

Norwich

Dudley Woodbridge, Postmaster

Post Office Business

James Bryson, Postmaster of Philadelphia writes Dudley Woodbridge on behalf of Ebenezer Hazard, Postmaster General, transmitting new commission and bond to be signed.

General Post Office May 6. 1782

Sir,

I am directed by the Post Master General to transmit you the enclosed Commission and Bond and to desire that you will have the latter completed and return it to this Office. - You are for the present to consider the Instructions formerly given as now repeated, when any Alterations are made therein you shall be duly informed of them by

Sir, Your humble Servant,
Jas Bryson

General Post Office May 6. 1782

Sir

I am directed by the Post Master General to transmit you the enclosed Commission and Bond and to desire that you will have the latter completed and return it to this Office. - You are for the present to consider the Instructions formerly given as being now repeated, when any Alterations are made therein you shall be duly informed of them by

Sir

Your humble Servant

Jas Bryson

FREE

Dudley Woodbridge Esq.

Post Master

at

Norwich

6 May 1782, General Post Office (Philadelphia) to Norwich, "FREE*" handstamp addressed to Post Master Dudley Woodbridge

Norwich

Dudley Woodbridge, Postmaster

Post Office Business

Dudley Woodbridge's retained copy of letter to James Bryson, Postmaster of Philadelphia, regarding postmaster bills and enclosing his executed bond and quarterly accounts.

Norwich July 25th 1782

Sir

Mr. Baynton some time since forwarded me my Quarterly Acct of Jan^y and Bill; which having ~~on~~ rectifyd (excepting a small Balance in my fav^r. as pr. Ret. which shall not Notice) I send to you, Should have wrote him but conclude from your now signing the Post Masters Bills that he is not in Office. I have also Executed & Enclosed the Bond, ^{agreeable to your desire} would request the fav^r. of you to forward me the Bond I gave (I think) to Mr. Baynton.

I am Sir with Respects
Your Obedt. Servt.
D. Woodbridge

James Bryson Esq.

Norwich 25th July 1782

Mr. Baynton some time since forwarded me my Quarterly Acct. of Jan^y. and Bill; which having rectifyd (excepting a small Balance in my fav^r. as pr. Ret. which shall not Notice), I send to you. Should have wrote him but conclude from your now Signing the Post Masters Bills that he is not in Office. I have also Executed & Enclosed the Bond; agreeable to your desire, also my Quarterly Acct. of the 5th of April with note & c. would request the fav^r. of you to forwarded me the Bond I gave (I think) to Mr. Baynton.

I am Sir with Respect Your Obedt. Servt. D. Woodbridge

James Bryson Esq.

Norwich

Dudley Woodbridge, Postmaster

Post Office Business



11 August 1784, General Post Office (Philadelphia) to Postmaster Woodbridge at Norwich

*If you have any letters directed to Mr. Charles Chequiere at Baltimore or elsewhere,
please send them to this office by first post ... Jas. Bryson*



17 September 1784, General Post Office (Philadelphia) to Postmaster Woodbridge at Norwich

Please to forward all the letters in your office charged with packet postage ... Jas. Bryson

Norwich

Dudley Woodbridge, Postmaster

Post Office Business

Dudley Woodbridge's retained copy of 7 January 1789 letter to Postmaster General Ebenezer Hazard. Letter explains his error in taking a credit for unauthorized Post Office expenditures.

Norwich 7th Jan^y 1789

Sir. On Examination of our last Quarter
by au^d. there were some errors as you sug-
gested in Yours of Dec^r 27th which we have
Rectify'd & forwarded a new au^d. I am
sensible of Comptrollers Wills would beg the
fav^r of you to forward me some.

My Information from Sundry Postmasters
I thought I had a right to purchase what
was due for the Office, I accordingly
got to the am^t of 10/- which I charged in last
April Quarterly au^d. I rec^d. as charged & paid
for them. I have no other Voucher than my own
attestation which if due for the Office can forward
the department. I did not mean to involve
my Expense without Authority. I conceived
had I wrote you for those matters that were
due. It would be troubling you with trifling
matters such as you would wish to be free off
I shall however be more careful in future.
I am Sir your most Obedient Servant.
Ebenezer Hazard Esq^r. Dudley Woodbridge

Norwich

Norwich Post Office Seal

Postmaster Christopher Leffingwell

The Norwich Post Office seal with monogram USA, impressed in wax, is known only on two letters which were sent by successive son and father postmasters, William and Christopher Leffingwell.

