perfect accuracy from the smallest jet to any number of lights specified on the label.



COMMON.



EXPERIMENTAL.

*W. W. Greenough Esq^r
Agent for the Boston Gas Co. To Thomas Glover.
1859
Concurrence*

<i>Feb 17th</i>	<i>To 2 - 100 Light Meter @ 250/-</i>	<i>250/-</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>..</i>
	<i>3 - 50 " do</i>	<i>144/9</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Marked</i>	<i>4 - 30 " do</i>	<i>79/-</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>..</i>
<i>W W G</i>	<i>24 - 20 " do</i>	<i>58/9</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>..</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>74 - 10 " do</i>	<i>44/-</i>	<i>162</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>..</i>
<i>W 1/4</i>	<i>45 - 5 " do</i>	<i>33/9</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>9</i>
	<i>120 - 3 " do</i>	<i>28/-</i>	<i>168</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>..</i>
	<i>To fill up 1 - 10 S. Meter</i>		<i>11</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>..</i>
	<i>do 3 - 3 " do</i>	<i>28/-</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>..</i>
	<i>14 Cents</i>		<i>8</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>..</i>
	<i>Insurance & Duty</i>		<i>8</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>7</i>
			<hr/>		
			<i>558</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>9</i>

W. F. Store

1862

THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Arabia

Arabia diverted to Halifax with Troops and War Material

On this January 4, 1862 sailing of Arabia she would normally have gone directly from Queenstown to New York. However, she was diverted to Halifax and put into that port on January 16 with troops and war material.



19 CENTS

January 4, 1862. Letter headed at Liverpool and endorsed: pr. Arabia via Queenstown. It concerns the purchase of 1000 to 1500 tons of Rosebridge Company cannel coal. It was to be used by the Boston Gas Light Co. to manufacture coal gas (CO). Unpaid letter, U.S. debited for 16¢ Sea (British Packet + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢.

January 4. R.M.S. Arabia, Cunard Line, departed from Liverpool, she touched at Queenstown the 5th and put into Halifax on JANuary 16.



January 20. Arabia arrived at New York. The bulked Boston mails went by rail to that city for a same day processing. 24¢ due under the U.S.-British Treaty of 1848 rate. U.S. retained 5¢ U.S. Inland after remitting 19¢ to Great Britain.

1863

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL



THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Arabia



January 10, 1863. London receiving mark for unpaid letter directionally endorsed 'per "Arabia"', which departed from Liverpool this date on her 66th westbound voyage. She was bound for Boston via Halifax.



19
CENTS

B.801

January 21. Arabia arrived at Boston where the receiving handstamp was struck by the Boston Exchange Office. This is a rather uncommon mark (Blake 801) with the year date shown below the Month/Day.

24¢ U.S.-British Treaty rate due. Exchange Office mark shows credit to Britain for 16¢ Sea (British Packet) + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢.

