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TABLE OF CONTENTS

WELLS FARGO & CO'S HANDSTAMPS AND FRANKS. *By Dr. V. M. Berthold* ---------- 187

CANADIAN LOCALS. BALDWIN'S RAILROAD POST. *By Warren K. Hale* 197

THE UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE 20TH CENTURY. *By Beverly S. King and Max G. Johl* ---------- 203

EDITORIALS. *By H. L. Lindquist* ---------- 232

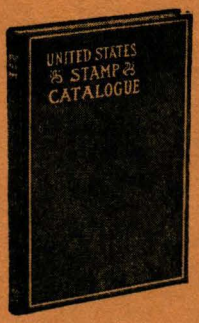
THE POSTMARKS OF BADEN. *By Abr. Odfjell* ---------- 233

COLLECTORS CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS ---------- 239

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY ---------- 239

BRIEF REVIEWS ----------196, 202, 219, 231

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COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST

Vol. XIII. OCTOBER, 1934. No. 4.

Wells Fargo & Co.'s Handstamps and Franks

By Dr. V. M. Berthold.

TWENTY YEARS have passed since the Scott Stamp & Coin Co. requested me to write the "Wells Fargo & Co.'s Handstamps & Franks." This being the first attempt to publish a complete account of the large number of franks used by the W. F. Co. during its eventful career, it was unavoidable that the book should contain errors and omissions which were noticed later by myself and members of the philatelic brotherhood. It is unfortunate that so far no revised edition has appeared; nevertheless I sincerely hope that in a not far distant future some able student of the franks of the W. F. Co. will undertake this task, which would greatly help to popularize this important branch of U. S. philately.

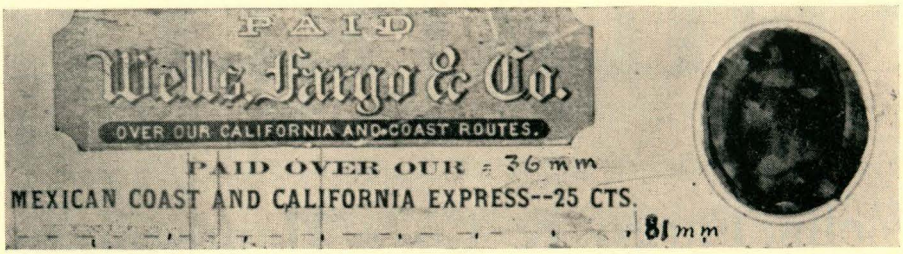
Now the chapter which preeminently needs a revision is that dealing with the franks of the W. F. Co. surcharged:

"PAID OVER OUR"
"MEXICAN COAST AND CALIFORNIA EXPRESS"

followed either by 25 CTS or 35 CTS.

Of course it had long been known that there existed varieties or different types of the 25 and 35 CTS surcharges, but no one had taken the trouble to study them, much less to develop a method for their identification. That these differences were caused by repeated resettings of the surcharges was equally an acknowledged fact. The real reason why no one had undertaken the task of classification may be ascribed to the relative scarcity of these covers and their high cost. Indeed, I doubt that even advanced collectors of the Wells Fargo & Co.'s franks possess more than half a dozen of the 25 and 35 CTS values in their collection. Consequently when in the preparation of the manuscript I arrived at the chapter dealing with the Mexican franks no choice was left me—they had to be classified and, this I found to be a rather vexatious problem despite the unusual number of covers which collectors and dealers had placed at my disposal. If I recall correctly the entire lot amounted to about seventy covers. After various trials I adopted a method of identification which is shown in the two tables PP73 and 74 of the "Fells Fargo & Co.'s Handstamps and Franks," giving nine types for the 25 CTS and twelve for the 35 CTS value. Although this method served to identify the various surcharges, later investigations, made with additional material, convinced me that it was too intricate for the average person, and that for this reason it ought to be simplified. No sooner had I started on the reexamination of these issues when other pressing duties

necessitated my abandoning the task. Thus many years passed before I could take up once more the broken threads. In the present paper I have embodied the result of my reexamination and feel certain that the new method, which is quite simple, will make the identification of the 25 and 35 Cts surcharges an easy task.



A cursory examination of the surcharges with 25 CTS chows that the "A" of "PAID" may stand either over the "A" of "AND" (see I-A), or to the left of "A" of "AND" (see II-C), or over the "T" of "COAST" (see III-I).

Again the "I" of "PAID" may stand either over the center of "N" of "AND" (see I-B), or to the left of "N" (see II-C), or over the "A" of "AND" (see IV-G). These differences prove conclusive'y various settings. There are similar striking differences in the position of other letters of the words in the first line relative to letters of words in the second line, all of which lend themselves well for a quick and accurate identification of the various types. Moreover the length of the first line of the 25 CTS value may be either 36-37-or 41 mm., that of the second line 80-81-82-or 84 mm. Likewise the length of the first line of the 35 value may be either 36-37-or 38 mm., and that of the second line 80-81-82¾-or 83 mm.

For the identification of the Surcharges observe:

1. The length of the first and second line.
2. The position of "P" of "PAID" relative to "T" of "COAST."
3. The position of "I" of "PAID" relative to "N" of "AND."
4. The position of "V" of "OVER" relative to "I" of "CALIFORNIA."
5. Note Special Features.

"25 CTS"

1st Division: First Line 36 mm. Second Line 81 mm.
2nd Division: First Line 37 mm. Second Line 81 mm.
3rd Division: First Line 37 mm. Second Line 84 mm.
4th Division: First Line 41 mm. Second Line 81 mm.
5th Division: First Line 41 mm. Second Line 82 mm.

Each division is then subdivided by observing:

"P" of "PAID" relative to "T" of "COAST." "P" over "T," or "P" between "ST."
"I" of "PAID" relative to "N" of "AND." "I" over center of "N," "I" to left of "N," or over "A" of "AND."
"V" of "OVER" relative to "LI" of "CALIFORNIA." Center of "V" over "I," or "V" to right of "I."

Special features are: Comma after EXPRESS, or *square dot after* CTS. Top of "P" instead of being a circle is contracted into a long slim oval (see CTS 25 V-I).

All measurements start from the vertical down stroke of a given letter, such as "P" or "M" etc.

| |

25 CTS

FIRST DIVISION

First Line 36 mm. Second Line 81 mm.



A—"P" of "PAID" over "T" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" over center of "N"
"V" of "OVER" over "I" of "CALIFORNIA"



B—"P" of "PAID" between "ST" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" through center of "N" of "AND"
"V" of "OVER" slightly to left of "I" of "CALIFORNIA"

SECOND DIVISION

First Line 37 mm. Second Line 81 mm.



C—"P" of "PAID" to right of "S" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" to left of "N" of "AND"
Special Feature: Very wide space between "PAID" and "OVER"

THIRD DIVISION

First Line 37 mm. Second Line 84 mm.



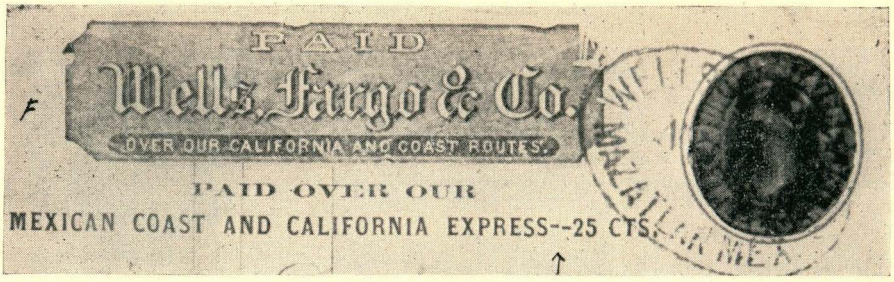
D—"P" of "PAID" over "T" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" through center of "N" of "AND"
"V" of "OVER" slightly to left of "I" of "CALIFORNIA"

Same Line Measurements



E—"P" of "PAID" over "T" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" to right of "N" of "COAST"
"I" of "CALIFORNIA" to left of "V" of "OVER"
Special Feature: Comma after EXPRESS

Same Line Measurements



F—"P" of "PAID" slightly to left of "T" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" to left of "N" of "AND"
"V" of "OVER" plainly to left of "I" of "CALIFORNIA"
Special Feature: The two lines after EXPRESS out of alignment.



G—Same as "F" but the two lines after EXPRESS are in alignment.

FOURTH DIVISION

First Line 41 mm. Second Line 81 mm.



H—"P" of "PAID" over "A" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" over "A" of "AND"
"V" of "OVER" to left of "CALIFORNIA"
Special Feature: Top of "P" instead of being circular is a small oval.
Squatty "O" of "OUR"

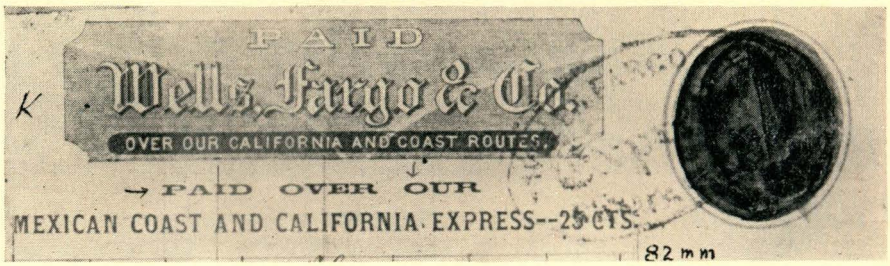
First Line 41 mm. Second Line 81 mm.



I—"P" of "PAID" over "A" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" over "A" of "COAST"
"V" of "OVER" far to left of "I" of "CALIFORNIA"
Special Feature: Same as in H.
Squatty "O" of "OUR"

FIFTH DIVISION

First Line 41 mm. Second Line 82 mm.



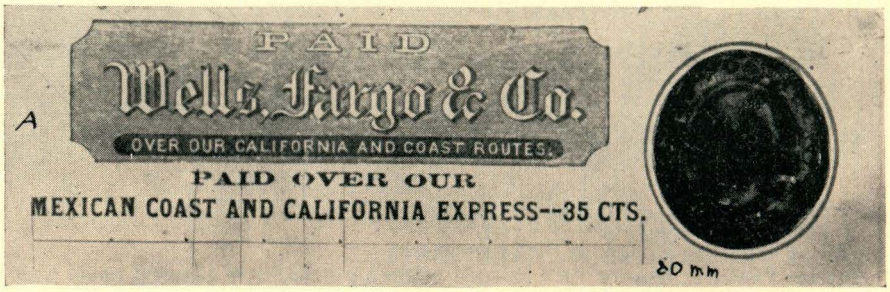
K—Top of "P" of "PAID" an elongated, slim oval
"P" of "PAID" to left of "A" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" over "A" of "AND"
"V" of "OVER" far to left of "I" of "CALIFORNIA"

---

35 CTS.

FIRST DIVISION

First Line 36 mm. Second Line 80 mm.



A—"P" of "PAID" over "S" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" to left of "N" of "AND"
"V" of "OVER" to left of "I" of "CALIFORNIA"

First Line 36 mm. Second Line 80 mm.



B—"P" of "PAID" to left of "T" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" over center of "N" of "AND"
"V" of "OVER" slightly to right of "I" of "CALIFORNIA"

First Line 36 mm. Second Line 80 mm.



C—"P" of "PAID" to left of "T" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" to left of "N" of "AND"
"V" of "OVER" over "I" of "CALIFORNIA"

SECOND DIVISION

First Line 36 mm. Second Line 81 mm.



D—"P" of "PAID" over "T" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" over center of "N" of "AND"
"V" of "OVER" over center of "I" of "CALIFORNIA"

First Line 36 mm. Second Line 81 mm.



E—"P" of "PAID" to left of "T" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" to left of "N" of "AND"
Center of "V" of "OVER" to left of "I" of "CALIFORNIA"

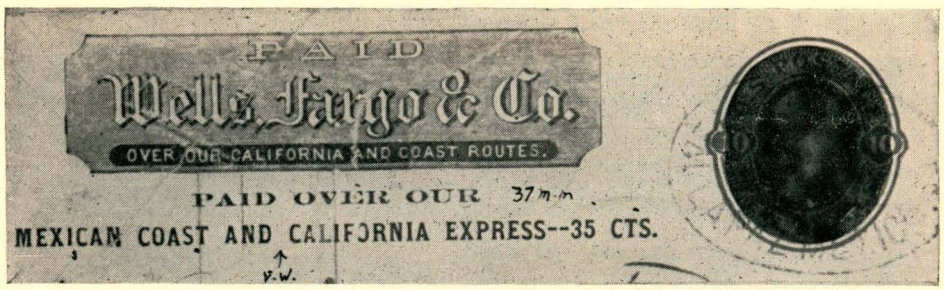
First Line 36 mm. Second Line 82 mm.



F—"P" of "PAID" over "T" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" over center of "N" of "AND"
Center of "V" of "OVER" over "I" of "CALIFORNIA"

THIRD DIVISION

First Line 37 mm. Second Line 83 mm.



G—"P" of "PAID" slightly to left of "T" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" to left of "N" of "AND"
"V" of "OVER" far to left of "I" of "CALIFORNIA"

FOURTH DIVISION

First Line 38 mm. Second Line 83 mm.



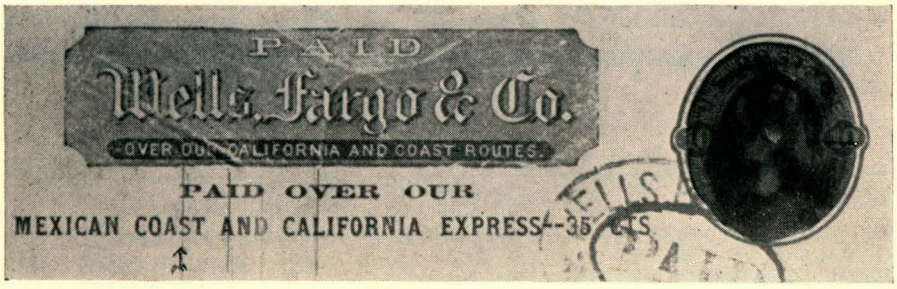
H—"P" of "PAID" between "ST" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" to left of "N" of "AND"
"V" of "OVER" far to left of "I" of "CALIFORNIA"
Special Feature: Square dot after "CTS"

First Line 38 mm. Second Line 83 mm.



I—"P" of "PAID" far to left of "T" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" to left of "N" of "AND"
"V" of "OVER" far to left of "I" of "California"
Special Feature: Small round dot after "CTS"

First Line 38 mm. Second Line 83 mm.



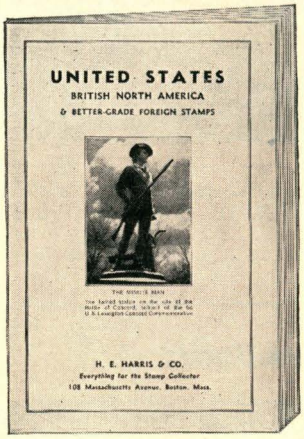
K—"P" of "PAID" over to left of "S" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" touches right side of "A" of "AND"
Center of "V" of "OVER" over "L" of "CALIFORNIA"
Special Feature: Wide open "S" of "COAST"

First Line 38 mm. Second Line 83 mm.



L—"P" of "PAID" between "AS" of "COAST"
"I" of "PAID" through center of "A" of "AND"
Center of "V" of "OVER" to left of "L" of "CALIFORNIA"

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The absolutely indispensable catalog for the collector of U. S. Bureau Precancels. A unique feature is the fact that all matter is printed on the left half of the page, leaving the right hand blank for memorandum.

ZUMSTEIN BRIEFMARKEN KATALOG, 1935. Publ. Zumstein & Co., Marktgasse 50, Bern, Switzerland. Price Fr. 3.75.

Zumstein and Company have just issued their 1935 Catalog of Europe, which includes Foreign Post Offices and German Colonies, with numerous very fine illustrations. New issues and prices ments are published monthly in the Berner Philatelic Journal. A very dehave been brought up to date. Supplesirable feature is the fact that it can be supplied in 12 different languages, English included.

