

U. S. Civil War Era Fiscal History Panorama

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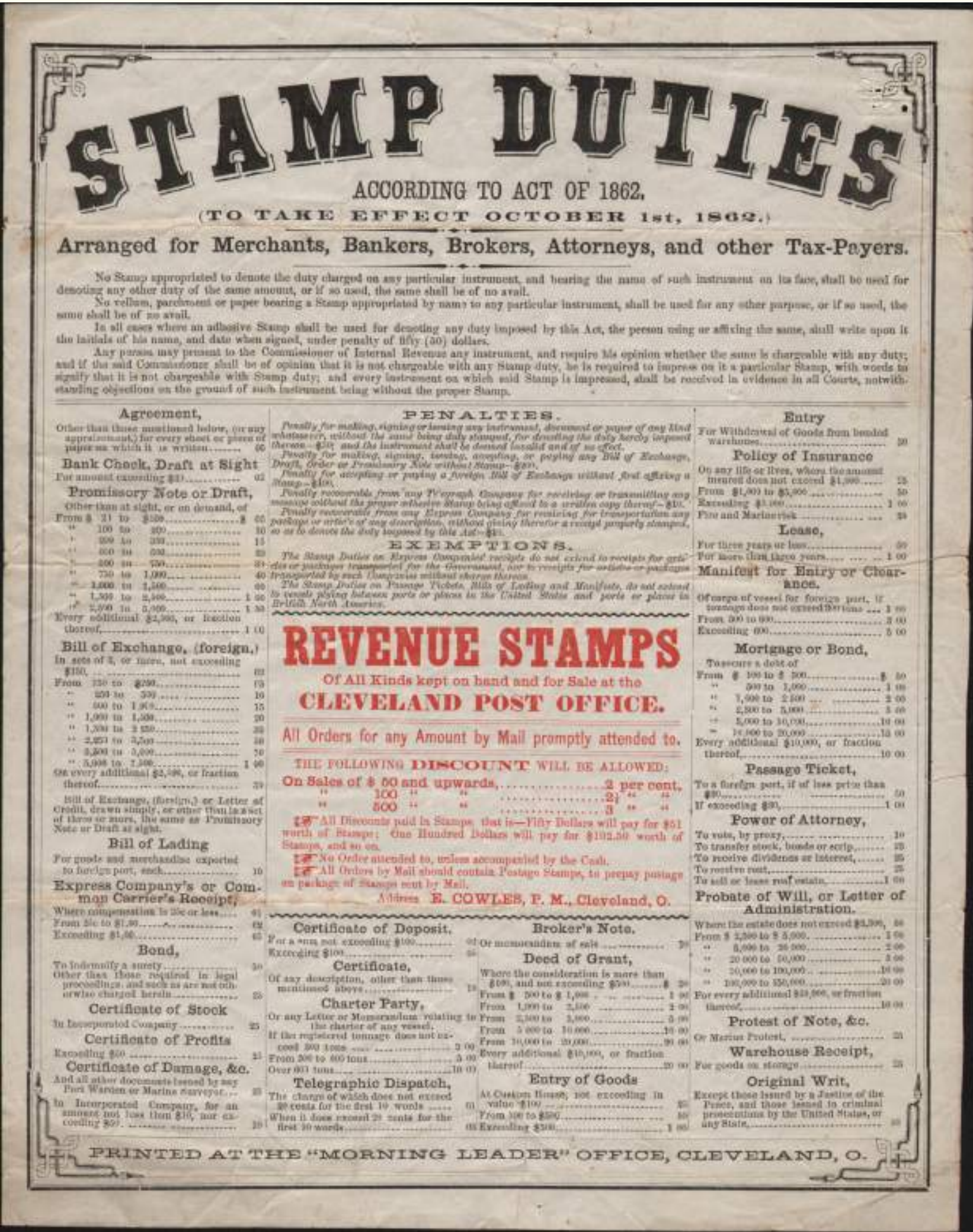
This exhibit surveys the **vast field of U.S. Civil War era documentary fiscal history**. Beginning October 1, 1862, for precisely a decade nearly every piece of paper that changed hands was subject to stamp tax, after which a 2¢ levy on bank checks was retained until 1883. The exhibit **explains and illustrates those taxes** via surviving stamped documents, transforming **mute listings of tax types and rates** into a veritable slice of life as it was.

Thirty-nine distinct types of documents were **taxed**, from the **familiar and commonplace** like checks, receipts, deeds and mortgages, to the **exotic and rare**, such as gaugers’ returns, lottery tickets, and warehouse receipts. Documents are arranged here by type.

Matching Usage: the Grand Scheme That Failed

The broadside below reproduces the **original tax schedule of 1862**, which already included **33 of the 39** document types eventually taxed, and **86 distinct rates**, several open-ended. The first sentence (“No stamp appropriated …”) proclaims in contorted legalese that taxes could be **paid only by stamps bearing the name of the document** on which they were used — i.e., **Agreement stamps on agreements**, Bank Check stamps on checks, and so on.

To the consternation of users, but the delight of latter-day collectors, **83 different stamps in 25 “titles”** were created. These corresponded to the 33 types of documents taxed, with ubertitles “Certificate” and “Power of Attorney” each used on five types.



EMU Hunting in America

Delays in stamp production made **matching usage unworkable**, and Congress **rescinded** the requirement after **less than three months**, on December 25, 1862, after which documentary stamps could be used interchangeably. However, users continued to affix matching stamps in significant quantities for some months, as stocks ordered in compliance with the original law were gradually depleted. These **early matching uses (“EMUs”)** are the **creme de la creme** of fiscal history.

EMUs are shown for all recorded document types.

Additions and Afterthoughts

To the 33 document types taxed by the original schedule, **six more were later added**: in 1863, Bill of Sale of Ship and Lottery Ticket; and in 1864, Receipt and Gauger’s, Measurer’s and Weigher’s Returns. A few subtypes were also added, and some types were eliminated altogether from the list. Within the types, **numerous rate changes** were enacted, swelling the **cumulative number** of rates from the original 86 to an eventual 146, with a concomitant **huge increase** in the **scope and complexity** of the field.

Arrangement of Types

There is no readily discernible rhyme or reason to the array of documents taxed, save that the legislators appear to have **simply taxed everything** that came to mind, remedying omissions as they became aware of them. For ease of comprehension and use, contemporary **statutes, government schedules, and privately printed broadsides** all listed the document types **alphabetically**. This exhibit follows their lead, adding numbering, as follows:

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Agreement | 11. Certificate, General | 21. Lease | 31. Power of Attorney, Stock Transfer |
| 2. Bank Check | 12. Charter Party | 22. Life Insurance | 32. Power of Attorney, Voting |
| 3. Bill of Lading | 13. Contract | 23. Lottery Ticket | 33. Power of Attorney, General |
| 4. Bill of Sale of Ship | 14. Conveyance | 24. Manifest | 34. Probate of Will |
| 5. Bond, Surety | 15. Entry of Goods | 25. Measurer’s Return | 35. Protest |
| 6. Bond, General | 16. Express | 26. Mortgage | 36. Receipt |
| 7. Certificate of Damage | 17. Foreign Exchange | 27. Original Process | 37. Telegraph |
| 8. Certificate of Deposit | 18. Gauger’s Return | 28. Passage Ticket | 38. Warehouse Receipt |
| 9. Certificate of Profits | 19. Inland Exchange | 29. Power of Attorney, Real Estate | 39. Weigher’s Return |
| 10. Certificate of Stock | 20. Insurance | 30. Power of Attorney, Rent | |

All recorded document types are shown.

Types and rate changes are set off by **headings with yellow background, outlined in black.**

Items or comments of extraordinary significance are outlined /printed in **dark red.**

Occasional general comments are normally outlined in **gray.**

1. AGREEMENT

1862. Agreement or contract, not specified elsewhere, for each sheet of paper, .05



“War Permit” EMU

September 1863, keeping **life insurance in force** while the insured served in the Union Army, provided he stayed **north of the 34th parallel!** (Just north of Atlanta. To safeguard him, not from the fighting, but from **malaria and yellow fever.**)

Fewer than twenty Agreement EMUs recorded



Steamboat Pass, Pawn Ticket

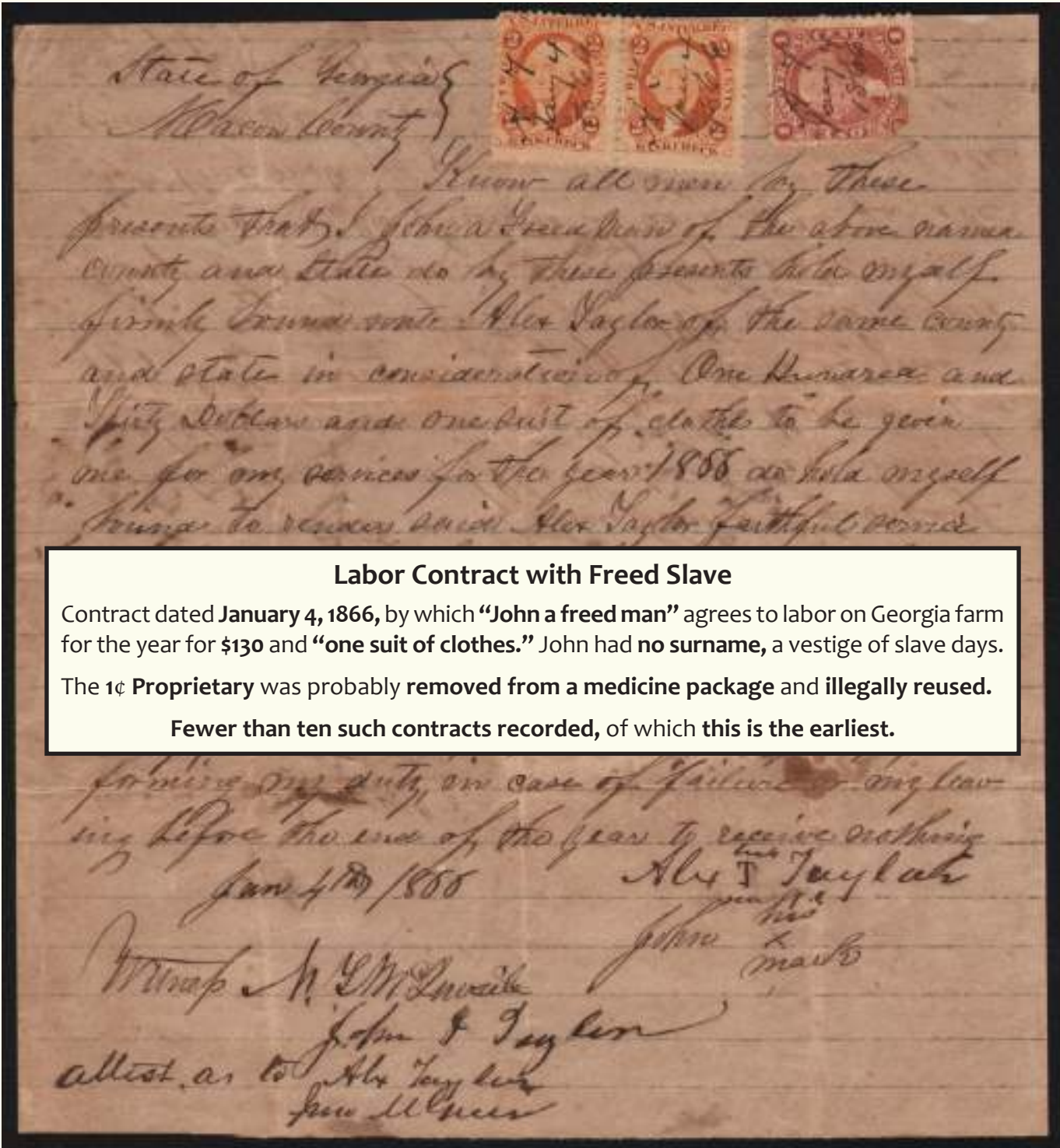
1866 season pass and 1869 pawn ticket with **handstamp cancels**: octagonal “**PEOPLE’S LINE Steamboats**” and “**… STERN PAWN BROKER. …**” Both **normally highly ephemeral**, their survival a delightful surprise. The notion that a **pawnbroker’s handstamp cancel** might exist would be well-nigh unimaginable if not for this example.

After mid-1863, documentary stamps were used interchangeably, here Agreement tax paid by 5¢ Inland Exchange.



Agreement to be Scammed!

For a \$5 investment in 1864, a Vermont woman is entitled to \$50 from an “immense” estate in England. Good luck!



Labor Contract with Freed Slave

Contract dated **January 4, 1866**, by which “**John a freed man**” agrees to labor on Georgia farm for the year for **\$130** and “**one suit of clothes.**” John had **no surname**, a vestige of slave days.

The 1¢ **Proprietary** was probably removed from a medicine package and **illegally reused.**

Fewer than ten such contracts recorded, of which **this is the earliest.**



Unique First Day Use

The celebrated “first day check,” October 1, 1862, stamped with matching 2¢ Bank Check orange. By Quincy Mining Co. President Thos. Mason for \$13,552 (about \$300,000 today), with cancel in matching hand and date. Delivery by the printers to the government agent in Philadelphia had been made on September 29. No other documentary stamp was ready by October 1, and no other first day uses have been recorded.



Major Double Transfer

Sole recorded example on document

November 1862 check (for \$37,000, equivalent to nearly \$1 million today) stamped with matching 2¢ Bank Check orange with major double transfer in bottom label. This variety is so rare it was unknown to the editors of the *Boston Revenue Book*. It occurs only on the First Printing of the 2¢ Bank Check orange, printed only in late September and early October 1862.



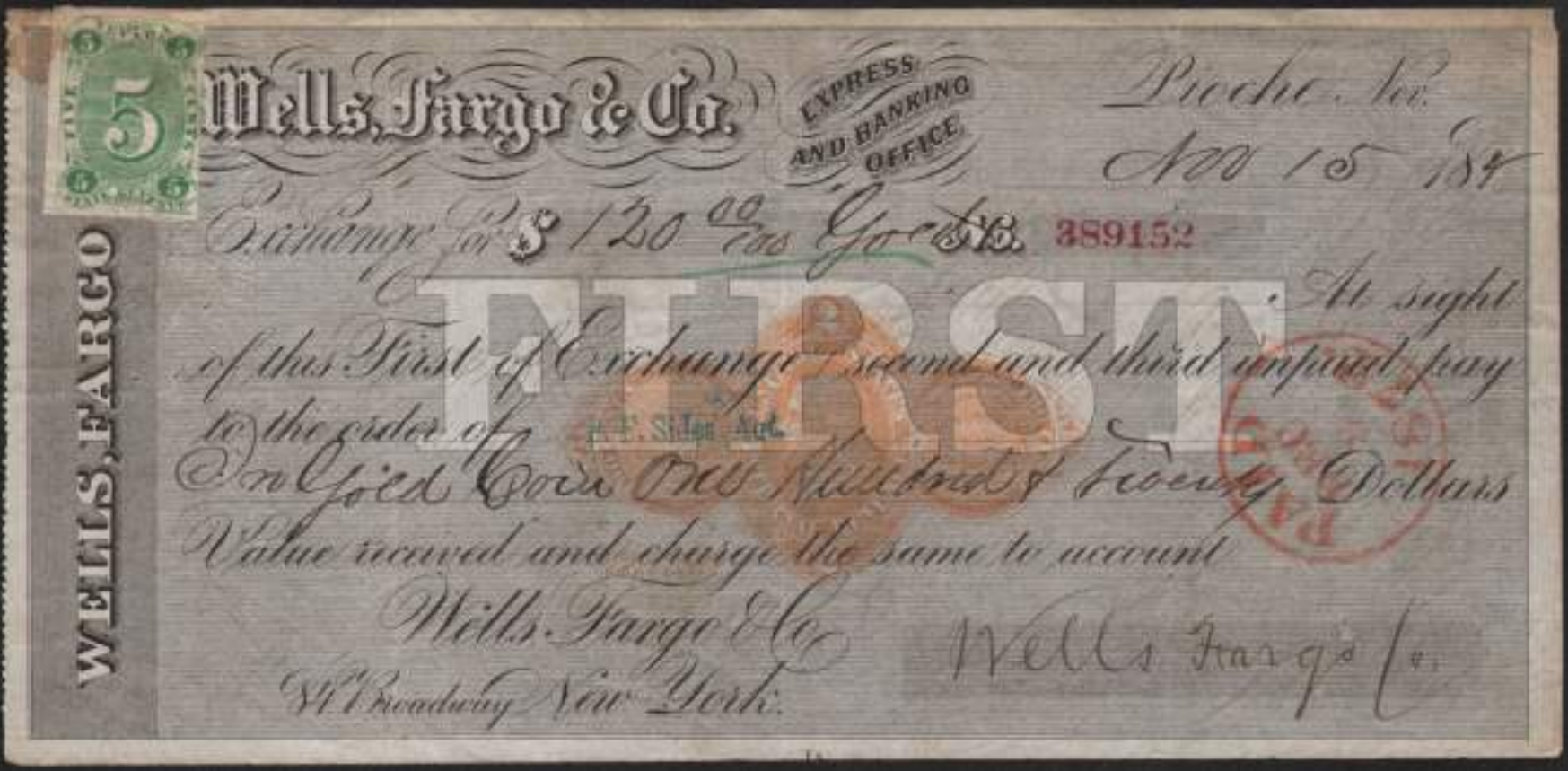
2¢ Third Issue Invert

1873 check stamped with 2¢ Third Issue invert, one of three recorded on document with handstamp cancel

U.S. plus Nevada, Unique Wells Fargo Imprinted Stamp

Below, 1872 Wells Fargo bill of exchange, Pioche, Nevada, taxed by U.S. at 2¢ Bank Check rate, paid by 2¢ imprinted revenue, and by Nevada at 5¢ as a “foreign” bill payable out of the state. Sole recorded Wells Fargo bill with an imprinted revenue and one of a handful of Nevada documents from Pioche.

Pioche, 400 miles from the settled portions of the state was essentially lawless during the late 1860s and early '70s. “Reliable legend” has it that by the time of the first death there by natural causes, some six dozen had died by violence.



U.S. plus California; Final Shot of the Civil War

October 1864 bill of exchange drawn by master of whaling bark *Jireh Swift* of New Bedford, in San Francisco to unload \$100,000 in whale oil, taxed by U.S. at 2¢ Bank Check rate, by California at 1861–6 Exchange \$2 rate.

On June 22, 1865, the *Jireh Swift* would be captured and burned in the Bering Sea by the infamous Confederate raider *Shenandoah*. The Civil War was over, but proof did not reach the *Shenandoah* until August 2. The *Jireh Swift* had made a run for the Siberian coast, until a shot whistling past her stern brought her to. This is widely considered the final shot of the Civil War. Twenty minutes later the *Jireh Swift*, with 400 barrels of whale oil aboard, was in flames.



U.S. plus Louisiana Law

Sole recorded document bearing U.S. and Louisiana stamps

1882 check for stamped with 2¢ Fifth Issue, introduced as evidence in Civil District Court, Orleans Parish, Louisiana, with 30¢ filing fee paid by Louisiana Law stamps.



EMU to Trinidad

April 1863 bill of lading, Philadelphia to Port of Spain, Trinidad, stamped with matching 10¢ Bill of Lading imperforate. Ex-Turner

Only thirteen EMUs recorded

U.S. plus France

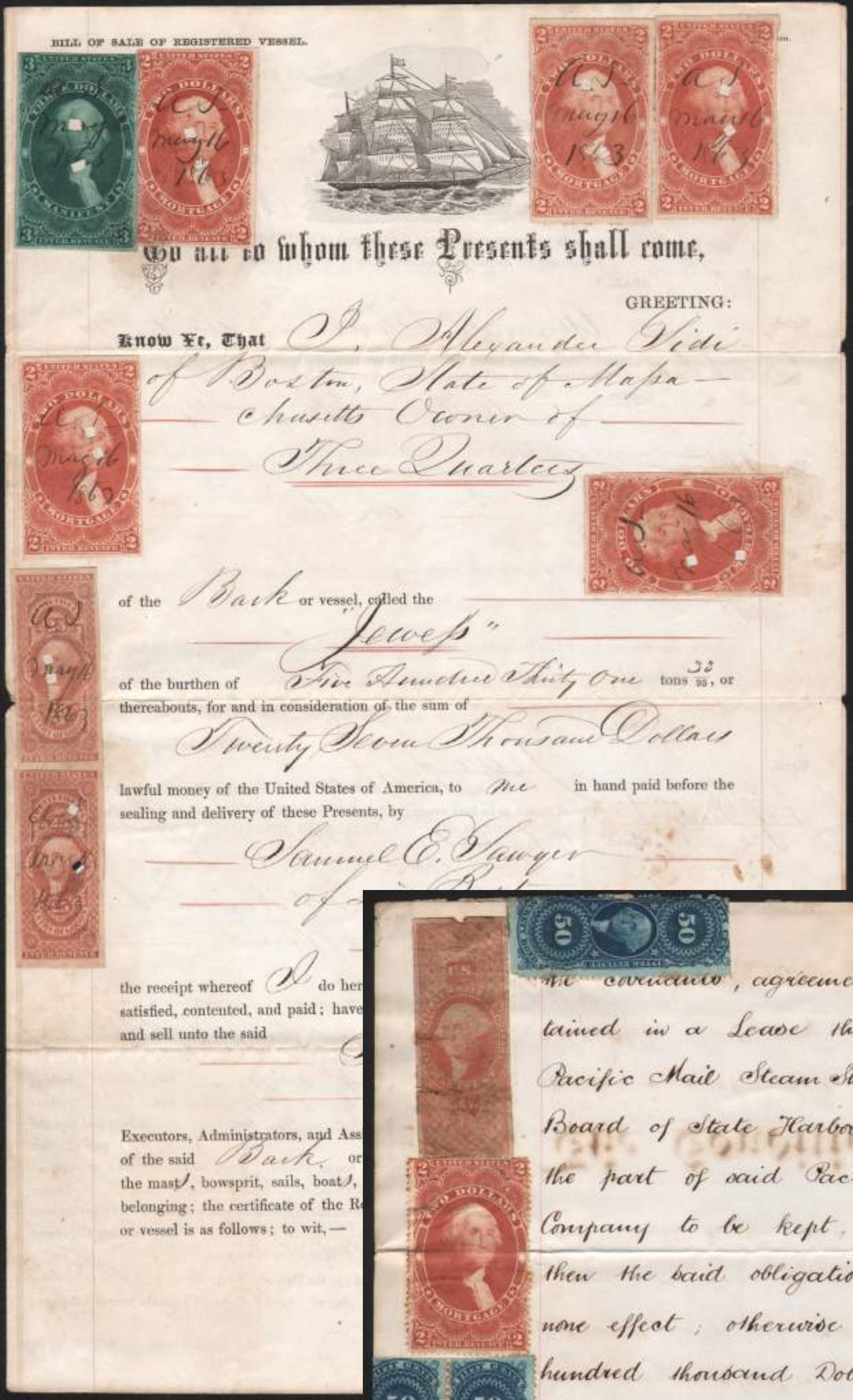
Sole recorded dual-nation usage on a bill of lading

1866 bill of lading, New York to Havre, stamped with U.S. 10¢ Inland Exchange and France Dimension 50 centimes.

A valid bill of lading was required to collect goods shipped. They were typically made in sets of three or four, “one of which to be accomplished, the others to stand void.” Extant examples were nearly all held in reserve in the shipper’s or consignor’s files; very few, like this one, reached their destination and were executed.



4. BILL OF SALE OF SHIP		
1863. Value to \$500,		.25
Over \$500 to \$1,000,		.50
Each additional \$1,000 or fraction,		.50

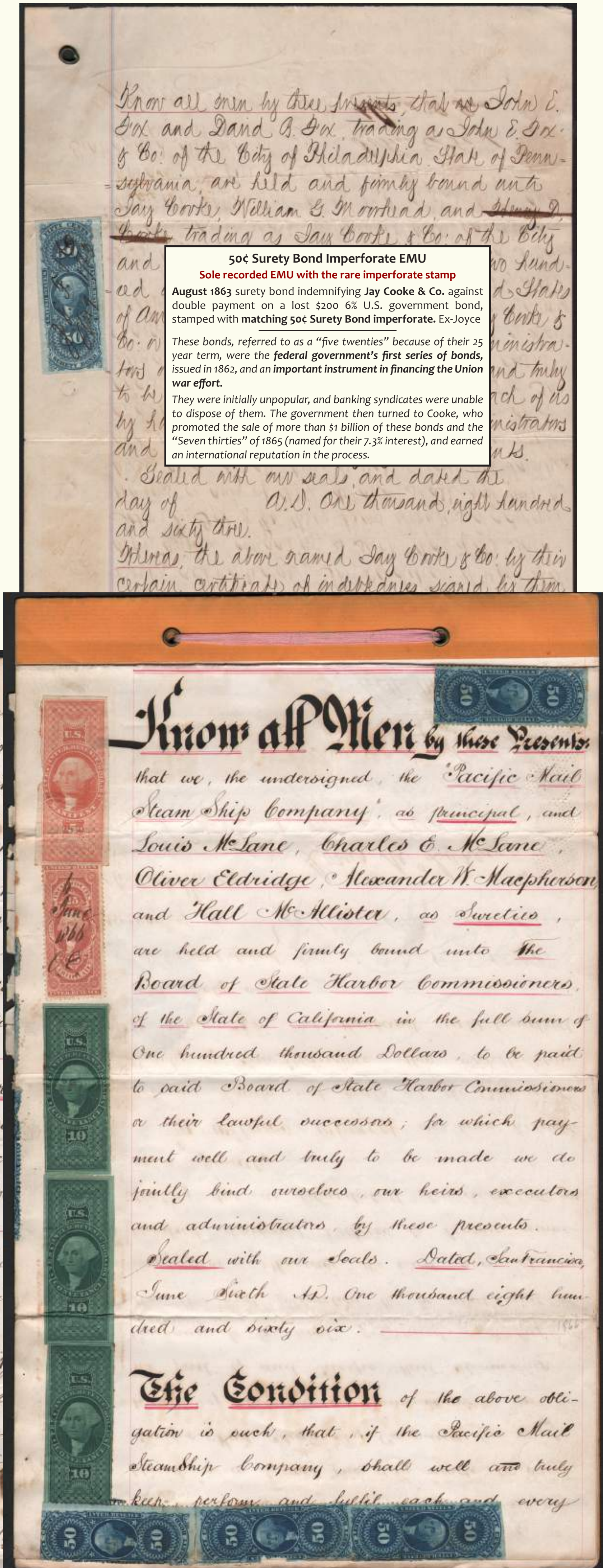


- Short-lived 1863 Rate**
Above, May 1863 bill of sale for three quarters of bark Jewess for \$27,000, \$13.50 tax paid by an array of imperforate stamps
- Five recorded examples recorded of the short-lived 1863 \$1.00+ rate**
(These rates in effect only 17 months)

(Bond, Surety)		
1864. For payment of money, for each \$1,000 or fraction,		.50
For performance of duties of any office,		1.00

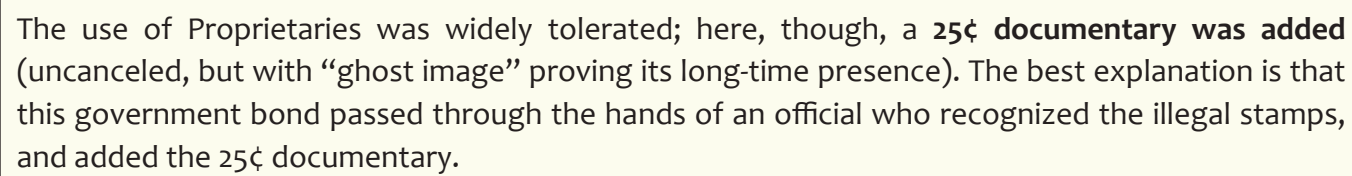
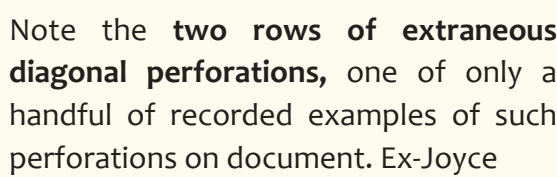
- Wishful Thinking: \$50 Due, 25¢ Paid**
Right, 1866 \$100,000 bond of Pacific Mail Steamship Co. to State Harbor Commissioners, San Francisco, concerning a 15 year lease at \$1,250 per month.
 - Stamped first with **25¢ Certificate**, mistakenly paying general Bond tax of 25¢,
 - later with **20 stamps** including imperforates, part perforates (note the rare **50¢ Passage Ticket**) and perforated \$2 Mortgage, paying the **correct \$50 tax**.
 - Fewer than ten documents recorded showing all three perforation styles**
- Anticipating the loss of the bulk of its shipping trade to the East upon completion of the transcontinental railroad, the PMSS in 1867 would launch a **transpacific service to Japan and China**, for which this lease was crucial.

5. BOND, SURETY		
1862. For payment of any sum of money or for performance of the duties of any office,		.50

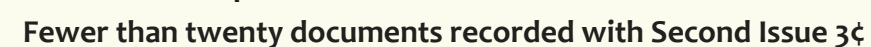


- 50¢ Surety Bond Imperforate EMU**
Sole recorded EMU with the rare imperforate stamp
August 1863 surety bond indemnifying Jay Cooke & Co. against double payment on a lost \$200 6% U.S. government bond, stamped with **matching 50¢ Surety Bond imperforate**. Ex-Joyce
- These bonds, referred to as a “five twenties” because of their 25 year term, were the **federal government’s first series of bonds**, issued in 1862, and an **important instrument in financing the Union war effort**.
- They were initially unpopular, and banking syndicates were unable to dispose of them. The government then turned to Cooke, who promoted the sale of more than \$1 billion of these bonds and the “Seven thirties” of 1865 (named for their 7.3% interest), and earned an international reputation in the process.

