

Technology in Expertization



The Philatelic Foundation

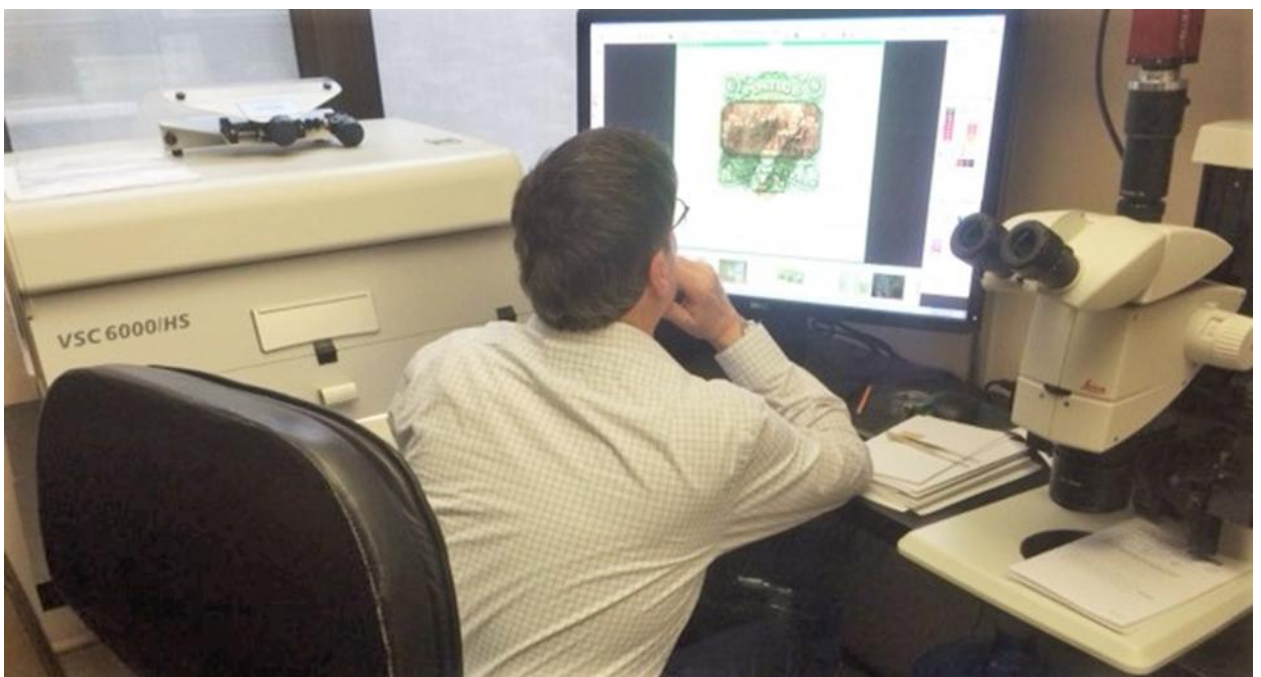


The VSC6000

The Philatelic Foundation is the only expertizing body in the United States with the latest hi-tech equipment to assist in the review process.

The VSC6000 uses high definition magnification, differing wave lengths of light, and the application of direct light in a variety of modes.

This sophisticated forensic device assists the PF's staff in confirming the existence of a variety of faults and repairs in both stamps and covers.



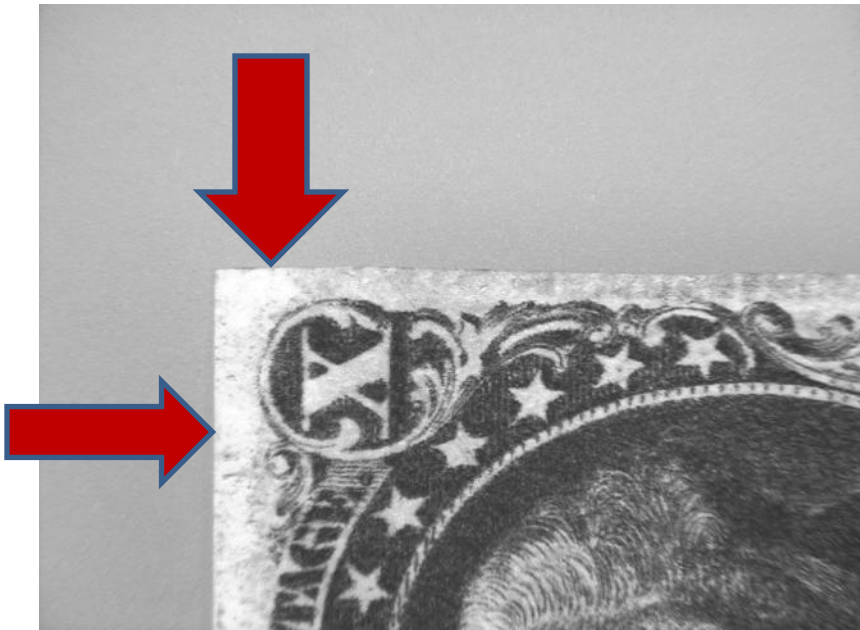


A Gem?

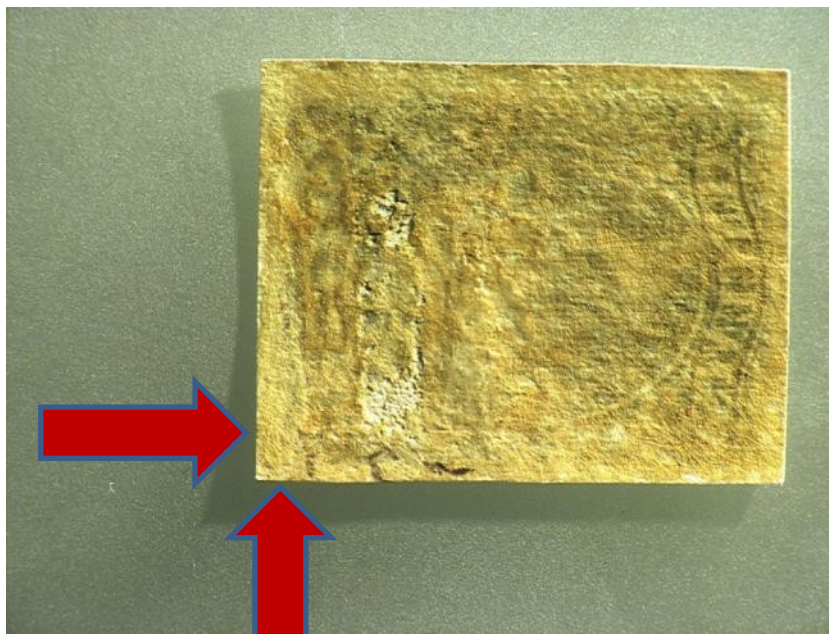
Scott #15, Type III

Catalog \$5,000

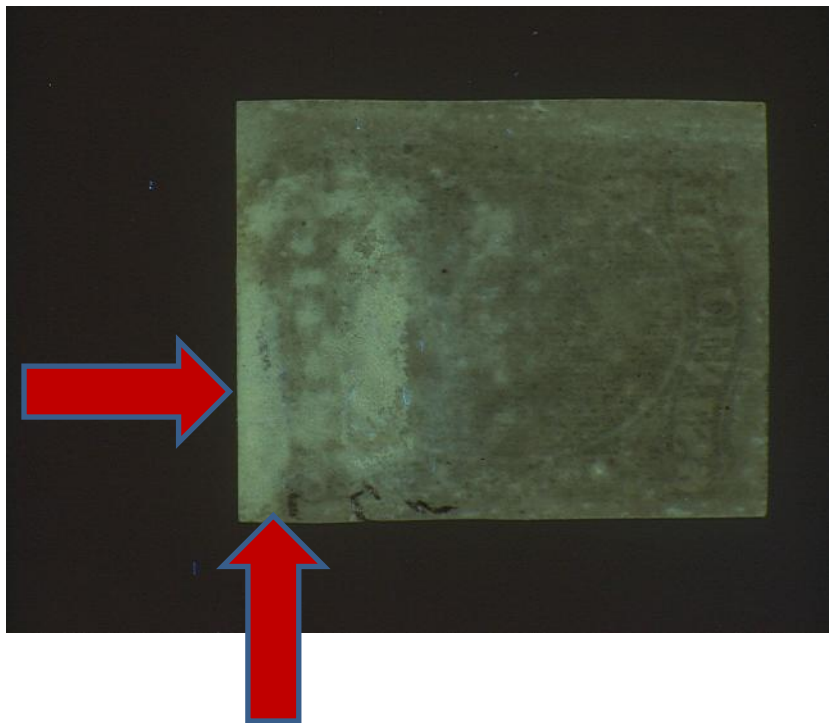
Black & White Image of Upper Right Corner Under Infrared Raises Suspicion-- Note Bright White Margins



Further investigation required.



