

Steam Acapulco and Steam Panama
10c Steamship Rate
Rated as 3c Sailor's Concession Ship Rate In Error



14 August (1870) San Francisco, California postmark
Steam Acapulco handstamp struck over **Steam Panama** handstamp
endorsed "From U.S.C. Survey Steamer *Hassler*" at lower left
rated as sailor's concession ship rate with "3" due handstamp in error

*This cover proves that the Steam Panama style markings were applied at the San Francisco Post Office.
No steamship, consular office or foreign port would have had access to both of these devices.*

Letters from Naval personnel could be sent collect, without penalty, under ship letter regulations at this time. On ship mail, from United States Navy personnel, that arrived in port onboard a Federally controlled ship, no ship fee of 2 cents was due to the master of the vessel. The ship rate, with no penalty, was 3 cents.

However, for this to have been carried onboard a Pacific Mail Steamship, as borne out by the markings, it could not have been carried into port onboard a Federal vessel and hence should have been rated as a steamship letter (10 cents due.)