

Notes Upon  
United States  
and  
Confederate States  
Stamps  
and their Varieties.



BY GEO. L. TOPPAN.



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# Notes Upon United States and Confederate States Stamps and their Varieties.

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In this series of articles it is our intention to explain, in as concise and lucid a style as possible, the many varieties of design which, while listed (usually in small type) in the catalogues, are generally more or less obscure to all but the specialist or advanced collector.

## United States.

POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONALS,

*New York, 1845.*



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2

5c. Double line at bottom.—This variety (Fig. 2), which is said to occur three times on the sheet, consists merely of an extra frame line at the bottom of the stamp, thus producing a double, instead of a single, lined frame on that portion of the stamp.

5c. Double transfer.—This variety is due to a misplaced transfer and shows the outlines of the words "FIVE CENTS" repeated across the face of the original inscription.

GOVERNMENT ISSUES.

1847.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

1cc. Double transfer.—This may be readily recognized by the appearance of the letters forming the inscriptions: (Fig. 4) "POST OFFICE" and "TEN CENTS", which, owing to the misplaced transfer, look as though they had been intentionally shaded.

1851-56.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.



Fig. 7.

1c. Type I.—This is the original and perfect form of the stamp (Fig. 5). There is a curved line outside of, and parallel to, the labels inscribed "U. S. POSTAGE" and "ONE CENT". The ornaments below the lower label are turned under and form small, but perfect, scrolls.

All reprints are of this type.

1c. Type II.—Very similar to type I excepting that a portion of the ends of the scrolls has been cut away. (Fig. 6).

1c. Type III.—This type, commonly known as the "broken circle" (Fig. 7), differs from the last inasmuch as the curved lines outside the labels are broken in the centre. This may occur either in the top or bottom line or both.

1c. Type IV.—This is type III with the broken lines recut. It is easily distinguishable from type II as the curved lines outside the labels are deeper and harder than the other lines. The recutting often begins and ends abruptly, not joining smoothly with the original line.

This is the most common variety of the imperforate stamps.

1c. Double transfer.—Several double transfers are known; the most notable shows the outlines of "ONE CENT" repeated across the face of the letters.

3c. Double transfer.—Several varieties exist; the most notable shows a horizontal line through the words "THREE CENTS".

10c.—There is a line of color above and following the outline of the label inscribed "U. S. POSTAGE" and similar line below the label with the words "TEN CENTS".

10c. Type I.—Both lines are complete.

Type II.—One or both of the lines are broken in the center.

Type III.—One or both of the lines have been recut.

Type IV.—The outer lines are as in type I, but the arabesque ornaments at the sides have been slightly cut away.

Type V.—The same as type II, with the side ornaments cut away.

Type VI.—The same as type III, with the side ornaments cut away.

1857-60.

1c.—The three types are found here as in the imperforate series. The same is true of the double transfers.

3c. Type I.—This variety, commonly known as the "outer line", shows a thin, straight line of color at the top and bottom of the stamp. All imperforate stamps are of this type.

3c. Type II.—The thin line of color at the top and bottom of the stamp has been removed to allow for the perforations.

The double transfers are found here as in the imperforate stamp; all are type I.



Fig. 8.



Fig. 9.



Fig. 10.

5c. Type I.—In this type the projections on all four sides of the stamp are equally prominent and distinct. (Fig. 8). All the imperforate stamps are of this type.

5c. Type II.—In this, commonly known as the "ornaments partly removed", (Fig. 9), a portion of the projections at top and bottom have been cut away.

5c. Type III.—In this variety, known as "ornaments entirely removed," the cutting process has been carried still further and the entire projections at top and bottom have been removed, (Fig. 10).

10c.—Types as in the imperforate issue excepting that type VI is not known perforated.

1861.

The stamps issued in August of this year, commonly known as the *Premières gravures*, differ from the ordinary, or September, types as follows :



Fig. 11.



Fig. 12.

1c —The extreme tip of the upper, left hand ornament is directly above the "P" of "POSTAGE". In the first type (Fig. 11) this tip rests upon the curved line *but does not extend below it* while, in the second type, (Fig. 12), there is a strong dash under the tip and below the line.



Fig. 13.



Fig. 14.

3c.—The August type (Fig. 13), shows but slight ornamentation at the corners, giving a rather unfinished appearance to the stamp. The second type (Fig. 14), has considerable more ornamental work on the corners, each of which is finished off with a small ball, giving the stamp a more finished and rectangular outline.



Fig. 15.



Fig. 16.

5c.—In the August type (Fig. 15), the foliated ornamentation at the corners presents a rather flattened aspect giving to the corners a rounded appearance.

In the September type (Fig. 16), the corner ornaments have been somewhat enlarged, noticeably by the addition of a small leaf-like projection which springs outward from about the centre of the original ornamentation.



Fig. 17.



