



# **SHIFT HUNTER LETTERS**

**U.S. Revenue Varieties**

**Originated by  
C. W. Bedford  
Compiled by George Black  
Published as a supplement to  
The American Revenuer  
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Collected and Edited by  
**Richard F. Riley**  
American Revenue Association  
**Matt Hedley**  
Friends of the Western Philatelic Library

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## Preface

The following pages constitute a reprinting of more than one hundred columns which appeared over the logo of George Black in the pages of Weekly Philatelic Gossip during 1938-1941. The columns were titled: Shift Hunter Letters, Plate Varieties of U. S. Revenue and Postal Issues or: U. S. Revenue Varieties. Various subtitles were: From the C. W. Bedford Records or more rarely: From the Dr. G. C. Fritschel Records. The columns describe "shifts" particularly on the first and second issues of the U. S. revenue stamps and the "battleship" proprietaries and documentaries of 1898.

Major credit for the series is due Bedford. Clayton W. Bedford (1885-1933) was a keen student of United States stamps and an indefatigable worker as well. He served at one time as the President of the Rubber City Stamp Club of Akron, Ohio and the success of that organization was largely due him. He organized the "Shift Hunters", a group interested in replating early U.S. stamps and the location of various plate flaws and later he joined in putting over the Bureau Issues Association of which he was Chairman of the Committee on Plate Varieties. He was also Chairman of the Revenue Unit of the American Philatelic Society and acted as guide to many members replating U. S. revenue stamps.

Bedford was an author of note and a member of The Collectors Club, The Rubber City Stamp Club, The Society of Philatelic Americans, The American Philatelic Society and The Garfield Perry Club. Professionally he was a chemist connected with the B. F. Goodrich Co. of Akron. A more complete obituary from which the above was taken was written by Beverly S. King and appeared in Weekly Philatelic Gossip, July 1, 1933.

The connection between Bedford and Black is unknown to the Editors in any detail. Suffice to note that comments throughout indicate that the two were good friends and that Black took it upon himself to publish posthumously otherwise unpublished studies by his friend.

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To maintain the quality of this reproduction as high as possible tear sheets from original issues of Weekly Philatelic Gossip were used throughout. While the quality of some illustrations may not be as high as desired, the quality of the reproduction is as high as it is due to Matt Hedley, San Mateo, California, who went to the trouble to obtain tear sheets of the original articles for us from duplicate holdings of The Friends of the Western Philatelic Library, Inc., Sunnyvale, California. We acknowledge his contribution with our most sincere thanks.

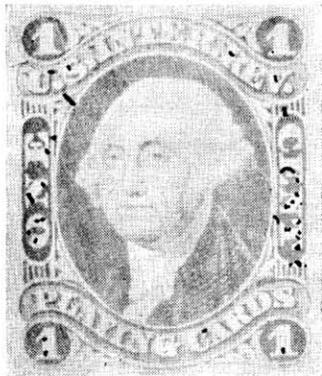
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The Editors

# FIRST ISSUE

## PLAYING CARDS, R2

A ONE CENT Playing Card Proof, showing a heavy Double Transfer that does not double any portion of the design and therefore seems to come from a Foreign Relief of another stamp. In some quarters it is thought that more than one relief was placed on the same Transfer Roll. This we find hard to believe due to the depths of the foreign lines on this One Cent Playing Card proof. That is the nearness to the top and bottom portion of the stamp. It is improbable that the transfer man, whether rocking from the bottom up or the top down would go so far into the row above or the row below. Surely he would discover that he had either row too far advanced from the row he was transferring. Somewhere in Mr. Bedford's records he stated that certain plates were rocked from the bottom up and from the top down. If this were true, every third stamp in the vertical rows would show this foreign Relief. In view of this and other stamps with foreign reliefs which we have seen in Mr. Bedford's collection, our contention is that certain plates were re-used. By that statement we mean that plates were re-surfaced and used the second time for another issue. In re-surfacing these plates not all the old marks were removed, therefore causing lines to show in subsequent issues that do not double any of the designs of the stamp on which they appear. These foreign lines show in the U, S, R and V of the top label "U. S. INTER. REV." A short diagonal line is visible under the period after "U", the left side "ONE" shows lines as well as the right side "CENT" which has numerous marks foreign to the outlines. These marks show in the bottom "C" of Cards and both lower left and lower right numerals "1".



28: 375, 1939

## CERTIFICATE, R7-8

QUOTING from C. W. Bedford's notes: "This plate shows the characteristic guide dots at the lower right corner starting in the fourth horizontal row and in each third horizontal row below. Most of the early 14 x 15 or 210 position plates of the first issue show this dot arrangement. Five Double Transfers have been located on this plate as shown by the ultramarine proofs. One other Double Transfer as shown in the blue proof, is in the sixth vertical row from the left in the lower part of the sheet. All 6 of these varieties are quite similar to No. 70 as illustrated."

In C. W.'s Revenue collection, we find position No.

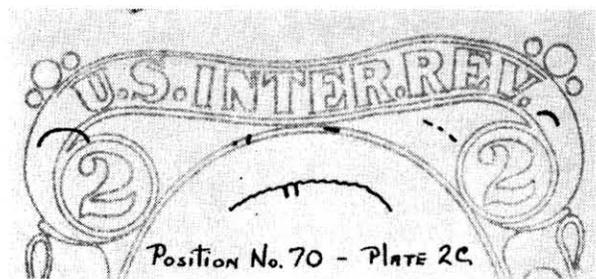


Diagram of Plate Layout - 24 Certificate - Plate 2C

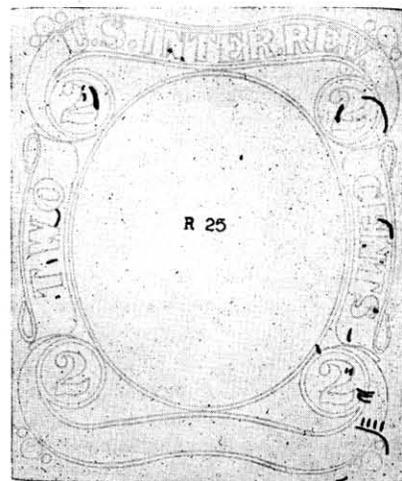
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
													28
													42
													56
			(69) D.T.							(67) D.T.	(68) D.T.	(70) D.T.	
													84
													98
												(112) D.T.	
													126
													140
													154
													168
													182
													196
197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210

60 in a block of 4 ultramarine proofs, positions No. 67, No. 68, No. 70 and No. 112 in an irregular block of 12 ultramarine proofs. The other Double Transfer is in a block of 4 blue proofs and comes from the sixty vertical row from the left in the lower part of the sheet.

Mr. Bedford's ideas for mounting plate varieties was and is unique. As a conceptive idea, allow us to describe how this particular plate was shown in his Revenue Album. In a Scott Spring Back Album on one page was made the entire data. First he showed the plate layout in blocks of 8/10 of an inch. 14 blocks horizontal and 15 blocks vertical. This would make the drawing 7 x 9 inches. Guide dots were then placed in the 4th, 7th, 10th and 13th rows. This was in red ink and placed in the lower right corner of each block. These positions dots occurring on the stamp would show as follows: 43 to 56 incl., 85 to 98 incl., 127 to 140 incl., and 169 to 182 incl. At the top left corner the block of 4 ultramarine proofs were placed. In the middle left side the block of 4 blue proofs were mounted. Then in the middle and slightly to the right of the plate layout were shown the irregular block of 12 ultramarine proofs. To the most inexperienced novice

the descriptive arrangement is easily understood. Perhaps our meager attempt at describing C. W.'s mounting might be of service.

29: 20, 1939

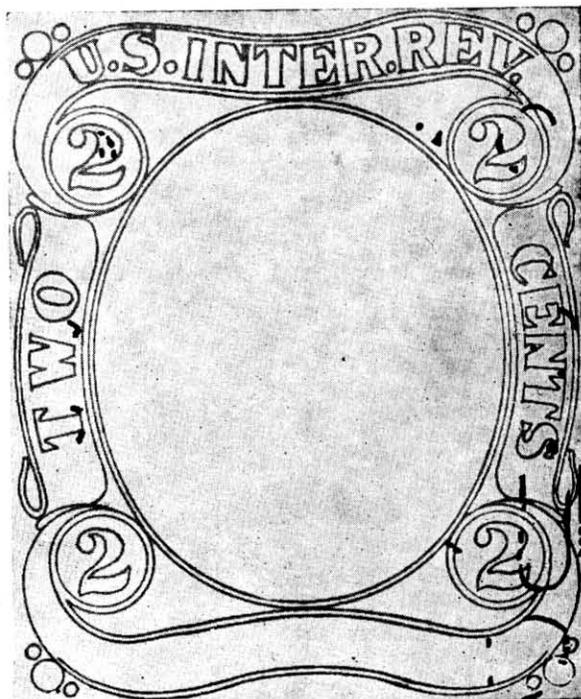


**A MAJOR SHIFT** on the 2c Express and what a shift. This was on a page in the lower right corner. No other stamps but this one. Evidence of other stamps are very plain as the marks of the stamp hinges show. The question arose in our mind why these tell-tale marks, and going further we find that during his research work on one issue and to reach a final conclusion he mounted first in one place then checked, remounted in another and finally gave his findings. For example this was first classified as position No. 40 then changed to No. 68.

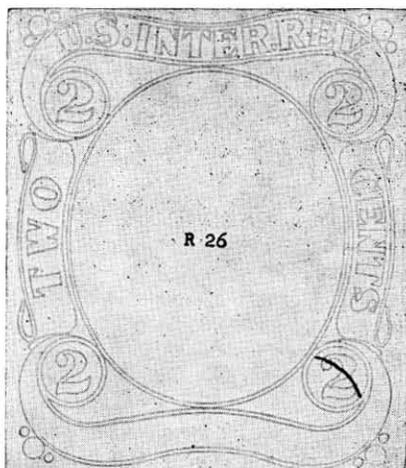
30: 494, 1940

## EXPRESS, R9-10

More evidence of re-worked plates on the Revenue stamps. This is a foreign relief (1c Express) on the 2c Express and occurs on Plate 2E, position No. 68 in both early and late states of the plate. Regarding these foreign reliefs, allow us to call your attention to the 2c Express relief on the 1c Express issue and that mysterious foreign relief on the 1c Playing Card Revenue. Research activities by the writer has definitely placed this variety as coming from the right side of the plate as we were fortunate enough to obtain a vertical pair with right side margin attached from Clarence W. Brazer who has an excellent stock of proofs and is a great help to supply one's needs. The right stamp of this vertical pair was the foreign relief and had the margin attached. This checked exactly with Mr. Bedford's copy which was without margins. Coming from the right side of the sheet definitely places this as coming from any of the following positions: 14, 28, 42, 56, 70, 84, 98, 112, 126, 140, 154, 168, 182, 196 or 210 from either plate 1-B or 1-O. If this pair had right margin attached it is reasonable to presume that the top or bottom margin would not have been cut off. By following this theory that would then eliminate positions 14 and 210. Further research will be necessary to place this variety.



31: 704, 1941

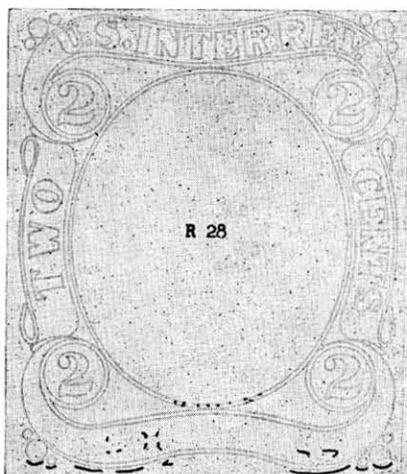


**A** NICE example of a shift on the 2c Express. This is from position No. 34. Underneath this mat we found the following illustration marked "Early and Late States."



On this mat No. 23 was stroked out and 51 written above. The indications are according to Mr. Bedford an early and late state of the plate. We have not used nor made any reference to the Boston Revenue Book as we feel that many will have this valuable book. As my rechecking goes on I find many books and notes pertaining to matters that need a more careful perusal than slip-shod methods. So in course of time correct answers will be given on many things that have puzzled me.

30: 562, 1940



**T**HREE identical double transfers of the 2c Express, blue. Mr. Bedford had at first plated from position No. 27, later discovered that this was position No. 55 on the plate. The shift appears in the bottom label in "E," "X," "S," "S," of "EXPRESS," and is a direct south shift.

Frankly, I do not see how any one man could accumulate so much data on plate varieties. It is not understandable. Ninety-five per cent of the information released for publication is his own findings. We have received letters from several persons stating they were timid in sending their finds in, inasmuch as the Bedford records were available. Allow me to state that this was not as C. W. would have liked it, as others found just as interesting things as he did. We are just as desirous of propagating research activities as he was and will be glad to help all.

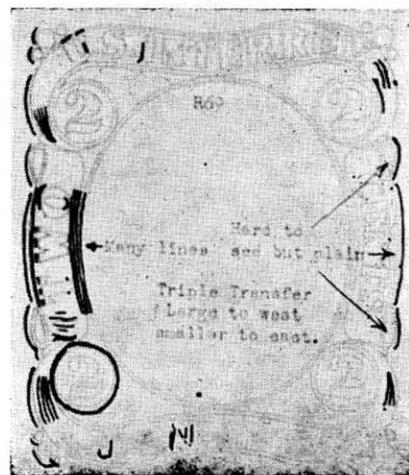
30: 580, 1940



**R**EGARDING this variety which is from position No. 47 of the Plate of the 2c "Express." Mr. Bedford had four of these. Two were the orange and two the blue. One of the Blue is in a vertical strip of five, the center stamp being the variety as illustrated. At first C. W. had this plated as position 19 later discovered the error and stroked out the 19 and marked 47 below. Various other positions were on this page and the first plating positions were discovered to be incorrect and later corrected.

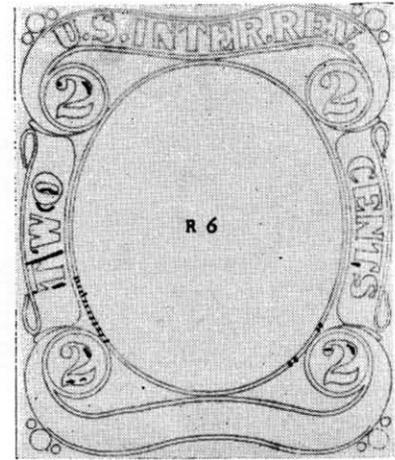
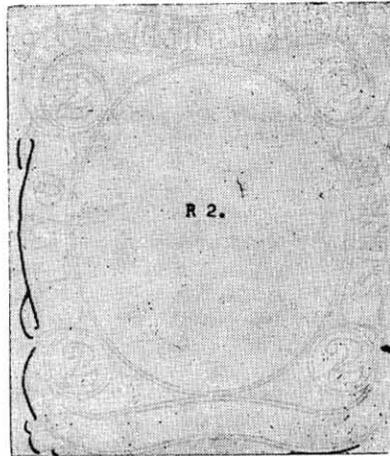
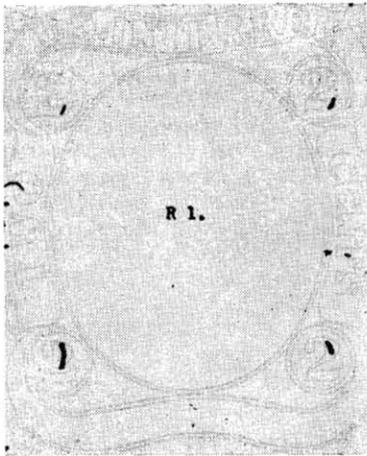
30: 622, 1940

## U. S. INTERNAL REVENUE, R15



**A** TRIPLE Transfer and a very fine example of a Plate Variety. This occurs on our 2c U. S. Internal Revenue and was from Leroy Shaw of Pittsfield, Mass. Transferred to the left or west in a very large degree and transferred to the right or east in a smaller degree. Notice that the circle around the lower left numeral "2" is completely doubled. The intriguing fact of this Plate Variety is the numerous doubling of the shading lines on the left side. These are very prominent on this Plate Variety and are as numerous as any I have seen so far. However this does not discount the balance of this Triple Transfer. The doubled lines on the right side are "Hard to see, but plain" according to Mr. Bedford.

28: 688, 1939



T14D. TRIPLE A.

Two illustrations of the same stamp (Scott's R15) for the following reason: Illustration R1 being the early and late state of the plate, while the R2 illustration is of the late state only. Mr. Bedford's comments are as follows: "In addition to the Major Shift the late state also shows this minor Shift (illustration R2) which does not appear on the other stamp. No explanation has been found. This may be a TRIPLE TRANSFER." Referring to the R1 illustration, C. W. writes "TRIPLE TRANSFER"—"Both stamps on this page are from the same Plate position as shown by the guide dots at the upper right and lower left corners. Both stamps show this major shift."

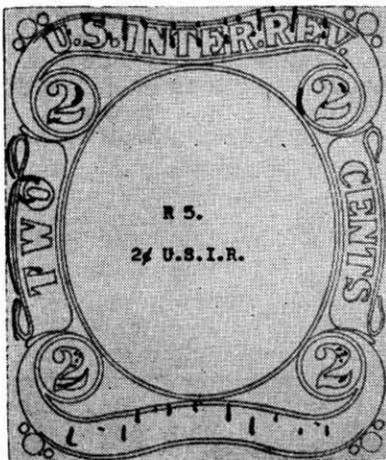
Cancelation date on the early state is 6-10-1870 and the cancelation date on the late state is 5-18-1871. Both these Revenue Stamps on checks of the National Bank of Rondout, New York.