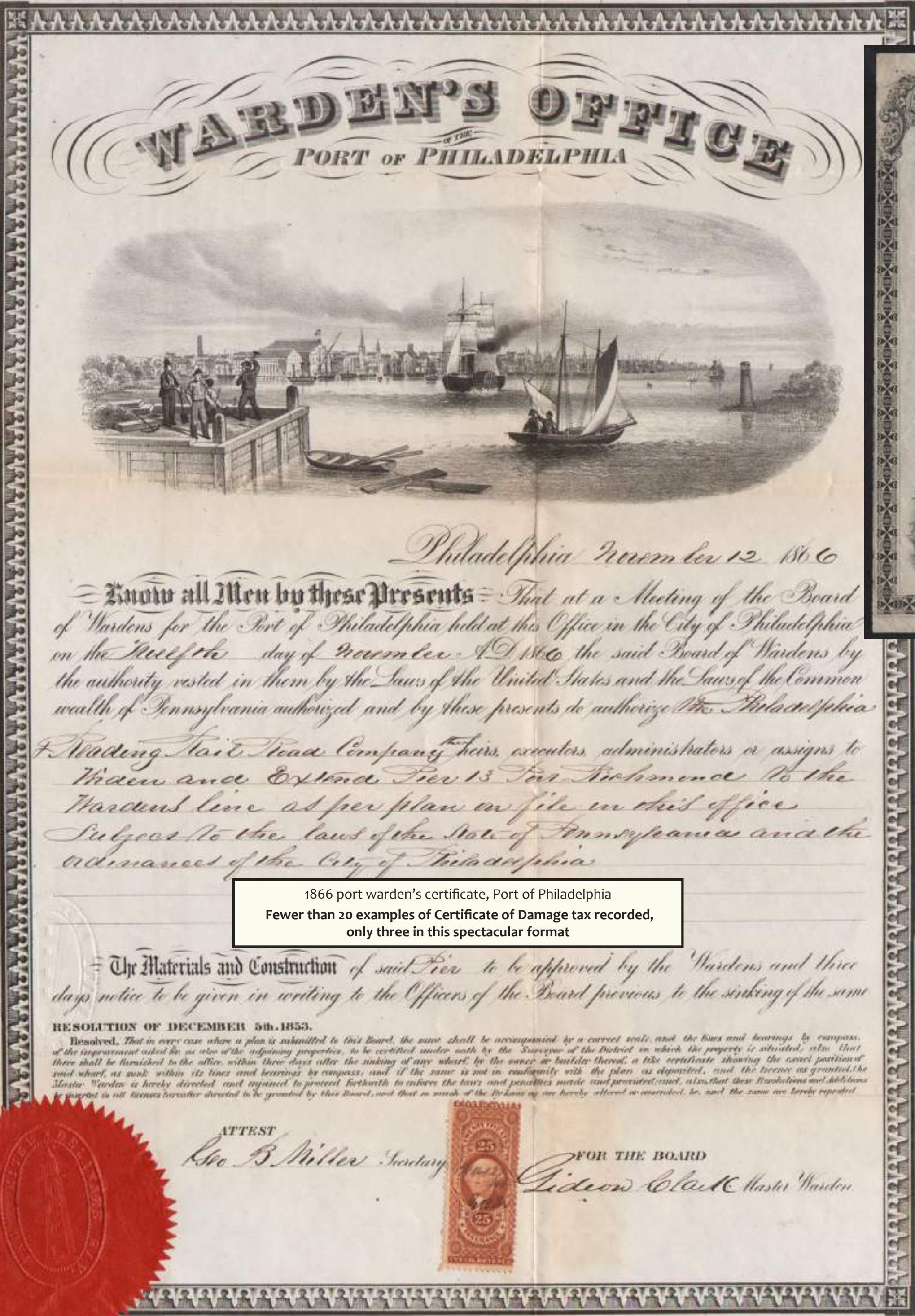
1862. Bond, other than those required in legal proceedings or specified elsewhere in this schedule, .25



1862. Amount to \$100, .02	Over \$100, .05
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7. CERTIFICATE OF DAMAGE
1862. Certificate of damage or other certificate issued by port warden or marine surveyor, .25



1866 port warden's certificate, Port of Philadelphia
Fewer than 20 examples of Certificate of Damage tax recorded,
only three in this spectacular format

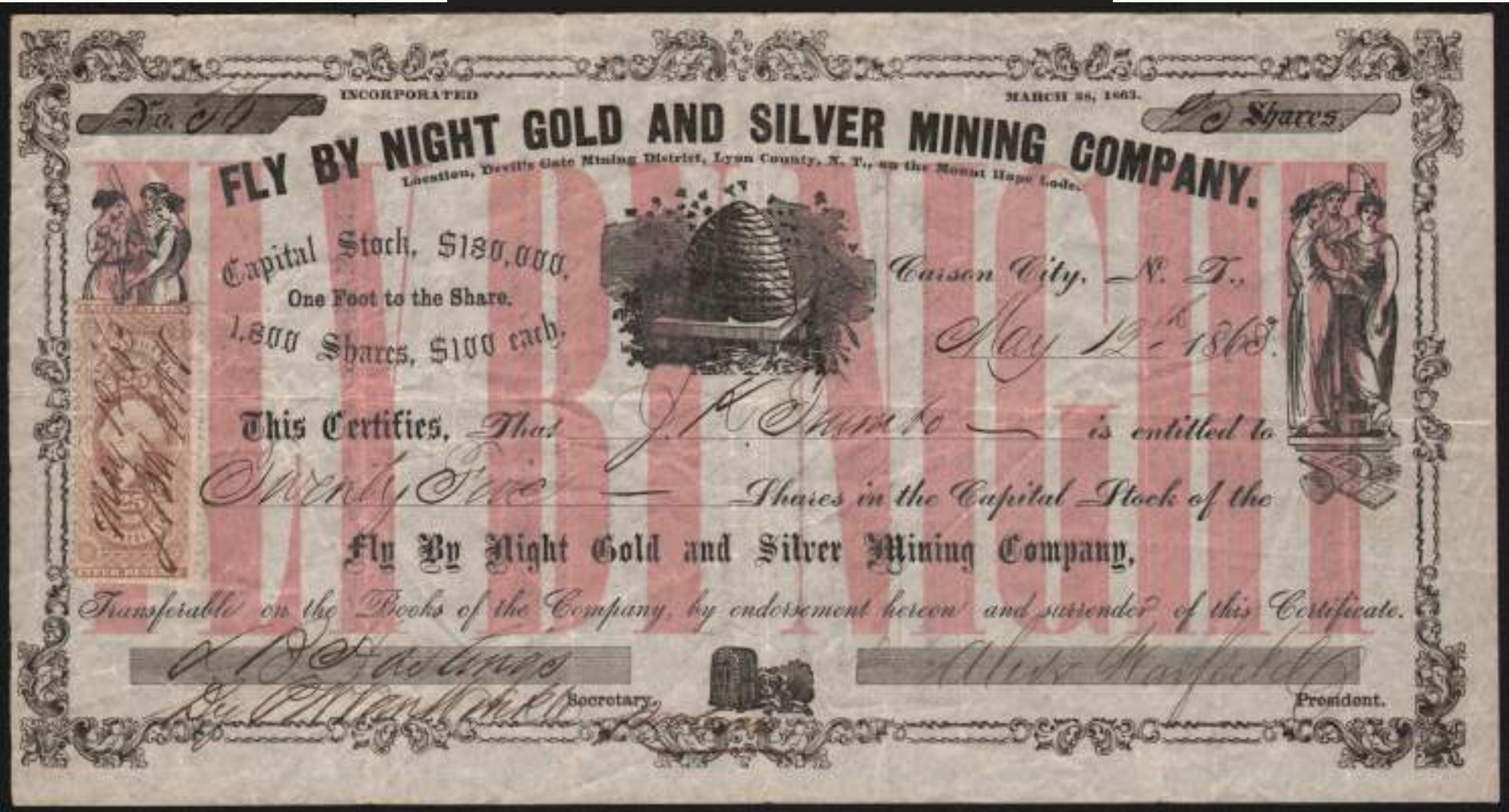
9. CERTIFICATE OF PROFITS
1862. Certificate of profits, or any certificate or memo concerning property or accumulations of any incorporated company:
Amount \$10 to \$50, .10
Over \$50, .25



Engraved EMUs
Two 10¢ EMUs and two 25¢ EMUs recorded in this ornate style
1863 certificates of profits, amounts \$50 and \$80, stamped with matching 10¢ Certificate and 25¢ Certificate imperforate



10. CERTIFICATE OF STOCK
1862. Certificate of stock in any incorporated company, .25



The “Fly By Night”!

Left, May 1863 stock certificate, Fly By Night Gold and Silver Mining Co., Carson City, Nevada Territory, stamped with matching 25¢ Certificate part perforate

Nevada Territorial mining ventures were often highly speculative, if not outright dishonest. Most “mines” were mere holes in the ground, but this was sufficient to file a claim, form a company, and issue stock, which was inevitably snapped up.

The cynical but brutally honest company name on this piece makes it the quintessential example of the genre. Two examples are known.

Double EMU

Right, stock certificate dated December 18, 1862, stamped with matching 25¢ Certificate imperforate, one of the earliest recorded stamped stock certificates

Appended a power of attorney to sell the stock, executed January 1863, stamped with matching 25¢ Power of Attorney imperforate

Few combination EMUs of any kind recorded





25¢ Second Issue Imperforate

March 1872 Philadelphia certificate stamped with the **mysterious 25¢ Second Issue imperforate, recorded on just three documents**



U.S. plus Nevada; Virginia & Truckee Rail Road, “the Crookedest Line in the World”

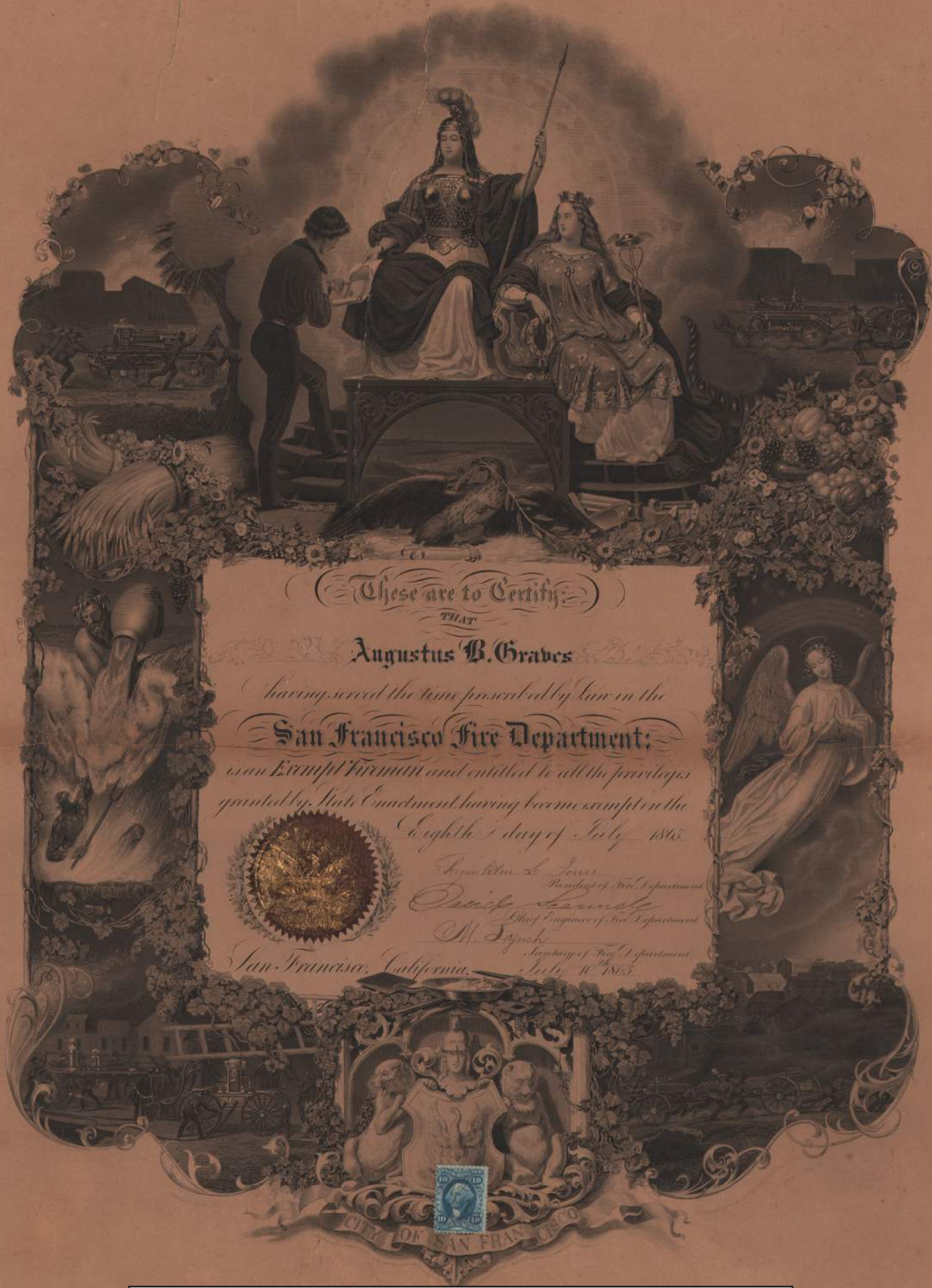
Certificate bearing U.S. 25¢ plus **Nevada 25¢**. The state tax mimicked that of the U.S.; examples are rarely seen. The “V&T” ran from **Virginia City** on the **Comstock Lode** down a **rugged mountainside** to the Carson River mills. Signed as President by **William Sharon**, the richest and most powerful man in Nevada, issued to the namesake of **Yerington**, Nevada. The road’s **popular sobriquet** reflected the **questionable financing methods** employed by Sharon in its construction as much as its **tortuous course**.



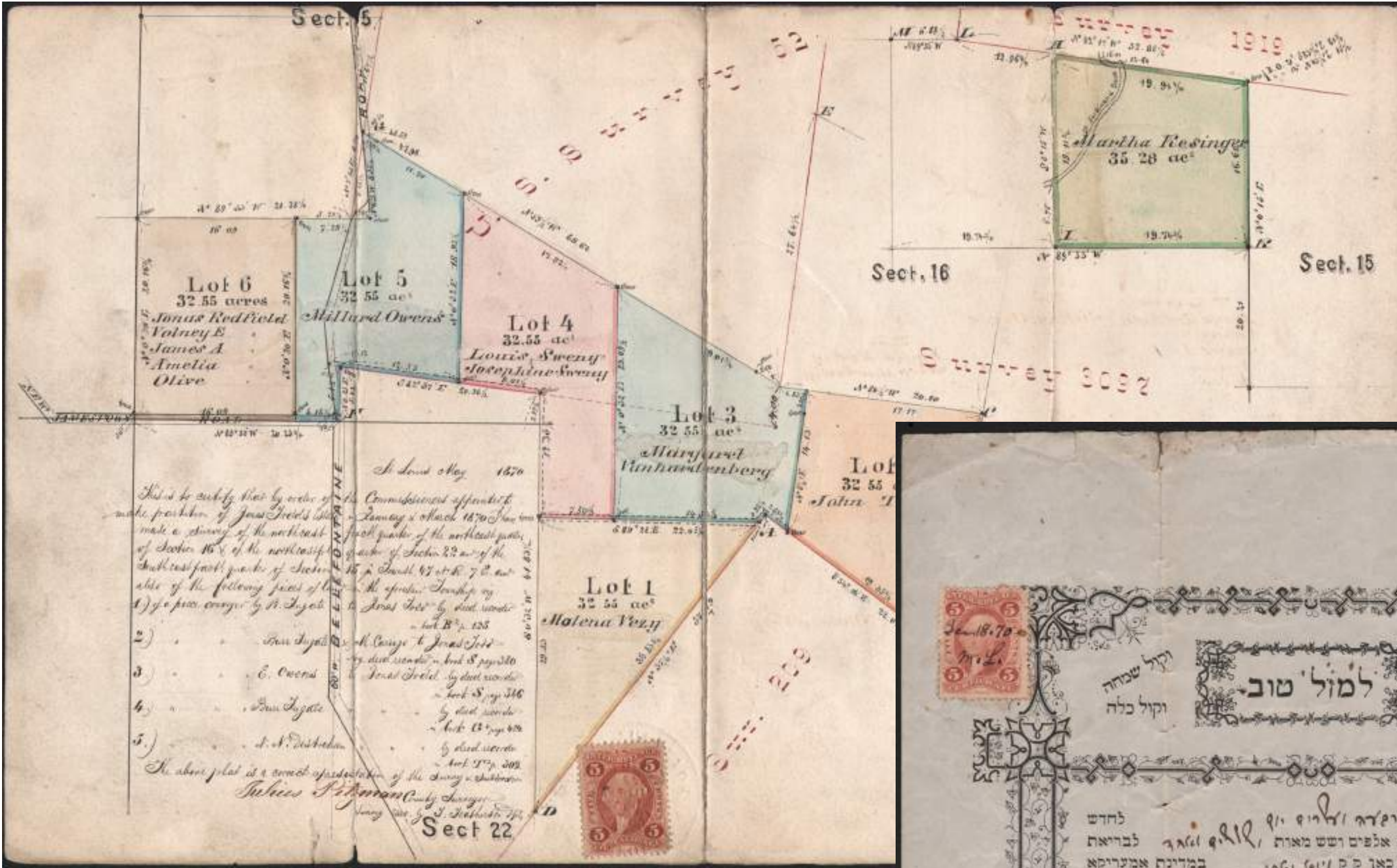
Civil War plus 1914 Taxes

Two Civil War-1914 combinations recorded

1871 certificate showing **Civil War era 25¢ tax** on stock certificates, also **1914 stock transfer tax** of 2¢ per \$100 paid by **two 1914 10¢**



Exempt Fireman's Certificate
One of the most spectacular philatelic items extant
July 1863 Exempt Fireman's certificate, San Francisco, taxed at the short-lived General Certificate 10¢ rate
By an 1853 California statute, **volunteers to unpaid fire companies**, having served **five years** and received a certificate to that effect, were granted status as **"exempt firemen,"** free from **poll-tax, road-tax, head-tax** of every description, **jury duty**, and **military duty**, except in case of war, invasion, or insurrection.



Certified Correct

Map of a portion of St. Louis, with detailed manuscript annotation by County Surveyor certifying the correctness of the map, dated May 1870 and stamped with 5¢ Inland Exchange tied by embossed seal



Massachusetts Dog License

1864 dog license for "Trot," a black male "Cur," age six, stamped at general Certificate rate



U.S. plus Great Britain

Certificate of Insurance on Ill-Fated George Cairns
Fewer than twenty U.S.-G.B. combinations recorded
Sole recorded Certificate-Great Britain combination

1872 certificate of insurance for \$2,000 advanced to captain against freight aboard S.S. George Cairns, which departed Montreal for Limerick September 4. She foundered off the coast of Nova Scotia the same day, a total loss with eight lives lost.

This certificate was generated in New York after the fact, on September 27, countersigned in Montreal, then transported to London where the claim was paid [notation at top left, "Due 18 Novr/72 £403.11/9 (equivalent to \$2,000 at \$4.956 per pound sterling) OCT. 10 1872"]

having first been duly stamped with Great Britain 1s & 3d revenues tied by POLICY OF INSURANCE blue oval cancels.

The 10¢ stamp presumably pays the Certificate 5¢ tax plus the Agreement 5¢ tax on the agreement printed vertically at right.

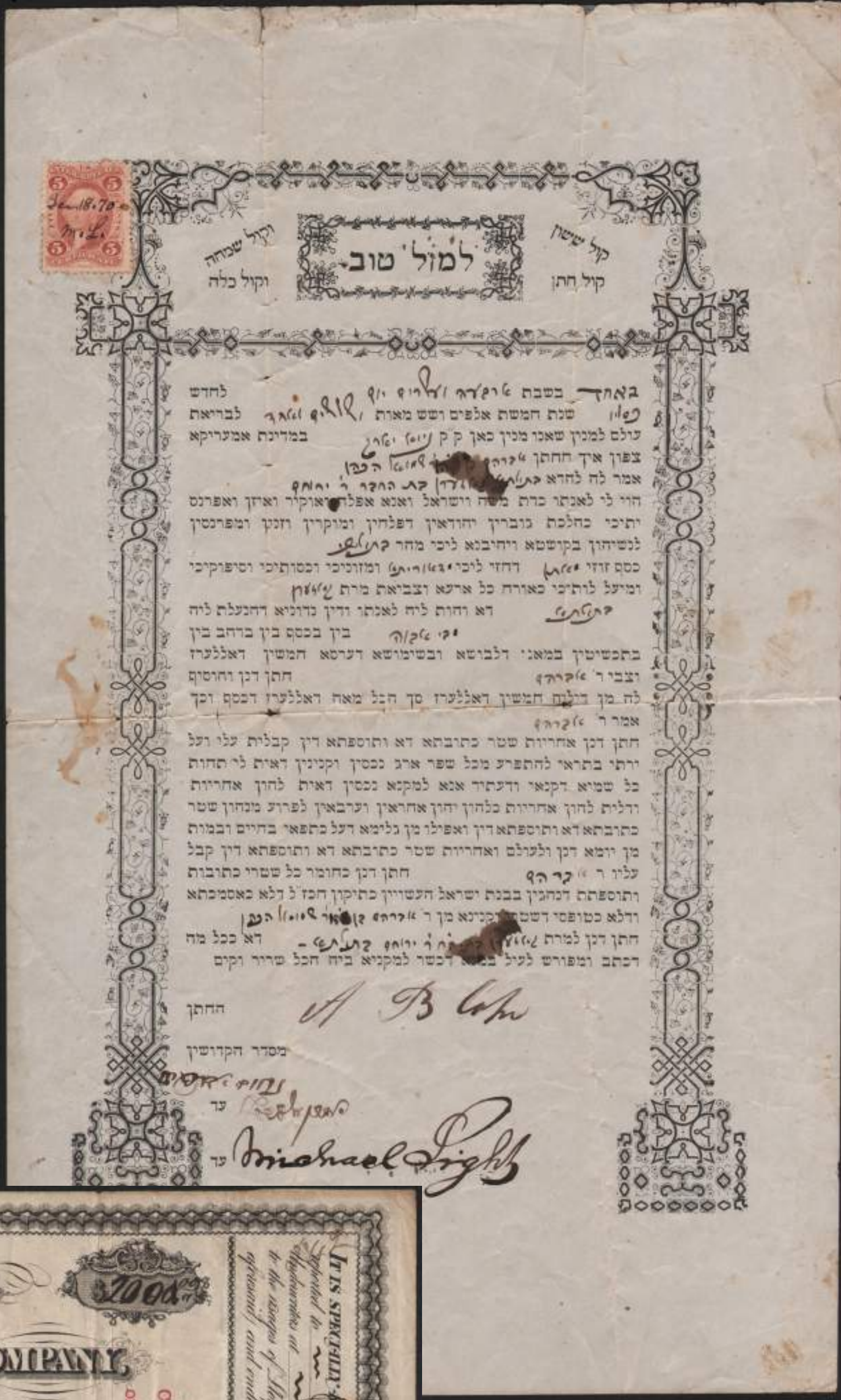
(Certificate, General)
1863 Certificate, not specified elsewhere, .05

1870 Ketubah

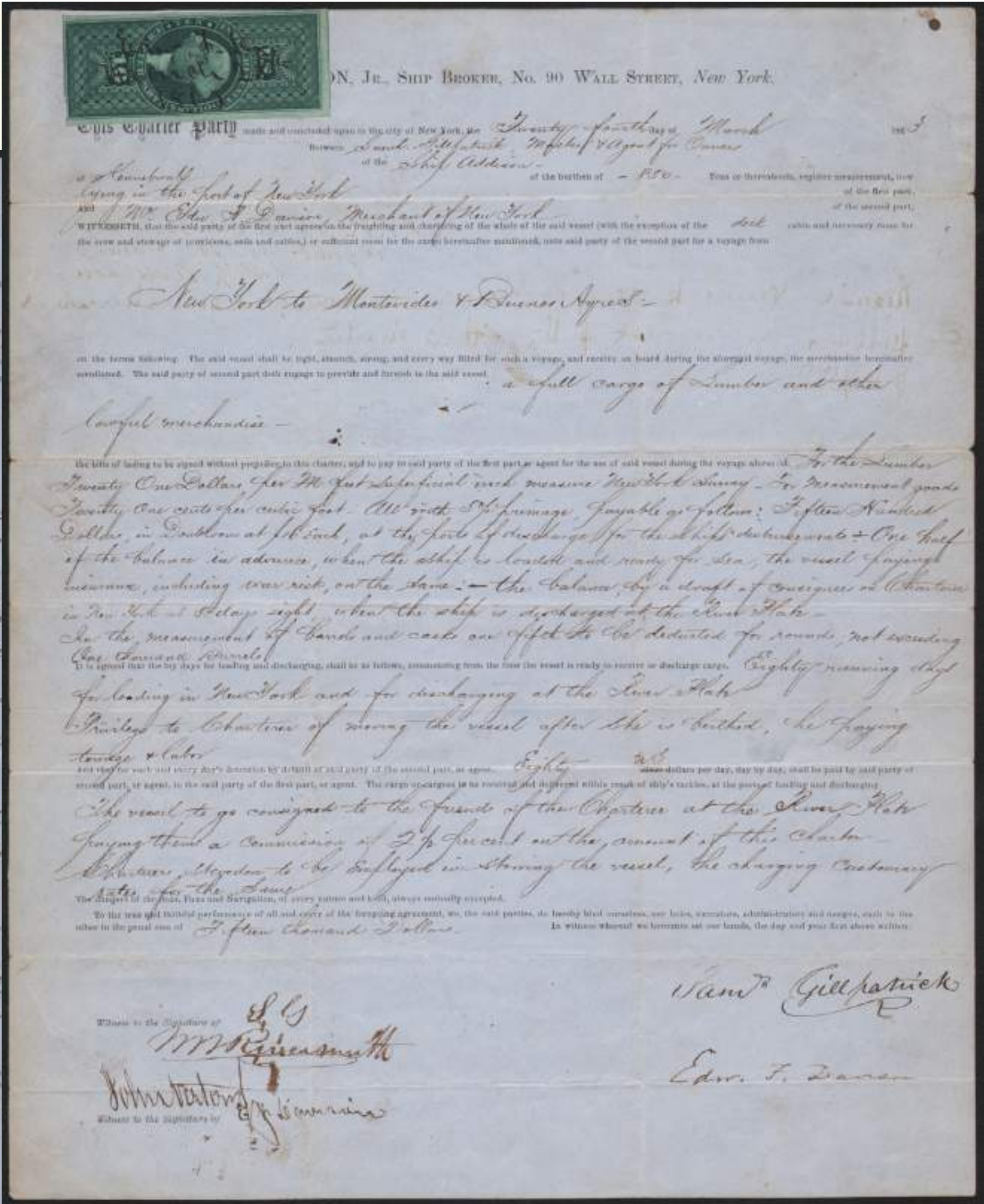
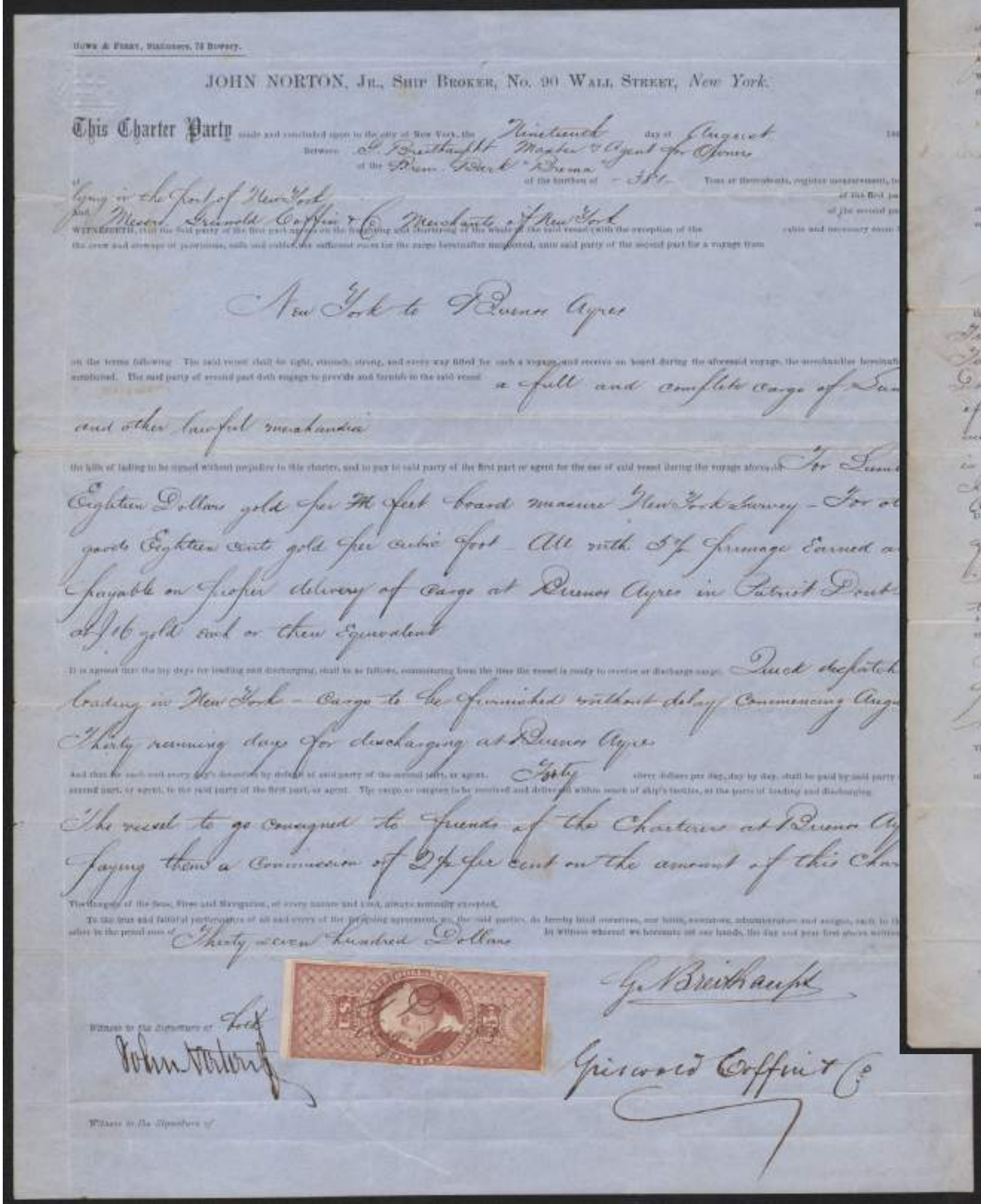
Below, the ketubah is a unilateral agreement drawn by witnesses in accordance with Jewish civil law, testifying that a husband guarantees to his wife that he will meet certain minimum human and financial conditions of marriage, "as Jewish husbands are wont to do," such as providing food, clothing, and conjugal rights, also to pay a certain sum in the event of divorce, and inheritance rights

This 1870 ketubah of A. B. Cohn, Brooklyn, N.Y., is written at top in Hebrew ("Mazel Tov" in ornamental box), below in Aramaic, the technical legal language of Talmudic law.