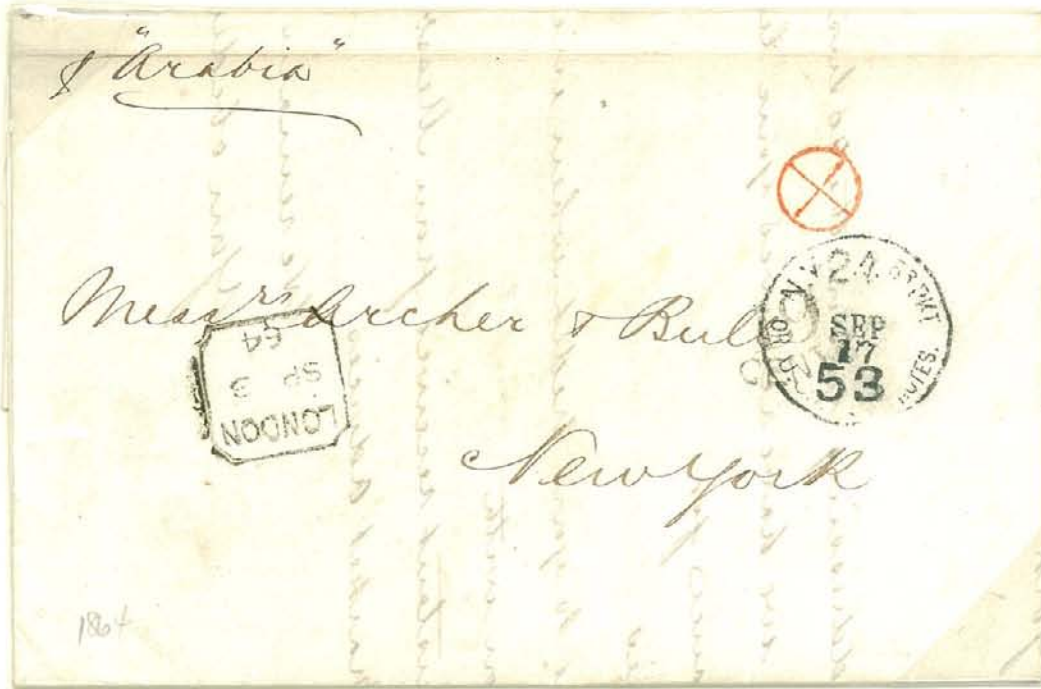
1864

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Arabia

Depreciated Currency



19
CENTS

September 3, 1864. An unpaid letter posted at London and endorsed: p "Arabia". It bears the "crosshairs" of a postal inspector at London, probably to check its weight. The U.S. was debited for 16¢ Sea (British Packet) + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢. Total rate was under the U.S.-British Treaty of 1848 was 24¢ (one shilling) per ½-oz.

September 3. R.M.S. Arabia of the Cunard Line departed from Liverpool, picked up this letter at Queenstown, Ireland on the 4th.

September 16. Arabia arrived at Boston; the N.Y. mails were bulked by rail to N.Y. where this letter received identity September 17.

