



This cover was sent by costal or river steamboat to Savannah were it was turned in at the post office. There the Savannah postmark, "STEAMBOAT" and "FREE" markings were then applied. The steamboat marking indicated the letter had arrived by steamboat. The free marking was applied because Thomas Butler King was a U. S. representative and entitled to send and receive mail free of postage. While the cover bears no date, Representative King served from 4 March 1839 to 3 March 1843 and from 4 March 1845 to some date in 1850.