POSTAGE

1847 ISSUE

Printed by Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson

Imperforate

5c Red Brown
Scott 1

10c Black
Scott 2

Portraits by Duplessis and Gilbert Stuart,
used as the basis for the 1847 Issue
POSTAGE

1847 ISSUE

Printed by Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson

Imperforate

Shades of the 1847 Issue

5c Red Brown
Scott 1

5c Brown
Scott 1 var

5c Pale Brown
Scott 1 var

5c Brown
Scott 1 var

5c Brown
Scott 1 var

5c Walnut Brown
Scott 1a var

5c Dark Brown
Scott 1a

5c Dark Brown
Scott 1a

5c Grayish Brown
Scott 1a var

5c Blackish Brown
Scott 1a var

5c Orange Brown
Scott 1b

5c Deep Orange Brown
Scott 1b var

5c Red Orange
Scott 1c

5c Brown Orange
Scott 1d
Three new stamps — One, Three and Twelve-cent denominations — were deemed necessary after postage rates were revised by Congress during the Fillmore administration. Effective July 1, 1851, the basic rates became 1¢ for newspapers and circulars (with a distance escalation until 1852), 1¢ for drop letters, 3¢ for domestic letters sent up to 3,000 miles, and 6¢ for letters sent over 3,000 miles. Prepayment by stamps or stamped envelopes was not compulsory until 1856, but the convenience of stamps and reduction in rates led to a rapid increase in stamp use and popularity.

Under Postmaster General Nathan K. Hall, the contract to print the 1851 Issue was awarded to one of Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson’s competitors, the Philadelphia firm of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co. (Casilear retired in October 1854; his name was included in plate imprints as late as 1857). The firm’s original six-year contract was extended to 1861, during which time stamps of eight different denominations were issued.
POSTAGE
1851-56 ISSUE
Printed by Toppan, Carpenter, Casilier & Co.

Imperforate

1c Blue, Type III
Position 99R2
Scott 8

1c Blue, Type IV
Printed Both Sides
Scott 9a

3c Orange Brown, Ty. I
Scott 10

3c Orange Brown, Ty. II
Scott 10A

3c Dull Red, Ty. I
Scott 11

3c Dull Red, Ty. II
Scott 11A

3c Orange Brown
Printed Both Sides
Scott 10a

3c Orange Brown, Ty. I
Part India Paper
Scott 10var

3c Orange Brown, Ty. II
Part India Paper
Scott 10Avar

3c Dull Red
Double Impression
Scott 11e
POSTAGE
1851-56 ISSUE

Printed by Toppan, Carpenter, Casilier & Co.

Imperforate

5c Red Brown
Scott 12

10c Green, Type I
Scott 13

Design incomplete at top, complete at bottom


10c Green, Type II
Scott 14

Design complete at top, incomplete at bottom


10c Green, Type III
Scott 15

Design incomplete at top, incomplete at bottom


10c Green, Type IV
Scott 16

Design recut at top or bottom or both


12c Black
Scott 17


12c Black
Part India Paper
Scott 17var


12c Black
Very Thin Paper
Scott 17var


12c Black
Printed Both Sides
Scott 17c
Three major developments in postage stamps occurred between 1857 and 1861: the introduction of perforations in 1857, the addition of three new high-value denominations in 1860, and the Federal demonetization order in 1861, which brought the era of Toppan, Carpenter postage stamps to a close.

In 1857 there were five current stamps: 1¢, 3¢, 5¢, 10¢ and 12¢ denominations. These remained the only stamps in circulation until the summer months of 1860, when the department under PMG Joseph Holt deemed it necessary to issue large denominations for prepayment of high transoceanic postage rates established under various postal treaties with foreign nations. The increased use of adhesive stamps on foreign-bound letters created the need. Toppan, Carpenter was asked for three new values: 24¢, 30¢ and 90¢.

As Toppan, Carpenter’s contract was due to expire in June 1861, the Civil War broke out and postal relations between the North and South were severed. Concerned that supplies of postage stamps in secessionist hands might be sold as contraband, the Federal government demonetized all circulating stamps and issued new stamps printed by the National Bank Note Company.

