THE

UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS

OF THE

19TH CENTURY

By

LESTER G. BROOKMAN, R. D. P.



VOL. III

1967

H. L. LINDQUIST PUBLICATIONS, INC.

Publisher

153 Waverly Place - New York, N. Y. 10014

Copyright 1967
By H. L. LINDQUIST

Printed in the United States of America

This work is respectfully dedicated

to

the Students, Authors, and Publishers whose unselfish efforts to discover and make available important philatelic knowledge has earned the grateful appreciation of the author and of his fellow philatelists.

CONTENTS OF VOLUME III

CHAPTER I	The Issues of 1882-1888	1
CHAPTER II	The Issue of 1890	22
CHAPTER III	The Columbian Issue of 1893	50
CHAPTER IV	The Issue of 1894	95
CHAPTER V	The Issue of 1895-1898	128
CHAPTER VI	The Trans-Mississippi Issue of 1898	161
CHAPTER VII	Postmarks and Cancellations	193
CHAPTER VIII	Special Printings of 19th Century U. S. Stamps	203
CHAPTER IX	United States Postage Essays and Proofs	217
CHAPTER X	Suggestions for a New Catalog System	238
CHAPTER XI	Rates of Postage	244
	Conclusion	255
Index		257
Errata		271

Chapter I

THE ISSUES OF 1882-1888

WHILE these stamps are not here given in the order that they have for many years been listed in the Standard Catalog, it is our opinion that ours is the logical listing, and that the stamps here discussed actually constitute a single series despite the fact that they were issued over a period of six years. All designs are different than those of the preceding issues and all of these stamps were printed by the American Bank Note Company.

The One Cent (Scott 212, Minkus 149)

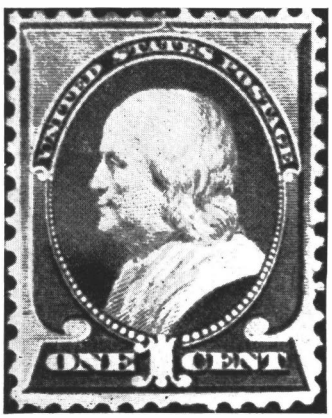


Figure 1. The One Cent Stamp of 1887.

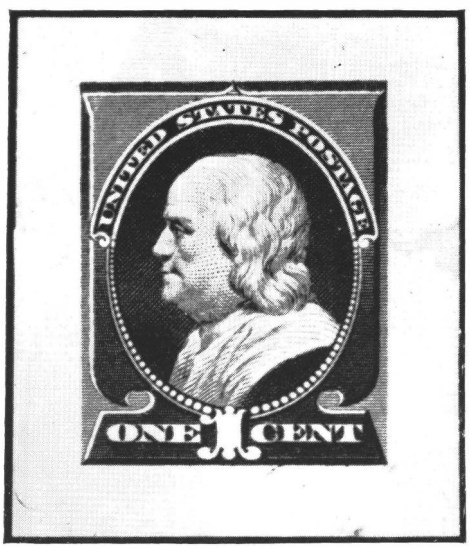


Figure 2. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow)

On June 11, 1887, the Government issued a One Cent stamp in a new design. In the report of the 3rd Asst. Postmaster General of June 30, 1887 the following statement is to be found: "Prior to my taking charge of this office preparations had been begun for making new dies for the one cent denomination of adhesive postage stamps, and the one, two and four cent denominations of embossed stamps on stamped envelopes, the old dies having become too much worn for further service." While it is probable that the dies he refers to are the envelope dies, it is just possible that he also meant that the dies for the One Cent stamp were also in poor condition and that, due to this condition, it was decided to issue a stamp in a new design. We are inclined to think that it is more probable that it was felt that 17 years was a long enough time for people to look at one design, as they had from 1870 to 1887, and that this was the factor that brought about the change.

The new stamp was rather similar in design to its predeccessors as can be seen from the illustration.

These stamps, as well as the other denominations of this series, are occasionally seen surcharged "Sample" and "Sample A." They were furnished to new contract bidders in 1889 as samples for bids on the 1890 series.

A full pane of 100 of these stamps was in the Col. Green Collection. This was the right pane of Plate 577.

This was one of our early precancelled stamps. It is known with several different bar precancellations with at least one town, Burlington, Vermont precancelled in serifed capital letters.

The stamp was generally printed on a soft rather porous paper but is also found on a slightly more firm paper, a little more white and with a little less mesh in the paper.

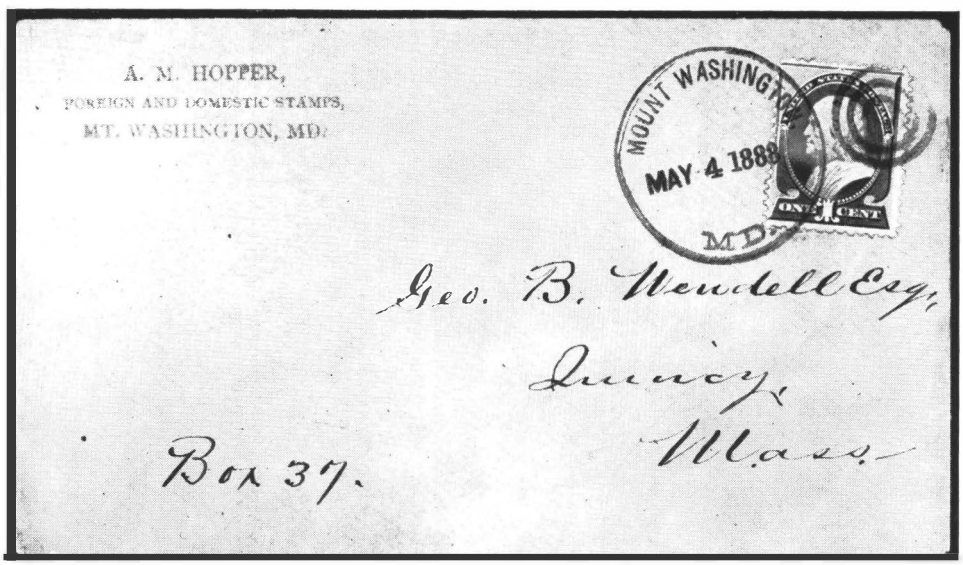


Figure 3. 1c used to pay the Circular Rate. (Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden)

This stamp is known imperforate, in both used and unused condition, and while it was not intentionally issued in this form, apparently a few copies were obtained by collectors. There was a used horizontol strip of 3, on a piece, that was sold in the Eagle Sale and there was a used horizontal strip of 3, on cover and cancelled Hoboken, N. J., that was sold in the Eugene Klein Sale of February 1932. It seems probable this was an attempt to give stature to the imperforates.

It is surprising, in view of the vast quantity of these stamps that were used, how few of them were saved. It has been estimated that less than 1/100th of 1% were saved! While this of course is still a common stamp it is surprisingly difficult to find a really superb used copy.

The stamp exists with the SAMPLE, and SAMPLE A overprint made up as a Special Printing in 1889 by the American Bank Note Company against an order of Postal Department. These are scarce but due to limited demand they are currently valued at a few dollars.

Shades: Ultramarine, bright ultramarine, deep blue.

Varieties: Imperforate, Double transfer.

Plates: R573-577, S578-582, T583-587, F.F.644-648, G.G.649-653, J.J.664-668, P.P.694-698, U.U.719-723.

Cancellations: Black, purple, magenta, blue, red.

Cancellation Varieties: Numeral, Railroad, Supplementary Mail Type F, China.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 1,325,000,000.

The Two Cent Red Brown (Scott 210, Minkus 150)

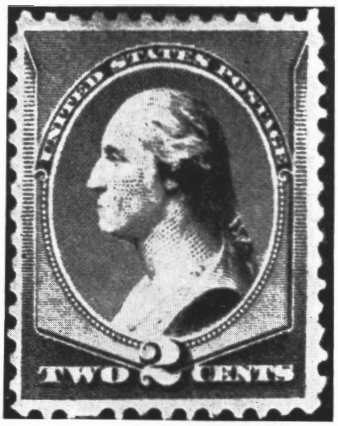


Figure 4. The Two Cent Stamp of 1883.



Figure 5. The "Skull and Crossbones" cancellation used at Stoneham, Mass. (Ex-Newbury Collection).

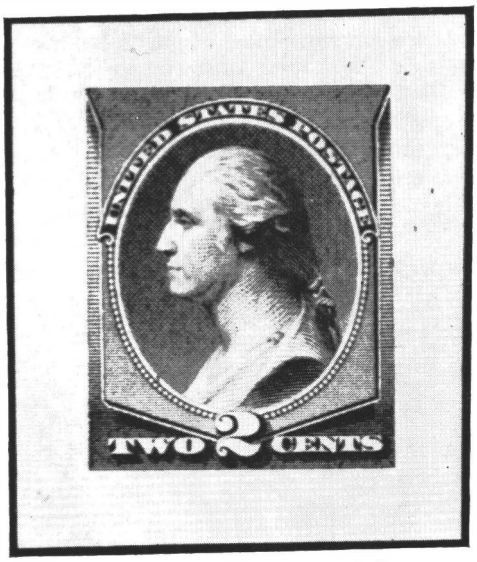


Figure 6. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow)

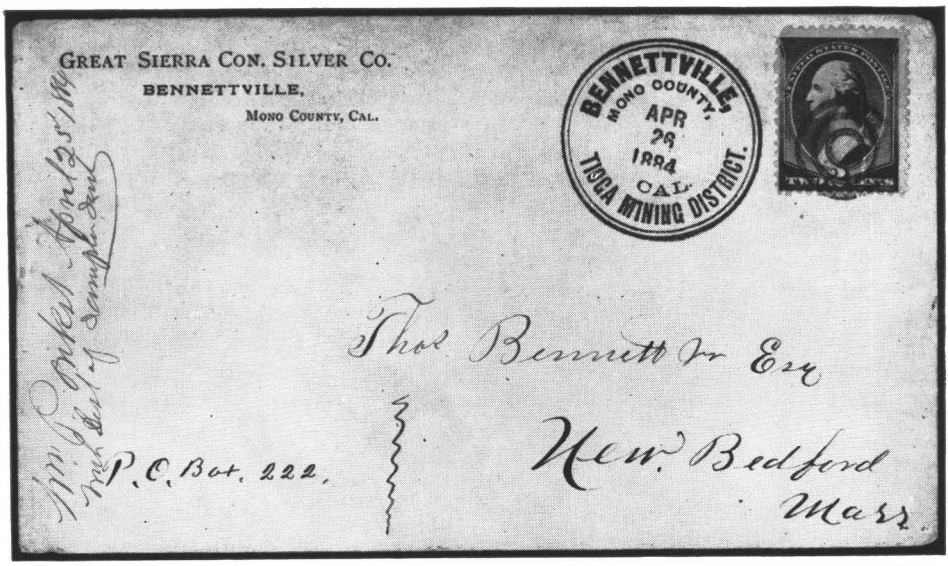


Figure 7. The 2c Brown is common enough but the very interesting postmark makes all the difference in the cover. (Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden)

This stamp was brought into being because of the fact that the Act of Congress of March 3, 1883, which became effective on October 1, 1883, set the first class rate at two cents for each half-ounce. Large quantities of the 3 cent and the 6 cent stamps were left in the hands of the postmasters. On Jan. 1, 1886 the postmasters were ordered to send in such stock of these stamps as they were holding and upon the receipt of this material in Washington the proper credits were given the various postmasters.

This stamp is one of the most common of all of our 19th Century U. S. stamps and it is a favorite among cancellation and plate variety collectors. It is still available in quantity, although truly unpicked lots are not now easy to find, but it is possible for anyone who goes thru a few hundred of these stamps to find interesting plate varieties. Double transfers and other plate variations are common on this stamp and some really interesting things can be found. Plate scratches, bruises, and unexplained lines of color can be found, and since the stamp is obtainable at very low cost, it is an ideal one for specialists to study.



Figure 8. Two Cent Brown "SAMPLE". Overprint in Blue. (Courtesy Elliott Perry).



Figure 9. Two Cent Brown with "Sample A" Overprint in Blue. (Courtesy Elliott Perry).

The varieties of shading over "Cents," long described as "Crossed lines of shading above Cents," "Horizontal lines of shading above Cents," and "Solid lines of shading above Cents" are all easy to find as they are common. In our opinion they represent printing variations and not actual plate variations.

This item is known in imperforate unused and used pairs but the stamp was not issued in this form. There is some reason to believe these and other imperforates of this period came from the American Bank Note Company. Trimmed single used copies are common but of course they are worthless.



Figure 10. A fine example of the well-known "U. S. Mail" cancellation.

Shades: Red brown, dark red brown, orange brown.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates 430-455, 458-463, 466-474, 476-479, A483-487, B490-494, E507-511, F512-516, G517-521, H522-526, J532-536, N553-557, O558-562, P563-567, Q568-572, U588-592, V593-597.

Cancellations: Black, purple, magenta, blue, violet, brown, red, green.

Cancellation varieties: "Paid," Railroad, Express Company, Supplementary Mail Type F, "Ship," "Steamboat," Numeral, China.

Quantity issued: Approximately 4,320,000,000.

The Two Cent Green (Scott 213, Minkus 151)

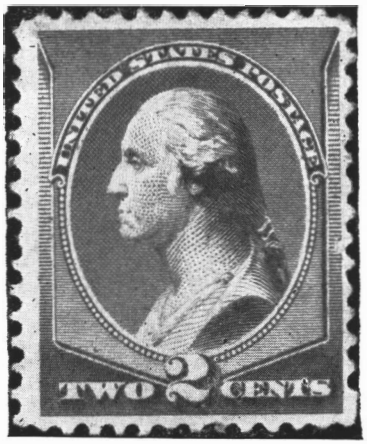


Figure 11. The Two Cent Green of 1887.

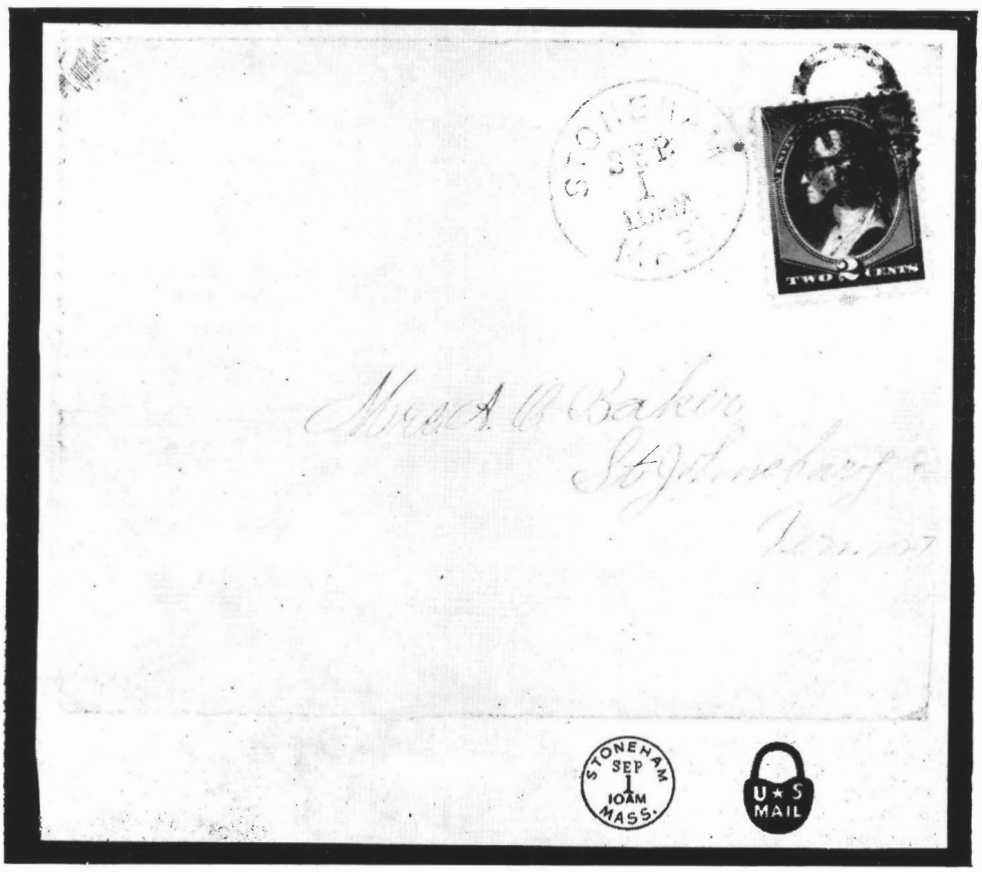


Figure 12. The "U. S. Mail Lock" cancel of Stoneham, Mass. (Ex-Newbury collection).

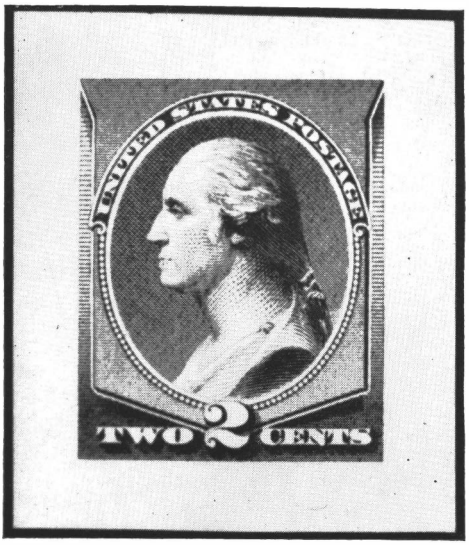


Figure 13. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).



Figure 14. Two Cent Green India Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

Early in the Fall of 1887, the color of the Two Cent stamp was changed to green. The earliest date of use that has been reported is September 10, 1887.

As was the case with its predecessor, the 2c brown, this stamp is very common and is a favorite among cancellation collectors.

No less than 130 plates were used to print these stamps. All of the 2c green were printed on steam presses and the plates were kept in sets of five. Plate 613 replaced Plate 611 which was broken.

The stamp exists printed on both sides, in used condition only so far as is known at this time. The only copy of which we have a record was sold in the Philip H. Ward, Jr., Sale of December 6, 1938.

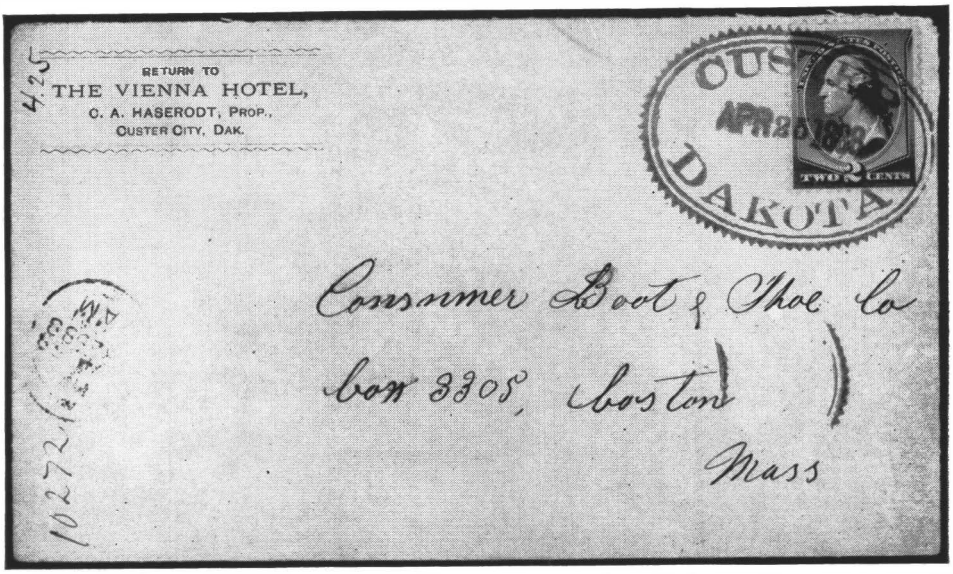


Figure 15. A 2c Green cancelled "Custer, Dakota" which was of course Dakota Territory. (Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

A few copies of the stamp are known imperforate, both in used and unused condition. A vertical pair of this item, unused, was in the Eagle Collection, while a very fine used horizontal strip of 3 imperforate, was sold in the Eugene Klein Sale of February, 1932, and a used horizontal pair, imperforate, was sold in the Philip H. Ward, Jr., Sale of December 6, 1938. A used horizontal strip of three, imperforate, was sold by Robert A. Siegel at auction August 13, 1963. Herman Herst sold a used vertical pair in his sale of Feb. 1966.

The Morgenthau Sale of March 12, 1928, contained two covers, each bearing a diagonal bisect of this stamp used at Ithaca, N. Y., and addressed to Charles Gibbon, Box 530, of the same city. Each was cancelled with a barrel shaped obliterator. Despite the fact that they were sold thru Morgenthau, which is understood to have been a subsidiary of the Scott Company, they are not cataloged and must therefore be viewed with considerable suspicion. A right vertical half used as 1c tied by a Savannah, Ga. postmark on cover has a Philatelic Foundation Certificate but Scott does not recognize this bisect.

Shades: Green, bright green, dark green.

Varieties: Double transfer, Printed on both sides, Imperforate.

Plates: Plates N553-557, O558-562, Q568-572, U588-592, V593-597, W598-602, X603-607, Y608-613, (613 replaced 611 which was broken), AA619-623, BB624-628, CC629-633, DD634-638, EE639-643, HH654-658, II659-663, KK669-673, LL674-678, MM679-683, NN684-688, OO689-693, QQ699-703, RR704-708, SS709-713, TT714-718.

Cancellations: Black, purple, magenta, blue, red, green.

Cancellation varieties: "Paid," Railroad, Carrier, Numeral, "Steam," Steamboat, Supplementary Mail Type F, China, Japan.

Quantity issued: Approximately 3,580,000,000.

The Four Cent Blue Green (Scott 211, Minkus 152)

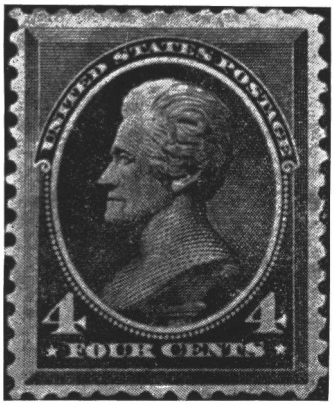


Figure 16. The Four Cent Stamp of 1883.

This stamp was issued on October 1, 1883 and was made for the purpose of paying the postage on double weight letters. The rate being two cents per half-ounce, it is obvious that many letters would require 4c postage.



Figure 17. Four Cent Green India Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

A diagonal half used on original cover, tied with a smudge cancellation, was in the Julius Widner Collection sold at the Morgenthau Sale of September 22, 1926. This cover carried the imprint of D. J. Carrol, 90 Walker St., New York, and was addressed to A. F. Boutecou of the same city. Another copy, sold by the Scott Company in their sale of February 1926, was addressed to John W. Luff, c/o Palace Hotel, San Francisco, California. Despite the sale of the item by the Scott Company it is not cataloged and must have been considered suspect by them as it is by me.

A full pane of 100, with margins removed, was in the Col. Green Collection.



Figure 18. Four Cent Green With "SAMPLE A" Overprint. (Courtesy Elliott Perry).



Figure 19. Four Cent Green "SAMPLE". (Courtesy Elliott Perry).

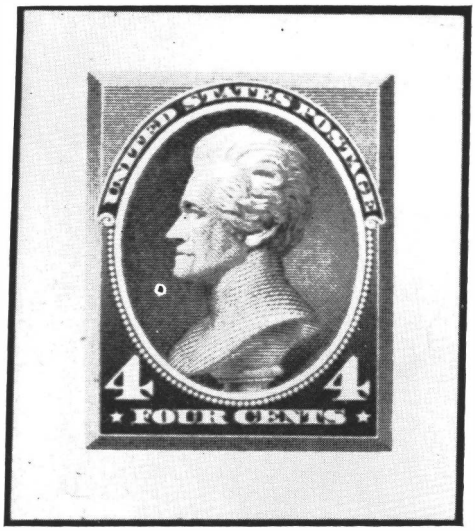


Figure 20. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

Shades: Blue green, deep blue green.

Varieties: Double transfer, Cracked plate.

Plates: Plates 456, 457, L542-546.

Cancellations: Black, purple, magenta, green, blue.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail, Numeral.

Quantity issued: Approximately 78,500,000.

The Four Cent Carmine (Scott 215, Minkus 153)

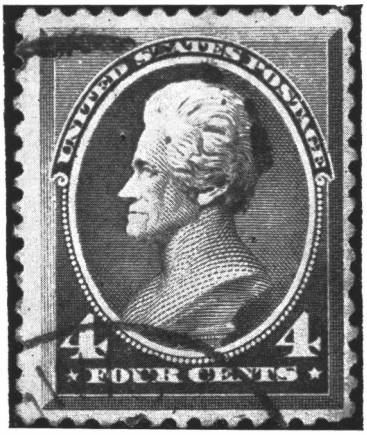


Figure 21. The Four Cent Stamp of 1888.

Late in the Fall of 1888 the color of the 4c was changed from blue green to carmine. This change in color probably was made to avoid confusion with the 2c whose color had been changed from brown to green. The earliest known date of use is November 21, 1888.

This stamp is a little more scarce than its predecessor and is surprisingly difficult to obtain in prime used condition.

Since this stamp was printed from the same plates that produced the 4c green there are no differences between the green and carmine 4c stamps except in the matter of color.

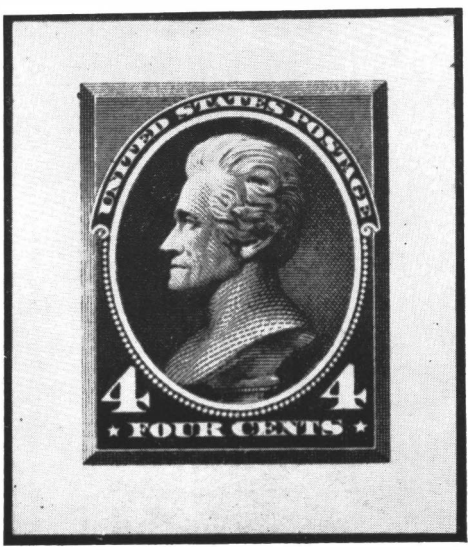


Figure 22. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

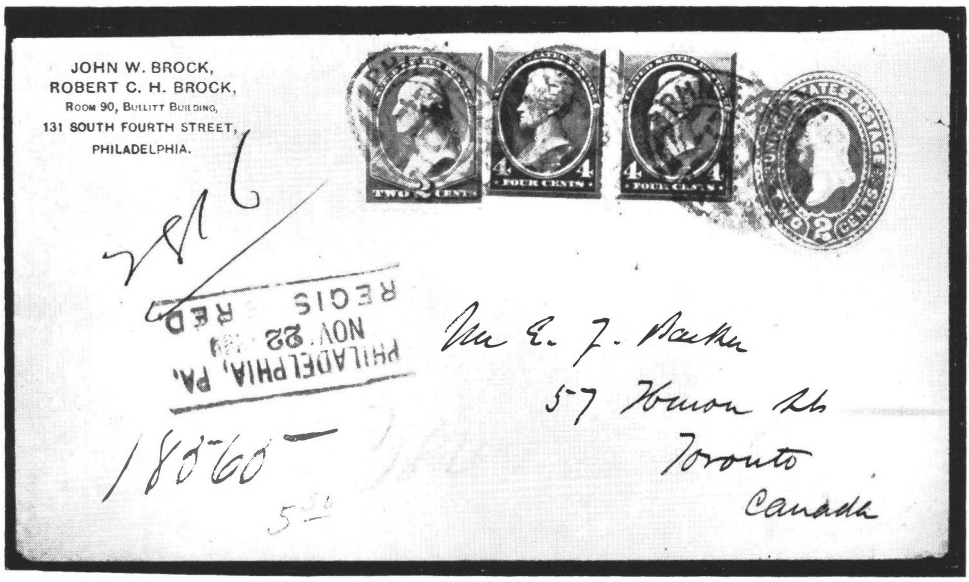


Figure 23. A pair of 4c Carmine used as part payment of this Registered Letter to Canda. (Courtesy of Elliott Perry).



Figure 24. A nice combination of the 3c Vermilion and the 4c Carmine on Cover. (Courtesy of Elliott Perry).



Figure 25. Four Cent Carmine India Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

In the February, 1926 sale held by the Scott Stamp & Coin Co., they sold, as lot 422, a cover bearing the lower right diagonal half of the 4c carmine. It was addressed to John N. Luff at San Francisco. The item has not been cataloged and apparently never has been considered by the catalog makers as a genuine variety. In my opinion a currently made bisect would be in the same class and just about as unimportant.

As was the case with its predecessor, the stamp was used principally to pay the postage on double weight letters and it seems to be much more elusive on cover than the 4c green and, when found, is often on a legal size cover. Legal size covers are currently so out of favor that it might be wise to start collecting them!

There was a full pane of 100 of this stamp in the Col. Green Collection.

Shades: Carmine, rose carmine, pale rose.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: L542-546.

Cancellations: Black, blue, red, purple, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F.

Quantity issued: Approximately 24,500,000.

The Five Cent Yellow brown (Scott 205, Minkus 154)

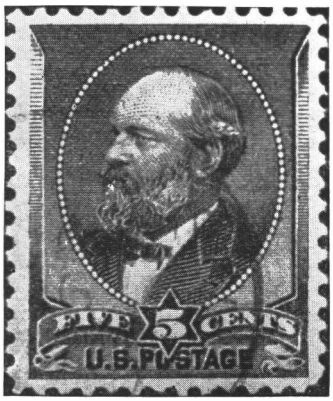


Figure 26. The Five Cent Stamp of 1882.

For some reason or another, there was considerable dissatisfaction over the design of the 5c stamp so a new design was prepared and issued April 10, 1882. The new stamp had a portrait of the then late lamented President Garfield who was the victim of an assassin. It is stated that it was at first intended that the stamp should be printed in black as a symbol of mourning, but when proofs were submitted to Mrs. Garfield, she did not approve of the stamp in black and sugested that the color be changed to brown. This suggestion was followed and the stamp is found yellow brown, brown, and gray brown.

At one time the catalogs listed two varieties of this stamp in which the first variety had the background of the medallion composed of horizontal lines crossed by fine diagonal lines, while the second variety was listed as having horizontal lines only. These variations are no longer listed since it has been

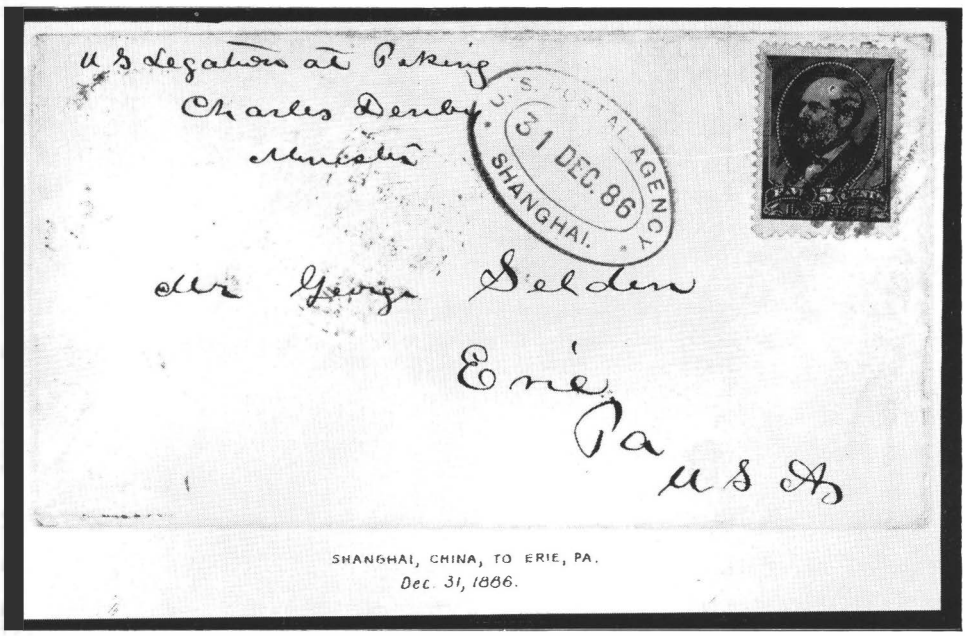


Figure 27. The 5c Garfield used from the U. S. Postal Agency at Shanghai in 1886. (Ex-Newbury Collection)

determined that the absence of the diagonal lines was caused by the ink having been removed from these lines on the plate during the wiping of the plate.

Luff stated that it was intended to issue this stamp to the public on March 1, 1882 and that the first delivery to the Post Office Department was made on February 7, 1882. He also stated that a few of the stamps were obtained by favor and used as early as the 14th of February but the report of the Postmaster General indicates that they were not placed on sale until April 10th.

This stamp, as well as other stamps thru the 1895 Issue, was occasionally used out of Samoa in combination with Samoan stamps. At this time Samoa was not a member of the Universal Postal Union and it was necessary for the U. S. stamps to be used to prevent additional charges against the addressee.

American plates #399, 400, 488, and 489 were made for use on the hand presses and plates K537-541 were made for use on the steam presses.

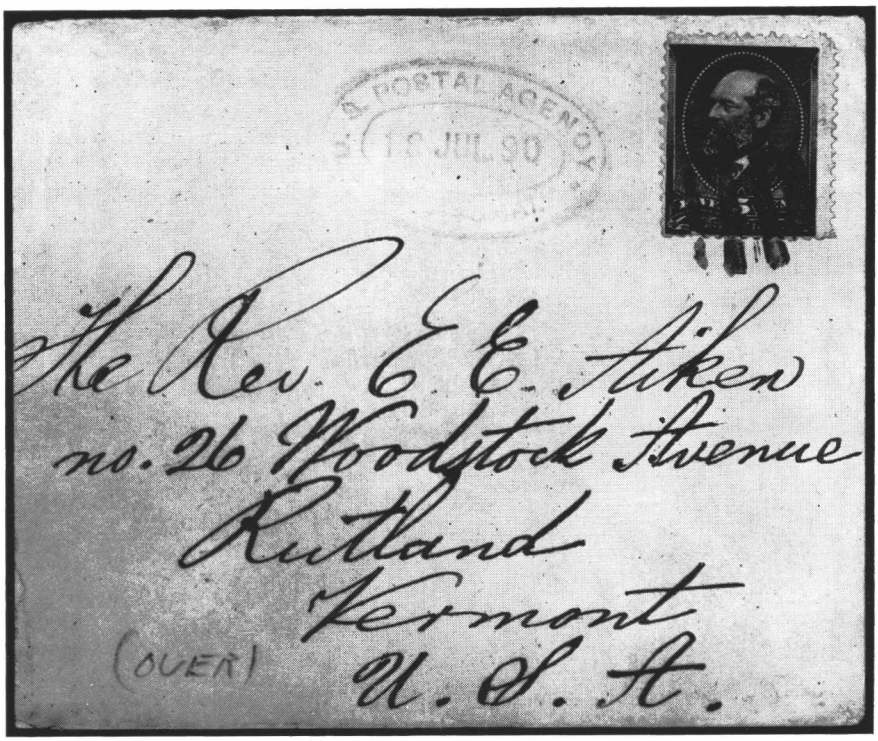


Figure 28. A 5c Brown Garfield mailed thru the U. S. Postal Agency at Shanghai. (Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

Shades: Yellow brown, brown, gray brown.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plates 399, 400, 488, 489, K537-541.

Cancellations: Black, purple, magenta, blue, red.

Cancellation varieties: "Ship," Numeral, Supplementary Mail Type F, Red Express Company, China, Japan, Porto Rico, Samoa.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 167,351,000.

The Five Cent Indigo (Scott 216, Minkus 155)

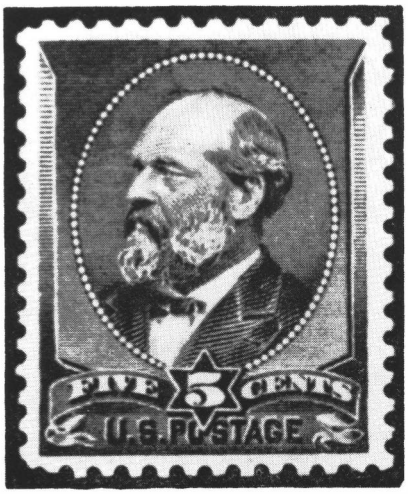


Figure 29. Five Cent Indigo of 1888.

On February 18, 1888 the 5c Garfield was issued in a new color and we now find the stamp issued in indigo and in deep blue. It was printed from plates K537-541 of the preceding issue, and possibly from plates 488 and 489 as well, so the only difference between this stamp and the 5c yellow brown is in the color.

A full O. G. pane of 100 was in the Col. Green Collection and a block of this item imperforate was also in this collection.

This stamp is known to exist on pinkish paper and is supposed to have been found in Portland, Maine in March 1889. The exact status of this item has been often questioned and while some students may contend that it is an essay, it is more likely that it was an accidental freak so issued and valid for postage.



Figure 30. Five Cent Indigo Plate Proof on India. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).



Figure 31. Not much of a cancellation but fancy cancels are scarce on this stamp.

Thru a fortunate coincidence, we discovered the following letter in a collection purchased about 1946. It was addressed to Mr. A. W. Morrison, Minneapolis, Minnesota and reads as follows:

"We are enclosing lot #125 from our last sale which was knocked down to you at $18.50. Before sending this lot out we wanted to make sure that the stamp was in accordance with the catalogue description and we have submitted it to two of our best authorities on U. S. without coming to any definite conclusion. One of them says that there really is no stamp which should be listed as pinkish paper. Mr. Luff states that when it was included in the catalogue it was based on a copy which Mr. Conant of Portland, Maine bought at the post office. This copy, Mr. Luff claims, was pinker than this one enclosed. Later on when the collection of Mr. Conant was sold at auction, Mr. Luff bought this copy, but it had been stuck to a page and soaked off meanwhile; therefore it had lost in value. Mr. Luff maintains that this copy is still pinker than the enclosed. We have concluded not to sell this stamp as a $25 variety, but take pleasure in enclosing it to you without charge and you may put it in your collection, awaiting further development. It is still our opinion that this is 216a of the catalogue. If it is not, you are nothing out. If future information should prove it to be O. K. you will be that much ahead.

Yours very truly,

Sept. 25, 1923 J. M. Bartels Co.
(Signed J. M. Bartels)

This item is listed in Scott's in unused condition only but we understand genuine used copies are known. We have seen numerous used fakes of this variety—some of which were intentional and some were unintentional fakes. The unintentional fakes usually came into being when they were soaked with a quantity of stamps in which a few U. S. Postage Dues of the vintage 1894-1912 were unfortunately present. These dues, as nearly every collector ultimately learns to his sorrow, are printed in colors that are extremely fugitive.



Figure 32. A 5c Brown Garfield used from New York to Guadalajara, Mexico on the Steamship "City of Puebla". A common enough stamp but I wonder how many covers went to Mexico? (Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

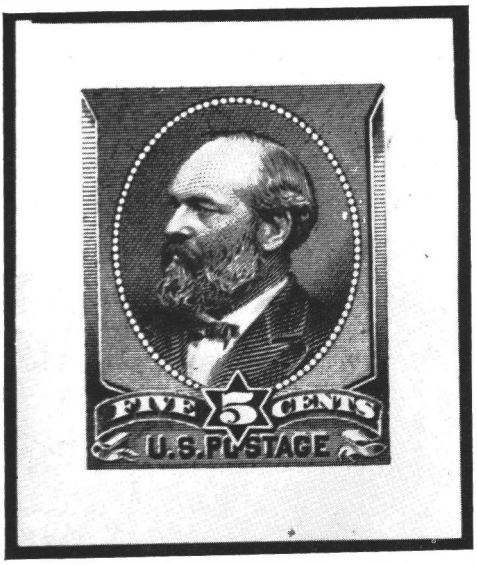


Figure 33. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

It seems unlikely that it is now generally known that the administration of President Grover Cleveland, in a moment of chivalry, not only placed a bust of General Grant, his recently deceased political opponent, on a letter-sheet but went so far as to contemplate abolishing the 5c Garfield stamp to make room for an emission bearing still another view of Grant's head. They actually proclaimed to the public such intentions. A circular by the Third Assistant Postmaster-General, dated August 15, 1887, read as follows: "The five-cent stamp will be dark blue instead of chocolate brown, and will contain the head of Grant instead that of Garfield." However, without further notification, the 5c Garfield stamp was reissued in dark blue. As a compromise, the Garfield envelopes were repealed and superseded by an embossed profile portrait of Grant, the hero of Appomattox.

The Imperforate stamps of this issue were not regularly issued and we believe they should be considered proofs.

Shades: Indigo, deep blue.

Varieties: On pinkish paper.(?)

Plates: Plates K537-541, possibly Plates 488, 489.

Cancellations: Black, purple, magenta, blue.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F. China, Japan, Porto Rico, Samoa.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 85,000,000.

Chapter II

THE ISSUE OF 1890

NONE of the difficulties that attend the study of the previous issues are present in a study of the 1890 stamps. All were printed by the same company, on the same type of paper, and there are few variations of any nature that should confuse the collector.

The Government had some difficulties in the placing of the contract to produce these stamps and we feel that the following information, obtained from the report of the Third Assistant Postmaster General, dated October 30, 1890, may be of some interest. We quote the report as follows:

"The old contract for adhesive postage stamps expired on the 30th of June,, 1889. To afford time in which to make needful preparations for the new contract, the old contract was extended for a period of three months, until the 30th of September, under a right reserved to the Department by the terms of the contract.

After a full examination of the subject an advertisement was issued, under date of June 17, 1889, calling for sealed proposals, to be received until the 17th day of July, for furnishing all the stamps which should be called for during the four years commencing October 1, 1889. The specifications furnished to bidders set forth the requirements of the contract with the utmost minuteness. They will be found in full in a copy of the contract in the appendix to this report.

The call was made for bids for ordinary stamps of two different sizes, to wit, those then in use, measuring 1 by 25-32 inch, and a smaller size, measuring ¾ by ⅞ inch. The sizes and styles of newspaper and periodical, postage-due, and special-delivery stamps were left unchanged.

An important change was that the color of each of the several denominations of stamps was prescribed by the specifications, with the purpose of preventing arbitrary and unnecessary changes during the existence of the contract. Samples of the stamps in the selected colors, appropriately cancelled, were attached to the specifications and blank forms of proposal were furnished to bidders. Proposals were called for separately for stamps to be printed, first by hand-presses, second, by steam-power presses in which a portion of the work is to be done by steam and a portion by hand and third by steam power presses on which all the work is done with steam, with the right reserved to the Department to make the award upon any one of the three classes of bids. The classification of the bids will appear fully in the copy of the specifications referred to. * * *

In response to the advertisement two bids were submitted, one by Mr. Charles F. Steel, of Philadelphia, and the other by the American Bank Note Company, of New York, the old contractors for furnishing stamps. The bid of Mr. Steel amounted, upon the basis referred to, to $155,017.39 for the stamps of the larger size, and to $151,489.96 for stamps of the smaller size printed on handroller presses; to $124,-642.36 for stamps of the larger size and to $122,094.77 for stamps of the smaller size printed on steam-power presses on which a part of the work is done by steam and a part by hand; and to $120,723 for stamps of the larger size, and to $117,-587.51 for stamps of the smaller size printed on all steam-power presses. The bid of the American Bank Note Company was for printing the ordinary stamps on steam-power presses only, and for the remaining kinds of stamps on hand-roller presses only, and the totals were $158,033.87, comprehending ordinary stamps of the larger size, and $148,235.47 embracing ordinary stamps of the smaller size. The difference between the amount of this bid and that of Mr. Steel for stamps printed on all steam-power presses was $37,310.87 for stamps of the larger size, and $30,647.96 for stamps of the smaller size.

At the opening in public of the bids, a protest was made by the American Bank Note Company against the award to Mr. Steel, on the ground that he was not eligible as a bidder under the terms of the advertisement restricting the bids to steel-plate engravers and plate-printers. The protest was shortly afterwards withdrawn, and, preliminary to an award, Mr. Steel was, upon the 1st of August called upon to demonstrate his facilities for carrying out the contract. Though not engaged in the business, and being unprovided with a plant for printing and engraving, he promised to procure all the necessary equipment and material in time to manufacture and begin the delivery of the stamps on the 1st of October, or shortly thereafter. The specifications called for a fire-proof building in which to manufacture and store the stamps, but though called upon repeatedly to do so, Mr. Steel failed to submit for inspection suitable premises for the purpose. He

offered only one building, though promising a choice of several different ones, and that building utterly failed to meet the requirement. The award was consequently withheld, and becoming evident that Mr. Steel was either unwilling or unable to comply with his proposal, the Postmaster-General, under date of September 11, 1889, issued an advertisement calling for new proposals for a contract for the four years commencing December 1, 1889. At the same time provision was made for a temporary supply of stamps for the interval between October 1 and December 1 by calling on the American Bank Note Company to furnish a specified number of stamps, under the provisions of the contract giving the right to order an extra quantity not exceeding a three months supply.

At the time appointed for closing the receipt of the new proposals, on the 26th of September, two bids were submitted. One was from the Franklin Bank Note Company and the other was from the American Bank Note Company, both of New York. The bid of the Franklin Bank Note Company amounted on the basis of the quantities specified in the previous advertisement, to $163,904.82 for the stamps of the larger size, and to $163,904.82 for stamps of the smaller size, printed on all steam-power presses, and the bid of the American Bank Note Company amounted, on the same basis and for the same class of work, to $157,641.93 for stamps of the larger size and to $149,215.31 for stamps of the smaller size. The bid of the American Bank Note Company was $391.94 less than its bid under the former advertisement for the larger stamps and $979.84 more for the smaller stamps.

Subsequent to the receipt of these proposals another call was made by letter of the Postmaster-General, dated October 8, upon Mr. Steel to comply with the requirements of his bid submitted in July, and he responded on the 12th of October by declining to proceed further in the matter. There appeared to be no alternative but to make a selection from the other bids already received, especially in view of the fact that, through the time lost in the endeavor to induce Mr. Steel to comply with his proposal, the Department had exhausted its resources for obtaining temporary supplies of stamps. The contract was therefore, on the 23rd of October, awarded to the American Bank Note Company under its bid received on the 17th of July (it being the lowest of all the bids, except that of Mr. Steel, received on both advertisements) the award being made for ordinary stamps of the smaller size. No hesitation was felt in awarding the contract for stamps printed on all steam-power presses, the work having been satisfactorily done by that process during the preceding four years. As already shown, the successful bid amounted, upon the basis of the number of stamps issued during the year ending March 31, 1889, to $148,235.47. This amount was $9,406.46 more than the cost of corresponding kinds and numbers of stamps under the previous contract. It is to be observed, however, that under the terms of the new contract, the cost of preparing dies, rolls and plates for new designs of stamps, or for additional denominations, is to be borne by the Department, while under the previous contract, the contractor was required to make these changes at the discretion of the Department and at his own expense and moreover, that by the new contract the 2-cent stamps, constituting by far the greater portion of all the issues, are printed in much more expensive color than formerly.

The contract was duly executed, and it being found impracticable to prepare stamps of the new designs prior to December 1, arrangements were made with the American Bank Note Company by which the stamps of the old style were to be furnished at the old contract rates until such time as the new stamps should be ready for issue. The issue of the new stamps was begun in time to place them on sale at the leading post-offices on February 22, last."

So much for the report by the Third Assistant Postmaster-General.

You will note that when varieties of the various denominations of the 1890 series are listed a little later on in this article, each of the denominations is listed "Imperforate." The story of how these came into existence is an interesting one and since it was excellently told by Philip H. Ward, Jr., in an article entitled "U. S. 1890 Imperforates" that appeared in Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News of May 20, 1935, we take the liberty of reprinting it here. The article read as follows:

"John N. Luff in his excellent "Postage Stamps of the United States" (page 165) writes regarding the 1890 series, "While this issue was being prepared, proofs were made from plates of the two, four and five cents in a variety of shades which closely approach those of the issued stamps. There were five shades of the two cents, eleven of the four cents and thirteen of the five cents. These proofs are on the regular paper, gummed and finished except that they are not perforated." These varieties have been known to philately almost since the time of their issue and are not to be confused with the complete series from 1c to 90c inclusive, in

the correct shades which exist imperforate with full gum. Mr. Luff makes no mention of this imperforate set because at the time the fact that they existed was unknown.

Ten to fifteen years back, the P. O. Dept. turned over to the National Museum at Washington its collection and accumulation of U. S. and foreign postage stamps that it had been gathering for many years previous. The first government philatelist, J. B. Leavy, while putting these stamps into shape for exhibition purposes at the Museum, found in the lot a number of the 1890 imporforates which had been in the possession of the Post Office for a number of years. Their source is unknown but they were probably found in the files of the Department and added to the stamp accumulation by some official who knew of the existence of this stamp collection.

Mr. Leavy put samples of each denomination in the official collection and some were exchanged with dealers for stamps the Museum desired. It was in this way that the official collection received such rarities as the 1869 15c, 24c and 30c inverted centers, the 1901 1c and 2c inverted centers, and other similar varieties which otherwise would still be lacking. Congress has never appropriated any funds for the stamp collection and additions are made by donation and exchange only. Unfortunately, exchanges stopped some years back and donations of late have been few and far between. Of the 1890 series, imperforate, 56 complete sets in all were exchanged and as far as we have observed these were all cut up into blocks of four, and pairs, vertical and horizontal. Of the higher denominations, we do not recall ever seeing a piece larger than a block of four.

At the same time the 1891 imperforate postage dues, 1c to 50c, in bright claret with full gum reached the hands of the philatelic public. In all 46 sets reached the public. These like the regular issue were cut into blocks and pairs.

We have been told that some of these varieties existed before this lot came upon the market through a Washington dealer, and, I believe, thru a New York dealer, but although a thorough search has been made, no record has been found of their previous existence. We should be glad to learn of any such information if it exists. While the same number of each value supposedly are around it is extremely odd that the 8c is much the more difficult of the lower denominations to obtain if you are trying to put together pairs or blocks."—Philip H. Ward, Jr.

It is rather obvious that all of the imperforates of the 1890 series are nothing but finished proofs obtained from the files of the Department. They never were issued as stamps and should be considered as proofs. The author saw, in 1943 in the Robinette stock, full sheets of 400 of the 2c imperforate.

The One Cent Stamp of 1890 (Scott 219, Minkus 156)

This stamp, showing a profile bust of Franklin was issued on February 22, 1890. It comes in a variety of shades and is listed in the Standard Catalogue in Dull Blue, Blue, Deep Blue, and Ultramarine.

A great many plates were used to produce this issue. Luff stated that plates of 400 subjects and of 200 subjects were used but the Specialized Catalogue now states that they were produced from plates of 400 subjects. We do not know which statement is correct and we imagine that the information is only of slight interest to collectors at the moment.

An interesting printing variety usually spoken of as the "candle flame" variety is easily found on this stamp. The numeral "1" which appears on each side of the stamp is of a fancy design and the base of the numeral is formed from a ball like ornament. From the right hand ornament on each of the two numerals on a stamp there is sometimes to be found a white area extending above the ornament to which the term "candle flame" has been applied. This is almost certainly a printing variety and not a plate variety. It is probably caused by what printers called "scooped color" which means that the wiping process removed too much ink from this portion of the plate due to too heavy pressure on the wiping roller or to poor workmanship on the plates. An examination of a number of these stamps showing this variety, some of which were in strips and pairs, reveals no two exactly alike which is almost positive proof that the variety is a printing rather than a plate variety.



Figure 34. Details of design on die proof.



Figure 35. Examples of "Candle Flame" variety.

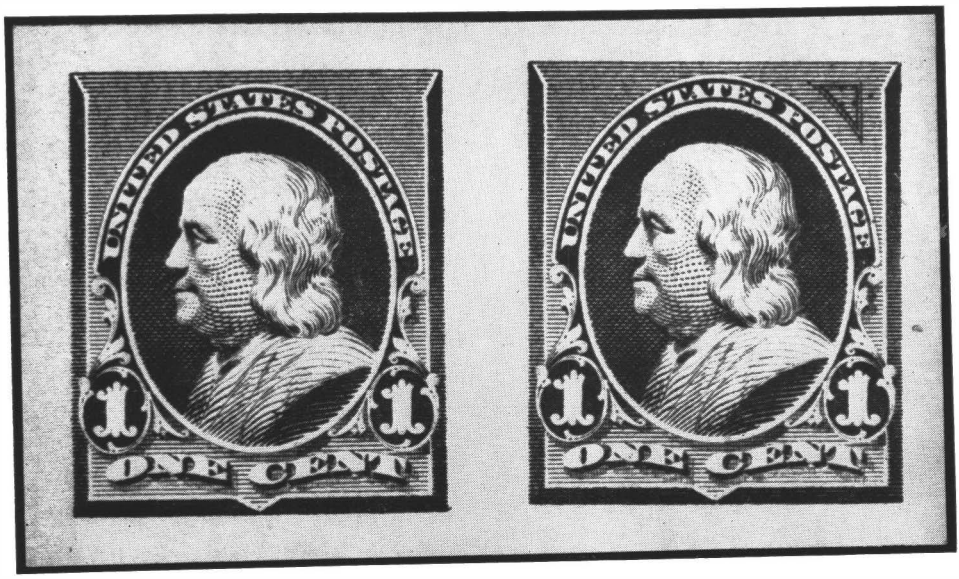


Figure 36. This is a partially finished secondary die being made into a die for the 1894 series. One triangle has been cut into the upper right corner and a proof pulled from it.

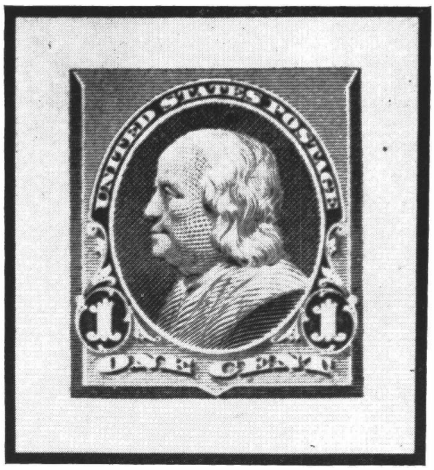


Figure 37. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

The pale colors in which this stamp is found do not help to improve the appearance of the stamp and it was not particularly well received at the time of its issue. It is stated that the engraver of this one cent stamp was supplied with a portrait of Franklin turned to the right and it was necessary to turn it to the left for use on the stamp. The New York Times made the following statement: "While Franklin looked like himself while facing the right in the portrait, by no exertion of skill could his profile be changed to the left without entirely altering his expression and making him resemble the putty-faced personification of senility which now appears on the one cent stamp."

The earliest date of use is recorded in Scott's Catalog as Feb. 22, 1890.

Shades: Dull blue, blue, deep blue, ultramarine.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates C11-15, G36-40, Q89-93, BB145-149, FF165-169, UU240-244, CI280-284, DI285-289, FI295-299.

Cancellation: Black, blue, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: China, Samoa.

Quantity issued: 2,206,093,450.

The Two Cent Lake Stamp of 1890 (Scott 219D, Minkus 157)

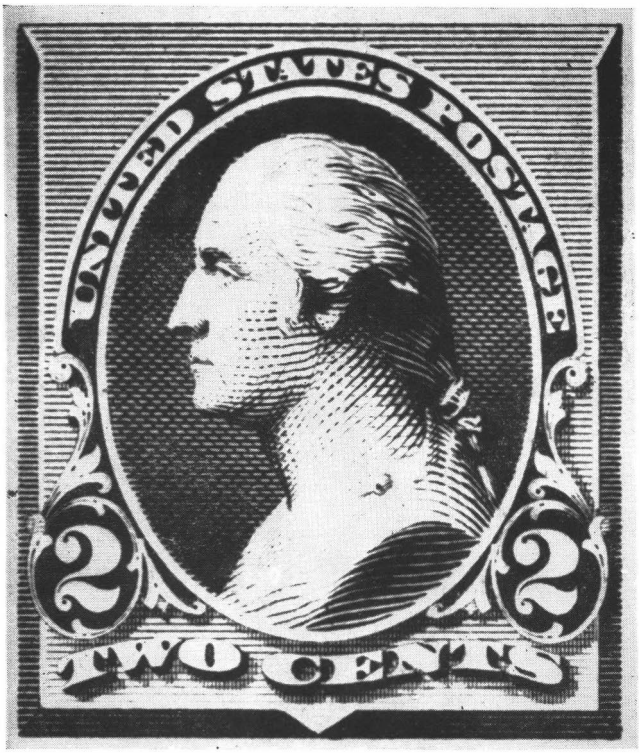


Figure 38. Details of design on die proof.

This denomination bearing a profile bust of Washington, was first issued in various shades of lake. Feb. 22, 1890 was the official date of issue but the earliest date of use known to the author is Feb. 24, 1890, 11 P. M. at New Haven, Conn. During the period in which these shades were used, the *New York Sun* had stated that the Hon. John Wanamaker had "brought to bear on the selection of colors a taste educated in the hosiery department of his emporium, and the bargain counter instinct impelled him to impose upon the people an ink which is not only too florid, but is also too gummy. It rubs off. It won't wash. It isn't a fast color." Following this complaint, and many others, the color of the stamp was changed.

None of the "Cap" varieties found in the carmine shades are found in the Lake shade stamps. The plates used for the Lake shade printings were made before the Cap varieties developed on the transfer roll.

There was a full pane of 100 of this stamp in the Col. Green Collection.

Shades: Lake, carmine lake, lake red.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Exact plate numbers unknown but they undoubtedly are among the first half of the plates listed for this stamp as issued in the various carmine shades, which stamp is listed immediately following this 2c lake.

Cancellations: Black, purple.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 100,000,000.

The Two Cent Carmine Stamp of 1890 (Scott 220, Minkus 158)

The pressure brought on Postmaster General Wanamaker brought about a change in color on this denomination and on May 12, 1890 the stamp was issued in carmine, but the earliest currently known date of use is June 3, 1890.

It is on this stamp that the interesting varieties "Cap on left 2" and "Cap on both 2" occur. Occasionally a stamp will be found that appears to have a "Cap" on the right "2" only but this now is generally considered to be only an inking variety.



Figure 39. The left stamp is the normal variety, the middle stamp has the "cap on left 2," and the right stamp has the "cap on both 2's."

It is not generally known that the variety "Cap over the left 2" and the variety "Cap on both 2" can be found on adjoining stamps. Such items are scarce and we do not recall having seen a used item of this nature. The well-known Hawkins collection contained a horizontal block of 8 of which the left four stamps were the "Cap on the left" while the right four stamps were of the "Cap on both 2" variety. A block of 50 bearing top imprint and plate No. 246, 15 with left caps and 35 with both caps was in the Green Collection.

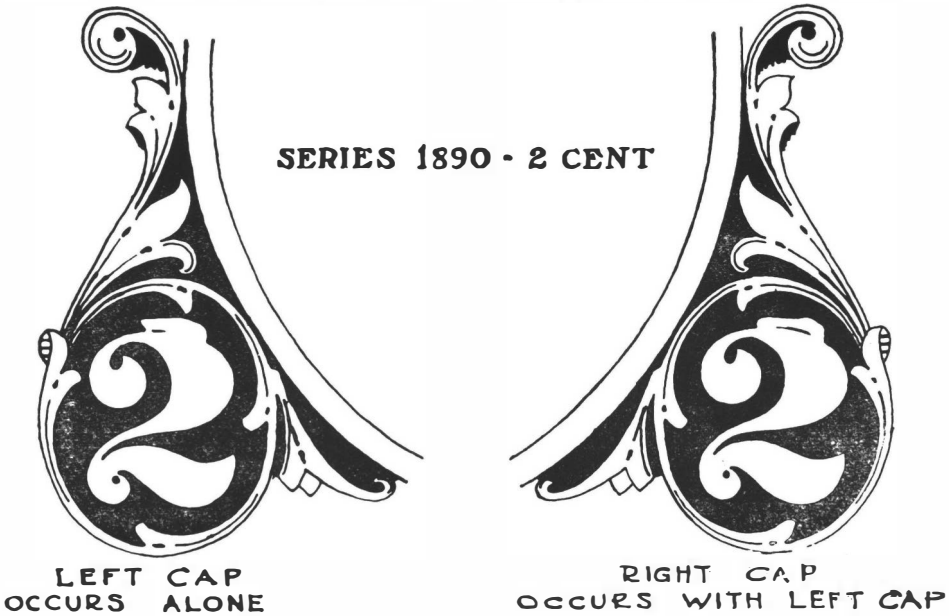


Figure 40. Drawing showing details of the "cap" varieties.
(Courtesy Richard M. Cabeen).

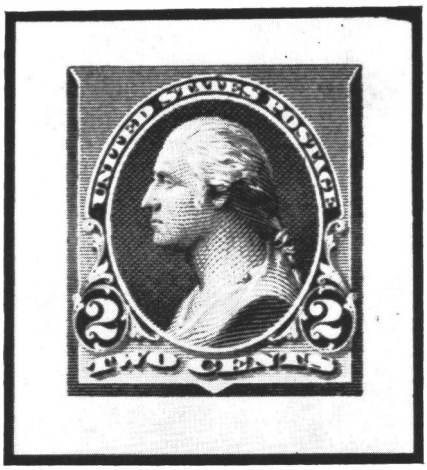


Figure 41. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

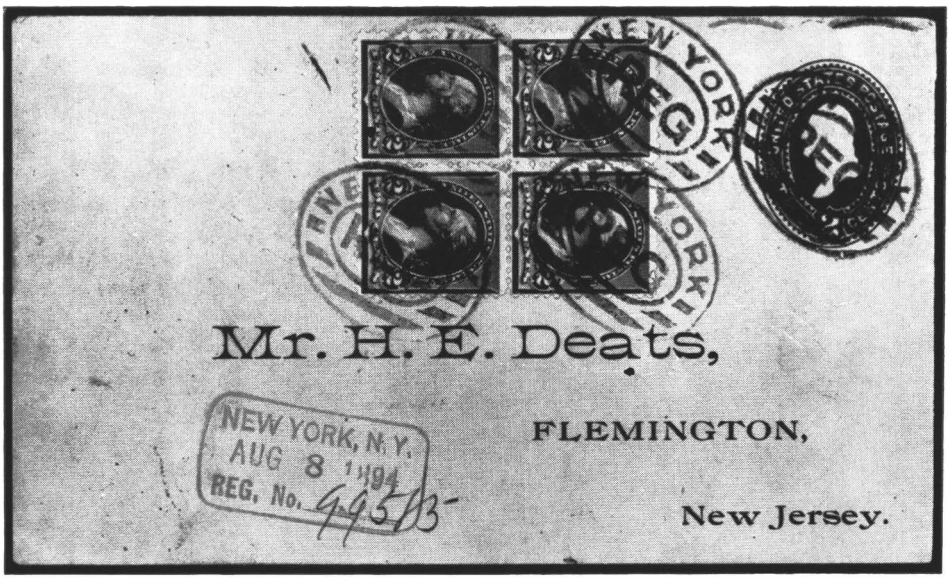


Figure 42. A nice block of the 2c Carmine 1890 used to pay the Registry Fee. If you are an old-timer you will recognize the name of H. E. Deats who was one of our great early collectors. (Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

At the A. P. S. Convention held in Chicago in 1933 the author saw a complete sheet of the 2c carmine of 1890, and while no notes were made at the time, it is our recollection that the first four rows had the cap on the left 2 with the balance of the sheet showing caps on both 2's. We have it on the authority of Philip H. Ward, Jr., that Arthur E. Owen has a record of a lower right pane from Plate VV246, in which the first four rows were with caps on the left 2 while the remaining 6 rows had caps on both 2's. It is not impossible that this is the sheet we saw in Chicago.

Although there has been a considerable amount of space used in the philatelic press to discuss the causes of the "Caps" on this stamp, most collectors are content if they have an example of the two regularly recognized varieties—the "Cap on left 2" and "Cap on both 2." Trivial variations in the caps can be ascertained upon the examination of a quantity of the stamps and as a matter of fact a progressive variation can be noted. These varieties were brought about by a breakdown of the metal of the transfer roll.

Luff stated that when this issue was prepared, five shades of proofs of the 2 cent were printed on regular paper and were gummed but left imperforate. Their status is of course Trial Color Proofs.

The imperforate 2c came from plates D18 and F34.

Shades: Carmine, dark carmine, rose, carmine rose.

Varieties: Cap on left "2" (Plates TT235 and TT236), Cap on both "2," Double transfer.

Plates: Plates A1-5, B6-10, B71, D16-20, F31-35, H41-45, K56-60, L61-65, M66-70, M99, N74-78, O79-83, P84-88, R94-98, S100-104, T105-109, U110-114, V115-119, W120-124, X125-129, Y130-134, Z135-139, AA140-144, CC150-154, DD155-159, EE160-164, GG170-174, HH175-179, II180-184, JJ185-189, KK190-194, LL195-199, NN205-209, OO210-214, PP215-219, QQ220-224, RR225-229, SS230-234, TT235-239, VV245-249, WW250-254, XX255-259, YY260-264, AI270-274, BI275-279, EI290-294, GI300-304, HI305-309, II310-314, JI315-319, KI320-324, LI325-329, MI330-334, NI335-319, OI340-344, PI345-349.

Cancellations: Black, blue, magenta, green.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F or G, China.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 6,244,719,500.

