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Author(s): C.W. Wickersham

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### CONTENTS

EDITORIAL . . . . .	207
PRESIDENT'S LETTER . . . . .	208
Overseas and Resident Member Dues	
SECOND DINNER DANCE, December 5, 1959 . . . . .	209
UNCOMMON USES OF COMMON STAMPS . . . . .	210
Canada 2c Registration Stamp on "Drop" Letter	
SOUTH BULGARIA (Herbert P. Woodward) . . . . .	211
The Lion Overprints	
PRINTING EVIDENCE (Ernest A. Kehr) . . . . .	229
BOOK REVIEWS . . . . .	231
C. C. LIBRARY WANT LIST . . . . .	232
LIBERIA (Cornelius W. Wickersham) . . . . .	233
The 1892 Numeral Issue	
THE CLUBHOUSE . . . . .	248
Meeting Reports, New Members and Coming Meetings	

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## Table Of Contents

*items marked with \* cannot be viewed as an individual PDF document*

[Click here to view the entire Volume: 38 No: 5 Philatelist: 038-05](#)

	<u>Starting Page</u>
<a href="#">Front Cover</a> (1 page)	Front Cover
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Harmer, Rooke & Co., Inc.	Inside Front Cover
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Raymond H Weill Co	I
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: H.E. Harris & Co. Inc.	II
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Minkus	III
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: The American Stamp Dealers' Association, Inc.	IV
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Corinthila	V
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Irwin Heiman	VI
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: H.E. Wingfield & Co.	VI
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Wakefield, Fortune Inc.	VII
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: J. N. Sissons Inc.	VIII
<a href="#">Editorial</a> (3 pages)	207
<a href="#">Uncommon Uses of Common Stamps - Canada 2c Registration Stamp on "Drop" Letter</a> (1 page)	210
<a href="#">South Bulgaria - The Lion Overprints</a> (18 pages) <i>Herbert P. Woodward</i>	211
<a href="#">Printing Evidence</a> (3 pages) <i>C.W. Wickersham, Ernest A. Kehr</i>	229
<a href="#">Book Reviews</a> (2 pages)	231
<a href="#">C.C. Library Want List</a> (1 page)	232
<a href="#">Liberia - The 1892 Numeral Issue</a> (16 pages) <i>C.W. Wickersham</i>	233
<a href="#">The Clubhouse</a> (12 pages)	248
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Robson Lowe Ltd.	IX
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Alex S. Juliard	IX
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Higgins & Gage, Inc.	IX
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Richard N. Cone	X
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: John A Fox	X
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: General Stamp Co.	XI
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Linn's U.S. Stamp Yearbook	XI
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: New England Stamp	XII
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Nicolas Sanabria Co., Inc.	XII
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Scott Publishing Co.	XII
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Paul Goldsmith	XII
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Billig & Rich, Inc.	XIII
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: G.S. Manners	XIII
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Bruce G. Daniels	XIII
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Penny Black Stamp Co.	XIII
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Douglas Roth	XIV
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Mercury Stamp Co., Inc.	XIV
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Douglas P. Ball	XIV
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: The Westminster Stamp Co. Ltd.	XIV
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: Edgar Mohrmann & Co.	XV
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: The Collectors Club	XV
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: W.E. Lea (Philatelists) Ltd	Inside Back Cover
<a href="#">Display Advertisement</a> (1 page) Advertiser: H.R. Harmer	Back Cover

# LIBERIA

## The 1892 Numeral Issue

By CORNELIUS W. WICKERSHAM

For the 1885 numeral issue of Liberia the five lower denominations, 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c and 6c followed the general design of the 8c numeral stamp of 1882, with some changes of background and small revisions of design. The central numeral is somewhat larger within a sexagonal frame on engine-turned ground producing a sort of network. The top and bottom frames for the legends, "POSTAGE" and the "CENT" or "CENTS" (with denomination in small numerals) are completed and the smaller decorations are changed. The large central numeral remained as the outstanding feature.

