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HAND-BOOK  
FOR  
PHILATELISTS

Series, Denominations, Sizes and Colors of  
United States Postage Stamps.

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Compiled by **JAMES McNABB, Jr.**

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PUBLISHED BY  
**W. H. LOWDERMILK & CO.,**  
1424 AND 1426 F STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

1895.

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THE universal interest taken within the past ten years in the collection of postage stamps, and the constant inquiries for information as to the sizes, colors, denominations and other features of current and past issues of U. S. stamps, has caused the author of this book to compile from the records of the Postoffice Department the within general statement, embodying the information desired. It treats entirely of U. S. stamps, the first of which were issued in the year 1847.

J. McN., JR.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *November, 1895.*





A DESCRIPTION  
OF  
ALL POSTAGE STAMPS

Issued by the United States Post-office Department.

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**SERIES OF 1847.—Obsolete.**

*Five-cent.*—Portrait of Franklin, after painting by John B. Longacre, three-quarters face, looking to the left, on an oval disk with dark ground, white neckerchief and fur collar to coat, the whole surrounded with a faintly engraved wreath of leaves, on which, in the two upper corners, are the letters "U" and "S," and in each of the lower corners a large figure "5." In a curved line around the upper portion of the medallion are the words "Post-Office," and around the lower part the words "Five cents." A border of fine straight lines goes around the entire stamp. Color, light brown.

*Ten-cent.*—Portrait of Washington, from Stuart's painting, three-quarters face, looking to the right, on an oval disk with dark ground. white neckerchief and black coat, faint wreath of leaves around all, on which, in the upper corners, are the letters "U" and "S." and in each of the lower corners a large Roman numeral "X." In a curved line around the upper and lower parts of the medallion, as in the case of the 5-cent stamp, are the words "Post-office" and "Ten cents." Color, black. A border of fine straight lines goes around the whole stamp.

**SERIES OF 1851.—Obsolete.**

*One-cent.*—Profile bust of Franklin, looking to the right, on an oval disk with dark ground, the words "U. S. postage" in outline capitals on a curved panel above, and the words "One cent" in similar letters on a curved panel below. On the corners, and partly surrounding the two panels, are convolute scroll-work ornaments, nearly meeting in points on the sides. Color, indigo blue.

*Three-cent.*—Profile bust of Washington, after Houdon, facing to the left, on an oval disk with very dark ground and a white line border. Around this oval is a beautifully tessellated frame, terminating in each of the four corners with a fine lathe-work rosette. At the top of the stamp is a straight panel, with a piece at each end cut off, bearing the words "U. S. postage", in white capitals; at the bottom of the stamp, in a similar panel and with similar letters, are inscribed the words "Three cents." A fine line encloses the stamp, forming a rectangle. Color, brick-red.

*Five-cent.*—Portrait of Jefferson after a



painting by Stuart, three-quarters face, looking to the right, on an oval disk with dark ground and a distinct white border, on the upper and lower portions of which are four irregular shaded segmental spaces. Around the whole is a four-sided oblong frame, with rounded corners terminating in slight incisions, the whole filled in with two rows of geometric lathe work, and bearing in a waved line at the top the words "U. S. postage" in white capitals, and at the bottom the words "Five cents," similarly displayed. Color, brown.

*Ten-cent.*—Portrait of Washington, after the painting by Stuart, three-quarters face, looking to the left, on an oval disk with very dark ground, and a border which is white below and slightly shaded above. Around the upper portion of the medallion, on a dark ground, are thirteen white stars, above which again in a white panel are the words, in small solid capitals, "U. S. postage," connecting two circular spaces on the corners, each containing the Roman numeral "X." Below the medallion, in a waved panel, are the words "Ten cents," in large white capitals. The whole is surrounded with shaded scroll work of a highly ornate character. Color, dark green.

*Twelve-cent.*—Portrait of Washington after the painting by Stuart, three-quarters face, looking to the left, on an oval disk with dark ground and a fine shaded line border. Above the medallion and conforming to its curve, on a light background, are the words "U. S. postage" in white shaded capitals, and below the medallion, similarly inscribed and displayed, are the words "Twelve cents." Around the whole, and inclosed in a fine double-lined rectangle, is a beautifully tessellated frame, separated at each of the four corners by a lathe-work rosette. Color, black.

*Twenty-four cent.*—Portrait of Washington, after the painting by Stuart, three-quarters face, looking to the right, on an oval disk with very dark ground, surrounded by a solid curved border, bearing above the words "U. S. postage," and below the words "Twenty-four cents," in white capitals—the two inscriptions being separated on each side by a small triple rectangle. Around the whole of this is a mass of badly mixed lathe work, forming a frame of irregular oblong form, with rounded corners and curved incisions, all inclosed by a fine outer line. Color, very dark lilac.

*Thirty-cent.*—Profile bust of Franklin, look-

ing to the left, on an oval disk with a very dark ground, and with a slightly shaded border. In an irregular panel at the top are the words "U. S. postage," in two lines of white capitals; at the bottom, in a panel, are the Arabic numerals "30"; on the two sides are the words, "Thirty" and "Cents," respectively, in white capitals; at each of the four corners is a shield, placed obliquely, with fine radiations, and connected with ornate shaded scrolls. The two sides and the top of the stamp are inclosed by a fine double line, ending in six spear points. Color, orange.

*Ninety-cent.*—Portrait of Washington, in general's uniform, after the painting by Trumbull, three-quarters face, on a very dark oblong ground with arched top. In a solid panel, conforming to the curve of this arch, are the words "U. S. postage" in white capitals, while at the bottom of the portrait, in a straight panel, with rounded ends, are the words "Ninety cents." Connecting these two panels, and forming an oblong frame for the portrait, are scroll-work ornaments, resting on a sort of pedestal. Color, deep indigo blue.

*One-cent carrier stamp.*—Profile bust of Franklin, looking to the left on an oval disk,

with very dark ground and a distinct white border. Around this disk is a tessellated frame, separated at the four corners by lathe-work rosettes, similar to those in the 12-cent stamp. In straight panels at the top and bottom of this frame are the words "Carriers" and "Stamp," respectively, a white star on a dark circle being at the beginning and end of each word. The whole is inclosed in a fine single-line rectangle. Color, indigo blue, on rose-colored paper. The denomination is not shown.

*One-cent carrier stamp.*—Picture of an eagle on the branch of a tree, poised for flight, looking to the left, on an oval disk, partly filled with clouds and sun rays. Around this disk is a solid band, separated on the right and left sides by a lined panel, and bearing above the words "U. S. P. O. despatch," and below the words "Prepaid," "One cent," all in white capitals. Above and below the band, and forming corners to the stamp, are laurel and oak leaves, oak to the left and laurel to the right. Color, indigo blue. This stamp, unlike all other stamps in the series, is of less height than width.

The following general statements, in addi-

tion to the foregoing technical descriptions, will enable any one to readily distinguish the two obsolete series of stamps from all others:

1. The 5-cent stamp of the 1847 series bears a portrait of Franklin, in three-quarters face, after a *painting* by Longacre. All other stamps bearing portraits of Franklin are *profiles* from *busts*.