May we refer you to that very excellent article of Mr. J. H. Train's, "The Two-Cent U. S. Internal Revenue," in the April, 1930 issue of *The American Philatelist*."

29: 216, 1939

"T 14-H SHOWS Triple C in late state," as noted by Mr. Bedford. 2c U. S. Internal Revenue. While at times these articles may appear highly technical, we are sure that help in solving various philatelic problems is made somewhat clearer by C. W.'s research work. We have pondered for months over various problems in Plate Variety collecting in his files and albums that presented themselves from time to time that when finally solved caused elation to us. A certain amount of the material that appears in these articles is not complete at the time it is presented, but is presented with the thought that perhaps someone can give the data necessary

29: 344, 1939



T14H. TRIPLE B.

HE HAD SIX of these on one page of his Revenue Album. Two on checks, one May 9-1870, the other Sept. 1-1871 and four singles. Three superb copies, three with perforations touching the frame lines.

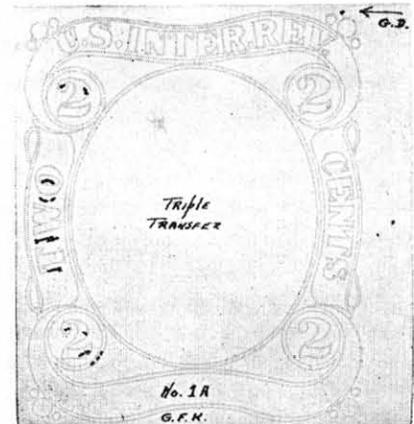
This triple transfer occurs on both early and late states. To distinguish the variety allow us to call your attention to the scroll lines to the left of "Two." These are of a much lesser degree than all other shifted lines. All four of the numeral 2, U. S. Inter. Rev. top and bottom, T and O of two being a very large shift.

29: 321, 1939



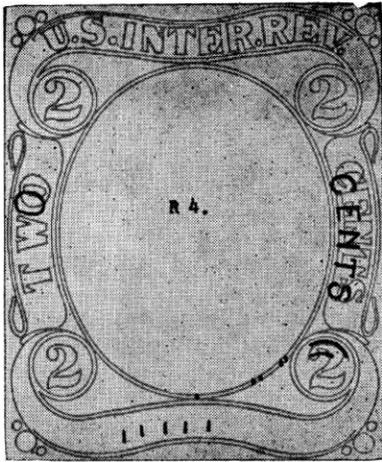
THE SECOND Triple Transfer from Geo. F. Kirshner, on the 2c U. S. I. R., showing transferred lines on all four sides. The only indication that this is a triple transfer occurs in the bottom label on the left side. Notice the two short lines. The marks showing in the bottom label occur in the "U," the period, "T," "E," "R," and "E" of "U. S. INTER. REV."

31: 659, 1941



FROM Geo. F. Kirshner of Kansas City, Mo., comes this fine Triple Transfer on the 2c U. S. I. R. The determining factor making this a triple transfer are the two lines doubled between the "T" and "W" of TWO. Mr. Kirshner forwarded six plate varieties of this Revenue issue and they are some of the finest seen by the writer.

31: 611, 1941



T14C. TRIPLE A.

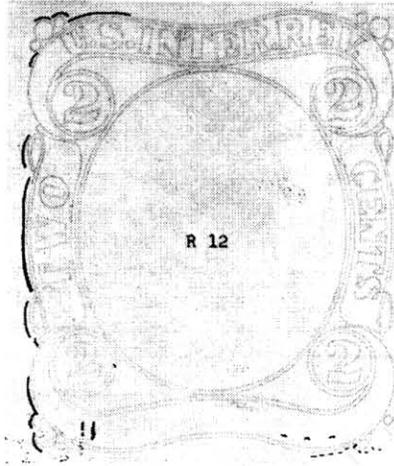
**T**HIS REVENUE (Scott's No. R15), mounted, is on one of C. W.'s hand-drawn mats. A beautiful specimen of a plate variety nicely canceled. This and the previous article last week may seem to have no connection. Frankly, we could see no connection but he saw fit to mount these on the same page. It is possible that misleading information could have been made at some previous time and he was on the correct trail? Possibly time will tell as we do not claim to understand all of his findings. These records are plenty voluminous and cannot be grasped in a minute.

The marks in the lower label occur in the word "INTER" and to the left. All other shifted lines are easily traced. It seems that when Mr. Bedford discovered a rare Plate Variety and one that was not previously presented, he drew the mat by hand to make added emphasis on the fact that this was a variety.

29: 266, 1939

**T**14-C to the south-west as the illustration will show. At this time we wish to caution those interested, the care that must be taken in determining the difference between clockwise, anti-clockwise shifts and triple transfers. We have been very careful so far and have checked our statements and illustrations very carefully.

29: 593, 1940



2-CENT U. S. INTERNAL REVENUE

**A** UNIQUE twisted shift clock-wise on the 2c U. S. INTER. REV. The shift in the right bottom portion occurs under the period after "INTER" and the "R" and "E" of "REV."

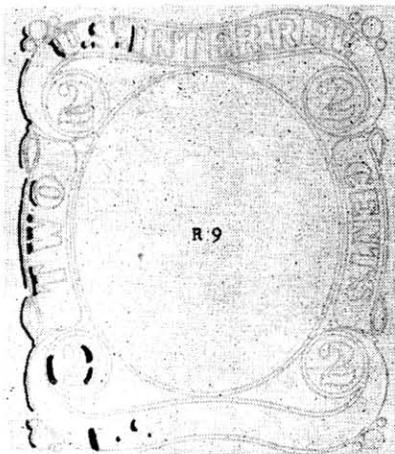
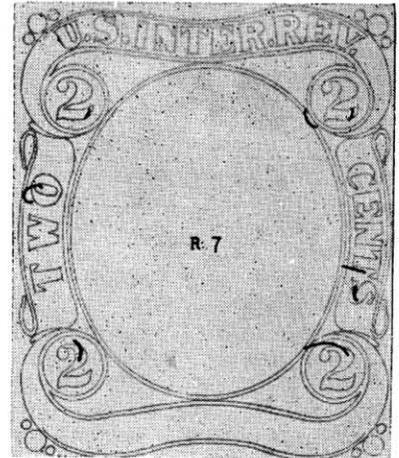
The shifted lines to the left side are very plain, in fact plainer than any shifted lines on the many stamps I have seen in C. W.'s books.

29: 661, 1940

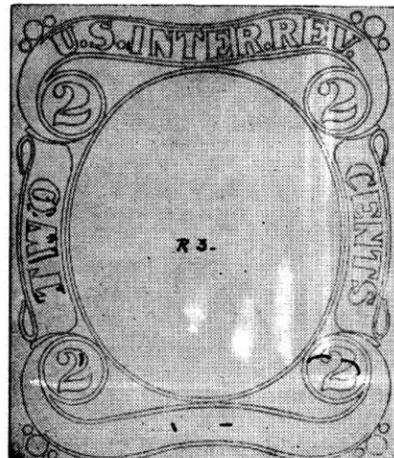
**T**HIS 2c United States Internal Revenue stamp (Scott's R15) is on a check of the First National Bank of Rondout, dated May 13, 1870. A penciled notation by Mr. Bedford "T14C" is in the lower right margin of the check. May we ask you to study carefully the above illustration.

We know for a surety that early and late states occurred on this issue, that double and triple transfers were prevalent on both early and late states of the plate. From our observations of this particular Revenue issue it is apparent that Mr. Bedford was getting ready to issue a treatise similar to his 5c Inld. Exchange.

29: 233, 1939



2c U. S. INTERNAL REVENUE

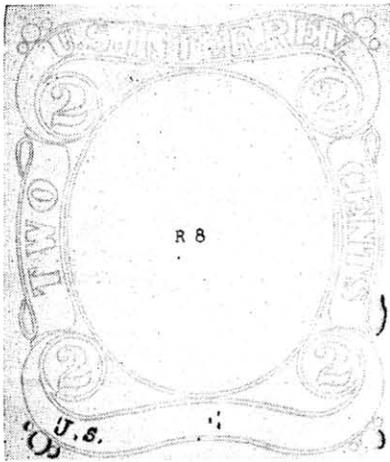


T14C

**T**14-D on a very clear copy shifted to the southwest. Two cent U. S. Internal Revenue. Your attention is called to the shift in the U. L., U. R., L. L. and L. R. numerals. These are extremely clear, in fact plainly visible without the use of a glass.

It may be of interest to know that C. W. used seven different colors of India ink in his albums, these being used for frame lines of the page, frame lines around the stamp and on the stamp mats. Truly a lot of time and effort was used by him in mounting these beauties. This was well worth the effort as a great help and clear understanding is made possible by his carefulness.

29: 378, 1939

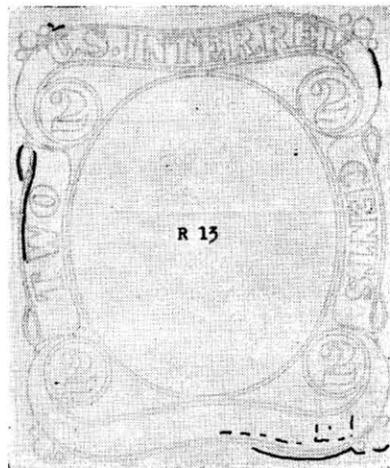


2c U. S. INTERNAL REVENUE

**A** PECULIAR SHIFT to the right, occurring only in the lower left and lower right part of the stamp. The three marks in the bottom label are in the "E" of "INTER." As stated before right side shifts are not as numerous as left side shifts and are greatly in the minority. The album that is graced by these right side shifts is to be prized highly.

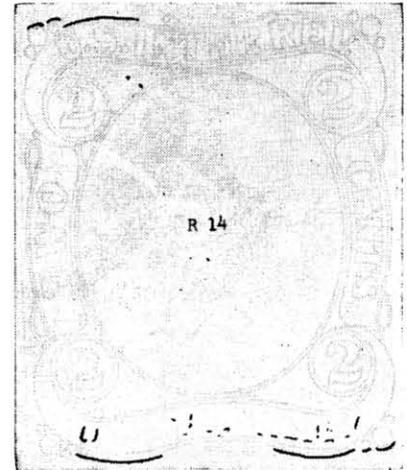
In our desires to present the Bedford data we at times might travel too fast. If this be so our apologies are offered.

29: 577, 1940



**O**NE OF THOSE hard to find right-side shifts on the 2c U. S. Internal Revenue. At first glance this could be mistaken for a triple transfer due to the shifted lines in the upper left corner, not so as these lines are part of the right designs and not upward. Hence a pure double transfer after examining the stamp and comparing with C. W.'s entries of the shifted lines.

30: 244, 1940



**A** DANDY double transfer on a 2c U. S. I. R. entered in a cocked position north by south. As proof, your attention is drawn to the closeness of the shifted lines at top and bottom left. Then examine the space between the normal lines and the shifted lines at bottom right. This is entirely possible. Take a rubber stamp and experiment. We refuse to become panicky and make misleading statements. As C. W. previously wrote, "We want facts, not speculation."

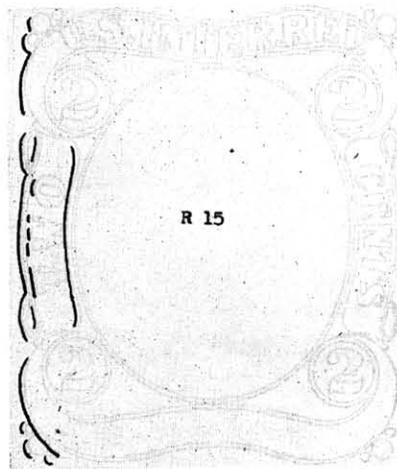
Just as Beethoven was years ahead of his time in his musical compositions, Mr. Bedford was years ahead in advanced knowledge of plate varieties.

30: 365, 1940



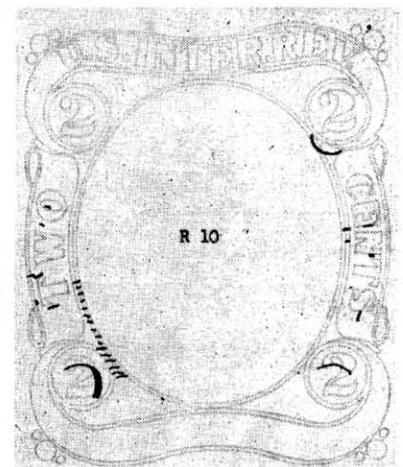
**A** DOUBLE transfer on the 2c U. S. I. R. and—how!! from Mr. Kirshner. The lines shown in the illustration are distinct as can be on any plate variety. Mr. Kirshner writes that he doesn't know too much about varieties, but he sure picks winners.

31: 689, 1941



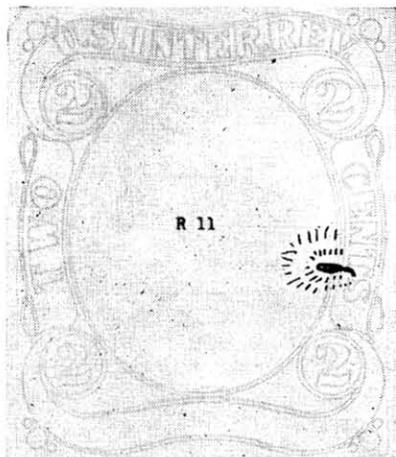
**D**IRECT WEST SHIFT on the 2c U. S. INTER. REV. This must have been the most common of varieties as Mr. Bedford had twenty on one page of this type. However, one of these stamps was printed on pasted or connected paper. Probably a clearer description would be two sheets of paper joined together. A diagonal line which is entirely devoid of ink and 2 mm. wide runs through the entire stamp.

30: 466, 1940



**T** 14-F, 2c U. S. Inter. Rev., from Mr. Shaw to Mr. Bedford. A fine southwest shift.

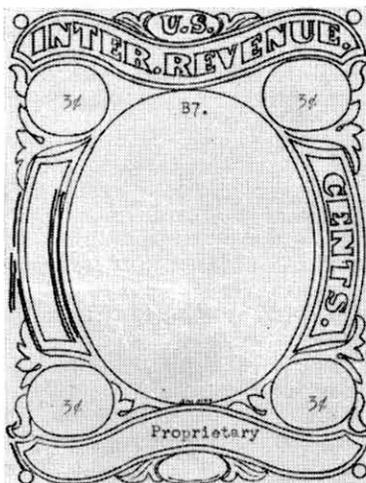
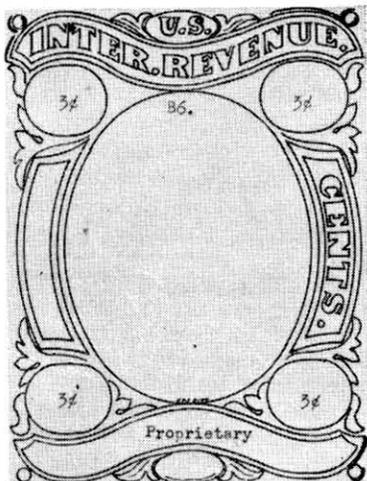
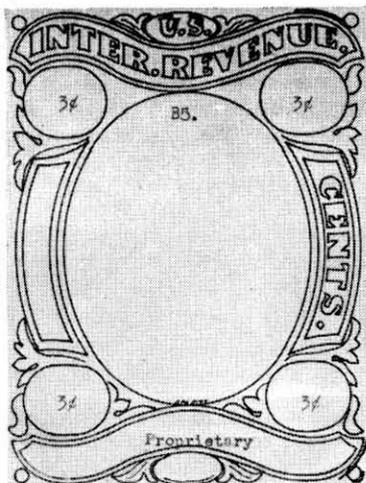
29: 624, 1940



A damaged Plate Variety from Mr. Shaw to Mr. Bedford and the only one I have found so far in these records on the 2c U. S. INTER. REV. stamp.

29: 624, 1940

## PROPRIETARY, R18



**F**OR THE first time since Mr. Bedford's demise in 1933 we submit for Revenue Collectors three plate varieties of the 3-cent Proprietary Revenue stamps of the First Issue taken from his collection.

You will note that the first one above (B5) shows doubling above the "U" and "S" of U. S., the "UE" of REVENUE, and again in the extreme lower right corner.

The second illustration (B6) shows doubling in the extreme upper left, upper right and lower right corners, and a slight doubling in the "T" of INTER.

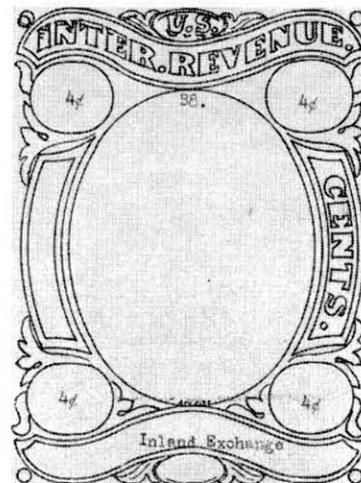
The third and last illustration (B7) shows plenty of doubling to the left of the center oval and in the lower left corner of stamp.