Fig. 18.

10c.—In the August type (Fig. 17), the upper portion of the background, containing the five stars, is separated from the label directly below it by a colorless line only.

In the September type (Fig. 18), this colorless line is re-enforced by an heavy line of color which has been cut along the lower ends of the lines of the background above. An outer line has, also, been added to all the ornaments above the stars.



Fig. 19.



Fig. 20.

12c.—The August type (Fig. 19), of this value presents the most unfinished appearance of any of the series. There is no ornamentation whatever, other than a thin line of color, outside the lathe-work mat.

In the September type (Fig. 20), ornaments have been added at all four corners, squaring the design so to speak, as well as at the sides.

24c and 30c.—There are no variations in the designs for these two values. The colors of the first printing differ most decidedly from those of the ordinary stamps and they may easily be recognized by anyone at all familiar with them. It would, however, be impossible to describe the colors so as to enable one not familiar with them to differentiate between the two series.



Fig. 21.



Fig. 22.

30c.—In the August type (Fig. 21), of this value the white space between the outer frame lines and above the label inscribed "U. S. POSTAGE" is perfectly blank and the inner frame line makes a smooth joint at its apex.

In the September type (Fig. 22), this white space contains a series of small dashes, making a broken line of color, and a decided point of color has been added to the frame line at its apex.

Occasionally this broken line is too faint to be easily discerned, but the point of color is usually distinct.



Fig. 23.

1869.

15c. Type I. (Fig. 23).—Here the central picture is enclosed by a frame consisting of three parallel lines which, at the middle of the top, form a diamond-shaped ornament. It is commonly called "picture framed" or "with diamond."



Fig. 24.

15c. Type II. (Fig. 24).—In this type the frame lines and the diamond are omitted.

Another variety may be found as follows:—In type I there is, also within the space for the picture, a band, about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mm. wide, formed of short, diagonal lines, which extends across the bottom and both ends of the tablet. In type II these lines are horizontal and the band measures one mm. wide.



Fig. 25.

It extends all around the tablet. In type III (Fig. 25) there is but one of these lines, which extends across the top of the tablet where it curves up to a point under the "T" of "POSTAGE." This last variety is only known to exist in the re-issue of 1875.

1870-73.



Fig. 26.



Fig. 27.

1870. 1c.—In the National Bank Note Co.'s series the small pearl immediately to the left of the numeral of value is perfectly colorless. (Fig. 26).

1873. 1c.—In Continental Bank Note Co's series a small, curved dash will be found in this pearl. (Fig. 27.)



Fig. 28.



Fig. 29.

1870. 2c.—The background of the shield below the colorless ball at the left of the "s" of "U S." is composed of vertical lines. (Fig. 29)

1873. 2c.—The background below the ball is crossed by a short, diagonal line (Fig. 29)

In the greater number of cases this line is very indistinct and hard to find but if, at this point, the space between the ornamental outline of the panel inscribed "U S. POSTAGE" and the first vertical line of the background (counting toward the left) is blurred or partly filled with color, it may be accepted as an indication of the presence of the line. On all the stamps printed by the National Bank Note Co. this space is quite clear and white.



Fig. 30.



Fig. 31.

1870. 3c.—The shading below the forks of the ribbon inscribed "THREE" is very light. (Fig. 30).

1873. 3c.—A heavy shading has been added below the upper fork of the ribbon bearing the word "THREE". (Fig. 31)



Fig. 32.



Fig. 33.

1870. 6c.—The shading in the curve of the ribbon bearing the word "SIX" is very uniform. (Fig. 32)

1873. 6c.—The first four lines (counting from the left) of the shading in the curve of the ribbon bearing the word "SIX" have been recut and deepened. (Fig. 33).



Fig. 34.



Fig. 35.

1871. 7c.—The ball in the lower, right corner is outlined by a colorless line only. (Fig. 34)

1873. 7c.—Two small semi circles have been drawn around the ends of the lines which outline the ball in the lower right corner (Fig. 35.)



Fig. 36.



Fig. 37.



1870. 10c.—The small ball which terminates the right end of the panel inscribed "U. S. POSTAGE" is colorless. (Fig. 36).

1873. 10c.—A small, colored semi-circle has been placed within the ball which terminates the right end of the panel inscribed "U. S. P. STAGE". (Fig. 37).



Fig. 38.



Fig. 39.

1870. 12c.—The two white balls of the figure "2" are full and complete. (Fig. 38).

1873. 12c.—The two white balls of the figure "2" have been cut away until they are nearly crescent shaped. (Fig. 39).



Fig. 40.



Fig. 41.

1870. 15c.—The lines of the triangle in the upper left corner are very uniform. (Fig. 40).

1873. 15c.—In the triangle in the upper left corner two lines, at the lower angle have been recut and deepened, forming a sort of V. (Fig. 41).

