First stamp issue - 5 cents value, imperforate (Printed by Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, New York)

5 cents paid the postage for a letter, up to ½ ounce, travelling up to 300 miles within the United States. Rate applied throughout period 1st July, 1845 to 30th June, 1851.



20th December, 1847

Entire from New York to Philadelphia bearing 5 cents value from the first printing. Stamp cancelled with light orange-red New York square grid cancel with New York circular date stamp of 20th December applied nearby.

The letter is a pre-printed advice from S. N. Davis & Co, New York to Messrs Haddock, Haseltine & Read informing them of a change of address with handwritten postscript advising of a large stock of hats and shawls being received.

First stamp issue – 10 cents value, imperforate (Printed by Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, New York)

10 cents paid the postage for a letter, up to ½ ounce, travelling more than 300 miles within the United States. This rate applied during the period 1st July, 1845 to 30th June, 1851.



11th November, 1847

Entire from New York to Gainesville, Alabama, bearing a 10 cents value, tied with light orange-red New York square grid cancel with red 11th November circular date stamp of New York applied nearby.

Contents, from Messrs Greenway Henry Smith, of New York, to Mr Horace Everitt, Attorney at Law, refer to addressee sending halves of bank notes to a third party. Population of Gainesville in 1850 was 1,500 (2020: 172)

Eight covers bearing the 10 cents value used in 1847 addressed to Alabama are recorded on the Alexander Census / USPSC website, four from New York.

1 cent value, imperforate (Printed by Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co, Philadelphia)

The 1 cent value was used to pay the rate for drop letters and printed matter/circulars from 1st July, 1851.



1 cent value, imperforate, Type IV, on cover with Alabama circular cancel addressed to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

3 cents value, imperforate (Printed by Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co, Philadelphia)



Pair 3 cents stamps paying double rate on cover from Brooklyn, New York to Apalachicola, Florida

Population: Apalachicola

1860 1,904 (2020: 2,341)



3 cents on cover from New York to Providence, Rhode Island bearing circular U.S. Express Mail cancel. Postmark was used by U.S. Mail route agents on the New York-Boston and New York-Albany runs.

12 cents value, imperforate, issued 1851 (Printed by Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co, Philadelphia)

The 12 cents stamp was used primarily to pay the postage on heavy letters and for foreign destinations. A very common usage was to Great Britain, where two 12 cents stamps paid the 24 cents rate.



Cover bearing two 12 cents stamps paying 24 cents treaty rate from Canadaigua, New York to Edinburgh, Scotland.

Cover carried on the 'Europa' of the Cunard Line which left Boston on 1st July, 1857 and arrived at Liverpool on 11th July, 1857.

Frankings:

- black Canadaigua circular cancel of 26 Jun
- black Boston Br. Pkt circular cancel of 1 Jul (reverse)
- red America Paid 12 Jy 57 Liverpool
- red '19' (indicating 19 cents debit to U.S.)
- black Edinburgh circular cancel 18 Jy 1857



Series of 1857-1861

10 cents value, perforated 15, issued 1857 (Printed by Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co, Philadelphia)

The 10 cents stamp was used mainly to pay the postage on letters up to ½ ounce that travelled from coast to coast (for the period 1st April, 1855 to 30th June, 1863).



21 May, 1859

Pair 10 cents values, Type V, perf 15, paying double rate used from San Francisco, California, to Washington, DC, cancelled black San Francisco circular date cancel. An early use of the Type V 10 cent, earliest documented date being 29 April, 1859.

Cover carried via ship from San Francisco to Panama, across the Panama isthmus via the Panama Canal Railway, and then by sea to New York via the U.S. Mail Steamship Company (usually taking about 40 days).

10 cents value, perforated 12 (Printed by National Bank Note Co., New York)

Waterbury, Connecticut 'Eagle and Shield' cancellation 1866





On 23rd July, 1860 the U.S. Post Office Department made it illegal to cancel a stamp with a town postmark. Consequently, many postal employees, particularly in those offices too small to receive obliterating devices from the Post Office Department, initially resorted to using an inked, quartered cork to cancel the stamps. However, the practice of producing more artistic carvings on cork or wood soon took place.

A wide variety of cork cancels were carved by John. W. Hill (1834 - 1921), a Civil War veteran, during his period of employment at the Waterbury Post Office, Connecticut from 1865 to 1890 (appointed postal clerk in 1865, and promoted to postmaster in 1869).

PF certificate: 572394 (Dec 2020)

30 cents value, perforated 12 (Printed by Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co, Philadelphia)



12 May, 1863

30 cents cancelled by dumb bar cancel on entire, manuscript 'Steamship Europa', sent from New York to Lyon, France. Red New York PAID 24 cds of 12 May (24 cents credit due to U.S.) and red Calais receiving cds 27 May, 1863 also applied. Reverse has Paris cds of 27 May, 1863, Paris to Lyon train cds of 27 May, 1863 and Lyon receipt cds of 28 May, 1863.

Carried on the 'Europa' of the Cunard Line, which departed from Boston 13 May, 1863. Whilst cancelled New York, the Cunard sailings were from New York and Boston on alternate Wednesdays. The cover would have been entered into the accountancy ledgers in the New York exchange office receiving the New York cancel, and sent out on the 12th May to Boston, when it caught the 'Europa' which sailed the following day.

2 cents value, perforated 12 (Printed by Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co, Philadelphia)



6 July, 1865

2 cents value, on unsealed circular from Yale College posted New Haven, Connecticut paying the double rate as circular was in excess of ½ ounce.

Contents advertise a Course in Agriculture.



2 cents value, on local corner advertisement cover from Philadelphia. Stamp cancelled with blue 'Carrier' cds of 5 Jun - 5th delivery.

15 cents value, perforated 12 (Printed by National Bank Note Co, New York)

The 15 cents stamp was used to pay the rate to France and Germany.



25th September, 1868

15 cents value on cover envelope tied black geometric cancel, with purple Philadelphia PAID 6 circular cancel of 25 September and blue Calais datestamp of 8 October, 1868. Paris backstamp of 8 October, 1868 on reverse.

Carried on the 'City of Boston' of the Inman Line which left New York on 26 September, 1868.

24 cents, perforated 12 (Printed by National Bank Note Co, New York).



8 November, 1867

24 cents value, perf. 12, on cover tied by dumb cancel addressed to London with red 'New York Packet Paid' cds applied, with receiving London Paid cds applied of 20 November, 1867. Manuscript notation also confirms the same date as received by addressee.

Carried on the 'Cimbria' of the HAPAG line, which left New York on 9 November and arrived at Southampton on 19 November, 1867 before arriving at Hamburg on 22 November, 1867. The 'AX' within the London Paid cds indicates the cover received the cancel of 'NO 20 / 67' at 1.50am.