





# United States

Postage Stamps, 1894-1910.

By

Fred. J. Melville.

President of the Junior  
Philatelic Society.

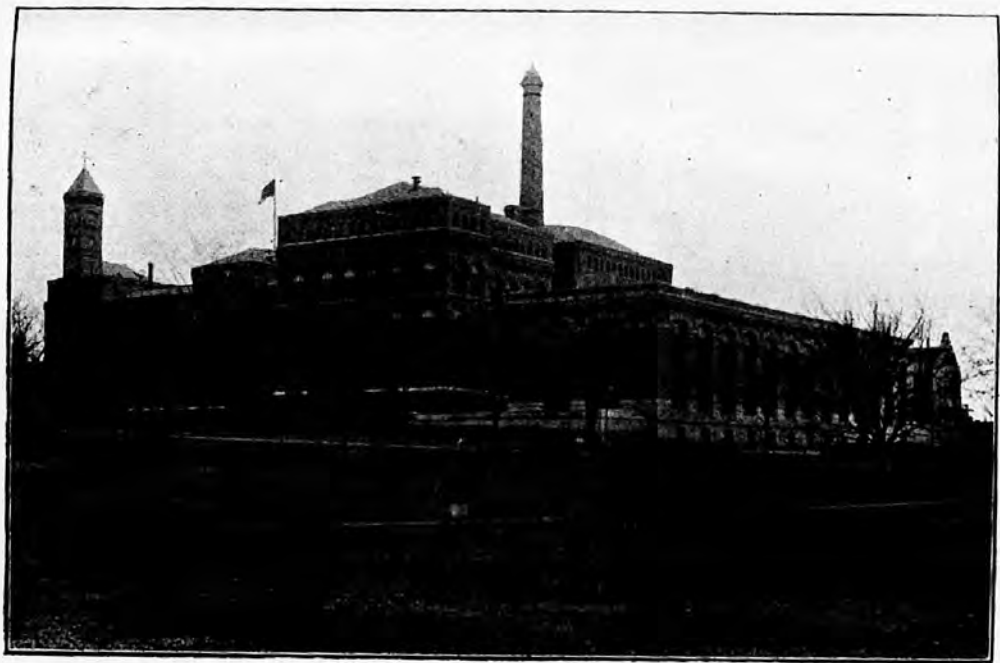
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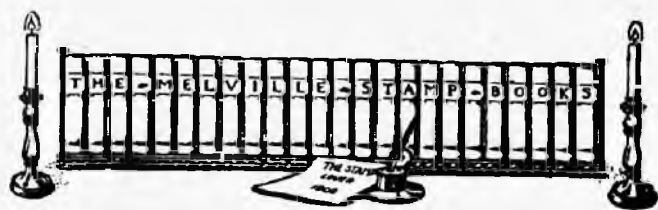
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The Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington, U.S.A.



## INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

**T**HERE has been considerable movement in the modern postage stamp issues of the United States. The commotion has at least served to arouse a greater enthusiasm among American collectors for the stamps of their own country. It is to be hoped that the interest created by these issues will have a permanently beneficial influence on United States philately. The present work brings the study of the general postage stamps up to 1910, and is included early in our series with the hope that it may serve in some measure to indicate the historical and philatelic interest in the issues rather than the merely speculative and artificial interest.

We are indebted to a number of philatelists in America for courtesies extended to us in the course of preparing this work. It would be impossible to more than briefly record our indebtedness to Mr. Geo. L. Toppan and Mr. Charles R. Morris of Washington, Mr. Harald L. Kjellstedt of Scranton, Pennsylvania, Mr. C. A. Howes and Mr. C. K. B. Nevin of Boston, and numerous other esteemed correspondents.

To the Director of the Post Office Museum at Washington, the Director and staff of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and to the officials of the General Post Office at Washington, we accord our thanks for courtesies extended during visits to these establishments in 1906.

By the kindness of Mr. C. H. Mekeel we have been able to give some particulars of the unofficial perforations of the later stamps used in automatic machines. It has been necessary to condense these from the *Philatelic Journal of America* (I, 17), as our book was already bursting the bounds of our limited space.

*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, *The Metropolitan Philatelist*, and *Redfield's Stamp Weekly*, have been consulted, and also the official circulars and reports of the Post Office Department, and of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

A Bibliography is not included, but reference should be made by the student requiring further information to the above mentioned journals, also to *The Postage Stamp* (V. 76), for fuller details of the printings of stamps for issue in book form. Mr. J. N. Luff's important monograph, *The Postage Stamps of the United States* (1902), deals with the issues up to that of 1901. A new work has just been issued, and should be consulted by the student. It treats of all the general issues from a new standpoint, that of a dealer philatelist, and gives information as to the varieties of shade, the respective rarity of the early stamps in pairs, strips, and blocks. The book in question is entitled *The General Issues of United States Stamps* by Eustace B. Power (1909).

Lastly we would thank Mr. W. H. Peckitt and Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., for the loan of stamps for illustration, and Mr. L. W. Crouch, for kindly undertaking the revision of the proofs of this book.

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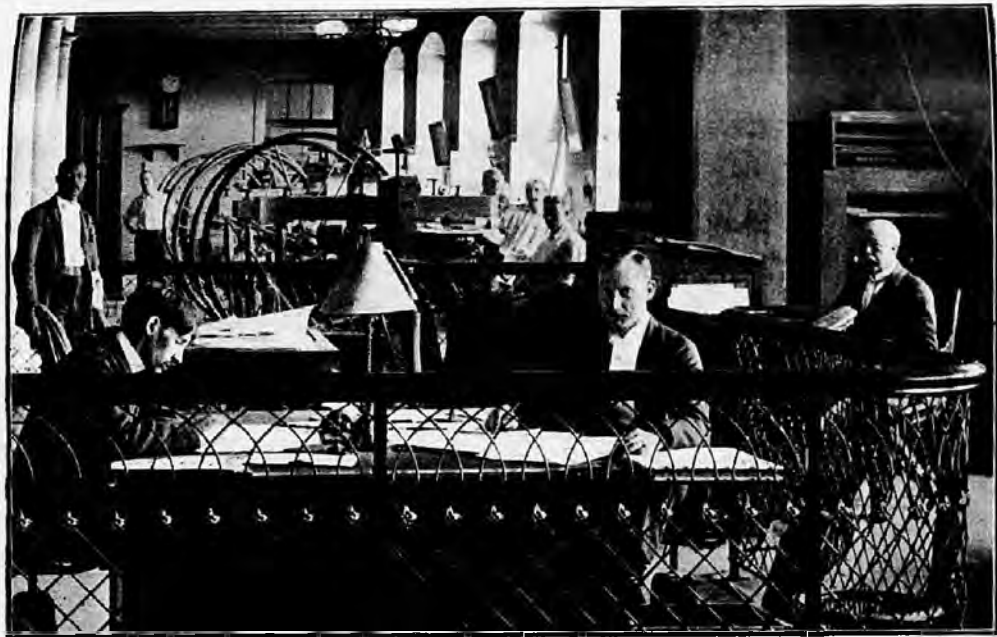
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Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Engraving room, shewing the transfer presses.



# United States Postage Stamps 1894-1910.

## CHAPTER I.

### The Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

**I**N 1894 the contract between the United States Government and the American Bank Note Company for the manufacture of postage stamps expired. The production of the stamps was then entrusted to the Government Department at Washington styled the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, which has engraved and printed all the postage stamps of the United States since 1894.

As it is solely with the productions of the Bureau that this work deals, a few details of the Department and of the processes employed therein may prove acceptable.

The Bureau is distinct from the Government Printing Office. The latter, which is the department of the Public Printer and is situate on North Capitol and H Streets, Washington, is said to be the largest printing office in the world, and produces the publications of the Government and prints and binds the account books. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing is located on

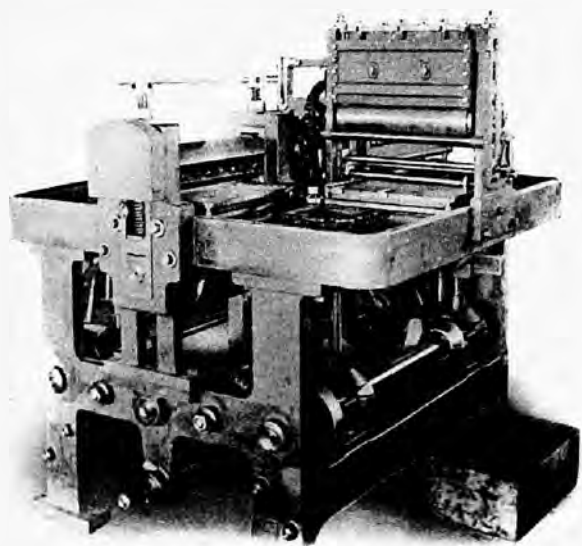
North-East Corner B and Fourteenth Streets, S.W., in the same city, near to the Washington Monument. In this establishment are designed, engraved, and printed the revenue and postage stamps, paper money, bonds, and Government certificates (excepting post-cards and envelopes).