In checking our information we find that Plate 3-A was used for the 3-cent Proprietary stamp and was a 170-subject plate.

In this and subsequent articles we hope to give to those interested information of value. This is our purpose and as C. W. would have wished it to be. There can be no question that C. W. was a pioneer in Plate Varieties as his discoveries are marvels of accuracy. It is true that he also discovered errors of omission and commission but, being the diplomat that he was, no one's feelings were hurt, his motto being the old adage "Give and you shall receive."

26: 415, 1938

## INLAND EXCHANGE, R20

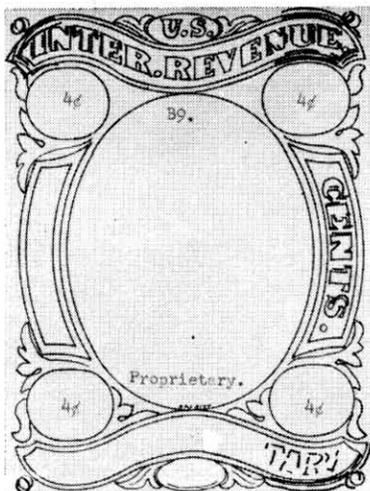


**I**N THIS second display of U. S. Revenue Varieties we deem it advisable to illustrate a Plate Variety on the 4c Inland Exchange (first issue). This variety is doubly interesting as it appears on a cardboard proof, the doubling being to the south, especially visible in the vicinity of U. S., the extreme upper left corner and in "INTE" of INTER. Again our information discloses that Plate 4F, a 170-subject sheet, was used for this Revenue stamp.

An inquiry was received asking if Mr. Bedford had marginal notes in his Boston Revenue Book. The answer is "No!" C. W. had nine loose-leaf books filled with stamps and data. The information he gathered was too extensive for marginal notes. It is a fact that Mr. Bedford had discovered certain errors which crept into data presented to stamp collectors and these corrections will be given in future articles.

26: 443, 1938

## PROPRIETARY, R22

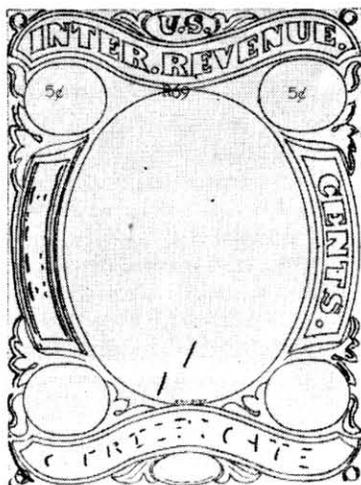


**F**OR THIS, our third article on Revenue Varieties an exceptional double transfer is illustrated on the 4c Proprietary (first issue). The original (in the Bedford Records) shows a block of eight, with imprint and "Plate No. 4A"; all eight of the stamps showing a double transfer (similar to this illustration). The illustration shows doubling in all the pearls in the corners; both ends of the upper scroll; right end of bottom scroll; in the letters "INTE" of Inter.; "NUE" of Revenue; "TARY" of Proprietary, and in "CENTS".

Plates 4A and "1 Plate 4A" were used. Mr. Bedford found evidence of a reworked plate which was also used in printing this issue. Stamps from this plate repose in his collection.

26: 470, 1938

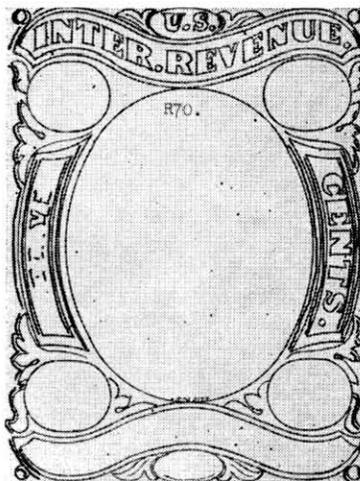
## CERTIFICATE, R24



**A**NOTHER dandy Double Transfer to delight the eye of those interested in Plate Varieties. This is one of those mouth-watering kinds that make you take in your breath in great gulps when your glass discovers these shifts. As will be readily noticed, this variety is a direct left or west shift, especially heavy on the left side of the word "FIVE." It is also apparent that when the transfer die was rocked in more of the pressure was applied to the bottom and left than the top as no extra lines are visible in the words "INTER. REVENUE."

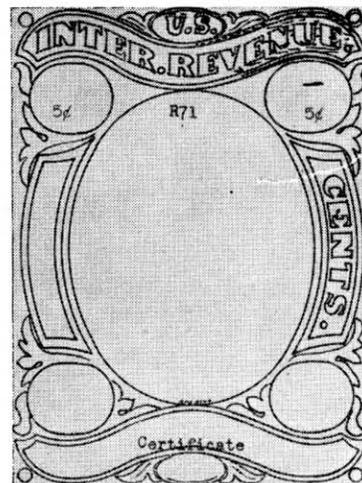
This variety is in a strip of six and marked "Shifted All Over." The dot at the upper right is a position dot.

26: 492, 1938



**A** BEAUTIFUL Double Transfer which bears Mr. Bedford's notation on the stamp and mat "Shifted All Over." Two position dots are to be found at the upper right corner. We find this listed in Scott's Specialized Catalog but no illustration, to our knowledge, has been published. A careful check is made from our files and those of C. W.'s to keep duplicated illustrations and information from these and the "Shift Hunter" letters. However, this is almost an impossible task and should duplications occur we offer our apologies at once.

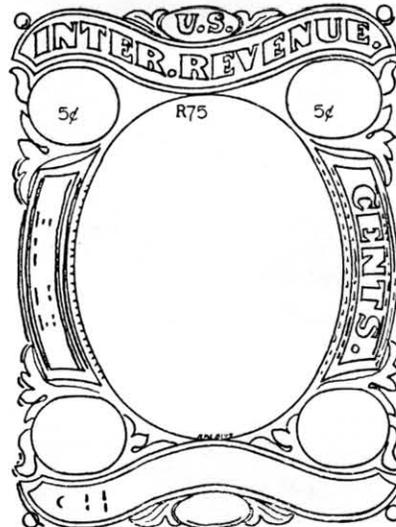
26: 520, 1938



**P**OSITION No. 138 of Plate 5-C, 5c Certificate, classified by C. W. as "Upper Right Shift." Scott's U. S. Catalogue lists a "Double Transfer in Upper Label." These may be the same but this is questionable to us as Mr. Bedford was careful to note such things in his collection.

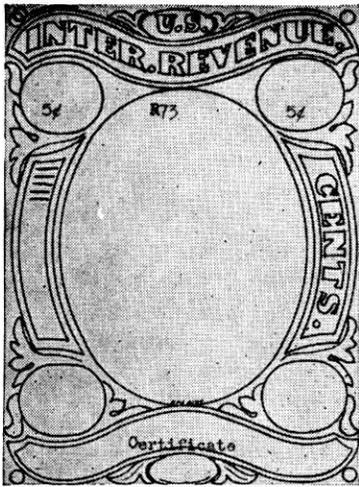
We have uncovered quite a few double transfers in his collection that are not listed in the U. S. Catalogue, and these will be presented from time to time.

26: 590, 1938



**I**LLUSTRATED herewith position No. 121 from Plate 5-C which Mr. Bedford states is the largest DOUBLE Transfer on the 5c Certificate. This is listed as a TRIPLE Transfer in the catalog. Four stamps from this position rest in the Bedford collection and it is questionable in our minds as to this being a TRIPLE Transfer. The only indication that this might be true is the shifted part of the upper right corner ball.

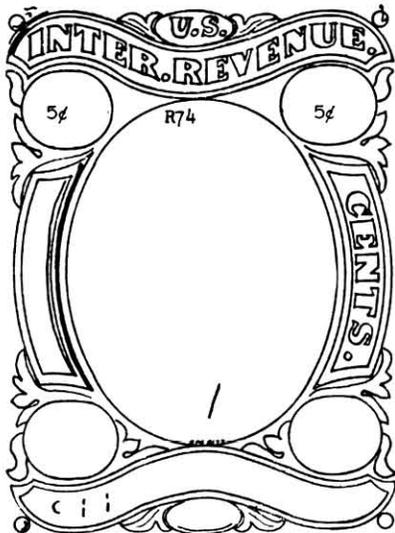
26: 690, 1938



**A**NOTHER position of the 5c Certificate. This time No. 104 from Plate 5-C. While these shifted lines are not as numerous as previous illustrations the largeness is enough to classify this as a Major Shift on our Revenue stamps.

In our previous articles no Minor Varieties have been illustrated, only those of Major proportions and unless mentioned it can be taken for granted these articles deal only with Major Varieties.

26: 604, 1938

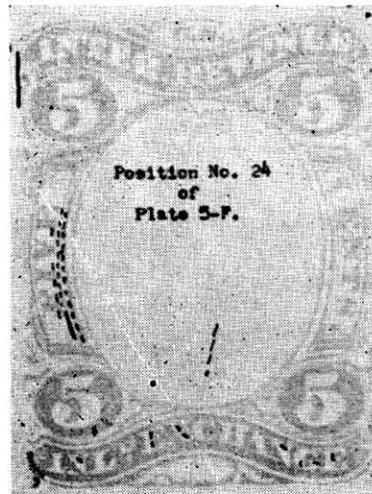


**A**N UNUSUAL Double Transfer on the 5c Certificate. Notice the position dot and vertical line in the U. R. ball, also the single slanted line in the vignette. The purpose of showing the position marks is for identification of plate positions. Mr. Bedford was vitally interested as to location of shifts on the various Revenue Plates.

At this time it is deemed advisable to explain the various codes used. For instance, a question might have arisen as to why B5-B6-B7 and R-70 are shown on the various illustrations. As a means of identification we have marked the Bedford collection as these have been marked so that in presenting his (C. W.'s) data no mix-up will occur.

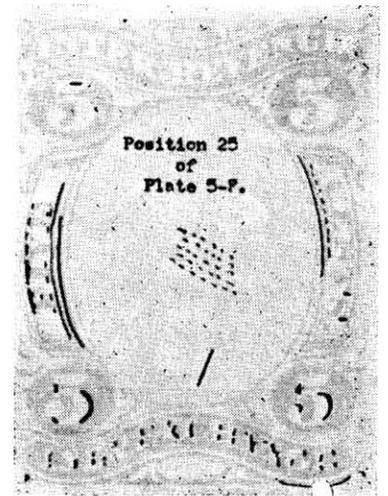
26: 669, 1938

## INLAND EXCHANGE, R27



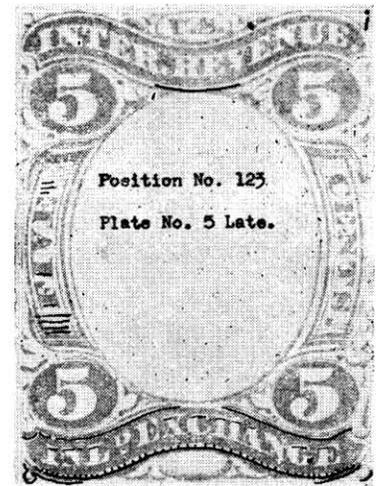
**A**T THE TIME Mr. Bedford had published his "Replating the 5c Inland Exchange," plate 5F was completed all but a few positions, two of these being No. 24 and 25. We now give the data on No. 24, this being a direct shift west. On C. W.'s copy we find marked in green ink, "Reference copy with corrections and additions." Turning to the first Replating Chart on the fifth page, Mr. Bedford had inked his copy as follows: "Corner Ball L. L., Corner Scrolls L. L., five, Inland Exchange, coat collar and scratches." This meaning, quoting from the legend on the same page, "o" denotes varieties as difficult to observe, often requiring a high-powered glass. These minor varieties are only of value as a check on the plating of important positions. Stamps showing full minor details are rare. The vertical mark at the top left is a scratch, the dot at upper right denoting position, all other heavy marks being a minor shift.

28: 713, 1939



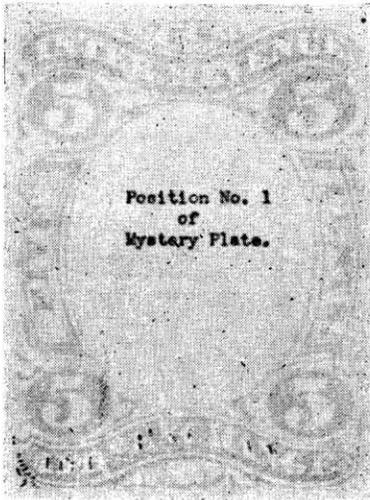
**P**OSITION 25 of Plate 5 F of the 5c Inland Exchange, this being a major plate variety southwest. In studying Mr. Bedford's "Replating the 5c Inland Exchange" we find that he states "Indirect evidence points to a major shift in No. 25." His theories were invariably correct as this is a major shift. His replating chart was marked in ink: "Corner Balls L. L. L. R., Corner Scrolls L. R, Numerals L. L. L. R., five cents, Inland Exchange, above Exchange, below Exchange, coat collar and coat lapel."

29: 44, 1939



**P**OSITION number 123 from Plate 5 late state. Notice the determining factor in Plating this variety in the upper right corner. This established by the dot and the short vertical line. C. W. had a block of eight (2x4) to give him the required information as presented. Two stamps, one a deep red, the other a lighter red, prove this to be constant. Both these stamps are replatable items and not the faint and wishy-washy colors found on so many of our revenues.

29: 194, 1939

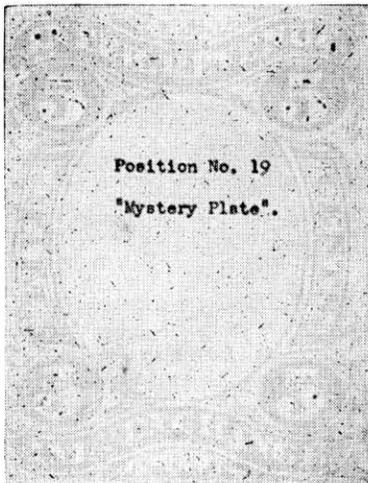


**P**OSITION No. 1 of the "Mystery Plate." Notice that this is a direct west shift.

We find several pages marked "Mystery Plate." The illustration above from C. W.'s loose-leaf three-ring binder on hard cardboard consists of 42 revenue stamps, all from the hard to solve 5c Inland Exchange stamp. Singles, doubles, horizontal strips of 3, 4 and 5, blocks of four. Mr. Bedford had definitely placed positions 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 29, 34, 40, 41, 48, 49, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 65, 66, 67, 68, 84, 85, 86, 87, 101 and 102 of this plate.

Only plate varieties of this plate will be given in these articles.

29: 76, 1939



**N**UMBER 19, the big Shift listed by C. W. from the Mystery Plate. Again it will be noticed that this is a pronounced Double Transfer to the south. Was the "Mystery Plate" numbered 5E, 5M or some other plate number? Frankly, at this time we are unable to state. We hope at some time in the near future to give positive proof about this plate number as the more we study his records the more enlightened we become. A lot of time, study and effort is made for this and other articles and the deeper we plunge into his findings the more we feel like a novice in Plate Varieties and Plate Reconstruction.

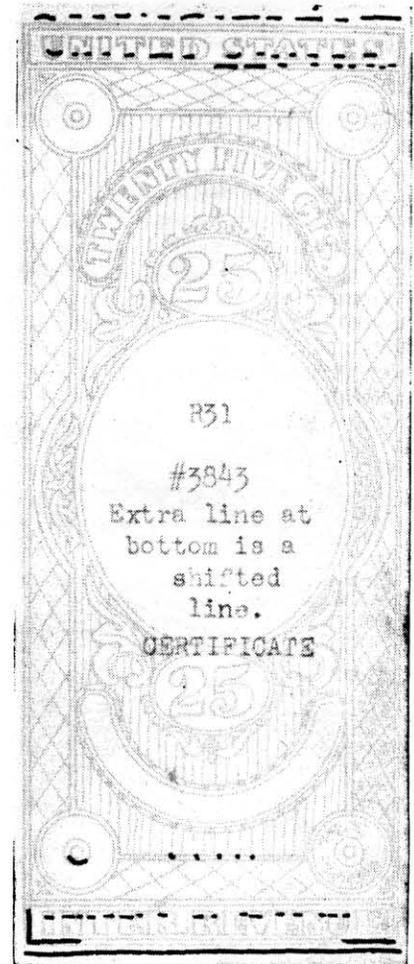
29: 103, 1939



**W**E ARE unable to state plate number and position on this variety. However, we believe this to be from Plate 5 as nine other stamps were on this page and all of them were from Plate 5. It will be noticed from the illustration this double transfer is direct to the west or left. The succeeding article will show and describe a distinct shift to the south. Perhaps some will recall that Mr. Bedford stated in his replating of the 5c Inland Exchange, "There appears to be but very few varieties from Plate 5, except for layout dots, layout lines and rocking-in dots." He had uncovered several more that had not been illustrated and beside the three in his book we will illustrate as we find them in his revenue records.

