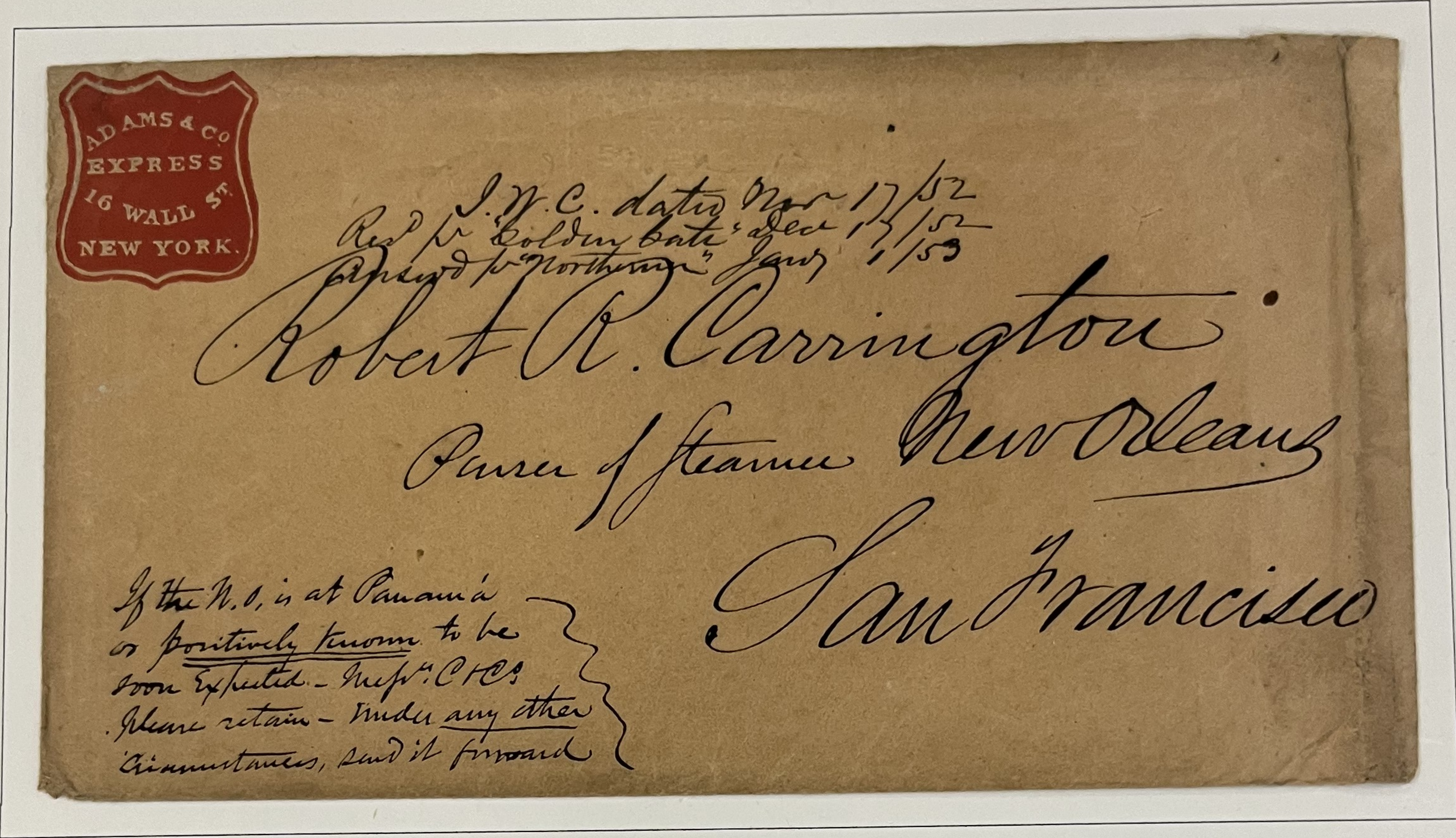


TO SAN FRANCISCO - 1852



17 Nov 1852 letter from John Carrington sent with Adams & Co. per USMSC Illinois connecting at Panama with PMSC Golden Gate to San Francisco. Adams New York office had moved from 16 Wall St. to 59 Broadway - note colorless embossed marking with new address at top-center.