The Three Cent Stamp of 1890 (Scott 221, Minkus 159)

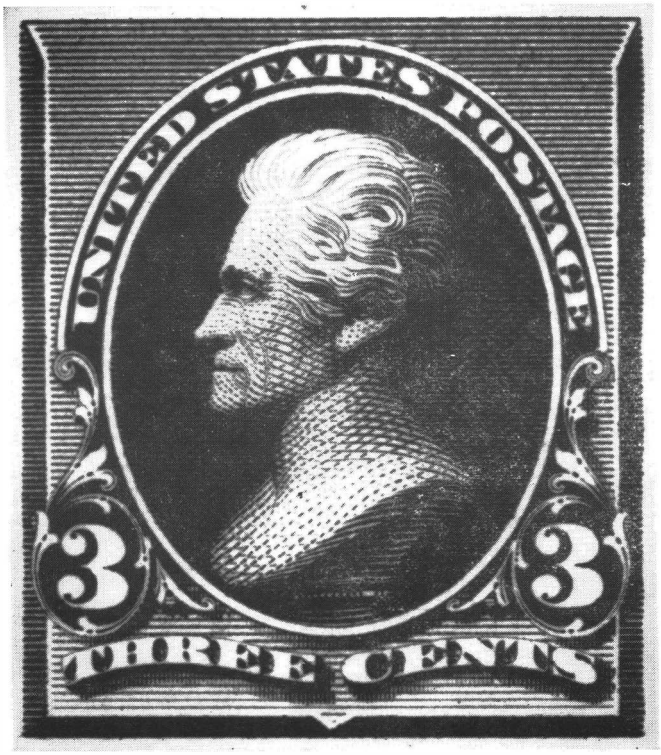


Figure 43. Details of design of Die Proof.

As is the case with most of the stamps of the 1890 Issue, there is very little that can be said about this stamp. It was issued on February 22, 1890, bore a profile bust of Jackson, and was printed from 200 subject plates as were all of the denominations of this series except the 1c and 2c.

As might be expected, this stamp is seldom seen as a single on cover, it being in the class of the 3c vermilion of the preceding issue in this respect, since both of these stamps were in use during the period of 2c first class mail.

Not much in the way of interesting cancellations is found on this stamp. We have noted a magenta grid in an oval, sometimes called the "Snowshoe Cancel," that is quite attractive.

Clarence Brazer once showed us an interesting essay of the 3c 1890 which differed from the issued stamp in that a photo of James Madison had been substituted for the portrait of Jackson.

The imperforate 3c came from Plate 21 but was not an issued stamp.



Figure 44. Three Cent Imperforate pair. (Courtesy H. R. Harmer, Inc.).

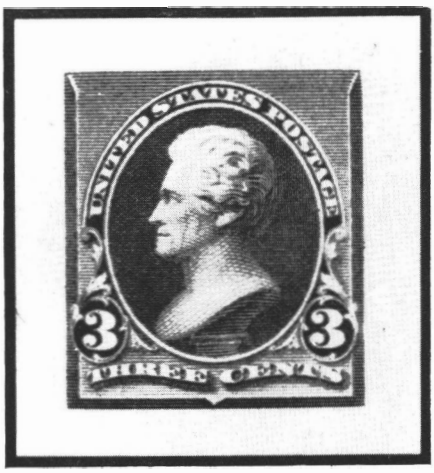


Figure 45. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

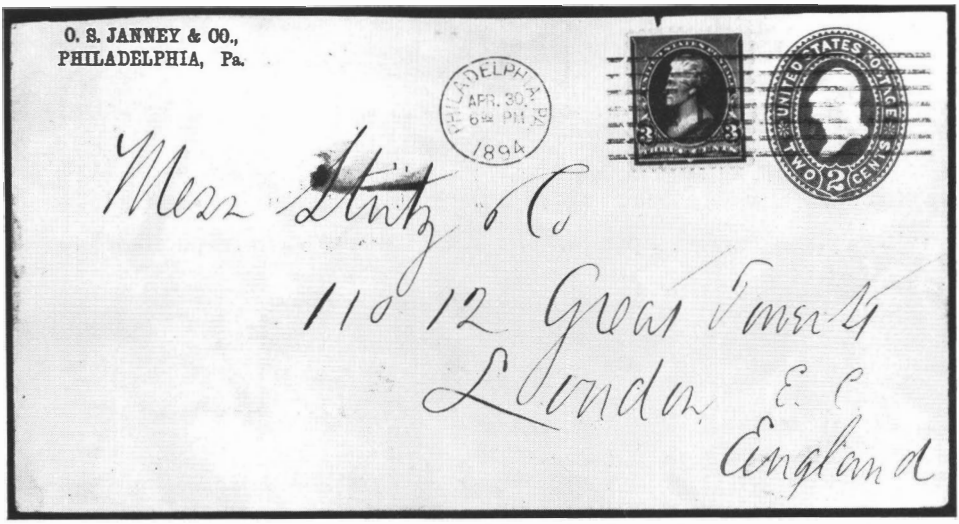


Figure 46. It would seem like the 3c 1890 should be common enough on cover but such does not seem to be the case. (Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

Shades: Purple, bright purple, dark purple.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plates 21, 22.

Cancellations: Black, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: Samoa.

Quantity issued: 46,877,250.

The Four Cent Stamp of 1890 (Scott 222, Minkus 160)

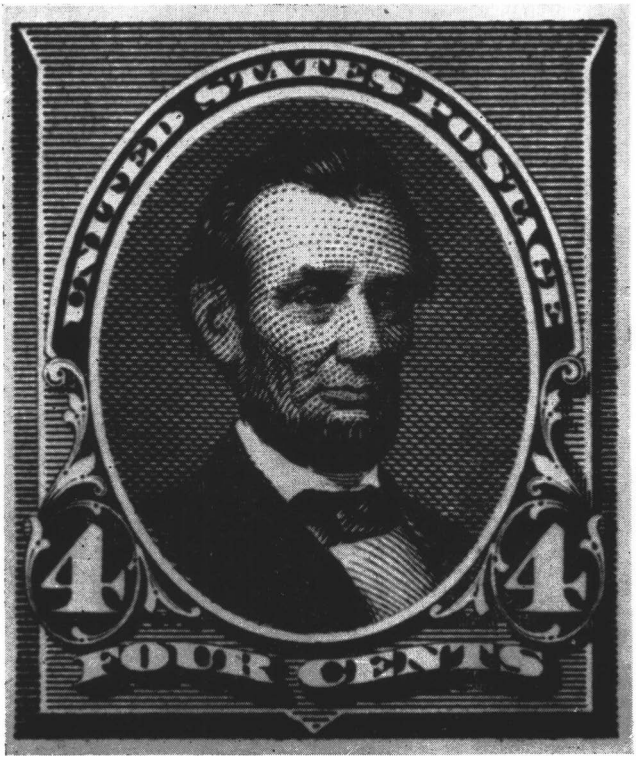


Figure 47. Details of design on Die Proof.

This stamp was not issued until June 2, 1890. It is one of the more common stamps of the series since it paid the postage on double weight letters.

The stamp carried a portrait of Lincoln, after a photograph from life.



Figure 48. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

We once saw an essay of this stamp that was very similar to the issued stamp in that about the only difference was a lack of lines on the shirt and there was no wart shown on Lincoln's face. We immagine that this last detail would have amused Lincoln for he certainly was not a vain man.



Figure 49. Four Cent Imperforate pair. (Courtesy H. R. Harmer, Inc.

The imperforate 4c came from Plate J52 but, as has been explained before, it is our opinion that they should have the status of proofs. Despite the fact that these imperforates were not issued as stamps they are popular items and bring good prices in the auctions.



Figure 50. A pair of 4c 1890 paid the Registry Fee on this cover.
(Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

Luff stated that 11 shades of trial color proofs are known. They were gummed and left imperforate.

Shades: Dark brown, blackish brown.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates J51-55, MM200-204.

Cancellations: Black, blue, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: China.

Quantity issued: 66,759,475.

The Five Cent Stamp of 1890 (Scott 223, Minkus 161)

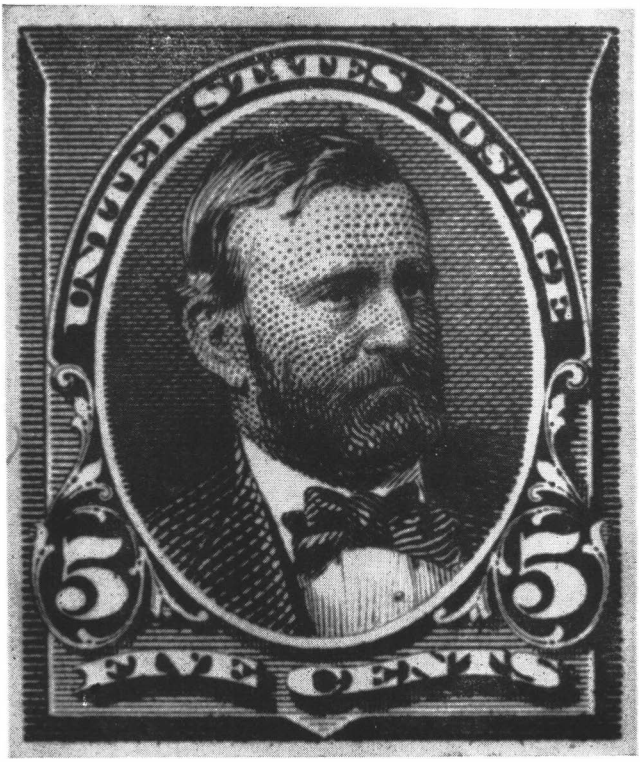


Figure 51. Details of design on Die Proof.

This stamp was issued the same day as the Four Cent which was June 2, 1890. The design was a portrait of Grant, after a photograph.

There is one interesting variety on this stamp that was reported by George Sloane in his column in "Stamps" in the issue of May 27, 1933. On this variety, which was discovered by J. W. Sampson, the shading lines of General Grant's coat, (on the left hand side), extend almost, or entirely, into and across the colorless oval frame surrounding the portrait. I have recently found a copy with this variety. The stamp appears to be from a badly worn plate and the oval around the numerals join the large central oval in a manner very similar to that of the same area of the Type II $1 stamp of the 1894 and 1895 issues. This is not true of the normal stamps.

We quote from the article: "A hasty conclusion would be that the variety was the result of a double transfer, but it cannot be credited to this cause. I have seen it in a block of four, and several singles from varying positions on the plate, and Mr. Sampson has recorded it in a complete sheet, the latter said to have turned up in New York City about ten years ago (1923). In my experience it seems scarce. I do not believe it was due to a partial smearing or smudging of the ink caused by pulling the sheet too quickly from the press.

Its appearance suggests the use of a plate or a pane, made with a transfer roll relief which had been taken from an unfinished state of the die, through error or otherwise. Subsequently, the lines of shading may have been removed from the transfer relief, or the relief discarded. This, I believe, accounts for it, and is the reason it is not found on all stamps of the issue." The variety is known to be on at least a portion of Plate 49 for it has been found in a bottom plate number strip of 5 from that plate.

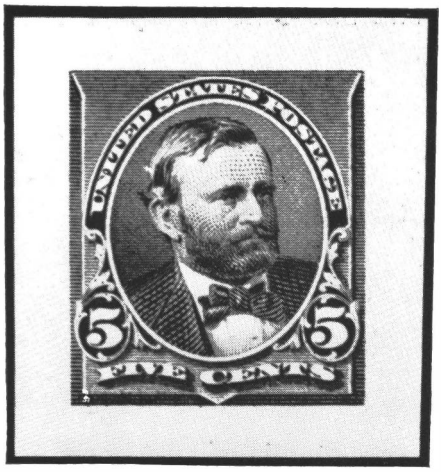


Figure 52. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

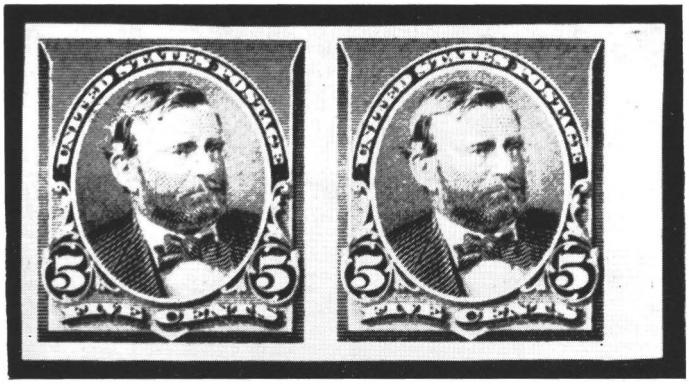


Figure 53. A pair of Imperforate 5c.

The imperforates came from plate 146 but were not issued stamps.

Luff stated that no less than thirteen shades of trial color proofs were made. They were on regular stamp paper, gummed and left imperforate.

Shades: Chocolate, yellow brown.

Varieties: Shading lines of coat extend into oval, Double transfer.

Plates: Plates 146-50.

Cancellations: Black, blue, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F or G, China, Samoa.

Quantity issued: 152,236,530.

The Six Cent Stamp of 1890

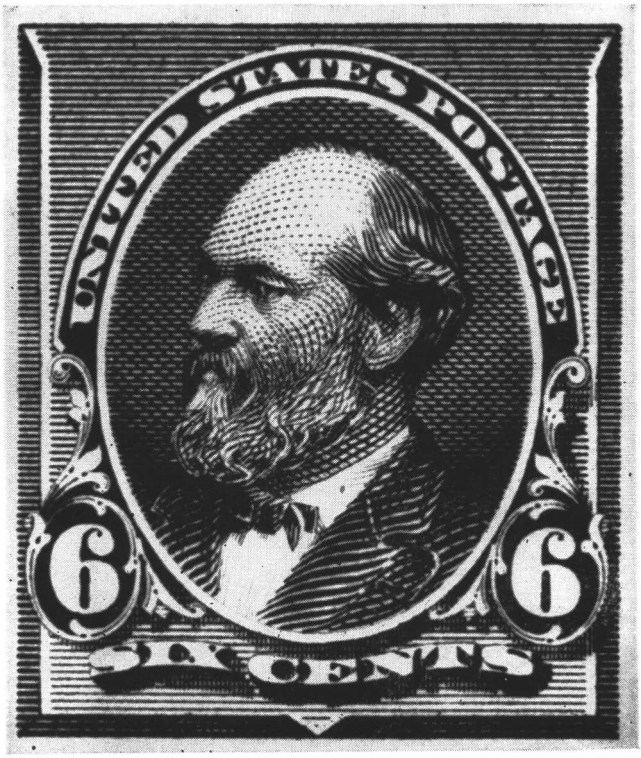


Figure 54. Details of Design on Die Proof.

This stamp was issued on February 22, 1890 and the design was a portrait of Garfield, after a photograph.

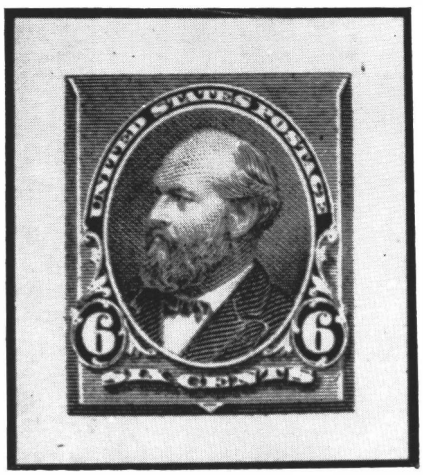


Figure 55. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

It is interesting to note that the second horizontal line at the top of the stamp runs, at the right end of the line, all the way to the outside edge of the stamp. This is not true on any other denomination in the series.



Figure 60a. Ten cent Imperforate Pair. (Courtesy H. R. Harmer, Inc.).

The imperforates came from plate 23 but they were not issued stamps.

Shades: Brown red, dark brown red.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate 23.

Cancellations: Black, blue, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F.

Quantity issued: 9,253,400.

The Eight Cent Stamp of 1890 (Scott 225, Minkus 163)

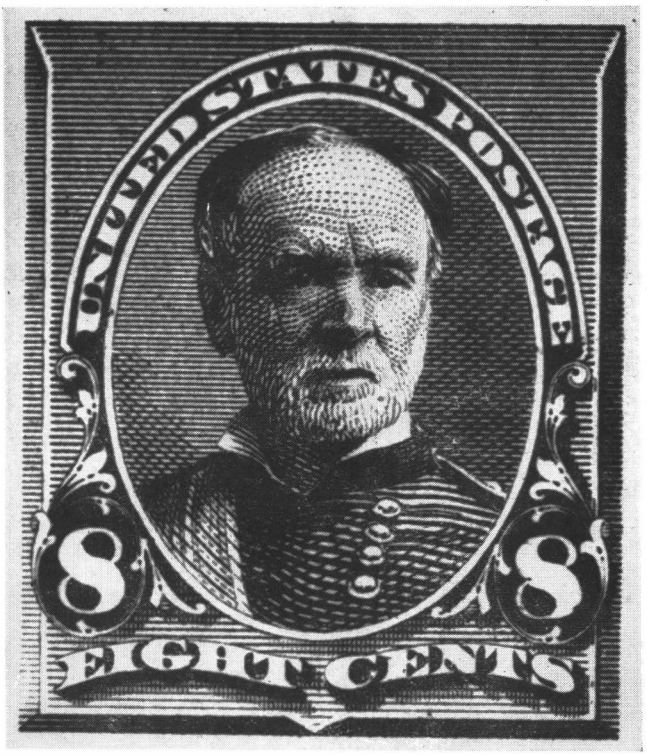


Figure 57. Details of Design on Die Proof.

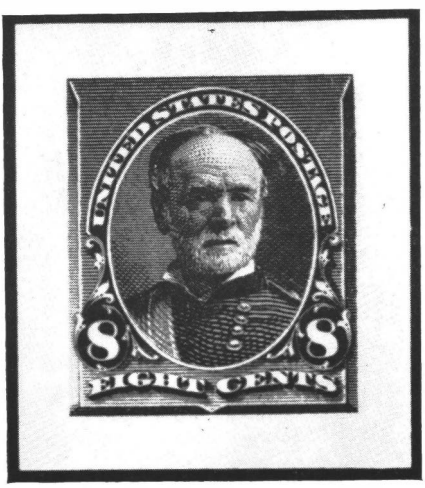


Figure 58. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

This stamp, while it properly can be called a portion of the 1890 series, was not issued until March 21, 1893. This was the second Eight Cent stamp issued by the U. S. It is not generally realized that the Eight Cent stamp of the Columbian Series was issued on March 2nd, 19 days before this stamp. It was issued for use in the prepayment of registry fees which were reduced from ten cents to eight cents on January 1, 1893.

The design of the stamp is a full face portrait of Sherman, after a photograph.

The use of General Sherman's portrait was not particularly appreciated by the South, for memories of Sherman's "March to the Sea" were still alive in the hearts and minds of those who suffered from his campaign. Professional soldiers might approve of his campaign but to many civilians, in the North as well as the South, his acts of destruction in the territory occupied by his army seemed to go beyond all the bounds of military necessity.

We do not know from which plate the unissued imperforates were printed.

Shades: Lilac, grayish lilac, magenta.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plates ZZ265-269.

Cancellations: Black, blue, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: None.

Quantity issued: 12,087,800.

The Ten Cent Stamp of 1890 (Scott 226, Minkus 164)

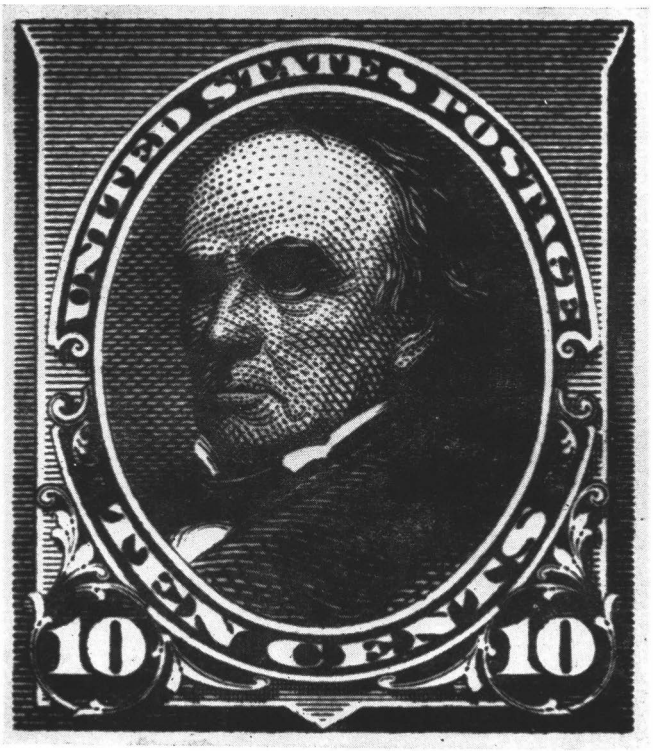


Figure 59. Details of Design on Die Proof.

This stamp, like most of the series, was issued on February 22, 1890. The design was a portrait of Webster, after a daguerreotype.

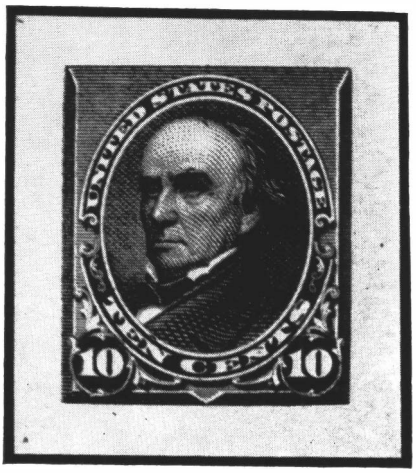


Figure 60. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

Apparently the engravers had a difficult time deciding who should appear on the 10c denomination for on the essays that exist for this item we find not only Webster, who appeared on the issued stamp, but John Adams, General Wm. T. Sherman, and a handsome but apparently unknown gentleman shown on the essay listed by Brazer as 226E-E.

It has never been called to my attention but I note, upon examination of the 10c, 15c, 30c and 90c stamps of this series, that the circle around the numerals impinges on the heavy white arc below the "E" of Ten and the "T" of Cents. This does not occur on the 1894 or 1895 issues but it does on Type II of the 10c Brown of the 1898 issue.

The stamp is most often found, when on cover, to have been used to pay the registry fee which remained at ten cents until January 1, 1893.

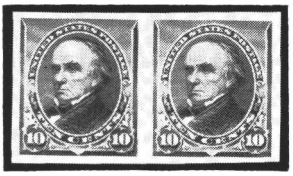


Figure 60. Ten Cent Imperforate Pair. (Courtesy H. R. Harmer, Inc.).

We do not know from which plate the unissued imperforates were printed.

Shades: Green, bluish green, dark green.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates E26-30.

Cancellations: Black, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F or G, Samoa

Quantity issued: 70,591,710.

The Fifteen Cent Stamp of 1890 (Scott 227, Minkus 165)



Figure 61. Details of Design on Die Proof.

This stamp was issued on February 22, 1890 and the design was a portrait of Clay, after a daguerreotype.

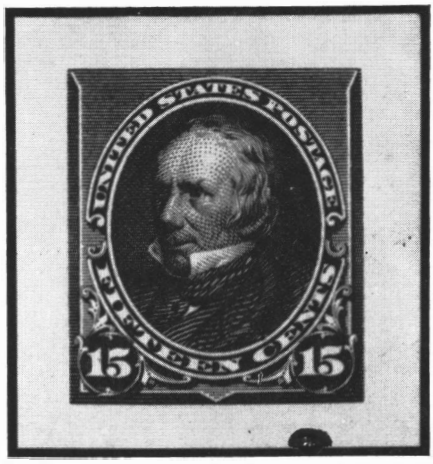


Figure 62. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

There was a very fine used block of 32 of this stamp in the Eagle Sale and while we presume that large unused blocks or possibly full panes of 100 may exist, such items have not come to our personal attention.

We have seen a considerable number of these stamps cancelled with an oval gridiron in magenta. This cancellation is sometimes called the "snowshoe cancellation" and it is a desirable item although it is not rare.

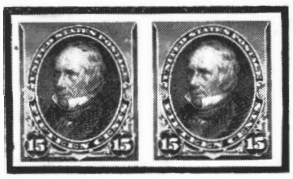


Figure 63. Fifteen Cent Imperforate pair. (Courtesy H. R. Harmer, Inc.).

Only one plate was used for this stamp so the imperforates necessarily came from it.

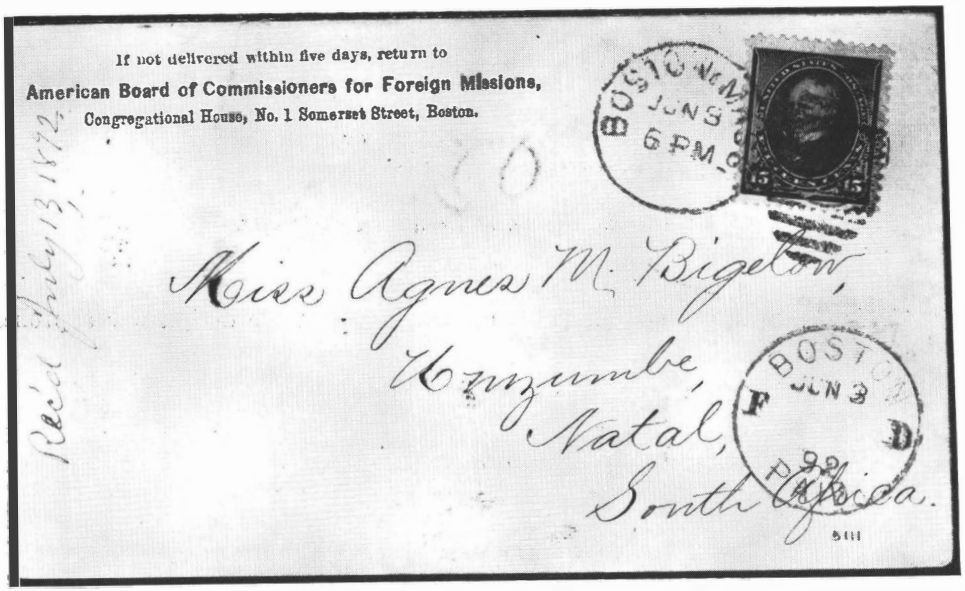


Figure 64. A 15c 1890 used on a cover to Natal, South Africa. Not a valuable cover but one that would take a great deal of searching to duplicate. (Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

Shades: Indigo, deep indigo.

Varieties: Double transfer, Triple transfer.

Plates: Plate 22.

Cancellations: Black, blue, magenta, purple.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F.

Quantity issued: 5,548,710.

The Thirty Cent Stamp of 1890 (Scott 228, Minkus 166)



Figure 65. Details of Design on Die Proof.

This stamp was issued on February 22, 1890 and the design was a profile of Jefferson.



Figure 66. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

For some reason or another, the design in the area of the middle of the left edge of the stamp, directly opposite the mouth, always was too lightly transferred. It is probable that the die was too lightly engraved in this area and of course this fault in the die was repeated on the transfer roll and thence to the plate. This defect is so noticeable that it often appears that the stamp is rubbed but examination will show that such is not the case. The defect shows more clearly on the stamps than on the preceding illustration.

The stamp is not often found on covers other than the large legal size that are not very popular with many collectors.

One of the nicest 1890 items we have ever noted was a beautiful used block of 32, well-centered and cancelled with a neat large oval cancel reading "Burlington, Iowa," plus red horizontal lines across the stamps. This block was in the Pelander Sale of February, 1943.

The stamp came in the unissued imperforates as did the rest of this series.

Shades: Black, gray black, full black.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plate 24.

Cancellations: Black, blue, red.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F.

Quantity issued: 1,735,018.

The Ninety Cent Stamp of 1890 (Scott 229, Minkus 167)



Figure 67. Details of Design on Die Proof.

This stamp, the highest denomination of the series, was issued on February 22, 1890. The design is a profile bust of Perry.

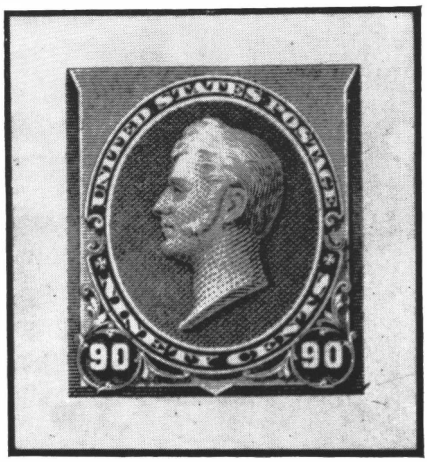


Figure 68. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).



Figure 69. 16 copies of the 90c 1890 used with three other stamps on Registered Mail out of New York. (Courtesy Elliott Perry).



Figure 70. Ninety Cent Imperforate pair. (Courtesy H. R. Harmer, Inc.).

We understand that several hundred copies of this stamp were found in the Washington, D. C., postoffice as late as 1905 and it is likely that a fair portion of the existing unused copies came from this find.

As always seems to be the case with stamps of this color, fine used copies are very difficult to find because the cancellation usually obliterates the stamp most effectively.

If you search diligently, are born with a bit of luck, and are not afraid to loosen the purse-strings as necessary, you just might find a superb copy!

The largest block of which we have a record was a very fine used block of 25 that was in the Eagle Sale. We have recently seen a choice used block of 10.

The stamp is difficult to find on cover and it is very rarely found on a small cover.

The 90c exists imperforate as does the rest of the 1890 set but none were ever regularly issued.

Shades: Orange, yellow orange, red orange.

Varieties: Short transfer at the bottom.

Plates: Plate 25.

Cancellations: Black.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F or G.

Quantity issued: 219,721.

Chapter III

THE COLUMBIAN ISSUE OF 1893



Figure 71. The Columbian Issue.

FEW if any series of stamps are so sought after by U. S. collectors as the "Columbians." The degree of completion of the Columbians in any collection is one yardstick by which a collection is measured.

These stamps were printed by the American Bank Note Company and they were the last U. S. postage stamps printed in the 19th Century by a private concern. In 1894 the United States Bureau of Printing and Engraving started to print the U. S. stamps and, with one exception, has continued to do so from that time right down to the date of this writing. The exception was the printing, in 1943-1944, of the Overrun Countries stamps, commonly known as the "Flag" stamps, that were printed by the American Bank Note Company.

The report of the Third Assistant Postmaster General, of November 20, 1892, is of interest and reads as follows:

"During the past summer the determination was reached by the Department to issue, during the progress of the Columbian Exposition at Chicago, a special series of adhesive postage stamps of such a character as would help to signalize the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus. This course was in accordance with the practice of other great postal administrations on occasions of national rejoicing, and it was consistent with the idea of a display at the Exposition of such articles as would illustrate the history, progress and administrative functions of the Post-Office Department, which Congress, by statute, has directed to be made part of a general governmental exhibit. The same idea had been carried out in a limited way during the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia, in 1876, by the issue concurrently with that event, of a special design of stamped envelopes appropriate to the celebration. The measure was not only calculated to prove a popular one, but to be the means, through the sale of the stamps to the collectors, and by specially stimulating the use of the stamps to the public, of adding largely to the revenue of the Department.

The collecting of stamps is deserving of encouragement, for it tends to the cultivation of artistic tastes and the study of history and geography, especially on the part of the young, by the examination and comparison of stamps of different nations of the world, and to a more accurate knowledge of their postal systems. The new stamps will be purchased in large quantities simply for the use of collections, without ever being presented in payment of postage; and the stamps sold in this way will, of course, prove a clear gain to the Department.

The benefits to accrue to the Exposition from the issue of such a series of stamps, by constantly drawing it to public attention, both at home and abroad, are too patent to need elaboration.

The necessary arrangements for manufacturing the new stamps were made with the present contractors for furnishing all the other stamps in use. The work was begun late in September last, and it has progressed with such rapidity that a supply of upwards of 100,000,000 of the leading denominations has already been accumulated. It is expected that the full series will be completed in time to place the stamps on sale on Monday the 2nd of January, the period fixed for their issue being the whole of the calendar year 1893, and the estimated quantity to be required during that time being 3,000,000,000. The new stamps are, however, not intended to displace the current series of stamps, but will be in addition thereto so that anyone needing postage stamps will be able to procure either or both kinds, as he may prefer.

The principal feature of the Columbian stamps, with two exceptions, is the delineation of some scene in the life of Columbus associated with the discovery of America, one of the exceptions being a stamp bearing a profile portrait of Columbus, similar to that on the souvenir 50 cent coin issued by the Treasury Department, and the other a stamp bearing portraits of Queen Isabella and Columbus in three-quarters face. There is a general resemblance in the two portraits of Columbus, both being taken from the same original picture. To properly illustrate the subjects selected it was found necessary to adopt a larger size than that in present use, the new stamps being of the same height and of nearly double the length of the regular stamps, the engraved space measuring 7/8 of an inch by 1 11/32 inches.

The denominations are the same as those in the present series, except that the 50 cent stamp is substituted for the 90 cent, and additions are made of 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 dollars, such high denominations having heretofore been called for by some of the principal post-offices. The subjects on some of the stamps—1 cent, 2 cent, 5 cent, 6 cent, 50 cent and 2 dollar stamps—are copied from the works of American artists."

It is interesting to note that even at this early date the officials of the post office department were aware of the fact that stamp collecors were an excellent source of revenue. This issue was the first in which speculators operated to any considerable extent and it is hardly to be doubted that such speculation was heartily encouraged by the government. As so often is the case, even unto the present day, people with a pitifully small knowledge of the most elementary principles of investments hastened to purchase quantities of the stamps. The results are well-known; a great many of them, especially the buyers of the higher denominations, had to take a very sizeable loss when they attempted to dispose of their holdings as the market was really flooded with these stamps. Those few that held on to the high denominations in blocks have holdings of very considerable value at the present time. I have seen panes of all denominations thru the $1. Robert A. Siegel sold a pane of the $1 in his sale of April 28, 1965.

All of the Columbian stamps were printed by the American Bank Note Company. For many years it was assumed that all of the Columbian stamps were printed from plates containing 200 subjects. In Ralph A. Kimble's book "Commemorative Postage Stamps of the United States" credit is given to Prof. L. L. Steimley of the University of Illinois for discovering that only the One Cent and the Two Cent values were printed in sheets of 200 stamps and that all of the other values were printed in sheets of 100 stamps cut into panes of 50 before distribution to the postoffices. The Two Cent stamp was also printed in sheets of 100 stamps as the American Bank Note Company did not have enough large presses which could accommodate the 200 subject plates to keep up with the need for this value. 45 plates were made in the 100 subject size and these plates were used on the smaller presses of the company.

All values of the Columbians exist imperforate but were never regularly issued in this form. In an article which appeared some time ago in Mekeel's and was written by W. L. Babcock the following interesting information was given: "The complete set of imperforate horizontal pairs was supposed to have been presented to John Wanamaker while he was Postmaster General, and he later passed them on to an intimate acquaintance who professed deep interest in their beauty and art. Whether this gentleman was a philatelist is outside the record. Anyway, in after years they passed into the hands of B. K. Miller, Milwaukee, now deceased, who, during his lifetime, was a most ardent specialist in U. S. stamps and postal stationery. His marvelous collection, probably worth at the time $250,000, was bequeathed to the New York Public Library at Fifth Ave. and 42nd St. There can be seen what is probably the only complete set of imperforate Columbians in pairs. The writer knew Mr. Miller and had the opportunity, before his death, of inspecting parts of his collection, including this set of imperforates, which were at first considered to be proofs. Were the remaining stamps of the sheets, from which these pairs were cut, completely destroyed?"

—W. L. Babcock.

It is believed that Wanamaker distributed a few sets of singles. These imperforates were gummed and identical with the issued stamps except that they were not perforated.



Figure 72. An imperforate pair of 2c Columbian. (Ex-West collection).

There is an interesting story to the effect that a Mr. David Prosky, of New York, purchased around 1900 or a little earlier, a trunk full of stamps from two sailors. In the lot was a sheet, or a portion of a sheet, of the 2c Columbians, imperforate, and crumpled up in a ball. He straightened them out as well as possible and sold them in pairs and blocks. These were without original gum and were all more or less damaged. It is probable that these were printer's waste that had been found in the waste paper from the American Bank Note Company.

While we understand that a few of the 2c were actually used on letters, the chances that any single used copy is one of these genuinely used imperforates is so exceedingly remote that we do not feel that any single used stamp of this issue, apparently imperforate, is of the slightest value. The chances are about a million to one that it is a trimmed copy.

All values are listed by Scott as being cancelled on cover with the Exposition Station cancellation in which condition they command a considerable premium.

Elmer Stuart of Chicago made available the following information concerning the first date of issue of the Columbian stamps in Chicago:

"The Columbian Exposition stamps were all issued Jan. 2, 1893, with the exception of the 8c value which was later added to the set and issued March 3. According to the official announcement they were placed on sale in various cities throughout the country on these dates.

In view of the interest shown at the present time in First Day covers it seems that more definite information should be available as regards the day of issue at the various cities. The stamps were issued to commemorate the World's Columbian Exposition held at Chicago, Ill. Chicago therefore would be the most important city to the collector of first day covers.

According to the above date of issue the collector is led to believe that the stamps were placed on sale in Chicago, Jan. 2, 1893, and would therefore search for a cover of that date, but would probably be disappointed in his efforts as the stamps were not on sale in Chicago until Jan. 3.

Sometime ago I obtained a 2c Columbian on cover postmarked with machine cancellation "Chicago, Illinois January 3rd, 12M 1893." In the upper left corner in script is the notation, "Postmarked January 3, 1893, 12M, 1st hour and 1st day of issue to public in Chicago." I gave little credence to this inscription thinking that the party who wrote it was mistaken and that it really was a second day cover. But on further thought I decided to investigate. I searched through files of Chicago newspapers of the time and in the **Chicago Tribune** of Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1893, page 8, I found a two column story of the first day sale at Chicago. I take the liberty to quote the following extracts from this article which to present day collectors are both interesting and amusing and definitely sets the day of issue in Chicago as Jan. 3.

"About $300,000 worth of the new Columbian postage stamps were put on sale at the P. O. yesterday morning and at 4:30 P. M. exactly $35,822.50 worth had been sold. From the main office at that hour, 1,946,023 jubilee stamps had gone out and 9,000 had been sold at the 13 sub-stations in various parts of the city. Like the old Athenians who were always in search of something new, Chicago people thronged the corridors of the P. O. yesterday eager to secure Columbian souvenir stamps. All sorts and conditions of men, women and children fell in line before the various stamp windows. Of course the stamp collectors were there—that goes without saying."

"More than ordinary conditions stimulated the stamp gatherers from the fact that this Columbian series will be in use only a year and it is simply a question of time when the pasters will become as scarce as successful Republican candidates after the recent election. That is why those possessed of the stamp fervor turned out in full force yesterday."

"Gentle old maids were wedged in between corpulent business men and small boys carrying books already mucilaged and prepared for the new prizes. The young man who clerks it wanted Uncle Sam's latest to send home to folks in the country. The sharp featured stamp speculator betrayed himself in his eagerness to get ahead of the next man."

"The clerks handled the crowds admirably, the only trouble was with the person and there were hosts of him who insisted on buying a full collection comprising only one of each kind. Politely but firmly the clerk invariably answered that collections were not to be had. Everyone must buy a reasonable amount of the stamps that were nearest at hand, namely those costing less than 15c and supposed to be used for the immediate sending out of mail matter."

"Land of Goshen!" exclaimed Cashier Catlin. "If the clerks were to constitute themselves a bureau for sorting out and selling the stamps in collections, there would be no end of the job. Consequently the collectors had to spend several hours at it getting in line many times before all denominations could be secured. The 50c stamps were not ready for sale till the afternoon."

A collector by the name of C. Witt, of New York City, protested to the Post-Office Department in Washington about the condition of some of the high value Columbian stamps purchased by him, some of them being with a straight-edge. In an answering letter from the Third Assistant P.M.G., A. D. Hazen replied as follows: ".....As to the imperfectly perforated stamps in your possession bought at a stamp agency in your city, you are requested to return the same to Postmaster Van Cott and he is hereby authorized to receive the same, giving you perfect ones in exchange and to send the imperfect stamps to this office for proper credit."

The One Cent Columbian (Scott 230, Minkus CM1)

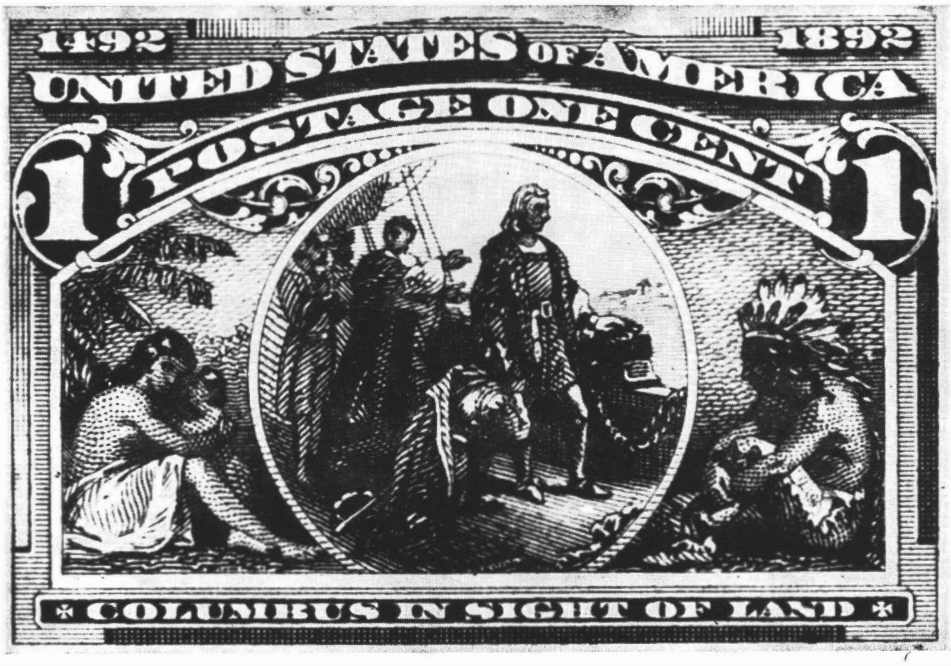


Figure 73. Details of Design on Die Proof.

The central design of this stamp is an engraving called "Columbus in Sight of Land" which we understand is after a painting by W. H. Powell.

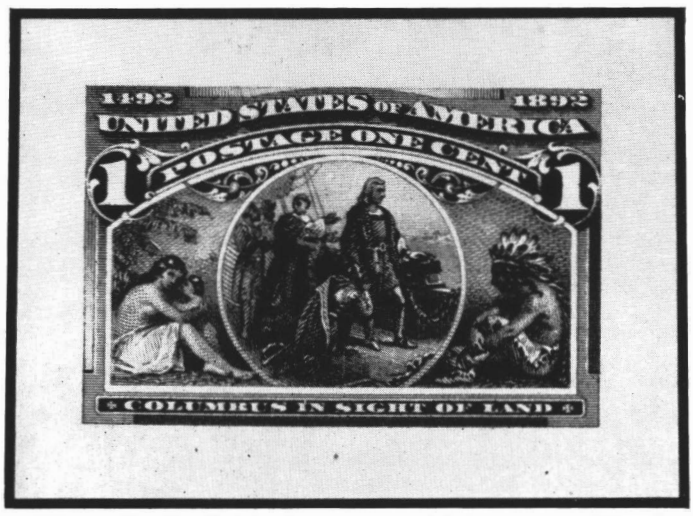


Figure 74. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

The dislike of the Columbian stamps was so strong, particularly among businessmen, that Senator Wolcott of Colorado introduced a joint resolution as follows: "Be it resolved, etc. That the Postmaster-General of the United States be instructed to discontinue the sale of the so-called Columbian postage stamps, except to such persons as may specially call for them, and be instructed to continue to keep on sale the ordinary postage stamps in use before the printing of the so-called Columbian stamp." The resolution did not become law. The objection to the stamps was their size and not to their designs.

The P. M. General was determined that the Columbians should be used since 2 billion of them had been contracted for. On Dec. 29, 1893 a dispatch from Washington stated that Postmaster-General Bissell gave a final order for 165,000,000 stamps to complete the contract. A circular was sent to postmasters which said: "These stamps have purposely been sent to postmasters without requisitions from them, and all requisitions have been filled with these stamps exclusively between Nov. 18, and Dec. 30, 1893. The stamps so supplied must be kept for sale, as permission will not be given to return them or the Columbian envelopes for credit on the pretext that there is no sale for that particular issue. It is only by depleting their stock by sale that other stamps will be furnished."

Many double transfers or shifts can be found on this stamp, the bulk of which will be found at either the right or left end of the stamp.

Several striking essays were noted and illustrated by Brazer in his "Essays for U. S. Adhesive Postage Stamps." These feature a fine profile portrait of Columbus in various fancy frames. Happily the stamp as issued was the design adopted for it fits with the story told by the entire series.

As seems to be true with all the denominations of the Columbian stamps, there is not too wide a variety of cancellations to be found on this series. The bulk of cancellations that are found outside of the normal cancellations of the period consist of various "cork cancellations."

This is the first 19th century U. S. stamp listed and priced in the Standard Catalog "On First Day Cover." Following our preferred method of showing the value of stamps, we can report that such a cover is currently valued at 1500 times as much as a normal off cover used copy. I have seen fakes of these "First Day" covers offered in recent years and caution in buying this item is recommended.

Shades: Deep blue, blue, pale blue.

Varieties: Double transfer, Cracked plate.

Plates: Plates J46-50, K51-55, P65-69, MM149-153, OO159-163, VV194-198.

Cancellations: Black, blue, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: China.

Quantity issued: 440,195,550.

The Two Cent Columbian (Scott 231, Minkus CM2)

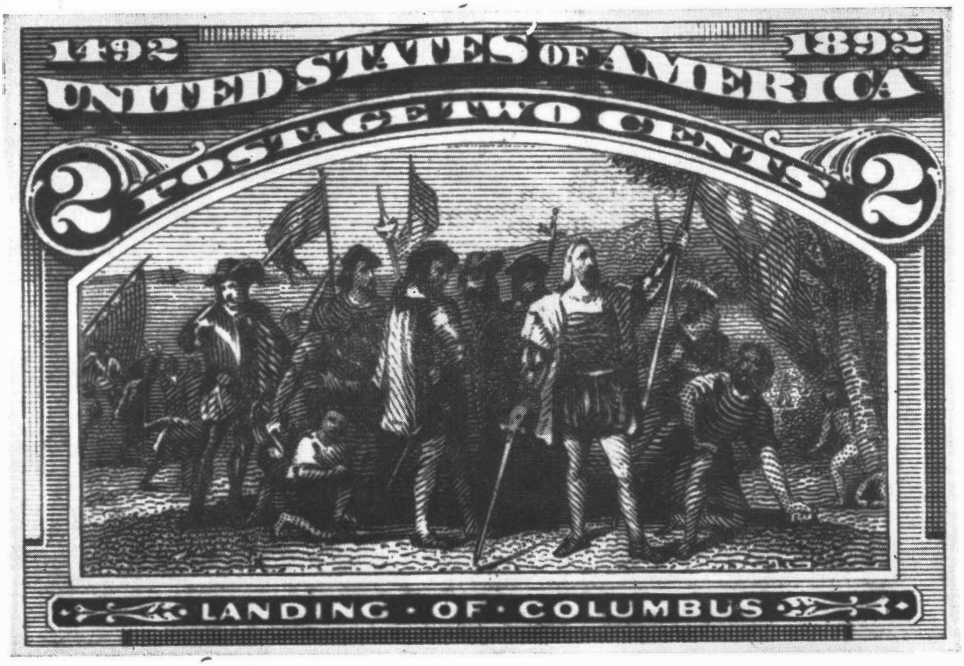


Figure 75. Details of Design on Die Proof.

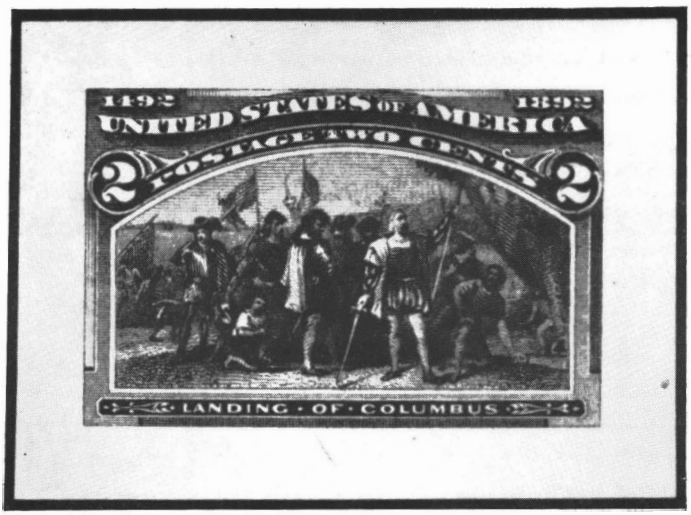


Figure 76. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

A painting by Vanderlyn known as the "Landing of Columbus," which hangs in the rotunda of the Capitol building in Washington, was chosen as the design for this stamp. Much amusement has been given collectors by the fact that this stamp shows Columbus with a beard whereas the One Cent stamp, which purports to show Columbus one day earlier, shows him to be clean shaven!

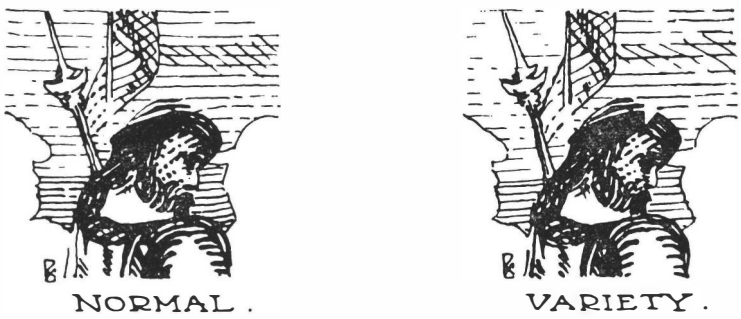
For the student of plate varieties, the stamp is the answer to a collector's prayer. The number of minor varieties which can be found runs into the hundreds and the stamp is very easy to obtain in large quantities at a very low price. Double, Triple, and even Quadruple transfers are to be found.

The best known variety on the Columbians is undoubtedly the "Broken Hat" variety. This variety was the result of a transfer roll break which apparently developed gradually as there as numerous variations of this defect.

Another well-known variety is the "Broken frame line." The right frame line is broken at the bottom as is shown in the illustration. A considerable number of variations of this variety are to be found as the break was progressive.

This stamp is known with recut frame lines.

DAMAGED RELIEF ON TRANSFER ROLL.



THIS VARIETY IS FOUND IN THE HAT OF THE KNIGHT AT THE LEFT OF COLUMBUS. THE HEAVY LINES OF THE HAT BRIM ARE BROKEN AND A COLORLESS V-SHAPED NOTCH RESULTS.

Figure 77. Drawing showing details of "Broken Hat" variety.



Figure 78. Example of normal and broken frame line.

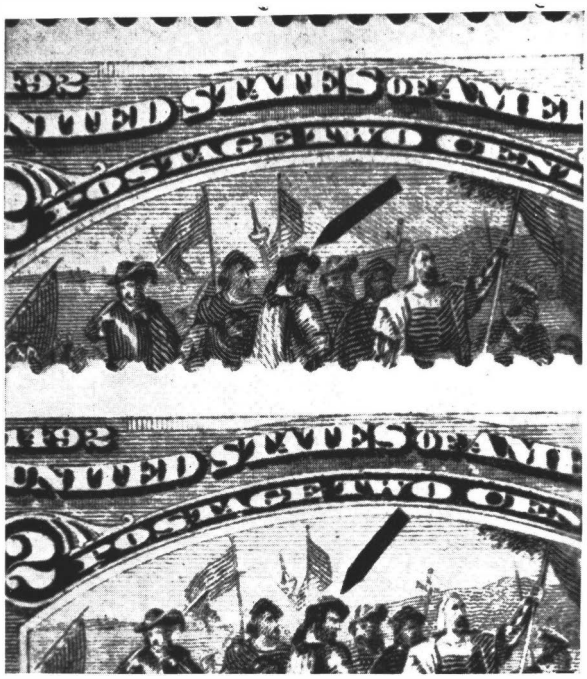


Figure 79. Upper Stamp is the "Broken Hat" variety.

This is the only one of the Columbian stamps actually listed in the Standard Catalog in imperforate form. These stamps were not issued but were from the lot handled by David Prosky about 1900. They are printer's waste and while they are valuable and desirable items, it is our opinion that no item should be listed as a stamp unless it was normally or inadvertently legally issued thru a post office. These items, in our opinion, were proofs or unfinished stamps that had intentionally or unintentionally been discarded, and we feel they could best be listed in the proofs and essays section of the catalog, or that they be noted in the regular stamp listing as partially finished stamps that never were issued in this form.

It is an interesting fact that first of all the Columbian Series to be printed was a sheet of 200, which was of course a double pane, of the 2c stamp. ..This feat was witnessed by various officials and the sheet was inscribed "First sheet of Columbian postage stamps printed, at 10 o'clock A.M. November 5, 1892 and signed by the Third Assistant Postmaster General, A. D. Hazen and by J. MacDonough, President of the American Bank Note Company. The sheet was then placed in the archives of the Post Office Department but it now is a part of the Government stamp collection in the U. S. National Museum in Washington.

Shades: Violet, deep violet, gray violet.

Varieties: Double transfer, Triple transfer, Quadruple transfer, "Broken hat," Broken frame line, Recut frame lines, Cracked plate.

Plates: Plates A1-5, C11-15, E21-25, F26-30, G31-35, H36-40, I41-45, O60-64, Q70-74, T78-82, U83-87, V88-92, X94-98, EE109-113, FF114-118, GG119-123, HH124-128, JJ134-138, KK139-143, LL144-148, NN154-158, PP164-168, QQ169-173, RR174-178, SS179-183, TT184-188, UU189-193.

Cancellations: Black, blue, red, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type G. China.

Quantity issued: 1,464,588,750.

The Three Cent Columbian (Scott 232, Minkus CM3)



Figure 80. Details of Design on Die Proof.



Figure 81. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

While the central design is said to be after a Spanish engraving, and is so stated by Luff and in the descriptive book printed by the Post Office Department, there have been doubts raised about this although, as far as we know, no one has come forth with any other specific opinion. The 10c value of the Cabot issue of Newfoundland seems to use this identical design in which the ship is called the "Mathew" and it has been used on the Cocos Island stamps of Costa Rica on which the ship is called the "Santa Maria" as it is on the 3c Columbian. In any event, it is a fine example of a sailing ship of the era of Columbus.

This stamp is found in shades of green that are almost identical with those on the fifteen cent stamp of this same issue. Surprisingly few stamps of this low denomination were used on first class mail and it is difficult to find a nice copy with a town cancellation. About all that we have found in the way of fancy cancellations are a few targets and cork crossroad cancels.

Shades: Green, dull green, dark green.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates L56, L57, R75, R76.

Cancellations: Black, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F or G, China.

Quantity issued: 11,501,250.

The Four Cent Columbian (Scott 233, Minkus CM4)



Figure 82. Details of Design on Die Proof.

It is stated in *A Description of United States Postage Stamps,* by the Post Office Department, that the design of this stamp is from a Spanish engraving but the origin is not definitely known. The design shows the "Fleet of Columbus" and the stamp is handsome. Normal printings are in ultramarine.

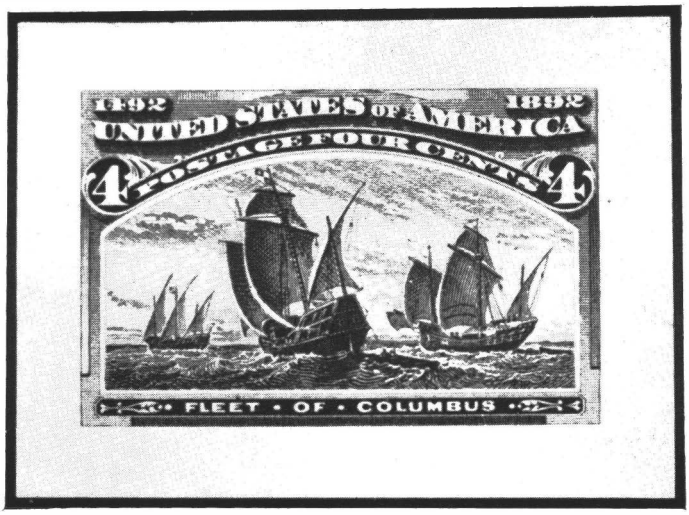


Figure 83. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).



Figure 84. An illustration of a 4 Cent "Error of Color."

One of the most valuable 19th century U. S. stamps is this 4c stamp in blue, that has long been listed and recognized as an error of color. I agree that it is worth the high price it commands but often wonder what the price would be if it were recognized only as a fine shade variation. Error or shade? The answer to "What's in a name?" may be found here.

Many collectors have thought they had the 4c Error of color but the truth of the matter is that few of them ever have or ever will see one—let alone own one. The shade is very different from the normal ultramarine and once seen it is not likely to be forgotten. The usual statement that it is like the color of the 1c is not exactly accurate. It is much more like the 1c than it is the normal 4c but, if such a phrase means anything, the color seems to be a richer and more lively color than that of the 1c.

One error pane was found by J. V. Painter of Cleveland and bore the plate number D17. It is almost certain that at least one more pane of these existed in this shade and that the used copies came from this other pane. We understand that Theodore Steinway of New York found a used copy on mail received by his father. When J. V. Painter found the sheet he sold half of it to George Worthington while most of the balance was purchased by J. W. Scott, Sr. It is not known what became of the half sheet sold to Worthington as these were not found among his stamps when his estate was sold.

A superb mint block of this 4c error was in the Col. Green Collection and there was a very fine mint block of 4—not the same block as was in the Green Collection—that was sold at the Robt. Laurence Sale of September 17, 1940. We have seen a third block of four in a western collection and have seen several mint singles but we have never seen a used copy although they are known to exist. An Imprint Plate Number strip of 4 of the error was sold by Harmer, Rooke & Co., in 1962.

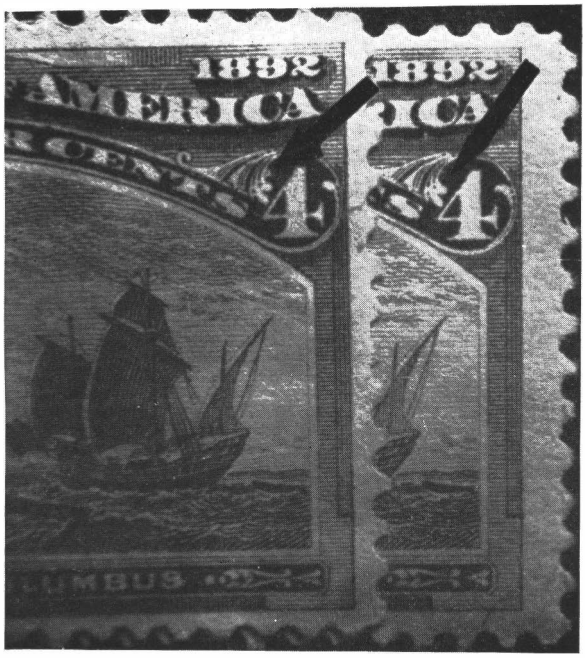


Figure 85. The left stamp shows the "Three Leaf" variety.

An interesting variety that is fairly well-known and of some interest, is the "Three Leaf" variety. On the normal stamp, the ornament at the immediate left of the right numeral shows two leaves or projections. In the "Three Leaf" variety there are, as the name implies, three of these leaves or projections. This variety appears to be of the same nature as the "Candleflame" variety of the 1c 1890. If you will check your duplicates you are quite liable to find it.

Shades: Ultramarine, dull ultramarine, deep ultramarine, blue (error).

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates D16-20.

Cancellations: Black, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type G.

Quantity issued: 19,181,550.

The Five Cent Columbian (Scott 234, Minkus CM5)

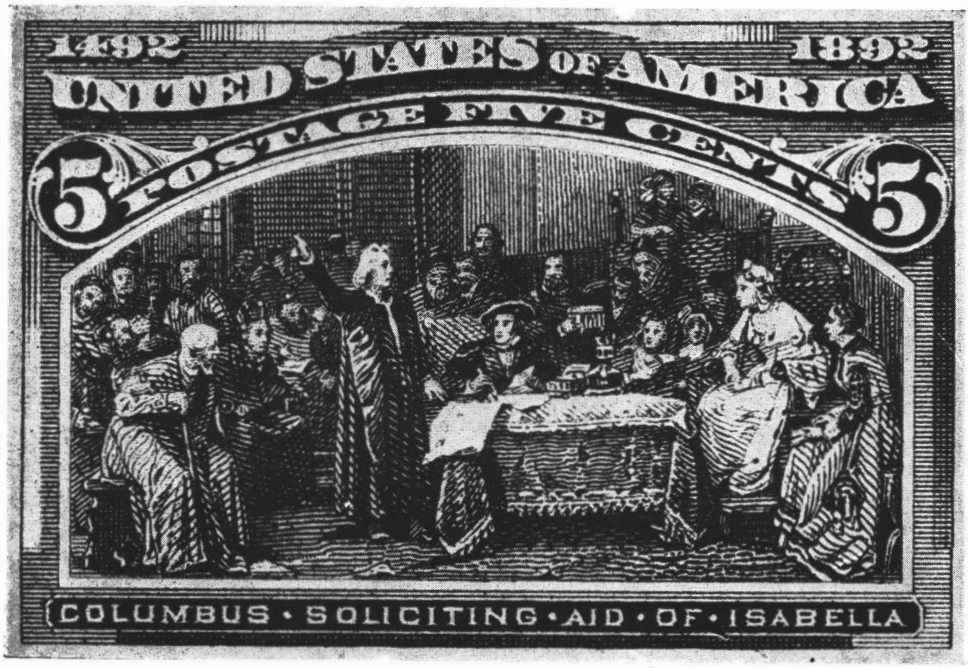


Figure 86. Details of Design on Die Proof.



Figure 87. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

The design of the Five Cent Columbian is from the picture "Columbus at the Court of Ferdinand and Isabella" which was painted in 1884 by the Bohemian artist, Vaczlav Van Brozik. For some time it was in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City but at the time of this writing it is in the lobby of the Hotel Manior Richelieu at Murray Bay, Canada. While the above title is the correct one for the picture, it is more commonly known, so far as the design on the stamp is concerned, as "Columbus Soliciting Aid of Isabella."

As is true with all of the values of the Columbian issue, very little is found in the way of cancellations on this stamp. A relatively small proportion of this denomination was used on first class mail so most copies will be found heavily cancelled. We have seen a few copies bearing a target cancellation, and a number of cork cancellations, but none of these are of much interest.

The 5c Columbian is not scarce on cover but how would you like to have one on a cover addressed to London by Rudyard Kipling and autographed by him? Such a cover was sold in the Henry Gibson Sale in 1944.

There is a fair range of shades in the stamp, which run from a yellow brown to a dark chocolate, but the colors are rather stable and but little fading is found.

Shades: Chocolate, dark chocolate, pale brown, yellow brown.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates B6-10.

Cancellations: Black, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F, China.

Quantity issued: 35,248,250.

The Six Cent Columbian (Scott 235, Minkus CM6)

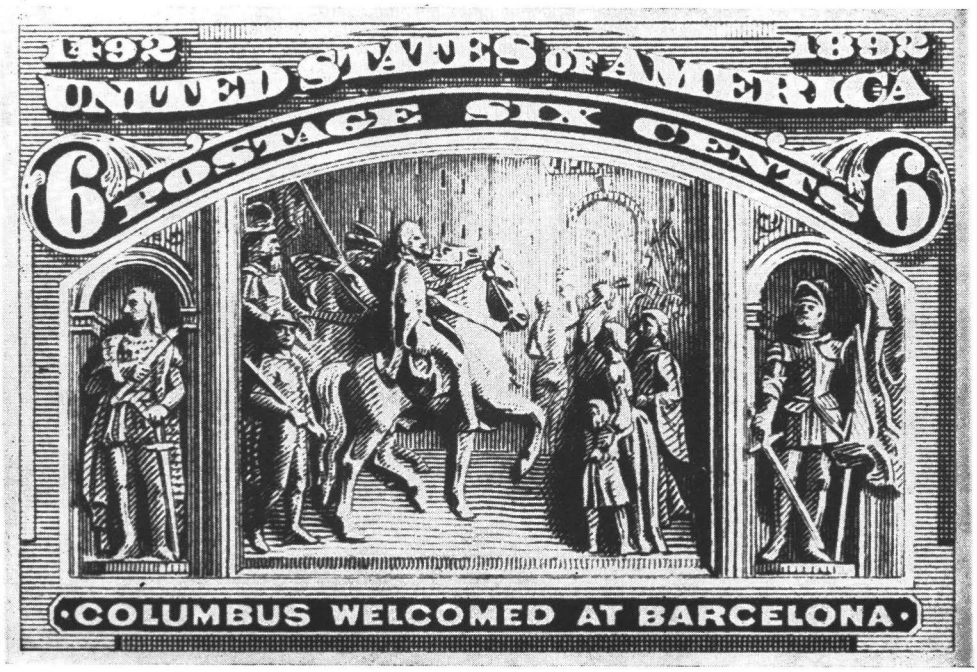


Figure 88. Details of Design on Die Proof.

The design of this stamp, known as "Columbus Welcomed at Barcelona," was taken from one of the panels of the bronze doors in the Capitol at Washington, D. C. The doors are magnificent works of art and they were designed by the artist Randolph Rogers.