There are no varieties of the three higher values of the 1870-75 set as, though the marks were added to the dies, no new plates were afterwards made for any of these values.

1877.

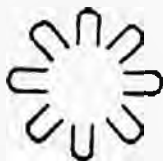


Fig. 42.

1c and 3c, with Fletcher, or cog wheel, punch.—This was produced by eight punches, shaped like the letter "u". (Fig. 42), placed in a circle with the openings inward. The expectation was that, the stamp having been once attached to an envelope, it would be impossible to remove it without destroying it. The punches merely cut through the paper but removed nothing.

1882.—RE-ENGRAVED.

1c.—The vertical lines of the background have been much deepened in the upper part of the stamp, so that, in many impressions, the background appears to be solid. Lines of shading have been added inside the arabesques in the upper corners.

3c.—The vertical lines of the shield have been deepened, making the

shadows of the medallion appear, by contrast, only about one half as wide as before.

At the bottom the horizontal lines of the background have been deepened, thus obliterating the fine, vertical shadings below the ends of the ribbon bearing the value. A short, horizontal dash has been cut about a millimetre below the "TS" of "CENTS".

6c.—The horizontal lines of the panel have been re-engraved, obscuring the shadings of the edges and of the oval and giving it an uniformly solid appearance.

10c.—The lines of the medallion, the shield and the background have all been re-engraved. In the medallion the diagonal hatching lines have disappeared. At the left side, where there were formerly five vertical lines between the medallion and the edge of the shield, there are now but four. The fine vertical shading below the ribbon bearing the value is nearly obliterated by the deepened, horizontal lines of the background. The re-engraved die was made from a transfer of the old National die and so has not the secret mark.



Fig. 43.

1c and 3c "Douglas Patent" stamps.—These stamps were printed on double paper, a very thin surface paper, backed by a thicker and harder quality. The surface paper was punctured by many small holes, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in diameter. These holes were arranged in circles—eight holes to a circle—and the circles were placed at such intervals that one would fall upon each stamp. (Fig. 43.) The printed stamps did not differ in appearance from the ordinary varieties, but, of course the ink had passed through the holes and portions of the design were printed upon the backing paper. Any attempt to erase a cancellation would be almost certain to tear the thin surface paper, while the application of any liquids would cause the stamp to separate into two parts, one showing a circle of small holes and the other a white surface with a circle of colored dots.

1890.



Fig. 44.

2c. Capped numerals.—These varieties, of which there are three, one showing the cap, (Fig. 44), which is a colorless mark, above the right hand numeral of value, the second showing it above the left hand numeral and the third showing it above both numerals, are caused by damaged transfer

rolls. By some means, probably over-hardening, a bit of the roll was chipped off and the "caps" were the result.

1894.



Fig. 45.



Fig. 46.



Fig. 47.

2c. Type I.—The horizontal lines of the background are of equal thickness within and without the triangle. (Fig. 45).

2c. Type II.—The lines are thinner within the triangle than without. (Fig. 46).

2c. Type III.—The space between the double lines of the triangle is blank and the lines in the inner triangle are thin. (Fig. 47)

An interesting combination may be found in Plate 170; in the upper left quarter the first three vertical rows at the left side are of type II, while the balance of the plate is of type III.

#### CARRIERS' STAMPS.

##### SEMI OFFICIAL ISSUES.

##### *Baltimore, Md.*

1851.



Fig. 48.



Fig. 49.

1c. Short Rays.—In the normal stamp (Fig. 48), there is a series of rays extending diagonally downward from the lower line of the ribbon bearing "GOVERNMENT". The lower end of these rays, at the left, impinge upon the head of the horseman and upon the upper frame of the streamer inscribed "ONE CENT".

In the variety the three rays below the letters "VER" of "GOVERNMENT" are only about half the usual length. (Fig. 49).

1c. One Sent — In this variety the inscription on the streamer reads "ONE SENT".

The above varieties are found in both the red and black impressions.

*Charleston, S. C.*

1849.



Fig. 50.

2c. *Yellow*.—A variety of this stamp (Fig. 50) exists in which the word "CENTS" is spelled "CCNTS".

1852.



Fig. 51.

2c. *Gray blue*.—A variety of this stamp (Fig. 51) exists in which the word "CENTS" is spelled "CENT".

## REPRINTS.

## 1847 SERIES.

When it was desired to reprint these stamps in 1875, it was found that, owing to the original dies and plates having been the property of the contractors, Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, of New York, who had destroyed them after the termination of their contract, it would be necessary to have new dies and plates prepared. This was done, so that, strictly speaking, these stamps are not reprints, but official counterfeits. They differ from the originals in many points, the following being the most notable. They are slightly shorter and wider than the originals. The initials "R. W. H. & E." at the bottom of each stamp are quite indistinct and it is usually difficult to tell what some of the letters are intended to be. They may be further distinguished by the following points:

5c.—In the originals the background of the medallion is formed of vertical and horizontal lines; In the reprints the vertical lines are either very indistinct or entirely wanting. In the originals the left side of the white shirt frill touches the frame of the oval on a level with the top of the "F" of "FIVE", while, in the reprints, it touches the oval opposite the top of the figure "5".