New York
4 Dec 1852

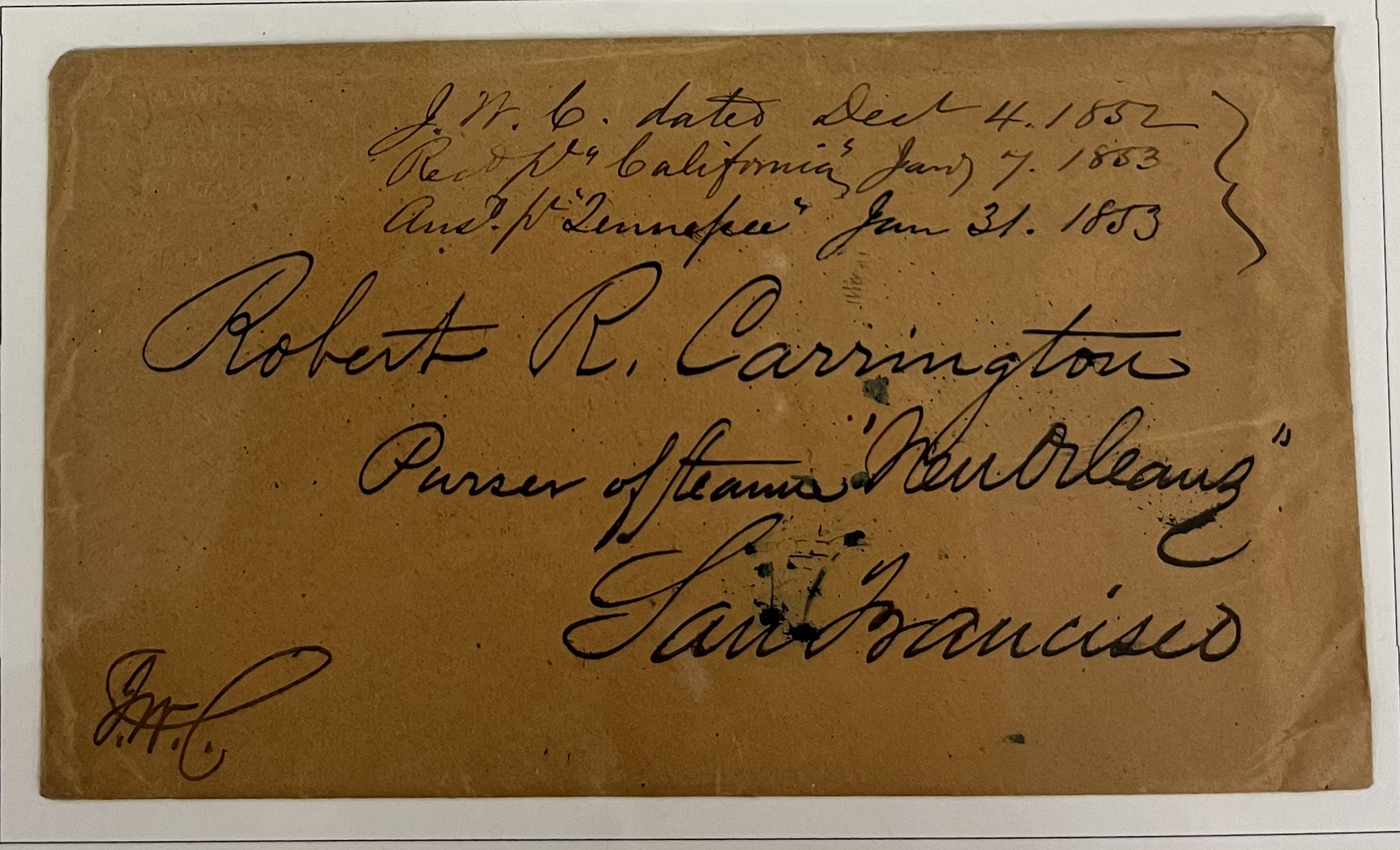
Adams & Co.
colorless embossed
corner-card

USMSC Georgia
to Aspinwall

Across Isthmus by
Canoe and mule

PMSC California
from Panama City
to San Francisco,

"Rec'd Jan 7 1853"




(letter missing) Atlantic Ocean steamships were now using the new port of Aspinwall where the Panama Railroad would originate. Railroad would be completed across Isthmus in January 1855.

