

OFFICIAL SEALS OF THE US AND ITS POSSESSIONS

1871-1919

WILLIAM GERLACH

AS RECEIVED BY

THE EXHIBITION PHOTOCOPY COMMITTEE

OF THE

U.S. PHILATELIC CLASSICS SOCIETY, INC.

18 OCTOBER 1994

OFFICIAL SEALS

OF THE

UNITED STATES

AND IT'S

POSSESSIONS

1871-1919

An Exhibitable Collection of

Essays

Proofs

Stamps

Cancels

Covers

Collected and prepared by

William Gerlach

OFFICIAL SEALS OF THE UNITED STATES AND POSSESSIONS

1872-1919

This exhibit covers the seals issued from the first registered seal in 1872 to 1919, when the Quartermaster General's Office Seal was issued.

The first U.S. Official Seal, the Registered Seal of 1872, was used to seal an envelope used to transmit registered mail between post offices.

Beginning in 1872 and continuing to the present day, the seals have been used for four general purposes

1. To seal mail found unsealed in the mails
2. To seal mail opened by incorrect addressees and returned to the Post Office.
3. To reseal mail opened by post office personnel to determine sender.
4. To repair mail damaged in handling.

Outline of Exhibit

- I. Registered Seal 1872
 - A. Essays and proofs
 - B. National Bank Note Printings
 - C. Continental Bank Note Printing? (Sheet of 9)
- II. Dead Letter Office Seal 1877
 - A. Proofs
 - B. Seals
- III. Issue of 1888
 - A. Proofs
 - B. Imperforate
 - C. Perforated
 - 1. Perf 12
 - 2. Rouletted 5 1/2
 - 3. Hyphen-Hole 7
- IV. Issue of 1900
 - A. Proofs
 - B. Perforated
- V. Issue of 1907
 - A. Perforated
 - B. Rouletted 6 1/2
 - C. Rouletted 6 1/2 by Perf 12
 - D. Perf 12 by Rouletted 6 1/2
- VI. Issue of 1916
- VII. Issue of 1917
- VIII. Quartermaster General's Seal
- IX. Typeset Issues, 1898-?
- X. U.S. Possessions
 - A. Canal Zone
 - B. Philippines

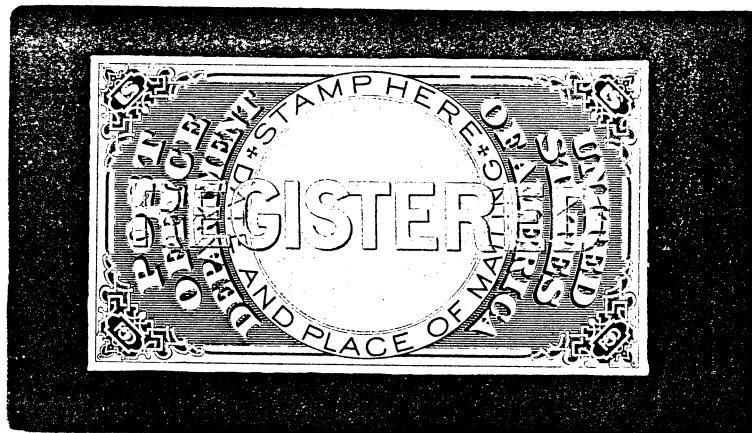


World's First Official Seal

REGISTERED SEAL

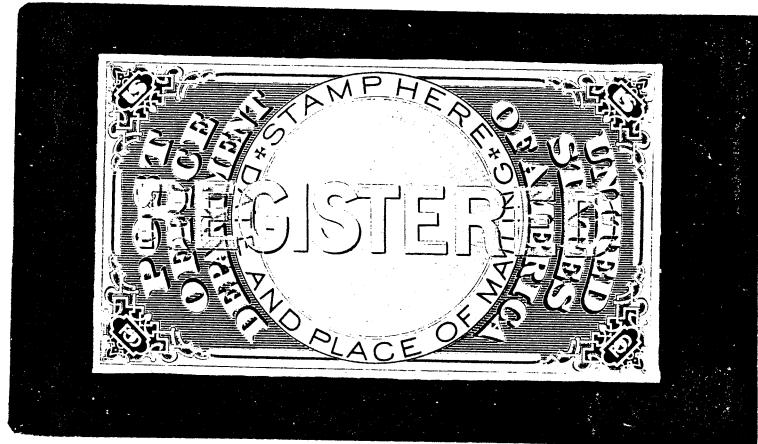
Designed to seal envelopes for dispatch of registered mail. Printed by typography by the National Bank Note Company, New York. At least 6 printings between June 30, 1872 and December 9, 1874, produced 5,922,100 seals. An additional million seals were probably printed since 6.9 million envelopes were delivered.

Essays



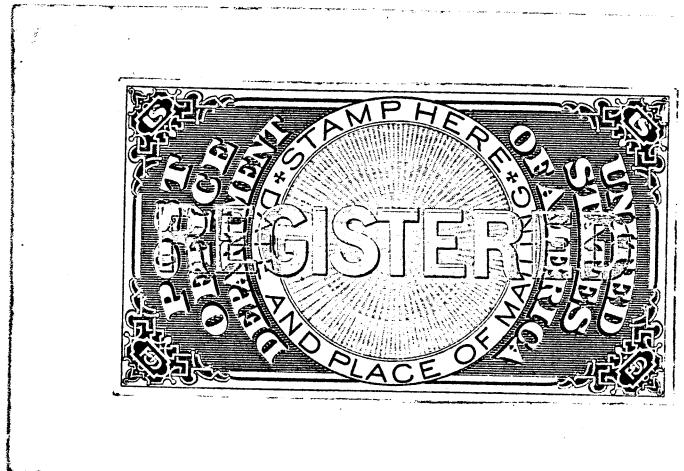
Blue Die essay on Card.

The essays of the Registered Seal have "Registered" in the foreground of the other lettering on the seal. The die was then re-engraved and "Registered" placed in the background.

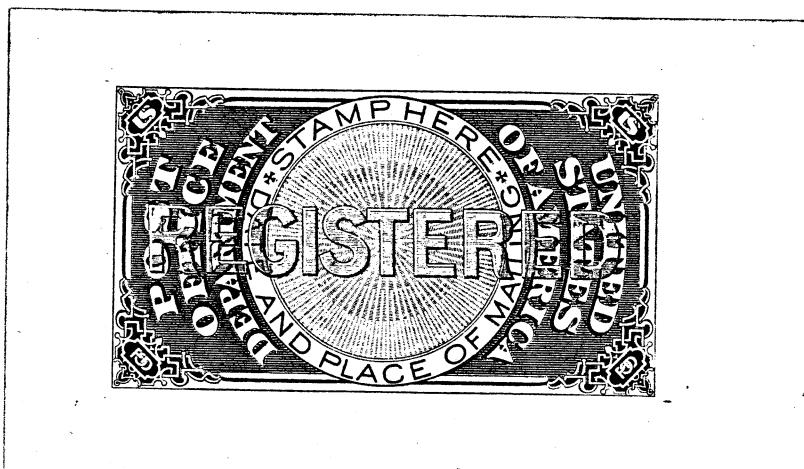


Brown Die essay on Card.

REGISTERED SEAL



Orange Die essay on Card.



Green Die essay on Card.

REGISTERED SEAL



Blue Trial Color Die Proof



Brown Trial Color Die Proof

REGISTERED SEAL

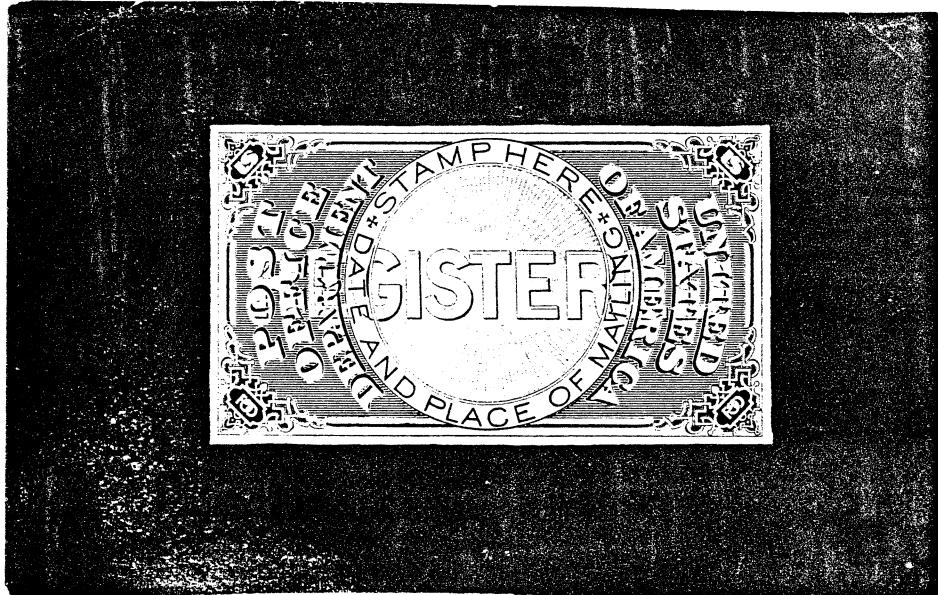


Reverse Proof from Transfer Roll
Chocolate on India

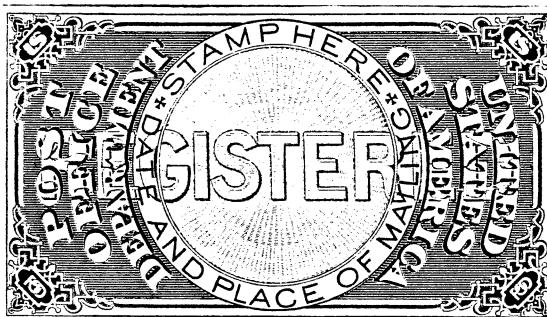


India Proof Die Sunk on Card

REGISTERED SEAL



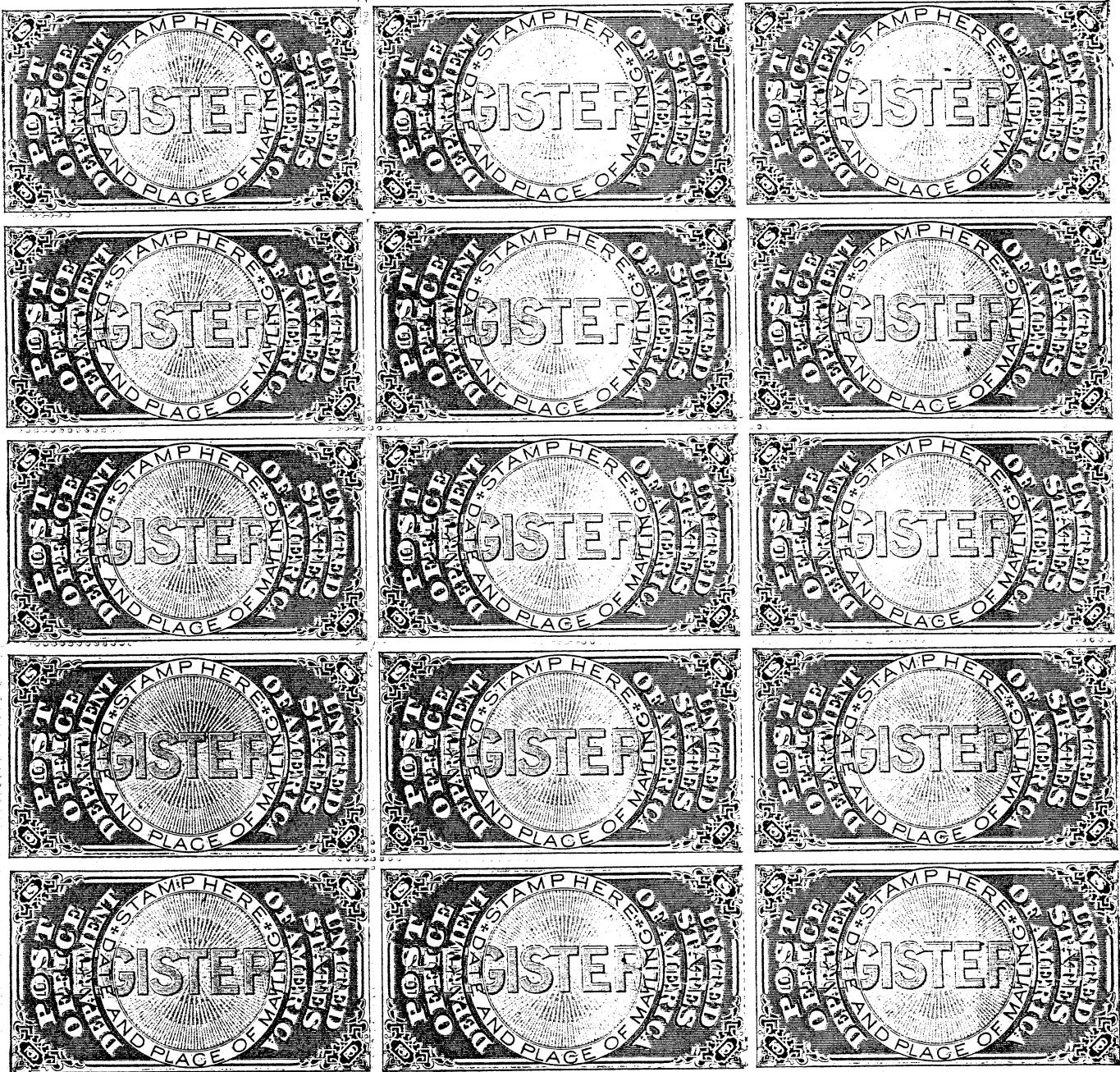
Die Proof
Untrimmed Die
Thick Glazed Paper



Die Proof
Trimmed Die
Card

REGISTERED SEAL

Top pane of 15 Without Selvage



REGISTERED SEAL



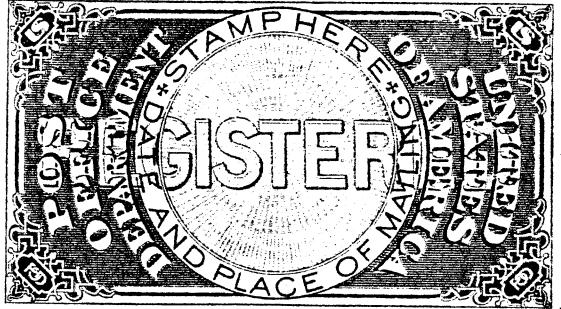
Prelure Paper



Laid Prelure Paper



Medium Paper

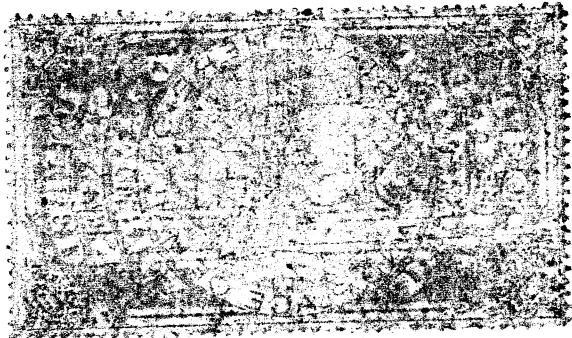


Thick Laid Paper

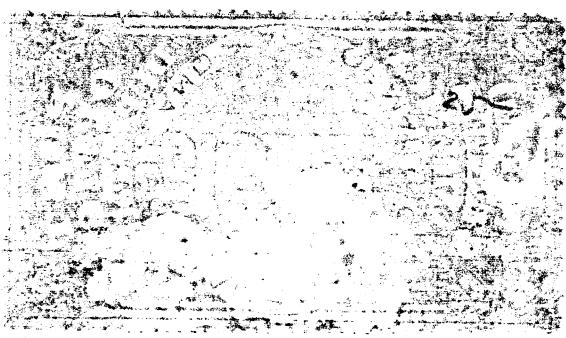


Bluish Green, Soft Porous Paper
Some believe this is a Special
Printing and others a late printing

REGISERED SEAL



Printed Both Sides
Normal



Printed Both Sides
Inverted



Double Impression

Light impression 10mm above and
3 1/2 mm to left of final impression.

Light impression 7mm above and
1 1/2 mm to left of final impression

REGISTERED SEAL



"Speciam" Probably Prepared
by a local postal employee
as a gift to a collector.



Blue Town



Black Town

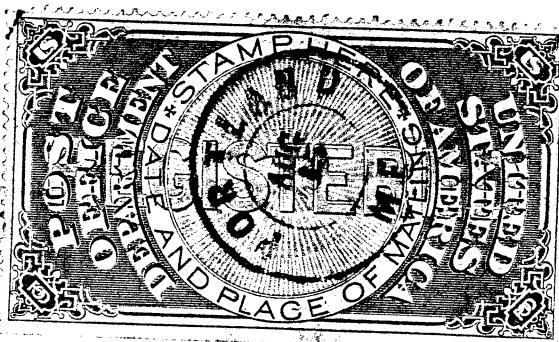


Black Town with
Manuscript Date



Manuscript Date

REGISTERED SEAL



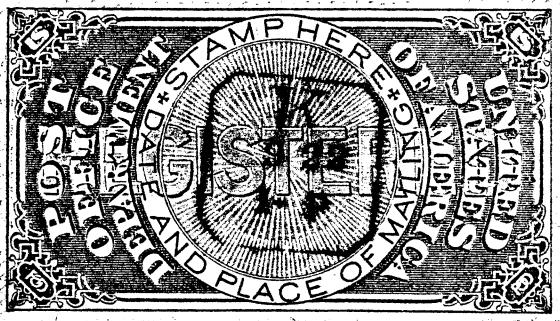
Double Circle Town



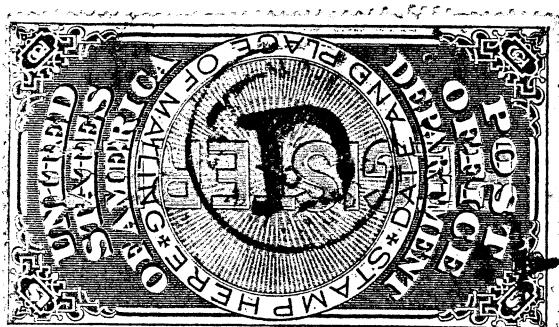
Blue Oval Town



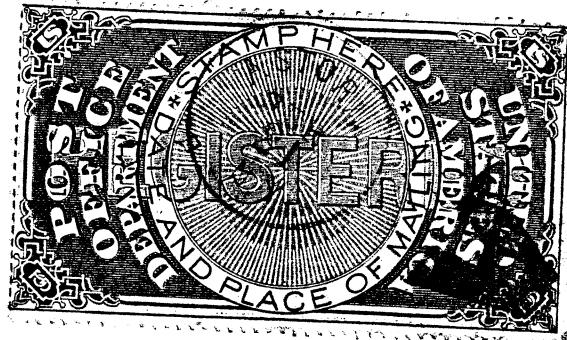
Red Town



Octagonal Carrier

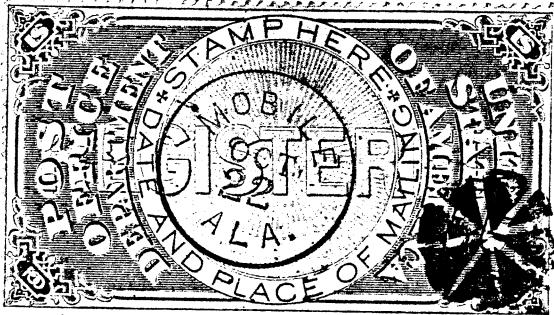


Round Carrier



Aster, N. Y. "A"

REGISTERED SEAL



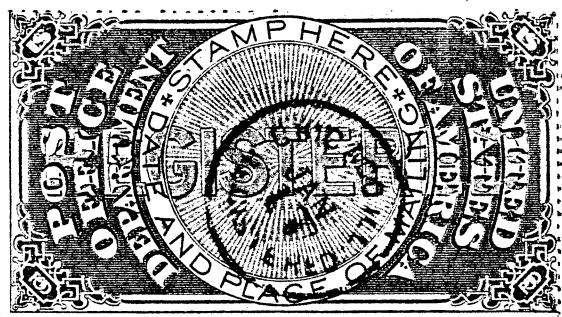
Duplex with Killer



Mute Killer



Black Registered Circle



Blue Registered Circle



Black Registered
Double Circle



Black Registered
Rimless

REGISTERED SEAL



1872



1873



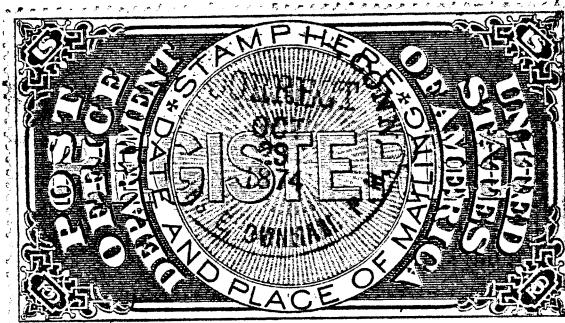
1874



1876



Waterbury Conn. Leaf
Used August 1874

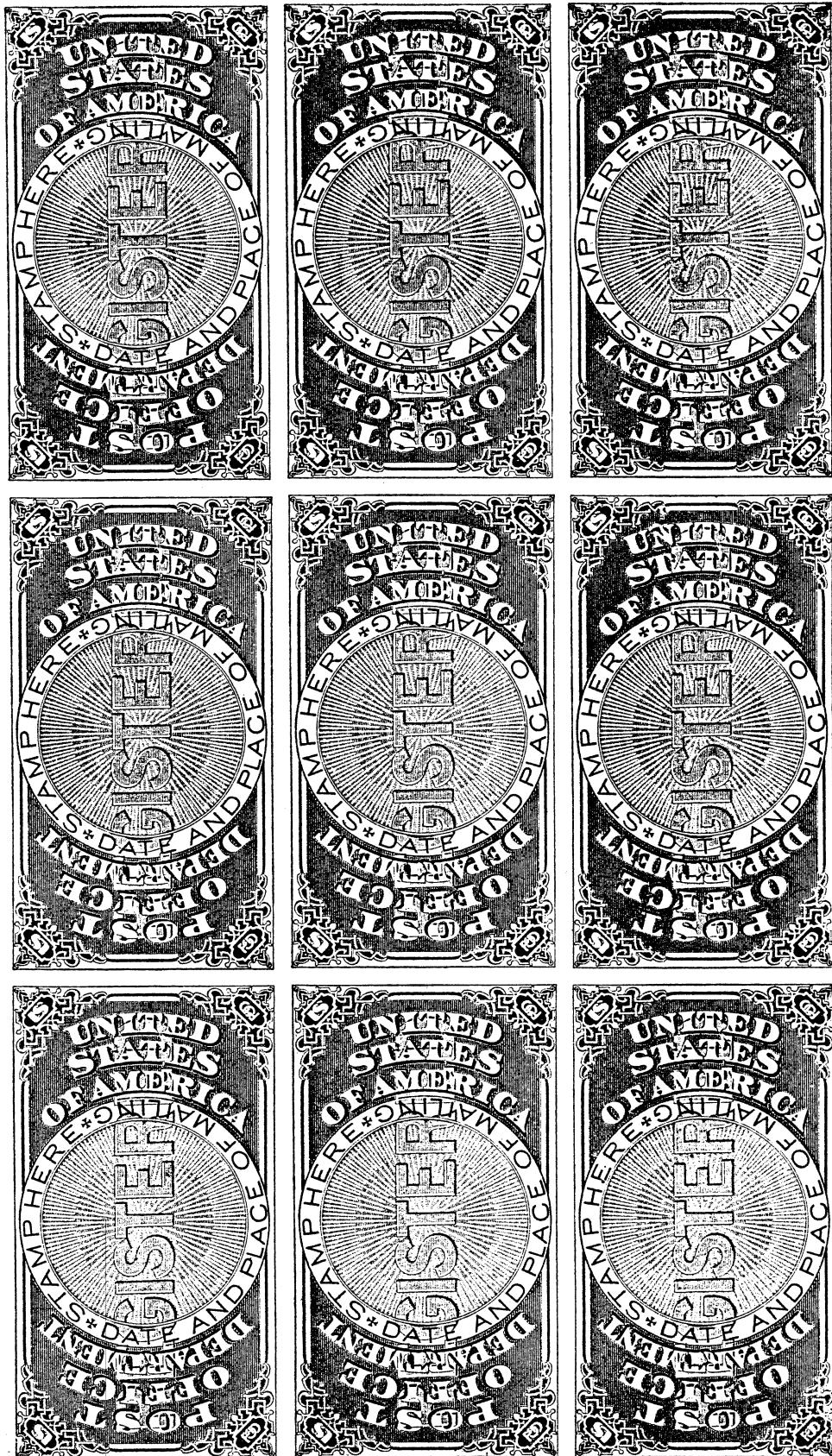


Postmaster Cancel
October 1874

REGISTERED SEAL

Imperf Sheet of 9 on Stamp Paper

Attributed to Continental Bank Note Company, New York



REGISTERED SEAL

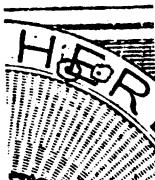
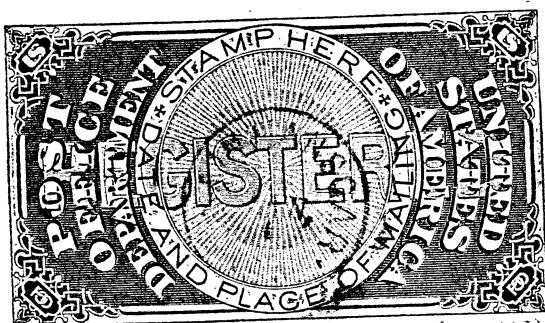


Plate Proof
Thin Glazed Card



Used
Same paper as imperf sheet

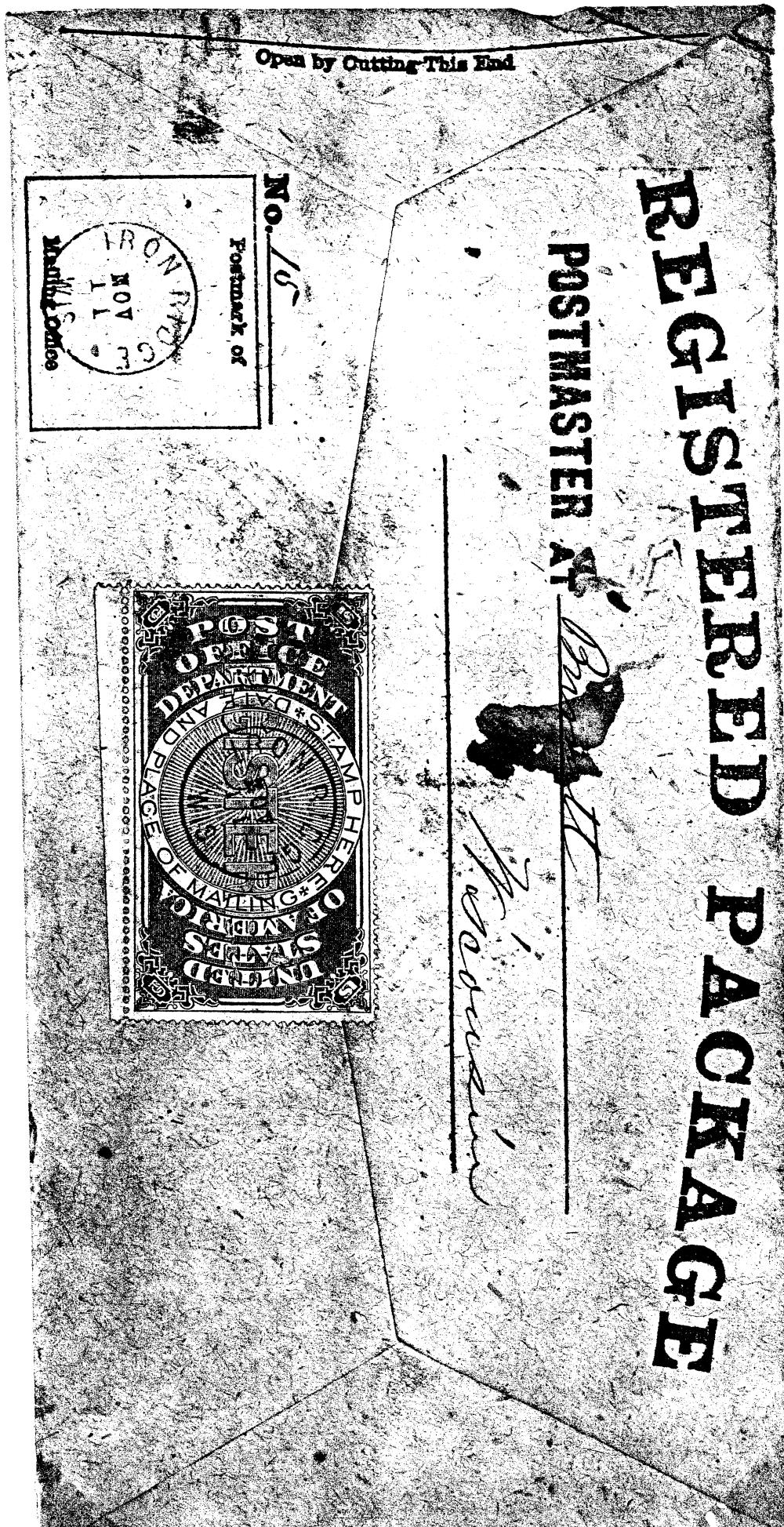
Both the proof and used seal above have a large dot flaw 2 mm to right of lower upright of the N in United. The same flaw can be seen in the bottom center stamp of the imperf sheet on the previous page. Both the used seal and the seal in the imperf sheet also have a dot on the inside of the outer right frame right of the right (lower) side of the T of United and a small dot to the left of that dot just inside the first white space above the T. These two dots are not on the plate proof.



Used
Same paper as imperf sheet

This seal has a large dot flaw in the lower left corner of the first E in Here and a dot to the right of the center stroke of the same letter. These flaws are also on lower left stamp of the imperf sheet.

Neither of these flaws can be found on either pane of the sheet of 30 which shows that the sheet of nine was regularly issued.



REGISTERED SEAL

The seal was used on envelopes designed to carry and record the handler of the item.

The first contract for these envelopes was awarded to the Morgan Envelope Company, Springfield, Conn., on June 30, 1872.

REGISTERED SEAL

RECORD OF TRANSIT

Condition	Signature
Good or Bad	By Whom Received and Date
Good	M. Collinson May 31
Good	Wardus Anderson 6/31
Good	Anderson June 1st
Good	6 Kaltenthaler June 3 rd
do	H. Jones June 3 rd

INSTRUCTIONS

All Postal Officers handling this Package must keep a Record of its Number, Postmark with Date, Address, Date of Receipt and Disposition made of it so that it may be traced from Place of Mailing to its Destination, always taking a Receipt for it when practicable. If such Receipt can not be obtained at the time, a Receipt properly filled up must be placed in the Pouch with the Package, to be signed by the P. M. of the next office where the Pouch is opened, and by him returned to the forwarding Route Agent or Railway Clerk by next mail.

