TOWNMARKS: Color Contrast

May 20, 1828

1825 rate:10 cents 30-80 miles

Good example of red townmark above and of oxidized townmark below

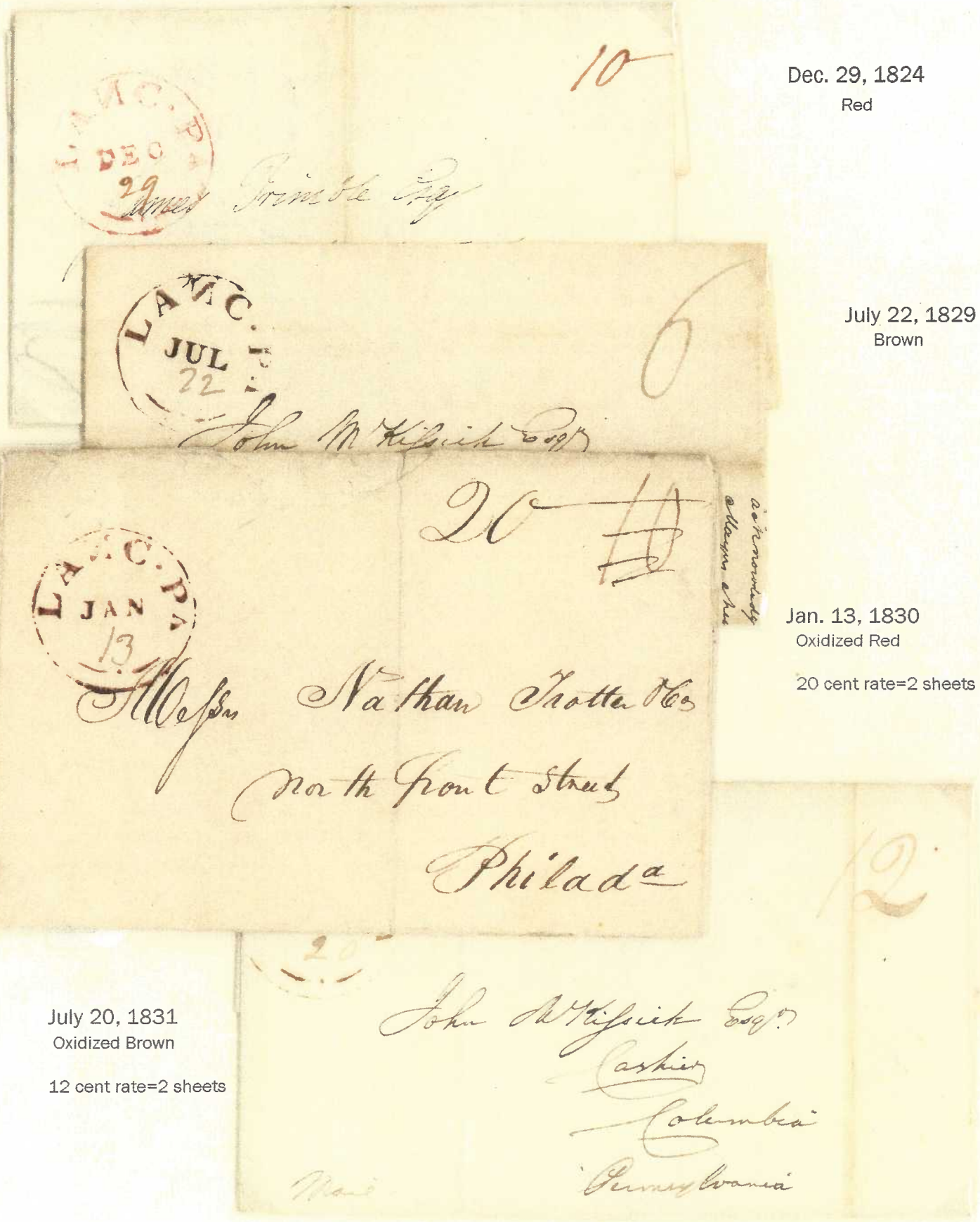
June 19, 1829

1825 rate: 6 cent less than 30 miles

Town mark is almost a brown due to oxidation.

