COLOR CANCELLATIONS ON THE FIRST 78 YEARS, 1847-1925 OF U.S. STAMPS

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AS RECEIVED BY

THE EXHIBITION PHOTOCOPY COMMITTEE

OF THE

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COLOR CANCELLATIONS on the FIRST 78 YEARS, 1847-1925, of U.S. STAMPS

Whatever U.S. Postal Regulations have specified, or did not specify, regarding colors of cancellations over the years, it is fact that black ink has been by far the preponderant color ink employed by postal clerks in cancelling operations - - as witness comparable catalog values where included.

This exhibit is an effort to show a complete collection of the first 78 years of regularly issued normal postage stamps of the U.S., no coils or booklets, but including some of the major shades and listed varieties so far known to have been legitimately cancelled by ink other than black.

In addition Air Post, Special Delivery, Postage Due, Officials, Parcel Post, Postal Savings, Parcel Post Postage Due, some of the issues under U.S. administration, plus a number of freaks, errors, and unusual items are included.

Efforts have been made to include multiples, and also a representation of the so-called "fancy" cancels, as well as regular or routine cancels, plus foreign, revenue, railroad, and unusual examples.

The known cancellations listed in Scott's are red, magenta, blue, orange, ultramarine, violet, green, brown, purple, olive and yellow which is the scarcest of all. Included herein is at least one example of each of these color cancels.

Printed by Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson 1847 Imperforate

First Regular Issue

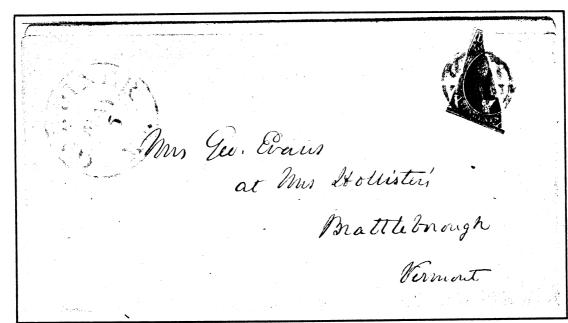


BLUE



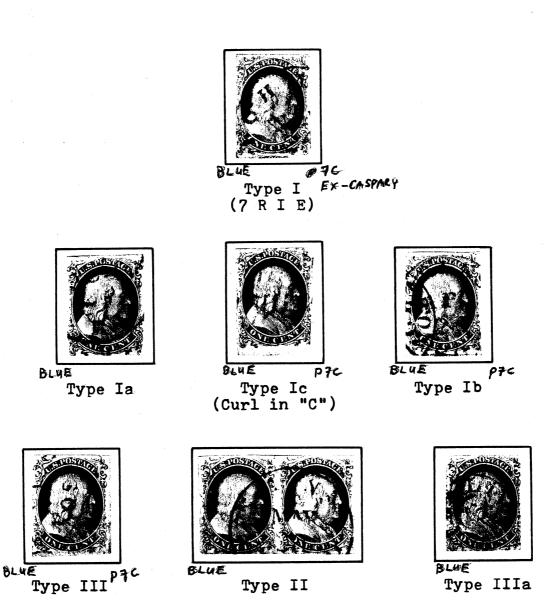
BLUE RED

Bisect



RED Bisects were never officially authorized by Postal Regulations. Rather, they were merely tolerated.

Printed by Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co. 1851-56 Imperforate



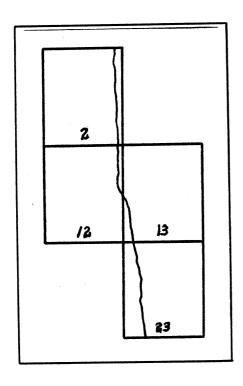


Type IV

BLUE

Printed by Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co. 1851-56 Imperforate

Plate Flaw





ALL FOUR RED

When impressions were being transferred onto Plate 2 there was a metal flaw in the left pane area which affected positions 2, 12, 13, and 23, as shown. Continued use of the plate increased the magnitude of the flaw, so that toward the end of the life of the plate approximately 3 mm of the flaw extended into position 33, but examples are seldom seen.

Printed by Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co. 1851 - 56, Imperforate



YELLOW P7C



YELLOW Dull Red P7C



GREEN Bright Rose Red



Orange Brown



Copper Brown



OLUE Claret



Brown-Deep Brownish Carmine



Type I



Type II



BLUE Type III



BLUE Type IV



RED/BLUE

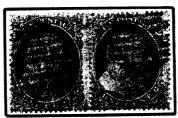
Printed by Toppan, Carpenter & Co. 1857-60 Perforated 15







Type Ic (curl in "C")



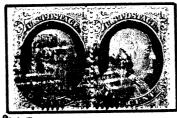
Type II



RED Type III SPA CERT.



Type IIIa



Type IV



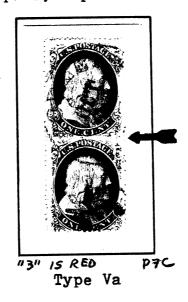
Type V



RED Type Va

Printed by Toppan, Carpenter & Co. 1857-60 Perforated 15

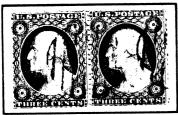
Vertical pair, imperforate between



The pane of 100 stamps which produced this pair either had one row of horizontal perforations completely missing, or some of the punches which make the holes were broken on one perforating roller to the extent of the width of at least one vertical pair of stamps. This piece believed to be unique.

Printed by Toppan, Carpenter & Co. 1857-60

Perforated 15



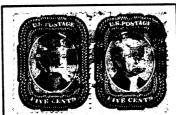
Type I



Type IIa



Type II



BLUE



Type I Brown



Type I Brick Red



Type I Indian Red



Type I Red Brown



Type II
Orange Brown



Type II Dark Brown



Type II Brown

Printed by Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

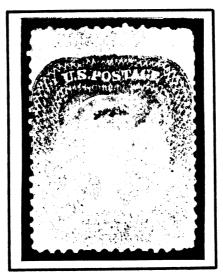
1860

Perforated 15

Printed on Both Sides



Occasionally a sheet of stamp paper will be passed through the flat plate printing process a second time either completly or, as is most frequently the case, only partially. This creates the seldom seen "printed on both sides" variety when the paper is in an upside down position for the second pass. It is believed that, to date, only four or five of these have been reported to exist on this stamp.



Reverse of above

Printed by Toppan, Carpenter & Co. 1857-60 Perforated 15



RED Type I



REP Type IIP76



R Type III



Type IV





Plate I

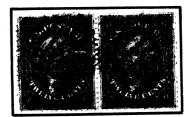


Plate III



Gray Lilac



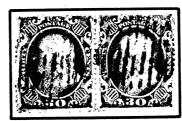
Red Lilac Red Lilac (only reported copy)



Gray



Reddish Orange



RED Yellow Orange



RED Blue

Printed by the National Bank Note Co.

