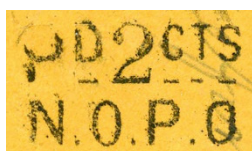


Census of “PD 2 CTS / N. O. P. O.” Stampless Markings

Compiled by Francis J. Crown, Jr.

Description



“PD 2 CTS” Marking

The “PD 2 CTS / N. O. P. O.” marking is one of three of the same design. The other two are the 5c and 10c values.

The “PD 2 CTS” marking appears to have no period after the final “O.” At least none of the seven copies in this census show any evidence of a period.

This marking was previously listed as a provisional. After studying the folded letter (CN-02) and the cover discussed in the “Notes” (F01) it was decided the marking should be listed as a stampless cover.

Census numbers (CN) for this census have a prefix “F.”

NOTE: Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the census, but the inclusion of an item is not a guarantee of authenticity.

Count of the black “PD 2 CTS” stampless marking

Marking	CSA Cat No	Scott Cat No	Covers
black “PD 2 CTS”	—	—	7

Notes

The Mystery Date

Most descriptions of the cover below do not give a definitive date for the postmark. In this census the date is listed as 22 Jun 1861. This makes it the earliest dated use of the marking as all others are in January 1862. Some may not agree but the June date is certainly possible. There are two examples of the "PD 2 CTS" marking cancelling the 2c blue provisional (A01) and the similar "PD 5 CTS" marking is known in red on a 5c brown provisional (A03). The red ink is known only from early June to mid-July 1861.

The corner card (Galveston, Texas) and the blue manuscript "2" lend some credence to the June 1861 date assuming the following scenario. The cover was placed in the care of a captain or passenger on board a steamer at Galveston bound for New Orleans. In June 1861 the Federal blockade was still being implemented and mail to and from southeast Texas was carried by steamer between New Orleans and Galveston. On arrival in New Orleans the captain or passenger took the letter to the New Orleans post office. There either the captain paid 2c for a drop letter ("PD 2 CTS" marking) and the letter was also marked with the blue "2" to indicate payment due the captain for carriage of the letter. Or if the passenger presented the letter he would have paid the 2c drop rate and cover marked with the "PD 2 CTS" marking. In this case the manuscript "2" may indicate the letter was accepted by a clerk but not marked paid or postmarked until later.

