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THE
POSTAGE STAMPS
OF THE
UNITED STATES

Issued During the Years
1847 to 1869

A Complete Reference List of all Varieties

FIRST EDITION
1921

STANLEY GIBBONS, Inc.
198 Broadway, New York
(PRICE 50 CENTS)

FOREWORD

In 1909 I prepared the original work on U. S. stamps issued from 1847 to 1909. Collectors very kindly so liberally patronized this work that in 1917 I was obliged to reprint the work in the form of a second or revised edition. "Give us more" was the cry that reached me, with the result that the first of the permanent handbooks appeared followed by two others so that up to the appearance of this book we had from 1870 to date finished—now we have it all finished and we hope with satisfaction to the collectors of U. S. stamps.

Of late years a school of advanced and scientific collectors and students of early U. S. has arisen—men who climb high for rare postmarks and almost go wild over a stamp that has some minor difference in the engraving. This little coterie of men are real students and to them this book is neither of use nor interest—it is not written for them since they know far more than I do in their particular lines of research. This book is for the good old every day collector who wants something more than the catalogue and something less than an epitome.

I sincerely hope this newest handbook will be of service to this every day collector and it is to him I dedicate the work and labour of production with my sincerest hope he may ever ride his hobby horse without feeling the fatigue of so doing.

EUSTACE B. POWER
198 Broadway
New York

WINTER
1921

U. S. HANDBOOKS

I

1847-1870

General Issues of U. S. from 1847 to 1870

The book now in front of you.

First Edition. Green Covers. 50c.

II

1870-1893

General Issues of U. S. from 1870 to 1893

Commonly called the "Bank Note Companies" issues.

First Edition. 1921. Red Covers. 50c.

All die differences are shown by enlarged line drawings and are very explicit. There is also a series of line drawn Portraits of the Statesmen appearing on these issues.

III

1894-1900

General Issues of U. S. from 1894 to 1900

Commonly called the "Bureau issues." This work gives the plate number lists, shows the forms of imprint—and gives the detailed make-up of every plate. Very carefully drawn enlargements show the variations of the 10 cent and 1 dollar varieties.

First Edition. Grey Covers. 50c.

IV

1900 to Date

General Issues of U. S. from 1901 to Date

Third Edition. Blue Covers. 50c.

Commonly called the "Twentieth Centtury book." This is of course the magnum opus of all productions and is the handbook from which collectors and dealers base all their calculations and arrangements.

STANLEY GIBBONS, INC.

198 Broadway New York City

THE ISSUE OF 1847

These two stamps do not require any particular attention, inasmuch as there are no varieties to trouble the general collector. We have the five cents in various shades of brown and the ten cents in black. The paper is invariably a greyish blue, sometimes considerably varying in its thickness. The yellowish white papers have in my humble opinion been reduced to this state by discharging the blue from the original paper, whilst the lilac-grey laid paper varieties are nothing but proofs cut down to the size of stamps.

VARIETIES.

The Five Cents is known with a colour dot in the "S" of "U. S."

The Ten Cents is known with shifted impression which makes the words "Ten Cents" or "Post-office" appear double lined or with a double impression.

Specialists also look for "short" transfers which are specimens showing the shading above the words Post office very slightly impressed up to almost no shading at all. Bi-sections of this stamp are well known and consist of a diagonal cut—and halving the stamp either from top to bottom or across the middle, the latter being the most unusual.

COUNTERFEITS.

The Government, when preparing sets for the Centennial Exhibition, held in Philadelphia in 1876, not having the original plates of this issue, ordered the Government Bureau of Engraving and Printing to make imitations of these two values, which they did and managed it excellently. The ink on these imitations is always uniform in color, whilst the original printing of the Five Cents nearly always shows little blotches, or better described, dark and light spots of colour. The gum on the 1847 is dark brown and crackly,—on the 1875 issue, very smooth. Perhaps the best test for the Five Cents is that the cravat above the letter I of FIVE is more hollowed out in the counterfeit. The best test for the Ten Cents is that the shading of the collar of the coat and of the cravat is not as distinctly separated as it is on the original. Washington also has a sleepy look not found on the originals, and the 1875 imitation has, for want of a better term, a misty appearance.

FRAUDS.

The favorite pastime for unscrupulous people is to take these two stamps, wash off the pen cancellations with eradicator, apply a nice clean and generally very white gum to the backs and pass them off as bargains! at half catalogue. The operation is: cost of one copy, three dollars—wash, regum, sell at half catalogue for unused, seven-fifty, which makes the gum work out at about four dollars profit per application.

Cancellation dies were uncommon in 1847 and penstruck copies are plentiful, hut the cleaned stamps usually show a faint yellow-brown mark where cleaned, and if one trains the eye to look for it one can often see the two parallel scratches in the paper made hy the two sides of the pen-point.

A good way to detect a cleaned copy is to lay it face down in benzine—nearly always the tell-tale lines of the ink or pen point show up. Another way is to see if the bluish paper these stamps were printed on has any white lines on it—that shows ink eradicator also.

The bisected Ten Cent is also faked by cutting off half the stamp where the postmark does not fall or sometimes even by redrawing in the postmark. These "splits" should only he bought after expert examination by specialists or reputable dealers who are only too glad to give their knowledge to collectors.

VALUES.

5c Brown	Unused,	$15.00	Used,	3 to 5 dollars
5c Deep Brown	Unused,	15.00	Used,	3 to 5 dollars
5c Red Brown	Unused,	20.00	Used,	5 to 7 dollars
5c Light orange Brown...	Unused,	75.00	Used,	3 to 45 dollars

Very early impressions bring more—very worn and medicore specimens bring less. These quotations are for single copies. Pairs and strips bring no ratio to singles as, for instance in the five cents pairs command from $25 up. In the Ten Cents pairs are rare and anything higher than a pair is very unusual and valuable. Roughly speaking pairs are worth 75 to 100 dollars and strips easily worth three times catalogue. Bisections of the Ten Cents on original cover are worth about $150.00 each. The subject of cancellations is too difficult to go into here but I would say the "grid" cancellation in red and in black is commonest outside of penstruck copies. Such cancellations as "Way" "Steam" "Paid" "5" "10" and so forth are worth much more than catalogue. Specimens cancelled with the town cancellation are also quite unusual and very valuable. Occasionally one may find the Ten Cent value on covers postmarked "Via Nicaragua ahead of the mails."

THE ISSUE OF 1851-60

These issues present considerable difficulty to the amateur. Here we find descriptions of one cent stamps with or without scrolls —three cent stamps with or without lines—five cent stamps with all or no projections—and ten cent stamps with or without side scrolls, so that perhaps a careful description of the varieties will make things easier.

THE ONE CENT, BLUE, FRANKLIN, IMPERFORATE.

For many years Scott listed three varieties, viz. Types 1, II, III. Then came the addition of Type IV. This year the catalogue has made it more difficult for collectors by injecting minor types of I and III which is a pity since U. S. stamps are hard enough to fathom without throwing any further monkey wrenches in the cogs. However as Scott lists them so must I untangle the mess.