Taxed as a certified statement of witness Michael Light, who initialed the stamp "M. L."

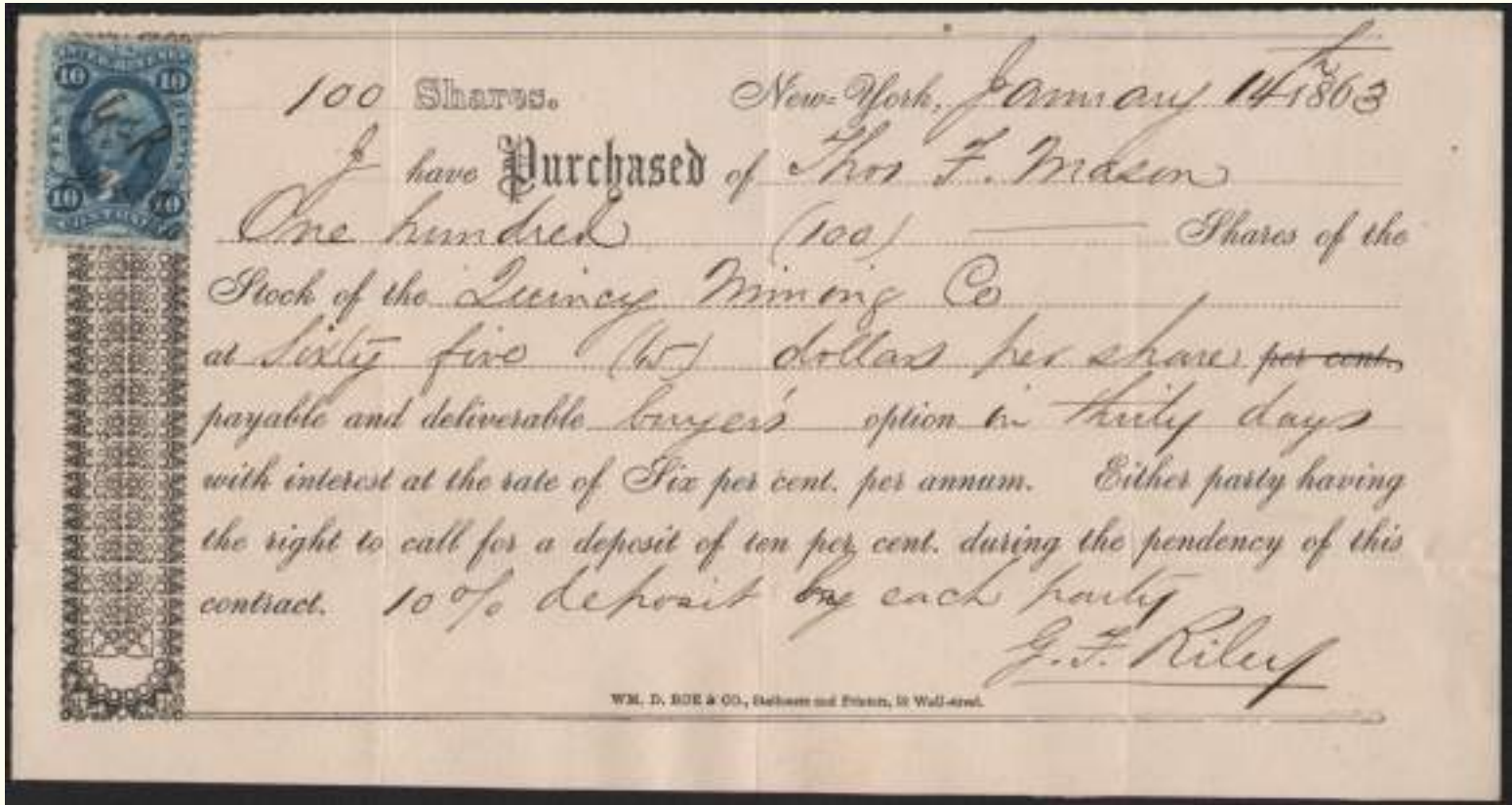


12. CHARTER PARTY
1862. Contract for the charter of any ship:
Registered tonnage up to 300 tons, 3.00
Over 300 tons to 600 tons, 5.00
Over 600 tons, 10.00



Sole Recorded Charter Party EMUs
The extraordinary matched pair of 1863 charters of the bark Bremar, 381 tons, New York to Buenos Ayres, and the Addison, 850 tons, New York to Montevideo and Buenos Ayres, stamped with matching \$5 and \$10 Charter Party imperforates
Only twelve stamped charter parties recorded, of which these are the only EMUs

13. CONTRACT
1862. Broker's contract, note, or memorandum of sale of goods of any kind, .10



EMU and EKU
January 14, 1863, broker's memo of stock purchase stamped with matching 10¢ Contract. Only about twenty EMUs have been recorded, of which this is the earliest.



\$1.90 Foreign Exchange recorded on fewer than ten documents



(Contract)
1866. Sale or contact for sale of stocks, bonds, bullion, notes, or other securities, by any broker, bank, or banker:
For each \$100 or fraction thereof, .01
The stamps were to be affixed to a memorandum of such sale or contract, delivered by seller to buyer. With a rate of 1¢ per \$100, the tax could be any possible amount, and many unexpected and stunning combinations of stamps were used.



Improbable Combinations
First Issue 25¢, 30¢ & 40¢
First Issue 60¢ & 70¢



Gold Sale Memos; Seven-Color Combination
Far left, 1869 memo for sale of \$202,312.50 in gold by New York brokers Trevor & Colgate, \$20.24 paid on reverse with five-color combination including \$1.90 Foreign Exchange
Near left, 1868 memo for sale of \$134,375 in gold by New York brokers W. B. Sancton, \$13.42 paid on reverse with seven-color combination



Second/Third Issue Rarities

Clockwise from top left:

- **2nd Issue 1¢ & 50¢ (x8)**, the latter recorded on only eleven documents, on memo for sale of \$40,013 in gold
- **2nd Issue 70¢, 3¢ & 1¢**. Nine and eleven documents recorded with 70¢ and 1¢, fewer than twenty with the 3¢. Unique in combination. Ex-Joyce
- **2nd Issue 6¢ & 1¢**. Five documents bearing the 6¢ recorded, eleven with the 1¢. The combination is unique.
- **2nd Issue 60¢ & 4¢**. Eight documents with the 60¢ recorded, nine with the 4¢. Another unique combination. Ex-Tolman
- Two **1st/2nd/3rd Issue combinations**. Fewer than twenty are on record. One here doubly significant, including 2nd Issue 1¢.
- **Third Issue 1¢** on broker's memo of sale of \$50,561 in notes. Recorded on just four documents. Ex-Joyce

After simplification of the tax rates in 1864, there was little use for denominations like 1¢, 3¢, 4¢, 6¢, 60¢ or 70¢. Their inclusion in the short-lived Second and Third Issues resulted in a series of major rarities.

By 1870 the government had become increasingly concerned with loss of revenue through **counterfeiting and washing and re-use of stamps**. In response it devised the bicolored **Second Issues**, with **central vignette in fugitive, soluble ink**. These were first issued September 1871, the documentaries **all blue and black**.

This color scheme created complaints, and the **Third Issues** followed quickly thereafter, with **frames in various colors**.

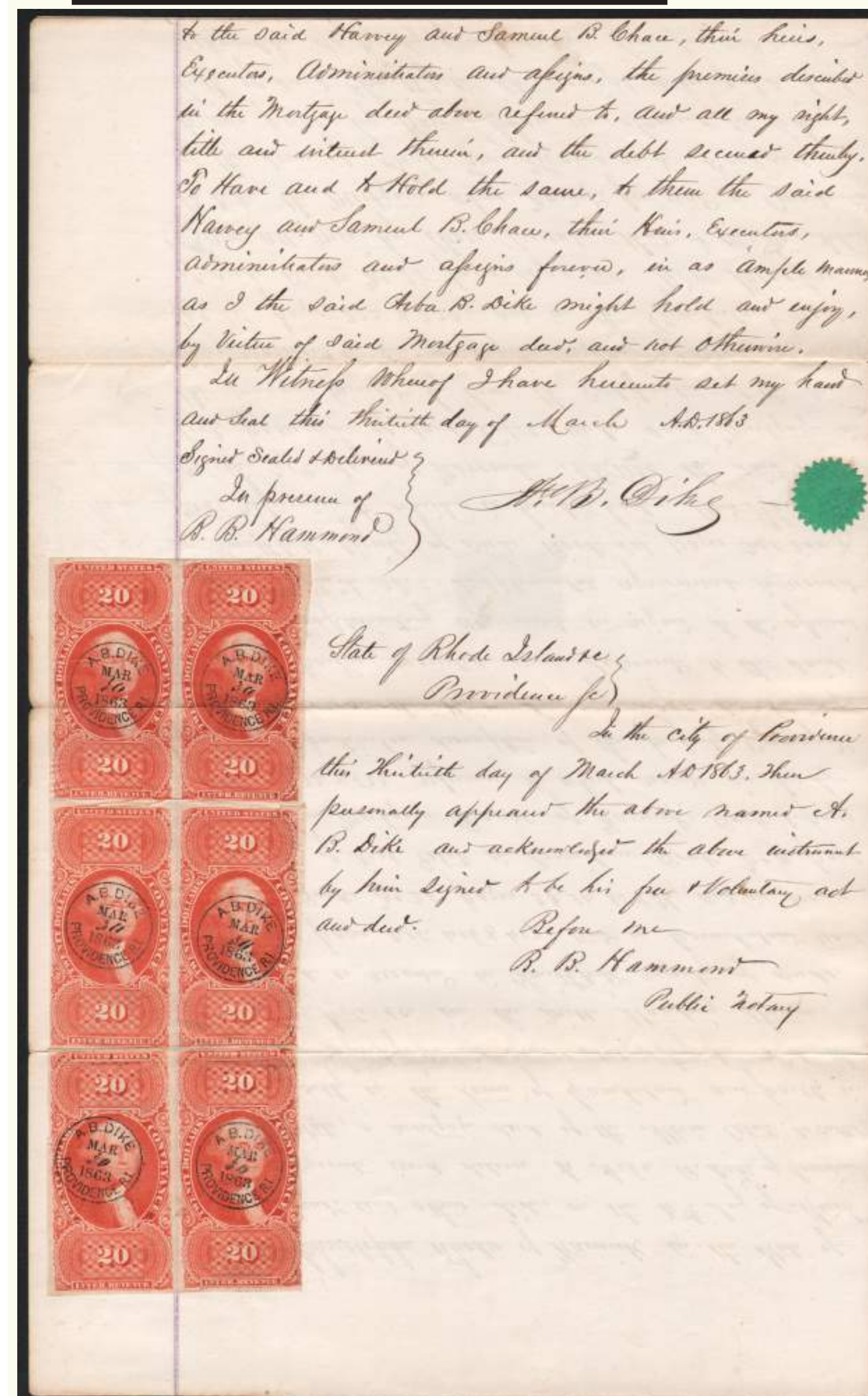
Upon **repeal of documentary taxes** effective October 1872, save the 2¢ levy on bank checks, the various **Issues** had been issued for **as little as two months to a maximum of thirteen months**.

Brokers' memos for sales of securities, taxed at 1¢ per \$100, are one of only two document types on which the **odd-value 2nd and 3rd Issues are found** with any regularity. (Foreign exchange, taxed after 1864 at 2¢ per \$100, is the other.)

14. CONVEYANCE

1862. Deed or other conveyance of land, tenements, or other realty:

Value over \$100 to \$500,	.50	Over \$5,000 to \$10,000,	10.00
Over \$500 to \$1,000,	1.00	Over \$10,000 to \$20,000,	20.00
Over \$1,000 to \$2,500,	2.00	Over \$20,000, for each additional	
Over \$2,500 to \$5,000,	5.00	\$10,000 or fraction,	20.00



\$5/\$10/\$20 Combination EMU

Only five EMUs of any type recorded bearing matching stamps in three or more denominations

(See Express and Inland Exchange for three others)

Above, April 1863 deed, amount \$76,666.66, correctly **taxed at \$140** by matching imperforate \$20 Conveyance, \$10 Conveyance (five pairs), and \$5 Conveyance strip of four. Ex-Turner

Fewer than ten EMUs recorded for \$40+ rate

\$20 Conveyance Block

Sole recorded \$20 Conveyance imperforate block on document

Left, March 1863 conveyance of property for \$64,000, correctly **taxed at \$120** with matching \$20 Conveyance imperforate block of four & pair

Another choice EMU for the open-ended **\$40+ rate**, which proceeded in steps of \$20, and one of only a handful with tax paid exclusively with **multiple copies of the \$20 stamp**.

1863. The tax on a deed or mortgage was limited to \$1,000.
This limit was rescinded in 1864, having been in effect eighteen months.



Sole recorded example of the \$1,000 limit

This limit would have applied only to conveyances of property valued in excess of \$510,000, and mortgages of more than \$2,000,000. Incidentally, even with the limit in place, this is **one of the largest recorded stamp taxes** on any surviving document of the Civil War era.

Francis Smith, Benjamin F. Smith
and
Dan S. Parmelee
Co.
The Smith-Parmelee Gold Co.

Deed
Territory of Colorado
Gilpin County
I hereby certify that
this deed was received for record on the 20th day of
February A. D. 1864 at 10 O'clk and 40 minutes A. M.
and duly recorded in Book First of said Page 284
By J. H. Hall Recorder
By Wm. Day Deputy Recorder
Filed 4/50

seven and thirteen, all on the Bobtail Lode Southwest from Discovery, and also mining claims numbers one, two, three and four Southwest on the Cotton Lode, and the west two thirds of claim number eight and the east two thirds of claim number ten on the said Cotton Lode and also one half of the Discovery claim, and also claim numbers two and three Southwest from Discovery on the Om

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all former and other grants, titles, charges, estate judgments, taxes, assessments and encumbrances, of what nature or kind soever and also that the said parties of the first part, and their heirs, and all and every other person or persons whatsoever, lawfully or equitably deriving any estate, right, title, or interest, of, in, or to the hereinbefore granted premises, by, from, under, or in trust for them, shall and will at any time or times hereafter, upon the request, and at the proper cost and charges in the law of the said parties of the second part, their successors and assigns, make, do, and execute, or cause or procure to be made, done and executed, and every such further and other lawful and reasonable acts, conveyances and assurances in law, for the better and more effectually vesting and confirming the premises hereby intended to be granted, in and to the said parties of the second part their successors and assigns forever, as the said parties of the second part their successors or assigns, or their counsel learned in the law, shall be reasonably advised, advised or required: and the said Francis Smith, Benjamin F. Smith and Dan S. Parmelee and their heirs, the above described and hereby granted and released premises, and every part and parcel thereof, with the appurtenances, unto the said parties of the second part, their successors and assigns, against the said parties of the first part, and their heirs, and against all and every person and persons whomsoever, lawfully claiming or to claim the said premises and will

Warrant and by these presents, forever Defend except as against the title of the United States Government

In Witness Whereof the said parties of the first part have hereunto set

their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Witness my hand and seal of office

Harry Nuske

Charles Nettleton

Benjamin F. Smith
By Francis Smith his attorney
in fact
Dan S. Parmelee
By Francis Smith his attorney
in fact

(Conveyance)
1864. For each \$500 or fraction thereof, .50

Deed of joint Conveyance to be hereunto affixed this twenty fifth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty four Copy of vote of the Board of Directors of the Erie and Western Railroad Company

in presence of
D.H. Ingraham

Jamuel H. W. President
John W. Hall Treasurer



"The Blue Boys"

\$15 Mortgage in dark blue and milky blue

1867 deed, one of two recorded usages of \$15 Mortgage milky blue. Its use with the normal dark blue, especially with no other stamps to detract from their visual impact, is nothing less than a statistical miracle.

Apart from the ultramarine group, which resulted from a deliberate change in ink formulation, the \$15 Mortgage milky blue is the only Scott-listed shade of any First Issue.

This juxtaposition shows why: its size and rarity make the \$15 an attention-grabber even in its usual color; the striking difference of the milky blue from the dark blue makes it extraordinarily distinctive and memorable.

Before me

Jamuel H. W. President

John W. Hall Treasurer



Whereas the Erie and Western Railroad Company is indebted to the Erie and Western Railroad Company in the sum of \$500,000

The "Small Rug"

Second Issue \$200 "Small Persian Rug" recorded on five documents

First page of December 1871 deed to property valued at \$255,000, bearing Second Issue \$200 & \$10 pair plus Third Issue \$10 pair & single and \$5. Ex-Lipson

(This Indenture)

made the ninth day of December in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy one between George S. Ingraham Referee in the action hereinafter mentioned of the first part and Suther C. Clark of the City of New York of the second part.

Whereas at a Special Term of the Supreme Court of the State of New York held at the City of New York on the tenth day of May one thousand eight hundred and seventy one, it was, among other things, ordered, adjudged and decreed, by the said Court, in a certain action then pending in the said Court between Suther C. Clark and John J. Cisee Trustees &c, plaintiffs and the Clifton Iron Company and others are defendants that all the land and property described in the



successors and against all and every person and the same or any part thereof, by, from or under the

In Witness Whereof the said Erie and Western Railroad Company have caused

affix and duly attested. Dated the

Scaled & Delivered

in presence of

U.S. Internal Revenue Stamps of the value of \$500,000 being first affixed hereto

Arman Lombard

M. J. Howard

and also, in presence of the undersigned, Canal Committee of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, who concurs in the foregoing Conveyance

And I, Berline

By, Secretary

John W. Hall

Received, at the date of the foregoing Indenture, from the within named The Pennsylvania Canal Company, Certificates for Fifty

thousand [50,000] shares of the full paid Capital stock of said Company - each share of the par value of Fifty [50] Dollars, and in all amounting to the sum of Two million seven hundred and fifty thousand [2,750,000] Dollars, being the full consideration in said Indenture mentioned.

Witnesses.

Arman Lombard

M. J. Howard



Charles A. Smith
Treasurer of Penn R.R. Co.

"The Pretty Puzzle"

Final page of 1867 deed conveying some 175 miles of the Pennsylvania Canal, from the Pennsylvania Railroad Co. to the newly-formed Pennsylvania Canal Co. for \$2,750,000, bearing **three copies each of First Issue \$200 and \$50**

Paid as 55,000 shares of stock in the Canal Co., par value \$50. Herein lies a puzzle. The appropriate tax for property valued at \$2.75 million would have been \$2,750, not the \$750 paid here. Where is the **"missing" \$2,000?**

No stamps are missing. At left of the seals is written "U.S. Internal Revenue stamps of the value of Seven hundred and Fifty dollars being first affixed hereto." (Before "Seven" a word was scuffed out, lined through in red to show the correction was authentic, the deleted word almost certainly "Twenty.") At right of the larger seal is embossed "STAMP DUTY PAID/COLLECTOR OF INTERNAL REVENUE," appropriately signed. These verify that \$750 was the correct tax, probably based on an **estimated value of \$750,000** for the **property itself**.

U.S. plus Nevada \$10 & \$20

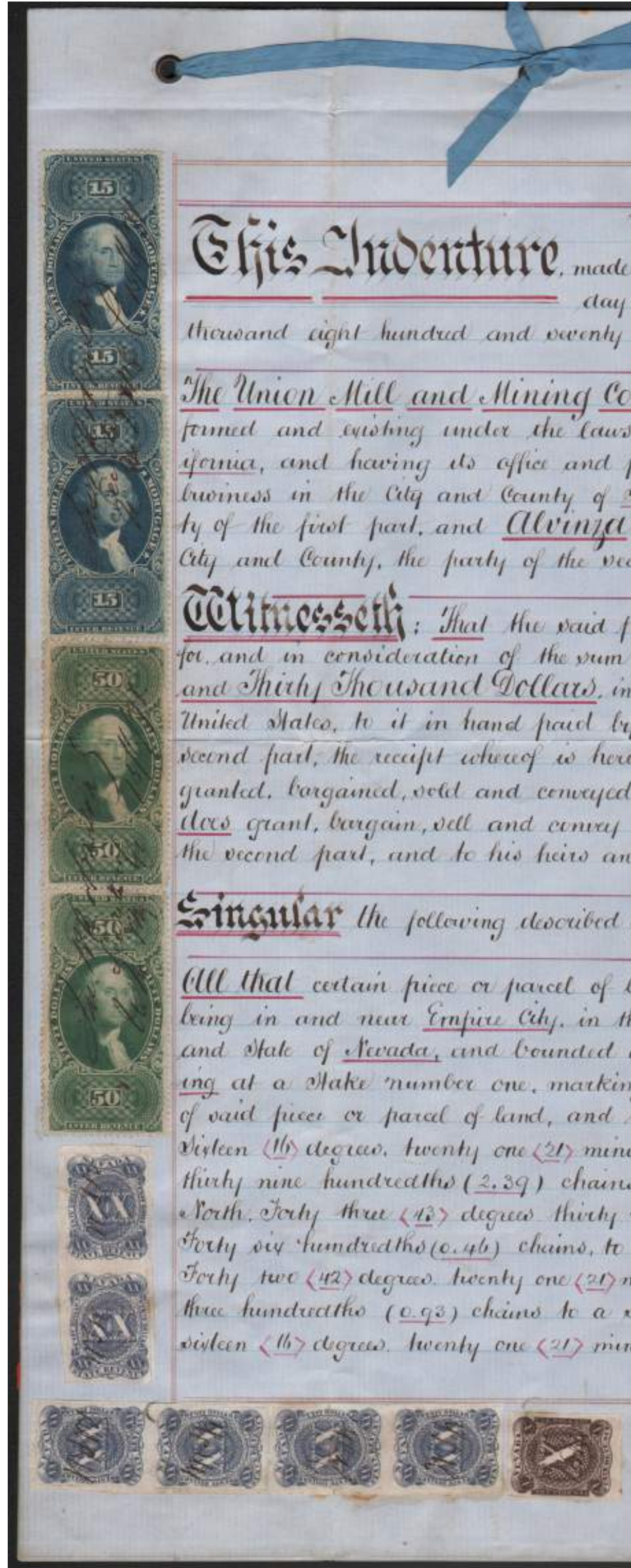
Left, 1871 deed to the Mexican Mill, Carson River, Nevada, amount \$130,000, bearing \$50 USIR (x2), \$15 Mortgage (x2), plus Nevada \$20 (x6) & \$10

Six documents recorded with the Nevada \$20, seven with the \$10; no other bears more than two of the \$20.

From the Union Mill and Mining Co., notorious holding company of the Bank of California, to financial titan Alvinza Hayward (namesake of Hayward, California). From the mid-1860s to the early 1870s the “Bank Ring” had maintained a virtual stranglehold on mining, milling, and shipping of the fabled Comstock Lode.

This deed illustrates the first relaxation of that stranglehold. John P. Jones, trusted superintendent of the Bank-controlled Crown Point mine, discerned that it was verging on bonanza, and enlisted Hayward to finance a quiet, treacherous takeover. When the Crown Point produced some \$30 million, the Jones-Hayward combine, the Nevada Mill and Mining Co., became a Comstock power. With this deed, they acquired the Mexican Mill to crush Crown Point ore.

The “heart piece” of the “Newlands find,” the personal archive of Nevada senator Francis Newlands, which reached philatelic hands in the 1980s. Newlands had been son-in-law and estate executor of William Sharon, notorious Agent of the Bank of California at Virginia City and “cock of the walk” on the Comstock during its early glory days. Sharon’s papers included numerous insider transactions involving important Comstock mills, of which this is the most historically and philatelically important, and visually spectacular.



\$200 & \$50 Imperforates; \$300 Nevada Tax

Three examples of \$200 First Issue imperforate recorded on document
Latest recorded usage of imperforate stamps of the Civil War era

Right, 1871 deed to famed Raymond and Ely Mine in Pioche, Nevada, for \$300,000, bearing First Issue \$200 imperforate, \$50 imperforate (x2), and an array of Nevada documentaries

This very late use of imperforate stamps is extraordinary even in the far West, where imperforates appear regularly through the mid-1860s, and occasionally thereafter.

The deed was executed in San Francisco, the U.S. stamps affixed there; then taken to remote Lincoln County, Nevada to be recorded. Evidently no \$20 or \$10 stamps were on hand, and only twenty of the \$5, for the deed bears 100 \$1 stamps and 197 50¢, (including two panes of 50, three additional stamps lost over the years) to pay the state tax of \$300, stamps covering virtually all available space on the second and third pages of the deed, just as they do here.

Nevada owed its existence to its prodigious production of Comstock Lode silver. During the early 1870s, the Ely Mining District in Lincoln County was second only to the Comstock in production, and the Raymond and Ely mine was its star performer.

Pioche, the town that sprang up there, 400 miles from the settled western portions of the state, 250 miles from the nearest railroad, was essentially lawless during the late 1860s and early '70s, reputedly the “wildest town in the West” during these years. “Reliable legend” has it that by the time of the first death there by natural causes, some six dozen had died by violence.

15. ENTRY OF GOODS

1862. Entry of goods at any custom-house, for consumption or warehousing:
 Value to \$100. .25
 Over \$100 to \$500, .50
 Over \$500, 1.00
 Entry for withdrawal from bonded warehouse, .50

Manifest and Entry, Made this 8th day of May
 of Merchandise imported by Thomas Hale
 Canada, in New York Blunt

DESCRIPTION.	VALUE.	Rate.
254 Pounds Old Lead	\$10 00	1st per Pound

DISTRICT OF OSWEGATCHIE, 1863
 I, Thomas Hale a resident of Ogdensburg, N.Y.
 do solemnly swear that, according to my best knowledge and belief, the preceding Manifest and Entry contains a full, just and true account of the quantities and values of all the Merchandise brought or imported by me, from Canada; that all articles which by the laws of the United States are reported or entered by me for the payment of duties are therein mentioned; and that nothing has been suppressed or concealed whereby to avoid the payment of duties imposed by said laws.—So help me God.
 Sworn before me, this 8 day of May 1863
A. Chismore Just.

25¢ EMU

May 1863 Manifest and Entry form Oswegatchie, New York, for cargo of lead from Canada valued at \$10, properly taxed at 25¢ with matching 25¢ Entry of Goods part perforate
 Fewer than ten EMUs recorded

ENTRY OF MERCH
 whereof Nicholas

MARKS. NOS. PKGS.

District and Port of San Francisco, Cal.
 Consignee, Importer or Agent's Oath.
 I, Wm Ivanoff, Director of Russ Am Co do solemnly and truly swear that Invoice and Bill of Lading now produced by me to the Collector of San Francisco, are the true and only Invoice and Bill of Lading by me received, of all Goods, Wares and Merchandise imported in the Bark
Menshikoff
 from Victor's B. whereof Nicholas Kashevaroff is Master
 to enter the same; that the said Invoice and Bill of Lading are in the state in which they were actually received by me, and that I do not know or believe in the existence of any other Invoice or Bill of Lading of the Goods, Wares and Merchandise; that the Entry now delivered to the Collector, contains a just and true account of the said Goods, Wares and Merchandise, according to the said Invoice and Bill of Lading; that nothing has been, on my part, nor to my knowledge, on the part of any other person, concealed or suppressed, whereby the United States may be defrauded of any part of the duty lawfully due on the said Goods, Wares and Merchandise; that the said Invoice, and the declaration thereon, are in all respects true, and were made by the person by whom the same purport to have been made; and that, at any time hereafter, I discover any error in said Invoice, or in the account now tendered of the said Goods, Wares and Merchandise, or receive any other Invoice of the same, I will immediately make the same known to the Collector of this District. And I do further solemnly and truly swear, that to the best of my knowledge and belief,
American Companies are the owners of the Goods, Wares and Merchandise, mentioned in the annexed Entry; that the Invoice now produced by me exhibits the actual cost, or fair market value, at the time of importation, of the said Goods, Wares and Merchandise, all charges thereon, and no other or different discount, bounty drawback, but such as has been actually allowed on the same.
 Sworn to this Thirtieth day of March 1868.
 before me, Wm. Wm. Dodge Collector.

District of Alaska!

Five usages of Civil War era revenues in Alaska recorded

March 1868 entry of merchandise form for use in San Francisco, pressed into service at Sitka, Alaska, for cargo of coal from British Columbia valued at \$1,235. U.S. revenue stamps evidently did not reach Sitka for more than a year after this document was executed; this 50¢ pair is tied by manuscript cancel “for WLD May 1st 1869,” the initials evidently those of Wm. Dodge, Collector of Customs at Sitka, and by oval handstamps reading “OFFICE OF ... CUSTOMS May 1 1869.”

This piece has a decidedly **Russian flavor**. The coal was imported on the bark “Menshikoff” of the Russian American Company, with Master Kashevaroff, as attested by the Company's Director, William Ivanoff. All of Russian Alaska had been the private fiefdom of the Russian American Company, which ruled and administered it under a rental agreement with the Czar. This document shows that the Company continued its commercial operations, at least, after the sale of its domain to the United States.

16. EXPRESS

1862. Express company receipt:
 Charge up to .25, .01
 Over .25 to 1.00, .02
 Over 1.00, .05

The effective life of the Express tax was only about four months: stamps were not generally available until December 1862, and effective April 1, 1863, the stamp tax was replaced by a 2% levy on gross receipts. The express companies, vexed by the inconvenience and delays caused by the stamp tax, had lobbied lawmakers hard against it; when they spoke, Congress listened!

