

THE TRAVERS PAPERS: TOPPAN, CARPENTER — 1851-61
DOCUMENTS
W. WILSON HULME II AND ROBERT S. BOYD

INTRODUCTION

This manuscript was originally compiled by Wilson Hulme and is based upon a copy provided by Richard C. Celler. More than 120 documents were rediscovered after Wilson's death. The President of the United States Philatelic Classics Society, John Barwis, stated that a sizeable number of the Travers Papers had been found in the vault of the National Postal Museum, and Wilson never had access to them. Thanks to cooperation between the NPM and USPCS, these additional papers are now on the USPCS web site, and the typescripts have been added to the original manuscript.

Wilson's document numbers may have been intended to relate to other Travers Papers and may have been cited in some publications, so his numbers have been preserved. His original typescripts are in black. The additional documents are typed in red; they have been placed in sequence and assigned letters following the previous number, e.g., 617A. As is typical of the time, the documents contain many nonstandard abbreviations that have been retained. In some cases, punctuation marks have been altered or added for legibility. For example, date and thousand separators in this correspondence tend to be periods rather than commas.

Many documents include docketing applied by contemporaries. A bold, italicized "***COMMENT***" line identifies comments made by us to help readers assess significance, clarify persons or items mentioned, and find other documents that concern the same subject.

Concerning provenance of the documents, it should be assumed that we made the typescripts citing "National Archives" and "National Postal Museum" from the original documents or scans, and those citing "Travers" from Arthur Travers' typescripts or scans. Documents, both originals and typescripts, are annotated if available on the USPCS web site.

Robert S. Boyd
September 2014

1851

126.

[National Archives]

Washington City Jany. 24, 1851

Honl. N. K. Hall
P. Master General

Dear Sir

I have the honor, most respectfully to request that you will do me the favour, to give the Contract for the engraving and printing the Stamps for the Post Office, which may be necessary under the cheap Postage Law now before Congress, to the Houses of Danforth Bald & Co. Engravers of New York and Philadelphia. I pledge myself that the work shall be executed in highest style and finish and upon the most moderate terms.

Your friend and Obt St.

R. W. Latham

[Docket]

21 Jany 1851
R. W. Latham

Recommending
Danforth, Baldwin & Co.
for Stamp Contract

132.

[Travers]

[Travers' note re expenses of procuring, &c.]

The Act of March 3, 1851, says:

X X X X X X

"And the expenses of procuring and providing all such postage stamps and letter envelopes, as are provided for or authorized by this act, shall be paid, after being adjusted by the auditor of the post-office department, on the certification of the Postmaster General, out of any money in the treasury arising from the revenues of the post-office department."

Stats. page 590.

COMMENT: "XXXXXX" in a Travers typescript shows the omission of other text in the document.

133.

[National Archives]

(Engravers' Letterhead)

Philada March 4th 1851

J. Marron Esq.

Dear Sir

Your favor of yesterday is received.

We will immediately engrave the addition required to your "Warrant" Plates and will forward to you as soon as they can be prepared the impressions from the plate, with the 250 sheets of Blank Drafts.

We take the liberty of enclosing some Proof impressions of heads, as you were good enough to intimate we might do, and would be much obliged to you if you would lay them before Mr. Hall—and would be glad to be allowed to come into competition for the Contract for furnishing the Post Office Stamps.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servts

Danforth, Bald & Co.

134.

[Travers]

Post Office Department,
March 8, 1851.

Gentlemen:

The 3rd Section of the "Act to reduce and modify the rates of postage &c.," approved March 3rd, 1851, requires the Postmaster General to provide and furnish to all deputy postmasters and to all other persons applying and paying therefor, suitable postage stamps of the denomination of three cents and of such other denominations as he may think expedient to facilitate the prepaying of postages provided for in said Act. Therefore, with the view of performing the duty thus enjoined, I invite you to present at the earliest day practicable an engraved design for a three cent stamp, which will be considered in competition with the engraved designs of other eminent engravers from which the Department will select one for adoption under the Act aforesaid.

The person or firm offering the preferred design will be employed to furnish all other stamps which may be needed under the act, provided the Department and such person or firm agree as to prices and other matters of detail before the 20th day of April next. A medallion head of Washington, in profile, done in the best style of line engraving with a finely engraved background in what the Department suggests. The denominations can be put in letters on the margin after the manner of the English stamps. The letters should be pure white and express the words "U.S. postage, three cents."

Very respectfully,
Yr. Obt. Ser't,
N.K. Hall,
P.M. Genl.

To.

Messrs. Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, N.Y.
" Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co., Pha.
" Baldwin & Adams, N.Y.
" Danforth, Bald & Co., Pha.
" Draper, Welsh & Co., Pha.
Mr. John E. Gavit, Albany, N.Y.

COMMENTS: For additional details and commentary on the 1851 bidding process, see document #483 (undated but written approximately June 1857) by 3rd Asst. PMG Marron . This letter is also included as

Attachment 3 to #483. According to Marron an unsolicited bid was also received from Henry Benner of Washington D.C., but we have no other documentation of Benner's bid. An unsolicited bid was also received from Neal and Pate of New York City (Document #137). This letter and the subsequent document by Marron raise the question if the essays as listed in Scott's Specialized Catalogue are properly identified by engraver and by year:

- *Scott #11-E1 - is apparently the newspaper stamp essay made in 1850 by Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edison. It is not part of the 1851 Issue.*
- *Scott #11-E5 - is apparently misidentified. Bradbury, Wilkinson was not a bidder on this contract. Additionally the essay does not meet the specification stating it should say "U.S. Postage." The Story of the American Bank Note Company, Griffiths and Colclough, 1959, states that Bradbury did not begin work until 1856, and joined with Wilkinson much later than 1851.*
- *Scott #11-E14 and #11-E15 do not appear to fit. Bald (of Bald, Cousland) was a member of Danforth, Bald at the time the 1851 contract was submitted. Additionally, #11-E15 does not state "U.S. Postage, three cents" as required.*

135.

[Travers]

New York, March 10, 1851

Hon. N.K. Hall, P.M. General
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of 8th inst. inviting us to present an engraved design for a three cent stamp, and suggesting "A medallion head of Washington, in profile, done in the best style of line engraving, with a finely executed background" - to be considered in competition with the engraved designs of other eminent engravers, &c.

In reply, we beg leave, respectfully to state, that we must decline entering into competition for the contract for furnishing the stamps, by engraving a design for the same, unless provision is first made to compensate us for the expense incurred in case our design should not be selected - We have heretofore furnished all the Five and Ten cent stamps, we believe, to the entire satisfaction of the Department, both as to style of Engraving, and to the promptitude and fidelity with which our contract has been fulfilled - The furnishing of these stamps, gummed ready for use, is attended with much responsibility, trouble and expense, and at present rates, yields scarcely any profit - We may safely say that we are not as yet paid for the plates out of the profits of the Five and Ten cent stamps, which are now done away with - We should not therefore be willing to undertake to furnish them for less than the present rates.

We have already submitted a design (engraved) which we think well adapted for a three cent stamp, and as that rate will undoubtedly be temporary, we purposely avoided putting the head of Washington on it, thinking that would be more appropriate on the permanent rate of two cents, and the Head of Franklin (a printer) on the one cent or newspaper rate.

Our ability to execute a stamp, in as good style as it can be done in the world, is well known, and after any design that may be required, and should not the one already presented by us be approved, we should be willing to undertake to furnish an engraved stamp that would be satisfactory, provided we were to have the contract on the same terms as the present - We suggested and furnished the designs for the five & ten cent stamps, as also the design for the Three cent stamp above referred to, without charge, but we are unwilling to incur further expense for so small an object, resting upon the contingency of a decision between the productions of several different engravers.

We have the honor to be,
Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servts,

Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson.

136.

[National Archives]

(Engravers' Letterhead)

Philada March 11th 1851

Dear Sir

Your favor of the 8th inst., inviting an engraved design for a three cent Stamp, was duly received—

We expect, before the 20th day of April next, to be able to lay before you a design for your inspection.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servts

Danforth, Bald & Co.

Hon. N. K. Hall
Postmaster General
Washington

[Docket]

11 March 1851
Danforth Bald & Co
Phila.

Relating to design
for Stamps

Intend furnishing Engraved
Design for 3 Ct Stamps

137.

[National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

New York Mch 14, 1851

Mess Neale & Pate

Offer to furnish the Post Master General a Steel Plate containing One hundred engravings of either of the enclosed samples of the best workmanship for \$150\$.

They also offer to furnish the Paper & print One hundred sheets containing Ten Thousand Stamps for two Dollars per 100 sheets, already sized for use.

Neale & Pate

[The following endorsement is written at the bottom of this letter:]

New York March 15~~8~~—1851

Hon N K Hall

Sir

Mesr Neale & Pate who are known to us as respectable and responsible men, and whose business is that of Copper Plate printing have asked that we should forward the enclosed for your inspection and approval if you think proper so to do. We are

Your obedient Sevts

E & W. Merub

COMMENTS:

- *This was an unsolicited bid. No essays are known that have been attributed to Neal and Pate, but some type of sample of their work was submitted, as indicated above.*
- *It is possible that the letter dated March 14, 1851, from Neal and Pate was attached to this letter and forwarded to PMG Hall. Perhaps some additional samples of Neal and Pate's work were forwarded for inspection to the PMG.*

138.

[National Archives]

Office of the Navy Agent
Philada March 22d 1851

Dear Sir

I take great pleasure in introducing to you J. W. Steel Esq. of this city, who visits Washington on business connected with your department—Mr. Steel is an engraver and being myself connected with the publishing business, I have had frequent opportunities of learning his worth both as an artist, and as a reliable and truthful business man. Should he succeed in making any arrangement with the department, I feel no hesitation in Saying that what he promises he will faithfully perform.

He will no doubt exhibit specimens of his workmanship, amongst which is a head of our most excellent president, engraved last year for Sartains Magazine. That it was completed for us under adverse circumstances—The daguerreotype was defective, beside we could not allow him half the time necessary to complete it.

I am Sir
Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servt

Wm. Sloanaker

Hon N. K. Hall
Postmaster General

[Docket]

March 22 1851
Philada.

Wm. Sloanaker

Recommends
Mr. Steel as an
Engraver of Stamps

139. [Travers, [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site](#)]
(Engravers' Letterhead)

New York April 8th 1851

J. Marron Esq.
Washington City,

Dear Sir,

Since the interview which our Mr. Rawdon had with you, and your explanation of the letter of the P.M. Genl. and of the manner in which the order for postage stamps was to be given out, we have concluded to address you on the subject, for the purpose of saying, that in declining to furnish an engraved stamp, to be considered in competition with others, we acted under a misunderstanding of your views, and consequently under a feeling that injustice was done us, by throwing open to competition, a matter that we felt ourselves entitled to, by tacit, if not by actual agreement, on account and in consideration of our having furnished the dies and plates for the five and ten cent stamps, without charge, we having consented to do so, on the verbal understanding, that we were to furnish all the stamps that might be required, of any denominations, on the same terms, we taking the risk of there being a large or small amt. required of each, and provided always, that we gave satisfaction in the style of work, and in the promptitude and faithfulness with which we fulfilled the orders of the Department, - under this expectation, we made arrangements to conduct the business with safety to the Department and convenience to ourselves, for some time to come, and in so doing, we incurred considerable expense. - The price at which we undertook to furnish the stamps afforded so small a profit, that it would be only in case a very large amount was required, that we could realize the cost of the dies and plates, to say nothing of compensation for superintendence, and the care and responsibility incident to having such large amounts of money (equal to U.S. coin,) passing through so many hands, in the various processes of printing, pressing, gumming &c, and as we have not yet been compensated for the five and ten cent stamps, and as the style of engraving of the three principal houses would be so nearly equal that it would be next to impossible to say that one of the stamps submitted, was better than another, (the design being the same,) and consequently others having no claims, would be placed on a par with us, we felt unwilling to incur the additional expense of furnishing an engraved stamp for three cents, and on the basis that we supposed was contemplated.

Finding however, that we have misunderstood your views, and that our claims would have been duly considered, we have concluded to apply for the contract, and provided you will now permit us to do so, and sufficient time can be allowed for us to prepare a stamp to be submitted, (say to the 10th May,) and we would undertake to furnish the stamps, (after the design suggested, and to be approved by yourself and the P.M. Genl.) on the same terms as heretofore, and have a given quantity ready for delivery on the 20th May.

Please excuse the trouble we have given you in this matter, and by favoring us with a reply to this letter, greatly oblige,

Yours Very Respectfully,
Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson.

P.S. We address this unofficially, thinking it may be too late to consider our application, in which case, we should prefer to have no attention called to it.

[Docket]

April 8, 1851
New York, N.Y.
Rawdon, Wright Hatch & Co

If not too late asks to be
allowed to 10th May to prepare
a 3 Ct Stamp for your
approval.

Rawdon, Wright Hatch & Edson
in reference to Postage Stamps

Answered 12 April 1851

COMMENT: An essay (Scott #11E2), attributed to Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson is known. Its appearance suggests it might have been rushed to completion and submitted to the Post Office.

140. [National Archives]

Philada April 10th 1851.

Dear Sir,

This will be handed you By Mr. S. H. Carpenter of this City, of the house of Toppan Carpenter & Co, whose reputation as engravers is so widely extended, & is no doubt well known to you.

Mr. Carpenter goes to Washington as I learn from him in connection with an application for engraving the post office Stamps, & I presume takes with him some specimens of their work as evidence of the high qualifications of his house. In addition I beg leave to say in their behalf that the personal as well as the professional character of the partners is the highest, & that they enjoy a reputation equally elevated as men of integrity & intelligence & accomplished artists.

If you can forward the object of Mr. Carpenter, you will confer a favor on him, and oblige your old schoolfellow & friend.

Moncure Robinson

John Marron Esq.

COMMENTS:

- *As was customary at the time, bidders arranged for recommendations by influential persons. TCC partner Samuel H. Carpenter mentioned this recommendation in a letter to Third Asst. PMG Marron (#144). Documents 142, 145, 146, and 150 are also examples.*
- *Moncure Robinson was a native Virginian who attended the College of William and Mary 1815-18, then became an engineer specializing in railroad design. By the time of this letter, he had holdings in several railroads, canals, etc. and lived in Philadelphia. Little is known of Marron's background, but he was from Georgia and this letter suggests he may have also attended William and Mary.*

141.

[Travers, National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

P.O. Department
April 12th 1851

Gentlemen

Although your letter to me of the 8th instant did not profess to be addressed to me officially, I nevertheless deemed it my duty to bring its contents to the notice of the Postmaster General, that he might determine whether he would, as you suggest, fix a time later than the 20th of this month for selecting the new postage stamps from the specimens which may be offered under his invitation of the 8th of last month, and I am now instructed to say that it is not considered expedient to fix a later period for that purpose than the one mentioned.

I am very resp'y &c
J. Marron
Third Ass't P.M. Gen'l.

Mess Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson
New York, N.Y.

COMMENT: See #139. Apparently an essay (Scott #11E2) was prepared (and perhaps submitted). This essay looks rushed in appearance and is not of the quality of other RWHE work.

142.

[National Archives]

Philadelphia April 14, 1851

Hon. N. K. Hall
Postmaster General

Dr Sir

Understanding that the firm of Draper, Welsh & Co, Bank Note Engravers of this City, proposes to bid for the Contract for Supplying the Post Office department with prepaid Stamps, under the recent Law of Congress, I have no hesitation in Saying, that Should the Contract be awarded them, the work will executed to the Satisfaction of the department. They are Gentlemen well skilled in their business and with the reputation of being among the most accomplished "Bank Note Engravers" in the Country.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt

Wm. Hay

I concur fully in the above recommendation.

W. J. P. White
Postmaster

[Docket]

April 14 1851
Wm. Hay

Recommending Draper
Welsh & Co. for printing
Stamps

143. [National Archives]

Philada Exchange
15th April 1851

Honorable N. K. Hall
Postmaster General

Sir

We enclose specimens of Stamps engraved according to the views expressed in your favor of 15th of March. The portrait is from Houdon's celebrated Bust thought to be the best likeness extant. the background of the portrait is formed by the Geometric Lathe, being the most difficult to counterfeit of the various styles used upon Bank Notes. We propose to furnish the Department with adhesive stamps, printed in either the above colours & in such quantities as may be required & under such regulations as the Department adopts at Eighteen Cents per thousand, & will engrave & keep the plate in order without additional expense to the Government.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt. Svts.

Draper, Welsh & Co.

[The following note is written in pencil at the top of this letter]

This is the best English ink, indelible, and the most expensive manufactured. And the difference in the propositions arises from the cost of the ink itself.

144. [National Archives]

Philada April 16 1851

Dear Sir,

My old friend Moncure Robinson Esqr has had the kindness to favor me with a letter to you, which I take the liberty to hand you in advance of my visit to Washington, and avail myself of the occasion to ask if you will have the kindness to inform me whether Monday the 21st inst. will be in time—The 20th is the day named by the Post Master General for the decision of the question of the new Stamps, but as that date will come on Sunday I will feel greatly obliged if you will merely write the day on which the specimens must be before the Post Master General, so that I may be sure of being at the department at the proper time.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt

S. H. Carpenter
of the firm of
Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co

Jno. h. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst./ P. M. General
Washington

[Docket]

April 16 1851
S. H. Carpenter

Respecting Stamps
Recommendation of
Moncure Robinson

April 17, 1851
Answd.

145. [National Archives]

Philadelphia April 19th 1851

Dear Sir

Mr. Carpenter of the firm of Toppan Carpenter and others, Engravers, is about to present to you Specimens of their Art, and to apply for a Contract, under your department. The house of which Mr. C. is one of the partners, has been long established here and enjoys (I believe deservedly) a large share of the public confidence. Their productions are in the best State of Art and their character and standing are entirely respectable. I have much pleasure in introducing Mr. Carpenter and commending him to your favorable notice.

With great respect
your ob servant

J. R. Ingersoll

Hon: N. K. Hall
&c &c &c

[Docket]

April 19 1851
J. R. Ingersoll

Recommends Topham
Carpenter & Co.

COMMENTS:

- *Toppan's name was often misspelled in docketts.*
- *Joseph Reed Ingersoll was a Whig member of Congress 1835-37, and Pres. Fillmore's Minister to the United Kingdom 1852-53.*

146. [National Archives]

Washington April 21st 1851

Dear Sir

We take pleasure in introducing Mr. Carpenter of the highly respectable house of Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co of Philadelphia.

Those gentlemen propose to do some work for the Post Office Dept and we recommend them to your attention, as in every way competent and responsible.

With great respect
Your Obt Serts

Corcoran & Riggs

The Hon
N. K. Hall
Post Master Genl
Washington

[Docket]

Corcoran & Riggs
Recommending
Toppam Carpenter & Co

April 21, 1851

COMMENT: Corcoran & Riggs was a prominent, politically well-connected Washington bank.

147. [National Archives]

Washington D C Apl 21, 1851

Hon. N. K. Hall
Post Master General

Sir

In order to make a Satisfactory estimate of the price at which we could afford to furnish the new Stamps, it is desirable that we should know—1st—about the greatest number of 5 and 10 Cent Stamps that have been used in any one year—2nd—How many Stamps will probably be used (per annum) under the new law—3rd—For what length of time do you propose to make the new Contract?—Of course the larger the number of Stamps, and the longer the duration of the Contract, the lower the price at which they can be afforded—The expenses to us for dies, Engraving, transferring, and the necessary Machinery to execute an order of this kind promptly and in the Style in which it should be done, would be very considerable, and as we do not propose to charge for the Engraving, but trust entirely to the chance of remuneration from the number of Stamps printed, it will at once occur to you that should Congress in a year hence again alter the Postage law, so as to render it necessary to have new Stamps Engraved and we should

then (from any cause) lose the Contract, we should lose money by a Contract held for so short a time unless the price paid was a very liberal one—That the law will be altered in so short a time is perhaps improbable, yet it is a contingency which we must take into consideration unless the Contract now about to be made shall be for a term of years.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

[Docket]

April 21 1851

Toppham Carpenter & Co
Respecting Stamps

3 Questions in
relation to Stamps

148.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Department.
April 22nd, 1851.

Gentlemen:

I have examined the several specimens of engraving for postage stamps submitted in pursuance of the invitations given by the Department in March last and find the productions of two or three firms so nearly equal in merit that the question of price may with propriety be permitted to influence my decision. Therefore, I have to request that you submit at the earliest convenient moment the price per thousand at which you will furnish stamps printed on steel plates from steel dies corresponding with the specimens exhibited by you; the stamps to be printed one hundred on a sheet and delivered at your place of business gummed and ready for use, in sealed packages of 200 sheets. The dies and plates to be furnished and kept in continual repair without charge and to belong to and remain in the custody of this Department except when in use by you. You will also state what your price will be if the business be divided so as to give the furnishing of the three cent stamps to one establishment and the two denominations of one and six or, one and twelve, to another. Your proposals should state first the price per thousand on contract of 4 years for all the stamps the Department may require of every rate. Second, the price for the three cent stamps alone or, such stamps or rate as Congress may substitute for it, and a contract of like duration; and, third, the price for the other two denominations for the same period. Any further information which may be desired before submitting your proposal can be had on application to the Third Assistant P.M. General.

Respectfully &c.
N.K. Hall,
P.M. Genl.

To
Danforth, Bald & Co.
Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.,
Present.

149.

[National Archives]

National Hotel Apl 22
½ past 2. PM.

Sir

Your favor of this date is this moment recd—

I will be prepared to submit proposals in accordance with your Suggestions tomorrow at 9 O'clock—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt

S. H. Carpenter

Honl. N. K. Hall
Post Master General.

[Docket]

April 22 1851
S. H. Carpenter

Relates to proposals
for Stamps tomorrow

150.

[National Archives]

Dear Sir

Mr. Carpenter is I understand an applicant for the engraving of the Post Office Stamps pr his house in Philadelphia—I can say that they have in the engravings they have presented to the Treasury department afforded entire satisfaction & I can very cordially recommend them for the present task.

Very respectfully

W. L. Hodge

Honl. N. K. Hall
P M General
22 Apl 1851

[Docket]

April 22, 1851

Recommendation
of Mr Carpenter
by W. L. Hodge

COMMENT: Wilson Hulme originally transcribed the sender as “W. T. Hodge,” but the text of the letter suggests he was William L. Hodge, a sub-cabinet level Treasury official who was on several occasions named Acting Secretary of the Treasury by Pres. Fillmore during the period March 1851 to March 1853.

151.

[National Archives]

Washington D.C. April 22, 1851

Sir

In answer to your communication of this date we have the honor to reply that we should be pleased to contract with the Post Office Department for the furnishing of the required Stamps, gummed and ready for use, as follows:

1st At Twenty Cents per thousand Stamps on a contract of 4 years for All the Stamps the Department may require of every rate—

2d At Twenty Cents per thousand Stamps for the 3 cent Stamp, or such Stamp or rate as Congress may substitute for it, on a Contract of like duration—

3d At Twenty five Cents per thousand Stamps for such other Stamps as the department may designate, on a Contract of the Same period—

Hoping to be favored with the Contract

We are

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servts
Danforth, Bald & Co
Engravers
Philada & New York

Hon W. K. Hall
Post Master General

152.

[National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Washington April 23d 1851

Sir

In reply to your communication of yesterday we beg leave to submit for your consideration the following terms for furnishing Postage Stamps printed on Steel Plates from Steel dies corresponding with the Specimens exhibited by us —The Stamps to be printed one hundred on a sheet and delivered at our place of business gummed and ready for use, in Sealed packages of 200 Sheets—

The dies and Plates to be furnished and kept in continual repair without charge, and to belong to and remain in the custody of the Post Office Department, except when in use by us—

Viz.

1st If the Contract be given to us to furnish All the Stamps the department may require during a term of four years, we will furnish them at the rate of fifteen Cents for every thousand Stamps—

2nd We will furnish the 3 Cent Stamp alone (or such other rate as Congress may substitute for it within four years) at the rate of Seventeen Cents for every thousand Stamps—

3rd We will furnish the other two denominations (either One and Six Cents or one and twelve Cents, as you may determine) at the rate of twenty Cents for every thousand Stamps—

We could furnish impressions of all the Stamps just as early as we could from only one, and we should make a separate plate for each and print the 3 plates at the same time on 3 different presses, so that in point of time, nothing would be gained by dividing the order—

In conclusion we beg leave to say, that if out of the four heads presented by us, there is any one which is not in every respect satisfactory to you, we pledge ourselves to reengrave it entirely, in time to meet the wants of the Department and guarantee that we will produce such a head as shall meet your entire approbation—nothing short of that will satisfy us, and we would willingly incur any expense or pains in producing a new head rather than you should accept one to which you had any objections—

If you should desire to change the denominations on any of the Stamps presented by us it can be done—

Very respectfully
Your Obedt Servts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

Honl. N. K. Hall
Post Master General

[Docket]

April 23, 1851
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Proposals to
furnish Postage Stamps

COMMENT: See TCC letter of 28 June 1860 (#556) concerning the four heads (essays) mentioned above.

153. [National Postal Museum: Travers, [both on USPCS web site](#)]

Ordered that the proposition of Mess Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co to furnish all the Postage Stamps to be ordered by the Department for the next four years is accepted with such modifications as have been verbally made by the Postmaster General & Mr. Carpenter subject to such additional provisions in regard to the detail as may be deemed necessary by the Postmaster General & that the 3rd assistant notify Mr. Carpenter of this acceptance & prepare the necessary contract.

Hall

The above order was Made April 23rd, 1851 and it was communicated to Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co by letter from me of same date.

J. Marron
Third asst. P M Genl

[Docket]

April 23, 1851
P. Master Genl. Order to
give contract to Toppham
Carpenter & Co for printing
Stamps

154. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Department
April 23 1851

Gentlemen

I am directed by the Postmaster General to say that he has accepted your proposition to furnish all the postage stamps to be ordered by the Department for the next four years, subject, however, to such modifications as have been verbally agreed upon with Mr. S.H. Carpenter and subject to such additional provisions in regard to the detail as may be deemed necessary by the Postmaster General. A contract will be prepared in duplicate and sent to you for execution in a few days.

Respectfully &c
J. Marron
Third Ass't P.M. Genl

Mess Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.
Philadelphia, Pa.

155. [National Archives]

May 10, 1850

Stamp Contract

1. If Carpenter Casilear & Co have their stamps completed it might be well to annex copies of these to the Contract as specimens of the Stamps until changed and have the contract provide that if other plates were ordered or engraved they would be at least equal to those from which the specimens were printed.
2. Perhaps it might be well to say that they should be as well gummed & prepared for use as those made for and used by the Post Office Dept in England.
3. The provision for Color should be extended & changed so as to meet the case of a larger number of different Stamps.
4. The good quality of the kind or rather the bad quality of work should be provided for.
5. The mode of appointing the agent to receive the Stamps should be pointed out precisely as in the section of the new act in respect to forgery &c.
6. After the word "appoint" at the end of 13th line 2d page add "from time to time."

7. I think I would leave the dies &c with the Treasurer of the Mint or the Director or other Chief Officer of the Mint.
8. The additional stipulations contained in the Carpenter letters and the Stipn about making new plates &c if required & the [two words illegible] in case any of these should be counterfeited should also be inserted.
9. For greater security too I think they should agree to procure a kind of paper so peculiar that they themselves shall be able easily to distinguish & that they should if required furnish monthly, or with each set of Stamps delivered affdt. Of one of the partners stating the whole quantity of such paper delivered to their Foreman & accounting fully for the same by such affdt. & the affdt. of the foreman and procuring quarterly the affdt. of the paper maker his foreman or Clerk showing that all of the paper of that peculiar kind made by him has been delivered to C C & Co & they then accounting for all of that.

It is perhaps well to put also in the Contract a provision for the same precautions as [illegible word] as to affdts & as are now used.

I don't now think of anything else.

NKH

COMMENT: In spite of the "1850" year date, this is clearly an 1851 document. These are hand written notes from Postmaster General Hall regarding proposed changes in the 1851 contract.

156.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Department
May 16, 1851

Gentlemen

Please give me the name of each individual composing your firm that I may insert them in the contract which I am preparing for the furnishing of the postage stamps for this Department. When will the dies and plates be ready and how soon will you be able to commence printing the stamps? The Postmaster General will probably return on the 23rd. Will you be able to furnish proof impressions by that time?

Respectfully &c
J. Marron
Third Ass't P.M.G.

Mess Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philadelphia, Pa

157.

[National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada May 20th 1851

Sir

Your favor of the 26th inst. was duly received. We have delayed our answer that we might be able to state at what day proofs of all the stamps could be furnished, and we can now inform you that they will be forwarded on the 25th ins.

The names of the individuals composing our firm are

Charles Toppan
Samuel H. Carpenter
John C. Casilear
Henry E. Saulnier
William C. Smillie

Respectfy
yrs &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

To
J. Marron Esq
Third Asst. P. M. General
Washington
D.C.

COMMENT: "C" incorrect middle initial for Casilear. Changed to "W" in #158.

158.

[National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada May 21, 1851.

Sir

On the return of the writer to the City this morning, it was discovered that in giving you the names of the partners of our firm, one of them was erroneously written—please find below a correct list

Viz

Charles Toppan
Samuel H. Carpenter
John W. Casilear
Henry E. Saulnier
William C. Smillie

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esq
3rd Asst. Postmaster General
Washington

[Docket]

21 May 1851
Toppan Carpenter C. & Co
Philada

With Names of individual
members of the firm of T. C. C. & Co.

159. [National Postal Museum: Travers, [both on USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. May 24, 1851.

Hon. N.K. Hall
Post Master General

Sir

We have now the pleasure of enclosing proof impressions of the new Three Cent Stamp, and trust that its execution will meet your entire approbation. - We have taken great pains to make the head as perfect as possible, the likeness being an exact copy of the largest head & approved by you - We also enclose proofs of a new Stamp engraved by us for the "Carriers Stamp", the head being a copy of that on the One Cent Stamp - We have prepared this Stamp to submit to you under the impression that you would prefer to have the Carriers Stamp entirely different in appearance from the Post Office Stamp for One Cent - You will observe that we have engraved merely the words "Carriers Stamp", presuming that you would not deem it necessary to have the amount engraved on it, but if we have mistaken in this, we can readily alter it and insert the amount - Having finished the plates for the Twelve and One Cent Stamps (proofs of which are herewith) and being now ready to transfer and finish the plate for the Three Cent Stamp and also the Carriers Stamp (if you desire it) you will greatly oblige us by a reply at your earliest convenience as to whether both of these stamps are entirely satisfactory-

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

[Docket]

24 May 1851

Toppan Carpenter C & Co
Philada

With proofs of Stamps

COMMENTS:

- *This letter submitted plate proofs of the 1¢ and 12¢ stamps and die proofs of the 3¢ and Franklin carriers stamps. Perhaps 1¢ and 12¢ die proofs were previously submitted but we do not have supporting correspondence on this point.*
- *This letter provides evidence that the 1¢ and 12¢ plates were transferred prior to a 3¢ plate, but it is not clear which of the two came first.*
- *The carriers stamp was apparently put on the back burner until the 1¢, 3¢, and 12¢ stamps could be completed and the initial supplies issued to the postmasters. The next correspondence on carriers stamps is August 2, 1851 (#192).*

160. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. May 29, 1851

Sir:

The contract for the Stamps not having yet been signed, we venture to ask whether you will not consent to extend the time to eight, instead of four years - There are many reasons which induce us to ask for this extension, we will however trouble you with only one, and that is the apprehension that during the first four years the number of stamps used may not be sufficiently large to remunerate us (as we think we ought to be) at the low rate at which we have undertaken the work - If therefore there should be in your mind no serious objection to extending the time, you will confer a great favor on us by so doing -

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

Hon N.K. Hall
Post Master General.

COMMENT: Despite the PMG's intent to have the contract last four years, he split the difference and extended it to six years. See #483.

161. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Department
May 30, 1851

Gentlemen

I have received your letter of the 29th inst. requesting that the contract with your firm for supplying this Department with postage stamps may be made for eight years instead of four, and in consideration of your having assented by Mr. Saml H Carpenter, to certain modifications or stipulations not originally contemplated by either party, I have concluded to make the contract with you for six years, which I hope will be satisfactory. The contracts in duplicate are being prepared for that term and will be forwarded to you for signature without delay. I have now to request that you print and prepare, as speedily as practicable one hundred and twenty thousand dollars of the following denominations and in the proportions & colors stated, viz.: --

\$24,000	in	twelve	cent	stamps	printed	in	black
\$75,000	in	three	"	"	"	"	red
\$21,000	in	one	"	"	"	"	blue

When you shall have prepared about one half of each or either of the above kinds you will please put them up in parcels of 300 sheets, enveloped in strong brown paper for delivery to such agent as I shall by instrument of writing under seal of the Department, authorize to receive them. The remainder of the order you will of course go on to fill as fast as possible and when advised that they are ready they also will be delivered to an agent bearing the due authority from me. I shall be prepared so soon as the present order is completed to give you another one for a large amount and I therefore wish you to be in readiness.

Respectfully &c
N.K. Hall
P.M. General

Mess Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philadelphia, Pa.

162. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. May 31, 1851

Dear Sir:

You favor of 30th is rec'd - For your kindness in extending the term of the Contract to Six Years, we beg you to accept our sincere thanks-

The Plates for the 1 3 & 12 Cents Stamps are all ready for Press, and we will immediately on receipt of the paper (which is promised on Monday) commence the printing -

Very Respectfully,
Yr. Obt Servts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

Hon N.K. Hall
Post Master General.

COMMENT: Monday (last sentence) was 2 June 1851.

163. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

(Post Office Department
May 31, 1851)

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen

By direction of the Postmaster General I transmit herewith, the contract, in duplicate, for furnishing this Department with postage stamps for six years from the day upon which you shall execute it. Upon returning the contract, in duplicate, duly signed and attested, the Postmaster General will sign and return one of them to you; the other will be lodged in the Auditors office of this Department.

J. Marron
(Third Assistant P.M. Gen'l.)

164. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. June 2nd 1851

Sir

Your favor of 31st ulto with contract (in duplicate) is recd. They shall be forwarded to New York for the signatures of Messrs. Casilear and Smillie and returned to you as soon as they can be properly attested—Is it

necessary to have the signatures acknowledged before an officer of the United States, or will the Signatures for one or more witnesses at signing be sufficient?

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.

Penciled at bottom of June 2, 1851 letter:

In reply to your letter of the 31st ulto I would suggest that the Postmaster of Philadelphia and New York respectively attest the signing of the contract by the members of your firm residing in each city. If, however, the signatures have been attested in either place by other individuals, that form of attestation will not be objected to by the Department.

[Docket]

June 2d 1851
Philadelphia, Pa.

Mess Toppan, Carpenter,
Casilear & Co acknowledging
receipt of Contract & inquiring
as to the mode of attesting
the signatures.

Answered

165. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Department
June 4 1851

Gentlemen

In reply to your letter of the 31st ultimo I would suggest that the Postmaster of Philadelphia and New York respectively attest the signing of the contract by the members of your firm residing in each city. If however, the signatures have been attested in either place, by other individuals, that form of attestation will not be objected to by the Department.

Yours very respectfully
J. Marron
Third Asst. P.M. Genl

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter, Casilear & Co
Philadelphia, Pa.

166.

[National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. June 5, 1851

Dear Sir

Your favor of 4th is recd. The Signatures of the members of our firm in New York have already been attested by two witnesses, but immediately on the return of our Mr. Toppan (which we presume will be on Monday next at latest) the Signatures of the members of our firm here will be attested by the Post Master of this City and the Contract returned to the Department.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. General

[Docket]

June 5 1851
Philadelphia

Toppan Carpenter Casilear
& Co promises to have the
Signatures of the members
of their firm attested by
the PM Phila & the contract
returned to the Department

167.

[National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada June 10, 1851.

Sir

Herewith please find the Contracts for the Postage Stamps with signatures of the members of our firm resident in this City, attested by W. J. P. White Esqr Postmaster.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Honl
N. K. Hall
Post Master General
Washington

[Docket]

New York
June 10, 1851

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

enclosing the
Signatures of their firm
attested by the PM at
Philada

168.

[National Archives]

Articles of agreement made and entered into between the United States of America, by Nathan K. Hall, Postmaster General, of the one part, and Charles Toppan, Samuel H. Carpenter, John W. Casilear, Henry E. Saulnier and William C. Smillie, known as and constituting the firm of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company, Engravers of the City of Philadelphia, of the other part witnesseth;

That it is agreed on the part of the United States of America to employ the said firm of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company of Philadelphia to engrave and print for the use of the Post Office Department of the United States all the postage stamps which may be required by the Postmaster General under the "Act to reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States and for other purposes," approved March 3rd, 1851, and to pay them therefor at the rate of fifteen cents per thousand stamps as soon as they shall be executed and received by the Post Office Department, and further that the whole printing and furnishing of postage stamps by every description for the use of the Post Office Department, including carriers stamps when those shall be furnished by the Department, shall be given to them the said Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company, exclusively, for the full term of six years from the date of this agreement; and it agreed on the part of the said Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company that they will engrave steel dies and provide steel plates for furnishing postage stamps for the United States Post Office Department of the denominations of one, three and twelve cents without charge for said dies and plates, or for keeping them in continual repair, and that they will engrave and furnish without charge any additional steel dies and plates for such postage stamps of other denominations as the public service may require, to be by them likewise kept in continual repair without charge, and that they will in like manner engrave and furnish and keep in continual repair without charge to the Post Office Department such steel dies and steel plates as may be ordered for printing carrier stamps, and that if any of the dies and plates so engraved and furnished by them shall be counterfeited, they will furnish others of new designs and keep them in repair without charge, and that they will furnish stamps from all or any of the plates and dies herein stipulated by them to be engraved and furnished, printed on suitable paper of the best quality, well and fully prepared for use with gum, at the rate of fifteen cents for every thousand stamps. The stamps are to be executed in the best style of line engraving and all the dies and plates engraved and provided under this agreement are to belong to and be the exclusive property of the United States of America for the use of the Post Office Department, and the said Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company further agree that all the stamps shall be printed with the best quality of ink and that the Postmaster General may prescribe from time to time the colors of the ink to be used in printing any or all of the stamps the Department may order or require without subjecting it to any additional expense, and they further agree that they will not prepare, or permit to be prepared in their establishment any similar dies, plates or engravings from which printed postage stamps might be issued resembling those prepared for the Post Office Department, and further that they will adopt every means and precaution within their power to prevent the issue by any one in their employment or connected with their establishment, of postage stamps from the dies and plates engraved and used for the Post Office Department or any other stamps resembling them. The stamps are to be prepared by the said Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company in all respects ready for use without additional labor or expense to the Post Office Department. It is further agreed by the parties of the second part that the orders of the Postmaster General for postage stamps shall be executed with all reasonable despatch and that the stamps shall be delivered from time to time to such persons as shall be authorized to receive the same by an instrument of writing, duly executed under the hand of the Postmaster General and the seal of the Post Office Department, and that on the delivery of each parcel of stamps ordered, they, the said parties of the second part, will prepare and furnish the agent authorized to receive them, with an accurate statement verified by oath of one of said parties of the second part, of the number of stamps prepared and delivered by them to said agent of the department. And the parties of the second part further agree that if the Postmaster General shall deem it necessary, he may appoint a Special Agent of the Department who shall be at all times present when the dies and plates are taken from the place of deposit hereinafter mentioned to be delivered to the parties of the second part for the execution of any order for stamps given by the Department and be and remain with them during the process of printing and preparing said stamps and receive them as fast as they may be finished. When any order for stamps is filled or completed, then

the dies and plates are to be carefully enveloped and sealed up, the agent of the Post Office Department placing his seal and Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company placing their seal upon the package or packages, which are to be deposited with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Philadelphia for safekeeping. When the plates and dies or either of them are again required for use, the opening of the package or packages is to take place in the presence of the Agent of the Post Office Department and one of the firm of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company, or their Agent, each breaking his own seal. And the said parties of the second part do further covenant and agree that they will be responsible to the United States for any and all damages that may be sustained by any violation of any of the foregoing stipulations or by any omission to fulfill them on their part in their true spirit and meaning and that for such violation or omission the Postmaster General may have the right of annulling this agreement.

Witness our hands and respective seals this tenth day of June 1851.

Witness to signatures of
Charles Toppan
Samuel H. Carpenter &
Henry E. Saulnier
J. P. White

Chas. Toppan
S. H. Carpenter
J. W. Casilear
H. E. Saulnier
W. C. Smillie

P.M.

Witness to signatures of
John W. Casilear and
William C. Smillie
D. G. Johnson
W. H. Earle

N. K. HALL
Postmaster General

COMMENT: See #481 for a duplicate of original contract.

169.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

[Extracts from circular announcing the new issue.]

"Regulations Concerning Postage Stamps."

Post Office Department,
June 10, 1851.

To facilitate the pre-payment of postages upon letters and packages, postage stamps of the following denominations are provided and furnished by the Postmaster General, pursuant to the 3d section of the "act to reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States, and for other purposes," approved 3d March, 1851, viz:

No. 1, Printed in black, representing the head of Washington, of the denomination of twelve cents.

No. 2, Printed in red, representing the head of Washington in profile, of the denomination of three cents.

No. 3, Printed in blue, representing the head of Franklin in profile, of the denomination of one cent.

These stamps will be furnished to one or more of the principal postmasters in each county, who will be required to supply the other postmasters in their respective vicinities, upon being paid for the amounts furnished.

All other persons wishing supplies of stamps can obtain them from the postmaster at the county seat nearest their residences, or from the postmaster of any other office having them for sale.

All postage stamps affixed to any letter, or packet, or parcel of any description, must be immediately and effectually cancelled in the office in which the letter, packet, or parcel may be deposited for delivery or transmission.

At the larger offices they will be cancelled with an instrument to be furnished by the Department. In post offices not so furnished, the stamps must be thoroughly cancelled by making several heavy crosses or parallel lines upon each of them with a pen dipped in good black ink. The canceling instrument should be used with black printers' ink, when that material can be obtained.

If the canceling have been omitted on the mailing of the letter, packet, or parcel, or if the cancellation be incomplete, the postmaster at the office of delivery will cancel the stamp in the manner directed, and forth with report the delinquent postmaster to the Postmaster General, as the law requires.

The five and ten cent postage stamps issued by this Department under the provisions of the 11th section of the act of March 3d, 1847, and now in use by the public, will not be received in pre-payment of postage after the 30th of the present month. Therefore, persons holding any such will, as soon as practicable after that date, and before the 30th day of September next, present them for redemption to the postmaster of whom they were purchased, or to the nearest postmaster who has been authorized to sell postage stamps.

Postmasters who have heretofore received stamps for sale directly from the Department, and such postmasters only, are directed to pay cash for all genuine postage stamps of the denominations of five and ten cents, which have not been before used, and which shall be presented to them for redemption between the 1st of July and the 30th of September of the present year.

NATHAN K. HALL,
Postmaster General.

170. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC AND INSTRUCTIONS TO POSTMASTERS.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.
June 11, 1851.

The five and ten cent postage stamps issued by this Department under the provisions of the 11th section of the Act of March 3d, 1847, and now in use by the public, will not be received in prepayment of postage after the 30th of the present month. Therefore persons holding any such will, as soon as practicable after that date, and before the 30th day of September next, present them for redemption to the Postmaster of whom they were purchased, or to the nearest Postmaster who has been authorized to sell postage stamps.

Postmasters who have heretofore received stamps for sale directly from the Department, and such Postmasters only, are directed to pay cash for all genuine postage stamps, of the denominations of five and ten cents, as above mentioned, which shall be presented to them for redemption between the 1st July and the 30th September of the present year. -

Postmasters who shall redeem postage stamps under the foregoing order will return them to the Third Assistant Postmaster General, with particular certified statements thereof, on the last day of each month in the quarter ending September 30th, 1851.

Postmasters who have been authorized to sell postage stamps will close their stamp account on their quarterly accounts current by the amount of stamps remaining unsold by them, respectively, on the 30th June 1851, and enclose the stamps unsold in sealed package, addressed to the Third Assistant Postmaster General accompanied by a separate statement, showing the amount of each denomination of stamps returned.

The statements or accounts of stamps received for sale by Postmasters and by them returned, as above directed must be entirely separate and distinct from the statements of stamps redeemed.

N.K. HALL
Postmaster General

171. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

(Post Office Department)
June 13, 1851

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.
Philadelphia, Pa

Gentlemen: As the time is at hand when we should be dispatching postage stamps to our distant Postmasters, we are anxious to know when you will be able to deliver the whole or any important portion of those ordered. Please let me know two days before being ready to deliver them that we may have a duly authorized agent on the spot to receive them and bring them here at once.

I am very resp
Yr. Obt servt
(Signed) J. Marron
Third Asst. P.M.G.

172. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philad. June 16, 1851.

Sir:

Your favor of 13th is recd - We have printed (in all) 1,500,000 Stamps and shall continue to print with all expedition until the whole number ordered shall completed - We shall commence the gumming tomorrow, and as this branch of business is new to us we shall not at first get on as rapidly as we could wish, however, we think you may rely upon our having ready for delivery on this day week (23rd) about the following - Viz. -

200,000 Stamps of 12 Cents
800,000 do " 3 do
600,000 do " 1 do.

If it would be any accommodation to you to have a part of the above delivered on Saturday next, they shall be ready on that day -

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.

173.

[Travers, USPCS web site]

Post Office Department
June 20, 1851

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philadelphia

Gentlemen

By direction of the Postmaster General, I transmit herewith a duplicate of the contract between the U.S. and yourselves for providing and furnishing Postage Stamps for the use of this Dept.

The Postmaster General has given AB Waller Esqr one of our Special Agents the requisite authority under seal of the Department to receive from you all the postage stamps you may have ready for delivery accordingly, with the verified statement of the quantity as the contract requires. The Department is most anxious that the stamps ordered shall be delivered with the least possible delay and that you may at once make your arrangements on a plan to receive the greatest practicable expedition the Postmaster General requests that in addition to the order now in your hands you prepare without delay and furnish the following quantities and kinds of Postage Stamps viz

500,000	twelve cent stamps equal to	60,000:
10,000,000	three cent stamps " "	300,000:
<u>6,000,000</u>	one cent stamps " "	<u>60,000:</u>
16,500,000	Stamps	\$420,000

The twelve cent stamps can be put up in parcels of 200 impressions each, the threes, in parcels of 300 impressions each, and the ones in parcels of 500: - laying in all cases slips of paper between each hundred.

Very respectfully
J. Marron.
3d Asst. P.M.G.

174.

[Travers, USPCS web site]

P.O. Department
June 20, 1851

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philadelphia Pa.

The bearer hereof (a special agent of the Post Office Department) A. B. Waller Esqr is duly authorized and empowered by me to receive and receipt for all the postage stamps which you may have ready for delivery on the presentation of this authority. Witness by hand and

Seal of the Post Office Department
this twentieth day of June 1851.

N.K. Hall
P.M. General

175.

[Travers, USPCS web site]

Philada. June 21, 1851.

Sir:

We have this day delivered to A. B. Waller Esqr the following Packages of Postage Stamps -
Viz:

5	Packages Ea. Contg.	20,000	Stamps of 12 Cents - say	100,000	Stamps
10	do " "	30,000	do " 3 Cents - "	300,000	"
2	do " "	50,000	do " 1 Cent - "	100,000	"

We regret to say that a large number of the above stamps (particularly those of 3 Cents) show too evidently the marks of haste incident to getting them off in time, and if you can (consistently with the wants of the public service) withhold a portion of the 3s from circulation until Wednesday, we will have ready for delivery on that day 500,000 of the 3s in a much better state - The process of gumming being entirely new to us, we were obliged to call to our aid such persons as we presumed understood the business, but unfortunately they not only failed to do the work well, but they utterly spoiled about 80,000 stamps. We have now got this department better organized and hope hereafter to get along smoothly - We therefore ask for your kind indulgence for the past & we think we can venture to promise better results for the future -

Very Respectfully
Yr. Obt Servts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l -

175A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 1

Philada. June 21, 1851

We the undersigned hereby certify that we have this day delivered to A. B. Waller Esqr. Special Agent of the Post Office Department the following sealed packages of Postage Stamps.

Viz.

5	packages each containing	20,000	Stamps of 12 Cents — say	100,000	Stamps
10	do “ do	30,000	do “ 3 Cents — “	300,000	do
2	do “ do	50,000	do “ 1 Cent — “	100,000	do

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Philadelphia 38

Samuel H. Carpenter personally appeared before me and doth depose and say the above statement is just and true to the best of his knowledge and belief
Sworn & subscribed before me this 21st Day of June
AD 1851.

Williams Ogle
Alderman

[Writing in red at bottom of page]

☞ See order May 30, letter book 2/page 310 and Authority sent June 20 1851, letterbook 2/page 329.
JM

COMMENTS:

- *Delivery receipt certificates were numbered consecutively 1-99 until the Stamp Agency began operations in May 1855. Each one has two holes at top for filing.*
- *McElroy's Phila. 1850 Directory: OGLE WILLIAMS, coachmr, 280 Chestnut, h N W 7th and Sansom.*
- *Receipts appear to have been almost always forwarded by letter, in this case #175.*

176. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Department
June 23 1851

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philadelphia, Pa

Gent

Having despatched in parcels to distant Post offices in the north west all the postage stamps received by Mr. Waller, which appeared capable of being sent in the mails without being destroyed by the sheets sticking together, we are waiting anxiously for a further supply, and must beg of you to hasten their manufacture as much as possible. An Agent will be sent to take from you all that may be ready on Wednesday the 25th and you will please telegraph me the morning of that day the quantity you will have ready for delivery in the afternoon.

I am very respectfully
Yr. Obt servt
(Signed) J. Marron
(Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l)

177. [National Postal Museum: Travers, [both on USPCS web site](#)]

Private

Philada. June 24, 1851.

Dear Sir

Your very kind letter on the subject of the stamps has been recd., and I assure you that so far from taking your remarks amiss, I value them as the best evidence of your kindness & friendly feeling - No one could have felt more anxious than I have, that every part of this work should be executed in the best manner - not only satisfactory to you, but to the public, and I fear that to that over anxiety (which we have felt on this subject) may be attributed all of the difficulty about the color and much of the trouble about the gumming - We were so desirous of giving a handsome color that we were induced to use in the mixture for the 3 cent stamps a new material which unfortunately altho' giving brilliancy to the color seems to have destroyed the adhesiveness of the whole - this we did not suspect and did not discover until after we commenced to handle them for gumming (when we had several thousand impressions printed) - We immediately stopped the printing of that color and are now using one which appears perfectly fast, and I trust that those printed hereafter will in this respect be all that you could wish -

This misfortune however seems to be the necessity for using the first printed, for want of sufficient time to replace them with those of a more standing color - If their use could be avoided, we would cheerfully submit to the loss of the whole that we have printed - Of the 1ct which we shall have ready to send you tomorrow, there are about 280,000 stamps which are of the color first used, the residue are of the second printing - with regard to the Blue, I think you will find that that color will stand perfectly - we have tried a large number of the sheets therefore that you will find that to be all right -

We were told that it was necessary to use sugar in the gum to prevent its cracking, and there can be no doubt that much too large a quantity was used - there shall be no cause of complaint for the future in this score - In order to do every part of this work in the most satisfactory manner we wrote to England (to the gentleman having the contract for Postage Stamps there) for information as to the material used for gumming the English Stamps, and by last steamer we have recd. a reply - the article used there is purchased at a certain place in London and we shall order by next steamer a quantity of it, and as soon as it is recd. we shall use it on our stamps - meanwhile we will use our best exertions to perfect the gumming of the stamps with the material now used - The English is not gum shellac, (as we are informed) but so far as we can understand, is a totally different article from that now used by us - Have the kindness to grant us your indulgence, and we will come out "OK"-

Very Respectfully & truly
Yours &c
S.H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst P.M. Genl.

I will Telegraph tomorrow how many shall be ready for your messenger.

[Docket]

24 June 1851
S. A. Carpenter
Philada

Induced by their great desire
to give a handsome color to their
3 Ct, Stamps they unfortunately used
a material which gave great
brilliancy but destroyed the
gumming—Immediately stopped
that Color & are now using which
appears perfectly fast—Will
import from London a material
used for gumming by the British Gov.

Manufacturer of stamps

178. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. June 25, 1851.

Dear Sir:

We have this day delivered to A. B. Waller Esq. the following packages of Postage Stamps -
Viz:

4	Packages Ea. Contg.	20,000	Stamps of 12 Cents - say	80,000	Stamps
19	do " "	30,000	do " 3 Cents - "	570,000	"
3	do " "	50,000	do " 1 Cent - "	150,000	"

Nine of the Packages of 3 Cents Stamps marked "First," are of the lot first printed (the color of which does not stand) - the remaining packages (marked "Second") are of a better color, and we trust that you will they will stand firmly -

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

J. Marron, Esqr
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.
Washington.

178A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 2

Philad. June 25, 1851.

We the undersigned hereby certify that we have this day delivered to A. B. Waller Esq. Special Agent of the Post Office Department the following sealed packages of Postage Stamps -

Viz:

4	Packages Each Contg.	20,000	Stamps of 12 Cents - say	80,000	Stamps
19	do " "	30,000	do " 3 Cents - "	570,000	"
3	do " "	50,000	do " 1 Cent - "	150,000	"

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

State of Pennsylvania
City of Philadelphia

Before me, one of the Aldermen & Justices of the Peace in and for the City and County of Philadelphia personally appeared Samuel H. Carpenter one of the above Firm who being duly sworn accord[ingly] did therefore swear and declare that the above statement is just and true.

Sworn and Subscribed
June 25th A. D. 1851
Before

} SH Carpenter

Charles D. Freeman
Alderman and Justice of the Peace.

[Writing in red at bottom of page]

☞ See Authority sent June 24 1851 L B 2 pe 329

JM

COMMENTS:

- *Carpenter's signature is in the same distinctive hand as "Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co" above.*
- *McElroy's 1850 Directory shows "Freeman Charles D. atty 6 Library". There are several references in other documents to Freeman as an alderman.*

179.

[Travers, USPCS web site]

(Post Office Department
June 27, 1851.)

(By Telegraph.)

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co
Philadelphia, Pa.

Mr. Waller will call tomorrow morning for the stamps. Let them be ready.

J. Marron
(Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.)

Authority given to Mr. Waller June 27th as Mr. Shallcross could not act. J. Marron

179A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 3

Philada. June 28, 1851.

We the undersigned hereby certify that we have delivered to A. B. Waller Esq. Special Agent, the following
packages of Postage Stamps — Viz —

3	Packages	Ea	Contg	50,000	Stamps	of	One	Cent	—	say	150,000	Stamps
28	do	“	do	30,000	do	“	Three	Cents	—	“	840,000	do
1	do	“	do	20,000	do	“	Twelve	Cents	—	“	20,000	do

32 Packages containing _____ 1,010,000 Stamps

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Sworn and subscribed
before me this twenty-eight
Day of June AD 1851

Williams Ogle
Alderman

[Writing in red at bottom of page]
Authority sent 27 June 1851 L.B. 2 page 334

180.

[Travers, USPCS web site]

(By Telegraph.)

Post Office Department
June 29, 1851

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co
Philadelphia, Pa.

Have all the threes and ones you can by tomorrow night. - We are entirely out.

Signed J. Marron
3rd Ast. P.M. Genl.

181. [National Archives]

		12¢	3¢	1¢	\$
July 1, 1851	Alexandria, La.		1000	200	32
	Farmersville, La		1000	200	32
	Jas. A. Dozier				
	Bastrop, Texas	100	2000	500	77
	Marshall Texas	100	2000	500	77

Chauncey Johnson PM Bastrop Texas in his return from 9th to 30th Sepr 1852 charged himself with \$5.75 for postage Stamps, by him received from Jas Nicholson, late PM. This is proof presumptive that these stamps were received there, although not acknowledged, otherwise there would have [been] no Stamps to transfer to the successor.

[Docket]

A List of
lost Stamps &c

July 1, 1851

182. [National Postal Museum: Travers, [both on USPS web site](#)]

Private

Philada. July 2, 1851

Dear Sir:

Your favor of 30th ulto is recd. I am truly sensible of the justice and propriety of all you have said in regard to the Stamps and the great urgency of the demand for a much larger quantity than we have as yet been able to furnish - We ourselves have been trying for two days past to get some from our Post Office but cannot get one - Mr. White informs us that there has been a perfect rush for them - This is a state of things which I know must be annoying to you and I do assure you that we are making every possible effort to relieve you from it, but you can scarcely conceive the amount of labor and care required to go through the whole process of furnishing these Stamps ready for delivery - I frankly confess that I had no idea of it - You will be surprised to learn that even to furnish the supply already given, we have had in constant employment from early in the morning until nearly dark 15 persons, and transiently 3 or 4 more -

This has been owing perhaps in part to our want of knowledge & experience in the gumming process - this part of the business can only be learned by practice and we find that our gummers are daily improving and acquiring a facility which at first they all lacked greatly - I trust therefore that we shall soon get along in this department very well- I notice your remarks about the oiley appearance of many of the red impressions - this I think is not the fault of the gumming, but of the paper - we fear that the paper is not sized uniformly - that some of the sheets are badly or unevenly sized, & hence the striking through of the gum, giving the sheet that oiley, transparent look of which you complain - We are now making some experiments to test the correctness of this opinion and unless the fault is in the paper (or the sizing of it) we hope we can remedy it - if however it is in the paper we fear nothing but the substitution of other paper will answer - You will find however than even those stamps which are most transparent

& oily in the sheet, when cut singly & gummed and put on letters lose their transparency in a great measure & look pretty well, altho' in the sheets they look very badly - Permit me to assure you that every effort in our power shall be directed to remedying (so far as it is possible to do so) the defects heretofore noted - Were it not for the imperative demand for so large a quantity now, we would withhold entirely all such impressions as are of the character alluded to, but by doing so we must disappoint you greatly in the supply, which we presume would be a greater evil than to furnish the imperfect impressions - We therefore send all and leave it to you to decide whether you will use them.

We will have ready by tomorrow night about a million, which will be the utmost we can accomplish - the weather, has been so excessively hot (thermometer at 97 in our Printing & Gumming Room) that one of our hands gave out & one or two more are about "Used up" - With all these difficulties to contend with I trust you will excuse us - at least until we have a fall in our thermometer of a dozen degrees -

Very Respectfully,
Yrs
S.H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.

[Docket]

2 July 1851
S. H. Carpenter
Philada

Great rush for Stamps—
one difficulty in supply is
caused by want of experience
in gumming—Gummers
are improving

Noticing deficiency in supply
and quality of Stamps—

182A. [National Postal Museum, USPS web site]

No. 4

Philada. July 3, 1851.

We the undersigned hereby certify that we have this day delivered to J. Marron Esq. 3rd Asst. P. M. Genl the following packages of Postage Stamps —

Viz —

30 Packages Ea Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 900,000 Stamps
2 do “ do 50,000 do “ One Cent — “ 100,000 do

32 Packages Containing _____ 1,000,000 Stamps

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Sworn and subscribed
to, July third A. D.
1851, Before me
Charles D. Freeman
Alderman

183. [Travers, USPCS web site]

P.O. Department
July 8 1851

Sir:

The Postmaster General requests that you proceed tomorrow morning to receive from Mess Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co & bring to this Department all the postage stamps they may have ready for its use. The enclosed authority signed by the P.M. General is to be handed to Mess. Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co. upon their delivering to you all the postage stamps they may have prepared accompanied by a verified statement thereof.

I am Very Respectfully &c
J Marron
3d Asst. P.M.G.

A. B. Walter Esq.
Special Agt.

183A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 5

Philada. July 9, 1851.

We the undersigned hereby certify that we have this day delivered to A. B. Waller Esqr Special Agent, the following packages of Postage Stamps,

	Viz	
35 packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	————	1,050,000 Stamps
4 do “ contg 50,000 do “ One Cent	———	200,000 do

39 Packages Containing	—————	1,250,000 Stamps
------------------------	-------	------------------

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Sworn & subscribed
This 9th day of July
A D 1851 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio
Justice of the peace

184. [National Postal Museum: Travers, both on USPCS web site]

Philadelphia, July 11, 1851.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of 10th inst. is just received. Anticipating a large demand for 3 Cent Stamps, we Engraved 2 plates of that denomination, and as the demand increased, we worked each of these plates double handed, (giving us a quantity equal to the yield of 4 plates printed in the ordinary way.) This being still unequal to the demand, we will at once Engrave another 3 cent plate and make such arrangements as will enable us in the course of a few days to furnish an ample supply --of this be assured. You shall be relieved from all embarrassment or inconvenience on this score, and from the moment that we can accomplish our arrangements, now in progress, you may rely upon 3 Million per week - more if absolutely necessary.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant, &c.
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

Hon N.K. Hall,
Postmaster General

P.S. 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 Million will be ready tomorrow.

[Docket]

11th July 1851
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

Have Engraved 2 plates of
3 Ct Stamp—will Engrave
another shortly—Will furnish
3 million weekly

Stamps
Manufacturer

COMMENT: Plate numbers were not added to these early plates until sometime later, after they had been in production. However, based on the dates of use, the first two plates engraved were apparently "1E" and "5E", as collectors know them today. The third plate referred to above is apparently "2E."

185.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

P.O. Department
July 11, 1851.

Sir:

Enclosed is the authority of the Postmaster General to receive all the postage stamps Mess Toppan, Carpenter & Co may have ready for delivery on Saturday evening the 12th instant. When receiving them you will see that the number of packages agrees with the verified statement which they will hand you and which you will forward to me. The stamps will be put under the brass mail lock and in the special charge of the Route Agent to bring on to the Department. Please apprise Mess Toppan Carpenter & Co that we shall expect a delivery of stamps on Wednesday and Saturday evenings of each week.

Respectfully &c
J. Marron
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

U.J.P. White Esqu

P.M. Philadelphia Pa.

186. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

(Post Office Department, July 11, 1851.)

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co
Philadelphia, Pa.

The bearer hereof Wm. J. P. White Esq. P.M. Philadelphia is duly authorized and empowered by me to receive and receipt for all the postage stamps which you may have ready for delivery on the presentation of this authority.

Witness by hand and seal of the Post Office
Department this eleventh day of July 1851.

187. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

P. O. New Orleans La
12th July 1851

Sir

I beg leave to advise the mailing of my Quarterly Returns to your address, this day.

The amount in favor of the U. S. is:

Balance Per Account current	\$21,160.07
Surplus in Comn. a/c	461.69
Ditto in Emolument a/c	1,354.35
For Sundry Drafts & fines collected	<u>395.20</u>
	\$23,371.31

Against which:

I have paid for River Mails	\$ 9,815.00	
“ “ “ for Sundry Drafts	231.19	
“ “ deposited at sundry times	10,200.00	
& now deposit , as per Certificate herewith No. 144	<u>3,125.12</u>	
		\$23,371.31

Please find also, herein, two parcels of 5¢ & 10¢ stamps together for \$222.25 remaining on hand at the close of the quarter & now returned to you, agreeable to Circular order of 11th Ultimo. [This sentence has been crossed out by pen]

I am very respectfully
Your Obedt. Servt
Ml. Musson
P. M.

J. Marron Esqre
3d Asst. P. M. Genl.

Washington
D. C.

[Docket]

12 July 1851
New Orleans La.

M. Musson P. M. sends—
statement of a/c, Certificate
of deposit, and 5 and 10 cent
Stamps returned

187A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No.6

Philada. July 12, 1851.

We the undersigned hereby certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Postmaster, the following packages of Postage Stamps.

Viz

4 packages ea contg 20,000 Stamps of 12 Cents	————	80,000 Stamps
24 do “ do 30,000 do “ 3 Cents	————	720,000 do
14 do “ do 50,000 do “ 1 Cent	————	700,000 do

42 Packages Containing

1,500,000 Stamps

Sworn & subscribed
before me this 12th Day
of July AD 1851.

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Williams Ogle
Alderman

188. [National Archives]

Worcester (Mass) July 14, 1851

John Marron Esq.

Sir

I see by the papers that there is such a demand for Post Office stamps that it is difficult for the Department to keep up with the Supply. I have been engaged for several years past in Manufacturing Motto Wafers of paper & gumming the backs—which is the same kind of business as making P. O. Stamps. If the Department would like to contract to have them made here, for the New England Post offices, I should like to Contract to do it. I can make them exactly like those you now have making—and as low as they are now made—and after getting under way, I could deliver to the Post master in this town or in Boston (some) one Hundred to five Hundred thousand a day—(having) done business in this town for a number of Years, I am well known here, and can refer to Gov. Lincoln (?) Davis, Judge Barton, Judge Washburn, Hon. A. H. Bullock (?) Chas. Hudson, formerly member for this District,—& I can (?) any bonds the Department may require—(?) the faithful and honest performance of any contract (?) may enter into—If there is any chance for me to (?) a contract of this kind. Please write to me.

Very respectfully

S. A. Howland

[Docket]

July 14, 1851
Worcester Mass

S. A. Howland wants
to contract for the
manufacture of Stamps, for the
New England States

July 23 1851
Answered

COMMENT: There is an incomplete note across this letter signed "J. M."

189.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

(By Telegraph)

P.O. Department
July 17 1851

Mess Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co
Philadelphia Pa

Until otherwise directed please make only three cent stamps.

Respectfully &c
J. Marron
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

COMMENT: This is no doubt due to the shortage of stamps. Refer to editorials of the time.

189A.

[National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

No. 7

Philada. July 17, 1851.

We the undersigned hereby certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following packages of Postage Stamps.

	Viz	
40 packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	————	1,200,000 Stamps
6 do " contg 50,000 do " 1 Cent	————	300,000 do

46 Packages Containing

1,500,000 Stamps

Sworn & subscribed before

me this 17th Day of
July AD 1851

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Williams Ogle
Alderman

189B.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 8

Philada. July 19th, 1851.

We the undersigned hereby certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following packages of Postage Stamps.

Viz

50 packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents ——— 1,500,000 Stamps

Sworn & subscribed before
me this 19th Day of July
AD 1851

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Williams Ogle
Alderman

190.

[National Postal Museum: Travers, USPCS web site]

Philada. July 24th, 1851.

Dear Sir:

We have delivered this day to W. J. P. White Esqre Post Master, the following packages of Postage Stamps, Viz

50 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents—1,500,000 Stamps

On Saturday next we will furnish a portion of One Cent Stamps, & continue to do so until otherwise directed—We have found it necessary to engrave a 4th plate of 3 Cent Stamps, in order to prevent delay when any one of the 3 plates now in press shall require retouching.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Sts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.

[Docket]

24th July 1851
Toppan Carpenter C. & Co
Philada

Delivery of Stamps to
P M Philada
50 pcks. 1,500,000

COMMENTS:

- *Original is on the USPS web site, plus Travers' typescript of the last paragraph from "We have" through "retouching."*
- *24 July was a Thursday. Saturday next would have been 26 July. The shipment was made on Monday, 28 July (#191 & 191A).*
- *This fourth plate was what collectors today refer to as plate "0", as it never bore a number. Despite the date of the above letter, the earliest known use of this plate is September 8, 1851. The earliest known use of plate II (i.e., of a retouched plate) is July 12, 1851.*

190A.

[National Postal Museum, USPS web site]

No. 9

Philada. July 24, 1851.

We the undersigned hereby certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr. Post master the following packages of Postage Stamps.

Viz:

50 Packages ea. Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 1,500,000 Stamps

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Sworn & subscribed
this 24 day of July
A D 1851 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman

191.

[National Postal Museum, USPS web site]

Philad July 28, 1851

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Postmaster, the following packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

40 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	1,200,000 Stamps
6 do ea. Contg. 50,000 Stamps of One Cent	<u>300,000 do</u>

46 Packages Containing	1,500,000 Stamps
------------------------	------------------

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.

[Docket]

28 July 1851
Toppan Carpenter C. & Co
Philada.

Delivery of stamps
to J. W. White P M
46 pcks—1,500,000

191A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 10

Philada. July 28, 1851

We hereby certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following packages of Postage Stamps.

		Viz	
40 packages ea. contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	————	1,200,000 Stamps	
6 do “ contg 50,000 Stamps of One Cent	———	300,000 do	
		1,500,000 Stamps	

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Sworn & subscriber
this 28th day of July
A D 1851 before me
Stephen N. Simmons Ald & ex officio Justice
of the peace

192. [Travers, USPCS web site]

Post Office Department.
August 2nd 1851.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.,
Philadelphia.

X X X X X X

The Postmaster General wishes you to send impressions of the carrier stamp in green, yellow or any other color which can be readily distinguished by candle light from the stamps we are using.

J. Marron
Third Assistant Postmaster General.

193. [National Postal Museum: Travers, both on USPCS web site]

Philadelphia, Aug. 4, 1851.

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps,

Viz

8 Packages ea. Contg. 50,000 Stamps of One Cent	400,000 Stamps
80 do ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,400,000 do
<u>10 do ea. Contg. 20,000 Stamps of 12 Cents</u>	<u>200,000 do</u>
98 Packages Containing	3,000,000 Stamps

Your favor of 2nd inst. is received. We cannot but think that the complaints (with which we regret to learn you are still troubled), of the inferiority of the gumming of the Stamps, has reference to those delivered the department during the first two weeks. Most unfortunately those were badly gummed (or at least a large number of them) and having been scattered "far and wide", they have given a bad name not only to the bad, but also we fear to the good, because since the time above named we really think the evil has been remedied. We have been and are now using the Best Gum Arabic mixed with white glue. We have tried these stamps almost daily, and have found them to stick perfectly, and we really do not think that there is now the cause of the complaints which are made. However, be that as it may, we are determined to use every possible effort to get the best article that can be obtained, and if either of these which you have the kindness to send, are better than that which we are now using, we will use them.

We have tried the article sent from Lowell and find it excellent. We have by this days mail requested Mr. Cochrane to send us immediately by Adams Express a Bbl. or box of 2 or 300 lbs. to try it to the a sufficient extent. We are however well satisfied that it will answer quite as well (and probably better) than the gum arabic & glue. We enclose some canceled stamps gummed with the Lowell material and some with ours. Please try both & inform us which you prefer. Ours requires a little the longest time to dry, after which we think it adheres abut as well as the Lowell.

Very respectfully, etc.,
 Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.
 J. Marron, Esq.
 3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.

X Please let each get perfectly dry before your attempt to take them off.

[Docket]

August 4th 1851
 Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
 Philada

P. M. Philada
 98 pckgs—3,000,000

Delivery of Manufacturer of
 Stamps—Gumming

193A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No.11

Philada. Aug 4, 1851.

We the undersigned hereby certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps Containing 3,000,000 Stamps.

Viz

8 packages ea contg 50,000 Stamps of 1 Cent	————	400,000 Stamps
80 do ea contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	————	2,400,000 do
<u>10 do ea contg 20,000 Stamps of 12 Cents</u>	<u>————</u>	<u>200,000 do</u>

98 Packages Containing

3,000,000 Stamps

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Sworn & subscribed
this 4th Day of August
AD 1851 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman
& ex officio a Justice of the peace

194. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Department
August 5 1851

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter & Co
Engravers. Philadelphia Pa

Gentlemen - The Post offices throughout the country having now been generally furnished with postage stamps, it will not be necessary for you hereafter to forward supplies to the Department to the same extent as heretofore. It will be sufficient, until otherwise directed, if you forward weekly, to be delivered on every Monday evening, one million and a half of stamps, of which one hundred thousand to be one cent, and the residue three cent stamps.

Respectfully
Your obed servt
J Marron
Third Asst. P.M.G.

195. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office, Parkersburg, Va

Aug 7, 1851

John Marron, Esq.
Third Assistant Postmaster General:

Sir-

I have been applied to, to exchange Postage Stamps under the following circumstances: Some time since, a gentleman bought, at this office, about \$1.50 worth of stamps which he folded and deposited in his pocketbook. Upon inspecting them, he now finds they have become so matted together as to render them worthless—the paste having blurred the faces of such stamps as were in contact with it, and, in some cases, the paste is destroyed.

The person possessing these stamps proposes to return them, receiving, in lieu thereof, the same amount of good stamps. Having declined to make the exchange without instructions, I am requested to refer the case to Department and to solicit your directions in relation thereto. I am satisfied that the purchaser and possessor of these stamps has exercised at least ordinary care of them.

Respectfully
A. M. Sterrett
Postmaster

[Docket]
Augt. 7, 1851
Parkersburgh Va

A. M. Sterrett P M
for authority to exchange,
with one of his customers
good stamps for damaged

196. [National Postal Museum: Travers, [both on USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. Aug 8, 1851.

Dear Sir

Please receive herewith specimens of the Carriers Stamp printed in 4 different ways - No 1 shows the strongest contrast at night altho' we think No 2 the handsomest in day light -

The only fear we have about it is that we shall not be able to get paper of these colors at such a price as will enable us to furnish these stamps at the low rate of the others (the price of these samples being very high) however, we may find that by contracting for a large quantity we may be able to procure it at a less price -

As the English government have had several years experience in the whole matter of stamps and must (we think) have arrived at some perfection in the process of gumming &c, and as we are determined to make our stamps in every respect better than John Bulls, I have determined to go to London, see the whole process of manufacturing the English Stamps, & then visit Paris for the same purpose, in the hope that between them both, I may be able to pick up "an idea" that will be of service - I have been told that the French Stamps are more adhesive than the English -

I shall leave in the Pacific from N Yk on the 16th inst. & contemplate being absent about 2 months -

I have no particular ambition to figure as "bearer of dispatches" but possibly such a "distinction" might facilitate my progress after my arrival in England -

If therefore I could have the honor above conferred on me I might be better able to serve the department as well as myself in effecting the object of my mission - I merely throw out the hint - you will understand much better than I do whether any value attaches to it - If you think well of it & will have the kindness to say to whom I must apply I will feel greatly obliged.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt.
S.H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.

[Docket]
August 8, 1851
S. H. Carpenter
Philada

Specimens of Carriers Stamps—
Proposes trip to England & France for
information about stamps

August 13, 1851.

Answd. By the P M Genl

COMMENTS:

- *The Carrier stamps were delayed since the previous discussion (#159), apparently due to lack of availability of other values. This crisis was now over (#194).*
- *The large quantity of pink paper ordered may account for why it was still available in the mid-1870s for use with the reprints.*

197. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. P.O. Aug 10, 1851.

Sir:

I write in great haste merely to place in your possession certain stamps for our Despatch Post, which I consider far preferable to those forwarded to me in your favour of yesterday received this morning, and by tomorrow's mail will give you my reasons in detail, and I send them now for the purpose of suspending any action with regard to the others until I shall have had an opportunity of endeavoring to convince you of the great superiority of these stamps. Those of the white paper, well executed, would answer the purpose admirably and prevent the possibility of being confounded with or mistaken under any circumstances, for the regular Post Office Stamps.

Very Respectfully,
Your Ob. Servt.,
JOHN C. MONTGOMERY,
Asst. P.M.

Hon. N.K. Hall,
Post Master General
Washington, D.C.

COMMENTS:

- *Montgomery was apparently given samples of the Franklin carriers stamp and immediately took steps to find a better design, for which TCC supplied a stock eagle die. This action took place before printing had commenced on the Franklin carrier.*
- *Despite the rush to send this letter to Hall, Montgomery does not appear to have written him again until 27 September, when he promised to forward an alternative design in a few days, which he did on 5 October 1851. These letters are not in the Travers Papers, but were reprinted in The Chronicle, #117, pp. 28-29. For convenience, they have been included here as documents # 207A and #212A.*
- *Marron instructed TCC to print the Eagle carriers stamps on 16 October. See #218.*

197A. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Phila. Augt 12th/51

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following packages of Postage Stamps
Viz

50 Packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of the 3 Cents — 1,500,000 Stamps
2 do “ “ 50,000 do “ “ One Cent — 100,000 “

52 Packages Containing 1,600,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully Yours etc.

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per S. H. Carpenter Jr.

J. Marron Esqr.
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.

[Docket]
12 Augst 1852 [sic]
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada.
P M Phila
52 pkgs — 1,600,000

Delivery of stamps

COMMENT: Duplicate typescript, single document. Same as 274 (misdated due to docket).

197B. [National Postal Museum, USPS web site]

No. 12

Philada. Aug 12, 1851

We hereby certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

50 Packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 1,500,000 Stamps
2 do ea contg 50,000 Stamps of One Cent — 100,000 Stamps

52 Packages Containing 1,600,000 Stamps

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Sworn & subscribed
this 12th day of August A D 1851 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice
of the peace

198. [Travers, USPS web site]

Post Office Department, August 12th 1851.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

The Postmaster General requests that you print three hundred thousand carriers stamps like the enclosed printed with blue ink on pink paper. The ink on our one cent stamps rubs off very much and many of the sheets are still blurred or mottled in the gumming, defects which it is hoped will be cured in them and avoided in the carriers stamps.

I send a few of the complaints, which still come to us in great numbers, as to the lack of adhesiveness in the gum used on our stamps. The ease with which they can be removed from letters offers a temptation to the unprincipled to clean and use the stamps a second time, they have been ineffectually canceled.

I am very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. Marron
Third Assistant Postmaster General.

199. [National Postal Museum: Travers [only on USPCS web site](#)]

Philad. Aug. 12, 1851

Dear Sir:

Your kind favor of 11th is Rec'd. I regret that I did not sooner make application for the "Despatches" as I am satisfied they would have aided me in the object of my visit very greatly - however if the Postmaster General will have the kindness to give me a letter to Mr. Lawrence, that will be the next best thing to aid me, and I shall be extremely obliged therefor - If either Judge Hall or yourself should think of anything that I can do for either of you when in England or France, I trust that I need not say what pleasure it would afford me and I beg that my services may be freely commanded -

Permit me to suggest that there is a great defect in almost all the offices as to canceling the stamps - almost daily we receive letters (from various parts of the country) the stamps on which are either not cancelled at all - or cancelled very slightly with the same colored ink - or with mere pencil marks across the head - indeed there seems to be no system (at least no general one) for the canceling the stamps, and unless more attention is paid to this matter I fear the Department will lose considerably by the stamps being used a second time, or even oftener - I should hardly have supposed it possible that such a thing would be done but I have been informed by Mr. White (P.M. here) that it has been done several times in this office - If desired by the Postmaster General, I would enquire into the mode of canceling in the P. Offices in England and everything in relation to it, in which case a letter to Mr. Lawrence would undoubtedly give me access to persons connected with the Department & be of great service -

I shall leave here for New York on Thursday afternoon the 14th at 4 o'clock, but if the Post Master General shall not have time to send to me here, any communication addressed to me Care of my firm in New York, will be duly rec'd., if mailed in time to reach New York on Saturday morning the 16th as I shall not sail until noon of that day - For your kindness on the present occasion as well as on others, I beg you to accept my best thanks and believe me.

Very Sincerely Yours,
S.H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqre
Washington.

[Docket]

12 August 1851
S. H. Carpenter
Philada

Stamps

August 13, 1851
Answd by P M Genl

200.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

Philad. Augt. 13, 1851.