1861

Perforated 12



First, or "August", Issue



RED/BLUEViolet 970

RED Dark Green PR

Second Issue 1861 - 66



BLUE



BLUE EX-RORKE



RED Pink Pre



Rose Pink



FELLOW Rose



BLUE

Pigeon Blood Pink

176

Printed by the National Bank Note Co.

Second Issue

1861 - 66



RED Yellow



BLUE Buff



Olive Yellow

Unlisted Shade: Brownish Red



RED

"Too brown for #75, too red for #76 - S.B.A."
(Stanley B. Ashbrook)



BLUE Brown



Pale Brown



RED Dark Red Brown



Red Brown



Black Brown MAGENTA



Yellow Green BLUE



RED Dark Green



Black ORANGE



BLUE Full Black

Printed by the National Bank Note Co. Second Issue 1861 - 66



Grayish Lilac (Thin transparent paper)



Grayish Lilac (Thickish wove paper)



RED Gray



Blackish Violet



Steel Blue



Brown Lilac



Dark Lilac



Lilac RFD



Red Lilac

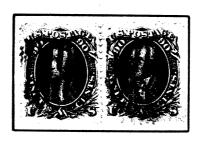
PuRPLE



RED



Dark Blue



Blue RED



Pale Blue

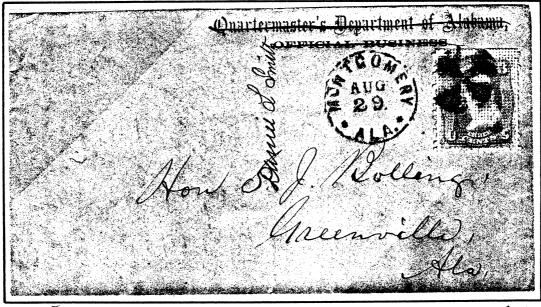
Printed by the National Bank Note Co.
Grilled Issues
1867

Type "C" Grill with points up



BLUE (EX - MOODY, MAY BE UNIQUE ON THIS STAMP)

Type "A" Grill, covering entire stamp with points up



BLUE

Type "D" Grill with points down





Printed by the National Bank Note Co.
Grilled Issues
1867

Type "E" Grill with points down



RED (FX-HAAS)



RED



BLUE



RED / PURPLE



BLUE



RED

Type "Z" Grill with points down



BLUE



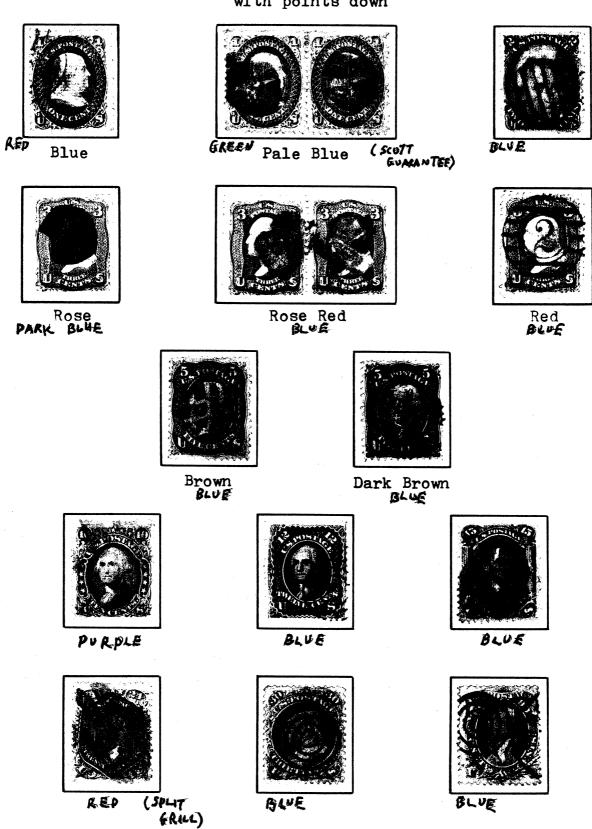
BLUE PT



BLUE P7C

Printed by the National Bank Note Co. Grilled Issues 1867

Type "F" Grill with points down



Printed by the National Bank Note Co. 1869

First Pictorial Issue



M AGENTA



CHROME ORANGE (Ex - JUHRING)



APPLE GREEN (EX-JUHRING)



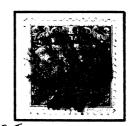
RED



PURPLE



BLUE



RED Type I



RED Type II



RED



RED



PZC



Printed by the National Bank Note Co. 1869

First Pictorial Issue

Invert



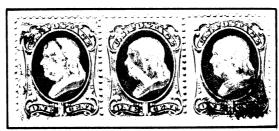
RED

This was the first U.S. issue to include bi-color stamps, and four values (fifteen, twenty-four, thirty, and ninety cents) were produced in two-color format. Bi-color stamps of this era required two separate plates and printings, one for each color. The centers, or vignettes, were printed first; the borders, or frames, second. If a sheet of paper was placed in the press in reverse position for the second printing, an "invert" was the result.

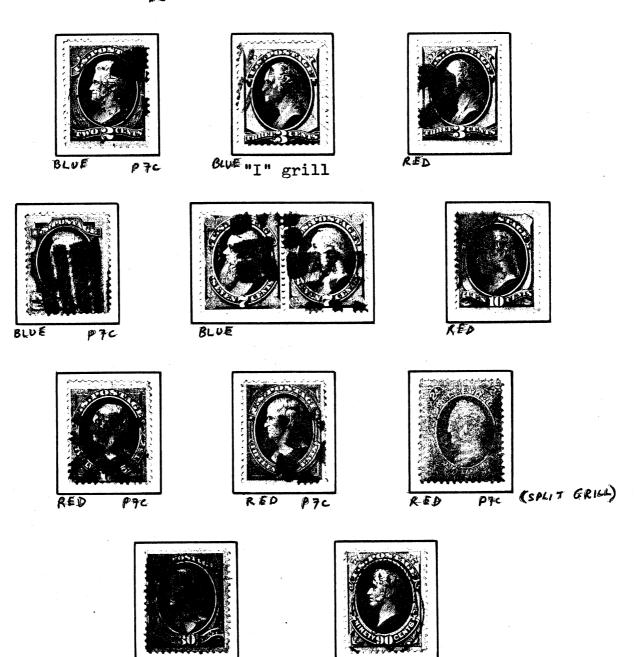
Three of the four bi-color values were erroneously produced with inverted frames, the ninety cent being free of the error. Indications are that likely only one sheet of each value was printed with inverted frames, though these copies are frequently, but incorrectly, referred to as "inverted centers". The belief is that fewer than 25 of this particular value exist today.

