

PRE - STAMP MAIL

INTRODUCTION

Pre-adhesive mail, also called pre-stamp mail, are letters carried in mail systems before the issuance of postage stamps. A stampless cover is another description and generally also refers to any item of mail sent before the issuance of postage stamps but it can also refer to mail sent, after the introduction of postage stamps, unpaid (as was permitted in many countries) or without the pre-payment being indicated by the affixing of a postage stamp; it could have been pre-paid in cash and marked paid.

BACKGROUND

This mail is usually a letter sheet because the use of envelopes was not popularised until after the introduction of postage stamps. Pre-adhesive mail includes court and government letters and items from the general populace before official public mail services were introduced. The mail often bears distinctive town and other marks applied worldwide.

AIM OF THE EXHIBIT

This exhibit makes an attempt to display the letters sent from different Towns and cities in Chronological order. The exhibit starts from 1800 to 1840.

CHOICE OF THE MATERIAL

Letter sheets have chosen to the best possible examples to illustrate the story. Effort has been made to display letter sheets with clear cancellations.

PLAN OF THE EXHIBIT

SI No.	DESCRIPTION	No. of Sheets
		Exhibited
01	Title, Introduction and Plan	01
02	Period from 1803 to 1810	02
03	Period from 1811 to 1820	03
04	Period from 1821 to 1830	02
05	Period from 1831 to 1840	08
	Total	16

The Penny Black and Two pence Blue stamps were issued for use by the General Post Office on 6 May 1840.

Sum m^o 10 00
at the instance of
one of his Mex^o

	33/8
	16.1
Mr Peter Diddup	16.
Writer	13.
	3

Headings

Letter posted from N Berwick, Scotland. 21st September 1807 to Cambridge, England

Chas Chaplin Esq^r (M^p)
SLEAFORD
Blankney

Letter posted from Sleaford, England – 8th February 1808 to Blankney, England.

Henry Lloyd Esq^r
Ludlow
Shropshire

Letter posted from Saly, Senegal. -19th NOV 1809 to Ludlow, England

02. Period from 1803 to 1810



Letter posted from Leeds W. Yorkshire, England-16th March 1803 to Bath, Somerset, England.



Letter posted from London, England - 8th June 1804 to Edinburgh, Scotland.



Letter posted from Nottingham, England - 24th March 1806 to Edinburgh, Scotland.

03. Period from 1811 to 1820



Letter posted from Belfast, Northern Ireland - 8th January 1811 to London, England



Letter posted from Gransee, Germany - 2nd October 1811 to Hage, Saxony, Germany.



Letter posted from Gênes, Italy - 3rd May 1813 to Porto Maurizio in Liguria, north western Italy

In the United States, the majority of stampless mail was sent collect. This meant that the person receiving the letter paid the postage. This type of letter was not marked Paid.



Mr. Crock
Coabton of Wimes

Letter posted from Lèves , Northern France. – 18th Jan 1814 to Wimes, France



Messrs Lloyd
John Ludlow
Salop

Letter posted from New Inn , Wales - 15th March 1814 to Salop (Shropshire) , England



John Donaldson Esq
Manse
Ballantare

HELENSBURGH
AUG 2 1814

Ballantare

Letter posted from Helensburgh , Scotland – 2nd August 1814 to Ballantine, Scotland

Pre-adhesive mail, also called pre-stamp mail, are letters carried in mail systems before the issuance of postage stamps.

Edward Farn Esq
14 Gray's Inn Square
London

Letter posted from Somerset, England - 10th March 1816 to London, England

5
Mr. Rodage
Solicitor
Northwich

Letter posted from Chester, England - 25th April 1819 to Northwich, England

J. Leigh Esq.
Collumpton
Devon

Letter posted from Lyme town in New London - 1st October 1819 to Cullompton, Devon, England

