



# Smithsonian

*National Postal Museum*

## Arthur M. Travers Collection of Original Post Office Documents and Typewritten Copies

Prepared by Cheryl R. Ganz, Chief Curator of Philately; Michael Plett, Assistant Curator; Ken Gilbert, Assistant Curator, March 2014; and Kristin Clark, Intern, 1997. Edits by Mitch Toda, Head Archivist, December 2024-February 2025

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Postal Museum Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Arthur M. Travers Collection of Original Post Office Documents and Typewritten Copies
<b>Date:</b>	1847-1910
<b>Identifier:</b>	NPMA.2025.1
<b>Extent:</b>	10.76 Cubic feet (19 (nineteen) letter size document boxes; 2 (two) half letter size document boxes; 2 (two) 11 x 17 inch boxes; 1 (one) 16 x 20 box; and 2 (two) 4 x 6 inch boxes.)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The Arthur M. Travers Collection of Original Post Office Documents and Typewritten Copies consists of over 4,000 pages related to the production of United States postage stamps from 1847 to 1910.
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Image(s): On March 8, 1851, the postmaster general had written to six prominent engraving firms in the United States, including Rawdon, Wright, Hatch &amp; Edson, inviting them to bid on the new contract for the production of postage stamps and to submit proposed designs for the new 3-cent stamp. This letter is the indignant reply of Rawdon, Wright, Hatch &amp; Edson, refusing to enter into the competition for the new 3-cent stamp unless the cost of producing a new die is covered by the Department, regardless of whether they win the competition or not. They complain that the costs of producing the 5-cent and 10-cent plates have not been covered by the minimal profits associated with producing stamps from them. They will not furnish future stamps at rates lower than they are currently receiving.</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

The Arthur M. Travers Collection of Original Post Office Documents and Typewritten Copies consists of multiple accessions from different donors over several years as well as several items found in collections.

Arthur M. Travers entered service with the Post Office Department (POD) in 1889 at Detroit, Michigan. In 1901 he moved to Washington, D.C. after being appointed Confidential Clerk to Edwin Madden, a fellow Detroitier who was the Third Assistant Postmaster General. Two years later, he became the Chief Clerk, holding that position until he was dismissed from the service in 1911. While Chief Clerk, he served as Acting Third Assistant Postmaster General during the absence of the incumbent.

The office of the chief clerk of the Third Assistant Postmaster General contained an enormous amount of documents including: Letter-books, January 1, 1850—December 23, 1887 (20 vols.); press copies, May 11, 1859, to 1907 (about 1,000 vols.); index to letter-books, July 1863, to 1907 (42 vols.), before 1863 each letter-book contained its own index; register of letters received, January 2, 1864, to 1907 (62 vols.); and record of registered matter received, March 3, 1883, to 1907 (8 vols.). [Claude Halstead

Van Tyne and Waldo Gifford Leland, *Guide to the Archives of the Government of the United States in Washington*, Second Edition (Washington: The Carnegie Institution of Washington: 1907), 166-167.] As a stamp collector from an early age, Travers took it upon himself, along with the assistance of his staff, to search through the materials in the office of the Third Assistant Postmaster and aggregate documents amounting to over 400,000 individual papers that would be of interest to philately in some way before their destruction. [*The Philatelic Gazette*, (December 15, 1910), Vol. 1, #4, 66.]. These materials were in the process of being collated by subjects with the intention of being published.

By the end of 1910, after a multitude of months of intensive work by Travers and his staff, a great amount of official Post Office Department documents relating to philatelic matters had been identified and transcribed by typewriter or summarized in preparation for the work, which was to be titled "United States Postage Stamps: A Compilation of the Official Historical Records." Nine manuscript pages of the introduction to this work had been completed, when Travers was charged with the unlawful disposal of stamps while they were in his custody when he was the Acting Third Assistant Postmaster General. Travers had stolen part or all of 200 blue paper experimental sheets of paper examples of each denomination (1-cent and 2-cent regular issue of 1908 and the 2-cent Lincoln commemorative issue) that were scheduled for destruction and gave them to Joseph A. Steinmetz of the Philadelphia Stamp Company for sale. For his service, Travers was to receive a "commission" of \$1500. [Stanley M. Bierman, "Joseph A. Steinmetz," *More of the World's Greatest Stamp Collectors* (Sidney, Ohio: *Linn's Stamp News*, 1990), 17.]

After his dismissal from the POD in 1911 and conviction in 1912, Travers and his manuscript disappeared from the philatelic world. He fell back on his legal training. After practicing law for a time, in 1917 he was employed by the Commerce and Industry Association of New York as the manager of its legislative service in Albany and New York City. He retired in 1941, moved to Clearwater, Florida, in 1946, and died there on December 8, 1951, at age 81. Apparently he did not revisit his work with the Post Office documents. His original intention was to publish them in a public document, which he could not do after he was dismissed from the Post Office. The "Travers Papers" were government property and presumably held by the POD or destroyed by them.

Information about what may have happened to the Travers manuscript and the original records upon which it had been based first appeared in 1913, when Steinmetz mounted a campaign to acquire the Visitors' Cup for his exhibit at the 1913 International Philatelic Exhibition in New York City. In an effort to influence the voting on the Cup, he published a pamphlet describing the exhibit, titled 1913 International Philatelic Exhibition: Steinmetz Miscellany. The most remarkable part of the exhibit consisted of copies of letters between the Post Office Department and the engraving firm of Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear, and Co., concerning the stamps produced by that company for the government. The text of these letters was illustrated by examples of the stamps, proofs, and essays described in them. These letters were part of the Travers Papers, but Steinmetz did not acknowledge their source, nor did he say if these were all he had. He never published any more of the Papers. Steinmetz died on July 11, 1928.

It was not until 1948 that any interest was expressed in print over the fate of the original documents on which the Travers manuscript had been based. In that year Clarence W. Brazer published his Essay Proof Journal article that contained Travers' "Outline" of his project. Brazer had acquired this document along with the Lawyer's File from the Steinmetz estate through stamp dealer Eugene Klein. In this article he described his search for the original documents and his eventual success in locating them in the Post Office Department library:

Mr. Klein some 20 years ago told me about these letters, some of which Steinmetz published as to the 1851-60 issue in 1913, but I was told the government agents seized most of the letters when he was arrested. I tried to trace these letters at the P.O.D. but was then informed that they must have been destroyed. However, when the P.O.D. moved from the old to the new buildings about 10 or more years ago a vault was opened and most of the original contracts and letters were then found. I made influential contacts and was then permitted to copy the contracts, some of which I have published. Some of the letters are now filed in bundles in the P.O.D. Library and last year I searched these and copied many of

them, but they are not in order and only a comparatively scattered few were then available . . . [Clarence W. Brazer, "Two Lost Manuscripts on U.S. Essays and Proofs," *The Essay Proof Journal* (July 1948), 144.].

Subsequent inquiry at both the Post Office Department and the National Archives and Records Administration indicated that neither of these institutions had any such letters or contracts at that time. No one doubted Brazer, but the assumption again was that these had been destroyed in the interim.

It is now clear that these originals survived into the 1950s at the Post Office Department. At that time Stanley Hodziewich, now deceased, was an employee of the Department. He has written that one day he came upon these papers dumped in a hallway, slated for destruction. With the permission of his superiors, he retrieved them and eventually passed them to a philatelic scholar.