2. The 10-cent stamps of both the 1847 and 1851 issues bear the Roman numeral "X." No other stamps of any series bear Roman numerals, except the newspaper and periodical stamps of 1865-'69.

3. The 1, 3, 5, 12, 24, and 90 cent stamps, and the eagle carrier stamp of the 1851 issue, have the denominations indicated *solely by words*. All other stamps have the denominations indicated by *both words and numerals*, except the Franklin carrier stamp of 1851, which has no indication at all of the denomination.

4. The 30-cent stamp of 1851 is the only stamp ever issued bearing four shields.

Up to February 24th, 1857, stamps were cut apart with scissors, but at that period the Government obtained a process for perforating stamps, which has been in use since.

**SERIES OF 1861.—August 17, 1861, to February 27, 1869.**

Value.	Face.	Presentation.	Color.	Artist.	Issued.
1-cent	Franklin ....	Profile to right	Blue....	See text below.	Aug. 17,'61
2-cent	Jackson .....	Full face.....	Black .....	.....	July 6,'63
3-cent	Washington	Profile to left..	Rose ...	Houdon ...	Aug. 17,'61
5-cent	Jefferson ....	$\frac{3}{4}$ face to left {	Buff ...	Stuart .....	— —,'61
			Brown .....	.....do.....	— —,'62
10-cent	Washington	.....do.....	Green .....	.....do.....	Aug 17,'61
12-cent	.....do.....	.....do.....	Black .....	.....do.....	Do.
15-cent	Lincoln.....	$\frac{3}{4}$ face to right.	.....do.....	Photog'h..	June 17,'66
24-cent	Washington	.....do.....	Lilac ...	Stuart ,...	Aug. 17,'61
30-cent	Franklin.....	Profile to left.	Orange .....	.....	Do.
90-cent	Washington	$\frac{3}{4}$ face to left...	Lt.blue .....	Trumbull.	Do.
5-ct.*	.....do.....	Profile to right	Blue ...	.....	.....
10-ct.*	Franklin.....	.....do.....	Green..	.....	— —,'65
25-ct.*	Lincoln.....	Profile to left..	Red....	.....	.....

\* Newspaper and periodical.

*One-cent.*—Profile head of Franklin, looking to the right, in an ellipse as large as could be placed upon the stamp, viz., 1 by  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch. The entire ground within the inclosure is formed of lathe work. The outer three-sixteenths of an inch of this space is more open. The upper corner spaces contain the Arabic figure "1," and the lower the white capital letters "U" and "S" in the left and right, respectively—

all four corners having ornate surroundings. The words "U. S. postage" are placed above and "One cent" below the bust, following the curvature of the elliptic lathe work upon which they rest. The portrait is probably intended as a copy from Rubricht.

*Two-cent.*—A full face of Andrew Jackson fills the entire tablet, which is as wide as the stamp, three-fourths of an inch, and only one-sixteenth less in its long diameter than the stamp, fifteen-sixteenths of an inch, space being left at the top for the words "U. S. postage" above the elliptical ground, which is cross hatched. The words "Two" and the distorted capital "U" in black fill the left lower corner, and the word "Cents," and a distorted "S" the right. An Arabic "2" in white is placed in each upper corner inclined outward to the left and right, respectively, and resting upon small black disks. Appropriate scroll decorations complete the upper part. The face of Jackson on this stamp is probably after the portrait by Dodge.

*Three-cent.*—A profile of Washington looking to the left rests upon an oblong tablet of lathe work, which is scarcely separated from the rest of the stamp by a border of lighter

work of the same character. The entire ground of the stamp, except touches at and near the outer corners, is of this machine design. The large Arabic figure "3" appears in the upper corners, and between them in two lines are "U. S." and "Postage," the latter word taking the curve of the head close below. At the bottom, also in two lines of white capitals, are the words "Three" and "Cents," the ends of the lines tending upward. In the lower corners are the Gothic capitals "U" and "S," of the same size as the figures; all four are white, except slight tracery near the middle of each.

*Five-cent.*—A portrait of Jefferson rests upon a cross-hatched elliptical tablet  $\frac{17}{32}$  by  $\frac{43}{64}$  of an inch. This is surrounded by a border of lathe work, principally in a triple-line design reaching the limits of the stamp and giving the general outline of a parallelogram, though the corners are rounded, and midway of each side it swells outward. A large white Arabic figure "5" is placed in each of the upper corners, and resting on each end of the line "U. S. postage," which rises in the middle to surmount the upper curve of the tablet. Similar white capitals form the words "Five



cents " below the tablet, and the Gothic capitals "U" and "S," slightly distorted, are placed in the lower corners.

*Ten-cent.*—The head of Washington is upon a hatched ground whose cross lines are almost imperceptible, and is inclosed by four small white stars on each side, with the words "U. S. postage" above and "Ten cents" below. There are five more stars at the top of the stamp. The number "10," in Arabic figures, is placed in each upper corner, in an appropriate inclosure of ornamental design, and the white capitals "U" and "S" are seen in the left and right lower corners, respectively.

*Twelve-cent.*—The face of Washington is placed upon a cross-hatched elliptical ground  $\frac{1}{2}$  by  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch, which is surrounded to the edge of the stamp by a very fine geometrical design, with a serrated outer white line, edged with a black hair line and the trace of an ornament in the middle of each side, with a larger one at each corner, outside the lines mentioned. The number "12," in Arabic figures, inclined as in the 2-cent stamp, is placed in each upper corner, with "U. S. postage" between, bordering the medallion line. Below, in the corners, are the white capitals "U"

and "S," with the words "Twelve cents" just below the medallion line and rising at each end above the "U" and "S." The portrait is the same as that on the 10-cent stamp.

*Fifteen-cent.*—The portrait of Lincoln appears upon a cross-hatched elliptical ground  $\frac{9}{16}$  by  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch. On each side of this are fasces, and above are the words "U. S. postage" in white capitals upon a tablet curled at each end, and encircling the number "15," in Arabic figures, in each upper corner; the figures lean outward to the right and left and backward. At the bottom the words "Fifteen cents" in similar letters to those above and on a like ground, except that the latter terminates abruptly at the ends when reaching the fasces. The letters "U. S." in the lower corners are in bold faced white capitals, the letters leaning to correspond with the numerals in the upper corners.

*Twenty-four-cent.*—The portrait is the smallest of the series, and inclosed by very fine lathe work  $\frac{1}{8}$  of an inch wide, the general outline of which is irregularly hexagonal; on each outer side, above the middle line, are four small five pointed stars, enlarged in size from the lowest one up. At the top are three more

stars, the smallest one in the middle. To the right and left of these, in the corners, and within an elliptical space, are the white faced and shaded Arabic numerals "24," inclined slightly to the left and right. In each lower corner is a large five pointed star, completing the thirteen; upon the left of these is the letter "U," and upon the right "S," tending inward at the top. Curled-leaf ornaments above and at the side of these stars complete the principal features of the stamp. The portrait ground is cross lined vertically and horizontally.

*Thirty-cent.*—The portrait is inclosed in a circle  $\frac{2}{3}$  of an inch in diameter. The background of this space is obliquely cross lined at right angles. The inscriptions "U.S. postage" above and "Thirty cents" below the circle, follow it closely; the number "30" leans outward in the upper corners, and the white capital letters "U" and "S" in the lower left and right hand corners, respectively, incline inward. Around the sides are scroll work ornamentations.

