

POSTAGE STAMPS

[Travers' note re expenses of procuring, &c.]

The Act of March 3, 1851, says:

X X X X X X X

"And the expenses of procuring and providing all such postage stamps and letter envelopes, as are provided for or authorized by this act, shall be paid, after being adjusted by the auditor of the post-office department, on the certification of the Postmaster General, out of any money in the treasury arising from the revenues of the post-office department."

Stats. page 590.

Post Office Department,
March 8, 1851.

Gentlemen:

The 3rd Section of the "Act to reduce and modify the rates of postage &c.," approved March 3rd, 1851, requires the Postmaster General to provide and furnish to all deputy postmasters and to all other persons applying and paying therefor, suitable postage stamps of the denomination of three cents and of such other denominations as he may think expedient to facilitate the prepaying of postages provided for in said Act. Therefore, with the view of performing the duty thus enjoined, I invite you to present at the earliest day practicable an engraved design for a three cent stamp, which will be considered in competition with the engraved designs of other eminent engravers from which the Department will select one for adoption under the Act aforesaid.

The person or firm offering the preferred design will be employed to furnish all other stamps which may be needed under the act, provided the Department and such person or firm agree as to prices and other matters of detail before the 20th day of April next. A medallion head of Washington, in profile, done in the best style of line engraving with a finely engraved background in what the Department suggests. The denominations can be put in letters on the margin after the manner of the English stamps. The letters should be pure white and express the words "U.S. postage, three cents."

Very respectfully,
Yr. Obt. Ser't,
N.K. Hall,
P.M. Genl.

To.

Messrs. Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, N.Y.
" Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co., Pha.
" Baldwin & Adams, N.Y.
" Danforth, Bald & Co., Pha.
" Draper, Welsh & Co., Pha.
Mr. John E. Gavit, Albany, N.Y.

For additional details and commentary on the 1851 bidding process, see document (undated but written approximately June 1857) by Third PMG Marron. According to Marron an unsolicited bid was also received from Henry Benner of Washington D.C., however, we have no other documentation of Benner's bid. As will be seen, an unsolicited bid was also received from Neal and Pate of New York City.

This letter and the subsequent document by Marron raise the question if the essays as listed in Scott's Specialized Catalogue as properly identified by engraver and by year.:

Scott #11-E1 – is apparently the newspaper stamp essay made in 1850 by Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edison. It is not part of the 1851 Issue.

Scott #11-E5 – is apparently misidentified. Bradbury, Wilkinson was not a bidder on this contract. Additional the essay does not meet the specification stating it should say "U.S. Postage." The book The Story of the American Bank Note Company (published by the American Bank Note Company in 1959) states (page 31) that Bradbury did not begin work until 1856, and joined with Wilkinson much later than 1851.

Scott #11-E14 and #11-E15 – does not appear to fit. Bald (of Bald, Cousland) was a member of Danforth, Bald at the time the 1851 contract was submitted. Additionally #11-E15 does not state “U.S. Postage, three cents” as required.

New York, March 10, 1851

Hon. N.K. Hall, P.M. General
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of 8th inst. inviting us to present an engraved design for a three cent stamp, and suggesting "A medallion head of Washington, in profile, done in the best style of line engraving, with a finely executed background" - to be considered in competition with the engraved designs of other eminent engravers, &c.

In reply, we beg leave, respectfully to state, that we must decline entering into competition for the contract for furnishing the stamps, by engraving a design for the same, unless provision is first made to compensate us for the expense incurred in case our design should not be selected - We have heretofore furnished all the Five and Ten cent stamps, we believe, to the entire satisfaction of the Department, both as to style of Engraving, and to the promptitude and fidelity with which our contract has been fulfilled - The furnishing of these stamps, gummed ready for use, is attended with much responsibility, trouble and expense, and at present rates, yields scarcely any profit - We may safely say that we are not as yet paid for the plates out of the profits of the Five and Ten cent stamps, which are now done away with - We should not therefore be willing to undertake to furnish them for less than the present rates.

We have already submitted a design (engraved) which we think well adapted for a three cent stamp, and as that rate will undoubtedly be temporary, we purposely avoided putting the head of Washington on it, thinking that would be more appropriate on the permanent rate of two cents, and the Head of Franklin (a printer) on the one cent or newspaper rate.

Our ability to execute a stamp, in as good style as it can be done in the world, is well known, and after any design that may be required, and should not the one already presented by us be approved, we should be willing to undertake to furnish an engraved stamp that would be satisfactory, provided we were to have the contract on the same terms as the present - We suggested and furnished the designs for the five & ten cent stamps, as also the design for the Three cent stamp above referred to, without charge, but we are unwilling to incur further expense for so small an object, resting upon the contingency of a decision between the productions of several different engravers.

We have the honor to be,
Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servts,
Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson.

New York Mch 14, 1851

Mess Neale & Pate

Offer to furnish the Post Master General a Steel Plate containing One hundred engravings of either of the enclosed samples of the best workmanship for \$150\$.

They also offer to furnish the Paper & print One hundred sheets containing Ten Thousand Stamps for two Dollars per 100 sheets, already sized for use.

Neale & Pate

This was an unsolicited bid. No essays are known that have been attributed to Neal and Pate, however, some type of sample of their work was submitted, as indicated above.

New York March 15 - 1851

Hon N K Hall

Sir

Mesr Neale & Pate who are known to us as respectable and responsible men and whose business is that of Copper Plate printing have asked that we should forward the enclosed for your inspection and approval if you think proper so to do.

We are your Obedient Sevts
E & P W Merub

***** .

It is possible that the letter dated March 14, 1851, from Neal and Pate was attached to this letter and forwarded to PMG Hall. Perhaps some additional samples of Neal and Pate's work were forwarded for inspection to the PMG.

Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson.
Bank Note Engravers
No. 48 Merchants Exchange

New York April 8th 1851

J. Marron Esq.
Washington City,

Dear Sir,

Since the interview which our Mr. Rawdon had with you, and your explanation of the letter of the P.M. Genl. and of the manner in which the order for postage stamps was to be given out, we have concluded to address you on the subject, for the purpose of saying, that in declining to furnish an engraved stamp, to be considered in competition with others, we acted under a misunderstanding of your views, and consequently under a feeling that injustice was done us, by throwing open to competition, a matter that we felt ourselves entitled to, by tacit, if not by actual agreement, on account and in consideration of our having furnished the dies and plates for the five and ten cent stamps, without charge, we having consented to do so, on the verbal understanding, that we were to furnish all the stamps that might be required, of any denominations, on the same terms, we taking the risk of there being a large or small amt. required of each, and provided always, that we gave satisfaction in the style of work, and in the promptitude and faithfulness with which we fulfilled the orders of the Department, - under this expectation, we made arrangements to conduct the business with safety to the Department and convenience to ourselves, for some time to come, and in so doing, we incurred considerable expense. - The price at which we undertook to furnish the stamps afforded so small a profit, that it would be only in case a very large amount was required, that we could realize the cost of the dies and plates, to say nothing of compensation for superintendence, and the care and responsibility incident to having such large amounts of money (equal to U.S. coin,) passing through so many hands, in the various processes of printing, pressing, gumming &c, and as we have not yet been compensated for the five and ten cent stamps, and as the style of engraving of the three principal houses would be so nearly equal that it would be next to impossible to say that one of the stamps submitted, was better than another, (the design being the same,) and consequently others having no claims, would be placed on a par with us, we felt unwilling to incur the additional expense of furnishing an engraved stamp for three cents, and on the basis that we supposed was contemplated.

Finding however, that we have misunderstood your views, and that our claims would have been duly considered, we have concluded to apply for the contract, and provided you will now permit us to do so, and sufficient time can be allowed for us to prepare a stamp to be submitted, (say to the 10th May,) and we would undertake to furnish the stamps, (after the design suggested, and to be approved by yourself and the P.M. Genl.) on the same terms as heretofore, and have a given quantity ready for delivery on the 20th May.

Please excuse the trouble we have given you in this matter, and by favoring us with a reply to this letter, greatly oblige,

Yours Very Respectfully,
Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson.

P.S. We address this unofficially, thinking it may be too late to consider our application, in which case, we should prefer to have no attention called to it.

An essay (Scott #11E2), attributed to Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson is known. It's appearance suggests it might have been rushed to completion and submitted to the Post Office.

P.O. Department
April 12th 1851

Gentlemen

Although your letter to me of the 8th instant did not profess to be addressed to me officially, I nevertheless deemed it my duty to bring its contents to the notice of the Postmaster General, that he might determine whether he would, as you suggest, fix a time later than the 20th of this month for selecting the new postage stamps from the specimens which may be offered under his invitation of the 8th of last month, and I am now instructed to say that it is not considered expedient to fix a later period for that purpose than the one mentioned.

I am very resp'y &c
J. Marron
Third Ass't P.M. Gen'l.

Mess Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson
New York, N.Y.

See Rawdon, Wright's letter of April 8, 1851. Apparently an essay (Scott #11E2) was prepared (and perhaps submitted). This essay looks rushed in appearance is not of the quality of other RWHE work.

Post Office Department.
April 22nd, 1851.

Gentlemen:

I have examined the several specimens of engraving for postage stamps submitted in pursuance of the invitations given by the Department in March last and find the productions of two or three firms so nearly equal in merit that the question of price may with propriety be permitted to influence my decision. Therefore, I have to request that you submit at the earliest convenient moment the price per thousand at which you will furnish stamps printed on steel plates from steel dies corresponding with the specimens exhibited by you; the stamps to be printed one hundred on a sheet and delivered at your place of business gummed and ready for use, in sealed packages of 200 sheets. The dies and plates to be furnished and kept in continual repair without charge and to belong to and remain in the custody of this Department except when in use by you. You will also state what your price will be if the business be divided so as to give the furnishing of the three cent stamps to one establishment and the two denominations of one and six or, one and twelve, to another. Your proposals should state first the price per thousand on contract of 4 years for all the stamps the Department may require of every rate. Second, the price for the three cent stamps alone or, such stamps or rate as Congress may substitute for it, and a contract of like duration; and, third, the price for the other two denominations for the same period. Any further information which may be desired before submitting your proposal can be had on application to the Third Assistant P.M. General.

Respectfully &c.
N.K. Hall,
P.M. Genl.

To
Danforth, Bald & Co.
Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.,
Present.

This is the first mention we have of 6c, 1c, and 12c stamps. Essays of the 6c value are known, but the design was later changed to the 1c value.

Washington D.C. April 22, 1851

Sir

In answer to your communication of this date we have the honor to reply that we should be pleased to contract with the Post Office Department for the furnishing of the required Stamps, gummed and ready for use, as follows:

1st At Twenty Cents per thousand Stamps on a contract of 4 years for All the Stamps the Department may require of every rate—

2d At Twenty Cents per thousand Stamps for the 3 cent Stamp, or such Stamp or rate as Congress may substitute for it, on a Contract of like duration—

3d At Twenty five Cents per thousand Stamps for such other Stamps as the department may designate, on a Contract of the Same period—

Hoping to be favored with the Contract

We are

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servts
Danforth, Bald & Co
Engravers
Phialda & New York

Hon W. K. Hall
Post Master General

This is apparently no change from Danforth, Bald's prior bid (see undated Marron document (June 1857).

Washington April 23d 1851

Sir

In reply to your communication of yesterday we beg leave to submit for your consideration the following terms for furnishing Postage Stamps printed on Steel Plates from Steel dies corresponding with the Specimens exhibited by us —The Stamps to be printed one hundred on a sheet and delivered at our place of business gummed and ready for use, in Sealed packages of 200 Sheets—

The dies and Plates to be furnished and kept in continual repair without charge, and to belong to and remain in the custody of the Post Office Department, except when in use by us—

Viz

1st If the Contract be given to us to furnish All the Stamps the department may require during a term of four years, we will furnish them at the rate of fifteen Cents for every thousand Stamps—

2nd We will furnish the 3 Cent Stamp alone (or such other rate as Congress may substitute for it within four years) at the rate of Seventeen Cents for every thousand Stamps—

3rd We will furnish the other two denominations (either One and Six Cents or one and twelve Cents, as you may determine) at the rate of twenty Cents for every thousand Stamps—

We could furnish impressions of all the Stamps just as early as we could from only one, and we should make a separate plate for each and print the 3 plates at the same time on 3 different presses, so that in point of time, nothing would be gained by dividing the order—

In conclusion we beg leave to say, that if out of the four heads presented by us, there is any one which is not in every respect satisfactory to you, we pledge ourselves to reengrave it entirely, in time to meet the wants of the Department and guarantee that we will produce such a head as shall meet your entire approbation—nothing short of that will satisfy us, and we would willingly incur any expense or pains in producing a new head rather than you should accept one to which you had any objections—

If you should desire to change the denominations on any of the Stamps presented by us it can be done—

Very respectfully

Your Obedt Sts

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

Honl. N. K. Hall
Post Master General

[Docket]

April 23, 1851
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Proposals to

furnish Postage Stamps

Ordered that the proposition of Mess Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co to furnish all the Postage Stamps to be ordered by the Department for the next four years is accepted with such modifications as have been verbally made by the Postmaster General & Mr Carpenter subject to such additional provisions in regard to the detail as may be deemed necessary by the Postmaster General & that the 3rd assistant notify Mr. Carpenter of this acceptance & prepare the necessary contract.

Hall

The above order was Made April 23rd, 1851 and it was communicated to Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co by letter from me of same date.

J. Marron
Third asst P M Genl

[Docket]

April 23 1851
P. Master Genl. Order to
give contract to Toppham
Carpenter & Co for printing
Stamps

“Toppan” is misspelled in various ways in these early letters, an example of which is seen in the docketing. See TCC letter of 6/28/60 for additional reference to the four heads (essays) mentioned above.

Post Office Department
April 23 1851

Gentlemen

I am directed by the Postmaster General to say that he has accepted your proposition to furnish all the postage stamps to be ordered by the Department for the next four years, subject, however, to such modifications as have been verbally agreed upon with Mr. S.H. Carpenter and subject to such additional provisions in regard to the detail as may be deemed necessary by the Postmaster General. A contract will be prepared in duplicate and sent to you for execution in a few days.

Respectfully &c
J. Marron
Third Ass't P.M. Genl

Mess Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.
Philadelphia, Pa.

May 10, 1850 [Editor's note: In spite of the "1850" year date, this is clearly an 1851 document]

Stamp Contract

1. If Carpenter Casilear & Co have their stamps completed it might be well to annex copies of these to the Contract as specimens of the Stamps until changed and have the contract provide that if other plates were ordered or engraved they would be at least equal to those from which the specimens were printed.
2. Perhaps it might be well to say that they should be as well gummed & prepared for use as those made for and used by the Post Office Dept in England.
3. The provision for Color should be extended & changed so as to meet the case of a larger number of different Stamps.
4. The good quality of the kind or rather the bad quality of work should be provided for.
5. The mode of appointing the agent to receive the Stamps should be pointed out precisely as in the section of the new act in respect to forgery &c.
6. After the word "appoint" at the end of 13th line 2d page add "from time to time."
7. I think I would leave the dies &c with the Treasurer of the Mint or the Director or other Chief Officer of the Mint.
8. The additional stipulations contained in the Carpenter letters and the Stipn about making new plates &c if required & the [two words illegible] in case any of these should be counterfeited should also be inserted.
9. For greater security too I think they should agree to procure a kind of paper so peculiar that they themselves shall be able easily to distinguish & that they should if required furnish monthly, or with each set of Stamps delivered affdt. Of one of the partners stating the whole quantity of such paper delivered to their Foreman & accounting fully for the same by such affdt. & the affdt. of the foreman and procuring quarterly the affdt. of the paper maker his foreman or Clerk showing that all of the paper of that peculiar kind made by him has been delivered to C C & Co & they then accounting for all of that.

It is perhaps well to put also in the Contract a provision for the same precautions as [illegible word] as to affdts & as are now used.

I don't now think of any thing else.

NKH

The above are hand written notes from PMH Hall regarding proposed changes in the 1851 contract.

Post Office Department
May 16, 1851

Gentlemen

Please give me the name of each individual composing your firm that I may insert them in the contract which I am preparing for the furnishing of the postage stamps for this Department. When will the dies and plates be ready and how soon will you be able to commence printing the stamps? The Postmaster General will probably return on the 23rd. Will you be able to furnish proof impressions by that time?

Respectfully &c
J. Marron
Third Ass't P.M.G.

Mess Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philadelphia, Pa

Apparently, no dies or plates had yet been finished, but see letter of 5/24/51 for additional information.

Philada May 20th 1851

Sir

Your favor of the 26th inst. was duly received. We have delayed our answer that we might be able to state at what day proofs of all the stamps could be furnished, and we can now inform you that they will be forwarded on the 25th ins.

The names of the individuals composing our firm are

Charles Toppan
Samuel H. Carpenter
John C. Casilear
Henry E. Saulnier
William C. Smillie

Respectfy
yrs &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

To
J. Marron Esqr
Third Asst P. M. General
Washington
D.C.

Philada May 21, 1851.

Sir

On the return of the writer to the City this morning, it was discovered that in giving you the names of the partners of our firm, one of them was erroneously written—please find below a correct list

Viz

Charles Toppan
Samuel H. Carpenter
John W. Casilear
Henry E. Saulnier
William C. Smillie

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst Postmaster General
Washington

[Docket]

21 May 1851
Toppan Carpenter C. & Co
Philada

With Names of individual
members of the firm of T. C. C. & Co.

Philada. May 24, 1851.

Hon. N.K. Hall
Post Master General

Sir

We have now the pleasure of enclosing proof impressions of the new Three Cent Stamp, and trust that its execution will meet your entire approbation. - We have taken great pains to make the head as perfect as possible, the likeness being an exact copy of the largest head & approved by you - We also enclose proofs of a new Stamp engraved by us for the "Carriers Stamp", the head being a copy of that on the One Cent Stamp - We have prepared this Stamp to submit to you under the impression that you would prefer to have the Carriers Stamp entirely different in appearance from the Post Office Stamp for One Cent - You will observe that we have engraved merely the words "Carriers Stamp", presuming that you would not deem it necessary to have the amount engraved on it, but if we have mistaken in this, we can readily alter it and insert the amount - Having finished the plates for the Twelve and One Cent Stamps (proofs of which are herewith) and being now ready to transfer and finish the plate for the Three Cent Stamp and also the Carriers Stamp (if you desire it) you will greatly oblige us by a reply at your earliest convenience as to whether both of these stamps are entirely satisfactory-

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

24 May 1851

Toppan Carpenter C & Co
Philada

With proofs of Stamps

Plate proofs of the 1c and 12c were submitted on this date. Perhaps die proofs were previously submitted but we do not have supporting corresponding on this point.

This letter provides evidence that the 12c and 1c were transferred prior to the 3c stamp, but it is not clear which of the 12c or 1c came first.

A die proof of the 3c was submitted this date for approval, after which TCC was ready to transfer the plate.

A die proof of the (Franklin) Carrier was submitted this date for approval, after which TCC was ready to transfer the plate. The Franklin Carrier was apparently put on the back burner until the 1c, 3c, and 12c stamps could be completed and the initial supplies issued to the postmasters. The next correspondence on carrier stamps is August 2, 1851.

Philada. May 29, 1851

Sir:

The contract for the Stamps not having yet been signed, we venture to ask whether you will not consent to extend the time to eight, instead of four years - There are many reasons which induce us to ask for this extension, we will however trouble you with only one, and that is the apprehension that during the first four years the number of stamps used may not be sufficiently large to remunerate us (as we think we ought to be) at the low rate at which we have undertaken the work - If therefore there should be in your mind no serious objection to extending the time, you will confer a great favor on us by so doing -

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

Hon N.K. Hall
Post Master General.

Despite the formal bidding process, there were no hard, fast rules regarding contracts. The contract was originally based on bids for a period of four years. Toppan, Carpenter now informal asks for an extension to eight. As seen below, an extension was granted to six years. See document (undated but approximately June 1857) by Third PMG Marron for additional details.

Post Office Department
May 30, 1851

Gentlemen

I have received your letter of the 29th inst requesting that the contract with your firm for supplying this Department with postage stamps may be made for eight years instead of four, and in consideration of your having assented by Mr. Saml H Carpenter, to certain modifications or stipulations not originally contemplated by either party, I have concluded to make the contract with you for six years, which I hope will be satisfactory. The contracts in duplicate are being prepared for that term and will be forwarded to you for signature without delay. I have now to request that you print and prepare, as speedily as practicable one hundred and twenty thousand dollars of the following denominations and in the proportions & colors stated, viz: --

\$24,000	in	twelve	cent	stamps	printed	in	black
\$75,000	in	three	"	"	"	"	red
\$21,000	in	one	"	"	"	"	blue

When you shall have prepared about one half of each or either of the above kinds you will please put them up in parcels of 300 sheets, enveloped in strong brown paper for delivery to such agent as I shall by instrument of writing under seal of the Department, authorize to receive them. The remainder of the order you will of course go on to fill as fast as possible and when advised that they are ready they also will be delivered to an agent bearing the due authority from me. I shall be prepared so soon as the present order is completed to give you another one for a large amount and I therefore wish you to be in readiness.

Respectfully &c
N.K. Hall
P.M. General

Mess Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philadelphia, Pa.

Philad. May 31, 1851

Dear Sir:

You favor of 30th is rec'd - For your kindness in extending the term of the Contract to Six Years, we beg you to accept our sincere thanks-

The Plates for the 1 3 & 12 Cents Stamps are all ready for Press, and we will immediately on receipt of the paper (which is promised on Monday) commence the printing -

Very Respectfully,
Yr Obt Servts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

Hon N.K. Hall
Post Master General.

The plates are now finished, and apparently TCC is ready to start printing when the paper arrives. The contract is not yet signed, but they apparently trust it will be.

(Post Office Department
May 31, 1851)

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen

By direction of the Postmaster General I transmit herewith, the contract, in duplicate, for furnishing this Department with postage stamps for six years from the day upon which you shall execute it. Upon returning the contract, in duplicate, duly signed and attested, the Postmaster General will sign and return one of them to you; the other will be lodged in the Auditors office of this Department.

J. Marron
(Third Assistant P.M. Gen'l.)

The contract was submitted for signature this date, but not signed until 6/10/51.

Philad. June 2nd 1851

Sir

Your favor of 31st ulto with contract (in duplicate) is recd. They shall be forwarded to New York for the signatures of Messrs Casilear and Smillie and returned to you as soon as they can be properly attested—Is it necessary to have the signatures acknowledged before an officer of the United States, or will the Signatures for one or more witnesses at signing be sufficient?

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.

Penciled at bottom of June 2, 1851 letter:

In reply to your letter of the 31st ulto I would suggest that the Postmaster of Philadelphia and New York respectively attest the signing of the contract by the members of your firm residing in each city. If, however, the signatures have been attested in either place by other individuals, that form of attestation will not be objected to by the Department.

[Docket]

June 2d 1851.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Mess Toppan, Carpenter,
Casilear & Co acknowledging
receipt of Contract & inquiring
as to the mode of attesting
the signatures.

Answered

Post Office Department
June 4 1851

Gentlemen

In reply to your letter of the 31st ultimo I would suggest that the Postmaster of Philadelphia and New York respectively attest the signing of the contract by the members of your firm residing in each city. If however, the signatures have been attested in either place, by other individuals, that form of attestation will not be objected to by the Department.

Yours very respectfully
J. Marron
Third Asst P.M. Genl

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter, Casilear & Co
Philadelphia, Pa.

Philada. June 5, 1851

Dear Sir

Your favor of 4th is recd. The Signatures of the members of our firm in New York have already been attested by two witnesses, but immediately on the return of our Mr Toppan (which we presume will be on Monday next at latest) the Signatures of the members of our firm here will be attested by the Post Master of this City and the Contract returned to the Department.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst P. M. General

[Docket}

June 5 1851
Philadelphia

Toppan Carpenter Casilear
& Co promises to have the
Signatures of the members
of their firm attested by
the PM Phila & the contract
returned to the Department

The almost two week delay was apparently due to Toppan's travel.

Philada June 10, 1851.

Sir

Herewith please find the Contracts for the Postage Stamps with signatures of the members of our firm resident in this City, attested by W. J. P. White Esqr Postmaster.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Honl
N. K. Hall
Post Master General
Washington

[Docket]

New York
June 10, 1851

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co enclosing the
Signatures of their firm
attested by the PM at
Philada

Articles of agreement made and entered into between the United States of America, by Nathan K. Hall, Postmaster General, of the one part, and Charles Toppan, Samuel H. Carpenter, John W. Casilear, Henry E. Saulnier and William C. Smillie, known as and constituting the firm of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company, Engravers of the City of Philadelphia, of the other part witnesseth;

That it is agreed on the part of the United States of America to employ the said firm of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company of Philadelphia to engrave and print for the use of the Post Office Department of the United States all the postage stamps which may be required by the Postmaster General under the "Act to reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States and for other purposes," approved March 3rd, 1851, and to pay them therefor at the rate of fifteen cents per thousand stamps as soon as they shall be executed and received by the Post Office Department, and further that the whole printing and furnishing of postage stamps by every description for the use of the Post Office Department, including carriers stamps when those shall be furnished by the Department, shall be given to them the said Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company, exclusively, for the full term of six years from the date of this agreement; and it agreed on the part of the said Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company that they will engrave steel dies and provide steel plates for furnishing postage stamps for the United States Post Office Department of the denominations of one, three and twelve cents without charge for said dies and plates, or for keeping them in continual repair, and that they will engrave and furnish without charge any additional steel dies and plates for such postage stamps of other denominations as the public service may require, to be by them likewise kept in continual repair without charge, and that they will in like manner engrave and furnish and keep in continual repair without charge to the Post Office Department such steel dies and steel plates as may be ordered for printing carrier stamps, and that if any of the dies and plates so engraved and furnished by them shall be counterfeited, they will furnish others of new designs and keep them in repair without charge, and that they will furnish stamps from all or any of the plates and dies herein stipulated by them to be engraved and furnished, printed on suitable paper of the best quality, well and fully prepared for use with gum, at the rate of fifteen cents for every thousand stamps. The stamps are to be executed in the best style of line engraving and all the dies and plates engraved and provided under this agreement are to belong to and be the exclusive property of the United States of America for the use of the Post Office Department, and the said Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company further agree that all the stamps shall be printed with the best quality of ink and that the Postmaster General may prescribe from time to time the colors of the ink to be used in printing any or all of the stamps the Department may order or require without subjecting it to any additional expense, and they further agree that they will not prepare, or permit to be prepared in their establishment any similar dies, plates or engravings from which printed postage stamps might be issued resembling those prepared for the Post Office Department, and further that they will adopt every means and precaution within their power to prevent the issue by any one in their employment or connected with their establishment, of postage stamps from the dies and plates engraved and used for the Post Office Department or any other stamps resembling them. The stamps are to be prepared by the said Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company in all respects ready for use without additional labor or expense to the Post Office Department. It is further agreed by the parties of the second part that the orders of the Postmaster General for postage stamps shall be executed with all reasonable despatch and that the stamps shall be delivered from time to time to such persons as shall be authorized to receive the same by an instrument of writing, duly executed under the hand of the Postmaster General and the seal of the Post Office Department, and that on the delivery of each parcel of stamps ordered, they, the said parties of the second part, will prepare and furnish the agent authorized to receive them, with an accurate statement verified by oath of one of said parties of the second part, of the number of stamps prepared and delivered by them to said agent of the department. And the parties of the second part further agree that if the Postmaster General shall deem it necessary, he may appoint a Special Agent of the Department who shall be at all times present when the dies and plates are taken from the place of deposit hereinafter mentioned to be delivered to the parties of the second part for the execution of any order for stamps given by the Department and be and remain with them during the process of printing and preparing said stamps and receive them as fast as they may be finished. When any order for stamps is filled or completed, then the dies and plates are to be carefully enveloped and sealed up, the agent of the Post Office Department placing his seal and Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company placing their seal upon the package or packages, which are to be deposited with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Philadelphia for safekeeping. When the plates and dies or either of them are again required for use, the opening of the package or packages is to take place in the presence of the Agent of the Post Office Department and one of the firm of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company, or their Agent, each breaking his own seal. And the said parties of the second part do further covenant and agree that they will be responsible to

the United States for any and all damages that may be sustained by any violation of any of the foregoing stipulations or by any omission to fulfill them on their part in their true spirit and meaning and that for such violation or omission the Postmaster General may have the right of annulling this agreement.

Witness our hands and respective seals this tenth day of June 1851.

Witness to signatures of
Charles Toppan
Samuel H. Carpenter &
Henry E. Saulnier
J. P. White

P.M.

Chas. Toppan
S. H. Carpenter
J. W. Casilear
H. E. Saulnier
W. C. Smillie

Witness to signatures of
John W. Casilear and
William C. Smillie
D. G. Johnson
W. H. Earle

N. K. HALL
Postmaster General

Issue of 1851

[Extracts from circular announcing the new issue.]

"Regulations Concerning Postage Stamps."

Post Office Department,
June 10, 1851.

To facilitate the pre-payment of postages upon letters and packages, postage stamps of the following denominations are provided and furnished by the Postmaster General, pursuant to the 3d section of the "act to reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States, and for other purposes," approved 3d March, 1851, viz:

No. 1, Printed in black, representing the head of Washington, of the denomination of twelve cents.

No. 2, Printed in red, representing the head of Washington in profile, of the denomination of three cents.

No. 3, Printed in blue, representing the head of Franklin in profile, of the denomination of one cent.

These stamps will be furnished to one or more of the principal postmasters in each county, who will be required to supply the other postmasters in their respective vicinities, upon being paid for the amounts furnished.

All other persons wishing supplies of stamps can obtain them from the postmaster at the county seat nearest their residences, or from the postmaster of any other office having them for sale.

All postage stamps affixed to any letter, or packet, or parcel of any description, must be immediately and effectually cancelled in the office in which the letter, packet, or parcel may be deposited for delivery or transmission.

At the larger offices they will be cancelled with an instrument to be furnished by the Department. In post offices not so furnished, the stamps must be thoroughly cancelled by making several heavy crosses or parallel lines upon each of them with a pen dipped in good black ink. The cancelling instrument should be used with black printers' ink, when that material can be obtained.

If the cancelling have been omitted on the mailing of the letter, packet, or parcel, or if the cancellation be incomplete, the postmaster at the office of delivery will cancel the stamp in the manner directed, and forth with report the delinquent postmaster to the Postmaster General, as the law requires.

The five and ten cent postage stamps issued by this Department under the provisions of the 11th section of the act of March 3d, 1847, and now in use by the public, will not be received in pre-payment of postage after the 30th of the present month. Therefore, persons holding any such will, as soon as practicable after that date, and before the 30th day of September next, present them for redemption to the postmaster of whom they were purchased, or to the nearest postmaster who has been authorized to sell postage stamps.

Postmasters who have heretofore received stamps for sale directly from the Department, and such postmasters only, are directed to pay cash for all genuine postage stamps of the denominations of five and ten cents, which have not been before used, and which shall be presented to them for redemption between the 1st of July and the 30th of September of the present year.

NATHAN K. HALL,

Postmaster General.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC AND INSTRUCTIONS TO POSTMASTERS.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

June 11, 1851.

The five and ten cent postage stamps issued by this Department under the provisions of the 11th section of the Act of March 3d, 1847, and now in use by the public, will not be received in prepayment of postage after the 30th of the present month. Therefore persons holding any such will, as soon as practicable after that date, and before the 30th day of September next, present them for redemption to the Postmaster of whom they were purchased, or to the nearest Postmaster who has been authorized to sell postage stamps.

Postmasters who have heretofore received stamps for sale directly from the Department, and such Postmasters only, are directed to pay cash for all genuine postage stamps, of the denominations of five and ten cents, as above mentioned, which shall be presented to them for redemption between the 1st July and the 30th September of the present year. -

Postmasters who shall redeem postage stamps under the foregoing order will return them to the Third Assistant Postmaster General, with particular certified statements thereof, on the last day of each month in the quarter ending September 30th, 1851.

Postmasters who have been authorized to sell postage stamps will close their stamp account on their quarterly accounts current by the amount of stamps remaining unsold by them, respectively, on the 30th June 1851, and enclose the stamps unsold in sealed package, addressed to the Third Assistant Postmaster General accompanied by a separate statement, showing the amount of each denomination of stamps returned.

The statements or accounts of stamps received for sale by Postmasters and by them returned, as above directed must be entirely separate and distinct from the statements of stamps redeemed.

N.K. HALL
Postmaster General

(Post Office Department)
June 13, 1851

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.
Philadelphia, Pa

Gentlemen: As the time is at hand when we should be dispatching postage stamps to our distant Postmasters, we are anxious to know when you will be able to deliver the whole or any important portion of those ordered. Please let me know two days before being ready to deliver them that we may have a duly authorized agent on the spot to receive them and bring them here at once.

I am very respy
Yr obt servt
(Signed) J. Marron
Third Asst P.M.G.

Philad. June 16, 1851.

Sir:

Your favor of 13th is recd - We have printed (in all) 1,500,000 Stamps and shall continue to print with all expedition until the whole number ordered shall completed - We shall commence the gumming tomorrow, and as this branch of business is new to us we shall not at first get on as rapidly as we could wish, however, we think you may rely upon our having ready for delivery on this day week (23rd) about the following - Viz. -

200,000	Stamps of 12 Cents
800,000	do " 3 do
600,000	do " 1 do.

If it would be any accommodation to you to have a part of the above delivered on Saturday next, they shall be ready on that day -

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.

Post Office Department
June 20, 1851

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philadelphia

Gentlemen

By direction of the Postmaster General, I transmit herewith a duplicate of the contract between the U.S. and yourselves for providing and furnishing Postage Stamps for the use of this Dept.

The Postmaster General has given A.B. Waller Esqr one of our Special Agents the requisite authority under seal of the Department to receive from you all the postage stamps you may have ready for delivery accordingly, with the verified statement of the quantity as the contract requires. The Department is most anxious that the stamps ordered shall be delivered with the least possible delay and that you may at once make your arrangements on a plan to receive the greatest practicable expedition the Postmaster General requests that in addition to the order now in your hands you prepare without delay and furnish the following quantities and kinds of Postage Stamps viz

500,000	twelve cent stamps equal to	60,000:
10,000,000	three cent stamps " "	300,000:
<u>6,000,000</u>	one cent stamps " "	<u>60,000:</u>
16,500,000	Stamps	\$420,000

The twelve cent stamps can be put up in parcels of 200 impressions each, the threes, in parcels of 300 impressions each, and the ones in parcels of 500: - laying in all cases slips of paper between each hundred.

Very respectfully
J. Marron.
3d Asst P.M.G.

P.O. Department
June 20, 1851

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philadelphia Pa.

The bearer hereof (a special agent of the Post Office Department) A.B. Waller Esqr is duly authorized and empowered by me to receive and receipt for all the postage stamps which you may have ready for delivery on the presentation of this authority. Witness by hand and

Seal of the Post Office Department
this twentieth day of June 1851.

N.K. Hall
P.M. General

Philada. June 21, 1851.

Sir:

We have this day delivered to A.B. Waller Esqr the following Packages of Postage Stamps -
Viz:

5	Packages Ea.	Contg.	20,000	Stamps of 12 Cents - say	100,000	Stamps
10	do	" "	30,000	do " 3 Cents - "	300,000	"
2	do	" "	50,000	do " 1 Cent - "	100,000	"

We regret to say that a large number of the above stamps (particularly those of 3 Cents) show too evidently the marks of haste incident to getting them off in time, and if you can (consistently with the wants of the public service) withhold a portion of the 3s from circulation until Wednesday, we will have ready for delivery on that day 500,000 of the 3s in a much better state - The process of gumming being entirely new to us, we were obliged to call to our aid such persons as we presumed understood the business, but unfortunately they not only failed to do the work well, but they utterly spoiled about 80,000 stamps. We have now got this department better organized and hope hereafter to get along smoothly - We therefore ask for your kind indulgence for the past & we think we can venture to promise better results for the future -

Very Respectfully
Yr Obt Servts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l -

This was the first delivery of stamps under this contract. It included 12c stamps, which we know from the record book kept in DC were shipped to postmasters. The earliest known use of the 12c stamp is August 4, 1851.

This is the beginning of many "gum" related letters, complaints, and corrective actions by TCC.

Post Office Department
June 23 1851

Messrs Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philadelphia, Pa

Gent

Having despatched in parcels to distant Post offices in the north west all the postage stamps received by Mr. Waller, which appeared capable of being sent in the mails without being destroyed by the sheets sticking together, we are waiting anxiously for a further supply, and must beg of you to hasten their manufacture as much as possible. An Agent will be sent to take from you all that may be ready on Wednesday the 25th and you will please telegraph me the morning of that day the quantity you will have ready for delivery in the afternoon.

I am very respectfully
Yr obt servt
(Signed) J. Marron
(Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l)

The Post Office is out of stock, due to loading the pipeline with the new issues with postmasters across the United States.

Private

Philada. June 24, 1851.

Dear Sir

Your very kind letter on the subject of the stamps has been recd., and I assure you that so far from taking your remarks amiss, I value them as the best evidence of your kindness & friendly feeling - No one could have felt more anxious than I have, that every part of this work should be executed in the best manner - not only satisfactory to you, but to the public, and I fear that to that over anxiety (which we have felt on this subject) may be attributed all of the difficulty about the color and much of the trouble about the gumming - We were so desirous of giving a handsome color that we were induced to use in the mixture for the 3 cent stamps a new material which unfortunately altho' giving brilliancy to the color seems to have destroyed the adhesiveness of the whole - this we did not suspect and did not discover until after we commenced to handle them for gumming (when we had several thousand impressions printed) - We immediately stopped the printing of that color and are now using one which appears perfectly fast, and I trust that those printed hereafter will in this respect be all that you could wish -

This misfortune however seems to be the necessity for using the first printed, for want of sufficient time to replace them with those of a more standing color - If their use could be avoided, we would cheerfully submit to the loss of the whole that we have printed - Of the 1ct which we shall have ready to send you tomorrow, there are about 280,000 stamps which are of the color first used, the residue are of the second printing - with regard to the Blue, I think you will find that that color will stand perfectly - we have tried a large number of the sheets therefore that you will find that to be all right -

We were told that it was necessary to use sugar in the gum to prevent its cracking, and there can be no doubt that much too large a quantity was used - there shall be no cause of complaint for the future in this score - In order to do every part of this work in the most satisfactory manner we wrote to England (to the gentleman having the contract for Postage Stamps there) for information as to the material used for gumming the English Stamps, and by last steamer we have recd. a reply - the article used there is purchased at a certain place in London and we shall order by next steamer a quantity of it, and as soon as it is recd. we shall use it on our stamps - meanwhile we will use our best exertions to perfect the gumming of the stamps with the material now used - The English is not gum shellac, (as we are informed) but so far as we can understand, is a totally different article from that now used by us - Have the kindness to grant us your indulgence, and we will come out "OK"-

Very Respectfully & truly
Yours &c
S.H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esq
3rd Ast P.M. Genl.

I will Telegraph tomorrow how many shall be ready for your messenger.

[Docket]

24 June 1851
S. A. Carpenter

T. Philada

Induced by their great desire
to give a handsome color to their
3 Ct, Stamps they unfortunately used
a material which gave great
brilliancy but destroyed the
gumming—Immediately stopped
that Color & are now using which
appears perfectly fast—Will
import from London a material
used for gumming by the British Gov.

Manufacturer of stamps

Philada. June 25, 1851.