A portion of the top margin has been added.



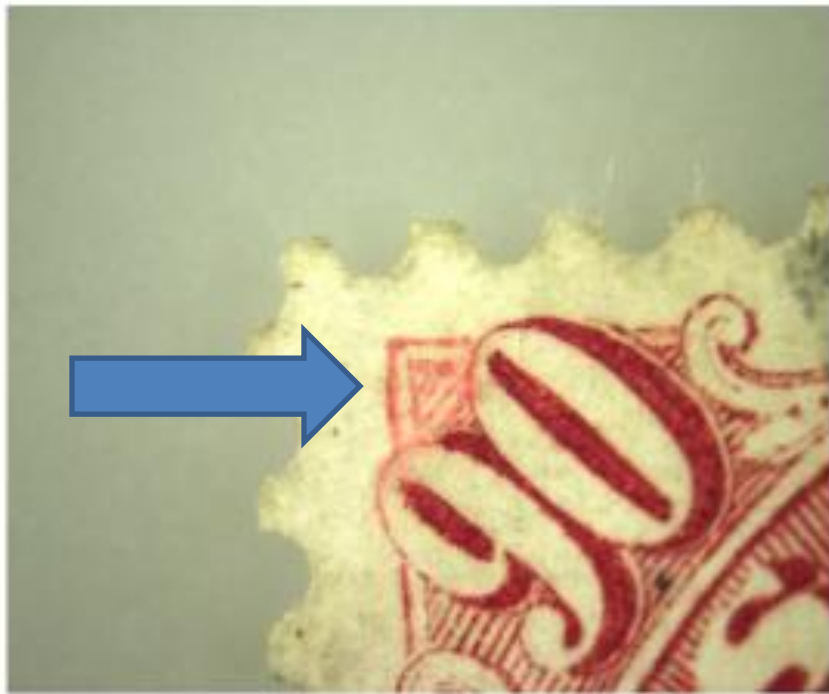
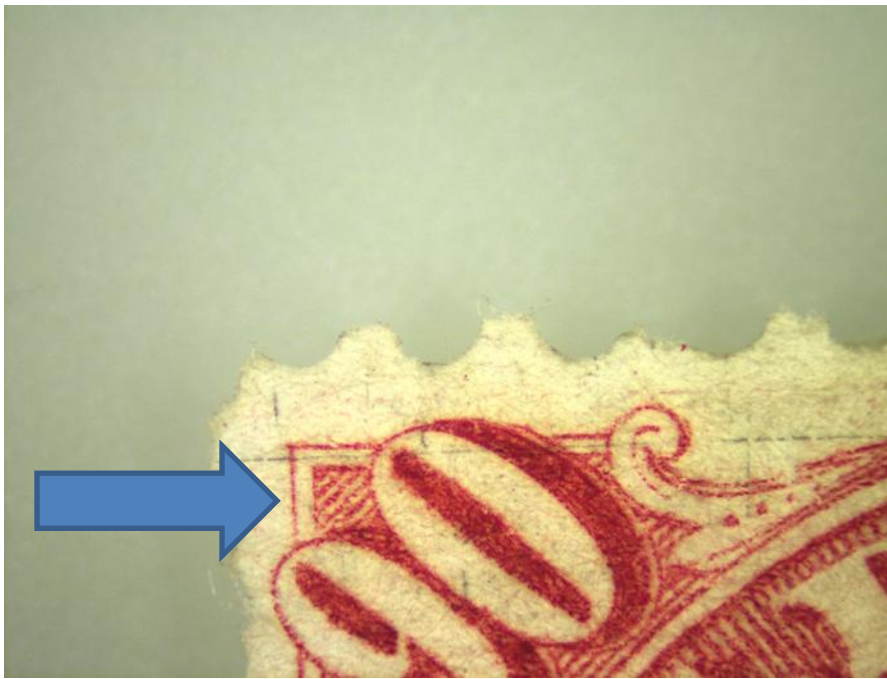
As seen with VSC600 ultraviolet light



Is this a fault-free gem?

Scott #122

Catalog \$2,100



Genuine stamp at top. Note design at upper left corner. Compare stamp below with upper left corner painted in.