Type I.

Type I is generally described as **"full ornaments,"** sometimes as **"full scrolls,"** whilst the official description of the Post Office Department goes to the extreme of calling them **"convolute scroll-work ornaments,"** but a better, (though not so euphonious) a description would be **"with curls,"** because it is the curls that constitute the variety or type. With these curls the stamp is as originally engraved and produced. The original die from which the plates were made was so engraved AND SO REMAINED as the reprint with curls made in 1875 proves. In my opinion it is the scarcest of all the regular U. S. stamps in prime unused condition. Washed and cleaned copies are met with, mint copies hardly ever. The forger usually tries to paint in the curls from a copy of type II, whilst another trick is to cut off the perforations of the perforated issue and add margins. This, however, is not often done, since the color of the perforated stamp is never the deep rich blue of the imperforate issue. Specimens are known showing these balls

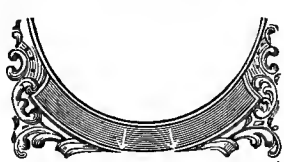
distinctly but the scrolls and outer line at the top of the stamp are partly cut away. This state Scott now lists as type Ia and gives it a catalogue number as 30a. I doubt if the variety interests the general collector at all since as the full scroll variety costs $150 anyhow he hardly wants to give up $100 for another specimen.



Type II.

Type II is much like type I, inasmuch as the curved line still remains intact, but the curls and sometimes the tips of the left and right corners at the bottom have been cut away. This is the variety most commonly met with and does not require further description except to warn collectors to look out for cleaned copies.

Interesting cancellations are those of "United States City Delivery," "United States Mail," etc., showing their employment as government carriers from the postoffice to the destination.



Type III.

Type III is generally described in the catalogues as the "broken circle." The same line which in type I had curls beneath it, in type II had the curls cut away, in type III has the circle broken and is a hard stamp to find with satisfactory margins, and these are essential because the broken circle in the perforated stamp is its commonest state. The forger usually endeavors to work a poorly impressed circle away by scratching, and any specimen that is offered for sale will bear careful scrutiny. **Hold the stamp flat with the light** and look along the surface for any irregularities or roughening of the paper. Here again we find the cataloguing of a new minor variety IIIa, Scott No. 32B. The variety is that the line is broken only at the top or bottom. Personally I should describe this new type IIIa as an unsatisfactory specimen of the real type III.



Type IV.

Type IV is Type III with the broken circle recut. This recutting is apparent by the heavier line of color which very often does not precisely join the old line. The variety is not rare, in fact it is quite as common if not commoner than Type II.

FRAUDS.

The only things to look out for are, as I have before mentioned, the painting in of the curls or the taking out of the curved line. The stamps are plentiful penstruck—which means harvest-time to the cleaner, but as a rule the same tell-tale brown line shows the attempt. The original brown gum is smooth and thick, the fraud gum is generally lumpy and whiter. A regummed stamp usually has a distinct curl to it and the gum often shows along the edges on the color side of the stamp.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
1c Blue, Type I	$500.00	$150.00	$100.00
1c Deep blue, Type I	500.00	150.00	100.00
1c Blue, Type II	4.50	2.00	1.50
1c Deep blue, Type II	4.50	2.00	1.50
1c Blue, Type III	500.00	150.00	100.00
1c Deep blue, Type III	500.00	150.00	100.00
1c Blue, Type IV	3.50	2.00	1.50
1c Deep blue, Type IV	3.50	2.00	1.50

A scarce shade is the light blue—"Bleu au ciel" as the French have it—and this colour is well worth double catalogue price. Again I fail to go into the ramification of postmarks. From common to rare I would grade them as follows: Penmarked, grid, town, way or steam, Carrier postmarks etc. Pairs are worth double to three times list, green cancellations are very rare, red are unusual, black or blue common. The prices of specimens with big margins all round bear no relation to the list since about five in a hundred is the percentage of perfectly margined copies. This One Cent is a beautiful stamp and personally I think a strip of these lightly cancelled in red is about as handsome a thing to own as anything in old U. S. Look out very carefully for cleaned copies—use your benzine test, as mentioned in the 1847 article.

THE THREE CENTS, RED, WASHINGTON.

This stamp, of which more than twenty-eight plates were made. is the commonest of all the unperforated United States stamps. Innumerable shades also are to be found all the way from a rich claret brown to a yellowish red. This stamp has come into favour to such an extent with specialists that even the heretofore large supplies are dwindling. Dr. Carrol Chase was the man who first succeeded in reconstructing the plate and after him came a young army of recruits all specializing in this stamp. Many of the cancellations are much sought after. Those with Mississippi steamer names—Railroad Postmarks—U. S.—Boston Express Mail —Way—Steam etc. being worth from $10 down. Large pieces in used condition are rare. As a market quotation one might set a price of $2.00 on a used pair, $10 on a used strip of five, $50 on a used block of four, $200 on a used block of eight and a house and lot on Fifth Avenue for anything larger. Dr. Chase has, I believe, a used block of ten, the very possession of which places him liable to grievous bodily harm. Red or green cancellations are unusual and quite scarce, especially the green. Scott lists, correctly, the bisection of this stamp as a makeshift for the 1c rate and lists it $125, which is a reasonable valuation. In fact in early U. S. postmarks and pieces no one can give a fixed quotation—things sell at prices that make the older dealers rub their eyes and say when will it end? Look out for penstruck copies that have been washed. As to listing this stamp, I would say

Early Sharp Impressions (Rare)

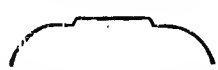
3c Rose brown	Unused, $7.50	Used,	$0.50 to	$1.00
3c Claret brown	Unused, 10.00	Used,	1.00 to	2.00
Cc Deep copper orange	Unused, 10.00	Used,	1.00 to	2.00

Later Impressions (Common)

3c Red	Unused, $2.00	Used,	$0.10 to	$0.25
3c Pale red	Unused, 2.00	Used,	.10 to	.25
3c Dull yellowish red	Unused, 2.00	Used,	.10 to	.25

THE FIVE CENTS, BROWN, JEFFERSON.

This is always found with its projections on all four sides intact thus:



It is necessary to insist on good margins on all sides to distinguish the variety from its successor of 1855. The stamp is not

rare and comes in two shades of red-brown. Unused it is decidedly rare in **mint** condition and the collector ought to be cautious of the cleaner as it is a simple matter to wash a $25.00 copy into an unused specimen at $100.00. Pairs and strips of this stamp are worth several times catalogue whilst on covers, paradoxical as it may seem, a strip of three is commoner than a single. This is caused by the fact that the single letter rate to France was 15c in those days and most of the correspondence was between France and New York and New Orleans or perhaps Boston.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
5c Red brown	$100.00	$ 25.00	$ 15.00
5c Deep red brown	100.00	25.00	15.00

THE TEN CENTS, GREEN, WASHINGTON.

The distinction lays in the complete or incomplete condition of the Arabesque scrolls; and the second type which hitherto was listed as existing both perf. and imperf. has lately been definitely settled as only existing in the perforated issue. The second or (B) type therefore does not exist imperf. and all such copies are trimmed down.



