UNITED STATES LOCAL STAMPS
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COUNTERFEIT. – This is a very good imitation, although the difference is more easily seen than described. The face in the counterfeit appears like a cry baby, instead of a dignified lady as in the genuine. Test: The letters EXP touch each other in the counterfeit, in the genuine each letter is distinct.

RUSSELL above, POST OFFICE below, bust in oval in centre, with 8TH in small oval to the left, and AVE to the right. The whole is surrounded by an octagonal frame composed of two fine lines. Colored impression on colored paper; red on pale pink; dark brown on brown; green on green.

COUNTERFEIT –
1st. This is easily distinguished from the genuine. Test: In the genuine there is a dash and two dots under the TH following the 8. In the counterfeit the dash has been omitted, and only the dots left under the TH and Ave. The two flourishes above RUSSELL are omitted in this counterfeit.

2nd. A much closer imitation than the preceding, but the period after RUSSELL is square instead of round as in the genuine. Test: Four short dashes under the 8th instead of one dash – and two dots as in the genuine.

INTERNATIONAL LETTER EXPRESS, TWO CENTS, surrounded by a printer’s border. Black impression, oblong; salmon. This being simply a printed label, it is nearly impossible to distinguish it from a counterfeit. It has either been re-printed or re-set with the same type.

C. & W. BRIDGE DESPATCH, surrounded by heavy border, bronze impression on colored paper, oblong; green. This belongs to the same class as the last, and has either been re-printed or re-set.

We now come to a very scarce stamp that was used in Hartford in 1845. The design consists of a man stepping across a river from one city to another, with a bag on his shoulder, inscribed MAIL. A ferry boat is crossing in the distance. Black impression on yellow paper, small rect. It is printed from a copper plate; we have never seen a counterfeit.

GORDON’S CITY EXPRESS in circle, surrounding letter-carrier, 2 on the left, and cts. on the right. The whole is enclosed in square of four single lines. Black impression on green glazed paper, square.

COUNTERFEIT. – This is a very fair imitation, but amongst other defects shows the “postman’s” left hand, which in the genuine is in his pocket. Test: In the counterfeit the shadow from each foot is distinctly separate, whereas in the genuine, the shading on the ground is run together.