Looks Very Nice - But

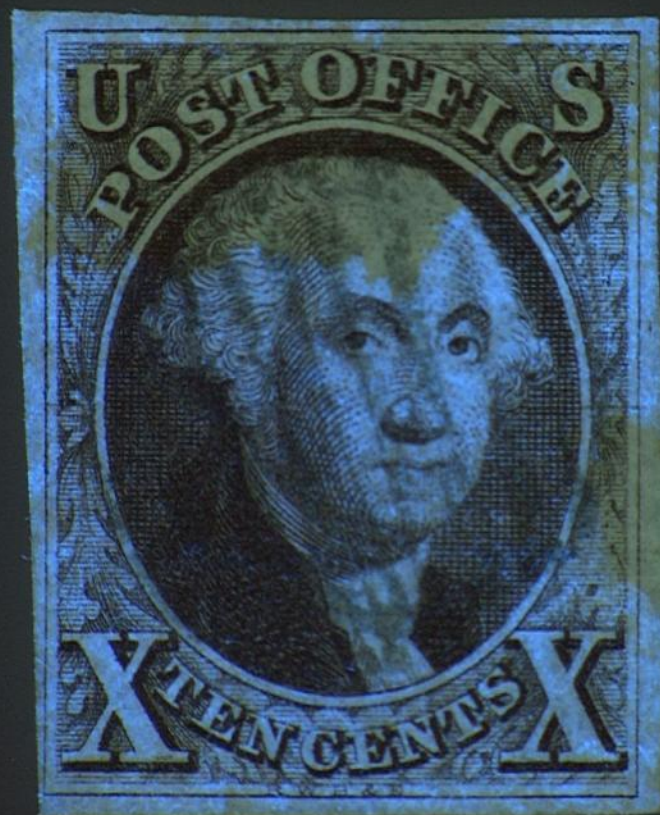


**Has the stamp's appearance
been improved?**

Scott #2

Catalog \$1,000

The 10c 1847 Issue under the VSC6000 Ultraviolet Light



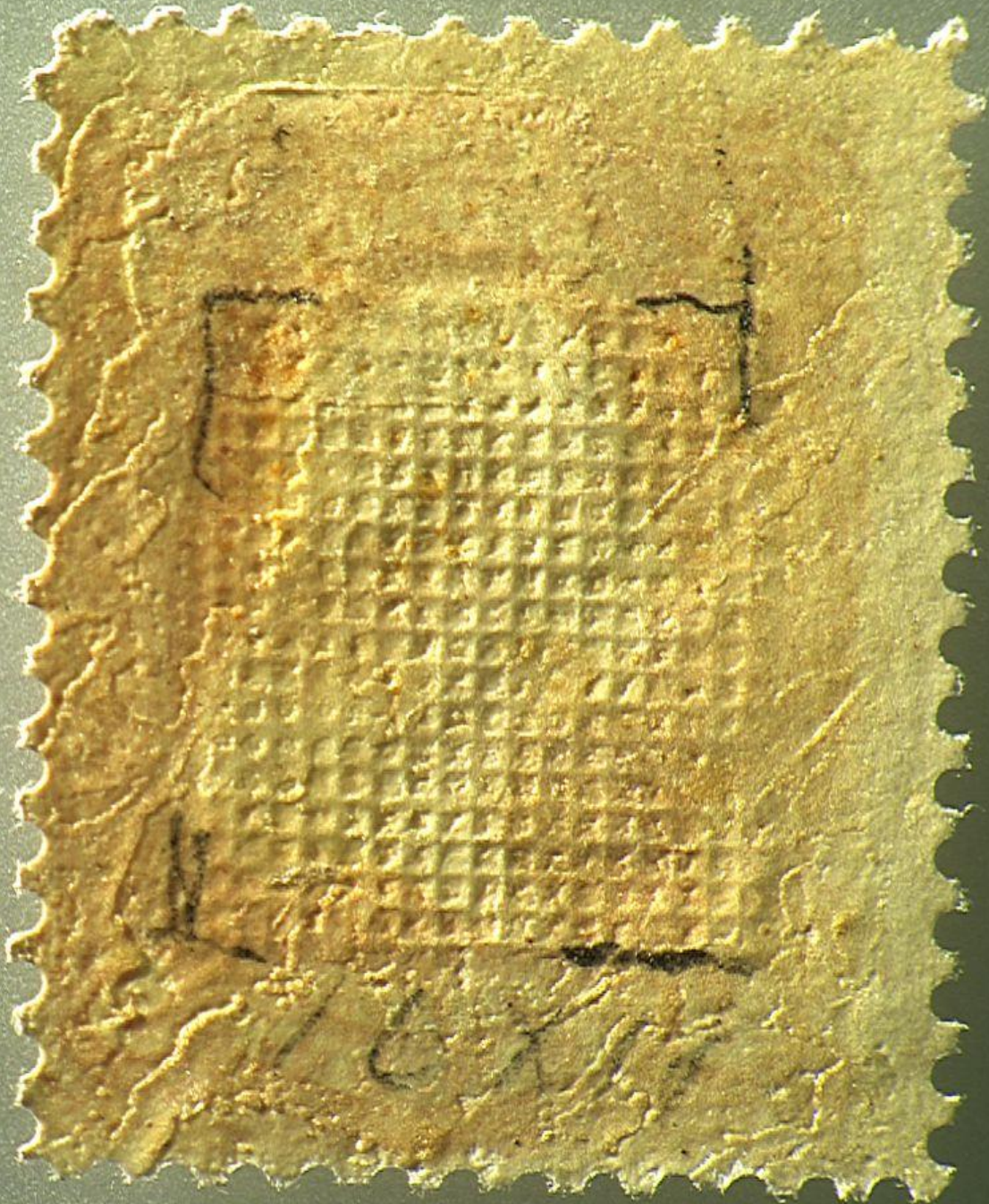
Stamp cleaned to remove staining.

Counting Grill Points Can Be Challenging



Let's take a look at the grill.

Counting Grill Points Made Easy



Scott #94, Grill 12 X 17 points

Are There Any Repairs?



5c Red Brown
Scott #28
Catalog \$1,200

Under VSC600 Ultraviolet Light



**Top Margin and Lower Right
Corner Have Been Added.**

Looks Like A Gem!

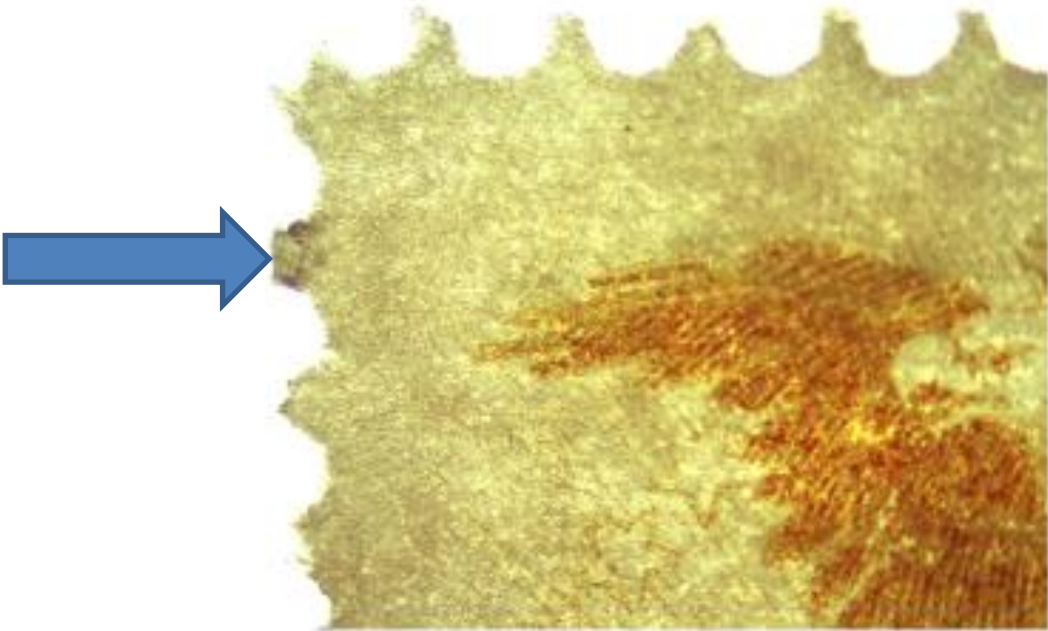
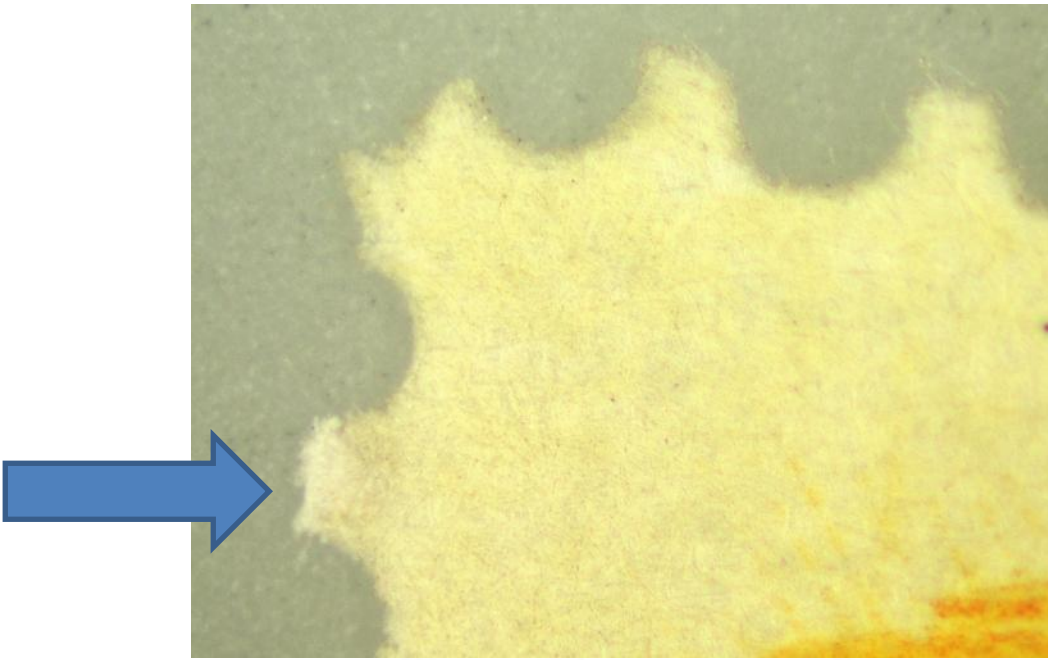


Scott #116

Catalog \$2,000

But Check Those Perfs.

?