Dear Sir

Your favr of 12th is recd—Can it be that the recent complaints of the want of adhesiveness is intended to apply to the recent deliveries?—we really hope not, as we have made particular enquiries at our Post Office & they say that there is not now any complaint, and we have been careful to test a part of every days gumming and so far as we could discover there was no fault as to adhesiveness—We wrote to Lowell on the very day of the receipt of your letter enclosing the sample of material said to be used by the English Government & requested that a Bbl or Box of 2 or 300 lbs might be sent us immediately by Adams Express, but regret to say that we have had no reply, from which we infer that the person addressed must be absent—I shall make it my business expressly to ascertain the best article that is used in England and also in France (as I am informed that the French gum is best)—

Every pains in our power shall be taken to guard against just complaints in reference to every part of this work and we confidently hope that the day is not distant when you will be entirely relieved from the annoyance of all such complaints—

I trust you will excuse my again alluding to the subject of the letter to Mr. Lawrence which you had the kindness to suggest—I am aware of how much the time of the Post Master General is occupied, but if he will devote five minutes to writing a few lines to Mr. L I shall feel greatly obliged, as I am sure it will be of the greatest service in effecting the object of my visit—I feel the more freedom in asking it as it is a matter in which the Post Master General is interested (so far as perfecting one of the thousand branches of his department goes)—

Very Respectfully & truly
Your Obt St
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P M Genl.

[Docket]

13 Augst 1851
S. H. Carpenter
Philada.

Reply to complaints of
stamps badly gummed

200A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 13

Phila. Augt 19th/51

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esquire Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps. Viz

50 Packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of the 3 Cent stamp ——— 1,500,000 Stamps
2 “ “ “ “ 50,000 “ “ “ 1 “ “ “ 100,000 “

52 Packages Containing 1,600,000

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 20th day of August
A D 1851 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a
Justice of the peace

COMMENT: The hand and formatting differ from previous receipts.

201. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Phila. Augt 20/51

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps
Containing 1,600,000 Stamps,

Viz

50 Packages ea. Cong. 30,000 of the 3 cent Stamp	1,500,000 Stamps
<u>2</u> “ “ “ 50,000 “ “ One Cent “	<u>100,000</u> “
52 Packages Containing	1,600,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Yours &c
Toppan carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron ,Esq.
3rd Asst. P. M. General

[Docket]
20 August 1851
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

P M Phila
52 pckgs 1,600,000
Delivery of Stamps

COMMENT: Despite “this day,” refers to the 19 Aug delivery above (No. 13).

202. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office New Boston Ill
Aug 30th 1851

Sir,

The Stamp you sent me were rcd last night in such damaged condition that they cant be used. the mail was thoroly Soaked some where between Knoxville & Peoria Ills. And the letter containing the Stamp was among the unfortunate packages. What shall I do with the Stamps? It is impossible to use them, and I am loath to loose \$5.00 if it can be avoided. Please inform me by return of mail, what I had better do with the Stamp

Very Respectfully
 Yours
 J. B. Beeson P.M.

203. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Phila. Sept 1st/51

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqre Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps containing 1,600,000 Stamps

Viz

50 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of the 3 cent stamp	1,500,000
<u>2</u> " " " 50,000 " " " 1 " "	<u>100,000</u>
52 Packages Containing	1,600,000

Very Respectfully
 Yours &c
 Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
 Pr S. H. Carpenter Jr

[Docket]

Sept. 1 1851
 Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co
 Philada

P M Phila
 52 Pckgs 1,600,000
 delivery of stamps

203A. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

No. 14

Phila. Sept. 1st 1851

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps.

Viz	
50 Packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of the 3 Cent stamp	1,500,000
<u>2</u> do " " 50,000 " " " 1 " "	<u>100,000</u>
52 Packages Containing	<u>1,600,000</u>

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed before me
this First day of September A D 1851
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a
Justice of the peace

Septr 6.
10,000 12s equal to \$12000 declared to John agg this day

204. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office
Bangor Me Sept. 15th 1851

Sir

Herewith I send my rect for 20000 three cent stamps being part of the parcel sent to me in yrs of the 11th inst. The 3000 one cent stamps sent me at the same time, I have done up in a package and return them to your office by this mail.

We have had much difficulty in selling the stamp here owing to their want of adhesiveness. Many refrain from using them for that reason. The lot that I now return are worse than any we have had & I should not be able to dispose of them. If the Department should be supplied with better ones I should like to be supplied with the amount now returned.

Respectfully
J. Wingate Carr P.M.

To
John Marron Esqr
Third Assist P. M. Genl.

[Docket]

Sept. 15, 1851
Bangor Me.

J. W. Carr sends receipt
for 3 cent stamps, and
returns One ct stamps on
account of defective gumming

205. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Chicago Illinois
September 16th 1851

Sir:

Herewith Enclosed I send you a letter received a day or two since from the P.M. at New Boston Ills. Who remitted five Dollars to this Office & requested me to send him the amt in Postage Stamps, which request was complied with. It appears that the mail was wet before it reached him & that his stamps were so much injured that

they Could not be used. Will you please inform me whether I am authorized to redeem the stamps & to return them to the Department or not.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servnt
Geo. W. Dole P M

Hon. John Marron
3rd Asst. P M Genl
Washington
D C

[Docket]

Sep 16, 1851
Chicago Ills

PM wishes to be informed
regarding the redemption
of damaged Stamps.

206.

[National Archives]

New York 26 Septr 1851

Hon N. K. Hall
Post Master General

Dear Sir—

We in common with other French Supporters would suggest the propriety of restoring into use “Ten cent Stamps” similar to those abolished since the last change in the P. O. regulations and for the following very obvious reasons— Nearly all the letters we send either by the U.S. or British Mail Steamers to the Continent require 10, 20, or 21 cent stamps and with those now in use we are compelled to put on 4 stamps for the first, 5 stamps for the second and 4 for the third rate of Postage, the weight of which often affects the postage of a letter where near the ½ ounce—

We would with deference suggest also, that when your Contractor makes new plates for all the Stamps that they be of only half the present size, and printed on paper of half or one third the present thickness—as the one interferes seriously with the superscription on our letters sent abroad—and the other with the weight.

Respectfully

Carnes & Haskell

[Docket]

26 September 1851
Carnes & Haskell
New York

Recommend restoration of 10 cent
Stamps for foreign postages, and
a reduction in Size and weight

of those now in use

COMMENT: Carnes & Haskell, located at 26 Liberty St., six doors below the New Post Office, imported for sale "an Extensive Stock" of European drugs, chemicals, wines, plate, apothecary supplies, etc. (Sheldon & Co.'s Business or Advertising Directory, Sheldon & Co., New York).

207. [National Postal Museum, Travers, both on USPCS web site]

Philad. Sept. 27, 1851.

J. Marron Esqr.
3d Asst. P.M.G.
Washington
D.C.

Sir

Your order for furnishing the Department with three hundred thousand Carriers' Stamps, has been executed, and the stamps are now ready to be delivered to your order.

Respect y,
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co

[Docket]

Sept. 27th 1851
Toppan Carpenter C. & Co

advise Execution of
carriers stamps

COMMENT: Franklin carrier stamps were ready for delivery, but were not shipped to the Post Office until 6 October 1851 (see #213 and 213A). Steinmetz (pages 9 and 11) reported that the Franklin carrier stamps were ready for delivery on 21 September 1851, which is at variance with this letter.

207A. [USPCS Chronicle 117, page 28]

Philadelphia Post Office
Sept 27th, 1851

Sir,

Messrs Toppan, Carpenter & Co informed me yesterday that they have now ready for delivery a million and a half of the new carriers' stamps, and that they are awaiting a requisition from the P.O. Department. This new stamp is so like the one cent stamp, that I am persuaded it will create great confusion. I had a long conversation with the engravers upon the subject, and they coincided with me in the opinion that some device more easily distinguishable from the Post Office stamps should be adopted, and they offer to furnish a new plate for the purpose without any additional charge to the Department - in the course of a few days they will have completed a design which I will forward to you - they propose to have an oval something like the one I send herewith, with a beautifully executed Eagle in the centre, and around the edge "U.S.P.O. DESPATCH - PREPAID ONE CENT" - this would designate at once the character of the stamp, and prevent the possibility of any mistake, and besides, the American Eagle handsomely and artistically executed, would commend itself to the favour of the American People, and would

designate at once the nature of the service to which it is to be appropriated, and shew its Post-Official connexion - which the other fails to do - neither the P. Office nor one cent prepaid being lettered on them.

I have not time now to write you more in detail, but I have requested Mr. Lawrence to speak to you upon the subject, to whom I have explained the matter fully.

Very respectfully
Your obdt s
John C. Montgomery
Asst. P. M.

Hon. N. K. Hall
P. M. General
Washington

[Note on letter]

Thinks Carrier Stamp by Toppan Carpenter & Co too much like the one cent letter stamp. Recommends another design.

COMMENT: This letter is not counted among the Travers Papers, but has been included for the convenience of readers. See #197.

208. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. Sep. 29, 1851

J. Marron Esq.
3d Asst. P. M. Gl.
Washington D. C.

Sir,

We are this morning in recpt of your favor of the 27th inst. Covering two communications, recd. By the Department in relation to the non-adhesiveness of the stamps; one from an anonymous correspondent under the Signature of "a N. Y. merchant"—the other from the Post Master at New York. These and other complaints, which have from time to time been sent to the Department, are as unpleasant to us as they must be annoying to you, and particularly so, as we had taken all possible pains to do ourselves and the Department credit—Having in all cases obtained the best materials for the gumming, and given to the operation our daily personal attention. This we say in justice to ourselves, and "as misery loves company" we beg to refer you to extracts from our Mr. Carpenter letters,—which you have herewith—by which you will perceive that the same difficulties have existed in England as here, and that upon his return which is expected will be the last week in October, we shall be put in possession of such information as will enable us to correct the evils which now exist.

We would further say, however, that we have every day tested the gum that was in use, and invariably found it to be Sufficiently adhesive, and are therefore quite confident, that a large portion of the complaints, are from persons who are careless, hasty or ignorant, and among the many thousand who use the stamps, it would be a matter of surprise if there was not a large number of this character. Still we are not blind to the fact that there has been, and still continues to be some legitimate causes of complaint, and you may rest assured that we shall not rest satisfied until they no longer exist.

Very Respectfy
Yr. Obt St
Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co

[Memorandum attached to the above letter]

Extracts from S. H. Carpenter letters

From Letter of the 19th Augt.

“Mr. Perkins informs me that there was the same trouble, complaint, and difficulty here when the Stamps were first issued (in regard to their Sticking) that we have had, and that there used to be (to uses his expression) ‘ Baskets full’ of Stamps collected in the Post Office that had fallen off the letters.”

From Letter of the 15th Sepr.

“They say that they have had immense trouble with the gumming and that even now they do not always get an equally good article even from the same Manufacturer—on my return I shall stop at Manchester and order some from the Maker most approved by P. B. & Pitch. I have also ordered 2 doz Brushes made in a peculiar way by the same firm who make for P. B. & Pitch. There is now no complaint about the Sticking of the English Stamps Altho they all informed me that at first (and in fact for a long time) the complaint was so great as almost to set them mad. I shall of course try to see if the French Gum is in any way preferable & if so endeavor to procure some of it. Nothing shall be left undone on my part to obtain such information in regard to this whole subject as will be of service to us.”

[Docket]

29 Septbr 1851
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

Same difficulty existed
in England—as per Extracts
from A. H. Carpenters letters Enclosed

Relative to complaints of
bad gumming of stamps

COMMENT: Not with original on USPCS web site, but filed under September 1860.

209. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Phila. Sept. 29/51

Dear Sir

We have this day, delivered to Mr. J. P. White Post Master, the following Packages of Postage Stamps.

100 Packages each Contg. 30,000 Stamps of the 3 cent stamp	3,000,000
<u>4</u> “ “ “ “ 50,000 “ “ “ 1 “ “	<u>200,000</u>
<u>104</u> Packages	3,200,000

Very Respectfully
Yours &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Pr S. H. Carpenter Jr

P.S. —We have still on hand, ready for delivery
3,000,000—Three cents—650,000—one cent and

300,000 carriers

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.
Washington

[Docket]

29 Septr. 1851
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada.

P M Phila
104 pckgs—3,200,000

Delivery of Stamps

209A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 15

Phila. Sept 29/51

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps.

Viz

100 Packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of the 3 Cent stamp	3,000,000
<u>4 do " " 50,000 " " " 1 " "</u>	<u>200,000</u>
104 Packages Contg. in all	<u>3,200,000</u>

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed before me
this 29th day of September A D 1851
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace

209B-1. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

COMMENT: This form and eleven similar ones bear page numbers 92-117 and were parts of a single ledger in which were recorded deliveries of stamps from the 3rd Asst. Postmaster General to postmasters. The first form and two summary reports of deliveries in the 1st Quarter of the contract (1 July-30 September 1851) are transcribed here; pages 94-117 cover Department shipments through 7 August 1851 and are available in the Travers Papers/Postage Stamps section of the USPCS web site as shown below. Pages 118-147 are probably no longer extant. Summary information from those pages is included in Report No. 2 (#209B-3).

<i>USPCS Document Identification</i>			
<i>Pages</i>	<i>Date in 1851</i>	<i>Document Number</i>	<i>Transcribed?</i>
<i>92-93</i>	<i>June 30th</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>94-95</i>	<i>July 7th</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>96-97</i>	<i>July 15th</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>98-99</i>	<i>July 18th</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>No</i>

<i>100-101</i>	<i>July 18th</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>102-103</i>	<i>July 21st</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>104-105</i>	<i>July 22nd</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>106-107</i>	<i>July 22nd</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>108-109</i>	<i>July 23rd</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>110-111</i>	<i>July 26th</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>112-113</i>	<i>July 30th</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>114-115</i>	<i>August 2nd</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>116-117</i>	<i>August 5th</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>150-151</i>	<i>September 30th</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Yes (Report No. 1)</i>
<i>152-153</i>	<i>September 30th</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Yes (Report No. 2)</i>

COMMENT: The forms were designed to be used with the 1847 Issue. They have "1851" added in pen. 3¢ and 1¢ columns were scratched over 10¢ and 5¢, resp., with 12¢ added in ink at right of Post Office/PM column.

POSTAGE STAMPS SENT.

(Pages 92-93)

Day Sent.	Date of Receipt.	Office and Postmaster.			12s	3s	1s	Amount
June 30	July 1	Baltimore	Md.	C. T. Maddox		20,000	10,000	700
" "	July 3	Boston	Mass.	G. W. Gordon		40,000	20,000	1400
" "	July 2	New York	N.Y.	W. V. Brady		30,000	10,000	1000
" "	July 2	Philadelphia	Pa.	W. J. P. White		30,000		900
" "	July 2	Albany	N.Y.	James Kidd	1000	10,000		420
" "	" 3	Buffalo	"	I. R. Harrington	1000	10,000		420
" "	" 4	Auburn	"	E. A Warden	500	5000	300	213
" "	" 4	Bath	"	T. Whiting	200	3000	300	117
" "	" 3	Binghampton	"	B. T. Cooke	200	3000	300	117
" "	" 2	Brooklyn	"	G. S. Silliman	500	5000	300	213
" "	" 3	Canandaigua	"	G. L. Whitney	200	3000	300	117
					3600	159 "	41,500	
July 1	July 1	Washington	D.C.	W. A. Bradley		10,000	1000	310
" "	July 10	New Orleans	La.	M. Musson		5000		150
" "	July 10	Mobile	Ala.	O. S. Beers		5000		150
" "	July 8	Saint Louis	Mo.	A. Gamble		5000		150
" "	July 5	Cincinnati	O.	W. Oliver		5000		150
" "	July 7	Louisville	Ky.	F. G. Edwards		5000		150
" "	July 2	Hartford	Ct.	E. S. Hamilton		5000		150
" "	July 3	New Haven	Ct.	J. B. Robertson		5000		150
" "	July 3	Providence	R.I.	H. L. Bowen		5000		150
" "	July 2	Bridgeport	Ct.	G. Wade		4000		120
" "	July 3	Norwich	Ct.	John Dunham		4000		120
" "	July 3	Newport	R.I.	T. Coggeshall		3000		90
" "	July 3	New London	Ct.	J. H. Turner		4000		120
" "	July 3	Springfield	Mass.	William Stowe		4000		120
" "	July 3	Worcester	"	E. W. Lincoln		4000		120
" "	July 3	Lowell	"	A. Gilman		4000		120
" "	July 3	Concord	N.H.	E. Hutchins		4000		120
" "	July 3	Portland	Me.	Joshua Dunn		4000		120
" "	July 3	Augusta	Me.	J. Burton		4000		120
" "	July 4	Bangor	Me.	J. Carr		4000		120
" "	July 3	Portsmouth	N.H.	T. L. Tullock		4000		120

“	“	July 4	Rochester	N.Y.	Darius Perrin		10,000		300
“	“	July 3	Buffalo	N.Y.	I. R. Harrington		10,000		300
“	“	July 3	Albany	N.Y.	Jas. Kidd		10,000		300
“	“	July 2	Richmond	Va.	T. B. Bigger		8000		240
“	“	July 2	Petersburgh	Va.	Robt. Birchett		4000		120
“	“	July 5	Charleston	S.C.	A. Huger		5000		150
					<i>Forward</i>	<i>3600</i>	<i>303000</i>	<i>42500</i>	<i>\$9947</i>
					[Page Break]				
					<i>Brought forward</i>				
1851									
July 2	July 2	Washington	D.C.	W. A. Bradley		5000		150	
“	“	July 3	New York	N.Y.	W. V. Brady	20,000		600	
“	“	July 3	Baltimore	Md.	C. T. Maddox	10,000		300	
“	3	July 5	Boston	Mass.	G. W. Gordon	30,000		900	
“	“	July 4	New York	N.Y.	W. V. Brady	60,000		1800	
“	“	July 4	Baltimore	Md.	C. T. Maddox	30,000		900	
“	“	July 3	Philadelphia	Pa.	W. J. P. White	60,000		1800	
“	5	July 5	Washington	D.C.	W. A. Bradley	6000		180	
“	“	July 5	Georgetown	D.C.	H. W. Tilley	2000		60	
“	“	July 13	New Orleans	La.	M. Musson	10,000		300	
“	“	July 9	Cincinnati	O.	W. Oliver	5000		150	
“	“	“ 9	Columbus	O.	A. F. Perry	5000		150	
“	“	July 8	Providence	R.I.	H. L. Bowen	5000		150	
“	“	July 7	Hartford	Ct.	E. S. Hamilton	5000		150	
“	“	July 8	New Bedford	Mass.	S. Bailey	5000		150	
“	“	“ “	Salem	“	G. Russell	5000		150	
???	July 9	Detroit	Mich.	A. S. Williams		5000	1000	160	
“	“	July 7	Cumberland	Md.	J. C. Magraw	4000		120	
“	“	July 9	Augusta	Ga.	E. B. Glascock	5000		150	
“	“	July 8	Charleston	S.C.	A. Huger	5000	1000	160	
“	“	“ 9	Camden	“	J. N. Gamewell	3000	1000	100	
“	“	“ 9	Georgetown	“	W. McNulty	3000		90	
“	“	July 8	Raleigh	N.C.	W. White	5000		150	
“	“	July 8	Pittsburgh	Pa.	S. Roseburgh	10,000		300	
“	“	“ 7	Harrisburgh	“	A. J. Jones	5000		150	
“	“	“ 7	Lancaster	“	G. W. Hamersly	4000	1000	130	
“	“	July 8	Binghamton	N.Y.	B. T. Cooke	3000		90	
“	“	“ 8	Utica	“	J. A. Shearman	5000		150	
“	“	“ 9	Syracuse	“	W. Jackson	5000		150	
“	“	“ 8	Poughkeepsie	“	Isaac Platt	3000		90	
“	“	“ 8	Troy	“	W. T. Willard	5000		150	
“	“	July 11	Nashville	Te.	J. Shelby	5000		150	
“	“	July 8	Wheeling	Va.	J. S. Shriver	5000		150	
“	“	July 8	Norfolk	“	July. Galt	3000		90	
“	“	July 10	Chicago	Ill.	G. W. Dole	5000	1000	160	
“	“	July 5	Washington	D.C.	W. A. Bradley		1500	15	
“	7	July 7	Richmond	Va.	T. B. Bigger	6000	1000	190	
						<i>357000</i>	<i>7500</i>	<i>\$10785</i>	

209B-2.

[National Postal Museum, USPS web site]

POSTAGE STAMPS SENT.

(Pages 150-151)

Day Sent.	Date of Receipt.	Office and Postmaster.	12s	3s	1s	Amount	
Recapitulation of the footings of the Third Assistant's Report, No. 1, of Postage Stamps issued under the Act of 3 rd March 1851, to Postmasters in the several States and Territories to be put into use on and after 1 st July 1851, the times of reception by the Postmasters being shown by their respective receipts accompanying paid receipt No. 1, made for the quarter ending 30 th September 1851.							
[Thousand separators were not used uniformly in the right-hand columns; commas have been inserted for readability]			12s	3s	1s	\$	
Page	1	To Postmasters in	Maine	5,300	88,000	18,200	3,458
"	2	" "	"	700	14,000	2,100	525
"	3	" "	New Hampshire	2,700	54,000	12,300	2,067
"	4	" "	Vermont	3,000	64,000	11,800	2,398
"	5	" "	Massachusetts	8,700	106,000	17,100	4,395
"	6	" "	"	4,900	84,000	17,500	3,283
"	7	" "	"	4,700	83,000	15,100	3,205
"	8	" "	"	1,800	30,900	5,900	1,202
"	9	" "	Rhode Island	1,300	27,000	5,100	1,017
"	10	" "	Connecticut	4,400	8,400	16,900	3,217
"	11	" "	"	700	14,000	2,100	525
"	12	" "	New York	3,200	64,000	9,600	2,400
"	13	" "	"	3,900	52,000	8,600	2,114
"	14	" "	"	3,800	50,000	9,400	2,050
"	15	" "	"	14,500	90,000	21,900	4,659
"	16	" "	"	4,800	59,000	13,700	2,483
"	17	" "	"	900	16,000	1,800	606
"	18	" "	New Jersey	4,300	46,000	11,800	2,014
"	19	" "	Pennsylvania	1,100	46,000	7,800	1,590
"	20	" "	"	800	50,000	9,200	1,688
"	21	" "	"	6,100	70,000	14,400	2,976
"	22	" "	"	500	36,000	6,200	1,202
"	23	" "	Delaware	200	10,000	3,400	358
"	24	" "	Maryland	1,500	46,000	11,100	1,671
"	25	" "	Dist. of Col ^m .	500	34,000	7,500	1,155
"	"	" "	Virginia				
"	26	" "	"	1,000	50,000	14,200	1,762
"	27	" "	"	200	9,000	3,200	326
[Numbers from microfilm margin; "?" for 3¢]			85,500	[1,376,900]	277,900	54,346	
[page break]							
Recapitulation of Report No. 1 brought forward							
Page	28	To Postmasters in	N Carolina	12s	3s	1s	
"	29	" "	So Carolina	300	42,000	10,200	1,398
"	30	" "	Georgia	1,400	39,000	10,800	1,446
"	31	" "	"	500	52,000	11,800	1,738
"	32	" "	"	500	23,000	4,600	796
"	33	" "	Florida	500	17,000	5,600	626
"	34	" "	Alabama	1,700	55,000	14,000	1,994
"	35	" "	Mississippi	600	44,000	7,900	1,471
"	36	" "	"	200	13,000	4,000	454
"	37	" "	Louisiana	2,000	49,000	10,200	1,812
"	38	" "	Texas	2,200	35,000	10,500	1,419
"	39	" "	Arkansas	200	15,000	4,400	518
"	40	" "	Tennessee	800	51,000	12,000	1,746
"		" "	Kentucky	1,300	55,000	11,000	1,916

“	41	“	“	“		11,000	2,000	350
“	42	“	“	Ohio	2,400	68,000	20,800	2,536
“	43	“	“	“		43,800	7,800	1,392
“	44	“	“	“	400	52,000	11,000	1,718
“	45	“	“	“	200	25,000	4,800	822
“	46	“	“	Michigan	600	62,000	15,200	2,084
“	47	“	“	“		4,000	800	128
“	48	“	“	Indiana	400	57,000	11,400	1,872
“	49	“	“	“	100	27,000	5,400	876
“	50	“	“	Illinois	100	53,000	9,500	1,697
“	51	“	“	“	100	42,000	7,800	1,350
“	52	“	“	Missouri	600	68,000	5,000	2,162
“	53	“	“	Iowa		28,000		840
“	54	“	“	Wisconsin		80,100		2,403
“	55	“	“	Minnesota		3,000		90
					17,100	1,113,900	218,500	\$37,654
				folio 1&c. [?]	85,500	1,376,900	277,900	54,346
				Total.	102,600	2,490,800	496,400	\$92,000

COMMENT: The stamp totals in Report No. 1 are much lower than the number of stamps issued as reflected by deliveries and by the totals in Report No. 2 below. It does not list stamps for the post offices in California and the western territories, but the total number of post offices in that area in 1851 was fewer than in Rhode island and probably inconsequential. The 1851 Report of the Postmaster General mentions a problem with postmasters who were late in settling accounts, but this appears to be too small an issue to result in the differences between the two reports and TCC deliveries before the end of the quarter. It may be that the two reports were intended to be added together to give a complete picture (not that the only instance where a figure in Report No. 1 is larger is the 12¢ stamp). The totals delivered by 26 Nov 1851 and the entries in the 1851 PMG Report for issued stamps prior to that date confirm that a higher number than contained in Report No. 1 is correct.

	12¢	3¢	1¢	Value
Report No. 1	102,600	2,490,800	496,400	\$92,000
Report No. 2	64,250	12,265,900	1,865,000	\$394,337
TCC Deliveries	480,000	19,680,000	2,900,000	\$677,000
Deliveries to 26 Nov	580,000	24,120,000	3,600,000	\$832,500
PMG Rpt (to 26 Nov)	184,950	21,737,600	2,935,900	\$706,981

(In addition, deliveries to 26 Nov and the PMG Report show 330,000 carrier stamps)

209B-3.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

POSTAGE STAMPS SENT.

(Pages 152-153)

Day Sent.	Date of Receipt.	Office and Postmaster.	12s	3s	1s	Amount
Recapitulation of the footings of the Third Assistant's Report No. 2 of Postage Stamps issued under the Act of 3 rd March 1851, to Postmasters in the several States and Territories, to be sent into use on and after 1 st July 1851, the times of reception by the Postmasters being shown by their respective receipts accompanying said report No. 2, made for the quarter ending 30 th September 1851.						
[Thousand separators were not used uniformly in the right-hand columns; commas have been inserted for readability]			12s	3s	1s	\$
Page	92	of this Register	3,600	303,000	42,500	9,947
“	93	“		357,000	7,500	10,785

“	94	“			400,500	53,400	12,549
“	95	“			337,000	15,000	10,260
“	96	“		600	222,000	62,000	7,352
“	97	“		100	211,000	78,000	7,122
“	98	“		100	319,000	111,000	10,692
“	99	“			183,000	40,000	5,890
“	100	“		100	193,000	51,000	6,312
“	101	“		100	548,000	159,500	18,047
“	102	“			555,000	22,000	16,870
“	103	“		100	112,000	6,500	3,437
“	104	“		200	103,000	7,000	3,184
“	105	“			200,000	18,000	6,180
“	106	“		200	186,000	46,000	6,064
“	107	“			146,000	11,000	4,490
“	108	“		200	344,000	107,000	11,414
“	109	“			443,000	127,400	14,564
“	110	“		100	175,000	12,000	5,382
“	111	“		2,000	566,000	7,500	17,295
“	112	“		100	158,000	16,700	4,919
“	113	“			187,000	41,000	6,020
“	114	“		200	110,000	8,200	3,406
“	115	“		100	133,000	15,500	4,157
“	116	“			816,000	247,500	26,955
“	117	“		600	144,000	23,100	4,623
“	118	“		50,200	657,000	192,000	27,654
“	119	“		100	138,000	14,400	4,296
“	120	“		100	147,900	10,000	4,549
“	121	“		50	95,000	4,000	2,896
“	122	“		100	63,000	4,500	1,947

[page break]

Recapitulation of Report No. 2 brought forward

Page				12s	3s	1s	\$
“	123	of this Register			54,400		1,632
“	124	“		50	152,600	7,500	4,659
“	125	“			39,000	500	1,175
“	126	“			96,200	7,900	2,965
“	127	“			37,000		1,110
“	128	“		50	106,000	10,000	3,286
“	129	“			85,000	8,700	2,637
“	130	“			45,000		1,350
“	131	“			388,000	8,500	11,725
“	132	“			162,000	16,000	5,020
“	133	“			188,000	28,500	5,925
“	134	“		200	152,000	31,000	4,894
“	135	“		1,000	250,000	27,500	7,895
“	136	“		200	131,000	16,500	4,119
“	137	“		500	204,000	26,200	6,442
“	138	“			132,000	46,300	4,423
“	139	“			156,000	3,800	4,718
“	140	“		100	93,900	9,500	2,924
“	141	“			275,400	6,000	8,322
“	142	“			483,000	4,000	14,530
“	143	“		2,500	150,000	2,900	4,829

“	144	“		400	110,000	2,800	3,376
“	145	“		200	118,000	3,700	3,601
“	146	“		100	55,000	33,800	2,000
“	147	“			50,000	2,200	1,522
		Reported to the Auditor					
		October 27 th 1851					
				12s	3s	1s	Amt
		Report No. 2	Total	64,250	12,265,900	1,865,000	\$394,337

210. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

P. O. St. Louis Mo Oct 2 1851

Hon. J. Marron

Sir

Will you have the goodness to inform what amount of new Postage Stamps are charged against me for the last quarter.

I forwarded my returns for the quarter ending 30th Ult on yesterday, and from the result have reason to believe that there is an error against me in my Stamp account.

Respectfully
your Obt Servt
Archibald Gamble
P. M.

[Docket]

October 2nd 1851
St. Louis Mo

Archibald Gamble P. M.
wishes to know the amount of New
Postage Stamps he is charged
with

Oct 11, 1851
answd

211. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Curdsville Buckingham Co Va
Octo. 3rd 1851

Dr Sir

Enclosed I send you Ten Dollars please send me the worth on Post office 3 cts stamps.

Respectfully
A. Baldwin P. M.
at Curdsville Va

[Docket]

Octo. 3 1851
Curdsville Va

A. Baldwin P M Encloses
\$10 for Stamps

October 6th 1851
answered Money
returned

212.

[National Archives]

Phila 10 Mo 4, 1851

Post Master General Hall

Respd friend

I take the liberty to enclose a specimen of paper covered with an adhesive substance, which will be found greatly superior to the sticking material on the postage stamps as now prepared.

At the suggestion of the post Master of this city I exhibited some of the paper to Toppan Carpenter & Co. who pronounce it to be superior to any thing they have seen. They think however that the lowest rate at which I could furnish the material, would prevent their using it under their present contract.

I would respectfully suggest whether a trifling increase of cost to the government would not be more than made up by the increased demand for stamps that would stick quickly & without trouble?

Very respectfully
Th. J. Husband
Chemist

[Docket]

4 Oct. 1851
T. J. Hasband
Philada

specimen of adhesive Paper
for stamps

212A.

[USPCS Chronicle 117, pp. 28-29]

Philadelphia Post Office
October 5, 1851

Sir,

I have the pleasure of transmitting to you herewith an impression of the beautiful stamp respecting which I wrote to you a few days since. I have exhibited it to a hundred judicious friends, by all of whom it is highly commended. Messrs Toppan & Co are so much pleased with it, that they offer to execute the plate and prepare the stamps without any additional charge to the Department - and I trust that it will meet with your approbation, and that you will, at your earliest convenience, give an order for the preparation of the new plate, as it is so far superior to the head of Franklin, this speaking plainly for itself and designating its object - whereas the other will be continually confounded with the one cent stamp of the P.O. Dept., the only difference in the design of the two being, that in the one case, Franklin is looking *West*, and in the other his face is turned toward the *East*.

This new stamp tells its own story, and the Eagle will appeal at once to the affections and patriotism of the American People. When I suggested the idea to Mr. Toppan he caught it up with avidity, and when he had executed the drawing, he agreed with me that the idea was conceived in "a fit of enthusiasm". I was mistaken, or rather Mr. Toppan was mistaken, in the information he gave me respecting the number of carriers' stamps already printed - he thought the number was *1,500,000*, but he informed me yesterday that only *300,000* had been printed - and you would do me a kindness by giving me an order for some thousands of these which would answer our purpose until the new U.S.P.O. Despatch stamp shall have been printed.

Have the goodness to favour me with your opinion and decision on this subject. and believe me to be
Very respectfully
John C. Montgomery
Asst. P.M. Pa.

[Note on letter]

October 10, 1851 – Design approved and stamps ordered

COMMENT: This letter is not counted among the Travers Papers, but has been included for the convenience of readers. See # 197.

213.

[Travers, USPCS web site]

Phila. Oct 6, 1851.

J. Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. General,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

We have this day delivered to W.I.P. White, Esq., Post Master, the following number Packages of U.S. post office stamps.

Viz:

80	Packages each Contg.	30,000 - 3 cts -	2,400,000
12	" " "	50,000 - 1	600,000
5	" " "	20,000 - 12 ct	100,000
6	" Carriers	50,000	300,000
103	packages Contg. in all		3,400,000

The gumming of this lot will, we feel quite confident, prove satisfactory to the public.
 Very Respectfully,
 Yrs, etc.,
 Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

COMMENT: This was the first delivery to the Post Office of Franklin carrier stamps. In The Postage Stamps of the United States, p. 192, Luff wrote: " It is said that in the records of the Post Office department it is stated: 'First carriers' stamps received from contractors Oct, 21, 1851. 300,000'," which is obviously a mistake.

213A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 16

Philada. Oct 6, 1851.

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master, the following packages of Postage Stamps.

Viz.	2,400,000	Stamps	3 ct	80	Packages
	600,000	"	1 ct	12	"
	100,000	"	12 ct	5	"
	300,000	"	Carriers	6	"
Total	<u>3,400,000</u>			<u>103</u>	"

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed this 6th day
 of October A D 1851 before me
 Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace

214. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

St. Clairsville O/ 9 Oct/51

Contract office Post office Dept

This office has no information. What Disposition is to be made with the moneys Received for Stamps sold Who or Whome to Be Paid to also this office Stands in need of 3 cent Paid Stamp(?) to Mark Pd Letters

I think the Dept has forgotten to Send the Quarterly Certificates for Routes No 2006 & 2007 to this office for Signature of P M St Clairsville unless my Monthly Return of arrival & Departure of Both Mails Rout be sufficient for the Performance of Said

Now this will inform that the Mail Carrier on Route 2007 Performed by Joseph Price Who is a worthy upright man and a Poor man he Says that Fuller & Hunt owes to him 200\$ he has written and I have written Several times and they Do not Comply I have had this office Little over 2 years and those men have never Been Seen here they Live some Eighty miles from this Place Joseph Price has been Confined to his bed for the Last three months and has to employ young men to Carry his mails under the old Contract to Carry a one horse mail and there is one Large Mail Bag extra Cramed with the free Papers to Carry with out Compensation which they are Complaining hard about he has also Lost 2 Valuable Horses that Died While on his Rout I do think fuller & Hunt Do not Do their Duty

Respectfully
 Benj Thomas

P M

N B I have sold 107\$ Stamp

This Communication has
been Requested by Joseph Price
to the Dept

This office Distributes Mails Matter for Some 30 offices twice a week for each mail Rout and the whole Combined is not worth \$5 year I have a Document from H Fitz Henry Warren Wherein he Says as the forwarding of Moneys to Publishers for Subscriptions to News papers & Periodicals under my frank Does Not injure the Revenue of the Dept But Bring in a Revenue to Both it is not objected to Now when I Do this it is Marked So on the Post Bills as well as Letter I Raise a Clab(?) of 47 for cn 7 Courier(?) there is no one here that will Do it The Government Can do as they think Best There will be a great falling off.

Respectfully B. Thomas P M

[Docket]

9 October 1851
St. Clairsville

Benj. Thomas P. M.
wants instructions as to
disposal of Proceeds of stamps
advising 107\$ Sold—
Complains of neglect of duty
on the part of Fuller & Hunt

215. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Troy N.Y.
Oct. 9, 1851

Hon N. K. Hall
P. M. Genl
Washington D.C.

Sir

Some few of the old issue, of Postage stamps, are occasionally presented for redemption.

After 30th Sept ulto, I have not felt authorized to redeem them, as, instructions were specific to redeem them until that day.

I suggest to the Dept. to give authority to redeem such as may yet be presented, as there are always people who are behind times, & make much ado, of bad faith, and very many other declarations, operating against the administration which would be silenced, from such a cause as this, did the P. Office redeem its old pledges for Postage—But few remain.

Respectfully, your Obt Servt
W. T. Willard
P. M. Troy N Y

[Docket]

9 Octo 1851
Troy N Y

W. F. Willard P M, wants
authority to redeem Stamps
of old issue

216. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Minersville Oct 12 1851

Hon Fitz Henry Warren 2 assistant P M General

Dear Sir

I was shown a black 3 cent stamp the other day I refused to except any of the kind until I hear from you please inform me if the department have ordered any except the reds of that amt

Yours Respectfully
George R. Taylor P.M.

[Docket]

October 12th 1851
Minersville Pa.

G. P. Taylor P. M.
wishes to know if the depart-
ment has issued any three
cent stamps

Octr 14th 1851

Wrote him for
circumstances, name
&c &c

217. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

New York Oct 13th 1851

Hon. N. K. Hall P.M.G.

Sir

Enclosed I send my quarterly return of letters and mailable matter that has passed through the Carriers Department of this City during the past quarter which ended September 30th 1851—

The return shews the following results

Letters delivered from the Mails	552,304
Letters received from boxes and delivered in the City	30,106
News Papers Pamphlets &c	<u>28,605</u>
	611,015
Letters brought to the Post Office for the Mails from the Boxes. <u>Free of Charge</u>	<u>54,833</u>
	665,848

Thus it appears that there has passed through the letters Carriers department under my Charge 665,848 Letters and papers, all of which have been safely delivered—

There have been 8 Collectors of letters whose duty it is to bring letters from the Boxes to the Post Office for the mails and also the letters that are to be sent from one part of the City to another—these letters are delivered by the Carriers three times each day viz at 9 A.M. and 1 and ½ past 3 P.M. this has seemed to meet the present wants of our City—should a greater number of deliveries each day be required I shall be ready to meet such demand as soon as it (is) clearly evident that it is required.

From the increased number of letters there have been employed by the Carriers 10 assistants these men are paid by the Carriers and they are responsible for their action their pay will appear on Mr. Brady's return of moneys paid from the Carriers receipts for Expenses of this department—

I have made 5 new districts on which I put the 1st of Sept the newly appointed Carriers and have made preparation for 5 more—but it requires the men to have considerable instruction and training to discharge the duties of Carriers satisfactorily.

I have some of the newly appointed Carriers acting as assistants, on some of the large routs and as soon as they have the requisite experience shall place them on Separate districts—The Correspondence passing through this branch of the department is important, and requires honest and trustworthy men, as large sums of money pass daily through their hands in the letters they deliver.

I think this branch of the department is fast growing in public favor—The number of letters brought to the Post Office free—has very much increased; in July the number was 8257—in September it was 35225. This is a great increase, and it is a great Convenience for our Citizens and one that meets with universal favour—

There are 6 of the Carriers on the Quarterly return that make returns for one month only which makes their returns of less amount—but there are none of them does not get a good compensation for their labour.

Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Marcellus Eells
Supt of Letter Carrier Service

You mentioned when you was here that you would furnish us with a quantity of Carriers stamps free—Mr. Brady received a package this morning which he is charged for is it intended to Charge the Carriers department with these Stamps or has the Clerk made a mistake in charging them, please direct in regard to that matter. I hope we may have the first lot without charge as you first proposed—

Respectfully
Marcellus Eells
Supt of Letter Carriers

[Docket]

Oct 13, 1851
New York N.Y.

Marcellus Eells, Pr Carrier

reports business of his branch

October 16, 1851
Answered as to
Stamps

218. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

P.O. Department
Oct 16 1851

Gentlemen

I enclose by direction of the Postmaster General a design for carriers postage stamps recently sent to this Department by J.C. Montgomery Esqre of the Philadelphia Post office. This design is understood to have been prepared by you and it has received the approbation of the Postmaster General, who requests that you will proceed to prepare, with all practicable dispatch, the steel dies and plates necessary to print one million of carriers stamps of this new device. That number of stamps is now wanted and more will be ordered, from time to time, as they may be needed. The corners of the design will of course be relieved of their nakedness of some such ornamental work as may in your judgment be deemed appropriate.

Respectfully &c
J. Marron
3 Asst. P.M. Genl

Mess Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear
Philadelphia Pa

COMMENT: See documents 197, 207A, and 212A for Montgomery's involvement with TCC in preparation of the Eagle carriers stamp..

219. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Minersville Oct 16th 1851

John Marron Esq.
2 assistant Post Master General

Dear Sir

Yours of 14th was duly received stating the department has never issued any black stamps of Denomination of 3 cts I having seen but the one and not knowing the person—as there are strangers calling at this office daily. I shall be on the lookout and if I see another in possession of any person will have him arrested and find out where the stamp was produced I have visited the office at Pottsville and requested Mr. Mortimer to be on the lookout for said stamps you shall hear from me in case any thing further turns up

Yours Respectfully
George R. Taylor P M

[Docket]

October 16th 1851

Minersville

Geo. R. Taylor PM reports
seeing a black 3 cent stamp
supposed counterfeit

220. [National Postal Museum & Travers, [both on USPCS web site](#)]

Phila. Oct 17th/51

Dear Sir.

Yours of the 16th ordering one million of the carriers stamps is recd.

The dies for this stamp, shall be prepared immediately, and the impressions ordered, furnished you in all possible haste.

Very Respectfully
Yours &c.
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S.H. Carpenter Jr.

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.
Washington

[Docket]

Octo. 17, 1851
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

Dies for Carriers Stamps
to be prepared immediately

acknowledges order for
Carrier's stamps

COMMENT: A stock (banknote) die was used for samples given to Montgomery. The die referred to in this letter was for the stamps themselves.

221. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office

Little Valley N.Y. Oct 20 1851

Mr. J. Marron Esq.

Sir

I have 65 cts in P. O. Stamps (old ones) which accidentally got mislaid and were not presented to Mr. Skinner for redemption until (Mr. Skinner is P.M. at Ellicottville Ch) after the 1st Oct. he requested me to write you to give him permission to redeem them—have the kindness to do so & oblige

Your Obt Servt
S S Marsh
Depy P.M.
Little Valley
N. York

[Docket]

October 20 1851
Little Valley N.Y.

S. S. Marsh concern-
ing the redemption of
old Stamps.

222. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

(By Telegraph)

P.O. Department Oct 21 1851

Mess Toppan Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia Pa

Please print ten thousand carriers stamps as requested by John C. Montgomery and charge this Department.

Respectfully &c
N.K. Hall
Postmaster General

COMMENT: Only 10,000 were ordered printed, despite higher initial estimate given on October 16, 1851.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

223.

(BY TELEGRAPH)

P.O. Dept., Oct. 21, 1851.

J. C. Montgomery,
Philadelphia Pa

Toppan & Company are directed to print ten thousand carriers stamps.

Respectfully &c
John Marron
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

224.

[National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Troy N.Y.
Oct 25, 1851

Hon N. K. Hall
P. M. Genl.
Washington D.C.

Sir

By instructions had upon the introduction of the New Stamps, we redeemed the Old Stamps until the end of last quarter (30 Sept 1851.)

There are yet some few old stamps outstanding, which ought to be redeemed in good faith, & I doubt not will be by order as soon as known they yet exist unredeemed.

I ask authority to redeem these outstanding old Stamps, and thereby quiet grumbling against this administration as “arbitrary,” “unjust” etc..

It was doubtless supposed full time had been given to call them in.

Respectfully your Obt Servant
W. T. Willard
P.M. Troy N.Y.

[Endorsement across margin of letter:]

“Authorized to redeem them”

[Docket]

Octo 25, 1851
Troy N.Y.

W. F. Willard PM wants
authority to redeem old
5 & 10 ct Stamps

225.

[National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Millbury, Worcester Co. Mass.
Oct. 29, 1851

Sir:—

I have called several times, recently, at the Millbury Post Office to purchase letter Stamps, and was informed that they had none; but had ordered some from the Department at Washington, and were daily expecting to receive them. I learn, also, that others have called for stamps and complain that they cannot obtain them. I was somewhat surprised, as I had understood that a large supply had recently been recd. By the Postmaster. I have since heard, and believe that the reason we cannot be accommodated is, that the Postmaster has pledged stamps to the amount of one hundred and twenty dollars, to William F. Wood, of W. Millbury, as security, for money borrowed.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servant,

Daniel J. Paul.

Hon. Postmaster General,
Washington,
D. C.

226. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office, Millbury, Mass.
Oct 31-1851

Hon. J. Marron-
3rd Asst. P. M. G.-

Sir:

Please send me (\$75) Seventy-five Dollars worth of 3 cent Stamps—& five dollars worth of one cent stamps—

Very Respectfully
&c
A. G. Randall, P.M.

[Response, unsigned and in pencil]

1000	1 —	10
3000	3 —	<u>90</u>
		100

I have seen your application for “\$75 worth of 3 cent stamps and \$5 worth of 1 cent stamps” and am directed by the Postmaster General to request you to state without delay what disposition has been made of the _____ sent you on the 30th August last.

COMMENT: The responder may have intended to fill in the line, but there is no indication he did so. From the context, it was probably his previous shipment.

227. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

P. O. Millbury Mass, Nov 5 1851

Hon J. Marron—

Sir:

Yours of the 3rd inst. is duly received—

In answer to your inquiry, I would say that I now have on hand about \$60 (Sixty Dollars) worth of stamps—that the rest of the 5000 3 cent stamps have been disposed of to Post Masters in Manchaug, Northbridge, Sutton & W. Millbury in answer to their personal application, & to persons doing business at this office—All, who have had the means or sufficient credit, have been accommodated with stamps when asked for.

The cash from those sold is on hand, & subject to the order of the auditor of the Depart. I have sold a larger number than usual the last month—20 ones more, \$27 worth.

I have got enough probably to last me most of this month. I should be perfectly willing to pay cash:—& take them of the Postmaster at Boston—where many Post Masters get their supply

I am
very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
A. G. Randall

[Docket]

5 November 1851
Millbury Mass.

A. G. Randall PM orders stamps
and accounts for the disposal
of those previously sent, holding
Proceeds of same subject to
dft of Auditor

228. [National Postal Museum & Travers, [both on USPCS web site](#)]

Phila Nov 6th/51

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered five impressions of the new Carriers Stamp to J C Montgomery Esq. who will forward them for inspection and approval.

We have printed several on the Red Paper but find that the sizing of that paper is yet too green to admit of its being used for some months, (the gum now strikes through it and makes the stamps look very badly) we therefore respectfully suggest the use of White Paper with blue ink, similar to the impressions delivered to Mr. Montgomery -

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S.H. Carpenter Jr.

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P M Genl.
Washington

[Docket]

Nov 6th 1851
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

Carrier Stamps

COMMENT: These are trial color plate proofs of the Eagle carriers stamp. "Five impressions" apparently means "five sheets" (i.e., panes), per the next letter dated November 7, 1851 (#229).

229.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

P.O. Department
November 7, 1851

Sir:

I am directed by the Postmaster General to say that he has no objection to the adoption of white paper instead of pink for the carriers stamps neither does he object to their being printed in blue ink but he requires that the color of the ink used now and for all future supplies shall be of a uniform shade. Whether the dark blue ink is so easily cancelled as ink of a paler shade of blue is for you to consider and decide, but once decided the color of the ink must be uniform. I return the sheets received with your letter and have directed Mess Toppan & Co to deliver 20,000 of the stamps, as soon as printed to the Postmaster of Philadelphia and take and forward his receipt to me.

Respectfully &c
(Signed) J Marron
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

John C. Montgomery, Esqu
Asst. P.M. Philada Pa

230.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Department
Nov 7 1851

Sir

The Postmaster General considers the carriers stamp executed by you very handsome, and makes no objection to the printing of them on white paper. General Montgomery is instructed as to the ink to be used with the injunction that whatever shade of blue be adopted the same must be used in all future emissions. The lack of a uniform shade in the ink used on our three cent stamps is a serious impediment to the conviction of those culprits who are despicable enough to use the stamps two or more times. When the carriers stamps are prepared to the number of twenty thousand (20,000) you will deliver that number to the Postmaster of Philadelphia and take and forward his receipt to me.

Respectfully &c
(Signed) J Marron
Third Asst. P M Genl

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter, Casilear & Co
Philadelphia Pa

231.

[National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Phila Nov 7th 1851

Dear Sir

Your favor of 6th in. rcd. We have on hand the following Stamps—Viz—

2,000,000 of 3 cent Stamps }
150,000 " 1 Cent Stamps } Gummed & ready for delivery
besides which we have a large amount Printed & ready for gumming.

We have purposely avoided gumming any for some time past, because we are in daily expectation of the return of our Mr. Carpenter & being desirous of a [three words illegible] of all the information which he might be able to obtain in England & France on the subject of Postage Stamps, we thought it best to stop further proceedings until his arrival. He is now here and will address you on the subject, in a day or two, meanwhile we will at once begin the gumming.

Those now ready for delivery, are believed to be thoroughly well gummed & we doubt not will give Satisfaction.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Pr S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.
Washington

[Docket]

Toppan Carpenter C & Co
Philada

report quantity of stamps
on hand

Nov 12 1851
Wrote S. H. Carpenter

232. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada Nov 10, 1851

Dear Sir

Having visited England & France with special reference to the matter of Postage Stamps, and having had while there every facility afforded me to examine in detail the entire process of the manufacture of the Stamps used in those countries, I have obtained some important information in relation to the subject and feel confident that hereafter you will have cause to be entirely satisfied with the Stamps which we shall furnish—Of one cause of the defect in our stamps I have become well convinced, and that is the newness of the paper—the Size not having sufficient age or hardness, the paper absorbed the gum and left too little of it on the surface—this difficulty could not at the commencement be avoided—the paper required was of a peculiar size and we were obliged to order it made and use it as soon as recd. from the maker—we ordered a very large quantity and we found that it is already greatly improved and as time will continue to improve its quality we shall have no further trouble from this cause. The Gum which we used (just previous to the purchases of the Lowell Gum) is the same as used for the French Stamps and is there preferred to the English—The English Gum is of a similar material to the Lowell, but a better article—The Contractors for the English & French Stamps both assured me that at first there was an immense number of complaints against the want of adhesiveness of their Stamps, but that they have been able to overcome all the difficulties and now there are no complaints on the subject—

When in London & Paris I took great pains to enquire about & examine every Species of Gum that was used there, not only for Postage Stamps, but also for Labels, Manufactures(?), & and procured & brot with me Samples of what appeared to be the best in each city—I also purchased a quantity of the identical gum used for the English Postage Stamps from the Manufacturer who supplies the Contractor for the Stamps with all that they use—all these shall be fairly tried and that which is the best shall be used on your Stamps—As we are sure that you will cheerfully afford us every facility in your power to aid us in the more perfect delivery of your Stamps (provided it does not interfere with the Convenience of the Department) we respectfully request that you will permit us to deliver the Stamps in Sheets of 200 each in lieu of Sheets of 100 as at present—our reason for asking this is the fact that we can gum them better in Sheets of that size—they will curl less , and we can then press them, make them smooth & flat and greatly improve their appearance thereby—All the English & French Stamps are delivered in this way (the English in Sheets of 240 each and the French in sheets of 300 ea.)—we can of course put the same Amount in each package (say 150 Sheets of 200 instead of 300 sheets of 100) if you desire it, or in any other amounts that you may direct—we would further suggest that this might be considered as the mark of distinction to Postmasters between the New Gumming and the old and we will guarantee that every impression of the Sheets having 200 Stamps on it shall be perfectly gummed.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Svts
S. H. Carpenter

Honl N. K. Hall
Post Master General
[Docket]

10 Novbr 1851
S. A. Carpenter
Philada

The failure of our Stamps
owing to newness of paper

Reports examination in England
and France, as to gumming stamps

233.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

P.O. Department
Nov 12 1851

Sir

I am directed by the Postmaster General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter to him of the 10th instant, and to express to you the gratification its perusal afforded him. As much complaint has been made of our postage stamps on account of their lack of adhesiveness, the Postmaster General wishes, if you see no objection to it, to publish your letter, or rather that part of it, of which I here enclose a copy. This is designed to be done in the Intelligencer, The Republic and the Union, and if you approve of it, we think your firm and the Dept. will be held excused by the public for any imperfections heretofore observed in the stamps. We are willing to adopt your suggestion as to printing 200 instead of 100 on a sheet. They will probably not be so convenient to us for mailing, but we will try them, and if the inconvenience be serious, we can easily return to the present mode. I will send on Saturday next an authority to the Postmaster of Philadelphia to receive and forward to the Department all the stamps you may have ready on Monday next.

Respectfully &c
(Signed) J Marron

(Third Asst. P.M. General.)

S.H. Carpenter Esqre
of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co
Philadelphia

234. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada Nov 13, 1851

Dear Sir

Your favor of 12th is recd. If the Post Master General is of opinion that it is desirable to publish that part of my letter (copy of which is herewith returned) I of course can have no objection—the only difficulty that strikes me is the fact, that out of the Stamps already distributed throughout the Country, there may yet remain on hand a portion of those which were badly gummed, and if so, there will be a difficulty in making the public know the starting point (from which they may rely on having good Stamps)—Post Masters will know it, from the new mode of furnishing the sheets & therefore it appears to me that when they receive supplies of the Stamps in Sheets of 200 it would be desirable for them to give notice that from & after that period the public might rely upon receiving stamps well gummed—I am by no means confident that these suggestions are worthy your consideration, but offer them & give you will let them pass for just what they are worth—I have added a line in reference to the Lowell Gum, which in justice to the manufacturer there, I should be glad to have inserted—I enclose a letter from Messrs. Brown, Shipley & Co from which you will see that the Gum ordered in England (same as used on the English Stamps) was shipped pr Africa and therefore its arrival has been delayed, but it will no doubt be here in about a week—

I was informed by the Asst. Post Master General in London that the Department was about to carry into effect another very important change—viz—to abolish what they denominate the “money office”—that is—no money will hereafter be recd for prepayment of letters, but parties sending letters will be compelled to pay by attaching a Stamp instead of giving the money—The same System is now practiced in Paris. In every case when I want to pay the Postage on my letters to this Country (at the Sub Post Office in Paris) instead of receiving the money & stamping the letter “paid”, they would take the money and hand me the requisite amount in Stamps, which I attached to the letters & then dropped them in the Box—If a universal system of prepayment by Stamps only could be introduced in this Country what an immense amount of labor would thereby be saved in the Post Offices, & how greatly would it facilitate the keeping of the Post Office accounts—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. Post Mr. Genl.

[Docket]

November 13 1851

S.H. Carpenter
Phila

Remark, on the gumming of
stamps—suggests a universal
system of pre payment by stamps
as in France

COMMENTS:

- *The reason for the delay in receiving the gum was that Africa left Liverpool on 25 October 1851 and grounded off the Irish coast, forcing her to return to Liverpool for repairs. Originally expected to arrive in New York about 6 November, she did not arrive until 19 November (North Atlantic Mail Sailings 1840-1875, Walter Hubbard and Richard F. Winter, USPCS, 1988, 29).*
- *Brown Shipley & Co. must have arranged shipment of the gum. They had British and American partners with company headquarters in London and financed merchants shipping goods between the two countries (<http://www.brownshipley.com/history>).*
- *The Brown Shipley letter mentioned in the first paragraph was returned to TCC by #238.*
- *By 9 December, TCC had begun using the English gum (#240).*

234A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site.]

No. 17

Philada. Novem 17, 1851

We hereby certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Postmaster the following packages of Postage Stamps.

Viz.

68 Packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents ——— 2,040,000 Stamps
 2 do “ contg 50,000 do “ 1 Cent ——— 100,000 do
 1 do “ contg 20,000 Carriers Stamps Eagle 20,000 do
 +1 do “ contg 10,000 Carriers Stamps Franklin 10,000 do

+ This package (say 10,000) Carriers Stamps was delivered per order J. Marron Esqr 3rd. Asst. Post Master General on the 21st Ulto. (as per Rect. of J. Montgomery Esqr. Asst. PM & Superintendent of the Carrier Department).

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Sworn & subscribed
 this 17th day of November
 AD. 1851 before me
 Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace

235.

[National Archives]

Philada. Novem 17, 1851.

Dear Sir:

We have this day delivered to W.J.P. White, Esq., Post Master, the following Postage Stamps, Viz:

68 Packages ea. Contg.	30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents -	2,040,000 stamps
2 do " Contg.	50,000 do " 1 Cent -	100,000 do
1 do " Contg.	20,000 Carriers Stamps <u>Eagle</u> -	20,000 do

In addition to the above we delivered to J.C. Montgomery, Esq., Asst. P.M. on the 21st ulto a package containing 10,000 Carriers Stamps (Franklin) receipt for which, together with receipt for the 20,000 Carriers Stamps delivered this day, please find herein.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Servts.,

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

J. Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl.

236. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. Nov. 24, 1851.

Dear Sir:

Having accidentally seen in the Herald, an article copied from the London Times, in which the change about to be adopted in England in regard to money payments on letters is referred to, I send it for your notice. Upon looking at the article again, I perceive that the phrase "about to be adopted" is not correct - it is now actually in operation.

There is one other matter in regard to Postage Stamps which I beg to call your attention to & then I will trouble you no more - it is this -

Having heard the Post Master General express himself strongly as to the importance of having the Stamps effectually cancelled at the office where mailed, and having noticed the importance attached to it in both England and France, I procured a couple of pounds of the indelible ink used in the English Post-Offices for canceling their Stamps, which I send for inspection. I was informed in London, that previous to its use, the canceling mark was very frequently extracted and the stamps used again. In many of our Post Offices the canceling mark is so slight that the stamp might easily be used a second time without even the trouble of attempting to extract it, and indeed in some cases the stamps are not cancelled at all - two specimens recently recd by me I enclose as evidence of the fact, and that cases of this kind are not rare, I fear is too true. I send also two of the English Stamps, cancelled as I believe those stamps always are. You will see that the canceling is quite perfect, and if the ink used is what it is claimed to be, and cannot be extracted, then of course it is impossible to use an English Stamp a second time. The Ink herewith I procured from the Contractors for the English Stamps who furnish it to the Post Office Department.

Will you have the kindness to say about what time you think you will require a further supply of stamps. I ask because if you will want some soon, we must use some of the gum which we now have instead of waiting for the English Gum ordered but which has not yet come to hand. Have no fears however that we will use any gum which is not of superior quality or that there will ever again be cause for complaint of a want of adhesiveness. We will use none but such as we have first thoroughly tested, and your stamps shall be as adhesive as any in any part of the world.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Servt.,
S. H. Carpenter.

J. Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. Post Master General.

P.S. The letter from Cleves, Ohio, is from a gentleman residing there and therefore I should not like the P. Master there to know that I furnished this evidence of his negligence as it might produce something unpleasant between him and my correspondent who is an old gentleman who would be much annoyed by anything of the kind. I beg therefore that if any notice is taken of it, it may be a statement of the fact which had come to the knowledge of the Department, but without sending the envelope which as it is a small office, he might recognize.

237.

[Travers]

Postage Stamps.

[Extract from Report of P.M. Gen'l for 1851, page 16 (undated)]

"A contract has been made for the supply of the postage stamps authorized by the act of March last. These stamps are believed to be of superior quality, and are furnished at a less price than was formerly paid. Some of those furnished soon after the execution of the contract were found to be deficient in adhesive qualities, but it is believed that there will be no ground for future complaint.

"Directions for the destruction of the dies and plates employed in the manufacture of the postage stamps formerly used have been given, and for counting and burning such of the stamps as have not been issued to postmasters, or have been returned."

238.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

P.O. Department
December 4th 1851

Gentlemen

I return herewith Brown Shipley & Cos letter to you of the 24th Oct last which was received in a late communication from you. On Saturday of this week I will send to the Postmaster of Philadelphia an authority to receive all the postage stamps you may have ready on the Monday following. We have on hand 841,400 threes and 165,800 ones which are unfit to put in use, and many thousand which were sent out some time ago will be returned upon us, but the parcel last received, and a good portion of the parcel immediately preceding it, have, so far as I know, given entire satisfaction. If they do not stick there is no tenacity in gum.

Respectfully &c
Signed J Marron

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter & Co Philada. Pa

COMMENT: The Brown Shipley letter was forwarded by #234.

238A.

[National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

No. 18

Philada. Decem 8, 1851.

We hereby certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps,
Viz.

25 packages each contg 60,000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 1,500,000 Stamps.

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Sworn & subscribed
this 8th day of December
AD 1857 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Aldmn & ex officio a Justice of the peace

COMMENT: 60,000 is an atypical package size.

239. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philad. Decem 8, 1851.

Dear Sir:

We have this day delivered to W. I. P. White, Esq., Post Master, 25 packages ea. Contg. 60,000 Stamps of 3 cents - 1,500,000 Stamps, all of which we think you will find perfectly gummed.

We have printed the whole of your order for Carrier Stamps and have a considerable portion of them gummed & ready for delivery -

We have several thousand impressions of the One Cent Stamp printed, but not gummed, as we were desirous of perfecting the gum before we proceeded further. We will now go on with the gumming of the Ones as well as Threes.

With regard to all that you have on hand, or may have at other offices, which are imperfectly gummed, we beg you to destroy the whole and advise us of the amount and we will credit the department with every impression so destroyed.

I noticed when in London that deliveries of Postage Stamps were made in Wooden Chests (with lock similar to your Bags) sufficiently large to contain from 6 to 800,000 Stamps. Permit us to suggest that the Packages would carry much better in Boxes or Chests and be altogether free from injury in transportation, which cannot be relied on when carrier in Bags - the paper (when the Stamps are put in Bags) is liable to be torn & the stamps rumpled and injured. If you approve of this suggestion we will undertake to have the Chests made of a suitable size and save you all the trouble about the matter.

Very Respectfully,
Yr. Obt. Servts.,
TOPPAN, CARPENTER, CASILEAR & CO

J. Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. General.

240. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada Dec 9, 1851

Dear Sir

I yesterday suggested the making of wooden Chests or Boxes for packing the Stamps—If they should be objectionable (from any supposed facility in handling Bags in preference to Boxes) I would respectfully suggest the construction of Square Canvas Bags made expressly to hold a certain number of Stamps—In this way, they will be made to fit tight & compact, and can be handled roughly (as Bags generally are) without the Stamps receiving injury.

We have now commenced the use of the Gum purchased in England of the Manufacturer who supplies the Contractor for the English Postage Stamps—It is precisely the same article now used for their stamps—I think you

will find it adhere perfectly well—It is of a lighter color than the gum formerly used in England & the Contractor for the Stamps informed me that they thought it the best that they had ever used—

Very respectfully
Your Ob St
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P M General.

[Docket]

9 Decbr 1851

S. H. Carpenter
Philada

Stamps
advises Commencement of the
use of “English Gum”

Decr 10, 1851
Answered

241.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

P.O. Department.
Dec. 10th 1851

Gentlemen

In my letter of the 12th November last I expressed my willingness to try the plan of printing 200 stamps on a sheet instead of 100 as formerly, and having tried the last lot rec'd, I regret to say that we find them exceedingly inconvenient in that form. We have put up and sent by mail since the 21st June last nearly 5000 parcels of stamps, containing generally from one to three thousand each. Many hundreds of those parcels reach their destinations in horse mail bags, and for such conveyance it is important that the parcels be folded as short as possible, that they may find some protection from being mailed in letter packages of nearly the same length. The stamps having 200 on a sheet require envelopes 2 inches longer than those of 100, and these are longer than is desired for our mails. It is true the former are more easily counted, but this facility by no means counterbalances the inconvenience mentioned, to say nothing of the additional cost of larger envelopes. Therefore, I must request that the stamps be put up in single sheets of 100 as heretofore and in parcels of 300 sheets of 30,000 stamps. Put up in this form our present bags will answer very well.

Respectfully &c
J. Marron.
3d Asst. P M Genl

Mess Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philadelphia

242. [Travers, [USPCS web site \(2 copies\)](#)]

P.O. Department
December 10 1851

Sir

I am directed by the Postmaster General to say that halves or other important parts of postage stamps will not be recognized in prepayment of the postage on any letter or packet passing in our mails, and that letters bearing such parts of stamps must in all cases be treated as unpaid letters.

The use of parts of stamps is probably confined to those persons who think it no derogation from their moral standing to preserve imperfectly cancelled stamps for the purpose of using again those parts of them which have not been defaced. Please report the Postmasters which send to you letters bearing half stamps.

Respectfully &c
J Marron
(Third Asst. P.M. General.)

Postmaster, Newburyport Mass

243. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office
Baltimore Dec. 15, 1851.

Sir:

Be pleased to have sent to me 1800 dollars worth of three-cent stamps.

Are you prepared to furnish Carrier stamps, and in what can I obtain a supply?

Very respectfully,
C.T. Maddox, P.M.

Hon. J. Marron,
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

60,000 three cent stamps sent.
Letter answered December 26, 1851.

244. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Department
Decem 22, 1851

Sir

I enclose an authority to receive and receipt for as the Agent of this Department all the postage stamps Messrs. Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co may have ready for delivery on its presentation which it is requested may take

place tomorrow. You will please have the stamps packed in my bags which are forwarded for that purpose, and sent to me by the Mail Agent as heretofore.

The Postmaster of Baltimore wishes to be furnished with Carriers stamps. Is there any objection to his being furnished with stamps of the same color and device as those in use by your carriers Department. I am Respectfully

Your Obt Sert
J Marron
3d Asst. P M General

W J P White Esqre
Postmaster, Philadelphia Pa

245. [National Postal Museum & Travers, [both on USPCS web site](#)]

P.O. Philadelphia
Decr 24th 1851

Sir:

Your letter of the 22nd failed to reach me until this morning. Business being suspended here to day by the arrival of Kossuth, I can only forward twenty eight packages 30,000 each, balance tomorrow. The 60,000 forwarded by you duly received, prefer small quantity at present time.

I can see no objection whatever to the Baltimore Office being supplied with stamps of the same color and device as those in use by our Carrier's Department.

In haste
Very respectfully,
W J P White
P M

Hon. John Marron
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl
Washington D.C.

[Docket]

24 Decbr 1851
Philadelphia

28 pckgs

P.M. Cannot forward all the
Stamps, owing to Kossuth's
arrival—sees no objection to
supplying Balto office with
Carriers Stamps same as used in
Phila.

COMMENTS:

- *See # 246 & #246A for expedited delivery of 28 packages.*
- *Kossuth's arrival was the occasion for a major public celebration. See The Welcome of Louis Kossuth: December 26th, 1851, 1852, P. H. Skinner.*

246. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

Philada Decem 25, 1851

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

55 packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	1,650,000 Stamps
19 do " Contg. 50,000 do " 1 Cent	950,000 do
5 do " Contg. 20,000 do " 12 Cent	100,000 do
<u>7</u> do " Contg. 40,000 do " Carriers Stamps	<u>280,000</u> do
86 Packages Containing	2,980,000 Stamps

28 (of the above 55 packages of 3 Cent Stamps were delivered to Mr. White yesterday, consequently there are only 27 Packages forwarded today.

We will forward the usual Certificate tomorrow—today being Christmas the Aldermans Offices are all closed—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. General

[Docket]

25 December 1851
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Phila.

P. M. Phila
86 pckgs 2,980,000

Delivery of Stamps

COMMENTS:

- *The "usual Certificate" refers to the receipt customarily enclosed with the letter to the 3rd Asst. PMG and filed by his office.*
- *Although not specified, the carrier stamps were probably Eagles.*

246A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 19

Philadelphia Decem 26, 1851.

We hereby certify that we have delivered to W. J. P. White Esq Post Master the following packages of Postage Stamps.

Viz.

1851
Decem 24. 28 Packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 840,000 Stamps

25	24	do	“	do	30,000	do	“	3 Cents	810,000	do
“	19	do	“	do	50,000	do	“	1 Cent	950,000	do
“	5	do	“	do	20,000	do	“	12 Cents	100,000	do
“	7	do	“	do	40,000	Carriers		Stamps	280,000	do
<hr/>									86 Packages Containing	
<hr/>									2,980,000 Stamps	

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Sworn & subscribed
 this 26th day of December
 AD 1851 before me
 Stephen N. Simmons
 Alderman & ex officio
Justice of the peace

247. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

P.O. Department
 Dec 26 1851

Sir

Your letter of the 15th instant enquiring whether we were prepared to furnish you with Carriers stamps was duly received, and having then no carriers stamps on hand I ordered a quantity which will be here tomorrow. They are of the same color and device as those used in Philada. Will this be objectionable, and if not how many will you want? The manufacturers have prepared plates and dies for carriers stamps of two devices, the one a small Franklin, printed in black upon pink paper - the other, an Eagle. The latter are used in Philadelphia, the former in New York and New Orleans.

Respectfully &c
 J Marron
 3d Asst. P M Genl

C.T. Maddox Esq.
 P M Baltimore Md.

COMMENT: Marron gave the wrong color for the Franklin carrier stamp (blue, not black).

248. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office

Baltimore. Dec. 27, 1851.

Sir:

Be pleased to have sent to me 50,000 of Carrier's stamps of the Eagle device. I would thank you to send at the same time a bill of the amount charged for them.

Very respectfully yrs.
 C.T. Maddox, P.M.

Hon. John Marron,
 3d Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

1852

249.

[National Archives]

Philad. Jany 5, 1852

Dear Sir

Your department has credit for \$4,996.50 being amt of our account to 1st inst.

The receipt we have forwarded this day to John Sloan Esqr Treasurer of the United States.

For your prompt attention to our bill please accept our thanks.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl.

[Docket]

5 January 1852
Toppan Carpenter C & Co

Acknowledge recpt of \$4996.50

249A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 20.

Philada. January 9, 1852

We hereby certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

72 Packages ea contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	————	2,160,000 Stamps
13 do ea contg 50,000 do “ 1 Cent	————	650,000 do

<u>85 Packages containing</u>	—————	<u>2,810,000</u>
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Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Sworn & subscribed
before me this 9th day of
January AD 1852

Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a
Justice of the peace

250.

[Travers, USPCS web site]

Philad. Jany. 9, 1852.

Dear Sir:

We have this day delivered to W.I.P. White, Esq., Post Master, the following packages containing 2,810,000 Postage Stamps - viz:

72 Packages ea. contg.	30,000 stamps of 3 cents -	2,160,000 Stamps.
<u>13</u> do ea. contg.	50,000 do " 1 cent -	<u>650,000</u> do
85 Packages containing		2,810,000 Stamps

We have commenced the use of some new gum from Lowell (on the one cent stamps) - It is strongly adhesive but the color is too dark to look well. We have nearly exhausted all the gum recd from England, which altho' a much lighter color & consequently a handsomer gum than the new Lowell, yet it is no more adhesive - if as much so.

The Lowell gum costs us nearly 18 per Ct more than the English, yet if it will answer as well, we would prefer to pay the difference rather than import it, because we might be subject to delay & trouble in receiving it from England and it might happen that they would sometimes take advantage of the distance and send us an inferior article. We should like however to know your wishes on the subject, because if the Post Master General and yourself should prefer the English gum we will immediately order a supply of it. Adhesiveness, we presume to be the all important object - in this particular we think you will admit the Lowell gum (now sent) to be as perfect as it can well be made.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Servts.,
Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co.

J. Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. Post Master General.

251. [Travers, USPCS web site]

Post Office Department.
January 14, 1852.

Gentlemen:

I could not give an answer to your letter enquiring whether the dark Lowell gum would be as acceptable as the English until I had handled both sufficiently to test those qualities which concern us most whose duty it is to distribute them, but I can now say that the English is greatly preferred and especially when used on paper so tender as that on which our stamps are printed. This new Lowell gum has doubtless the adhesive quality necessary but it is hard and contracts so much in drying that the sheets covered with it curl up and break in the handling. The one cent stamps with few exceptions are sent to Postmasters in parcels of from ten to fifty sheets. When thus counted out into parcels for transmission they will not lie still until they can be got into the envelopes prepared for them. The English gum is sufficiently restive but can be held still. The stamps are so much abused in the mail bags on their way hither that the Postmaster General is willing to adopt your suggestion as to sending them to us in boxes and he authorizes me to request that your have suitable boxes prepared capable of containing about 1,000,000 Stamps each (say four boxes) and of being locked with a U.S. Mail Lock. They should have handles of cord as to be conveniently moved.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
J. Marron,
3rd. Asst. P.M.G.

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.
Philadelphia, Pa.

252.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. Jany 17, 1852

Dear Sir

Your favor of 14th inst. Was duly recd. We have ordered a large supply of English Gum (to be in every respect as good as that recently used) and as we have directed it to be shipped per Steamer we hope to receive it at an early day—meanwhile we shall be compelled to use the new Lowell which we think we can manage to mix with other gum so as in a great measure to obviate the fault of which you complain and which has also given us immense trouble—

You will no doubt have observed that all your Stamps are now much smoother (we mean the impressions) than those delivered previous to the visit from Mr. C to England— we now press every sheet after being gummed (in the same manner that we press our Bank Notes) which of course not only makes them look better & smoother but contribute to their laying more snugly in the Packages—You will also have noticed an entire uniformity in the Color of the 3 Cent Stamps in all deliveries of the last two months—In all three matters we have aimed to perfect the whole work so that in every respect it should be perfectly Satisfactory—We will have the Boxes made as early as practicable—as an experiment we propose to have two made to contain only half a million each—Our impression is that you will find Boxes of that Size more convenient for handling and preferable on some other counts—of this however you will of course judge when you see both—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. Master General

[Docket]

7 Jany 1852

Toppan Carpenter C. & Co
Philada

gum
boxes
Stamps

about gum

252A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 21.

Phila. Jany 27th 1852

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps.

Viz.

50 Packages, each contg. 30, 000 Stamps of the 3 Cent Stamp	1,500,000 Stamps
5 “ “ “ “ 40,000 “ “ “ Carriers Stamp	200,000 “

55 Packages containing

1,700,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 27th day of January
AD 1852 before me

Stephen N. Simmons

Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace

253.

[National Postal Museum]

Phila Jany 27th/52

Dear Sir,

We have this day delivered to Mr. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages containing 1,700,000 Postage Stamps

Viz

50 Packages each cntg. 30,000 stamps 3 cent Stamps	1,500,000 Stamps
5 “ “ “ 40,000 “ Carriers Stamps	<u>200,000</u> “
55 Packages containing	1,700,000

Very Respectfully
Yours &c
per
S. H. Carpenter Jr

James Marron Esqr
3rd Assistant P. M. Genl

[Docket]

27 Jany. 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada.

P. M. Phila
55 pckgs—1,700,000

Delivery of Stamps

254.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

P.O. Department
January 28 1852

Sir

Be pleased not to send any further supply of one cent postage or of carriers stamps, until you shall receive orders from the Department.

Respectfully &c
J Marron
3 Asst. P M Genl

Mess Toppan Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia Pa

254A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 22.

Philada. Feb. 9, 1852

We certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master, the following Postage Stamps.

Viz.

68 Packages, ea. contg. 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents ——— 2,040,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this ninth day of February
AD 1852 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Ald & ex officio a Justice of the peace

255. [Travers, USPCS web site]

Philada. Feb. 9, 1852.

Dear Sir:

We have this day delivered to W. I. P. White, Esq., Post Master, the following packages of Postage Stamps, viz:

68 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 stamps of 3 cents - 2,040,000 stamps.

Part of these stamps (marked F) are gummed with French gum, (procured by Mr. Carpenter during his visit to Paris). It is a handsome article, apparently of the same material as the English, but much lighter in color. It is about equally adhesive.

We forward the present lot of stamps in the new Boxes - one of them has brass handles (put on by mistake) which we will have changed on its return to us. Please say how you like these boxes. If they are satisfactory, we will have them painted neatly, and have such lettering put on them as you may direct.

Very Respectfully, Your Obt. Servts.,
TOPPAN, CARPENTER, CASILEAR & CO.

J. Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M.G.

255A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 23.

Philad. Feb 20, 1852.

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Postmaster the following Postage Stamps.

83 Packages, ea contg. 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents ——— Viz. 2.490,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 20th day of February
AD 1852 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace

256.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. Feb 20, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps

Viz

83 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents—2,490,000 Stamps.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. Mr. Genl.

[Docket]

20 Febry 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

P M Phila
83 pckgs—2,490,000

Delivery of Stamps

256A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 24.

Philada. March 9, 1852

We Certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Postmaster the following packages of Postage Stamps —

78 Packages ea contg. 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents ——— Viz. 2.340,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 9th day of March
AD 1852 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace

257. [National Postal Museum]

Philad. March 9, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master, the following Packages of Postage Stamps amounting to 2,340,000 Stamps,

Viz

78 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents—2,340,000 Stamps.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Svts.
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.

[Docket]

9 March 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

P. M. Phila.
78 pckgs 2,340,000

Delivery of Stamps

257A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 25.

Philad. April 2, 1852.

We certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following packages of Postage Stamps.

77 Packages ea contg. 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents ——— Viz. 2.310,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 2nd day of April
AD 1852 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace

258. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. April 2, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps,

Viz

77 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents—2,310,000 Stamps.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. Post M. Genl.

[Docket]

2 April 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada.

P M Phila
77 pckgs 2,310,000

Delivery Stamps

258A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 26.

Philada. Apl 15 1852

We certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Postmaster the following packages of Postage Stamps.

Viz.

72 Packages ea contg. 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 2.160,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 15th day of April
AD 1852 before me

Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace

259. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Apl 15, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

72 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents—2,160,000 Stamps.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Svts.
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

15 April 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada.

P M Phila.
72 pckgs—2,160,000

Delivery of Stamps

260. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office, New York,
April 17, 1852.

Sir:

Herewith you will please receive my receipt for 250,000 Carrier's Stamps.

My instructions, authorize me to sell them to Letter Carriers and Stationers at 10% discount.

Mr. Ells, proposes to purchase them of me, in large quantities, at the 10% dis., and selling them to the Carriers and Stationers at the same rates.

He proposes also, to give me a receipt for the amount of Stamps which he may purchase, which receipt I shall forward to the Dept. as a Cr. to my a/c.

Are there any objections to this course?

Respy Yr. Ob. Serv.,
Wm. N. Brady,
P.M.

John Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M.G.,
Wash., D.C.

COMMENT: Carriers' discount. See also #265 & #285.

260A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 27.

Philada. May 3rd 1852

We Certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following packages of Postage Stamps.

	Viz.	
49 Packages ea contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	—	1,470,000 Stamps
8 do ea contg 50,000 do " 1 Cent	—	400,000 do
<hr/>		<hr/>
57 Packages containing		1,870,000 Stamps
<hr/>		<hr/>

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Affirmed & subscribed
this 3rd day of May
AD 1852 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace

261. [National Postal Museum, Travers, USPCS web site]

Philada. May 3, 1852

Dear Sir:

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps,

Viz

49 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	1,470,000 Stamps
<u>8</u> do ea. Contg. 50,000 do " 1 Cent	<u>400,000</u> do
57 Packages Containing`	1,870,000 Stamps

From the above you will perceive that we have not sent you as many of the One Cent Stamps as you have requested in your letter to Mr. White—We have confined our attention exclusively to the 3 Cent Stamps since your order to discontinue sending the Ones, and those now forwarded are packages remaining on hand at that time—
Two or perhaps three of these packages are gummed with the dark colored gum & it is put on too thick - Our gummers were so determined to make them stick that they have put on much more than was necessary and we are fearful that this will give you trouble in their curling—If it should, please destroy them at once (such as have that fault) and we will replace them with others—We are now gumming One Cent Stamps and in a few days shall be able to furnish any quantity that you may require—

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Servts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.