ADAMS EXPRESS CO. ADAMS EXPRESS CO.
Express Company
EXPRESS FORWARDERS.
Memphis
CREAT. MEMPHIS. WESTERN AND SOUTHERN
EXPRESS FORWARDERS.
 Received of J. M. Luke
one Package sealed and said to contain Two Hundred Dollars
 Addressed to Luke
Nova Scotia
 Freight 12/100 Insurance — For the Company, Daglan

Occupied Confederacy

The piece de resistance of the Occupied Confederacy

Adams Express Co., Memphis; one of 12 recorded Express uses from Occupied Confederacy

THE GREAT EASTERN, WESTERN & SOUTHERN COMPANY!
EXPRESS FORWARDERS.
RECEIVED
 Received of John H. Knepp
1 Package sealed and said to contain Fort Dollars
 Addressed to Gen. Hugh Gibson, Surgeon, U.S. Army
at Pleasant, Henry Co. Texas
 Freight — Insurance — For the Company, —

“One Corpse”; Unique Three-Color Combination

Above, American Express Co., 1¢ Express part perforate top margin strip of five

Top right, Harnden Express, “one corpse”

Middle right, spectacular Harnden's Express form for soldiers' packages, December 9, 1862, earliest recorded use of 5¢ Express, first delivered November 20, 1862

Bottom right, Howard & Co., Express Forwarders, sole recorded three-color Express combination

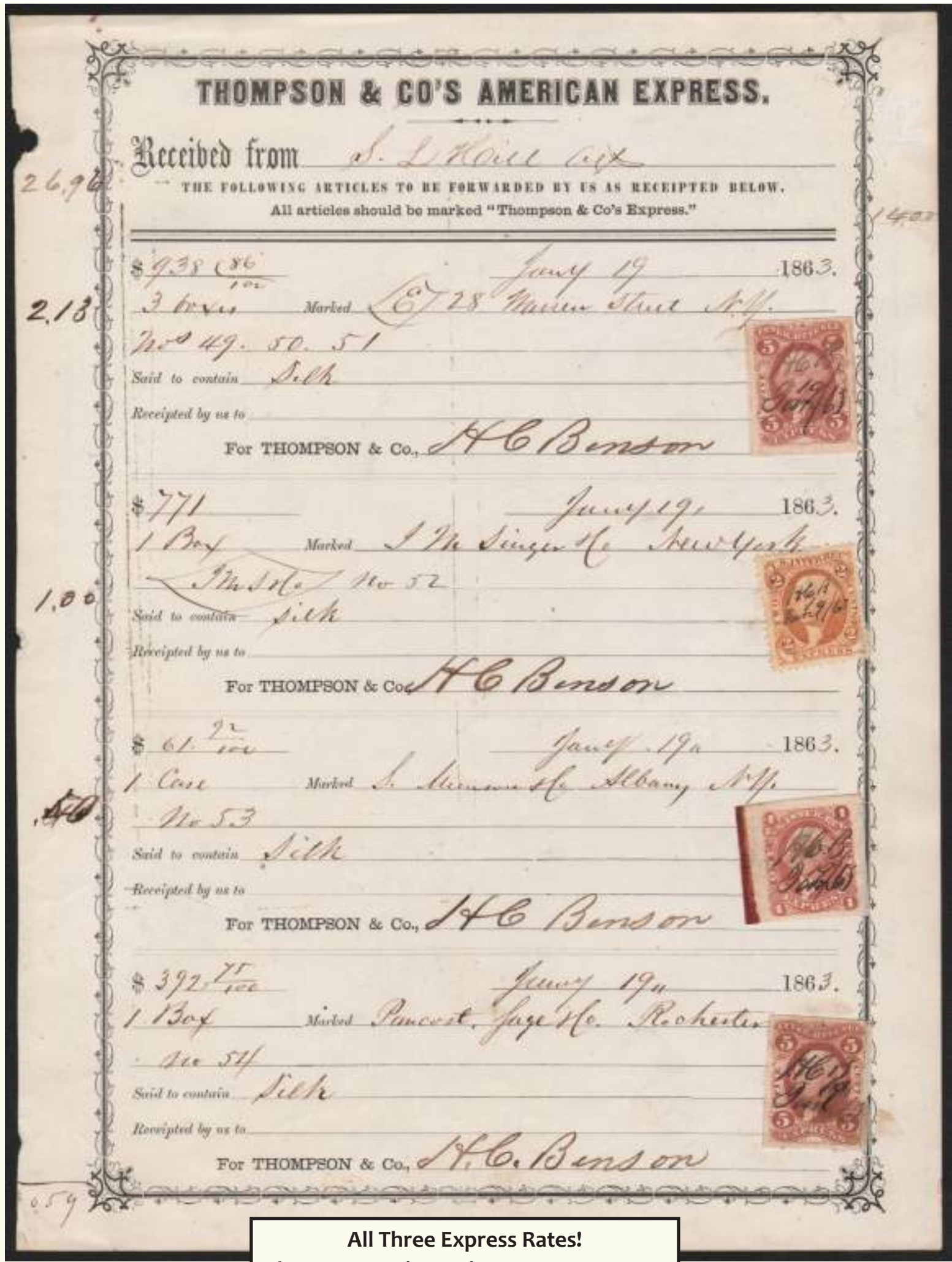
Only five EMUs of any type recorded bearing matching stamps in three or more denominations

(See Conveyance and Inland Exchange for three others)

Office, 401 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. 20 1863
To HARNDEN EXPRESS, Dr.
 For Freight on One Corpse from Wash \$ 32.00
 For Cash advanced on same at \$ 32.00
 Received 12/100 For the Proprietors, Gilbert

HARNDEN'S EXPRESS.
Office of
Received from
One Corpse
Marked Jam. Putnam & Co. K
14 May 1863
 All articles for parties remitted with this Agent, to be taken only with the following understanding:—
 To be forwarded to our Agency source, or to the order of the consignee, or to the order of the Quartermaster or other officer of the Regiment to which the Consignee is attached. It is further mutually agreed, that the Proprietors of Harnden's Express are not to be held responsible for the property herein mentioned, when delivered to the army wagon, or to the order of the office of the consignee.
 For the Proprietors, —

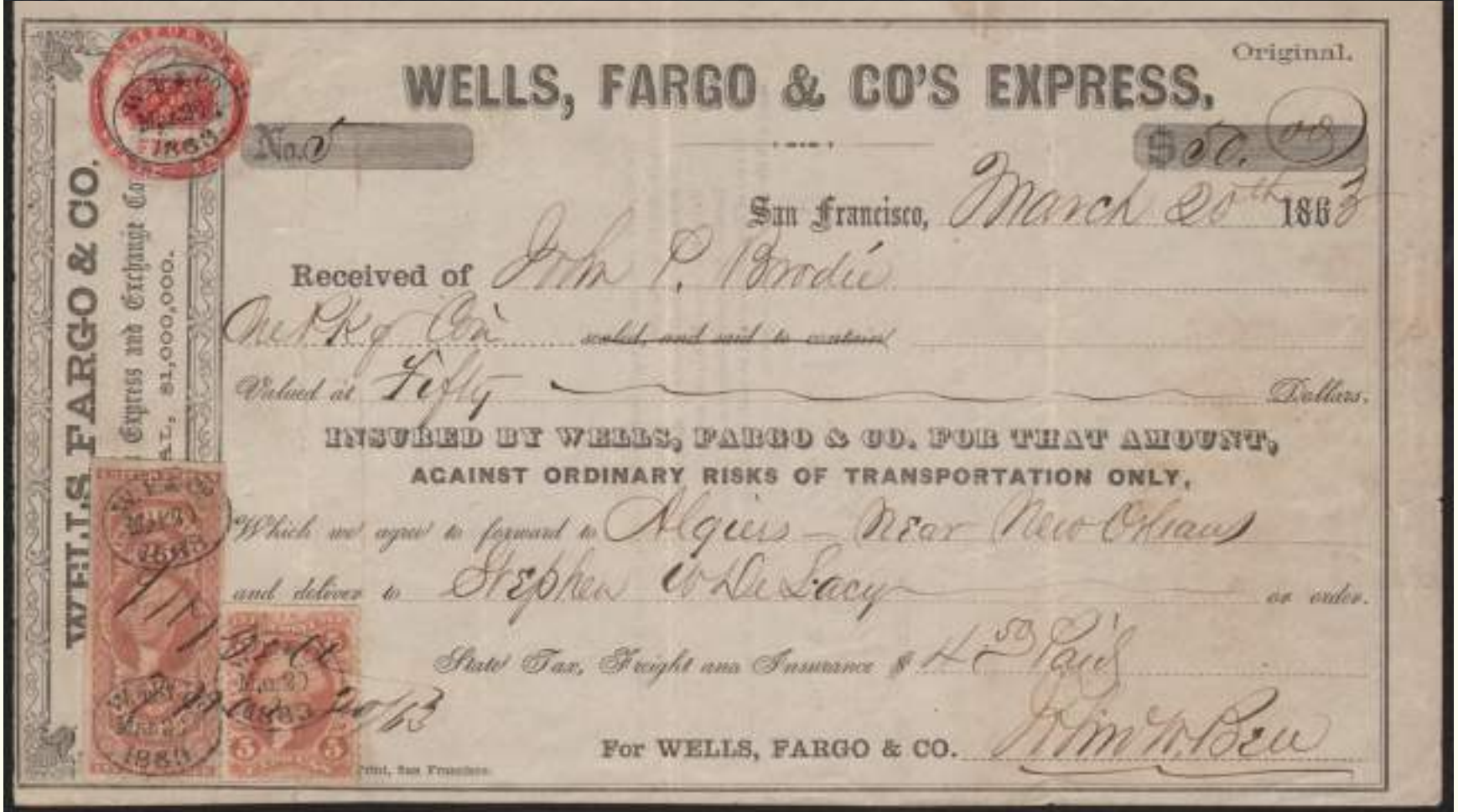
CO., EXPRESS FORWARDERS.
East Penn Square, Reading, Pa., and 607 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Received from
Union Bank
one Sealed Package said to contain —
Seven Thousand & — Dollars
 Consigned to Seban & Co. Bank
 For the Proprietors, —
 Particular attention paid to the collection of Notes, Drafts, &c.



All Three Express Rates!
 Thompson & Co.'s American Express, ex-Turner



Conjunctive Use
 United States Express Co. plus American Express Co.
 Note reference to stamp tax on American Express Co. label



U.S. plus California Triple Combination, Quadruply Unique
 Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express shipment, insured to Algiers, Louisiana, in the occupied Confederacy, showing three taxes: U.S. Express (5¢) and Insurance (25¢), plus sole recorded example of California Insurance 4¢ rate
 Three unique combinations: Express-Insurance, Express-California and Express-Insurance-California
 California Insurance tax paid with an Exchange stamp! As with bills of exchange, these receipts were made in sets of two, each requiring a stamp. For 8¢ one obtained 8¢ First and Second Exchange stamps, each representing 4¢ tax; the First was affixed here to the Original, the Second presumably to the Duplicate, neatly paying the 4¢ tax on both.



Any EMU is a high-level rarity. Only 25 with 1863 dates have been recorded.

17. FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Bill of exchange drawn in but payable out of U.S., in a set of three or more, for each bill:

Amount up to the equivalent of \$150 U.S.	.03
Over \$150 to \$250	.05
Over \$250 to \$500	.10
Over \$500 to \$1,000	.15
Over \$1,000 to \$1,500	.20
Over \$1,500 to \$2,500	.30
Over \$2,500 to \$3,500	.50
Over \$3,500 to \$5,000	.70
Over \$5,000 to \$7,500	1.00
Over \$7,500, each additional \$2,500	.30





(Foreign Exchange)
1864. For each \$100 or fraction thereof, .02
(The Great Simplification. Effective **August 1, 1864**, the tax rates were radically simplified, none more than for Foreign Exchange: the **1862 table of ten rates** was replaced by the **blanket rate 2¢ per \$100**. Similarly extensive changes were made for Conveyance, Inland Exchange and Probate of Will. The new tax on foreign bills made for a delightful variety of stampings.)

U.S. plus California
Left, 1866 third of exchange, U.S. 40¢ part perforce (x2) plus California Third Exchange \$6 & \$2

California bills were nearly all domestic, made in sets of two. Only **about a dozen** foreign bills bearing **Thirds** have been recorded. Use of “unfinished” U.S. stamps as late as 1866 would have been extraordinary anywhere but in the far West; a supply sent to San Francisco in early 1863 took years to deplete.



Unsevered Second and Third; \$1.30 & \$1.90 Foreign Exchange
Above left, typically **only the First** was sent to its destination, the **Second and Third** kept in reserve in case the first was lost in transit. Nevertheless, **unsevered pairs** are seldom seen.
Above middle and right, **\$1.30 and \$1.90 Foreign Exchange** each recorded on fewer than ten documents



U.S. plus France
Above **First** of exchange, **France Effets de Commerce 7fr** affixed in Havre
Surviving **Firsts**, carried abroad, typically with a pleasing array of markings, are **orders of magnitude scarcer** than Seconds or Thirds, which typically remained in reserve in company archives.



Second Issue Rarities
Above, from left:
2nd Issue 3¢ recorded on fewer than 20 documents, the pair unique on document
2nd Issue 4¢ recorded on fewer than ten documents, **2nd Issue 6¢** on just five

The stamps shown here include some of the **rarest on document**. After August 1864 there was **little use** for denominations like **3¢, 4¢, 6¢, 30¢, 40¢, 60¢, 70¢** or **\$1.30**. Their inclusion in the short-lived Second and Third Issues resulted in many major rarities. The Foreign Exchange 1864 rate of **2¢ per \$100** and the Contract 1866 rate of **1¢ per \$100**, were the only **likely sources** of documents bearing these “abandoned” denominations. Directly above, from left:

Second Issue Rarities
2nd Issue 4¢, 60¢ & 70¢ each recorded on fewer than ten documents
2nd Issue \$1.30 recorded on only two documents
(Combinations: **60¢ & 4¢** plus 3rd **30¢**, unique; **70¢ & 4¢**, two recorded)



Third Issue Rarities
3rd Issue 4¢ recorded on fewer than ten documents; the pair unique on document
3rd Issue 6¢, 60¢ & 70¢ each recorded on fewer than ten documents
3rd Issue 30¢ & 40¢ each recorded on fewer than 20 documents
(Combinations: **60¢ & 4¢** and **70¢ & 6¢**, two recorded; **40¢ & 4¢**, three recorded)



Cuba plus U.S.
From Havana for \$25,000 gold with Cuba imprinted stamp. Ex-Joyce

Foreign Exchange, Incoming
Bills of exchange drawn in a foreign country but payable in the U.S. were taxed at the same rates as inland bills, the tax to be paid before payment or acceptance.

1864. Payable otherwise than at sight, for each \$100 or fraction thereof, .05



Nuevitas, Cuba, \$1.30 Foreign Exchange
\$1.30 Foreign Exchange recorded on fewer than ten documents
Highlight of the “Knowlton Find” of incoming bills drawn on sugar importer Danford Knowlton



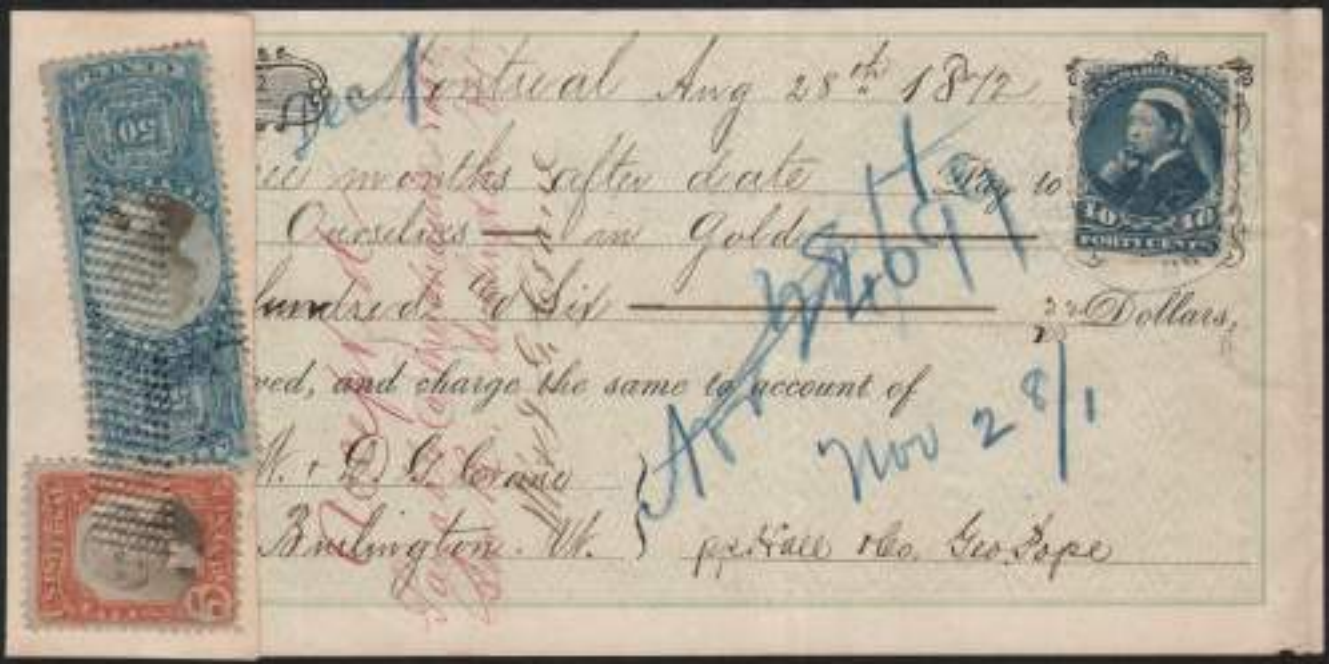
Double Crossing of the Atlantic
From Guatemala City payable in New York, where it was stamped on acceptance. Negotiated twice in Gand, Belgium (note blue handstamp of Bank of Flanders), crossed the Atlantic twice! Two stamped bills recorded from Guatemala. Ex-Turner



“The Man Who Invented Baseball”
Drawn in Hawaii by master of the whaling bark Massachusetts, on outfitters Swift and Allen of New Bedford, Massachusetts. Bill of Alexander Cartwright, “founder of modern baseball,” who had emigrated from New York, signed three times by him. Ex-Lipson.



Triple-Nation Combination
From Manganui, New Zealand, by master of whaling bark Louisa, on whaling factors Swift and Allen of New Bedford, Massachusetts, bearing New Zealand embossed stamp, adhesives of Great Britain and U.S. Ex-Cunliffe.



18. GAUGER'S RETURN
1864. Quantity up to 500 gallons gross, .10
Over 500 gallons, .25
Tax rescinded August 1, 1866

Canada plus U.S.
Time drafts drawn in Montreal and Peterborough, Canada West, with Canada bill stamps of First Issue (middle), Second Issue (bottom) and Third Issue (top) affixed on execution, and U.S. stamps upon acceptance
First Issues in use only about a year in 1864–5; only three combinations with U.S. recorded

Sole Recorded Gauger's Return
Of the 31 major types of documents taxed, Gauger's Return is the only one for which just a single example has been recorded. A gauger was licensed to measure liquid volume. Here L. D. Mudge, Weigher and Gauger, attested in November 1864 that 25 barrels of whiskey had net contents 1,009 gallons. Evidently gauging accounted for relatively little of Mudge's business; the words “Weighed for” printed on the form have been changed by hand to “Gauged for.” The return is attached to a receipt for sale of the whiskey, the receipt tax paid with 2¢ Express blue. Ex Turner



19. INLAND EXCHANGE	
1862. Bill of exchange drawn and payable in the U.S., draft or order payable other than at sight, or any promissory note:	
Amount over \$20 up to \$100,	.05
Over \$100 to \$200,	.10
Over \$200 to \$350,	.15
Over \$350 to \$500,	.20
Over \$500 to \$750,	.30
Over \$750 to \$1,000,	.40
Over \$1,000 to \$1,500,	.60
Over \$1,500 to \$2,500,	1.00
Over \$2,500 to \$5,000,	1.50
Over \$5,000, for each additional \$2,500 or fraction,	1.00

These rates were **in effect** only about **five months**, of which **stamps** were generally **available** only during the **last three**. Examples of the **higher rates** range from the **rare** (40¢ and 60¢, fewer than twenty recorded) to the **ultra-rare** (\$2.50+, four known).

Spectacular run of **early 1863** time drafts of the **Quincy Mining Co.**, a copper mining concern on Michigan’s remote Upper Peninsula, showing the first seven of the ten 1862 Inland Exchange rates, each paid by the **appropriate matching Inland Exchange stamp**, including two imperforates and two part perforates.

This run was part of a hoard of Quincy Mining Co. paper that surfaced in the late 1970s, rescued on its way to a New Jersey landfill by a sharp-eyed refuse hauler. Chartered in 1848, the Quincy proved remarkably long-lived, earning the sobriquet “Old Reliable,” and remaining productive for nearly a century. In 1920 it installed the largest hoisting engine ever built, and shortly thereafter its shaft reached the vertical depth of 6,400 feet, second only to that of the South African diamond mines at Kimberley.



Inland Exchange \$1 and \$1.50 EKUs

1862 notes stamped with **matching \$1 and \$1.50 Inland Exchange imperforates**, the **earliest recorded usages** of these stamps

When the notes were executed, November 25 and November 27, 1862, respectively, neither stamp had been issued, but the \$1.50 appeared on November 26 and the \$1 followed on December 2. As with all First Issues, these were delivered by printers Butler and Carpenter of Philadelphia to the government stamp agent attached to their office. James A. Aull & Co., the maker of these notes, was also located in Philadelphia, and by **December 5** the appropriate stamps had been obtained, affixed, and canceled. This was only ten days after issuance of the \$1.50 stamp, and a scant three days after issuance of the \$1.



EMU with Imperforate, Part Perforate and Fully Perforated Stamps

January 1863 promissory note for \$633, the Inland Exchange 30¢ rate paid by **matching Inland Exchange 15¢ imperforate, 10¢ part perforate, and 5¢ fully perforated**. During the period of early matching use, if the single stamp of appropriate denomination was not on hand, it was necessary to use a combination of smaller values.

One occasionally sees two stamps used in this way, but very rarely three or more: this is one of just five recorded examples (see CONVEYANCE and EXPRESS for others), and the **only one showing all three perforation styles**.



Ten Stamps, the Minimum Possible!

Philadelphia commercial draft for \$6,000 dated **November 15, 1862**, \$2.50 tax paid by **matching Inland Exchange 30¢ (x8, including block of five) & 5¢ (x2)**

With the exception of bank checks, only a precious few uses of First Issues during October 1862 have been recorded, and **very few during November**, this being one of the earliest. Payment of the \$2.50 tax in this fashion may seem unusual, but is entirely predictable given the early date: before November 15 the **only Inland Exchange values** that had been issued were these two, the 30¢ and 5¢.



\$2.50+ Rate EMU

Philadelphia commercial draft for \$25,000 dated **December 12, 1862**, correctly taxed at \$9.50 with **matching Inland Exchange \$1.50 imperforate (x6, including strip of four), 30¢ & 10¢ pair**

This piece and its companion at left are **two of the four recorded EMUs** of the Inland Exchange 1862 open-ended rate of \$2.50 and above. Both are ex-Joyce.

Only five EMUs of any type recorded bearing matching stamps in three or more denominations
(See Conveyance and Express for two others)



Sale of Slaves

April 1863 \$2,000 promissory note for “a lot of negroes,” made at Waddy/Peytona, **Kentucky**, Inland Exchange 1862 \$1 rate paid by **matching Inland Exchange 60¢ and 40¢ part perforates**

Generally speaking, **U.S. tax stamps** constitute an **imprimatur** signifying support of the Union effort in a **war to eliminate slavery**. Their use on the record of a sale of slaves is at first blush seemingly contradictory, then ultimately **bitterly ironic**. It was possible because **slavery was legal in Kentucky** (and other Union border states). Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation of January 1863 had affected only areas still under rebel control.

The Inland Exchange rates had been changed March 3, 1863, effective immediately, but news of this took weeks to months to be disseminated, as this note illustrates: by the new 1863 rates the tax was only 60¢.



1¢ Playing Cards part perforate
\$2,713, 30 days, tax $14 \times 2\text{¢} = 28\text{¢}$, paid by **imperforate, part perforate, and fully perforated** stamps; fewer than **twenty such combinations** recorded

1¢ Playing Cards part perforate recorded on four documents

Only $14 \times 1\text{¢} = 14\text{¢}$ was necessary. For times of exactly 30, 60, 90 days or four months, the tax table was ambiguous. Payment at the higher rate, as here, was extraordinary.

(Inland Exchange)	
1863. Amount over \$20, for each \$200 or fraction:	
Payable within 30 days,	.01
Payable in 30 days to 60 days,	.02
Payable in 60 days to 90 days,	.03
Payable in 90 days to four months,	.04
Payable in four months to six months,	.06
Payable in over six months,	.10
Three days grace was allowed in all cases.	

Effective **March 3, 1863**, the **Inland Exchange** tax depended not only on the **amount payable**, but also the **time until payment**. This two-tiered scheme was vexing to users, but had delightful results for latter-day fiscal historians. The **tax could literally be any possible amount** (although in practice, amounts over a few dollars are rarely encountered), with an attendant **array of unusual and colorful stamp usages**. Examples from each of the **six time brackets** are shown.

“Making Do” (I)

Above, \$10,000, 60 days, tax $50 \times 2\text{¢} = \$1.00$
Right, \$2,500, three months, tax $13 \times 3\text{¢} = 39\text{¢}$

The new rates paid by Inland Exchange stamps ordered to pay the now-obsolete 1862 rates, with help from **Bank Check imperforate strip of five**



4¢ Playing Cards Pair, Handstamp Cancel

Left, \$300, four months, tax $2 \times 4\text{¢} = 8\text{¢}$. **4¢ Playing Cards** recorded on **fewer than ten documents**, only **two showing multiples**
Middle, \$6,500, six months, tax $33 \times 6\text{¢} = \$1.98$. **Five-color combination** on reverse, extraordinary for Inland Exchange
\$601, six months, tax $4 \times 6\text{¢} = 24\text{¢}$. Sole recorded **4¢ Playing Cards** on document with **handstamp cancel**, ex-Joyce
Payment of documentary taxes with **Playing Cards stamps nominally illegal** but generally tolerated

4¢ Inland Exchange Matching Usage

Top, \$100, four months, tax 4¢. A **true inland bill of exchange**, made in duplicate, very rarely seen. The **4¢ Inland Exchange** was issued to **facilitate payment of the 1863 rates**, particularly the 4¢ rate.

2¢ Bank Check Orange First Printing (x10)

Bottom, May 1863 \$600 demand note with curious 20¢ payment by **ten 2¢ Bank Check orange First Printing**. This stamp was printed for only a **brief period in mid-October 1862** before its color change to blue. Virtually all were used singly to pay the check tax.

Sole recorded document bearing more than two copies.

(Inland Exchange)
1864. For each \$100 or fraction, .05



Stamped at 1863 & 1864 Rates

August 2, 1864, draft for \$1,500 in 20 days, 8¢ paid at **1863 rates**. These had been **superseded one day earlier** by the rate of 5¢ per \$100, which called for **75¢ tax**. On acceptance on **August 18**, the requisite **additional 67¢** in stamps was affixed.

“Making Do” (II)

The **4¢ & 6¢ Inland Exchange**, created to facilitate payment of the 1863 rates, were not well suited to the new rate of 5¢ per \$100. Here multiple copies help pay \$1.30 and 50¢, respectively.



The Ultramarine Experiment

To prevent washing of cancels, in 1869–70 the color of five stamps was briefly changed from **blue** to **ultramarine**.

Above, improbable juxtaposition of 10¢ Contract **ultramarine** with normal **blue**

Above left, 50¢ Conveyance **ultramarine** & 10¢ Contract in the richer “**ultramarine blue**” subshade

Sole recorded combination of **ultramarine** and **ultramarine blue**

NORTH LOUISIANA & TEXAS R.R. / MONROE, LA. cancel, the discovery copy

\$1.30 & \$1.60 Combination

Left, \$1.30, \$1.60 and \$1.90 Foreign Exchange each recorded on **fewer than twenty documents**. Use of the **\$1.30 & \$1.60** together is completely unexpected.



CB&Q Find

In the early 1990s notes and drafts surfaced from the archives of the **Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Co.**, that were quite literally fabulous — the stuff of which fables are made! Included was an array of 1871–2 notes for amounts from \$50,000 to \$400,000, requiring \$25 to \$200 tax. Apart from this find, only three notes or drafts are known with stamps of \$25 or higher. The eight notes at left represent the heart of that find. Besides the two individually captioned pieces, note:

Top, **Second Issue \$5 strip of five**, third-largest multiple extant, **unique on document**;

Left, **\$25 Mortgage** in both known shades, **orange vermillion and scarlet vermillion**, a **unique combination**;

Bottom, **Second Issue \$20, \$25 and \$50**, all recorded on fewer than ten documents.



\$200 Tax, \$15 Mortgage Ultramarine
\$400,000 note with \$200 tax paid by all four Class 10 First Issue denominations: \$15, \$20 (x3), \$25 & \$50 (x2), highlighted by the \$15 Mortgage ultramarine
\$15 Mortgage ultramarine recorded on four documents



Second Issue \$1.90
2nd Issue \$1.90 recorded on two documents

First/Second/Third Issue Combination
Middle, generated during a brief window in 1872, **fewer than 20 recorded**
Right, **Third Issue \$5 (x3)** with “scarifying” cancels to prevent reuse



U.S. plus Canada
\$500 note made and payable in Detroit, endorsed and accepted for payment at The Quebec Bank, St. Catharines, Ontario, stamped there with **Canada Third Bill 3¢ (x5)** paying rate of 3¢ per \$100



U.S. plus Ontario
1867 note made and payable in Chicago, filed November 1869 in an action in the Upper Canada Court of Common Pleas, stamped there with **Ontario Common Fund (“C.F.”) 10¢**
Sole recorded U.S.-Ontario combination

\$20 Vermilion & Black Color Error
Even in its normal orange & black, the **Third Issue \$20** is a high-level rarity on document, with fewer than ten recorded. The **\$20 vermillion & black color error** is at another level:
the pair unique on document;
one of two known pairs, the co-largest recorded multiple;
the stamp recorded on just two documents

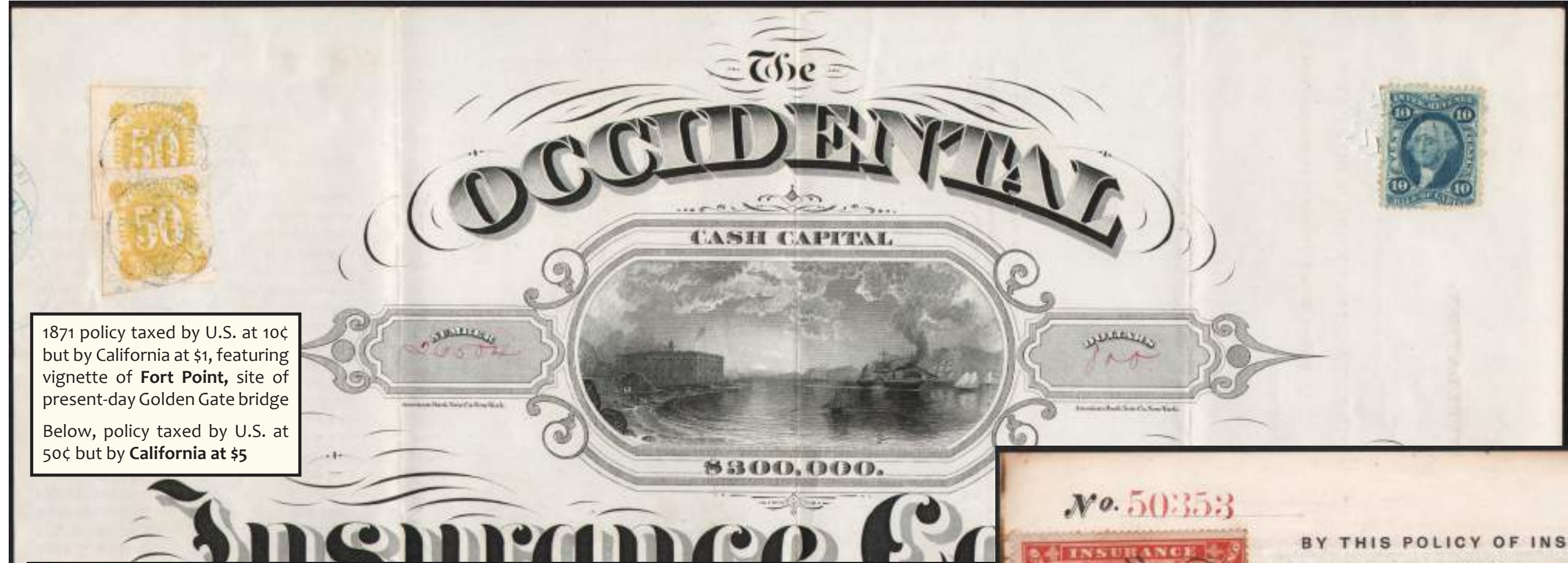
20. INSURANCE
1862. Insurance on property of any description, .25

Perforated Precedes Imperforate
The 25¢ Insurance was one of relatively few stamps **first issued perforated, later imperforate**:
Right, policy renewal dated **November 10, 1862**, stamped with **matching 25¢ Insurance perforated**, an extraordinarily early usage;
Below, renewal dated **February 1863** stamped with **matching 25¢ Insurance imperforate**



One, Two, Three, Four! Pressaging the End of Stamp Taxes
First Issue 5¢, Second Issue 10¢, Third Issue 2¢ & 5¢, Proprietary (“Fourth Issue”) 1¢
Only recorded combination of all four
\$1.90 tax paid by 45 stamps (13 on front) on note for \$3,716.24 made **September 19, 1872**
Documentary taxes (except the 2¢ Bank Check levy) were set to **expire October 1, 1872**; as that date approached, stamp stocks were not replenished and users **“made do”** with what was on hand.