Norwich Nov 13

FREE



13 November 1796 Norwich to New Haven, franked by postmaster Christopher Leffingwell
black wax seal "Norwich Post Office USA" on reverse
one example of this seal known impressed in black wax

Norwich

Way Fee Due / Fee Prepaid

In 1798, way letters were defined as, "such letters as are received by a mail carrier on his way between two post offices." Such letters were subject to a one cent fee to be added to the distance postage from point letter was received by carrier to the final destination. The one cent fee was to be paid to the carrier by the post office where it entered the mails. However, when the carrier fee was prepaid directly to the carrier when received, the fee was not added. The uses below, both way letter given to the post rider on his way from New London to Norwich, show the two different treatments.



3 March 1798 New London to Providence, RI, postage rate for distance was 8 cents
30 March entered mails at Norwich with 1¢ way fee added to postage, "Way 9" due



6 October 1798 New London to Hanover, NH, postage rate for distance was 20 cents
1¢ way fee paid in cash to carrier, 28 October entered mails at Norwich without fee added

Norwich



25 June 1861 patriotic cover with Brown & Ryan, New York imprint



Patriotic Response
June / July 1861

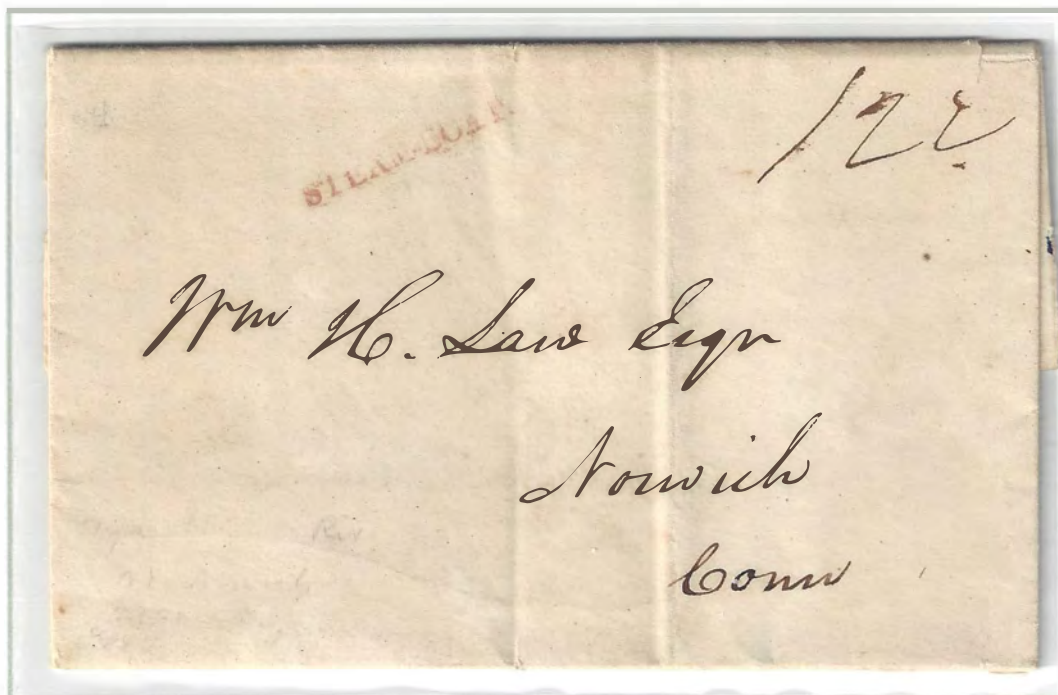


July 1861 uses, all same correspondence, without imprint but from same "kit" as purchased

By March 1841 there were several different steamboats offering service between New York and Norwich. Vanderbilt's Connecticut Steamboat Company secured a mail contract (route 482 / 802) for a daily mail on the route in June 1840 and kept it until June 1845. Upon reaching Norwich, the bagged New York mails for points north were transferred to the Norwich & Worcester Rail Road.