Figure 89. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J & H. Stolow).

4,707,550 copies of this stamp were issued but 48,400 remainders were destroyed in Washington in June, 1899.

The stamp was printed in various shades of purple, all of which were highly fugitive in nature, and it unfortunately is true that a great many of the copies now available have faded to a very marked degree. Such stamps have often faded down to a dull blue shade. It is remarkable how short an exposure to direct sunlight is necessary to badly fade these stamps. As a matter of fact, very few of the copies now seen can be said to be in a shade that approximates the original shade as issued.

Only a small proportion of these stamps was used on first class mail and the usual cancellation is heavy. Very few interesting cancellations are found on this stamp and most collectors can consider themselves fortunate if they can find a copy with good color that bears any kind of a reasonably light cancel.

Shades: Purple, dull purple, red violet.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plate Z104.

Cancellations: Black, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F, China.

Quantity issued: 4,707,550.

The Eight Cent Columbian (Scott 236, Minkus CM7)

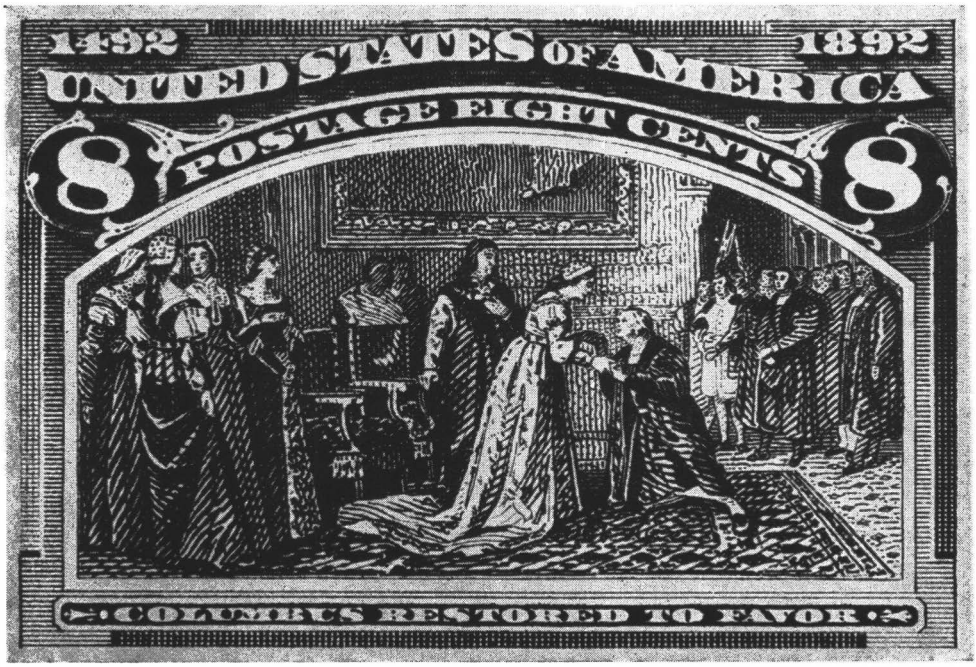


Figure 90. Details of Design on Die Proof.

This stamp, the only one of the Columbian series that was not issued on January 2, 1893, was issued on March 2, 1893.

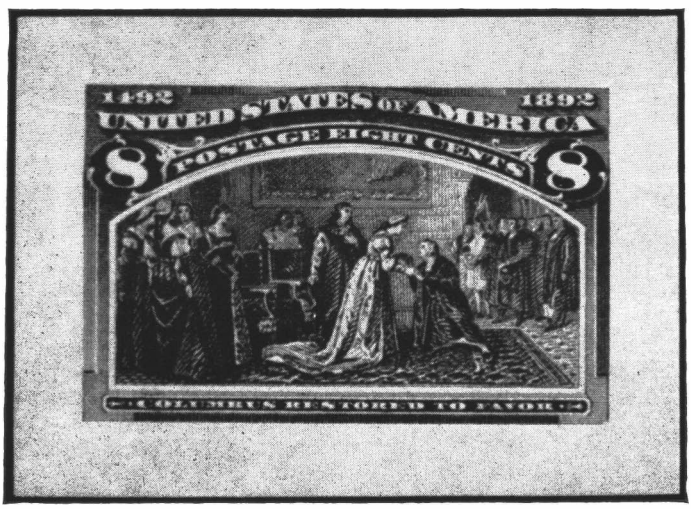


Figure 91. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

A Post Office Department circular dated February 28, 1893 makes the following announcement: "On the 1st of March, 1893, the Department will begin the issue of the following articles of stamped paper:

1. An 8-cent postage stamp of the Columbian series minted for the payment of the reduced fee on registered matter. This stamp is of the same genral style as the other denominations of the Columbian stamps, and bears a reproduction of the picture painted by Francisco Jover, the original of which is now in Spain, entitled 'Columbus Restored to Favor.' The color of the stamp is magenta-red."

It probably is not generally known that this was the first 8c stamp issued by the U. S. as the 8c of the 1890 series was not issued until March 21, 1893.

A considerable number of these stamps can be found with a target cancellation that often was used on registered letters. The usual heavy proportion of unsightly cancellations occur on this stamp and it is surprisingly difficult to find a really choice used copy.

Shades: Magenta, light magenta, dark magenta.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates II129-133.

Cancellations: Black, magenta, purple.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F.

Quantity issued: 10,656,550.

The Ten Cent Columbian (Scott 237, Minkus CM8)

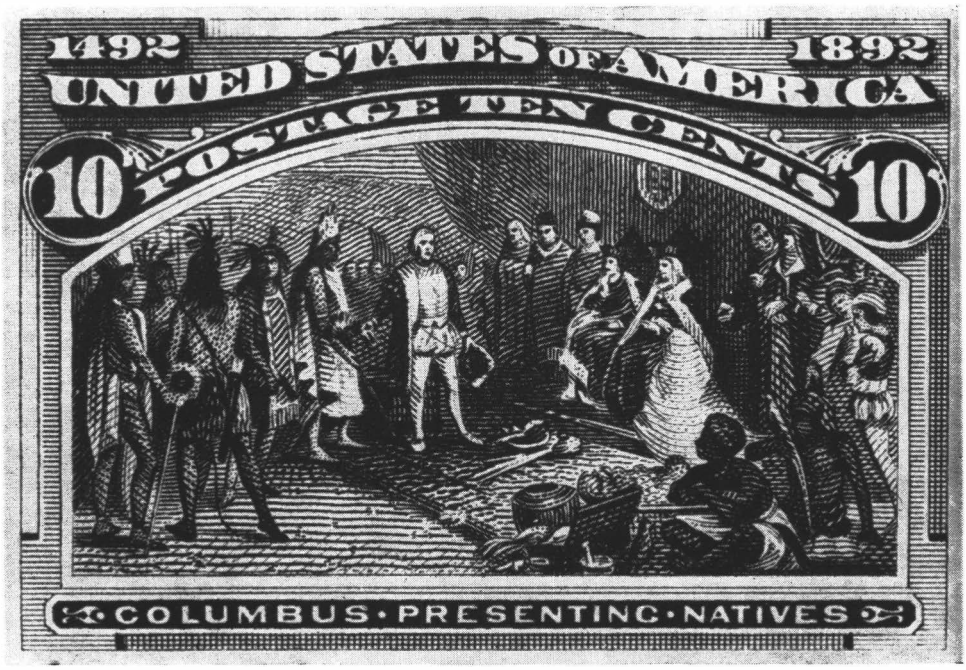


Figure 92. Details of Design on Die Proof.

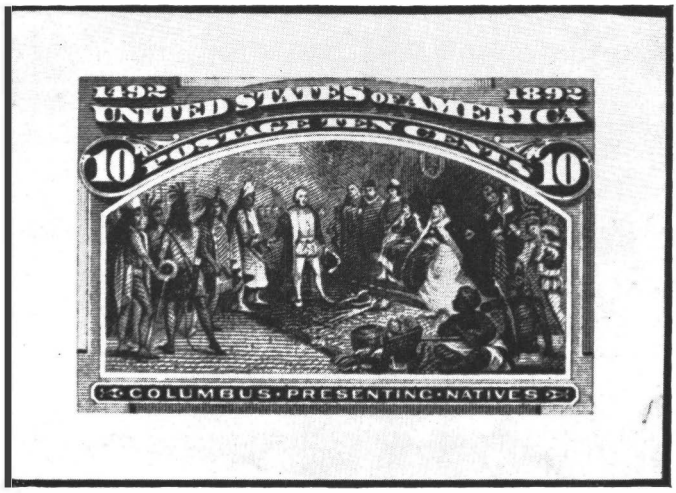


Figure 93. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

The design for this stamp, which is known as "Columbus Presenting Natives," was taken from the well-known painting "Return of Columbus and Reception at Court" by Luigi Gregori. This painting is in the Administration Building of the University of Notre Dame at South Bend, Indiana. It was presented to the University by Prof. J. F. Edwards.

The scene on the stamp is an interesting one for it seems apparent that the Court being held must have been outdoors under a canopy for in the left background can be seen the masts of ships.

A variety of this stamp that consists of a difference in the style of the lettering of the bottom label of the stamp was discovered by Mr. Y. Souren. This lettering of the words "Columbus Presenting Natives" is sometimes found in letters that are long, thin, and irregularly aligned. A close examination shows that some of the letters are slanted, particularly the "P" of "Presenting." Apparently the printers discovered the irregularity of the lettering and corrected it with new entries where needed.

Double transfers are common on this stamp, and, as might be expected, most of them are at the right or left end of the stamp.

Shades: Black brown, dark brown, gray black.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates Y99-103.

Cancellations: Black, blue, green, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F or G.

Quantity issued: 16,516,950.

The Fifteen Cent Columbian (Scott 238, Minkus CM9)

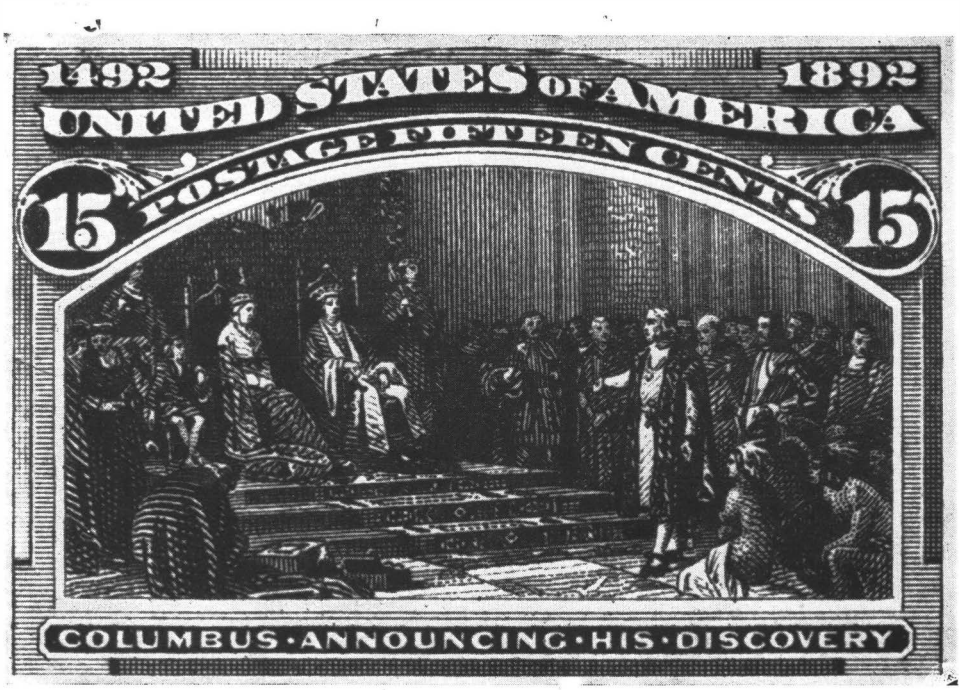


Figure 94. Details of Design on Die Proof.

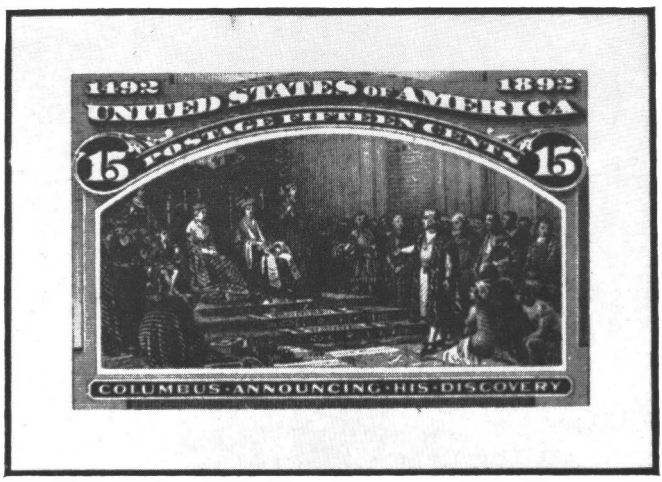


Figure 95. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

This stamp, known as "Columbus Announcing His Discovery," was copied from a painting by R. Baloca. The resting place of this painting is not known to us at the moment as it was undoubtedly moved from Madrid, where it hung for years, to a place of safekeeping during the Spanish Civil War and it may or may not have been returned.

Despite the fact that this stamp is listed in three shades of green, the color does not vary greatly and we have rarely seen a copy that seems to have lost much of its original color.

We have seen very few interesting cancellations on the stamp—a few cork cancellations in magenta perhaps being the best we have noted. As might be expected, comparatively few of these stamps were used on first class mail so the average cancellation is rather heavy.

Shades: Dark green, green, dull green.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plate M58.

Cancellations: Black, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F, China.

Quantity issued: 1,576,950.

The Thirty Cent Columbian (Scott 239, Minkus CM10)

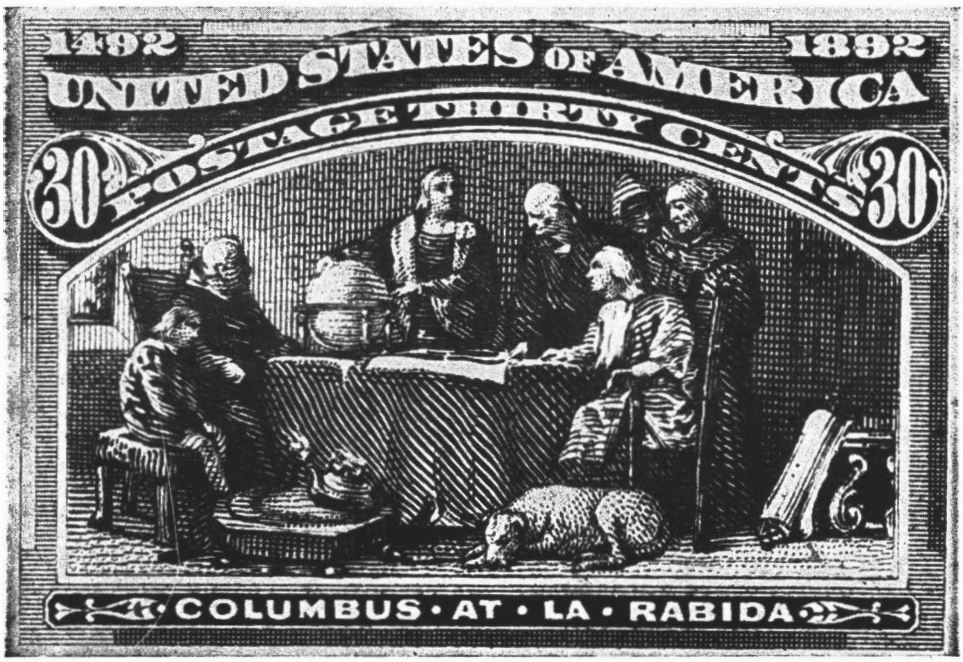


Figure 96. Details of Design on Die Proof.

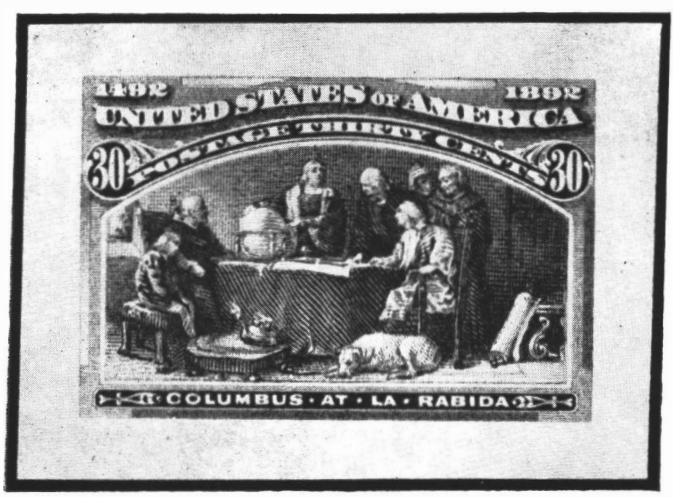


Figure 97. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

There is an interesting story behind the painting which formed the basis for the design of the Thirty Cent Columbian. The design is entitled "Columbus at La Rabida" after the picture by R. Maso. It is stated that Columbus, while on his way to France after his disappointment at the Spanish Court, stopped for a rest at a convent of Franciscan friars. The Prior of the Convent, upon learning of the plan of Columbus, persuaded Columbus to stay a while with the friars at the Convent. Here he regained his spirit, gained support among the more important people of the neighborhood, and determined to again apply for aid at the Court of Spain. As is well-known, he was successful in his new effort so his stay in the Convent of Santa Maria de Rabida can truly be said to have been a most important period of his life.

The stamp is normally found in Orange Brown and Bright Orange Brown. The colors are not very stable and many of the copies, particularly the used copies, have lost their fresh color and are found in a rather Dull Brown.

We have seen a few copies cancelled with a straight-line "Registry" in green and these are very desirable items.

Shades: Orange brown, bright orange brown.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate N59.

Cancellations: Black, magenta, purple, green.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F or G.

Quantity issued: 617,250.

The Fifty Cent Columbian (Scott 240, Minkus CM11)

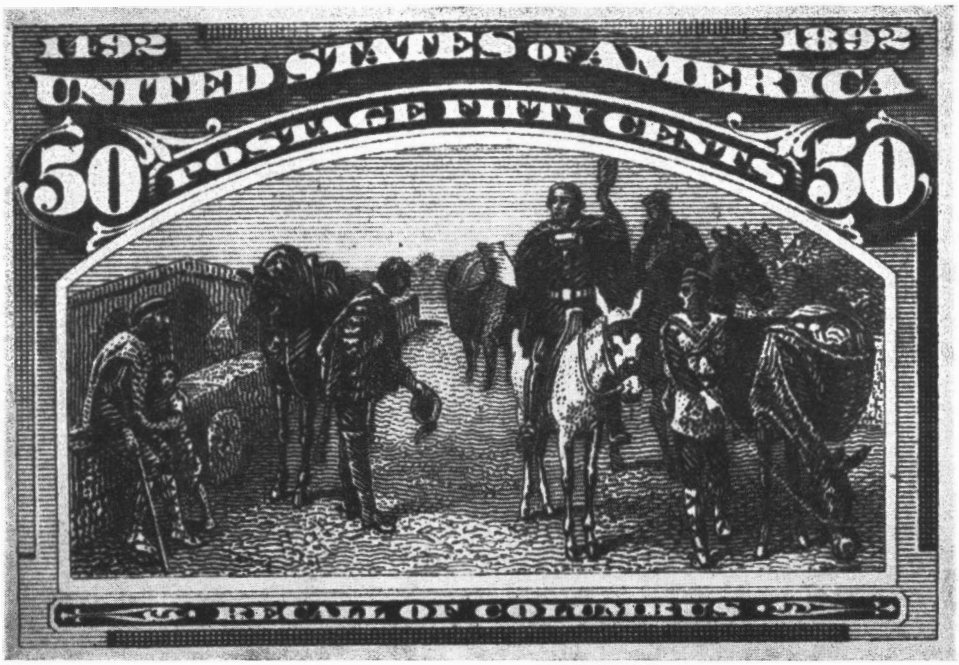


Figure 98. Details of Design on Die Proof.

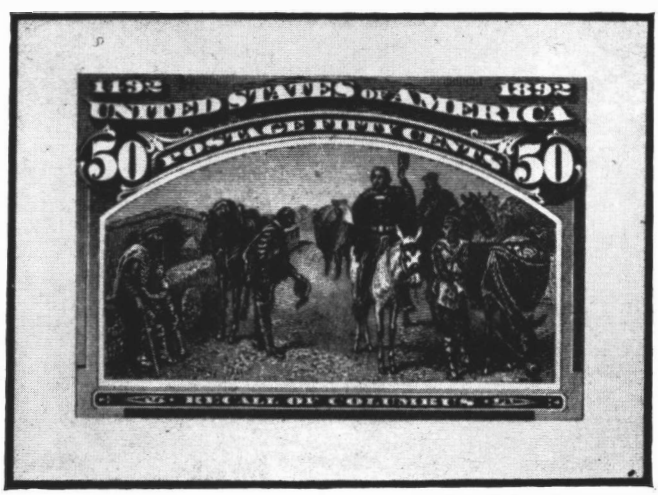


Figure 99. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

The painting entitled "Recall of Columbus," by the artist A. G. Heaton, was taken as the subject for the design of this stamp. It is our understanding that Columbus, with money given him by the Queen for traveling expenses, purchased a mule and went to the Court of Spain where he pleaded his cause. After presenting his case he felt that he had failed to convince the Court and finally started for France. A messenger was sent to intercept him and the scene of the painting, and therefore the stamp, shows the messenger meeting with Columbus.

The color of this stamp is quite uniform and although most of the cancellations are heavy, as is usual for the issue, the slate blue color of the fifty cent denomination does not become badly disfigured unless struck quite heavily, and it is reasonably easy to find passably cancelled copies of the stamp.

We have seen a few striking copies of the stamp that had been cancelled in magenta with a small cork.

Two complete panes of 50 were found in England in 1954.

Shades: Slate blue, dull slate blue.

Varieties: Double transfer, triple transfer.

Plates: Plate S77.

Cancellations: Black, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Types F or G.

Quantity issued: 243,750.

The One Dollar Columbian (Scott 241, Minkus CM12)

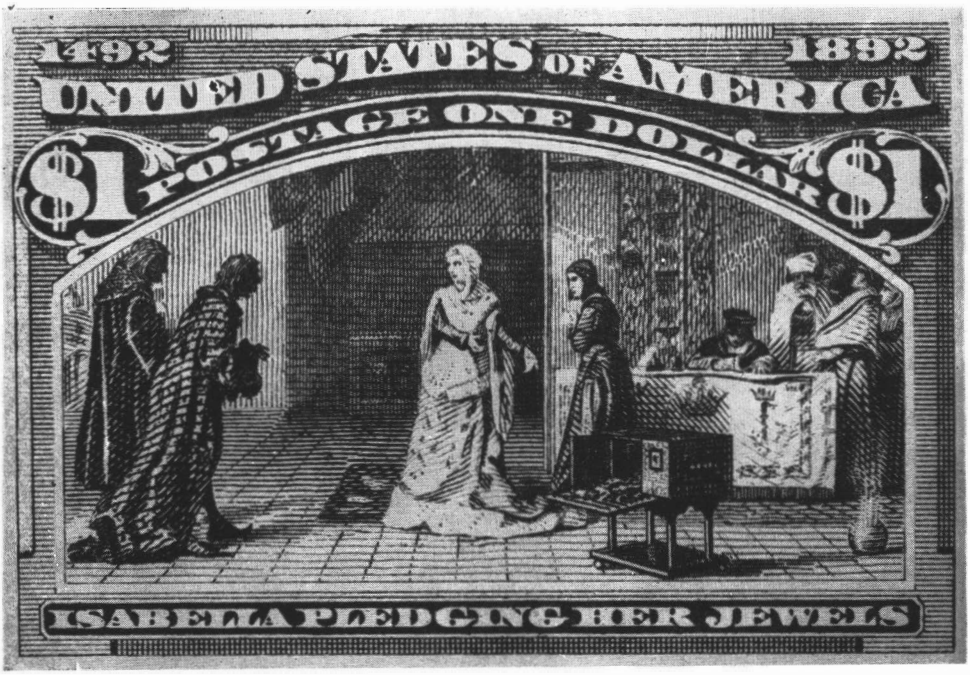


Figure 100. Details of Design on Die Proof.

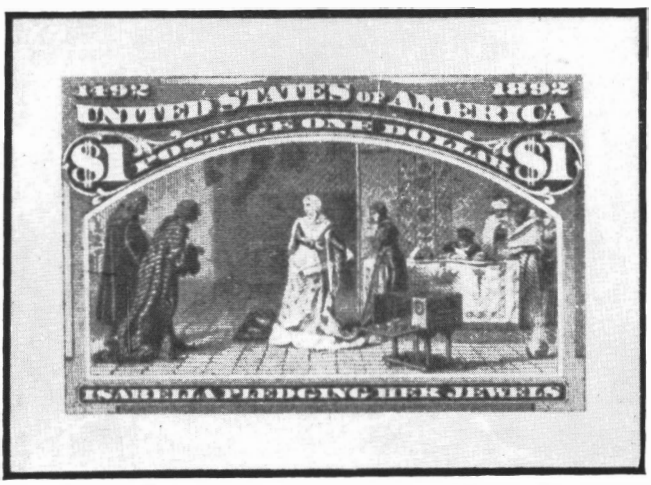


Figure 101. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

The design taken for this stamp is from the painting by Munoz Degrain. The painting, and the stamp, are known by the name of "Isabella pledging her jewels." It is known that while Isabella actually made the offer to permit the use or the pawning of her jewels to finance the expedition, this never was done as the money was advanced from other sources, principally by a Spanish gentleman by the name of Luis de St. Angel.

This value was sold out ahead of all of the other dollar values and the price of the stamp rose rapidly to about $5 for the unused stamp. After a short time the price fell about as fast and as far as it had risen. J. Murray Bartels stated in his column in "Stamps" that in 1899 he dropped into the Redemption Division of the P. O. Dept. and was at that time asked to procure some $1 Columbians for the Department as they wanted to complete some sets. No cash was available for the Department to purchase the stamps but they offered $3 face for each $1 Columbian. Since they were available at the time in New York for about $1.50 each, Mr. Bartels of course was glad to arrange such a trade. He furnished about 20 copies to the Department which was all they needed at the time. For each $1 Columbian he was given a $1 and a $2 Trans-Mississippi.

Mr. Bartels said that the twenty copies delivered by him were used to complete twenty sets of Columbians which were stamped "Specimen."

If "full sheets of the Columbians" were as common as are the stories about them, it would be an easy matter for most collectors to have all the values in blocks of 4 or larger.

A friend of ours, the late Spencer Anderson, had a standing offer of a thousand dollars just to *see* a set of sheets, (of course he meant panes), but so far as we know he never was shown a set. He could have seen a full pane of 50 of the $1.00 had he attended the Siegel sale of April 28, 1965.

The Benno Loewy Sale held by Morgenthau in 1920 contained a block of 25, unused, of the $1 Columbian.

There was some agitation among certain dealers and collectors for the Government to reprint this stamp but, as is well-known, this was not done.

Used high value Columbians were scarce even in 1894. A well-known St. Louis dealer worked the "Kick-back" racket with a small town postmaster whose salary depended on the face value of the stamps cancelled in his office. Net results until the postal inspectors stopped the game were some nicely cancelled dollar value Columbians at a cost to the dealer of less than face, and a little more income for the postmaster. This same scheme has been worked, one way or another, a number of times in fairly recent years but I think it now is pretty hard to put anything over on the Postal Department.

Shades: Salmon, dark salmon.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plate W93.

Cancellations: Black, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F or G.

Quantity issued: 55,050.

The Two Dollar Columbian (Scott 242, Minkus CM13)

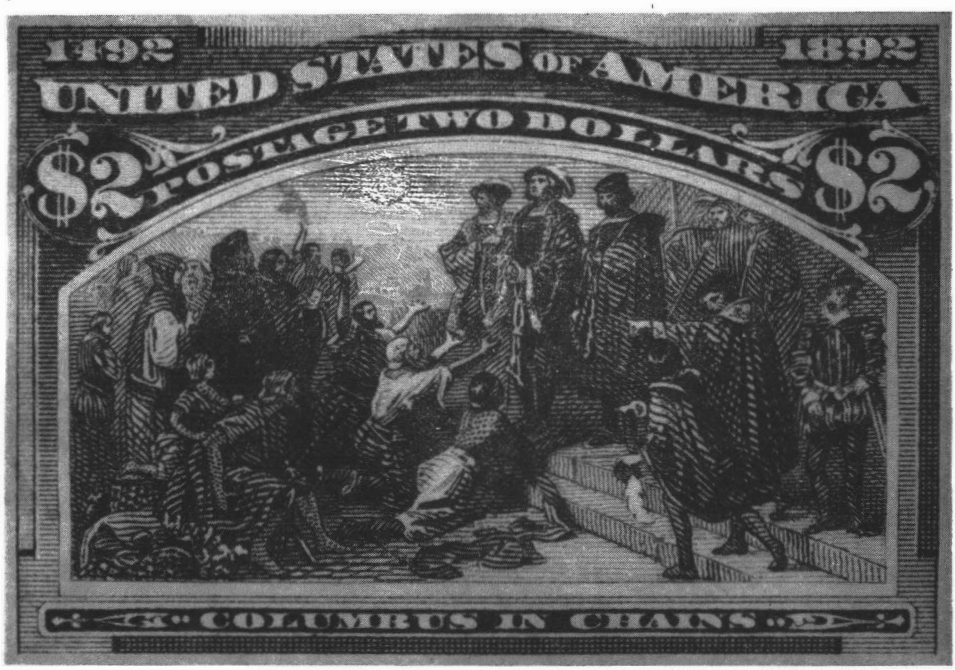


Figure 102. Details of Design on Die Proof.

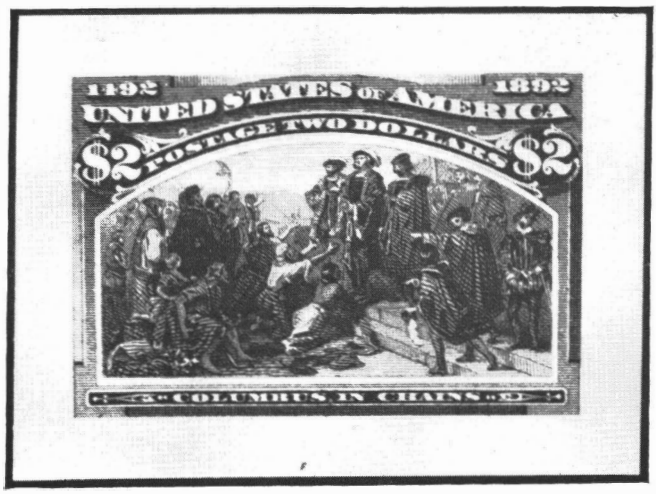


Figure 103. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).



Figure 104. This block of 25 is the largest block known to me. (Photo courtesy Raymond H. Weill Co.).

There is a bit of mystery connected with the painting which was used as the subject for the central design of the Two Dollar Columbian. For some time the exact whereabouts of the painting was not known but after some excellent detective work by a number of people interested in knowing the location of the painting, it was found by F. L. Lewton, the Curator of Textiles for the Smithsonian Institution, in the possession of Mr. Arnold Talbot. The painting, which was offered as a prize by the Apollo Association in 1843, was won by Richard Arnold, the grandfather of the present owner, and the picture has remained a family possession since that time. It was painted in 1841 by Leutze and the mystery connected with the painting is this: It is the policy of engravers of stamp design to delete if necessary any portions of an original that do not quite suit the design as considered from the engravers viewpoint but it is not considered proper to add anything to the original. The painting as it now exists, and it is supposedly in its original frame just as received by Richard Arnold two years after it was painted, does not show the last figure at each end of the design as it appears on the stamp. There is some indication that the painting may have been longer than it now is as there is no margin on either end of the painting as would have been natural. I suggest that you turn to page 403 of the September 17, 1938 issue of "Stamps" if you wish to see a photo of the original picture and to read a little more detail regarding this painting.

This was one of the values in which there was a great deal of speculation. One man from Philadelphia plunged heavily on this one value but upon his death they had to be sold by his estate at a considerable loss.

Fairly large blocks of this stamp are still in existence. The largest block we ever saw was a block of 25 in the stock of the Raymond H. Weill Co. of New Orleans.

Shades: Brown red, deep brown red.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate AA105.

Cancellations: Black, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type G.

Quantity issued: 45,550.

The Three Dollar Columbian (Scott 243, Minkus CM14)

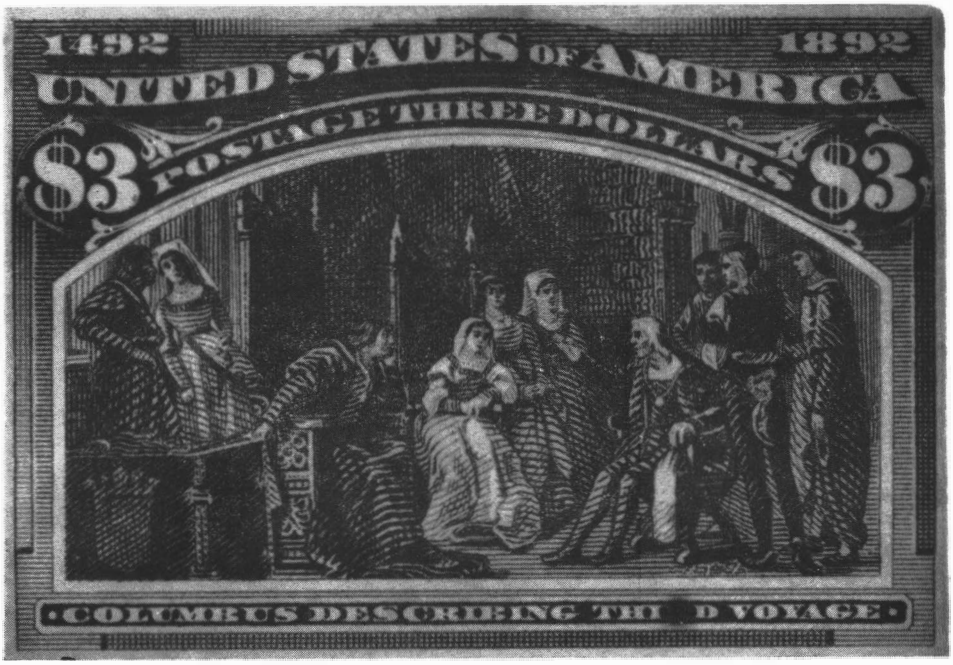


Figure 105. Details of Design on Die Proof.

The design of the Three Dollar Columbian is taken from the painting "Columbus Describing His Third Voyage" by the artist Francisco Jover.

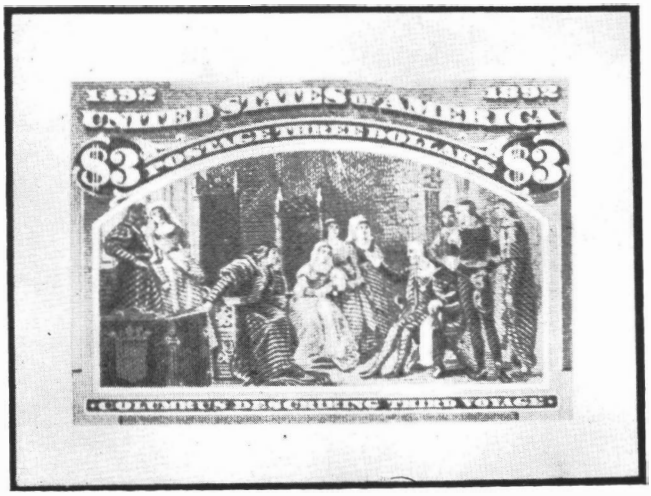


Figure 106. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

There was considerable speculation in these stamps and it took many years for them to become saleable at face value. J. Murray Bartels stated that he was offered 100 complete sets of the Columbian Issue in 1902 at 75% of their face value but did not purchase them since they still were being sold at less than their face value and he did not care to invest the necessary amount of money for the small profit that could then have been made. By the way, these 100 sets were in the form of panes!

There was a fine unused block of 10, showing the Top Imprint and Plate No. 106 sold in the Crocker Sale held by Harmer, Rooke Co., Ltd., in London, on November 23-25, 1938.

Approximately 3,000 of these stamps (Luff placed the number at 2,937 which probably was correct) remained unsold in the Washington, D. C. Post Office and were destroyed in June, 1899. We presume these 2,937 stamps should be subtracted from the quantity sent to postmasters, 27,650, to determine the number actually sold. This figure, which would be 24,713 copies, shows why the stamp is so scarce.

Shades: Yellow green, pale yellow green, olive green.

Varieties: None.

Plates: BB106.

Cancellations: Black.

Cancellation varieties: None.

Quantity issued 24,713(?).

The Four Dollar Columbian (Scott 244, Minkus CM15)



Figure 107. Details of Design on Die Proof.



Figure 108. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

The design for this stamp is made up of the portraits of Isabella and Columbus. We have been unable to ascertain the artist for the portrait of Isabella, the original of which is said to have been a painting in Madrid. The portrait of Columbus was by the artist Lotto and this portrait was used as the basis of the design of several of the stamps of Chile.

The stamp is very difficult to find in fine used condition as the shades of the stamp seem to lend themselves to showing up the cancellations. In addition to the difficulty with the cancellations, the stamp tends to fade badly and it is very much the exception to the rule to find a copy in the rich color in which it was issued. The dark shades bring the best prices at auction or over the counter.

Although 26,350 copies of this stamp were sent to postmasters, Luff stated that 3,357 of them were destroyed by the Department in June, 1889, which would leave only 22,993 sold to the public. It is our opinion that this stamp is the most difficult of the dollar values of the Columbians to obtain.

Blocks of 4 come up in auction fairly often because this is a popular item and the turnover seems to be fairly rapid. This is one of those items that costs a considerable amount of money but always seem to be available when the money is produced.

Shades: Crimson lake, rose carmine, pale analine rose.

Varieties: None

Plates: Plate CC107.

Cancellations: Black, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: None.

Quantity issued: 22,993 (?).

The Five Dollar Columbian (Scott 245, Minkus CM16)

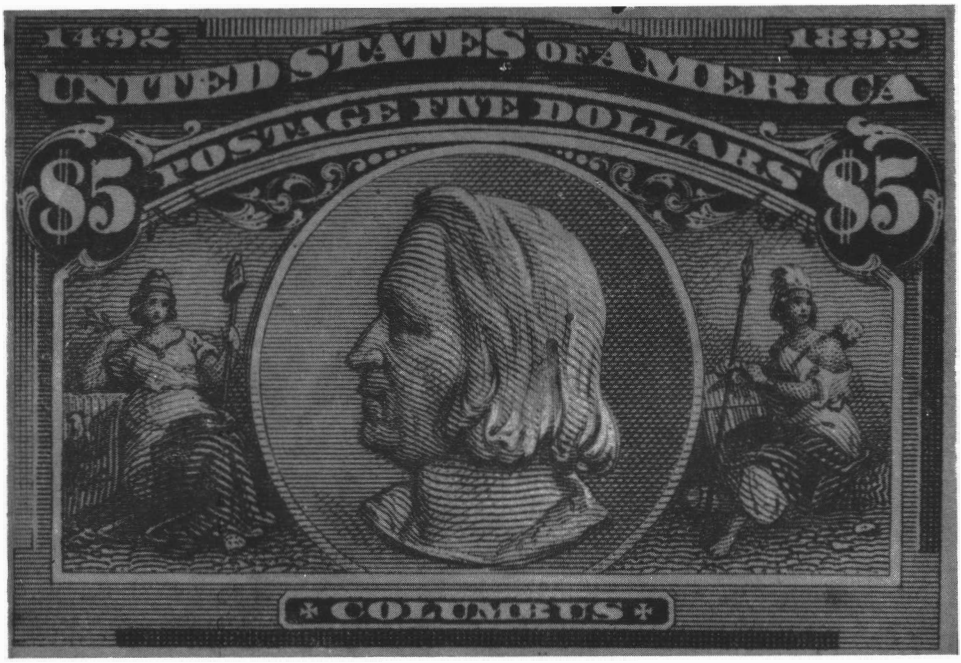


Figure 109. Details of Design on Die Proof.



Figure 110. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

The Five Dollar Columbian



Figure 111. This beautiful block of 14 mint $5.00 Columbians is the largest block known to me. I'm still waiting to see those sheets (panes) I've heard about for the past 40 years. (Photo courtesy Raymond H. Weill Co.).



Figure 112. A magnificent Plate Block. (Courtesy Robert A. Siegel).

Plate number and imprint strips of 4 are extremely desirable items. Robert A. Siegel sold very fine strips of all the Dollar values in his sale of Feb. 27, 1964.

This stamp, the top value of the whole Columbian series, certainly can be said to represent the very peak of desire for a great many collectors. It probably is normal for most collectors to acquire this stamp as the last in their set of Columbians. Since the value of the whole set is such that it represents a sum that bulks rather large in the eyes of most collectors, it is only natural that a considerable degree of pride goes with the completion of the set.

The central design of the stamp originally was taken from the design of a medal struck in Madrid, but was made after a cast made by the Treasury Department. It was used not only for the stamp but for the 50c Columbian Commemorative Half Dollar that was struck in honor of the Fair. It is believed that the sculptor who made the models from the Madrid medal was Olin L. Warner, of New York.

An unused block of 10, with Top Imprint and Plate No. 108 was in the Crocker Collection, and there was an unused block of 8 with Bottom Imprint Plate No. 108 in the Col. Green Collection.

27,350 copies of the stamp were sent to postmasters but according to Luff 5,506 copies were destroyed by the Department in June, 1899 which left only 21,844 copies available to collectors.

Shades: Black, grayish black.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate DD108.

Cancellations: Black, magenta.

Cancellation varieties: None.

Quantity issued: 21,844 (?).

A Group of Columbian Covers



Figure 113. (Photo courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

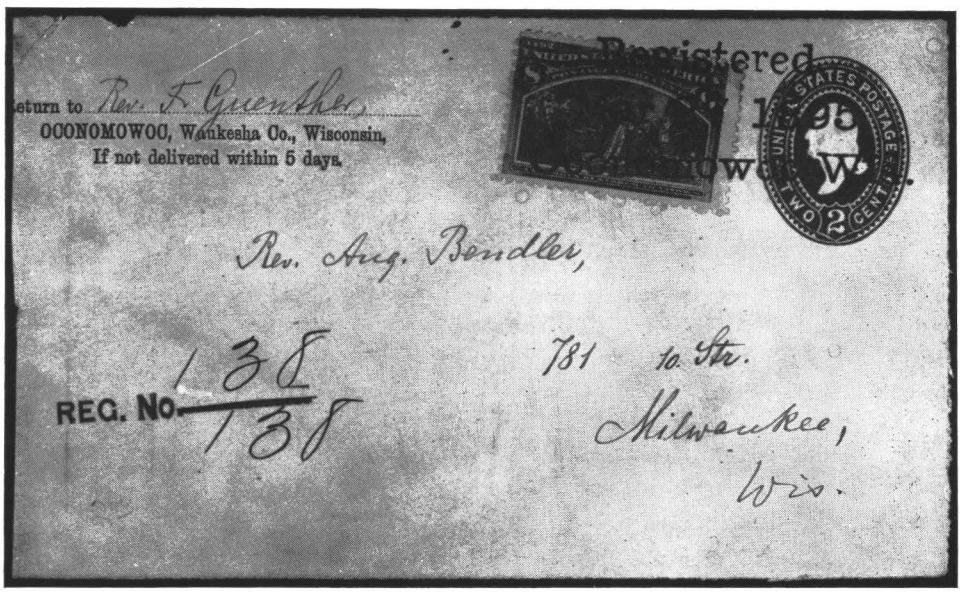


Figure 114. (Photo courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).



Figure 115. (Photo courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

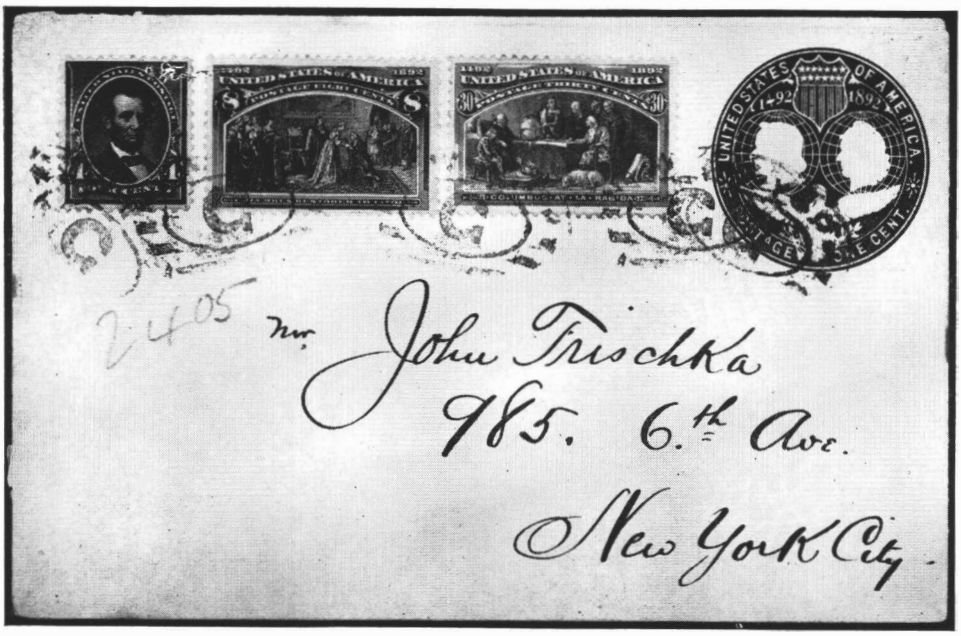


Figure 116. (Photo courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).



Figure 117. (Photo courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).



Figure 118. (Photo courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

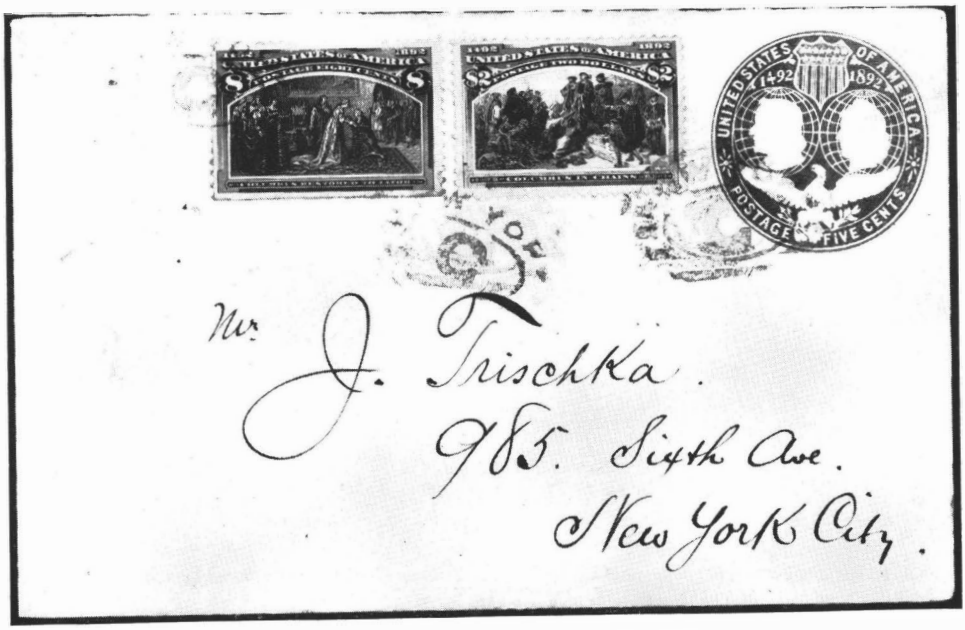


Figure 119. (Photo courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

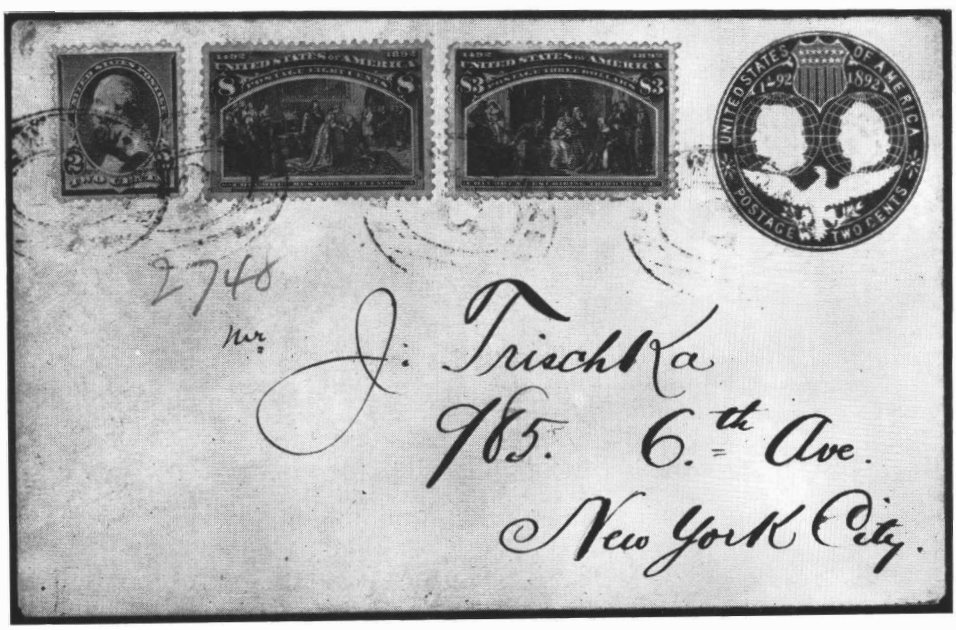


Figure 120. (Photo courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

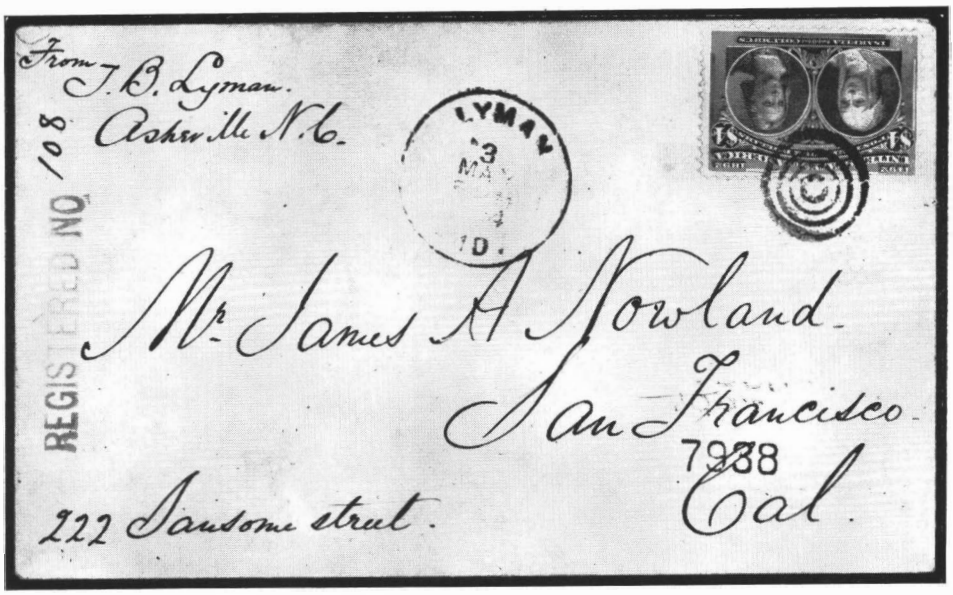


Figure 121. (Photo courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).



Figure 122. (Photo courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

Chapter IV
THE ISSUE OF 1894

THIS is the first series of Postage stamps that was produced by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing although the Bureau had been producing Revenue stamps for some years. Let us quote from the report of the Third Assistant Postmaster General under the date of October 31, 1894; "I think it proper to give here a detailed account of the matters connected with the termination of the old contract with the American Bank Note Company for furnishing postage stamps, and the making of a new arrangement therefor with the Bureau of Engraving and Printing of the Treasury Department.

By advertisement, dated the 16th of October, 1893, published in a number of prominent newspapers for four weeks, the Department invited proposals up to the 15th of November, 1893, 'from parties carrying on the business of steel-plate engraving and plate printing,' or from those who had 'had experience in conducting that business,' for furnishing adhesive postage stamps of the several classes in use during the period of four years, beginning on the 1st of July, 1894, it having been formally arranged by the late Postmaster-General that the existing stamp contract with the American Bank Note Company should, by an extension of three months from the date fixed in its contract for its termination, and by the purchase of an extra supply of stamps sufficient for the wants of post-offices for three months thereafter, be carried up to June 30, 1894, the end of the fiscal year.

Under the call thus made three proposals were received, the amount of each, based upon the process of printing then in vogue and upon the number of stamps issued during the fiscal year 1893, being as follows: Hamilton Bank Note Company of New York, $179,294.40; American Bank Note Company of New York, $162,401.61; Charles F. Steel, of Philadelphia, $146,454.93.

As soon as these bids were made known, the American Bank Note Company, for various reasons, strenuously protested against an award of the contract to Mr. Steel, the lowest bidder, and he, in a similar way, entered a protest against giving of the contract to the American Bank Note Company. Subsequently these protests were formally presented in writing, and oral and written arguments were thereafter made, from time to time, up to the 21st of February, 1894.

In the meantime, on the 29th of November, 1893, the Chief of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing of the Treasury Department, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, claiming the right to compete for the work under a clause in the official specifications issued to bidders, submitted a formal estimate, amounting, upon the basis above stated, to $139,487.74, and thereupon urged—his estimate being lower than any of the bids submitted—that the Bureau be awarded the contract.

For various reasons—the prominent one being the convenience of having the work done at Washington, where nearly all the other securities of the Government are printed and the saving to be secured in the cost of manufacture—the claim of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing was recognized on the 21st of February, 1894, by Departmental Order No. 18 of that date, awarding it the work, and by a formal agreement, entered into June 9, 1894, between the Post-Office and Treasury Departments, prescribing rules for the transaction of all business relating to the matter. Copies of these papers will be found appended to this report, marked No. 18.

It is interesting to note that under the Bureau contract the cost of the stamps to the Post Office Department was 5c per thousand which was a savings of 2.47 cents per thousand over the old contract.

Under the agreement thus entered into, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing is now regularly engaged in manufacturing all the postage stamps

needed by the Post-Office Department, and is daily issuing them for the use of postmasters throughout the country, the same as was formerly done when the contract with the American Bank Note Company was in force.

In entering upon the work under this new arrangement, a great many difficulties were necessarily encountered. A large number of printing machines had to be fitted up by the Bureau, perforating and gumming machines had to be secured, a considerable force of employes had to be trained to do the work promptly, large numbers of new plates for printing were needed, arrangements for storing and shipping the enormous number of stamps constantly required had to be made, to say nothing of many details entering into the intercourse between the two Departments in the transaction of their respective shares of this business. But I am happy to say that everything has been satisfactorily arranged, and the work is now proceeding without serious interruptions.

Some weeks prior to the 1st of July, 1894, when the arrangements above described went into effect, it became necessary to transfer from the custody of the American Bank Note Company in New York to that of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in this city the entire stock of stamps not required for issue up to the date mentioned, the object being to avoid any break in the continuity of supplies to postmasters, and to that end to furnish the Bureau with a working stock while its own preparations for manufacture were still in a more or less incomplete state.

Accordingly, under detailed directions given by this office, enough stamps to fill all orders up to the 1st of July were segregated from the general stock, and the remainder were shipped here by registered mail and placed in the vault of the Bureau.

The transfer was effected expeditiously, without loss and without expense (the stamps being transported as free mail matter), except the cost of cartage from the railroad station in this city to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, amounting to not over $50; so that on the 30th of June everything at New York was cleared up and the business of making and issuing stamps ended, and on the following day the work was going on here, with but little change in methods and with no material impediments.

The number of stamps of all kinds thus transferred amounted to nearly six hundred and forty-five million, of the face value of over $17,000,000.

All the dies, rolls, and working plates of postage stamps, of present and past series, were transferred at the same time, and are now in the custody of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

The stock of ordinary stamps of the manufacture of the American Bank Note Company thus transferred have been issued by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, according to denominations, up to the following dates, since which issues have been made from the Bureau's own manufacture:

1 Cent	Oct. 10, 1894
2 Cents	Oct. 5, 1894
3 Cents	Sept. 24, 1894
4 Cents	Sept. 11, 1894
5 Cents	Sept. 28, 1894
6 Cents	July 18, 1894
10 Cents	Sept. 17, 1894
15 Cents	Oct. 15, 1894
30 Cents (discontinued)	Oct. 31, 1894
90 Cents (discontinued)	Oct. 31, 1894

A large quantity of 8 cent stamps of the manufacture of the American Bank Note Company is still on hand."

When the Bureau took over the contract it was decided to substitute the 50 cent and One Dollar denominations for the 30 cent and 90 cent which were discontinued and in addition it was decided to issue Two and Five Dollar

stamps. It was also decided that the general designs of the 1890 series would be retained but triangles were added to the corners of the stamps to make it easy to distinguish the work of the Bureau.

The method by which triangles were added to the corners was simple enough. The Bureau, when they took over the printing job obtained all of the old dies, plates, transfer rolls, and other effects from the American Bank Note Company. Triangles were cut into the dies or duplicate dies of the 1890 series and new plates were laid down from transfer rolls made from these altered dies.

The story of the imperforate and part perforate varieties of the 1894 Issue was so well told by Philip H. Ward, Jr., in *Mekeel's* that we feel we can present this story best by quoting directly from his article.

"In the early days the Bureau had considerable trouble not only with the manner of printing and gumming but with the perforating as well. New at the game, they had to learn from the bottom up. As a result, one of the distinguishing features of the early Washington issues are the unsatisfactory perforations—usually blind and at best, very rough. It is, therefore, surprising that more perforation varieties do not exist. The waste must have been exceedingly large and possibly careful inspection prevented more errors from reaching the philatelic public.

"Little is known of the actual finding of the part-perforate varieties, but of the several existing, the 6c with the horizontal perforations missing is the more often found. It is not common and judging from its scarcity, possibly a sheet existed. For a long time it was generally noted in pairs and strips of three, with blocks quite scarce. A few years back, several fair size blocks became available in New York, so that the stamp is now to be had more readily in block form. The error is from Plate 28.

"The 5c imperforate horizontally which comes from Plate 130 is somewhat rarer. Pairs are desirable when in fine condition, for they generally are found with thin spots. The paper was soft and continual hinging has had its effect. Like the 6c, for some reason or other, it is often found in vertical strips of three. Blocks are quite difficult to locate and it is doubtful if an entire sheet existed, more likely a part sheet was found.

"The 2c in type I exists imperforate horizontally in both pink and carmine. Worthington had a block of the pink and a pair of the carmine. Since the sale of his collection, a strip of four in the carmine shade from the Hawkins collection is the only piece that has been seen, either privately or through the auction. The Worthington block, we believe, was bought at the time by Mr. J. Mck. Starrow and was broken into two pairs in order to accommodate a second Washington collector.

"The 2c type III exists imperforate vertically and is also scarce. Worthington had a strip of three with plate 153 imprint at the top. There was a horizontal strip of three in the Hind collection. Scott lists a horizontal pair imperforate between, but we do not know of its existence.

"The 50c is catalogued as imperforate horizontally and was listed from a single copy on piece of cover then in the Leavy collection. It certainly should be omitted from the catalogue, for a single copy proves little. Until a pair has been seen it is not worthy of mention.

"Of the imperforates the 3c, 4c, 5c and 10c exist. Plate blocks show they were from plates 47, 50, 53 and 63 respectively. They were not regularly issued and the original finders never have told the story.

"Mr. A. R. Rogers, who managed the International Philatelic Exposition in New York in 1926, stated the stamps had belonged to himself and a second gentleman many years before. All known copies came from this one supply, said to consist of 400 of each. From experience, it seems that the 5c is the scarcer. Mr. Rogers is positive they all were without gum at the time and were mainly sold in the owners' behalf by the late J. W. Scott. Every once in a while a block is offered and described as with full gum, but this gum is not original, but was applied later by someone trying to give the stamps a finished appearance. The imperforate stamps of this issue are not known to exist with original gum.

"According to Luff all the plates of the One cent, Two cent, and Ten cent values contained 400 stamps each. Certain of the Three cent, Four cent and Five cent plates also contained 400 stamps. All other plates of this issue contained 200 stamps. All impressions from all plates were cut into panes of 100 stamps before they were issued to the postoffices."

The One Cent Ultramarine 1894 (Scott 246, Minkus 168) (Unwatermarked)

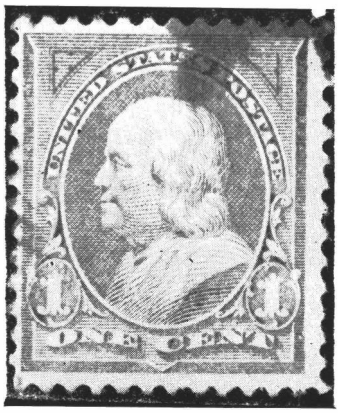


Figure 123. The One Cent Stamp of 1894.

This stamp was issued October 10, 1894 and first appeared in various shades of ultramarine. It was so issued for several months and the stamp in the ultramarine shades is given a full catalog number.

All the denominations of this series were issued on unwatermarked paper.

It seems obvious that the perforating equipment was of poor design, or was poorly operated, for the perforations of the stamps of the 1894 series are so ragged that it is possible to sort these stamps, by the perforations alone, with a fair degree of accuracy from those stamps that are of the same design but are on the watermarked paper of the 1895 series. Most of the 1895 series was cleanly perforated. Early printings of the 1895 issue are occasionally found with ragged perforations which indicates that the improvement in perforating came in the first month or so of the life of the 1895 issue.

In the Worthington Sale there was a complete pane of 100 of the 1c 1894, from Plate 15, in which there was an unusual shade variation within the stamps of the pane. The upper four rows were of a pale shade, the balance of the stamps being a dark shade except around the edges where the stamps were in the pale ultramarine shade. This is a good illustration of the variation in shades that can take place due to uneven inking or due to a difference in the moisture content in different areas of the sheet at the time it went to press.

Shades: Ultramarine, bright ultramarine, dark ultramarine.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates 2, 6, 15, 17, 18, 21, 24, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 100,000,000.

The One Cent Blue 1894 (Scott 247, Minkus 169) (Unwatermarked)

The ultramarine color having proved unsatisfactory, the color was changed to blue sometime late in 1894 or early in 1895. The design and details are the same as for the One Cent ultramarine illustrated and previously described.



Figure 123a. One Cent Blue 1894.

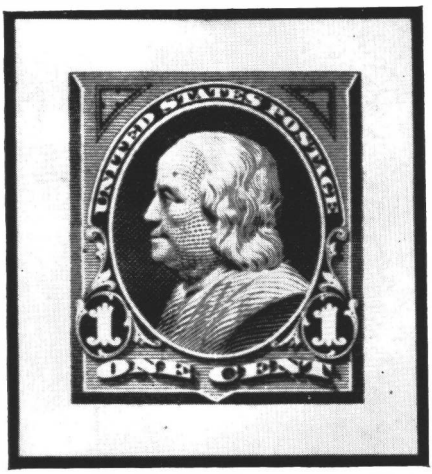


Figure 124. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

Shades: Blue, bright blue, dark blue.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates 18, 21, 24, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 98, 99, 101, 102, 119, 120, 121, 122.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 305,000,000.

The Two Cent Pink, Type I 1894 (Scott 248, Minkus 170) (Unwatermarked)



Figure 125. The Two Cent Stamp of 1894, Type I, in Pink.

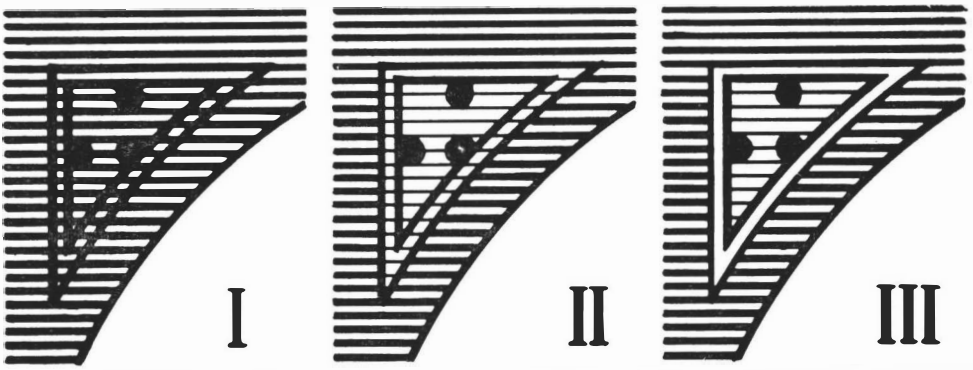


Figure 126. An enlarged drawing of the Three Types of Triangles found on the issues of 1894-1895.

This denomination was issued in several colors and in three types and all that have been given full catalog status will be taken up in their order as cataloged.

This stamp, the Type I printed in pink and in pale pink, was issued on October 5, 1894. It is probable that the shade of this stamp was changed at about the same time as was the shade of the 1c stamp which means that this pink shade was issued for about 2 months.

