

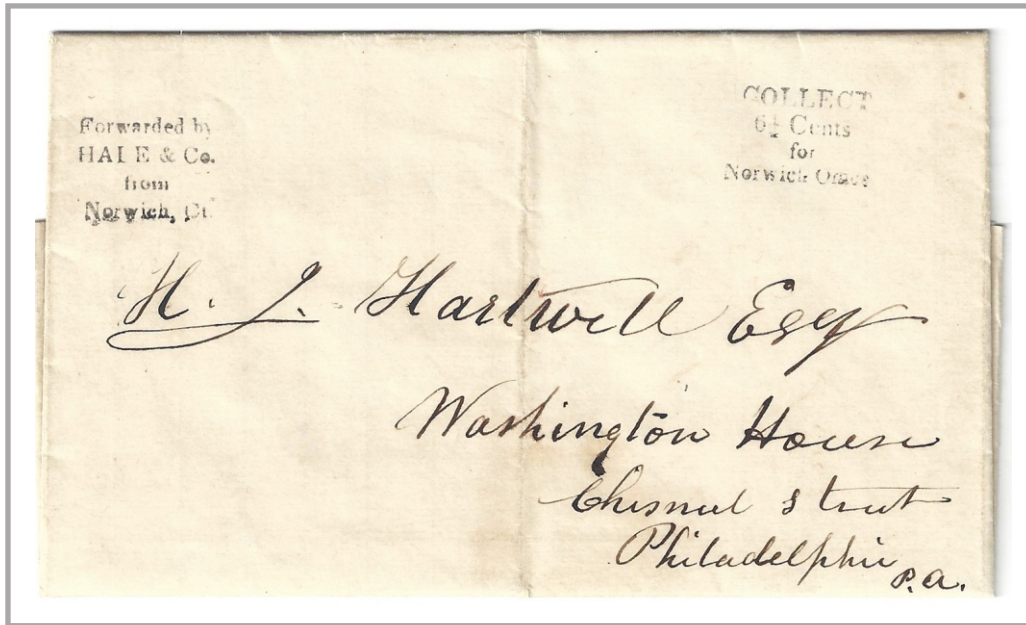
# Norwich

## Steamboat Mail

Forwarded by  
HALE & Co.  
from  
Norwich, Ct.

Hale & Company, one of the largest of the 1844 Independent Mail Companies established an office in Norwich. For mail heading south, they utilized steamboats operating to New York where they could link with rail lines to more distant points. Two different marking were used at the Norwich office. Both were in use August 1844 to June 1845.

COLLECT  
6¼ Cents  
for  
Norwich Office



24 October 1844 Norwich, via New York, to Philadelphia, PA by Hale & Co.  
"Forwarded by Hale & Co from Norwich, Ct" handstamp and their "Collect 6¼ Cents" handstamp



15 August 1844 Norwich to New York by Hale & Co., Hale's "20 for \$1" adhesive with "N" cancel  
"Forwarded by Hale & Co from Norwich, Ct" handstamp  
manuscript delivery note "Hale & Co, 58 Wall St" on reverse

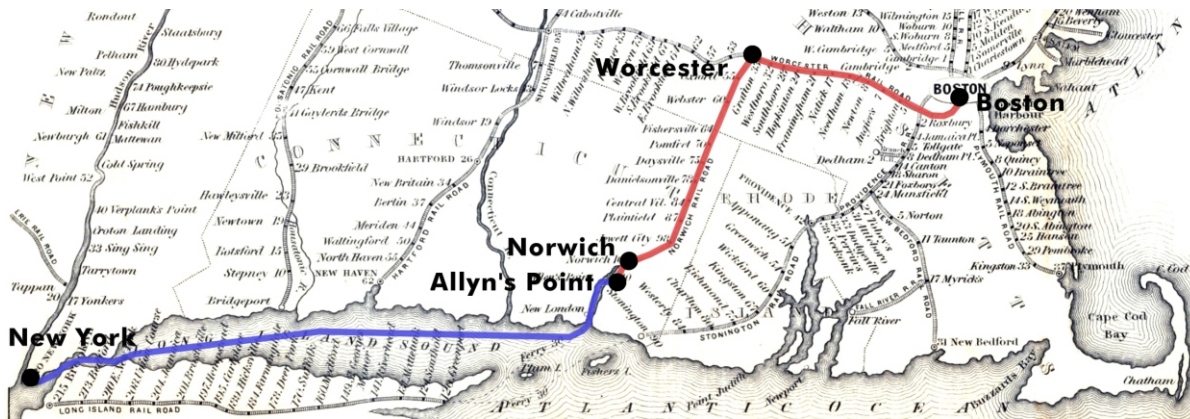
# Norwich & Worcester R.R.