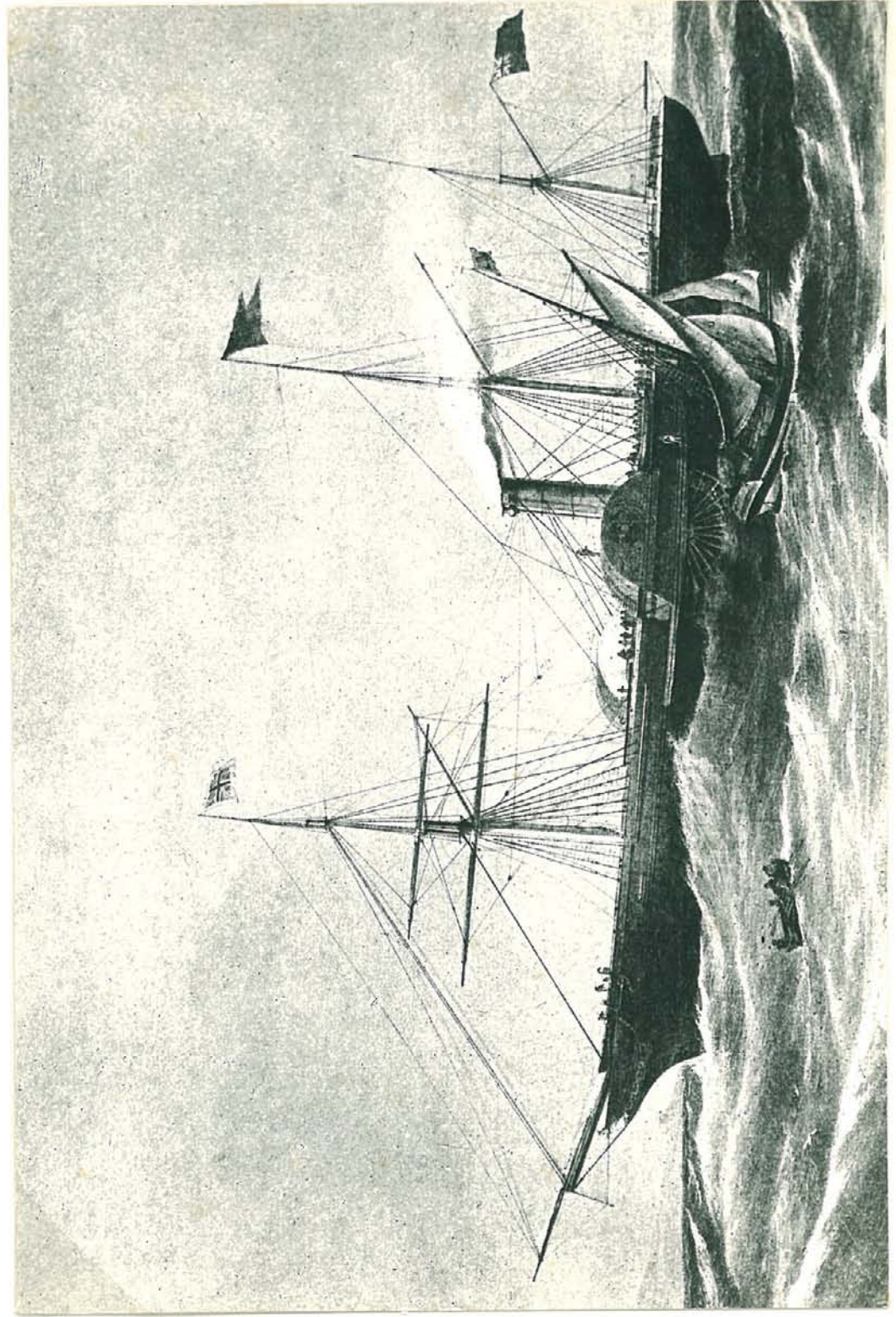
The 24¢ Treaty rate, due in hard currency, was subject to the day's depreciation against paper money (U.S. NOTES). of 24¢ x 2.21 = 53¢ due in paper. The end of 1864 saw the highest depreciation ratios of the depreciation period.



W. 412

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Asia. Built 1850 at Greenock, Scotland



1851

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL



THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Asia



July 4, 1851. Unpaid letter posted at the London Charing Cross Station with a most unusual and fine strike of the station receiving mark of the Maltese Cross type with curved sides.



July 4. Transit stamp lozenge of the Liverpool Packet Office. R.M.S. Asia departed Liverpool July 5 for New York.



July 16. Arrival stamp at New York corresponds with the recorded arrival date of Asia at N.Y. where the receiving stamp shows that the U.S.-British Treaty of 1848 rate of 24¢ was due.

Exchange Office marked letter with a debit to U.S. for 16¢ Sea (British Packet) + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢ shown by the large handstamp.



July 25. Docket on reverse notes arrival at New Orleans. Transatlantic rate included U.S. delivery.

1853

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
*
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Asia

Paid Double Letter

The Asia made her first voyage Liverpool to N.Y. Aug. 31, 1850 (maiden voyage May 18, 1850 was to Boston). Subsequent voyages were mainly to New York until 1855 and 1856-62. In 1853 the mizzen mast was removed.



1850 ASIA 2,226 tons
An improved EUROPA. Sister ship: AFRICA.

PAID
AT
26AU26
1853



Aug. 26, 1853. Letter prepaid at double rate 1sh. x 2 = 2/- as shown in red mss. "Paid" London receipt mark. Inspector's cross shows it was referred for special handling, probably a/c of a double letter. 2/- equivalent to 48¢ U.S.

Aug. 27. Transit at the Liverpool Packet Office. R.M.S. Asia sailed this date for New York.

L
AU27
A

10
CENTS

Credit to U.S. struck aboard ship allows 5¢ U.S. Inland x 2 = 10¢ (double letter). Britain retained 19¢ x 2 = 38¢.

BOSTON
SEP 2
9
BR PKT.

