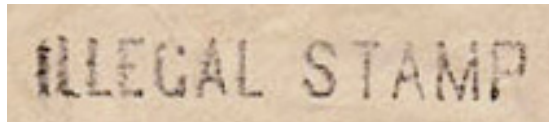


Census of “Illegal Stamp” Marking on Cover

Compiled by Francis J. Crown, Jr.

Description



**Illegal Stamp
New Orleans**

Little is known about this marking. It was introduced after the capture of New Orleans in May 1862. Most uses are not dated but it is generally thought the marking was used from its introduction until possibly 1870 or later.

This census includes only uses of the marking on covers with demonetized stamps and entires. These are stamps and postal stationery from the US issues of 1851- 1860.

NOTE: The inclusion of an item in this census is not a guarantee of authenticity.

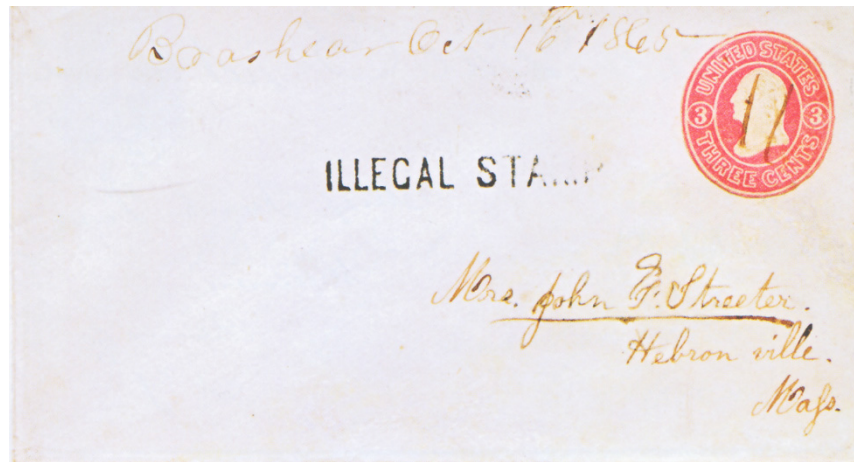
Count of Covers with the New Orleans “Illegal Mail” Marking

Type	Covers
Inbound to New Orleans	3
Outbound from New Orleans	2

Notes

What is it?

The cover below is a US 3c entire of 1861. It is not a demonetized entire. Did a mail clerk fail to recognize the envelope as valid postage? If the entire was marked as illegal how did it pass through the mail without the payment of postage. It is doubtful this is the work of a nefarious individual because the marking does not have the speculative characteristics of a fake described below.



Manuscript postmark of Brashear, [LA], dated “Oct 16 1865,” on 3c 1861 entire.

Fakes

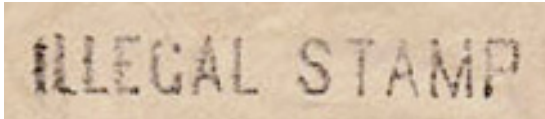
There is one cover which the Philatelic Foundation opined a fake (see below).



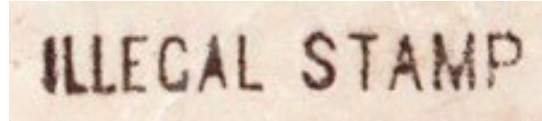
Fake marking. Philatelic Foundation certificate 226505.

The opinion reads “the stamp did not originate on this cover and the straight-line cancellation is counterfeit.”

The “Illegal Stamp” marking on the covers in the census are not clear and complete. This is particularly true of the word ‘Stamp.’ For this reason, and since the basis of the PF opinion is not known, it is only possible to **speculate** on how to identify a fake.



Genuine



Fake

Several things do stand out. The bottom arm of the “E” is slightly concave in the fake. The counter of the “A” in “ILLEGAL” is filled in the fake. This is not true of the genuine. The bowl of the “P” in the genuine appears squarish while on the fake it is rounded.

Reference

Graham, Richard B., “the New Orleans Post Office in the Civil War Period. II. Under Federal Occupation,” *The Congress Book* 46 (American Philatelic Congress: 1980), 155-158.