10c.—In the reprints the line of the mouth is too straight and there is a sleepy look about the eyes. The white collar is so heavily shaded as to be barely distinguishable from the collar of the coat. In the hair, near the left cheek, there is a lock which appears like a very small, white circle with a black dot in the center; this is not found in the originals. On the originals there are four horizontal lines between the "CE" of "CENTS" and the lower line of the central oval. On the reprints there are five lines in the same space, the upper line touching the oval and the lower one the top of the letters "CE".

## ENVELOPE STAMPS.

1853-55.



Fig. 52.



Fig. 53.



Fig. 54.



Fig. 55.



Fig. 56.

3c. Die 1.—This die has short labels with curved ends which come close to the inscriptions. There are ten loops in the ornamentation on the left side and nine on the right. (Fig. 52.)

3c. Die 2.—Short labels with straight ends. Eight and one-half loops on the left side and nine on the right. (Fig. 53)

This die, with the inscription suitably altered, was also used for the six cent value and one of the ten cent values.

3c. Die 3.—Short labels with straight ends having a diagonal line at each corner. Eight and one half loops on the left side and nine on the right. (Fig. 54).

3c. Die 4.—The upper label is very long with straight ends. There are seven loops on each side. (Fig. 55).

This die was, also, used for the second die of the ten cent value, the proper alteration, of course, being made in the inscriptions.

3c. Die 5.—The labels are as in die 1 but longer. There are nine loops on the left side and eight and one half on the right. (Fig. 56).

1857-60.

1c.—There are two distinct varieties of this stamp. One has a period after the word "POSTAGE" while the other lacks it. There are, also, several minor variations, both of this and the three cent value, which are solely dependent upon the relative position of the bust in the central oval to the inscriptions. These, however, are not sufficiently prominent, or of enough interest, to warrant a detailed description in this connection.

1863.



Fig. 57.



Fig. 58.

2c. Die 1.—This variety, generally catalogued as "Large figure 2", has decidedly large and heavy numerals of value. The flag of the numeral joins the down stroke of the stem about one mm above its lower end. (Fig. 57).

2c. Die 2.—This, commonly known as the "Small figure 2", is easily distinguished from die 1 by the numeral of value. It is thinner and the flag starts abruptly from the lower end of the down stroke of the stem, leaving an appreciable space between the strokes. (Fig. 58)

1870.



Fig. 59.



Fig. 60.

1c. Die 1.—This is the common die. The old fashioned choker which

encircles Franklin's neck is decidedly notched where it meets the slope of the chin and, also, to a less degree, where it meets the bust. Thus showing a decided projection between the chin and the bust. (Fig. 59)

1c. Die 2.—The projection between the chin and the bust is lacking, the choker forming a perfectly straight line between the two points. (Fig. 60)

1874.



Fig. 61.



Fig. 62.

1c. Die A.—The bust is rather large and the front is twice as far from the frame as is the back which nearly touches the frame-line. The top of the head is much further from the frame-line than either point of the bust. The engine-turned work is very irregular; generally showing sharp outer ends to the loops and many of the dots missing.

The "o" of "POSTAGE" has a large center, either plain or containing a small oval or dot. The "o" of "ONE" has a large center, with dot, scratch, small oval, or plain. The period after "u" is sometimes round, sometimes blurred. That after "s" is a triangle or blurred. There is much space above the numerals; the dots on the bottom bars are small and very near the border, but far from the stem. (Fig. 6.)

1875.

1c. Die B.—The workmanship is much superior to that of die A. The bust, also, is smaller and inclines forward much more. The spaces between the front, back, and top of the bust and the frame-line are wide and nearly equal; the "o" of "POSTAGE" has an oval center which is crossed by two, intersecting lines. The left side of the "o" of "ONE" is too thick and its center is oval. The engine turning is more regular and the ends of the loops are more pointed than in die A. There is considerable space over the numerals and the dots on the lower bars are distant from the stem. The periods are both round. (Fig. 62).

1874.



Fig. 63.

2c. Die A.—The workmanship is very poor. The numerals, which are in circles, are very thin and badly shaped. They begin with a very small dot at the top and end with a line at the foot of the down stroke. The "o" of "POSTAGE" has a large round center which is crossed by two intersecting lines. The base of the bust has four square corners and the periods are nearly round. (Fig. 63).



Fig. 64.

2c. Die B.—The workmanship is much superior to that of Die A. The numerals are in ovals instead of in circles and the "o" of "two" has a plain center. (Fig. 64).