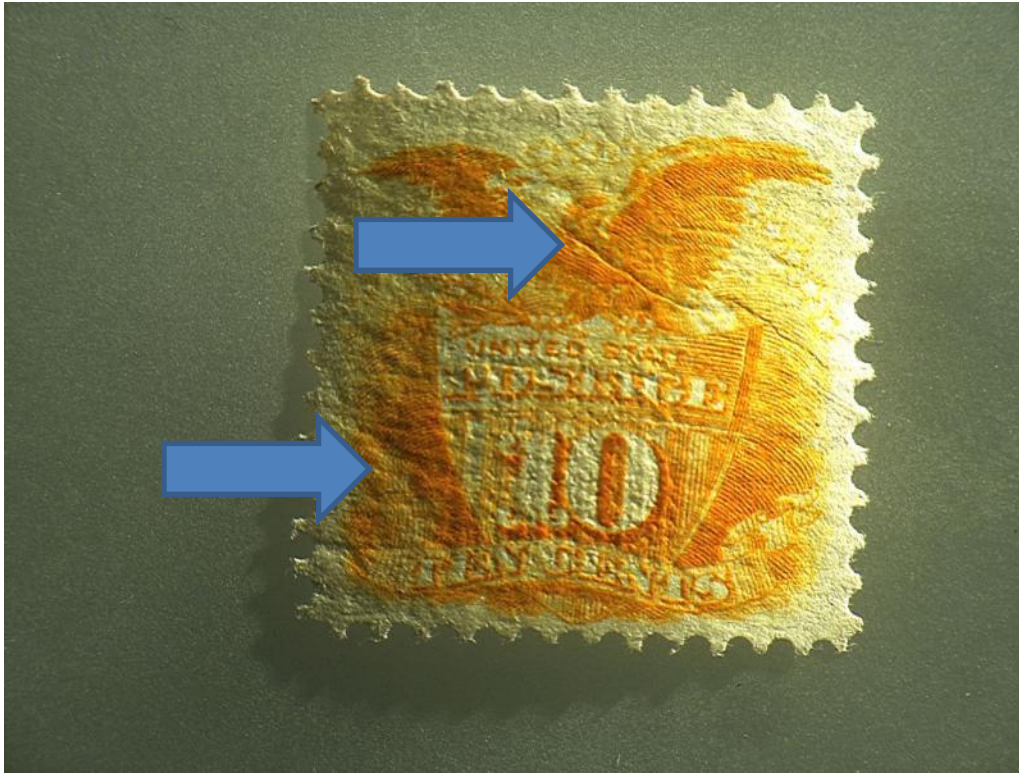
Perf. Tip Added
Bottom Image Back Lighting
Under the VSC6000

Another Nice Looking Stamp?



**Want to see an internal
crease?**

Side Lighting From the Right Under the VSC6000

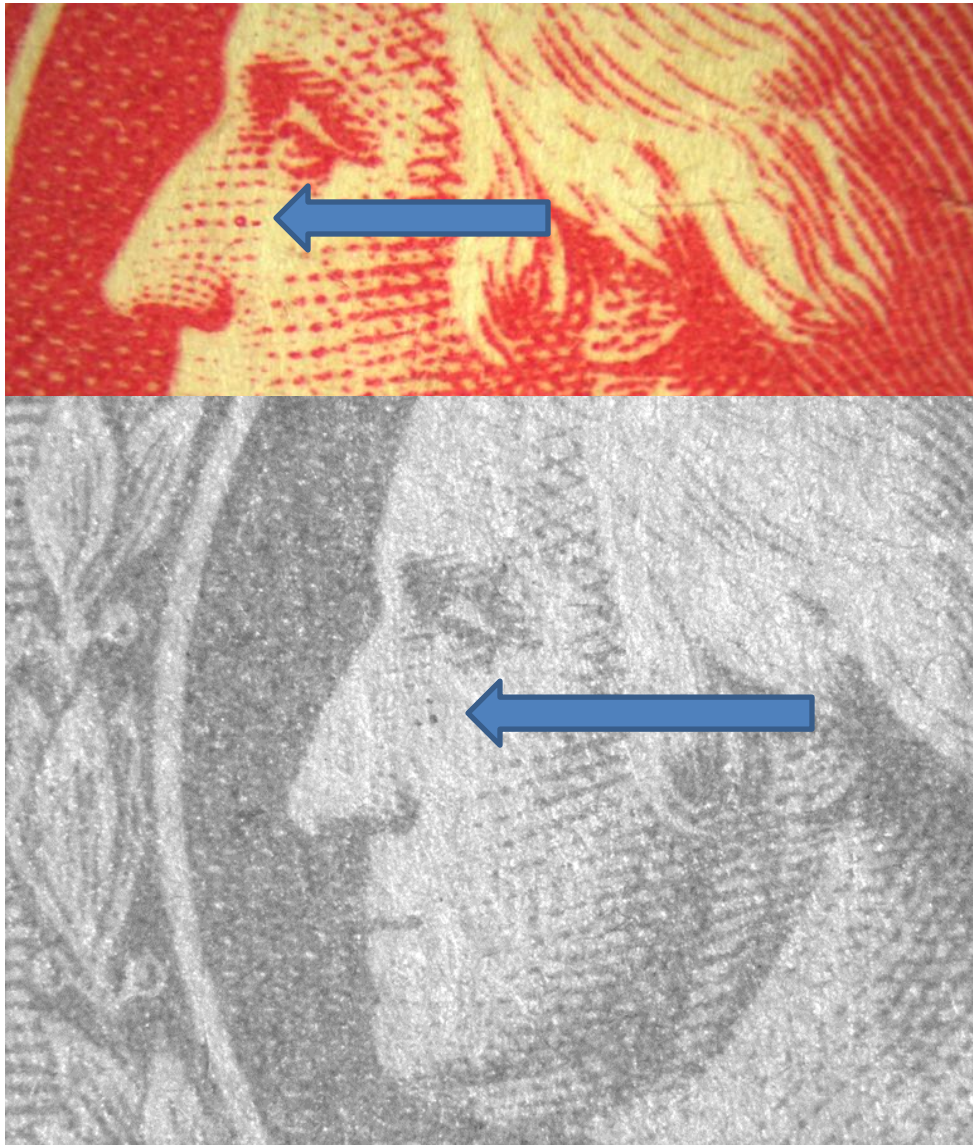


**Submitted for a Certificate
as Offset Printing, Ty. VII,
Scott #534B, Catalog \$3,750**



What type is it really?

Under the VSC6000, Natural Light and Infrared



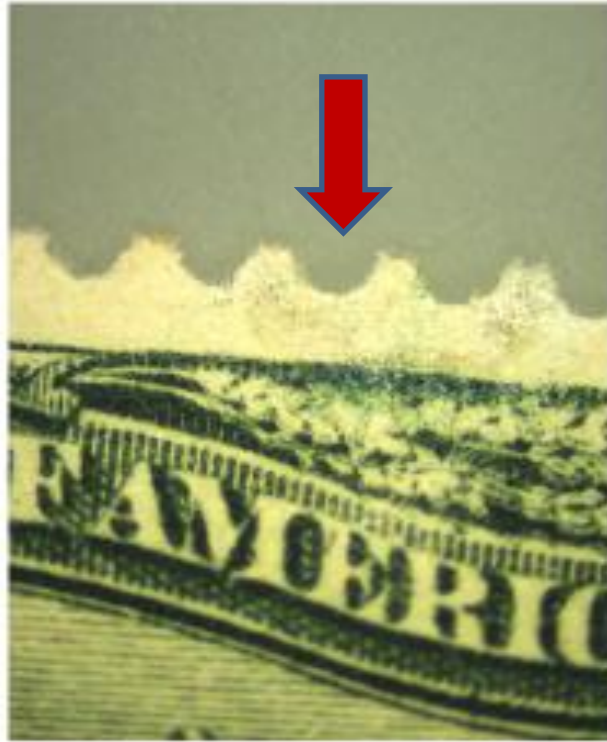
Two dots are shown in infrared to have been painted in, a fraudulent attempt to convert a Ty. Va cataloged at \$26 into the rare Ty. VII.