NEW YORK - 1855

Robert Carrington returned to New York in 1855 and found work as purser on the Empire City, now owned by the United States Mail Steamship Company, running between New York and Panama.

New York
13 Oct 1855,
Embossed
corner-card of
United States
Mail Line

Carried out of
the mails to the
Empire City
in quarantine
in New York
harbor



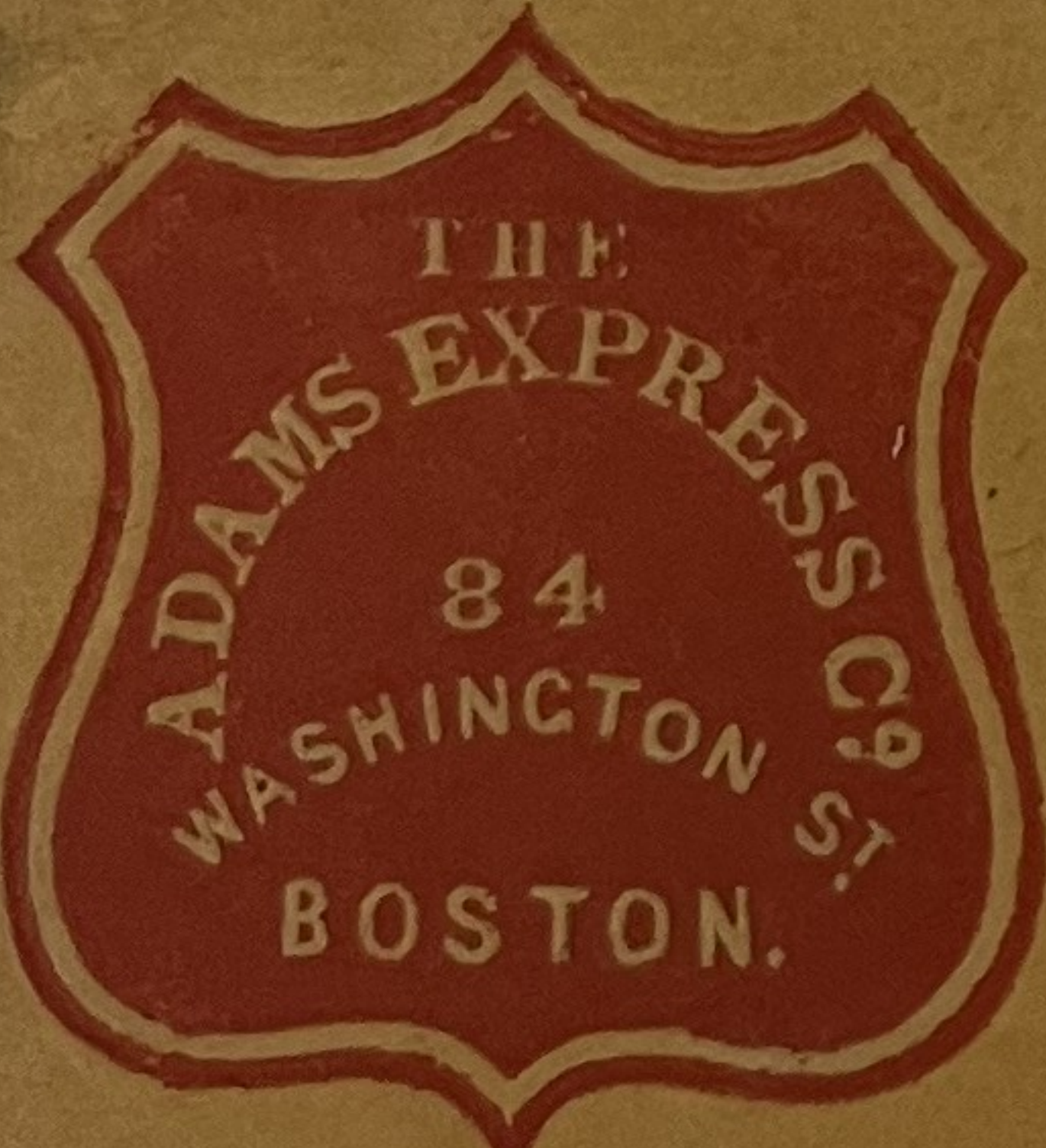
Robert R. Carrington Esq
Purser
Steamship Empire City
Introducing
James Gulick Esq
Quarantine