George Sloane reported a plate defect of a heavy curved line about half the height of the triangle, just to the left of the left triangle. The same defect exists on the carmine shade of Triangle I.

This item is known imperforate horizontally but was not issued in this form. A mint block of 4, imperforate horizontally, was in the Worthington Collection.

Although this is a fairly common stamp it is difficult to find really prime used copies due to the delicate shade of the ink.

Shades: Pink, pale pink.

Varieties: Double transfer, Double paper.

Plates: Plate 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 30, 32.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 40,000,000.

The Two Cent Carmine Lake Type I 1894
(Scott 249, Minkus 171)
(Unwatermarked)

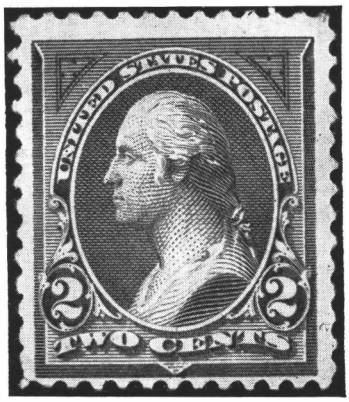


Figure 127. The Two Cent 1894, Type I, in Carmine Lake.

We have been unable to determine the exact date of issue of the 2c Type I in the carmine lake shade but it seems probable that it came into use about the first of the year in 1895.

This stamp is identical to the preceding stamp that was issued in pink except for the color which was changed to carmine lake. In used condition it is much more common than the pink but the reverse is true when it comes to unused copies. The only way we can explain this is that collectors, upon noting the very considerable change in color decided that the pink stamp would be a scarce item because of its short life and then promptly laid in a supply of all of the old shade they could lay their hands on. When the new shade of carmine lake was superseded by still another change in color, that of carmine, the change in color then was not particularly marked and collectors paid little attention to the change until it was too late to pick up many mint copies of the stamp in carmine lake.

Shades: Carmine lake, dark carmine lake.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: It is believed that all of the plates used to produce this stamp in pink were used to produce this stamp in carmine lake, and, in addition, plates 78, 79, 80, 82, 88, 89, 96, 97, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 124, 125, and 144 were used.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 100,000,000.

The Two Cent Carmine, Type I 1894 (Scott 250, Minkus 172) (Unwatermarked)

The only difference between this and the 2c stamps that immediately preceded it is in the color which is not as dark as the carmine lake.

This stamp is known imperforate horizontally in a pair, and in a horizontal pair, imperforate between. So far as we know, these are legitimate varieties that came out of sheets issued to the public although certain other items of this nature, of this issue, were not issued. There was a pair of this stamp, imperforate horizontally, in the Worthington Collection.

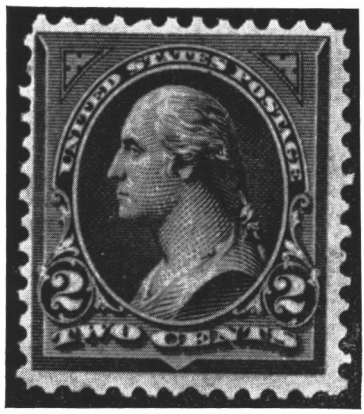


Figure 128. Two Cent 1894.

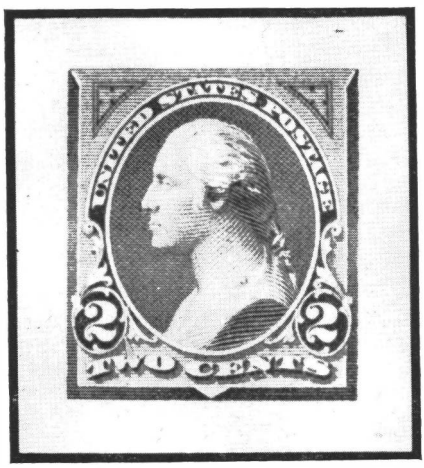


Figure 129. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

Shades: Carmine, dark carmine, scarlet, dull scarlet.

Varieties: Imperforate horizontally (pair), horizontal pair imperforate between, Double transfer.

Plates: It is believed that all of the plates used in the production of the preceding 2c stamp in carmine lake were used in the production of this stamp.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 910,000,000.

The Two Cent Type II 1894 (Scott 251, Minkus 173) (Unwatermarked)

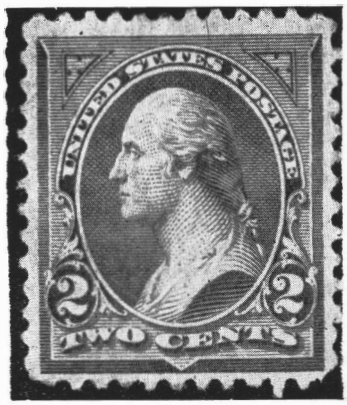


Figure 130. The Two Cent Stamp of 1894, Type II.

As can be seen in our illustrations, the triangle on this stamp differs from that of Triangle I. In the triangle on this stamp, Triangle II, the horizontal lines cross the triangle as they do in Triangle I but they are thinner where they cross the triangle than they are outside of the triangle. The only explanation we have ever heard regarding the reason for the existence of three types of triangles on the 2c stamps, is that the work of cutting the triangles on the dies made to produce the plates used for the 2c stamps of this issue likely was done by several engravers, and the differences in the triangles represented each engraver's idea as to how the triangles should be made.

This stamp is more scarce than any of the 2c 1894 previously discussed. While it usually is necessary to check the triangle with a glass to be certain that it is Type II, experienced collectors often can spot this stamp by the general appearance of the triangle which does not carry as much ink as Triangle I.

Shades: Carmine, dark carmine.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plates 126, 131, 132, 133.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 100,000,000.

The Two Cent Type III 1894 (Scott 252, Minkus 174) (Unwatermarked)

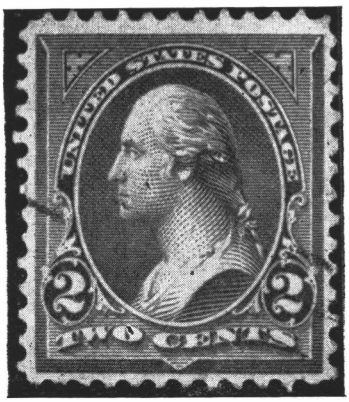


Figure 131. The Two Cent 1894, Type III.

This stamp is by far the scarcest of the various 2c stamps of the 1894 issue. As can be seen by an examination of the triangle, the horizontal lines do not cross the double frame lines of the triangle while the lines within the triangle are thin as they are in Triangle II.

This stamp is known imperforate vertically in a pair but this item was not issued in this form. It also exists in a horizontal pair, imperforate between, and it has long been held that this is a legitimate variety although their actual origin is not known to the author. A variety known as "Gash beside left triangle" extends at an angle upwards from the lower point of the triangle. Apparently another case of plate damage caused by careless handling.

There was a mint strip of three imperforate vertically, bearing the Imprint and Plate No. 153 at the top, in the Worthington Collection.

Shades: Carmine, pale carmine.

Varieties: Horizontal pair, imperforate between, imperforate vertically (pair).

Plates: Plates 141, 142, 143, 145, 146, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 80,000,000.

THE COUNTERFEIT OF THE 1894 2c STAMP

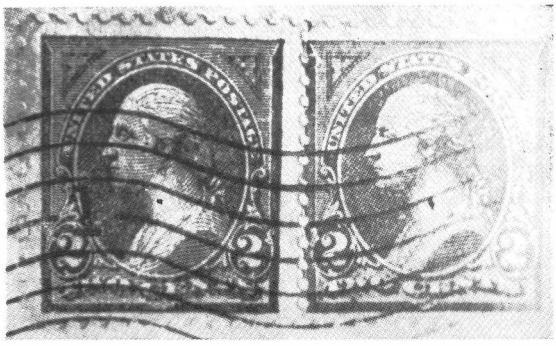


Figure 132. A Used Pair of the 2c Counterfeit. (Courtesy of the late Wm. H. Yale).

This probably is the most talked about of the very few counterfeits that have been made of U. S. stamps. It is commonly known as the "Chicago" counterfeit and while the story has been written up numerous times in the past, it has a place here and we will try to piece together the best of the information as given in previous writings by Francis B. Leech, George B. Sloane, and Elmer Stuart. The best article we have seen concerning this item was by Francis B. Leech and appeared in Stamps magazine in the issue of May 19, 1934. It is principally from this article that we present the following information, much of which was obtained directly from the government records on the case which were made available thru the courtesy of K. P. Aldrich, Chief Post Office Inspector, and Joseph Murhpy of the Secret Service branch of the Treasury Department. Excerpts from the article are as follows:

"The attention of the Post Office Department was first directed to the matter on April 4, 1895, by Edward Lowry, a stamp dealer with offices in the Ashland Block in Chicago. Mr. Lowry called on Postal Inspector James E. Stuart to inquire if the Department had any objection to his purchase of 2c current issue stamps at less than face value, as advertised in the Chicago Tribune by the Canadian Novelty Supply Company of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Inspector Stuart immediately decided that there was something behind the advertisement and in cooperation with Lowry, had him reply with the request that the Canadian Novelty Supply Company send him a package of $115.00 face or 5,750 stamps, for the advertised price of $100.00.

After considerable searching of the old Tribune files at the Congressional Library, I located the advertisement referred to, hidden in the Sunday classified adlets of March 31, 1895, under the heading of "Pictures, Stamps, Coins, etc." The adlet read as follows: WE HAVE $115 U. S. TWO CENT STAMPS which we cannot use here, will send them by express C. O. D. privilege of examination for $100. Canadian Novelty Supply Agency, Hamilton, Ontario, Can."

About this same time, one Nathan Herman, a cigar dealer, called the adlet to the attention of Capt. Thomas I. Porter of the United States Secret Service, and thereafter Inspector Stuart and Capt. Porter joined forces and together worked out the entire case.

The agents had Herman also write for a package of stamps and on April 8, 1895, the stamps arrived at the Chicago office of the Wells, Fargo Express Company, as did five other packages ordered by other parties who had seen the ad. All of the stamps, some 40,000, were confiscated by the agents. (Note by L. G. B.—Elmer Stuart made the statement in an article in Linn's Weekly Stamp News that several Chicago dealers sent for these stamps and in the article says: "Archie L. Doherty, a dealer of the time, who was located in the old Masonic Temple, was one who received a lot. They arrived by Wells, Fargo & Co. Express, being sent C. O. D. Dr. B. A. Cottlow (who in 1896 became Secretary of the Chicago Philatelic Society) happened to be present in Doherty's office when the stamps arrived, and when Mr. Doherty opened the package for examination, Dr. Cottlow looked at them and remarked that he believed they were counterfeits. Mr. Doherty refused the shipment and at once notified Captain Porter, head of the U. S. Secret Service in Chicago at the time, who seized the shipment and another that had been delivered.")

Meanwhile, on April 6, 1895, a report had come to Capt. Porter that a Mrs. Lacy and her daughter, Tinsa McMillan, had some machinery in a small room in their flat at 26 Carl Street, and that a lot of printing was being done. It was also reported that a man named Jones and another named Cushing were frequently at the flat; that some time ago a friend had called on the informant's wife stating that Tinsa McMillan was a counterfeiter and had previously had to leave Chicago on that account.

The same evening Capt. Porter with several agents and police officers went to Mrs. Lacy's flat but found her daughter was not there, only Mrs. Lacy being home. She stated that her daughter, Mr. Jones and one or two other men had been doing some work in a small back room, including the taking of some photographs, but that she had not been permitted to enter the room as they kept it locked. The agents searched the room and found two large arc lights, a copying camera, a perforating machine, copper sheets and plates, gummed paper and other paraphernalia for producing stamps.

Taking up the trail, Inspector Stuart and Capt. Porter went to Hamilton, Ontario, on April 10th and arrested Mrs. Mack, alias Tinsa McMillan, at the office of the Canadian Novelty Supply Agency. She was later tried at Buffalo, N. Y., and sentenced to 18 months in the reformatory. This woman, Mrs. Mack, was undoubtedly the head of the enterprise and had organized and directed the entire affair.

The Agents had their dragnet out for Charles O. Jones, alias George Morrison, and he was arrested at his downtown office in Chicago, on April 17, 1895. Here, a printing press was found but no other supplies. It turned out that all the stamps were printed in Jones' office and shipped to Hamilton. Jones was subsequently found guilty and was sentenced to ten months in the penitentiary.

The trail now turned to Warren H. Thompson, alias J. B. Jamison, Alias Cushing. He was picked up in Hinsdale, Ill., and found to be the editor and owner of a matrimonial magazine called "Heart and Hand," which periodical was being franked with the counterfeit stamps. At first, Thompson claimed that he purchased the stamps from one George Morrison of Elgin, Ill., but it later evolved that Morrison was in fact Charles O. Jones and that Thompson had assisted in the making of the stamps and was using them as a test to ascertain whether or not they would be discovered while passing through the mails.

Thompson was arrested by Postal Inspector Christian on November 9, 1895, at his office where were found 30,000 counterfeits and 130 copper electro plates used in printing them. Thompson was tried, found guilty, and sentenced to one year. Immediately after the large batch of counterfeits was seized in Chicago, they were forwarded to Washington, and the following letter, bearing a specimen of the counterfeit, sent out to all Postmasters:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

Office of the Third Assistant

Postmaster General

Washington, D. C.

April 10, 1895

..... Postmaster at

.....

.....

Sir:

There are in circulation counterfeit two-cent ordinary postage stamps of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing Design, as described at the bottom of page 940 of the January, 1895, Postal Guide (Triangular ornament in the upper corners and pale carmine tint).

This is one of the spurious stamps:

Here was pasted a specimen of the stamp marked at the upper left corner with a letter "C" in ink.

At the first blush, it has the lighter look of more open engraving, but under the magnifying glass, it will be found that this is attributable to the broken lines, thus - - - - instead of the continuous lines, thus —— of the genuine steel engraving. Thus suggesting a recourse to the photo-litographic process in securing the counterfeit resemblance and imprint. These counterfeits are, so far as discovered, well perforated and printed in sheets of five stamps, only, wide.

You will impart this information at once to your subordinates who handle stamps, and, more especially, stamped matter received for transmission, and instruct them to scrutinize carefully the stamps thereon, and as far as possible, identify persons mailing any matters with spurious stamps upon them. The attention of yourself and subordinates will not be confined to the Bureau design but secondarily to the two-cent of 1890 issue which has no ornament in the upper corners.

Upon discovery of important information under these instructions, you will take active measures, and, having by the most expeditious means advised the nearest Post Office Inspector, notify this office.

This letter, with the attached stamp, will be carefully preserved, as you or your successor may be called upon for it.

Very respectfully,

(K) 3rd Ass't P. M. General.

The counterfeits were printed from copper electro type plates on thin coarse wove paper in panes 5x5, 5x3 and in strips of 5. The specimens at the Smithsonian Institution measure 19½x22½mm., are perforated 12, and are very nearly the proper rose-carmine shade. The gum is very smooth and evenly spread and of a light yellow color.

The upper corner triangles are type 1 and the broken and thickened lines at this portion of the stamps is the easiest way to distinguish them.



Figure 133. A Pair of Counterfeits used Nov. 9, 1897 from Portland. Ore. (Courtesy of Wm. H. Yale).

J. Murray Bartels, in his column in the January 22, 1938 issue of *Stamps,* after mentioning the "Chicago" counterfeit, made the following statement: "Forgery No. 2 originated in Canada about two years later. It was also the 1894 design but was Triangle III. The subject is too short vertically and the impression rather weak. The color is a slightly more decided pink than the former. We have never seen or heard of any used copies."



Figure 134. A block of the 1894 "Chicago Counterfeit". (From a photo furnished by Wm. O. Bilden).

Some years ago the author saw some imperforates of the Chicago counterfeit and it is our recollection that they were Triangle I and were in small sheets of 25, printed 5x5. They were in the possession of a dealer now deceased, and it is almost certain that they were unfinished sheets that were obtained from the material confiscated when the Chicago gang was captured.

We also have seen a pair of these stamps that were used at the time on a commercial cover and we have seen single copies of the counterfeit marked with a small letter "c" in manuscript which indicated "counterfeit." These copies were placed on the government circular that was distributed to the postmasters from the office of the 3rd Assistant Postmaster General.

In the J. M. Bartels Sale of Feb. 15, 1919 there was a strip of 3 of this counterfeit on an original circular dated Washington, D. C., April 10, 1895. This was sent out by Kerr Craige, 3rd Assistant Post Master General, to the postmasters, giving information concerning the circulation of the counterfeits and telling how to distinguish them. All of these stamps had a "C" on their face.

So ends the story of the "Chicago" counterfeits. The scheme was cleverly conceived but the vigilance of our stamp dealers, collectors, Postal Inspectors, and the Secret Service fortunately nipped this scheme in the bud.

The Three Cent 1894 (Scott 253, Minkus 175) (Unwatermarked)

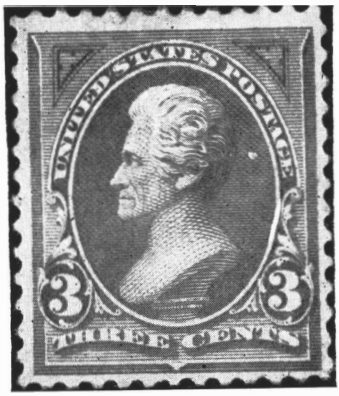


Figure 135. The Three Cent Stamp of 1894.

This stamp was issued on September 24, 1894.

There was only one type of triangle on any of the 1894 stamps with the exception of the 2c value. The 3c thru the $5 denominations all had only Triangle I.

It is our understanding that while a full sheet of 400 of this stamp got out of the Bureau and became available to certain collectors in imperforate form, they were not regularly issued. It is our opinion that items of this nature should be considered as finished plate proofs. These imperforates were not gummed when they came from the Bureau but were unofficially gummed and even today are being offered as "with original gum."

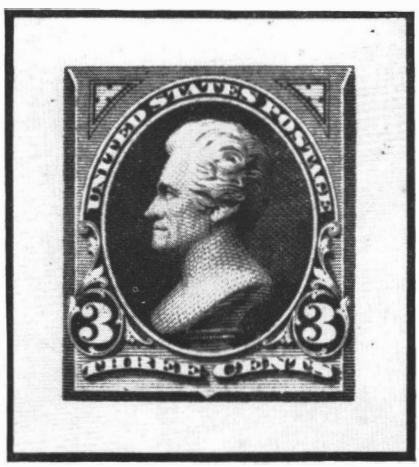


Figure 136. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

Shades: Purple, dark purple.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plates 44, 46, 47, 48, (40 subject plates). Plates 91, 95, 103, 107, (200 subject plates).

Quantity issued: 20,214,300.

The Four Cent 1894 (Scott 254, Minkus 176) (Unwatermarked)

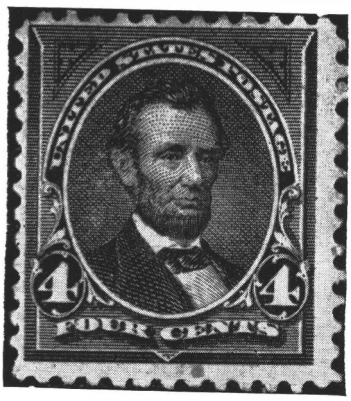


Figure 137. The Four Cent Stamp of 1894.

This stamp was issued on September 11, 1894.



Figure 138. Four Cent Imperforate pair. (Courtesy H. R. Harmer, Inc.).

Remarks concerning the imperforates are the same as for the 3c of the same issue.

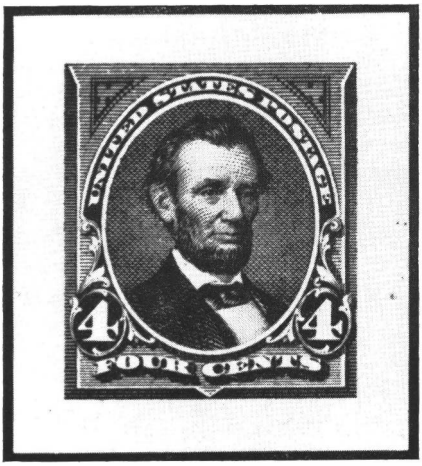


Figure 139. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

Shades: Dark brown, brown.
Varieties: None.
Plates: Plates 45, 50, 51, 59 (400 subject plates). Plates 92, 94, 104, 106 (200 subject plates).
Cancellations: Supplementary Mail Type F.
Quantity issued: 16,718,150.

The Five Cent 1894 (Scott 255, Minkus 177) (Unwatermarked)



Figure 140. The Five Cent Stamp of 1894.

This stamp was issued on September 28, 1894.

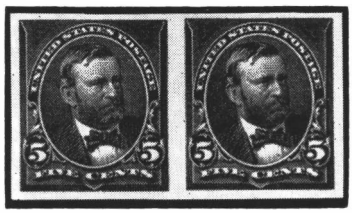


Figure 140a. Five Cent Imperforate pair. (Courtesy H. R. Harmer, Inc.).

A close examination of the 5c will reveal that the triangle is smaller than it is on other denominations of the series and also that there is one less horizontal line at the top, between the top of the white arc that is over the words "United States Postage," and the top of the stamp.

The remarks about the imperforates of this stamp are the same as for the preceding values except that there may have been more than one sheet of 400 obtained from the Bureau since two distinct shades of the imperforates are known. Even so, this imperforate is more scarce than it is on some of the other values.

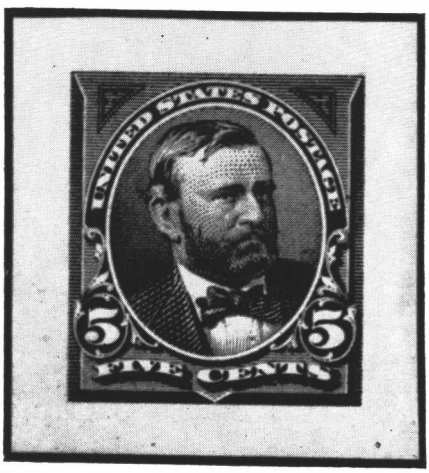


Figure 141. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).



Figure 141a. A pair "Imperforate Horizontally." (Ex-West collection).

The variety "Imperforate horizontally" seems to be a legitimate error for it is recognized to have come from part of a sheet found in this condition in the Richmond, Virginia, post office from which it was purchased at face value by a Richmond collector.

There was an unused block of 9, imperforate horizontally, with Imprint and Plate No. 130 in the Col. Green Collection.

The nature of the ink used for the printing of this stamp was such that it caused rapid plate wear and it is from this cause that we get the variety known as "Worn plate, diagonal lines missing in oval background."

Shades: Chocolate, deep chocolate, yellow brown.

Varieties: Vertical pair imperforate horizontally, Double transfer, Worn plate, with diagonal lines missing in oval background.

Plates: Plates 49, 53, 54, 56 (400 subject plates). Plates 128, 129, 130, 134, 161, 162, 163, 164 (200 subject plates).

Cancellations: Supplementary Mail Type G, China.

Quantity issued: 30,688,840.

The Six Cent 1894 (Scott 256, Minkus 178) (Unwatermarked)

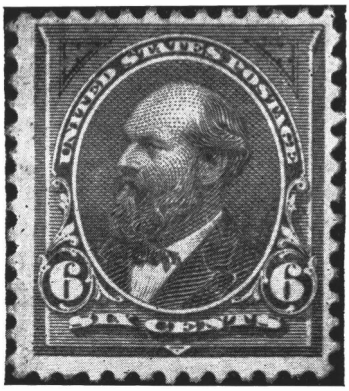


Figure 142. The Six Cent Stamp of 1894.

This stamp was issued July 18, 1894 and thus was the first of the series of 1894 to come on the market.

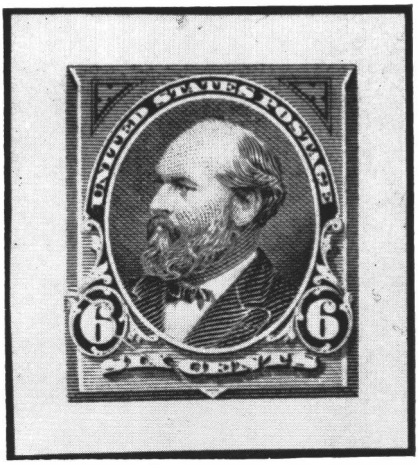


Figure 143. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

It is our understanding that the variety "Imperforate horizontally" is a legitimate error. We have not been able to ascertain from what postoffice it was obtained but it is our understanding that it came from a Western office.



Figure 144. A block of 6, "Imperforate Horizontally." (Ex-West collection).

An unused block of 9, with the Top imprint and Plate No. 28, imperforate horizontally, was in the Col. Green collection and an even larger piece, a superb mint block of 15 of the same item, from the lower right corner of the sheet, this being the largest known block, was sold in the Toaspern Sale of May 14, 1930, and again in a H.R.Harmer Sale in 1944.

Shades: Dull brown.

Varieties: Imperforate horizontally in vertical pair or larger.

Plates: Plate 28 (200 subjects).

Quantity issued: 5,120,800.

The Eight Cent 1894 (Scott 257, Minkus 179) (Unwatermarked)

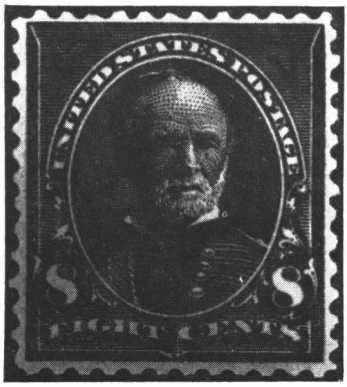


Figure 145. The Eight Cent Stamp of 1894.

This denomination was not issued until March 25, 1895 and was the last of the 1894 series to come on the market.

There seems to be nothing of much interest on this stamp in the way of shades, cancellations or varieties.

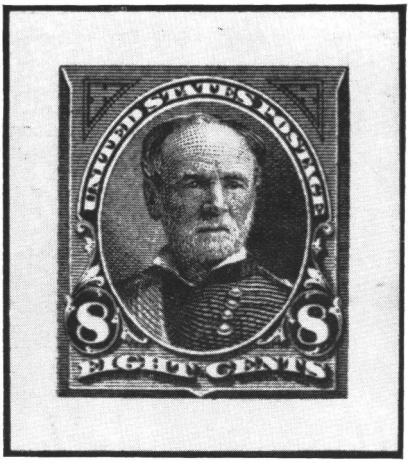


Figure 146. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

Shades: Violet brown, bright violet brown.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate 58 (200 subjects).

Quantity issued: 2,426,100.

The Ten Cent 1894 (Scott 258, Minkus 180) (Unwatermarked)

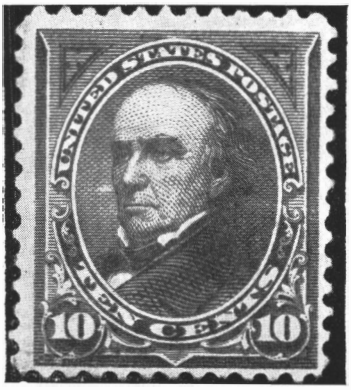


Figure 147. The Ten Cent Stamp of 1894.

This stamp was issued September 17, 1894.

As was the case with the 3c, 4c, and 5c, a full sheet of 400 got out of the Bureau in ungummed form but was privately gummed. Since these imperforates were not issued as stamps it seems obvious that they should have the status of plate proofs.

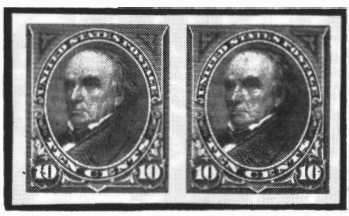


Figure 148. Ten Cent Imperforate pair. (Courtesy of H. R. Harmer, Inc.).

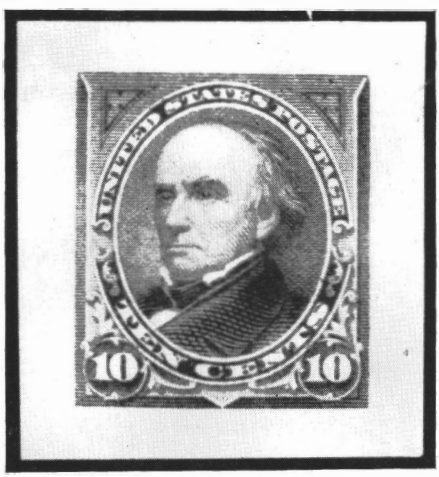


Figure 149. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

Shades: Dark green, green, dull green.
Varieties: Double transfer.
Plates: Plates 55, 62, 63, 64 (400 subjects).
Cancellations: Supplementary Mail Type F or G.
Quantity issued: 12,263,180.

The Fifteen Cent 1894 (Scott 259, Minkus 181) (Unwatermarked)

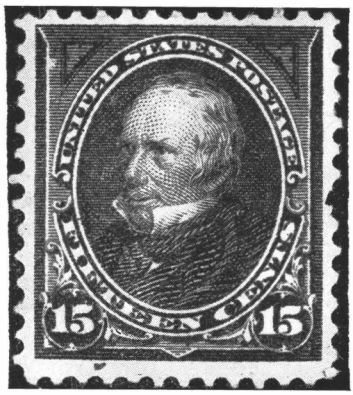


Figure 150. The Fifteen Cent Stamp of 1894.

This stamp was issued October 15, 1894.

Blocks bearing the plate number at the top are extremely scarce due to the fact that for some unexplained reason most of the sheets were sent out from the Bureau without the top margin. Even during the time these stamps were current these Top plate blocks commanded a good premium.

Since the circles around the numerals do not impinge on the colorless arc above them, this stamp was made from a roller made from an altered duplicate die of the 15c 1890 issue. The circles do impinge on the 15c 1890.

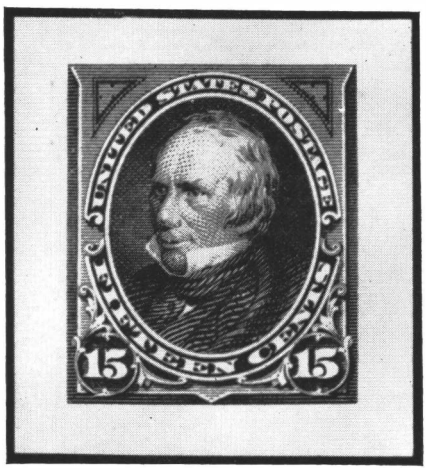


Figure 151. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

Shades: Dark blue, indigo.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate 52 (200 subjects).

Cancellations: China

Quantity issued: 1,583, 920.

The Fifty Cent 1894 (Scott 260, Minkus 182) (Unwatermarked)



Figure 152. The Fifty Cent Stamp of 1894.



Figure 153. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

This stamp was issued on November 1, 1894.

There are few, if any, of the 19th century U. S. stamps that are so difficult to find in superb used condition as is this stamp. The price for commercial copies of this stamp can well be multiplied by 10 and the buyer of a superb copy of this stamp at such a price can rejoice in the fact he has a bargain!

Only 175,330 copies of this stamp were issued to postmasters. When U. S. stamps were surcharged for use in the Philippines this value appeared on the unwatermarked paper of the 1894 series although it was supposed that this stamp had long since been exhausted from the stocks of the Bureau. It is evident that these stamps were from a small stock that had been overlooked by the Bureau. The amount of stamps that were surcharged does not affect the figures given above which are the figures of the amount of stamps actually issued to the Postmasters.

The stamp has long been cataloged as "Imperforate horizontally (pair)" but it is our understanding that the perforations on this variety are omitted only between the bottom row of stamps and the margin of the sheet. Such a condition does not warrant the above catalog listing which should be eliminated or corrected if our information is correct.

Shades: Orange, deep orange.

Varieties: Vertical pair without horizontal perforations.

Plates: Plate 75 (200 subjects).

Cancellations: Supplementary Mail Type F or G, China.

Quantity issued: 175,330.

The One Dollar Type I 1894 (Scott 261, Minkus 183) (Unwatermarked)



Figure 154. The One Dollar 1894, Type I in a block.

This stamp was issued on November 15, 1894.

This denomination is found in two types which are distinguished by a difference in the circles enclosing "$1" found at the bottom right and left portion of the design.

In Type I the circles enclosing "1" are broken where they meet the curved line below "One Dollar" while in Type II the circles are complete.

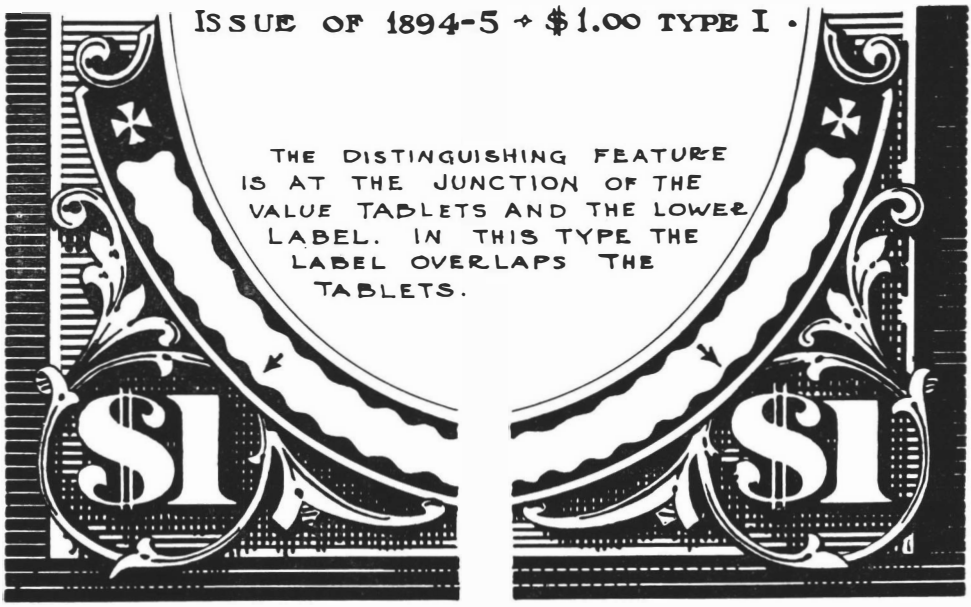


Figure 155. Drawing of Type I Details. (Courtesy of Richard M. Cabeen).

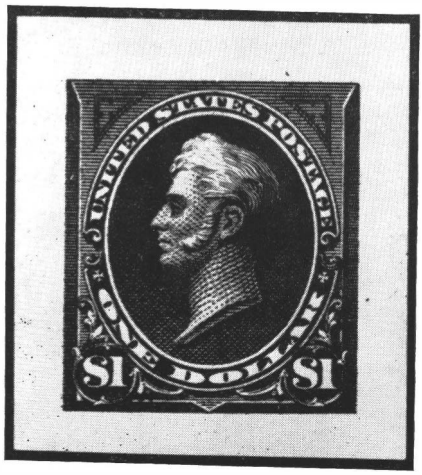


Figure 156. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

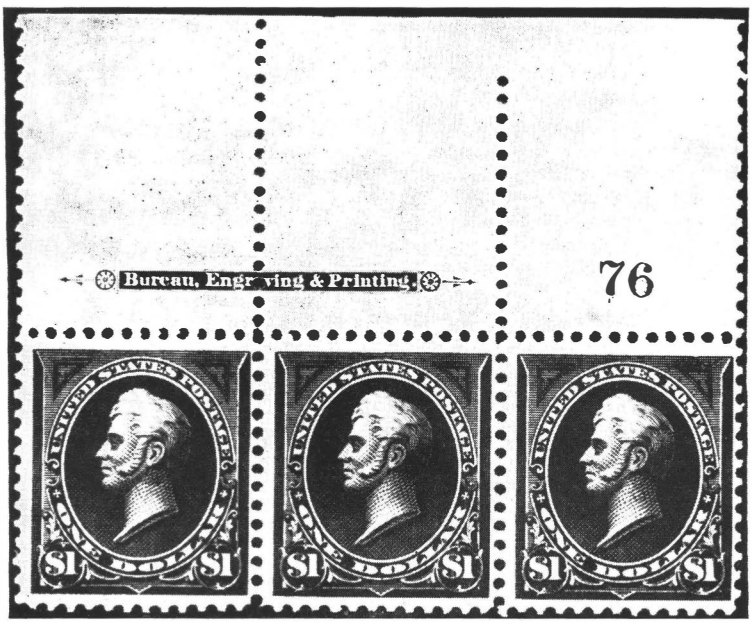


Figure 157. Type I, Type II, Type II in a Plate No. Strip of Three.

Shades: Black, grayish black.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate 76 (200 subjects of which 150 were Type I).

Quantity issued: 26,284.

The One Dollar Type II 1894 (Scott 261A, Minkus 184) (Unwatermarked)



Figure 158. A block of Type II One Dollar 1894.

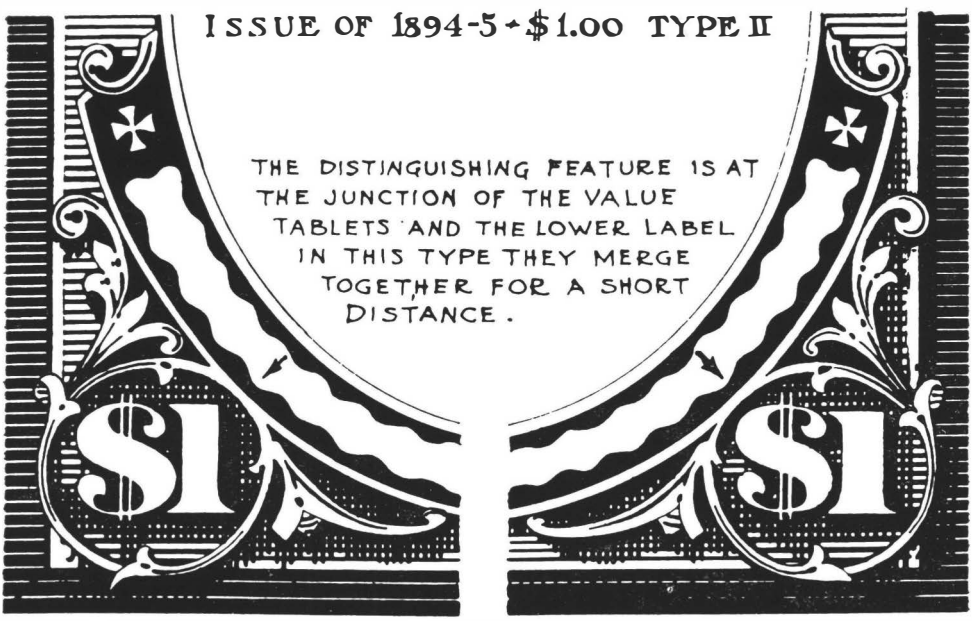


Figure 159. Drawing of Type II Details. (Courtesy of Richard M. Cabeen).

This stamp was issued, of course, on the same day as was Type I which was November 15, 1894.

The late Joseph B. Leavy, who for years was the custodian of the stamp collection in the National Museum, discovered from the records at the Bureau, some years after the stamp was issued, that two types of this denomination existed. It has since been determined that 15 rows of the plate were composed of Type I and the balance of 5 rows were Type II. Since the total issue of the One Dollar value was 35,046 stamps, it seems that the probable distributions of the two types was 26,284 Type I and 8,762 Type II.



Figure 160. One Dollar Type II.

The date of issue was Nov. 15, 1894.

As has been stated before, this type is distinguished by the fact that the circles around "$1" are complete.

This is an exceedingly rare stamp, and were it not for the fact that it is a type rather than a face different variety, and were it not found again on the watermarked paper of the 1895 issue, we venture to say that it would command at least ten times its present price.

No imperforate Type II stamps are known. One pane of Plate 76 had 5 rows of Type II and 5 rows of Type I while the other pane had only Type I. It was from this pane that the imperforates came hence no Type II imperforates are known.

Shades: Black, grayish black.

Varieties: None

Plates: Plate 76 (200 subjects of which 50 were Type II).

Quantity issued: 8,762.

The Two Dollar 1894 (Scott 262, Minkus 185) (Unwatermarked)

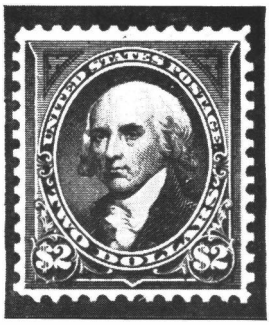


Figure 161. The Two Dollar Stamp of 1894.



Figure 162. A Mint Block of 4.

This stamp was issued on December 10, 1894.

Only 10,027 of this stamp were issued and for some reason the centering on most of the copies we have seen is very poor. When one realizes that just a few copies over 100 panes of this stamp were issued, they can gain some idea as to why the stamp is so scarce today. Experienced collectors usually can spot this stamp by the shade which is just a bit different than that of the stamp printed from the same plate but on the watermarked paper of the 1895 series. It is almost impossible to describe the difference in words but we would say that to us the colors of the 1894 issue appear to be a bit more dull than those of the 1895 issue.

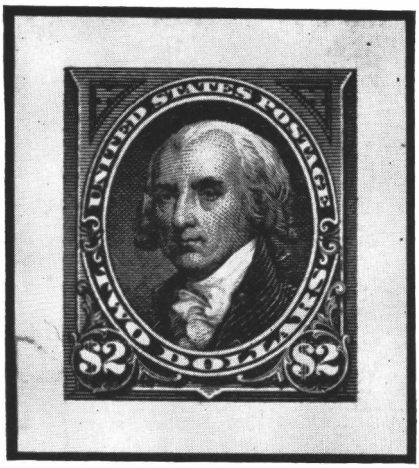


Figure 163. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

There was a fine mint block of four of this stamp in the Crocker collection but blocks in this condition are very rare. We have recently seen a very poorly centered block and poorly centered mint singles are quite often available thru the auctions.

Shades: Dark blue, bright blue.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate 84 (200 subjects).

Quantity issued: 10,027.

The Five Dollar 1894 (Scott 263, Minkus 186)

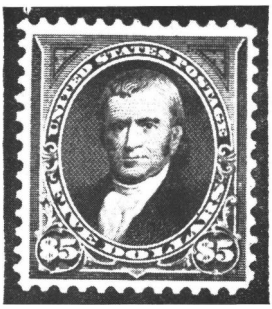


Figure 164. The Five Dollar Stamp of 1894.

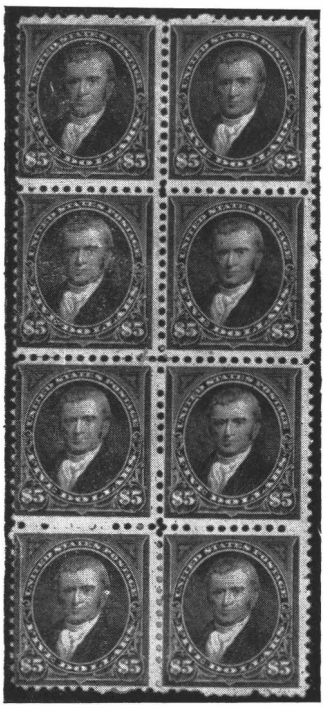


Figure 165. This Mint Block of 8 possibly is the largest known block. (Ex-West collection).

This stamp was issued Dec. 10, 1894.

The $5 is the scarcest stamp in the 1894 series as the total issue of the stamp consisted of 6,251 stamps. It is probable that more of these stamps might have been sold were it not for the fact that speculators were dumping $5 Columbians at a discount from face because the rise they had anticipated had failed to materialize.

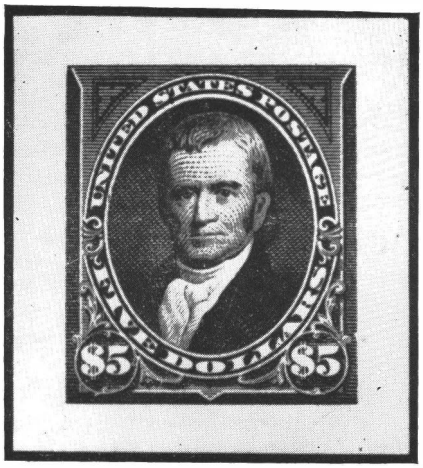


Figure 166. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

It is of interest to note that on the $5 and on the $2 as well, that the circles around the numerals impinge on the colorless arc above them in the same manner as it does on the well-known Type II of the 10c 1898 stamp. This of course also is true for these denominations on the 1895 issue.

The largest block known to me was in the William West collection that was sold by Philip H. Ward, Jr. on April 26-30, 1943. The block consisted of 8 stamps, the perforations touching on the left but it still is a fine and desirable piece.

Shades: Dull dark green.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate 85 (200 subjects).

Quantity issued: 6,251.

Chapter V

THE ISSUE OF 1895-1898

IN 1895 the Bureau of Printing and Engraving decided to print our stamps on paper that was watermarked, in double lined capitals, the letters U S P S. This change in the paper possibly was brought about because of the fact that the "Chicago Counterfeit" had focused attention on the possibility of counterfeiting our stamps and it may have been felt that printing our stamps on watermarked paper would afford additional protection against forgery. George Sloane contended that the watermarked paper likely was on order before the "Chicago Counterfeits" were discovered because it must have taken some time to get this paper into production. When the watermark was first introduced it was so faint that it is difficult to find but it was improved somewhat during the course of time. Nevertheless it is not always easy to see and care must be exercised in checking the 1894 and 1895 stamps which are identical except for the fact that the 1895 issue is watermarked. All of these stamps are perforated 12.

The watermark consisting of double-lined Roman Capitals U S P S, which stand for "United States Postal Service," are 16mm. high and are so arranged that on each pane of 100 stamps they appear 90 times. On stamps from the 400 Subject plates the watermark reads horizontally while on stamps from the 200 subject plates the watermark reads vertically.



Figure 167. A Drawing of the "Double Line" Watermark.

An occasional stamp is found that appears to be on laid paper but these are stamps printed on paper that has had lines pressed into the damp paper while printing with a worn blanket on the printing press.

Luff reported the 1c and 2c as existing on double paper but we do not believe these now are recognized as real varieties.

At various times in 1898 the colors of certain denominations of the stamps were changed. The changes on some denominations were made to conform with the colors assigned these values by the Universal Postal Union while other color changes were made to avoid confusion.

The story of the imperforate varieties of the 1895 issue was so well told by the late George B. Sloane, that we quote directly from his former column in *Stamps:*

"The Imperforate Varieties of 1895

These imperforates came into existence in a very unusual manner, and they are considerably scarcer than the catalog prices would indicate.

At the time they appeared, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing had, but a short time previously, taken over the stamp printing contract from the American Bank Note Co. and were unfamiliar with and inexperienced in quantity production of postage stamps. Gilbert E. Jones, one of the owners of the New York Times, had rendered the Bureau invaluable technical advice and assistance in the organization of their facilities, and the Bureau desired to reward him in some way for his services. Mr. Jones was a well-known collector, interested only in stamps in imperforate pairs, and when the subject was broached he suggested that, while he desired no recompense, if the Bureau could give him an imperforate pair or block of each of the stamps then in current use, for his collection, he would feel more than amply repaid.

The Bureau could not present him with any stamps from their stock, but readily consented to an arrangement whereby Mr. Jones was to purchase perforated sheets of the denominations of stamps then on sale at the post office, and bring them to the Bureau where they would be exchanged for imperforate sheets, and thus the transaction and substitution would in no way upset the accounts of the Bureau, nor the Post Office Department. This exchange was effected, and Mr. Jones brought the stamps to New York, where after selecting what he wanted, he disposed of the balance.

The Scott Co. refused to recognize the varieties as legitimate and excluded them from the catalog on the grounds that they had not been regularly issued and sold through the Post Office Department. For many years they were ignored in the catalog, until about 1910, when a footnote was inserted stating that the varieties had never been used and were only finished proofs. In the 1916 catalog, and editions since, this note was corrected to read that "All denominations of this issue exist imperforate but they were not regularly issued in that condition," which is really the actual status of the stamps.

As the imperforates were taken from the regular stamp stock, they bear the same watermark, gum and other characterists of the perforated issue. The following are the quantities as originally existed: 1c dull blue, 900; 2c carmine, triangle III, 500; 3c dark purple violet, 300; 4c black brown, 300; 5c deep reddish brown, 300; 6c claret brown, 300; 8c deep claret brown, 300; 10c pale dull green, 400; 15c deep indigo, 100; 50c red orange, 100; $1 black, type 1, 100; $2 indigo, 100; $5 dull green, 100.

Sloane later stated he had seen a few philatelically used covers bearing these imperfs that came from the original lot. He saw the 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, and 8c on cover.

GEORGE B. SLOANE."

The One Cent Blue 1895 (Scott 264, Minkus 187)



Figure 168. One Cent Blue Imperforate pair. (Courtesy H. R. Harmer, Inc.).

This stamp was issued on the watermarked paper on April 29, 1895 and remained in use for about 2 years and 9 months.

The stamp appeared in various shades of blue, the lighter shades being issued first, and these shades are more scarce than the darker shades that followed.

A total of 77 plates were used to print the stamp, most of which are about equally common with the exception of Plates 24, 29, 33 and 35 which are quite rare. Plates 298, 304, 493, 494, 495, and 496 are a bit more scarce than the common plates. Plate 309 was finished but it never was used.

The 1c, as do all the other denominations of this 1895 series, exists imperforate but as such was not regularly issued and we believe the imperforates should be considered as finished plate proofs. This does not mean that they are not desirable and collectable items for it is the author's opinion that all such things add greatly to the value and interest of any collection. We do of course hold that they should be sold as proofs and not as stamps.

The stamp exists imperforate vertically and it is our understanding that the only item known in this condition is a horizontal plate strip of three. This strip was for years in the collection of N. Haskell Withee, who at the turn of the Century was one of our great U. S. collectors. Withee was a great auction buyer and when he raised his hand for a lot it was a rare occasion when the lot went to anyone but himself. Most of his tremendous collection was disposed of many years ago but he was one of the first of our collectors that really bought on a grand scale.

Shades: Pale blue, blue, dark blue, indigo.

Varieties: Imperforate vertically, double transfer.

Plates: Plates 24, 29, 33, 35, 98, 99, 101, 102, 119, 120, 121, 122, 165, 166, 167, 168, 177, 178, 179, 180, 234, 237, 240, 245, 276, 277, 278, 280, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 304, 308, 310, 313, 314, 333, 334, 335, 336, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 350, 352, 355, 360, 362, 365, 366, 367, 369, 370, 371, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 452, 453, 454, 455, 493, 494, 495, 496 (all 400 subject plates).

Cancellations: China, Philippines, Samoa.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 1,971,338,063.

The One Cent Green 1898 (Scott 279, Minkus 188)



Figure 169. One Cent 1898.

This stamp was issued in green on January 17, 1898, the change in color being brought about to conform with the colors assigned for the 1c value by the Universal Postal Union.

Some of the plates used in printing this stamp must have been used for a very limited time as in some cases, such as Plates 441 and 442, only one or two plate number strips are known to exist.

This stamp is found with the surcharge "I. R." in two styles of type and these were used as Internal Revenue stamps. They were brought into use at the time of the Spanish-American war because the Bureau did not have sufficient time to engrave new revenue stamps. The small plain letters, printed in red, were first used for this surcharge and this stock of these revenue stamps was sent to western offices. Later the surcharge was made with larger letters, in red, in Roman Capitals. This overprint in the large letters is found inverted as well as normal. These stamps that were overprinted do not figure in the quantity of the postage stamps issued for they were drawn from the reserve stock of the Bureau.

This stamp is found overprinted for use in Cuba, Guam, Porto Rico, and the Philippine Islands after we occupied those islands following the successful conclusion of the War with Spain.

Shades: Deep green, green, yellow green, dark yellow green.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: 439-442, 446, 452, 493-496, 526-529, 534-549, 564-567, 572-575, 766-773, 794-797, 810-813, 818-833, 846-849, 862-865, 936-947, 952-979, 984-987, 992-995, 1000-1007, 1012-1023, 1028-1031, 1042-1045, 1050-1053, 1058-1065, plus 107 other plates up to Plate 1508 whose actual numbers are not known to the author.

Cancellations: China, Guam, Philippines, Porto Rico.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 5,216,159,932.

The Two Cent Triangle I 1895 (Scott 265, Minkus 189)

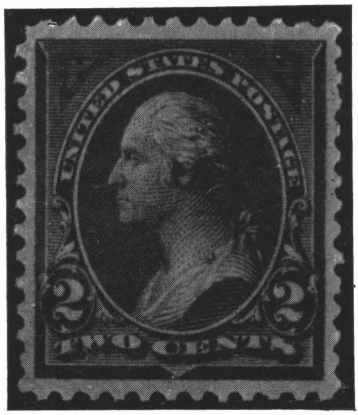


Figure 170. Two Cent 1895, Triangle I.

This stamp was issued on May 2, 1895. It is not known how long this stamp stayed in production but it was not long until it was superceded by the stamps bearing triangle II and those bearing triangle III.

Of the 17 plates used to produce this stamp, plate 116 obviously was used the least as plate number blocks from this plate are very difficult to find.

Some of the early printings of this stamp had the rough perforations that are more commonly found on the unwatermarked stamps of the 1894 series so it is necessary to check the watermark on these stamps if one is to be certain as to what he has.

Shades: Carmine, deep carmine.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates 78, 79, 80, 82, 99, 96, 97, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 124, 125, 144.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 300,000,000.

The Two Cent Triangle II 1895 (Scott 266, Minkus 190)

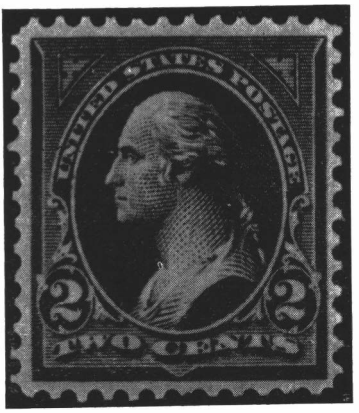


Figure 171. Two Cent 1895, Type II.

The exact date of issue of this stamp with Triangle II is not known but it probably was in the early summer of 1898. The stamp was printed from 6 plates, one of which, Plate 170, contained both Triangle II and Triangle III stamps. This plate was a 400 subject plate as were all of the 2c plates of this issue and in the upper left pane the first three rows were Triangle II while the remaining 7 rows were Triangle III. All the balance of the stamps on the remaining 3 panes of the plate were Triangle III. This plate was in regular use and offers a good indication that the Bureau considered the triangle variations of little importance for they not only used three types of triangles but as is shown by the stamps from Plate 170, they used two types of triangles on the same plate.

The fact that both Triangle II and Triangle III were on Plate 170 was soon discovered and there was of course an immediate search for the upper left pane from this plate. A number were found and saved but the combination of the two triangle types in one block is not too easy to find.



Figure 172. Combination pairs of Type II and Type III of the 1895 issue are not common. This is particularly true of such a pair on cover. (Courtesy Alvin Hyman).

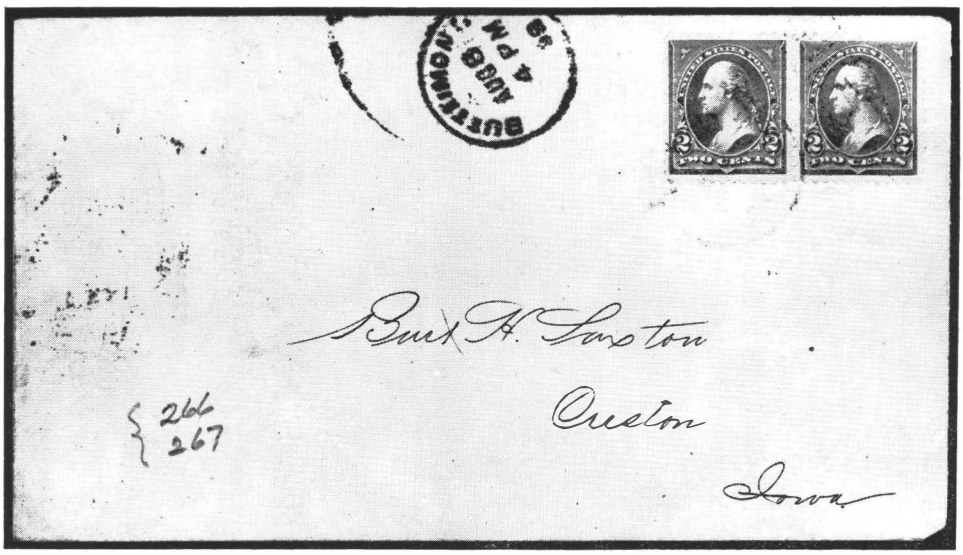


Figure 173. A nice pair of the 2c 1895, the right stamp is Type II and the other is Type III. Not rare but interesting. (Courtesy Alvin Hyman).

Shades: Carmine.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plates 126, 131, 132, 133, 169, part of Plate 170.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 125,000,000.

The Two Cent Carmine Triangle III 1895 (Scott 267, Minkus 191)

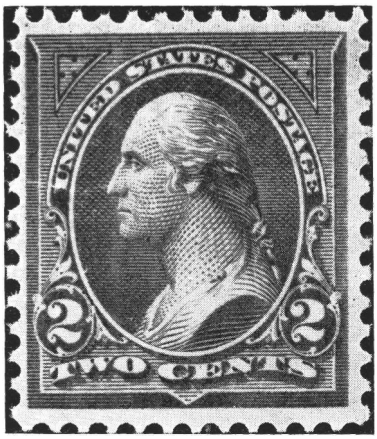


Figure 174. Two Cent 1895, Triangle III.

The actual date of issue of this stamp is not known but it likely was during the early summer of 1895.

This stamp comes in a number of shades of carmine, deep carmine, and pale carmine and it is not always as easy as one might think to determine whether or not some stamps should be considered as issued in the 1895 series or in the 1898 series. Of course the main shades of both series are easy to distinguish but there are some shades that border on pink and these pink shades are usually misplaced. These particular shades are usually assigned to 1895 but the truth of the matter is that they were issued with the 1898 series.

In any event, this particular 2c stamp of 1895 is a very common one and despite the fact that it is now over 50 years old it will not bring as much by the hundred as the most recent and current commemorative.

One of the most interesting plate varieties of this whole series is to be found on this stamp for there is a variety of the upper right triangle in which the shading lines within the triangle are entirely lacking. Despite the fact that the current "catalog price" is quite low, this is a very rare stamp and most collectors have never seen one. We recall a copy on cover and believe it was on some material from the Major Guy A. Camp collection that we handled some time ago. We have heard of a strip of three in which one stamp showed the variety and we have had three singles of the stamp. It is hard to explain such a variety as those that we have seen did not appear to be from a badly worn plate. Apparently the stamp came from one position on a plate and must have been the result of a defective entry that may have been caused thru the use of a transfer roll that had started to go bad. While "fly-speck" varieties can be found on nearly every denomination of stamps, one fairly prominent variety recently shown us consisted of a heavy slightly diagonal gash thru the left "2" with another vertical gash just outside the left numeral circle.

Another interesting variety, which may or may not be a genuine item, and at best is an unissued trial variety, is an unused horizontal pair of this stamp that has hyphen hole perforations similar to those on the Battleship revenue stamps. This pair was sold in the Carl Pelander Sale of February 3-6, 1943.

This stamp is found overprinted, with the names of the countries involved for use in Cuba, Guam, Philippines, and Porto Rico. The overprint for Porto Rico is found as "Puerto Rico" and "Porto Rico."



Figure 175. Two Cent Triangle III Imperforate pair. (Courtesy H. R. Harmer, Inc.).

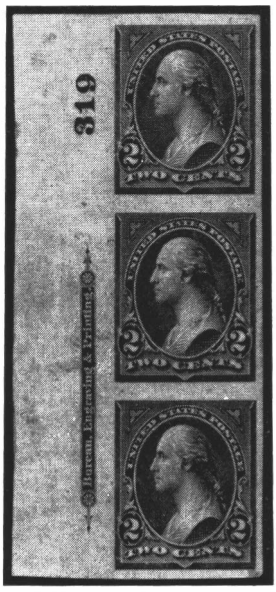


Figure 176. A vertical Imprint and Plate No. 319 strip of three of the 2c Type III of the 1895 issue. (Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

Shades: Pale carmine, carmine, dark carmine.

Varieties: Double transfer, Triple transfer, Triangle at upper right without shading.

Plates: 141-146, 148-158, 160, 170-176, 181-188, 191, 198-233, 235, 236, 238, 239, 241-244, 275, 276, 279, 281-283, 290-293, 307, 311, 312, 315-332, 337-343. 349, 354, 356, 358, 361, 363, 364, 368, 372, 374, 376, 379, 382-385, 387, 388, 393-406, 411-438, 464-491, 497-517, 522-525, 550-563, 593-596- 745-748, 753-756, 758-765, 774-789, 798-809, 814-817, 838-845, 850-861, 866, 867, 869, 870, 875-878, 885-888, 895-898, 904-907, 910-921, 926, 927, 1008-1011, 1024-1027, 1032-1035, 1038-1041, 1046-1049, 1054-1057, 1066-1077, 1080.

Cancellations: China, Philippines, Samoa.

Quantity issued: Estimated at about 7,475,000,000.

The Two Cent Red 1898, Triangle III (Scott 279B, Minkus 192)

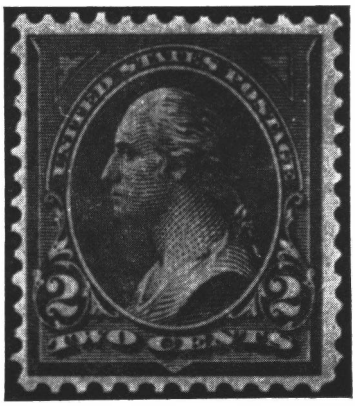


Figure 177. Two Cent Red.

This stamp came only in Triangle III and is identical to the Triangle III stamp of the 1895 series except that there was a little change in the color of the stamp.

The date of issue of this stamp in the color change is not definitely known although it was during the middle part of 1898 that the stamp first appeared. It is not likely that you will find it on covers to Spain or its Colonies during the period of the Spanish-American War for mail was prohibited between those areas and the U. S. during the war.

On April 2, 1900 this stamp was issued in booklet panes, which were the invention of Third Assistant Post Master General Madden. These booklet panes were printed from special plates that consisted of 360 stamps to the

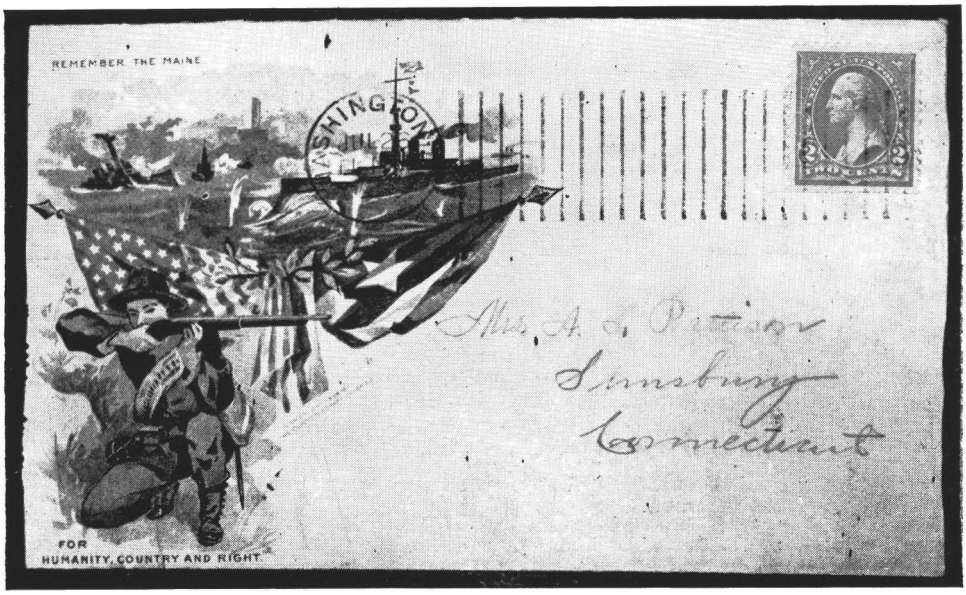


Figure 178. A Fine Spanish-American War Patriotic Cover. (Jefferson Jones collection).

plate and it is our understanding that there were four sets of 4 plates each used for the printing of these booklet panes.

In the shades in which this stamp usually is found, orange red, and red, this stamp is common. It also comes in a shade of pink that has never been given catalog recognition but it is a most distinct shade, not particularly uncommon, and certainly a part of the 1898 issue. The really scarce shade of the 1898 2c is the rose carmine. It is a shade not too unlike the pink of the 1861 series except that it is considerably darker. Old time collectors say the stamp has a "bluish tinge" and, unfortunately, that is about as far as we can go with words to describe it. Despite its scarcity there was a complete pane of 100 in the Col. Green Collection.

This 2c 1898 stamp was superseded on January 17, 1903 but during the time it was in use it was issued in tremendous quantities.

I believe that most collectors have seen uses of our 1898 stamps from our Military Stations established in occupied Spanish Colonies during our war with Spain in 1898.

On April 26, 1898 the transmission of all mail was prohibited, by order of the Postmaster General, between the United States and Spain or any Spanish Colony. On June 7, 1898 the Postmaster General amended his previous order so that articles of mail for or from persons connected with the United States forces were made subject to the postage notes that applied to domestic mails.

To simplify the military postal service, the 3 war theaters were considered as branches of the certain Continental U. S. post offices. The Philippine area was handled as a branch of the San Francisco Post Office, the Cuba area was handled as a branch of the New York Post Office and the Puerto Rico area by the Washington, D. C. Post Office.

