THE BRATTLEBORO’ STAMP
BY THE EDITOR
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*On the original the imprint is in small script, and does not extend over the length of the centre stamp.

In the January number of Volume II of this paper, we gave the full history or all that was then known concerning the Brattleboro’ stamp, but since then an American writer in the Stamp Collector’s Magazine has thrown new light on the subject, which has opened the way for further discoveries, concerning this interesting stamp. The article in question is also valuable for pointing out some errors in Dr. Palmer’s statement, which the writer erroneously attributes to Dr. Petrie, but unfortunately nearly all his own statements were incorrect.

Upon seeing the paper on the Brattleboro’ stamp, in the Stamp Collector’s Magazine, in which the writer stated he had a sheet of seven varieties, our publishers being determined to secure the sheet at any cost, immediately wrote the possessor, offering to pay more than any one else whatever the price might be, but the gentleman having already given another party the refusal of them, at what he considered a high figure, they were compelled to purchase of the new owner, at four times the price the discoverer realized; directly upon seeing the sheet we were struck with the curious appearance of the engravers imprint, which instead of being at either end or in the middle, was under the second from the end, upon examining the back we clearly saw traces of the wafers mentioned in L.H.B.’s letter, of these there were one at each corner of the left hand and one above the stamp, that the imprint was under if the sheet had been struck down in this way, the two right hand ones would have been loose and liable to turn up, which to say the least was a strange manner of fixing them in a book, these circumstances were sufficient evidence to us that the sheet had originally consisted of ten varieties, but we certainly should not have stated it here, unless we could prove it beyond doubt. The Brattleboro’ in our own collection, which was obtained from one formed in New Brunswick, and was cancelled by a red ink penmark, was at once consulted, and was found to be different to any on the sheet, and to have a wide margin on the left end which corresponded to the margin on three sides of the sheet. Letters despatched to two collectors, who were known to have Brattleboro’ cancelled by red, in a few days brought the desired stamps and also the owners. The stamps were placed together and found to fit exactly, each one being different. Photographs of the complete sheet was then taken (which by the way will be presented to any one who gets up a club of ten subscribers to the JOURNAL, and to no one else under any consideration), and the stamps distributed to their respective owners, in all probability never to be replaced.
A brief resume correcting former errors may not prove uninteresting to our reader.

The Brattleboro’ stamp was issued by Dr. Frederick N. Palmer, in the latter part of 1846, and continued in use until the appearance of the government issue the following year, when the remainder of the stock was burnt up, and in our opinion, not ten per cent of the amount printed were ever used. It was engraved by Thomas Chubbuck, (then of Brattleboro’) on copper, the stamp being repeated ten times, making that number of varieties, there were printed 500 impressions of the plate (see page 136, Vol III, JOURNAL,) which would give 5000 as the number of stamps printed.