23 March 1841 New York to Norwich, multiple daily steamers were available
Norwich "STEAM-BOAT" handstamp, North Shore, NY postmaster free frank



August 1841 New York to Norwich, "STEAM-BOAT" handstamp" and 12½¢ due

per "Fanny"



3 October 1829 Norwich to New York, endorsed for carriage on steamboat Fanny entered the mails at New York with small "STEAM BOAT" handstamp and 12½¢ due

per Steam Boat "Norwich"



4 July 1838 Norwich to New York, endorsed for carriage on steamboat Norwich entered the mails at New York with larger "STEAM BOAT" handstamp and 12½¢ due

The two letters below show manuscript markings in the hand of two different postmasters. Also, the lower cover was charged less postage and was carried further than the top letter. The Post Office Act effective 1 July 1845 lowered the letter mail rate to five cents for a letter carried up to 300 miles.



18 January 1845 New York, via Norwich, to Lonsdale, RI
Norwich postmark and manuscript "S B 18^{3/4}" due in the hand of postmaster J. Townsend



26 November 1848 New York, via Norwich, to Boston, MA
Norwich postmark and manuscript "S Boat 5" due in the hand of postmaster W. L'Hormmedieu

Norwich

Norwich & Worcester Railroad

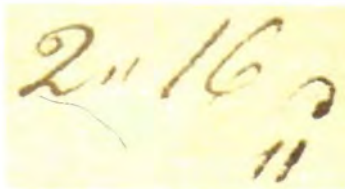


10 May 1849 / 11 February 1854 Norwich & Worcester R.R. route agent postmarks, 5¢ due



4 May 1865 Norwich & Worcester R.R., 3¢ with N&W cancel

BOSTON



2 1/16 11

Continental Congress Resolution of 30 September 1775

Manuscript 2 1/16

2dwt 16gr

Connecticut Currency

Equivalent is 11d

1776 December 29

100 to 200 miles - - - 2dwt 16gr



Stampless folded letter datelined "Boston 29 Decr. 1776" from James Swan.
No townmark, but rated at 2dwt, 16gr. This is equal to 11d Connecticut Currency