Printed by the National Bank Note Co. 1870-71

With "H" grill, except as indicated



BLUE



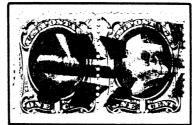
RED

Printed by the National Bank Note Co. 1870-71

Without Grill



BROWNULtramarine



BLUEDark ultramarine



Pale ultramarine



Red brown



Orange brown



APPLE GREEN



BLUE



BLUE



RED Brown



Yellow brown



Dull violet



Dark violet Violet



GREEN



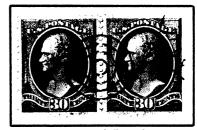
BLVE Purple



Bright purple



REP



BLUE Full black



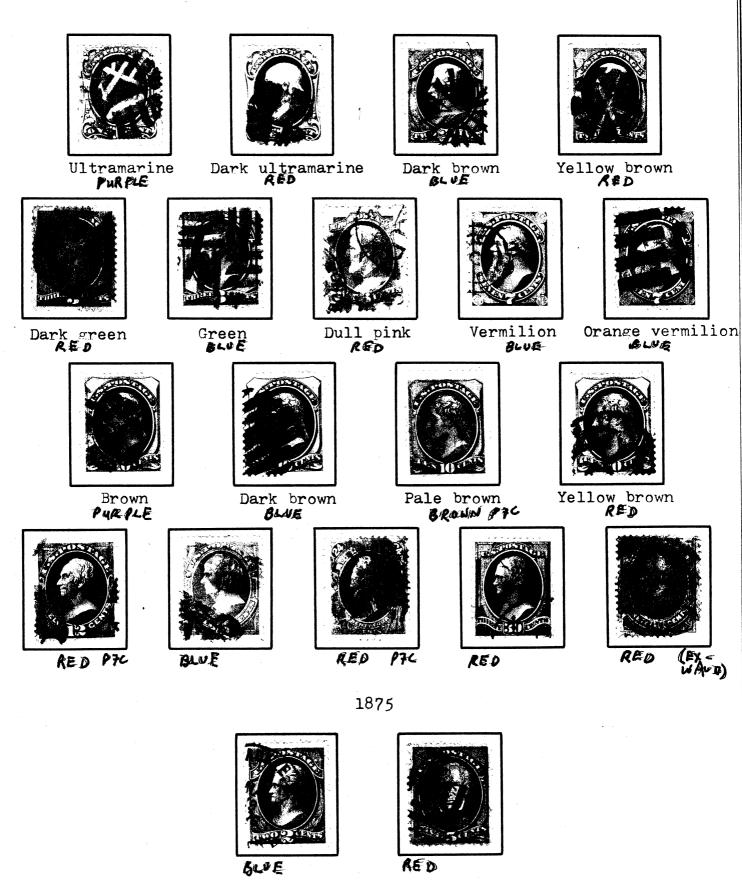
BLUE Carmine



Dark carmine

Printed by the Continental Bank Note Co. 1873

With secret marks on the values from 1 - 15 cents



PRINTED by BANK NOTE COMPANIES 1870 - 73

Double Impressions
National Bank Note Co.



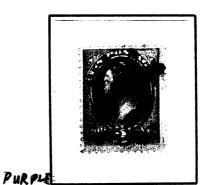
RLUE

Second figure "3" at least 5mm to left, "TH" of "THREE CENTS" also visible at bottom right edge

Continental Bank Note Co.



021.



(EX - WARN)

Left, double impression throughout; right, bottom only doubled

In this era stamps were printed one sheet of paper at a time, hand fed into the press. Occasionally, but only very rarely, a sheet would remain in the press, or not be completely removed, and receive a second impression. These are much scarcer than double transfers with which they should not be confused, as a double impression shows a clear doubling of the entire design, not just partially as in a double transfer which is actually a plate imperfection.

Printed by the American Bank Note Co. 1879

Soft Porous Paper



BLUF Gray Blue



YELLOW Blue



Bark Ultramarine



BLUE



Dark Green



Light Green



RE



PURPLE Dull Pink
No Secret Mark



BLUE Pink



But Brown Rose
With Secret Mark



PURPLE Brown



Yellow Brown



Yellow Brown



Brown MAGENTA



Red Orange



Orange BLUE



PURPLE



PURPLE

Printed by the American Bank Note Co. 1881 - 83

Re-engraved, plus new value and designs





Pulput Red Brown



Dark Red Brown Orange Brown









puRPLE Yellow Brown



MAGENTA Brown



BLVE Gray Brown



PURPLE Rose



Purilie Pale Rose



PURPLE Red Brown



Orange Brown



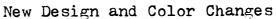
Yellow Brown





Black Brown

Printed by the American Bank Note Co. 1887 - 88





RED Ultramarine



MAPLE Bright Ultramarine



PWAPLE Blue









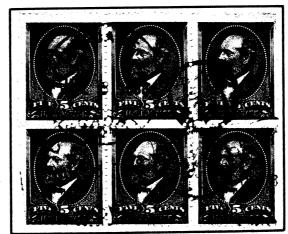
PURPLE



PURPLE



BLUE



PURPLE



Purple Orange Brown



PURPLE Deep Orange Brown



RED (Ex-cous)
Purple



Printed by the American Bank Note Co. 1890-93



PURPLE Blue



Pur PLE Ultramarine



BRound blue



PuRPLE Lake



PuRPLE Cap on left "2"



Pulpus Cap on both "2's"



GREEN



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



BLUE



MAGENTA



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PWRME (JUMBO)
Red orange



Purple Orange

Printed by the American Bank Note Co. 1893

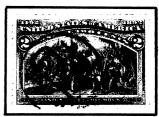
Columbian Exposition Issue



PURPLE



GREEN "Broken Hat"



