

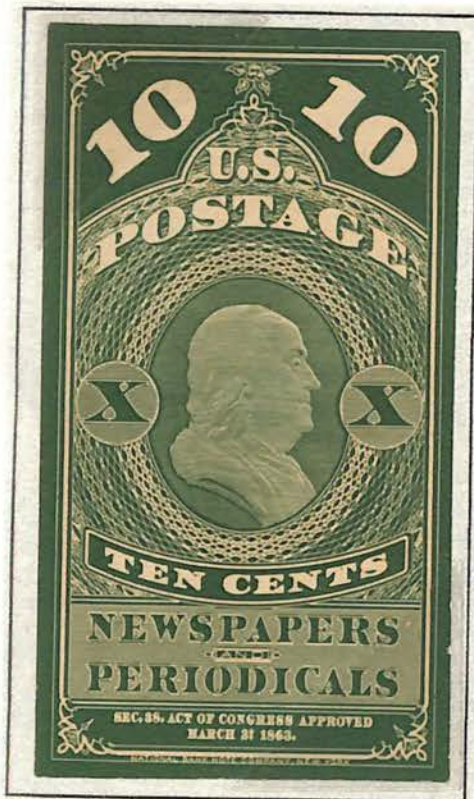
## PLATE CARD PROOFS

### NEWSPAPER & PERIODICAL ISSUE OF 1865 - 1885

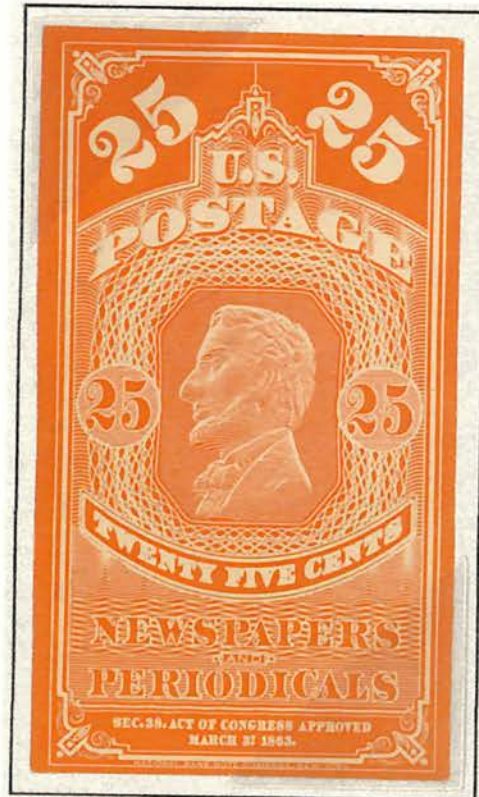
One area where the USPOD suffered losses of revenue was from the delivery of newspapers and periodicals. Then, as now, the publisher would have to deliver the newspapers or journals to the USPOD, have them sorted, then transported and finally delivered. The express companies and other private enterprises involved in the delivery of such material were far more expedient. Through Congressional action, in a bill approved on March 3, 1863, which provided specific authorization for such matters, USPOD was able to reclaim this stream of income. It wasn't until the end of the Civil War, however, before this became a general practice. On November 15, 1865, the Postmaster General announced the preparation of stamps for this purpose.

From the standpoint of the collector, this has to be the most difficult series of stamps in the card proof - and stamp - area. The colors, even on the card proofs, are very similar. In the case of the 1879 card proofs, the ink is fugitive, meaning they cannot be allowed to become wet in any way. The very close colors of the twenty-five cent stamps of the 1865 issue were a challenge, as were the lower values in black for the 1875 versus 1879, and the rose versus red versus carmine issues of 1875, 1879 and 1885 respectively.

### ISSUE OF 1865



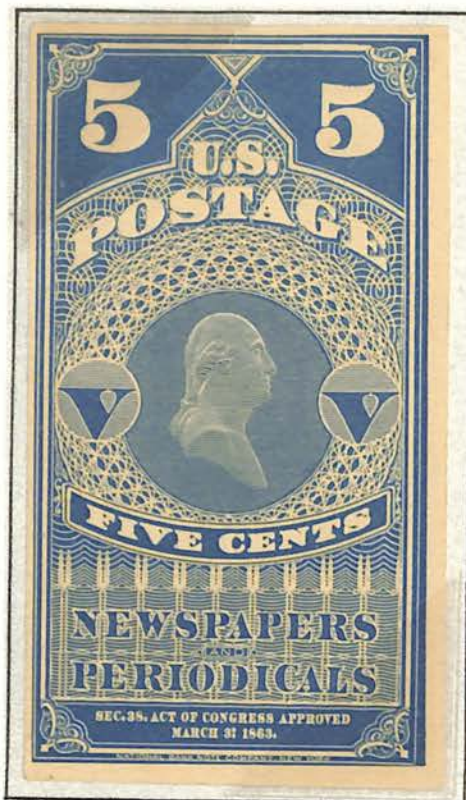
PR2P4  
(GREEN)



PR3P4  
(ORANGE RED)