Hale & Co. to the Mails Use

Hale & Company did not maintain offices at stations along the Norwich & Worcester R.R. such as Webster, MA. After carriage by steamboat from New York City to Norwich, the letter below below was mailed at the U.S. post office in Norwich. There are seven known letters that show Hale and company carriage to the U.S. mails.



7 October 1844 Philadelphia, via New York City and thence by steamer to Norwich, CT "Forwarded by Hale & Co from Philadelphia" handstamp and their "Collect Six Cents" handstamp placed into U.S. mails at Norwich for carriage on Norwich & Worcester R.R., 10¢ postage due Webster, MA was the first train station north of the Massachusetts border



The route of the Norwich & Worcester R.R. between Norwich and Boston is shown in red.



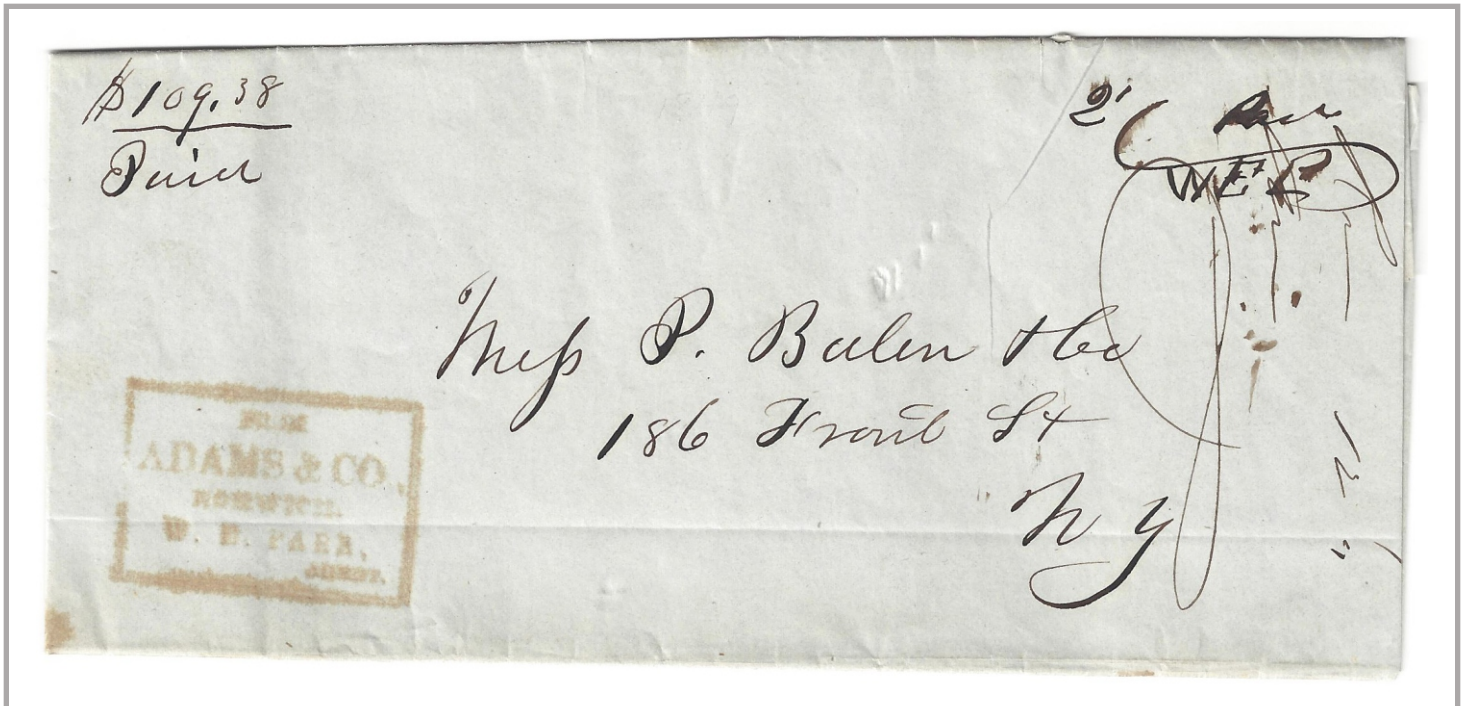
# Norwich

## Steamboat Mail

**Adam's Express** - Alvin Adams and P.B. Burke established an express between New York, Norwich, Worcester and Boston under the name of Burke and Co. in 1840. Burke retired and Adams was on his own by December 1841. The original route utilized the Norwich & Worcester Rail Road as well as the Long Island Sound steamers departing from Norwich. By the start of the Civil War, Adams had become one of the largest express companies in the East.



