

THE DEVELOPMENT OF PERFORATIONS ON UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS:

1855 – 1857

AN ABBREVIATED OVERVIEW

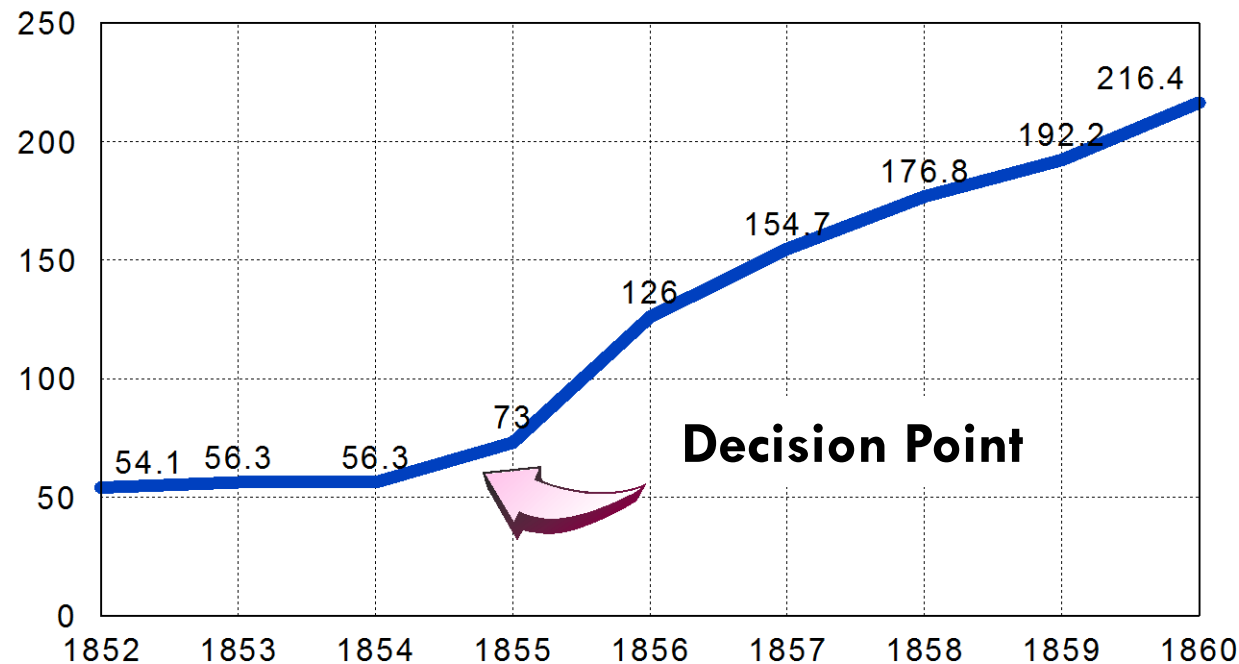
Events Preceding Purchase of Perforating Machine by Toppan, Carpenter & Co. (TCC)

As viewed in March 1855

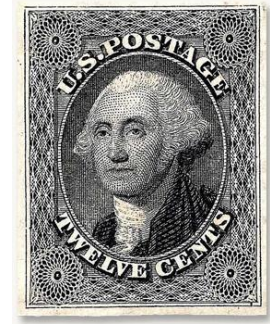
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Annual Quantities of U.S. Postage Stamps Issued

Twelve Months Ending June 30 of Year Given



Source: Origin & Use of Postage Stamps, Stamped Envelopes &c. Report of A.D. Hazen, Third Assistant Postmaster General, for fiscal year ending June 30, 1878.



Key Drivers

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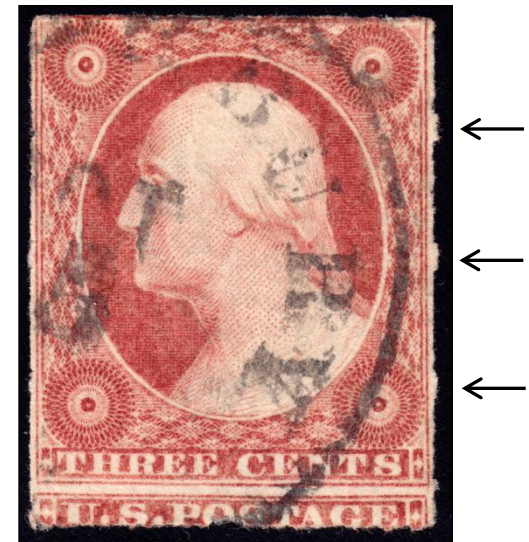
- Use of stamps anticipated to increase significantly
- Existing methods for separation were inadequate
 - ▣ Scissors
 - ▣ Rulers and/or straight edges
 - ▣ Rouletting
 - ▣ Manual tearing