# TOWNMARKS: Color Variations

1825 Rates: 6 cents - under 30 miles
10 cents - 30-80 miles




Dec. 29, 1824
Red

July 22, 1829
Brown

Jan. 13, 1830
Oxidized Red

20 cent rate=2 sheets

July 20, 1831
Oxidized Brown

12 cent rate=2 sheets

## "On public service"

June 14, 1827

1825 rate: 10 cents 30-80 miles

The notation "On public service" implies the writer could be reimbursed for postage. The writer also marked "free" on the bottom left corner, which the postmaster ignored and charged the 10 cent rate.

## 1831 Handstamp

May 17, 1831

1825 rate: 6 cents less than 30 miles

Note "mail" notation

LANCASTER, Pa.

(1832-1838)

High "a"

30 mm Circular Date Stamp

Reported colors: Brown, Red Brown,Red

## TOWNMARKS: 1832 & 1833

Oct. 23, 1832

1825 rate: 6 cents under 30 miles

This exhibit previously had two separate townmark listing for these covers. The above small "a" is the known townmark,however close inspection of the balance of these covers indicates that they could be a capital high "A" in PA. rather than the small "a" as in the above example.Lacking a clear impression this exhibitor lists all under the above townmark. But...

Aug. 3, 1833

Act 1825: 30-80 miles 20 cents double sheet

Compare the A's in the above two townmarks

TOWNMARKS: HIGH "a"

1825 Rate: 6 cents under 30 miles
10 cents 30 - 80 miles

Nov. 9, 1833
Brown
Townmark

Aug. 3, 1834
Red Brown
Townmark

The poor quality of these impressions imply that only one handstamp was used during this period.

Oct. 1, 1836
Unusual Red
Townmark

LANCASTER, Pa.
(1839-1854)
30 mm Circular Date Stamp
Manuscript markings

Reported postal markings: PAID, 5, 10, FREE
Reported colors: Red, Blue, Black

**PERIOD TOWNMARKS**

June 23, 1842

1825 Rate: 6 cents under 30 miles

Court document declaring a Lancaster Innkeeper bankrupt.

Jan. 29, 1841

1825 Rate: 12 cents double sheet

Bank document contained a check which counted as a second sheet.

## BLUE TOWNMARKS

Aug. 13, 1845

1845 Rate:5 cents per 1/2 oz. under 300miles

Manuscript 5 still used on some covers

Sept. 13, 1845

Printed 5

## TOWNMARKS: May & June 1845

1825 Rate: 6 cents/sheet under 30 miles

The Act of March 1845 went into effect July 1, 1845. The above covers from May and June 1845 illustrate the rates of the Act of 1825. All these covers were to Columbia, twelve miles away but some contained additional sheets or enclosures thus the six, eighteen and twenty four cent rates.

LANCASTER, Pa.
(1833-1854)

Nov. 18, 1845

The 5 cent cancel was replaced with a manuscript "10" probably due to distance (over 300 miles) The smaller darker blue "10" was applied and collected by the Geneva, New York Post Office.