A different design was used for the 8c and 16c. The central numeral is smaller and with an oval shield background without network, the corner numerals are omitted, and other details changed. The design of the 32c is entirely different, picturing a ship, palm tree, rising sun and a dove, and without the words "POSTAGE" or "REPUBLIC". There are no numerals on this stamp, large or small, and the only legends are "THIRTY-TWO" in the upper and "CENTS" in the lower scroll, with the name of the country in very small letters. The 1889 issue of the 1c perf. 14 has the same design as the 1c of 1885.<sup>1</sup>

There was a later issue of the 1885-1889 numeral stamps of Liberia from new stones. This was in 1892, and the main distinctions between the issues are seen in the wider space between the stamps on the sheets and in the different perforation gauges. The eight denominations of the 1892 printings were set about 4 to 4½mm apart and are perforated 11 or 12, with some variations hereafter mentioned. All are also found imperforate.<sup>2</sup> The 1885 stamps are perf. 11½x10½ for the 1c to 8c, perf. 10½ for the 6c, 16c, and 32c, and a rare perf. 11½ for six denominations; three being also found imperforate. The 1c of 1889 is perf. 14. The stamps of 1882-1889 are spaced about 2mm apart. All printings were lithographed.

The Stanley Gibbons Catalogue refers to the paper on which the 1892 stamps were printed as thin. This is certainly an incomplete description since the sheets, blocks, pairs and singles examined by the writer come on a variety of papers, some thin, some medium and some thick.

Examination of sheets and large blocks of the lower denominations of the later issue (1892) shows that some were printed in sheets of sixty (6x10) and that in making up the stone vertical strips of six transfers were used in the majority of cases. Poole<sup>3</sup> stated that it was likely that all denominations were printed in sheets of similar size. He, however, admits that he had only seen full sheets of the 1c and 2c, and while it is true that the 4c sheet appears to be of the same size as the 1c and 2c, in fact the sheet of the 6c and the pane of the 8c were smaller, and the 3c sheet was larger. As to the vertical strips of six transfers, which Poole presumed applied to all, in *one* setting of the 1c, and, as we shall see, in settings of some of the other denominations, a vertical strip of six was used. But there is another setting of the 1c, where the arrangement of the transfers is different, as it is in settings of the 3c and 6c, which we shall describe when discussing those denominations.

### The 1c.

In the Poole setting the first, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth vertical rows are called by him transfer "A," the remaining five rows transfer "B."

1. Listed by Stanley-Gibbons, but not by Scott. The former gives 1886-88 as the dates for the others, but the writer prefers Scott's 1885.

2. The writer has not seen the perf. 14½ stamps listed by Stanley-Gibbons (without pricing); these are the 1c, 2c, 6c and 32c. Stanley-Gibbons Catalog, 1954, Part III, p. 404.

3. The Postage Stamps of Liberia, by Bertram W. H. Poole, 22 P. J. of A., pages 61, 70.



Fig. 1. The vertical rows of the "Poole" setting of the 1c; his transfer "A" on the left, "B" on the right.

In transfer "A," Poole identified and described the third and fourth stamps down from the top, and in transfer "B" the fifth and sixth stamps down from the top in each vertical strip of six. His descriptions are substantially verified by an examination of a block of 30 (6x5) with the top, left and bottom sheet margins in the writer's collection. In this block the left vertical row is Poole's so-called transfer "A," and the remaining four vertical rows his transfer "B," thus conforming to Poole's diagram of arrangement of the strips.

The descriptions of the identifications are as follows:

- "A". T. 3. A colored line (partly) through the small numeral in the lower left corner.<sup>4</sup>  
 T. 4. Colored dot (or line partly) through the small numeral in the upper right hand corner.

4. "Left" and "right" are used as from the viewer's point of view. Another description would be "west" and "east," i. e. as the block appears on an album page.



1	2
3	4
5	6

Fig. 2. The block of transfers in the second setting of the 1c; and diagram.

- "B". T. 5. A colored line joins the colored background (the shield) around the small numeral in the top right corner to the frame of the shield.
- T. 6. A colored dot on the white border at the top of the shield in the same corner.

Poole did not attempt to identify the other positions in either strip.

*Second setting.* But a full sheet of 60 and another block of 30 of the 1c, 1892, in the writer's collection show a totally different arrangement and different transfers from Poole's setting. Both have the wide spacing of the 1892 printing. The sheet is imperforate and the block is perf. 12. Six transfer types have been identified, arranged 3x2, and not in a vertical strip as in the Poole setting. Thus in the sheet, five blocks of transfers are arranged from left to right in the upper half, and this arrangement is repeated in the lower half of the sheet.