THE REGENT PRICED CATALOG OF THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS. Publ. Robson Lowe, London.

Robson Lowe, Ltd., 93 Regent Street, London, England, has just published the 1935 Edition of the Regent Catalog, pertaining to the postage stamps of the British Commonwealth of Nations. The prices are brought up to date. Copies sold at $1.25 each.

CANADIAN PRECANCELS, by Antoine Lamothe. Publ. The Collectors Magazine, Quebec, Canada, 1934.

This is a booklet of 24 pages listing all Canadian Precancels, from 1918 to date of every known type. The Publisher will supply copies at 50 cents postpaid.

Canadian Locals

By WARREN K. HALE.

Baldwin's Railroad Post

"To threaten its life with a railway share,
To charm it with smiles and soap."

The Hunting of the Snark.

THIS misbegotten post was never properly christened. Its stamp, which normally should serve as a certificate of baptism, leaves us in doubt regarding the name intended for the child. The wording on the stamp indicates that Baldwin was the supposed proprietor of the post; or, optionally, that there existed or had existed a railroad named in his honor. It also suggests that the stamp was to be used for the prepayment of postage on matter carried by rail, but nothing more. Lacking any pronouncement by the godparents, I have adopted for the purposes of this article, a name corresponding as closely as possible with the inscription on the stamp.

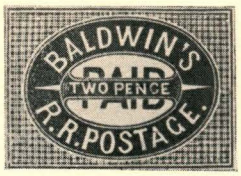
The sponsors themselves advertised the stamp simply as "Baldwin's Railroad Postage." They also referred to the "Proprietor" of "Baldwin's Railroad Postage," a confusion of words not acceptable in English speech. Other titles that have been gratuitously conferred upon the post are "Baldwin's Railroad," "Baldwin's Express" and "Baldwin's Railroad Express." The first of these cannot be approved, as the evidence is clear that, as originally conceived, there was no intention to feign the existence of such a railroad. The two latter names, however, have plausible excuses, although the word "Express" was not used by the sponsors in any of their published announcements. It will be noted that all of these names imply that the post, if it had had a legitimate status, would have been classified as an independent mail route and not as a *local* post, in the restricted meaning of the term.

In the Province of New Brunswick, the alleged domicile of the post, up to 1867 only two railways had been constructed and operated. The St. Andrews and Quebec Railroad Company, incorporated in 1836, had a line extending from St. Andrews to Richmond, a distance of 88 miles. This road later became a part the Canadian Pacific system. In 1853 construction was begun on the European and North American Railway; and by 1860 this railway was in operation between Saint John and Shediac, a distance of 108 miles. Subsequently it was taken over by the Intercolonial Railway, which now forms part of the Canadian National system. The records prove conclusively that in the year 1865, when the Baldwin stamp appeared, no "Baldwin's Railroad" existed or had existed in Upper or Lower Canada or in Nova Scotia; and in particular, no railway of such a name existed or had existed in the Province of New Brunswick. Of course, the possibility that a railway called "Baldwin's Railroad" had been incorporated, but not organized or operated, is not ruled out, despite the fact that a personal name for a railroad company is most unusual. However, as we shall see, the history of the stamp makes such an assumption both unwarranted and unnecessary.

In the month of May of the year 1865 two young men of the city of St. John (now "Saint John," officially) entered into copartnership under the style of Craig & Melvin. Edward A. Craig was a law student at the time, residing in Brittain Street and having a law office in the old Post Office Building. Robert J. Melvin lived at 38 Exmouth Street. The early advertisements of the firm announced that they were "Wholesale and Retail Dealers in British, American, Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps, Rare Coins, and Curiosities of all kinds."

They had offices in Princess Street and used for their mailing address P. O. Box 145, St. John, N. B.

Almost immediately they made plans for the production and distribution of what they called "an obsolete local of considerable rarity." To help this illusion, they chose for the denomination of the stamp "Two Pence," making use of a currency that had been obsolete in the province for five or six years.



Type I
Craig & Melvin



Type II
S. Allan Taylor

On June 1, 1865, Craig & Melvin advertised in the *Stamp Collector's Monthly Gazette*, published by George Stewart, Jr., at Saint John, to the effect that they were "Sole Agents" for the sale of "Baldwin's Railroad Postage." The advertisement concludes with the following statement:

"As our stock is rather limited, there being only a few extant, collectors had better send in their orders at once. The set of **fifteen varieties** we sell for $1.50 N. B. currency. Samples mailed on receipt of 25 cents."

It is evident that there was an unexpected delay in the fabrication of the stamps, for in the same periodical a month later Craig & Melvin had a second advertisement, headed with their slogan "PROMPTNESS IS OUR MOTTO," in which they made the following apology:

"We take this opportunity of thanking our many customers for their kind forbearance in waiting till we obtained a further supply of the **Baldwin's Railroad Postage**, and we would state that we will be prepared to accommodate them all, on the 15th of July, inst., having made fresh terms with the PROPRIETOR."

The reference to "fresh terms with the Proprietor" may be considered an inspired touch, the proprietor, in fact, being the firm of Craig & Melvin. In September, 1865, their customary advertisement includes the following sentence:

"WHOLESALE PRICE of **Baldwin's Railroad Postage** greatly reduced."

It would appear that the stock of this "obsolete local," of which there were "only a few extant," was not moving fast enough.

Craig & Melvin also attempted the publication of a small house organ of their own, called the *Stamp Argus*. This appeared monthly, but only five numbers were issued, the earliest being dated July 15, 1865. It carried advertisements of the Baldwin stamp similar to those in the *Monthly Gazette*. Taylor gave the *Argus* a flattering "reader" in his *Record*—after receiving the firm's advertisement. The *Argus*, said Taylor, was "decidedly the best stamp journal on this side the Atlantic."

November, 1865, saw the last of the brief operations of Craig & Melvin. Melvin, the silent partner and financial backer, had decided to leave Saint John. Craig, it seems, was not in a financial position to carry on and, furthermore, he was not in the best of health. The following "CARD" was inserted in the *Stamp Collector's Monthly Gazette:*

"Mr. Melvin, Proprietor of the late firm of Craig & Melvin, and of the monthly 'STAMP ARGUS,' being about to leave the city to reside elsewhere, has sold to me

the business of the late firm, and I would hereby announce that I am authorized to collect all debts due the late said firm, and am responsible for all debts due by them.
RIDGEWAY JONES
Box 45, P. O., St. John, N. B."

But Ridgeway Jones, we find, failed to clear all of Craig & Melvin's old stock. So, in February, 1866, Craig re-enters with the announcement:

"Mr. Jones having requested me to wind up his affairs in the timbrophilical way, I would announce that his large stock is selling at a great discount.
EDWARD A. CRAIG."

Craig and Melvin, the "two young gentlemen," as George Stewart, Jr. ironically called them, now step out of the picture and that international meddler, Samuel Allan Taylor, steps in.

Taylor moved from Albany to Boston in September, 1865, and just prior to the moving he purchased, at the "reduced wholesale price," 400 of the Baldwin stamps from Craig & Melvin. Then his troubles began, for the authenticity of the stamps was soon questioned. Taylor, resourceful, devised a scheme for changing the domicile of the post. As a starter, the following ingenious but hopelessly lame explanation was proffered a correspondent, real or imaginary. The name, "Gulliver," sounds suspicious and reminiscent.

"L. GULLIVER, **St. John.**—Yes, we will send you 300 copies of the **Gazette** every month for the cash you enclose. Baldwin's Railroad Postage are genuine. New Brunswick is in New Jersey, 20 miles from New York City. You of course know, or ought to know, that letters were never permitted to be carried by private individuals in British colonies."

The foregoing appeared in the *Stamp Collector's Record* of December, 1865. The next move, in January, produced:

"L. H. W., **Jersey City.** We explained i nour last that Baldwin's stamps were U. S. Locals, they have nothing whatever to do with the **province** of New Brunswick. The **pence** is explained very easily. At the time those stamps were current it was customary to count by pence, a penny being equivalent to a cent, but that relic of 'British connection' has since gone out of use and is now happily extinct. The stamp with the figure of Justice with scales and inscription **City Dispatch one cent delivery** is another of Baldwin's stamps."

It may be remarked in passing that, at that time, Taylor was still presumably a British subject, not being yet qualified to discard his "British connection." It was only a little more than a year since he had left Montreal, where he had lived for some time; and if perchance he was already a citizen of the United States, his absence from home during the then recent "unpleasantness" needs a word of justification not supplied by the records.

Taylor's advertisement of the stamp, reading:

"BALDWIN'S Railroad Postage (New Brunswick), 3cts. each."

continued from August, 1865, to June, 1866, inclusive. This phrasing would carry an impression to the general reader, it will be granted I think, that the stamp belonged to the Province of New Brunswick, though at the same time lending itself to the other possible interpretation. Incidentally, Taylor's explanation of the use of pence in New Jersey was an affront to the intelligence of his readers and the wild statement about the origin of that well-known local, the Philadelphia City Dispatch stamp, with the figure of Justice, was piling Pelion on Ossa.

Taylor not only purchased these stamps with a knowledge of their character, but during most of the year 1866 he ran a notice on the front page of the *Record*, which I have abbreviated as follows:

"Subscribers are requested to advise us of any fraudulent dealings on the part of any person who may have advertised in this paper. We would, however, state that we have NO POSITIVE INFORMATION that fraudulent dealing has in any case been practised by such advertisers."

The capitals are Taylor's. This, of course, was preparing the way for some measure of future protection. The defence would be that he, Taylor, had "no *positive* information" about the Baldwin stamps, and others of the same class.

On the 1st of March, 1866, came the "Exposé" by Stewart in his *Monthly Gazette,* entitled "A Timbrophilic Bubble Burst." In the same month, in his own house organ (which appeared currently on the 16th of the month), Taylor wrote a long and vituperative editorial about Stewart under the caption "*Multum in Parvo,*" which was the *Gazette's* adopted motto. He did not mention either Stewart or the *Gazette* by name. He dubbed Stewart's paper "The Blowhard" and Stewart was described as a "diminutive specimen of a blue nose" adapted to be one of "Barnum's Freaks of Nature" and as an editor with "a peculiar aversion to telling the truth where a falsehood would serve his purpose." He concluded with these words: "The statement of the Blowhard is a characteristic specimen of a spherical, downright, unblushing, barefaced, contemptible falsehood." The statement so blatantly denied was Stewart's charge that "Of these gems, four hundred were sold to S. Allan Taylor of Boston—as stamps that never existed." Naturally, the gems were not *sold* as stamps that never existed, however they may have been *bought.* Very probably Taylor made no enquiry as to their status and felt that, having "no positive information," he could plead ignorance and good faith. All of which is palpably feeble. And to be accurate, it was Taylor of Albany, and not Taylor of Boston, to whom the sale was made.

Then in April, Taylor resorted to a new artifice, notwithstanding that it would incriminate himself in respect of his previous actions in advertising and selling Craig & Melvin's stamps are the authentic issues of a local post. He made a new design of stamp, the "PAID" Baldwin, type II, illustrated it in his paper and characterized the earlier type as a forgery got up by Stewart (who had nothing to do with it, of course, except to expose it) and by Gregory, the engraver who made the original die for the first design. I quote a part of Taylor's lengthy announcement, once more placed under the motto "*Multum in Parvo,*" omitting most of the vituperation, which was again repeated.

> "The stamp with a locomotive in centre and inscription two pence, according to the best and most reliable authority, was got up by two dealers in stamps in New Brunswick, one of whom was no less a personage than George Stewart, Jr., an individual connected with the Blowhard, the other a certain wretch named Gregory whose friend and fellow-scoundrel Stewart was, and was worthy to be.
>
> "The stamp itself cannot strictly be called a counterfeit as it bears no resemblance to the original—an engraving of which we here present our readers."

The "reliable authority" cited, being Taylor himself, did not settle the matter and in June the fracas was still on. Stewart published a closing article on "The Bogus Baldwins," including a letter from the postmaster at New Brunswick, N. J., John T. Jenkins, denying knowledge of any Baldwin's Railroad Express. "There has been none," said Jenkins. Taylor, still on his feet, countered in the middle of the month and, after the inevitable heated introduction, finished the round with this:

> "Our aspiring young friend, having produced the certificate of a man 'who never heard of Baldwin's Express,' we produce the certificate of Mr. Baldwin himself, which it has caused us some little trouble to procure and which we conjecture will have some little weight in the matter."

This certificate, as printed, was merely a letter alleged to have been written by one H. Baldwin, dated at New York, June 9, 1866, and addressed to James M. Hunter, Esq., Boston. The body of the letter reads, in its essential part, as follows:

> "In the years 1847 and '48 I conveyed letters and packages between New York and various towns in New Jersey, including New Brunswick. I did issue a stamp of two or three different values, but I have not seen them in upwards of sixteen years, and have no idea of where any of them may be found."

With our knowledge of the man, it is only reasonable to conclude that Taylor invented this letter. He "lifted" the name "H. Baldwin" from Stewart's "Exposé." According to Stewart a certain H. Baldwin, some years previously, had had an express office on the line of the European and North American Railway, somewhere between Saint John and the Shediac oyster beds. It was this fact that suggested the name to Craig & Melvin for use on their stamps. Taylor, in the Baldwin letter, puts the alleged date of issue back to 1847, nineteen years, evidently in order to excuse the failure of the New Brunswick postmaster to remember the non-existent Baldwin's Express of New Jersey.

The price of Taylor's variant of the Baldwin stamp was immediately fixed at 1 cent per copy, a "cut rate." He continued to offer them for sale at this price for five years or more, including in the first few advertisements the words "warranted genuine." He then conceived a more subtle appeal to human psychology, which he embodied in a notice that was run continuously as late as May, 1868, and which is typical of Taylor's methods. This notice reads:

> **"Baldwin's Railroad Postage,** (genuine), one cent each, three varieties.
> **"Baldwin's Railroad Postage,** (N. B. manufacture), **single copies gratis."**

A few biographical notes will complete the story.

Edward Allison Craig died in San Francisco, August 26, 1870, at the early age of twenty-five years. Taylor was loyal and wrote a eulogistic obituary for the *Record.*

George Stewart, Jr., was an auctioneer and commission merchant. He published and edited the *Stamp Collector's Monthly Gazette* as a side line, and also dealt in stamps. The first number of the *Gazette* was issued June 1, 1865; and in June, 1867, after the printing of Number 24, Stewart abandoned the stamp business and the publication was discontinued. As in *Stalky & Co.,* one can now imagine Taylor dancing down the corridor, yodelling: "Ti-ra-la-i-tu! I gloat! I gloat! Hear me gloat!" Yielding to the urge for self-expression, he launched a final lampoon; at the top, a bold-faced "REQUIESCAT," and at the bottom of the column, as an epitaph, an italiziced quotation from Stewart's facetious, and perhaps immortal, reply to a correspondent: "Of course it is just the easiest thing in the world to edit a stamp journal. All you have got to do is to try it."

Thomas Gregory was a well-established engraver and die-maker of Saint John.

The firm of J. & A. McMillan did the printing of the stamps for Craig & Melvin. This printing establishment was founded in 1822 and still carries on at 98 Prince William Street, Saint John, under the style of J. & A. McMillan, Limited. No information has been obtained regarding the printing of Taylor's variety.

In 1871, in the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine,* London, W. Dudley Altee listed the post as fictitious, without comment; Coster did the same in his book in 1882.

In the following check-list, the fourth variety, 2d. purple on white wove, type I, is not recorded by Stewart. However, it has been reported by Melville, and the writer also owns a copy of this variety. It does not seem to belong to the McMillan first printing, in which were used just three colors of ink on five colors of paper. Each of these different papers was used, presumably, to print 300 stamps. And of the five lots of paper, each was again divided for printing the stamps in the three colors of ink adopted, red, blue and black; thus making a final output of 1500 stamps, 100 of each variety. This would leave no room for the stamp in purple ink. A second printing of type I seems to be indicated, either in Saint John or by Taylor in Boston, if he managed to get hold of the die or plate, as he frequently did in such cases. An alternative hypothesis is that the purple stamp was in the nature of a trial printing or essay, preceding

the 1500 lot, but not reported by Stewart. This fourth variety seems no more common than any of the others; all are scarce.

