UNITED STATES LOCAL STAMPS (4)
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We will commence by describing two stamps that were omitted from last month’s article.

AMERICAN LETTER MAIL Co., (THE) – Surrounding Eagle in circle, the whole enclosed in a square frame composed of three lines, black impression, square.

This is printed from a very fine steel plate, engraved by W.L. Ormsby, whose imprint will be found in the lower corners. They were in use in 1844. These stamps are very scarce and have not been reprinted or are we aware of their having been counterfeited.

BRADY & Co.’s CHICAGO PENNY POST – The imitation of this stamp was not described in last month’s article.

COUNTERFEIT – A very poor wood block, the lettering being very indifferent; the word POST being especially so. It is printed in a great variety of colors, and is not calculated to deceive any but the merest tyro.

CARRIER’S DISPATCH, ONE CENT, on one cent piece, in centre of oval forming an eye, carrier pigeons in corners, colored impressions, oblong, red, blue.

COUNTERFEIT – This is a very fair imitation but is not so distinct as the genuine. Test. The pigeon’s heads are scarcely discernable, the shading in the corner of the eye, composed of dots, runs perpendicular, whereas in the genuine they have a horizontal appearance. The shading around the outside of the eye in the imitation, is equally close to the edge of the stamp, whereas, in the genuine, the shading is much closer in the space occupied by the lettering.

CHICAGO PENNY POST – Surrounding oval enclosing Bee Hive, colored impression, rectangular, orange.

COUNTERFEIT – This has a much clearer appearance than the genuine. Test. The Bee Hive appears to be standing on water or a groundwork composed of fine lines, in the genuine the ground appears broken. The corner ornaments in the counterfeit extend nearer to the centre than in the genuine, the upper left hand corner nearly touching the centre in the imitation, in the genuine it does not reach to within an eighth of an inch, the first N in PENNY is considerably larger than the second; in the genuine they are both the same size.

CITY DISPATCH ONE CENT DELIVERY – Figure of Justice (not blindfolded) holding scales and resting on sword. Black impression, oval; this has been reprinted, and we are unacquainted with any counterfeit.
CITY DISPATCH POST, TWO CENTS – Surrounding bust of Washington in oval, C.C. on each side of his neck, the corners are filled with the fan ornament, black impression on glazed paper, green, white. This is printed from a steel plate, and has a very handsome appearance.

COUNTERFEIT – This is a very common wood cut and is so poor as to make it unnecessary to describe more particularly.

CITY DISPATCH POST, THREE CENTS – Same as above with the exception of the C.C. which is not introduced here, black impression on glazed paper, white, green.

CITY EXPRESS POST – Occupying three sides rectangle enclosing numeral of value, colored impression, rectangular, 1 cent blue, black; 2 cents blue, black.

COUNTERFEIT – This is a very fine imitation and can not be distinguished by any one unacquainted with the stamp, without comparing it with the genuine.

CLARK & Co., ONE CENT – On letter box, red impression on yellow paper; this is impressed from a wood cut and has been reprinted.

COUNTERFEIT – First Test. No comma after CLARK and the shading extends to the N in ONE, and reaches to the outline of the stamp, as far as the o.

Second Test. Period after CLARK instead of comma; the L in CLARK touches the A; in the genuine each letter is distinct; there are various other differences, but this is sufficient to distinguish it.