Then, in 1993 the 747th auction catalog of the Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc. contained the following lot:

#### THE PAPERS OF A. M. TRAVERS

1150 United States Postage Stamps. A Compilation of the Official Historical Records from 1840 to 1910. By A. M. Travers. Mr. Travers was Chief Clerk, Third Assistant Postmaster General, and his 80-year old unpublished manuscript, consisting of many hundreds of typed and hand-written pages, never really progressed beyond the raw data stage, nevertheless it offers the student a rare opportunity to organize and interpret, with possibly a discovery or two waiting to be made. Offered for the first time.

These were acquired by Jack Rosenthal in 1993, a prominent philatelic scholar, who has served as Chair of the Philatelic Foundation and Chair of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee of the United States Postal Service, and in 2009 were donated to the National Postal Museum (Accession no. 2008.2028). Jack Rosenthal and his sons Michael, Robert and Richard, selected the National Postal Museum for donation of the balance of these Travers Papers. The donation was made in honor of Tom Alexander and in memory of Wilson Hulme, in recognition of their research efforts.

The Rosenthal archive contains multiple copies of many of Travers' typed letters, the beginning draft of his projected book, his research notes and what appear to be all of his manuscript analyses and spread sheets. Very few of the letters are typed on the linen sheets described by Travers. It does not have a uniform number of copies of each item. In addition, the National Archives has a number of letters that are not in the Rosenthal typescripts. These may have been overlooked by Travers in his sorting routine or perhaps were thought by him not to be of sufficient importance to copy. All of these circumstances taken together make it certain that the Papers as they existed when Travers had them have been selectively plundered over the years. The National Postal Museum is very interested in recovering as much of this material as possible. Please contact the Curator of Philately if you have some to share with the philatelic community.

Additional accessions of Travers Papers include:

Accession 1986.0573.807, Found in Collection

Accession 1997.2001, Gift of George W. Brett in memory of Stanley Hodziewich. Brett donated Travers papers about the 1847 first issue. He credited Stanley Hodziewich for saving the documents from destruction, even though he did not realize the significance of what he was saving.

Accession 1997.2003.6, Found in Collection

Accession 1997.2003.7, Found in Collection

Accession 2009.2034.72, Found in the George W. Brett Papers and Documents

On November 20, 2024, the multiple accessions that make up the Arthur M. Travers Collection of Original Post Office Documents and Typewritten Copies were transferred to the National Postal Museum Archives.

## Related Materials

Digitized content from this collection is also currently available on the website of the [U.S. Philatelic Classics Society](#).

## Processing Information

Initial processing by Cheryl R. Ganz, Chief Curator of Philately; Michael Plett, Assistant Curator; Ken Gilbert, Assistant Curator; and Kristin Clark, Intern.

As of February 2025, the collection is currently being processed by Mitch Toda, Head Archivist, and the finding aid will be updated periodically. Some of the boxes included in the collection have not been processed.

The National Postal Museum would like to acknowledge the United States Philatelic Classics Society, and the following individuals: Tom Alexander, James A. Allen, John Barwis, George Brett, Michael Devaney, W. Wilson Hulme II, Bill Lommel, Elizabeth Heydt, M. T. Sheahan, and Richard Winter for their assistance with the Arthur M. Travers Collection of Original Post Office Documents and Typewritten Copies.

## Preferred Citation

Arthur M. Travers Collection of Original Post Office Documents and Typewritten Copies, NPMA.2025.1, National Postal Museum, Smithsonian Institution

## Restrictions

Collection is open for research. Access to original archival materials is by appointment only. Researchers must submit request for appointment in writing. Please direct reference inquiries to the National Postal Museum Archives: [NPM\\_Archives@si.edu](mailto:NPM_Archives@si.edu).

## Conditions Governing Use

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## Biographical / Historical

The Arthur M. Travers Collection of Original Post Office Documents and Typewritten Copies consists of over 4,000 pages related to the production of United States postage stamps from 1847 to 1910.

The *Guide to the Archives of the Government of the United States in Washington* of the Carnegie Institution of Washington gives some idea of the enormous number of documents in the office of the chief clerk of the Third Assistant Postmaster General as late as 1907:

1. Letter-books, January 1, 1850 - December 23, 1887 (20 volumes); press copies, May 11, 1859, to date (about 1,000 volumes)
2. Index to letter-books, July 1863, to date (42 volumes). Before 1863 each letter-book contained its own index
3. Register of letters received, January 2, 1864, to date (62 volumes)
4. Record of registered matter received, March 3, 1883, to date (8 volumes) [Claude Halstead Van Tyne and Waldo Gifford Leland, *Guide to the Archives of the Government of the United States in Washington*, Second Edition (Washington: The Carnegie Institution of Washington: 1907), 166-167.]

The *Guide* also mentioned the card index "to all important material maintained in the office of the chief clerk," which was prepared by Arthur M. Travers. These documents were not saved except for some papers in the National Archives and Records Administration and the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum.

The key figure in the preservation of these records and their subsequent disappearance is Arthur M. Travers. He was born in Port Huron, Michigan, on May 29, 1870, and he became a stamp collector at an early age. Even though educated as a lawyer, his collecting interest led him to seek employment at the Post Office Department. He entered service in 1889 at Detroit, Michigan. In 1901 he moved to Washington, D.C. after being appointed Confidential Clerk to Edwin Charles Madden, a fellow Detroitier who was the Third Assistant Postmaster General. Two years later, he became the Chief Clerk, holding that position until he was dismissed from the service in 1911. While Chief Clerk, he served as Acting Third Assistant Postmaster General during the absence of the incumbent.

His position put him in constant touch with collectors and dealers who wrote to the Third Assistant Postmaster General for data about postage stamps, and his plan soon became well known. On December 15, 1910, *The Philatelic Gazette* published a congratulatory note [*The Philatelic Gazette*, (December 15, 1910), Vol. 1, #4, 66.]:

#### Old Correspondence

Mr. Arthur M. Travers, Acting Third Assistant Postmaster General, deserves the gratitude of all serious philatelists for the work in which he is now engaged. A vast aggregation of old correspondence amounting to over 400,000 individual papers have been carefully searched before being destroyed for records which might be of interest to philately in some way. All of these are being collated according to subjects, and will some day be available for publication. Mr. Travers is in fact engaged in compiling statistics and data [from] the postal records which will be of great interest to philatelists.

By the end of 1910, after a multitude of months of intensive work by both Travers and his staff, a great amount of official Post Office Department documents relating to philatelic matters had been identified and transcribed by typewriter or summarized in preparation for the work, which was to be titled "United States Postage Stamps: A Compilation of the Official Historical Records." Nine manuscript pages of the introduction to this work had been completed when circumstances prevented the continued work on the publication.

A flaw in Travers' character seems to have been a disregard of the impropriety of self-dealing as a government official. Travers continued as an avid collector of United States stamps after his employment in the office of the Third Assistant Postmaster General. The official in this position was responsible for the contracting for stamp production and distribution. Travers frequently received specimens as gifts from other government officials and employees. When the Department was in possession of multiple copies of a particular specimen, he seems not to have hesitated to appropriate one or more examples for himself, although he sometimes claimed these were for illustrations in his proposed publication. He also fell into the trap of accepting stamps for his collection from collector/dealers (particularly Joseph A. Steinmetz of Philadelphia) and giving in exchange duplicates from the files of the Department.