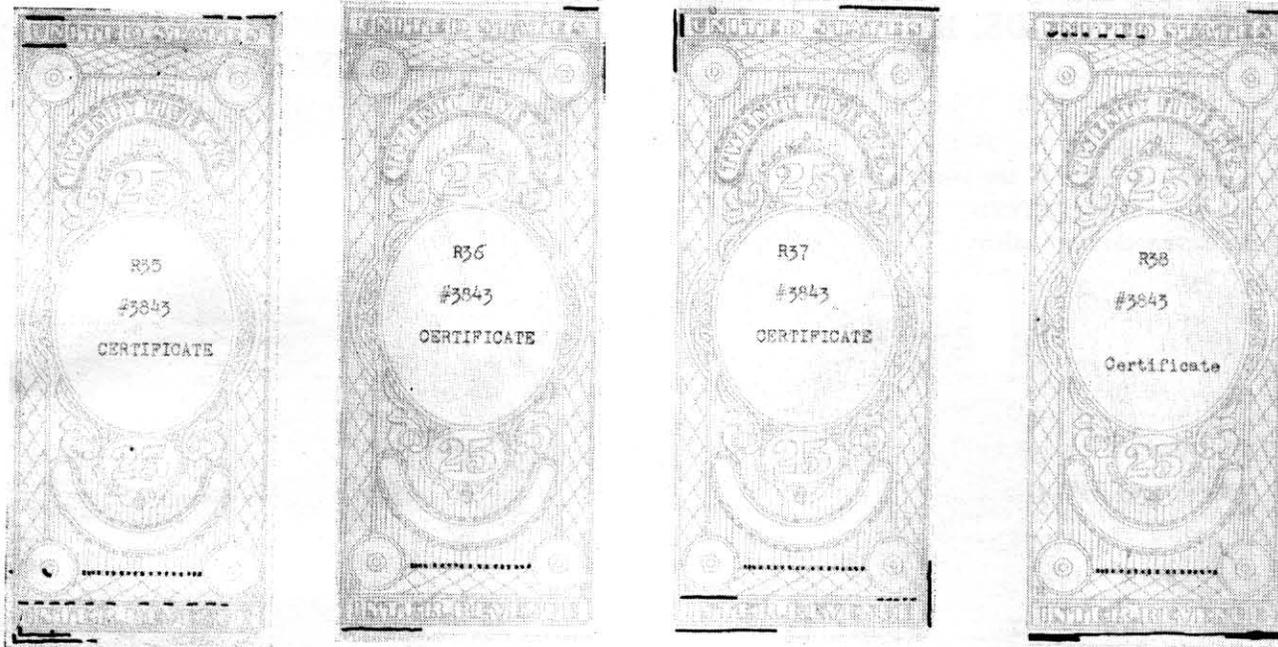
29: 133, 1939

## CERTIFICATE, R44



R31 another triple transfer on Revenue, formerly Scott's No. 3843 (now Cat. No. R44), the 25c Certificate. Again as in the R30 illustration the top frame line and label doubled north. The bottom label, left inner circle and parts of the frame line doubled south. The line at bottom is a shifted line according to Mr. Bedford.

30: 41, 1940



Four red Certificate Plate Varieties, Scott No. 3843 (new number R44) which are puzzlers to the writer. Mr. Bedford had no notes on these, only the stamps mounted on a mat with the doubled lines showing. We will not at this time attempt to classify these varieties because after an examination of the stamps we were not sure as to the category. Anti-clockwise shifts and triple transfers came to our mind. The question in our mind is that part of the top frame line shows a doubling north. The length and continuity is not always the same on the stamps as shown by the illustrations. Then again the bottom doubling is parallel in all four cases to the lines above.

29: 710, 1940



R34 illustration is a swell plate variety that has all the earmarks of a triple transfer. We cannot classify this as a twisted entry or a clockwise shift due to the doubled lines being parallel and not on an angle. Mr. Bedford had no notes on this one. Perhaps he was waiting for a duplicate copy to show up.

31: 576, 1941



R32, being a triple transfer on No. 3843, and a dandy. Mr. Bedford had three of this same triple transfer, one being a perforated stamp, one an imperforate stamp and still another, a blue cardboard proof. Top label and frame line doubled upward. Bottom label and frame lines doubled downward. Inner left circle and vertical lines under "CERTIFICATE" extensively doubled.

31: 538, 1941

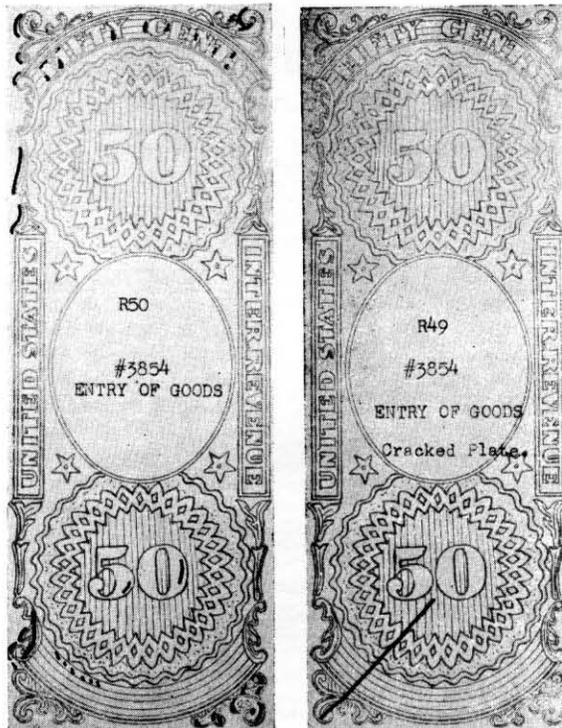
## ENTRY OF GOODS, R55

R50. Entry of Goods, No. 3854, is a fine double transfer. This shows doubling in the top label, top ornamentalations, top left side above "UNITED STATES," the bottom "50" and the bottom ornamentalations.

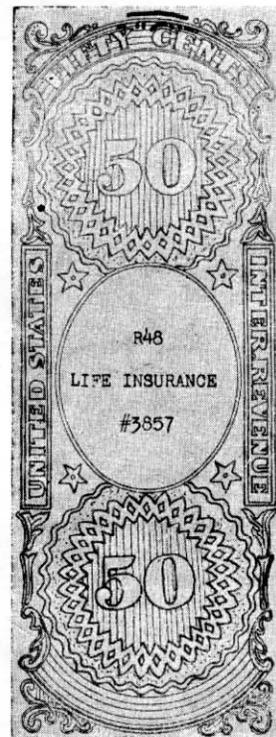
31: 576, 1941

R49 is a cracked plate on Revenue No. 3854, Entry of Goods, and listed in the Specialized Catalog.

31: 457, 1941



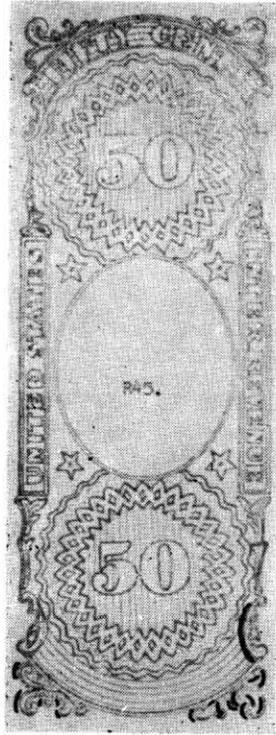
## LIFE INSURANCE, R58



R48 double transferred at top of 50c Life Insurance. Part of the outer curved line is doubled above "Y" of FIFTY and "CE" of CENTS.

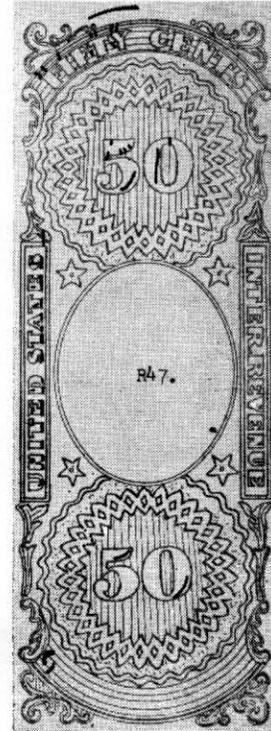
31: 457, 1941

## ORIGINAL PROCESS, R60



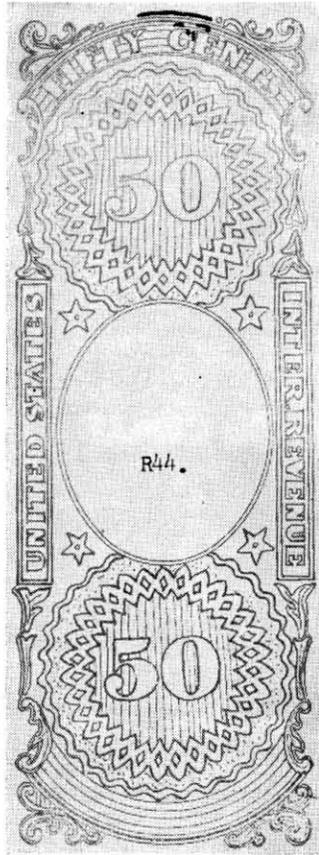
**T**HE Specialized Catalogue lists this Double Transfer of No. 3859. This is a nice doubling of the bottom ornamentations on the 50c Original Process. We are sorry that we cannot give position or plate numbers of this and other varieties, but could C. W. have lived longer I am sure that this would have been forthcoming to us.

28: 657, 1939



**A**SWELL Double Transfer north-west on No. 3859. This is not listed and according to Mr. Bedford was cancelled 10-11-1871. Two copies of this are known to exist as per C. W.'s records. One of these is or was owned by G. F. Kirshner and the other by Mr. Bedford. The doubled lines occur as follows: Outer top left of the curved line, the word "FIFTY", the top numeral "50", the left side label "UNITED STATES", the bottom numeral "50" and the "O" of "ORIGINAL".

28: 552, 1939



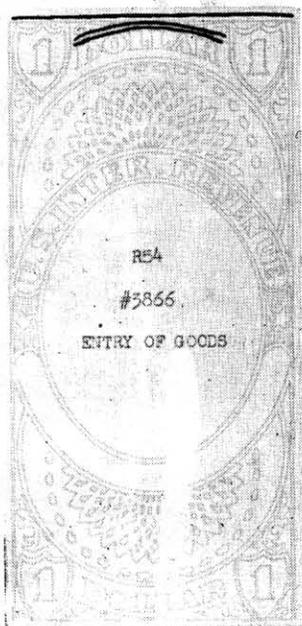
**T**HIS shows a small section of the outer top, curved frame line and the upper label Doubled and transferred to a large degree north. This is listed but so far I do not believe any illustration has been shown. There are hundreds of Plate Varieties remaining to be illustrated. Valuable data on position and Plate number is being held until an exhaustive examination can be made of C.W.'s collection. The son, Lawrence, has been very generous in loaning the writer these records, so they can be made public.

28: 575, 1939



**T**HIS TIME we show a Double Transfer of Scott No. 3859, which is not listed in the Specialized Catalogue. This is an exceptional variety as a study of the illustration will show. First notice the tremendous degree south of the doubling. Then notice the "O" of the upper numeral 50 showing the shading lines doubled downward. Then notice the lines at the bottom of the frame surrounding "UNITED STATES" in the middle of the left side and pay particular attention to the "REN" of REVENUE. Last, but not least, check carefully the doubled transferred lines in the bottom numeral "50" and the lower label. A beautiful Plate Variety, and could be a dropped relief.

31: 492, 1941



R54 Entry of Goods showing double transfer at top which is not listed in the Specialized Catalog.

30: 325, 1940

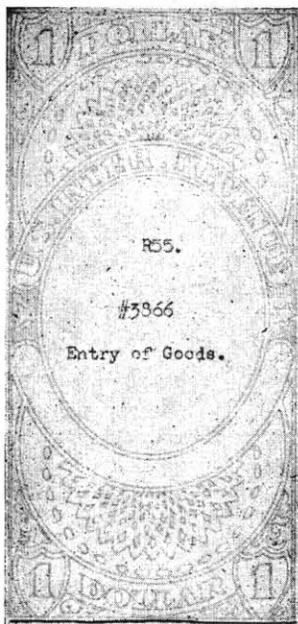


From W. T. Kiepora, Sioux City, Iowa, we illustrate a Double Perforated Double Transfer on the \$1.00 Foreign Exchange. It is evident that this sheet was put through the perforation machine twice. The first time the perforations were well within the left frame line and over into the left of the adjoining stamp. The second time the perforations were vertical, well to the outside on the left side and just within the border of the right frame line.

The double transfer occurs on the left frame line from the top down to the numeral "1" and appears as a dot at the extreme lower left corner. A faint line is also visible, under a good glass, extending from top left, down about a quarter of the stamp. This line runs parallel and very close to the transferred outer left frame line. This was evidently caused by a creeping of the transfer roll while rocking in and occurred out of position.

Another unusual feature of this variety is that the stamp to the right, part of which is visible, is entered lower on the plate. The double perforation is quite intriguing as speculation as to where these perforations finally went to in the upper stamps. Double perforations were the cause of a short article in the September, 1930 issue of *The American Philatelist*, wherein it was stated that such varieties were worth more than catalogue.

27: 262, 1938

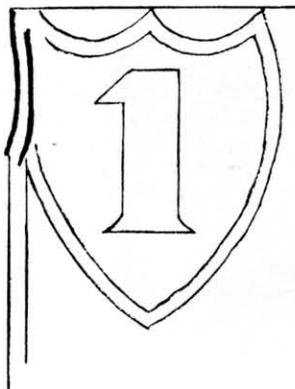
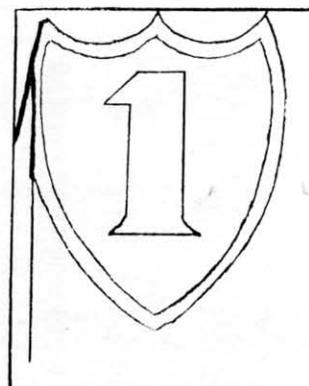
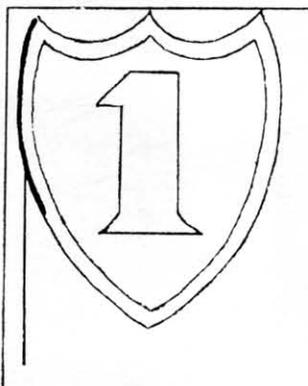
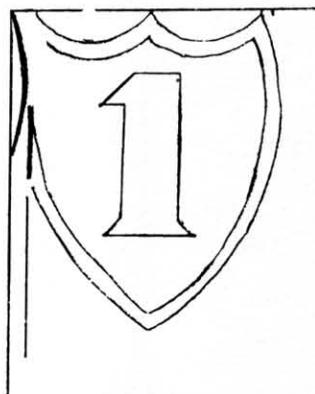


R55, the \$1.00 Entry of Goods, Scott No. 3866, showing extra line at bottom.

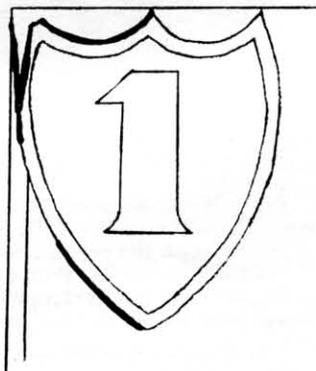
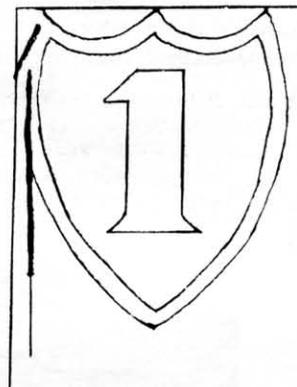
31: 538, 1941

IN the *American Philatelist* for August, 1929, page 719, a re-cut of the upper left shield by Philip E. Hamilton was illustrated. Again in January, 1930, the same magazine illustrated two (2) more re-cuts of this same upper left shield on the \$1.00 Foreign Ex-

change. This was found by Thomas A. Pratt and was shown on pages 192 and 193. In checking through Mr. Bedford's collection and records we find three additional re-cuts on the upper left shield of this same Revenue issue. These are illustrated as follows:



C. W.'s Revenue collection had copies of the re-cut shield found by Mr. Pratt. These are quite like those shown in the January, 1930 issue of the *American Philatelist* and the illustrations shown in this article are copied from Mr. Bedford's records.



From an exhaustive search of Bedford's collection we find evidence of seven of these slip re-cuts made by the engraver's tool. Six of these are shown in this article but what about the seventh re-cut shield? So

far we have been unable to unearth this missing item.

For the benefit of those who have not seen an illustration of the re-cut found by Philip E. Hamilton we again illustrate from the Bedford records.