W. H. H. TERRELL,

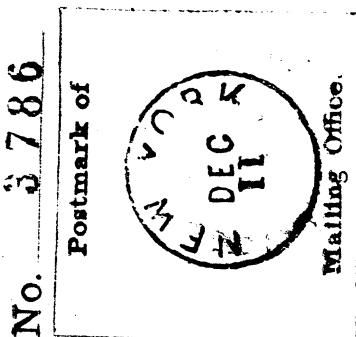
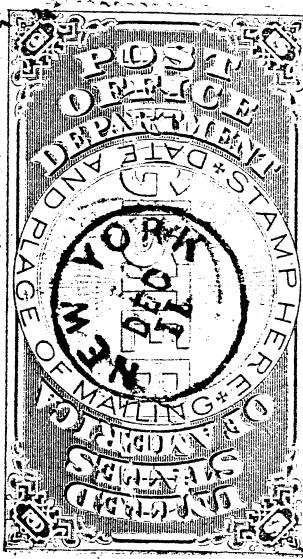
Third Assistant Postmaster General.

The reverse of the envelope was signed by each handler.

The instructions on
the Morgan envelopes
were signed by W. H. H.
Terrell

REGISTERED SEAL

REGISTERED PACKAGE
POSTMASTER AT *East Military*
Additional Co No 1



Open by cutting this End

In 1873 the contract for the envelopes was given to George Nesbitt and Company New York.

This example of the Nesbit printing was used that yea

RECORD OF TRANSIT.

Condition.	Signature.
Good or Bad.	By Whom Received and Date.

Marshall

INSTRUCTIONS.

All Postal Officers handling this Package must keep a Record of its Number, Postmark with Date, Address, Date of Receipt, and Disposition made of it, so that it may be traced from Place of Mailing to its Destination, always taking a Receipt for it when practicable. If such Receipt can not be obtained at the time, a Receipt properly filled up must be placed in the Pouch with the Package to be signed by the P. M. of the next office where the Pouch is opened, and by him returned to the forwarding Route Agent or Railway Clerk by next mail.

E. W. BARBER,
Third Assistant Postmaster General.

RECORD OF TRANSIT.

REGISTERED SEAL

At the time the contract was awarded to Nesbitt, Terrell was succeeded by E. W. Barber, whose name appears on the instructions of the new envelope.

Condition.	Signature. By Whom Received and Date.
Good or Bad.	
Good	C. C. S. 24/1

INSTRUCTIONS.

All Postal Officers handling this Package must keep a Record of its Number, Postmark with Date, Address, Date of Receipt and Disposition made of it, so that it may be traced from Place of Mailing to its Destination, always taking a Receipt for it when practicable. If such Receipt can not be obtained at the time, a Receipt properly filled up must be placed in the Pouch with the Package, to be signed by the P. M. of the next office where the Pouch is opened, and by him returned to the forwarding Route Agent or Railway Clerk by next mail.

E. W. BARBER,

Third Assistant Postmaster General

REGISTERED SEAL



This envelope appears to have been issued after the first Nesbitt envelopes in 1873 and before 1876.

A Post Office Department Circular, dated only 1875, and signed by E. W. Barber advises that the Registered Seals are not required on the "new envelopes". All registered seals were ordered returned when the old envelopes were used.

The "new envelopes" referred to had an interlocking gummed flaps that did not require a seal.

Both examples of this envelope seen were used from New York and have the same rimless registered cancel.

A similar envelope was used to send stamps and/or cash between Post Offices and was sealed with a special "Stamp Agency Seal". Some obsolete Registered Seals may have been used during a shortage of Stamp Agency Seals.

13822

M
X

POSTMASTER AT

Millbrook

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

Dutchess County,

M

PATENT APPLIED FOR

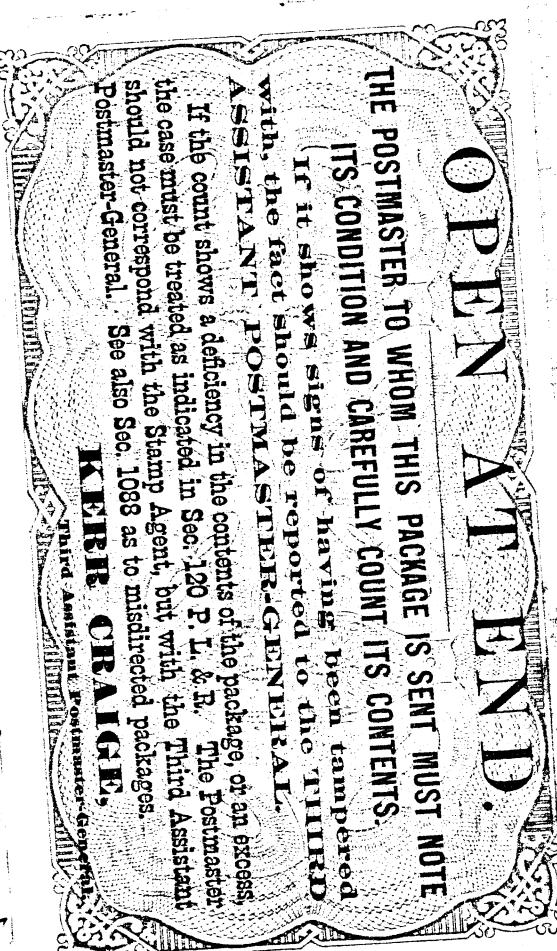
Postmasters and Route Agents
HANDLING THIS Package, ARE REQUIRED TO
KEEP A COMPLETE RECORD OF THE NUMBER,
ADDRESS, DATE OF ITS RECEIPT, TO WHOM
DELIVERED, DATE OF SUCH DELIVERY, &c.
RECEIPTS FOR THE SAME MUST BE TAKEN
WHEN PRACTICABLE. THEY WILL PROVIDE A
BOOK SPECIALLY FOR THIS PURPOSE.

RESPECTFULLY,
E. W. Barber,
THIRD ASSISTANT P. M. GENERAL.



REGISTERED.

W. H. C. 5/12



REGISTERED
MAIL, ETC.
MAY 15, 1896

POSTAGE STAMP AGENCY
SEAL

8th recorded type, 1894.

Post Office Department.

POSTAGE STAMP AGENCY.



25c
30c
35c
40c
45c
50c
55c
60c
65c
70c
75c
80c
85c
90c
95c

POSTMASTER AT

John

Postmasters and Postal Clerks

THIS POSTAGE STAMP IS TO BE USED FOR THE NUMBER AND DATE OF ITS RECEIPT, TO WHOM DELIVERED, AND FOR THE NAME WHEN PRACTICABLE.

A printed stamp is to be used when the above is not

REGISTERED

POSTAGE STAMP AGENCY

Reg. No. 2-813

POSTMASTER AT

POSTAGE STAMP AGENCY
SEAL

10th recorded seal, 1897

REGISTERED

Postmasters and Postal Clerks

HANDLING THIS Envelope, ARE REQUIRED TO
KEEP A COMPLETE RECORD OF THIS NUMBER,
ADDRESS, DATE OF ITS RECEIPT, TO WHOM DE-
LIVERED, DATE OF BUCH DELIVERY, &c., AND
TO TAKE RECEIPTS FOR THE SAME WHEN PRAC-
TICABLE, THEY WILL PROVIDE A BOOK SPECI-
FICALLY FOR THIS PURPOSE.
BY ORDER OF THE COMMUNIST GENERAL

JOHNNY A. MERRITT.
THIRD ASSISTANT P. M. GENERAL

- 6 -

STAGE STAMP AGENCY
SEAL

OPEN AT END.

THE POSTMASTER TO WHOM THIS PACKAGE IS SENT MUST NOTE ITS CONDITION AND CAREFULLY COUNT ITS CONTENTS.

IF it shows signs of having been tampered with, the fact should be reported to the THREE ASSISTANT POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

If the count shows a deficiency in the contents of the package, or an excess, the case must be treated as indicated in Sec. 120 P. L. & R. The Postmaster should not correspond with the Stamp Agent, but with the Third Assistant Postmaster-General. See also Sec. 1088 as to misdirected packages.

THE PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL ECONOMY.

REGISTERED
JUL 22 1893
CALDWELL N.Y.

REGISTERED
JUL 22 1893
CALDWELL, N. Y.

REGISTERED.

1668

22

REGISTERED.

OPEN AT END.

THE POSTMASTER TO WHOM THIS PACKAGE IS SENT MUST NOTE

ITS CONDITION AND CAREFULLY COUNT ITS CONTENTS.

If it shows signs of having been tampered with, the fact should be reported to the THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

If the count shows a deficiency in the contents of the package, or an excess, the case must be treated as indicated in Sec. 120, P. L. & R. The Postmaster should not correspond with the Stamp Agent, but with the Third Assistant Postmaster-General. See also Sec. 1088 as to misdirected packages.

EDWIN C. MADDEN,
Third Assistant Postmaster-General.



POSTAGE STAMP AGENCY
SEAL

These seals, used on shipments of stamps were first issued in 1875.

14 types are recorded, the last being issued in 1935.

This is the 11th recorded type and was issued in 1899.

REGISTERED

Postmasters and Postal Clerks
HANDLING THIS *Envelope*, ARE REQUIRED TO KEEP
A COMPLETE RECORD OF THE NUMBER, ADDRESS,
DATE OF ITS RECEIPT, TO WHOM DELIVERED, DATE
OF SUCH DELIVERY, &c., AND TO TAKE RECEIPTS
FOR THE SAME WHEN PRACTICABLE. THEY WILL
PROVIDE A BOOK SPECIALLY FOR THIS PURPOSE.
BY ORDER OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

EDWIN C. MADDEN,
Third Assistant P. M. General.

POSTMASTER AT
Bog. No. 31/1/19

POSTAGE STAMP AGENCY.

U. S. P. O. D. REGISTERED PACKAGE.

BE SURE TO SEAL THIS PACKAGE SECURELY, AND TO POSTMARK IT PLAINLY.

Fourth-class P.M.s. must write in ink, in the brackets, on each envelope, the names of their Post-Offices, whenever they receive a new supply.

17—Fourth-class P.Ms. must write in ink, in the brackets, on each envelope, the names of their Post-Offices, whenever they receive a new supply.

17—Fourth-class P.Ms. must write in ink, in the brackets, on each envelope, the names of their Post-Offices, whenever they receive a new supply.

Postmark on



Mailing Office,
on date when mailed.

POSTMASTER COUNTY OF

STATE OF

**OPEN BY DRAWING POINT OF KNIFE FROM X TO X
WITHOUT DETACHING END OF ENVELOPE**

REGISTERED ENVELOPE

This envelope, introduced in 1875, ended the use of the registered seal. It's use to forward registered letters continued until 1910

While the design of the envelope itself did not change, 16 different printing designs are reco

This example is the seven printing and the earliest recorded use is in 1891.

RECORD OF TRANS

NEW INSTRUCTIONS.

To facilitate tracing, a complete record must be by every postal officer handling this package forth in Section 1089, Page 384 of the Regulations.

Should this package become damaged, it is to be placed in a new Registered Package Envelope at the office where the injury occurs, or when damaged, to be handed to a Postal Clerk, at the post office at the end of his route.

The original Registered Package Envelope may be removed, but, before enclosure in the new one, be endorsed with a certificate stating its exact condition to be signed by the Postmaster and the Postal Clerk whom delivered, or from whom received. The Envelope must bear the address and registered number of the old one, and the postmark of the office at which the package is re-enveloped. The fact of re-enveloping must be noted on the records of transit.

Receipts must be given, on delivery of envelope by next mail, which receipts should bear the mark of date of return.—See Sections 1071 and of the Regulations.

Failure to comply with above instructions will be sufficient cause for removal.

A. D. HAZEN.

Third Assistant Postmaster Ge

RECORD OF TRANS.

10th Printing, Earliest recorded use 1897.

REGISTERED ENVELOPE

Condition. Signature. By whom received and date

Fourth-class P.M.s. must write in ink, in the brackets, on each envelope,

STATE IF NOT GOOD

BE SURE TO SEAL THIS PACKAGE SECURELY, AND TO POSTMARK IT PLAINLY.

U. S. P. O. D. REGISTERED PACKAGE.

[] BE SURE TO SEAL THIS PACKAGE SECURELY, AND TO POSTMARK IT PLAINLY.
[] Postmark of []

Fourth-class P.M.s. must write in ink, in the brackets, on each envelope,
the names of their Post-Offices, whenever they receive a new supply.

OPEN BY DRAWING POINT OF NEEDLE
WITHOUT DETACHING END OF ENVELOPE

POSTMARK DATE 42, 1878.

POSTMASTER AT _____
COUNTY OF _____
STATE OF _____

(No. 7-R.P.)

STATE OF _____

Gratessa Park

Yach Club

PATENTED JUNE 4th, 1872.

REGISTERED ENVELOPE

11th Printing, Earliest
recorded use, 1899.

RECORD OF TRANSIT

Condition.	Signature.
STATE IF NOT GOOD	By Whom Received and Date.
Good	Dr. L. Beale 1/12

NEW INSTRUCTIONS

To facilitate tracing, a complete record must be made by every postal officer handling this package, as set forth in Section 1081, Page 384 of the Regulations.

Section 1081, Page 384 of the Regulations.
Should this package become damaged, it must be placed in a new Registered Package Envelope at the post office where the injury occurs, or when damaged in the hands of a Postal Clerk, at the post office at the terminus of his route.

The original Registered Package Envelope must not be removed, but, before enclosure in the new one, must be endorsed with a certificate stating its exact condition, to be signed by the Postmaster and the Postal Clerk, to whom delivered, or from whom received. The new Envelope must bear the address and registered number of the old one, and the postmark of the office at which the package is re-enclosed. The fact of re-enclosure must be noted on the records of transit.

Receipts must be given, on delivery of envelopes, or by next mail, which receipts should bear the post-mark of date of return.—See Sections 1083 and 1075 of the Regulations.

Failure to comply with above instructions will be sufficient cause for removal.

EDWIN C. MADDEN,
Third Assistant Postmaster General.

OPEN BY DRAWING POINT OF KNIFE FROM X TO X
WITHOUT DETACHING END OF ENVELOPE

卷之三

POSTMASTER AT _____
COUNTY OF _____

COUNTY OF

STATE OF

Mailing Office,
on date when mailed.

Postmark of

X

REGISTERED ENVELOPE

Unrecorded printing, after
11th and before 14th. Issued
during or after 1902.

U. S. P. O. D. REGISTERED PACKAGE

Mr. [] - Recipient

COUNTY OF _____

STATE OF _____

Arkansas

Mailing Office,
on date when mailed.

Date

DO NOT BE SURE TO SEAL THIS PACKAGE SECURELY, AND TO POSTMARK IT PLAINLY.

Fourth-class P.M.s. must write in ink, in the brackets, on each envelope.

Mc

the names of their Post-Offices, whenever they receive a new supply.

Postmark of _____

[P. O. State,]

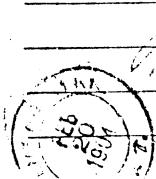


OPEN BY DRAWING POINT OF KNIFE FROM X TO X
WITHOUT DETACHING END OF ENVELOPE

X

RECORD OF TRANSIT

Condition.
STATE IF NOT GOOD

Signature.
By Whom Received and Date

FROM POST OFFICE HELINA K.P.C.
FEB 20 1904
WILSON

THOMAS ARK
FEB 20 1904

W. E. SARBY
THOMAS ARK

FEB 20 1904

J. A. DUNNELL 2/20/04
Postman

NEW INSTRUCTIONS.

To facilitate tracing, a complete record must be made by every postal officer handling this package, as set forth in Section 843, Page 394 of the Postal Laws and Regulations, Edition of 1902.

Should this package become damaged, it must be placed in a new Registered Package Envelope at the post office where the injury occurs, or when damaged in the hands of a Postal Clerk, at the post office at the terminus of his route.—(See Section 879, P. L. & R., Edition of 1902.)

The original Registered Package Envelope must not be removed, but, before enclosure in the new one, must be endorsed with a certificate stating its exact condition, to be signed by the Postmaster and the Postal Clerk, to whom delivered, or from whom received. The new Envelope must bear the address and registered number of the old one, and the postmark of the office at which the package is re-enclosed. The fact of re-enclosure must be noted on the records of transit.

Receipts must be given, on delivery of envelopes, or by next mail, which receipts should bear the postmark of date of return.—See Sections 826, 847 and 1550 of the Postal Laws and Regulations, Edition of 1902.

Failure to comply with above instructions will be sufficient cause for removal.

EDWIN C. MADDEN,
Third Assistant Postmaster General.

RECORD OF TRANSIT

REGISTERED ENVELOPE

Condition.	Signature.
STATE IF NOT GOOD	By Whom Received and Date.
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>

INSTRUCTIONS

Every postal employee receiving this package must receipt for it, and indorse this envelope in the manner required by Section 843, Postal Laws and Regulations, and he must keep record thereof.

Should this package be damaged it must be indorsed with a statement of its condition signed by the postmaster, or postal clerk, and inclosed in a new registered package envelope at the post office where the injury was noticed or at the post office at the terminus of the postal clerk's route.

The original registered package envelope must not be removed and the new envelope must bear the number, date, name of office of origin and address of the old one. The new envelope must be postmarked and marked "Re-enveloped at (name of post office)".

Packages must be signed for at the time they are delivered, or the accompanying receipt forms must be signed, postmarked and returned in the next mail.

A. L. LAWSHE,
Third Assistant Postmaster General.

15th Printing. Earliest
Recorded Use 1907.

RECORD OF TRANSIT

<u>Condition.</u>	<u>Signature.</u> By Whom, Received and Date.
<u>STATE IF NOT GOOD</u>	
	11. 1. 1958. 22/18
	P. S. D. 1958. 22/18

INSTRUCTIONS

Every postal employee receiving this package must receipt for it, and indorse this envelope in the manner required by Section 843, Postal Laws and Regulations, and he must keep record thereof.

Should this package be damaged it must be indorsed with a statement of its condition signed by the post master, or postal clerk, and inclosed in a new registered package envelope at the post office where the injury was noticed or at the post office at the terminus of the postal clerk's route.

The original registered package envelope must not be removed and the new envelope must bear the number, date, name of office of origin and address of the old one. The new envelope must be postmarked and marked "Re- enveloped at (name of post office)"

Packages must be signed for at the time they are delivered, or the accompanying receipt forms must be signed, postmarked and returned in the next mail.

A. L. LAWSHIE,
Third Assistant Postmaster General

DEAD LETTER SEAL

Brown Shades, Perf 12

Engraved and printed by the National Bank Note Company, New York.

One printing of 50,000 in sheets of 100 (10x10).

Delivered to the Dead Letter Office on March 16, 1877
Used by the Dead Letter Office and by larger post offices
to seal opened or unsealed mail.



Partially Printed Trial Color Plate Proof
India Paper

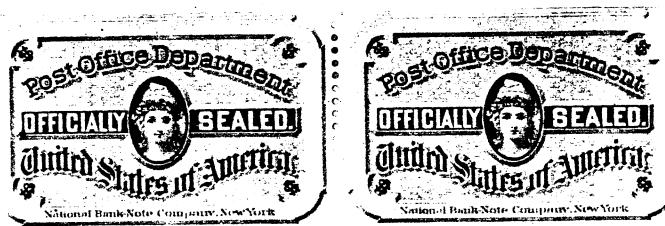


Plate Proof on Stamp Paper
Perforated and Gummmed



Plate Proof on India

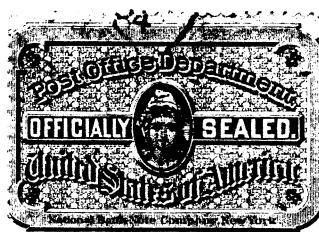


Hybrid Die Proof
India Paper, Die sunk on Card

DEAD LETTER OFFICE SEAL



Unused Block



Cincinnati, Ohio
July 20, 1877

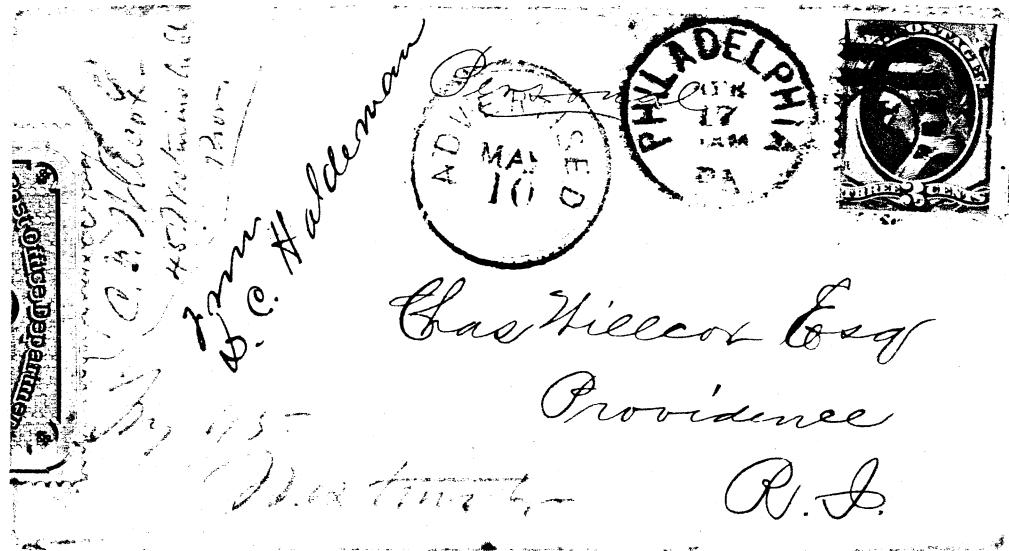
1884
Late Use



Detroit, Mich.
April 16, 1878

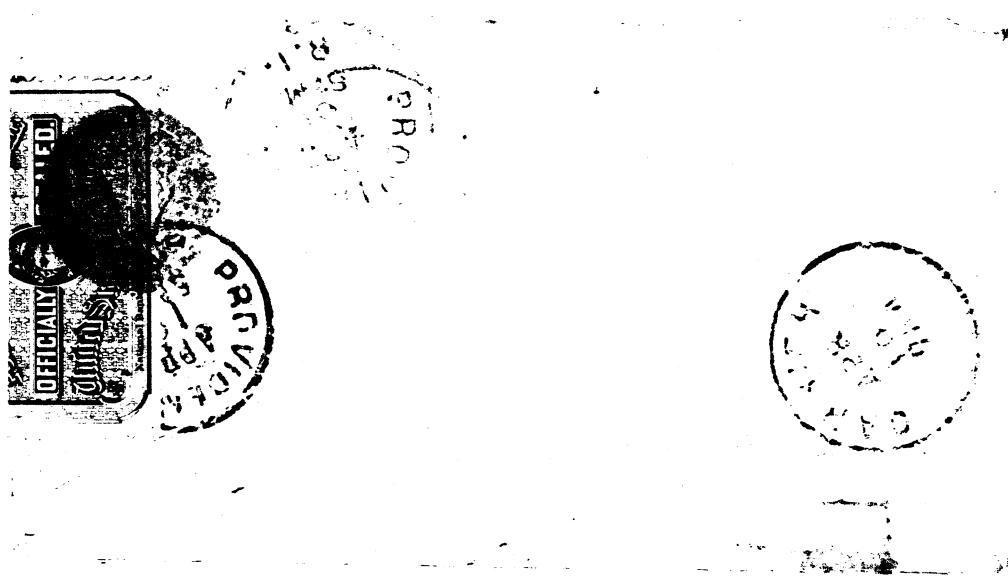
Offi(cially Sealed)
Boston, Mass.
April 18, 1879

DEAD LETTER SEAL



April 1879

Sealed in Providence after letter was opened by C.F. Wilcox, who was the wrong Wilcox and returned the letter to the P.O. The date determined by the Philadelphia Duplex, which was used between July 1878 and September 1879.



ISSUE OF 1879

Printed by the American Bank Note Company, from plate prepared by them from a die made by the National Bank Note Company.



Plate Proof on India, Cardboard Backing



Deep Brown
1st Printing

The first printing can be identified because the paper is fluorescent under black light.
None of the later printings fluoresce.



8-21-79
Deep Brown
Earliest Recorded Use

Left Pane from First Plate, which lacked a Plate Number. Later Printing, Red Brown.



ISSUE OF 1879

Brown, Thin Porous Paper
1st Printing from Plate 2, 1880 or 1881

AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY, NEW YORK.



THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK.



AMERICAN BANKS 109



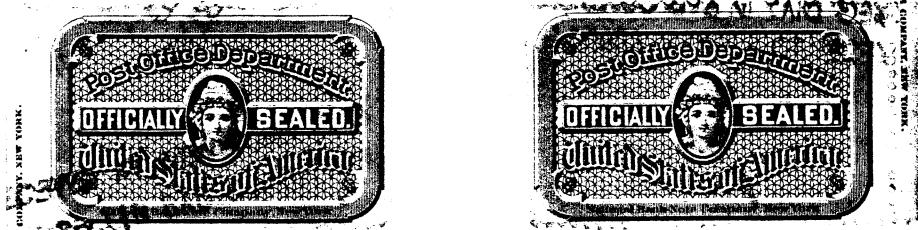
100



ISSUE OF 1879

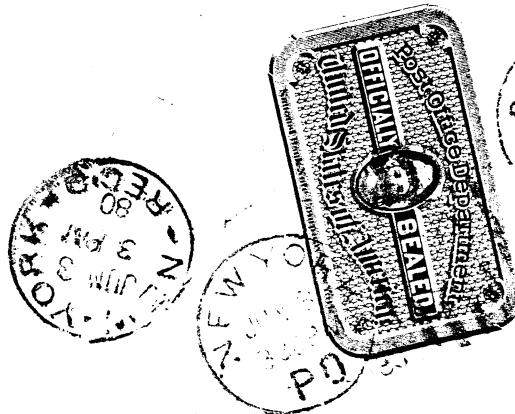


Yellow Brown
2nd Printing



Red Brown Imprint Copies
Late Printings

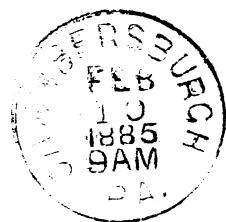
ISSUE OF 1879



J. J. Mendel



Second Printing, Medium Brown, June 3, 1880, Received Unsealed



Mrs. S. P. Brown

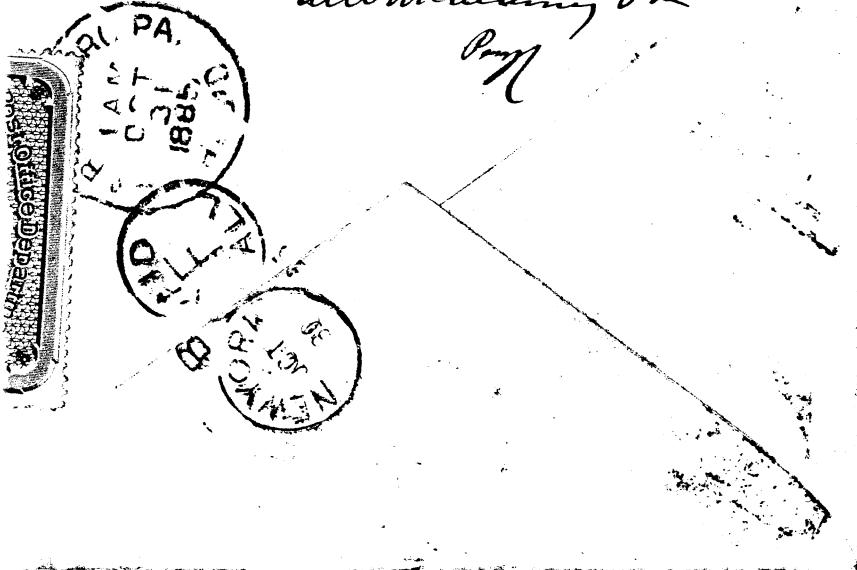
Ironhton

Pa.

Franklin Co.

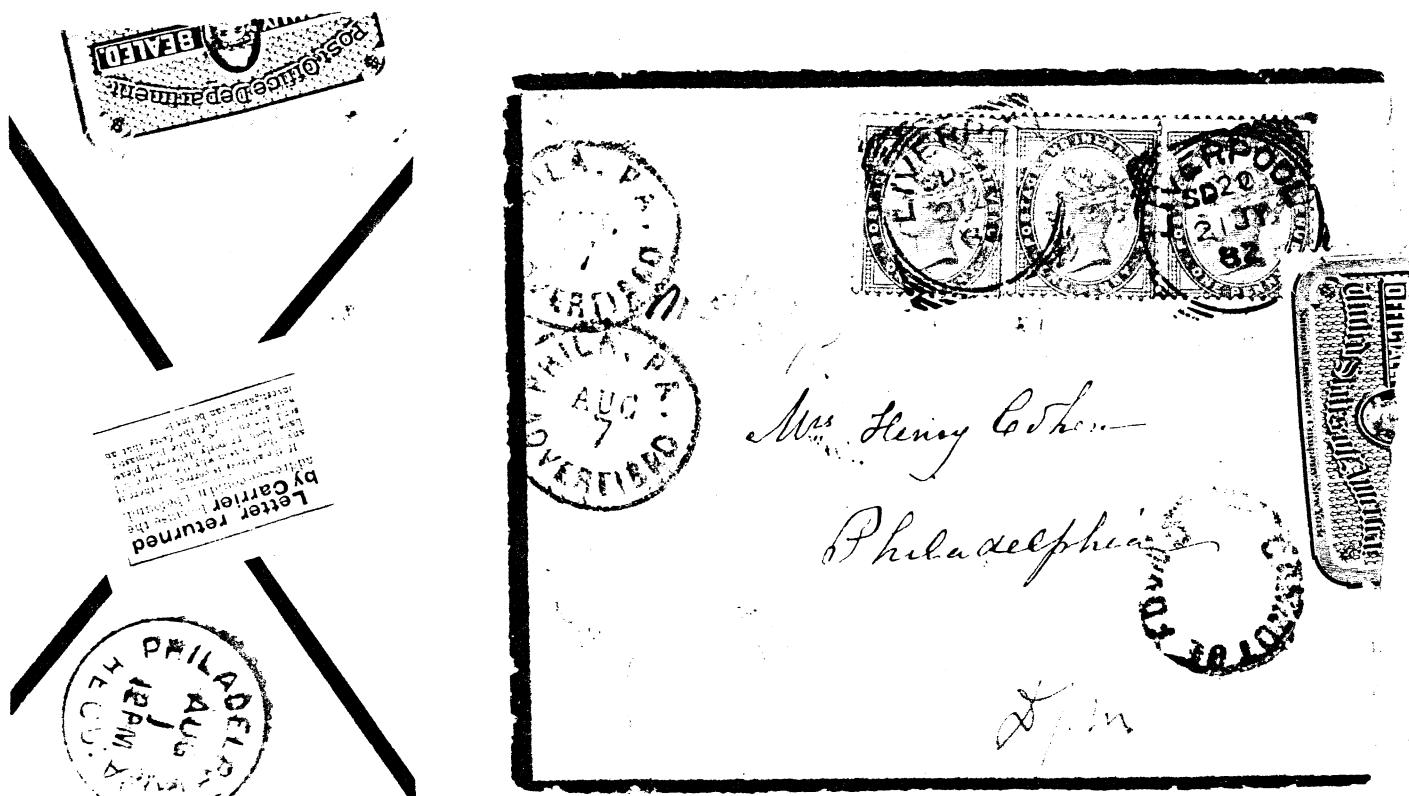
Medium Brown, February 12, 1885, Opened by Mistake

Found in letter drop at P. O.
in present condition. No. 2. 1879
Post office of
Allentown, Pa.
Aug.



Miss Wilhelm
(Paxton)
Harrisburg, Pa.
Pennsylvania
Liverpool
via
New York
W. S. A.