Fig. 65.

2c. Die B<sup>2</sup>.—This differs from die B only in that the tail of the left hand numeral of value touches the frame line of the oval. (Fig. 65)



Fig. 66.

1874.

1874. 2c. Die B<sup>3</sup>.—Another variety of die B, and differing from it only in that the center of the "o" of "two" contains two crossed lines. (Fig. 66).

1875.



Fig. 67.

2c. Die C.—This is a copy of die B but differs from it as follows: The inscription is heavier, and the central oval of the "o" of both "POSTAGE" and "two" is small and narrower. (Fig. 67).

A variety of this die exists in which the bridge of the nose is higher, making its tip nearly double the regular size. The chin, also, is larger.

2c. Die C<sup>2</sup>.—Differing from die C only in that the tail of the left numeral touches the frame-line of the oval containing it.

1881.



Fig. 68.

2c. Die D — This is a copy of die C, from which it is easily distinguished by the more youthful look of the head; the smaller ovals, and thinner numerals, through probably the most striking difference is in the lower part of the bust, which, in die C, is almost a straight line from the lower, front point until it reaches the projection at the back, where it forms almost a right angle and extends out to the lower, back corners. In this die this line forms an almost exact quarter of a circle. (Fig 68).

1874.



Fig. 69.



Fig 70.

3c. Die A — This die is easily distinguished by the large, slim numerals of value, which are contained in very large ovals, measuring  $5\frac{1}{2}$  mm. vertically by 4 mm horizontally. The lettering, also, is rather slim and poorly executed. (Fig. 69).

3c. Die B.—The ovals are smaller; the numerals are broader and more squatty and the lettering is heavier than in die A. (Fig. 70).

1881.



Fig 71.

3c. Die C.—A copy of die B. The head is more pointed and its top point is nearer the frame-line. The forehead and eyebrow are more prominent, as is also, the depression in front of the eye. The base of the bust is shorter; more rounded at the back; very square in front and further from the frame. The "o" of "POSTAGE" has a large, oval center; the numerals are poorly shaped and the knot of the queue, being more rounded, projects more. (Fig. 71).



Fig. 72.



Fig. 73.



1876.

3c.—There are two varieties of this die; the first, commonly known as the "Hartford Die", (Fig. 72), has a single line under the word "POSTAGE". The second, known as the "Philadelphia Die" (Fig. 73) has a double line under "POSTAGE".

A variety of the former has been chronicled wherein the "1" of "1776" has no serif but, as this "*variety*" is solely the result of poor printing it is hardly eligible for a place in a collection aiming to show merely die, or plate, varieties.

1875.



Fig. 74.



Fig. 75.

5c. Die A.—The numeral of value has a large dot; the back is heavy and the inside colored space is small. The top stroke is short and heavy, measuring  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm, and the lower edge of it curves off from the straight vertical stroke and round again at the end, forming a double curve. A line continued upward in the direction of the straight vertical stroke of the left numeral shows the points of five loops of the network to the left of it. Both numerals are nearly alike. (Fig. 74)

5c. Die B.—The dot of the numeral is large but the back is not so heavy; the colored space inside is larger and its curves more abrupt. The top stroke is a little longer and makes a sharp angle with the straight vertical stroke but curves around at the end. Only three points show to the left of a line drawn as before. The right hand numeral is different and apparently the vertical stroke would cross the middle of the dot if prolonged (Fig. 75)

5c. Die C.—The dot is much smaller; back like B; colored space much broader than in B; curves, however, are similar. Upper stroke still longer, measuring about 2 mm, and makes a sharp angle with the vertical stroke and is terminated by a diagonal line. The right numeral is like the left numeral of B, but the inside colored space is slightly larger and the top stroke thinner.

1874.



Fig. 76.



Fig. 77.

10c. Die A.—Dimensions 28x35 mm. The head, which is upright and very large, nearly fills the central oval. The queue ends with the lower line of the bust, the lower front point of which is very close to the frame and rounded. The numerals are long and thin and the "o" of "POSTAGE" has a large rounded, central oval. (Fig. 76).

1875.

10c. Die B.—Dimensions 27x29 mm. The head, which inclines forward, is smaller. The queue ends above the back of the bust, forming a large and square projection beyond it. The numerals are poorly formed and quite heavy, the "1" having a flat top. (Fig. 77).

1883.



Fig. 78.



Fig. 79.

4c. Die A.—The numerals of value at the sides measure about  $2\frac{3}{4}$  mm. across at their widest part. The left numeral comes to a sharp point where the cross stroke and the downward, slanting stroke meet. The points of the lower label, containing the words "FOUR CENTS", stop short at the lower line of the third loop below the oval containing the numeral of value. The points of the upper label, containing the words "U. S. POSTAGE", cut completely through the fourth loop above the oval containing the numeral and are well over in the outer end of the loops. There are 87 points in the outer circle divided by the ovals so that there are 43 points above and 44 below. There are 85 points in the inner circle, divided as above, so that there are 42 above the ovals and 43 below. Some of these points, where the frame of the oval containing the numeral cuts them off, show only a portion of a loop; in some cases only a dot. All of these are included in the above count. (Fig. 78).