The only reported example of this marking.



11 July 1849 money letter for \$109.38 sent from Norwich to New York  
"From Adams & Co. Norwich. / W.E. Park Agent" handstamp  
Agent Park has also marked "2/- Paid / W.E.P." at right indicating 25¢ had been paid

The U.S. Post Office did not offer registered mail service until 1855.

# Norwich Town

1847 Issue

Although there were no five or ten cents 1847 issue stamps were ordered by the postmaster at Norwich Town, there are nine reported uses. All known uses are single five cents frankings.



25 August 1849 Norwich Town to Webster, MA, prepaid with 5¢ brick red adhesive carried via Norwich and then on Norwich & Worcester R.R. to Webster the earliest reported use and the only example with red cancel



4 February 1851 Norwich Town to Philadelphia, prepaid with 5¢ adhesive carried via Norwich and hence by steamboat to New York City and by railroad to Philadelphia



# Norwich

1847 issue

manuscript cancel



The only reported manuscript cancel and the only reported use of an 1847 adhesive during the tenure of William L'Hormmedieu as postmaster at Norwich that ended on 20 June 1849.



1 January 1849 Norwich to Boston, 5¢ 1847 issue adhesive with manuscript cancel  
A. B. Ely letter to (Moses) Kimball, Boston Museum about storing an inbound "cask"

the earliest reported use of an 1847 issue stamp from Norwich

According to published records, the Norwich Post Office did not received stamps of the 1847 issue. Instead, stamps were supplied by the post office route agent operating on the Norwich and Worcester Railroad, Stephen B Roath.

On 19 August 1848 agent Roath was sent 500 five cent stamps. He subsequently received 600 more on January 18, 1849 and a final shipment of 400 stamps was received on 21 April 1849.

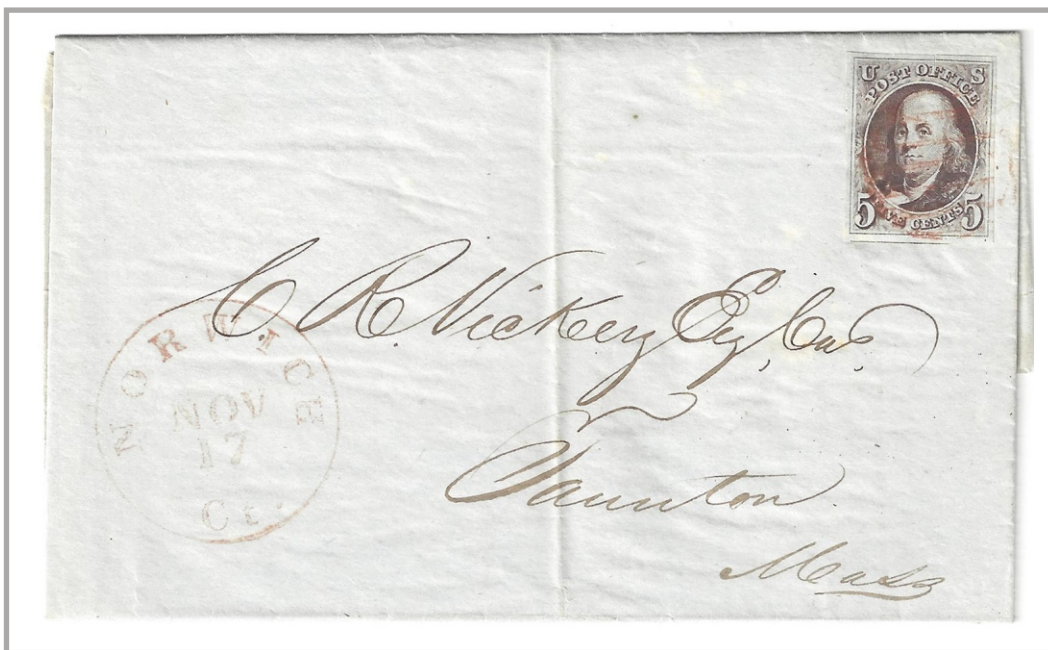
Although postal agent Roath received a total of 200 ten cents stamps over this period, it is doubtful that any any were sold to the postmaster. None are known used from Norwich. The only reported ten cent rate use was prepaid with two five cent stamps.