Scotland to U. S., 1885



Advertised, Cannot be Found, with Letter Returned by Carrier Seal

Associated Press

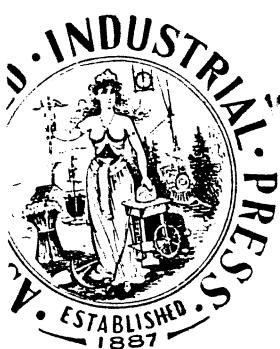


REGISTERED

Station C.

MR 23

RECEIVED AT NEW YORK
MAR. 25. 1896. IN BAD CONDITION.



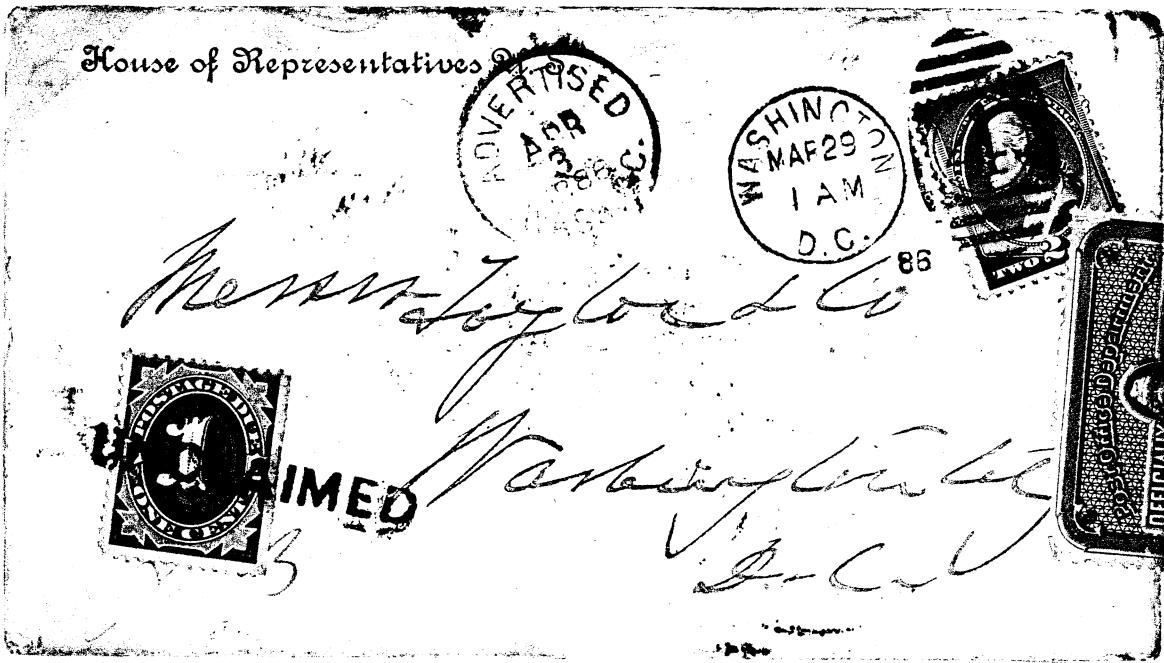
EXECUTIVE OFFICES
ROOMS 9, 10, 11, 12 AND 13.
610 THIRTEENTH ST.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

INDUSTRIAL
MAR 23 1896
WASHINGTON, D. C.
Station C.
No. 3461



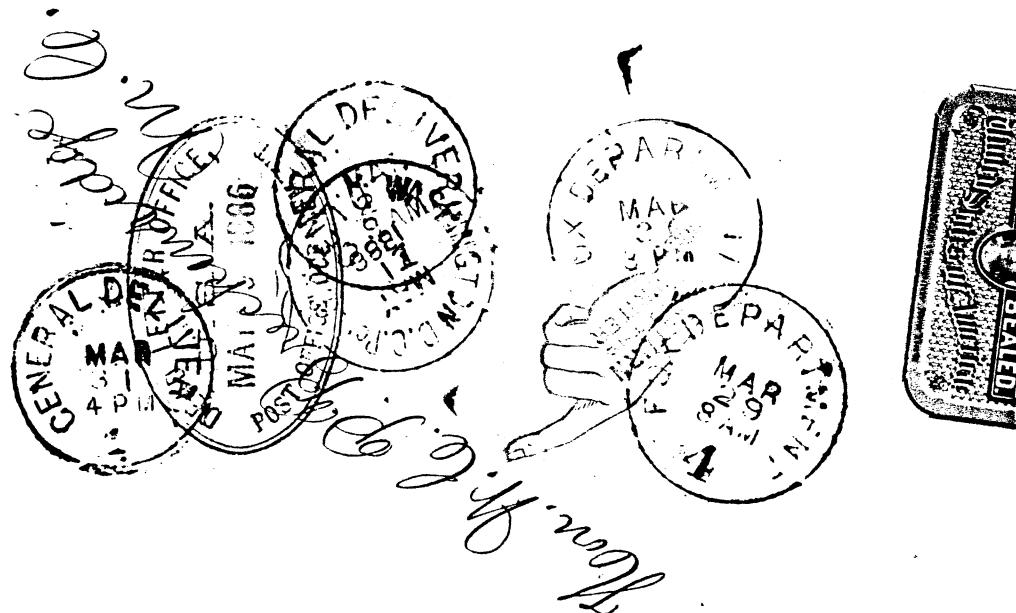
Washington, D.C. to Haiti

22470



This letter was mailed with a House of Representatives corner card, but no name on March 29, 1886. After attempts to deliver the letter, it was advertised on April 30 and assessed one cent. When it went unclaimed for a month, it was sent to the Dead Letter Office, arriving on May 5th. It appears to have been opened there and the name of the sender, W.C.P. Breckinridge, was written on the reverse and a pointing finger to return to the sender applied.

William Campbell Preston Breckinridge Served the Union in the 9th Kentucky Cavalry during the Civil War, he was a well known writer and employed as a reporter for the Lexington, Ky. Herald. He was elected to Congress in 1884 and served four terms. He died in Washington shortly after his last term in Congress.



ISSUE OF 1888

This issue was printed by typography by the Government Printing Office and perforated by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

2,486,800 seals were produced in 16 printings between June 30, 1888 and September 11, 1899. The seals were printed in many shades of brown on thick, medium and thin paper. They appeared perf 12, rouletted 5½ and hyphen-hole 7. Many imperf and misperforated varieties exist and are believed to mostly come from printers waste.



Plate Proof on India Paper
Cut to Shape and Die Sunk
on Cardboard.

ISSUE OF 1888

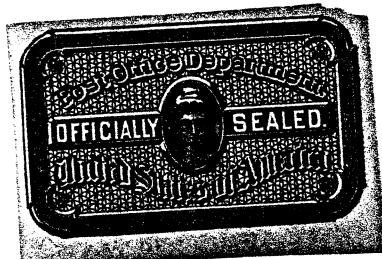
1st Printing
Chocolate Shades, Medium Paper
Imperf



Over Inked



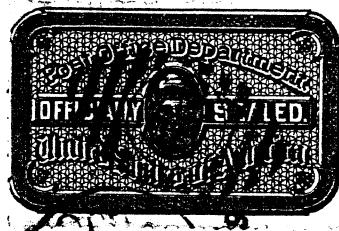
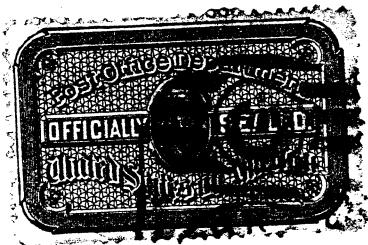
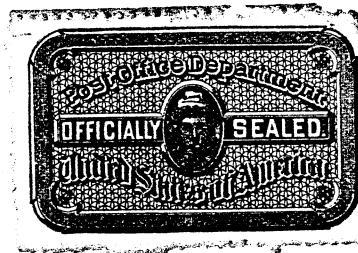
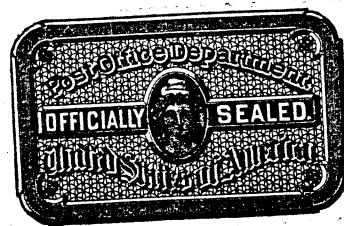
Cut from a strip of three, the left pair shows an uninked impression of the typograph plate and the right stamp shows the offset present on all three stamps.



Toned Paper

ISSUE OF 1888

Chocolate Shades, Medium Paper
1st Printing
Perf 12



1889

1889

1890

First Printing, Chocolate,
Court House Cover to Texas
with pair of 4 cent issue
of 1888 and 10 cent
reengraved issue of
1882.



ISSUE OF 1888

Thick Paper, Medium Bistre Brown Shades
Rough Perf 12
Second Printing



ISSUE OF 1888

Bistre Brown, Thick Paper
Printings 3 to 7



This block is from a different setting than the complete imperf sheet shown as the next to last row do not have the dented top right frame line.

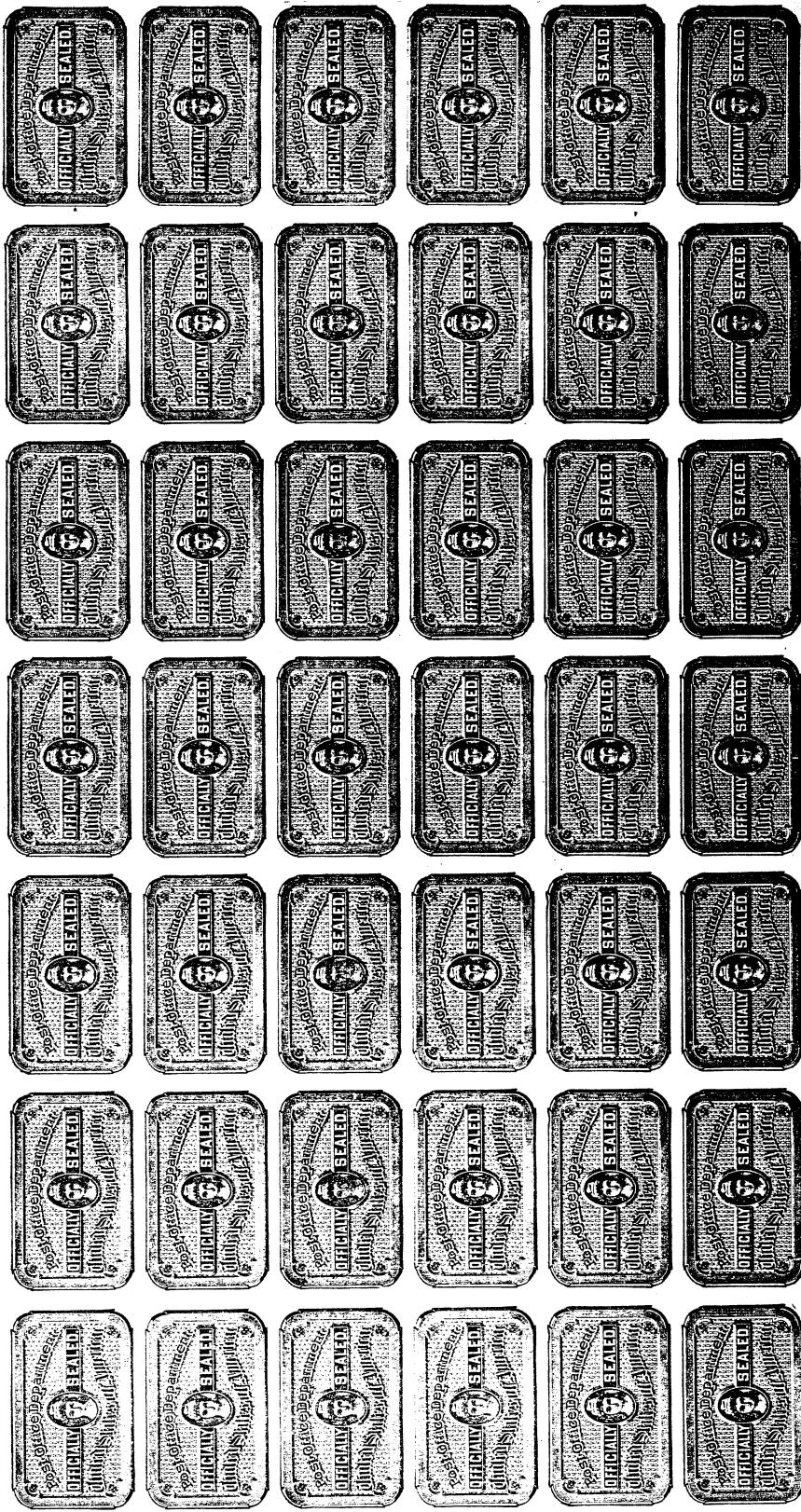


Extra Row of Perfs
Both bottom seals show nick
at lower left corner

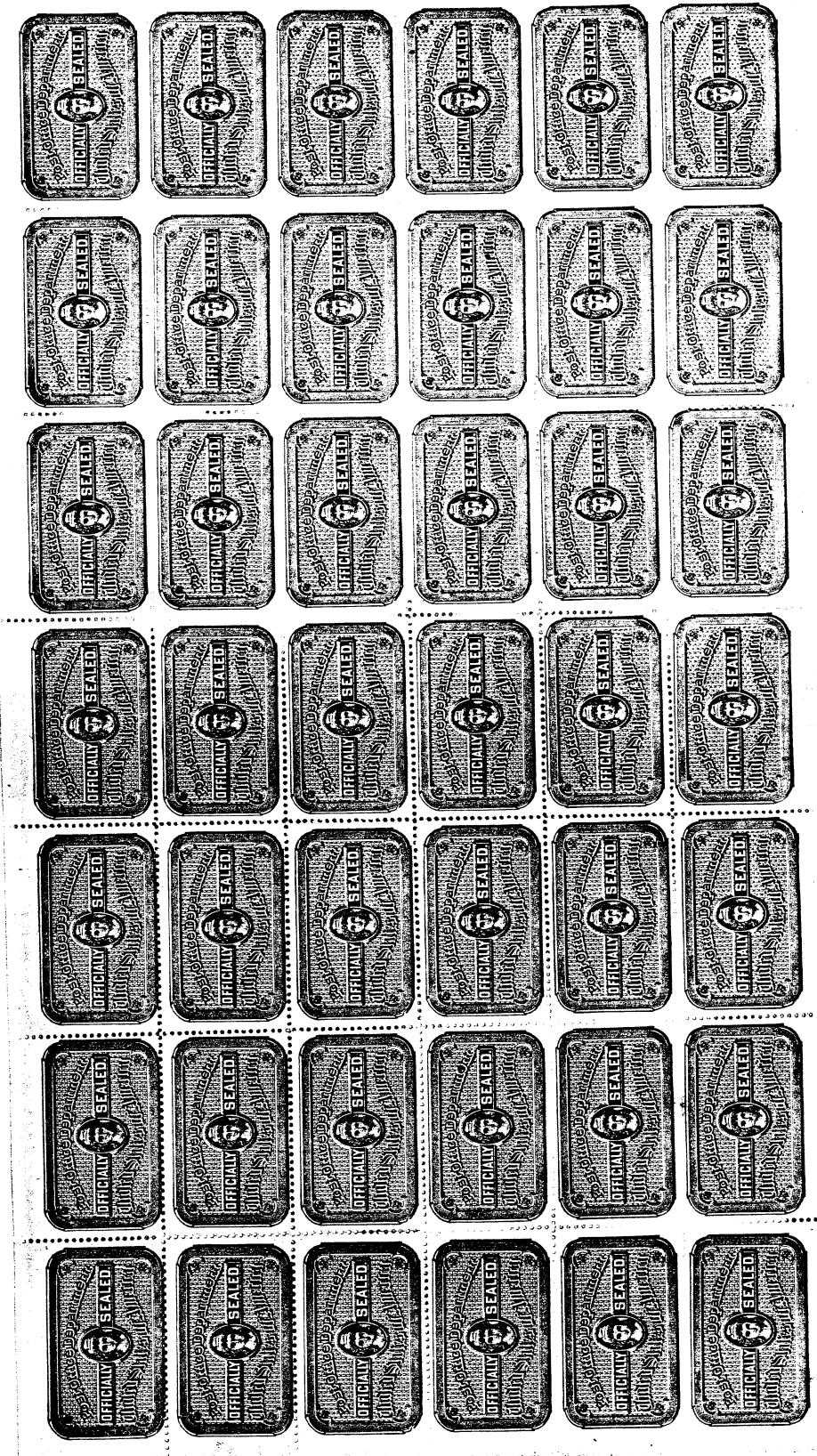
ISSUE OF 1888

Right end stamp in 3rd row has gash in the lower left corner. First 6 stamps in 5th row have dented on the top left frame line.

Bistre Brown



From 6th or 7th printings, delivered in February and December 1893. Identified by the deep nick in the lower left corner of each seal in the third row from the top. This setting was only used for these two printings.



ISSUE OF 1888

Bistre Brown Shades, Thick Paper
3rd to 7th Printing

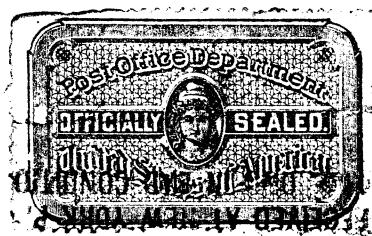
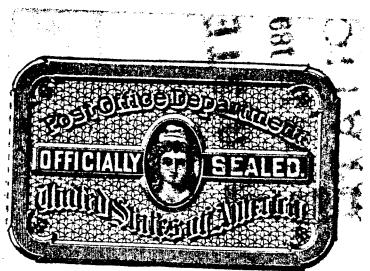


Toned Paper



ISSUE OF 1888

Bistre Brown Shades, Thick Toned Paper
3rd to 7th Printing



ISSUE OF 1888

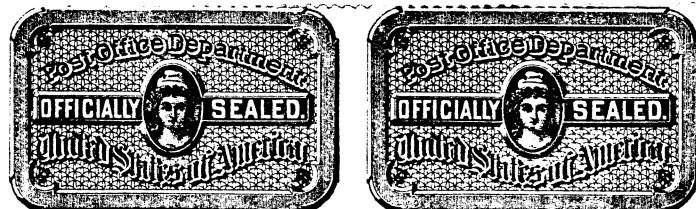
Bistre Brown, Thick Paper
Printings 3 to 7



Horizontal Pair, Imperf Between



Vertical Pair, Imperf Between



Horizontal Pair, Imperf Vertically

ISSUE OF 1900
Lithographed
James L. Kervand Company, Washington, D. C.

A lithographic stone was prepared from a proof sheet of the Engraved Issue of 1879.

The "National Bank Note Company" imprint was then covered with lithograph transfers.

This was done on a block of 24, which was fully repeated 4 times and partly repeated 4 times. Because of the difficulty of this process, each of the positions can be identified by the alignment of the bottom frame.

The 24 transfers (4X6) were repeated to make a plate of 143 seals. This size fit the size of the paper, which was furnished by the Government Printing Office.

For convenience the 24 transfers are identified by letters A through X. The layout of the sheet follows:

A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C
E	F	G	H	E	F	G	H	E	F	G
I	J	K	L	I	J	K	L	I	J	K
M	N	O	P	M	N	O	P	M	N	O
Q	R	S	T	Q	R	S	T	Q	R	S
U	V	W	X	U	V	W	X	U	V	W
A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C
E	F	G	H	E	F	G	H	E	F	G
I	J	K	L	I	J	K	L	I	J	K
M	N	O	P	M	N	O	P	M	N	O
Q	R	S	T	Q	R	S	T	Q	R	S
U	V	W	X	U	V	W	X	U	V	W
A	B	C	D	M	N	O	P	I	J	K



Plate proof on India, cut to shape
and Die Sunk on Card.

ISSUE OF 1888

Bistre Brown Shades, Thick Paper
3rd to 7th Printing
Dent in Top Right Frame

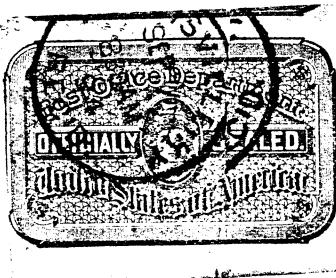


ISSUE OF 1888

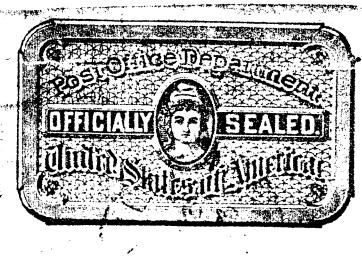
Bistre Brown Shades, Thick Paper
3rd to 7th Printing



Imperf



Used, Imperf



Damaged Left Frame



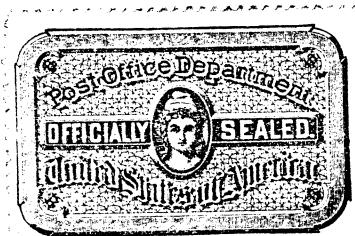
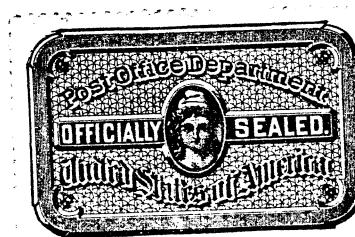
Gash, Bottom Frame at Right



Damaged Top Left Frame

ISSUE OF 1888

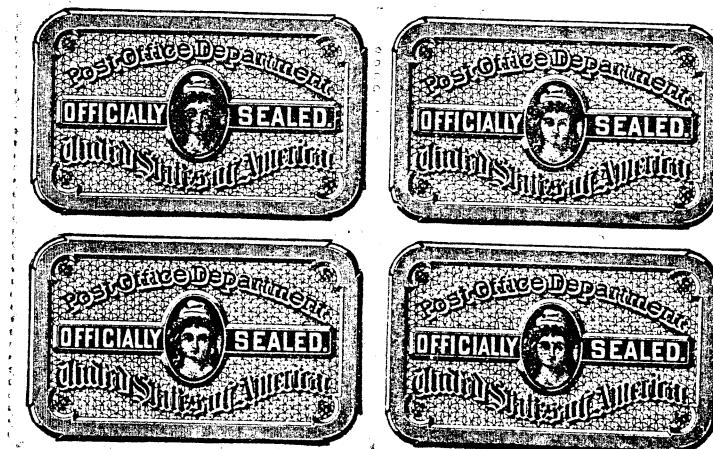
Bistre Brown Shades, Thick Paper
3rd to 7th Printing



ISSUE OF 1888

Thick Paper, Bistre Brown
Printing 3 to 7

Gash in Lower Left Frame



Top Right Stamp with Gash



Bistre Brown, Thick Paper
 Printings 3 to 7
 Cancels



1891



1893



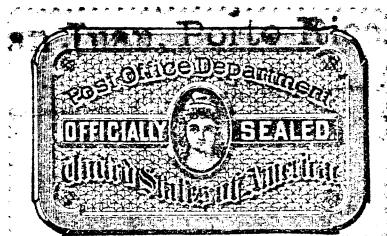
1895



1897



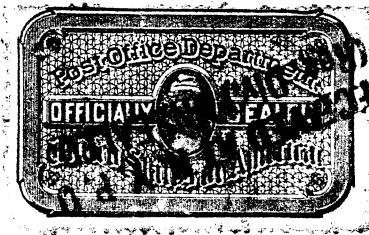
1899



Used in San Juan, Puerto Rico.
 English Spelling "Porto" indicates
 use early in occupation.



Received at N.Y.P.O.
 (Reg. Div.) Unsealed

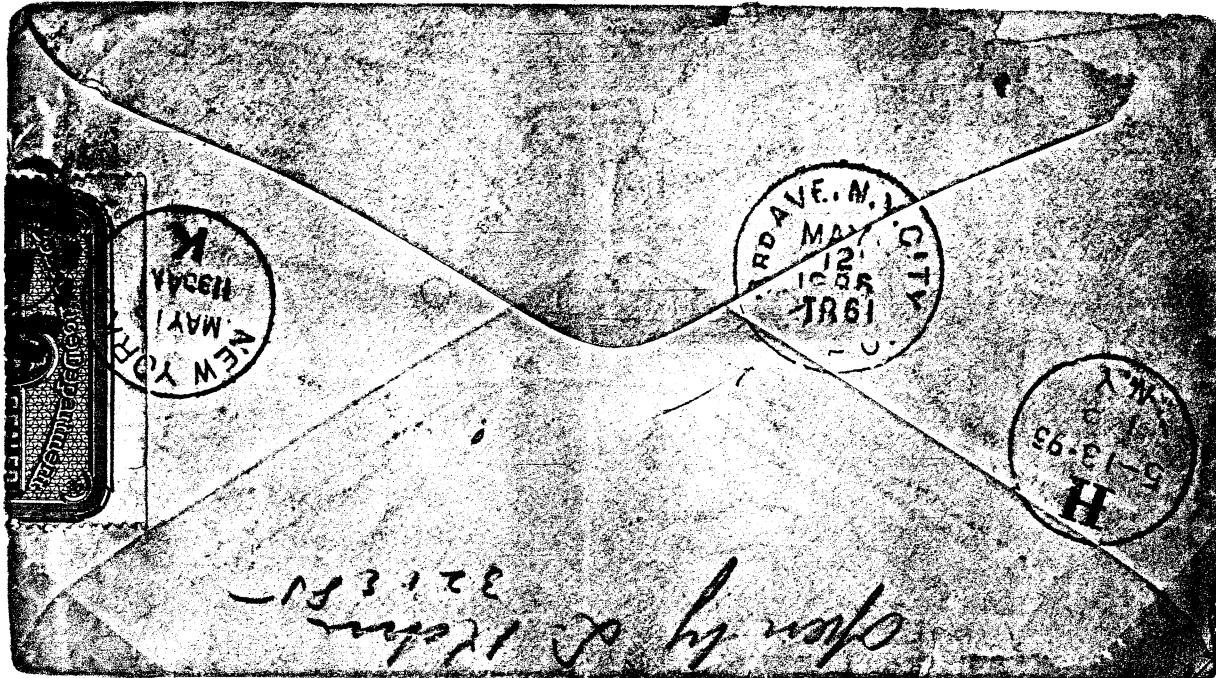


Received at N.Y.P.O.
 (Reg. Div.) in Bad
 Condition

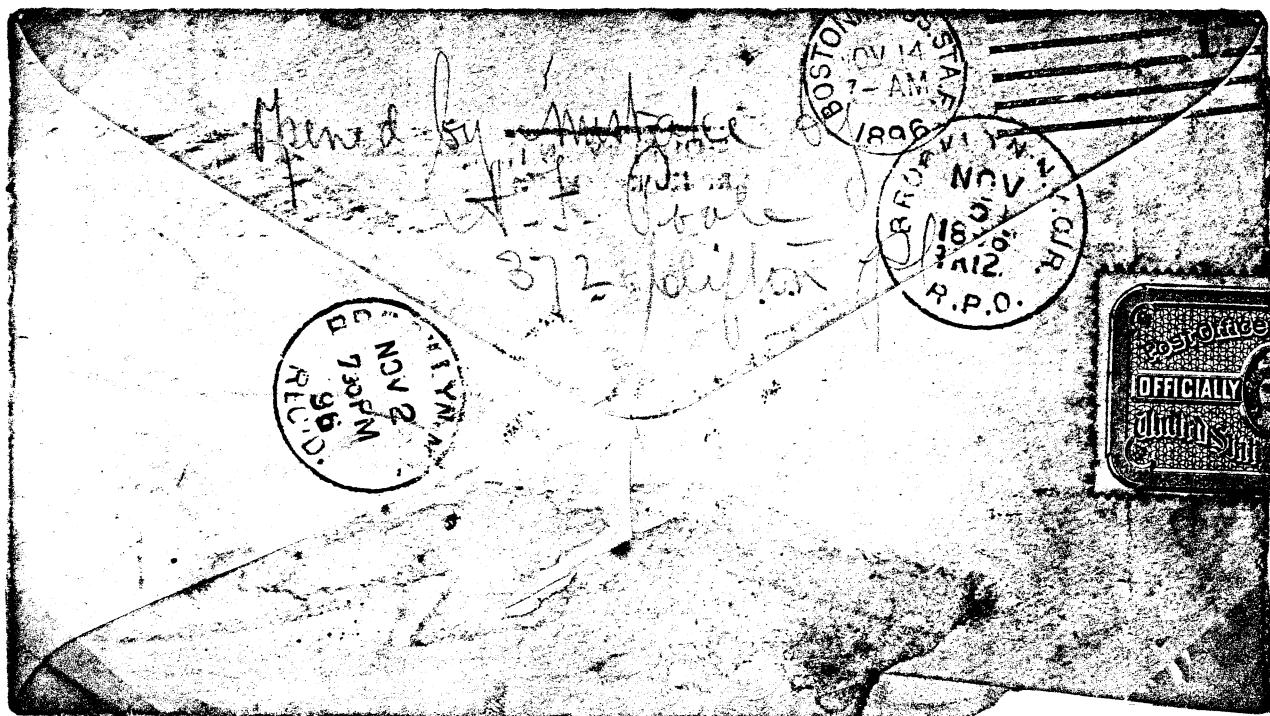


Value Asked
 & Not Given

ISSUE OF 1888



Thick Paper, Bistre Brown
Backstamped 3rd Ave. N.Y. City, New York's only Street Car P.O.



Thick Paper, Bistre Brown
Backstamped Brooklyn N.Y.Cir(cuit). This was the first year
this Street Car P.O. operated. It continued to operate until
1914.

ISSUE OF 1888

Gray Brown Shades, Thick Paper
18th to 11th Printing

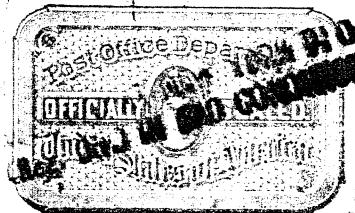


Top Right Frame Dented

ISSUE OF 1888



Medium Brown
Thick Paper
12th Printing



Rose Brown, Thick Paper
Strongly Fluorescent, Pale Green
Unidentified Printing



Orange Brown
Thick Paper
Unidentified Printing

ISSUE OF 1888

Medium Brown Shades, Thin Porous Paper
13th to 16th (Last) Printing



Imperf



Dent, Upper Right Frame Line

Gash, Right Frame Line



Overweight cover to London England Times.
5 penny due, Refused, Returned to sender
through Washington, D.C. Dead Letter
Office. Sender charged 10 cents due.

