

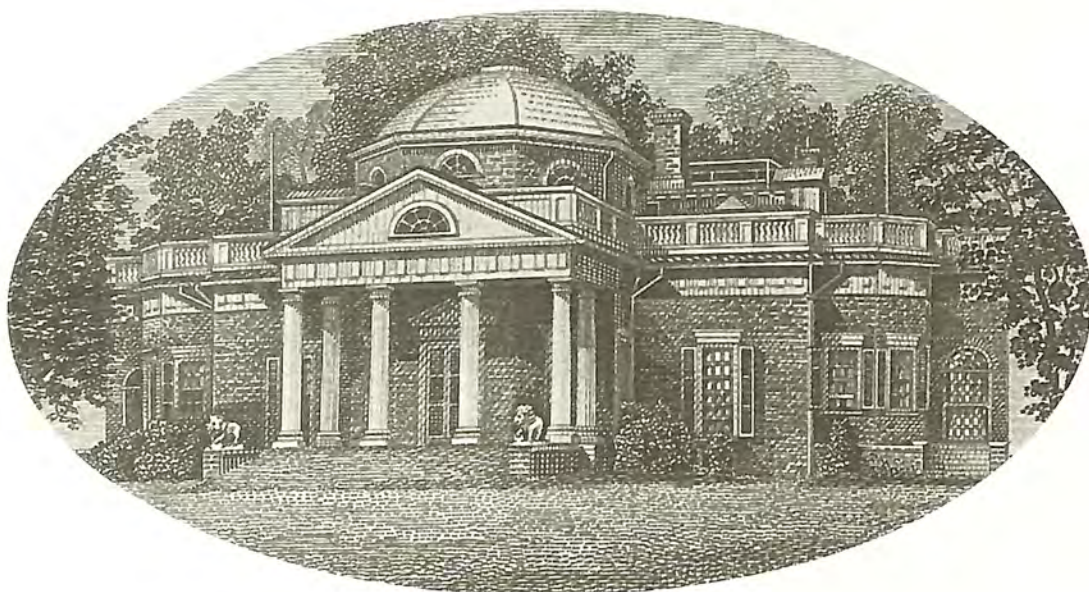
American Heirloom Collection of United States Stamps

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Mystic **Z** 
America's Leading Stamp Dealer *America's Rarest Stamp*



THOMAS JEFFERSON



MONTICELLO

1847 Imperforate Stamps



Benjamin Franklin

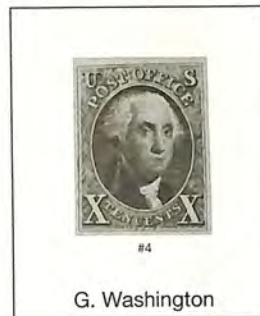


George Washington

Reproductions of 1847 Issue



B. Franklin



G. Washington



"Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of."

Benj. Franklin



"Liberty, when it begins to take root, is a plant of rapid growth."

G. Washington

1851-57 Imperforate Stamps



#5

Franklin (I)



#5A

Franklin (Ib)



#6

Franklin (Ia)



#7

Franklin (II)



Franklin (III)



#8A

Franklin (IIIa)



#9

Franklin (IV)

1851-57 Imperforate Stamps



Washington
(orange brown)



Washington
(dull red)

11A



Jefferson (I)



Washington (I)



Washington (II)



Washington (III)



#16

Washington (IV)



#17

Washington

Series of 1857-61

Perforated 15 1/2



Franklin (I)



#19

Franklin (Ia)



Franklin (II)



#21

Franklin (III)



#22

Franklin (IIIa)



#23

Franklin (IV)



Franklin (V)

Series of 1857-61

Perforated 15 1/2



Washington (I)



Washington (II)



Washington (IIa)



BRICK RED

Jefferson (I)



#28
RED BROWN

Jefferson (I)



#28A
INDIAN RED

Jefferson (I)



#29
BROWN

Jefferson (I)



#30
ORANGE BROWN

Jefferson (II)



#30A
BROWN

Jefferson (II)

Series of 1857-61

Perforated 15 1/2



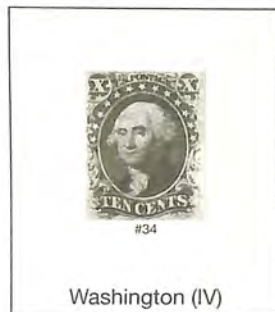
Washington (I)