Dear Sir:

We have this day delivered to A.B. Waller Esq the following packages of Postage Stamps -
Viz:

4	Packages Ea. Contg.	20,000 Stamps of 12 Cents - say	80,000 Stamps
19	do " "	30,000 do " 3 Cents - "	570,000 "
3	do " "	50,000 do " 1 Cent - "	150,000 "

Nine of the Packages of 3 Cents Stamps marked "First," are of the lot first printed (the color of which does not stand) - the remaining packages (marked "Second") are of a better color, and we trust that you will they will stand firmly -

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

J. Marron, Esqr
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.
Washington.

This is the second delivery.

(Post Office Department
June 27, 1851.)

(By Telegraph.)

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co
Philadelphia, Pa.

Mr. Waller will call tomorrow morning for the stamps. Let them be ready.

J. Marron
(Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.)

Authority given to Mr. Waller June 27th as Mr. Shallcross could not act. J. Marron

We have no record of a shipment on 6/28/51 nor 6/29/51 (see next letter). However based on the PMG reports we can estimate additional quantities shipped:

1c	-	150,000
3c	-	840,000
12c	-	20,000

(By Telegraph.)

Post Office Department
June 29, 1851

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co
Philadelphia, Pa.

Have all the threes and ones you can by tomorrow night. - We are entirely out.

Signed J. Marron
3rd Ast. P.M. Genl.

See footnote on prior letter.

Private

Philada. July 2, 1851

Dear Sir:

Your favor of 30th ulto is recd. I am truly sensible of the justice and propriety of all you have said in regard to the Stamps and the great urgency of the demand for a much larger quantity than we have as yet been able to furnish - We ourselves have been trying for two days past to get some from our Post Office but cannot get one - Mr. White informs us that there has been a perfect rush for them - This is a state of things which I know must be annoying to you and I do assure you that we are making every possible effort to relieve you from it, but you can scarcely conceive the amount of labor and care required to go through the whole process of furnishing these Stamps ready for delivery - I frankly confess that I had no idea of it - You will be surprised to learn that even to furnish the supply already given, we have had in constant employment from early in the morning until nearly dark 15 persons, and transiently 3 or 4 more -

This has been owing perhaps in part to our want of knowledge & experience in the gumming process - this part of the business can only be learned by practice and we find that our gummers are daily improving and acquiring a facility which at first they all lacked greatly - I trust therefore that we shall soon get along in this department very well - I notice your remarks about the oily appearance of many of the red impressions - this I think is not the fault of the gumming, but of the paper - we fear that the paper is not sized uniformly - that some of the sheets are badly or unevenly sized, & hence the striking through of the gum, giving the sheet that oily, transparent look of which you complain - We are now making some experiments to test the correctness of this opinion and unless the fault is in the paper (or the sizing of it) we hope we can remedy it - if however it is in the paper we fear nothing but the substitution of other paper will answer - You will find however than even those stamps which are most transparent & oily in the sheet, when cut singly & gummed and put on letters lose their transparency in a great measure & look pretty well, altho' in the sheets they look very badly - Permit me to assure you that every effort in our power shall be directed to remedying (so far as it is possible to do so) the defects heretofore noted - Were it not for the imperative demand for so large a quantity now, we would withhold entirely all such impressions as are of the character alluded to, but by doing so we must disappoint you greatly in the supply, which we presume would be a greater evil than to furnish the imperfect impressions - We therefore send all and leave it to you to decide whether you will use them.

We will have ready by tomorrow night about a million, which will be the utmost we can accomplish - the weather, has been so excessively hot (thermometer at 97 in our Printing & Gumming Room) that one of our hands gave out & one or two more are about "Used up" - With all these difficulties to contend with I trust you will excuse us - at least until we have a fall in our thermometer of a dozen degrees -

Very Respectfully,
Yrs
S.H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.

2 July 1851
S. H. Carpenter
Philada

Great rush for Stamps—
one difficulty in supply is
caused by want of experience
in gumming—Gummers
are improving

Noticing deficiency in supply
and quality of Stamps—

P.O. Department
July 8 1851

Sir:

The Postmaster General requests that you proceed tomorrow morning to receive from Mess Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co & bring to this Department all the postage stamps they may have ready for its use. The enclosed authority signed by the P.M. General is to be handed to Mess. Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co. upon their delivering to you all the postage stamps they may have prepared accompanied by a verified statement thereof.

I am Very Respectfully &c
J Marron
3d Asst. P.M.G.

A.B. Walter Esq
Special Agt.

(Authority of this date similar to that given 20th June last.)

Philadelphia, July 11, 1851.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of 10th inst is just received. Anticipating a large demand for 3 Cent Stamps, we Engraved 2 plates of that denomination, and as the demand increased, we worked each of these plates double handed, (giving us a quantity equal to the yield of 4 plates printed in the ordinary way.) This being still unequal to the demand, we will at once Engrave another 3 cent plate and make such arrangements as will enable us in the course of a few days to furnish an ample supply --of this be assured. You shall be relieved from all embarrassment or inconvenience on this score, and from the moment that we can accomplish our arrangements, now in progress, you may rely upon 3 Million per week - more if absolutely necessary.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant, &c.
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

Hon N.K. Hall,
Postmaster General

P.S. 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 Million will be ready tomorrow.

[Docket]

11th July 1851
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

Have Engraved 2 plates of
3 ct Stamp--will Engrave
another shortly--Will furnish
3 million weekly

Stamps
Manufacturer

Plate numbers were not added to these early plates until sometime later, after they had been in production. However based on dates of use, the first two plates engraved were apparently "1e" and "5e", as collectors know them today. The third plate referred to above is apparently "2e."

We have no additional record of a 7/12/51 shipment, referenced in the "P.S." above.

P.O. Department
July 11, 1851.

Sir:

Enclosed is the authority of the Postmaster General to receive all the postage stamps Mess Toppan, Carpenter & Co may have ready for delivery on Saturday evening the 12th instant. When receiving them you will see that the number of packages agrees with the verified statement which they will hand you and which you will forward to me. The stamps will be put under the brass mail lock and in the special charge of the Route Agent to bring on to the Department. Please apprise Mess Toppan Carpenter & Co that we shall expect a delivery of stamps on Wednesday and Saturday evenings of each week.

Respectfully &c
J. Marron
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

U.J.P. White Esqu
P.M. Philadelphia Pa.

W.J.P. White's name is misspelled in various ways throughout these letters.

(Post Office Department, July 11, 1851.)

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co
Philadelphia, Pa.

The bearer hereof Wm. J.P. White Esq P.M. Philadelphia is duly authorized and empowered by me to receive and receipt for all the postage stamps which you may have ready for delivery on the presentation of this authority.

Witness by hand and seal of the Post Office
Department this eleventh day of July 1851.

P. O. New Orleans La
12th July 1851

Sir

I beg leave to advise the mailing of my Quarterly Returns to your address, this day.

The amount in favor of the U. S. is:

Balance Per Account current	\$21,160.07
Surplus in Comn. a/c	461.69
Ditto in Emolument a/c	1,354.35
For Sundry Drafts & fines collected	<u>395.20</u>
	\$23,371.31

Against which:

I have paid for River Mails	\$ 9,815.00
" " " for Sundry Drafts	231.19
" " deposited at sundry times	10,200.00
& now deposit , as per Certificate herewith No. 144	<u>3,125.12</u>
	\$23,371.31

Please find also, herein, two parcels of 5¢ & 10¢ stamps together for \$222.25 remaining on hand at the close of the quarter & now returned to you, agreeable to Circular order of 11th Ultimo. [This sentence has been crossed out by pen]

I am very respectfully
Your obedt. Servt
Ml. Musson
P. M.

J. Marron Esqre
3d Asst. P. M. Genl.
Washington
D. C.

[Docket]

12 July 1851
New Orleans La.

M. Musson P. M. sends—
statement of a/c, Certificate
of deposit, and 5 and 10 cent
Stamps returned

[Note to self: compare this letter with one held by H. Skinner and printed in Wenk 47 shipments book.]

(By Telegraph)

P.O. Department
July 17 1851

Mess Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co
Philadelphia Pa

Until otherwise directed please make only three cent stamps.

Respectfully &c
J. Marron
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

This is no doubt due to the shortage of stamps. Refer to editorials of the time.

Philada. July 24th, 1851.

Dear Sir:

We have delivered this day to W. J. P. White Esqre Post Master, the following packages of Postage Stamps, Viz

50 Packages ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents—1,500,000 Stamps

On Saturday next we will furnish a portion of One Cent Stamps, & continue to do so until otherwise directed—
We have found it necessary to engrave a 4th plate of 3 Cent Stamps, in order to prevent delay when any one of the
3 plates now in press shall require retouching.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Sts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.

[Docket]

24th July 1851
Toppan Carpenter C. & Co
Philada

Delivery of Stamps to
P M Philada
50 pcks. 1,500,000

This fourth plate was what collectors today refer to as plate "0", as it never bore a number. Despite the date of the
above letter, the earliest known use of this plate is September 8, 1851.

The earliest known use of plate 1I (i.e., of a retouched plate) is July 12, 1851.

Philad July 28, 1851

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Postmaster, the following packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

40 Packages ea. contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	1,200,000 Stamps
6 do ea. contg 50,000 Stamps of One Cent	<u>300,000 do</u>
46 Packages Containing	1,500,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.

[Docket]

28 July 1851
Toppan Carpenter C. & Co
Philada.

Delivery of stamps
to J. W. White P M
46 pckgs—1,500,000

This is apparently the first delivery of 1c stamps since July 17 (11 days).

Post Office Department.
August 2nd 1851.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.,
Philadelphia.

X X X X X X X

The Postmaster General wishes you to send impressions of the carrier stamp in green, yellow or any other color which can be readily distinguished by candle light from the stamps we are using.

J. Marron
Third Assistant Postmaster General.

The "XXXXXXX" at the top of this letter is Travers' notation indicating that this is an excerpt from a letter. The balance of the letter is unknown.

Philadelphia, Aug. 4, 1851.

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps,

Viz

8 Packages ea. contg. 50,000 Stamps of One Cent	400,000 Stamps
80 do ea. contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,400,000 do
<u>10 do</u> ea. contg. 20,000 Stamps of 12 Cents	<u>200,000 do</u>
98 Packages Containing	3,000,000 Stamps

Your favor of 2nd inst is received. We cannot but think that the complaints (with which we regret to learn you are still troubled), of the inferiority of the gumming of the Stamps, has reference to those delivered the department during the first two weeks. Most unfortunately those were badly gummed (or at least a large number of them) and having been scattered "far and wide", they have given a bad name not only to the bad, but also we fear to the good, because since the time above named we really think the evil has been remedied. We have been and are now using the Best Gum Arabic mixed with white glue. We have tried these stamps almost daily, and have found them to stick perfectly, and we really do not think that there is now the cause of the complaints which are made. However, be that as it may, we are determined to use every possible effort to get the best article that can be obtained, and if either of these which you have the kindness to send, are better than that which we are now using, we will use them.

We have tried the article sent from Lowell and find it excellent. We have by this days mail requested Mr. Cochrane to send us immediately by Adams Express a Bbl. or box of 2 or 300 lbs. to try it to the a sufficient extent. We are however well satisfied that it will answer quite as well (and probably better) than the gum arabic & glue. We enclose some canceled stamps gummed with the Lowell material and some with ours. Please try both & inform us which you prefer. Ours requires a little the longest time to dry, after which we think it adheres about as well as the Lowell. Please let each get perfectly dry before your attempt to take them off.

Very respectfully, etc.,
Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.
J. Marron, Esq.
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.

[Docket]

August 4th 1851
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

P. M. Philada
98 pckgs—3,000,000

Delivery of Manufacturer of
Stamps—Gumming

Post Office Department
August 5 1851

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter & Co
Engravers. Philadelphia Pa

Gentlemen - The Post offices throughout the country having now been generally furnished with postage stamps, it will not be necessary for you hereafter to forward supplies to the Department to the same extent as heretofore. It will be sufficient, until otherwise directed, if you forward weekly, to be delivered on every Monday evening, one million and a half of stamps, of which one hundred thousand to be one cent, and the residue three cent stamps.

Respectfully
Your obed servt
J Marron
Third Asst P.M.G.

The pipe line loading period is over, and demand will now stabilize. Standard order is now 100,000 1c, 1,400,000 3c per week, delivered on Monday.

Post Office, Parkersburg, Va
Aug 7, 1851

John Marron, Esq.
Third Assistant Postmaster General:

Sir—

I have been applied to, to exchange Postage Stamps under the following circumstances: Some time since, a gentleman bought, at this office, about \$1.50 worth of stamps which he folded and deposited in his pocketbook. Upon inspecting them, he now finds they have become so matted together as to render them worthless—the paste having blurred the faces of such stamps as were in contact with it, and, in some cases, the paste is destroyed.

The person possessing these stamps proposes to return them, receiving, in lieu thereof, the same amount of good stamps. Having declined to make the exchange without instructions, I am requested to refer the case to Department and to solicit your directions in relation thereto. I am satisfied that the purchaser and possessor of these stamps has exercised at least ordinary care of them.

Respectfully
A. M. Sterrett
Postmaster

[Docket]

Augt. 7, 1851
Parkersburgh Va

A. M. Sterrett P M
for authority to exchange,
with one of his customers
good stamps for damaged

Philada. Aug 8, 1851.

Dear Sir

Please receive herewith specimens of the Carriers Stamp printed in 4 different ways - No 1 shows the strongest contrast at night altho' we think No 2 the handsomest in day light -

The only fear we have about it is that we shall not be able to get paper of these colors at such a price as will enable us to furnish these stamps at the low rate of the others (the price of these samples being very high) however, we may find that by contracting for a large quantity we may be able to procure it at a less price -

As the English government have had several years experience in the whole matter of stamps and must (we think) have arrived at some perfection in the process of gumming &c, and as we are determined to make our stamps in every respect better than John Bulls, I have determined to go to London, see the whole process of manufacturing the English Stamps, & then visit Paris for the same purpose, in the hope that between them both, I may be able to pick up "an idea" that will be of service - I have been told that the French Stamps are more adhesive than the English -

I shall leave in the Pacific from N Yk on the 16th inst & contemplate being absent about 2 months -

I have no particular ambition to figure as "bearer of dispatches" but possibly such a "distinction" might facilitate my progress after my arrival in England -

If therefore I could have the honor above conferred on me I might be better able to serve the department as well as myself in effecting the object of my mission - I merely throw out the hint - you will understand much better than I do whether any value attaches to it - If you think well of it & will have the kindness to say to whom I must apply I will feel greatly obliged.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt.
S.H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esq
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.

[Docket]

August 8, 1851
S. H. Carpenter
Philada

Specimens of Carriers Stamps—
Proposes trip to England & France for
information about stamps

August 13, 1851.
Answd. By the P M Genl

The Carrier stamps were delayed since the previous discussion (5/24/51) apparently due to lack of availability of other values during the load in period. This crisis is now over (8/5/51).

The large quantity of pink paper ordered may account for why it was still available in the mid-1870's for use with the reprints.

Philada. P.O. Aug 10, 1851.

Sir:

I write in great haste merely to place in your possession certain stamps for our Despatch Post, which I consider far preferable to those forwarded to me in your favour of yesterday received this morning, and by tomorrow's mail will give you my reasons in detail, and I send them now for the purpose of suspending any action with regard to the others until I shall have had an opportunity of endeavoring to convince you of the great superiority of these stamps. Those of the white paper, well executed, would answer the purpose admirably and prevent the possibility of being confounded with or mistaken under any circumstances, for the regular Post Office Stamps.

Very Respectfully,
Your Ob. Servt.,
JOHN C. MONTGOMERY,
Asst. P.M.

Hon. N.K. Hall,
Post Master General
Washington, D.C.

Montgomery was apparently given samples of Franklin Carriers and immediately took steps to find a better design, for which TCC apparently supplied a stock eagle die. This action took place before printing had commenced on the Franklin Carrier.

Despite the apparent rush to send this letter to Hall, Montgomery apparently did not write him again until late September. Two letters are known (see *The Chronicle*, #117, page 28) showing that Montgomery wrote Hall again on 9/27/51 saying he would forward an alternative design in a few days. He actually transmitted the designs on October 5, 1851.

Post Office Department, August 12th 1851.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

The Postmaster General requests that you print three hundred thousand carriers stamps like the enclosed printed with blue ink on pink paper. The ink on our one cent stamps rubs off very much and many of the sheets are still blurred or mottled in the gumming, defects which it is hoped will be cured in them and avoided in the carriers stamps.

I send a few of the complaints, which still come to us in great numbers, as to the lack of adhesiveness in the gum used on our stamps. The ease with which they can be removed from letters offers a temptation to the unprincipled to clean and use the stamps a second time, where they have been ineffectually canceled.

I am very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. Marron
Third Assistant Postmaster General.

Marron orders 300,000 Franklin Carriers printed (3,000 sheets of 100).

Philad. Aug. 12, 1851

Dear Sir:

Your kind favor of 11th is Rec'd. I regret that I did not sooner make application for the "Despatches" as I am satisfied they would have aided me in the object of my visit very greatly - however if the Postmaster General will have the kindness to give me a letter to Mr. Lawrence, that will be the next best thing to aid me, and I shall be extremely obliged therefor - If either Judge Hall or yourself should think of anything that I can do for either of you when in England or France, I trust that I need not say what pleasure it would afford me and I beg that my services may be freely commanded -

Permit me to suggest that there is a great defect in almost all the offices as to cancelling the stamps - almost daily we receive letters (from various parts of the country) the stamps on which are either not cancelled at all - or cancelled very slightly with the same colored ink - or with mere pencil marks across the head - indeed there seems to be no system (at least no general one) for the canceling the stamps, and unless more attention is paid to this matter I fear the Department will lose considerably by the stamps being used a second time, or even oftener - I should hardly have supposed it possible that such a thing would be done but I have been informed by Mr. White (P.M. here) that it has been done several times in this office - If desired by the Postmaster General, I would enquire into the mode of canceling in the P. Offices in England and everything in relation to it, in which case a letter to Mr. Lawrence would undoubtedly give me access to persons connected with the Department & be of great service -

I shall leave here for New York on Thursday afternoon the 14th at 4 o'clock, but if the Post Master General shall not have time to send to me here, any communication addressed to me Care of my firm in New York, will be duly rec'd., if mailed in time to reach New York on Saturday morning the 16th as I shall not sail until noon of that day - For your kindness on the present occasion as well as on others, I beg you to accept my best thanks and believe me.

Very Sincerely Yours,

S.H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqre
Washington.

[Docket]

12 August 1851
S. H. Carpenter
Philada

Stamps

August 13, 1851
Answd by P M Genl

Philad. Augt. 13, 1851.

Dear Sir

Your favr of 12th is recd—Can it be that the recent complaints of the want of adhesiveness is intended to apply to the recent deliveries?—we really hope not, as we have made particular enquiries at our Post Office & they say that there is not now any complaint, and we have been careful to test a part of every days gumming and so far as we could discover there was no fault as to adhesiveness—We wrote to Lowell on the very day of the receipt of your letter enclosing the sample of material said to be used by the English Government & requested that a Bbl or Box of 2 or 300 lbs might be sent us immediately by Adams Express, but regret to say that we have had no reply, from which we infer that the person addressed must be absent—I shall make it my business expressly to ascertain the best article that is used in England and also in France (as I am informed that the French gum is best)—

Every pains in our power shall be taken to guard against just complaints in reference to every part of this work and we confidently hope that the day is not distant when you will be entirely relieved from the annoyance of all such complaints—

I trust you will excuse my again alluding to the subject of the letter to Mr Lawrence which you had the kindness to suggest—I am aware of how much the time of the Post Master General is occupied, but if he will devote five minutes to writing a few lines to Mr L I shall feel greatly obliged, as I am sure it will be of the greatest service in effecting the object of my visit—I feel the more freedom in asking it as it is a matter in which the Post Master General is interested (so far as perfecting one of the thousand branches of his department goes)—

Very Respectfully & truly
Your Obt St
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P M Genl.

[Docket]

13 Augst 1851
S. H. Carpenter
Philada.

Reply to complaints of
stamps badly gummed

Phila. Augt 20/51

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to Mr J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps
Containing 1,600,000 Stamps,

Viz

50 Packages ea Cong. 30,000 of the 3 cent Stamp	1,500,000 Stamps
<u>2</u> " " " 50,000 " " One Cent "	<u>100,000</u> "
52 Packages Containing	1,600,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Yours &c
Toppan carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S. H. Carpenter J

J. Marron ,Esq
3rd Asst P. M. General

[Docket]

20 August 1851
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

P M Phila
52 pckgs 1,600,000
Delivery of Stamps

Post Office New Boston Ill
Aug 30th 1851

Sir,

The Stamp you sent me were rcd last night in such damaged condition that they cant be used . the mail was thoroly Soaked some where between Knoxville & Peoria Ills. And the letter containing the Stamp was among the unfortunate packages. What shall I do with the Stamps? It is impossible to use them, and I am loath to loose \$5.00 if it can be avoided. Please inform me by return of mail, what I had better do with the Stamp

Very Respectfully
Yours
I. B. Beesan P.M.

Phila. Sept 1st/51

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to Mr. J. P. White Esqre Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps containing 1,600,000 Stamps

Viz

50 Packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of the 3 cent stamp	1,500,000
<u>2</u> " " " 50,000 " " " 1 " "	<u>100,000</u>
52 Packages Containing	1,600,000

Very Respectfully
Yours &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Pr S. H. Carpenter Jr

[Docket]

Sept. 1 1851
Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co
Philada

P M Phila
52 Pckgs 1,600,000
delivery of stamps

Post Office
Bangor Me Sept. 15th 1851

Sir

Herewith I send my rect for 20000 three cent stamps being part of the parcel sent to me in yrs of the 11th inst. The 3000 one cent stamps sent me at the same time, I have done up in a package and return them to your office by this mail.

We have had much difficulty in selling the stamp here owing to their want of adhesiveness. Many refrain from using them for that reason. The lot that I now return are worse than any we have had & I should not be able to dispose of them. If the Department should be supplied with better ones I should like to be supplied with the amount now returned.

Respectfully
J. Wingate Carr P.M.

To
John Marron Esqr
Third Assist P. M. Genl.

[Docket]

Sept. 15, 1851
Bangor Me.

J. W. Carr sends receipt
for 3 cent stamps, and
returns One ct stamps on
account of defective gumming

Post Office Chicago Illinois
September 16th 1851

Sir:

Herewith Enclosed I send you a letter received a day or two since from the P.M. at New Boston Ills. Who remitted five Dollars to this Office & requested me to send him the amt in Postage Stamps, which request was complied with. It appears that the mail was wet before it reached him & that his stamps were so much injured that they Could not be used. Will you please inform me whether I am authorized to redeem the stamps & to return them to the Department or not.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servnt
Geo. W. Dole P M

Hon. John Marron
3rd Asst P M Genl
Washington
D C

[Docket]

Sep 16, 1851
Chicago Ills

PM wishes to be informed
regarding the redemption
of damaged Stamps.

Philad. Sept. 27, 1851.

J. Marron Esqr.
3d Asst. P.M.G.
Washington
D.C.

Sir

Your order for furnishing the Department with three hundred thousand Carriers' Stamps, has been executed, and the stamps are now ready to be delivered to your order.

Respect y,
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co

[Docket]

Sept. 27th 1851
Toppan Carpenter C. & Co

advise Execution of
carriers stamps

Franklin Carrier ready for delivery, but not shipped to Post Office until 10/6/51. Steinmetz (pages 9 and 11) reported that the Franklin Carriers were ready for delivery on 9/21/51, which is at variance with this letter.

Philada. Sep. 29, 1851

J. Marron Esq.
3d Asst. P. M. Gl.
Washington D. C.

Sir,

We are this morning in recpt of your favor of the 27th inst. Covering two communications, recd. By the Department in relation to the non-adhesiveness of the stamps; one from an anonymous correspondent under the Signature of "a N. Y. merchant"—the other from the Post Master at New York. These and other complaints, which have from time to time been sent to the Department, are as unpleasant to us as they must be annoying to you, and particularly so, as we had taken all possible pains to do ourselves and the Department credit—Having in all cases obtained the best materials for the gumming, and given to the operation our daily personal attention. This we say in justice to ourselves, and "as misery loves company" we beg to refer you to extracts from our Mr. Carpenter letters,—which you have herewith—by which you will perceive that the same difficulties have existed in England as here, and that upon his return which is expected will be the last week in October, we shall be put in possession of such information as will enable us to correct the evils which now exist.

We would further say, however, that we have every day tested the gum that was in use, and invariably found it to be Sufficiently adhesive, and are therefore quite confident, that a large portion of the complaints, are from persons who are careless, hasty or ignorant, and among the many thousand who use the stamps, it would be a matter of surprise if there was not a large number of this character. Still we are not blind to the fact that there has been, and still continues to be some legitimate causes of complaint, and you may rest assured that we shall not rest satisfied until they no longer exist.

Very Respectfy
Yr Obt St
Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co

[Memorandum]

Extracts from S. H. Carpenter letters

From Letter of the 19th Augt.

“Mr Perkins informs me that there was the same trouble, complaint, and difficulty here when the Stamps were first issued (in regard to their Sticking) that we have had, and that there used to be (to uses his expression) ‘Baskets full’ of Stamps collected in the Post Office that had fallen off the letters.”

From Letter of the 15th Sepr.

“They say that they have had immense trouble with the gumming and that even now they do not always get an equally good article even from the same Manufacturer—on my return I shall stop at Manchester and order some from the Maker most approved by P. B. & Pitch. I have also ordered 2 doz Brushes made in a peculiar way by the same firm who make for P. B. & Pitch. There is now no complaint about the Sticking of the English Stamps Altho they all informed me that at first (and in fact for a long time) the complaint was so great as almost to set them mad. I shall of course try to see if the French Gum is in any way preferable & if so endeavor to procure some of it. Nothing shall be left undone on my part to obtain such information in regard to this whole subject as will be of service to us.”

[Docket]

29 Septbr 1851
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

Same difficulty existed
in England—as per Extracts
from A. H. Carpenters letters Enclosed

Relative to complaints of
bad gumming of stamps

Phila. Sept. 29/51

Dear Sir

We have this day, delivered to Mr. J. P. White Post Master, the following Packages of Postage Stamps.

100 Packages each contg 30,000 Stamps of the 3 cent stamp	3,000,000
<u>4</u> " " " " 50,000 " " " 1 " "	<u>200,000</u>
<u>104</u> Packages	3,200,000

Very Respectfully
Yours &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Pr S. H. Carpenter Jr

P.S. —We have still on hand, ready for delivery
3,000,000—Three cents—650,000—one cent and
300,000 carriers

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.
Washington

[Docket]

29 Sept. 1851
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada.

P M Phila
104 pckgs—3,200,000

Delivery of Stamps

P. O. St. Louis Mo Oct 2 1851

Hon. J. Marron

Sir

Will you have the goodness to inform what amount of new Postage Stamps are charged against me for the last quarter.

I forwarded my returns for the quarter ending 30th Ult on yesterday, and from the result have reason to believe that there is an error against me in my Stamp account.

Respectfully
your Obt Servt
Archibald Gamble
P. M.

[Docket]

October 2nd 1851
St. Louis Mo

Archibald Gamble P. M.
wishes to know the amount of New
Postage Stamps he is charged
with

Oct 11, 1851
answd

Curdsville Buckingham Co Va
Octo. 3rd 1851

Dr Sir

Enclosed I send you Ten Dollars please send me the worth on Post office 3 cts stamps.

Respectfully
A. Baldwin P. M.
at Curdsville Va

[Docket]

Octo. 3 1851
Curdsville Va

A. Baldwin P M Encloses
\$10 for Stamps

October 6th 1851
answered Money
returned

Phila. Oct 6, 1851.

J. Marron, Esq .,
3rd Asst. P.M. General,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

We have this day delivered to W.I.P. White, Esq., Post Master, the following number Packages of U.S. post office stamps.

Viz:

80	Packages each Contg.	30,000 - 3 cts -	2,400,000
12	" " "	50,000 - 1	600,000
5	" " "	20,000 - 12 ct	100,000
6	" Carriers	50,000	300,000
103	packages contg in all		3,400,000

The gumming of this lot will, we feel quite confident, prove satisfactory to the public.

Very Respectfully,

Yrs, etc.,

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

This is apparently the first delivery to the Post Office of Franklin Carriers. Luff says that the date of first delivery was on October 21, 1851 based on post office records, which is at variance with this letter. Luff (page 192), however, seemed to realize his date of October 21 was too late, as he said was likely "a mistake."

St. Clairsville Ohio 9 Oct/51

Contract office Post office Dept

This office has no information. What Disposition is to be made with the moneys Received for Stamps sold Who or Whome to Be Paid to also this office Stands in need of 3 cent Paid Stamp(?) to Mark Pd Letters

I think the Dept has forgotten to Send the Quarterly Certificates for Routes No 2006 & 2007 to this office for Signature of P M St Clairsville unless my Monthly Return of arrival & Departure of Both Mails Rout be sufficient for the Performance of Said

Now this will inform that the Mail Carrier on Route 2007 Performed by Joseph Price Who is a worthy upright man and a Poor man he Saies that Fuller & Hunt owes to him 200\$ he has written and I have written Several times and they Do not Comply I have had this office Little over 2 years and those men have never Been Seen here they Live some Eighty miles from this Place Joseph Price has been Confined to his bed for the Last three months and has to employ young men to Carry his mails under the old Contract to Carry a one horse mail and there is one Large Mail Bagg extra Cramed with the free Papers to Carry with out Compensation which they are Complaining hard about he has also Lost 2 Valuable Horses that Died While on his Rout I do think fuller & Hunt Do not Do their Duty

Respectfully
Benj Thomas
P M

N B I have sold 107\$ Stamp

This Communication has
been Requested by Joseph Price
to the Dept

This office Distributes Mails Matter for Some 30 offices twice a week for each mail Rout and the whole Combined is not worth \$5 year I have a Document from H Fitz Henry Warren Wherein he Says as the forwarding of Moneys to Publishers for Subscriptions to News papers & Periodicals under my frank Does Not injure the Revenue of the Dept But Bring in a Revenue to Both it is not objected to Now when I Do this it is Marked So on the Post Bills as well as Letter I Raise a Clab(?) of 47 for cn 7 Courier(?) there is no one here that will Do it The Government Can do as they think Best There will be a great falling off.

Respectfully B. Thomas P M

[Docket]

9 October 1851
St. Clairsville

Benj. Thomas P. M.
wants instructions as to
disposal of Proceeds of stamps
advising 107\$ Sold—
Complains of neglect of duty
on the part of Fuller & Hunt

Post Office Troy N.Y.
Oct. 9, 1851

Hon N. K. Hall
P. M. Genl
Washington D.C.

Sir

Some few of the old issue, of Postage stamps, are occasionally presented for redemption.

After 30th Sept ulto, I have not felt authorized to redeem them, as, instructions were specific to redeem them until that day.

I suggest to the Dept. to give authority to redeem such as may yet be presented, as there are always people who are behind times, & make much ado, of bad faith, and very many other declarations, operating against the administration which would be silenced, from such a cause as this, did the P. Office redeem its old pledges for Postage—But few remain.

Respectfully, your Obt Servt
W. T. Willard
P. M. Troy N Y

[Docket]

9 Octo 1851
Troy N Y

W. F. Willard P M, wants
authority to redeem Stamps
of old issue

Minersville Oct 12 1851

Hon Fitz Henry Warren 2 assistant P M General

Dear Sir

I was shown a black 3 cent stamp the other day I refused to except any of the kind until I hear from you please inform me if the department have ordered any except the reds of that amt

Yours Respectfully
George R. Taylor P.M.

[Docket]

October 12th 1851
Minersville Pa.

G. P. Taylor P. M.
wishes to know if the department has issued any three cent stamps

Octr 14th 1851

Wrote him for
circumstances, name
&c &c

New York Oct 13th 1851

Hon. N. K. Hall P.M.G.

Sir

Enclosed I send my quarterly return of letters and mailable matter that has passed through the Carriers Department of this City during the past quarter which ended September 30th 1851—

The return shews the following results

Letters delivered from the Mails	552,304
Letters received from boxes and delivered in the City	30,106
News Papers Pamphlets &c	<u>28,605</u>
	611,015
Letters brought to the Post Office for the Mails from the Boxes. <u>Free of Charge</u>	<u>54,833</u>
	665,848

Thus it appears that there has passed through the letters Carriers department under my Charge 665,848 Letters and papers, all of which have been safely delivered—

There have been 8 Collectors of letters whose duty it is to bring letters from the Boxes to the Post Office for the mails and also the letters that are to be sent from one part of the City to another—these letters are delivered by the Carriers three times each day viz at 9 A.M. and 1 and ½ past 3 P.M. this has seemed to meet the present wants of our City—should a greater number of deliveries each day be required I shall be ready to meet such demand as soon as it (is) clearly evident that it is required.

From the increased number of letters there have been employed by the Carriers 10 assistants these men are paid by the Carriers and they are responsible for their action their pay will appear on Mr Brady's return of moneys paid from the Carriers receipts for Expenses of this department—

I have made 5 new districts on which I put the 1st of Sept the newly appointed Carriers and have made preparation for 5 more—nut it requires the men to have considerable instruction and training to discharge the duties of Carriers satisfactorily.

I have some of the newly appointed Carriers acting as assistants, on some of the large routs and as soon as they have the requisite experience shall place them on Separate districts—The Correspondence passing through this branch of the department is important, and requires honest and trustworthy men, as large sums of money pass daily through their hands in the letters they deliver.

I think this branch of the department is fast growing in public favor—The number of letters brought to the Post Office free—has very much increased; in July the number was 8257—in September it was 35225. This is a great increase, and it is a great Convenience for our Citizens and one that meets with universal favour—

There are 6 of the Carriers on the Quarterly return that make returns for one month only which makes their returns of less amount—but there are none of them does not get a good compensation for their labour.

Respectfully
Your obt Servant
Marcellus Eells
Supt of Letter Carrier Service

You mentioned when you was here that you would furnish us with a quantity of Carriers stamps free—Mr Brady received a package this morning which he is charged for is it intended to Charge the Carriers department with these Stamps or has the Clerk made a mistake in charging them, please direct in regard to that matter. I hope we may have the first lot without charge as you first proposed—

Respectfully
Marcellus Eells
Supr of Letter Carriers

[Docket]

Oct 13, 1851
New York N.Y.

Marcellus Eells, Pr Carrier
reports business of his branch

October 16, 1851
Answered as to
Stamps

P.O. Department
Oct 16 1851

Gentlemen

I enclose by direction of the Postmaster General a design for carriers postage stamps recently sent to this Department by J.C. Montgomery Esqre of the Philadelphia Post office. This design is understood to have been prepared by you and it has received the approbation of the Postmaster General, who requests that you will proceed to prepare, with all practicable dispatch, the steel dies and plates necessary to print one million of carriers stamps of this new device. That number of stamps is now wanted and more will be ordered, from time to time, as they may be needed. The corners of the design will of course be relieved of their nakedness of some such ornamental work as may in your judgment be deemed appropriate.

Respectfully &c
J. Marron
3 Asst P.M. Genl

Mess Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear
Philadelphia Pa

This letter confirms that TCC furnished samples to Montgomery, apparently from a sample die.

Minersville Oct 16th 1851

John Marron Esq
2 assistant Post Master General

Dear Sir

Yours of 14th was duly received stating the department has never issued any black stamps of Denomination of 3 cts I having seen but the one and not knowing the person—as there are strangers calling at this office daily. I shall be on the lookout and if I see another in possession of any person will have him arrested and find out where the stamp was produced I have visited the office at Pottsville and requested Mr Mortimer to be on the lookout for said stamps you shall hear from me in case any thing further turns up

Yours Respectfully
George R. Taylor P M

[Docket]

October 16th 1851
Minersville

Geo. R. Taylor PM reports
seeing a black 3 cent stamp
supposed counterfeit

Phila. Oct 17th/51

Dear Sir.

Yours of the 16th ordering one million of the carriers stamps is recd.

The dies for this stamp, shall be prepared immediately, and the impressions ordered, furnished you in all possible haste.

Very Respectfully
Yours &c.
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S.H. Carpenter Jr.

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.
Washington

[Docket]

Octo. 17, 1851
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

Dies for Carriers Stamps
to be prepared immediately

acknowledges order for
Carrier's stamps

A stock (banknote) die was used for samples given to Montgomery. The die referred to in this letter was for the stamps themselves.

Post Office
Little Valley N.Y. Oct 20 1851

Mr J. Marron Esq

Sir

I have 65 cts in P. O. Stamps (old ones) which accidentally got mislaid and were not presented to Mr Skinner for redemption until (Mr Skinner is P.M. at Ellicottville Ch) after the 1st Oct. he requested me to write you to give him permission to redeem them—have the kindness to do so & oblige

Your obt Servt
S S Marsh
Depy P.M.
Little Valley
N. York

[Docket]

October 20 1851
Little Valley N.Y.

S. S. Marsh concern
ing the redemption of
old Stamps.

(By Telegraph)

P.O. Department Oct 21 1851

Mess Toppan Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia Pa

Please print ten thousand carriers stamps as requested by John C. Montgomery and charge this Department.

Respectfully &c
N.K. Hall
Postmaster General

Only 10,000 were ordered printed, despite higher initial estimate given on October 16, 1851.

(BY TELEGRAPH)

P.O. Dept., Oct. 21, 1851.

J.C. Montgomery,
Philadelphia Pa

Toppan & Company are directed to print ten thousand carriers stamps.

Respectfully &c
John Marron
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

Post Office Troy N.Y.
Oct 25, 1851

Hon N. K. Hall
P. M. Genl.
Washington D.C.

Sir

By instructions had upon the introduction of the New Stamps, we redeemed the Old Stamps until the end of last quarter (30 Sept 1851.)

There are yet some few old stamps outstanding, which ought to be redeemed in good faith, & I doubt not will (two words illegible) order as soon as known they yet exist unredeemed.

I ask authority to redeem these outstanding old Stamps, and thereby quiet grumbling against this administration as (three or four words illegible).

It was doubtless supposed full time had been given to call them in.

Respectfully your Obt Servant
W. F. Willard
P.M. Troy

[Endorsement across margin of letter:]

"Authorized to redeem them"

[Docket]

Octo 25, 1851
Troy N.Y.

W. F. Willard PM wants
authority to redeem old
5 & 10 ct Stamps

Millbury, Worcester Co. Mass.
Oct. 29, 1851

Sir:—

I have called several times, recently, at the Millbury Post Office to purchase letter Stamps, and was informed that they had none; but had ordered some from the Department at Washington, and were daily expecting to receive them. I learn, also, that others have called for stamps and complain that they cannot obtain them. I was somewhat surprised, as I had understood that a large supply had recently been recd. By the Postmaster. I have since heard, and believe that the reason we cannot be accommodated is, that the Postmaster has pledged stamps to the amount of one hundred and twenty dollars, to William F. Wood, of W. Millbury, as security, for money borrowed.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servant,
Daniel J. Paul.

Hon. Postmaster General,
Washington,
D. C.

Post Office, Millbury, Mass.
Oct 31-1851

Hon. J. Marron-
3rd Asst. P. M. G.-

Sir:

Please send me (\$75) Seventy-five Dollars worth of 3 cent Stamps—& five dollars worth of one cent stamps—

Very Respectfully
&c
A. G. Randall, P.M.