Type A.



Type B.

In (A) it will be seen that these scrolls are complete whilst in (B) they are not so. Two shades, usually called blue-green and yellow-green are found, but I must really decline to call either shade blue-green. Dark green and yellow green would be better.

Several years ago some of the wiser ones came swooping around after these ten cent stamps and after carefully going over them with high powered glasses selected certain copies as being what they wanted. Later on, when the cat was out of the bag, it appears that a discovery had been made that the outer line at top

or bottom or both had been recut similar to Type IV in the one cent. This wonderful variety is now in the catalogue as No. 35a.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
10c Dark green (A)	$ 17.50	$ 2.50	$ 1.50
10c Yellow green (A)	17.50	2.50	1.50

VARIETY.

Recut line ..... Unused, —— Used, $35.00 to $50.00

Pairs are not rare, and cancellations seem equally divided between red or black. Blue and green obliterations are rare. Penstruck copies are numerous and cleaning has been greatly indulged in. From $2.50 to eighteen dollars is a great inducement. Green stamps when exposed to acid or ammonia nearly always assume a bluish cast. Therefore, any copy with blotchy gum and a suspiciously bluish cast should be put under the glass. Nine cases out of ten it has been cleaned. To my mind this value has always been a handsome stamp and the green a beautiful heavy color. With a red dated postmark, it makes a handsome specimen.

THE TWELVE CENTS, BLACK, WASHINGTON.

This stamp is found in two very marked impressions of black, one of which is almost a grey. The stamp is very often found in pairs either with red or black cancellations. Green cancellations are very rare. The stamp is known bisected and used as six cents. Cleaned copies should be watched for and trimmed copies of the 1855 issue are sometimes found in albums.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
12c Deep black	$ 25.00	$ 6.00	$ 4.00
12c Grey black	25.00	6.00	4.00
12c Split and used as six cents on cover with cancellation over the split			125.00

In a well-known collection I have seen a quarter of a 12 cent stamp used as three cents. This unique piece is of the highest rarity and is worth, in my estimation at least a Thousand Dollars. This cut piece has ink marks for cancellation and so afraid was the Postmaster that it would not pass the receiving station that he took the trouble to write on it "¼ of a 12c stamp—three cents."

A copy has recently been found printed on both sides—but not having seen it I am unable to offer any opinion about it. Scott prices at $250.00—a purely arbitrary figure but probably about all it will stand.

THE 24c, 30c, 90c VALUES.

Although some albums space for these under 1851, the catalogue hooks the date '56 on the issue, and I believe these stamps were issued at the same time as the perforated set. At any rate they do exist unperforated. The twenty-four cents is known in singles, with large margins, in pairs and in a very large part of a sheet. The thirty cents undoubtedly unperforated and on the entire cover was sold by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons to Mr. J. C. Morgenthau, who sold it to Mr. Tuttle, of Philadelphia, in about 1899. Other copies of the Thirty Cents are known, including a pair, and the stamp is always in a brownish orange tint. Mr. Luff, in his magnificent work on United States Stamps, says: A Well Known Philatelist makes this statement, "I myself bought a Thirty Cents orange imperforate at the New York post-office in 1860, and I distinctly remember having used one on a letter containing some photographs." The Ninety Cents unperforated was sold in the famous Hunter collection. There are other copies. A well known New York collection has a specimen. While none of the specimens I have seen have ever had really fine margins, there is a depth to the indigo which makes the color quite a contrast to the deep blue of the perforated stamp.

VALUES.

24c Lilac grey	Unused,	$175.00	Used,	——
30c Brownish orange	Unused,	350.00	Used,	——
90c Deep indigo	Unused,	800.00	Used,	——

Pairs are so rare that no approximate price would be of any use—I believe a horizontal pair of each of the three values changed hands recently for $2500.00. It would be well to remember that this 1851 issue is on a hard sharp paper whilst the next issue is on a paper having a distinct mesh in it so that would be a good test for the three higher values as to whether the scissors had been at work or not. Again the unperf 24c is a lilac grey—the perforated one is stone grey—the unperf 30c is brownish orange, whilst the perforated copy is a chrome yellow orange and the 90c imperf. is deep indigo, whilst the perforated copy is a clear blue.

THE ISSUE OF 1855.

PERFORATED 15.

This was the issue of 1851, perforated fifteen, and with various additions of varieties from a collector's point of view.

THE ONE CENT, BLUE, FRANKLIN.

Here we find the broken circle, Type III of the 1851 issue, the commonest variety, while neither Type I nor Type II are nearly as scarce as in the previous issue. We are inflicted with yet another new type in the catalogue listed as Type V, being type III with the side ornaments partly cut away. The other types are described in the previous chapter and require no alteration. The shades are far more numerous than in the unperforated issue, and unused copies are not very rare. The cleaning process of the forger is still much in evidence, and those copies that have gum have a smooth dark brown variety.

THE REPRINT.

The reprint of this stamp is easily told. It was made for the Centennial in 1875, is not gummed, is perforated twelve instead of fifteen, is type I, and is always sky blue.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
1c Deep blue, Type I	$ 25.00	$ 10.00	$ 7.00
1c Blue, Type I	25.00	10.00	7.00
1c Pale sky blue, Type I	30.00	10.00	7.50
1c Blue, Type 1a	———	35.00	25.00
1c Deep blue, Type II	12.50	4.00	3.00
1c Blue, Type II	12.50	4.00	3.00
1c Pale sky blue, Type II	12.50	6.00	3.00
1c Blue, Type III	———	35.00	25.00
1c Deep blue, type III	———	35.00	25.00
1c Blue, Type IIIa	———	20.00	15.00
1c Blue, Type IV	60.00	10.00	7.50
1c Grey blue, Type IV	60.00	10.00	7.00
1c Blue, Type V	.60	.50	.30
1c Reprint (1875) Type I	3.00	(always ungummed)	

THE THREE CENTS, RED, WASHINGTON.

In the unperforated issue each stamp is surrounded by a rectangular line of colour, and this line is also found on the earliest plates of the perforated issue, forming the variety listed in the catalogue as "outer lines." But when it became necessary to have more room for the perforations, space at the top and bottom of every stamp was secured by providing plates without the horizontal lines, resulting in the ordinary variety "without lines" that is so plentiful today. Large quantities of this stamp seem to have been in the hands of Confederate postmasters, and when the issue was demonetized, a plentiful supply seems to have found its way into the dealer's hands, for one can purchase entire sheets even today. Red and green cancellations are very uncommon, and the darker shades are quite the better colours.

REPRINT.

The Centennial reprint is perforated twelve and is only found ungummed and printed in vermilion.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
3c Brown rose, Type I	$ 10.00	$ 0.30	$ 0.20
3c Dull red, Type I	10.00	.30	.20
3c Claret, Type I	15.00	1.00	.75
3c Brown rose, Type II	3.75	.10	.06
3c Pale red, Type II	.20	.05	.02
3c Dull red, Type II	.20	.05	.05
3c Partly perforated. Used	—	—	—
3c Vermilion, Reprint	15.00	—	—
3c Various colours with red cancellations.	Each	.....25c to 1.00	

THE FIVE CENTS, JEFFERSON.