Resolve. Congress September 30, 1775

Prepaid or not

Not over 60 miles - - - 1dwt 8gr

60 to 100 miles - - - - 2dwt

100 to 200 miles - - - - 2dwt 16gr

200 to 300 miles - - - - 3dwt 8gr

300 to 400 miles - - - - 4dwt

400 to 500 miles - - - - 4dwt 16gr

Ship letter: additional - - - - 16gr

BOSTON

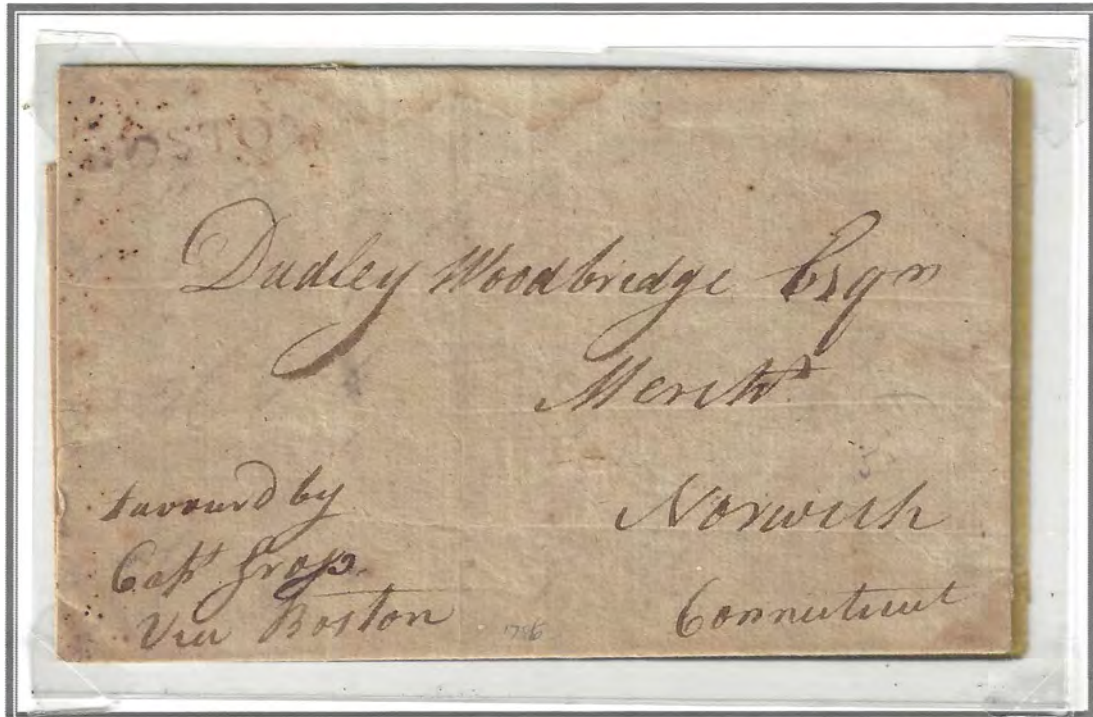
Ordinance of Congress, October 18, 1782

BOSTON

28x5mm

Aux Cayes Haiti to Boston to Norwich

1786-02-04



Stampless folded letter "Aux Cayes Dec. 1785" . from Jabez Perkins Jr. re sale of horses and other cargo.

Letter carried aboard the Brig Hiram. Capt. Gross to Boston. arriving Feb. 4th.

Address leaf received the BOSTON townmark, but unusual as it was not marked Free. Ship or rated.

The recipient Dudley Woodbridge was Postmaster.

The writer Jabez Perkins Jr arrived in New London from Aux Cayes on 21 May 1786.

M A R I N E L I S T.
NAVAL-OFFICE, Port of Boston, Feb. 4
INWARD ENTRIES
Brig Baltimore, Smith, Baltimore
Christiana, Barker, Suriname
Active, Collas, Aux Cayes
Harmony, Prince, Ditto
Hiram, Gross, Ditto

1786-02-04 Boston Gazette

Brig Hiram. Boston arrival

THOMAS ALLEN'S Marine LIST.

Friday, May 19th. Pleasant, serene morning, wind at S.W.

Saturday, 20th. Pleasant, serene morning, light breeze at N.

Arrived, Sloop Betsey, Nat. Saltonstall, Virginia.

Sunday, 21st. Lowry morning, wind S.W.

Arrived, Schooner —, Jabez Perkins, jun. master, from Aux-Cayes, in 29 days, who in lat.

1786-05-26 Connecticut Gazette (New London)

Schooner ———, Jabez Perkins Jr arrival

Ordinance: Congress October 18, 1782

Prepaid or not

Not over 60 miles - - - 1dwt 8gr

60 to 100 miles - - - - 2dwt

100 to 200 miles - - - - 2dwt 16gr

200 to 300 miles - - - - 3dwt 8gr

300 to 400 miles - - - - 4dwt

400 to 500 miles - - - - 4dwt 16gr

Ship letter: additional - - - - 16gr

Way letter: additional - - - - 16gr

NEW YORK

N-York.Feb; 12.