Letter asking Robert Carrington to take good care of passenger, James Gulick.

Boston
18 Nov 1855,
Adams Express
corner-card

Out of the mail by
Adams to
New York

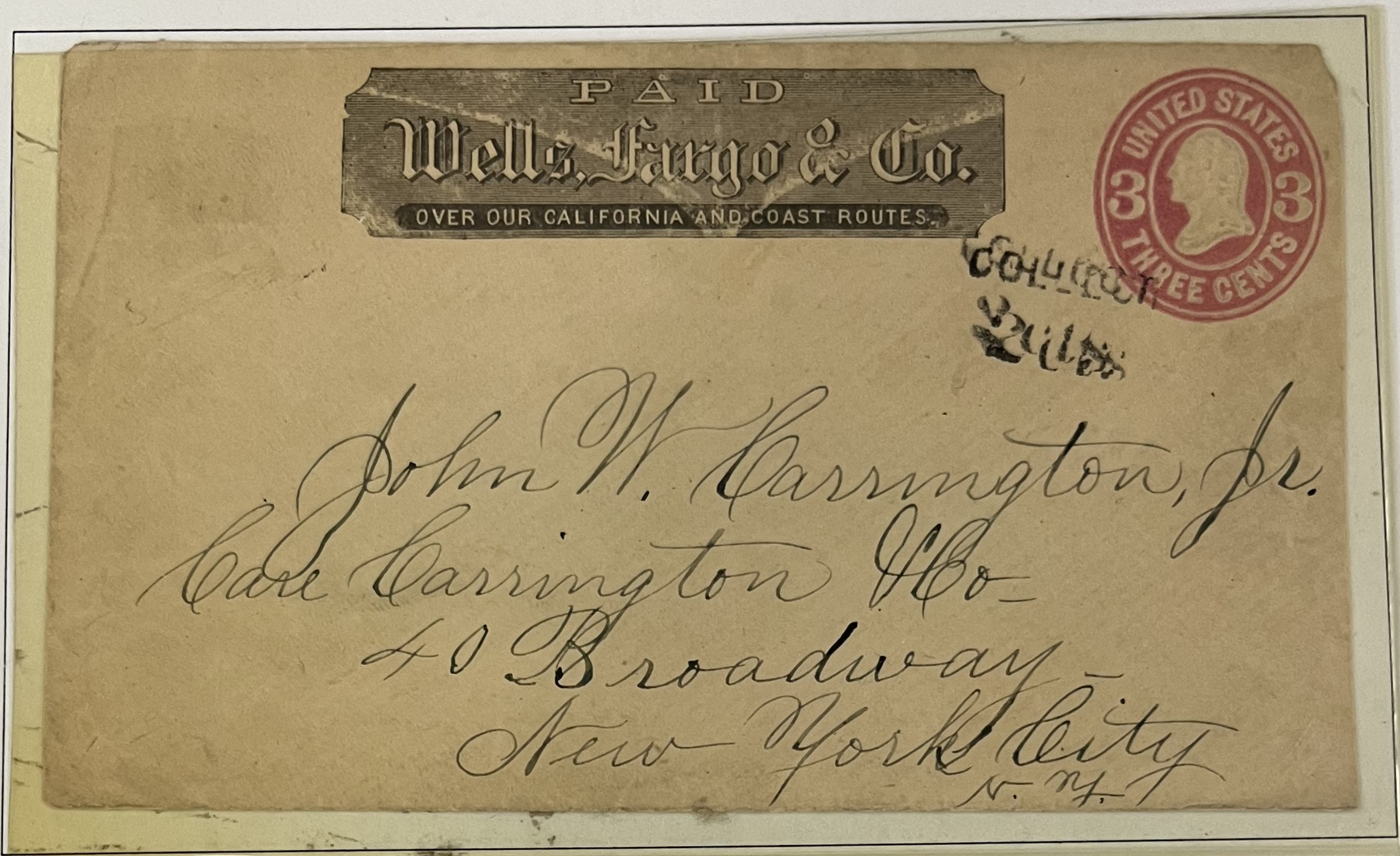
Delivered to
USMSC office to
Robert Carrington