ISSUE OF 1888

Roulettes 5 1/2



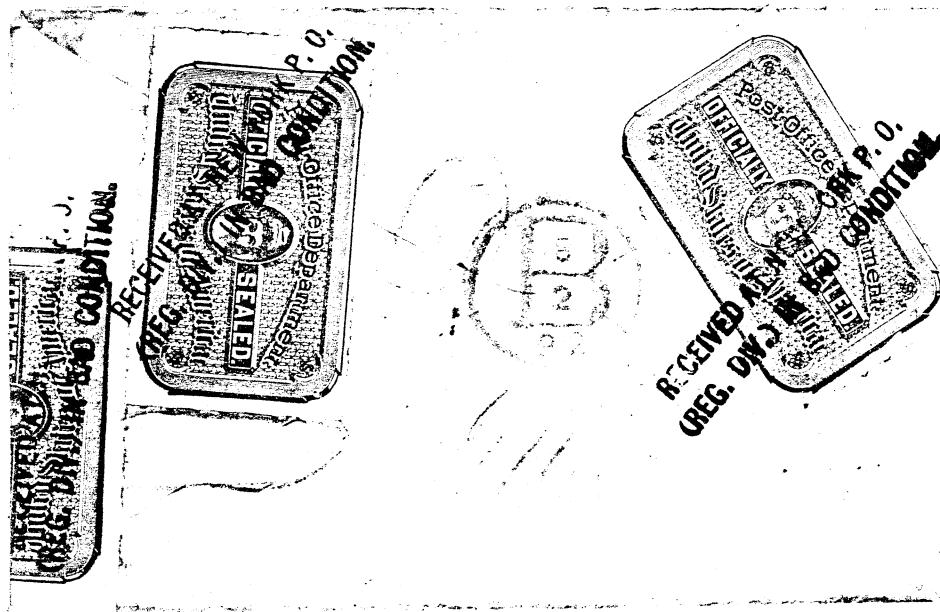
Yellow Bistre
From 4th Printing, Delivered June 27, 1891



Dull Bistre
From 5th Printing, Delivered January 22, 1892

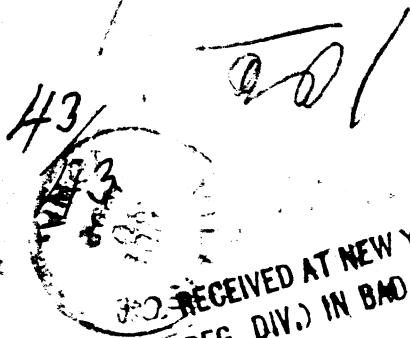
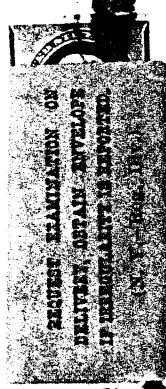
ISSUE OF 1888

Roulettes 5 1/2

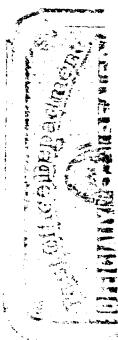


Both 4th Printing, Left, and 5th Printing Roulettes
were used on this July 30, 1892, Registered Cover

Mr. Sarah A. Doan
5610, Ia



RECEIVED AT NEW YORK P. O.
(REG. DIV.) IN BAD CONDITION.



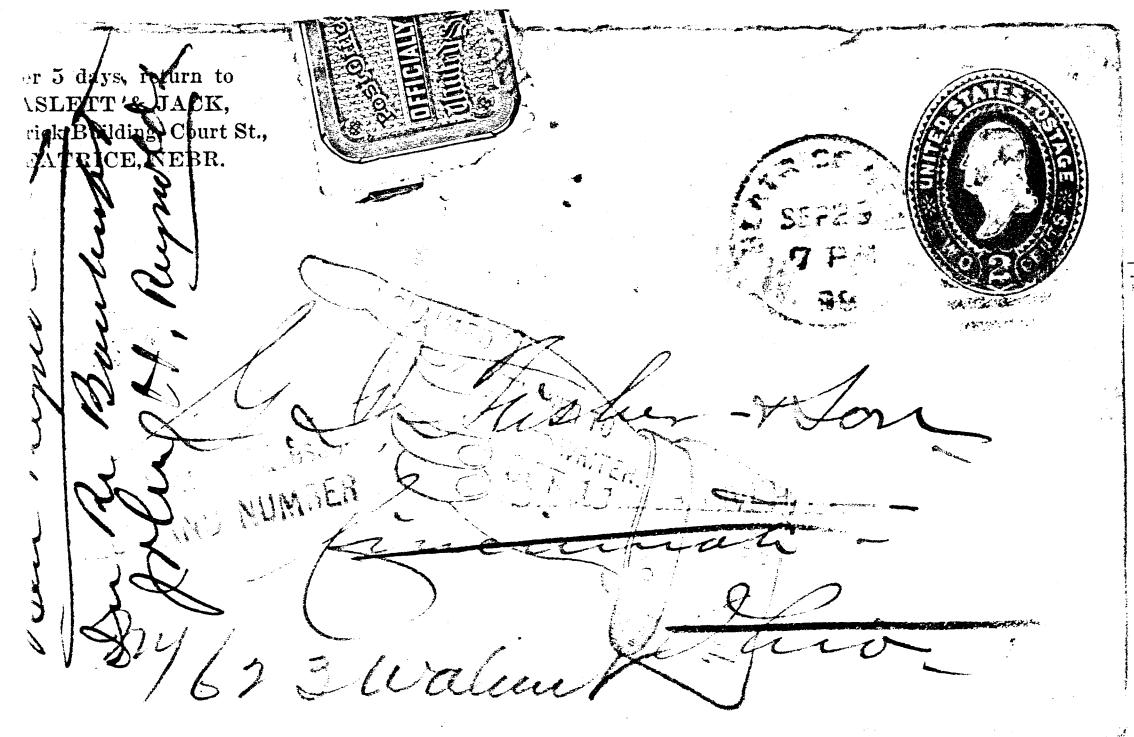
ISSUE OF 1888

Hyphen Hole Perf 7
8th Printing, Gray Brown



Gash, Bottom
Frame at Right

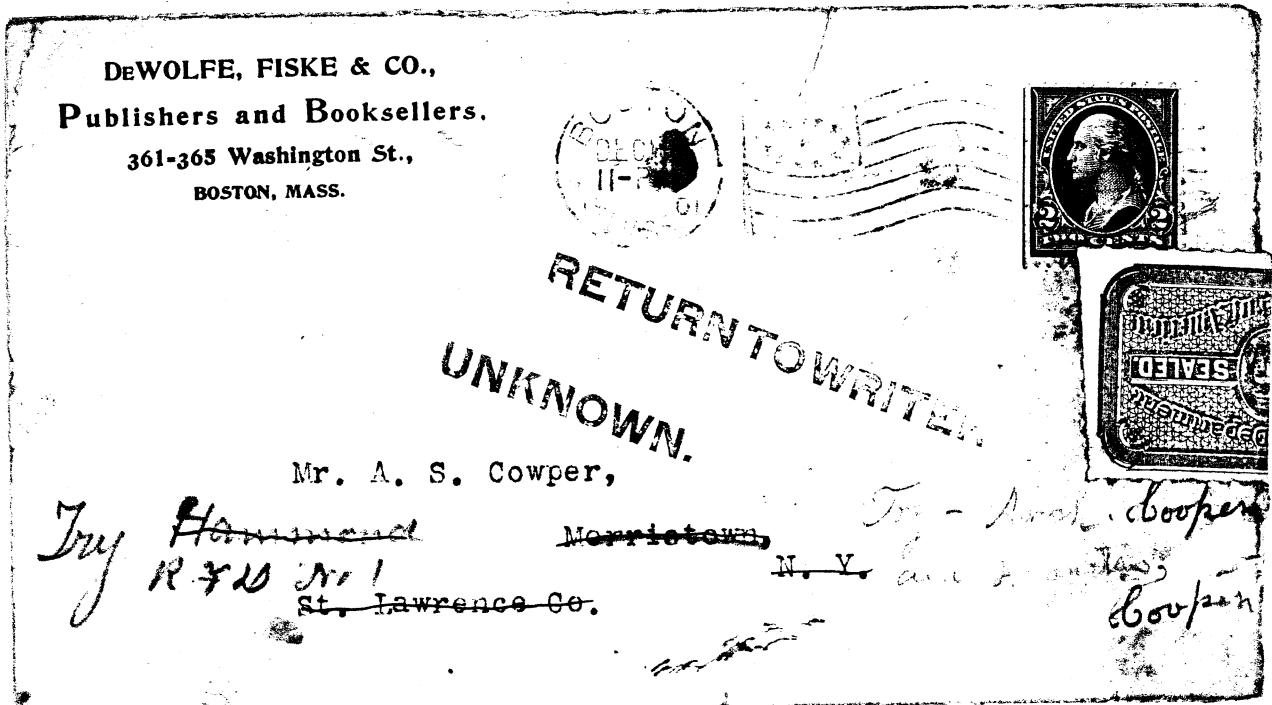
Used



Cincinnati, Ohio, Precancel on Seal

ISSUE OF 1888

Gray Brown, Thick Paper
Hyphen-Hole 7



ISSUE OF 1888

Gray Brown, Thick Paper
Hyphen-Hole 7

NOVELTY DRUM PACKAGE CO.

MANUFACTURERS,

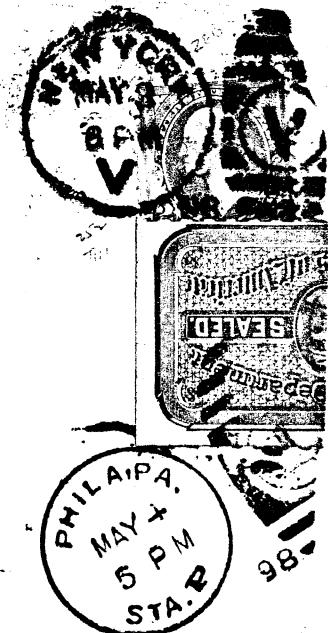
Shipping Drums, Tea Caddies and Coffee Cans,

4, 36 & 38 WATTS STREET,
NEW YORK.



125 S. Water St
A. Read & Co.

Philadelphia
Penn.

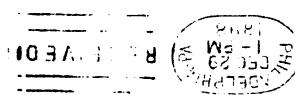
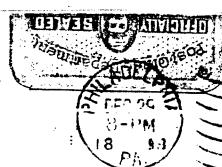


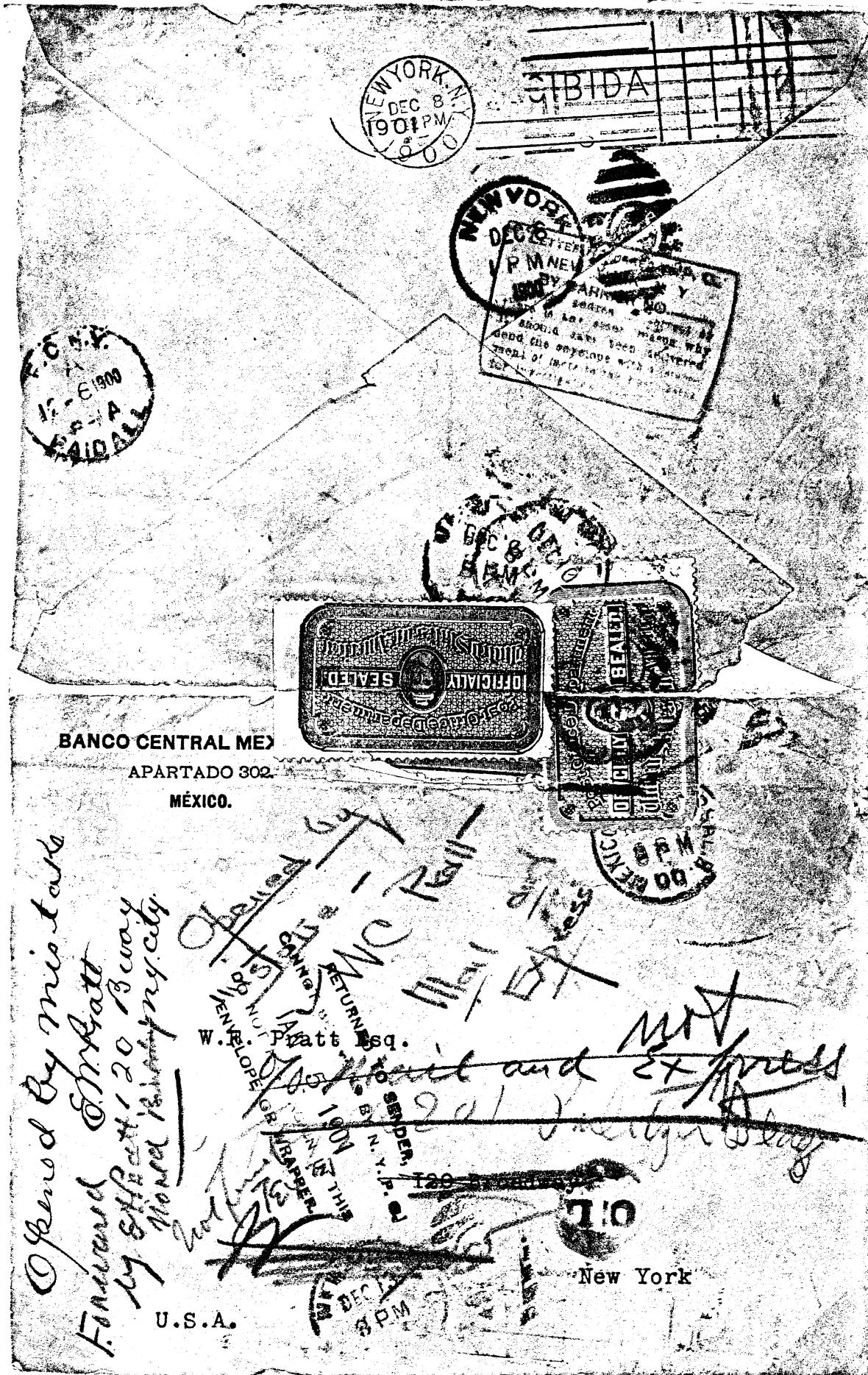
Pass & Seymour,
Syracuse, N.Y.



U. S. Post Office,

Philadelphia





Two first printing Red Brown Issue of 1900 were first applied and a single thin paper Copper Brown from the last printing of the issue of 1888 was later applied over the 1900 seals on cover from Mexico.

ISSUE OF 1900



Orange Brown, Imperf top right corner block,
Showing types A-C, E-G, I-K, M-O, Q-S, and
U-W.



Positions not in block on previous page, D, H, L, P, T, X.



Two unidentified types. They probably replaced damaged transfers or were replaced during the early printings. Their position is currently unknown.



Brown

Double Perfs at Right

Red Brown

Deep Red Brown
Imperf Sides and Bottom
Blind Perfs, Top



Two Received in Bad Order at N.Y. P.O. Cancels

ISSUE OF 1900



Black Brown

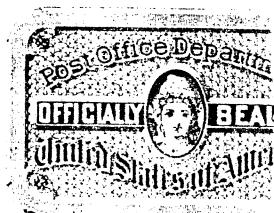
Olive Brown



Deep Brown

Orange Brown

ISSUE OF 1900



Red Brown Shades



Bistre Brown Shades

ISSUE OF 1900

Orange Brown to Deep Brown Shades



ISSUE OF 1900

Black Brown to Light Bistre Shades





Red Brown



Orange Brown

Deep Red Brown



Deep Brown

Brown Red



Deep Brown, Imperf Vertical



Bistre Brown, Imperf Vertical



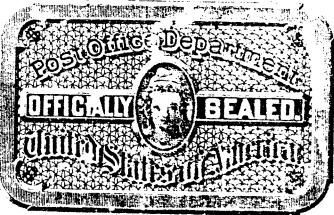
Red Brown

Imperf Horizontal

Deep Brown



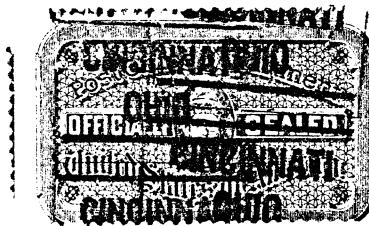
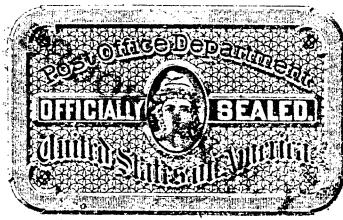
Red Brown, Imperf Vertical
Blind Horizontal Perfs



Deep Brown, Imperf Between

Orange Brown
Perf at top only

Precancels

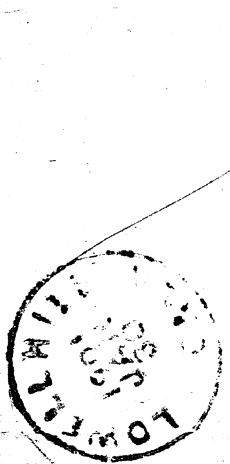


Joliet, Illinois Precancel

P. O. D. REGISTERED PACKAGE

BY BE SURE TO SEAL THIS PACKAGE SECURELY, AND TO POSTMARK IT PLAINLY
BY Fourth-class P.M.s. must write in ink, in the brackets, on each envelope, }
the names of their Post-Offices, whenever they receive a new supply. }
[P.O. *Connell Hall State, Ga.*]

Postmark of



Mailing Office.
on date when mailed.

POSTMASTER

COUNTY OF

(No. 982 P.)

PATENTED JUNE 4, 1873.

Registered package mailed 1-30-
Lowell Hill. Cal. to Postmaster
Washington, Nevada County, Cal.

The Postmaster of Nevada City,
Cal. Opened it by mistake and
after sealing it with 1900 seal
Sent it to Washington 2-1-01.

Note Ogden & San Fran. R.P.O.,
2-1-03 on and above oval Nevada
City Registered handstamp on
reverse.

RECORD OF TRANSIT

NEW INSTRUCTIONS.

To facilitate tracing, a complete record must be made by every postal officer handling this package, as set forth in Section 1031, Page 384 of the Regulations.

Should this package become damaged, it must be placed in a new Registered Package Envelope at the post office where the injury occurs, or when damaged in the hands of a Postal Clerk, at the post office at the terminus of his route.

The original Registered Package Envelope must not be removed, but, before enclosure in the new one, must be endorsed with a certificate stating its exact condition, to be signed by the Postmaster and the Postal Clerk, to whom delivered, or from whom received. The new Envelope must bear the address and registered number of the old one, and the postmark of the office at which the package is re-enveloped. The fact of re-enclosure must be noted on the records of transit.

Receipts must be given, on delivery of envelopes, or by next mail, which receipts should bear the post-mark of date of return.—See Sections 1063 and 1075 on.



ISSUE OF 1900



*3

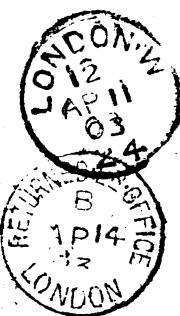
sent by
D. Jones
to Franklin
not for me

5-7-01
Bistre Brown

A. MCL. HAWKS
CIVIL AND HYDRAULIC ENGINEER
402 SPRUCE BUILDING
A. O. BOX 854
TACOMA, WASH.



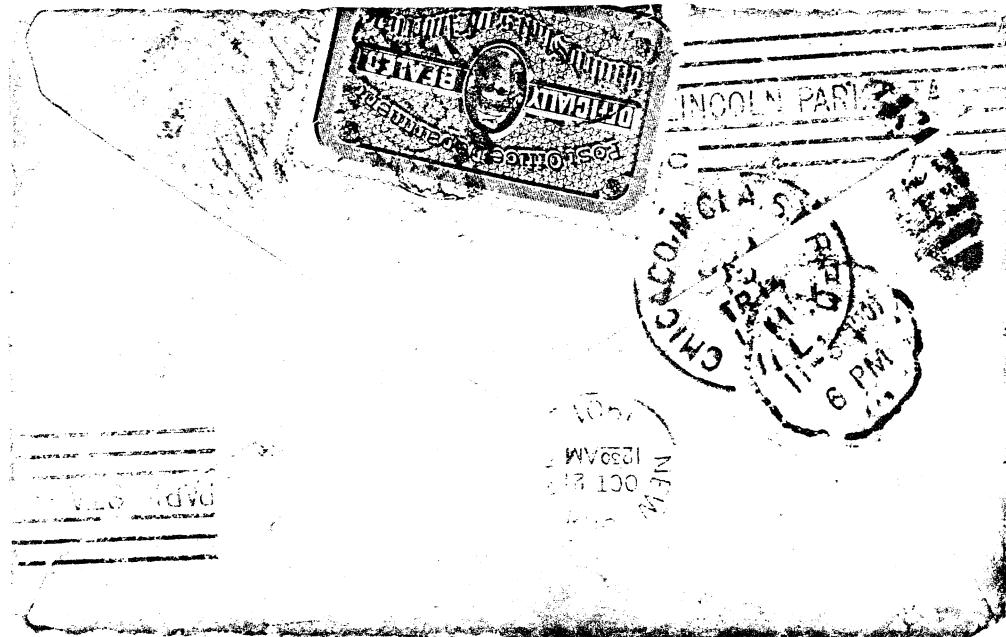
Mr. W. J. Sutherland
de St.
illy. W.
on. England



The top three seals are light brown and the seal at the left Dark Brown.

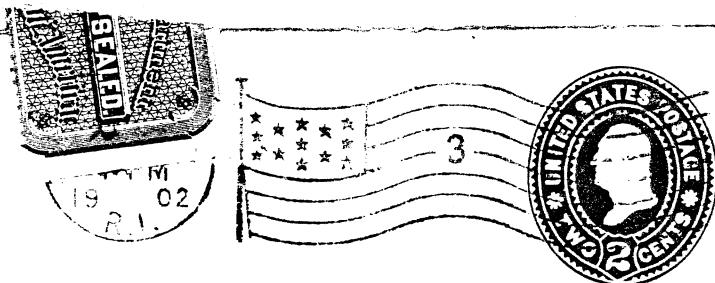
Markings: Posted Tacoma, Washington, Mar. 25, 03; New York Foreign Branch
Transit Mar. 30; London, England Receiving Apr. 11; London, returned to
office, Apr. 14; Dead Letter Office, May 5; Reposted Washington, D.C.,

ISSUE OF 1900



11-27-01
Yellow Brown
Chicago N. Clark St. R.P.O. (Streetcar) Transit

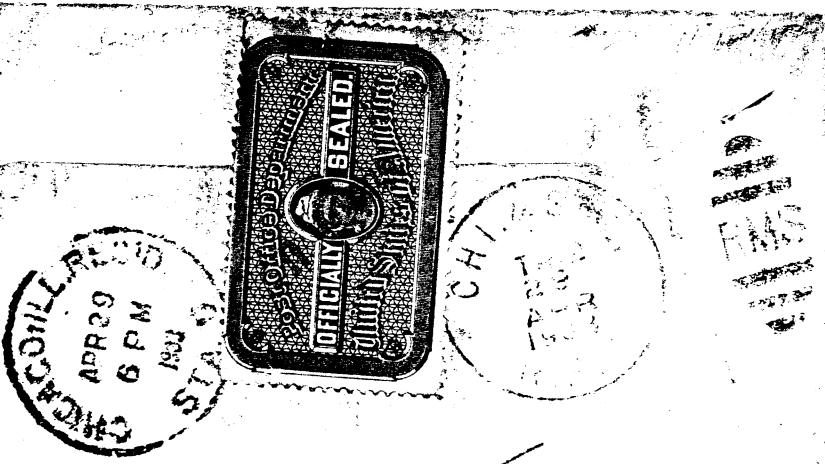
After 10 days, return to
BILLINGS BROTHERS,
60 Union St.,
PROVIDENCE, R. I.



Mr St A Harris
Harris Steam Etc

City

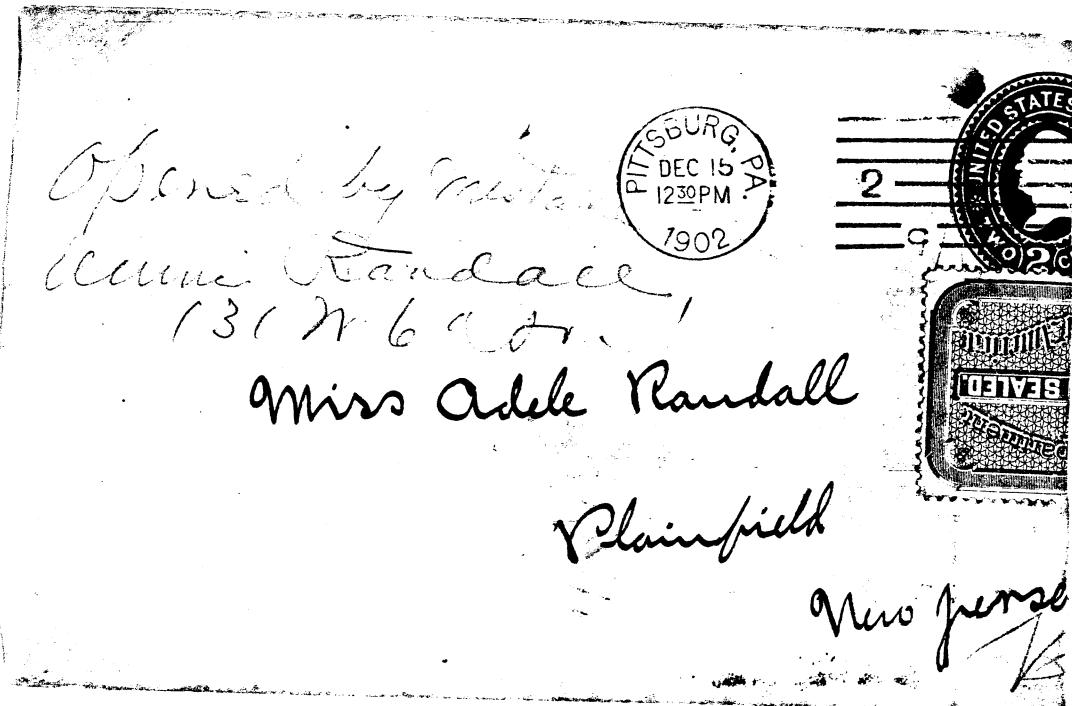
12-2-02
Light Brown
Providence, R.I. Precancel



Miss A. Kotulich
4547 Ellis Ave
Chicago

Received Unsealed,
Station U, Chicago, Ill.

4-29-03
Red Brown
Station U Precancel
Chicago & St. Louis R.P.O. Transit



12-15-02
Bistre Brown
Opened by Mistake

ISSUE OF 1900

The Publishing House of A. S. Barnes
156 Fifth Avenue, New York.



Dewolfe Fiske Co
Boston Mass



5-11-03
Brown



I T H A C A,
N.Y.
JUN 18 8-PM '03



-1

Dr. E. L. Titchener

Cornell University

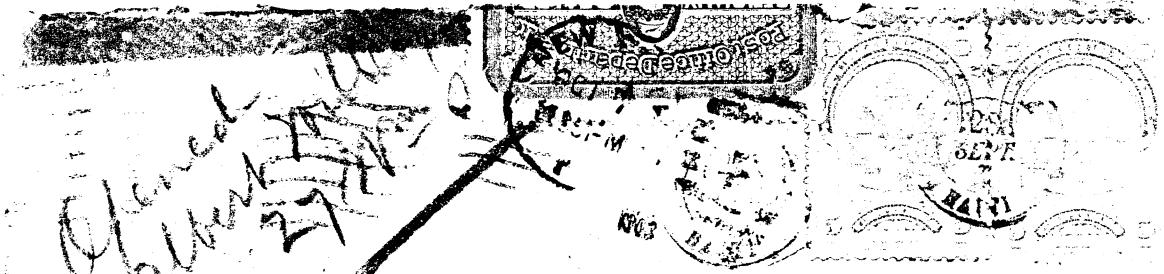
E. C. D.

Dear Dr. Titchener

Dr. Titchener

6-18-03
Brown

ISSUE OF 1900



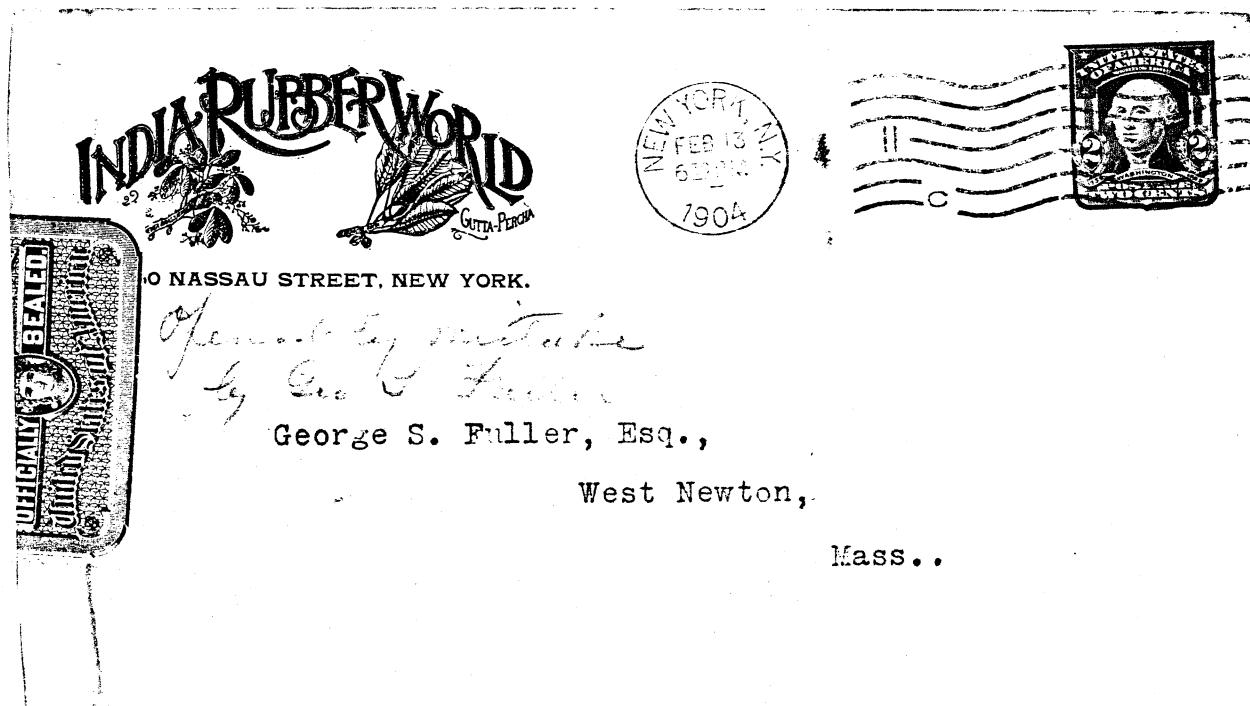
General
Post Office
W. J. Wilcox & Co.
100 Broadway
New York,
U. S. A.

10-7-03
Bistre Brown
Haiti to New York

GREENWICH, CONN.
NOV 27 6 30 AM 1903

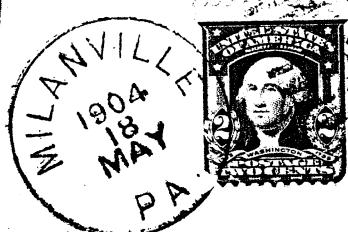
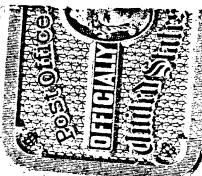


11-27-03
Red Brown
Natal to Greenwich, Conn.
Hampden Cancelling Machine Company, Holyoke, Mass., Cancel on reverse.



2-13-04
Light Red Brown
This seal and others matching its color are fluorescent under short wave ultraviolet light as red-orange. This is the only color 1900 seal found to have this property.

IF NOT CALLED FOR IN 5 DAYS RETURN TO
BRANDT CHEMICAL CO.,
MILANVILLE, PA.



The New York Press

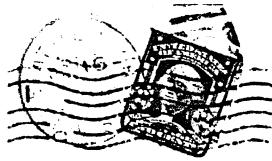
New York City
N.Y.



5-18-04
Orange Brown

ISSUE OF 1900

Washington
State



Colonel Frank H. Foxworthy
Seattle, Washington
Returned from Hotel



10-16-05
Red Brown
Returned from Hotel



12-21-04
Red Brown

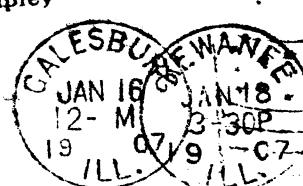
ISSUE OF 1900



John Gray Jr.
Faster Dr.
Des Plaines Station, Ill.

12-8-05
Red Brown
Use on Postal Card

ALDRICH & LONGBRAKE, & Ripley
PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS,
204 EAST MAIN STREET,
GALESBURG, ILLINOIS.

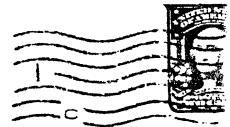


Mr. John Murphy.
John Murphy
Opened by
1905 Galesburg, Ill.