Washington (II)



Washington (III)



Washington (IV)



Washington (V)



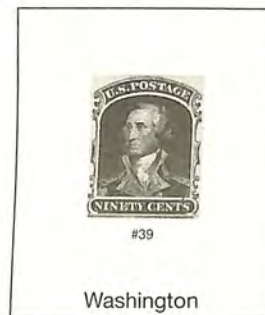
Washington



Washington



Franklin



Washington

Series of 1861-62

Second Designs



#62B
DARK GREEN

Washington



Franklin



#64
PINK

Washington



Washington



Jefferson



Washington



Washington



Franklin



Washington

Series of 1861-66



Jackson



RED BROWN

Jefferson



Jefferson



Lincoln



Washington

Series of 1867

Grills are classified by the dimensions of the grill pattern and are measured in millimeters or by counting the number of grill points. There are eleven major classifications.

"A"	Grill	Covers the entire stamp
"B"	Grill	18x15mm (22x18pts)
"C"	Grill	13x16mm (16-17x18-21pts)
"D"	Grill	12x14mm (15-17-18pts)
"Z"	Grill	11x14mm (13-14x17-18pts)
"E"	Grill	11x13mm (14x15-17pts)
"F"	Grill	9x13mm (11-12x15-17pts)
"G"	Grill	9 1/2x9mm (12x11-11 1/2 pts)
"H"	Grill	10x12mm (11-13x14-16pts)
"I"	Grill	8 1/2x10mm (10x11x10-13pts)
"J"	Grill	7x9 1/2mm (10x12pts)

The letters which classify the various grill types do not denote the size, shape, or appearance of the grills. Rather, they simply indicate the order in which they were discovered.

The exception to the rule is the "Z" grill, which was identified by William L. Stevenson. Stevenson could not decide to which family of grills this particular type belonged. Nor did he know which other families it preceded or followed and so he designated it as "Z Grill," where "Z" signifies the unknown.

Visible in general from the back of the stamp only, grills may also be felt by lightly running a fingertip over the surface. Depending on which type of roller was used, the pattern may be "points up" or a "points down." The ridges on an indented roller force the paper into the recesses, creating raised points, while a roller with raised pyramids will cause the points to be forced down into the paper, forming a series of depressions.

The United States was the first country to issue grilled stamps and was the only country to do so until the mid-1870s, when Peru also began using grills. The National Bank Note Company was responsible for producing both countries' stamps.



94



65

Series of 1867

Z Grill



Series of 1867



In the years between 1860 and 1870, the government became increasingly concerned over the real or imaginary fear that cancellation marks were being removed and the stamps were being reused. During this period, the government failed to provide many smaller Post Offices with canceling devices, so postmasters used pen and ink. With the aid of ink eradiator, these hand cancellations could easily be removed, giving the stamps an unused appearance.

Inventors of that time turned their talents to creating a device which would make the cleaning of stamps impossible. One creative Frenchman came up with a novel approach. He suggested that a small explosive charge be embedded in the stamp. When the stamp was canceled, the charge would explode, causing the stamp to be destroyed and therefore unsuitable for reuse. However, when tests were done, it was found the explosive was not as selective as hoped, and mail was damaged in the process.

Eventually, the process of using grills was adopted, and in 1867, the first grilled stamps were issued. A roller indented with small, square depressions, or a roller containing tiny, raised pyramids, was used to emboss the stamp with a grid pattern. These embossed grid patterns broke the paper fibers, allowing the cancellation ink to soak in and make removal impossible without destroying the stamp. Grilled stamps were produced until 1871, when the Postal Service discontinued their use. Breaking the paper fibers weakened the stamps and made them more fragile. They were more difficult to use and harder to preserve.



