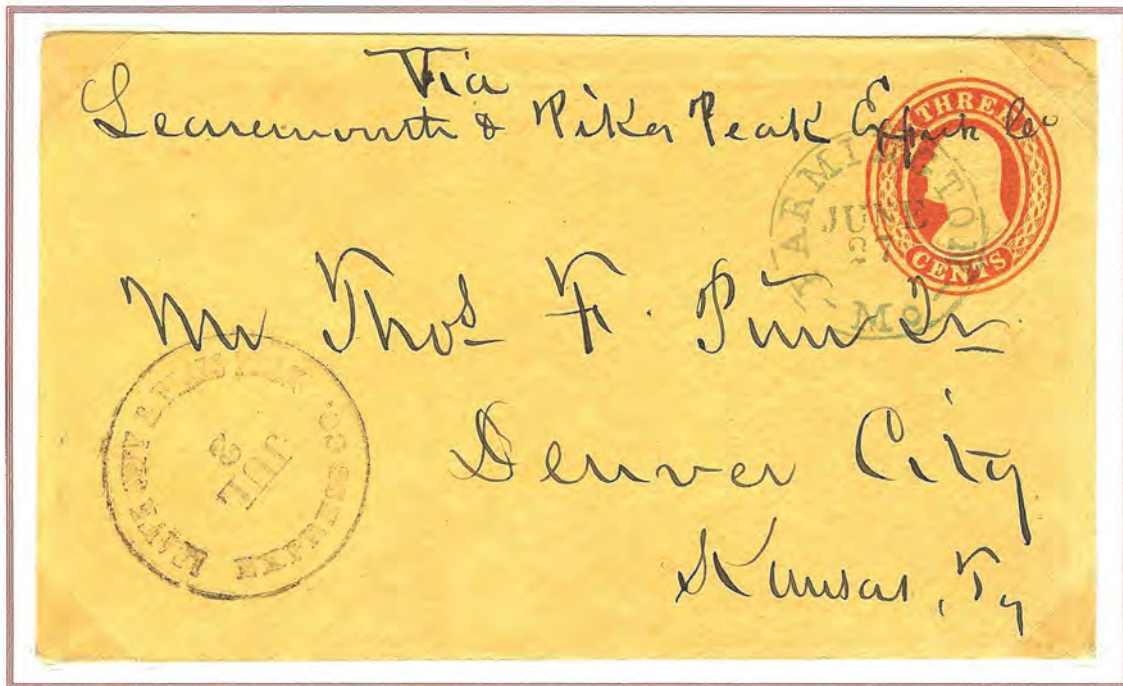


KANSAS TERRITORY ~ 1859

Western Express Mail Routes

Leavenworth & Pike's Peak Express

The company was formed in February 1859 by William Russell and John Jones. It operated from Denver City to Leavenworth City, Kansas Territory with the first trip arriving in Denver City on May 7, 1859, following the Platte Valley route. The company purchased 52 coaches making it possible to travel on daily basis with trip time averaging twelve days. After a short time the route was change to shortened the journey by using the more southerly Republican River route. In July of 1859 the company failed not being able to meet loans coming due from operating revenue. The number of covers recorded is eight east bound and eight west bound.



27 June 1859 Framington, Maine datestamp on 3 cent Nesbit entire via Leavenworth City with senders manuscript routing instruction "via Leavenworth & Pikes Peak Express" dated July 2nd handstamp to Mr. Thomas F. Pim Jr. at Denver City, Kansas Ty.



PIKE'S PEAK--THE LEAVENWORTH AND PIKE'S PEAK EXPRESS COMPANY'S OFFICE, DENVER CITY, K. T.

The Leavenworth and Pikes Peak Express Company Office, Denver City, K. T.