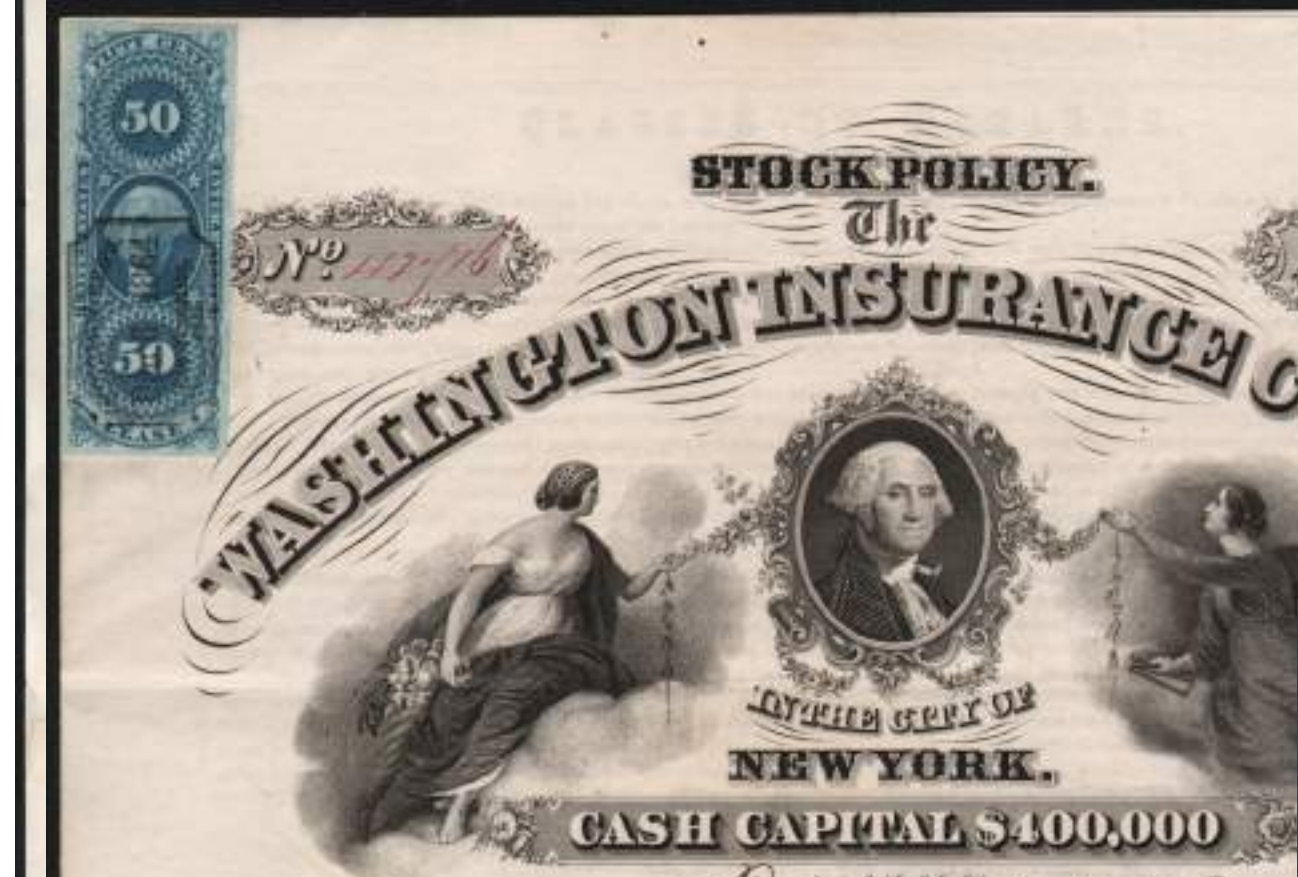
1871 policy taxed by U.S. at 10¢ but by California at \$1, featuring vignette of Fort Point, site of present-day Golden Gate bridge

Below, policy taxed by U.S. at 50¢ but by California at \$5

(Insurance)	
1863. Premium up to \$10, .10	
1864. Over \$10 to \$50, .25	
1864. Over \$50, .50	

California, Nevada Oregon
Each had state stamp taxes on insurance. Combinations with U.S. stamps are scarce (California, 109 recorded) to rare (Nevada, nine recorded) to ultra-rare (Oregon, five recorded).

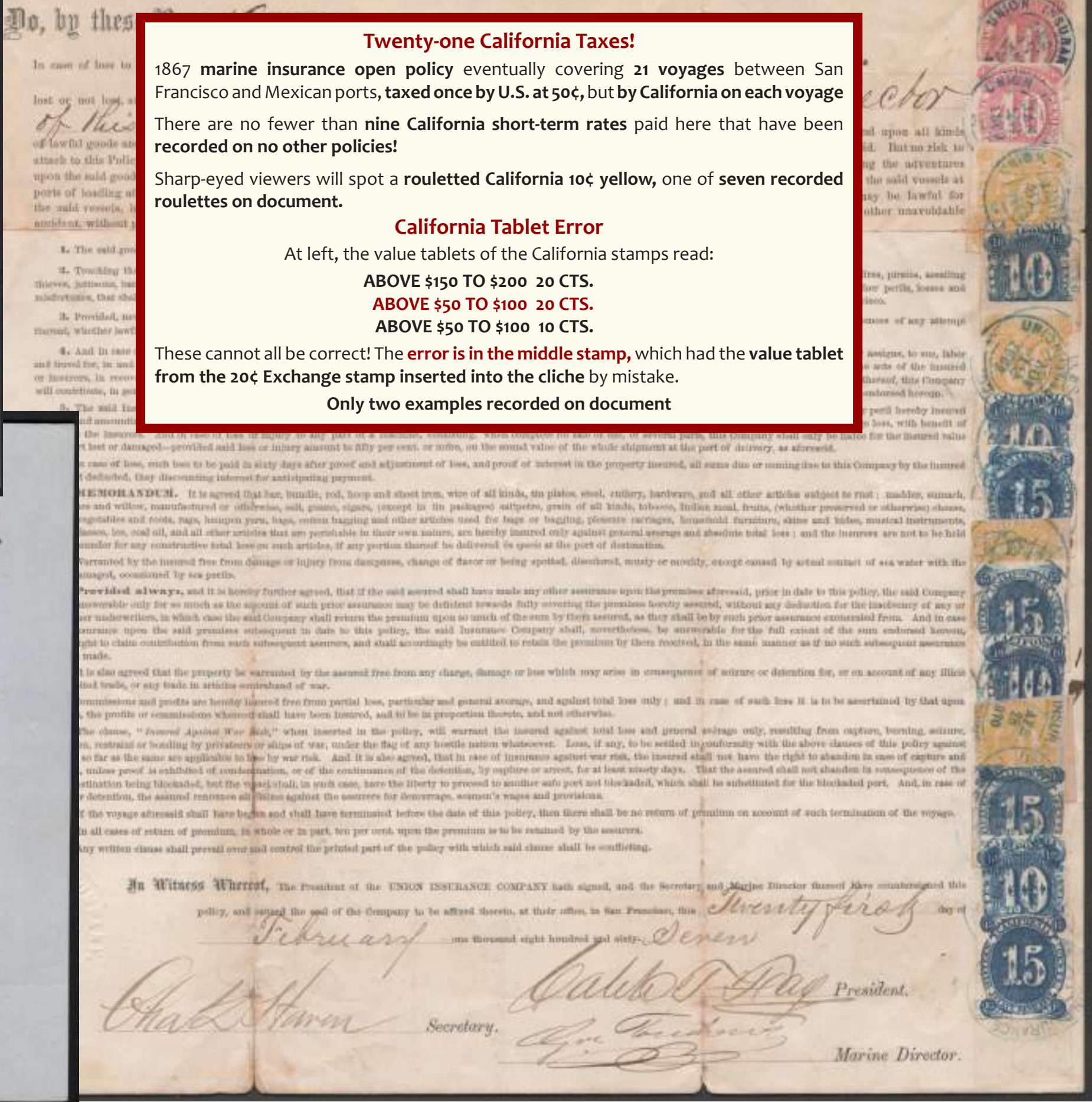
Below, 1871 policy taxed by U.S. at 50¢ but by Oregon at \$1
Five U.S.-Oregon combinations recorded
Five examples of Oregon \$1 rate recorded



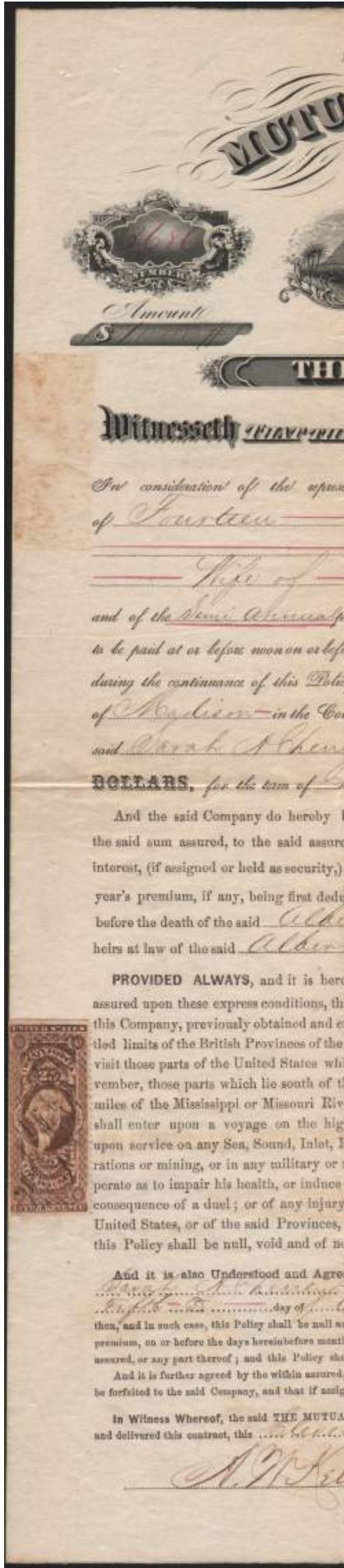
- U.S. plus Nevada
- Two 10¢ combinations recorded
- Five 25¢ combinations recorded
- Nevada 25¢ scarlet vermilion roulette 10, fewer than twenty recorded on document
- Three 50¢ combinations recorded
- Nevada 50¢ blackish purple roulette 10, sole recorded example



California \$19 Rate
Renewal of \$20,000 policy taxed by U.S. at 50¢ but by California at \$19
Sole recorded example of California Insurance \$19 rate



Twenty-one California Taxes!
1867 marine insurance open policy eventually covering 21 voyages between San Francisco and Mexican ports, taxed once by U.S. at 50¢, but by California on each voyage
There are no fewer than nine California short-term rates paid here that have been recorded on no other policies!
Sharp-eyed viewers will spot a rouletted California 10¢ yellow, one of seven recorded roulettes on document.
California Tablet Error
At left, the value tablets of the California stamps read:
ABOVE \$150 TO \$200 20 CTS.
ABOVE \$50 TO \$100 20 CTS.
ABOVE \$50 TO \$100 10 CTS.
These cannot all be correct! The error is in the middle stamp, which had the value tablet from the 20¢ Exchange stamp inserted into the cliché by mistake.
Only two examples recorded on document



Life Insurance EMUs

Above, August 1863 life policy, amount \$1,000, stamped with the rare matching 25¢ Life Insurance part perforate

Sole recorded 25¢ EMU

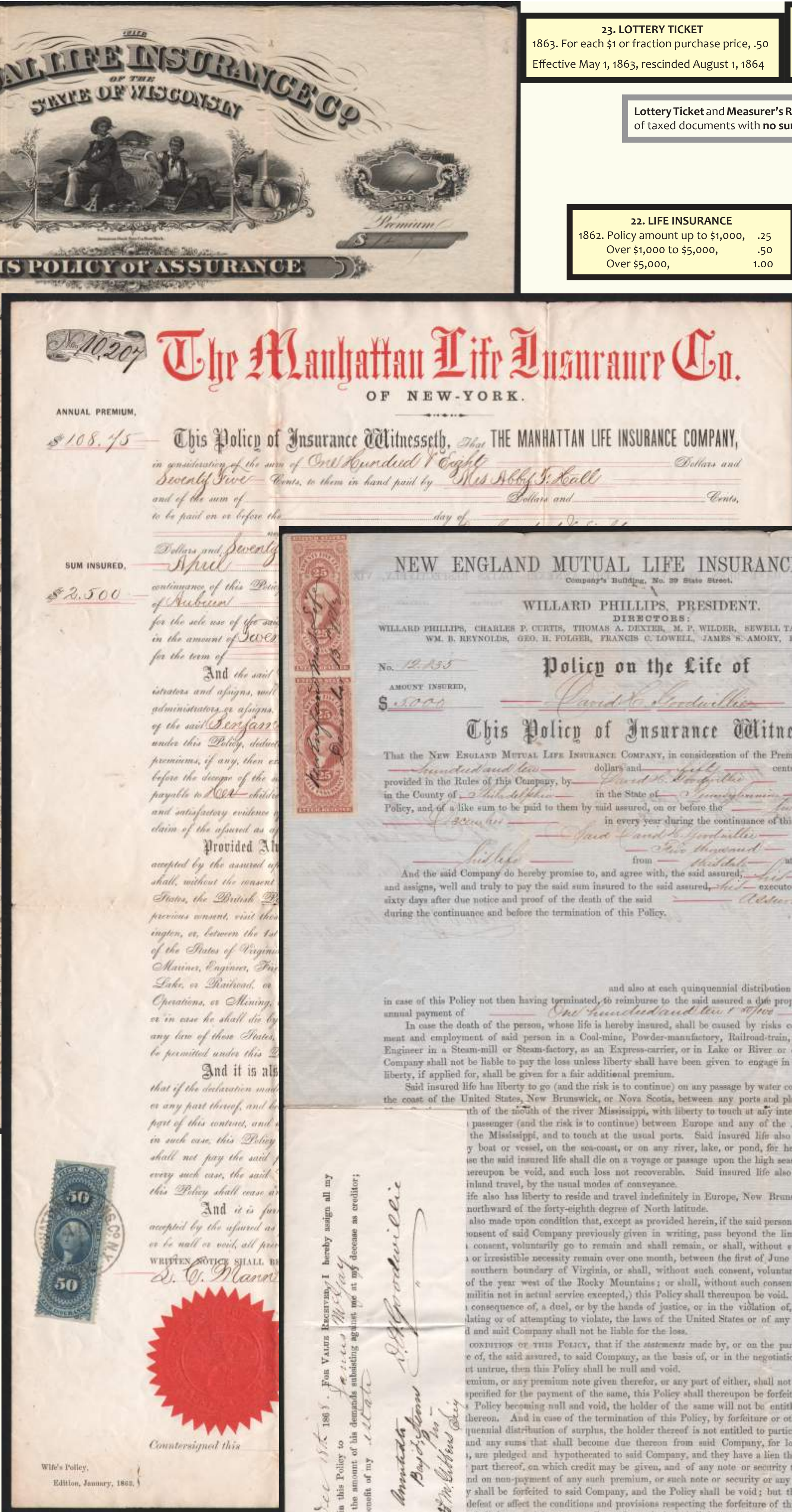
Middle, April 1863 life policy, amount \$2,500, stamped with matching 50¢ Life Insurance part perforate, ex-Turner

Two 50¢ EMUs recorded

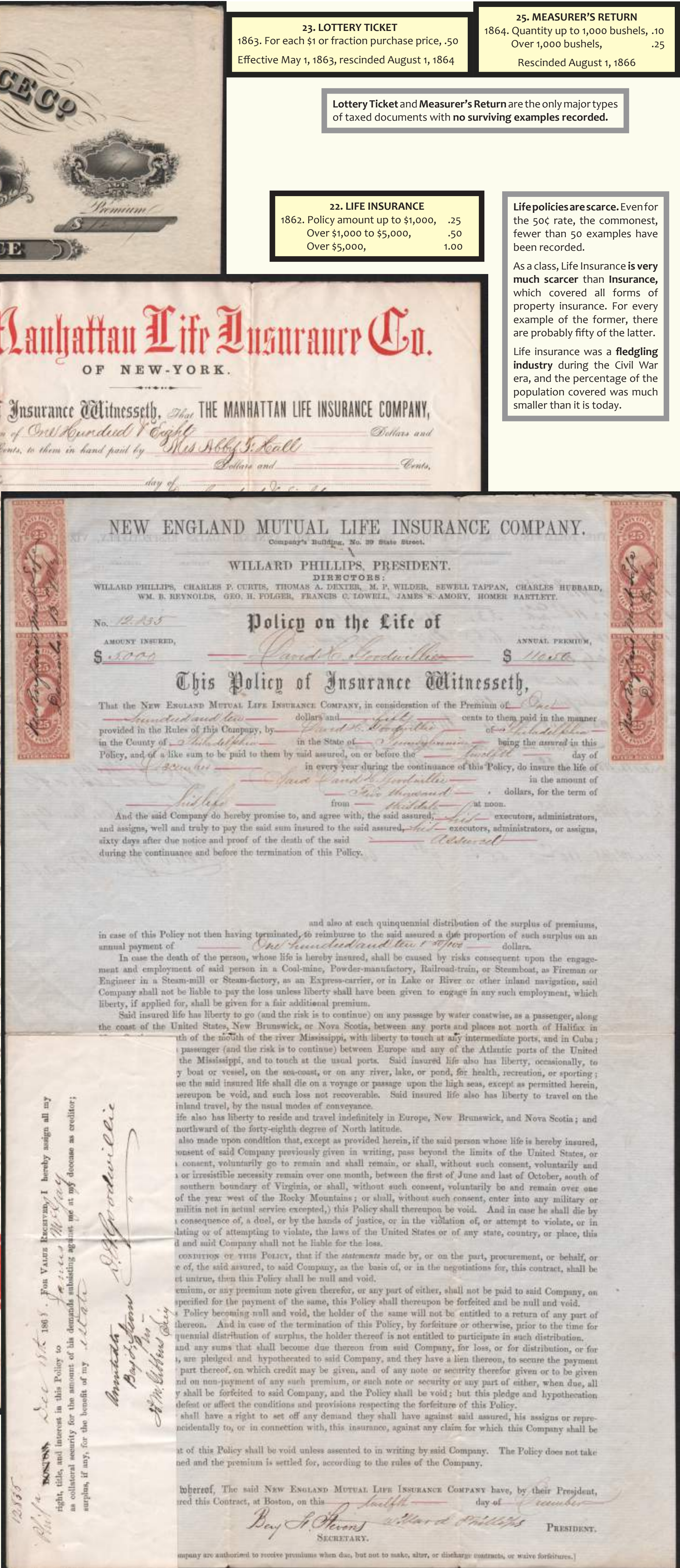
Bottom, December 1862 life policy, amount \$5,000, stamped with matching 25¢ Life Insurance imperforate pairs (x2), stamps canceled December 13

Sole recorded \$1 EMU

Sole recorded Life Insurance OMU (obligatory matching use) from period prior to December 25, 1862



Wife's Policy,
Edition, January, 1862.



23. LOTTERY TICKET

1863. For each \$1 or fraction purchase price, .50
Effective May 1, 1863, rescinded August 1, 1864

25. MEASURER'S RETURN

1864. Quantity up to 1,000 bushels, .10
Over 1,000 bushels, .25
Rescinded August 1, 1866

Lottery Ticket and Measurer's Return are the only major types of taxed documents with no surviving examples recorded.

22. LIFE INSURANCE

1862. Policy amount up to \$1,000, .25
Over \$1,000 to \$5,000, .50
Over \$5,000, 1.00

Life policies are scarce. Even for the 50¢ rate, the commonest, fewer than 50 examples have been recorded.

As a class, Life Insurance is very much scarcer than Insurance, which covered all forms of property insurance. For every example of the former, there are probably fifty of the latter.

Life insurance was a fledgling industry during the Civil War era, and the percentage of the population covered was much smaller than it is today.

and also at each quinquennial distribution of the surplus of premiums, in case of this Policy not then having terminated, to reimburse to the said assured a due proportion of such surplus on an annual payment of One hundred and ten dollars.

In case the death of the person, whose life is hereby insured, shall be caused by risks consequent upon the engagement and employment of said person in a Coal-mine, Powder-manufactory, Railroad-train, or Steamboat, as Fireman or Engineer in a Steam-mill or Steam-factory, as an Express-carrier, or in Lake or River or other inland navigation, said Company shall not be liable to pay the loss unless liberty shall have been given to engage in any such employment, which liberty, if applied for, shall be given for a fair additional premium.

Said insured life has liberty to go (and the risk is to continue) on any passage by water coastwise, as a passenger, along the coast of the United States, New Brunswick, or Nova Scotia, between any ports and places not north of Halifax in the mouth of the river Mississippi, with liberty to touch at any intermediate ports, and in Cuba; as a passenger (and the risk is to continue) between Europe and any of the Atlantic ports of the United States, the Mississippi, and to touch at the usual ports. Said insured life also has liberty, occasionally, to go by boat or vessel, on the sea-coast, or on any river, lake, or pond, for health, recreation, or sporting; and the said insured life shall die on a voyage or passage upon the high seas, except as permitted herein, whereupon be void, and such loss not recoverable. Said insured life also has liberty to travel on the inland travel, by the usual modes of conveyance.

Said insured life also has liberty to reside and travel indefinitely in Europe, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia; and northward of the forty-eighth degree of North latitude.

also made upon condition that, except as provided herein, if the said person whose life is hereby insured, without the consent of said Company previously given in writing, pass beyond the limits of the United States, or, without the consent, voluntarily go to remain and shall remain, or shall, without such consent, voluntarily and for an irremediable necessity remain over one month, between the first of June and last of October, south of the southern boundary of Virginia, or shall, without such consent, voluntarily be and remain over one of the year west of the Rocky Mountains; or shall, without such consent, enter into any military or militia not in actual service excepted,) this Policy shall thereupon be void. And in case he shall die by the consequence of, a duel, or by the hands of justice, or in the violation of, or attempt to violate, or in the violation of or of attempting to violate, the laws of the United States or of any state, country, or place, this Policy shall be void and said Company shall not be liable for the loss.

CONDITION OF THIS POLICY, that if the statements made by, or on the part, procurement, or behalf, of, or of the said assured, to said Company, as the basis of, or in the negotiations for, this contract, shall be found untrue, then this Policy shall be null and void.

premium, or any premium note given therefor, or any part of either, shall not be paid to said Company, and no part of the payment of the same, this Policy shall thereupon be forfeited and be null and void.

This Policy becoming null and void, the holder of the same will not be entitled to a return of any part of the premium thereon. And in case of the termination of this Policy, by forfeiture or otherwise, prior to the time for the quinquennial distribution of surplus, the holder thereof is not entitled to participate in such distribution.

and any sums that shall become due thereon from said Company, for loss, or for distribution, or for any other purpose, shall be pledged and hypothecated to said Company, and they have a lien thereon, to secure the payment of the premium, or any premium note given therefor, or any part of either, when due, all of which shall be forfeited to said Company, and the Policy shall be void; but this pledge and hypothecation shall not affect the conditions and provisions respecting the forfeiture of this Policy.

shall have a right to set off any demand they shall have against said assured, his assigns or representatives, or in connection with, this insurance, against any claim for which this Company shall be liable.

at of this Policy shall be void unless assented to in writing by said Company. The Policy does not take effect until the premium is settled for, according to the rules of the Company.

whereof, The said NEW ENGLAND MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY have, by their President, signed this Contract, at Boston, on this 12th day of December.

Bay S. Stearns Secretary. Willard Phillips PRESIDENT.

Company are authorized to receive premiums when due, but not to make, alter, or discharge contracts, or waive forfeitures.)

OUTWARD FOREIGN MANIFEST... WHOLE CARGO.

Sold at Kater's Navigation Store, 63 North Water Street.

Report and Manifest of the Cargo laden at the Port of

New Bedford

on board the

Master, bound for North Pacific Ocean.

MARKS.	NUMBERS.	PACKAGES, OR ARTICLES IN BULK, To be arranged alphabetically, and each kind to be separately inserted, and distinctly described.	CONTENTS OR QUANTITIES, In gallons, pounds, yards, pieces, &c., to be inserted in figures.	VALUE AT THE PORT OF EXPORTATION.					
				Value of Domestic Produce or Manufactures.		Value of Foreign Produce or Manufactures.		TOTAL AMOUNT.	
				DOLLARS.	CENTS.	DOLLARS.	CENTS.	DOLLARS.	CENTS.

Casks Shirts Provisions and other articles necessary for the prosecution of a Whaling Voyage.

(20) Twenty Cases Manufactured Glass & Wood Lumber containing Eight Boxes or Caddies in a Case. J. W. Merrill Inspector Collection District No. 1 Massachusetts April 1864 3012 pounds.

24. MANIFEST

1862. Manifest for custom-house entry or clearance of cargo of any ship, for any foreign port except those in British North America:

Registered tonnage up to 300 tons,	1.00
Over 300 to 600 tons,	3.00
Over 600 tons,	5.00

Whaleship Burned by the Shenandoah

June 1864 outward manifest of New Bedford whaler William Thompson, bound for "North Pacific Ocean." She would never return. On June 22, 1865, some two months after Appomattox, the William Thompson would be captured and burned in the Bering Sea by the infamous Confederate raider Shenandoah.

Eleven examples of \$3 rate recorded, just five with the matching \$3 Manifest

On the 22nd of June, early that morning two ships were reported by the lookouts, two prize crews were readied, ["Shenandoah" Captain James] Waddell intent in capturing them both simultaneously. One was hampered by having a whale lashed to her side, it was the 495 ton "William Thompson" ...

On returning to the "William Thompson," her master Francis Smith insisted the war was all over, but Waddell took this news as the Captain merely trying to save his ship, and torched the ship anyway, unsure as to the real status of his Southern States. (<http://ahoy.tk-jk.net/MaraudersCivilWar/CSSShenandoah.html>)

21. LEASE

1862. Lease of any land or tenement: Period up to three years, .50 Over three years, 1.00

(Lease)

1864. Yearly rent up to \$300, .50 Over \$300, for each additional \$200 or fraction, .50

(Lease)

1865. Assignment or transfer of lease: Taxed at the same rate as the original instrument, plus the tax on a conveyance of property of equal value.

Lease plus Agreement EMU Combination

January 1863 lease and contract stamped with matching \$1 Lease imperforate and matching 5¢ Agreement (x5, one on each page).

Its principal provision was a 99 year lease of the East Mahanoy Railroad by the connecting Little Schuylkill Navigation Railroad Co.,

but there were six other numbered provisions, necessitating the Agreement tax. Then as now, leases for more than three years were relatively uncommon.

Only a handful of combinations of EMUs of any types recorded
Only three \$1 Lease EMUs recorded



Register's Office City County of New York

I hereby certify the foregoing instrument is recorded in the Office of the City County of New York in Case No. 311 at 12 o'clock in the day of October 1866

Assignment of Lease Compound Rate

1866 assignment of a lease in exchange for \$45,000. This necessitated a tax of \$45, as on a conveyance for a similar sum; plus \$3.50, as on the original lease.

Four examples recorded of this unusual compound rate

Jacob Weidenfeld

TO

Georgina E. Beers

Dated October 19th 1866

Assignment OF LEASE.

Crosby Osburn & Jones Attys &c 25 Pine St. N.Y.

26. MORTGAGE

1862. Mortgage of real or personal property or bond for payment of money:

Amount over \$100 to \$500, .50	Over \$5,000 to \$10,000, 10.00
Over \$500 to \$1,000, 1.00	Over \$10,000 to \$20,000 15.00
Over \$1,000 to \$2,500, 2.00	Over \$20,000, for each additional
Over \$2,500 to \$5,000, 5.00	\$10,000 or fraction 10.00

Provided always
 their executors, Administrators or assigns, the aforesaid debt to be paid unto the said Partys or assigns, the aforesaid debt on the day and time herein before written, together with lawful interest thereon, further delay and without any excuse made of any thing, for or in respect of whatsoever, that then, and from that time, and the Estate hereby granted, and the same shall determine and become void, and the said Parties to these Presents shall be bound thereunto. Dated the day of May 1869.
Sealed and Delivered

In the presence of us,
 Notary Public for the County of Monroe, Louisiana.
 Humphreys

Unique \$10 EMU
 January 1863 personal bond for payment of \$10,000, stamped with matching \$10 Mortgage imperforate
 Sole recorded \$10 EMU



second part, his Executors, Administrators or assigns, the aforesaid debt to be paid unto the said Partys or assigns, the aforesaid debt on the day and time herein before written, together with lawful interest thereon, further delay and without any excuse made of any thing, for or in respect of whatsoever, that then, and from that time, and the Estate hereby granted, and the same shall determine and become void, and the said Parties to these Presents shall be bound thereunto. Dated the day of May 1869.
Sealed and Delivered

In Witness Whereof The parties of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.