COMMENT: A Travers typescript in the USPCS web site has only the highlighted part of this letter. The preceding portions are represented by "XXXXX."

262. [Travers, **USPCS web site**]

Post Office, New York,
May 5, 1852.

Sir:

Will you be kind enough, to refer to my letter of the 17th April, relative to Carrier's Stamps, giving me the necessary instructions, with regard to the proposition of Mr. Ells, when convenient.

Respy. Yr. Ob. Ser.,
Wm. N. Brady,
P.M.

John Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M.G.
Washn. D.C.

262A. . [National Postal Museum, **USPCS web site**]

No. 28.

Philada. May 13 1852

We Certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following packages of Postage Stamps.

	Viz.	
60 Packages ea contg. 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents	—	1,800,000 Stamps
23 do ea contg 50,000 Stamps of 1 Cent	—	1,150,000 do
<u>83 Packages containing</u>		<u>2,950,000 Stamps</u>

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Affirmed & subscribed
this 13th day of May
AD 1852 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace

263.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. May 13, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps,

Viz

60 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	1,800,000 Stamps
<u>23</u> do ea. Contg. 50,000 Stamps of One Cent	<u>1,150,000</u> do
83 Packages Containing	2,950,000 Stamps

Very respectfully
Your Obt Sts &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

13 May 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada

P M Phila
83 Pckgs 2,950,000

delivery of stamps

264.

[Travers]

[Notes from Postmaster General's Letter Book, 1852.]

P.M. General N.K. Hall, in a letter dated May 20, 1852, addressed to Hon. Hannibal Hamlin, U.S. Senate, says that his Report made to the Senate that day, in compliance with a Resolution of that body adopted 25th March last, contains statistical information which will be useful for future reference, and suggests that this Report be printed together with his Annual Report of 1851 (already printed) and that 500 extra copies be ordered for use of this Department.

265.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

P.O. Department,
Finance Office May 21st 1852.

Sir:

Your letter of the 17th April and 5th May concerning carriers Stamps were duly received and but for the continual pressure of my engagement would have been promptly answered. The Postmaster General instructs me to say that no objection is perceived to the plan proposed by Mr. Ells of purchasing the Carriers stamps from you at 10 per cent discount and selling them at the same rate to Carriers and Stationers provided a course of accounting be adopted which will show, at any time, the number of stamps issued, the number sold, and the number used & cancelled as suggested in my letter to him of the 20th October 1851, a copy of which is herewith sent. His receipts to you should express the number of Stamps sold, the amount of discount, and the amount paid for each parcel purchased.

Respectfully & etc.,
J. Marron,
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

Postmaster,
New York,
N.Y.

266. [Travers]

[Travers' Notes from Postmaster General's Letter Book, 1852.]

On August 10, 1852, P.M. General Hall sent to Thos. I. Rusk, U.S. Senate, a mass of historical notes comprising about eighty foolscap pages of closely written matter, to be examined and returned to him.

There is nothing further on the subject in P.M. General Hall's Letter Book. Mr. Hall left service August 30, 1852.

266A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 29.

Philada. May 26 1852

We Certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following packages of Postage Stamps.

102 Packages ea contg. 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents ——— Viz. 3,060,000 Stamps
Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Affirmed & subscribed
this 26th day of May
AD 1852 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace

COMMENT: Alderman Simmons' notation appears to be in a different hand than his usual. The flourishes are the same, but the slant is differnt. If it is his signature, perhaps he had a minor injury.

267. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. May 26, 1852

N. K. Hall
Post Master Genl.

[Docket]

May 31st 1852
Toppan Carpenter & Co

Samples of Envel sent
No 4 \$6.50 per M No 5 \$7.50 pr M

With approximation to cost
of stamped envelopes

269. [National Postal Museum]

Dalton Ms June 3d 1852

Mess Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philadelphia,

Your favor of May 31 came to hand in due time. In it you enquire as to the additional costs of inserting threads in the envelope paper, in imitation of the English. This seems to be an abstract question & we will reply to the point— We would not furnish paper so prepared with two different colored threads & in proper locations for different sized Envelopes short of fifty pr. Ct. advance pr. Lb. Or ream, for the paper. We would agree to do it for that if the amount was considerable.

For a small quantity we would not attempt it—We know about the vexation & trouble that this threaded paper gives in its manufacture. Some 5 or 6 years ago the writer “got up” a system of inserting threads in bank paper, each thread to represent one dollar &c &c (3 threads 3 dollars, &c) & he has all the experience necessary to tell of its perplexities—

You ask then, are these strings sufficiently difficult to insert to prevent counterfeiting? We reply that altho’ undoubtedly in a measure such a system would be an obstacle, still in our opinion the water mark for that purpose would be far superior—

We will state why.—The thread can be inserted in any paper mill, making either writing or printing paper in the Country, & it would be of a sufficient object to do so, so far as the [two words illegible] on the counterfeit could be obtained—But, for a water mark, what manufacturers term a dandy roll must be obtained from England with the lettering done there, & at an expense of 100 to 150 dollars,—No one could counterfeit that unless they possessed a similar apparatus & which as we have before said, must be obtained at great expense & from abroad.

This Water Mark it strikes us should be introduced in any event & if the department wish the thread inserted also it could be done.

We should be glad to furnish the paper at a fair price pr. Lb,—good white, or blue Laid & with such water mark as may be selected appearing in every envelope for no additional charge for the water mark—We mean the paper would be furnished at same price with, or without the water mark, not that the cost of the apparatus would not be more in one case than the other, but the “job” would of such magnitude that such trifling considerations would have little weight—In case a Water mark was decided on, 3 months notice to your paper maker would be necessary in order to get the Lettering as alluded to from England—On a sheet of Letter paper just made in our new “Bay State Mill” you will notice some distinct water marks

This "Lettering" has but just come over—Suppose you decided on Water marks, it would be necessary to have perfectly decided on the size of the envelopes —size of sheet &c &c—You will also see enclosed a piece of our old threaded Bank note paper—We will meet you in N. Y. or Phila if you desire it, to give more details—

The Eng. orig stamp Envelope is with this returned.

Respectfully &c
Crane & Co

[Docket]

June 3, 1852
Crane & Co Dalton Mass.

Enclosing Samples note paper with thread inserted—would ask 50 per ct. advance per lb. Or ream knowing the trouble & vexation of making such paper. Inserting the strings would offer a difficulty to counterfeiting but not so effectual as Water marks—Threads alone can be inserted by every mill making writing or printing paper—But a water mark requires a dandy roll from England with the letters done there at an Expense of \$100 to \$150.

[Adjacent to the above docket is the following writing]

London July 2/52

“I ought to add that the parties here are by no means strongly attached to the use of the thread paper; in fact the head of the Department in Somerset House has lately made an attempt to get rid of it altogether and substitute a Water Mark in the paper instead of the thread, but for the present he has failed in convincing the higher authorities”

269A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 30.

Philada. June 19, 1852

We certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following packages of Postage Stamps.

102 Packages ea contg. 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents ———— Viz. 3,060,000 Stamps
Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 19th day of June
AD 1852 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace

COMMENT: Same quantity as previous receipt, i.e., 102 packages, 3,060,000 stamps.

270. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. June 19, 1852

Dear Sir,

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master, the following Packages of Postage Stamps,

Viz

102 Packages Ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents 3,060,000 Stamps

Very respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post M. Genl

[Docket]

19 June 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada.

P M Phila
102 pckgs 3,060,000

delivery of Stamps

270A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 31.

Phila. July 10th/52

We do hereby Certify that, we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post master the following Packages of Postage Stamps.

Viz.

98 Packages ea contg. 30, 000 Stamps of the 3 Cent Stamp 2,940,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this Tenth day of July
A D 1852 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Jus of Peace

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

93 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cents 2,790,000

Very respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Aug 6 1852

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila.
93 pckgs—2,790,000

273. [National Archives]

Philada. Aug 7, 1852

Dear Sir

On the 3rd Ulto. we forwarded our bill for Stamps for the last 6 months, but not having heard from you in reply, we presume that you must have been absent when our a/c was recd. and possibly it may have escaped the attention of the gentleman who acted in your place during your absence to place it before you since your return.

If so, and you can now conveniently give attention to it, it would oblige us very much if you would forward a remittance for the amount—say—\$4095.71.

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Svts

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Jno Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. Postmaster Genl

[Docket]

7 Augst 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

request remittance for their
a/c rendered

August 9, 1852

Wrote for new
Account

274. [National Postal Museum]

COMMENT: DUPLICATE. This is misdated and is the same as Document # 197A, 12 Aug 1851. This letter refers to the transaction in Receipt No. 12. The only August 1852 deliveries were on Receipts Nos. 32 & 33, 6 & 27 Aug, respectively (documents 271A & 274A).

Phila. Augt. 12/52

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

50 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of the 3 Cents	1,500,000 Stamps
<u>2</u> do “ “ 50,000 do “ “ One Cent	<u>100,000</u> “
52 Packages Containing	1,600,000 Stamps

Very respectfully
Your &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]
12th Augst 1852

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Philada.

P M Phila
52 Pkgs—1,600,000

Delivery of Stamps

274A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 33.

Phila. Augt 27th/52

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to W J P White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

	Viz.	
89 Packages each containing 30, 000 Stamps 3 Cent Stamps		2,670,000 Stamps
89 Packages	Containing	Stamps 2,670,000
Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.		

Sworn & acknowledged
 this 27th day of August
 A D 1852 before Me
 Stephen N. Simmons
 Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace

[Box Notation]	
1 box	17 bundles
1 “	18 “
1 “	19
1 “	17
1 “	18
89 : 30	2, 670 000

COMMENTS:

- *This is the first receipt to show annotation of individual box contents, almost certainly made by the 3rd Asst. PMG's office.*
- *Boxes were filled with 510,000-570,000 stamps.*

275. [National Postal Museum]

Phila Augt 27/52

Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

	Viz	
89 Packages cont Each 30,000 Stamps 3 cent Stamps		2,670,000

Very respectfully
 Your Obt Sts
 Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
 per
 S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqre
 3rd Asst. P. M. General

[Docket]

Aug 27 '52

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila.
89 pckgs 2,670,000

275A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 34.

Phila. Sept. 17/52

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esq. Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps —

91 Packages each containing. 30, 000 Stamps of the 3 Cent Stamp viz. 2,730,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 17th day of September
AD 1852 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Just of peace

276. [National Postal Museum]

Phila. Sepr 17/52

Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

91 Packages each Contg. 30,000 Stamps 3 cent Stamps 2,730,000
2,730,000

Very respectfully
Your Obt St
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Sepr 17, 1852
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Delivd. 2,730,000 3 Ct. Stamps

277.

[National Archives]

Philada. Sepbr 21, 1852

Dear Sir

Your favor of 21st inst. is just recd. and we are very sorry to learn that the Post Master General is of opinion that the matter of furnishing the Stamped envelopes authorized by the Act of Congress approved 31st August 1852 is not embraced in the contract made by you (us) with the Department on the 10th June 1851"—According to the letter of the agreement he is correct—there is nothing in that Contract about Envelopes, but we do submit most respectfully that in Spirit and according to the true interpretation of the meaning of that contract (as always understood by us) they are embraced in its provisions—

We beg to refer you to the following clause of that Contract in proof of our position—Viz—“And further, that the whole Printing and furnishing of Postage Stamps of every description for the use of the Post Office department, including Carrier Stamps when those shall be furnished by the Department, shall be given to the said T.C. C. & Co exclusively for the full term of Six years from the date of this agreement”—Now we would respectfully ask, are not these Stamped Envelopes in every sense of the term “Postage Stamps”? and does not the term “Postage Stamps of every description” embrace then “Envelope Postage Stamps”, and if so, are we not entitled to the exclusive right to furnish them for the full term of 6 years from the date of our Contract—Of course the introduction of Envelopes and the issue of Postage Stamps, in that form, involves the necessity of an additional contract or agreement as to terms for furnishing the article in that form, but we contend that if we are willing to execute the work on the same terms as others, (who would do it equally well) we are entitled to a preference over all others and for the reason that the introduction of these Stamps will in all probability greatly lessen the consumption of the adhesive Stamps and thus destroy & render worthless our present Contract—

You were cognizant of our entire negotiation with the late Post Master Genl. and you will doubtless remember that we distinctly stated to him, that we would not be willing to contract for a part of the Stamps unless at an advance of 25 per Ct more than we would contract for the whole—we agreed to furnish them at a very low rate (25 pr Ct less than other offers) upon the express condition, that we were to have the exclusive right to furnish all the Stamps that might be required by the Department during the period of our Contract.

We did not expect to be remunerated for our heavy Expenses in preparing the various dies, plates and additional machinery necessary to a proper execution of the work, during the first year or two, but knowing of the great increase of the use of Postage Stamps in England within the last four years, and anticipating a like result in this Country, we confidently looked to the future for remuneration—now if at the moment that there was a prospect for a large increase in the Consumption of our Stamps, another should be introduced which would have the effect to greatly reduce instead of to increase the use of ours, is it not evident that we must suffer great injury thereby—There are other points in regard to our Contract which appear to us to have a strong bearing on our claims to the favorable consideration of the Post Master General, but which we will not now trouble you with, but conclude with asking of you to do us the favor to present these views to the notice of the Postmaster General and inform him that our Mr. Carpenter will endeavor to be in Washington on Friday morning next when he will be prepared to make proposals for furnishing the new Envelope Stamps—

We are Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. Post Mr. Gl

[Docket]

Sept 21, 1852
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia Pa

Claim that their existing
Contract embraces the fur-
nishing of postage stamp
envelopes.

**COMMENT: New PMG Samuel Hubbard was appointed 31 Aug 1852, and served until 7 Mar 1853.
Same Fillmore Administration.**

278. [National Archives]

Washington Septm 24, 1852

Sir

Enclosed we take the liberty to hand you our proposals for furnishing Postage Stamp Envelopes of a Similar character to the English Envelopes (exhibited to us)—

If you should do us the favor to award the Contract to us, we will guarantee that the execution of the dies, the quality of the paper and the finish of every part of the work shall be in every respect equal to the best of the English Stamps—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts

Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co

Honl. S. D. Hubbard
Post Master General

[Docket]

Sept 24, 1862
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Washington

Handing in proposals
for Stamped envelopes

COMMENT: Written on a Friday. From the dateline, Carpenter visited Washington. See #279 & #280; the latter mentions the visit.

279. [National Archives]

Washington Septem 24, 1852

Sir

The undersigned, propose to furnish to the Post Office Department, all the Envelope Postage Stamps that may be required during the term of Six years from the date of the Contract, on the following terms,

Viz

For Self Sealing Envelopes (with Postage Stamp and embossed Stamp where the envelope is Sealed, impressed on each Envelope) at the rate of two dollars and seventy Cents per thousand Envelopes.

It being understood that we are bound to furnish the above Envelopes and Stamps of Such Sizes, denominations and in such quantities, as may be directed by the Department and that the paper of which they are made shall be white and of approved good quality—and further, that we will execute in the best manner, free of charge and subject to the approval of the Post Master General, such dies for the above Postage Stamps as shall be best calculated to prevent counterfeiting and that in the event of any one of them being counterfeited, we will engrave and substitute as soon as possible, new dies executed in the best style of art without cost to the Government—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts

Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co

Hon.
S. D. Hubbard
Post Master General

[Docket]

Septr 24th 1852
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Washington D.C.

Proposal to furnish
postage Stamp envelopes

280.

[National Archives]

National Hotel
Washington Sept 24, 1852

Dear Sir

I had the pleasure of an interview this morning with the Post Master General and have since sent in my proposals, and having been given to understand (by him) that he would decide as soon as he could have an opportunity of consulting with you, I have determined to remain here until you may be well enough to attend to business at the Department—Hoping very sincerely on your own account, that that may be soon,

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obt St

S. H. Carpenter

Jo. Marron Esqr

[Docket]

Sept 24, 1852

S. H. Carpenter
Washington D.C.

Have sent in proposals
Will remain in the
City until the Postmaster
General shall have
an opportunity of con-
sulting the Third assistant.

281. [National Archives]

Philada. Sept 30, 1852

Dear Sir

Your favor of 28th was duly recd. and we have this day forwarded to the Post Master General a new proposition embracing the points in relation to which he desired more definite information—

In order to Simplify our proposals we have embraced all the different Sizes under one offer, presuming that that would be most convenient to the Department, although if there should chance to be a large number used of the largest Size, it would be a bad business for us, but as we presume that the proportion of the largest Envelopes will not be more than estimated by you, we are willing to take the risk—

Hoping that our proposals may meet the approbation of the Post Master General,

We are Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J Marron Esqr
3rd Asst P M. Genl

[Docket]

Septr 30, 1852
Toppan Carpenter &c
Philadelphia

Explanation of Proposal
About Stamped Envelopes

282. [National Archives]

Philada. Septem 30, 1852

Sir

Since Mr. Carpenters return we have recd. some replies from Paper Makers whom we had addressed on the Subject of the Cost of Paper of suitable quality for Envelopes, and finding that it will be something less than we had

supposed, we respectfully ask to withdraw our proposition of the 24th inst. and substitute in lieu thereof the following,

Viz

We will furnish the Post Office Department all the Envelope Postage Stamps that may be required during the term of Six Years from the date of Contract, on the following terms.

Viz

No. 1—For Self Sealing “Pocket Envelopes” of the following Sizes

- Viz 8 ¾ by 3 7/8 inches
- 5 ½ by 3 ¼ do
- 4 ¾ by 2 7/8 do

made of White paper which shall be equal in quality to the Sample herewith (marked A) having a water mark impressed therein and having Stamped on each Envelope by means of Steel dies engraved expressly for that purpose, Postage Stamps of such denominations as may be required, and also an additional Stamp on the flap, or where the envelope is usually sealed—the whole complete and ready for use, at the rate of two dollars and Sixty Cents for every One thousand Envelopes.

No. 2—For the same kind and quality of Envelopes and Stamps in every respect (as described in No. 1) except that they shall be of the form designated by the enclosed (marked B) and not what is usually designated as “Pocket Envelopes” at the rate of two dollars and fifty Cents for every One thousand Envelopes—

In the execution of this contract we guarantee that we will engrave in the best manner—free of charge and subject to the approval of the Post Master General, such dies and other work for the above Stamps as shall be calculated to prevent counterfeiting and that in the event of any one of them being counterfeited we will Engrave and substitute new dies in the best style of art and without cost to the Government.

Very Respectfully
Your Ob Sts

Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co

Honl.
S. D. Hubbard
Post Master General

[Docket]

Septr 30, 1852
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia

New
Proposal for furnishing
S. Envelopes—

283. [National Archives]

Private

Philad. Octo 6, 1852

Dear Sir

The order recd. today for Postage Stamps, reminds me that you expressed the opinion that the Post Master General would probably decide as to the Envelope Stamps about this time—As I am anxious to know the result of our application, will you have the kindness to give me the desired information at your earliest convenience, after the decision shall have been made, and greatly oblige

Your Obt Svt
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr

[Docket]

Octr 6, 1852
S. H. Carpenter
Philadelphia

Inquires
To know P M Genls de-
cision as to the Envelope
Contract.

283A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 35.

Philada. Octo. 6. 1852

We hereby certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Postmaster the following Postage Stamps,
Viz.
92 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents ——— 2,760,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 6th day of October
AD 1852 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace

284. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Octo. 6, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

92 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents 2,760,000 Stamps

Very respectfully
Your Obt Sts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila
92 Pckgs. 2,760,000

285. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office, New York,

October 16, 1852.

Sir:

I send you by this day's mail, the Carrier's Stamps, for which, you have my receipt, dated Apl. 17, 1852. The original number was 250,000. 6,800 have been sold for which I have received \$68. less 10%.

Shall I have a deposit for that amount made, or shall I send a draft to the Dept. for that amount. The Superintendent desires the amount to be passed to the Cr. of the Carrier's fund. What disposition shall be made of it?

Respy Yr. Obt Serv.,
Wm. N. Brady,
P.M.

John Marron, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M.G.
Wash., D.C.

285A. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

No. 36.

Philadelphia Octr. 18th 1852

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to W J P White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

	<u>Viz</u>	
69 Packages, each containing 30, 000 Stamps, 3 cent Stamps		2,070,000
14 do do do 50,000 do , 1 cent do		700,000
		<hr/>
		2,670,000
		<hr/>

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & acknowledged
this 18th day of October
A D 1852 before Me

Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace

[Docket]
Recd. J Marron
Oct 19 '52

286. [National Postal Museum]

Phila. Oct 18th/52

Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

69 Packages each Contg. 30,000 Stamps 3 cent Stamps	2,070,000
<u>14</u> do do do 50,000 do 1 cent Stamp	<u>700,000</u>
	2,770,000

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]
Octo 18, 1852

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Phila P M
83 Pckgs 2,770,000

287. [National Archives]

Synopsis of the proposals for Postage Stamped envelopes authorized by the 8th Section of the Act of Congress approved 31 Augt. 1852

George F. Nesbitt of New York

No. 1	4 ¾ x 2 7/8 in at \$1.50	1,000,000	\$ 1,500.
2	5 ½ x 3 ¼	1.75	10,000,000
3	8 ¾ x 3 7/8	3.00	<u>1,000,000</u>
		<u>12,000,000</u>	<u>3,000.</u>
			\$22,000.

average.....\$1.83 1/3

See proposal & explanation letter of 5th Oct 1852, with pattern & samples of paper A. B. & C.

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co
of Philadelphia Pa

No. 1	4 ½ x 2 7/8	1,000,000)		
2	5 ½ x 3 ¼	10,000,000)	12,000,000 at 2.50 a thousand	\$30,000.
3	8 ¾ x 3 7/8	1,000,000)		

They propose at the above rate for envelopes per sample B
For pocket envelopes they bid \$2.60 = \$31,200
See pattern of envelope & Sample A. B. & The proposals
of 30th Sepr 1852

J. T. Crowell & Co of New York

See proposals of 22nd Sepr 1852 & Samples

Offer No. 17.	Letter-size buff envelopes, at \$2.45 per 1,000)
“ No. 18.	do white “ at \$2.50 “) average \$2.47 ½
“ No. 24	Official size buff or white pht pattn \$4.80
“ No. 28	“ “ White or blue do \$6.25

[Docket]

Synopsis of the
Proposals for
Postage Stamp Envelopes

1852

288. [National Archives]

Philada. Octo. 19, 1852

Dear Sir

Your favor of 15th is recd.—Please accept my thanks for your reply to my inquiries as to the award of the Contract for Postage Stamp Envelopes—I will only say that I regret that the Post Master General has felt it his duty to decide this question without reference to us and the rights which we feel were intended to be guaranteed to us under our Contract, but which we think are likely to be Seriously invaded by the Contract now made with Mr. Nesbitt—I cannot but feel that under the Circumstances, we were entitled to the offer of the Contract, provided we would take it on the Same terms as others—However, it is done and I shall not trouble you with unavailing complaints—

We had but 14 packages of 1 Cent Stamps on hand, but will at once print some more and be prepared to supply the demand at the next delivery—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts

S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.

[Docket]

Octr 19, 1852
S. H. Carpenter
Philadelphia

Complaining of the
infringement of the
Contract with his firm
for postage Stamps

COMMENT: 14 packages of 1¢ = 700,000 stamps in stock on this date.

288A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 37.

Philada Novem 12, 1852

We Certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

81 Packages, ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents	—	2,430,000 Stamps
14 do ea contg 50,000 Stamps of 1 Cent	—	300,000

<u>87 Packages containing</u>	<u>2,730,000</u>
-------------------------------	------------------

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
before me this 12 day
of November A D 1852
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderm & Just of peace



COMMENT: Apparently used as scratch paper to practice writing (highlighted words).

289.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. Nov 12 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps—Viz—

81 Packages ea. Contg. 30000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,430,000 Stamps
<u>6</u> do ea. Contg. 50000 do 1 Cent	<u>300,000</u> do

87 Packages containing

2,730,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Nov 12, 1852

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila.
87 Pckgs—2,730,000

289A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 38.

Philada. Nov 19, 1852

We hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

82 Packages, ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents	——	2,460,000 Stamps
5 do ea contg 50,000 Stamps of 1 Cent	——	250,000 do

<u>87 Packages containing</u>	<u>2,710,000 Stamps</u>
-------------------------------	-------------------------

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Affirmed & subscribed
this 19th day of November
A D 1852 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderm & ex officio a Just of peace

290. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Nov 19, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

82 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,460,000 Stamps
<u>5</u> do ea. Contg. 50,000 do of 1 Cent	<u>250,000</u> do
87 Packages Containing	2,710,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Nov 19, 1852

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila
87 Pckgs 2,710,000

290A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 39.

Philada. Decem 14, 1852

We Certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

93 Packages, ea Contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents ——— 2,790,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 14th day of December
AD 1852 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderm & ex offic.
a Justice of the peace

291. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Dec 14, 1852

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

93 Packages Ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents 2,790,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre

3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

[Pencil notation: 19 packages in box left out]

[Docket]

Decr. 14 1852
 Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Del. 2,790,000 3 ct. Stamps
 Phila. P M

292. [National Archives]

Lists of deficient
 Stamps &c
 Not received for
 1851 & 2

Date of Transmission	Office	State	Postmaster	Amount				
				12¢	3¢	1¢	\$	
1851 1st Quarter								
July 1	Alexandria	La.			1,000	200	32	
	Turnersville	“	Jas A. Dozier		1000	200	32	
	Bastrop	Texas		100	2000	500	77	C. Johnson in his return Sept 30 charges himself with stamps transferred to him by J Nicholson his predecessor \$5.75
	Marshall	“		100	2000	500	77	
July 18	Brooklyn	Ct	Jno Palmer		3000	1000	100	Reported to Deptm Desk as lost
Augt 14	Marshall	Mo	A. J. Fix		2000	500	100	Do
Augt 28	Millerstown	Pa	Saml A. Jennings		3000		90	
<u>2d Quarter</u>								
Oct 2	Franklinton	NC	B Furman		1000		30	
Oct 15	West Farms	NY	N. K. Freemam		2000		60	Reported to Deptm Desk as lost
Dec 8	Marion	Iowa	H Ristine		2000	500	65	Do Do Do Do
Dec 12	Wethersfield	Ill	H G Little		500		15	
<u>1852 3d Quarter</u>								
Feb 14	Everittsville	NC	E Murray		1500		45	Reported to Depm Desk as lost
March 4	Beardstown	Ill	Jno B Shaw		3000		90	
March 29	Hampton	Ct	Wm Brown		1500		45	Suppd Stolen by Chamberlin

4 th Quarter								
April 2	Alexandria	La	S. Zin	100	3000		102	
April 15	Green Castle	Inda	James Jones		3000		90	
May 17	Kingston	Wis	G L Tarbell		1000		30	
June 12	Sumterville	Ala	H. O. G. Green		1000	200	32	
June 14	Carlisle	Ky	Joel Howard		2000		60	
1852 5 th Quarter								
July 23	Green Castle	Pa	W. W. Fleming		2000		60	
6 th Quarter								
Oct 22	Metropolis City	Ill	A B Brown		2000		60	Reptd to Depm Desk as lost
Nov 15	Salt Lake City	U Ty	W. Richards		5000	500	155	
Nov 17	Augusta	Ill	J. B. Mead		1000	200	32	Reptd to Depm Desk as lost

		3¢	1¢	\$	
1851 July 18	Brooklyn Ct Jno Palmer	3000	1000	100	Not received supposed lost at West Killingsly reported to Dep Desk
25	Bastrop La. R. C. Hendrick	2000	500	65	No receipt. Acknd in Qy acct – 3 rd quarter
25	Versailles, Ky B. Kirkhead	3000	1000	100	No receipt – acknd in Qy account
Augt 5	Corydon, Inda. J. W. Kintner	2000	1000	70	No receipt. Acknd. in Qy account
14	Monticello, Ark J. D. Berry	2000	500	65	No receipt. Acknd. in Qy account
	Marshall, Mo. A. J. Hix	2000	500	65	Not received Reported to Dep Desk
20	Lunenburg C. H. Va J. A. Bishop	2000		60	No receipt Acknd in Qy acct. 2 nd Qr. 1852
23	Indianola, Iowa Leb. Hockett	1000		30	No receipt. Acknd. in Qy account
28	Millerstown, Pa S. A. Jennings	3000		90	500=\$15 short. 3000 Sent. PM (Since dead) reports only 2500 Stamps received – No receipt.
Sept 29	Fayetteville Ark J.W.Chero (crossed out)	2000 (crossed out)		60 (crossed out)	No receipt. Acknd in Qy a/c 4 th Qr. Duplicate receipt Oct 20
Oct 2	Franklinton NC R. Furman	1000		30	
15	West Farms, N.Y. N. K. Freeman	2000		60	not received Reptd to Depm Desk
Decr 8	Marion, Iowa				

	H. Ristine	2000	500	65	Not received Reptd to Depm Desk
12	Wethersfield, Ill. G. E. Smith	500		15	
1852					
Feb 10	Lowville N.Y. C. P. Leonard	3000		90	No receipt – acknd. in Qy account.
14	Everittsville, N.C. E. Murray	1500		45	not received Reptd to Depm Desk
March 4	Beardstown, Ill. J. B. Shaw	3000		90	
10	Holly Springs, Mi. W. E. Williams	5000		150	No receipt. Acknd. in Qy account
29	Hampton Ct. Wm Brown	1500		45	500=\$15 short. Receipt for 1000 – 500 supposed to have been abstracted on the way.
April 2	Alexandria La. L. Zinn	3000		102	(100 12¢)
15	Green Castle Inda Jas Jones	3000		90	
May 17	Kingston Wis. G. S. Tarbell	1000		30	

		12	3	1	\$	
May 24	Lexington, Mich C M Mills		1000		30	No receipt. Acknd in Qy account
June 12	Sumterville Ala. S. O. G. Greer		1000	200	32	
19	Carlisle, Ky. Joel Howard		2000		60	
1851						
July 1	Alexandria, La		1000	200	32	
	Farmersville, La. Jas A Dozier		1000	200	32	
	*Bastrop, Texas	100	2000	500	77	
	*Chauncey Johnson PM Bastrop Texas, in his return from 9 th to 30 th Sept. 1852 charges himself with \$5.75/00 for postage Stamps by him received from Jas. Nicholson late P.M. This is strong proof that the Stamps supposed to be lost reached the PM at Bastrop					
	Marshall, Texas	100	2000	500	77	

COMMENT: Many of the entries on the following sheet have been crossed out in pen; these have not been included on the typescript.

1852					
Oct 22	Metropolis City	Ill	A. B. Browne	60	Not recd
Nov 1	Union Springs	Ala	W. H. Haugh	30	All ret'd – no receipt
15	Salt Lake City	Utah Ty	W. Richards	155	
17	Augusta	Ill	J B Mead	32	Not recd
1853					
Jany 31	Rushville	Inda	B D Sherman	62	
Feb 7	Elizabethtown	Tenn	Jno. Singletary	30	
9	Lewisburg	Va	Saml L Smith	60	
11	Berlin	Wis	C. Vedder	62	not received Suppd stolen

14	Coshocton	O	R T Baker	30	
14	Mount Gilead	O	B H Pearson	30	
March 1	Oglethorpe	Ga	Warren Jackson	60	
8	Lawrenceville	Va	R Kirkland	60	
19	Unionville	O	J H Howe	30	
22	Germanton	NC	R D Golding	30	

1853

292A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 40.

Philada. January 5, 1853

We certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

73 Packages, ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents	—	2,190,000 Stamps
10 do ea contg 50,000 Stamps of 1 Cent	—	500,000 do
<u>83 Packages containing</u>		<u>2,690,000 Stamps</u>

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
 this Fifth day of January
 AD 1853 before Me
 Stephen N. Simmons
 Alderm & ex officio a
Justice of the peace

[Box Notation]	[Value Notation]
<u>3</u> <u>1</u>	to new a/c
19 — 10	
17	2190000 x 3 — 65,700.00
19	500000 x 1 <u>5000</u>
<u>18</u>	
73	

COMMENT: Notation at bottom refers to the number of packages per box in the shipment. The one at right probably refers to starting a new quarterly account with the face value for this shipment. This is the first receipt to show a value notation, but it became common practice. Like the box notation, it was added by the 3rd Asst. PMG's staff.

293.

[National Postal Museum]

Philad. Jany 5 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

73 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,190,000 Stamps
<u>10</u> do " Contg. 50,000 do " 1 Cent	<u>500,000</u> do
83 Packages Containing	2,690,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
 Your Obt Svts
 Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

[Docket]

Jany 5, 1853
Toppan Carpenter C & Co

2,690,000 furnished

293A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 41.

Philada. Jany 20th 1853

We certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr. Post Master, the following Postage Stamps

Viz

76 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents.	2,280,000 Stamps
12 do ea contg 50,000 Stamps of 1 Cent.	600,000 do

<u>88 Packages containing</u>	<u>2,880,000 Stamps</u>
-------------------------------	-------------------------

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 20 day of January
AD 1853 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderm & Justice of the peace

[Box Notation]

[Value Notation]

$\frac{3}{17} - \frac{1}{1} -$	
$\frac{20}{18} - \frac{11}{12}$	$2.280.000 \times 3 = 68\ 400 =$
$\frac{21}{76}$	$600\ 000 \times 1 = 6.000$
	<u>74.400</u>

294. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Jan 20, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

76 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,280,000 Stamps
<u>12</u> do ea. Contg. 50,000 Stamps of 1 Cent	<u>600,000</u> do
88 Packages Containing	2,880,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Mr. Genl

[Docket]

Jany 20 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila.
99 Pckgs 2,880,000

294A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 42.

Philada. Jany 29, 1853

We Certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr. Post Master, the following Postage Stamps —
Viz.

58 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents. ———	2,280,000 Stamps
1 do contg 50,000 do of 1 Cent ———	50,000 do

59 Packages Containing

1,790,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 29th day of January
AD 1853 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Justice of the peace

[Box Notation]

[Value Notation]

<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>		
20	1		
19		1.740.000 x 3	\$52,200
<u>19</u>		50 0,00	500
58			<u>52.700</u>

295. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. January 29

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

58 Packages Ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	1,740,000 Stamps
<u>1</u> do Ea. Contg. 50,000 do " 1 Cent	<u>50,000</u> do
59 Packages Containing	1,790,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

[Docket]

Jany 29 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila
59 Pckgs 1,790,000

295A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 43.

Philada. Feb 8, 1853

We Certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr. Postmaster, the following Postage Stamps —
Viz —

53 Packages ea Contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents —	1,590,000 Stamps
14 do ea Contg 50,000 do of 1 Cent —	700,000 do
<hr/>	<hr/>
67 Packages containing	2,290,000 Stamps
<hr/>	<hr/>

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this Eighth day of January
AD 1853 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Justice of the peace

[Box Notation]	{Value Notations}
$\frac{3}{18} - \frac{1}{12}$	
$\frac{20}{15} - \frac{2}{14}$	1.590.000 x 3 \$47.700.00
53	600 000 x 1 <u>7.000.</u>
	54.700

296.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. Feb 8, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

53 Packages Ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	1,590,000 Stamps
<u>14</u> do Ea. Contg. 50,000 do 1 Cent	<u>700,000</u> do
67 Packages Containing	2,290,000 Stamps

Very respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

[Docket]

Feby. 8, 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila
67 Pkgs 2,290,000

297.

[National Archives]

Churchman Office
New York, February 9th
1853

The Post Master General

Sir

I write to you for information relative to the sale of Letter Stamps in this City or rather how they are to be procured. We use a great number in our office for letters and papers, this morning I had occasion for Twenty five and having sent a messenger to the Post Masters office they were handed to him but on presenting a Gold Dollar for payment the Clerk told him he should bring Silver. I then wrote to the Clerk but with no better effect, these are not the only two instances in which I have been similarly disappointed.

There is also another great inconvenience which the Public have to contend with namely the impossibility of parties procuring stamps who only require one occasionally. If there were as in the case of all English cities, places where they were retailed many persons would use them who now do not, and this I should think would much facilitate the P.O. business.

I do not mean to say that had the messenger whom I sent for the Stamps required the full dollars worth that silver would have been demanded as I suppose such would not have been the case.

Under present arrangements the public in [two words illegible] are excluded from the Privilege of letter stamps.

Would you also be kind enough to inform me what hours the office for the sale of stamps should be Kept open and oblige.

Respectfully and obediently yours

A. A. Stoney

The value of Silver over gold should have suggested that [illegible word] should take a dollars worth.

[Docket]

Feby 9 53
B.. A. Stoney
New York

on the subject of silver
being required in payt of
Envelopes – and
suggests a more general
system of retail distri-
bution

297A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 44.

Philada. Feb. 24, 1853

We certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

* 59 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 1,770,000 Stamps
7 do ea contg 50,000 Stamps of 1 Cent — 350,000 do

66 Packages containing

2,120,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 24th day of February
A D 1853 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons

Alderm & Justice of the peace

[Box Notation]

[Value Notation]

$\frac{3}{17}$ $\frac{1}{7}$
17
17
17
20
8
79

1.770.000 x 3 53 100=00
350 000 1 6.000
56 600.

[Annotation]

* Post Office Department, 25 February 1853.

Received Seventy nine instead of Fifty nine packages of three cent stamps and notified the error to Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co this day with a request furnish a supplemental certificate for twenty packages equal to 600,000 three cent stamps.

J. Marron
Third asst. P.M. Genl

COMMENT: The annotation by Marron was written in ink over the box notation.

297B.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 45.

Philada. Feb 24, 1853

We certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr. Post Master,, the following Postage Stamps

Viz.

20 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents ——— 600,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 26 day of February
AD 1853 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons

Alderman & Justice of the peace

COMMENT: The difference in dates of the receipt and alderman's certification is explained by 297A and 300.

298.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. Feb 24, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

59* Packages Ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	1,770,000 Stamps
<u>7</u> do Ea. Contg. 50,000 do 1 Cent	<u>350,000</u> do
66 Packages Containing	2,120,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

* 79 received per certificate
J. Marron

[Docket]

Feby 24 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
P M Phila
66 pckgs 2,120,000

299. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Feb 24, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

20 Packages Ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents 600,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

[Docket]

Feby 24 '53

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P. M Phila.
20 Pckgs 600,000

300. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Feb 26, 1853

Dear Sir

I feel greatly mortified at the omission of the 20 Packages of Stamps in the Certificate of the 24th

It arose from our Superintendent accidentally sending one Box more than he had intended when he handed me the usual memorandum to make out the Certificate from—

He is usually very careful and accurate, but in this instance was certainly very negligent—I can only assure you of my great regret, and trust that nothing of the kind will again occur.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts

S.H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Feby 26, 1853

S. H. Carpenter

omission of 20 pckgs Stamps
in the Certificate of 24
owing to Superintendent

300A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 46.

Philada. Mar 12, 1853

We Certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr. Post Master the following packages of Postage Stamps.

	Viz.
69 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,070,000 Stamps
6 do ea contg 50,000 Stamps of 1 Cent.	300,000 do

75 Packages containing	2,370,000 Stamps
------------------------	------------------

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this Twelfth day of March
AD 1853 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderm & Justice of the peace

[Box Notation]	[Value Notation]
$\frac{3}{19}.$	
$\frac{1}{6}$	
20.	2.070.000 x 3 — 62100:00
8.	300 000 x 1 — 3000:—
<u>22</u>	
69.	

301. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Mar 12, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

69 Packages Ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,070,000 Stamps
<u>14</u> do Ea. Contg. 50,000 do 1 Cent	<u>300,000</u> do
75 Packages Containing	2,370,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

[Docket]

March 12 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila
75 Pckgs 2,370,000

301A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 47.

Philada. March 28, 1853

We certify that we have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr. Postmaster, the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

101 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents ——— 3,030,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this Twenty eighth day of March
AD 1853 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Justice of peace

[Box Notation]

<u>3</u>	3030000x
21	
19	
19	
21	
<u>21</u>	
101	

COMMENT: The face value calculation for this shipment is incomplete; it should be \$90,900.

302.

[National Postal Museum]

Philad. Mar 28, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to W. J. P. White Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

101 Packages Ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

3,030,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

March 28 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

P M Phila.
101 pckgs 3,030,000

303.

[National Archives]

Postoffice, Worcester, Worcester Co.
Masstts. April 2d, 1853

Sir:

Please send me a supply of Three (3) cent Postage Stamps, & oblge.

Very Respectfully

Edward W. Lincoln
Post Master

J. Marron
3d Asst. P. M. Gen.

P.S. The last lot, which was received, was of inferior quality. Great complaint has been caused by their failure to adhere—I think that the manufacturers err in trying to refine too much the adhesive matter.

E.W.L.

[Docket]

April 2, 1853

Worcester Mass
PM

Last lot bad quality
Great Complaints

304. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Department.
Finance Office April 2nd, 1853.

Gentlemen:

Complaints in several instances, have been recently made to the Department that the postage Stamps lately issued, either from some deterioration in the quality of the gum, or negligence in its application, are so defective in adhesiveness that a distrust of their usefulness may take possession of the public mind, unless a remedy be applied.

I feel assured that is only necessary to apprise you of the fact to induce you to make such inquiry into the subject as the public convenience demands.

I am gentlemen,
Yours very respectfully,
J. Marron,
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.,
Engravers, Philadelphia, Pa.

305. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Apl 4, 1853

Dear Sir

Your favor of 2nd is recd—It is a matter of much surprize to us that there should be complaints now of the adhesiveness of the Stamps.

We had supposed that they were now so perfect that complaint could not be made—We have used the same materials for many months past—they have been mixed carefully in precisely the same way, and by the same person—the same persons have been constantly employed in gumming the Stamps, and so far as we have been able to test it from time to time (which we have done very frequently) we were satisfied that the Stamps were as adhesive as they could be made—Since the receipt of your letter we have made various experiments of Stamps on hand and gummed at different periods during the last 3 months—In every instance, every Stamp adhered so perfectly that as soon as it was dry it could not be torn off the paper without destroying the Stamp—We cannot but think that the persons complaining, do so without just cause—The difficulty we think is in the ignorance of the parties as to the proper mode of applying the Stamp—In almost every case where there is a complaint of a want of adhesiveness, it is entirely because the Stamp is wet too much or kept on the tongue until the adhesive matter is either wholly abstracted, or so weakened as to destroy its tenacity—So well Satisfied are we that the fault is not in the gum, that we beg you as a particular favor to furnish us with the names of all those who have recently made complaints and we will write to the parties themselves and investigate it and ask to be furnished with a few of the Stamps that are pronounced defective—In this way only can we arrive at the true merits of the case—We will endeavor thoroughly

to examine into every complaint and if there should prove to be fault on our part, we will do everything in our power to remedy it, and if there is not, we desire at least to have the opportunity to Shew you where the fault really is—We ask the names and propose to investigate it ourselves, because we know that your time is too valuable to be troubled with such a matter and because we feel the most anxious desire to arrive at the truth—Fault will be found, no matter how perfect a thing may be—this we cannot help, but if there is really no ground of Complaint, we want to be able to shew that to you conclusively—We think complaint is now made without cause—give us but the opportunity of investigating it, and be the result what it may, you shall be made acquainted with it—In every case where Stamps are sent to us let the parties deface the face of the Stamp in any way they please—perhaps by writing their own name over it so that they may recognize it again—we will then pay them for the Stamps thus cancelled or send them an equal number of Stamps—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

[Docket]

April 4, 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

305A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 48.

Philada. April 14, 1853

We certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps

Viz

62 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 1,860,000 Stamps

8 do ea contg 50,000 Stamps of 1 Cent — 400,000 do

70 Packages containing

2,260,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Affirmed & subscribed
this Fourteenth day of April
A. D 1853 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of peace

[Box Notation]

$\frac{3}{20}$ - $\frac{1}{8}$
5-
19—
18
62

[Value Notation]
1,860,000

3
55800.00
4
\$59,800—

COMMENT: Philadelphia PM White was replaced by John Miller on 1 April 1853, after the change in administration from Fillmore (Whig) to Pierce (Democrat).

306. [National Postal Museum]

Post Office
Philadelphia April 14 1853

D Sir

I herewith Enclose to You the affirmation of Mess Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co, certifying 62 Packages each contain'g 30000 Stamps of 3 cents amounting in all to 1,860,000 and 8 packages containing 50,000 Stamps of 1 cent making 400,000 Total Stamps, 2,260,000 which according to your instructions I will place in charge of the Mail Agent who leaves tonight at 10p ock for Washington

Yours truly
John Miller
Agent for POD

J. Marron Esq.
3rd Assistant
Post Master Genrl

[Docket

April 14 1853
Philadelphia Pa
John Miller PM
Philada

Forwarding Stamps
Stamps
70 Pkgs. 2,260,000

307. [National Archives]

P O Batavia N Y
April 18th 1853

Third Assis. P M G

Sir

The last parcel of Stamps Sent for the use of this Office were of a bad quality, but poor as they were they are used up. Please Send some more as soon as possible, or Stampd Envelopes, or both.

Yours &c

Chas. E. Ford PM

307A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 49.

Philadelphia April 29, 1853

We hereby certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Postmaster the following Postage Stamps.

Viz.

67 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 2,010,000 Stamps

6 do ea contg 50,000 Stamps of 1 Cent — 300,000 do

75 Packages containing

2,310,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed before me
this Third day of May AD
1853

Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace

[Value Notation]

2010000\
3
60300:00
3000
\$63.300

COMMENT: According to #308, the delay in the alderman's certification was due to Carpenter's absence.

308. [National Postal Museum]

Post Office
Philadelphia April 29, 1853

Dr Sir

I send by the train this night

4 Boxes containing

67 packages of 3 cent Stamps 2 010 000
6 do " 1 " " 300 000
2,310,000

Mr. Carpenter is absent from the City and will be home tomorrow when he will place the necessary affidavit in my hands and I will forward it to you at once.

Yours &c

John Miller
P M

J. Marron Esq.

[Docket]

April 29, '53
Philadelphia Pa

John Miller PM
Philada
Forwarding Stamps
73 Pckgs 2,310,000

Stamps

309. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. May 3, 1853

Dear Sir

On the 29th Ulto we delivered to John Miller Esqre Post Master, the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

67 Packages each Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,010,000 Stamps
<u>6</u> do ea. Contg. 50,000 do of 1 Cent	<u>300,000</u> do
73 Packages Containing	2,310,000 Stamps

The above Stamps should have been advised on the day of their delivery but for the temporary absence in New York of our Mr. Carpenter—

We regret that you did not send the names of the parties who complained of the want of adhesiveness of the Stamps as we were (and are) very desirous of Satisfying you that the complaint was not well founded—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Mr. Genl
Washington
D.C.

[Docket]

May 3 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Jno Miller
73 pckgs 2,310,000

COMMENT: This is the same delivery as described in 307A and 308. Due to the new postmaster and delay in obtaining the certificate, two letters were sent.

310. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

May 4, 1853.

Gentlemen:

As the Department does not always credit or adopt the complaints made in relation to our postage Stamps by Postmasters and others, it was not thought necessary to trouble you further on the subject of such complaints received prior to my letter of the 2nd Ulto. That letter was intended to apprise you that complaints existed and to ensure the continuance of the skill and attention which those in your employment have heretofore manifested in the production of the stamps. Entire confidence in your fidelity as contractors is felt by me, and no complaint to your prejudice shall be permitted to impress me unfavorably except after a thorough examination of the ground on which it may rest. But as you desire yourselves to take some part in the investigation of complaints made against the stamps, I send you two letters from reputable Postmasters received since your letter of the 4th Ulto. With these you are at liberty to take such course as you may think proper.

Respectfully, & etc.,
J. Marron,
Third Ass't. P.M. Gen'l.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

311. [National Postal Museum]

Philad. May 6, 1853

Dear Sir

Please accept our thanks for the letter enclosed in your favor of 4th inst. (herein returned)—

We have written to each of the gentlemen, requesting as a great favor that they would if practicable Send even one of the Stamps complained of, in order that we might examine it and have the proof of its inferiority—

We have also sent to each, 3 Stamps cut from a sheet purchased at our Post Office recently, (which is a fair example of the whole of the Stamps for the last year) and have requested them to test each stamp differently—In two of the modes of using them which we have pointed out, we are Sure that they will find them adhere perfectly, whereas in the third (which we believe is adopted by a great, many who are unacquainted with the proper mode of using them) they will find that the adhesive quality has been destroyed and the Stamp will either adhere very Slightly or not at all—If these results are arrived at, we think it but fair to conclude that in almost every case of complaint, the fault has been in the Consumer more than in the Stamp—

As soon as we receive the replies of Messrs. Lincoln & Ford you shall be informed of the result—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

May 6, 1853
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Have written to persons complaining for return of Stamps to be tested—The Result will be reported

311A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 50.

Philada. May 11, 1853

We certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master, the following Postage Stamps —

Viz

74 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 2,220,000 Stamps

[Value Notation] 66.600:00

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed before me
this 11th day of May AD 1853
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of peace

[Box Notation]

3
20
17
18
19
74

312. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. May 11, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master, the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

74 Packages Ea. Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

2,220,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl
[Docket]

May 11 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Jno Miller
74 pckgs 2,220,000

312A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 51.

Philada. May 24, 1853

We certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

77 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 2,310,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 24th day of May
AD 1853 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a J. P.

[Box Notation is incomplete]

[Value Notation]

$\frac{3}{18.}$
19.

2310000
 3
69.300.00

313. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. May 24, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

77 Packages Ea. Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

2,310,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

May 24 853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Jno Miller
77 Pckgs 2,310,000

314. [National Postal Museum]

quite un-official

Philad. May 24, 1853

Dear Sir

Not a word in reply from the Complaining P.M's of Batavia & Worcester, altho I have written twice to one of them—If their heads are off—why—perhaps their silence may be accounted for and excused—but, if they are Still permitted to rejoice in the affair P. M—just let General Campbell make me his Axe Grinder for 3 minutes and in their cases P. M would mean Post Mortem instead of Post Master—

You perceive that I am getting quite Savage—of course I am in favor of the utmost punctuality in Correspondence—particularly where they use Stamps—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Mr. Genl

[Docket]

May 24 '53

S. H. Carpenter

Un official

not a word from complain'g
P. M at Batavia & Worcester
though twice written to

314A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 52.

Philada. June 1, 1853

We certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master, the following Postage Stamps

Viz

56 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents ——— 1,680,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this First day of June
AD 1853 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace.

[Box Notation]

[Value Notation]

3
18-
18
20
56.

1680000
3
50.400.00

315.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. June 1, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps,

Viz

56 Packages Ea. Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents 1,680,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

June 1 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Jno Miller
56 Pckgs 1,680,000

315A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 53.

Philada. June 15, 1853

We Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

74 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents ——— 2,220,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this Fifteenth day of June
AD 1853 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of the peace.

[Box Notation]

[Value Notation]

3
18.
18.
20
18
74

2220000
3
66.600.00

316.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. June 15, 1851

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

74 Packages Ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents 2,220,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

June 15 1853

Jno Miller
74 Pckgs—2,220,000

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter

Casilear & Co's report of Stamps
delivered to PM
at Philada

317. [National Archives]

Elkton Md June 17th 1853.

Dear Sir,

I am out of Stamps again. I wish you to send me some and also Stamped Envelopes if they are out for use the Letter Stamps I would rather not keep if I could avoid it as they are a disadvantage to me for I only get percentage on the amount that pass through my office. I have sold 75 Dollars worth up to this time and but 35 have past through my office as the oppertunity affords the people of our Town and neighbourhood by the cars to send them they take to the railroad daily from 15 to 20 and give them to the mail agents instead of mailing them at my office and by that means I am cut out of the percentage and will reduce my pay considerable in course of a year. I think that there should be some remedy to prevent it as the labours of the office is increasing and the pay cut off by that practice some 20 Dollars per quarter I would like you to make this statement to S. R. Hobbie Esq. And let me know if it can be remedied; to my advantage and also the people say they will and must have the Stamps if they have to send to the city for them I suppose I must keep them as they say they must be accommodated please send them soon.

Respectfully Yours
J. E. Brown P.M.

[Docket]

June 17 1853
Elkton Md

J. E. Brown PM

On the subject of Stamps
& complains of the loss of
revenues of the office from the
habit of mailing letters
with the agts on
the cars.

317A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 54.

Philada. July 8, 1853

We certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps —
Viz.

125 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 3,750,000 Stamps
4 do ea contg 50,000 do of 1 Cent — 200,000 do

129 Packages Containing

3,950,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this Eighth day of July
AD 1853 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of peace

[Box Notation]

<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	[Value Notation]
18		
19		125
20		<u>900</u>
11—	4	112500
20—		2000
17—		
<u>20</u>		
125	4	

318. [National Postal Museum]

Philad. July 8, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

125 Packages Ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents 3,750,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

July 8 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
John Miller
129 pckgs. 3,950,000

319. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office. New York. July 16, 1853.

Sir:

I herewith enclose you a letter, received this A.M., from Messrs. Carnes & Haskell, of this city, upon the subject of reordering into service the 10¢ postage stamp. Stamps of that value could be used to a considerable extent on the following correspondence:

Letters for	France, per Havre steamers	20¢ per ½ oz.
" "	Bremen " Bremen "	20¢ do
" "	Aspinwall & Panama	20¢ do
" "	Havana	10¢ do
" "	British provinces	10¢ do
" "	Continent of Europe, in open mail via London, per American steamers, using two 10¢ stamps and one 1¢ stamp	21¢ do

Respy. yr. Obt. svt.
Isaac E. Fowler, P.M.
Per G.W. Jenkins, Sy.

[Copy of enclosure]

New York 15th July 1853

Isaac B. Fowler, Esq. P.M.

Dear Sir:

We shall feel greatly obliged in common with many other extensive Houses in the city, if you will represent to the P.M. General what a great convenience the renewal of the former ten-cent stamps would be. We have conversed with your Secretary upon the subject, and with the enclosed envelopes, can furnish the P.M. General with several good reasons why our request should be granted.

We have the honor to remain,
Yours very truly,
Carnes & Haskell.

320.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philad. July 16, 1853

Dear Sir

Your favor of 8th was duly recd. and should have been answered immediately, but that we have been endeavoring to ascertain the best means of accomplishing your wishes -

We have now employed a man to prepare a model of a leather case and give us an estimate of the cost, which we will forward immediately on its receipt -

As we are in doubt as to the wishes of the Department in relation to the delivery of Despatch Stamps (or Carriers Stamps) we will feel much obliged if you will have the kindness to inform us whether we are right in supposing that we are at liberty to furnish said Stamps to any Postmaster of the United States who may apply and pay for the same?

We have already furnished some to the Post Master of this City and today we furnished 40,000 to James G Berret Esqr Post Master of your City - this we did under the statement & impression that you had authorized such deliveries, but we desire now to have your written authority to cover all future deliveries -

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P M Genl

[Docket]

July 16, 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
wants written authority
to furnish PMs with Carrier Stamps
by them paying for them

Sept 2nd 1853
Answered

COMMENTS:

- *TCC provided carrier stamps directly to some postmasters and did not record them on the delivery certificates.*
- *“Favor of 8th” not in papers.*
- *James G. Berret was Washington, DC Postmaster per 1855 PO List.*

320A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 55.

Philadelphia July 30th 1853

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps.

Viz

14 Packages each contg 50, 000 Stamps of the One Cent Stamp. 700,000

Stamps	<u>700,000</u>
--------	----------------

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 30th day of July
AD 1853 before Me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a J. P.

321. [National Postal Museum]

Philada July 30/53

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

14 Packages Ea. Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

700,000 Stamps

These Stamps are forwarded to you in the Leather Case which we have had made as a sample of what we think you require. The cost of such an article is \$25. Should it merit your approbation please let us know, that we can have some more made.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
pr
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master
General

[Docket]

July 30, 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear
& Co in relation to a
leather Case at a cost
of \$25

Del Jno Miller
14 pckgs—700,000

321A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 56.

Philada. Aug. 6. 1853

We Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

		Viz	
64 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cts.		1,920.000 Stamps	
18 do ea contg 50,000 do of 1 Cent		900.000 do	

<u>82 Packages containing</u>	<u>2.820.000 Stamps</u>
-------------------------------	-------------------------

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn before me this
sixth day of August
AD 1853

Williams Ogle
Alderman
ex officio Justice of the Peace

[Box Notation]

[Value Notation]

	64
	<u>900</u>
158	57.600
	<u>9000</u>
	66.600

<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
19.	
18.	
17.	
10—	6
<hr/>	<hr/>
64	12
	18

322. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Aug 6, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

64 Packages Ea. Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	1,920,000 Stamps
<u>18</u> do Ea. Contg. 50,000 do 1 Cent	<u>900,000</u> do
82 Packages Containing	2,820,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Aug 6 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
John Miller
82 Pckgs 2,820,000

323. [National Archives]

Shelby Richland Co. Ohio Aug 15th 53

Third Assistant P. M. General

Sir

their has a question arisen in my office and I wish some instruction on the subject it is this their was a latter Came to this office with what I suppose to be a twelve cent stamp cut in two the leter was mail at Sacramento Calafornia and was marked as unpaid on the leter and the Post bill Now the question I want your decision on is whether the half stamp is Equal to Six cts and that I marke it as overcharged or whether I should Collect it as bein unpaid I hear Send you a penny Stamp but in the same manner as the above Discribed you wil do me a favor by answering this soon

yours Truly

Harrison Mickey PM

[Docket]

Aug 15 1853
Shelby Ohio

PM in regard to the
use of fractions of postage
stamps & asks instructions

Aug 17 1853
Answered

323A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 57.

Philada. Aug 20. 1853

We Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz.

74 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 2,220,000 Stamps
1 do contg 50,000 do of 1 Cent — 50,000 do

75 Packages

2,270,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed before me
this 22nd day of August A D 1853

Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a J. P.

[Box Notation]

[Value Notation]

$\frac{3}{18}$ $\frac{1}{1}$
16
20
20
74

74
900
66.600
500
67.100

324. [National Postal Museum]

Philad. Aug 20, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

74 Packages Ea. Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,220,000 Stamps
<u>1</u> do Ea. Contg. 50,000 do 1 Cent	<u>50,000</u> do
75 Packages Containing	2,270,000 Stamps

The man who made the Leather Case for Stamps has called to ask how you were pleased with it—Will you have the kindness to inform us , whether you think such Cases will answer, or whether you can Suggest any improvement that will make them more acceptable—We shall be very glad to do all in our power to procure something that you will approve—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Aug 20 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Deld John Miller
75 pckgs 2,270,000

325. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Department,
Finance Office, Sept. 2, 1853.

Gentlemen:

I regret to say that the price asked for the leather case will prevent the ordering any of them for the transmission of postage stamps. We pay for riveted leather mail bags four feet long and five feet in circumference \$6.50. It is true the leather is not so heavy or thick as that in the model case, but there is a greater weight of leather, and the price demanded for the case is out of all proportion. A traveling trunk of finer leather than the case, and of equal capacity, can be bought in any shop for \$16 to \$18 - and yet the maker of the case asks \$25 for it. I wish to order five of them, but the price will not admit of it.

I am very respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt
John Marron,
3rd Asst. P.M. General.

Messrs. Carpenter, Casilear & Co.
Philadelphia, Pa.
Letter Book No. 4, page 13.

326.

[National Archives]

Philad. Sept 5, 1853

Dear Sir

Your favor of 2d inst. was duly recd—We will see Mr. Dialogue and shew him your letter objecting to the price charged for the Leather Case, and if he is willing to make them for less, we will inform you and get him to state the lowest terms on which he will contract to make them—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts

Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron 3d Asst. P. M. General

[Docket]

Sep 5 53
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Will See the lowest that
Leather cases for Stamp can
be made

327.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. Sept 5 1853

Dear Sir

Your favor of 2nd inst. is recd—I assure you that I truly & fully appreciate the kindness of your “Speech aside” touching the everlasting—and I think I may now add—ever Sticking, Stamps—I trust that the wag of a Post Master who so wittily eulogis the Sticking qualities of our Stamps, is one of P. M. Genl. Campbell’s Appointees—if not, pray make interest with the P. M. General and Save his head from the “Chopping knife”—

I have been enquiring and carefully examining into the subject of your letter and I do assure you that the “increased number of cases of the Sticking together of the Stamps in passing through the Mails,” is not owing to any change either in the materials used or the mode of preparation—precisely the same materials and mixed in the Same proportions are used now that were used a year Since and by precisely the same persons—The only difference that I can perceive (if any) is that the gum appears more perfectly spread and perhaps a little thicker.

My impression is, that the extreme heat of the Summer together with the frequent rains and damp weather, have had no more to do with the matter complained of than any thing else, altho’ I am not quite sure that the cases of “Post Masters putting parcels of Stamps in bags with damp newspapers” may not be more numerous now than Some time since—inasmuch as there may be throughout the Country a great number of “green hands” (to say nothing about heads) in the different offices, who may not be aware of the evil and trouble resulting from such a course—not having been duly advised thereof by the “illustrious predecessor”—

Have you found that the 1 Cent Stamps recently delivered have been more liable to this “injudicious” Sticking together, than the 3s?—If so, it might offer some solution of the question (if not the Stamps) inasmuch as they were printed and prepared with more than usual haste and had not the usual time for drying before delivery—

It may possibly be that Stamps that were gummed a much longer time in advance of their delivery would be left liable to the danger of injury in passing through the Mails, but of this I feel entirely incompetent to give an opinion—If however you desire it, we will put on additional force in order to get a larger Supply ahead and thus test it (so far as we can)—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr
Washington

[Docket]

Sepr. 5, 1853

S. H. Carpenter in reply
to his Stamps Sticking
“injudiciously”—

COMMENT: (See highlighted portion) If it were suspected that stamps gummed a long time before delivery were prone to injury, TCC would deliver stamps in stock that had been there the longest vice ones recently printed (i.e., last-in, first-out).

327A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 58.

Philada. Sept 10, 1853

We Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

76 Packages each contg. 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 2,280,000 Stamps

10 do each contg 50,000 Stamps of 1 Cent — 500,000 do

86 Packages containing

2,780,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this Tenth day of September
AD 1853 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of peace

[Notation]

Entd. pe (per??) 35

[Box Notation]

$\frac{3}{17}$
19
19.

$\frac{1}{10}$

[Value Notation]

76
900
68.400
5.000
73.400:—

17
4
76



328. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Sept. 10, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

76 Packages Ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	2,280,000 Stamps
<u>10</u> do Ea. Contg. 50,000 do 1 Cent	<u>500,000</u> do
86 Packages Containing	2,780,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Sep 10 '53

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
Del John Miller
86 Pckgs—2,780,000

329. [National Archives]

Post Office
Crown Point Essex Co N Y
September 20th 1853

Sir

I have in this office a letter mailed at Union City, Cal., Aug 11, 1853—entered on the Post Bills prepaid by stamps on which there is only the half of a twelve cent stamp, cut into two pieces diagonally, one of which is attached to the letter—I have also recd letters and papers entered as prepaid in the same way by fractional stamps.

I have decided that such fractional stamps are not proper to pay postage, & that for aught that appears the original stamp might have been cancelled—

I will be obliged if you will inform me if I am correct in this view I have taken of the subject—

Respectfully Your

Obt Sevnt

C. Fenton P. M.

Hon John Marron
3d asst. P. M. General
Washington
D.C.

[Docket]

Relating to the
use of fractions of
postage Stamps

Answered
Sept 23d

329A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 59.

Philada. Octo. 3, 1853

We certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master, the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

110 Packages ea contg. 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 3,300,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed before me
October 3rd AD 1853.

Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of peace

330. [National Postal Museum]

Philad Oct 3, 1853

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps

Viz

110 Packages Ea. Contg 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents 3,300,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre

3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

P.S.

We have seen Mr. Dialogue about the leather Case—But he declines to make any abatement in the price even if we were to order a larger number than five—he says that they might be made at a less price of thinner leather, but not for leather of the quality & thickness of the model Case Sent you.

[Docket]

Octo 3 '53

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Deld Jno Miller
110 Pckgs. 3,300,000

331. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Octo 17, 1853

Dear Sir

On the 1st inst. we forwarded our a/c for Postage Stamps and as we have not heard from you, we presume that in the multiplicity of your affairs it has escaped your observation—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Oct 17, 1853

Toppan Carpenter Casilear
& Co Calling attention to
their account for postage
Stamps Sent Oct 1 '53

Octr 18, 1853
Answered

331A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 60.

Philada. Octo. 19, 1853

We Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps.
Viz

42 Packages each contg. 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 1,260,000 Stamps	
8 do each contg 50,000 Stamps of 1 Cent — 400,000 do	
<hr/>	<hr/>
50 Packages containing	1,660,000 Stamps
<hr/>	<hr/>

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
 this Nineteenth day of
 October AD 1853 before me
 Stephen N. Simmons
 Alderman & ex officio a J. P.

331B. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 61.

Philada. Nov 1, 1853

We hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps.
 Viz

57 Packages each contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 1,710,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
 this First day of November
 AD 1853 before Me
 Stephen N. Simmons
 Alderman & ex officio a J. P.

[Face Value Notation]

1.710.000
51.300.00

332. [National Archives]

1853
 Sonora California Nov. 12th

To his honor the President of the United States of America

Dear Sir

Permit me to address you in behalf of fifty thousand Californians Miners. Why should we be forced to pay 40 or 50 pr. Cent premium on the United States envelopes and postage stamps [balance of line illegible] Government Officers (the Post Masters) to keep constantly on hand and Sell exclusively the envelopes, but in stid of that they are in the hands of speculators and we are obliged to pay the above exorbitant premium again. Should not the mail contractors be instructed to forward the great Atlantic mail immediately on its arrival and not wait until the regular mail day, why should our letters be detained by the Sole will of a mail contractor. Should not the Mail Agent attend to this. The Mails have been known repeatedly to lay over on the way between San Francisco and the interior because it was not the regular mail day.

Your Obedient Servant
 Joseph R. Carr

Franklin K. Pierce

[There is no address leaf, but endorsed on the back of this letter is the following note. It seems probable that the letter was addressed to Mrs. Pierce]

Excuse me Madam for directing this to you. I was afraid your husband would not read it, unless some uncommon means was taken to get it to him. I wish to get the simple truth into his ear.

[Docket}

Nov. 12 1853

Joseph R. Carr in behalf of 50000 Californian men relative to having to pay 40 & 50 per cent on Stamps & Envelopes

Joseph R. Carr
Sonora, Cal

332A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 62.

Philada. Nov 15, 1853

We Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

58 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 1,740,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 15th day of November
AD 1853 before me

[Value Notation]

Stephen N. Simmons

52.200

Alderman & Justice of the peace

332B. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 63.

Phila. December 2nd/53

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

56 Packages, each contg. 30, 000 Stamps, 3 Cent Stamp. 1,680,000

13 Packages each contg 50,000 Stamps 1 Cent Stamp 650,000

69 Packages containing Stamps 2,330,000

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
 this Second day of December
 AD 1853 before Me
 Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a Justice of peace

[Box Notation]

<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	[Value Notation]
20	1	
17	<u>12</u>	50400
1—	13	<u>6500</u>
<u>18</u>		<u>56,900</u>
56		

332C. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 64.

Philada. Dec 14, 1853

We Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz.

57 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 1,710,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
 this 15 day of December
 AD 1853 before me
 Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a J. Peace

[Box Notation]

<u>3</u>
20-
19
<u>18</u>
57—

332D. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 65.

Philada. Decem 24, 1853

We hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps—

Viz.

68 packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 2,040,000 Stamps

3 do ea contg 20,000 Stamps of 12 Cents	60,000 do
71 Packages Containing	2,100,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
 this Twenty fourth day of
 December 1853 before me
 Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a J. Peace

[Box Notation]

<u>3</u>	<u>12</u>
18	3
17	
14—	
<u>19</u>	
68 3s &	3 12s

[Notation]

Jan'y 19th 1853 (sic) Paid to this date

333.

[National Archives]

Lost or damaged Stamps

Shelbyville	Tenn.	W. T. Wells reports non receipt of \$60 of Stamps on 21 st Novr. 1853
Weedsport	N.Y.	D. E. Haven claims \$2.48 for damaged Stamps
Morgantown	Va	Jas Shay reports a return of Stamps \$65 Apl 26/53
Aurora	Ill	E. R. Allen reports non receipt of 5000 3 cent Stamps ordd & Sent Dec 2. Supposed burnt
Stafford Springs	Ct	J. M. Nutting sends report & affidavit of \$3.27 of Stamps damaged & not credited July 19 th 1852
Hamilton	Texas	Reports that he retained a package of Stamps addressed to Shelbyville Texas – which was discontinued.
Northfield	Vt	F. V. Randall reports a burglary on the P.O. and a robbery of Stamps Decr. 24 1853
Fairfield	Ct	E. Hobart sends affidavit of burning of P Office and Stamps Oct 21 1853
Dubuque	Iowa	W... H.. Robbins reports return of damaged Stamps Sept 25/52
Wabash	Inda	B. E. Davis reports that he destroyed 16 Stamps for which he claimed a credit Dec 15 1853
Union Springs	Ala	Wm H Waugh reports \$8 of damaged Stamps July 25 1853
Quincy	Fla	J. L. Seegar Damaged Stamps returned Apl 17 1852
Tallulah	Mi	E Pharr relative to Damaged Stamps returned
Adrian	Mich	W. W. Comstock reports return of damaged Stamps Sept 9 1852
Nashville	Tenn	S. A. Anderson on the subject of a package of 900 Stamps not received July 23 1853
Mount Pleasant	Pa	J. B. Cherry on the subject of returned Stamps August 5 th 1852
Millerstown	Pa	S. A. Jennings report & affidavit concerning Stamps Short August 1851
Homer	Ill	H. E. Moore reports reasons for not signing a receipt for Stamps June 29 1853
Dallas	NC	a. Hoyt reports return of damaged Stamps July 27 1852
Cobleskill	N.Y.	M. Sternberg reports receipt of Stamps damaged May 28 th 1853
Peoria	Ill	Jno King claims \$8.40 credit for 280 damaged Stamps Sept 7 1852

Norfolk	Va	P. J. Cohen claims credit for 1000 3 cent Stamps damaged and returned Augt 16 1852
Sparta	Ala	J. W. Rabbel reports return of damaged Stamps July 24 th 1852
	Va	J. L. Armstrong reports return of damaged Stamps July 2 nd 1852
	Ill	J. Keller (?) \$1.35 credit for Stamps received in damaged State July 19 1853
Nashville	Tenn	S. R. Anderson reports return of one & three cent Stamps recovered from lost or stolen mail Dec 28 th 1853
Mount Pleasant	Iowa	T. C. Tiffany reports non receipt of parcel of Stamps (\$65) Sent Jany 20 th 1854
Utica	Mi	G. W. Mimms reports on the subject of damaged Stamps for which a receipt was asked Nov 21 1853
Council Bluffs	Iowa	J. E. Johnson reports return of damaged Stamps May 16/53
Tuskegee	Ala	J. Howard Supposes an error in the charges made against him for Stamps
Hennepin	Ill	Hy Casson (for the PM) reports that damaged Stamps were returned in July 1853 Novr 17 1853
Brownsville	Pa	Isaac Bailey reports error in charges against him for postage Stamps March 13 1854
Lewes	Del	[J. T. Pool] reports return of 500 damaged Postage Stamps June 13 1853

1854

333A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 66.

Philada. Jany 12, 1854

We certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz.

89 packages Ea Contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 2,670,000 Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this Twelfth day of January
AD 1854 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a J. P.

[Box Notation]	[Value Notation]
<u>3</u>	2670000
16-	<u>3</u>
20-	\$80,100
18.	
18	
<u>18.</u>	
90	

COMMENT: No further information on discrepancy between certificate (89 packages) and box notation (90 packages). Value notation is for 89 packages.

334.

[National Postal Museum]

Philad. Jany 12, 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

89 Packages Ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents

2,670,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. Mr. Genl

P.S. we have no One Cent Stamps ready, but will forward some as soon as possible—

334A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 67

Phila. Jany 20 1854

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. P. M. the following Packages of Postage Stamps.—

Viz.

12 Packages Each containing 50, 000 Stamps, One Cent Stamps — 600,000
Stamps 600,000

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.
per SH Carpenter Jr

Sworn & subscribed
this 21 day of January
AD 1854 before me

Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Justice of the peace

[Value Notation]
\$6,000_

335.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. Jany 20th 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

12 Packages ea. Contg. 50,000 Stamps of 1ct. 600,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Yrs. &c.
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per J. T. Gest.

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl
Washington D. C.

COMMENT: 1854 McElroy's Philadelphia directory has this entry: Gest Jacob S acct. 76½ Walnut (address of TCC office). Gest frequently signed correspondence on behalf of the firm.

335A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 68.

Philada. Jany 23, 1854.

We certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

20 Packages Ea Contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents — 600,000 Stamps

Toppan Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 23 day of January,
AD 1854 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Justice of the peace

[Value Notation]
\$18,000

336. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Jany 23, 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps

Viz

20 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents 600,000 Stamps.

Very Respf
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Jno Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

We regret that we are unable to forward a larger number of Stamps today, but the demand having exceeded our expectations we have not kept all the plates in hand—we will immediately put them all in press and at the earliest moment possible send you a further supply—say in a week hence—or sooner if you require it—

We have Sent you today a new Box made as a specimen for your approval—we think it will be found to answer the purpose better than any heretofore made—

Will you have the kindness to say how you like it—The Cost is \$7—if it is approved, we will order 4 or 5 more—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
T. C. C. & Co

COMMENT: (See highlighted portion) “we have not kept all the plates in hand” suggests storage at the Mint under contract provisions vice keeping plates not in presses in the TCC vault.

336A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 69.

Philada. Jany 30, 1854

We hereby certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

60 Packages Ea Contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cents ——— 1,800,000 Stamps

Toppan Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 30th day of January
AD 1854 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Justice of the peace

	[Box Notation]
	<u>3</u>
[Value Notation]	13-
\$54,000.—	<u>16</u>
	15
	<u>16</u>

337. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Jany 30, 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Postage Stamps, being the residue of the requisition of the 21st inst.

Viz

60 Packages Ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents	1,800,000 Stamps
-------------------------------------------------	------------------

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Jno Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

P.S.

You may rely hereafter on having an ample supply to meet all the demands of the Department.

T. C. C. & Co.

338. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Feby 9, 1854

Sir,

We regret exceedingly to inform you that having placed all our force on the Three Cent Stamps (presuming that they would be the first wanted) we have not on hand enough of the one cent Stamps to fill Your requisition of the 7th but will forward you one box of one cent Stamps on the 11th and will hereafter be sure to keep such a force on each of the different kinds as to enable us to fill all orders promptly.

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per J. T. Gest

J. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.
Washington D..C.

[Docket]

Feb 9, 1854

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Regrets he cannot im-
mediately Supply an order
for One Cent Stamps—

338A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 70.

Philada. Feby 10, 1854.

We certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr. Post Master the following Postage Stamps

Viz

11 Packages Ea Contg 50, 000 Stamps of One Cent ——— 550,000 Stamps

Toppan Carpenter, Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed before me
this Eleventh day of February
AD 1854

Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a J. Peace

[Value Notation]
\$5,500.—

339. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Feb 10, 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqre Post Master the following Postage Stamps

Viz

11 Packages ea. Contg. 50,000 Stamps of One Cent 550,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esqr

3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

339A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 71

Phila. Feby 15th/1854

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr P. M. the following Packages of Postage Stamps

68 packages each containing 30, 000 Stamps 3 Cents Stamps Viz 2,040,000

2,040,000

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

per
SH Carpenter Jr

Sworn & subscribed
this Twelfth day of January
AD 1854 before me

Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a J. P.

[Box Notation]	[Value Notation]
<u>3</u>	2040000
15	<u>3</u>
16-	\$61,200:00
17	
<u>20</u>	
68	

340. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Feby 15, 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master the following Postage Stamps,

Viz;

68 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 ct. stamps 2,040,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per J. T. Gest

J. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.

340A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 72

Phila. Feby 16th 1854

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

	<u>Viz</u>	
10 Packages Each Contg 50, 000 Stamps One Cent Stamps	—	<u>500,000</u>
		<u>500,000</u>

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.
per
SH Carpenter Jr

Sworn & subscribed
this 16th day of February
AD 1854 before me

Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a J. Peace

[Value Notation]
\$5000.

341.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. Feby 16, 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master the following Postage Stamps,

viz

10 Packages ea. Contg. 50,000 Stamps of 1 ct 500,000 Stamps,

Very Respectfully
Yrs. &c.
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per J. T. Gest

J. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl,
Washington D.C.

341A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 73

Phila. Feby 28th/54

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr P. M. the following packages of Postage Stamps

	<u>Viz</u>	
56 Packages, each contg 30, 000 Stamps, 3 Cent Stamps.		1,680,000
12 " " " " 50,000 " One " "		<u>600,000</u>

2,280,000

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.
per
SH Carpenter Jr

Sworn & subscribed
this 28th day of February
AD 1854 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a J. P.

[Box Notation]	[Value Notation]
<u>3</u>	1680000
19	<u>3</u>
17	50,400.00
<u>20</u>	<u>4,000</u>
56	\$56,400:—

342. [National Postal Museum]

Phila. Feby 28/54

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps, viz

56 packages Contg. each 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents Stamp	1,680,000
12 " " " 50,000 " One " "	<u>600,000</u>
	2,280,000

Your Obt Svts Respectfully
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. Post Master
General

342A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 74

Phila. March 14th/54

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to J Miller Esqr P. M. the following Packages of Postage Stamps

	<u>Viz</u>
107 Packages each contg 30, 000 Stamps. 3 Cent Stamps.	3,210,000
11 " " " 50,000 " 1 " "	<u>550,000</u>
	3,760,000

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
 this 14th day of March
 AD 1854 before me

Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a J. Peace

per
 SH Carpenter Jr

[Box Notation]		[Value Notation]
<u>1s</u>	<u>3s</u>	3,219.000
11.	19	<u>3</u>
	17	9630.00
	17	<u>5500</u>
	1 } <i>ink</i>	\$101,899:
	16	Paid to this date
	17	inclusive
	20	
	19 } <i>pencil</i>	
	20 } <i>pencil</i>	
	1 } <i>ink</i>	

COMMENTS:

- “Paid to this date inclusive” is in the same hand as a notation signed “J. Marron” on #348A.
- No package total is given. The top seven package totals in ink equal 107. The “19” & “20” in pencil and the bottom “1” in ink appear to have been extraneous..

343.

[National Postal Museum]

Phila. March 14/54

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to J. Miller Esqr Post Master, the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

107 Packages each Contg. 30,000 Stamps 3 Cent Stamp	3,210,000
11 “ “ “ 50,000 “ 1 “ “	<u>550,000</u>
	3,760,000

Very Respectfully

Yr. sv

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
 per S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqr
 3rd Asst. P. M. Genl
 Washington D C

344.

[National Archives]

Washington D.C.

March 24, 1854

Hon James Campbell
P. M. Genl.

Sir,

Having made a study of the Postal System of the U. States, & being impressed with the observation made by yourself, that no proper system of accountability can be established which does not embrace the examination and comparison of way Bills, I have happily thought of a means to save the Department the necessity of so onerous and almost impracticable a labor, while it will secure equal accuracy.

The method I suggest and in which I am inclined to place reliance is the simple one of supplying each Office with Stamps for unpaid as well as paid letters, and making it illegal for any letter to leave an Office without having on it a stamp. The mails sent being made up of paid & unpaid letters, each having its appropriate stamp, the Office receiving them will have to account for them, as the latter cannot distribute any letters which are unstamped. Thus each letter is made the voucher for the postage receipts.