Perhaps this is more of a stumbling block to collectors than any one variety. We find the design intact, partly cut away and wholly cut away. Type I has the four projections intact and is exactly similar to the unperforated variety of 1851.

Type II shows these projections at top and bottom partly cut away forming little angles.

Types II and III are found on the same sheet. Mr. Luff states that the first, third, sixth and tenth rows are Type II and the balance of the sheet Type III. This stamp in the lake brown shades of Type I is often found cleaned of its penmarks. The crackly gum and humped appearance of the stamp usually tell the story.

In the Scott list for 1920 I see they omit Type III, merging it with type II for which let us be thankful. Type III merely shows more slicing of the projections.

REPRINT.

This value was reprinted in 1875, perforated twelve, without gum, in a bright orange brown from a plate which shows both Types II and III.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
5c Light red brown, Type I	$125.00	$ 15.00	$ 10.00
5c Red brown, Type I	125.00	12.50	8.00
5c Lake brown, Type I	50.00	7.50	5.00
5c Deep brown, Type I	25.00	7.50	5.00
5c Orange brown, Type II	6.00	35.00	20.00
5c Deep brown, Type II	7.50	7.50	5.00
5c Reprint, Type II	10.00	——	——
5c Reprint, Type III	10.00	——	——

Red cancellations are rarer than black, and Type I is very difficult to find in center, the perforations almost always cutting the design. I have quoted the nominal catalogue price on the orange brown shades of Types II and III, but to my mind this stamp is far commoner unused than used. The stamp is known printed on both sides.

THE TEN CENTS, GREEN, WASHINGTON.

The two varieties of side ornaments and the two shades illustrated in the issue of 1851 are seen here. Beyond this there is but little to describe. The stamp is as often found with red as with black cancellations.

The recutting of the top or bottom lines or both, fully described in 1851 issue, is also to be found here. The variety is rarer in this issue than in the previous one and is valued at $50.00 for those who desire such things.

REPRINT.

The reprint, perforated twelve, no gum, made in 1875, is always a distinct blue-green.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
10c Dark green, Type I	$ 10.00	$ 1.75	$ 1.25
10c Yellow green, Type I	10.00	1.75	1.25
10c Dark green, Type II	7.50	1.00	.75
10c Yellow green, Type II	4.00	1.00	.75
10c Blue green, reprint	12.50	——	——

The large remainder stock were all yellow-green and of Type II. I consider Type I, unused and centred to be worth at least double catalogue price. It is very scarcee. Look out for cleaned copies—use the test given in the 1851 issue.

THE TWELVE CENTS, BLACK, WASHINGTON.

Perhaps this stamp may be called really hard to get well centered. The division between the stamps is very narrow, and rarely does one find a nicely centered copy. Being black it is often found cleaned and regummed. The reprint, perforated twelve, no gum, made in 1875, is always a very greenish black. In the famous Carrol Hay correspondence I found a bisected 12c used as 6c and it is on the evidence furnished by this copy that Scott lists the bisection. It is priceless, being the only known copy. What I sold it for is as Kipling says "another story" but it was enough. If you must have a price let's say $500.00.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
12c Full deep black	$ 7.50	$ 4.00	$ 3.00
12c Grey black	6.00	4.00	3.00
12c Greenish black reprint	15.00	——	——

THE TWENTY-FOUR CENTS, LILAC, WASHINGTON.

I never could reconcile the term lilac to this stamp. Its real colour is "stone" I should say. However, it is found in three distinct shades—one of them is really a distinct colour. The stamp is often found cancelled with heavy black bars which spoil the appearance of used copies. Dated post-marks are considerably scarcer than these bars, and red cancellations both scarce and very pleasing to the eye on this colour.

The reprint, perforated twelve, no gum, made in 1875, is always a deep purple.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
24c Grey	$ 10.00	$ 8.00	$ 6.00
24c Grey lilac	10.00	8.00	6.00
24c Reddish lilac	300.00	——	——
24c Deep purple, reprint	15.00	——	——

The reddish lilac shade is on very thin paper. All the copies I have seen came from Europe, so possibly they may be some kind of sample impressions for official interchange. There was a beautiful pair of red-lilacs in the Breitfuss collection which were bought by that collector possibly fifty years ago.

THE THIRTY CENTS, ORANGE, FRANKLIN.

There is nothing particular to say about this specimen. There are two slight shades of the orange, and being easily sulphuretted (but miscalled oxidized) can be found wholly or partly brown. A careful immersion in H2O2, (Peroxide of Hydrogen), will restore the colour. This is a nasty stamp to take the cancellation, heavy bars as in the twenty-four cents being the usual obliteration. Town cancellations are very much rarer than the bar postmark and worth at least 50% over normal catalogue quotations.

The reprint, made in 1875, no gum, perforated twelve, is distinctly yellow in colour.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
30c Orange	$ 12.50	$ 12.50	$ 7.50
30c Yellow, reprint	15.00	——	——

THE NINETY CENTS, BLUE, WASHINGTON.

This stamp is very much scarcer used than unused, and many forged obliterations are about. There is practically no shade—two tints of indigo would be all one can find. This stamp generally comes well centered, and until about ten years ago was fairly plentiful.

The reprint made in 1875, perforated twelve, is also in the indigo shade of the original but is ungummed.

VALUES.

90c Indigo	Unused, $20.00	Finely used, $100.00
90c Reprint, indigo	Unused, 17.50	

A cover containing this 90c stamp in conjunction with some other values recently sold for more than $1000.00 which gives the everyday collector some insight into what exceptionally superb U. S. on covers bring these days.

THE ISSUE OF 1861

PERFORATED 12.

The first designs for this issue appeared in August, and were quickly changed into retouched or more amplified designs in the following month. But little is known of this first or August issue. The stamps were printed in very deep rich colours on a very brittle paper which cracks easily. The Ten Cents and Twenty-four Cents values were undoubtedly used, and I have had and sold the One Cent and Three Cents, cancelled, with three circles in the corner either "to order" or for some other purpose. To show both the original and the modified designs I put the two illustrations side by side:—but I may add that no distinctive mark has ever been found on the Twenty-four Cents or on the Thirty Cents values. Their colour, however, easily marks them out from the September issue. The August impressions are usually very clear and very heavily inked, in fact, their clearness and sharpness have often earned for them the name of premieres gravures.

THE ONE CENT, BLUE, FRANKLIN.