94

Series of 1867

Z Grill



#85B

Jackson



#85C

Washington



#85E

Washington

E Grill



Franklin



Jackson



Washington



Washington



Washington



Lincoln

Series of 1867

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Series of 1867

F Grill



Franklin



Jackson



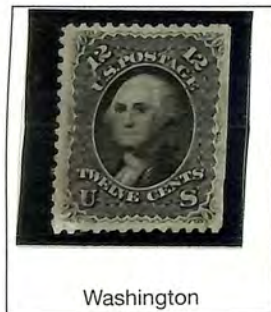
Washington



Jefferson



Washington



Washington



Lincoln



Washington



Franklin



Washington

1869 Pictorial Issues

G Grill



Benjamin Franklin



Pony Express Rider



Locomotive



George Washington



Shield and Eagle



S.S. Adriatic



Columbus Landing (I)



Columbus Landing (II)



Declaration of Independence



Shield and Eagle



Abraham Lincoln

W. R. WEISS, JR.
P.O. Box 5358
Bethlehem, PA 18015
(610) 691-6857

Opinion No. 7312315

Date 05/20/09

I have examined the enclosed United States 1¢ 1875
Unused Reissue (Sc.123)

for D. Bona

and my opinion is; _____

It is genuine, no gum, toned, short perfs at
upper left and tiny corner perf crease at LL.

A photograph is attached below.



Signed _____

W. R. Weiss, Jr.

Member:

American Philatelic Society (Life Member)
United States Stamp Society, U.S. Philatelic Classics Society
U.S. Cancellation Club, U.S. Postal Stationary Society

Established 1972

1875 Re-Issue of 1869 Pictorial Series

No Grill



#126

George Washington



#127

Shield and Eagle



#125

Locomotive



#126

George Washington



#127

Shield and Eagle



#128

S.S. Adriatic



#129

Columbus Landing



#130

Declaration of Independence



#131

Shield and Eagle



#132

Abraham Lincoln

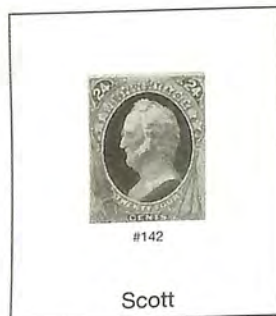
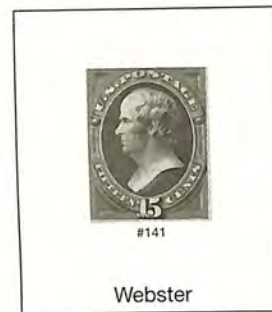
1880-81 Re-Issue



Benjamin Franklin

1870-71 National Bank Note Printing

Grilled



1870-71 National Bank Note Printing

Franklin: 1¢ Ultramarine. In 1743, Franklin organized the American Philosophical Society, which became the University of Pennsylvania in 1749. He also developed the first public library, fire company, and insurance company.

Jackson: 2¢ Red brown. As commander of the Tennessee troops, Andrew Jackson defeated the Creek Indians at Horseshoe Bend, Alabama, in 1814. He became a military hero when he won the Battle of New Orleans.

Washington: 3¢ Green. No other American has been honored more than George Washington. The Washington monument was erected in his honor in the nation's capital, which was named for him. The state of Washington is the only state named after a President.

Lincoln: 6¢ Carmine. Prior to serving in Congress and becoming President, Lincoln had a variety of jobs. He helped manage a country store, was an assistant county surveyor, and served as the postmaster of New Salem, Illinois.

Stanton: 7¢ Vermilion. Appointed as President Buchanan's attorney general, Edwin Stanton later served as Secretary of War during the Civil War.

Jefferson: 10¢ Brown. As a delegate to the Continental Congress, Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence, and was later elected our 3rd President. He died on the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

Clay: 12¢ Dull violet. Known as the "Great Compromiser," Henry Clay left his mark on history. A wise leader and statesman, his compromise of 1850 helped delay the Civil War for 11 years.

Webster: 15¢ Bright orange. A Senator for twenty years and twice Secretary of State, Daniel Webster was an eloquent spokesman for the Union in the years before the Civil War.

Scott: 24¢ Purple. A military hero, Edwin Scott served in the Army for 53 years. A stickler for discipline, his nickname was "Old Fuss and Feathers."

Hamilton: 30¢ Black. As the first Secretary of State, Alexander Hamilton developed a plan to pay the national debt, founded the Bank of the United States, and set up the U.S. Mint.