The third color variety, as listed, of Taylor's series of three, type II, has not been traced, assuming it exists. But his variety on green paper appears to be rather the most common of all the Baldwin stamps.

Check List

Type I. (Locomotive) Craig & Melvin. Gregory. McMillan. Saint John.

1865				
July	2d. red	on white wove	(S)	(H)
	2d. blue	on white wove	(S)	(H)
	2d. black	on white wove	(S)	
	2d. purple	on white wove	(M)	(H)
	2d. red	on gray, glazed, surface colored	(S)	(H)
	2d. blue	on gray, glazed, surface colored	(S)	
	2d. black	on gray, glazed, surface colored	(S)	
	2d. red	on green	(S)	
	2d. blue	on green	(S)	
	2d. black	on green	(S)	
	2d. red	on yellow	(S)	
	2d. blue	on yellow	(S)	
	2d. black	on yellow	(S)	
	2d. red	on blue (slightly greenish), light glaze, colored through	(S)	(H)
	2d. blue	on blue, glazed, colored through	(S)	
	2d. black	on blue, glazed, colored through	(S)	

Type II. (PAID) S. Allan Taylor. Boston.

1866				
Jan.-Apr.	2d. black on pale green, colored through		(T)	(H)
	2d. black on dull rose, colored through		(T)	(H)
	2d. ——— on ———		(T)	

The varieties marked (S) and (M) have been listed by Stewart and Melville, respectively. Those marked (T) were advertised by Taylor without description as to color or paper. Varieties personally examined are marked (H).

All stamps of both types were issued imperforate. All specimens examined have been without gum and uncancelled.

References

Les Postes Privées des Etats-Unis d'Amérique, Coster; Brussels, 1882; p. 5.
Phantom Philately, Melville; London, 1923; p. 26.
Stamp Collector's Monthly Gazette, St. John, N. B.; 1865, I-1, p. 4; I-2, p. 8; I-4, p. 16; 1866, I-10, p. 57; II-13, p. 4.
Stamp Argus, St. John, N. B.; 1865, I-1, p. 2.
Stamp Collector's Record, Boston; 1865, New Ser., 7, p. 4; 11, p. 1; 1866, 2nd Yr., 13, p. 3; 15, p. 2; 16, pp. 2, 3; 18, pp. 2, 3; 1870, (IV) 38, p. (3).

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The United States Postage Stamps of the 20th Century

By Beverly S. King and Max G. Johl.

TWO CENT STAMPS GROUPED

#554—Two Cent, Red. Washington. No Wmk. Perf. 11.

Issued January 15, 1923.

Unlike most of the other values this denomination was not issued on a date that had any historical significance. It had been hoped to withhold it until Washington's birthday, February 22, but it was found that the Bureau was approaching the final production from the old plates and it became necessary to use the new design. The official notice dated January 12, 1923, from the office of W. Irving Glover, Third Assistant Postmaster General, notified postmasters and other officers and employees of the Postal Service "that this stamp was to be issued in sheet form on the 15th of January, at the Washington, D. C., Post Office, and at the Philatelic Agency." They were not issued to consumers until a later date when the available supply of the old design had become exhausted.

The head of George Washington, after Houdon's bust, was again used for the vignette of this stamp. The engraving was done by E. M. Hall, J. Benzing and E. Myers, of the Bureau. The same frame was used as in the lower value except for the change of name on the ribbon and the denomination.

This stamp remained in use for over two years although a ten perforation rotary press stamp was issued a year later, partially supplanting it. The distribution of this latter variety was not general for some time after having been first issued, and a very large quantity of flat plate two cent stamps were delivered to Postmasters before being entirely replaced.

In the early part of 1925 the Bureau issued flat plate stamps with a different spacing in an effort to overcome waste in perforating. The change was in the horizontal gutter between the stamps and increased the spacing to slightly over 3mm while the previous ones were the usual 2¾mm. The difference is so slight that collectors today pay scant attention to these wider spaced blocks. However, we believe these should be given recognition as a minor variety. Plate number blocks from these plates should be especially desirable.

Four plates, 16656—57—58—59, were made for experimental purposes, though these plates carried no special mark. On most of the succeeding varieties, however, a "star" was added, so that pressmen would not put narrow and wide spaced plates on the same machines, as it was necessary in perforating that the machines be specially set for the proper spacing and a mixed package would increase the waste.

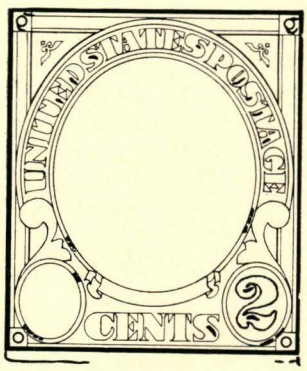
Unlike the earlier star plates this star appeared only once on each sheet of four hundred and then always on the upper right pane. This, however, was the only item that was uniform as there were various kinds of stars and they were in various positions in relation to either number on this pane. Generally the star was five pointed, being placed on the plate first with a punch and later cut

on the pantograph. On the early plates the star appeared in front of the top number but later it was placed at the side below the number. There were also differences in the size of the stars. A small five pointed star appeared only on plate 16758, and was placed in front of the plate number. There were ten plates with a large six pointed star on top but only one plate with this type of star at the side. The other plates had five pointed stars, either at the side or on the top. This makes a very interesting specialization possible with certain varieties already very difficult to obtain, as the majority of collectors paid them scant attention and few were saved.

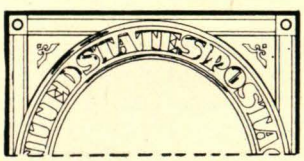
In the early part of 1924 a block of twenty (two horizontal rows of ten) were found from plate 14689, imperforate horizontally. This block had the plate number at the right, it was blue penciled and had been intended for destruction at the Bureau but had accidentally been packed up with satisfactory sheets and delivered to postmasters. A short time later a full one hundred subject pane was found as well as several smaller blocks and as a result this variety is more numerous than any other part perf except 538a and 539a of which there were one hundred sheets of 170 subjects of each denomination. A small quantity was also found imperforate vertically.

Shades: Pale carmine, light carmine, carmine, deep carmine.

Varieties: a: Plate number blocks.
A—Number only.
B—Small five pointed star—top.
C—Large five pointed star—top.
D—Large five pointed star—right side.
E—Large six pointed star—top.
F—Large six pointed star—right side.
b: Imperf horizontally.
c: Imperf vertically.
d: Double Transfer.
Stamp #28 of upper left pane of plate #14129 shows the double transfer as illustrated.
Another double transfer, position unknown, shows entirely in the upper part of the design. (Illustrated.)



Double Transfer
14129 UL #28



Double Transfer
Position Unknown



Defective Transfer
17334 UL #6

e: Defective Transfer.
17334 U.L. 6 shows the entire left inside frame line decidedly lighter. (Illustrated.)

Plates used:

14074—75, 76, 77, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93
14100—02, 03, 05, 06, 07, 08, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 30, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 51, 52, 53, 54, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 77, 78, 79, 80, 85, 86, 87, 88, 95, 96, 97, 98
14211—12, 13, 14, 25, 26, 27, 28, 58, 59, 60, 61, 77, 78, 79, 80
14300—01, 02, 03, 07, 08, 09, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 44, 45, 46, 47, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 96, 97, 98, 99
14400—01, 02, 03, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 96, 97, 98
14500—01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 55, 56, 57, 58, 75, 76, 77, 78
14620—21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 36, 37, 38, 39, 44, 45, 46, 47, 56, 57, 58, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99
14700—01, 02, 03, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93
14800—01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 20, 21, 22, 23, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39
14922—23, 24, 25
15247—48, 49, 50, 81, 82, 83, 84
15306—07, 08, 09, 24, 25, 26, 27, 36, 37, 38, 39, 54, 55, 56, 57, 62, 63, 64, 65, 76, 77, 78, 79, 88, 89, 90, 91, 94, 95, 96, 97
15402—03, 04, 05, 24, 25, 26, 27, 33, 34, 35, 36, 45, 46, 47, 48, 57, 58, 59, 60, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 81, 82, 83, 84, 93, 94, 95, 96
15501—02, 03, 04, 14, 15, 16, 17, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99
15602—03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 12, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 96, 97, 98, 99
15700—01, 02, 03, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 26, 27, 28, 29, 36, 37, 38, 39, 48, 49, 50, 51, 70, 71, 72, 73
15812—13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 34, 35, 36, 37, 42, 43, 44, 45, 50, 51, 52, 53, 64, 65, 66, 67, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 96, 97, 98, 99
15904—05, 06, 07, 12, 13, 14, 15, 32, 33, 34, 35, 69, 70, 71, 72
16095—96, 97, 98, 99
16100—01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 40, 41, 42, 43, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 57, 58, 59, 60, 65, 66, 67, 68, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 97, 98, 99
16200—05, 06, 07, 08, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 53, 54, 55, 56, 58, 59, 60, 61, 66, 67, 68, 69, 72, 73, 74, 75, 80, 81, 82, 83, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99
16314—15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 25, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 71, 72, 73, 74, 83, 84, 85, 86
16407—08, 09, 10, 17, 18, 19, 20, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 39, 40, 41, 42, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 97, 98, 99
16500—01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 18, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 80, 81, 82, 83
16630—31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 50, 51, 52, 53, *56, *57, *58, *59, 97, 98, 99
16700—13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 59, 60, *62, 89
*17111—*18, *50

Small five pointed star at left of top plate number of upper right pane:
16758

Six pointed star at left of top plate number of upper right pane:
16741—61, 87
17107—09, 17, 24, 79, 87, 88

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*New gauge No star.

Large five pointed star at left of top plate number of upper right pane:
16763—64, 85, 86, 90, 91, 92
17108—10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 53, 54, 63, 64, 65, 66, 80, 81, 82, 90, 95, 98

Large five pointed star below side plate number of upper right pane:
16788
17189*—97
17207*—09, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 43, 44, 45, 46, 55, 56, 57, 58, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 86, 87, 88, 89, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99
17300—01, 02, 03, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99
17402—03, 04, 05, 89, 90, 91, 92
17534—35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99
17602—03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 29, 30, 31, 32, 45, 46, 47, 48, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 76, 77, 78, 79, 87, 88, 89, 90, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99
17700—01, 02, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, †22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 88, 89, 90, 91, 94, 95, 96, 97
17802—03, 04, 05, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 48, 49, 50, 51, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 74, 75, 76, 77, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97
18167—68, 69, 70, 75, 76, 77, 78, 97, 98, 99
18200—03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28

Six pointed star below side plate number of upper right pane:
17196

Plates not finished:
14273—74, 75, 76
14499
14659
14728
17208
17729
18333—34, 35, 36, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 61, 62, 70, 71, 72, 81, 82
18422—23, 28, 29, 30, 31, 53, 54, 67, 68

Star plates not printed from: (below side plate # U. R. Pane)
18229—30, 36, 37, 38, 39, 55, 56, 57, 58, 63, 64, 65, 66, 79, 80, 81, 82
18307—08, 09, 10, 19, 20, 21, 22, 31, 32

#554—Two Cent, Carmine, Booklet. Washington. Flat Plate. No Wmk. Perf. 11.

Issued February 10, 1923.

The stock of two cent booklets of the previous design became exhausted long before the one cent and the first combination booklets contained this stamp in conjunction with the one cent of the earlier design. This variety was in general use before the sheet stamps of the new designs.

It remained current for over three years until replaced by perforated 10 rotary press booklet panes and panes are fairly common in all position varieties. It was only printed from 360 subject plates.

Shades: Carmine, deep carmine.

Varieties: a: Usual 360 subject position panes—see #552.

*On the plate proofs of #17189 and 17207 the number is above the side plate number while on the issued stamp it is below it.
†Plate proof shows star above. No issued copy known probably below.

Plates used:

14181—82, 83, 84, 99
14200—01, 02, 07, 08, 09, 10
14418—19, 20, 21, 62, 63, 64, 65, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91
14934—35, 37, 74, 83, 84, 85, 86
15255—56, 57, 58, 89
15414—15, 16, 17
15505—06, 07, 08, 22, 23, 24, 25, 58, 59, 60, 61, 76, 77, 78, 79
15724—30, 31, 32, 33, 90, 91, 92, 93
15804—05, 06, 07
16085—86, 87, 88
16146—47, 93, 94, 95, 96
16288—90, 91
16306—07, 08, 09, 18, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 29
16592—93, 94, 95
16600—01, 02, 03, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24
16705—06, 07, 08, 73, 74, 75, 76
17475—76, 77, 78, 83, 84, 85, 86, 94, 95, 96, 97
17880—81, 82, 83, 86, 87, 88, 89
17910—11, 12, 13, 27, 28, 29, 30, 41, 42, 43, 44, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58
18259—60, 61, 62, 97, 98, 99
18300—73, 74, 83, 84, 85, 86
18400—01, 08, 09
18521

Plates not used:

14936
16144—45
16289
18410—11, 51, 52, 65, 66, 84, 85, 86, 87, 90, 91, 94, 95
18501—02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 22, 23, 24

#599—Two Cent, Carmine. Washington. Rotary Press Coil. No Wmk. Perf. 10 Vertically. Coiled sidewise.

Issued January 9, 1923.

We have placed this variety ahead of some of the others which have lower catalog numbers as these stamps were issued before any of the others including the flat plate perforated 11 sheet stamps. The great increase in the demand for sidewise coils of this value depleted the supply at the Bureau before any of the others and although the Department had intended to issue this variety at the same time as the sheet stamps it became necessary to issue them to Postmasters January 8, 1923, and they appeared on sale the following day.

The rotary press printed coils perforated ten had been found satisfactory in the previous series and no change was made in making this variety. They continued to be printed from 170 subject plates curved sidewise, with a line after each seventeenth stamp.

The request for an additional plate number on the coil plates at the time the "coil waste" was being issued in sheet form was also adopted for this stamp and plates starting with No. 19748 had a number below stamp No. 170, the last stamp in the bottom row. On off centered coils the star and number appears above the first stamp to the right of the joint line and the number only below the stamp to the left of the joint line. Because of slight variation in the position of the star above stamp No. 1 it frequently does not appear on the off center coils even though a large part of the number can be seen.

Where the two plates meet a crevice is formed which receives ink and shows as a line after every seventeenth stamp. This is known as the joint line. Where the two plates do not meet evenly but are sufficiently close the space between is filled with tin foil. This frequently results in a double joint line caused by ink filling both sides of the tin foil stuffing. These are somewhat scarcer than the ordinary joint line pairs but are far from scarce.

In 1930 a new die was prepared using transfer roll No. 1455 of the current two cent design. In making the new die from the old transfer roll some touching up of the lines was necessary before transfer roll No. 1512 was made. Careful study by numerous collectors have failed to show any difference in the stamps made from earlier numbered plates and those known to have been prepared from the new die. The first coil plates to be made from the new transfer roll were No. 19682—83—84—85—86 and it may be assumed that all later plates were made from the new die. At about this time the Bureau had decided to enter the rotary press stamps sidewise instead of endwise, that is with the largest side parallel to the axis of the transfer roll, and it is most likely that the new die was prepared especially for making the new transfer roll.

This change in the manner of rocking in these stamps also effects the position of the shifted transfers. In the earlier method the "shifts" were at the top or bottom of the design and in the later ones the shifting would be to the right or left of the side frame and shading lines. A little more care must therefore be taken in classifying plate varieties of this issue. The rule of a shift being always outward remains unchanged, however, now being to the right on the right side and to the left of the other side, that is for stamps that are higher than they are wide.