August



September

The distinguishing mark of the August is its deep rich indigo colour and the absence of the little wash under the extreme right end of the left foliate ornament at the top of the stamp. The September issue with the little dash is, of course, quite a common stamp, seeing it was in use for over six years. Shades are numerous, and two very distinct papers are found, one of which is much thicker than the other. It is not generally known why so many unused specimens are found with full gum, but with perforations cut carelessly away by scissors. Years ago, ten of these stamps were folded up, put into an envelope and used during the Civil War as ten cent currency. One New York dealer showed me hundreds of this stamp so mutilated, and he stated to me that he had several thousands of them at one time, years ago. I have seen copies used with the carrier cancellation of 1851, which are very uncommon. Red cancellations are unusual, green cancellations very rare and in

unused condition the deep shades decidedly rare. The stamp was reprinted for the Centennial in a bright blue on white paper with thin white gum, but unlike the reprints of the issues of 1847 and 1855, it is still available for postage, and is therefore a reissue and analogous to the reissues of France in 1862 &c. The original issue has been found on a distinctly laid paper and is known imperf. horizontally.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
1c Indigo, August	$1000.00	——	——
1c Deep blue, September	3.00	1.50	1.00
1c Bright blue, September	3.00	1.50	1.00
1c Blue, September	1.00	.50	.30
1c Pale grey blue, September	1.00	.50	.30
1c Blue on laid paper	——	15.00	——
1c Reissue (1875)	10.00	——	——

THE THREE CENTS, RED, WASHINGTON.



August



September

The difference between the designs of the August and September issues lays in the addition of a ball in each corner. The August issue **did not** and the September issue **did have** this distinguishing mark.

There is but one real shade of the August stamp, which is generally called brown red, but specimens in vermilion and other fancy colours are known which are probably either essays or proofs. In the September issue we find an enormous range of shades, running from pink to deep lake. The pink has always been very highly prized and sought after—why, I do not know—there are many shades so close to it and so many shades almost as uncommon that I personally am inclined to call this shade the most over-rated United States stamp. However, the catalogues list it and the albums space for it, and great is their influence. I do not believe the lake was ever issued to the postmasters, as I have never seen a copy although I have looked through thousands of this stamp. From very good evidence I am pretty sure this stamp is a finished proof—the perforations have been furnished to an imperf. sheet, since it is known imperf. also. It's a twin sister to the 3c on

brown chemical paper. The stamp exists unperforated, in the issued colour, both unused and used copies in this condition being quite in evidence; and it is also found on the same laid paper as the One Cent value. It was reprinted in 1875 in a dark brownish red on white paper with very white gum. I have been asked why the reissues of this three cent stamp and the three cents of 1869 are priced so much more than the surrounding values. The cause is easily explained; the Three Cents, both of this and of the 1869 issue, were so very common that collectors in 1875, **not realizing that the Centennial prints were varieties,** did not buy these values as they already had, (as they supposed) these specimens in their collections. Hence fewer were bought, fewer saved, and therefore their scarcity today.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
3c Brown red, August	$ 25.00	———	———
3c Pink, September	75.00	10.00	6.00
3c Lake, September	20.00	———	———
3c Deep terra-cotta, September.	.25	.04	.02
3c Brown rose, September	.25	.04	.02
3c Pale brownish rose, Sept.	.25	.04	.02
3c Rose (Imperf.) September	7.50	———	———
3c Rose, on laid paper	75.00	5.00	2.50
3c Brown red, reissue 1875	25.00	———	———

The stamp is listed as existing partly perforated and as being worth $125.00 in that condition. It is also known printed on both sides. Specimens on brown chemical paper, listed as No. 65d are essays pure and simple and utterly unworthy of notice in a stamp catalogue.

THE FIVE CENTS, MUSTARD, JEFFERSON.



August



September

The difference between the August and the September issue lies in the corner ornaments. In the September issue we find a curved foliate ornament added to the center of the design in each corner.

The August issue is a soft orange brown colour on very thin paper. The September colours run in ochre, brown and an olive

yellow. The ochre shade is always a bad one for used copies which do not show up well, the brown ochre being more pleasing. I have seen copies of a distinctly greenish yellow colour, but consider them chemical changelings. On account of its rarity unused, cleaned specimens are not uncommon and should be guarded against.

	VALUES. Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
5c Orange brown, August	$600.00		
5c Ochre, September	100.00	15.00	10.00
5c Brown ochre, September	100.00	15.00	10.00
5c Olive yellow, September	125.00	30.00	20.00
5c Ochre, imperf. horizontally			

THE TEN CENTS, GREEN, WASHINGTON.



August



September

The difference between the August and September issues lies in the bottom ends of the lines running under the five stars at the top of the stamp. In the August issue the lines are not bounded by any line of colour, whereas in the September issue at the base of these shading lines there is a line of colour which runs from the foliate ornament at the right to the foliate ornament at the left.

The August variety is always a very deep green and is generally found with red cancellations. A large number were used on correspondence to Hamel & Co., of Havana. The September issue also comes in the exact colour of the August issue, and also in blue-green and yellow-green. I consider the blue-green a scarce stamp either used or unused. The reprint made in 1875 is a bright green, is on the usual very white paper, and has white gum. It has a bluish cast to the colour, but nothing like the blue-green of 1861. Pen-cancellations are often removed by the cleaners and should be guarded against. The stamp is listed imperf. horizontally.

	VALUES. Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
10c Deep green, Augu	$ 75.00	$ 15.00	$ 10.00
10c Blue green, Septe	5.00	.75	.50
10c Deep green, Septe	5.00	75	.50
10c Yellow green, Se er	3.00	.40	.30
10c Bluish green, reissue (1875)	20.00		

THE TWELVE CENTS, BLACK, WASHINGTON.



August



September

The difference between the August and September issues is easily noted. The latter has the entire corner added, bringing the design into rectangular form.

The August issue of this stamp is in my opinion by far the rarest of the set. It has risen from $400 to $1500 in late years and even at this price is well nigh unobtainable.

The later issue is found in two shades of black, also in a peculiar slatish black shade in very thin paper. This stamp is hard to find well centered, is often cleaned and passed off as unused, and with red cancellations is quite scarce. The reprint made in 1875 is dead black on the usual white paper with white gum.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
12c Black, August	$1500.00	——	——
12c Black, September	5.00	$ 1.00	$ 0.75
12c Grey black, September	5.00	1.00	.75
12c Slate black, September	5.00	1.00	.75
12c Black, reissue (1875)	25.00	——	——

THE TWENTY-FOUR CENTS, REDDISH-PURPLE, WASHINGTON

There is no distinguishing mark between the August and September issues except by colour. The August issue is invariably a deep soft violet, the September issue a sharp reddish purple. The stamp is very hard to find well centered and must not be confused with the slate and grey shades which belong to the issue of 1862-6. The reprint made in 1875 is called violet, but brownish violet would be a better description. It has the usual white paper and gum.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
25c Violet, August	$150.00	$ 40.00	$ 30.00
24c Reddish purple, September	35.00	5.00	3.00
24c Purple, September	35.00	5.00	3.00
24c Brown violet (Reissue)	35.00	——	——

THE THIRTY CENTS, ORANGE, FRANKLIN.