One-cent types as imperforate, with addition of Type V which is incomplete at sides
POSTAGE

1857-60 ISSUE

Printed by Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

Perforated 15⅞
POSTAGE
1857-60 ISSUE
Printed by Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Perforated 15½

Ten-cent types as imperforate, with addition of Type V which is incomplete at sides

10c Green, Type I
Scott 31

10c Green, Type II
Scott 32

10c Green, Type III
Scott 33

10c Green, Type IV
Scott 34

10c Green, Type V
Scott 35

24c Gray Lilac
Scott 37

24c Gray
Scott 37a

30c Orange
Scott 38

90c Blue
Scott 39

Plate 1
Outer lines complete

12c Black, Plate 1
Scott 36

12c Black, Plate 3
Scott 36B

Plate 3
Outer lines weak or broken
The United States Post Office Department authorized Continental Bank Note Co. to reprint the stamps issued from 1851 through 1861, which had been demonetized in their final year of use. Four of the old Toppan, Carpenter plates were used for the reprints (5c, 24c, 30c and 90c). The 1c, 3c, 10c and 12c plates presumably could not be located, so Continental made new plates of 100 subjects.

The 1851-57 Reprints were issued with 12-gauge perforations, instead of the original 15½ gauge, and the shades and paper were brighter than the originals. The stamps were sold without gum and were invalid for postage, though used copies of the 1, 10c and 24c are known with contemporary cancels.

10c Blue Green
Scott 43
516 sold
Unique Used

24c Blackish Violet
Scott 45
479 sold
Unique Used
POSTAGE

1861-66 ISSUE

Printed by National Bank Note Co.
Perforated 12

FIRST DESIGNS AND COLORS

Company records show that the eight plates for the 1861 stamps were completed between June 15 and 19, and that these plates — numbered 1 through 8 and containing 200 subjects each — were made from the first dies engraved for each value. The 1¢, 3¢, 5¢, 12¢ and 90¢ plates used to produce the “perfectly gummed and perforated” sheets submitted to the Post Office Department were never used again. Modifications to the designs of these five stamps were made before regular production commenced. The stamps printed from the first plates are known as First Designs. The reason for the subtle design changes was never recorded, nor have collectors ever been able to establish why National would go to expense of recreating dies and plates. One theory holds that the plate layouts for certain values did not accommodate the wider perforation holes (12 gauge versus 15 gauge).

The 24¢ and 30¢ plates (Plates 6 and 7) were used to print stamps when regular production began, but the colors of the earlier trial printing can be distinguished from all subsequent printings. These two are called First Colors. Regular production of the 10¢ involved a new plate (Plate 15) made from a modified die, but the old Plate 4 was also used for the regular issue. For this reason the 10¢ exists as a First Design (or Type I) trial printing (Scott 55) and as a regularly-issued stamp (Scott 62B). Cancelled 10¢ First Design stamps are regular issues, but there is no means to differentiate between the trial printing and regular issue for unused 10¢ First Design stamps.
POSTAGE
1861-66 ISSUE

Printed by National Bank Note Co.
Perforated 12

1c Blue
Scott 63

1c Ultramarine
Scott 63a

1c Dark Blue
Scott 63b

1c Bright Blue
Scott 63var

1c Blue
Vertically Laid Paper
Scott 63c

1c Blue
Horiz. Laid Paper
Scott 63c

1c Blue
Printed Both Sides
Scott 63e

3c Pink
Scott 64

3c Pigeon Blood Pink
Scott 64a

3c Rose Pink
Scott 64b

3c Rose
Scott 65

3c Indian Red
Scott 65var

3c Rose
Vertically Laid Paper
Scott 65b

3c Rose
Horiz. Laid Paper
Scott 65b

3c Lake
Scott 66

3c Rose
Printed Both Sides
Scott 65e

3c Rose
Double Impression
Scott 65f
**POSTAGE**

**1861-66 ISSUE**

Printed by National Bank Note Co.

