



Dateline folded letter sent from Manila January 22, 1851 to Philadelphia, United States of America. The cover was carried to Singapore and afterwards forwarded via British mails by an agent.

In Singapore a "FORWARDED BY / SINGAPORE / A.L. JOHNSTON & CO." oval backstamp and a faintly boxed "SINGAPORE / Bearing" date stamp in black was applied.

From Singapore the letter was carried by P&O *Pekin* to Galle, Ceylon arriving February 15, then P&O *Hindostan* to Suez where it was carried overland to Alexandria. P&O *Ripon* carried it to Malta arriving March 14. The further route to Marseilles was made by Admiralty packet *HMS Medusa* arriving March 17. Afterwards the letter was carried via French overland mail.

According to the red transit backstamp the letter arrived in London on March 21. It was marked "2/3" due for double letter packet rate. This rate is based on the British transit rate of 1 Shilling 5 Pence per ½ Ounce, plus the French transit rate of two times 5 Pence per ¼ Ounce. London converted 2 Shilling 3 Pence to a manuscript "54" Cents debit to the United States.

The letter was carried by Collins Line *Baltic* from Liverpool March 22 to New York arriving April 3. A red "New York, Apr 4" cancel and manuscript "75" Cents due rating was applied upon arrival. In addition to the 54 Cents already noted in London, 16 Cents were added in New York for the transatlantic transport in accordance with the U.S.-British Postal Treaty of December 15, 1848 plus 5 Cents for United States inland transport.



Copy