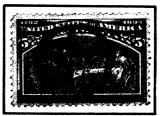
PURPLE



PURPLE



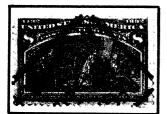
PURPLE



PARPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



Purpus Black Brown



MAGENTA Gray Black



REODISH



MO A GENTA



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



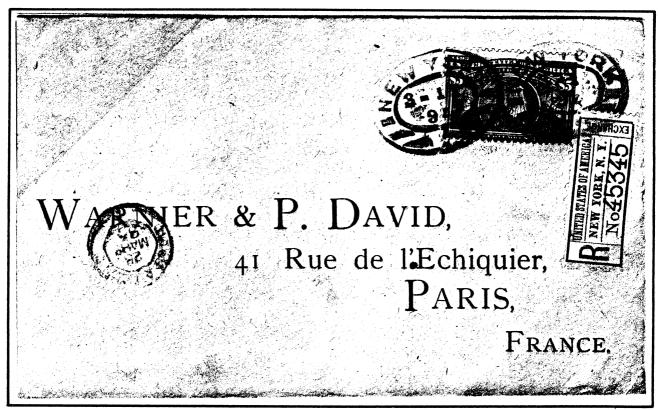
PARPLE



PURPLE

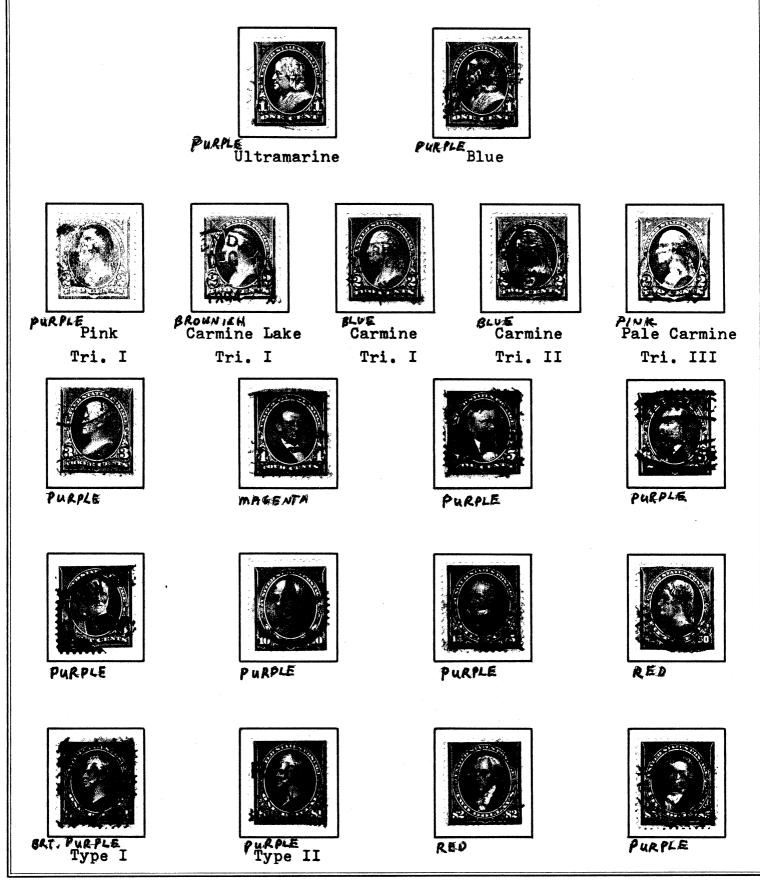
Printed by the American Bank Note Co. 1893

Columbian Exposition Issue

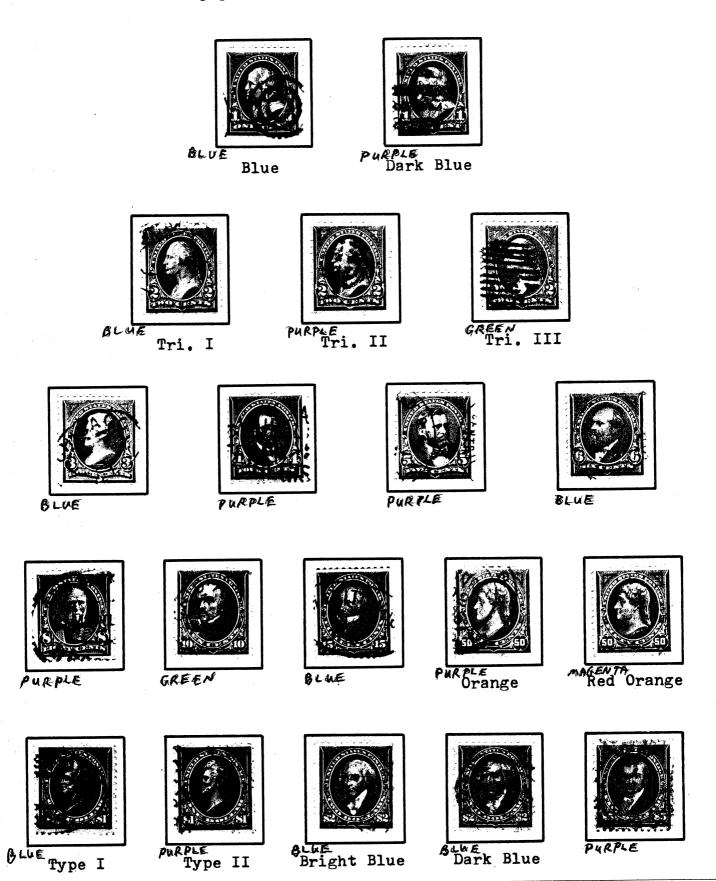


MAGENTA

Beginning in 1894 the Bureau of Engraving and Printing took over the production of all U.S. stamps



Beginning in 1895 all regular issues were produced on paper with a double line USPS watermark

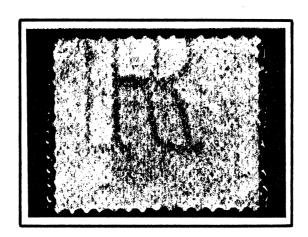


Paper Error



PURPLE (SHIELD)

Paper watermarked USIR ("U S Internal Revenue") was initiated in 1878, followed in 1895 by USPS ("U S Postage Stamp"). To date three instances of incorrect use of paper - - - USIR for regular issues - - - - have occurred: the six and eight cent values of this issue and the \$1.00 Presidential of 1938.



1898 Change of Colors



purpus Green



Purper Yellow Green



PuRPLE



Orange Red



Rose Carmine



Parper Rose Brown



BLUEOrange Brown



Lilac Brown



Bru E Dark Blue



BRIGHT PHRPLE Blue



PURMELake



PulpuEClaret

- - Type I - -



Purple



Dark Brown



Orange Brown



Type II -

Brown Purple



Yellow Brown



PHAPLE

Trans-Mississippi Exposition Issue



BRIGHT PURPLE



BRIGHT PURPLE



PURPLE



MAGENTA



BRIGHT PURPLE



REIGHT PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE

P7(

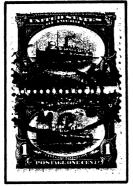
Pan-American Exposition Issue



PURPLE



BLUE



BLUE



PURPLE



BLUE



BL 4 E



DURPLE



DURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



MAGENTA



BLUE



BRT. PURPLE



DEEP PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



REDDISH PURPLE



BLUE



MAGENTA



GREEN Carmine



BLUE Lake



Carmine rose



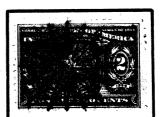
Scarlet
BRJ. PURPLE

1904

Louisiana Purchase Exposition Issue



PURPLE





PURPLE



BLUE



BLUE



PURPLE

1906 - 08 Imperforate



MAGENTA



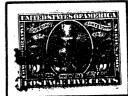
1907 Jamestown Exposition Issue



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE

1908 - 09 Perforated 12



RED



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PUR PLE



PURPLE



RED



PURPLE



PURPL



PURPLE



PURPLE

1908 - 09 Imperforate



BLUE



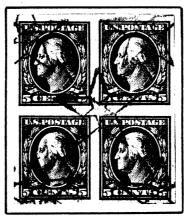
PURPLE



REP



PURPLE



RED

1909

Commemorative Issues Perforated 12 and Imperforate

Lincoln Memorial



BLUE



GREEN Bluish Experimental Paper

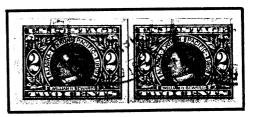


PURPLE

Alaska - Yukon Pacific Exposition



PURPLE



PURPLE

Hudson - Fulton



BLUE



PURPLE

1910 - 11 Watermarked Single Line USPS Perforated 12



MAGENTA



PURPLE



PURPLE



REDDISH PURPLE



PURPLE



BLUE / PURPL



PURPLE



BLUE (SHIP)