The department having issued a certain amount of Stamps (for which receipts are to be taken from Postmasters) will find them Balanced by the aggregate of money received from Postmasters together with the commissions allowed, the returned Dead letters & amount of stamps remaining in the hands of Postmasters.

I cannot in a short communication enter into details, but I will engage to organize a system under this arrangement, by which the Government shall secure itself from the loss of one cent without being able unerringly to indicate the individual through whom the loss has occurred.

Besides from my experience in the auditing of accounts, I think I can promise the saving of mere(?) labour to the clerks by the employment of this system, as by it the Examiners will be saved the necessity of adding up the Transcripts, one of the most monotonous & laborious of all the duties in the Auditors Office. I shall be glad to explain the details to you or any board you may please to appoint to canvass the merits of the plan.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully,
Your Obedt Servt

E. Yulee

[Docket]

March 24 1854

E. Yulee Audr Office
Submits his happy thought
of a means to Save the Dept.
the labor of examining &
comparing Way bills

E. Yulee
Washington D C

345.

[National Postal Museum]

Phila. April 2nd/54

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

144 Packages Each Contg. 30,000 Stamps 3 Cent Stamp	4,320,000
20 " " " 50,000 " 1 " "	<u>1,000,000</u>
Stamps	5,320,000

Very Respectfully
Yours &c.
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. Master
General

COMMENT: This letter is probably misdated. 2 April 1854 was a Sunday. While deliveries in 1854 to this point had occurred on every weekday, none had occurred on a Sunday. The date of "April 6th" on the certificate below (#345A) that must have accompanied this letter seems clear.

345A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 75

Phila. April 6th/54

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

144 Packages, each containing 30, 000 Stamps, 3 Cent Stamps.	4,320,000
20 " " " 50,000 " 1 " "	1,000,000
	<hr/>
	5,320,000

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

per
SH Carpenter Jr

Sworn & subscribed
this sixth day of April
AD 1854 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a J. Peace

[Box Notation]

3
16
16-
16-
18-
19
19

COMMENT: The box notation has no total and adds only to 104. There are no other marks. However, the total of extraneous numbers on the previous receipt, which would have been under this in the file, total 40 and may be the explanation.

345B. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 76.

Phila. April 28/54

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to J Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps.

	Viz	
60 Packages, Each Contg	30, 000 Stamps of 3 Cent Stamp	1,800,000
12 " " " "	50,000 " " 1 " "	600,000
		2,400,000

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this 28 day of April 1854
before me

per
SH Carpenter Jr

Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a J. Peace

[Box Notation]

$\frac{3}{20}$	$\frac{1}{12}$
20-	
$\frac{20}{60}$	

346. [National Postal Museum]

Phila. April 28/54

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to J. Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

60 Packages Each Contg	30,000 Stamps, 3 Cent Stamp	1,800,000 Stamps
12 " " " "	50,000 " 1 Cent Stamp	<u>600,000</u> do
		2,400,000 Stamps

We have beside the above Stamps, enough on hand to fill 5 more Boxes—but as the Mail Agent has brought but 4 Boxes, we are unable to send them. If you will have the kindness to see to the forwarding of more Boxes, we will with pleasure send you a greater quantity of Stamps. We mention this as you may think we are slow in preparing the Stamps.

Yours Respectfully
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

per S. H. Carpenter Jr
J. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst. P. M. General

347. [National Postal Museum]

Phila May 10/54

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esq. P.M. of Philadelphia the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

60 Packages each Contg. 30,000 Stamps of the 3 Cent Stamp	<u>1,800,000</u>
	Stamps 1,800,000

We are anxious to know why more Boxes are not sent us. This morning there are but 3 Boxes, whereas we have Stamps enough to fill 12 Boxes.

Mr. Campbell's orders are for all the Stamps we "may have ready," but not having Boxes, we are unable to send them.

Very Respectfully
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
pr
S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. General

347A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 77

Phila. May 10th/54

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr P. M. the following Packages of Postage Stamps.

60 Packages Each contg	30, 000 Stamps 3 Cent Stamps.	<u>1,800,000</u>
	Stamps —	<u>1,800,000</u>

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.
per
SH Carpenter Jr

Sworn & subscribed
this Eleventh day of May
AD 1854 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Justice of the Peace

[Box Notation]

3
20
20
20

347B. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 78

Phila. June 13th/54

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to J Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

			<u>Viz</u>	
63 Packages, Each Contg	30, 000 Stamps	3ct Stamp -		1,800,000
13 " " " "	50,000 " 1ct "	-		600,000
				<hr/>
	Stamps			2,400,000

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.
per
SH Carpenter Jr

Sworn & subscribed
this Thirteenth day of June
AD 1854 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio a J. Peace

348. [National Postal Museum]

Phil June 13th 54

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to J. Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

63 Packages Each Contg.	30,000 Stamps	3 cts Stamps	1,890,000 Stamps
13 " " " "	50,000 " 1 ct Stamp		<u>650,000</u> do
			2,540,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Yours &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P. M. General

348A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 79

Phil. June 17, 1854

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following packages of Postage Stamps.

80 Packages Each contg	30, 000 Stamps 3 cent Stamps	Viz	2,400,000
		Stamps	<u>2,400,000</u>

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed before me
June First *[sic]* AD 1854
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Justice of the peace

per
SH Carpenter Jr

[Box Notation]

3
20-
20-
20-
20
80

Paid to June 30th 1854
J Marron

COMMENT: The date of June 17, 1854 appears clear and the number of this receipt is 79, when Receipt 78 was clearly dated June 13. It is probable that Simmons without thinking read the date written by TCC as "June 1st/1854," as unlikely as that may seem. The original does suggest that interpretation.

349.

[National Postal Museum]

Phila June 17/54

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

80 Packages each Contg.	30,000 Stamps 3 cent Stamps	2,400,000
-------------------------	-----------------------------	-----------

Respectfully Yours &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.

350. [National Archives]

P. O. Richmond, Virginia
23rd June 1854

Dr Sir

I am glad to see that the P. O. Com. of the House have reported another bill requiring all letters to be prepaid.— But will not the 1st July be too soon for it to go into operation?—Many letters will also be deposited, which will not be fully prepaid by stamps & ought not some provision be made to send these at an increased rate of postage?—and would not it also be well to include transient Newspapers and all other printed Matter, (except Newspapers and Periodicals to regular subscribers) in the same bill? in haste

With great respect
Your Obt Servant

Wm. A. Davis
A. P. M.

Jno. Marron Esqr
Ast. P. M. Genl

P.S. It some times happens (either from ignorance or carelessness) that packages get into the Mails as printed Matter—which should be rated with letter postage—what is to be done with these?—

[Docket]

June 23rd 1854
Richmond Va

Wm. A. Davis A.P.M.
in relation to the Report
of the P. O. Committee of
House Reps. requiring all
Letters to be prepaid,—
etc, also in relation to
packages of printed matter
sent thro Mail which
should be rated with let-
ter postage.—

350A. [National Postal Museum, USPS web site]

No. 80

Phila. July 5th/54

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to J Miller Esqr P. M. the following Packages of Postage
Stamps

21 } 22 } 22 }	65 Packages, Each Contg	30, 000 Stamps	3cent Stamp-	1,950,000
	12 " " "	50,000	" 1 "	600,000

Stamps 2,550,000

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.
per
SH Carpenter Jr

Sworn & subscribed
this Fifth day of July
AD 1854 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Justice of peace

[Value Notation]
65
900
58,500:
6,000
64,500

July 1 —
15
Aug 5 —
Sept 26.

COMMENTS:

- *The numbers at left were added in pen in a different hand than the rest of the receipt. They appear to be an unusual form of box notation.*
- *The highlighted dates at bottom are in pencil. They do not coincide with other deliveries, and their significance is unknown.*

351. [National Postal Museum]

Phila July 5/54

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to J. Miller Esqr P.M. the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

65 Packages Each Contg. 30,000 Stamps, 3 cent Stamp	1,950,000
12 " " " 50,000 " 1 " "	<u>600,000</u>
Stamps	2,550,000

Respectfully
Yours
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co per S. H. Carpenter Jr

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl
Washington DC

351A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 81
Philada. July 18, 1854

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to J. Miller Esq Post Master, the following Packages of Postage Stamps.

viz

84 Packages each containing 30, 000 Stamps of 3cents — Stamps
2,520,000

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed before me
this Nineteenth day of July 1854

Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Justice of the peace

[Value Notation]

84
900
\$75,600.

352. [National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia July 18th 1854

J. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl
Washington DC.

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to J. Miller Esq. PM. the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz;

84 Packages each containing 30,000 Stamps of Three Cents
2,520,000 Stamps.

Very Respectfully
Yrs. &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
J. T. Gest

352A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 82

Philada. Aug. 9. 1854

We certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esq Post Master, the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

84 Packages ea contg 30, 000 Stamps of 3cents — 2,520,000 Stamps

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
this ninth day of August
AD 1854 before me

Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & J. Peace

[Value Notation]
\$75,600.

353. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Aug 9, 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

84 Packages Ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents 2,520,000 Stamps

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Jno. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl.

353A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 83

Phila. Augst. 29th 1854.

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to J Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps.

Viz

87 Packages, each contg	30,000 Stamps.	3 cent Stamp.	2,610,000
12 “ “ “	50,000 “	1 “ Stamp	600,000
		Stamps	<u>3,210,000</u>

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed before me
this 29 day of August AD 1854
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Justice of the peace

per
SH Carpenter Jr

[Box Notation]
 $\frac{3}{21} \quad \frac{1}{12}$
 21
 21
 22
 1
 $\frac{22}{87}$

[Value Notation]
 87
900
 78,300
6,000
 \$84,300

354. [National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia August 29, 1854

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to John Miller Esq. Post Master the following Postage Stamps.

Viz

87 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cents	2,610,000 Stamps
12 " " 50,000 " 1 "	<u>600,000</u> "
Stamps	2,290,000 "

Very respectfully
 Yrs. &c.
 Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
 per
 J. T. Gest

Jno. Marron Esq.
 3rd Asst. PM. Genl
 Washington DC.

354A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 84

Philadelphia

September 12. 1854

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Packages of Postage Stamps.

viz;

84 Packages, Ea. containing	30,000 Stamps of 3 cents	2,520,000
12 " " 50,000 " of 1 "		<u>600,000</u>
Stamps.		<u>3,120,000</u>

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.

Sworn & subscribed
 this Twelfth day of

September 1854 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Jus. of peace

[Value Notation]
75,600
6,000
\$81,600

355. [National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia September 12, 1854

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst. PM. Genl

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. PM at Philadelphia the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz;

84 Packages of 3 cent Stamps ea. Contg. 30,000	2,520,000
12 " 1 cent " " 50,000	<u>600,000</u>
96 Stamps	3,120,000

Very respectfully
Yrs &c
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
J. T. Gest

356. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. Septm. 29, 1854

Jno. Marron Esq.,
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl

Sir:

Your order, directing us to deliver at the Post Office here as usual all the Postage Stamps in our possession was received by us yesterday morning, but on application at the post office both then and to-day, we find the boxes have not yet been recd there—and we accordingly, write this to inform you of the circumstance, so that you may know, that the delay in sending them arises from no fault of ours. The same thing has occurred before, but we presume you have not been aware of it. We have now on hand a large quantity of stamps ready for delivery and we are equally prepared and desirous of filling your orders with promptness.

Respectfully,
Yrs. &c.,
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co

Per
Jacob T. Gest

356A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 85.

Philada. October 2. 1854

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to John Miller Esq. Postmaster the following Packages of Postage Stamps,

	viz	
63 Packages, ea. contg.	30,000 Stamps of 3 cents —	1,890,000
12 do “ “	50,000 “ 1 do.	600,000
		<hr/>
	Stamps	2,490,000
		<hr/>

Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co.
per
Jacob T. Gest

Affirmed & subscribed
this 2^d day of October
A D 1854 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio Justice of the peace

[Value Notation]	[Pencil note] Settled to Octr 2/ 1854 inclusive
63	J. Marron
<hr/> 900	
56,700	
<hr/> 6,000	
\$62,700	

COMMENT: Although Gest frequently signed correspondence to the POD, this is the only instance in which he was identified as signing a notarized receipt for the firm.

357. [National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia October 2, 1854

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst. PM. Genl
Washington DC.

Sir—

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esqr Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz;

63 Packages ea. Contg.	30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.	1,890,000
12 do “ “	50,000 do 1 ct.	<u>600,000</u>

Stamps 2,490,000

Annexed please receive our bill for the quarter ending 30th inst.—including of course the present delivery—

You will observe we have receipted the bill according to our custom with the department.

Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
Jacob T. Gest

357A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 86
Philadelphia October 13. 1854

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington D.C.
Sir

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Packages of Postage Stamps,

	viz;	
65 Packages, ea. containing.	30,000 Stamps of 3 cents	1,950,000
12 do	“ 50,000 do of 1 cent	600,000
	Stamps	<u>2,550,000</u>

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
per Samuel R. Lentz

Affirmed & subscribed
this 13th day of October
A D 1854 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & ex officio
a Justice of the peace

[Box Notation]	[Value Notation]
<u>3</u>	65
22	<u>900</u>
22	58,500
<u>21</u>	<u>6,000</u>
	\$64,500

COMMENTS:

- *Lentz was not listed in McElroy's 1854 City Directory, but was in 1855 and later years: Lentz Samuel R., Chestnut and Mary (W P). This was the first certificate he signed.*
- *This was also the first certificate showing Casilear removed from the firm's name.*

358.

[National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia October 13, 1854

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst. PM. Genl
Washington DC.

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. PM. the following Postage Stamps,

Viz

65 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cents	1,950,000
12 do 50,000 do of 1 cent	<u>600,000</u>
Stamps	2,550,000

Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

358A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 87
Philadelphia October 25. 1854

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Packages of Postage Stamps

viz;

85 Packages each containing 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.	<u>Stamps</u> 2,550,000
-----------------------------------------------------	----------------------------

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
per Samuel R. Lentz

Affirmed & subscribed
this 25 day of October
A D 1854 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Justice of the peace

~~Post Office Department~~
~~Finance Office 26th Octr. 1854~~

I certify

[Box Notation]

<u>3</u>
21
<u>21</u>
42

[Value Notation]

85
<u>900</u>
\$76,500

359.

[National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia October 25, 1854

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst. PM. Genl
Washington DC.

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esqr Post Master at Philadelphia following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

85 Packages each Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.	Stamps 2,550,000
-------------------------------------------------	---------------------

Very respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

359A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 88.
Philadelphia Novem 6. 1854

Jno. Marron Esq
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington D.C.
Sir

We do hereby certify that we have this delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps

	viz;	
84 Packages ea. contg	30,000 Stamps of 3 cents	2,520,000

Toppan Carpenter & Co.
per Samuel R. Lentz

Affirmed & subscribed
this 6th day of November
A D 1854 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & J. Peace

[Box Notation]	[Value Notation]
21 Packages	84
21 do	<u>900</u>
21 do	\$75,600
<u>21</u>	
84	

360.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. Novem. 6, 1854

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst. PM. Genl
Washington DC.

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. PM the following Packages of Postage Stamps

Viz

84 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cents 2,520,000

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

361.

[National Archives]

R. K. Swift's Foreign & Domestic Exchange Office
Chicago, Nov. 7th 1854

To the
Post Master General
Washington D. C.

Dr Sir

I beg to enclose herein as samples six Br. P. O. Stamps.

You will see they are perforated so as to be easily separated. The perforation is made by Machinery & if the Stamps issued by our(?) Dept were arranged in the same way it would save much time in separating them.

Yours etc

R. K. Swift

[Docket]

R. K. Swift
Sample of British perforated
Stamps

Nov 7, 1854

March 21, 1855
Answered

361A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

Philadelphia No. 89
November 30. 1854

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps.

viz;
103 Packages ea. contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts. 3,090,000

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
per,
Samuel R. Lentz

Affirmed & subscribed
this 30th day of November
A D 1854 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Justice of the Peace

[Box Notation]	[Value Notation]
21 Packages	103
20 " -	<u>900</u>
20	\$92,700
21	
<u>21</u>	
103 —	

362. [National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia Novem 30, 1854

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst. PM. Genl
Washington DC.

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps

Viz

103 Packages ea. containing 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts. 3,090,000

Very respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan Carpenter Casilear & Co
per
J. T. Gest

362A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 90
Philadelphia Decem 29. 1854

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Packages of Postage Stamps.

	viz;		
80 Packages ea. contg.	30,000 of 3 Cent Stamps	2,400,000	
12 do	“ 50,000 of 1 “ “	600,000	
5 do	“ 20,000 of 12 “ “	100,000	
97 do	Stamps	3,100,000	

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
per,
Samuel R. Lentz

Affirmed & subscribed
this 29th day of December
AD 1854 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Justice of the peace

	[Box Notation]	
<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>12</u>
12	21-	5
	21-	
	17	
	<u>21</u>	
	80	

	[Value Notation]	
20,000	20.00.00	72,000
<u>12</u>	40000	6,000
2400.00		2,400
		80,400

COMMENT: The value notation is wrong. Total face value is \$90,000 (72,000 for 3¢, 6,000 for 1¢, and 12,000 for 12¢ vice 2,400).

1855

363.

[National Archives]

Postage Stamp Agency
Philadelphia Jany 7th 1855 [?—see below]

Dear Sir

I have not been able to send the reports of last weeks business as yet, but hope to have them ready tomorrow or by the next day, anxious to furnish as many offices as possible I let the writing of report lay over, and it is no small job to get them up to date as they will show when you see them.

I am about a week behind time with the business of the agency and we have been doing all that is in our power to do, working from 8 to 9 hours per day, and yet we find the orders accumulating upon our hands, and it is out of our power to dispatch them according to instructions (that is upon the day that we receive them or the next day at furthest) I find that from 5 to 6 pages of order is as much as we can get through with and not that much, if the orders are for large amounts as the counting and examining takes time.

If the present demand for Stamps is a going to continue any length of time, I will have to request you to give me some more help, as it is out of our power to despatch the order as we have been directed to do.

The California orders and the orders for the large offices have been Sent as directed.

Yours Respectfully

Jesse Johnson
Stamp agt

To John Marron Esqr
Third asst. P M General

[Docket]

Jany 7, 1855
Jesse Johnson, agt.

Reports being a
week behind with
the business—

COMMENT: The date is wrong. Johnson's "first act" was 8 June 1855 (#394), and the room was not even ready on 29 May 1855 (#392). Fits January 1856.

363A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 91
Philadelphia January 11. 1855

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps.

viz.

85 Packages each containing 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts. 2,550,000.

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
per, Samuel R. Lentz

Affirmed & subscribed to
this Eleventh day of January
AD 1855 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Justice of the peace

Jno. Marron Esq
3rd Asst PM. Genl.
Washington DC }
}

[Value Notation]
85
900
76,500

[Box Notation]
3
21-
22
21
21
85

364. [National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia Jany. 11, 1855

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Dear Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps

viz

85 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts. 2,550,000 Stamps

Very respectfully
Yr. Obt Svts.
Toppan Carpenter & Co
Per
J. T. Gest

365. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Jany 12, 1855

Dear Sir

We have just discovered that the 12 Cent Stamps Sent to you on the 29th Ulto were of a lot that were gummed imperfectly several years Since—The demand for these Stamps has been So Small, that we have not printed any for Some years and the packages sent you having been in our vault for so long a time, the fact of their being imperfectly gummed had naturally escaped our attention—

You will greatly oblige us by returning to us all of these Stamps that you may now have on hand and if you will have the kindness to inform us to which of the Post Offices you have forwarded any of them we will be very glad to substitute other Stamps that have been well gummed in place of the defective ones—

We are exceedingly sorry & mortified that this should have occurred and beg that you will permit us to remedy it at the earliest moment possible—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl

[Docket]

12 Jany 1855

Toppan Carpenter & Co
about a lot of 12
ct Stamps imperfectly
gummed—
Requests their return

COMMENT: See #362A for delivery of the 12¢ stamps on 29 Dec 1854.

365A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 92
Philadelphia January 27. 1855 .

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps;

	viz; —	[Box Notation]
		3
213 Packages ea. contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.	6,390,000.	21-
		22
	Toppan, Carpenter & Co.	22
	per,	21
	Samuel R. Lentz	22
Affirmed & subscribed to		22
this 27 th day of January		20
AD. 1855 before me.	[Value Notation]	21
Stephen N. Simmons	213	21
<u>Alderman & Justice of the peace</u>	<u>900</u>	<u>21</u> (<i>faint</i>)
	191,700	213

366. [National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia January 27, 1855

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd Asst. PM. Genl
Washington DC.

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esqr Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps,

Viz;

213 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts. 6,390,000

Very respectfully
Yr. &c.
Toppan Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

366A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 93
Philadelphia Feby. 2nd 1855.

We do hereby Certify that we have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps

viz.

78 Packages ea. contg. 50,000 Stamps of 1 ct.	3,900,000	[Box Notation]
	Toppan, Carpenter & Co.	$\frac{1}{13}$
	per	13
	Samuel R. Lentz	13
Affirmed & subscribed		13
this second day of February		13
AD 1855 before me	[Value Notation]	13
Stephen N. Simmons	39,000.00	$\frac{13}{78}$
<u>Alderman & Justice of the peace</u>		

367. [National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia Feby 2, 1855

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps

viz

78 Packages ea. Contg. 50,000 Stamps of 3 ct. 3,900,000

Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

per
J. T. Gest

368. [National Archives]

NEW POSTAGE ACT

AN ACT further to amend the act entitled “An act to reduce and modify the rates of postages in the United States, and for other purposes,” passed March three, eighteen hundred and fifty-one.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in lieu of the rates of postage now established by law, there shall be charged the following rates, to-wit:

For every single letter in manuscript, or paper of any kind in which information shall be asked for or communicated in writing, or by marks or signs, conveyed in the mail for any distance between places in the United States not exceeding three thousand miles, three cents; and for any distance exceeding three thousand miles, ten cents.

And for a double letter there shall be charged double the rate above specified; and for a treble letter, treble those rates; and for a quadruple letter, quadruple those rates; and every letter or parcel not exceeding half an ounce in weight shall be deemed a single letter; and every additional weight of half an ounce, or additional weight of less than half an ounce, shall be charged with an additional single postage; and upon all letters passing through or in the mail of the United States, excepting such as are to or from a foreign country, the postages as above specified shall be prepaid, except upon letters and packages addressed to officers of the government on official business, which shall be so marked on the envelope. And from and after the first day of January, eighteen hundred and fifty-six, the Postmaster General may require postmasters to place postage stamps upon all prepaid letters upon which stamps may not have been placed by the writers.

And all drop-letters, or letters placed in any post office not for transmission through the mail, but for delivery only, shall be charged with postage at the rate of one cent each; and all letters which shall hereafter be advertised as remaining over, or uncalled for, in any post office, shall be charged with one cent each, in addition to the regular postage, both to be accounted for as other postages now are.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall not be lawful for any postmaster or other person to sell any postage stamp or stamped envelope for any larger sum than that indicated upon the face of such postage stamp or for a larger sum than that charged therefor by the Post Office Department;* any person who shall violate this provision shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not less than ten nor more than five hundred dollars. This act to take effect and be in force from and after the commencement of the next fiscal quarter after its passage. *Provided,* That nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to alter the laws in relation to the franking privilege.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That for the greater security of valuable letters posted for transmission in the mails of the United States, the Postmaster General be and hereby is authorized to establish a uniform plan for the registration of such letters on application of parties posting the same, and to require the prepayment of the postage, as well as a registration fee of five cents on every such letter or packet to be accounted for by postmasters receiving the same in such manner as the Postmaster General shall direct; *Provided, however,* That such registration shall not be compulsory; and it shall not render the Post Office Department or its revenue liable for the loss of such letters or packets or the contents thereof.

Approved March 3, 1855.

*That is, the charge for postage stamps must not be more than the sum indicated on their face, and no higher price must be charged for stamped envelopes than is charged by the Department.

J. C.

COMMENT: See also #390.

368A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 94
Philadelphia March 9. 1855

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps;

viz

		[Box & Value Notations]
120 Packages each contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.	3,600,000	<u>3</u>
		22-
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.		18-
per		20-
Samuel R. Lentz		20-
Affirmed & subscribed to		20
this Ninth day of March		<u>20</u>
AD. 1855 before me		120
Stephen N. Simmons		<u>900</u>
<u>Alderman & Justice of the peace</u>		108/000

369. [National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia March 9, 1855

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. P.M. the following Packages of Postage Stamps

viz

120 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts. 3,600,000

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

370. [Travers, USPCS web site]

Post Office Department.

Finance Office, March 10, 1855.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen.

The Postmaster General wishes you to prepare a ten cent postage stamp and strike off a supply of stamps of that denomination as soon as practicable. The details of the stamp, such as color, design, & etc., is left to you - but the P.M.G. would be pleased to see a proof. About one million of the 10 cent stamps will be a sufficient supply to start with. It would be an accommodation to have them separated in parcels of 50 sheets, as you now do the others in parcels of 100 by a paper mark.

I am very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
J. Marron,
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

371.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philadelphia March 12, 1855.

J. Marron Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Your favor of the 10th inst. is recd, ordering a ten cent Stamp plate to be engraved, and one million Stamps printed therefrom as soon as practicable.

Your order shall have our earliest attention.

Very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
per J.T. Gest

[Docket]

Mar 12, 1855

Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Order for 10 ct Stamps
recd—

372.

[National Archives]

Hon. James Campbell
Postmaster General U.S.

Philada

61 South 6th
March 15, 1855

My dear Sir,

During a visit to England last year I was struck while residing in London with the convenience of the English P. O. Stamps, which are pierced with small holes so as to enable the public to dispense with scissors, knife, or any other implement _ (?) in separating them from the sheet. I enclose a set of four upon which the experiment may be tried. It is said, moreover, that the fringe (?) which is formed by the small semi-circles secures a firmer adhesion to the paper. I do not know by what machine the holes are perforated but it must be a Simple one such as _ (?) could early _ (?) if the English invention is inaccessible.

I can hardly doubt that the introduction of the improvement would be generally acceptable and popular, and I should be very glad to see you _ (?)

Very truly
your friend & sev

Horace Binney Jr

[Docket]

15 March 1855

Horace Binney
regarding the English
mode of Separating
Stamps

March 16, 1855
answd by P M Genl
informally

373.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Department
Finance Office March 16, 1855.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

We have frequently been urged of late to adopt the English plan of perforating their stamps so as to render them separable without cutting, and I send you four penny stamps, just received from Horace Binney Jr. Esq. It is claimed for this plan that they can be separated with the fingers, and that the jagged edges render them more adhesive. As prepayment of all inland letters after the 1st proximo, will bring our stamps much more into use, and as the Postmaster General desires as much as practicable to promote the public convenience, he wishes you to look into the matter with the view of adopting the plan of perforating at an early day. Do you know the English process and what it costs? Can we get the requisite machinery here, and what will the process cost us per thousand? You will see that it is done after the stamps are gummed.

I am very respectfully,
J. Marron,

Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

374. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Mar 19, 1855

Dear Sir

Your favor of 16th is recd.—We are at present unable to answer your enquiries in regard to the process used by the English in perforating their Stamps, its cost, or whether the requisite machinery can be procured here, but we will immediately make a thorough enquiry into the whole matter with a view to meet the wishes of the Post Master General, and you may rely upon our furnishing you with the result of our enquiries and an estimate of the Cost at the earliest moment in our power—

As the first step will be to ascertain all that we can about the English mode of doing it, it will necessarily require a couple of months before we can be accurately informed from that quarter, meanwhile we will institute enquiries here—There is no doubt in our minds of the practicability of the thing, and as John Bull has already done it, you may rely upon it, Brother Jonathan will not be outdone.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. Post Master Genl.

[Docket]

19 Mar 1855

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Regarding the English
mode of perforating
Stamps—

March 20 1855
answd

375. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. March 27, 1855

Dear Sir

As the 1st April is very near at hand I beg respectfully to say that we are prepared to supply any quantity of Stamps that the Department may require to meet the increased demand under the new Postage law.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt St
S. H. Carpenter

PS.

I presume you have not yet recd. a reply from the Commissioner of Patents touching the Perforating Machine—I am making all the inquiries in my power and have no doubt shall arrive at something satisfactory in due time—Of course you may rely on my doing all that is possible to meet your & the Postmaster Generals wishes in regard to this matter—

J. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. Post Master Genl.
Washington DC.

[Docket]

27 Mar 1855

Perforating machine

S H Carpenter, Manfr.
Ready to Supply any
amt. Of Stamps the
Dept. may require.

376.

[National Postal Museum]

New York, March 28, 1855

J. Marron Esq.

Dear Sir:

I have the offer of the right to use and manufacture the machine for Perforating between the stamps, so that they can be torn apart without cutting. The gentleman I am in correspondence with on the subject is the inventor of the machine purchased by the British Government. The Perforation is done by a separate process from the Printing, and in England is done by the clerks in the Stamp office. I can get the machine, and have the thing done in a corner of your room, by a clerk, or under your eye. If done so, it will be a great check to counterfeiting, and will relieve the stamp manufacturer of some responsibility. If the Department will contract with me to do this work, on its premises, or otherwise, I shall be glad to treat with the P. M. General on the subject. And we do not, in that case, propose to get out a Patent, unless necessary. I should prefer to agree to do the work for a specified sum per 100 sheets.

You will oblige me by laying this communication before the Postmaster General, with my compliments.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Sevt
Jas. I. Crowell

[Notation at top of page: "April 2, 1855/Sent Toppan Carpenter/a copy/J. Marron"]

[Docket]

March 28, 1855

Perforated Stamps
J. T. Crowell of
New York

about a machine
for perforating Stamps

COMMENT: Henry Archer sold his patent rights to the British Post Office, hence Crowell's proposal does not square with all known facts. Later letters show Crowell did not deliver as promised.

377. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Department
Finance Office, March 29, 1855.

Gentlemen:

I enclose the answer of the Commissioner of Patents to my letter of the 20th inst. in relating to perforating machinery. It seems they have nothing for our purpose. I enclose, also a letter from a Mr. R. K. Swift of Chicago on that subject. We know nothing more of Mr. Swift than the accompanying handbill or advertisement indicates.

The Postmaster General does not wish you to commit yourself to any one for perforating the stamps without first communicating with the Department and receiving its sanction. All that is wanted at present is to ascertain if the thing can be well done and upon what terms.

J. F. Crowell, of New York, will probably address you himself, or refer to you a person who professes to have the English patent, and there will be other parties who may put themselves in communication with you, but you will of course make no engagement with any of them until the Postmaster General shall direct it.

We sent yesterday a requisition for three and ten cent stamps. We do not suppose that the latter are yet ready, but if they are, so much the better.

Very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
J. Marron,
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter Casilear & Co.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

COMMENT: The letter from Swift forwarded by Marron was apparently the one Swift wrote in November 1854 (#361). The Post Office did not act on Swift's recommendation until Binney's letter of 15 March 1855 (#372). Marron's direction in this letter prevented TCC from engaging anyone to perforate stamps, but the firm apparently believed they were permitted to order a perforating machine as part of the evaluation process.

377A. [National Postal Museum, [USPCS web site](#)]

No. 95
Philadelphia March 29. 1855

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps,

viz.;

256 Packages ea. containing 30,000 Stamps of 3 cents — 7,680,000.

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
per,
Samuel R. Lentz

Affirmed & subscribed to
this 29 day of March
AD 1855 before me
Stephen N. Simmons
Alderman & Justice of the peace

April 25th 1855 }
J. L. Lancaster } *These two*
J. Marron } *signatures in*
April 25 1855 } *different inks*

[Box Notation]

3
19
23-
20
20
20
20
22
22
21
23 *Incomplete*
24

[Value Notation]	
256	256,000
900	25,600
230,400	230,400

378. [National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia March 29th 1855

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps

viz,;

256 Packages each containing 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts, 7,680,000.

We cannot at present supply your order for Ten Cent Stamps as we have none in readiness—but we will send them as soon as possible.

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

379.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. March 31, 1855

Dear Sir

Your favor of 29th (enclosing that of the Commissioner of Patents) duly recd.—We have also recd. a communication from Mr. R. K. Swift on the subject of the perforation of Stamps and shall reply thereto immediately, altho' it is not very probable that he will be able to furnish the Machine necessary for the work to be done—We can only repeat our assurances to the Post Master General that every effort on our part shall be made to accomplish his wishes—Of course we shall not feel authorized to make any Engagement with any one in relation to this matter until we shall have reported to the Post Master General and received his Sanction—

We were called on today by Capt. Schwartz in relation to the subject of enclosing various numbers of Stamps in large Envelopes (according to a Sample handed to us)—We will endeavor to ascertain the cost of furnishing these envelopes—with the Sheets of Stamps counted and placed in the envelopes—and give you an estimate as early as practicable, next week—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

J. Marron Esqre
3rd. Asst. Post Master Genl.

[Docket]

31 Mar 1855

Toppan Carpenter & Co
regarding the perforation
of Stamps

April 2, 1855

Sent copy of J. T. Crowells
letter of 28th ulto about per-
forating stamps.

COMMENT: Swift wrote directly to TCC, but no details are known.

380.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. Apl 4, 1855

Dear Sir

In order to be able to form a correct estimate at the rate at which we can afford to furnish the envelopes, and count & enclose the Stamps in parcels of 10, 20, 30 & 40 Sheets (or in whatever number you may direct) it is desirable that we should know as near as practicable, the number of Envelopes (thus to have Stamps enclosed) that will probably be required—say in one year—If we can approximate to this, we can then arrive at more correct conclusions than will be possible in the absence of all data of this kind—Will you have the kindness to give us a rough estimate of the probable number that will be required, when we will immediately furnish the required estimate of cost—

Would it not be well to have printed on each envelope, the number of Stamps that each contains—Say—an envelope containing 10 Sheets—have printed on one corner of it—“1000 Stamps 3 Cents”—(or, whatever denomination may be enclosed) and so on, up to the highest number—this would save a great deal of trouble in marking and could be done with but little additional expense—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
J. Marron Esqr.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.

[Docket]

4 Apl 1855

Toppan Carpenter & Co
wants information to
enable them to furnish
an estimate for
Supplying PM's with
Stamps

COMMENT: This discusses preparations for the Stamp Agent. TCC will package unsealed envelopes, and the Agent will verify and dispatch. See also #382 for relationship of this function to the Agent.

381.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Department
Finance Office, April 10, 1855.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

X X X X X

We are very anxious to have the 10 cent stamps. When will they be ready? One cent stamps will soon be wanted as we have only 700,000 left.

Respectfully,
J. Marron,
Third Asst. P.M. General.

382.

[National Postal Museum, Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. Apl 12, 1855

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl.

Dear Sir

Your favor of 10th is recd.—The wrapping of each parcel of Stamps in a half Sheet of envelope paper (before being put in the Envelopes) will make it necessary for us to make further inquiries as to the Cost of Said paper and estimates as to the additional time required in the operation of folding and enclosing the Stamps—We understand that you will require each parcel of Stamps—whether it contains 5 or 40 Sheets—to be wrapped in a full half Sheet of paper, similar to the Sample sent to us—We understand that you will require each package so wrapped to be folded over at the ends, but not Sealed—and we understand that each package so wrapped & folded is to be placed in the Envelope and the Envelope to be left unsealed (altho' the Envelopes are to be gummed or Self-Sealing)—

Will you have the kindness to say whether the above is a correct understanding of your meaning & wishes—

We should be glad to learn the Cost to the Government (pr Ream) of paper similar to the half Sheet enclosed to us (if the enquiry is a proper one) merely with a view to arriving at a fair price at which Paper Makers ought to furnish it to us, altho' we must expect to pay more than the Government inasmuch as the quantity that we will require will be so much less than that furnished the Government—

We have a quantity of One Cent Stamps, ready for delivery at any moment that you may please to forward the requisition—

The 10 cent Stamp Plate will be finished and ready for printing on the 25th, and you shall have a supply of these Stamps on the 1st Prox.

Very respectfully,
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

April 12 1855

Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Makes a Statement of what he understands to be the requirements of the Dept. in relation to putting up & furnishing the envelopes for postage Stamps—and asks if he is correct?

COMMENT: The typescript on the USPCS web site contains only the last paragraph (highlighted). Above it is "XXXX" indicating excision of the preceding paragraphs.

383.

[National Postal Museum: [Travers, USPCS web site](#)]

Philadelphia, April 12, 1855.

J. Marron, Esqr

Dear Sir:

Your kind communication is received and I thank you sincerely for the hint, (as I always do for your suggestions in relation to the improvement of the Stamps) -

I have examined into the matter and find that there are two causes for the defects to which you refer, and one of which cannot be remedied for some time and that is, the Size of the Paper - If it had been made an inch larger each way, the gum would not have got on the face of the Stamps, which is now difficult to prevent, as with all the care that can be exercised, some of the gum will get between the sheets at the edges, but I have given orders to the gummings to be particularly careful to throw out every sheet on which the gum shall get on the face of the stamps, and after the stamps which are now gummed, counted, sealed and ready for delivery (say about nine millions) are exhausted, you may rely upon having none sent you except such as are free from the blemish alluded to, and if amongst those already gummed there should be found any sheets that are thus faulty and you will direct the person counting them to throw them all out, I will cheerfully furnish a like number of impressions of perfect sheets to supply the place of those rejected -

I am particularly anxious to perfect our Stamps in every possible manner & shall at all times feel greatly obliged if you will have the kindness to make any suggestions tending to that end -

I have had two communications from Mr. Crowell, but in consequence of the absence from the City of the gentleman who has the control of the machine, he is not prepared to make any proposition, but hopes to do so in about 10 days - I have also another communication from Mr. Swift (of Chicago) in which he promises to furnish a model of his machine "in a few weeks." I place more reliance however on my efforts "over the water" and where they have a machine actually in operation and can speak knowingly / & from actual experience - My son in law sailed for England in the *Africa*, and he has special instructions to make every necessary enquiry and obtain a clear knowledge of the whole subject and will devote all the time that may be necessary to the investigation, and unless the matter is a "Government secret", I have no doubt he will be able to furnish me with satisfactory information in regard to the whole matter - I presume therefore that in the course of a month I shall be able to communicate to you something definite in regard to the perforation of Postage stamps.

I am very Respectfully,
Your Obt Svt
S.H. Carpenter.

[Docket]
Apl 12 1855

S. H. Carpenter

explanation of the cause
of defects in Stamps
& the remedy Suggested &c

COMMENTS:

- *Africa sailed from Boston on 28 March, arriving in Liverpool 7 April 1855. (North Atlantic Mail Sailings, Hubbard & Winter, 36).*
- *Carpenter's son-in-law was probably William Cumming Smillie, who was born in Scotland in 1813, emigrated with his family to Quebec in 1821, and moved to NY in 1830. The writer of letter #407 was the person who made the trip and ordered the machine. Letter #412 says "Mr. Smillie (our partner) has ordered" the machine. According to Antecedents of the American Bank Note Company of 1858, Foster Wild Rice, there were two Smillies who were TCC partners at this time: William C. Smillie, who was a partner 1840-58, and his elder brother James Smillie, a partner 1850-58. James' son William Main Smillie, also became a partner in 1853.*
- *William C. Smillie became a partner in Rawdon, Wright and Hatch in 1833 at the age of 20, then Casilear, Durand, Burton & Edmonds in 1836, Draper, Toppan & Co. in 1840, and Toppan, Carpenter & Co. in 1844. Although he was young, the Smillies were a renowned family of engravers, so the age is not surprising.*

- *Samuel H. Carpenter, born 1798, had three sons and two daughters, one of whom, Emily was living at home in 1850. According to the 1840 census, The elder daughter was born between 1820 and 1825. James Smillie lived in New York and was married to Catharine, who was born in NY about 1808, thus too old to have been Samuel H. Carpenter's daughter. William Main Smillie did not marry until 1859. William C. Smillie was married to Agnes, born in Pennsylvania about 1826 or 1827. Birth dates are often inaccurate in census records, so Agnes was probably Carpenter's daughter. According to Hasbrouck's History of Dutchess County, New York, Smillie was in charge of Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Co.'s Philadelphia office, and there met Agnes. They were married 10 October 1843. If Rice's partnership information is correct, the firm may have been different, but this is a plausible explanation for the meeting of William C. Smillie and Carpenter's daughter.*

383A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 96
Philadelphia April 21st. 1855.

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esqre. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps:

viz.;

94 Packages ea. contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cents — 2,820,000.
20 do “ 50,000 do 1 do — 1,000,000.

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Samuel R. Lentz

[Box Notation]

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. P.M. Genl.
Washington DC.

<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
22	13
21	<u>7</u>
21-	20

City of Philadelphia p.
Samuel R. Lentz being affirmed says that
that *[sic]* the facts above set forth are true.
Affirmed & subscribed
before me this 21st day of
April 1855.

10
<u>20</u>
94

Jno. B. Kenney
Alderman & Justice of the Peace

Samuel R. Lentz

COMMENT: 1855 McElroy's City Directory: KENNEY JOHN B., alderman, 119 S 6th, h 10 Comptroller.

384. [National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia April 21st 1855

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Dr. Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master the following Packages of Postage Stamps,

	viz.;
94 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.	2,820,000
20 do 50,000 1 ct.	<u>1,000,000</u>
Stamps	3,820,000

Very Respectfully
 Yr. Obt. Svts
 Toppan, Carpenter & Co
 per
 J. T. Gest

385. [National Archives]

Philad Apl 24, 1855

J. Marron Esqre
 3d Asst. Post Master Genl.

Dear Sir

Having now obtained estimates of the cost of Envelopes and Paper (in which each package is to be wrapped) we respectfully make the following proposals for furnishing the Postage Stamps put up in Envelopes as desired by you—

Viz

We will perform all the labor for counting the Postage Stamps in parcels of from 5 to 50 half sheets (as may be directed by the Department) and wrapping each package so counted, in half sheets of colored paper (of similar kind and quality to the Samples herewith marked A and B) and then enclosing each package thus wrapped in a White Envelope of the Government pattern (made of paper equal in quality to the sample herewith marked C) and have printed on each of said Envelopes the words “Post Office Department—Official business”, and (if required) also the words “1000 Postage Stamps of 3 Cents”—(or such other number and denomination as may be directed) and for the faithful performance of these duties, including the furnishing of the paper and Envelopes as above mentioned, we will charge at the rate of Thirty dollars per thousand Envelopes (without reference to the number of Stamps that may be enclosed in each envelope)—

or—If the Department will furnish us with the envelopes and Paper (presuming that you may have large Contracts for such articles and can procure them at lower rates than we can) we will perform all the labor of counting, wrapping and enclosing the Stamps, charging therefor at the rate of Ten Dollars for every thousand Envelopes thus counted and packed—

Very respectfully
 Your Obt Svts,
 Toppan Carpenter & Co

386. [National Postal Museum: Travers (Typescript only on USPCS web site)]

Philada. May 3, 1855.

Dear Sir.

In consequence of the 12 Cent Stamps being so seldom called for, we have not printed any of that denomination for several months, and we regret to say that we have only one package on hand - we will print some more immediately, and shall be able to furnish the residue of your order for both 10 and 12 cent stamps on Monday next - In order that there may be no delay, we will retain one of the boxes here, so that we may despatch the stamps as soon as they are ready -

Very Respectfully
 Your Obt servts
 Toppan Carpenter & Co

J. Marron Esqre
 3rd Asst. Post Master Genl.

[Docket]

May 3, 1855

Philad. Pa
 Toppan Carpenter & Co

About printing 12¢
postage Stamps

386A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 967 No. 97
 Philada. May 3. 1855.

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philada. the following Postage Stamps.

viz.;

123 Packages ea. contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.	3,690,000.
13 do 50,000 do 1 ct.	650,000.
1 do 20,000 do 12 cts	20,000.
6 do 40,000 do 10 cts	240,000.
	<hr/>
Stamps.	4,600,000.
	<hr/>

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
 per
 Samuel R. Lentz

	[Box Notation]			
	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>12</u>
Affirmed and subscribed	13	12	6	1
before me May 3 rd 1855		25		
Jno. B. Kenney		20-		
Alderman &		20-		
Justice of the Peace		20		
		<u>26</u>		
Samuel R. Lentz		123		

387.

[National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia May 3, 1855

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia, the following Postage Stamps,

viz.;

123 Packages ea. Contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.	3,690,000
13 do do 50,000 do of 1 ct.	650,000
1 do do 20,000 do of 12 cts.	20,000
6 do do 40,000 do of 10 cts	<u>240,000</u>
Stamps,	4,600,000

Very Respectfully
Yr. Obt. Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

387A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 978

Philadelphia

May 7. 1855.

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps.

viz.;

8 Packages each contg. 50,000 Stamps of 1 ct.	400,000.
4 do do 20,000 do 12 "	80,000.
7 do do 40,000 do 10 "	280,000.
Stamps.	<u>760,000.</u>

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
per
Samuel R. Lentz

City of Philadelphia
Personally appeared before me
the subscriber one of the Aldermen
of the said city Samuel R. Lentz
and was [sworn?] to this Claim as
being Correct Jos. Shermer
May 7/55 Alderman

COMMENT: 1855 McElroy's City Directory: Shermer Joseph, alderman, South bel 8th, h N E 8th & South.

388. [National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia May 7, 1855

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps

viz.;

8 Packages ea. Contg. 50,000 Stamps of 1 ct.	400,000
4 do do 20,000 do 12 "	80,000
7 do do 40,000 do 10 "	<u>280,000</u>
Stamps	760,000

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

389. [National Archives]

I, Louis Watkins, being employed to prepare Postage Stamp Legers in the Post Office Department do swear that I will faithfully perform all the duties required of me, and abstain from every thing forbidden by the laws in relation to the establishment of Post Offices and Post Roads within the United States: and I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States.

Louis Watkins

Sworn before the subscriber a Justice of the Peace for the County of Washington D.C. tis Eleventh day of May A.D. 1855, and I also certify that the person above named is above the age of sixteen years, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

D. Saunders, J P

N.B.—The person who takes the oath should sign his name above the Magistrate's certificate.
Insert Postmaster, Assistant Postmaster, or Carrier, (as the case may be.)

390. [National Archives]

INSTRUCTIONS TO POSTMASTERS.

By the act of March 3, 1855, requiring the pre-payment either by stamps, stamped envelopes or in money, of all letters to places *within the United States*, from and after April 1st, 1855, the single rate under 3,000 miles is three cents, and over 3,000 miles, in the United States, ten cents. From and after January 1st, 1856, all such letters must be pre-paid either by stamps or stamped envelopes. The franking privilege is continued, and by another act extended to Ex-Vice Presidents of the United States.

The law relative to drop letters is not changed in any particular by the recent act.

The act of March 3, 1855, making no provision for *unpaid* letters to places *within* the United States—on the same or day following any such unpaid letter or letters being put into a post office, the postmaster thereof will post up conspicuously in his office a list of the same, stating that they are held up for postage. Any unpaid letters, dropped into mail cars to be forwarded, must be deposited by the route agents in the post office at or nearest the point where they are received, and the postmaster will add them to his list, stating that they were put into the cars unpaid. If not attended to, all such letters must be returned monthly to the dead letter office.

Letters *part paid* should be despatched, charged with the additional postage due at the pre-paid rate, according to distance, established by said act, except where the omission to pay the correct amount is known to have been intentional, when they should be treated the same as letters wholly unpaid.

It is proper to forward a letter when duly requested. When forwarded, no additional postage should be charged, if the letter, contrary to its address, has been mis-sent. If it has been sent according to its address, and then forwarded, it must be charged with additional postage, at the pre-paid rate, according to distance, established by the act of March 3, 1855, which additional postage may be paid either at the forwarding office or at the office of delivery.

The franking privilege is not changed by the new postage act of 3d March, 1855. Of course all persons entitled to this privilege before the passage of the late law still retain it. Any postmaster, whose compensation of the last preceding fiscal year did not exceed \$200, can send through the mail all letters written by himself, and receive letters addressed to himself, on his private business, free of postage, the weight of each letter not to exceed half an ounce. He cannot receive free nor frank printed matter of any kind; nor letters addressed to his wife, nor to any other member of his family; nor can he frank letters to editors or publishers containing money in payment of subscription.

The franking privilege of postmasters whose yearly compensation exceeds \$200 is restricted to sending and receiving free, written communications relating exclusively to the business of their offices, or of the post office department. The penalty for a violation of law in this particular is \$300.

It being impracticable in all cases to determine what postmasters are entitled to receive their private communications free, a *manuscript* letter addressed to a postmaster should not be detained in the mailing office, for the reason that the postage on it is not pre-paid, except in cases where it is known that the postmaster addressed is not entitled to receive his private letters free. And if letters to any postmaster are known to relate exclusively to “post office business,” being so superscribed, they should be mailed free.

Any postmaster receiving a letter free, which should have been charged with postage, is bound by his oath of office to charge himself with such postage in his account with the department.

Postmasters are required to report to the department all violations of the franking privilege.

The law, fixing the penalty for violation at fifty dollars, provides “that no postmaster or assistant postmaster shall act as *agent* for lottery offices, or under any color of purchase, or otherwise, vend lottery tickets;” and that “no postmaster shall *receive* free of postage, or *frank* lottery schemes, circulars or tickets.” Therefore, all such lottery schemes, circulars or tickets, addressed either to a postmaster or assistant postmaster, must hereafter be excluded from the mail, together with all other transient matter of this kind, addressed simply to an office and not to any individual.

Copyright books, charts, &c., required to be delivered to the library of Congress or Smithsonian Institution, and which are entitled to pass free in the mail, should be superscribed "Copyright for Congress Library," or "Smithsonian Institution," as the case may be.

All letters placed on a mail steamboat, on which the mails are in charge of a route-agent, should go into the hands of such agent and on these letters the master of the vessel is not entitled to receive any compensation. None but pre-paid letters should be received on such steamboat, and these should be duly mailed. But should any chance to be unpaid, they should be deposited by the route-agent in the post office at or nearest the point at which they are received, and the postmaster should post up a list of them, with the unpaid letters dropped into his office, adding that they were put on board the steamboat unpaid.

In like manner, when practicable, all letters should be pre-paid which are received by steamboats or other vessels not in the mail service, or carrying the mail with no route-agent on board. When pre-paid, the master of the vessel, if under contract to carry the mail, may receive one cent "way," and if not under contract with the department, two cents each from the postmaster in whose office he deposits them; and they should be delivered to their address without any charge beyond the amount pre-paid. But if unpaid, they should be treated as ship-letters, and are chargeable as such with a postage of six cents if delivered at the office at which the vessel shall arrive, and with two cents in addition to the ordinary rate of postage if destined to be conveyed by post to another place. In the latter case, the master of the vessel is entitled to receive two cents a letter.

Persons desiring to send their letters by steamboats can most readily accomplish their object by enclosing such letters in the stamped envelopes issued by the department, inasmuch as letters so enclosed may be conveyed out of the mail without a violation of the law, and need not be delivered to the postmaster on the arrival of the vessel.

Letters relating exclusively to the cargo of the vessel by which they are conveyed are not subject to postage, but should be left unsealed—the law relating to such letters remaining unchanged.

Ship letters, as they cannot be prepaid, and are not supposed to be embraced in the new act, will continue to be despatched agreeably to the provisions of the 15th section of the act of March 3, 1825. Abstract logs, addressed to the Superintendent of the National Observatory, are to be treated as ship letters.

The rates and regulations in regard to letters to or from Canada and all other foreign countries are not changed by the new act.

Every Postmaster, in addressing the Department, should be careful to write the name of his office, County and State, at the head of his letter, and to avoid writing on more than one subject in the same letter. He should then postmark the letter with the name of his office and State, as well as date of mailing, and address it to the proper *bureau*.

In stamping letters, great care should be observed to render the impression distinct and legible.

JAMES CAMPBELL
Postmaster General.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
May 15, 1855

390A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 99
Philadelphia May 17th 1855

We do hereby certify that we have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. Post Master at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps:

viz.;

126 Packages each contg. 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts 3,780,000.

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
per,
Samuel R. Lentz

City of Philadelphia S. S..

Personally appeared before me an Alderman of the City of Philadelphia Samuel R. Lentz, who being duly affirmed according to law doth depose and say, that the facts above stated are Just and true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Affirmed and subscribed before me the 17th day of May 1855.

Armon Davis } Samuel R. Lentz
Alderman and ex officio }
a Justice of the Peace }

COMMENTS:

- *1855 McElroy's City Directory: DAVIS ARMON, alderman, 20 S 7th.*
- *This is the final receipt certificate executed by TCC; deliveries after this were recorded by the Stamp Agent.*

390B. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

[All of the sworn certificates from TCC to the 3rd Asst. PMG were contained in a cover with the typed label below]

1851 to 1855

TOPPAN, CARPENTER & CO.

Record of postage
stamps delivered from

June 21, 1851
to
May 17, 1855

391. [National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia May 17th 1855

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Dr. Sir

We have this day delivered to Jno. Miller Esq. P. M. at Philadelphia the following Postage Stamps.

Viz.;

126 Packages each containing 30,000 Stamps of 3 cts.

3,780,000

Very Respectfully
Yr. Obt. Svts.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per
J.T. Gest

392. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. May 29, 1855

J. Marron Esqre
3rd. Asst. Post Master Genl.
Washington DC.

Dear Sir

Your favor of 26th is recd. And we accept the modifications of the terms proposed by us (as stated by you) and will be prepared to enter upon our duties under the Contract by the time named (or even Sooner if required)—We have made a contract for the Envelopes and shall receive a portion of them next week.

The Room for the Agent will be papered and put in nice order tomorrow, and he will no doubt have every thing ready to commence his duties in a few days—

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

May 29, 1855

Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Accepts the terms proposed
for the Stamp Agency
&c

393. [National Archives]

Stamp Agency Philadelphia P.A.
June 6th 1855

Mr John Marron
3d Assistant Post Master Genl.

Sir

Your Letter of instruction together with the Books and Blanks for the Agency have been received.

I have this day appointed Mr D. H. Henry Clerk and I would inform you that we are ready for duty at any time that it may suit your Convenience to send Order.

I am verry Respectfully,
Your Obd't Servant

Jesse Johnson
Stamp agt

[Docket]

June 6, 1855
Jesse Johnson, Agt &c

Acks receipt of books
& instructions for the
Stamp Agency

June 7 1855

Wrote him expressing
The P M General's astonishment
At his making appointment
Without authority from PMG
J M

394.

[National Archives]

Philadelphia June 8th 1855

Dear Sir

I sincerely regret that my first act was not satisfactory to the department, but there is no difficulty in correcting it

Mr Henry relieves me from all embarrassment in the matter, and the wishes of the department, Shall be complied with, without hesitation

I remain your very
Obt Servant

Jesse Johnson

To John Marron Esqr

[Docket]

June 8, 1855
Jesse Johnson, Agt.

He regrets having
given dissatisfaction
in his first act by
the appn. Of a clerk
&c

395.

[National Archives]

Philadelphia, June 9th 1855.

John Oakford Esq.

Dear Sir—

At the kind suggestion of the Judge, Jesse Johnson tendered to my son Thomas, a Clerkship in his new office. I regard it, certainly, as an act of friendship, and shall not lose the recollection of it. My son is grateful for this mark of confidence in him, and desires me to thank both yourself and the Judge. After taking a day to consider it, he came to the conclusion that it would not be for his interest to accept the kind favor, so generously tendered, and therefore respectfully declines it. He has, however, a friend named Edward Lameasure, a young man of excellent moral character, of more than ordinary intelligence, a good penman and Clerk, of industrious habits, and a sterling and active Democrat. He is the mainstay of a recently widowed mother and sisters, and all his family connections are of the Democratic fold. His mother is the sister of Washington J. Jackson, and if he were appointed to the Clerkship tendered my son, I think it would bind the whole Jackson family to the Judge's interest. I spoke to Jess about the matter and he was satisfied; but suggested this letter to yourself. I write in the midst of business, but you will hear from me again, this afternoon. Respectfully your friend,

Edw G Webb

[Docket]

June 9 1855
Edwd G Webb

Respectfully declines the
Offer of a clerkship to his
Son & recommends Edwd.
Lameasure

June 12, 1855

Wrote Jesse Johnson
Inclosing letter of appt.
Of Edward Lameasure
At \$700 per ann

COMMENT: The "Judge" was James Campbell, PMG under Pierce. He served from 4 Mar 1853 to 4 Mar 1857.

396.

[National Archives]

No. 11

I Edwin Lamasure, being appointed Clerk and Assistant in the office of the Agent for distributing Postage Stamps, in the City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, do swear, that I will faithfully perform all the duties required of me, and abstain from every thing forbidden by the laws in relation to the establishment of Post Offices, and Post Roads within the United States: and I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States .

Edwin Lamasure.

Sworn before the subscriber an Alderman for the City of Philadelphia this fourteenth day of June A.D. 1855, and I also certify that the person above named is above the age of sixteen years, to the best of my knowledge, and belief.

George Moore
Ald

397. [National Archives]

C & DS - In matter of Perforating P. O. Stamps

Chicago, June 19, 1855

To The 3rd Assistant
Postmaster
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

I addressed you some months since in relation to the above matter.

I now enclose herewith samples of perforated stamps and papers. Those marked A & B were done by E. W. Hadley of this city with very simple machines which he constructed himself. They are now fitted to be worked by hand but can be arranged to be worked either by hand or steam and at a cost of about \$500. The machine which cut the sample marked B is the second machine made by Mr. Hadley and he says it works with much less power than the one which perforated the round holes in the sample marked "A". The cost of making either machine will be about the same to wit \$500.

Please return me the samples or in lieu thereof a like number of other P. O. stamps.

Mr. Archer of London, the Patentee of the English P. O. stamp perforator has written me that his charge for his machine delivered in London will be 1250 pounds. It is worked by steam and requires a good deal of power to work it.

I also enclose Sample "C" which I received from Mr. Archer.

Yours etc

R. K. Swift

Mr. Hadley's machine can be worked by a boy or by steam.

[Docket]

June 19, 1855
E. W. Hadley
pr R. K. Swift
Chicago Ill

Inventor of perforating
Machine Specimens
Enclosed—Price of
Machine \$500

Mr. Archer London Patentee
Specimen Enclosed
Price of Machine £1250

398. [National Postal Museum]

Chicago June 20th 1855

Col. R. K. Swift

Dear Sir In accordance with your suggestion I herewith submit two Samples of the prepared Post Stamps. One is like the English and would answer very well but the perforations should be somewhat closer than the Sample—The other plan or mode of preparing the Sheets for division is Strictly my own and I believe it far preferable to the English and can be accomplished by machinery with much less power and more capacity. I am willing to undertake to build a machine that can do this work in either way very rapidly and the power necessary I think would not exceed the strength of a boy twelve or fifteen years of age—I should want five hundred dollars (\$500) for the trial machine. The right to use the same must of course be matters of consideration which could be settled Subsequently.

Please ascertain about the number of Sheets per diem required to supply the department—I shall wait further advices from you before making any other experiments—

Very Respy Yours &c
E. W. Hadley
88 Lake St.

[Memo at left side of letter: “Please return this to me & oblige RKS/To the 3d Asst. P.M.]

[Enclosed with this letter is a check and its stub partially separated by a row of perforations bearing the notation “Archer’s/Done by English/Machine.” Also a piece of paper perforated into an irregular block of 17 “stamps,” labeled “Sample/C/Archer’s English machine”]

June 20 1855
E W Hadley
Chicago Ill
Samples of perforated
Stamps

COMMENT: Despite the date, this letter was apparently attached to Swift’s letter dated 19 June 1855 (#397)

399. [National Archives]

Philadelphia June 20th 1855

To John Marron Esq
Third assistant P M G

Dear Sir

I presume that we have omitted to write the name of the State upon all the bills that have been sent—if the omission gives trouble at the Department send them to me for correction. I cannot see how I come to overlook the matter

Yours with respt
Jesse Johnson
Stamp agt

400. [National Archives]

Benton Scott Co. Mo.
July 4th 1855

Sir

There came by last mail a letter directed to the "Postmaster Belle plains Scott County Mo" I know of no such Office in this County. I thought at first It was intended for Pleasant plains and Sent it there, & it was returned. I then thought It was probably intended for this office and I opened the letter, but found the Same direction on the inside, and contains \$9.00 3 cent Stamps; I therefore concluded to Write you for instructions. I can return them to you or if intended for any office in this County I can make the necessary alteration and forward it, the letter Bears date June 16th 1855.

Respectfully
Felix Gissler Allen (?) P. M.
Benton Scott Co. Mo

Jesse Johnson Esq

N.B. I hope I have acted right in this matter. I know of no such office, and I thought it was probably intended for me, and I did not know Where to Send it.

COMMENT: The writer's signature is not clear, but according to Post Office List of 1855, the Benton Postmaster was F. G. Allen.

401. [National Postal Museum]

New York, July 13, 1855

Hon J. Marron
Third Assistant P.M General

Dear Sir:

My trans-Atlantic friend who proposed getting up the stamp-perforating machine has been a long time at it, and has got up something entirely different from his English machine, which he claims to be an improvement. The sheet I enclose is cut on a machine capable of cutting in like manner twenty-five sheets at an impression. The knives are, I think, too close together across the sheet, which defect can easily be remedied. I would like your opinion of this mode of cutting, at as early a day as suits Your convenience.

Yours truly

J. T. Crowell

[Docket]

July 13, 1855

Perforated Stamps
J. T. Crowell
NY

J. T. Crowell sends a
Sheet of 3 cent Stamps
perforated by a new process
Wants the opinion of the
department

May 21, 57
Returned the Sheet of
3 cent slit stamps to Mr. Crowell

402. [National Archives]

Philada. July 14th, 1855.

Sir,

In Order No. 7 dated June 15, 1855, I am directed to send 300 three cent Stamps to “Belle Plains, Scott County, Mo. Postmaster named E. T. Berray,” by this days mail I received the inclosed letter in relation to the same, and forward it for your instructions in regard to the matter.

Very Respectfully,
Jesse Johnson
Stamp agent

John Marron Esq.
Third Ast. Postmaster Genl.

Across the face of this letter is written “Answered July 20, ’55. Postmaster at Benton Mo ordered to forward stamps to ‘Belle Plains’ Minnesota’—Mr Johnson directed to Correct the error on the order Bearing date June 15—”

[Docket]

14 July 1855

Stamp Agency—
about Stamps for
“Belle Plains,” Mo

July 20 1855
answered

COMMENT: The town of Belle Plaine, Scott Co., Minnesota was formed in 1853. A Post Office with Edward P. Berray, Postmaster, was first listed in the 1855 Post Office Directory. The directory that year was dated 1 July, so Johnson probably did not have a record of that Minnesota post office at the time he sent the order, which explains the confusion.

403.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada July 19, 1855

Dear Sir

Mr. Johnson requires instructions from you as to your wishes in regard to giving us Receipts for the Postage Stamps delivered to him on your orders—

Will you have the kindness to furnish him with such directions as you may deem advisable and oblige

Yours Very Respectfully
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

J. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. Post Mr. Genl.

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia Pa
July 19, 1855
Postage Stamps

404.

[National Archives]

Stamp Agency Philadelphia
July 26th 1855

Dear Sir

The following is an account of the expenses, that have been incurred at my office for this month

Tin boxes for stamps sent to California	\$ 2.75
Cleaning room from the 11 of June to the 11 of July	1.50
Porterage from the 11 June to the 11 July	2.00
Wm. H Maurice for stationary	1.91
D H Henry for assistance from the 6th to the 14th of June	12.00
Cleaning room from the 11th to the 31 of July	1.00
Porterage from the 11th to the 31 of July	1.33
[Total]	\$22.49

Mr. Lamasure and myself have been employed during the month without any loss time.

Yours Respectfully
Jesse Johnson
Stamp agent

To John Marron Esq
Third assistant P M General.

[Docket]

July 26, 1855
Jesse Johnson, agt

Stamp Agency—about
exps of office fixtures
&c &c—

405. [National Postal Museum]

Phila Augt 13/55

J Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Gen

Your favor of the 10th recd. We will hereafter fold the Stamps as you direct, but we think the damage is more from the weather & modes of conveyance.

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per

S. H. Carpenter Jr

[Docket]

13 Augt 1855

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Will put up Stamps
hereafter as directed

406. [National Archives]

U. S. Postage Stamp Agency
Philada. August 31st, 1855

Dear Sir

The following is an account of the expenses of this Office for the month of August 1855

Aug. 4	Tin boxes for Santa Fe & Washington Ty.	.40
Aug. 11	B. Bell for Cleaning room	1.50
Aug. 11	B. Bell for porterage to Post Office	2.00
Aug. 31	Tin box for Utah Ty.	.20
Aug. 31	Jesse Johnson for one months services as Postage Stamp Agt.	100.00
Aug. 31	E. Lamasure as Postage Stamp Agt. Assistant	55.33
	[Total]	162.43

Very respectfully
Yours &c.
Jesse Johnson
Stamp agt

John Marron Esq.
Third Asst. Postmaster Genl.

[Docket]

Augt 31, 1855

Stamp Agency
Statement of expenses
For August

Sepr 4 1855

Wrote him about
His accounts
How to settle

407. [National Postal Museum]

New York, Sept. 21st 1855
Recd in Pa from NY
Octo 30.am

Messrs. Bemrose

Gentlemen—

It affords us pleasure in addressing you now, & thus to resume the intercourse so pleasantly begun with you by the Writer in August last, to order as a trial, one of your perforating or slitting machines. The order would have been forwarded to you some time ago, if the firm had not thought it desirable to see me previously, although I supposed I had sufficiently well talked up the claims of your machines to make that unnecessary.

We wd have ordered two at this time, but the members of the firm not having enjoyed the oppy I did, of seeing the thing itself, deem it on the whole most wise to order but one.

Will you therefore give immediate attention to it, & we suggest the propriety of giving it all the additional strength you can, & particularly for the reason that we may want to use a heavier punch than that you were using when I saw you. If you know that the machine will perforate, as I understood you to say, a similar edge to that in use on the English Stamps, then you will please make a double set of Wheels or punches—one of the Character you used when I was present, and the other of the Character of the English P.O. Stamps, and in number corresponding to the impression of stamps left with you.

There is a great importance in having the machine here at the earliest day in your powers and I wd thank you to do everything possible to expedite it, that the time already lost may be redeemed. One reason that suggests itself of importance to yourselves is that as there is a person here who has written us on the subject, you will undoubtedly derive advantageously being in advance.

Will you please do us the fav. Of acknowledging the rect of this by return mail, that we may know you are progressing, & if you desire to know anything farther of the responsibility of the firm, please address Mr. Bacon in London.

When you write you had better say the exact cost of the Machine, and we will arrange to remit—Say also when we may look for it.

Yours most respectfully
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Trinity Building

[Docket]

Sept 21, 1855
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Letter to M Bemrose
ordering a perforating
Machine

COMMENT: This is the actual order from TCC for the Bemrose perforating machine. Note the machine was a slitter (rouletter) but perforating wheels were ordered if available. The competition mentioned may be either Swift or Crowell. Cost had not been determined at this time. This letter was probably written by TCC partner William C. Smillie of the New York office (see #383, 12 April 1855, and #412, 25 October 1855).

408. [National Archives]

U. S. Postage Stamp Agency
Philada. Oct 5/55

Dear Sir,

My Receipt Circulars, and blank Post Office directions are nearly out, I have enough on hand to last probably ten days.

By sending a supply you will greatly oblige

Yours Respectfully
Jesse Johnson Agt.
Per E Lamasure asst.

John Marron Esq
Third Asst P. M. Genl.

409. [National Archives]

Philada. October 6, 1855

The United States
Post Office department

To Toppan, Carpenter & Co Dr for the following Postage Stamps and Envelopes furnished to the agent of the Department during the quarter ending Sept. 19, 1855.

viz.,

2 972 800	Stamps of	1 ct
16 527 700	do	3 cts
277 150	do	10 "

99 800	do	12 "	
<u>200</u>	do	do "	(Error in 15th order)
19 877 650	Stamps @ 15 cts per m		\$2,981.65
3 605	Envelopes @ 3\$ per hun		108.15
	Rent of room—quarter ending		
	Sep. 29 1855 @ 125\$ per an.		<u>31.25</u>
	Dollars		3,121.05

Received Payment
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Octr 6, 1855

Stamps furnished &
Recpt of payment to
Toppham, Carpenter & Co
3 qr 1855

410. [National Postal Museum: Travers (two copies on USPCS web site)]

Philada. Octo 19, 1855

Dear Sir:

Herewith please receive several impressions (8) of the new 5 Cents Stamp - The plate is now ready for Press and only waiting the decision of the Post Master General as to the color in which he may direct it to be printed - We have made various experiments in colors, and those now sent are among the best that we have produced - You will recollect that we have nearly "used up" all the best colors on the other Stamps - Red, Blue Green and Black - we are therefore "put to our trumps" to get another variety that will be handsome and give sufficient body to the Stamp - We tried a yellow, and straw color, but found that neither of those colors would shew the work at all -- the head was almost entirely lost, and the lathe work a confused mass without any clearness and presenting altogether a most unpleasant appearance -

We think the color of Impression marked No. 5 will show the work to best advantage, altho this impression (as well as all the others,) has been mashed and the work injured by being pressed before the ink was dry -

We would have had them reprinted, but that we thought the time would be deemed of paramount importance by you -

Be kind enough to return us the impression which is adopted as the color to be used, (at your earliest convenience,) and we will immediately proceed to print the Stamps.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter & Co.

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl.
Washington.

Memo on face of letter:

"Returned Specimen No. 5 & ordered 6000 impressions.

24 Oct. '55
J. Marron"

[Docket]

Oct 19th 1855

New 5¢ Stamp

COMMENT: This is the first discussion in the correspondence regarding the 5c stamp, but clearly TCC and Marron had discussed it before this.

411. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

October 24th 1855.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.,

Gentlemen:

Your letter of the 19th transmitting 8 impressions of the new five cent Stamps was duly received and laid before the Postmaster General, who was much pleased with the fine taste displayed in the design and the skill evinced in the execution of the stamp. He adopts your opinion as to the color used for impression No. 5 and requests me to say that you can print 6000 impressions or sheets of 100 each to begin with. I have for lack of skill in designating colors, described that used on No 5 in a circular, I am about to have printed as a brown, May it be so designed, if not what color is it.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
J. Marron,
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

412. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Octo 25, 1855

Dear Sir

Your favor of 24th is recd—We are highly gratified to learn that the Post Master General is pleased with the design and execution of the new Stamp—It is just what we aimed to accomplish, and you know it is always pleasant to be successful in ones aims—

In this connexion it may not be amiss to say that ever since the Post Master General expressed his desire to adopt the mode of perforating the Stamps (now in use in England) we have been making every effort in our power tending to the accomplishment of his wishes—We have been in negotiation with several “Cute Yankees,” and making Enquiries wherever we thought we could gain information on the Subject—the result (on this side the water) did not seem sufficiently promising, to warrant our waiting for what might “turn up” with our inventive geniuses, and we concluded that one of our partners had better investigate the matter personally in England, and see whether he could not find there, some more Speedy and certain means of accomplishing our object—We are happy to be able to say that he thinks he has been completely successful—Mr. Smillie (our partner) has ordered a Machine made, (a working model of which he saw in successful operation) which he is satisfied will accomplish all that is desired—It

is to be completed in about 2 months, so that we hope by the beginning of January we shall be able to exhibit its successful workings to the Post Mr. Genl—

Of course we have done all this on our own responsibility and risk—

With regard to your designation of the Color to be used for the 5 Cent Stamp, you have come as near to it as can well be accomplished, and as the Color is entirely unlike that of either of those now in use—Viz Red, Blue, Green and Black, the designation Brown we should think the best that can be adopted—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
J. Marron Esqre
3rd. Asst. Post Master Genl.
Washington

[Docket]

Oct 25, 1855
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Have Ordered one
from London

about perforating machine

best color for 5¢ Stamp

413. [National Archives]

U. S. Postage Stamp Agency
Philada. Oct. 26, 1855

Sir

The amount of \$175. directed to be paid by the Postmaster, to this office will not be sufficient for the present month in consequence of the following extra expenses, namely

Stove bill and fixtures	\$13.62
Coal Bill	16.50
Printing 2 Reams Blank Directions	16.00
[Total]	\$46.12

Respectfully &c.
Jesse Johnson Agt
Per E Lamasure asst

John Marron Esq
3d asst. P. M. Genl

[Docket]

Oct. 26 '55
Philadelphia Agency
Jesse Johnson, Agt.

Bill of Extra Exps.
Miscellaneous

414. [National Archives]

Postage Stamp agency Philadelphia Nov 10th 1855

Dear Sir

The order of the Postmaster General to the Postmaster at Philadelphia, was to give me for compensation and expenses, a sum not exceeding One hundred and Seventy five dollars per month, this amount is sufficient for the current expenses of the agency, which is about One hundred and Seventy dollars per month.

Last month the agency was subjected to some extra expenses, we had to have a stove and some coal, and I was directed to have two reams of Blank directions printed, Which cost as follows

Colahon for stove & fixings	\$13.62
Daly & Porter for 3 tons of coal	16.50
F Pierson for Printing Labels (2 reams)	16.00
[Total]	\$46.12

Mr. Miller the Postmaster is not willing to give me more than the One .hundred and Seventy five dollars per month, without special instructions from the department

Yours Truly
Jesse Johnson
Agt

To John Marron Esqr
Third assistant P M G
Washington
D C
[Docket]

Jesse Johnson
Postage Stamp Agent
Philadelphia Pa
November 10 1855

Nov. 13, 1855

Wrote PM Pha
To advance \$46.12 &
Wrote J. Johnson

415. [National Archives]

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

REGULATIONS CONCERNING POSTAGE STAMPS AND STAMPED ENVELOPES

1. The following are among the provisions contained in the 1st section of the act of Congress approved March 3, 1855, to-wit:

First. The prepayment of the postage upon all letters passing through or in the mail of the United States, after the 1st day of April, 1855, excepting letters to and from foreign countries, and letters and packages addressed to officers of the government “on official business,” which must be so marked on the envelope.

Second. That “from and after the 1st day of January, 1856, the Postmaster General may require postmasters to place postage stamps upon all prepaid letters upon which such stamps may not have been placed by the writers.”

2. The first of the foregoing provisions of the act has been in operation since the 1st April, 1855; and the Postmaster General requires that the second shall be carried into effect from the 1st day of January, 1856.

3. The postage stamps thus placed upon letters which have been prepaid in money will be accounted for as stamps sold. See articles 19, 20, and 21, of the quarterly account current.

4. If a postmaster has failed to supply himself with postage stamps, he will forthwith despatch an order for them, addressed to the Third Assistant Postmaster General, Washington, D.C.; and until a supply reaches him, he will continue to forward all *prepaid* letters in the same manner as he would have done before the 1st January, 1856.

5. Postage stamps and stamped envelopes are furnished only to postmasters for sale; and to each postmaster who has executed his official bond and rendered, regularly, his quarterly returns of postages, will be sent, from time to time as he may order them, postage stamps and stamped envelopes equal in amount to the gross receipts of postage at his office for one quarter.

6. All applications for postage stamps or stamped envelopes should be made to the Third Assistant Postmaster General, and the name of the post office, county, and State, should be plainly written at the head or top of each application. If the application be made by an assistant he must sign the postmaster’s name first, and his own under it.

7. The denominations of postage stamps authorized by the Department to be issued, are *one, three, five, ten and twelve cents*. The denominations of stamped envelopes, are note size of *three cents*, letter size of *three and ten cents*; and official size of *six and ten cents*.

8. Postage stamps are to be sold at the price indicated on their face. Stamped envelopes are to be sold at the following prices, to-wit: No. 1, or note size, at 18 cents a hundred, in addition to the value of the stamps; No. 2, or letter size, at 20 cents a hundred, in addition to the value of the stamps; and No. 3, or official size, at 32 cents a hundred, in addition to the value of the stamps.

10. In making sale of envelopes, postmasters are expected to evince a due spirit of accommodation, but they are not required to lose the fractions of a cent in selling small quantities; and if a postmaster cannot readily make change, the purchaser must tender the exact amount for the number he wants.

11. Postmasters who purchase temporary supplies of postage stamps or stamped envelopes from other postmasters will not embrace such purchases in their accounts with the department.

12. Every postmaster receiving stamps or stamped envelopes for sale, directly from the Department, will, at the end of each quarter, charge himself in his quarterly account current, with any amount of such articles he may have received from his predecessor, or which remained on hand at the close of the preceding quarter, adding thereto the amounts received from the Department during the quarter just ended, and crediting himself with the amount of stamps and envelopes then remaining on hand. The balance of the account thus stated will represent the amount of stamps and stamped envelopes sold, which must be added on the debit side of his quarterly account current to the amount due on the regular return of postages for the quarter.

13. In case of resignation, removal, or death, the postmaster, or his representative, will not be allowed a credit for any stamps or envelopes turned over to his successor, unless such successor have duly qualified by giving bond; nor

unless his receipt for the amount shall be transmitted to the Auditor for the Post Office Department before the end of the quarter in which the stamps or envelopes were turned over.

14. The law makes no compensation to postmasters *for the sale of postage stamps or stamped envelopes*, except by the allowance of commissions on such as are used in prepayment of postage on letters and packages *sent from their offices*. The commission allowed in mailable matter prepaid by stamps or stamped envelopes *sent from an office* is the same as if the prepayment had been effected in money.

15. Postage stamps and stamped envelopes may be used in prepayment of postage on letters to foreign countries, in all cases where such prepayment can be made in money.

16. When letters to foreign countries are prepaid by postage stamps or stamped envelopes, the mailing postmaster should cancel the stamps, and be careful to rate and mark the letters with *red ink* as if prepaid in money.

17. A postmaster may not refuse to mail and forward a letter as prepaid, because the postage stamp or stamps affixed to it, or envelope containing it, were not purchased at his office.

18. [Letters] bearing a stamp, cut or separated from a stamped envelope, cannot be sent through the mail _ Stamps so cut or separated from stamped envelopes lose their legal value.

19. [Letters, packets], or parcels of any description, and all stamped envelopes, must be *immediately and effectually cancelled*, in the office in which the letters, packets, or parcels may be deposited for transmission or delivery. The cancellation should be effected *by the use of black printer's ink wherever that material can be obtained*; and where it cannot, the operation should be performed by making several heavy crosses or parallel lines upon each stamp with a pen dipped in good black writing ink.

20. If the canceling have been omitted on the mailing of the letter, packet or parcel, or if the cancellation be incomplete, the postmaster at the office of delivery will cancel the stamp in the manner directed, and forthwith report the delinquent postmaster to the Postmaster General, as the law requires.

21. The use of the office dating or postmarking stamp as a canceling instrument is prohibited, *unless it be used with black printer's ink, and in such manner as thoroughly effect the object*.

22. Letters , and packets, and parcels chargeable with letter postage, and prepaid by stamps or stamped envelopes, will be entered on the post-bills, and also on the transcripts of mails sent and mails received, in the appropriate column headed "prepaid by stamps."

23. The postage on newspapers, magazines, and pamphlets, prepaid by stamps, will in like manner, be entered in the proper transcript or account of newspapers, magazines, pamphlets, and other prepaid printed matter, in the column headed "prepaid by stamps."

24. In making up his quarterly account, the postmaster *will not charge himself* in his quarterly account current with the amount of mailable matter prepaid by stamps, or stamped envelopes, which may have been received at or sent from his office; but he may take his commissions *on the account of such matter originally sent from his office*, in the same manner as if the prepayment had been made in money, and without regard to where the stamps or envelopes may have been purchased.