Unique \$15 EMU
 1859 mortgage for \$17,006, recorded February 1863 and stamped with matching \$15 Mortgage imperforate
 Sole recorded \$15 EMU
 Sole recorded example of \$15 rate

This treasure of fiscal history entered philatelic hands only in 1991, when it was salvaged from company records being scrapped.

STATE OF NEW-YORK,
 County of Monroe.
 On this 18th day of May 1869, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the County of Monroe, Louisiana, personally appeared John F. Jones, of the County of Monroe, Louisiana, who acknowledged that he executed the same; and the said Cause on a private examination by me, apart from her said husband, and freely, and without any fear or compulsion of her said husband.

The original 1862 rates were in effect only about five months, during most of which stamps were not available. As a result, very few examples have survived. See the POWER OF ATTORNEY section for a \$2 Mortgage EMU.

STATE OF NEW-YORK,
 County of Monroe.
 On this 18th day of May 1869, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the County of Monroe, Louisiana, personally appeared John F. Jones, of the County of Monroe, Louisiana, who acknowledged that he executed the same; and the said Cause on a private examination by me, apart from her said husband, and freely, and without any fear or compulsion of her said husband.

fixed duly attested by the signatures of their President and Secretary: - and the said parties of the second part have hereunto set their hands and seals. - Done interchangeably the day and year first above written.

Sealed and Delivered
 in the presence of us,

over and over on fourth line before signing
 The words Coal inserted on thirty-fifth line second page before signing.

John Ansbach
 Pres.

Kate Ansbach
 Secy.

We hereby accept the foregoing trusts.
 Witness our hands and seals this first - day of May - 1869.



Wm. Dickel
 Wm. Stanton

and quietly, to have hold, use, possess and enjoy the said premises, with the appurtenances, and to operate and maintain the same, and to convey the same property, and to receive the income and profits thereof, and to sue @ Profit thereon to his own use, and to assign the same without any hindrance or interruption, and to be free from all disturbance whatever, of any person or persons, and the second part, or his assigns, in and to the same, or other person whatever, lawfully claiming or claiming the same, and to be free from all claim of them.

In Witness Whereof, the first part caused this instrument to be executed by its President and Secretary and its corporate seal to be hereunto attached and the said parties of the second part have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

attest

The American Bottom Lime Marble & Coal Company
 by J. D. Livingston, President
 John F. Jones
 Secretary A.B.L.M.



William R. New, Secy.
 W. R. Munn, Secy.

(Mortgage)
 1864. For each \$500 or fraction, .50

The Two Shades of the "Baby Rug"

The remarkable pair of \$200,000 mortgages, each bearing a First Issue \$200 "Baby Persian Rug." Above the more usual carmine and green shade, at left the scarce and distinctive scarlet and yellow green.

About 25 documents recorded with First Issue \$200, just three with \$200 scarlet & yellow green

The scarlet & yellow green shade appeared late, circa 1870. Here it was used in June 1872 by the American Bottom Lime Marble and Coal Co., East St. Louis, Illinois. Above, May 1869 mortgage of the Karthaus Coal and Lumber Co., Philadelphia. Both provided security for \$200,000 in company bonds to finance railroad construction.

It was only necessary to stamp either the mortgage or the bonds, the tax to be the greater of the two possible amounts. Bonds of this type were, in essence, a promise to pay a sum at a designated time, taxable not at the Bond rates, but as Inland Exchange, at 5¢ per \$100. The Mortgage rate was 50¢ per \$500, equivalently 10¢ per \$100. Thus the Mortgage rate prevailed, and the \$200,000 amount required \$200 tax.

This Indenture,

MADE the first day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, between the ST. CROIX and LAKE SUPERIOR RAILROAD COMPANY, of the first part, and WILLIAM H. SWIFT, SAMUEL J. TILDEN, and ANDREW H. GREEN, of the city and State of New York, of the second part.

WHEREAS, the said party of the first part is a corporation duly formed and organized under an Act of the Legislature of the State of Wisconsin, entitled an "Act to incorporate the St. Croix and Lake Superior Railroad Company," approved February 24th, 1854, and the several acts amendatory thereof.

AND WHEREAS, as such corporation, the said party of the first part is authorized and legally empowered to construct, equip, maintain, and operate the principal line of railroad hereinafter described, together with the branch thereof hereinafter mentioned, and in its corporate capacity to borrow any sum or sums of money, at any rate of interest which may be agreed upon between the said company and any party of whom such money may be obtained, and to make, execute, and deliver such bonds, mortgages, and other papers and securities, as may be deemed expedient by said corporation, in consideration of any such loan, or in discharge of any liabilities that it may incur in the construction, repair, equipment, or running of said road.

AND WHEREAS, in pursuance of the powers and authorities in it duly vested, the said St. Croix and Lake Superior Railroad Company has resolved to issue and negotiate a series of six thousand five hundred bonds, of two hundred pounds sterling each, numbered respectively from 1 to 6,500 inclusively, and to amount in the aggregate to one million and three hundred thousand pounds sterling; which said bonds are to be all equally secured by these presents, and are to be of like tenor and in the form following:

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

STATE OF WISCONSIN.

First Mortgage Sinking Fund Land Grant Bond,

No. ST. CROIX AND LAKE SUPERIOR RAILROAD COMPANY. £200.

Know all men by these presents, that the St. Croix and Lake Superior Railroad Company is indebted to William H. Swift, Samuel J. Tilden and Andrew H. Green, or bearer, in the sum of two hundred pounds sterling, which the said Company promises to pay to the said William H. Swift, Samuel J. Tilden and Andrew H. Green, or to the bearer hereof, on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand and nine hundred, at the City Bank in the city of London, England, with interest thereon at the rate of seven per centum per annum, free of all United States internal revenue tax, payable semi-annually, on the first days of January and July in each year, at the said City Bank in London, upon presentation and surrender of the annexed coupons as they severally become due, and in case of default in the payment of any half yearly instalment of interest which shall have become payable and shall have been demanded, and the continuance of such default for the period of three months after the maturity of such instalment, the principal of this bond shall become due in the manner and with the effect provided in the deed of trust or mortgage securing the payment of the same hereinafter mentioned.

This bond is one of a series of six thousand five hundred bonds of two hundred pounds sterling each, of like tenor and date, numbered respectively from 1 to 6,500, inclusively, and amounting in the aggregate to one million and three hundred thousand pounds sterling, and the payment of each and all of which is equally secured by a deed of trust or mortgage, bearing date on the first day of February, A. D. 1866, duly executed and delivered by the said St. Croix and Lake Superior Railroad Company to the said William H. Swift, Samuel J. Tilden and Andrew H. Green, trustees, conveying the railroad of the said Company, as the same shall hereafter be constructed, and the equipments, appurtenances, property, franchises and things in the said deed of trust or mortgage mentioned and described, and conveying also all the right, title and interest which the said Company now has or may hereafter acquire by reason of the construction of said railroad or any part thereof to such lands as have been or hereafter may be granted by



Largest Recorded Stamp Tax of the Civil War Era

1866 mortgage of St. Croix and Lake Superior Railroad Co. bearing First Issue \$200 (x28), \$50 (x13), \$20 Conveyance pair, and \$2 Mortgage.

The mortgage supported an issue of 6,500 £200 bonds, totaling £1,300,000, which at \$4.84 per pound sterling was equivalent to \$6,292,000. The Mortgage rate of 50¢ per \$500 thus called for a tax of \$6,292, which is precisely what was paid. This is by far the largest tax paid on any surviving document of the Civil War era.

A signatory was Samuel J. Tilden, later Governor of New York and Democratic candidate for President in 1876. Tilden won the popular vote handily and was one electoral vote short of victory, with the results from Florida, Louisiana, and South Carolina in dispute. An Electoral Commission awarded all disputed votes to Republican Rutherford B. Hayes, giving him a one-vote victory.

The outrage of southern Democrats threatened to re-ignite civil war, and was quieted only by the Compromise of 1877, by which Tilden and the Democrats acquiesced to the inauguration of Hayes in return for removal of the troops from the South. This effectively ended Radical Reconstruction, and with it a military saga begun 15 years earlier with the firing on Fort Sumter.



the second part and the survivors and survivor of them, and the executors, administrators, and assigns of such survivor, that whenever, and as often as the said party of the first part, its successors or assigns shall hereafter acquire any lands, or any equipment, or any other property or things of whatever name or nature, for use in connection with the railroad from Hudson to Superior aforesaid, or the said Branch thereof, or shall acquire any lands from the Government of the United States, or from the State of Wisconsin, by reason of the construction of the said railroads, or of either or of any part of either thereof, or of any other railroad which the said company is authorised by law to construct, or shall acquire any other property, rights, franchises or things whatsoever, the said party of the first part, its successors and assigns, shall and will acquire, possess and hold the same, and every part and parcel thereof upon and subject to the trusts of this indenture, until conveyance thereof, in pursuance of the covenant next hereinafter contained, shall be duly made and delivered to the said parties of the second part, or the survivors or survivor of them, or their or his successors or successor in the trust by these presents created.

And the said party of the first part, for itself, its successors and assigns, in consideration of the premises, and of one dollar to it duly paid by the said parties of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hereby covenants and agrees to and with the said parties of the second part, and the survivors and survivor of them, and the executors, administrators and assigns of such survivor, that the said party of the first part its successors and assigns, shall and will, from time to time, and at all times hereafter, and as often as thereunto requested by the trustees under this indenture, execute, deliver and acknowledge all such further deeds, conveyances and assurances in the law for the better assuring unto the said parties of the second part, the survivors and survivor of them, and their and his successors in said trust, upon the trusts herein expressed, the railroads, equipments, appurtenances, franchises, property and things hereinbefore mentioned,—including all lands which have been or may hereafter be granted by act of Congress to the State of Wisconsin, and to which the said company is or may hereafter by reason of the construction of said railroads, or of either or any part of either thereof, or for any reason, become entitled, or which the said company, its successors or assigns, may in any manner acquire, and also all other property, rights, franchises and things whatsoever which may hereafter be acquired by the said party of the first part, its successors or assigns,—as by the said trustees, or their counsel learned in the law, shall be reasonably advised, devised, or required.

In witness whereof the said party of the first part has caused its corporate seal to be hereto affixed, and the same to be attested by the signatures of its president and treasurer, and the said parties of the second part have hereunto set their hands and seals to evidence their acceptance of the trust hereby created, the day and year first above written.

Sealed and delivered
in the presence of
Charles Nettleton
John Rankin Jr.
Henry M. Alexander
President
Eudora Patton
Treasurer
William H. Swift
Samuel J. Tilden
Andrew H. Green



Sole Recorded “Persian Rug” on Document

Final page of **Morris and Essex Rail Road Co. \$5,000,000 mortgage**, bearing **Second Issue \$500 “Persian Rug”** and 25¢. The latter evidently paid five times the **Agreement 5¢ tax**, assessed on each of the five double-sided pages comprising the document.

The Boston Revenue Book gives the date of **first delivery** of the \$500 as **October 3, 1871**. The cancel here is dated **October 2**, evidently backdated to the mortgage date. Note the **proof-like vivid colors, extraordinarily sharp impression, and freshness**. Of the surviving “Rugs,” only this one has **“the bloom of a stamp that has never known water.”**

This mortgage originally bore ten copies of the \$500, and came onto the philatelic market intact. It was offered at auction in 1949, where the stamps went their separate ways, the last left on its page, no doubt because of the striking and colorful surroundings the page provided.

27. ORIGINAL PROCESS

1862. Writ or other original process whereby any suit is commenced in a court of record, .50

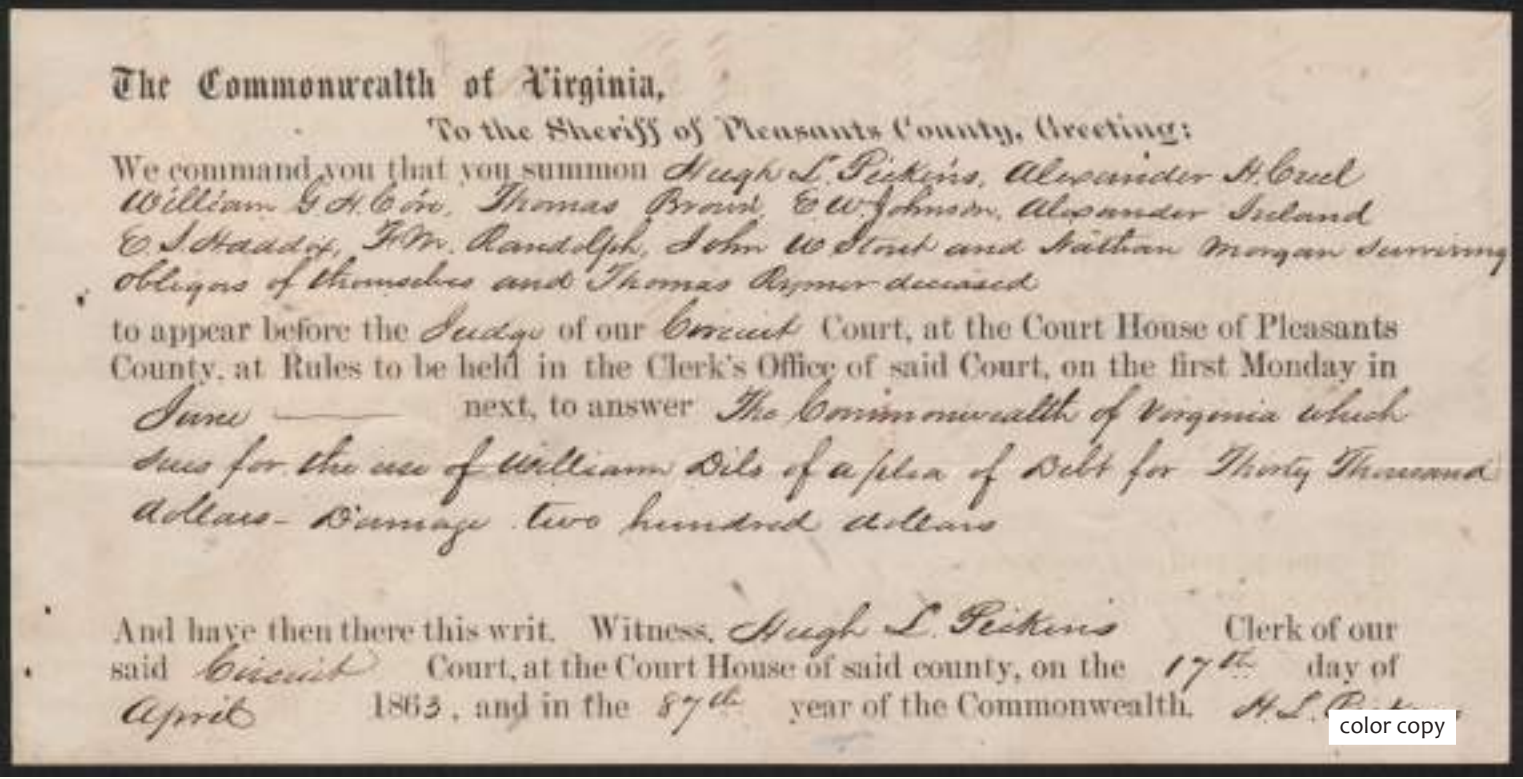


28. PASSAGE TICKET

1862. Passage ticket for a voyage from the U.S. to any foreign port except those in British North America:

Price up to \$30,	.50
Over \$30,	1.00

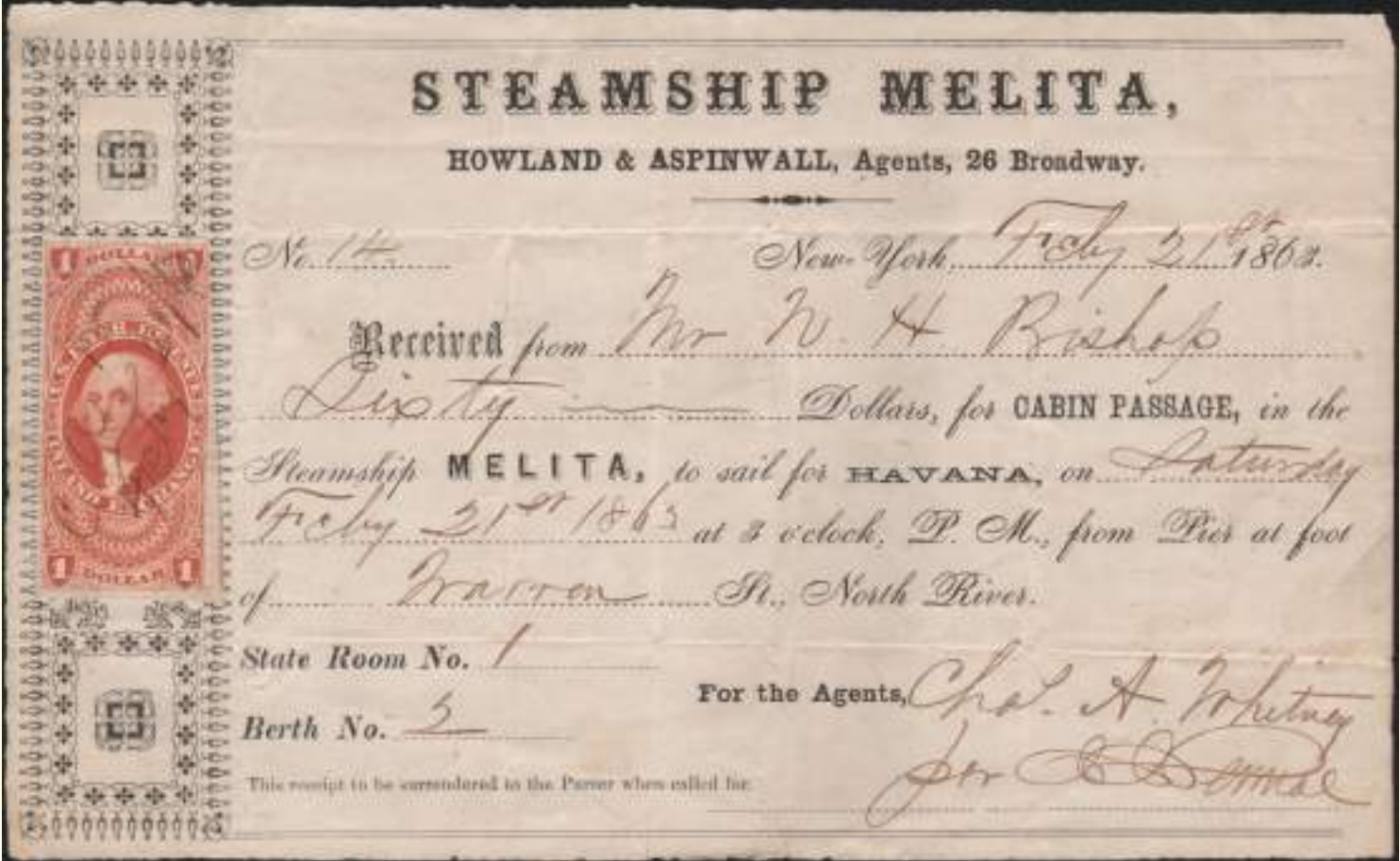
Passage Ticket is among the rarest major types of stamped documents, with only **eleven examples recorded** to date. Normally tickets were surrendered to the purser of the vessel, presumably to prevent re-use, and systematically destroyed.



Occupied Confederacy EMU

April 1863 summons, **Union-occupied Pleasants County, Virginia**, stamped on reverse with matching 50¢ Original Process imperforate canceled May 30, 1863.

In **October 1862** the federal government incorporated **37 Virginia counties** into a **U.S. Internal Revenue collection district**, and commenced collecting all federal taxes. On June 20, 1863, these and 16 adjoining counties would be formed into the new state of **West Virginia**.



Sole Recorded Example of 1862 Rates

February 1863 receipt/ticket for cabin passage on steamship *Melita*, New York to Havana, price \$60, stamped with **\$1 Inland Exchange imperforate**. At bottom, “This receipt to be surrendered to the Purser when called for.” (After August 1, 1864, the tax on a \$60 ticket would have been \$2.)

(Passage Ticket)

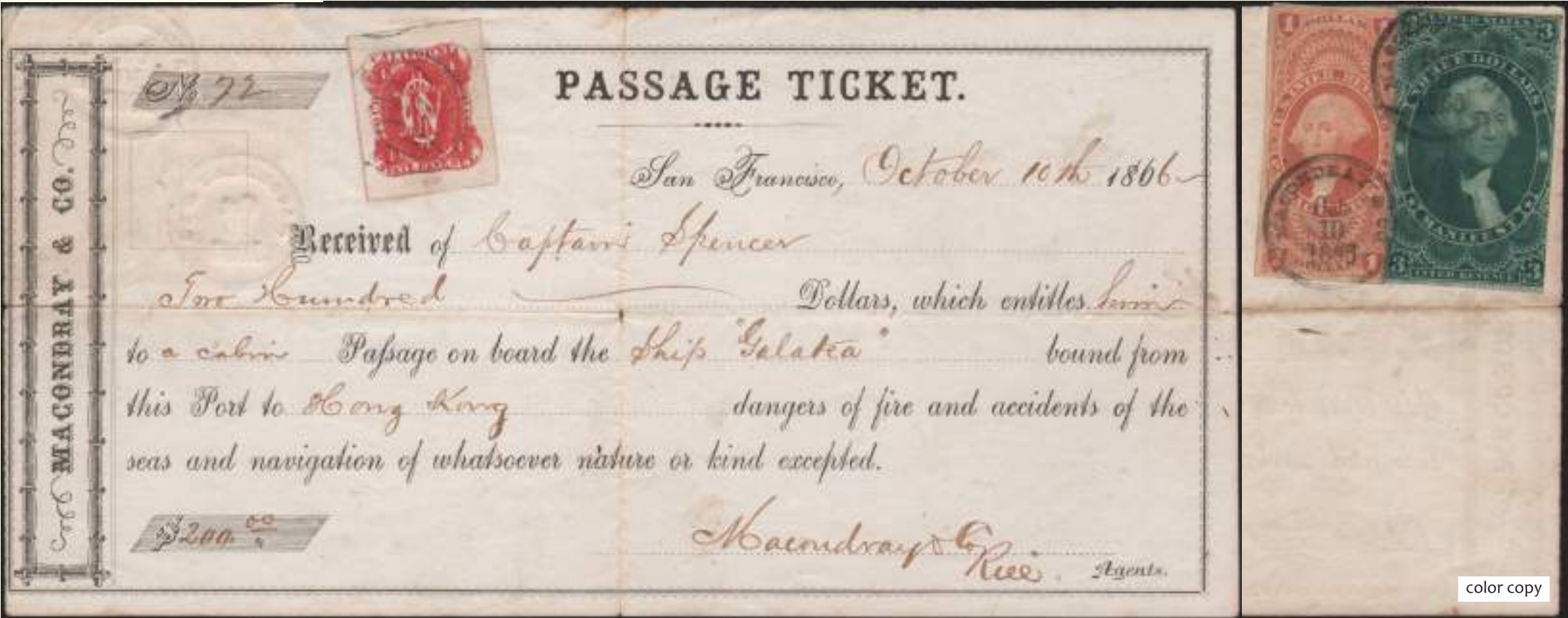
1864. Price up to \$35, .50
Over \$35, for each \$50 or fraction, 1.00

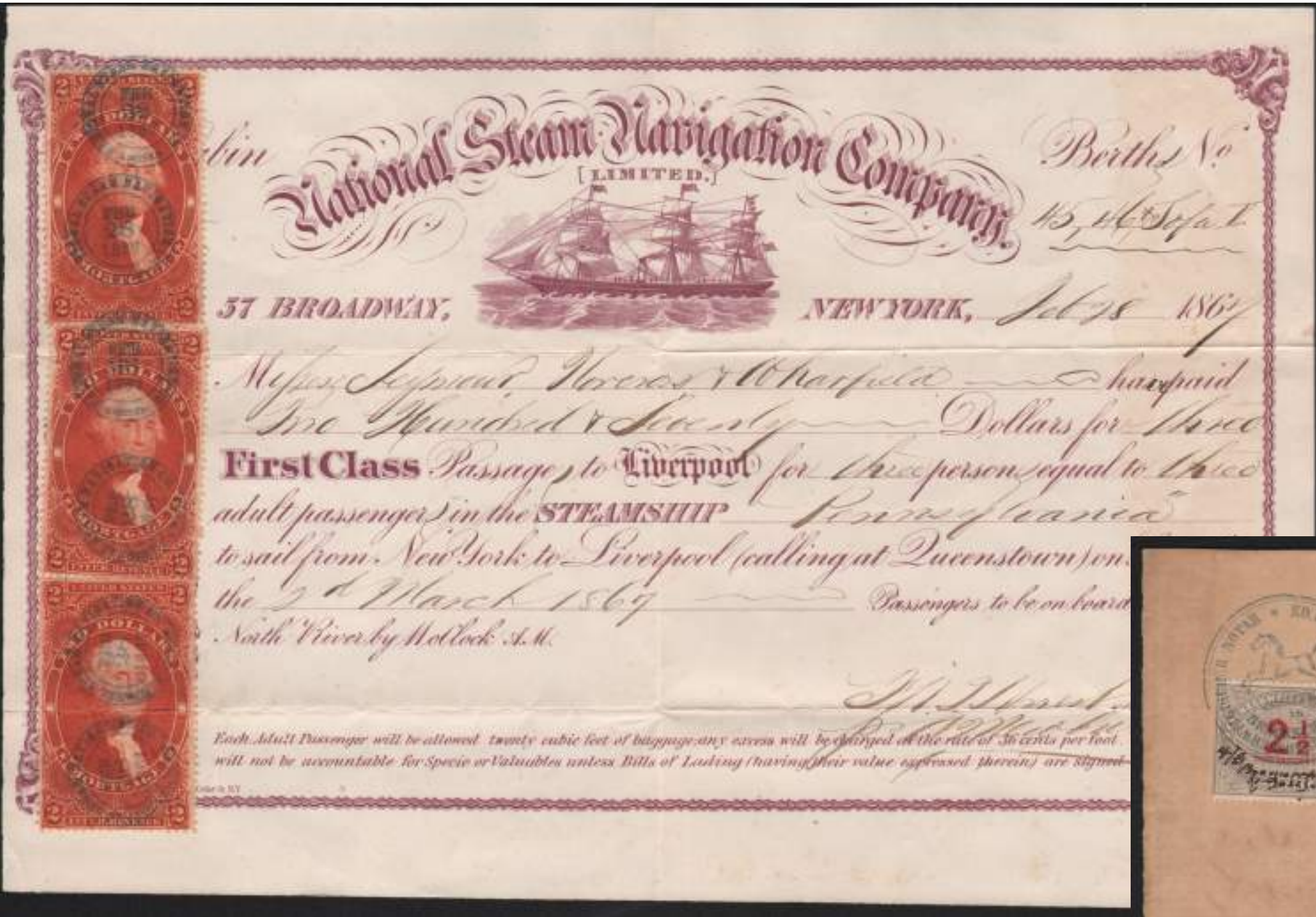
U.S. plus California

1866 ticket of **Macondray & Co.** for passage from **San Francisco to Hong Kong** on the *Galatea*, price \$200, correctly taxed at \$4 paid by **\$3 Manifest & \$1 Passage Ticket imperforates**.

California \$4 red pays state tax for second class passage.

