

BUREAU  
ISSUES  
ASSOCIATION

PLATE  
VARIETIES  
COMMITTEE

# U. S. PLATE VARIETIES

Shift Hunter Letter No. 39

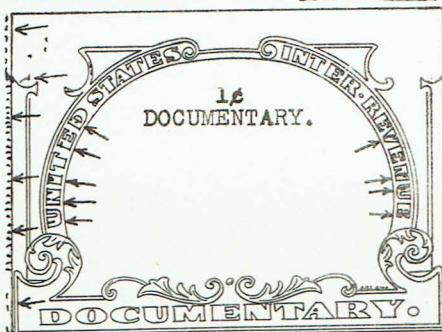
C. W. Bedford  
319 Vaniman Street - Akron, Ohio

SHIFT  
HUNTER  
CLUB

Subscriptions \$2.00 a year, beginning and ending in September.

Georges Creed finds all of the Double Transfers that are here illustrated as well as a few more that will appear later. This fine shift on the 3¢-1857 is one of a number of outstanding varieties on this stamp that we hope to illustrate. They will be found only by the most patient Shift Hunters and few have even seen them. Watch your covers for plate varieties.

The Battleship series of 1898 offers many interesting plate varieties, among them this fine shift on the 1¢, which appear to be more difficult to locate than on the 2¢.



as well as in the left side of the stamp. These are quite common and therefore it should be possible for the Shift Hunters to compile the data as to plate numbers and positions showing these shifts.

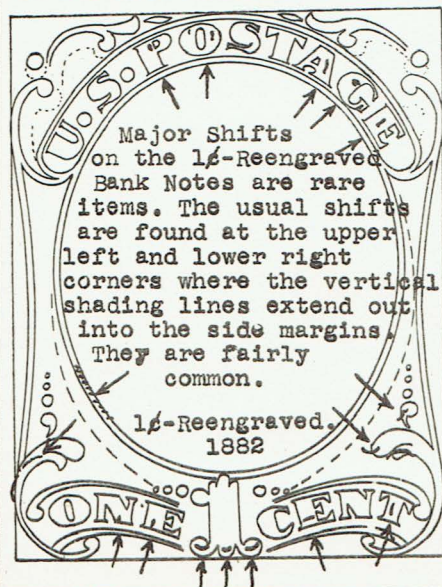
In the lower left corner of this page is a fine shift on the 1¢-Bank Note-Reengraved. Those who have searched for these will agree as to their



greater rarity as compared with the earlier 1¢-Bank Notes. The common shift on the 1¢-Reengraved shows the vertical lines shifted into the margins at the upper left and the lower right. These are fairly easy to locate by the aid of a glass.

Mr Creed is the first to report this small shift on the \$5.00 stamp of 1917 which has been found in a fine block of four.

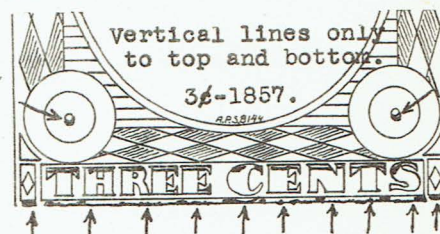
Continuing Mr Lybarger's reports on the Offset printed stamps of 1918, he shows illustrations in the lower right corner of this page of a striking variety that was reported to him by Mr Southgate. A ball of color appears in the upper part of the left numeral "2" in the 93d stamp of the lower right pane. SCOTT'S MONTHLY JOURNAL



Major Shifts on the 1¢-Reengraved Bank Notes are rare items. The usual shifts are found at the upper left and lower right corners where the vertical shading lines extend out into the side margins. They are fairly common.

1¢-Reengraved.  
1882

Data on the "RED CROSS" plate varieties will be found in the Plate Varieties Report that comes to you with the Bureau Specialist. Do not forget to file these reports with your Shift Hunter Letters. Copies of these B.I.A. reports are only mailed with the Rotaprints to Clubs and those who do not receive the Bureau Specialist. Be sure to keep your files complete as only a few extra copies are made, each month.