The arrangement in the block of 30 conforms to that of the full sheet. The transfers may be described as follows:

- T. 1. Extra horn on right of colored shield in upper right corner; very small colored dot above and almost touching top of shield in upper left corner.
- T. 2. Small colored line or scratch on outer frame in upper left corner.
- T. 3. Extra horn on top of colored shield in upper right corner; colored dot on outer frame in upper left corner.
- T. 4. Colored dot and short line (streamer, pointing right) on N. W. point of outer frameline in upper left corner; minute colored dot on white numeral in same corner.
- T. 5. Minute colored dot near middle of numeral in lower right corner; usually a minute colored dot in middle of lower left numeral also.



Fig. 3. The vertical strip of six transfers used for the 2c.

T. 6. Colored dot or mark on point of outer frame of upper left corner, bending to left; colored dot on lower part of numeral in lower left corner.

Thus the sheet was made up of ten blocks of six transfers (2x5), the transfers in each block being arranged 3x2.

*Color.* There is some difference in descriptions of the color of the 1c. Poole calls it red, in contrast to the 1885 stamps, which he calls rose (shades) and the 1c perf. 14, of 1889, which he calls bright rose. Stanley Gibbons concurs, but gives rose as the color for the 1885 1c imperforate, and pink when perf.  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 10\frac{1}{2}$ .

Personally, the writer can see little difference between the printings as regards color, perforated or imperforate, except that the 1892 stamps are usually, but not always, a reddish rose, and *some* but not all the earlier stamps a pinkish rose. The 1889 stamps of this denomination (perf. 14) in the collection are anything but bright. They are more nearly pink, or a pinkish rose. A pair, two stamps in a block of six, and several stamps in a full sheet, all of the 1892 issue, are rose or pinkish rose, while others in the block and sheet are noticeably more nearly red or rose red. The truth is that the shades vary in all three printings and it would be better to describe all three as "rose or red (shades)."

*Separation.* As already indicated the 1c of 1892 is found perf. 12, and imperforate. It has also been listed as perf. 14½. The 1885 stamp is found imperforate, and perf. 11½x10½.

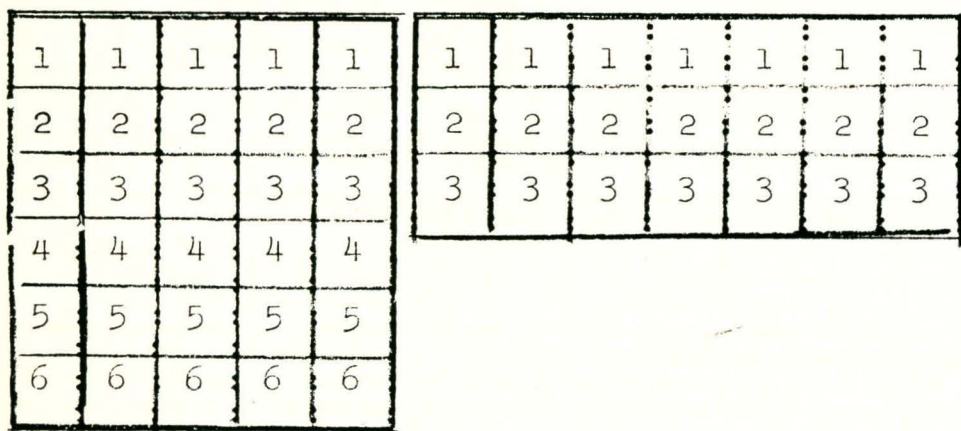
### The 2c.

Poole says that a vertical strip of six impressions was used and repeated to make up the sheet of 60, and describes them. Blocks of 30 (right half of the sheet), 21 and 4, as well as pairs, all in the writer's collection, bear him out. His descriptions, however, can be improved upon by this study.

Numbering the transfer types down from the top of the strip, they may be described as follows:

- T. 1. Poole says normal, but close examination shows a colored mark on the white background between the colored shield and the outer frameline in the upper right corner. As all stamps in each horizontal row are from the same impressions, this mark appears on all stamps of the top row in the blocks of 30 and 21 in the collection.<sup>5</sup>
- T. 2. Thick colored line across the numeral in the lower left corner, as Poole indicates; *also*, in the upper left corner there is a colored dot on the frameline under the center of the numeral.
- T. 3. Here Poole refers to the removal of the colored line across the numeral in the lower left corner. But this does not help too much. There are other means of identification. These are (1) a white flaw in the lower left corner from the base of the numeral across the colored shield, and (2) a minute but distinct dot just outside the outer frameline in the upper right corner.
- T. 4. A white line or flaw on the colored background below the "NT" of "CENTS."
- T. 5. A colored dot or blob on the outer frameline in the lower right corner and a

5. The block of 21 is composed of seven stamps from each of the 3 top rows (3x7).



Diagrams showing the arrangement of the transfer types in blocks of the 2c.



