

24 cent 1861 Adhesive Paying Treaty Services to the United Kingdom

U.S. - Great Britain Convention of 1848 - 1867

Postal arrangements between Great Britain and the U.S. had been in place for some time prior to issuance of the 24 cent 1861 adhesive. The treaty set rates, established accounting breakdowns for services, determined routes and offices for the exchange of mail. A single rate at ½ ounce cost 24 cents (1 shilling in England). The treaty gave the United States access to the extensive British foreign mail system with no extra fee charged beyond the cost of getting the mail to England.

Single 24 cent Rate to England - 1861



First Three Articles of the Treaty of 1848

ARTICLE I. There shall be charged upon all letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight, conveyed either by United States or by British packets, between a port in the United States and a port in the United Kingdom, an uniform sea rate of eight pence, or sixteen cents; and such postage shall belong to the country by which the packet conveying the letters is furnished.

ARTICLE II. There shall be charged by the Post-Office of the United Kingdom, upon all letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight, posted in the United Kingdom, and forwarded to the United States, or brought from the United States and delivered in the United Kingdom, whether such letters shall be conveyed by British or by United States packets, an inland postage rate of one penny half penny.

There shall be charged by the Post-Office of the United States, upon all letters not exceeding half an ounce in weight, posted in the United States and forwarded to the United Kingdom, or brought from the United Kingdom, and delivered in the United States, whether such letters shall be conveyed by United States or by British packets, an inland postage rate of five cents.

ARTICLE III. Upon all letters posted in one country and delivered in the other, these rates of postage, both sea and inland, shall be combined into one rate, of which payment in advance shall be optional in either country. It shall, however, not be permitted to pay less than the whole combined rate.

Trans-Atlantic Mail Packet
Rate set at 16 cents = 8d

British Surface (Inland)
Rate set at 3 cents = 1½ d

United States Surface (Inland)
Rate set at 5 cents = 2½ d

Combined Single Rate
24 cents = 12d (1 shilling)

Even though the treaty had been effect for many years, it wasn't until 1860 that the United States issued a 24 cent stamp. The 1861 issue was made available in August of 1861 and the prior issue was demonitized, thus the bulk of treaty mail with a 24 cent adhesive will feature this series.

Single 24 cent Rate



Ireland - 1865

Scotland - 1864



Channel Islands
(Guernsey) - 1863

Double 24 cent Rate - 1866



Triple 24 cent Rate - 1866

Boston Paid	
57/3 (57ct credit, 3 x rate)	
Rate Breakdown	
British	9 cts - surface
	48 cts - packet service
US	15 cts - surface



Less than 5 recorded examples of a properly paid triple 24 cent rate through Dec 1867.

Odd rate multiples allowed as of April 1, 1866.

"...the postage upon letters to and from Great Britain and Ireland, will be charged by a scale of progression having half an ounce as a unit throughout...postage advancing by a single rate for each half ounce, instead of by two rates for every ounce after the first ounce." - United States Mail and Post Office Assistant, April 1866

Triple rate attempted and treated unpaid - 1864



Prior to April 1, 1866, odd rate multiples were not allowed by treaty.

For every letter not exceeding half an ounce in weight, one single rate.
Above half an ounce, but not exceeding one ounce, two rates.
Above one ounce, but not exceeding two ounces, four rates.
Above two ounces, but not exceeding three ounces, six rates.
Above three ounces, but not exceeding four ounces, eight rates.
And so on, two rates being added for every ounce or fraction of an ounce.

Quadruple rate cover at the end of the 24 cent treaty period - 1867



Docketing for "Steamer" service via Panama. "Too Late" for the departure of the Golden City from San Francisco on Nov 29. Letter was held until the December 10, 1867 departure of the Sacramento.

Five times rate attempted and treated unpaid - 1864



Only recorded example of a failed attempt at a 5 times rate with this adhesive.

Sender attempted to pay 5 times the 24 cent rate (\$1.20) to pay for letter weighing between 2 and 2.5 ounces. Treaty rules precluded any odd rate other than a single rate until April 1, 1866. New York exchange office marked letter as "Short Paid" and marked in Scotland as 6 schillings due at delivery (\$1.44).