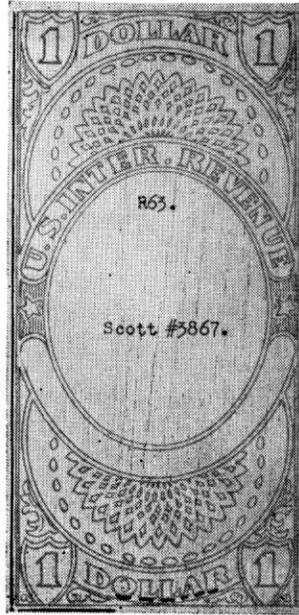
29: 284, 1939

# INLAND EXHCANGE, R69



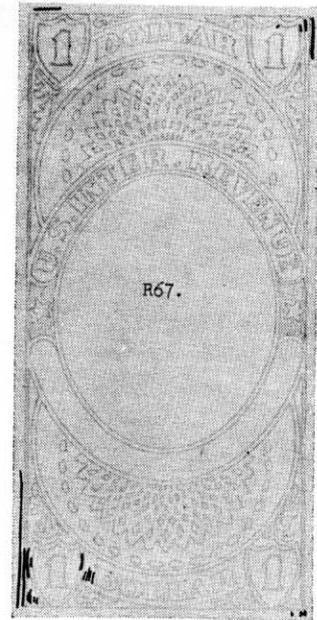
**S** COTT No. 3868 (listed), which has the resemblance of a clock-wise shift. The degree of the doubling is too great to be considered as such. This was rocked in too far out of position and is a double transfer of this Revenue. The strong part of the doubling occurs in the top right, lower left and top left of the corners. The weaker part occurs in the bottom right.

28: 362, 1939



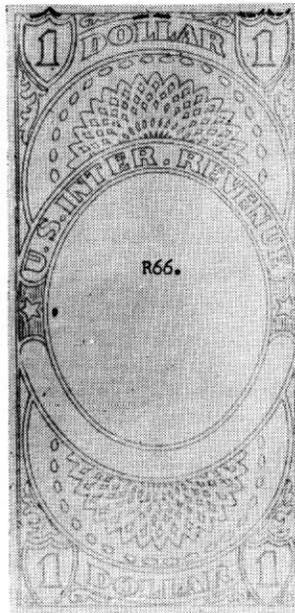
**A** NICE double transfer of the \$1.00 Foreign Exchange showing extra frame line at left. This is listed in the Specialized Catalogue but no mention is made of any doubling of the lower left frame line nor of any doubling in the lower label. The extra lines show under the letters "OLLAR" of "DOLLAR."

28: 404, 1939



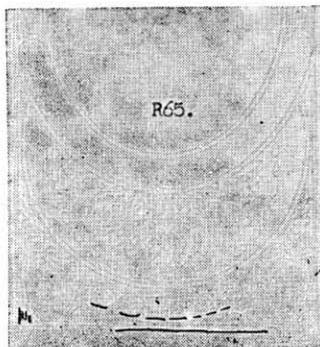
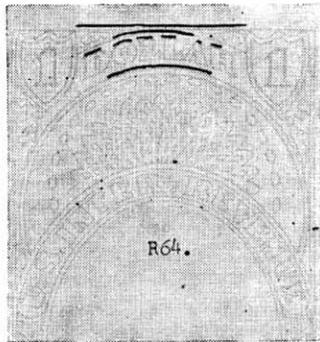
**A** BEAUTIFUL clock-wise shift of the \$1.00 Inland Exchange revenue. This is Scott No. 3868 and is not listed in the Specialized Catalogue. Notice that all four corners are shifted clock-wise. The best part of the shift occurs in the lower left corner as the illustration will show. Notice also the shifted lines to the left of "DOLLAR" in the lower label.

28: 463, 1939

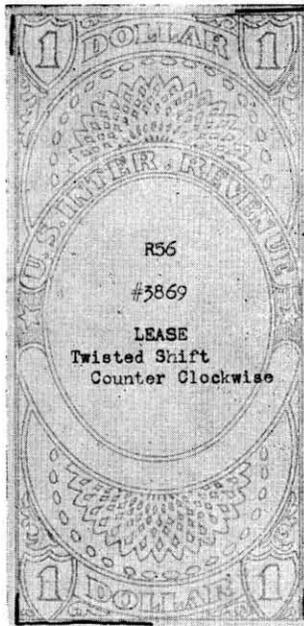


**A** TOP Double Transfer of No. 3868 which is listed. The doubling occurs above both top shields and the "LL" of Dollar in the top label.

28: 517, 1939



**T**WO FINE Double Transfers covering R64 a top D. T. and R65 covering a bottom D. T. The R64 illustration of No. 3868 is not listed in the Specialized Catalogue. The doubling occurs upward in part of the top line. Also part of the curved line above "DOLLAR." The tops of every letter in the upper label is doubled and part of the curved line below. These were in a horizontal strip and noted by Mr. Bedford, "Two stamps at right also shifted at top." The R65 illustration of No. 3868 is listed in the Specialized Catalogue and shows in the shading lines to the left of the left "1". The bottom of each letter in the lower label is shifted as well as the larger portion of the lower frame line. 28: 601, 1939



R56 is a twisted shift, counter-clockwise on Scott No. 3869. This is the \$1.00 Lease and shows in all four corners.

31: 457, 1941



R52, the \$1.00 Mortgage, Scott's No. 3872 (now R73). Quoting Mr. Bedford: "Large upward shift, extra line at bottom." This remarkable shift, as shown, in his collection on an imperforate copy and the displacement being very large to the north. A beauty which is not listed. 30: 91, 1940

## MANIFEST, R72



**A** PECULIAR transfer of the \$1.00 Manifest revenue. This is not listed in the Specialized Catalogue. This is not a double but a triple transfer. The first transfer occurs downward and shows in the "OLL" of "DOLLAR," in the upper label and a partial doubling of the lower right frame line. The second transfer occurs in the "LLR" of "DOLLAR" in the upper label and above the "T" of "INTER".

28: 433, 1939

## MORTGAGE, R73



R51 the \$1.00 Mortgage double-transferred in a large degree southward and showing in the bottom label and bottom frame line only. This is not listed in the Specialized Catalog.

30: 325, 1940

## PROBATE OF WILL, R76



R53 the \$1.00 Probate of Will showing double transfer at bottom only. Again this is not listed in the Specialized Catalog.

30: 325, 1940

# SECOND ISSUE

R116

IN A REVENUE Album of Mr. Bedford's which was loaned to me by the son, Lawrence A. Bedford, who inherited his father's magnificent collection, I found extensive data regarding the 70c design on the 60c second and third issue revenue. It is quite evident that he (C. W. Bedford) had uncovered this plate variety several years before his death. This would make it approximately eight or nine years ago. The plate for this 60c Revenue had eight instead of seven of the 70c reliefs. These were Nos. 18, 19, 21, 22, 31, 34, 51 and 85. We quote Mr. Bedford as to how this variety occurred:

eighty-five plate positions. These DOUBLE DESIGN positions are numbers 18, 19, 21, 22, 31, 34, 51 and 85.

"All other positions on the plate are normal. A proof of the seventy cent stamp is shown for comparison.

"Note the 70c design is displaced downward with reference to the 60c design and to the same degree in all positions. The same is true of the 2c relief on the 1c plate and of the 1c relief on the 2c plate. There is also definite evidence of a 2c relief on the 1c playing cards plate, displaced downward in exactly the same manner."

In some quarters, the belief prevails that more than one design was

85 in the fifth or bottom row. Notice that six of the eight 70c reliefs occur in the second row on the plate. If a transfer roll did have more than one relief on it we cannot conceive of the transfer man rocking all these positions so far below the bottom of the top row. In other words why would anyone start the transfer roll in the top row and go so far into the second row on so many positions? Number 51, the last stamp of the third row and number 85, the last stamp of the fifth and bottom row show this foreign relief. Draw a diagram of the plate, then mark in the positions where the variety occurs.

Allow me to classify or grade these from the best to the poorest. Remember this grading is made from cardboard proofs. Number 31 is the clearest and has the most foreign lines with 51 the next best and 34 the third best. Then in rotation 21, 22, 18, 19 and last No. 85.

Our theory is that of Mr. Bedford's, that this was a discarded plate of 70c issue, resurfaced and used again for this 60c second and third issue revenue.

Note: this article is made possible by Lawrence A. Bedford. Checks were made from regular and irregular blocks of cardboard proofs. Positions covered were 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 31, 32, 33, 34, 50, 67, 68, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 84 and 85.

27: 688, 1939



"A seventy cent plate was apparently made with some error that made it unusable, so that it was cancelled before it ever went to press. A new plate was used for both the second and the third issues.

"The discarded 70c plate was apparently resurfaced and placed among the blank plates. It was this previously used plate from which Plate No. 22 was made for the 60c second and third issues.

"Portions of the 70c design still show in the 60c design in EIGHT of the

made on the transfer roll used for this issue. We do not share this belief as all evidence in the Bedford collection shows otherwise. Our contention is that only one design was used on this particular transfer roll and that this was truly a reworked plate. The plate lay-out for this issue was five rows vertical and seventeen rows horizontal. That would make stamps 1 to 17 in the first row, stamps 18 to 34 in the second row, stamps 35 to 51 in the third row, stamps 52 to 68 in the fourth row and stamps 69 to



Plate No. 27  
Second Issue Revenues

**N**OTE the addition of "March 22d. 1870" after completion of imprint. This imprint was made symmetrical in later plates by a new transfer roller. No. 7, 8 and 9 are

directly under the imprint. We have used the middle illustration and numbered it No. 10 which is a Double Transfer of the vignette. This was done for the saving of space. This plate was a ninety (90) subject sheet with fifteen (15) stamps to the row horizontally and six (6) stamps to

the row vertically. According to Mr. Bedford's examination chart of this issue he had checked stamps 1 to 10, 16 to 20, 31 to 33 and position number 83, the remainder of the stamps not being checked by him at any time.

30: 406-7, 1940

## THIRD ISSUE

A major Double Transfer southwest on the 30c Third Issue Revenue. This occurs on Plate No. 30 and is position No. 17. Two blocks of cardboard proofs, one a block of four and the other a block of six, 2 x 3, vertically. Both these are the upper right corner blocks and the top right stamp being the variety. Therefore there must have been 17 stamps in the horizontal rows. This page was beautifully arranged in Mr. Bedford's Revenue Album. A large drawing of the vignette at the top left of the page, in the lower left corner the right corner block of four and in the right corner the right corner block of six. The double transfer of the portions of the vignette was done in red ink.

31: 510, 1941



PLATE NO. 30  
30c Orange and Black  
Third Issue

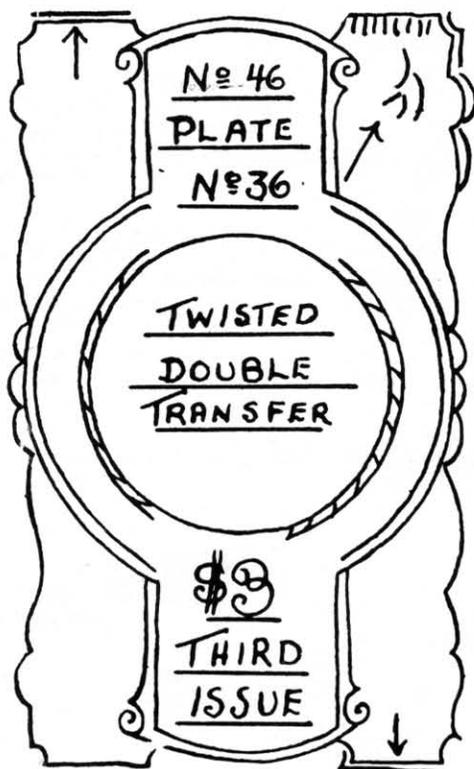
QUOTING Mr. Bedford: "Position 47 (the fifth stamp in from the right margin, third row) double transferred on the colored plate showing in the stars in the upper scroll. The extra lines are displaced to the left." Again quoting from his notes regarding position on Plate No. 30: "Position 92 (the stamp over the black plate number n the lower margin) double transferred on the colored plate showing in the stars in the upper scroll. The extra lines are displaced to the right."

Mr. Bedford had examined all positions on this issue. Plate varieties occurred on 17, 47 and 92. This was a one hundred and two (102) subject plate (17 x 6). The patent imprint had no date for the Jones Patent above stamps 8, 9 and 10.

31: 424, 1940



PLATE NO. 30  
30c Orange and Black  
Third Issue



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13											24
25											36
37							→		D.T. 46		48
49											60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72

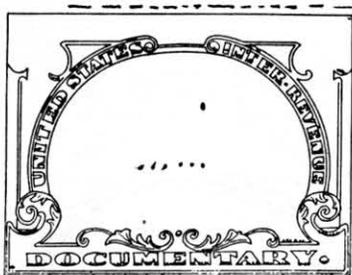
PLATE #36

Herewith stamp No. 46 from Plate No. 36 on the \$3.00 Third Issue Revenue. This, as the chart above will show, was 12 stamps horizontally and 6 stamps vertically. Mr. Bedford had in his Revenue Album a block of four of the cardboard proof, the lower right corner of this block being the Twisted Double Transfer illustrated above. This variety is not listed in the Specialized catalog.

27: 326, 1938

# SERIES OF 1898

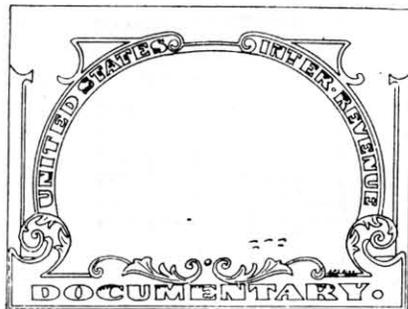
R162



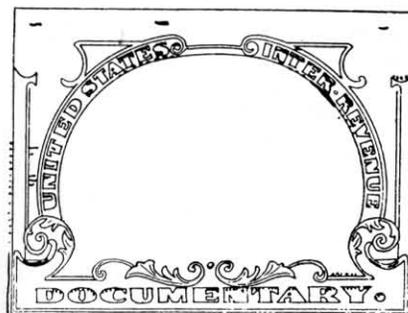
**A** MAJOR Double Transfer on the "One Half Cent Documentary," shifted north. The left and right numerals "½" show this very clearly as well as the "O" "N" "E" of ONE and "C" "N" "T" of CENT. This shift is also very prominent in the "Series of 1908." The illustration also shows the top of the flagpole doubled as well as the portholes of the ship.

30: 119, 1940

R163

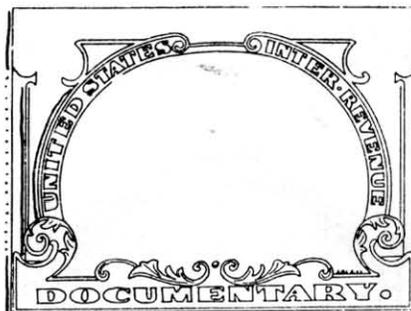


**S**OUTHWEST Shift on the 1c Documentary, this being on a pen-canceled issue initialed and the date of cancelation being 6/20/00.



The best double Transfer that I have seen of the 1c Documentary Revenues in C. W.'s records or collection. This is beautifully doubled to the southwest and to a large degree. Both numerals at top show this double as well as the "E" of "One". A very fine show-piece to grace a plate variety collection.

27: 547, 1939



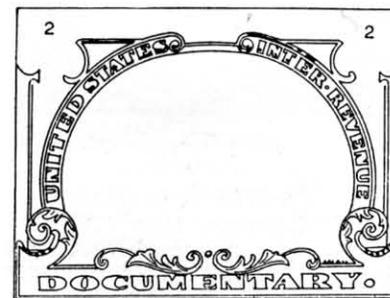
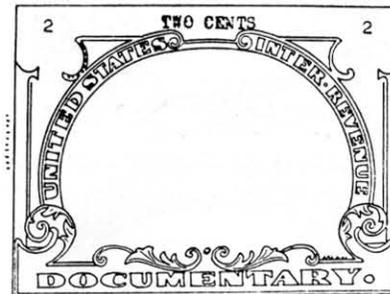
**T**HIS variety on the 1c Documentary occurs directly opposite the left side Plate No. 12101. Mr. Bedford had mounted a vertical strip of three on a stamp mat in his Revenue Album which is a delight to the eye.



This is from a part-perf. block of 18 of the 1c Documentary which C. W. had marked as coming from "40-LR." A dandy, and being in a block of 18 part-perf. makes this very interesting. We are trying in a small way to dispense the large volume of plate varieties Mr. Bedford left and to give in our limited capacity a clear and concise vision of his works as he left them.

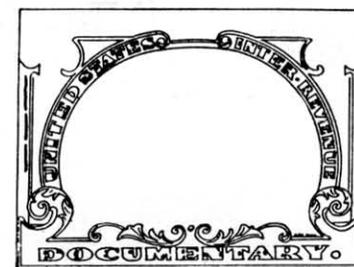
27: 657, 1939

R164



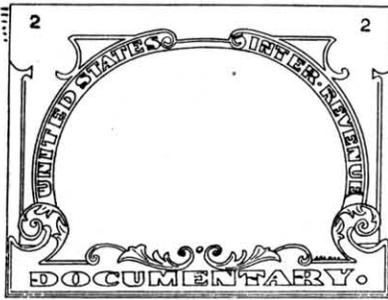
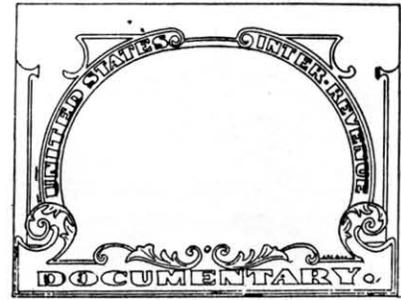
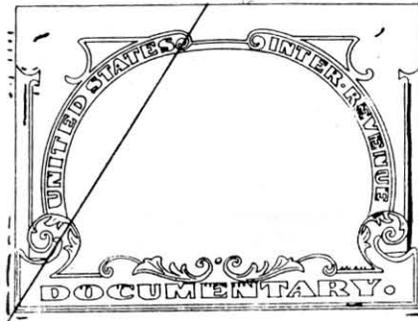
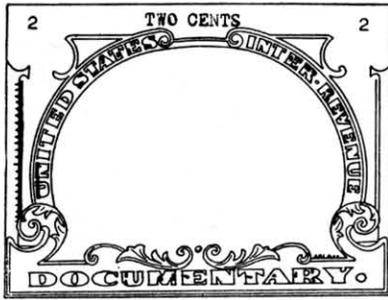
**P**EN CANCELED varieties on the 2c Documentary stamps. Both of these in ink "W. H. M." but written by different persons. The one "5/7"; the other "7/22". These are fine examples of plate varieties and would adorn any collection. The more we see the Bedford stamps the more we wax eloquent on the plate variety collecting phase of philately. Mr. Bedford was one of the deans in shifts and had accumulated so many that we have to dish out his records by piece-meal.