*Ninety-cent.*—The portrait stands upon a background similar to that of the 5, 12 and 15 cent stamps. The border, about  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch wide, is crossed with rays. The outer

line of this border rises at the top to a Gothic apex. The denomination numerals "90" appear at each side of the tablet, on the border one fourth of an inch from the highest point. Across the top of the stamp, upon an independent pennant tablet, whose ends fall about the border, are the words "U. S. Postage" in white, shaded capitals.

The words "ninety" and "cents" are upon the left and right lower quarters of the border, which rests upon branches of oak and laurel tied with a small ribbon. The extreme lower corners are filled with the letters "U" and "S" in the left and right, respectively.

The 5, 10 and 25 cent newspaper and periodical stamps are alike in general style, 2 by  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches in dimensions, the denominations being repeated in Arabic and Roman numerals, in the upper corners Arabic and midway of the sides Roman.

The numbers "10" and "5," five-eighths of an inch high, are white-faced, while those at the side are the color of the stamp. On the 25-cent stamp the side figures are also Arabic. The numerals in the upper corners of the 10 and 25-cent stamps are inclined outward; those on the 5-cent are perpendicular.

The letters "U" and "S" appear near the top in horizontal line, and immediately beneath, the word "Postage" in a line curved downward at each end. Next below this, in the middle of the stamp and surrounded by a border of lathe work, are the several profile medallion portraits in a misty style of engraving. The Washington medallion is circular,  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inches in diameter. The Franklin is an ellipse  $1\frac{1}{16}$  by  $1\frac{5}{16}$  inches, while the Lincoln is a parallelogram with clipped corners  $\frac{7}{8}$  by  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inches. Below the tablets are the words representing the denominations, and "Newspapers and periodicals," in three lines. After this, reference is made as follows: "Sec. 38, act of Congress approved March 3, 1863." Below the border line proper—the heavy white line—at the bottom, in very small type, are the words "National Bank Note Company, New York."

The stamps were intended to be purchased by publishers, that they might mail their publications where payment in money could not be made and the postage could not be collected at destination. The issue of these stamps began in the September quarter of 1865, and was terminated about February 1, 1869.

**SERIES OF 1869.—March 1, 1869, to April 9, 1870.**

*One-cent.*—Head of Franklin, after bust of Cerrachi, looking to the left, surrounded by a circle of pearls; "U. S. postage" on a curved tablet at top, "One cent" on two similar tablets at bottom, with the numeral "1" in a small panel between the words. Color, Roman ocher.

*Two-cent.*—Post horse and rider, facing to left, surrounded by ornamental scroll work; "United States postage" on a fringed curtain at top, "Two cents" on a scroll at bottom, with large numeral "2" between the words. Color, light brown.

*Three-cent.*—Locomotive, heading to right, surrounded by ornamental scroll-work; "United States postage" on a curved and horizontal tablet at top; "Three-cents" on wide curved tablets at bottom, with large numeral "3" between the words. Color, ultramarine blue.

*Six-cent.*—Head of Washington, after Stuart's painting, three-quarter face, looking

to right; frame square, tessellated near the corners, with a circular opening, lined with pearls; "U. S." in upper left and right corners of frame, respectively; the word "Postage" in upper bar of frame; "Six cents" in lower, with the large numeral "6" between the words, and "United States" on each side. Color, ultramarine blue.

*Ten-cent.*—Shield, on which is resting an eagle with outspread wings, eagle looking to left; "United States postage" in upper section of shield; the number "10" in lower; the words "Ten cents" in a scroll at bottom; the whole design surmounted by thirteen stars arranged in a semi-circle. Color, orange.

*Twelve-cent.*—Ocean steamship, surrounded by ornamental scroll work; "United States postage" at top; "Twelve cents" at bottom, with large numeral "12" between the words. Color, milori green.

*Fifteen-cent.*—Landing of Columbus, after the painting by Vanderlyn, in the Capitol at Washington; ornamental scroll work at top and bottom; "U. S. postage" at top; "Fifteen cents" at bottom, with numeral "15" underneath. Colors: Picture, Prussian blue; scroll and ornamental work, light brown.

*Twenty-four cent.*—Declaration of Independence, after the painting by Trumbull, in the Capitol at Washington; ornamental and scroll work at top and bottom; "U. S." surrounded by ovals at upper left and right corners, respectively; the word "Postage" between the two; "Twenty-four cents" in scroll at bottom, with numeral "24" underneath. Colors: The picture, purple lake; scroll and ornamental work, light milori green.

*Thirty-cent.*—Eagle, facing to left with outspread wings, resting on shields with flags grouped on either side; the words "U. S. postage" in upper section of shield; the numeral "30" in lower; the words "Thirty cents" across the bottom; thirteen stars arranged in semi-circle at top of the design. Colors: Eagle and shield, carmine; flags and other parts, blue.

*Ninety-cent.*—Head of Lincoln, from a photograph, in an oval, three-quarter face, looking to the right, surrounded by ornamental and scroll work; numeral "90" at each of the upper corners; "U. S. postage" at top of oval; "ninety" and "cents" in scroll at lower left and right corners of oval, respectively; "U. S." at lower left and right corners of stamp, re-



spectively. Colors: Portrait in black; surrounding ornamental and scroll work, carmine.

The size of these stamps varies from the  $\frac{13}{16}$  of an inch circle on the 1-cent to  $\frac{13}{16}$  by  $\frac{27}{32}$  of an inch in dimensions.

## ISSUE OF 1870.—April 9 to 30.

Value.	Face.	Presentation.	Original Artist.	Color.
1-cent.....	Franklin.....	Left profile..	Rubright...	Blue.
2-cent.....	Jackson.....	.....do.....	Powers.....	Brown.
3-cent.....	Washington.....	.....do.....	Houdon....	Green.
6-cent.....	Lincoln.....	.....do.....	Volk.....	Red.
10-cent.....	Jefferson.....	.....do.....	Powers.....	Chocolate.
12-cent.....	Clay.....	.....do.....	Hart.....	Purple (neutral).
15-cent.....	Webster.....	.....do.....	Clevenger..	Orange.
24-cent.....	Scott.....	.....do.....	Coffee.....	Purple (pure).
30-cent.....	Hamilton.....	.....do.....	Cerrachi....	Black.
90-cent.....	Perry.....	.....do.....	Walcott....	Carmine.

