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A
HISTORY OF
BLOOD'S
CITY & DESPATCH

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THE LEDGER COMPANY.

BLOOMFIELD, N. J.

1888.

Blood's City Despatch.

Blood's City Despatch was one of the many local or city delivery posts that made a business of carrying mail matter to the post office. It was started by Daniel Otis Blood, under the name of D. O. Blood & Co., in about the year 1845. It had an office at 48 South 3rd Street, Philadelphia.

Upon the death of Mr. Blood, the post was sold to Chas. Kochersperger, who still continued it under the old name, and removed its office to 28 South 6th Street. In 1853 or thereabouts Mr. Chas. Kochersperger took in his brother Elbert as a partner, and carried on the business under the name of "Blood's Penny Post, Kochersperger & Co., Proprietors."

In 1856 the post was located at the Arcade, on Chestnut st., Phila., and in 1860 it was once more at 28 South 6th street. This time Messrs. Hiram Miller and John M. Riley are the proprietors. They were not long in operation when the U. S. Post Office Department took steps to break up the post; and, as its carrying on was in direct contravention of the postal laws of this country, they issued a circular dated at Philadelphia, January 10, 1862, in which they notify their patrons that the post will cease operations on the 11th of that month.



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The first stamps issued by this post was in 1845. Type 1 shown above was the first to be issued. It was soon followed by type 2, which has "D. O. Blood & Co.'s" over the man; type 3 soon followed it, with "City Despatch" under the man, and minus the lettering on houses. All three varieties are printed in black on white paper, and are considered quite scarce, each type being worth about ten dollars. The design on these stamps is very unique, and is believed to have been put on the stamps so as to give an impression of a quick and immediate delivery.

They were soon followed, the next year, by the following. Type 4



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was the first issued, followed by type 5, containing the same wording, but different and heavier style type; type 6 soon followed type 5, and is somewhat similar to No. 4, except that the word "PAID" is "POST" in No. 6. They are all printed in black on white paper; value about \$5 each.



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11

Type 7 was issued in 1848, and is quite rare, and was in use but a short time. It is printed in black on blue paper; value about \$5. No. 8 was also issued in 1848; there are three varieties, gold on lilac paper, blue on lilac paper, and bronze on black paper. They are not very scarce, a good specimen being obtainable at about 50c. Nos. 9 and 10 above illustrated were issued in 1849; both are printed in black on bronze paper. They are considered scarce, and worth about \$1.50 each. No. 11 was issued in 1850, and is somewhat like Nos. 9 and 10, except in the centre it has "One Cent" instead of "Paid" or "Post Office," as in Nos. 9 and 10. Type 11 is the commonest of all the Blood locals; it is printed in black on bronze; value about 25c.



12



13



14

In 1858 three new varieties (types 12, 13 and 14) were issued. Type 12 was the first issued, and was soon followed by type 13. They were both printed in black on green paper, and were not in favor among the patronizers on account of the color; very few were used, and consequently they are scarce, being worth about \$10 each. They were discarded for the Henry Clay variety (type 14) which was printed in black on white paper. The type is exceedingly common, value about 25c.



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16



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During the year 1850 the post issued stamped envelopes containing above designs. There are two varieties of each of the above types, red on white paper and red on buff paper. They are all scarce and very desirable, especially in entire and unused condition.

The rates charged on letters were, one cent on letters to be dropped in the post office (this was in addition to the required amount of postage, which was also affixed to all mail letters). Two cents was charged on all local or delivered letters.