In early 1909, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing began experiments with a different kind of paper for printing stamps. The goal was to correct perforation problems with the regular wood pulp paper caused by uneven shrinkage during the printing process. This experimental paper had a 30 percent rag content, which gave it a bluish-gray cast. Initially, the paper was used to print a limited number of sheets of the current 1-cent and 2-cent regular issue of 1908, as well as the 2-cent Lincoln commemorative issue. These sheets on the experimental paper were sent out for normal distribution to post offices, the Bureau considering them not particularly distinctive. Collectors, however, were of a different mind. When the experimental nature of the paper became known, there was a furor as they attempted to obtain copies for their collections, and prices naturally escalated rapidly.

The generally accepted version of the story is that Steinmetz used his friendship with Travers to persuade him to steal part or all of the 200 blue paper examples of each denomination that were scheduled for destruction. He was to give them to Steinmetz for sale through the Philadelphia Stamp Company. For performing this service, Travers was to receive a "commission" of \$1,500. [Stanley M. Bierman, "Joseph A. Steinmetz," *More of the World's Greatest Stamp Collectors* (Sidney, Ohio: Linn's Stamp News, 1990), 17.]

On March 6, 1911, Travers was dismissed as the Chief Clerk to the Third Assistant Postmaster General and was arrested by Post Office Inspectors, charged with the unlawful disposal of stamps while they were in his custody when

he was the Acting Third Assistant Postmaster General. Also on that day, Postmaster General Frank H. Hitchcock issued the following statement [*Philadelphia Stamp News*, (March 17, 1911) Vol. 1, No. 51, 1.]:

Postmaster General Hitchcock issued an order today dismissing from the service Arthur M. Travers, chief clerk to the Third Assistant Postmaster General. This dismissal is the result of an investigation initiated by the postmaster-general over a year ago, which culminated yesterday in Mr. Travers' confession to post office inspectors that he had been guilty of dishonest practices in the disposal of valuable postage stamps.

Mr. Travers' offense consisted in causing certain stamps to be manipulated so as to create fictitious market value. In his official capacity he caused to be delivered to himself certain rare stamps of great value and falsified the records of his office by certifying that a portion of these stamps were legally destroyed after condemnation. Instead of having them destroyed, however, he withheld them and substituted stamps in current use to an amount equal to those condemned, disposing of the obsolete issue at a very large profit. While the philatelic value of the stamps so disposed of exceeded \$10,000; the government has suffered no pecuniary loss because of Mr. Travers' manipulations in substituting stamps of current issue to the face value of those he sold to dealers.

The case was presented to a grand jury and on April 3, 1911, indictments were handed down in two cases—one against Travers alone and one against both Travers and Steinmetz as co-conspirators. Each of the defendants pleaded not guilty.

A year and a half after the indictments were handed down, Travers and his attorney apparently negotiated a plea bargain with the prosecutor under which Travers agreed to pay a fine of \$1,500. This was the amount he had received from Steinmetz for the blue paper stamps he had appropriated. The deal was made in October 1912, and on October 29th, the prosecutor entered a nolle prosequi (an action by which he declared that he would no longer prosecute), ending the case against Travers.

In 1912, after his conviction, Travers and his manuscript disappeared from the philatelic world. He fell back on his legal training. After practicing law for a time, in 1917 he was employed by the Commerce and Industry Association of New York as the manager of its legislative service in Albany and New York City. He retired in 1941, moved to Clearwater, Florida, in 1946, and died there on December 8, 1951, at age 81. Apparently, he did not revisit his work with the Post Office documents. His original intention was to publish them in a public document, which he could not do after he was dismissed from the Post Office. The "Travers Papers" were government property and presumably held by the Post Office Department or destroyed by them.

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It was not until 1948 that any interest was expressed in print over the fate of the original documents on which the Travers manuscript had been based. In that year Clarence W. Brazer published his Essay Proof Journal article that contained Travers' "Outline" of his project. Brazer had acquired this document along with the Lawyer's File from the Steinmetz estate through stamp dealer Eugene Klein. In this article he described his search for the original documents and his eventual success in locating them in the Post Office Department library:

Mr. Klein some 20 years ago told me about these letters, some of which Steinmetz published as to the 1851-60 issue in 1913, but I was told the government agents seized most of the letters when he was arrested. I tried to trace these letters at the POD. but was then informed that they must have been destroyed. However, when the POD. moved from the old to the new buildings about 10 or more years ago a vault was opened and most of the original contracts and letters were then found. I made influential contacts and was then permitted to copy the contracts, some of which I have published. Some of the letters are now filed in bundles in the POD. Library and last year I searched these and copied many of them, but they are not in order and only a comparatively scattered few were



then available . . . [Clarence W. Brazer, "Two Lost Manuscripts on U.S. Essays and Proofs," *The Essay Proof Journal* (July 1948), 144.].

It is clear that these originals survived into the 1950s at the Post Office Department. At that time Stanley Hodziewich, now deceased, was an employee of the Department. He has written that one day he came upon these papers dumped in a hallway, slated for destruction. With the permission of his superiors, he retrieved them and subsequently passed them to a philatelic scholar. The materials that Hodziewich saved were sold at auction and were eventually donated to the National Postal Museum.

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## Content Description

The Arthur M. Travers Collection of Original Post Office Documents and Typewritten Copies consists of over 4,000 pages related to the production of United States postage stamps from 1847 to 1910. Materials include correspondence between the printing firm Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson, the Postmaster General and Assistant Postmaster Generals and others related to the history of the production, sale and use of the first federal stamps; copies of many of Travers' typed letters; the beginning draft of his projected book; his research notes and what appear to be all of his manuscript analyses and spread sheets; postal stationery; and materials related to Cuba, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, and the Philippines.

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## Arrangement

This collection is arranged into nineteen series.

Series:

- Series 1: United States Stamps of 1847, 1845-1851
- Series 2: United Stamps to 1910, 1847-1910
- Series 3: United States Commemorative Stamps and Special Purpose Postage, 1898-1907
- Series 4: Postal Stationery Contracts and Correspondence, 1870s-1880s
- Series 5: Postal Stationery and Cuba Correspondence, 1870s-1880s, 1901
- Series 6: United States Stamps, 1851-1877
- Series 7: United States Stamps, 1881-1889
- Series 8: United States Stamps, 1891-1895
- Series 9: United States Stamps, 1896-1903
- Series 10: Stamps Shipped and Attorney General Opinions, 1851-1877
- Series 11: United States Postal Cards, 1871-1873
- Series 12: United States Postal Cards, April 1 to May 23, 1873
- Series 13: United States Postal Cards, May 24, 1873 to January 6, 1896
- Series 14: United States Stamped Envelopes, 1874-1896
- Series 15: United States Stamped Envelopes, 1898-1902
- Series 16: Cuba Stamps, 1893-1904
- Series 17: Cuba Stamped Envelopes, 1899-1902
- Series 18: Puerto Rico and Hawaii, 1899-1900
- Series 19: Philippines, 1899-1904

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## Bibliography

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Carr, Timothy and Francis Duncan. "Local Mail Posts in the United States". *The Penny Post*, (July 1997) Vol. 7, No. 3.