1-18-07
Red Brown

ISSUE OF 1900

A. U. Rochester
235 Broadway
New York

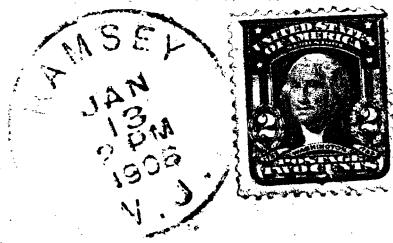


Abraham Patterson, Esq.
377 Broadway
New York City



1-20-07
Red Brown

Opened by wrong party. Front stamped "Not in Directory, Searcher No. 1, Station - N.Y.P.O.". Also "Returned to sender, Could not be found by N.Y.P.O., Do not post again in this envelope or wrapper". Reverse handstamp reads "Letter returned to P.O., New York, N.Y., by carrier No. 3. If the address is correct or their is any other reason why it should have been delivered, return the envelope with a stateme of facts to the Postmaster for investigation.



Keyser Todd,
5 Camel St.
Hackensack
New Jersey, N.J.

1-13-08
Red Brown

ISSUE OF 1907

Printed by the Government Printing Office and Perforated by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Issued in panes of 20 and Half Panes of 10.

Royal Blue, Unwatermarked
1st Printing



Received in Bad
Order N.Y.P.O.



Syracuse, N. Y.

Strip from Pane
of 20.



Block from Half Pane of 10

ISSUE OF 1907

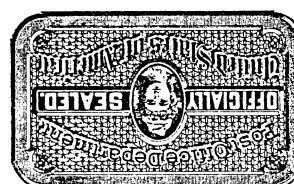
Royal Blue, Unwatermarked
1st Printing

These seals were printed in sheets of six panes, two rows of three panes. The rows were printed tete beche. These varieties probably came from printers waste.



Imperf

Gutter Pair
Imperf Between



Tete Beche, Imperf Between

Imperf, Tete Beche
Vertical Gutter

ISSUE OF 1907

Royal Blue, Unwatermarked
1st Printing

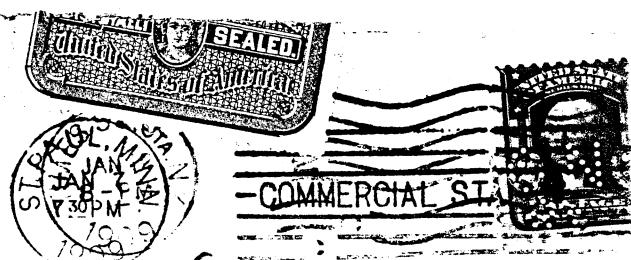


Wing Margin, From Untrimmed Sheets



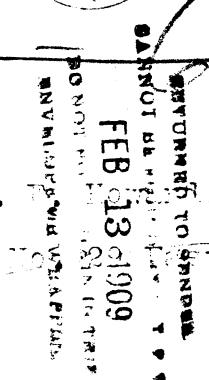
Imperf, Multiple Impression
Printers Waste

GREAT NORTHERN
IRON ORE PROPERTIES
220 G. N. BLDG.
ST. PAUL, - MINN.

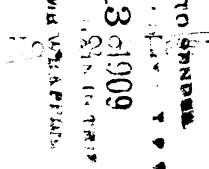


COMMERCIAL ST.

Mark 10792



Mr. W. C. [unclear]



107th St.,
New York City.

Mr. [unclear]

Opened by Mistake. Franked with \$.02 Issue of 1903, Die II, Lake.
Great Northern Railway Perf-in.

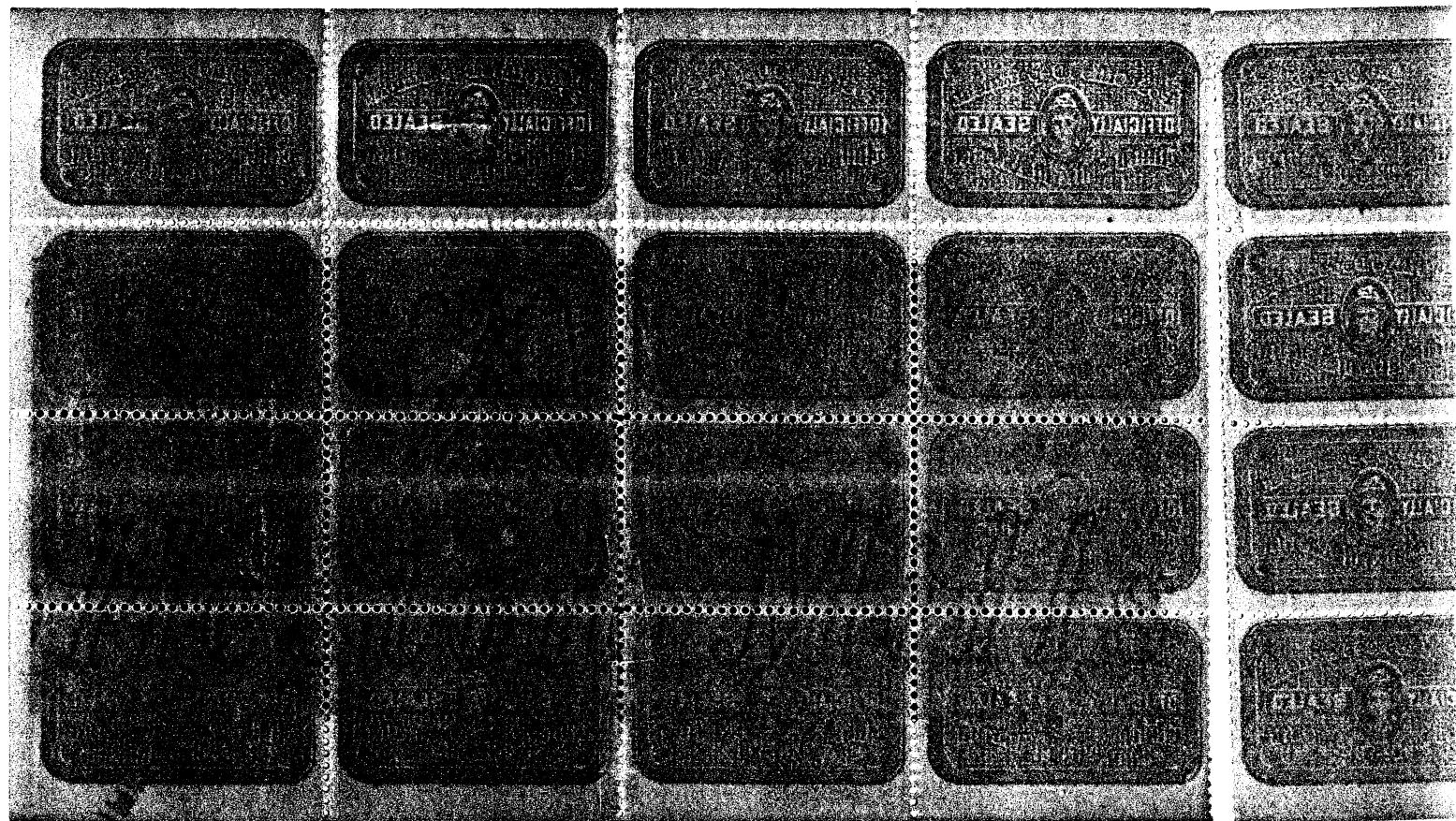
ISSUE OF 1907

Blue Shades, Unwatermarked



ISSUE OF 1907

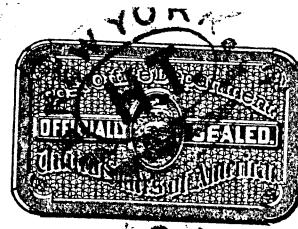
Blue, Perf 12



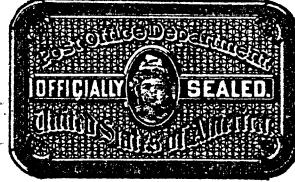
Pane of 20, Without Salvage
Showing Watermark "Rolleston Mills".

ISSUE OF 1907

Blue Shades



Watermarked Double-Line "Rolleston Mills", in Sheet.

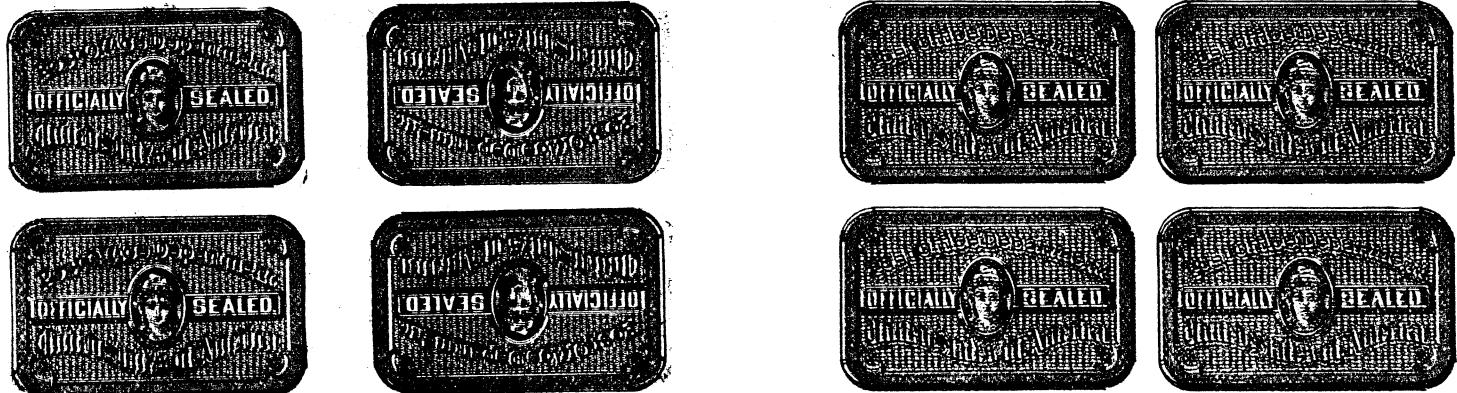


Watermarked Great Seal in Sheet

ISSUE OF 1907



Blue Violet, Watermarked Great Seal, Olive Leaves at Left Regular and elongated.
Imperf



Blue, Tete Beche, Imperf
Unwatermarked, Double Impression

Blue, Imperf, Unwatermarked
Double Impression

ISSUE OF 1907

Violet Blue Shades, Unwatermarked



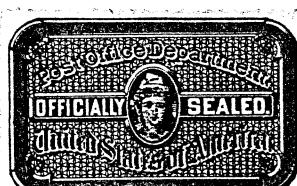
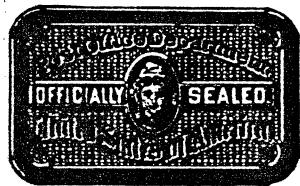
Block from Pane of 20



Block from Half Pane of 10

ISSUE OF 1907

Violet Blue Shades, Unwatermarked



Toned Paper

Vertical Pair
Imperf Between

ISSUE OF 1907

Violet Blue, Watermarked Double-Line "Rolleston Mills".



Block, From pane of 20.



Shades



Single, From Half
Pane of 10.

Toned Paper

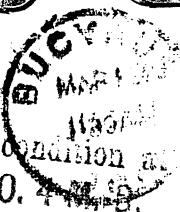
ISSUE OF 1907

Violet Blue, Perf 12.

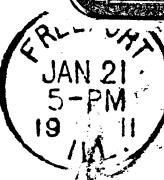


HARRIET CASE

Aud



Received in bad condition at
Chicago, Ill. P. O.



Mr J. H. Rutherford
Kingsville
Texas

Issue of 1907

Violet Blue, Perf 12



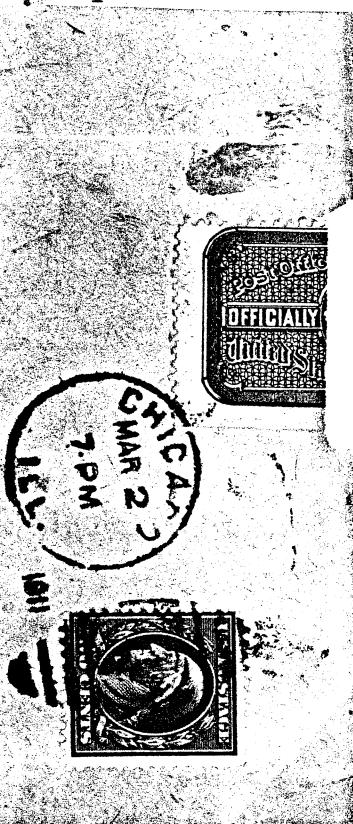
34 SQ. CLARK STREET
CHICAGO

RETURN IN 6 DAYS



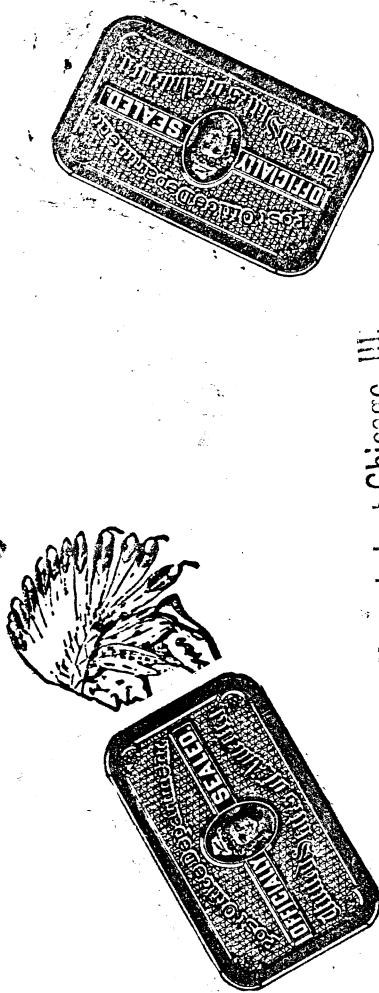
Bank of Nova Scotia.

Campbellton, N.B. Canada.



Received in bad condition
Chicago, Ill. P. O. 4 M. O.

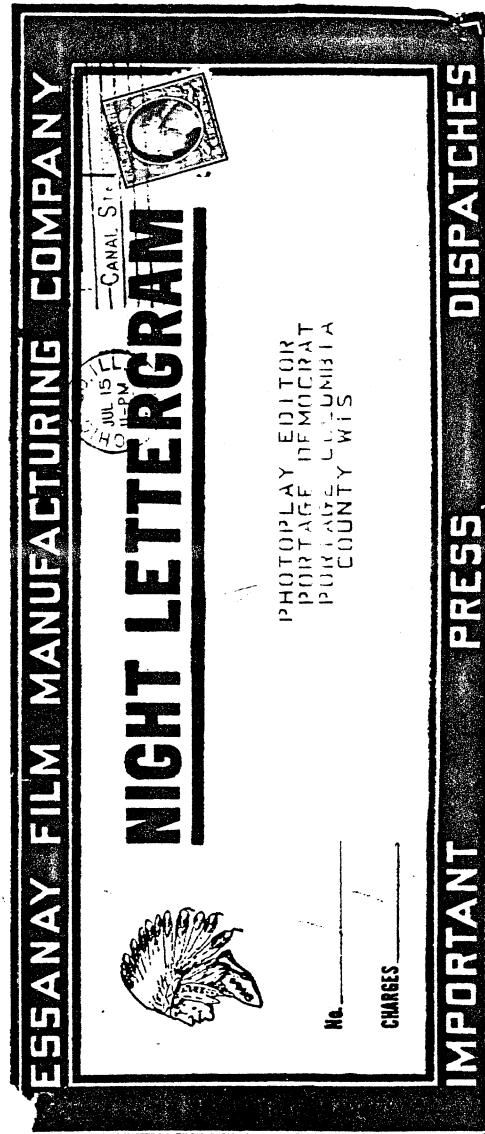
Chicago, Ill., to Canada
Received in bad condition
at Chicago, Ill. P. O. 4
M. O.



Received Unsigned at Chicago, Ill.
P. O. Canal Sta. M. D.

NIGHT LETTERGRAM

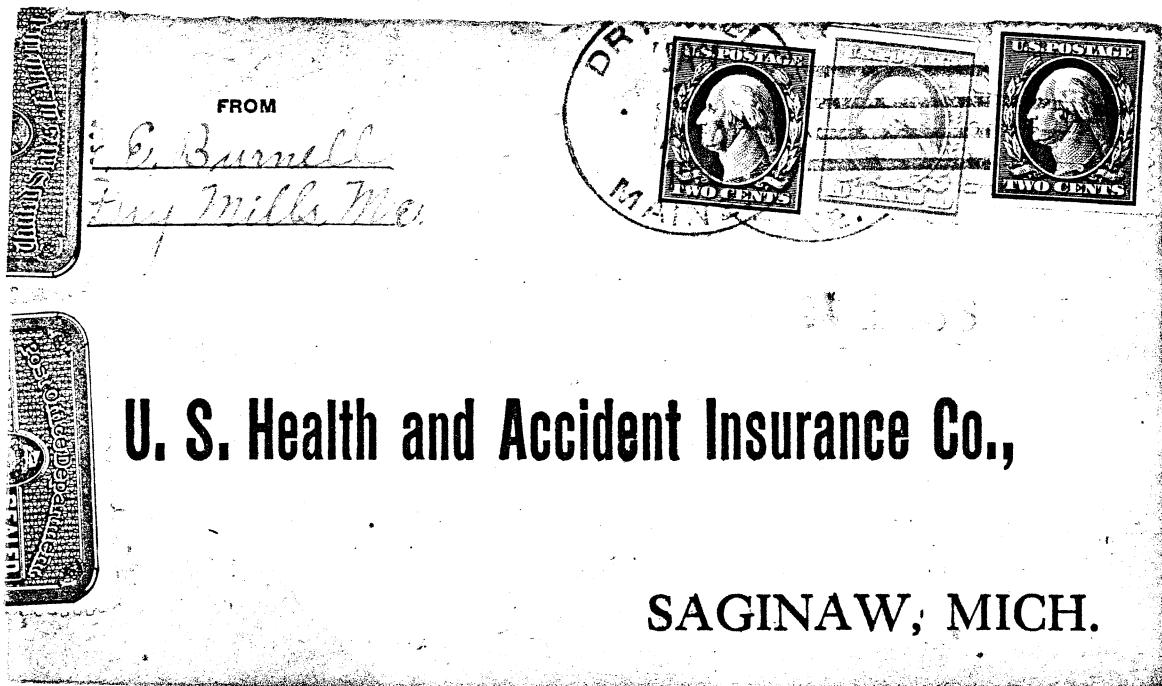
—MESSAGES TO ALL THE WORLD—



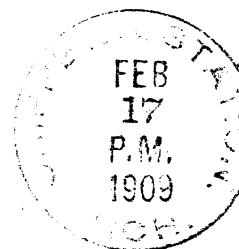
Received Unsealed at Chicago, Double Rate letter franked with Single Line,
Watermarked, Perf 10, Washington issue of 1914.

ISSUE OF 1907

Violet Blue
Registered Covers



Return after five days to
E. W. HALL
DEALER IN
General Merchandise, Drugs and
Patent Medicines
CHIPPEWA STATION, MICH.



Saginaw Bros & co

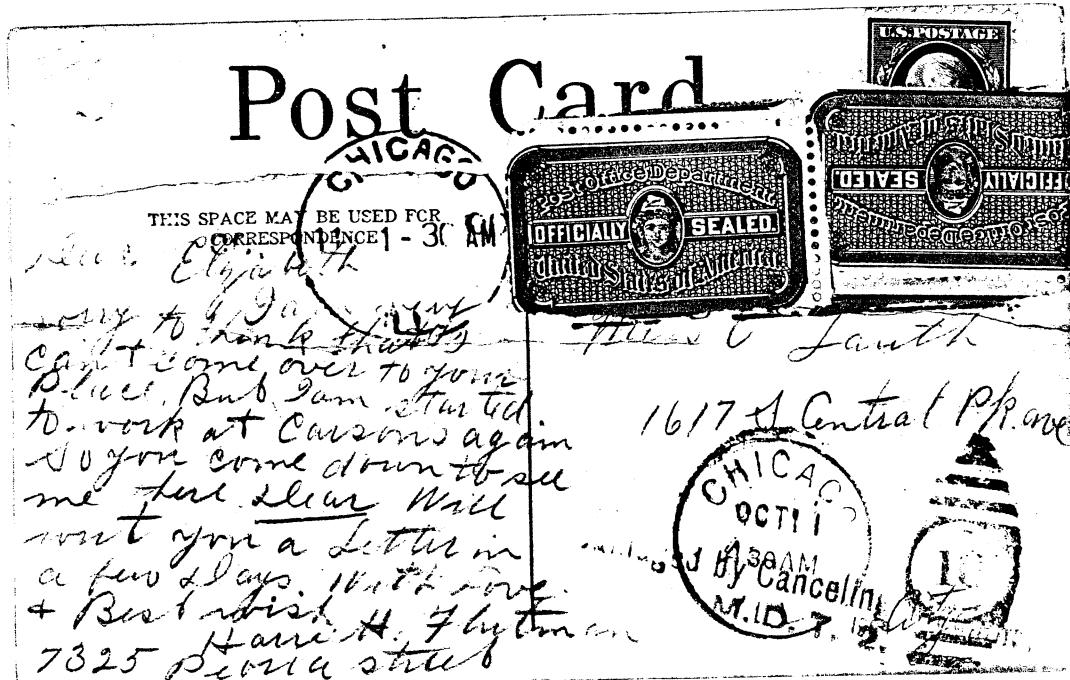
Saginaw E. & co

Mich



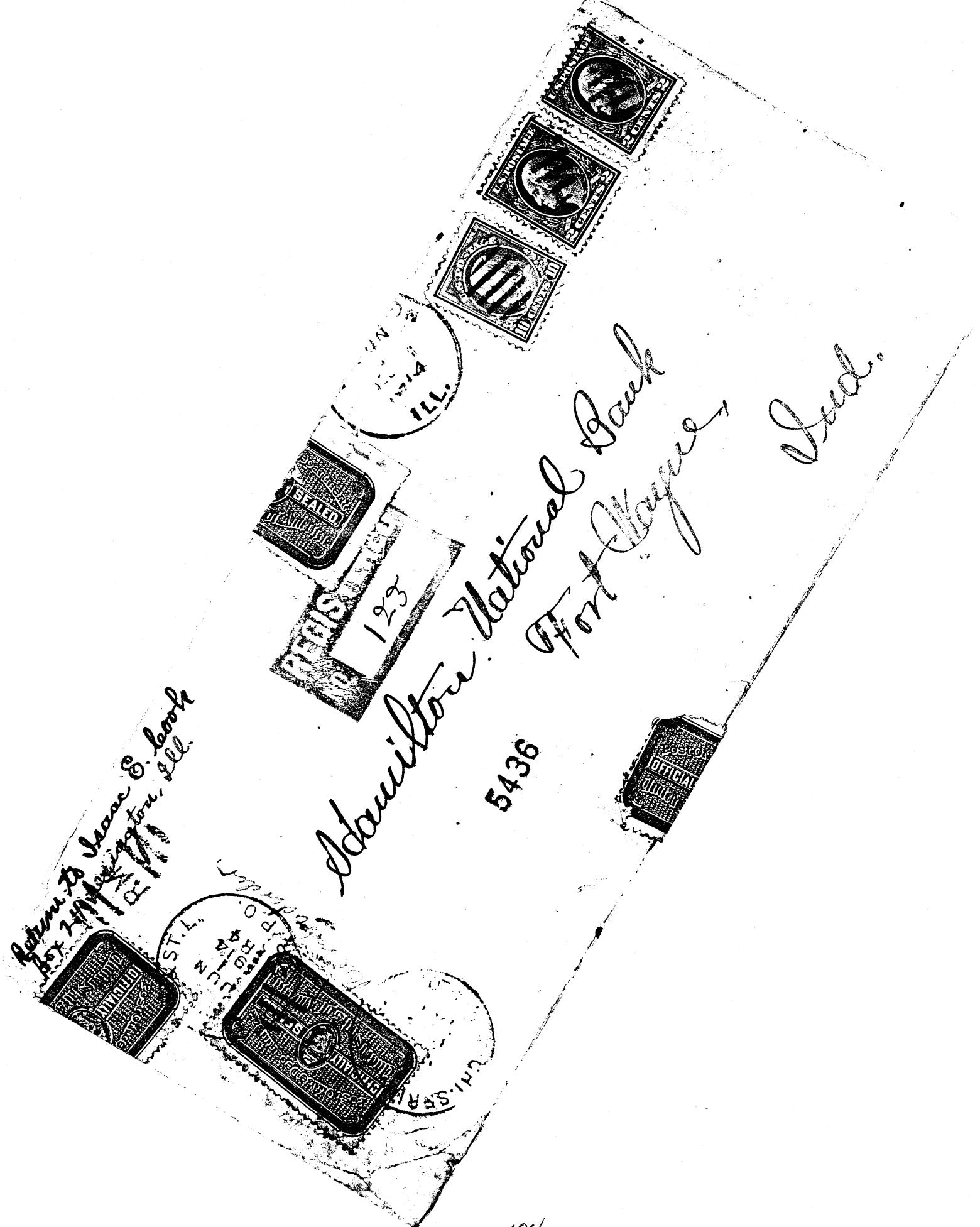


Costa Rica to New York City



Post Card, Damaged by Canceling Machine

ISSUE OF 1907



ISSUE OF 1907

After 5 days return to
1737 First National Bank Bldg.
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



2
1909
C



Damaged by Cancelling Machine

Opened by Mrs. Charles Johnson
369 Broad St. Not for him. A.Y.S.
Refused. A.Y.S.

After 5 days return to
THE MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK,
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Open

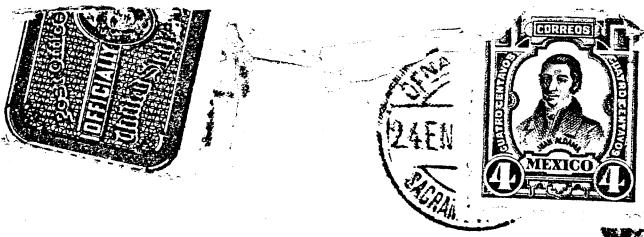


Char. C. Johnson Esq
369 Broad St
City



Opened and unclaimed by wife of addressee

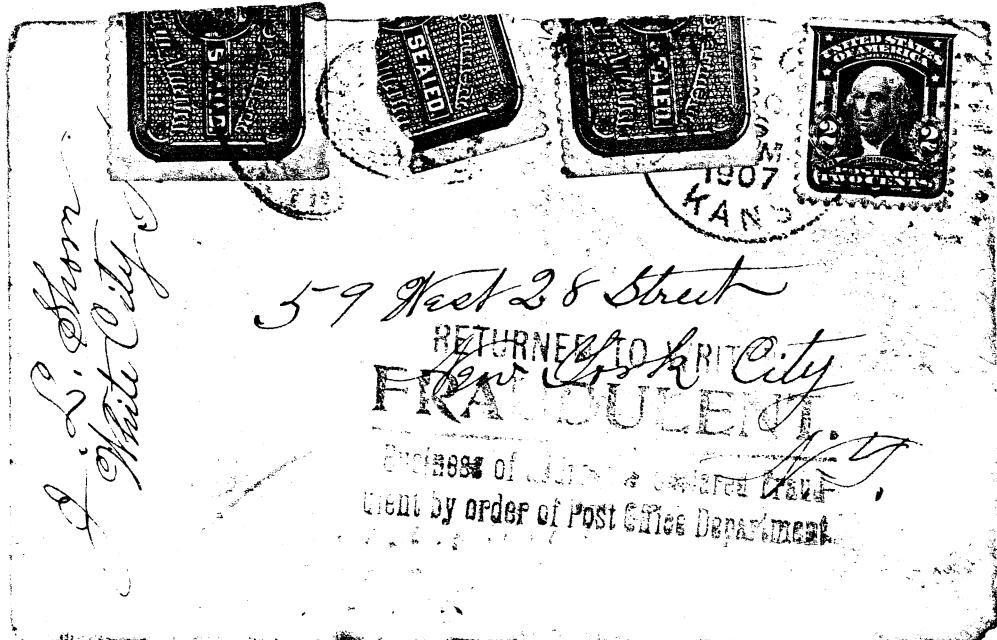
ISSUE OF 1907



27
Certified at Pasadena, Calif., Feb 27, 1915.

FEB 27 1915.

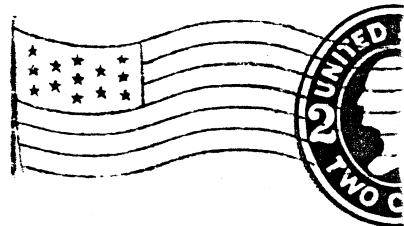
Pasadena Calif.



Returned to Writer, Fraudulent, Business of Addressee Declared Fraudulent By Order of Post Office Department.

ISSUE OF 1907

After 3 days, return to
CHASE ROLLING MILL CO.,
WATERBURY, CONN.



Norton Co.,

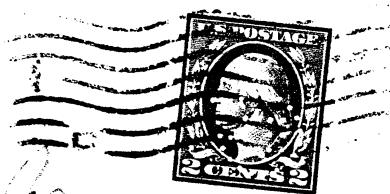


Worcester,

Mass.

Perf 12, "Received Unsealed at Worcester, Mass.

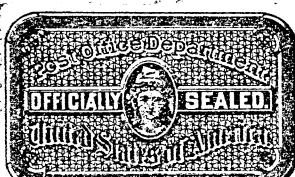
After 3 days return to
GENERAL ELECTRIC CO.
SCHENECTADY, N.Y.



Perf 12 by Hyphen-Hole 6 1/2, with General Electric Perf-in.