Mini Census of "Illegal Stamp" Marking on Cover

<u>Pmk Date</u>		<u>Address</u>	<u>CN</u>
28 Dec [186-]	New Orleans, LA	Mr. Ruston Maury / Maury Brothers / New York City	003*
12 --- [186-]	New Orleans, LA	Messrs Jos Hoy & Co / New Orleans	005*
Illegible	Canton, KY	Messrs Carroll, Hoy & Co / New Orleans / La	001*
Illegible	New Orleans, LA	Miss Eva Hennen / Care of Frank Morris / 145 Broadway, New York	004*
Unknown	New Orleans, LA	Miss Sue Lindsey / 298 Jackson St. / New Orleans	002*

* Indicates a color image.

Full Census of "Illegal Stamp" Marking on Cover

Compiled by Francis J. Crown, Jr.

28 Dec [186-]

Description: Black "NEW ORLEANS / LA" postmark UR and reverse. "ILLEGAL STAMP" marking UC-UR. US 3c 1857 tied by postmark and "ILLEGAL STAMP" marking UR.

Address: Mr. Ruston Maury / Maury Brothers / New York City

Provenance: Brandon.

Source: RAS-20Nov2014(1087)-54*; RAS-23Jun2021(1238)-399* [003]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions



12 --- [186-]

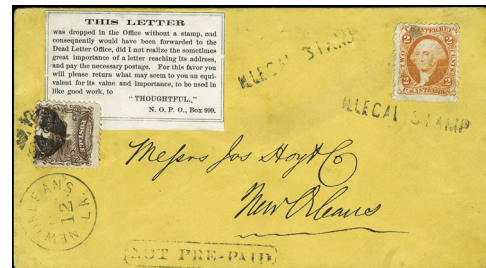
Description: Black "NEW ORLEANS / LA" postmark LL. "ILLEGAL STAMP" marking UC and CR. US 2c 1869 Internal Revenue stamp UR. US 2c 1869 stamp canceled CL. "NOT PRE-PAID" marking LC. Good Samaritan label UL.

Address: Messrs Jos Hoy & Co / New Orleans

Provenance: Rose.

Source: CSRA-CAN-PM-OS1-12*; RAS-28Sep2022(1264)-273* [005]

Image Credit: US Philatelic Classics Society/Resources/Other Archives (website)



Illegible

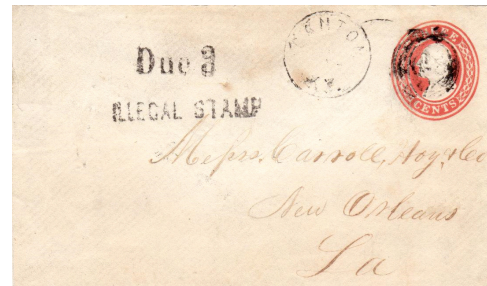
Description: Black "CANTON / KY." postmark UC. "ILLEGAL STAMP" marking CTR-UL. US 3c Nesbitt entire. "Due 3" marking UL-UC.

Address: Messrs Carroll, Hoy & Co / New Orleans / La

Provenance: None recorded.

Source: RFPM-2483*; RAS-28Oct1997(795)-92* [001]

Image Credit: Richard Frajola PhilaMercury (website)



Illegible

Description: Black "NEW ORLEANS / LA" DC YD postmark UL. "ILLEGAL STAMP" marking UC-CTR. US 3c star die entire. US 3c 1861 canceled by target cancel UL.

Address: Miss Eva Hennen / Care of Frank Morris / 145 Broadway, New York

Provenance: None recorded.

Source: Private* [004]

Image Credit: Private Collection



Unknown

Description: Light New Orleans postmark on reverse. "ILLEGAL STAMP" marking UC. Uncanceled US 1c 1857 stamp UR.

Address: Miss Sue Lindsey / 298 Jackson St. / New Orleans

Provenance: Bailar.

Source: RAS-25Jun2015(1105)-2574* [002]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions