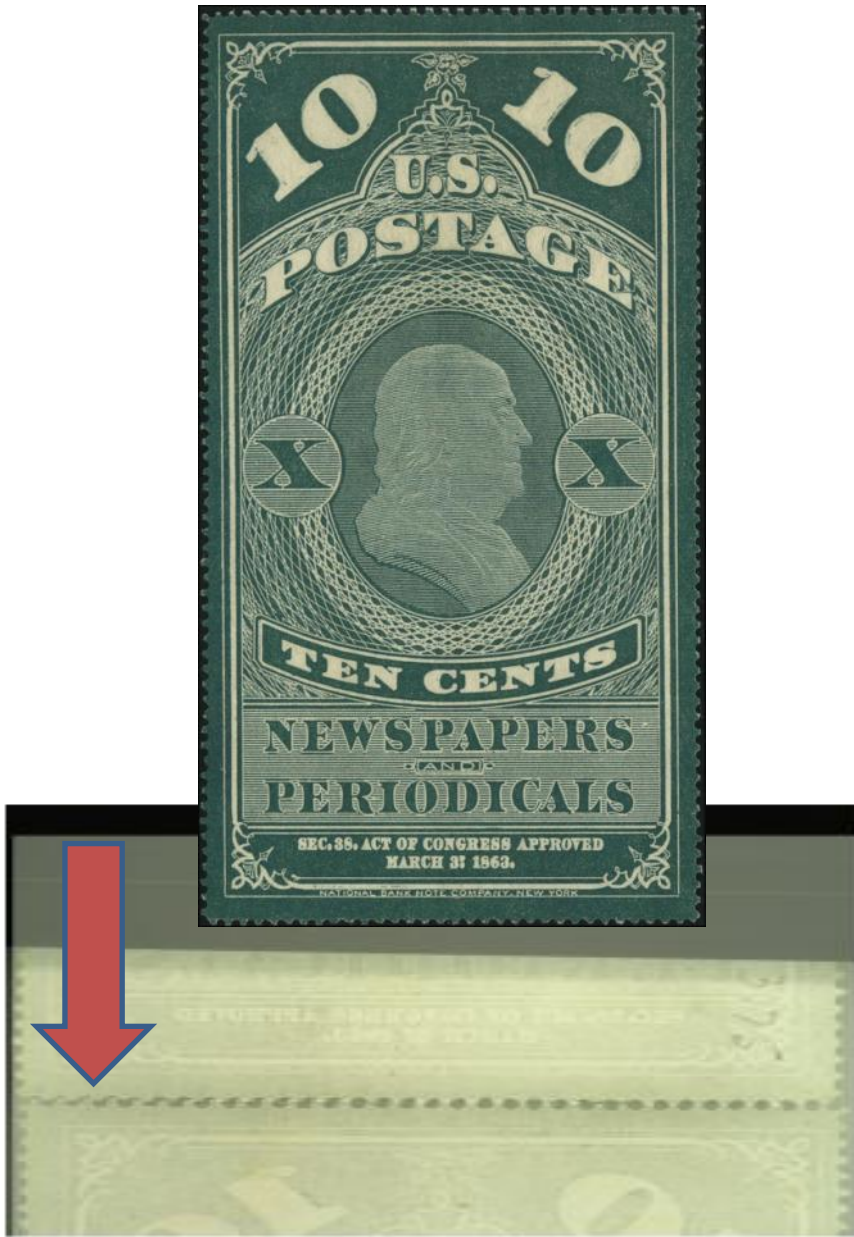
**Appears to be a Very Fine
Imprint Plate No. Pair of the
50c Trans-Mississippi,
Scott #291, Catalog \$1,775**



But is it a fault-free gem?

Portion of Top Margin Has Been Added



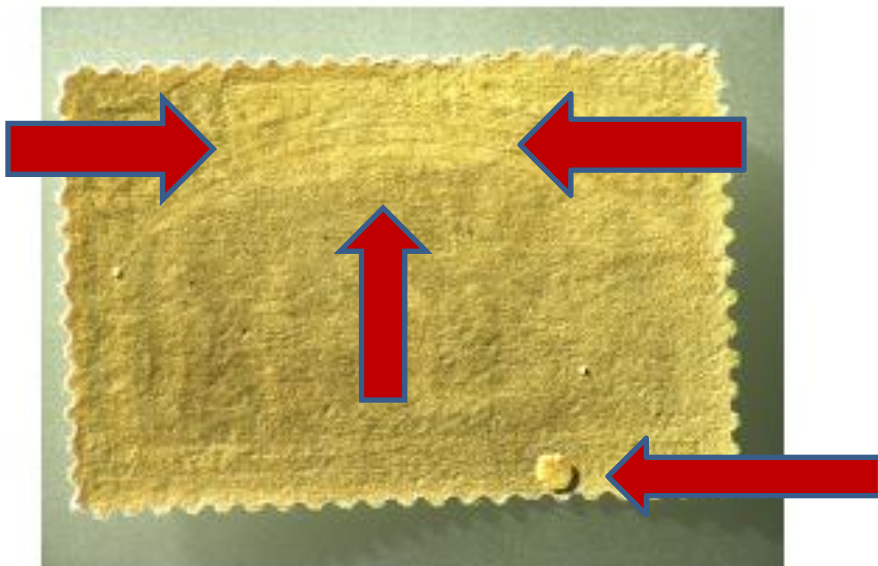


Matching selvage against stamp shows reperforation at top of this 10c Newspaper stamp, Scott #PR2, Catalog \$300



\$3 Columbian, Scott #243

**Submitted as Never Hinged, with
value of \$5,250.**



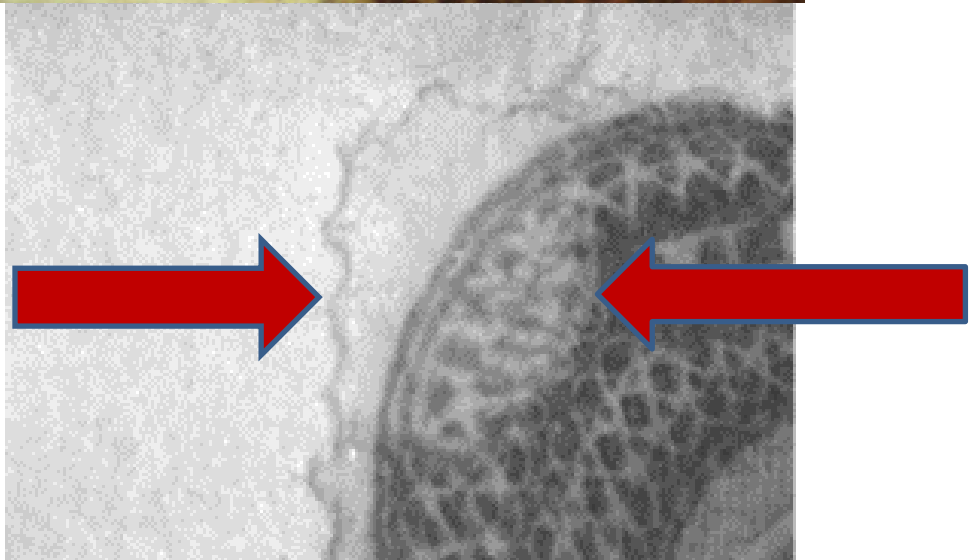
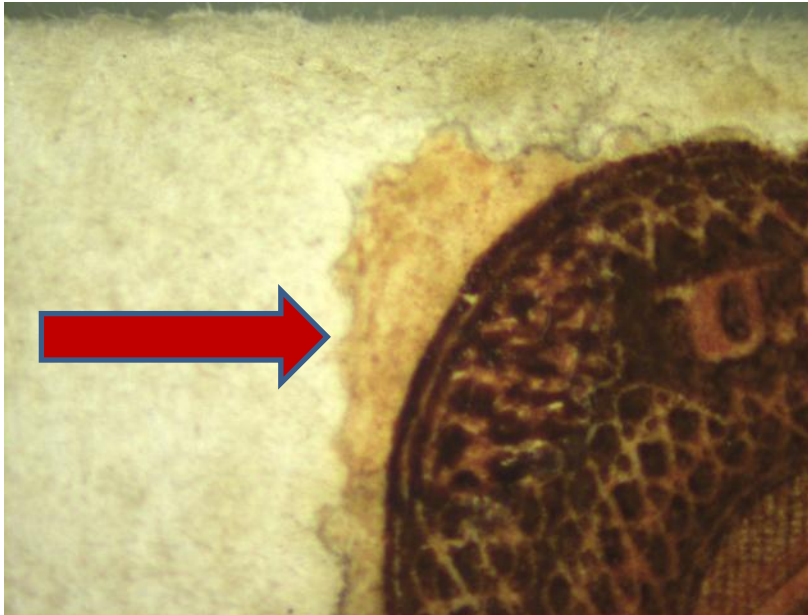
**Side lighting shows hinge mark &
gummed perf. cut out**