Cullinan, Gerald. *The Post Office Department*. New York: Frederick A. Praeger, 1968.

Goodwin, Frank Elbert. *The 1847 issue of United States stamps*. Columbus: Linn, 1913.

Griffiths, William H. *The Story of American Bank Note Company*. New York: American Bank Note Company, 1959.

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Leech, Daniel Tompkins. *The Post Office Department of the United States of America*. New York: Amo Press, 1976.

Luff, John N. *The Postage Stamps of the United States*. New York: The Scott Stamp & Coin Co., Ltd., 1902.

Saadi, Wade. "The 5c and 10c General Issue of 1847". *American Philatelist*, (March 1997) Vol. 111, No. 3.

Scheele, Carl H. *A Short History of the Mail Service*. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1970.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

### Subjects:

- Postage stamps -- Forgeries
- Postage stamps -- United States -- History
- Postage-stamp printing
- Stamp collecting

### Names:

- American Bank Note Company
- Bank of Manchester
- Blazer, Clarence W.
- City Despatch Post
- Commerce and Industry Association of New York
- Hitchcock, Frank H. (Frank Harris), 1867-1935
- Hodziewich, Stanley
- Hussey's Post of New York City
- International Philatelic Exhibition (1913 : New York, N.Y.)
- Johnson, Cave, 1793-1866
- Klein, Eugene
- Madden, Edwin Charles
- Morris, Robert H. (Robert Hunter), 1802-1855
- National Postal Museum (U.S.)
- Philadelphia Stamp Company
- Polk, James K. (James Knox), 1795-1849
- Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson
- Steinmetz, Joseph A.
- Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear, and Co.

Travers, Arthur M.  
United States Postal Service -- History  
United States. Bureau of Engraving and Printing  
United States. National Archives and Records Administration

Places:

Cuba  
Hawaii  
Philippines  
Puerto Rico

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## Container Listing

### United States Stamps of 1847, 1845-1851

Biographical / Historical: The first federally issued postage stamps in the United States were available for sale to the public on July 1, 1847. Prior to this date, postage stamps were in existence; however, they were not endorsed by the federal government. They were generally known as "locals" or "provisionals".

Local stamps were issued by private mail companies or independent carriers, such as Hussey's Post of New York City, between the years 1840 and 1890. It was not unusual for the private companies to provide more services for customers, and at lower rates, than the Post Office Department. For instance, in addition to selling stamps, many companies offered to pick up and deliver mail more than one time during the same day. The drawback to local stamps was that they were usually only valid for deliveries within the city in which the stamps were issued.

Until 1845, different postage rates were charged for varying distances and weight throughout the country making the postage process complicated and often rather expensive. The high cost of sending mail meant that most of the material carried by the Post Office Department was related to business or legal matters. On March 3, 1845 an Act of Congress called for uniform postal letter rates across the nation which generated a greater interest in the general public for sending mail. Postage rates were lowered and simplified. As a result, postmasters began to issue provisional stamps. They were more official than local stamps, but only valid as payment for postage at the post office where they had been issued.

It is interesting to note that stamps were not the required method of paying for postage, which is perhaps one of the most likely reasons for the length of time that it took before the federal government issued stamps. A person might pay cash at the time a letter was mailed or send the letter expecting the person who would receive the letter to pay for the postage.

By not requiring the prepayment of postage, the Post Office Department lost a considerable amount of money. Since mail was not delivered directly to people's homes as it is today, it was up to each individual to go to the post office and find out if they had mail. Many people did not claim their mail and the postage was never paid. Federal postage stamps were much more convenient than the locals or provisionals because they could be used anywhere in the country at anytime. However, their usage was not required on domestic mail until January 1, 1856. Therefore, the problem of unpaid postage continued even after federal stamps were issued.

In March 1847 Congress approved "an Act to establish Post Roads and other purposes." Stamps were one of the "other purposes" mentioned in the Act and the Postmaster General was granted the power to authorize the production and sale of postage stamps. Cave Johnson, who had previously served as President James K. Polk's campaign manager, was the Postmaster General at that time. He entered into a contract with the engraving company Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson of New York City for the printing of the first issue of federal stamps.

Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson, which later became part of the American Bank Note Company in 1858, was one of the most prominent engraving companies and had long been employed in printing bank notes and other security documents. The first instance of the firm printing postage stamps was in 1842, when it was employed to print stamps for the City Despatch Post, which was a private mail company in New York. In 1845, when provisional stamps were authorized, Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson printed postage stamps for Robert H. Morris, Postmaster of New York City.

These experiences most likely led to their contract with the Post Office Department. Their contract was an open agreement for an unspecified amount of time. The ambiguous nature of the contract

ensured misunderstandings between Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson and the Post Office Department. As a result, the 1847 five- and ten-cent issues were the only stamps the firm printed for the Post Office Department.

Both of the stamps featured portraits of renowned Americans, which were taken from stock dies used to produce bank notes for the Bank of Manchester in Michigan. The five-cent stamp featured Benjamin Franklin and a ten-cent stamp bore the likeness of George Washington. Benjamin Franklin was chosen due to his role as the "father" of the United States postal system and George Washington because he was the "father" of the nation.

Scope and  
Contents:

This series consists of forty-six letters ranging in date from 1847 to 1851. Much of the correspondence consists of letters between Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson and the Post Office Department, and also between different Postmasters and individuals throughout the country and the Post Office Department.

The materials document the historic first issuance of federal postage stamps. The correspondence traces the business relationship between Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson and the Post Office Department from the time the contract for the first Federal stamps was entered into in 1847, until the steel dies used to produce the stamps were destroyed in 1851. The letters contain information regarding the terms of the contract, when the first stamps were prepared and ready for delivery, and the destruction of the steel dies. The correspondence also includes letters from various Postmasters and members of the general public discussing issues such as stamp cancellation, forgeries, and reuse.

Box 1, Folder 1

[April 7, 1845 - New York City: Mr. J. Smith Hornans writes to the Postmaster General \(PMG\), Cave Johnson, urging him to suggest the creation of federal postage stamps to the Post Office Department. He points out the difficulties that businessmen and merchants encounter due to the early closing hour of post offices. Mr. Hornans expresses his opinion that federal stamps would be convenient and also increase the amount of material sent through the mail. \[Previous accession no. 1997.2001.1\], April 7, 1845](#)

Box 1, Folder 2

[July 10, 1845 - New York City: Mr. George Smith writes to the PMG stating that postage stamps would be a great convenience for businessmen in large cities. A response is overwritten on Mr. Smith's letter which acknowledges the value of his statement, but points out that an act of Congress would be required to initiate the project. \[Previous accession number 1997.2001.2\], July 10, 1845](#)

Box 1, Folder 3

[March 20, 1847 - New York City: The firm of Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson \(RWH & E\) submit rough designs for the proposed five- and ten-cent stamps. The stamps would be sold to the Post Office Department at the rate of 25 cents per thousand. \[Previous accession number 1997.2003.6\], March 20, 1847](#)

Box 1, Folder 4

[March 20, 1847 - New York City: RWH & E submit the five- and ten-cent stamp designs to J. W. Brown, the Second Assistant PMG, for his approval. They inform him that they have followed his suggestion and used the head of Benjamin Franklin in place of the head of Jackson, which had originally been requested by the PMG. If the PMG still preferred Jackson it could be used instead. The firm was making steel dies of the designs so that the stamps could be produced immediately in the event that the designs were approved. \[Previous accession no. 1997.2001.3\], March 20, 1847](#)