Perry: 90¢ Carmine. As commander of a fleet on Lake Erie, Oliver Hazard Perry defeated the British in the War of 1812. After a fierce battle and triumphant victory, he proclaimed, "We have met the enemy, and they are ours."



1870-71 National Bank Note Printing

Without Grill



Franklin



Jackson



Washington



Lincoln



Stanton



Jefferson



Clay



Webster



Scott



Hamilton



Perry



1873 Continental Bank Note Printing

In 1873, National's four-year contract expired and a new contract was awarded to the Continental Bank Note Company, who acquired National's old dies and plates.

Since Continental would be using the same designs as their predecessors, they wanted to insure that they didn't get blamed for National's poor work. With the exception of the 30¢ and 90¢ plates, secret marks were added to the plates. This allowed the stamps to be distinguished from one another.

The Continental stamps were produced without grills. Breaking the fibers of the paper weakened the stamps, making them more difficult to use.

Franklin: 1¢ Ultramarine. A small crescent is in the ball to the left of the numeral "1".

Jackson: 2¢ Brown. The "true" secret mark can seldom be seen and color is generally the identifying factor. The National is a red brown, while this stamp is a dark brown.

Washington: 3¢ Green. The underside of the tail of the ribbon to the left of the numeral "3" has been heavily shaded.

Lincoln: 6¢ Dull pink. The first four vertical lines in the lower part of the left ribbon have been darkened.

Stanton: 7¢ Orange vermilion. Two small semi-circles are cut above the indentations of the ball in the

lower-right corner.

Jefferson: 10¢ Brown. There is a small crescent in the scroll at the right end of the frame around "U.S. Postage."

Clay: 12¢ Black violet. The ball in the numeral "2" is crescent shaped.

Webster: 15¢ Orange yellow. The upper-left triangle has a "V" of color in the lower-right corner.

Hamilton: 30¢ Gray black. This stamp is distinguished by a difference in color. The National is a deep black, while this stamp is a gray black.

Perry: 90¢ Rose carmine. This is the most difficult issue to distinguish. The National is a dark scarlet carmine, while this stamp is a lighter rose carmine.

Series of 1875

Jackson: 2¢ Vermilion. This stamp was issued with a change in color, which eliminated much confusion due to the similarity in color between the 1873 version of this stamp and the 10¢ Jefferson.

Taylor: 5¢ Blue. Zachary Taylor, our 12th President, who was nicknamed "Old Rough and Ready" during his distinguished military career.

1873 Continental Bank Note Printing

Secret Marks



Franklin



Jackson



Washington



Lincoln



Stanton



Jefferson



Clay



Webster



Hamilton



Perry

1875



Jackson



Taylor

1879 American Bank Note Printing

Soft Porous Yellowish White Paper



Franklin



Jackson



Washington



Taylor



Lincoln



Jefferson



Jefferson



Webster



Hamilton



Perry

1882



Garfield

1881-82 American Bank Note Printing

In 1881, the American Bank Note Company decided some of the plates they were using had become too worn, and did not show enough clarity and detail. Plates for the 1¢, 3¢, 6¢, and 10¢ were re-engraved; various lines were deepened and certain features were sharpened.

Franklin: 1¢ Gray blue. The lines outside the medallion were strengthened, causing the background of the stamp to appear almost solid. In addition, the ornaments in the upper corners were shaded.

Washington: 3¢ Blue green. The shading of the line surrounding the oval is much narrower, while the vertical lines inside the medallion were deepened, creating a solid background of color. Also, a straight dash appears under the tail of the lower-right ribbon.

Lincoln: 6¢ Rose. Only three vertical lines can be counted from the edge of the frame to the outside edge of the stamp; previously there were four.

Jefferson: 10¢ Brown. Originally, there were five vertical lines between the left edge of the portrait oval and the edge of the shield, now there are only four. There are only four horizontal lines above the top of the shield, and the frame around "U.S. Postage" now touches the edge of the frame.

1883

Washington: 2¢ Red brown. In March 1883, Congress passed an act which lowered the First Class mail rate from 3¢ per half ounce to 2¢ per half ounce, thus creating the need for this stamp. The new lower rate dramatically increased the volume of mail.

Jackson: 4¢ Blue green. This stamp was also issued when the lower postage rate went into effect, and was used to pay postage on double-weight letters (letters weighing one ounce). Both stamps were widely used and fairly common today.