Fig. 4. Vertical strip of eight of the 3c, showing the five identified transfers, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

minute dot to the right, the two looking like a planet and its close satellite in miniature. Poole doesn't mention the smaller dot, but it is there.

T. 6. A colored dot on the upper part of the numeral in the upper right-hand corner.

*Colors.* Here there is a real difference in shade between the two issues. All 1892 stamps examined by the writer are strong green, whereas the 1885 stamps are a very pale light green giving a washed-out appearance. Poole lists the imperforate 1892 stamps as "green (shades)," the perf.  $14\frac{1}{2}$  and the imperf. horizontally as green. He does not mention perf. 12. Stanley Gibbons gives green for the perforated stamps, and blue-green and green for the imperforates. All the 2c stamps of 1892 in the writer's collection, including the large blocks of 30 perf. 12, the imperforates and the block of 21 and pairs



imperf. between (vertically) are green—a good strong green. The latter, by the way, are perf. 12 horizontally.

*Separation.* The stamp is listed as perf. 14½, but Poole fails to list perf. 12, which is quite common.<sup>6</sup>

The imperf. and part perf. varieties have already been mentioned.

### The 3c.

With respect to the 3c and the higher denominations, Poole says only that it seems probable that the stones were all made up from transfers in strips of six. He does not attempt to identify the transfer types. A study of a full sheet of the 3c, and large blocks of the 4c, 6c and 8c in the writer's collection discloses further information, including the identification of many of the transfers.

Unlike the 1c and 2c, the 3c sheet was made up of 80 impressions (8x10) contrary to Poole's guess. Five transfer types have been identified, and five horizontal rows show the same type in each row. Thus the top row stamps are all of the same type. The stamps in the second horizontal row are all Type 2; those in third row are Type 3; in the fourth horizontal row the stamps are all Type 4; and in the fifth row all are Type 5. The writer has been unable to find any distinguishing marks in the three bottom horizontal rows. While it is clear that vertical strips of at least five, and probably six, were used, it has been impossible to say how the three bottom rows were made up.

The types may be described as follows:

- T. 1. Colored dot on white border under center of numeral in upper right corner. (All stamps in top row of a full sheet in the writer's collection show this; but in another sheet, which lacks the two vertical rows on the left and is rather poorly printed, it is absent in two positions and hard to find (though it can be found) in four others.)
- T. 2. Small white flaws on colored ground around numeral and three colored dots on edge of colored ground in upper left corner. All ten stamps in the second horizontal row of the full sheet, and all eight in the block of 64, show this with one exception. One stamp in the poorly printed block fails to show two of the dots. This is due to poor printing.
- T. 3. Minute break in outer frame line above "E" of "POSTAGE"; all stamps in the third horizontal row of both sheets show this.
- T. 4. Minute colored dot on numeral in lower right corner. This is hard to see or absent in two positions in the block of 64, and absent or nearly so in one stamp, but is distinct in all stamps of the fourth horizontal row of better printed full sheet.
- T. 5. Small white flaw on colored ground at back of lower part of numeral in upper right corner. This appears on all stamps of the fifth horizontal row in both the full sheet and the block of 64.

*Colors.* Poole gives mauve as the color of the 1892 3c.—so does Stanley Gibbons. But Poole qualifies the 1885 stamp by calling it mauve (shades), and while Gibbons lists the perforated 1885 issue of this denomination as "mauve", the same stamp when imperforate is listed as "pale mauve".

The trouble with these listings is that the 1892 stamp is found in both mauve and pale mauve, whether perforated or imperforate, and while it is true that the 3c of 1885 perf. 11½x10½ may be found in a stronger mauve than most of the 1892 stamps, there are shade differences in both issues, and the writer prefers to list them as "mauve and shades" for both issues.

*Separation.* The 1892 3c is found perf. 11, perf. 12 and imperf. The full sheet of 80 in the writer's collection is imperf. The block of 64 is perf. 11. The perf. 12 is rare.

6. Cf. Stanley Gibbons catalog, *supra*.



Fig. 5. Vertical strip of six transfer types of the 4c.