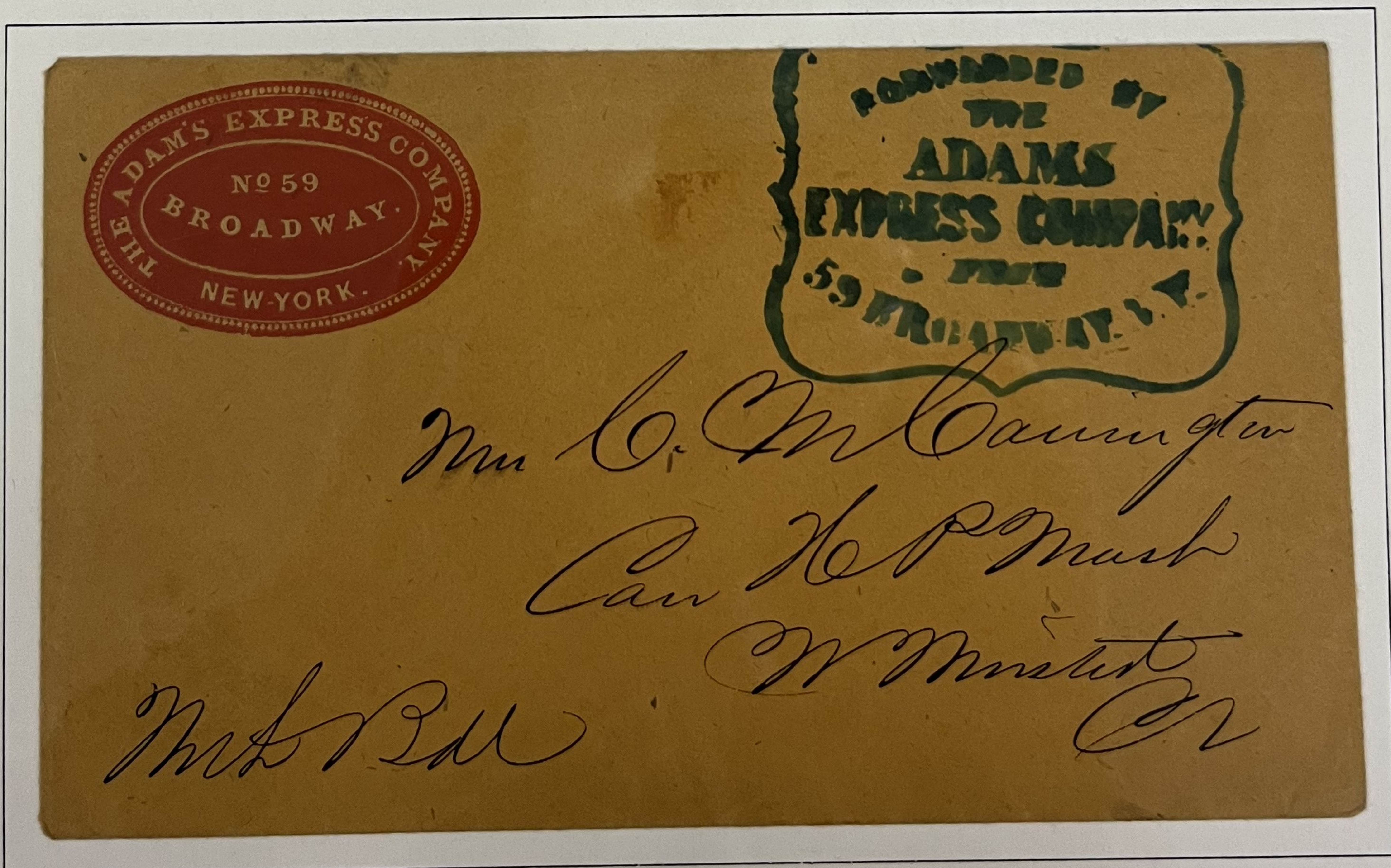
R. R. Carrington Esq
Purser Empire City
Introducing
Capt. Stoner

