The Philatelic Foundation, 270 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016

## The Confederate States 2-Cent Green Lithograph of 1862



On November 20, 1979, The Philatelic Foundation issued Certificate $\# 80,000$ for a drop rate cover bearing a 2-cent Confederate States stamp (Scott \#3), postmarked with a Richmond, Virginia, turned year-date logo variety cancellation. It was discovered that the stamp is the scarce left "top knot" variety and in the opinion of the Expert Committee this item is genuine in every respect.

The Confederate Congressional Act of February 23, 1861 prescribed a two cents rate for "letters placed in any post office, not for transmission but for delivery only" (drop letters) and "newspapers, unsealed circulars, handbills, engravings, pamphlets, periodicals and magazines, not exceeding three ounces in weight; and for each additional ounce, or fraction of an ounce, two cents additional, and in all cases the postage shall be prepaid by stamps otherwise as the Postmaster General shall direct."

The only change made pertaining to this rate was in the Act of April 29, 1863 effective July l, in which the printed circular rate for transmission through the mails was fixed at one cent per ounce.

The central design of the stamp is a portrait of Andrew Jackson, thought to have been made from a photo of an oil painting hanging in the Capitol in Richmond. Charles Ludwig, of the firm of Hayer \& Ludwig, designed and executed the stamp on stone. It was lithographed in dark green ink on thick wove and porous paper. They were issued in panes of 100. According to Dietz and Lehman, approximately $2,000,000$ stamps were issued. There also exists a rare bright yellow green shade. The earliest date of usage is March 21, 1862.


Left top knot


Right top knot

Although there are no pronounced varieties of these stamps, three constant varieties are to be noted. The "top knot" varieties illustrated above, positions 31,81 in the right pane and positions 30,80 in the left pane. The "spur" variety is shown below and is found in position 60 of the left pane.


## ANALYSIS OF ALL SUBMISSIONS OF THE TWO-CENT ISSUE OF 1862

 TO THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION, 1945 THROUGH 1985Stamps

| Mint | Used | Genuine | Counterfeit Stamps | Counterfeit Cancel |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 39 | 49 | 73 | 4 | 11 |

## Covers

Submitted
70

Genuine
55

Not Genuine
15

Portions of this report are reprinted from the Philatelic Foundation booklet, THE CONFEDERATE STATES TWO-CENT GREEN LITHOGRAPH, by Brian M. Green. The Foundation has published a complete series on the lithograph issues of the Confederate States. Other Foundation publications cover the typograph issues and the two-cent red intaglio stamp. Additional Confederate books will be published over the next several years.
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