## ADDITIONS AND OTHER CHANGES.

Date.	Kind	Face.	Presentation.	Original artist.	Color and note reference.
Mar. 6, 71	7-ct	Stanton.....	Left profile.....	Photo....	Vermillion, added. <i>a</i>
June 21, 75	5-ct	Taylor.....	Full face.....	Dag'type	Dark blue, added. <i>b</i>
Do.....	7-ct	Stanton.....	Same added in 1870.	.....	( <i>c</i> )
Do.....	12-ct	Clay.....	Orig. issue Apr., '70	.....	( <i>c</i> )
Do.....	24-ct	Scott.....	Orig. issue Apr., '70	.....	( <i>c</i> )
Do.....	2-ct	Jackson.....	Orig. issue Apr., '70	.....	Chang. to verm'l'n. <i>d</i>
Apr. 10, 82	5-ct	Taylor.....	Orig. issue June, '75	.....	( <i>c, e</i> )
Do.....	5-ct	Garfield.....	Left, four-fifths face	Photo....	Chocolate brown. <i>e</i>
Oct. 1, 83	2-ct	Washington.....	Left profile.....	Houdon..	Metallic red <i>f</i>
Do.....	4-ct	Jackson.....	Left profile.....	Powers..	Green. <i>g</i>
Oct. 1, 85	10-ct	Sp. deliv'ry.	See note.....	.....	Blue. <i>h</i>
June 11, 87	1-ct	Franklin.....	Left profile.....	Gerrachi.	Lt. blue, new design
Sept. 10, 87	2-ct	Washington.....	Design of Oct. 1, '83	.....	Chang. to chr. grn.
Sept. 23, 87	3-ct	Washington.....	Design of Apr., '70	.....	Chang. to verm'l'n. <i>i</i>
Jan. 3, 88	30-ct	Hamilton.....	Design of Apr., '70	.....	Changed to brown.
Feb. 18, 88	5-ct	Garfield.....	Design of Apr. 10, 82	.....	Chang. to drk. blue.
Feb. 28, 88	90-ct	Perry.....	Design of Apr., '70	.....	Changed to purple.
Sept. 6, 88	10-ct	Sp. deliv'ry.	Same as Oct. 1, '85, except. new wrdng	.....	( <i>h</i> )
Nov. 21, 88	4-ct	Jackson.....	Design of Oct. 1, 83.	.....	Chang. to carmine. <i>i</i>

*One-cent.*—A lined rectangular ground is left uncovered near the edges of the stamp on all sides. Inside this a more distinctly outlined border of scroll work and conventionally foliated ornaments fills the space to the medallion, which contains a profile bust of Franklin. The sides of this border are symmetrically curved inward, the corners being ornamentally rounded, and on it, resting upon and following the upper curve of the medallion, is a narrow panel bearing the words "U. S. postage." The words "One" and "Cent" in white capitals at the bottom appear in two curves, drooping at the ends and separated by an ornate heavy-faced white figure 1.

*Two-cent.*—An oval medallion, containing the profile bust of Jackson, after Power's statue, rests upon a shield covering almost the entire stamp and placed upon a faint-lined rectangular ground. On this shield, above the medallion, is a ornamented tablet, curving with the ellipse except at the ends of the line, which tend outward, and bearing the words "U. S. postage." Faint trace of leafy branches curving upward fills the space at the bottom and sides of the shield not covered by the

medallion. Across this, upon a ribbon-like double-curved tablet flowing at the ends, are the words, in white capitals, "Two" and "Cents," divided by the denomination figure 2.

*Three-cent.*—Nearly the whole face of the stamp is taken up by a shield resting upon a dimly lined ground, on which shield the bust of Washington, after Houdon's statue, in an oval frame, is placed, surmounted by a curved ornamented tablet bearing the words "U. S. postage." Under the portrait, on a flowing ribbon with forked ends, are the words "Three cents," separated by a large Arabic white-faced figure "3."

*Six-cent.*—On a delicately lined ground appears a dark rectangular mass of color, with heavy side projections nearly one third of the length, on which is the bust of Lincoln in an oval medallion, surmounted by a panel bearing the words "U. S. postage." Below the medallion, on a waved ribbon with forked ends, are the words "Six cents," in white capitals, separated by a large white Arabic figure "6."

*Seven-cent.*—A large rectangular tablet, ornamented at the four corners with heavy balls, rests upon a background, the edges of which

alone appear. On this tablet is an oval medallion containing the profile bust of Stanton, surmounted by a curved panel bearing the words "U. S. postage," while below the medallion is a similar panel bearing the words "Seven cents," in white capitals, separated by a white Arabic figure "7."

*Ten-cent.*—A large faint-lined shield rests upon a darker rectangular ground. On this shield is a profile bust of Jefferson, in an oval medallion, with words "U. S. postage" above and "Ten cents," separated by the number "10" below, displayed in the same way as the legends on the 6-cent stamp.

*Twelve-cent.*—On a lined rectangular frame is a raised panel of the same shape, with beveled edges. On this panel rests an oval medallion bearing the profile bust of Henry Clay. Above and below in curved tablets, connected on the sides by triangular joints, are respectively the words in white capitals, "U. S. postage" and "Twelve cents," the two latter words being separated by the number "12" in Arabic figures. The words of denomination are of block letters.

*Fifteen-cent.*—On a lined rectangular frame, with triangular panels set in near each corner,

is an oval medallion bearing the profile bust of Daniel Webster. Above, in a curved tablet, ending on either side in a circular knob, are the words, in shaded white letters, "U. S. postage." Below, in a similar tablet, but without knobs, in small white letters, are the words "Fifteen cents," separated by the number "15" in ornamented Arabic figures.

*Twenty-four-cent.*—The denomination numerals, "24" in Gothic type, are in each of the upper corners, conforming in their position to the curve of an ornamental tablet, placed immediately above an elliptical medallion bearing a profile bust of Gen. Winfield Scott. Thirteen five-pointed stars are placed on this tablet; two at each end are blank white, while each of the eleven remaining bears a small Gothic capital letter, constituting the legend "U. S. postage" in the color of the stamp. The denomination is given at the bottom in small white Gothic capitals "Twenty-four" close up to and following the ellipse line, and "Cents" in a straight line, in the middle, below.

In the left lower corner appear a flag, loosely gathered around the staff, the muzzle end and part of the wheels of a piece of field artillery,

and a pile of shells; in the right are three muskets stacked.

*Thirty-cent.*—On a rectangular lined ground is placed a heavy beveled tablet, rounded in a half circle at the bottom, and with the upper corners described by bastion-like projections. From this point down to the half circle—a distance of half an inch—the tablet is straight lined on its sides and narrower than the stamp by about one sixteenth of an inch. On the tablet is an elliptical medallion bearing the profile bust of Alexander Hamilton. The legend "U. S. postage," above the medallion, is curved as on the 6-cent stamp, except that no panel encloses it, and the words "Thirty" and "Cents" appear in black capitals at the bottom, on a double-curved ribbon dropping inward with forked ends.

*Ninety-cent.*—The upper half of an elliptical medallion bearing the profile bust of Commodore Perry, is bounded by a rope attached at each end by eye-splices to a swinging panel describing the lower half of the ellipse, and bearing the words "Ninety" and "Cents" in block letters assigned to the left and right of the number 90. A plain tablet is the basis of the stamp, and is beveled except within one-

eighth of an inch of the corners, where it exhibits sharp edges. In each upper corner is a five pointed star raised in the center, and in each lower corner the flukes of an anchor and part of the shank project from under the panel.

*Five-cent (Taylor).*—Tablet, legend and denomination are of a style very similar to the 10-cent stamp. The potrait of Gen. Zachary Taylor is the only full face in the series. The dress is an open double-breasted military coat, within which appear the neck-stock and high white color.