[Cannot read bottom paragraph on this letter]

P. O. Millbury Mass, Nov 5 1851

Hon J. Marron—

Sir:

Yours of the 3rd inst. I
s duly received—

In answer to your inquiry, I would say that I now have on hand about \$60 (Sixty Dollars) worth of stamps:—that the rest of the 5000 3 cent stamps have been disposed of to Post Masters in Munchang, Northbridge, Sutton & W. Millbury in answer to their personal application, & to persons doing business at this office—All, who have had the means or sufficient credit, have been accommodated with stamps when asked for.

The cash from those sold is on hand, & subject to the order of the auditor of the Depart. I have sold a larger number than usual the last month—20 ones more, \$27 worth.

I have got enough probably to last me most of this month. I should be perfectly willing to pay cash:—& take them of the Postmaster at Boston—where many Post Masters get their supply

I am
very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. G. Randall

[Docket]

5 November 1851
Millbury Mass.

A. G. Randall PM orders stamps
and accounts for the disposal
of those previously sent, holding
Proceeds of same subject to
dft of Auditor

Phila Nov 6th/51

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered five impressions of the new Carriers Stamp to J C Montgomery Esq who will forward them for inspection and approval.

We have printed several on the Red Paper but find that the sizing of that paper is yet too green to admit of its being used for some months, (the gum now strikes through it and makes the stamps look very badly) we therefore respectfully suggest the use of White Paper with blue ink, similar to the impressions delivered to Mr. Montgomery

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S.H. Carpenter Jr.

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst P M Genl.
Washington

[Docket]

Nov 6th 1851
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

Carrier Stamps

These are trial color plate proofs of the Eagle Carrier. "Five impressions" apparently means "five sheets" (i.e., panes), per the next letter dated November 7, 1851. Blue ink is "dark" blue based on the 11/7/51 letter, later changed to "light" blue.

P.O. Department
November 7, 1851

Sir:

I am directed by the Postmaster General to say that he has no objection to the adoption of white paper instead of pink for the carriers stamps neither does he object to their being printed in blue ink but he requires that the color of the ink used now and for all future supplies shall be of a uniform shade. Whether the dark blue ink is so easily cancelled as ink of a paler shade of blue is for you to consider and decide, but once decided the color of the ink must be uniform. I return the sheets received with your letter and have directed Mess Toppan & Co to deliver 20,000 of the stamps, as soon as printed to the Postmaster of Philadelphia and take and forward his receipt to me.

Respectfully &c
(Signed) J Marron
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

John C. Montgomery, Esqu
Asst. P.M. Philada Pa

Post Office Department
Nov 7 1851

Sir

The Postmaster General considers the carriers stamp executed by you very handsome, and makes no objection to the printing of them on white paper. General Montgomery is instructed as to the ink to be used with the injunction that whatever shade of blue be adopted the same must be used in all future emissions. The lack of a uniform shade in the ink used on our three cent stamps is a serious impediment to the conviction of those culprits who are despicable enough to use the stamps two or more times. When the carriers stamps are prepared to the number of twenty thousand (20,000) you will deliver that number to the Postmaster of Philadelphia and take and forward his receipt to me.

Respectfully &c
(Signed) J Marron
Third Asst P M Genl

Messrs Toppan Carpenter, Casilear & Co
Philadelphia Pa

Marron changes order to 20,000 for Eagle Carriers (from previous 10,000).

Phila Nov 7th 1851

Dear Sir

Your favor of 6th in. rcd. We have on hand the following Stamps—Viz—

2,000,000 of 3 cent Stamps } Gummed & ready for delivery

150,000 " 1 Cent Stamps }

besides which we have a large amount Printed & ready for gumming.

We have purposely avoided gumming any for some time past, because we are in daily expectation of the return of our Mr Carpenter & being desirous of a [three words illegible](?) of all the information which he might be able to obtain in England & France on the subject of Postage Stamps, we thought it best to stop further proceedings until his arrival. He is now here and will address you on the subject, in a day or two, meanwhile we will at once begin the gumming.

Those now ready for delivery, are believed to be thoroughly well gummed & we doubt not will give Satisfaction.

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Svts

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Pr S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst P. M. Genl.
Washington

[Docket]

Toppan Carpenter C & Co
Philada

report quantity of stamps
on hand

Nov 12 1851
Wrote S. H. Carpenter

Philada Nov 10, 1851

Dear Sir

Having visited England & France with special reference to the matter of Postage Stamps, and having had while there every facility afforded me to examine in detail the entire process of the manufacture of the Stamps used in those countries, I have obtained some important information in relation to the subject and feel confident that hereafter you will have cause to be entirely satisfied with the Stamps which we shall furnish—Of one cause of the defect in our stamps I have become well convinced, and that is the newness of the paper—the Size not having sufficient age or hardness, the paper absorbed the gum and left too little of it on the surface—this difficulty could not at the commencement be avoided—the paper required was of a peculiar size and we were obliged to order it made and use it as soon as recd. from the maker—we ordered a very large quantity and we found that it is already greatly improved and as time will continue to improve its quality we shall have no further trouble from this cause. The Gum which we used (just previous to the purchases of the Lowell Gum) is the same as used fore the French Stamps and is there preferred to the English—The English Gum is of a similar material to the Lowell, but a better article—The Contractors for the English & French Stamps both assured me that at first there was an immense number of complaints against the want of adhesiveness of their Stamps, but that they have been able to overcome all the difficulties and now there are no complaints on the subject—

When in London & Paris I took great pains to enquire about & examine every Species of Gum that was used there, not only for Postage Stamps, but also for Labels, Manufactures(?), & and procured & brot with me Samples of what appeared to be the best in each city—I also purchased a quantity of the identical gum used for the English Postage Stamps from the Manufacturer who supplies the Contractor for the Stamps with all that they use—all these shall be fairly tried and that which is the best shall be used on your Stamps—As we are sure that you will cheerfully afford us every facility in your power to aid us in the more perfect delivery of your Stamps (provided it does not interfere with the Convenience of the Department) we respectfully request that you will permit us to deliver the Stamps in Sheets of 200 each in lieu of Sheets of 100 as at present—our reason for asking this is the fact that we can gum them better in Sheets of that size—they will curl less, and we can then press them, make them smooth & flat and greatly improve their appearance thereby—All the English & French Stamps are delivered in this way (the English in Sheets of 240 each and the French in sheets of 300 ea)—we can of course put the same Amount in each package (say 150 Sheets of 200 instead of 300 sheets of 100) if you desire it, or in any other amounts that you may direct—we would further suggest that this might be considered as the mark of distinction to Postmasters between the New Gumming and the old and we will guarantee that every impression of the Sheets having 200 Stamps on it shall be perfectly gummed.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Svts
S. H. Carpenter

Honl N. K. Hall
Post Master General

[Docket]

10 Novbr 1851
S. A. Carpenter
Philada

The failure of our Stamps
owing to newness of paper

Reports examination in England

and France, as to gumming stamps

P.O. Department
Nov 12 1851

Sir

I am directed by the Postmaster General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter to him of the 10th instant, and to express to you the gratification its perusal afforded him. As much complaint has been made of our postage stamps on account of their lack of adhesiveness, the Postmaster General wishes, if you see no objection to it, to publish your letter, or rather that part of it, of which I here enclose a copy. This is designed to be done in the Intelligencer, The Republic and the Union, and if you approve of it, we think your firm and the Dept. will be held excused by the public for any imperfections heretofore observed in the stamps. We are willing to adopt your suggestion as to printing 200 instead of 100 on a sheet. They will probably not be so convenient to us for mailing, but we will try them, and if the inconvenience be serious, we can easily return to the present mode. I will send on Saturday next an authority to the Postmaster of Philadelphia to receive and forward to the Department all the stamps you may have ready on Monday next.

Respectfully &c
(Signed) J Marron
(Third Asst. P.M. General.)

S.H. Carpenter Esqre
of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co
Philadelphia

Philada Nov 13, 1851

Dear Sir

Your favor of 12th is recd. If the Post Master General is of opinion that it is desirable to publish that part of my letter (copy of which is herewith returned) I of course can have no objection—the only difficulty that strikes me is the fact, that out of the Stamps already distributed throughout the Country, there may yet remain on hand a portion of those which were badly gummed, and if so, there will be a difficulty in making the public know the starting point (from which they may rely on having good Stamps)—Post Masters will know it, from the new mode of furnishing the sheets & therefore it appears to me that when they receive supplies of the Stamps in Sheets of 200 it would be desirable for them to give notice that from & after that period the public might rely upon receiving stamps well gummed—I am by no means confident that these suggestions are worthy your consideration, but offer them & give you will let them pass for just what they are worth—I have added a line in reference to the Lowell Gum, which in justice to the manufacturer there, I should be glad to have inserted—I enclose a letter from Messrs Brown, Shipley & Co from which you will see that the Gum ordered in England (same as used on the English Stamps) was shipped pr Africa and therefore its arrival has been delayed, but it will no doubt be here in about a week—

I was informed by the Asst. Post Master General in London that the Department was about to carry into effect another very important change—viz—to abolish what they denominate the “money office”—that is—no money will hereafter be recd for prepayment of letters, but parties sending letters will be compelled to pay by attaching a Stamp instead of giving the money—The same System is now practiced in Paris. In every case when I want to pay the Postage on my letters to this Country (at the Sub Post Office in Paris) instead of receiving the money & stamping the letter “paid”, they would take the money and hand me the requisite amount in Stamps, which I attached to the letters & then dropped them in the Box—If a universal system of prepayment by Stamps only could be introduced in this Country what an immense amount of labor would thereby be saved in the Post Offices, & how greatly would it facilitate the keeping of the Post Office accounts—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. Post Mr. Genl.

[Docket]

November 13 1851

S.H. Carpenter
Phila

Remark, on the gumming of
stamps—suggests a universal
system of pre payment by stamps
as in France

Philada. Novem 17, 1851.

Dear Sir:

We have this day delivered to W.I.P. White, Esq., Post Master, the following Postage Stamps, Viz:

68 Packages ea contg	30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents -	2,040,000 stamps
2 do " contg	50,000 do " 1 Cent -	100,000 do
1 do " contg	20,000 Carriers Stamps <u>Eagle</u> -	20,000 do

In addition to the above we delivered to J.C. Montgomery, Esq., Asst P.M. on the 21st ulto a package containing 10,000 Carriers Stamps (Franklin) receipt for which, together with receipt for the 20,000 Carriers Stamps delivered this day, please find herein.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Servts.,
TOPPAN, CARPENTER, CASILEAR & CO.

J. Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl.

First shipment of Eagle Carriers, of which we have a record. Franklin Carriers were also included in this order.

Philada. Nov. 24, 1851.

Dear Sir:

Having accidentally seen in the Herald, an article copied from the London Times, in which the change about to be adopted in England in regard to money payments on letters is referred to, I send it for your notice. Upon looking at the article again, I perceive that the phrase "about to be adopted" is not correct - it is now actually in operation.

There is one other matter in regard to Postage Stamps which I beg to call your attention to & then I will trouble you no more - it is this -

Having heard the Post Master General express himself strongly as to the importance of having the Stamps effectually cancelled at the office where mailed, and having noticed the importance attached to it in both England and France, I procured a couple of pounds of the indelible ink used in the English Post-Offices for cancelling their Stamps, which I send for inspection. I was informed in London, that previous to its use, the cancelling mark was very frequently extracted and the stamps used again. In many of our Post Offices the cancelling mark is so slight that the stamp might easily be used a second time without even the trouble of attempting to extract it, and indeed in some cases the stamps are not cancelled at all - two specimens recently recd by me I enclose as evidence of the fact, and that cases of this kind are not rare, I fear is too true. I send also two of the English Stamps, cancelled as I believe those stamps always are. You will see that the cancelling is quite perfect, and if the ink used is what it is claimed to be, and cannot be extracted, then of course it is impossible to use an English Stamp a second time. The Ink herewith I procured from the Contractors for the English Stamps who furnish it to the Post Office Department.

Will you have the kindness to say about what time you think you will require a further supply of stamps. I ask because if you will want some soon, we must use some of the gum which we now have instead of waiting for the English Gum ordered but which has not yet come to hand. Have no fears however that we will use any gum which is not of superior quality or that there will ever again be cause for complaint of a want of adhesiveness. We will use none but such as we have first thoroughly tested, and your stamps shall be as adhesive as any in any part of the world.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Servt.,
S.H. Carpenter.

J. Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. Post Master General.

P.S. The letter from Cleves, Ohio, is from a gentleman residing there and therefore I should not like the P. Master there to know that I furnished this evidence of his negligence as it might produce something unpleasant between him and my correspondent who is an old gentleman who would be much annoyed by anything of the kind. I beg therefore that if any notice is taken of it, it may be a statement of the fact which had come to the knowledge of the Department, but without sending the envelope which as it is a small office, he might recognize.

Postage Stamps.

[Extract from Report of P.M. Gen'l for 1851, page 16 (undated)]

"A contract has been made for the supply of the postage stamps authorized by the act of March last. These stamps are believed to be of superior quality, and are furnished at a less price than was formerly paid. Some of those furnished soon after the execution of the contract were found to be deficient in adhesive qualities, but it is believed that there will be no ground for future complaint.

Directions for the destruction of the dies and plates employed in the manufacture of the postage stamps formerly used have been given, and for counting and burning such of the stamps as have not been issued to postmasters, or have been returned."

P.O. Department
December 4th 1851

Gentlemen

I return herewith Brown Shipley & Cos letter to you of the 24th Oct last which was received in a late communication from you. On Saturday of this week I will send to the Postmaster of Philadelphia an authority to receive all the postage stamps you may have ready on the Monday following. We have on hand 841,400 threes and 165,800 ones which are unfit to put in use, and many thousand which were sent out some time ago will be returned upon us, but the parcel last received, and a good portion of the parcel immediately preceding it, have, so far as I know, given entire satisfaction. If they do not stick there is no tenacity in gum.

Respectfully &c
Signed J Marron

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter & Co Philada. Pa

Philad. Decem 8, 1851.

Dear Sir:

We have this day delivered to W.I.P. White, Esq., Post Master, 25 packages ea contg 60,000 Stamps of 3 cents - 1,500,000 Stamps, all of which we think you will find perfectly gummed.

We have printed the whole of your order for Carrier Stamps and have a considerable portion of them gummed & ready for delivery -

We have several thousand impressions of the One Cent Stamp printed, but not gummed, as we were desirous of perfecting the gum before we proceeded further. We will now go on with the gumming of the Ones as well as Threes.

With regard to all that you have on hand, or may have at other offices, which are imperfectly gummed, we beg you to destroy the whole and advise us of the amount and we will credit the department with every impression so destroyed.

I noticed when in London that deliveries of Postage Stamps were made in Wooden Chests (with lock similar to your Bags) sufficiently large to contain from 6 to 800,000 Stamps. Permit us to suggest that the Packages would carry much better in Boxes or Chests and be altogether free from injury in transportation, which cannot be relied on when carrier in Bags - the paper (when the Stamps are put in Bags) is liable to be torn & the stamps rumpled and injured. If you approve of this suggestion we will undertake to have the Chests made of a suitable size and save you all the trouble about the matter.

Very Respectfully,
Yr Obt. Servts.,
TOPPAN, CARPENTER, CASILEAR & CO

J. Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. General.

Philada Dec 9, 1851

Dear Sir

I yesterday suggested the making of wooden Chests or Boxes for packing the Stamps—If they should be objectionable (from any supposed facility in handling Bags in preference to Boxes) I would respectfully suggest the construction of Square Canvas Bags made expressly to hold a certain number of Stamps—In this way, they will be made to fit tight & compact, and can be handled roughly (as Bags generally are) without the Stamps receiving injury.

We have now commenced the use of the Gum purchased in England of the Manufacturer who supplies the Contractor for the English Postage Stamps—It is precisely the same article now used for their stamps—I think you will find it adhere perfectly well—It is of a lighter color than the gum formerly used in England & the Contractor for the Stamps informed me that they thought it the best that they had ever used—

Very respectfully
Your Ob St
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst P M General.

[Docket]

9 Decbr 1851

S. H. Carpenter
Philada

Stamps
advises Commencement of the
use of "English Gum"

Decr 10, 1851
Answered

P.O. Department.
Dec. 10th 1851

Gentlemen

In my letter of the 12th November last I expressed my willingness to try the plan of printing 200 stamps on a sheet instead of 100 as formerly, and having tried the last lot rec'd, I regret to say that we find them exceedingly inconvenient in that form. We have put up and sent by mail since the 21st June last nearly 5000 parcels of stamps, containing generally from one to three thousand each. Many hundreds of those parcels reach their destinations in horse mail bags, and for such conveyance it is important that the parcels be folded as short as possible, that they may find some protection from being mailed in letter packages of nearly the same length. The stamps having 200 on a sheet require envelopes 2 inches longer than those of 100, and these are longer than is desired for our mails. It is true the former are more easily counted, but this facility by no means counterbalances the inconvenience mentioned, to say nothing of the additional cost of larger envelopes. Therefore, I must request that the stamps be put up in single sheets of 100 as heretofore and in parcels of 300 sheets of 30,000 stamps. Put up in this form our present bags will answer very well.

Respectfully &c
J. Marron.
3d Asst P M Genl

Mess Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philadelphia

P.O. Department
December 10 1851

Sir

I am directed by the Postmaster General to say that halves or other important parts of postage stamps will not be recognized in prepayment of the postage on any letter or packet passing in our mails, and that letters bearing such parts of stamps must in all cases be treated as unpaid letters.

The use of parts of stamps is probably confined to those person who think it no derogation from their moral standing to preserve imperfectly cancelled stamps for the purpose of using again those parts of them which have not been defaced. Please report the Postmasters which send to you letters bearing half stamps.

Respectfully &c
J Marron
(Third Asst. P.M. General.)

Postmaster, Newburyport Mass

Post Office
Baltimore Dec. 15, 1851.

Sir:

Be pleased to have sent to me 1800 dollars worth of three-cent stamps.

Are you prepared to furnish Carrier stamps, and in what can I obtain a supply?

Very respectfully,
C.T. Maddox, P.M.

Hon. J. Marron,
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

60,000 three cent stamps sent.
Letter answered December 26, 1851.

Post Office Department
Decem 22, 1851

Sir

I enclose an authority to receive and receipt for as the Agent of this Department all the postage stamps Messrs Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co may have ready for delivery on its presentation which it is requested may take place tomorrow. You will please have the stamps packed in my bags which are forwarded for that purpose, and sent to me by the Mail Agent as heretofore.

The Postmaster of Baltimore wishes to be furnished with Carriers stamps. Is there any objection to his being furnished with stamps of the same color and device as those in use by your carriers Department. I am Respectfully

Your Obt Sert
J Marron
3d Asst P M General

W J P White Esqre
Postmaster, Philadelphia Pa

This is a unusual request. Does Marron assume White controls these Eagle Carriers for his use only?

P.O. Philadelphia
Decr 24th 1851

Sir:

Your letter of the 22nd failed to reach me until this morning. Business being suspended here to day by the arrival of Kossuth, I can only forward twenty eight packages 30,000 each, balance tomorrow. The 60,000 forwarded by you duly received, prefer small quantity at present time.

I can see no objection whatever to the Baltimore Office being supplied with stamps of the same color and device as those in use by our Carrier's Department.

In haste
Very respectfully,
W.J.P. White
P M

Hon. John Marron
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl
Washington D.C.

[Docket]

24 Decbr 1851
Philadelphia

28 pckgs

P.M. Cannot forward all the
Stamps, owing to Kossuth's
arrival—sees no objection to
supplying Balto office with
Carriers Stamps same as used in
Phila.

Philada Decem 25, 1851

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

55 packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	1,650,000 Stamps
19 do " contg 50,000 do " 1 Cent	950,000 do
5 do " contg 20,000 do " 12 Cent	100,000 do
<u>7</u> do " contg 40,000 do " Carriers Stamps	<u>280,000</u> do
86 Packages Containing	2,980,000 Stamps

28 (of the above 55 packages of 3 Cent Stamps were delivered to Mr White yesterday, consequently there are only 27 Packages forwarded today.

We will forward the usual Certificate tomorrow—today being Christmas the Aldermans Offices are all closed—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. General

[Docket]

25 December 1851
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Phila.

P. M. Phila
86 pckgs 2,980,000

Delivery of Stamps

Apparently these are Eagle Carriers, although not specified.

P.O. Department
Dec 26 1851

Sir

Your letter of the 15th instant enquiring whether we were prepared to furnish you with Carriers stamps was duly received, and having then no carriers stamps on hand I ordered a quantity which will be here tomorrow. They are of the same color and device as those used in Philada. Will this be objectionable, and if not how many will you want? The manufacturers have prepared plates and dies for carriers stamps of two devices, the one a small Franklin, printed in black upon pink paper - the other, an Eagle. The latter are used in Philadelphia, the former in New York and New Orleans.

Respectfully &c
(Signed) J Marron
3d Asst P M Genl

C.T. Maddox Esq
P M Baltimore Md.

Marron says the Eagle Carrier in use in Philadelphia, the Franklin Carrier in New York and New Orleans. Is he offering Baltimore a third option?
The Franklin Carrier is blue not black.

Post Office
Baltimore. December 27, 1851.

Sir:

Be pleased to have sent to me 50,000 of Carrier's stamps of the Eagle device. I would thank you to send at the same time a bill of the amount charged for them.

Very respectfully yrs.
C.T. Maddox, P.M.

Hon. John Marron,
3d Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

This quantity (50,000) is greater than previously printed. More will be needed later.

Jany. 9, 1852.

Dear Sir:

We have this day delivered to W.I.P. White, Esq., Post Master, the following packages containing 2,810,000 Postage Stamps - viz:

72 Packages ea contg	30,000 stamps of 3 cents -	2,160,000 Stamps.
<u>13</u> do ea contg	50,000 do " 1 cent -	<u>650,000</u> do
85 Packages containing		2,810,000 Stamps

We have commenced the use of some new gum from Lowell (on the one cent stamps) - It is strongly adhesive but the color is too dark to look well. We have nearly exhausted all the gum recd from England, which altho' a much lighter color & consequently a handsomer gum than the new Lowell, yet it is no more adhesive - if as much so.

The Lowell gum costs us nearly 18 per Ct more than the English, yet if it will answer as well, we would prefer to pay the difference rather than import it, because we might be subject to delay & trouble in receiving it from England and it might happen that they would sometimes take advantage of the distance and send us an inferior article. We should like however to know your wishes on the subject, because if the Post Master General and yourself should prefer the English gum we will immediately order a supply of it. Adhesiveness, we presume to be the all important object - in this particular we think you will admit the Lowell gum (now sent) to be as perfect as it can well be made.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Servts.,
Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co.

J. Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. Post Master General.

Post Office Department.
January 14, 1852.

Gentlemen:

I could not give an answer to your letter enquiring whether the dark Lowell gum would be as acceptable as the English until I had handled both sufficiently to test those qualities which concern us most whose duty it is to distribute them, but I can now say that the English is greatly preferred and especially when used on paper so tender as that on which our stamps are printed. This new Lowell gum has doubtless the adhesive quality necessary but it is hard and contracts so much in drying that the sheets covered with it curl up and break in the handling. The one cent stamps with few exceptions are sent to Postmasters in parcels of from ten to fifty sheets. When thus counted out into parcels for transmission they will not lie still until they can be got into the envelopes prepared for them. The English gum is sufficiently restive but can be held still. The stamps are so much abused in the mail bags on their way hither than the Postmaster General is willing to adopt your suggestion as to sending them to us in boxes and he authorizes me to request that you have suitable boxes prepared capable of containing about 1,000,000 Stamps each (say four boxes) and of being locked with a U.S. Mail Lock. They should have handles of cord as to be conveniently moved.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
J. Marron,
3rd. Asst. P.M.G.

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Philada. Jany 17, 1852

Dear Sir

Your favor of 14th inst. Was duly recd. We have ordered a large supply of English Gum (to be in every respect as good as that recently used) and as we have directed it to be shipped per Steamer we hope to receive it at an early day—meanwhile we shall be compelled to use the new Lowell which we think we can manage to mix with other gum so as in a great measure to obviate the fault of which you complain and which has also given us immense trouble—

You will no doubt have observed that all your Stamps are now much smoother (we mean the impressions) than those delivered previous to the visit from Mr C to England— we now press every sheet after being gummed (in the same manner that we press our Bank Notes) which of course not only makes them look better & smoother but contribute to their laying more snugly in the Packages—You will also have noticed an entire uniformity in the Color of the 3 Cent Stamps in all deliveries of the last two months—In all three matters we have aimed to perfect the whole work so that in every respect it should be perfectly Satisfactory—We will have the Boxes made as early as practicable—as an experiment we propose to have two made to contain only half a million each—Our impression is that you will find Boxes of that Size more convenient for handling and preferable on some other counts—of this however you will of course judge when you see both—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst P. Master General

[Docket]

7 Jany 1852

Toppan Carpenter C. & Co
Philada

gum
boxes
Stamps

about gum

Phila Jany 27th/52

Dear Sir,

We have this day delivered to Mr J.P.White Esqr Post Master the following Packages containing 1,700,000 Postage Stamps

Viz

50 Packages each cntg. 30,000 stamps 3 cent Stamps	1,500,000 Stamps
<u>5</u> " " " 40,000 " Carriers Stamps	<u>200,000</u> "
55 Packages containing	1,700,000

Very Respectfully
Yours &c
per
S. H. Carpenter Jr

James Marron Esqr
3rd Assistant P. M. Genl

[Docket]

27 Jany. 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada.

P. M. Phila
55 pcks—1,700,000

Delivery of Stamps

This is the last recorded delivery of Eagle Carriers, but apparently other deliveries were made direct to postmasters in cities requesting them (see letters dated 4/17/52 and 7/16/53). Tiffany apparently interpreted this and the letter of 1/28/52 as saying that the Eagle Carrier was discontinued this date.

P.O. Department
January 28 1852

Sir

Be please not to send any further supply of one cent postage or of carriers stamps, until you shall receive orders from the Department.

Respectfully &c
J Marron
3 Asst P M Genl

Mess Toppan Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia Pa

Was this due to having an overstock of the 1c and carrier stamps? This letter may have been interpreted as calling for discontinance of Eagle Carrier stamps (see Terell letter dated 7/30/69).

Philada. Feb. 9, 1852.

Dear Sir:

We have this day delivered to W. I. P. White, Esq., Post Master, the following packages of Postage Stamps, viz:

68 Packages ea contg 30,000 stamps of 3 cents - 2,040,000 stamps.

Part of these stamps (marked F) are gummed with French gum, (procured by Mr. Carpenter during his visit to Paris). It is a handsome article, apparently of the same material as the English, but much lighter in color. It is about equally adhesive.

We forward the present lot of stamps in the new Boxes - one of them has brass handles (put on by mistake) which we will have changed on its return to us. Please say how you like these boxes. If they are satisfactory, we will have them painted neatly, and have such lettering put on them as you may direct.

Very Respectfully, Your Obt. Servts.,
TOPPAN, CARPENTER, CASILEAR & CO.

J. Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M.G.

Philada. Feb 20, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps

Viz

83 Packages ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents—2,490,000 Stamps.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst P. Mr. Genl.

[Docket]

20 february 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

P M Phila
83 pckgs—2,490,000

Delivery of Stamps

Philad. March 9, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master, the following Packages of Postage Stamps amounting to 2,340,000 Stamps,

Viz

78 Packages ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents—2,340,000 Stamps.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Scts.
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.

[Docket]

9 March 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

P. M. Phila.
78 pckgs 2,340,000

Delivery of Stamps

Philada. April 2, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps,

Viz

77 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents—2,310,000 Stamps.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst Post M. Genl.

[Docket]

2 April 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada.

P M Phila
77 pckgs 2,310,000

Delivery Stamps

Philada. Apl 15, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

72 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents—2,160,000 Stamps.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Svts.
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst P. M. Genl

[Docket]

15 April 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada.

P M Phila.
72 pckgs—2,160,000

Delivery of Stamps

Post Office, New York,
April 17, 1852.

Sir:

Herewith you will please receive my receipt for 250,000 Carrier's Stamps.

My instructions, authorize me to sell them to Letter Carriers and Stationers at 10% discount.

Mr. Ells, proposes to purchase them of me, in large quantities, at the 10% dis., and selling them to the Carriers and Stationers at the same rates.

He proposes also, to give me a receipt for the amount of Stamps which he may purchase, which receipt I shall forward to the Dept. as a Cr. to my a/c.

Are there any objections to this course?

Respy Yr Ob. Serv.,
Wm. N. Brady,
P.M.

John Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M.G.,
Wash., D.C.

We do not have a record of this delivery of Carrier Stamps. It is likely they were Franklin Carriers, but not certain.

Philada. May 3, 1852

Dear Sir:

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps,

Viz

49 Packages ea Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	1,470,000 Stamps
<u>8</u> do ea Contg. 50,000 do " 1 Cent	<u>400,000</u> do
57 Packages Containing`	1,870,000 Stamps

From the above you will perceive that we have not sent you as many of the One Cent Stamps as you have requested in your letter to Mr White—We have confined our attention exclusively to the 3 Cent Stamps since your order to discontinue sending the Ones, and those now forwarded are packages remaining on hand at that time—Two or perhaps three of these packages are gummed with the dark colored gum & it is put on too thick - Our gummers were so determined to make them stick that they have put on much more than was necessary and we are fearful that this will give you trouble in their curling—If it should, please destroy them at once (such as have that fault) and we will replace them with others—We are now gumming One Cent Stamps and in a few days shall be able to furnish any quantity that you may require—

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Servts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.

Post Office, New York,
May 5, 1852.

Sir:

Will you be kind enough, to refer to my letter of the 17th April, relative to Carrier's Stamps, giving me the necessary instructions, with regard to the proposition of Mr. Ells, when convenient.

Respy. Yr. Ob. Ser.,
Wm. N. Brady,
P.M.

John Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M.G.
Washn. D.C.

Philada. May 13, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps,

Viz

60 Packages ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	1,800,000 Stamps
<u>23</u> do ea Contg 50,000 Stamps of One Cent	<u>1,150,000</u> do
83 Packages Containing	2,950,000 Stamps

Very respectfully
Your Obt Sts &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

13 May 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

P M Phila
83 Pckgs 2,950,000

delivery of stamps

[Notes from Postmaster General's Letter Book, 1852.]

P.M. General N.K. Hall, in a letter dated May 20, 1852, addressed to Hon. Hannibal Hamlin, U.S. Senate, says that his Report made to the Senate that day, in compliance with a Resolution of that body adopted 25th March last, contains statistical information which will be useful for future reference, and suggests that this Report be printed together with his Annual Report of 1851 (already printed) and that 500 extra copies be ordered for use of this Department.

oooOooo

P.O. Department,
Finance Office May 21st 1852.

Sir:

Your letter of the 17th April and 5th May concerning carriers Stamps were duly received and but for the continual pressure of my engagement would have been promptly answered. The Postmaster General instructs me to say that no objection is perceived to the plan proposed by Mr. Eels of purchasing the Carriers stamps from you at 10 per cent discount and selling them at the same rate to Carriers and Stationers provided a course of accounting be adopted which will show, at any time, the number of stamps issued, the number sold, and the number used & cancelled as suggested in y letter to him of the 20th October 1851, a copy of which is herewith sent. His receipts to you should express the number of Stamps sold, the amount of discount, and the amount paid for each parcel purchased.

Respectfully & etc.,
J. Marron,
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

Postmaster,
New York,
N.Y.

[Traver's Notes from Postmaster General's Letter Book, 1852.]

On August 10, 1852, P.M. General Hall sent to Thos. I. Rusk, U.S. Senate, a mass of historical notes comprising about eighty foolscap pages of closely written matter, to be examined and returned to him.

There is nothing further on the subject in P.M. General Hall's Letter Book. Mr. Hall left service August 30, 1852.

Philada. May 26, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps—

Viz

102 Packages ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

3,060,000 Stamps.

Very Respectfully

Your Obt. Svts.

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

26th May 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada.

P M Phila
102 Pkgs—3,060,000
delivery of stmps

Dalton Ms June 3d 1852

Mess Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philadelphia,

Your favor of May 31 came to hand in due time. In it you enquire as to the additional costs of inserting threads in the envelope paper, in imitation of the English. This seems to be an abstract question & we will reply to the point—We would not furnish paper so prepared with two different colored threads & in proper locations for different sized Envelopes short of fifty pr. Ct. advance pr. Lb. Or ream, for the paper. We would agree to do it for that if the amount was considerable.

For a small quantity we would not attempt it—We know about the vexation & trouble that this threaded paper gives in its manufacture. Some 5 or 6 years ago the writer “got up” a system of inserting threads in bank paper, each thread to represent one dollar &c &c (3 threads 3 dollars, &c) & he has all the experience necessary to tel of its perplexities—

You ask then, are these strings sufficiently difficult to insert to prevent counterfeiting? We reply that altho’ undoubtedly in a measure such a system would be an obstacle, still in our opinion the water mark for that purpose would be far superior—

We will state why.—The thread can be inserted in any paper mill, making either writing or printing paper in the Country, & it would be of a sufficient object to do so, so far as the [two words illegible] on the counterfeit could be obtained—But, for a water mark, what manufacturers term a dandy roll must be obtained from England with the lettering done there, & at an expense of 100 to 150 dollars,—No one could counterfeit that unless they possessed a similar apparatus & which as we have before said, must be obtained at great expense & from abroad.

This Water Mark it strikes us should be introduced in any event & if the department wish the thread inserted also it could be done.

We should be glad to furnish the paper at a fair price pr. Lb,—good white, or blue Laid & with such water mark as may be selected appearing in every envelope for no additional charge for the water mark—We mean the paper would be furnished at same price with, or without the water mark, not that the cost of the apparatus would not be more in one case than the other, but the “job” would of such magnitude that such trifling considerations would have little weight—In case a Water mark was decided on, 3 months notice to your paper maker would be necessary in order to get the Lettering as alluded to from England—On a sheet of Letter paper just made in our new “Bay State Mill” you will notice some distinct water marks

This “Lettering” has but just come over—Suppose you decided on Water marks, it would be necessary to have perfectly decided on the size of the envelopes —size of sheet &c &c—You will also see enclosed a piece of our old threaded Bank note paper—We will meet you in N. Y. or Phila if you desire it, to give more details—

The Eng. orig stamp Envelope is with this returned.

Respectfully &c
Crane & Co

[Docket]

June 3, 1852
Crane & Co Dalton Mass.

Enclosing Samples note paper
with thread inserted—would
ask 50 per ct. advance per lb. Or
ream knowing the trouble & vex
ation of making such paper.
Inserting the strings would offer
a difficulty to counterfeiting
but not so effectual as Water
marks—Threads alone can be
inserted by every mill making
writing or printing paper—But
a water mark requires a
dandy roll from england
with the letters done there at an
Expense of \$100 to \$150.

[Adjacent to the above docket is the following writing]

London July 2/52

“I ought to add that the parties here are by no means strongly attached to the use of the thread paper; in fact the head of the Department in Somerset House has lately made an attempt to get rid of it altogether and substitute a Water Mark in the paper instead of the thread, but for the present he has failed in convincing the higher authorities”

Philada. June 19, 1852

Dear Sir,

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master, the following Packages of Postage Stamps,

Viz

102 Packages Ea Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

3,060,000 Stamps

Very respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post M. Genl

[Docket]

19 June 1952
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada.

P M Phila
102 pckgs 3,060,000

delivery of Stamps

Phila July 10/52

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

98 Packages ea contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

2,940,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Sts

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

per

S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqre

3rd Asst. Post M. Genl

[Docket]

10 July 1852

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada.

P M Phila

98 Pckgs—2,940,000

Advise delivery of Stamps

Phila. Augt 6/52

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

93 Packages ea Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cents

2,790,000

Very respectfully

Your Obt Svs

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

per

S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Aug 6 1852

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila.

93 pckgs—2,790,000

Phila. Augt. 12/52

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

50 Packages ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of the 3 Cents	1,500,000 Stamps
<u>2</u> do “ “ 50,000 do “ “ One Cent	<u>100,000</u> “
52 Packages Containing	1,600,000 Stamps

Very respectfully

Your &c

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

per

S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

12th Augst 1852

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada.

P M Phila
52 Pkgs—1,600,000

Delivery of Stamps

Phila Augt 17/52

Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

89 Packages cont Each 30,000 Stamps 3 cent Stamps 2,670,000

Very respectfully
Your Obt Sts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. General

[Docket]

Aug 27 '52

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
P M Phila.
89 pckgs 2,670,000

Phila. Sepr 17/52

Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

91 Packages each contg 30,000 Stamps 3 cent Stamps	<u>2,730,000</u>
	2,730,000

Very respectfully
Your Obt St
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

Docket]

Sepr 17, 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Delivd. 2,730,000 3 Ct. Stamps

Philada. Octo. 6, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

92 Packages ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

2,760,000 Stamps

Very respectfully

Your Obt Sts

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila
92 Pckgs. 2,760,000

Post Office, New York,
October 16, 1852.

Sir:

I send you by this day's mail, the Carrier's Stamps, for which, you have my receipt, dated Apl. 17, 1852. The original number was 250,000. 6,800 have been sold for which I have received \$68. less 10%.

Shall I have a deposit for that amount made, or shall I send a draft to the Dept. for that amount. The Superintendent desires the amount to be passed to the Cr.. of the Carrier's fund. What disposition shall be made of it?

Respy Yr Obt Serv.,
Wm. N. Brady,
P.M.

John Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M.G.
Wash., D.C.

Phila. Oct 18th/52

Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

	Viz
69 Packages each contg 30,000 Stamps 3 cent Stamps	2,070,000
<u>14</u> do do do 50,000 do 1 cent Stamp	<u>700,000</u>
	2,770,000

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Stc
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Octo 18, 1852

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Phila P M
83 Pckgs 2,770,000

Philada. Nov 12 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps—
Viz—

81 Packages ea Contg 30000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,430,000 Stamps
<u>6</u> do ea Contg 50000 do 1 Cent	<u>300,000</u> do
87 Packages containing	2,730,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Nov 12, 1852

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila.
87 Pckgs—2,730,000

Philada. Nov 19, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

82 Packages ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,460,000 Stamps
<u>5</u> do ea Contg 50,000 do of 1 Cent	<u>250,000</u> do
87 Packages Containing	2,710,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Nov 19, 1852

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila
87 Pckgs 2,710,000

Philada. Dec 14, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

93 Packages Ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

2,790,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Svts

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre

3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

[Pencil notation: 19 packages in box left out]

[Docket]

Decr. 14 1852

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Del. 2,790,000 3 ct. Stamps

Phila. P M

Philad. Jany 5 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

73 Packages ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,190,000 Stamps
<u>10</u> do " Contg 50,000 do " 1 Cent	<u>500,000</u> do
83 Packages Containing	2,690,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

[Docket]

Jany 5, 1853
Toppan Carpenter C & Co

2,690,000 furnished

Philada. Jan 20, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

76 Packages ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents
12 do ea Contg 50,000 Stamps of 1 Cent
88 Packages Containing

2,280,000 Stamps
600,000 do
2,880,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Mr Genl

[Docket]

Jany 20 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila.
99 Pckgs 2,880,000

Philada. January 29

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

58 Packages Ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	1,740,000 Stamps
<u>1</u> do Ea Contg 50,000 do " 1 Cent	<u>50,000</u> do
59 Packages Containing	1,790,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

[Docket]

Jany 29 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila
59 Pckgs 1,790,000

Philada. Feb 8, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

53 Packages Ea contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	1,590,000 Stamps
<u>14</u> do Ea Contg 50,000 do 1 Cent	<u>700,000</u> do
67 Packages Containing	2,290,000 Stamps

Very respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

[Docket]

Feby. 8, 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila
67 Pkgs 2,290,000

Philada. Feb 24, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

59* Packages Ea Conrg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents
7 do Ea Contg 50,000 do 1 Cent
66 Packages Containing

1,770,000 Stamps
350,000 do
2,120,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

* 79 received per certificate
J. Marron

[Docket[

Feby 24 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
P M Phila
66 pckgs 2,120,000

Philada. Feb 24, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

20 Packages Ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

600,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Svts

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre

3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

[Docket]

Feby 24 '53

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P. M Phila.

