

**ESSAYS FOR
UNITED STATES
POSTAGE STAMPS**

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Essays for United States Postage Stamps by Edward H. Mason

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BY
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ESSAYS FOR UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS

NO LIST of essays for United States postage stamps has been published since that written by Mr. John K. Tiffany and published in the *American Journal of Philately*, 2d series, Vol. II, 1889. The growing popularity of essays seems to warrant a revision of his list. In the following list, all essays described by him are included and his numbers are indicated in parenthesis after the new numbers; his designation of colors has been followed and use has been made of his descriptions, especially in case of Types not seen by the writer.



Type 1. (Tiffany, T. 1.) 1850. Head of Robert Fulton, profile to left, with fur cap; POSTAGE at top and FIVE CENTS at bottom, in colorless capitals on solid labels; ALBANY at left and OFFICE at right in colored capitals on colorless ground; corners filled with scrolls of single colored lines.

Die impression, $23\frac{1}{2} \times 25\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in color, on

(a) Bond paper, showing an exterior line surrounding stamp and about 2 mm. outside the stamp; vermilion, black, blue, green, brown, purple.

(b) India paper, trimmed and attached to larger India paper; vermilion, black, blue, green, red-brown.

(c) India paper, mounted on card; vermilion, black, blue, brown.

(d) Ivory finished paper; black, blue, vermilion.

Type 2. (Tiffany, T. 2) 1851. The design of the one cent 1851 issue, head of Franklin, etc., but value changed to SIX CENTS. Size, etc., as in the original.

(a) India paper; black. Copy seen was cut close and damaged.

(b) Ordinary white paper; black. Copy seen was cut rather close.

Type 3. 1851. Resembles closely the three-cent 1851 issue, but stamp is nearly square; labels are shorter, rosettes are omitted, locks of hair about ears are differently arranged; the oval is $14 \times 16\frac{1}{2}$ mm. instead of $15 \times 17\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Engraved on steel, die impression $20\frac{1}{2} \times 22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in color on

(a) India paper; black.

Type 4. 1851. Same head and oval as in last essay; the straight labels have been removed and in place there are curved labels, left blank for the inscriptions.

Engraved on steel, die impression $20\frac{1}{2} \times 22\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in color, on same piece of paper as last essay, making a horizontal pair.

(a) India paper; black.

Type 5. (Tiffany, T. 3.) 1857. Bust of Washington in profile to left, on oval background, having lines so interwoven as to give the effect of rays extending in all directions; short curved label of solid color, following shape of oval, at top, with POSTAGE in colorless capitals, similar label at bottom, with THREE CENTS in colorless capitals; U and S in upper corners, 3 and 3 in lower corners, all colorless.

Engraved on steel, die impression $17\frac{1}{2} \times 24$ mm.

(a) India paper; vermilion, rose, rosy-violet, brown, black, blue, green.

(b) India paper on card; green, brown.

(c) Bond paper; vermilion, brown, black, blue, green.

(d) India paper, with Type 6 in vertical pairs; vermilion, rosy-violet, black, green.

(e) Ivory finished paper; black, blue, vermilion.