PURPLE

1911 Imperforate



PURPLE



PURPLE

1912 Imperforate



PuRFLE Yellow green



PURPLE

Green



RED

Dark green

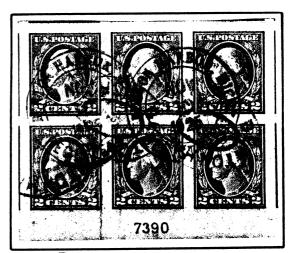


PURPLE

Carmine



Purpus Deep carmine



DURPLE

Scarlet

1913 Panama - Pacific Issue Perforated 12



PURPLE







PulPLE Orange Yellow



PURPLE **Orange**



1914 - 15 Perforated 10



PURPLE



BLUE



(JUMBO) MAGENTA



PURPLE

1912 - 14 Perforated 12



PWRPLE













PURPLE







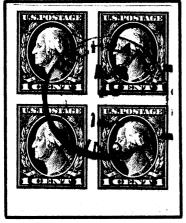
1912
Watermarked Double Line USPS





LE DEEP PURP

1916 - 17 Imperforate



Purput Green



Yellow green



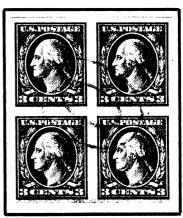
Deep green
Purple (151 FLIGHT)



PURPLE Type I



PURPLE Type I



PURPLE Type II

1914 - 15

Watermarked Single Line USPS

Perforated 10



PURPLE



RLUE



PURPLE



"Pink Back" (Aniline ink)



PURPLE



DURPLE



PUR PLE



PURPLE



BURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



Claret Brown



Copper Red



PURPLE



REDDISH PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLA

1915

Flat Plate Printing Perforated 10 Watermarked Double Line USPS





PWRPLE 1916 - 17

Unwatermarked































PURPLE



PURPLE

1917 - 19 Flat Plate Printing Perforated 11



PURPLE















PURPLE



PURPLE Type Ia



PURPLE



PURPLE



Brown Carmine



PURPLE (JUMBO)



BRT PURPLE Type I



PURPLE



BRT. PURPLE





PURPLE



PURPLE Type II









Erroneous Re-entry

The "Five Cent Error"



PURPLE (ERROR)



PWR PLE (NOR MAL)



PURPLE (NORMAL)



PURPLE

Five cent value in the color of the two cent. Plate #7942 had three positions imperfect when the plate was made. These impressions were removed, and the positions re-entered - - - but incorrectly using a five cent relief instead of a two, since the figure "5" in mirror image very closely resembles a "2".



PURPLE



PURPLE

1918 - 20 Offset Printing



MAGENTA



Type IV



Type V



Type Va



Type VI PURPLE



Type VII
Purpus



Type III FURPLE



Type IV

1918 - 20 Imperforate



Type V
PuRPLE



PURPLE

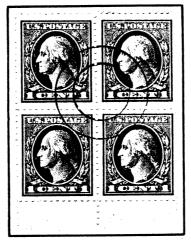


Type Va



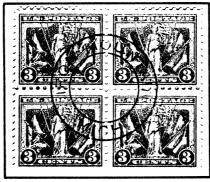
Type IV PURPLE

Perforated 12½



PURPLE

1919
Flat Plate Printing
Perforated 11
Victory Issue



BLHE

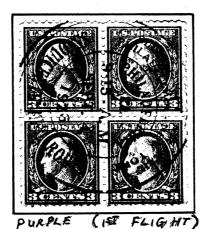
1919 - 21
Rotary Press Printing
Perforated 11 X 10



RED



Purpus III



Perforated 10 X 11



PURPLE

1919 - 21

Perforated 10



Purple Deep green



PURPLE Yellow green

Flat Plate Printing 1920



Pilgrim Tercentenary Issue



Purple Green



PURPLE



PURPLE

1922 - 25 Perforated 11



PURPLE



PURPLE



DWRPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



RED



PURPLE



PURPLE



DUDDIE



PURPLE



BILUE



MAGENTA



DEEP RED



PURPLE



PURPLE



BLUE



BILLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



GREEN

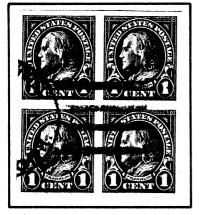


PURPLE



PHRPLE

1923 - 25 Imperforate



RED



PURPLE (IST FLIGHT)



BLUE

Rotary Press Printing
1923 - 26 Perforated 11X10
on one cent, and 11 on two cent



(Coil waste)



PURPLE PAC

Perforated 10



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PARPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



BLUE



PURPLE

Harding Memorial Issue

Flat Plate Printing Perforated 11

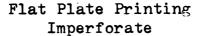
Rotary Press Printing
Perforated 10



PURPLE



PURPL





MAGENTA

1924
Perforated 11
Huguenot - Walloon Tercentenary Issue



PURPLE (IST FLIGHT)



PURPLE 1925 FLIGHT



RED

Norse - American Issue



PURPLE



PURPLE

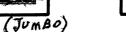
Lexington - Concord Issue

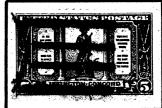


PURPLE



PURPLE





RED

AIR POST Unwatermarked Perforated 11

1918





PURPLE



Purpus Pale orange



PURPLE

1923



PURPLE (PTFLIGHT)



PURPLE (15T FLIGHT)



BLUE

SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMPS

Unwatermarked Perforated 12

1885

1888



PURPLE



PURPLE

Columbian Exposition Issue 1893



BRT PURPLE

1894

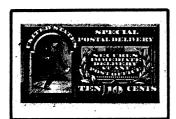


Line under "TEN CENTS"