4c. Die B.—The numerals of value are noticeably larger, measuring about  $3\frac{1}{4}$  mm. at their widest part. The numerals are both rounded where the cross and the downward, slanting strokes meet. The left point of the lower label does not stop at the lower line of the third loop below the oval, but cuts through it and fully half way through the loop itself. The left point of the upper label cuts only about half way through the fourth loop above the oval and both points of the label are much nearer the center of the loop than in die A. There are 93 points in both the outer and inner circles, divided by the ovals so that there are 47 points above and 46 below. (Fig. 79).

1884.

June.

2c.—This, commonly known as the "Retouched Die," differs from the original, issued in November, 1883, as follows:

In the original die the lines are all clear, smooth and continuous, but so fine that there is a tendency in the ink to cover parts of the embossed work and to leave spots without color on the groundwork, particularly in the diamonds above the right hand oval. In the "retouched die" the ornamental pairs of wavy lines are no longer continuous and present a series of short arcs, not always meeting and frequently the two rows of either pair touch and run into each other. One side of the impression is generally more changed than the other.

Twenty-one varieties of this die, due either to successive retouching,

wear, or action of the ink upon the plates, have been described but, of these, only three seem to be worthy of being listed. They can easily be distinguished by the following differences:—

2c. Var. A.—Commonly known as the "Two link variety". Here there are but two links, or diamonds, between the right oval and the label below it.

2c. Var. B.—Commonly known as the "Three and a half link variety". There are three and one-half links, or diamonds, between the left oval and the label above it.

2c. Var. C.—Commonly known as the "Round O variety". In this variety the "o" in "two" is very round and the lines above the letters "wo" run together.

July.



Fig. 80.



Fig. 81.

2c. Die A.—Commonly known as the "Kellogg Die". The distinguishing feature of this die is that the lower end of the bust, below the queue, ends in a sharp point. (Fig. 80).

2c. Die B.—This also known as the "Kellogg Die", of which it is a variety, may be differentiated from die A by the extremity of the bust, which, below the queue, is quite rounded instead of pointed. (Fig. 81).

1887.

1c.—The chin is pronounced and double; below it is the Adam's apple, not very pronounced and running into the collar.

1895.

1c. Var. A.—This differs from the last as follows: Both the double chin and the Adam's apple are very pronounced, the latter being separated from the collar, which does not seem to project as far forward, by an heavy line of color. The most noticeable point, however, is a small, colorless triangle, or spur, which projects downwards from the lower part of the bust about 2 mm from its forward end, and from which it takes its name of the "spur die".

1c. Var. B.—The front of the bust is rounded, rather than square with sharp corners. This, upon the lower corner, is so apparent as to fill in the space between it and the spur of Var. A and, as the lower, back end of the bust projects slightly outwards and downwards, it leaves a depression between it and the spur; whence its name of the "scoop die".

1c. Var. C.—The Adam's apple is very indistinct but, unlike all other similar dies, there is quite a pronounced nick between the chin and the slope of the bust. In other particulars it closely resembles Var. B but, between the spur and the back of the bust, there is another excrescence, rounded this time, thus forming two depressions instead of one. The lower line of the bust is, in fact, best described as wavy and irregular. It is known as the "double scoop die".

1887.



Fig. 82.



Fig. 83.

1887. 2c. Die A.—The front of the bust points to the third tooth of the frame line. The "G" of "POSTAGE" has no cross-bar and there are 72 points in the outer frame line and 47 in the inner. (Fig. 82).

2c. Die B.—The front of the bust points to the second tooth of the frame line. The "G" of "POSTAGE" has a cross bar and there are 67 points in the outer frame-line and 47 in the inner. (Fig. 83).

There is a variety of this die in which the bust is noticeably larger.

1895.

2c. Die C.—A variety of the last from which it differs only in having a small, square and colorless cap upon the top of the numeral of value immediately under the central point of the shield. Specimens are, also, known in which this cap is a little to the right of the centre of the numeral.

2c Die D.—This differs from die B only in lacking almost the entire top frame line of the shield containing the numeral of value.

1887.



Fig. 84.



Fig. 85.

5c Die A.—There is a space between the beard and the coat collar and the latter shows a button. (Fig. 84).

1894.

5c. Die B.—This differs from the last as follows: The bust of General Grant has no neck, the lines of the chin and bust meeting at a sharp angle. The front end of the bust is, also, wider; the bottom flatter; the back more rounded and further away from the frame line; the hair is so arranged that a lock falls over the forehead; the eyebrow is less prominent and there is no button upon the coat. (Fig. 85).

