

Pony Express Envelope sent to Vermont

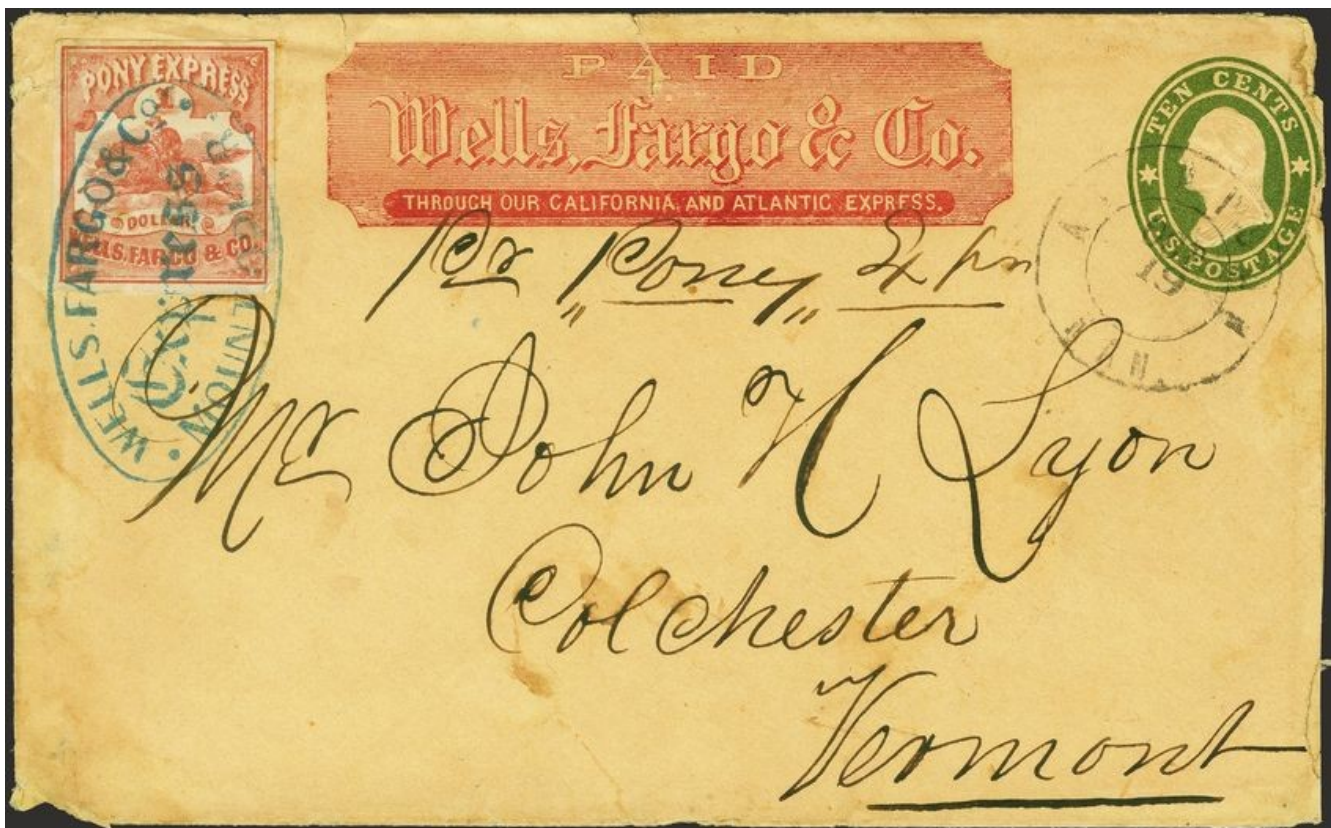
The envelope below just sold at auction for \$6500.00!

We are curious about the contents of the letter in this envelope. It was sent to John H Lyon of Colchester on Oct 5, 1861 via Pony Express from Mount Ophir, California, a former gold mining town and the site of the Mount Ophir Mint. It was obviously important because the Pony Express was not a cheap way to mail a letter. The only other ways from California at the time were the much slower stagecoach or boat mail services so time must have been important.

Contact us if you know anything about it.

Once -- and only once -- upon a time when the Pony Express came to Vermont, it came to Colchester. Here's the story from Elissa Borden at WCAX TV:

<https://www.wcax.com/2023/06/09/rare-pony-express-envelope-that-was-bound-vt-gallops-toward-auction-block/>



FYI, the Pony Express went out of business 21 days after this letter was mailed, Oct 26, 1861, and just after the transcontinental telegraph started operation on Oct 24, 1861. Railroad mail service started much later, 1869, upon completion of the transcontinental railroad.