

Number One, Two, Three & Four ...and a wannabe

by Francis Ferguson



Figure B1 almost transparent type with a slight blueish or grayish hue. The five-cent stamp can be found in a range of hues from red brown, dark brown, orange brown, red orange and brown orange. Further shades can be found with each major color definition. The 10-cent value has only one major color defined; black. Quantities (estimated) issued are paltry by the standards of today; 5-cent, 3.6 million, 10-cent, 864,000. The passage of 170 years since the issuance of these stamps has reduced the availability to collectors to a much smaller number. The two stamps can be readily found in the market place, however expect to pay a price commensurate with the condition.

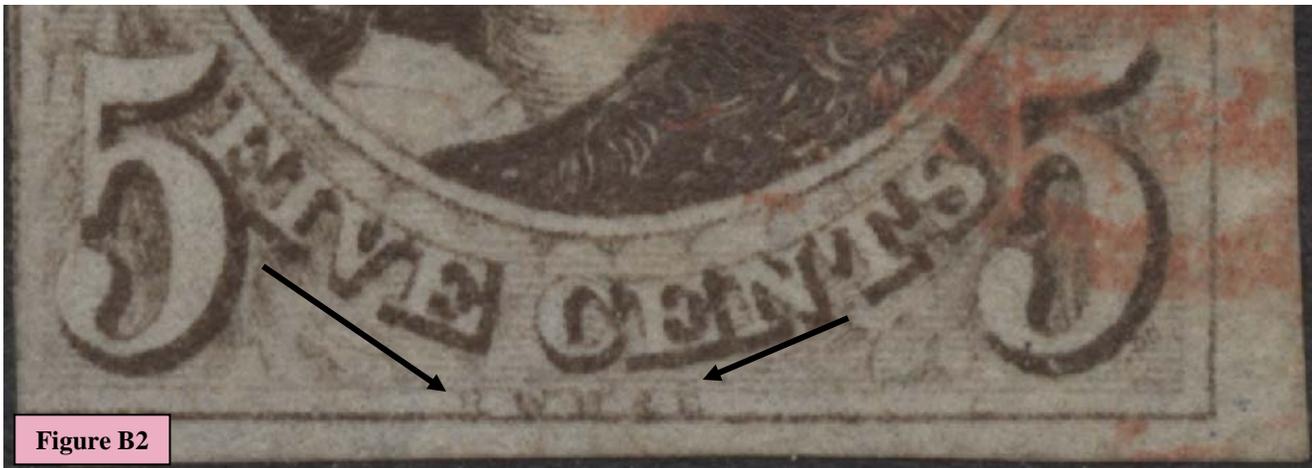


Figure B2



Figure B3

easiest to see is the much less distinctive initials of R.W.H & E. The letters are fairly-broken and can have a blurred look. The quantities of these two stamps sold to the public are incredibly low;

Now things start to get a little strange. Technically speaking Scott #3 & 4 **Figure B3** are reprints. The year was 1875 when the re-prints were done for the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia. They were never issued for general postage use. These stamps are pretty distinctive from the get-go. The card-stock that they were printed on is obviously not similar to the paper of #1 & #2. The colors are noted as red-brown and black. There are numerous differences in the re-engraved images but the

5-cent, with 4,779 and the 10-cent, 3,883. These two stamps are available in the philatelic market, but are a good deal more difficult to find. Because of the fact of rarity of these items they will most always sell at a very close percentage of full catalog. Again, condition will play a strong part in prices.

Jump forward to the year 1947 and the subject of the Centenary International Philatelic Exhibition Issue [Figure B4] is once again the fabled images from our first two postage stamps. Scott's #948, was issued in a quantity of roughly 10.3 million and has a catalog value of .55 cents against a postage value of 15 cents. There are a couple of notable differences. (1) The images on souvenir sheet are totally different colors from the originals. (2) The paper stock is different from both #1/2 and for #3/4. and (3) The size of the images themselves is larger than the originals.

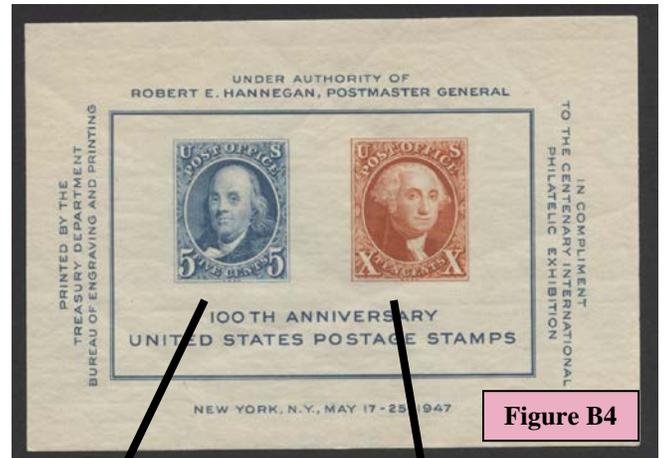


Figure B4

All that said, brings me to the reason this article was written. A couple of months back a club member approached me at the meeting and told me an acquaintance of his, asked him to identify these stamps [B5 & B6]. His, acquaintance believed they could be valuable stamps.

A quick look at the Scott's Specialized showed the club member exactly what I told him when I first looked at them. While the images are of the first two stamps issued by the United States and they share many of the same characteristics – they are just reproductions.



Figure B5

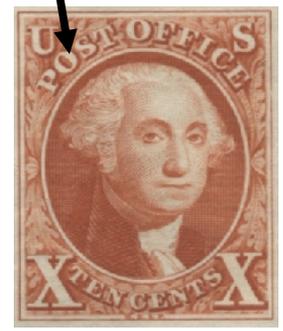


Figure B6



An Encounter with Eleanor Roosevelt by Ruth Pearl

When I saw Eleanor Roosevelt's picture and quotation in the September Philatelic Missive, it brought to mind a "high-light" that took place in my life. I am soon to be 95 years old.

I was a Girl Scout about 12 years of age and in the Glee Club of 10 to 12 other girls, chosen to sing at an event at which Mrs. Roosevelt and the President's Mother, Sara Delano were attending. With pride I recall the President's wife putting her arm around me and hugging me. Why she chose me to exhibit this gesture of genuine warmth, I can't say.

I've had the pleasure of meeting a few other notables, but for me, meeting Mrs. Roosevelt will always be the "high-light". I recall this from long ago with pride and pleasure. The event was recorded by Atlas News and was shown in movie theaters.



[Editor's note; It was a pleasure to see that the quote from September triggered a memory from long ago, with one of our members. It is stories like this -- that give heart and soul to this monthly effort. Please continue. In an odd turn of events, ER is one of the folks I have on a "wish list" that I would like to have dinner with, as she has always fascinated me. Who is on your list?]