

## Summary of Competitors for the 1851 Postage Stamp Contract

The Post Office solicited bids for the 1851 postage stamp contract from six bank note engravers (3/8/51). Two unsolicited bids and one letter of interest were also received.

*The competitors  
for the contract*  
*This info ~~extracted~~  
extracted from  
letters.*

Bidder	Date of Appointment to Discuss Bid	Bid (\$ per 1000 stamps)	Comments re Bid	Essay Submitted?	Apparent Scott Catalogue # of Essay*	Notes
J.W. Steel (Philadelphia, PA)	No information is available to indicate there was a bid submitted, nor an appointment with the Post Office to discuss their bid.	Apparently not submitted.	Steel wrote (unsolicited) the Post Office of interest in bidding on contract (3/22/51), but there is no evidence he submitted a proposal.	Not known.	Not known.	James W. Steel is listed in The Engravers Line, page 298.
Henry Benner (Washington DC)	No information is available to indicate there was an appointment with the Post Office to discuss their bid.	.20	Benner wrote (unsolicited) the Post Office of interest in bidding on the contract, and was subsequently invited to submit a proposal. We have no information on this bid other than its discussion by Marron in a document written approximately 4/57.	Not known.	Not known.	
Neale, Pate (New York, NY)	No information is available to indicate there was an appointment with the Post Office to discuss their bid.	.20, plus \$150 per plate.	Neale & Pate wrote (unsolicited) the Post Office (3/14/51) and included this bid. This bid did not comply with the requirements of the Post Office (i.e., the \$150 charge per plate).	Appears that samples of their work (not necessarily essays) were submitted, but details unknown. (See E&PW Merub letter of 3/15/51).	Not known.	
Baldwin & Adams Co. (New York, NY)	No information is available to indicate there was an appointment with the Post Office to discuss their bid.	Apparently not submitted.	We have no information on this bid other than its discussion by Marron in a document written approximately 4/57. No price was submitted, per Marron.	Yes.	Scott # 11-E14, 11-E15, and/or 11-E16. Attributed in Scott's Specialized Catalogue to Bald, Cousland.	Per The Engravers Line (p. 31) Baldwin, Adams became Baldwin, Bald, Cousland and then Bald, Cousland.

\*Scott's Specialized Catalogue lists an essay from Bradbury, Wilkinson. This essay does not appear to have been submitted for the 1851 contract.

<i>Bidder</i>	<i>Date of Appointment to Discuss Bid</i>	<i>Bid (\$ per 1000 stamps)</i>	<i>Comments re Bid</i>	<i>Essay Submitted?</i>	<i>Apparent Scott Catalogue # of Essay*</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Rawdon, Wright, Hatch, & Edson (New York, NY)	No information is available to indicate if there was an appointment with the Post Office, but probably not as they apparently did not meet the deadline (4/20/51).	.20	Initially (3/10/51) RWHE refused to bid unless paid for their design. They later reconsidered (4/8/51), but with too little time remaining.	An essay is known, attributed to RWHE, that apperas "rushed" and not up to their quality standard.	Scott # 11-E2	
John E. Gavitt Co. (Albany, NY.)	No information is available to indicate there was an appointment with the Post Office to discuss their bid.	.20	We have no information on this bid other than its discussion by Marron in a document written approximately 4/57.	Yes.	Scott # 11-E4.	
Draper, Welsh & Co. (Philadelphia, PA.)	No information is available to indicate there was an appointment with the Post Office to discuss their bid.	.18	Draper, Welsh letter of 4/15/51 shows \$.18. Marron document of (approximately) 4/57 says \$.15, \$.16, \$.17, \$.18 according to specific modes and colors. Unable to resolve difference, but apparently a revised bid was submitted.	Yes.	Scott # 11-E6, 11-E7, and/or 11-E8.	
Danford, Bald & Co. (Philadelphia, PA.)	Appointment with Post Office occurred on 4/20/51.	.20	\$.20 for all stamps, \$.25 for any other stamps that might be wanted. Danford, Bald was a finalist. When asked by PMG for final bid, they remained at \$.20 per thousand stamps. TCC was awarded the contract.	Yes.	Scott # 11-E10, 11-E11, 11-E12, and/or 11-E13.	Danford, Bald aggressively sought this contract, including initially submitting unrequested essays and prompt response to all queries.
Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co. (Philadelphia, PA.)	Appointment with Post Office occurred on 4/21/51.	.15	\$.15 for all stamps, \$.17 for 3 cent rate of any one substituted for it, \$.20 for other two rates (1c & 6c, or 1c & 12c).	Four heads (essays) were submitted with bid.	Scott # 11-E17, 11E-18, 11-E19, 11-E20.	Samuel Carpenter did the negotiating. Several letters of recommendation are including in the files, more than for other bidders.

*\*Scott's Specialized Catalogue lists an essay from Bradbury, Wilkinson. This essay does not appear to have been submitted for the 1851 contract.*