Perforated 12

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5c Buff
Scott 67

5c Brown Yellow
Scott 67a

5c Olive Yellow
Scott 67b

10c Green
Scott 68

10c Dark Green
Scott 68a

12c Black
Scott 69

24c Red Lilac
Scott 70

24c Brown Lilac
Scott 70a

24c Steel Blue
Scott 70b

24c Violet, thin paper
Scott 70c

24c Pale Gray Violet,
thin paper —Scott 70d

30c Orange
Scott 71

90c Blue
Scott 72

90c Pale Blue
Scott 72a

90c Dark Blue
Scott 72b
POSTAGE
1861-66 ISSUE
Printed by National Bank Note Co.
Perforated 12

2c Black
Printed Both Sides
Scott 73f

2c Black
Laid Paper
Scott 73g

3c Scarlet
Scott 74

5c Red Brown
Scott 75

5c Brown
Scott 76

5c Black Brown
Scott 76a

15c Black
Scott 77

24c Lilac
Scott 78

24c Grayish Lilac
Scott 78a

24c Gray
Scott 78b

24c Blackish Violet
Scott 78c

24c Gray Violet
Printed Both Sides
Scott 78d
POSTAGE
1867 GRILLED ISSUE

Printed by National Bank Note Co.
Perforated 12

During the life of the 1861–66 issue, postal officials became somewhat obsessed with their fear that significant revenue was being lost due to the cleaning and re-use of cancelled stamps. The concern inspired efforts to devise a means to thwart the reuse of postage stamps.

The concept that was eventually integrated into stamps at the production level was the grill, an embossed waffle-like pattern in the paper of a stamp that was intended to increase absorption of cancelling ink and improve the adhesive quality of the gum. The grill’s creator was Charles F. Steel, a National Bank Note Co. supervisor who had much to gain if the government could be convinced to adopt his invention.

The first modification, from the all-over A Grill to the smaller C Grill, was a quick remedy to the problems caused when the grill weakened the paper, making perforation and separation almost impossible without damaging the stamps. In anticipation of regular grill production, Steel experimented with many different variations to improve the product and, we may also presume, to speed production. This resulted in the various grill types we recognize today, all of which were valid and used for postage.

GRILL WITH POINTS UP

A Grill
covering entire stamp

3c Rose
Scott 79

5c Dark Brown
Scott 80a
(4 known)

30c Orange
Scott 81
(6 known)

B Grill
about 18 x 15mm
(22 x 18 points)

C Grill
about 13 x 16mm
(16 to 17 x 18 to 21 points)

3c Rose
Scott 82
(4 known)

3c Rose
Scott 83
POSTAGE

1867 GRILLED ISSUE

Printed by National Bank Note Co.
Perforated 12

GRILL WITH POINTS DOWN

D Grill
about 12 x 14mm
(15 x 17 to 18 points)

2c Black
Scott 84

3c Rose
Scott 85

Z Grill
about 11 x 14mm
(13 to 14 x 18 points)

1c Blue
Scott 85A
(2 known)

2c Black
Scott 85B

3c Rose
Scott 85C

10c Green
Scott 85D
(5 known)

12c Intense Black
Scott 85E

15c Black
Scott 85F
(2 known)
POSTAGE

1868 GRILLED ISSUE

Printed by National Bank Note Co.
Perforated 12

E Grill
about 11 x 13mm
(14 x 15 to 17 points)

1c Blue
Scott 86

1c Dull Blue
Scott 86a

2c Black
Scott 87

3c Rose
Scott 88

3c Lake Red
Scott 88a

10c Green
Scott 89

12c Black
Scott 90

15c Black
Scott 91
POSTAGE

1868 GRILLED ISSUE

Printed by National Bank Note Co.

Perforated 12

F Grill,
about 9 x 13mm
(11 to 12 x 15 to 17 points)

1c Blue
Scott 92

1c Pale Blue
Scott 92a

2c Black
Scott 93

3c Red
Scott 94

3c Rose
Scott 94a

5c Brown
Scott 95

5c Brown
Kiss Print
Scott 95var

5c Black Brown
Scott 95a

10c Yellow Green
Scott 96

10c Dark Green
Scott 96a

12c Black
Scott 97

15c Black
Scott 98

24c Gray Lilac
Scott 99

30c Orange
Scott 100

90c Blue
Scott 101
The United States Post Office Department authorized the National Bank Note Co. to reprint the 1861-66 Issue. The stamps were sold by the Third Asst. Postmaster General’s Department, and a record of quantities sold provides figures for each value.