1850's H. Chapin U.S. Standard #15 Boxwood and Brass Rule Ruler



1850s Henry Sears & Co. Scissors

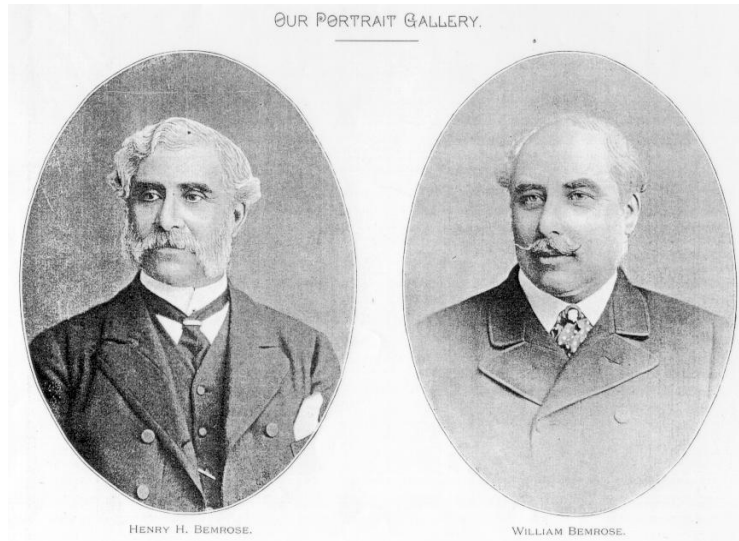


1855 Waterbury Roulette

The Inventors – Henry & William Bemrose

Patented the Rotary Perforating Machine that TCC used to perforate U.S. Stamps

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Rotary Perforating Machine (ca. 1861)



Close-up of SI NPM machine, showing matching sets of pins & holes (ca. 1913)

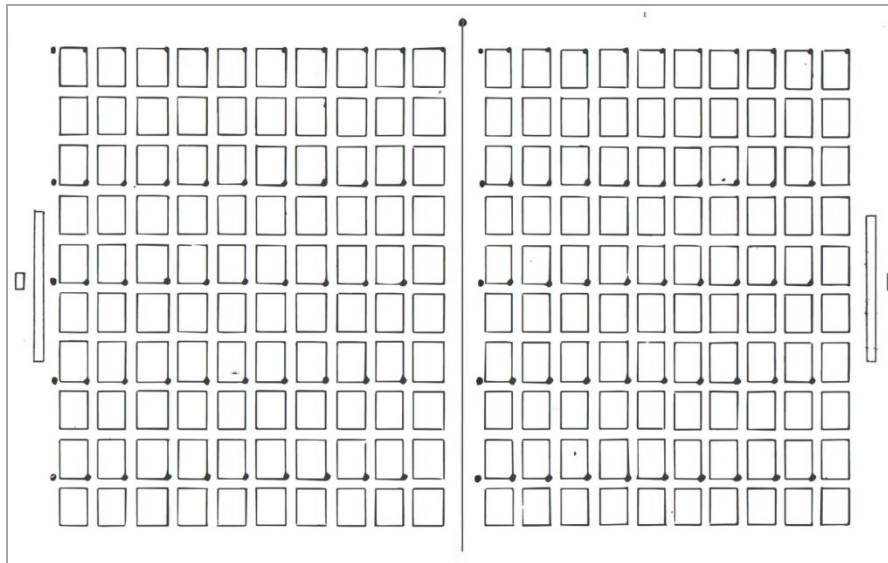
THE SPECIAL PRINTING OF 1855

*THE “BRUSH STROKE” PLATE PROOFS OF THE
3¢ 1851 ISSUE*

The Special Printing of 1855

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- Scott #11P3
- Obliterated by black, brush-applied ink
- All Items from Plate 4, printed 2 sheets of 200
- On ungummed, proof (not India) paper
- Brownish carmine shade



31-32, 41-42, 51-52, 61-62L4

Summary of What Occurred in 1855...