20 Pckgs 600,000

Philada. Feb 26, 1853

Dear Sir

I feel greatly mortified at the omission of the 20 Packages of Stamps in the Certificate of the 24th

It arose from our Superintendent accidentally sending one Box more than he had intended when he handed me the usual memorandum to make out the Certificate from—

He is usually very careful and accurate, but in this instance was certainly very negligent—I can only assure you of my great regret, and trust that nothing of the kind will again occur.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts
S.H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Feby 26, 1853

S. H. Carpenter

omission of 20 pckgs Stamps
in the Certificate of 24
owing to Superintendent

Philada. Mar 12, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

69 Packages Ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,070,000 Stamps
<u>14</u> do Ea Contg 50,000 do 1 Cent	<u>300,000</u> do
75 Packages Containing	2,370,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

[Docket]

March 12 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila
75 Pckgs 2,370,000

Philad. Mar 28, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

101 Packages Ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

3,030,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

March 28 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila.
101 pckgs 3,030,000

Post Office Department.
Finance Office April 2nd, 1853.

Gentlemen:

Complaints in several instances, have been recently made to the Department that the postage Stamps lately issued, either from some deterioration in the quality of the gum, or negligence in its application, are so defective in adhesiveness that a distrust of their usefulness may take possession of the public mind, unless a remedy be applied.

I feel assured that is only necessary to apprise you of the fact to induce you to make such inquiry into the subject as the public convenience demands.

I am gentlemen,
Yours very respectfully,
J. Marron,
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.,
Engravers, Philadelphia, Pa.

Philada. Apl 4, 1853

Dear Sir

Your favor of 2nd is recd—It is a matter of much surprize to us that there should be complaints now of the adhesiveness of the Stamps.

We had supposed that they were now so perfect that complaint could not be made—We have used the same materials for many months past—they have been mixed carefully in precisely the same way, and by the same person—the same persons have been constantly employed in gumming the Stamps, and so far as we have been able to test it from time to time (which we have done very frequently) we were satisfied that the Stamps were as adhesive as they could be made—Since the receipt of your letter we have made various experiments of Stamps on hand and gummed at different periods during the last 3 months—In every instance, every Stamp adhered so perfectly that as soon as it was dry it could not be torn off the paper without destroying the Stamp—We cannot but think that the persons complaining, do so without just cause—The difficulty we think is in the ignorance of the parties as to the proper mode of applying the Stamp—In almost every case where there is a complaint of a want of adhesiveness, it is entirely because the Stamp is wet too much or kept on the tongue until the adhesive matter is either wholly abstracted, or so weakened as to destroy its tenacity—So well Satisfied are we that the fault is not in the gum, that we beg you as a particular favor to furnish us with the names of all those who have recently made complaints and we will write to the parties themselves and investigate it and ask to be furnished with a few of the Stamps that are pronounced defective—In this way only can we arrive at the true merits of the case—We will endeavor thoroughly to examine into every complaint and if there should prove to be fault on our part, we will do everything in our power to remedy it, and if there is not, we desire at least to have the opportunity to Shew you where the fault really is—We ask the names and propose to investigate it ourselves, because we know that your time is too valuable to be troubled with such a matter and because we feel the most anxious desire to arrive at the truth—Fault will be found, no matter how perfect a thing may be—this we cannot help, but if there is really no ground of Complaint, we want to be able to shew that to you conclusively—We think complaint is now made without cause—give us but the opportunity of investigating it, and be the result what it may, you shall be made acquainted with it—In every case where Stamps are sent to us let the parties deface the face of the Stamp in nay way they please—perhaps by writing their own name over it so that they may recognize it again—we will then pay them for the Stamps thus cancelled or send them an equal number of Stamps—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

[Docket]

April 4, 1853
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Post Office
Philadelphia April 14 1853

D Sir

I herewith Enclose to You the affirmation of Mess Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co, certifying 62 Packages each contain'g 30000 Stamps of 3 cents amounting in all to 1,860,000and 8 packages containing 50,000 Stamps of 1 cent making 400,000 Total Stamps, 2,260,000 which according to your instructions I will place in charge of the Mail Agent who leaves tonight at 10p ock for Washington

Yours truly
John Miller
Agent for POD

J. Marron Esq
3rd Assistant
Post Master Genrl

[Docket]

April 14 1853
Philadelphia Pa
John Miller PM
Philada
Forwarding Stamps
Stamps
70 Pkgs. 2,260,000

Post Office
Philadelphia April 29, 1853

Dr Sir

I send by the train this night

4 Boxes containing

67 packages of 3 cent Stamps	2 010 000
<u>6</u> do " 1 " "	<u>300 000</u>
	2,310,000

Mr Carpenter is absent from the City and will be home tomorrow when he will place the necessary affidavit in my hands and I will forward it to you at once.

Yours &c
John Miller
P M

J. Marron Esq

[Docket]

April 29, '53
Philadelphia Pa

John Miller PM
Philada
Forwarding Stamps
73 Pckgs 2,310,000

Stamps

Philada. May 3, 1853

Dear Sir

On the 29th Ulto we delivered to John Miller Esqre Post Master, the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

67 Packages each Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,010,000 Stamps
<u>6</u> do ea Contg 50,000 do of 1 Cent	<u>300,000</u> do
73 Packages Containing	2,310,000 Stamps

The above Stamps should have been advised on the day of their delivery but for the temporary absence in New York of our Mr Carpenter—

We regret that you did not send the names of the parties who complained of the want of adhesiveness of the /Stamps as we were (and are) very desirous of Satisfying you that the complaint was not well founded—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Mr Genl
Washington
D.C.

[Docket]

May 3 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Jno Miller
73 pckgs 2,310,000

May 4, 1853.

Gentlemen:

As the Department does not always credit or adopt the complaints made in relation to our postage Stamps by Postmasters and others, it was not thought necessary to trouble you further on the subject of such complaints received prior to my letter of the 2nd Ultio. That letter was intended to apprise you that complaints existed and to ensure the continuance of the skill and attention which those in your employment have heretofore manifested in the production of the stamps. Entire confidence in your fidelity as contractors is felt by me, and no complaint to your prejudice shall be permitted to impress me unfavorably except after a thorough examination of the ground on which it may rest. But as you desire yourselves to take some part in the investigation of complaints made against the stamps, I send you two letters from reputable Postmasters received since your letter of the 4th Ultio. With these you are at liberty to take such course as you may think proper.

Respectfully, & etc.,
J. Marron,
Third Ass't. P.M. Gen'l.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Philad. May 6, 1853

Dear Sir

Please accept our thanks for the letter enclosed in your favor of 4th inst (herein returned)—

We have written to each of the gentlemen, requesting as a great favor that they would if practicable Send even one of the Stamps complained of, in order that we might examine it and have the proof of its inferiority—

We have also sent to each, 3 Stamps cut from a sheet purchased at our Post Office recently, (which is a fair example of the whole of the Stamps for the last year) and have requested them to test each stamp differently—In two of the modes of using them which we have pointed out, we are Sure that they will find them adhere perfectly, whereas in the third (which we believe is adopted by a great many who are unacquainted with the proper mode of using them) they will find that the adhesive quality has been destroyed and the Stamp will either adhere very Slightly or not at all—If these results are arrived at, we think it but fair to conclude that in almost every case of complaint, the fault has been in the Consumer more than in the Stamp—

As soon as we receive the replies of Messrs Lincoln & Ford you shall be informed of the result—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket}

May 6, 1853
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Have written to persons com-
plaining for return of Stamps to
be tested—The Result will
be reported

Philada. May 11, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master, the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

73 Packages Ea Conrg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

2,220,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Svts

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

May 11 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Jno Miller
74 pckgs 2,220,000

Philada. May 24, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

77 Packages Ea Conrg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

2,310,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Svts

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

May 24 853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Jno Miller
77 Pckgs 2,310,000

quite un-official

Philad. May 24, 1853

Dear Sir

Not a word in reply from the Complaining P.M's of Batavia & Worcester, altho I have written twice to one of them—If their heads are off—why—perhaps their silence may be accounted for and excused—but, if they are Still permitted to rejoice in the affair P. M—just let General Campbell make me his Axe Grinder for 3 minutes and in their cases P. M would mean Post Mortum instead of Post Master—

You perceive that I am getting quite Savage—of course I am in favor of the utmost punctuality in Correspondence—particularly where they use Stamps—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Mr. Genl

[Docket]

May 24 '53

S. H. Carpenter

un official

not a word from complain'g
P. M at Batavia & Worcester
though twice written to

Philada. June 1, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps,

Viz

56 Packages Ea Conrg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

1,680,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Svts

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

June 1 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Jno Miller
56 Pckgs 1,680,000

Philada. June 15, 1851

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

74 Packages Ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

2,220,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

June 15 1853

Jno Miller
74 Pckgs—2,220,000

Messrs Toppan Carpenter
Casilear & Co's
report of Stamps
delivered to PM
at Philada

Philad. July 8, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

125 Packages Ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

3,750,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

July 8 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
John Miller
129 pckgs. 3,950,000

Post Office. New York. July 16, 1853.

Sir:

I herewith enclose you a letter, received this A.M., from Messrs Carnes & Haskell, of this city, upon the subject of reordering into service the 10¢ postage stamp. Stamps of that value could be used to a considerable extent on the following correspondence:

Letters for	France, per Havre steamers	20¢ per ½ oz.
" "	Bremen " Bremen "	20¢ do
" "	Aspinwall & Panama	20¢ do
" "	Havana	10¢ do
" "	British provinces	10¢ do
" "	Continent of Europe, in open mail via London, per American steamers, using two 10¢ stamps and one 1¢ stamp	21¢ do

Respy. yr. obt. svt.
Isaac E. Fowler, P.M.
Per G.W. Jenkins, Sy.

+++++

[Attachment #1 to Isaac Fowler letter dated July 16, 1853]

New York 15th July 1853

Isaac B. Fowler, Esq. P.M.

Sir:

We shall feel greatly obliged in common with many other extensive Houses in the city, if you will represent to the P.M. General what a great convenience the renewal of the former ten-cent stamps would be. We have conversed with your Secretary upon the subject, and with the enclosed envelopes, can furnish the P.M. General with several good reasons why our request should be granted.

We have the honor to remain,
Yours very truly,
Carnes & Haskell.

This is the first mention of need for 10c stamp we have recorded, but no action was taken by the Post Office for almost two years, until the transcontinental postage rate changed.

Philad. July 16, 1853

Dear Sir

Your favor of 8th was duly recd. and should have been answered immediately, but that we have been endeavoring to ascertain the best means of accomplishing your wishes -

We have now employed a man to prepare a model of a leather case and give us an estimate of the cost, which we will forward immediately on its receipt -

As we are in doubt as to the wishes of the Department in relation to the delivery of Despatch Stamps (or Carriers Stamps) we will feel much obliged if you will have the kindness to inform us whether we are right in supposing that we are at liberty to furnish said Stamps to any Postmaster of the United States who may apply and pay for the same?

We have already furnished some to the Post Master of this City and today we furnished 40,000 to James G Berret Esqr Post Master of your City - this we did under the statement & impression that you had authorized such deliveries, but we desire now to have your written authority to cover all future deliveries -

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J Marron Esqr
3rd Asst P M Genl

[Docket]

July 16, 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
wants written authority
to furnish PMs with Carrier Stamps
by them paying for them

Sept 2nd 1853
Answered

This is evidence that TCC furnished carrier stamps direct, not through the 3rd PMG. The date on this letter is significantly after Tiffany and others stated the stamps were discontinued.

Philada July 30/53

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

14 Packages Ea Conrg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

700,000 Stamps

These Stamps are forwarded to you in the Leather Case which we have had made as a sample of what we think you require. The cost of such an article is \$25. Should it merit your approbation please let us know, that we can have some more made.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
pr
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master
General

[Docket]

July 30, 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear
& Co in relation to a
leather Case at a cost
of \$25

Del Jno Miller
14 pckgs—700,000

Philada. Aug 6, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

64 Packages Ea Conrg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	1,920,000 Stamps
<u>18</u> do Ea Contg 50,000 do 1 Cent	<u>900,000</u> do
82 Packages Containing	2,820,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Aug 6 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
John Miller
82 Pckgs 2,820,000

Philad. Aug 20, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

74 Packages Ea Conrg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,220,000 Stamps
<u>1</u> do Ea Contg 50,000 do 1 Cent	<u>50,000</u> do
75 Packages Containing	2,270,000 Stamps

The man who made the Leather Case for Stamps has called to ask how you were pleased with it—Will you have the kindness to inform us , whether you think such Cases will answer, or whether you can Suggest any improvement that will make them more acceptable—We shall be very glad to do all in our power to procure something that you will approve—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Aug 20 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Deld John Miller
75 pckgs 2,270,000

Post Office Department,
Finance Office, Sept. 2, 1853.

Gentlemen:

I regret to say that the price asked for the leather case will prevent the ordering any of them for the transmission of postage stamps. We pay for riveted leather mail bags four feet long and five feet in circumference \$6.50. It is true the leather is not so heavy or thick as that in the model case, but there is a greater weight of leather, and the price demanded for the case is out of all proportion. A traveling trunk of fine leather than the case, and of equal capacity, can be bought in any shop for \$16 to \$18 - and yet the maker of the case asks \$25 for it. I wish to order five of them, but the price will not admit of it.

I am very respectfully,
Your obt. Servt
John Marron,
3rd Asst. P.M. General.

Messrs. Carpenter, Casilear & Co.
Philadelphia, Pa.
Letter Book No. 4, page 13.

Philada. Sept 5 1853

Dear Sir

Your favor of 2nd inst is recd—I assure you that I truly & fully appreciate the kindness of your “Speech aside” touching the everlasting—and I think I may now add—ever Sticking, Stamps—I trust that the wag of a Post Master who so wittily eulogys the Sticking qualities of our Stamps, is one of P. M. Genl. Campbell’s Appointees—if not, pray make interest with the P. M. General and Save his head from the “Chopping knife”—

I have been enquiring and carefully examining into the subject of your letter and I do assure you that the “increased number of cases of the Sticking together of the Stamps in passing through the Mails,” is not owing to any change either in the materials used or the mode of preparation—precisely the same materials and mixed in the Same proportions are used now that were used a year Since and by precisely the same persons—The only difference that I can perceive (if any) is that the gum appears more perfectly spread and perhaps a little thicker.

My impression is, that the extreme heat of the Summer together with the frequent rains and damp weather, have had no more to do with the matter complained of than any thing else, altho’ I am not quite sure that the cases of “Post Masters putting parcels of Stamps in bags with damp newspapers” may not be more numerous now than Some time since—inasmuch as there may be throughout the Country a great number of “green hands” (to say nothing about heads) in the different offices, who may not be aware of the evil and trouble resulting from such a course—not having been duly advised thereof by the “illustrious predecessor”—

Have you found that the 1 Cent Stamps recently delivered have been more liable to this “injudicious” Sticking together, than the 3s?—If so, it might offer some solution of the question (if not the Stamps) inasmuch as they were printed and prepared with more than usual haste and had not the usual time for drying before delivery—

It may possibly be that Stamps that were gummed a much longer time in advance of their delivery would be left liable to the danger of injury in passing through the Mails, but of this I feel entirely incompetent to give an opinion—If however you desire it, we will put on additional force in order to get a larger Supply ahead and thus test it (so far as we can)—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr
Washington

[Docket]

Sepr. 5, 1853

S. H. Carpenter in reply
to his Stamps Sticking
“injudiciously”—

Philada. Sept. 10, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

76 Packages Ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,280,000 Stamps
<u>10</u> do Ea Contg 50,000 do 1 Cent	<u>500,000</u> do
86 Packages Containing	2,780,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Sep 10 '53

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Del John Miller
86 Pckgs—2,780,000

Philada. Septm, 29, 1854.

Jno. Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.

Sir:

Your order, directing us to deliver at the Postoffice here as usual all the Postage Stamps in our possession was received by us yesterday morning, but on application at the post office both then and to-day, we find the boxes have not yet been recd there- and we accordingly write this to inform you of the circumstance, so that you may know, that the delay in sending them arises from no fault of ours. The same thing has occurred before, but we presume you have not been aware of it. We have now on hand a large quantity of stamps ready for delivery and we are equally prepared and delirious of filling your orders with promptness.

Respectfully,
Yrs. &c.,
TOPPAN, CARPENTER, CASILEAR & CO.
PER
JACOB T. GEST.

Philad Oct 3, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps

Viz

110 Packages Ea Conrg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

3,300,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

P.S.

We have seen Mr Dialogue about the leather Case—But he declines to make any abatement in the price even if we were to order a larger number than five—he says that they might be made at a less price of thinner leather, but not for leather of the quality & thickness of the model Case Sent you.

[Docket]

Octo 3 '53

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Deld Jno Miller
110 Pckgs. 3,300,000

Philada. Octo 17, 1853

Dear Sir

On the 1st inst we forwarded our a/c for Postage Stamps and as we have not heard from you, we presume that in the multiplicity of your affairs it has escaped your observation—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Oct 17, 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear
& Co Calling attention to
their account for postage
Stamps Sent Oct 1 '53

Octr 18, 1853
Answered

Philad. Jany 12, 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

89 Packages Ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

2,670,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. Mr. Genl

P.S. we have no One Cent Stamps ready, but will forward some as soon as possible—

Philada. Jany 20th 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

12 Packages ea contg 50,000 Stamps of 1ct.

600,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully

Yrs. &c.

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

per J. T. Gest.

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl
Washington D. C.

Philada. Jany 23, 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps

Viz

20 Packages ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

600,000 Stamps.

Very Respf
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Jno Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

We regret that we are unable to forward a larger number of Stamps today, but the demand having exceeded our expectations we have not kept all the plates in hand—we will immediately put them all in press and at the earliest moment possible send you a further supply—say in a week hence—or sooner if you require it—

We have Sent you today a new Box made as a specimen for your approval—we think it will be found to answer the purpose better than any heretofore made—

Will you have the kindness to say how you like it—The Cost is \$7—if it is approved, we will order 4 or 5 more—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
T. C. C. & Co

Philada. Jany 30, 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps, being the residue of the requisition of the 21st inst.

Viz

60 Packages Ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

1,800,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Svts

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Jno Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

P.S.

You may rely hereafter on having an ample supply to meet all the demands of the Department.

T. C. C. & Co.

Philada. Feby 9, 1854

Sir,

We regret exceedingly to inform you that having placed all our force on the Three Cent Stamps (presuming that they would be the first wanted) we have not on hand enough of the one cent Stamps to fill Your requisition of the 7th but will forward you one box of one cent Stamps on the 11th and will hereafter be sure to keep such a force on each of the different kinds as to enable us to fill all orders promptly.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per J. T. Gest

J. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.
Washington D..C.

[Docket]

Feb 9, 1854

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

regrets he cannot im
-mediately Supply an order
for One Cent Stamps—

Philada. Feb 10, 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqre Post Master the following Postage Stamps

Viz

11 Packages ea Contg 50,000 Stamps of One Cent

550,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Svts

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

Philada. Feby 15, 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq Post Master the following Postage Stamps,

Viz;

68 Packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 ct. stamps

2,040,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per J. T. Gest

J. Marron Esq
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.

Philada. Feby 16, 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq Post Master the following Postage Stamps,

viz

10 Packages ea contg 50,000 Stamps of 1 ct

500,000 Stamps,

Very Respectfully

Yrs. &c.

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per J. T. Gest

J. Marron Esq
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl,
Washington D.C.

Phila. Feby 28/54

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps, viz

56 packages contg each 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents Stamp	1,680,000
12 " " " 50,000 " One " "	<u>600,000</u>
	2,280,000

Your Obt Svts Respectfully
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. Post Master
General

Phila. March 14/54

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to J. Miller Esqr Post Master, the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

107 Packages each Contg. 30,000 Stamps 3 Cent Stamp	3,210,000
11 " " " 50,000 " 1 " "	<u>550,000</u>
	3,760,000

Very Respectfully

Yrsv

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl
Washington D C

Dear Sir

Viz

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. Master
General

Phila. April 28/54

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to J. Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

60 Packages Each Conrg 30,000 Stamps, 3 Cent Stamp	1,800,000 Stamps
12 " " " 50,000 " 1 Cent Stamp	<u>600,000</u> do
	2,400,000 Stamps

We have [one word illegible] the above Stamps, enough on hand to fill 5 more Boxes—but as the Mail Agent has brought but 4 Boxes, we are unable to send them. If you will have the kindness to see to the forwarding of more Boxes, we will with pleasure send you a greater quantity of Stamps. We mention this as you may think we are slow in preparing the Stamps.

Yours Respectfully
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esq
3rd Asst. P. M. General

Phila May 10/54

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esq P.M. of Philadelphia the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

60 Packages each contg 30,000 Stamps of the 3 Cent Stamp	<u>1,800,000</u>
	Stamps 1,800,000

We are anxious to know why more Boxes are not sent us. This morning there are but 3 Boxes, whereas we have Stamps enough to fill 12 Boxes.

Mr Campbell's orders are for all the Stamps we "may have ready," but not having Boxes, we are unable to send them.

Very Respectfully
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
pr
S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. General

Phil June 13th 54

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to J. Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

63 Packages Each Contg 30,000 Stamps 3 cts Stamps	1,890,000 Stamps
13 " " " 50,000 " 1 ct Stamp	<u>650,000</u> do
	2,540,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Yours &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. General

Phila June 17/54

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

80 Packages each Contg 30,000 Stamps 3 cent Stamps

2,400,000

Respectfully Yours &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.

Phila July 5/54

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to J. Miller Esqr P.M. the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

65 Packages Each Contg 30,000 Stamps, 3 cent Stamp	1,950,000
12 " " " 50,000 " 1 " "	<u>600,000</u>
Stamps	2,550,000

Respectfully

Yours

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co per S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl
Washington DC

Philadelphia July 18th 1854

J. Marron Esq
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl
Washington DC.

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to J. Miller Esq. PM. the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz;

84 Packages each containing 30,000 Stamps of Three Cents

2,520,000 Stamps.

Very Respectfully
Yrs. &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
J. T. Gest

Philada. Aug 9, 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

84 Packages Ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

2,520,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Jno. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl.

Philadelphia August 29, 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esq Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

87 Packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 cents	2,610,000 Stamps
12 " " 50,000 " 1 "	<u>600,000</u> "
Stamps	2,290,000 "

Very respectfully

Yrs. &c.

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

per

J. T. Gest

Jno. Marron Esq
3rd Asst. PM. Genl
Washington DC.

Jno. Marron Esq
3rd Asst. PM. Genl

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq PM at Philadelphia the following Packages of Postage Stamps

84 Packages of 3 cent Stamps ea contg 30,000	2,520,000
12 " 1 cent " " 50,000	<u>600,000</u>
96 Stamps	3,120,000

J. T. Gest

199

Philada. Septm. 29, 1854

Jno. Marron Esq.,
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

Sir:

Your order, directing us to deliver at the Post Office here as usual all the Postage Stamps in our possession was received by us yesterday morning, but on application at the post office both then and to-day, we find the boxes have not yet been recd there—and we accordingly, write this to inform you of the circumstance, so that you may know, that the delay in sending them arises from no fault of ours. The same thing has occurred before, but we presume you have not been aware of it. We have now on hand a large quantity of stamps ready for delivery and we are equally prepared and desirous of filling your orders with promptness.

Respectfully,
Yrs. &c.,
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
Jacob T. Gest

Philadelphia October 2, 1854

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst. PM. Genl
Washington DC.

Sir—

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz;

63 Packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.	1,890,000
12 do “ “ 50,000 do 1 ct.	<u>600,000</u>
Stamps	2,490,000

Annexed please receive our bill for the quarter ending 30th inst—including of course the present delivery—

You will observe we have receipted the bill according to our custom with the department.

Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
Jacob T. Gest

Philadelphia October 13, 1854

Jno. Marron Esq
3rd Asst. PM. Genl
Washington DC.

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. PM. the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

65 Packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 cents	1,950,000
12 do 50,000 do of 1 cent	<u>600,000</u>
Stamps	2,550,000

Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

Philadelphia October 25, 1854

Jno. Marron Esq
3rd Asst. PM. Genl
Washington DC.

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esqr Post Master at Philadelphia following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

85 Packages each contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.

Stamps
2,550,000

Very respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

Philada. Novem. 6, 1854

Jno. Marron Esq
3rd Asst. PM. Genl
Washington DC.

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq PM the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

84 Packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 cents

2,520,000

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

Chicago, Nov. 7th 1854

[Insert RK Swift letter to PMG Campbell dated 11/7/54]

Philadelphia Novem 30, 1854

Jno. Marron Esq
3rd Asst. PM. Genl
Washington DC.

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps

Viz

103 Packages ea containing 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.

3,090,000

Very respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
J. T. Gest

Philadelphia Jany. 11, 1855

Jno. Marron Esq
3rd Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps

viz

85 Packages ea. contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.

2,550,000 Stamps

Very respectfully
Yr. obt Svts.
Toppan Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

Philada. Jany 12, 1855

Dear Sir

We have just discovered that the 12 Cent Stamps Sent to you on the 29th Ultmo were of a lot that were gummed imperfectly several years Since—The demand for these Stamps has been So Small, that we have not printed any for Some years and the packages sent you having been in our vault for so long a time, the fact of their being imperfectly gummed had naturally escaped our attention—

You will greatly oblige us by returning to us all of these Stamps that you may now have on hand and if you will have the kindness to inform us to which of the Post Offices you have forwarded any of them we will be very glad to substitute other Stamps that have been well gummed in place of the defective ones—

We are exceedingly sorry & mortified that this should have occurred and beg that you will permit us to remedy it at the earliest moment possible—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

[Docket]

12 Jany 1855

Toppan Carpenter & Co
about a lot of 12
ct Stamps imperfectly
gummed—
Requests their return

Philadelphia January 27, 1855

Jno. Marron Esq
3rd Asst. PM. Genl
Washington DC.

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esqr Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps,

Viz;

213 Packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.

6,390,000

Very respectfully
Yr &c.
Toppan Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

Philadelphia Feby 2, 1855

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps

viz

78 Packages ea. contg. 50,000 Stamps of 3 ct. 3,900,000

Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

Philadelphia March 9, 1855

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq P.M. the following Packages of Postage Stamps

viz

120 Packages ea. contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.	3,600,000
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Very Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

Post Office Department.
Finance Office, March 10, 1855.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen.

The Postmaster General wishes you to prepare a ten cent postage stamp and strike off a supply of stamps of that denomination as soon as practicable. The details of the stamp, such as color, design, & etc., is left to you - but the P.M.G. would be pleased to see a proof. About one million of the 10 cent stamps will be a sufficient supply to start with. It would be an accommodation to have them separated in parcels of 50 sheets, as you now do the others in parcels of 100 by a paper mark.

I am very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
J. Marron,
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

Effective 3/3/55 the rate of postage was raised from 6 cents to 10 cents between the Pacific coast and the East.

Philadelphia March 12, 1855.

J. Marron Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Your favor of the 10th inst is recd, ordering a ten cent Stamp plate to be engraved, and one million Stamps printed therefrom as soon as practicable.

Your order shall have our earliest attention.

Very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
per J.T. Gest

[Docket]

Mar 12, 1855

Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Order for 10 ct Stamps
recd—

[Insert Horace Binney Jr to PMG Campbell dated 3/15/55]

Post Office Department
Finance Office March 16, 1855.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

We have frequently been urged of late to adopt the English plan of perforating their stamps so as to render them separable without cutting, and I send you four penny stamps, just received from Horace Binney Jr. Esq. It is claimed for this plan that they can be separated with the fingers, and that the jagged edges render them more adhesive. As prepayment of all inland letters after the 1st proximo, will bring our stamps much more into use, and as the Postmaster General desires as much as practicable to promote the public convenience, he wishes you to look into the matter with the view of adopting the plan of perforating at an early day. Do you know the English process and what it costs? Can we get the requisite machinery here, and what will the process cost us per thousand? You will see that it is done after the stamps are gummed.

I am very respectfully,
J. Marron,
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

Horace Binney Jr was a close personal friend of PMG Campbell (see *The Chronicle*, [insert reference])

Philada. Mar 19, 1855

Dear Sir

Your favor of 16th is recd.—We are at present unable to answer your enquiries in regard to the process used by the English in perforating their Stamps, its cost, or whether the requisite machinery can be procured here, but we will immediately make a thorough enquiry into the whole matter with a view to meet the wishes of the Post Master General, and you may rely upon our furnishing you with the result of our enquiries and an ultimate of the Cost at the earliest moment in our power—

As the first step will be to ascertain all that we can about the English mode of doing it, it will necessarily require a couple of months before we can be accurately informed from that quarter, meanwhile we will institute enquiries here—There is no doubt in our minds of the practicability of the thing, and as John Bull has already done it, you may rely upon it, Brother Jonathan will not be outdone.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. Post Master Genl.

[Docket]

19 Mar 1855

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Regarding the English
mode of perforating
Stamps—

March 20 1855
answd

Philada. March 27, 1855

Dear Sir

As the 1st April is very near at hand I beg respectfully to say that we are prepared to supply any quantity of Stamps that the Department may require to meet the increased demand under the new Postage law.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt St
S. H. Carpenter

PS.

I presume you have not yet recd. a reply from the Commissioner of Patents touching the Perforating Machine—I am making all the inquiries in my power and have no doubt shall arrive at something satisfactory in due time—Of course you may rely on my doing all that is possible to meet your & the Postmaster Generals wishes in regard to this matter—

J. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. Post Master Genl.
Washington DC.

[Docket]

27 Mar 1855

Perforating machine

S H Carpenter, Manfr.
Ready to Supply any
amt. of Stamps the
Dept. may require.

New York, March 28, 1855

J. Marron Esq

Dear Sir:

I have the offer of the right to use and manufacture the machine for Perforating between the stamps, so that they can be torn apart without cutting. The gentleman I am in correspondence with on the subject is the inventor of the machine purchased by the British Government. The Perforation is done by a separate process from the Printing, and in England is done by the clerks in the Stamp office. I can get the machine, and have the thing done in a corner of your room, by a clerk, or under your eye. If done so, it will be a great check to counterfeiting, and will relieve the stamp manufacturer of some responsibility. If the Department will contract with me to do this work, on its premises, or otherwise, I shall be glad to treat with the P. M. General on the subject. And we do not, in that case, propose to get out a Patent, unless necessary. I should prefer to agree to do the work for a specified sum per 100 sheets.

You will oblige me by laying this communication before the Postmaster General, with my compliments.

Very respectfully
Your obt Sevt
Jas. I. Crowell

[Notation at top of page: "April 2, 1855/Sent Toppan Carpenter/a copy/J. Marron"]

[Docket]

March 28, 1855

Perforated Stamps
J. T. Crowell of
New York
about a machine
for perforating Stamps

Henry Archer sold his patent rights to the British Post Office, hence Crowell's proposal does not square with all known facts. Later letters show Crowell did not deliver as promised.

Post Office Department
Finance Office, March 29, 1855.

Gentlemen:

I enclose the answer of the Commissioner of Patents to my letter of the 20th inst. in relating to perforating machinery. It seems they have nothing for our purpose. I enclose, also a letter from a Mr. R.K. Swift of Chicago on that subject. We know nothing more of Mr. Swift than the accompanying handbill or advertisement indicates.

The Postmaster General does not wish you to commit yourself to any one for perforating the stamps without first communicating with the Department and receiving its sanction. All that is wanted at present is to ascertain if the thing can be well done and upon what terms.

J.F. Crowell, of New York, will probably address you himself, or refer to you a person who professes to have the English patent, and there will be other parties who may put themselves in communication with you, but you will of course make no engagement with any of them until the Postmaster General shall direct it.

We sent yesterday a requisition for three and ten cent stamps. We do not suppose that the latter are yet ready, but if they are, so much the better.

Very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
J. Marron,
Third Asst P.M. Gen'l.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

The letter from Swift (forwarded by Marron) was apparently the one Swift wrote in November 1854. The Post Office did not act on Swift's recommendation until Horace Binney Jr letter of March 15, 1855. Per this letter, TCC was not to commit themselves to any equipment purchase, just gather the facts. Marron's comments re the 10c stamps, shows he apparently has no concept of how long it takes to get a new plate into production.

Philadelphia March 29th 1855

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps

viz,;

256 Packages each containing 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts, 7,680,000.

We cannot at present supply your order for Ten Cent Stamps as we have none in readiness—but we will send them as soon as possible.

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

Philada. March 31, 1855

Dear Sir

Your favor of 29th (enclosing that of the Commissioner of Patents) duly recd.—We have also recd. a communication from Mr R. K. Swift on the subject of the perforation of Stamps and shall reply thereto immediately, altho' it is not very probable that he will be able to furnish the Machine necessary for the work to be done—We can only repeat our assurances to the Post Master General that every effort on our part shall be made to accomplish his wishes—Of course we shall not feel authorized to make any Engagement with any one in relation to this matter until we shall have reported to the Post Master General and received his Sanction—

We were called on today by Capt. Schwartz in relation to the subject of enclosing various numbers of Stamps in large Envelopes (according to a Sample handed to us)—We will endeavor to ascertain the cost of furnishing these envelopes—with the Sheets of Stamps counted and placed in the envelopes—and give you an estimate as early as practicable, next week—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd. Asst. Post Master Genl.

[Docket]

31 Mar 1855

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
regarding the perforation
of Stamps

April 2, 1855

Sent copy of J. T. Crowells
letter of 28th ulto about per-
forating stamps.

Swift has written directly to TCC, details unknown.

Philada. Apl 4, 1855

Dear Sir

In order to be able to form a correct estimate at the rate at which we can afford to furnish the envelopes, and count & enclose the Stamps in parcels of 10, 20, 30 & 40 Sheets (or in whatever number you may direct) it is desirable that we should know as near as practicable, the number of Envelopes (thus to have Stamps enclosed) that will probably be required—say in one year—If we can approximate to this, we can then arrive at more correct conclusions than will be possible in the absence of all data of this kind—Will you have the kindness to give us a rough estimate of the probable number that will be required, when we will immediately furnish the required estimate of cost—

Would it not be well to have printed on each envelope, the number of Stamps that each contains—Say—an envelope containing 10 Sheets—have printed on one corner of it—“1000 Stamps 3 Cents”—(or, whatever denomination may be enclosed) and so on, up to the highest number—this would save a great deal of trouble in marking and could be done with but little additional expense—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

J. Marron Esqr.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.

[Docket]

4 Apl 1855

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
wants information to
enable them to furnish
an estimate for
Supplying PM's with
Stamps

Post Office Department
Finance Office, April 10, 1855.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

X X X X X X X

We are very anxious to have the 10 cent stamps. When will they be ready? One cent stamps will soon be wanted as we have only 700,000 left.

Respectfully,
J. Marron,
Third Asst P.M. General.

As indicated by the "XXXXXXX" 's, Travers did not copy this entire letter.

Philada. Apl 12, 1855

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl.

Dear Sir

Your favor of 10th is recd.—The wrapping of each parcel of Stamps in a half Sheet of envelope paper (before being put in the Envelopes) will make it necessary for us to make further inquiries as to the Cost of Said paper and estimates as to the additional time required in the operation of folding and enclosing the Stamps—We understand that you will require each parcel of Stamps—whether it contains 5 or 40 Sheets—to be wrapped in a full half Sheet of paper, similar to the Sample sent to us—We understand that you will require each package so wrapped to be folded over at the ends, but not Sealed—and we understand that each package so wrapped & folded is to be placed in the Envelope and the Envelope to be left unsealed (altho' the Envelopes are to be gummed or Self-Sealing)—

Will you have the kindness to say whether the above is a correct understanding of your meaning & wishes—

We should be glad to learn the Cost to the Government (pr Ream) of paper similar to the half Sheet enclosed to us (if the enquiry is a proper one) merely with a view to arriving at a fair price at which Paper Makers ought to furnish it to us, altho' we must expect to pay more than the Government inasmuch as the quantity that we will require will be so much less than that furnished the Government—

We have a quantity of One Cent Stamps, ready for delivery at any moment that you may please to forward the requisition—

The 10 cent Stamp Plate will be finished and ready for printing on the 25th, and you shall have a supply of these Stamps on the 1st Prox.

Very respectfully,
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

April 12 1855

Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Makes a Statement of what
he understands to be the
requirements of the Dept.
in relation to putting up
& furnishing the envelopes
for postage Stamps—and asks
if he is correct?

Philadelphia, April 12, 1855.

J. Marron, Esqr

Dear Sir:

Your kind communication is received and I thank you sincerely for the hint, (as I always do for your suggestions in relation to the improvement of the Stamps) -

I have examined into the matter and find that there are two causes for the defects to which you refer, and one of which cannot be remedied for some time and that is, the Size of the Paper - If it had been made an inch larger each way, the gum would not have got on the face of the Stamps, which is now difficult to prevent, as with all the care that can be exercised, some of the gum will get between the sheets at the edges, but I have given orders to the gummers to be particularly careful to throw out every sheet on which the gum shall get on the face of the stamps, and after the stamps which are now gummed, counted, sealed and ready for delivery (say about nine millions) are exhausted, you may rely upon having none sent you except such as are free from the blemish alluded to, and if amongst those already gummed there should be found any sheets that are thus faulty and you will direct the person counting them to throw them all out, I will cheerfully furnish a like number of impressions of perfect sheets to supply the place of those rejected -

I am particularly anxious to perfect our Stamps in every possible manner & shall at all times feel greatly obliged if you will have the kindness to make any suggestions tending to that end -

I have had two communications from Mr. Crowell, but in consequence of the absence from the City of the gentleman who has the control of the machine, he is not prepared to make any proposition, but hopes to do so in about 10 days - I have also another communication from Mr. Swift (of Chicago) in which he promises to furnish a model of his machine "in a few weeks." I place more reliance however on my efforts "over the water" and where they have a machine actually in operation and can speak knowingly / & from actual experience - My son in law sailed for England in the Africa, and he has special instructions to make every necessary enquiry and obtain a clear knowledge of the whole subject and will devote all the time that may be necessary to the investigation, and unless the matter is a "Government secret", I have no doubt he will be able to furnish me with satisfactory information in regard to the whole matter - I presume therefore that in the course of a month I shall be able to communicate to you something definite in regard to the perforation of Postage stamps.

I am very Respectfully,
Your Obt Svt
S.H. Carpenter.