Triple Rate Cover: 45c to France by American Service via United Kingdom



**Three Color Franking with
Scott ## 30A, 35 & 38
Value \$1,500 +
BUT --**

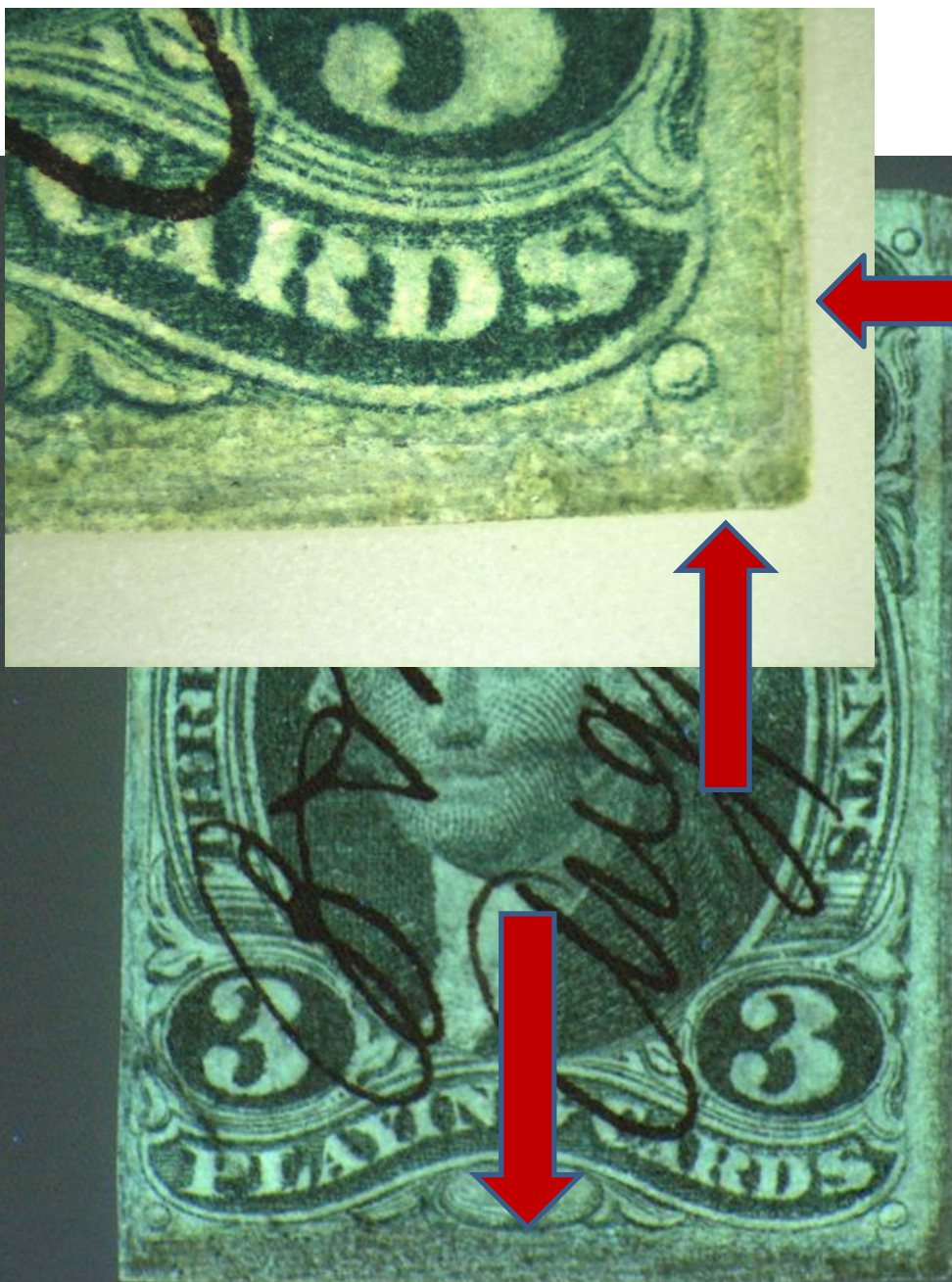
Upper Left Corner of 5c Stamp Looks Suspicious



Ultraviolet shows that upper left corner has been repaired.