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- Two sheets of 200 stamps (400 in total) were folded separately to ~3x4 inches, placed in same letter, and mailed 3 Oct. 1855 to Perkins Bacon in England.
- Arrived in London on 15 Oct. 1855. One sheet forwarded to Bemrose in Derby, England, where they ensured proper adjustment of cylinder & rouletting wheels to fit stamp layout.
- Two horizontal lines of rouletting were produced on the Bemrose Panes, as well as pin holes on outer edge stamps.
- Not provided for purpose of proving the machine could work on U.S. stamps. TCC had already been convinced that it would, and had ordered a machine.
- Bemrose machine arrived at TTC in NYC on 4 April 1856
- Subsequent testing shows rouletting will not work. Machine converted into a perforator, first sheets arrive in NYC 24 February 1857.

Earliest Documented Use of a Government Perforated Stamp in the U.S. – Scott #25

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#25 - 3¢ Dull Red, Type I

Tied by two strikes of
"New-York Feb. 28, 1857"
circular datestamp with
clear year date on small
cover to New Milford Conn.

1 of 3 known EDU.

The first experimentally perforated stamps were delivered to the U.S. government on February 24, 1857. Seven cities were chosen for distribution. According to *North American and United States Gazette* of February 27, "...Ninety thousand were ordered for the cities of Philadelphia and New York, and thirty thousand for New Orleans and other cities of the South and West."

- EDU of a perforated stamp is Saturday, 28 February 1857, based on 1 cover from Philadelphia and 2 from NY.
- Experimental period continued until 10 June 1857, when the original six-year contract with TCC expired.
- Renewed 8 April 1857, effective 10 June, after which all stamps perforated as mandated by new contract terms.

Rediscovered Pair from the Left Bemrose Pane: *Plated as 67-68L4 with horizontal roulette line across top*

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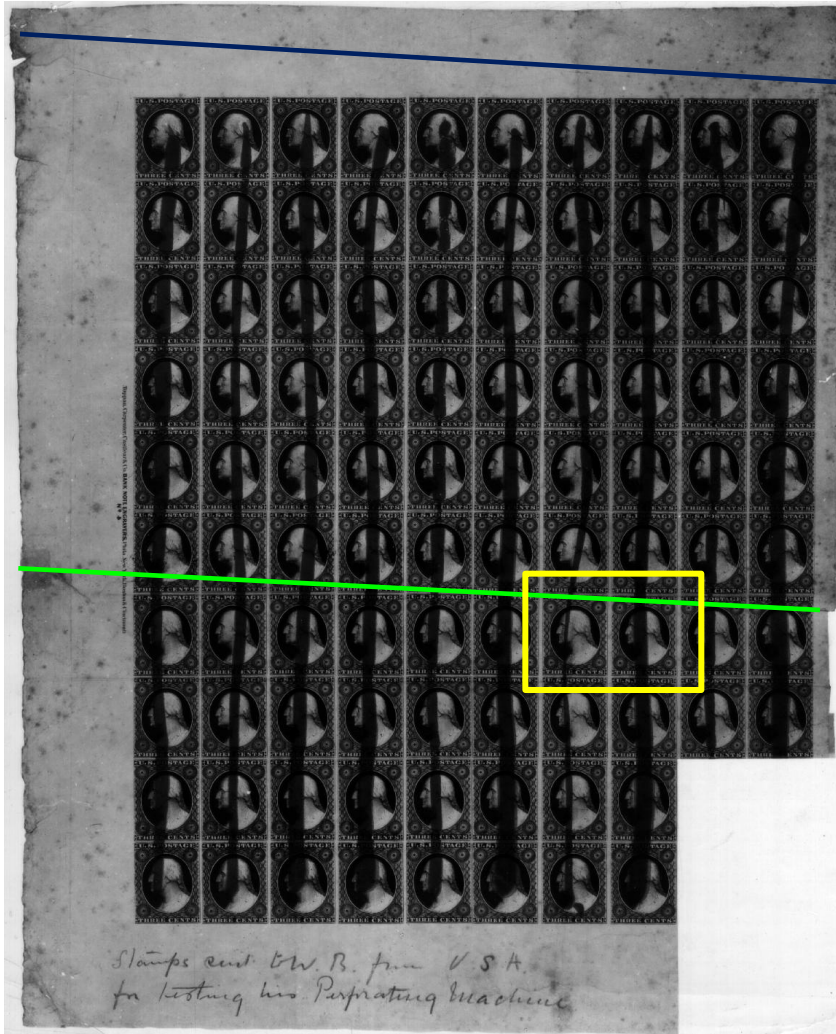


#11P3, 67-68L4, brush stroke pair, rouletted across top of both stamps.
Discovered & plated by C. DiComo | 2018-07

The Left Bemrose Pane: Lines of Rouletting

Wilson Hulme discovered a second line across middle of pane.