- Box 1, Folder 5      March 29, 1847 - New York City: RWH & E express to the Second Assistant PMG their pleasure at having their stamp designs chosen. They notify him that Mr. Edson would meet with him the following Thursday to discuss the terms of the agreement. Confirmation of the production of steel dies is given. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.4], March 29, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 6      March 31, 1847 - New York City: RWH & E write to the Second Assistant PMG informing him that the proposal which had been made on March 20 had been revised. Now, 25 cents would be charged for every thousand stamps using two colors and 20 cents for every thousand stamps using one color. It is noted on the letter that this bid was accepted. [Previous accession no. 1997.2003.7], March 31, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 7      April 8, 1847 - Washington, DC: Cave Johnson writes to Robert H. Morris, Postmaster of New York City, about matters concerning engravings, paper and a contract. [Record Group 28: Records of the Post Office Department, 1773-1971; National Archives and Records Administration; transcript of letter contained in Clarence W. Brazer, "U.S. 1874 Stamp Contract", The Essay Proof Journal, Vol. 9, No. 3, Whole No. 35, July 1952], April 8, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 8      May 25, 1847 - New York City: RWH & E write to J. Marron, Third Assistant PMG, to account for the delay in signing the contract. They had signed the contract even though a certain clause had not been inserted into the text. The contract was enclosed with their letter and they requested to have a copy of the contract sent back to them once it had been signed by the PMG. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.5], May 25, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 9      June 26, 1847 - New York City: RWH & E write to the PMG informing him that the stamps which had been ordered were ready for delivery. They would wait for his instructions before doing anything with the stamps. There were 200,000 ten-cent stamps and 600,000 five-cent stamps. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.7], June 26, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 10      July 19, 1847 - Portland, Maine: N. L. Woodbury, Postmaster of Portland, writes to the PMG that plenty of postage stamps are appearing on letters in his city. However, he had not ordered or received any stamps himself and did not believe that the stamps could have been provided by anyone there. It was his opinion that the stamps were genuine, although he stated that he had no way of verifying this. He inquired whether or not he ought to be canceling the stamps and marking the letters "paid". [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.8], July 19, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 11      August 3, 1847 - Savannah, Georgia: George Schley, Postmaster of Savannah, writes to the Third Assistant PMG that if he had been aware of the responsibilities that would be relegated to him as a depository (without profit) he would not have asked to have the position. He discusses bookkeeping and the amount of stamps he expects to sell. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.9], August 3, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 12      August 6, 1847 - New Haven, Connecticut: E. A. Mitchell, Postmaster of New Haven, writes to the Third Assistant PMG requesting that he send additional stamps to New Haven. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.10], August 6, 1847

- Box 1, Folder 13 August 9, 1847 - Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: R. A. Bausman, Assistant Postmaster of Pittsburgh, writes to the Third Assistant PMG asking for instructions about bookkeeping methods that ought to be used in regards to the stamps that were being sold. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.11], August 9, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 14 August 26, 1847 - Hillsdale, Columbia Co., New York: J. Wells White, Postmaster of Hillsdale, writes to the PMG to tell him that he had contacted the Postmaster in New York with a request for stamps. The Postmaster had replied that Mr. White would have to pay him in advance for the stamps which Mr. White was willing to do. However, before he did so, he wanted to know for certain when he would receive his percentage of the cost. Also, he stated that several people had attempted to deposit sums of money at his post office which would later be drawn out at other post offices by other Postmasters. He had not seen any material giving him the authorization to perform this service and had been refusing to do it. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.12], August 26, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 15 October 20, 1847 - Philadelphia: Thomas E. Sparhawk writes to the PMG with the suggestion that a three-cent stamp for the prepayment of newspapers should be issued. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.13], October 20, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 16 October 22, 1847 - Philadelphia: Wilson Dunton writes to the PMG suggesting the immediate creation of newspaper stamps. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.14], October 22, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 17 October 26, 1847 - Baltimore: James Buchanan, Postmaster of Baltimore, writes to the PMG about methods of canceling stamps. It had come to his attention that it was very easy to alter a cancelled stamp and make it appear new. He suggests that a sharp instrument would be better suited to cancel stamps than ink. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.15], October 26, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 18 November 16, 1847 - Williamsport, Pennsylvania: H. Frank Hatch of Rochester, New York, writes to the PMG that he purchased stamps at home and used them wherever he went. However, the Postmaster in Williamsport did not sell stamps and if letters were deposited at his post office with stamps he tore the stamps off, destroyed them and marked the letter postage due. Mr. Hatch understands the confusion caused by some post offices using stamps and others not, but hopes that the situation could be remedied with the correct course of action. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.16], November 16, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 19 November 18, 1847 - Evansville, Vanderburgh Co., Indiana: B. F. Dupuy, Postmaster of Evansville, writes to the Third Assistant PMG informing him that the stamps which had been sent had been received. He had also received stamps from the Postmaster of Louisville. He was making the announcement that his post office had been selected for the sale and distribution of stamps in that area. [Previous accession no 1997.2001.17], November 18, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 20 November 30, 1847 - New York City: Unknown author to the PMG. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.18], November 30, 1847

- Box 1, Folder 21      December 2, 1847 - New York City: Robert H. Morris, Postmaster of New York City, forwards a letter written on November 30 to the PMG. The sender of this letter was not named. Both letters address the convenience of three-cent newspaper stamps. Mr. Morris brings instances of postal clerks taking money intended to pay for postage from customers and keeping it for their own private use to the attention of the PMG. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.19], December 2, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 22      December 18, 1847 - Zanesville, Ohio: Horace Hope, Postmaster of Zanesville, writes to the Third Assistant PMG including a receipt that had been requested. He states that the carriage which had been carrying a shipment of stamps had been upset and all of the stamps had gotten wet. He asks to return the damaged stamps and inquires if something is provided to deface the stamps. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.20], December 18, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 23      January 4, 1848 - Williamsport, Pennsylvania: J. J. Ayers, Postmaster of Williamsport, writes to the Third Assistant PMG telling him the problems he has with stamps, namely forgery and reuse. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.21], January 4, 1848
- Box 1, Folder 24      March 18, 1848 - New York City: RWH & E write to the PMG to inform him that they were printing the stamps that he had ordered. They make the suggestion that stamps are cancelled with some type of instrument which would destroy the stamps by cutting them. Designs for a three-cent stamp had been enclosed with the letter. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.22], March 18, 1847
- Box 1, Folder 25      March 20, 1848 - New York City: M. Monson writes to the Third Assistant PMG placing an order for five- and ten-cent stamps. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.23], March 20, 1848
- Box 1, Folder 26      August 15, 1848 - Auburn, New York: G. W. Clinton, U.S. Attorney, writes to the PMG asking him to verify the authenticity of a five-cent stamp. Clinton had doubts about it but others did not share his opinion. He believes that the stamp may be a real stamp, but that it had been chemically altered in order to remove the ink that had been applied when the stamp was cancelled. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.24], August 15, 1848
- Box 1, Folder 27      August 19, 1848 - New York City: RWH & E write to the Third Assistant PMG confirming the hunch of G. W. Clinton in letter dated August 15, 1848, that the five-cent stamp in question had indeed been chemically altered due to attempts to remove canceling ink. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.25], August 19, 1848
- Box 1, Folder 28      August 27, 1848 - Buffalo, New York: G. W. Clinton writes to the Third Assistant PMG that he is returning the letter from RWH & E that had been forwarded to him and he was sending back the stamp to the Postmaster of Rochester. He states that it was regretful that Congress had not made the effort to implement laws against fraud. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.26], August 27, 1848
- Box 1, Folder 29      October 30, 1848 - Middlebury, Vermont: Edward D. Barber, Postmaster of Middlebury, writes to John Collamer, PMG, informing him that he is returning the stamps as he had been requested to do. A postscript states that Mr. Barber's



successor had decided to keep the stamps and that a receipt would be given to the Auditor. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.27], October 30, 1848