As has been noted, members of or people connected with the U. S. forces could send or receive mail paid at the domestic rate of 2c but civilians were required to pay the International Rate of 5c per half ounce. Letters sent to civilians were usually rated as postage due if not prepaid at the International Rate.

Many military branch stations were established; as an example there were 21 Puerto Rico military branch stations alone and these were of course considered as branches of the Washington, D. C. Post Offices. An intensive study of these Puerto Rico stations was made by R. B. Preston who is well known as an expert on Porto Rico stamp and postal history.

The stamp is found overprinted with various country names, for use in Cuba, Philippines, and Porto Rico.

Shades: Orange red, red, rose carmine, pink.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Many of the plates used to produce the Triangle III stamp of the 1895 series were used to print this stamp, and in addition, 139 other plates ending with Plate No. 1493 were used. The booklet panes were produced from Plates 988-991, 1008-1011, 1271-1274, and 1324-1327.

Cancellations: Supplementary Mail Type G, China, Cuba, Guam, Philippines, Porto Rico, Samoa.

Quantity issued: Estimated at about 12,000,000,000.

The Three Cent 1895 (Scott 268, Minkus 193)



Figure 179. Three Cent 1895.

This stamp was issued on October 31, 1895 and was not superseded until February 11, 1903 when the 3c of the 1902 issue was issued.

Because of the fact that there was no 3c letter rate during the time this stamp was current most of these stamps were used on other than first class mail. For that reason the cancellations are liable to be a little heavy but the stamp is still plentiful so decent copies are not too difficult to obtain.

This stamp is found overprinted with the various country names for use in Cuba, Guam, and Philippines.



Figure 179a. Three Cent Imperforate pair. (Courtesy H. R. Harmer, Inc.).

The imperforates of this issue were not regularly issued.

Shades: Dark violet, purple, bright purple, dark purple.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates 91, 95, 103, 107, 447, 448, 449, 450, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, (200 subject plates).

Cancellations: Philippines.

Quantity issued: 203,057,170.

The Four Cent Dark Brown 1895 (Scott 269, Minkus 194)



Figure 180. Four Cent 1895.

This stamp was issued on June 5, 1895 in dark brown but was superseded by a color change on October 7, 1898.

As was the case of the 5c, the plates of the 4c wore rapidly due to natural impurities in the ink which was made of earthen ingredients.



Figure 181. Four Cent Imperforate pair. (Courtesy of H. R. Harmer, Inc.).

The remarks made about the imperforates of the other values of this issue apply equally to the imperforates of the 4c. It is our understanding that 300 of the 4c imperforate got out of the Bureau.

Shades: Black brown, dark brown, dark yellow brown.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates 92, 94, 104, 106, 194, 195, 196, 197, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463.

Cancellations: Philippines, Samoa.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 78,167,836.

The Four Cent Rose Brown 1898
(Scott 280, Minkus 195)



Figure 182. Four Cent 1898.

The earliest date of use is currently listed as Oct. 7, 1898.

This stamp is identical with the 4c 1895 except that the color has been changed from the dark brown and dark yellow brown of the 1895 issue to various lighter shades of brown as listed below. As a matter of fact, this stamp runs to nearly a dozen easily separated shades.

This stamp was overprinted for use in the Philippines and Guam of which 309,814 copies of the Philippines overprinted stamp and 5,000 of the stamp overprinted Guam were sold.

Shades: Rose brown, lilac brown, brownish claret, orange brown, deep orange brown.

Varieties: Double transfer, Extra frame line at top.

Plates: Plates 460, 461, 462, 463, 530, 531, 532, 533, 70, 791, 792, 793, 1100, 1101, 1102, 1103, 1332, 1333, 1334, 1335. (200 subject plates).

Cancellations: Supplementary Mail Type G, China, Philippines.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 153,499,379.

The Five Cent Chocolate 1895
(Scott 270, Minkus 196)



Figure 183. Five Cent 1895.

This stamp was issued on June 11, 1895 in various shades of brown and was superseded on March 8, 1898 with a color change to blue in order to comply with the color scheme recommended by the Universal Postal Union.

As was the case with the 4c of this same issue, the plates of the 5c stamp wore out rapidly because of the impurities that are a characteristic of the ink used in the production of these stamps. In spite of the fairly small number of stamps that were produced, it took no less than 24 plates for the printing.

The usual imperforates exist but they were not regularly issued and we rate them as proofs.

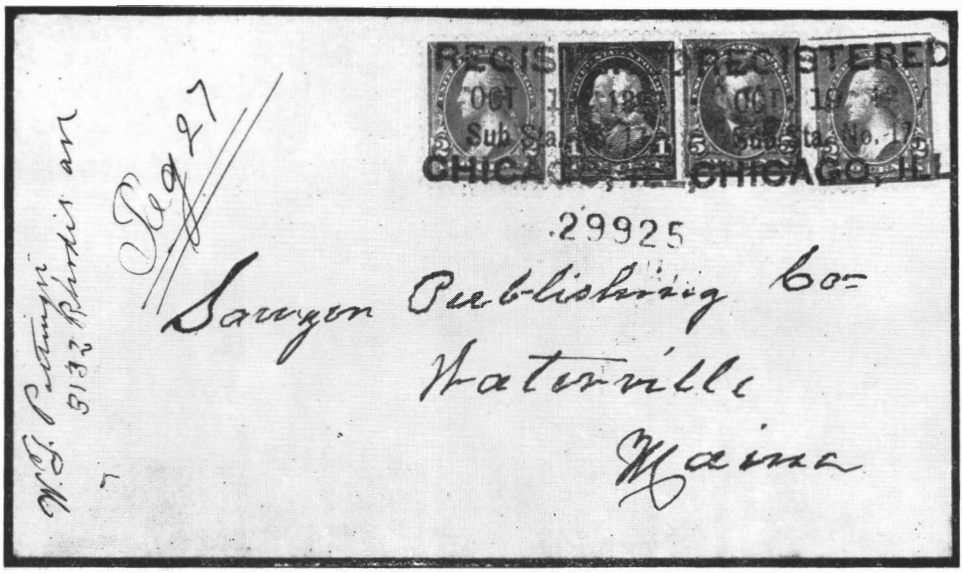


Figure 184. A valuable cover? Not at all but it is well worth while because of the cancellations. (Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

Shades: Chocolate, deep brown, chestnut, reddish brown.
Varieties: Double transfer, Worn plate with diagonal lines missing in oval background.
Plates: Plates 128, 129, 130, 134, 161, 162, 163, 164, 189, 190, 192, 193, 250, 251, 252, 253, 351, 353, 357, 359, 389, 390, 391, 392.
Cancellations: Supplementary Mail Type G, China.
Quantity issued: Estimated at 123,775,455.

The Five Cent Dark Blue 1898
(Scott 281, Minkus 197)



Figure 185. Five Cent 1898.

This stamp, now issued in various shades of blue, was changed to this color in order to conform with the color scheme of the Universal Postal Union. It was issued on March 8, 1898 and was superseded on January 20, 1903 by the 5 cent stamp of the 1902 series.

This stamp is about twice as common as the 5c brown of the 1895 series, which it replaced. It was overprinted for use in Cuba, Guam, Philippines, and Porto Rico.



Figure 186. Two 5c 1895 carried this Registered cover. (Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

Stamps printed from plates 1217-1220 are extremely rare.

Shades: Dark blue, blue, bright blue, light blue.

Varieties: Double transfer, Worn plate with diagonal lines missing in oval background.

Plates: Plates 389, 390, 391, 392, 407, 408, 409, 410, 834, 835, 836, 837, 948, 949, 950, 951, 980, 981, 982, 983, 1084, 1085, 1086, 1087, 1199, 1200, 1201, 1202, 1217, 1218, 1219, 1220. (200 subject plates).

Cancellations: Supplementary Mail Type G, China, Cuba, Guam, Philippines.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 279,622,170.

The Six Cent Dull Brown 1895
(Scott 271, Minkus 198)



Figure 187. Six Cent 1895. (This cut is dark and triangles barely show in illustration).

This stamp was issued on August 31, 1895, in dull brown and was superseded by a change of color on December 31, 1898.

This stamp was printed on hand presses with but one plate being used at a time rather than a series of four as was used on the smaller denominations.

The stamp exists printed on the revenue paper that is watermarked U S I R in Double lined capitals but since it is necessary to find a stamp that is watermarked with the "I" or the "R" before it is possible to recognize that the stamp is on revenue paper, the variety is seldom found. J. Murray Bartels once stated that the first copy of this variety was found in 1904 by R. W. Ashcroft and that a companion copy was not found for some time. He also stated that a New York collector examined some 60,000 of these stamps and found just three copies bearing an "I" or an "R." If this 60,000 represented a fair sample, and no doubt it did, then something like 2,000 of these stamps on revenue paper might be found if every one of the 6c that was issued could be examined. As it now stands, it is doubtful if a hundred copies are in collectors hands and nearly every known copy is used.

The stamp is occasionally found on a very thin paper and in the unused stamps this is not particularly scarce.

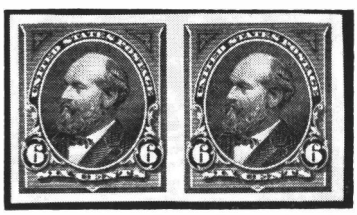


Figure 188. Six Cent Imperforate pair. (Courtesy of H. R. Harmer, Inc.).

The imperforates of this item were not regularly issued.

Shades: Dull brown, claret brown, dull claret.

Varieties: On Revenue paper.

Plates: Plates 28, 184, 248, 373, 386, 451.

Cancellations: Philippines.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 20,712,875.

The Six Cent Lake 1898 (Scott 282, Minkus 199)

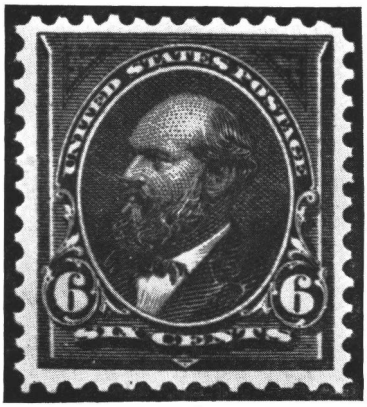


Figure 189. Six Cent 1898.

This denomination, in the new colors as indicated below, was issued on December 31, 1898 and was superseded on February 20, 1903 by the 6c of the 1902 series.

The earliest shade of this stamp, purple lake, was the most handsome color used on any of the 6c Bureau printings. This shade was printed only from Plate No. 554 and while it is the most scarce of the shades used on the 6c it still is readily obtainable and should be in every collection.

The stamp is difficult to find on a small cover except on Registered Letters.

This stamp was overprinted with the country names and used in Guam and the Philippines.

Shades: Lake, purple lake, claret brown, claret.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates 554, 922, 923, 924, 925.

Cancellations: Supplementary Mail Type G, China, Philippines.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 46,457,540.

The Eight Cent Violet Brown 1895
(Scott 272, Minkus 200)

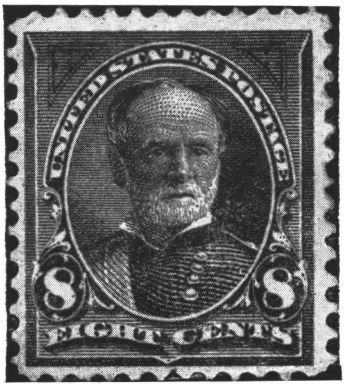


Figure 191. Eight Cent 1895.

This stamp was issued on July 22, 1895 and was superseded December 6, 1902 by the 8c of the 1902 series.

The principal use of this denomination was to pay the Registration fee which at that time was 8c. It is still a common stamp in used condition.

As was the case with the 6c, this stamp was accidentally printed on Revenue paper. While it is a rare stamp on this paper it is probably found 8 or 10 time as often as is the 6c. Most of the known copies are used but it does exist in unused condition and it has been so found in a Plate number strip of three.

For several years this denomination was printed from single 200 subject plates on hand presses but later on the machine presses using four plates were put into use.

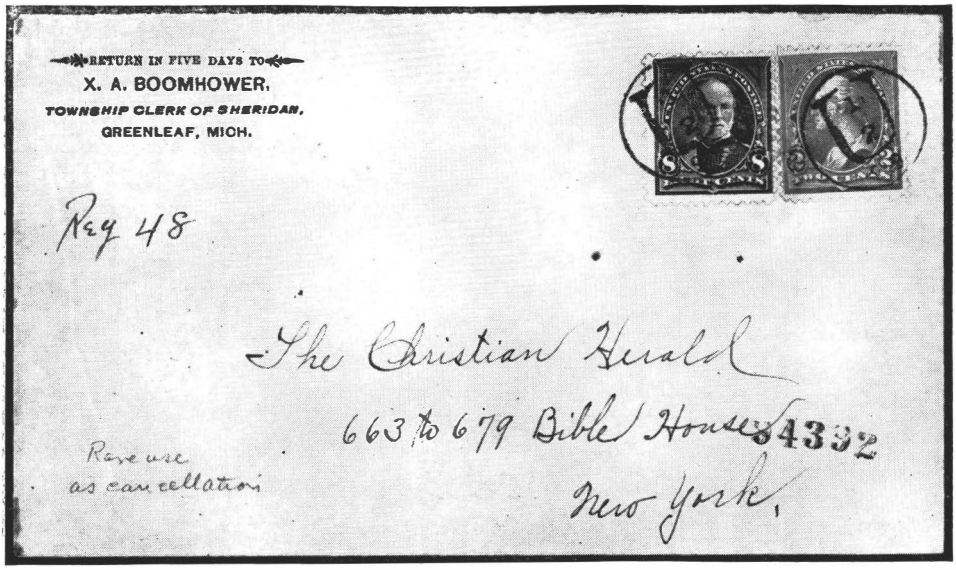


Figure 190. A fancy little cover with the 2c and 8c 1895 with the 8c paying the Registry Fee. (Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

The imperforates of this stamp were not regularly issued.
This stamp was overprinted for use in Guam, Philippines, and Porto Rico.

Shades: Violet brown, dark violet brown, claret brown.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates 58, 249, 555, 928, 929, 930, 931, 1094, 1095, 1096, 1097.

Cancellations: Supplementary Mail Type G, China, Guam, Philippines, Porto Rico, Samoa.

Quantity issued: 96,217,820.

The Ten Cent Green 1895 (Scott 273, Minkus 201)

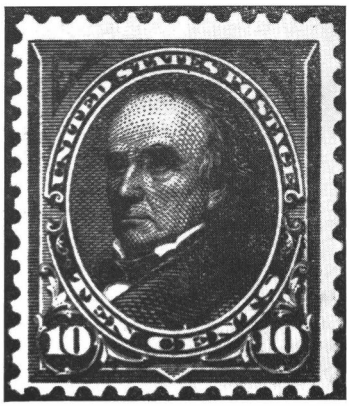


Figure 192. Ten Cent 1895.

This stamp was issued on June 7, 1895 in green and was superseded by a change in color on November 11, 1898.

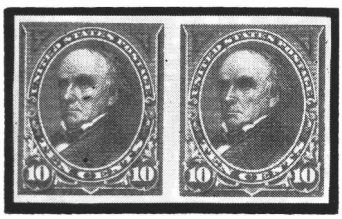


Figure 193. Ten Cent Imperforate pair. (Courtesy of H. R. Harmer, Inc.).

An imperforate sheet of 400 reached philatelic hands but these items were not regularly issued and should be considered as plate proofs.

Shades: Dark green, green.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates 55, 62, 63, 64, 302, 303, 305, 306 (400 subject plates).

Cancellations: Supplementary Mail Type F or G, Cuba, Philippines.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 59,983,007.

The Ten Cent Brown Type I 1898 (Scott 282C, Minkus 202)

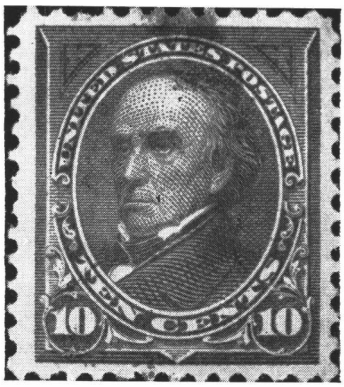


Figure 194. The Ten Cent Stamp of 1898, Type I.

This stamp was issued on November 11, 1898 in brown and represented a color change from the 10c 1895. This change was made because the 1c was being issued in green. In this Type I, which is the same type as the 10c 1895, the tips of the foliate ornaments do not impinge on the white curved line below "ten cents" while on Type II the tips of the ornaments break the curved line below the "e" of "Ten" and the "t" of "Cents."

This stamp was overprinted with the country names for use in Cuba, Guam, Philippines, and Porto Rico.

Shades: Brown, dark brown.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates 302, 303, 305, 306, 519, 520, 521, 932, probably 933.

Cancellations: Supplementary Mail Type G.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 42,000,000.

The Ten Cent Orange Brown Type II 1898 (Scott 283, Minkus 203)

As can be seen in the illustration on Type II the tips of the foliate ornaments impinge on the colorless curved line below the words "Ten Cents". I presume it has not usually been noted that this is also the case on the 10c of the 1890 Issue. This stamp was almost certainly made from a duplicate die of the 10c 1890 on which the triangles were engraved. While I certainly do not think our cataloging system should be changed at this late date, it seems possible that the Type II was produced before Type I which must have been made from an altered die. It can hardly be claimed that it is of world-shaking importance as to which was produced first, Type I or Type II.

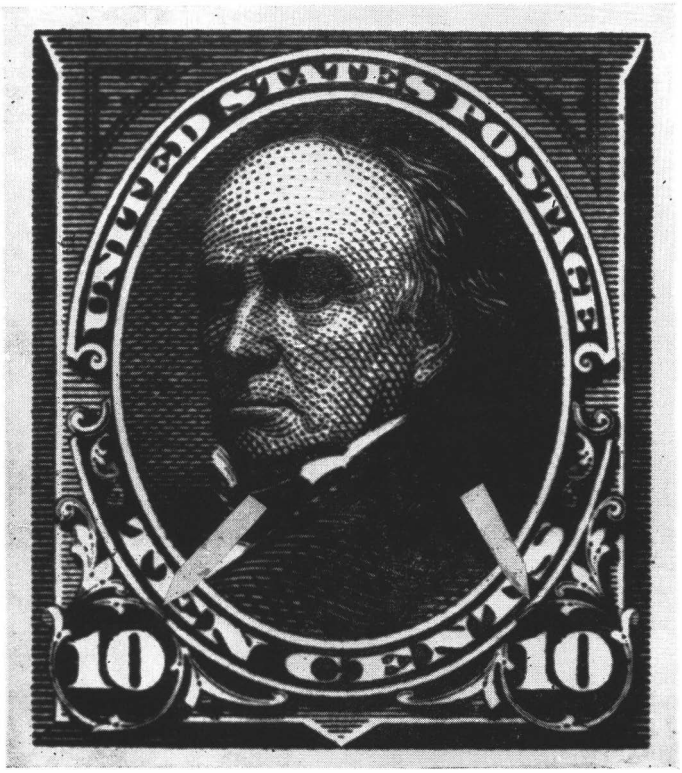


Figure 195. The Ten Cent Stamp of 1898, Type II.

It is not definitely known when this type came into use but it seems probable that it first appeared at about the turn of the century.

Plate 932, one of the plates used to produce the ten cent stamps of this series, is a most interesting plate because of the fact that it contains 7 entries from the transfer roll bearing the Type II relief. It seems obvious that these entries, which represent only 7 out of 400 positions on the plate, the balance of 393 positions being Type I, are the result of seven reentries being made in positions that had been improperly entered and then erased. The Type II roll was used by mistake and the result was that Type I and Type II can be found in a pair. These items are rare, particularly in used condition.

This stamp was overprinted with the country names for use in Guam and Philippines. It also exists overprinted "Cuba" but these few copies are from

3 sheets that were specially printed for display at the Paris Exhibition. All but a very few copies were destroyed and none were regularly issued.

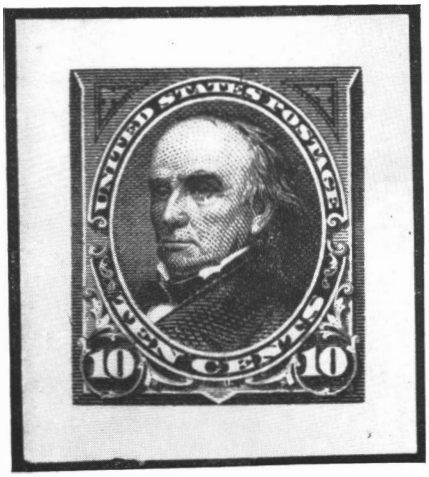


Figure 196. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

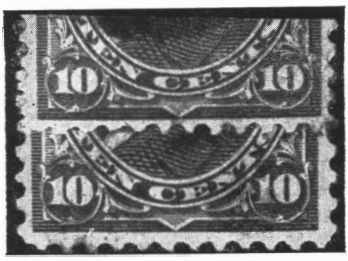


Figure 197. Stamp at Top is Type I, at Bottom is Type II.

Shades: Orange brown, brown, yellow brown.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate 932 (7 subjects only), Plate 934 (?), Plates 935, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1336, 1337, 1338, 1339.

Cancellations: Supplementary Mail Type G, China, Porto Rico.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 65,000,000.

The Fifteen Cent Dark Blue 1895 (Scott 274, Minkus 204)

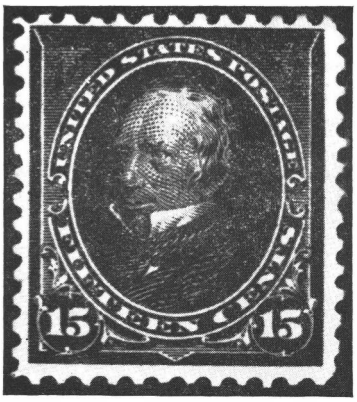


Figure 198. Fifteen Cent 1895 (Blue).

This stamp was issued on September 10, 1895 in blue and was superseded on November 30, 1898 by a color change.

Only two plates were required to print this stamp.

The 15c exists imperforate but it was not issued in this form.

Shades: Dark blue, indigo.
Varieties: None.
Plates: Plate 52, 264.
Cancellations: Supplementary Mail Type G, China, Philippines.
Quantity issued: 7,013,612.

The Fifteen Cent Olive Green 1898 (Scott 284, Minkus 205)



Figure 199. Fifteen Cent 1898.

Despite the fact that over twice as many of this stamp was issued as its immediate predecessor, I consider it considerably more difficult to obtain in very fine used condition.

This stamp was issued on November 30, 1898 in olive green and represented only a color change from the 15c blue of 1895. This was the first U. S. stamp issued in this color. The change was made because the 5c was now being printed in blue in accordance with the scheme of colors adopted by the Universal Postal Union. It was superseded on May 27, 1903 by the 15c of the 1902 issue.

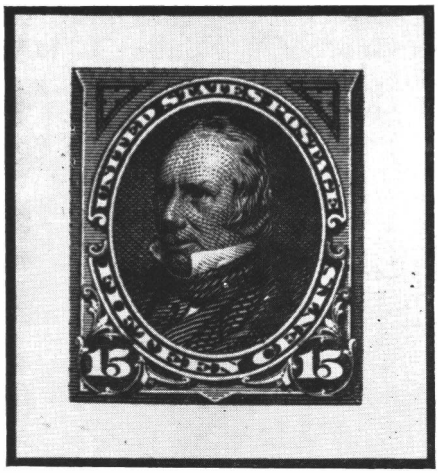


Figure 200. Small Die Proof. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

One sheet of this stamp was found with an extremely faint impression in a yellowish green shade. Apparently the plate was very lightly inked and this very faint impression was the result.

Only one plate was used to produce this stamp and that plate also was used for the 15c blue which preceded this stamp.

The stamp was overprinted for use in Guam and in the Philippines. 4,000 or 5,000 were overprinted for Guam and 200,000 were overprinted for the Philippines.

Shades: Olive green, dark olive green.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate 264.

Cancellations: Supplementary Mail Type F or G, China, Samoa.

Quantity issued: Estimated at 15,993,313.

The Fifty Cent 1895 (Scott 275, Minkus 206)



Figure 201. Fifty Cent 1895.

This stamp was issued on November 9, 1895 and was superseded by the 50c of the 1902 series on March 23, 1903.

Most of these stamps can be told at a glance from those of the 1894 series because of the difference in the color. The stamps of the 1895 series that are of a red orange shade can instantly be assigned to their proper place because none of the 1894 stamps are found in this shade.

This is the first denomination in the series that might be called fairly scarce in block form. Fine used blocks are difficult to obtain because they usually are cancelled too heavily to be attractive.

This stamp was overprinted for use in Guam and in the Philippines. The transport bearing the first consignment of the 50c to the Philippines was sunk and the 50,000 copies of the 50c and 150,000 copies of the 15c that it was carrying had to be replaced by a second shipment. This second shipment contained a sizeable quantity of unwatermarked 50c taken from old stock on hand at the Bureau. 4,000 copies of the 50c were overprinted for use in Guam and all were on the watermarked paper.

The imperforates of the 50c 1895 were not regularly issued.

Shades: Deep orange, pale red orange, red orange, deep red orange.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate 75.

Cancellations: Supplementary Mail Type F or G, China.

Quantity issued: 1,065,390.

The One Dollar Type I 1895 (Scott 276, Minkus 207)



Figure 202. One Dollar 1895, Type I.

This stamp was issued on August 12, 1895 and was superseded on June 5, 1903 by the $1 of the 1902 series.

Since this stamp was printed from the same plate as was the $1 stamp of the 1894 series, it can be found in a pair with Type II. As will be remembered from the information given on the $1 1894, Type I has the circles enclosing "1" broken where they meet the curved line below "One Dollar" while in the Type II stamps the circles are complete. Eugene Costales once sold a beautiful Imprint block of 20 from Plate 76 that was composed of 10 Type I and 10 Type II. This block was from the Henry B. Close collection.

This stamp was overprinted for use in Guam and for use in the Philippines.

The imperforates of this item were not regularly issued.

Shades: Black, grayish black, greenish black.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate 76 (15 of the 20 rows were Type I).

Cancellation varieties: None.

Quantity issued: 192,449.

The One Dollar Type II 1895 (Scott 276A, Minkus 208)



Figure 203. A pair of One Dollar 1895, Type II.

This stamp was of course issued at the same time as was the Type I which was on August 12, 1895.

This variety was discovered by Joseph B. Leavy, who was in charge of the philatelic collection at the National Museum. Mr. Leavy discovered the existence of this type when he was examining plates and records at the Bureau. In these days of "fly speck philately" we imagine that this variety would have been illustrated in the philatelic press within a week of the date of issue!



Figure 204. A Block of Four containing 2 copies of Type 1 and 2 copies of Type II. (Ex-West collection).

This stamp was surcharged for use in the Philippines. A total of 3,000 of this value was surcharged for such use and while Bartels, who had good access to the records, stated that half of these were Type I and half were Type II, and Type II stamp seems to be somewhat the scarcer of the two types. The stamp also exists overprinted "Guam," of which the 3,000 copies sent to that island were all Type I but some Type II stamps did receive the overprint and were sent to the Postal Union. Such Type II stamps with the "Guam" overprint as now are in philatelist's hands came from this source.

Shades: Black, grayish black, greenish black.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate 76 (5 of the 20 rows were Type II).

Cancellation varieties: None.

Quantity issued: 63,803.

The Two Dollar 1895 (Scott 277, Minkus 209)

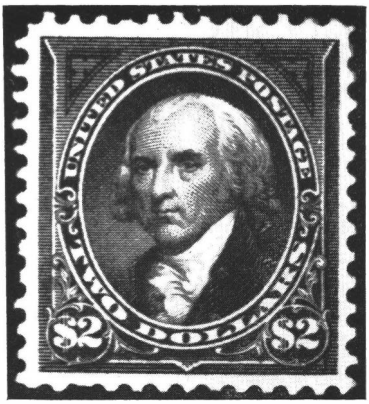


Figure 205. Two Dollar 1895.



Figure 206. A fine Mint Block of 4. (Ex-West collection).

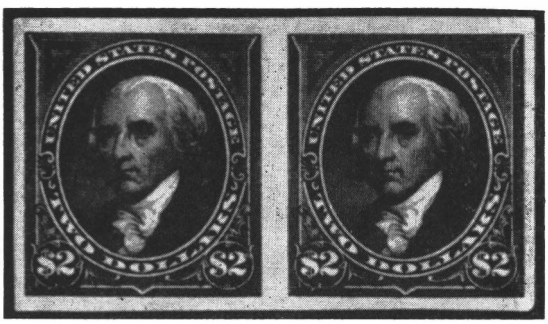


Figure 207. Two Dollar 1895 Imperforate pair. (Courtesy Robert A. Siegel).

This denomination on the watermarked paper of the 1895 series was issued on August 13, 1895 and was superseded by the $2 of the 1902 series on June 5, 1903. It is scarce as the total issue was only 31,720 stamps.

The imperforate of this item was not regularly issued. It is our understanding that only 100 copies were obtained from the Bureau so it is more scarce than the imperforates of the lower denominations.

A great many of the copies of this stamp that have been saved in used condition have been obtained in Europe. It is fortunate that it long has been the custom in Europe to save nearly everything that comes to hand in the way of a stamp else these stamps would be much more rare than they are. Despite the fact that the $2 was issued in a little larger quantity than was the $5 it is our opinion that it is the scarcer stamp of the two. Nearly all of the stamps that were used bear the cancellations applied to second and third class matter although of course a sizeable number of them were used on registered bank mail.

While this stamp, like nearly every 19th century U. S. stamp, is difficult to find in superb condition, it does come much better centered than the unwatermarked $2 stamp that preceded it.

The current value of the stamp on cover, which is about two to three times that of one off cover, does not reflect the relative scarcity of such items but the relative demand for them.

Unused blocks of four are occasionally seen in the auctions but used blocks are extremely scarce.

Shades: Blue, dark blue, bright blue.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate 84 (200 subjects).

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type G

Quantity issued: 31,720.

The Five Dollar 1895 (Scott 278, Minkus 210)



Figure 208. Five Dollar 1895.

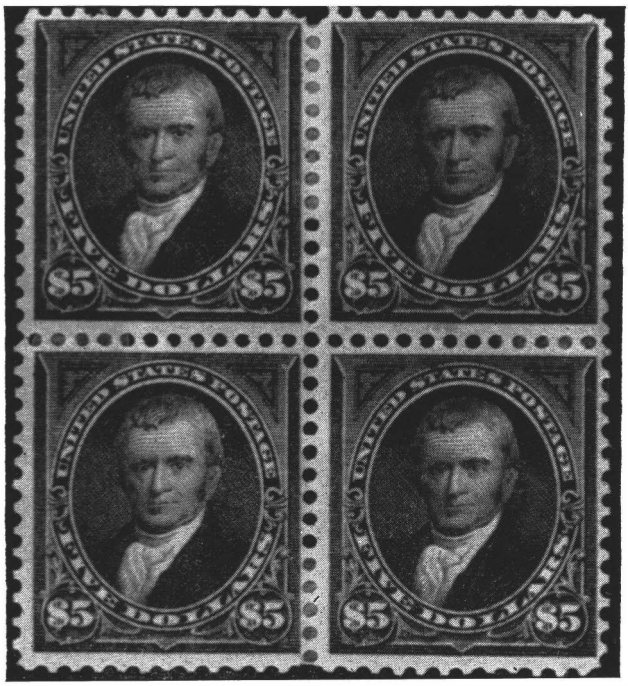


Figure 209. A Mint Block of 4. (Ex-West collection).

This stamp was issued on August 16, 1895 and was superseded on June 5, 1903 by the $5 of the 1902 series.

As might be expected, this is the scarcest of the stamps of the 1895 series. Only 26,965 of this value were issued and the shades in which this stamp are found are so uniform that it seems to indicate that all of the stamps were made in one printing.

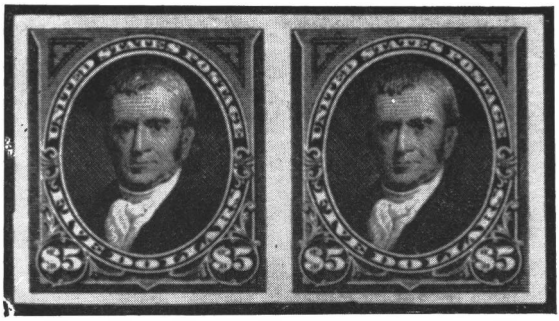


Figure 210. Five Dollar 1895 Imperforate pair. (Courtesy Robert A. Siegel).

As was the case with the $2, only 100 of the imperforates got out of the Bureau so these items command a considerably higher price than do the imperforates of the lower values. As was the case with all of the imperforates of this issue, the imperforates of the $5 were not regularly issued.

Blocks of this stamp are known in both used and unused condition but are rare.

This stamp was overprinted for use in the Philippines and while 1,100 were overprinted some 318 were officially destroyed in February, 1907 so only 782 copies were actually available to collectors. In 1904 a pane of 100 was overprinted "Philippines" in order to complete the exhibit for the St. Louis Exhibition. From this pane a block of four and a single were selected and exhibited. In addition to these five copies, five other copies were saved for philately. This pane was printed from Plate 288, which was a reserve plate that had never been used in the printing of the regular stamps. One copy that was saved has the plate number.

Shades: Dark green.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate 85 (200 subjects).

Cancellation varieties: None.

Quantity issued: 26,965.

Chapter VI

THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI ISSUE OF 1898

MUCH of the information regarding this issue has been taken from an article by George B. Sloane that appeared in *The Green Book* of *"The Stamp Specialist."* The author wishes to express his thanks for Mr. Sloane's kind permission to draw so freely from his article.

This issue is as often called the "Omaha" issue as it is by its correct name of "The Trans-Mississippi Issue." This is due, of course, to the fact that the great exhibition which it commemorated was held in Omaha.

The exhibition was staged for the express purpose of furthering the progress and development of the resources of the great area that lay west of the Mississippi River. It was officially known, in 1898, as "The Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition" and under this name it was open to the public from June 1, 1898 to November 1, 1898. It is our understanding that the exhibition was continued in 1899 under the name of the "Greater America Exposition."

The Chairman of the Committee on Publicity, Edward Rosewater, who was the publisher of the *Omaha Daily Bee,* suggested, on December 13, 1897, that a series of special postage stamps be authorized to commemorate the Trans-Mississippi Exposition. This suggestion was made to Postmaster-General James A. Gary, and on December 23rd he replied that he would grant the request and that he had decided upon an issue of a series of five values in the denominations of 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c, and $1. In his reply he remarked that the time was short in which the issue must be prepared and he solicited the aid of the committee in the selection of appropriate designs for the stamps.

Contrary to what might be expected today, when the decision of the Postmaster-General was announced to the press there was a roar of protests from collectors, dealers, and stamp societies. This was brought about by the fact that collectors felt that they had been imposed upon when the long Columbian set was issued and they felt that the high value of this new issue, the $1 denomination, was adding insult to injury. When the set eventually was expanded to include a total of nine denominations, including the $2, the objections reached an even greater volume.

The Postmaster-General, James A. Gary, paid little attention to the anvil chorus and made this statement: "I found I had the power to authorize this issue and did it because I wanted help the people of the West. The Trans-Mississippi Exposition means a great deal to the people of that section of our country, and its character is decidedly an international one, no less than fifteen foreign nations having promised their support. While I am pleased to hear the opinion of any American citizen in regard to this issue, I do not consider philatelists greater patriots on account of the interest they take in the stamps of their country. No one is compelled to buy the high values unless he wishes to do so."

When the issue was first contemplated it was the intention of the Post Office Department to print the stamps in two colors, the frames to be in various colors according to denominations, while the center vignettes were all to be in black. It is unfortunate that it was necessary to change the original plan because the die proofs of the bi-color essays offer full proof of their beauty.

The bi-color idea had to be abandoned because of the fact that the Spanish-American War, which broke out in April, 1898, necessitated the printing of enormous quantities of revenue stamps and the facilities of the Bureau were taxed to the utmost. The time and manpower needed for the printing of stamps in two colors could not be spared and it was necessary for the Bureau to abandon the proposed bi-color stamps in favor of stamps of single colors. This

necessitated the preparing of new dies, which were produced in excellent time, and the laying down of an extensive group of plates that were excellently done in spite of the speed with which the work was done.

An official circular from the Department announced and described the new issue:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THIRD ASS'T P. M. GEN'L.
WASHINGTON, D. C., MAY 16, 1898.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing having found it impracticable to furnish satisfactorily or in the time desired supplies of the several denominations of Trans-Mississippi stamps in two colors, or with black centers and colored borders, as was first intended, and as is announced in the current—May—number of the Postal Guide, the Department is constrained to issue each of the denominationans of these stamps in a single color. This change has necessitated several other changes; so that the description of the stamps as given in the May Guide must be ignored. The following description is now the correct one:

The Trans-Mississippi stamps differ materially in size from the ordinary series, the engraved space being about seven-eighths of an inch wide by about one and three-eighths long. The designs are also radically unlike those of the ordinary stamps —consisting of a border (substantially the same in all denominations, except that the figures and letters representing values are different) and a central scene indicative in some way of the development of the great region beyond the Mississippi River. The scenes and the borders are all printed from lined engravings on steel, executed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing of the Treasury Department.

The border, which forms in its inner line an irregular oval framework to each of the scenes represented, consists of a fluted figure on each side, with interior crossbars, beginning in a single line near the bottom of the stamp, and enlarging until it reaches a shield in each of the upper corners, wherein is engraved in white the Arabic numeral of denomination—the dollar mark being also included in the case of the one and two dollar stamps. At the top, connecting the two shields, and united to the fluted framework on the two sides, is a curved tablet, on which are engraved in small white capitals the words "United States of America." Above this, on either side, are heads of wheat, and between these a small scroll. Immediately below the central scene is the title of the picture in diminutive white Gothic letters on a curved tablet, and below this on either side, in scrolls, are the words of value, "one," "two," and so on, in white capitals, except in the case of the two highest denominations, when "$1.00" and "$2.00" are substituted for letters. Above each of these is a projecting ear of corn, and at the bottom of all on a straight black tablet are the words, "Postage One Cent," "Postage Two Cents," and so on, in white capitals.

The scenes represented on the stamps, together with the colors of the several denominations, are these:

ONE-CENT.—"Marquette on the Mississippi," from a painting by Lamprecht, now in possession of the Marquette College of Milwaukee, Wis., representing Father Marquette in a boat on the Upper Mississippi, preaching to the Indians.—Color, dark green.

TWO-CENT.—"Farming in the West," from a photograph, representing a western grainfield with a long row of plows at work.—Color, copper red.

FOUR-CENT.—"Indian Hunting Buffalo," reproduction of an engraving in Schoolcraft's History of the Indian Tribes.—Color, orange.

FIVE-CENT.—"Fremont on Rocky Mountains," modified from a wood engraving, representing the Pathfinder planting the U. S. flag on the highest peak of the Rocky Mountains.—Color, dark blue.

EIGHT-CENT.—"Troops Guarding Train," representing a detachment of U. S. soldiers convoying an emigrant train across the prairies, from a drawing by Frederic Remington, permission to use which was kindly given by the publisher, R. H. Russell, of New York.—Color, dark lilac.

TEN-CENT.—"Hardships of Emigration," from a painting kindly loaned by the artist, A. G. Heaton, representing an emigrant and his family on the plains in a "prairie schooner," one of the horses having fallen from exhaustion.—Color, slate.

FIFTY-CENT.—"Western Mining Prospector," from a drawing by Frederic Remington (permission to use which has been kindly given by the publisher, R. H. Russell, of New York), representing a prospector with his pack-mules in the mountains, searching for gold.—Color, olive.

ONE-DOLLAR.—"Western Cattle in Storm," representing a herd of cattle, preceded by the leader, seeking safety from a gathering storm, reproduced from a large steel engraving after a picture by J. MacWhirter—the engraving having been kindly loaned by Mrs. C. B. Johnson.—Color, light brown.

TWO-DOLLAR.—"Mississippi River Bridge," from an engraving—a representation of the great bridge over the Mississippi at St. Louis.—Color, sapphire blue.

No Trans-Mississippi postal cards or stamped envelopes will be issued.

Although this series of stamps will be discontinued on the 31st of December, 1898, they will be good for postage at any time afterwards.

JOHN A. MERRITT,
Third Assistant Postmaster-General.

Further delays in making ready the stamps necessitated a second circular from the Department that also announced the change in colors of the $1 stamp from light brown to black, and the $2 from sapphire blue to brown.

CHANGE IN TRANS-MISSISSIPPI STAMPS

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THIRD ASS'T P. M. GENERAL,
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 26, 1898.

Postmasters have been advised that the Trans-Mississippi stamps would be issued about the 1st of next June. It is now found impracticable to do this, and postmasters and the public are therefore informed that the filling of requisitions from postmasters for these stamps will be delayed until the 15th of next June—i.e., they cannot be placed in the hands of postmasters before that date.

It is also found expedient to change the first announcement of the color of the $1 stamp, which was to have been light brown, to black; and that of the $2 stamp, to which sapphire blue was assigned, to light brown.

No requisition for a less number than 10 of the 50 cents denomination, or 5 of the $1 or $2 denomination will be filled.

Postmasters will keep in mind the instructions heretofore given—that they cannot secure these stamps in any other manner than by using form 3201—Omaha, which is printed upon yellow paper. These forms can be had upon application to the Supplies Division, where all other blanks are furnished.

Since these applications for Trans-Mississippi stamps will not be filled, as stated above, for two weeks yet, postmasters who desire postal cards or stamped envelopes during this period should make their requisitions for them on the regular white form, 3201; otherwise they will not secure such cards and envelopes until the Trans-Mississippi stamps are issued. After the 10th of June they can call for the postal cards and stamped envelopes which they desire on the yellow form in ordering their Trans-Mississippi stamps.

JOHN A. MERRITT,
Third Assistant Postmaster-General.

Although recent publications of the Post Office Department give the date of issue as June 10, 1898, the best evidence seems to indicate that the 15th was the earliest date in which the stamps were in the hands of the postmasters and the 17th as the date of the first day of issue. The complete set of all values was placed on First Day sale on June 17, 1898, which was nearly three weeks after the opening of the Exposition.

The public press, but not the philatelic press, gave the new issue extensive and favorable publicity and the result was that this issue that had been treated with contempt before it was printed were purchased in considerable quantities by collectors immediately they were placed on sale. However, for some reason or another, the novelty of the new issue seemed to wear off in a short time with the result that not many of the high values were purchased or used.

All of the Trans-Mississippi stamps were printed from 100 subject plates, on paper watermarked U S P S in double lined capitals, with the watermark appearing sidewise on the stamps. The stamps are perforated and the perforation gauge is 12. The full sheet of 100 bore a straight edge at the right and left side but was perforated at the top and bottom so that the panes of fifty, in which the stamps were issued, had, depending upon whether it was a right or left pane, a straight edge on the 10 stamps in the first vertical row, or a straight edge on

the 10 stamps in the 5th vertical row. On the full sheet of 100, a vertical guide line with arrows at top and bottom crosses the sheet between the 5th and 6th vertical rows, and a horizontal guide line, with arrows at each end, crossed the sheet between the 5th and 6th horizontal rows. The sheets were split between the 5th and 6th vertical rows, into panes of 50, being sent to the postmasters so only half arrows are possible on the vertical guide lines but full right and left arrows are obtainable from the panes of 50. There was a plate number and imprint at the top and bottom of each pane of 50 stamps but there were no plate numbers or imprints at the sides.

Specimen stamps were made by overprinting 100 sets of the stamps with the word "Specimen," in small letters. They usually were overprinted in black but they exist with the overprint in dull purple ink. These specimen stamps were prepared by the Department and delivered to the Third Assistant Postmaster-General where they were used for exchange, private distribution and probably for the customary distribution to the postal administrations of the countries of the Universal Postal Union.

It is possible that one of the reasons that the high values of the Omahas sold in rather small quantities was that during the time they were current the high values of the Columbian issue were still on sale at the Washington, D. C. post office. On December 31, 1898 the issue of the Trans-Mississippi stamps to the postmasters was discontinued, as had been announced in the Department's circular of May 16th. Some values remained on sale at the Washington post-office until February 28, 1900. Within a few days of the discontinuance of the issuance of these stamps to postmasters, an order was issued from the office of the Third Assistant Postmaster-General that directed all postmasters to return at once their unsold stocks of these stamps to the Redemption Division for credit. A very considerable number of the stamps, of all values, were returned and in March, 1899 the remainders were officially destroyed in the incinerators. A letter of inquiry to the Department by J. Murray Bartels in which Mr. Bartels attempted to find out the number of each denomination that were returned and destroyed, met with the following reply:

"The receipt is acknowledged of your inquiry requesting any available information with regard to the number of Trans-Mississippi Commemorative stamps returned to the Department for destruction after the issue was withdrawn from sale.

"No record of the quantities by denomination of this issue can be found at this late date, although it is unlikely that any such figures were compiled when the stock was returned for redemption, as they would have been unnecessary to meet any then existing requirement.

"The annual report of the Third Assistant Postmaster General for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1900, shows an increase of $430,450.75 in the value of regular redemption shipments which it is believed can be accounted for by the return of Trans-Mississippi stamps for credit by postmasters. In the report for the previous year a separate item of $426,584.63 was shown as the value of redeemed newspaper and periodical stamps. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1901, redemptions amounted to $348,649.07, or a reduction of $476,816.34. In explanation, it is stated that the previous high figures were due to the recall of newspaper and periodical stamps, Columbian and Omaha issues. It is doubtful that many of the Columbian stamps were involved.

"An analysis of figures given for the number of Trans-Mississippi stamps issued shows quite conclusively that those returned by postmasters for credit were not taken into consideration. The figures, therefore, actually show the number of stamps issued to postmasters and not the quantities sold.

Very truly yours,
RAMSEY S. BLACK,
Third Assistant Postmaster General."

From the information given in this letter it seems obvious that we never will know just how many copies of the various denominations of the Trans-Mississippi stamps actually were sold to the public.

The plates of this issue were destroyed, according to custom, at the Washington Navy Yard, and this destruction took place in February 1899.

The One Cent Trans-Mississippi (Scott 285, Minkus CM17)



Figure 211. Details of Design as shown on a Die Proof.

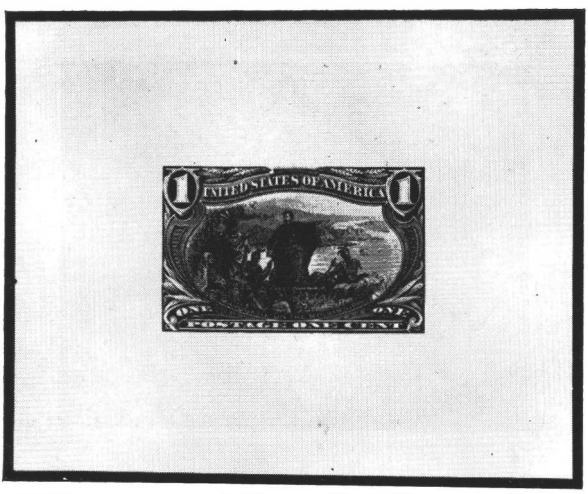


Figure 212. Bicolored Proof—not adopted. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).



Figure 213. Small Die Proof in normal color. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

The central design of this stamp is taken from a painting by William Lamprecht, which is entitled "Marquette on the Mississippi." The scene shows Father Jacques Marquette, a Jesuit priest, preaching to a group of Indians.

Marquette, in company with Louis Joliet and five other Frenchmen, sailed down the upper Mississippi River in 1673 and went as far south as the Arkansas River.

At the time of the planning of the designs of the various denominations of this issue it was decided that the design of the 1c should be after the picture by Lamprecht but the location of the picture was not known to the officials of the Department. After a very considerable search the picture was found in Milwaukee, the property of Marquette University. The consent of the University authorities was immediately obtained and a commercial photographer made a photo of the painting, it was forwarded to Washington, and was used as the model for the stamp.



Figure 214. An Interesting Spanish-American War Patriotic Cover.
(Ex-Jefferson Jones collection).

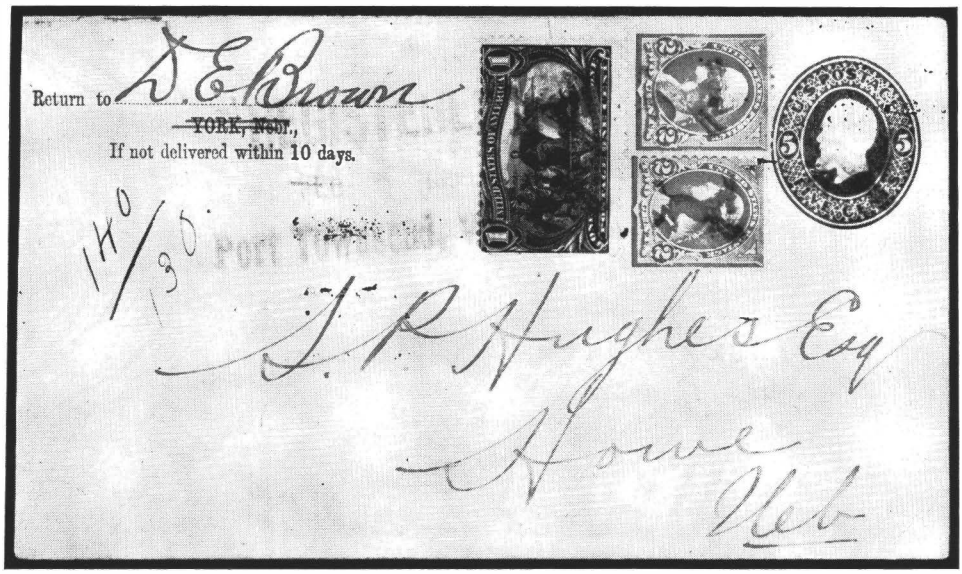


Figure 215. Two "Kicking Mules" on a 1c Trans-Mississippi with three other mules of the well-known cancel of Port Townsend, Washington. A nice cover. (Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

It is said that an error almost occurred in titling the design for it was intended to label the design "Marquette Discovering the Mississippi" which was incorrect for Joliet discovered the upper Mississippi while De Soto discovered the lower portion of the river.

The designer of the stamp was R. Ostrander Smith, the vignette was engraved by G. F. C. Smillie, the ornamental border by Marcus W. Baldwin and the lettering and denomination was engraved by Douglas S. Ronaldson.

Shades: Dark yellow green, yellow green, green.

Varieties: Double transfer.

Plates: Plates 590, 591, 592, 598, 600, 601, 605, 607, 612, 635, 709, 710, 711, 712.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F or G, China, Philippines, Porto Rico, Exposition Station Cancellation (on cover).

Quantity issued: 70,993,400 issued to postmasters but an unknown quantity were destroyed after the recall of the issue.

The Two Cent Trans-Mississippi
(Scott 286, Minkus CM18)



Figure 216. The Two Cent Trans-Mississippi.

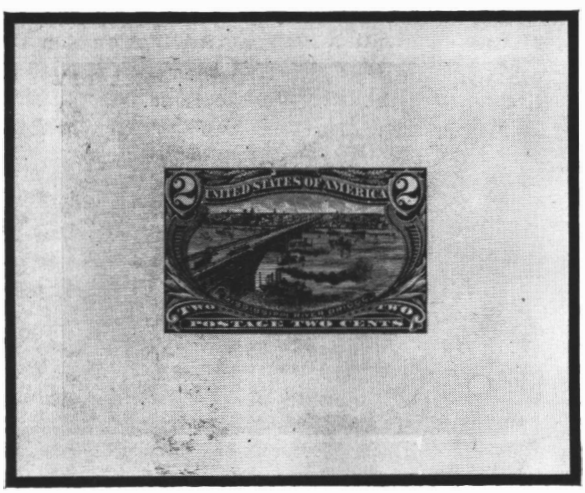


Figure 217. Two Cent Bicolor Proof—not adopted, note vignette is design actually used for Two Dollar. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

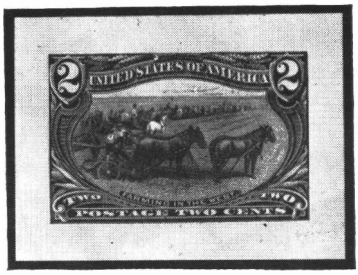


Figure 218. Small Die Proof in normal color. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).



Figure 219. "Farming in the West," the scene, as photographed in North Dakota, and used as the subject for the 2c stamp. (F. L. Ellis, Photo).

The central design of this stamp was taken from a photograph of a plowing scene in a wheatfield in Amenia, North Dakota. The stamp was designed by Ostrander Smith, the vignette and ornaments were engraved by Marcus W. Baldwin, and the lettering and denomination was engraved by Douglas S. Ronaldson.

It is interesting to note that the scene shown on this stamp was intended to be used on the $2 stamp while the "Mississippi River Bridge" that was used on the $2 was intended to be used for the 2c value and the bi-color proofs that were made showed them so placed. However, when the bi-color proofs were exhibited and discussed with the Congressional Postal Committee, it was suggested that since the 2c denomination would have a much wider circulation than the $2, that this lower denomination should use the scene that is so representative of the West and it was so decided.

The photograph from which the design was made was taken a few miles from the town of Amenia, North Dakota on one of the farms of the Amenia & Sharon Land Company. This firm naturally was very proud of the fact that a scene from one of their farms was used on a postage stamp and for a great many years every letter leaving their office carried one of these stamps as they laid aside a very large supply of them at the time they were current. As a matter of fact, the author recently saw a considerable number of very fine blocks that came directly from the old files of the concern. The land company played up the advertising value of the stamp for all it was worth and had a copy of the photo on all of their stationery.

The story has been told and retold about the misfortune of the man driving the four-horse team that is in the foreground of the picture. At the moment the photograph was made, sometime around 1888, the driver of this team, Evan A. Nybakken, raised his hand to catch his hat which was being blown by a gust of wind and in doing so covered his face at the instant the picture was taken. The engraver copied the picture faithfully and Nybakken never ceased to bemoan the misfortunate incident that prevented his face from appearing on the stamp.

The amount of farming equipment shown in the photo was so great that many people who had no idea of the expanse of some of our western farms and ranches were skeptical about the amount of machinery supposedly in use on one farm. Nevertheless the picture was an honest one and it was the practice of the group shown in the picture, which included 61 horses and their drivers, to go back and forth across an entire section of land until the work was finished.

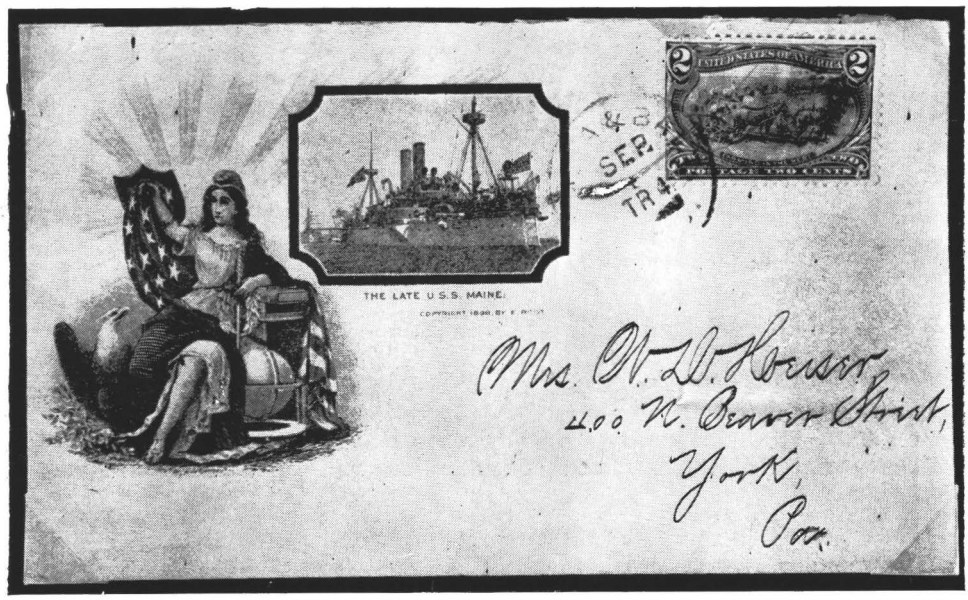


Figure 220. A Fine Spanish-American War Patriotic Cover. (Ex-Jefferson Jones collection).

For some reason or another, possibly due to improper hardening, but more likely to the nature of the ink, a considerable number of the one hundred and twenty plates used in the printing of these stamps showed noticeable plate wear. Plates 672, 673, 675, and 679 are among the plates that became badly worn and in some of them the farming scene is so badly worn that the figures of the men guiding the teams in the foreground can scarcely be distinguished and other parts of the background are very badly worn. On the worn plate varieties the wear comes mostly in the vignette and the stamps are usually in light shades due to the inability of the plate to hold much ink.

Shades: Copper red, brown red, light brown red.

Varieties: Double transfer, worn plate.

Plates: Plates 597, 608, 610, 611, 616, 619, 621-633, 638-642, 644-681, 683-708, 713-722, 724-729, 732-735, 737-741, 749-752.

Cancellation varieties: China, Hawaii, Philippines, Porto Rico, Exposition Station Cancellation (on cover).

Quantity issued: 159,720,800 issued to postmasters but an unknown number were redeemed and destroyed.

The Four Cent Trans-Mississippi (Scott 287, Minkus CM19)



Figure 221. The Four Cent Trans-Mississippi.



Figure 222. "Buffalo Chase," an engraving by Capt. S. Eastman, from Schoolcraft's History of the Indian Tribes," Philadelphia, 1854. (Dr. Warren G. Atwood, Photo).

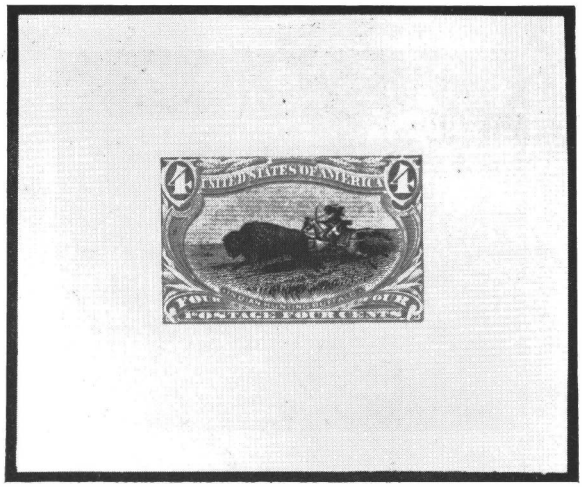


Figure 223. Four Cent Bicolor Proof—not adopted. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

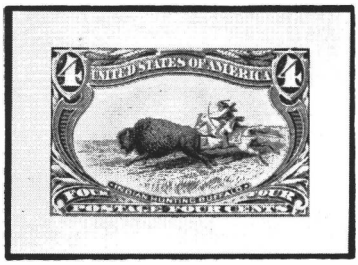


Figure 224. Small Die Proof in normal color. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

The picture which is officially designated as the source from which the design of this stamp was taken is an engraving by Captain S. Eastman, U. S. A., which appears in *Information Respecting the History, Condition and Prospects of the Indian Tribes of the United States,* by H. R. Schoolcraft, published by Lippincott, Grambo & Co., of Philadelphia, in 1854. When the Bureau made use of this picture for the design of the stamp they discarded the figures in the background and featured only the racing Indian and the Buffalo in the foreground.

The stamp was designed by R. Ostrander Smith, the vignette was engraved by G. F. C. Smillie, and the frame ornaments were engraved by Marcus W. Baldwin, and the lettering and denomination by Douglas S. Ronaldson.

The ink of this stamp is such that copies frequently are found that are darkened in color by the natural process that is usually called "oxidation" although actually the process is sulphurization. The stamps turn to varying shades of orange brown to deep brown but can be restored to their original shades by an application of a solution of peroxide of hydrogen. The author has found that in difficult cases the color can almost always be restored by heating the peroxide which greatly increases the chemical action.

A considerable quantity of these stamps was used on other than first class mail with the result that heavy cancellations often ruin the stamp.

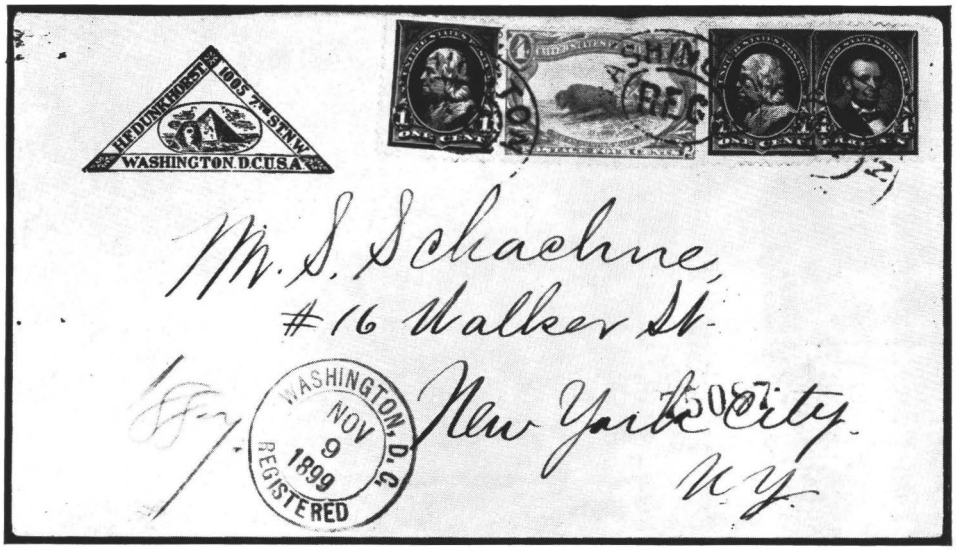


Figure 225. A 4c Trans-Mississippi used with two 1c and a 4c 1899 Regular issue on this Registered letter. The corner card is of an old-time Washington dealer. (Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

Shades: Orange, deep orange.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plates 599, 634, 636.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F or G, China, Exposition Station cancellation (on cover).

Quantity issued: 4,924,500 issued to postmasters but some destroyed when the issue was recalled.

The Five Cent Trans-Mississippi (Scott 288, Minkus CM20)



Figure 226. The Five Cent Trans-Mississippi.

For some reason or another, the Department was determined on having one stamp of the series with a design showing General John C. Fremont raising a flag on the highest peak of the Rocky Mountains. Although Mrs. Fremont loaned the Department a number of pictures they were returned with the comment, by the Postmaster General, that "they were very interesting, especially when considered in connection with Mrs. Fremont's remarks concerning them, but they cannot be utilized in getting up a proper drawing of the Rocky Mountain-Fremont scene which is to go on one of the Trans-Mississippi stamps."

It is our understanding that the Bureau of Engraving and Printing took the design from an old woodcut engraving, which design was considerably modified by the artists of the department before it appeared on the stamp. The particular woodcut used by the Bureau never has been identified although three have been located that may possibly have been used. One of these is a very early woodcut used in "The Freeman's Glee Book," published in 1856 and brought to our attention by Herman Herst, Jr. This woodcut is quite similar to the picture on the stamp except that it is reversed. Another of these is entitled "Fremont Plants the American Flag on the Highest Peak of the Rocky Mountains," and appeared in *Memoir of the Life and Public Services of John Charles Fremont,* authorized by John Bigelow in 1856 while the woodcut is signed "N. Orr." A similar woodcut entitled "Fremont on the Heighth of Rock Peak," by J. W. Orr, was published as an illustration in *The Young American's Life of Fremont,* by F. C. Woodworth. It seems quite probable that this is the original source of the design. And it is so stated by John A. Merritt, Third Assistant Postmaster General in a communication of January 15, 1898. The designer was Raymond Ostrander Smith, the engraver of the vignette, frame

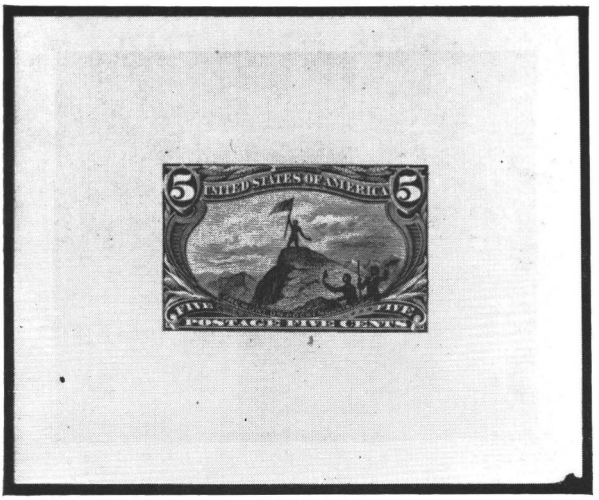


Figure 227. Five Cent Bicolor Proof—not adopted. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).



Figure 228. Small Die Proof in normal color. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

and ornaments was Marcus W. Baldwin while Douglas S. Ronaldson engraved the lettering and denomination.

The Department originally planned to use this subject on the 8c stamp, the committee suggested it for the 2c, but eventually it was adopted for the 5c.

A great many of these stamps, in used condition, have been found in Europe for they represented the first class mail rate to Europe. Because of the fact that many of them were thus used on first class mail, it is not difficult to find copies that are decently cancelled.

One of the shades of the stamp, light blue, is quite rare.