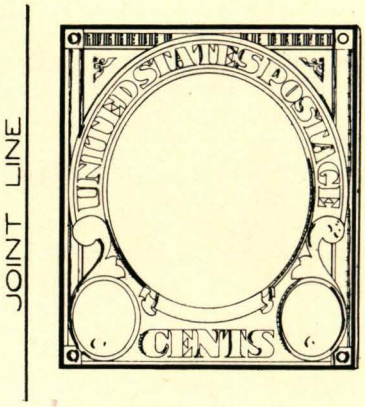
George B. Sloane in *STAMPS* reported a retouched eye on the third stamp of Plate No. 14731. This has to date only been found on the "coil waste" perf. 11x10 and 11x11 but should exist on this coil for which the plate was made. The crossed lines of shading on the temple back of the eye and the upper part of the cheek are unusually prominent and certainly appear to have been strengthened. The pupil of the eye and the outline of the lower lid are emphasized, the entire area standing out much bolder and in much deeper color than the rest of the design. In the coil this would be the third stamp to the right of the joint line.

Shades: Carmine, bright carmine, deep carmine.

Varieties: a: Usual sidewise coil varieties.
b: Retouched eye. (Illustrated.)



Retouched Eye
14731 #3



Double Transfer
Stamp to Right of Joint Line

c: Double transfer.
The stamp to the right of a joint line shows an eastward double throughout the entire design. (Illustrated.)

d: Defective Transfer.
The fifth stamp to the right of a joint line shows the inside frame line defective in the lower left corner.

e: Plate Flaw.
Gash in the first "S" of "STATES" on the second stamp to the left of a joint line. (Illustrated.)

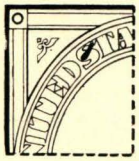


Plate Flaw

f: Double joint lines.

Plates used: Star and number over #1.

14098—99
14109—10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 26, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 47, 48, 49, 50, 73, 74, 75, 76
14203—04, 19, 20, 37, 38, 47, 48, 49, 66, 67, 89, 90, 91, 92
14304—05, 11, 12, 40, 41, 42, 43, 58, 59, 68, 69, 72, 73, 84, 85
14416—17, 34, 35, 56, 57
14517—37, 38, 47, 48, 53, 54
14664—65, 66, 67, 80, 81, 82, 83
14704—05, 06, 07, 30, 31, 32, 33, 54, 55, 56, 57, 66, 67, 76, 77, 94, 95
14864—65
14914—15, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 29, 44, 45, 58, 59, 70, 71, 79, 80
15003—04, 15, 16, 33, 34, 51, 52
15141—42
15392—93
15406—07, 18, 19, 41, 42, 43, 44, 49, 50, 51, 61, 62, 63, 64, 73, 74, 75, 76, 85, 86, 87, 88, 97, 98, 99
15500—21, 30, 31, 32, 33, 40, 41, 42, 43, 64, 65, 66, 67, 80, 81, 82, 83, 88, 89, 90, 91
15600—01, 16, 17, 18, 19, 38, 39, 64, 65, 66, 67
15824—25, 26, 27, 38, 39, 40, 41, 46, 47, 48, 49, 68, 69, 70, 71, 88, 89, 90, 91
15908—09, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30, 31, 36, 37, 38, 39
16161—62, 63, 64
16203—04, 19, 20, 30, 64, 65, 84, 85
16300—01, 02, 03, 95, 96, 97, 98
16411—12, 21, 22, 23, 24, 35, 36, 37, 38, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86
16509—10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 25, 42, 43, 44, 45
16676—77, 82, 83, 84, 85, 95, 96
16725—26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36
16809—10, 21, 22, 23, 24
17271—72, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 90, 91
17306—07, 16, 23, 24
17502—03, 04, 05, 10, 62, 63, 74, 74
17600—01, 33, 34, 35, 36, 62, 63, 64, 65, 74, 75, 91, 92
17703—04, 13, 14, 15, 16, 74, 75, 76, 77, 92
17800—01, 06, 07, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 46, 47, 52, 53, 58, 59, 72, 73, 78, 79
17902—03, 04, 05, 73, 74, 75, 76, 81, 82, 85, 86, 87, 88, 91, 92, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99
18000—01, 02, 04, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 40, 41, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 55, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 88, 90, 91
18100—02, 03, 04, 05, 28, 29, 41, 42, 47, 48, 71, 72, 73, 74
18244—45, 53, 54, 71, 72, 91, 92, 93, 94
18303—04, 05, 06, 15, 16, 23, 24, 29, 30, 39, 40, 41, 42, 53, 54, 66, 67, 92, 93
18402—03, 04, 05, 16, 17, 26, 27, 47, 48
19049—50, 51, 52, 90, 91, 92, 93
19102—03, 77, 78, 79, 80
19219—20, 23, 24, 29, 30, 31
19306—07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 67, 68, 69, 70, 86, 87, 88, 89, 94, 95, 96, 97
19450—51, 60, 61, 71, 72, 73, 74, 83, 84, 85, 86, 91, 92, 94, 99
19512—13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 24, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, 40
19682—83, 84, 85, 86, 87

Star and number over #1 number under #170:
19748—49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 81, 82
19814—15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 33, 36, 37, 42, 43, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 99
19900—01, 02, 09, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18, 23, 24, 39, 40, 60, 61, 70, 71, 74, 75, 82, 83, 84, 85, 92, 93, 96, 97
20002—03, 06, 07, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24
20118—19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 66, 67, 76, 77, 83, 84, 99
20200—07, 08, 23, 24
20301—02, 15, 16, 29, 30, 39, 40, 49, 50, 53, 54, 63
20777—78, 79, 80, 85, 86, 87, 88, 97, 98, 99
20800—07, 08, 09, 10, 57, 58, 59

Plates not used:
14137
14516
15452
15520
16229
17509
17793
18003—54
19498
19687
19832

#579—Two Cent, Carmine. Washington. Rotary Press Coil Waste. No Wmk. Perf. 11 Horizontally by 10 Vertically.

Issued February 28, 1923.

We have also placed this stamp out of its numerical sequence because the date of issue is of great importance in properly understanding the scarcity of this variety. It was issued a short time after the ordinary variety and no doubt before numerous Post Offices had placed the new designs on sale. There being little knowledge of the issuance of coil waste and as the horizontal perforations were the same as the flat plate stamps these were almost entirely overlooked and only a small supply saved. The scarcity of this variety is evidenced by the desirability of used as well as mint copies. Being coil waste they are usually poorly perforated, well centered copies, especially in blocks, are almost rarities.

These stamps were made from 170 subject sheets originally intended for sidewise coils but because of short lengths or minor defects were not so used and were issued in sheets of 100 and 70 subjects. They received the vertical 10 gauge perforation, while part of the long roll, and were then perforated 11 on the flat plate machines. The plate markings consist of a star and number, which appeared over the first stamp on the plate. Being curved sidewise on the plates the designs are wider than the flat plate stamps and the same height. Inaccurate perforation gauges might cause confusion between this variety and later issue perforated 11x10½, but a measure of the size should oversome this, as the later variety having been curved endwise is longer than this stamp and the flat plate issue and same width as the flat bed printing but narrower than this type of issue.

Shades: Carmine, deep carmine.

Varieties: a: Plate number blocks.
b: Recut eye #14731 #3—See #599.
c: Block of four showing joint line between.

Plates used:
14098—99
14109—10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 26, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 47, 48, 49, 50, 73, 74, 75, 76
14203—04, 19, 20, 37, 38, 47, 48, 49, 66, 67, 89, 90, 91, 92
14304—05, 11, 12, 40, 41, 42, 43, 58, 59, 68, 69, 72, 73, 84, 85

14416—17, 34, 35, 56, 57
14517—37, 38, 47, 48, 53, 54
14664—65, 66, 67, 80, 81, 82, 83
14704—05, 06, 07, 30, 31, 32, 33, 54, 55, 56, 57, 66, 67, 76, 77, 94, 95
14864—65
14914—15, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 29, 44, 45, 58, 59, 70, 71, 79
15003—04, 15, 33, 34, 51, 52
15142
15392—93
15419—49, 51, 61, 62, 63, 64, 73, 74, 75, 76, 85, 86, 87, 88, 97, 98, 99
15500—31, 32, 33, 40, 42, 64, 66, 67, 80, 82, 83, 88, 89
15601—16, 19, 39, 64, 67
15840—41, 47, 48, 49, 68, 69, 88, 89, 90, 91
15910—19, 20, 21

#595—Two Cent, Carmine. Washington. Rotary Press Coil Waste. No Wmk. Perf. 11.

Issued February 28, 1923.

This is another variety of coil waste, but unlike No. 579 it had not previously been perforated. These were therefore perforated both horizontally and vertically on flat bed machines especially set to take this type of sheet.

The total supply was very limited and as most dealers and collectors who had knowledge of their having been issued failed to obtain sufficient copies while current it has become exceedingly scarce. Many collectors failed entirely to notice this variety as the perforations were the same as the flat plate issue and the only obvious differences is in the width, as these were from sidewise coils. Furthermore most of the copies being very poorly centered they were used for postage and discarded.

To further limit the amount saved by philatelists the Bureau suddenly ceased issuing coil waste with scarcely any philatelic publicity. This change of policy was entirely due to the efforts of certain outstanding collectors who realized the hardship to the average collector, as the distribution was limited and the output small. They believed it to be carrying the program of economy too far and as such a reflection against the Government in the eyes of collectors all the world over. Alvin W. Hall, Director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, having been shown the attitude of collectors, gave instructions that all further coil waste be treated as such and be destroyed. This attitude on the part of the officials of the Bureau and Post Office Department again illustrates their high regard for philatelists.

This variety is the most desirable regularly issued two cent stamp in this group. Well centered copies, especially in blocks of four, are even scarcer than similar copies of No. 579. Like the other coil waste these were issued in sheets of 70 and 100 subjects, with the plate number and open star above the first stamp of the plate.

Shades: Carmine, deep carmine.

Varieties: a: Plate number blocks.
b: Recut eye #14731—#3. See #599.

Plates used:
14098—99
14109—10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 26, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 47, 48, 49, 50, 74, 75, 76
14203—04, 19, 20, 37, 38, 47, 48, 49, 66, 67, 89, 90, 92
14304—05, 11, 40, 41, 43, 58, 59, 68, 69, 73, 84
14416—17, 34, 35, 56, 57
14517—38, 47, 48, 53, 54
14664—65, 66, 67, 80, 81, 82, 83
14704—05, 06, 07, 30, 31, 33, 56, 66, 76, 94, 95
14864
14914—20, 21, 26

#577—Two Cent, Carmine. Washington. No Wmk. Imperf.

Issued March 20, 1923.

Certain types of vending and affixing machines made it necessary for the Department to issue imperforate stamps that could be made into privately perforated coils. There remained but one manufacturer of the "private perfs" and their needs were rather limited due to the increased use of Government coils as well as the elimination of stamps by the use of "metered mail."

The Philatelic Agency had this stamp on sale and a great part of those issued reached philatelic hands. The introduction of the three thousand subject coil in December, 1927 made the further issuance of imperforate stamps unnecessary and the practice was discontinued. The supply on hand at the Agency, however, remained on sale until depleted. The last imperforate stamps at the Agency were sold just prior to the close of the fiscal year of 1930.

Although this variety was on sale for more than seven years most collectors and dealers failed to fill their needs while the stamps were obtainable in spite of the publication in the philatelic press of the discontinuance of this type of issue with the introduction of the new coil. As a result this stamp, though far more common than the one cent of this series, is more desirable than the previous imperforate variety.

The star plates used for the perforated stamps were also used for some of the sheets of this variety. Only one type of star plate was used, however, that having the large five pointed star at the right. The issuance of imperforate star plate being considerably smaller than the other plate number blocks showing the star are more desirable than on the perforated copies. The Bureau issued 36,085,600 of these stamps, that is more than either of the other values and more than twice as many as the one cent.

Shades: Rose carmine, carmine, deep carmine.

Varieties: a: Usual imperf sheet varieties. (See One Cent #575).
b: Plate number blocks.
c: Star plate number blocks.

Plates used:

14177—78, 79, 80, 95, 96, 97, 98
14323—32, 34
14536
14759—60, 61, 63, 64, 88
14820—21, 22, 23, 70, 91
15019—25, 27, 28
15686—90
15836—43
15970—71
16096—97, 98, 99
16104

Star plates—Five pointed star below upper right plate number.
17608—77, 79
17731—40, 41, 42, 43, 46, 48
17875—76, 91
18197—98, 99
18200—06, 07, 08, 17, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28

#606—Two Cent, Carmine. Washington. Rotary Press Coil. No Wmk. Perf. 10 Horizontally. Coiled Endwise.

Issued December 31, 1923.

We have placed this stamp in its chronological rather than numerical sequence as it was issued several months before No. 583, in spite of its higher catalog number, which is more indicative of artistic album spacing than historical alignment.

The demand for endwise coils had been constantly growing smaller and there was no need of this stamp until almost a year after the sidewise coil had been of necessity issued in the new design. Like other endwise rotary press coils it was printed from 150 subject endwise plates with the resultant line after every fifteenth stamp. As in the one cent endwise coil a second plate number was added adjacent to stamp No. 10 on the later plates.

Shades: Carmine, rose carmine, bright carmine.

Varieties: Usual endwise rotary press varieties. (See one cent, #604.)

Plates used: Star and number next to #141.
14155—56
15193—94
15243—44, 45, 46
17570—71, 72, 73
18755—58
19286—87, 89
19371
Star and plate number next to #141 number next to #10.
20428—29

Plate not used: 19288

#583—Two Cent, Carmine. Washington. Rotary Press. No Wmk. Perf. 10.

Issued April 14, 1924.

The experiment tried of printing and precancelling the one cent stamps in one operation on the rotary press having been found successful as a labor saving method by which stamps could be produced at a smaller cost, it was introduced for this value.

In 1923 before the adoption of the rotary press for printing and precancelling this value the Bureau had for a while experimented with a method first tried in 1906(1) but for a different reason. A separate die was made in which the name "New York" was cut across the face. This was cut in very deep as it was felt that it would take up so much ink that it would appear almost black in contrast to the remainder of the design. This was not found to be as satisfactory as the rotary press method and abandoned. Two fifty subject plates, No. 14634—35, were made for precancelling "Chicago, Ill." in the latter part of July, 1923, but these were also disregarded.

Most of the earlier stamps of this variety were precancelled, those issued without an overprint were at first only sold at the Agency. It was not until early in 1926 that this variety had generally replaced the flat plate printings. The large quantity reaching philatelic hands through the Agency coupled with the low face value made this stamp less desirable than might be expected of a variety that was only in general use for about one year.

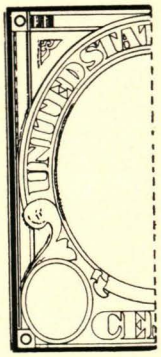
As might be expected of this type of printing various collectors have reported finding copies on "double paper." This is a roll "paste-up" of the ends of two rolls of paper. To give this "paste-up" sufficient strength so as not to tear apart on the machine this extends over a space equal to four to six stamps placed endwise. As a result these portions of the continuous lengths are "double paper" which is always horizontal to the design on rotary press sheet stamps which are curved and printed endwise. These are generally discovered by inspectors at the Bureau and seldom reach philatelic hands. The blocks or strips showing part on double paper and part single are more desirous than the ordinary double paper pairs of blocks, which in themselves are far from common.

(1) See introduction series 1902-03 Vol. I.

This variety was printed from both types of plates, the earlier ones having the horizontal guides in the vertical center gutter while the later ones had the short guide lines in the extreme ends of the horizontal and vertical gutters with a short cross in the center of the plate.

Shades: Rose carmine, bright carmine, carmine, deep carmine, dark carmine.

Varieties: a: Plate number blocks.
b: Double paper.
c: Inside marginal blocks showing horizontal guides.
d: Double Transfer.
The entire left side is doubled. Position unknown. (Illustrated.)