[Docket]

Apl 12 1855

S. H. Carpenter

explanation of the cause
of defects in Stamps
& the remedy Suggested &c

The Africa sailed on 4/12/55, with Carpenter's son-in-law. [note to self: confirm sailing date]

Philadelphia April 21st 1855

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Dr. Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps,

			viz.;	
94 Packages ea. contg.	30,000	Stamps of 3 cts.		2,820,000
20 do	50,000	1 ct.		<u>1,000,000</u>
		Stamps		3,820,000

Very Respectfully
Yr. Obt. Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

Philad Apl 24, 1855

J. Marron Esqre
3d Asst Post Master Genl.

Dear Sir

having now obtained estimates of the cost of Envelopes and Paper (in which each package is to be wrapped) we respectfully make the following proposals for furnishing the Postage Stamps put up in Envelopes as desired by you—

Vix

We will perform all the labor for counting the Postage Stamps in parcels of from 5 to 50 half sheets (as may be directed by the Separtment) and wrapping each package so counted, in half sheets of colored paper (of similar kind and quality to the Samples herewith marked A and B) and then enclosing each package thus wrapped ina White Envelope of the Government pattern (made of paper equal in quality to the sample herewith marked C) and have printed on each of said Envelopes the words "Post Office Department—Official business", and (if required) also the words "1000 Postage Stamps of 3 Cents"—(or such other number and denomination as may be directed) and for the faithful performance of these duties, including the furnishing of the paper and Envelopes as above mentioned, we will charge at the rate of Thirty dollars per thousand Envelopes (without reference to the number of Stamps that may be enclosed in each envelope)—

or—If the Department will furnish us with the envelopes and Paper (presuming that you may have large Contracts for such articles and can procure them at lower rates than we can) we will perform all the labor of counting, wrapping and enclosing the Stamps, charging therefor at the rate of Ten Dollars for every thousand Envelopes thus counted and packed—

Very respectfully
Your Obt Sts,
Toppan Carpenter & Co

Philada. May 3, 1855.

Dear Sir.

In consequence of the 12 Cent Stamps being so seldom called for, we have not printed any of that denomination for several months, and we regret to say that we have only one package on hand - we will print some more immediately, and shall be able to furnish the residue of your order for both 10 and 12 cent stamps on Monday next - In order that there may be no delay, we will retain one of the boxes here, so that we may despatch the stamps as soon as they are ready -

Very Respectfully
Your obt servts
Toppan Carpenter & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl.

[Docket]

May 3, 1855

Philad. Pa
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

About printing 12¢
postage Stamps

Philadelphia May 3, 1855

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq Post Master at Philadelphia, the following Postage Stamps,

viz.;

123 Packages ea. contg.	30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.	3,690,000
13 do do	50,000 do of 1 ct.	650,000
1 do do	20,000 do of 12 cts.	20,000
6 do do	40,000 do of 10 cts	<u>240,000</u>
	Stamps,	4,600,000

Very Respectfully
Yr. Obt. Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

Philadelphia May 7, 1855

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps

viz.;

8 Packages ea. contg. 50,000 Stamps of 1 ct.	400,000
4 do do 20,000 do 12 "	80,000
7 do do 40,000 do 10 "	<u>280,000</u>
Stamps	760,000

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

Philadelphia May 17th 1855

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Dr. Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq P. M. at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps.

Viz.;

126 Packages each containing 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.

3,780,000

Very Respectfully
Yr. Obt. Svts.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per
J.T. Gest

Philada. May 29, 1855

J. Marron Esqre
3rd. Asst. Post Master Genl.
Washington DC.

Dear Sir

Your favor of 26th is recd. And we accept the modifications of the terms proposed by us (as stated by you) and will be prepared to enter upon our duties under the Contract by the time named (or even Sooner if required)—We have made a contract for the Envelopes and shall receive a portion of them next week.

The Room for the Agent will be papered and put in nice order tomorrow, and he will no doubt have every thing ready to commence his duties in a few days—

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

May 29, 1855

Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Accepts the terms proposed
for the Stamp Agency
&c

[Insert RW Swift letter to John Marron dated 6/19/55]

Chicago June 20th 1855

Col. R. K. Swift

Dear Sir In accordance with your suggestion I herewith submit two Samples of the prepared Post Stamps. One is like the English and would answer very well but the perforations should be somewhat closer than the Sample—The other plan or mode of preparing the Sheets for division is Strictly my own and I believe it far preferable to the English and can be accomplished by machinery with much less power and more capacity. I am willing to undertake to build a machine that can do this work in either way very rapidly and the power necessary I think would not exceed the strength of a boy twelve or fifteen years of age—I should want five hundred dollars (\$500) for the trial machine. The right to use the same must of course be matters of consideration which could be settled Subsequently.

Please ascertain about the number of Sheets per diem required to supply the department—I shall wait further advices from you before making any other experiments—

Very Respy Yours &c
E. W. Hadley
88 Lake St.

[Memo at left side of letter: "Please return this to me & oblige RKS/To the 3d Asst P.M.]

[Enclosed with this letter is a check and its stub partially separated by a row of perforations bearing the notation "Archer's/Done by English/Machine." Also a piece of paper perforated into an irregular block of 17 "stamps," labeled "Sample/C/archer's English machine"]

[Docket]

June 20 1855
E W Hadley
Chicago Ill
Samples of perforated
Stamps

Despite the date, this letter was apparently attached to Swift's letter dated 6/19/55.

New York, July 13, 1855

Hon J. Marron
Third Assistant P.M General

Dear Sir:

My trans-Atlantic friend who proposed getting up the stamp-perforating machine has been a long time at it, and has got up something entirely different from his English machine, which he claims to be an improvement. The sheet I enclose is cut on a machine capable of cutting in like manner twenty-five sheets at an impression. The knives are, I think, too close together across the sheet, which defect can easily be remedied. I would like your opinion of this mode of cutting, at as early a day as suits Your convenience.

Yours truly
J. T. Crowell

[Docket]

July 13, 1855
Perforated Stamps
J. T. Crowell
NY

J. T. Crowell sends a
Sheet of 3 cent Stamps
perforated by a new process
Wants the opinion of the

department

May 21, 57
Returned the Sheet of
3 cent slit stamps to Mr Crowell

Crowell appears to give up on Archer perforator and is now providing slitting (rouletting) machine. Could this be a Bemrose machine?

Philada July 19, 1855

Dear Sir

Mr Johnson requires instructions from you as to your wishes in regard to giving us Receipts for the Postage Stamps delivered to him on your orders—

Will you have the kindness to furnish him with such directions as you may deem advisable and oblige

Yours Very Respectfully
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

J. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. Post Mr Genl.

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia Pa
July 19, 1855
Postage Stamps

Phila Augt 13/55

J Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Gen

Your favor of the 10th recd. We will hereafter fold the Stamps as you direct, but we think the damage is more from the weather & modes of conveyance.

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per
S. H. Carpenter Jr

[Docket]

13 Augt 1855

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Will put up Stamps
hereafter as directed

New York, Sept. 21st 1855
Recd in Pa from NY
Octo 30.am

Messrs Bemrose

Gentlemen—

It affords us pleasure in addressing you now, & thus to resume the intercourse so pleasantly begun with you by the Writer in August last, to order as a trial, one of your perforating or slitting machines. The order would have been forwarded to you some time ago, if the firm had not thought it desirable to see me previously, although I supposed I had sufficiently well talked up the claims of your machines to make that unnecessary.

We wd have ordered two at this time, but the members of the firm not having enjoyed the oppy I did, of seeing the thing itself, deem it on the whole most wise to order but one.

Will you therefore give immediate attention to it, & we suggest the propriety of giving it all the additional strength you can, & particularly for the reason that we may want to use a heavier punch than that you were using when I saw you. If you know that the machine will perforate, as I understood you to say, a similar edge to that in use on the English Stamps, then you will please make a double set of Wheels or punches—one of the Character you used when I was present, and the other of the Character of the English P.O. Stamps, and in number corresponding to the impression of stamps left with you.

There is a great importance in having the machine here at the earliest day in your powers and I wd thank you to do everything possible to expedite it, that the time already lost may be redeemed. One reason that suggests itself of importance to yourselves is that as there is a person here who has written us on the subject, you will undoubtedly derive advantageously being in advance.

Will you please do us the fav. Of acknowledging the rect of this by return mail, that we may know you are progressing , & if you desire to know anything farther of the responsibility of the firm, please address Mr Bacon in London.

When you write you had better say the exact cost of the Machine, and we will arrange to remit—Say also when we may look for it.

Yours most respectfully
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Trinity Building

[Docket]

Sept 21, 1855
Topham, Carpenter & Co

Letter to M Bemrose
ordering a perforating
Machine

This is the actual order from TCC for the Bemrose perforating machine. Note the machine was a slitter (rouletter) but perforating wheels were ordered if available. The competition mentioned may be either Swift or Crowell. Cost was not determined at this time. WC Smillie, a partner in TCC, wrote this letter (see TCC letter dated 10/25/55).

Philada. Octo 19, 1855

Dear Sir:

Herewith please receive several impressions (8) of the new 5 Cents Stamp - The plate is now ready for Press and only waiting the decision of the Post Master General as to the color in which he may direct it to be printed - We have made various experiments in colors, and those now sent are among the best that we have produced - You will recollect that we have nearly "used up" all the best colors on the other Stamps - Red, Blue Green and Black - we are therefore "put to our trumps" to get another variety that will be handsome and give sufficient body to the Stamp - We tried a yellow, and straw color, but found that neither of those colors would shew the work at all -- the head was almost entirely lost, and the lathe work a confused mass without any clearness and presenting altogether a most unpleasant appearance -

We think the color of Impression marked No. 5 will show the work to best advantage, altho this impression (as well as all the others,) has been mashed and the work injured by being pressed before the ink was dry -

We would have had them reprinted, but that we thought the time would be deemed of paramount importance by you -

Be kind enough to return us the impression which is adopted as the color to be used, (at your earliest convenience,) and we will immediately proceed to print the Stamps.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter & Co.

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl.
Washington.

Memo on face of letter:

"Returned Specimen No. 5 & ordered 6000 impressions.
24 Oct. '55
J. Marron"

[Docket]

Oct 19th 1855

New 5¢ Stamp

This is the first discussion we have on record regarding the 5c stamp, but clearly TCC and Marron discussed it before this.

October 24th 1855.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.,

Gentlemen:

Your letter of the 19th transmitting 8 impressions of the new five cent Stamps was duly received and laid before the Postmaster General, who was much pleased with the fine taste displayed in the design and the skill evinced in the execution of the stamp. He adopts your opinion as to the color used for impression No. 5 and requests me to say that you can print 6000 impressions or sheets of 100 each to begin with. I have for lack of skill in designating colors, described that used on No 5 in a circular, I am about to have printed as a brown, May it be so designed, if not what color in it.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
J. Marron,
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

Philada. Octo 25, 1855

Dear Sir

Your favor of 24th is recd—We are highly gratified to learn that the Post Master General is pleased with the design and execution of the new Stamp—It is just what we aimed to accomplish, and you know it is always pleasant to be successful in ones aims—

In this connexion it may not be amiss to say that ever since the Post Master General expressed his desire to adopt the mode of perforating the Stamps (now in use in England) we have been making every effort in our power tending to the accomplishment of his wishes—We have been in negotiation with several “Cute Yankees,” and making Enquiries wherever we thought we could gain information on the Subject—the result (on this side the water) did not seem sufficiently promising, to warrant our waiting for what might “turn up” with our inventive geniuses, and we concluded that one of our partners had better investigate the matter personally in England, and see whether he could not find there, some more Speedy and certain means of accomplishing our object—We are happy to be able to say that he thinks he has been completely successful—Mr Smillie (our partner) has ordered a Machine made, (a working model of which he saw in successful operation) which he is satisfied will accomplish all that is desired—It is to be completed in about 2 months, so that we hope by the beginning of January we shall be able to exhibit its successful workings to the Post Mr. Genl—

Of course we have done all this on our own responsibility and risk—

With regard to your designation of the Color to be used for the 5 Cent Stamp, you have come as near to it as can well be accomplished, and as the Color is entirely unlike that of either of those now in use—Viz Red, Blue, Green and Black, the designation Brown we should think the best that can be adopted—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd. Asst. Post Master Genl.
Washington

[Docket]

Oct 25, 1855
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Have Ordered one
from London

about perforating machine

Brown best color for 5¢ Stamp

The several “cute yankees” include Swift and Crowell. TCC has now purchased a perforating machine at their own risk, to be available in two months.

Philada. Jany 31, 1856

J. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Sir,

We have this day received Warrant No 2730 of the Post Master General for \$4,222.50 in payment of our bill rendered 31st ult. For \$4,223.13—being 63 cts. less than the amt. of our bill—Was it not correctly rendered?

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

[Docket]

Jany 31, 1856
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Receipt for \$4,222.50

Philada. Feb. 1, 1856

Dear Sir

Without troubling you with a long Story to explain why, I venture to ask as a special favor, that you will direct that hereafter each & every Sheet of the orders for Stamps sent to your Agent here, may be added in pencil before they are sent—

When I have the pleasure of a personal interview I will explain—at present, I will merely say that a compliance with my request will very greatly facilitate the early delivery of the Stamps, and if you will be so kind as to direct it done, the Department will be more promptly Served than it is possible to do under the present System—

Hoping that you will excuse my troubling you

I am Very respectfully
Your Obt. Svt
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.

[Docket]

Feby 1st 1856
S. H. Carpenter

requests that each & every
order for Stamps may be
added in pencil before sent
to the Agent

Chicago Apl. 3d 1856

To the 3d Assistant Postmaster General

Sir

Some months since my attention was called by Col. R. K. Swift Banker of this City to a want said to be felt by the Post office department, as well as the Commercial Community, of proper simple Machinery for the division of Postage Stamps. I have since then experimented to some extent on various plans for effecting this object and very recently completed a Machine, the results of which seem to correspond precisely with the English mode of separation, and possessing all the qualities of precision and accuracy of work together with durability and cheapness. I have this day filed a Caveat in the Patent office preparatory to an application for letters Patent for this invention.

Enclosed I send a Sample of three Cent Stamps as perforated ready for separation [illegible word] There are some trifling inaccuracies which can be readily corrected in a new Machine as it Should be mentioned that the Machine is the first Machine as well as the first invention. The Sheet of Stamps enclosed was perforated in less than one minute of time. Should the Department wish to avail itself of my plan for effecting this desirable convenience on Postage Stamps I should be happy to hear from the proper officers at an early day. I am prepared to build Machines for the use of the Department or Contract to perforate any amount of Sheets required. The Postmaster of this City and his assistants are ready at a proper time to certify to the practical and certain working of my Machinery for producing the above described results. I would add that the cost of each Machine exclusive of the right to use would not exceed two hundred dollars (\$200) And one Machine with a boy to work it could easily perforate one thousand (1000) Sheets in ten hours. Hoping to hear from you as early as convenient I am Very Resfy
Your Obt Servt

E. W. Hadley
88 Lake St.

PS I should mention by way of explanation that the Sheet of Stamps is folded as shown in the Sample after it is perforated for the greater convenience of breaking off a number of Stamps at once. Should you wish to keep this perforated Sheet please enclose me one not perforated in its place—Very Resy &c

E.W.H.

[Docket]

April 3, 1856
E W Hadley
Chicago Ill

Has filed a Caveat for Perforation
Has all the qualities of pre-
cision accuracy of work, Dura-
bility & cheapness—Cost \$200
exclusive of right to use it—
Boy can perforate 1000 in
10 hours

1857 April 25
Returned the Sheet of
perforated stamps

The price has now been reduced to \$200 (from previous \$500) by Hadley and Swift. This date probably corresponds closely to when Hadley's full scale Chicago perforating machine was put into operating. (See The Chronicle # [insert reference]).

Private

Philada Apl 7, 1856

Dear Sir

Much obliged by your note of 4th inst. The time named for Settlement of our a/c is perfectly satisfactory.

We have advice of the Shipment of the "Perforator" which we ordered made for us several months since in England, and we therefore hope to be able very soon to exhibit to the Post Master General, our ability to accomplish his wishes with regard to the perforation of all the Postage Stamps.

Very respectfully
Yours
S. H. Carpenter

J Marron Esqr
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.

[Docket]

apl 7, 56
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Are advised of shipment
of perforator.

Philada. April 9, 1856

Dear Sir

With a view to enabling ourselves to meet your wishes in regard to the perforation of Postage Stamps (similar to the English Stamps), one of our firm visited England nearly a year since and there contracted for a machine to be made expressly for that purpose—This Machine arrived at New York pr Steamer Asia a few days since, and as it has cost us a large sum, and the duty on it would be very heavy, we venture to present the case for your consideration and ask (if not inconsistent with what you may believe to be right & proper) for your interposition with the Secretary of the Treasury for his permission to have it passed free of duty—You are aware that this Machine is intended to be used exclusively for the Government, and therefore we have supposed that the Secretary of the Treasury would admit it free, if he had the assurance of that fact from you—We do not however desire to ask any thing which you may not entirely approve and if you are of opinion that under the circumstances the Government ought not to remit the duties, you will of course take no further notice of the subject than to Signify your opinion to us—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt, Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Honl
James Campbell
Post Master General

[Docket]

April 9, '56
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Philada.

Recd Apl 11 asks for admission
Dated " 9 for machine etc
Ansd

Have imported a
perforating Machine
& ask a remission of
the duty

April 12 '56
Wrote Secty of Try.

April 12 '56
He answers declining to remit

April 29, 56
Wrote asking reconsidera-
tion

Treasury Department
April 12th 1856

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 10th Inst., enclosing an application received at your Department from Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co of Philadelphia, for the admission to free entry of a "machine for perforating postage stamps"; and beg to state in reply, that I regret exceedingly it is not in my power to comply with the request of Mess Toppan, Carpenter & Co; the machine in question, under the circumstances, not being considered by this Department as imported by the order, and for the use of the Government, as required under the existing Tariff Act to entitle it to free entry.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
James Guthrie
Sect of the Treasury

Honbl
J. Mason Campbell
Postmaster General

Mess Toppan, Carpenter's letter is herewith
returned

[Docket]

April 12 1856
James Guthrie
Sety Try
Declines Remission of
Duties on Perforating Machine

Declining remission
of duty on Perforating
machine

April 29 '56 Wrote asking reconsideration
of decision

Philada. Apl 22, 1856

Dear Sir

On the 9th inst I took the liberty to address the Post Master General in reference to an application to the Secretary of the Treasury to admit free of duty the "Perforating Machine" which we had had made in England—As the Post Master General has not replied, I presume that he has been too much occupied to give it attention, and as we are anxious to have a decision, I venture to ask the personal favor of you to bring the subject before him and solicit in our behalf a reply at his earliest convenience—I am quite unused to such matters and it is possible I may have asked what you or the Post Master General may think ought not to be granted—if so, I do not of course desire or expect that any thing will be said to the Secretary of the Treasury on the subject, and we will pay the duties at once—my only reason for asking to have it admitted free was that we had ordered it made at a heavy expense expressly with a view to its being used for the Government and inasmuch as it was as yet an experiment I wished if possible to avoid incurring the additional expense of the duties—this appeared to me to be reasonable & right, but, as few of us are competent judges where our own interest is involved, others must judge in this case and to that judgment I shall cheerfully submit.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sv
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. Post Master Genl..

[Docket]
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Applies for permission
to import Perforating
Machine free of Duty

Philada. Apl. 24, 1856.

Dear Sir:

We have now the pleasure of enclosing proofs of the new 24 Cents Stamp, which we beg you to have the kindness to present to the Post Master General for his approval - We have had this in hand a long time, but being determined to produce something entirely original in lathe work, it has taken much time to accomplish precisely what we desired - The die now presented, is as perfect a piece of geometric lathe work as can well be produced and the head has been engraved with the greatest care - as a whole, we think this Stamp will be "hard to beat."

We shall be gratified to learn how it pleases.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Sts
Toppan Carpenter & Co.

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl.

P.S. Your favor of 23rd is just recd. - please accept my very sincere thanks.

Very Resp'y
S.H. Carpenter.

[Docket]

April 24 1856
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Sample of New 24 Cent
Stamps Enclosed

This is the first letter we have on the 24c value but obviously there was prior correspondence. If the stamp had been issued in 1856, it wuld have been imperforate. The stamp was not issued until 1860. We do not know why the delay.

We do not know the contents of the 4/23/56 letter referred to in the "P.S." but perhaps it related to the tariff issue on the perforating machine.

New York
May 13/56

To the Hon James Campbell
Post Master General
Washington

Dear Sir

I herewith inclose for your Inspection an improvement the public wants badly, In regards to postage stamps.

You will excuse me for giving you the specimens on blank paper as I have no stamps at hand.

You will see at once the advantage of my plan; It is to pull them asunder straight & square, instead of cutting them.

The samples I have sent was done by the hand; But if you think of introducing it: I can make a Machine that will cut them more regular, & finish them of as fast as the printer can print them

An answer to this at your convenience

Will Much Obleg Your
Obd Servt
William Brown

Direct to
William Brown
556 8th Avenue
Betn 38th & 39th Street
New York

[Docket]

May 13, '56
William Brown
New York

Sample of perforated
Stamps done by
hand

Philada. May 20, 1856

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Sir

We state in reply to your kind favor of 19th inst. addressed to our Mr Carpenter, that the first order (filled by us Jany 2d.) entering into our quarterly account of stamps was No. 160—the last (filled March 29th) was No. 249.

Hereafter in furnishing our account we will state the numbers of the orders—

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

[Docket]

May 20, 1856

Topham, Carpenter C & Co

1st order filled Jany 2nd No 160
Last “ “ March 29 “ 249

Private

Philada July 1, 1856

Dear Sir

Were it not that the Thermometer has "taken the back track" and the temperature become somewhat reasonable, I would not dare to bore you with my affairs when I know that you have more than enough of your own to bother and annoy you, but the fact is, unless I do apply to you and thus procure an answer, I shall be compelled to make a journey to Washington expressly on this business or "pony up" some 3 or \$400 which there seems to be Some reason to hope may be saved—without further preamble—We are particularly anxious to get possession of our perforating machine and put it in operation within the next week at latest—now if The Secretary of the Treasury will have the kindness to decide at once whether he will or will not grant our request, he will greatly oblige us—

I dont much like the idea of paying so large a sum unnecessarily, but unless we get the decision of Mr Guthrie at once, there will be no help for it, and where "Uncle Sam" once gets his grip on the Cash, I fear the old gentleman will insist on keeping it in his "Strong Box"—

Pray excuse me and believe me.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqre
3rd. Asst. Post Mr. Genl.

[Docket]

July 1, 1856
S. H. Carpenter

Urges Dept. to get a decision
from Secy of Treasy relative
to remission of duties on
Perforator

answd July 5 1856

Private

Philada. July 7, 1856

Dear Sir

Your very kind note is just recd—Our object in getting possession of the Machine was that we might by experimenting, test its power and capacity, and thus be prepared to make our proposals understandingly to the P. M. Gl.

We will now pay the duties and take the Machine from the Custom House at once, provided you are of opinion that the Post Mr. Gl. Would prefer to have our proposition within say 10 days from now, to waiting until the beginning of September—My reason for troubling you with this inquiry is this—I have not been very well for some time past and had made arrangements to “sniff the Mountain Air” in the beginning of next week and had contemplated being about until 1st September—Now if you think the Post Mr. Genl. Would be just as well pleased to negotiate on this subject two months hence as he would two weeks hence, and that our interest would not suffer by the delay, then, in that case I would be glad to defer my visit to Washington until that time, but if for any reason you think I had better make my visit now, I will of course go at once—

Will you add to your many kindnesses by giving me your opinion by return mail.

Very Respectfully
Your Obl Svt
S. H. Carpenter.

J. Marron Esqre
3rd. Asst. Post Mr. Genl.

[Docket]

July 7, 1856
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Agrees to pay the duties
on a machine for
perforating Stamps—now
in Custom House—

Ansd. July 9 '56

Phil Oct 22/56

Messrs Toppan Carpenter & Co

Gentlemen

I have completed the experiments with your punching & slitting Machine & will give you the result.

You can punch or slit 180 Sheets of 100 stamps pr hour.

The slitting wheels will last for a long time.

The reverses or die of Punch will require renewal I think every two months. Estimated cost of each wheel \$6.60—11 on each shaft—Total of \$73.20—

I enclose a piece of punctured paper run through after they had made 77,580 revolutions equal to punching 38,790 sheets—equal to 22 days work—The wheels with which I have arrived at the above results were run without connecting gearings. My impression is that if connected with carefully cut gearing they would be more durable

Respt Yours
Geo. C. Howard
18th below Market, Phil

[Docket]

Oct 22, 1856
G. C. Howard Phila

Test of Toppan, Carpenter & Co's
machine for Perforating Stamps

Can punch 180 Sheets
of 100 Stamps pr hour

Philada. Novem 4, 1856

Honl James Campbell
Post Master General
Washington DC.

Dear Sit,

We have the honor to submit for your consideration the following proposals to contract for furnishing Postage Stamps (as heretofore) with the addition of the perforation of each sheet (as per samples furnished by us) and including the Expense of Envelopes, Pasteboard Boxes, paper, packing and delivery to your Agent in Philadelphia—

We understood your wish to be, that we should furnish Three Separate propositions—the first of which to embrace merely the terms on which we would agree to add the perforation of the Stamps to the present contract, and deliver the Stamps thus perforated during the term of our present Contract say—until the tenth day of June 1857.

The second and third propositions, to be for new Contracts for periods of four and Six years—we proceed accordingly with

Proposition No. 1.

We will perforate all the Postage Stamps to be delivered by us under our present Contract, at the rate of Three Cents for every one thousand Stamps thus perforated, that in the event of our Contract for furnishing Stamps not being renewed at its expiration (for a term of at least four years) the Government shall in that case, indemnify us in the sum of Nine thousand five hundred dollars, for the necessary expenses which we must incur in order to perfect the perforation, and which would be a total loss to us in case of the non-renewal of our contract—The entire Machinery, plates 7c, necessary to the printing & perforating the Stamps, to become the property of the Government on the payment of the aforesaid Sum—

Proposition No. 2.

We propose to cancel the present contract, and make a new one embracing all the terms and Stipulations of the present Contract, (except as to time and cost) adding thereto, the perforation of all the Stamps (as per Sample furnished by us) and including also the entire charge for Envelopes, Pasteboard Boxes, Paper, packing and delivery to your Agent (as now provided for by a separate agreement), which new contract shall commence and take effect from the date of the first delivery of perforated Stamps, and terminate on the tenth day of June 1861:—

for the above service, we ask at the rate of Eighteen and one half Cents for every One thousand Stamps thus perforated and delivered—or—at the rate of Seventeen Cents for every one thousand Stamps thus perforated, and the Government to pay in addition (as heretofore) for Expenses of Envelopes, Pasteboard Boxes, Paper, packing and delivery to your Agent.

Proposition No. 3.

For the performance of the same duties in every respect as stipulated in Proposition No. 2, but extending the time at which the Contract shall terminate, to the tenth day of June 1863:—

For every One Thousand perforated Stamps (including charge for Envelopes, Pasteboard boxes, paper, packing and delivery to your Agent) the sum of Eighteen Cents—

For every One thousand perforated Stamps (without including charge for Envelopes, Paste board boxes, Paper, packing and delivery to your Agent) the Sum of Sixteen and one half Cents—

The above estimate for the Perforation of the Stamps, is predicated on as careful a calculation as we have been able to make of what will be the actual Cost to us, and the fairness of that calculation we submit freely to your scrutiny, having presented the data upon which it is made—

By reference to documents in your possession, you will see that for the same service, the British Government has paid an immense Sum for Machinery, and the right to use it, and that after an outlay of \$20,000 for the mere right to use the Machinery, and at least \$30,000 for the five Mechanics necessary to do the perforation of their Stamps, they then were at a very heavy expense for working the Machines—

In your case, we make no charge for either the Machinery or the right to uses it (in case the Contract is made for four or Six years) which is \$50,000 less than the actual cost to the British Government before they could perforate a Single Stamp—

With regard to the Envelopes, Paste Board Boxes, Paper, labor & expense of packing and delivery to your Agent, we have estimated all that at One and one half Cents for every one thousand Stamps—We learn from Mr Johnson that the Paste Board Boxes cost Three Cents each, for the Smallest Size, and four and five Cents each for the larger—he estimates that he uses now from 50 to 60 of these Boxes per day—this quantity will no doubt be greatly increased during the next few years, and we are satisfied that the terms named above for this branch of the business will not more than cover the actual cost to us—If however you should think otherwise, we would be quite willing to continue that part of the contract on the same terms as we have heretofore executed it.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppam, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Novr 4, 1856
Topham, Carpenter & Co

Proposals to contract for
furnishing perforated Stmps
under 3 Separate propositions

Estimated annual cost of running the Perforating Machine—

Viz

Renewing the reverse of die for Punches Say Six times every year @ \$73.20 each renewal	439.20
Wages of a Man and Boy to attend Machine 10 hours per day for One Year (or 300 days)	450.00
Interest on Cost of Machine—say \$1000—	<u>60.00</u>

making the annual cost of working One Machine \$949.20

One Machine will perforate 180 Sheets (of 100 Stamps ea) per hour—
say 180,000 Stamps in 10 hours—

Computing 300 working days to the Year, One Machine

will perforate 54,000,000 Stamps per annum,

at which rate, it will require 3 Machines to

accomplish the perforation of the number of Stamps

that will probably be required for the year 1857—

if so, the actual cost of perforating 162,000,000

Stamps will be

2,847.60

to which Add Rent of additional Room that will be necessary

150.00

Making the annual cost of working 3 Machines

\$2,997.60

or, at the rate of 1.7/8 Cents per 1000 Stamps.

Cost of making 13 New Stamp Plates

\$6,500

Cost of present Perforating Machine \$1,200,

but presuming that 2 more might be procured

for \$1,000 each, we put down the estimated

Cost of 3 Machines at

\$3,000

\$9,500

[Docket]

Nov 4/56

Estimated annual Expense of

running Perforating

Machine \$2,997.60

Cost of 3 Machines \$9,500

Philada. Nov. 14, 1856

Dear Sir

Will you excuse a very natural anxiety on my part to know whether the Post Master Genl. has had leisure to make the necessary examination, and come to any conclusion as to the proposals made by me?—I really regret to trouble you with this enquiry, as I know that you have enough of your own affairs to attend to without being bothered with mine, but as I know of no other channel through which my enquiry can be answered (unless by a direct application to the Post Master General, which of course I cannot make) I am compelled to throw myself on your kindness—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sct
S. H. Carpenter

J Marron Esqre
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

[Docket]

Nov 14, 1856

S. H. Carpenter, about his
proposals

Philada. Novem 27, 1856

Honl James Campbell
Post Master General
Washington

Dear Sir,

Knowing how entirely your time is occupied I feel great reluctance to trouble you with reading a long story, but inasmuch as what I have to say is a matter of some interest to the Government as well as myself, I trust you will bear with me patiently—From some remarks of yours when I had the pleasure of seeing you last, I fear that you may be laboring under an erroneous impression as to the profits to be derived from the Contract which I am now soliciting, and I desire (if such should be the case) to satisfy you that you have been mistaken.

Our profits on this Contract based on the term offered, cannot amount to more than a fair remuneration for the labor performed and responsibility incurred, and having originally taken the Contract at a very low rate, expressly with a view to the future (and not to the time at which it was made) it would hardly be fair to exact a further reduction (on its renewal) than we have now offered to make—The actual increase of Stamps has been large, but very little (if any) beyond the number on which I had predicated my original bid—I presumed that it would be a popular measure and calculated that altho' prepayment was not then obligatory, yet that habit & convenience would ultimately (and probably within the period of our contract) give it almost the force of law, and that in time, prepayment by Stamps would become here, (as in England) almost universal—The law recommended by you and subsequently passed (making prepayment by Stamps obligatory) produced this result much sooner than it would otherwise have been accomplished, but against that fact favorable to our Contract, it is but fair to place on the other side the injury done us by your predecessor in office and the introduction of Envelope Stamps when our Contract had not more than one third expired, thereby depriving us of furnishing a very large amount of Stamps during the remainder of our Contract—

It is true, that in making my estimate of the whole matter I had no right to look beyond the period of the first Contract, and that my offer should have been made so as to cover the contingency of the loss of the Contract at the end of the first term—prudence would have dictated such a course, yet I really did not do so—I could not help feeling that as the Contract was a very important one and of a highly confidential nature, and one in the faithful performance of which the Government had a deep interest; that if we fulfilled all our duties to the entire satisfaction of the Post Master General, he would feel it to be for the best interest of the Government to continue the Contract in the hands of those who had been tried for Six years, and who during all that time had been zealous and faithful in the performance of every duty, rather than risk the possible chances of a different result, if the Contract were taken from them and given to others—

I knew that so far as we were concerned, every possible effort would be made to prove ourselves worthy the confidence and good opinion of the Department; and if we succeeded in this, I felt that it would give us a fair and equitable claim on the consideration of the Post Master General for a renewal of our Contract, particularly as we had taken it originally at a very low rate—Our proposals of the 4th inst. are as follows—Viz—

<u>for 4 years—</u>	Stamps gummed & ready for delivery (as heretofore)	15 Cents pr 1000 Stamps
	Perforation of Stamps	2 Cents do
	Envelopes, Boxes, paper, packing &c &c	<u>1 ½ Cents</u> do
	total charge	18 ½ Cents pr 1000

<u>For 6 Years.</u>	Stamps gummed & ready for delivery (as heretofore)	14 ½ Cents pr 1000 Stamps
	Perforation of Stamps	2 Cents “ do
	Envelopes, Boxes, Paper, packing, &c &c	<u>1 ½ Cents “ do</u>
	total charge (including every thing as above)	18 Cents pr 1000 Stamps

Now we believe that the terms offered for perforating, and for Envelopes, Boxes &c are no more than will cover the actual expenses, consequently for those branches of the business we have named the same terms, whether the Contract be for 4 or 6 years, but with regard to the Stamps themselves we have made a reduction on that branch of the Contract of One half Cent on every One thousand Stamps, on the Contract for 6 years—Viz—“Fourteen and one half Cents for every One thousand Stamps” (in lieu of 15 Cents as under the present Contract)—This we feel to be as great a reduction as we ought in justice to be asked to make—We contemplate (in the event of a renewal of our Contract for 6 years) immediately to contract with the Bank of Pennsylvania for the lease for a term of years, of the entire 3rd and 4th Stories of their new granite Bank Building now being erected on Chestnut St—It is to be entirely & perfectly Fire Proof (from Cellar to Garret) with large Fire Proof Vaults in the Rooms—As the foundation is but just begun, we can have the Rooms for our use so arranged & constructed as to accommodate in the most perfect manner every branch of the Government business, including of course the necessary accommodations for the Agent of the Post Master Genl—we shall thus have every possible facility for the faithful performance of our Contract, together with every possible protection and safety to the Stamps—these considerations we think you will admit are of great importance to the Government, as well as ourselves, and we are willing to incur all the additional Expense which may be necessary to accomplish so important an end, but you will readily see that we cannot afford to incur this additional Expense and perform all the duties of our Contract as heretofore if we are required to make any further deduction in our terms—with one more remark I shall close—

There is one heavy expense which we are constantly being compelled to incur in the performance of our Contract, and that is, the renewal from time to time of all the Stamp Plates, as they are worn out in printing—I mention this because I inferred from a remark made to me, that you were under the impression that the original expense of the plates once incurred, there was no further expense to us on that Score—such however is by no means the case:—

Having now endeavored to place this matter before you fairly, frankly and truly (to the best of my knowledge and belief) I confidently leave the case for your decision—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
S. H. Carpenter

[Docket]

Nov. 27, 1856
Topham, Carpenter & Co

Strongly urges their claims
to the Contract for perforated
Stamps

[Insert EW Hadley letter to John Marron dated 10/20/56]

Philada. January 5, 1857

J Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. Post Mr. Genl.

Dear Sir

Your favor of 3rd inst. is recd. and while feeling grateful for the kind expressions of satisfaction which the Post Master General is pleased to make in reference to the manner in which we have performed our duties to the Department, we cannot refrain from expressing our great Sorrow and disappointment at the result of our application—The subject is of such grave importance to us that we trust the Post Master General will not think it amiss if we venture to ask a reconsideration of our case—You say—“it has been determined not to act upon any subject which can be properly considered as belonging to the succeeding administration”—We respectfully ask the Post Master General to reflect whether this subject can properly be considered as belonging to the succeeding Administration?

You will recollect that it is now nearly (if not quite) two years since the subject of the perforation of the Stamps, and the desire of the Post Master General to give the public the benefit of this great improvement, was first brot. to our notice we immediately wrote to England and made thorough enquiries as to how it was done by the English Government, and whether we could procure Machines to do the same thing—to this letter we recd a reply giving the Cost of the Machines used by the Government, and the expense of working them, both of which were so enormous that it was deemed impossible to think of adopting them—meanwhile, we made every enquiry in our power in this Country with a view to find a machine suitable for the purpose, but without success—One of our partners then went to England with the express object of endeavoring to find a Machinest who could make such a Machine as we wanted—he eventually succeeded and ordered one to be made of the exact size & power suitable for our purpose—this was about 18 months since (as near as we can remember)—the Machine was a long time in being finished, but finally arrived in New York about 9 Months since—It remained in the Custom House some months owing to our desire to get it admitted free of duty (and was imported expressly for the use of the Government) but finding finally that that could not be accomplished, we paid the duties and recd the Machine—We found on examining it that the Maker had deviated from our instructions with regard to certain parts of the Machine, and we were obliged to procure the aid of one of our most skillful Mechanics here to remedy the defect—this was finally accomplished, and after a great deal of trouble and expense the Machine was perfected; and we were prepared to present to the Post Master General perfect specimens of perforated Stamps made thereby —Now we respectfully submit that inasmuch as this whole matter originated with the Post Master General, and has been in the course of negotiation and perfection for more than 2 years and has been carried to completion thus far by him, it does appear to us that he owes it to himself and to the present Administration to carry into effect a measure which will undoubtedly be a popular one and will be received by the public with great favor, and that by so doing it cannot possibly be deemed a case of interference with what properly belongs to the succeeding administration—For these considerations (which are of a public nature) together with others which might be named, but which we will not trouble you with reading, we indulge the hope that the Post Master General will be induced to reconsider our case and if possible revoke his decision—We perhaps have no right to trouble him by including any of our private affairs on his notice, but the heavy amount which we have already expended in the purchase and perfection of this Machine, and the necessary expenses incurred in Sending Specially to England in reference to it, would involve us in great loss in the event of the non renewal of our Contract with the Government, and as we have Cheerfully risked all this expenditure with a view to meeting every wish of the Department, it is not unreasonable for us to hope that the facts here Set forth will have their due weight in our favor on the mind of the Post Master General when he comes to make a final decision, which we most sincerely hope may be favorable to our wishes.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

January 5, 1857
Topham, Carpenter & Co

Greatly chagrined at decision
of P M Genl. not to act upon any
subject which can be prop-
erly considered as belonging
to the succeeding administration

Post Office Department,
Finance Office, 6th February 1857

Messrs Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia Pa

Gentlemen,

Soon after the passage of the Act of March 3rd, 1855, requiring prepayment of postage on all inland letters to be effected, from and after the 1st January 1856, by means of postage stamps or stamped envelopes, the Postmaster General directed me to communicate with you in relation to the perforation of the sheets so as to make the stamps easily separable without cutting and thereby render them more convenient to the public. Accordingly on the 16th and 29th March, 1855, I addressed you letters on the subject which, it seems, induced you soon after to import a machine from England, and subsequently to put it in working order. The Act of January 2nd, 1857, requiring all transient printed matter to be prepaid, having greatly increased the demand for stamps and made more pressing the necessity for adopting, without further delay, the plan of perforating them, the Postmaster General instructs me to say that he accepts (with such modification as I will subsequently state) your proposition Number 1 contained in your communication to him of the 4 November last, which is as follows:—

“We will perforate all the postage stamps to be delivered by us under our present contract, at the rate of three cents for every one thousand Stamps thus perforated, provided, that in the event of our contract for furnishing stamps not being renewed at its expiration, (for a term of at least four years) the Government shall in that case, indemnify us in the sum of Nine thousand five hundred dollars, for the necessary expenses which we must incur in order to perfect the perforation, and which would be a total loss to us in case of the non renewal of our contract—The entire machinery, plates &c, necessary to the printing and perforating the stamps to become the property of the Government on the payment of the aforesaid sum”

The Postmaster General accepts the foregoing proposition with the distinct understanding, that the process of perforation is to commence without unnecessary delay,—that three machines of the best quality are to be employed so soon as they can be obtained, and that not less than thirteen new and suitable plates are to be prepared and used in printing the stamps. If more plates be needed, they are to be furnished without additional charge, and the entire machinery, plates, etc, are to be turned over to the Post Office Department, in good order, at the expiration of your existing contract if the same be not renewed or extended for a term of not less than four years.