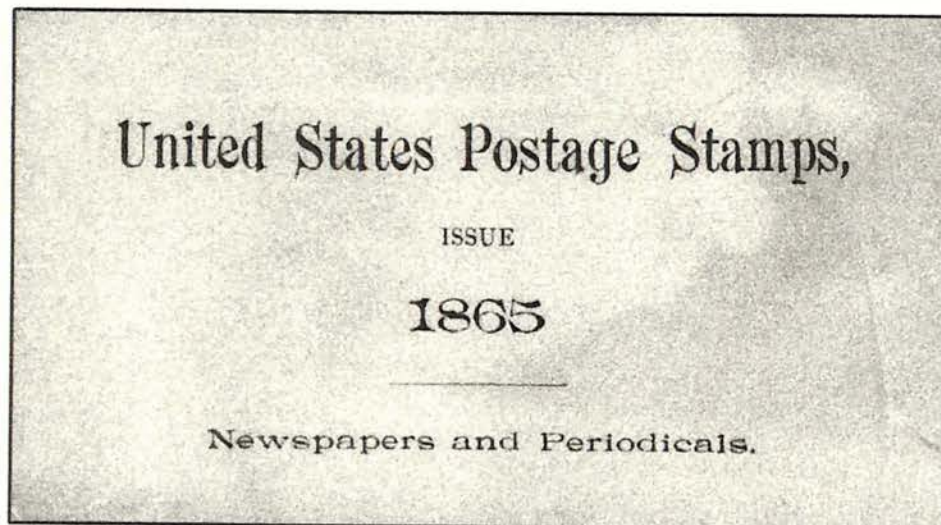
PR4P4 (BLUE)



The following information is provided for the 1865 issue series:

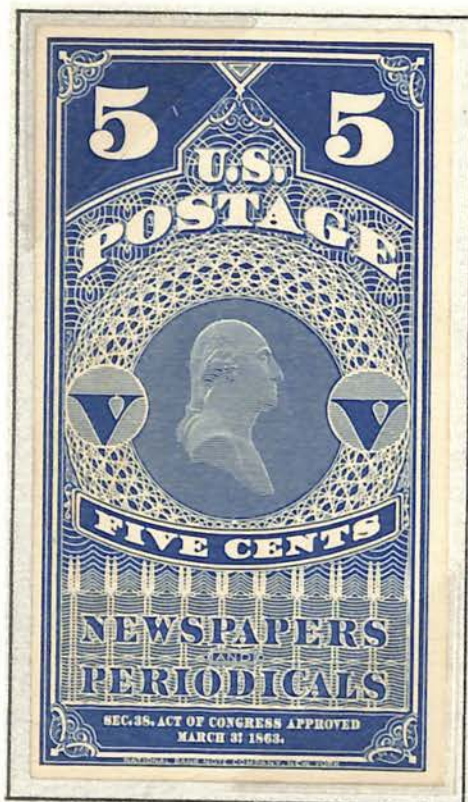
Scott Number	Denomination	Color
PR2P4	Ten cents	Green
PR3P4	Twenty-five cents	Orange Red
PR4P4	Five cents	Blue

There were no card proofs created for PR1, instead, the card proof for that denomination is PR4P4.

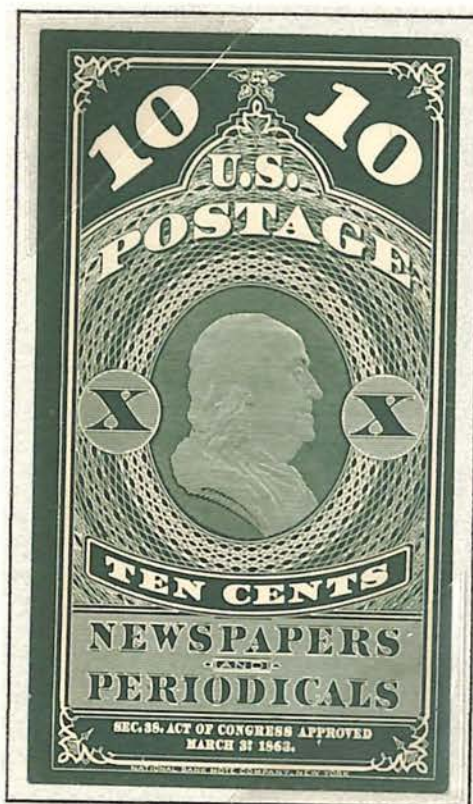


This is an original envelope which was used to package the proofs of the 1865 Newspaper and Periodical stamps. These envelopes were used to house the proofs for sale to the public. Inside would be the three proofs of this issue. These envelopes are scarce as most were discarded once the proofs were mounted in the collector's albums.