25. All postage stamps or envelopes, whether attached to letters, packets, or parcels chargeable with letter postage, or to newspapers, magazines, pamphlets, or other printed matter, must be entered in the appropriate columns of the transcripts belonging to the quarterly returns, and the columns carefully footed up, that the Department may readily ascertain the quantity of stamps and envelopes used in the mails and cancelled.

26. Postmasters receiving postage stamps or envelopes from the Department for sale, will pay over the money by them received for stamps or envelopes sold, at the same time and in the same manner as their special instructions require them to pay over the quarterly balances due for postage.

27. No application enclosing money to the Department for stamps or envelopes will be attended to further than to return the money by mail, and order a supply to be sent by the proper agency.

28. The law provides, if any person shall use, or attempt to use, for the conveyance of any letter or other mailable matter or thing, over any post road of the United States, either by mail or otherwise, any stamp, or stamped letter envelope, which has been before used for a like purpose, such person shall be liable to a penalty of fifty dollars, to be recovered in the name of the United States, in any court having competent jurisdiction.

29. When unpaid letters, or letters bearing postage stamps that have evidently been used before, are left at any post office by persons unknown to the postmaster, he will retain such letters until the end of the quarter, and will then forward them with his quarterly returns; calling attention of the Department to those bearing cancelled stamps, that the writer may then be dealt with according to law. If, however, such letters should be reclaimed before the end of the *quarter*, those *unpaid* may be restored to the writers, but those bearing cancelled stamps will not be so restored, unless upon satisfactory proof that such stamps were used ignorantly, or without fraudulent intent.

30. When a letter bearing a cancelled stamp is posted by a person known to the postmaster, or whenever he shall ascertain the name of the person who has posted such letter with *fraudulent intent*, he will immediately present the case—by a written statement thereof—to the attorney for the United States in the district where his office is situated.

31. Postmasters of “special offices” can obtain such postage stamps and stamped envelopes as the business of their respective offices may require by addressing the Third Assistant Postmaster General, Post Office Department, and stating in each case the gross amount of postage which accrued at the office in the preceding quarter.

32. The net proceeds of a “special office,” for any quarter, are to be ascertained *from the account current*, by adding together the balance due to the United States and the postage prepaid by stamps and stamped envelopes sent from the office, and subtracting from the joint sum the amount of stamps and stamped envelopes sold at the office, as follows:

To balance due to the United States on the quarterly account current.....	\$
Add postage prepaid by stamps and stamped envelopes on letters, papers, etc, sent from the office during the quarter.....	\$
Joint sum.....	\$
Deduct the amount of stamps and stamped envelopes sold at the office.....	\$ _____
Net proceeds for the quarter.....	\$

33. The franking privilege was changed by the act of March 3, 1855.

34. *This circular must be preserved for reference.*

NOVEMBER 20, 1855

JAMES CAMPBELL,
Postmaster General

416. [National Archives]

Philadelphia Dec 17th 1855

Dear Sir

We are considerable behind time in the despatching, of orders from this office, with my present help, not more than from three to four pages or from one hundred & twenty to one hundred & fifty parcels per day can be got through with, and do the writing which I consider very necessary to be done before the packages are mailed.

And that average per day will neither furnish nor keep up a supply of Stamps in all the offices.

I think with another Smart writer we could make out to get along, please inform me what I shall do in the matter.

Yours respectfully

Jesse Johnson
Stamp agt

To John Marron Esqr
3d asst. P M General

[Docket]

Jesse Johnson
Stamp Agent
Philadelphia Pa
Decr. 17, 1855

Wrote him to employ
an assistant for 3 months
at the same price as the
present one.

417. [National Archives]

I, William Henry Oakford being appointed a Clerk in the "Stamp Agency " Office at Philadelphia in the County of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, do Swear, that I will faithfully perform all the duties required of me, and abstain from every thing forbidden by the Laws in relation to the establishment of Post Office an Post Roads within the United States. And I do Solemnly Swear, that I will Support the Constitution of the United States.

Wm Henry Oakford

Sworn before the Subscriber an alderman fr. The City of Philadelphia this Twentieth (20th) day of December A.D. 1855. And I also Certify that the Person above Named is above the age of Sixteen Years to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Charles G. Freeman
Alderman & Justice
Of the Peace Seal

418. [National Archives]

Postage Stamp agency
Philadelphia Dec 21st 1855

Dear Sir

I enclose to you the Oath of Office of Mr. Wm. Henry Oakford, and hope the same may be approved by the department

Yours Respectfully
Jesse Johnson
Stamp agt

To John Marron Esqr
3rd asst P M General

[Docket]

December 27th 1855

Advance of compensation
To 2nd asst authorized
By letter to P M Pha

419. [National Archives]

Stamp Agency
Philadelphia Dec 26th 1855

Dear Sir

I have had to incur an additional expense of \$23. for furniture for my office, Desk & chair for my second assistant Mr Wm. H. Oakford.

D K & S D Lorge for Desk & chair \$23.00

Yours Respectfully
Jesse Johnson
Stamp agent

To John Marron Esq
Third asst P M General

[Docket]

December 26 1855
Jesse Johnson Agt

Incurs an expense
For Office furniture

Dec. 27 1855
Advance authorized

420. [National Archives]

Damaged Stamps
Credited in the
2nd & 3rd quarters

of 1855

Day sent from agency				<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>12</u>	\$
July 6	Ocala	Fl	M Alexander	2.92				2.92
June 16	Sarepta Jun 15	Mi	J. P. McLarty		1000		F. DNR	30.00
June 16	Gaston Jun 16	Al	J E Westcott		1000		FDNR	30.00
June 28	Mobile	Al	T L Ferelmen			2800	2500	580.00
June 12	Hickory Barren	Mo	D Headbee		38			1.14
July2	Clinton Jun2 29	La	Jno M Bell			100	FDNR	10.00
July 2	Sneedsville June 29	Tenn	A. Campbell		500		FDNR	15.00
June 18	Rising Farm June 16	Ga	A B Hanna		300		FDNR	9.00
July 6	Monticello	Fl	J M Palmer	775		498	490	116.35
June 13	Pumpkintown	SC	J B Reid		300			9.00
June 18	Rabbittsville	Ky	W W Smith	26	20			.86
May 2	Souhahatchee	Al	W M Rape		300			9.00
June 13	Roseville	Ark	W D Sadler	6				.06
June 21	Schoolcraft	Mich	E B Dyckman	175				1.75
June 16	Yelvington	Ky	C. V. Pierce		12			.36
May 18	Fillmore May 19	Mo	E K Laughlin		2000		FDNR	60.00
May 19	Roaring River	Mo	Tho Ruble		300		RDNR	9.00
April 13	Versailles	Mo	W J Tutt	1000				10.00
June 22	Marcaline	Iowa	H Reece	700	700			28.00
May 28	Waukeenah	Fl	W F Carpenter		100			3.00
June 22	Catskill	NY	J Joesbury	200				2.00
June 23	Watkins	NY	Horace Ogden		300			30.00
May 14	Leavenworth City	KT	L N Rees		300			9.00
May 5	Lawrence	KT	C W Babcock		297			8.91
April 19	Bellefontaine	O	W V Marquis		58			1.74
May 5	Waterford	Wis	G. W. Sproat		900			27.00
June 13	Belleville	Fl	A G Johnson		66			1.98
May 11	Irish Grove	Mo	H Williams		300			9.00
June 19	Spring Level	Va	W G Maddox	5	5			.20
April 4	Pleasant Hill	Ga	T L Patrick		700			21.00
June 12	Mapleton	NY	Isaac H Oliver		5			.15
Jun 21	Harrellville	NC	Abner Harrell		500		FDNR	15.00
June 21	McCrays Store	NC	A G McCray		500		FDNR	15.00
-	NorthEast June 19	NY	W Winchell	136	300			10.36
June 28	Lower Peachtree	Al	Jacob Mayer		1000		FDNR	30.00
June 28	Fair River June 27	Mi	A McKenzie		877			26.31
July 6	McMillville	SC	S J Walling		600			18.00
July 5	Oldham X Road	Va	B. Walker Jr		45			1.35
June 25	Mountain	NC	J W Gabriel		3			.09

	Creek							
July 30	Berkley	Mass	J D Hathaway L PM		450			13.50
June 22	Florence	Ark	W G D Monroe		6			.18
July 6	Gladdens Grove July 3	SC	Danl McCullough		500		FDNR	15.00
June 11	Linden June 8	Ark	C. L. Folbree		300		FDNR	9.00
June 30	Fort Smith	Ark	Jno Rogers	265				2.65
May 8	Joni	Tex	W. T. Sadler		300		FDNR	9.00
July 16	Cochranton	Pa	Hugh Smith		9			.27
July 16	Craftsbury	Vt	Nelson Rand		25			.75
July 11	Lexington	Vt	Chas C. Lyman		40			1.20
June 20	Burkeville	Texas	J A Hall	2	76			2.30
April 21	Dover	Iowa	E A Dickey		48			1.44
Sept 30	Pushmataha Recd Sepr 21 1854	Al	B C E Estes		250			7.50
May 17	Lowell	Mo	C M Thomas		500			15.00
19	New Castle May 19	Mo	W H Waters		500		FDNR	15.00
Jun 2	Jackson	Mi	C R Dickson			100		10.00
May 22	Independence	Mo	P McClanahan			82	47	13.84
June 16	Woodbury	Ky	A F Hines		74			2.22
16	Parkerville June 14	Mi	W F Trotman		500		FDNR	15.00
May 30	Fallston	Pa	Saml Edgar		1200			36.00
Jun 20	Jacksonburgh	Ia	Jno Berry		6			.18
May	Milton	Ia	L C Chamberlin		42			1.26
Apl	Mt Hope	Al	James Struther		24			.72
June 13	Rolling Stone	NC	T Rollins		77			2.31
May 31	Bonham	Texas	M H Dixon		125			3.75
29	Falls of St Croix	Wis	M M Samuel	19	76			2.47
June 26	Louisville	Mi	W B Shumaker		41			1.23
June 25	Maxfield	Me	H Tourtilott		97			2.91
July 11	Lisbon	Va	Jno W Jones		21			.63
June 30	Rappahannock Academy	Va	Tho R Thornton Late		42			1.26
May 5	Coplingers Mills	Mo	A Masters	50	150			5.00
June 21	Cardsville	Ga	Robt Caldwell		460			13.80
July 10	Belfast July 6	Pa	Jno K Patrick		500		FDNR	15.00
July 11	Halifax July 9	Mass	E Poole		500		FDNR	15.00
June 16	Richland	Min Ty	T J Eames		388			11.64
June 12	Gainesville	Arks	J L Davies		10			.30
June 13	Sadlers Creek	SC	J L Simpson		31			.93
July 6	Shelbyville	Ky	J L Ellingwood	150				1.50
July 10	Van West	Ohio	H Robinson		22			.66
June 13	Hampden	Al	H W Hatch		30			.90
June 15	Carrsville	Ky	E H Angle			100	FDNR	10/00

	June 13							
June 26	Meriden	Ct	B L Yale			8		.80
June 20	Margarettsville	NC	J W Cooke		6			.18
July 5	Newark Valley	NY	W S Lincoln		47			1.41
June 28	Eutaw	Al	A G Murphy		29			.87
July 10	Hunts Store	NC	N Hunt Jr		31			.93
June 13	Sparta	Mi	G T Baber		146			4.38
June 26	Demopolis	Al	E A Taylor		55	2		1.85
June 16	Murray	Ia	N C Stockton		4			.12
July 2	Butler	Ga	J Williamson		71			2.13
June 16	Alton Hill	Tenne	Wilson Y Adams		140			4.20
June 20	Springfield	Mo	Joseph Burden		11			.33
June 26	Huntley Grove	Ill	P S Miller	219		72	20	11.79
June 27	Loundesboro'	Al	M Douglass		700			21.00

1856

421.

[National Archives]

Stamp agency Philadelphia
January 18th 1856

Dear Sir

I enclose you the Oaths of Mr. Samuel L. Durand dated the 12th inst and Mr. William Kelly dated the 18th inst, and ask that the same may be approved by the Department

I have incurred an expense of about twenty five dollars for Desks Chairs and a table for the office, which was wanted for the additional help allowed to the agency

Please direct the Post Master at this place to furnish me with the money necessary to meet the additional expenses

Yours Respectfully
Jesse Johnson
Agt

To John Marron Esqr
Third asst P M General

[Docket]

Jany 18, 1856
Jesse Johnson
Agent

Inclosing oaths of
William Kelly
&
S. L. Durand
Temporary assistants

422.

[National Archives]

I, William Kelly being Appointed an assistant in the Stamp Agency Office at Philadelphia in the County of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania do Swear that I will faithfully perform all duties required of me and Abstain from every thing forbidden by the Laws in relation to the establishment of Post Office and Post Roads, within the United States and I do Solemnly Swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States.

Wm Kelly

Sworn before the subscriber an Alderman for the City of Philadelphia this 18th Day of January A.D. 1856, and I also certify That the person above Named is above the age of Sixteen Yeats, to the best of my Knowledge & belief.

George Moore
Ald

423.

[National Archives]

I Samuel L. Durand being Appointed an Assistant in the Stamp Agency Office at Philadelphia in the County of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania do Swear That I will faithfully Perform all the Duties required of me and abstain from Every thing forbidden by the laws in relation to the Establishment of Post Office and Post Roads within the United States and I do Solemnly Swear That i will Support the Constitution of the United States

Samuel L Durand

Sworn before the Subscriber An Alderman for the City of Philadelphia This 12th Day of January A.D. 1856 And I also certify that The Person above named is above the Age of Sixteen Years to the Best of my knowledge And Certify

George Moore
Aldm

424. [National Archives]

Postage Stamp agency Philadelphia
January 23d 1856

Dear Sir

In order No 174 there is no direction to furnish Stamps to the Philadelphia Post Office, about the time that I received that order Mr Murphy showed me a letter from you to him directing me to furnish the office at this place with 150,000 three cent Postage Stamps, which was furnished and a receipted for the Same forwarded to the Department, a duplicate of which I have

In order No 179 I am directed to furnish the Philadelphia Post office with 150,000 three cent Stamps & 400,000 one cent which amount they have received, but the 150,000 3 cent Stamps leaves them with but a Small amount on hand as I had loaned the office nearly that amount previous to receiving the order to supply them

Yours Respectfully
Jesse Johnson
Stamp agt

To John Marron Esqr
Third asst P M General

All the orders received have been filled or sent

[Docket]

Jany 23 1856
Philadelphia Pa

Jesse Johnson about
Stamps deld Pha office

Jany 26, 56
Wrote him

425. [National Archives]

Postage Stamp Agency Philadelphia

January 26th 1856

Dear Sir

I hope that in the press of business upon you, that you will not forget to issue an order to the Post Master at this place to furnish me with funds to pay the additional assistants and about twenty five dollars for Desks table & chairs.

I would submit to the Department, if the compensation allowed, to my two first assistants and myself is not too low for the labour performed, the care and responsibility of the Situation. We have been working from 8 to 9 hours per day, and are doing so yet, My two first assistants are Smart active willing men, and do a large amount of work, and I think deserve a better remuneration for their Services.

As to myself if the business was my own private matter I could not give it more thought or attention than I do, and I think that the reports which are Sent to the department prove the facts. The Envelope agent I understand receives fifteen hundred dollars per year, and I think that my compensation aught to be equal to his.

Yours Respectfully
Jesse Johnson
Stamp agt

To John Marron Esqr
Third asst P M General

[Docket]

Jany. 26, 1856
Jesse Johnson, agt.

Wants funds

Jany 30 1856
Wrote PM Pha.

426. [National Archives]

Postage Stamp agency
Philadelphia Jany 31st 1856

Dear Sir

The 30,000 one cent & 50 Ten cent Postage Stamp returned by the Post Master at circleville Ohio has been received and returned to Toppan carpenter & co with direction to give the Department credit for the Same, and the register in my office altered to agree with the last order, that is 30,000 three cent 500 Ten cent

Yours Respectfully
Jesse Johnson
Agt

To John Marron Esq
Third asst P M General

[Docket]

Jany 31, 1856
Jesse Johnson, Agt

Reports the receipt of

Stamps from the PM
Circleville O & their
return to Tappan
Carpenter & Co

427. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Jany 31, 1856

J. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Sir,

We have this day received Warrant No 2730 of the Post Master General for \$4,222.50 in payment of our bill rendered 31st ult. For \$4,223.13—being 63 cts. less than the amt. of our bill—Was it not correctly rendered?

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per
J. T. Gest

[Docket]

Jany 31, 1856
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Receipt for \$4,222.50

428. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Feb. 1, 1856

Dear Sir

Without troubling you with a long Story to explain why, I venture to ask as a special favor, that you will direct that hereafter each & every Sheet of the orders for Stamps sent to your Agent here, may be added in pencil before they are sent—

When I have the pleasure of a personal interview I will explain—at present, I will merely say that a compliance with my request will very greatly facilitate the early delivery of the Stamps, and if you will be so kind as to direct it done, the Department will be more promptly Served than it is possible to do under the present System—

Hoping that you will excuse my troubling you

I am Very respectfully
Your Obt. Svt
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr

3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.

[Docket]

Febry 1st 1856
S. H. Carpenter

requests that each & every
order for Stamps may be
added in pencil before sent
to the Agent

429. [National Archives]

Postage Stamp agency Phila Feb 19th 1856
Dear Sir

I Sent the California & Oregon Order off to day, but to do so I had to let the other order lay over, I am considerable behind time with the business of the agency, A week since I had abot Sixty pages of order or about twenty four hundred offices on hand I have brought up Some, a little less than one half that number at this time on hand, but to do that I had to put the clerk who recorded order at helping to Send off parcels make out receipts &c, and the recording has not been done for more than a week

I think I ought to have some privilege to employ more help or to pay present help extra if they would work over hours [?] whenever their is a pressure of business I wish I could see you I could explain the matter more fully.

The time will soon be up for which I was authorized to employ the present extra help, and their does not seem to be any decrease the work to do

Yours Respectfully
Jesse Johnson
Agent

To John Marron Esqr
Third asst P M General

[Docket]

February 19, 1856
Jesse Johnson, Agt.

Wants more help

Febry 21, 1856
Answd. & more help
Authorized

430. [National Archives]

Postage Stamp agency
Philadelphia February 22nd 1856

Dear Sir

I am nearly up with the orders received, I sent off part of order No 216 this evening and all up to that number has been filled

There has been a falling off, of orders received, and my neglecting to record them has enabled to do this

With another clerk to record we will be able to send off about four hundred parcels per day, unless they should be for larger amounts than the average of those that we have been receiving

Yours Respectfully
Jesse Johnson
Agent

To John Marron Esqr
Third asst P M General

[Docket]

Feby. 22, 1856
Jesse Johnson Agt.

Reports being up
with the orders

431. [National Archives]

Postage Stamp agency
Philadelphia February 23d 1856

Dear Sir

My reports of to day, to the Department, show all orders up to No 218 filled and sent

The report sheets differing in form from the orders may make them a little difficult to be understood but we have numbered and payed them So as to make them as plain as possible, The new form of order is not as convenient for us as the old

You need not hesitate to send on orders I have only order No. 218 unfilled, and I have adopted a plan of recording the orders that will enable me soon to have that work brought up Square with the other work Record Book No 2 is nearly full, and I have laid as many pages aside as will fill it and in Record Book No 3 will have the orders with odd numbers recorded, and in Record Book No 4 will have the orders with even numbers recorded, by this plan I can have two or three persons recording until the work is brought up

The order received from the Department have fallen off so much for the last week that I do not seem to need any more help just at present but will avail myself of the privilege to employ them if I again fall behind with the work

I have good willing hands to assist me and when I press them which I have done for the last two week, we can get through with a large amount of work*

Yours Respectfully
Jesse Johnson
Agent

To John Marron Esqr

Third asst P M General

*We have Some days Sent off over 500 parcels, but that is considerable above the average of what we are able to do

[Docket]

Feby. 23, 1856
Jesse Johnson, Agt.

Explanations regarding
his report Sheets &c

432. [National Archives]

Postage Stamp agent Philadelphia March 1st 1856

Dear Sir

Mr. Miller the Postmaster has given to me the amount of money necessary to pay the expenses of the Stamp agency for the month of February. But it is not certain that he had authority to do so, as the last order from the Department dated January 30th 1856 Specified that month and only for three assistants.

The expenses of the agency with the present force, that is myself and four assistants will average about three hundred and fifty dollars per month as follows

My own Salary	\$100.00
4 assistants	229.33
Porterage & cleaning room about	<u>5.00</u>
	\$334.33

I would suggest that you would issue an order to the Postmaster at this place to advance to me monthly a sum not exceeding three hundred and fifty dollars, for in addition to the amount required for Salaries, there is some expense for Tin Boxes and Stationery &c.

Yours respectfully

Jesse Johnson
agent

To John Marron Esqr
Third asst P M General

[Docket]

March 1 1856
Jesse Johnson—Agt.

Has recd from the PM
at Pha. Moneys to
pay exps. For the mo.

March 18, 1856
Wrote PM Philadelphia

433.

[National Archives]

U. S.. Postage Stamp Agc'y
Philada. Mch 4, 1856

Dear Sir

In regard to the 20,000—1¢ stamps due the Wilmington N.C. P. O., I would state that there was a note made of that number, of 1¢ stamps being over (in Order 216) in Contractors hands, which have been given to me and this day mailed as above.

Very respectfully
Jesse Johnson Agt
Per E Lamasure Asst

[Docket]

Mch 4 1856
Jesse Johnson, Agt.

Regarding Stamps Sent
to PM at Wilmington
NC—

434.

[National Archives]

U. S. Postage Stamp Agency
Philada. March 8th, 1856

Dear Sir

Being an assistant in the Agency of distribution of Postage Stamps at Philadelphia and appointed by you (June 12th, 1855) by direction of Postmaster General, at a salary of \$700 per annum; I would respectfully make application for an increase of the same to \$900 per annum.

I refer to Mr. Johnson, Agent, (as to efficiency &c) who has informed me that he has already mentioned this to the Department, together with the fact that he considered the present salary not equal to the labor performed.

An answer will be gratefully acknowledged by

Very respectfully
Your ob'dt servant
Edwin Lamasure.

John Marron , Esq.
Third Asst. Postmaster Genl.
Washington, D.C.

[Docket]

Mar 8, 1856
Stamp Agency—Pha

Edwin Lamasure
asking for an increase
of pay—

435.

[National Postal Museum]

Chicago Apl. 3d 1856

To the 3d Assistant Postmaster General

Sir

Some months since my attention was called by Col. R. K. Swift Banker of this City to a want said to be felt by the Post office department, as well as the Commercial Community, of proper simple Machinery for the division of Postage Stamps. I have since then experimented to some extent on various plans for effecting this object and very recently completed a Machine, the results of which seem to correspond precisely with the English mode of separation, and possessing all the qualities of precision and accuracy of work together with durability and cheapness. I have this day filed a Caveat in the Patent office preparatory to an application for letters Patent for this invention.

Enclosed I send a Sample of three Cent Stamps as perforated ready for separation [illegible word] There are some trifling inaccuracies which can be readily corrected in a new Machine as it Should be mentioned that the Machine is the first Machine as well as the first invention. The Sheet of Stamps enclosed was perforated in less than one minute of time. Should the Department wish to avail itself of my plan for effecting this desirable convenience on Postage Stamps I should be happy to hear from the proper officers at an early day. I am prepared to build Machines for the use of the Department or Contract to perforate any amount of Sheets required. The Postmaster of this City and his assistants are ready at a proper time to certify to the practical and certain working of my Machinery for producing the above described results. I would add that the cost of each Machine exclusive of the right to use would not exceed two hundred dollars (\$200) And one Machine with a boy to work it could easily perforate one thousand (1000) Sheets in ten hours. Hoping to hear from you as early as convenient I am Very Resfy Your Obt Servt

E. W. Hadley
88 Lake St.

PS I should mention by way of explanation that the Sheet of Stamps is folded as shown in the Sample after it is perforated for the greater convenience of breaking off a number of Stamps at once. Should you wish to keep this perforated Sheet please enclose me one not perforated in its place—Very Resy &c

E.W.H.

[Docket]

April 3, 1856
E W Hadley
Chicago Ill

Has filed a Caveat for Perforation
Has all the qualities of pre-
cision accuracy of work, Dura-
bility & cheapness—Cost \$200
exclusive of right to use it—
Boy can perforate 1000 in
10 hours

1857 April 25
Returned the Sheet of

perforated stamps

COMMENT: The price has now been reduced to \$200 (from previous \$300) by Hadley and Swift. This date probably corresponds closely to when Hadley's M 1 scale Chicago perforating machine was put into operation. (See Chronicles 174, pp. 94-120, & 175, pp.157-173).

436. [National Postal Museum]

Private

Philada Apl 7, 1856

Dear Sir

Much obliged by your note of 4th inst. The time named for Settlement of our a/c is perfectly satisfactory.

We have advice of the Shipment of the "Perforator" which we ordered made for us several months since in England, and we therefore hope to be able very soon to exhibit to the Post Master General, our ability to accomplish his wishes with regard to the perforation of all the Postage Stamps.

Very respectfully

Yours

S. H. Carpenter

J Marron Esqr
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.

[Docket]

Apl 7, 56
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Are advised of shipment
of perforator

437. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. April 9, 1856

Dear Sir

With a view to enabling ourselves to meet your wishes in regard to the perforation of Postage Stamps (similar to the English Stamps), one of our firm visited England nearly a year since and there contracted for a machine to be made expressly for that purpose—This Machine arrived at New York pr Steamer Asia a few days since, and as it has cost us a large sum, and the duty on it would be very heavy, we venture to present the case for your consideration and ask (if not inconsistent with what you may believe to be right & proper) for your interposition with the Secretary of the Treasury for his permission to have it passed free of duty—You are aware that this Machine is intended to be used exclusively for the Government, and therefore we have supposed that the Secretary of the Treasury would admit it free, if he had the assurance of that fact from you—We do not however desire to ask any thing which you may not entirely approve and if you are of opinion that under the circumstances the Government ought not to remit the duties, you will of course take no further notice of the subject than to Signify your opinion to us—

Very Respectfully

Your Obt, Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Honl
James Campbell
Post Master General

[Docket]

April 9, '56
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Philada.

Recd Apl 11 asks for admission
Dated " 9 for machine etc
Ansd

Have imported a
perforating Machine
& ask a remission of
the duty

April 12 '56
Wrote Secty of Try.

April 12 '56
He answers declining to remit

April 29, 56
Wrote asking reconsidera-
tion

COMMENT: Asia arrived 4 April 1856 (North Atlantic Mail Sailings, Hubbard & Winter, 37).

438.

[National Postal Museum]

Treasury Department
April 12th 1856

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 10th Inst., enclosing an application received at your Department from Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co of Philadelphia, for the admission to free entry of a "machine for perforating postage stamps"; and beg to state in reply, that I regret exceedingly it is not in my power to comply with the request of Mess Toppan, Carpenter & Co; the machine in question, under the circumstances, not being considered by this Department as imported by the order, and for the use of the Government, as required under the existing Tariff Act to entitle it to free entry.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
James Guthrie
Sect of the Treasury

Honbl

J. Mason Campbell
Postmaster General

Mess Toppan, Carpenter's letter is herewith
returned

[Docket]

April 12 1856
James Guthrie
Sety Try
Declines Remission of
Duties on Perforating Machine

Declining remission
of duty on Perforating
machine

April 29 '56 Wrote asking reconsideration
of decision

439. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Apl 22, 1856

Dear Sir

On the 9th inst. I took the liberty to address the Post Master General in reference to an application to the Secretary of the Treasury to admit free of duty the "Perforating Machine" which we had had made in England—As the Post Master General has not replied, I presume that he has been too much occupied to give it attention, and as we are anxious to have a decision, I venture to ask the personal favor of you to bring the subject before him and solicit in our behalf a reply at his earliest convenience—I am quite unused to such matters and it is possible I may have asked what you or the Post Master General may think ought not to be granted—if so, I do not of course desire or expect that any thing will be said to the Secretary of the Treasury on the subject, and we will pay the duties at once—my only reason for asking to have it admitted free was that we had ordered it made at a heavy expense expressly with a view to its being used for the Government and inasmuch as it was as yet an experiment I wished if possible to avoid incurring the additional expense of the duties—this appeared to me to be reasonable & right, but, as few of us are competent judges where our own interest is involved, others must judge in this case and to that judgment I shall cheerfully submit.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sv
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. Post Master Genl.

[Docket]

April 22, 1856
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Applies for permission
to import Perforating

Machine free of Duty

440. [National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. Apl. 24, 1856.

Dear Sir:

We have now the pleasure of enclosing proofs of the new 24 Cents Stamp, which we beg you to have the kindness to present to the Post Master General for his approval - We have had this in hand a long time, but being determined to produce something entirely original in lathe work, it has taken much time to accomplish precisely what we desired - The die now presented, is as perfect a piece of geometric lathe work as can well be produced and the head has been engraved with the greatest care - as a whole, we think this Stamp will be "hard to beat."

We shall be gratified to learn how it pleases.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Sts
Toppan Carpenter & Co.

J. Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl.

P.S. Your favor of 23rd is just recd. - please accept my very sincere thanks.

Very Resp'y
S.H. Carpenter.

[Docket]

April 24 1856
Toppan Carpenter & Co

Sample of New 24 Cent
Stamps Enclosed

COMMENTS:

- *This is the first letter we have on the 24c value but obviously there was prior correspondence. If the stamp had been issued in 1856, it would have been imperforate. The stamp was not issued until 1860. We do not know the reason for the delay.*
- *We do not know the contents of the 23 April 1856 letter referred to in the "P.S." but perhaps it related to the issue of the tariff on the perforating machine.*

441. [National Postal Museum]

New York
May 13/56

To the Hon James Campbell
Post Master General
Washington

Dear Sir

I herewith inclose for your Inspection an improvement the public wants badly, In regards to postage stamps.

You will excuse me for giving you the specimens on blank paper as I have no stamps at hand.

You will see at once the advantage of my plan; It is to pull them asunder straight & square, instead of cutting them.

The samples I have sent was done by the hand; But if you think of introducing it: I can make a Machine that will cut them more regular, & finish them off as fast as the printer can print them

An answer to this at your convenience

Will Much Obleg Your
Obd Servt
William Brown

Direct to
William Brown
556 8th Avenue
Betn 38th & 39th Street
New York

[Docket]

May 13, '56
William Brown
New York

Sample of perforated
Stamps done by
hand

442. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. May 20, 1856

Jno. Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

Sir

We state in reply to your kind favor of 19th inst. addressed to our Mr. Carpenter, that the first order (filled by us Jan'y 2d.) entering into our quarterly account of stamps was No. 160—the last (filled March 29th) was No. 249.

Hereafter in furnishing our account we will state the numbers of the orders—

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
per

J. T. Gest

[Docket]

May 20, 1856
Topham, Carpenter C & Co

1st order filled Jany 2nd No 160
Last ” “ March 29 “ 249

443. [National Archives]

Postage Stamp agency
Philadelphia May 20th 1856

Sir

The number of the first Order filled in January is No 160, and the last Order filled in March No 249 I have compared account with Messrs Toppan Carpenter & co, and we agree in the numbers of the Orders filled, during the last Quarter.

The date of order No 160 is December 26th 1855 & the date of order No 249 is March 25th 1856.

I would Suggest the propriety of my opening and keeping an account of the aggregate amount of Stamps received each day from the contractors, and to report the Same to the Department, at the end of every Quarter, It would not be much additional work to Keep such an act, and then you would always know where his account commenced and ended, I could readily ascertain each day if the accounts agreed for Messrs Toppan Carpenter & Co Book of Original entry of Stamps furnished is kepted in the next room to my Office

A Small Sized Book properly ruled would last a long time for such an account

Yours Respectfully
Jesse Johnson
Agent

To John Marron Esqr
Third asst P M General

[Docket]

May 20, 1856
Jesse Johnson, Agt.

His act of Stamps
agrees with the con-
tractors upon compari-
son

444. [National Archives]

Postage Stamp agency Philadelphia June 2nd 1856

Dear Sir

I believe that the time has expired for, which I was authorized to employ additional assistants, I still retain Messrs. Oakford & Durand, and will do so until I hear from the Department about the matter, for it would be out of the power of Mr. Lamasure & myself to do the work of the agency

I do not think, that with less than three assistants the work can be promptly done, and the accounts Kept

I have not bought the Copying Press, for the reason that it would be of no use to us, with our present record Books and report Sheets, and as no authority was sent to me to have the proper kind made I await further instructions from the Department

I have ordered a proper Book made to keep an account of the aggregate amount of Stamps received (upon each order) from the Contractors, so as to report the same to the Department at the end of each Quarter.

Yours Respectfully

Jesse Johnson
Agent

To John Marron Esq.
Third assistant P M General

445. [National Postal Museum]

Private
Philada July 1, 1856

Dear Sir

Were it not that the Thermometer has “taken the back track” and the temperature become somewhat reasonable, I would not dare to bore you with my affairs when I know that you have more than enough of your own to bother and annoy you, but the fact is, unless I do apply to you and thus procure an answer, I shall be compelled to make a journey to Washington expressly on this business or “pony up” some 3 or \$400 which there seems to be Some reason to hope may be saved—without further preamble—We are particularly anxious to get possession of our perforating machine and put it in operation within the next week at latest—now if The Secretary of the Treasury will have the kindness to decide at once whether he will or will not grant our request, he will greatly oblige us—

I dont much like the idea of paying so large a sum unnecessarily, but unless we get the decision of Mr. Guthrie at once, there will be no help for it, and where “Uncle Sam” once gets his grip on the Cash, I fear the old gentleman will insist on keeping it in his “Strong Box”—

Pray excuse me and believe me.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqre
3rd. Asst. Post Mr. Genl.

[Docket]

July 1, 1856
S. H. Carpenter

Urges Dept. to get a decision
from Secy of Treasy relative
to remission of duties on
Perforator

answd July 5 1856

446. [National Postal Museum]

Private
Philada. July 7, 1856

Dear Sir

Your very kind note is just recd—Our object in getting possession of the Machine was that we might by experimenting, test its power and capacity, and thus be prepared to make our proposals understandingly to the P. M. Gl.

We will now pay the duties and take the Machine from the Custom House at once, provided you are of opinion that the Post Mr Gl. Would prefer to have our proposition within say 10 days from now, to waiting until the beginning of September—My reason for troubling you with this inquiry is this—I have not been very well for some time past and had made arrangements to “sniff the Mountain Air” in the beginning of next week and had contemplated being about until 1st September—Now if you think the Post Mr. Genl. Would be just as well pleased to negotiate on this subject two months hence as he would two weeks hence, and that our interest would not suffer by the delay, then, in that case I would be glad to defer my visit to Washington until that time, but if for any reason you think I had better make my visit now, I will of course go at once—

Will you add to your many kindnesses by giving me your opinion by return mail.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
S. H. Carpenter.
J. Marron Esqre
3rd. Asst. Post Mr. Genl.

[Docket]

July 7, 1856
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Agrees to pay the duties
on a machine for
perforating Stamps—now
in Custom House—

Ansd. July 9 '56

447. [National Archives]

Postage Stamp Agency
Philada. Oct. 20, 1856

Sir:

I am assistant in the office of the Postage Stamp Agent, and was appointed by you at its adoption, at a compensation of \$700. per Annum, which I find does not afford a reasonable living for myself and family, and as the pay of book-keeper in a private capacity is in most cases equal to the rate asked for, I pray you may find it consistent with your views to increase the same to \$900 per Annum, the same to take effect from the first of the present month.

Mr. Edward G. Webb has on a former occasion informed you as to my character, and to Mr. Johnson, I refer you as to business qualifications, and the justice of my claim.

Very respectfully
Edwin Lamasure 1st Asst.
To Jesse Johnson, Agt

Hon. Jas. Campbell, P.M. Genl.

[Docket]

Octr 20, 1856

Stamp Agency—
E. Lamasure asks
that his Compensation
be raised to \$900.

448.

[National Archives]

Chicago, Oct 20th 1856

Dear Sir

Some few months since, I think in April or May last, I took the liberty to trouble you with a note, marked "Private", enclosing a sheet of three cent postage stamps, perforated like the sample I now send you, showing that they could be readily separated without the use of knife or scissors. I also informed you that I had invented machinery to do this work in the most perfect manner, and likewise referred you to the Patent Office where I had filed my Caveat for the security of letters patent for this invention. Mentioned also that the Postmaster and his assistants of this city had seen the application of this machine to divide stamps and were ready to give the highest testimonial of the usefulness and convenience of this mode of preparing stamps for division. I mentioned that Col. R. K. Swift, one of our most eminent private bankers, had urged me to undertake this piece of machinery and that he will now use no stamps except such as I prepare for him in this manner. From the letter, a synopsis of which I have given above, I have received no reply. I had hoped the matter would have interested you to endeavor to bring about its adoption by the department, and that our people might be furnished with as convenient a stamp as the English. Fearing my first did not reach you I have determined to trespass on your time by this line of enquiry, to ascertain if my first letter with its enclosure reached you. And also if you can give it a moment's thought, let me know if the department will be disposed to introduce this mode of preparing stamps. If my letter of last spring did not reach you, I can ascertain its date of mailing by reference to a copy which is not now at hand being deposited with other papers in Bank vault.

I am very resp'y Your Obt Servt

E.. W. Hadley
88 Lake St.

To
John Marron
3d Asst. Postmaster General
Washington, D. C.

Docket:

Oct 20 56
E W Hadley
Chicago Ill

Inventor of a Machine
for perforated Stamps
Specimen Enclosed

Inquires if letter in April
or May last was recd.
relative to perforating
Machine

449. [National Postal Museum]

Phil Oct 22/56

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter & Co

Gentlemen

I have completed the experiments with your punching & slitting Machine & will give you the result.

You can punch or slit 180 Sheets of 100 stamps pr hour.

The slitting wheels will last for a long time.

The reverses or die of Punch will require renewal I think every two months. Estimated cost of each wheel \$6.60—
11 on each shaft—Total of \$73.20—

I enclose a piece of punctured paper run through after they had made 77,580 revolutions equal to punching 38,790 sheets—equal to 22 days work—The wheels with which I have arrived at the above results were run without connecting gearings. My impression is that if connected with carefully cut gearing they would be more durable

Respt Yours
Geo. C. Howard
18th below Market, Phil

[Docket]

Oct 22, 1856
G. C. Howard Phila.

Test of Toppan, Carpenter & Co's
machine for Perforating Stamps

Can punch 180 Sheets
Of 100 Stamps per hour

450. [National Archives]

Postage Stamp Agency
Philadelphia November 3d 1856

Dear Sir

Mr. Wm. H. Oakford, has not been at the Office to do any duty Since the 20th of last month, It is apparent, that the Situation does not Suit him, and he is not altogether fitted for the place, If it meets the Views of the for me to dispense with his services, it is my desire to do so

I am of the opinion that the business of the agency, can be done promptly without a third assistant, and if it can, it would be no more than just, to increase the compensation, now allowed Mr. Lamasure ought to receive nine hundred & fifty dollars and Mr. Durand eight hundred, they are both reliable and attentive to their duty, My own, I think should be fifteen hundred dollars per annum, the Same as the Envelope agent receives, my situation exceeds his in importance and labour, The expense of living in Philadelphia is at this time and has been, and is likely to continue to be fully up to what it is in New York. If this increase of Salaries were made conditional, that we do the work of the agency (without a third assistant) it would be satisfactory, and perhaps Stimulate all of us to work over hours, when business required it.

The suggestions would not increase the expenses, of the agency for salaries, but be less than what it has cost the Department, the last year, The work of the office is equal to what it has been at any time, the paper boxes used for parcels sent to the Southern States adds to the work we have to do, for the contractor, will not do the boxing, but system and practice has made us expert at the business, and we can do much more in a day then what we could when we commenced

Yours Respectfully

Jesse Johnson
Stamp agent

To John Marron Esq.
Third asst. P M General

[Docket]

Nov 3, 1856
Jesse Johnson Agent
Philadelphia
Pa

For increase of compen-
sation and dropping
his third assistant Clerk

Nov 4 '56 P M Genl made
order increasing pay as
follows per annum
Jesse Johnson, agent \$1500.
E. Laminar 1st asst. 900.

L. L. Durand 2nd asst. 800.

Nov 5th 56 - Communicated
order, dispensing with the
3rd assistant Clerk
J. M.

451. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Novem 4, 1856

Honl James Campbell
Post Master General
Washington DC.

Dear Sir,

We have the honor to submit for your consideration the following proposals to contract for furnishing Postage Stamps (as heretofore) with the addition of the perforation of each sheet (as per samples furnished by us) and including the Expense of Envelopes, Pasteboard Boxes, paper, packing and delivery to your Agent in Philadelphia—

We understood your wish to be, that we should furnish Three Separate propositions—the first of which to embrace merely the terms on which we would agree to add the perforation of the Stamps to the present contract, and deliver the Stamps thus perforated during the term of our present Contract say—until the tenth day of June 1857.

The second and third propositions, to be for new Contracts for periods of four and Six years—we proceed accordingly with

Proposition No. 1.

We will perforate all the Postage Stamps to be delivered by us under our present Contract, at the rate of Three Cents for every one thousand Stamps thus perforated, that in the event of our Contract for furnishing Stamps not being renewed at its expiration (for a term of at least four years) the Government shall in that case, indemnify us in the sum of Nine thousand five hundred dollars, for the necessary expenses which we must incur in order to perfect the perforation, and which would be a total loss to us in case of the non-renewal of our contract—The entire Machinery, plates &c, necessary to the printing & perforating the Stamps, to become the property of the Government on the payment of the aforesaid Sum—

Proposition No. 2.

We propose to cancel the present contract, and make a new one embracing all the terms and Stipulations of the present Contract, (except as to time and cost) adding thereto, the perforation of all the Stamps (as per Sample furnished by us) and including also the entire charge for Envelopes, Pasteboard Boxes, Paper, packing and delivery to your Agent (as now provided for by a separate agreement), which new contract shall commence and take effect from the date of the first delivery of perforated Stamps, and terminate on the tenth day of June 1861:—

for the above service, we ask at the rate of Eighteen and one half Cents for every One thousand Stamps thus perforated and delivered—or—at the rate of Seventeen Cents for every one thousand Stamps thus perforated, and the Government to pay in addition (as heretofore) for Expenses of Envelopes, Pasteboard Boxes, Paper, packing and delivery to your Agent.

Proposition No. 3.

For the performance of the same duties in every respect as stipulated in Proposition No. 2, but extending the time at which the Contract shall terminate, to the tenth day of June 1863:—

For every One Thousand perforated Stamps (including charge for Envelopes, Pasteboard boxes, paper, packing and delivery to your Agent) the sum of Eighteen Cents—

For every One thousand perforated Stamps (without including charge for Envelopes, Paste board boxes, Paper, packing and delivery to your Agent) the Sum of Sixteen and one half Cents—

The above estimate for the Perforation of the Stamps, is predicated on as careful a calculation as we have been able to make of what will be the actual Cost to us, and the fairness of that calculation we submit freely to your scrutiny, having presented the data upon which it is made—

By reference to documents in your possession, you will see that for the same service, the British Government has paid an immense Sum for Machinery, and the right to use it, and that after an outlay of \$20,000 for the mere right to use the Machinery, and at least \$30,000 for the five Machines necessary to do the perforation of their Stamps, they then were at a very heavy expense for working the Machines—

In your case, we make no charge for either the Machinery or the right to uses it (in case the Contract is made for four or Six years) which is \$50,000 less than the actual cost to the British Government before they could perforate a Single Stamp—

With regard to the Envelopes, Paste Board Boxes, Paper, labor & expense of packing and delivery to your Agent, we have estimated all that at One and one half Cents for every one thousand Stamps—We learn from Mr. Johnson that the Paste Board Boxes cost Three Cents each, for the Smallest Size, and four and five Cents each for the larger—he estimates that he uses now from 50 to 60 of these Boxes per day—this quantity will no doubt be greatly increased during the next few years, and we are satisfied that the terms named above for this branch of the business will not more than cover the actual cost to us—If however you should think otherwise, we would be quite willing to continue that part of the contract on the same terms as we have heretofore executed it.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Novr 4, 1856
Topham, Carpenter & Co

Proposals to contract for
furnishing perforated Stamps
under 3 Separate propositions

[The following documents were attached to the foregoing letter respecting perforating machines]

Estimated annual cost of running the Perforating Machine—

Viz

Renewing the reverse of die for Punches Say Six times every year @ \$73.20 each renewal	439.20
Wages of a Man and Boy to attend Machine 10 hours per day for One Year (or 300 days)	450.00

Interest on Cost of Machine—say \$1000— 60.00

making the annual cost of working One Machine \$949.20

One Machine will perforate 180 Sheets (of 100 Stamps ea.) per hour—
say 180,000 Stamps in 10 hours—

Computing 300 working days to the Year, One Machine

will perforate 54,000,000 Stamps per annum,

at which rate, it will require 3 Machines to

accomplish the perforation of the number of Stamps

that will probably be required for the year 1857—

if so, the actual cost of perforating 162,000,000

Stamps will be

2,847.60

to which Add Rent of additional Room that will be necessary

150.00

Making the annual cost of working 3 Machines

\$2,997.60

or, at the rate of 1.7/8 Cents per 1000 Stamps.

Cost of making 13 New Stamp Plates \$6,500

Cost of present Perforating Machine \$1,200,
but presuming that 2 more might be procured
for \$1,000 each, we put down the estimated
Cost of 3 Machines at

\$3,000

\$9,500

[Docket]

Nov 4/56

Estimated annual Expense of
running Perforating
Machine \$2,997.60

Cost of 3 Machines \$9,500

452. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Nov. 14, 1856

Dear Sir

Will you excuse a very natural anxiety on my part to know whether the Post Master Genl. has had leisure to make the necessary examination, and come to any conclusion as to the proposals made by me?—I really regret to trouble you with this enquiry, as I know that you have enough of your own affairs to attend to without being bothered with mine, but as I know of no other channel through which my enquiry can be answered (unless by a direct application to the Post Master General, which of course I cannot make) I am compelled to throw myself on your kindness—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt

S. H. Carpenter

J Marron Esqre
3rd. Asst. PM. Genl.
Washington DC.

[Docket]

S. H. Carpenter, about his
proposals

453. [National Archives}

Postage Stamp agency
Philadelphia November 15th 1856

Dear Sir

I would like to have one of Colton Maps of the States east of the Rocky Mountains for my office, for the purpose of learning in what part of the Western & North Western States certain counties are, that I might judge of the necessity of putting parcels of Stamps into paper boxes

I can purchase one for ten dollars, but do not feel at liberty to do so, without the consent of the Department

I have seen a new Postoffice Book Got up in New York, it is made up in counties, and would be very useful to me.

Yours Respectfully
Jesse Johnson
Stamp Agent

To John Marron
Third asst P M General

[Docket]

Nov 15, '56
Stamp Agency Pha

Johnson wants a
map of the U.S.

454. [National Archives]

Cincinnati
Nov 25th 1856

Mr. dear Sir

This will be handed you by my friend George T. Jones who has for many years had the management of the business affairs of the house of Rawdon Wright & Hatch Engravers of this city. Mr. Jones visits Washington with the view of making application for the Contract for furnishing postage Stamps.

Mr. Jones is a gentleman of responsibility and integrity and would faithfully perform any Contract he might make with the department.

Hoping that his proposal may meet with your favorable consideration.

I remain
Very truly
Yours

J. L. Vattier

James Campbell
P. M. Genl.
Washington D.C.

[Docket]

Novr. 25, 1856
J. L. Vattier, Cin. O.

Recommends Geo. T. Jones
to
furnish Post Off Stamps

455.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. Novem 27, 1856

Honl James Campbell
Post Master General
Washington

Dear Sir,

Knowing how entirely your time is occupied I feel great reluctance to trouble you with reading a long story, but inasmuch as what I have to say is a matter of some interest to the Government as well as myself, I trust you will bear with me patiently—From some remarks of yours when I had the pleasure of seeing you last, I fear that you may be laboring under an erroneous impression as to the profits to be derived from the Contract which I am now soliciting, and I desire (if such should be the case) to satisfy you that you have been mistaken.

Our profits on this Contract based on the term offered, cannot amount to more than a fair remuneration for the labor performed and responsibility incurred, and having originally taken the Contract at a very low rate, expressly with a view to the future (and not to the time at which it was made) it would hardly be fair to exact a further reduction (on its renewal) than we have now offered to make—The actual increase of Stamps has been large, but very little (if any) beyond the number on which I had predicated my original bid—I presumed that it would be a popular measure and calculated that altho' prepayment was not then obligatory, yet that habit & convenience would ultimately (and probably within the period of our contract) give it almost the force of law, and that in time, prepayment by Stamps would become here, (as in England) almost universal—The law recommended by you and subsequently passed (making prepayment by Stamps obligatory) produced this result much sooner than it would otherwise have been accomplished, but against that fact favorable to our Contract, it is but fair to place on the other side the injury done us by your predecessor in office and the introduction of Envelope Stamps when our Contract had not more than one third expired, thereby depriving us of furnishing a very large amount of Stamps during the remainder of our Contract—

It is true, that in making my estimate of the whole matter I had no right to look beyond the period of the first Contract, and that my offer should have been made so as to cover the contingency of the loss of the Contract at the end of the first term—prudence would have dictated such a course, yet I really did not do so—I could not help feeling that as the Contract was a very important one and of a highly confidential nature, and one in the faithful performance of which the Government had a deep interest; that if we fulfilled all our duties to the entire satisfaction of the Post Master General, he would feel it to be for the best interest of the Government to continue the Contract in the hands of those who had been tried for Six years, and who during all that time had been zealous and faithful in the performance of every duty, rather than risk the possible chances of a different result, if the Contract were taken from them and given to others—

I knew that so far as we were concerned, every possible effort would be made to prove ourselves worthy the confidence and good opinion of the Department; and if we succeeded in this, I felt that it would give us a fair and equitable claim on the consideration of the Post Master General for a renewal of our Contract, particularly as we had taken it originally at a very low rate—Our proposals of the 4th inst. are as follows—Viz—

<u>for 4 years</u> —	Stamps gummed & ready for delivery (as heretofore)	15 Cents pr 1000 Stamps
	Perforation of Stamps	2 Cents do
	Envelopes, Boxes, paper, packing &c &c	<u>1 ½ Cents</u> do
	total charge	18 ½ Cents pr 1000
<u>For 6 Years.</u>	Stamps gummed & ready for delivery (as heretofore)	14 ½ Cents pr 1000 Stamps
	Perforation of Stamps	2 Cents “ do
	Envelopes, Boxes, Paper, packing, &c &c	<u>1 ½ Cents</u> “ do
	total charge (including every thing as above)	18 Cents pr 1000 Stamps

Now we believe that the terms offered for perforating, and for Envelopes, Boxes &c are no more than will cover the actual expenses, consequently for those branches of the business we have named the same terms, whether the Contract be for 4 or 6 years, but with regard to the Stamps themselves we have made a reduction on that branch of the Contract of One half Cent on every One thousand Stamps, on the Contract for 6 years—Viz—“Fourteen and one half Cents for every One thousand Stamps” (in lieu of 15 Cents as under the present Contract)—This we feel to be as great a reduction as we ought in justice to be asked to make—We contemplate (in the event of a renewal of our Contract for 6 years) immediately to contract with the Bank of Pennsylvania for the lease for a term of years, of the entire 3rd and 4th Stories of their new granite Bank Building now being erected on Chestnut St—It is to be entirely & perfectly Fire Proof (from Cellar to Garret) with large Fire Proof Vaults in the Rooms—As the foundation is but just begun, we can have the Rooms for our use so arranged & constructed as to accommodate in the most perfect manner every branch of the Government business, including of course the necessary accommodations for the Agent of the Post Master Genl—we shall thus have every possible facility for the faithful performance of our Contract, together with every possible protection and safety to the Stamps—these considerations we think you will admit are of great importance to the Government, as well as ourselves, and we are willing to incur all the additional Expense which may be necessary to accomplish so important an end, but you will readily see that we cannot afford to incur this additional Expense and perform all the duties of our Contract as heretofore if we are required to make any further deduction in our terms—with one more remark I shall close—

There is one heavy expense which we are constantly being compelled to incur in the performance of our Contract, and that is, the renewal from time to time of all the Stamp Plates, as they are worn out in printing—I mention this because I inferred from a remark made to me, that you were under the impression that the original expense of the plates once incurred, there was no further expense to us on that Score—such however is by no means the case:—

Having now endeavored to place this matter before you fairly, frankly and truly (to the best of my knowledge and belief) I confidently leave the case for your decision—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
S. H. Carpenter

[Docket]

Nov. 27, 1856
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Strongly urges their claims
to the Contract for perforated
Stamps

456.

[National Archives]

Washington
Dec. 6th, 1856

Sir:

I will thank you to inform me at what time the present contract for supplying the Department with postage stamps will expire.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt servt

G. E. Pugh

Hon. James Campbell
Postmaster General

[Docket]

Dec 6, 56

G E Pugh would
know when the cont for
Supplying Stamps will
expire

December 9, 1856

Answered Contract will
expire 10 June 1857

1857

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE COMPULSORY PREPAYMENT OF POSTAGE ON ALL TRANSIENT PRINTED MATTER

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provision in the act approved August thirty, eighteen hundred and fifty-two, entitled "An act to amend the act entitled an act to reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States, and for other purposes, passed March three, eighteen hundred and fifty-one," permitting transient printed matter to be sent through the mail of the United States without prepayment of postage, be, and the same is hereby, repealed. And the postage on all such transient matter shall be prepaid by stamps or otherwise, as the Postmaster General may direct.

APPROVED January 2, 1857.

INSTRUCTIONS TO POSTMASTERS

TRANSIENT PRINTED MATTER, &c

1. Books, not weighing over four pounds, may be sent in the mail prepaid by postage stamps, at one cent an ounce any distance in the United States under three thousand miles, and at two cents an ounce over three thousand miles, provided they are put up without a cover or wrapper, or in a cover or wrapper open at the ends or sides, so that their character may be determined without removing the wrapper.
2. Small newspapers and periodicals, published monthly or oftener, and pamphlets containing not more than sixteen octavo pages each, when put up in single packages, weighing at least eight ounces, to one address, and prepaid by postage stamps, may be sent to any part of the United States at one-half cent an ounce or fraction of an ounce.
3. Unsealed circulars, advertisements, business cards, transient newspapers, and every other article of transient printed matter, (except books and packages of small publications, as above,) sent in the mail to any part of the United States, are chargeable with one cent postage each, to be prepaid by postage stamps. Where more than one circular is printed on a sheet, or a circular and letter, each must be charged with a single rate. This applies to lottery and other kindred sheets assuming the form and name of newspapers; and the miscellaneous matter in such sheets must also be charged with one rate. A business card on an unsealed envelope of a circular subjects the entire packet to letter postage. Any transient matter, like a circular or handbill, enclosed in or with a periodical or newspaper sent to a subscriber, or to any other person, subjects the whole package to letter postage; and whenever subject to letter postage from being sealed or from any cause whatever, all printed matter, without exception, must be prepaid or excluded from the mail. It is the duty of the postmaster at the mailing office, as well as at the office of delivery, carefully to examine all printed matter, in order to see that it is charged with the proper rate of postage and to detect fraud. At offices where postage stamps cannot be procured, postmasters are authorized to receive money in prepayment of postage on transient matter; but they should be careful to keep a supply of stamps on hand.
4. It is no part of the duty of a postmaster to receive and deliver to subscribers any other newspapers than those which come in the mail, or to put the address on newspapers sent to clubs, or to deliver them from a furnished list; nor should he do either, even through courtesy, unless it may be done without interfering with the legitimate business of his office.

REGISTRATION OF LETTERS.

5. The regulations and instructions to postmasters for carrying into effect the 3d section of the act of March 3, 1855, providing for the registration of valuable letters, are modified as follows, viz:

First. So much of sections 4, 5, and 6 of these regulations as requires that packages of registered letters shall be *sealed* is hereby revoked.

Second. All registered letters are, before mailing, to be *numbered* on the upper left-hand corner; their numbers to correspond with those on the letter bills in which they are entered.

Third. Each registered letter, or package of registered letters, will be enclosed in a wrapper in the usual manner, and if there be a package of unregistered letters to be sent by the same mail, the package of registered letters will be placed in such package, without being tied, and the whole will then be carefully tied up into one package, addressed to the office of its destination, and placed in its appropriate bag at the moment when that bag is to be finally locked and sent from the office. If no unregistered letters are to be sent by that mail, the package of registered letters is to be tied and forwarded in the same manner without being sealed.

Fourth. The registered letter bill will be enclosed in a separate envelope, addressed to the postmaster, as now required, and will be forwarded by the usual route as an unregistered letter.

Fifth. The numbers given to registered letters at the office of mailing are not to be changed in the accounts or letter bills of distributing offices through which they may pass.

Sixth. Postmasters are required to see that the postmark of every letter (whether written or stamped) is clear and distinct, so that the place and date of mailing can be readily determined.

JAMES CAMPBELL,
Postmaster General.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, January 3, 1857

458.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. January 5, 1857

J Marron Esq.
3rd. Asst. Post Mr. Genl.

Dear Sir

Your favor of 3rd inst. is recd. and while feeling grateful for the kind expressions of satisfaction which the Post Master General is pleased to make in reference to the manner in which we have performed our duties to the Department, we cannot refrain from expressing our great Sorrow and disappointment at the result of our application—The subject is of such grave importance to us that we trust the Post Master General will not think it amiss if we venture to ask a reconsideration of our case—You say—“it has been determined not to act upon any subject which can be properly considered as belonging to the succeeding administration”—We respectfully ask the Post Master General to reflect whether this subject can properly be considered as belonging to the succeeding Administration?

You will recollect that it is now nearly (if not quite) two years since the subject of the perforation of the Stamps, and the desire of the Post Master General to give the public the benefit of this great improvement, was first brot. to our notice we immediately wrote to England and made thorough enquiries as to how it was done by the English Government, and whether we could procure Machines to do the same thing—to this letter we recd a reply giving the Cost of the Machines used by the Government, and the expense of working them, both of which were so enormous that it was deemed impossible to think of adopting them—meanwhile, we made every enquiry in our power in this Country with a view to find a machine suitable for the purpose, but without success—One of our partners then went to England with the express object of endeavoring to find a Machinist who could make such a Machine as we wanted—he eventually succeeded and ordered one to be made of the exact size & power suitable for our purpose—this was about 18 months since (as near as we can remember)—the Machine was a long time in being finished, but finally arrived in New York about 9 Months since—It remained in the Custom House some months owing to our desire to get it admitted free of duty (and was imported expressly for the use of the Government) but finding finally

that that could not be accomplished, we paid the duties and recd the Machine—We found on examining it that the Maker had deviated from our instructions with regard to certain parts of the Machine, and we were obliged to procure the aid of one of our most skillful Mechanics here to remedy the defect—this was finally accomplished, and after a great deal of trouble and expense the Machine was perfected; and we were prepared to present to the Post Master General perfect specimens of perforated Stamps made thereby —Now we respectfully submit that inasmuch as this whole matter originated with the Post Master General, and has been in the course of negotiation and perfection for more than 2 years and has been carried to completion thus far by him, it does appear to us that he owes it to himself and to the present Administration to carry into effect a measure which will undoubtedly be a popular one and will be received by the public with great favor, and that by so doing it cannot possibly be deemed a case of interference with what properly belongs to the succeeding administration—For these considerations (which are of a public nature) together with others which might be named, but which we will not trouble you with reading, we indulge the hope that the Post Master General will be induced to reconsider our case and if possible revoke his decision—We perhaps have no right to trouble him by including any of our private affairs on his notice, but the heavy amount which we have already expended in the purchase and perfection of this Machine, and the necessary expenses incurred in Sending Specially to England in reference to it, would involve us in great loss in the event of the non renewal of our Contract with the Government, and as we have Cheerfully risked all this expenditure with a view to meeting every wish of the Department, it is not unreasonable for us to hope that the facts here Set forth will have their due weight in our favor on the mind of the Post Master General when he comes to make a final decision, which we most sincerely hope may be favorable to our wishes.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

January 5, 1857
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Greatly chagrined at decision
of P M Genl. not to act upon any
subject which can be prop-
erly considered as belonging
to the succeeding administration

COMMENT: The PMG's initial decision to defer to the incoming administration of the same party may have been because the Democratic Party had fractured over the Kansas-Nebraska Act and slavery. Pierce, a Democrat, had not been renominated. Buchanan, also a Democrat, defeated Fremont (Republican) and Fillmore (Know-Nothing).

459. [National Postal Museum]

Post Office Department,
Finance Office, 6th February 1857

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia Pa

Gentlemen,

Soon after the passage of the Act of March 3rd, 1855, requiring prepayment of postage on all inland letters to be effected, from and after the 1st January 1856, by means of postage stamps or stamped envelopes, the Postmaster General directed me to communicate with you in relation to the perforation of the sheets so as to make the stamps easily separable without cutting and thereby render them more convenient to the public. Accordingly on the 16th

and 29th March, 1855, I addressed you letters on the subject which, it seems, induced you soon after to import a machine from England, and subsequently to put it in working order. The Act of January 2nd, 1857, requiring all transient printed matter to be prepaid, having greatly increased the demand for stamps and made more pressing the necessity for adopting, without further delay, the plan of perforating them, the Postmaster General instructs me to say that he accepts (with such modification as I will subsequently state) your proposition Number 1 contained in your communication to him of the 4 November last, which is as follows:—

“We will perforate all the postage stamps to be delivered by us under our present contract, at the rate of three cents for every one thousand Stamps thus perforated, provided, that in the event of our contract for furnishing stamps not being renewed at its expiration, (for a term of at least four years) the Government shall in that case, indemnify us in the sum of Nine thousand five hundred dollars, for the necessary expenses which we must incur in order to perfect the perforation, and which would be a total loss to us in case of the non renewal of our contract—The entire machinery, plates &c, necessary to the printing and perforating the stamps to become the property of the Government on the payment of the aforesaid sum”

The Postmaster General accepts the foregoing proposition with the distinct understanding, that the process of perforation is to commence without unnecessary delay,—that three machines of the best quality are to be employed so soon as they can be obtained, and that not less than thirteen new and suitable plates are to be prepared and used in printing the stamps. If more plates be needed, they are to be furnished without additional charge, and the entire machinery, plates, etc, are to be turned over to the Post Office Department, in good order, at the expiration of your existing contract if the same be not renewed or extended for a term of not less than four years.

Very Respectfully Yr. obdt Sert
J. Marron
Third asst. P M Genl.

[Docket]

Feby 6, 1857
J. Marron 3 P M Genl.

To Topham Carpenter & Co
rel to perforated Stamps

COMMENTS:

- *According to a statement by Carpenter quoted in Chase, p. 159, the plates were 3x1¢, 6x3¢, 1x5¢, 1x10¢, 1x12¢, and 1x24¢.*
- *This is the first “contract” for perforating U.S. postage stamps and confirms the letter from Samuel Carpenter quoted frequently by Luff.*

460. [National Postal Museum]

Private

Philada. Feb 9, 1857

Dear Sir

I feel the most anxious desire to meet the wishes of the Post Master General in regard to a delivery of some of the Perforated Stamps before the close of this month, but as it will be impossible to furnish (within that time) more than a small quantity, it remains for him to determine whether we shall furnish any, within that time, or wait until we have a sufficient number perforated, to enable us to supply the demand uninterruptedly—I fear that if we once give the public a taste of these things, and are then unable to continue the supply, and are obliged to fall back on the “unperforated,” the result will be that the Department and the Contractors will be abused in the most approved style

for neglect of the public convenience—However, I am bound to do whatever the Postmaster General thinks best, and wishes to be done (if it be possible)—Please therefore let me know what will satisfy him, and rely upon its being done, if within the bounds of my utmost efforts to accomplish—

Very Sincerely & Respf
Yours &c
S. H. Carpenter

J Marron Esqre
3rd. Asst. P. M. Genl.
Washington

[Docket]

Feby 9, 1857
S. H. Carpenter

Doubts ability of supplying
perforated Stamps before
end of the month

461. [National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia February 9th 1857

J. Marron Esqr
3rd. Asst. Post Master Genl.

Dear Sir

Your favor of 6th inst. is received, in which you inform us that the Post Master General accepts our proposition Number One, contained in our communication to him of the 4th of November last (with such modifications as are subsequently stated by you, which modifications are hereby agreed to by us), Viz—“We will perforate all the postage stamps to be delivered by us under our present contract, at the rate of three cents for every one thousand Stamps thus perforated, provided, that in the event of our contract for furnishing stamps not being renewed at its expiration, (for a term of at least four years) the Government shall in that case, indemnify us in the sum of Nine thousand five hundred dollars, for the necessary expenses which we must incur in order to perfect the perforation, and which would be a total loss to us in case of the non renewal of our contract—The entire machinery, plates &c, necessary to the printing and perforating the stamps to become the property of the Government on the payment of the aforesaid sum.”—

We will commence immediately the perforation of the Stamps with our present Machine, and at once order the two additional Perforating Machines, and the Post Master General may rely upon our doing every thing in our power to have them finished at the earliest moment practicable, but, until these additional Machines can be put in operation, it will be impossible to furnish anything like a sufficient supply of Perforated Stamps to warrant the commencement of their delivery to the Agent of the Department, without the certainty of being unable to continue such deliveries; we would therefore respectfully suggest to the Post Master General, that no deliveries of perforated Stamps be made until we are prepared to go on and deliver without interruption, any number that may be required—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts.
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

February 9, 1857
Topham, Carpenter & Co

Agree to proposals of P M Genl
with certain modifications
to furnish perforated
postage Stamps

462. [National Postal Museum]

Private

Philada. Feb 14, 1857

Dear Sir

Your favor of 10th was recd. yesterday—Unless we have some “breakdown,” or some accident not now anticipated, the request of the Post Master General shall be complied with—It is enough for me to know that he wishes it, to insure my personal attention to its accomplishment, if possible—

It is proper however that I should remind you of a fact which your own practical experience will no doubt assure you, and that is, that in starting any new thing, particularly new Machinery (and that which must be adjusted with the most perfect accuracy) time and patience are both necessary to Success, and that there must necessarily be a great deal of trouble, and a great deal of “fixing” before every thing can be made to work smoothly & successfully—All this we must encounter at the start, and therefore, I must ask in advance, indulgence for any “Shortcomings” that may possibly occur—I trust that none will happen, and that we shall be able to accomplish all that the Post Master General asks, but, as it will be quite impossible to furnish an uninterrupted supply until at least one month after we can get all 3 of our Machines in operation, (which cannot be less than 3 months,) we must prepare for a terrific onslaught from the New York Herald and kindred prints, for our “shameful negligence” of the “public convenience,” and a gentle intimation to the New Post Master General, that if he wishes to do “his duty” and get things done right, he will give the contract now in the hands of those slow “Villagers,” to some fast New Yorker, who will do things up ‘O.K.’—Heaven help us—

Very Respectfully & Sincerely
Yours &c
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr
3rd. Asst. Post Master Genl.

[Docket]

S. H. Carpenter
Philadelphia Pa
Feb 14 - 57

463. [National Postal Museum: Travers (two copies on USPCS web site)]

Philada. Feb 19th 1857

Dear Sir

We have this moment recd. the note of Judge Waterbury (addressed to you) and have to Say in reply, that sometime last Summer (during the absence of the writer) Judge Waterbury called at our office and Saw our Book Keeper in reference to our getting up a new 2 Cent Stamp—It was understood that the application was made more in the form of an inquiry as to the time it would require, (and other matters in reference to it,) than as an actual order either from the Post Master General or any one else, to proceed with the work, and from what the writer heard of the matter on his return to the city, he most positively did not understand that we would be expected to Engrave the Stamp without further orders or instructions. On referring to our Book Keeper (who had the interview with Judge W) we find that he is very clear in his recollection of having told Judge W that it would take Several months to Engrave the die and prepare the Stamp plate, and he is equally clear that he made no promise or engagement that it would be done at any time.—We think therefore that Judge Waterbury is laboring under a mistake as to his impression that a promise has been made by us, or any one for us, as to when we would do this Stamp—We have to say now however, that altho' the preparation of this Stamp Plate will cost us several hundred dollars, yet so desirous are we to meet the wishes of the Department and oblige the gentlemen who wish to introduce this Stamp, that we will put it in hand the moment we receive an order from the Post Master General to do so (without which you are aware that we cannot Engrave a Postage Stamp of any denomination).

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt Servt.
Toppan, Carpenter & C

J. Miller Esq.
Post Master Philada.

464. [National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Private

Philada. Feb 20, 1857

Dear Sir

From present indications, I think I may with considerable Safety, promise to have ready for delivery on Tuesday afternoon next (24th), half a million of 3 Cents Stamps, (Perforated)—

As the Machinery is new, and our hands green and requiring practice, it is quite possible that we may not have quite so many ready at the time named, but I will do my best to give you that number, and unless you receive a telegraph to the contrary on Monday, you may expect that number to be ready for your Messenger.

Very Respectfully
Yrs &c
S. H. Carpenter

J Marron Esqre
3rd. Asst. PM. Gl.

[Docket]

S. H. Carpenter
Philadelphia Pa
February 14, 1857
&
February 20, 1857

Febv 26, 1856

Telegraphed Agent
to Send parcels to certain
offices &c

COMMENT: These dates are reasonably consistent with Luff who said first deliveries of perforated stamps were made on 24 February 1857. This letter says "ready for delivery" on that date. The docketing apparently indicates a distribution on 26 February 1857. The earliest known use of a perforated stamp is 28 February 1857.

465.

[National Postal Museum: Travers]

Post Office, New York
February 24th 1857

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Gentm

A press of other business has prevented an earlier reply to your letter to postmaster Miller of the 19th instant. I may truly say that I never read a letter with more surprise. Last June I called at your place of business in Philadelphia, and left with a gentleman I saw there, who, from his conversation, I assumed to be one of the firm, written instructions from Mr. Marron, the third asst. P.M.G., addressed to your firm, directing the execution of a two Cent Stamp—the head to be that of John Hancock—the color I forget. I was told that it would take Several months to get it ready, but was distinctly promised that it should be issued as soon as possible. With an assurance that this office would be greatly obliged by speed in the matter, I left. Now I learn that you have done nothing. Under the circumstances I hope you will use extra diligence to repair this delay and consequent disappointment. If you have mislaid the order I left, I doubt not you can get a copy by writing to Washington.

Yours respectfully Nelson J. Waterbury
Asst. P.M.

466.

[National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. Feb. 26, 1857

Nelson J. Waterbury Esqr
Asst. Post Master,
New York

Dear Sir

Your favor of 24th inst. is recd. It is a matter of deep regret to us that there should have been such an entire misunderstanding between us as to the 2 Cent Stamp—We can only reiterate what we said to Post Master Miller, and assure you that so far as we are concerned, it is an exact statement of the case as we understand it—As we have an office in New York (and have had for the last 25 Years) and have 3 Partners residing there, we regret that you did not call, or in some way bring the matter to our attention there, when a personal interview with one of the firm, would have saved you the disappointment which you seem to feel, and us the regret of not having correctly understood you—however, we will do all in our power to remedy the mistake, and to that end, we have written to the Postmaster General by to day's mail (having mislaid the letter of Mr. Marron) asking for an order to Engrave a 2 Cent Stamp, and it shall be put in hand the moment we receive his order—You may rely upon our using "extra

diligence to repair the delay,” and we hope to have it ready in about 2 months from the time we receive the order. We trust that this will prove satisfactory.

Very Respectfully
Your Obdt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

467. [National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philad. Feb. 26, 1857

Hon. James Campbell
Post Master Genl.
Washington

Dear Sir:

We have received a letter from Nelson J. Waterbury, Esqr Asst. Post Master at New York, expressing great disappointment that we have not engraved a 2 cent Stamp, (for which he asserts that he furnished us with an order from the Department)—

The letter to which he refers, was presented at our office here, by Mr. Waterbury during the absence of all the partners, sometime about the last of July, but was not considered by our Book Keeper (with whom Mr. W. had the interview) as a direct order to engrave the Stamp—neither did we so view it, when we subsequently saw it, but it appears that Mr. W. understood it in that light, and has been under the impression that our Book Keeper promised that it should be done—this he is quite positive is a mistake on the part of Mr. W.

The letter of Mr. Marron has unfortunately been mislaid, and we write now to ask that you will forward to us your order for the Engraving of the above named Stamp (without which authority you are aware we cannot do it) when we will immediately place it in hand and have it finished as soon as possible—We regret very much that there would have been any misunderstanding about this matter, and are sorry that Mr. W. did not refer to it at an earlier period, but we will make every exertion to prevent any serious disappointment from the delay.

Very Resp’y,
Your Obt Sts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Philadelphia
Feb 26th 1857.

Asks for an Order from the
PM Genl to Engrave 2 ct Stamp

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Correspondence between them
and Judge Waterbury about
a 2 cent stamp.

468.

[National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office, New York,
February 27th 1857

John Marron Esq.
3d Asst. P.M.G.

Dear Sir, I enclose copies of a correspondence with Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co of Philadelphia. As they have mislaid your former order will you please see that they have a new one as soon as may be convenient.

Yours respectfully,
Nelson J. Waterbury

469.

[National Archives]

Postage Stamp agency
Philadelphia March 6th 1857

Dear Sir

I have had twenty reams of receipt circulars, & one ream of posters printed at a cost of \$104.50, and having in the last two months used the paper and tin boxes freely, in the distribution of Stamps, the amount (\$350.00) which the Postmaster at this place is authorized to advance to me monthly, will not be sufficient to pay the expenses of the agency, for this present quarter.

I have paid the bills, which leaves me without my Salary for the last month, and about twenty dollars, of my own money. You would confer a favour by directing the Postmaster at this city to advance me an additional amount this quarter, about \$150.00.

Yours Respectfully

Jesse Johnson
Stamp Agent

John Marron Esq
Third asst Postmaster General

470.

[National Archives]

Philadelphia
March 18, 1857

My dear Sir

I take great pleasure in making Mr. Samuel H. Carpenter of the firm of Toppan Carpenter & Company acquainted with you—This firm is one of the oldest & best established in this City, and its members are all gentlemen of high character & of great integrity. They have now the Contract for making postage Stamps, entered into with Post Master General Hall nearly Six years Since & which will expire in June next.

I take great pleasure in Saying to you that they performed their contract to my entire Satisfaction & that they are in every way worthy of your confidence. The Department as you are aware must rely in a very great degree on the integrity of the gentlemen to whom this contract may be awarded, for in spite of all the precautions that might be used, dishonest or corrupt or even negligent men would have it in their power to plunder the government to a very great extent. Had the contract expired during my administration of the Department I have no hesitation in Saying to you that I would have renewed it with them without any hesitation, and this I would have done from their high character & my own knowledge of them for many years.

With much respect
Your friend

James Campbell

Hon A. V. Brown
Postmaster General

[Docket]

March 18, 1857
Hon. James Campbell
Late Postmaster General

Recommendations

Bears testimony to the high Character of Toppan, Carpenter & Co and to their having performed their contract obligations to his entire satisfaction. Says further that had the contract expired during his administration of the Department he would have renewed it without hesitation.

COMMENT: Former Tennessee Governor and Congressman Aaron V. Brown became PMG under Buchanan on March 6, 1857. He died in office on March 8, 1859.

471.

[National Archives]

Dear Sir

It gives me great pleasure to introduce to you my friend Saml. H. Carpenter Esq.— of the highly respectable and responsible firm of Toppan, Carpenter & Co of this City— it gives me great pleasure in assuring you that this firm is every way entitled to your highest confidence.

Mr. Carpenter belongs to that gallant body usually denominated “old line Whigs” who came to our rescue last October and November and saved Penna. and the Union I ask for him your entire confidence and kindest courtesy.

Your Friend

Geo. H. Martin
Philadelphia
March 18 1857

Hon A. V. Brown
Post Master General
Washington City
D.C.

March 18, 1857
George H. Martin
of Phila

Contractor T. C. & Co
every way entitled to the
highest confidence

472. [National Archives]

Philada March 18th 1857.

Hon. Aaron V. Brown
Postmaster General

Dear Sir,

This will be handed to you, by my Friend and Townsman Saml. H. Carpenter Esq. a member of the Firm of Toppan, Carpenter & Co. This Firm are Bank Note Engravers, and have for many years conducted a most extensive establishment, in which they have in a great degree, contributed to the high character, which this Country has obtained for skill and excellence in Bank Note Engraving.

Mr. Carpenter's Firm, have had, for some years, the Contract with the Government for printing their Post Office Stamps. They have executed this duty to the entire satisfaction of the Department and the Public at large. They desire a renewal of their Contract, and, if compatible with your sense of duty, I recommend it.

This Contract has no political ingredients in it, and therefore does not partake of a partisan character. Mr. Carpenter has never taken a very active part in Political Affairs, but he is one of those Old Line Whigs, who during the last severe struggles in Pennsylvania, broke through the trammels of Party and rallied around the Constitution, the Union and Jno. Buchanan.

Yours truly

J. Randall

[Docket]

March 18, 1857
Hon Josiah Randall

Recommends continuance
of T. C. & Co. contract
if compatible with PM Genl's
sense of duty –
Highly recommends the
Firm

473.

[National Archives]

Senate Chamber
Columbus O. March 20 1857

Dear Sir:

You will probably not be able to recall any acquaintance with me unless you can recollect me as connected with the editorial department of the Tennessee Democrat, at Columbia, Ten. in the political conflicts of 1842 & 1843. I raise this reminiscence to precurse (?) at least is not effect to a recommendation I desire to make to your department in behalf of one of my democratic friends and Constituents, Mr. George T. Jones of Cincinnati, an engraver, who desires to obtain the contract for the manufacture of postage stamps for the government. Mr. Jones is an engraver who stands very high in reputation, has done a great deal of bank note engraving for the banks of this and other United States and greatly to their Satisfaction. As an artist in his de_ (?) branch he is probably not inferior to any in the _ (?) , while for promptness, fidelity and integrity he is certainly unsurpassed. The peculiar claim in behalf of Mr. Jones, other essentials being equal, is that he is a Western man and that the West has hitherto has had but little, if any Share, in this part of the patronage of the General Government. We think she has a _let to equality in this as in all other respects and I confidently trust that the present Administration will recognise the justice of the claim. The facilities for cheap and prompt distribution from Cincinnati are equal to those afforded by Philadelphia or any Eastern City and I have no doubt that in all other respects the Government and the people would be as well accommodated by Mr. Jones as any other contractor.

This recommendation I have no doubt will be cordially endorsed by Mr. Pugh, and Messrs. Pendleton & Grovesbeck the Members of Congress (?) from Hamilton County who are well acquainted with Mr. Jones.

Your obdt Sevt

Stanley Matthews

Hon A. V. Brown
Post Master General
Washington

[Docket]

March 20, 1857
Stanley Matthews

Recommendation of
Geo. T. Jones of Cincinnati
to furnish Stamps

474.

[National Archives]

Postage Stamp agency
Philadelphia March 20th 1857

Dear Sir

I would respectfully call your attention, to my letter of the 6th inst. Which I presume, has escaped your recollection, In which I informed you that the amount, the Postmaster at this place is authorized to advance to me, monthly, would not meet the expenses of the Stamp agency this quarter, without the additional amount then asked

for. I cannot pay all the expenses, of this month, and Mr Miller is not willing to pay me more than the \$350 per month without Special directions from the Department to do so

Yours Respectfully
Jesse Johnson
Stamp agent

To John Marron Esq
Third asst Postmaster General

[Docket]

Postage Stamp Agency
March 20, 1857
Jesse Johnson

March 21, 1857
Annexed authorizing
Advance of \$150 additional

475. [National Archives]

Philadelphia 30 Mch 1857

Sir

My friend and townsman Mr Carpenter of the firm of Toppan Carpenter & Co, who will hand you this, is a gentleman whom I have great pleasure in recommending to your favorable consideration. He is desirous of receiving the Contract of his firm to supply the Post office department with stamps. Any representations on the subject which he may make will be reliable, as his good character, and high standing in our Community warrant me in stating

Very Respectfully
John Cadwalader

Hon
Aaron V. Brown
P M Genl.