Double Transfer of Entire Left Side Position Unknown

Plates used:

Type A Marginal guides:
15412—13
15518—19, 34, 35, 62, 63
15610—11, 20, 21
15764—65
15900—01

Type B Marginal guides:
15802—03, 20, 21, 22, 23
15902—03
16262—63, 70, 71, 86, 87
16304—05, 13, 14, 15, 16
16463—64
16749—50
17273—74, 84, 85
17305—21, 22, 65, 66
17400—01, 73, 74, 98, 99
17500—01, 07, 08, 17, 18
17856—57
17914—15, 35, 36, 49, 50, 59, 60, 65, 66, 69, 70, 71, 72, 77, 78, 79, 80, 93, 94
18005—06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 42, 43, 44, 45, 56, 57, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 92, 93, 94, 95
18124—25, 39, 40, 61, 62
18231—32, 33, 34, 40, 41, 42, 43, 51, 52, 73, 74, 83, 84, 89, 90, 95, 96
18301—02, 17, 18, 29, 30, 37, 38, 43, 44, 51, 52, 55, 56, 63, 64, 68, 69,
18517—18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, 37, 48, 49, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93
18602—03, 04, 05, 10, 11, 16, 17, 20, 21, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61
18763—64, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 87, 88, 95, 96, 97, 98
18801—02, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 26, 27, 28, 29, 34, 35, 36, 37, 52, 53, 56, 57, 58, 59, 62, 63, 64, 65, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 95, 96
18901—02, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, 40, 43

Plates not used:
17304
18406—07
18536
18960—61
19012
19452

#583—Two Cent, Carmine. Washington. Rotary Press Booklet. No Wmk. Perf. 10.

Issued August 27, 1926.

In the early part of 1917 the Post Office ordered some curved booklet plates for use on the rotary presses but these were never finished and were finally cancelled in 1924. The saving in the cost of printing by rotary press over the flat plates being well recognized and the objections to rotary press printed stamps having been overcome it was decided to again experiment with this form of issue.

On July 22, 1925 the first of these curved plates, No. 17450—51, were certified but not immediately put to press. On May 13, 1926 two more plates, No. 18550—51, were certified. Both pairs of plates were first put to use June 9, 1926. These first four plates and the only ones used for these stamps were experimental to ascertain the correct plate set-up for proper printing of booklets from curved plates, and had a slightly wider spacing than those that followed.

The first plates had guide lines as on the 360 subject flat plates and all flat plate varieties exist from these except the plate number pane. On these plates the numbers appear only on the side as on the ordinary rotary press sheet stamps and on the booklets they were cut off in trimming the side margins while making individual panes. These two plates were used for making 31,895 sheets of 360 subjects and were then cancelled, (this figure does not include those spoiled.)

The other pair of experimental plates made 61,991 sheets of 360 subjects and then were also cancelled. The panes from these four plates especially those from the first two showing guide lines are even more desirable than those from later plates.

The rotary press booklet stamps being curved endwise on the plates are 22.5mm high in place of 21.5 for the flat plate stamps. This variety was only current for a very short time and almost entirely overlooked by collectors, most of them were not aware of their having been issued. This is the most desirable six subject booklet pane of the twentieth century and has been scarce almost since first issued. A complete set of position varieties from the first two plates would most likely be classed among the rarities of the twentieth century.

Shades: Carmine, deep carmine.

Varieties: a: Excepting plate number pane, usual 360 subject varieties from two plates only.
b: Ordinary panes.
c: Off centered pane showing plate number at side.

Plates used:
With guide lines
17450—51
Without guide lines
18550—51

#634—Two Cent, Carmine. Washington. Rotary Press. No Wmk. Perf. 11 by 10½.

Issued December 10, 1926.

The users of stamps as well as postal clerks had for some time complained about the difficulty of separating the perforated 10 stamps and the Bureau recognizing the truth of these complaints had for some time been experimenting with a new type of perforator to increase the cut section between stamps. The old method had required considerable strength in the perforated sheets so that they would not fall apart. This new machine which is known as the bar

and wheel type, reduced the tension on the perforator and made it possible to increase the horizontal perforations to eleven and the vertical to 10½. Previous experience with perforation 11 vertical on rotary press stamps had been found unsatisfactory and this compromise between ten and eleven was found neither too strong nor too fragile.

As in 1915 (No. 461) the new perforation was first tried on the two cent stamp. It was first issued at Washington, D. C., on December 10, 1926. Twenty million copies were also sent to New York for a practical test by postal clerks and large users of this denomination. This variety proved entirely satisfactory to these distributors and consumers and it was adopted as standard for all further issues of rotary press sheet stamps.

In 1930 a block of twenty-five from the upper right pane of plate No. 18959 with plate number attached was found in which the upper two and a half horizontal rows were on double paper and the balance were ordinary. This block is of great interest as it clearly indicates the pressure extended by the breaker rolls which help keep the sheets flat. On the section covered by the double paper the breaker bars have cracked the surface of the stamp while on the other copies these bars are only obvious on the back. In the latter part of 1930 a horizontal block of twenty was found showing plate No. 19930 in which there was a double horizontal row of perforations between the two rows of ten stamps with the balance of the pane normal. One sheet was found in which one pair was imperforate between and is the only one of this type of perforation error ever found on the rotary press stamps. A block was also found with a full vertical gutter between two pairs caused by a fold over when the four hundred subject sheets were cut into post office panes. These too are very rare.

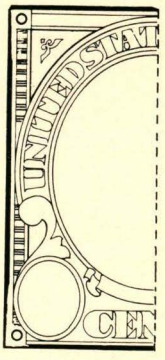
The new die that was mentioned under No. 599 (2 Cent sidewise coil) was first used on plates Nos. 19644—45—19744—45—47 and 48 and most likely also on the later plates. This new die was no doubt made for sidewise rocking in of the design and resulted in the shifts on these and later plates to be at the sides instead of the top or bottom.

Shades: Pale carmine, bright carmine, carmine, deep carmine.
Varieties: a: Plate number block, side only.
b: Double paper.
c: Double perforations.
d: Vertical pair imperf between.
e: Block with vertical gutter between.
f: Shifted transfer. Left inside frame line doubled outward.
g: Defective transfer Plate #19951 LR #99. The upper left corner is weak with many of the lines incomplete. (Illustrated.)
Defective transfer of lower right corner. 19989 L.R. #66. (Illustrated.
Defective transfer of the left inside frame line. 20234 L.L. #50. (Illustrated.) There are numerous other defective transfers in the corners.

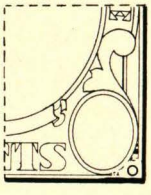


19951 LR 99

20234



LL #50



19989 LR 66

DEFECTIVE TRANSFERS

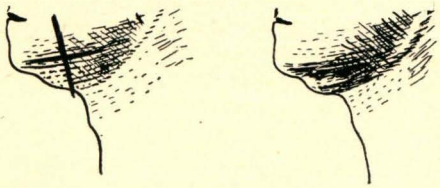


Plate Flaw Recut

20234 LL #58

h: Recut chin #20234 LL #58. Lines on chin and neck recut. (Illustrated.) This was recut to remove gash on chin. (Illustrated.)

Plates used: Type B marginal guides:

18043—44, 61, 95
18139
18231—32, 34, 43, 84
18368—69
18517—20, 29, 84, 86, 88
18610—11, 16, 17, 20, 21, 28, 29, 30, 33, 55, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61
18763—64, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 87, 88, 95, 96, 97, 98
18801—02, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 26, 27, 28, 29, 34, 35, 36, 37, 52, 53, 56, 57, 58, 59, 62, 63, 64, 65, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 95, 96
18901—02, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 59, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96
19009—10, 11, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 43, 44, 45, 46, 53, 54, 55, 56, 59, 60, 70, 71, 74, 75, 80, 81, 86, 87, 94, 95
19107—08, 09, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 57, 58, 59, 60, 65, 66, 67, 68, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 95, 96, 97, 98
19203—04, 05, 06, 09, 10, 11, 12, 21, 22, 27, 28, 32, 33, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 50, 51, 52, 53, 58, 59, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 84, 85
19304—05, 18, 19, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 98, 99
19400—01, 02, 03, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 46, 47, 48, 49, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82
19518—19
19644—45
19744—45, 46, 47, 92, 93
19810—11, 12, 13, 56, 57, 58, 59, 66, 67, 95, 96, 97, 98
19903—04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 11, 12, 15, 16, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 37, 38, 49, 50, 51, 52, 55, 56, 58, 59, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 86, 87, 88, 89, 94, 95, 98, 99
20000—01, 02, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 25, 26
20146—47, 50, 51, 54, 55, 78, 79, 85, 86
20201—02, 05, 06, 21, 22, 33, 34, 43, 44, 55, 56, 85, 86, 95, 96, 97, 98
20303—04, 21, 22, 31, 32, 41, 42, 47, 48, 51, 52, 82, 83
20529—30, 31, 32, 41, 42

Plates not used:

19012
19452

#634—Two Cent, Carmine. Washington Booklet Pane. Rotary Press. No Wmk. Perf. 11x10½.

Issued February 25, 1927.

The printing of booklet panes by the rotary press having been found satisfactory was continued. The change in the perforations for the sheet stamps

having been approved by the public was also introduced for booklet panes as they facilitated the ease with which single stamps could be removed from the panes.

These plates had no guide lines and the only positions obtainable are those containing plate numbers. These, however, are generally cut off in dividing the 360 subject sheets into panes of six. They are generally found to the left of the upper or lower left stamps. The right plate numbers are to the right of the upper or lower right stamp but are almost non-existent on the issued stamps as the right margin is generally the first to be trimmed in the making of booklet panes.

Shades: Carmine, bright carmine.

Varieties: a: Plate number panes.
b: Normal panes.

Plates used:
18662—63, 95, 96, 97, 98
18705—06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21
18842—43, 44, 45
19183—84, 93, 94, 99
19200—74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79
19314—15, 16, 17, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62
19404—05, 06, 07, 08, 09
19760—61, 62, 63
19834—35, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51
19962—63, 72, 73, 90, 91
20041—42, 96, 97
20100—01, 06, 07, 10, 11, 16, 17, 24, 25

#660—Two Cent, Carmine. Washington. Overprinted Kans. Rotary Press. No Wmk. Perf. 11x10½.

Issued April 16, 1929.

Like the one and a half cent stamp overprinted for use in Kansas this stamp was first used at Colby on April 16, 1929. As might be expected this value was issued in a larger quantity than any other, in fact more than all the others combined. There were several printings and twelve plates were used for these overprinted stamps, of which four plate numbers, No. 19273, 19430—31 and 19447 are scarcer than the others.

In spite of the large quantity issued only one pane was found showing the wide spacing between vertical pairs.

Shades: Carmine, bright carmine.

Varieties: a: Plate number blocks.
b: Pair with 31-32mm spacing between overprints.

Plates used:
19174—75
19273
19379—83, 84, 85, 98
19430—31, 36, 47

Quantity issued: 87,410,000

#671—Two Cent, Carmine. Washington. Overprinted Nebr. Rotary Press. No Wmk. Perf. 11x10½.

Issued April 15, 1929.

This stamp was first issued at Harlington, Nebr. on April 15, 1929. Like the two cent Kansas stamp this value was issued in a larger quantity than all others prepared for use in Nebraska. There was also only one worthwhile over-

print variety, the wide spacing. Only one pane was said to have been found.

Eight plates were used for printing these stamps but no plate number blocks have been found to be especially scarce.

Shades: Carmine, bright carmine.

Varieties: a: Plate number blocks.
b: Pair with 31-32mm spacing between overprints.

Plates used:
18990
19059
19204—05, 33
19378
19430—31

Quantity issued: 73,220,000

Quantities of two cent stamps, series of 1922, issued to Postmasters during the fiscal year ending June 30th:

	Ordinary	Ordinary Precancelled	Coil	Coil Precancelled	Booklets
1923	3,064,254	—	915,416,500	—	225,554,160*
1924	5,784,872,189	88,010,000	1,893,627,000	28,410,500	654,351,120†
1925	7,423,849,488	93,050,000	1,965,285,500	29,050,000	690,668,040
1926	8,685,780,100	60,140,000	2,314,750,500	14,767,500	918,936,480
1927	8,206,353,200	66,520,000	2,541,473,500	9,387,500	922,742,280
1928	8,513,540,580	58,390,000	2,840,726,500	15,970,000	978,428,160
1929	7,932,482,900	66,180,000	2,822,822,000	17,117,500	933,826,920
1930	7,560,560,600	69,840,000	2,693,188,000	16,245,500	921,248,520
1931	7,533,329,700	57,190,000	2,584,496,500	7,229,000	851,169,720
1932	3,125,241,000	34,530,000	1,849,518,000	8,138,000	616,671,000
1933	35,050,000	19,870,000	50,065,000	2,117,500	14,142,720
To Dec. 31, 1933	161,264,400	13,990,000	261,728,500	4,752,500	19,672,800

*1923: This includes 5,661,360 two cent stamps of series of 1922 issued in combination with one cent 1912.

†1924: This includes 7,874,640 two cent stamps of series of 1922 issued in combination with one cent 1912.

CONGRESSO FILATELICO INTERNAZIONALE, LUGANO, GIUGNO, 1934.

We have just received the program of the International Philatelic Congress at Lugano, June 22-25, 1934, and some of the Philatelic Societies which participated were: Swiss Philatelic Society, Federation Internationale de Philatelie, Der Internationale Postwertzeichen-Handler-Verein, etc. After the usual registration there were bourse and business meetings, followed by a number of entertainments including a Banquet at the Casino.

BRAUNSCHWEIG, Handbook No. 4, by Otto E. Stiedl, Publ. Fritz Billig, price 6 Austrian Shillings.

This handbook with the enlarged photographs shows very clearly the differences between the genuine and forged issues.

VRAAGBAAK DER PHILATELIE, published by De Philatelist, Postbus 897, Rotterdam, Holland. Price Fl. 2.75.

Under the above heading De Philatelist have reprinted 32 articles by 13 different specialists from their magazine.

These articles cover the whole range of philatelic interest and the book is printed on coated stock and illustrated with about 500 cuts. It is printed in Dutch.

UNITED STATES COMMEMORATIVE NOTES 1893-1934, Published by The Sun, New York.

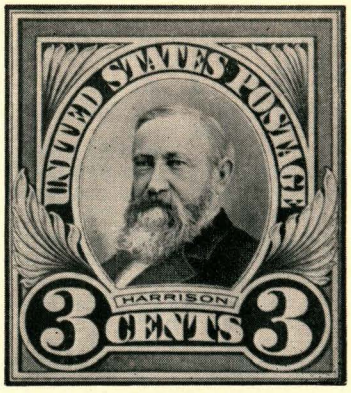
A pamphlet of 73 pages giving concise information of the various United States Commemoratives.

THREE CENT STAMPS GROUPED

#555—Three Cent, Violet. Portrait of Lincoln. No Wmk. Perf. 11.

Issued February 12, 1923.

The first design for the three cent stamp contemplated the use of a portrait of President Harrison, (illustrated) which had last appeared on the thirteen cent series of 1902. However, this was changed before the designs were approved and a portrait of Lincoln was used in the same frame as the lower values.



Early Design for 3 Cent Stamp.

Photograph of Original Drawing Not Used.

This stamp was first issued on the anniversary of Lincoln's birthday at Hodgenville, Larne County, Kentucky, the birthplace of the former President, and for the convenience of collectors also at the Philatelic Agency, Washington, D. C. The birthplace of the former President being an extremely small town there was a much smaller demand for first day covers than in almost any value, it having been reported by R. B. Thurman, the postmaster, that only 500 letters or packages were mailed the day of issue from his office bearing the new stamp. There are no known figures of first day covers from Washington but the number available in comparison to those from Hodgenville indicate the former to be far more common.