Very Respectfully Yr obdt Sert
J. Marron
Third asst P M Genl.

[Docket]

Feby 6, 1857
J. Marron 3 P M Genl.

To Topham Carpenter & Co
rel to perforated Stamps

This is the “first contract” for perforating U.S. postage stamps and confirms the letter from Samuel Carpenter quoted frequently from Luff.

Private

Philada. Feb 9, 1857

Dear Sir

I feel the most anxious desire to meet the wishes of the Post Master General in regard to a delivery of some of the Perforated Stamps before the close of this month, but as it will be impossible to furnish (within that time) more than a small quantity, it remains for him to determine whether we shall furnish any, within that time, or wait until we have a sufficient number perforated, to enable us to supple the demand uninterruptedly—I fear that if we once give the public a taste of these things, and are then unable to continue the supply, and are obliged to fall back on the "unperforated," the result will be that the Department and the Contractors will be abused in the most approved style for neglect of the public convenience—However, I am bound to do whatever the Postmaster General thinks best, and wishes to be done (if it be possible)—Please therefore let me know what will satisfy him, and rely upon its being done, if within the bounds of my utmost efforts to accomplish—

Very Sincerely & Respf
Yours &c
S. H. Carpenter

J Marron Esqre
3rd. Asst. P. M. Genl.
Washington

[Docket]

Feby 9, 1857
S. H. Carpenter

Doubts ability of supplying
perforated Stamps before
end of the month

Philadelphia February 9th 1857

J. Marron Esqr
3rd. Asst. Post Master Genl.

Dear Sir

Your favor of 6th inst. is received, in which you inform us that the Post Master General accepts our proposition Number One, contained in our communication to him of the 4th of November last (with such modifications as are subsequently stated by you, which modifications are hereby agreed to by us), Viz—"We will perforate all the postage stamps to be delivered by us under our present contract, at the rate of three cents for every one thousand Stamps thus perforated, provided, that in the event of our contract for furnishing stamps not being renewed at its expiration, (for a term of at least four years) the Government shall in that case, indemnify us in the sum of Nine thousand five hundred dollars, for the necessary expenses which we must incur in order to perfect the perforation, and which would be a total loss to us in case of the non renewal of our contract—The entire machinery, plates &c, necessary to the printing and perforating the stamps to become the property of the Government on the payment of the aforesaid sum>"—

We will commence immediately the perforation of the Stamps with our present Machine, and at once order the two additional Perforating Machines, and the Post Master General may rely upon our doing every thing in our power to have them finished at the earliest moment practicable, but, until these additional Machines can be put in operation, it will be impossible to furnish anything like a sufficient supply of Perforated Stamps to warrant the commencement of their delivery to the Agent of the Department, without the certainty of being unable to continue such deliveries; we would therefore respectfully suggest to the Post Master General, that no deliveries of perforated Stamps be made until we are prepared to go on and deliver without interruption, any number that may be required—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts.
Topham, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

February 9, 1857
Topham, Carpenter & Co

Agree to proposals of P M Genl
with certain modifications
to furnish perforated
postage Stamps

Private

Philada. Feb 14, 1857

Dear Sir

Your favor of 10th was recd. yesterday—Unless we have some “breakdown,” or some accident not now anticipated, the request of the Post Master General shall be complied with—It is enough for me to know that he wishes it, to insure my personal attention to its accomplishment, if possible—

It is proper however that I should remind you of a fact which your own practical experience will no doubt assure you, and that is, that in starting any new thing, particularly new Machinery (and that which must be adjusted with the most perfect accuracy) time and patience are both necessary to Success, and that there must necessarily be a great deal of trouble, and a great deal of “fixing” before every thing can be made to work smoothly & successfully—All this we must encounter at the start, and therefore, I must ask in advance, indulgence for any “Shortcomings” that may possibly occur—I trust that none will happen, and that we shall be able to accomplish all that the Post Master General asks, but, as it will be quite impossible to furnish an uninterrupted supply until at least one month after we can get all 3 of our Machines in operation, (which cannot be less than 3 months,) we must prepare for a terrific onslaught from the New York Herald and kindred prints, for our “shameful negligence” of the “public convenience,” and a gentle intimation to the New Post Master General, that if he wishes to do “his duty” and get things done right, he will give the contract now in the hands of those slow “Villagers,” to some fast New Yorker, who will do things up ‘O.K.’—Heaven help us—

Very Respectfully & Sincerely
Yours &c
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr
3rd. Asst. Post Master Genl.

[Docket]

S. H. Carpenter
Philadelphia Pa
Feb 14 - 57

Philada. Feb 19th 1857

Dear Sir

We have this moment recd. the note of Judge Waterbury (addressed to you) and have to Say in reply, that sometime last Summer (during the absence of the writer) Judge Waterbury called at our office and Saw our Book Keeper in reference to our getting up a new 2 Cent Stamp—It was understood that the application was made more in the form of an inquiry as to the time it would require, (and other matters in reference to it,) than as an actual order either from the Post Master General or any one else, to proceed with the work, and from what the writer heard of the matter on his return to the city, he most positively did not understand that we would be expected to Engrave the Stamp without further orders or instructions. On referring to our Book Keeper (who had the interview with Judge W) we find that he is very clear in his recollection of having told Judge W that it would take Several months to Engrave the die and prepare the Stamp plate, and he is equally clear that he made no promise or engagement that it would be done at any time.—We think therefore that Judge Waterbury is laboring under a mistake as to his impression that a promise has been made by us, or any one for us, as to when we would do this Stamp—We have to say now however, that altho' the preparation of this Stamp Plate will cost us several hundred dollars, yet so desirous are we to meet the wishes of the Department and oblige the gentlemen who wish to introduce this Stamp, that we will put it in hand the moment we receive an order from the Post Master General to do so (without which you are aware that we cannot Engrave a Postage Stamp of any denomination).

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt Servt.
Toppan, Carpenter & C

J. Miller Esq
Post Master Philada.

The 2c stamp was never issued.

Private

Philada. Feb 20, 1857

Dear Sir

From present indications, I think I may with considerable Safety, promise to have ready for delivery on Tuesday afternoon next (24th), half a million of 3 Cents Stamps, (Perforated)—

As the Machinery is new, and our hands green and requiring practice, it is quite possible that we may not have quite so many ready at the time named, but I will do my best to give you that number, and unless you receive a telegraph to the contrary on Monday, you may expect that number to be ready for your Messenger.

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c
S. H. Carpenter

J Marron Esqre
3rd. Asst. PM. Gl.

[Docket]

J. H. Carpenter
Philadelphia Pa
February 14, 1857
&
February 20, 1857

Feby 26, 1856

Telegraphed Agent
to Send parcels to certain
offices &c

These dates are reasonably consistent with Luff who said first deliveries of perforated stamps were made on 2/24/57. This letter says "ready for delivery" on 2/24. And the docketing apparently indicates a distribution on 2/26/57. The earliest known use of a perforated stamp is 2/28/57.

Post Office, New York
February 24th 1857

Messrs Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Gentm

A press of other business has prevented an earlier reply to your letter to postmaster Miller of the 19th instant. I may truly say that I never read a letter with more surprise. Last June I called at your place of business in Philadelphia, and left with a gentleman I saw there, who, from his conversation, I assumed to be one of the firm, written instructions from Mr Marron, the third asst. P.M.G., addressed to your firm, directing the execution of a two Cent Stamp—the head to be that of John Hancock—the color I forget. I was told that it would take Several months to get it ready, but was distinctly promised that it should be issued as soon as possible. With an assurance that this office would be greatly obliged by speed in the matter, I left. Now I learn that you have done nothing. Under the circumstances I hope you will use extra diligence to repair this delay and consequent disappointment. If you have mislaid the order I left, I doubt not you can get a copy by writing to Washington.

Yours respectfully Nelson J. Waterbury
Asst. P.M.

Philada. Feb. 26, 1857

Nelson J. Waterbury Esqr
Asst. Post Master,
New York

Dear Sir

Your favor of 24th inst is recd. It is a matter of deep regret to us that there should have been such an entire misunderstanding between us as to the 2 Cent Stamp—We can only reiterate what we said to Post Master Miller, and assure you that so far as we are concerned, it is an exact statement of the case as we understand it—As we have an office in New York (and have had for the last 25 Years) and have 3 Partners residing there, we regret that you did not call, or in some way bring the matter to our attention there, when a personal interview with one of the firm, would have saved you the disappointment which you seem to feel, and us the regret of not having correctly understood you—however, we will do all in our power to remedy the mistake, and to that end, we have written to the Postmaster General by to day's mail (having mislaid the letter of Mr. Marron) asking for an order to Engrave a 2 Cent Stamp, and it shall be put in hand the moment we receive his order—You may rely upon our using “extra diligence to repair the delay,” and we hope to have it ready in about 2 months from the time we receive the order. We trust that this will prove satisfactory.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

The three partners in NYC were likely Toppan, Smillie, Saulnier.

Philad. Feb. 26, 1857

Hon. James Campbell
Post Master Genl.
Washington

Dear Sir:

We have received a letter from Nelson J. Waterbury, Esqr Asst. Post Master at New York, expressing great disappointment that we have not engraved a 2 cent Stamp, (for which he asserts that he furnished us with an order from the Department)—

The letter to which he refers, was presented at our office here, by Mr. Waterbury during the absence of all the partners, sometime about the last of July, but was not considered by our Book Keeper (with whom Mr. W. had the interview) as a direct order to engrave the Stamp—neither did we so view it, when we subsequently saw it, but it appears that Mr. W. understood it in that light, and has been under the impression that our Book Keeper promised that it should be done—this he is quite positive is a mistake on the part of Mr. W.

The letter of Mr. Marron has unfortunately been mislaid, and we write now to ask that you will forward to us your order for the Engraving of the above named Stamp (without which authority you are aware we cannot do it) when we will immediately place it in hand and have it finished as soon as possible—We regret very much that there would have been any misunderstanding about this matter, and are sorry that Mr. W. did not refer to it at an earlier period, but we will make every exertion to prevent any serious disappointment from the delay.

Very Resp'y,
Your Obt Sts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Philadelphia
Feby 26th 1857.

Asks for an Order from the
PM Genl to Engrave 2 ct Stamp

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Correspondence between them
and Judge Waterbury about
a 2 cent stamp.

Post Office, New York,
February 27th 1857

John Marron Esq. 3d Asst. P.M.G.

Dear Sir, I enclose copies of a correspondence with Messrs Toppan, Carpenter & Co of Philadelphia. As they have mislaid your former order will you please see that they have a new one as soon as may be convenient.

Yours respectfully,
Nelson J. Waterbury

Philada. April 8th, 1857.

Hon. Aaron V. Brown,
Post Master General,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We have received your favor of 6th inst. stating the terms and conditions on which you will renew our contract for Postage Stamps, which expires on the Tenth day of June next, and we hereby notify you, (in conformity to your instructions,) that the same are accepted on our part, and in order that they may be clearly understood, we hereby copy them from your letter above referred to,

viz.;

"I hereby consent to a renewal or extension of said contract to the 10th day of June, 1861, upon the following terms and conditions, to wit:—

1. "You are to provide at your own expense all the dies, plates and machinery necessary to furnish the Department with all the stamps it may order, completely and thoroughly perforated on the lines of separation;
2. "To furnish all postage stamps gummed and ready for delivery, as heretofore, at fourteen and a half cents a thousand;
3. "For perforating the stamps you will be allowed two cents a thousand;
4. "and for furnishing envelopes, paper and tin boxes, and packing all parcels of stamps ready for mailing, one and a half cents a thousand,—thus making the entire cost of each thousand stamps amount to eighteen cents.

"But it is distinctly understood that all the terms, conditions and stipulations of the original contract hereby agreed to be extended to the 10th day of June 1861 shall be and remain in full force from and after the 10th of June 1857, except only so far as the same are changed or modified by this offer of renewal, which when accepted by you on behalf of the individuals composing your firm, will be binding on the United States."

Very respectfully
Your Obt Sts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Post Office Department
June 18, 1857.

This certifies that the above and foregoing is a correct copy of the proposition made by A. V. Brown, Postmaster General, on the 6th April, 1857, to extend the Contract of Toppan, Carpenter & Co. for furnishing postage stamps for this Department, for four years from the 10th day of June, 1857, as the same is of record in the Third Assistant Postmaster General's letter book, No. 6; page 140; and that said proposition and the acceptance thereof by the said Toppan, Carpenter & Co. in their letter of the 8th April, 1857, operate as an extension for four years of their original Contract executed June 10th, 1851.

J. Marron

Articles of agreement made and entered into between the United States of America, by Nathan K. Hall, Postmaster General, of the one part, and Charles Toppan, Samuel H. Carpenter, John W. Casilear, Henry E. Saulnier and William C. Smillie, known as and constituting the firm of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company, Engravers of the City of Philadelphia, of the other part witnesseth;

That it is agreed on the part of the United States of America to employ the said firm of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company of Philadelphia to engrave and print for the use of the Post Office Department of the United States all the postage stamps which may be required by the Postmaster General under the "Act to reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States and for other purposes," approved March 3rd, 1851, and to pay them therefor at the rate of fifteen cents per thousand stamps as soon as they shall be executed and received by the Post Office Department, and further that the whole printing and furnishing of postage stamps by every description for the use of the Post Office Department, including carriers stamps when those shall be furnished by the Department, shall be given to them the said Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company, exclusively, for the full term of six years from the date of this agreement; and it agreed on the part of the said Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company that they will engrave steel dies and provide steel plates for furnishing postage stamps for the United States Post Office Department of the denominations of one, three and twelve cents without charge for said dies and plates, or for keeping them in continual repair, and that they will engrave and furnish without charge any additional steel dies and plates for such postage stamps of other denominations as the public service may require, to be by them likewise kept in continual repair without charge, and that they will in like manner engrave and furnish and keep in continual repair without charge to the Post Office Department such steel dies and steel plates as may be ordered for printing carrier stamps, and that if any of the dies and plates so engraved and furnished by them shall be counterfeited, they will furnish others of new designs and keep them in repair without charge, and that they will furnish stamps from all of any of the plates and dies herein stipulated by them to be engraved and furnished, printed on suitable paper of the best quality, well and fully prepared for use with gum, at the rate of fifteen cents for every thousand stamps. The stamps are to be executed in the best style of line engraving and all the dies and plates engraved and provided under this agreement are to belong to and be the exclusive property of the United States of America for the use of the Post Office Department, and the said Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company further agree that all the stamps shall be printed with the best quality of ink and that the Postmaster General may prescribe from time to time the colors of the ink to be used in printing any or all of the stamps the Department may order or require without subjecting it to any additional expense, and they further agree that they will not prepare, or permit to be prepared in their establishment any similar dies, plates or engravings from which printed postage stamps might be issued resembling those prepared for the Post Office Department, and further that they will adopt every means and precaution within their power to prevent the issue by any one in their employment or connected with their establishment, of postage stamps from the dies and plates engraved and used for the Post Office Department or any other stamps resembling them. The stamps are to be prepared by the said Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company in all respects ready for use without additional labor or expense to the Post Office Department. It is further agreed by the parties of the second part that the orders of the Postmaster General for postage stamps shall be executed with all reasonable despatch and that the stamps shall be delivered from time to time to such persons as shall be authorized to receive the same by an instrument of writing, duly executed under the hand of the Postmaster General and the seal of the Post Office Department, and that on the delivery of each parcel of stamps ordered, they, the said parties of the second part, will prepare and furnish the agent authorized to receive them, with an accurate statement verified by oath of one of said parties of the second part, of the number of stamps prepared and delivered by them to said agent of the department. And the parties of the second part further agree that if the Postmaster General shall deem it necessary, he may appoint a Special Agent of the Department who shall be at all times present when the dies and plates are taken from the place of deposit hereinafter mentioned to be delivered to the parties of the second part for the execution of any order for stamps given by the Department and be and remain with them during the process of printing and preparing said stamps and receive them as fast as they may be finished. When any order for stamps is filled or completed, then the dies and plates are to be carefully enveloped and sealed up, the agent of the Post Office Department placing his seal and Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company placing their seal upon the package or packages, which are to be deposited with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Philadelphia for safekeeping. When the plates and dies or either of them are again required for use, the opening of the package or packages is to take place in the presence of the Agent of the Post

Office Department and one of the firm of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company, or their Agent, each breaking his own seal. And the said parties of the second part do further covenant and agree that they will be responsible to the United States for any and all damages that may be sustained by any violation of any of the foregoing stipulations or by any omission to fulfill them on their part in their true spirit and meaning and that for such violation or omission the Postmaster General may have the right of annulling this agreement.

Witness our hands and respective seals this tenth day of June 1851.

Witness to signatures of
Charles Toppan
Samuel H. Carpenter &
Henry E. Saulnier
J. P. White
P.M.

Chas. Toppan
S. H. Carpenter
J. W. Casilear
H. E. Saulnier
W. C. Smillie

Witness to signatures of
John W. Casilear and
William C. Smillie
D. G. Johnson
W. H. Earle

N. K. HALL
Postmaster General

**Memorandum About Postage Stamps
And Contracts therefore.**

[Editor's Note: This document, prepared by Third Assistant Postmaster General Marron, was prepared in relation to the 1857 contract that allowed for perforation of postage stamps, but it deals extensively with 1851 contract matters as well. The exact date it was written is unknown but it is apparently around June 1857.]

Section 11 of the Act of March 3, 1847, Stats. Vol. IX, p. 201, authorized the Postmaster General, in order to facilitate the transportation of letters in the mail, to prepare postage stamps for the prepayment of letters and packets and to deliver them to any deputy postmaster for sale.

Section 3, of the Act of March 3, 1851, Stats. Vol. IX, p. 589, enacts "that it shall be the duty of the Postmaster General to provide and furnish to all deputy postmasters, and to all other persons applying and paying therefor, suitable postage stamps of the denomination of three cents and of such other denominations as he may think expedient to facilitate the prepayment of postage provided for in this Act."

Neither of the acts above cited, and they are the only ones authorizing the manufacture of postage stamps, requires the Postmaster General to procure them by public competition. Indeed both acts are silent as to the mode of procuring them, and seem to have left the matter entirely to the discretion of the Postmaster General.

The first contract for postage stamps was made by Postmaster General Johnson, on the 25th day of May, 1847, with Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, of New York, who undertook to furnish postage stamps ready for use and distribution at 20 cents per thousand stamps. No public competition for this contract was invited; and it does not appear that any was sought for by letter.

The second contract was made by Postmaster General Hall, on the 10th of June, 1851, with Toppan, Carpenter & Co., of Philadelphia, for a period of six years ending June 10, 1857. It was the intention of the Postmaster General to have made the term four years; but in consideration of the low price of 15 cents a thousand and some additional stipulations deemed of advantage to the Department and to which the contractors assented without charge, the term was extended to six years.

In this case, competition was invited by letter, a copy of which is annexed (Editor's Note: See attachment #3), addressed to the following persons or firms, to-wit:-

- | | | |
|----|--|---------------|
| 1. | Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, | New York. |
| 2. | Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co., | Philadelphia |
| 3. | Baldwin & Adams, | New York. |
| 4. | Danforth, Bald & Co., | Philadelphia. |
| 5. | Draper, Welsh & Co., | do |
| 6. | John E. Gavit, | Albany, N. Y. |
| | and | |
| 7. | Henry Benner, of Washington, D.C., upon his application put in a proposal. | |

The following is a brief abstract of the proposals:

1. Rawdon, Wright & Co., declined to enter into competition unless paid for their design, and would not undertake to furnish stamps at a less price per 1,000 than twenty cents, the price then paid them under their contract.
2. Toppan, Carpenter & Co., offered to furnish all the stamps for 4 years at 15 cents a thousand; or the 3 cent rate or any one substituted for it at 17 cts; or three rates at 20 cents.

3. Draper, Welsh & Co., bid 15, 16, 17 and 18 cents per 1000 according to specific modes and colors.

4. Danforth, Bald & Co., bid for all the stamps on a 4 years contract, 20 cents, and 25 cents for any other stamps that might be wanted.

5. Baldwin & Adams, furnished specimens, but as no price was stated they were not considered.

6. John E. Gavit bid 20 cents a thousand.

7. Neal & Pate, New York, bid 20 cents a 1000 and to be paid \$150 for the plates.

8. Henry Benner, Washington, D.C., bid 20 cents a thousand.

The designs furnished by Toppan, Carpenter, & Co., and Danforth, Bald & Co., were adjudged by the Postmaster General, his Assistants and some of the senior clerks, superior to the rest, and to be so nearly equal in merit that the Postmaster General addressed a letter to those two firms, notifying the fact to them, and desiring to know their lowest terms. A copy of this letter is annexed. Danforth, Bald & Co., declined to reduce their terms and the contract was, therefore, made with Toppan, Carpenter & Co. at 15 cents a thousand as before stated. A copy of Postmaster General Hall's order is annexed (Editor's Note: see attachment #5).

Toppan, Carpenter & Co., the present contractors, apply for a renewal of their contract for a term of 4 or 6 years, and propose, under date of 27th November last, to furnish perforated postage stamps on the following terms, viz.,

for Four Years

stamps gummed ready for delivery, as heretofore,

Perforation of stamps,

Envelopes, boxes, paper packing, &c.,

15 cents per 1000

2 " " "

1-1/2 " " "

18-1/2 cents per 1000
for Six Years

stamps gummed ready for delivery, as heretofore,

Perforation of stamps,

Envelopes, boxes, paper packing, &c.,

14-1/2 cents per 1000

2 " " "

1-1/2 " " "

18 cents per 1000

Up to the month of May, 1855, when the agency for the distribution of stamps was established at the manufactory in Philadelphia, the stamps were sent thence to the Department in large locked boxes where they were subdivided, counted, packed and enveloped into parcels and mailed to the postmasters; but since the establishment of that agency, the whole business of subdivision, counting, packing and enveloping has been done by the manufacturers at \$30 for each thousand parcels enveloped. This allowance was made to them for the service, because the cost of envelopes, wrapping paper & wages was greater when furnished in the Department than when done at the factory. This ability of the contractors to do the service cheaper, arose from their employing the time of their work people which could not be devoted to the regular business, and also, as I understand, by employing female labor in part.

It will be obvious that the business of furnishing the Government with stamps can not be divided with any advantage to the public interest. So carefully does the British Government guard the business that it has its own government stamp office in which the stamps are manufactured and from which they are distributed to the post offices for sale.

J. Marron

P.S. I omitted in the foregoing to allude to the cost of perforating the stamps, and therefore, I copy the manufacturer's estimate on the other side (Editor's note: see attachments #1 and #2).

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[Attachment #1 to Memorandum About Postage Stamps And Contracts therefore]

"Estimated annual cost of running the perforating machine, viz., renewing the reverse of die for punches, say six times every year at \$73-20/100 each renewal.....\$ 439.20

"Wages of a man and a boy to attend machine 10 hours per day, for 1 year, or 300 days..... 450.00

"Interest on cost of machine - say \$1000..... 60.00

"Making the annual cost of working one machine..... \$ 949.20

"One machine will perforate 180 sheets, of 100 stamps each, per hour, - say 180,000 stamps in 10 hours, computing 300 working days to the year, one machine will perforate 54,000,000 stamps per annum, at which rate it will require 3 machines to accomplish the perforating of the number of stamps that will probably be required for the year 1857 - if so, the actual cost of perforating 162,000,000 of stamps will be,\$2847.60

"To which add rent of additional room that will be necessary.....
150.00

"Making the annual cost of three machines,.....\$2997.60

"Or at the rate of 1-7/8 cents per 1000 stamps."

"Cost of making 13 new stamp plates,.....\$6,500.00

"Cost of present perforating machine \$1200., but presuming that 2 more might be procured for \$1000 each, we put down the estimated cost of three machines at, 3000.00

\$9,500.00

+++++

[Attachment #2 to Memorandum About Postage Stamps And Contracts therefore]
MEMORANDA.

For the quarter ending September 30th, 1856, the number of postage stamps issued was 32,328,465 or 129,300,000 per annum.

Assuming that the annual increase in the use of stamps will average 7 per centum, then the number of stamps required for six consecutive years commencing January, 1857, will be nearly as follows:

For the year	1857	about	138,351,000
"	1858	"	148,035,000
"	1859	"	158,397,000
"	1860	"	169,484,000
"	1861	"	181,348,000
"	1862	"	194,042,000

The perforating capacity of three machines will be sufficient only for three years, even if they work without interruption from breakage or other cause. For the next three years, a fourth machine will be required to produce the quantity estimated above, and I have estimated rather below than above the number which will be needed.

J. Marron.

+++++

[Attachment #3 to Memorandum About Postage Stamps And Contracts therefore]

Post Office Department,
March 8, 1851.

Gentlemen:

The 3rd Section of the "Act to reduce and modify the rates of postage &c.," approved March 3rd, 1851, requires the Postmaster General to provide and furnish to all deputy postmasters and to all other persons applying and paying therefor, suitable postage stamps of the denomination of three cents and of such other denominations as he may think expedient to facilitate the prepaying of postages provided for in said Act. Therefore, with the view of performing the duty thus enjoined, I invite you to present at the earliest day practicable an engraved design for a three cent stamp, which will be considered in competition with the engraved designs of other eminent engravers from which the Department will select one for adoption under the Act aforesaid.

The person or firm offering the preferred design will be employed to furnish all other stamps which may be needed under the act, provided the Department and such person or firm agree as to prices and other matters of detail before the 20th day of April next. A medallion head of Washington, in profile, done in the best style of line engraving with a finely engraved background in what the Department suggests. The denominations can be put in letters on the margin after the manner of the English stamps. The letters should be pure white and express the words "U.S. postage, three cents."

Very respectfully,
Yr. Obt. Ser't,
N.K. Hall,
P.M. Genl.

To.

Messrs. Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, N.Y.
" Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co., Pha.
" Baldwin & Adams, N.Y.
" Danforth, Bald & Co., Pha.
" Draper, Welsh & Co., Pha.
Mr. John E. Gavit, Albany, N.Y.

++++

[Attachment #4 to Memorandum About Postage Stamps And Contracts therefore]

Post Office Department.
April 22nd, 1851.

Gentlemen:

I have examined the several specimens of engraving for postage stamps submitted in pursuance of the invitations given by the Department in March last and find the productions of two or three firms so nearly equal in merit that the question of price may with propriety be permitted to influence my decision. Therefore, I have to request that you submit at the earliest convenient moment the price per thousand at which you will furnish stamps printed on steel plates from steel dies corresponding with the specimens exhibited by you; the stamps to be printed one hundred on a sheet and delivered at your place of business gummed and ready for use, in sealed packages of 200 sheets. The dies and plates to be furnished and kept in continual repair without charge and to belong to and remain in the custody of this Department except when in use by you. You will also state what your price will be if the business be divided so as to give the furnishing of the three cent stamps to one establishment and the two denominations of one and six or, one and twelve, to another. Your proposals should state first the price per thousand on contract of 4 years for all the stamps the Department may require of every rate. Second, the price for the three cent stamps alone or, such stamps or rate as Congress may substitute for it, and a contract of like duration; and, third, the price for the other two denominations for the same period. Any further information which may be desired before submitting your proposal can be had on application to the Third Assistant P.M. General.

Respectfully &c.
N.K. Hall,
P.M. Genl.

To

Danforth, Bald & Co.
Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.,
Present.

+++++

[Attachment #5 to Memorandum About Postage Stamps And Contracts therefore]

Ordered that the proposition of Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co. to furnish all the postage stamps to be ordered by the Department for the next four years be accepted with such modifications as have been verbally made by the Postmaster General and Mr. Carpenter, and subject to such additional provisions in regard to the detail as may be deemed necessary by the Postmaster General and that the 3rd Assistant notify Mr. Carpenter of this acceptance and prepare the necessary contract.

Signed Hall

The above order was made April 23rd, 1851, and it was communicated to Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co., by letter from me of same date.

Sign. J. Marron,
Third Asst. P.M. Genl.

Postage Stamps

Year ended

30 June 1859

Postage stamps issued during Qr. ending 30th Sept. 1857	\$1,243,204.70
" " " " " " 31 Decr. "	1,054,610.45
" " " " " " 31 Mar. 1858	1,366,687.80
" " " " " " 30 June "	1,280,871.40
	\$4,935,374.35

Postage stamps issued during Qr. ending 30th Sept. 1858	1,127,574.00
" " " " " " 31 Decr. "	1,266,290.00
" " " " " " 31 Mar. 1859	1,518,559.00
" " " to 7th Jun 1859 inclusive	1,091,993
	\$5,004,416.00

\$5,004,416.00

4,935,374.35

69,041.65

Philad. June 15, 1858

Dear Sir

You will perhaps recollect that I mentioned to you when I last had the pleasure of seeing you in Washington, that with a view to the more perfect accommodation of our Stamp business, and to give the Government the greatest possible security, we had leased part of a very large and perfectly fire proof building—We have reserved 2 Commodious Rooms for the Agent of the Government, on the same floor with our Superintendent of Stamps, and we are now moving to the new premises—The object of this communication is to ask the favor that the Agent of the Government may be directed to remove from our present premises and take possession of the apartments det apart for his accommodation in the new building—

I ask that this may be done at your earliest convenience, inasmuch as I am informed this morning that Mr. Johnston has stated his determination not to move until directed to do so by the Department—he may be right in requiring this order, and therefore I do not wish to be understood as finding fault with his action in the matter, altho' he has seemed to me to be a little "crooked" for some time past—This however I do not wish to go any farther, or be used to his injury—We are all liable to be a little cross at times, and I am quite willing to excuse in others the infirmities which I am subject to myself—

Very Respectfully Your ObSv
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr. 3rd Asst. P. M. General

June 15, 1858
Toppan Carpenter & Co

ask that the agent of the Govt.
be directed to remove from
present premises to the New
perfectly Fire Proof leased
by them. 2 Commodious
rooms reserved for him

Postage Stamp Agency
Philadelphia June 17/58

Sir

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter & Co the Postage Stamp contractors are removing their Stamp business into the fourth Story of a building some distance from the present locality, the change will interfere considerably with the present arrangements for putting up Stamps.

Some few weeks since Mr. Carpenter informed me that a room on the fourth floor of the Same building had been set apart for my Office, after looking at the room I told him that it would not answer the purpose as it was considerable Smaller than the room that we now occupied. I also suggested to him that he had better inform the Department that he wished to make a change in the present arrangements for he intimated to me that the new room would be worth more rent than the one we are now in, I differ with him widely, the room in the new building is not worth half the rent charge of our present Office it is on the fourth floor of a very high building, the outdoor entrance is from an alley or twenty feet wide street and to get into the room, we would have to go through the same inside entrance or door that all the contractors hands pass through, the room adjoins his printing room in which 8 or 10 printing presses are worked with steam power, the noise from them would be very annoying, and at times interfere with our business, the room is dark the windows being small and near the floor.

If a proper room could not be got on a lower floor of the same building, I have no doubt, but that, I could procure one much nearer and more convenient to the Stamp Manufactory then my present office, without any material increase of rent charge.

Yours Respectfully
Jesse Johnson
Stamp Agent

To John Marron Esq
Third Asst P M General

June 23/58
Postage Stamps

Toppan Carpenter & Co
&
Jesse Johnson Agent

Room in new building not
suitable being too small
and is on 4th Story joining
printing room, the noise of
which will be very annoying
requested them to address Dept.
relative to rent
June 23 1858
Answered

Philad. June 21, 1858

Dear Sir

I took the liberty to address you on the 15th inst. in reference to the removal of the office of your Agent of Postage Stamps to our new office—

As we only await your authority to consummate the matter and we are obliged to give possession of our old premises on the 1st proxo, I will feel greatly obliged if you will give the necessary authority to Mr. Johnson to take possession of the new rooms at the earliest day that may suit your convenience—

Hoping you will excuse my troubling you again about this matter—

I am very Respectfully
Yours
S H Carpenter

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst P M Genl

June 21, 1858
S. H. Carpenter

Being compelled to give up
old premises. Requests Dept.
to direct Mr. Johnson to take
possession of New Rooms

Phial. June 24/58

Dear Sir

Your favor of 23rd is recd—I am a little surprized that Mr. Johnson should have forgotten to say “two rooms” in lieu of “the room,” because he certainly knew that I proposed to appropriate two rooms adjoining each other for his accommodation—I shall not trouble you with a reply to the catalogue of objections which it now appears that he has made, but will merely say that he has not stated the case fairly—I have taken much pains in having these rooms arranged so as to give every possible facility to Mr. Johnson in the management & discharge of his duties as the Agent of the Government, and as I do not wish to be put in the wrong by appearing to offer better accommodations, when in fact (according to his representations) they are not so good as the old ones, I beg that you will recall your authority to Mr. Johnson to take other rooms, until this question can be settled to the entire satisfaction of the Post Master General and yourself (by personal inspection of the premises) and as I perceive by the papers that it is probable the Post Master General will be here early next week, you will do me a favor if you will ask him to have the kindness to examine into this matter and decide by a personal inspection of the premises as to whether the objections raised by Mr. J are sound and deserving the weight which he has given them—

You will readily perceive that if Mr. Johnson should rent a room out of the building, the delivery of the Stamps to him there, will be a source of additional risk and great trouble to us and I trust it will be duly considered before it is acted on—

Very truly
Yr Ob Sv
S A Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr
3d Asst P M Genl.

Toppan Carpenter & Co
Requests recall of instructions to
Mr. Johnson to rent other rooms

Philada. July 19, 1858

Dear Sir

I do not know whether Mr. Johnson has explained to you the present position of things with regard to the rooms appropriated to the delivery of Stamps, but I infer that he has not, and therefore I trust that you will excuse me for troubling you with a few words on the subject—

Leaving out of view all the points which were subjects of difference of opinion between him and us (up to the date of my last letter) I proceed to say that since that time we have (in order to do every thing in our power to satisfy Mr J) taken away entirely the partition between 2 of the Rooms in our new premises and thrown the two into one large Room immediately adjoining the Room of our Superintendent of Stamps, expressly for the accommodation of the Government Agent—with this arrangement Mr J seems to be satisfied and he receives the deliveries daily at that Room, but for some cause which I do not understand, he still retains possession of the room in Walnut St—now this room is the Key to several other rooms on the same floor, all of which we have vacated, and by Mr Johnson retaining possession of this room, he prevents our giving possession to our landlord and makes us liable for the rent of the whole of that part of the premises, when we do not occupy any part of them—

It may be that this action on his part is owing to a want of permission or direction from the Department to remove from the old and take possession of the new office—If this be so, and you should be Satisfied that there is no good reason why he should not give up the Old apartment, I will feel much obliged by your directing accordingly—

As to the amount of Rent which the Government ought to pay us for the new premises, all that I ask is that you or any other gentleman on behalf of the Government shall examine the premises, and after having done so, decide what Rent per annum would be fair and just for us to receive—By the removal of the premises we have more than doubled our Rent, and in consideration of the perfect security given to the Government in this building (which it was impossible to give in the other) and the increased facilities given your Agent, I think a Rent of \$300 per annum would be moderate, fair & just, and such as the Government ought not to hesitate to pay, yet I repeat that I am perfectly willing to submit the question to you or others to decide and pledge myself to accept whatever sum you or they may deem right and fair between the Government and ourselves—

Meanwhile, I hope that the decision of this question may not further delay the removal of Mr J from Walnut St, but that he may be directed to vacate those premises with as little delay as possible—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts
S H Carpenter

J Marron Esqr
3rd Asst Post Master Gl
Washington

July 19th 1858
Topham Carpenter & Co

To satisfy Mr Johnson
have removed partition &
made one of both adjoining
Supt. of Stamps—He seems
satisfied but will not re-

move from old place thus
preventing us from giving up
the premises. —Dept. will
please instruct him to remove
and willing to leave rent
to disinterested parties.

Statement of Postage Stamps and Stamped envelopes issued and sold during the period of four years ending June
30th 1858

Year ending June 30th	1 cent Stamps	3 cent Stamps and envelopes	5 cent Stamps	10 cent Stamps and envelopes	12 cent Stamps	Letter postage paid in Money (\$)	Stamped Envelopes issued (\$)	Stamps & Envelopes Sold (\$)
1855	10,698,636	87,190,086		924,986	262,071	3,234,549.67	2,895,818.30	2,511,318.03
1856	19,981,698	137,533,596	103,653	3,070,852	750,653	1,754,766.96	4,720,545.37	4,235,445.49
1857	29,388,894	157,621,035	291,310	3,264,781	1,190,835	983,207.24	5,392,041.03	5,447,764.51
1858	36,165,997	165,182,277	308,262	3,814,904	1,274,998	904,299.13	5,924,174.21	5,700,314.03

Notes

1. The blue one cent stamps are used to prepay printed circulars, drop letters, transient Newspapers and other printed Matter.
2. The three cent stamps and envelopes are used almost entirely on our inland correspondence.
3. The five cent stamps are used chiefly to prepay the inland postage on letters to foreign countries with which we have no postal arrangements, and on letters to France which require 10 & 5 to make the 15 cent rate to that Country.
4. The 10 cent stamps and envelopes are used for California letters, letters to the British North America provinces, letters to Cuba, Bremen and Hamburg, and to foreign places under 2,500 miles, for which the postage has not been otherwise arranged.
5. The twelve 12 cent Stamps are chiefly used on letters to England two of them prepaying the English rate.

Post Office Department
Feby. 11th 1859
J. Marron
3rd Asst P M Genl.

Hon D L Yulee
Senate
US

Order No. _____ for Stamped Envelopes to be supplied from the New York Agency.

POST OFFICE	COUNTY	STATE	POSTMA STER	No. 1 3 cents	No. 2 3 cents	No. 2 10 cents	No. 3 10 cents	No. 3 6 cents
Amt Envelopes for the year ending 30 June 1858				1,177,050	29,412,300	379,950	11,075	\$1,013,607.73

Order No. ____ for Postage Stamps to be supplied from the Philadelphia Agency.

Post Off.	County	State	Postmstr	1¢	3¢	5¢	10¢	12¢	Amount
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Estimate of Postage Stamps returned and
lost during the year commencing 1st July
1857 and ending 30th June 1858

3rd qr 1857				105,689	307,312	220	4,374	4,598	\$11,276.41
4th qr 1857				12,704	57,532		767	1,119	2,063.98
1st qr 1858				11,659	149,510	303	83,273	1,500	13,124.34
2nd qr 1858				12,551	51,326	500	1,204	200	1,834.69

[Docket]

1858

Issues

figures dont agree
AMT

See Document "B"
which gives net figures
from 1855 to 1858 inclusive

Footings of Stamp Reports, for the
3rd and 4th qrs of 1857, and 1st & 2nd qrs 1858.