[Docket]

March 30 1857
Jno. Cadwallader

Recommends Mr Carpenter

476. [National Archives]

Philada. 30 March '57

Dear Sir,

This note will be handed to you by Mr. Carpenter of the firm of Toppan, Carpenter & Co well known & highly respected engravers of this city.

Mr. Carpenter visits Washington to secure the continuation for his firm of the business of engraving the Post Office stamps which they enjoyed & discharged with so much credit to themselves & satisfaction to the Department under your predecessor. I have known these gentlemen, whose place of business is in my District, more or less intimately all my life, & know them to be not only above reproach in business, but most respectable as men & eminent as artists. It gives me great pleasure to recommend them as worthy of your favorable consideration and to say, that in my opinion, the public Service & the repute of the Administration will be consulted in their appointment.

I am, very resp'y
Your obd't Servant,

J. R. Tyson

Hon'ble Mr. Brown
Postmaster General U.S.

[Docket]

March 30 1857
Hon. Job R Tyson

Recommends T. C. & Co
strongly and desiring they
may secure a continuance
of their Contract—thinks
the public interest will be,
thereby, consulted

477.

[National Archives]

Hon. A. V. Brown
P. .M. Genl. U.S.
Washington

Sir

The house of Toppan, Carpenter & Co of this City are desirous to renew with the Department over which you preside the contract for supplying the Government with stamps &c. And I take pleasure in bearing testimony to the high standing of the firm and the excellent character of the gentlemen composing it.

Personally incompetent to judge the merits of their work. I can only say that general report accredits them as skillful and faithful, and I entertain no doubt that any contract they may make with the U. S. will be faithfully and properly executed.

I have the honor to remain
with respect Your Ob St.

Henry M. Phillips

Philadelphia
Mar 30, 1857

[Docket]

March 30 1857
Hon Henry M. Phillips

M.C. Elect

Introducing the firm of T. C. & Co.
with commendation

478. [National Archives]

Office of the Farmers and Mechanics' Insurance Co.

Philadelphia, March 30, 1857

Hon A. V. Brown
Postmaster General

My Dear Sir,

May I ask a moment of your valuable time to introduce to your personal acquaintance S. H. Carpenter Esq. of this city who will visit Washington with a view to conversation upon business, the nature of which he will communicate. I know Mr. Carpenter intimately, and have known him all my life. He is a gentleman eminently entitled to your kindest courtesies and consideration. No one deserves the favor more, or enjoys a higher commercial character, or moral position in society than he does. His house, Toppan, Carpenter & Co, is amongst the most reputable in the Union. I therefor with confidence present Mr. C to your attention, trusting his proposal may be attained, which prompts him to visit the Seat of Government.

Truly Yr. friend

Thomas B. Florence

[Docket]

March 30 1857
Hon. Thomas B. Florence

Most highly recommends
Mr Carpenter

479. [National Archives]

Philad. March 31, 1857

Dear Sir

This will be handed to you by my esteemed townsman and friend Mr. Samuel H. Carpenter of the well known firm of Toppan, Carpenter & Co Engravers. Mr. Carpenter desires a renewal of his contract with your Department for supplying Postage Stamps which expires in June. Aside from Mr. Carpenter's professional claims, he has one to which I hope you are not insensible of being one of that class here who at the last election, overcoming former affinities supported Mr. Buchanan and the Democratic ticket. I shall regard it as a personal kindness to myself if you will give to Mr. Carpenter a favorable consideration.

And am with much regard
yr friend

William B. Reed

To
Aar. Brown
Post Master general

[Docket]

March 31 1857
Hon. William B. Reed

Recommends Mr Carpenter
highly

480. [National Archives]

Washington City
Apr 1st 1857

Hon A. V. Brown
Post Master General

Sir

The firm of Tappan, Carpenter & Co Philadelphia have had the contract for supplying Post Office Stamps for some six years past, and it will expire in June next. I would not wish to be understood as presuming to judge of your duty on the question of renewing and continuing the contract, but I beg to bear testimony to the high character of this firm. During my service as Governor I had occasion to employ them in the preparation of bonds for the State. I take pleasure in saying that they performed their engagements with great promptitude, skill and accuracy. I have frequently heard the late Post Master General speak in high terms of the rigid fidelity with which they performed the difficult and delicate duty of preparing and delivering stamps. However you may feel on the subject I cannot refrain from saying that I should not like to take the risk of separating from tried men and making an experiment with strangers on a subject so delicate.

Your Obt. servt.
Wm. Bigler

[Docket]

April 1st, 1857
Hon: William Bigler
Recommendation of
Topham, Carpenter & Co

Bears testimony to high
character of T. C. & Co.
& recommends continuance
of contract in same hand

481.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. April 8th, 1857.

Hon. Aaron V. Brown,
Post Master General,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We have received your favor of 6th inst. stating the terms and conditions on which you will renew our contract for Postage Stamps, which expires on the Tenth day of June next, and we hereby notify you, (in conformity to your instructions,) that the same are accepted on our part, and in order that they may be clearly understood, we hereby copy them from your letter above referred to,

viz.;

“I hereby consent to a renewal or extension of said contract to the 10th day of June, 1861, upon the following terms and conditions, to wit:—

1. “You are to provide at your own expense all the dies, plates and machinery necessary to furnish the Department with all the stamps it may order, completely and thoroughly perforated on the lines of separation;
2. “To furnish all postage stamps gummed and ready for delivery, as heretofore, at fourteen and a half cents a thousand;
3. “For perforating the stamps you will be allowed two cents a thousand;
4. “and for furnishing envelopes, paper and tin boxes, and packing all parcels of stamps ready for mailing, one and a half cents a thousand,—thus making the entire cost of each thousand stamps amount to eighteen cents.

“But it is distinctly understood that all the terms, conditions and stipulations of the original contract hereby agreed to be extended to the 10th day of June 1861 shall be and remain in full force from and after the 10th of June 1857, except only so far as the same are changed or modified by this offer of renewal, which when accepted by you on behalf of the individuals composing your firm, will be binding on the United States.”

Very respectfully
Your Obt Sts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Post Office Department
June 18, 1857.

This certifies that the above and foregoing is a correct copy of the proposition made by A. V. Brown, Postmaster General, on the 6th April, 1857, to extend the Contract of Toppan, Carpenter & Co. for furnishing postage stamps for this Department, for four years from the 10th day of June, 1857, as the same is of record in the Third Assistant Postmaster General’s letter book, No. 6; page 140; and that said proposition and the acceptance thereof by the said Toppan, Carpenter & Co. in their letter of the 8th April, 1857, operate as an extension for four years of their original Contract executed June 10th, 1851.

J. Marron
3rd. Asst. P. M. Gen’l.

Articles of agreement made and entered into between the United States of America, by Nathan K. Hall, Postmaster General, of the one part, and Charles Toppan, Samuel H. Carpenter, John W. Casilear, Henry E. Saulnier and William C. Smillie, known as and constituting the firm of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company, Engravers of the City of Philadelphia, of the other part witnesseth;

That it is agreed on the part of the United States of America to employ the said firm of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company of Philadelphia to engrave and print for the use of the Post Office Department of the United States all the postage stamps which may be required by the Postmaster General under the "Act to reduce and modify the rates of postage in the United States and for other purposes," approved March 3rd, 1851, and to pay them therefor at the rate of fifteen cents per thousand stamps as soon as they shall be executed and received by the Post Office Department, and further that the whole printing and furnishing of postage stamps by every description for the use of the Post Office Department, including carriers stamps when those shall be furnished by the Department, shall be given to them the said Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company, exclusively, for the full term of six years from the date of this agreement; and it agreed on the part of the said Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company that they will engrave steel dies and provide steel plates for furnishing postage stamps for the United States Post Office Department of the denominations of one, three and twelve cents without charge for said dies and plates, or for keeping them in continual repair, and that they will engrave and furnish without charge any additional steel dies and plates for such postage stamps of other denominations as the public service may require, to be by them likewise kept in continual repair without charge, and that they will in like manner engrave and furnish and keep in continual repair without charge to the Post Office Department such steel dies and steel plates as may be ordered for printing carrier stamps, and that if any of the dies and plates so engraved and furnished by them shall be counterfeited, they will furnish others of new designs and keep them in repair without charge, and that they will furnish stamps from all of any of the plates and dies herein stipulated by them to be engraved and furnished, printed on suitable paper of the best quality, well and fully prepared for use with gum, at the rate of fifteen cents for every thousand stamps. The stamps are to be executed in the best style of line engraving and all the dies and plates engraved and provided under this agreement are to belong to and be the exclusive property of the United States of America for the use of the Post Office Department, and the said Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company further agree that all the stamps shall be printed with the best quality of ink and that the Postmaster General may prescribe from time to time the colors of the ink to be used in printing any or all of the stamps the Department may order or require without subjecting it to any additional expense, and they further agree that they will not prepare, or permit to be prepared in their establishment any similar dies, plates or engravings from which printed postage stamps might be issued resembling those prepared for the Post Office Department, and further that they will adopt every means and precaution within their power to prevent the issue by any one in their employment or connected with their establishment, of postage stamps from the dies and plates engraved and used for the Post Office Department or any other stamps resembling them. The stamps are to be prepared by the said Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company in all respects ready for use without additional labor or expense to the Post Office Department. It is further agreed by the parties of the second part that the orders of the Postmaster General for postage stamps shall be executed with all reasonable despatch and that the stamps shall be delivered from time to time to such persons as shall be authorized to receive the same by an instrument of writing, duly executed under the hand of the Postmaster General and the seal of the Post Office Department, and that on the delivery of each parcel of stamps ordered, they, the said parties of the second part, will prepare and furnish the agent authorized to receive them, with an accurate statement verified by oath of one of said parties of the second part, of the number of stamps prepared and delivered by them to said agent of the department. And the parties of the second part further agree that if the Postmaster General shall deem it necessary, he may appoint a Special Agent of the Department who shall be at all times present when the dies and plates are taken from the place of deposit hereinafter mentioned to be delivered to the parties of the second part for the execution of any order for stamps given by the Department and be and remain with them during the process of printing and preparing said stamps and receive them as fast as they may be finished. When any order for stamps is filled or completed, then the dies and plates are to be carefully enveloped and sealed up, the agent of the Post Office Department placing his seal and Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company placing their seal upon the package or packages, which are to be deposited with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Philadelphia for safekeeping. When the plates and dies or either of them are again required for use, the opening of the package or packages is to take place in the presence of the Agent of the Post Office Department and one of the firm of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Company, or their Agent, each breaking his own seal. And the said parties of the second part do further covenant and agree that they will be responsible to the United States for any and all damages that may be sustained by any violation of any of the

foregoing stipulations or by any omission to fulfill them on their part in their true spirit and meaning and that for such violation or omission the Postmaster General may have the right of annulling this agreement.

Witness our hands and respective seals this tenth day of June 1851.

Witness to signatures of
Charles Toppan
Samuel H. Carpenter &
Henry E. Saulnier
J. P. White
P.M.

Chas. Toppan
S. H. Carpenter
J. W. Casilear
H. E. Saulnier
W. C. Smillie

Witness to signatures of
John W. Casilear and
William C. Smillie
D. G. Johnson
W. H. Earle

N. K. HALL
Postmaster General

482. [National Archives]

[Letterhead of The Magnetic Telegraph Company]

Dated Phila June 2d 1857

To Third Asst P M Genl

I have not recd the order to furnish wash P O with Stamps & in your dispatch you do not say what kind or amount to send

Jesse Johnson
Agt

27/64 Col
S J

[Docket]

Jesse Johnson
Phila Pa
June 2/57

July 2nd
Telegrd again

483. [Travers, [USPCS web site \(filed in Nov 1857\)](#)]

COMMENT: This document was prepared by Third Assistant Postmaster General Marron in relation to the 1857 contract that allowed for perforation of postage stamps, but it deals extensively with 1851 contract matters as well. The exact date it was written is unknown, but it was apparently about June 1857.

Memorandum About Postage Stamps

And Contracts therefor.

Section 11 of the Act of March 3, 1847, Stats. Vol. IX, p. 201, authorized the Postmaster General, in order to facilitate the transportation of letters in the mail, to prepare postage stamps for the prepayment of letters and packets and to deliver them to any deputy postmaster for sale.

Section 3, of the Act of March 3, 1851, Stats. Vol. IX, p. 589, enacts "that it shall be the duty of the Postmaster General to provide and furnish to all deputy postmasters, and to all other persons applying and paying therefor, suitable postage stamps of the denomination of three cents and of such other denominations as he may think expedient to facilitate the prepayment of postage provided for in this Act."

Neither of the acts above cited, and they are the only ones authorizing the manufacture of postage stamps, requires the Postmaster General to procure them by public competition. Indeed both acts are silent as to the mode of procuring them, and seem to have left the matter entirely to the discretion of the Postmaster General.

The first contract for postage stamps was made by Postmaster General Johnson, on the 25th day of May, 1847, with Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, of New York, who undertook to furnish postage stamps ready for use and distribution at 20 cents per thousand stamps. No public competition for this contract was invited; and it does not appear that any was sought for by letter.

The second contract was made by Postmaster General Hall, on the 10th of June, 1851, with Toppan, Carpenter & Co., of Philadelphia, for a period of six years ending June 10, 1857. It was the intention of the Postmaster General to have made the term four years; but in consideration of the low price of 15 cents a thousand and some additional stipulations deemed of advantage to the Department and to which the contractors assented without charge, the term was extended to six years.

In this case, competition was invited by letter, a copy of which is annexed (**COMMENT: See attachment #3**), addressed to the following persons or firms, to-wit:-

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. | Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, | New York. |
| 2. | Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co., | Philadelphia |
| 3. | Baldwin & Adams, | New York. |
| 4. | Danforth, Bald & Co., | Philadelphia. |
| 5. | Draper, Welsh & Co., | do |
| 6. | John E. Gavit, | Albany, N.Y. |
| | and | |
| 7. | Henry Benner, of Washington, D.C., upon his application put in a proposal. | |

The following is a brief abstract of the proposals:

1. Rawdon, Wright & Co., declined to enter into competition unless paid for their design, and would not undertake to furnish stamps at a less price per 1,000 than twenty cents, the price then paid them under their contract.

2. Toppan, Carpenter & Co., offered to furnish all the stamps for 4 years at 15 cents a thousand; or the 3 cent rate or any one substituted for it at 17 cts; or three rates at 20 cents.

3. Draper, Welsh & Co., bid 15, 16, 17 and 18 cents per 1000 according to specific modes and colors.

4. Danforth, Bald & Co., bid for all the stamps on a 4 years contract, 20 cents, and 25 cents for any other stamps that might be wanted.

5. Baldwin & Adams, furnished specimens, but as no price was stated they were not considered.

6. John E. Gavit bid 20 cents a thousand.

7. Neal & Pate, New York, bid 20 cents a 1000 and to be paid \$150 for the plates.

8. Henry Benner, Washington, D.C., bid 20 cents a thousand.

The designs furnished by Toppan, Carpenter, & Co., and Danforth, Bald & Co., were adjudged by the Postmaster General, his Assistants and some of the senior clerks, superior to the rest, and to be so nearly equal in merit that the Postmaster General addressed a letter to those two firms, notifying the fact to them, and desiring to know their lowest terms. A copy of this letter is annexed. Danforth, Bald & Co, declined to reduce their terms and the contract was, therefore, made with Toppan, Carpenter & Co. at 15 cents a thousand as before stated. A copy of Postmaster General Hall's order is annexed (*COMMENT: see attachment #5*).

Toppan, Carpenter & Co., the present contractors, apply for a renewal of their contract for a term of 4 or 6 years, and propose, under date of 27th November last, (*COMMENT: "27th November last" was 27 Nov 1856, document # 455*) to furnish perforated postage stamps on the following terms, viz.,

<u>For Four Years</u> - stamps gummed ready for delivery, as heretofore,	15 cents per 1000
Perforation of stamps,	2 " " "
Envelopes, boxes, paper packing, &c.,	<u>1 ½ " " "</u>
	18 ½ " per 1000
<u>For Six Years</u> - stamps gummed ready for delivery, as heretofore,	14 ½ cts. per 1000
perforation of stamps,	2 " " "
Envelopes, boxes, paper packing, &c.,	<u>1 ½ " " "</u>
	18 cents per 1000

Up to the month of May, 1855, when the agency for the distribution of stamps was established at the manufactory in Philadelphia, the stamps were sent thence to the Department in large locked boxes where they were subdivided, counted, packed and enveloped into parcels and mailed to the postmasters; but since the establishment of that agency, the whole business of subdivision, counting, packing and enveloping has been done by the manufacturers at \$30 for each thousand parcels enveloped. This allowance was made to them for the service, because the cost of envelopes, wrapping paper & wages was greater when furnished in the Department than when done at the factory. This ability of the contractors to do the service cheaper, arose from their employing the time of their work people which could not be devoted to the regular business, and also, as I understand, by employing female labor in part.

It will be obvious that the business of furnishing the Government with stamps can not be divided with any advantage to the public interest. So carefully does the British Government guard the business that it has its own government stamp office in which the stamps are manufactured and from which they are distributed to the post offices for sale.

J. Marron

P.S. I omitted in the foregoing to allude to the cost of perforating the stamps, and therefore, I copy the manufacturer's estimate on the other side.

(COMMENT: See Attachments 1&2, but only Attachment #2 is with the Memorandum in the USPCS web site.)

+++++

[Attachment #1 to Memorandum About Postage Stamps And Contracts therefor]

"Estimated annual cost of running the perforating machine, viz., renewing the reverse of die for punches, say six times every year at \$73-20/100 each renewal	\$439.20
"Wages of a man and a boy to attend machine 10 hours per day, for 1 year, or 300 days	450.00
"Interest on cost of machine - say \$1000	<u>60.00</u>
"Making the annual cost of working one machine,	\$949.20
"One machine will perforate 180 sheets, of 100 stamps each, per hour, - say 180,000 stamps in 10 hours, computing 300 working days to the year, one machine will perforate 54,000,000 stamps per annum, at which rate it will require <u>3 machines</u> to accomplish the perforating of the number of stamps that will probably be required for the year 1857 - if so, the actual cost of perforating 162,000,000 of stamps will be,	\$2847.60
"To which add rent of additional room that will be necessary	<u>150.00</u>
"Making the annual cost of three machines,	\$2997.60
"Or at the rate of 1-7/8 cents per 1000 stamps."	
"Cost of making 13 new stamp plates,	\$6,500.00
"Cost of present perforating machine \$1200., but presuming that 2 more might be procured for \$1000 each, we put down the estimated cost of three machines at,	<u>3000.00</u> \$9,500.00

[Attachment #2 to Memorandum About Postage Stamps And Contracts therefor]

MEMORANDA.

For the quarter ending September 30th, 1856, the number of postage stamps issued was 32,328,465 or 129,300,000 per annum.

Assuming that the annual increase in the use of stamps will average 7 per centum, then the number of stamps required for six consecutive years commencing January, 1857, will be nearly as follows:

For the year	1857	about	138,351,000
"	1858	"	148,035,000
"	1859	"	158,397,000
"	1860	"	169,484,000
"	1861	"	181,348,000
"	1862	"	194,042,000

The perforating capacity of three machines will be sufficient only for three years, even if they work without interruption from breakage or other cause. For the next three years, a fourth machine will be required to produce the quantity estimated above, and I have estimated rather below than above the number which will be needed.

J. Marron.

[Attachment #3 to Memorandum About Postage Stamps And Contracts therefore]

Post Office Department,
March 8, 1851.

Gentlemen:

The 3rd Section of the "Act to reduce and modify the rates of postage &c.," approved March 3rd, 1851, requires the Postmaster General to provide and furnish to all deputy postmasters and to all other persons applying and paying therefor, suitable postage stamps of the denomination of three cents and of such other denominations as he may think expedient to facilitate the prepaying of postages provided for in said Act. Therefore, with the view of performing the duty thus enjoined, I invite you to present at the earliest day practicable an engraved design for a three cent stamp, which will be considered in competition with the engraved designs of other eminent engravers from which the Department will select one for adoption under the Act aforesaid.

The person or firm offering the preferred design will be employed to furnish all other stamps which may be needed under the act, provided the Department and such person or firm agree as to prices and other matters of detail before the 20th day of April next. A medallion head of Washington, in profile, done in the best style of line engraving with a finely engraved background in what the Department suggests. The denominations can be put in letters on the margin after the manner of the English stamps. The letters should be pure white and express the words "U.S. postage, three cents."

Very respectfully,
Yr. Obt. Ser't,
N.K. Hall,
P.M. Genl.

To.

Messrs. Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, N.Y.
" Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co., Pha.
" Baldwin & Adams, N.Y.
" Danforth, Bald & Co., Pha.
" Draper, Welsh & Co., Pha.
Mr. John E. Gavit, Albany, N.Y.

[Attachment #4 to Memorandum About Postage Stamps And Contracts therefore]

Post Office Department.
April 22nd, 1851.

Gentlemen:

I have examined the several specimens of engraving for postage stamps submitted in pursuance of the invitations given by the Department in March last and find the productions of two or three firms so nearly equal in merit that the question of price may with propriety be permitted to influence my decision. Therefore, I have to request that you submit at the earliest convenient moment the price per thousand at which you will furnish stamps printed on steel plates from steel dies corresponding with the specimens exhibited by you; the stamps to be printed one hundred on a sheet and delivered at your place of business gummed and ready for use, in sealed packages of 200 sheets. The dies and plates to be furnished and kept in continual repair without charge and to belong to and remain in the custody of this Department except when in use by you. You will also state what your price will be if the business be divided so as to give the furnishing of the three cent stamps to one establishment and the two denominations of one and six or, one and twelve, to another. Your proposals should state first the price per thousand on contract of 4 years for all the stamps the Department may require of every rate. Second, the price for the three cent stamps alone or, such stamps or rate as Congress may substitute for it, and a contract of like duration; and, third, the price for the

other two denominations for the same period. Any further information which may be desired before submitting your proposal can be had on application to the Third Assistant P.M. General.

Respectfully &c.
N.K. Hall,
P.M. Genl.

To
Danforth, Bald & Co.
Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.,
Present.

[Attachment #5 to Memorandum About Postage Stamps And Contracts therefore]

Ordered that the proposition of Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co. to furnish all the postage stamps to be ordered by the Department for the next four years be accepted with such modifications as have been verbally made by the Postmaster General and Mr. Carpenter, and subject to such additional provisions in regard to the detail as may be deemed necessary by the Postmaster General and that the 3rd Assistant notify Mr. Carpenter of this acceptance and prepare the necessary contract.

Signed Hall

The above order was made April 23rd, 1851, and it was communicated to Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co., by letter from me of same date.

Sign. J. Marron,
Third Asst. P.M. Genl.

484. [National Archives]

Postage Stamp agency
Philadelphia June 10th 1857

Dear Sir

Mr. Carpenter informed me this morning that this day his old contract, with the department expired, and that under his new contract, he was to furnish the paper boxes, but he could not say about the tin boxes, which I have been using, in sending stamps to Texas & Florida in addition to those used for California and other parts of the West coast.

Please inform me if it is your intention to have the envelops used on such parcels as are put into paper & tin boxes.

Yours respectfully

Jesse Johnson
Stamp Agent

To John Marron Esq.
Third asst. P M General

[Docket]

Jesse Johnson
Stamp Agent
Philadelphia Pa
June 10th 1857

June 11, 1857
Answered

485. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. Novem 17, 1857 [*sic—1851; see below*]

Dear Sir:

We have this day delivered to W. I. P. White Esq., Post Master, the following Postage Stamps,

Viz:

68 Packages ea contng 30,000 Stamps of 3 Cents - 2,040,000 stamps

2 do “ contng 50,000 do “ 1 Cent - 100,000 do

1 do “ contng 20,000 Carriers Stamps Eagle - 20,000 do

In addition to the above we delivered to J. C. Montgomery, Esqr., Asst. P.M. on the 21st ulto a package containing 10,000 Carriers Stamps (Franklin) receipt for which, together with receipt for the 20,000 Carriers Stamps delivered this days, please find herein.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servts.,

Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co

J. Marron Esq.,
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl.

COMMENT:

- **Misdated. Correct date is 17 Nov 1851.**
- ***White was PM 1849-53, and the Stamp Agency took over deliveries in 1855. This is a duplicate of #235, which is correctly dated. A copy of the typescript is in the USPCS web site under Nov 1857.***

486. [National Archives]

Philada, 17 Nov 1857

Dear Sir

The inclosed letter from the Hon: H. M. Phillips, with the indorsement attached thereto by the Hon: Thos. B. Florence, was received by me previous to leaving your city; but as the opportunity of presenting it to you did not

occur, I have now the pleasure of sending it: and would have done so before but that I have been in daily expectation of again visiting you.

Should other letters be deemed of advantage we will cheerfully send such.

Before leaving Washington, I took the liberty of requesting Messrs McLees & Co, daguerreotypists, to get your permission to take a copy, at our expense, of your Aunts portrait, which I trust they have succeeded in doing.

Thanking you for your kindness, I am,

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.

Wm. Cousland

John Marron Esq
Washington,
D.C.

[Docket]

Wm Cousland
Philadelphia Pa
Novr 27, 1857
Enclosing letters of recom-
mendation from Messrs
Phillips & Florence

487.

[National Archives]

Philadelphia
November 17, 1857

Jno: Marron Esq
Asst P. M. G.

Dear Sir,

Messrs Bald Cousland & Co. of this city Bank note Engravers are known to me to be gentlemen of high standing & character, of reputed state in their profession and of unvarying devotion to the Democratic party. Should there be any work of that kind in the department in your charge, I commend them to your attention as Eminently deserving & calculated to serve the public faithfully.

I am With Respect
Your ob. Sr.
Henry M. Phillips

In this I cheerfully coincide

Thomas B. Florence

488.

[National Archives]

New York
Nov 18 1857

Hon
A V Brown

Dear Sir

I take pleasure in introducing to you Col Cousland, of the firm of Bald Cousland & Co. This Firm are composed of Buchanan men, and are seeking Government employment. Should any work in their line be required it would be satisfactorily and promptly executed

Commending Col Cousland to you I am

Yours truly

W B Maclay

[Docket]

W B Maclay
New York
Novr 18th 1857
To Hon A. V. Brown

Introducing Mr Cous-
land of the firm of Bald
Cousland & Co NY

489.

[National Archives]

Hon, A. V. Brown
Washington

Dear Sir

This will be presented to you by Mr. Wm Cousland of the firm of Bald Cousland & Co of this city, Bank Note Engravers, who seek some of the public work in your department. They are gentlemen of character & integrity, and they are reputed to be of great skill in their profession. It is an old Established house, enjoying high popularity & I am persuaded, they will faithfully and honestly execute any business entrusted to them.

Very Resp'y
Your ob. Sr.

Henry M. Phillips

[Docket]

A. M. Phillips
To Hon A. V. Brown

Letter introducing Mr
Cousland of the firm
of Bald & Cousland
NY

490.

[National Archives]

Bald, Cousland & Co.
Bank Note Engravers and Printers
74 WALNUT ST
Philadelphia, 12th Decr 1857

Dear Sir

We have your esteemed favor of the 11th inst., with Portraits of the Post Master Genl. and we beg to offer our thanks for your kind attention.

We Note your remarks about proposed alteration in Plates for P. O. Dfts and will be governed accordingly.

We Are
Yours very Respectfully

Bald Cousland & Co

To Hon J. Marron
Ass. P. M. Genl
Washington D. C.

1858

491.

[National Archives]

Bald, Cousland & Co.
Bank Note Engravers and Printers
74 WALNUT ST.
Philadelphia 21st Jany 1858

Dear Sir

Your favor of 20th Inst. at hand by this Evenings Mail. We shall be governed by instructions Contained therein.

In the Course of a few days our Mr. Cousland will wait upon you in person with finished proofs of all the drafts which we feel Confident you will be much pleased with.

We are
Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servts

Bald Cousland & Co

J. Marron Esq.
3d Asst. P. M. Genl
Washington

492.

[National Archives]

Intercourse Lancaster Co. Pa.
Feby. 1, 1858.

Hon Aaron V. Brown
Post Master General U.S.

Dr. Sir,

Please pardon me for this trespass upon your time & patience, but being anxious to obtain information upon a subject, which if fully investigated, may prove of some advantage to your department & also to myself & as the facts cannot be obtained from any other source, have taken the privilege of addressing yourself in regard to it. Could the Stamp Agency be removed from Philadelphia to another point in Penna. where every facility for sending & receiving the mails, would be as good, as at Philada? The place to be no farther distant from Washington than Philada. & where the same service you require from the Philada Agency could be done at much less expense, to the Department. Say, you could save sufficient, to pay the contract for carrying the mails upon half dozn. small routes, which I have no doubt would be an item to save out of one place. And if a person were recommended to you, who in every respect is capable of performing the duties & has had some Fifteen years experience in P. O. Matters, one who would come highly recommended by men of our party, in fact a person with whom you would be satisfied. Could such a man secure the appointment, & have the Agency removed as herein mentioned?

The removal to be attended with no expense to the Department. I have no doubt you would be willing to make a change in the Agency, if all could be done That you require, at a very considerable less expense to the Department, & you are assured, as to the qualifications & merits of the party asking the change.

I am induced to believe That it is your desire to conduct the affairs of the Dept. upon a system of Economy, & accuracy, & have therefore suggested the above idea, for owing to the great multiplicity of business upon your mind, it must be impossible for you to think upon & regulate every branch of the vast Department, over which you so ably

preside, & as Mr. Johnson has had the agency under one administration, he should be satisfied, as there are other Democrats, who are now entitled to something, & the Stamps can be distributed as easily from one point as another.

Please think over this matter & let me hear from you at your convenience.

With my very best wishes for your continued good health, & hoping that higher honors await you, I desire to be always your friend.

B. F. Hall

493. [National Archives]

Intercourse Lancaster Co Pa
Feb 9, 1858.

Hon. A. V. Brown
Post Master General U.S.

My dear Sir,

Not having had the pleasure of hearing from you, in reply to my letter under date of Feb 1, again take the liberty of addressing you a few lines, in reference to the removal of the Stamp Agency &c from Phila. with the hope that you may find it convenient to give the matter a thought, & if you would but consider the matter favourably, it would be of vast importance to a friend of the Administration & would certainly be an advantage to the Department of the Government, over which you so ably preside. I can without any difficulty convince you of the truth of the facts stated in the letter above mentioned.

With my best wishes for your continued good health & prosperity believe me always your friend

B. N. Hall

P.S. Would be pleased to hear from you at your convenience & if you desire it would call down to Washington, where I could state the matter more fully. B.N.H.

494. [National Archives]

Bald, Cousland & Co
Bank Note Engravers and Printers
74 WALNUT ST.

Philadelphia, 17th Feb 1858

Dear Sir

Will you please send us, One of the books with the P. O. Drafts used, that we may match the binding Exactly. We will return it immediately. Is not the Auditor in want of some Drafts. You Know we have no order as yet to print. As the order (Came through you) for Engraving the plate, we do not know whether to address him or not. Please let us hear.

We are
Yours Very Respectfully

Bald Cousland & Co

Jno. Marron Esq.
3d assist P. M. Genl
Washington D.C.

495. [National Archives]

Office of A. Nicholas & Co. Bankers

New York 5 April 1858

Hon A. V. Brown

Dear Sir

Enclosed I send you a Postage Stamp, which has passed through the department and was cancelled. The cancellation has been partially erased on the one enclosed for your inspection. The ordinary paper now in use for writing and printing can be easily tampered with by adepts in Chemistry. It is plain therefore that the Post Office is liable to be extensively swindled by the restoration of its Cancelled Stamps So long as it uses the ordinary paper to print them on.

I also send you a sheet of newly invented paper, under "Glynn's Patent," which defies all chemical rogueries. No alterations or erasures can be made on this paper without instant detection. It is also proof against Vermin and dampness it does not cost but a trifle more and can now be had in any quantities in this City. I deem it of the utmost consequence that Government should use such paper in all its public documents as Can defy the rogueries of Chemistry and think that the paper attains this very desirable end Believing that the subject demands your early attention, I remain

Your Obt Svt

A. Nichols

P.S.

If this matter is referred to any Engravers it will be condemned. the reasons are simple—if it is adopted it will do away with half their printing business—especially so among the Engravers of Bank Notes. they print now on the Same bill twice—whereas printing once on this paper is sufficient

Respectfully
AN

496. [National Archives]

Lancaster Co. Pa
Intercourse June 3, 1858

His Excellency
The President of the U.S.

Honored Sir,

I hope you will now be able to do something for me in regard to the Stamp Agency. My present position is such that I would like to have something, & I am fearful that if I do not receive it through your kindness now, That I shall not get anything soon. My claims have been laid before your Excellency, & I trust you can without any inconvenience to yourself do me the favor I ask. My Family has stood at your side for Twenty, Thirty, for Forty years in every emergency, & I now ask this small favor from your hands. Baker, Brenner & Westcott of Philada. will support me, & all our leading Democrats in this County. Hoping I may be more fortunate in this, than in the effort for the General Appraisership.

I desire to remain, the friend of your Excellency

B. F. Hall

P.S. Should be pleased to hear from you, at your convenience

497. [National Postal Museum]

Philad. June 15, 1858

Dear Sir

You will perhaps recollect that I mentioned to you when I last had the pleasure of seeing you in Washington, that with a view to the more perfect accommodation of our Stamp business, and to give the Government the greatest possible security, we had leased part of a very large and perfectly fire proof building—We have reserved 2 Commodious Rooms for the Agent of the Government, on the same floor with our Superintendent of Stamps, and we are now moving to the new premises—The object of this communication is to ask the favor that the Agent of the Government may be directed to remove from our present premises and take possession of the apartments set apart for his accommodation in the new building—

I ask that this may be done at your earliest convenience, inasmuch as I am informed this morning that Mr. Johnston has stated his determination not to move until directed to do so by the Department—he may be right in requiring this order, and therefore I do not wish to be understood as finding fault with his action in the matter, altho' he has seemed to me to be a little “crooked” for some time past—This however I do not wish to go any farther, or be used to his injury—We are all liable to be a little cross at times, and I am quite willing to excuse in others the infirmities which I am subject to myself—

Very Respectfully Your Ob Sv
S. H. Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr. 3rd Asst. P. M. General

[Docket]

June 15, 1858
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

ask that the agent of the Govt.
be directed to remove from
present premises to the New
perfectly Fire Proof leased
by them. 2 Commodious
rooms reserved for him

498. [National Postal Museum]

Postage Stamp Agency
Philadelphia June 17/58

Sir

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter & Co the Postage Stamp contractors are removing their Stamp business into the fourth Story of a building some distance from the present locality, the change will interfere considerably with the present arrangements for putting up Stamps.

Some few weeks since Mr. Carpenter informed me that a room on the fourth floor of the Same building had been set apart for my Office, after looking at the room I told him that it would not answer the purpose as it was considerable Smaller than the room that we now occupied. I also suggested to him that he had better inform the Department that he wished to make a change in the present arrangements for he intimated to me that the new room would be worth more rent than the one we are now in, I differ with him widely, the room in the new building is not worth half the rent charge of our present Office it is on the fourth floor of a very high building, the outdoor entrance is from an alley or twenty feet wide street and to get into the room, we would have to go through the same inside entrance or door that all the contractors hands pass through, the room adjoins his printing room in which 8 or 10 printing presses are worked with steam power, the noise from them would be very annoying, and at times interfere with our business, the room is dark the windows being small and near the floor.

If a proper room could not be got on a lower floor of the same building, I have no doubt, but that, I could procure one much nearer and more convenient to the Stamp Manufactory then my present office, without any material increase of rent charge.

Yours Respectfully
Jesse Johnson
Stamp Agent

To John Marron Esq.
Third Asst. P M General

[Docket]

June 23/58
Postage Stamps

Toppan Carpenter & Co
&
Jesse Johnson Agent

Room in new building not
suitable being too small
and is on 4th Story joining
printing room, the noise of
which will be very annoying
requested them to address Dept.
relative to rent
June 23 1858
Answered

499.

[National Postal Museum]

Philad. June 21, 1858

Dear Sir

I took the liberty to address you on the 15th inst. in reference to the removal of the office of your Agent of Postage Stamps to our new office—

As we only await your authority to consummate the matter and we are obliged to give possession of our old premises on the 1st proxo, I will feel greatly obliged if you will give the necessary authority to Mr. Johnson to take possession of the new rooms at the earliest day that may suit your convenience—

Hoping you will excuse my troubling you again about this matter—

I am very Respectfully
Yours
S H Carpenter

J. Marron Esqre
3rd Asst. P M Genl

[Docket]

June 21, 1858
S. H. Carpenter
Being compelled to give up
old premises. Requests Dept.
to direct Mr. Johnson to take
possession of New Rooms

500. [National Postal Museum]

Phila. June 24/58

Dear Sir

Your favor of 23rd is recd—I am a little surprized that Mr. Johnson should have forgotten to say “two rooms” in lieu of “the room,” because he certainly knew that I proposed to appropriate two rooms adjoining each other for his accommodation—I shall not trouble you with a reply to the catalogue of objections which it now appears that he has made, but will merely say that he has not stated the case fairly—I have taken much pains in having these rooms arranged so as to give every possible facility to Mr. Johnson in the management & discharge of his duties as the Agent of the Government, and as I do not wish to be put in the wrong by appearing to offer better accommodations, when in fact (according to his representations) they are not so good as the old ones, I beg that you will recall your authority to Mr. Johnson to take other rooms, until this question can be settled to the entire satisfaction of the Post Master General and yourself (by personal inspection of the premises) and as I perceive by the papers that it is probable the Post Master General will be here early next week, you will do me a favor if you will ask him to have the kindness to examine into this matter and decide by a personal inspection of the premises as to whether the objections raised by Mr. J are sound and deserving the weight which he has given them—

You will readily perceive that if Mr. Johnson should rent a room out of the building, the delivery of the Stamps to him there, will be a source of additional risk and great trouble to us and I trust it will be duly considered before it is acted on—

Very truly
Yr. Ob Sv
S A Carpenter

J. Marron Esqr
3d Asst. P M Genl.

[Docket]

Toppan Carpenter & Co
Requests recall of instructions to
Mr. Johnson to rent other rooms

501. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. July 19, 1858

Dear Sir

I do not know whether Mr. Johnson has explained to you the present position of things with regard to the rooms appropriated to the delivery of Stamps, but I infer that he has not, and therefore I trust that you will excuse me for troubling you with a few words on the subject—

Leaving out of view all the points which were subjects of difference of opinion between him and us (up to the date of my last letter) I proceed to say that since that time we have (in order to do every thing in our power to satisfy Mr. J) taken away entirely the partition between 2 of the Rooms in our new premises and thrown the two into one large Room immediately adjoining the Room of our Superintendent of Stamps, expressly for the accommodation of the Government Agent—with this arrangement Mr. J seems to be satisfied and he receives the deliveries daily at that Room, but for some cause which I do not understand, he still retains possession of the room in Walnut St—now this room is the Key to several other rooms on the same floor, all of which we have vacated, and by Mr. Johnson retaining possession of this room, he prevents our giving possession to our landlord and makes us liable for the rent of the whole of that part of the premises, when we do not occupy any part of them—

It may be that this action on his part is owing to a want of permission or direction from the Department to remove from the old and take possession of the new office—If this be so, and you should be Satisfied that there is no good reason why he should not give up the Old apartment, I will feel much obliged by your directing accordingly—

As to the amount of Rent which the Government ought to pay us for the new premises, all that I ask is that you or any other gentleman on behalf of the Government shall examine the premises, and after having done so, decide what Rent per annum would be fair and just for us to receive—By the removal of the premises we have more than doubled our Rent, and in consideration of the perfect security given to the Government in this building (which it was impossible to give in the other) and the increased facilities given your Agent, I think a Rent of \$300 per annum would be moderate, fair & just, and such as the Government ought not to hesitate to pay, yet I repeat that I am perfectly willing to submit the question to you or others to decide and pledge myself to accept whatever sum you or they may deem right and fair between the Government and ourselves—

Meanwhile, I hope that the decision of this question may not further delay the removal of Mr. J from Walnut St, but that he may be directed to vacate those premises with as little delay as possible—

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts
S H Carpenter

J Marron Esqr
3rd Asst. Post Master GI
Washington

[Docket]

July 19th 1858
Topham Carpenter & Co

To satisfy Mr Johnson
have removd partition &
made one of both adjoining
Supt. Of Stamps—He seems
satisfied but will not re-
move from old place thus
preventing us from giving up
the premises—Dept. will
please instruct his to remove
are willing to leave rent
to disinterested parties.

502. [National Archives]

Postage Stamp agency
Philadelphia Nov 22nd 1858

Sir

On Friday last the 19th inst. I removed the office of the Stamp Agency to room No 2 Second Storey, of entrance No 314 ½ Walnut Street, the Same building that the office has been in. I consider it a safe convenient place and much more pleasant than the room that we formerly occupied. The building belongs to the society of Friends, I rented from their agent Mr. Horatio Wood, the rent charge is one hundred & fifty dollars per Year. It is Mr. Woods wish, to have the rent paid monthly, and if it meets the views of the department, I will pay the rent out of the money, that I am now authorized to draw, from the Postmaster at Philadelphia, for the expenses of the agency, and account in the quarterly settlements.

On Saturday last November 20th I delivered to Toppan, Carpenter & Co possession of the room that was formerly occupied for an office, for the agency

Yours Respectfully

Jesse Johnson
Agent

To John Marron Esq.
Third asst. P M General

[Docket]

Jesse Johnson Esq.
Stamp Agent

Novr 23 1858

Answd & instructed to
pay monthly

503.

[National Postal Museum]

Statement of Postage Stamps and Stamped envelopes issued and sold during the period of four years ending June 30th 1858

Year ending June 30th	1 cent Stamps	3 cent Stamps and envelopes	5 cent Stamps	10 cent Stamps and envelopes	12 cent Stamps	Letter postage paid in Money (\$)	Stamped Envelopes issued (\$)	Stamps & Envelopes Sold (\$)
1855	10,698,636	87,190,086		924,986	262,071	3,234,549.67	2,895,818.30	2,511,318.03
1856	19,981,698	137,533,596	103,653	3,070,852	750,653	1,754,766.96	4,720,545.37	4,235,445.49
1857	29,388,894	157,621,035	291,310	3,264,781	1,190,835	983,207.24	5,392,041.03	5,447,764.51
1858	36,165,997	165,182,277	308,262	3,814,904	1,274,998	904,299.13	5,924,174.21	5,700,314.03

Notes

1. The blue one cent stamps are used to prepay printed circulars, drop letters, transient Newspapers and other printed Matter.
2. The three cent stamps and envelopes are used almost entirely on our inland correspondence.
3. The five cent stamps are used chiefly to prepay the inland postage on letters to foreign countries with which we have no postal arrangements, and on letters to France which require 10 & 5 to make the 15 cent rate to that Country.
4. The 10 cent stamps and envelopes are used for California letters, letters to the British North America provinces, letters to Cuba, Bremen and Hamburg, and to foreign places under 2,500 miles, for which the postage has not been otherwise arranged.
5. The twelve 12 cent Stamps are chiefly used on letters to England two of them prepaying the English rate.

Post Office Department
 Feby. 11th 1859
 J. Marron
 3rd Asst. P M Genl.

Hon D L Yulee
 Senate
 US

COMMENT: *The above statement, made by Marron in 1859, settles an issue discussed at great length by philatelic writers, i.e., the purpose of the 5 cent stamp.*

504.

[National Postal Museum]

Order No. ___ for Postage Stamps to be supplied from the Philadelphia Agency.

Post Off.	County	State	Postmstr	1¢	3¢	5¢	10¢	12¢	Amount
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Estimate of Postage Stamps returned and lost during the year commencing 1st July 1857 and ending 30th June 1858

3rd qr 1857				105,689	307,312	220	4,374	4,598	\$11,276.41
4th qr 1857				12,704	57,532		767	1,119	2,063.98
1st qr 1858				11,659	149,510	303	83,273	1,500	13,124.34
2nd qr 1858				12,551	51,326	500	1,204	200	1,834.69

[Docket]

1858

Issues

figures dont agree
AMT

See Document "B"
which gives net figures
from 1855 to 1858 inclusive

505. [National Postal Museum]

Footings of Stamp Reports, for the
3rd and 4th qrs of 1857, and 1st & 2nd qrs 1858.

1¢	3¢	5¢	10¢	12¢	Amount
9,359,800	34,422,700	75,090	766,790	303,535	1,243,136.70
7,803,900	29,428,200	64,615	617,615	269,020	1,058,159.65
10,358,700	35,835,400	79,080	1,410,110	359,040	1,366,698.80
8,837,400	35,743,800	91,300	737,610	351,420	1,281,184.40
36,359,800	135,430,100	310,085	3,532,125	1,283,015	4,949,179.55
					<u>1,013,607.73</u>
					5,962,787.28
					<u>6,261,533.34</u>
					<u>298,746.06</u>

1859 Stamps	5,279,405.00
1858 "	<u>4,949,179.55</u>
	330,225.45

Issued to Postmasters

506. [National Postal Museum]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co/relation to Stamp Agency/ May 1855 – July 1858*

Quarter end. 31st Mar. '59. Stamps issued:

1¢	3¢	5¢	10¢	12¢
13,461,700	40,428,500	128,940	1,164,210	401,825

amounting to \$1,518,559:—

Qr. end. June '59:

1¢	3¢	5¢	10¢	12¢
12,059,100	36,601,800	113,560	1,034,700	326,575

Amounting to \$1,366,982:—

Amount qr end 31 Mar. 59	55,585,175
“ “ “ 30 June “	<u>50,135,735</u>
Excess of issue favor of 1st qr 1859	5,449,440

	No. 1	2	2-10	3-6¢	
1st qr 59	276,700	8,598,950	97,800	5,500	\$292,489.58
<u>2nd qr 59</u>	<u>243,300</u>	<u>7,117,950</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>238,579.09</u>
Excess, 2d qr	33,400	1,481,000	57,800	0	\$ 53,910.49

[* This is the manuscript heading on the envelope, imprinted "Post Office Department/OFFICIAL BUSINESS"]

1859

507.

[National Archives]

Rochester
Ap 21, 1859

My Dear Sir,

My last report to your Department Shows, at the date thereof \$7,818.51—Since which you have drawn upon me for the whole amount less \$169.06—The last draft of \$2,000 was presented me this morning—On the former drafts I had paid all the Gold I had but \$322, and today tendered to the holder of this \$2,000, the amount thereof in Silver (American coin) which he refused, demanding either the Gold or a draft on New York City—I found I could not convert the Silver wither with Gold or a draft for any thing short of 1 ½ per cent or \$30. Silver is worth but 99 cents on the dollar and a draft ½ per cent on N.Y. Indeed I could not get \$2000 in gold for \$2020 in silver unless I purchase a draft—I telegraphed you today & have no answer and write you the facts more at length—Being compelled to receive Silver for Stamps and postage, it will not I presume be expected that I pay it out at less than par value—If I do not secure your instructions to the contrary by telegram this evening, I will let the draft go back and hope I shall have your approval for so doing—

I have made a formal tender and did all I could to honor the draft without [illegible word] a course which seemed to me suicidal by paying a share of \$30 on this coin—

Please advise me if I have done right and if not instruct me what further I shall do in the premises—

Very Truly Yours

N E. Paine
P.M.

H. King Esq
1st Asst P M Genl

[Docket]

Rochester NY
PM
Apr. 21, /59

As to silver coin

Answd 23 Apr

508.

[National Archives]

Rochester N.Y.
Ap. 22, 1859

My Dear Sir,

I have your telegram—I beg to refer you to the instructions of Your Department issued in 1857 Chapter XVIII Sec. 224—Now please notice that I am obliged to receive for Stamps the Silver coin of the United States and in doing so have accumulated Some \$2500 of it more or less, which I cannot convert into Drafts on N.Y. or gold at less than 1 ½ per cent—Therefore to pay the Draft of \$2,000 in Drafts or Gold, would have cost \$30—I consulted the late P. Masters of this place, and they confirmed my judgment that I could not do this without Specific instructions

from you—The case is novel here, because until recently, silver coin has been worth a small premium and could readily be converted into Gold.

I wish to do my whole duty and regret the Draft has gone back, but do not See but I have conformed to my instructions notwithstanding the Statute you refer to—If I have erred I will be ready to pay any damages the holder of the Draft has sustained.

Will you look at my letter to [illegible word] of Yesterday and inform me what is my duty in this & like cases—

I am very truly yours

N. E. Paine
PM

A N Zevely Esq
3d Asst P M Genl

COMMENT: John Marron resigned as 3rd Asst. PMG on 3 March 1859, and Alexander N. Zevely succeeded him on 11 Mar 1859 (House Documents, Volume 123; Volume 126). PMG Aaron Brown died in office on 8 March 1859, and was succeeded the next day by Commissioner of Patents Joseph Holt. It is not known if Zevely's selection had anything to do with the change of PMG.

509. [National Archives]

Waverlie Rockingham Co Va
May 6 1859

Dr Sir

I have written twice before to the Department since about the time our Postage Stamps gave out but have failed to get a response thus far ordering 300 letter 3 ct postage Stamps.

Please send me that amount & number by return mail and oblige

Yours very truly

Robert H. Spindle

[Docket]

Waverlie Va
PM

As to stamps
Ordd Apr 28

May 12

510. [Travers]

(POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
June 9th 1859.)

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gent.

Please to inform me now soon and on what terms you can have prepared rolls or moulds for the purpose of furnishing water line paper for postage stamps.

It is desirable to have a mark on each separate stamp. Please say what difference, if any, there would be between the cost of simple lines and letters.

Very Respectfully &c &c
A.N.Z.

511. [Travers]

(POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
June 9th 1859.)

D.W. Moore, Esq.,
Sp. Agt. P.O. Dept
Philadelphia.

I have written to Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co, on the subject of introducing water marks in the sheets of postage stamps so that each separate stamps shall have a mark.

These might be simple lines or letters.

For instance the words, "Post Office" would cover ten stamps & "Department" ten - just the number in a line.

If such lettering would be too expensive simple marks - say ten lines each way on a sheet would effectually mark each stamp. Perhaps even 10 lines one way might do.

There should be some mark & I take it for granted that the preparation of the rolls or moulds for making the paper cannot cost much, and that no other additional cost will be involved.

Please investigate this matter & report soon.

Very Respectfully,
Yr. Ob. Servt.
A.N.Z.

512. [National Postal Museum: Travers]

Philada. June 10th 1859

A.N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Assistant Post Master General.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 9th inst. is duly received.

We have at once instituted proceedings with the purpose of replying satisfactorily to your inquires; and we must respectfully beg your indulgence for a day or two that we may be better enabled to give you positive data for your guidance.

We fear, however, without investigating the subject thoroughly, that a paper with a water mark such as you describe must prove quite expensive and require considerable time to be made. We understand that it must be a hand-made paper as no machine made paper of such a nature can be produced. We hope within a brief period to be able to write to you at length on the subject which commands our serious and immediate intention.

Very Resptfly
Yr. Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

June 10, 1859

Topham Carpenter & Co

Postage Stamps

Toppan Carpenter & Co

June 10, 1859

As to Water marks in paper
for Stamps. Will report
in a few days

513.

[National Archives]

Chicago

June 11th 1859

To the Honble J. Holt

P. M. General

Washington

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find 2 postage Stamps, American and English. you will discover by looking at the Lower corner of the English one, that a Private Mark "N. & E." indicating the locality or office from which they have been issued.

I would respectfully submit that stamped envelopes be used in all cases, as there are many disadvantages arising to the Govert and the Public, from the adhesive Stamps now in use. 1st Stamps are more or less liable to fall off, after mailing—2nd The Forgery of Stamps might be prevented by Substituting a code of hieroglyphic characters on the corners of the Stamps, and Known only to the department at Washington. the adoption of this precaution would Shew the Locality where forgery existed if any, and by a clause enacted hereafter in our Post Office Law, make the penalty for such an offense, not less than 5 years or exceeding 10 years in the State Penitentiary.

I respectfully submit this for your better judgment, trusting they may prove advantageous to your department and assist you in some measure in carrying out in detail Such improvements as may Secure profit and Security to the Government.

I am Dr Sir
Your Mo Obedt. Servt
Joseph Hertford

[Enclosure}

Advantages to be derived from the use of
this envelope

1st – its perfect Security, preventing the possibility of being opened to pry into the contents therein containd without tearing.

2nd – The adhesive Strap A being dampd and inserted in the aperture. B embraces the two angular Sides C, thus preventing it being open at the Side, by indentation or otherwise.

3dly – being equally simple as the envelope now in use and not more expensive but more secure.

What I claim as useful in the invention of the enclosd envelope is the possibility of it being open by any prying or dishonest person without first destroying the envelope—or adhesive Strap “A.”

those now in use can be open & reseald without any Sign to indicate its being append.

the adhesive Strap A inserted in the aperture markd B fastens Securely the two Sides C

an advantage over those now in use.

Your obt Sev
J. Hertford

[Docket]

Joseph Hertford
Chicago Ills
June 11, '59

As to envelopes &c

Ansd July 7

COMMENTS:

- *Following PMG Brown's death in office, Commissioner of Patents Joseph Holt became Postmaster General in Buchanan's Administration on March 9, 1859. He served until December 31, 1860.*
- *Hartford's style of writing illustrates some of the perils in transcribing these manuscript letters. He scatters punctuation marks randomly (many of which have been ignored in this typescript), begins the first words of paragraphs without capital letters, fails to end sentences with periods, and uses nonstandard abbreviations, practices that were common during this period. Hartford also misunderstood the true nature of the corner letters identifying the plate positions of English stamps.*
- *See #522 for a follow-up to this letter.*

514.

[National Archives]

East Randolph P. O.
Cattaraugus Co N. Y.

June 13, 1859

D. M. Bull Esqr

Dear Sir

You doubtless will recollect the Stamp on a letter to which I called your attention when here on the 10th Inst. Mr. Stevens & his lady were both here the afternoon on which you left. Mr. Stevens informed me that he purchased the Stamp & more at the Same time of R. E. Winsor P.M. at Panama Chautauqua Co 12 miles from Jamestown—& thinks he has more of the same kind at home & promised to bring them up the first time he comes. Mrs Stevens Stated that they had purchased all their Stamps of Mr. Winsor for the past 3 Years & that they all had the bright red on them & were exactly like the one used on that letter. If Mr. Stevens & his wife are correct it would appear very evident that Mr. Winsor has been engaged in bogus Stamps for several years. I hope however this will not prove true.

I now think I shall go past Mr. Stevens residence in 3 or 4 days & if he has any more of the same Kind will procure & Keep them; and advise you.

Yours Very Truly

H. H. Holt

515.

[National Archives]

Lexington, Va, June 13th 59

My dear Sir,

Will you be kind enough to notice the enclosed slip from the New York Herald, &, if what it asserts is true say whether a complete & simple protection against the evil complained of would be considered a desideratum by your department.

If so could the inventor best avail himself of his discovery by patenting it & disposing of the patent or use to the government; or would the government reward him & take his plan from him more directly.

I have fallen upon a scheme [at least one line missing] _ (?) except it be direct robbery & destruction of letters by the post clerks & extraordinarily simple in its working. If a million a year are lost under the old plan, would \$30,000 be too much to ask for it?

You would greatly oblige me by an answer.

Yours Very Respectfully

E. F. Tiffany

Postmaster General

Pardon me for expressing the hope that the extreme antecedent improbability of my plan being worth anything— May not prevent a reply. I only beg to hear, Whether the object the Herald article speaks of is a needful one, & whether the government would probably reward an inventor who thoroughly & most inexpensively accomplished it.

[Docket]

E. F. Tiffany
June 13, 1859

as to counterfeiting
postage stamps

answered 16 June

516. [National Archives]

[Greeting and date blanked out by attached newspaper clipping]

_ Sir

By an article which we have seen in the daily papers (and which we have enclosed) We are informed that a very large number of counterfeit postage Stamps are put in circulation and sold producing great loss to the U. S. Treasury. We have recently completed an invention for their purpose of preventing Counterfeiting or alterations and we would most respectfully submit to your consideration the foregoing propositions. If your Honor desires to know what we can do and the United States Government is willing to pay for a sure protection against counterfeit or washed postage stamps, at such time as the Government will make known to us what they are willing to do providing they are first convinced of the truth of our assertions we will produce for examination and test samples of postage Stamps which cannot be counterfeited or [illegible]. In fact they cannot be used a second time without sure detection. We are willing that the samples should be put to the severest tests by any one or more men upon whose judgment you can rely. Said Stamps shall be produced as cheap and as good as those in use at present. We should be pleased to receive an early answer to which we will give immediate attention.

Yours Respectfully

Augustus C. Casey
by A. C. Casey
No. 30 Hanover Street
Room 36, Boston
Mass.

[Docket]

Walker & Casey
Boston

as to counterfeiting
post. stamps

ansd June 16/59

517. [Travers]

POST OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA

June 16, 1859.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 9th inst. on the subject of affixing "watermarks" upon the postage stamps, was awaiting my return to the city on Tuesday last.

I have since consulted with the manufacturers (Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.,) as also with the manufacturers of the paper (Messrs. Wilcox & Co.,) and have ascertained that such impressions, or watermarks, as would afford additional protection against counterfeiting, could only be made upon "hand made" paper, which would cost not less than \$18. a thousand sheets, or \$36,000 additional per annum, on the present issue. To this would have to be added an additional expense in the printing, as the operation would be considerably retarded, perhaps one-fourth; for, in order to afford an additional test of genuineness, these watermarks should appear precisely in the same position on each stamp, which can only be done by what printers term "Registering" each sheet as it is laid upon the "form" or plate, which would be a very tedious operation. Watermarks could be made upon machine made paper, but not with sufficient precision and uniformity as to afford a test of genuineness. They could be easily imitated.

The fact that these gentlemen, Messrs. T.C. & Co., are bound by their contract to replace all counterfeit stamps that may be imposed upon the government, affords the best assurance that they should be properly vigilant in guarding against the ingenuity of the counterfeiter, and I think they are. They express a perfect willingness to adopt any suggestion securing such a result.

Should the Department decide upon having the stamps watermarked, I would suggest diagonal lines, crossing each sheet, and likewise each stamp. Such watermarks, it is thought, could be made with greater accuracy than parallel or horizontal lines, and would perhaps be more readily visible to the eye. But such lines, being so made, would require the utmost precision in the printing to have the cross precisely in the centre of the stamp.

Unless there are better evidences of the vending and use of counterfeited postage stamps in the possession of the Department, than has ever come to my knowledge, I could not recommend the institution of any additional check such as is proposed. The expense would be too great. In this connection I may observe that I think stamps are frequently used a second time. They are often very imperfectly cancelled. Besides this, Express Companies are believed to be in the habit of carrying letters prepaid by stamps, instead of stamped envelopes. It would be an easy matter for such to be made use of a second time, as they often reach their destination without passing through any post office. I have had notice of one or two instances of this kind in this city, in which fraud was very evident. But I failed to find the responsible party. Postmasters should be required to use printer's ink, with a canceling stamp, wherever it is at all practicable.

Very respectfully, your Obt. servant,
D.W. MOORE, SPL. AGT. &C

518.

[National Archives]

[Engraved Letterhead]

Post Office, New York

June 20, 1859

Dr Sir,

Should not the Circular after the words in italics "Member of Congress" – read or directed to such member.

Your instructions only embrace those franked by such member & do not include those directed to them— only when he Sends & not those he receives.

Very truly
Wm. Caldwell
Asst P M.

Horatio King

Please return circular—or rather send half a dozen for distribution down Stairs
WC

[Docket]

New York
\
Wm. Caldwell
June 20, '59

as to free matter

answd June 22d

519.

[National Postal Museum: Travers]

Philadelphia, June 23rd 1859.

A.N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Ast Post Master General.

Dear Sir:

As you requested us to inform you whether more extended investigations would not change our opinion respecting the advantages of a water mark paper for the stamps, we would respectfully state that our original doubt of the efficacy of such an innovation has been rather strengthened than weakened. A machine made water mark paper can be readily imitated; and nothing but the most perfect protection of this character, viz, a hand made paper, would be at all valuable. We must also re-iterate our belief that even a hand made paper does not offer a sufficient, additional security to warrant the greatly increased cost of its manufacture over the paper now used. Indeed, we can honestly say that, in our opinion, the stamp possesses already every requisite protection; and we urge, in powerful support of this statement, the fact that we have yet to see or hear of a single counterfeit among the many millions issued annually throughout the country.

We are happy that the recent infamous allegations appear to be effectually silenced; but we will not, therefore, intermit our efforts to detect and expose what we have every reason to suppose is a base and criminal conspiracy to obtain the abrogation of the stamps.

Very Resptfly - Yr. Obt Servts-
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

June 23, 1859

Postage Stamps

Toppan, Carpenter & Co

As to water marks thinks
it no protection against counterfeiting
June 23, 1859

Newspaper article enclosed

520. [National Archives]

Hollingsworth Ga
June 24th/59

3rd Assistant Post Master General

Sir There was no Registered Bill with those Stamps and stamped Envelopes forwarded to this office 7th of this Inst

Yours &c
James Crocker
PM

521. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. June 28th, 1859.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. Post Master General.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 27th inst., inclosing a letter doubly stamped, is duly at hand.

We do not think the inclosed stamps have been used; nor do we regard it as probable that they have been chemically washed. The change of color may arise from several causes; but it is true that an unusual combination of causes must occur to produce so decided a difference in the tint of the stamp - Moisture and heat will affect the color; and, if the printer should accidentally use a black ink cloth imperfectly washed to wipe his plate with, the deep color would eventually predominate in the stamp; especially should the rose pink - the fleeting vegetable tint giving brilliancy to the red - be subjected to dampness and heat after the stamp is issued. Such may be the cause of the dark brown of these inclosed stamps. Several months ago a few sheets were printed in this manner; but, as the effect became perceptible, it was immediately abandoned, and new cloths used. It is possible, though hardly probable, that a few stamps in the centre of one of these sheets may have escaped the scrutiny to which the whole impression is subjected, and the deep shade, at first scarcely perceptible, has been increased by time, exposure heat and moisture.

It is not likely that any ordinary exposure to which the stamps are liable in the transmission by mail can affect them materially; and we must regard these two isolated specimens as a great exception to the general rule. The envelopes in which the stamps are transported afford every guarantee for their protection; and it is undoubtedly while in the possession of private persons that these stamps have suffered this alteration. We deem it probable that the proximity of chemical works, sulphur or quick-silver, galvanic batteries, etc., might possibly affect the stamp; but there are, of course, exception cases.

Very Resptfly,

Yr. Obt Servts.,
TOPPAN, CARPENTER & CO.

We re-inclose the letter as requested.

522. [National Archives]

Chicago Ills
June 29th 1859

To The Honble Joseph Holt
P. M. General

Dear Sir,

On the 12th of this Month I forwarded a letter to your address by Mail from the P. office here. I enclosed two patterns of envelopes. that I felt desirous of making application for a Patent for, and asking your approval that would assist me in obtaining one.

I have not yet received a reply and I am led to think that possibly my letter has been mislaid or miscarried.

Your reply will much oblige
Your Very Obt Servt

Joseph Hertford

523. [National Postal Museum]

Postage Stamps & Stamped Envelopes

Number of postage Stamps supplied to Post Master during the year ending 30th June 1859 vst.
192,201,920 value \$5,279,405.00

Do Stamped Envelopes 30,280,399 do 982,128.34

524. [National Postal Museum]

Stamps ordered from the Agent for the year ending
30 June 1859 Vzt

Quarter Ending	1 ¢	3¢	5¢	10c	12¢	Value
30 Sep 1858	9,427,700	30,445,600	127,680	737,830	331,350	\$1,127,574
31 Dec 1858	9,483,800	34,611,900	116,380	828,820	349,950	1,266,290
31 Mar 1859	13,461,700	40,428,500	128,940	1,164,210	401,825	1,518,559
30 June	12,059,100	36,601,800	113,560	1,034,700	326,575	1,366,982
Totals	44,432,300	142,087,800	486,560	3,765,560	1,429,700	\$5,279,405

525.

[National Postal Museum]

1859

The amount of postage stamps supplied to Post Masters during the year ending June 30, 1859, was as follows:

1 cent	3 cent	5 cent	10 cent	12 cent
44,432,300	142,087,800	486,560	3,765,560	1,429,700
Whole number, 192,201,920 - value			\$5,279,405.00	
Stamped envelopes, 30,280,300 - value			<u>\$ 982,128.34</u>	
Total			\$6,261,533.34	
Total value of postage stamps issued (and stamped envelopes) during the year ending				
June 30, 1858			\$5,962,787.28	
Increase during 1859			\$ 298,746.00	

526.

[National Postal Museum]

Postage Stamps

Year ended

30 June 1859

Postage stamps issued during Qr. ending 30th Sept. 1857	\$1,243,204.70
“ “ “ “ “ “ 31 Decr. “	1,054,610.45
“ “ “ “ “ “ 31 Mar. 1858	1,366,687.80
“ “ “ “ “ “ 30 June “	1,280,871.40
	<u>\$4,935,374.35</u>
 Postage stamps issued during Qr. ending 30th Sept. 1858	 1,127,574.00
“ “ “ “ “ “ 31 Decr. “	1,266,290.00
“ “ “ “ “ “ 31 Mar. 1859	1,518,559.00
“ “ “ to 7th Jun 1859 inclusive	1,091,993
	<u>\$5,004,416.00</u>
	<u>4,935,374.35</u>
	69,041.65

527.

[National Archives]

Lexington, Va, July 6th 59.

My dear Sir.

I have received yours of the 16th June & have only been delayed by the pressure of business from the "explanation of my plan" which you are kind enough to say the Post Master would be glad to have, & I have no need of your assistance, nor indeed of his promise to make me feel certain that he will not "take any undue advantage" of the plan if it should prove valuable in any respect.

The plan is as follows:—1st that the Department should not prepare stamps or trouble itself with envelopes or anything of the kind.

2nd That it should demand prepayment on all letters &c just as now.

3d That this prepayment must be made by sticking a three cent piece (or two of them or three of them as the case may be) into a little packet or blister which the stationers can easily make in the corner of our envelopes & touching the lip to the open edge & fastening it down—the plan being for the Post-master when he comes to take these letters from the box in the window & send them off to shove or cut the coin out of its receptacle with a stroke of a knife or shove of a paper cutter & thus be paid in the simplest way at the very office where the letter is mailed.

4th In case a letter is handed to the Post Master, that the coin be handed with it without obliging him (unless he chooses) to make change.

Three cent pieces could of course be as easily purchased as postage stamps, without trouble to the department, without accounts of any sort, & with power to use them of course for other purposes in case of need.

The one cent postage could either be managed , as it is, with a stamp, which would be less likely from its small value to be used again or the government could provide a coin as easily pasted to a letter as that of three cents.

The advantages of this system are 1st saving all trouble in the Department of stamps & envelopes 2d Diminishing accounts & the changing of money & of course the clerks force 3d Preventing frauds & yet 4th Securing cash payments.

The little blistered receptacles made on the face of envelopes with a narrow opening at the side to break out the money through & a similar one on the other to put the money in by with a lip touched with mucilage so that it can be pasted down, might be made very ornamental. In the absence of any such prepared envelopes a mere stamp might be used arranged so as to hold the coin.

Below is a specimen of what I mean. A, is a pocket ready to put the coin in. B, is one with the coin in its place & C, is one that has been broken through by the Post Master.

Please let me learn what favor these ideas meet with.

Yours very truly

E. F. Tiffany

A. N. Zevely

A raised blister could be so made on envelopes as that as that through a slit on its surface the coin could be slipped in & hold its place without being pasted in.

528.

[National Archives]

New Orleans Aug 5th 1859

Hon. Joseph Holt
Postmaster General

Sir,

The above postage Stamp I took from a letter received by mail from Pascagoula Miss.—With the use of a very little india-rubber I could Send you fifty as well prepared for defrauding your Department as this one is. The facility with which it is done leaves me in no doubt that the revenue suffers Serious loss in this way. A simple preventative of the evil could easily be adopted. If the letter Stamp were made with a border of very Short Sharp points to make rather a deep bruise than a puncture, it would render the restoration of the postage stamp impossible.

Respectfully Yours

Geo. C. Brower

529.

[National Archives]

Philada Aug 9th 1859

A. N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. P M. General
Washington
D. C.

Dear Sir:

We have the honor to acknowledge your favors of the 2nd & 6th insts together with the inclosures of the latter; and we hasten to express our sincere obligations for the prompt manner with which you have met our wishes.

Very Resptfly
Your Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

COMMENT: No further information on Zevely's letters of 2 and 6 August.

530.

[National Archives]

Post Office Department,
Finance Office,
22 Sept. 1859.

Sir:

The number of orders for postage Stamps & Stamped envelopes received at this office for the year ending the 30th of June last was as follows, viz:

July	1858	For postage Stamps	5662	For Stamped envelopes	1276
Aug	“	“ “ “	3773	“ “ “	1665
Sep	“	“ “ “	3259	“ “ “	1295
Oct	“	“ “ “	4845	“ “ “	1605
Nov	“	“ “ “	4055	“ “ “	1213
Dec	“	“ “ “	3941	“ “ “	1248
Jany	1859	“ “ “	6953	“ “ “	2228
Feb	“	“ “ “	5146	“ “ “	2175
Mar	“	“ “ “	4772	“ “ “	1801
Apl	“	“ “ “	6640	“ “ “	2200
May	“	“ “ “	3560	“ “ “	1530
June	“	“ “ “	3395	“ “ “	1200
		Total S.	56,001	Total S. E.	19,436
					56,001
				Total S. & S. E.	75,437

From the above Statement it appears that there were received at this office 75,437 orders for postage Stamps & Stamped envelopes for the fiscal year ending 30th June last. Assuming that the number of orders including both Stamps and Stamped envelopes amounted to 10,000 during the year, the whole number of orders requiring Separate action would be 65,437 make an average of two hundred and eleven orders a day.

As these orders are the foundation of the entire revenue of the Department, they should be treated with great care.

In the first place they are arranged alphabetically by the clerks who make out the order Sheets to the Agents: when thus arranged they are handed to the order clerk (Bills) who marks the number of Stamps and Stamped envelopes, Separately and distinctly, and the money value of each, at the foot of each order. Before doing this, he must examine what are the annual proceeds of each office, must ascertain who is the Post Master, and if the name on the order does not agree with that on the printed list, must visit the bond room to ascertain the name of the incumbent & whether his bond has been received. These orders are, very frequently, imperfectly headed, in many cases the names of the county and State in which the office is situated is omitted by P.M's. and must be Supplied by the order clerk. Orders may be marked very rapidly, if it be assumed that each P.M. asks only what he is entitled to, but a bank officer, might with the same propriety, pay every depositors check, on presentation, without knowing the State of his account, as the order clerk marking every order agreeably to the requirements of P.M'S without due examination.

I would propose that every order received from P.M's. should be as carefully examined as if it were a check or order for money; not only as at present, but that each P.M's account should also be examined on the Ledger. This done, mistakes would rarely if ever occur, and the Department would be protected against losses by fraud of P.Ms. That would require the service of two clerks, as each order would take from 3 to 4 Minutes to dispose of.

Doty & Tysinger. The orders pass from the order clerk to two others who make out an order Sheet for postage Stamps, and one for Stamped envelopes. These are arranged alphabetically, and when completed are carefully compared with the orders before being mailed.

Connolly. The orders for Stamps are then entered on the money Register, those for Stamped envelopes (Page) on the Register kept for that purpose, each register is compared with the orders.

They are then handed to the bookkeeper who enters them to their proper account. Six large Ledgers are filled during Eighteen months.

Trook. When the receipts come in, they are entered by the clerk in charge of them, on the Registers & assorted and filed by States 'till the close of each quarter, when they are handed over to the auditor. When a P.M. Neglects to Send a receipt, this clerk forwards him a duplicate receipt for Signature.

Paige. Keeps an account of envelopes, lost, damaged &c. Sends out duplicate receipts to P.M. & notices for affidavit of loss, &c. Registers weekly reports of envelopes Sent out, proves the Stamp order daily, & keeps the account of

Stamps & envelopes issued & reports on the Same, at the end of each quarter, and compares with the manufacturers account.

Duval. Miscellaneous clerk corresponds in all cases of lost or missing Stamps, Sends out affidavit circulars, keeps quarterly account of aft. of loss &c & performs other duties which occupy his time fully.

Castanielle. The letter book is kept by a clerk, who has also apportion of the orders to mark under a new arrangement, the benefits of which are very apparent, & whose general business knowledge and industry would be more valuable if devoted entirely to marking orders on the plan before indicated. I do not mean to disparage any of the other gentlemen in thus Speaking of this clerk, for all employed on this business, are faithful to their duties & capable in their discharge.

Very truly & resp'y Yrs
J. Guest

A. N. Zevely
3d Asst. P. M.. Genl.

[Docket]

Amount of work
In Stamp Office
Yr ended 30 June '59

COMMENT: The proper names appearing at the beginning of several of the final paragraphs seem to be the names of the clerks performing the duties described in those paragraphs.

531.

[National Archives]

43 Great Tower Street
London England, Nov. 24, 1859

My dear Zevely:

I am glad to learn that you are in a position you are so well qualified to fill. I hope you and yours are blessed with health, prosperity and happiness. I have been generally prosperous since I last had the pleasure of seeing you, and am now a permanent resident of London. Will you send me two copies (in pamphlet form) of Postmaster General's Report issued last winter (for the year 1858) and one for 1859. Address to me at New York, care of Joshua Finner Esq. At McLean & Lintz's. Mr. Finner is in New York through whose hands I send this, and he will bring me the documents you send. I have been troubled lately with some inflammation in one of my eyes and do considerable writing by amanuensis. I employ two clerks to write for me. Am a [illegible word] formidable scribbler than when you knew me at Washington. I should be most glad to [illegible word] a letter from you. And would answer it with pleasure. Will get Mr. Finner to send you a work (?) of mine on Steam Mail Service. Perhaps I may perpetrate (?) another Post Office pamphlet soon. Glad dead-head "Jim" is no longer a clog in your postal machine.

Ever _mat (?) Zevely
Most [illegible word]
Your_(?)
Pliny Miles

Give my love to Colt, Doctor Lacy, King and all the good boys.

[Docket]

Pliny Miles

Nov. 24/59

Dec. 24 sent
Reports to Joshua Finner
New York
Dec 27 sent report
Of 1859

532.

[National Archives]

[town in dateline is torn away]
Dec. 23, 1859

Sir

As I [illegible word] return to London, may I beg of you to send to my address at 165 Maiden Lane Some Reports of the Post Genl for [illegible word] which my friend Mr Pliny Miles requested my to bring back to Town

And oblige Sir
Yr Obedt Servt
John Finner

Hon. A. N.. Zevely
General P.O.
Washington

1860

533.

[National Archives]

Office Superintendent Public Printing,
Washington, January 23, 1860

A. N. Zevely, Esq

Dear Sir:

In reply to yours of the 21st inst. I have to state that the cost of printing Post Office Receipt No. 3 (a copy of which was enclosed in your letter,) is \$7 24/100 for a single ream, and \$4 24/100 for each and every ream thereafter, if printed on white paper: that is, ten reams would cost \$4 54/00 per ream, or twenty reams would cost \$4 39/100 per ream, and so on. The difference in cost, if buff paper is used, would be only the difference in the cost of paper. We have no contract for furnishing paper suitable for these blanks, except white and blue but can procure it as cheaply as cheaply as it can be purchased by others—certainly at a price not exceeding that heretofore paid by your office. If you conclude to send an order for these blanks, be pleased to furnish a sample of the paper you wish to have them printed on.

Very respectfully yours,

Jno Heart
Superintendent

[Docket]

1860
Postage Stamp Agency
Philada
Jan 21/60

Sample of yellow paper
for receipts with prices

Supt. Pub Printing, 23 Jan,
on same subject

28 Jan wrote J. Johnson
for sample of cheap paper.

534.

[National Archives]

Postage Stamp Agency
Philadelphia January 30th 1860

Sir

I Send to you, Six Samples of light Yellow paper, with the prices per ream marked on each Sheet. C Megargee & Co. seem to be the only house, in our city that have cap paper, of that colour. Mr McFarland the printer, as well as myself, have been to a number of paper Stores, to procure Samples, and we cannot find any of that colour intended, or would well answer for writing purposes, except at the above named house

Mr McFarland & co printers are willing, to print , the receipt circulars, at Washington prices, ten cents less than \$1 75/100 or at 1 65/100 per ream, if the paper is furnished them and to return all imperfect, or damaged sheets to me, but in case that arrangement is made, they are not willing, to guarantee, 960 copies to the ream

Very respectfully
Jesse Johnson\Agent

A.N. Zevely Esqr
Third asst P M General

[Docket]

J. Johnson
30 Jan/60

on yellow paper

answd [illegible word]
Sample \$3. a ream

535. [National Postal Museum]

Philada March 2nd 1860

A. N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. Post Master General
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

Accept out thanks for the payt of our a/c rec'd in a dft this morning from the Treasury Dept.

We beg permission, however, to call your attention to a discrepancy between our a/c as rendered and the amount rec'd in payt from the department—

The U.S.P.O. Department
To Toppan Carpenter & Co

Dr.

1859 Sept 22. To 44,592,295 stamps @ 18¢ per M	\$ 8,026.61
“ Dec. 22 “ 54,730,155 do @ 18¢ per M	<u>9,851.43</u>
	\$17,878.04

Credit

March 2, 1860. By Cash rec'd from P. O. Department 17,848.60

Balance due Toppan, Carpenter & Co. \$ 29.44

We had also hoped that interest would be allowed us, in common with other original contractors, upon our first a/c: viz: \$8,026.61

Very Resptfly
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

Toppan Carpenter & Co
Phila: 2 March 1860

ans 3 March 1860

In relation to bal or difference
on Stamp a/c & interest

Mar. 7. Answered that
mistake can be corrected
at next settlement

536. [National Postal Museum]

Philada March 5th 1860

A. N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. Post Master General
Washington D. C.

Dear Sit:

Your esteemed favor of the 3rd inst. is duly rec'd. In reply we would state that the returned stamps with which the P. O. Dept charges us were all deducted by us as usual from the gross amt furnished the Dept and our a/c is exclusive of these returned stamps. This a/c has been carefully collated with that of the Government Agency here and found to be correct in every particular. We must therefore draw your attention to what is evidently a misapprehension on [the] part of the Dept. The Gross amount of Stamps furnished by us during the Quarters ending

Sept. 22, 1859 was	44,597,495		
Less Returned Stamps	<u>5,200</u>	= 44,592,295 @ 18¢ pr M -	\$8,026.61

Dec. 22, 1859 was	54,893,755		
Less Returned Stamps	<u>163,600</u>	= 54,730,155 @ 18¢ pr M	\$9,851.43

We must therefore respectfully insist that the \$29.44 difference between our a/c & dft rec'd from the Dept is still due us.

We regret to learn that the Act of Congress does not allow us interest as we had hoped that contractors furnishing the means to carry the mails were equally entitled to interest with contractors for carrying the mails themselves.