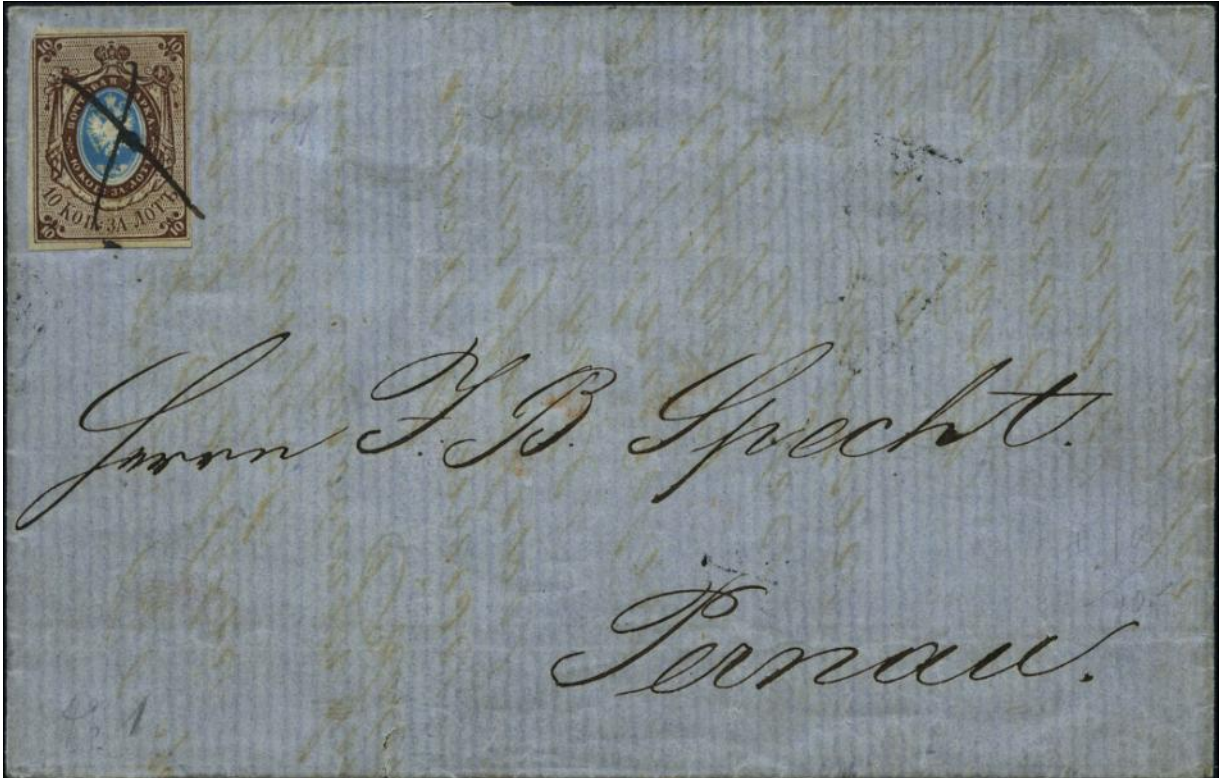


**Is This a Genuine
Imperforate 3c Playing Card
Revenue, Scott # R17a
Catalog \$40,000?**

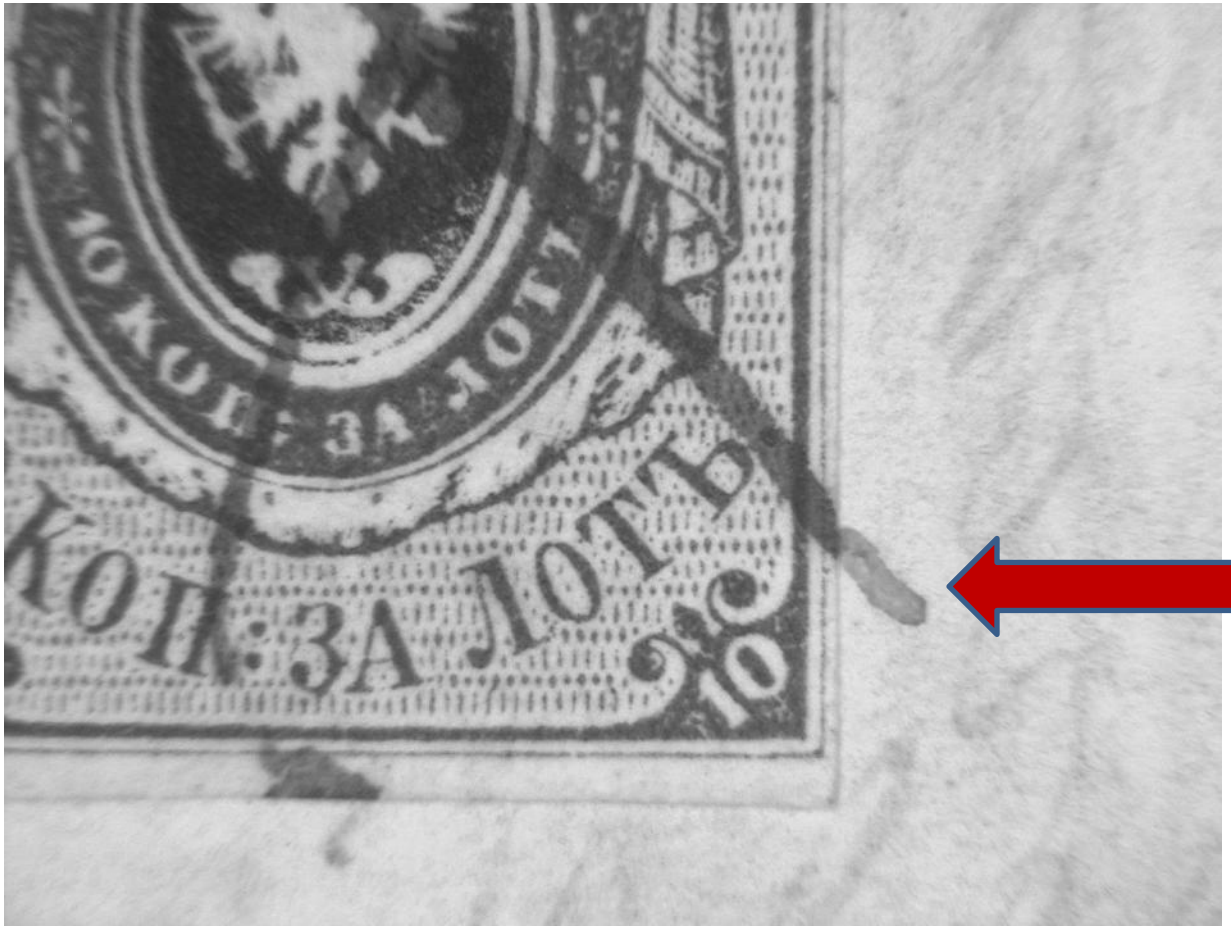


High Magnification Show Suspicious Looking Margins at Top & Right Sides. Ultraviolet Shows Margins Fraudulently Added.