1881-82 American Bank Note Printing



1883



Series of 1887



Franklin



Washington



Washington

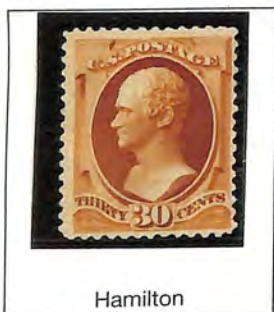
Series of 1888



Jackson



Garfield



Hamilton



Perry



1890-93 Regular Issues

Although similar in design to the previous issues, this series of stamps was smaller in size and featured new colors.

Franklin: 1¢ Dull blue. An interesting printing variety, termed the "candle flame" variety, exists in this stamp. In this variety, the right ornamental ball at the base of the numeral "1" extends upward, leaving a white streak which looks like a flame. This streak can be found on either the right or left numeral "1" or both. Since it varies from stamp to stamp, it is identified as a printing variety and does not merit its own type or Scott number.

Washington: 2¢ Lake. Originally printed in reddish purple, the color of this stamp generated numerous complaints. In addition to being unattractive, the ink would run when soaked in water.

Washington: 2¢ Carmine. Due to complaints about the previous color, the decision was made to re-issue the stamp in carmine.

Washington: 2¢ Carmine. Cap on left. Two varieties exist of the 2¢ carmine, known as the "cap" varieties. The area above the numeral "2" has no color, leaving a white spot, which looks almost like a cap. This variety only has the cap on the left "2".

Washington: 2¢ Carmine. Cap on both. The cap on this variety is found on both the left and the right "2". No variety exists in which the cap appears only on the right.

Jackson: 3¢ Purple. A native of South Carolina, Andrew Jackson was the first U.S. President not born of the Virginia or Massachusetts aristocracy.

Lincoln: 4¢ Dark brown. During Lincoln's Presidency, many new developments came about; the first transcontinental telegraph line, paper money, and

free mail delivery.

Grant: 5¢ Chocolate. Ulysses S. Grant's brilliant military strategy led to several important victories for the Union Army during the Civil War, and resulted in Lee's surrender. After the war, he became a popular hero and was elected President twice.

Garfield: 6¢ Brown red. As a member of the House of Representatives, James Garfield supported black suffrage, congressional reconstruction, and the impeachment of President Andrew Johnson.

Sherman: 8¢ Lilac. A military commander in the Union Army, William T. Sherman is most remembered for his devastating 32-day march through Georgia. Beginning with the burning of Atlanta, he bombed and burned his way to the border, where the South finally fell.

Webster: 10¢ Green. Daniel Webster was the most highly paid attorney of his day. His eloquent speeches influenced judges, juries, and members of Congress.

Clay: 15¢ Indigo. An active politician, Henry Clay served in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives from 1806 to 1824. He sought the Presidency in 1824, 1831, 1844, and 1848, but each time he was defeated. In 1849, he returned to the Senate.

Jefferson: 30¢ Black. In addition to being a superb diplomat and a brilliant political thinker, Thomas Jefferson was the foremost American architect of his time. He designed the Virginia Capitol, the University of Virginia, and his home, Monticello.

Perry: 90¢ Orange. Commodore Perry's victory over the British in the War of 1812 gave America control of Lake Erie. Following his naval triumph, Oliver Perry was promoted to captain, given a gold medal, and awarded \$12,500 in prize money and bonuses.

1890-93 Regular Issues



Franklin



Washington



Washington



Cap on left 2



Cap on both "2's"



Jackson



Lincoln



Grant



Garfield



Sherman



Webster



Clay



Jefferson



Perry

1893 Columbians



Columbus in Sight of Land



Landing of Columbus



Landing of Columbus ("Broken Hat")



Flagship of Columbus



Fleet of Columbus



Columbus Soliciting Aid from Isabella



Columbus Welcomed at Barcelona



Columbus Restored to Favor

1893 Columbians



Columbus Presenting Natives



Columbus Announcing His Discovery



Columbus at La Rabida



Recall of Columbus



Isabella Pledging Jewels



Columbus in Chains

(4) regum

(4)



Columbus Describing Third Voyage

(4) Rhms



Isabella and Columbus

OG



Columbus

OG, Rhms

1894 Bureau Issues

With the issue of the 1894 series, the United States Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) began printing postage stamps for the first time. Until this date, contracts had been awarded to private companies for the production of stamps.