1¢	3¢	5¢	10¢	12¢	Amount
9,359,800	34,422,700	75,090	766,790	303,535	1,243,136.70
7,803,900	29,428,200	64,615	617,615	269,020	1,058,159.65
10,358,700	35,835,400	79,080	1,410,110	359,040	1,366,698.80
8,837,400	35,743,800	91,300	737,610	351,420	1,281,184.40
36,359,800	135,430,100	310,085	3,532,125	1,283,015	4,949,179.55
					<u>1,013,607.73</u>
					5,962,787.28
					<u>6,261,533.34</u>
					<u>298,746.06</u>

1859 Stamps	5,279,405.00
1858 “	<u>4,949,179.55</u>
	330,225.45

Issued to Postmasters

(POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
June 9th 1859.)

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gent.

Please to inform me now soon and on what terms you can have prepared rolls or moulds for the purpose of furnishing water line paper for postage stamps.

It is desirable to have a mark on each separate stamp. Please say what difference, if any, there would be between the cost of simple lines and letters.

Very Respectfully &c &c
A.N.Z.

Quarter end. 31st Mar. '59. Stamps issued:

1¢	3¢	5¢	10¢	12¢
13,461,700	40,428,500	128,940	1,164,210	401,825

amounting to \$1,518,559:—

Qr. end. June '59:

1¢	3¢	5¢	10¢	12¢
12,059,100	36,601,800	113,560	1,034,700	326,575

Amounting to \$1,366,982:—

Amount qr end 31 Mar. 59	55,585,175
“ “ “ 30 June “	<u>50,135,735</u>
Excess of issue favor of 1st qr 1859	5,449,440

	No. 1	2	2-10	3-6¢	
1st qr 59	276,700	8,598,950	97,800	5,500	\$292,489.58
<u>2nd qr 59</u>	<u>243,300</u>	<u>7,117,950</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>238,579.09</u>
Excess, 2d qr	33,400	1,481,000	57,800	0	\$ 53,910.49

(POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
June 9th 1859.)

D.W. Moore, Esq,
Sp. Agt. P.O. Dept
Philadelphia.

I have written to Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co, on the subject of introducing water marks in the sheets of postage stamps so that each separate stamps shall have a mark.

These might be simple lines or letters.

For instance the words, "Post Office" would cover ten stamps & "Department" ten - just the number in a line.

If such lettering would be too expensive simple marks - say ten lines each way on a sheet would effectually mark each stamp. Perhaps even 10 lines one way might do.

There should be some mark & I take it for granted that the preparation of the rolls or moulds for making the paper cannot cost much, and that no other additional cost will be involved.

Please investigate this matter & report soon.

Very Respectfully,
Yr. Ob. Servt.
A.N.Z.

Philada. June 10th 1859

A.N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Assistant Post Master General.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 9th inst is duly received.

We have at once instituted proceedings with the purpose of replying satisfactorily to your inquires; and we must respectfully beg your indulgence for a day or two that we may be better enabled to give you positive data for your guidance.

We fear, however, without investigating the subject thoroughly, that a paper with a water mark such as you describe must prove quite expensive and require considerable time to be made. We understand that it must be a hand-made paper as no machine made paper of such a nature can be produced. We hope within a brief period to be able to write to you at length on the subject which commands our serious and immediate intention.

Very Resptfly
Yr Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

June 10, 1859

Topham Carpenter & Co

Postage Stamps

Toppan Carpenter & Co

June 10, 1859

As to Water marks in paper
for Stamps. Will report
in a few days

POST OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA

June 16, 1859.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 9th inst. on the subject of affixing "watermarks" upon the postage stamps, was awaiting my return to the city on Tuesday last.

I have since consulted with the manufacturers (Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.,) as also with the manufacturers of the paper (Messrs. Wilcox & Co.,) and have ascertained that such impressions, or watermarks, as would afford additional protection against counterfeiting, could only be made upon "hand made" paper, which would cost not less than \$18. a thousand sheets, or \$36,000 additional per annum, on the present issue. To this would have to be added an additional expense in the printing, as the operation would be considerably retarded, perhaps one-fourth; for, in order to afford an additional test of genuineness, these watermarks should appear precisely in the same position on each stamp, which can only be done by what printers term "Registering" each sheet as it is laid upon the "form" or plate, which would be a very tedious operation. Watermarks could be made upon machine made paper, but not with sufficient precision and uniformity as to afford a test of genuineness. They could be easily imitated.

The fact that these gentlemen, Messrs. T.C. & Co., are bound by their contract to replace all counterfeit stamps that may be imposed upon the government, affords the best assurance that they should be properly vigilant in guarding against the ingenuity of the counterfeiter, and I think they are. They express a perfect willingness to adopt any suggestion securing such a result.

Should the Department decide upon having the stamps watermarked, I would suggest diagonal lines, crossing each sheet, and likewise each stamp. Such watermarks, it is thought, could be made with greater accuracy than parallel or horizontal lines, and would perhaps be more readily visible to the eye. But such lines, being so made, would require the utmost precision in the printing to have the cross precisely in the centre of the stamp.

Unless there are better evidences of the vending and use of counterfeited postage stamps in the possession of the Department, than has ever come to my knowledge, I could not recommend the institution of any additional check such as is proposed. The expense would be too great. In this connection I may observe that I think stamps are frequently used a second time. They are often very imperfectly cancelled. Besides this, Express Companies are believed to be in the habit of carrying letters prepaid by stamps, instead of stamped envelopes. It would be an easy matter for such to be made use of a second time, as they often reach their destination without passing through any post office. I have had notice of one or two instances of this kind in this city, in which fraud was very evident. But I failed to find the responsible party. Postmasters should be required to use printer's ink, with a cancelling stamp, wherever it is at all practicable.

Very respectfully, your obt. servant,
D.W. MOORE, SPL. AGT. & C

Philadelphia, June 23rd 1859.

A.N. Zevely Esq
3rd Ast Post Master General.

Dear Sir:

As you requested us to inform you whether more extended investigations would not change our opinion respecting the advantages of a water mark paper for the stamps, we would respectfully state that our original doubt of the efficacy of such an innovation has been rather strengthened than weakened. A machine made water mark paper can be readily imitated; and nothing but the most perfect protection of this character, viz, a hand made paper, would be at all valuable. We must also re-iterate our belief that even a hand made paper does not offer a sufficient, additional security to warrant the greatly increased cost of its manufacture over the paper now used. Indeed, we can honestly say that, in our opinion, the stamp possesses already every requisite protection; and we urge, in powerful support of this statement, the fact that we have yet to see or hear of a single counterfeit among the many millions issued annually throughout the country.

We are happy that the recent infamous allegations appear to be effectually silenced; but we will not, therefore, intermit our efforts to detect and expose what we have every reason to suppose is a base and criminal conspiracy to obtain the abrogation of the stamps.

Very Resptfly - Yr Obt Servts-
Toppa, Carpenter & Co

June 23, 1859

Postage Stamps

Topham, Carpenter & Co

As to water marks thinks
it no protection against counterfeiting
June 23, 1859

Newspaper article enclosed

Philada. June 28th, 1859.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. Post Master General.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 27th inst., inclosing a letter doubly stamped, is duly at hand.

We do not think the inclosed stamps have been used; nor do we regard it as probable that they have been chemically washed. The change of color may arise from several causes; but it is true that an unusual combination of causes must occur to produce so decided a difference in the tint of the stamp - Moisture and heat will affect the color; and, if the printer should accidentally use a black ink cloth imperfectly washed to wipe his plate with, the deep color would eventually predominate in the stamp; especially should the rose pink - the fleeting vegetable tint giving brilliancy to the red - be subjected to dampness and heat after the stamp is issued. Such may be the cause of the dark brown of these inclosed stamps. Several months ago a few sheets were printed in this manner; but, as the effect became perceptible, it was immediately abandoned, and new cloths used. It is possible, though hardly probable, that a few stamps in the centre of one of these sheets may have escaped the scrutiny to which the whole impression is subjected, and the deep shade, at first scarcely perceptible, has been increased by time, exposure heat and moisture.

It is not likely that any ordinary exposure to which the stamps are liable in the transmission by mail can affect them materially; and we must regard these two isolated specimens as a great exception to the general rule. The envelopes in which the stamps are transported afford every guarantee for their protection; and it is undoubtedly while in the possession of private persons that these stamps have suffered this alteration. We deem it probable that the proximity of chemical works, sulphur or quick-silver, galvanic batteries, etc., might possibly affect the stamp; but there are, of course, exception cases.

Very Resptfly,
Yr Obt Servts.,
TOPPAN, CARPENTER & CO.

We re-inclose the letter as requested.

Postage Stamps & Stamped Envelopes

Number of postage Stamps supplied to Post Master during the year ending 30th June 1859 vst.	192,201,920	value	\$5,279,405
Do Stamped Envelopes	30,280,399	do	982,128.34

**Stamps ordered from the Agent for the year ending
30 June 1859 Vzt**

Quarter Ending	1 ¢	3¢	5¢	10c	12¢	Value
30 Sep 1858	9,427,700	30,445,600	127,680	737,830	331,350	\$1,127,574
31 Dec 1858	9,483,800	34,611,900	116,380	828,820	349,950	1,266,290
31 Mar 1859	13,461,700	40,428,500	128,940	1,164,210	401,825	1,518,559
30 June	12,059,100	36,601,800	113,560	1,034,700	326,575	1,366,982
Totals	44,432,300	142,087,800	486,560	3,765,560	1,429,700	\$5,279,405

1859

The amount of postage stamps supplied to Post Masters during the year ending
June 30, 1859, was as follows:

1 cent	3 cent	5 cent	10 cent	12 cent
44,432,300	142,087,800	486,560	3,765,560	1,429,700
Whole number, 192,201,920 - value			\$5,279,405.00	
Stamped envelopes, 30,280,300 - value			<u>\$ 982,128.34</u>	
Total			\$6,261,533.34	
Total value of postage stamps issued (and stamped envelopes) during the year ending				
June 30, 1858			\$5,962,787.28	
Increase during 1859			\$ 298,746.00	

Philada March 2nd 1860

A. N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst Post Master General
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

Accept out thanks for the payt of our a/c rec'd in a dft this morning from the Treasury Dept.

We beg permission, however, to call your attention to a discrepancy between our a/c as rendered and the amount rec'd in payt from the department—

The U.S.P.O. Department

To Toppan Carpenter & Co

Dr.

1859 Sept 22. To 44,592,295 stamps @ 18¢ or M	\$ 8,026.61
“ Dec. 22 “ 54,730,155 do @ 18¢ per M	<u>9,851.43</u>
	\$17,878.04

Credit

March 2, 1860. By Cash rec'd from P. O. Department	<u>17,848.60</u>
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Balance due Toppan, Carpenter & Co.	\$ 29.44
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We had also hoped that interest would be allowed us, in common with other original contractors, upon our first a/c: viz: \$8,026.61

Very Resptfly
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

Toppan Carpenter & Co
Phila: 2 March 1860
ans 3 March 1860

I relation to bal or difference
on Stamp a/c & interest

Mar. 7. Answered that
mistake can be corrected
at next settlement

Philada March 5th 1860

A. N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst Post Master General
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

Your esteemed favor of the 3rd inst is duly rec'd. In reply we would state that the returned stamps with which the P. O. Dept charges us were all deducted by us as usual from the gross amt furnished the Dept and our a/c is exclusive of these returned stamps. This a/c has been carefully collated with that of the Government Agency here and found to be correct in every particular. We must therefore draw your attention to what is evidently a misapprehension on [the] part of the Dept. The Gross amount of Stamps furnished by us during the Quarters ending

Sept. 22, 1859 was	44,597,495		
<u>Less Returned Stamps</u>	<u>5,200</u>	= 44,592,295 @ 18¢ pr M -	\$8,026.61

Dec. 22, 1859 was	54,893,755		
<u>Less Returned Stamps</u>	<u>163,600</u>	= 54,730,155 @ 18¢ pr M	\$9,851.43

We must therefore respectfully insist that the \$29.44 difference between our a/c & dft rec'd from the Dept is still due us.

We regret to learn that the Act of Congress does not allow us interest as we had hoped that contractors furnishing the means to carry the mails were equally entitled to interest with contractors for carrying the mails themselves.

Begging you to excuse the trouble which we may have given you in this matter, we remain.

Very Respt Yr Obt Servts
Toppan, carpenter & Co.

Philada April 7/60

A. N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P. M. General
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We would respectfully draw your attention to our last Quarterly account.

We are reluctantly compelled to beg that you may be pleased to remit us the amount therefor, if it can be done at your perfect convenience.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servants
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Post Office, Philada.
Penna.
May 28th 1860

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.
Washington D C.

Sir:

I have yours of the 25th inst. directing that, hereafter, the postage upon all transient printed matter, & letters, foreign and domestic, shall be prepaid by stamps &c.

I take the liberty of suggesting that in order to carry out this order with convenience to the public, and the different Post Offices, it will be desirable to adopt a higher denomination of postage stamp, say for 24 cents -

There is on hand a plate, engraved some two years ago, but never used: it is for a 24 cent stamp, which if printed on yellow paper, would be sufficiently distinctive.

Very Respectfully &c.
N.B. Browne
P.M.

May 28, 1860

Philada

To carry out for prepayments
of Private matter, Letters foreign
& domestic a higher denomin-
ation of Stamps (say 24 ct) will
be necessary

Philadelphia, May 30th 1860.

A.N. Zevely Esq.,
3rd Asst P.M. General.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your telegram was rec'd afternoon today and we answered immediately to the effect that we could furnish the new stamps within three weeks after the order was given. Very fortunately we have a plate ready to print at once, and the principal causes of delay will be found only in the printing, drying, gumming and perforating all of which require considerable time. In anticipation of the use of this new stamp we have experimented in various colors to obtain one at once distinct from those now printed and which will also afford the proper degree of relief and excellence to the engraving. The new color must be a shade deeper or weaker of those now used, and the yellow affords the most striking contrast with the black, brown, blue, green and red. Yet we would regret to have the Department determine on this tint as it affords the least beauty, effect and protection to the stamp.

The Twenty four cent will, we suppose, be principally used on foreign postage, and it is desirable that it should have every advantage which art can give. Moreover, as it is the most valuable stamp it should be the best protected. It is accordingly engraved in the finest style, and a dark color would be the best to print with.

We submit samples marked respectively Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, & 8. Nos. 1, 2 & 3 - are colors now used though presenting shades of difference in this stamp owing to the fine surface it presents for the ink. We suggest respectfully that the purple or lilac sample marked "No 4" gives perhaps a sufficient contrast with the colors now in use while it is dark enough to bring out the engraving. The Yellow samples "Nos. 5 & 6" we furnish that you may see how great are the objections to them. The work is not relieved at all and the hue is abominable. "No. 7" is a buff which can be deepened if desirable. An objection to all yellow is found in the similar color of the envelopes now in use: the contrast is least between the stamp and the envelope. "No. 8" is an orange which verges closely on the tint of the three cent stamp.

No. 4 - the purple or lilac, is distinct from the others and bears a slight resemblance only to the Five Cent stamp which is of all the stamps the least used, and hence rare occasions for mistake between the two colors could occur. We are aware that the clerks at the various P. Offices look at the color more than at any other mark on the stamp, but we submit that a very little attention on their part would prevent an error in the office while this dark hue of the stamp would be a powerful protection in its general circulation.

Trusting you may be enabled to decide upon a color which will please you, we remain,

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

May 30, 1860

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
May 30, 1860

Submits specimens of

24 ct Stamps. Different colors for decision
of P MM Genl.

June 1st
Ansd ordg lilac.

(POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
May 30, 1860.)

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia
Pa

Gentlemen:

I have your telegraphic dispatch, stating that you can furnish "twenty-four cent" stamps within three weeks after receiving an order.

Having understood that there is on hand a plate for this denomination, I supposed you might be able to prepare stamps on much shorter notice.

There is urgent necessity for a speedy supply, especially in the larger cities.- growing out of recent orders to pay all postages in stamps. What the actual demand will be I cannot foretell, but suppose it will in a short time amount to ten millions (10,000,000.)

So soon as your samples come, the colors will be selected, and I trust you will be able to deliver at least a small supply for Boston, New York, Philada. & Baltimore, within a week.

Very respectfully &c &c
A.N. Zevely
(Third Asst. P.M. General.)

Philada. June 1, 1860

A.N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst. P.M. General,
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your esteemed favor of the 30th ult is only at hand this morning: and we reply at once to its contents.

You will observe from our letter of the 30th ult that the delay in preparing the stamps arises chiefly from the time consumed in the drying, gumming and perforating. We think, however, that we can have about four hundred thousand stamps ready for delivery in about two weeks from date of the order to print. The more time allowed us the better we will be enable to meet this demand. We have on hand about eight hundred thousand (800,000) twelve cent stamps and can thus accommodate the orders for large denominations of stamps until the sheets of twenty four cents are ready to fill all orders without interruption - You may depend upon every effort being made to aid the Department in this sudden emergency. In the meanwhile we await your decision respecting the color to be used.

Very Resptfly
Yr Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

June 1, 1860

can deliver 400,000 Stamps
in 2 weeks
on hand 800,000 12 cent Stamps

Toppan Carpenter & Co
June 1, 1860 as to 24¢ Stamps

Data in this letter would indicate a rate of 200,000 could be printed per week, i.e., 2000 sheets of 100 stamps. The 800,000 supply is about eight or nine months usage at the old consumption rates.

(POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
June 1, 1860.)

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter & Co.
Philadelphia, Pa

Gentlemen:

Your letter of 30th ultimo, with samples of 24c postage stamps, was duly received.

The lilac shade (No. 4) seems the best, altho' it is scarcely distinctive enough when compared with the five cent stamps now in use.

The Postmaster General wishes you to furnish such stamps at the earliest day possible, taking care to preserve the most marked difference between the tints of the lilac and those of the five cent stamps.

How soon could you prepare two new rates - say fifteen and thirty and what colors would be best?

Very respectfully - &c
A.N. Zevely.
(Third Assistant P.M. General.)

Philada. June 4th, 1860

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. General,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 1st inst is duly rec'd; and its contents command our careful attention.

We are pleased to know that you have adopted the LILAC COLOR; and we think that we have finally obtained, in accordance with your wishes, an admirable and distinct shade preserving a very marked difference between the new stamp and the five cent rate. We inclose a specimen sheet, and advise you that we have put the plate to press so that no delay may occur. It is our sincere hope that this hue of lilac may meet with your approval.

Ten or twelve weeks, at least, would be required to get a new stamp. Indeed, the unavoidable delay attendant on the completion of such a stamp would be so material that we feel no hesitation in making a suggestion which, if adopted, will aid the Department in an important manner to economise time - Some years ago, when it was designed to have Carriers Stamps, a head of Franklin was engraved considerably less in size than that now used on the One Cent plate, while the general ornamentation and design differs considerably from this latter stamp. This Carriers Stamp has never been used and presents therefore all the advantages of one entirely new. The words "Carriers Stamps", above and below, (as per inclosed sample) could be taken out on a new die; "Thirty Cents: U.S. Postage" engraved in their place and various little changes made. New plates could thus be gotten ready in a fourth of the time necessary to design and finish an entirely original stamp. In recommendation of this suggestion we state respectfully that we do not think the Department will lose in anything while it will economise time greatly, and thus accomplish an important object in putting the new stamp into circulation -

In connection with this subject let us also state that the Eagle Carrier Stamp has been comparatively unused; but one P.O. (at Cincinnati, Ohio) making occasional demands for a small supply - This stamps now almost useless - we have not printed it for years - could be altered and made to answer for the fifteen cent rate. The distinct nature of its design renders the necessity of being printed in a new color less obvious.

We submit the buff color of the inclosed specimen as the best, perhaps, for the thirty cent stamp. This, or a shade of this color, has never been used - We will be pleased to learn whether you deem it probable that there will be sufficient necessity for the new rates to authorize their adoption by the Department. The Thirty Cent rate would be doubtless much more required than the fifteen as this latter can so readily made up of a ten & five or a twelve & three -

Very Respectfully,
Yr Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

We inclose also a specimen sheet of the Eagle Carrier Stamp printed in Orange. This stamp is not adapted to perforation in its present form. This could however be arranged - The size of the stamp must, in any case, be increased.

Very Resptfly
T.C. & Co.

June 4, 1860

Topham Carpenter & Co

**Enclosing specimen sheet of
24 Cent Stamps. Lilac Color
which is approved.**

**Also Sheet of Carriers Stamps
proposed to be altered into a 30 Cent
Stamp.**

**Also sheet of Eagle Carriers Stamps
proposed to be altered into a 15 Cent
Stamp**

answd June 8/60

Washington, D.C. June 8, 1860.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia,
Pa.

Gentlemen:

Your letter of 4th instant, with inclosures, is received.

Please alter the "Carrier's Stamp," with the head of Franklin, by inserting the words - "Thirty cents, U.S. Postage," with "various little changes," as proposed by you. Submit specimens of the impressions, in the buff color which you recommend, and the Postmaster General will then decide whether the stamp will answer.

My estimate as to the probable demand for the "twenty-four cents" stamps was rather high, as it is hoped to reduce the British postage rates.

The "fifteen cents" stamps will not now be ordered.

Very respectfully &c &c
A.N. Zevely
Third Assistant P.M. General.

Admits that the volume estimate for the 24c was too high (see 5/30/60). Reason for cancelling the 15c stamp is unknown.

Philada. June 10th 1860

A.N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst P.M. General.
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 8th inst is duly rec'd and contents noted:

We have the honor to submit inclosed design for the Thirty Cents stamp for the approbation of the Post Master General. We have sought to make it superior in beauty and finish to any of those now used, and we hope that we have succeeded - As soon as we have instructions to proceed with this design we will put it in hand and furnish impressions at the earliest practicable moment - It is our present belief that we can use one of the positive colors now printed for this stamp and preserve at the same time such a marked difference in the appearance of the stamp as to prevent its being confounded with any of the others. We will be better able to decide this when the impressions are fairly contrasted.

Begging you to return this design if approved, we remain.

Very Respectfly
Toppam Carpenter & Co.

June 10, 1860

Topham Carpenter & Co

Enclosing Design of 30 Cent
Stamp—if approvd by P M Genl
will put it in hand immediately

June 12—approvd by P M Gl
& so wrote
also wrote as to 90¢ stamp

The design enclosed must be a sketch or drawing based on subsequent letters.

Washington D.C., June 12, 1860.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.,
Philadelphia,
Pa.

Gentlemen:

Your letter of 10th instant with design for the thirty cents postage stamp is received.

The Postmaster General approves the design, and requests you to execute it and furnish specimen impressions at the earliest practicable moment, the demand for the same being urgent.

It is also considered necessary to have a stamp of the denomination of ninety cents - not only to suit that particular rate of postage but to pre-pay packages to the amount, sometimes, of several dollars. For this stamp the Postmaster General desires the head of Washington, and I need not suggest to you the importance of expending upon it all the talents you can command, in respect to designing, engraving and coloring. Please to say how soon specimens may be expected. Also, report so soon as the 24¢ and 30¢ are ready.

Very respectfully, &c &c
A.N. Zevely
Third Assistant P.M. General.

Philada. June 13th 1860.

A.N. Zevely,
3rd Asst. P.M. General,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 12th inst, covering design for the Thirty Cents Stamp, is duly recd.

We will immediately carry out your instructions touching this stamp, and you may depend on our most earnest efforts to furnish impressions at an early period - Your remarks concerning a new Ninety Cents Stamp command our attention and we will endeavor to meet the wishes of the Post Master General to his entire satisfaction. We have now, as you are aware, three distinct heads of Washington, on the Three, Twelve & Twenty Four cent denominations - Trumbull's picture of Washington is probably the best we can now obtain; and we will submit the new design as soon as possible to the P.M. General. Of course nothing will be spared to produce a new stamp equal in all respects, if not superior, to any now in use -

We are happy to say that three hundred & ninety thousand (390,000) stamps of the Twenty four cent rate will be ready next Friday, 15th inst.

Very Resptfly
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

June 13, 1860

Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Will carry out instructions
relative to 30 Cent Stamps
Will submit new designs
for a 90 Cent Stamp
Think Trumbell picture of
Washington the best

390,000—24¢ stamps
ready 15 June

June 21, 1860

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

Can you furnish me with a few specimens of each kind of postage stamp that you ever made, either for circulation or as mere patterns - not including those now in circulation?

Very respectfully,
Yr Obt Servt
A.N. Zevely

Philada. June 25th 1860.

A.N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst P.M. General,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 21st inst is rec'd and in reply thereto we would respectfully state that we have no designs for Postage Stamps other than those formally adopted by the Department and now in circulation. The two carriers' stamps, viz: Head of Franklin and Eagle - were deemed unnecessary; and the former was not used while the latter was used only as city Postage in Cincinnati. Impressions of both of these were forwarded to you on the 4th inst. Our original designs, having been prepared with much care and in due accordance with instructions, were adopted for circulation and hence there has been no occasion for drawings and engravings beyond these --

We have the honor to inclose an impression of the new Thirty Cents rate which we hope will be found perfectly satisfactory. We deem it the handsomest stamp gotten up, while striking and valuable distinctions are shown from the others now printed. Indeed, we recommend earnestly the propriety and advantage of printing it in black whereby the contrasts are made stronger and beauty of the engraving better defined. The Twelve Cent stamp now printed in black is so different in design that there can be little or no danger in confounding it with the inclosed specimen which we think unmistakable. We have taken the liberty of altering the original drawing somewhat, so as to introduce the numerals "30" at the bottom in place of the word "Cents"; which change will, we sincerely hope, meet with the approbation of the Post Master General, as it is undoubtedly a great improvement, adding to the distinctive character of the stamp while its artistic beauty and finish are enhanced - We hope to have a plate of this new denomination ready for the press early next week.

The design for the Ninety Cents stamp is progressing as rapidly as possible; and we hope, in the course of a few days, to submit it for examination and approval - Having the best talent and skill employed in its preparation, we shall be much disappointed if it will not favorably bear the most trying comparison with any stamp yet issued.

Very Resptfly
Your Obt Servts
Toppam, Carpenter & Co.

June 25, 1860

Topham Carpenter & Co

Enclosing a
new 30 ct. Postage stamp in black
which color is strongly recommended
The design for the 90 Cent
Stamp is progressing, hope in
a few days to submit it
for examination & approval

The statements that the Franklin and Eagle Carriers were deemed unnecessary is not entirely accurate.

Philadelphia, June 26th 1860.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. General.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Upon further consideration of your favor of the 21st inst we deem it possible that your inquiry has reference, perhaps, to specimens of Stamps of the same rates as those now used. Of these there are several which bear more or less resemblance to the designs adopted by the Dep't., but they were never taken up and transferred to plates. The original bed pieces, in a more or less finished condition, have been carefully packed away in our private vault, but we will, of course, be happy to furnish you with a few proofs of them taken as soon as possible.

We have now the honor to submit inclosed a proof impression of the finished new Thirty Cents Stamp of which an imperfect dry impression was sent you yesterday. It is certainly much handsomer and superior to any known to us, and we trust the Department will recognize therein our earnest desire and perfect ability to preserve the good opinion which it has been our happiness to obtain in the past.

Very Respectfully,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

June 26, 1860

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
June 26, '60

Enclosed Proof impression of the
finished new 30 Cent Stamps.
Will furnish specimens from old
Bed Pieces more or less finished
in private vault, but never
transferred to plates

June 27, 1860

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

Your letter of 26th instant with inclosed specimen of a "30 cents" stamp, is received.

I have submitted the new stamp to the Postmaster General, and have the pleasure to state that I meets with his approval.

Please notify me when you will be ready to fill orders.

Very respectfully,
Yr Obt Servt
A.N. Zevely

This was a die proof of the 30c stamp, based on the 6/28/60 letter.

Philada. June 28th, 1860.

A.N. Zevely, Esq
3rd Asst. P.M. General
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 27th inst is duly rec'd; and we are very happy to learn that the Post Master General approves of the new Thirty Cents stamp. We are now transferring a plate of this denomination and hope to submit a proof impression for examination of the 2nd prox. The Post Master General can then decide upon our recommendation that the stamp be printed in black.

Inclosed we have the honor to send you four impressions of designs originally made for the Three Cent Plate; but laid aside for that now in circulation. We think the large head of Washington very fine and striking. The whole size of the engraving is larger than the size adopted; but the oval wherein the head is engraved is of the same dimensions as that inclosing the Franklin head of the One Cent rate. The other head, with the three different frames, was objected to, if we remember rightly, on the score of its smallness - You will understand that no plates are transferred of these designs; nor are these impressions as perfect as first proofs. They may serve your purpose, however, as expressed in your favor of the 21st inst - In this hope we remain.

Very Respfly
Yr Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
June 28, 1860

Enclosing four impressions of Designs
originally made for 3 Cent Plate
but laid aside for that now in circulation—

These four designs are pictured in Chase (page xx? And Piller catalogue). See also TCC letter dated 4/23/51.

Philada. June 29th, 1860.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. Post Master General,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 28th inclosing a discolored stamp, is duly rec'd; and we reply at once to its contents.

We explain the discoloration by a process of accidental or intentional sweating, washing or chemical action. The stamp was never issued by us in this condition. The most scrupulous care is taken in examining every printed sheet; and three different persons count and supervise it. The Chief Printer examines each impression most closely. All impressions when properly dried are counted, examined and passed to a second man who counts and delivers them to the Chief Gummer. From the gumming room they are returned to undergo another rigorous examination. They are then perforated and afterwards again most scrupulously examined ere being packed ready for delivery. How any stamp, presenting so marked a difference and imperfection when contrasted with others, can triumphantly suffer these continued investigations and pass unchallenged, is very difficult for us to understand at all. The surmise, expressed in ours of June 28th, 1859, we have never considered the true explanation of the discoloration then referred to. This explanation is doubtless to be found in accidental or, possibly, intentional outside influences. There were but three or four sheets printed on the occasion mentioned; and, when the fault was descried, a clean cloth was immediately substituted and all the imperfect impressions destroyed.

Is it known whence the inclosed stamp came? We observe that it is placed on an envelope and sent to the Post Master of New York, and with a note, perhaps, drawing his attention to it. Can it be traced? We would be very happy to learn its history; for we are convinced that it left our manufactory in a perfect condition. Was the fellow-stamp to which you refer derived from the source? We have, in the course of twelve months seen but five of these stamps (submitted to us by the Dept.), and while mere chance has probably caused their discoloration, we would most gladly embrace any opportunity of obtaining sure information thereon. We are certainly deeply interested in protecting the Dept. from even the most inconsiderable cause of complaint; and we honestly believe that, as far as an earnest desire to please combined with experience and knowledge can avail, there is little or nothing left undone to fulfil our duty in our relations with the Government.

We beg you to find inclosed the imperfect stamp.

Very Resptfly,
Your Obt Servts.,
TOPPAN, CARPENTER & CO.

Postage Stamps issued for the year ending 30th June 1860

Quarter	1	3	5	10	12	24	30	90	\$
Sept. '59	9,508,500	34,044,400	97,860	657,760	287,775				1,221,499
Decr. '59	12,769,700	40,515,100	188,880	879,000	377,475				1,485,791
Mar. '60	13,909,900	40,616,400	119,460	1,210,760	463,750				1,540,290
June '60	14,535,300	44,291,700	173,160	1,150,930	524,500	52,350			1,673,359
	50,723,400	159,463,600	579,360	3,898,450	1,653,500	52,350			5,920,939
								1959	<u>5,279,405</u>
									\$ 641,534
								Dec	<u>32,751.15</u>
								env.	
								Agg	\$608,781.85
								r.	
								Incr.	

Philada July 2nd 1860

A.N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. Post Master General
Washington, D.C.
Dear Sir:

We have the honor of submitting inclosed part of a proof sheet of the new thirty cents stamp. We inclose also an impression (half sheet) of the Twelve Cents plate that the Postmaster General may contrast the two and decide upon the propriety of printing the Thirty Cents in black.

We have sought to make a distinct design that the mere distinction of color might be unnecessary; and we now await the orders of the Post Master General in favor of our suggestion that black should be used. However, we will be happy in any case to carry out his wishes.

Very Resptfly
Yr. Obt Servts
Toppam, Carpenter & Co.

July 2, 1860
Topham Carpenter & Co

Enclosing proof sheet of 12 cts
Stamps & half Do. of 30 Do
for P M Genl. to decide if 30 ct
Stamps shall be printed in Black

answd. July 3d

This part sheet of the 30c stamp is in black (see Scott's number xx). The half sheet of the 12c stamp is now doubt from plate 2 (earliest known usage was 12/3/59), see Scott's number yy.

July 3, 1860

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

The Postmaster General, relying upon the distinct design for the 30 cents stamp, as obviating the necessity of a distinctive color, and approves your suggestion to print them in black.

The chief objection to this color arises from the greater difficulty of cancelling them.

Very respectfully
Yr Obt Servt
A.N. Zevely

Philada. July 9th 1860

A.N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst P.M. General
Washington D.C.

Sir:

We have the honor to inclose a proof impression of the new Ninety Cents Stamp which is respectfully submitted for the approval of the Post Master General.

We have sought to present as striking a difference in this design from the others as could be well introduced in a drawing of such certain fixed dimensions; but, aside from the novel frame, the style of the head is very dissimilar from any yet engraved by us -

While we sincerely believe that it would be very difficult to surpass so beautiful a specimen of the engraving art, we have, by unremitting efforts, been enable to present the stamps at a much earlier hour than we had originally deemed possible -

If the stamp should happily meet with approval, we will at once transfer a plate, and print it in various colors to be submitted for selection.

Very Resptfly
Yr Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
9 July 1860

specimen of ninety
Cents stamps (90)
Genl. Washington in uniform

Philada. July 11th 1860

A.N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst PostMaster General
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

We are reluctantly obliged to stop printing the thirty cent stamp until further advice from the Post Master General. We find that the objection to black, arising from the difficulty of canceling the stamp, is likely to prove more serious than at first apprehended; and in order to give you a definite idea of that difficulty we inclose a half sheet of the denomination specified. The body of color is deeper and more generally diffused than is advantageous for cancellation -

We believe that the inclosed buff tint could be more advantageously printed than any hue of yellow; and canceling such a stamp would be easy and thorough. We have printed already a large number in black but we will readily submit to the loss in case the PostMaster General sees proper to order the buff color in its place - In such a case we can readily print the ninety cent in black if it be acceptable, as we suppose the use of this rate will be comparatively limited.

Very Respectfully
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

Toppan & Carpenter
Phila. July 11/60

Specimen of 30 ct Stamps

answd 13th

Have stopped printing the
30 Cent Stamps in black
on account of difficulty of
cancellation.

Have enclosed 2 sheets
Black & Buff for examination
recommend the Buff

July 11, 1860

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Philadelphia,
Penn'a.

Sirs:

I have submitted to the Postmaster General, the proof impression of the new ninety cents stamp, (enclosed with your letter of 9th instant) and while approving of the general style and finish, - as presenting a striking difference from other stamps - and also presuming that the likeness of Washington may be accurately copied from portraits taken in early life, yet, he thinks it would not be generally recognised, and would, therefore, prefer the features which are more familiar to the public, - similar to those in the three cent stamps.

The Postmaster General would be glad to see preserved the "dress" portion of the engraving. He also authorizes me to say that he would regret subjecting you to much expense in changing the face, as suggested, and that he hopes it may possibly be effected without engraving anew the entire stamp.

Could you prominently introduce the figures "90", and also similarly change the "24" cents stamps?

Very respectfully, your obt servt
A.N. Zevely.

Philada. July 12th, 1860

A.N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst Post Master General
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Your favor of the 11th inst is duly rec'd and contents noted.

We regret exceedingly to learn that the Postmaster General does not entirely approve of the new Ninety Cents Stamp; and we beg to submit a few words in explanation of the strong reasons which induced us to select this design. The Head of Washington is copied most accurately from Trumbull's celebrated picture; and when we inform you that the portrait was first reduced by the daguerreotype process and then engraved, you will at once understand that it is impossible to obtain a more perfect facsimile of the original than we have made. This renowned portrait is, as you are no doubt aware, esteemed one of the finest likenesses painted of Washington; and exhibits him in the character which was so emphatically his peculiar glory - that of Commander of the American Forces. There is probably no portrait of this illustrious man more generally known and copied throughout the country than this of Trumbull - Oil copies,, mezzo-tints &c. in variety attest to its general acceptance - We assure the Post Master General most emphatically that we were principally induced to select this design in consequence of its being not only an authentic likeness but one very familiar to the public at large. We suggest respectfully that the head on the Three cents stamp owes wide-spread recognition to the immense circulation which the stamp itself has throughout the country. The original is even now, we sincerely believe, known but to a limited number of artists and amateurs. It is therefore strongly urged that the ninety cents design, copied from a well known picture, will have little or no difficulty in being at once designated -

We think that the Post Master General, upon examining the Three Cents stamp, will immediately perceive the palpable incongruity, nay, the impossibility of adding the "dress" of the 90 cents design - viz. epaulettes &c., to a mere profile, medallion view of Washington. It would be, certainly, a very unhappy combination of the modern uniform and the antique bust - We regret to say that the alteration suggested would necessitate the engraving of an entirely new stamp. Any change would mar the beauty and general harmony of the design -

Although we have been subjected necessarily to a very heavy expense in preparing this stamp, we would feel much more hesitation in respectfully and earnestly urging a reconsideration of the Post Master General's views, if our own strong opinion in favor of the stamp were not powerfully supported by the first artists who have had an opportunity of examining the proof impression. We trust therefore that we may be acquitted of any mere personally selfish interest when we submit the matter once more to the Post Master General -

If, in your question touching the Twenty Four Cents stamp, you desire the introduction of the figures "24" in the design, we reply that they may be entered in ovals in the corners of the frame work. This will necessitate a new die, and an entirely new plate, while we think the appearance of the stamps will not be at all improved. We would moreover state respectfully that to prepare fully to meet the large demand for these stamps, amtg to several millions as you conjectured, we must already printed over four millions. The printing has been immediately stopped on receipt of your favor of yesterday (11th inst) but the demand has been so small that our present supply will suffice for a very long period, should no increase occur - If the Post Master General alter the stamp now, the large amount on hand will be a severe and entire loss to us -

We have the honor to inclose a more carefully dried proof of the 90 Cent Stamp.

Very Resptfly
Yr Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
July 12/60

Regrets the P M Genl. does not
approve the new 90 Ct. Stamp
daguerotyped from Trumbulls painting
Impossibility of adding the Dress
of the 90 Ct. Stamp to the 3 Cent
Stamp now in use
Prays the P M Gen to reconsider
& withdraw his objections

Answd 13 Jul

July 13, 1860

Messrs Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Philadelphia,
Penn'a

Sirs:

yours of the 11th instant is received.

It is well to adopt the buff instead of the black color, for the thirty cent stamps; though I hope you may be able to infuse a more lively tint than appears in the specimen submitted by you.

The black will not do for the ninety cent stamps. Can you not prepare a delicate pink which would look well, and be at once distinguishable from all other colors in use?

After considering your letter of yesterday, the Postmaster General withdraws his objections to the likeness of Washington, in the ninety cent stamp, although still inclined to differ with you as to its popular recognition.

He did not suggest, (as you say) "adding the 'dress' of the ninety cents design, by epaulettes, &c. to a mere profile medallion view of Washington", but simply the preservation of a likeness to that of the three cent stamps.

Very respectfully, your obt servt
A.N. Zevely.