ISSUE OF 1907

Blue, Hyphon-Hole 6½



Unwatermarked

Rolleston Mills
Watermark



Rolleston Mills
Watermark



Unwatermarked

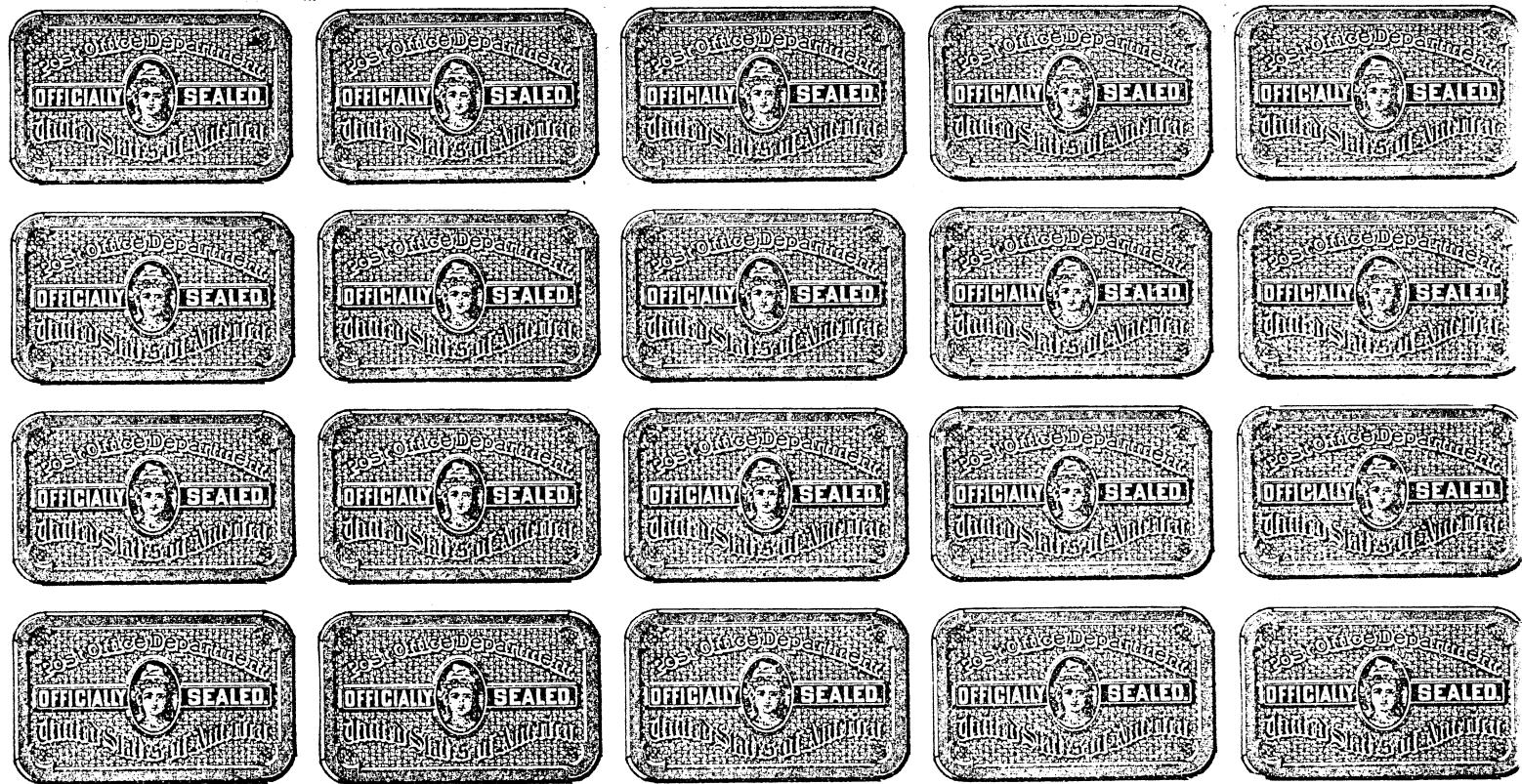


Rolleston Mills
Watermark

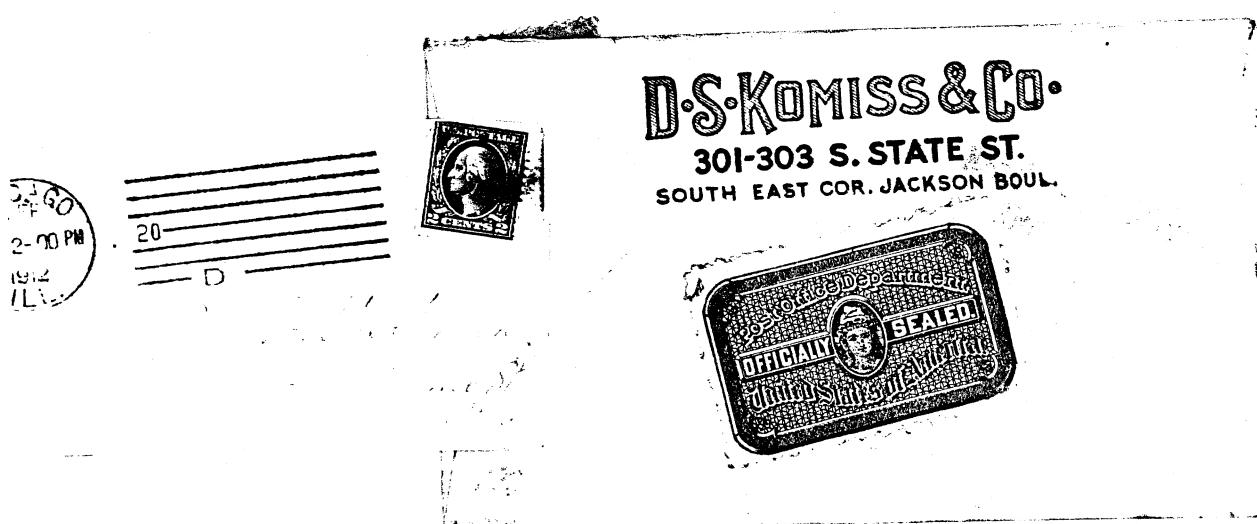
Unwatermarked

ISSUE OF 1907

Hyphen-Hole 6 1/2



Pane of 200, Without Selvage
Watermarked "Rolleston Mills" in Sheet

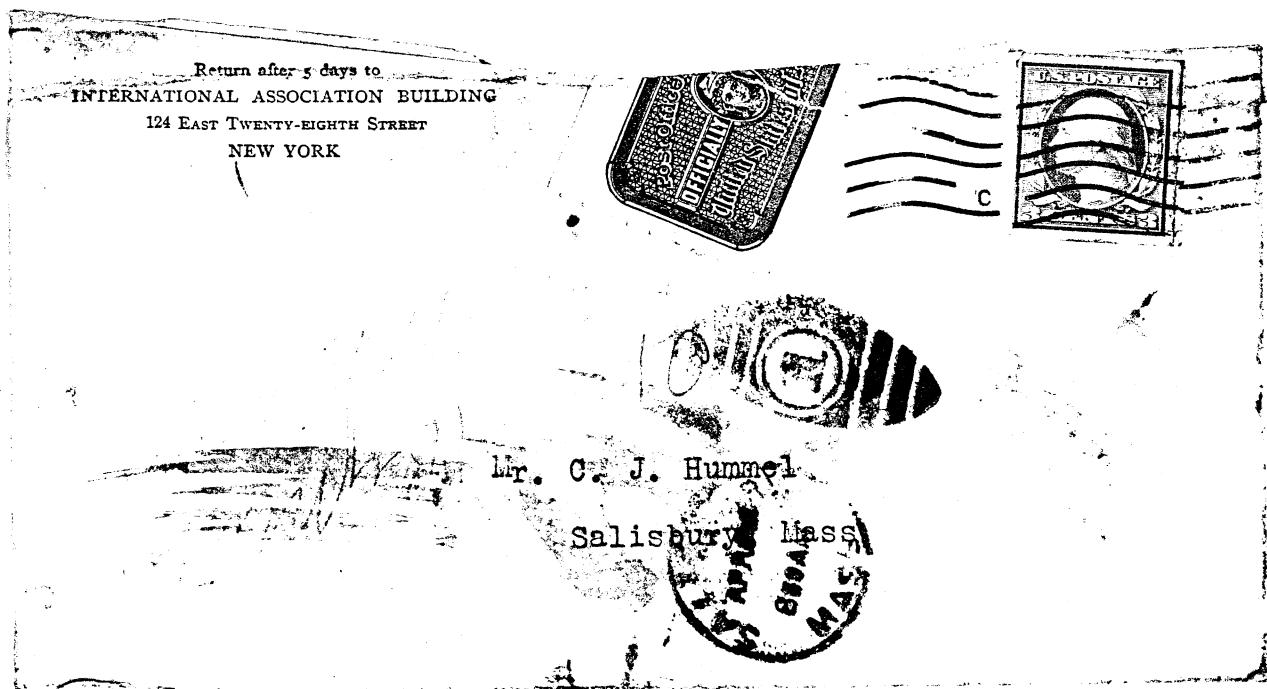


Received at Chicago Unsealed

ISSUE OF 1907
Blue, Hyphen-Hole 6½



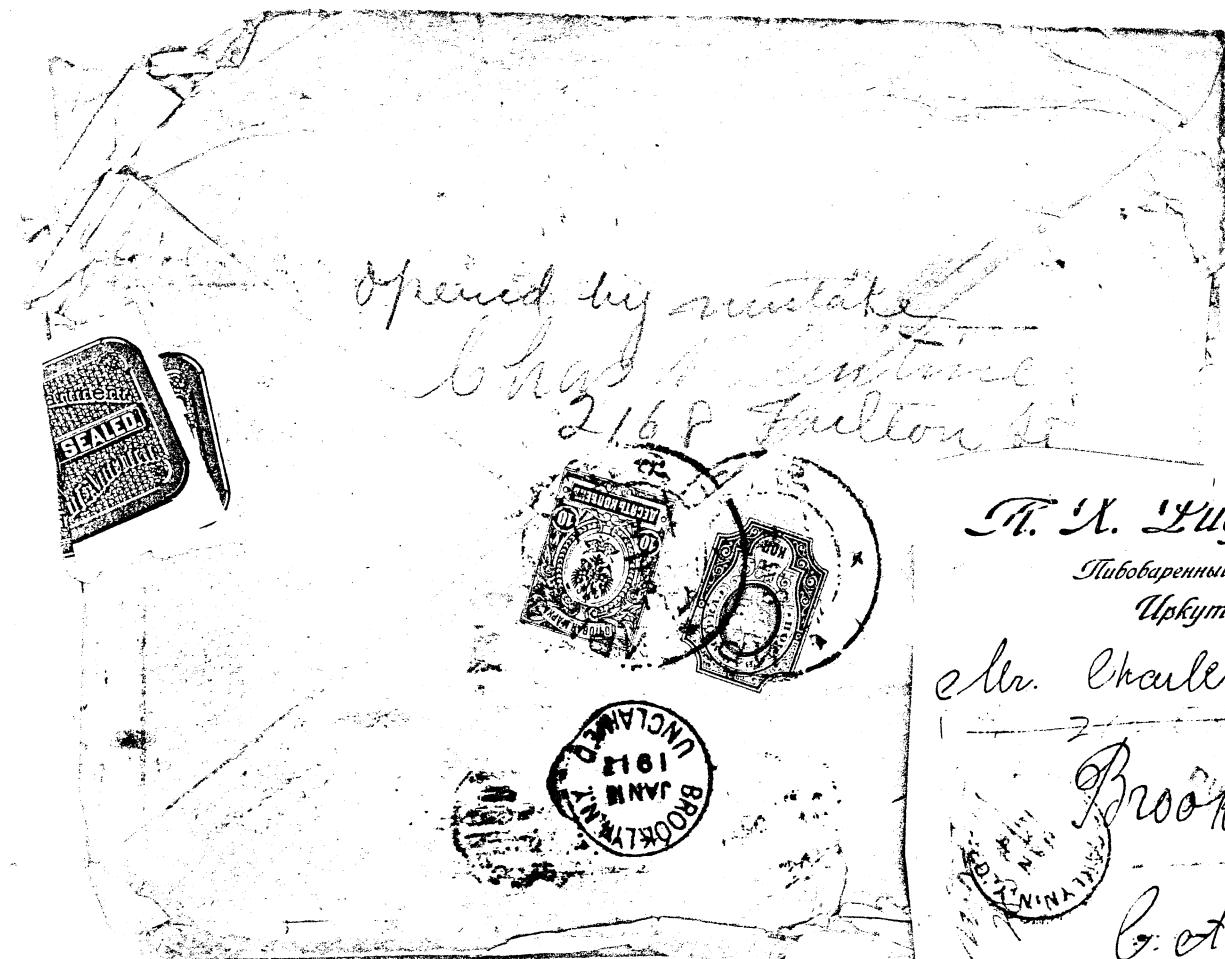
Received in bad condition, Chicago, Ill. P.O. 5 M D



Opened By Mistake

ISSUE OF 1907

Hyphen-Hole 6 1/2



Р. А. Чифрессман.
Пивоваренный завод.
Иркутск.

Mr. Charles Valentine
Brooklyn N.Y.
C. C. W.
Not at Post.

Atmex



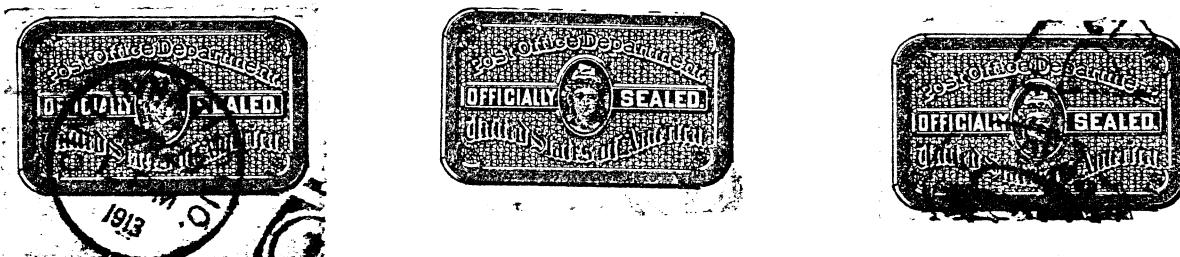
Yuan A. Hamilton in letter,
268 Franklin Street,
San Francisco,
California,

ISSUE OF 1907

Blue
Hyphen-Hole 6 1/2 by Perf 12



Watermarked Great Seal



Great Seal
Watermark

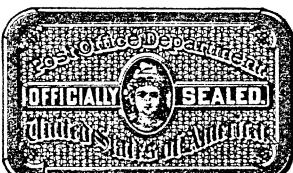
Rolleston Mills Watermark

Unwatermarked



ISSUE OF 1907

Blue, Perf 12 by Hyphen-Hole 6 1/2



Great Seal
Watermark

Unwatermarked
From Pane of 10

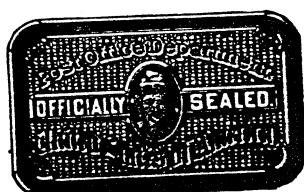


Great Seal Watermark

Unwatermarked



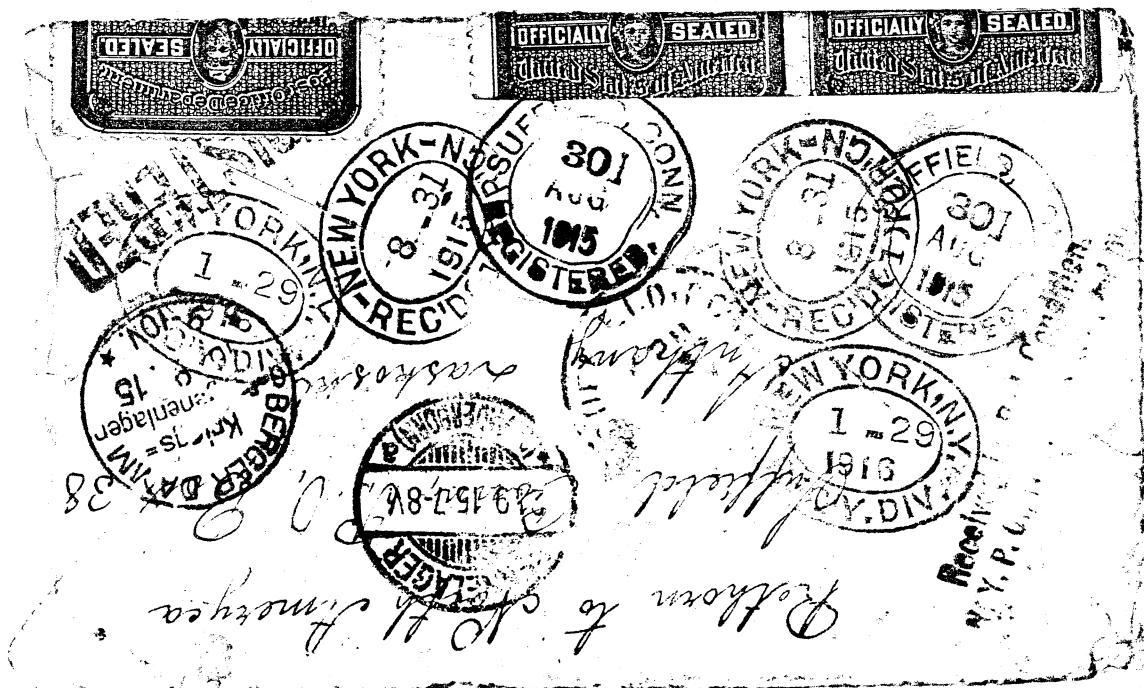
Great Seal Watermark



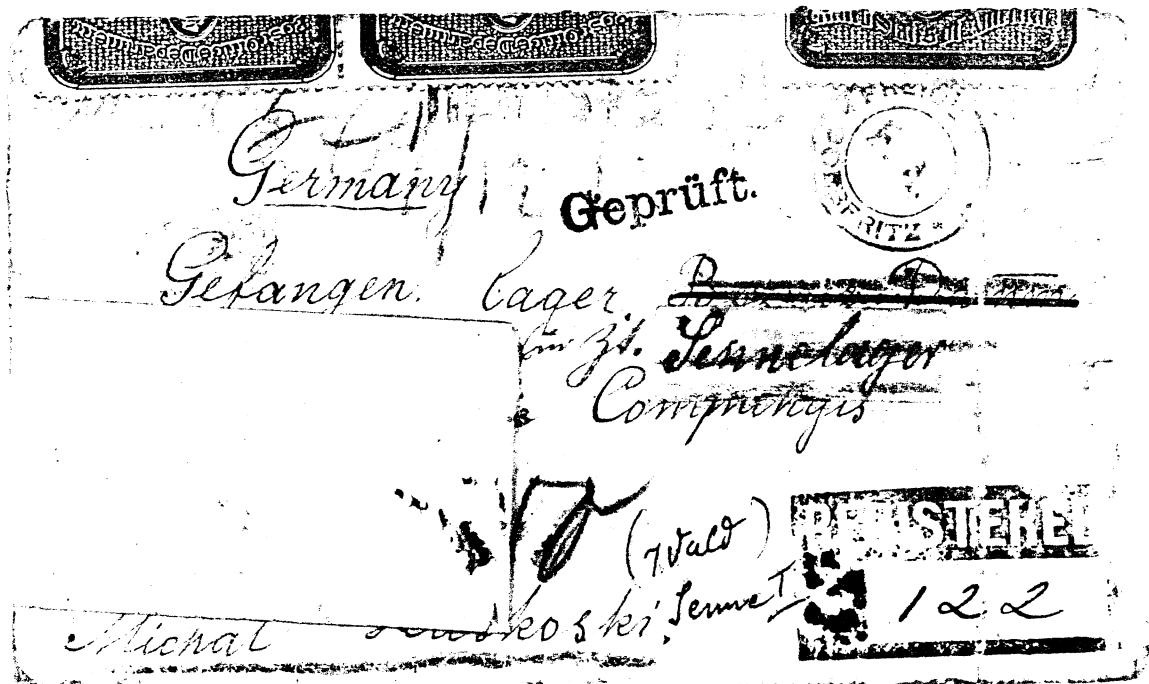
Unwatermarked
Precancelled

Unwatermarked
Violet Blue

Perf 12 three sides, Hyphen-Hole 6 1/2 on Right, From a pane that was perforated along the salvag



Registered from Suffield, Conn., Aug. 30, 1915, to German Prisoner of War. Sent two camps in Germany and Austria, then to Berlin, and back to sender through New York, where it arrived Jan. 29, 1916. Seals applied at New York.



~~bef. Chauen~~

Deutschland

Zurück an den Auflieferer,
Retour à l'envoyeur,
Empfänger nicht ermittelt.
destinataire introuvable.

Kaiserlich Deutsches Postamt
Berlin N 24.

2

ISSUE OF 1907

Blue, Perf 12 by
Hyphen-Hole 6 1/2

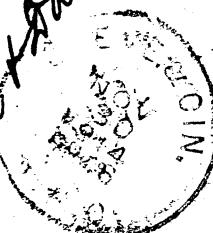


CEC

A black and white photograph of a striped sock and a handwritten note. The note, written in cursive, reads "Revelation 2:18".

Carroll John
3786

3786



Price: 50c

A. L. Babbitt

Albion Grove, N.Y.

Albion

J. H. DODGE & CO.

PRINTERS

1900

ALBION, N.Y.

JULY 10

16

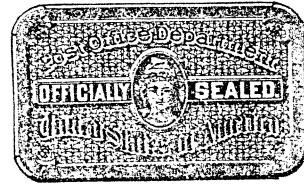
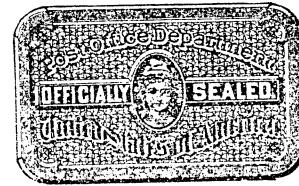
10

10

eff. 3. 1970
Signature

ISSUE OF 1916

Black, Pink Paper, Perf 12



Black



Jet Black

Gray Black



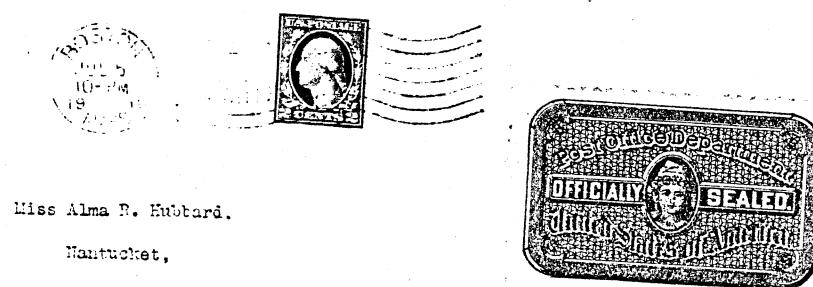
Used Examples

ISSUE OF 1916

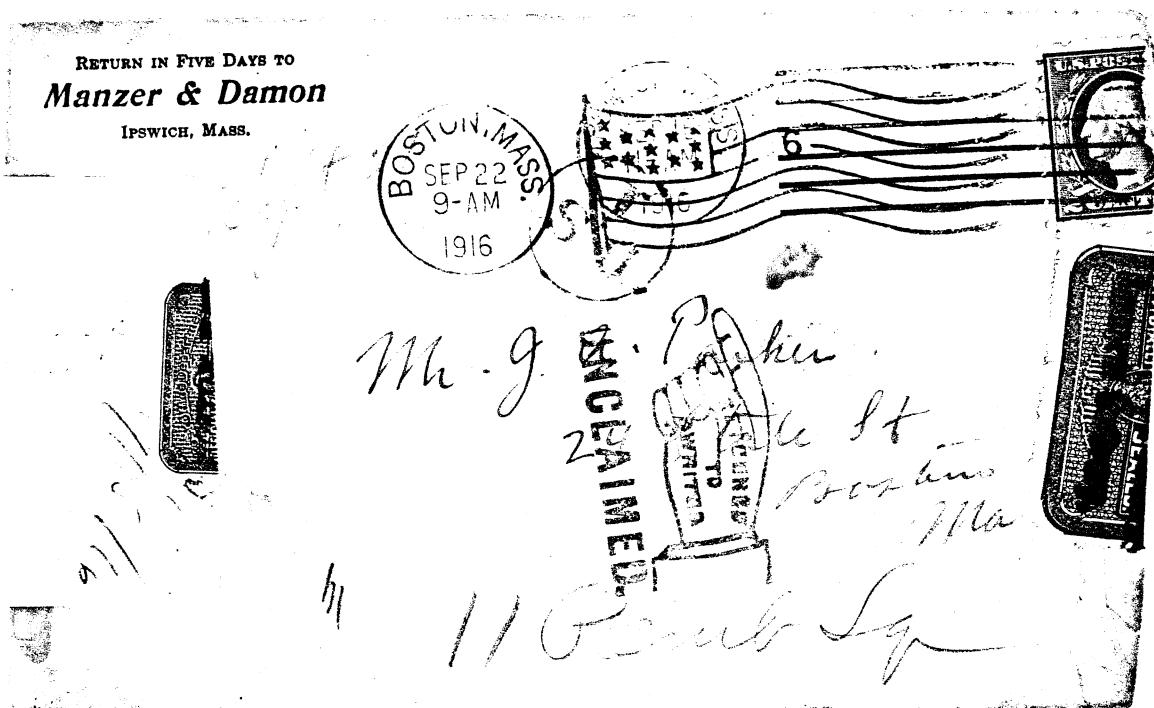
Pane of 20
Imperf Vertically

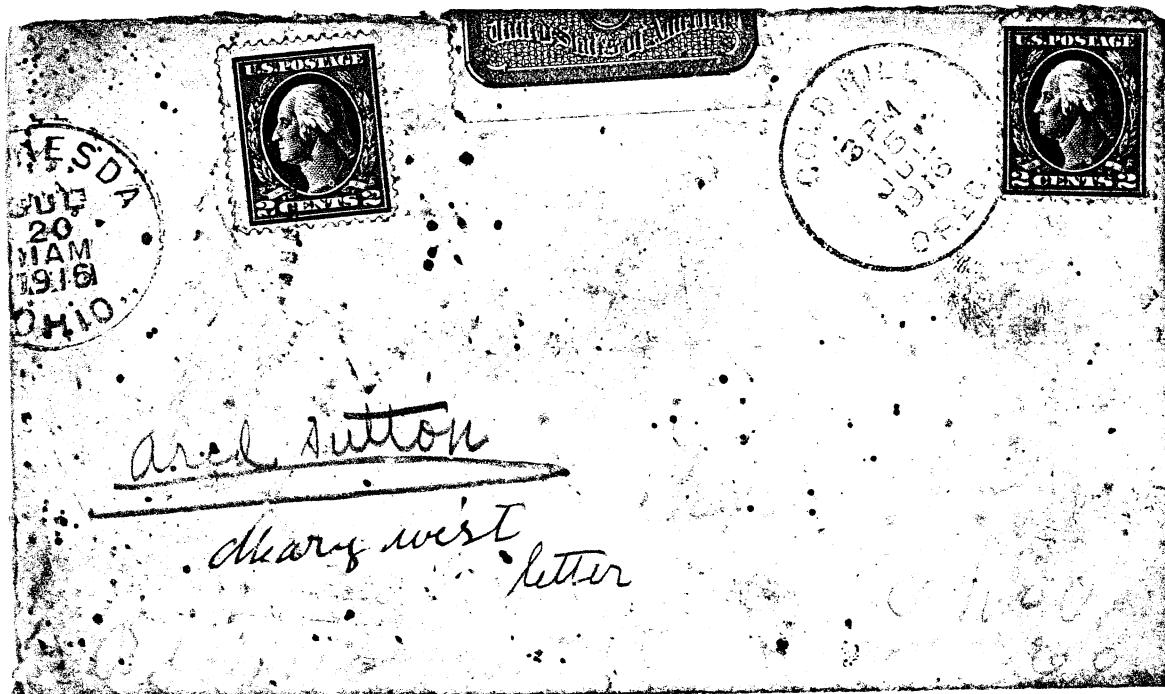
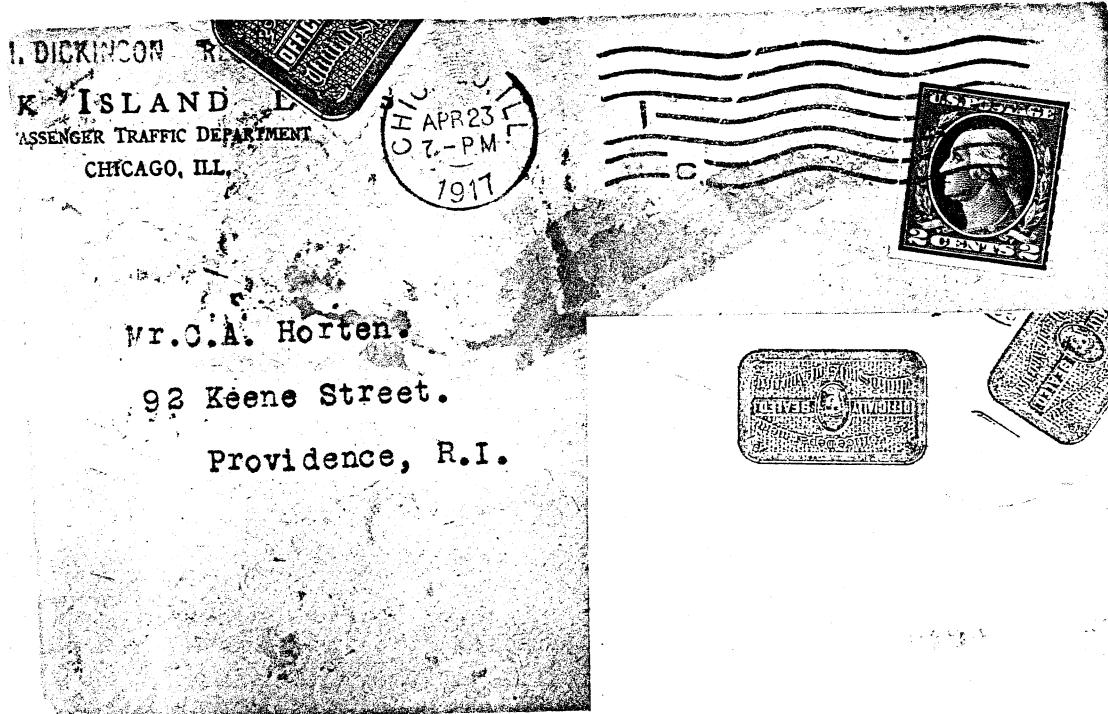