The building is a three-storey brick edifice, 220 feet long by 135 wide, and was constructed in 1878 at a cost of 300,000 dollars.\* As is customary in American Government offices, visitors are received daily during stated hours, and are conducted by attendants to view the machinery of the various departments. We were fortunate in having a close and privileged inspection by the introduction of some leading American philatelists, and have since been able to procure the accompanying photographs. Exigencies of space preclude us from dealing with the whole details of line engraving, which have already been discussed, and as the surface printing has not been used for any of the postage stamps of the United States, we may omit any description of the surface printing arrangements.

In producing the postage stamps the design is first engraved on a block of comparatively soft steel, which is afterwards hardened. Then the design on the now hard steel die is transferred on to a roller of soft steel by pressure in a transfer press. The view of the engraving room shews in the background several of these transfer presses, each with a large wheel by which its

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\* This building is already overcrowded, and it has been necessary, in order to cope with the enormous volume of work, to employ a night force and to work the day force beyond the regular working hours during a portion of the year. A larger building is now being specially constructed to meet the necessities of the establishment.



A four-plate printing press.

*Photographed at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.*



Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Rotary perforating machines.





distances with an endless chain. Ink-charged rollers apply the ink, and an automatic wiper cleans it off the level surface of the plate, leaving the ink only in the recessed lines, and the pressman polishes the plate as it passes him, with the palm of his hand, which he has previously rubbed on a cake of whiting or chalk. One of two lady assistants at each press lays the sheet of paper in position on the plate, the impression is then made, and the paper is removed by the second lady assistant. The four operations are by this contrivance concurrent. Of the four plates one is being inked, another wiped, another polished, and the fourth is making the impression, all at one time.

As we have said, the paper is impressed when damp. If it has been too wet the colour is apt to saturate the paper, and causes what some enthusiasts please to call "toned paper." This wetting-down business has another effect which has always puzzled philatelists. The wet paper is taken into a hot room to dry, and in drying it contracts. The contraction is not uniform and the philatelist in trying to prove the existence of more than one original die will pin his faith to the idea that if the varieties noticeable were due to contraction of the paper the contraction would be proportionate on all sides of the stamp. This is not the case however.

Paper, when absorbing moisture, expands more in one direction than the other. The direction of greater expansion is what is technically known as the "cross direction," and is the direction *across* the flow of pulp in the paper making machine. During the flow of the pulp the bulk of the fibres lie parallel with the movement of the wire gauze, and it is a scientific fact that the



Bureau of Engraving and Printing.



Inserting sheets in the gumming machines.



Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Making stamps up into book form.

diameter of a fibre is increased by absorption of water much more than is the length. The subsequent shrinking on drying also is uneven.

After the printed sheets have been for about twenty-four hours in the drying room they are smoothed out between straw-boards in hydraulic presses, then counted and checked for defects.

The sheets are next taken by female assistants, who insert them into the gumming apparatus. The sheets are gripped between two metal fingers fastened on an endless chain and drawn between two rollers, the upper roller applying the gum to the backs of the printed sheets, which are then carried on by an endless chain through a hot box eighty feet long, emerging quite dry at the end. Until lately the sheets were received and stacked by female assistants, but an arrangement has now been added by which the sheets are stacked automatically like finished printing on a big press, thus doing away with the necessity for the assistants doing this work.

In 1906 it was announced that two different kinds of gum would thenceforth be used, the packages of stamps issued bearing an explanatory label, e.g. :—

#### SUMMER GUM.

*To the Postmaster,*

The stamps in this package are prepared with "hard" gum, and intended for use in the summer or humid season when there is much moisture in the atmosphere. This is necessary to prevent as far as possible the premature sticking together of the stamps, or the sticking to the paraffin paper when in book form. Notwithstanding the hardness of the gum, it may be affected by excessive moisture, and postmasters should therefore exercise the greatest care to keep the stamps in as dry a place as possible, and to dispose of them to the

public before the dry, cold season sets in, when the effect of this hard gum is to cause the stamps to curl, break and crack.

Stamps for winter issue are prepared with a softer gum suited to that season.

EDWIN C. MADDEN,  
*Third Assistant Postmaster-General.*

After gumming the sheets are again pressed flat by hydraulic power, and are then perforated. The perforating machines are of a very advanced character, and are capable of much more rapid work than the familiar up-and-down movement machines in vogue in most other stamp printing establishments. The American machines are rotary. An upper row of wheels carry the teeth or punches, and a lower row of wheels bear the holes into which the teeth fit.

With these machines it may be wondered that the perforation of modern United States stamps is not more perfect. It is frequently found that the lines of perforation pass through the printed design, and provide the "off-centre" copies so familiarly associated with United States issues. This is not due to imperfections in the perforating machinery, but to the uneven shrinkage of the paper after the wetting-down process. The paper used is a bleached chemical wood stock, and, in view of the uneven shrinkage which caused considerable wastage through difficulty of proper perforating, a 30 per cent. rag stock was tried in 1909, but failed to remove the difficulty. The plan has in 1909 been tried of having the longitudinal margins between the stamps of varying width to counteract the "cross" shrinkage, the horizontal margins between the stamps remaining uniform as before. By this means the wastage due to badly perforated stamps which are cast out has been reduced from 9 per cent. to 1 per cent.

In the perforating room the stamps, after being counted and examined for defects, are riveted in batches and sealed ready for delivery upon requisitions from postmasters.

The Bureau maintains a very large stock of stamps ready for delivery. The reserve stock is stated to be nearly fifteen hundred millions of postage stamps.



2 cents 1894. (Enlarged.)  
Varieties of the triangles.





## CHAPTER II.

### Issues of 1894-1898.

**W**HEN the Bureau of Engraving and Printing was awarded the contract for printing the postage stamps, the dies, plates, and a large stock of stamps already printed by the former contractors (The American Bank Note Company of New York) were transferred to the Bureau at Washington.

Before printing new supplies the new printers added a little triangular ornament in each of the upper corners of each design on the dies, and constructed new plates, to distinguish their work from that of the American Bank Note Company. The marks were at first identical on all the stamps of the series, but later printings of the two cents stamps bore two slightly varied triangles, which are illustrated and described here, as given in the Scott catalogue. Enlarged reproductions of the stamps are also shewn for comparison.



Triangle I.



Triangle II.



Triangle III.

- In Triangle I. the horizontal lines of the ground-work run across the triangle, and are of the same thickness within the triangle as without.
- In Triangle II. the lines also cross the triangle, but are thinner within than without the triangle.
- In Triangle III. the lines do not cross the triangle, but stop at the inner frame of the triangle, and are thin.

The designs and colours of the entire series of 1890 were repeated (except for the thirty and ninety cents stamps, which were abandoned), with the sole addition of the triangles in the corners. The denominations and portraits illustrated, are :—1 cent ultramarine (Franklin), 2 cents pink, afterwards carmine (Washington), 3 cents purple (Jackson), 4 cents dark brown (Lincoln), 5 cents chocolate (Grant), 6 cents dark red brown (Garfield), 8 cents violet brown (Sherman), 10 cents dark green (Webster), and 15 cents dark blue (Clay). The series of 1890 was, however, extended by the addition of four new values up to five dollars. The descriptions of these are as follows :—





Franklin.



Washington.



Jackson.



Lincoln.



Grant.



Garfield.



Sherman.



Webster.



Clay.

Fifty Cents, orange. The profile bust of Jefferson, after Cerrachi, was transferred from the abandoned thirty cents stamp to this new value. The portrait is enclosed in the frame design common to all the higher values (10 cents and upwards) described as frame "B," but with the value altered to read "FIFTY CENTS" in the curve below the oval, and the figures "50" in the tablets in the lower angles.

One Dollar, black. The portrait of Commodore Perry, after Wolcutt, from the disused ninety cents stamp, is enclosed in frame "B," with value altered to read "ONE DOLLAR" in the lower curved band, and "\$1" in the lower angles.