Poole does not list it, and the writer has not seen it. It is, however, listed in Gibbons unused, and priced higher than any other 1892 numeral stamp of any denomination.

#### The 4c.

In the case of the 4c brown there is no doubt that the sheet was made up of vertical strips of six transfer types. This is shown by a block of 42 in the writer's collection (6x7) with full sheet margins top, bottom and right, and another block of 30 (6x5) also with full margins, except on the left. All stamps in each horizontal row in both blocks are the same

type respectively, and are readily identified as follows (numbered from the top of the strip down):

- T. 1. A minute white flaw in frame below numeral in upper left corner.
- T. 2. A minute colored dot on white base of large central numeral near right end.
- T. 3. Colored blob on network above large central numeral, prominent and easily seen.
- T. 4. White flaw on colored ground on left of numeral in lower right corner.
- T. 5. Small white flaw connecting base of numeral in lower right corner with white border.
- T. 6. Small colored dot on white border below "P" of "REPUBLIC".

The large block lacks the three left vertical rows of the sheet of 60 (the probable size of the sheet), while the block of 30 consists of the five right hand vertical rows. But there is no reason to doubt that the missing rows were made up in the same way as the others, following the pattern for the sheets of the Poole setting of the 1c, and that of the 2c. Obviously the size of the 3c sheet of 80 was not repeated for the 4c.

*Colors.* All agree on listing the 1892 4c as brown.<sup>7</sup> But while Gibbons lists the 1885 stamp when found perf. 11½ as brown (not listed by Poole, and very rare), both Poole and Gibbons call the stamp "chocolate" when found in the commoner perf. 11½x10½. The writer, viewing several specimens of the latter on the same album page with some 1892 4c stamps can see very little difference between them, although *some* of the earlier stamps are a slightly warmer or more "chocolate" shade. The real difference between the issues lies in the different perforations and in the difference in the spacing of the stamps on the sheet.

*Separation.* The 1892 4c is generally found perf. 12 or imperf. Both Poole and Gibbons list the stamp also as found perf. 11, the latter without pricing. Poole also lists a variety imperf. vertically, which the writer has not seen. The 1885 stamp of this denomination is apparently unknown in any of these conditions. It is commonly perf. 11½x10½, and, very rarely, perf. 11½.

#### The 6c.

The size of the sheet of the 6c was smaller. A block of 20 in the collection (4x5) has full sheet margins on the top, righthand side and bottom. It is possible that this may be the full sheet, or, possibly, that the full sheet was made up of 24 impressions (4x6).

All of the 1892 6c stamps examined have a very fine curved hairline (scratch—sometimes faint or incomplete) extending diagonally through the "O" of "POSTAGE" to the network surrounding the large central numeral. This has not been seen on the 1885 issue.

There are indications that a vertical strip of four transfer types were used, at least for part of the sheet, but the identifications are neither satisfactory nor complete, and further study and the examination of more material are required before final conclusions can be reached.

*Separation.* Perf. 12 is the common perforation of the 1892 6c which is also found imperforate. Gibbons and Poole also list perf. 11 and perf. 14½. These are both very scarce and are not priced by Gibbons. Poole, who failed to list the common perf. 12, does list a variety, namely imperf. vertically. This latter the writer has not seen. As the 1885 6c is perf. 11½x10½, perf. 10½ and perf. 11½ (the latter extremely rare), the issue of most of the 6c stamps found can be readily identified. Cases may be found, however, where due to rough perforation or shrinkage of paper, the exact perforation gauge may be difficult to establish. Here the greater space between the stamps may be relied on, except in singles with insufficient margins. So far as known, the 1885 6c is not found imperforate.

*Colors.* The 6c of both issues is universally described as "drab". The meaning of drab as given by the dictionary is a dull brownish or yellowish gray.<sup>8</sup> It is true that there is a

7. So does the Scott Catalogue. But as Scott does not separate the issue it is impossible to tell what shade or color variations exist between the two. The same thing may be said as to separation varieties.

8. The New Century Dictionary (D. Appleton-Century Co.), p. 455.



Fig. 6. Block of 20 of the 6c, the sheet margins on three sides are not shown.

very slight, almost unnoticeable light brownish tinge in the 1885 stamps, but plain gray would be a better description of the 1892 6c, which is printed on fairly thick paper of a slightly creamy white shade.

#### The 8c.

The ordinary pane of the 8c has 30 impressions (6x5). The full sheet, however, was made up of two panes, side by side. Whether the left pane contained one or more vertical rows is not known to the writer. The piece in the collection is shown in the photograph.