Again no distinction between the August and September issues except colour. The August stamp is deep orange-red, the September stamp dull orange and orange-yellow, two distinct colors which should be more fully recognized. The reprint made in 1875 is a very deep brownish orange on the usual white paper with white gum. The originals of 1861 are very hard to get in fine used condition, the cancellations being particularly heavy and unsightly as a rule.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
30c Orange red, August	$600.00	——	——
30c Deep orange, September ...	7.50	$ 2.00	$ 1.00
30c Orange yellow, September..	6.00	1.75	.90
30c Deep brownish orange, reissue 1875	50.00	——	——

THE NINETY CENTS, BLUE, WASHINGTON.



August September

The difference between the August and the September issues lies in the arch at the top which surmounts the ribbon bearing the words United States Postage. In the August issue the white portion of this arch has no engraving, whilst the September issue shows small horizontal dashes running along the center of the white portion of the arch.

The August variety comes in a slate blue, sometimes rather motttled in appearance and is known imperf., whilst the September issue is found in three shades, deep blue, blue and marine blue. The reprint made in 1875 is a very deep but clear blue, is on the usual white paper, with white gum.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
90c Slate blue, August	$800.00	——	——
90c Deep blue, September	20.00	8.00	6.00
90c Blue, September	20.00	8.00	6.00
90c Marine blue, September ...	25.00	10.00	6.00
90c Deep blue, reissue (1875)..	50.00	——	——

THE ISSUE OF 1862-6

PERFORATED 12.

Really consists of the Three, Five and Twenty-four cent stamps of the 1861 design, in changed colours, with the addition of a two cents value.

THE TWO CENTS, BLACK, JACKSON.

This is one of the best known stamps of the United States. Ask any person who collected stamps years ago what United States stamps he had and he will tell you "a post boy," "a steam-engine" and a stamp that was "all head." This "all head" stamp is the Two Cents Jackson of 1863. The stamp sometimes is found on what appears to be a greyish green paper, but in reality this is caused by poor wiping of the plates. Two shades, grey black and deep black, constitute the only varieties of color. Stamps are known bisected and used as One Cent. This stamp has been found on the laid paper like the One and Three Cents, 1861. Specimens are known on a brown chemical paper which was an experimental production by Dr. Francis. By wetting the stamp, the paper changed colour and the stamp became obliterated. The Postmaster General had ten thousand of these made, and Dr. Francis passed a few through the mails at Newport, R. I. Notwithstanding all this this brown chemical paper is an essay pure and simple and as such should be thrown out of the catalogue. A specimen is known printed on both sides. The stamp was reprinted for the Centennial in a very deep clear black, on the distinguishing white paper and with the usual white crackly gum.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
2c Grey black on greyish surfaced paper	$ 1.00	$ 0.20	$ 0.15
2c Black on yellowish paper	1.00	.20	.15
Bisected and used as 1 Cent.	——	——	25.00
2c Deep black, reissue (1875)	15.00	——	——

THE THREE CENTS, SCARLET, WASHINGTON.

One is taking chances with whatever popularity he may have when he boldly takes a long worshipped idol and deliberately dashes it to pieces—nevertheless I feel it due to the great mass of

collectors to lead them along the path of knowledge rather than to coax them into buying something that isn't what it is supposed to be. Long, long ago Mr. J. W. Scott, now dead, claimed to have purchased some of this scarlet stamp in New Orleans. If he did so why didn t he have some used and why do not some of them turn up used? True cancelled copies are around but they are cancelled with the 1883 postmark, not the 1862 one. Then again why if the stamp was issued did the Postmaster General at Washington give them out with four black pen strokes—Why? Because he knew they were not a regular issue and therefore unavailable for postage. The stamp—like all proofs—is found imperf. quite often and forged perforations are not unknown. This stamp is a twin sister to the 3c lake of 1861—and they both ought to be thrown headlong from a list of issued stamps. The catalogue makers are blind to their own interests in keeping these parasites in the catalogue.

THE FIVE CENTS, BROWN, JEFFERSON.

This is the same stamp issued in 1861 except for its new shades which run from chestnut down to a deep black brown. I have seen copies in the exact bright red-brown of the Five Cents of 1855, but the unused copies never have had gum, and I consider them changelings. The chestnut or red-brown shades are quite scarce, unused, as is also the true black-brown shade. The stamp is listed as coming on laid paper. The reissue made in 1875 is a warm brown tint, is on white paper with the usual white gum.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
5c Chestnut	$ 20.00	$ 6.00	$ 4.00
5c Dark chestnut	20.00	6.00	4.00
5c Brown	4.00	1.00	.75
5c Dark brown	4.00	1.00	.75
5c Black brown	15.00	2.00	1.05
5c Light brown, reissue (1875).	17.50	——	——

THE FIFTEEN CENTS, BLACK, LINCOLN.

The necessity for this value arose from the regulation fixing upon fifteen cents as the rate for registration. The stamp comes in two very different thicknesses of paper but without much shade. Greyish black and full black will suffice for description. It is a very hard stamp to find well centered, and is often found with a heavy blue cancellation greatly spoiling its appearance. Being black and scarce unused, the cleaner usually endeavors with some success to wash off the pen cancellations. The usual tests will generally show the attempt. The reissue made in 1875 is a deep black on white paper and with the usual white gum.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
15c Grey black	$ 12.50	$ .2.00	$ 1.50
15c Full black	12.50	2.00	1.50
15c Black, reissue (1875)	35.00	——	——

THE TWENTY-FOUR CENTS, LILAC-GREY, WASHINGTON.

The rich red-violet shades of 1861 have been replaced by grey and stone shades, and the attempt to describe the colors is well nigh impossible. They range from grey, through grey lilacs down to a deep blue grey. I believe some of the greenish-grey colours that are about to be changelings. A copy is known printed on both sides, which is a very uncommon occurrence with such careful printers as the National Bank Note Company. This stamp is also very difficult to get in center, and the heavy form of cancellation, noted on the Fifteen Cents, is much in evidence on this stamp. The real steel blue is on very thin paper and I personally think it is a premiere gravure of August 1861 although I cannot prove it by any known dated copy.

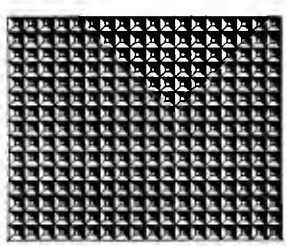
VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
24c Grey	$ 5.00	$ 2.00	$ 1.00
24c Grey lilac	5.00	2.00	1.00
24c Grey brown	5.00	2.00	1.00
24c Steel	100.00	15.00	10.00

THE ISSUE OF 1867-8

PERFORATED 12.

This issue consists of every value of the 1861-3 sets, the difference being that the 1867-8 issue is distinguished by a small rectangular impression on the back of the stamp, sometimes quite heavily marked, at other times so faint as to make measurement difficult. It will be noticed that in previous issues I have repeatedly warned collectors against the manipulations of the "cleaner," and whilst to-day this is done by unscrupulous people to enhance the value of a stamp, it was also a source of trouble to the Government away back in 1867. In this year Mr. Charles F. Steel patented a process for grilling or engrailing stamps. It would be useless in this work to go into a long and detailed description of the means employed to produce this grille, so suffice it to say that a portion of the paper was impressed with a grille thus:



ENLARGED CUT OF A GRILLE.