Letter from an acquaintance of Robert telling him his friend, Captain Stoner, will be a passenger on trip #48 of the Empire City and to take good care of him.

NEW YORK - LATE 1855 TO 1856



Adams Express Boston embossed cornercard carried privately to Robert Carrington, purser of Empire City in New York. Letter of 16 November 1855 introduces Captain Stoner, a passenger on trip #48 of the Empire City from New York to Aspinwall.



1856 letter from Robert Carrington carried by Adams Express to a relative in Connecticut.

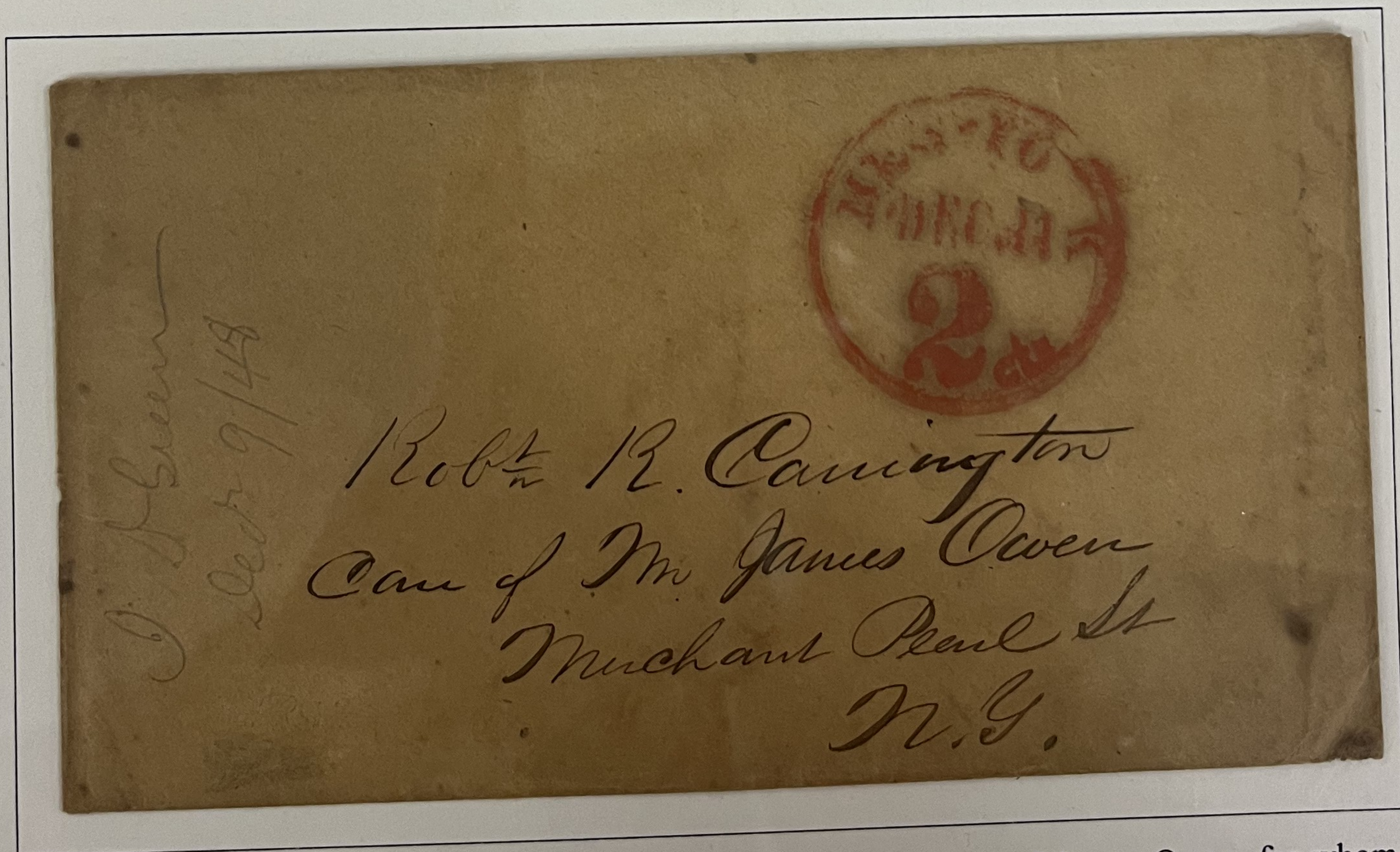
AROUND THE WORLD WITH ROBERT CARRINGTON - 1848-1856