27: 154, 1938



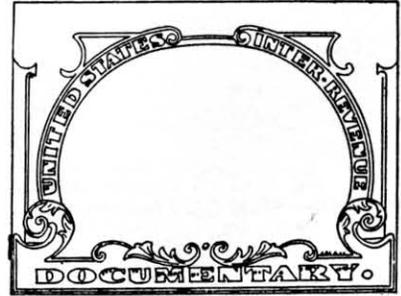
**S**TILL another fine plate variety on the 2c Documentary. Heavily shifted to the left. This revenue has a guide line to the right. Every letter in "DOCUMENTARY" is doubled, which is somewhat unusual for this issue.

30: 718, 1940



A Double-Double Transfer on the 2c Documentary. This was marked "From H. M. Jones," which meant that this was sent by Mr. Jones to Mr. Bedford who made a study of the stamp, who recorded it and then returned the stamp to the owner. We have separated this Double-Double Transfer by drawing a diagonal line through the mat. Mr. Bedford had the mat marked in two colors of ink. To the left of the diagonal line the shifted lines were marked with black india ink, and to the right with red ink.

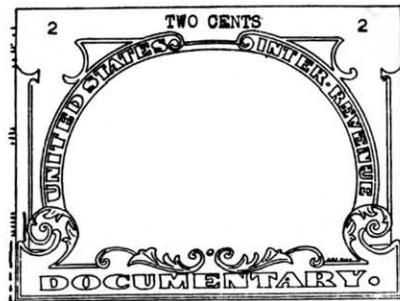
27: 519, 1939



**V**ASTLY different shifts on the 2c Documentary issue. The first and only of its kind in Mr. Bedford's records. The second one of those rare top shifts. As we have stated before, C. W. did not place in his Albums, Minor Varieties, only those that were tops. It can readily be seen that this and previous articles have dealt with the "hard to find" type of Varieties. No duplications of this and previous articles have occurred as he was very careful of giving the correct information.

We hope that Shift Hunters are being helped by these articles as this would be as C. W. would have it.

27: 90, 1938



**A** TRIPLE Transfer on the 2c Spanish War Documentary Revenue. This was marked by Mr. Bedford, "Submitted by B. R. Dunham." In many file folders, mats, properly marked, were found which recorded the finds of many who had sent them in from time to time. These C. W. marked so that credit could be given to those who properly deserved it. The policies set up by Mr. Bedford will be our policies.

C. W.'s comments regarding this Triple Transfer were "Shift to left at left. Shift to right at the right. This is not a Twisted Shift that looks like a triple." His comments are correct as will be seen by the illustration. None of the transferred lines at the right or left are angled lines but parallel to the lines they duplicate. A Twisted Shift shows lines on a slant at either the top, sides or bottom.

27: 239, 1938

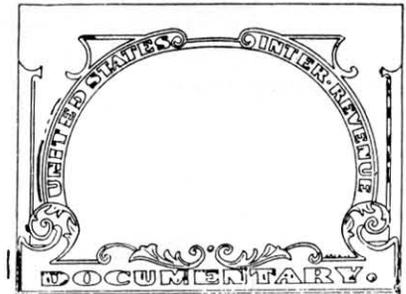
**T**WO NICE left shifts on the Battleship Revenues from Dr. Fritschel of Dubuque, Iowa. The top illustration does not show the right "2" nor the portholes and the prow of the battleship but the shift shows in these places very distinctly.

The second illustration does not show the right and left numerals "2". These are plainly shifted and this variety could be properly classed as a southwest shift.

A question arises as to whether Plate Variety collectors have missed the possibilities of the Spanish-American War Revenues. From what we have seen of Dr. G. C. Fritschel's and the Bedford collection we would say that this particular issue has not been worked of its possibilities by P. V. collectors.



**A** 2c Documentary issue nicely shifted southwest. Both the "2's" in the upper right and left corners and the "N" in "Cents" are partly doubled. The shift is also visible in "Series of 1898" but not as plain as the rest of the stamp. This is due, of course, to the smallness of the letters.



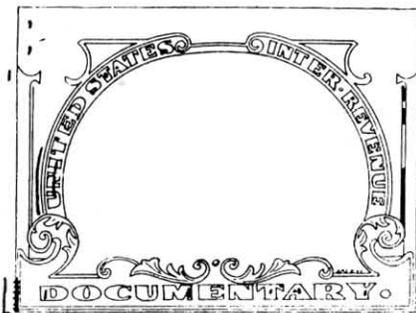
A large west double transfer from Dr. Fritschel on the 2c Documentary Revenue. The right and left numeral "2" is doubled as well as the portholes and the prow of the vessel.

28: 265, 1939



**T**HE USUAL left border shift. The top illustration gives us as Mr. Bedford notes, "Four variations of the left border shift." The bottom illustration, "Four more variations of the left border shift." Both are 2c Documentary revenues. It behooves all of us to be very careful in classifying varieties as C. W. was a very thorough student of Philately and all other matters of interest to him. It may be that some will wonder why I have assumed the gigantic task of getting his information to the public. It was not that he asked me to do this but rather that I had the pleasure of knowing him for some time before his demise, and knowing that he would have liked what we are doing, I carry on as he would have done. He was the leading light in the church of which I was the organist, and having much in common—religion, music and the arts, we saw quite a deal of each other.

27: 134, 1938



**A**N ODD variety on the 2c Documentary shifted directly to the left. The Shifted Lines in the upper left "2" occur on the left side and the bottom right of the numeral.

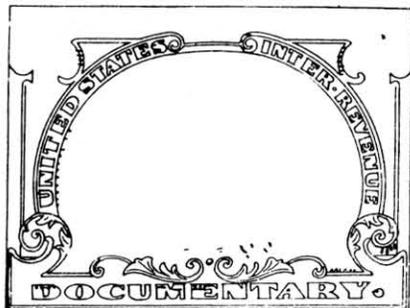


The above is one of those scarce right shifts on the 2c Documentary. The shifted lines in the top part of the stamp occur in the letters T-W-O-E-N-T-S of "Two Cents." The four dots in the left side above the "D" of Documentary are the shading lines shifted to the right.

27: 583, 1939



**A**RARE Double Transfer on the 2c Documentary being upward and to the left. Those who have followed these articles will recall that we have repeatedly said, "The usual left side shift," but no mention has been made of any northwest shift. Personally, I would be satisfied with one of this variety. Mr. Bedford had two in his collection. The markings in the blank space at the top are shifted lines in "WO CENTS" of "Two Cents." The markings in the left and right corners are shifted lines in the numeral "2".



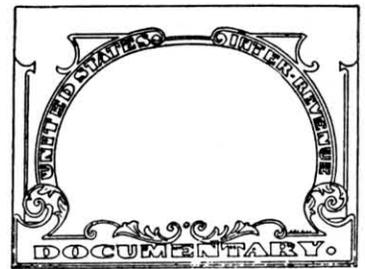
The scarce Right Side Shift of the 2c Documentary and the last we have to illustrate of the present series, as only a part of C. W.'s albums and records have been checked. There are more to be scanned and up to the present time we have been unable to go through them.

27: 637, 1939



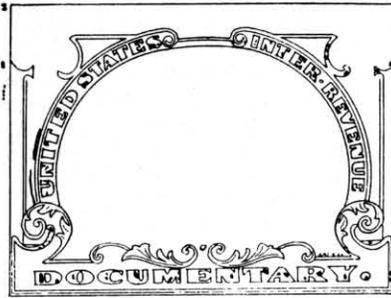
**T**HIS variety is from a block of four of the 2c Documentary. All four stamps were pen canceled "C. F. C. 11-20-99," and are in excellent condition except that the Roulette marks were very close to the right frame lines. Most of the U. S. postage stamps, Revenue, Beer and Wine stamps are in superb condition. However, C. W. did not care whether the stamp was a straight edge, guide line or a little off center, just so the variety was there. Frankly, we would like for all to see this marvelous collection but this is an impossibility. It consists of hundreds and hundreds of cardboard proofs, India paper, perforated and imperforated issues on both the Revenue and Postal issues.

27: 178, 1938



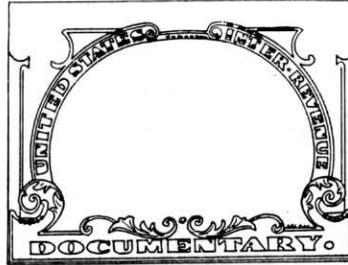
**A**NICE south Double on the 2c Documentary. The "U," "I," "T," "E," "A," "E" of "UNITED STATES" are doubled as are also the "N," "T," "E," "U," "E" of "INTER-REVENUE." This stamp was pen canceled 8/2/1900 and initialed J.H.H.

30: 470, 1940



**A** **ANOTHER** beautiful Double Transfer from Dr. G. C. Fritschel. Besides the double transferred lines shown in the illustration the right and left numerals "2" show the shift clearly as well as the letters "T," "W," "C," "E," "N," "T," "S" of "Two Cents." This is a third degree shift as the extra lines are very heavy. Do any remember the classification given shifts by C. W. Bedford? He divided them into three groups, A. B. & C. shifts.

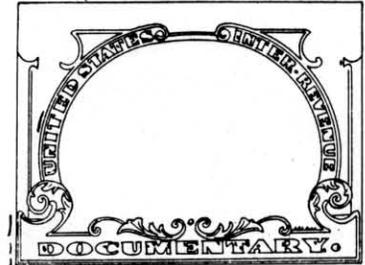
28: 289, 1939



**A** 2c **DOCUMENTARY** showing a direct north shift. This shows faint in top left numeral "2," good in top right numeral "2," and faint in "Cents."

Stamp has guide line to left and was pen canceled 3-20-1900.

31: 15, 1940



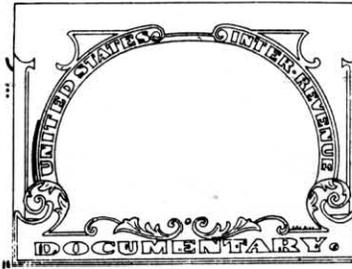
**A** **FINE** northwest Double Transfer on 2c Documental. This is shifted a large degree to the left and up. Doubling occurs in both numeral "2," the "T," "W," "O," of "TWO," the portholes and "Series of 1898." The stamp has an arrow at top left.

31: 128, 1940



**A** **DANDY** right side D. T. on 2c Documental. This is one of those unusual ones and of the scarcer varieties due to it being double transferred to the right. Shading lines show in top right "2."

31: 96, 1940



**A** "C" **TYPE** double transfer to the left on 2c Documental. This is very pronounced in "TWO CENTS" with the right and left top numerals "2" showing a faint doubling. This was pen canceled P. McC & Co, 9/11/1900.

31: 70, 1940



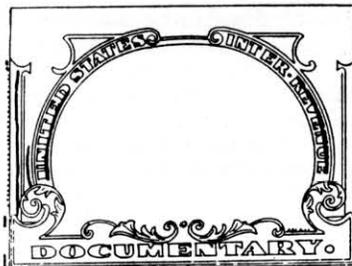
**A** 2c **DOCUMENTARY** variety of which Dr. Fritschel has a pair. Both have the guide line to the left. The double transfer occurs in both numerals "2," the "T," "W" of "TWO," and "N," "T," "S," of "CENTS." One of this pair is pen canceled 3/21/1900, P. M. C & Co., and the other is not discernible.

31: 160, 1940



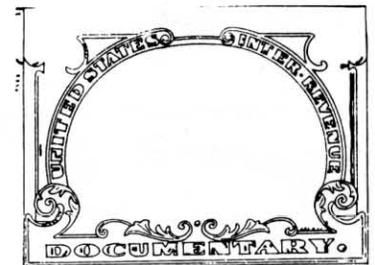
**A** **SOUTHWEST** shift on 2c Documental. Notice the doubling in the ladders on left side and a few of the shading lines.

31: 297, 1940



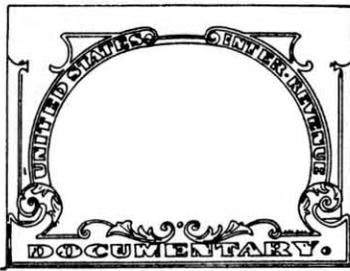
**A** **VERY HEAVY** (Type C) Double Transfer on the 2c Documental. Notice the distinctness of the oval lines in "UNITED" and "REVENUE" and the vertical line in the left side of the ladder group. This is an exceptional variety on this issue and was pen canceled May 16, 1900, J. T. B.

30: 696, 1940



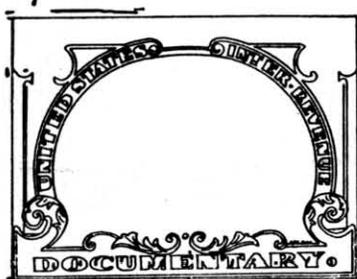
**A** **VERY LARGE** west double transfer with every numeral and letter doubled in the top label. For the second time the bottom label "DOCUMENTARY" has every letter shifted. The "U," "N," "T," "S" of "UNITED STATES," the "I," "N," "T," "R," "R," "E," "E" of "INTER REVENUE" are also shifted. Balance of shift shown in illustration.

31: 264, 1940



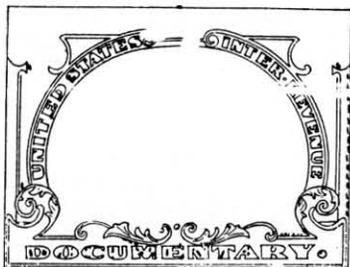
**A** VERY GOOD left shift with lots of shifted lines. This 2c Documentary has the portholes, "S," "R," "E," "S" of "Series," "8," "9," "8" of "1898" very much doubled. In the upper label the "T," "W," "O" of "Two" and "C," "E," "N" of "Cents" are also shifted.

31: 240, 1940



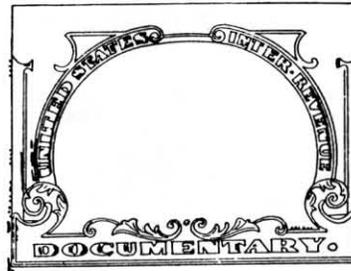
A "C" Type Double Transfer on 2c Documentary, shifted to the north and slightly to the west. Shift occurs in "T" of "UNITED," "N" and "T" of "INTER," "R," "E" and "E" of "REVENUE" and as shown in illustration.

31: 208, 1940



**A**N EXCEPTIONAL north-east shift on the 2c Documentary. Both numerals "2" at the top are shifted and every letter in "TWO CENTS." Double lines are visible in "E," "D," and "S," "T," of "UNITED STATES," and the "I" only in "INTER." Other parts of the shift are shown in the illustration.

31: 350, 1940

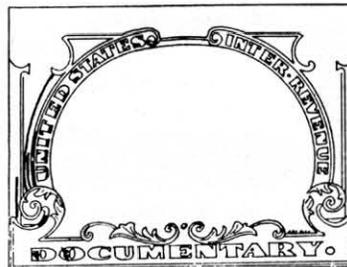


**A** LARGE to the west and small to the south Double Transfer on the 2c Documentary Revenue. Letters are doubled in "S," "T," "T," "E," "S," of "STATES" and "N" of "INTER." The balance of the shift is shown.

This is the last of Dr. Fritschel's Spanish - American War Revenue Shifts and I am sure all have been benefited by his kindness in allowing these to be published. We have been glad of the opportunity to do this and wish to publicly thank the Doctor.

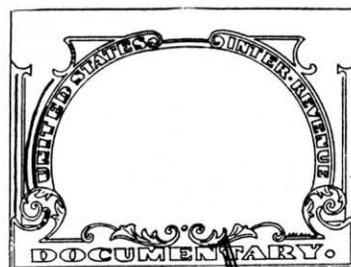
31: 390, 1940

## R165



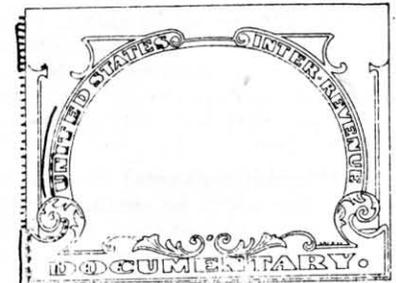
**F**ROM Walter F. Post, Toledo, Ohio, comes this Triple Transfer of the 3c Documentary Revenue issue of the Spanish American War. Besides the doubled lines showing in the illustration the "H" of THREE and the left top numeral "3" are doubled. This comes from the right side of the sheet, being the second stamp down from top center arrow.