Begging you to excuse the trouble which we may have given you in this matter, we remain.

Very Respt Yr. Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

537. [National Postal Museum]

Philada April 7/60

A. N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P. M. General
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We would respectfully draw your attention to our last Quarterly account.

We are reluctantly compelled to beg that you may be pleased to remit us the amount therefor, if it can be done at your perfect convenience.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servants
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Mch. 2d Apr. 7, 1860

Topham, Carpenter & Co
Apr 7 1860

For pay
Qr ended 31 Mar/60

Answd April 11,/60

538.

[National Archives]

Post Office Department
Appointment Office
16th May 1860

Sir:

Pursuant to my instructions, I visited the manufactory of postage Stamps in Philadelphia, and examined every part of the process of making them and packing them for distribution. Every precaution that prudence can suggest is used to insure the good condition of the Stamps, and to prevent any Spoliation by those employed in their manufacture. The number of Sheets used is counted to the foreman of the works, who distributes, daily, to the printers, a given number for which they are required to render an exact account, & so through the various branches of the process. Sheets of stamps which may be defective are placed in the hands of Mr. Carpenter, one of the firm of Contractors, who gives his entire time to the Supervision of this business, and are credited to the parties returning them. No visitors are allowed to enter the premises, unless on Special business, connected with the work carried on therein.

A full account of the whole process having been furnished to the Dept. by Mr. Wood, I deem further detail unnecessary.

In Mr. Johnson, the Agent, I found a man anxious to do his whole duty to the Dept., every thing about his office presented a business like appearance, orderly and quiet. He and his clerks are employed about eight hours daily. My impressions respecting Mr. Johnson were confirmed by the testimony of Mr. Carpenter & Mr. Browne the P.M. at Philada.

As stamps, generally in small quantities, are returned every quarter in a damaged Condition, I was instructed to see whether a plan of packing could be devised to prevent this. The only feasible plan was suggested by Mr. Carpenter, which was to use a whole Sheet of paper to envelope the pasteboard packages, instead of half a sheet now used. The use of tin cases for small quantities of Stamps would involve great additional expense, the cost of them being \$8.50 per hundred. The whole number of Stamps returned to the department, in a damaged State, during the quarter ending the 31st of March last, from thirty Seven Post Offices, was 15,110, Loss, the cost of manufacture at 18 ½ Cents per M \$2.79 ½ as there would be 5,000 Small offices to be Supplied with Stamps,

each quarter, the cost of tin cases for these, would amount to \$425—an expense very great to incur for such small damage.

I have omitted to mention that the Contractors keep always on hand, a Stock of between 50 and 60 Millions of Stamps, to prevent any deficiency in Meeting the orders of the Department.

I am, Sir,
Very Respy
Your Obt. Servt.

J. Guest
Late Special Agent
P. O. Dept.

Hon. Joseph Holt
Post Master General
U.S.

539. [National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office, Philada.
Penna.
May 28th 1860

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.
Washington D C.

Sir:

I have yours of the 25th inst. directing that, hereafter, the postage upon all transient printed matter, & letters, foreign and domestic, shall be prepaid by stamps &c.

I take the liberty of suggesting that in order to carry out this order with convenience to the public, and the different Post Offices, it will be desirable to adopt a higher denomination of postage stamp, say for 24 cents -

There is on hand a plate, engraved some two years ago, but never used: it is for a 24 cent stamp, which if printed on yellow paper, would be sufficiently distinctive.

Very Respectfully &c.
N.B. Browne
P.M.

[Docket]

May 28, 1860

Philada

To carry out for prepayments
of Private matter. Letters foreign
& domestic a higher denomin-
ation of Stamps (say 24 ct) will
be necessary

540. [National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philadelphia, May 30th 1860.

A.N. Zevely Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. General.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your telegram was rec'd afternoon today and we answered immediately to the effect that we could furnish the new stamps within three weeks after the order was given. Very fortunately we have a plate ready to print at once, and the principal causes of delay will be found only in the printing, drying, gumming and perforating all of which require considerable time. In anticipation of the use of this new stamp we have experimented in various colors to obtain one at once distinct from those now printed and which will also afford the proper degree of relief and excellence to the engraving. The new color must be a shade deeper or weaker of those now used, and the yellow affords the most striking contrast with the black, brown, blue, green and red. Yet we would regret to have the Department determine on this tint as it affords the least beauty, effect and protection to the stamp.

The Twenty four cent will, we suppose, be principally used on foreign postage, and it is desirable that it should have every advantage which art can give. Moreover, as it is the most valuable stamp it should be the best protected. It is accordingly engraved in the finest style, and a dark color would be the best to print with.

We submit samples marked respectively Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, & 8. Nos. 1, 2 & 3 - are colors now used though presenting shades of difference in this stamp owing to the fine surface it presents for the ink. We suggest respectfully that the purple or lilac sample marked "No 4" gives perhaps a sufficient contrast with the colors now in use while it is dark enough to bring out the engraving. The Yellow samples "Nos. 5 & 6" we furnish that you may see how great are the objections to them. The work is not relieved at all and the hue is abominable. "No. 7" is a buff which can be deepened if desirable. An objection to all yellow is found in the similar color of the envelopes now in use: the contrast is least between the stamp and the envelope. "No. 8" is an orange which verges closely on the tint of the three cent stamp.

No. 4 - the purple or lilac, is distinct from the others and bears a slight resemblance only to the Five Cent stamp which is of all the stamps the least used, and hence rare occasions for mistake between the two colors could occur. We are aware that the clerks at the various P. Offices look at the color more than at any other mark on the stamp, but we submit that a very little attention on their part would prevent an error in the office while this dark hue of the stamp would be a powerful protection in its general circulation.

Trusting you may be enabled to decide upon a color which will please you, we remain,

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

May 30, 1860

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
May 30, 1860

Submits specimens of

24 ct Stamps. Different colors for decision
of PM Genl.

June 1st
Ansd ordg lilac.

541. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

(POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
May 30, 1860.)

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia
Pa

Gentlemen:

I have your telegraphic dispatch, stating that you can furnish "twenty-four cent" stamps within three weeks after receiving an order.

Having understood that there is on hand a plate for this denomination, I supposed you might be able to prepare stamps on much shorter notice.

There is urgent necessity for a speedy supply, especially in the larger cities - growing out of recent orders to pay all postages in stamps. What the actual demand will be I cannot foretell, but suppose it will in a short time amount to ten millions (10,000,000.)

So soon as your samples come, the colors will be selected, and I trust you will be able to deliver at least a small supply for Boston, New York, Philada. & Baltimore, within a week.

Very respectfully &c &c
A.N. Zevely
(Third Asst. P.M. General.)

542. [National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. June 1, 1860

A.N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. P.M. General,
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your esteemed favor of the 30th ult is only at hand this morning: and we reply at once to its contents.

You will observe from our letter of the 30th ult that the delay in preparing the stamps arises chiefly from the time consumed in the drying, gumming and perforating. We think, however, that we can have about four hundred thousand stamps ready for delivery in about two weeks from date of the order to print. The more time allowed us the better we will be able to meet this demand. We have on hand about eight hundred thousand (800,000) twelve cent stamps and can thus accommodate the orders for large denominations of stamps until the sheets of twenty four cents

are ready to fill all orders without interruption - You may depend upon every effort being made to aid the Department in this sudden emergency. In the meanwhile we await your decision respecting the color to be used.

Very Resptfly
Yr. Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

June 1. 1860

can deliver 400,000 Stamps
in 2 weeks
on hand 800,000 12 cent Stamps

Toppan Carpenter & Co
June 1, 1860 as to 24 ¢ Stamps

COMMENT: The capacity of 200,000 stamps per week does not represent the maximum output for normal operations of one press. Document #184 gives "double-handed" output (i.e., surge or double shifts) for three plates as 3,000,000. That equates to 1,000,000 per plate double-handed and 500,000 single-handed. While TCC would not plan on filling orders through routine maximum capacity, the firm would not have had printers permanently assigned to the little-used 12¢ plate and would have used a "transient" team that also did other denominations and helped surge for 1¢ and 3¢ requirements.

543.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

(POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
June 1, 1860.)

Messrs. Toppan Carpenter & Co.
Philadelphia, Pa

Gentlemen:

Your letter of 30th ultimo, with samples of 24c postage stamps, was duly received.

The lilac shade (No. 4) seems the best, altho' it is scarcely distinctive enough when compared with the five cent stamps now in use.

The Postmaster General wishes you to furnish such stamps at the earliest day possible, taking care to preserve the most marked difference between the tints of the lilac and those of the five cent stamps.

How soon could you prepare two new rates - say fifteen and thirty and what colors would be best?

Very respectfully - &c
A.N. Zevely.
(Third Assistant P.M. General.)

544.

[National Archives]

Post Office, Philada.
Penn.
June 2nd 1860

A. N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Assist P. M. Genl.
Washington D.C.

Sir

In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I have to say that & thirty Cent stamps will be useful, especially for German & French rates of postage.

But as the denominations of stamps will be much multiplied, great distinctness as to the outline, style and Color should be sought for. It appears to me, that the 5 cent and 24 cent stamps will be too Similar in Color.

I am very Respt ob st

N. B. Brown
P. M.

545.

[National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. June 4th, 1860

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. General,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 1st inst. is duly rec'd; and its contents command our careful attention.

We are pleased to know that you have adopted the LILAC COLOR; and we think that we have finally obtained, in accordance with your wishes, an admirable and distinct shade preserving a very marked difference between the new stamp and the five cent rate. We inclose a specimen sheet, and advise you that we have put the plate to press so that no delay may occur. It is our sincere hope that this hue of lilac may meet with your approval.

Ten or twelve weeks, at least, would be required to get a new stamp. Indeed, the unavoidable delay attendant on the completion of such a stamp would be so material that we feel no hesitation in making a suggestion which, if adopted, will aid the Department in an important manner to economise time - Some years ago, when it was designed to have Carriers Stamps, a head of Franklin was engraved considerably less in size than that now used on the One Cent plate, while the general ornamentation and design differs considerably from this latter stamp. This Carriers Stamp has never been used and presents therefore all the advantages of one entirely new. The words "Carriers Stamps", above and below, (as per inclosed sample) could be taken out on a new die; "Thirty Cents: U.S. Postage" engraved in their place and various little changes made. New plates could thus be gotten ready in a fourth of the time necessary to design and finish an entirely original stamp. In recommendation of this suggestion we state respectfully that we do not think the Department will lose in anything while it will economise time greatly, and thus accomplish an important object in putting the new stamp into circulation -

In connection with this subject let us also state that the Eagle Carrier Stamp has been comparatively unused; but one P.O. (at Cincinnati, Ohio) making occasional demands for a small supply - This stamps now almost useless - we

have not printed it for years - could be altered and made to answer for the fifteen cent rate. The distinct nature of its design renders the necessity of being printed in a new color less obvious.

We submit the buff color of the inclosed specimen as the best, perhaps, for the thirty cent stamp. This, or a shade of this color, has never been used - We will be pleased to learn whether you deem it probable that there will be sufficient necessity for the new rates to authorize their adoption by the Department. The Thirty Cent rate would be doubtless much more required than the fifteen as this latter can so readily made up of a ten & five or a twelve & three -

Very Respectfully,
Yr. Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

We inclose also a specimen sheet of the Eagle Carrier Stamp printed in Orange. This stamp is not adapted to perforation in its present form. This could however be arranged - The size of the stamp must, in any case, be increased.

Very Resptfly
T.C. & Co.

[Docket]

June 4, 1860

Toppan Carpenter & Co

Enclosing specimen sheet of
24 Cent Stamps. Lilac Color
which is approved.

Also Sheet of Carriers Stamps
proposed to be altered into a 30 Cent
Stamp.

Also sheet of Eagle Carriers Stamps
proposed to be altered into a 15 Cent
Stamp

answd June 8/60

COMMENT: The die mentioned in the 2nd paragraph was apparently an essay and as such was TCC property. Only 10 dies were turned in at the end of the contract (Franklin & eagle carriers, 1¢, 3¢, 5¢, 10¢, 12¢, 24¢, 30¢ and 90¢).

546.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Washington, D.C. June 8, 1860.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia,
Pa.

Gentlemen:

Your letter of 4th instant, with inclosures, is received.

Please alter the "Carrier's Stamp," with the head of Franklin, by inserting the words - "Thirty cents, U.S. Postage," with "various little changes," as proposed by you. Submit specimens of the impressions, in the buff color which you recommend, and the Postmaster General will then decide whether the stamp will answer.

My estimate as to the probable demand for the "twenty-four cents" stamps was rather high, as it is hoped to reduce the British postage rates.

The "fifteen cents" stamps will not now be ordered.

Very respectfully &c &c
A.N. Zevely
Third Assistant P.M. General.

COMMENT: While Zevely hoped the 24¢ rate to Great Britain would be reduced, the 12¢ rate did not become effective until January 1868.

547. [National Archives]

New York June 9th 1860

Hon. J. Holt
Postmaster General
Washington

Sir,

We would respectfully beg to call your attention to the great trouble & inconvenience we experience in mailing our letters for China under the new system of prepayment by Postage Stamps.

We greatly need Stamps representing larger values say 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 & 90 cents, as our letters cost usually 45 cents & upwards & we are compelled to cover the heaviest of them completely with Stamps the highest of which are 12 cents, thereby leaving no room for directing & adding greatly to the weight also. The present cost of postage to the East is so very large as to form a heavy tax upon our business, and we are informed is proportionately much higher than from England. Cannot something be done to reduce it in a measure?

By last outward mail per Steamer "Fulton," we had our letters marked by one of the N. Y. Post office Clerks and they were all Stamped in conformity.

Nevertheless ten days afterward we had an important one returned marked short paid, when it was clearly the carelessness of the P.O. Clerk and we have had occasion therefore to address the Postmaster here upon the subject to a delay of a fortnight through no fault of ours, the overland mail only leaving England bi-monthly.

By giving this matter your attention, you will confer a great favor upon all the houses in the trade, as well as ourselves.

We are, Sir
Very respectfully &c
Yr. Obt svts

Bucklin & Crane

[Docket]

June 12, 1860 N.Y.

New York

Bucklin & Crane in
relation to getting out
postage Stamps of large
denomination.

Ansd same day by
Mr. King

COMMENT: Bucklin & Crane were NY merchants involved in the tea trade. The firm operated a fleet of fast clipper ships from New York to San Francisco and China. (Historical Dictionary of the U.S. Maritime Industry, Kenneth J. Blume)

548. [National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. June 10th 1860

A.N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. P.M. General.
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 8th inst. is duly rec'd and contents noted:

We have the honor to submit inclosed design for the Thirty Cents stamp for the approbation of the Post Master General. We have sought to make it superior in beauty and finish to any of those now used, and we hope that we have succeeded - As soon as we have instructions to proceed with this design we will put it in hand and furnish impressions at the earliest practicable moment - It is our present belief that we can use one of the positive colors now printed for this stamp and preserve at the same time such a marked difference in the appearance of the stamp as to prevent its being confounded with any of the others. We will be better able to decide this when the impressions are fairly contrasted.

Begging you to return this design if approved, we remain.

Very Respectfly
Toppan Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

June 10, 1860

Toppan Carpenter & Co

Enclosing Design of 30 Cent
Stamp—if approvd by P M Genl
will put it in hand immediately

June 12—approvd by P M Gl
& so wrote
also wrote as to 90¢ stamp

549.

[Travers, USPCS web site]

Washington D.C., June 12, 1860.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.,
Philadelphia,
Pa.

Gentlemen:

Your letter of 10th instant with design for the thirty cents postage stamp is received.

The Postmaster General approves the design, and requests you to execute it and furnish specimen impressions at the earliest practicable moment, the demand for the same being urgent.

It is also considered necessary to have a stamp of the denomination of ninety cents - not only to suit that particular rate of postage but to pre-pay packages to the amount, sometimes, of several dollars. For this stamp the Postmaster General desires the head of Washington, and I need not suggest to you the importance of expending upon it all the talents you can command, in respect to designing, engraving and coloring. Please to say how soon specimens may be expected. Also, report so soon as the 24¢ and 30¢ are ready.

Very respectfully, &c &c
A.N. Zevely
Third Assistant P.M. General.

550.

[National Archives]

Post Office, New York,

June 12, 1860

Horatio King Esqr

Sir,

I send you an article from the "Ev'g Post" of the 11th inst. There has been & is considerable feeling among the business community having foreign correspondence; but it will be very much allayed by the knowledge that the Dep' will furnish stamps of larger denominations. On making up the mail for the "Glasgow" last Saturday, the Sup't of the foreign Room corrected all cases of short payment, where the letters were known either by the trade mark or the writing of the houses sending them. In addition to these, there were sent forward 130 letters "short paid" on which pre-payment was not obligatory. Some of these had on them a sufficient number of stamps to have caused the extra rate. We shall hear of them again when their recipients have time to call their correspondents to account for sending unpaid letters.

The part of the article below the red line is confused, & shows an inconsistency in dates, as you will know by recalling the time when the rule went into effect. But the real facts of the case would appear worse than stated in the Post, & are as follows: On the 24th Apl, Mess Sturges, Bennett & Co of this city wrote a letter, to go by the "Persia," the day following, to Wedekind, Benadt & Co, Santos, Brazil. It was prepaid 45 cents, & was marked "short paid" & sent to Wash'n within a day or two. It was opened by the Dept & returned to this office the 8th inst. As the letter contained a letter of credit for £12,000 & related to large transactions, the delay in its receipt has caused considerable remark, & was taken advantage of to illustrate the inconvenience of the new order. As that order was issued May 21st, it could have had but little to do with a letter received nearly a month before. The Commercial Editor of the Post will have another article in a day or so, suggesting that merchants stamp their letters with their

trade mark, to obviate the delay. He will publish any suggestions that we make. Pardon the length of my note, which has far outgrown my intentions.

Yours resp'y

R. C. Morgan
Sec'y

[Docket]

June 12, 1860

R. C. Morgan, Secy
New York, P. O.
June 12/60

as to pre-paying foreign
postage—Great dissatisfaction
for want of a large denomina-
tion Stamp often compelled to pay
Double postage, or letter Stopped
for “Short paymt” one sent to
dead Letter Contg. Dft for £12,000

13 June 60
ansd unoffi-
cially, giving in-
formation, that
24c, 30c & 90c stamps
have been ordered
& asked Gen. Dix to inform
editors

[content of attached newspaper article]

Postage Prepaid by Stamps.

We have received a number of complaints from merchants and others engaged in foreign trade, relative to the regulation requiring postage to be prepaid by stamps. It is asserted that the rule becomes not only annoying but oppressive—and in this way: A house engaged in the China trade have to pay on a single letter weighing a half ounce, ninety cents. When nine ten-cent stamps are placed upon the envelope the weight is increased so much that double postage must be paid. This is virtually paying for carrying the stamps. A few days after the regulation went into effect, we are informed, a letter enclosing a draft for a large amount was sent to the Postoffice, and handed to a clerk, who weighed it and marked the postage at ninety cents. Stamps were purchased and placed upon it, and it was dropped into the letter-box. Nearly a month after it was reclaimed from the dead Letter Office, where it had been sent in consequence of short postage. Having been weighed, with the stamps added, it had exceeded the single letter weight. This is but one of the many cases that have been reported. As yet no intimation has been given that stamps of a larger denomination are to be issued, although it would seem that this is the only way to adjust the matter.

COMMENTS:

- *Horatio King was a career postal employee after being an editor of a small paper in Maine. He was 1st Asst. PMG, and promoted to PMG on 12 Feb 1861 to serve until 7 Mar 1861, the end of the Buchanan Administration.*

- *“Gen. Dix” was John Adams Dix, former senator and railroad president who was the NY Postmaster 1860-61. He filled in as Secretary of the Treasury at the end of the Buchanan Administration (15 Jan-6 Mar 1861).*
- *Sturges, Bennett & Co. was one of the large wholesale grocers in New York.*

551. [National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. June 13th 1860.

A.N. Zevely,
3rd Asst. P.M. General,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 12th inst., covering design for the Thirty Cents Stamp, is duly recd.

We will immediately carry out your instructions touching this stamp, and you may depend on our most earnest efforts to furnish impressions at an early period - Your remarks concerning a new Ninety Cents Stamp command our attention and we will endeavor to meet the wishes of the Post Master General to his entire satisfaction. We have now, as you are aware, three distinct heads of Washington, on the Three, Twelve & Twenty Four cent denominations - Trumbull's picture of Washington is probably the best we can now obtain; and we will submit the new design as soon as possible to the P.M. General. Of course nothing will be spared to produce a new stamp equal in all respects, if not superior, to any now in use -

We are happy to say that three hundred & ninety thousand (390,000) stamps of the Twenty four cent rate will be ready next Friday, 15th inst.

Very Resptfly
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

June 13, 1860

Toppan, Carpenter & Co

Will carry out instructions
relative to 30 Cent Stamps
Will submit new designs
for a 90 Cent Stamp
Think Trumbell picture of
Washington the best

390,000—24¢ stamps
ready 15 June

552.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

June 21, 1860

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

Can you furnish me with a few specimens of each kind of postage stamp that you ever made, either for circulation or as mere patterns - not including those now in circulation?

Very respectfully,
Yr. Obt Servt
A.N. Zevely

553.

[National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. June 25th 1860.

A.N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. P.M. General,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 21st inst. is rec'd and in reply thereto we would respectfully state that we have no designs for Postage Stamps other than those formally adopted by the Department and now in circulation. The two carriers' stamps, viz: Head of Franklin and Eagle - were deemed unnecessary; and the former was not used while the latter was used only as city Postage in Cincinnati. Impressions of both of these were forwarded to you on the 4th inst. Our original designs, having been prepared with much care and in due accordance with instructions, were adopted for circulation and hence there has been no occasion for drawings and engravings beyond these --

We have the honor to inclose an impression of the new Thirty Cents rate which we hope will be found perfectly satisfactory. We deem it the handsomest stamp gotten up, while striking and valuable distinctions are shown from the others now printed. Indeed, we recommend earnestly the propriety and advantage of printing it in black whereby the contrasts are made stronger and beauty of the engraving better defined. The Twelve Cent stamp now printed in black is so different in design that there can be little or no danger in confounding it with the inclosed specimen which we think unmistakable. We have taken the liberty of altering the original drawing somewhat, so as to introduce the numerals "30" at the bottom in place of the word "Cents"; which change will, we sincerely hope, meet with the approbation of the Post Master General, as it is undoubtedly a great improvement, adding to the distinctive character of the stamp while its artistic beauty and finish are enhanced - We hope to have a plate of this new denomination ready for the press early next week.

The design for the Ninety Cents stamp is progressing as rapidly as possible; and we hope, in the course of a few days, to submit it for examination and approval - Having the best talent and skill employed in its preparation, we shall be much disappointed if it will not favorably bear the most trying comparison with any stamp yet issued.

Very Resptfly
Your Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

June 25, 1860

Topham Carpenter & Co

Enclosing a
New 30ct. postage stamp in black
which color is strongly recommended
The design for the 90 Cent
Stamp is progressing, hope in
a few days to submit it
for examination & approval

554. [National Postal Museum, [Travers](#), [USPCS web site](#)]

Philadelphia, June 26th 1860.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. General.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Upon further consideration of your favor of the 21st inst. we deem it possible that your inquiry has reference, perhaps, to specimens of Stamps of the same rates as those now used. Of these there are several which bear more or less resemblance to the designs adopted by the Dep't., but they were never taken up and transferred to plates. The original bed pieces, in a more or less finished condition, have been carefully packed away in our private vault, but we will, of course, be happy to furnish you with a few proofs of them taken as soon as possible.

We have now the honor to submit inclosed a proof impression of the finished new Thirty Cents Stamp of which an imperfect dry impression was sent you yesterday. It is certainly much handsomer and superior to any known to us, and we trust the Department will recognize therein our earnest desire and perfect ability to preserve the good opinion which it has been our happiness to obtain in the past.

Very Respectfully,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

June 26. 1860

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
June 26, '60

Enclosed Proof impression of the
finished new 30 Cent Stamps.
Will furnish specimens from old
Bed Pieces more or less finished
in private vault, but never
transferred to plates

555.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

June 27, 1860

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Philadelphia

Gentlemen:

Your letter of ____26th instant with inclosed specimen of a "30 cents" stamp, is received.

I have submitted the new stamp to the Postmaster General, and have the pleasure to state that I meets with his approval.

Please notify me when you will be ready to fill orders.

Very respectfully,
Yr. Obt Servt
A.N. Zevely

COMMENT: Based upon the following letter (#556), the specimen was a 30¢ die proof.

556.

[National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. June 28th, 1860.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.
3rd Asst. P.M. General
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 27th inst. is duly rec'd; and we are very happy to learn that the Post Master General approves of the new Thirty Cents stamp. We are now transferring a plate of this denomination and hope to submit a proof impression for examination of the 2nd prox. The Post Master General can then decide upon our recommendation that the stamp be printed in black.

Inclosed we have the honor to send you four impressions of designs originally made for the Three Cent Plate; but laid aside for that now in circulation. We think the large head of Washington very fine and striking. The whole size of the engraving is larger than the size adopted; but the oval wherein the head is engraved is of the same dimensions as that inclosing the Franklin head of the One Cent rate. The other head, with the three different frames, was objected to, if we remember rightly, on the score of its smallness - You will understand that no plates are transferred of these designs; nor are these impressions as perfect as first proofs. They may serve your purpose, however, as expressed in your favor of the 21st inst. - In this hope we remain.

Very Respfly
Yr. Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
June 28, 1860

Enclosing four impressions of Designs

originally made for 3 Cent Plate
but laid aside for that now in circulation—

COMMENT: *The essays mentioned in the last paragraph may refer to 11E-17, 18, 19, & 20. They were probably mentioned in #152, 23 April 1851.*

557. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. June 29th, 1860.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. Post Master General,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 28th inclosing a discolored stamp, is duly rec'd; and we reply at once to its contents.

We explain the discoloration by a process of accidental or intentional sweating, washing or chemical action. The stamp was never issued by us in this condition. The most scrupulous care is taken in examining every printed sheet; and three different persons count and supervise it. The Chief Printer examines each impression most closely. All impressions when properly dried are counted, examined and passed to a second man who counts and delivers them to the Chief Gummer. From the gumming room they are returned to undergo another rigorous examination. They are then perforated and afterwards again most scrupulously examined ere being packed ready for delivery. How any stamp, presenting so marked a difference and imperfection when contrasted with others, can triumphantly suffer these continued investigations and pass unchallenged, is very difficult for us to understand at all. The surmise, expressed in ours of June 28th, 1859, we have never considered the true explanation of the discoloration then referred to. This explanation is doubtless to be found in accidental or, possibly, intentional outside influences. There were but three or four sheets printed on the occasion mentioned; and, when the fault was descried, a clean cloth was immediately substituted and all the imperfect impressions destroyed.

Is it known whence the inclosed stamp came? We observe that it is placed on an envelope and sent to the Post Master of New York, and with a note, perhaps, drawing his attention to it. Can it be traced? We would be very happy to learn its history; for we are convinced that it left our manufactory in a perfect condition. Was the fellow-stamp to which you refer derived from the source? We have, in the course of twelve months seen but five of these stamps (submitted to us by the Dept.), and while mere chance has probably caused their discoloration, we would most gladly embrace any opportunity of obtaining sure information thereon. We are certainly deeply interested in protecting the Dept. from even the most inconsiderable cause of complaint; and we honestly believe that, as far as an earnest desire to please combined with experience and knowledge can avail, there is little or nothing left undone to fulfill our duty in our relations with the Government.

We beg you to find inclosed the imperfect stamp.

Very Resptfly,
Your Obt Servts.,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

558. [National Postal Museum]

Postage Stamps issued for the year ending 30th June 1860

Quarter	1	3	5	10	12	24	30	90	\$
Sept. '59	9,508,500	34,044,400	97,860	657,760	287,775				1,221,499
Decr. '59	12,769,700	40,515,100	188,880	879,000	377,475				1,485,791
Mar. '60	13,909,900	40,616,400	119,460	1,210,760	463,750				1,540,290
June '60	14,535,300	44,291,700	173,160	1,150,930	524,500	52,350			1,673,359
	50,723,400	159,463,600	579,360	3,898,450	1,653,500	52,350			5,920,939
								1859	<u>5,279,405</u>
									\$ 641,534
								Dec	
								env.	<u>32,751.15</u>
								Aggr.	
								Incr.	\$608,781.85

559. [National Postal Museum: [Travers, USPCS web site](#)]

Philada July 2nd 1860

A.N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. Post Master General
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

We have the honor of submitting inclosed part of a proof sheet of the new thirty cents stamp. We inclose also an impression (half sheet) of the Twelve Cents plate that the Postmaster General may contrast the two and decide upon the propriety of printing the Thirty Cents in black.

We have sought to make a distinct design that the mere distinction of color might be unnecessary; and we now await the orders of the Post Master General in favor of our suggestion that black should be used. However, we will be happy in any case to carry out his wishes.

Very Resptfly
Yr. Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

July 2, 1860
Toppan Carpenter & Co

Enclosing proof sheet of 12 cts
Stamps & half Do. of 30 Do
for P M Genl. to decide if 30 ct
Stamps shall be printed in Black

answd. July 3d

COMMENT: The half sheet of the 12c stamp was no doubt from plate 3 (Scott 36B), earliest known usage 1 June 1860 (formerly believed to be 3 December 1859).

560.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

July 3, 1860

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

The Postmaster General, relying upon the distinct design for the 30 cents stamp, as obviating the necessity of a distinctive color, and approves your suggestion to print them in black.

The chief objection to this color arises from the greater difficulty of canceling them.

Very respectfully
Yr. Obt Servt
A.N. Zevely

561.

[National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. July 9th 1860

A.N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. P.M. General
Washington D.C.

Sir:

We have the honor to inclose a proof impression of the new Ninety Cents Stamp which is respectfully submitted for the approval of the Post Master General.

We have sought to present as striking a difference in this design from the others as could be well introduced in a drawing of such certain fixed dimensions; but, aside from the novel frame, the style of the head is very dissimilar from any yet engraved by us -

While we sincerely believe that it would be very difficult to surpass so beautiful a specimen of the engraving art, we have, by unremitting efforts, been enabled to present the stamp at a much earlier hour than we had originally deemed possible -

If the stamp should happily meet with approval, we will at once transfer a plate, and print it in various colors to be submitted for selection.

Very Resptfly
Yr. Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
9 July 1860

specimen of ninety
Cents stamps (90)
Genl. Washington in uniform

562. [National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. July 11th 1860

A.N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. Post Master General
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

We are reluctantly obliged to stop printing the thirty cent stamp until further advice from the Post Master General. We find that the objection to black, arising from the difficulty of canceling the stamp, is likely to prove more serious than at first apprehended; and in order to give you a definite idea of that difficulty we inclose a half sheet of the denomination specified. The body of color is deeper and more generally diffused than is advantageous for cancellation -

We believe that the inclosed buff tint could be more advantageously printed than any hue of yellow; and canceling such a stamp would be easy and thorough. We have printed already a large number in black but we will readily submit to the loss in case the Post Master General sees proper to order the buff color in its place - In such a case we can readily print the ninety cent in black if it be acceptable, as we suppose the use of this rate will be comparatively limited.

Very Respectfully
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

Toppan & Carpenter
Phila. July 11/60

Specimen of 30 ct Stamps

answd 13th

Have stopped printing the
30 Cent Stamps in black
on account of difficulty of
cancellation.
Have enclosed 2 sheets
Black & Buff for examination
recommend the Buff

563. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

July 11, 1860

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Philadelphia,
Penn'a.

Sirs:

I have submitted to the Postmaster General, the proof impression of the new ninety cents stamp, (enclosed with your letter of 9th instant) and while approving of the general style and finish, - as presenting a striking difference from other stamps - and also presuming that the likeness of Washington may be accurately copied from portraits taken in early life, yet, he thinks it would not be generally recognized, and would, therefore, prefer the features which are more familiar to the public, - similar to those in the three cent stamps.

The Postmaster General would be glad to see preserved the "dress" portion of the engraving. He also authorizes me to say that he would regret subjecting you to much expense in changing the face, as suggested, and that he hopes it may possibly be effected without engraving anew the entire stamp.

Could you prominently introduce the figures "90", and also similarly change the "24" cents stamps?

Very respectfully, your Obt servt
A.N. Zevely.

564. [National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. July 12th, 1860

A.N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. Post Master General
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Your favor of the 11th inst. is duly rec'd and contents noted.

We regret exceedingly to learn that the Postmaster General does not entirely approve of the new Ninety Cents Stamp; and we beg to submit a few words in explanation of the strong reasons which induced us to select this design. The Head of Washington is copied most accurately from Trumbull's celebrated picture; and when we inform you that the portrait was first reduced by the daguerreotype process and then engraved, you will at once understand that it is impossible to obtain a more perfect facsimile of the original than we have made. This renowned portrait is, as you are no doubt aware, esteemed one of the finest likenesses painted of Washington; and exhibits him in the character which was so emphatically his peculiar glory - that of Commander of the American Forces. There is probably no portrait of this illustrious man more generally known and copied throughout the country than this of Trumbull - Oil copies, mezzo-tints &c. in variety attest to its general acceptance - We assure the Post Master General most emphatically that we were principally induced to select this design in consequence of its being not only an authentic likeness but one very familiar to the public at large. We suggest respectfully that the head on the Three cents stamp owes wide-spread recognition to the immense circulation which the stamp itself has throughout the country. The original is even now, we sincerely believe, known but to a limited number of artists and amateurs. It is therefore strongly urged that the ninety cents design, copied from a well known picture, will have little or no difficulty in being at once designated -

We think that the Post Master General, upon examining the Three Cents stamp, will immediately perceive the palpable incongruity, nay, the impossibility of adding the "dress" of the 90 cents design - viz. epaulettes &c., to a mere profile, medallion view of Washington. It would be, certainly, a very unhappy combination of the modern uniform and the antique bust - We regret to say that the alteration suggested would necessitate the engraving of an entirely new stamp. Any change would mar the beauty and general harmony of the design -

Although we have been subjected necessarily to a very heavy expense in preparing this stamp, we would feel much more hesitation in respectfully and earnestly urging a reconsideration of the Post Master General's views, if our own strong opinion in favor of the stamp were not powerfully supported by the first artists who have had an

opportunity of examining the proof impression. We trust therefore that we may be acquitted of any mere personally selfish interest when we submit the matter once more to the Post Master General -

If, in your question touching the Twenty Four Cents stamp, you desire the introduction of the figures "24" in the design, we reply that they may be entered in ovals in the corners of the frame work. This will necessitate a new die, and an entirely new plate, while we think the appearance of the stamps will not be at all improved. We would moreover state respectfully that to prepare fully to meet the large demand for these stamps, amtg to several millions as you conjectured, we have already printed over four millions. The printing has been immediately stopped on receipt of your favor of yesterday (11th inst.) but the demand has been so small that our present supply will suffice for a very long period, should no increase occur - If the Post Master General alter the stamp now, the large amount on hand will be a severe and entire loss to us -

We have the honor to inclose a more carefully dried proof of the 90 Cent Stamp.

Very Resptfly
Yr. Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
July12/60

Regrets the P M Genl. does not
approve the new 90 Ct. Stamp
daguerotyped from Trumbulls painting
Impossibility of adding the Dress
of the 90 Ct. Stamp to the 3 Cent
Stamp now in use
Prays the P M Gen to reconsider
& withdraw his objections

Answd 13 Jul

565.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

July 13, 1860

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Philadelphia,
Penn'a

Sirs:

Yours of the 11th instant is received.

It is well to adopt the buff instead of the black color, for the thirty cent stamps; though I hope you may be able to infuse a more lively tint than appears in the specimen submitted by you.

The black will not do for the ninety cent stamps. Can you not prepare a delicate pink which would look well, and be at once distinguishable from all other colors in use?

After considering your letter of yesterday, the Postmaster General withdraws his objections to the likeness of Washington, in the ninety cent stamp, although still inclined to differ with you as to its popular recognition.

He did not suggest, (as you say) "adding the 'dress' of the ninety cents design, by epaulettes, &c. to a mere profile medallion view of Washington", but simply the preservation of a likeness to that of the three cent stamps.

Very respectfully, your Obt servt
A.N. Zevely.

P.S. Unless the demand should materially increase, do not strike off any more of the 24 cents stamps at present.

A.N.Z.

566. [National Archives]

Blank & Stamp Agency P. O D
July 13th 1860

Dear Sir:

I have examined with care, the contract for furnishing postage stamps, and do not find in it any clause allowing modifications of its provisions.

I think, however, that there would be no difficulty in modifying the contract by consent of the contractors, so as to have the quantity of paste board boxes and tin cases required to be furnished by them, placed in Suitable packages to be delivered to a Route Agent, at some designated point in Philadelphia, for transmission to the Department, the expense of packing, furnishing cases and delivery to the Agent, to be borne by the contractors. These expenses might be about equivalent, to the cost of labor, now performed, of placing the Stamps in cases and enveloping them. I have no means at hand of verifying the accuracy of this Suggestion, but Submit it as deserving inquiry. From the character of the contractors, as liberal, upright business men, I have no doubt they would accede to any changed present arrangements the Post Master General might desire to make, on just terms.

Truly & resp'y Yours
J. Guest

A.. N. Zevely Esqr
Third Asst. P. M. Genl.

567. [National Postal Museum, [Travers](#), [USPCS web site](#)]

Philadelphia, July 14th 1860.

A.N. Zevely Esq.,
3rd Asst. Postmaster General.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

We have the honor to acknowledge your favor of the 13th inst.

Your instructions with regard to a more lively tint of buff than that submitted to you have our best attention.

We will also endeavour to produce a pink such as you recommend for the Ninety Cents Stamp. The principal difficulty in these delicate shades lies in their fugitive nature, and a color which looks well in printing fades sometimes quickly in drying and exposure. Still we believe your wishes can be satisfactorily met.

We are very happy to learn that the Postmaster General has kindly reconsidered and withdrawn his former objections to the ninety cent design, for we believe most sincerely that it embraces every requisite of beauty, accuracy and appropriateness which he so justly requires. A plate shall be prepared at once and samples of colors submitted.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
July 14, 1860

Are gratified that P M Gen
has reconsidered & withdrawn
his objections to 90 Cent Stamp
Instructions relative
to Buff color for 30¢
stamps & pink for 90¢
can be met

568. [National Postal Museum, [Travers, USPCS web site](#)]

Philadelphia, July 16th 1860.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. Postmaster General.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

We have the honor to inclose twenty stamps of the 30 Cents rate printed in the orange buff which we purpose using henceforth if approved by the Postmaster General.

You have desired a more lively tint than that submitted by us on the 11th inst., and we have found that all yellow buffs are open to the objection which arises from a want of brilliancy and effect. This orange buff prints clearly, as you may observe, and, while distinct from both the red and brown stamps, does not resemble too much the ordinary yellow tint of envelopes. It can also be readily effaced.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Jul. 16 '60

sends specimen of 30¢ stamps
“Orange buff” instead of pale buff

Answd 18

569. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Post Office Department
July 18, 1860.

Gentln.

Your letter of 16th inst. with enclosures is received.

Relying much on your own good taste and judgment as to colors, the Postmaster General approves the "orange buff" which you propose for the 30¢ stamps and begs that you will hasten their delivery.

Very Respectfully,
Yr. Obt Servt
A.N. Zevely,
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

Messrs. Toppan,
Casilear & Co.
Philadelphia.

570. [National Postal Museum, [Travers, USPCS web site](#)]

Philadelphia, July 30th, 1860.

A.N. Zevely Esq.,
3rd Asst. Postmaster General.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that we will be prepared to deliver the new Thirty Cents Stamps tomorrow to the amount of Two hundred and eighty thousand, and henceforth as the Department may require.

We have been earnestly endeavoring to obtain a pink tint for the "90" cents, and trust to be able to forward you tomorrow a satisfactory sample. This color is exceedingly difficult to get to print well.

Very Respectfully,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]

Toppan Carpenter & Co
July 30—1860

Post. Stamps

30¢ stamps ready

Aug 2 '60 P. M.s below
noted written to

COMMENT: The Travers typescript does not include the docket, and the list in pencil in the original is illegible except for Phila., N.O, Cinc. & Chicago.

571. [National Archives]

Philada July 31, 1860

Received from W. B. Browne, Postmaster, Three hundred and fifty dollars for expenses of Stamp Agency during the month of July including my own salary

Jesse Johnson
Agent

\$350.00

572. [National Postal Museum, [Travers, USPCS web site](#)]

Philadelphia, Aug. 1st 1860.

Sir:

We have the honor to inclose samples of colors marked from No. 1 to No. 9 inclusive. The impressions are taken on stamp paper and present the appearance which they would have in circulation. Proofs on india paper would be of course much finer and more brilliant and might therefore mislead you to expect the same delicacy and brightness of hue in the circulating stamps.

We have spared no effort to produce a good pink and Nos. 1 & 2 are the best obtained. You will observe that these light red colors do not give the effect which a deeper tint will present. We suggest Nos. 1, 2, 6, 7, & 8 as most worth of examination. No. 7 is the handsomest of them all and gives the most decided effect to the engraving. Though a blue it differs considerably in appearance from the One Cent Stamp while the form and character of the stamp itself are utterly distinct.

We will be pleased to hear from you at your early convenience.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

A.N. Zevely Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.
Washington, D.C.

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Aug 1, 1860

Specimens of 90¢
stamps in 10 difft colors

Adopted Blue Aug 3d/60

573.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

(POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
August 2, 1860.)

John A Dix, Esq.
Postmaster,
New York

Sir:

I have directed 10,000 of the thirty-cent stamps to be sent to your office. The ninety cent stamps will be ready in a few days.

Please inform me what number of the latter you desire to be supplied with.

Very respectfully your Obt. svt.
A.N. Zevely
(Third Asst. P.M. General.)

August 2, 1860.
Same letter to:

	<u>30¢</u>
Philadelphia, Pa.	8,000
Cincinnati, Ohio	5,000
St. Louis, Missouri	5,000
New Orleans, La.	5,000
Boston, Mass.	5,000
Baltimore, Md.	5,000
Chicago, Ill.	5,000

574.

[National Postal Museum, [Travers, USPCS web site](#)]

Philadelphia, August 3rd, 1860.

Sir:

Your telegraphic message was duly received, and, having obtained from Mr. Johnson the amount of the Chicago order, the stamps were put up immediately and forwarded as usual.

We have the pleasure to submit a sample of Pink color which is, we suppose, more in accordance with your wishes than any of those forwarded the 1st inst.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

A.N. Zevely Esq.,
3rd Asst. Postmaster Gen'l.
Washington, D.C.

[Docket]

Augt 3, 1860
Topham Carpenter & Co

Submits a sample of
Pink Color

COMMENT: *This order for Chicago may have resulted from letter #573 above.*

575.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Washington, D.C.
August 3d 1860.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Philadelphia,
Pa.

Gentlemen:

Your letter of 1st instant, enclosing samples of colors for 90¢ stamps is received.

Yielding to your suggestion, the Postmaster General adopts the blue color.

I regret that the 24¢ stamps are without figures - the lettering being found indistinct, - and should like to know the cost of changing the die and plate.

When can the 90¢ stamps be ready?

Very respectfully, yr., Obt. svt.
A.N. Zevely.
Third Assistant P.M. General.

576.

[National Postal Museum, [Travers, USPCS web site](#)]

Philadelphia Aug. 4th 1860.

Sir:

Your favor of the 3rd inst. is duly received and its contents have our attention.

We are pleased to learn that the Postmaster General has adopted the blue color for the 90¢ stamps. In our opinion it is preferable to all the others. The introduction of the figures 24 in the stamp of that denomination can be effected, necessitating, however, a new die and plate. Though this change would be attended with considerable expense, our principal loss will be in the large number of these stamps, amounting to more than three millions, which we have printed in readiness for a supposed heavy demand. We believe that our contract with the Department calls upon us to furnish any new Stamp without cost, and we are prepared to obey any instructions which you deem advisable to give touching this stamp. Our desire is to give entire satisfaction.

We will be prepared to furnish about 300,000, 90 cents stamp on the 13th inst.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.
Washington, D.C.

[Docket]

Augt 4, 1860
Topham Carpenter & Co

are pleased that P M Genl
has adopted Blue for the
90 Ct. Postage Stamps
Can insert figures 24 in
24 Cent Stamps necessitating a
new die & causing a great
loss of 3 mills. Now on hand

577. [National Archives]

Philada Augt 31, 1860

Received from N. B. Browne, Postmaster at Philadelphia, Penna, Three hundred dolls for expenses of Stamp Agency during the month of August, 1860, including my own salary.

Jesse Johnson
Agent

\$300.00

578. [National Archives]

Philada Sept 29 1860

Received of N. B. Browne. Postmaster Philada Penna, Two hundred and sixty-two 86/100 dolls for expenses of Stamp Agency during the month of September, 1860, including my own salary.

Jesse Johnson
Agent

\$262.86

579.

[Travers]

[Printed Notice]

IMPORTANT TO POSTMASTERS AND THE PUBLIC

We are requested to publish the following important regulation for the information of the public as well as postmasters. It interests every citizen of the United States:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, OCT. 8, 1860.

Whereas by an Act of 3d March 1855, the postage upon all letters, except such as are entitled to pass free, between places in the United States, is required to be pre-paid; and whereas the Department, through courtesy, has hitherto, at considerable labor and expense notified the parties addressed, in all instances in which the writers failed to prepay, that their letters would be forwarded on receiving the postage due thereon; and whereas, instead of diminishing, the number of such letters continues to increase, thus showing that the omission to prepay is intentional; it is, therefore, ordered, that from and after the first day of November, 1860, all such unpaid letters be sent to the dead letter office, to be disposed of in like manner as other dead letters.

J. HOLT
Postmaster General.

580.

[National Archives]

Blank Agency POD.
13 Novr. 1860

Dear Sir:

The following estimates for the weekly Supply of Postage Stamps will, I think, approximate very nearly to distribution made from the Finance Office. I have classified them into packages as follows Viz:

3 Cent Stamps	200 packages of	200 each	40,000
“	150 “	400 “	60,000
“	300 “	600 “	180,000
“	200 “	800 “	160,000
“	200 “	1000 “	200,000
“	100 “	1200 “	120,000
“	100 “	1500 “	150,000
“	120 “	2000 “	240,000

“	30	“	2500	“	75,000
“	40	“	3000	“	120,000
“	20	“	3500	“	70,000
“	40	“	4000	“	160,000
“	25	“	5000	“	125,000
“	25	“	7000	“	175,000
“	30	“	10,000	“	300,000
“	10	“	12,000	“	120,000
“	20	“	20,000	“	400,000
“	5	“	25,000	“	125,000
“	5	“	30,000	“	150,000
“	5	“	35,000	“	185,000
“	5	“	40,000	“	200,000
3 Cent Stamps					3,355,000

These may be packed by the manufacturer as at present, & forwarded to the Dept. in boxes to be provided for the purpose, under your direction. The Stamps of other denominations than 3 Cents, being required in uncertain quantities should be kept in the Department to meet the requirements of P. Ms & be inserted in the packages containing the 3 Cent Stamps as they are wanted. My weekly estimate for these Stamps is Viz:

1 c Stamps 1,100,000 - 5 Cent – 10,000 10 Cent – 100,000
12 Cent 36,000 - 24 Cent –15,000 30 Cent - 8,000 90 Cent – 1,000

which might be Sent to the Dept. under the brass lock, or other locks provided especially for the purpose.

Though the above estimates for weekly Supplies are liberal, I would suggest that there does not exist any Sufficient reason for limiting them to the above amounts, and would Submit to you whether it would not be better to extend the quantities ordered to the Supply for one months use. There will be abundant room for Storing these Stamps and by increasing the quantity as suggested, casualties in delivery of them to the Dept. and the occurrence of an unusual demand be readily met.

Truly & respy yours
J. Guest

A.. N. Zevely Esqr

COMMENT: The “Blank Agency” was in charge of postal supplies.

581. [National Archives]

Philada.
22d Nov. 1860

Dear friend:

I am on the point of going to the P. O. with Mr. Steel, in charge of three bags and two boxes of Stamps to your address. The rest of the boxes could not be made in time to Send to day, but will probably be Sent on Saturday. The locks have reached me, but not the Key, which is of little consequence as the City P. O. has Supplied me. I consider the appointment of Mr. Durand as very important, as he is an adept at packing and Knows exactly the description of packages suitable for each Section of the Country. Messrs. Carpenters will furnish a bill of particulars of todays shipment.

Your friend

J. Guest
A. N. Zevely Esqr

582. [National Archives]

Phila Nov 23/60

Sir

I can most cheerfully and concientianly testify to the entire competence, industry and excellent Moral character of Mr Edwin Lamasure, who has been associated with me for near seven years, in the Postage Stamp agency.

Mr Lamasure is perfectly familiar with all the details of the business of the office, and during the time that we have been together, I have never had the slightest cause of complaint of him in any respect. His duties have always been performed cheerfully promptly and correctly.

If he could be transferred to Washington City with the agency, I think he could be found a valuable acquisition and should be exceedingly gratified, if it could be done, from the fact that he is every way deserving.

Yours with much respect
Jesse Johnson
A.. N. Zevely Esq.
Third asst P M General

COMMENT: McElroy's 1860 Philadelphia Directory: Lamasure, Edwin clerk 317 Queen; ——— , Eliza wid 317 Queen.

583. [National Archives]

Philadelphia, Pa Nov 23d '60

Sir:

Having been officially informed of the Postmaster General's conclusion to remove the Postage Stamp Agency to Washington, D.C. I adopt this method to signify a willingness, and also a desire, to accompany it to Washington, and be retained in my present capacity.

I am Senior clerk in the Agency, having been appointed by Judge Campbell in 1854, and have continued steadily to discharge the duties which were required of me ever since that time, in a manner satisfactory to Mr. Johnson.

I am perfectly familiar with the business of the Stamp Agency in all its detains, and as a portion of the result of my labors comes to your observation I refer to such as evidence of my capability. I aver that I am strictly temperate, and Mr. Johnson's letter will vouch for my general moral character.

Having a family consisting of my widowed mother and two sisters dependent on my exertions for their Support, and at this season of the year when all business is dull, and now aggravated by the prevailing panic, to be so suddenly dismissed from my situation would be exceedingly unfortunate.

I therefore ask the favor of you to consider if I am capable, honest and worthy of retaining the position; if you believe me to be so, I urgently entreat that I may be retained.

The enclosed letters are respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully
Your obd't Servant

Edwin Lamasure
Philadelphia, Pa.

A. N. Zevely, Esq.
Third Asst. P. M. Genl.
Washington D.C.

584. [National Archives]

Washington D.C.
26 Nov. 1860

Dear Sir:

Agreeably to the orders of the Post Master General, conveyed to me under your hand, appointing me as Special Agent to have the Postage Stamp Agency, removed from Philadelphia to the Post Office Dept. I proceeded at once to that City.

I arranged the plan of operations with Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co, the manufacturers, and on Thursday the 22d attended in person to the delivery at the Post Office in Philada. of three bags and two boxes of Postage Stamps to your address, on Saturday the 24th Inst.; three boxes of Stamps were sent to the Same direction, all of which I find on enquiry, have arrived Safely, other boxes will be filled and sent on when finished.

I followed your verbal instructions in requesting Messrs. T. C. & Co. to designate a person in whom they had entire confidence, to deliver the valuable packages to be sent from them to the Philada. P. Office, and under their recommendation which is enclosed, appointed Charles F. Steel, as a mail messenger at \$25 a month, to take effect from the 22d Inst.; he to find horse & wagon for the transportation of these packages to & from that City P. Office, the continuance of his appointment subject of course to the order of the Post Master General. I enclose the Mail Messenger's Oath. I also enclose an order I issued to the Route Agents, enjoining them to take care of the Packages of Stamps Should Not be injured by want of care in handling. The number of boxes ordered was ten at the price of \$1.15 each, these appear to me to afford all the security to their contents which could be given by wooden cases.

I must not omit to mention the ready cooperation of Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co in forwarding the views of the Post Master General, nor the attention to my requests evinced by Mr. Browne, P. M. at Philadelphia.

Trusting that the confidence placed in my discretion in the management of this business, may have been justified by results. I am,

Respy & Truly yours

J. Guest
Special Agt. P.. O. D.

A. N. Zevely Esq.
3d Asst. P. M. Genl.

1861

585.

[National Postal Museum]

St. Paul, Minnesota
Feby 1 1861

B.N. CLEMENTS Esq.
Chf. Clk. P. O. Dept.

Sir,

Pursuant to instructions of Third Asst. P. M. Genl. I have during the past month visited the principal post offices in Wisconsin, Iowa, North Illinois, and Minnesota—for the purpose of counting the Stamps and stamped envelopes on hand in each. This duty consumed the entire month excepting six days I was at home—two of them engaged in Correspondence, the other four laid up from the effects of a bad cold.

Enclosed please find my account for month of January.

Respectfully
Your obdt. Svnt.
James Orr
Spl. Agt. P.O.D.

586.

[National Postal Museum]

St. Paul Minn.
Feby. 1 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq.
Third Asst. P.M. Genl.

Sir,

I am generally informed by postmasters that the paper boxes, in which small amounts of postage Stamps are sent out, are very liable to be broken in the handling of the mail pouches—I myself have noticed such to be the case in many instances—I would respectfully recommend the substitution of strong linen lined envelopes secured with a seal. I have requested postmasters at separating offices to take the number and address of all packages for offices on the routes supplied from their offices.

For the last month's a/c would you please send me a Try. Draft on N.Y.?

Respectfully, your Ob. Svnt.
James Orr
Spl. Agt.

587.

[National Postal Museum]

P.. O. St. Paul Minn.
Feby 1—7 PM

A. N. Zevely Esq.

Third Asst. P.M. Genl.

Sir,

The mail is just in from the East—I saw emptied from one of the pouches a small box of Stamps for the office at Cold Spring in this State. One of the edges was completely burst open, but the package inside is all right.

Mr. Terry, Chf. Clk. In this office, says that more than half of such packages come just so.

I wrote you late last night, for this mng's mail, on the subject of these packages.

Respectfully
Your obdt. Svt.
James Orr

[pencil notation at top: "Send copy to Toppan Carpenter & Co, Philada.]

588.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. Feby 8, 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq.
Third Asst. Post Mr. Genl.

Dear Sir

Your favor of 6th inst. is recd. We beg you to accept our thanks for calling our attention to the matters to which you refer, and to be assured that every effort in our power shall be directed to the correction of the defects pointed out—We employ an experienced Machinist whose whole time is (or ought to be) devoted to the keeping of our perforating Machines in good order (by the Substitution of New punches in lieu of such as become broken or worn) and we had supposed that he performed his duty faithfully—The action of the Machines is such as to break and wear out the punches rapidly, and it requires constant vigilance to discover the defects and renew the punches as they become injured—It is probable that our man may not have been as watchful as he ought to have been, (altho he has been in our employ for many years, and we have always esteemed him competent, industrious & reliable)—

We have shown him your letter in order that he may fully understand the necessity for redoubled care, and we trust that

[line of text missing]

English Stamps (herein returned) is perfect, yet it can scarcely be assumed that all their Stamps are equally perfect, and perhaps if you could see a number of Sheets together, you would find many that were not more perfect than ours—

With regard to the other defect to which you refer, Viz—"that the lines of perforation sometimes run too close to the edges of the Stamps and even into them"—we beg to say that with all the care that it is possible to exert, this defect cannot always be prevented, as you will easily conceive when you are aware that the Slightest movement of the Sheet out of the precise position it must occupy when placed on the Machine, will affect the direction of the perforation of the whole sheet—We will however enjoin additional care on the part of the perforators and will do all that we can to meet your wishes & give satisfaction.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Feb. 8, 1861

Return specimens
of English postage Stamps
sent them 6th inst. & promise
to be more careful in the
work of perforation

589. [National Postal Museum]

Philada Feby 9th 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq.
Third Asst. P.M. Genl.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Your esteemed favor of the 7th inst. is duly rec'd; and the communication therein contained from Jas. Orr, Esq., Special Agent, commands our earnest attention.

These very Envelope boxes have been the subject of especial care and enquiry with us; and we have sought to obtain as perfect an article as possible which would combine all the essential requisites of strength, capacity, smallness in bulk and lightness. Those now used have been on trial about three years, and we do not candidly think that a superior article can be manufactured. They are pasted up with the utmost care, and, should any defect appear, are put aside for others without blemish. The same manufacturer supplies us as heretofore; and, as far as our own examination extended, we have no reason to suppose that the materials are at all inferior in quality to the best obtainable.

We beg you to take into consideration the very severe treatment which these boxes receive in the mails. The post bags are thrown down and aside with an utter disregard of their contents, and we believe sincerely that scarcely anything but iron could stand the usage received in journies of thousands of miles from all the modes of transportation rendered necessary.

We are happy to observe that Mr. Orr states that the "pckge inside was all right;" as security of the stamps is the most important consideration.

We thank you for drawing our attention to this matter and will make every effort to remedy the evil as far as possible; but we must, at the same time, honestly observe that our long experience and most earnest desire to have everything as perfect as it can be made, suggest to us no better security than is now given in the transportation of the stamps.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Feb. 9, /61

As to boxes for Stamps

590.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada Feby 12, 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq.
Third Asst. P.M. Genl.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Your esteemed favor of the 9th inst. is duly rec'd; and the suggestion of Mr. Orr has induced us to consider deeply the means of remedy for the breaking of the boxes.

We are inclined to think that "linen or muslin lined envelopes" would not prove as advantageous as appears at first. Such envelopes would render the stamps within sensible of all external pressure. They would be twisted and doubled and, receiving the same abuse as the boxes, would be less able to withstand it—

How would it answer to cover the boxes with strong muslin or linen? It seems that this would guarantee them from broken or burst open edges. We are having samples constructed to submit for your examination. At any rate, we will leave nothing untried to attain the desired end.

Very Respectfully Your Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Feb. 12,/61

as to boxes for postage
Stamps—

See suggestion of J. Orr,
sp—agt. As to lined envelopes

591.

[National Archives]

Philad. Feb 18, 1861

Mr. dear Sir—

The contract for Supplying Post Office Stamps, will expire in June next, and I wish very much to have it for the next term—in the name of my friend John Dainty—but for our mutual advantage and benefit—

The most ample security will be given for the faithful performance of the contract, in every particular and the work furnished, at a lower rate than now paid—

I know that your time is fully occupied—but I hope you will bear this matter in mind—and do what you can to secure it for Mr. Dainty, whose offer I inclose—

Very Truly Yr. Obt. Svt.

Jno. C. Sims

Hon. Simon Cameron

592. [National Archives]

The Contract for furnishing the Post Office Stamps expires on the 10th of June and I am desirous of obtaining it for the next term. In consequence of my having made an important improvement in plate printing I am enabled to furnish them at a lower rate than they are nor furnished and quite as well if not superior in workmanship. And will give ample security for the faithful performance of the contract.

The present parties have had the contract sixteen years.

John Dainty

Philada. Feb 16, 1861

592A. [National Postal Museum; USPCS web site]

Philada. Feby 21st 1861.

A. N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Ast. P. M. Genl.
Washington
D.C.

Sir:

Your esteemed favor of the 20th inst. With stated inclosure is duly received.

We will be happy to furnish the required impressions at the earliest possible moment; but, as we desire to give particular attention to the printing, in order that the uncontestable beauty and superiority of the American Stamps may be most forcibly presented to the Sardinian Government, we beg you to grant us the indulgence of a few days wherein we may properly the paper &c.

We return the Sardinian stamps, fervently trusting that the other branches of Victor Emmanuel's Government present better features and stronger guarantees of security to the people at large!

Very Resptfly
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Feb. 21 / 61

Promises specimens
of stamps for Sardinia

593. [National Postal Museum]

Philada Feby 27th 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq.
Third Asst. P.M. General

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

We have the honor to transmit herewith Eight Proof Sheets of the Denominations of Stamps and also Eight gummed and perforated Sheets of the same denominations now used by the Post Office Department—

We have sent you the proofs that you may exercise your judgment between them and the ordinary impressions in deciding which you deem preferable to forward to the Sardinian Government.

Trusting the impressions may be satisfactory we remain

Very Resptfly
Yr. Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Feb. 27, 1861

With samples of postage
Stamps.

COMMENT: These proof sheets would probably have included the 1¢, 3¢, 5¢, 10¢, 12¢, 24¢, 30¢, and 90¢. They probably account for known plate proofs.

594.

[National Archives]

Philada March 6th/61

A. N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.

Dear Sir:

We presume that the Post Master General will ere long enter into negotiations concerning our Contract; but, as we are well aware of the extraordinary and arduous pressure of business to which he and the Department generally are now and will probably be subjected for some time to come, we wish to avoid adding in any way to the annoyances incident to his position—At the same time, however, it is not to be disguised that a proper regard for our own interests impels us naturally to seek for a favorable hearing at an early hour. Therefore, dear Sir, pardon us if we frankly express the hope that at such time as you may deem perfectly convenient and expedient, you will kindly inform us when our business is likely to be called up for the consideration of the Post Master General.

Trusting that we do not unduly intrude upon your time and patience, we remain

Very Resptfly
Yr. Obt Servants

Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Postage Stamps—

Contract
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Mar. 6, 1861

Ask to be informed when question
of advertising for new contract
is likely to be brought before the
P. M. Genl.

answd Mar 7

594A. [Travers, USPCS web site]

Philadelphia, March 6th 1861

To the Hon. Montgomery Blair,
Postmaster General.

Sir:-

The bearer, Charles F. Steel has been in our employ in a confidential capacity, (in connection with the Postage stamps) for several years, and we have ever found him competent, faithful, intelligent and reliable in the execution of all duties confided to him.

Mr. Steel informs us that he is about to make application for the situation of Agent for Postage Stamps at Philadelphia. His long experience, and accurate knowledge of the duties appertaining to that office, together with our convictions of his personal integrity and worth induce us to recommend him to your favorable consideration.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servants,
(Signed) Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Handwritten note]
Copy of recommendation
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
“A”

COMMENT: *Montgomery Blair was Lincoln’s PMG and took office on 5 March 1861, the day before this letter was written.*

595. [National Postal Museum]

Post Office Department
March 16, 1861.

Proposal for Postage Stamps

Proposals will be received until 3 PM of 27 April next for furnishing postage Stamps [pencil insertion at this point “on paper of the best quality”] for a term of Six years, commencing 1 July next.

Bidders will State the price per thousand Stamps—deliverable in packages of ten thousand each at the Post Office Department in Washington.

Also, the price per thousand in Similar packages—deliverable to any Agent of the Department at the place of Manufacture.

Also the price per thousand Separated in Such quantities as may be daily ordered for the use of the Post Offices, never less than two hundred Stamps and Securely packed in tin cases, Board boxes or lined envelopes, according to the quantity and distance to be conveyed, as may be required by the Department, Stating the differences, if any, between the cost of delivery to an agent at the place of manufacture and at Washington—all Such packages before mailing to be re-examined and then Stamps recounted by an Agent of this Department.

Proposals must be made for the Stamps in Sheets, perfectly gummed and perforated in Such manner that each Separate Stamp can be readily detached & used.

The denomination of Stamps now in use are one cent—three cents—five cents—[“ten cents” by pencil insertion] twelve cents—twenty four cents—thirty cents—ninety cents. The heads of Washington [“and Franklin” by pencil insertion] are to be preserved as the leading designs—the former on all the Stamps except the one cent & thirty cents, which [“are to” by pencil insertion] have the head of Franklin—[“and otherwise the otherwise the present design is also preferable, except that” is scratched out] On all of the Stamps the denomination must be given distinctly in figures as well as letters and the whole work must be executed in the best Style of line engraving on steel. {“Insert, see last page” by pencil insertion]

Each bid is to be accompanied with a Specimen of the Style of engraving to be furnished, , which will be Submitted to a board of disinterested artists for examination, and the accepted bidder, before the final consummation of a contract will be required to prepare designs & furnish proof of impressions of the engraving of the Several denominations of Stamps,—Specimens of board & tin boxes and lined envelopes Should also be Submitted with each bid.

The contract will require all dies and plates to be prepared and Kept in repair without Cost to the Department and require that new dies and plates Shall be made either for the present denominations of Stamps or others, at the pleasure of the Department; and all Such dies and plates are to be the property of the United States for the Service of the Post Office Department.

No bids will be considered except from parties who have been actually engaged in the business of engraving and are thus engaged at the time of bidding and who are occupying [“facilities to execute the work successfully (?) and give” – words crossed out in manuscript] Suitable fire proof premises & provided with all the necessary facilities to execute the work promptly and give the requist protection to the Stamps, dies & plates in their possession. Parties not known to the Department will furnish proof as to these points with their bids.

[“These (following) two paragraphs to be inserted on the 2d page—after the words ‘line engraving on steel’—“ are written in pencil.]

The whole number of postage Stamps furnished the Department during the year ended 30 June 1860, was 216,370,660.

The number of packages mailed will average over two hundred daily Varying in Size from two Sheets or 200 Stamps up to 500 Sheets or 50,000 Stamps. But by far the larger proportion of packages Contain not more than 20 Sheets or 2000 Stamps.

COMMENT: This is a preliminary draft of the formal invitation to bid, which has been lost.

595A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

[Letterhead] American Bank Note Company
MERCHANTS EXCHANGE New York 6 April 1861

I hereby Certify, that the number of Shares of the Capital Stock of the American Bank Note Company, now standing on the Books of said Company, in the names of Charles Toppan, Saml. H. Carpenter, Jos. R. Carpenter and Henry E. Saulnier of the late firm of Toppan, Carpenter & Co. are as follows.

Viz.	Charles Toppan	1,630 Shares
	S. H. Carpenter	2,300 “
	J. R. Carpenter	600 “
	H. E. Saulnier	980 “
	Total	<u>5,510 Shares</u>

Neziah Wright
Treas.

[Docket]

April 6, 1861

Certificate of N. Wright

that the firm of Toppan

Carpenter & Co hold in

their names 5,510 shares

in American Bank Note Co.

COMMENT: Neziah Wright had been a partner in Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson.

595B.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

[Letterhead] American Bank Note Company
MERCHANTS EXCHANGE New York April 10th 1861

“At a regular meeting of the Trustees of this Company held April 10th 1861. Present

Mr. Edson, Prest. Mr. E. J. Danforth

Mr. M. I. Danforth Mr. Draper

Mr. Toppan Mr. Bald

Mr. Carpenter Mr. Edwards

Mr. Wright. The minutes of the meeting held on the 13th of March were read and approved.

The subject of offering proposals for furnishing the Stamps for the United States Post Office Department being under consideration the following Resolution was adopted.

Resolved that the President be, and he is hereby authorized to offer proposals for furnishing the Stamps for the United States Post Office Department, and to take such measures for obtaining the contract for the same as he may deem for the best interest of the Company.” A True Copy from the Minutes

Wm. H. Whiting Secretary A. B. N. Co.

595C.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

[Circular.]

**The American Bank Note Company,
MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE BUILDING,
WALL STREET, NEW YORK.**

THE American Bank Note Company was incorporated in May, 1858. Its business is to engrave and print Bank Notes, Bonds, Certificates, Drafts, Bills of Exchange, Postage Stamps, and other documents representing money or value. It comprises, among its members, all the former Bank Note Engraving Houses (as enumerated below), and has, at its command, all their talent, skill and experience—both artistic and mechanical. It has facilities for executing

orders in a style of art never before attained, and with a promptness which will meet the necessities of all its customers. It is prepared to furnish all valuable methods of protecting Bank Notes from alterations and from Counterfeits by photography or any other process.

THE Business of the American Bank Note Company is carried on in fire-proof premises, constructed expressly for its use; and is, in all its extensive departments, under a rigid system of supervision and accountability by which the most perfect safety is secured. The Company has branches at Philadelphia, Boston, Montreal, Cincinnati, and New Orleans.

The following firms were invited in the formation of

The American Bank-Note Company.

RAWDON, WRIGHT, HATCH & EDSON,	JOCELYN, DRAPER, WELSH & CO.,	} TRACY R. EDSON, <i>President</i> MOSELEY I. DANFORTH, <i>Vice-Pres.</i> NEZIAH WRIGHT, <i>Treasurer</i> WM. H. WHITING, <i>Secretary</i>
TOPPAN, CARPENTER & CO.,	WELLSTOOD, HAY & WHITING,	
DANFORTH, PERKINS & CO.,	NEW ENGLAND BANK-NOTE CO.,	
BALD, COUSLAND & CO.,	JOHN E. GAVIT,	
EDMONDS, JONES & SMILLIE.		

[Docket; written on reverse of the circular, which must have been sent with the resolution]

April 10, 1861
Resolution of Trustees of
American Bank Note Co
that the president be
authorized to offer proposals
for furnishing Stamps

596. [National Archives]

Phila. April 20 1861

A. V. Zevely
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.

Sir,

Messrs Toppan Carpenter & Co of Phila. Have forwarded to your Department their proposal, for the Stamps Contract, together with required Specimen which for exquisite beauty and finish cannot be surpassed in the world.

I wish to offer a few obvious reasons for the retention of this contract in Phila. I have for a number of years conducted a business in this City, of which Stamp printing is a branch, and I know that the present exigence, has utterly prostrated it. Several of the young men employed in the Stamp Office were brought up in my employment, and a natural Solicitude for their interest induces me to appeal to the Department in their favor. They are men of most excellent character, selected for their skill and reliability, and their Subsistence now depends upon this contract.

Messrs Toppan Carpenter & Co holding the present contract, stand unrivalled in the Country, for ability and reputation and for every grade of Security required by the Department. Their appliances and machinery for the execution of the work are of the most perfect character, and the result of years of well directed labor, and the most liberal investment of capital. From my knowledge of the business and the capacity of the various Firms in the Country to take this contract there are none that can approximate in the conditions required by the Department to the present contracting parties.

I hope Sir, we shall have the aid of your powerful influence to retain this Contract in Phila., its loss would be a serious detriment in the present greatly depressed condition of trade. Your assistance would be fully appreciated by

the Firm, and I can assure you would be requited by myself in any way, either in a public or private capacity, in which I can serve you—

Truly Yours
John M. Butler

[Docket]

April 20 1861

Postage Stamp contract
Recommendation
Of Hon. John M. Butler
Apr—20, 1861
For continuance of business
With Toppan, Carpenter & Co.,
Philada—

COMMENTS:

- *Substantially the same as #599, but dated 20 vice 26 April. Another recommendation by Butler is #605.*
- *John M. Butler was a Phila. publisher and unsuccessful Congressional candidate in 1860.*

597.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. April 23rd 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq.
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

In the event of the obstructions to travel being such as to prevent our reaching Washington on or before the 30th inst., will you have the kindness to advise us what course will be necessary for us to pursue, and you may rely upon out adopting it?

Very Resptfly
Yr. Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Apr. 23, 1861

as to bids, in the event
that travel continues to
be obstructed
answd 27 Apr.

597A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

Boston April 23, 1861

Hon. Montgomery Blair
Post Master General
Washington.

Sir,

I take great pleasure in communicating to your favorable consideration the application of the American Bank Note Company for printing the Post Office Stamps for the US Government. I believe the work of this company compares favorably with any similar work done in this country, and I am well acquainted with Isaac Cary Esqr. who has devoted a lifetime to the business of engraving. Mr. Cary has the management of the business of the Company in Boston and I feel the fullest confidence that any engagement in which he is concerned will be promptly and honorably fulfilled.

I am

Very Respectfully Yours,
Alexr. H. Rice

[Docket]

April 23, 1861

Boston Mass

Recommendation

of

American Bank Note Co.

by

A. H. Rice

Recommendation

COMMENT: Alexander H. Rice owned a paper manufacturing business and was mayor of Boston 1856-57. He was elected to Congress during the Civil War and later served as Governor of MA.

597B.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

[Letterhead] American Bank Note Company
MERCHANTS EXCHANGE New York April 24 1861

At a special meeting of the Trustees of the American Bank Note Company held April 18th 1861. On motion it was “Resolved: That this Board approve the action of this Company in promptly stopping (on the publication of the proclamation of the President of the United States) the engraving of plates, which had been commenced for the Confederate States, in pursuance of a contract made by them with our Agent in New Orleans, and while regretting the cause of the nonfulfillment of an order of so large an amount, yet in view of the duty which all good citizens owe to our Government we cheerfully sanction the sacrifice—“

A true copy from the minutes

Tracy R. Edson
President

[Docket]

April 24, 1861

American Bank Note Co

Tracy R. Edson, Prt. (May 3/61)

shows that no work
was done for “Southern
Confederacy”

598.

[National Postal Museum]

Newark N.J. April 25th/61

Dear Sir

We send these proposals without the models which together with specimens of boxes, we will forward to the Department by our agent, as soon as the route is open between this city and Washington. We will make stamps of any size or design required by the department.

Very truly yours
J. W. Hayes for the
U. B. N. Co

3d Asst. P. M. General

599.

[National Archives]

Phila. April 26 1861

A. N. Zevely
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.

Sir,

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co of Phila. have forwarded to your Department their proposals for the Stamp Contract, together with required Specimens which for exquisite beauty and finish cannot be surpassed in the world.

I wish to offer a few obvious reasons on the retention of this contract in Phila. I have for a number of years conducted business in this City, of which Stamp printing (?) is a branch, and I know that the present exigency has utterly prostrated it. Several of the young men employed in the Stamp Office were brought up in my employment, and a natural solicitude for their interest induces me to appeal to the Department in their favor. They are men of most excellent characters. selected for their skill and reliability, and their subsistence now depends upon this contract.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co holding the present contract stand unrivalled in the Country for ability and reputation (?) and for every grade of Security _ (?) by the Department Their appliances _ (?) machinery for the execution of the work are of the most perfect character and the result of years of well directed labor, and the most liberal investment of capital. From my knowledge of the business and the capacity of the various (?) Firms in the Country to take this _ (?) there are none that can approximate the conditions required by the department to the present contracting parties.

I hope Sir, we shall have the aid of your powerful influence to retain this contract in Phila., its loss would be a serious det_ (?) in the present greatly depressed condition of trade. Your assistance would be fully appreciated by the Firms; and I can assure you would be requited by myself in any way, either in a public or private capacity, in which I can serve you.

Truly yours

John M. Butler

COMMENTS:

- *Substantially the same as #596, but dated 26 vice 20 April. Another recommendation by Butler is #605.*
- *John M. Butler was a Phila. publisher and unsuccessful Congressional candidate in 1860.*

600.

[National Postal Museum]

Philadelphia April 25, 1861

Hon. Montgomery Blair
Post Master General
Washington

Sir

We have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration the following proposals to contract for furnishing Postage Stamps in accordance with the "Proposals for Postage Stamps" issued by you on the 27th Ulto (hereto annexed)—

Proposition 1

We will furnish Postage Stamps Engraved on Steel in the best manner, perfectly gummed and perforated , in packages of Ten thousand each, delivered at the Post Office Department in Washington at the rate of Sixteen and one half Cents per thousand Stamps.

Proposition 2

We will furnish the Same in Similar packages deliverable to the Agent of the department at the place of manufacture at the rate of Sixteen Cents per thousand Stamps.

Proposition 3

We will furnish the same in larger packages, as required either at the Department or place of Manufacture, on the terms as specified above in Propositions 1 and 2.

Proposition 4

We will furnish the Stamps as required in the fourth Specification, including the Tin and Binders Boards Boxes and lined Envelopes (as per Specimens herewith Submitted) at the rate of Seventeen Cents per Thousand Stamps if delivered to the Agent of the Department at the place of manufacture, or at the rate of Eighteen Cents per thousand Stamps if delivered in Washington—

Proposition 5

We will prepare blank receipts and direct all packages for the Mails under the direction of an Agent of the department (either at the Department or Manufactory) at the rate of one half cent per thousand Stamps or at the rate of Fifteen hundred dollars per annum—

Finally, we will furnish Postage Stamps which shall be in every respect entirely approved by the Department, perfectly gummed and perforated, put up in such packages, Envelopes, Tin Boxes, Binders Boards Boxes &c, in such quantities and in such manner, and deliverable at such time and place as has been heretofore or may be hereafter directed by the Post-Office Department, at the rate of Seventeen Cents per thousand Stamps, if delivered in Philadelphia, or at the rate of Seventeen and one half Cents per thousand Stamps if delivered in Washington—

These rates to include every expense of packing , paper, Tin Boxes, Binders Board Boxes, with Muslin or Oil Cloth covering, and lined envelopes—

The Specifications 6.7 and 8. (as marked in pencil on the copy of printed proposals hereto attached) are hereby agreed to, and we pledge ourselves to be governed thereby—

In connection with the foregoing proposals we would respectfully present the following considerations and facts and ask that you will have the kindness to give them that attention which you may think they merit—

WE are necessarily compelled to go somewhat into detail, but trust that the importance of the Subject both to the Government as well as ourselves will be accepted as our apology for thus troubling you—

1st

The Stamps heretofore furnished by us were gotten up with the greatest care—the best Artistic Skill in the country was employed in the Engraving of the heads and in the execution of the Machine work and ornamental parts, and having been in use for Ten years, the whole country has become familiar with their general appearance, and inasmuch as we believe that it would be difficult (if not impossible) to produce better heads than those now in use, we would respectfully suggest that the Government would not be benefited by the Engraving of new heads or by changing in any way the present Stamps, except by adding denominational figures—This suggestion of the Department will make a decided improvement in the Stamps, not only in a business point of view, but it will add greatly to their beauty—By the Specimens herewith presented, you will see that we have prepared a new set of dies for all the Stamps (except the 10 & 30 Cents) in each of which we have engraved the denomination distinctly in figures as well as letters—The 10 and 30 Cents Stamps have always had the denominations in figures—

In making the foregoing suggestions we must not be understood as objecting to the Engraving of an entirely new and different set of Stamps if the Department should desire to make Such change and hold ourselves ready at any time to comply with your wishes in this respect—The change in the present Stamps will cause us a very heavy expense, as not one of the present plates will be of any further use and we shall be obliged to Engrave Seventeen entirely new Stamp Plates (200 Stamps on each plate)—Viz—3 plates of 1 Cent—8 plates of 3 Cents, and 1 Plate of Each of the other denominations, and therefore the actual expense to us in producing these plates will be very nearly as much as we would incur in making entirely new Stamps—The necessity for our Engraving new 10 and 30 Cent Plates arises from the fact that we propose to make new sets of punches for our Perforating Machines of larger size than those now in use, believing that the perforation of the Stamps will thereby be made more perfect—all the Stamps to be thus perforated—

2nd

The Binders Board Boxes and lined envelopes herewith submitted are much more costly than those heretofore required and the expenses of this branch of the business (in proportion to the number of Stamps used) will be at least double what it has been heretofore—

3rd

The duty of preparing receipts and directing packages has been heretofore performed exclusively by the Agent of the Government and his clerks, and if required hereafter by us will involve the necessity of the additional expense to us of the cost of the Labels and receipts and the Salary of a confidential Clerk—

Finally.

