

Re: 2026 Sarasota National Stamp Expo, 6th Annual Literature Exposition

Title: *“A Scarce Use of the “Greenock Penny Post” Handstamp on an 1839 Stampless Folded Letter from London, Upper Canada to Kilmun, Scotland via New York City.”*

Publication: *BULLETIN* Journal of the Empire State Postal History Society, Jan. 2025, Vol. 58, No. 1

Author: Dr. Charles J. DiComo, PhD

Synopsis: The article, titled *“A Scarce Use of the “Greenock Penny Post” Handstamp on an 1839 Stampless Folded Letter from London, Upper Canada to Kilmun, Scotland via New York City,”* follows the routes and rates of an 1839 stampless letter sheet mailed by William Murray to his mother and father Captain James C. Murray, R.N. at Finnart Cottage in Argyllshire County, Kilmun, Scotland. His letter traveled overland from London, Upper Canada to New York City, NY, where it was placed aboard the Red Star Line sailing vessel, *Virginian*, for a 20-day transatlantic voyage to Liverpool, England. From there, the letter traveled ~240 miles north overland by coach to Greenock, where the scarce two-line black **“GREENOCK PENNY POST”** marking was added. The letter then made its way by small boat across the Firth of Clyde some 10 miles to Holy Loch, to its final destination of Kilmun, a receiving house for the Greenock Penny Post. The recipients had to pay the 1s8p in currency to retrieve the letter. Enjoy!