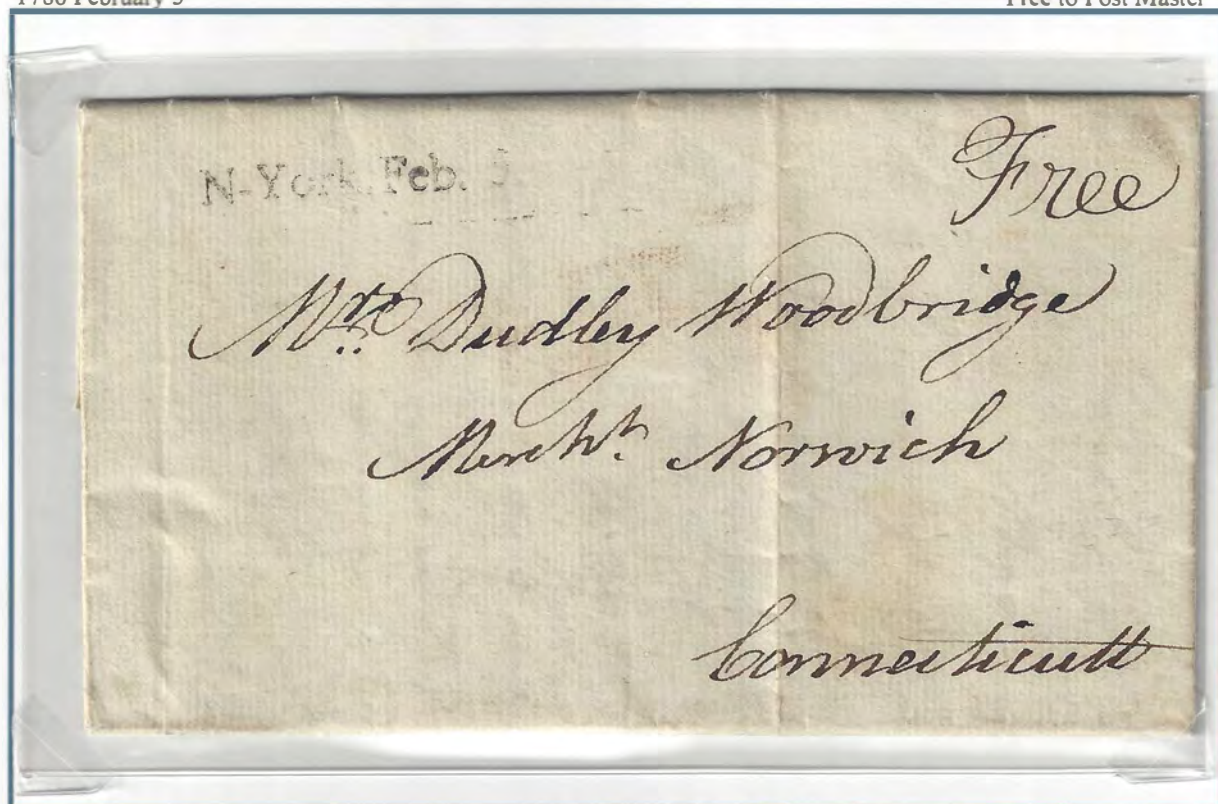
Type J

EARLY DATE

Free

1786 February 5

Free to Post Master



Stampless folded letter datelined "New York Febry 4th, 1786" from Eleazer Miller Jr.

Ordinance: Congress October 18, 1782

Prepaid or not

Not over 60 miles	---	1dwt	8gr
60 to 100 miles	----	2dwt	
100 to 200 miles	----	2dwt	16gr
200 to 300 miles	----	3dwt	8gr
300 to 400 miles	----	4dwt	
400 to 500 miles	----	4dwt	16gr
Ship letter: additional	-----		16gr
Way letter: additional	----		16gr

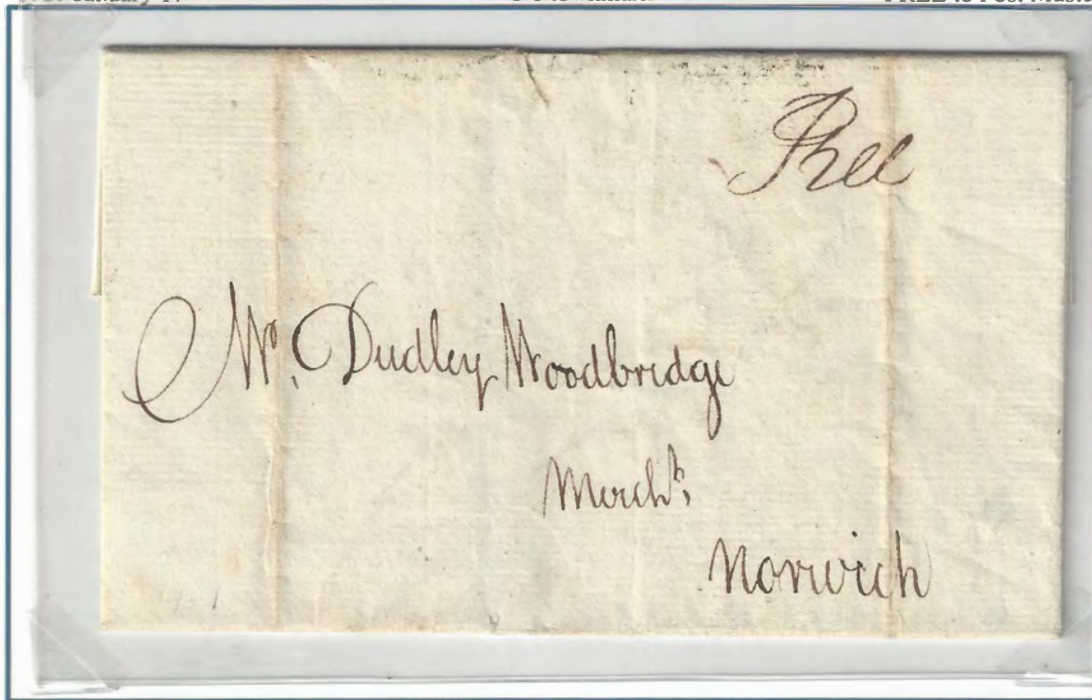
NEW YORK



1787 January 17

No townmark

FREE to Post Master



Stampless folded letter datelined "New York Jany 17, 1787", business letter, from Captain James Watson