This grille broke the even texture of the paper after the stamp was printed and gummed. The general idea was that any ink falling upon the broken portion of the paper would sink into the texture of the paper and remain there, so embedded that the "cleaner" would be unable to dislodge it with the usual chemicals employed. These grills are found in an enormous number of hair-splitting measurements which I do not propose to enumerate here, satisfying myself with the usually accepted measurements. These grilles are also found impressed from the front of the stamp, (points down), or from the back of the stamp (points up). These varieties with grille first appeared in 1867, and two years later we find an entirely new issue, so that none of them are very common except the usual three cent value. Before listing the values, I should like to say that I consider the One Cent stamp with the en-

tire face grilled to be, at best, an essay. The variety has never been found used, and the unused specimens I have seen have never had the grille pressed out by the hydraulic press, as was always done after the impression was made. The Three Cents grilled all over, nearly always has some of its perforations missing, the grilling making the perforation points very brittle and easily damaged. In this grilled issue are some interlopers who ought to be thrown out. I have reference to the imperf. varieties. Mr. Luff, that careful student of stamps, sounds the warning thus:—"The attention of collectors is called to an essay which is often mistaken for the 3c grilled all over. The essay shows the points of the grille as small squares faintly impressed on the paper hut not cutting through it, on the issued stamp the grill breaks through the paper and forms tiny crosses within squares." Quite so and the 3c grilled 13x16 imperf. and the 3c grilled 9x13 imperf. can therefore make their exit.

VALUES.

(A) With embossing covering the entire stamp.

1c Blue (undoubtedly never issued).

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
3c Rose	$ 40.00	$ 17.50	$ 12.50
5c Brown	——	750.00	——
30c Orange	——	1000.00	——

The 3c value is known unperforated. I class it with the One Cent blue, grilled all over. (See previous description.)

(B) Grilled eighteen mm. wide by fifteen mm. high.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
3c Rose (estimated quotation)	$250.00	$ 75.00	$ 65.00

(C) Grilled thirteen mm. wide by sixteen mm. high.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
3c Rose	$ 25.00	$ 7.50	$ 5.00

This stamp is also known unperforated. Again I class it with the One Cent, grilled all over. (See previous description.)

(D) Grilled twelve mm. wide by fourteen mm. high.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
2c Black	$ 35.00	$ 12.50	$ 7.50
3c Rose	25.00	3.00	2.00

(E) Grilled eleven to eleven and a half mm. wide by thirteen to thirteen and a half mm. high.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
1c Bright blue	$ 12.50	$ 2.50	$ 2.00
1c Blue	12.50	2.50	2.00
2c Black	5.00	.75	.50
3c Deep rose	7.50	.25	.15
3c Pale rose	5.00	.15	.10
10c Green	15.00	2.00	1.50
12c Black	12.50	1.50	1.00
15c Black	25.00	3.50	2.50

I consider the Ten and Twelve Cents values as very underpriced in fine condition either used or unused. Care should be taken to examine carefully for the removal of small penmarks.

(F) Grilled nine mm. wide by thirteen to thirteen and a half high.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
1c Deep blue	$ 5.00	$ 1.75	$ 1.00
1c Pale blue	5.00	1.75	1.00
2c Grey black	2.50	.35	.25
3c Brown rose	2.00	.06	.04
3c Pale brown rose	1.25	.06	.04
5c Yellowish brown	20.00	8.00	6.00
5c Deep Vandyck brown	20.00	8.00	6.00
5c Black brown	30.00	10.00	6.00
10c Bluish green	6.00	1.50	1.00
10c Deep yellow green	6.00	1.50	1.00
12c Black	6.00	1.25	1.00
15c Black	10.00	2.00	1.50
24c Grey purple	50.00	15.00	10.00
30c Orange	25.00	5.00	4.00
90c Deep blue	75.00	20.00	15.00

The gum on this grilled issue seems to soak into the grille, forming in many cases an unsightly grey line on the fact of the stamp. Taken altogether, this grilled series is a hard lot of stamps to complete in fine condition. Red cancellations are uncommon but not rare. Green cancellations are very uncommon. Quite a number of specimens have come under my notice that originally bore a small x made by a pen-mark. I am inclined to think these are presentation or sample copies of some kind.

THE ISSUE OF 1869

PERFORATED 12.

With collectors, this issue is the most popular of all United States stamps, but the public in 1869 complained of the size, the design, the colour, in fact with everything connected with the issue. The complaints appear to have been headed by the officials, inasmuch as the issue was replaced in 1870, just one year after its appearance. Luckily for the collector the shades are more uniform than in previous issues, and none of the regular varieties are rarities.

A tremendous amount of time and energy has been spent on the cancellations and combination rates in this issue. I do not propose to touch on them here except to say that "town" cancellations are much rarer than "killers"; red cancellations rare, and the 10c stamp is sometimes found cancelled from Tokio or Yokohama, such postmarks being applied to mail posted in Japan at the U. S. consulate for transmission to the United States.

THE ONE CENT, BROWN-YELLOW, FRANKLIN.

This little stamp is difficult to find in center, and on account of its almost circular design is unsightly when the design is cut by perforation. It is known as an original with grille and without, both with dark brown gum. Then we have the centennial reissue in a deep brown ochre on hard white paper, without grille and white gum, and still a final reissue in 1880 by the American Bank Note Company, on soft porous paper in a paler yellowish brown shade. Red cancellations are uncommon, and as the One Cent value was used on circulars, we generally find heavy black obliterations which are very hard on the delicate Sienna tints.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
1c Pale yellow brown	$ 2.00	$ 1.5	$ 0.75
1c Deep yellowish brown	2.00	1.50	.75
1c Yellowish brown (no grille).	50.00	——	——
1c Dark brown ochre (1875)...	6.00	6.00	——
1c Brownish yellow (1880)	1.50	——	——

THE TWO CENTS, BROWN, POST BOY ON HORSE.

This stamp, so very typical of the ways and means of the mail, is found in three shades of brown. It is known as an original without grille, and was reissued for the Centennial in a bright brown on very white paper and white gum, without grille. Pen cancelled copies are not unusual, therefore cleaned specimens are met with. Bisections for use as 1c are known and valued at $75 on original covers.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
2c Dark brown (grilled)	$ 1.50	$ 0.35	$ 0.25
2c Deep yellow brown (grilled)	1.50	.35	.25
2c Pale brown (grilled)	1.50	.35	.25
2c Pale brown (no grille)	40.00	——	——
2c Bright brown, no grille, 1875	7.00	——	——

THE THREE CENTS, BLUE, LOCOMOTIVE.

One of the old faithfuls of Philately. As I previously wrote of the Two Cents Jackson of 1863, this stamp is always remembered by collectors who have long ago ceased collecting. Considering the quantity issued it is remarkable that the colour does not run to more shades. We have a dark and a light ultramarine and that is all. Like the rest of the set, the stamp exists as an original without grille, and as a reissue in 1875, the latter being rare in fine condition. Many very faintly grilled copies are sometimes mistaken for the reissue, but the latter is always a bright ultramarine on very white paper with white gum. A cover is known with two-thirds of this stamp used for 2c.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
3c Pale ultramarine	$ 1.25	$ 0.10	$ 0.05
3c Deep ultramarine	1.25	.10	.05
3c Pale ultramarine (no grille)	40.00	——	——
3c Bright ultramarine (1875)	20.00	——	——

THE SIX CENTS, BLUE, WASHINGTON.