The stamps were valid for postage and used primarily by philatelists or stamp dealers on registered mail during the 1880’s. The Re-issues are extremely rare in used condition—far rarer, in fact, than unused examples.

1c Blue
Scott 102
(3,195 sold)

2c Black
Scott 103
(979 sold)

3c Brown Red
Scott 104
(465 sold)

5c Brown
Scott 105
(672 sold)

10c Green
Scott 106
(451 sold)

12c Black
Scott 107
(389 sold)

15c Black
Scott 108
(397 sold)

24c Deep Violet
Scott 109
(346 sold)

30c Brownish Orange
Scott 110
(346 sold)

90c Blue
Scott 111
(317 sold)
While preceding issues had been current for seven to ten years and the 1870 portrait issue lasted eighteen years, not even a year was given to the 1869 Pictorial Issue. It was sandwiched in between the 1861–68 and 1870–88 issues with the shortest life of any regular issue.

The stamps were poorly regarded by the public at the time, who were not used to the unusual size and themes portrayed.

The 15¢, 24¢, 30¢ and 90¢ values were printed in normal-size sheets of 200, but each stamp was bicolored, requiring separate plates and printing for the frame and vignette colors. This resulted in the first set of invert errors.
POSTAGE

1869 PICTORIAL ISSUE

Printed by National Bank Note Co.
Perforated 12

3c Ultramarine
Without Grill, Gray Paper
Scott 114a
The Post Office Department issued its first major postage error sometime shortly after the March release of the 1869 Pictorial issue. The error stamps—15c, 24c, and 30c 1869 Inverts—were created by the inadvertent turning of the sheets to the wrong direction before the second stage of the bicolor flat plate printing process. This misprinting had a remarkable effect: the framed portion of the 15c and 24c designs was upside-down relative to the central vignette; and, in the design of the 30c, the draped flags surrounding the Eagle and Shield emblem were hanging up instead of down.

Other printing and manufacturing errors had been issued prior to 1869—missing perforations, sheets printed on both sides, and other philatelic varieties—but these could hardly have drawn serious concern from postal officials. On the other hand, the Inverts must have been embarrassment to postal officials, who already faced public ridicule over the irregular 1869 designs, alleged gum problems and criticism of the contract terms.

More than 30 years would pass before another bicolored issue. Ironically, the second effort—the 1901 Pan-American issue—was marred by the same problem.
POSTAGE

1875 RE-ISSUE OF 1869 PICTORIAL

Printed by National Bank Note Co.
Perforated 12, Ungrilled

1c Buff
Scott 123

2c Brown
Scott 124

3c Blue
Scott 125

6c Blue
Scott 126

10c Yellow
Scott 127

12c Green
Scott 128

15c Brown & Blue
Type II — Scott 129

15c Brown & Blue
Type III, Imperf horiz.
Scott 129a

24c Green & Violet
Scott 130

30c Ultra & Carmine
Scott 131

90c Carmine & Black
Scott 132

Printed by American Bank Note Co.
1880-82

1c Buff
Scott 133

1c Brown Orange
Without Gum
Scott 133a
The National Bank Note Co. 1870 portrait series was a direct consequence of changing presidential administrations and the unpopularity of the 1869 Pictorial stamps. In his 1870 report PMG Creswell states that “The adhesive stamp adopted by my predecessor in 1869, having failed to give satisfaction to the public, on account of their small size, their unshapely form [required the P.O. Dept.] to issue new stamps of larger size, superior quality of gum and new sizes... and to adopt for designs the heads, in profile, of distinguished deceased Americans...”

National’s contract ran until February 1873. Despite protests from other security printers, the contract for the 1870 stamps was not re-opened to competition. In common with the preceding two issues, the new stamps were grilled to prevent re-use, and this may have helped National to keep the contract.

Two grill types are known, designated H and I Grills. The H Grills are known on all denominations. The I Grills are only known on some.