1893.

The dies for this, the Columbian series may be divided into four varieties, as follows:

*Var. 1.*—Period after "CENTS". A meridian back of Columbus' head.

*Var. 2.*—Period after "CENTS". No meridian back of Columbus' head.

*Var. 3.*—No period after "CENTS". Meridian back of Columbus' head.

*Var. 4.*—No period after "CENTS". No meridian back of Columbus' head.

The one cent value is known in *Var. 1, 2 and 3.*

The two cent and the five cent values are known in all four varieties, and the ten cent value is only known as *Var. 3.*

1899



Fig. 86.



Fig. 87.

2c. Die A.—Size 25x28 mm. There are 71 teeth in the outer, serrated frame line and 39 in the inner. The "A" of "STATES" is too short; the "C" and "E" of "CENTS" are very close together and the former is small and very close to the frame line of the shield. The colorless line forming the inner frame to the inscribed band meets the diagonal lines at the upper part of the shield just above their junction with the concave side lines of the shield; this is particularly noticeable upon the right side. The upper corners of the shield, as well as its central apex, are quite pointed and the frame-lines connecting them are deeply concaved, while the shield is 6 mm. wide at the bottom. The bust of Washington is poorly executed; tips slightly forward, and shows a pronounced protuberance on the top of the head. Its forward point is rounded and almost vertical, pointing barely to the left of the shield. The lower line is almost straight, there being only the slightest suspicion of concavity. (Fig. 86).

2c. Die B.—Size 24¾x29 mm. There are 74 teeth in the outer and 41 in the inner serrated line. The "A" of "STATES" is of proper size; the "C" and "E" of "CENTS" are better spaced and the former is larger and further from the frame of the shield. The colorless inner frame line of the inscribed band intersects the diagonal lines of the shield exactly at their junction with the concave side lines; the upper corners and central apex of the shield are, comparatively, much less pointed than in die A and the frame-lines connecting them are less concaved. The shield is 5½ mm wide at the bottom. The bust is well shaped and correctly placed in the oval; there is no protuberance on the top of the head; the forward end of the bust is more pointed, not so vertical, and points at the second tooth of the inner, serrated frame, while the lower line is pronouncedly curved and concave. (Fig. 87).

2c. Die C.—This differs from the last in having no ribbon around the queue. It is very marked; the flowing lines of the hair being clear and distinct the entire length of the neck.



Fig. 88.



Fig. 89.



Fig. 90.

4c. Die A.—There are 77 teeth in the outer, serrated frame and 42 in the inner. The bust ends in front at a sharp point directly above the space between the first and second teeth of the inner, serrated line, and it is undraped. (Fig. 88).

4c. Die B.—The forelock is longer and projects farther from the forehead. The beard has an additional tuft projecting from the under part of the chin; the end of the bust in front is squared off and points at the third tooth of the inner, serrated line; it is, also, draped and the necktie projects quite prominently. (Fig. 89)

4c Die C.—The bust is slightly larger and much better drawn than in either of the preceding dies. The forelock and beard are more rounded and the whole face presents a much more natural appearance. The bust is square in front and points to the "u" of "FOUR". There are 66 points in the outer, serrated frame and the inner one has been eliminated entirely to allow for the extra space occupied by the enlarged bust. The shape of the upper portion of the shield, containing the numeral of value is slightly altered and the side ornaments have a distinct, central dot instead of being solid. (Fig. 90).

### Confederate States.

PROVISIONAL ISSUE.

*Athens, Ga.*



Fig. 262.



Fig. 263.

5c. Type I.—The word "PAID" measures  $5\frac{1}{2}$  mm. in length. There are two stars at the left of "PAID", the upper one extending above the "P" and the lower one below it. The star at the right extends above the "D" of "PAID". The figure "5" is thick and squatty; the flag is pronouncedly concaved above and the ball is large and heavy.

The letters of the upper inscription are crowded very closely together and there is no period between the "P" and the "M". Measuring along the outer edge of the oval band at the left there is a space of 7 mm. between the "T" of the upper inscription and the "A" of the lower one. (Fig. 262).

5c. Type II.—The word "PAID" measures  $6\frac{3}{4}$  mm. in length. The star at the left of "PAID" is on a level with the upper portion of the "P"; that at the right is opposite the center of the "D." The figure "5" is thin and open. The letters of the upper inscription are better spaced and there is a period between the "P" and the "M". The space at the left, between the "T" and the "A", measures but 5 mm. (Fig. 263).

*Baton Rouge, La*

Fig. 264.



Fig. 265.



Fig. 266.



Fig. 267.

Eight varieties of the 2c, 5c, and 10c values (Figs. 264, 265, 266) are known, the differences being in the spacing and arrangement of the border ornaments, etc.