# Norwich

1847 issue



25 August 1849 Norwich to Philadelphia, prepaid with 5¢ "seal brown" adhesive the 4-bar cancel in red is reported used between 8 August and 21 November 1849



17 November 1849 Norwich to Taunton, MA, prepaid with 5¢ adhesive the 5-bar cancel in red is known used on 16 and 17 November 1849



# Norwich & Worcester R.R.



20 April 1849 Norwich & Worcester R.R. route agent postmark, prepaid with 5¢ 1847 issue partially printed N. & W. Rail Road bill of lading from Worcester to New York letter carried in contract mail bag on steamer Knickerbocker to New York



16 November 1849 Norwich & Worcester R.R., prepaid with 5¢ 1847 issue four bar cancel that was used in red at Norwich post office until 25 August 1847 letter dated from Plainfield, CT to Suffield, CT

# Norwich

Steamboat Mail



in use 8 Mar 1850 / 30 Oct 1850



7 March 1850 New York, via Norwich, to Mansfield Centre, CT  
entered the mails with Norwich postmark and "STEAMBOAT 5" due handstamp

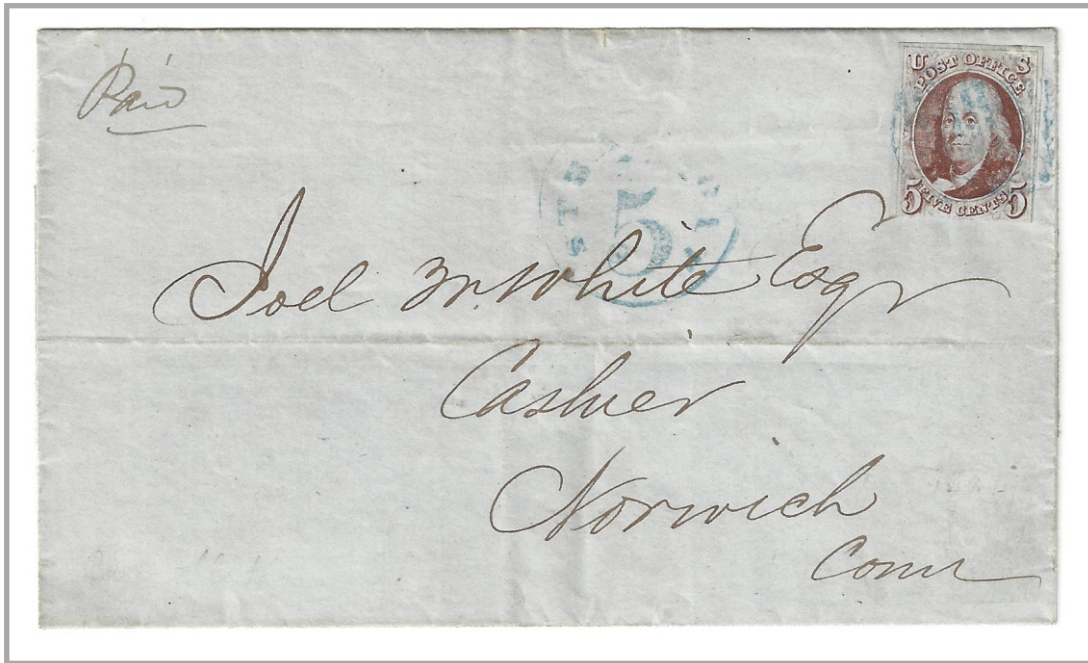


19 July 1850 New York to Norwich  
entered the mails with only the "STEAMBOAT 5" due handstamp



# Norwich

Steamboat Mail



27 March 1850 New York to Norwich, prepaid with 5¢ 1847 issue stamp, 7 bar circle cancel entered the mails with "STEAMBOAT 5" handstamp

