

319 Vaniman Street,  
Akron, Ohio.

12-21-29

Dear Mr Shift Hunter:-

A MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR! How is that for a starter. Yes, the days have been so full that there has been little time for a Shift Hunter letter altho there has been plenty of information sent in for broadcasting. The sad part about it is that I sat down and sketched these two beautiful shifts and returned them but neglected to write the name of the sender on the back of the mats. Mr Chambers, Maj. Bonesteel, Mr Vestal, Mr Payne, Dr Gearhart and "Shifty" Jones have all sent their share for this letter. Please let me know who it was sent these. Its my error and my treat.

This 2¢ brown of 1870 sure is a prize and does not need a glass. The 1¢-1861 needs a glass due to the pale color of the stamp but it is a good shift worth a place in any collection

There was only one plate (200) for the 15¢-1890 and Prof. R.F. Chambers has just acquired a large block from the upper right corner of the left pane, showing Imprint, plate No. 22 and the arrow. 19L22 shows one of the best shifts in "UNITED". By comparing with a block of six we now know that the shift which shows in the left "15" is 28L22. There is another shift very, very similar to 19L22 and easily mistaken for it.

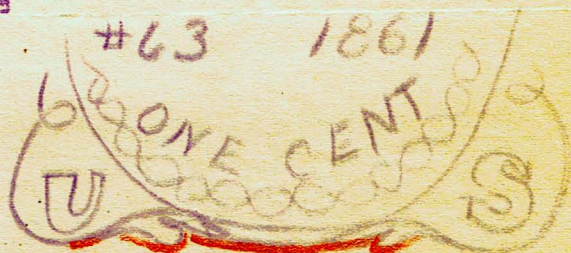
It is rather difficult to tell these two apart. I have the unknown position in a block of four with the next stamp to the right also a shift that did not appear in position 20 on Mr Chambers block. This is the first time I knew there were two shifts so similar. With one plate and many pairs and blocks it should be possible to plate all the shifts. There are at least five others to be plated. Mr Chambers has "started something".

Mr LeGrande Payne sends a letter from the Postmaster General, giving data from which we find that Shifted Transfers are impossible on the Offset Printings of 1918. Each of the 400 positions on each plate were prints on the plate from a small photographic negative, exposed 400 times on the sensitized plate.



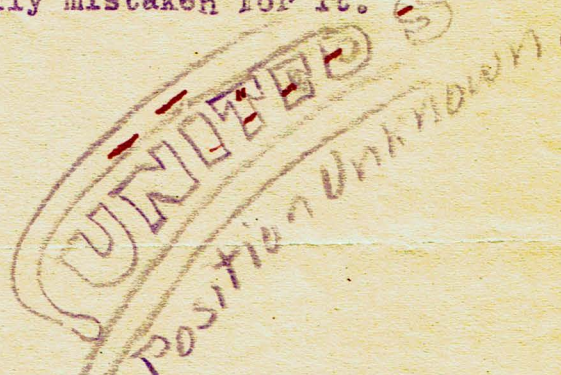
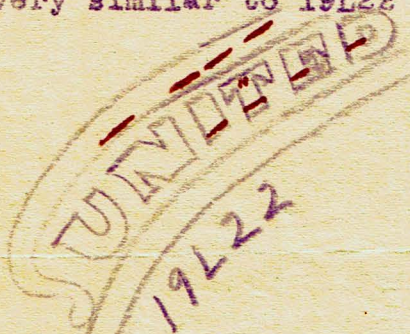
#146

1870



#63

1861





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Shift Hunter Letter  
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The plate is then developed, washed, coated with oil, Etched, and still further treated. This plate then prints on a rubber blanked which in turn prints on the paper. I have seen stamps of the offset series that looked like a shift and there are Confederate stamps printed from engraved stone that look like shifts, but such cannot be.

Dr Gearhart sends two nice shifts on the 4¢-1898 and one on the 5¢-1898. 4¢ in "United" and the left "4". Another at the lower right corner with small dashes in the upper and lower labels. The 5¢ shows in both numerals and in the white margin below the stamp.



Here are  
two  
new  
shifts.  
Wonder if they  
will be listed  
in the new  
S.U.S.  
???

50¢  
Entry  
of  
Goods.

Three Cent 1902.

Civil War Revenue.

Mr Cornel Kmentt of Youngstown does not specialize in shifts. He has ONE. That one is worth comment. It is on the 12¢-1912, perf. 12. The usual shift, that we all find so many of (worth about 35¢) shows a doubling of the bottom line of the vignette, better ones also show in ONE CENT and sometimes in the numerals (worth about as catalogued). A Triple shows two extra lines at the bottom of the vignette and needs a glass to see it. But this stamp of Mr Kmentt's shows none of the same. Here we find the shading lines in the lower part of the bust nicely doubled and a bit in the face. Its in a pair. Several years ago there was a controversy as to wheather there was a big shift on the 12¢. It exists. I have seen it. Watch for it and some of you will find it. Plate 6900 was used perf 12, thru the perf 10s into the perf 11s. You may find it on any of these issues.

Perhaps this is enough for this time. Mr Vestal finds a shift on the 2¢-PostOffice on a proof. Mr Jones is having wonderfull luck specializing on the shifts of the 2¢ green of 1887. Why not each Shift Hunter pay more attention to some one stamp? Mr Chambers likes the 5¢ Taylor. He is making a mat for it. I sent him the best shift I had on a Taylor. Some day we hope he will send Editor Fennel a write up fully illustrated. Mr Fennel says watch the Jan. 1930 American Philatelist for Shifts. It has taken a long time but he says it will come soon and then he will "see how the readers like it". If you want more, why not write and tell him so.

With best wishes for a SHIFTY NEW YEAR!

C.W. Bedford



Ballot for your convenience.

Please Return to

C.W.Bedford, 319 Vaniman Street Akron Ohio

- A. I suggest that we continue with the usual type of Shift Hunter Letters. You may count on me for my share of \$2.00 for the expense of the next 12 to 15 letters.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

- B. My vote is for the usual letters supplemented with Rotaprints and I inclose \$2.00 for the first eight letters with the understanding that if there are not enough subscribers the \$2 00 will cover my share of the cost of the usual type of letter(12 or more).

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

- C. I am not interested in receiving farther copies of the Shift Hunter letters and you may remove my name from the list.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Account to date.

Recd. from Mr. Payne \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ letters.  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ letters.

C.W.Bedford.