Owned by *W. H. C. Hubbard*
W. H. C. Hubbard

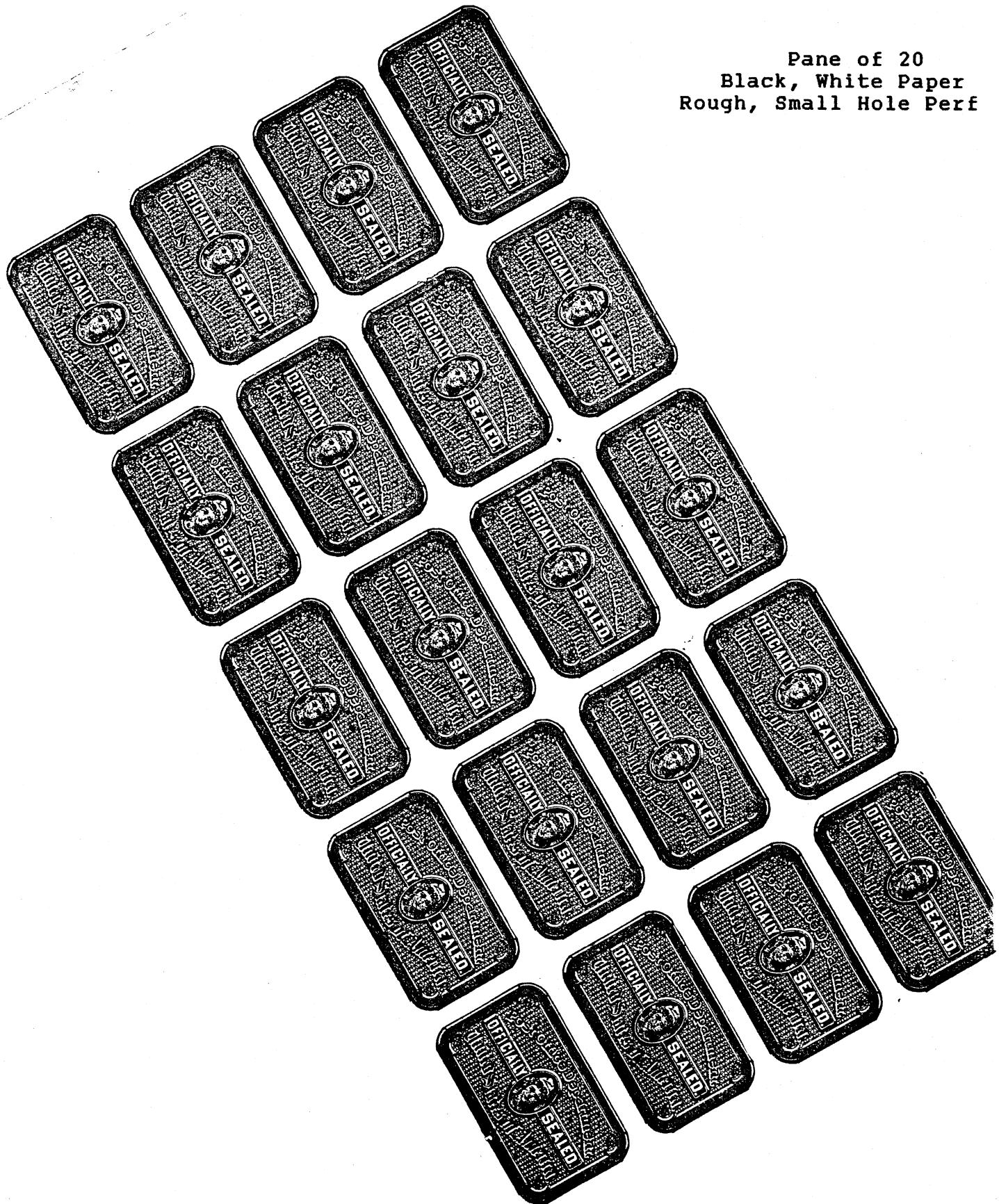


Earliest Recorded Use



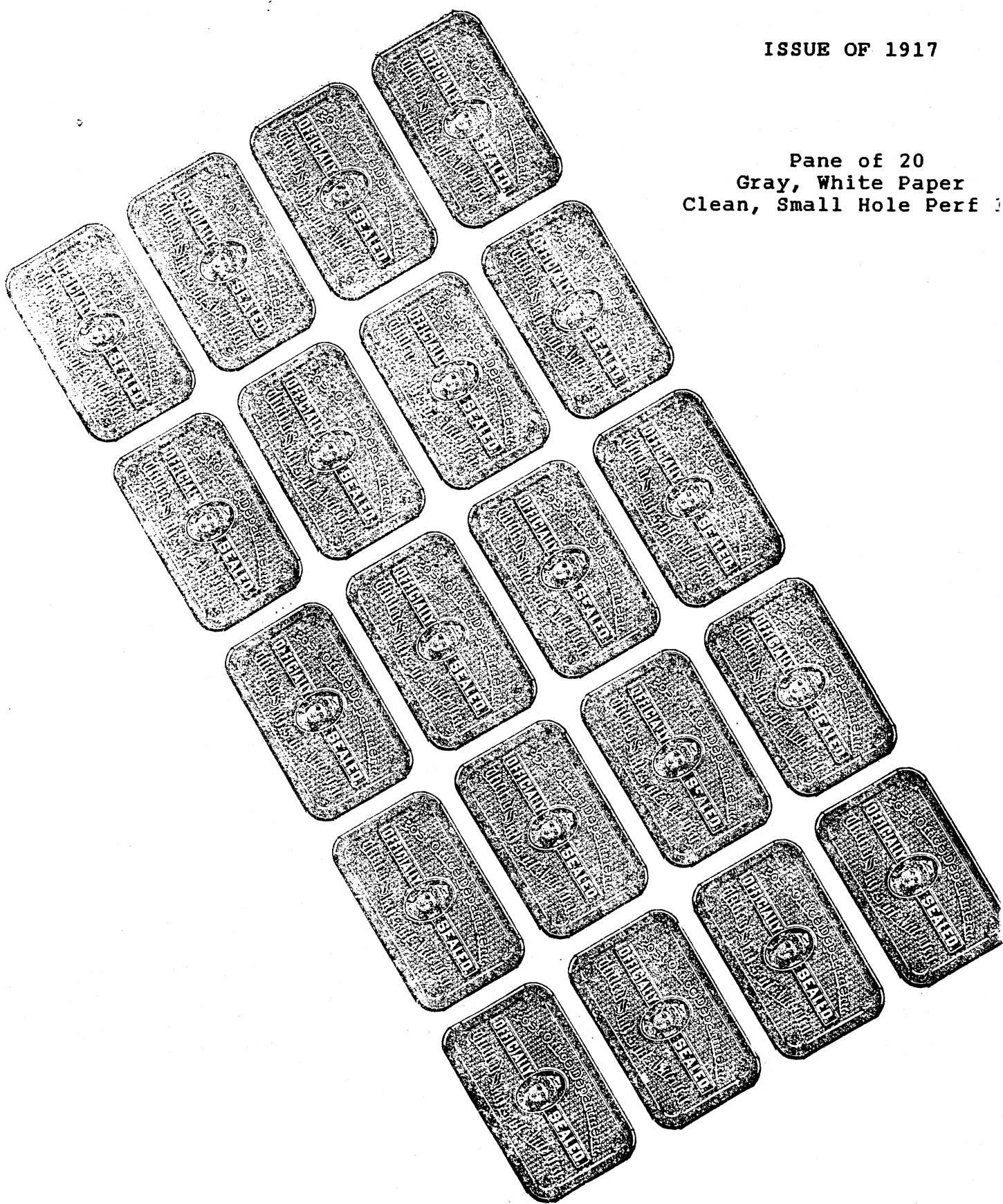


Pane of 20
Black, White Paper
Rough, Small Hole Perf



ISSUE OF 1917

Pane of 20
Gray, White Paper
Clean, Small Hole Perf



ISSUE OF 1917

Black, White Paper

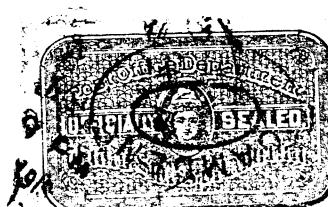


Jet Black
Regular Perfs
Top Right Seal, Damaged top frame line

Black Regular Ferfs



Black, Toned Paper
Top Right Seal shows damaged Top Frame Line
Position 15 on Pane of 20



Gray Black, Small Rough Perfs



Imperf Vertically



Double Perfs

Damaged Frame
Line at Left

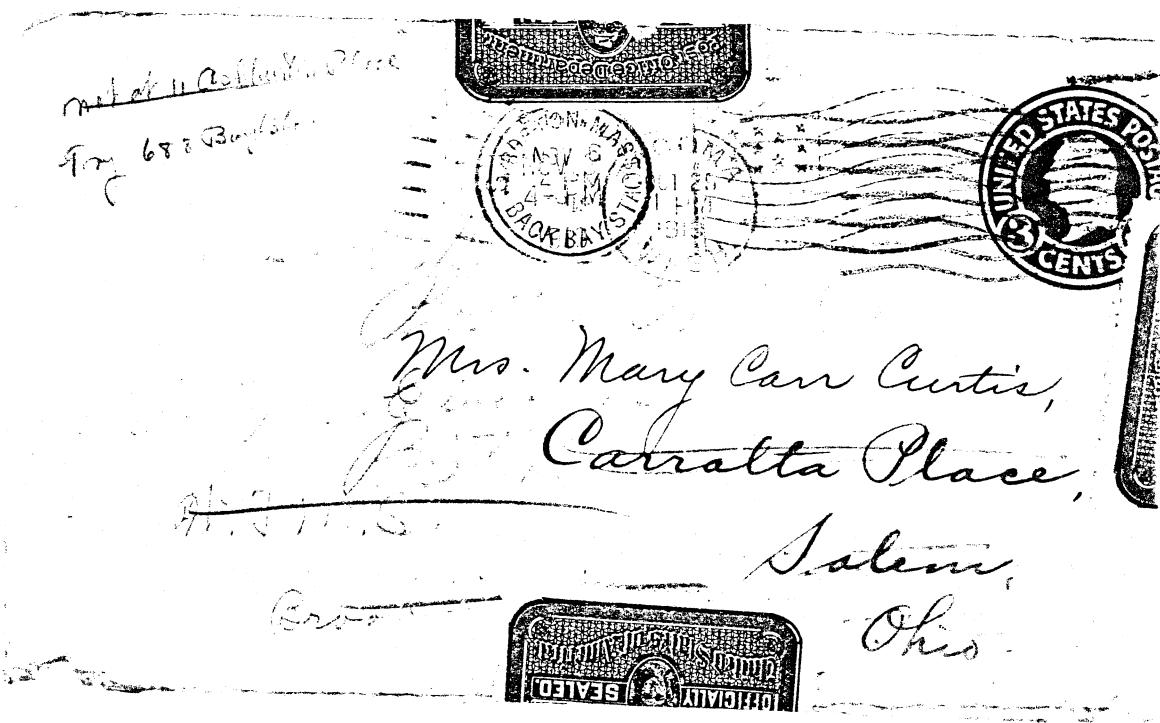
Partial Offset
on Back



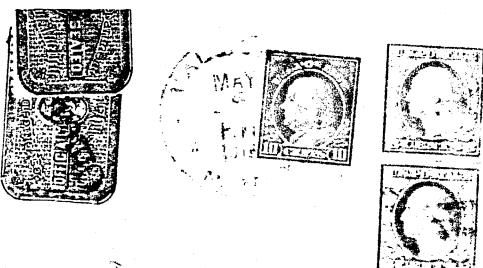
Imperf Between Vertically

Imperf Between Horizontally

ISSUE OF 1917



Received in Bad Order
5/1/19 100
J. S.



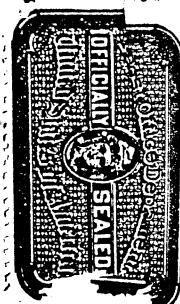
30545

ISSUE OF 1917

Bennett's Travel Bureau, Inc.

Little Building, Boston, Mass.

Return in Five Days

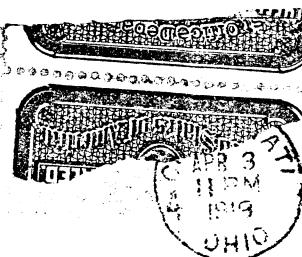


To: Mrs. Wentworth
P. Fletcher
Washington, D. C.

~~The North American Aerial Transportation Company.~~

~~Washington, D. C.~~

Address could not be located, Sent to the War Dept., where it was opened. Sealed and returned to sender.



*Not for John H. H. or
Mr. J. Schroth
Cormany & Township Aves.,
Cincinnati, Ohio.*

Address same in directory

Mr. J. Schroth,

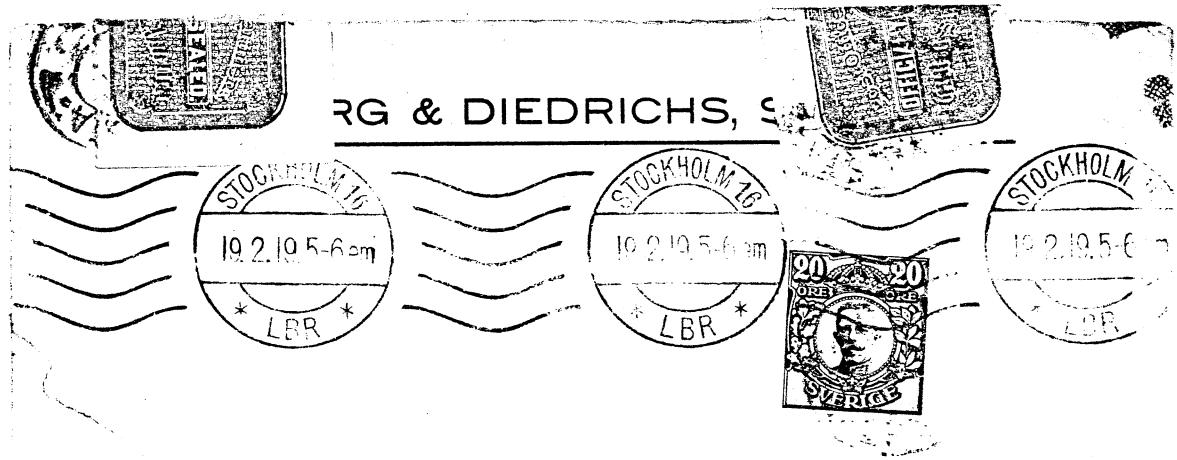
Cormany & Township Aves.,

Cincinnati, Ohio.

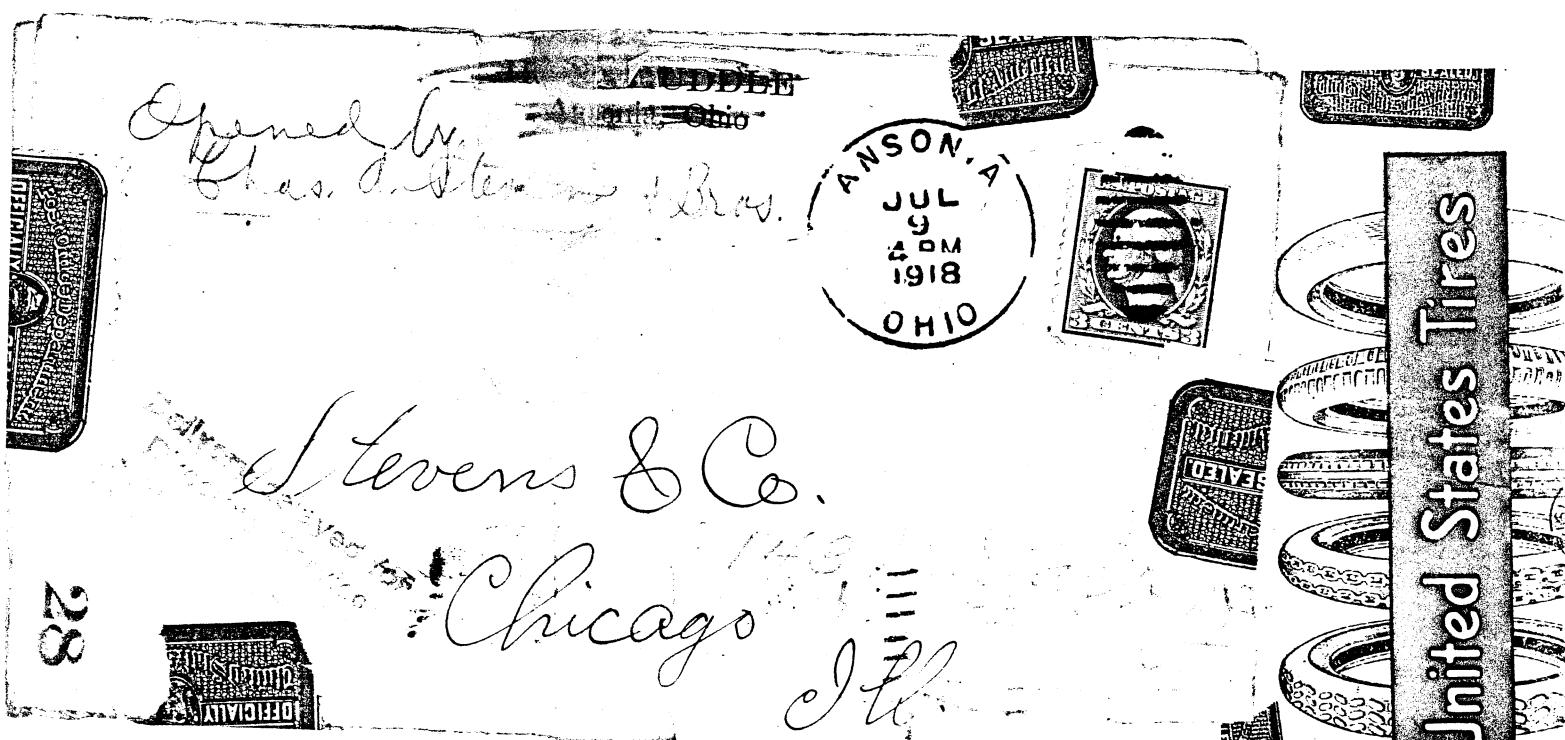


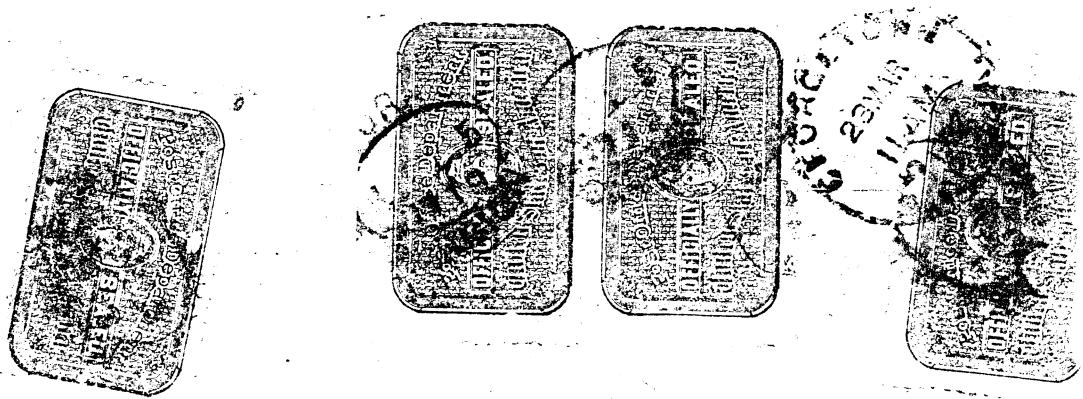
Opened by addressee, then returned and sealed because contents not for him.

ISSUE OF 1917



To the and Turpentine Export Co., Inc.,
26 Cortlandt Street,
NEW YORK.





Carlos Cotello
Consulado Geral de Portugal
British Guiana
Demerara ~~New York~~

Received in Bad Condition in New York
Brazil To New York City, Forwarded to British Guiana



Over
, P. Albertus M. Boegle,

Unsere Fahne,

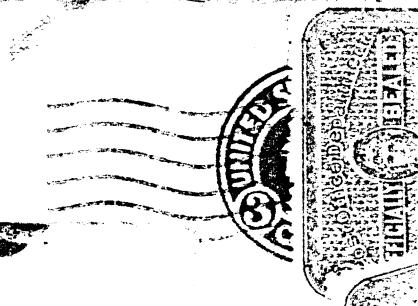
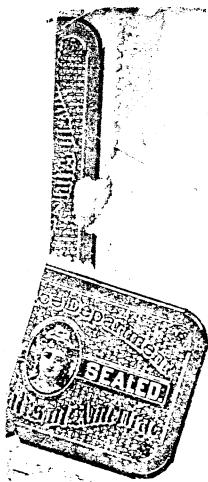
Canisiusgasse 16,

Wien LX/4, Austria.

"Mail Services Suspended to Country Addressed" Pointing Finger to "Over" indicate
Return Address on the Reverse.

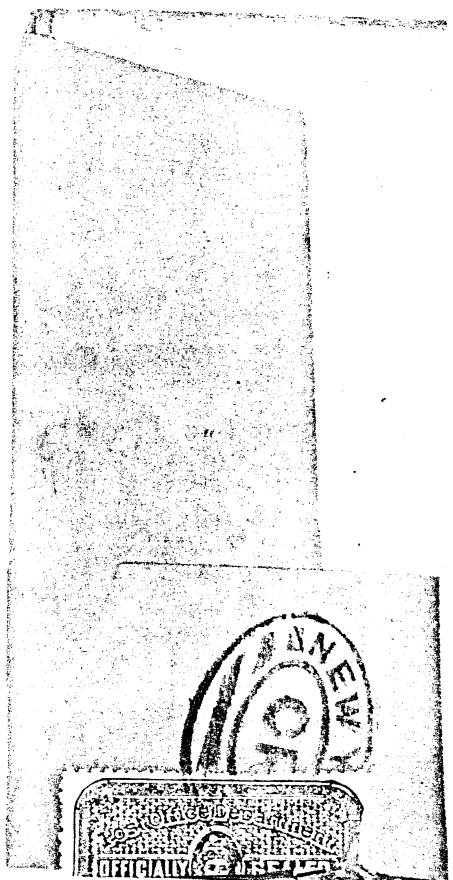
ISSUE OF 1917

CLARKE'S SERVICE, INC.,
208 South La Salle Street,
CHICAGO, ILL.



Received in day mail
Chicago, P. O. B. Y. 2

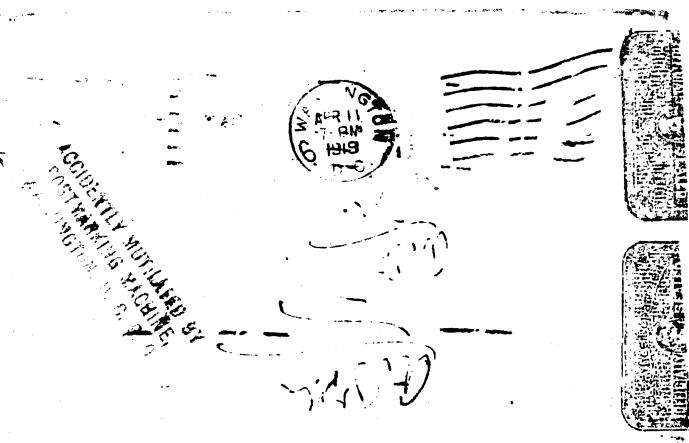
Chicago to Farmer City, Ill.



France to N.J., Seals applied at New York



To Lt. in AEF, France; Forwarded to two Base Hospitals, then marked "Return to U
"Accidentally Mutilated By Postmarking Machine, Washington D.C. G.P.O."



QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE
MAIL AND RECORDS SECTION

The Quartermaster General's Office was responsible for all Federal procurement during WW I.

The Mail and Records Section opened all mail for that office and ordered the seal to use on mail improperly opened that was to be returned to private sector addresses.

5,000 seals were delivered on 11-14-19. By that time the heavy volume of mail due to the war was winding down.

The use of the seals ended on 12-17-19 because an internal reorganization eliminated the Mail and Records Section.

The seals were issued in panes of 10, both perf 12 and Hyphen-Hole Roulette 7, unwatermarked on white paper. One of the Rouletted stamps is known used and two or three unused singles are known. No perforated examples are known used.



These seals were privately printed, both on order from individual Post Offices and in common types for sale to any Post Office.

Ornate Border

MORRILL BROS., P. O. SUPPLY PRINTERS, FULTON, N. Y.

7

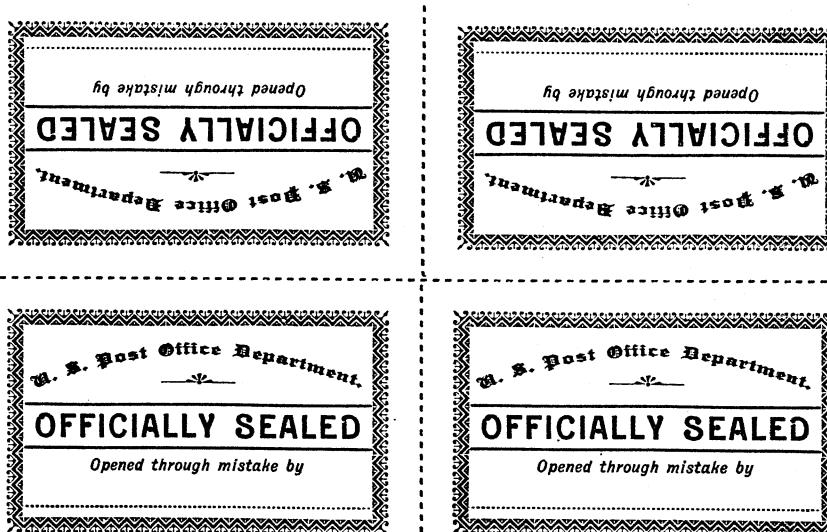


OFFICIALLY SEALED LABELS.

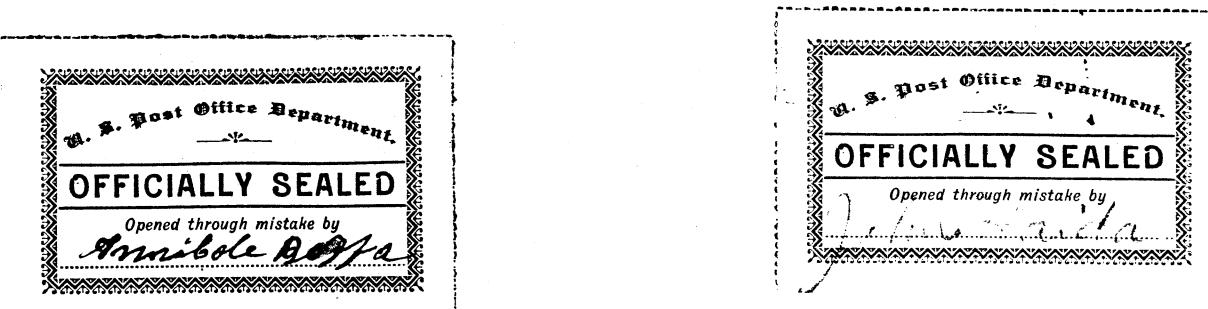
Labels same as this sample, printed on gummed paper, for sealing letters opened by mistake, received in bad order, or otherwise. One of the many little conveniences that are always handy to have in your office, which you will not be without after once using.

Prices: 100, 25 cents; 250, 40 cents; 500, 65 cents; 1000, \$1.00; post-paid.

Advertisement from Morrill Brothers Catalogue
of Post Office Printed Supplies, 1897-98



Rouletted 12 1/2
Sheet of 4, Tete Beche



3rd dot from right on
signature line missing

Rouletted 16, Used

TYPESET SEALS

Ornate Border

OFFICIALLY SEALED

Opened through mistake by

OFFICIALLY SEALED

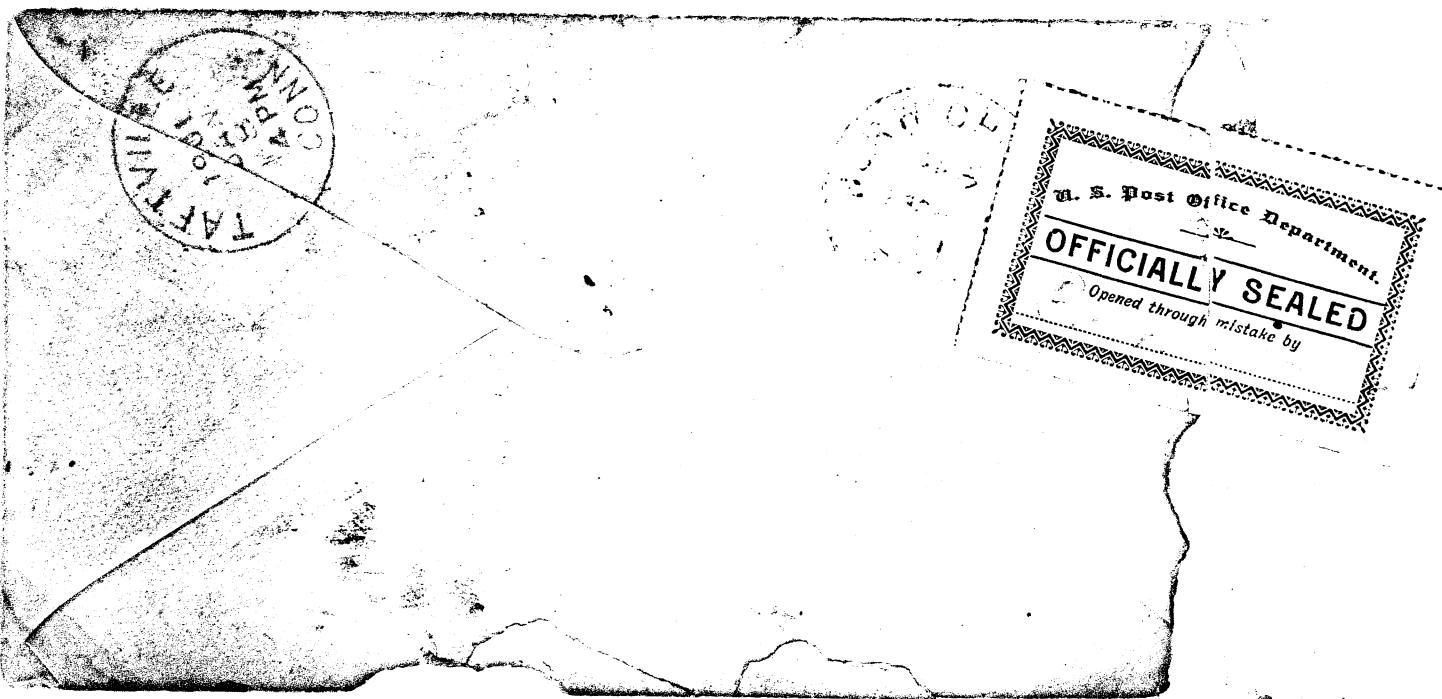
Opened through mistake by

OFFICE OF
RAL UNION GAS COMPANY,
9-529 COURTLANDT AVENUE,
NEW YORK.



Try Kalinger
Mr. M. Kinslinger
Spring Valley
Monsey N.Y.

Rouletted 11 1/2, First sent to Spring Valley, N.Y., where someone wrote "Try Kalinger, Monsey N.Y.". The seals are signed Karlinger. Letter was then returned to sender.



Rouletted 12 1/2, Norwich, Conn., 2:30 pm, Jan. 8, 1901 and Taftville, Conn. 4 pm CDS's. Addressed to C.W. (????) Taftville, Conn. Seal signed C.W. Grant.

TYPESET SEALS

Ornate Border

Opened by Mistake, S.B. Page,
Woodsville, N.H. Forwarded to
Haverhill, N.H.

No. 10 After 5 days, return to
CITIZENS BANK BUILDING,
SAINT JOHNSBURY, VT.

Hon. Samuel T. Page,
Haverhill, N.H.



TYPESET SEALS

U.S. Postoffice

U. S. Postoffice.
Officially Sealed.

Opened by Mistake by

U. S. Postoffice.
Officially Sealed.

Opened by Mistake by

Unnused, Blue

Unused, Blue

Damaged Bottom right
frame line

U. S. Postoffice.
Officially Sealed.

Opened by Mistake by

Allen Riney.

U. S. Postoffice.
Officially Sealed.

d. W. R.
Opened by Mistake by

Used Blue

Used Blue

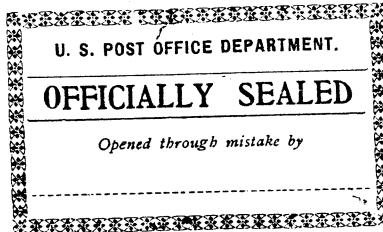
Officially Sealed.
Opened by Mistake by
Mrs. Lucy A. Richards.

U. S. Postoffice.
Officially Sealed.



*Mrs. Lucy A. Richards,
Weymouth,
Mass.*

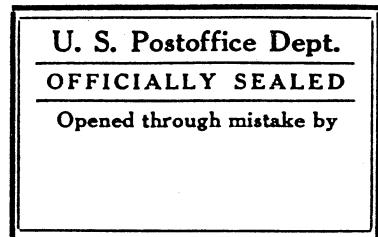
Letter addressed to Lucy W. Richards, Weymouth, Mass.
Opened by Lucy A. Richards whose name is also on seal.



Floral Border

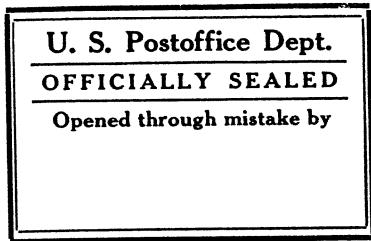
OFFICIAL SEALS

Like Cut at the Right. Every Postmaster should keep on hand a supply of these GUMMED STICKERS.
PRICE - 100 for 25 cents, 250 for 40 cents, 500 for 65 cents, 1000 for \$1.00.



Address-The Lemoyne Supply Co., Box 335 Lemoyne, Pennsylvania.

Excerpt from advertisement found in cover dated 1918.

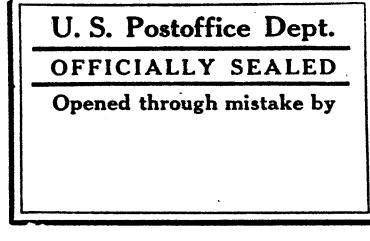


Blue

Thin rules above and below "Officially Sealed"

Identical to cut in above Advertisement.