Watermarked double line USPS

1895

1902



PWRPLE



MAGENTA

SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMPS

Watermarked double line USPS

Perforated 12

1908



MAGENTA

Watermarked single line USPS

Perforated 12 1911 Perforated 10 1914

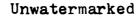


PURPLE



PURPLE

Perforated 10 1916



Perforated 11 1917



PURPLE



PURPLE

Perforated 11 1922-25



PURPLE



DEEP PURPLE



RED

POSTAGE DUE

Unwatermarked

Printed by the American Bank Note Co. Perforated 12

1879 Brown



BINE



RED



BLUE



BLUE



RED



RED



REL

1884-89

Red Brown



BLUE



BLUE



LAUENDAR



PUR PLE



BI IIE



BLUE



PURPLE

POSTAGE DUE 1891-93

Claret



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE

1894

Printed by the Bureau of Engraving & Printing Vermilion



PURPLE



PURPLE

Claret



PURPLE



RED



PURPLE



PURPLE



AL WE

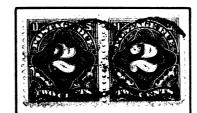


DELONIE

POSTAGE DUE 1895 Watermarked Double Line USPS



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



BLUE



BLUE

1910 - 12
Watermarked Single Line USPS



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE

POSTAGE DUE 1914 - 15 Perforated 10



DURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



BLUE

1916 Unwatermarked



PURPLE



PURPLE

1917 - 25 Perforated 11



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



DURPLE



BLUE

Printed by the Continental Bank Note Co. 1873

Department of Agriculture



PURPLE



RED



PURPLE



AL UE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE



RED

Executive Department



RED



RED



DURPLE



PORPLE



PURPLE

Department of Interior



BLUE



RED



BLUE



RED



PURPLE



PURPLE



BLUE



PURPLE

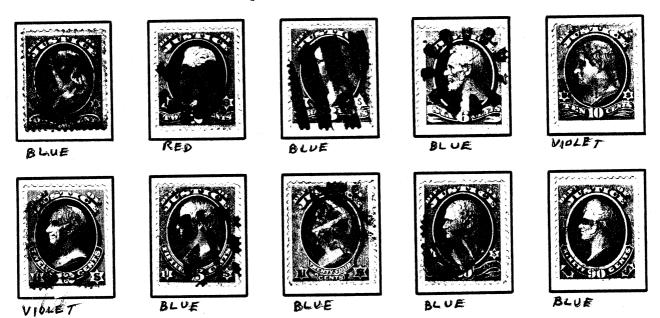


RIVE

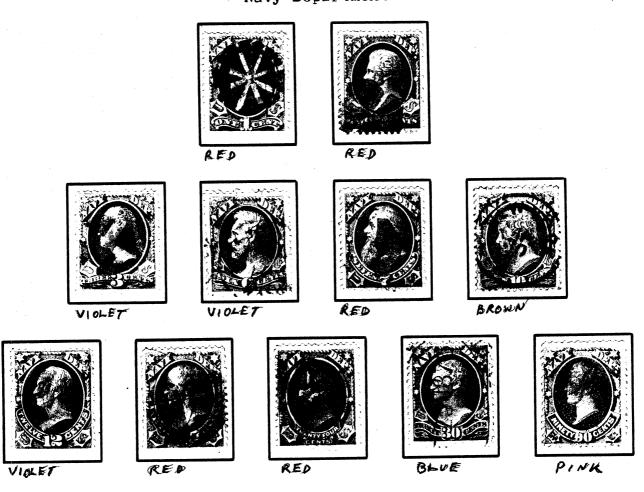


PURPLE

Department of Justice



Navy Department



Post Office Department



PURPLE



RED



P'UR PLE



BLUE



BLUE



BLUE



BLUE



BLUE



BLUE



BLUE

State Department



RED



RED



PURPLE



RED



BRT. VIOLET



BRT. VIOLET



RED



PURPLE



PURPLE



PORPLE



PURPLE



BLUE



BLUE



BLUE



BLUE

Treasury Department



BLOE



RED



BLUE



BLUE



BLUE



PURPLE



BLUE



PURPLE



BLUE



BLUE



PURPLE

War Department



RED



RED



BLUE



BLUE



MAGENTA



PURPLE



MAGENTA



PURPLE



PURPLE



BLUE



BLUE

Printed by the American Bank Note Co. Soft Porous Paper 1879

Department of Agriculture



PURPLE

Department of Interior



PURPLE



PURPL



PURPLE



GREEN



BLUE



PURPLE



BLUE



BLUE (P.7.C.)

Department of Justice



PURPLE



PURPLE

Post Office Department



MAGENTA

Treasury Department



BLUE



PURPLE



PURPLE



BLUE



BLUE

War Department



BLUE



BLUE



M AGENTA



BLUE



BLUE



PURPLE



PURPLE

PARCEL POST

1912 - 13

Watermarked Single Line USPS

Perforated 12

ALL PURPLE

























POSTAL SAVINGS Perforated 12

1910 - 11 Watermarked Double Line USPS



PURPLE



RED



MAGENTA

1911 Watermarked Single Line USPS



MAGENTA



PURPLE



PURPLE

PARCEL POST POSTAGE DUE 1912



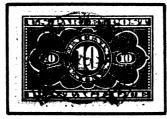
PURPLE



BLUE



PURPLE



PURPLE



PURPLE

ISSUED UNDER U.S. ADMINISTRATION

Canal Zone

1904 (U.S. issue of 1902-03 overprinted)











- ALL PURPLE -Cuba

1899 (U.S. issues of 1895 and 1898 overprinted)



BLUE



BUE Carmine



PURPLE



PURPLE



BL UE



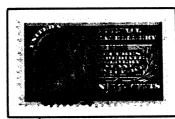
SLUE



PURPLE

Special Delivery

1899 (U.S. Special Delivery issue of 1895 overprinted)



PURPLE

Postage Due

1899 (U.S. Postage Due issue of 1895 overprinted)







PURPLE -



- ALL

ISSUED UNDER U.S. ADMINISTRATION

Guam 1899

U.S. issues of 1895 and 1898 overprinted



BLUE



BLUE



Type I

Special Delivery 1899

U.S. Special Delivery issue of 1895 overprinted



Type I PURPLE



PURPLE Type II Dots in curved frame above messenger

ISSUED UNDER U.S. ADMINISTRATION Puerto Rico

1899

U.S. issues of 1895 & 1898 overprinted at 36 degree angle











BLUE

PURPLE

PURPLE

PURPLE

PURPLE

U.S. issues of 1895 & 1898 overprinted at 25 degree angle









DEEP PURPLE

1900

U.S. issues of 1895 & 1898 overprinted



BLUE



Carmine



Orange red

Postage Due

1899

U.S. Postage Due issue of 1895 overprinted at 36 degree angle





Printed by Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co. 1851-56, Imperforate

Multiple Transfers

These multiple transfers occur during the making of the printing plate when the impression of the stamp is entered from the transfer roll a second, or in one instance a third, time in the same relative position on the plate.