The origin of the portrait of Lincoln as described by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing is as follows: "One steel engraving was made in 1869 by an engraver of the Bureau whose name was not recorded. There is nothing on file to indicate the name of the photograph or painting from which the engraving was copied. In 1899 G. F. C. Smillie, a portrait engraver of the Bureau, made a small steel engraving of Lincoln following a photographic reduction of the original Lincoln portrait." This stamp was designed by C. A. Huston and engraved by J. Eissler and E. M. Hall, of the Bureau.

The original printing of this stamp was from plate No. 14297 which was the only one finished in time to have copies ready for distribution by February 12th. The first printing was in a bluish violet and is much scarcer than the later ones which had a more reddish cast.

Two star plates were made but none of these went to press. These had a five pointed star below the upper right side plate number. All stamps of this denomination issued from flat plates had standard spacing.

The rate of one and one half cents per ounce for third class mail which went into effect April 15, 1925, greatly increased the demand for this value for circulars weighing two ounces and it was issued in constantly increasing quantities in all varieties. The use of this value for "return receipt requested" on registered letters especially during the days of the stock market boom also greatly increased the usefulness of this denomination.

Shades: Bluish violet, violet, bright violet, deep violet, dark violet, reddish violet, bright red violet, deep red violet.

Varieties: a: Plate number blocks.

Plates used:

14296—97, 98, 99
14734—35, 36, 37
15171—72, 73, 74
15550—51, 52, 53
15725
16399
16400—01, 02, 73, 74, 75, 76
16666—67, 68, 69
16709—10, 11, 12, 69, 70
17921—22, 23, 24, 25
18120—21, 22, 23

Plates not used:

16771—72, 83, 84
17926
18149—50, 51, 52
18434—35, 36, 73, 74, 75

Star plates:

16781—82

#600—Three Cent, Violet. Lincoln. Rotary Press Coil. No Wmk. Perf. 10 Vertically. Coiled Sidewise.

Issued May 10, 1924.

This variety was not issued until more than a year after the flat plate sheets of the new design, as there was but little demand for this value, especially in coils. They were first placed on sale at the Philatelic Agency and were not generally distributed until some time later. The increase in postal rates in 1925 for third class mail effected the demand for this coil and they were issued in much larger quantities, especially precancelled.

In 1932 the first class rate was increased to three cents per ounce or fraction thereof and although a new three cent stamp was issued the increased demand for this value depleted all supplies of this coil. Before collectors became aware of their scarcity even the supply at the agency had become exhausted. It is therefore more desirable than any other coil in this group.

There is only one variety of importance on this stamp which fortunately is from the top row of a plate and has been found on offcenter strips showing plate number 18841. On the seventh stamp to the right of a joint line the top of Lincoln's head is very faint with almost no shading lines in the hair over the center of the head. This most likely was caused by a low spot on the plate.

Shades: Pale violet, violet, bright violet, deep violet.

Varieties: a: Usual sidewise coil varieties. (See 1 Cent #597.)
b: Defective transfer at top of head #7 plate #18841.

Plates used:

Star and number over stamp #1
14720—21
16425—26

17434—35
17906—07, 08, 09
18799
18800—07, 08, 38, 39, 40, 41

Plate number also below #170
20376—77

#584—Three Cent, Violet. Lincoln. Rotary Press. No Wmk. Perf. 10.

Issued August 1, 1925.

This was the last of the values below the six cent to be issued from rotary press plates. The demand for this value having increased, the less expensive and faster method of precancelling and printing was introduced.

As in the other values these were first perforated ten gauge and issued in 100 subject sheets precancelled. They were first obtainable only at the Philatelic Agency in mint condition. Those first issued to postmasters were precancelled, and were not in general use without precancelling until about a year after they had been placed on sale at the Agency for the benefit of stamp collectors and dealers. Though they were in general use for about a year and a half not as many well centered copies were saved by collectors as might have been expected and this variety is more desirable than those from the flat plates.

Shades: Light violet, violet, bright violet, deep violet.

Varieties: Plate number blocks, side only.

Plates used:
17155—56, 61, 62
17434—35
17511—12, 68, 69
17616—53
17898—99
17900—01
18114—15
18379—80
18439—40, 45, 46, 57, 58
18791—92
18803—04

#635—Three Cent, Violet. Lincoln. Rotary Press. No Wmk. Perf. 11x10½.

Issued February 3, 1927.

This was the first low value to be issued in this perforation after the success of the two cent so perforated had been established.

This stamp is of interest to the specialists because of the wide variations of shades of violet. As certain printings were entirely prepared for issue precancelled there is one scarce shade, a pale lilac that is not known to exist except in this condition. Another printing which was used for issue in mint form appeared in a light violet, which is somewhat darker than the precancelled stamp but much lighter than any of the others. Only a small supply of this shade was saved and it is the most desirable of the lot.

In July 1932 the first class rate was increased to three cents per ounce and in anticipation of the increased demand for this value a larger quantity was issued during the fiscal year of 1932 than any other year while this design was in use in spite of the large quantity of this value of the Bicentennial issue and the three cent 1932 design, which were also issued. The following year the balance of the stock at the Bureau was shipped to postmasters and soon disappeared

from post office stocks. During the first half of the fiscal year of 1934 (July 1 to Dec. 31, 1933) no Lincoln stamps were available for shipment and this stamp became scarce as there was no supply in the hands of dealers or collectors.

As February 12, 1934 would be the 125th anniversary of Lincoln's birth there was a strong demand for this stamp for use on covers to be mailed on that day. At the insistence of collectors for this stamp the Postmaster General ordered the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to re-issue this stamp which had been supplanted as the current issue by the three cent Stuart portrait of Washington, and on January 20, 1934, it was officially announced that the Lincoln stamp would be re-issued. All old plates having been cancelled it was necessary that two new ones be prepared, being numbered 21185-86.

These new stamps first appeared February 7th, and as there was no advance notice few "first day covers" were prepared. These, however, would be of doubtful value as there is no marked difference between these stamps and the earlier issue except that the share is somewhat deeper yet not sufficient to be a positive identification of the re-issue.

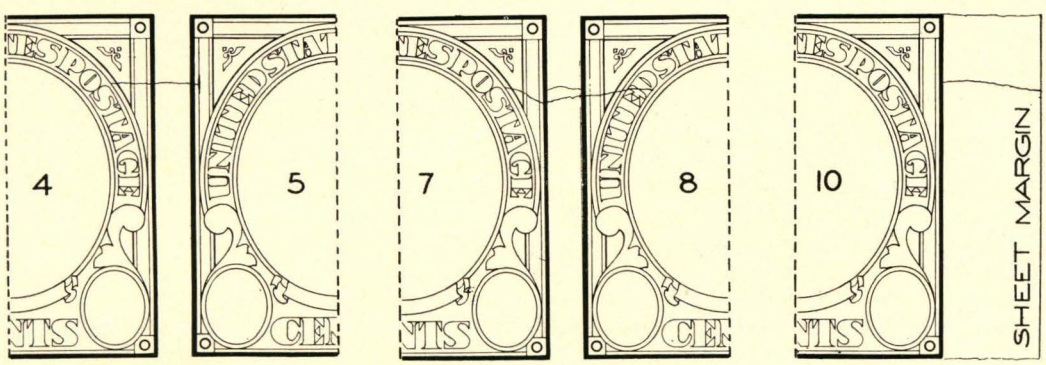
Immediately after the stamps from the new plates had appeared cracks were reported on the top row of the upper left and right panes. These were the first examples of gripper slot cracks found on this issue.

Only a small printing was made from the new plates and plate number blocks from these are more desirable especially since they are the only positive evidence of the re-issue.

Shades: Pale lilac, (precancelled) light violet, violet, reddish violet, deep reddish violet, dark violet (re-issue).

Varieties: a: Plate number blocks, (side only.)

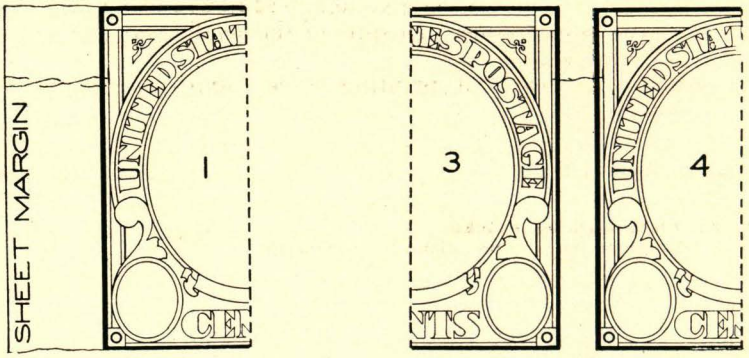
b: Cracked plate.
21185 UL Stage I Faint crack 7-8
Stage II Faint crack 4-5 and 7-8 (Illustrated.)
UR Crack to left of # 1 (Illustrated.)
Crack 3-4 (Illustrated.)



Lincoln Re-Issue Cracked Plate

Upper Left Pane

Plate 21185

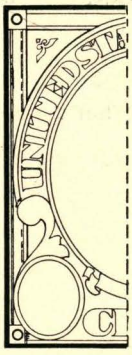


Lincoln Re-Issue Cracked Plate.

Upper Right Pane

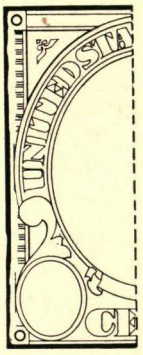
Plate 21185

c: Shifted Transfer at left. Position unknown (Illustrated.)
d: Defective Transfer at left. Position unknown (Illustrated.)



Shifted Transfer at Left Position Unknown

Defective Transfer at Left Position Unknown



Plates used:

18115—26, 27
18379—80
18439—40, 45, 46, 57, 58
18791—92
18803—04, 30, 31, 32, 33
19096—97, 98, 99
19111—12
20432—33
21185—86 (re-issue.)

#661—Three Cent, Violet. Lincoln. Overprinted Kans. Rotary Press. No Wmk. Perf. 11x10½.

Issued April 16, 1929.

Like the two lower values this was also first issued at Colby, Kansas, on April 16, 1929.

There was little call for this value and it was issued in a much smaller quantity than any of the lower values. In spite of the small issue one pane was found without the overprint on one row.

Three plates were used for printing these stamps, of which 18804 is the scarcest.

Shades: Violet, deep violet.

Varieties: a: Plate number blocks.
b: Vertical pairs, one without surcharge.

Plates used:

18126
18803—04

Quantity issued: 2,540,000

#672—Three Cent, Violet. Lincoln. Overprinted Nebr. Rotary Press. No Wmk. Perf. 11x10½.

Issued April 17, 1929.

Two towns share the first day honor for this stamp. It was first issued April 17, 1929 at Auburn and Exeter, Nebraska.

The issue for use in Nebraska was even smaller than for Kansas, yet in spite of the small issue both possible types of overprint varieties were found, one pane was found without an overprint on one row and on another pane was found the wide spacing (32mm.) between vertical rows.

Only two plates were used for printing these stamps. These two were also used for the Kansas stamps.

Shades: Violet, bright violet.

Varieties: a: Plate number blocks.
b: Vertical pairs one without surcharge.
c: Vertical pairs 31—32mm. between overprint.

Plates used: 18803-04

Quantity issued: 2,110,000

Quantities of three cent stamps issued to Postmasters, as reported by the Director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, for the fiscal years ending June 30th:

	Ordinary	Ordinary Precancelled	Coil	Coil Precancelled
1923.....	115,100	—	—	—
1924.....	76,012,589	—	807,000	—
1925.....	151,082,888	—	10,566,500	—
1926.....	178,159,300	107,030,000	26,508,000	24,720,000
1927.....	159,864,600	83,680,000	36,382,000	23,825,000
1928.....	157,594,700	82,520,000	17,622,500	9,730,000
1929.....	148,768,400	73,020,000	17,490,000	13,462,500
1930.....	146,311,300	89,080,000	18,049,500	13,697,500
1931.....	140,803,200	66,080,000	12,261,500	17,005,000
1932.....	341,608,400	58,910,000	268,745,500	11,282,500
1933.....	133,466,200	13,800,000	90,659,000	4,010,500
To Dec.31,1933	—	—	—	—

FOUR CENT STAMPS GROUPED

#556—Four Cent, Brown. Martha Washington. No Wmk. Perf. 11.

Issued January 15, 1923.

After a lapse of almost fifteen years Martha Washington, to "commemorate the pioneer womanhood of America," again appeared on one of our postage stamps. In this series, however, she was placed on the four cent stamp in place of the eight cent, which no longer served the special purpose of registry, and was so afforded a higher tribute. In spite of this more prominent position Martha Washington was replaced less than ten years later by another portrait, the first of this series to be changed.

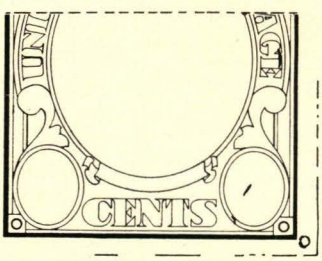
The portrait of Martha Washington was engraved by L. S. Schofield, E. M. Weeks, E. M. Hall and L. Kaufman, of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, after a painting by Gilbert Stuart. The frame design is the same as the other values except that the numerals "4" appear in the ovals in both lower corners with the name "Martha Washington" on the ribbon below the portrait. This stamp, as well as the one-half cent, are the only designs in thie series where the surname of the subject appeared on the stamp. Issued the same day as the two cent stamp it was first placed on sale at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., as well as at the Agency. It did not, however, have general circulation until some months later.

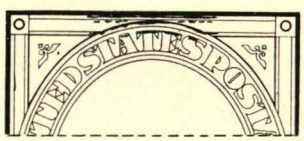
This stamp was first issued in a deep yellow brown shade, but before being replaced by the rotary press printing it had appeared in numerous variations of the reddish brown cast. The stamps from the first printing are more desirable than any of the others, followed by the light brown, which was also generally overlooked.

As in the three cent value several star plates were made but these never went to press. The plates were all of the standard spacing with two plate numbers to each one hundred subject pane.

Shades: Yellow brown, deep yellow brown, light brown, brown, light reddish brown, reddish brown, bright reddish brown.

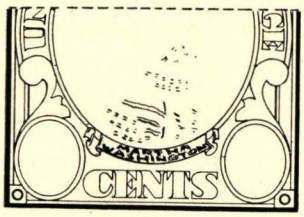
Varieties: a: Plate number blocks.
b: Horizontal pair, imperf between, (Only one pair known.)
c: Double Transfers. Positions unknown. (Illustrated.)





DOUBLE TRANSFERS

Positions Unknown



Shifted Transfer
Position Unknown

d: Shifted Transfer. Upward displacement. Position unknown. (Illustrated.)

Plates used:

14094—95, 96, 97
14796—97, 98, 99
15085—86, 87, 88
15219—20, 21, 22, 51, 52, 53, 54
15526—27, 28, 29
16211—12, 13, 14
16335—36, 37, 38, 67, 68, 69, 70

Plates not used: Star plates

17157—58, 59, 60

Ordinary plates

18084—85, 86, 87
18153—54, 55, 56
18469—70

#601—Four Cent, Brown. Martha Washington. Rotary Press Coil. No Wmk. Perf. 10 Vertically. Coiled Sidewise.

Issued August 5, 1923.

It was almost six months after the issuance of this design of the four cent in sheet stamps before the supply of the old issue of sidewise coils was depleted and this stamp was of necessity issued.

The four cent stamp in coil form was in great demand and was issued in constantly increasing quantities. Unlike the three cent the demand was much greater for mint copies than those precancelled. This was mainly due to the one and a half cent rate for third class mail, which made this value of little use for mailing circulars in quantities, for which pre-cancelled stamps were generally used.

The large demand for this value necessitated numerous printings and this coil is found in a wide range of shades, with yellowish brown and the deep reddish brown more desirable, though none are scarce. These being curved sidewise on the plates are wider than the flat plate stamps. A line appears after every seventeenth stamp.

Shades: Yellowish brown, pale brown, brown, reddish brown, deep reddish brown.

Varieties: Usual sidewise rotary coil varieties. (See One Cent #597.)