Sole recorded ticket bearing U.S. and California stamps

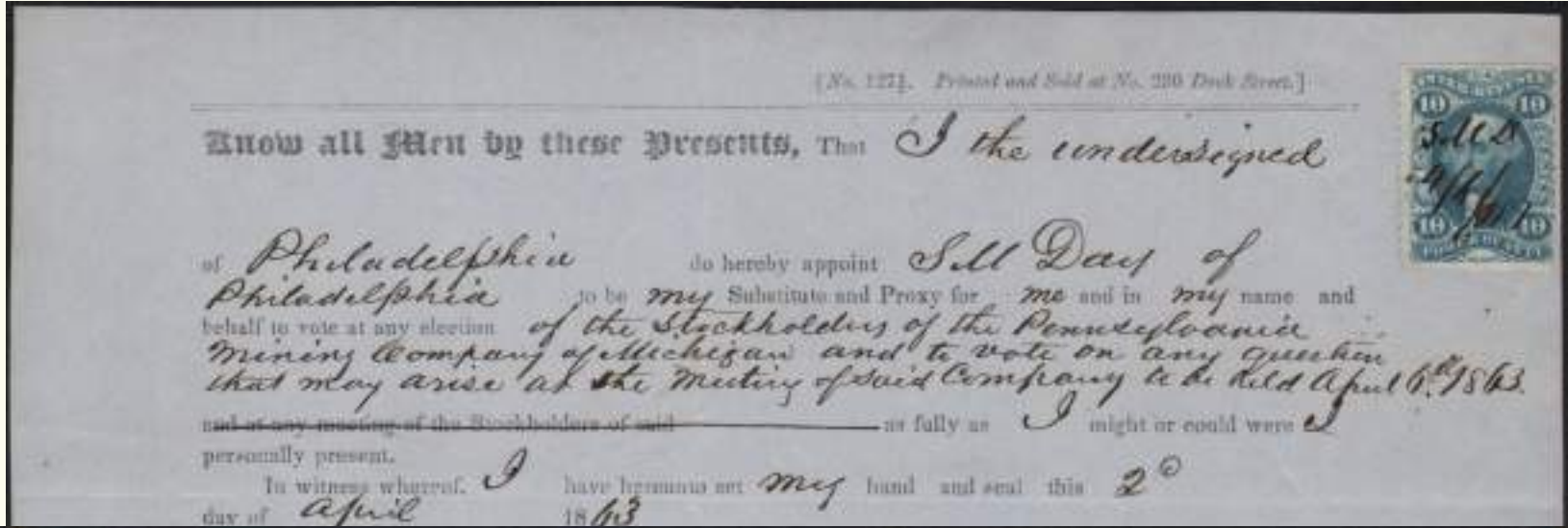




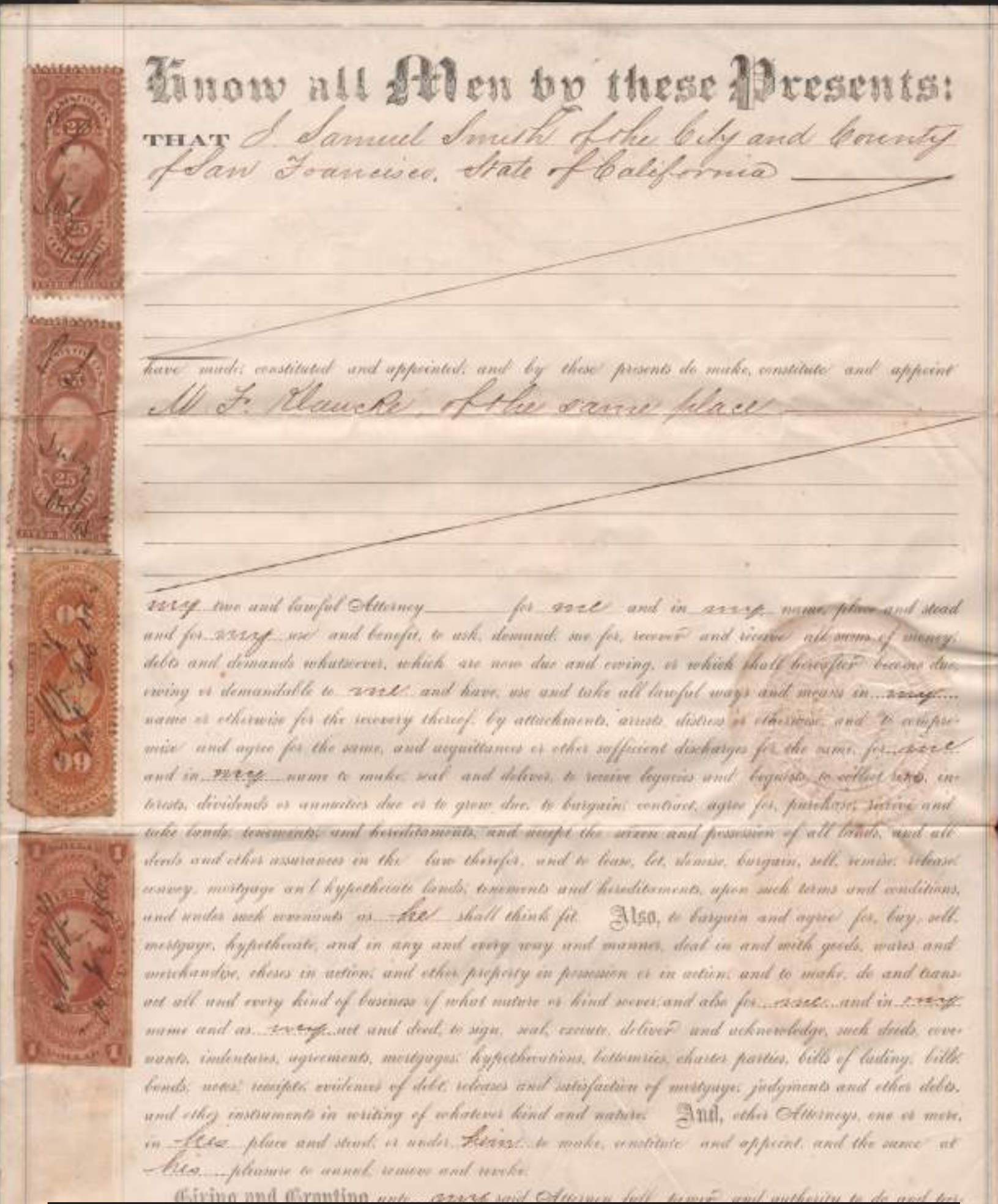
Unsurpassed Rarity and Beauty
1867 ticket for first class passage of "Misses Seymour, Norcross, & Wharfield" in "Berths No. 45, 46, & Sofa II" on steamship Pennsylvania, New York to Liverpool, price \$270, correctly taxed at \$6. Ex-Lipson.
Arguably the finest combination of beauty and rarity in the entire field of civil war era fiscal history



POWER OF ATTORNEY (1862/1864)			
29. REAL ESTATE. To sell, rent, or lease real estate,	1.00	32. VOTING. To vote in election of officers of any incorporated company,	.10
30. RENT. To receive or collect rent,	.25	33. GENERAL. Power of attorney, other than above	1.00
31. STOCK. To sell or transfer stock, bonds, or scrip, or to collect interest or dividends thereon,	.25	1864: power of attorney, general, reduced to	.50



Sole Recorded U.S.-Brunswick Combination
Above right, 1871 power of attorney, Brunswick, to party in New Orleans, to sell stock in Louisiana State Bank at New Orleans
• Brunswick Notary tax paid by 1871 Notarial Acts 2½ gr
• U.S. Power of Attorney for Stock Transfer 25¢ tax paid In New Orleans
Voting Proxy EMU
Above top, April 1863 proxy to vote at stockholders' meeting stamped with matching 10¢ Power of Attorney part perforate
Fewer than twenty EMUs recorded
Mortgage plus Power of Attorney EMU Combination
Above bottom, March 1863 mortgage for \$1,750 stamped with matching \$2 Mortgage imperforate. Appended warrant of attorney stamped with matching \$1 Power of Attorney imperforate, paying general Power of Attorney rate.
Three EMUs recorded for general Power of Attorney rate, nine for Mortgage \$2 rate
Only a handful of combinations of EMUs of any types have been recorded.
This one is the more extraordinary because the individual usages are so rare in their own right.

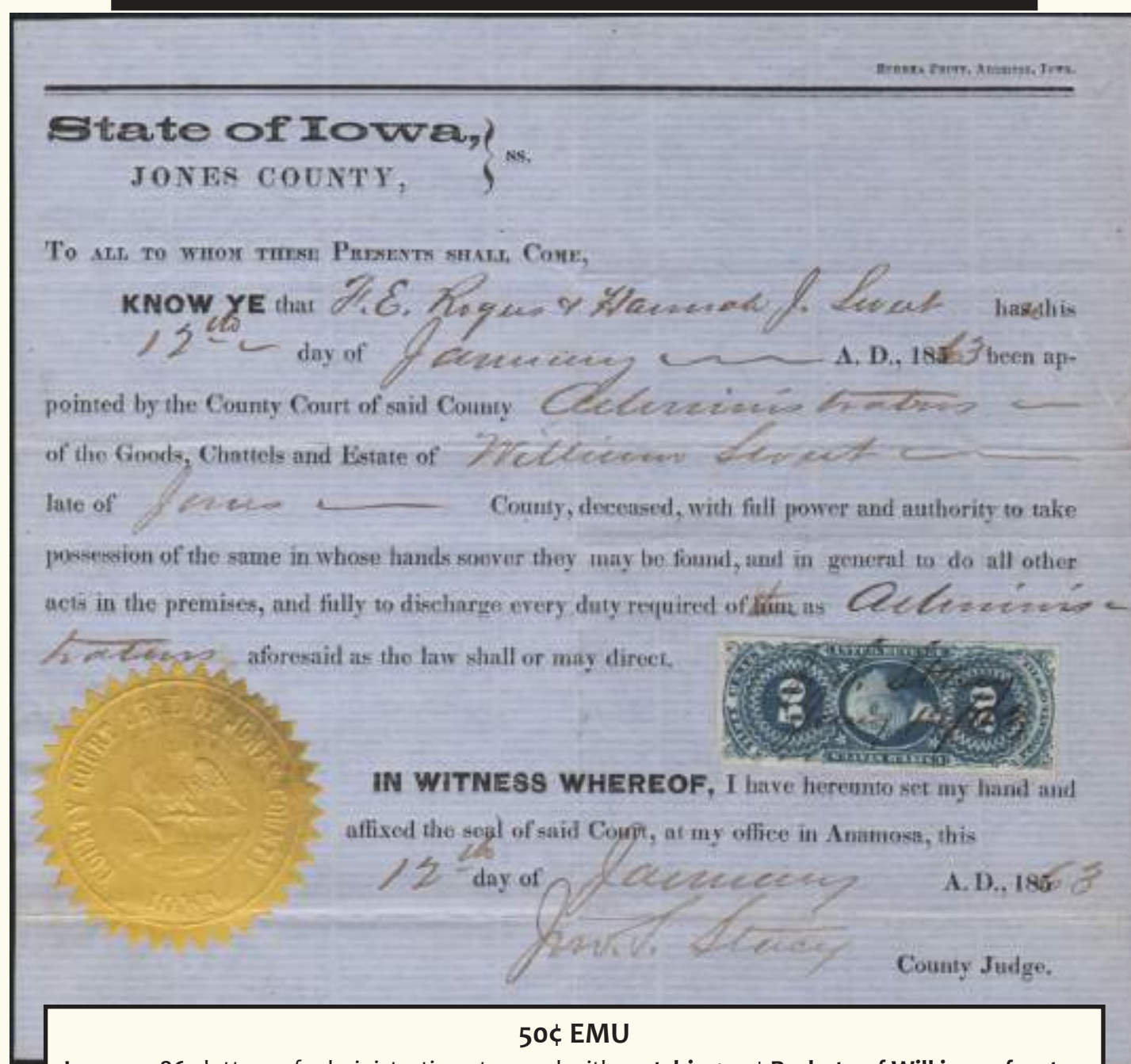


"Grand Slam" of All Five Power of Attorney Taxes?
1865 San Francisco form conferring the power of attorney to collect rents, one of two recorded examples of the Power of Attorney, Rent 25¢ tax.
Also conferred: the power to collect interest or dividends; to lease or sell lands; and numerous other powers, subject to the Stock Transfer, Real Estate, and General Power of Attorney taxes, of 25¢, \$1, and 50¢.
A Voting proxy is not specifically mentioned, but its 10¢ tax was evidently paid, as \$2.10 in stamps were affixed, precisely the total of all five Power of Attorney taxes. The voting power was probably considered to have been included under the broad closing proviso to "perform all and every act and thing . . . whatsoever."
Stamps affixed in two stages:
• The two 25¢ are initialed "S. S.," presumably Samuel Smith, who executed the power and evidently believed the general Power of Attorney tax of 50¢ to be sufficient.
• The 60¢ and \$1 are initialed "M F K," presumably M. F. Klauke, the appointed attorney, who must have realized more tax was due.
Note the late Western use of "unfinished" part perforate 60¢ and imperforate \$1.

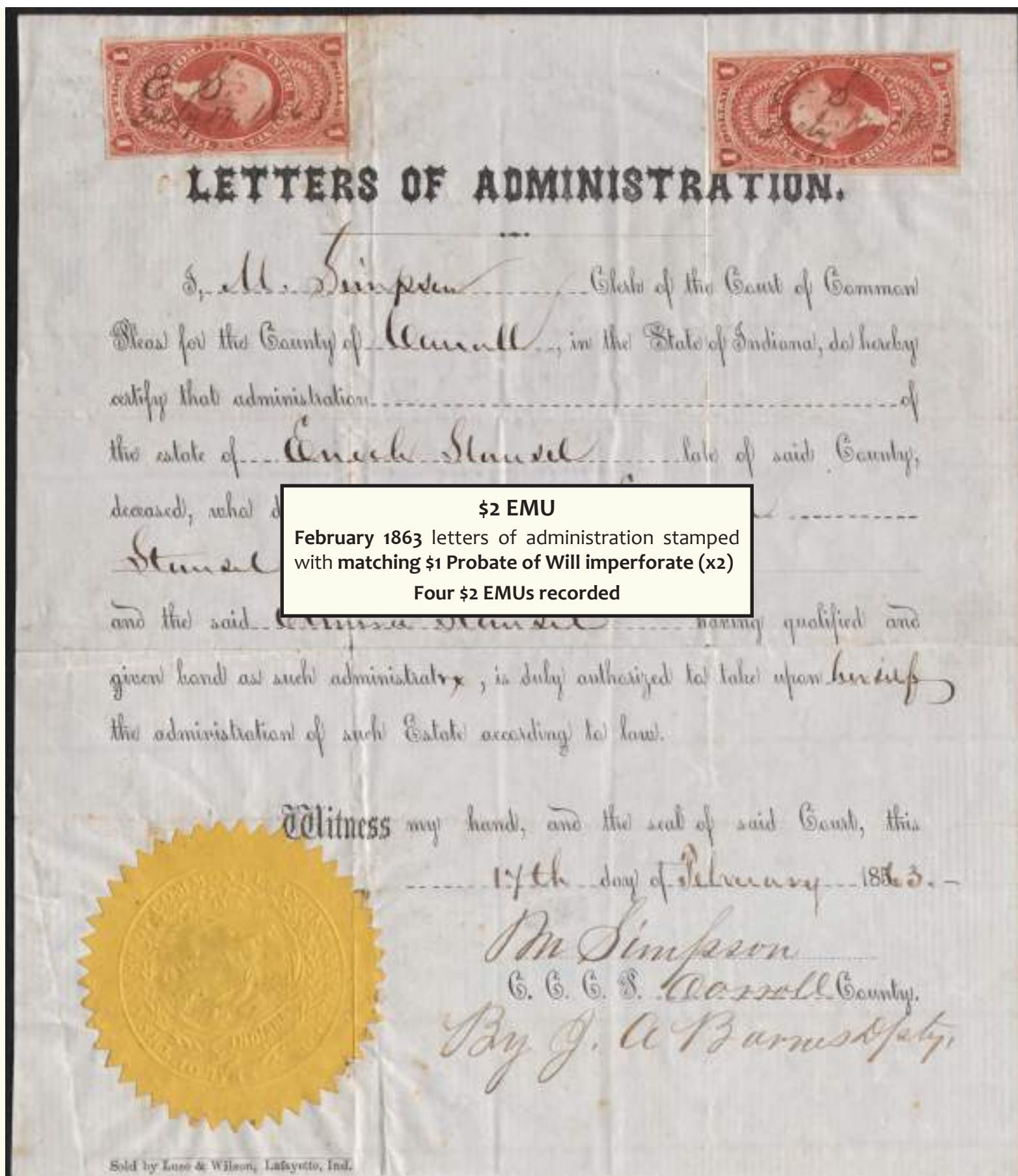
34. PROBATE OF WILL

1862. Probate of will, or letters of administration:

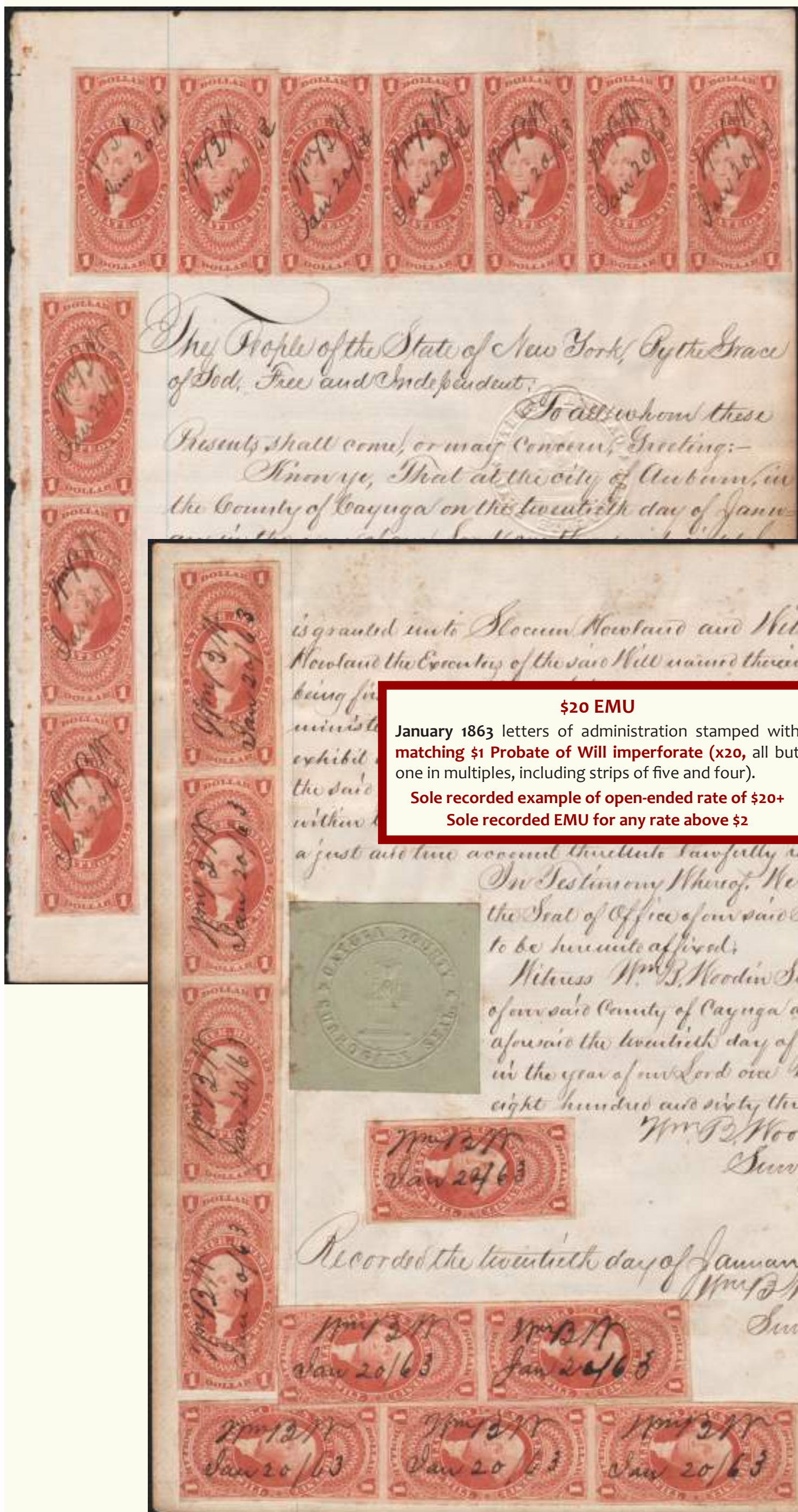
Value of estate up to \$2,500, .50	Over \$50,000 to \$100,000, 10.00
Over \$2,500 to \$5,000, 1.00	Over \$100,000, for each
Over \$5,000 to \$20,000, 2.00	additional \$50,000 or fraction, 10.00
Over \$20,000 to \$50,000, 5.00	



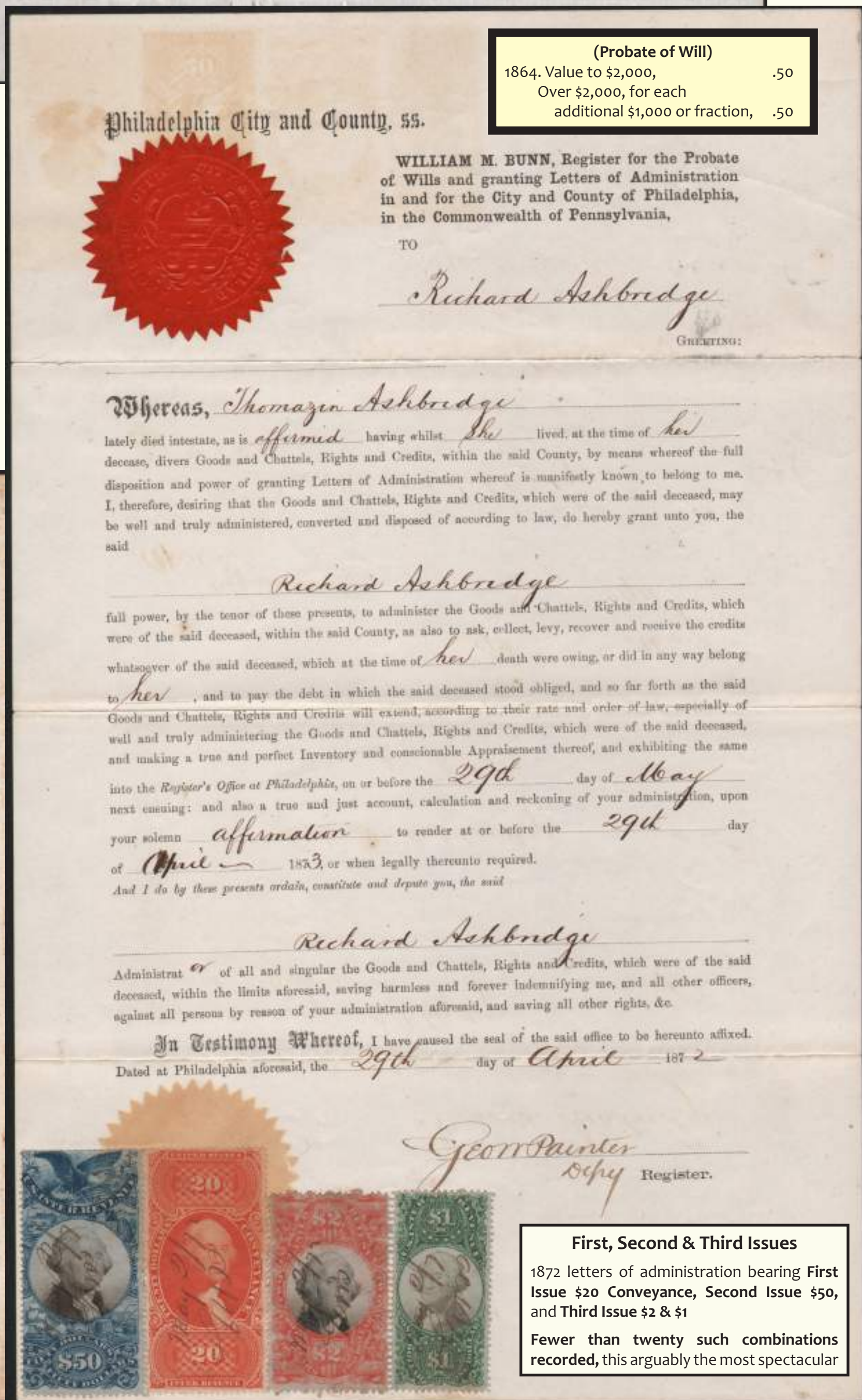
50¢ EMU
January 1863 letters of administration stamped with matching 50¢ Probate of Will imperforate
Fewer than twenty 50¢ EMUs recorded



\$2 EMU
February 1863 letters of administration stamped with matching \$1 Probate of Will imperforate (x2)
Four \$2 EMUs recorded



\$20 EMU
January 1863 letters of administration stamped with matching \$1 Probate of Will imperforate (x20, all but one in multiples, including strips of five and four).
Sole recorded example of open-ended rate of \$20+
Sole recorded EMU for any rate above \$2



(Probate of Will)
1864. Value to \$2,000, .50
Over \$2,000, for each additional \$1,000 or fraction, .50

First, Second & Third Issues
1872 letters of administration bearing First Issue \$20 Conveyance, Second Issue \$50, and Third Issue \$2 & \$1
Fewer than twenty such combinations recorded, this arguably the most spectacular

The "Small Rug"

Second Issue \$200 "Small Persian Rug" recorded on five documents

Will of metals dealer William Thomson, proved January 1872, stamped with **Second Issue \$200 & \$50**. Ex-Lipson Estate value \$500,000. The very heavily inked handstamp cancel is that of the New York Surrogates's Office.

The last will and Testament of William Thomson

I, William Thomson dealer in metals, now residing at No 298 Madison Avenue in the City of New York, do hereby make and publish this my last will and testament revoking all former wills by me made

First. I appoint my wife Ellen L. Thomson, and my brothers James Thomson and David Thomson all of the City of New York, the survivors and last survivor of them, Executors of this my will.

I authorize and empower my said Executors, and from time to time all other persons who may have been appointed and qualified as such, whenever the number of those of them who have qualified shall have been reduced by death, resignation, removal or other incapacity, to join with the persons of full age beneficially interested



Thirty days from date the New York & Boston R.R. Co. will pay to their own order for value received Five Thousand dollars. Payable at any Bank in the City of New York.

New York & Boston R.R. Co.
By Wm. H. Drake Pres.

Wm. H. Drake
J. H. Drake
J. H. Drake

and demanded payment of the same, which was refused.

Whereupon, I, the said Notary, at the Request aforesaid, did PROTEST, and by these presents do publicly and solemnly PROTEST, as well against the maker and endorser of the said Promissory Note, as against all others whom it doth or may concern for exchange, re-exchange, and all costs, damages, and interest thereby incurred, and to be hereafter incurred for want of payment of the said Promissory Note.

Thus done and Protested, in the City of New York aforesaid in the presence of John Doe and Richard Roe, witnesses.

IN TESTIMONIUM VERITATIS

Notary Public for the Nassau Bank.
133 NASSAU STREET, N.Y.

Inland Exchange plus Protest EMU Combination

- January 1863 \$5,000 promissory note, New York & Boston Rail Road Co., with matching \$1.50 Inland Exchange imperforate
- Unpaid and affixed to notary's protest form, stamped in February with matching 25¢ Protest imperforate
- Only a handful of combinations of EMUs of any types have been recorded.

35. PROTEST

1862. Protest on check or note, or marine protest, .25

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

State of Louisiana---City of New Orleans.

BY THIS PUBLIC INSTRUMENT OF PROTEST,

Be it Known, That on the Fifteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and Eighty, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the Twentieth day of January, Before me, Edward D. Wells, a Notary Public, in and for the Parish of ORLEANS, dwelling in the City of New Orleans, State of Louisiana, duly Commissioned and Sworn, Personally Came and Appeared,

Sebastiano Rodasco, Master and Captain of the Schooner named the Guidespe Janata, of Genoa, Italy, and Alejandro Barfama, first mate of said Schooner, and Andrew Redwiller, a sailor, engaged on said Schooner.

Unique Marine Protest

1870 New Orleans marine protest form with notarized statements of captain, first mate and sailor of schooner Guidespe Lanata of Genoa, regarding voyage from Malaga, Spain, whereby:

"the said Captain doth PROTEST, and I, the said Notary . . . do by these presents Publicly and Solemnly Protest against Winds, Weather, [etc.] by means whereof said Ship or her Cargo . . . have suffered or sustained damage or injury, for all losses, costs, charges, expenses, damages, and injury, . . . so that no part of such losses and expenses . . . do fall upon him the said Captain, his officers or crew."

Sole recorded stamped marine protest

Eighty of December last, they left from Dalta for Malaga, and on the Fourth of October last, left Malaga, bound for the Port of New Orleans, with a cargo of Wine & assorted Merchandise; that when they started as aforesaid, the said Schooner was stout, staunch and strong; had her cargo well and sufficiently stowed and secured; was well manned, tackled, victualled, apparelled and appointed; and was in every respect fit for sea and the voyage she was about to undertake:

That they had no bad weather up to the Fifteenth and Sixteenth of December, when wind being in S. E. & N. E. Quadrant of the compass in direction, variable and strong winds, blowing hard to the fourth quarter, changing and varying to the first quadrant, made starboard tack, weather dark, threatening and cloudy, at 12 o'clock P.M. the wind greatly increased, they took in gaff top-sail and flying-gill, and took a reef in main-sail, at 4 P.M. the wind and sea increasing in strength and a heavy and frightful squall setting in from the North, took in nearly all the sails. Waves were coming over the deck of the ship, at 4 o'clock P.M. they tried the pumps, the wind still increasing in violence, at 6 o'clock A.M. the wind calmed down, and the sea became calm, but the rain continued to fall.

\$368 of 100 Mobile Ala. April 23 1866.
Five months after date I promise to pay to the Order of C. E. Eastburn & Co. One hundred & Sixty eight Dollars Payable at Value received with Cash on N.Y.

Charles J. Eastburn
Pay to the Order of National Bank of New Orleans
C. E. Eastburn & Co.
Pay to the Order of National Bank of New Orleans
E. H. Blake Cash

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,
City and County of Mobile.

Be it Known, That I, JOSEPH R. EASTBURN, Notary Public, duly commissioned and sworn, dwelling in the City of Mobile, and State of Alabama, on the twenty second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty six, at the request of Lloyd Brown & Co. Cash did present the original note (a true copy of which is above written)

U.S. plus Alabama Tax on Seals

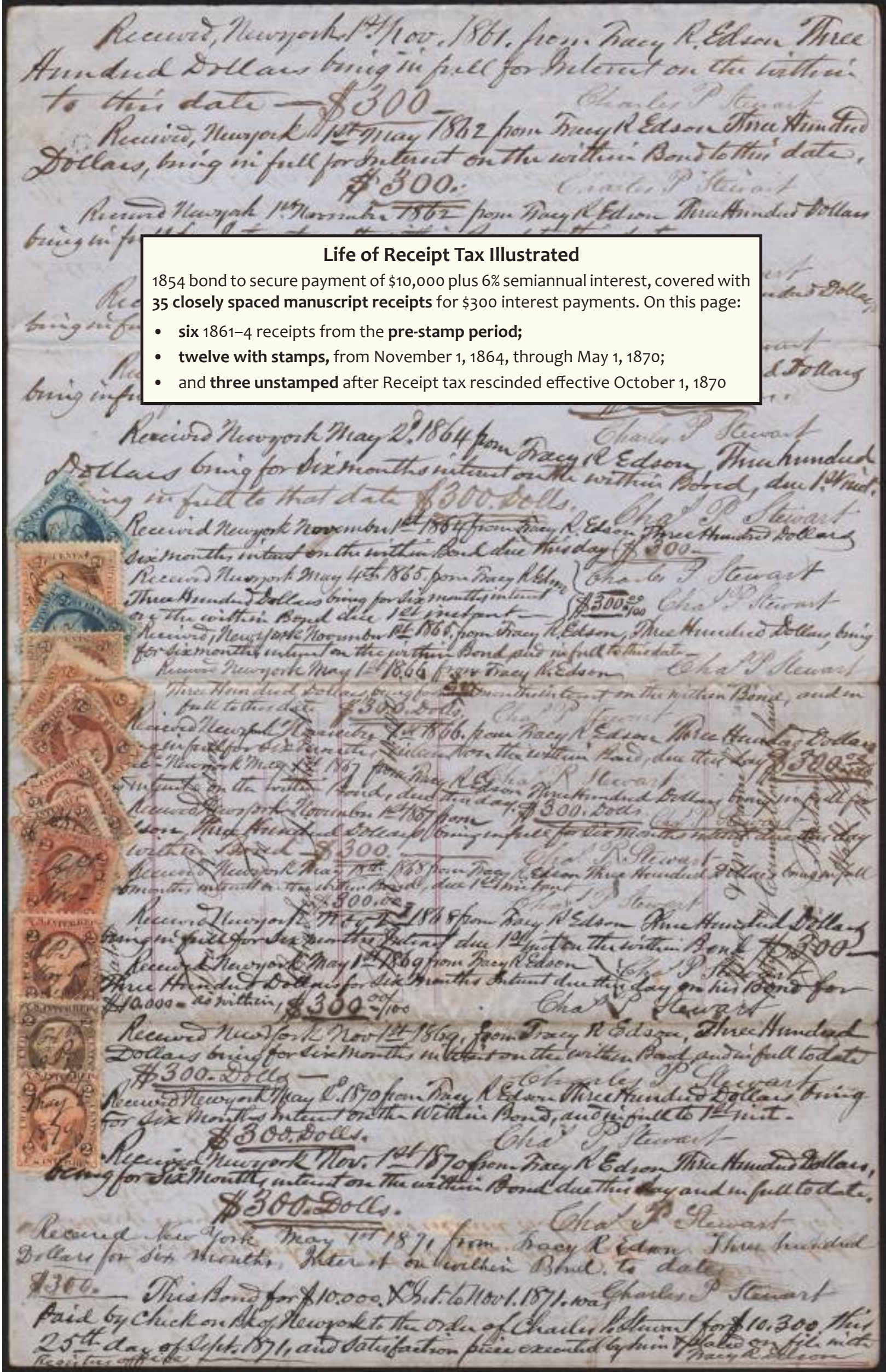
September 1866 protest attesting non-payment of a note, executed at Mobile, Alabama
The Alabama \$1 stamp paid the state tax on the use of a notary public's seal.
Fewer than twenty combinations of U.S. and Alabama stamps recorded

Whereupon, I, the said Notary, at the request aforesaid, did Protest, and by these presents do publicly and solemnly protest as well against the drawer Charles J. Eastburn and endorser of said Note as against all others whom it doth or may concern, for exchange, re-exchange, and all costs, damages, and interest incurred or hereafter to be incurred for want of payment of the said note of the said Notary of Protest for C. E. Eastburn & Co. and E. H. Blake Cash sent by the mail to Mobile, Alabama of National Bank New York

Thus done and Protested, in the City of Mobile, at the times and as aforesaid.
In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal, the day and year aforesaid.