Treated as unpaid - British packet service - 1864



Double weight letter paid only single rate

Phila Br Pkt 10

US 10cts - surface
British 32 cts - packet
6 cts - surface

Philadelphia **Insufficiently Paid**
British 2/- 2 shillings due

Treated as unpaid - American packet service - 1866
Old stamps "Not Good"



Double weight letter paid only as single rate

New 42 York Am Pkt

US 10 cts - surface
32 cts - packet
UK 6 cts - surface

Short Paid in blue pencil
British 2/- 2 shillings due

21 cent rate : American Packet - Spain - 1865



Spain 21 cent rate

New York Am Pkt 3 (red)
N York Am Pkt Paid (red)
Paid-Only to England (red)
US 5 cts - surface
16 cts - packet
3 cent overpay

8R -
Unpaid from England doubles
4R rate
2 x 2R = 4R per ¼ oz
letter ¼ to ½ oz = 8R due

21 cent rate : American Packet - Switzerland - 1866



attempted 21 cent French rate
2 (pencil, crossed out)
weighed more than ¼ ounce
PAID ONLY TO ENGLAND
Clerk decides to send via
British Open Mail
21 cent rate
New York AM Pkt (red)
US 5 cts - surface
16 cts - packet

Applied in London
GB||40c
40centimes/30 gm bulk letter rate
Applied in Paris
F127
unpaid letter exchanged under
letter bill accounting article 27
Applied in Switzerland
140
140 rappen due on delivery



140

Additional five cents for California, Oregon & Washington - 1863



"...5 cents to be added when to or from California, Oregon, or Washington..." Sec 125 Postal Laws and Regulations 1857
This additional fee was abolished along with the 10 cent rate (which was reduced to the same rate for all internal mail) on July 1, 1863.

Two Cent Steamboat Fee - Detroit - 1861



Item posted on
Non-contract Steamer
2 cent fee due
steamer captain
Either
1. Captain reimbursed by
party mailing item
2. Captain reimbursed by
Detroit post office -
normally collected from
addressee. Not possible
with foreign destination.

Only recorded Steamboat use with 24 cent adhesive.

"...Provided, that upon all letters...conveyed...by steamers or steamships over any route upon which...the mail is regularly conveyed in other vessel under contract with the Post Office Department, the same charge shall be levied, with the addition of two cents a letter or packet, as would have been levied if such a letter...had been transmitted regularly through the mail." Postal Laws of the Session of 1860-61

Five Cent Registry prior to July 9, 1863.



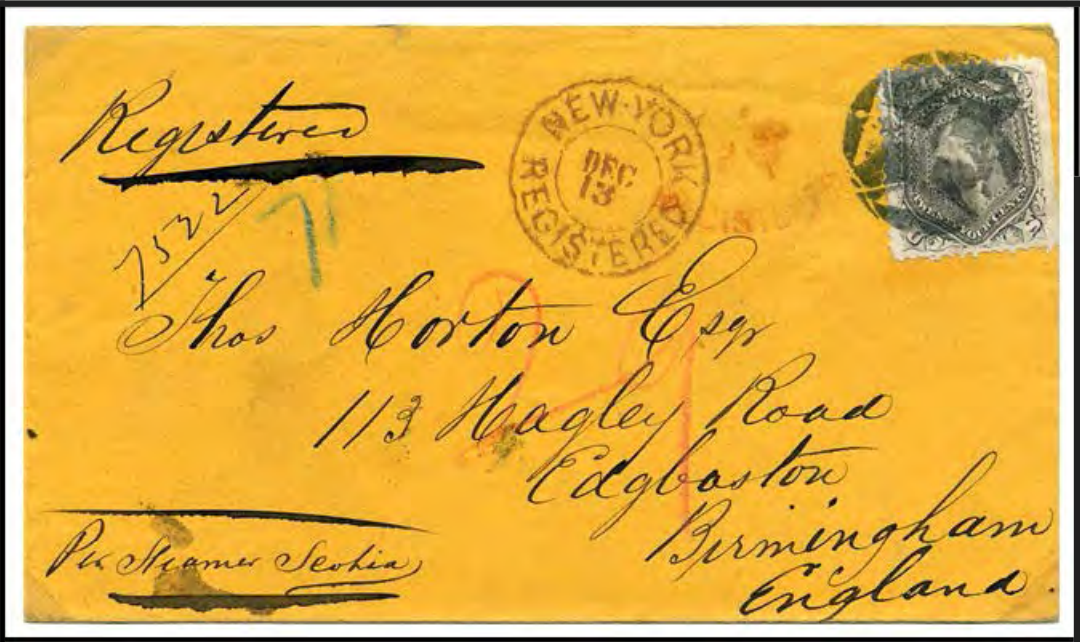
2 x 29 cent rate = 58 cents
+ 5 cent registration fee (cash)
British **Registered** under crown

40 ½ (red pencil)
British 6 cts - surface
32 cts - packet
2 ½ cts - registration
US 5 cts - surface
2 ½ cts - registration
10 cts - West Coast origination

Twenty Cent Registry Fee after July 9, 1863.

24 cent rate
+ 20 cent registration fee (cash)

29 (red pencil)
British 3 cts - surface
16 cts - packet
10 cts - registration
US 5 cts - surface
10 cts - registration



7522 (blk) and 71 (blue)
registry numbers

"Article V. Upon every registered letter forwarded from the United Kingdom to the United States, the Post office of the United Kingdom shall account to the Post Office of the United States for one half of the amount of the registration fee levied upon the posting of such registered letter in the United Kingdom; and, in like manner, upon every registered letter forwarded from the United States to the United Kingdom."

Fraser River Delta region, British Columbia - 1864



Less than 5 recorded combination frankings with 1860 British Columbia 2 ½ p

Rate

British Columbia
2 ½ p internal rate (5 cents)
via US to England - 24 cent rate

29 in red crayon (Fraser Delta region)
Paid (New Westminster)
stamps applied in New Westminster

Route

Fraser River Delta region
New Westminster, British Columbia
San Francisco, Cal Jan 28 1864
via **West Indies Mail** (ignored)
overland via stage
New York Am Pkt Feb 27 (red)
Inman City of Manchester
Queenstown (3/11)
London MR 12 64 (red)

From July 19, 1862 to June 20, 1864, the internal British Columbian rate for foreign mail was 2.5 pence if originating from New Westminster at the delta of the Fraser River. Rates were higher for origination points up-river. The price increased to 3 pence in June of 1864.

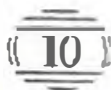
Williams Creek, British Columbia - 1865 Provisional use of 2 ½ p stamp as 3 p



Less than 5 recorded combination frankings with 1860 British Columbia 2 ½ p

Route

Williams Creek
oval "10" cancellation
New Westminster
General Post Office 26 July
San Francisco, Cal Jul 31 1865
overland
N. York Sep 6 (red)
Cunard Persia
Liverpool 16 SP 65 (verso)



Rate

British Columbia
Cariboo - New Westminster
6p (paid by stamps)
foreign mail fee
3p (paid by stamps)
via US to England - 24 cts
1/- in red crayon
(Williams Creek)
PAID (Williams Creek)
US stamp affixed
(New Westminster)

The gold rush in the Cariboo region in the early 1860's precipitated rapid development. The Cariboo Wagon Road opened in 1862, though most foot traffic followed a separate trail. In 1865, the Yale Cariboo Road opened, which facilitated faster stage traffic.

1 cent fee - New York City Carrier - 1863



Less than 8 recorded examples of carrier service prepaid by adhesive in combination with 24 cent.

"Local Post Office Regulations for New York City...Collections are made from each and every Lamp-post box (586 in number) six times a day..." Appletons' United States Postal Guide 1863

The one cent fee was removed in mid-1863 for the pick up or delivery of mail by carrier.

New York City employed 137 carriers in fiscal year 1863-64. Report of the PMG 1863-64, p 24

2 cent fee - West Town Private Carriage to the Mails - 1865



Only known 24 cent in combination with West Town local.

"No stage or other vehicle which regularly performs trips on a post road, or on a road parallel to it, shall convey letters..." Postal Laws of the Session of 1860-61

The nearest post office was located at Street Road station (established 1859) on the West Chester and Philadelphia railroad, thus the West Town local service was allowed to continue its operation.

Boston - Quebec Departure
1866



New York - Too Late
1866

TOO LATE



Detroit - 1862



Chicago - 1864



Other Exchange offices during this period include Philadelphia, Portland and Baltimore (late).

New York & Bremen Steamship Company - 1867



Washington, DC Apr 5
N York Apr 6 (red)
NY & Bremen Atlantic
Southampton (4/19)
London PAID 20 AP 67 (red)

Carried on one of only two
voyages by the NY & Bremen
to carry mail for England.

Atlantic Royal Mail Steam Navigation Company - 1863
(Galway Line)



Lynn, Mass Nov 2
Boston Nov 3 (red)
Galway Hibernia
St John's (Nov 7)
Galway (Nov 14)
Liverpool (Nov 16)
London NO 16 63
"Rec'd Nov 16th 1863" (docket)

Carried on one of only 11
possible mail sailings 1863-1864

Percent of Trans-Atlantic Mails Carried by Line				
	1863	1864	1866	1867
Cunard	45.9%	43.1%	37.7%	27.7%
Allan	5.7%	5.5%	3.0%	2.1%
NGL	13.0%	14.1%	21.9%	26.6%
HAPAG	15.6%	15.3%	12.6%	19.1%
Inman	19.8%	20.2%	14.0%	19.5%
Galway	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Havre	0.0%	0.0%	5.1%	1.7%
NAL/NYBr	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	0.2%
French	0.0%	0.0%	3.8%	3.1%

During the 1861-1867 period, two shipping companies (Cunard and Galway) held contracts with the British government and are known as 'British Packets.' The remaining companies were 'American Packets.' Sixteen cents of the 24 cent rate were credited to the country with whom the shipping company held contract.

Disinfection of Mail Prior to Delivery - 1865



One slit to the right of the stamp and one just below and into the exchange marking

A cholera outbreak in Europe in late 1865 caused some postal agencies to resort to the practice of fumigation. Disinfection slowed processing of the mails, causing the first letter to be marked two days after the arrival of the incoming mail packet.

Misdirected Mail, Redirected then Forwarded - 1864



red MWDA in segmented circle
M - Missent
WD - Western District
A - Afternoon Service



Chicago, ILL Aug 14 '64 (blue)
Boston Aug 17 (red)
Cunard Africa
Queenstown (Aug 28)
London AU 29 64 Paid (red)

remailed:
London AU 30 64
French Amb Calais 31 AOUT 64
Baden 1 SEP (reverse)

A letter delivered to an incorrect address required remedial action on the part of the postal service. It is probable that the item was initially brought to the wrong location on the 29th of August and then correctly delivered to the appropriate London address. It was then reposted to Baden via France.

Forwarded within
England - 1d - 1863

Remailed
by Brown, Shipley & Co
1d star die penny red
S3 Liverpool NO 16 63
Leamington 11/17



Only known cover with Chicago initials and the 24 cent adhesive

The "Chicago Initials" were used from September to November of 1863 and it is speculated that they were an experiment to address the routing problems. "RA" is speculated to stand for Randolph Station. Piskiewicz, Chicago Postal Markings and Postal History.



6 d per ½ ounce: Italy
1865

9 d per ½ ounce:
Russia - 1866



Returned to the Dead Letter Office in the United States - 1867



"Not known by this address"
(docket)
"T" and "T:over" (docket)
London-N DE 30 67 (red)
London-N DE 31 67
Returned Lr Bh London Ja 1 68

T = Traini - intended recipient's
last name - for sorting purposes

One of less than five covers with 24 cent adhesive and dead letter markings.

"Article XIX. Dead letters, newspapers, etc. which cannot be delivered, from whatever cause, shall be mutually returned after the expiration of every month, or otherwise, as the regulations of each office will admit." Postal Convention with Great Britain, May 14, 1849

U.S. Notes on Letter Redirected Back to United States - 1866
Depreciated currency amount due versus gold standard rate.



Only known cover U.S. Notes marking and 24 cent adhesive

The value of US Notes (paper money) did not have the same value as precious metal in the years 1863 to 1868. From January 22, 1866 to March 17, 1866, persons who wanted to pay the 24 cent rate due in US notes would have to pay the normal rate times a 1.33 ratio to cover the depreciated value. This comes to 31.92 cents, which was rounded to 32 cents due.