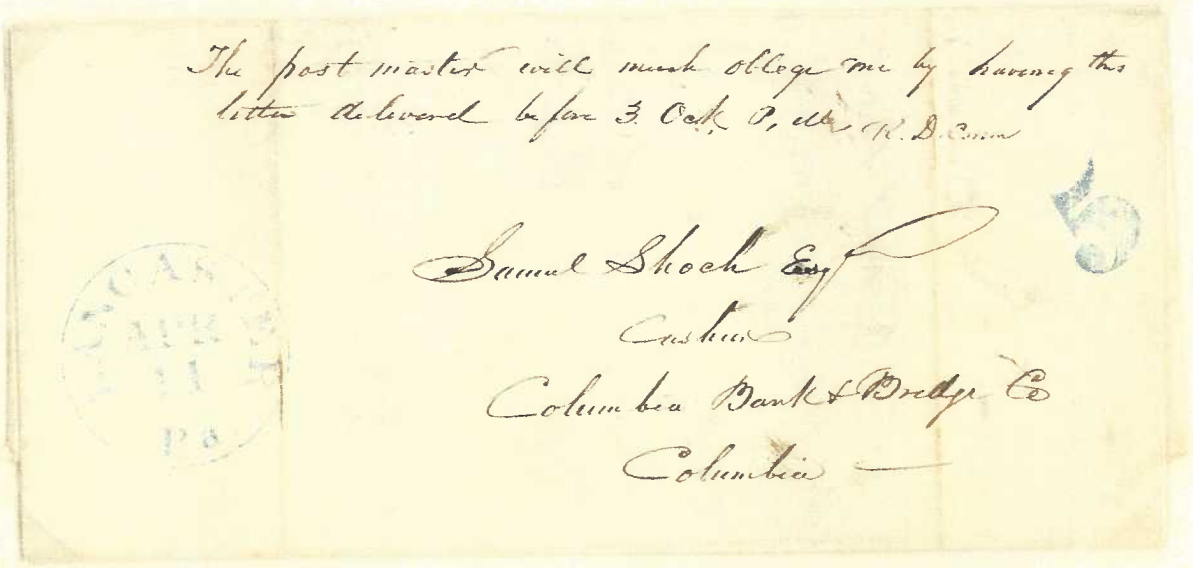
Dec. 25, 1846

Christmas day cancel

## TOWNMARKS

April 11, 1846

1845 Rate: 5 cents less than 300 miles/1/2 oz.




*"The postmaster will much oblige me by having this letter delivered before 3 Ock P.M."*

Aug. 15, 1848

Free - Amos S. Henderson PM Piquea

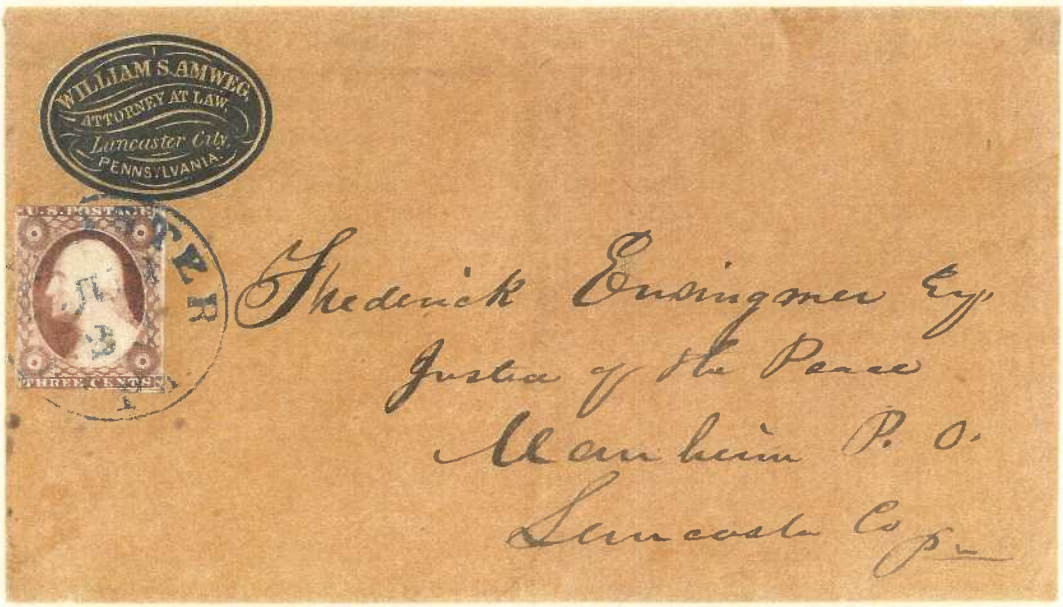
The postmaster of Piquea deposited this letter at Lancaster and was afforded the Free frank

LANCASTER, Pa.
(1833-1854)

Aug. 31, 1852 — 5 cent blue postmark

Act of March 3, 1851 - If not prepaid, single letter rate is 5 cents.

June 23, 1853 — 3 cent 1853 issue




Many of the post offices did not have the correct stamps thus "stampless" covers with rate markings were common until the mandatory use of stamps.

## Auxiliary Marks - "5"

Two reported types of "5" in use during this period.

Feb. 26, 1851

1845 rate: less than 3000 miles 5 cents/1/2 oz.

Type 1

June 2, 1851

Type 2

## Auxillary Marks "10"

### Three reported styles of "10" used during this period

June 13, 1846

Act of 1845: 10 cents over 1/2 oz.
or over 300 miles

Nov. 2, (1846)

June 9, 1849

## BLACK TOWNMARKS

March 18, 1850

1845 Rate: under 300 miles=5 cents

Mourning Cover - to announce funeral or a death in the family

Aug. 6, 1849

Act of 1845; 5 cents under 300 miles

Jan. 17, 1847

There were no size regulations on covers at this time. This tiny cover has little philatelic value other than its credit card size.