30: 290, 1940

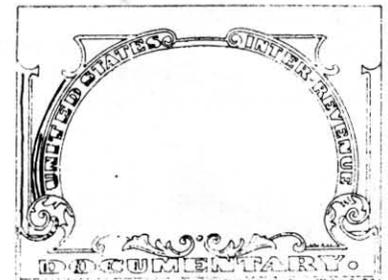


**A** GOOD double transfer on Scott No. 4029 with all doubled lines showing in the left side of the stamp. The lines running through the "T" of Documentary are plate scratches. In addition to the variety shown in the illustration, the beads are doubled under "UNITED STATES." This plate variety from Walter F. Post of Toledo, Ohio.

30: 72, 1940



**A**N EXCEPTIONALLY fine double transfer, 3c Documentary, Scott 4029. In addition to the doubled lines shown in the illustration the "TH" of THREE and the beads under "UNITED STATES" are doubled. This is from Walter F. Post of Toledo, Ohio, who has several pairs of which both stamps are plate varieties. Anyone else having plate varieties of the Postal or Revenue issues which are good plate varieties and who desire them published are urged to forward them for our inspection. After they have been checked we will return to the sender.

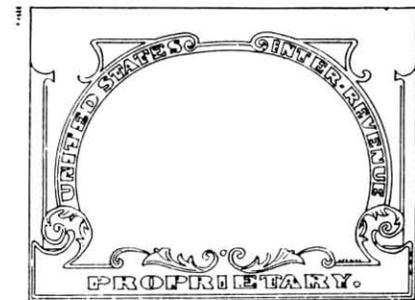


A dandy triple transfer on Scott 4029. The specialized catalog lists double transfers but not triple transfers. There is absolutely no doubt about triple transfers existing on this issue as Walter F. Post forwarded us two for this issue. Additional doubling which does not show in the illustration occurs in the "THR" of THREE, the left numeral "3" and the beads under "UNITED STATES."

29: 464, 1940

**A** NICE Double Transfer on the 4c pale rose Documentary Stamp. Due to the color of the ink these varieties are hard to find, but this is an outstanding example due to the clearness of the shift.

Again you will notice that this is a left shift. The thought has been running through our mind: Did a left-handed person do most of the rocking in of these dies? If not, why are so many varieties to the left? Of course, this is a problem that may never be answered but causes wonderment to those of us that have shifts, etc., by the hundreds.



More Double Transfers from Dr. Fritschel. This time on the 4c Proprietary BattleSHIP Revenues, and a "C" Type. The shift occurs in the right and left numerals "4" and in the "F", "O", "U", "E" of "Four Cents."

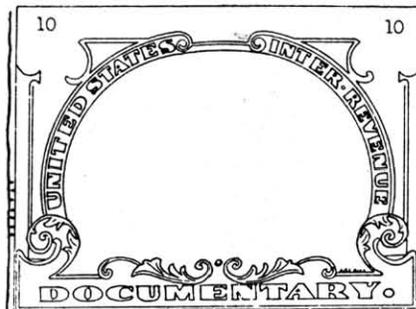
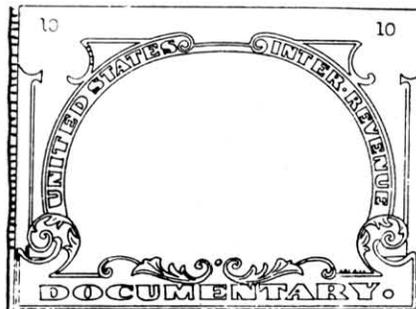
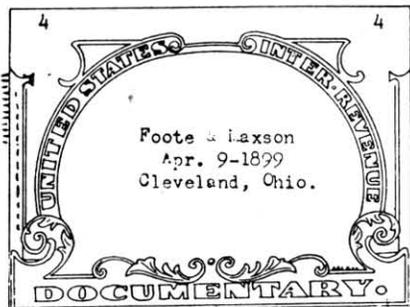
Dr. Fritschel forwarded us numerous varieties which he obtained from a virgin lot of 3000 of these revenues. These will appear in this column after the next article.



A right Double Transfer from Dr. Fritschel and a dandy. Shifted in the right and left numeral "4" and in "F", "U", "R", "N", "T", "S" of "Four Cents." Notice also the shading lines in the top of "Proprietary."

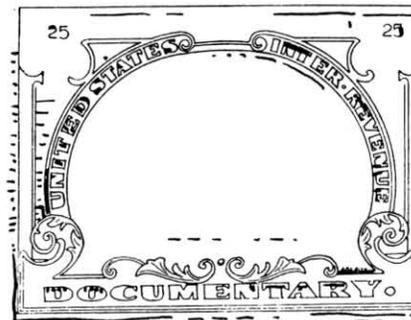
Text matter has been short and concise. Study the illustrations; they show us where to look.

28: 289, 1939



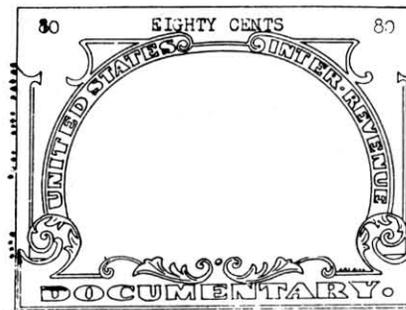
Illustrations of two 10c Documentary stamps which are shifted to the left in a large degree. The top one is canceled in Oval "Jan. 9, 1898." The second illustration had two stamps mounted on the stamp mat with identical varieties. The first of these was overprinted ? & W. ? 14, 1898. The second was pen canceled 1/17/99.

27: 380, 1938



**T**HIS WEEK we show you two Plate Varieties on the 25c Documentary stamps. The first is a Twisted Shift, anti-clockwise, and the second, a large Double Transfer to the south and west. This was from Dr. E. M. Gearhart of Erie, Pa. Mr. Bedford had made a record of this fine Double Transfer and marked the stamp mat "Dr. Gearhart, 5/3/30," which meant that this was sent to him to be checked and finding it a major variety, so recorded it in his album of Revenue stamps.

27: 435, 1938

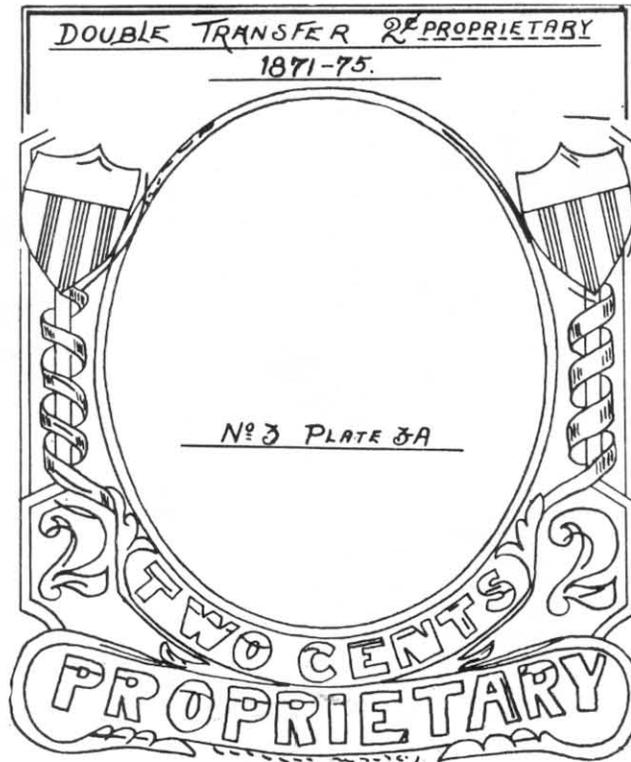


**H**ERE IS an 80c Documentary Plate Variety recorded by Mr. Bedford, this one being a vertical pair, the first being the Double Transfer and the other being normal. Both these stamps were canceled by hand, the ink being a light green. Due to the brown color of the stamp and the lightness of the green ink, we were able to discern only the word "Aug" and "1901". This is the only variety so far that we have seen in C. W.'s records of the 80c Documentary. There may be more but we have so far been unable to locate any of them.

27: 499, 1939

# PROPRIETARY STAMPS, 1871-5

RB2



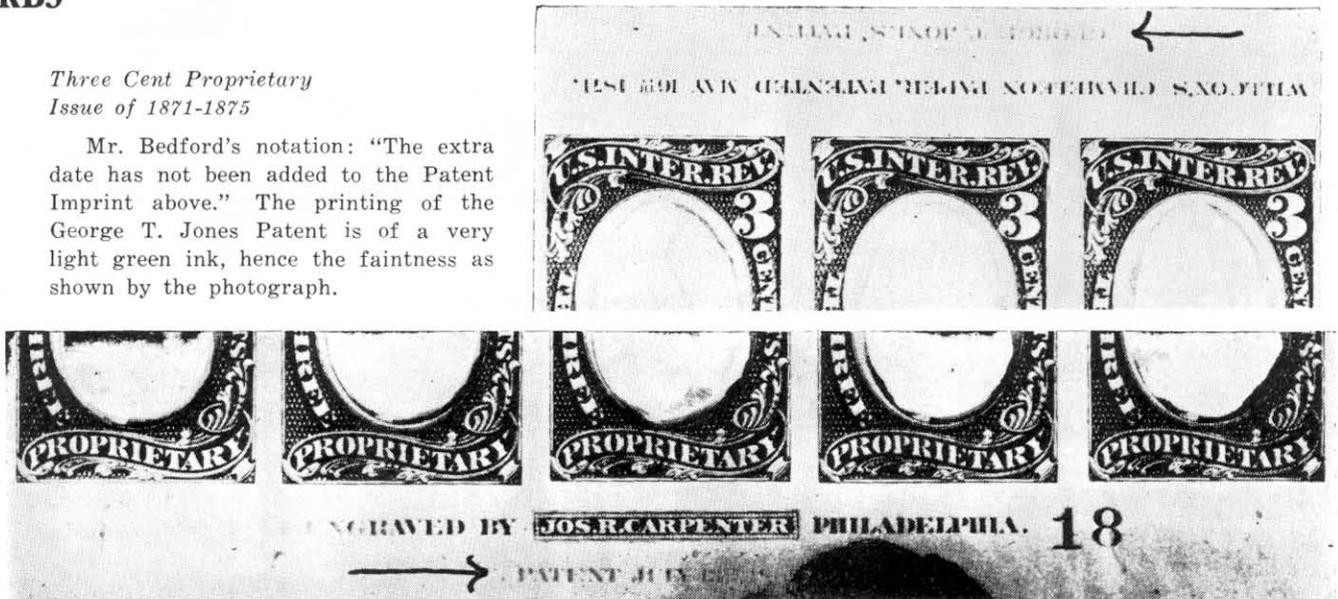
A Double Transfer direct to the south on the 2c Proprietary 1871-75 which comes from Position 3, Plate 3-A of this issue. This variety reposes in C. W.'s Revenue collection on a single cardboard proof, a strip of 7 cardboard proofs and a perforated copy of this issue.

27: 407, 1938

RB3

*Three Cent Proprietary  
Issue of 1871-1875*

Mr. Bedford's notation: "The extra date has not been added to the Patent Imprint above." The printing of the George T. Jones Patent is of a very light green ink, hence the faintness as shown by the photograph.



The extra date "Patent July 13th. 1869" has been added below "Engraved by Jos. R. Carpenter Philadelphia." Again this is printed in a light green ink and hard to reproduce. The strip of three and the strip of five are on India paper nicely mounted in C. W.'s Revenue Album.

All photographic work is by Herb Jones of Akron, Ohio, who worked with Mr. Bedford in preparation of matters of this kind.

A one hundred and seventy (170) subject sheet. Seventeen stamps horizontally and ten stamps vertically with Double Transfers on stamps 53, 73 and 89.

30: 256, 1940

Plate No. 18. 3c Proprietary Issue of 1871-1875. 170 Subject Sheet, 17 x 10.



Position No. 73 of the 3c Proprietary issue of 1871-1875. A smaller double transfer than No. 53, but nice to have. The doubled lines are to the southwest.



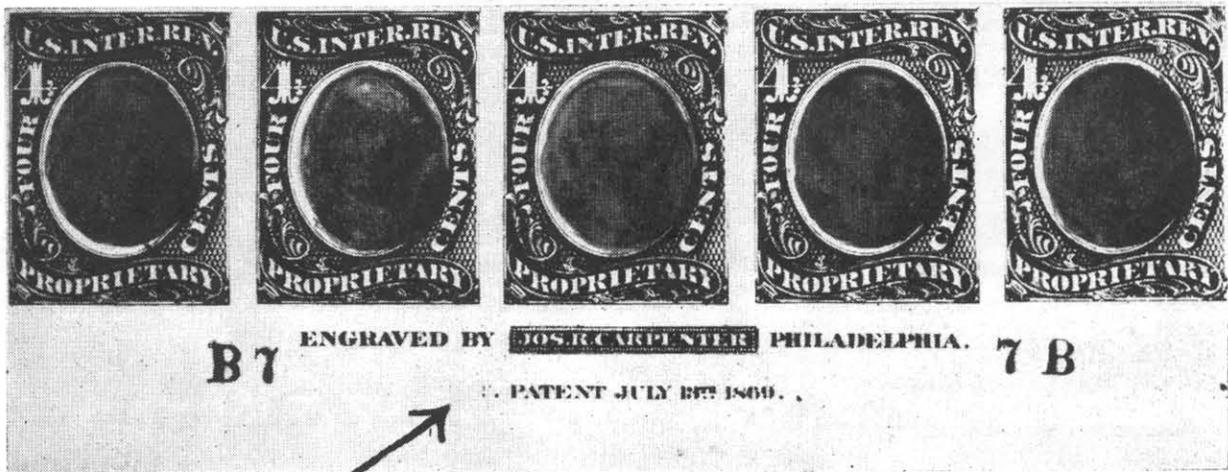
From a block of twenty-four Cardboard proofs, 6x4 with margin to left we show the Vignette of Position #53. Mr. Bedford advises that three double transfers occur on the black Plate. This variety is the best of the three and is to the southwest. Every line is distinctly doubled.



Position No. 89 of the 3c Proprietary issue of 1871-1875. A direct south shift showing a misplacement on both right and left bottom sides of the Vignette.

30: 656, 1940

RB4



*Four Cent Proprietary, 1871-1875*

A bottom strip of five Cardboard Proofs in the Bedford Revenue Album described as "The Patent date under the Imprint is double transferred, leaving an extra 'T' before 'Patent'." Notice the illustration shows the left plate number "B7" as the black plate and to the right "7B" as the green plate number. Plates 7A and 7B were used for this issue.

29: 426, 1939

*Four Cent Proprietary 1871-1875*

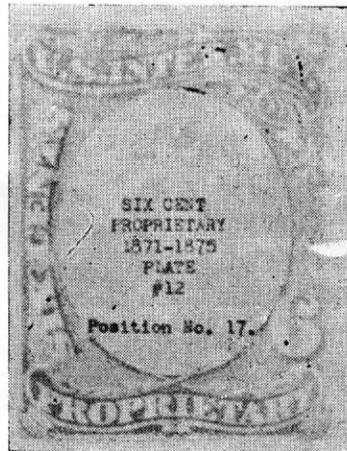
MR. BEDFORD'S comment regarding this variety was: "On No. 7A green, there is a very small double transfer in the upper label of position No. 44." This variety was in a vertical pair of cardboard proofs showing in the letters "E," "R," the period and "REV" of "INTER. REV."

On plate No. 7B black, there is a heavy double transfer of the vignette in position No. 166. We do not illustrate this as it is similar to position No. 53 of the 3c Proprietary. C. W. had this variety in a bottom block of four cardboard proofs. This was a one hundred and seventy subject plate, seventeen stamps horizontally and ten stamps vertically.

30: 516, 1940



**RB6**



ILLUSTRATED on the page to your left is position No. 17, which is one of four double transfers occurring on Plate No. 12 of the Six Cent Proprietary of this Revenue issue. The others are Nos. 34, 81 and 83. The "R" of "INTER" and the "V" of "REV" show the doubling. No other traces of doubling are discernible (those lower down in the illustration are faults in the printing plate) on the block of four cardboard proofs in Mr. Bedford's Revenue Album. Regarding the double transfers on this plate, Mr. Bedford writes, "The extra lines show usually in the upper label. Position 34 is the best, showing also in 'SIX CENTS' and in the numeral."

*Six Cent Proprietary, 1871-1875  
Plate No. 12*

Position No. 81 of the 6c Proprietary issue, 1871-1875. This is in a vertical strip of three on India Paper. The double transfer occurs in the "R" of "INTER." and "REV" only.

In one of Mr. Bedford's three-ring binder books, he had made drawings of the plate lay-out of most of the Revenues. The blocks were marked of the stamps he had examined and the errors found. He used a small "s" for small double transfers and a large "S" for large double transfers. By using this system he was able to cover large amounts of stamps with little or no duplication of previous work. On quite a few issues he had examined entire sheets in his search for plate varieties with enlightening results.