Box 1, Folder 30	March 20, 1849 - New York City: Robert H. Morris, Postmaster of New York City, writes to the Third Assistant PMG reporting that a package which had been sent to the Treasurer's Office had arrived with none of the seals broken. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.28], March 20, 1849
Box 1, Folder 31	March 20, 1849 - New York City: Robert H. Morris writes to the PMG reporting the same as in letter in Box 1, Folder 30. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.29], March 20, 1849
Box 1, Folder 32	March 24, 1849 - New York City: Robert H. Morris writes to the Third Assistant PMG reporting that the plates sent to the Treasurer's Office had arrived in good condition and they were turned over to RWH & E. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.30], March 24, 1849
Box 1, Folder 33	April 11, 1849 - New York City: RWH & E write to the PMG informing him that the stamps which were ordered on March 19 were ready for shipment. They ask what type of packaging ought to be used in sending the stamps.[Previous accession no. 1997.2001.31], April 11, 1849
Box 1, Folder 34	July 29, 1850 - Baltimore: Finch writes to the PMG with the suggestion that the government should prepare two-cent stamps to prepay the postage for newspapers. He states that newspapers are not reaching their destinations because they are dropped into receiving boxes at post offices while the post offices are not open to take the payment for postage. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.32], July 29, 1850
Box 1, Folder 35	July 30, 1850 - Gardiner, Maine: L. H. Green writes to N. K. Hall, PMG, telling him that although Postmasters are required to use printers' ink to cancel stamps, he has noticed many using a type of red ink which is easily rubbed off. It is his opinion that the practice of using the red ink should be stopped quickly. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.33], July 30, 1850
Box 1, Folder 36	December 9, 1850 - New York City: RWH & E write to the PMG informing him that they had received his order for five-cent stamps with the head of Benjamin Franklin in brown. The stamps would be prepared immediately and he would be notified a few days in advance of their shipment. [Previous accession number 1997.2001.34], December 9, 1850
Box 1, Folder 37	December 10, 1850 - New York City: William V. Brady, Postmaster, writes to the PMG reporting that he had gone to the Treasurer's Office with Mr. Edson of RWH & E. The five-cent stamp had been delivered to RWH & E and the ten-cent stamp had been returned to the Assistant Treasurer under Brady's seal. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.35], December 10, 1850
Box 1, Folder 38	January 17, 1851 - New York City: RWH & E write to the PMG enclosing steel die proofs in anticipation of the Post Office Department's need for a three-cent stamp. Since the die was already engraved, stamps could be produced immediately if the

design was chosen. If a different design was preferred, RWH & E would be willing to create a new die. They suggest that the three-cent stamp be printed in blue ink. If there would ultimately be one- and two-cent stamps, those ought to be printed using the designs and colors of the current five- and ten-cent stamps. The use of the five- and ten-cent stamps would then be discontinued. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.36], January 17, 1851

Box 1, Folder 39

January 24, 1851 - New York City: RWH & E write to the PMG informing him that the order of five-cent stamps had been packaged according to his directions and was ready to be delivered. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.37], January 24, 1851

Box 1, Folder 40

January 25, 1851 - New York City: William V. Brady writes to the PMG stating that the stamps had been given to Cyrus Powers for delivery. The plate was sealed with the seals of RWH & E and William V. Brady and deposited with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.38], January 25, 1851

Box 1, Folder 41

March 5, 1851 - Philadelphia: James Snyder writes to the Third Assistant PMG asking to know the amount that RWH & E was paid for each sheet of stamps they printed under their agreement with the Post Office Department. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.39], March 5, 1851

Box 1, Folder 42

March 10, 1851 - New York City: RWH & E write to the PMG stating that they do not wish to have their design for the three-cent stamp considered unless they are guaranteed to be compensated for the cost of producing the die in the event that their design is not chosen. They point out that they have been producing five- and ten-cent stamps for the Post Office Department, which have been very satisfactory and have been making very little profit from doing so. They state that they have not been able to cover the cost of the steel dies used for the five- and ten-cent stamps from the profits earned from their production. RWH & E would not be willing to furnish stamps in the future at rates any lower than what they currently received. [Previous accession 1997.2001.40], March 10, 1851

Image(s): March 10, 1851 - New York City: RW & E write to the PMG stating that they do not wish to have their design for the three-cent stamp considered unless they are guaranteed to be compensated for the cost of producing the die in the event that their design is not chosen. They point out that they have been producing five- and ten-cent stamps for the Post Office Department, which have been very satisfactory and have been making very little profit from doing so. They state that they have not been able to cover the cost of the steel dies used for the five- and ten-cent stamps from the profits earned from their production. RWH & E would not be willing to furnish stamps in the future at rates any lower than what they currently received. [Previous accession 1997.2001.40]

Box 1, Folder 43

April 8, 1851 - New York City: RWH & E write to the Third Assistant PMG explaining that their decision not to enter their design for consideration had been due to a misunderstanding and they would like to rescind their decision and apply for the three-cent stamp contract. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.41], April 8, 1851

Box 1, Folder 44

November 15, 1851 - New York City: RWH & E write to the PMG and suggest that since the dies and plates from the five- and ten-cent stamps would no longer be

	of any use, they should be destroyed. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.42], November 15, 1851
Box 1, Folder 45	December 12, 1851 - New York City: William V. Brady writes to the Third Assistant PMG submitting evidence that the dies and plates of the five- and ten-cent stamps had been destroyed. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.43], December 12, 1851
Box 1, Folder 46	December 12, 1851 - New York City: RWH & E write that the five- and ten-cent stamp dies and plates were demolished according to the PMG's instructions. Their destruction was witnessed and documented by John Moore, William V. Brady and George W. Jenkins. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.44], December 12, 1851
Box 1, Folder 47	<p>No date: A paper wrapper which was used to cover the correspondence is titled 1847 Postage Stamps. It is noted on the wrapper that the collection consists of original correspondence from Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson and various postal workers and that it ought to be preserved intact. [Previous accession no. 1997.2001.6], undated</p> <p>Image(s): No date: A paper wrapper which was used to cover the correspondence is titled 1847 Postage Stamps. It is noted on the wrapper that the collection consists of original correspondence from Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson and various postal workers and that it ought to be preserved intact.</p>

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## United States Stamps to 1910, 1792, 1842-1910

Language: English.