The BEP was established in 1862, following the outbreak of the Civil War. When the firing on Fort Sumter began, the nation was already on the verge of bankruptcy and was in no position to finance a war. This matter, along with other war issues, prompted President Lincoln to call a special session of Congress. During this session, Secretary of the Treasury Salmon P. Chase suggested issuing non-interest bearing notes that would circulate as money and a system of domestic taxation.

Congress adopted the Chase plan, and as a result the first government-issued paper money came into existence. The notes were printed by the New York Bank Note companies and were then signed by the Treasurer of the United States and the Registrar of the Treasury. This procedure was soon found to be impractical. The designated officers had no time to do much else than sign their names on the notes! Therefore, it was decided that the notes should be imprinted with copies of the required officers' signatures, as well as the Treasury seal. In addition, it was decided that this printing would be done in the Treasury building. The necessary machines for imprinting were obtained, and on August 29, 1862, the Bureau began its work, which would later lead to the printing of postage stamps.

That same year, the President appointed a commissioner of internal revenue, who was given the authority to assess, levy, and collect taxes. Items such as medicine, perfume, cosmetics, alcohol, and tobacco were taxed, and stamps were provided as proof of collection of the tax. The BEP began by printing only the beer and cigar stamps, but by 1878, nearly all revenue stamps were produced by them.

In 1894, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, the Bureau submitted a bid for the contract to print the new stamps. Their bid was almost \$7,000 less than the lowest bid submitted by the three private companies also competing for the contract. Despite loud protests that the Bureau was not capable of producing the stamps, they were awarded the contract.

Since then, with some exceptions, they have printed most of the U.S. postage stamps. Today, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing is the world's largest securities manufacturing firm. Remaining in Washington, D.C., it moved from the attic of the Treasury building and is now located in two specially-built buildings with a total floor space of almost 24 acres. The BEP has over 3,300 employees and is in operation 24 hours a day.



1894 Bureau Issues

Unwatermarked



Franklin



Franklin



Washington (I)



Washington (I)



Washington (I)



Washington (II)



Washington (III)



Jackson



Lincoln



Grant

1894 Bureau Issues

Unwatermarked



Garfield



Sherman



Webster



Clay



Jefferson



Perry (I)



Perry (II)



#262

Madison



#263

Marshall



1895 Bureau Issues

The "Chicago Counterfeits," as the scandal came to be known, was one of the few counterfeits in the history of U.S. postage stamps. The Post Office Department was made aware of the matter when Edward Lowry contacted Postal Inspector James Stuart. Lowry wanted to know if the Postal Department had any objection to his purchasing the 2¢ current issue at less than face value, as advertised in the *Chicago Tribune*. The ad read, "We have \$115 U.S. two cent stamps which we cannot use here, will send them by express C.O.D. privilege of examination for \$100. Canadian Novelty Supply Agency, Hamilton, Ontario, Can." In essence, they were offering 5,750 stamps worth \$115 for \$100. The deal sounded suspicious to Inspector Stuart, and in cooperation with Lowry, had him send a request for the stamps.

At about the same time, Nathan Herman called the ad to the attention of U.S. Secret Service agent, Captain Thomas Porter, who joined forces with Inspector Stuart. The agents also had Herman write for a package of stamps. On April 8, 1895, the stamps, which Lowry and Herman had ordered, arrived at the Chicago office of the Wells Fargo Express Company. In addition, five other similar packages arrived, ordered by other people who had seen the ad. Interestingly enough, each of them had received the proper number of stamps. Over 40,000 stamps were confiscated that day!

Meanwhile, on April 6th, Captain Porter was notified that a Mrs. Lacy and her daughter, Tinsa McMillan, had some sort of printing operation set up in a back room of their apartment. When Porter, along with several agents and police officers, searched the apartment later that same evening, they found a copying camera, a perforating machine, copper printing plates, gummed paper, and other paraphernalia for producing stamps. Suspecting they were on the right track, he and Inspector Stuart traveled to Hamilton, Ontario, where they arrested Tinsa McMillan at the office of the Canadian Novelty Supply Company. As head of the organization, she had organized and directed the entire affair, and was sentenced to a year and a half in a reformatory.