Two Dollars, blue. This shews a three-quarters face portrait of James Madison, after Gilbert Stuart. It is turned to left in the same frame B as the last described stamp, with the value in words and figures, "TWO DOLLARS" and "\$2."

Five Dollars, green. This has a portrait, full face, of John Marshall, after Inman, in the same frame B as the last, with the value, "FIVE DOLLARS" and "\$5," in words and figures.

These stamps were at first printed on unwatermarked paper, as all the previous issues had been. But Mr. Luff states that a widely circulated forgery of the two cents stamp in 1895 led to the introduction of a watermark in the paper. The Washington correspondent of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* takes a different view from Mr. Luff on this point. He says the watermark was introduced merely to control the printing of the stamps—to guard against the possibility of irregularity in the way of running off extra sheets of stamps, as would be possible if a paper of not sufficiently distinctive character were used.

The watermark consists of the initials U S P S in large outline letters. The initials stand for United States Postal Service, and they read horizontally across and perpendicularly down the paper, thus :—

U S P S U S P S, etc.

S P S U S P S U

P S U S P S U S

S U S P S U S P

Copies are known of the eight cents stamp printed on paper prepared for use in the production of revenue stamps, and watermarked U S I R (United States Internal Revenue) instead of U S P S. The variety is rare, and can only be identified with certainty when sufficient portions of the letters I or R can be seen to clearly distinguish them from portions of the letters U or P.

The recommendations of the Universal Postal Union in 1897, that the colours used by all countries in the Union for stamps of certain denominations largely used for international postage, be the same, led to the changes of colours of six of the values in this series. The Postal Union colours for the one cent, two cents, and

five cents were green, red, and blue respectively. The two cents was already printed in a carmine red colour, so no change was necessary in that instance. The one cent was altered on January 17, 1898, to green, and on March 8 the five cents was changed to blue. In order that these stamps should not be mistaken for other stamps in the series, in like colours, the four cents was changed on October 7 to rose brown, the six cents on December 31 to brownish lake, the ten cents on November 11 to orange brown, and the fifteen cents on November 30 to olive green.



### CHAPTER III.

#### Issue of 1898. Trans-Mississippi Exposition Series.

**T**HE Trans-Mississippi Exposition at Omaha was responsible for the issue of a new series of large postal adhesive labels in 1898. The particular purpose of this emission was to further the aims of and to advertise the Exposition.

As soon as the issue was heralded philatelists both in the United States and abroad protested against the proposed stamps, and meetings were held to pass resolutions, which were conveyed to the Postmaster-General to urge him not to proceed with the projected series. These, however, were unavailing, and the idea that stamp collectors were expected to pay for the new series is scarcely feasible in the present case. The more important object in sending out the stamps was to convey to the world the intimation that a great exhibition was being held in Omaha, and as the stamps were naturally in daily use, and were circulated all over the world, their power as an advertising medium must have been indeed great.

The designs are illustrative of the history of the development of the region beyond the "father of waters,"

the Mississippi River. It was announced that the issue would be "the handsomest set of stamps ever issued to commemorate an exposition," and from early descriptions it was confidently expected that the handsome Columbians would be out-rivalled. In the matter of beauty and excellence of engraving, they were much inferior to the Columbus stamps, though the subjects depicted on them have an interest of their own, which makes the set a not unwelcome addition to the collector's album.

It was intended at first that the stamps should be bi-coloured, but this could not be arranged. The stamps were fewer in number than the Columbus set of 1893, the latter comprising sixteen stamps up to five dollars, while this new series includes only nine denominations, from one cent to two dollars.

A Post Office Circular of May 16, 1898, gives the following general description of the series :—

The Trans-Mississippi stamps differ materially in size from the ordinary series, the engraved space being about seven-eighths of an inch wide by about one and three-eighths long. The designs are also radically unlike those of the ordinary stamps—consisting of a border (substantially the same in all the denominations, except that the figures and letters representing values are different), and a central scene indicative in some way of the development of the great region beyond the Mississippi River. The scenes and the borders are all printed from line engravings on steel, executed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing of the Treasury Department.

The border, which forms in its inner line an irregular oval framework to each of the scenes represented, consists of a fluted figure on either side, with interior cross-bars, beginning in a single line near the bottom of the stamp, and enlarging until it reaches a shield in each of the upper corners, wherein is engraved in white the Arabic numeral of denomination—the dollar mark being also included in the case of the one and two



dollar stamps. At the top, connecting the two shields, and united to the fluted framework on the two sides, is a curved tablet, on which are engraved, in small white capitals, the words, "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA." Above this, on either side, are heads of wheat, and between these a small scroll. Immediately below the central scene is the title of the picture, in diminutive Gothic letters, on a curved tablet, and below this, on either side, in scrolls, are the words of value, "ONE," "TWO," and so on, in white capitals, except in the case of the two highest denominations, when "\$1.00" and "\$2.00" are substituted for letters. Above each of these is a projecting ear of corn, and at the bottom of all, on a straight black tablet, are the words, "POSTAGE ONE CENT," "POSTAGE TWO CENTS," and so on, in white capitals.

The scenes represented on the stamps, together with the colours of the several denominations, are these :—



One Cent. "Marquette on the Mississippi," from a painting by Lamprecht, now in possession of the Marquette College of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, representing Father Marquette in a boat on the Upper Mississippi, preaching to the Indians. Colour, dark green.

Two Cents. "Farming in the West," from a photograph, representing a western grain-field with a long row of plows at work. Colour, copper red.



Four Cents. "Indian Hunting Buffalo," reproduction of an engraving in Schoolcraft's History of the Indian Tribes. Colour, orange.

Five Cents. "Fremont on Rocky Mountains," modified from a wood engraving, representing the pathfinder planting the U.S. flag on the highest peak of the Rocky Mountains. Colour, dark blue.



Eight Cents. "Troops Guarding Train," representing a detachment of U.S. soldiers conveying an emigrant train across the prairies, from a drawing by

Frederic Remington, permission to use which was kindly given by the publisher, R. H. Russell, of New York. Colour, dark lilac.

Ten Cents. "Hardships of Emigration," from a painting kindly loaned by the artist, A. G. Heaton, representing an emigrant and his family on the plains in a "prairie schooner," one of the horses having fallen from exhaustion. Colour, slate.



Fifty Cents. "Western Mining Prospector," from a drawing by Frederic Remington (permission to use which has been kindly given by the publisher, R. H. Russell, of New York), representing a prospector with his pack mules in the mountains, searching for gold. Colour, olive.

One Dollar. "Western Cattle in Storm," representing a herd of cattle, preceded by the leader, seeking safety from a gathering storm, reproduced from a large steel engraving, after a picture by J. MacWhirter, the engraving having been kindly loaned by Mrs. C. B. Johnson. Colour, black.



Two Dollars. "Mississippi River Bridge." from an engraving—a representation of the great bridge over the Mississippi at St. Louis. Colour, orange brown.

In the circular above quoted it is stated that "although this series of stamps will be discontinued on the 31st December, 1898, they will be good for postage at any time afterwards."

The stamps were printed on paper watermarked U S P S. sideways, in sheets of one hundred stamps divided into two panes of fifty each. The gauge of the perforation is 12.

All the denominations were issued simultaneously on June 17, 1898, and although their sale at the post offices was not continued beyond December, 1898, they have not been demonetised.



## CHAPTER IV.

### Issue of 1901. Pan-American Exposition Series.

TOWARDS the end of 1899 it was known that the promoters of the Pan-American Exposition, to be held at Buffalo from May to November, 1901, had asked the Postmaster-General to issue a series of commemorative stamps in connection with the Exposition. On December 2, 1899, the *Buffalo Express* announced that the authorities at Washington were not unfavourable to the proposal. The journal in question reports Mr. Madden, the Third Assistant Postmaster-General, to have said on the subject :—

My attention has been called to the advisability of issuing a Buffalo series of stamps to commemorate the Exposition, and I can see no objection at this time to it, provided, of course, the cost is not too great.

The Omaha Exposition had a series of nine stamps, and I suppose the Buffalo directors would want as many. I know there will be objections from stamp collectors, but that must be expected. The stamps will be of great benefit to the Exposition as an advertising medium, and up to the present time I am in favour of them.

A few weeks later the Washington correspondent of the *Weekly Philatelic Era* was informed that the

proposed issue had been decided upon. The series, however, was not to be so extensive as the Trans-Mississippi one, but was to be confined to the lowest denominations, namely from one cent to ten cents.

