

# COLORADO TERRITORY ~ 1860's

## Western Express Mail Routes

### Holladay Overland Mail and Express

On March 21, 1862 Ben Holladay purchased the assets of the bankrupt Central Overland California & Pike's Peak Express. This opportunity expanded his companies express, and freight business east through Kansas into Missouri. He was well known as "King" of the express business. His large "Empire" came to end because of over expansion leading to financial troubles forcing him to sell the company to Wells Fargo in 1866.



Denver, Col. February 20, (1866)

Letter to Mrs. J. M. Knight, Independence, Missouri with black company frank on 3 cent pink entire. Cover shows faint strike "Holladay O M & E" and is one of two known strikes. The single circle blue Denver Col. postmark used only seven days after the name change from Denver City. ex Barkhausen



Courtesy of Richard C. Frajola

### Overland Mail Routes