Plates used:

14189—90
14294
14321
17937—38, 39, 40

Plates not used:

14295
17983—84
18618—19, 24, 25
18819—20

#585—Four Cent, Brown. Martha Washington. Rotary Press. No Wmk. Perf. 10.

Issued April 4, 1925.

The demand for this value in precancelled stamps which could be made at considerable saving by the rotary press brought about its introduction in mint condition. The precancelled stamps were issued during the early part of March 1925 and for the benefit of stamp collectors uncancelled copies were placed on sale at the Agency April 4th. The original intention was not to issue these for general use to other post offices, but the need of increasing the production at the Bureau without more help, as well as the efficiency of this method of production soon led to their being issued for general use in place of the flat bed plate stamps.

This stamp, though current for a little over two years, was in general use for only about half of this time and collectors failed to obtain sufficient copies while they were current and a much smaller quantity was saved for philatelists than might be expected from the large quantity issued.

This stamp is especially interesting to specialists because of the numerous distinct shades current at different times. One printing of this value resulted in a very dark brown which is entirely different than any other. In spite of the marked difference in color few collectors gave it any special attention and it is much more desirable than any of the others.

Shades: Yellow brown, deep yellow brown, pale brown, light brown, reddish brown, deep reddish brown, brown, very dark brown.

Varieties: Plate number blocks (side only.)

Plates used:
16079—80
16660—61
17436—37
17738—39, 60, 61
17989—90
18083
18365

#636—Four Cent, Brown. Martha Washington. Rotary Press. No Wmk. Perf. 10x11½.

Issued May 17, 1927.

The rotary press sheet stamps were satisfactory to the Bureau and the Post Office Department but the postal clerks and users of the mails found the ten perforated sheets too hard to separate. Their complaints led to experiments which brought about a new method of perforating which allowed a setting of 11 gauge for the horizontal and 10½ for the vertical perforations. This having been found satisfactory for the two cent, as heretofore noted, it was adopted for all of the lower values as soon as the supply on hand at the Bureau of the perf 10 sheets became exhausted.

This variety remained in use until 1930 when a new design was substituted. It is famous for the tremendous variations in the shades of brown, which though difficult to list as distinct colors, are sufficiently different to satisfy an ordinary collector interested in shade variations.

As is likely in all rotary press printings a sheet of 100 was found in which the stamps in the bottom row were entirely on double paper, while the row immediately above it was partly double paper and the remainder on single paper. This double paper no doubt also covered the upper rows of the sheet which had been below it on the roll as well as the other pair of sheets that would be in

similar position on the remaining width of the paper roll. Though this is a likely variety few are ever found and this smoll lot constitutes the only ones known to have reached philatelic hands.

Shades: Pale brown, light brown, brown, deep brown, dark brown, yellowish brown, light reddish brown, reddish brown, deep reddish brown.

Varieties: a: Plate number blocks, side only.
b: Double paper.
c: Part double paper.

Plates used:

17761
17989—90
18038—39, 82, 83
18365

Plates not used:

18480—81
18793—94
18805—06
19147—48, 55, 56, 69, 70

#662—Four Cent, Brown. Martha Washington. Rotary Press. Overprinted Kans. No Wmk. Perf. 11x10½.

Issued April 16, 1929.

This value too was first issued at Colby, Kansas, on April 16. There were no worthwhile varieties reported on this stamp although there were over 600,000 more than overprinted for use in Nebraska.

Shades: Brown, deep brown.

Varieties: Plate number blocks.

Plates used: 18038—82

Quantity issued: 2,290,000

#673—Four Cent, Brown. Martha Washington. Rotary Press. Overprinted Nebr. No Wmk. Perf. 11x10½.

Issued April 17, 1929.

This stamp was first used on April 17, 1929 at Pawnee City, Ravenna, and Wohoo, Nebraska.

In the four cent stamps prepared for use in Nebraska one pane was found with a spacing of 32mm. between overprints instead of the usual 22mm.

In spite of the much smaller quantity of four cent stamps overprinted for Nebraska than for Kansas these are no more desirable.

Shades: Brown, deep brown.

Varieties: a: Plate number blocks.
b: Vertical pairs 31-32mm. between overprints.

Plates used: 18038—82

Quantity issued: 1,600,000

Quantities of four cent, Martha Washington, series of 1922, issued to Postmasters, as reported by the Director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, for the fiscal year ending June 30th:

	Ordinary	Ordinary Precancelled	Coils	Coils Precancelled
1923.....	37,477,400	—	—	—
1924.....	223,318,289	23,209,500	—	—
1925.....	230,148,488	26,510,000	26,432,500	—
1926.....	208,142,600	53,630,000	31,514,500	10,467,500
1927.....	198,814,500	43,140,000	43,072,000	4,097,500
1928.....	214,311,200	34,180,000	34,743,500	4,752,500
1929.....	215,871,800	38,350,000	41,053,000	5,822,500
1930.....	208,441,500	34,320,000	41,831,000	6,655,000
1931.....	19,587,000	—	9,234,500	—
1932.....	2,493,000	—	105,000	—
1933.....	—	—	200,000	—
TOTAL.....				

#685—Four Cent, Brown. William Howard Taft. Rotary Press. No Wmk. Perf. 11x10½.

Issued June 4, 1930.

The policy adopted by the Post Office Department to honor former Presidents, especially those of recent date, and the issuance of a memorial stamp for President Harding in 1923 made it inevitable that a suggestion be made to issue a memorial stamp in memory of the former Chief Justice and ex-President William H. Taft a short time after his death.

As early as April 10, 1930, the Post Office Department had decided to issue a stamp bearing his likeness, their plans, however, were not for a special stamp but that the new subject would replace one of the values then in current use.

It was finally decided to replace Martha Washington on the four cent value in favor of Taft. This was due mainly to the plans then under discussion to use her portrait on the contemplated Washington commemorative series to be issued in 1932. Furthermore, to forstall complaints from women's clubs throughout the country the Department called attention to the use of Martha Washington's portrait on the reply portion of the two cent business postal card.

The portrait of Taft is after a photograph by Harris & Ewing. It was engraved by J. Eissler, E. M. Hall and J. C. Benzing of the Bureau. The frame is the same as that used for the other low values and differs from the other four cent only in the subject and the changed name on the ribbon. After some discussion it was finally decided to use the same color ink as had previously been used. On May 13th the Postmaster General approved the die proof of the new design and on the 19th the Third Assistant Postmaster General announced that the new stamp would be issued on June 4, 1930. The location of and date of first issue is of especial significance, Taft having been born June 4, at Cincinnati, Ohio.

The new design is not as attractive as could be expected as the head is much too large for the size of the vignette. The absence of a dark background, however, greatly helps to improve its appearance.

The use of flat plates for all values below the eleven cent having been discontinued several years before, this design was only issued in sheet form from rotary press printings. As all sheet perforating machines for this type of printing had been changed to 11x10½ this variety was the only one issued.

Shades: Brown.

Variety: a: Plate number blocks, side only.

Plates used:

20136—37, 40, 41, 72, 73, 74, 75
20203—04, 45, 46, 57, 58, 87, 88, 99
20300

#687—Four Cent, Brown. Taft. Rotary Press Coil. No Wmk. Perf. 10 Vertically. Coiled Sidewise.

Issued September 18, 1930.

The available supply of four cent sidewise coils of the previous type (Martha Washington) were becoming depleted and the Bureau issued this coil at the Philatelic Agency at a date previously set which allowed collectors to arrange for first day covers rather than wait until these stamps were of necessity issued. The general use of this coil did not take place for some time and it was not until the end of 1930 that many of the New York Post Offices offered them for sale.

As was usual in sidewise coils these were printed from 170 subject plates with the resultant line after each seventeenth stamp. These had a star and number over the first stamp and a number below the last (No. 170).

Shades: Brown.

Variety: a: Usual sidewise rotary press varieties. (See One Cent #597.)

Plates used:

20134—35, 42, 43
20279—80, 89, 90
20359—60, 61, 62

Quantity of four cent, Taft, Series of 1930, issued to Postmasters for the fiscal years ending June 30th:

	Ordinary	Ordinary Precancelled	Coils	Coils Precancelled
1930.....	7,715,000	1,930,000	—	—
1931.....	184,729,800	31,020,000	24,185,000	8,272,000
1932.....	83,154,900	18,430,000	24,611,500	4,935,000
1933.....	4,774,900	9,260,000	2,507,500	597,500
To Dec.31,1933	26,781,500	2,900,000	805,000	—
TOTAL.....				

(To be continued.)

SUPPLEMENT TO THE COMMONWEALTH SPECIALISTS CATALOG, 3rd Ed. 1932. Published by Orlo-Mith & Co., Melbourne.

A pamphlet of 8 pages containing the addition to the original catalog.

GESCHICHTE DER LUFTPOST, Dr. H. W. Gewande, Published by Schaubek-Buecherei, Leipzig. Price 1.50.

Schaubek-Buecherei have published their second book, numbered 3/5 under the above title. It contains 144 pages giving information as to the developments of airpost throughout many countries. It is well illustrated with 47 cuts and 20 maps and is interesting as well as instructive.

SAMMLUNG RUSSISCHER LANDSCHAFTSMARKEN IN REICHSPOST-MUSEUM. Cataloged by C. Schmidt, Berlin.

We are indebted to Carl Schmidt, Berlin-Lichterfelde, Germany, for a copy of the above book covering the Russian Local Stamps which are in the Berlin Post-museum.

The book contains the most complete listing of the stamps which we have seen. They are all very well illustrated and described in German.

STAMPS OF UNITED STATES SPECIAL DELIVERY, F. R. Durant, 275 So. Vinedo Ave., Pasadena, Calif. Price 25c.

A pamphlet of 8 pages, covering briefly but fully all the data on the Special Delivery issues.

The Collectors Club Philatelist

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ADVERTISING RATES UPON REQUEST

Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1927, at the Post Office at Federalsburg, Maryland, under Act of March 3, 1879.

THE SEASON OF 1934-35

The coming season in the *Collectors Club* should prove to be one of the most active that we have had for many years. The club as a whole is more and more becoming the rendezvous of members who find it a convenient place to make appointments or to spend a spare hour. A growing number are making use of the Library and we hope to encourage this condition so that the *Collectors Club* will be the logical meeting place of the members. Our out-of-town members are particularly invited to make it their headquarters when in the city as it is a very conveneint point from which to operate.

During the coming year we must give considerable thought to the question of a permanent home. Our present lease will expire on the 1st of May, 1935, at which time we must provide additional income for increased rent or secure other quarters. Possibly the time has not yet arrived for us to actually endeavor to seeure a permanent home but the matter should be constanly agitated so that when the time does arrive we will be in a position to bring it to a successful conclusion.

Definite plans should also be made for the creation of an Expert Committee, which was discussed at our last session. The desirability of such a committee cannot be questioned and the *Collectors Club* is the logical organization to establish and maintain work of this kind.

Individual members of the *Collectors Club* are in the forefront of every activity tending to promote philately and the Club itself should take a more active interest in national and international affairs.

With the beginning of this new season, active plans will soon be under way for the organization of the *1936 International Stamp Exhibition* to be held in New York.

THE INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION TO BE HELD IN 1936

While this will be under the auspices of the *Association for Stamp Exhibitions, Inc.,* the membership of that organization and the *Collectors Club* is so interwoven that the work cannot help but radiate around the Club.

The 1936 Exhibition can undoubtedly be made one of the most important from the standpoint of the stamps on display of any previous attempt and the growing interest of philately in this country should set new records for attendance.

Members of the *Collectors Club* will be kept fully informed of developments in connection with this Exhibition for we are counting on the fullest cooperation from every member to make it an outstanding success.

The Postmarks of Baden

By Abr. Odfjell.

ACCORDING to a decree of May 1st, 1851, only black ink could be used for cancellations on the stamps of Baden, but a later decree of July 1st, 1852, permitted the use of other colors. Following this, on June 16th, 1857, instructions were issued that only ink from the Postal Supply Department, Karlsruhe, should be used. It was therefore legal to use colored ink for five years. However, only 45 postoffices are known to have used blue ink, and 25 postoffices used red ink. As a general rule blue and red postmarks are found only on the imperforate issues of 1851-53 and 1858, although blue cancellations are met with occasionally on the 1860-62 issues.

The Postmarks of Baden may be divided into the following groups:

The ring number postmark	—Ringstempel.
Postmarks in horizontal lines	—Langstempel.
The circular postmarks	—Kreisstempel.
Railroad postmarks	—Eisenbahnstempel.
The cogwheel postmarks	—Uhrradstempel.
Subpostoffice postmarks	—Postablagestempel.
Various cancellations	—Sonstige Stempel.

Ring Number Postmarks: A decree dated April 22nd, 1851 specified that all stamps should be cancelled with a numbered ring postmark. (See illustrations Nos. 1-4.) There also exist in Baden two essay postmarks—"5 rings 150" and "8 ring 164," which were tried before the Baden postage stamps were issued, on the stamps of Bayern, Prussia and Austria, so that the Postal Authorities could decide which postmarks they preferred. As the figures in the 8 ring stamp were small, the imprint was indistinct and many times undecipherable. The 5 ring stamp was therefore supplied to nearly all the postoffices, receiving the numbers in alphabetical order. No. 150 was given to the village of Waghausel. Some postoffices did not receive the ordinary "5 ring stamp." Nos. 24 and 87 have a 5 ring stamp, but the outer ring has sawteeth. No. 164 had both a "5 ring stamp" as well as a "one ring stamp," with and without sawteeth. No. 177 has one ring with sawteeth. The figures in the "one ring stamp" of 164 and 165 are to be found in different sizes. It is most likely that some of these last named stamps were originally prepared as samples. Postoffice dated cancellations ——— o ——— (Bezirkentwertung) were first placed in use on the 1862 issue.

Langstempel: The earliest of these is the one line stamp used by the postoffice long before postage stamps were issued. It is to be found with various types of letters and in various sizes—later with the date. The stamps are rectangular in shape with straight or wavy frames. The wavy line frames were used only for Bretten and Neustadt and were without date. (See illustrations Nos. 5-12.)

Circular Postmarks: (Kreisstempel.) Town names in a double circle may be classified in several ways, viz.: Names with date but without the year, and later with the year and the hour added. The circular postmarks also have different ornaments in the bottom of the circle, viz.: "G. B." closed and open, a star, three stars, a shield, a maltese cross, three crosses and a flower. The stamps with one circle and the town name are of a later date. The sizes of the circular stamps vary, as do also the letter type. A wavy circle was used by Offenburg, similar to the French cancellations. (See illustrations Nos. 13-22.)

To the circular postmarks may be added the "locals"—(Stadtpost) used by the larger cities of Karlsruhe, Freiburg and Heidelberg. (See illustrations Nos. 23-25.) Ringstamp No. 177 is the Karlsruhe Stadtpost.

Railroad Postmarks: (Eisenbahnstempel.) No. 164 was used as the railroad ringstamp. The same number was used on all trains and it is therefore found in different sizes. The "E. B." stamp (see illustration No. 26) is the oldest. The number of the various lines was added to the "E. B." stamp by "Kurs I" to XII with sidelines a, b, c, etc. Around 1862 the circular postmarks were adopted both in the station postoffices as well as on the railroad lines. (See illustrations Nos. 27-34.) This postmark is rare on a stamp, and is usually found on the front or back of the covers. Baden had 31 railroad routes. Each of them had one or more cancellations of their own. There are therefore many combinations, viz.: Heidelberg-Basel, Basel-Constanz, Constanz-Donauschingen, and many others. The cancellations used on the Heidelberg to Weinheim on the Main-Neckar r. road is illustrated in No. 30.