Hitherto the commemorative stamps had been inscribed similarly to the ordinary issues, but it is understood that Mr. Madden was desirous of emphasising the title of the Exposition by having the words, "Pan-American Series, 1901," on the stamps. The question, according to the Washington correspondent of the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, was referred to the Assistant Attorney-General for the Post Office Department, who rendered an opinion that the printing of the reference to the Pan-American Exposition would be contrary to the statute which was adopted to prevent the printing of advertisements on stamps. As the Exposition was not conducted by the Government, but by an Exposition Company subsidised by the Government, it was in the nature of a private enterprise, and a mention of it on the Government stamps would be an advertisement for it. He found no objection, however, to the words, "Commemorative Series, 1901," so these words were inscribed upon all the stamps of the series.

An American journal published a letter, understood to be from an official source, in which it was stated that the new stamps would not be available for international postage, but only for internal postage.

The letter is given herewith :—

Sir,—In reply to your letter of October 27th, you are informed that the Pan-American commemorative series of postage stamps will not be available for foreign correspondence, under Paragraph 1, Article 2, Universal Postal Convention of 1897, which reads :—

“Prepayment of postage on every description of article can be effected only by means of postage stamps valid in the country of origin for the correspondence of private individuals. It is not, however, permitted to make use in the international service of postage stamps issued for a special or particular purpose, such as postage stamps called commemorative of temporary validity.”

This was, however, contradicted shortly afterwards in the following letter to the Washington correspondent of *McKeel's Weekly Stamp News* from the Chief of the Stamp Division, Washington :—

I understand that you were informed while in the Department the other day that the Pan-American series of postage stamps would not be good for foreign correspondence under the rules of the Universal Postal Union Convention of '97. It has been decided that as the rule prohibits the use of commemorative stamps of a temporary validity only, the Pan-American series will not come under this prohibition, but will be available for international correspondence.

In view of the limited period of issue, the line of distinction is so fine that some may fail to see it. The writer of the second letter evidently takes the Postal Union regulation to refer only to stamps valid for a limited time, like the Don Quixote series of Spain, which was valid for postal purposes from May 1 to May 15, 1905, only. The Pan-American stamps, although only issued from May 1 to October 31, 1901, are still valid for postage. They have not been demonetised.

The stamps, which are announced as “the most artistic series ever issued by the Department,” were produced at two printings, the central portion of the engraved surface being taken up with a vignette taken from a recent photograph. This is in each case printed in black. The frames enclosing the vignettes are printed in colours similar to those of the corresponding values in the regular set of postal adhesive stamps.

In the following descriptions the chief details only are given, and for the explanations of the designs the official circular announcing the issue has been drawn upon. It may be said here that the borders have variously formed openings for the vignettes, but it has not been considered necessary to describe these in detail, as the pictures, their titles, and the colours of the borders are sufficient to distinguish these familiar stamps.



One Cent, green and black. Shews a Lake steamer, typical of "FAST LAKE NAVIGATION," which is the legend inscribed beneath the vignette. The Lake steamer presents the port bow, the pilot house is well forward, and the steamer is propelled by side wheels.

Two Cents, red and black. The vignette shews a railway train, and the inscription below it is "FAST EXPRESS." The train of four cars is drawn by a locomotive with four drivers, and four parallel tracks are shewn.

Four Cents, chocolate and black. Shews a motor-car, inscribed below, "AUTOMOBILE." The automobile is of the closed coach order, with two men on the box, and a part of the United States Capitol at Washington as a background.





Five Cents, blue and black. The steel arch bridge over the Niagara Falls at Buffalo is shewn in the vignette, and the title inscribed below is, "BRIDGE AT NIAGARA FALLS." This represents the largest single span steel bridge in the world; two trolley cars are seen upon it, and a full view of Niagara Falls is shewn under, beyond, and up the river, with the graceful springing arch as a frame.



Eight Cents, lilac and black. The vignette shews ship canal locks, described beneath as "CANAL LOCKS AT SAULT SAINTE MARIE." The great ship canal locks at Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan, are given in a view from a higher point, including the immediate surroundings.

Ten Cents, yellow-brown and black. The subject of the vignette is an ocean steamship, typical of the title inscribed beneath, "FAST OCEAN NAVIGATION." An ocean steamship of the American line, with two smokestacks and masts, presents its starboard bow, lapped by a rising wave.

The stamps are on the paper watermarked U S P S, and were issued May 1, 1901.

As occasionally happens when stamps are produced by two printings, specimens of three of the values of this series have been found with the frames inverted. They are the one cent, two, and four cents. Of these the four cents appears to have been done deliberately to the order of a high official. One sheet (400 stamps) was so printed, some of the stamps being overprinted "specimen." Of these 100 were sent to the Postal Museum at Washington, and 234 were found in the safe at the office of the official. This would leave 66 copies to be accounted for, but we are informed on the authority of a member of the Committee appointed to supervise the destruction of the balance that only 194 were destroyed, and as all but one copy were returned by the Museum, the total number given out was 206 instead of 66 as recently reported.

In the case of each of the "errors" it is the frame, which is, strictly speaking, inverted. In all bi-coloured stamps produced by the line-engraved process the black portion is printed on the sheets first, and the coloured portion last. This is necessitated by the second "wetting down" for the second impression, which would cause the colour (other than black) to run.



With inverted frames.



## CHAPTER V.

### Issue of 1902-1903. Inscribed "Series 1902."

**A**BOUT the end of 1900 there were rumours in the press of a new permanent issue of stamps quite distinctive from the then anticipated Pan-American series. The stamps of the ordinary type had been in use since 1890, with only the minor changes caused by the introduction of the corner triangles and watermarked paper, which are not noted by the general public.

It was not till March, 1902, that the Washington correspondent of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* was able to write that "the new series of stamps so long contemplated by the Third Assistant Postmaster-General has passed the 'contemplation' stage."

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing was asked to prepare and submit pen drawings for the new series, securing, as far as was possible, better portraits of the distinguished Americans figuring on the previous series, giving a preference to three-quarter face portraits, and to have a different frame design for each denomination. A new stamp of the facial valuation of thirteen cents was to be added for use on foreign registered letters. For this stamp Benjamin Harrison's portrait was selected

by the Department. Mrs. Harrison was invited to choose the photograph from which the portrait was copied. The portrait of Perry, too, was to be superseded by that of Admiral Farragut. General Sherman's portrait on the eight cents was withdrawn for that of Martha Washington. The portraits of Grant and Lincoln were exchanged, the former now appearing on the four cents, the latter on the five cents stamp.

In addition to the usual inscriptions, the words, "SERIES, 1902," were placed upon all the stamps, this being the official designation of the new series, though mainly owing to contract difficulties the complete series did not materialise till well on in 1903.

Another new feature of this series is the inclusion of the surname of each person depicted, except in the case of the eight cents stamp, on which the name is given as "MARTHA WASHINGTON." The dates of birth and death of the subjects of the portraits are also given.

The thirteen cents was the first of the stamps to appear (November, 1902), the eight cents following shortly afterwards. The complete series up to the five dollars stamp was ready by March, 1903, though as the stock of the old stamps had to be used up before they were issued, some of the values did not appear until later.

The whole series is a very beautiful one, the sole objection to which, on the artistic score, is the over-elaboration of the frames enclosing the portrait medallions. Too much has been crowded into some of the designs, weakening the general effect. So much was this the case in the two cents stamp that it was decided to change it. The *New York Times*, in a

message from Washington, dated February 21, 1903, says :—

" Third Assistant Postmaster-General Madden to-day announced that the two cent postage stamp of the new series is generally unsatisfactory in appearance, and a new design has been ordered. The issuance of the present stamp will be continued until the new design is ready.

The new stamp was chronicled from a "specimen" copy in the *American Journal of Philately* in October, the official date of issue being November 12.

The following are brief descriptions (all that is considered necessary for these familiar stamps) :—



One Cent, green. Three-quarters face portrait, looking to right, of Franklin, "1706-1790" on a medallion which is half square, half oval, supported by caryatides at the sides. (Issued February 3, 1903.)

Two Cents, carmine. First design. Three-quarters face portrait of Washington, "1732-1799," turned to left in an oval, with draped flags at the sides of the medallion. (January 17, 1903.)



Two Cents, carmine. Second design. Three-quarters face portrait, to left, of Washington, slightly larger than the first design, on an arched medallion. The design which frames the portrait medallion represents the national shield. (November 12, 1903.) There is a *bonâ fide* and scarce variety of this stamp imperforate horizontally. A sheet in this condition was sold to a clerk in June, 1908, and their purchaser is stated to have used all but fifteen of them for postage before a collector noticed them. The disposition of the fifteen unused copies is as follows:—

Mr. G. H. Worthington . . . . .	Block of 6
Mr. G. L. Toppan . . . . .	Block of 6
Mr. C. R. Morris . . . . .	Strip of 3
Total . . . . .	
15	

Thus it will be seen that *all* the authenticated unused copies are already accounted for in the hands of well-known philatelists.