**H GRILL**
About 10 x 12mm (11 to 13 x 14 to 16 points)

1c Ultramarine
Scott 134

2c Red Brown
Scott 135

3c Green
Scott 136

6c Carmine
Scott 137

7c Vermilion
Scott 138

10c Brown
Scott 139

12c Dull Violet
Scott 140

15c Orange
Scott 141

24c Purple
Scott 142

30c Black
Scott 143

90c Carmine
Scott 144
POSTAGE
1870-71 BANK NOTE ISSUE

Printed by National Bank Note Co.
Perforated 12

I GRILL
About 8.5 x 10mm (10 to 11 x 10 to 13 points)

1c Ultramarine
Scott 134I

2c Red Brown
Scott 135I

3c Green
Scott 136I

6c Carmine
Scott 137I

7c Vermilion
Scott 138I

10c Brown
Scott 139I

12c Dull Violet
Scott 140I

15c Orange
Scott 141I

30c Black
Scott 143I

90c Carmine
Scott 144I
POSTAGE

1870-71 BANK NOTE ISSUE

Printed by National Bank Note Co.
Perforated 12
UNGRILLED

1c Ultramarine
Scott 145

2c Red Brown
Scott 146

3c Green
Scott 147

6c Carmine
Scott 148

2c Red Brown
Scott 146

3c Green
Printed Both Sides
Scott 147a

3c Green
Double Impression
Scott 147b

6c Carmine
Double Impression
Scott 148b

7c Vermilion
Scott 149

10c Brown
Scott 150

12c Dull Violet
Scott 151

15c Orange
Scott 152

15c Orange
Double Impression
Scott 152a

24c Purple
Scott 153

30c Black
Scott 154

90c Carmine
Scott 155
In 1873 the Continental Bank Note Co. was awarded the contract to print United States stamps. The National contract was extended until May 31, 1873, probably to allow time for Continental to find fire-proof quarters for printing the stamps. The National plates, dies and transfer rolls were turned over to Continental, who made new plates of the lower denominations.

The presence of minute marks in the designs of most values enable collectors to distinguish the Continental stamps from their National counterparts. These tiny modifications are known as secret marks. It is likely that the secret marks were added to the transfer rolls or dies by Continental before laying out the new plates, to distinguish their work from National printings. Many of the colors also different shades.

1c Ultramarine Scott 156
2c Brown Scott 157
2c Brown Double Impression Scott 157d
3c Green Scott 158
3c Green Double Impression Scott 158j
3c Green Printed Both Sides Scott 158k
6c Dull Pink Scott 159
7c Orange Vermilion Scott 160
10c Brown Scott 161
12c Blackish Violet Scott 162
15c Yellow Orange Scott 163
30c Gray Black Scott 165
90c Rose Carmine Scott 166
POSTAGE

1875 BANK NOTE ISSUE

Printed by Continental Bank Note Co.
Perforated 12

2c Vermilion
Scott 178

5c Blue
Scott 179
In 1875 a Special Printing program was established by the postal administration under President Grant. It was continued until the Arthur administration in 1884. This program created the 1847 Reproductions, 1857–60 Reprints, 1861–66 and 1869 Re-issues, and the Bank Note Special Printings of 1875 and 1880–83.

A small quantity of the Continental Bank Note Co. issues were prepared as a Special Printing in 1875. They were printed on hard white wove paper and were issued without gum. Most of the 1875 Continental Special Printing stamps were separated by scissors, and examples showing perforations all around are very rare.
In 1877, during the Hayes Administration and while Continental was still printing postage stamps, an Act of Congress required that printing of all United States notes and securities be transferred to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. This law left the three big printing companies, National, Continental and American, with no new contracts for what had been a large part of their business. Faced with a shrinkage market, in December 1878 the three firms were consolidated into the American Bank Note Company. The stamp contract held by Continental was assumed by American in February 1879. The same plates were used at the beginning of the American printings. The soft porous paper distinguishes the first American printing from earlier Bank Note stamps. The colors of the American printing are also different, and the impressions on the porous paper are less detailed.
In 1881 American altered the dies on the 1c, 3c, 6c and 10c stamps and produced new plates. Scott numbers 206 to 209 are known as the Re-engraved Issue.