A Mr. George Morrison was also arrested over a week later at his downtown Chicago office. A printing press was found there, but no other supplies. Apparently, the stamps were printed at his office and then shipped to Canada.

Seven months later, a Mr. Warren Thompson was arrested. The owner and editor of a magazine called *Heart and Hand*, he had assisted in making the stamps and was using them as postage on his periodical as a test to determine if the stamps would be discovered when passing through the mail. Thirty thousand more counterfeit stamps were confiscated, bringing the total up to over 70,000 confiscated stamps!



1895 Bureau Issues

Double Line Watermark



Franklin



Washington (I)



Washington (II)



Washington (III)



Jackson



Lincoln



Grant



Garfield

1895 Bureau Issues

Double Line Watermark



Sherman



Webster



Clay



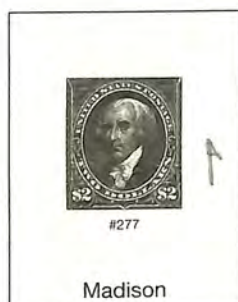
Jefferson



Perry (I)



Perry (II)



Madison



Marshall

Series of 1898-99

In 1863, Lincoln's Postmaster General Montgomery Blair suggested an international conference be held to discuss common postal problems. A conference was held in Paris, and fifteen nations attempted to establish guidelines for an international postal service. Until this time, mail had been regulated by a number of different agreements which were binding only to signing members.

Although Blair did not intend to create a permanent organization, another conference was held 11 years later in Bern, Switzerland. Twenty-two nations, comprising the International Postal congress, drafted and signed the Bern Treaty, which established the General Postal Union. Under this treaty, member nations, including Europe, Britain, and the United States, standardized postal rates and units of weight. They also set forth procedures for transporting ordinary mail. Ordinary mail included letters, postcards, and small packages. Separate rules govern the transportation of items, such as parcel post, newspapers, magazines, and money orders.

Under this agreement, known as the International Postal Convention, a simpler accounting system was devised as well. Previously, countries could vary the international rate. Any mail traveling across a country's border was charged this rate. In addition, many countries charged a 1¢ surtax for mail being transported by sea for more than 300 miles. Using the basic idea that every letter generates a reply, the Convention allowed each country to keep the postage it collected on international mail. However, that country would then reimburse other members for transporting mail across their borders. The benefits to member nations included lower postal rates, better service, and a more efficient accounting system.

In 1878, at the second conference, the name was changed to the Universal Postal Union (UPU). It wasn't until the 1880s that the organization became truly universal. By the 1890s, nearly every nation had become a member. In 1947, the UPU became a specialized agency of the United Nations. Today, it continues to organize and improve postal service throughout the world. It's the oldest international organization existing and claims to be the only one that really works.

In 1898, the Universal Postal Union standardized the colors of certain stamps in order to make international mailing easier and more efficient. They proposed that member nations use the same colors for stamps of the same value. In order to conform to the UPU's regulations, the 1¢, 2¢, and 5¢ stamps underwent color changes. Later that same year, the 4¢, 6¢, 10¢, and 15¢ stamps were changed to avoid confusion with current issues printed in similar colors.



Series of 1898-99

Universal Postal Union Colors



Franklin



Washington (IV)



Lincoln



Grant



Garfield



Webster (I)



Webster (II)



Clay

1898 Trans-Mississippi



Marquette on the Mississippi



Farming in the West



Indian Hunting Buffalo



Frémont on the Rocky Mountains



Troops Guarding Train



Hardships of Emigration



Western Mining Prospector



Western Cattle in Storm



Mississippi River Bridge

1901 Pan-American Issue



Fast Lake Navigation: 1¢ Green and black. This is the first in a series of six stamps commemorating the Pan-American Exposition held at Buffalo, New York. They were the first bi-colored commemoratives issued by the Bureau of Printing and Engraving. The stamps salute the marvel of the mechanical age. This issue, in particular, emphasizes speed of travel with the design of a lake steamer.