B.704

Sept. 8. Asia landed N.Y. Bulk-ed mail to Boston and this mark backstamped. Blake notes used in red 12/6/52 to 6/3/54.

BOSTON
SEP 6
BR PKT.

PAID
AT
26AU26
1853

L
AU27
A

W. W. Greenough Esq
Agent to the Boston Gas Light Company
102 Washington Street
Boston
Ms.

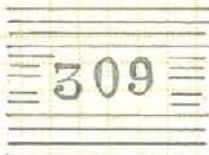
1858

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
—  —
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Asia

Underpaid Letter

MUCHALLS



May 27, 1858. This letter was put into the mails at Muchalls receiving office of the Kincardine District of the Stonehaven post office as shown by the Scots local (Type VIII) boxed backstamp. Letter was processed at the Stonehaven office, cds backstamp, and the stamps cancelled by the "309", Scotch type, British Post Office number assigned to Stonehaven.

Letter was paid at 8d. by the 2d., bluish paper (perf. 14), Issue of 1855 and the 6d., Issue of 1856. As the British-U.S. Treaty rate was one shilling (12d.) this underpayment was ignored and the letter went as unpaid.



May 29. R.M.S. Asia of the Cunard Line departed from Liverpool for New York. Backstamp transit at Liverpool May 28.



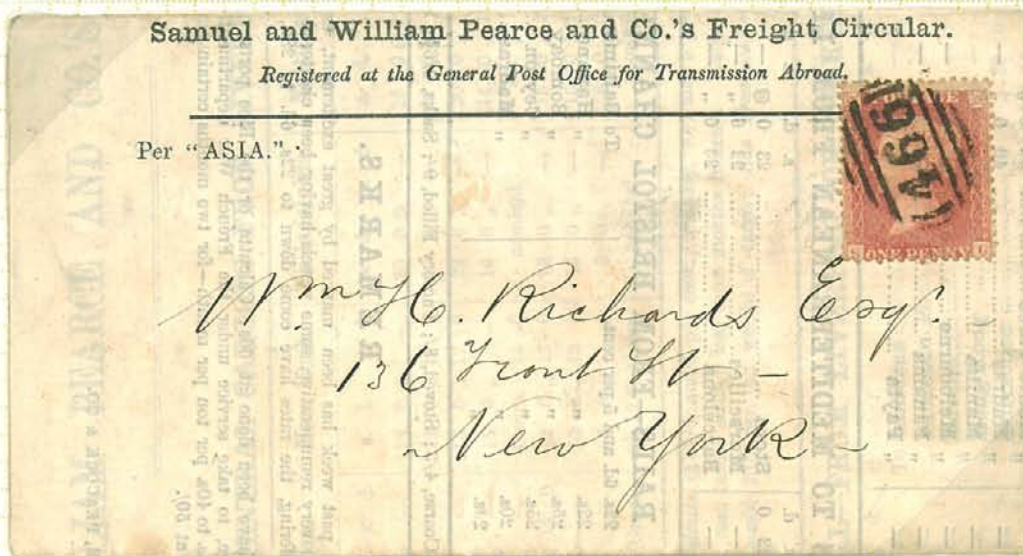
June 10. Arrival date of Asia agrees with the New York Exchange Office mark showing that 24¢ (1/-) was due. U.S. was debited with 16¢ Sea (British Packet) + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢. U.S. retained 5¢ U.S. Inland.

1859

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
—  —
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Asia

1d. Newspaper Rate



May 14, 1859. Prices current (freight rates) datelined at Liverpool May 14. R.M.S. Asia departed this date from L'pool for New York. Newspaper transatlantic rate at this time was 1d. (2¢), paid by a one penny red stamp, Issue of 1856, at a time when the letter rate was 1 shilling (24¢) per ½-oz. Stamp cancelled by the "466", British Post Office number of Liverpool.

These circulars were printed to coincide with specific Cunard Line sailings, and may be found bearing directional endorsements such as per "ARABIA", "SIBERIA", etc.

May 26. Arrival date of R.M.S. Asia at New York.