*Five-cent (Garfield).*—On a rectangular-lined tablet, the greater portion of which is raised in the shape of a shield, is an elliptical medallion bearing the portrait of President Garfield. The medallion is bordered by a line of small white beads, the legend "U. S. postage," being at the bottom of the stamp in small black block letters. The words "Five" and "Cents" are above the legend and partly on the lower edge of the tablet, divided by a large five pointed star, upon which is the white-faced figure 5 upon a black ground. The star is outlined with white, and the denomination



words are each on lines curved downward at the ends.

*Two-cent, 1883.*—A plain tablet; above the oval, surrounding the head, are the words "United States postage" and underneath the tablet are the words "Two cents." The tablet is shaped like the shield on the 3-cent stamp of this series, and the figure 2 separates the words "two" and "cents," which form a straight line resting partly on the point of the tablet and partly on the darkly shaded ground below. This is the first stamp of the series with the legend unabbreviated. The medallion is elliptical, and bears the profile bust of Washington.

*Four-cent, 1883.*—The tablet is rectangular and beveled, covering the entire stamp, the lower half in solid color. The legend, like that on the 2-cent stamp of even date, is in the unabbreviated form, "United States postage," following the upper line of an elliptical medallion bearing the profile bust of Andrew Jackson, and is in small white capitals. In each lower corner is a large white figure 4. Below these and in an unbroken straight line are the words "Four cents" in small white

capitals with a very small star at the right and left and immediately under the figure 4.

*One-cent, 1887.*—A profile bust of Benjamin Franklin upon a disk with shaded background, the lower portion of the oval disk being bordered with pearls, and the upper portion with a curved panel, containing, in small white letters the words "United States postage." The whole is engraved in line upon a shield shaped tablet with a truncated pyramidal base, bearing on it the words "One cent" on either side of the figure 1.

The changes of colors of the other stamps of this series after June 11, 1887, were not accompanied by any change of design.

*Ten-cent Special Delivery, 1885 and 1888.*—A line engraving on steel, oblong in form; dimensions  $1\frac{3}{8}$  by  $1\frac{7}{8}$  inches; color, dark blue. Design: On the left an arched panel bearing the figure of a mail-messenger boy on a run, and surmounted by the words "United States;" on the right an oblong tablet, ornamented with a wreath of oak and laurel surrounding the words "Secures immediate delivery at a special-delivery office." Across the top of the tablet is the legend "Special postal delivery," and at the bottom the words

“Ten cents,” separated by a small shield bearing the numeral 10.

The words “Secures immediate delivery at a special-delivery office” were changed in 1888, to read “Secures immediate delivery at any post-office.” Both forms are valid.

### *Notes.*

(a) The 7-cent Stanton was issued to meet the demand occasioned by a reduced rate of foreign postage under the postal treaty with the North German Confederation, effected in 1870.

(b) The 5-cent Taylor was issued for the new letter rate of postage under the convention of the General Postal Union adopted at Berne in 1874.

(c) The reduction of postage mentioned in note (b) requiring the 5-cent stamp, rendered the 7, 12 and 24 cent stamps unnecessary, and their issue was therefore discontinued.

(d) The vermilion of the discarded 7-cent Stanton stamp being now available, it supplanted the velvet brown color on the 2-cent Jackson, which had given trouble from its similarity to that of the 10-cent Jefferson.

(e) Upon the death of President Garfield, a

new design, quite exceptional, was made for the 5-cent stamp, and his portrait superseded that of Gen. Zachary Taylor, the blue color being displaced by the new one.

(*f*) This 2-cent Washington was adopted for use upon first-class matter, which, under the Act of March 3, 1883, reduced that rate of postage from 3 to 2 cents a half ounce, and seemed to require a distinctive stamp. It superseded the Jackson vermilion 2-cent stamp.

(*g*) The Jackson profile, superseded, as stated, on the 2 cent stamp, was re-engraved and given the green color and the 4-cent denomination, for use upon double weight letters, under the March 3, 1883, Act of Congress

(*h*) This (special delivery) stamp was an entirely new departure in style, as it was intended for use in executing a novel, and, as it has proved, a successful experiment in postal delivery.

Special delivery stamps of the first design lasted until September 6, 1888, when the stamp of that date was issued with the change as directed in the words on its face.

(*i*) A change of color was rendered neces-

sary in this case by the assignment of the green color to the 2-cent stamp, which had thus become the color of three stamps of the same series.

The issue of special delivery stamps in blue color was suspended and orange substituted on January 24, 1893, to avoid confusion with the blue 1 and 4-cent of the Columbian series. The printing of this stamp in orange ceased on January 5, 1894, and the blue resumed as soon as the supply of those of the orange color had been exhausted.

## OFFICIAL POSTAGE STAMPS.—1873-1884.

The franking privilege having been abolished, to take effect on the 1st day of July, 1873, the Postmaster-General, as required by law, provided a series of stamps of special design for each of the Executive Departments of the Government for the prepayment of postage on official matter. They are tabulated as follows:

### DEPARTMENT, COLOR AND DENOMINATION.

Denomination.	Face.	Executive (carmine).	State (green).	War (cochineal red).	Navy (blue).	Interior (vermillion).	Justice (purple).	Agriculture (orange).	Post-Office (black); large Arabic numerals instead of faces.
1	Franklin.....	1-ct..	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01
2	Jackson .....	2-ct..	.02	.02	.02	.02	.02	.02	.02
3	Washington	3-ct..	.03	.03	.03	.03	.03	.03	.03
6	Lincoln.....	6-ct..	.06	.06	.06	.06	.06	.06	.06
7	Stanton.....	.....	.07	.07	.07	.....	.....	.....	.....
10	Jefferson.....	10-ct..	.10	.10	.10	.10	.10	.10	.10
12	Clay.....	.....	.12	.12	.12	.12	.12	.12	.12
15	Webster.....	.....	.15	.15	.15	.15	.15	.15	.15
24	Scott.....	.....	.24	.24	.24	.24	.24	.24	.24
30	Hamilton... ..	.....	.30	.30	.30	.30	.30	.30	.30
90	Perry .....	.....	.90	.90	.90	.90	.90	.....	.90
			2.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Seward .....		5.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
			10.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
			20.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Value of set	22-cts	39.00	2.00	2.00	1.93	1.93	1.03	1.93

## DESCRIPTION.

In place of the "heads" on the regular stamps, the official stamps adopted for the Post-Office Department have conspicuous figures (numerals) to represent the denominations, with the word "official" above and the word "stamp" below.

These, printed in black, and resting on an oval-shaped white background, render the stamps especially distinctive. To further distinguish them, the name of the Department is printed across the top in lieu of the words "U. S. postage." There is also a slight difference in the ornamentation of the border.

The denominations and faces on the stamps of the Treasury Department are the same as those of the War and Navy stamps, and the color is velvet brown.

In design, the official stamps for the other Departments do not differ materially from those issued for sale to the public. The profile busts are retained; but each stamp has at the top the name of the particular Department for which it was provided. Other changes, appearing in the border, need not be specified.

These stamps were supplanted on May 1, 1879, by the penalty envelope, and on the 5th of July, 1884, were declared obsolete.