Fast Express Train: 2¢ Carmine and black. In recognition of the tie that truly united East and West, this issue illustrates the Empire State Express. In 1901, this four-car locomotive was a truly modern machine and could easily travel over 100 miles per hour.

Automobile: 4¢ Red brown and black. This issue recalls one of the first electrical automobiles. It was a closed-coach type and was used in Washington by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad for passenger service.

Bridge at Niagara Falls: 5¢ Ultramarine and black. At the time this photograph was taken, this was the largest single-span bridge in the entire world. Niagara Falls is shown in the background, and the Canadian and American shores appear on either side.

Canal Locks at Sault Ste. Marie: 8¢ Brown violet and black. The canal locks at Sault Ste. Marie opened the inland water route between Lake Superior and Lake Huron. Raw iron could then be transported to steel mills around the Great Lakes, thus making possible much of middle America's industrial growth.

Fast Ocean Navigation: 10¢ Yellow brown and black. This issue illustrates the coming of fast ocean travel with the design of an American Line steamship. This was another of America's ways to expand her share of trade upon the high seas. And in 1901, it was the early ships like this one that foretold of the "shrinking" world to come.



1901 Pan-American Issue



Fast Lake Navigation



Fast Express



Automobile



Bridge at Niagara Falls



Canal at Sault Ste. Marie



Fast Ocean Navigation

Series of 1902-03

In 1902, the Postmaster General commissioned an entirely new series of general issues. Until this time, the current regular issues had been in use since 1890 with relatively few changes.

The ornate new designs, however, were not the only addition to the 1902 series. The 13-cent denomination was added, and two new faces were introduced – Benjamin Harrison and Admiral David Farragut. For the first time in postal history, an American woman was honored.

A slight change was also made in the format. Each stamp in this series bears the inscription, "Series 1902." This caused some concern abroad, as many European philatelists wondered whether the U.S. was planning on issuing new stamps each year. Many of the stamps, however, did not even reach post offices until 1903, and the next general issues were not produced until 1908.

Franklin: 1¢ Blue green. Criticized by art critics as well as stamp experts, the 1¢ stamp received numerous unfavorable comments. Many felt the portrait looked like a caricature, while the overall design was unbecoming.

Washington: 2¢ Carmine. When stamp experts saw the beautiful proofs of this stamp in black they agreed this was the finest stamp produced. Unfortunately, when the actual stamp was printed in red, the result was considered disappointing.

Jackson: 3¢ Bright violet. As with the other stamps in the 1902 series, Jackson's name, along with the dates of his birth and death, appear beneath his portrait. These features were entirely new.

Grant: 4¢ Brown. On older issues, General Grant was pictured on the five-cent stamp while President Lincoln was on the four-cent. However, in the new issues this was reversed, so that Lincoln would be on the more widely circulated stamp.

Lincoln: 5¢ Blue. Designed with the idea of conveying a message of patriotism, Lincoln's careworn and despondent portrait was modeled after a wartime photograph. A united country is represented by the two figures – the Confederate and Union armies – clasping an olive branch of peace.

Garfield: 6¢ Claret. A great deal of confusion followed the issue of this stamp. Originally printed in red brown, the stamp was too similar to the ten-cent issue, and the color was changed to the more distinctive claret.

Martha Washington: 8¢ Violet black. When the Post Office Department announced its decision to feature an American woman on a stamp, letters poured in with suggestions as to whom the lucky lady should be. The Department chose America's First Lady. This stamp is considered to be the most beautiful of the set.

Webster: 10¢ Pale red brown. A fitting tribute to one of America's most prominent lawyers, orators, and statesmen, the central portrait is flanked by lateral fasces (bundles of rods containing an axe which were carried before Roman judges to signify their authority).

Harrison: 13¢ Purple black. This was the first stamp of the series to go on sale. Used on international mail, it prepaid the rate for a 1/2 ounce letter to any country in the Postal Union, 10¢ for registered fee and 3¢ for postage.

Clay: 15¢ Olive green. To encourage prosperity and unite the different sections of our nation, Clay proposed "the American System." This program of national planning included a protective tariff, a national bank, and government support of improvements for better transportation.



Series of 1902-03

Perforated 12



Franklin



Washington



Jackson



Grant



Lincoln



Garfield



M. Washington



Webster



Harrison



Clay