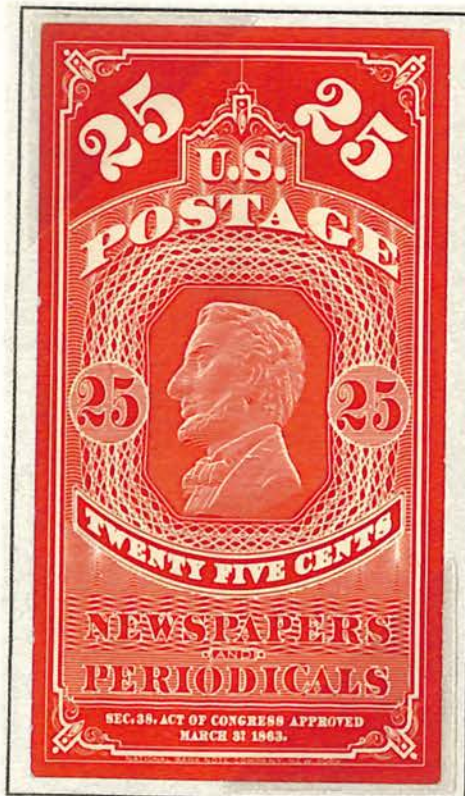
ISSUE OF 1875



PR5P4 (DARK BLUE)



PR6P4 (DEEP GREEN)



PR7P4 (DARK CARMINE RED)



ISSUE OF 1875 (PR9P4 - PR25P4)





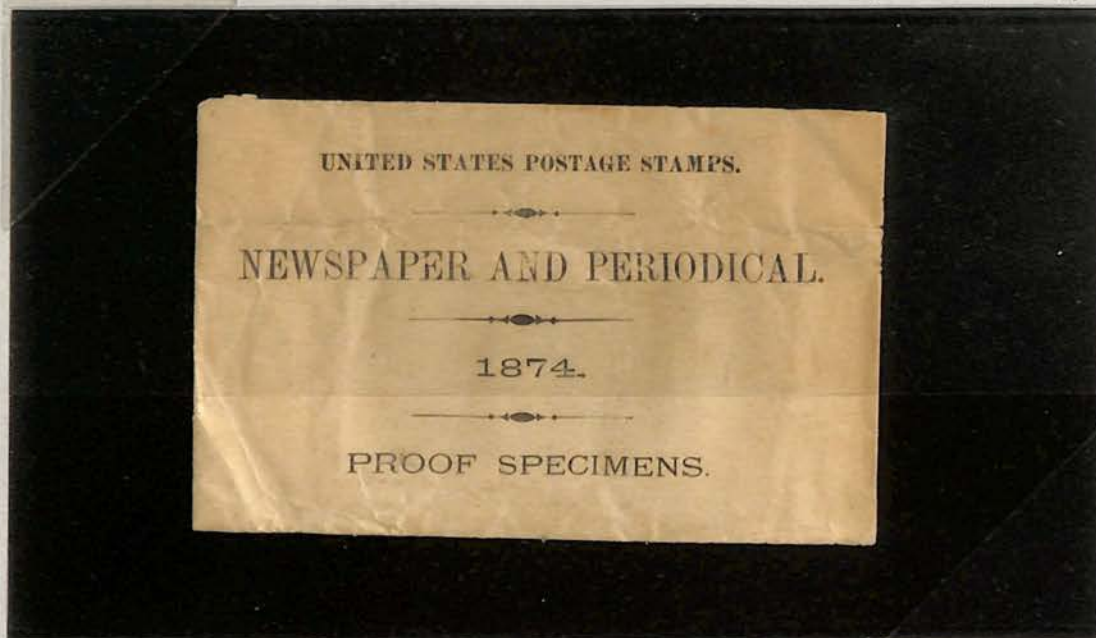
# ISSUE OF 1875 (PR26P4 - PR32P4)



The stamps were prepared by the Continental Bank Note Co., from designs selected in October, 1874. The act of Congress approved June 24, 1874, 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. The law went into effect January 1, 1875.

The rate of postage was set at 2 cents a pound upon weekly or more frequent publication and at 3 cents a pound for those issued less frequently. To meet the postage requirements, stamps in the 2-cent and 3-cent denominations were provided. This was the advent of prepayment of postage upon printed matter in this manner. The stamps were sent to postmasters on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December, 1874.

(Source: *POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE UNITED STATES*, United States Post Office Department, 1968, page 19).





ISSUE OF 1879 (PR57P4 - PR74P4)





ISSUE OF 1879 (PR75P4 - PR79P4)



Under the law of March 3, 1879, the 3 cents a pound rate was repealed, and with it the 3-cent and 9-cent stamp issues were discontinued.



A \$48.00 brown Newspaper and Periodical Falsch forgery on wove paper. Printed primarily to demonstrate an example of the company's printing capabilities. They were printed in Germany.

## ISSUE OF 1885 (PR81P4 – PR89P4)

1885

The final series of the card proofs are the issues of 1885. For the first time in the card proofs, a one cent is added to the line-up. The other issues are the same designs and denominations as previously used, once again in a slightly different color.

The following information is provided for this series:

Scott Number	Denomination	Color
PR81P4	One cent	Black
PR82P4	Twelve cents	Carminc
PR83P4	Twenty-four cents	Carminc
PR84P4	Thirty-six cents	Carminc
PR85P4	Forty-eight cents	Carminc
PR86P4	Sixty cents	Carminc
PR87P4	Seventy-two cents	Carminc
PR88P4	Eighty-four cents	Carminc
PR89P4	Ninety-six cents	Carminc





ISSUE OF 1885 (PR82 - PR89P4)