BLUE Type II, 88-89-90R2 (FX-ISHIKAWA)

The center stamp, 89R2, shows at the bottom the most pronounced double transfer on any regular issue U. S. stamp reported to date. This was caused by a second fresh entry slightly above that of the first.



(EX.-ISHI KAWA)

Type IIIa, 81L1E

This double transfer is unusual in that the first entry by the transfer roll is in an inverted position on the plate. There is only one other instance of this in U.S. stamps, and that is the position just above this one on the plate, 71LLE, and which is classified as a type II.



BLUE Type II, 91-92-93LIE (FX-C, POLLA)

Stamp at left, 91L1E, is the triple transfer, one of which is inverted. The first entry by the transfer roll was in an inverted position; the second entry was normal; the third was a re-entry and out of position in relation to the second entry.

PLATE VARIETIES, FREAKS, UNUSUAL ITEM

Se-tenant Pairs

At left: created by differences in engraved design when plate was made and/or reworked; at right: "secret mark" added to left stamp in order to identify work of two different companies when a contract switch was made.

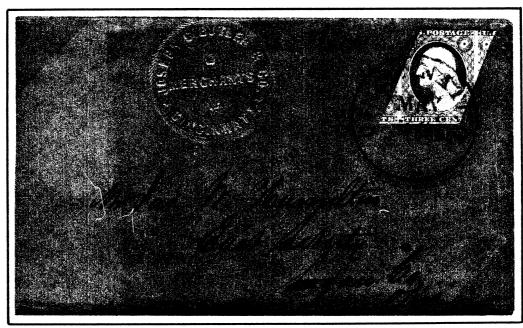


Type IIIa (Pos. 51R1E)

Type II



Small curl in scroll at right (Pos. 52R1E) end of upper label of left stamp



BLV'E

Imperforate stamp cut into rhomboid, or parallelogram, shape



Bruised plate BLUE





Ink smears BLUE

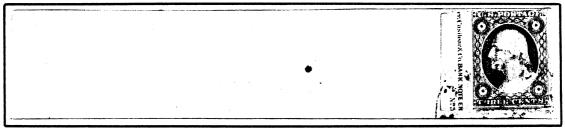


The "Ear ring" (plate flaw) BLUE

PLATINGS, VARIETIES, & OTHERS



BLUE Recut plate (position 10R2L) button outline has been recut



BLUE Plate number ("3") and imprint integral



BLUE

Manuscript cancel



Part India paper



Thin pelure paper



Stitch BLUE watermark



PURPLE Illegal overlap affixation
Prohibited because can obscure prior
cancel thus permitting re-use

FREAK GRILLS



BLUE Double, one twisted, at top



End roller RED



Inverted grill, points up (this type normally down)



Double, one split



Horizontally split



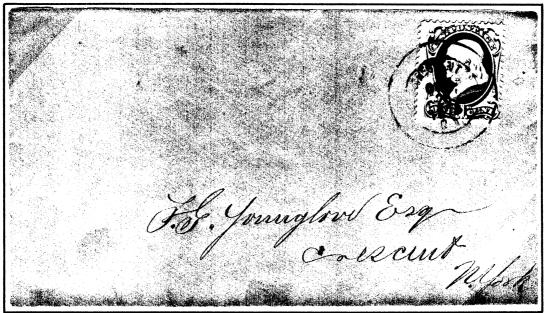
Double PURPLE



Vertically split
BLVE

EXPERIMENTAL, and *T.L.C.

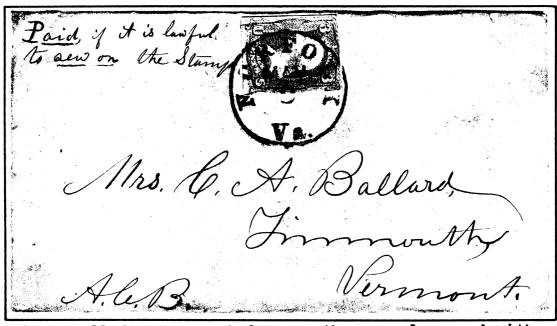
Experimental Cancel



"CRESCENT/OCT/26/1875/N.Y."

(all in center of double circle postmark)

Postage Sewn Onto Cover



BLUE Uncancelled stamp, cut from another envelope and with perforations trimmed off, sewn by hand on here. "Paid if it is lawful to sew on the stamp", sender applied.

*Tender loving care

PLATINGS and VARIETIES



Dropped relief (top stamp)



GREEN GREEN Interior horizontal plate crack



Gutter snipe at left



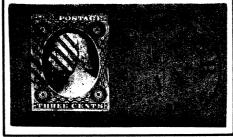
Normal PURPLE



Worn plate



Gutter snipe at right BUE



RED

Short transfer (at top)



Essay grill, often mistaken for grilled all over type "A" version



Contiguous plate number



Partial print impression incomplete
along right edge

SPECIALITIES



BLUE

Special Printing "THIRD (ASSISTANT P.M.G., P.O.D.)"



Normal vignette registration PURPLE



Precancel GREEN Glen Allen, Va.



High vignette PURPLE registration



Very thin paper



Vertical ribbed paper BLUE



Laid paper



Impression offset on back



Jumbo Purple



Two different color cancels



RED ("19")

U.S. used in the Confederacy (Dated May 30, 1861, red "19" is credit to Great Britain).

VARIOUS



Center guide line & dot BLUE



Private perforations applied to imperforate stamps by sewing machine pac



Red paint cancel RED



Plate flaw in neck



Damaged plate at left

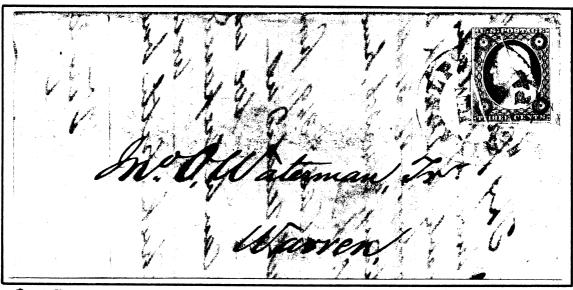
PRE-PRINTING PAPER CREASES



BLUE Vertical



Horizontal (two)

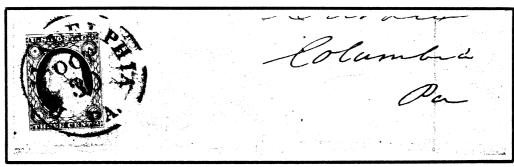


BLUE

Diagonal (three)

VARIOUS

Experimental Shade



BLUE

Originally issued in orange brown; plate number 1 saw extensive use, was recut in a number of positions. Stamp is position 38 after recutting, so is late plate usage, thus an "experimental" orange brown shade.