J. R. Eastburn
Notary Public.



Life of Receipt Tax Illustrated

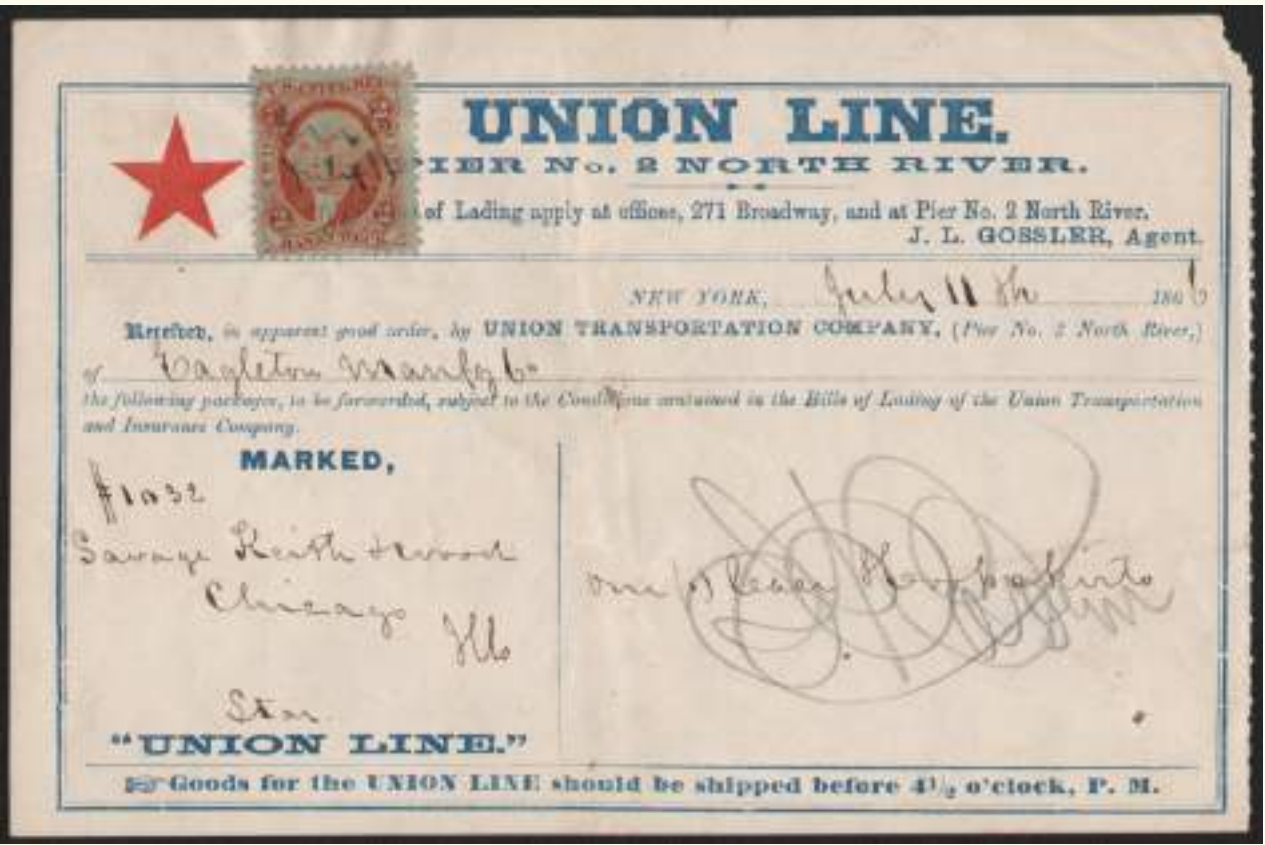
1854 bond to secure payment of \$10,000 plus 6% semiannual interest, covered with 35 closely spaced manuscript receipts for \$300 interest payments. On this page:

- six 1861–4 receipts from the **pre-stamp period**;
- **twelve with stamps**, from November 1, 1864, through May 1, 1870;
- and **three unstamped** after Receipt tax rescinded effective October 1, 1870

36. RECEIPT

1864. Receipt for payment of any sum of money, or for payment of any debt due, exceeding \$20, except for satisfaction of mortgage or court decree; or receipt for delivery of any property, .02

Rescinded October 1, 1870



2¢ Bank Check on Green Paper

Recorded on fewer than ten documents. Ex-Turner

37. TELEGRAPH

1862. Charge for the first ten words up to .20, .01
Over .20, .03

Tax rescinded August 1, 1864



Telegraph 1¢ Rate

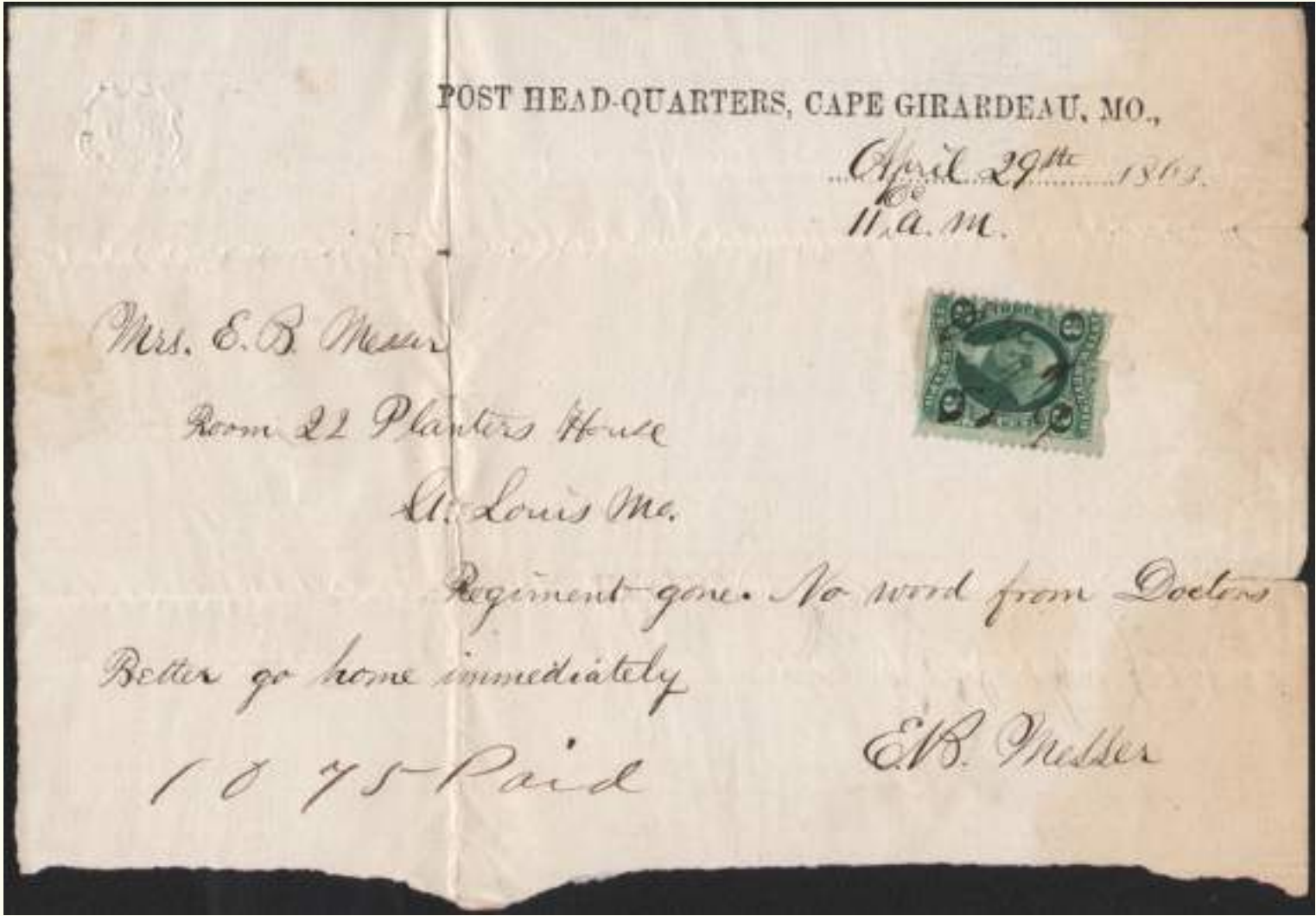
June 1863 telegraph despatch form from the “Millbury find” stamped with **matching 1¢ Telegraph**, the message to be sent to Milford, Massachusetts, a distance of about 15 miles. The notation “**4 Coll 16**” indicates a message of **four words sent collect for 16 cents**, which presumably included the stamp tax.

Eight examples of 1¢ rate recorded

Contemporary telegraph rate tables reveal few cases in which a message could be sent for 20 cents or less, all when the distance covered was only about 10–20 miles. One can thus expect a priori that examples of the 1¢ rate should be relatively rare, and this is borne out by observation.

The **Telegraph** tax was paid on the form presented or generated **at the office of origin**, before transmission. Theoretically, **no examples should exist today**: these office copies were meant to be retained briefly, then systematically destroyed.

For many years **only a handful of examples were known** to collectors. Then in **1985 a find** was made of nearly a hundred stamped messages from the American Telegraph Co. office at **Millbury, Massachusetts**. The non-Millbury messages remain one of the rarest usages of the 1862 schedule. Two are shown here.



Civilian Use of Military Telegraph

April 1863 despatch sent from telegraph office at **Post Headquarters**, Cape Girardeau, to St. Louis, with charge “**10 [words] 75 Paid**” and matching **3¢ Telegraph part perforate**. Military use would have been exempt from telegraph fees and stamp tax. Ex-Wilson Born

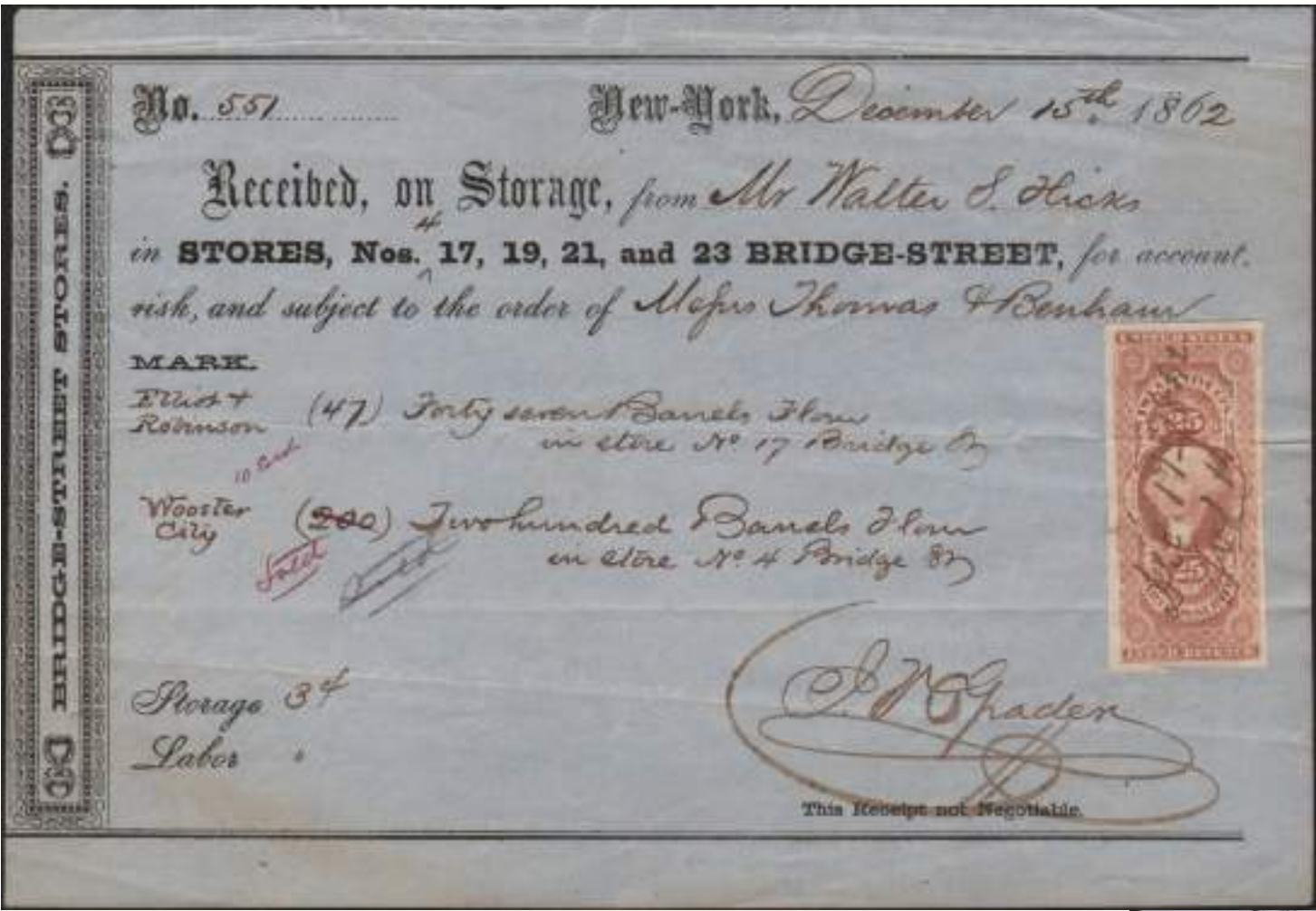


Unique Double Rate

Message dated **December 27** (presumably 1862), to Cincinnati, “**Don’t ship whiskey last ordered blockade forbids it**,” with two copies of matching **3¢ Telegraph imperforate**.

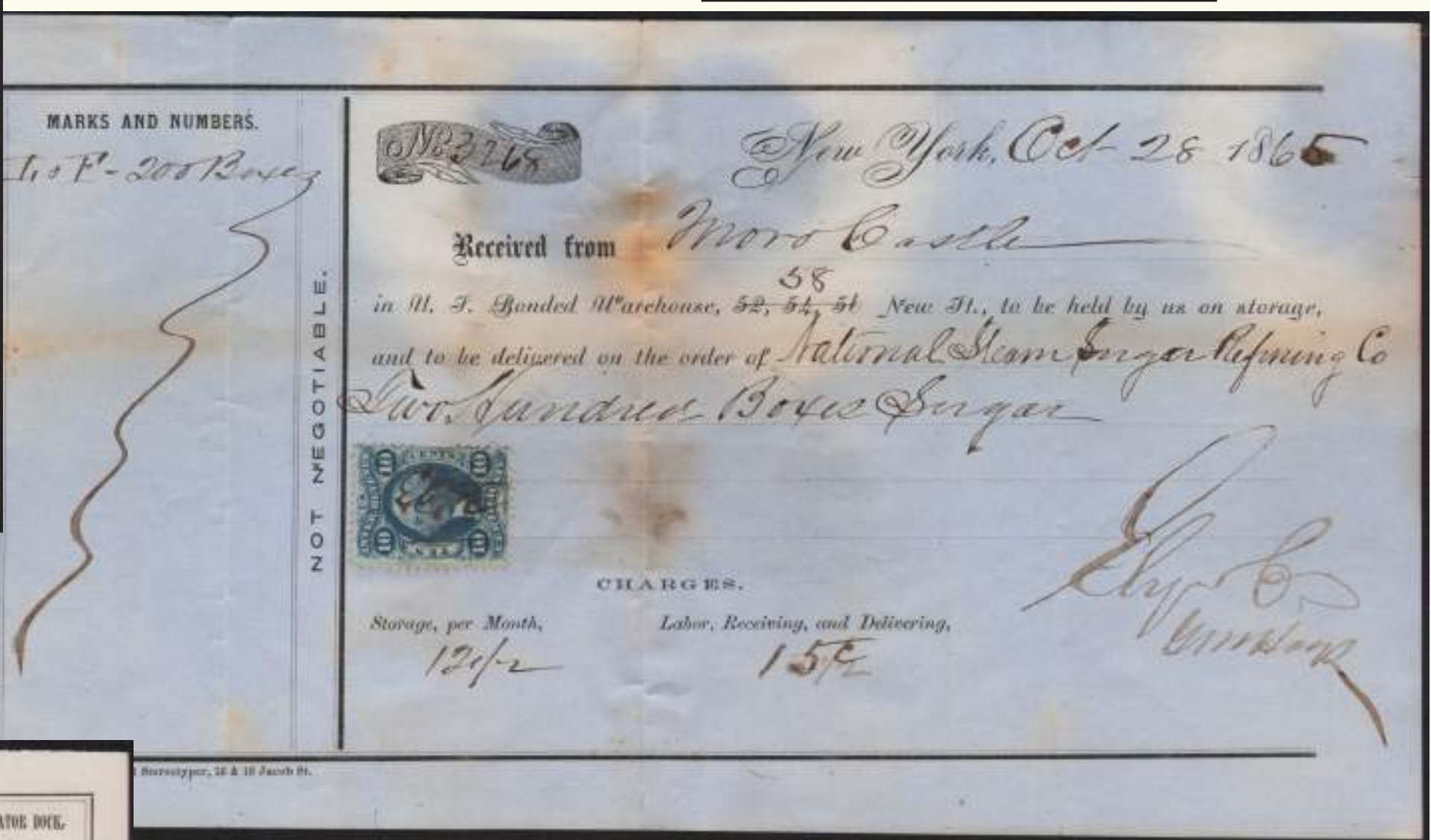
Sole recorded double-rate Telegraph usage

Probably the message was sent twice, which would explain the two stamps. The one at lower right is canceled “**JHR 27**,” presumably affixed on the 27th. The other cancel is different, with numeral “**29**” suggesting it was applied two days later. The notation “**30+60 pd**” suggests two payments. A fascinating piece full of character and mystery.

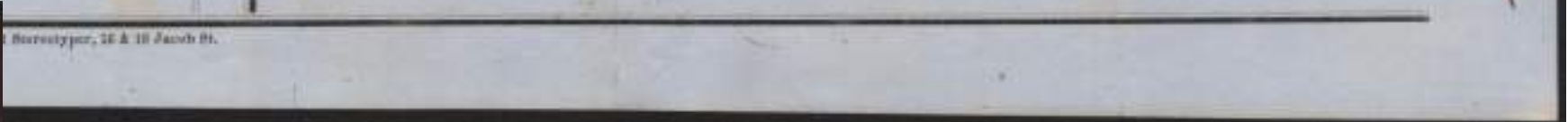
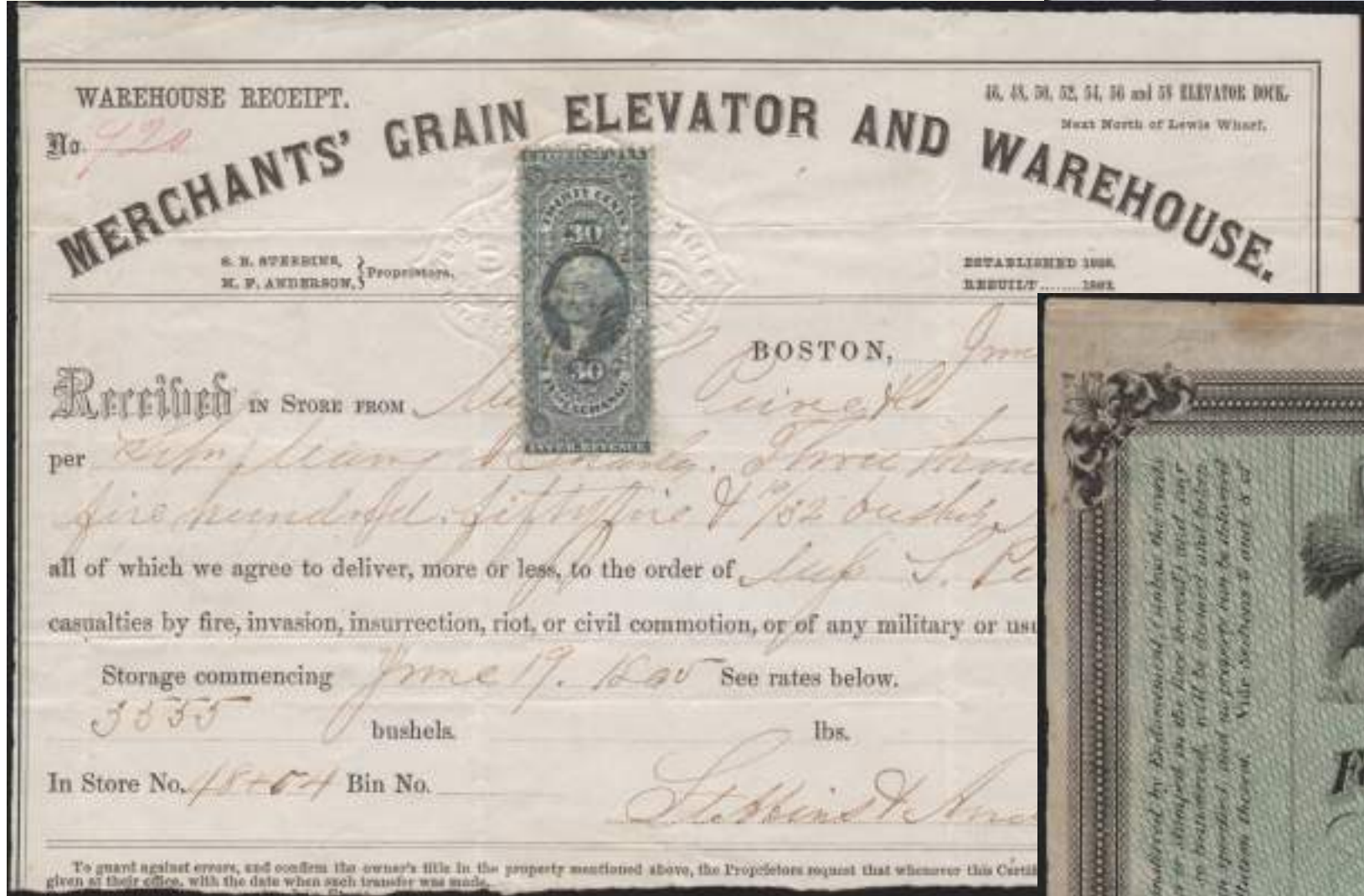


38. WAREHOUSE RECEIPT
1862. Warehouse receipt for any property held in storage in any warehouse or yard, .25

(Warehouse Receipt)
1864. Value of goods up to \$500, .10
Over \$500 to \$1,000, .20
Each additional \$1,000 or fraction, .10
Value not ascertained, .25
Tax rescinded August 1, 1866



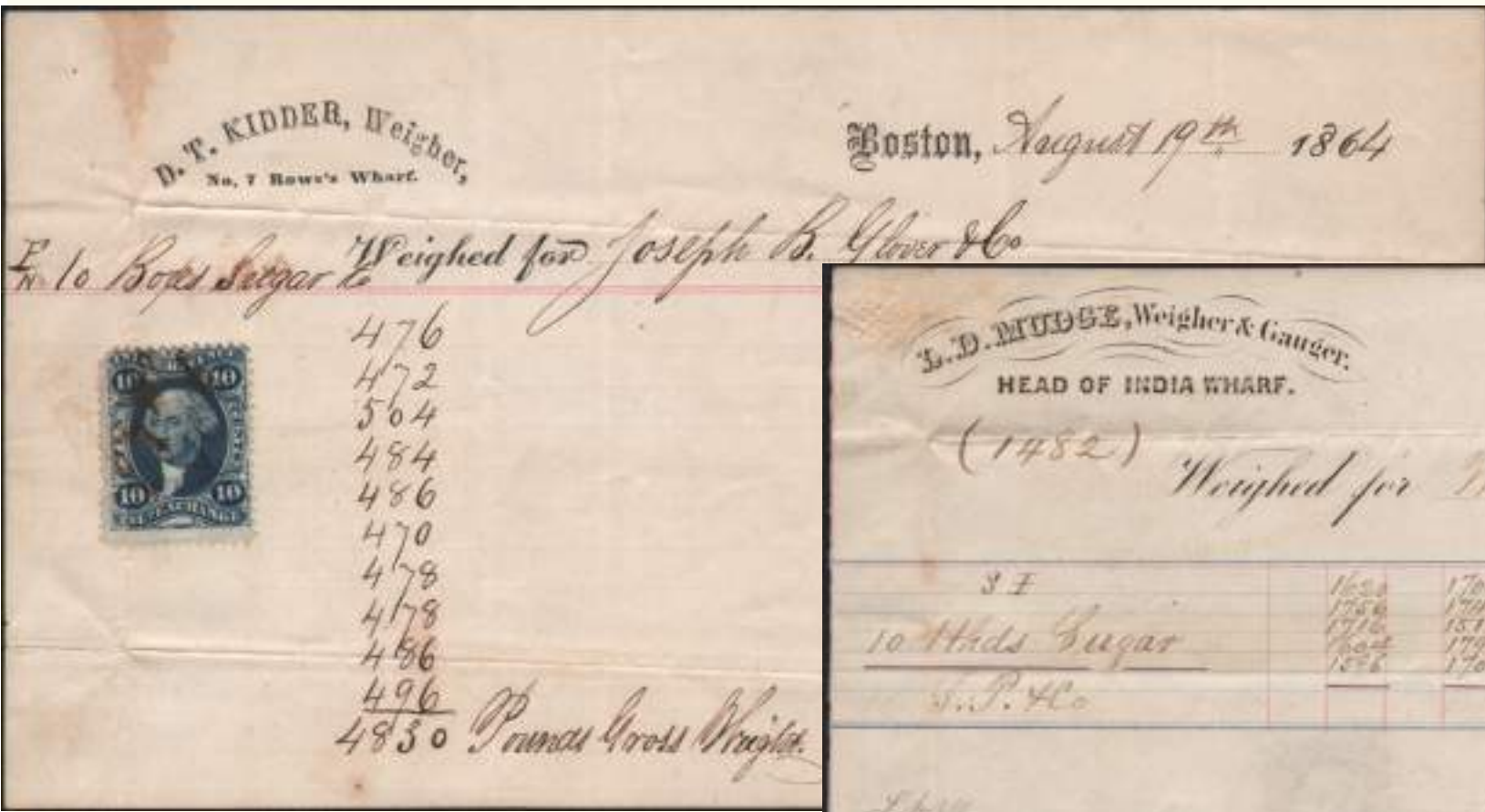
Warehouse Receipt EKU
Warehouse receipt bearing matching 25¢ Warehouse Receipt imperforate cancelled December 19, 1862
Twelve EMUs recorded
One of two recorded obligatory matching usages, before December 25, 1862



1864 30¢+ Rate
June 1865 receipt for storage of 3,555 bushels of oats. Ex-Turner
Two examples recorded of 1864 open-ended rate of 30¢ and above

Warehouse Receipt, Weigher's Return
Warehouse Receipt and Weigher's Return are among the most elusive of the major taxed document types.
Fewer than 20 warehouse receipts have been recorded, only five spread among the four 1864 rates.
Only four weigher's returns recorded

39. WEAHER'S RETURN
1864. Weight up to 5,000 pounds, .10
Over 5,000 pounds, .25
Tax rescinded August 1, 1866



10¢ rate
Above, August 1864, weight 4,830 lb, tax 10¢. Ex-Turner
Two examples of 10¢ rate recorded
25¢ rate
Right, August 1864, weight 16,744 lb, tax 25¢. Ex-Turner
Two examples of 25¢ rate recorded

Gaming the System (II): 1864 25¢ Rate
May 1866 receipt for storage of 583 hogsheads and 3,432 boxes of Cuba sugar
Three examples recorded of 1864 25¢ unascertained value rate
Strictly speaking, values were never known precisely, thus were "unascertained." However, to pay the intended tax it was **only necessary to know the value to the nearest \$1,000!** Another receipt for 148 boxes of Cuba sugar shows \$1 tax; by extrapolation, \$30 or more was due on the one shown here! Because of widespread irregularities like this, the stamp tax was rescinded in 1866.



Epilog
Upon repeal of the stamp taxes in 1883, some **nine billion stamps** had been sold, valued at **\$215 million**, by conservative estimate equivalent to about **\$5 billion today**.
During the decade of comprehensive stamp taxes, 1862–1872, they were the **fifth-leading source of internal revenue**, behind only the duties on manufactures, incomes, spirits and tobacco.
The **documentary stamps** featured in this exhibit accounted for **60% of this revenue**. Of these, nearly **two billion were 2¢ stamps**, virtually all used on checks and receipts.
The **remaining 1¢ through \$500 documentaries** accounted for **41% of monies** but only a minuscule **3.8% of stamps!** (Exhibitor's research)