Ordinance: Congress October 18, 1782

Prepaid or not

Not over 60 miles	---	1dwt	8gr
60 to 100 miles	----	2dwt	
100 to 200 miles	----	2dwt	16gr
200 to 300 miles	----	3dwt	8gr
300 to 400 miles	----	4dwt	
400 to 500 miles	----	4dwt	16gr
Ship letter: additional	-----		16gr
Way letter: additional	----		16gr

NEW YORK

POST OFFICES and POSTMARKS

NEW YORK

NEW YORK - Sept 4 1787

N.YORK - April 11

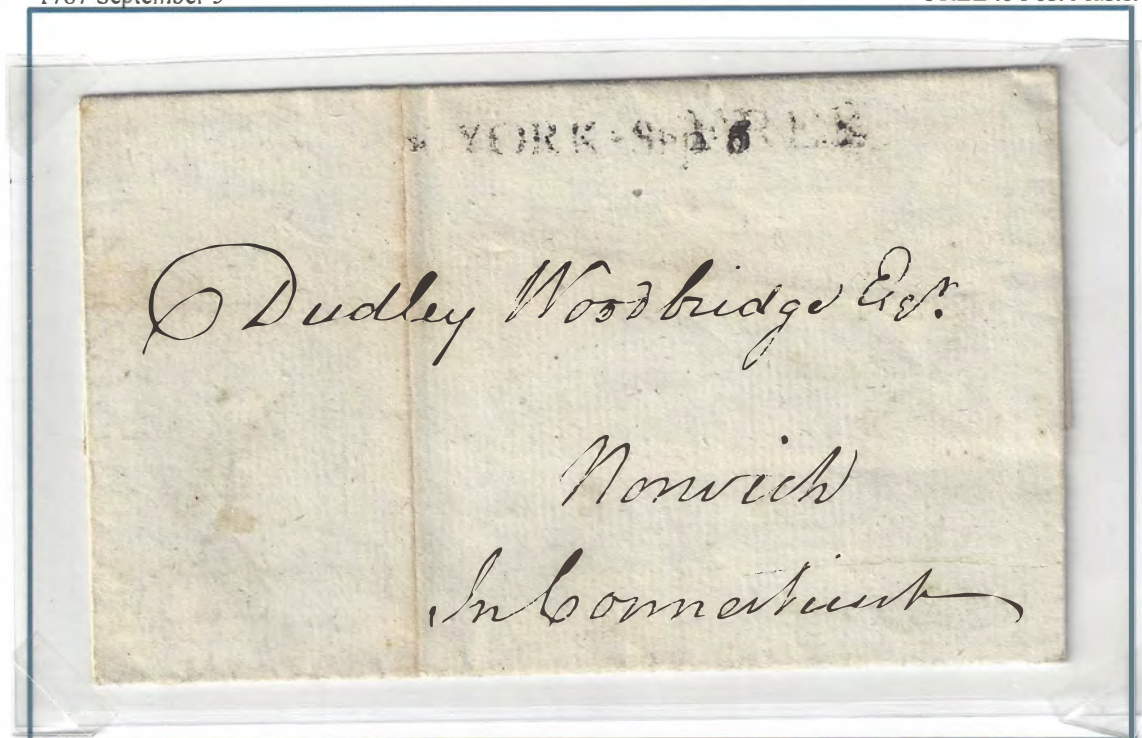
Type K

FREE

23x5mm

1787 September 5

FREE to Post Master



Stampless folded letter datelined "Daniel Phoenix Sept. 4th, 1787", business letter..