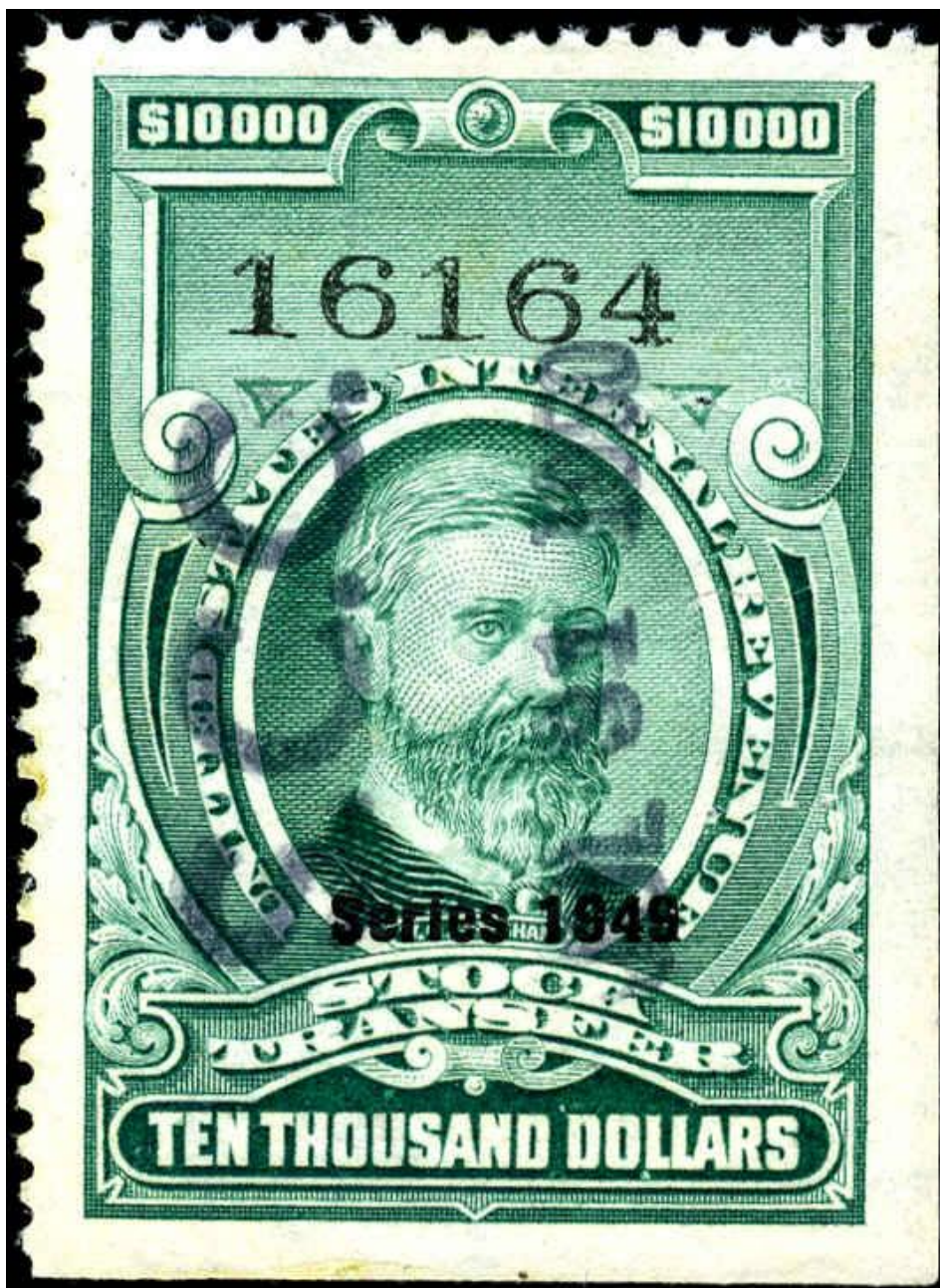
Russia Scott #1 on Cover



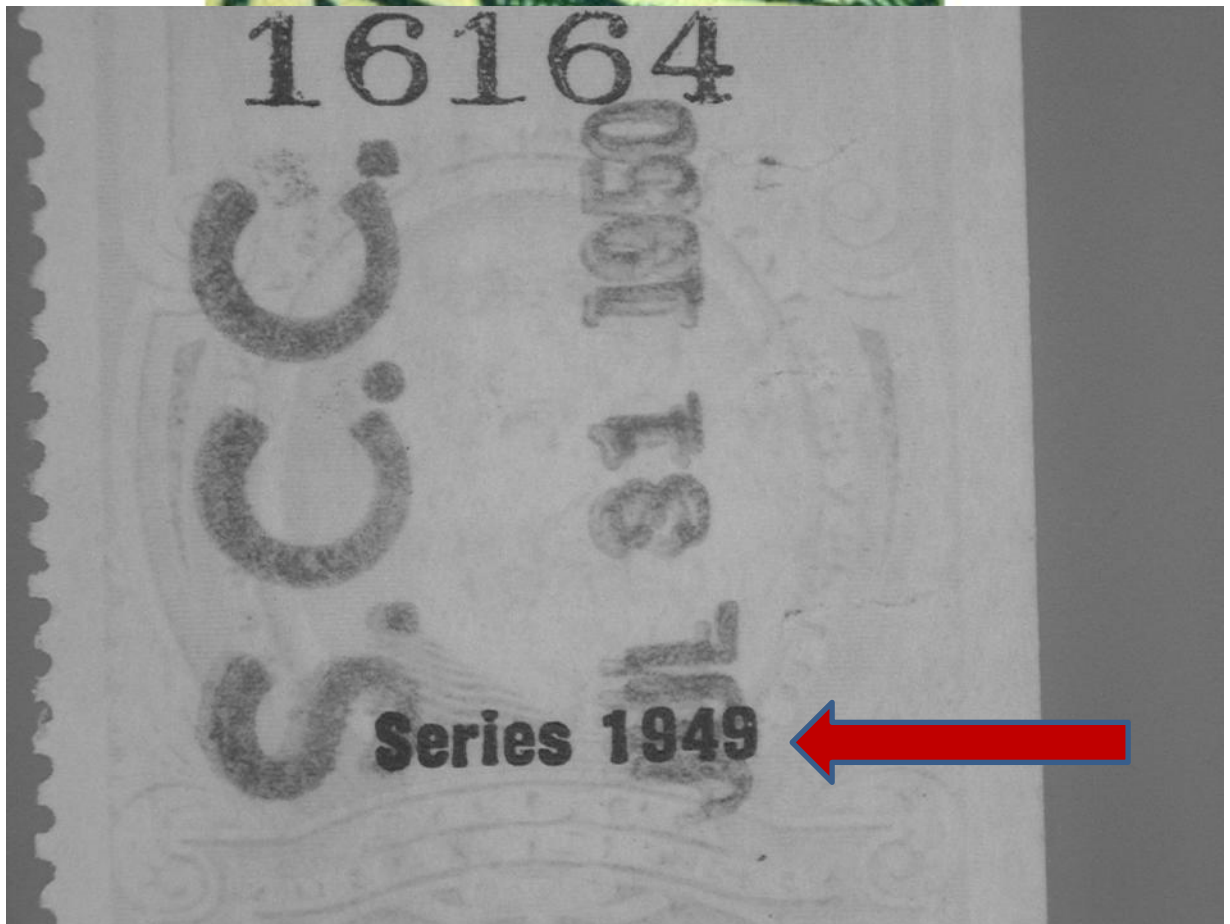
**But is the tying pen
cancel genuine?**



**High Magnification Under
Infrared Light Shows a
Different Shade of Ink
Fraudulently “Tying” Stamp
to the Cover.**



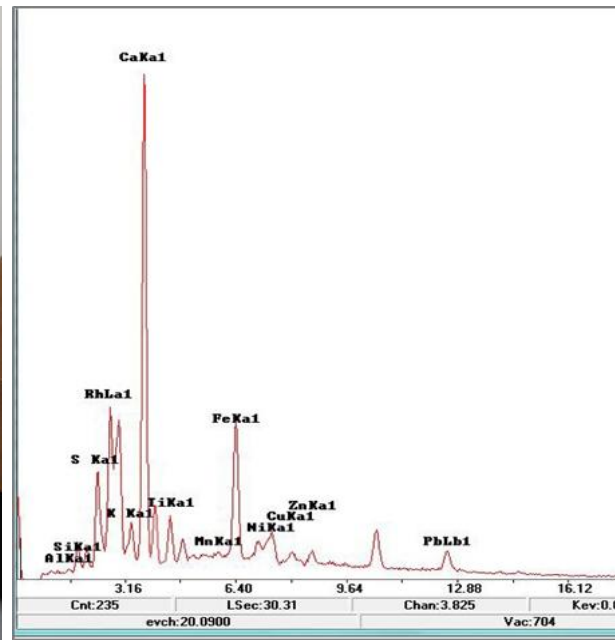
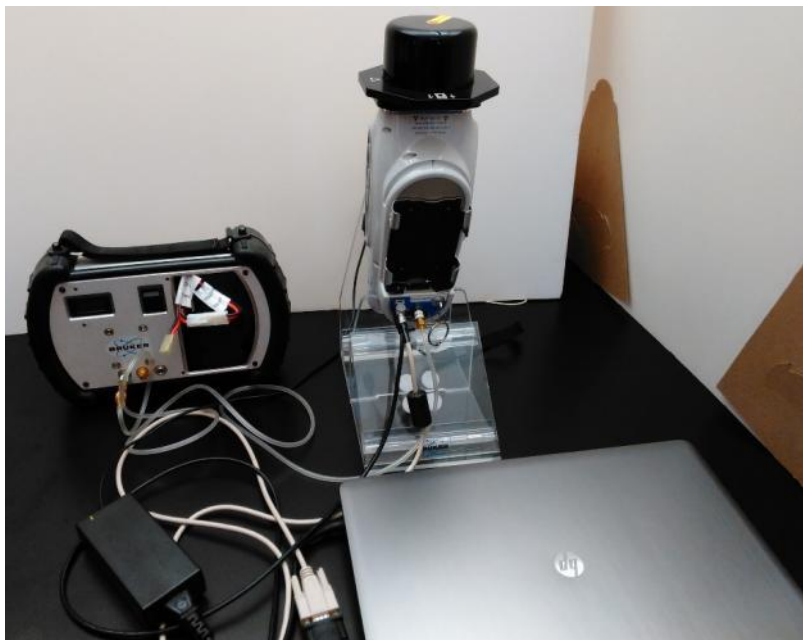
**What is the Series Year Date?
If 1946 Overprint, Scott #RD239,
Catalog \$16,500.**



**Infrared Light Show “Series 1949”
Overprint, RD312, Catalog \$475.**

The Bruker XRF Spectrometer

The Bruker XRF (X-Ray) Spectrometer is used to determine the elements of the ink used in the printing of stamps. It is able to identify certain stamp issues of similar color but with inks of very different chemical compositions. The PF is the only expertizing service in the U.S. owning this equipment.



A spectrograph is produced which depicts the elements found in the tested area and provides comparative levels of the individual elements contained in the ink and paper.

Distinguishing Newspaper Special Printing from Regular Printings



CBNC

Regular Printing

PR 9-15 Black



CBNC

Special Printing

PR 33-39 Gray

Black

XRF Comparison of the Four Black Newspaper Stamps

Element	1883 American Special Printing Intense Black PR80	1879 American Regular Issue Black PR57-62	1875 Continental Regular Issue Black PR9-15	1894 Bureau Regular Issue Intense Black PR90-94
Fe	.14 to .15	.21 to .28	.18 to .21	.25 to .45
Ni	.03	.05 to .07	.05 to .07	.03 to .08
Cu	.03	.05 to .10	.03 to .05	.03 to .04
Zn	0	0 to .03	0 to .03	0 to .08
Pb	.03 to .04	.02 to .07	.05 to .07	0 to .05
Mn	.03	.04 to .10	.02 to .03	.04 to .15
S	.06 to .08	.07 to .15	.10 to .13	.07 to .10
As	.06	.07 to .11	.07 to .09	0 to .07
Ca	.90	.87 to .97	.87 to .88	.86 to .95
Si	.04 to .05	.04 to .13	.02 to .07	.05 to .10
Al	0	0	0	0



The table shows the results of testing on the American Bank Note Company Special Printing stamps. A lower level of iron is indicated. It is this level which allows for the clear identification of the 1883 American Special Printings.

**“The Philatelic Foundation is
one of the world’s esteemed
expertizing bodies”**

Linn’s Editorial, June 12, 2017

***FOR PEACE OF MIND,
COLLECT WITH CONFIDENCE
—WITH A PF CERTIFICATE***

**Note new address in The
Collectors Club**



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