**STEAMER**

in use 30 Nov 1850 / 31 Aug 1852



30 November 1850 New York to Norwich, prepaid with 5¢ 1847 issue stamp, 7 bar circle cancel entered the mails with italic letter "STEAMER" handstamp

# Norwich

1847 issue



18 May 1850 Norwich to Andover, MA prepaid with 5¢ adhesive  
the 5-bar cancel in blue is reported used between 8 January and 29 July 1850



29 July 1850 Norwich local use, overpaid 2¢ drop rate with 5¢ "orange brown" adhesive  
5-bar cancel in blue, one of two reported overpaid drop uses at Norwich



# Norwich

1847 issue



29 October 1850 Norwich to Birmingham, CT prepaid with 5¢ adhesive  
7-bar cancel in blue was used on 1847 issue between 30 September 1850 and 13 June 1851

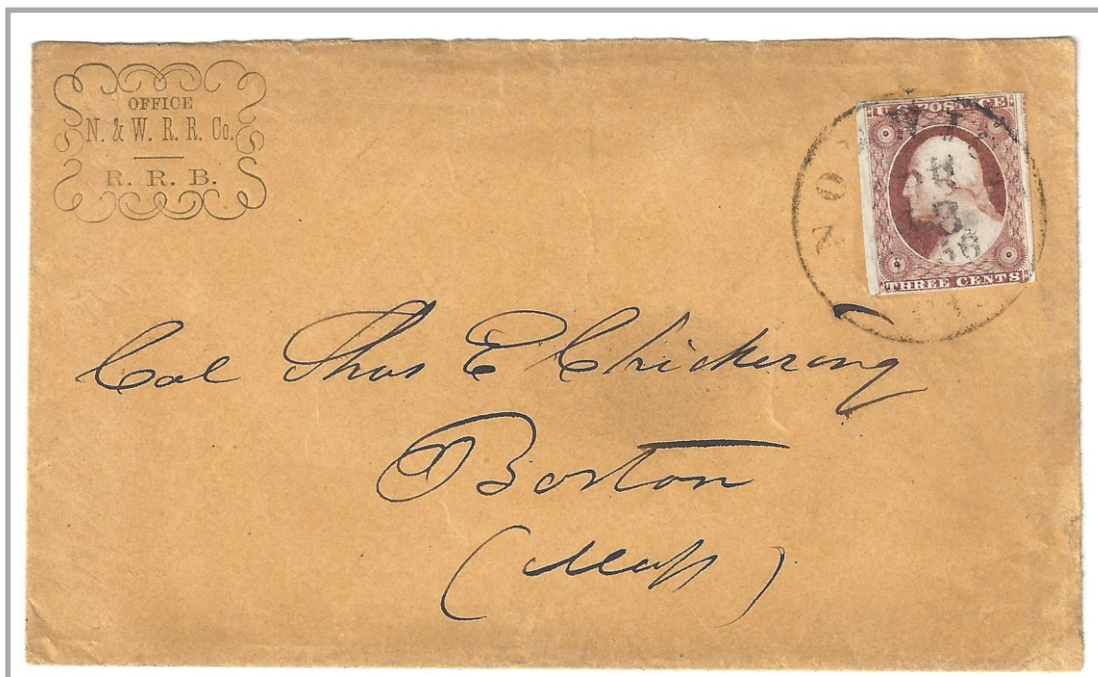


19 May 1851 Norwich to Binghampton, NY, prepaid 10¢ double rate with 5¢ adhesives  
7-bar cancel in blue, the only reported example of ten cent rate prepaid with 1847 stamps