Ordinance: Congress October 18, 1782

Prepaid or not

Not over 60 miles	---	1dwt	8gr
60 to 100 miles	----	2dwt	
100 to 200 miles	----	2dwt	16gr
200 to 300 miles	----	3dwt	8gr
300 to 400 miles	----	4dwt	
400 to 500 miles	----	4dwt	16gr
Ship letter: additional	-----	16gr	
Way letter: additional	----	16gr	

NEW YORK



K1
25.5x4.5mm



manuscript

1787 June 17

FREE to Post Master



Stampless folded letter datelined "16 June 87", business letter, from William Buckle

Ordinance: Congress October 18, 1782

Prepaid or not

Not over 60 miles	---	1dwt	8gr
60 to 100 miles	----	2dwt	
100 to 200 miles	----	2dwt	16gr
200 to 300 miles	----	3dwt	8gr
300 to 400 miles	----	4dwt	
400 to 500 miles	----	4dwt	16gr
Ship letter: additional	-----		16gr
Way letter: additional	----		16gr

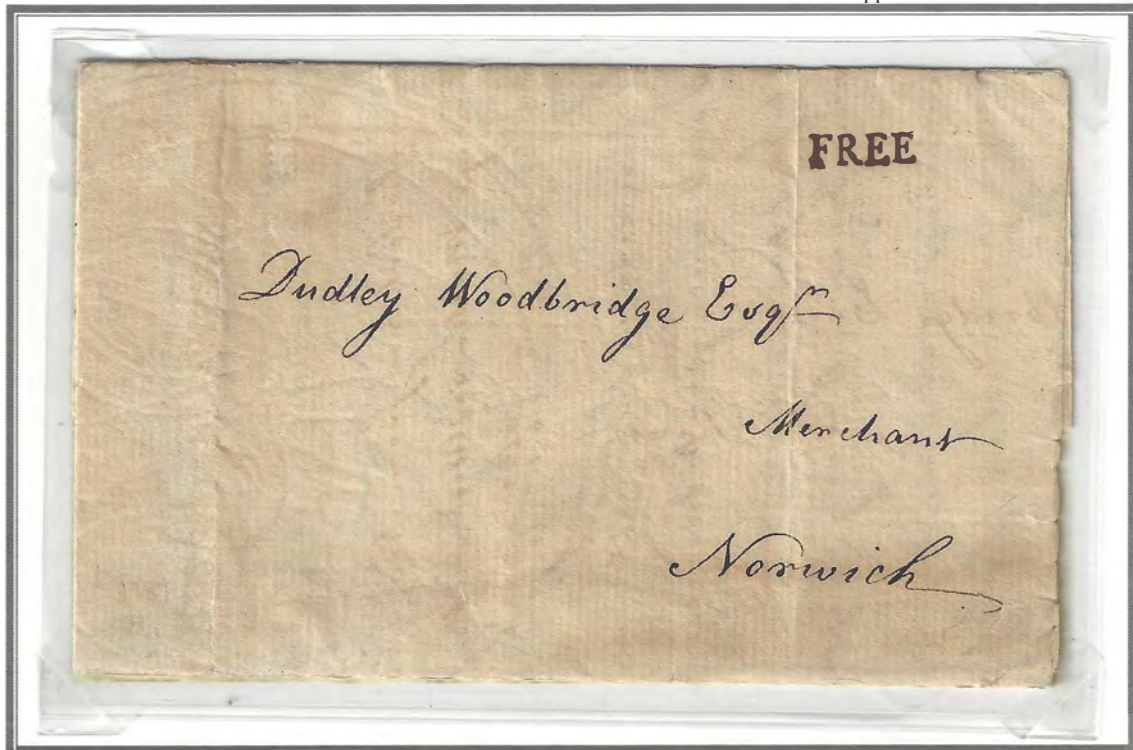
BOSTON

FREE
14x4mm

Ordinance of Congress, October 18, 1782
Boston to Norwich Postmaster Dudley Woodbridge

1787-03-21

Boston townmark not applied but has its FREE



Stampless folded letter "FREE" datelined: Boston, March 21, 1787, business letter from David Green.

1787-04-29

Rated rescinded as recipient is Postmaster



Stampless folded letter "1:8", datelined: Boston, April 29, 1787, letter about fire in Boston from Ebenr. Seaver.

BOSTON.