The Building in which we manufacture the Stamps is perfectly fire proof from the Cellar to the roof, and in point of Safety and Security we do not think it would be possible to give more perfect protection to the property of the Government than this building and our accommodations therein offered—We rented it for a term of years before the building was finished, and had the immense vault (in which the Stamps are locked every night) and all the other apartments arranged with Special reference to the perfect management and accommodation of the Stamp business exclusively—One of our firm has special charge and direction of the entire business and having devoted Several

years of his personal attention constantly and exclusively to its Superintendence, has been enables so to perfect and Systematize every part of it, and provide such checks and guards against errors as to give that assurance of protection and safety, so essential to the interests of the Government in a contract of such immense responsibility and importance as this—In proof of this we respectfully refer you to the Reports (which we presume to be on file in the Department) of every Special Agent of the Department who has examined our office and our mode of conducting our business—

With regard to the manner in which we have uniformly performed our duty to the Government and fulfilled the obligations of our Contract, we venture to take the liberty to refer to Mr Zevely 3rd Asst. Post Master Genl, trusting that he will excuse our doing so without having obtained his permission, but that being now impracticable (owing to the interruptions to the mails) we must rely on his kindness to excuse us—

We beg to refer to one other point before we close this long (and we fear tedious) communication, and that is the fact that all of our Printers are first Class Bank Note plate Printers, selected especially for their experience and ability as Printers and their good characters as honest reliable men—They have been in our employ, none of them for less than five years, and most of them for periods extending from ten to twenty years (either as Bank Note or Stamp Printers)—We have never employed Boys or Apprentices (by which we might materially have cut down our Expenses) feeling a deep responsibility to the Government and a conviction that we should fall short of our duty unless all our efforts were directed to perfect Security and good work—

If we have been faithful in the performance of our duty under our Contract for many so years—If the Department has had cause to be entirely Satisfied with us and our manner of conducting the business, may we not hope that these considerations and others herein referred to , will give us strong claims to the favorable consideration of our present proposals?—That you will not be induced by offers of lower terms (if Such Should be offered) to award the Contract to others on that ground, we feel assured by the fact that you have reserved “the right of deciding which bid in its practical results may be most to the interest of the Department, having reference to the Style of Work, Security, mode of packing &c”—On these grounds we cheerfully Submit our Claims for your consideration, with the pledge that should we be so fortunate as to have the Contract awarded to us, our best energies and efforts shall be directed to the honest and conscientious performance of our whole duty to the Government, and with a single desire to give entire satisfaction—

All of which is respectfully submitted by
Your Obt. Svts &c
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

601. [National Postal Museum]

New York April 26th 1861

Tracy R. Edson Esqr
President of the
American Bank Note Company

Dear Sir

In answer to your letter of this morning requesting my opinion as to the Strength and fire proof character of the New York Exchange Building in which your offices and workshops are situated, I beg leave to state.

The Building is of great strength having walls of immense thickness built of Granite and backed in with Bricks laid in cement mortar,

All the partitions are of bricks laid in cement mortar.

The Arches and floors are of brick laid in cement.

The Roof is of Galvanised Iron corrugated

All the windows and doors of the three lower stories have wrought iron shutters.

As a whole I consider the Building as the strongest and most completely fire proofed Edifice in this City.

Very respectfully yours
James Raunch Jr

[Docket]

April 25, 1861
No. 2
Proposals of the
American Bank Note Co
To furnish
Stamps
New York, N.Y.

601A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

New York April 27 1861

Hon. M Blair
Post master General
Washington

Dr Sir It was our purpose to hand in proposals for furnishing Post Office Stamps and accompaniments *[sic]*, according to the recent advertisement, and to visit the department for requisite information about some of the minutia. The rebellion *[sic]* and the suspension of travel, rendered doing so impracticable.

We have important reasons making it desirable under the circumstances, that the department may defer awarding the contract for a brief space, thereby enabling us to present much important information referring to abuses and improvements, touching these Post Office stamps, which at present must be unknown to the department. Our references will be to such friends as Hon Theo. Frelinghuysen, Gov Pennington of N. J. Mr. Taylor our N. Y. Postmaster and others, whose honesty, loyalty and standing will not be gainsayed.

We are confident the Postmaster General will be satisfied with the results & his compliance with with *[sic]* this request is most earnestly *[sic]* solicited.

Respectfully & faithfully yours
Geo. D. Baldwin

[Docket]
April 27, 1861
George D. Baldwin
Ap. 27/61.
Asks for postponing decision
on proposals for postage
stamps

COMMENT: Theodore Frelinghuysen was a NJ politician who was NJ attorney general, a US senator, and an unsuccessful Whig vice-presidential candidate in 1844.

601B.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]
No. 5 [in blue pencil]

Washington, Apl. 30, 1861

A. E. [sic] Zevely. Esq
3rd Assistant Postmaster General,
Washington, D.C.

Sir,

In addition to the proposals of the National Bank Note Company herewith handed you, for supplying the General Post Office Department with postage stamps, pursuant to the Advertisement of the Hon. M. Blair, Postmaster General, dated March 27 1861, as one of the Trustees & Agent of said Company, I beg to stipulate that, the paper envelopes shall be of such dimentions [sic] and quality as may be designated by the Postmaster General, & all lined with muslin, & that the straw or pastboard [sic] boxes shall be in all respects equal in strength & quality to those in present use by the Department for the transmittion [sic] of stamps, with the addition of cotton cloth or muslin cases or outer wrappers, to be laid on & secured by shell lac [sic] or other varnish impervious to water, & of sufficient size to lap & fold so as to add ~~to add~~ to the security against water & dampness, and that the tin boxes shall also be of size & quality equal to those now in use & also to be secured with muslin wrappers in waterproof varnish or [paint?], if required by, & in all respects made acceptable to the Postmaster General; & further, that all large packages, destined for the Pacific Coast and other places involving extra exposure to water, shall be in securely soldered tin cases packed in wooden boxes.

I have been this elaborate on boxes & envelopes, inasmuch as samples which I had forwarded with directions, have failed to reach New York, & consequently no proper [showing?] of those articles are submitted herewith. It will be seen, however, that it is the intention of this communication to submit to the requirements of the Department in reference to those articles, & I think it will be conceded that the use of water proof gum or varnish proposed is worth a favorable consideration.

As to specimens of engraving it has not been thought necessary to submit an extensive variety, but only to exhibit the general style & character of our work; it being expressly understood that the engraving shall be of the first class, & approved by the Department, & in such form & style as may be required. A few specimens of geometrical lathe work are also herewith submitted, exhibiting a new mode of protection, by introducing into & in combination with the lathe work, the name of the institution recently patented. This style of work may be seen in the new Treasury Notes now being prepared for issue at the Treasury Department, furnished by this Company, to which the Contract was awarded. The Secy. or Assistant Secy. would doubtless with pleasure exhibit them.

A few days since I left with you a note of introduction from Mr. Harrington, the Asst. Secy. Treasury, addressed to the 2nd Asst. P.M. Genl. under the impression that the decision was with, or the proposals were to be submitted to that Department. May I request that you place the same with this in the hands of the Postmaster General. We can have no difficulty in furnishing any required evidence of character & responsibility.

Herewith please also receive one of our circulars.

Resply. Yr. obt. svts, etc.

National Bank Note Co.

by F. Shepard

Agt.

[Docket]
April 30, 1861
Respecting proposal
for Stamps —
National Bank Note Co.
New York NY

May 11, '61
[illegible word] J. Holbrooke

601C.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]
No. 5 *[in blue pencil]*

The National Bank Note Company of New York occupying the fire proof Banking building of Messrs Duncan Sherman & Co. No 9 Nassau St. N.Y. office for transaction of business at No 1 Wall St New York, offer the following proposal to engrave, print, and furnish postage Stamps of the United States, of the Various denominations required by law, and by the Department viz 1 ct, 3 cts, 5 cts, 10 cts, 24 cts, 30 cts and 90 cts all properly gummed and perforated, counted and packed, in envelopes or tin or pasteboard boxes, sealed, soldered or pasted, and properly directed and delivered at New York, or at Washington in such quantities as may be required, in accordance with the advertised proposals of the Department, and at prices stated below, viz.

14 cts per 1,000 stamps delivered in packages of 10,000 each at the Post Office department in Washington

12 cts per 1,000 in similar packages delivered to the Agent in New York.

13 cts per 1,000 delivered in large packages, as required, either at the Department or at New York.

12 cts per 1,000 seperated *[sic]* in small quantities as may be daily ordered, if delivered at New York and 14 cts per 1,000, if delivered at the Department in Washington.

No extra charge for directing packages for the mails or for preparing blank receipts under the direction of an agent at New York, or ½ a cent per 1,000 if the same service is performed at Washington

James Macdonough
Secretary

To the
Third Assistant Postmaster
General
Washington
D. C.

[Docket]

April 1861 (*“April” written over another word*)

proposals to
furnish stamps
by

National Bank Note Co

additional one by F Shepard } *lines written between Co. and N.Y. in*
agent } *darker ink*
New York, N.Y.

No. 5 } *written in blue pencil over the docket*
X }

602.

[National Postal Museum]

Washington City, D.C.
Tuesday, 30th April 1861.

Sir,

With the “proposals for postage Stamps,” I herewith submit a certificate of the Treasurer of the American Bank Note Co. showing the number of shares of the capital stock of that Company which are now held by members of the firm of Toppan Carpenter and Co. amounting to five thousand five hundred and ten shares, being more than one fifth of the entire Capital Stock which is twenty five thousand shares:—also a copy of a Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Company, passed on the 10th of April, instant, authorizing me as President of the Company “to offer

proposals for furnishing the stamps for the U. S. Post Office Department' etc, at which meeting of the Board Messrs Toppan and Carpenter were both present.

I also present letters from Hon. Chas. Francis Adams, and Hon. A. H. Rice to which your attention is respectfully requested.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully &c.
Tracy R. Edson
President Amn. Bk Note Co.

Third Assistant Postmaster General
Washington City D.C.

COMMENT: See documents 595A, 595B, and 597A for the enclosures regarding stock shares, the resolution, and the Rice recommendation.

603. [National Postal Museum]

["No 2" is endorsed at the top of the first page in pencil]

The undersigned, representing the American Bank Note Company, which is located in the City of New York, State of New York, proposes to furnish Postage Stamps of the general style and description of those now in use, on suitable paper of the best quality, for a term of six years, commencing July first, A.D. 1861, under advertisement of the Post Master General dated March 27th, 1861, at the rate of fifteen cents per thousand stamps, delivered in packages of ten thousand each, at the Post Office Department in Washington, D.C.; at the rate of fourteen and a half cents per thousand stamps, in similar packages, delivered to the Agent of the Department at the place of manufacture;—at the rate of fourteen and a half cents per thousand stamps, delivered in larger packages as required, either at the Department or at the place of manufacture;—also at the rate of Sixteen cents per thousand stamps, separated in such quantities as may be daily ordered for the use of Post Offices never less than two hundred stamps, and securely packed in tin cases, suitable binder's board boxes, with muslin or other equally strong covers, or lined envelopes, delivered to the Agent of the Post Office Department at the place of manufacture, and one half a cent per thousand stamps additional if delivered to the Post Office Department at Washington, D.C.;—one cent per thousand stamps additional cost, for directing packages for the mail and preparing blank receipts under the direction of an Agent of the Department, making in all Seventeen cents per thousand for the stamps in sheets, perfectly gummed and perforated in such manner that each separate stamp can be readily detached and used.

We will execute the work according to the description, as described in the eighth paragraph of the advertisement, and herewith submit a specimen of the style of engraving and the quality of paper to be furnished by us under this proposal. Specimens of boxes and envelopes are also submitted.

We also stipulate that all dies and plates are to be prepared and kept in repair, and that new dies and plates shall be made either for the present denominations of stamps or others without charge, at the pleasure of the Department, and all such dies and plates are to be the property of the United States for the service of the Post Office Department.

We will prepare designs and furnish finished proofs of each denomination of stamps as required by the advertisement above referred to.

We are engaged in the business of copper plate and steel plate engraving and printing, and are thus engaged at the present time of bidding, and we are occupying Suitable fire proof premises and are provided with all the necessary facilities to execute the work promptly, and give the requisite protection to the Stamps, dies and plates in our possession, and we believe that we are the only company that has all of the above requirements for carrying out said advertisement.

We will also stipulate to do and perform the work above specified, either in New York or Washington, or any other place the postmaster General may select, by giving us timely notice to build suitable fire proof buildings, for carrying out said advertisement.

We will further stipulate to furnish or substitute any other style of boxes or envelopes of equal value for packing said stamps, as the Post Master General may from time to time, require, without additional charge therefore.

New York, 27th April 1861.

Tracy R. Edson
President of the
American Bank Note Company

The undersigned, residing at New York State of New York undertake that if the foregoing bid for furnishing Postage Stamps, be accepted by the Postmaster General, the bidder shall prior to the first day of July 1861, enter into the required obligation or contract to furnish Postage Stamps proposed with good and sufficient Sureties. Dated, April 25th 1861

E.J. Danforth
Neziah Wright

The undersigned, Postmaster at New York State of New York Certifies under his oath of office that he is acquainted with the above guarantors and knows them to be men of property and able to make good their guaranty.

Dated, April 25th 1861.

W. B. Taylor
Post Master
New York

604. [National Archives]

Phila 1861

Hon Montgomery Blair
P. M. General

Sir,

We the undersigned, Merchants and Bankers of Phila, wishing the secure to the city such benefits as will contribute to her general prosperity, respectfully solicit that the Postal Stamp contract may be retained amongst us, and that the present contracting parties, Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co may have a renewal of the contract; they having for many years conducted the most extensive Bank-Note establishment in America, and occupy the first position before the community for business capacity and reputation.

_____ (illegible)

Drexel & Co

Wm. Wainwright

B. B. Lippincott & Co

G. M. Trontreau

J. R. & H. B. Fry

Jay Cooke & Co

_____ (illegible)

Thomas Robbins

S. A. Mener

Thomas Smith

605. [National Archives]

Phila. April 27 1861

Hon Montgomery Blair
Post Master General

Sir

As your department has advertised for bids for the ensuing Postal Stamp Contract for six years, I beg the favor of addressing you a few remarks in favor of the present contracting parties, Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co of this City.

My object is that the work may be retained in Philada., as the business of which Stamp printing is a branch is in a ruined condition, and this contract is the only resource of numerous employees. In addition to this consideration, is the important fact, that Toppan, Carpenter & Co were awarded the contract from the first for their responsibility and standing as the first Bank Note establishment in America, and since then these gentlemen have devoted their energies and Capital to perfect every arrangement, and the throw around this branch of the Government business every Security required by the Department.

Their office is situated in the most extensive fire proof building in Phila. and in the safest locality. They have in fact surmounted every difficulty, by the most liberal expenditure of capital, and have now a more perfect establishment and thoroughly skilled assistants than could be reached in years by any other firm.

If I am not misinformed, this is the only government contract, in this line of business held in Phila. and I mention these few facts that it may be retained here, by the present firm. In the depressed condition of trade it is probable that their proposal may exceed some that are offered, but it should be remembered that their bids are based on experience and the capital invested, and the most perfect accessories of every description for the execution and security of work. In England the Stamps have never changed hands for Twenty one years—since they were first issued by the Government—skill and safety being regarded as paramount to every other consideration.

I respectfully urge upon your consideration these facts, as they are important to the Department, and justly due to the firm now holding the contract.

Truly
Your Obet. Servt.

John M. Butler

COMMENT: See #596 and #599 for other recommendations by Butler.

606. [National Archives]

Proposals for Postage Stamps
from
The Union Bank Note Company

Newark N. J.

We will furnish stamps in packages of Ten thousand or upwards, delivered to an agent of the Department in this City, at the rate of sixteen and three fourths (16 $\frac{3}{4}$) cents per thousand.

We will furnish stamps in packages of Ten Thousand or upwards, delivered at the Post Office Department in Washington, at a cost exceeding the above mentioned price, equal to the cost of transportation by Express, which will be about seven and one half (7 $\frac{1}{2}$) cents per thousand.

We will furnish stamps in such quantities as may be daily ordered for the use of post offices, never less than two hundred stamps, and securely packed in tin cases, wooden boxes, binders-board boxes, or lined envelopes as may be required by the Department, delivered to an agent of the Department in this City, at the rate of seventeen and one fourth (17 $\frac{1}{4}$) cents per thousand.

We will furnish stamps, separated as last above mentioned, delivered at the Post Office Department in Washington, at a cost exceeding the last above mentioned price, equal to the cost of the transportation by Express, which will be about seven and one half (7 $\frac{1}{2}$) cents per thousand.

The additional cost for directing packages for the mails, and preparing blank receipts, will be three fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) of a cent per thousand stamps.

The Union Bank Note Company is engaged in the business of copper plate and steel engraving and printing, is occupying suitable premises and is provided with all the necessary facilities to execute the work promptly, and give the requisite protection to the stamps, dies, and plates in their possession.

They refer to the Hon Wm. Pennington, to Hon Moses Bigelow the Mayor of this City, the Hon N. Perry, member elect to the next Congress, to David Price Esq. Post Master, and to any other reliable person or persons in Newark N.J.

[Docket]

April 25, 1861

Proposals by
Union Bank Note Co.
Newark N.J.
to furnish Stamps

Enclosing Samples of Stamps
& Paper

not a definite bid

607.

[National Archives]

Office of the
Philadelphia City Passenger Railway Co.,
VIA CHESTNUT AND WALNUT STS.
21st and Chestnut Streets,

Philadelphia, April 27, 1861

A. N. Zevly Esq.

My Dear Sir

Toppan, Carpenter & Co the Firm who have had the contract for printing Post Office Stamps for the last ten years, have made application to the department to have their contract continued. These gentlemen as you are aware are perfectly familiar with every branch of the business and have thus far given entire satisfaction to the department. Individually they have the confidence and respect of the whole community as a Firm have no superior. As this branch of the Department comes under your special charge you will be able no doubt to exercise much influence in favour or against the different applicants; any thing you can do to secure the contract for the above named Firm, will be considered by me as a personal favour and cheerfully be reciprocated should an opportunity ever occur.

I remain Yours Truly

Chas. Wister

608. [National Archives]

Washington
May 1, 1861

Post Master Gen

Sir

I have been acquainted with Geo. T. Jones Esq. of Cincinnati during the last ten years. He is an engraver by profession and is esteemed as an excellent artist.

He is a gentleman of unimpeachable character and is universally regarded in Cincinnati as a worthy and upright man. I believe he would faithfully execute any contract with the Government he would make.

Very respy

Caleb B. Smith

609. [National Archives]

Washington
May 3rd, 1861

My Dear Sir:

I understand that Mr. Geo. T. Jones, of Cincinnati, who has put in a bid for the contract to supply Postage Stamps, has it in serious contemplation to establish in this city, (in rooms in one of the Departments if that be deemed practicable,) an Engraving House of the first order.

It seems to me that this is an object eminently worthy of encouragement, and one which might become of great advantage to the Government. Such an establishment here, I am well persuaded, would be a great convenience to the treasury Department, and I only wonder that the matter has not been thought of before. Will you not take time to talk with Mr. Jones upon the subject.

Mr. J. ranks among the best engravers in the country, and, besides being a firm and liberal Republican is a reliable and responsible man.

Very Truly Yours,

S. P. Chase

Hon. M. Blair

609A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

Washington D.C. 3d. May 1861

Hon. Montgomery Blair,
Postmaster General.

Sir,

Enclosed herewith I beg leave to hand you a copy of a Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the American Bank Note Company passed April 18th 1861, approving of the action of the officers of the company in having discontinued work on the Bond Notes ordered at the New Orleans Agency, for the so-called Confederate States —

I beg leave to add that the American Bank Note Company has also stopped all work for Banks and other corporations in the said states, and I have directed our Agent at New Orleans to discontinue all work at that Agency, and to enter into no further contracts on behalf of this company —

With great Respect, I am sir;
Your Obedient servant
Tracy R. Edson
President ABN Co.

[Docket]
May 3, 1861
American Bank Note Co
Boston

Enclosing Copy of Resolution,
of Board of Trustees at N York
stopping the Engraving of plates
commenced for the Confed States
made by their Agent in N Orleans

COMMENT: See The Story of American Bank Note Company, William H. Griffiths and W. Frederic Colclough, New York, 1959, pages 39-40, for a full account of the New Orleans branch office during the Civil War.

609B. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

Washington D.C. 7th May 1861

Hon. Montgomery Blair,
Post Master General.

Sir,

The undersigned, having submitted proposals for furnishing Postage Stamps, in compliance with your advertisement of 27 March last, beg leave respectfully to represent, that they were induced to do so under the belief that the government ought to, and would be willing to pay a fair compensation for the service to be performed, taking into consideration also the responsibility connected with the undertaking. Indeed the advertisement inviting

proposals, contained the following stipulation—Viz. “In awarding the Contract, the Post Master General reserved the right of deciding which bid, in its practical results, may be most to the interest of the Department, having reference to the style of work, security, mode of packing &c.” — distinctly indicating that the mere consideration of price, was not alone to influence the decision, but that the advantages offered by each bidder were to be considered as a whole, and a preference given to that bid which as a whole, was most to the interest of the Department.

We would also further represent that we have been engaged in the production of stamps for several years, and are intimately acquainted with all the details of their manufacture and cost, and the proposals offered by us were based upon a careful estimate, from actual experience of the expense of producing the stamps, in the style required — and they are such as barely to afford a fair remuneration for the same, including the extra service required over what has been done under the former contract, of delivery at the Department, and of directing parcels and taking receipts for the same — which is equal to at least one and a half cents per thousand stamps —

The undersigned would further represent that they have learned with surprise that a Bid at the rate of Thirteen and a half cents per 1000 stamps has been made by the National Bank Note Co, and we respectfully submit that this bid is below the actual cost of manufacture and distribution as called for by the advertisement, and should not be considered — The parties who made that bid, have had no experience in producing stamps, or they would not have made such an offer, unless indeed they are willing to work for nothing for the reputation of being employed by the Government, — they have not the requisite facilities for carrying out the contract, and there is some of the machinery that it would be impossible for them to procure in season for that purpose, nor have they the requisite provision for security, either as it regards premises or supervision — a portion of their business being carried on in one building and the rest in another building, on another street —

The undersigned would respectfully submit, that the responsibility of the parties offering proposals, their experience in the business, and their ability to fulfill their contract to the satisfaction of the Department, have much to do with the question of which bid it is most for the interest of the Department to accept, and in the view of all the circumstances, we beg leave respectfully to remonstrate against the contract being awarded to the party making the bid above referred to, as not being most to the interest of the Department.

We have the honor to be,
Very Respectfully sir,
Your obt servant,
Tracy R. Edson
President of the American Bank Note Company

[Docket]
May 7, 1861
Tracy R Edson
7 May '61

as to insufficiency
of National Bank
Note Co.

610. [National Postal Museum]

Post Office Department
May 11, 1861

Gentlemen:

Please report the actual numbers of postage Stamps of each denomination now on hand.

If you have not certainly a full quarter's supply, dating from this time, and estimating on the quantity furnished for the quarter ended 31 March last, you will, I presume, readily make up such supply.

You will oblige me by furnishing, if convenient, specimens of the various forms of your accounts of paper and stamps.

Very respectfully,
your Obt. Svt
A. N. Zevely
3d Asst. P. M. Genl.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Philadelphia,
Pa

[Docket]

No 1
A. N. Zevely
3d A. P. M. Gn
to
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
May 11, 1861

Asking for account of
Stamps on hand and
for Specimens

611. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. May 13, 1861.

A. N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. P.M. Gen'l.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 11th inst. is rec'd. In reply we beg to state that we have now on hand

10,950,947	Stamps	of	1 Cent
39,313,744	do		3 "
397,805	do		5 "
837,685	do		10 "
689,060	do		12 "
2,736,375	do		24 "
188,460	do		30 "
176,520	do		90 "
In all	55,290,596	Stamps.	

We have stopped all our presses and shall not print any more Stamps unless you should desire a further supply of any one or more of the denominations, in which case, by your giving us immediate notice, we will have them printed.

You ask us to furnish "specimens of the various "forms" of your (our) accounts of paper and stamps"—As these "forms" are the result of our experience for the long period of Ten years, and have cost us much labor and thought in perfecting and adapting to this particular business, you will, we are sure, excuse us for declining to give the benefit

of all our labor and experience to those who are about to attempt the performance of the duties heretofore fulfilled by us.

With the highest appreciation of the kindness and courtesy which have always characterized your intercourse with us both officially and personally, and begging you to be assured of our most sincere respect and esteem.

We are Very Respectfully
Yr. Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Postage Stamps
May 13, 1861.

55,290,596

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Will print no more without
special orders.

611A.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

Philada. May 18th 1861.

A. N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst P.M. Genl.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The National Bank Note Co have made advances to me to take charge of the Stamp Contract as heretofore, and I am free to confess that I entertain favorably any proposition whereby my interest in this business can be continued. But you will readily understand, my dear Sir, that in thus having the great responsibility incurred I am unwilling to place myself in any position less advantageous than that which I now enjoy, with my present partners and which they have cheerfully conceded to me. In case a satisfactory arrangement is made, the entire business its manner of being conducted, system of accounts and checks, will be passed over to the National Co. No delay will be experienced, no embarrassment arising from perfectly inexperienced agents will be permitted to interfere with the course of the business— The Government may rest assured of my future attention and care as evinced in the Past, and I believe I may flatter myself that Toppan, Carpenter & Co have well deserved of the Department. I think that you will be interested in a matter of so much concern to the Department generally and therefore hasten to apprise you of said overtures. I will frankly say that I have intimated to the National Co that any satisfactory arrangement made with me would not damage their cause with the Department, and, if you feel that you can with propriety, give me the advantage of an expression of good will to the National Company, it will be adding another to the many obligations with which I have the honor to remain

Very Resptfly
Yr Obt Servt
Jos R. Carpenter

[Docket]
J. R. Carpenter
May 18, 1861

[In pencil at upper left] Answ'd 21st

As to arrangement with
National Bank Note Co.

Answd 21 May

611B.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

New York May 18, 1861

Sir:

In compliance with yours of the 11th inst., I have called on the National Bank Note Company of this city. As it is not definitely fixed as to what building, rooms &c. they will use for the manufacture and packing of the postage Stamps, they have requested a few days delay in my intended inspection. As soon as they are ready, I will report further.

Yours Very Res.

J. Holbrook,

Sp. Agt.

Hon. }
A. N. Zevely, }
Third Asst. }
P.M. Gen'l. }

[Docket]

J. Holbrook

May 18/61

As to premises of
National Bank Note
Co. —
will report again

611C.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

[Letterhead]
Long Newnam & Co.
Bank Note Engravers
&
PLATE PRINTERS
No. 242 Chestnut Street
PHILADELPHIA
May 22nd/61

A. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst. Postmaster
Sir

When the proposals were issued for bids for the Postage Stamps Contract, we supposed it indispensable [*sic*] that engraved specimens of the various heads required for the stamps should be submitted. Not being able to effect this in time, our bids were not entered in April. As we understand that the time allowed for the National Bank Note Co of New York to get ready has been extended until August, we now propose to bid for the contract, and furnish the stamps as required, for Twelve cents per Thousand stamps, including envelopes and boxes, and delivering them in the prescribed manner. The work to be executed in the best style of Bank Note engraving, and on the required quality of paper.

We have been in business over Twenty year in Phila. and conducted the largest engraving and printing establishment in the country. We can furnish real estate security to the amount of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars for the fulfillment of the contract.

We can have the use of the perforating operators, and the peculiar machinery of Toppan Carpenter & Co, together with their fire proof rooms for the manufacture of stamps.

An immediate reply is urges whether our bid is admissable [*sic*] or not.

Yours Truly

Long Newnam & Co

[Docket]
Postage Stamps

Long, Newman *[sic]* & Co.
May 22, '61

Proposals for Postage Stamps

—
answd May 24th

611D. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site] Philada May 24, 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Your esteemed favor of the 21st inst is duly rec'd; and it is with much pleasure that I welcome your kind words of approval and satisfaction touching a business connection on my part which would secure to the Government a future conduct of the stamp contract on the basis adopted by the firm with which I have now the honor to be associated. But you will learn with regret that I deem any business connection with the National Co as quite problematical at present. The propositions made to me by that Co are of such a nature as to offer no inducement to take charge of the stamps. In fact, I cannot do so without coming in direct antagonism to other interests of importance. I have therefore declined to entertain the proposals made me, involving as they do the necessity of my assuming a position which could not command the consent of my present partners while it would at once conflict with my own interests.

I deem it my duty to inform you of the termination (as I now regard it) of all negotiation between the firm of Toppan, Carpenter & Co, or myself individually, and the national Co. In this case I have no other resource than to await the action of our competitors in their endeavor to fulfil a contract of such great importance and responsibility.

Again assuring you of the great value which I attach to your kind expressions of interest and confidence in our firm, I have the honor to remain

Very Resptfly
Jos R. Carpenter

[Docket]
Postage Stamps

J. R. Carpenter
May 24, 1861

Thinks he can make
no arrangement with the
National Bank Co

612. [National Archives]

Brooklyn ED. June 15th '61

To the Postmaster General
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir—

If it indeed be true that the Federal Government, in order to protect itself from further peculations from the “Seceded States” is about to devise a new Post Office Stamp,—permit me to suggest that the “Star Spangled Banner”—supported, if you please, by the goddess of liberty—as peculiarly appropriate for such a purpose, not only because it is the emblem of our national glory but because it would be too “incendiary” for southern traitors to steal—or at least to use!

Whilst we venerate the person of him who was “first in war—first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen” Virginia’s prestige is gone—alas for ever!

But the presence of those glorious Stars and Stripes, under which our Country has fought and bled and triumphed,—and for many a long year has prospered as no other nation under the sun ever prospered is well calculated to and yet does inspire feelings of patriotism—reverence for law—and an undying attachment to those peculiar Institutions of which it is now the emblem.

Can anything more appropriate be suggested!

Respectfully
Your Obt Svt

Wm. Wright
86 Fourth St Brooklyn ED

“O say—does the Star spangled banner yet wave
Oer the land of the free and the home of the brave?”

June 15 1861
Wm Wright
Brooklyn

Design for Stamps
“the Star spangled Banner”

613. [National Archives, [Travers, USPCS web site](#)]

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

June 16 1861

Dear Sir:

In preparing new designs for postage stamps, permit me to suggest that you adopt a different head for every denomination. Let Washington remain on the 3¢, Franklin on the 1¢, Jefferson on the 5¢, but for the 10¢, 30¢, 90, 12¢ 24¢ and any others adopt a new head—say Penn, Columbus, Hamilton, Jackson, Webster, Clay, Adams, or other patriots.

Yours respectfully

Wm. J. Rhees

Hon M. Blair
P.M. General

613A.

[Travers, USPCS web site]

Post Office Department
June 21, 1861.

Dear Sir:

Please send with each package of stamps a notice of an expected new issue in August (or sooner) on which account short supplies are now sent. I annex a form.

Very Respectfully &c
A. N. Zevely,
3d. Asst. P. M. G.

D. M. Boyd Esq.
Philadelphia
Pa.

In consequence of the expected new issue of postage stamps on or about the first of August next, short supplies will be sent Postmaster for the present, with a view to suppressing as soon as possible the old issue.

The new stamps will have in the upper corners the figures, indicating the denomination and in the lower corners the letters "U. S." — thus clearly distinguishing them from the old ones — and there will also be some difference in the general appearance, caused by more lively coloring; though the present shades will be preserved.

A. N. Zevely
3d. Asst. P. M. G.

COMMENT: Daniel M. Boyd had been a clerk in the court of common pleas for Philadelphia. He was selected to replace Johnson and to move the Agency to New York. The 1861 McElroy's lists Boyd Daniel M., clerk, 9 State House Row, h Gtn.

614.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. June 22nd 1861

A. N. Zevely Esqr
3rd Asst. Postmaster Gen'l.

Dear Sir,

Our contract having expired, and the period approaching when we presume our relations with the Department will cease, we beg respectfully to ask what disposition the Postmaster General desires us to make of the Stamps now on hand and ready for delivery—If it is his wish that we shall continue to make daily deliveries to the Agent of the Department on your order as heretofore, until the new Contractors are ready to assume the same duties, we will cheerfully do so, and deliver them in bulk to said Contractors, or to the Department at Washington (as we may be directed) the balance of Stamps remaining in our hands—

You will much oblige us by a reply at your earliest convenience, as it is a matter of some importance to know about the length of time we may need the use of our present premises—

Very respectfully
Your Obt Svts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co

June 22, 1861

Asks for orders as to
disposition of Stamps
on hand

Answered June 25, 1861

directed to continue to
deliver to the agent till
further advised

615. [National Postal Museum: Travers, [USPCS web site.](#)]

P. O. D. Finance Office
June 25th, 1861

Gentlemen,

Your letter of the 22nd instant has been received.

In reply I have to inform you that the Department does not contemplate any immediate change in the distribution of postage stamps. It is desired therefore that you will continue, as heretofore, to deliver them to the Agent of the Department, until further advised by this Office.

You will be duly informed to the disposal to be made of the balance of stamps remaining in your hands.

Very respectfully,
Your Obedt Servant,
A.N. Zevely
Third Asst. P.M. Gen'l.

Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
Philadelphia Pa.

P.S. Of course (your contract being ended) you may cease delivering, at such time as may

COMMENT: The original does not contain this partial PS, though the typed Travers copy does.

[Docket]

No. 4 [in pencil]

Copy

A.N. Zevely
to
Toppan Carpenter & Co

June 25, 1861

As to delivery of Stamps
on hand

616.

[Travers]

[Printed Circular]

Post Office department,
FINANCE OFFICE,
_____, 1861.

SIR:

Your order for stamps and stamped envelopes has been received and temporarily suspended, as a new style of stamps and envelopes will be ready for circulation by the 1st August; but if your present supply be not sufficient until that time, you will please notify this office.

You are directed to order immediately such number of stamps and stamped envelopes as, upon a careful estimate, you may deem a sufficient supply for four months.

State also the gross amount of postage which accrued at the office in the preceding quarter.

The name of the post office, county, and State, should be plainly written at the head of all orders.

The orders should be signed by the postmasters themselves, unless necessarily absent or sick, when the assistant may sign, placing the postmaster's name ABOVE his own, as directed in chapter 19, section 256a, of the Regulations.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. N. ZEVELY,
Third Assistant Postmaster General.

Postmaster.

616A.

[Travers, USPCS web site]

In response to a proclamation issued by Postmaster General Reagan, Confederate States of America, May 13, 1861 (published in the Charleston, S.C., Courier, May 17, 1861) directing postmasters in the seceding states to render their final accounts as of May 31, 1861 and to return all postage stamps and stamped envelopes in their possession belonging to the Post Office Department of the United States, nine hundred sixty eight postmasters returned stamped paper for credit during the quarter ended June 30, 1861, the aggregate value of which was \$\$38,726.93, as shown by records on file in the office of the Auditor for the P.O. Department.

The 968 offices were in the following states:

- Alabama,
- Arkansas,
- Florida,
- Georgia,
- Louisiana,
- Mississippi,
- North Carolina,
- South Carolina,
- Tennessee,
- Texas,

Virginia.

[Written in pencil] Issue of 1861

616B. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

No. 5 [*in red pencil*]

Philada June 27, 1861.

A.N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst P.M. Genl.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Your esteemed favor of the 25th inst is duly rec'd.

We will be pleased to deliver as heretofore the Postage Stamps, in accordance with your wishes; and have made such arrangements as will enable us to do so.

Very Resptfly

Yr Obt Servants,
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]
No 5 [*in red pencil*]
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
27 June, '61

will continue to
supply stamps

616C. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

Statement of the number of each denomination of postage stamps issued to postmasters during each of the four quarters of the year ending 30th June, 1861.

Qr. ending	1.cent	3.cent	5.cent	10.cent	12.cent	24.cent	30.cent	90.cent
Sep. 30, 1860.	12,756,100	36,512,700	146,920	922,150	384,800	170,000	103,860	11,960
Dec. 31, 1860.	14,778,085	39,171,800	178,640	1,154,910	243,825	201,150	105,960	6,200
Mar. 31, 1861.	14,174,768	41,922,956	223,000	852,900	232,400	147,325	65,040	4,110
June 30, 1861.	12,184,839	33,615,600	128,640	995,730	192,875	132,125	65,140	2,010
Total for year.	53,893,792	151,223,056	677,200	3,925,690	1,053,900	650,600	340,000	24,280

Whole number of stamps issued during the year, and the value thereof:

number. value.
211,788,518 \$5,908,522.60 [*pencil calculations above and below these numbers*]

~~total amount for 1860. 216,370,669. value~~

[Docket]
No. 1 1861 [*year in pencil*]

Statement
of the
Number of each denomina-
tion of postage stamps for each
of the four quarters of the
year ending 30 June, 1861.

616D. [National Postal Museum, USPS web site]

Comparative Statement of the number of postage stamps ~~and stamped envelopes~~ issued during the years ending June 30, 1860, and June 30, 1861.

Denomination.	Year ending 30 June '60.	Year ending 30 June '61.
1. cent	50,723,400	53,893,792
3. cent	159,463,600	151,223,056
5. cent	579,360	677,200
10. cent	3,898,450	3,925,690
12. cent	1,653,500	1,053,900
24. cent	52,350	650,600
30. cent	-----	340,000
90. cent	-----	24,280
Total --	216,370,660	211,788,518
Value --	\$5,920,939	\$5,908,522

The decrease in the issue compared with the previous year is an anomaly in the history of postage stamps in our country, the annual increase being steady until the beginning of the present year. As the demand by postmasters is liable to vary at different seasons, the best guide in the comparison is the observance of the issue in corresponding quarters of several years, which is shown in the following table:

Year	30 March	30 June	30 Sept.	31 Dec.
1852	\$358,372	\$376,209	\$385,641	\$386,272
1853	405,951	443,075	365,283	370,745
1854	410,317	400,784	394,475	380,359
1855	527,703	772,286	566,927	757,348
1856	1,303,928	995,177	930,492	1,054,482
1857	1,231,676	1,122,385	1,243,136	1,058,159
1858	1,366,698	1,281,184	1,128,203	1,267,330
1859	1,518,559	1,367,904	1,221,567	1,492,686
1860	1,540,890	1,673,359	1,451,401	1,562,260
1861	1,582,333	1,312,527	---	-----
1862				

It will be seen from the above that up to the time of the prospective severance of mail communication with the Southern States, the issue continued to increase, and the falling off was only perceptible in the quarter ending 30th June, 1861, in the course of which orders from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, ~~and~~ Texas, and Arkansas were totally, and those from Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia partially suspended. ~~These suspended orders,~~ Had these suspended they been filled as usual, during that quarter, would have swelled the amount beyond that of any corresponding period.

[Docket]
Issues 1860 & 1861 [in blue pencil]
Comparative Statements

616E.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

Philada Aug 12th 1861.

A. N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst P. M. Genl.
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with instructions from Mr. Boyd, Stamp Agent, I made on the 10th inst a comparison of a/cs for Stamp deliveries from the 24th ult to that date inclusive; and I infer (though not officially informed) that our deliveries, as called for by the usual regular orders, have ceased. Such being the case, I beg respectfully to be advised at what period we may prepare to hand over the balance of stamps on hand. I have remained in the city solely to superintend the proper deliveries, and have been anxious for some time past to visit the seashore where my family reside at present; but I am unwilling to be absent at a moment when the final settlement of our a/c with the Department shall be made.

I am ready now to make the conclusive transfer of the stamps; and, if you can conveniently aid my wishes in this request, you will much oblige

Yr Obt Servt.
Jos R. Carpenter
Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

[Docket]
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Aug. 12/61
as to delivering stamps

617.

[National Archives]

Philada Aug 14th 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.
Washington.
D.C.

Dear Sir:

In consequence of the unexpected and unusual pressure of orders received this day from Mr. Boyd, Stamp Agent, we will be unable to forward today the balance of Postage Stamps, concerning which Mr. Guest, Special Agent, has this day addressed you.

We hope and expect to make a partial delivery tomorrow of said balance; and you may in any event depend upon our using our utmost endeavors to carry out diligently your wishes.

Very Resptfly

Toppan, Carpenter & Co

618.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada Aug 15, 1861

Jonathan Guest Esq.
Special Agent

P. O. Dept.

Dear Sir:

I am much surprised to find that our envelopes on hand amt to about 90,000—large and small. This is to be explained by the fact that when we made our last purchase we had a surplus on hand of several thousands, and the manufacturer sent us over 7,000 beyond our order. Subsequent use of Envelopes was not as great as we had anticipated; hence this large surplus on our hands. In view of this material increase over the number authorized by you as subject to the order of the Department, I hesitate to forward the whole amt. to New York until definitely advised by you.

I may add however that these envelopes cost us about \$750.00 but we will dispose of them to the Department for \$500—If this meet with yr approbation please advise us. We will in any event be governed by your wishes.

Very Resptfly
Jos. R. Carpenter
of Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

619. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

No. 8.

Philada. Aug. 15th, 1861.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. Post Master Genl.,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

We have this day forwarded to Washington, as per directions of Mr. Guest, Ten Boxes & Five Bags containing as follows:

viz:

4,000,000	Stamps of One Cent
10,050,000	" " Three "

being first delivery of the balance of stamps in our possession. Tomorrow we will forward the remainder, together with a final account of specifications.

Very Respectfully,
Yr. Obt Servts.,
TOPPAN, CARPENTER & CO.

Aggregate No. of stamps furnished by T. C. & Co.,
up to removal of agency (15th Aug.) (during 3d qr. 1861)
11,710,845.

620. [Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

Philada. Aug. 15th, 1861.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,

3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

The Philadelphia Stamp Agency having been closed, we delivered yesterday, (14th inst.) in accordance with instructions from Mr. Guest, Special Agent, to the Treasurer of the Mint in this city, the Stamp plates, rolls and dies in our possession belonging to the Government; and we hold the proper receipt therefor.

It has been our custom, during our Contract with the Department, to keep a few months' surplus supply of stamps in order that no interruption in our business or machinery arising from accident should interfere with our regular deliveries; and because the stamps are improved by being seasoned somewhat after printing and gumming.

Last Autumn we waited on the Department to ascertain what action would be taken with this surplus in case the contract on its expiration with us should be transferred to other parties. We understood then distinctly that the Government would accept the Stamps. On several subsequent interviews with yourself the subject was introduced, and always with the same understandings on our part. We were also addressed by you in writing on the 11th May last, and requested to have "certainly a full quarter's supply, dating from this (that) time, and estimating on the quantity furnished for the quarter ended 31st March last." We replied on the 13th of the same month (May) stating that we had on hand 55,290,596 Stamps. Permitting the printers to finish a few hundred sheets of paper remaining on their several accounts, we discontinued immediately all further printing - having a surplus about equal to the amount called for by your instructions.

Since that date (13th May) certain deliveries have been made leaving now a balance all told of 27,931,912.

We need hardly add that we were induced to furnish these stamps with the clear understanding that the Department would accept them in accordance with the terms of our contract. Aware, however, of the decreased demand for stamps, and feeling that all good citizens should make sacrifices in behalf of the Government at this moment of severe pressure upon its resources, we are willing to withdraw our equitable claim for the full amount due us, and submit respectfully that we will be content to dispose of the stock in our possession at the rate of Twelve Cents per thousand instead of Sixteen and a half cents as called for by our contract. This is a very serious discount, and one that we had not at all anticipated; and we trust therefore that the Department will appreciate the motive which induces us to make it.

Very Respectly Yr. Obt Servts.,
TOPPAN, CARPENTER & CO.

COMMENT:

- *Clear statement that TCC discontinued printing after 5/13/61, and used inventory on hand to fill orders.*
- *Two copies on USPS web site; also included in #643 at bottom of p.2.*

621. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Aug 16th 1861

Sir:

Your telegraphic message of the 13th inst. was not rec'd, through the error of the Telegraph Co., until yesterday, the 15th inst.

Your favor of the 15th inst. is at hand. Our Stock of Envelopes owing to a miscalculation of one of our employees is indeed very large. Indeed, it is about 90,000 instead of 40,000! Mr. Guest accepted the latter number at cost price: and you express great dissatisfaction at his having done so. We can only state that in taking them down for examination and packing, we discovered yesterday the error of calculation and immediately informed Mr. Guest by

letter (addressed to New York where he is at present) offering however to dispose of our full stock at \$500—the envelopes having originally cost over \$750. In view however of your strongly expressed objections we now offer them for \$450, this being fully fifty per cent less than their cost to us. They are of the best make and material, and admirably adapted for the use of the Department. In view of the very great discount made by us on the Stamp A/c we hope that this proposition will meet with your approval.

Very Respectfully Yr. Obedt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

A. N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.
Washington D.C.

Will you please advise us by Telegraph as they are all packed and ready for immediate transportation. Very Resp
&c

T. C. & Co

[Answd/Aug 17.]

[Docket]

Toppan Carpenter & Co
In relation to Envelopes

Aug 16th 1861.

622.

[National Postal Museum]

New York,
16th Aug. 1861

Dear Sir:

I have rec'd. your telegram & letter of 15th Inst.: I send inclosed a letter from Tn. Carpenter & Co. stating the amount of envelopes now in their hands to be about 90,000 large & small, which they propose to the Dept. to take at \$500, cost \$750. I have answered, declining to receive this additional quantity, and that their proposition was referred to you. The new Contractors will take the whole of these envelopes at the price of \$500 if you approve of it. The losses to the Dept. were so small from damaged stamps, packed in these envelopes, that I really think the matter worthy of consideration. The discount on Surplus Stamps in the hands of T. C. & Co. amounts to nearly \$1200, at the rate of 16 ½ Cents per M, which they were entitled to, in my private opinion, also that the Dept. owes them a similar liberal action to that they have practiced towards it, this is of course an unofficial expression of a friends opinion. Mr. Steele the old clerk of T. C. & Co. has charge of the Stamps under the New Contractor, so that this in good hands. The new distribution has commenced on a Stock of over five millions of 3 Cent Stamps and others in proportion. They are employing two Sets of hands and Striking off one Million daily & perforating 800,000. Both these quantities will soon be increased and they have promised me to press the work until they have fifty Millions surplus stock.

On Mr. Boyd I have delicately enjoined Strict & Constant personal attention to his duties which he sees the necessity of, and have advised a Simple plan by which you will be advised daily of the Stock on hand and distributed.

Mr. Clark says he has sent to Phila. The corrected list of the prices of the Stamped envelopes, and that the notices to Washn. Balt. & Wilmington were Sent on the fourth of the promise of the Contractor that the supply would be ready on Saturday.

To the other points of your letter respecting the mailing, registration &c of Stamped envelopes & stamps I shall pay proper attention.

No order for envelopes has been received today & the Stamp order has just gone over to the Agent, having been by a mistake in the Post Office, placed in Mr. Clark's mail.

Very truly & respty Yours,
Jon Guest
Specl Agt.

P.S. I had expected to leave on Monday but I shall hardly be able to do so. Do me the favor of writing by return of mail, as the envelope business.

J.G.

[Docket]

Jona Guest
relative to Envelopes
of Toppan Carpenter & Co
and Enclosing their
letter to him
Aug 16th 1861.

623.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

No. 9.

Philada., Aug. 16th, 1861.

A.N. Zevely, Esq.,
3rd Asst. P.M. Genl.,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

We have this day made the final delivery of the balance of Postage Stamps on hand and forwarded to Washington, in Eighteen Mail Bags, 13,881,912 stamps. This amt together with those furnished yesterday (viz: 14,050,000) makes the total of 27,931,912 stamps as per our letter of the 15th inst.

The above stamps are made up as follows: viz:

4,320,208	Stamps of	1 cent	s
19,378,644	" "	3 "	
295,965	" "	5 "	s
360,495	" "	10 "	s
592,885	" "	12 "	s
2,658,875	" "	24 "	s
154,550	" "	30 "	s
<u>170,290</u>	" "	90 "	s
27,931,912			

Of the above there are 1,092 stamps put together in an envelope which belong to the Government on orders received; and which, from haste in some moment of pressure in making deliveries, were accidentally and at different intervals overlooked. Some of them are detached stamps from the sheets fallen off, perhaps, in carrying them from the vault to the packing room. They are of the following denominations, viz:

1,008	Stamps of	1 cent
44	" "	3 "
5	" "	5 "
10	" "	12 "
<u>25</u>	" "	10 "
1,092		

Had it been possible to have ascertained the orders to which they severally belonged they would have been forwarded; and we have held them carefully over subject to the call of any Post Master finding himself thus immaterially deficient.

These stamps we, therefore, deduct from the gross amount for which we present our claim on the Department, viz:

	27,931,912	Stamps
Less	<u>1,092</u>	"
Balance	27,930,820	@ 12 cts per M = \$3,351.70

Awaiting your instructions concerning our a/c for stamps delivered in accordance with regular orders up to the close of the Agency here, and desiring to know your wishes touching the envelopes, we submit the above a/c as a memorandum for the present, supposing that you will prefer us to make a single final a/c embracing all charges against the Department.

Trusting the above may meet with your entire approval, we remain,

Very Respectfully,
 Yr. Obt Servts,
 TOPPAN, CARPENTER & CO.

624. [National Postal Museum]

Philada. Aug 17, 1861

Jno. Guest Esq.
 Special Stamp Agent

Dear Sir:

Yr. favor of the 16th inst. rec'd. We received yesterday from Mr. Zevely, expressing great astonishment, a letter wherein he deems our surplus of 40,000 Envelopes "almost incredible." He is dissatisfied at the Contract made with us at Cost Price. Fearing that he could refuse to purchase our whole stock (of about 90,000) I offered them at once to him at \$50 less than I offered to you: for I do not disguise from you that these envelopes are almost worthless to us. On receipt of your favor of the 16th, stating that the National Co. would probably accept our offer at \$500 for the gross amt, I have at once written to Mr. Zevely, requesting his acquiescence in disposing of them to the National Co.

Trusting that Mr. Zevely will see proper to consent to this sale which is certainly advantageous to the National Co., I have the honor to remain

Very Resptfly

J. R. Carpenter
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Aug 17—1861

T C & Co matter

625. [National Postal Museum]

Philada Aug 17, 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl.
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

We have a letter from Mr. Guest today wherein he states that the National Co. will probably make us an offer for our whole stock of envelopes at the rate which we informed Mr. Guest we would accept for them viz \$500—In view of the great objection made by you to the Department accepting the envelopes we still further abated our demand for these, asking but \$450—Now, however, we beg to transfer the Envelopes to the National Co at the price stated to Mr. Guest. Our sacrifices have already been so great that we do not wish to make the least loss on our Stock on our hand. We trust that you will acquiesce in the proposition of the National Co.

Begging to hear from you at your early convenience re remain

Very Resptfly
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
relative to their Envelopes
Aug 17, 1861.

626. [National Postal Museum]

New York
19 Aug: 1861

My friend:

I am in rect. Of your note of 17th with enclosure, for which attention accept my thanks. In an unofficial manner , I will state in brief the closing the account with T. C. & Co. The stamps on hand amounted in round numbers to \$26,000,000 for which I entertain not a shadow of doubt they were entitled to be paid 16 ½ c per M amounting to, say

	\$4,290.—
deduct 4 1/2c per M	<u>1,170.</u>
	\$3,120.—

here is a saving to the Dept. of \$1170, the 40,000 envelopes the taking of which was necessary to the completion of the agreement cost about #370. Leaving still a gain to the Department of \$800, even if the envelopes were entirely useless. To have taken them under a distinct, separate agreement, would have been very unwise, but connected as they were with a more important item, I think it was a business like arrangement to accept them. As you know, I have no one object in view but to attend, faithfully, to the interests of the Dept., doing at the same time [doing] justice to those transacting its Business, Strict and impartial, a view which I am sure both Mr. Blair and yourself will concede in. A very large number of these envelopes may be used by the Dept. for covering papers to Postmasters &c and if you conclude not to use them, for the transmission of stamps, they might be applied to that purpose, at, I think, a saving to the Dept. I enclose a note recd. yesterday from Mr. Carpenter, not wishing to have anything approaching to private correspondence on the subject.

On Saturday, I explained the reason of Mr. Boyd's despatch, not agreeing with the statement in my letter. Mr. Steele had informed him that no order could be filled on Monday, but subsequently informed me, that he could have ready 200,000 ones & 300,000 threes, he having determined, as a matter of necessity, to work on Sunday—, hence the discrepancy between the Statements. I saw Mr. Nesbitt on the 17th, he assures me that during this week, the envelope business will be all regular. I find Mr. Boyd able and energetic, and Strictly attentive to his business. I have no [comment?] to pass nor improvement to suggest in the management of either Agency. Unless I receive communications from the Dept. requiring my longer Stay I propose leaving here on Tuesday eve or Wednesday morning—I am

Very Sincerely yrs
Jon Guest

A. N. Zevely Esq.

As I am earlier than the people here, I picked up the only sheet of paper I could find, which will account for the blots—I am better but still suffering from Sore throat.

J. G.

[Docket]

Jona. Guest
Spec'l Agent
Aug 19, 1861

Enclosing letter of Mr Carpenter
of the firm of Toppan Carpenter & Co

627. [National Postal Museum]

Philada.
23 Aug. 1861

Dear Sir:

I duly recd. your letter of 22d Inst.: via N. York, late last night. Finding myself compelled to attend to hastening the Envelopes to Mr. Boyd by visiting this City. I requested Mr. Boyd to read any official communication which might be addressed to me & to recall me, if necessary. On receipt of your letter Mr. Boyd stated its contents to Mr. McDonough "and arranged with him to have the packing done on the same terms as were awarded to Toppan, C. & Co." which will, I trust be satisfactory.

I have Stated the decision of the P. M. Genl. to receive the whole lot of 90,000 Envs. At \$450, and requested Toppan, Carpenter & Co to send the packages, by a freight train, to the Department, the packages are very large. I am,

Very Respfy,
Your Obt Servt.
Jon Guest

A. N. Zevely
3d Asst. P. M. Genl
Wash. D.C.

I expect to leave for Pittsburgh about Noon today as there seems no further occasion for my stay.

[Docket]

Jona Guest

relative to packing &c
of old Stamps &c
Aug 23, 1861

627A. [National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

[This document is a railroad form; printing on the form is in black, handwritten portions are in red. The conditions on the reverse ("boilerplate") are not reproduced.]

Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad Co.
FREIGHT OFFCE, PHILAD'A, WILM'N AND BALT. R. R.
Philadelphia, Aug 24 1861

MARKS AND NUMBERS.	<p>Received of Toppan Carpenter & Co Three Boxes Envelopes</p> <p>Marked and numbered as per margin, contents and value unknown, and To be transported to</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WASHINGTON,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">And delivered at the Company's Depot there, to A N. Zevely 3rd Asst Post Master Genl</p> <p>On payment of Freight therefor; and subject to the terms and conditions set forth upon the back of this Receipt, and also to those of the Com- pany's Printed Tariff.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">C. P. Dare</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Agent for the Philad'a, Wilmington and Baltimore R. R. Co.</i> [Phila?]</p>
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COMMENT: McElroy's 1861 City Directory shows: Dare Charles P., freight agent P. W. & B. R. R., h 1012 Shippen.

627B.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

Philad. Sep 9, 1861

A.N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. P. M. Gen'l
Dear Sir

It is with great surprise and regret that we learn from your favor of 7th inst, that you have not rec'd. the 50,000 Envelopes —

The enclosed receipt will show that they were forwarded by the Phil. Wil. & Balt. R Rd Co 16 days since — viz — on the 24th Augt. —

We made immediate enquiry at the RRd office here, and were informed that the Boxes were duly forwarded on the date of the receipt, and that they were doubtless now remaining at their Depot at Washington — if so, it appears very singular that their Agent did not deliver them immediately on their arrival —

Regretting the delay & any trouble that their detention may have caused you,

We are Very Resp. Yrs
Toppan Carpenter & Co

P.S.

The Boxes of Envelopes were forwarded during the absence of my son, which will account for your not having been duly advised at the time, which ought to have been done, but the person left in charge not being familiar with such matters was not aware of the necessity of giving notice & hence it was omitted —

Very Respectfully Yrs
S. H. Carpenter

[Docket]
S. H. Carpenter
Sep. 9, 1861.
as to boxes of envelopes

Recd. Sep. 10, '61.
Acknowld. 11. Sep

COMMENT: The receipt mentioned is document #627A, above.

627C.

[National Postal Museum, USPCS web site]

Philada Sept 12, 1861.

A. N. Zevely Esq
3rd Asst P. M. Genl.
Washington, D. C.

Sir;

On the 22nd ult we forwarded to D. M. Boyd, Stamp Agent, New York City, Three Boxes containing in all 40,000 Envelopes, of which 10,500 were Large Size and 29,500 Small Size; and on the 24th ult we forwarded to your address in Washington Three other Boxes containing 49,100 Envelopes in all, of which 8,000 were Large Size and the remaining 41,100 Small Size. Thus we have delivered in all to the Department 89,100 Envelopes, being the balance remaining in our hands at the close of our business relations with the Government,

Very Resptfly
Yr Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]
Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Sep. 12, 1861.
Delivd. to Dept & N.Y.
89,100 Envelopes

628.

[National Postal Museum]

Philada. Sept 20th 1861.

A. N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

We observe in the papers that the Department has found it necessary to continue the use of the "old" Stamps until within a very recent period; and we conclude therefore that further deliveries have been made of the Stamps forwarded to Washington D.C. on the 15th and 16th ult—

As it was expressly understood by us from Mr. Guest, Special Agent, that those stamps would be no longer used by the Department we consented to forego our just claim for the whole amount due upon them under the express stipulation of our contract. Under the present circumstances, however, we feel that we are doubly entitled to the full price for all the stamps furnished to the public, inasmuch as we printed and prepared every sheet of them not only with the knowledge and approval of the Government, but by its explicit and direct order; and, had we not done so, but printed merely enough for the actual supply up to the termination of our contract, the Government would have been in a very unfortunate condition, as not one of the new stamps was furnished for two months afterwards; and indeed, the new Contractors have not furnished a full supply until possibly within a day or two. Now after all our efforts to meet the wants of the Department and our precautions to prevent the possibility of an interruption to the regular and full supply of stamps we feel that we have an indisputably just claim for full payment for all stamps delivered: and how much more powerful that claim for all stamps actually used by the Government!—Indeed, if they were not all used it was from no fault of ours. We did our best (with the full knowledge and approval of the Department) to provide for a contingency which, had it happened, would have been of serious injury and immense inconvenience to the Government and the public; and, having done so, we cannot but think that, in all equity and justice, we are entitled to full pay according to our contract.

We beg you to submit this truthful exposition of facts to the candid consideration of the Post Master General, and we trust that he will acknowledge its force. The difference of price, while a matter of small moment to the Government, is of importance to us, in view of the entire destruction of our business caused by the transfer to other parties of a contract which we had most satisfactorily fulfilled for the Department for years past.

We have the honor to remain

Very Resptfly
Yr. Obt Servts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

No 10
Old Stamps

Toppan Carpenter & Co
Sept 20 1861.

Claim pay for old Stamps.

629.

[National Archives]

[Typed Copy]

Milwaukee Sept 23rd, 1861.

Hon A. N. Zevely
Third Asst. P M General
Washington D. C.

Sir:

Will you please inform me if I am to cancel and burn the old stamps and stamped envelopes at each of the offices named in your letter of May 31, 1861, after having ascertained the amount of each, and forwarded you a certificate.

Several Post Masters have inquired when I intended to enumerate, and burn the old style stamps, and stamped envelopes, they had on hand and had exchanged with other offices; not having received from you official instructions, could not designate the time, presuming you would notify me before taking the quarterly account at those offices named.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt

P. Van Vechten Jr.
Special Mail Agent.

630.

[Travers, [USPCS web site](#)]

P.O.D. Sept. 30, 1861.

On the 11th May 1861, a letter (No. 1) was addressed to Toppan, Carpenter & Co., late Contractors for furnishing postage stamps, requesting them to report the amount of stamps on hand, and to prepare a quarters supply, should they not already have that quantity. They replied on the 13th May (letter No. 2) that they had on hand 55,290,596 stamps, and that they would print no more, unless the Dep't. desired a further supply of certain denominations.

On the 22nd of June a communication (No. 3) was received from T.C. & Co. asking in view of the expiration of their contract, how to dispose of the postage stamps remaining in their hands, ready for delivery. To this the Department replied (letter 4) on the 25th directing them to continue to make daily deliveries to the Stamp Agent at Philadelphia, on the orders of the Dep't, until they were further advised. On the 27th of the same month they informed the Dep't (letter 5) that they would comply with those instructions and they accordingly continued to furnish stamps as directed until the removal of the Stamp Agency to New York on the 15th of August.

At this time Mr. Guest, Special Agent, who had been sent to Philadelphia to make a settlement with T.C. & Co., reported (letters 6 & 7) that an agreement had been made to pay that Firm 12 cents per thousand for the stamps remaining on hand. Messrs. T.C. & Co., at the same time, forwarded these stamps to the Department with a statement (letters 8 & 9) of their number which was 27,930,820, which at 12 cents per M is equal to \$3,351.70 and at the contract price .16 ½ per M, is equal to \$4,608.58 making a difference of \$1,256.88.

After distributing the new postage stamps from the N.Y. Agency to most of the larger post offices, it was found that, in consequence of the quantity required by them in exchange for the old issue, all the new stamps manufactured daily were absorbed by these offices. Hence the distribution of the old stamps to other post offices became, for a time, necessary, and of these 5,892,305 were sent out from the N.Y. Agency, and 150,000 were delivered to the P. Office of this City, making 6,042,305 in all. In a communication (No. 10) to this Dep't from T.C. & Co., dated Sept. 20, payment at the contract price is claimed for all stamps delivered by them, and especially for those used as above,

viz: 6,042,305, equal at 16 ½ per M, to \$996.98, and the remainder unused, at 12 cents per M, is equivalent to \$2,626.62; total \$3,623.60 instead of \$2,251.70. the amount at 12 cents per M, as agreed on, of all the stamps remaining in the hands of T.C. & Co., at the time of the removal of the Agency.

COMMENT: Pencil notations w/dates for letters 8 & 9 (3rd paragraph) “Aug 15-61” and “Aug 16-61,” resp.

631. [National Archives]

Post Office Department
Finance Office October 1st 1861.

Sir,

I enclose herewith a letter dropped in the New York Office, bearing a Spurious Stamp, together with the statements of Messrs. Boyd and Macdonough relative thereto.

Upon opening the letter, which is evidently written by a lady, I found the signature “May” without a surname; it will therefore be necessary to ascertain from the person addressed, who was the writer &c.

Various specimens of stamps, heretofore submitted by parties making proposals for furnishing stamps, are herewith transmitted in order that you may compare them with the one in question, for which you have facilities in New York which the Dept does not possess. As this stamp is printed on “proof paper,” it has perhaps been surreptitiously obtained from one of these parties, in which case but few of the same kind would be in existence. I commend this matter to your sound discretion.

Respectfully
A. N. Zevely
Third Asst. P. M. Genl

J. Holbrook Esq.
Spl. Agt P. O. D.
New York N.Y.

632. [National Archives]

P. O. Dept.
Oct. 3, 1861

Dear Sir

The Union Bank Note Co., Newark N.J., represented by J. W. Hayes, bid for stamps, but withdrew their specimens. I cannot remember whether they had any specimens of stamps, but think they had not—only heads & other samples of work.

Mr. McDonough, Secy National Bank Note Co. will readily decide whether the Spurious stamp enclosed to you, under yesterday’s date, can be traced by the specimens (also sent you) which were offered in 1851 or by those of later date. Please have all kept separate, as sent you. I can hardly believe that there is deliberate fraud in the case, the stamp in question appearing to be a poor impression & on India paper—without perforation. I hope you will find that it got out thro’ carelessness & was ignorantly used & that there is no reason to apprehend that impressions have been multiplied.

Yr. ob Servt

A. N. Zevely

J. Holbrook Esq.
Sp. Agt P.O. Dept.
New York

633.

[National Postal Museum]

Duplicate

Philada. Octo. 7, 1861

A. N. Zevely Esq.
3rd Asst. P. M. Genl
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

Your favor of 1st inst. is recd— We are happy to hear that you have determined to recommend to the Post Master Genl. the payment of the Contract price for the Postage Stamps delivered to the Department after the removal of the Agency—From what we have always believed of your sense of justice, we felt confident that after due consideration of all the facts of the case, you could not but admit our right to full payment—Every Stamp printed and furnished, was done by the express order and authority of the Department— we were as fully entitled to pay for every one of them as we ever had been for any others furnished under our Contract, and we never for one moment imagined (until suggested by Mr. Guest) that any deduction would be asked or expected for any Surplus which the Government might not use—

With reference to the Envelopes, we make no claim on the Government for their purchase, further than the consideration which a faithful performance of our duty to the Government under a very important Contract, involving Millions of dollars, during a period of 10 years might be supposed to entitle us, (provided it was perfectly consistent with the interests of the Government)—or in other words—at the expiration of our Contract we found on our hands 90,000 Envelopes which were of no value to us unless they were used by the Government.

They cost us \$900 and we offered them to the Government for \$450—If they cannot be used, we do not expect pay for them, but if they can be used, we submit to your consideration and that of the Post Master Genl. whether we are not entitled to some pay for them?

In conclusion, we are much in want of money & will be greatly obliged by a remittance at your earliest convenience.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Sts
Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[The following letter is written on the back of this letter dated Oct. 7, 1861]

October 25, 1861

Dear Sir

We send duplicate of our letter and account (original mailed here on the 7th inst) the non receipt of which we have just learned by your favor of 24th inst.

Hoping to have the pleasure of hearing from you
We are Very Respfy
Your Obt Svts
Toppan Carpenter & Co

A.N. Zevely Esqre
3rd Asst. Post Mr Genl.
Washington

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co.
25 Oct, '61

answd. Oct 28.

As to Stamps and
Envelopes on hand
at expiration of Contract.

634. [National Archives]

Philada. Octo 22, 1861

A. N. Zevely Esqr
3rd Asst. Post Mr. Genl.

Dear Sir,

We are much in want of money—Will you be so kind as to give attention to our a/c rendered 7th inst., and remit the amount at your earliest convenience.

And greatly oblige
Yours Very Rspf

Toppan, Carpenter & Co

[Docket]

Toppan, Carpenter & Co
Oct 22, 1861

Answered Oct 28, 61

635. [National Archives]

Post Office - Wheeling
Nov 25th 1861

Hon A. N. Zevely
3d Asst P. M. G.

Sir:

In obedience to your orders we months ago at this office wrote a/c of Old Style Stamps, & have ever since been waiting for the Spl Agt to come along & burn them.

They are really in our way, & we are anxious lest something might happen to lose or destroy some of them— notwithstanding they are packed in boxes in our vault.

Mr Spl Agt Jones, of Fairmont is here every few days—Would it be in order for him to count & burn the Stamps? We trust that it will please you to have him do so.

Vy tru Yrs

A. W. Campbell PM

[Docket]

P M Wheeling Va
Nov. 25, 1861
Relative to old Stamps

J. W. Jones directed to
Count and destroy old Stamps
At above office
Nov. 29, 1861

636. [National Archives]

Wheeling Post Office
December 9th 1861

Hon A. N. Zevely
3d Asst P. M. Genl.

Sir:

Some time ago I wrote you concerning the accumulation of Old exchanged Stamps in our office, desiring that Special Mail Agt Jones. of Fairmont, near here, might be deputed (?) to count & burn them.

We desire very much to get rid of them. I see by the report of the PMG that most of the large offices have got rid of theirs.

Very truly yrs

A. W. Campbell PM

637. [National Archives]

Post Office, New York
December 11th 1861

Sir:

There was on hand at this office on the 30th Ultimo, the following amount of Postage Stamps and Stamped Envelopes of the old issue, viz:

Stamps	\$29,717.34
Stamped Envelopes	<u>8,391.14</u>
	\$38,108.48

Their continued possession produces much inconvenience in consequence of the space they occupy, rendering it very difficult to safely accommodate the necessary Stock of the new style.

May I beg therefore to be instructed as to the disposition I may make of them, not only for the advantage of the room they occupy, but also in view of the complication they cause in the accounts of this department.

Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant

Wm. B. Taylor P.M.
pr H. W. Whiting
Cashier

A. N. Zevely Esq
3d Asst. P.M. General

638. [National Archives]

Syracuse N. York
December 16th 1861

Hon A. N. Zevely
Third Asst P. M. General

Sir

Mr H. J. Sedgwick late Post Master at this place has now on hand \$1426.35 of Stamps and \$580.17 of Stamped envelopes of the old issue: which his clerk desired me to destroy and give a certificate therefor. I declined to do so until I had been advised by you in relation to the matter. My instructions are to enumerate and destroy the Stamps on hand in the Post Offices and not in the hands of individuals. You will please communicate with me at Troy N York.

Very Respectfully
Your obt servant

R.O. Sidney
Special Agent P. O. Dept.

639. [National Archives]

Stamp Agents & Clerks

Philadelphia, Pa.

1855			
May 18	Jesse Johnson, Agt, @ salary of	\$1200.	
June 14	Edwin Lamasure, Assist. “	700.	
Dec. 20	Wm. H. Oakford, 2nd Assist “	700.	
1856			
Jan. 12	Saml. T. Durand 3rd Assist “	700.	
Jan. 18	Wm. Kelly, 4th Assist. “	700.	
March 10	G. W. Fox, vice Kelly removed “	700.	
Apr. 18	“ “ resigned, being apptd. Rout Agt. - place not filled		
Nov. 1	W. H. Oakford dispensed with, and, Jesse Johnson’s (agt) salary	\$1500.	
“	increased to		
“	E. Lamasure’s (1st Assist.), salary	900.	
“	increased to		
“	L.. L.. Durand’s (end Assist), salary	800.	
“	increased to		
1861			
April 1	Daniel M. Boyd, apptd Agt, vice J. Johnson	\$1500.	
	The two assistants remaining unchanged, until		
Aug. 10	The two assistants dispensed with and		
“	Agency removed to New York, N.Y. (continued on next page,		

The Stamped Envelope Agency, New York, N.Y.

was, previous to Aug. 1’60, under charge of Andre Froment at a salary of \$1500.
with T. H. Smith, assist, @ \$600.—& J. H. King, @ \$500. 1100.

1860			
Aug. 1	Agency with two clerks placed under charge of Monson Clark, already paid \$1200.—as Blank Agt., thus saving Froment’s salary	\$1500.	
Nov. 1	Registering taken from P.O. to Agency, saving one clk in P.O. @	<u>700.</u>	
		2,200.	
Nov. 1	M. Clark’s Salary increased to	200.	
	\$1400		
Nov. 1	T.. H. Smith’s Salary increased to	200.	
	\$700.—& King’s to \$600.		
	Total annual saving by these changes in 1860,	<u>\$1800.</u>	
1862			
Jan.	E. J. Olsen succeeds J. H. King		
Feb.	B. Clark apptd. Blank Agt., @ \$1200, vice M. Clark deceased, and		
Feb.	Envelope Agency united with Stamp Agency.	200.	
July 1	E. Lamasure @ \$300, vice Olsen @	300.	

Oct. 1	\$600 E. Lamasure dispensed with	<u>300.</u> \$2600.
1864 Mch. 1	D. M.. Boyd's Salary increased to \$300. \$1800.	
Nov. 1	T. H. Smith's Salary increased to 100. \$800.	
Nov. 1	S. W. Hewins apptd. additional @ <u>700.</u> \$700.	<u>1100</u>
	Net annual Saving since July, '60 Notwithstanding an increase of nearly 60 percent in the combined value of Stamps & envelopes issued in '64 over the issue of '60.	<u>1500</u>

Postage Stamp & Stamped Envelope
Agency, New York, N. Y.

1862 Feb. 21	D. M.. Boyd directed to take charge of Stamped Envelope Agency, and direction of the two clerks therein; viz T. H. Smith @ Salary of \$700. E. J. Olsen @ salary of 600. E. J. Olsen resigned	
July 1	E. Lamasure appt. vice Olsen @ 300.	
July 1	E. Lamasure resigned this salary stopped	
Oct. 1		
1864 March 1	D. M.. Boyd's Salary as Agt. \$1800. increased to	
Nov. 1	T. H. Smith's Salary as Assist. 800. increased to	
Nov. 1	S. W. Hewins appointed additional clerk @ 700.	
1865 June 9	S. W. Hewins appointed assist. vice \$800. T. H. Smith resigned	
June 9	W. W. Hewins apptd, vice S. W. 700. Hewins promoted	

[Docket]

Statistics of
Stamp & Envelope Agencies
1855 to 1865.

**Toppan, Carpenter Related Documents
Subsequent to 1861**

640.

[National Archives (?)]

Post Hospital,
Fort Wood, N.Y.
July 27th, 1869.

Sir:

I have the honor to request the following information in regard to Postage Stamps enclosed, if not inconsistent with the rules of your department & your own wishes.

When the stamps were issued?
For what purpose intended?
By whom issued?

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servant
H. C. Yarrow,
A. A. Surgeon, U.S.A.
Post Surgeon.

Postmaster Genl. U.S.A.
Washington, D.C.

641.

[National Archives]

July 30, 1869.

Sir:

Your communication of the 27th instant is received.

The blue stamp "Eagle" was used for prepaying city letters delivered by carrier. It was issued about November 17, 1851 and was **withdrawn** January 27th, 1852. It was very little used except in Philadelphia, Pa., and Cincinnati, Ohio.

The records of the Department do not contain any reference to the other stamp, "Postrider." It is supposed to have been issued by one of the numerous "City dispatch" companies locate in New York, The specimens are herewith returned.

Very respectfully,
W.H.H. Terrell,
Third Assist. P.M. General.

H. C. Yarrow,
Post Surgeon, Fort Wood,
New York.

COMMENT: It is incorrect that the Eagle carrier stamp was "withdrawn" 27 Jan 1852.. That was the date of the final delivery by TCC to the Department (#253), but stamps in stock were issued subsequently to the NY PM (#260, 265). Marron did ask that no more carriers stamps be printed on 28 Jan 1851. The last reference to a delivery was in #320, which said 40,000 were sent to the Washington, DC PM on 16 July 1853, and some to the Phila. PM before that.

642. [National Archives]
[Printed Circular]

Post Office Department
_____, 186__

To
_____ Route Agent

SIR:

For greater safety in the transmission of Postage Stamps and Stamped envelopes, and to facilitate the recovery thereof when they fail to reach their destination in due course of mail, you are directed to note upon your mail bills the registered number and address of each package of Stamps and box of Stamped Envelopes that may pass under your notice; and also to keep a record of the same in a book which you will procure for that purpose, in which you will enter the name of the person to whom you deliver such package or box, and from whom you will be careful to take a receipt therefor. Should you fail to receive from the Department a mail bill for noting the pouches of mail matter placed in your charge, you will make such entry in the above-mentioned book.

Instructions have been given to the Distributing and Separating Post Offices to keep a correct account of all packages of Stamps and boxes of Stamped Envelopes bagged to the various railroads; and the Special Agents of this Department are directed to examine, from time to time, the records of the Route Agents, and to report any failure on the part of the latter to comply with the terms of this circular.

Very respectfully,
Chief Clerk Post office Department.

643. [Travers, USPCS web site]

P.O. Dept., Wash. D.C.,
Nove. 12, 1873.

The following plates, &c were rec'd by me from the Supt. of the U.S. Mint at Philada and transferred to the custody of D. M. Boyd, Esq., Stamp Agent, New York.

One Cent stamp	8	plates
3 " "	21	"
5 " "	2	"
10 " "	2	"
12 " "	3	"
24 " "	1	"
30 " "	1	"
90 " "	1	"

"Franklin" Carrier"	"	1	"
Eagle	"	1	"
Total		41	plates

also 24 rolls, 10 dies, and 20 broken and cancelled plates of various denominations.

Wm. M. Ireland.
Chf. Clk.

COMMENT: *Two copies on the USPCS web site, both appended to the bottom of p. 2 of #620 (Aug 1861). A separate copy has not been seen in 1873 files.*

644. [National Archives]

May 16, 1876.

Mr. Jos. J. Casey,
New York City.

Sir:

Your letters of Apl. 29th ult. and 13 inst. received.

The first "Carrier" stamp (Head of Franklin) was issued in September, 1851, but was almost immediately suppressed. The second (Eagle) appeared in November of same year.

The information you desire about the precise date - day, month and year - of issue of the several postage stamps cannot be furnished - it is not in any condensed or compiled form but scattered through the records of the office. To furnish it would require an examination of several hundred volumes of record and letter-books, to make which the office has no clerical force to spare.

The six-cent envelope (small oval) issued in October 1860 was in actual use until after the commencement of hostilities in Apr. 1861 and in a few parts of the country was used until September 1861. It was issued in both letter and official size.

Respectfully,
E.W. BARBER
Third Asst. P.M. General.

(Letter Book 112, page 872.)

COMMENT: *Pres. Grant appointed Edward W. Barber Third Asst. PMG in March 1873 at the beginning of his second administration. He succeeded W. H. H. Terrell, who had replaced Zevely in 1869.*

645. [National Archives]

104 East 11th St. N. Y.
March 2, 1877

Hon John Sherman
United States Senate

Sir,

On the 6th of April 1860 the Senate on the motion of Senator Collamer (Mr. Yulee in the chair)...legalized the insertion of the name and address of writers of letters on the Envelope. I am the man who submitted that plan to Post M. G. Holt on the 30th of June previously (1859). I gave it into his own hands at the Post Office.

Mr. Holt made a special report in one month after the Bill was passed namely on the 7th of May to the Senate but he did not mention my name in any way connected with it he said in substance that the permission was heretofore given by the P. Genl. to the public to insert their names and residence, on the sealed side of their letters but that they did not avail themselves of the privilege, it was consequently dropped from the regulations he did not expect they would now adopt it but it was the only way it could be hoped Dead Letters could be lessened. At the time the law was passed the Senate and the Country were seeking how to reduce the Dead letters and their enormous enclosures so injurious to the public (at the time 100,000,000 letters did not pass through the Post offices of the United States, now 700,000,000 do: in 1860 five million letters with their valuable enclosures were sent to the Dead Letter office in 1876 there was not an accumulation of four million without the law of 1860 it is reasonable to suppose that 35,000,000 Dead letters would go to the Dead letter office in 1876 correspondence having increased seven fold.

I respectfully direct your attention to the Special report of 7th May 1860 to the Senate and appeal to you whether it was legal by any regulation of the P. M. Genl without the sanction of Congress to give liberty to the writer of a letter to insert his name or address or any sign or mark on the Cover of his letter but granting the P. M. Genl. had the power it was inoperative and dropped from the regulation, am I not then who brought it to life entitled to some compensation for my services.

Senator Ramsey was my friend and I would be compensated but Post M. Genl. Creswell wrote to him that my plan was already known.

in the beginning after the last Session of Congress I wrote a petition myself and sent it to Senator Hamlin he is no good he wrote me a post Card that my Petition was dismissed without a hearing

If I have done a public service why not compensate me I joined the Union Defence Committee who were in great measure the preservers of the Union I gave in aid of the cause. Snr Fish Mr. Astor W. Blatchford and others recommended me to Mr. Taylor the Post M of New York I gave a portion of my Salary to raise men for the Union I voted for Prest. Lincoln for Prest. Grant and need not say for Prest. Hayes all of which should be of no avail if seeking for services which I did not perform

I heard of the death of poor Mr. Reese with regret he lived in 4 ½ St he received me kindly but also I could not return it.

I am Sir
most respectfully yours

Matthew Callaghan

[Docket]

Mch 2/77
Callaghan, Matthew

Refer to P. M. Genl
John Sherman

646.

[Travers]

Proofs

Issue of	Die Proofs	Cardboard Proofs	Date Ordered
1851-55	85 Sets ('03)	200 Sets	Aug. 16, 1877
		500 Sets	Aug. 11, 1879
		1000 Sets	July 25, 1882
		500 Sets	Oct. 22, 1870
		500 Sets	Jan. 13, 1893
		500 Sets	Feb. 9, 1894
1857-60		200 Sets	Aug. 16, 1877
		500 Sets	Aug. 11, 1879
		1000 Sets	July 25, 1882
		500 Sets	Oct. 22, 1870
		500 Sets	Jan. 13, 1893
		500 Sets	Feb. 9, 1894