

End of an Era

With the 1902 stamp series, the U.S. Post Office wished to update the image of the Special Delivery system to highlight the speed of delivery. The new Special Delivery stamp design depicted a speedy messenger on his bicycle, retiring the 'tired' runner of the previous design.

Combination Use



Only recorded example of combination use

Pittsburg, Pa. to San Francisco, Ca.,
 May 6, 1903
 Ogden, San Fran. & N.D. R.P.O.,
 Train 3, May 9
 San Francisco R.P.O., May 10
 San Francisco (clock), May 10
 San Francisco, Ca. May 11

Forwarded with additional Special
 Delivery stamp and 5¢ postage
 to London, England.
 Mailed from Sacramento St.,
 San Fran. R.P.O., May 11
 Ogden & San Fran.: L.D., R.P.O.,
 Train 6, May 12
 Omaha & Ogden R.P.O., N.D.,
 Train 102, May 13
 N.Y. & Chicago R.P.O., May 16
 N.Y. Foreign mail, May 16
 CAUSE OF NON-DELIVERY
 Too late - Sailed

Arrived London, N.W., England,
 May 26, 1903



Scan of front



Scan of rear