The stone was made up of vertical strips of six transfer types arranged vertically and repeated. Thus all stamps in a horizontal row are the same type. Their identifications are easily made. They may be described as follows:

- T. 1. A small white flaw at the left end of the lower scroll ("8 CENTS") extends from the left end down to the lower white border.
- T. 2. A small colored mark on inner right frame line just above lower right hand corner.

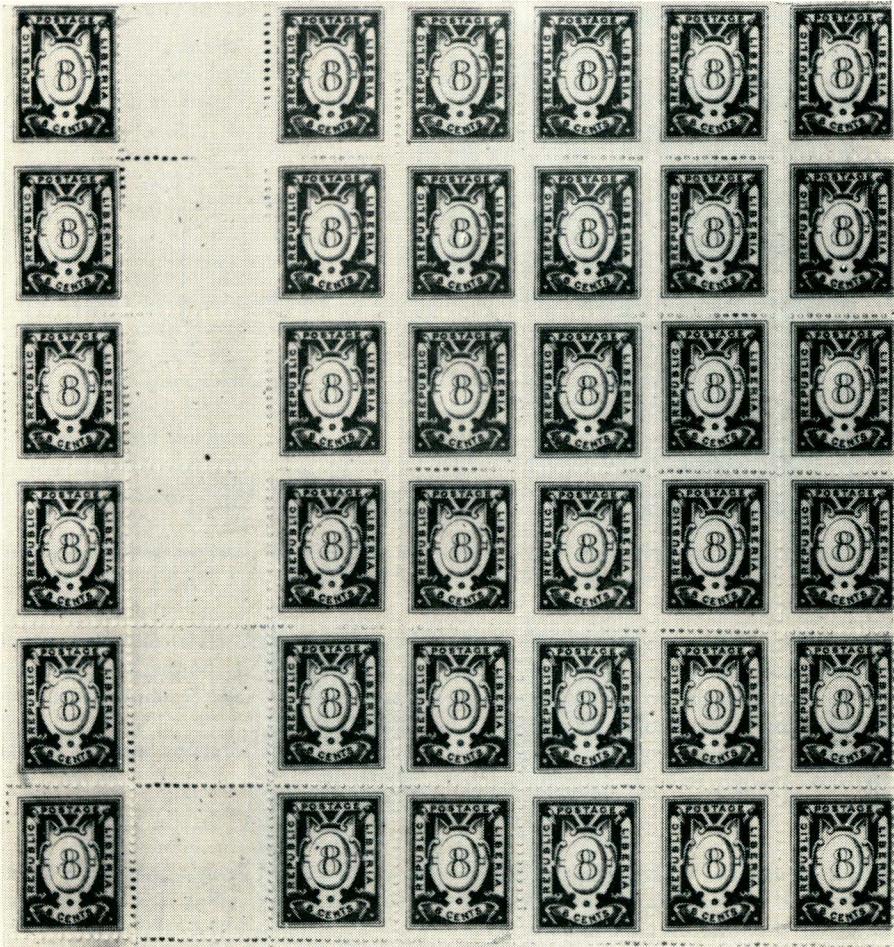
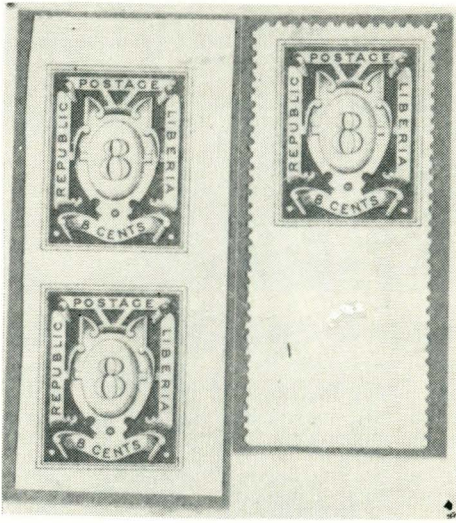


Fig. 7. Full pane of the 8c plus a vertical row.

- T. 3. Minute white flaw under and to right of "S" of "CENTS" on heavy shading of scroll.
- T. 4. Minute dot connects two inner lines of shading under and to right of large numeral.
- T. 5. Small irregular white flaw in network under (to left of) "L" of "LIBERIA."
- T. 6. Minute colored dots between two top frame lines—one near left corner, and one over right side of "O" of "POSTAGE"; also minute dot close to top of "L" of "LIBERIA."

