



Pony Express

The Pony Express was an express mail service carried by relays of riders on horseback from April 3, 1860 to October 28, 1861. In 1859, Senator Gwin of California spoke to W.H. Russell who operated the Overland Stage Line about a speedier delivery of letters and the Pony Express service began.

The riders were able to cut the delivery time by more than half with a letter traveling from St. Joseph, Missouri, to Sacramento, California, in 10 days. The Pony Express used 500 half-breed California mustang horses, 190 relay stations and 80 riders. The Pony Express went out of business when Pacific Telegraph began sending messages by wire.