On one of my buying trips to Europe, probably in 1937, I remember going in a small tobacco shop in Italy to check some stamps that were displayed on a card in the window. Everything was one price, one lira that at the time was worth about 5 cents in our money. I bought many 5 cent Trans-Mississippi, 4c and 5c Pan-American and 5c Louisiana Purchase stamps in this and other similar shops all over the continent. Dealers welcomed American dealers in those days. How times have changed!

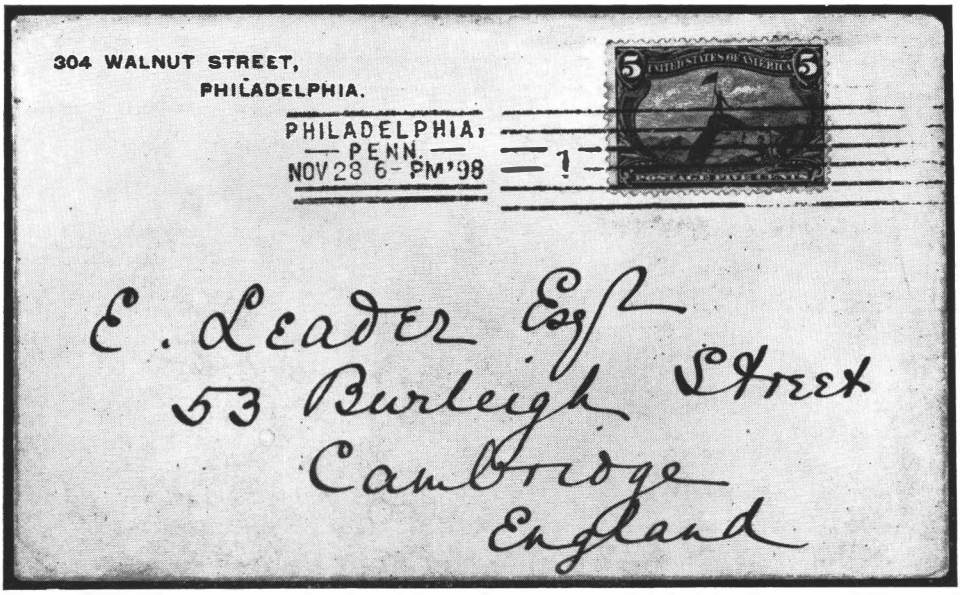


Figure 229. Somewhere in this book we had a cover that went to Oxford but this one went to Cambridge! (Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

Shades: Blue, dark blue, dull blue, light blue.

Varieties: None.

Plates: 602, 614, 618.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type F or G, China, Philippines, Porto Rico, Exposition Station Cancellation (on cover).

Quantity issued: 7,694,180 issued to postmasters but some destroyed when the issue was recalled.

The Eight Cent Trans-Mississippi (Scott 289, Minkus CM21)



Figure 230. The Eight Cent Trans-Mississippi.

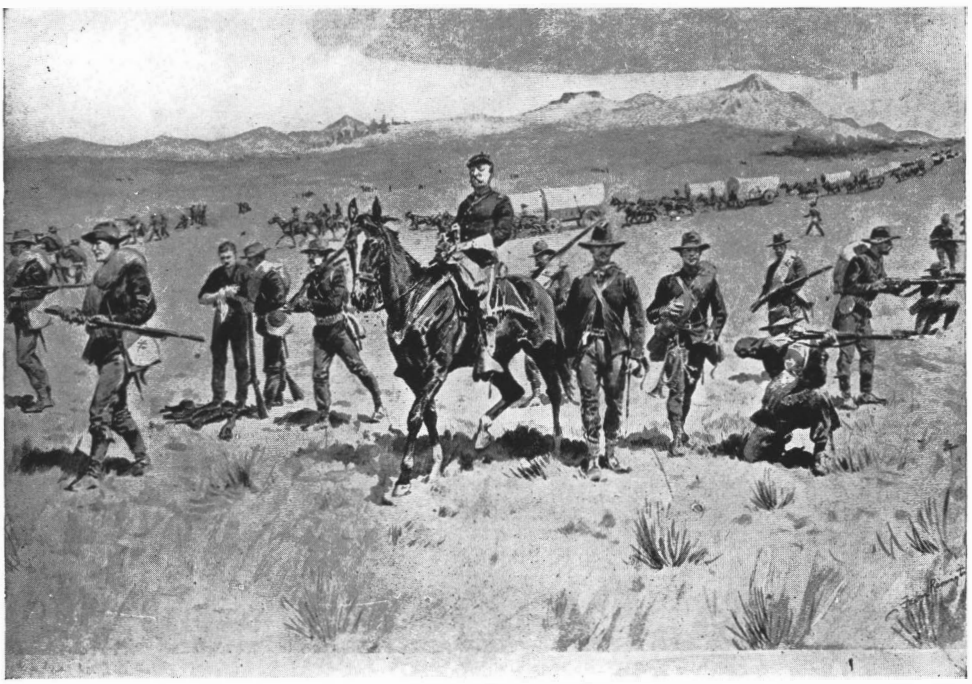


Figure 231. Federal Troops Convoying a Wagon Train, a drawing by Frederick Remington, used as the subject for the 8c stamp. (Dr. Warren G. Atwood, Photo).

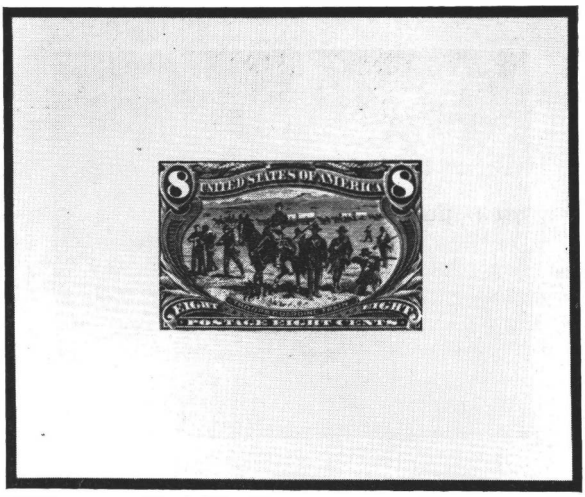


Figure 232. Eight Cent Bicolor Proof—not adopted. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).



Figure 233. Small Die Proof in normal color. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

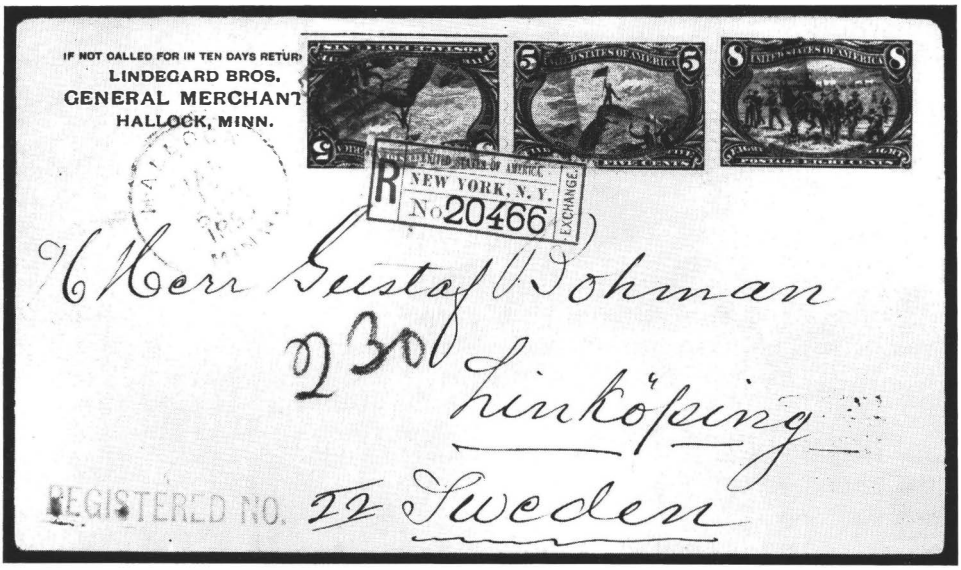


Figure 234. Two 5c and one 8c Trans-Mississippi used on a double rate and Registered letter to Sweden. (Courtesy Wm. O. Bilden).

The subject of this design is a wagon train being escorted by a group of Federal troops. It is one of the most striking designs of the whole series yet the critics of the issue, and there were many, derisively hailed this stamp as representing "Coxey's Army, or Colonel Bill Bryan leading his hordes of free silver votaries."

The design is from one of the drawings of that great artist, Frederic Remington, and was a part of a series of Remington works shown in the *Drawings of Frederick Remington,* published by Robert Howard Russell in 1897. The title of the drawing is "Protecting a Wagon Train." The scene shows a long train of covered wagons, filled with emigrants and their families, slowly wending their way across the seemingly unending plains. Frequent Indian attacks made constant guarding of the wagon trains a necessity yet despite the utmost vigilance the attacks were often successful and many a brave man or woman, met their death at the hands of Indians.

Remington is universally conceded to have been the greatest artist of Indian fighting and of life in the early West. He was a true genius and not only was an artist but was a writer and sculptor. He made the tremendous number of 2,000 pictures, including of course his sketches, wrote 13 books and illustrated some 73 books in all. He died in 1909 at the untimely age of 48. It may be difficult to believe but the father of a close friend of the author once owned over 600 Remington sketches and paintings which he purchased at one time. Just to make this story a bit more unbelievable it can be told that these were held by an obscure employee of a firm in New York City. After the purchase all but a few of the pictures were quickly disposed of and the remaining few were sold some years ago. This story came to light in an interesting way for while visiting with the friend whose father owned the Remingtons the author noted a Remington painting in his library. Inquiries about this painting brought forth the story although it turned out that the Remington in question was not one of the original find!

The stamp was designed by R. Ostrander Smith, the vignette was engraved by Robert Ponukau, the frame and ornaments were engraved by Marcus W. Baldwin, and the lettering and denomination by Douglas S. Ronaldson.

The Trans-Mississippi issue as a whole was quite free from errors but in the 8c there was one that was of importance. A complete pane of 50 stamps, from the right pane of the Plate 609, was found imperforate horizontally. This sheet was found by Robert Watts, a stamp clerk at one of the retail windows of the Philadelphia main post office. Watts is said to have found it between the wrapping paper of a bundle of stamps and to have sold it to a local locksmith, Herman Lewin, for double face value. Lewin in turn sold it to William S. F. Pierce of Philadelphia. Mr. Pierce broke up the sheet and divided it into three pieces. These were a vertical strip of 10 with the sheet margin and full arrow marking at the right, a vertical block of 20 which showed the Bureau imprint and plate number at both the top and bottom, and a vertical block of 20 stamps with straight-edge down the left side showing a half-arrow marking at the top and again at the bottom.

The vertical strip of 10 stamps were soon resold to Mr. Lewin for $15.00. Mr. Lewin took the strip with him when he returned to Holland, his native land, to claim an inheritance. He sold the strip in Europe and there it remained for many years. It was brought back to this country within recent years, broken up, and the right arrow in a strip of four was sold to Mrs. Ethel B. M'Coy for a price reported at $4,000.00. Quite an increase in value from the time it was first found!

The vertical block of 20 stamps with the straight-edge at the left was sold to a Philadelphia dealer, Arthur Tuttle. Tuttle retailed the errors at $10.00 a pair and sold at least one such pair to John N. Luff. A block of four stamps



Figure 235. The 8c error, imperforate horizontally, vertical strip of 4, with full right arrow, from the collection of Mrs. Ethel B. M'Coy.



Figure 236. Another fine item imperforate horizontally.

from this Tuttle piece, showing one of the half-arrows, is in the B. K. Miller Collection in the New York Public Library.

Mr. Pierce retained the other block of 20 stamps for a time, then sold the top and bottom plate number blocks of four to Albert W. Batchelder, of the New England Stamp Company of Boston, for $175.00. This left Pierce with 12 stamps, he gave a block of four to a friend, the late William E. Dobbins, of Philadelphia, and eventually sold the remaining blocks, probably to Batchelder.

A very fine O. G. block of 4, imperforate horizontally, with the Bottom Imprint and Plate Number 609 was in the portion of the Col. Green collection sold by Harmer, Rooke & Co., in their sale of March 25-29, 1946.

The stamp was printed by the use of two plates only and one of these, Plate 609, produced 24,650 sheets of the stamp while Plate 643 produced only 6,850 sheets.

Shades: Violet brown, dark violet brown, dull brownish purple.

Varieties: Imperforate horizontally (pair).

Plates: Plates 609, 643.

Cancellation varieties: Samoa, Exposition Station Cancellation (on cover).

Quantity issued: 2,927,200 delivered to postmasters but an unknown quantity was destroyed after the issue was recalled.

The Ten Cent Trans-Mississippi (Scott 290, Minkus CM22)



Figure 237. The Ten Cent Trans-Mississippi.



Figure 238. "Hardships of Emigration," a reproduction of a pen and ink drawing, sketched and signed by A. G. Heaton, 1898, who painted the original subject used for the 10c stamp.

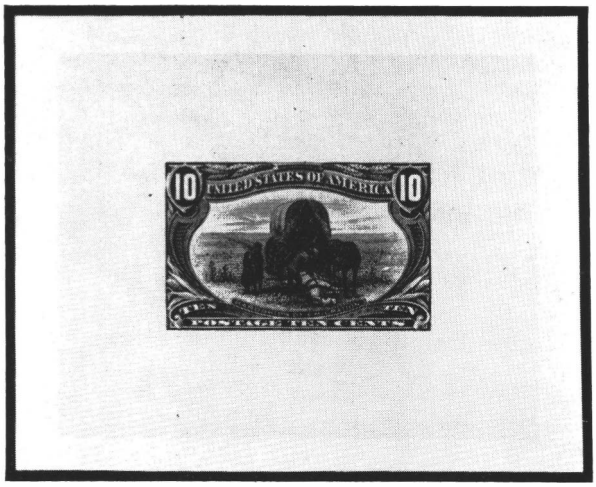


Figure 239. Ten Cent Bicolor Proof—not adopted. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).



Figure 240. Small Die Proof in normal color. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

The design of this stamp is entitled "Hardships of Emigration" and the scene shown on the stamp shows a single covered wagon engaged in travelling across the prairie. One of the two horses has fallen from exhaustion and the man is attempting to revive the animal while his family looks on. Such a scene represented a tense moment in the lives of the emigrants for loss of a horse under these circumstances was a serious thing.

The stamp was designed by R. Ostrander Smith, the vignette, and the frame were engraved by Marcus W. Baldwin, with the lettering and the denomination by Douglas S. Ronaldson.

The original of this design was an oil painting by Augustus Goodyear Heaton, who painted the picture about 1892 while the artist was in Oklahoma. So far as is known, no photograph of the painting is in existence and the original was intentionally burned when it was found to have been badly damaged and beyond repair. The damage was brought about when the canvas was stored in a tin-roofed building at Black Mountain, North Carolina and the summer heat caused the painting to peel so badly that it was not possible to save the design. This painting, with other paintings by Heaton that had been damaged at the same time, was burned with the mutual consent of Mr. Heaton's heirs and executors of his estate after the death of the artist in 1930. His painting "The Recall of Columbus" was used as the subject of the 50c Columbian stamp.

Shades: Gray violet, blackish violet.
Varieties: None.
Plates: Plates 604, 617, 620.
Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type G, China, Philippines, Exposition Station Cancellation (on cover).
Quantity issued: 4,629,760 issued to postmasters but an unknown number were destroyed after the issue was recalled.

The Fifty Cent Trans-Mississippi (Scott 291, Minkus CM23)



Figure 241. The Fifty Cent Trans-Mississippi.



Figure 242. "The Gold Bug," a drawing by Frederic Remington, and used as the subject for the 50c stamp. (Dr. Warren G. Atwood, Photo).



Figure 243. Fifty Cent Bicolor proof—not adopted. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

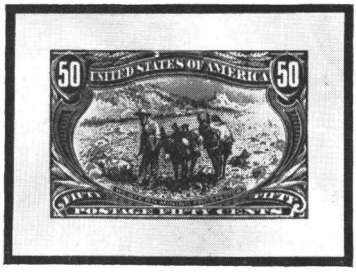


Figure 244. Small Die Proof in normal color. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

The design for this stamp was taken from a Remington drawing entitled "The Gold Bug." An illustration of this drawing is found in *Drawings of Frederic Remington*, published by Robert Howard Russell in 1897.

The scene on the drawing, and on the stamp, shows an old prospector wending his way through mountain country and searching for gold bearing ore.

The stamp was designed by R. Ostrander Smith, the vignette was engraved by G. F. D. Smillie, and the frame and ornaments were engraved by Marcus W. Baldwin, with the lettering and denomination by Douglas S. Ronaldson.

The design had been considered by the Department as a subject for the $2 stamp and such an experimental essay exists but the design was assigned to the 50c stamp.

Although current prices do not indicate it, the stamp seems to be more difficult to find in centered blocks than does the $1 denomination. A really centered block is rare.

While it is probable that this stamp exists in a full pane of 50, the largest block of which we seem to have a record is an unused block of 40 sold at the Scott Stamp & Coin Company Sale in November 1922.

Shades: Sage green, dark sage green.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate 603.

Cancellation varieties: Supplementary Mail Type G, Cuba.

Quantity issued: 530,400 issued to postmasters but an unknown amount were returned for redemption and destroyed when the series was recalled.

The One Dollar Trans-Mississippi (Scott 292, Minkus CM24)



Figure 245. The One Dollar Trans-Mississippi.



Figure 246. "The Vanguard," an engraving by C. O. Murray, after the painting by J. A. MacWhirter, used as the subject for the $1 stamp. (Howard A. Lederer, Photo).

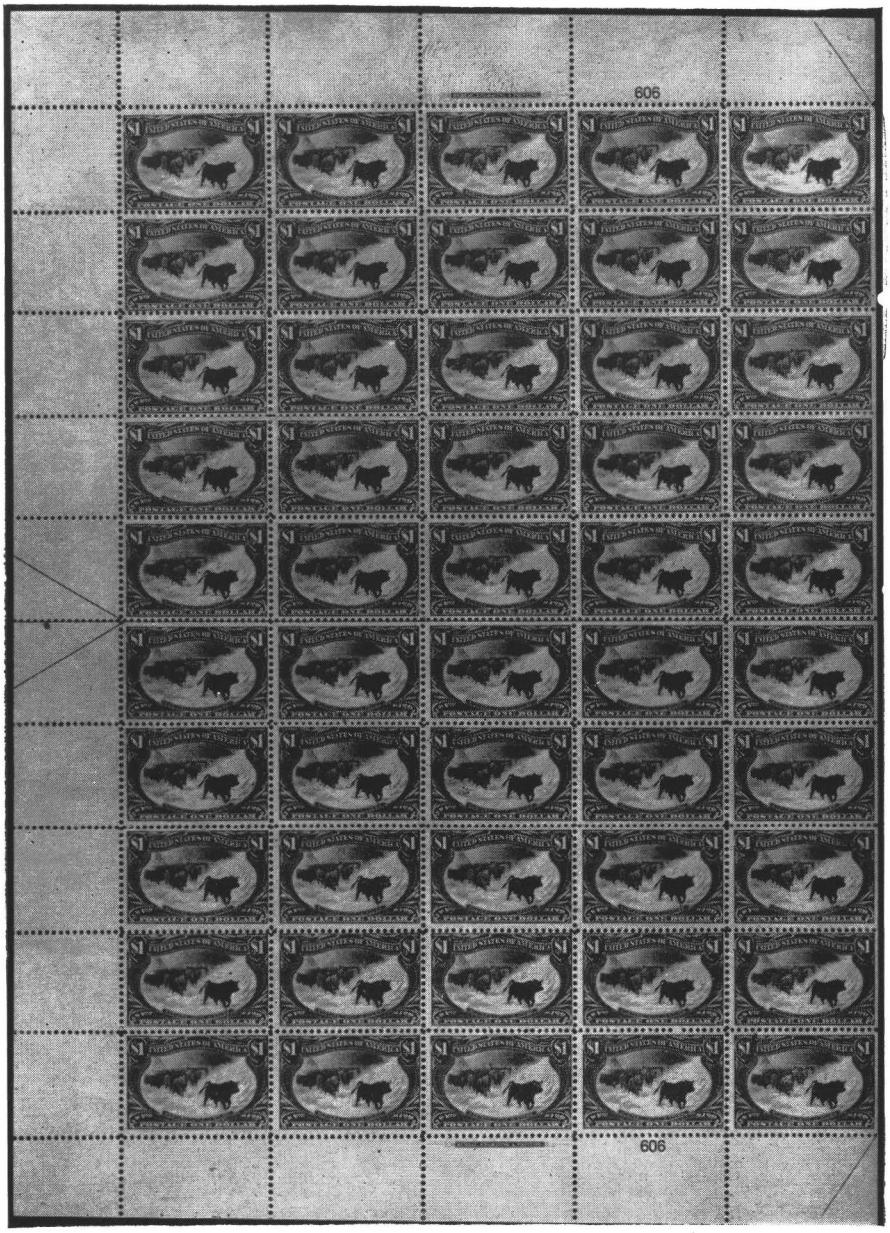


Figure 247. A remarkable complete pane of the $1.00 Trans-Mississippi. (Courtesy of Hugh Barr, Inc.).

The design of this stamp, taken from a painting by J. A. MacWhirter that is entitled "The Vanguard," got the Post Office Department into considerable difficulty. The story, as we understand it, is as follows: After the painting was completed by MacWhirter it was sold to an Englishman, Lord Blythswood. In some manner an American cattle company had come into the possession of a reproduction of the picture and without seeking the consent of anyone had adopted it as a sort of a trade-mark. It seems probable that the picture first

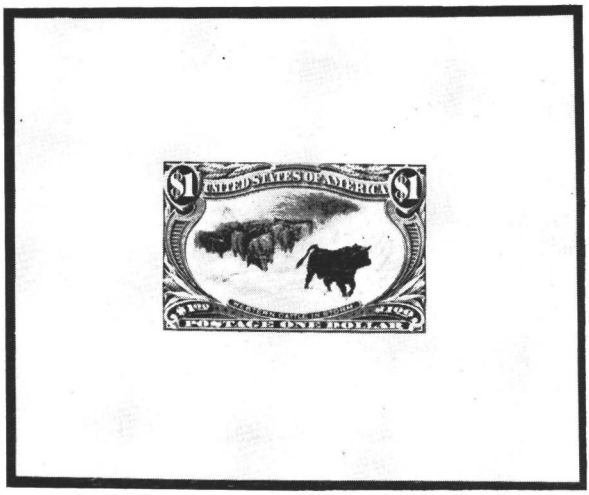


Figure 248. One Dollar Bicolor Proof—not adopted. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).



Figure 249. Small Die Proof in normal color. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

came to the attention of the Department thru this usage and when the Department located a copy of the engraving that was loaned to them by a Mrs. C. B. Johnson, they proceeded, after making official acknowledgement of the engraving, to use it as a design for the stamp. When it was discovered that the original picture was the property of Lord Blythswood, the Department extended full apologies thru the offices of the British Ambassador and the matter then was dropped.

The stamp was designed by R. Ostrander Smith, the vignette, frame and ornaments were engraved by Marcus W. Baldwin, and the lettering and denomination by Douglas S. Ronaldson.

The scene is a simple one and consists of a herd of cattle, led by a majestic bull, seeking safety from a snow storm. While the picture is supposed to portray the cattle of our own West, it actually is a group of Scotch cattle in the West Highlands of Scotland. Be that as it may, the stamp is now considered by most collectors to be one of the finest yet produced although this opinion was not widely held at the time it was current.

Blocks of the stamp are scarce, but not excessively so, and the popularity of the stamp is such that it often appears in auctions since the better collections usually contain examples of the stamp. At least one full sheet of the stamp is believed in existence at the time of this writing for it was sold at auction on Feb. 27, 1943 by Hugh C. Barr, Inc., and it is unlikely that it was broken up.

Shades: Black.
Varieties: None.
Plates: Plate 606.
Cancellation varieties: None.
Quantity issued: 56,900 issued to postmasters but an unknown quantity was returned and destroyed when the issue was recalled.

The Two Dollar Trans-Mississippi (Scott 293, Minkus CM25)



Figure 250. The Two Dollar Trans-Mississippi.

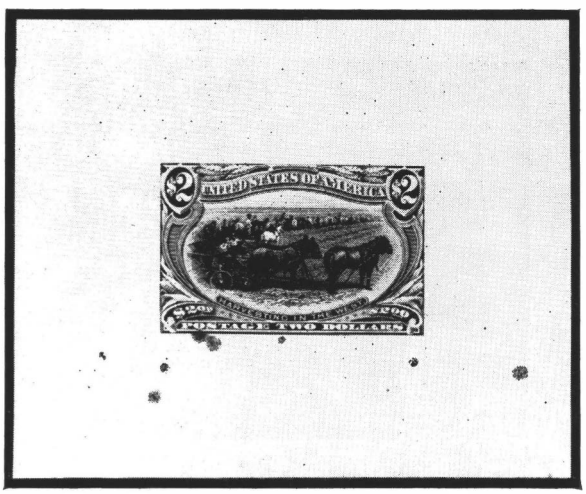


Figure 251. Two Dollar Bicolor Proof—not adopted. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

It was originally intended that this design be used for the 2c denomination, and the bi-color die proofs so show it, but when the stamps finally were produced it was used for the $2 stamp.

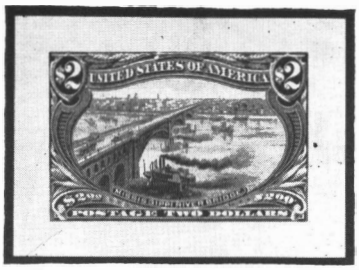


Figure 252. Small Die Proof in normal color. (Courtesy J. & H. Stolow).

This stamp is known on cover, almost invariably a philatelic usage, but even these covers are rare. A beautiful cover was sold in the Siegel auction of May 19, 1964. The very fine stamp was tied by a light Washington, D. C. Registry postmark on an Over All Multicolor Flag Patriotic to Germany with a July, 1898 usage. A fine item that brought a well-deserved price of more than double the Scott Catalog.

The design of this stamp, entitled "Mississippi River Bridge," shows the famed Eads Bridge that spans the Mississippi at St. Louis. The river long was considered as the natural boundary line between the East and the West and it is fitting that it should be shown on this stamp. The design, which shows not only the bridge and the river but several steamboats, and a remarkable view of the skyline of St. Louis, was taken from an admission ticket to the Republican National Convention that was held in St. Louis in June, 1896.

The stamp was designed by R. Ostrander Smith, the vignette, frame and ornaments engraved by Marcus W. Baldwin, and the lettering and denomination was engraved by Douglas S. Ronaldson.

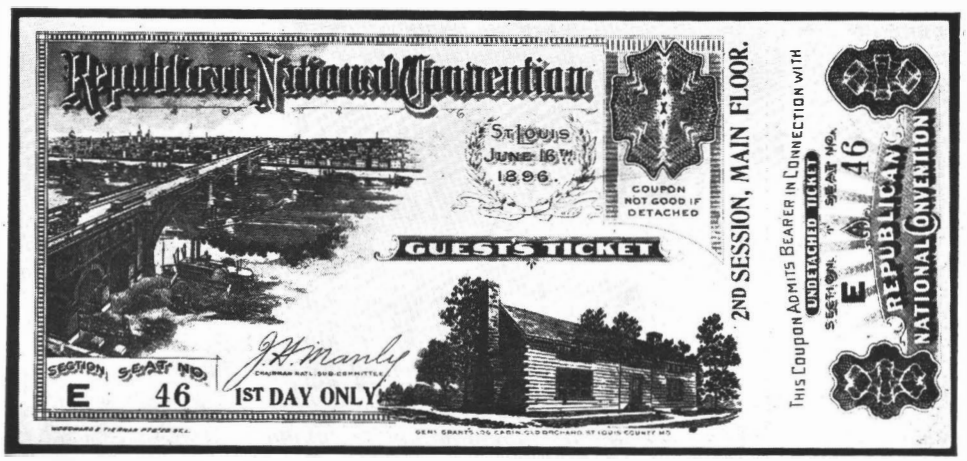


Figure 253. Admission ticket to the Republican National Convention, St. Louis, 1896, with the original engraving of the Eads Bridge, at left, used as the subject for the $2 stamp. (Collection of Dr. Warren G. Atwood).



Figure 254. A nice block of the $2.00 Omaha.

All of the $2 stamps were printed in a single day's run, June 3, 1898.

This stamp is not easy to obtain well-centered as many of these stamps seem to be perforated close to the top and its color is such that it cancels rather badly. This combination makes fine used copies difficult to obtain. I consider it more difficult to obtain in choice used condition than any of the high values of the Columbian issue. An occasional copy is found that has darkened due to sulphurization but the color can be easily and quickly restored with peroxide of hydrogen.



Figure 255. An exceptional Plate Block. (Courtesy Robert A. Siegel).



Figure 256. A cover to Germany utilizing every denomination of the series.

An unused block of 40 of the $2 Omaha was sold by the Scott Stamp & Coin Company in their sale of November 1922 and there was a fine block of 20 in the E. A. Eno Sale in 1950.

Shades: Orange brown, dark orange brown.

Varieties: None.

Plates: Plate 613.

Cancellation varieties: None.

Quantity issued: 56,200 issued to postmasters but an unknown quantity, believed to have been considerable, was returned and destroyed when the issue was recalled. Estimates considered reliable are that about 25,000 of this stamp actually were sold.

Chapter VII

POSTMARKS AND CANCELLATIONS

UNFORTUNATELY, we cannot do more than scratch the surface of this particularly interesting study. A thousand pages would not suffice to illustrate the known cancellations on the 19th Century U. S. stamps and we therefore feel we must restrict ourselves to some examples of various types of cancellations that have attained catalog recognition, plus certain examples of two of the more interesting kinds of cancellations. These are "Patent Cancellations" and "New York Foreign Mail Cancellations" and we believe the illustrations given here will offer their own proof as to why such cancellations are much sought after.

The philatelist who knew more about the Patent Cancellations than any other was Mr. Fred Schmalzreidt of Detroit. We are indebted to him for the paragraph and the illustrations that follow:

"It was on July 1, 1847 that the United States government issued its first postage stamps and almost immediately it became obvious that cancelling devices other than those then in issue would have to be manufactured in order to prevent great loss to the government by cleaning and re-use of stamps. Postmasters adopted various devices to puncture or cut into the stamps so that the ink permeated the fibres. While the stamps of the 1847, 1851 and 1857 issues were in use, mutilation by pin points or pegs was the method generally employed, but in 1862, by request of the postmaster general, the postmaster at New York conducted extensive experiments with cutting devices, pegs, pinpoints and punches for the purpose of finding a canceller that would give satisfaction. However all those that appeared to be satisfactory in mutilating the stamp also damaged the contents of the envelopes. Many patents were granted to private individuals and in 1879 and 1880, the Washington post-office used at least four scarifying devices that had been patented by individuals and Providence and New Haven another but none was adopted. Use of this type of canceller fell into disuse shortly thereafter. About 150 cancellations of this type, commonly called patent cancellations, are known. Illustrations of twelve follow: others are simply variations in type or design, the principle of operation being practically the same."

So far as the New York Foreign Mail Cancellations are concerned, we feel that the explanation given by the late J. Murray Bartels is excellent and we quote it here:

It was not until 1928 that the first studies appeared on cancellations used exclusively on outgoing mail from New York City to a foreign country.

At that time a correspondence from New York to Spain attracted the attention of the writer who noticed a considerable variety of quite fancy obliterations on the various denominations of the Bank Note issues from 1870 to 1876. Further researches on our part revealed a large number of types consisting of fancy stars, geometric designs, rosettes, pin wheels and others, a total of about a hundred varieties. Evidently some artistically inclined post office official with a good imagination and taste was responsible for these fancy creations.

All these, however, were discarded in 1876 when a uniform design was introduced for all classes of mail consisting of bars in the shape of an oval with numerals or letters in the center. It was known to us that these numbers did not represent postal stations but were assignments of numbered cancellers, each to a separate clerk.

This led to the conclusion that a similar arrangement had existed in regard to the outgoing foreign mail which accounts for the multiplicity of designs. The fact that several designs are quite common and of others only one or two copies or covers have been seen may indicate that some employees cancelled the foreign mail quite regularly while others assisted only on rare occasions. Some types were used early in 1870 and must have lasted several years, others are not found on mail used before 1875. The latter are seen mostly on the 2c vermilion and 5c Taylor. A few of the scarcest types may have proven impractical and were discontinued after one or two day's use.



Figure 257. Examples of some of the numerous types of cancellations found on 19th Century U. S. stamps. Please note that these are only REPRESENTATIVE ILLUSTRATIONS of various types of cancellations, and it is not to be understood that all of them, exactly as illustrated, can be found on the various U. S. stamps. Illustration by courtesy of Scott Publications, Inc., and The United States Stamp Catalogue.

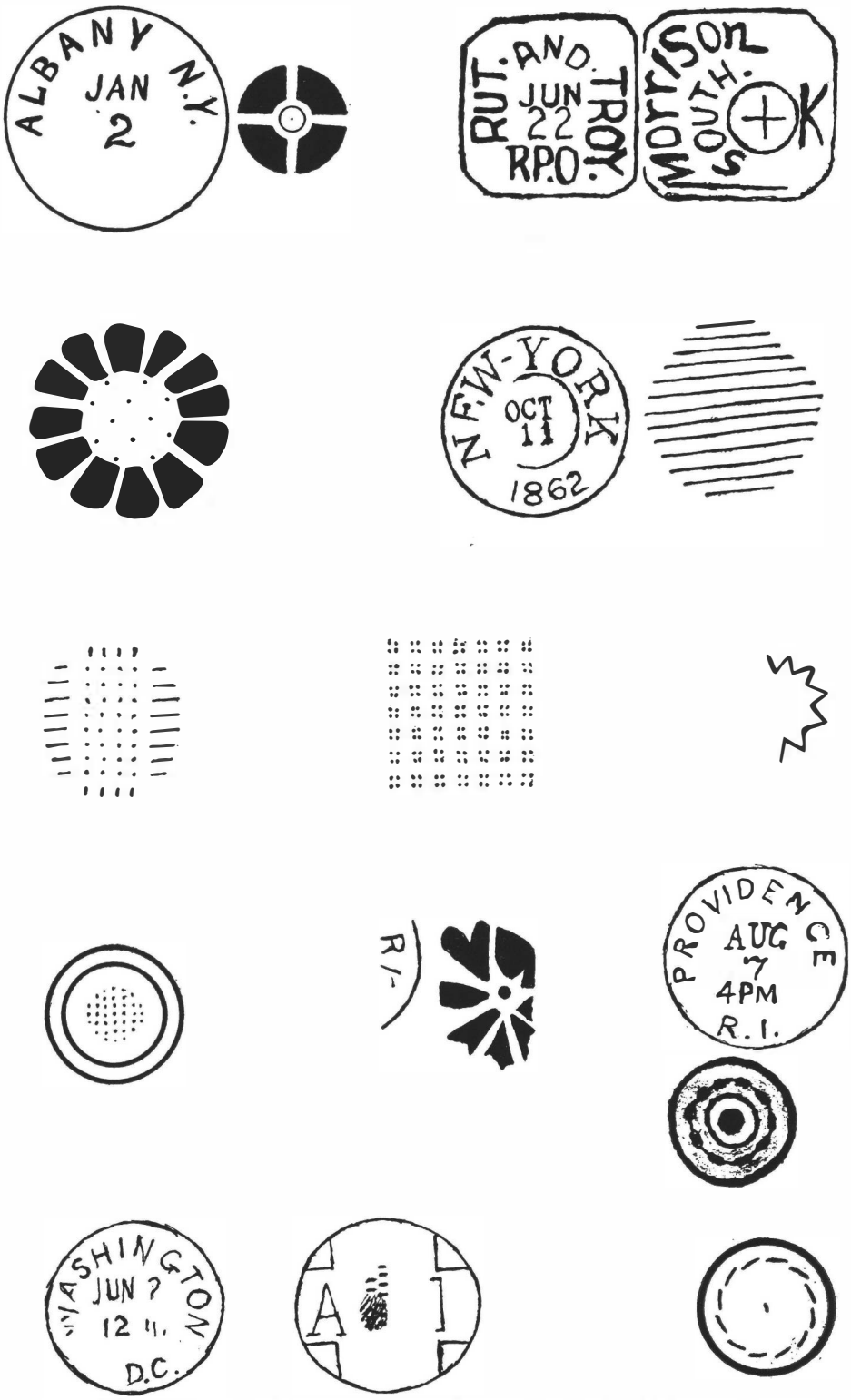


Figure 258. A group of "Patent Cancellations" found on the Bank Note issues. (Courtesy of the late Fred Schmalzreidt).

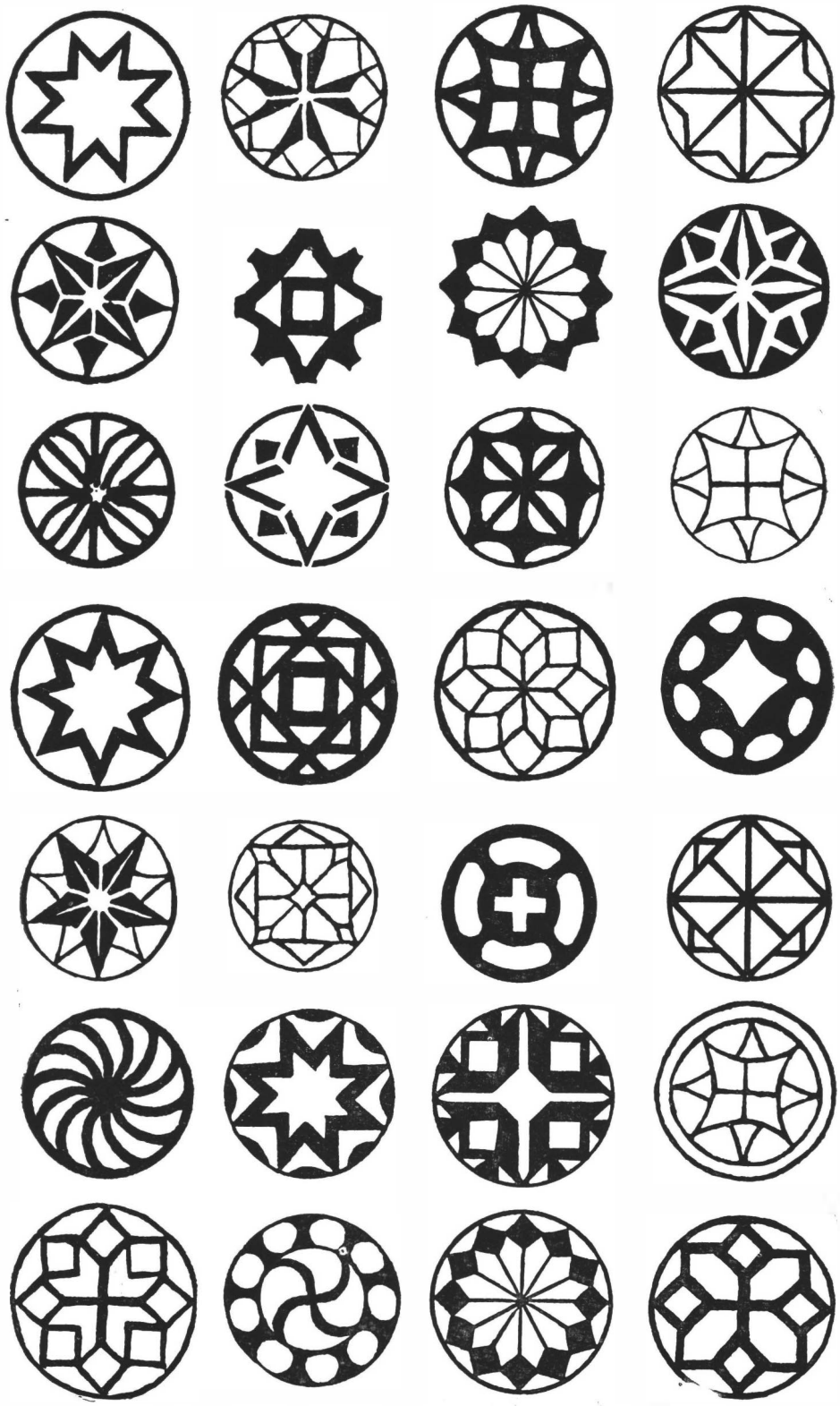


Figure 259. A group of "New York Foreign Mail" cancellations.

SOME NICE BANK NOTES WITH "FOREIGN MAIL" CANCELS



Figure 260. (Courtesy Jerome S. Wagshal).



Figure 261. (Courtesy Jerome S. Wagshal).



Figure 262. (Courtesy of Jerome S. Wagshal).



Figure 263. (Courtesy of Jerome S. Wagshal).



Figure 264. (Courtesy of Jerome S. Wagshal).

The denominations most frequently found with these New York mail cancellations are the 6, 7, 10, 12 and 24c; the 1, 2, and 3c are usually quite scarce as they were rarely used on mail leaving the country. The 15, 20 and 90c are also quite scarce for similar reasons.

The varieties of New York Foreign Mail postmarks include one stamped PAID ALL. This is found on mail which passed through England. Only four types can be illustrated here. These are Nos. 2, 21, 65 and 85. Seven others are printed in the U. S. Specialized Catalog and are known as Nos. 1, 16, 22, 51, 38, 65, 83 and 95.

Several philatelists made extensive studies of this group and formed noteworthy collections. **Edwin Milliken, James E. Hughes, C. A. Yarrington, Dr. Burbank, Lawrence B. Mason, and Jerome S. Wagshal** studied these cancellations extensively.

We can show here only a representative group of these colorful cancellations but they should be sufficient to prove that these are the most beautiful cancellations that ever appeared on our U. S. stamps.

Territorial and 19th Century Statehood Dates

While this has nothing to do with the preceding cancels, it seems as good a place as any to record it.

Only a very small portion of the possible use of many of 19th Century stamps have been recorded used in our Territories and of course many values are unknown so used. Early statehood uses are rare for most of our 19th Century stamps.

My friend E. N. Sampson has prepared a little folder entitled "Important Dates for U. S. Territory and State Cover Collectors" and it is from this that I present the following useful and interesting information. I have listed only the Territories which existed after our first issue of stamps was made and States which became a State during the 19th Century, after July 1, 1847, these of course being in addition to our states that were states previous to that date.

State Name	Became Territory	Became State
Alaska	Oct. 11, 1867	
Arizona	Feb. 24, 1863	Feb. 14, 1912
California		Sept. 9, 1850
Colorado	Feb. 28, 1861	Aug. 1, 1876
Dakota	Mar. 2, 1861	
Hawaii	Aug. 2, 1898	
Idaho	Mar. 3, 1863	July 3, 1890
Iowa	July 4, 1838	Dec. 28, 1846
Kansas	May 30, 1854	Jan. 29, 1861
Minnesota	Mar. 3, 1849	May 11, 1858
Montana	May 26, 1864	Nov. 8, 1889
Nebraska	May 30, 1854	Feb. 9, 1867
Nevada	Mar. 2, 1861	Oct. 31, 1864
New Mexico	Dec. 13, 1850	Jan. 6, 1912
North Dakota		Nov. 2, 1889
Oklahoma	May 2, 1890	Nov. 16, 1907
Oregon	Aug. 14, 1848	Feb. 14, 1859
South Dakota		Nov. 2, 1889
Utah	Sept. 9, 1850	Jan. 4, 1896
Washington	Mar. 2, 1853	Nov. 11, 1889
West Virginia		June 19, 1863
Wisconsin	July 4, 1836	May 29, 1848
Wyoming	July 29, 1868	July 10, 1890

Some states never were Territories. Nevada was a Territory for the shortest length of time while New Mexico remained a Territory for the longest period.

Chapter VIII

SPECIAL PRINTINGS OF 19TH CENTURY U. S. STAMPS

UNDER the general head of "Special Printings" we place all of the Reproductions, Reprints, Reissues, and Special Printings that were made of certain of our stamps in 1875, 1880, 1882, and 1883.

Luff had the following to say about the 1875 printings:

"Re-issues are printings of stamps which are available for postage, though the originals may have been replaced by a later issue. In 1861, at the breaking out of the Civil War, the stamps of 1847, 1851 (including the stamps for delivery by Carriers) and 1857 were declared obsolete and invalid for postage. * * * As a consequence, subsequent printings of any of these stamps must be called reprints. The stamps of 1861 and 1869 have never been deprived of their franking power, and the same privilege extends to any printing of them, without regard to the date at which it was made. The stamps made and sold in 1875 are, therefore, reissues. The other series enumerated in the circular, i.e., the 1870 issue, * * * were then in use and the specimens prepared for sale under the terms of the circular were neither reprints nor re-issues but special printings. These stamps were not in any way a part of the regular issues of the Post Office Department and were always kept carefully and entirely separate from the regular stock. They were manufactured upon special orders and, when possible, by the makers of the original issues. They were not sold at post offices but from the office of the Third Assistant Postmaster General. A special set of accounts was kept for them, in which every purchase was carefully detailed and the name of the purchaser recorded. From these accounts we learn that the first of the stamps was sold on February 23rd, 1875, and the last on July 15th, 1884. The sale was discontinued and the stock on hand counted on July 16th, 1884, and on the 23rd of the same month the remainders were destroyed, by order of the Postmaster General. It was originally intended to make 10,000 of each denomination of each series, except the four high values of the State Department and the newspapers and periodicals stamps. But this quantity was supplemented in a few instances, as dealers took advantage of the privilege of buying two dollars worth of any value and bought largely of the lower values of some series. The records do not give the dates at which the first consignments were received from the various contractors, but it is probable that the deliveries were made late in 1874 and early in 1875."

It may surprise many collectors to learn that so far as can be determined, none of the Special Printings that were issued for the Centennial Exposition of 1876 were on sale at the Exposition post office. Despite the fact that a fine postoffice was maintained at the Exposition, only regular stamps were on sale there and the various Special Printings were sold only at the office of the Third Assistant Postmaster General in Washington.

The collectors and dealers who really know much of anything about our Special Printings can be counted on one hand. Some of these Special Printings can be told at a glance because they vary in design or in perforation from the stamp as originally issued but others are told only with difficulty even by those most familiar with them. Most collectors can soon learn to spot the Government Reproductions of the 1847 issue due to actual differences in the stamps. The Reprints of the 1857-60 issue can be told at a glance because the perforation is 12 instead of 15 as on the originals. Most of the values of the 1869 issue do not present too much difficulty except that unused no gum copies that have a faint grill or an erased grill are often claimed to be the Reissue, this being particularly true on the stamps of low denomination, but many denominations of the balance of the stamps that are found in the Special Printings are properly identified only with real difficulty. The truth of the matter is that most collectors never set their eyes on any of the really rare items.

The best discourse given on these stamps was made by the late Eustace B. Power in a series of lectures given at Rockefeller Center, New York City, on February 12, 1934 and we feel that no better information can be given on them than can be obtained from the following notes taken from his lectures.

"The Special Printings of United States stamps have always been a source of considerable trouble to collectors because most collectors do not know the reason for these Special Printings and secondly because they are so exceedingly rare that few collectors have ever had an opportunity to see or acquire them. Perhaps it will be well to remember that this Government never issued any reprints, reissues or special prints until the year 1876 and these were produced in this year for two reasons; first, in order that the Government might be able to show a complete set of the various issues at the Centennial and second in order that the Government might be able to comply with the many requests for stamps that they received from stamp collectors. Without further explanation we will proceed to analyze the listings as made in the Scott catalog and thrash them out issue by issue. In the Scott catalog you will note that in the year 1847 two stamps were issued and after the listing of these stamps you will note the Scott catalog describes two more stamps as "Reprints." The description is wrong; they are not Reprints at all. As a matter of fact, the plates of Five and Ten Cents were not in existence in 1876 and, in order to complete the sets for the Centennial, the Government ordered the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to prepare two plates which they did and the differences between these Government imitations and the original stamps are very marked.

The report of G. B. McCartee, Chief of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875, says: "Engraved two dies for the Post Office Department, Special Agent Commission, die No. 2088 with one Five Cent and one Ten Cent stamp on the same dies. Engraved two plates, Five and Ten Cent, postage, 1847."

The distinctions between these two stamps are that in the first place they are larger than the originals, shorter in height and wider in width. The letters R. W. H. and E. are quite indistinct in the reprints, in fact it is difficult to tell what the letters are. In the Five Cent stamp, original, the background of the medalion is formed of vertical and horizontal lines whereas in the imitation the vertical lines are exceedingly distinct or entirely missing. Perhaps an even better way to distinguish between the original and the imitation of the Five Cent stamp would be to say that in the originals the left side of the shirt frill touches the oval at the top of the "F" of "Five," whilst in the imitation it touches the oval opposite to the top of the "5."

In the Ten Cent stamp, imitation, the line of the mouth is very straight and there is a kind of sleepy look to the eyes whilst in the original the eyes are very clear.

These official imitations were printed on a gray-blue paper and are also known on a laid paper. In fact, for many years the Scott Company listed these stamps on laid paper until their true status was known then they were removed from the catalog.

Official records show that of the imitations there were sold 4,779 Five Cent and 3,883 Ten Cent.

The next set of stamps we have to consider are the reprints of the 1857-60 issue. The dies of this issue were still in the hands of the contractors; namely, Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company of Philadelphia and when this firm received orders from the United States Government to reprint these stamps they laid down new plates for the purpose, and the stamps on these plates were set far apart so the sheets could be easily perforated without the perforations cutting into the design. In the original issues of 1851-57, as we know them, the stamps are perforated with a very small perforation whereas these reprints have a large perforation, were very bright in color, and were issued without gum.

These stamps were issued ungummed because they were not available for postage for the reason that all issues of United States stamps prior to the year 1861 were demonetized so that the large quantities on hand in the Southern Post Offices should not be used by Confederate Post Masters and therefore, being useless for postage, I presume the Government, or the printers, considered that gum was totally unnecessary for them. I will try and distinguish the color between the reprints and the originals. In the One Cent stamp we have a brilliant blue and the entire plate was made up from Type I. In the Three Cent stamp we have a brilliant vermilion in distinction to the ordinary rose and red shades of the issued stamp. In the Five Cent stamp we find the plate was made up from the second type; that is, from the design on which the projections had been removed. This Five Cent stamp is in a bright orange-brown in distinction from the ordinary red-brown and browns

that we find in the issued stamp. In the Ten Cent stamp we find the plate is laid down from Type I, that is the type in which the shells in the lower corners are complete. This Ten Cent stamp is in a distinctly bluish-green whereas in the originals I should like to call it a heavy yellow-green. In the Twelve Cent stamp the color is a greenish-black whereas in the originals it is almost a jet-black. In the Twenty-Four Cent stamp the color of the reprint is a violet-black—a very dark shade—whereas in the originals we are accustomed to seeing lilacs and gray-lilac shades. In the Thirty Cent stamp the reprints are a very yellow-orange—in fact, quite a lot of yellow—whereas in the originals we have a very pure and deep orange. And lastly, for the Ninety Cent stamp in the reprints we have a very beautiful true indigo-blue whereas in the originals the blue is several shades lighter, although in both stamps the blue is a very deep shade. The reprint I should prefer to call indigo myself.

And so to sum up this issue, No. 54A to 54H in Scott's catalog, we will say: Originals perforated 15, Reprints perforated 12, Originals gummed and in various types, Reprints ungummed and one type only. Now we are finished with two sets or issues of stamps, the Government imitations of 1847 and the Government reprints of 1851-6. The latter **reprints** because they were not available for postage.

The next set of special printings is the reissue of the 1861-66 sets, reissues, because they are good for postage to this day, in distinction from the previous sets which were reprints and not good for postage. The reissue of this 1861 set does not of course portray any duplicates of the various shades as known to stamp collectors; just touching on one example let us take the common Three Cent stamp which, in the issued stamp, occurs in pink, rose, dull red, scarlet, etc., whereas the reissue is in a brown-red and that one color only. Now this set of 1861 reissues is not quite so easy to tell as the two previous sets but they can be told chiefly from the fact that they are printed on an extremely white paper, they have absolutely white gum and the colors are very deep and very clear. There are some things that I have never been able to fathom and the gumming of this issue is one of them because in the official circular issued by the Post office Department on the 27th of March, 1875, is stated that all the specimens will be ungummed, whereas this reissue set was issued duly and properly gummed. I will try and distinguish the colors for you. In the One Cent the original comes in a dark blue, a normal blue and an ultramarine. In the reissue the stamp is a heavy ultramarine. In the Two Cent stamp—that famous old warrior, the "Black Jack"—in the originals it runs from a soft black down to almost a gray-black, whereas in the reissues the stamp is jet-black. In the Three Cent as I have mentioned before the shade is a brown-red totally unlike anything or any shade in the issued stamps. In the Five Cent the originals come as we know in mustard, buff, red brown, brown, and black-brown. In the reissues the color is a very light-brown with quite a yellowish tinge to it. In the Ten Cent stamp the originals come in a nice dark-green and in a yellow-green, whereas in the reissue the color is a distinctly blue-green. In the Twelve Cent stamp the originals are black and the reissues deep black. The deep black of the reissue shows up more distinctly on account of the white paper and the same distinction exactly applies to the Fifteen Cent stamp, which contained a portrait of Abraham Lincoln whose birthday we celebrated recently. I suppose the next stamp, the Twenty-Four Cent, is about the easiest of all to distinguish. In the originals we have red-lilacs, grays, and steel blue. In the reissue this stamp is a very deep-violet with no lilac in it at all. I see Mr. Luff in his magnificent work on the stamps of the United States describes the color as a deep brown-violet, which perhaps is a better description still. In the Thirty Cent stamp the originals come in an orange, whereas in the reissue the stamp is distinctly brown-orange, a totally different color from the issued variety and in the Ninety Cent stamp, of the issued varieties, we have a beautiful blue, marine-blue and dark blue, whereas in the Ninety Cent reissue the color is an intensely dark shade. Some people have asked me why the Government did not reissue this set with the grille. The grille was an experiment on the part of the printer to produce a stamp which was impossible to clean or to remove cancellations from and I believe I am right in saying that the grille was purely a mechanical device of the printers and not so ordered by the Government. And so to sum up this issue, no difference in design, perforation, considerable difference in the colors and in the case of the reissue an intensely white paper.

Now we come down to the reissues of that famous old set—those stamps issued in 1869—and great was the rejoicing amongst collectors when they discovered that they could buy, at the Centennial Exhibition, the missing values of the set, although perhaps some them did not realize that these reissues were totally different stamps from the original issue due to the fact that they had no grille. In Mr. Luff's book I see that the One Cent stamp was made from a new plate and had only 150 im-

pressions, whereas the original plate had 300 impressions, and again in the Fifteen Cent stamp it is what Mr. Luff calls type 3. This type 3 is very often mistaken for type 1 of the regular issue. In types 1 and 2 a band of ruled lines, about 1 mm. in width, extends around the inner edge of the space to the picture, whereas in this type 3 the band is omitted with the exception of a solitary line which closes the top of the tablet below the last "STA" of "Postage." The colors of this reissue set are very brilliant, but it is almost impossible for me to distinguish them from the originals by description. Perhaps I might say that they appear fresher and that the colors are brighter and just a little bit deeper than the issued set and that the paper is white.

In 1870 we had a change of design which originally appeared with a grille, followed by the same stamps without a grille. Then in 1873 we had this same set of stamps, but with the socalled "Secret Marks" being the distinguishing marks that the Continental Bank Note Company put on the lower values to distinguish their printings from that of the National Bank Note Company. Now inasmuch as the Centennial Exhibition was held in 1876 we can readily see that the regular issues of the Continental Bank Note Company were then in current use, so that these were in no sense of the word a reissue. They were a Special Printing and were probably so made in order that the Government might have an actual record of the stamps sold both at the Centennial and through the Third Assistant Postmaster General to collectors. The first sale of these special printings was made on the 5th of May, 1875, and the Two Cent vermilion and Five Cent blue were added to the set in 1876. These special printings are exceedingly difficult to tell from the ordinary issue. Many of them were printed from worn plates and which to some may be difficult to distinguish. The colors have a very fresh appearance, the paper is very white, the same white paper which we have found on the other previous reissues; they were issued without any gum and apparently the stamps are not separated in the usual way, but were cut apart very carelessly with scissors, resulting in many mutilated stamps.

I presume that they were cut apart because I remember mounting in the collection of the late Senator Ackerman a set of little sized envelopes which I believe he bought at the Centennial Exhibition and on the outside of these little white envelopes was printed the year of issue and the denominations of the stamps, and it is quite possible that the person putting up these small envelopes was a different person than the ones who put up the previous issues. But in any case, whoever would cut these stamps apart was guilty of a heinous philatelic crime. Now the colors of the special printing. The One Cent bright ultramarine, the Two Cent almost a black-brown. Again the Two Cent in a carmine vermilion, quite a lot of carmine in it. The Three Cent a blue-green. The Five Cent almost identical with the regular stamp, if anything a little brighter. The Six Cent a pale, dull rose. The Seven Cent, scarlet vermilion. The Ten Cent a heavy yellow-brown. The Twelve Cent a black-violet, far deeper than the regular issue. The Fifteen Cent a very bright orange with practically no yellow in it. The Twenty-Four Cent a dull purple in distinction from the red-purple of the regular stamp. The Thirty Cent a kind of greasy greenish-black quite different from the deep black of the National and quite different from the grayish black of the Continental and of the Ninety Cent a carmine which appears to have a violet tinge to it, whereas in the National we find a Carmine Lake and in the Continental we have a yellowish rose. These stamps were on sale long after the Centennial Exhibition closed and could be obtained from the Third Assistant Postmaster up to the 15th of July, 1884, when the sale was discontinued and on the 23rd of that month the remainders were destroyed by order of the Postmaster General.

A special printing of stamps was made by the American Bank Note Company in 1880. The Continental Bank Note Company printed stamps for the Government in 1879 and the contract was taken over by the American Bank Note Company in 1879. The records of the Third Assistant Postmaster show that on the 16th of July, 1880, (on which date the American Bank Note Company were still printing the United States stamps) there were received from the stamp agent 500 copies of each value of the series then in use plus the Two Cent brown, which, of course, in 1880 was obsolete, being replaced by the Two Cent vermilion. I have never been able to find out the reason why the Third Assistant Postmaster General added to a stock of stamps that he already had, but there is no doubt about it that these stamps were a special printing because they were issued ungummed, because the perforations are very rough and ragged, and because the colors differ somewhat from the originals. But, of course, the easiest way to distinguish some of these stamps is from the fact that they were printed on the soft porous paper used by the American Bank Note Company. The Two Cent brown, the Seven Cent vermilion, the

Twelve Cent Violet and a Twenty-Four Cent purple were out of issue in 1880, therefore when one of these four values are found on the soft paper they can be spotted immediately as a Special Printing. The other denominations were then in use and can therefore only be told by peculiarities in color and perforation. Mr. Luff tells us that only five complete sets and a few odd copies are known. He may be right in this statement, but when he speaks of a **"few odd copies,"** no doubt he has reference to the four denominations that I have spoken of, but I know of a considerable number of these and they probably are commoner than the rest of the set because collectors were anxious to get stamps that were then out of use, and these four values were then out of use. The records of the Department show that there were sales of most of the denominations amounting to less than 200 copies. It you have the four denominations the Two, the Seven, the Twelve and the Twenty-Four on the soft paper you have the special printing. If you have any other denominations with rough perforations and no gum on the back I would suggest that you submit them to any of the better known experts of United States stamps.

Next is the special printing of the Five Cent Garfield, brown. The original issue of this stamp was on the 10th of April, 1882, and I am unable to tell you when the special printing was made, but it was probably not long after that date and we find that when all these special printings were destroyed, 7,537 copies of this stamp were also destroyed, so that if they did print 10,000 of them (which was the customary number) there must have been a little less than 2,500 sold to the public. The stamp is on a soft porous paper as usual and is without gum, and the impression is very sharp and the coloring a light brownish gray.

If you will look ot your Five Cent Garfields in brown you will find most of them have a very blurred appearance and if you should have one in this light brownish gray color in which the impression stands out very sharp, there is a possibility of your having the Special Printing.

There are two more Special Prints which we have to consider. There are the Two Cent brown Washington and the Four Cent green Jackson. Unlike the other special printings the Two Cent stamp was properly gummed and should you have a strip with the margins I think you will find that it has a special impression of the word "Steamer" upon it. This special printing of the Two Cent is known unperforated vertically, several such pairs having come under my notice.

The Four Cent green of Jackson was like the previous issue without gum and is an exceedingly hard stamp to tell. Personally, I should call the shade a Prussian Green, the same as Mr. Luff does and from the Government records I see that of the Two Cent stamp 55 copies were sold and of the Four Cent Stamp 26 copies were sold which readily proves the very great rarity of these stamps."

Listings of U. S. Special Printings

Here is a concise listing of the stamps we include under the classification of Special Printings. The number shown is the number sold according to the official records.

Original issued	Special Printing issued	Denomination and color	Quantity sold	Varieties, if any
1847	1875	5c red brown brown dark brown	4,779	
		10c black gray black	3,883	

The above stamps were issued imperforate, without gum, were made from new plates of 50 subjects made by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and were not good for postage. They can be distinguished from the originals as follows: On the Special printings the letters R.W.H. & E. at the bottom of each stamp are less distinct than on the originals. On the 5c originals the left side of the white shirt frill touches the oval on a level with the top of the "F" of "Five" while on the reproductions it touches the oval about on a level with the top of the figure "5." On the 10c Special Printing the eyes have a sleepy look, the line of the mouth is more straight than it is on the originals, and in the curl of the hair near the left cheek is a strong black dot whereas in the originals this dot is faint.

Excellent illustrations of these two items will be found in that part of this work devoted to the 1847 issue.

Original issued	Special Printing issued	Denomination and color	Quantity sold	Varieties, if any
1857-60	1875	1c bright blue	3,846	Cracked plate
		3c scarlet	479	Double transfer
		5c orange-brown	878	
		10c blue green	516	
		12c greenish black	489	
		24c blackish violet	479	
		30c yellow orange	480	
		90c deep blue	454	



Figure 265. Special Printing of the 1857-1860 Issue.

The preceding Special Printings were printed by the Continental Bank Note Company on white paper, without gum, were perforated 12 and were not good for postage. The 1c, 3c, 10c, and 12c were printed from new plates of 100 subjects each and each of these denominations differed in some particular from the regularly issued stamps.

Original issued	Special Printing issued	Denomination and color	Quantity sold	Varieties, if any
1861-66	1875	1c blue	3,195	
		2c black	979	
		3c brown red	465	
		5c light brown	672	
		10c green	451	
		12c black	389	
		15c black	397	
		24c deep violet	346	
		30c brownish orange	346	
		90c blue	317	



Figure 266. Special Printing of the 1861-1866 Issue.

The above stamps were printed by the National Bank Note Company, perforated 12, printed on a hard, very white paper and issued with a white crackly gum. They were good for postage. The 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c, and 12c were printed from new plates of 100 subjects each.

Original issued	Special Printing issued	Denomination and color	Quantity sold	Varieties, if any
1869	1875	1c buff (probably includes 1880 issue on soft paper)	8,252	
		2c brown	4,755	
		3c blue	1,406	
		6c blue	2,226	
		10c yellow	1,947	
		12c green	1,584	
		15c brown & blue (Type III)	1,981	
		24c green & violet	2,091	
		30c blue & carmine	1,535	
		90c carmine & black	1,356	



Figure 267. Special Printing of the 1869 Issue.

The above Special Printings were printed by the National Bank Note Company, and the stamp was issued perforated 12, on soft porous paper, without crackly gum. They were good for postage. A new plate of 150 subjects was made for the 1c and a new plate was made for the frame of the 15c.

Original issued	Special Printing issued	Denomination and color	Quantity sold	Varieties, if any
1869	1880	1c buff (gummed)	2,250 (estimated)	
		1c brown orange (no gum)	2,750 (Estimated)	

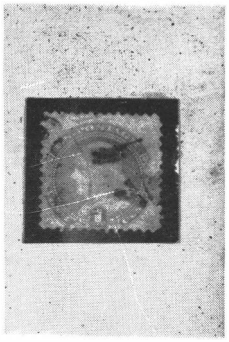


Figure 268. Special Printing of the One Cent 1869. Used copies are occasionally found.

The above Special Printing was made by the American Bank Note Company, and the stamp was issued perforated 12, on sofe porous paper, without grill. It was good for postage. The buff shade was issued with gum, while the brown orange shade was issued without gum and is the more common of the two.

Original issued	Special Printing issued	Denomination and color	Quantity sold	Varieties, if any
1873	1875	1c ultramarine 2c dark brown 3c blue green 6c dull rose 7c reddish vermilion 10c pale brown 12c dark violet 15c bright orange 24c dull purple 30c greenish black 90c violet carmine	See remarks after the 1880 Special Printing of the 1879 issue	



Figure 269. Special Printing of the 1873 Issue.

The preceding Special Printings were made by the Continental Bank Note Company, were printed on hard white wove paper, issued without gum, and were good for postage. Although they were perforated 12, they were cut apart with scissors and as a result the perforations are much mutilated and the design is often cut. It is possible to distinguish these Special Printings from the regular issues by the shades and by the paper which is very white instead of yellowish.

Original issued	Special Printing issued	Denomination and color	Quantity sold	Varieties, if any
1875	1875	2c carmine vermilion	Not known	
		5c bright blue	but definitely small number	



Figure 270. Special Printing of the 1875 Issue.

The above Special Printings were made by the Continental Bank Note Company, on hard white wove paper, perforated 12, issued without gum. They were good for postage.