# Norwich & Worcester R.R.



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



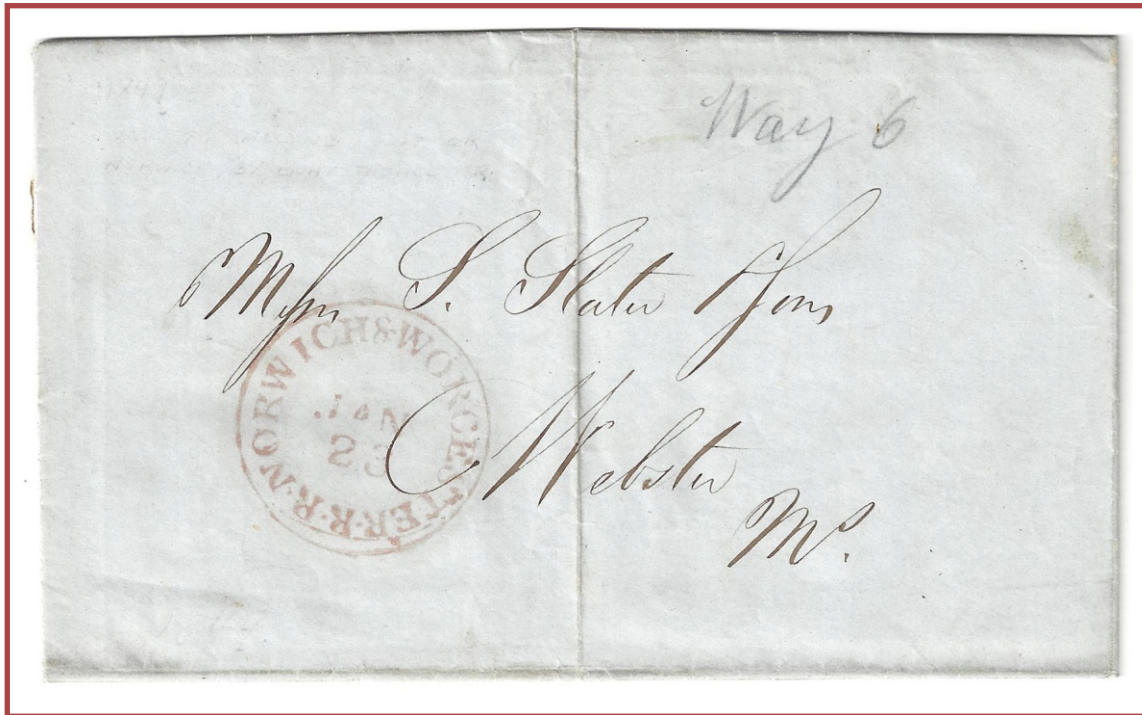
13 April 1856 "Office N. & W. R.R." Rail Road Business imprint cover used from Norwich to Boston, prepaid with 3¢ 1851 issue



# Norwich

## Steamboat Mail

**Way Mail** - The two letters below show different types of way uses on mail that entered the mails from steamboats. The upper letter was received by the railroad route agent when he was at the Allyn's Point landing. He paid the steamboat captain one cent fee and added it as a way fee. The lower letter was carried direct to the Post Office from Allyn's Point landing and the postmaster paid the one cent fee to the contract carrier and added the amount to the postage.



22 January 1849 New York, by steamboat via Norwich (Allyn's Point), to Webster, MA entered the mails with "Norwich & Worcester R.R." route agent postmark and pencil "Way 6" rate fewer than five known railroad route agent way uses



23 February 1849 New York, by steamboat via Norwich (Allyn's Point), to Mansfield, CT entered the mails with Norwich postmark and manuscript "Way 6" rate, carried on stage route

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# Norwich

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## Steamboat Mail

**Way Mail** - The handstamp "Way 6" marking is known used at Norwich between July 2, 1849 and August 18, 1849.

WAY 6

in use 2 July 1849 / 18 Aug 1849



17 August 1849 New York, by steamboat via Norwich (Allyn's Point), to Mansfield Centre, CT  
18 August entered the mails with Norwich postmark and matching "Way 6" handstamp