Three Cents, purple. Three-quarters face portrait, turned to right, of Jackson, "1767-1845," on an arched medallion, supported at the sides by two caryatides. (February 11, 1903.)



Four Cents, dark orange brown. Three-quarters face portrait, to right, of Grant, vignetted in an arched medallion, surmounted by two eagles. The dates are "1822-1885." (February 10, 1903.)

Five Cents, blue. Three-quarters face portrait, turned to right, of Lincoln, "1809-1865," in an oval medallion, with a female figure at each side, each holding a palm over the oval, and a United States flag in the other hand. The female figures, it is said, are intended to represent North and South uniting to honour the President, who was a martyr to the cause. (January 20, 1903.)





Six Cents, brownish lake. Three-quarters face portrait, to right, of Garfield, "1831-1881," in an oval medallion, the upper and lower curves of which are broken into by panels above and below. The sides contain stone pillars. (February 20, 1903.)

Eight Cents, violet black. Three-quarters face portrait, to left, of Martha Washington, in an oval, surrounded by a wreath of laurel. The dates are "1732-1802." (December 6, 1902.)



Ten Cents, orange brown. Portrait of Webster, slightly turned to right, after a portrait by Seeley, in an arched medallion, with two fasces or bundles of sticks, from the middle of which protrudes a battle-axe. The dates given are "1782-1852." (February 5, 1903.)

Thirteen Cents, dark violet brown. Three-quarters face portrait, to left, of Benjamin Harrison, from a photograph from life, in an oval medallion, with figures at the sides representing Literature and Sculpture. The dates are "1833-1901." (November 18, 1902.)



Fifteen Cents, olive. Three-quarters face portrait, to left, of Clay, in an oval medallion, partly enclosed by a wreath of oak leaves. The dates given are "1772-1832." (May 27, 1903.)

Fifty Cents, orange. Three-quarters face portrait, to right, of Jefferson, in an oval medallion, nearly surrounded by a band containing the inscription "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA." The background is formed by an architectural design. The dates are "1743-1826." (March 23, 1903.)



One Dollar, black. Three-quarters face portrait, to left, of Farragut, vignетted in a half-oval, supported on the left by a marine holding a rifle, and on the right a sailor holding a pikestaff. The dates are "1801-1870." (June 5, 1903.)

Two Dollars, sapphire blue. Three-quarters face portrait, to right, of Madison, on a circular disc, with a branch of laurel on each side. The dates are "1751-1836." (June 5, 1903.)

Five Dollars, dark green. Portrait, almost full face, of John Marshall, in an oval disc. Pillars at the side support a heavy stone forming an arch to the portrait oval, and into which two small oval medallions have been introduced, one at the left bearing a head typical of Liberty, the other at the right a head, with eyes bandaged, representing Justice. The dates are "1755-1835." (June 5, 1903.)



The one cent, two cents (second design), four cents, and five cents were in 1906-1908 issued imperforate for use in the automatic stamp vending and "mailing" machines now extensively used in the United States (see Check List). The imperforate copies of the four cents are said to be in the hands of speculators, and have not up to the present come upon the market.

The cost to the Post Office Department of this series of stamps was 5.742c. per 1000.



## CHAPTER VI.

### Issue of 1904. Louisiana Purchase Exposition Series.

**A**BOUT the middle of 1903 it was known that the Post Office Department was considering the advisability of issuing a new commemorative series for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis in 1904. By September it was announced that the issue was assured.

The stamps, which were limited in number to five, were of the Columbus and Trans-Mississippi size, though the inclusion of portraits gives the series a totally different appearance from that of its predecessors. The subjects were selected to illustrate the story of the Louisiana Purchase. In addition to the portrait on the one cent stamp there are two panels containing miniature views of parts of the Purchase territory.

Third Assistant Postmaster-General Madden issued a circular describing the stamps, and giving instructions to postmasters, under date March 22, 1904. It reads as follows :—

Postmasters are notified that a special series of stamps in five denominations, to commemorate the Louisiana Purchase of 1803, and known as the commemorative series of 1904, will be issued, beginning April 21, for sale to the public during the term of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, from April 30 to December 1, 1904. They must not be sold to the public before or after this period.



The denominations and subjects of these stamps are as follows :—

One Cent, green ; subject, Robert R. Livingston, United States Minister to France, who conducted the negotiations for the Louisiana Purchase.

Two Cent, red ; Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States at the time of the Purchase.

Three Cent, purple ; James Monroe, special ambassador to France in the matter of the Purchase, who with Livingston closed the negotiations

Five Cent, blue ; William McKinley, who as President of the United States approved the Acts of Congress officially connecting the United States Government with the commemorative exposition.



Ten Cent, brown ; United States map, showing the territory of the Purchase.

This series of stamps will not be issued in book form.

There will be no commemorative issue of stamped envelopes, newspaper wrappers, postal cards, special delivery or due stamps.

The stamps of the commemorative series of 1904 are not to be sold exclusively in place of stamps of the regular issue. A supply of the latter must be carried in stock by all postmasters. Stamps of the commemorative or of the regular issue will be supplied according to the preference of the purchaser.

Although the date for the issue of the stamps by postmasters was clearly given as April 30, in many cases the instructions would appear to have been disregarded, as specimens of the stamps were available in some places several days before that date. However, April 30 was the date for the general introduction of the stamps.





## CHAPTER VII.

### Issue of 1907. Jamestown Exposition Series.

**A**N application for the issue of a series of Exposition postage stamps on behalf of the Lewis and Clark Exposition at Portland, Oregon, in 1906, having been refused by the Government, stamp collectors were led to the belief that the Department had definitely abandoned the practice of issuing commemorative stamps on similar occasions. But early in 1906 (February) it was announced that two special postage stamps would be issued in connection with the Jamestown Exposition at Virginia in 1907, to celebrate the three-hundredth anniversary of the first settlement of white men on the American continent.

This early announcement was followed by the submission of a number of suggested designs from stamp collectors, but the designs were not finally adopted until March 1907.

Up to this time only two stamps of the denominations 1 cent and 2 cents were in contemplation.

A five cents denomination was decided on before the issue in 1907, probably in deference to the wishes of the promoters of the enterprise, who would naturally desire the publicity to be gained by the use of this denomination on correspondence sent to foreign countries.

The designs of the three denominations of stamps were :—



One Cent. A portrait of Captain John Smith in an arched frame ; at the sides small oval portrait medallions of Pocahontas and Powhatan ; at the top the white lettering "COMMEMORATIVE SERIES, 1907"; round the arched frame "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA," and across the bottom "POSTAGE ONE CENT" all in white letters. The numeral of value appears in outline on an irregular shaped shield at each side of the portrait frame. There is in addition the inscription in small coloured letters "FOUNDING OF JAMESTOWN, 1607—1560. CAPT. JOHN SMITH. 1631."

The colour of this stamp was green, and the number printed was 10,000,000.



Two Cents. This bears a picture of the landing of the settlers at Jamestown. The inscriptions in white letters are similar to those of the one cent stamp, but arranged differently, and having the value altered.

This stamp was issued in carmine, and 14,000,000 were printed.





Five Cents. This shows a portrait of Princess Pocahontas in an oval medallion with the inscription below in coloured letters "1595 POCAHONTAS 1617," the white lettered inscriptions being the same as on the other denominations, but differently disposed, and with the value altered.

Of this stamp, which was issued in blue, there were 8,000,000 printed.

The one cent and two cents stamps were issued on May 1, 1907, the five cents denomination not appearing until later in the same month.

The stamps are on the paper watermarked U S P S, and the perforation is 12.



CHAPTER VIII.  
Issue of 1908-1909.



**I**N October, 1908, an announcement was first made in the public press that the Postmaster-General, Von Meyer, had decided upon a new series of regular postage stamps to take the place of those inscribed "SERIES 1902." It was Mr. Meyer's idea to secure a better artistic effect by introducing a simpler form of design, and also to obtain uniformity by dispensing with the great variety of portraits which had distinguished all previous regular issues. At the same time the simpler form of design was expected to lengthen the average life of a printing plate, and so reduce cost.