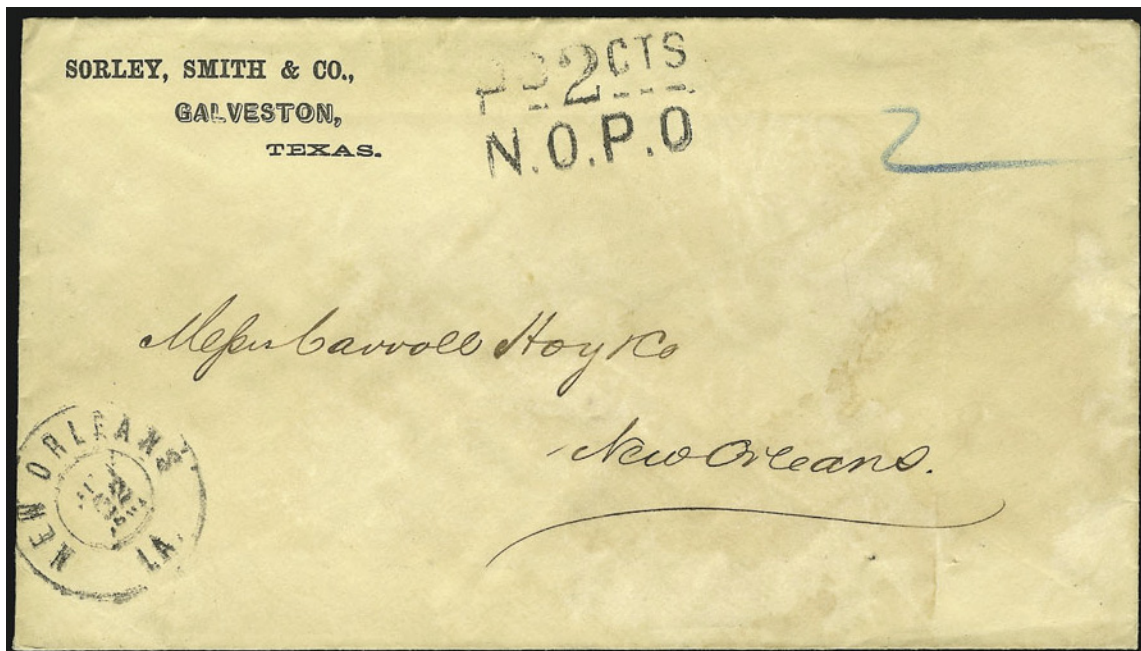


Illustration courtesy Robert A. Siegel Auctions, Sale 840 (17 Dec 2001), Lot 117.

Reference

Hubert Skinner, “Notes on the New Orleans Postmaster’s Provisionals: Plating and Postal History,” in *The Congress Book 1978* (n. p.: American Philatelic Congress, 1978), 150-153.

Mini Census of New Orleans "PD 2 "CTS" Stampless Covers

<u>Pmk Date</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>PmkPos</u>	<u>PrvPos</u>	<u>CN</u>
Black "PD 2 CTS / N. O. P. O." marking				
22 Jun 1861	Messrs Carroll Hoy & Co / New Orleans	LL	UC	F01
21 Jan 1862	Rev. Dr. McByrde / Pendleton / S. C.	CTR-CR	UR-CR	F04
21 Jan 1862	Rev. Dr. McFarland / Mint Spring / Va.	UR	UC	F05
21 Jan 1862	Rev. T. Lynch / Mebanesville / N. C.	UL	UR	F03
21 Jan 1862	Mess. J Shelby & Co / Memphis / Tene	UL	CTR	F06
12 Feb 1862	Honl. Judge Buchanan / New Orleans	LL	UR	F02
7 Apr 1862	County Court / Bexar Co / San Antonio / Texas	LL	LL-LC	F07

Full Census of New Orleans "PD 2 CTS" Stampless Covers

Compiled by Francis J. Crown, Jr.

22 Jun 1861

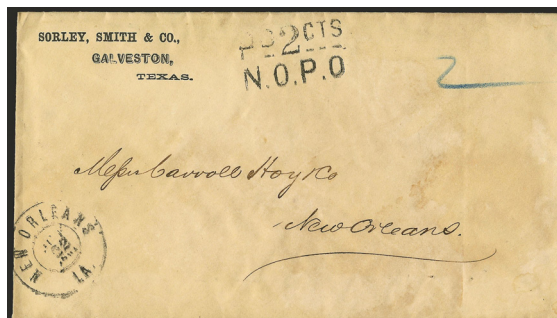
Description: Black "New Orleans / LA." DC pmk w/yd LL. Black "PD 2 CTS" mrk UC. Blue ms "2" UR. Corner card of "Sorley, Smith & Co" UL. See "Notes" for more information.

Address: Messrs Carroll Hoy & Co / New Orleans

Provenance: Hall.

Source: RAS-17Dec2001(840)-117*; RAS-9Dec2008(966)-2615*. [F01]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.



21 Jan 1862

Description: Black "New Orleans / LA." DC pmk w/yd CTR-CR. Black "PD 2 CTS" mrk UR-CR. Circular rate letter

Address: Rev. Dr. McByrde / Pendleton / S. C.

Provenance: MacBride.

Source: CWPAS-01474*; JAF-20Oct1953(103)-100; RAS-14Apr1984(632)-57*. [F04]

Image Credit: Civil War Philatelic Authentication Service.