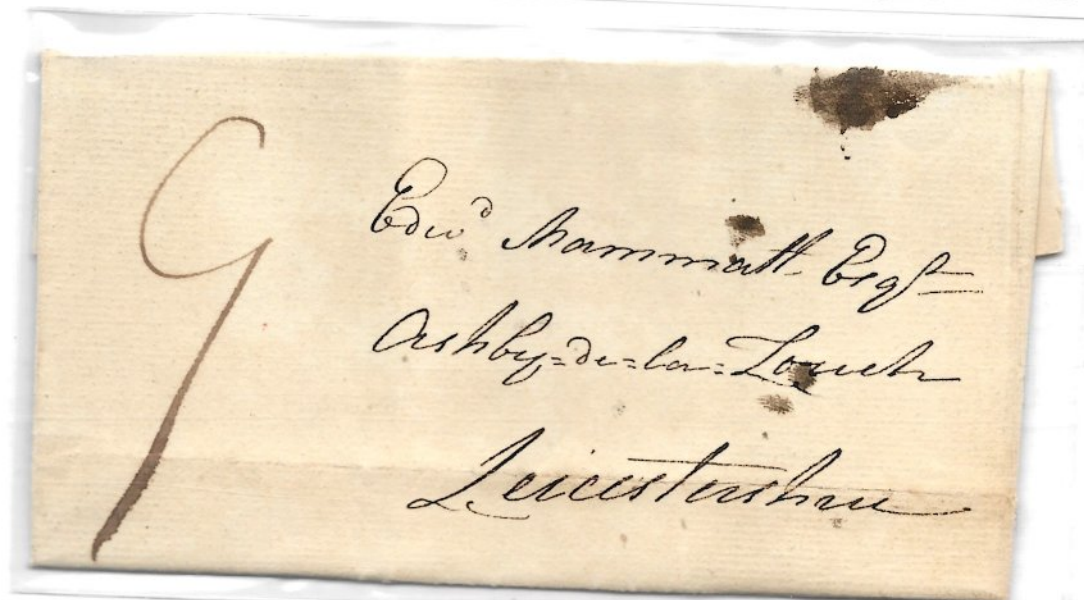
04. Period from 1821 to 1830



Letter posted from Altnaharra, N Scotland – 7th May 1821 to Dingwall, Scotland

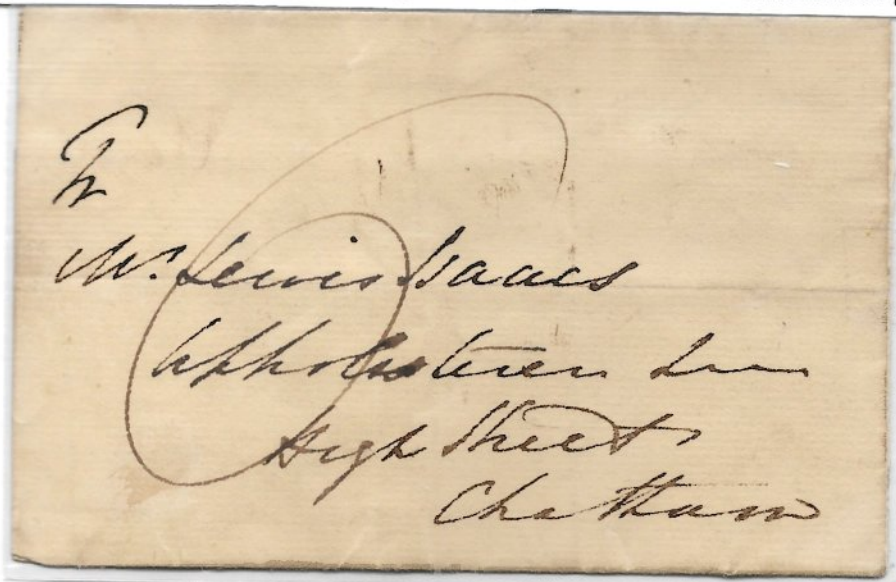


Letter posted from Falkirk Scotland – 2nd February 1822 to Glasgow, Scotland



Letter posted from Sleaford, England – 30th December 1822 to Leicestershire, England

Pre-payment of postage was not mandatory in the U.S.A. until 1856. This greatly impacted small town postmasters as they were compensated based on the amount of postage they collected.



The image shows a handwritten address on a piece of aged, yellowish paper. The text is written in a highly decorative cursive script. At the top left, there is a large, stylized initial 'E'. Below it, the address is written in several lines: 'W. Lewis Saacs', 'Aphelation Lane', 'High Street', and 'Chatham'.

Letter posted from Sheerness, Kent, England -14th January 1825 to Chatham, England



The image shows a handwritten address on a piece of patterned paper with a repeating diamond or lattice design. The text is written in cursive. At the top, there is a stamp that reads 'PORTO MAURIZIO GEN.' Below this, the address is written: 'Sig. Giacomo Scrodiq. b. meo' and 'Genova'.