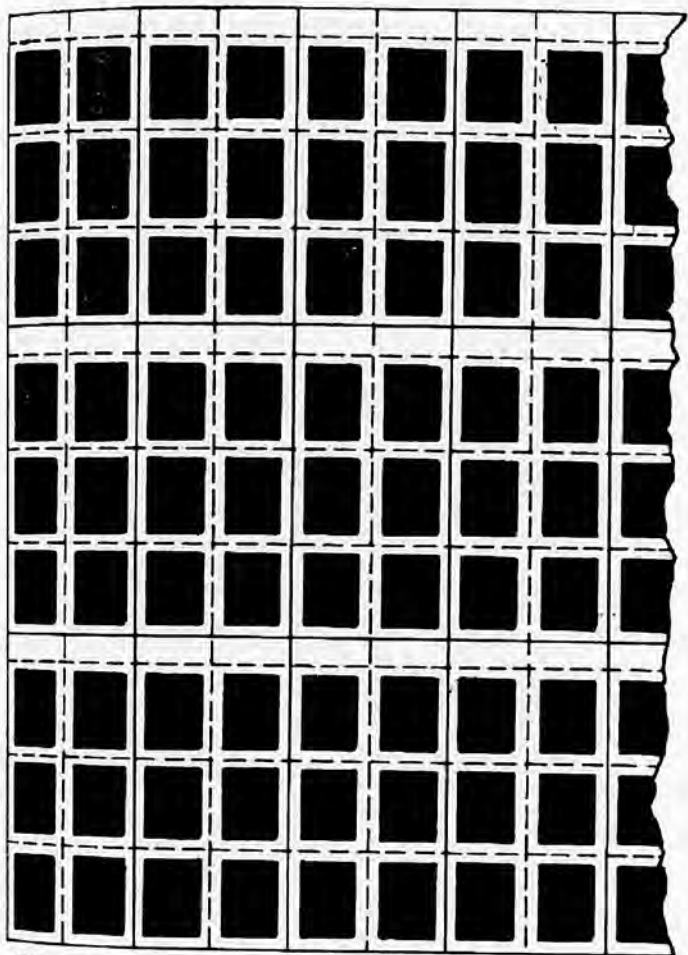


Diagram shewing arrangement of plates  
and sheets for stamps to be issued  
in book form. (See p. 63.)

**POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, U. S. A.**  
**POSTAGE AND FEES PAID**

NO. 100

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

THIRTY CENTS

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, U. S. A.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

THIRTY CENTS

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, U. S. A.

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

THIRTY CENTS



**THE REGISTRY SYSTEM.**

Under the Act, Registrars and Agents receive...

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

All valuable letters, and parcels and valuable packages, should be sent, in the registered mails, and pay only for a letter or address in postage, besides an additional fee.

Registered parcels may be addressed to any post office, or to the post office nearest the place of destination, or to the office of a telegraph office.

Registered letters may be sent to any post office, or to the office of a telegraph office.

For further information, apply to the nearest post office, or to the nearest telegraph office.

Arrangement of an album display of stamps issued in book form. (See p. 63.)

The general design had been prepared and adopted on October 12th, when the news was published. It was then stated that the denominations would be eleven in number, viz., 1c., 2c., 3c., 4c., 5c., 6c., 8c., 10c., 15c., 50c., and \$1, and that all except the 1c. would bear a reproduction of the Houdon portrait of Washington. The 1c. was to retain the portrait of Benjamin Franklin. No denomination higher than one dollar is included in the series, the two dollars and five dollars values being now little used owing to the increase in the unit of weight for international postage, and also owing to the extension of penny postage to Great Britain and other countries.

In the official report of the Third Assistant Postmaster-General for the year ending June 30, 1909, the series is thus described :—

*Series of 1908.*—For the sake of uniformity\* of artistic effect, the head of Washington (a profile from Houdon's bust) was adopted as the subject of all the denominations except the 1 cent, which bears the head of Franklin (the first Postmaster-General). The border designs are identical on all the stamps, the head appearing within an ellipse on end, with laurel leaves on either side of the ellipse. Above the head are the words "U.S. POSTAGE"; below it, the denomination. The size and shape of the stamps are the same as of the series of 1902. The denominations and colours are :—1 cent, green; 2 cent, red; 3 cent, purple; 4 cent, brown; 5 cent, dark blue; 6 cent, orange; 8 cent, olive; 10 cent, yellow; 13 cent, sea green; 15 cent, light blue; 50 cent, lavender; \$1, dark slate.

The first of the stamps to appear was the 2 cents carmine, issued on November 16, 1908. It was followed on December 3 by the 1 cent green stamp. Both

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\* The Director of the Bureau gives an additional *raison d'être* for this series: "The design," he states, "was purposely made of a character permitting a style of engraving that greatly enhances the life of the steel plates, with consequent desirable reduction in the cost of producing the stamps."

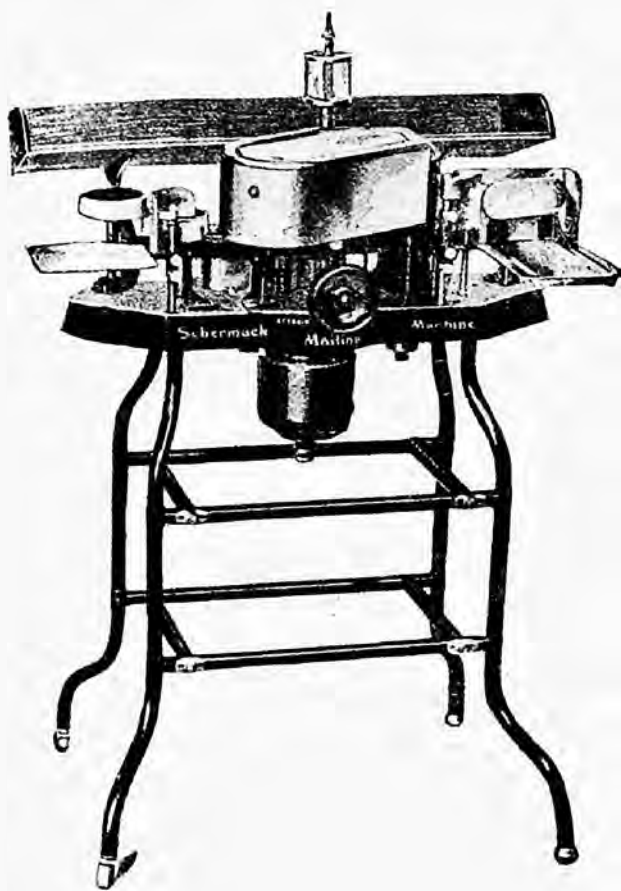


of these stamps bear the value expressed in words only, and this led to the widely published rumour that these stamps would be withdrawn as they failed to conform to the regulation of the Universal Postal Union, which provides that all stamps for international postage shall bear the value in Arabic figures. The matter evidently received the attention of the authorities, for the denominations subsequently issued complied with this condition.

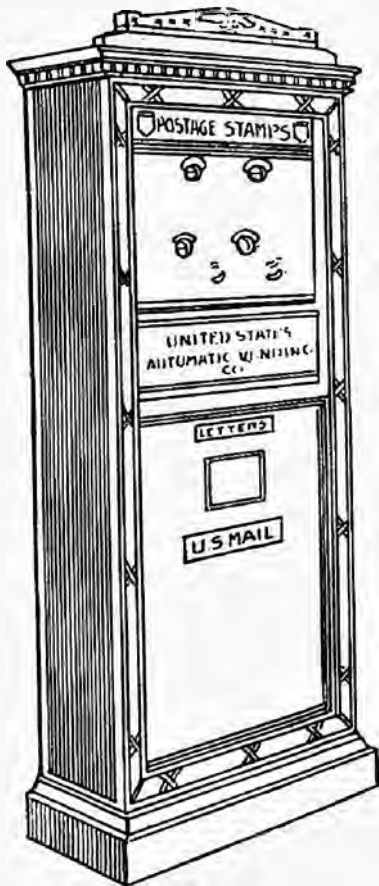
The following are the colours and dates of issue of the remaining values :—

3 cents purple	December 26, 1908.
4 cents brown	December 26, 1908.
5 cents blue	December 21, 1908.
6 cents orange	December 31, 1908.
8 cents olive green	December 18, 1908.
10 cents yellow	January 7, 1909.
13 cents sea green	January 11, 1909.
15 cents light blue	January 18, 1909.
50 cents lavender	January 13, 1909.
1 dollar purple black	January 29, 1909.