**NEWSPAPER AND PERIODICAL STAMPS.—January 1, 1875.**

*1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 10 cent.*—Emblematical figure of America, looking to the right, and modeled after Crawford's statue upon the dome of the Capitol. The left hand rests upon a shield, and holds a wreath; the right grasps a sword. The head is adorned with a coronet of stars, surmounted by an eagle's head. The vignette stands in an arched frame, and at the top are slabs containing the inscriptions: "Newspapers" on the left, "Periodicals" on the right, and "U. S. postage" at the top. At the bottom are shaded capitals representing the value, which is also indicated by large figures in the upper corners. The lower corners are ornamented by shields. The color of these stamps is black.

*12, 24, 36, 48, 60, 72, 84 and 96 cent.*—Vignette of Astræa, or Justice, in niche curved at the top, holding in her right hand the balance and resting with her left on a shield bearing the United States coat of arms. The figure is full robed, mailed and girdled as to the



upper part, and helmeted. Surmounting the helmet is an eagle with outstretched wings. Figures representing values on shields in upper corners; values also in sunken letters below, richly ornamented. Inscriptions on sides and at top in shaded capitals on lined ground. Color, pink.

*One dollar and ninety-two cents.*—Vignette of Ceres, Goddess of Agriculture, in curved niche. She holds in her left hand an ear of corn; her right, holding a wreath, rests against the hip. The figure faces to the front, and is clad in full, flowing robes. "U. S. postage" at the top; other inscriptions in italic letters on obelisks at either side, resting on lower slab, containing value in white capitals. Value also in figures in upper corners. Color, deep brown.

*Three-dollar.*—Goddess of Victory, in curved niche, full robed, girded with sword to the left, and mantle thrown over shoulders. The right hand is stretched forward, holding a wreath; the left rests on a shield. Figures of value in the upper corners; value below in letters on either side of a large figure 3. Inscriptions in solid labels on either side and on lined ground above. Color, vermillion.

*Six-dollar.*—Clio, the muse of History, in curved niche, full robed, the toga thrown over the left shoulder. In her right hand she holds a stylus; in the left a tablet. Figures of value in upper corners, surrounded by curved ornaments. Inscriptions in white shaded letters on side, and above in dark letters on lined ground. Color, light blue.

*Nine-dollar.*—Minerva, the Goddess of Wisdom, full robed, in curved niche. The left hand is placed across her breast, holding a portion of her toga; the right is grasping a spear. Figures of value in upper corners. Inscriptions on sides in shaded italics, and above in small letters on lined ground. Value also in letters below on scroll. Beneath is a large "9," in curved ornaments. Color, orange.

*Twelve-dollar.*—Vesta, the Goddess of the Fireside, full robed, in curved niche. The left hand lifts her drapery; the right holds a burning lamp. Figures of value in upper corners on tablets; value also in letters on beaded frame beneath. Inscriptions in solid italic letters on sides and in small white letters above. Color, rich green.

*Twenty-four-dollar.*—Goddess of Peace, in

curved niche—a half naked figure, leaning against a broken column. She holds in one hand an olive branch, while the other grasps three arrows. The value is in words beneath on a solid tablet, also in figures in ornamented curves in upper corners. Inscriptions in white shaded letters above and on sides, between which latter and each upper corner is a large, six pointed star. Color, purplish slate.

*Thirty-six-dollar.* — Figure representing Commerce, in full garments, in curved niche. She holds in her left hand the caduceus, the winged rod of mercury; in her right a miniature ship. Figures of value in upper corners and in ornamented capitals below. Inscriptions, also in ornamented capitals, on sides and above. Color, dull red.

*Forty-eight-dollar.*—Hebe, the Goddess of Youth, partly draped, in curved niche. The right hand holds a cup, which she is offering to the eagle, around whose neck is thrown her left arm. Figures of value on shields in upper corners, the word "Postage" between; value also in letters below in curved ornaments. The letters "U. S." in circles between upper corners and side inscriptions, the latter being in curved labels. Color, light brown.

*Sixty-dollar.*—Vignette of an Indian maiden standing in a rectangular frame. She is robed from her waist downward. Her right arm is extended, while her left hangs by her side. The background is a landscape, trees and vines to the left and wigwams to the right in the distance. Figures of value on shields in upper corners; value also in white letters on solid tablets below. Inscriptions in white on solid labels above and on sides. Color, rich purple.

The dimensions of all the above described stamps are  $\frac{15}{16}$  by  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inches.

These stamps were prepared by the Continental Bank Note Company (then existing in New York, N. Y.) from designs selected in October, 1874. The act approved June 24, 1874, sec. 6, page 233, 18th Stat., had prescribed the weighing in bulk of newspapers and periodicals presented by publishers and news agents for mailing and the payment of postage in advance by an "adhesive stamp" to be devised by the Postmaster-General—the stamp to be affixed to the matter, "to the sack containing the same or upon a memorandum of such mailing, or otherwise, as the Postmaster-General may from time to time provide by regulation." He decided to attach the

stamp to a memorandum. The law went into effect January 1, 1875.

Another section, 5, page 232 of the 18th Stats., fixed the rate of postage at 2 cents a pound upon weekly or more frequent publications and at 3 cents a pound for those issued less frequently; hence the two lower denominations of stamps were 2-cent and 3-cent. This was the advent of prepayment of postage upon printed matter in this manner. The stamps were sent to postmasters on the 11th of December, 1874, and at that time there were 35,000 post offices at which newspapers were received and 3,400 only at which they were mailed and prepaid under this law.

Under the law of March 3, 1879, page 359 of the 20 Stats., the 3-cents-a-pound rate was repealed, and with it the 3 and 9-cent stamp issue was discontinued.

An act approved March 3, 1885 (page 387 of the 23 Stats.) reduced the rate of postage on this second-class matter to one cent a pound when sent by publishers or news agents, and this gave rise to the 1-cent denomination of these stamps July 1, 1885, and the revival of the 3-cent denomination. The 9-cent was not, however, brought out again.

## POSTAGE-DUE STAMPS.—May 9, 1879.

[Act approved March 3, and put in operation July 1, 1879.]

Denominations.	Issued to postmasters—
1-cent.....	May 9, 1879
2-cent.....	May 9, 1879
3-cent.....	May 9, 1879
5-cent.....	May 9, 1879
10-cent.....	Sept. 19, 1879
30-cent.....	Sept. 19, 1879
50-cent.....	Sept. 19, 1879

These stamps are alike, except as to the denominations, which are expressed by Arabic numerals in the middle upon an elliptic ground of delicate lathe work. Upon the upper line of this ground are the words "Postage due" in white capitals; on the lower border is the denomination in letters of the same kind. On the left and right sides, respectively, and separating these inscriptions, are the letters "U" and "S" upon white shields. There is a complex angular ornamentation of light line work surrounding this, and the whole rests upon a darker colored beveled tablet, of which but little can be seen, though it covers the entire stamp, which is a parallelogram 1 by  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch in dimensions. The color of all the stamps is a dull red, or reddish brown.