Of the second type of the 5c (Fig. 267) several varieties, it is not known just how many, of a similar character to those of the first type, exist.

In all of these stamps the principal variety consists of an error in spelling: "*McCormick*" being misspelled "*McCermick*".

*Beaumont, Texas.*

Fig. 268.

10c.—(Fig. 268) —Several slight varieties, due to the setting of the ruled border, are known.

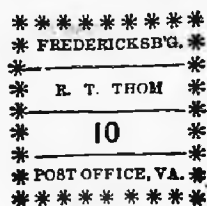
*Fredericksburg, Va.*

Fig. 269.

5c and 10c.—Ten varieties of each value are known. The differences, which are very slight, are to be found in the spacing and arrangement of the ornaments forming the border; the rules above and below the value, etc.

*Goliad, Texas.*

Fig. 270.



Fig. 271

5c and 10c. Type I.—Several varieties, due to the arrangement of the ornaments forming the border, are known (Fig. 270).

5c and 10c. Type II. (Fig. 271)—The remarks upon type I apply here equally, but one variety of each value is found in which "GOLIAD" is misspelled "GOILAD".

*Helena, Texas.*



Fig. 272.

5c. (Fig. 272).—Several varieties, differing in the arrangement of the ornamental border, are known.

*Macon, Ga.*



Fig. 273.



Fig. 274.



Fig. 275.



Fig. 276.

2c and 5c.—All of these stamps (Figs. 273, 274, 275 and 276), being type-set, slight variations exist.

*Nashville, Tenn.*

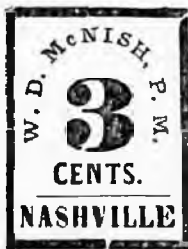


Fig. 277.



Fig. 278.

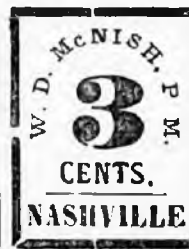


Fig. 279.



Fig. 280.



Fig. 281.

3c.—Five varieties, printed side by side, are known and can be easily recognized by the following descriptions:

Type I.—The line between "CENTS" and "NASHVILLE" commences above the right stroke of the "N" of "NASHVILLE" and ends above the right portion of the "E" of the same word. (Fig. 277)

Type II.—The upper part of the "N" of "CENTS" is broken off so that that letter is shorter than the others. (Fig. 278).

Type III.—There is no period after the "P" of "P. M.". (Fig. 279).

Type IV.—There is a break in the top of the "S" of "NASHVILLE". (Fig. 280). In types II, III and IV the line between "CENTS" and "NASHVILLE" begins above the right stroke of the "N" of "NASHVILLE" and ends above the left, upright stroke of the "E".



Type V.—The line between "CENTS" and "NASHVILLE" begins close to the frame-line at the left and ends above the upright stroke of the second "L" of "NASHVILLE". (Fig 281).

*New Orleans, La.*



Fig. 282.

5c brown.—A variety is known in which the name is omitted from the upper label.

*Petersburg, Va.*



Fig. 283.

5c.—Ten varieties, due to the settings of the ornaments, etc., are known. The principal variety, which is No. 5 on the sheet, has the ornaments above "W. E. BASS, P. M." inverted, so that the balls are turned up instead of down.

*Pleasant Shade, Va.*



Fig. 284.

5c.—Ten varieties, due to the settings of the ornaments, etc., are known.

*Rheatown, Tenn.*

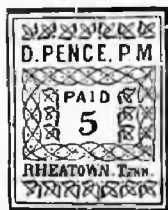


Fig. 285.

5c.—Three varieties, due to the settings of the ornaments, etc., are known.

*Tellico Plains, Tenn.*



Fig. 286.

- 5c. Type I.—There is a period after "JOHNSON". (Fig. 286).  
5c. Type II.—There is a comma after "JOHNSON"

*Uniontown, Ala.*



Fig. 287.

2c, 5c and 10c.—Several varieties, due to the settings of the ornaments etc., are known.

REGULAR ISSUES.

1861-62.



Fig. 288.

10c. Type I.—The "A" of "STATES" has no cross-bar and there is usually a break in the curved line above the "T" of the same word.

10c. Type II.—This is from the retouched stone. The break in the curved line has been repaired and an attempt has been made to supply the bar to the "A". (Fig. 288).

1863-64.



Fig. 289.



Fig. 290.

100. Type I.—The scroll ornaments at the corners are open, there being no background, or lines of shading, between their projections. There is an extra curl in the hair at the back of the neck and both the jaw and the cheek-bone are prominent. (Fig. 289).

100. Type II.—The spaces between the projections of the scroll ornaments at the corners are quite heavily shaded. The hair lacks the extra curl and therefore, does not extend quite so low down upon the neck. The jaw bone and the cheek-bone are not at all prominent. (Fig. 290).