The stamps are on the paper watermarked U S P S. and these letters may be found inverted, reversed, and inverted and reversed. The perforation gauges 12. The denominations up to and including the five cents have all been issued imperforate in sheets, and in some



The Mailometer  
(formerly the Schermack Mailing Machine).



An Automatic Stamp Vending Machine.



cases in strips, and also partly perforated. These forms of issue were for the convenience of use in the various forms of stamp vending and mailing machines described in the appendix.

The stamps are printed in sheets of four hundred,\* except those specially printed for making up into book form. The plates for the stamps intended for making into booklets originally contained 180 stamps arranged in nine horizontal rows of twenty arranged as indicated in the diagram on page 57, in which the dotted lines indicate the perforations between the stamps, and the solid lines shew where the sheets are cut up to form the leaves of the books. The printing capacity of the plates now in use for the books of stamps is double the former capacity. Three hundred and sixty stamps are now printed at each impression, each sheet forming sixty book leaves of six stamps each.†

During 1909 an experiment was tried with a paper made under a new specification and containing 30 per cent. rag stock. This was tried in an endeavour to overcome the difficulty of perforating caused by the shrinkage of the regular paper, which is made of bleached chemical wood stock. The rag paper did not overcome the difficulty, and has been abandoned.

\* The spaces between the stamps were originally even, but in 1909 the plates were made with longitudinal margins of varying widths to allow for the shrinkage in the paper after wetting-down.

† Collectors desiring to shew examples of the book form stamps might follow the arrangement indicated in the illustration on p. 58. First remove the staples which bind the book, and display as on p. 58. The central portion of the illustration shews one of the paraffin separating sheets. A new, and more ornate form of cover design, embodying the seal of the P.O. Department, is about to be introduced for the stamp books.

Stamps printed on it, however, may readily be recognised by the bluish tinge in the paper. 1,480,000 one cent and 1,494,000 two cents stamps were printed on this paper and issued to the postmaster at Washington. There were also put into circulation 4000 stamps printed on this rag paper of each of the denominations 3, 5, 8, 10, 13 and 15 cents; 4400 stamps of 4 cents, and 5200 stamps of 6 cents.

The series may be considered thoroughly satisfactory in the matters of designing and engraving, but the colour arrangement calls for some modification. The ten cents yellow is to be withdrawn and reissued in brown on yellow paper. At the time of writing it is probable that the eight cents olive green and fifteen cents light blue will be changed. The raising of the fee for registration from eight cents to ten cents, which took effect November 1, 1909, has given rise to a demand for a twelve cents stamp to cover the two cents letter rate and registration fee combined. The stamp of this twelve cents denomination may be printed on a coloured paper. The thirteen cents stamp, which was intended to cover the international letter rate, five cents, and the old registration rate of eight cents, is to be discontinued, as its purpose will now be served by the fifteen cents stamp.\*

The Post Office Department had several times given its attention to the subject of automatic contrivances for the sale of stamps. Several machines were patented

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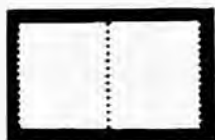
\* The Third Assistant Postmaster-General states:—"Some of these stamps, particularly the green 1c., 8c. and 13c., the blue 5c. and 15c., the purple 3c. and lavender 50c., are not sufficiently distinctive, and a rearrangement of the colours is now under consideration."—*Report for year ended June 30, 1909.*

which were suitable for the sale of stamps, and others for affixing postage stamps to correspondence. The Department speedily recognised the convenience and possibilities of these inventions, and as for their successful operation the stamps had to be cut into strips, and made into long coils, the post office made arrangements to supply them in this form to users of such machines, and an announcement was made to this effect on December 23, 1908. The coils were made with the stamps end-wise or sideways, and could be procured perforated between the stamps, or imperforate.

The Government "part perforations" as the varieties are termed with the perforations between the stamps are as follows, all the stamps being of the 1908 series :—

Perforated vertically, 1c., 2c., 4c., 5c., 10c.

Perforated horizontally, 1c., 2c., 5c.



Perforated vertically.



Perforated horizontally.

The imperforate coils were used in machines which cut or tore the stamps apart in a variety of ways. Collectors in the United States have been paying considerable attention to the various unofficial perforations produced in these machines, so they are included in the check list in Chapter X.



## CHAPTER IX.

### Special Issues of 1909.

**T**HE decision of the Postmaster-General to abandon the series of varied portraits of United States celebrities in favour of an uniform effigy of Washington caused some controversy. Ad-



mirers of several of the personages whose portraits were thus discarded petitioned for their reinstatement. The strongest case was made out for the counterfeit presentment of Abraham Lincoln, as the removal of his picture from the stamps nearly coincided with the centenary of his birthday, for

which celebrations were being organised throughout the country.

Accordingly a resolution was moved and adopted in Congress on January 22, 1909 :—

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Postmaster-General is hereby authorized to design and issue a special postage stamp, of the denomination of two cents, in commemoration of the one-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.*

The stamp was issued to postmasters in time for sale to the public on the anniversary date February 12, 1909, and the official description is as follows :—

Size and shape, the same as of the regular issue of postage stamps ; colour red. The subject is a profile, within an ellipse on end, of the head of Lincoln from Saint-Gaudens' statue. A spray of laurel leaves appears on either side of the ellipse. Above the subject appear the words "U.S. Postage." Below, the ellipse is broken by a ribbon containing the dates of Lincoln's birth and of its one-hundredth anniversary (1809, Feb. 12th, 1909), with the denomination in words (Two cents) beneath.

145,850,400 of the Lincoln commemorative stamps were issued.

A portion of the issue was printed on the bluish rag paper (*ante* p. 63), 673,000 being issued to the postmaster at Washington, and further quantities (of which no record has been kept) were issued to other postmasters.

1,273,900 of these stamps were issued imperforate for use in automatic machines.



A single stamp was issued to celebrate the holding of the Exposition at Seattle in 1909. The stamp was announced in a Post Office circular as to be ready for issue about June 1. The official description of this issue is :—

Size,  $\frac{3}{4}$  by  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches ; shape, rectangular ; colour, red ; denomination, 2 cents. At the top and bottom are panels containing, respectively, the words "U.S. Postage" and "Two cents." In the centre the larger part of a circle rests on the

lower panel, and encloses a ribbon bearing the words "Alaska-Yukon-Pacific, 1909," and in the centre of the circle appears a portrait of William H. Seward, who, as Secretary of State, conducted the negotiations for the purchase of Alaska from Russia. The name "William H. Seward" appears under the portrait. On either side is an ellipse containing the Arabic numeral 2, with laurel branches as a background.

70,753,200 of these two cents stamps were issued, including 422,660 imperforate stamps.

By a Post Office circular of August 19, 1909, postmasters were informed of the intention of the Government to issue a special postage stamp in September of that year to commemorate the discovery of the

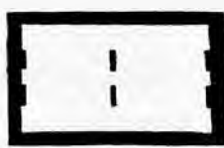
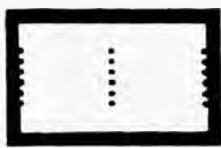
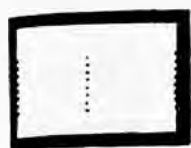


Hudson River by Henry Hudson in 1609, and of the introduction of steam navigation on its waters by Robert Fulton in 1807. The following is the official description of the stamp :—

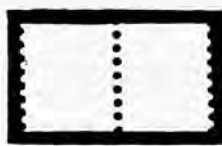
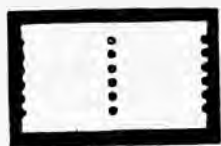
Size, about  $\frac{7}{8}$  by  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inches ; shape, rectangular ; colour, red ; denomination, 2 cents. At the top appears the inscription "Hudson-Fulton Celebration," with the years 1609, and 1909, immediately thereunder on either side. Below this inscription in a curved line are the words "U.S. Postage." At the bottom on each side is a prominent Arabic numeral "2" with the words "Two Cents" in a panel between the figures. In the centre is engraved a picture shewing the Palisades of the Hudson River in the background, with the Half Moon sailing up the river, and the Clermont steaming in the opposite direction. In the foreground is an Indian in a canoe, and in the distance, just discernible, is a canoe containing four other Indians, the canoes representing the first means of navigating the river.

The stamp was issued on September 25, and the issue is stated to have been fifty millions, of which considerable quantities were issued imperforate.

## UNOFFICIAL PERFORATIONS.



A—Schermack No. 1. B—Schermack No. 2. C—Schermack No. 3.