Officially sealed
39 $\frac{1}{4}$ mm



Black

Thick lines above and below "Officially Sealed"

Probably also sold by Lemoyne Supply Co.

Officially sealed
37 $\frac{1}{4}$ mm

TYPESET SEALS

Black, Imperf



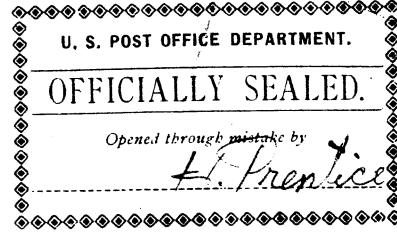
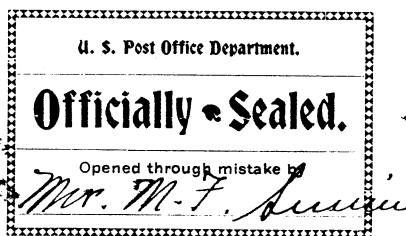
Line above Officially
Sealed square at left
46 mm long

Line above Officially
Sealed diagonal at left
45 1/2 mm long



Leaf Border

Leaf Border
Plymouth, Michigan



Used
Geometric Border

Used
Diamond Border

Dotted Line Above and Below Officially Sealed
Thin Hard Paper, Roulettes 12 1/2



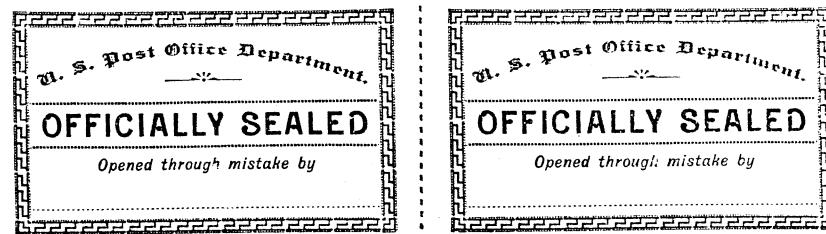
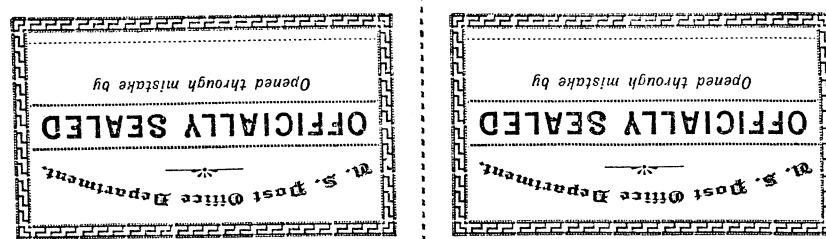
Tete Bache Pane of Four



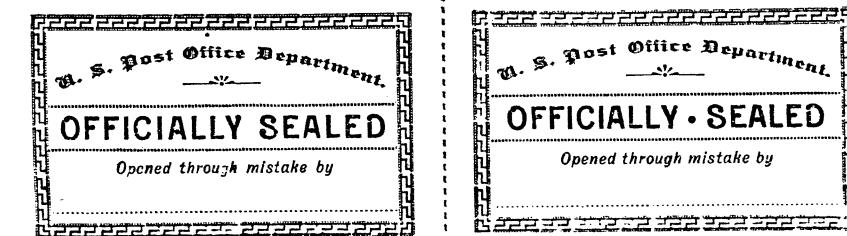
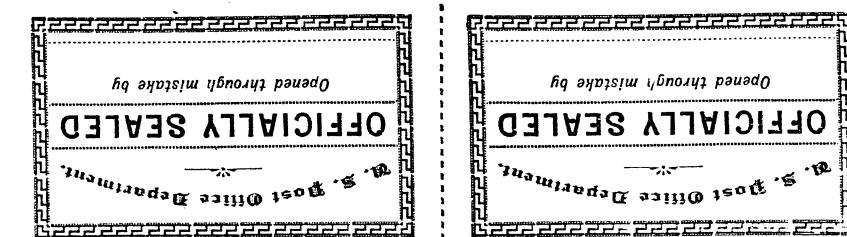
Tete Bache Pane of Four
One seal with period between Officially and Sealed

TYPESET SEALS

Soft Wove Paper, Roulettes 12½



Tete Beche Pane of Four.



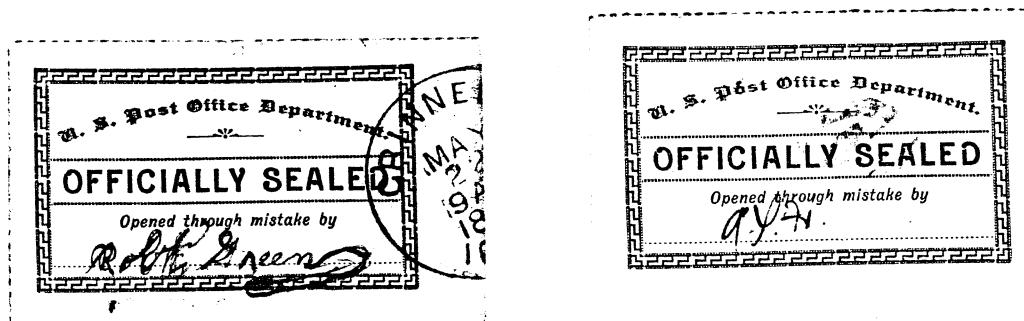
Tete Beche Pane of Four.
One Seal with Period between Officially and Sealed.

TYPESET SEALS

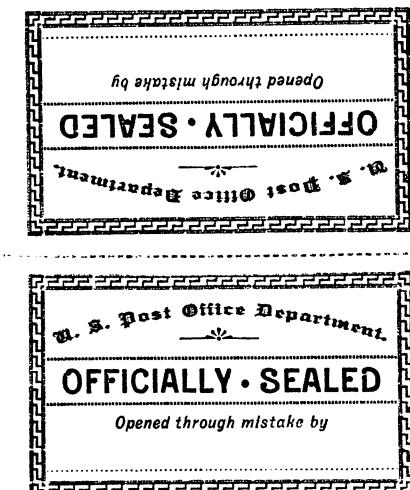
Dotted Line Above and Below Officially Sealed
Soft Wove Paper



Double Impression, One Inverted
Used, Rouletted 12½



Used, Rouletted 12½



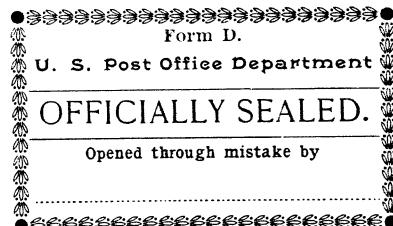
Tete Beche Pane of 2, Rouletted 16
Both stamps with dot between Officially Sealed

TYPESET SEALS



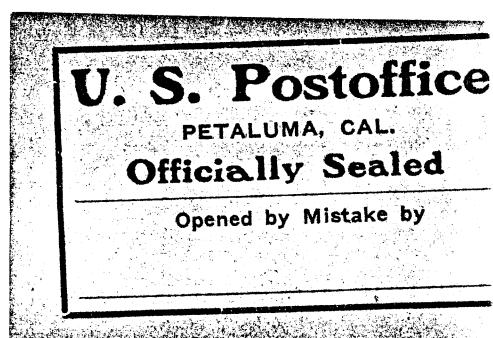
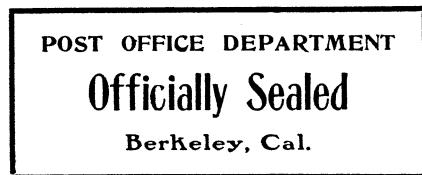
Black, Rouletted 16
Solid Line Above and
Below Officially Sealed
From Vertical Pane of
2 or more.

Blue, Rouletted 12
From Vertical Pane
of 2 or More.



Blue, Imperf
Ribbon Border

Black, Rouletted 9 1/2
Form D



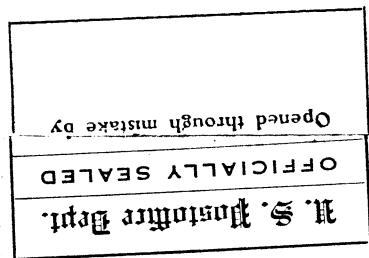
Imperf
Birmingham, Ala.

Imperf
Berkley Cal.

Imperf
Petaluma, Cal.

AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO

NISCO
COLDWATER, OHIO.



July 1, 1919
Unrecorded Seal

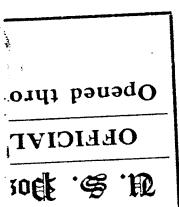
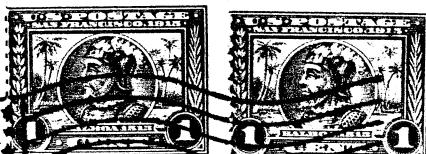
TYPESET SEALS

Opened by Mistake

to Ferran Box 64

Faro to a One

and Clara C.



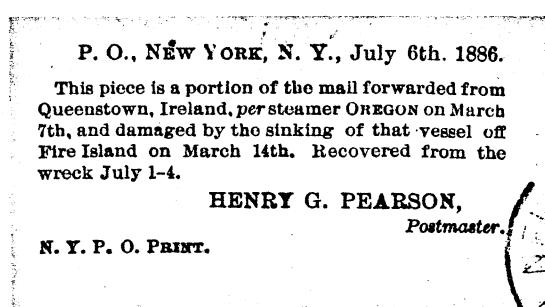
M. M. A. Wetmore

to Plymouth P. O. T. L.

Plymouth

Amador Co. Cal.

Seal probably applied at Plymouth, Cal.

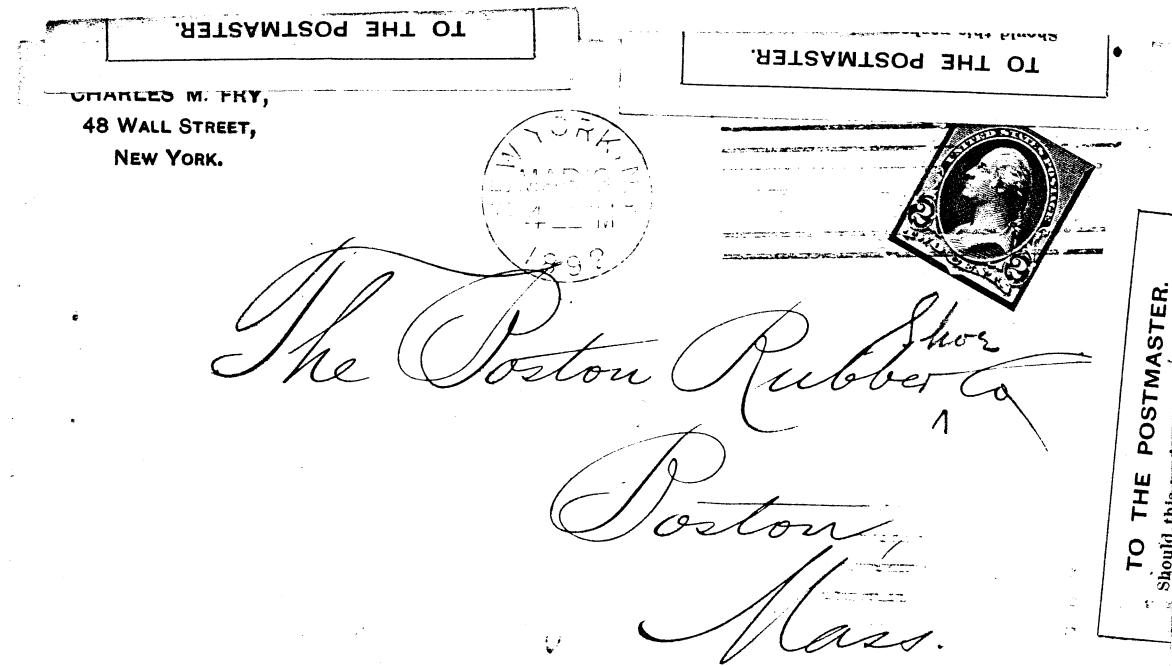


Seal printed by N.Y.P.O for use on mail recovered from the wreck of the SS Oregon, March 14, 1886, off of Fire Island, near New York. The Oregon departed Queenstown, Ireland for New York on March 7.

The 7,500 ton Cunard Line ship carried 598 bags of mail and 869 passengers and crew.

All aboard were saved and 465 bags of mail washed ashore between Portland, Maine and Cape Hatteras, N.C. All recovered mail was processed by the N.Y.P.O. between March 24 and July 26, 1886.

PRIVATE SEALS



A package label used privately to seal a letter opened by mistake. The letter was delivered to the Boston Rubber Company. After opening, it was sealed and the word "Shoe" inserted in the address. The Boston Rubber Company and The Boston Rubber Shoe Company both operated in Boston during 1892.

Should this package miscarry or remain unsealed for, we will send necessary stamps to prepay its return, if you will kindly inform us of the amount required.

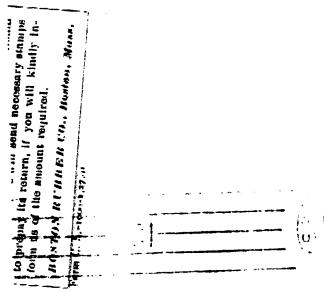
BOSTON RUBBER CO., Boston, Mass.

Form C. S. 1000, 1892.

Should this package miscarry or remain unsealed for, we will send necessary stamps to prepay its return, if you will kindly inform us of the amount required.

BOSTON RUBBER CO., Boston, Mass.

Form C. S. 1000, 1892.



CANAL ZONE

Blue, First Issue, 1907
Spaced 3½ mm apart vertically and horizontally
Unwatermarked



Pane of 8



Reperforated at Left

Shades of Blue



Pane of 8

Spaced 1 1/2 mm Horizontally, 4 mm Vertically

Bottom 4 Seals show part of Great Seal Watermark, Type A, with elongated olive leaf



Unwatermarked
Seals 1/2 mm apart
Horizontally and Vertically

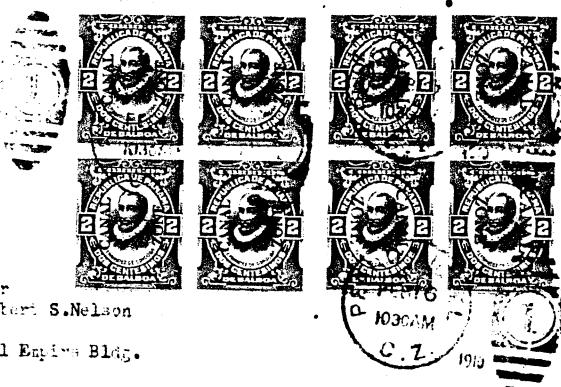
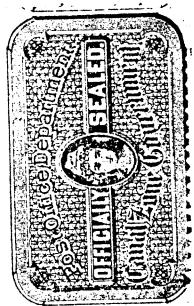
Watermarked
"Rolleston Mills"
Seals 1/2 mm Apart
Horizontally and Vertically

Seal from 1/2 mm sheet both
Horizontally & Vertically.

An over franked cover to U.S.
with blocks of two cent issues
of May and Nov., 1909 and seal
believed to have been issued
in 1910;

Gerald D. Bliss, P.M., Pedro
Micuel, Canal Zone handstamp
above corner card does not
show on copy of front.

Bliss, a collector, appears
to have added the new seal
as a gift to another
collector.



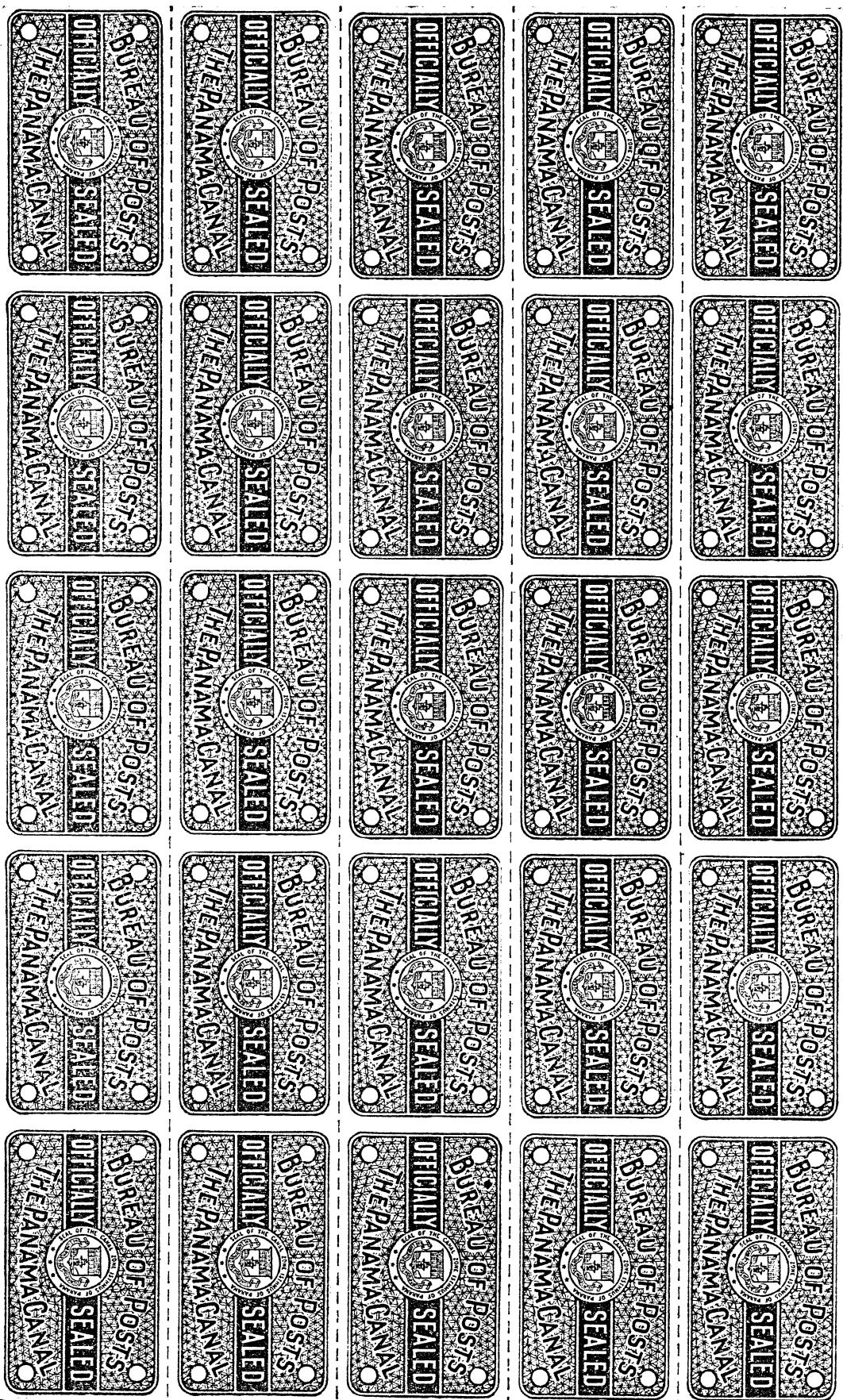
ISTHMIAN CANAL COMMISSION
CANAL ZONE.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS.



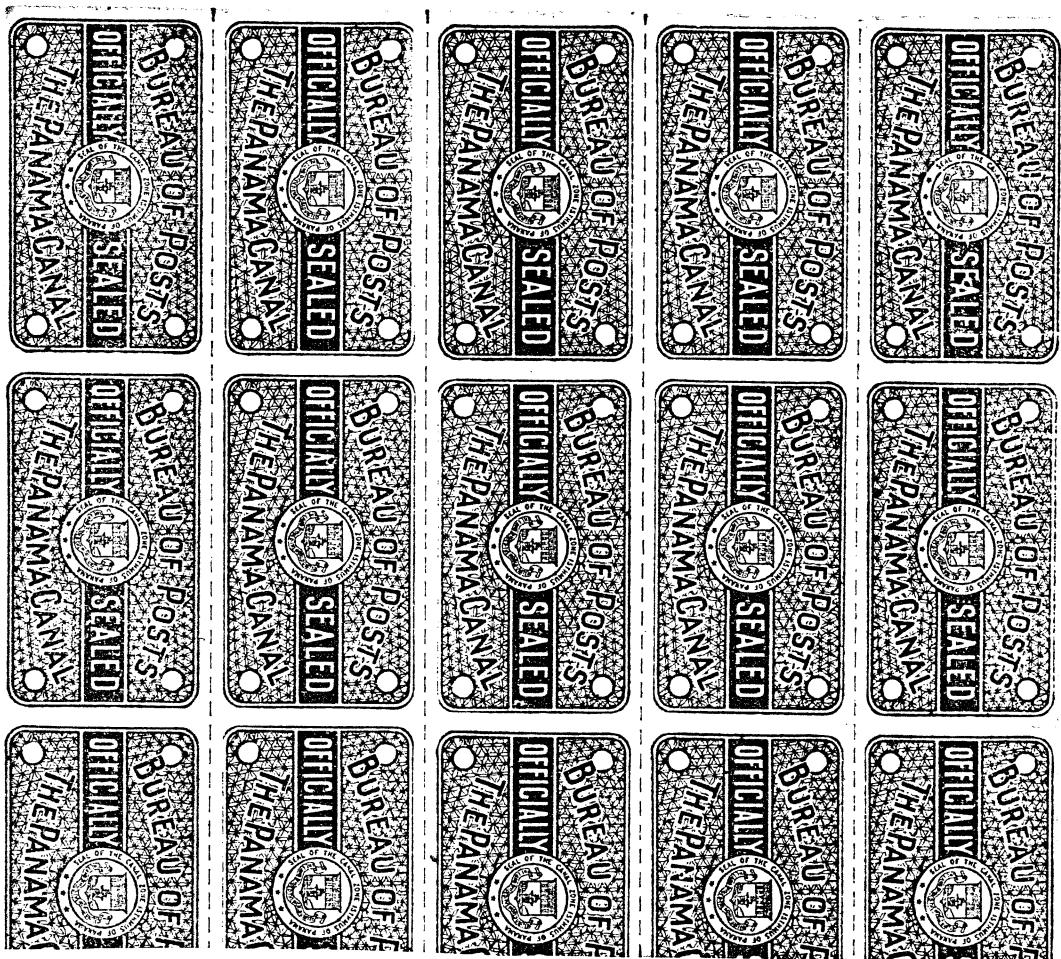
El Senor
Robert S. Nelson
821 Empire Bldg.
Birmingham
Alabama.

CANAL ZONE

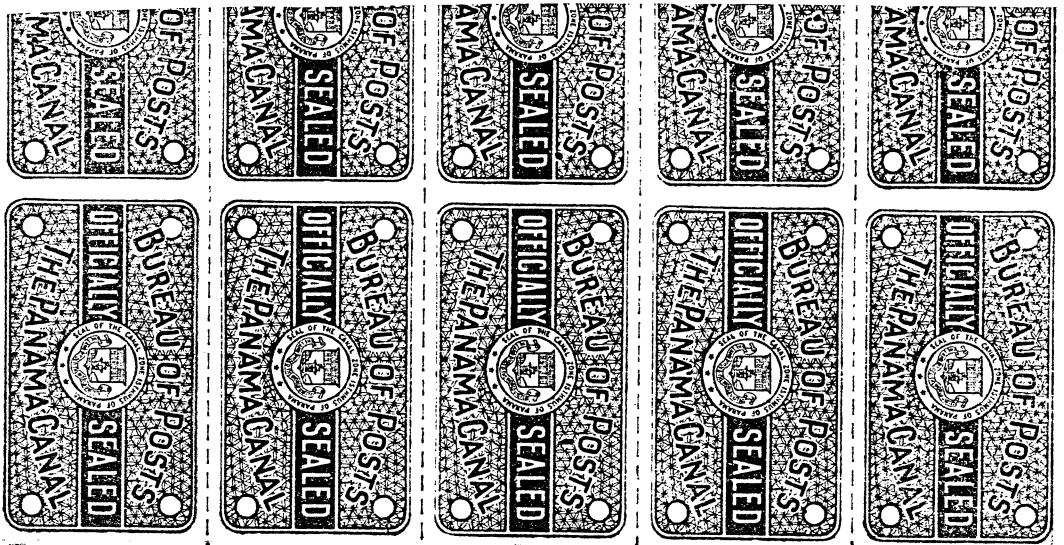
Rouletted 6 in color by 6 colorless, Unwatermarked.



CANAL ZONE



Rouletted 6 in color by 6 colorless. Typogaphed in Violet Blue by the Panama Canal Press, Mount Hope, C.Z. Double line Watermark "SYLVANIA" in sheet, 85 mm X 18 mm. The watermark will show in from two to six stamps.

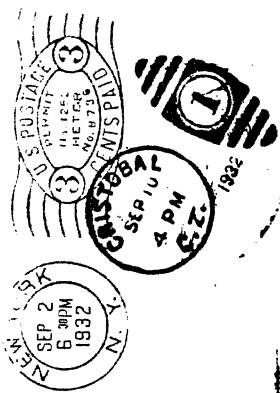
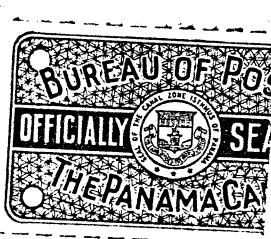


CANAL ZONE

ISSUE OF 1917

Torn by accident
G.D. Bliss, Postmaster

Torn by accident
G.D. Bliss, Postmaster,
A.M. P.M.



Mr. Fabien Englander
Box 224
Order, etc., etc.



Box 192
Hudson Falls
New York

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR
WASHINGTON SQUARE EAST
NEW YORK

CANAL ZONE

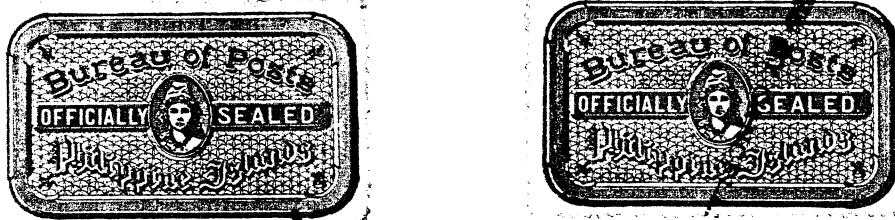
Blue, Rouletted 6½, Typographed, Pane of 20
Panama Canal Press, Mount Hope, C.Z., 1946.



U.S. ADMINISTRATION OF THE PHILIPPINES



Light Brown, Unwatermarked
Perf 12, 1906



Stamped "(SEAL?)ED
BY CANCELLA(TION?)

Orange Brown, Perf 12, Watermarked Double Line PIRS, 1907
The standard catalogue lists this stamp as Light Brown



Light Shade

Orange Brown, Hyphen-Hole 7, 1907
Watermarked Double Line PIRS

U.S. ADMINISTRATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

Watermark Double Line PIRS, Hyphen-Hole 7.



Vertical Watermark

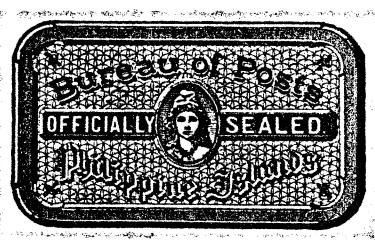
Inverted Watermark
Flaw in 1st L in
Officially

Vertical Watermark

Olive Bistre, 1911



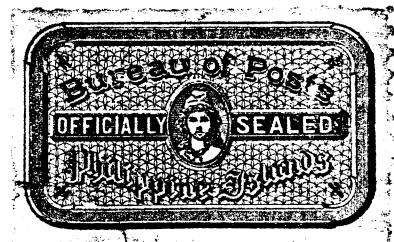
Brown, Inverted Watermark



Brown Red, Inverted Watermark



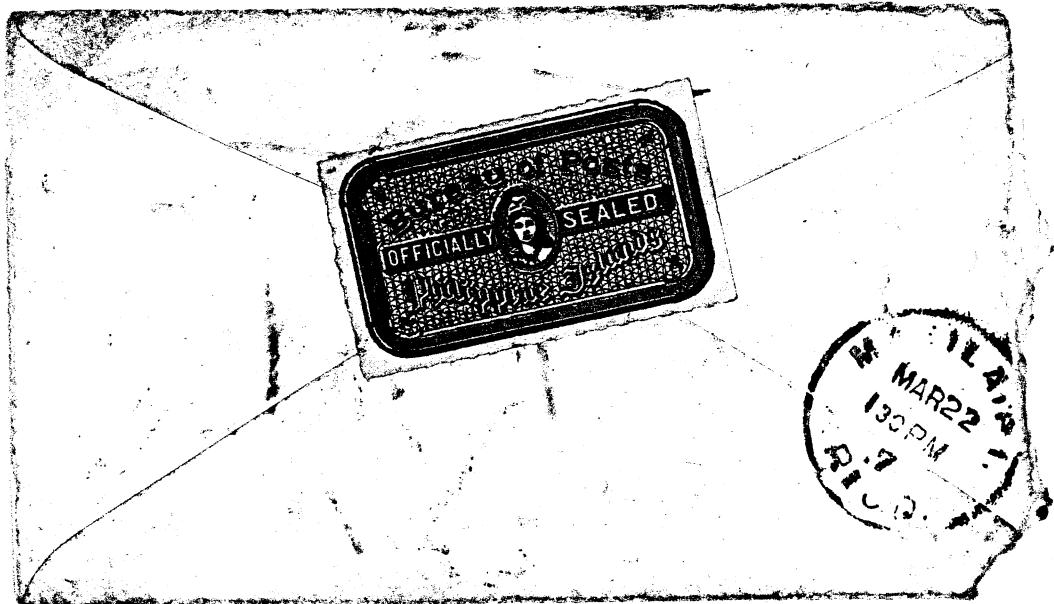
Horizontal Watermark



Used, Vertical Watermark

Yellow Brown

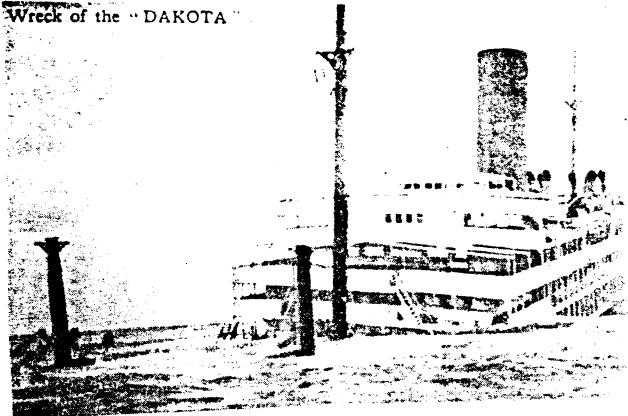
U.S. ADMINISTRATION OF THE PHILIPPINES



Orange Brown, Hyphen-Hole 7, Watermarked Double Line PIRS.

The 13,306 ton SS Dakota, owned by the U.S. Great Northern Railway Co., was wrecked on March 3, 1907, near Tokyo, Japan, enroute from Seattle to Yokohama and Hong Kong. Most of the mail was saved but 80 bags, with 20,000 ordinary and 533 registered letters were washed ashore. Letters to the Philippines were processed in Manila on March 22, 1907.

Wreck of the "DAKOTA"



DAMAGED MAIL FROM
U.S. MAIL - WRECKED.
Mr. G. V. Hill
Surveyor of the
Post & Telegraph Bureau of Lands
Cebu, Philippines
Cebu, P. I.