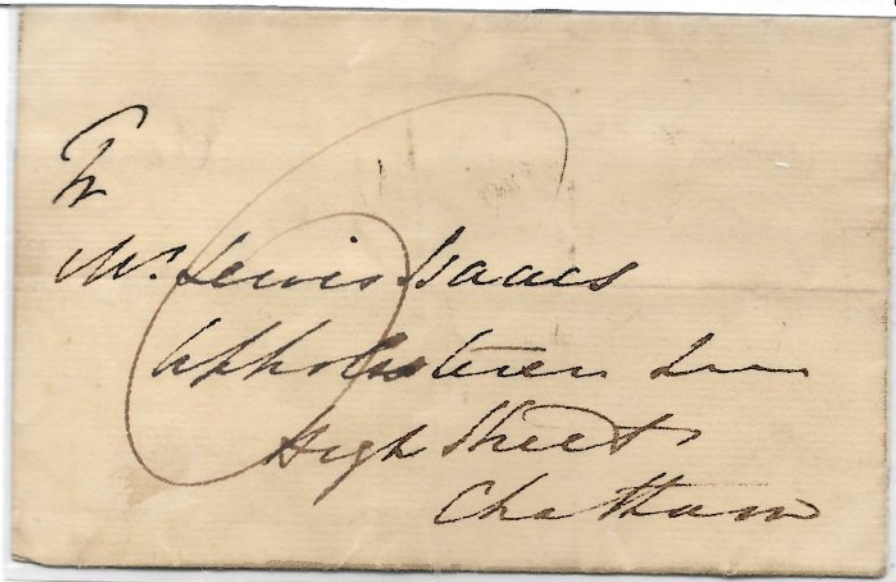
Letter posted from porto Mauizio , Italy – 26th January 1826 to Geneva, Switzerland



The image shows a handwritten address on a piece of aged, yellowish paper. The text is written in cursive. At the top, there is a faint stamp that reads 'STREET TOWN'. Below this, the address is written: 'Alex Brodie Esq' and 'Scoly. Bank of Scotland'.

Letter posted from Street Town, Somerset, England - 5th Apr 1830 to Bank of Sioumland, USA

Pre-payment of postage was not mandatory in the U.S.A. until 1856. This greatly impacted small town postmasters as they were compensated based on the amount of postage they collected.



To
W. Lewis Saacs
Apollonien Lane
High Street
Chatham

Letter posted from Sheerness, Kent, England - 14th January 1825 to Chatham, England



PORTO MAURIZIO
Al Signore
Sig. Giacomo Scrodiq. b. meo
Genova

Letter posted from porto Mauizio , Italy – 26th January 1826 to Geneva, Switzerland



Street Town
Alex Brodie Esq
Bank of Siouland

Letter posted from Street Town, Somerset, England - 5th Apr 1830 to Bank of Siouland, USA

Before official public mail services were introduced. The mail often bears distinctive town and other marks applied worldwide.

*M Arch Bennet Secretary
Bank of Scotland office
Edinburgh*

Letter posted from Fredericia , Jutland, Denmark – 13th February 1833 to Edinburgh, England

*Mrs Fort
Serge Manufacturers
Wellington
Solis^r*

Letter posted from Verton, France – 19th April 1833 to Wellington, France

*To
William Eaton Shouley Esq
Green Hotel
Senevolne Park Field
London*

Letter posted from West Haddlesey, England – 8th Feb 1834 to London, England

This mail is usually a letter sheet because the use of envelopes was not popularised until after the introduction of postage stamps.