Box 1, Folder 48	<a href="#">Pre 1847, 1792, 1842-1848</a>
Box 1, Folder 49	<a href="#">1847 Issue, 1847-1852</a>
Box 1, Folder 50	<a href="#">1851 Issue, 1851-1876, 1909-1910</a>
Box 1, Folder 51	<a href="#">1851 to 1855, Toppan, Carpenter, and Company - Record of Postage Stamps Delivered from, June 21, 1851 to May 17, 1855</a>
Box 2, Folder 1	<a href="#">1861 Issue, 1861-1869</a>
Box 2, Folder 2	<a href="#">1869 Issue, 1868-1869, 1909</a>
Box 2, Folder 3	<a href="#">1870 Issue - National Bank Note Company, 1869-1888</a>
Box 2, Folder 4	<a href="#">Continental Bank Note Company, 1873-1878</a>
Box 2, Folder 5	<a href="#">American Bank Note Company, 1879-1893</a>
Box 2, Folder 6	<a href="#">Bureau of Engraving and Printing Issues, 1894-1901</a>
Box 2, Folder 7	<a href="#">Bureau of Engraving and Printing Issues, 1902-1910</a>

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## United States Commemorative Stamps and Special Purpose Postage, 1847-1911

Language: English.

Box 2, Folder 8	Trans-Mississippi "Omaha" Exposition stamps and Pan American Exposition postage stamps, 1898, 1901
Box 2, Folder 9	Columbian Exposition Commemoratives, 1893
Box 2, Folder 10	Louisiana Purchase and Jamestown Commemoratives, 1904, 1907
Box 2, Folder 11	Stamp Production Designs, 1847-1909
Box 2, Folder 12	Locals, 1865, 1908
Box 2, Folder 13	Newspaper and periodical stamps, 1865-1895
Box 2, Folder 14	Official Department Stamps, 1873, 1910-1911
Box 2, Folder 15	Postage Currency, 1847-1879, 1909-1910
Box 2, Folder 16	Postage Due Stamps, 1879-1896
Box 2, Folder 17	Stamp Proofs, 1911
Box 2, Folder 18	Special Delivery Stamps, 1885-1911
Box 2, Folder 19	Special Printings, 1851, 1860
Box 2, Folder 20	Specimens, 1876-1884
Box 2, Folder 21	Universal Postal Union, 1888-1910
Box 2, Folder 22	Stamped Envelopes, 1870, 1909-1910
Box 3, Folder 1	Post Office Department documents and specimen envelopes, 1902
Box 3, Folder 2	Private Vending Machine Perforations, 1902-1911
Box 3, Folder 3	Miscellaneous - Official Seals, postal savings stamps, Mekeel's indexes, illustrative postage stamps, dead letters, Hawaii, parcel post, postal revenue bond, and embossed revenue stamps, 1880, 1902-1912
Box 3, Folder 4	Dies, Rolls, Plates, 1861, 1896-1897
Box 3, Folder 5	Quantities Issued, Remainders, Destruction Plate Numbers, 1847-1893

Box 3, Folder 6

Possessions, 1899-1900, 1904, 1910

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## Postal Stationery Contracts and Correspondence, 1859-1886

Language: English.

Box 4, Folder 1      Postal Stationery Contracts and Correspondence - Black lined envelopes and self-ruling envelopes (Folder 1 of 3), 1859, 1862, 1870-1871, 1886

Box 4, Folder 2      Postal Stationery Contracts and Correspondence - Black lined envelopes and self-ruling envelopes (Folder 2 of 3), 1859, 1862, 1870-1871, 1886

Box 4, Folder 3      Postal Stationery Contracts and Correspondence - Black lined envelopes and self-ruling envelopes (Folder 3 of 3), 1859, 1862, 1870-1871, 1886

Box 4, Folder 4      Postal Stationery Contracts and Correspondence - Memorials and petitions of envelope manufacturers, 1870

Box 4, Folder 5      Postal Stationery Contracts and Correspondence - Plimpton Manufacturing Company, 1874

Box 4, Folder 6      Postal Stationery Contracts and Correspondence - Plimpton Manufacturing Company - H. T. Sperry, United States Stamped Envelope Agency, 1874

Box 5, Folder 1      Postal Stationery Contracts and Correspondence - Letter sheet envelopes, 1886

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## Cuba Correspondence, 1901

Language: English.

Box 5, Folder 2	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 1000 special request (SR) envelopes, no. 5, 2c white, September-October 1901
Box 5, Folder 3	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 5000 official envelopes, May-June 1901
Box 5, Folder 4	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 1000 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c first quality white, May-June 1901
Box 5, Folder 5	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 1000 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c white and 3000 SR envelopes, 2c amber, September-October 1901
Box 5, Folder 6	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 1000 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c first quality white, April-June 1901
Box 5, Folder 7	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 1000 RS envelopes, no. 5, 2c first quality white, April-June 1901
Box 5, Folder 8	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 1000 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c amber, October-November 1901
Box 5, Folder 9	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 1000 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c first quality white, April-May 1901
Box 5, Folder 10	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 2000 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c white, April-May 1901
Box 5, Folder 11	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for stamps and envelopes, October-December 1901
Box 5, Folder 12	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 500 SR envelopes, no. 5, white, February-March 1901
Box 5, Folder 13	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 500 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c white, February-March 1901
Box 5, Folder 14	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 1000 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c White, August-October 1901
Box 5, Folder 15	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 2000 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c white, September-October 1901



Box 5, Folder 16	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 4500 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c white, August-October 1901
Box 5, Folder 17	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 1000 SR envelopes, no. 8, 2c white, September-November 1901
Box 5, Folder 18	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 1000 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c white, September-October 1901
Box 5, Folder 19	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 10,000 penalty envelopes, September 1901
Box 5, Folder 20	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 1000 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c white, August-October 1901
Box 5, Folder 21	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 500 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c white and 500 SR envelopes, no. 5, 1c white, August-October 1901
Box 5, Folder 22	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 25,000 registered package envelopes form 603; 25,000 registered package envelopes form 604; and 10,000 registered package tags form 605, August-September 1901
Box 5, Folder 23	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 2000 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c first quality white, May-June 1901
Box 5, Folder 24	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 500 SR envelopes, no. 8, 2c white, August-October 1901
Box 5, Folder 25	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 1000 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c white, August-October 1901
Box 5, Folder 26	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for official envelopes, April-June 1901
Box 5, Folder 27	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for stamps and stamped envelopes, August-October 1901
Box 6, Folder 1	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for registered package envelopes; 20,000 no. 7 and 20,000 no. 8, May-June 1901
Box 6, Folder 2	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 2000 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c white, March-April 1901
Box 6, Folder 3	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for SR envelopes; 2000 no. 5, 2c white; and 1000 no. 5, 2 c amber, July-September 1901

Box 6, Folder 4	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Request for notification of all stamps furnished to Cuba, July 1901
Box 6, Folder 5	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 5000 manila envelopes, July 1901
Box 6, Folder 6	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for SR envelopes; 500 no. 5, 2c white; and 500 no. 8, 2c white, January-February 1901
Box 6, Folder 7	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 500 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c white, January 1901
Box 6, Folder 8	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 20,500 registered package envelopes, January-March 1901
Box 6, Folder 9	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 1000 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c white, September-November 1901
Box 6, Folder 10	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 20,000 manila envelopes, March-May 1901
Box 6, Carton 11	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 50,000 2c postage due stamps, April-June 1901
Box 6, Folder 12	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 500 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c first quality white, April-May 1901
Box 6, Folder 13	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Request for statement of stamped paper furnished since May 1, 1900, January-April 1901
Box 6, Folder 14	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for stamped envelopes; 30,000 no. 5, 2c first quality white; and 30,000 no. 5, 2c first quality amber, April-May 1901
Box 6, Folder 15	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 1000 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c white, April-May 1901
Box 6, Folder 16	Cuba correspondence - M. C. Fosnes, Director General of Posts - Order for 1000 SR envelopes, no. 5, 2c first quality white, April-May 1901

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## United States Stamps, 1851-1877

Language: English.