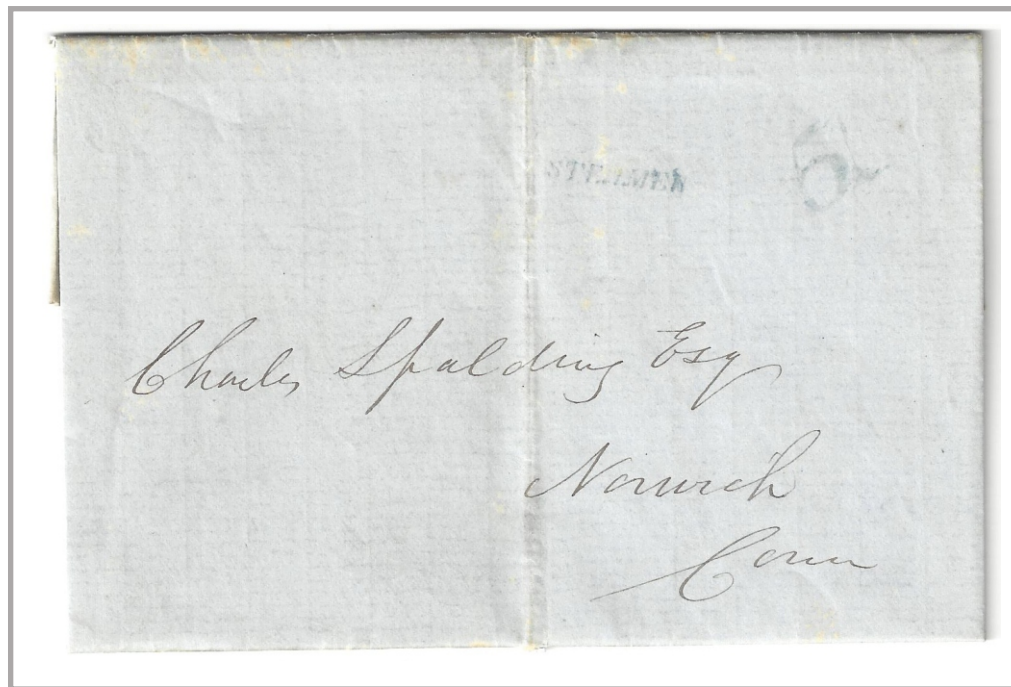


# Norwich

Steamboat Mail



18 July 1851 New York, via Norwich, to Boston  
prepaid with 3¢ stamp first issued 1 July 1851, 7 bar circle cancel



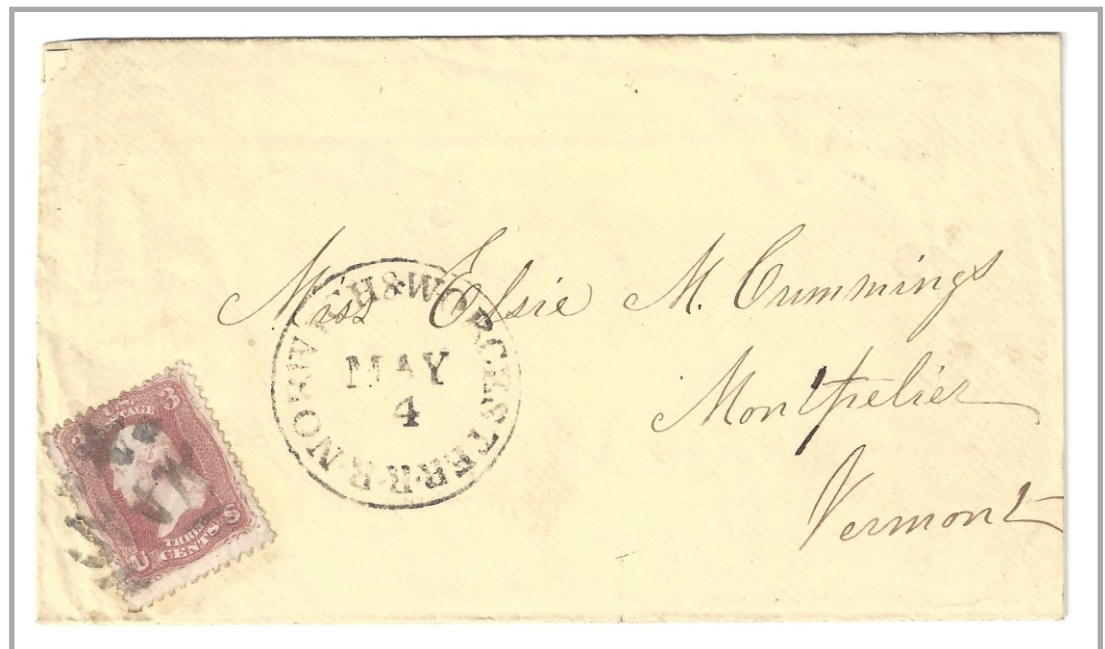
9 June 1852 New York to Norwich, entered the mails with "STEAMER" handstamp, 5¢ due

# Norwich & Worcester R.R.

Atypical for a railway route agent postmarks, there was only a single type of postmark device used by for the Norwich & Worcester R.R. marking. This is conformed by the small void in the top loop of the "S" of "WORCESTER" that appears on all reported strikes. It exists struck in red, blue and black during the period from 1849 to 1865.



20 May 1861 Norwich & Worcester R.R., prepaid with 1¢ 1857 issue stamps



4 May 1865 Norwich & Worcester R.R., prepaid with 3¢ 1861 issue