Original issued	Special Printing issued	Denomination and color	Quantity sold	Varieties, if any
1879	1880	1c dark ulramarine	See footnote	
1873		2c black brown		
1879		2c scarlet vermilion		
1879		3c blue green		
1873		5c deep blue		
1879		6c dull rose		
1873		7c scarlet vermilion		
1873		10c deep brown		
1873		12c blackish purple		
1873		15c orange		
1873		24c dark violet		
1873		30c greenish black		
1873		90c dull carmine		

The above Special Printings were produced by the American Bank Note Company on soft porus paper, perforated 12, and were issued without gum, They were good for postage. No separate records of the amounts sold of the 1875 and 1880 Special Printings were kept by the Post Office Department but the amounts sold of the various denominations were as follows: 1c, 388; 2c brown, 416; 2c vermilion, 917; 3c, 267; 5c, 317; 6c, 185; 7c, 473; 10c, 180; 12c, 282; 15c, 169; 24c, 286; 30c, 179; 90c, 170. The Special Printing made in 1880, which is on soft paper, is much more rare than the Special Printing made in 1875 on hard paper.

The illustrations of the above follow on the next page.



Figure 271. Special Printing of the 1873-1879 Issues. The Two Cent is dark brown.



Figure 272. Special Printing of the 1879 Issue. The Two Cent is scarlet vermilion.

Original issued	Special Printing issued	Denomination and color	Quantity sold	Varieties, if any
1882	1882	5c gray brown	2,463	

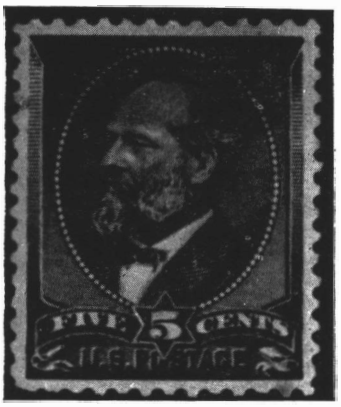


Figure 273. The Special Printing of the 1882 Issue.

The preceding Special Printing was printed by the American Bank Note Company, was printed on soft porous paper, perforated 12, and issued without gum. It is a very difficult stamp to distinguish and is much more rare than is indicated by the quantity reported sold.

Original issued	Special Printing issued	Denomination and color	Quantity sold	Varieties, if any
1883	1883	2c pale red brown 4c deep blue green	Unknown	Horizontal pair, imperf. between



Figure 274. The Special Printing of the 1883 Issue in block of 4. (Ex-West collection).

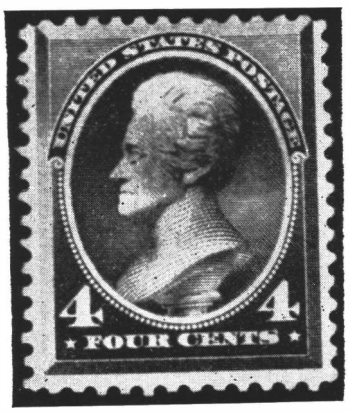


Figure 275. The Special Printing of the 1883 Issue. (Ex-West collection).



Figure 276. The Special Printing in a Horizontal pair, imperforate between.

The above Special Printings were produced by the American Bank Note Company on soft porous paper, perforated 12. The 2c was issued with gum, the 4c without gum. The variety on the 2c stamp, "horizontal pair, imperforate between," came about not as the result of an error as might be expected but because of the fact that while the sheet of 200 was perforated in the usual manner it was not cut into two panes as was customary. For this reason the stamps on the 10th row of the left pane, and the first row of the right pane, along which the sheet normally was slit to form the two panes, formed pairs that were imperforate between. The plate used to produce these two cent stamps bore the imprint "STEAMER AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO." Since this was about the time the steam press was being put into use in printing our stamps it is probable that this Special Printing on the 2c was in the form of an experimental printing on the new steam press.

SPECIAL PRINTINGS

Under this section are included Government Imitations, Special Printings, Reprints, and Reissues. The number of the original stamp represented by the Special Printing is followed by the letters SP to indicate "Special Printing." The "Revised Catalog" numbers used here are according to the suggested "New Catalog System" presented in Chapter XVIII of this book.

PRINTED IN 1875

Reprint Year	Issue	1966 Scott No.	Quantity Issued	Revised Catalog No.	
1875	1847	3	4,779	1 SP	5c red brown
		4	3,883	2 SP	10c black
1875	1857-60	40	3,846	17 SP	1c bright blue, type I
		41	479	25 SP	3c scarlet
		42	878	30 SP	5c orange brown
		43	516	31 SP	10c blue green
		44	489	36 SP	12c greenish black
		45	479	37 SP	24c blackish violet
		46	480	38 SP	30c yellow orange
		47	454	39 SP	90c deep blue
1875	1861-66	102	3,195	40 SP	1c blue
		103	979	41 SP	2c black
		104	465	43 SP	3c brown red
		105	672	46 SP	5c light brown
		106	451	47 SP	10c green
		107	389	49 SP	12c black
		108	397	50 SP	15c black
		109	346	51 SP	24c deep violet
		110	346	54 SP	30c brownish orange
		111	317	55 SP	90c blue

Reprint Year	Issue	1967 Scott No.	Quantity Issued	Revised Catalog No.	
1875	1869	123	*8252	85 SP	1c buff
		124	4755	86 SP	2c brown
		125	1406	87 SP	3c blue
		126	2226	88 SP	6c blue
		127	1947	89 SP	10c yellow
		128	1584	90 SP	12c green
		129	1981	91 SP	15c brown & blue, type III
		130	2091	92 SP	24c green & violet
		131	1535	93 SP	30c blue & carmine
		132	1356	94 SP	90c carmine & black
1880		133	*	85aSP	1c buff

* 100,123 quantity issued probably includes No. 133 also.

1875	1873	167	Unknown	118 SP	1c ultramarine
		168	"	119 SP	2c dark brown
		180	"	120 SP	2c carmine vermilion
		169	"	121 SP	3c blue green
		181	"	122 SP	5c bright blue
		170	"	123 SP	6c dull rose
		171	"	124 SP	7c reddish vermilion
		172	"	125 SP	10c pale brown
		173	"	126 SP	12c dark violet
		174	"	127 SP	15c bright orange
		175	"	128 SP	24c dull purple
		176	"	129 SP	30c greenish black
		177	"	130 SP	90c violet carmine
	1875	180	Unknown	129 SP	2c carmine vermilion
		181	"	130 SP	5c bright blue

PRINTED IN 1880

1880	1879	192		131 SP	1c dark ultramarine
		193		119aSP	2c black brown
		203		132 SP	2c scarlet vermilion
		194		133 SP	3c blue green
		204		134 SP	5c deep blue
		195		135 SP	6c dull rose
		196		124aSP	7c vermilion
		197		136 SP	10c deep brown
		198		137 SP	12c blackish purple
		199		138 SP	15c orange
		200		139 SP	24c dark violet
		201		140 SP	30c greenish black
		202		141 SP	90c dull carmine
	1882	205C		153 SP	5c yellow brown
	1883	211B		149 SP	2c pale red brown
		211D		151 SP	4c deep blue green

It should be understood that the information given on these pages is the barest possible outline of the proposed new catalog numbers, and is set forth here to establish the numbering system of the catalog.

Chapter IX

UNITED STATES POSTAGE ESSAYS AND PROOFS

THE information given here consists of a rewritten version of *"The Various Kinds of United States Essays and Proofs,"* by Clarence W. Brazer, D.Sc. and this revision, made in 1947, is presented here thru the courtesy of the late Dr. Brazer.

Dr. Brazer was the outstanding authority on U. S. Essays and Proofs and the author of *"Essays for U. S. Adhesive Postage Stamps"* which is the standard work in this field.

We very much appreciate the privilege of presenting this authoritative information that he revised especially for our earlier books. We quote the article in its entirety.

"From 1847 to 1894 all United States stamps were made by private Bank Note Companies. After 1851 the procedure was for the Government to advertise for proposals to be accompanied by essays, or examples of the quality of stamps proposed to be furnished. After the bids were opened, and the low bidder known, an Expert Committee was appointed to pass upon the design, the color and the paper. Changes to the essays submitted with the bid were sometimes requested, in plate form of finished essays when a contract would be awarded, and, after final approvals, printing of the stamps began.

Models

Frequently in the early issues the vignette of the stamp design was taken from a prior engraving or photograph which would be mounted upon a card and about this the designer would draw in pencil or wash, sometimes colored, the suggested design for the frame and lettering of the borders. These built-up combinations are called models, and were generally the exact size of the proposed stamp.

Original Drawings

Sometimes the designer prepares an entire drawing in pencil and wash which, in the olden days, was usually the same size as the proposed stamp but since the use of photography is more generally several times the proposed size of the stamp which is reduced to the stamp size photographically. The photographic dry plate did not come into general use until after 1880. Sometimes the models are photographed and submitted for approval and in some cases the photographs are retouched with wash.

Essays

An essay is a design for a stamp submitted to a Government for approval and is generally in the form of the above models, original drawings or large die essay engravings, though in a number of cases finished plate essays fully gummed and perforated, and sometimes grilled, were submitted for approval. If the design is different, in any particular, from the design sold as a stamp, it is an essay.

Upon final approval of a design from which stamps are issued these essays become proofs. Any print, not a stamp sold by the Government, printed from an officially approved design die or plate is a proof, no matter in what color, nor material upon which it may be printed for experimental purposes, at any time during the existence of the die or plate. All essays and proofs are printed only by the proof printer or proofer on a hand press.

Reprints

Reprints of stamps, resembling the stamps in color, paper, perforation, etc., as previously sold by the Government, are not classed as proofs though they may have been sold for collector's purposes only. Reprints are generally printed by the plate printer.

Artist's or Engraver's Impressions

Upon approval of the design, the vignette is generally engraved by an artist highly skilled in this particular kind of engraving and the engraver may have incomplete impressions taken from the die to show the progress of his work. Upon completion of the engraving of the vignette another engraver, or engravers, complete the engraving of the frame and lettering and they may also have progress die essays made from time to time. The vignette may be engraved on a separate die and be transferred to the die containing the frame engraving.

Large Die Proofs

Upon completion of the engraving, the steel die, which is generally about 2x2½″ in size, or larger, is, before hardening, carefully inked and the surface of the die scrupulously wiped clean. The die then is placed on the bed of the small proof press and covered with a piece of dampened India paper generally trimmed to the same size as the steel die. The paper is then covered for protection with a thin white, more or less soft, cardboard called "blotter," about 6x8″ in size, and passed under the heavy roller of the hand press. When pulled out the ink is adhering to the India paper and India paper adhering to the card which has a sinkage full size of the steel die block pressed in it. The product is a large die impression.

Large die proofs may be in several trial colors submitted for approval.

When the design is approved the die is hardened and additional large die proofs may be taken, generally in the approved color, and submitted for final approval.

Since before stamps were issued, engravers have been entitled to have die impressions of their work, both finished and unfinished. They seldom parted with them but after their day the heirs frequently passed them to philatelists. Most die essays and proofs now available to philatelists came from these sources or from ex-officials.

H. G. Mandell, a proof collector and an expert in the American Bank Note Company prior to 1903, had many large die proofs in his collection autographed by the engravers then living. The engraver of the frame and letters usually signed in pencil in the lower left hand corner and the engraver of the vignette in the right hand corner. If the designer signed, his autograph usually appeared at the top. These are known as autographed large die proofs.

Some large die proofs of the 1847 issue, which stamps had been declared no longer usable for postage in 1851, were reprinted about 1895 on thick white India paper, bond paper, colored bond and laid papers, in ten or twelve colors, perhaps from a duplicate die as I have found no official record of the destruction of the official transfer roll which probably was inherited from Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson by the American Bank Note Company when it was formed in 1857.

Die proofs of this issue also exist in four colors on glazed wove paper and were probably made in 1895 for Directors of the American Bank Note Company.

There were also made, about 1879, five sets of these 1847 proofs and some of the other Postage, Department and Newspaper stamps, in five colors: a gray blue, gray-green, dull red, grayish-brown and gray-black on a thicker India paper, and the 1847 Issue also on bound paper. These are known as Goodall die proofs, named after the President of the Bank Note Company at the time.

The Continental Bank Note Company printed complete sets of large die proofs on large cards of all stamps issued under their contracts, including Postage, Departments and Newspaper stamps.

In 1893 the American Bank Note Company printed about 50 sets of large die proofs of the Columbian issue on large 6x8″ thin cards. These dies were larger than the card and made from the transfer rolls used to make the stamp plates.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing issued about 50 complete sets of large die proofs of the 1894 Postage, Postage Dues, Special Delivery and Newspapers, and in 1898 about 77 sets of large die proofs of the Trans-Mississippi Issue in normal colors, and about 216 sets of unfinished essays with black centers, in which the 2c and $2 centers are interchanged. About fifty sets of large die proofs of the Pan-American 1901 Issue were also distributed. In 1933 a set of large die proofs of all Bureau Issues from 1894 to 1933 were printed and presented to the late President F. D. Roosevelt. Two, or more, sets of die proofs of all 1898 to 1933 commemorative issues only, during this period, were printed on very faint yellowish soft wove paper .002 inches thick. One set was trimmed with 3mm. margins, called "Small die proofs" and given to President Roosevelt. An untrimmed set, each one numbered, was exchanged with a philatelist for stamps which were mounted in the album given the President.

With the exception of the sets mentioned, most all other die proofs known are original die proofs, and the quantity printed was probably limited to less than ten, and in many cases to less than five.

India Paper Plate Proofs

Upon approval and hardening of the die a transfer relief is made upon a transfer roll. Erasures can be made upon this roll before hardening (if, for instance, it was necessary to provide sufficient room for perforation between stamps, etc.) by use of a stone or tool. After the transfer roll is hardened the design is laid down on the soft steel plate which when completed and before hardening is carefully inked and the surface wiped serupulously clean, and covered with dampened India paper and cardboard blotter slightly larger than the complete plate and proofs taken in the same manner as described above for large die proofs.

The ink is generally in the approved color though occasionally India paper plate proofs are made in black or bank note green if the approved color ink is not available. These plates are submitted to the proof reader who examines them carefully with a magnifier and marks in colored pencil any necessary corrections for re-entry. If the impression is out of place the soft steel is erased and then placed face down on a steel table and the impression hammered flat from the back. Sometimes exceptionally deep lines of the engraving of the frame are not entirely removed and when the design is re-entered traces of the original entry may remain, thus producing a double transfer.

After corrections another plate proof on India paper is made for final approval after which the plate is then hardened and sent to press for printing the stamps. Very few plates were hardened prior to 1880.

All India paper plate proofs were probably printed before the stamps. The Post Office Department sometimes requested a sheet of India paper plate proofs for distribution to the "Press" as illustrating a new issue. These sets were distributed in envelopes with a printed announcement describing the design. Some of the envelopes had "PROOF SPECIMENS" printed thereon.

It is probable that the sheets of India paper plate proofs were kept in the files of the Bank Note Company as records until after the Post Office Department in 1894 made it impossible for the Bank Note Company to compete for the work, when there probably seemed to be no reason why proofs still in the

files of the Company might not be made available to collectors. All dies and plates were by contract required to be returned to the Government vaults upon completion of the contract for which they were made; later proofs could therefore only be made thereafter by Government order. About 1903 many of these India paper plate proofs became available to philatelists.

Trial colors exist on India paper plate proofs, and in some eases they appear as finished plate proofs perforated and gummed on stamp paper.

Plate Proofs on Stamp Paper

Three of the values of the 1851 issue were submitted in trial colors on stamp paper and some of the colors closely approximate the issued stamps, perhaps having been from the sheet of the color approved though the inks generally used for stamps are not quite so brilliant nor pure as the expensive inks used for proofs.

Special care should be exercised in purchasing unused 1851-60 5c, 24c and 90c imperforate stamps of the 1851 issue without original gum, as the proofs are some times offered unknowingly as those imperforates listed by Scott's U. S. Catalog, which can be determined by the color.

Fakes

Many years ago some India paper plate proofs were bought in Europe, Privately perforated and gummed and in some cases backed up with additional paper to the approximate thickness of stamp paper, and occasionally grilled, and sold as the genuine stamp. These can usually be told by the paper or the color of the ink as the proofs are generally slightly brighter and the engraving is much clearer. Cardboard plate proofs have also been thinned, perforated and gummed, but can be distinguished by the cloudy transparency when held to a strong light, as the card pulp cannot be removed evenly all over the surface to look like the regular stamp paper.

Hybrid Proofs

The stamp contracts provided no payment for proofs. When a large number of proofs were officially requested, the company sometimes filled the order with "hybrids." These proofs exist on India paper cut close to the design and mounted on India paper sunk into the Cardboard about the size of the die block to resemble large die proofs.

These exist in issued sets, sometimes found privately bound, and containing issues up to 1893, though generally of earlier dates. They are presumed to be India paper plate proofs though in some cases they are large die proofs cut close, perhaps due to some damage in the making or mounting, which required trimming of the usual surplus paper. They thus may be found amongst reprinted sets of genuine large die essays or proofs. They can be identified by a welt on the back of the card which is the same size as the stamp design, caused by the extra sheet of India paper being pressed into the card "blotter."

I have discovered some values of the bi-colored 1898 Trans-Mississippi issue in this condition and there have appeared, in auction, complete sets of these bicolored essays on India paper trimmed close, which might be thought to be India paper plate essays but bicolored plates were never made for this issue and thus they must be die proofs cut to size.

Cardboard Plate Proofs

In 1875 the United States Post Office Department had Reproductions, Reprints and Re-Issues of all stamps issued prior to that time specially printed and these were separated into sets and enclosed in small white envelopes with printing on the face, and sold to collectors at face value. The Department and Newspaper stamps were without gum and were overprinted SPECIMEN. These were sold to collectors in 1876 and later upon request until after 1880. Many philatelists objected to paying high face value for unusable stamps. In 1879 the Post Office Department had specially printed by the American Bank Note Company sheets of cardboard proofs of all stamps issued prior to that date, 500 of which were cut apart and assembled in sets of 171 pieces in normal colors, contained in small envelopes about 3½x2¼" and titled "United States Postage Stamps" (with year of set and PROOF SPECIMENS printed on the envelopes). These were distributed freely by Congressmen in the same manner as they later distributed garden seeds, and were quite popular.

About 1885 the above procedure was again followed with an emission of 500 lots of 184 pieces in normal colors on thinner cardboard, in 17 envelopes 91x59mm. in size, containing proofs of all stamps issued to 1885.

About 1890 another emission of 500 lots were distributed in larger envelopes with 194 proofs including the 1890 issue, except the 8 cents which was not issued until 1893.

About January 1893, another emission of 500 lots of 209 cardboard proofs was distributed in envelopes about 5x3", entitled "U. S. Postage Stamps, Issue 1851"—etc., in which the numerals of the date are widely spaced with a period thereafter. This set did not include the 8c 1890 nor the 8c Columbian which were not issued until March 1893. Sometime after the issuing of the 8c stamps there was another emission of 500 lots of 211 cardboard proofs in normal colors made in 1893. The Earl of Crawford in 1910 had complete panes of cardboard proofs in normal colors of all stamps from 1847 to 1893. The 1847 reproductions were complete plates of 50 subjects. These were later in the Ackerman Collection and willed to the Congressional Library and have not been cut.

The "Atlanta" Trial Color Plate Proofs

The above proofs were all in approximate or normal colors of issue but, in 1881, the Post Office Department had printed by the American Bank Note Company and exhibited at the International Cotton Exposition held at Atlanta, Georgia one pane of each stamp issued prior to that time, printed on thin white cardboard, each in the five colors of red, brown, green, blue and black. After the Exposition these became available to collectors and each pane was cut into singles although two blocks of four and one block of eight are known. Atlanta proofs of the 1 cent Post Office Department stamp are not known to now exist.

The bicolored 1869 and State Department stamps were printed in about ten or twelve various combinations of colors. This emission of plate proofs are called Atlanta Trial Colors.

Small Die Proofs

About 1903, the Post Office Department had prepared by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing about 83 albums of small die proofs, in approximately normal colors, of all issues prior to 1903 mounted on sunken cardboard leaves, (which proofs were mounted with strong glue and under pressure), sets of what are now called small die proofs. They were printed with aniline inks on a fibrous white wove paper which is very difficult to remove in perfect condition from the cardboard leaves. Some of these 1861 issue so-called die proofs are faked to represent prior states of the die, the 1873 issue had secret marks added

to them or had been re-engraved in 1882, and the 1847 were from the reproduction die of 1875 titled "First" and "Second" issues, the latter simply being a blurred impression of the first. The 1851 Franklin Carrier, the 1871 1 cent, and the 4 dollar values of the State Department were from new dies. These albums are said to have been presented to Senators and friends of the Post Office Department. The whole lot not having been given away, about one-half dozen were brought up to date about 1908 and in them were included the issues from 1903 to 1908 inclusive.

About 1915 four sets of small die proofs were printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing on a soft wove pale cream wove paper, of all U. S. stamps issued prior to that date. From these one complete set was exhibited at the San Francisco Exhibition. The remaining proofs were eventually exchanged with a philatelist for stamps said to be mounted in the Bureau Collection, including the 1901 inverts.

1851-1861 Die Essays

Early in the 20th Century there occurred a bankruptcy sale of the effects of the Philadelphia Bank Note Company which had inherited from the Toppan, Carpenter and Company the essay dies for the 1851 and 1861 issues, to which numerals had been added to all values except the 10c and 30c, for submission as essays with their proposals for the 1861 contract. These dies and others of various essays submitted with this company's bid particularly about 1876, etc., (and including the dies of the Philadelphia Sanitary Fair stamp of 1864), were purchased by Ernest Schernikow who had ten sets of prints made from them, in about 15 different colors.

It was the custom of this firm to keep a duplicate die of each state of the various engravers work, such as the first state of the vignette alone, then with some lathe work added and finally with the lettering added and the vignette completed. The completed dies of the approved design were given to the government.

A Franklin Carrier design with a different background was included in the lot.

Plate Essays on thin white wove paper and on colored bond papers were also reprinted of some of these Philadelphia Bank Note Company's essays.

Finally

Many collectors have for years filled the album spaces of expensive stamps with proofs which, particularly in an unused collection, make a very acceptable substitute. The great care with which proofs are produced, and the bright attractive colors in which they may be had, makes them desirable to those who appreciate the fine art of the beautifully engraved stamps of the United States, which, with the essays submitted for approval, form a most interesting historical background of the stamps.

The stamp specialist must have a large die proof in a dark color, not trying on the eyes, with which to compare his plate varieties.

Essays and proofs have long been much sought for and in great demand in Europe, and recently American collectors have begun to appreciate their desirability. The limited number available is likely soon to be exhausted."
—*Clarence W. Brazer* (1947).

Proofs and Trial Color Proofs

It is unfortunate that Scott's "United States Stamp Catalogue," more commonly known as "The Specialized," does not seem to recognize the fact that many of the items listed as 1847 Proofs or trials were actually not produced

until a much later date. So far as is known to us, all Plate Proofs were made in 1847 but many of the Die proofs were made at a much later date as is explained in a paragraph which follows shortly. In order to help complete the record we will give a list of the known varieties although it must be understood that many of them were not produced in 1847 or while the stamps were in use.

Normal Color Proofs

1847 ISSUE

	Die Proofs		Plate Proofs	
	Large Die	Small Die	India paper	Cardboard
5c red brown on India	x	x	x	x
As above on White bond paper	x	x		
On colored bond	x			
On White laid paper	x			
On Bluish laid paper	x			
On Yellowish wove	x			
On Bluish wove	x			
10c black on India	x	x	x	x
As above on White bond paper	x	x		
On colored bond	x			
On white laid paper	x			
On Bluish laid paper	x			
On Yellowish wove	x			
On White wove	x			
Glazed paper	x			

Plate proofs overprinted "Specimen" are valued at about half as much as those without the overprint.

PROOFS OF THE GOVERNMENT REPRODUCTIONS—1875

	Die Proofs		Plate Proofs	
	Large Die	Small Die	India paper	Cardboard
5c red brown		x	x	x
As above on Bond paper				x
10c black	x	x	x	x
As above on Bond paper				x

1851-1860 ISSUES

	Die Proofs		Plate Proofs	
	Large Die	Small Die	India paper	Cardboard
1c blue, type I	x			
3c red, type I	x		x	
5c brown, type I	x			
10c green, type I	x			
12c black	x			
1c blue, type V (Pl. 9)			x	
3c red, type II (Pl. 24)			x	
5c brown, type II			x	
10c green, type V			x	
12c black, (Pl. 3)			x	
24c lilac	x		x	
30c orange	x		x	
90c blue	x		x	

The above are from the original plates—those that follow are proofs of the Reprints of the issue that were made in 1875. They may be distinguished from the originals by the differences in types on the 1c, 3c, 10c and 12c and by the colors on the 5c, 24c, 30c and 90c.

1c bright blue, Type I	x	x	x
3c scarlet, type I	x	x	x
5c orange brown, type II or III	x	x	x
10c blue green, type I	x	x	x
12c greenish black (new plate frame line complete)	x	x	x
24c blackish violet	x	x	x
30c yellow orange	x	x	x
90c deep blue	x	x	x

	Die Proofs		Plate Proofs	
	Large Die	Small Die	India paper	Cardboard
1861 ISSUE (SO-CALLED "AUGUST" DESIGNS)				
1c indigo	x		x	
3c red	x	x	x	
5c brown		x	x	
10c green			x	
12c black	x	x	x	
24c violet	x		x	
30c red orange	x	x	x	
90c blue	x		x	
1861-1866 ISSUE				
1c blue	x	x	x	x
2c black	x	x	x	x
3c pink	x			
3c rose	x	x	x	x
5c buff		x		
5c brown	x	x	x	x
10c green	x	x	x	x
12c black	x	x	x	x
15c black	x	x	x	x
24c red lilac		x		
24c lilac	x	x	x	x
30c orange	x	x	x	x
90c blue	x	x	x	x
1869 ISSUE				
1c buff	x	x	x	x
1c dark buff (1880)	x		x	x
2c brown	x	x	x	x
3c ultramarine	x	x	x	x
6c ultramarine	x	x	x	x
10c yellow	x	x	x	x
12c green	x	x	x	x
15c brown & blue, type II		x	x	
15c brown & blue, type III (Reissue of 1875)		x	x	x
24c green & violet		x	x	x
30c blue & carmine	x	x	x	x
90c carmine & black		x	x	x
1870-71 ISSUE (NATIONAL BANK NOTE COMPANY)				
1c ultramarine	x	x	x	
2c red brown	x	x	x	x
3c green	x		x	
6c carmine	x		x	
7c vermilion	x		x	
10c brown	x		x	
12c violet	x		x	
15c orange	x	x	x	x
24c purple	x		x	x
30c black	x		x	x
90c carmine	x	x	x	x
1873 ISSUE (CONTINENTAL BANK NOTE COMPANY)				
1c ultramarine	x		x	x
2c brown	x	x	x	x
3c green	x	x	x	x
6c pink	x	x	x	x
7c orange vermilion	x	x	x	x
10c brown	x	x	x	x
12c blackish violet	x	x	x	x
15c yellow orange	x	x	x	x
24c deep purple	x	x	x	x
30c gray black	x	x	x	x
90c rose carmine	x	x	x	x

The die proofs of the 24c, 30c and 90c show the Continental secret marks but the plate proofs can be identified only by color as no plates were made by the Continental Bank Note Company of these high values.

1875 ISSUE

	Die Proofs		Plate Proofs	
	Large Die	Small Die	India paper	Cardboard
2c vermilion	x	x	x	x
5c blue	x	x	x	x

1882 ISSUE (AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY)

5c yellow brown	x	x	x	x
1c blue	x	x	x	x
3c green	x	x	x	x
6c rose	x	x	x	x
10c brown	x	x	x	x

1883 ISSUE

2c red brown	x	x	x	x
4c green	x	x	x	x

1887 ISSUE

1c ultramarine	x	x	x	x
2c green	x	x	x	x
3c vermilion	x	x	x	x

1888 ISSUE

4c carmine	x	x	x	x
5c indigo	x	x	x	x
30c orange brown	x	x	x	x
90c purple	x	x	x	x

1890 ISSUE

1c ultramarine	x	x	x	x
2c lake	x		x	x
2c carmine	x	x		x
3c purple	x	x	x	x
4c dark brown	x	x	x	x
5c chocolate	x	x	x	x
6c brown red	x	x	x	x
8c lilac	x	x	x	x
10c green	x	x	x	x
15c indigo	x	x	x	x
30c black	x	x	x	x
90c orange	x	x	x	x

1893 (COLUMBIAN ISSUE)

	Die Proofs		Plate Proofs	
	Large Die	Small Die	India paper	Cardboard
1c blue	x	x	x	x
2c violet	x	x	x	x
3c green	x	x	x	x
4c ultramarine	x	x	x	x
5c chocolate	x	x	x	x
6c purple	x	x	x	x
8c magenta	x	x	x	x
10c black brown	x	x	x	x
15c dark green	x	x	x	x
30c orange brown	x	x	x	x
50c slate blue	x	x	x	x
$1 Salmon	x	x	x	x
$2 brown red	x	x	x	x
$3 yellow green	x	x	x	x
$4 carmine	x	x	x	x
$5 black	x	x	x	x

This entire set of Columbians exists in large die proofs on thin card.

1894 ISSUE (BUREAU OF ENGRAVING AND PRINTING)

1c blue	x	x	x
2c carmine, Triangle I	x	x	x
2c carmine, Triangle III	x		
2c carmine, Triangle II	x		
3c purple, Triangle I	x		
3c purple, Triangle II	x	x	
4c dark brown	x	x	
5c chocolate	x	x	
6c brown	x	x	x
8c violet brown	x	x	
10c green	x	x	
15c dark blue	x	x	
50c orange	x	x	
$1 black	x	x	
$2 blue (Type II die)	x	x	x
$5 dark green (Type II die)	x	x	x

1898-99 ISSUE

1c green	x	x
2c orange red		
4c rose brown	x	x
5c blue	x	x
6c lake	x	
10c orange brown (Type II)	x	x
10c brown (Type II)	x	
15c olive green (Type II die)	x	x

1898 (TRANS-MISSISSIPPI ISSUE)

1c green	x	x
2c copper red	x	x
4c orange	x	x
5c dull blue	x	x
8c violet brown	x	x
10c gray violet	x	x
50c sage green	x	x
$1 black	x	x
$2 orange brown	x	x

Trial Color Proofs

1847 ISSUE

DIE PROOFS

		Large Die		On Thin	Small Die	
	On India	On Bond	On Wove	Glazed Card	On India	On Bond
5c						
Violet	x					
Dull blue	x					
Deep blue		x	x		x	
Deep Ultramarine				x		
Blue green	x					
Dull blue green		x				
Dull green	x					x
Dark green	x					
Yellow green					x	
Orange yellow	x	x	x		x	
Deep yellow			x			
Orange vermilion	x	x	x			
Scarlet vermilion	x	x		x		
Rose lake	x					x
Dull rose lake						x
Brown red	x					
Black	x	x		x		
10c						
Violet	x					
Dull blue		x				
Deep blue	x	x	x		x	
Dull gray blue						x
Deep Ultramarine				x		
Blue green		x				
Dull blue green		x				
Dull green		x				
Dark green	x					
Yellow green					x	
Dull yellow			x			
Orange yellow	x		x			
Orange vermilion	x	x	x		x	
Scarlet vermilion				x		
Golden brown	x	x		x		
Light brown	x					
Dark brown	x	x				
Rose lake	x					
Dull rose lake						x
Yellow Green on Blue pelure paper	x					

PLATE PROOFS

	Plate proofs	
	On India	On Card
5c Blue green		x
Black	x	x
10c Orange brown		x
Red brown	x	
Deep brown		x
Dull red	x	x

TRIAL COLORS ON GOVERNMENT REPRODUCTIONS OF 1875

	Die		Plate	
	Large Die	Small Die	On India	On Card
5c Dull rose lake				x
5c Black	x			
5c Green	x			
10c Green	x			

1851-60 ISSUE

	Plate Proofs	
	India	Stamp paper
5c pale brown		x
5c rose brown		x
5c dark olive bister		x
5c olive brown		x
5c olive green		x
5c deep orange		x
5c black		x
24c claret brown		x
24c red brown		x
24c orange		x
24c deep yellow		x
24c deep blue		x
24c black		x
24c violet black		x
30c black	x	x
90c rose lake		x
90c henna brown		x
90c orange red		x
90c brown orange		x
90c sepia		x
90c dark green		x
90c dark violet brown		x

1875 REISSUE

1c orange vermilion	x
1c orange	x
1c orange brown	x
1c dull violet	x

There are many trial color impressions of the issues of 1861 to 1883 that were made for experimentation on various patent papers. Some of them are perforated, gummed, and grilled.

1861 ISSUE (SO-CALLED "AUGUST" ISSUE)

	Die		Plate	
	Large	Small	India	Card
1c ultramarine			x	
90c green on regular paper			x	

1861-66 ISSUES

2c light blue			x	
2c dull chalky blue	x			
2c green	x		x	
2c olive green			x	
2c dull yellow	x			
2c vermilion			x	
2c scarlet	x		x	
2c dull red			x	
2c dull rose	x		x	
2c brown	x			
2c gray black			x	
5c black	x			
12c scarlet vermilion	x			
15c deep blue			x	
24c gray		x		
90c bluish gray		x		

1869 ISSUE

2c black on card		x		
3c black	x			
6c deep dull blue	x			
6c black	x			
10c black	x			
10c dull dark violet	x			

	Die		Plate	
	Large	Small	India	Card
10c deep green	x			
10c dull dark orange	x			
10c dull rose	x			
10c copper red	x			
10c chocolate	x			
10c dark Prussian blue	x			
24c black	x			
30c deep blue & deep green	x			
30c deep brown & blue	x			
30c golden brown & carmine lake	x			
30c carmine lake & dull violet	x			
30c carmine lake & green	x			
30c carmine lake & brown	x			
30c carmine lake & black	x			
30c dull orange red & deep green	x			
30c deep ochre & golden brown	x			
30c dull violet & golden brown	x			
30c black & deep green	x			

1875 REISSUE OF 1869

15c dull dark violet	x
15c deep blue	x
15c dull red brown	x
15c black	x
15c dark blue gray	x

1870-71 ISSUES

	Die		Plate	
	Large	Small	India	Card
1c brown	x			
3c brown			x	
3c dark brown			x	
3c light ultramarine			x	
3c violet brown			x	
3c bistre			x	
6c deep magenta	x			
7c black		x		

1873 ISSUE

1c black			x	
2c black			x	
3c black			x	
6c black	x		x	
6c deep brown	x			
6c dull red	x			
6c dull gray blue	x			
7c black			x	
7c deep brown	x			
7c dull gray blue	x			
7c dull red	x			
10c black	x			
10c deep green	x			
10c dull gray blue	x			
10c dull red	x			
12c black	x			
12c deep green	x			
12c dull gray blue	x			
12c dull red	x			
10c deep brown	x			
15c black	x			
15c deep green	x			
15c dull gray blue	x			
15c deep brown	x			

	Die		Plate	
	Large	Small	India	Card
15c dull red	x			
24c black	x			
24c deep green	x			
24c dull gray blue	x			
24c deep brown	x			
24c dull red	x			
30c black	x			
30c deep green	x			
30c dull gray blue	x			
30c deep brown	x			
30c dull red	x			
90c black	x			
90c deep green	x			
90c dull gray blue	x			
90c deep brown	x			
90c dull red	x			
1875 ISSUE				
5c black		x	x	
5c deep green		x	x	
5c dull gray blue		x	x	
5c deep brown		x		
5c dull red		x		
1881 ISSUE				
1c deep green		x		
1882 ISSUE				
5c green			x	

PROOFS OF THE SPECIAL PRINTINGS MADE FOR "SAMPLE" STAMPS

	Large Die		Plate	
	India	Card	India	Card
1889				
1c indigo	x			
1c carmine	x			
1c green	x	x		
1c deep green	x			
1c copper brown	x			
1c chestnut brown	x			
2c brown red	x	x		
2c deep dull orange	x			
2c chestnut brown	x	x		
2c violet rose	x			x
2c indigo	x	x		
2c black	x			
2c pale ultramarine	x			
2c olive green	x			
2c olive brown		x		
2c carmine lake				x
2c rose brown				x
3c green	x	x		
3c deep dull orange	x	x		
3c deep green	x	x		
3c dark brown	x	x		
3c chestnut brown	x	x		
3c dull red brown	x	x		
All of the above bear inscription "Worked over by new company, June 29th, 1881."				
4c green	x	x		
4c chestnut brown	x	x		
4c orange brown	x	x		

	Large Die	
	India	Card
4c pale ultramarine	x	x
4c dark brown	x	
4c black	x	x
5c chestnut brown	x	
5c deep dull orange	x	
5c pale ultramarine	x	
5c deep green	x	
5c green	x	
5c carmine	x	x
6c deep dull orange	x	x
6c indigo	x	
6c orange vermilion	x	x
6c dark violet	x	x
6c chestnut brown	x	x
6c carmine	x	
10c carmine	x	x
10c orange brown	x	x
10c deep dull orange	x	x
10c chestnut brown	x	x
10c indigo	x	x
10c pale ultramarine	x	x
15c orange vermilion	x	x
15c orange brown	x	x
15c chestnut brown	x	x
15c dark brown	x	x
15c deep green	x	x
15c black	x	x
30c black	x	
30c orange vermilion	x	x
30c dark brown	x	x
30c deep green	x	x
30c dull red brown	x	x
30c green	x	x
90c carmine	x	x
90c dark brown	x	x
90c deep dull orange	x	x
90c indigo	x	x
90c dull red brown	x	x
90c black	x	x

	Die	
	India	Card
1890-93		
1c green	x	
1c dull violet	x	
5c blue on glossy wove	x	
5c dark brown on glossy wove	x	
1893		
2c sepia	x	
3c sepia	x	
4c blue		x
5c black	x	
5c dark violet	x	x
5c rose violet	x	x
5c red violet	x	
5c brown violet	x	
5c deep blue	x	
5c deep ultramarine	x	
5c green	x	
5c deep green	x	
5c dark olive green	x	
5c deep orange	x	
5c orange red	x	
5c orange brown	x	x
5c bright rose red	x	
5c claret	x	
5c brown rose	x	

	Die India	Die Card
5c dull rose brown		x
5c sepia	x	x
10c bright rose red	x	
10c claret	x	
50c sepia		x

	Die Large	Die Small
1894		
5c black	x	
8c black	x	
1898		
10c orange	x	
10c sepia	x	

THE "ATLANTA" SET OF PLATE PROOFS

A set in five colors on thin card reprinted in 1881 for display at the International Cotton Exhibition in Atlanta, Ga.

	Black	Scarlet	Brown	Green	Blue
1847 Designs					
29D-TC 5c	x	x	x	x	x
29E-TC 10c	x	x	x	x	x
1851-60 Designs					
54A-TC 1c	x	x	x	x	x
54B-TC 3c	x	x	x	x	x
54C-TC 5c	x	x	x	x	x
54D-TC 10c	x	x	x	x	x
54E-TC 12c	x	x	x	x	x
54F-TC 24c	x	x	x	x	x
54G-TC 30c	x	x	x	x	x
54H-TC 90c	x	x	x	x	x
1861-66 Designs					
102TC 1c	x	x	x	x	x
103TC 2c	x	x	x	x	x
104TC 3c	x	x	x	x	x
105TC 5c	x	x	x	x	x
106TC 10c	x	x	x	x	x
107TC 12c	x	x	x	x	x
108TC 15c	x	x	x	x	x
109TC 24c	x	x	x	x	x
110TC 30c	x	x	x	x	x
111TC 90c	x	x	x	x	x
1869 Designs					
123TC 1c	x	x	x	x	x
124TC 2c	x	x	x	x	x
125TC 3c	x	x	x	x	x
126TC 6c	x	x	x	x	x
127TC 10c	x	x	x	x	x
128TC 12c	x	x	x	x	x
129TC 15c black frame, scarlet center					x
129TC 15c black frame, green center					x
129TC 15c scarlet frame, black center					x
129TC 15c scarlet frame, blue center					x
129TC 15c brown frame, black center					x
129TC 15c brown frame, green center					x
129TC 15c brown frame, blue center					x
129TC 15c green frame, black center					x
129TC 15c green frame, blue center					x

		Black	Scarlet	Brown	Green	Blue
129TC	15c blue frame, black center					x
129TC	15c blue frame, brown center					x
129TC	15c blue frame, reen centerg					x
129TC	15c blue frame, green center					x
130TC	24c black frame, green center					x
130TC	24c black frame, blue center					x
130TC	24c scarlet frame, black center					x
130TC	24c scarlet frame, blue center					x
130TC	24c brown frame, black center					x
130TC	24c brown frame, blue center					x
130TC	24c green frame, black center					x
130TC	24c green frame, brown center					x
130TC	24c green frame, blue center					x
130TC	24c blue frame, brown center					x
130TC	24c blue frame, green center					x
131TC	30c black frame, scarlet center					x
131TC	30c black frame, green center					x
131TC	30c black frame, blue center					x
131TC	30c scarlet frame, black center					x
131TC	30c scarlet frame, green center					x
131TC	30c scarlet frame, blue center					x
131TC	30c brown frame, black center					x
131TC	30c brown frame, scarlet center					x
131TC	30c brown frame, blue center					x
131TC	30c green frame, black center					x
131TC	30c green frame, brown center					x
131TC	30c blue frame, scarlet center					x
131TC	30c blue frame, brown center					x
131TC	30c blue frame, green center					x
132TC	90c black frame, scarlet center					x
132TC	90c black frame, brown center					x
132TC	90c black frame, green center					x
132TC	90c scarlet frame, blue center					x
132TC	90c brown frame, black center					x
132TC	90c brown frame, blue center					x
132TC	90c green frame, brown center					x
132TC	90c green frame, blue center					x
132TC	90c blue frame, brown center					x
132TC	90c blue frame, green center					x

1873 Designs		Black	Scarlet	Brown	Green	Blue
156TC	1c	x	x	x	x	x
157TC	2c	x	x	x	x	x
158TC	3c	x	x	x	x	x
159TC	6c	x	x	x	x	x
160TC	7c	x	x	x	x	x
161TC	10c	x	x	x	x	x
162TC	12c	x	x	x	x	x
163TC	15c	x	x	x	x	x
164TC	24c	x	x	x	x	x
165TC	30c	x	x	x	x	x
166TC	90c	x	x	x	x	x

1875 Design						
179TC	5c	x	x	x	x	x

"Specimen" Stamps

1851 ISSUE

Overprinted in Black

	Overprint Type
1c blue, Type II	A
3c dull red, Type I	A

	Overprint Type
1857-60 Issue	
1c blue, Type III	A
1c blue, Type V	A
3c dull red, Type II	A
5c orange brown, Type II	A
10c green, Type V	A
12c black	A
24c lilac	A
30c orange	A
1861-66 ISSUE	
Overprinted in Black unless otherwise noted	
1c blue	A
2c black (vermilion)	B
3c rose	A
5c brown	B
10c dark green	A
12c black (orange)	A
15c black (vermilion)	B
24c lilac	B
30c orange	A
90c blue	A
1867-68 ISSUE	
1c blue (11x13 grill)	A
12c black (11x14 grill)	A
2c black (9x13 grill)	A
3c rose (9x13 grill)	A
5c brown (9x13 grill)	A
15c black (9x13 grill)	A
30c orange (9x13 grill)	A
1869 ISSUE	
2c brown	A
6c ultramarine	A
10c yellow	A
12c green	A
15c brown & blue, Type II	A
30c blue & carmine	A
1870-71 ISSUE	
1c ultramarine	A
2c red brown	A
3c green	A
3c green	B
6c carmine	A
7c vermilion	A
10c brown	A
12c dull violet	A
15c bright orange	A
90c carmine	A
90c carmine (blue)	A
1873 ISSUE	
6c dull pink	B
7c orange vermilion (blue)	B
1879	
Overprinted in Red	
15c red orange	D
30c full black	D
90c carmine	D
90c carmine (black brown)	D

	Overprint Type
1881-82 ISSUE	
Overprinted in Red	
1c gray blue	D
3c blue green	D
6c brown red	D
10c brown	D
1883-88 ISSUE	
2c red brown	D
4c blue green	D
5c yellow brown	D
1890-93 ISSUE	
Handstamped in Dull Purple	
1c dull blue	E
2c carmine	E
3c purple	E
4c dark brown	E
5c chocolate	E
6c dull red	E
8c lilac	E
10c green	E
15c blue	E
30c black	E
90c orange	E
1893 COLUMBIAN ISSUE	
1c deep blue	E
1c deep blue with double overprint	E
1c deep blue (magenta)	F
2c violet	E
2c violet	H
2c violet (red)	I
3c green	E
3c green (magenta)	F
3c green (red)	I
4c ultramarine	E
4c ultramarine (magenta)	F
4c ultramarine (red)	H
4c ultramarine (red)	I
5c chocolate	E
5c chocolate (magenta)	F
5c chocolate (red)	H
5c chocolate	I
6c purple	E
6c purple (magenta)	F
6c purple (red)	I
8c magenta	E
8c magenta	I
10c black brown	E
10c black brown (magenta)	F
10c black brown (red)	I
15c dark green	E
15c dark green (red)	I
30c orange brown	E
30c orange brown	I
50c slate blue	E
50c slate blue (red)	I
$1 salmon	E
$2 brown red	E
$3 yellow green	E
$3 yellow green (magenta)	F
$4 crimson lake	E
$5 black	E

	Overprint Type
1895-1898 ISSUE	
1c blue	E
1c deep green	E
2c carmine	E
2c orange red	E
2c orange red booklet pane of 6	E
3c purple	E
4c dark brown	E
4c rose brown	E
5c chocolate	E
5c dark blue	E
6c dull brown	E
6c lake	E
8c violet brown	E
10c dark green	E
10c brown, Type I	E
15c dark blue	E
15c olive green	E
50c orange	E
$1 black, Type I	E
$2 dark blue	E
$5 dark green	E
1898 TRANS-MISSISSIPPI ISSUE	
1c dark yellow green	E
2c copper red	E
4c orange	E
5c dull blue	E
8c violet brown	E
10c gray violet	E
50c sage green	E
$1 black	E
$2 orange brown	E

1861-66 ISSUE
Overprinted with Control Numbers in Carmine

	Control No. printed on stamp
1c pale blue	9012
2c black	8901
3c brown red	7890
5c brown	6789
10c green	5678
12c gray black	4567
15c black	235
24c gray lilac	3456
30c orange	2345
90c pale blue	1234

Special Printings Overprinted SAMPLE in Red or Blue

	Overprint Type
1879 ISSUE	
15c orange (blue)	K
30c full black (red)	K
90c carmine (blue)	K
1881-82 ISSUE	
6c brown red (blue)	K
10c brown (red)	K
1883-88 ISSUE	
1c ultramarine (red)	K
2c lake (blue)	K
2c rose lake (blue)	K
3c scarlet (blue)	K
4c blue green (red)	K
5c gray brown (red)	K

	Overprint Type
Special Printings Overprinted SAMPLE A in Red or Blue	
1879 ISSUE	
15c blue (red)	L
30c full black (red)	L
90c orange (blue)	L
1881-82 ISSUE	
6c vermilion (blue)	L
10c green (red)	L
10c green, overprint omitted	
1883-88 ISSUE	
1c ultramarine (red)	L
2c rose lake (blue)	L
3c purple (red)	L
4c dark brown (red)	L
5c yellow brown (blue)	L
Special Printings Overprinted SAMPLE with A in Black manuscript	
1879 ISSUE	
90c carmine (blue)	K
1881-82 ISSUE	
10c brown (red)	K
1883-88 ISSUE	
4c blue green (red)	K
SAMPLE A in Red or Black manuscript	
1883-88 ISSUE	
5c indigo	

Overprinted in Blue

UNIVERSAL

POSTAL

CONGRESS

1895 ISSUE

1c blue
2c carmine
3c purple
4c dark brown
5c chestnut
6c claret brown
8c violet brown
10c dark green
15c dark blue
50c red orange
$1 black, Type I
$1 black, Type II
$2 dark blue
$5 dark green

These items were distributed to the delegates to the Universal Postal Congress held in Washington, D. C., May 5th to June 15th, 1897.

Chapter X

SUGGESTIONS FOR A NEW CATALOG SYSTEM

FOR some years the author has, in company with many other collectors, been convinced that a complete renumbering of our U. S. stamps is in order. To that end the following renumbering is suggested as a practical solution of this problem that is complicated mainly by the length of time it has existed in its present form.

As is natural in a catalog that has just grown with the years, honest fault can now be found with it. The present publisher of the Standard Catalog did currently revise the first 47 numbers of U. S. stamps. While we recognize this as a real improvement over the old system it is our opinion that the system presented here may offer still further advantages.

We approach this problem with only one thought in mind and with no axe to grind. We hope to help bring about the most simple and accurate numbering of our U. S. stamps that is found practical for the cataloging of our stamps.

All *types* of stamps, and in the order they now are known, are retained in the system given here and all are given major catalog numbers. The great majority of all stamps are left in the sequence in which they now are found in the Standard Catalog so there is but little difference in the order in which the stamps appear in the present and proposed systems. A few stamps are brought into their natural places, examples being the 2c Jackson of 1863 and the 5c stamp of the same year that now are placed in the 1861-1866 series of which they are an integral part. On the other hand, certain items long listed as stamps, but which now are generally recognized never to have been issued as such, are relegated to the place they properly belong—in the Proofs and Essays section. These include the items now cataloged as Scott numbers 55, 56, 57, 59, 61, 62, 66, and 74.

Since there was but one "issue" of the 1861-1866 series, the 10c and 24c stamps long listed as the "August" issue are placed where they belong, as part and parcel of the 1861-1866 issue.

The various Reproductions, Reprints, Reissues, and Special Printings of our U. S. stamps are all given the designation of "Special Printings," for such they certainly were, and they are carried in a separate section of the catalog rather than being listed with the regular issues which long has been the custom. They are each given the same catalog number as the stamp they represent but this number is followed by the descriptive letters SP. An example is that the 5c 1847 stamp is number 1 and the Government Reproduction of this stamp made in 1875 is number 1SP. Another example is that the 90c blue of the 1861 issue, which happens to be number 55 in the new system, has the number 55SP for the Reissue of this stamp that was made in 1875 for the Centennial Exposition of 1876.

It is the author's belief that the placing of these "Special Printings" in a separate section of the catalog will not only prove to be a pleasing move for the majority of collectors who are not interested in them, and who long have disliked having them interspersed, in both catalogs and albums, between the stamps of the regular issues, but we also believe this move will meet the approval of such specialists as are interested in these particular items. This is no move to take these items out of the catalog but it is a move to place them where they will no longer inconvenience most collectors and at the same time make them available as a group for the specialist.

Any catalog system that has been established for a long period of time is difficult to change. No matter how much the changes are needed, the major effort needed by many people to accomplish a change is such that most people prefer to grind along in the same old groove rather than to make a general effort to improve themselves. It is up to all of us to see that if a new system is adopted it is the best that can be devised *when the good of the majority of collectors is considered.*

Should the numbering herein given be adopted, it is fortunate that it would necessitate a minimum of rearranging in any dealer's stock or in the album of any collector.

In order that the reader may better be able to compare the new numbering system with the present Scott catalog numbers, we indicate the present numbers as well as the new numbers.

It should be understood that only the barest outline of the system is given here as it is our intention only to illustrate the numbers that are given to each major variety. The information usually given about each stamp would of course be incorporated in the catalog.

Outline for the Revised Catalog for U. S. Stamps

Date	1967 Scott No.	Revised Cat. No.	
			Imperforate
1847	1	1	5c red brown
	2	2	10c black
1851	5	3	1c blue, type I
	6	4	1c blue, type Ia
	6b	5	1c blue, type Ib
	7	6	1c blue, type II
	8	7	1c blue, type III
	9	8	1c blue, type IIIa
	10	9	1c blue, type IV
	11	10	3c dull red
	12	11	5c red brown
	13	12	10c green, type I
	14	13	10c green, type II
	15	14	10c green, type III
	16	15	10c green, type IV
	17	16	12c black
			Perf 15
1857–60	18	17	1c blue, type I
	19	18	1c blue, type Ia
	20	19	1c blue, type II
	21	20	1c blue, type III
	22	21	1c blue, type IIIa
	23	22	1c blue, type IV
	24	23	1c blue, type V
	25	24	3c rose, type I
	26	25	3c dull red, type II
	28	26	5c red brown, type I
	28a	27	5c Indian red
	27	28	5c brick red, type I
	29	29	5c brown, type I
	30a	30	5c brown, type II
	30	31	5c orange brown, type II
	31	32	10c green, type I
	32	33	10c green, type II
	33	34	10c green, type III
	34	35	10c green, type IV
	35	36	10c green, type V
	36	37	12c black
	37	38	24c lilac
	38	39	30c orange
	39	40	90c blue

Date	1967 Scott No.	Revised Cat. No.	
			Perf. 12
1861-66	63	41	1c blue
	73	42	2c black
	64	43	3c pink
	65	44	3c rose
	67	45	5c buff
	75	46	5c red brown
	76	47	5c brown
	68	48	10c yellow green, type I
	58	49	10c dark green, type II
	69	50	12c black
	77	51	15c black
	60	52	24c violet (thin "August" paper)
	70	53	24c red lilac
	78	54	24c lilac
	71	55	30c orange
	72	56	90c blue
			Embossed with grills (1861-66 Issues)
			A. grill covering the entire stamp.
1867	79	57	3c rose
	80	58	5c brown
	81	59	30c orange
	82	59A	B. grill, 18x15mm.
			C. grill, 13x16mm. 16 to 17 by 18 to 21 points.
	83	60	3c rose
			D. grill, points down, 12x14mm, 15 by 17 to 18 points.
	84	61	2c black
	85	62	3c rose
			Z. grill, 11x14mm. 13 to 14 by 17 to 18 points.
	85A	63	1c blue
	85B	64	2c black
	85C	65	3c rose
	85D	66	10c green
	85E	67	12c black
	85F	68	15c black
			E. grill, 11x13mm. 14 by 15 to 17 points.
	86	69	1c blue
	87	70	2c black
	88	71	3c rose
	89	72	10c green
	90	73	12c black
	91	74	15c black
			F. grill, 9x13, 11 to 12 by 15 to 17 points.
	92	75	1c blue
	93	76	2c black
	94	77	3c red
	95	78	5c brown
	96	79	10c yellow green
	97	80	12c black
	98	81	15c black
	99	82	24c gray lilac
	100	83	30c orange
	101	84	90c blue
			G. grill, 9 ½x9 ½ mm. New designs.
	112	85	1c buff
	113	86	2c brown
	114	87	3c ultramarine
	115	88	6c ultramarine
	116	89	10c yellow

Date	1967 Scott No.	Revised Cat. No.		
	117	90	12c	green
	118	91	15c	brown & blue, type I
	119	92	15c	brown & blue, Type II
	120	93	24c	green & violet
	121	94	30c	blue & carmine
	122	95	90c	carmine & black
1870–71				New designs, with H grill, 10x12mm on all values and with I. grill 8½x10mm on 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c and 7c.
	134	96	1c	ultramarine
	135	97	2c	red brown
	136	98	3c	green
	137	99	6c	carmine
	138	100	7c	vermilion
	139	101	10c	brown
	140	102	12c	dull violet
	141	103	15c	orange
	142	104	24c	purple
	143	105	30c	black
	144	106	90c	carmine
1870–71				Same as above but without grill
	145	107	1c	ultramarine
	146	108	2c	red brown
	147	109	3c	green
	148	110	6c	carmine
	149	111	7c	vermilion
	150	112	10c	brown
	151	113	12c	dull violet
	152	114	15c	orange
	153	115	24c	purple
	154	116	30c	full black
	155	117	90c	carmine
1873–75				Printed by Continental Bank Note Co. Same designs as preceding issues but secret marks were added to all values from 1c thru 12c.
	156	118	1c	ultramarine
	157	119	2c	brown
	178	120	2c	vermilion (1875)
	158	121	3c	green
	179	122	5c	blue
	159	123	6c	dull pink
	160	124	7c	orange vermilion
	161	125	10c	brown
	162	126	12c	blackish violet
	163	127	15c	yellow orange
	164	128	24c	purple (Although 365,000 of this stamp were printed, and at least some of the stamps are believed to have been issued and used, it is not yet generally possible to positively identify this stamp. It has often been assumed (probably incorrectly), that the deep purple shade of the 24c was printed by Continental but no proof of this has been offered. Experts may eventually be able to distinguish this stamp by the quality of the printing or the paper. I am inclined to think the light shades are Continentals.
	165	129	30c	gray black
	166	130	90c	rose carmine
				American Bank Note Co., Same designs as preceding Continental printing but printed on soft paper.
	182	131	1c	dark ultramarine
	183	132	2c	vermilion
	184	133	3c	green

Date	1967 Scott No.	Revised Cat. No.	
	185	134	5c blue
	186	135	6c pink
	187	136	10c brown, without secret mark
	188	137	10c brown, with secret mark
	189	138	15c red orange
	190	139	30c full black
	217	140	30c orange brown
	191	141	90c carmine
	218	142	90c purple
1881–82			Designs of 1873 Re-engraved
	206	143	1c gray blue
	207	144	3c blue green
	213	145	3c vermilion
	208	146	6c rose
	209	147	10c brown
1882–88			New Designs
	214	148	1c ultramarine
	210	149	2c red brown
	212	150	2c green
	211	151	4c blue green
	215	152	4c carmine
	205	153	5c yellow brown
	216	154	5c indigo
			New Designs
1890	219	155	1c dull blue
	219D	156	2c lake
	220	157	2c carmine
	221	158	3c purple
	222	159	4c dark brown
	223	160	5c chocolate
	224	161	6c brown red
	225	162	8c lilac
	226	163	10c green
	227	164	15c indigo
	228	165	30c black
	229	166	90c orange
1893			Columbian Exposition Issue
	230	167	1c deep blue
	231	168	2c violet
	232	169	3c green
	233	170	4c ultramarine
	234	171	5c chocolate
	235	172	6c purple
	236	173	8c magenta
	237	174	10c black brown
	238	175	15c dark green
	239	176	30c orange brown
	240	177	50c slate blue
	241	178	$1 salmon
	242	179	$2 brown red
	243	180	$3 yellow green
	244	181	$4 crimson lake
	245	182	$5 black
			New designs, printed by Bureau of Printing & Engraving.
	246	183	1c ultramarine
	247	184	1c blue
	248	185	2c pink, type I
	249	186	2c carmine lake, type I
	250	187	2c carmine, type I
	251	188	2c carmine, type II
	252	189	2c carmine, type III
	253	190	3c purple
	254	191	4c dark brown

Date	1967 Scott No.	Revised Cat. No.	
	255	192	5c chocolate
	256	193	6c dull brown
	257	194	8c violet brown
	258	195	10c dark green
	259	196	15c dark blue
	260	197	50c orange
	261	198	$1 black, type I
	261A	199	$1 black, type II
	262	200	$2 dark blue
	263	201	$5 dark green
			Same designs as preceding but watermarked U S P S
	264	202	1c blue
	279	203	1c deep green
	265	204	2c carmine, type I
	266	205	2c carmine, type II
	267	206	2c carmine, type III
	279B	207	2c orange red, type III
	268	208	3c purple
	269	209	4c dark brown
	280	210	4c rose brown
	270	211	5c chocolate
	281	212	5c dark blue
	271	213	6c dull brown
	282	214	6c lake
	272	215	8c violet brown
	273	216	10c green
	282C	217	10c brown, type I
	283	218	10c orange brown, type II
	274	219	15c dark blue
	284	220	15c olive green
	275	221	50c orange
	276	222	$1 black, Type I
	276A	223	$1 black, type II
	277	224	$2 dark blue
	278	225	$5 dark green
1898			Trans-Mississippi Exposition Issue
	285	226	1c yellow green
	286	227	2c copper red
	287	228	4c orange
	288	229	5c dull blue
	289	230	8c violet brown
	290	231	10c gray violet
	291	232	50c sage green
	292	233	$1 black
	293	234	$2 orange brown

It is to be understood, of course, that this system as outlined for the 19th Century U. S. stamps would be continued for all the U. S. stamps of the 20th Century.

Chapter XI

RATES OF POSTAGE

Abstract of Laws Passed Between 1789 and 1900 Fixing Rates of Postage on Domestic Mail Matter

The act of February 20, 1792, 1 Stat. 232, effective from June 1, 1792, was the first, after the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, fixing rates of postage on mail matter.

Prior to June 1, 1792, the rates of postage on mail matter continued under the provisions of the acts of September 22, 1789, 1 Stat. 70, August 4, 1790, 1 Stat. 178, and March 3, 1791, 1 Stat. 218, to be those prescribed by the "Ordinance for Regulating the Post Office of the United States of America," enacted by the Continental Congress on October 18, 1782, Journals of the Continental Congress (MS), No. 1, Vol. 34, printed in Library of Congress edition of the Journals Vol. XXIII, pp. 670-679, and Vol. IV, Journals of Congress, Way and Gideon edition, 93-95, as modified by the resolution of that Congress on October 20, 1787, Journals of the Continental Congress (MS), No. 1, Vol. 38, and Way and Gideon edition of the Journals of Congress, Vol. IV, 801.

The ordinance of October 18, 1782, provided:

Whereas the communication of intelligence with regularity and despatch, from one part to another of these United States, is essentially requisite to the safety as well as the commercial interest thereof; and the United States in Congress assembled, being, by the articles of confederation, vested with the sole and exclusive right and power of establishing and regulating post offices throughout all these United States; and whereas it is become necessary to revise the several regulations heretofore made relating to the post office and reduce them to one act:

Be it therefore ordained by the United States in Congress assembled, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the same, that a continued communication of posts throughout these United States shall be established and maintained by and under the direction of the Postmaster General of these United States, to extend to and from the State of New Hampshire and the State of Georgia, inclusive, and to and from such other parts of these United States as from time to time he shall judge necessary or Congress shall direct.

And be it further ordained by the authority aforesaid, that the postage of all letters, packets, and despatches, to and from the different post offices within these United States, shall be at the following rates, in pennyweights and grains of silver, estimating each pennyweight as at present, at five-ninetieths of a dollar:

For any distance not exceeding 60 miles, 1 pennyweight 8 grains; upwards of 60 and not exceeding 100 miles, 2 pennyweights; upwards of 100 and not exceeding 200 miles, 2 pennyweights 16 grains, and so on, 16 grains advance for every hundred miles; the above rates to be doubled for double letters, trebled for treble letters, and a packet weighing an ounce to be charged equal to four single letters, and in that proportion if of a greater weight; and every letter, packet, and despatch, except dead letters, shall be retained in the office where the same shall have arrived, which shall be nearest to the place of direction, until the postage shall be paid.

And it shall be lawful for the Postmaster General, or any of his deputies, to license every post-rider to carry any newspaper at such moderate rates as the Postmaster General shall establish.

The resolution of October 20, 1787, authorized the Postmaster General so to reduce the postage rates, effective April 5, 1788, as nearly 25 per centum as will consist with the mode of calculating pennyweights and grains of silver, in order to reduce them to the currencies of the several States. This resolution also authorized the Postmaster General to fix such rates per pound for the carriage of large packets as he may judge will be most likely to induce persons to send such by post.

The act of February 20, 1792, 1 Stat. 235 and 238, fixed the following rates of postage, to take effect June 1, 1792:

For every single letter conveyed not exceeding 30 miles, 6 cents; over 30 miles and not exceeding 60 miles, 8 cents; over 60 miles and not exceeding 100 miles, 10 cents; over 100 miles and not exceeding 150 miles, 12½ cents; over 150 miles and not exceeding 200 miles, 15 cents; over 200 miles and not exceeding 250 miles, 17 cents; over 250 miles and not exceeding 350 miles, 20 cents; over 350 miles and not exceeding 450 miles, 22 cents; over 450 miles, 25 cents; and every double letter, double said rates, every triple letter, triple said rates; and every packet weighing 1 ounce avoirdupois to pay at the rate of four single letters for each ounce, and in that proportion for any greater weight.

For every single letter passing by sea to and from the United States, or from one port to another therein, in packet boats or vessels, the property of, or provided by the United States, 8 cents; for every double letter, 16 cents, and every triple letter or packet, 24 cents.

For every letter or packet brought into the United States or carried from one port therein to another by sea in any private ship or vessel, 4 cents if delivered at the place of arrival; if delivered at any other place, with the addition of the like postage as on other letters.

All newspapers conveyed by mail for any distance not more than 100 miles, 1 cent; over 100 miles, 1½ cents.

Act of May 8, 1794 (1 Stat. 359, 360, 362, 366):

Reenacts the rates of postage established by the act of February 20, 1792, but fixes, from June 1, 1794, the rate for single newspapers sent from one place to another in the same State at 1 cent each; and for magazines and pamphlets, 1 cent per sheet for not exceeding 50 miles; 1½ cents for over 50 miles and not exceeding 100 miles; and 2 cents for any greater distance.

For every letter delivered by mail carriers to persons living between post offices on their routes, 2 cents (for the carrier), in addition to the ordinary postage.

Letter carriers employed at such post offices as the Postmaster General may direct may receive of the person to whom delivery is made 2 cents for the delivery of each letter.

The postage on drop letters is fixed at 1 cent each.