Messrs Fox Brothers
Wellington
Somerset

Letter posted from Godalming, England - 17th September 1834 to Somerset, England

and St. Dec. 1835 -

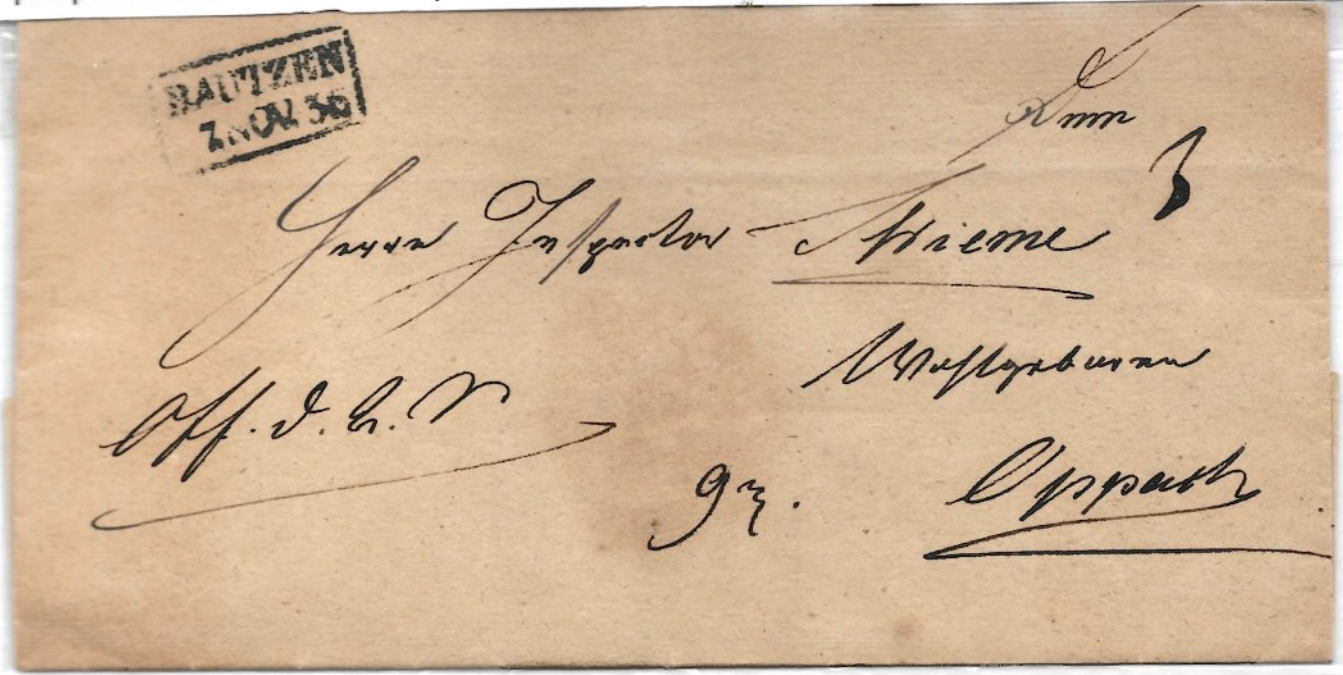
John Hanson Esq
Upper Wood Street

Letter posted from Portsmouth, England - 8th December 1835 to Sheet, Hampshire, England

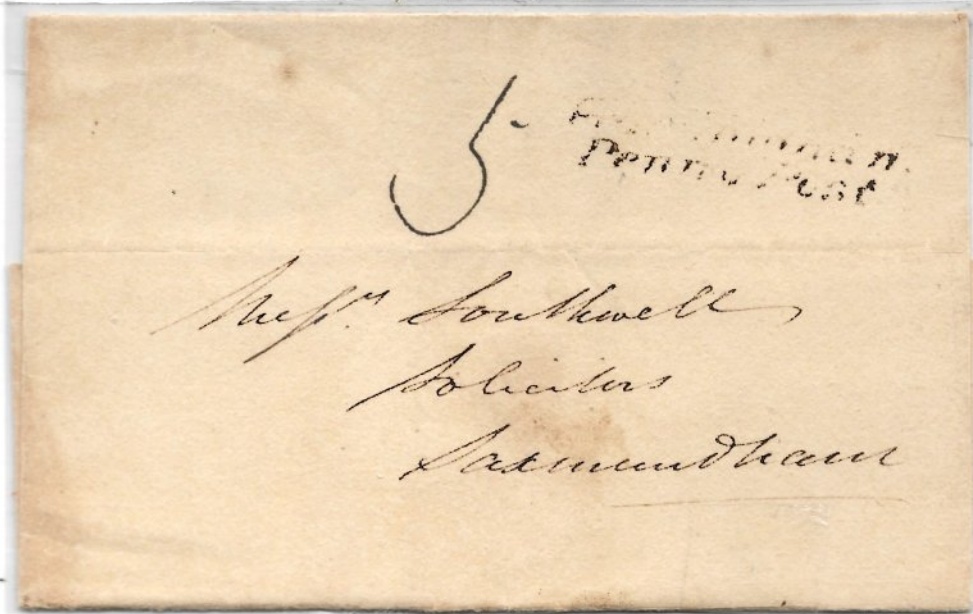
John Neufville Esq
Edinburgh

Letter posted from Greenock, Scotland - 17th February 1836 to Edingurgh , England

The pre-paymen being indicated by the affixing of a postage stamp; it could have been pre-paid in cash and marked paid.