BLUE Used with
Baltimore Local

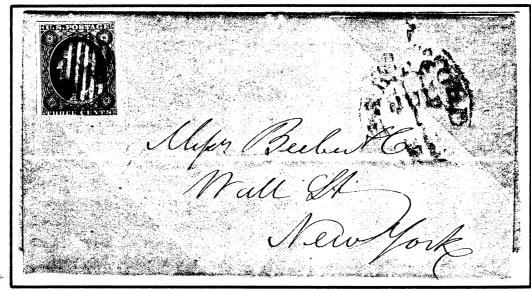


21mm selvage (largest known)



"Robber" copy
5 other stamps
included
BLVE

First Day Cover



MAGENTA

Cancelled Hartford, Conn, July 1, (1851, per date inside) first day stamp was on sale in post offices.

COMBINATION COVERS

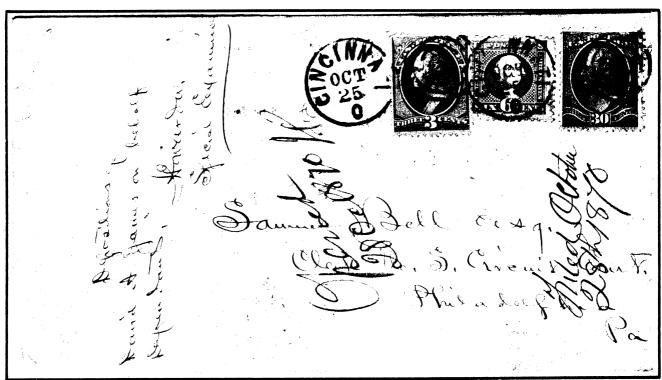
Foreign



BLUE

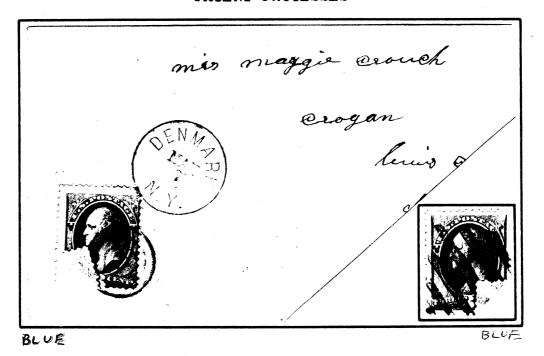
U S 1861 issue via New York and British Packet to London, where forwarding required addition of one penny red of Great Britain.

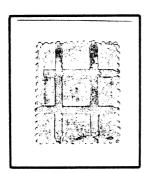
Domestic



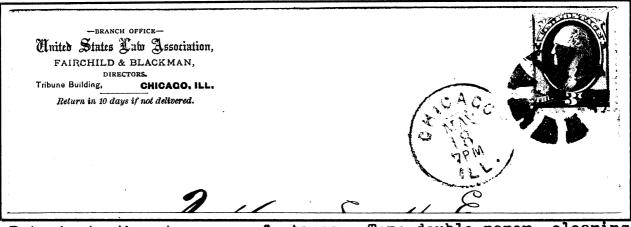
Combination of two different issues - - six cent from 1869 issue, BLUE three and thirty of the 1870 - - on this overweight letter.

PATENT PROCESSES









Patents to thwart re-use of stamps. Top: double paper, cleaning destroys thin top layer; center: stamp, placed over lattice work cut out in envelope sticks to contents, is destroyed when letter removed; bottom: canceler punches holes in stamp to ensure penetration of ink into paper.

FREAK PERFORATIONS, FRAUDULENT USE



BLUE

Vertical zig-zag





Vertical & horizontal off center



Horizontal off center



Horizontal doubled

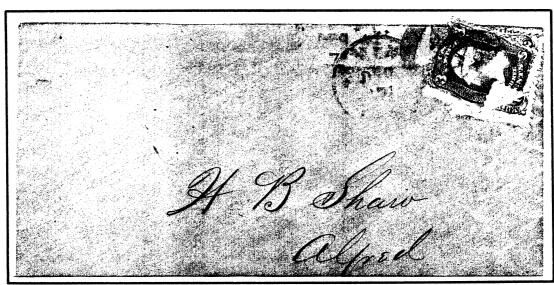


Partial doubling of horizontal

PURPLE



Vertical doubled

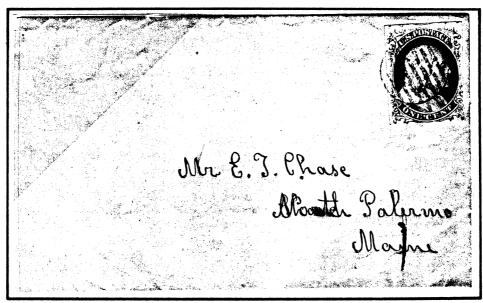


Attempted fraudulent use of a Revenue stamp to pay First Class postage rate

Printed by Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

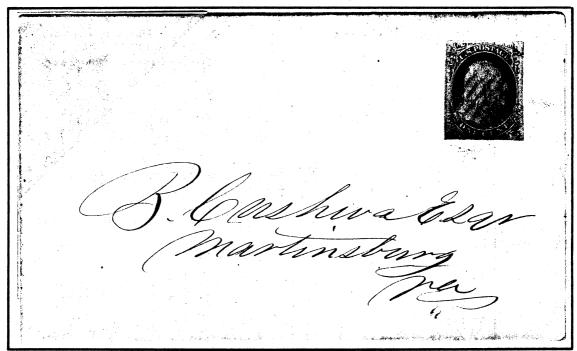
1851-56
Imperforate

Dirty & Clean Impressions



BLUE

By early 1854 the plate from which these Type IV stamps were printed had become worn to the extent the impressions took on a "dirty" appearance, as in example below. The plate was removed from service and cleaned, thereby restoring the clear sharp impression as above, but at the same time exposing a great amount of wear to, and cracks in, the plate.



RED

Printed by the National Bank Note Co. 1869

First Pictorial Issue

Attempt at Faking



RED



RED



RED

Normal examples of stamp are at top. This is one of the three values of the first U.S. issue on which inverts occurred during production. The thirty cent is the scarcest and most valuable of the three, a fact which beckons the "faker".

Shown are two examples from which the red printed portion of the stamps has somehow been chemically removed, leaving the red cancels intact. Next step would have been to replace the red printing in an upside down position, resulting in an "invert", and a high five figure value.

How, when, or by whom, this first step in the faking process was completed is not known.

FORGERIES and FAKES



Jean de Sperati's only forgery of a U.S. regular issue RED





a more valuable imperforate stamp RED

Perforations trimmed off to represent Arrow at top left indicates this originally a straight edge RED



Stamp and cancel are forgeries (never issued imperforate) BLUE



Fake fancy cancel GREEN (P7C)



Fake precancel ("G" for Glastonsbury, Conn) PURPLE



Fake cancel PURPLE



Cardboard proof thinned down & perforated; starburst cancel also fake