**SERIES OF 1890.—February 22.**

*One-cent.*—Profile bust, after Rubricht, of Benjamin Franklin, looking to the left, on an oval disk, with dark back ground and narrow white border, immediately above which, set in a panel conforming to the curve of the disk, are the words "United States postage" in white capitals, and below which, in slightly larger and shaded letters, arranged in a waved line running nearly the whole width of the stamp, are the words "One cent." Just above these latter words, on either side, is a white numeral of denomination—the Arabic figure "1"—in a small oval space, surrounded by an ornate scroll, the upper portion of which is connected with and serves as a support to the panel around the medallion. The whole is placed upon a distinctly lined oblong tablet, seven-eighths of an inch high by three-fourths of an inch wide, with beveled sides and bottom. The color is ultramarine blue.

*Two-cent.*—Profile bust, after Houdon, of George Washington, looking to the left, on an

oval disk. The surroundings of the medallion are the same as in the 1-cent stamp, with the necessary change of figures and letters representing the denomination. Color, carmine. An improved quality of color for the 2-cent stamp was adopted May 12, 1890.

*Three-cent.*—Profile bust, after Powers of Andrew Jackson, looking to the left on an oval disk. The surroundings of the medallion are the same as in the 1-cent stamp, with the necessary changes of figures and letters representing the denomination. Color, purple.

*Four-cent.*—Portrait of Abraham Lincoln, after a photograph from life, three-quarters face, looking to the right on an oval disk. The surroundings of the medallion are the same as in the 1-cent stamp, with the necessary change of figures and letters representing the denomination. Color, velvet brown. Issued June 2, 1890.

*Five-cent.*—Portrait of U. S. Grant, after a photograph from life, three-quarters face, looking to the right, on an oval disk. The surroundings of the medallion are the same as in the 1-cent stamp, with the necessary change of figures and letters representing the denom-



ination. Color, light brown. Issued June 2, 1890.

*Six-cent.*—Portrait of James A. Garfield, after a photograph from life, three-quarters face, looking to the left, on an oval disk. The surroundings of the medallion are the same as on the 1-cent stamp, with the necessary change of figures and letters representing the denomination. Color, light maroon.

*Eight-cent.*—Portrait of Gen. William T. Sherman, after a photograph from life, full face. The surroundings of the picture are the same as those on the stamps below the 10-cent denomination with the necessary change of figures and letters representing the value. Color, lilac. It was issued March 21, 1893, in connection with the reduction of the registry fee from 10 to 8 cents.

*Ten-cent.*—Portrait of Daniel Webster, after a daguerreotype from life, three-quarters face, looking to the left, in an oval disk, with dark background and narrow white border, around the upper half of which set in a panel conforming to its curve, are the words "United States postage" in small white capitals, the words "Ten cents" in somewhat similar letters

being placed in a like panel below the medallion. Below this again, in the two lower corners of the stamp, are plain Arabic numerals of denomination, "10," set in circular spaces surrounded with ornate scrolls not unlike those in the 1-cent stamp. The whole is placed upon an oblong tablet,  $\frac{7}{8}$  of an inch high by  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch wide, with beveled sides and bottom. The color is milori green.

*Fifteen cent.*—Portrait of Henry Clay, after a daguerreotype from life, three-quarters face, looking to the left, on an oval disk. The surroundings of the medallion are substantially the same as in the 10-cent stamp, with appropriate changes of figures and letters representing the denomination. Color, deep blue.

*Thirty-cent.*—Profile bust of Thomas Jefferson, after Cerrachi, looking to the left, on an oval disk. The surroundings of the medallion are the same as in the 10-cent stamp, with the necessary change of the letters and figures of denomination, the latter, however, being of block form. Color, black.

*Ninety-cent.*—Profile bust of Commodore O. H. Perry, after Wolcott's statue, looking to the left, on an oval disk. The surroundings of the medallion are substantially the

same as in the 30-cent stamp, with the necessary change of the letters and figures of denomination. Color, orange.

The dimensions of all of the above stamps are  $\frac{3}{4}$  by  $\frac{1}{8}$  of an inch.

## COLUMBIAN SERIES OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

The Department placed upon sale on Monday, the 2d of January, 1893, at post-offices throughout the country, a new series of postage stamps (not including the 8-cent denomination, issued later) known as the Columbian series.

The Columbian adhesive stamps were issued in the denominations of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 15, 30 and 50 cents, and of \$1, \$2, \$3, \$4 and \$5. These stamps differ in size and form from those of the 1890 series, the engraved space being  $\frac{7}{8}$  by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches, each stamp bearing a design commemorative of the discovery of America by Columbus. The following is a description of the several stamps in the new series, namely :

The stamps are executed from line engravings on steel, the general design of the upper portion of all of them being substantially the same. The details of this design are, first, a white-faced imprint of the years "1492" and "1892," in the upper left and right hand cor-

ners, respectively ; then in white-shaded capitals beneath, in a waved line, the words "United States of America," below which, in a narrow tablet conforming to the curved frame of the picture under it, are the words of denomination: for example, "Postage two cents," "Postage two dollars," etc. These words end on either side of the stamp in a space of circular form with ornamental surroundings, within which are Arabic numerals of value—standing alone in the case of denominations under \$1, but accompanied by the dollar mark in denominations of \$1 and upwards, as "2" (meaning cents), \$2, etc. Underneath all this is the scene represented, inclosed in a plain white frame with arched top, extending nearly the entire length of the stamp, and taking up in every case probably three-fourths of its whole face, the appropriate designation of the picture being given in small white capitals at the bottom. The scenes represented are these:

*One-cent.*—“Columbus in sight of land,” after the painting by William H. Powell. This reproduction is inclosed in a circle. On the left of it is represented an Indian woman with her child, and on the right an Indian chief

with headdress of feathers—each figure in a sitting posture. Color, Antwerp blue.

*Two-cent.*—"Landing of Columbus," after the painting by Vanderlyn, in the Rotunda of the Capitol at Washington. Color, purple maroon.

*Three-cent.*—"Flagship of Columbus," the *Santa Maria* in midocean, from a Spanish engraving. Color, medium shade of green.

*Four-cent.*—"Fleet of Columbus," the three caravels, the *Santa Maria*, *Nina* and *Pinta*, from a Spanish engraving. Color, ultramarine blue.

*Five-cent.*—"Columbus Soliciting Aid of Isabella," after the painting by Brozik, in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. Color, chocolate brown.

*Six-cent.*—"Columbus Welcomed at Barcelona," scene from one of the panels of the bronze doors by Randolph Rogers in the Capitol at Washington. On each side of the scene represented is a niche, in one of which is a statue of Ferdinand and in the other a statue of Balboa. Color, royal purple.

*Eight-cent.*—"Columbus Restored to Favor," after a painting by Jover. Color, magenta red. Issued March 1, 1893.

*Ten-cent.*—"Columbus Presenting Natives," after the painting by Luigi Gregori, at the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana. Color, Vandyke brown.

*Fifteen-cent.*—"Columbus Announcing His Discovery," after the painting by R. Baloca, now in Madrid. Color, dark green.

*Thirty-cent.*—"Columbus at La Rabida," after the painting by R. Maso. Color, sienna brown.

*Fifty-cent.*—"Recall of Columbus," after the painting by A. G. Heaton, now in the Capitol at Washington. Color, carbon blue.

*One-dollar.*—"Isabella Pledging Her Jewels," after the painting by Munoz Degrain, now in Madrid. Color, rose salmon.

*Two-dollar.*—"Columbus in Chains," after the painting by Leutze, now in Providence, R. I. Color, toned mineral red.