Letter posted from Bautzen, Germany 9th November 1836 to upper, Heligoland, Germany



Letter posted from carthew, England – 29th March 1837 to Framlingham, England



Letter posted from Edingburgh, England – 19th April 1837 to Exeter, south west of England

A stampless cover is another description and generally also refers to any item of mail sent before the issuance of postage stamps.



Letter posted from London, England – 19th October 1837 to Lyon, France



Letter posted from London, England – 20th October 1837 to Lyon, France

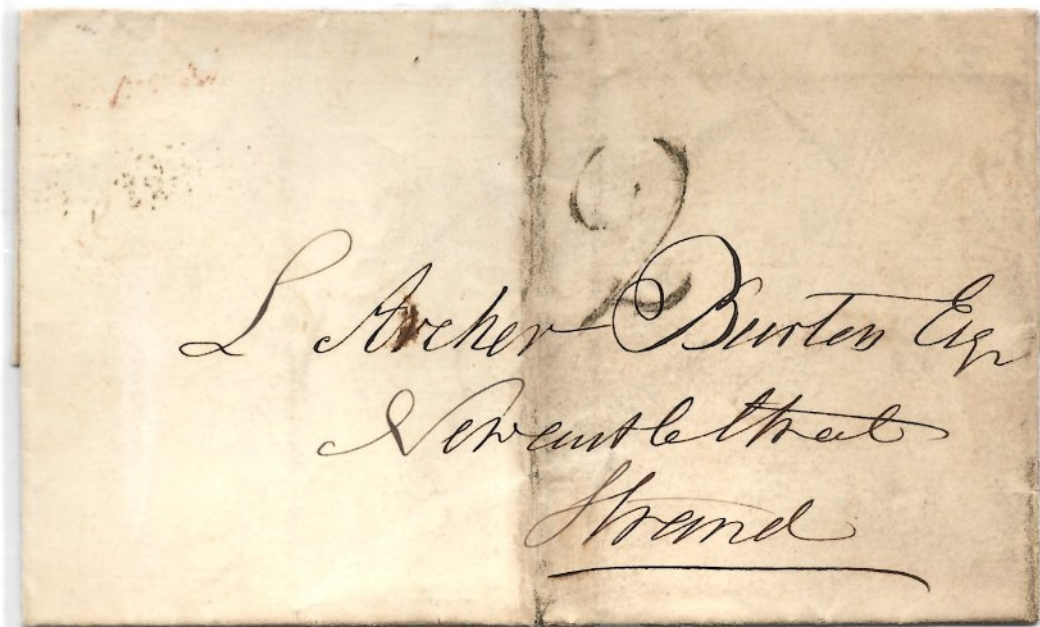


Letter posted from Toulouse, France 20th April 1938 to Antilles island sub region of N America

The mail sent, after the introduction of postage stamps, unpaid (as was permitted in many countries) or without the pre-payment.



Letter posted from London, England – 2nd July 1838 to Wellington, Somerset



Letter posted from Largs Town, England - 10th March 1839 to Hamad city, Qatar



Letter posted from Bordeaux, France – 9th May 1839 to Castres, Southern France

Pre-adhesive mail includes court and government letters and items from the general Populace (the people living in a particular country or area)

123
Monsieur
Monsieur Herrmann
Fabrigand de
& Strasbourg
DIGNE - 1839 4750

Letter posted from Digne, south east France – 9th Dec 1839 to Kronenbourg, Germany

4
Rich^d Heathfield Esq^r
Metropolitan Off^{ce}
S. M. W. W.

Letter posted from Clarence town, S Wales, Australia - 23rd December 1839 to London, England

VIA
Monsieur
Jacchini Corsaglia
Port Maurizio
GRANOLOFO
28 DEC 1839

Letter posted from Port Maurizio, Italy – 28th December 1839 to Granolofo, southeast of Rome

In the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland pre-adhesive mail was the norm before the Penny Black and Two pence Blue stamps.



Letter posted from Paris , France – 11th January 1840 to St, Chamond, France



Letter posted from London , England – 13th February 1840 to Lyon, France



Letter posted from Port Maurice, VIA DI NIZZA – 15th February 1840 to port maurizio town, Italy