P.S. Unless the demand should materially increase, do not strike off any more of the 24 cents stamps at present.

A.N.Z.

Philadelphia, July 14th 1860.

A.N. Zevely Esq.,
3rd Asst Postmaster General.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

We have the honor to acknowledge your favor of the 13th inst.

Your instructions with regard to a more lively tint of buff than that submitted to you have our best attention.

We will also endeavour to produce a pink such as you recommend for the Ninety Cents Stamp. The principal difficulty in these delicate shades lies in their fugitive nature, and a color which looks well in printing fades sometimes quickly in drying and exposure. Still we believe your wishes can be satisfactorily met.

We are very happy to learn that the Postmaster General has kindly reconsidered and withdrawn his former objections to the ninety cent design, for we believe most sincerely that it embraces every requisite of beauty, accuracy and appropriateness which he so justly requires. A plate shall be prepared at once and samples of colors submitted.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
July 14, 1860

Are gratified that P M Gen
has reconsidered & withdrawn
his objections to 90 Cent Stamp
Instructions relative
to Buff color for 30¢
stamps & pink for 90¢
can be met

Philadelphia, July 16th 1860.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. Postmaster General.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

We have the honor to inclose twenty stamps of the 30 Cents rate printed in the orange buff which we purpose using henceforth if approved by the Postmaster General.

You have desired a more lively tint than that submitted by us on the 11th inst., and we have found that all yellow buffs are open to the objection which arises from a want of brilliancy and effect. This orange buff prints clearly, as you may observe, and, while distinct from both the red and brown stamps, does not resemble too much the ordinary yellow tint of envelopes. It can also be readily effaced.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Jul. 16 '60

sends specimen of 30¢ stamps
"Orange buff" instead of pale buff

Answd 18

Post Office Department
July 18, 1860.

Gentln.

Your letter of 16th inst. with enclosures is received.

Relying much on your own good taste and judgment as to colors, the Postmaster General approves the "orange buff" which you propose for the 30¢ stamps and begs that you will hasten their delivery.

Very Respectfully,
Yr Obt Servt
A.N. Zevely,
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

Messrs Toppan, Casilear & Co.
Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, July 30th, 1860.

A.N. Zevely Esq.,
3rd Asst. Postmaster General.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that we will be prepared to deliver the new Thirty Cents Stamps tomorrow to the amount of Two hundred and eighty thousand, and henceforth as the Department may require.

We have been earnestly endeavoring to obtain a pink tint for the "90" cents, and trust to be able to forward you tomorrow a satisfactory sample. This color is exceedingly difficult to get to print well.

Very Respectfully,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

Toppan Carpenter & Co
July 30—1860

Post. Stamps

30¢ stamps ready

Aug 2 '60 P. M.s below
noted written to

[cannot read list, in pencil, except for
Phila., N.O, Cinc. & Chicago]

Philadelphia, Aug. 1st 1860.

Sir:

We have the honor to inclose samples of colors marked from No. 1 to No. 9 inclusive. The impressions are taken on stamp paper and present the appearance which they would have in circulation. Proofs on india paper would be of course much finer and more brilliant and might therefore mislead you to expect the same delicacy and brightness of hue in the circulating stamps.

We have spared no effort to produce a good pink and Nos. 1 & 2 are the best obtained. You will observe that these light red colors do not give the effect which a deeper tint will present. We suggest Nos. 1, 2, 6, 7, & 8 as most worth of examination. No. 7 is the handsomest of them all and gives the most decided effect to the engraving. Though a blue it differs considerably in appearance from the One Cent Stamp while the form and character of the stamp itself are utterly distinct.

We will be pleased to hear from you at your early convenience.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

A.N. Zevely Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.
Washington, D.C.

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Aug 1, 1860

Specimens of 90¢
stamps in 10 difft colors

Adopted Blue Aug 3d/60

(POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
August 2, 1860.)

John A Dix, Esq.
Postmaster,
New York

Sir:

I have directed 10,000 of the thirty-cent stamps to be sent to your office. The ninety cent stamps will be ready in a few days.

Please inform em what number of the latter you desire to be supplied with.

Very respectfully your obt. svt.
A.N. Zevely
(Third Asst. P.M. General.)

August 2, 1860.
Same letter to:

	<u>30¢</u>
Philadelphia, Pa.	8,000
Cincinnati, Ohio	5,000
St. Louis, Missouri	5,000
New Orleans, La.	5,000
Boston, Mass.	5,000
Baltimore, Md.	5,000
Chicago, Ill.	5,000

Philadelphia, August 3rd, 1860.

Sir:

Your telegraphic message was duly received, and, having obtained from Mr. Johnson the amount of the Chicago order, the stamps were put up immediately and forwarded as usual.

We have the pleasure to submit a sample of Pink color which is, we suppose, more in accordance with your wishes than any of those forwarded the 1st inst.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

A.N. Zevely Esq.,
3rd Asst. Postmaster Gen'l.
Washington, D.C.

Augt 3, 1860
Topham Carpenter & Co

Submits a sample of
Pink Color

This Chicago order referred to above may be for the 30c stamp, see letter dated 8/2/60.

Washington, D.C.
August 3d 1860.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

Your letter of 1st instant, enclosing samples of colors for 90¢ stamps is received.

Yielding to your suggestion, the Postmaster General adopts the blue color.

I regret that the 24¢ stamps are without figures - the lettering being found indistinct, - and should like to know the cost of changing the die and plate.

When can the 90¢ stamps be ready?

Very respectfully, yr., obt. svt.
A.N. Zevely.
Third Assistant P.M. General.

Philadelphia Aug. 4th 1860.

Sir:

Your favor of the 3rd inst is duly received and its contents have our attention.

We are pleased to learn that the Postmaster General has adopted the blue color for the 90¢ stamps. In our opinion it is preferable to all the others. The introduction of the figures 24 in the stamp of that denomination can be effected, necessitating, however, a new die and plate. Though this change would be attended with considerable expense, our principal loss will be in the large number of these stamps, amounting to more than three millions, which we have printed in readiness for a supposed heavy demand. We believe that our contract with the Department calls upon us to furnish any new Stamp without cost, and we are prepared to obey any instructions which you deem advisable to give touching this stamp. Our desire is to give entire satisfaction.

We will be prepared to furnish about 300,000, 90 cents stamp on the 13th inst.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst P.M. Gen'l.
Washington, D.C.

Augt 4, 1860
Topham Carpenter & Co

are pleased that P M Genl
has adopted Blue for the
90 Ct. Postage Stamps
Can insert figures 24 in
24 Cent Stamps necessitating a
new die & causing a great
loss of 3 mills. Now on hand

[Printed Notice]

IMPORTANT TO POSTMASTERS AND THE PUBLIC

We are requested to publish the following important regulation for the information of the public as well as postmasters. It interests every citizen of the United States:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, OCT. 8, 1860.

Whereas by and Act of 3d March 1855, the postage upon all letters, except such as are entitled to pass free, between places in the United States, is required to be pre-paid; and whereas the Department, through courtesy, has hitherto, at considerable labor and expense notified the parties addressed, in all instances in which the writers failed to prepay, that their letters would be forwarded on receiving the postage due thereon; and whereas, instead of diminishing, the number of such letters continues to increase, thus showing that the omission to prepay is intentional; it is, therefore, ordeered, that from and after the first day of November, 1860, all such unpaid letters be sent to the dead letter office, to be disposed of in like manner as other dead letters.

J. HOLT

Postmaster General.

St. Paul, Minnesota
Feb'y 1 1861

B.N. CLEMENTS Esq
Chf. Clk. P. O. Dept.

Sir,

Pursuant to instructions of Third Asst. P. M. Genl. I have during the past month visited the principal post offices in Wisconsin, Iowa, North Illinois, and Minnesota—for the purpose of counting the Stamps and stamped envelopes on hand in each. This duty consumed the entire month excepting six days I was at home—two of them engaged in Correspondence, the other four laid up from the effects of a bad cold.

Enclosed please find my account for month of January.

Respectfully
Your obdt. Sv't.
James Orr
Spl. Agt. P.O.D.

St. Paul Minn.
Feby. 1 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq
Third Asst. P.M. Genl.

Sir,

I am generally informed by postmasters that the paper boxes, in which small amounts of postage Stamps are sent out, are very liable to be broken in the handling of the mail pouches—I myself have noticed such to be the case in many instances—I would respectfully recommend the substitution of strong linen lined envelopes secured with a seal. I have requested postmasters at separating offices to take the number and address of all packages for offices on the routes supplied from their offices.

For the last month's a/c would you please send me a Try. Draft on N.Y.?

Respectfully, your Ob. Svt.
James Orr
Spl. Agt.

Philada. Feby 8, 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq
Third Asst. Post Mr. Genl.

Dear Sir

Your favor of 6th inst. is recd. We beg you to accept our thanks for calling our attention to the matters to which you refer, and to be assured that every effort in our power shall be directed to the correction of the defects pointed out—We employ an experienced Machinest whose whole time is (or ought to be) devoted to the keeping of our perforating Machines in good order (by the Substitution of New punches in lieu of such as become broken or worn) and we had supposed that he performed his duty faithfully—The action of the Machines is such as to break and wear out the punches rapidly, and it requires constant vigilance to discover the defects and renew the punches as they become injured—It is probable that our man may not have been as watchful as he ought to have been, (altho he has been in our employ for many years, and we have always esteemed him competent, industrious & reliable)—

We have shown him your letter in order that he may fully understand the necessity for redoubled care, and we trust that

[line of text missing]

English Stamps (herein returned) is perfect, yet it can scarcely be assumed that all their Stamps are equally perfect, and perhaps if you could see a number of Sheets together, yu would find many that were not more perfect than ours—

With regard to the other defect to which you refer, Viz—"that the lines of perforation sometimes run too close to the edges of the Stamps and even into them"—we beg to say that with all the care that it is possible to exert, this defect cannot always be prevented, as you will easily conceive when you are aware that the Slightest movement of the Sheet out of the precise position it must occupy when placed on the Machine, will affect the direction of the perforation of the whole sheet—We will however enjoin additional care on the part of the perforators and will do all that we can to meet your wishes & give satisfaction.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Feb. 8, 1861

Return specimens
of English postage Stamps
sent them 6th inst. & promise
to be more careful in the
work of perforation.

P.. O. St. Paul Minn.
Feby 1—7 PM

A. N. Zevely Esq
Third Asst. P.M. Genl.

Sir,

The mail is just in from the East—I saw emptied from one of the pouches a small box of Stamps for the office at Cold Spring in this State. One of the edges was completely burst open, but the package inside is all right.

Mr. Terry, Chf. Clk. In this office, says that more than half of such packages come just so.

I wrote you late last night, for this mng's mail, on the subject of these packages.

Respectfully
Your obdt. Svt.
James Orr

[pencil notation at top: "Send copy to Toppan Carpenter & Co, Philada.]

Philada Feby 9th 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq
Third Asst. P.M. Genl.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Your esteemed favor of the 7th inst is duly rec'd; and the communication therein contained from Jas. Orr, Esq, Special Agent, commands our earnest attention.

These very Envelope boxes have been the subject of especial care and enquiry with us; and we have sought to obtain as perfect an article as possible which would combine all the essential requisites of strength, capacity, smallness in bulk and lightness. Those now used have been on trial about three years, and we do not candidly think that a superior article can be manufactured. They are pasted up with the utmost care, and, should any defect appear, are put aside for others without blemish. The same manufacturer supplies us as heretofore; and, as far as our own examination extended, we have no reason to suppose that the materials are at all inferior in quality to the best obtainable.

We beg you to take into consideration the very severe treatment which these boxes receive in the mails. The post bags are thrown down and aside with an utter disregard of their contents, and we believe sincerely that scarcely anything but iron could stand the usage received in journies of thousands of miles from all the modes of transportation rendered necessary.

We are happy to observe that Mr Orr states that the "pckge inside was all right;" as security of the stamps is the most important consideration.

We thank you for drawing our attention to thjis matter and will make every effort to remedy the evil as far as possible; but we must, at the same time, honestly observe that our long experience and most earnest desire to have everything as perfect as it can be made, suggest to us no better security than is now given in the transportation of the stamps.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Philada Feby 12, 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq
Third Asst. P.M. Genl.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Your esteemed favor of the 9th inst is duly rec'd; and the suggestion of Mr Orr has induced us to consider deeply the means of remedy for the breaking of the boxes.

We are inclined to think that "linen or muslin lined envelopes" would not prove as advantageous as appears at first. Such envelopes would render the stamps within sensible of all external pressure. They would be twisted and doubled and, receiving the same abuse as the boxes, would be less able to withstand it—

How would it answer to cover the boxes with strong muslin or linen? It seems that this would guarantee them from broken or burst open edges. We are having samples constructed to submit for your examination. At any rate, we will leave nothing untried to attain the desired end.

Very Respectfully Your Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Philada Feby 27th 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq
Third Asst. P.M. General
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

We have the honor to transmit herewith Eight Proof Sheets of the Denominations of Stamps and also Eight gummed and perforated Sheets of the same denominations now used by the Post Office Department—

We have sent you the proofs that you may exercise your judgment between them and the ordinary impressions in deciding which you deem preferable to forward to the Sardinian Government.

Trusting the impressions may be satisfactory we remain

Very Resptfly
Yr Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

These proof sheets would likely have included the 1c, 3c, 5c, 10c, 12c, 24c, 30c, 90c, and probably account for known plate proofs (see Scotts numbers xx)

Philada. April 23rd 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

In the event of the obstructions to travel being such as to prevent our reaching Washington on or before the 30th inst., will you have the kindness to advise us what course will be necessary for us to pursue, and you may rely upon out adopting it?

Very Resptfly
Yr Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Apr. 23, 1861

as to bids, in the event
that travel continues to
be obstructed

answd 27 Apr.

Newark N.J. April 25th/61

Dear Sir

We send these proposals without the models which together with specimens of boxes, we will forward to the Department by our agent, as soon as the route is open between this city and Washington. We will make stamps of any size or design required by the department.

Very truly yours
J. W. Hayes for the
U. B. N. Co

3d Asst P. M. General

Post Office Department
May 11, 1861

Gentlemen:

Please report the actual numbers of postage Stamps of each denomination now on hand.

If you have not certainly a full quarter's supply, dating from this time, and estimating on the quantity furnished for the quarter ended 31 March last, you will, I presume, readily make up such supply.

You will oblige me by furnishing, if convenient, specimens of the various forms of your accounts of paper and stamps.

Very respectfully,
your obt. Svt
A. N. Zevely
3d Asst. P. M. Genl.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia,
Pa

No 1
A. N. Zevely
3d A. P. M. Gn
to
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
May 11, 1861.

Asking for account of
Stamps on hand and
for Specimens

Philada. May 13, 1861.

A. N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 11th inst is rec'd. In reply we beg to state that we have now on hand

10,950,947	Stamps	of	1 Cent
39,313,744	do		3 "
397,805	do		5 "
837,685	do		10 "
689,060	do		12 "
2,736,375	do		24 "
188,460	do		30 "
176,520	do		90 "
In all	55,290,596	Stamps.	

We have stopped all our presses and shall not print any more Stamps unless you should desire a further supply of any one or more of the denominations, in which case, by your giving us immediate notice, we will have them printed.

You ask us to furnish "specimens of the various "forms" of your (our) accounts of paper and stamps"—As these "forms" are the result of our experience for the long period of Ten years, and have cost us much labor and thought in perfecting and adapting to this particular business, you will, we are sure, excuse us for declining to give the benefit of all our labor and experience to those who are about to attempt the performance of the duties heretofore fulfilled by us.

With the highest appreciation of the kindness and courtesy which have always characterized your intercourse with us both officially and personally, and begging you to be assured of our most sincere respect and esteem.

We are Very Respectfully
Yr Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Postage Stamps
May 13, 1861.

55,290,596

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
will print no more without
Special orders.

It is unclear if TCC printed any additional stamps after this date. This supply may have lasted until August 14, 1861.

Philada. June 22nd 1861

A. N. Zevely Esqr
3rd Asst. Postmaster Gen'l.

Dear Sir,

Our contract having expired, and the period approaching when we presume our relations with the Department will cease, we beg respectfully to ask what disposition the Postmaster General desires us to make of the Stamps now on hand and ready for delivery—If it is his wish that we shall continue to make daily deliveries to the Agent of the Department on your order as heretofore, until the new Contractors are ready to assume the same duties, we will cheerfully do so, and deliver them in bulk to said Contractors, or to the Department at Washington (as we may be directed) the balance of Stamps remaining in our hands—

You will much oblige us by a reply at your earliest convenience, as it is a matter of some importance to know about the length of time we may need the use of our present premises—

Very respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
June 22, 1861

Asks for orders as to
disposition of Stamps
on hand

Answered June 25, 1861

directed to continue to
deliver to the agent till
further advised

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
Finance Office June 25th, 1861

Gentlemen,

Your letter of the 22nd instant has been received.

In reply I have to inform you that the Department does not contemplate any immediate change in the distribution of postage stamps. It is desired therefore that you will continue, as heretofore, to deliver them to the Agent of the Department, until further advised by this Office.

You will be duly informed to the disposal to be made of the balance of stamps remaining in your hands.

Very respectfully,
Your Obedt Servant,
A.N. Zevely
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Philadelphia Pa.

P.S. Of course (your contract being ended) you may cease delivering, at such time as may [the original mss does not contain this partial PS, tho the typed Travers cc does]

[Printed Circular]

Post Office department,
FINANCE OFFICE,
_____, 1861.

SIR:

Your order for stamps and stamped envelopes has been received and temporarily suspended, as a new style of stamps and envelopes will be ready for circulation by the 1st August; but if your present supply be not sufficient until that time, you will please notify this office.

You are directed to order immediately such number of stamps and stamped envelopes as, upon a careful estimate, you may deem a sufficient supply for four months.

State also the gross amount of postage which accrued at the office in the preceding quarter.

The name of the post office, county, and State, should be plainly written at the head of all orders.

The orders should be signed by the postmasters themselves, unless necessarily absent or sick, when the assistant may sign, placing the postmaster's name ABOVE his own, as directed in chapter 19, section 256a, of the Regulations.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. N. ZEVELY,
Third Assistant Postmaster General.

Postmaster.

Philada Aug 15, 1861

Jonathan Guest Esq
Special Agent
P. O. Dept.

Dear Sir:

I am much surprised to find that our envelopes on hand amt to about 90,000—large and small. This is to be explained by the fact that when we made our last purchase we had a surplus on hand of several thousands, and the manufacturer sent us over 7,000 beyond our order. sequent use of Envelopes was not as great as we had anticipated; hence this large surplus on our hands. In view of this material increase over the number authorized by you as subject to the order of the Department, I hesitate to forward the whole amt. to New York until definitely advised by you.

I may add however that these envelopes cost us about \$750.00 but we will dispose of them to the Department for \$500—If this meet with yr approbation please advise us. We will in any event be governed by your wishes.

Very Resptfly
Jos. R. Carpenter
of Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

No. 8.

Philada. Aug. 15th, 1861.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl.,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

We have this day forwarded to Washington, as per directions of Mr. Guest, Ten Boxes & Five Bags containing as follows: via:

4,000,000	Stamps of One Cent
10,050,000	" " Three "

being first delivery of the balance of stamps in our possession. Tomorrow we will forward the remainder, together with a final account of specifications.

Very Respectfully,
Yr Obt Servts.,
TOPPAN, CARPENTER & CO.

Aggregate No. of stamps furnished by T.C. & Co., up to removal of agency (15th Aug.) (during 3d qr. 1861)
11,710,845.

Philada. Aug. 15th, 1861.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.,
Washington, D.C.
Dear Sir:

The Philadelphia Stamp Agency having been closed, we delivered yesterday, (14th inst.) in accordance with instructions from Mr. Guest, Special Agent, to the Treasurer of the Mint in this city, the Stamp plates, rolls and dies in our possession belonging to the Government; and we hold the proper receipt therefor.

It has been our custom, during our Contract with the Department, to keep a few months' surplus supply of stamps in order that no interruption in our business or machinery arising from accident should interfere with our regular deliveries; and because the stamps are improved by being seasoned somewhat after printing and gumming.

Last Autumn we waited on the Department to ascertain what action would be taken with this surplus in case the contract on its expiration with us should be transferred to other parties. We understood then distinctly that the Government would accept the Stamps. On several subsequent interviews with yourself the subject was introduced, and always with the same understandings on our part. We were also addressed by you in writing on the 11th May last, and requested to have "certainly a full quarter's supply, dating from this (that) time, and estimating on the quantity furnished for the quarter ended 31st March last." We replied on the 13th of the same month (May) stating that we had on hand 55,290,596 Stamps. Permitting the printers to finish a few hundred sheets of paper remaining on their several accounts, we discontinued immediately all further printing - having a surplus about equal to the amount called for by your instructions.

Since that date (13th May) certain deliveries have been made leaving now a balance all told of 27,931,912.

We need hardly add that we were induced to furnish these stamps with the clear understanding that the Department would accept them in accordance with the terms of our contract. Aware, however, of the decreased demand for stamps, and feeling that all good citizens should make sacrifices in behalf of the Government at this moment of severe pressure upon its resources, we are willing to withdraw our equitable claim for the full amount due us, and submit respectfully that we will be content to dispose of the stock in our possession at the rate of Twelve Cents per thousand instead of Sixteen and a half cents as called for by our contract. This is a very serious discount, and one that we had not at all anticipated; and we trust therefore that the Department will appreciate the motive which induces us to make it.

Very Respectly Yr Obt Servts.,
TOPPAN, CARPENTER & CO.

Clear statement that TCC discontinued printing after 5/13/61, and used inventory on hand to fill orders.

Philada. Aug 16th 1861

Sir:

Your telegraphic message of the 13th inst. was not rec'd, through the error of the Telegraph Co., until yesterday, the 15th inst.

Your favor of the 15th inst. is at hand. Our Stock of Envelopes owing to a miscalculation of one of our employees is indeed very large. Indeed, it is about 90,000 instead of 40,000! Mr. Guest accepted the latter number at cost price: and you express great dissatisfaction at his having done so. We can only state that in taking them down for examination and packing, we discovered yesterday the error of calculation and immediately informed Mr. Guest by letter (addressed to New York where he is at present) offering however to dispose of our full stock at \$500—the envelopes having originally cost over \$750. In view however of your strongly expressed objections we now offer them for \$450, this being fully fifty per cent less than their cost to us. They are of the best make and material, and admirably adapted for the use of the Department. In view of the very great discount made by us on the Stamp A/c we hope that this proposition will meet with your approval.

Very Respectfully Yr Obt Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

A. N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst P. M. Genl.
Washington D.C.

Will you please advise us by Telegraph as they are all packed and ready for immediate transportation. Very Resp &c

T. C. & Co

[Answd/Aug 17.]

New York,
16th Aug. 1861

Dear Sir:

I have rec'd. your telegram & letter of 15th Inst: I send inclosed a letter from Tn. Carpenter & Co. stating the amount of envelopes now in their hands to be about 90,000 large & small, which they propose to the Dept. to take at \$500, cost \$750. I have answered, declining to receive this additional quantity, and that their proposition was referred to you. The new Contractors will take the whole of these envelopes at the price of \$500 if you approve of it. The losses to the Dept. were so small from damaged stamps, packed in these envelopes, that I really think the matter worthy of consideration. The discount on Surplus Stamps in the hands of T. C. & Co. amounts to nearly \$1200, at the rate of 16 ½ Cents per M, which they were entitled to, in my private opinion, also that the Dept. owes them a similar liberal action to that they have practiced towards it, this is of course an unofficial expression of a friends opinion. Mr. Steele the old clerk of T. C. & Co. has charge of the Stamps under the New Contractor, so that this in good hands. The new distribution has commenced on a Stock of over five millions of 3 Cent Stamps and others in proportion. They are employing two Sets of hands and Striking off one Million daily & perforating 800,000. Both these quantities will soon be increased and they have promised me to press the work until they have fifty Millions surplus stock.

On Mr Boyd I have delicately enjoined Strict & Constant personal attention to his duties which he sees the necessity of, and have advised a Simple plan by which you will be advised daily of the Stock on hand and distributed.

Mr. Clark says he has sent to Phila. The corrected list of the prices of the Stamped envelopes, and that the notices to Washn. Balt. & Wilmington were Sent on the fourth of the promise of the Contractor that the supply would be ready on Saturday.

To the other points of your letter respecting the mailing, registration &c of Stamped envelopes & stamps I shall pay proper attention.

No order for envelopes has been received today & the Stamp order has just gone over to the Agent, having been by a mistake in the Post Office, placed in Mr. Clark's mail.

Very truly & respty Yours,
Jon Guest
Spec'l Agt.

P.S. I had expected to leave on Monday but I shall hardly be able to do so. Do me the favor of writing by return of mail, as the envelope business.

J.G.

No. 9.

Philada., Aug. 16th, 1861.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

We have this day made the final delivery of the balance of Postage Stamps on hand and forwarded to Washington, in Eighteen Mail Bags, 13,881,912 stamps. This amt together with those furnished yesterday (viz: 14,050,000) makes the total of 27,931,912 stamps as per our letter of the 15th inst.

The above stamps are made up as follows: viz:

4,320,208	Stamps of	1 cent	s
19,378,644	" "	3 "	
295,965	" "	5 "	s
360,495	" "	10 "	s
592,885	" "	12 "	s
2,658,875	" "	24 "	s
154,550	" "	30 "	s
<u>170,290</u>	" "	90 "	s

27,931,912

Of the above there are 1,092 stamps put together in an envelope which belong to the Government on orders received; and which, from haste in some moment of pressure in making deliveries, were accidentally and at different intervals overlooked. Some of them are detached stamps from the sheets fallen off, perhaps, in carrying them from the vault to the packing room. They are of the following denominations, viz:

1,008	Stamps of	1 cent
44	" "	3 "
5	" "	5 "
10	" "	12 "
<u>25</u>	" "	10 "

1,092

Had it been possible to have ascertained the orders to which they severally belonged they would have been forwarded; and we have held them carefully over subject to the call of any Post Master finding himself thus immaterially deficient.

These stamps we, therefore, deduct from the gross amount for which we present our claim on the Department, viz:

	27,931,912	Stamps
Less	<u>1,092</u>	"
Balance	27,930,820	@ 12 cts per M = \$3,351.70

Awaiting your instructions concerning our a/c for stamps delivered in accordance with regular orders up to the close of the Agency here, and desiring to know your wishes touching the envelopes, we submit the above a/c as a memorandum for the present, supposing that you will prefer us to make a single final a/c embracing all charges against the Department.

Trusting the above may meet with your entire approval, we remain,

Very Respectfully,
Yr Obt Servts,
TOPPAN, CARPENTER & CO.

Philada. Aug 17, 1861

Jno. Guest Esq
Special Stamp Agent

Dear Sir:

Yr favor of the 16th inst rec'd. We received yesterday from Mr. Zevely, expressing great astonishment, a letter wherein he deems our surplus of 40,000 Envelopes "almost incredible." He is dissatisfied at the Contract made with us at Cost Price. Fearing that he could refuse to purchase our whole stock (of about 90,000) I offered them at once to him at \$50 less than I offered to you: for I do not disguise from you that these envelopes are almost worthless to us. On receipt of your favor of the 16th, stating that the National Co. would probably accept our offer at \$500 for the gross amt, I have at once written to Mr. Zevely, requesting his acquiescence in disposing of them to the National Co.

Trusting that Mr Zevely will see proper to consent to this sale which is certainly advantageous to the National Co., I have the honor to remain

Very Resptfly
J. R. Carpenter
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Philada Aug 17, 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst P. M. Genl.
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

We have a letter from Mr Guest today wherein he states that the National Co. will probably make us an offer for our whole stock of envelopes at the rate which we informed Mr. Guest we would accept for them viz \$500—In view of the great objection made by you to the Department accepting the envelopes we still further abated our demand for these, asking but \$450—Now, however, we beg to transfer the Envelopes to the National Co at the price stated to Mr. Guest. Our sacrifices have already been so great that we do not wish to make the least loss on our Stock on out hand. We trust that you will acquiesce in the proposition of the National Co.

Begging to hear from you at your early convenience re remain

Very Resptfly
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

New York
19 Aug: 1861

My friend:

I am in rect. Of your note of 17th with enclosure, for which attention accept my thanks. In an unofficial manner , I will state in brief the closing the account with T. C. & Co. The stamps on hand amounted in round numbers to \$26,000,000 for which I entertain not a shadow of doubt they were entitled to be paid 16 ½ c per M amolunting to, say

deduct 4 1/2c per M

\$4,290.—

1,170.

\$3,120.—

here is a saving to the Dept. of \$1170, the 40,000 envelopes the taking of which was necessary to the completion of the agreement cost about #370. Leaving still a gain to the Department of \$800, even if the enveloopes were entirely useless. To have taken them under a distinct, separate agreement, would have been very unwise, but connected as they were with a more important item, I think it was a business like arrangement to accept them. As you know, I have no one object in view but to attend, faithfully, to the interests of the Dept., doing at the same time [doing] justice to those transacting its Business, Strict and impartial, a view which I am sure both Mr Blair and yourself will concede in. A very large number of these envelopes may be used by the Dept. for covering papers to Postmasters &c and if you conclude not to use them, for the transmission of stamps, they might be applied to that purpose, at, I think, a saving to the Dept. I enclose a note recd. yesterday from Mr. Carpenter, not wishing to have anything approaching to private correspondence on the subject.

On Saturday, I explained the reason of Mr Boyd's despatch, not agreeing with the statement in my letter. Mr. Steele had informed him that no order could be filled on Monday, but subsequently informed me, that he could have ready 200,000 ones & 300,000 threes, he having determined, as a matter of necessity, to work on Sunday—, hence the discrepancy between the Statements. I saw Mr. Nesbitt on the 17th, he assures me that during this week, the envelope business will be all regular. I find Mr. Boyd able and energetic, and Strictly attentive to his business. I have no [comment?] to pass nor improvement to suggest in the management of either Agency. Unless I receive communications from the Dept. requiring my longer Stay I propose leaving here on Tuesday eve or Wednesday morning—I am

Very Sincerely yrs
Jon Guest

A. N. Zevely Esq

As I am earlier than the people here, I picked up the only sheet of paper I could find, which will account for the blots—I am better but still suffering from Sore throat.

J. G.

Jonn. Guest
Special Agent
Aug. 19, 1861

Enclosing letter of Mr. Carpenter
of the firm of Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Philada.
23 Aug. 1861

Dear Sir:

I duly recd. your letter of 22d Inst: via N. York, late last night. Finding myself compelled to attend to hastening the Envelopes to Mr. Boyd by visiting this City. I requested Mr. Boyd to read any official communication which might be addressed to me & to recall me, if necessary. On receipt of your letter Mr Boyd stated its contents to Mr McDonough "and arranged with him to have the packing done on the same terms as were awarded to Toppan, C. & Co." which will, I trust be satisfactory.

I have Stated the decision of the P. M. Genl. to receive the whole lot of 90,000 Envs. At \$450, and requested Toppan, Carpenter & Co to send the packages, by a freight train, to the Department, the packages are very large. I am,

Very Respsv,
Your obt Servt.
Jon Guest

A. N. Zevely
3d Asst P. M. Genl
Wash. D.C.

I expect to leave for Pittsburgh about Noon today as there seems no further occasion for my stay.

Philada. Sept 20th 1861.

A. N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst P. M. Genl
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

We observe in the papers that the Department has found it necessary to continue the use of the "old" Stamps until within a very recent period; and we conclude therefore that further deliveries have been made of the Stamps forwarded to Washington D.C. on the 15th and 16th ult—

As it was expressly understood by us from Mr Gest, Special Agent, that those stamps would be no longer used by the Department we consented to forego our just claim for the whole amount due upon them under the express stipulation of our contract. Under the present circumstances, however, we feel that we are doubly entitled to the full price for all the stamps furnished to the public, inasmuch as we printed and prepared every sheet of them not only with the knowledge and approval of the Government, but by its explicit and direct order; and, had we not done so, but printed merely enough for the actual supply up to the termination of our contract, the Government would have been in a very unfortunate condition, as not one of the new stamps was furnished for two months afterwards; and indeed, the new Contractors have not furnished a full supply until possibly within a day or two. Now after all our efforts to meet the wants of the Department and our precautions to prevent the possibility of an interruption to the regular and full supply of stamps we feel that we have an indisputably just claim for full payment for all stamps delivered: and how much more powerful that claim for all stamps actually used by the Government!—Indeed, if they were not all used it was from no fault of ours. We did our best (with the full knowledge and approval of the Department) to provide for a contingency which, had it happened, would have been of serious injury and immense inconvenience to the Government and the public; and, having done so, we cannot but think that, in all equity and justice, we are entitled to full pay according to our contract.

We beg you to submit this truthful exposition of facts to the candid consideration of the Post Master General, and we trust that he will acknowledge its force. The difference of price, while a matter of small moment to the Government, is of importance to us, in view of the entire destruction of our business caused by the transfer to other parties of a contract which we had most satisfactorily fulfilled for the Department for years past.

We have the honor to remain

Very Resptfly
Yr Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

P.O.D. Sept. 30, 1861.

On the 11th May 1861, a letter (No. 1) was addressed to Toppan, Carpenter & Co., late Contractors for furnishing postage stamps, requesting them to report the amount of stamps on hand, and to prepare a quarters supply, should they not already have that quantity. They replied on the 13th May (letter No. 2) that they had on hand 55,290,596 stamps, and that they would print no more, unless the Dep't. desired a further supply of certain denominations.

On the 22nd of June a communication (No. 3) was received from T.C. & Co. asking in view of the expiration of their contract, how to dispose of the postage stamps remaining in their hands, ready for delivery. To this the Department replied (letter 4) on the 25th directing them to continue to make daily deliveries to the Stamp Agent at Philadelphia, on the orders of the Dep't, until they were further advised. On the 27th of the same month they informed the Dep't (letter 5) that they would comply with those instructions and they accordingly continued to furnish stamps as directed until the removal of the Stamp Agency to New York on the 15th of August.

At this time Mr. Guest, Special Agent, who had been sent to Philadelphia to make a settlement with T.C. & Co., reported (letters 6 & 7) that an agreement had been made to pay that Firm 12 cents per thousand for the stamps remaining on hand. Messrs. T.C. & Co., at the same time, forwarded these stamps to the Department with a statement (letters 8 & 9) of their number which was 27,930,820, which at 12 cents per M is equal to \$3,351.70 and at the contract price .16 ½ per M, is equal to \$4,608.58 making a difference of \$1,256.88.

After distributing the new postage stamps from the N.Y. Agency to most of the larger post offices, it was found that, in consequence of the quantity required by them in exchange for the old issue, all the new stamps manufactured daily were absorbed by these offices. Hence the distribution of the old stamps to other post offices became, for a time, necessary, and of these 5,892,305 were sent out from the N.Y. Agency, and 150,000 were delivered to the P. Office of this City, making 6,042,305 in all. In a communication (No. 10) to this Dep't from T.C. & Co., dated Sept. 20, payment at the contract price is claimed for all stamps delivered by them, and especially for those used as above, viz: 6,042,305, equal at 16 ½ per M, to \$996.98, and the remainder unused, at 12 cents per M, is equivalent to \$2.626.62; total \$3,623.60 instead of \$2,251.70. the amount at 12 cents per M, as agreed on, of al the stamps remaining in the hands of T.C. & Co., at the time of the removal of the Agency.

Duplicate

Philada. Octo. 7, 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst P. M. Genl
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

Your favor of 1st inst. is recd— We are happy to hear that you have determined to recommend to the Post Master Genl. the payment of the Contract price for the Postage Stamps delivered to the Department after the removal of the Agency—From what we have always believed of your sense of justice, we felt confident that after due consideration of all the facts of the case, you could not but admit our right to full payment—Every Stamp printed and furnished, was done by the express order and authority of the Department— we were as fully entitled to pay for every one of them as we ever had been for any others furnished under our Contract, and we never for one moment imagined (until suggested by Mr Guest) that any deduction would be asked or expected for any Surplus which the Government might not use—

With reference to the Envelopes, we make no claim on the Government for their purchase, further than the consideration which a faithful performance of our duty to the Government under a very important Contract, involving Millions of dollars, during a period of 10 years might be supposed to entitle us, (provided it was perfectly consistent with the interests of the Government)—or in other words—at the expiration of our Contract we found on our hands 90,000 Envelopes which were of no value to us unless they were used by the Government.

They cost us \$900 and we offered them to the Government for \$450—If they cannot be used, we do not expect pay for them, but if they can be used, we submit to your consideration and that of the Post Master Genl. whether we are not entitled to some pay for them?

In conclusion, we are much in want of money & will be greatly obliged by a remittance at your earliest convenience.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

October 25, 1861

Dear Sir

We send duplicate of our letter and account (original mailed here on the 7th inst) the non receipt of which we have just learned by your favor of 24th inst.

Hoping to have the pleasure of hearing from you

We are Very Respfy
Your Obt Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

A. N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst P. M. Genl
Washington, D.C.

Post Hospital,
Fort Wood, N.Y.
July 27th, 1869.

Sir:

I have the honor to request the following information in regard to Postage Stamps enclosed, if not inconsistent with the rules of your department & your own wishes.

When the stamps were issued?
For what purpose intended?
By whom issued?

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servant
H.C. Yarrow,
A.A. Surgeon, U.S.A.
Post Surgeon.

Postmaster Genl. U.S.A.
Washington, D.C.

July 30, 1869.

Sir:

Your communication of the 27th instant is received.

The blue stamp "Eagle" was used for prepaying city letters delivered by carrier. It was issued about November 17, 1851 and was withdrawn January 27th, 1852. It was very little used except in Philadelphia, Pa., and Cincinnati, Ohio.

The records of the Department do not contain any reference to the other stamp, "Postrider." It is supposed to have been issued by one of the numerous "City dispatch" companies locate in New York, The specimens are herewith returned.

Very respectfully,
W.H.H., Terrell,
Third Assist. P.M. General.

H.C. Yarrow,
Post Surgeon, Fort Wood,
New York.

P.O. Dept., Wash. D.C.,
 Nove. 12, 1873.

The following plates, &c were rec'd by me from the Supt. of the U.S. Mint at Philada and transferred to the custody of D.M. Boyd, Esq., Stamp Agent, New York.

One Cent stamp	8	plates
3 " "	21	"
5 " "	2	"
10 " "	2	"
12 " "	3	"
24 " "	1	"
30 " "	1	"
90 " "	1	"
"Franklin" Carrier	"	1 "
Eagle " "	"	1 "
Total	41	plates

also 24 rolls, 10 dies, and 20 broken and cancelled plates of various denominations.

Wm. M. Ireland.
 Chf. Clk.

May 16, 1876.

Mr. Jos. J. Casey,
New York City.

Sir:

Your letters of Apl. 29th ult. and 13 inst. received.

The first "Carrier" stamp (Head of Franklin) was issued in September, 1851, but was almost immediately suppressed. The second (Eagle) appeared in November of same year.

The information you desire about the precise date - day, month and year - of issue of the several postage stamps cannot be furnished - it is not in any condensed or compiled form but scattered through the records of the office. To furnish it would require an examination of several hundred volumes of record and letter-books, to make which the office has no clerical force to spare.

The six-cent envelope (small oval) issued in October 1860 was in actual use until after the commencement of hostilities in Apr. 1861 and in a few parts of the country was used until September 1861. It was issued in both letter and official size.

Respectfully,
E. W. BARBER
Third Asst. P.M. General.

(Letter Book 112, page 872.)