Robert Raymond Carrington, born in New York in 1827, was a member of a family which in 1851 formed the firm of Carrington & Co, New York shipping agents. Robert went to San Francisco in hopes of capitalizing on shipping opportunities created by the California gold-rush and aligned himself with the Empire City Line and their San Francisco agent, I.W. Raymond. In late 1851 Carrington became purser on the New Orleans, an Empire City Line steamship plying between Panama and San Francisco. In 1853, with San Francisco opportunities waning from an over-supply of goods and ships, Robert sailed to Australia as purser on the New Orleans, in hopes of capitalizing on Australia's gold-rush. The New Orleans was sold in Australia and after two years Robert returned to New York, via London, to become purser on the Empire City between New York and Aspinwall. Yellow fever, presumably contracted from a Panama mosquito, ended Robert Carrington's brief but eventful life in 1857, shortly before his 30th birthday.

Robert Carrington's correspondence was dispersed to collectors before 1900. Exhibitor has reassembled and researched much of the correspondence. Letters from family and business partners in New York were sent by various means, most outside the government postal service. These covers provide a fascinating study of mid-19th century forwarder and express company mail options. Letters document the difficulties faced by an 1850s shipping business during the California and Australia gold-rushes.

Six distinct time periods are shown:

- New York - 1848
- San Francisco - 1851
- Panama - 1852
- San Francisco - late 1852 to early 1853
- Australia - 1853 to 1855
- New York - late 1855 to 1856



1848 New York town letter to 21 year-old Robert Carrington, care of James Owen, for whom Robert was an apprentice in an importing business. In 1851, James Owen and Robert Carrington would become founding partners in Carrington & Company.