21 Jan 1862

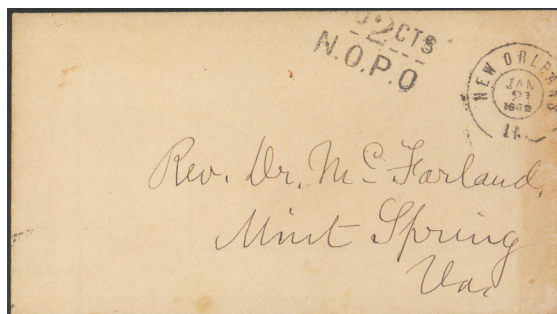
Description: Black "New Orleans / LA." DC pmk w/yd UR. Black "PD 2 CTS" mrk UC. Circular rate letter.

Address: Rev. Dr. McFarland / Mint Spring / Va.

Provenance: None recorded.

Source: RAS-14Apr1984(632)-57*; RAS-7Jun2008(958)-795*; SR-10Mar2014(55)-2278*. [F05]

Image Credit: Schuyler Rumsey Auctions.



21 Jan 1862

Description: Black "New Orleans / LA." DC pmk w/yd UL.
Black "PD 2 CTS" mrk UR. Circular rate letter.

Address: Rev. T. Lynch / Mebanesville / N. C.

Provenance: Walcott.

Source: CWPSX-Hill(Aug1996)-74; RLA-23May1935-166;
RAS-20Apr1985(645)-413*. [F03]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.



21 Jan 1862

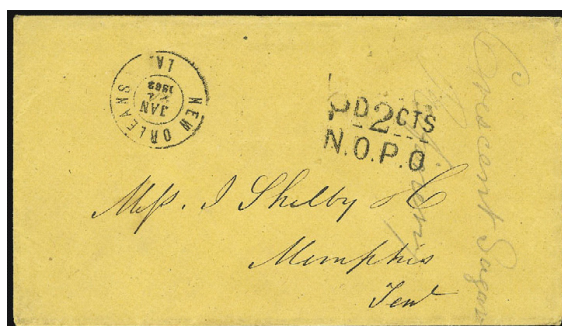
Description: Black "New Orleans / LA." DC pmk w/yd UL.
Black "PD 2 CTS" mrk CTR. Circular rate letter

Address: Mess. J Shelby & Co / Memphis / Tene

Provenance: Skinner, Agre.

Source: PF-467915*; RAS-16Nov2000(832)-3155*; RAS-
25Sep2002(850)-5774*. [F06]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.



12 Feb 1862

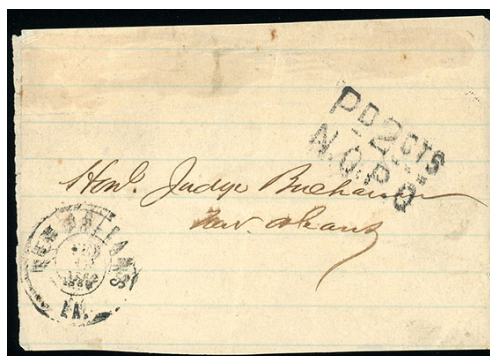
Description: Black "New Orleans / LA." DC pmk w/yd LL. Black
"PD 2 CTS" mrk UR. Folded letter made from
lined paper.

Address: Honl. Judge Buchanan / New Orleans

Provenance: None recorded.

Source: CWPAS-04920*; SR 10Mar2014(55)-2279*; SR-
10Dec2021(100)-2360*. [F02]

Image Credit: Schuyler Rumsey Auctions.



7 Apr 1862

Description: Black "New Orleans / LA." DC pmk w/yd LL. Black "PD 2 CTS" mrk LL-LC. Adversity envelope presumably contained circular rate letter.

Address: County Court / Bexar Co / San Antonio / Texas

Provenance: Zimmerman.

Source: PF-25855*; RAS-24Apr1982(596)-63*; RAS-14May2003(860)-539*. [F07]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.