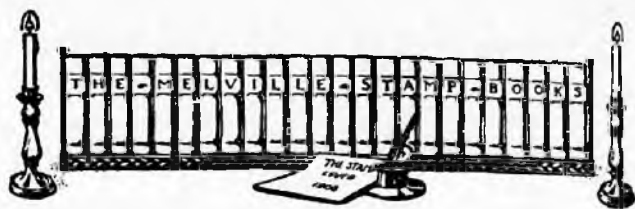
D—Mailometer No. 1. E—Mailometer No. 2.



F—U.S. Automatic Vending Co. G—Brinkerhoff No. 1. H—Brinkerhoff No. 2.

## SYNOPSIS OF STAMPS WITH UNOFFICIAL PERFORATIONS.

A—1902, 1c., 2c. B—1902, 1c., 2c. C—1902, 1c., 2c., 4c., 5c.; 1908, 1c., 2c., 3c., 4c., 5c.; 1909, 2c. (Lincoln). D—1908, 2c. E—1908, 2c. F—1902, 1c., 2c., 5c.; 1908, 1c., 2c., 3c., 4c., 5c.; 1909, 2c. (Lincoln), 2c. Alaska. G—1902, 1c., 2c. H—1902, 1c., 2c.; 1908, 1c., 2c., 3c., 4c., 5c.; 1909, 2c. (Lincoln), 2c. Alaska.



CHAPTER X.  
Check List.

1894.—

**P**RINTED by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing,  
Washington. Triangles in upper corners. No  
watermark. Perforated 12.

- 1 cent ultramarine. (Franklin.)  
Shades.
- 2 cents pink. (Washington.)  
Triangle I.  
Shades.
- 2 cents carmine. (Washington.)  
Triangle I.  
Triangle II.  
Triangle III.  
Shades.  
Imperforate horizontally (triangle I.)  
Imperforate vertically (triangle III.)
- 3 cents purple. (Jackson.)  
Shades.
- 4 cents dark brown. (Lincoln.)  
Shades.
- 5 cents chocolate. (Grant.)  
Shades.  
Imperforate horizontally.
- 6 cents dark red brown. (Garfield.)  
Shades.  
Imperforate horizontally.
- 8 cents violet brown. (Sherman.)  
Shades.
- 10 cents dark green. (Webster.)  
Shades.



15 cents dark blue. (Clay.)

50 cents orange. (Jefferson.)

Shades.

Imperforate horizontally.

81 black. (Perry.)

82 sapphire blue. (Madison.)

Shades.

85 dark green. (Marshall.)

1895.—The same but watermarked U S P S. Perforated 12.

1 cent ultramarine.

Shades.

2 cents carmine.

Triangle I.

Triangle II.

Triangle III.

Shades.

Book form (issued 16-4-00).

3 cents purple.

Shades.

4 cents dark brown.

Shades.

5 cents chocolate.

Shades.

6 cents dark red brown.

Shades.

8 cents violet brown.

Shades.

Error on fiscal paper watermarked U S I R.

10 cents dark green.

Shades.

15 cents dark blue.

50 cents orange.

Shades.

81 black.

82 sapphire blue.

Shades.

85 dark green.

1898.—The same but with colours changed. Water-  
marked U S P S. Perforated 12.

1 cent dark yellow green.

Shades.

4 cents rose brown.

Shades.

5 cents dark blue.

Shades.

6 cents brownish lake.

Shades.

10 cents orange brown.

Shades.

15 cents olive green.

Shades.

1898.—Trans-Mississippi Exposition Series. Water-  
marked U S P S sideways. Perforated 12.

1 cent dark yellow green. (Marquette on the  
Mississippi.)

2 cents copper red. (Farming in the West.)

4 cents orange. (Indian hunting buffalo.)

5 cents dark blue. (Fremont on Rocky Moun-  
tains.)

8 cents violet brown. (Troops guarding train.)  
Imperforate horizontally.

10 cents gray violet. (Hardships of emigration.)

50 cents sage green. (Western mining pro-  
spector.)

\$1 black. (Western cattle in storm.)

\$2 orange brown. (Mississippi river bridge.)

1901.—Pan-American Exposition Series. Watermarked U S P S. Perforated 12.

1 cent green and black. (Fast Lake Navigation.)  
Inverted frame.

2 cents carmine and black. (Fast Express.)  
Inverted frame.

4 cents chocolate and black. (Automobile.)  
Inverted frame.

[This variety of the 4c. is from a specimen sheet, and was never issued for use. See p. 40.]

5 cents ultramarine and black. (Bridge at Niagara Falls.)

8 cents lilac and black. (Canal Locks at Sault Sainte Marie.)

10 cents yellow-brown and black. (Fast Ocean Navigation.)

1902-3. "Series 1902." Watermarked U S P S. Perforated 12.

[NOTE.—The letters following the description "Unofficial Perforations" refer to the key to these varieties on page 69.]

1 cent green. (Franklin.)  
Shades.

Imperforate.

Book form (1-3-07).

Unofficial perforations, a, b, c, g, h.

2 cents carmine. (Washington.)  
Shades.

Book form (11-2-03).

2 cents carmine. (Second design, shield-shaped background.)  
Shades.

Imperforate.

Imperforate horizontally.

Book form (18-11-03).

Unofficial perforations, a, b, c, f, g, h.

3 cents purple. (Jackson.)  
Shades.

4 cents dark orange brown. (Grant.)

Shades.

Imperforate.

Unofficial perforation, c.

5 cents blue. (Lincoln.)

Shades.

Imperforate.

Unofficial perforations, c, f.

6 cents brown lake. (Garfield.)

Shades.

8 cents violet black. (Martha Washington.)

Shades.

10 cents orange brown. (Webster.)

Shades.

13 cents dark violet brown. (Harrison.)

Shades.

15 cents olive green. (Clay.)

50 cents orange. (Jefferson.)

\$1 black. (Farragut.)

Shades.

\$2 sapphire blue. (Madison.)

\$5 dark green. (Marshall.)

1904.—Louisiana Purchase Series. Watermarked  
U S P S. Perforated 12.

1 cent green. (Livingston.)

2 cents carmine. (Jefferson.)

Imperforate horizontally.

3 cents purple. (Monroe.)

5 cents dark blue. (McKinley.)

10 cents brown. (Map of United States.)

1907.—Jamestown Exposition. Inscribed "COM-  
MEMORATIVE SERIES 1907." Watermarked U S P S.  
Perforated 12.

1 cent green. (Captain John Smith.)

2 cents carmine. (Founding of Jamestown.)

5 cents blue. (Princess Pocahontas.)

1908-1910.—Uniform Portrait series. Portrait of Washington on all values except 1 cent. Watermarked U S P S. Perforated 12.

1 cent green (Franklin).

On bluish rag paper.  
Imperforate.  
Part perforate vertically.  
Part perforate horizontally.  
Book form (issued 3-12-08).  
Unofficial perforations c, f, h.

2 cents carmine (Washington).

Shades.  
On bluish rag paper.  
Imperforate.  
Part perforate vertically.  
Part perforate horizontally.  
Book form (issued 16-11-08).  
Unofficial perforations c, d, e, f, h.

3 cents purple.

On bluish rag paper.  
Imperforate.  
Unofficial perforations c, f, h.

4 cents brown.

On bluish rag paper.  
Imperforate.  
Part perforate vertically.  
Unofficial perforations c, f, h.

5 cents blue.

On bluish rag paper.  
Imperforate.  
Part perforate vertically.  
Part perforate horizontally.  
Unofficial perforations f, h.

6 cents orange.

On bluish rag paper.

8 cents olive green.

On bluish rag paper.

8 cents ——— (Not yet issued. \*)

10 cents yellow.

On bluish rag paper.

Part perforate vertically.

10 cents brown on yellow paper. (Not yet issued. \*)

12 cents ——— (Not yet issued. \*)

13 cents sea green.

On bluish rag paper.

15 cents light blue.

On bluish rag paper.

15 cents ——— (Not yet issued. \*)

50 cents lavender.

1 dollar purple black.

1909. — Commemorative Stamps. Watermarked  
U S P S. Perforated 12.

*Lincoln Memorial Stamp.*

2 cents carmine. (Lincoln.)

On bluish rag paper.

Imperforate.

Unofficial perforations c, f, h.

*Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition Stamp.*

2 cents carmine. (Seward.)

Imperforate.

Unofficial perforations f, h.

*Hudson-Fulton Celebration Stamp.*

2 cents carmine.

Imperforate.

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\* At the time of going to press it is announced that new issues of these denominations will be made at an early date (see page 64).



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