Box 6, Folder 1	United States Stamps, March 14, 1851 - April 30, 1861
Box 6, Folder 2	United States Stamps, May 1861 - November 4, 1869
Box 6, Folder 3	United States Stamps, March 1870 - April 1, 1873
Box 6, Folder 4	United States Stamps, April 2, 1873 - October 3, 1873
Box 6, Folder 5	United States Stamps, January 15, 1874 - November 9, 1876
Box 6, Folder 6	United States Stamps, March 6, 1877 - October 26, 1877

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## United States Stamps, 1881-1889

Language: English.

Box 7, Folder 1 United States Stamps, January 21, 1881 - February 7, 1882

Box 7, Folder 2 United States Stamps, August 29, 1882 - August 19, 1888

Box 7, Folder 3 United States Stamps, July 18, 1889 - October 9, 1889

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## United States Stamps, 1891-1895

Language: English.

Box 8, Folder 1 United States Stamps, August 3, 1891 - September 30, 1892

Box 8, Folder 2 United States Stamps, October 1, 1892 - December 31, 1892

Box 8, Folder 3 United States Stamps, January 1, 1893 - December 31, 1893

Box 8, Folder 4 United States Stamps, January 1, 1894 - April 30, 1894

Box 8, Folder 5 United States Stamps, May 1, 1894 - August 31, 1894

Box 8, Folder 6 United States Stamps, September 1, 1894 - July 2, 1895

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## United States Stamps, 1896-1903

Language: English.

Box 9, Folder 1	United States Stamps, March 6, 1896 - January 4, 1897
Box 9, Folder 2	United States Stamps, January 19, 1897 - April 19, 1897
Box 9, Folder 3	United States Stamps, January 3, 1898 - March 31, 1899
Box 9, Folder 4	United States Stamps, April 4, 1899 - December 27, 1899
Box 9, Folder 5	United States Stamps, January 1900 - November 18, 1903

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## Stamps Shipped and Attorney General Opinions, 1851-1877

Language: English.

Box 10, Folder 1	Spreadsheets, undated
Box 10, Folder 2	Toppan Carpenter - Stamps Shipped, June 30, 1851 - 1855
Box 10, Folder 3	Attorney General Opinions, April 1877
Box 10, Folder 4	Case summary of Use of Postal Card Image in Advertising, undated

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## United States Postal Cards, 1871-1873

Language: English.

Box 11, Folder 1	United States Postal Cards, October 1, 1871 - August 4, 1872
Box 11, Folder 2	United States Postal Cards, August 16, 1872 - January 30, 1873
Box 11, Folder 3	United States Postal Cards, February 1, 1873 - February 25, 1873
Box 11, Folder 4	United States Postal Cards, February 27, 1873 - March 31, 1873

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## United States Postal Cards, April 1 to May 23, 1873

Language: English.

Box 12, Folder 1	United States Postal Cards, April 1, 1873 - April 19, 1873
Box 12, Folder 2	United States Postal Cards, April 22, 1873 - May 10, 1873
Box 12, Folder 3	United States Postal Cards, May 12, 1873 - May 23, 1873

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## United States Postal Cards, May 24, 1873 to January 6, 1896

Language: English.

Box 13, Folder 1	United States Postal Cards, May 24, 1873 - June 5, 1873
Box 13, Folder 2	United States Postal Cards, June 6, 1873 - June 30, 1873
Box 13, Folder 3	United States Postal Cards, July 1, 1873 - September 20, 1873
Box 13, Folder 4	United States Postal Cards, September 22, 1873 - January 6, 1896

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## United States Stamped Envelopes, 1874-1896

Language: English.

Box 14, Folder 1	United States Stamped Envelopes, May 14, 1881 - March 31, 1882
Box 14, Folder 2	United States Stamped Envelopes, April 1, 1882 - December 31, 1882
Box 14, Folder 3	United States Stamped Envelopes, 1874, 1883, 1894, and 1896

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## United States Stamped Envelopes, 1898-1902

Language: English.

Box 15, Folder 1      United States Stamped Envelopes, March 15, 1898 - December 16, 1898

Box 15, Folder 2      United States Stamped Envelopes, December 17, 1898 - November 18, 1902

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## Cuba Stamps, 1893-1904

Box 16, Folder 1	Cuba Stamps, February 1, 1893 - April 30, 1898
Box 16, Folder 2	Cuba Stamps, May 1, 1899 - December 31, 1901
Box 16, Folder 3	Cuba Stamps, January 1, 1902 - March 18, 1904

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## Cuba Stamped Envelopes, 1899-1902

Box 16, Folder 4	Cuba Stamped Envelopes, January 1, 1899 - August 31, 1899
Box 16, Folder 5	Cuba Stamped Envelopes, April 28, 1900 - May 1, 1901
Box 17, Folder 1	Cuba Stamped Envelopes, May 10, 1901 - October 30, 1901
Box 17, Folder 2	Cuba Stamped Envelopes, November 1, 1901 - December 31, 1901
Box 17, Folder 3	Cuba Stamped Envelopes, January 1, 1902 - February 28, 1902
Box 17, Folder 4	Cuba Stamped Envelopes, March 1, 1902 - May 31, 1902
Box 17, Folder 5	Cuba Stamped Envelopes, June 2, 1902 - October 9, 1902

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## Puerto Rico and Hawaii, 1899-1900

Box 18, Folder 1	Puerto Rico and Hawaii, May 4, 1899 - July 31, 1899
Box 18, Folder 2	Puerto Rico and Hawaii, August 1, 1899 - December 17, 1899
Box 18, Folder 3	Puerto Rico and Hawaii, May 14, 1900 - September 24, 1900

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## Philippines, 1899-1904

Box 19, Folder 1	Philippines, August 12, 1899 - August 31, 1901
Box 19, Folder 2	Philippines, April 1, 1903 - August 29, 1903
Box 19, Folder 3	Philippines, September 15, 1903 - September 22, 1904
Box 20, Folder 1	Philippines, April 29, 1899 - December 1899
Box 20, Folder 2	Philippines, January 1, 1900 - March 24, 1900
Box 20, Folder 3	Philippines, April 3, 1900 - July 23, 1900
Box 20, Folder 4	Philippines, August 1900 - December 21, 1900
Box 20, Folder 5	Philippines, January 8, 1901 - June 29, 1901
Box 20, Folder 6	Philippines, July 3, 1901 - September 29, 1901
Box 20, Folder 7	Philippines, October 1, 1901 - December 15, 1901
Box 20, Folder 8	Philippines, January 7, 1902 - April 14, 1902
Box 20, Folder 9	Philippines, May 4, 1902 - November 7, 1902

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