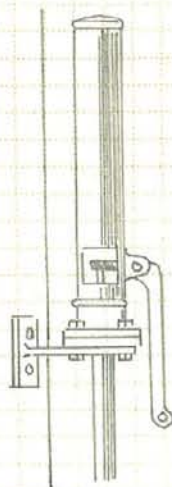
1859

TRANSATLANTIC SHIPPING LINES

CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Asia

2,226 tons, 260 ft. x 40 ft. beam. Wooden paddle steamer, 2 side lever engines, 12 knots. Built by R. Steele & Co., Greenock (engines Robert Napier, Glasgow), launched Jan. 31, 1850. Maiden voyage May 18, 1850 Liverpool-Halifax-Boston, last voyage May 11, 1867, Liverpool-Halifax-Boston. 1867 Asia (sailing ship). Dec. 2, 1876 destroyed by fire at Bombay.



Standard steamer's whistle fitted with vertical spindle valve.

Ireland to U.S. - Unpaid

June 23, 1859. Letter posted unpaid at Tarbert, County Limerick, Ireland. Transit same day at City of Limerick.



June 24. Transit backstamp at Dublin.

June 25. Liverpool lozenge transit backstamp. The RMS Asia sailed this date for New York.



19 CENTS

Debit mark struck aboard ship to U.S. for 16¢ sea + 3¢ British Inland.



July 7. Incoming date stamp at N.Y. 24¢ packet rate from Britain due.



Jul. 16. Letter advertised because of insufficient address. "PAID" is obscure, probably receipt at Chicago when paid there.

1859

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL

CUNARD LINE
"PAID/SHIP"

R.M.S. Asia



Jan. 19, 1859
Double rated letter
($\frac{1}{2}$ -1 oz.) paid by
two copies of
the 1/- Issue
of 1856.



Jan. 20. Dublin
transit backstamp.
Jan. 21. L'pool
Packet Office.

R.M.S. Asia
sailed from
Liverpool
Jan. 22,
1859.



*Charles V. Bennett Esq
Phippsburg
State of Maine*

PAID
SHIP

United States America

10
CENTS

Marked
aboard the
Asia debit to
Britain of 5¢
U.S. Domestic
postage x 2 (double
letter) = 10¢.

PAID
SHIP

Scarce "PAID/SHIP" handstamp
struck at New York. One other
sample of this strike in this
collection (which see). (TAS 013.0)
(TAS 023.5)



Feb. 8. Shipping
lists record arrival
of the Asia at N.Y.
Feb. 7, 1859. Mark
shows double rate,
24¢ x 2 = 48¢, had
been prepaid.

1859

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Asia

39
LIVERPOOL
MR 8
59

L
MR 8
D

March 8, 1859. Double weight (1/2-1oz.) letter unpaid at Liverpool. The R.M.S. Asia sailed from L'pool on March 12.



38
CENTS

Debit to U.S.
struck aboard ship.
Rate was for 16¢ sea
(British Packet) + 3¢
British Inland = 19¢ x
2 (double letter) = 38¢
that U.S. owed Britain.

BR PACKET
29
MAR
BOSTON

48

Blake 702 B.715

March 29. Arrival stamp at Boston agrees with recorded arrival date of the R.M.S. Asia. Double rate (24¢ x 2) of 48¢ due. "Dumb" Boston Exchange Office receipt stamp shows no rate.

1860

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Asia

Unpaid, Double Letter



June 9, 1860.
Backstamp of the Liverpool Packet Letter Office (P.L.O.) in time for the Saturday sailing of the R.M.S. Asia from L'pool (June 9, 1860 was a Saturday). Unpaid double letter.



JF

Manuscript mark aboard ship debits the U.S. for 16¢ sea (Cunard = British Packet) + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢ x 2 (double letter) = 38¢.



June 21, 1860. Arrival of the Asia at New York. Double rate of 48¢ due as shown at the base of the date stamp.