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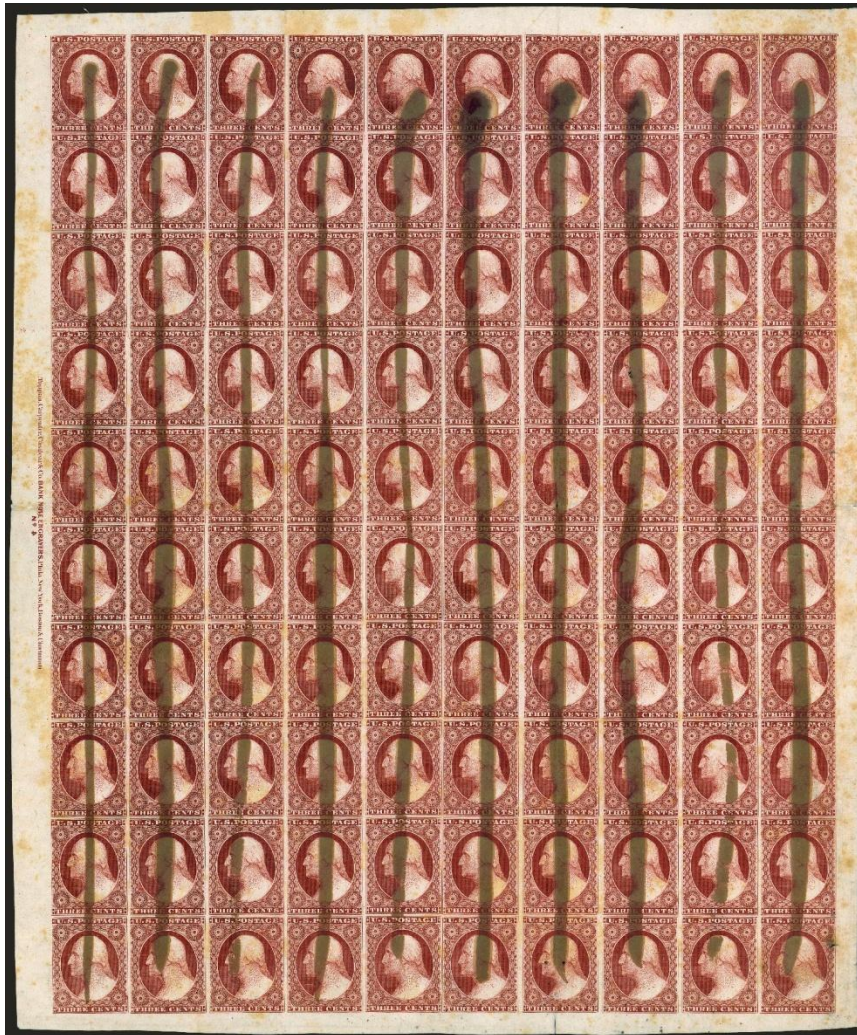


67-68L4 pair has horizontal line of rouletting across top of both stamps.
Clearly seen on reverse below.



The Left Perkins, Bacon Pane:

As of 2008, Sold Intact, ex. W. Wilson Hulme



**#11P3 – 3¢ Brownish Carmine
Brush Stroke on Proof paper,
complete left pane of 100 with
full Imprint and Plate No. 4
(reversed numeral).**

**Toppan Carpenter & Co. mailed
two sheets of 200 stamps to
Perkins, Bacon in 1854.**

***Siegel Sale 964, Lot 212, 2008
Ex. Earl of Crawford, Keightley & W.
Wilson Hulme***

THANK YOU / QUESTIONS?

** DEDICATED TO W. WILSON HULME, WHOSE SEMINAL RESEARCH OF THE BRUSH STROKES THIS PRESENTATION IS BASED ON AND WHO MENTORED ME ON THE 3¢ 1851-57 ISSUE UP UNTIL HIS UNTIMELY PASSING IN 2007.*

** ANY ERROR AND/OR OMISSION IS THE PRESENTERS RESPONSIBILITY.*