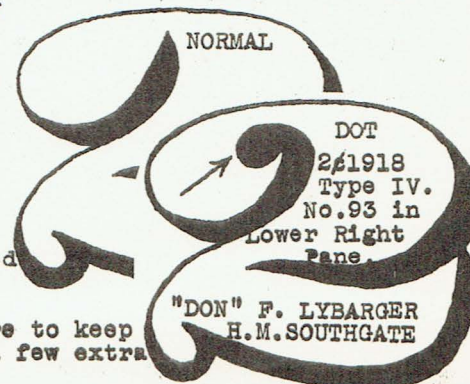
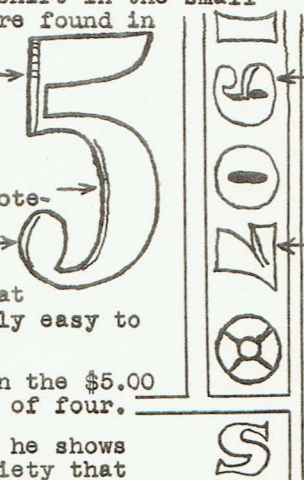


Vertical lines only to top and bottom.

3¢-1857.

The 5¢-Jamestown shows a number of quite similar shifts in the numeral and ribbons at the right side as illustrated in the numeral "5" below. More rarely is the shift located in the left numeral and ribbons. Now comes a copy from Georges Creed showing the usual right side shift but with the shift also showing in the year date as illustrated below. This is the first time this has been called to our attention.

The 1¢-Jamestown quite often shows a shift in the small circle and two vertical dashes that are found in the left numeral and the best copies also show the shift in and around the Indian Head in the upper left corner



NORMAL

DOT  
2¢1918  
Type IV.  
No. 93 in  
Lower Right  
Pane.

"DON" F. LYBARGER  
H.M. SOUTHGATE



PLATE VARIETIES COMMITTEEREPORT FOR NOVEMBER, 1931

Mr. Reeder sends several samples of the "usual" but "not common" shift on the 2¢-shield of 1903. (See SHL 35). One of them is in an upper pane of plate 4701 directly under the right half of the imprint. It will show in plate number blocks. In the 2¢-Edison, stamp No. 71 in the upper left pane of plate 19778, there is a constant heavy dot of color in the "T" of "CENTS". Two singles of the 2¢-Harding, with plate No. 15158 at the right show a heavy position dot under the "D" of "HARDING". Also a block of 5¢-Jamestown showing the shift in two stamps as illustrated in SHL 39.

Mr. Reeder is also interested in plate layout dots and lines and rocking-in dots, showing blocks of the 1¢-Pilgrim to illustrate each. The layout dots and lines show clearly at the top of some of the plates. The lines are supposed to be removed by the burnishing and finishing of the plate. Another block shows heavy colored dots in all 4 stamps at upper left under the "1620" year date. It is only accidental that the design does not cover these rocking-in dots. In many issues we find a plate or two where these dots show up and attract attention because of their being constant in position. They are valuable to study because of the story they tell of the order of transferring. Have you ever noticed in which stamps the dots never show? Why?

In SHL 40, mailed to contributing members this month, we neglected to give the plate position of the "Bridge across Niagara Falls". It is position 26 in the lower left pane of plate 17445. Please mark this data in ink on your copy of the report.

Homer W. Davis submits a printing variety in the OVERPRINT of some of the "Kansas" overprints that is quite interesting especially with his explanation as to how the variety is produced. They may be called the "long Kans." and are better described as an ELONGATION of the letters in "Kans.". This is said to be due to the packing on the platen or backing behind the paper, which was wrinkled at just the right place to produce a slip impression and extend the bottom of the letters until a number of the stamps in the same horizontal row show the bottom of the letters elongated downward somewhat like this illustration with the typewriter:- ~~Kans~~. While the typewriter shows double letters, the stamps only show the letters stretched or extended downward, without the doubling. Elliott Perry has a similar variety on the Molly Pitcher that he calls "The Long Pitcher".

Two York varieties have been reported. A. R. Davis finds a defective transfer of the lower frame line, under the left numeral. The stamp is just above the lower right, red plate number 20488. E. R. Conolly finds another, first stamp, top row, left pane, red plate 20479. The lower left corner of the stamp is printed rather indistinctly. This is not a printing variety as it is constant on all panes we have seen. Evidently another defective transfer.

Mr. Ward's column in Mekeel's for 8-21-20, reported that there was an outstanding case of misalignment of stamps in a booklet pane bearing the plate number 10220. Also in a pane from plate 10218, three stamps are out of alignment. Can anyone show us these or other cases of this type of plate variety? How many Bureau Issue Errors have you in your collection?

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