25x3.5mm

BOSTON

Ordinance of Congress, October 18, 1782
Boston to Norwich Postmaster Dudley Woodbridge

FREE
14x4mm

1787-05-21

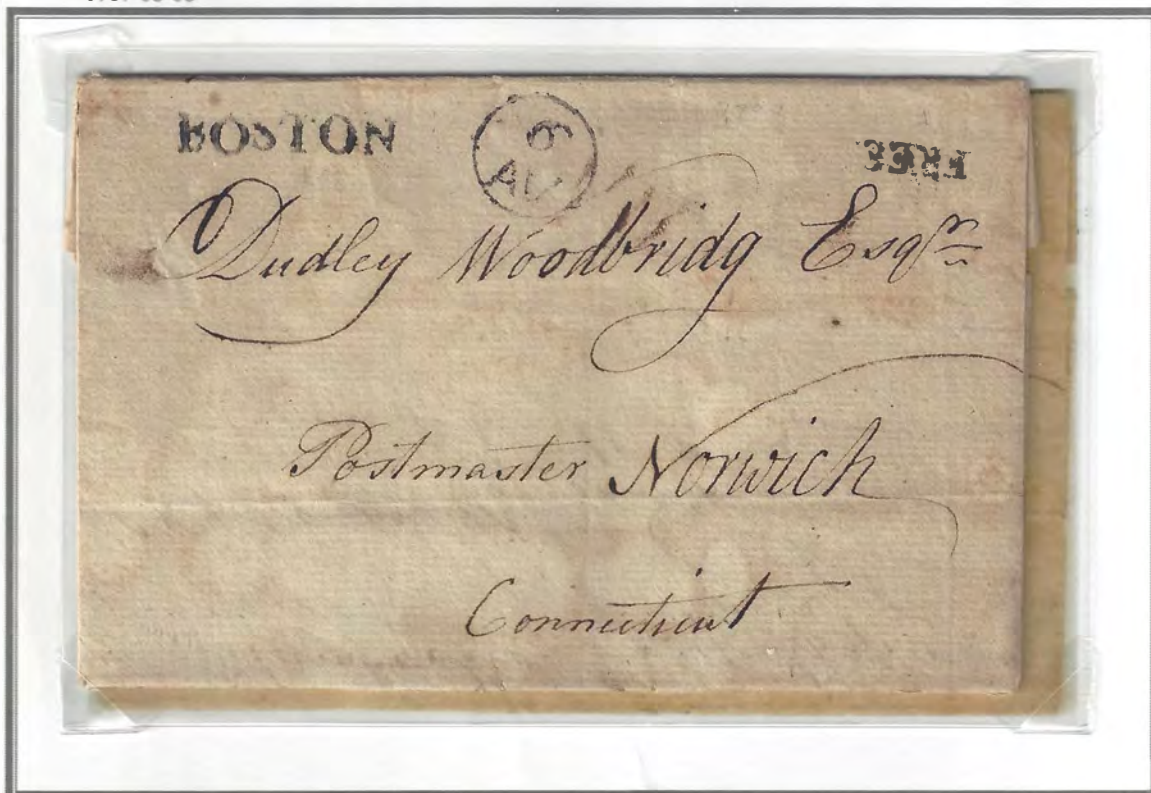


Stampless folded letter with "BOSTON." townmark and "FREE" datelined: Boston, May 19, 1787. Business letter from David Green re sale of 5 Casks of Claret from Sloop Juno. Robert Niles, Master, and Schooner Three Brothers. Z Jennings, Master.

BOSTON

28x4.5mm

1787-08-06



Stampless folded letter with "BOSTON." townmark and "FREE" datelined: Aux Cayes (Haiti), 23 June, 1787.

NORWICH

UNITED STATES INTERNAL REVENUE
1ST DIVISION, 3RD DISTRICT, NORWICH, 1867-1872
ANNUAL TAXES, MARCH, 1869

24.

UNITED STATES INTERNAL REVENUE.
ANNUAL TAXES, MARCH, 1869.

To Chas. P. Cogswell
of Norwich, in
the 1 Division 3 District,
and State of Conn.

TAKE NOTICE

That, in pursuance of the acts of Congress, you are required to make out a Return, according to the forms within, as far as the same may be applicable to your case, and deliver the same to me, at my office, WITHIN TEN DAYS FROM THE DATE HEREOF, or an addition of FIFTY PER CENTUM will be made to the proper tax.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 1867.

C. Billings
Assistant Assessor.

OFFICE at 133 Main St.