*Three-dollar.*—"Columbus Describing Third Voyage," after the painting by Francisco Jover. Color, light yellow green.

*Four-dollar.*—Portraits in circles, separated by an ornate device, of Isabella and Columbus, the portrait of Isabella after the well-known painting in Madrid and that of Columbus after the Lotto painting. Color, carmine.

*Five-dollar.*—Profile head of Columbus after a cast provided by the Treasury Department for the souvenir 50-cent silver piece authorized by act of Congress. The profile is in a circle, on the right of which is the figure of America, represented by an Indian woman with a crown of feathers, and on the left a figure of Liberty, both figures being in a sitting posture. Color, black.



**SERIES OF 1894.**

July 1st, 1894, arrangements were made with the Bureau of Engraving and Printing for supplies of postage stamps. A new issue was ordered and at the same time the Department abandoned the 30 and 90-cent denominations of the ordinary series, substituting for them denominations of 50 cents and \$1, and added two other denominations—\$2 and \$5. These four stamps are of the size and general design as the other stamps of the series. It was also decided to use a watermarked paper in manufacturing the stamps, and now most of the denominations are printed on such paper. They are the same as those of the previous issue with the addition of a small triangular ornament, slightly indented on the sides and placed in each of the two upper corners of the stamps. All ordinary stamps made by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing may be recognized by these marks.

The colors and medallions of the new denominations are as follows: 50-cent, head of

Thomas Jefferson, same as the head on the old 30-cent stamp. Color, orange.

§1, head of Commodore Perry, same as the head on the old 90-cent stamp. Color, black.

§2, head of James Madison, after the portrait by Gilbert Stuart. Color, sapphire blue.

§5, head of John Marshall, after the portrait by Inman. Color, gray green.

#### CHANGES IN ORDINARY STAMPS.

Value.	Face.	Color.	Date of issue.	On watermark paper after—
1-cent....	Franklin.....	Blue .....	Oct. 10, 1894.	April 29, 1895.
2-cent....	Washington ..	Carmine .....	Oct. 5, 1894...	May 2, 1895.
3-cent....	Jackson .....	Purple .....	Sept. 24, 1894	
4-cent....	Lincoln.....	Velvet brown	Sept. 11, 1894	June 5, 1895.
5-cent....	Grant .....	Light brown..	Sept. 28, 1894	June 11, 1895.
6-cent....	Garfield .....	Light maroon	July 18, 1894	Aug. 31, 1895.
8-cent....	Sherman .....	Lilac .....	Mar. 25, 1895	July 22, 1895.
10-cent..	Webster .....	Milori green..	Sept. 17, 1894	June 7, 1895.
10-cent..	Spec'l deliv'y mess'r boy.	Blue.....	Oct. 10, 1894..	Aug. 16, 1895.
15-cent..	Clay .....	Deep blue....	Oct. 15, 1894..	Sept. 10, 1895.
50-cent..	Jefferson .....	Orange.....	Nov. 1, 1894..	
§1.00 ....	Perry .....	Black .....	Nov. 15, 1894	Aug. 12, 1895.
§2.00....	Madison.....	Sapphire blue	Dec. 10, 1894.	Aug. 13, 1895.
§5.00....	Marshall .....	Gray green...	.....do. ....	Aug. 16, 1895.

#### POSTAGE-DUE STAMPS.

It was also decided, upon the suggestion of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, to make a change in the designs of the postage-

due stamps—the change consisting of a reduction in the size of the stamps and some immaterial changes in the general design. The denomination of the stamps are those of the old series, and the color was intended to be the same, but owing to some difference in the character of the engraved plates, the former color has not been exactly preserved: the new color is somewhat deeper than the old, and some of the earlier issues of the stamps have even been printed a bright red.

The following is a description of the new stamps:

The shape of the whole engraving is oblong, the size being seven-eighths by very nearly three-fourths of an inch. In the center is the indication of denomination—large white Arabic numerals being used—surrounded by fine lathe work forming an equilateral device with thin white edges, rounded corners and curving sides—the four corners of the outline pointing to the top and bottom and the two sides of the stamp. Above this is a semi-circular panel bearing in white capitals the words "Postage due," with a small cross at each end, and above this still, in the two upper corners, are the letters "U" and "S," over

which, and descending some distance on the two sides, is a line of ribbed ruling. At the bottom of the stamp, in a curved panel, are the words of denomination in white capitals, above which, coming from each of the lower corners, is a large original scroll ornament somewhat resembling a cornucopia.

They were first issued on the following dates—

Denomination.		On watermarked paper after—
1-cent .....	Aug. 14, 1894	August 1, 1895
2-cent .....	July 20, 1894	Sept. 14, 1895
3-cent .....	Apr. 27, 1895	
5-cent .....	do.	
10-cent .....	Sept. 24, 1894	Do.
30-cent .....	Apr. 24, 1894	
50-cent .....	do.	

#### SPECIAL-DELIVERY STAMP.

The only changes made in the special-delivery stamp are the addition of an inconspicuous ornamental line near the bottom of the stamp, and the deepening of several of the border lines. The differences between the new and the old stamps are hardly observable, except upon close examination.

## NEWSPAPER AND PERIODICAL STAMPS.

This series now consists of twelve denominations, with figures and colors as follows:

Denomination.	Color.	Figure.	On watermarked paper after—
1-cent.....	Black.....	America.....	
2-cent.....	do.....	do.....	
5-cent.....	do.....	do.....	
10-cent.....	do.....	do.....	Sept. 13, 1895.
25-cent.....	Pink.....	Astræa.....	Sept. 19, 1895.
50-cent.....	do.....	do.....	
\$2.00.....	Orange.....	Victory.....	
\$5.00.....	Blue.....	Clio.....	
\$10.00.....	Green.....	Vesta.....	
\$20.00.....	Slate.....	Peace.....	
\$50.00.....	Carmine.....	Commerce.....	
\$100.00.....	Purple.....	Indian.....	

The denominations of these stamps, from 1 to 10 cents, inclusive, are of the same design. The numerals in the upper corners are of equal size in the 1, 2 and 5-cent stamps, while those in the 10-cent stamp are condensed so as to fill the same space that is given to the others, besides being slightly different in style. Those in the 1 and 5-cent denominations are shaded dark on the lower half; those of the 2 and 10-cent stamps are white faced. All these stamps bear an engraving of the statute of America, by Crawford,

which surmounts the dome of the Capitol at Washington, the same subject as that on the lower denominations of the old series, except that the presentation is in full face instead of three-quarters. The words "U. S. Postage" at the top of the stamps are in white block letters upon an arched line, and words "Newspapers" on the left and "Periodicals" on the right are in vertical lines. The denominations at the bottom are white Roman letters, and there is a foliate ornamentation in the lower corners.

The upper border line of the 25 and 50-cent stamps is broken by two indentations, separating that border into three equal parts, and the side inscriptions follow a curved line upon a scroll. The dimensions of the stamps below the \$2 denomination are  $\frac{3}{4}$  by  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch.

The remaining denominations, from \$2 to \$100, are of the same size as the stamps of the retired series; that is to say,  $1\frac{5}{8}$  by  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inch. This new series was first issued February 1, 1895.



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