In 1882, less than a year after President Garfield’s assassination, a new 5c stamp was designed with his portrait. It is said that his widow selected the color of the stamp.

In 1883 the domestic letter rate was reduced to 2c per half ounce. In response the P.O. Dept. authorized two new issues, the 2c Washington and 4c Jackson.
1882-85 SPECIAL PRINTING

Printed by American Bank Note Co.

Perforated 12, Soft Porous Paper, Ungummed

2c Pale Red Brown
Scott 211B

Scott 211B was printed on a new steam-powered printing press, and was issued with gum.
1887-88 BANK NOTE ISSUE

Printed by American Bank Note Co.

Perforated 12

In 1887 a new 1c stamp was issued with a frame similar to the 2c and 4c. In 1887 and 1888 the colors of six current stamps were changed—these are the last of the so-called large Bank Note series.

1c Ultramarine
Scott 212

2c Green
Scott 213

3c Vermilion
Scott 214

4c Carmine
Scott 215

5c Indigo
Scott 216

30c Orange Brown
Scott 217

90c Purple
Scott 218
POSTAGE

1890-93 ISSUE

Printed by American Bank Note Co.

Perforated 12

1c Dull Blue
Scott 219

2c Lake
Scott 2219D

2c Carmine
Scott 220

2c Carmine,
cap on left “2”
Scott 220a

2c Carmine,
cap on both “2”’s
Scott 220c

3c Purple
Scott 221

4c Dark Brown
Scott 222

5c Chocolate
Scott 223

6c Brown Red
Scott 224

8c Lilac
Scott 225

10c Green
Scott 226

15c Indigo
Scott 227

30c Black
Scott 228

90c Orange
Scott 229
The 1893 Columbian Exposition Issue were prepared for the World Columbian Exposition, held in Chicago from May 1 until October 30, 1893 to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the landing of Columbus. The series of sixteen denominations, with a total face value of $16.34, were the last postage stamps of the 19th Century printed by a private bank note company. Aesthetically, the stamps commemorating the 400th anniversary (1492–1892) of Christopher Columbus’s voyage to America were a significant departure from previous issues. These were the first commemorative stamps issued since the poorly-received 1869 Pictorial Issue. Although the lower values sold well and the high values were bought by speculators, high-value sales to the general public were a disappointment to the post office.

1c Deep Blue  
Scott 230

2c Brown Violet  
Scott 231

3c Green  
Scott 232

4c Ultramarine  
Scott 233

4c Blue, Error of Color  
Scott 233a

5c Chocolate  
Scott 234

6c Purple  
Scott 235

6c Red Violet  
Scott 235a

8c Magenta  
Scott 236

10c Black Brown  
Scott 237

15c Dark Green  
Scott 238
POSTAGE

COLUMBIAN ISSUE

Printed by American Bank Note Co.
Perforated 12

30c Orange Brown
Scott 239

50c Slate Blue
Scott 240

$1.00 Salmon
Scott 241

$2.00 Brown Red
Scott 242

$3.00 Yellow Green
Scott 243

$3.00 Olive Green
Scott 243a

$4.00 Rose Carmine
Scott 244a

$4.00 Crimson Lake
Scott 244

$5.00 Black
Scott 245
On June 30, 1894, American Bank Note Company’s contract for printing United States postage stamps ended. As the expiration date approached the Post Office Department advertised for proposals for a new contract. During the course of bidding, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing made an even lower bid for the contract. Given the lower bid price and the convenience of having the stamps printed in Washington D.C., the Post Office awarded the contract to the Bureau. The next time a private printing company would print U.S. postage stamps would be in 1943, when American produced the Overrun Nations series.

The original dies, transfer rolls and plates were turned over to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. It was decided that the basic stamp design should remain the same, but triangles were added to the corners on the dies and new plates were made. For the 1894 Issue the 30¢ and 90¢ values were dropped and four new denominations were added — 50¢, $1.00, $2.00 and $5.00. There are two types of the $1.00, which occur on the same plate.