*Diagram of Plate Lay Out - 6c REVENUE 1871-1875 - Plate No. 12*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	(17) D.T.
18																(19) D.T.
35																51
52																68
49												(81) D.T.	(83) D.T.			85
86																102
103																119
120																136
137																153
154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170

31: 32, 1940

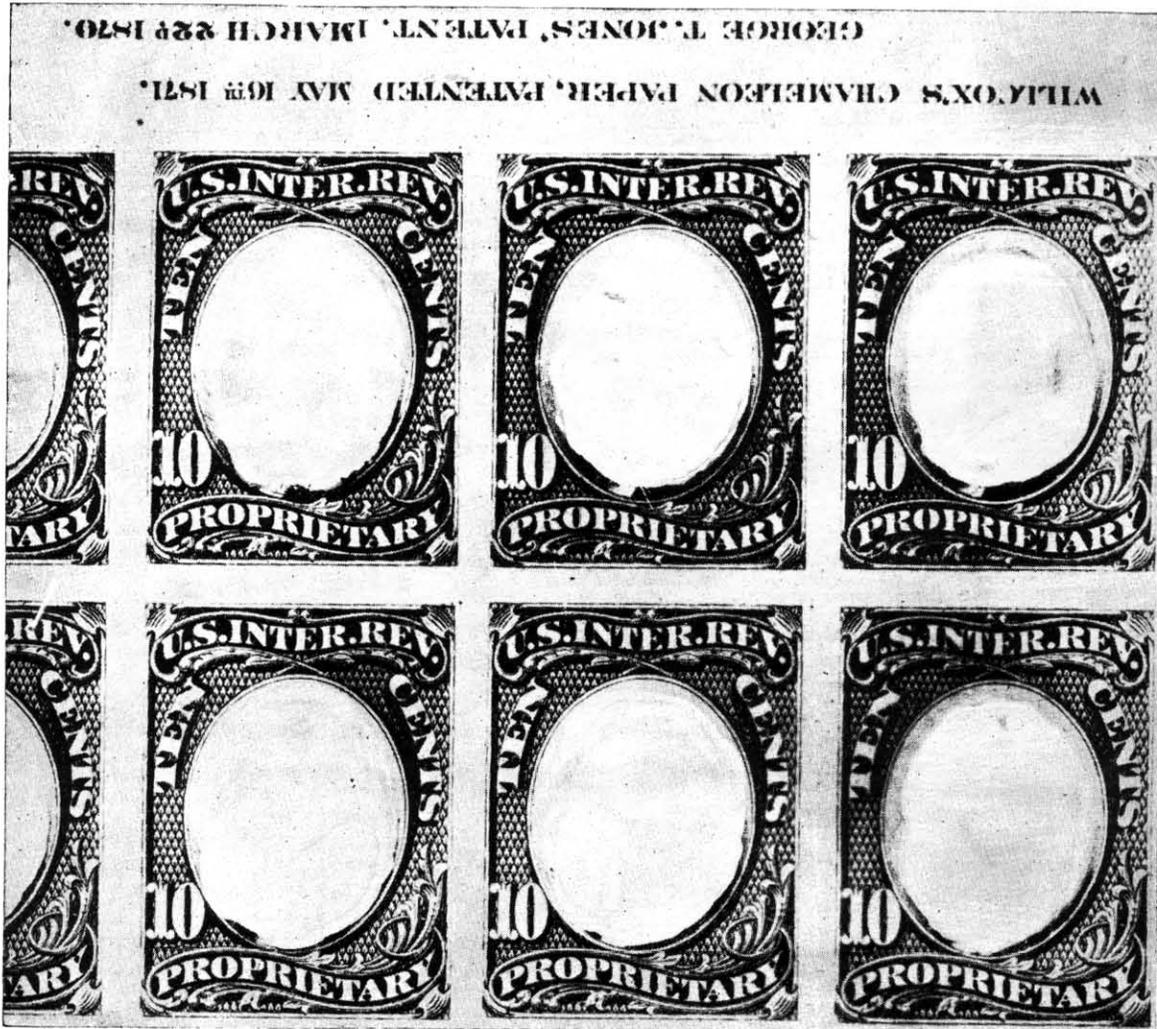
29: 21, 1939

THE LAST of the four Double Transfers on Plate No. 12. This is position No. 83 and the second best Plate Variety of the group. This also is on the vertical strip of three on India paper. Notice that the doubling occurs in three of the four periods in the upper label, while none of the other three showed a trace of the doubling of the design in the periods. Lines are visible in "U," "S," "ITER" and "R," "E," "V," of "REV."

31: 314, 1940



RB7



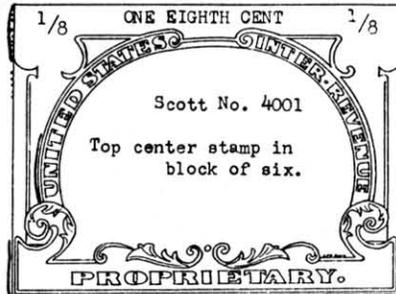
*Ten Cent Proprietary,  
Plate No. 4, 1871-1875*

A block of ten (5 x 2) Cardboard Proofs of the 10c Proprietary. Mr. Bedford had the following to say about this top block of ten (10): "Note the addition of the DATE to the Patent Imprint with an extra figure (I) showing between "PATENT" and "MARCH."

In addition to the above, he had a block of nine (9) cardboard proofs (3 x 3) showing position No. 114, which was double transferred in the upper label. We are not illustrating this double but will describe as follows: Doubling of the letters "U," "S," "INTR" and "R" of U. S. INTER. REV. This is a major double transfer southwest. 30: 202-3, 1940

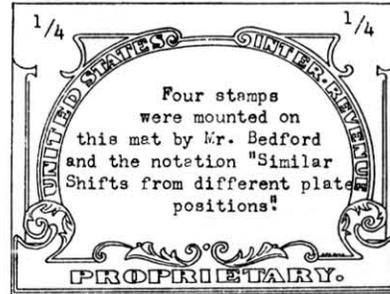
# PROPIETARY STAMPS, 1898

**RB20**



ILLUSTRATED above is one of the many Shifts and Double Transfers of the Proprietary issues. In one of C. W.'s revenue books that were being checked we saw page after page of first, second and third issues of Revenue stamps and were near the end when we turned the last page of high revenue values and we were led to wonder what was next. This was soon apparent as this and other striking shifts greeted the eye, all neatly arranged and mounted on mats with the various varieties plainly marked in India ink.

**RB21**



This is the 1/4c Proprietary that C. W. had classified as "Similar Shifts from different Plate positions." Two of the four Proprietary stamps were canceled "Miller Drug Co. Mar. 10, 1899"—one was overprinted W.B.R. & S. Co., and the other a mint copy.

It is quite evident from our numerous observations that Mr. Bedford was not satisfied with one shift or double transfer, but that two, three, four and five varieties had to be found before he would even consider them for his albums or records.

26: 724, 1938

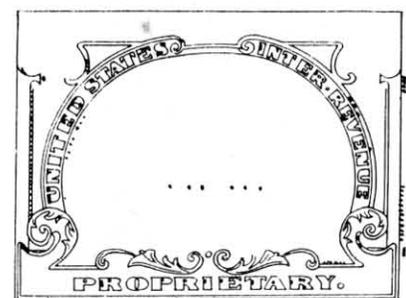
**RB23**



For the first of this series we have chosen a Triple Transfer of the 5/8 Cents Proprietary. In addition to the tripled lines shown, the upper left numerals "5/8" show distinctly in the "8" as well as the "V" in "FIVE," the "I", "T", "S" of "EIGHTHS" and the "C", "E" of "CENTS."

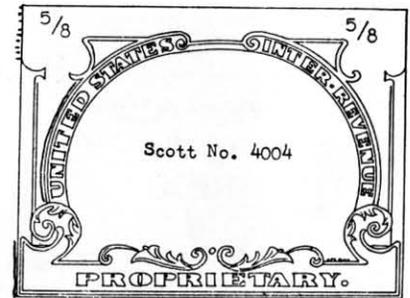
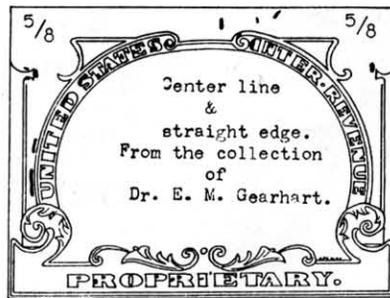


Above is a nice southwest double on the 5/8 Cent Proprietary. Notice the shading lines showing in the word "Proprietary." Ordinarily on south shifts, the shading lines are not so pronounced. This copy is very plain, as is also the lower left half of the outer frame line. An irregularity of the shading lines occur along the outer left frame line.

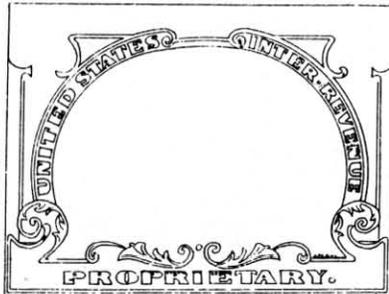
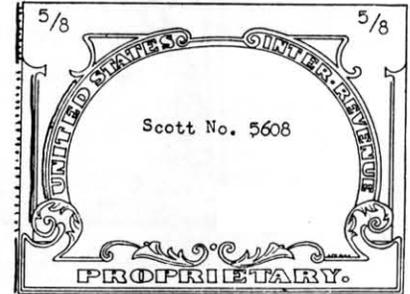
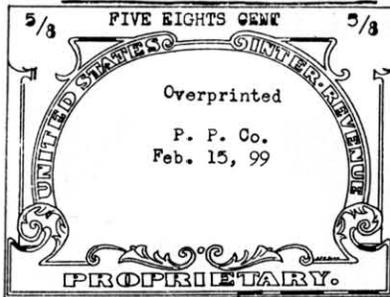


Here is a large right double transfer and a dandy on the 5/8 Cent Proprietary which covers the right and left sides and the top and bottom of the stamp. The shift occurs in the upper right and left numerals "5/8", the "U", "E", "D" of United, the "E" of States, the "I", "T", "R" of "INTER," the "E" and "E" of "REVENUE," and the portholes of the Battleship. The "R", "I", "E", "T", "R" of "PROPRIETARY" are nicely doubled.

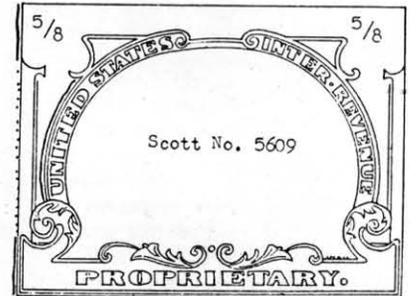
And this one is a large south double with guide line to right. Shifted lines show in the upper left and right numerals "5/8" and "T" of "Cents", also in "U", "N" of "United", "T", "E"



of "States" and "R", "V", "N", "E" of "Revenue." The shading lines above the word Proprietary are nicely doubled south into the word. Notice a doubling in the right and left sides of the shading lines opposite "UNITED" and "REVENUE."



**T**WO five-eighths cent Proprietary varieties. The first from the collection of Dr. E. M. Gearhart and the second from the Bedford collection. Both these varieties are exceptional as they deviate from the usual left Shifts. It is advisable to those interested to study these carefully as any interested would be fortunate to have these or similar in their collections.



The example above doubled to a large degree west and a little to the south. A very fine Plate Variety on the Five-Eighths Cents Proprietary Revenue stamp. The doubled lines occur in "IVE" of "FIVE", the right numeral 5/8 and the "N" of "REVENUE." "PRIE" of PROPRIETARY show a down shift of the shading lines above proprietary. Also in the "P".

26: 742, 1938

**M**ORE of the five-eighths cent Proprietary Varieties. This time three left shifts and all different. Double transfers, shifts and plate scratches are by no means numerous on the "Series of 1898" Proprietary and Documentary stamps.

26: 770, 1938

Displaced to the north, the above shows a fine double transfer on another Five-Eighths Cent Proprietary



**A** FIVE-EIGHTHS CENT Proprietary shifted south. Both right and left numerals 5/8 show doubling of the lines. All the letters in "UNITED STATES", except "ATS" show the shift as well as "R", "E", "E", "U", "E" of "REVENUE." The curved line at the top of "ER" of "INTER" is part of the right oval line surrounding "INTER. REVENUE." Study the illustration for the balance of shifted lines.

**A**NOTHER fine northeast Double Transfer on the Five-Eighths Cent Proprietary with plenty of doubled lines. This revenue has a guide line to the right. In the upper label both right and left numerals are doubled, the "FV" of "FIVE" and the "EG" of "EIGHTHS." "Series of 1908" is also shifted. The illustration shows the balance of the shift.

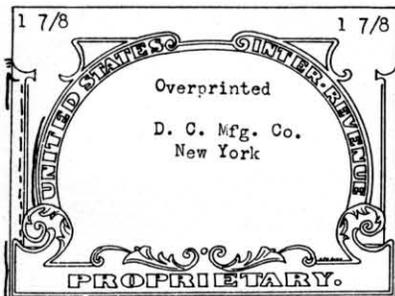
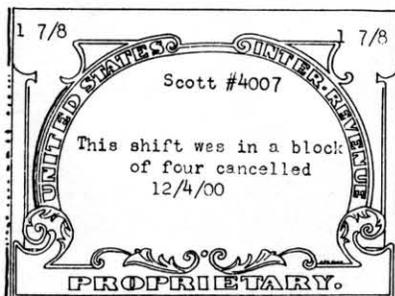
29: 542, 1940

with guide line to the right. In the upper label the doubling occurs in the left "5" of 5/8, the "E" of "CENTS" and the right numerals of 5/8. The illustration shows the balance of the doubling.

28: 319, 1939

29: 542, 1940

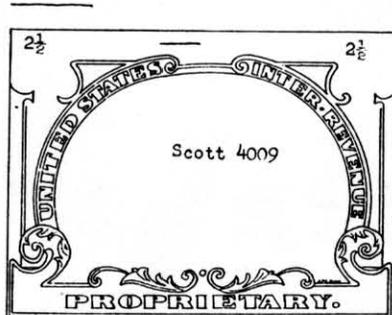
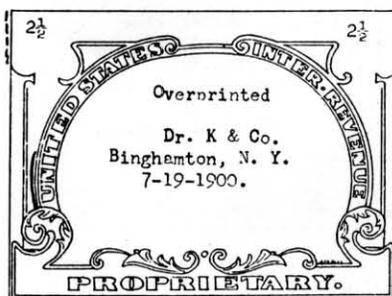
**RB26**



**T**WO NICE Double Transfers on the one and seven-eighths cents "Proprietary" stamp. The first illustration being the usual left side shift with the exception of the shading lines in the middle portion. These are very pronounced and much plainer than those usually found on left shifts. The second illustration being a large Double Transfer to the left and a large degree downward. This is the best shift I have seen in Mr. Bedford's Revenue collection on this issue so far.

26: 814, 1938

**RB28**



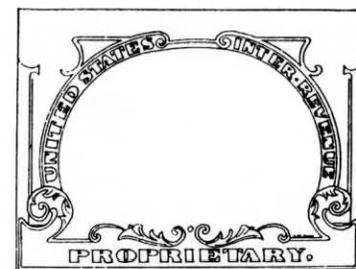
**T**HE ABOVE illustrations cover two shifts on the 2½c Proprietary stamps. The first is a minor shift and overprinted Dr. K. & Co. Binghamton, N. Y. 7-19-1900. The second is a large shift and the only one that C. W. had shifted to a large degree north. The outer top left line is faint and takes a good glass to see it. However, there is no doubt about it and so we show it. The line above the "S" of "States" is very heavy. There are no other marks on the stamp as this was evidently rocked in from the top and discovered; then placed in position before any of the remainder of the stamp was completed.

27: 12, 1938



**L**ARGE Double Transfer on a two and one-half cents Proprietary Revenue. Shift occurs in "T" of "UNITED," "R" of "INTER" and "R," "V," "E," of "REVENUE." All the numerals in the upper left corner are doubled and the "½" of the "2½" in the upper right corner. This was canceled June 9, 1899.

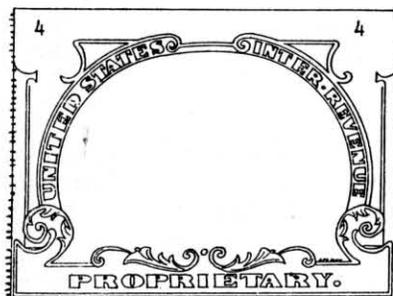
30: 393, 1940



**A** RIGHT side shift on the two and one-half cents Proprietary. Shift shows in "TS" of "CENTS" and the right numerals "2½." This was canceled Nov. 23, 1898.

30: 189, 1940

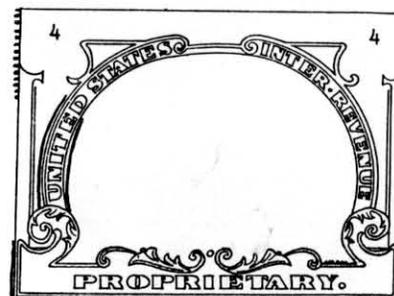
**RB30**



**I**LLUSTRATING above two shifts on the 4c Proprietary. Both these are out of the ordinary as for instance in the first illustration no vertical lines are apparent, only the shading lines show the shift. In the second illustration the inner left side of the oval is visible.

Sincerely,

**GEO. BLACK**



27: 75, 1938