1860

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Asia



W. SCHALL & CO
NEW-YORK.

BY STR. ASIA



Nov. 6, 1860. Letter datelined at New York. It has the blue company backstamp of W. Schall & Co, New York who also struck the straight-line blue: BY STR. ASIA. This company had similar handstamps for other steamships (see Inman - Str. Kangaroo.)

Nov. 7. Letter posted unpaid at New York. The R.M.S. Asia sailed this date for Liverpool via Queenstown.

The April 1, 1857 rate to France, per ¼-oz., was divided: U.S. Inland 3¢; Sea 6¢; British transit 2¢; French Inland 4¢ = 15¢ total (equivalent to 8 decimes French). The N.Y. Exchange Office debited France for 3¢ U.S. Inland.

Nov. 18. Asia arrived at Queenstown.

Nov. 20. French entry mark, U.S. Mail, British service. French marked letter for a single rate due, 8 decimes.



Nov. 20. Paris transit and Paris to Lyon T.P.O. backstamps, latter day train (octagonal center).

Nov. 21. Lyon arrival backstamp.

Handwritten scribbles at the bottom right corner.

1865

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Asia

Double paid letter



June 10, 1865. Type B3 cancellation of Dundee (3 bars above and below office number, office name in date stamp straight) cancels a pair of the 1 shilling stamps (Plate 4), Issue of 1865, green, prepaying the double rate (24¢ x 2) of the U.S.-British Postal Treaty of 1849.

R.M.S. Asia departed from Liverpool for Boston on June 10. This letter routed via Cork (Queenstown) where London transited mail was put aboard on June 11 when the Asia called there one day out of Liverpool.



Exchange Office mark gave credit to U.S. of 5¢ U.S. Inland x 2 = 10¢. Britain retained 16¢ Sea Postage (British Packet) + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢ x 2 (double letter) = 38¢.



B.803

June 22, 1865. Arrival mark at the Boston Exchange Office agrees with the June 22 arrival date of the Asia at that port. Mark notes 48¢ PAID, equivalent to 2 shillings sterling. Scarce type of Boston mark, Blake notes first used 7/20/66, here 6/22/65. Latest recorded 5/23/67.

1866

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL



THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. Asia

Treble Letter



PAID

3/15

November 24, 1866. Letter paid at London at the treble shilling (24¢) rate by a strip of 3 of the shilling Issue of 1865, Plate 4. Obliterator of the East Central Office which acted as the London District Office after incorporation of the latter into the General Post in 1856. Type Dubus 209a, 1865-66.

The Exchange Office noted the "3" as a triple rated letter (two enclosures were noted) and showed a credit to the U.S. of 5¢ U.S. Inland x 3 = 15¢. British retained 16¢ Sea (British Packet) + 3¢ British Inland = 19¢ x 3 = 57¢.

R.M.S. Asia departed from Liverpool Nov. 24 on her 118th outbound voyage, called at Queenstown on Nov. 25.

December 7. Asia arrived at Boston. Mail bulked to New York for distribution.

1851

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL
*
THE CUNARD LINE

R.M.S. America

1,826 tons, 251 ft. x 38 ft. beam. Clipper bow, wooden paddle steamer, R. Steele & Co., Greenock (engines Robert Napier, Glasgow). Launched May 13, 1847, maiden voyage April 15, 1848 Liverpool-Halifax-New York. Scrapped around 1875 after having been run since 1866 as the sailing ship Coalacondor.



Nov. 20, 1851.
Letter posted
paid at Swansea
by 1/- in cash
(1 shilling =
24¢). "763"
is British P.
O. number of
Swansea.



Nov. 21. Transit
at London.



Nov. 21. Lozenge of the
Liverpool Packet Letter
Office. Records show the
RMS America sailed L'pool
Nov. 22, arrived NY Dec.5.



Credit mark struck
ship allowing U.S.
5¢ for her Inland
postage.



Dec. 8, 1851. Docket notes letter
received that date at Philadelphia.
Scarce Philadelphia mark restates that
24¢ (1/-) had been paid.