1894-98 Bureau Issue Types

2c Type I
Horizontal lines in triangle are continuous

2c Type II
Horizontal lines in triangle are thinner at middle

2c Type III
Horizontal lines in triangle have breaks

2c Type IV
Triangle as Type III
Six changes listed in Scott

$1.00 Type I
Circle enclosing “$1” is broken

$1.00 Type II
Circle enclosing “$1” is complete

10¢ Type I
Circle around “10” stops before white line

10¢ Type II
Circle around “10” goes into white line
1894 BUREAU ISSUE

Printed by Bureau of Engraving and Printing
Perforated 12, Unwatermarked

1c Ultramarine
Scott 246

1c Blue
Scott 247

2c Pink, Ty. I
Scott 248

2c Carmine Lake, Ty. I
Scott 249

2c Carmine Ty. I
Scott 250

2c Rose, Ty. I
Scott 250a

2c Scarlet, Ty. I
Scott 250b

2c Carmine, Ty. II
Scott 251

2c Scarlet, Ty. II
Scott 251a

2c Carmine, Ty. III
Scott 252

2c Scarlet, Ty. III
Scott 252a

3c Purple
Scott 253

4c Dark Brown
Scott 254

5c Chocolate
Scott 255

6c Dull Brown
Scott 256

8c Violet Brown
Scott 257

10c Dark Green
Scott 258

15c Dark Blue
Scott 259

50c Orange
Scott 260

$1.00 Black, Ty. I
Scott 261

$1.00 Black, Ty. II
Scott 261A

$2.00 Bright Blue
Scott 262

$5.00 Dark Green
Scott 263
POSTAGE

1895 BUREAU ISSUE

Printed by Bureau of Engraving and Printing
Perforated 12, Double-Line Watermark

1c Blue
Scott 264

2c Carmine, Ty. I
Scott 265

2c Carmine, Ty. II
Scott 266

2c Carmine, Ty. III
Scott 267

2c Pink, Ty. III
Scott 267a

2c Vermilion, Ty. III
Scott 267b

2c Rose Carmine, Ty. III
Scott 267c

3c Purple
Scott 268

4c Dark Brown
Scott 269

5c Chocolate
Scott 270

6c Dull Brown
Scott 271

8c Violet Brown
Scott 272

10c Dark Green
Scott 273

15c Dark Blue
Scott 274

50c Orange
Scott 275

50c Red Orange
Scott 275a

$1.00 Black, Ty. I
Scott 276

$1.00 Black, Ty. II
Scott 276a

$2.00 Bright Blue
Scott 277

$2.00 Dark Blue
Scott 277a

$5.00 Dark Green
Scott 278
The "USIR" (United States Internal Revenue) watermark error occurred when a supply of paper reserved for revenue stamp production was used for printing the 6c and 8c postage stamps. The 6c "USIR" Watermark error is considerably rarer than the 8c. Only stamps showing the “I” or “R” of the watermark can be confirmed as examples of this variety.
In 1898 the colors were changed on 1¢, 2¢ and 5¢ denominations to conform to Universal Postal Union standards (Green, Red and Blue, respectively), and to avoid confusion, the colors of certain other values were also changed.
POSTAGE

1898 CHANGE OF COLORS

Printed by Bureau of Engraving and Printing
Perforated 12, Double-Line Watermark

BOOKLET

2c Red, Type IV
Scott 279Bj

The first booklet issued by the United States
One of only two known used with intact tab
The Trans-Mississippi Issue was released in 1898 to coincide with the Trans-Mississippi International Exposition in Omaha. This was the second set of commemorative stamps released by the Post Office, following the 1893 Columbians. The Trans-Mississippi set was originally intended to be printed in two colors and exists as essays in this state. Johl notes that the bicolor printing scheme was abandoned due to the outbreak of the Spanish-American War. The Bureau’s postage stamp production was reduced to provide additional capacity for revenue stamps needed to finance the war effort.

1c Dark Yellow Green
Scott 285

2c Copper Red
Scott 286

4c Orange
Scott 287

5c Dull Blue
Scott 288

8c Violet Brown
Scott 289

10c Gray Violet
Scott 290

50c Sage Green
Scott 291

$1.00 Black
Scott 292

$2.00 Orange Brown
Scott 293