Act of March 2, 1799 (1 Stat. 734, 738-740):

Reenacts the rates of postage provided by the act of May 8, 1794, for newspapers, magazines, pamphlets, drop letters, and letters delivered by post-routes carriers and letter carriers, and establishes the following rates of postage:

For every letter composed of a single sheet of paper, conveyed not exceeding 40 miles, 8 cents; over 40 miles and not exceeding 90 miles, 10 cents; over 90 miles and not exceeding 150 miles, 12½ cents; over 150 miles and not exceeding 300 miles, 17 cents; over 300 miles and not exceeding 500 miles, 20 cents; over 500 miles, 25 cents; and every double letter, or two pieces of paper, double said rates; every triple letter, or three pieces of paper, triple rates; and for every packet composed of four or more pieces of paper, or other thing, and weighing 1 ounce avoirdupois, quadruple said rates, and in that proportion for any greater weight.

Every letter or packet brought into the United States, or carried from one port therein to another, in private ship or vessel, 6 cents, if delivered in post office where received; if conveyed by post to any other place, 2 cents added to the ordinary postage.

Any packet which weighs more than 3 pounds shall not be accepted for mailing.

This act authorized the Postmaster General to require those who receive newspapers by post to pay the amount of one quarter's postage in advance.

Act of April 30, 1810 (2 Stat. 595-597, 603):

Reenacts the rates of postage and limit of weight provided by the act of March 2, 1799.

Act of December 23, 1814 (3 Stat. 159):

Increases the rates of postage 50 per cent from February 1, 1815.

Act of February 1, 1816 (3 Stat. 252):

Repeals, from March 31, 1816, so much of the act of December 23, 1814, as increases the rates of postage 50 per cent.

Act of April 9, 1816 (3 Stat. 264):

Fixes, from May 1, 1816, the following rates of postage on letters and packets:

For every letter composed of a single sheet of paper, conveyed not exceeding 30 miles, 6 cents; over 30 miles and not exceeding 80 miles, 10 cents; over 80 miles and not exceeding 150 miles, 12½ cents; over 150 miles and not exceeding 400 miles, 18½ cents; over 400 miles, 25 cents; and every double letter, or two pieces of paper, double said rates; every triple letter, or three pieces of paper, triple said rates; and for every packet composed of four or more pieces of paper, or one or more other articles, and weighing 1 ounce avoirdupois, quadruple those rates, and in that proportion for all greater weights.

Every 4 folio pages, or 8 quarto pages, or 16 octavo pages, of a pamphlet or magazine shall be considered a sheet, and the surplus pages of any pamphlet or magazine shall also be considered a sheet; and the unbound journals of the legislatures of the several States shall be liable to the same postage as pamphlets.

Any memorandum which shall be written on a newspaper, or other printed paper, shall be charged letter postage.

Act of March 3, 1825 (4 Stat. 105, 111, 112, 114):

Repeals all former acts and parts of acts which have been passed for the establishment and regulation of the General Post Office and fixes the following rates of postage:

For every letter composed of a single sheet of paper conveyed not exceeding 30 miles, 6 cents; over 30 miles and not exceeding 80 miles, 10 cents; over 80 miles and not exceeding 150 miles, 12½ cents; over 150 and not exceeding 400 miles, 18¾ cents; over 400 miles, 25 cents; and every double letter, or two pieces of paper, double said rates; every triple letter, or three pieces of paper, triple said rates; every packet of four or more pieces of paper, or one or more other articles, and weighing 1 ounce avoirdupois, quadruple said rates, and in that proportion for all greater weights.

Unbound journals of legislatures of the several States, same rates as for pamphlets.

Every letter or packet brought into the United States, or carried from one port therein to another, in any private ship or vessel, 6 cents, if delivered at the post office of arrival; if conveyed by post to any place, 2 cents added to the ordinary postage.

Any packet which weighs more than 3 pounds shall not be accepted for mailing.

Newspapers conveyed by mail, 1 cent for any distance not more than 100 miles; 1½ cents for any greater distance. Single newspapers from one place to another in the same State, 1 cent.

Magazines and pamphlets published periodically, transported in the mails to subscribers, 1½ cents a sheet for any distance not exceeding 100 miles, and 2½ cents for any greater distance. Magazines and pamphlets not periodically published, 4 cents on each sheet for any distance not exceeding 100 miles, and 6 cents for any greater distance.

Any letter or memorandum in writing inclosed in a newspaper, pamphlet, or magazine, and any writing or memorandum thereon, subjects the whole to postage at the letter rate.

Section 34 of this act authorizes the Postmaster General to make provision for the receipt of letters and packets to be conveyed by any vessel beyond sea, or from any port in the United States to another port therein. For every letter or packet so received there shall be paid at the time of its reception a postage of 1 cent, which shall be for the use of the postmasters, respectively, receiving the same.

The postage on drop letters is fixed at 1 cent each.

Letter carriers employed at such post offices as the Postmaster General shall direct may receive of the person to whom delivery is made 2 cents for the delivery of each letter.

Act of March 2, 1827 (4 Stat. 238):

Provides that one or more pieces of paper mailed as a letter, and weighing 1 ounce avoirdupois, shall be charged with quadruple postage, and at the same rate should weight be greater, and fixes quadruple rates for packages containing four pieces of paper.

Every printed pamphlet or magazine containing more than 24 pages on a royal sheet, or any sheet of less dimensions, shall be charged by the sheet; small pamphlets printed on a half or quarter sheet of royal or less size shall be charged with one-half the amount of postage on a full sheet; and double postage shall be charged on pamphlets and magazines not showing on the outer pages the number of sheets they contain.

Act of July 2, 1836 (5 Stat. 89):

Authorizes the Postmaster General to employ letter carriers at such post offices as he may direct for delivery of letters, except such as are addressed to persons who may have requested the postmaster that their letters be retained in the post office. For the delivery of each letter by carrier the person to whom delivery is made shall pay not exceeding 2 cents; for the delivery of each newspaper and pamphlet one-half cent; and for every letter received by a carrier to be deposited in the post office there shall be paid to him at the time of receipt not exceeding two cents; such receipts shall constitute a fund for the compensation of the carriers.

Act of March 3, 1845 (5 Stat. 733, 737):

From and after July 1, 1845, in lieu of the rates of postage now established by law, there shall be charged the following rates:

For every single letter, in manuscript or marks or signs, conveyed under 300 miles, 5 cents; over 300 miles, 10 cents; double letter, double rates; treble letter, treble rates; quadruple letter, quadruple rates; and every letter or parcel not exceeding one-half ounce in weight shall be deemed a single letter, and every additional weight of one-half ounce or less shall be charged with an additional single postage. Drop letters shall be charged a postage rate of 2 cents each.

Newspapers of not more than 1,900 square inches in size, transmitted through the mails by the editors or publishers thereof to subscribers or other persons, within 30 miles of the city, town, or place in which the paper is printed, free of postage. Newspapers of or under such size, conveyed beyond 30 miles from the place at which they are printed, shall be subject to the rates of postage fixed for newspapers

by the act of March 3, 1825. Newspapers of greater size than 1,900 square inches, 2½ cents for each copy of no greater weight than 1 ounce and 1 cent for each additional ounce, any distance. All printed or lithographed circulars, handbills, or advertisements printed or lithographed on quarto-post or single-cap paper, or paper not larger than single-cap paper, 2 cents for each sheet, without regard to distance. Pamphlets, magazines, periodicals, and all other printed or other matter (except newspapers), unconnected with any writing, 2½ cents for each copy not exceeding 1 ounce in weight, and 1 cent additional for each additional ounce or fractional excess of not less than one-half ounce, without regard to distance.

Letters and other mailable matter (except newspapers, pamphlets, magazines, and periodicals) delivered to a postmaster by the master or manager of any steamboat not under contract with the Postmaster General, shall be subject to the same rates of postage as would have been charged upon said letters had they been transmitted by mail from the port or place at which they were placed on board the steamboat from which they were received.

Any packet weighing more than 3 pounds shall not be accepted for mailing.

Act of March 3, 1847 (9 Stat. 200-202):

Fixes the rate of postage on letters conveyed to or from charges at 20 cents; to or from Havana, 12½ cents; to or from Panama, 30 cents; to or from Astoria (Oreg.), 40 cents; to or from any other place on the Pacific Coast within the territory of the United States, 40 cents.

All newspapers conveyed in the mail shall be subject to postage, except those sent by way of exchange between the publishers of newspapers, and except those franked by persons enjoying the franking privilege; and newspapers not sent from the office of publication, and all hand bills or circulars, printed or lithographed, not exceeding one sheet, shall be subject to 3 cents postage each, to be paid when deposited in the post office to be conveyed by mail.

This act authorized the furnishing of postage stamps to be used in payment of postage on mail.

Act of August 14, 1848 (9 Stat. 320):

Letters conveyed to or from places on the Pacific in California from or to any place on the Atlantic coast, shall be charged with 40 cents postage; and letters conveyed from one to any other place in California, 12½ cents.

Act of September 27, 1850 (9 Stat. 496):

Authorizes the Postmaster General to establish post offices in the Territories of Utah and New Mexico, and to establish such rates of postage in said Territories as to him may seem proper, not exceeding those authorized by the act of August 14, 1848.

Act of March 3, 1851 (9 Stat. 587-589):

From and after June 30, 1851, in lieu of the rates of postage now established by law, there shall be charged the following rates:

For every single letter in writing, marks, or signs, conveyed not exceeding 3,000 miles, if prepaid, 3 cents; if not prepaid, 5 cents, and for any greater distance double said rates; double letter, double rates; treble letter, treble rates; quadruple letter, quadruple rates; and every letter or parcel not exceeding half an ounce in weight shall be deemed a single letter, and every additional weight of half an ounce or less shall be charged with an additional rate. Drop letters, 1 cent each. Advertised letters, 1 cent in addition to the regular postage.

Newspapers not exceeding 3 ounces in weight, sent from the office of publication to bona fide subscribers, shall be charged with postage as follows:

Weekly newspapers, free within the county where published; and for not exceeding 50 miles out of the county where published, 5 cents per quarter; exceeding 50 miles and not exceeding 300 miles, 10 cents per quarter; exceeding 300 miles and not exceeding 1,000 miles, 15 cents per quarter; exceeding 1,000 miles and not exceeding 2,000 miles, 20 cents per quarter; exceeding 2,000 miles and not exceeding 4,000 miles, 25 cents per quarter; exceeding 4,000 miles, 30 cents per quarter.

Newspapers published monthly, sent to bona fide subscribers, one-fourth of said rates; published semimonthly, one-half of said rates; published semiweekly, double said rates; published triweekly, treble said rates; and oftener than triweekly, five times said rates. On other papers and circulars, hand bills, engravings, pamphlets, periodicals, magazines, books, and all other printed matter, unconnected with written matter, of not more than 1 ounce in weight, conveyed not exceeding 500 miles, 1 cent; and for each additional ounce or fraction thereof, 1 cent; exceeding 500 miles, and not exceeding 1,500 miles, double said rates; exceeding 1,500 miles, and not exceeding 2,500 miles, treble said rates; exceeding 2,500 miles, and not exceeding 3,500 miles, four times said rates; exceeding 3,500 miles, five times said rates.

Subscribers to all periodicals shall be required to pay one-quarter's postage in advance, and in all such cases postage shall be one-half the foregoing rates.

When printed matter on which postage is required to be prepaid shall be sent without prepayment, the same shall be charged with double the prepaid rate.

Newspapers not containing more than 300 square inches may be transmitted to bonafide subscribers at one-fourth the rates fixed by this act.

(Bound books made mailable by this act.)

Act of August 30, 1852 (10 Stat. 38):

From and after September 30, 1852, postage on all printed matter passing through the mail, instead of the rates now charged, shall be as follows:

Each newspaper, periodical, unsealed circular, or other article of printed matter, not exceeding 3 ounces in weight, to any part of the United States, 1 cent; and for every additional ounce or fraction thereof, 1 cent additional.

When the postage upon any newspaper or periodical is paid quarterly or yearly in advance, at the office of delivery or at the office of mailing, one-half of said rates only shall be charged.

Newspapers and periodicals not weighing over 1½ ounces, when circulated in the State where published, one-half of the rates before mentioned.

Small newspapers and periodicals, published monthly or oftener, and pamphlets of not more than 16 octavo pages, sent in single packages, weighing at least 8 ounces, to one address, and prepaid by postage stamps affixed, shall be charged only one-half cent for each ounce or fraction thereof.

Postage on all transient matter shall be prepaid by stamps or otherwise, or shall be charged double the rates first above mentioned.

Books, bound or unbound, not weighing over 4 pounds, shall be mailable matter and chargeable with postage at 1 cent an ounce for all distances under 3,000 miles; 2 cents for all distances over 3,000 miles, to which 50 per cent shall be added unless prepaid.

All matter sent by mail, for which the postage is not fixed by this act, shall, unless the same be entitled to be sent free of postage, be charged with letter postage.

Act of March 3, 1855 (10 Stat. 641):

In lieu of the rates of postage now established by law there shall be charged the following rates, effective April 1, 1855:

For every single letter in manuscript, or paper of any kind in writing, marks, or signs, conveyed in the mail not exceeding 3,000 miles, 3 cents; and for any greater distance, 10 cents; double letter, double rates; treble letter, treble rates; quadruple letter, quadruple rates; every letter or parcel not exceeding one-half ounce in weight shall be deemed a single letter; and every additional weight of half an ounce or less shall be charged with an additional rate; the foregoing rates to be prepaid. except on letters to and from a foreign country.

Drop letters shall be charged with postage at the rate of 1 cent each.

(This act was the first making the prepayment of postage on domestic letters compulsory and provided that, for the greater security of valuable letters, the Postmaster General may establish a uniform plan for their registration at a registration fee of 5 cents each.)

Act of January 2, 1857 (11 Stat. 153):

Repealed the provision in the act of August 30, 1852, permitting transient printed matter to be sent through the mail without prepayment of postage.

Act of April 3, 1860 (12 Stat. 11):

Fixes the rate on drop letters delivered by carrier at 1 cent each.

Act of February 27, 1861 (12 Stat. 168, 169):

Upon all letters returned from the dead letter office there shall be charged the usual rates of postage, to be collected on delivery.

Every letter or packet brought into the United States or carried from one port therein to another in any private ship or vessel shall be charged with 5 cents, if delivered at the post office of arrival; if conveyed by post to any place, with 2 cents added to the ordinary rates of postage: **Provided,** That upon all letters or packets conveyed, in whole or in part, by steamers over any route upon which the mail is regularly conveyed in vessels under contract with the Post Office Department, the same charge shall be levied, with the addition of 2 cents a letter or packet, as would have been levied if such letter or packet had been transmitted regularly through the mail.

Maps, engravings, lithographs, photographic prints on rollers or in paper covers; books, bound or unbound, photographic paper, and letter envelopes, shall be deemed mailable matter, and charged with postage by the weight of the package, not to exceed 4 pounds, at the rate of 1 cent an ounce or fraction thereof, to any place under 1,500 miles, and at the rate of 2 cents an ounce or fraction thereof over 1,500 miles, to be prepaid by postage stamps.

Cards, blank or printed, blanks in packages weighing at least 8 ounces, and seeds or cuttings in packages not exceeding 8 ounces shall be charged with postage at the rate of 1 cent an ounce or fraction thereof, to any place in the United States

under 1,500 miles; over 1,500 miles, 2 cents an ounce or fraction thereof to be prepaid by postage stamps.

Modifies the act of March 3, 1855, so as to require the 10-cent rate of postage to be prepaid on letters conveyed in the mail from any point in the United States east of the Rocky Mountains to any State or Territory on the Pacific, and vice versa.

The postage on each newspaper, periodical, unsealed circular, or other article of printed matter, not exceeding 3 ounces in weight, conveyed over the overland route between any State or Territory east of the Rocky Mountains to any State or territory on the Pacific, shall be 1 cent; and every additional ounce or fraction thereof 1 cent additional.

The rate of letter postage between any State or Territory east of the Rocky Mountains and any State or Territory on the Pacific coast shall be 10 cents per half ounce.

(This act authorized the introduction of merchandise into the mails.)

Act of March 3, 1863 (12 Stat. 704-707):

Divides mail into three classes: First class embraces letters and matter wholly or partly in writing, except book manuscripts and corrected proof sheets; second class embraces publications issued at stated periods; third class embraces all other mailable matter, including book manuscripts and corrected proof sheets.

Fixes the maximum standard weight for the single rate of letter postage at one-half ounce avoirdupois. Fixes the rate of postage on domestic letters not exceeding one-half ounce in weight at 3 cents, and 3 cents additional for each additional half ounce or fraction thereof, to be prepaid by postage stamps affixed.

(This was the first law which established a uniform rate of postage on letters, regardless of distance transmitted.)

The rate of postage on drop letters not exceeding one-half ounce in weight shall be 2 cents, and 2 cents additional for each additional half ounce or fraction, to be prepaid by stamps affixed; "but no extra postage or carriers' fee shall hereafter be charged or collected upon letters delivered by carriers, nor upon letters collected by them for mailing or delivery."

Mailable matter, wholly or partly in writing, or so marked as to convey further information than is conveyed by the original print, in case of printed matter, or sent in violation of law or regulations touching the inclosure of matter which may be sent at less than letter rates, and all matter on which no different rate is provided by law, shall be subject to letter postage. Book manuscripts and corrected proofs passing between authors and publishers may pass at the rate of printed matter. Publishers of newspapers and periodicals may print or write upon their publications sent to regular subscribers the address and the date when the subscription expires, and may inclose receipts for payment and bills for subscription.

All matter not enumerated as mailable and to which no specific rates of postage are assigned, if mailed, shall be subject to letter postage.

If any matter on which by law the postage is required to be prepaid at the mailing office shall reach its destination without such prepayment, double the prepaid rates shall be charged and collected on delivery.

Postage on returned dead letters not registered as valuable, shall be 3 cents for the single rate; registered as valuable double rates.

Postmaster General authorized to pay 2 cents for each letter reconveyed in any vessel, not employed in carrying the mail, from one place to another in the United States, or from any foreign port to any port within the United States, and deposited in the post office at the port of arrival. Such letters, if for delivery within the United States, shall be rated with double rates of postage, which shall cover the fee paid to the vessel.

The rate of postage on transient matter of the second class, and on miscellaneous matter of the third class (except circulars and books), shall be 2 cents for each 4 ounces or fraction thereof on one package to one address, to be prepaid by stamps affixed; double these rates for books. Unsealed circulars, not exceeding three in number, 2 cents, adding one rate for three additional circulars or less number to one address.

Postage on matter of the second class issued once a week or more frequently from a known office of publication and sent to regular subscribers shall be as follows:

For newspapers and other periodical publications not exceeding 4 ounces in weight and passing through the mails or post offices of the United States, the rate for one quarter shall be, for publications issued once a week, 5 cents; twice a week, 10 cents; three times a week, 15 cents; six times a week, 30 cents; seven times a week, 35 cents; and in that proportion, adding one rate for each issue more frequent than once a week. For weight exceeding 4 ounces and not exceeding 8 ounces, an additional rate, and an additional rate for each additional 4 ounces or fraction thereof; postage to be prepaid for not less than one quarter nor more than one year, at either the office of mailing or delivery, at the option of the subscriber.

Postage on mailable matter of the second class issued less frequently than once a week from a known office of publication and sent to subscribers shall be as follows:

Upon newspapers, magazines, and other periodical publications not exceeding 4 ounces, passing through the mails or post offices of the United States, the rate for each such paper or periodical shall be 1 cent, and an additional rate of 1 cent for each additional 4 ounces or fraction thereof; provided, that the Postmaster General may provide for the transportation of small newspapers in packages at the same rate by weight when sent to one address; postage must be prepaid at office of mailing or delivery, at option of subscriber, for not less than one quarter nor more than one year.

The postmaster of any office where letter carriers are employed may contract with the publishers of any newspapers or periodicals, and with the publishers of any circulars, for the delivery by postal carriers, within his postal district, of any such publications not coming through the mails, at rates and upon terms to be agreed upon, such arrangement and terms being equally open to all like publishers, such contract to have no force until approved by the Postmaster General. The Postmaster General may provide for the delivery by such carriers of small packages other than letters or papers, and not exceeding the maximum weight of mailable packages, but such packages must be prepaid by postage stamps at the rate of 2 cents for each 4 ounces or fraction thereof.

No postmaster shall receive to be conveyed by mail any packet or package which shall weigh more than 4 pounds, except books published or circulated by order of Congress.

Act of January 22, 1864 (13 Stat. 2):

Clothing of wool, cotton, or linen, in packages not exceeding 2 pounds each, addressed to any noncommissioned officer or private in the Army, may be transmitted at the rate of 8 cents for every 4 ounces or fraction thereof, under such regulations as the Postmaster General may prescribe; postage to be prepaid.

Acts of March 25, 1864, and January 20, 1865 (13 Stat. 36 and 422):

All mailable matter (with the exception of newspapers, periodicals, and magazines, to bona fide subscribers, and franked matter), which may be conveyed by mail westward beyond the western boundary of Kansas, and eastward from the eastern boundary of California, shall be subjected to prepaid letter postage rates.

Act of March 3, 1865 (13 Stat. 507):

Fixes the prepaid postage on drop letters, at all offices except free delivery, at 1 cent.

Act of June 25, 1868 (15 Stat. 79):

This act repealed the requirement of the act of March 25, 1864, providing that all matter other than the exceptions named in that act and in the act of January 20, 1865, shall be subject to prepaid letter postage rates, thus restoring for such matter the postage rates prescribed by the act of March 3, 1863.

Act of July 27, 1868 (15 Stat. 194-195):

When any writer of a letter, on which the postage is prepaid, shall indorse in writing or in print upon the outside thereof his name and address, the same, after remaining uncalled for at the post office to which it is directed 30 days, or the time the writer may direct, shall be returned to the said writer without additional postage, whether a specific request for such return be indorsed on the letter or not.

Weekly newspapers sent to subscribers in the county where printed and published to be delivered free of postage, when deposited in the office nearest the office of publication; but they shall not be distributd by letter carriers unless postage is prepaid thereon at the rate of 5 cents per quarter for not less than one quarter nor more than one year, at the office of mailing or of delivery, at the option of the subscriber.

Act of June 8, 1872 (17 Stat. 296, 300-304, 308):

Divides mail matter into three classes as follows:

First class shall embrace letters and all correspondence, wholly or partly in writing, except book manuscripts and corrected proof sheets passing between authors and publishers.

Second class shall embrace all matter exclusively in print, and regularly issued at stated periods from a known office of publication, without addition by writing, mark, or sign.

Third class shall embrace pamphlets, occasional publications, transient newspapers, magazines, and other miscellaneous mailable matter.

On all matter wholly or partly in writing (except book manuscripts and corrected proof sheets passing between authors and publishers, and drop letters); all printed matter so marked as to convey any other information than is conveyed by the original print (except the correction of mere typographical errors); all matter sent in violation of law or regulations respecting inclosures; and all matter to which

no specific rate of postage is assigned, postage shall be charged at the rate of 3 cents for each half ounce or fraction thereof.

Drop letters at letter-carrier offices shall be charged with postage at the rate of 2 cents for each half ounce or fraction thereof, and 1 cent for each half ounce or fraction thereof at all other offices.

The rate of postage on newspapers (excepting weeklies), periodicals not exceeding 2 ounces in weight, and circulars, when the same are deposited in a letter-carrier office for delivery by the office or its carriers, shall be uniform at 1 cent each; but periodicals weighing more than 2 ounces shall be subject to a postage of 2 cents each; these rates to be prepaid by stamps.

Quarterly postage on newspapers and other periodical publications not exceeding 4 ounces in weight sent to subscribers shall be at the following rates:

On publications issued less frequently than once a week, 1 cent for each issue; issued once a week, 5 cents; and 5 cents additional for each issue more frequent than once a week; and an additional rate shall be charged for each additional 4 ounces or fraction thereof.

Small newspapers issued less frequently than once a week, in packages to one address, sent to subscribers, 1 cent for each 4 ounces or fraction thereof.

Postage on mailable matter of the third class shall be at the rate of 1 cent for each 2 ounces or fraction thereof, except that double these rates shall be charged for books, samples of metals, ores, minerals, and merchandise.

Packages of woolen, cotton, or linen clothing not exceeding 2 pounds in weight may be sent by mail to any noncommissioned officer or private in the Army, if prepaid at the rate of 1 cent for each ounce or fraction thereof.

Letters conveyed in vessels not regularly employed in carrying the mails shall, if for delivery in the United States, be rated with double postage, to cover the fee paid to the vessel.

Provides for the issue and transmission by mail of postal cards at 1 cent each.

All matter so wrapped that it can not be conveniently examined shall be subject to letter postage.

The postage on all mail matter must be prepaid by stamps at the time of mailing, unless herein otherwise provided for.

Mail matter on which postage is required to be prepaid, reaching its destination by inadvertence without such prepayment, shall be subject to double the prepaid rates.

All mail matter deposited for mailing on which at least one full rate of postage has been paid as required by law, shall be forwarded to its destination, charged with the unpaid rate, to be collected on delivery.

When the writer of any letter on which the postage is prepaid shall indorse upon the outside thereof his name and address, such letter shall not be advertised, but after remaining uncalled for at the office to which it is directed 30 days, or the time the writer may direct, shall be returned to him without additional charge for postage.

Any package weighing more than 4 pounds shall not be received for conveyance by mail, except books published or circulated by order of Congress.

Prepaid and free letters shall be forwarded from one post office to another, at the request of the party addressed, without additional charge for postage.

This act reenacted the provision of the act of March 3, 1855, providing that for the greater security of valuable matter, the Postmaster General may establish a uniform system of registration.

Act of January 9, 1873 (17 Stat. 406):

Amends the act of January 8, 1872, so as to authorize the transmission by mail of packages of seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, and scions of any weight, for each of such packages, not exceeding 4 pounds, at a rate of postage of 1 cent for each 2 ounces or fractions of an ounce.

Act of June 23, 1874 (18 Stat. 232, 233, 237):

On and after January 1, 1875, on all newspapers and periodical publications mailed from a known office of publication or news agency and addressed to regular subscribers or news agents, postage shall be charged at the following rates:

On newspapers and periodical publications issued weekly and more frequently than once a week, 2 cents a pound or fraction thereof, and on those issued less frequently than once a week, 3 cents a pound or fraction thereof: **Provided,** That nothing in this act shall be held to change the rates of postage applicable under the act of June 8, 1872, to newspapers (excepting weeklies), periodicals, and circulars deposited in a letter-carrier office for delivery by its carriers.

Upon the receipt of such newspapers and periodical publications at the office of mailing, they shall be weighed in bulk, and postage paid thereon by a special adhesive stamp, to be devised and furnished by the Postmaster General, which shall be affixed to such matter, or to the sack containing the same, or upon a memorandum of such mailing, or otherwise, as the Postmaster General may provide.

Mailable matter of the third class (except books published or circulated by order of Congress) may not exceed 4 pounds for each package, and postage shall be charged thereon at the rate of 1 cent for each 2 ounces or fraction thereof.

Postage on public documents mailed by any Member of Congress, the President, or head of any executive department shall be 10 cents for each bound volume, and on unbound documents the same rate as that on newspapers mailed from a known office of publication to regular subscribers; and the postage on the Daily Congressional Record, mailed from the city of Washington as transient matter, shall be 1 cent.

Act of July 12, 1876 (19 Stat. 82):

Transient newspapers and magazines, regular publications designed primarily for advertising purposes, or for free circulation, or for circulation at nominal rates, and all printed matter of the third class, except unsealed circulars, shall be chargeable with postage at the rate of 1 cent for every 2 ounces or fraction thereof. This act permits limited inscriptions and addresses on such matter.

Publishers of newspapers and periodicals may print on the wrappers of newspapers or magazines sent to regular subscribers the time to which subscription therefor has been paid.

Addresses upon postal cards and unsealed circulars may be either written, printed, or affixed thereto, at the option of the sender.

Act of March 3, 1879 (20 Stat. 358-361):

Repeals all former laws relating to the classification of mail matter and rates of postage and divides mail matter into four classes: First, written matter; second, periodical publications; third, miscellaneous printed matter; fourth, merchandise.

First-class matter shall embrace letters, postal cards, and all matters wholly or partly in writing, except such writing as is authorized to be placed on mail of other classes.

On matter of the first class, except postal cards and drop letters, postage shall be prepaid at the rate of 3 cents for each half ounce or fraction thereof. Postal cards shall be transmitted through the mails at a postage charge of 1 cent each. Drop letters shall be mailed at the rate of 2 cents per half ounce or fraction thereof, including delivery at letter-carrier offices, and 1 cent for each half ounce or fraction thereof where free delivery by carrier is not established.

Second-class matter shall embrace all newspapers and other periodical publications which are issued at stated intervals, as frequently as four times a year, and meet the following conditions upon which a publication shall be admitted to the second class:

1. It must regularly be issued at stated intervals, as frequently as four times a year, and bear a date of issue, and be numbered consecutively.

2. It must be issued from a known office of publication

3. It must be formed of printed paper sheets, without board, cloth, leather, or other substantial binding, such as distinguish printed books for preservation from periodical publications.

4. It must be originated and published for the dissemination of information of a public character, or devoted to literature, the sciences, arts, or some special industry, and having a legitimate list of subscribers: **Provided, however,** That nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to admit to the second-class rate regular publications designed primarily for advertising purposes, or for free circulation, or for circulation at nominal rates.

There may be inserted in periodicals advertisements attached permanently to the same.

Publications of the second class, when sent by the publisher thereof and from the office of publication, or when sent from a news agency, to actual subscribers thereto, or to other news agents, shall be entitled to transmission through the mails at the postage rate of 2 cents a pound or fraction thereof; except that publications of the second class, one copy to each actual subscriber residing in the county where the same are printed, in whole or in part, and published, shall go free through the mails; but the same shall not be delivered at letter-carrier offices or distributed by carriers unless postage is paid thereon at the rate of 2 cents a pound or fraction thereof: **Provided,** That the rate of postage on newspapers, excepting weeklies, and periodicals not exceeding 2 ounces in weight, when the same are deposited in a letter-carrier office for delivery by its carriers, shall be uniform at 1 cent each; periodicals weighing more than 2 ounces shall be subject, when delivered by such carriers, to a postage of 2 cents each.

Third-class matter shall embrace books, transient newspapers, and periodicals, circulars, and other matter wholly in print not included in second-class matter, proof sheets, corrected proof sheets, and manuscript copy accompanying the same.

Postage on printed matter of the third class shall be prepaid at the rate of 1 cent for each 2 ounces or fraction thereof by stamps affixed.

Fourth-class matter shall embrace all matter not embraced in the first, second, or third class, which is not in its form or nature liable to destroy, deface, or otherwise damage the contents of the mail bag, or harm the person of any one engaged in the postal service, and is not above the weight provided by law, which is hereby declared to be not exceeding 4 pounds for each package, except in case of single books weighing in excess of that amount, and except for books and documents published and circulated by order of Congress, or official matter emanating from any of the departments of the Government or from the Smithsonian Institution.

All matter of the fourth class shall be subjected to a postage charge at the rate of 1 cent an ounce or fraction thereof, to be prepaid by stamps affixed.

No package the contents of which can not easily be examined shall pass in the mails, or be delivered at a less rate than for matter of the first class.

Mail matter of the first class upon which one full rate of postage has been prepaid shall be forwarded to its destination, charged with the unpaid rate, to be collected on delivery.

Act of March 3, 1883 (22 Stat. 455):

Reduces the postage on first-class matter to 2 cents a half ounce or fraction thereof on and after October 1, 1883.

Act of June 8, 1884 (23 Stat. 40):

The rate of postage on newspapers and periodical publications of the second class, when sent by others than the publisher or news agent, shall be 1 cent for each 4 ounces or fraction thereof, to be prepaid with stamps affixed.

Act of March 3, 1885 (23 Stat. 387):

Reduces the rate of postage on first-class matter on and after July 1, 1885, to 2 cents for each ounce or fraction thereof; and fixes the rate for drop letters at 2 cents an ounce or fraction thereof, including delivery at letter-carrier offices, and 1 cent for each ounce or fraction thereof where free delivery by carrier is not established.

Publications of the second class, except as provided in the act of March 3, 1879, for free county circulation and for delivery at letter-carrier offices, when sent by the publisher thereof and from the office of publication, or when sent from a news agency, to actual subscribers thereto or to other news agents, shall on and after July 1, 1885, be entitled to transmission through the mails at 1 cent a pound or fraction thereof.

A special stamp of the value of 10 cents, attached to a letter in addition to the lawful postage thereon, the delivery of which is to be at a free-delivery office, or at any city, town, or village containing a population of 4,000 or over, according to the Federal census, shall be regarded as entitling such letter to immediate delivery within the carrier limit of any free-delivery office which may be designated by the Postmaster General as a special-delivery office, or within 1 mile of the post office at any other office coming within the provisions of this section which may in like manner be designated as a special-delivery office. Such specially stamped letters shall be delivered from 7 o'clock a. m. up to 12 o'clock midnight at offices designated by the Postmaster General under this act.

Act of August 4, 1886 (24 Stat. 220):

Every article of mailable matter upon which the special-delivery stamp provided for by the act of March 3, 1885, 23 Stat. 387, shall be duly affixed, shall be entitled to immediate delivery within the carrier-delivery limit of any free-delivery office, and within 1 mile of any free-delivery office, and within 1 mile of any other post office which the Postmaster General shall at any time designate as a special-delivery post office. The Postmaster General may prescribe the hours within which such immediate delivery shall be made at any post office. (By order of Postmaster General dated August 10, 1886, special-delivery matter shall be delivered at free-delivery offices on Sunday, and at all other offices if open on Sunday. Special delivery must be made at all post offices on holidays.)

Act of July 24, 1888 (25 Stat. 347):

Rate of postage on seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, scions, and plants reduced to 1 cent for each 2 ounces or fraction thereof.

Act of January 16, 1889 (25 Stat. 650):

The omission by the sender to place the lawful postage upon a letter bearing special-delivery stamps and otherwise entitled to immediate delivery under the provisions of the act of March 3, 1885, shall not hinder or delay the transmission and delivery thereof as provided by the act, but such lawful postage shall be collected upon its delivery in the manner provided by law for the collection of deficient postage resulting from the overweight of letters.

Act of July 16, 1894 (Stat. 105):

Provides that all periodical publications issued from a known place of publication at stated intervals and as frequently as four times a year by or under the auspices of a benevolent or fraternal society or order organized under the lodge

system and having a bona fide membership of not less than 1,000 persons or by a regularly incorporated institution of learning or by or under the auspices of a trades-union and all publications of strictly professional, literary, historical, or scientific societies including the bulletins issued by State boards of health shall be admitted to the mails as second-class matter and the postage thereon shall be the same as on other second-class matter and no more; **Provided,** That such matter shall be originated and published to further the objects and purposes of such society, order, trades-union, or institution of learning and shall be formed of printed paper sheets without board, cloth, leather, or other substantial binding such as distinguish printed books for preservation from periodical publications.

Act of June 8, 1896 (29 Stat. 262):

Defines fourth-class matter as follows: Mailable matter of the fourth class shall embrace all matter not embraced in the first, second, or third class which is not in its form or nature liable to destroy, deface, or otherwise damage the contents of the mail bag or harm the person of anyone engaged in the Postal Service, and is not above the weight provided by law, which is hereby declared to be not exceeding 4 pounds for each package thereof, except in the case of single books weighing in excess of that amount, and except for books and documents published or circulated by order of Congress, or printed or written official matter emanating from any of the departments of the Government or from the Smithsonian Institution.

Act of May 19, 1898 (30 Stat. 419):

Provides for the transmission by mail at the postage rate of 1 cent a piece, under such regulations as the Postmaster General may prescribe, of written messages on private mailing cards.

Conclusion

ANYONE who writes about a subject as complex as the one covered in this book owes a great deal not only to those students who have preceded him but to students of the present day who write about our 19th century stamps. After a period of time the labor of all who have recorded even the least scrap of knowledge begins to bear fruit and in this book will be found information that was discovered and made available to those now living by those who long since have become a portion of eternity.

The author has enjoyed the unstinted help of our outstanding philatelists and expresses his sincere appreciation to all who have assisted in this work.

It is our hope that the information that has been presented here will prove of real value to all who wish to acquire, use, and share it.

—L. G. BROOKMAN.

1967.

INDEX OF VOLUME III

	Page
The Issues of 1882-1888	1-21
Reasons for stamp changes	1
The One Cent Stamp of 1882	1-3
Complete pane of 100	2
Early precancel	2
Imperforates used and unused	3
SAMPLE and SAMPLE A overprint	3
Shades	3
Varieties	3
Plates	3
Cancellation Varieties	3
Quantity issued	3
The Two Cent Red Brown of 1883	4-7
"Skull and Crossbones" cancel on cover	4
Small Die Proof	5
Change of first-class postage rate	5
SAMPLE and SAMPLE A overprints	6
Varieties of shading over "Cents"	7
Shades	7
Varieties	7
Plates	7
Cancellations	7
Cancellation varieties	7
Quantity issued	7
The Two Cent Green of 1887	8-10
"U. S. Mail Lock" cancel on cover	8
Die and India proofs	9
Earliest known date of use	9
Printed on both sides	9
Imperforates used and unused	10
Bisects—not recognized by Scott or Minkus	10
Shades	10
Varieties	10
Plates	10
Cancellations	10
Cancellation varieties	10
Quantity issued	10
The Four Cent Blue Green stamp of 1883	11-13
Date of issue	11
Reason for issue	11
India Proof	11
Bisect—not recognized by Scott or Minkus	11
Full pane of 100	11
SAMPLE and SAMPLE A overprints	12
Small Die proof	13
Shades	13
Varieties	13
Plates	13
Cancellations	13
Cancellation varieties	13
Quantity issued	13
The Four Cent Carmine stamp of 1888	14-16
Reason for color change	14
Earliest known date of use	14
Small Die proof	14
India proof block	16
Bisect—not recognized by Scott or Minkus	16
Principal use of this stamp	16
Shades	16
Varieties	16
Plates	16
Cancellations	16
Cancellation varieties	16
Quantity issued	16

Page

The Five Cent Yellow Brown stamp of 1882 17-18
Reason for issuing 17
Probable date of issue 18
Illustrations of stamp on cover from Shanghai 17-18
Shades 18
Varieties 18
Plates 18
Cancellations 18
Cancellation varieties 18
Quantity issued 18

The Five Cent Indigo stamp of 1888 19-21
Full pane of 100 19
Pinkish paper variety 19-20
India Plate proof block of four 19
Small Die proof 21
Replacement of Garfield portrait on stamp considered 21
Imperforates 21
Shades 21
Varieties 21
Plates 21
Cancellations 21
Cancellation varieties 21
Quantity issued 21

The issue of 1890 22-48
Report of Third Assistant Postmaster General 22-23
Imperforates—information by Philip H. Ward, Jr. 23-24

The One Cent Stamp of 1890 24
"Candle flame" variety 24-25
Secondary die in process 26
Small Die proof 26
New York Times opinion of this stamp 27
Earliest known date of use 27
Shades 27
Varieties 27
Plates 27
Cancellations 27
Cancellation varieties 27
Quantity issued 27

The Two Cent Lake Stamp of 1890 28
Official date of issue 28
Earliest known date of use 28
New York Sun comments regarding the stamp 28
Full pane of 100 28
Shades 28
Varieties 28
Plates 28
Cancellations 28
Cancellation varieties 28
Quantity issued 28

The Two Cent Carmine Stamp of 1890 29-31
Illustrations of "Cap" varieties 29
Pane of 100 "Cap" varieties as described by Ward 30
Shades 31
Varieties 31
Plates 31
Cancellations 31
Cancellation varieties 31
Quantity issued 31

The Three Cent Stamp of 1890 32-33
Date of issue 32
Essay mentioned by Brazer 32
Imperforate pair illustrated 33
Small Die proof 33
Shades 33
Varieties 33

Page

Plates ... 33
Cancellations ... 33
Cancellation varieties ... 33
Quantity issued ... 33

The Four Cent Stamp of 1890 ... 34-35
Date of issue ... 34
Small Die proof ... 34
Imperforates ... 35
Shades ... 35
Varieties ... 35
Plates ... 35
Cancellations ... 35
Cancellation varieties ... 35
Quantity issued ... 35

The Five Cent Stamp of 1890 ... 36-37
Date of issue ... 36
Interesting plate variety ... 36
Small Die proof ... 37
Imperforate pair ... 37
Shades ... 37
Varieties ... 37
Plates ... 37
Cancellations ... 37
Cancellation varieties ... 37
Quantity issued ... 37

The Six Cent Stamp of 1890 ... 38-39
Date of issue ... 38
Small Die proof ... 38
Imperforate pair ... 38
Shades ... 38
Varieties ... 38
Cancellations ... 38
Cancellation varieties ... 38
Quantity issued ... 38

The Eight Cent Stamp of 1890 ... 40-41
Small Die proof ... 40
Date of issue ... 41
Shades ... 41
Varieties ... 41
Plates ... 41
Cancellations ... 41
Cancellation varieties ... 41
Quantity issued ... 41

The Ten Cent Stamp of 1890 ... 42-43
Small Die proof ... 42
Principal use of this stamp ... 43
Imperforate pair ... 43
Shades ... 43
Varieties ... 43
Plates ... 43
Cancellations ... 43
Cancellation varieties ... 43
Quantity issued ... 43

The Fifteen Cent Stamp of 1890 ... 44-45
Small Die proof ... 44
Date of issue ... 44
Imperforate pair ... 45
Shades ... 45
Varieties ... 45
Plates ... 45
Cancellations ... 45
Cancellation varieties ... 45
Quantity issued ... 45

The Thirty Cent Stamp of 1890 ... 46-47
Small Die proof ... 46
Date of issue ... 46

Page

Large used block 46
Shades 46
Varieties 46
Plates 46
Cancellations 46
Cancellation varieties 46
Quantity issued 46

The Ninety Cent Stamp of 1890 48-49
Small Die proof 48
Date of issue 48
Illustration of 16 copies on one cover 49
Imperforate pair 49
Late sale of this stamp in Washington, D. C. 49
Shades 49
Varieties 49
Plates 49
Cancellations 49
Cancellation varieties 49
Quantity issued 49

The Columbian Issue of 1893 50-94
Report of Third Assistant Postmaster General 50-51
P. O. Dept. already aware of revenue potential 51
Investors troubles with Columbian stamps 51
Size of plates 51
Imperforates 52
Detailed information regarding First Day Sales 53

The One Cent Columbian 54-55
Small Die proof 54
Source of design 54
Objections to size of the stamps 55
Postmasters forced to stock Columbians 55
First Day Covers 55
Shades 55
Varieties 55
Plates 55
Cancellations 55
Cancellation varieties 55
Quantity issued 55

The Two Cent Columbian 56-58
Small Die proof 56
Source of design 57
"Broken hat" variety 57-58
Illustration of broken frame line 57
Imperforates found in printer's waste 58
Printing of first sheet described 58
Shades 58
Varieties 58
Plates 58
Cancellations 58
Cancellation varieties 58
Quantity issued 58

The Three Cent Columbian 59-60
Small Die proof 59
Possible origin of design 60
Shades 60
Varieties 60
Plates 60
Cancellations 60
Cancellation varieties 60
Quantity issued 60

The Four Cent Columbian 61-63
Small Die proof 61
Origin of design 61
Error of color 62
"Three Leaf" variety illustrated 63

Page

Shades ... 63
Varieties ... 63
Plates ... 63
Cancellations ... 63
Cancellation varieties ... 63
Quantity issued ... 63

The Five Cent Columbian ... 64-65
Small Die proof ... 64
Origin of design ... 65
Shades ... 65
Varieties ... 65
Plates ... 65
Cancellations ... 65
Cancellation varieties ... 65
Quantity issued ... 65

The Six Cent Columbian ... 66-67
Small Die proof ... 66
Difficulty of getting fine copies due to color fading ... 67
Shades ... 67
Varieties ... 67
Plates ... 67
Cancellations ... 67
Cancellation varieties ... 67
Quantity issued ... 67

The Eight Cent Columbian ... 68-69
Small Die proof ... 68
Post Office announcement concerning this stamp and stating reason for issue and source of design ... 68
Shades ... 68
Varieties ... 68
Plates ... 68
Cancellations ... 68
Cancellation varieties ... 68
Quantity issued ... 68

The Ten Cent Columbian ... 70-71
Small Die proof ... 70
Source of design ... 71
Lettering variety in label ... 71
Shades ... 71
Varieties ... 71
Plates ... 71
Cancellations ... 71
Cancellation varieties ... 71
Quantity issued ... 71

The Fifteen Cent Columbian ... 72-73
Small Die proof ... 72
Source of design ... 73
Shades ... 73
Varieties ... 73
Plates ... 73
Cancellations ... 73
Cancellation varieties ... 73
Quantity issued ... 73

The Thirty Cent Columbian ... 74-75
Small Die proof ... 74
Source of design ... 75
Shades ... 75
Varieties ... 75
Plates ... 75
Cancellations ... 75
Cancellation varieties ... 75
Quantity issued ... 75

The Fifty Cent Columbian ... 76-77
Small Die proof ... 76
Source of design ... 77

Page

Complete panes found in England ... 77
Shades ... 77
Varieties ... 77
Plates ... 77
Cancellations ... 77
Cancellation varieties ... 77
Quantity issued ... 77

The One Dollar Columbian ... 78-79
Small Die proof ... 78
Source of design ... 79
Full pane of the stamp ... 79
"Kick-back" racket ... 79
Shades ... 79
Varieties ... 79
Plates ... 79
Cancellations ... 79
Cancellation varieties ... 79
Quantity issued ... 79

The Two Dollar Columbian ... 80-82
Small Die proof ... 80
Illustration of block of 25 ... 81
Source of design ... 82
Shades ... 82
Varieties ... 82
Plates ... 82
Cancellations ... 82
Cancellation varieties ... 82
Quantity issued ... 82

The Three Dollar Columbian ... 83-84
Small Die proof ... 83
Source of design ... 83
Destruction of remainders ... 84
Shades ... 84
Varieties ... 84
Plates ... 84
Cancellations ... 84
Cancellation varieties ... 84
Quantity issued ... 84

The Four Dollar Columbian ... 85-86
Small Die proof ... 85
Source of design ... 86
Destruction of remainders ... 86
Shades ... 86
Varieties ... 86
Cancellations ... 86
Cancellation varieties ... 86
Quantity issued ... 86

The Five Dollar Columbian ... 87-89
Small Die proof ... 87
Illustration of mint block of 14 ... 88
Illustration of plate block of 6 ... 89
Source of design ... 89
Destruction of remainders ... 89
Shades ... 89
Varieties ... 89
Plates ... 89
Cancellations ... 89
Cancellation varieties ... 89
Quantity issued ... 89

Group of Columbian covers ... 90-94

The Issue of 1894 ... 95-127
Report of the Third Assistant Postmaster General ... 95-96
Bidders for new contract, amount of bids, awarding of contract, transfer of stamps, dies, plates, etc. from American Bank Note Company to Bureau of Printing and Engraving ... 95-96

Page

Decision to add triangles to corners of stamps and method used to do this.. 97
Imperforate and part perforates described in detail 97

The One Cent Ultramarine Stamp of 1894 98
Date of issue 98
Paper used 98
Perforation information 98
Shade variation in complete sheet 98
Shades 98
Varieties 98
Plates 98
Quantity issued 98

The One Cent Blue Stamp of 1894 99
Reason for color change 99
Small Die proof 99
Shades 99
Varieties 99
Plates 99
Quantity issued 99

The Two Cent Pink, Type I, Stamp of 1894 100
Date of issue 100
Illustrations of types of triangles used on the various Two Cent stamps ... 100
Imperforate horizontally block of 4 100
Shades 100
Varieties 100
Plates 100
Quantity issued 100

The Two Cent Carmine Lake, Type I, Stamp of 1894 101
Shades 101
Varieties 101
Plates 101
Quantity issued 101

The Two Cent Carmine, Type I, Stamp of 1894 102
Part perforate varieties 102
Small Die proof 102
Shades 102
Varieties 102
Plates. 102
Quantity issued 102

The Two Cent Type II Stamp of 1894 103
Description of triangle 103
Shades 103
Varieties 103
Plates 103
Quantity issued 103

The Two Cent Type III Stamp of 1894 104
Part perforate varieties 104
Shades 104
Varieties 104
Plates 104
Quantity issued 104

The Counterfeit of the 1894 Two Cent Stamp 105-109
Discovered by dealer, Edward Lowry 105
Seizure of shipments of counterfeits 106
Capture of counterfeiters 106-107
Post Office Circular regarding 107
Illustration of counterfeits on cover 108
Illustration of block of counterfeits 108
Imperforate sheet of counterfeits 109

The Three Cent Stamp of 1894 110
Date of issue 110
Imperforate 110
Small Die proof 110
Shades 110

Page

Varieties 110
Plates 110
Quantity issued 110

The Four Cent Stamp of 1894 111
Imperforate pair 111
Small Die proof 111
Shades 111
Varieties 111
Plates 111
Cancellations 111
Quantity issued 111

The Five Cent Stamp of 1894 112-113
Imperforate pair 112
Small Die proof 112
Illustration of pair "Imperforate Vertically" 113
Shades 113
Varieties 113
Plates 113
Cancellations 113
Quantity issued 113

The Six Cent Stamp of 1894 114-115
Date of issue 114
Small Die proof 114
Block of 6 "Imperforate Vertically" 115
Shades 115
Varieties 115
Plates 115
Quantity issued 115

The Eight Cent Stamp of 1894 116
Date of issue 116
Small Die proof 116
Shades 116
Varieties 116
Plates 116
Quantity issued 116

The Ten Cent Stamp of 1894 117
Date of issue 117
Imperforate pair 117
Small Die proof 117
Shades 117
Varieties 117
Plates 117
Cancellations 117
Quantity issued 117

The Fifteen Cent Stamp of 1894 118
Date of issue 118
Small Die proof 118
Shades 118
Varieties 118
Plates 118
Cancellations 118
Quantity issued 118

The Fifty Cent Stamp of 1894 119
Date of issue 119
Small Die proof 119
Shades 119
Varieties 119
Plates 119
Cancellations 119
Quantity issued 119

The One Dollar Type I Stamp of 1894 120-121
Date of issue 120
Illustration of Type I 120
Small Die proof 121

Page

Type I and Type II in a strip of three 121
Shades 121
Varieties 121
Plates 121
Quantity issued 121

The One Dollar Type II Stamp of 1894 122-123
Illustration of Type II 122
Date of issue 123
Shades 123
Varieties 123
Plates 123
Quantity issued 123

The Two Dollar Stamp of 1894 124-125
Date of issue 124
Small Die proof 125
Shades 125
Varieties 125
Plates 125
Quantity issued 125

The Five Dollar Stamp of 1894 126-127
Illustration of block of 8 126
Date of issue 126
Shades 127
Varieties 127
Plates 127
Quantity issued 127

The Issue of 1895-1898 128-160
Illustration of Watermark 128
Geo. Sloane's story of the imperforates 128-129

The One Cent Blue Stamp of 1895 130
Illustration of imperforate pair 130
Imperforate vertically 130
Shades 130
Varieties 130
Plates 130
Cancellations 130
Quantity issued 130

The One Cent Green Stamp of 1898 131
Reason for color change 131
"I.R" surcharge 131
Shades 131
Varieties 131
Plates 131
Cancellations 131
Quantity issued 131

The Two Cent Triangle I Stamp of 1895 132
Date of issue 132
Shades 132
Varieties 132
Plates 132
Quantity issued 132

The Two Cent Triangle II Stamp of 1895 133
Triangle II and Triangle III on one plate 133
Combination pair of Triangles II and III 134
Cover with combination pair 134
Shades 134
Varieties 134
Plates 134
Quantity issued 134

The Two Cent Triangle III Stamp of 1895 135-136
Interesting triangle variety 135
Illustration of imperforate pair and strip 136
Shades 136

Page

Varieties 136
Plates 136
Cancellations 136
Quantity issued 136

The Two Cent Triangle Stamp of 1894 137-138
First Booklet Pane 137
Description of shades 138
Military postal service 138
Shades 138
Varieties 138
Plates 138
Cancellations 138
Quantity issued 138

The Three Cent Stamp of 1895 139
Date of issue 139
Imperforate pair 139
Shades 139
Varieties 139
Plates 139
Cancellations 139
Quantity issued 139

The Four Cent Stamp of 1895 140
Date of issue 140
Imperforate pair 140
Shades 140
Varieties 140
Plates 140
Cancellations 140
Quantity issued 140

The Four Cent Rose Brown Stamp of 1898 141
Date of issue 141
Shades 141
Varieties 141
Plates 141
Cancellations 141
Quantity issued 141

The Five Cent Chocolate Stamp of 1895 142
Date of issue 142
Shades 142
Varieties 142
Plates 142
Cancellations 142
Quantity issued 142

The Five Cent Dark Blue Stamp of 1898 143
Reason for color change 143
Date of issue 143
Shades 143
Varieties 143
Plates 143
Cancellations 143
Quantity issued 143

The Six Cent Dull Brown Stamp of 1895 144
Date of issue 144
Revenue paper 144
Imperforate pair 144
Shades 144
Varieties 144
Plates 144
Cancellations 144
Quantity issued 144

The Six Cent Lake Stamp of 1898 145
Date of issue 145
Shades 145
Varieties 145

Page

Plates 144
Cancellations 145
Quantity issued 145

The Eight Cent Violet Brown Stamp of 1895 146-147
Date of issue 146
Principal use of the stamp 146
Revenue paper 146
Shades 147
Varieties 147
Plates 147
Cancellations 147
Quantity issued 147

The Ten Cent Green Stamp of 1895 147
Date of issue 147
Imperforate pair 147
Shades 147
Varieties 147
Plates 147
Cancellations 147
Quantity issued 147

The Ten Cent Brown Type I Stamp of 1898 148
Date of issue 148
Shades 148
Varieties 148
Plates 148
Cancellations 148
Quantity issued 148

The Ten Cent Orange Brown Type II Stamp of 1898 149-150
Type I and Type II found on same plate 149
Small Die proof 149
Shades 150
Varieties 150
Plates 150
Cancellations 150
Quantity issued 150

The Fifteen Cent Dark Blue Stamp of 1895 151
Date of issue 151
Shades 151
Varieties 151
Plates 151
Cancellations 151
Quantity issued 151

The Fifteen Cent Olive Green Stamp of 1898 151-152
Date of issue 151
Small Die proof 152
Shades 152
Varieties 152
Plates 152
Cancellations 152
Quantity issued 152

The Fifty Cent Orange Stamp of 1895 153
Date of issue 153
Shades 153
Varieties 153
Cancellations 153
Quantity issued 153

The One Dollar Black Type I Stamp of 1895 154
Date of issue 154
Shades 154
Varieties 154
Plates 154
Cancellation varieties 154
Quantity issued 154

Page

The One Dollar Black Type II Stamp of 1895 155-156
Date of issue 155
Block of two Type I and Type II 155
Shades 156
Varieties 156
Plates 156
Cancellation varieties 156
Quantity issued 156

The Two Dollar Blue Stamp of 1895 157-158
Date of issue 158
Shades 158
Varieties 158
Plates 158
Cancellation varieties 158
Quantity issued 158

The Five Dollar Dark Green Stamp of 1895 159-160
Date of issue 159
Imperforate pair 160
Shades 160
Varieties 160
Plates 160
Cancellation varieties 160
Quantity issued 160

The Trans-Mississippi Issue of 1898 161-192
Stamp issue suggest to Postmaster General 161
Protests against this stamp issue 161
Use of bi-color stamps contemplated 161
Announcement to the Postmasters 162
Post Office Department announces delay 163
Date of issue 163
Information regarding quantities returned for destruction 164
Destruction of stamp plates 164

The One Cent Trans-Mississippi Stamp 165-167
Bi-colored proof 165
Small Die proof 166
Source of design 166
Engravers 167
Shades 167
Varieties 167
Plates 167
Cancellation varieties 167
Quantity issued 167

The Two Cent Trans-Mississippi Stamp 168-171
Small Die Bi-color proof 168
Small Die proof in normal color 169
Source of design 169
Engravers 169
Shades 169
Varieties 169
Plates 169
Cancellation varieties 169
Quantity issued 169

The Four Cent Trans-Mississippi Stamp 172-174
Bi-color proof 173
Small Die proof 173
Source of design 173
Engravers 173
Shades 174
Varieties 174
Plates 174
Cancellation varieties 174
Quantity issued 174

The Five Cent Trans-Mississippi Stamp 175-177
Source of design 175
Engravers 175-176

Page

Bi-color proof 176
Small Die proof 176
Shades 177
Varieties 177
Plates 177
Cancellation varieties 177
Quantity issued 177

The Eight Cent Trans-Mississippi Stamp 178-181
Bi-color proof 179
Small Die proof 179
Source of design 180
Find of Remington pictures 180
Engravers 180
Part-perforate pane of 50 180
Illustrations of part-perforates 181
Shades 181
Varieties 181
Plates 181
Cancellation varieties 181
Quantity isused 181

The Ten Cent Trans-Mississippi Stamp 182-183
Sketch of original design by Artist 182
Bi-color proof 183
Small Die proof 183
Engravers 183
Intentional destruction of original painting 183
Shades 183
Varieties 183
Plates 183
Cancellation varieties 183
Quantity issued 183

The Fifty Cent Trans-Mississippi Stamp 184-185
Drawing by Remington 184
Bi-color proof 185
Small Die proof 185
Source of design 185
Engravers 185
Largest block known 185
Shades 185
Varieties 185
Plates 185
Cancellation varieties 185
Quantity issued 185

The One Dollar Trans-Mississippi Stamp 186-188
Engraving by Murray after painting by MacWhirter 186
Complete pane of 50 187
Difficulties arising over unauthorized use of design 187-188
Engravers 188
Shades 188
Varieties 188
Plates 188
Cancellation varieties 188
Quantity issued 188

The Two Dollar Trans-Mississippi Stamp 189-192
Bi-color proof 189
Small Die proof 190
Source of design 190
Plate block of six 191
Large blocks 192
Shades 192
Varieties 192
Plates 192
Cancellation varieties 192
Quantity issued 192

Page

Postmarks and Cancellations 193-202
Patent Cancellations 193-195
Examples of 19th Century Cancellations 194
"New York Foreign Mail" cancellations 196-203

Territorial and 19th Century Statehood Dates 201

Special Printings of 19th Century U. S. Stamps 203-215

United States Postage Essays and Proofs including normal and trial colors, "Specimen", Sample, Sample A, and Universal Postal Congress Overprints 216-236

Suggestions for a New Catalog System with an outline of the new numbers .. 237-243

Rates of Postage, An Abstract of Laws passed between 1789 and 1900 fixing Rates of Postage on Domestic Mail Matter 244-254

Corrections and Addenda

Conclusion

Corrections and Addenda

VOLUME I

Page 15, Chapter V. In regard to the improvement of the impressions of the 5c 1847 that show up early in 1850, the best explanation I have held in the past was that the plate probably was well-cleaned and that extra care was used in the printing which resulted in better impressions that appeared for a short time. Now I come up with what may be a really wild idea which I present to you for whatever you think it might be worth. I believe there is a **possibility** that etching acid might have been added to ink, or some similar liquid; the plate inked with the mixture and wiped as it would be for normal printing. The acid mixture would then have been left in the engraved lines for a proper period of time to deepen the lines a little, after which the plate would have been thoroughly cleaned and put to use. **All this of course, pure speculation.**

Page 24, Fig. 21. First line, "3d" instead of "Penny".

Page 79, Fig. 117. Next to last line change "there were" to "there were no".

Page 113, Fig. 153. Change "Figure 150" to "Figure 151".

Page 118, Plate positions of Type Ic are 47L4, 49L4, 83L4, 81R4, 82R4, 89R4, 91R4, and 96R4.

Page 126, Figure 179. This was a poor choice of a stamp for illustration as this position normally is a Type II stamp but wear on this particular copy has caused a break in the bottom line making this a type IIIa stamp. Some students may challenge this statement.

Page 133, Sale price was $1700.00 instead of $17.00.

Page 157, Fig. 235. Should read "—unused strip of 8".

Page 188, Plate positions of Type Ic are 47L4, 49L4, 83L4, 81R4, 82R4, 89R4, 91R4, and 96R4.

Page 231, Second Line "listed fifth" should read "listed sixth".

Page 242, Fig. 380. "Knightstown" instead of "Kingstown".

Page 245, Fig. 385. Second line should be "8 x 24c rate.—"

Page 245, Chapter XX. We are pleased to announce that thru the courtesy of Cyril Harmer, of H. R. Harmer Ltd. that we have before us a fine photo of a truly remarkable block of Scott No. 36, the 12c stamp of the 1857 Series. This block is best described in their auction information that follows: (The lot was offered in their Sale of May 3rd, 1967).

"1857-61, PLATE I 12c. GREY-BLACK, S.G. 86, SCOTT 36, A BLOCK OF TWENTY-EIGHT (7 x 4) FROM RIGHT OF SHEET (straight edge), on large white envelope from "LEONIDAS/JUL/21/MICH" to England, with red Liverpool Colonial packet datestamp of the 8th August, red London mark of the 8th August and blue Holbeach mark of the 9th August. The block is cancelled by penstrokes and the eighth stamp shows manuscript $3.36, which also appears on the envelope. The cover is rather tatty, affecting the block, with light filing fold and a light diagonal crease at top-right, also the fifth stamp of the top row has tear; the block and envelope are soiled. A remarkable and apparently unique piece, as the C.C.P. Handbook states that only a broken block of twenty-six (six, eight, twelve) and a reconstructed block of twenty exist (see photo-plate XII) . . . (1 item) This cover has recently come to light amongst some old papers in a Solicitor's office in Holbeach."

Page 250, Fig. 393. Should read "successful bidder—"

Page 265, Fig. 417. Should read "successful bidder—"

VOLUME II

Page 3, Chapter I. My good friend Elliott Perry does not agree with my listings of the so-called "August Issue". He feels that each and every one of the denominations should be called "Essays". Both he and Ezra Cole have called my attention to the fact that I failed to note that the past few years have seen a very strong price rise in the various "August" items. (Just a stupid omission on my part). These items, as of course everyone knows, are presently selling at record prices and it

doesn't seem to be of much importance pricewise as to whether these items are "stamps", "essays", "stamps prepared for use but not issued" or of some other classification!

Page 9, Chapter III, Second paragraph: I might well have added to this paragraph that all 7 plates were re-entered at least once. This was determined by Maryette Lane by an examination of plate blocks from each of the plates used.

Page 9, Chapter III, Third paragraph. The second line should read "This variety occurs in the ornament at the **right of the left numeral 2".** The last line of this same paragraph that reads "It is known that Plate 28 had the 2 dots only on each of its 200 positions" is incorrect. The premier student of this stamp, Maryette Lane, stated that **no** position on this plate has yet been found to bear any dots.

Page 11, Chapter III. After Volume II was in print, it was discovered that a cover postmarked July 16th is in existence so the cover shown under Figure 16 is no longer the earliest known. Such changes due to new discoveries are bound to come along from time to time.

Page 14, 4th line. Should read "—congratulations for this discovery that—"

Page 14, Chapter III. Fig. 22 is of course from the Reissue Plate and it shows the wide spacing that is on this plate only. The seven regular plates were with the 2 mm. spacing between the stamps. The statement under Fig. 22 is now known to be incorrect as the "Star" also appears on Plate 30. However, and this is important, Plate 30 was used only for grilled stamps so that all ungrilled stamps with the Star are Reissues.

Page 34, 4th line. "600,000" should read "approximately 200,000—"

Page 35, Chapter V. Just as the last portion of Vol. III is to go to press we have made an interesting discovery concerning Scott No. 75, the 5c Red Brown. Immediately over the top of the head the area appears almost solid while on the 5c Brown, on the 5c Black Brown, and on the grilled 5c, Scott No. 76, 76a, 95 and 95a the cross-hatching and the white dots show clearly. The value of this knowledge is that it may help some collectors make the proper decision as to whether a stamp is No. 75 or No. 76 when the shade is a bit confusing to them.

Page 43, Fig. 66. Should read "To be compared with Fig. 65".

Page 52, Chapter VIII. A new early date cover has just been noted bearing a single 15c No. 77 mailed out of New York on May 8, 1866. Backstamped "Paris 22 Mai 66". The cover is the property of M. B. Engelhardt.

Page 74, Near middle of page. Should read "The "A", "B" and "C" grills—"

Page 92, First paragraph, line 6. "Fig. 396" should read "Fig. 140".

Page 108, Last line. Should read "See page 129".

Page 109, First line. Should read "The letters in Fig. 153".

Page 137, Heading. Should read "Z" grill.

Page 144, Fig. 194. This is a 5c with "F" grill.

Page 179, Fig. 232. Should read "28c rate—"

Page 184, Fig. 238. "UNITTED" should read "UNTTED".

Page 188, Line in middle of page should read "—by H. R. Harmer, Inc.—"

Page 206, Fig. 258. Should read "An interesting combination—"

Page 211, 4th Paragraph. Should read "as can be seen in Fig. 298".

Page 211, 5th Paragraph, last line. Should read "to be worn away".

Page 229, Chapter XXVII. Fig. 285 should have been placed on page 267 and numbered as Fig. 338A while Fig. 133 on page 267 should have been placed on page 229 as Fig. 285. Someone had their glasses on backwards when these were placed on the pages!

Page 233, Fifth line. Should read "paper late in the life—"

Page 251, 2nd Paragraph, last line. Should ready "Fig. 266".

Page 261, First Paragraph, last line. Should read "See Fig. 280".