UNITED STATES LOCAL STAMPS (2)
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In describing the “Locals” the inscription and all reading found on the stamp will be first named, our own description following.

AMERICAN LETTER MAIL CO., forming an arch above, 20 FOR A DOLLAR, below. The centre is filled by an eagle perched upon a rock and surrounded by the sea and clouds. Flourishes fill the spaces at the sides and the spandrills are occupied with leaves. It is printed from a steel plate. Black impression rectangular.

COUNTERFEIT – This is also printed from a steel plate, and is a very close imitation, but is not quite so fine as the original. Test, in the genuine, the clouds over the eagle are composed of wavy lines, in the imitation the lines are straight and dotted. The curl in the side ornament of the genuine comes below the eagles beak slanting up slightly over it, but in the counterfeit the curl is nearly straight and directly above the open beak. The line through the centre of the corner ornaments are perfectly distinct in the genuine, but can scarcely be distinguished in the imitation.

AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY – Postage Two Cents. Paid. Black impression on green glazed paper, oblong. This stamp being simply type printed, with a common type border, is nearly impossible to distinguish between the genuine and imitation. Those that have been through the post are usually cancelled with the word PAID, in letters about a quarter of an inch high.

BROWN & McGill’S, U.S.P.O. DESPATCH – In oblong oval, surrounded by leaves enclosing an eagle, perched upon a branch. The original is from a fine steel plate, blue impression, rectangular.

COUNTERFEIT – This is a lithograph, and can easily be distinguished from the original.

D.O. BLOOD & Co’s forming an arch above. The design consists of a man stepping over the top of the houses, with a mail bag on his shoulder, bearing the inscription, CITY DISPATCH POST, and a parcel under his arm, bearing the word PAID. In the lower outside border is the makers imprint, Lith. Of Wagner & McGuigan, 100 Chestnut St., (space of a quarter of an inch,) J. Smith, in very small letters. Lithographed black impression, square.

COUNTERFEIT – 1st, Wood cut, a poor affair, the makers names has not been reproduced.
2nd, Wood cut, like the first, but of much better workmanship.
3rd Lithograph, a very fine imitation, but has a much clearer appearance than the genuine. This is often taken for the genuine, on account of the other two counterfeits. Test, in the original, the maker’s name, is quite distinct, and also the J. Smith; in the imitation, it is very poor, the J. Smith being hardly discernable. The word “Lithograph” on the left hand house, can scarcely be made out, whereas on the genuine it is quite plain.
D.O. BLOOD & Co., similar to the last, but has CITY DISPATCH crossing the centre of the stamp in a slightly curved line, and the word POST is omitted from the bag. Lithographed. Black impression, square.

COUNTERFEIT – Corresponds to the third, described copy of the last. The same remarks will apply to this.

CITY DISPATCH POST, on Bag, and with the exception of the name, same as first described in this set.

COUNTERFEIT – Lithographed. This concludes the imitations of these rare stamps. The same remarks applies to this as to the other two.