W. Egan 3rd recd July 2/57

per Remittance

PAID

40

Robert R. Carrington
St. Francisco
California

J. W. G. recd Augt 20/57

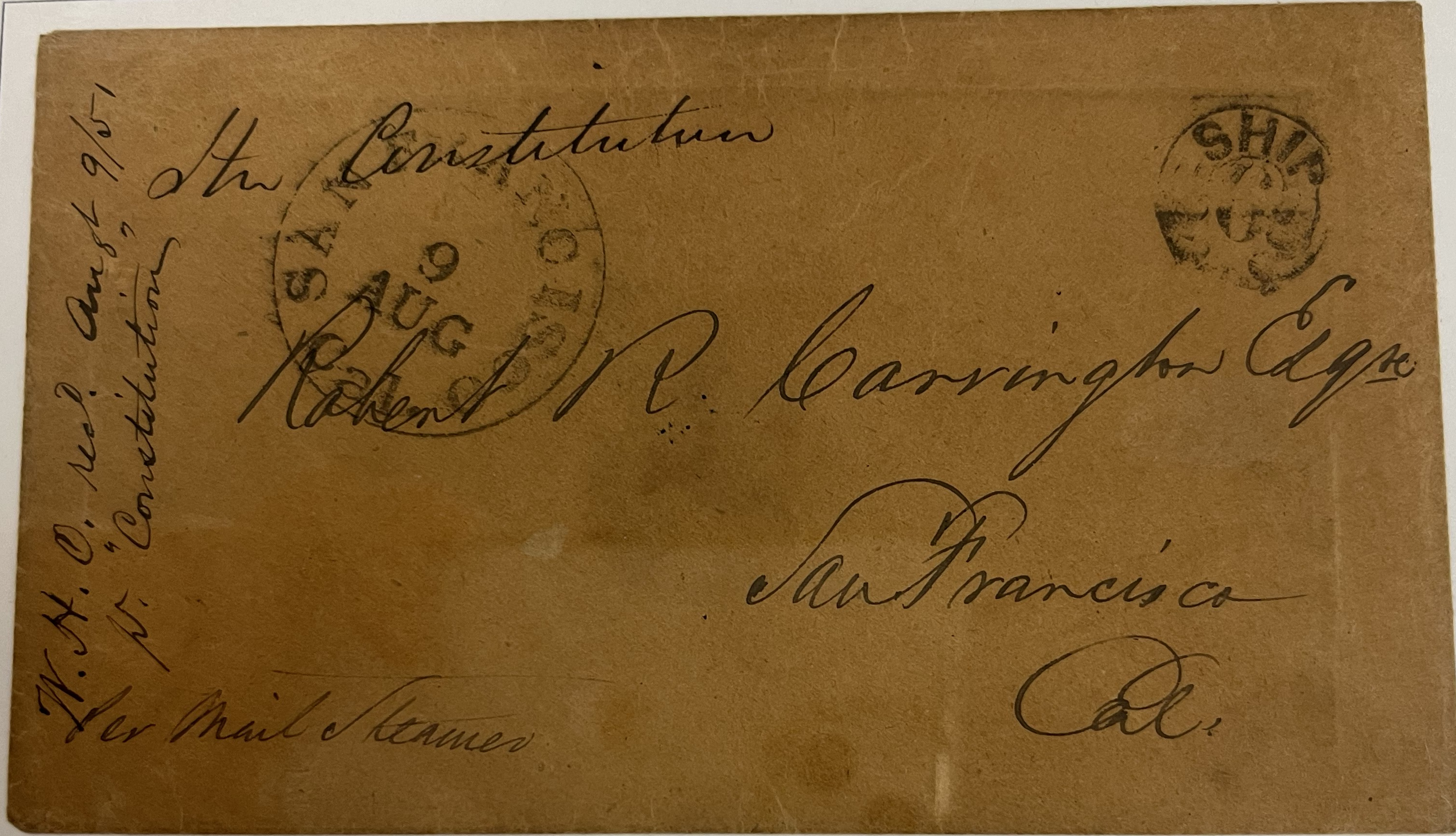
per Panama mail

W. Robt. R. Carrington
Care of J. Ward Raymond Esq
San Francisco
California

NEW-YORK
JUL 22
1857

PAID

stay in San Francisco or return to New York



Panama
15 July 1851,
Out of mails of
Constitution

Arrived at
San Francisco
9 August 1851



Clamshell SF
6 cents due
arriving ship

The 530 ton Constitution, completed in Philadelphia in early 1850, sailed "Round the Horn" to San Francisco in June 1850. It made three round trips between San Francisco and Panama, before briefly entering the Puget Sound mail service between Whatcom Bay (Bellingham) and Olympia.