The Cogwheel Numbers: (Uhrradstempel.) Most of the postoffices had suboffices within their districts. These were provided with a numeral postmark. (See illustration No. 35.) Each year this list would be increased as new suboffices or letterboxes (Brieflade) were added or discontinued or were promoted to regular postoffices. Although the official list does not name more than 17 suboffices to any postoffice, the postoffice must have had more cogwheel numbers out, as numbers up to 35 are common and even No. 50 is known. From the cogwheel number cancellation alone one cannot identify the district, postoffice or suboffice from which it comes. To ascertain this one must have the whole cover upon which the suboffice (Postablage) is stamped. (There is still much to be learned about these interesting cogwheel cancellations and we trust that the specialists will be able to dig up more information for the benefit of all Baden students.) From the above it will be seen that the latest suboffices and letterboxes to be added have the highest numbers and as they were in use for a shorter time they are the rarest.

Blue cancellations are known.

The Cogwheel numbers are rare on the first issue, common on the second and third issues, and again very rare on the last Kr. issue. Cogwheel cancellations are known on later issues, even on German stamps of 1890, but the well known Baden student Kancellirath O. Metzger, Karlsruhe, states, in one of his many works, that the postage stamps of Baden had received cogwheel cancellations from 11 different numbers at Heidelberg. Whether the cogwheel stamps were forged or original, he was unable to say, but he knew that the practice had been carried on for many years.

The Baden Government was much interested in improving the Postal System. They desired to reach everyone regularly. From the larger postoffices the mail was delivered daily to the suboffices, letterhouses or to the addressees direct. In some places the mail was delivered six days in the week, but in the smaller postoffices only on every third day.

A letterbox was a square wooden box to which was attached a cancellation stamp. A letterhouse might be a room at the village store, or a small outbuilding.

The rural postman has played an important role in the postal organization, and S. Simon in *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* for March 1931 describes a typical day for one of the two postmen appointed to No. 170—"Badischer Bahnhof in Basel":

"In the morning the postman emptied the letterbox standing on Schuster Insel on the Border of Switzerland. It was a square wooden box to which a cogwheel stamp No. 1 was attached by a piece of twine. The contents of the letterbox was stamped with this cogwheel No. 1. As an ink pad a tin box with a piece of cloth moistened with ink served. (In case there was no mail in the letterbox —or if, in winter time, the letterbox was closed by ice or snow—the postman



1



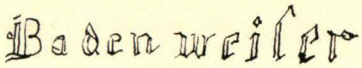
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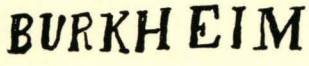
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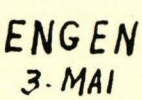
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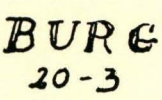
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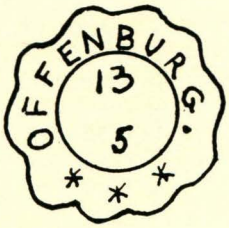
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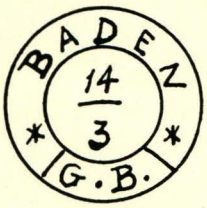
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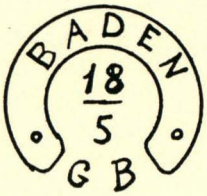
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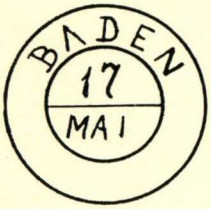
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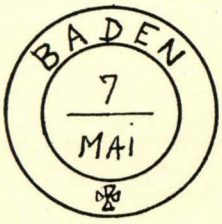
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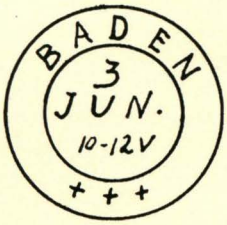
17



18



19



20



21



22

had to stamp the cogwheel number in his control book to verify that his route had been made.)

"The inhabitants of Friedlingen next received their mail, and the letterbox at that place was emptied and Cogwheel number "2" was used in the same manner as with letterbox No. "1."

"At Leopoldshohe the suboffice was not a letterbox but a room. Here the mail was sorted and the postage figured out as far as possible. A list of the mail for certain houses was made, some of which had to be called for. Other mail was delivered by the postman (in larger suboffices it would be delivered by a clerk.)

"After having exchanged a few words of local interest, the postman proceeded on his route to Weil. Weil is now a city, but in those early days it could not boast of a postoffice, not even a letterhouse, but had a letterbox No. "3." This was emptied quickly.

"From here the route went through famous Tullingen. Two letterboxes, Nos. "4" and "5" were emptied, and the inhabitants received their mail from the postman.

"The route now goes into the valley of Wiesen, which on account of its mills and their correspondence, gave the postman something to do. The villages of Rotteln, Thumringen, Haagen and Bromback were served in rotation and the control book cogwheel is stamped with No. "9." In all of these places there are only letterboxes. At each the mail is delivered personally by the postman. However, the route is not yet completed, as he has to pass by Dunkelberg over on the other side towards Rheinfelden and Grenzak, then through the small pretty village of Inzlingen and back to Basel.

"Twelve letterboxes were emptied and a great number of persons received their mail. This was a hard route, especially in the winter time, although it was only covered three times a week."

Subpostoffice (Postablage) Postmarks: By a decree of January 1st, 1864, new cancellation stamps with the names of the town were issued to all suboffices in place of the cogwheel number stamps.

Postablage postmarks are oval, generally printed in black, but may also be found in blue ink. The sizes vary, as also the inscription. "Postabl." is found in the middle, the top or at the bottom of the stamp. The stamp nearly always has two names: (see illustrations 36-40.)

There are so far 388 Postablage Postmarks definitely known. Freiburg, as far as I have been able to learn, has the most, with a total of seventeen, but all of the Postmarks have not as yet been traced. Most of the Postablage Postmarks were withdrawn when Baden joined the postal administration of the German Empire in 1871. The last Postablage Postmark was withdrawn in 1874.

———o———

The foreign mail had to pass through certain exchange postoffices on the border. This was the reason for the postal agreement of October 14th, 1856. Mail to Spain, Portugal, Gibraltar, Malta, etc. went through France, while Baden handled the French mail to Wurtenberg and Saxony.

All mail for Italy, Tuscany, The Roman States, Napoli and Sicily passed over the Swiss border.

At these exchange postoffices certain postmarks were used for the transfer of mail, or for advising of additional postage. Such postmarks were sometimes placed on the postage stamp instead of on the envelope by error. When the letters were fully paid to destination they were stamped P. D., but when the postage was paid to the border only they were stamped P. P. When there was a division to be made of the postage "Franco" was printed in the lower left corner. (See illustrations Nos. 41 and 42.) Illustrations Nos. 43 to 48 show the type of stamp used when additional postage was to be charged.



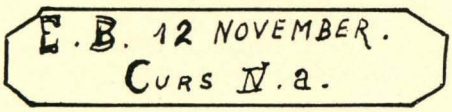
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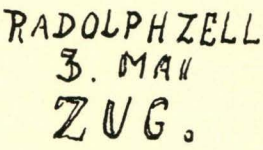
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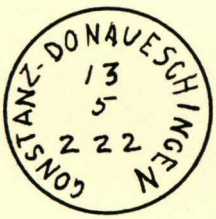
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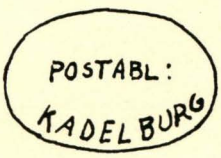
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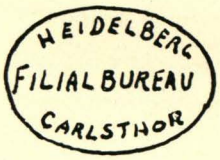
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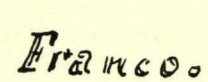
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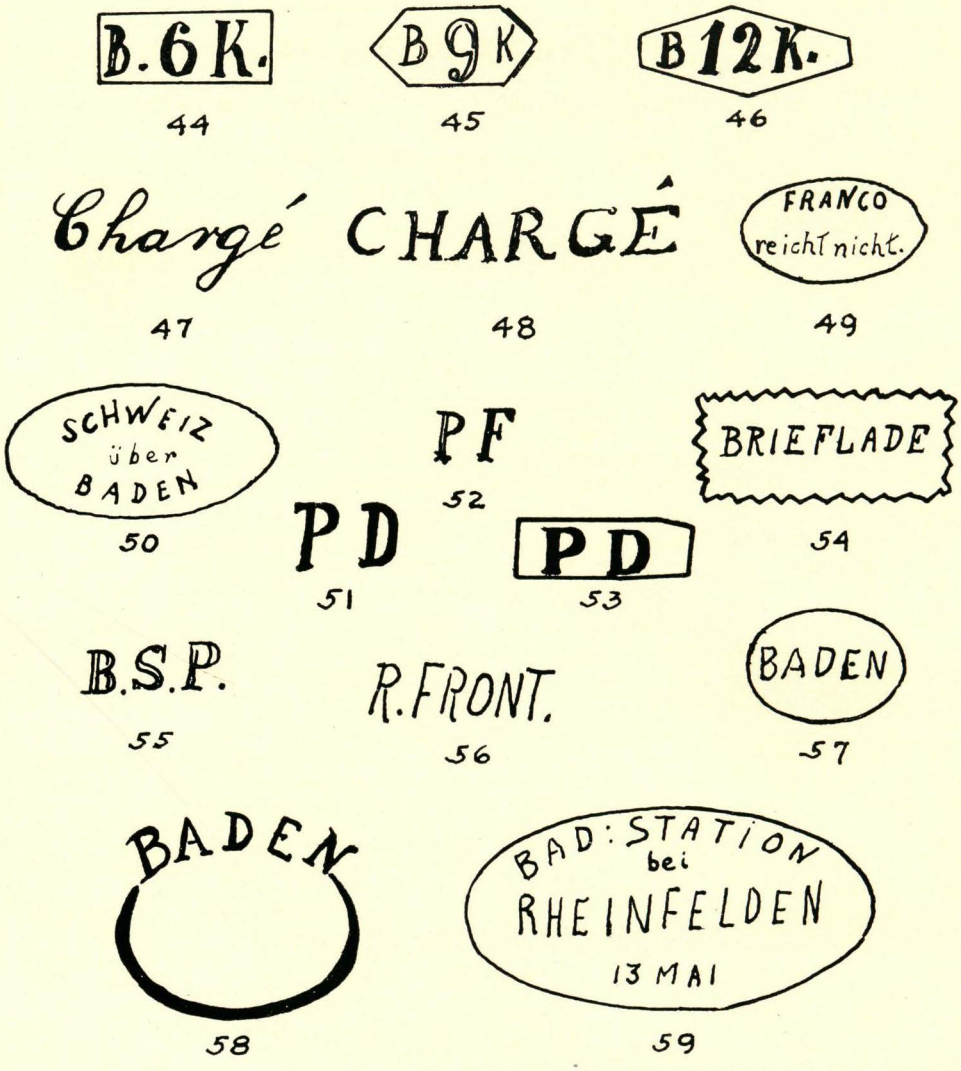
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43



Other postmarks used at the borders on the envelopes were "Frankreich uber Baden," "Schweitz uber Baden," "Franco reichtnicht," Charge, Brieflade, P. P., P. D. and P. F. This latter is for printed-matter through Switzerland and to the French border. (See illustrations Nos. 49-54.)

I have also seen the "OUTRE MER" used on oversea mail, on which may also be found "MARSEILLE, INDES OR." B. S. P. Is Baden service public. "R. FRONT" is Rayon Frontiere.

The local post—Stadtpost—had in addition to the circular postmarks mentioned previously the types shown in illustrations 57 to 59. No. 58 was used by Baden and Karlsruhe. No. 59 by Mannheim and Rheinfelden.

Many of the other old German States' postmarks are found on the Baden postage stamps as well as Swiss and French postmarks.

The decree of April 22nd, 1851 provided that all postage stamps, without postmarks, should be cancelled by red ink. The same method was followed when there was excess postage on a letter. From this it will be understood that pen cancellations were not a common occurrance as they were only used when the regular postmark was missing.

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Additions to the Library

Sammlung Russischer Landschaftsmarken im Reichspostmuseum. Gift of C. Schmidt.
De Vraagbaak der Philaie, Published by De Philatelist. Gift of Publisher.
Program Philatelistn Tag Lugano, 1934. Gift of Ticino Club.
The Coronation Aerial Post, F. J. Field & N. C. Baldwin. Gifst of F. Field.
Ribbons used at Binghampton Philatelic Society. Gift of Binghampton Club.
Progressive Stamp Album, Published by J. O. County. Gift of Publisher.
U. S. Bureau Precancels, 13th Ed. 1934, Publ. S. G. Rich. Gift of Publisher.
Stamps of U. S. Special Delivery, F. R. Durant. Gift of F. R. Durant.
Miscellaneous Foreign Stamp Journals, Price Lists, etc. Gift of Scott Stamp & Coin Co.
Stamps, volume 7 bound. Gift of H. L. Lindquist.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Publ. 1862. Gift of C. C. Wagner.

DEATHS

Donald A. King, retired Postmaster of Halifax, N. S., and for forty years prior to his death an employee of the Post Office, recently passed away in his 69th year. Mr. King was an authority on the postage stamps prior to the Canadian Confederation, in 1867 of the so-called Maritime Provinces; New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, and had written many important articles on these issues. His advice on these was sought by such well known philatelists as Alfred F. Lichtenstein, Charles J. Phillips, Dr. Reford of Montreal and others in apex of stamp collecting. In his passing we have lost a great student and true philatelist who kept up his interest in philately to the very last.

We also regret to announce the death of our member, Gen. George R. Dyer.

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427.	4c. brown, I have 6 positions, each block	2.50
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433.	10c. orange-yellow, I have 4 position, each block	4.00
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1917-19. No Wmk. Perf. 11.

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510.	10c. orange-yellow, Angle lines, 3 positions, each block	5.00
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511.	11c. green, Angle lines, 4 positions, each block	4.00
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513.	13c. apple green, 8 positions, the set	30.00
514.	15c gray, 6 positions, each block	5.00
515.	20c. ultramarine, 8 positions, the set	45.00
516.	30c, orange-red, 8 positions, the set	100.00

CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

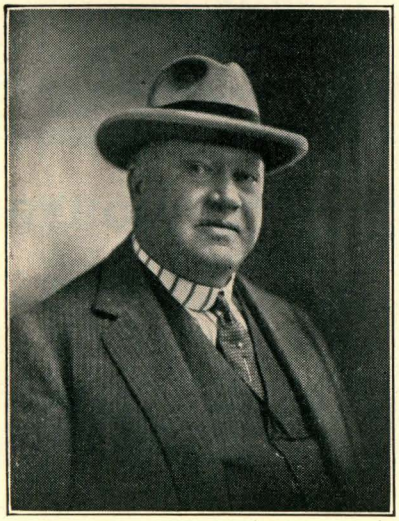
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4.	**SICILY** 12, 1 Grano. Fine Used pair		**6.00**
5.	do. 14, 5 Grano Vermilion. Superb Unused	17.50	**5.00**
6.	do. 16, 10 Grano. Fine rich color Unused. Slightly thin	22.50	**5.00**
7.	do. 17, 20 Grano. Nice Unused copy, rather close at top	22.50	**5.00**
8.	do. 18, 50 Grano. Brilliant Mint	30.00	**8.00**
9.	**SARDINIA,** 1. 5c. Superb Used	30.00	**8.50**
10.	do. 2. 20c. Superb Used	3.50	**1.00**
11.	do. 4. 5c. Good margins, but thinned	30.00	**3.00**
12.	do. 5. 20c. Superb Used	5.00	**1.50**
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15.	do. 8. 20c. Brilliant Mint	2.50	**1.00**
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21.	**LIBIA,** No. 25A, 25c. Block 4 brilliant Mint, Inverted centre		**2.00**
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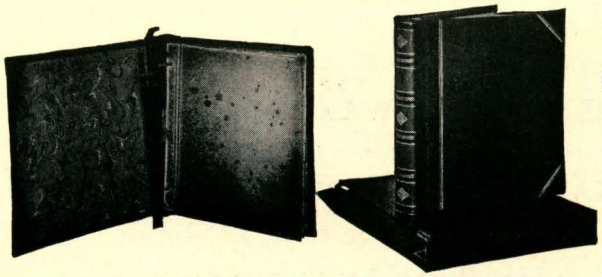
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