Only two shades of this stamp are of sufficient tint to warrant notice. We have a dull ultramarine and a deep clear ultramarine. No specimen has been found of the first issue without grille, and the Centennial issue has the usual white paper and white gum.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
6c Pale ultramarine	$ 6.00	$ 2.00	$ 1.25
6c Bright ultramarine	6.00	2.00	1.25
6c Deep ultramarine (1875)	10.00	——	——

THE TEN CENTS, YELLOW, EAGLE AND SHIELD.

One of the most difficult of all United States stamps to find well centered and lightly cancelled. The usual black cork and wooden obliterating stamps give the used copies an awful appearance. I should say not one copy in twenty comes really fine. Two shades are found in addition to the reissue for the Centennial on the usual white paper with white gum.

Blocks of this stamp are very rare, most of the stock having been used on the U. S. Consulate mails at St. Thomas, D. W. I. or in Japan.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
10c Orange yellow	$ 7.50	$ 2.50	$ 1.50
10c Yellow	7.50	2.50	1.50
10c Orange yellow (1875)	17.50	——	——

The brownish shades are caused by oxidization and can be removed by bathing in Peroxide of Hydrogen.

THE TWELVE CENTS, GREEN, STEAMSHIP.

I believe I am right in stating that the designs for this value was copied from the heading of a menu published by the White Star Line and that the ship was the Arctic of that company. The stamp runs but little to shade. The actual description of the colour is Milori green. The usual reissue was made in 1875 in a deep blue-green on white paper with white gum.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
12c Blue green	$ 5.00	$ 2.50	$ 1.50
12c Deep blue green (1875)	12.50	——	——

THE FIFTEEN CENTS, BROWN AND BLUE.

This value is the only one of the entire set that shows any distinct variety. There are two of these known as with or without "the diamond or frame." The variety is often hard to see because the blue portion depicting the landing of Columbus almost always covers the crucial point. However, if looked at closely, one sees as follows.



TYPE A



TYPE B

In the "no diamond" or A variety, it will be noticed that the top of the point under the ST of Postage is devoid of any surrounding lines, whereas in Type B, or "with diamond," there are lines surrounding the space for the picture which meet under the ST of postage in a diamond shape. Variety B, is known with the blue center upside down. Variety A exists as an original, without grille, and the Centennial reissue on white paper with white gum is also from a die without the diamond. Years ago it was supposed that the errors with reversed centers existed as a variety in a sheet of which the other surrounding copies were normally printed. But later years have shown the existence of pairs and even blocks of the Fifteen and Twenty-four Cents values with reveresd centers, thus conclusively proving that at least one sheet must have been so issued. Specialists pay considerable attention to the various dots and guide lines on the plate, and an interesting by-path is the collection of a series showing misplacements of the center ending with the climax of an inverted center. Two slight shades of the blue and two of the brown portions of the stamp finish all the varieties found. The blue portion showing the landing of Columbus is copied from the picture at present in the Capitol at Washington, D. C.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
15c Brown and blue, Type A	$ 15.00	$ 5.00	$ 3.50
15c Brown and blue, Type A	7.50	2.00	1.50
15c Brown and blue, Type A, no grille	60.00	——	——
15c Brown and blue, Type B, reversed center	2500.00	400.00 to 600.00	——
15c Brown and blue, Type A, re-issue 1875	12.50	——	——

THE TWENTY-FOUR CENTS, GREEN AND VIOLET.

The picture of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence is from the original in the Capitol at Washington, D. C. There are some slight shades in the violet portion of the stamp, and as this value was usually used on letters we find the cancellations a little lighter. Like the Fifteen Cents, it is known with the center reversed and also as an original without grille. The reissue for the Centennial is on white paper and gum, without grille, and the colors are a little deeper and much brighter than the originals.

	VALUES. Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
24c Purple and green	$ 15.00	$ 7.00	$ 5.00
24c Purple and green, no grille.	50.00	——	——
24c Purple and green, reversed center	2500.00	500.00 to 600.00	——
24c Purple and green, 1875 Reissue, no grille	12.50	——	——

THE THIRTY CENTS, ULTRAMARINE AND CARMINE.

The national coat-of-arms makes a difficult proposition to produce in two colors. A careful study of this stamp will show but very few copies in which the red portion is accurately set to the surrounding ultramarine. Almost always the eagle's head is lost in the blue shading or the bottom point of the shield is misplaced. The stamp would bear a careful study by philatelists. It comes in three colors which we might call ultramarine and pale carmine, dark ultramarine and carmine and a third shade which I have only seen, unused. I would call it dull blue and brownish lake. I am inclined to think the last mentioned stamp is of the earliest impression. There are large blocks of this value used. I have seen blocks of eighteen unsevered, so that used, it is not very rare. It exists with the carmine portion reserved in which condition it is exceedingly rare. The original exists without grille, and inasmuch as a large part of a sheet has been offered around of late years, the catalogue price is out of all proportion to the supply on hand. The reissue for the Centennial is on the white paper with white gum and is very light ultramarine and bright carmine.

	VALUES. Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
30c Pale ultramarine and pale carmine	$ 15.00	$ 4.00	$ 3.00
30c Ultramarine and carmine...	15.00	4.00	3.00
30c Dull blue & brownish lake..	30.00	——	——
30c Original, no grille	40.00	——	——
30c Reversed center	3000.00	1500.00	——
30c Re-issue (1875), no grille..	20.00	20.00	——

THE NINETY CENTS, CARMINE AND BLACK, LINCOLN.

This is a pleasing stamp to look at but unfortunately hard to find lightly cancelled. The stamp was listed years ago as existing with reversed center, but it is certain that this is not correct. There are two distinct colors in the carmine portion. The stamp is known as an original, without grille, and was reissued in 1875 for the Centennial. The reissue is a brilliant carmine and is on white paper with white gum without grille. The stamp is found with the head poorly centered to the frame, in fact, collection of all misplaced centers of this issue would be interesting.

VALUES.

	Unused	Fine Used	Ordinary Copies
90c Deep carmine and black....	$ 50.00	$ 25.00	$ 15.00
90c Bright carmine and black..	50.00	25.00	15.00
90c Deep carmine and black, no grille	75.00	——	——
90c Bright carmine and black, (1875) Reissue	35.00	——	——

This brings to a close an exceedingly interesting issue. A difficult undertaking for some patient collector would be to complete the set with town cancellations.

FINAL WORD

Once more may we be permitted to call your attention to the continuation of this series of handbooks as follows:

1870-1893. Red covers. 1st edition 50c
1894-1900. Grey covers. 1st edition 50c
1901-1920. Blue covers. 3rd edition 50c