*Color.* The color of the 1892 printing of the 8c numeral stamp is a flat slate, easily distinguished from the bluish gray of the earlier printing, and, of course, even more easily distinguished from the earlier lilac or lavender stamps of the same design.

*Separation.* The 1892 stamp is found imperforate and perf. 12. Fig. 7 is perf. 12. Poole lists a variety imperf. vertically, which the writer has not seen, but Poole fails to list the common perf. 12. Besides the ordinary compound perforation of the 1885 stamps (usually  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 10\frac{1}{2}$ , for both colors), Poole as well as Gibbons list the lavender stamp of that issue as perf.  $11\frac{1}{2}$  (very rare). The former also lists the lilac (or lavender) 8c of 1885, which he calls reddish gray, as imperforate, while Gibbons lists the bluish gray stamp



1	1
2	2

1
2

Fig. 8. Vertical pair, 8c, 1892, imperforate, and single with bottom sheet margin, showing transfer types 1 and 2 for the pair and type 6 for the single.

in that condition. But as no one could fail to distinguish the 1892 slate color from either of the earlier colors, no difficulty should exist in identification, even for single copies.

A block of four imperforate and an imperforate pair of the 1892 8c stamps in the collection show transfer types as in the diagrams in Fig. 8.

A single perf. 12, except at the bottom, which is without perforation, but with enormous bottom sheet margin, is T. 6.

### The 16c.

Lack of material makes it impossible to confirm or dispute Poole's guess that the sheet of the 16c was probably made up from transfers in strips of six. Nor is it possible for the writer to say that the full pane or sheet contained 30 subjects, as in the case of the 8c, or was larger, as in the case of some other denominations. But a noticeable difference from the 1885 issue is in the color of the 1892 stamps. They are usually found in a lighter, paler shade of yellow, and this is particularly so in the case of the imperforates, which have a decidedly "washed out" appearance. The 1885 stamps examined are much brighter and the yellow color deeper. Poole calls them orange-yellow, and so does Gibbons. This is a fairly good description, although perhaps light golden or bright yellow might be better.



Fig. 9. 16c, 1885, with red British cancellation.

But to call the 1892 stamps orange buff, as both do, does not appeal to the writer. They are much more like a pale yellow or yellow buff.

*Separation.* The 1892 stamps of this denomination are found perf. 12, and imperf. Poole lists a variety imperf. vertically. The 1885 16c is not found imperf. so far as known. It is usually perf. 10½, but there is also known a very scarce perf. 11½.

While in this article the writer has not attempted to deal with postmarks or cancellations on the numeral issues, it may be of interest to note that red British consular cancellations are known and the writer has both the 16c and 32c of the 1885 issue with this mark. (Fig. 9)

### The 32c.

Here again there is insufficient material available to determine the arrangement of the transfers or the make-up or size of the sheet. Poole suffered from the same difficulty. His "probable" use of a vertical transfer strip of six is no more certain today than it was when he wrote in the "Philatelic Journal of America" many years ago.

The 32c cannot be called a "numeral" stamp. It is of wholly different design. Instead of a large central numeral, we have a three-masted ship, a rising sun, a plough, a palm tree, and a small dove on wing with a scroll in its beak as already stated. The words "REPUBLIC" and "POSTAGE" appearing in all other denominations of the two issues have gone. There is not even a small numeral. The only inscriptions are the words "THIRTY TWO" on an upper scroll, the word "CENTS" on the lower scroll, and, in very small letters on the plough, the name "LIBERIA".



Fig. 10. Block of four of the 32c, 1892.

*Colors.* Both the 1885 and the 1892 stamps of this denomination are blue, usually described as deep blue. Slight varieties of shades between blue and a deeper blue have been noted in both issues.

*Separation.* The 1892 32c is found perf. 11, perf. 12 and imperforate. Both Poole and Stanley Gibbons list also perf. 14½, which is not priced by the latter, and has not been seen by the writer. It must be very scarce.<sup>9</sup>

So far as known the 32c of 1885 is not found imperforate. It is usually perf. 10½ and much more rarely perf. 11½.

9. Poole, as usual, omits perf. 12, which seems strange. In fact the only 1892 stamp listed by him as perf. 12 is the 1c red. The Gibbons catalog lists *all* stamps of the issue perf. 12, as well as imperf.

As usual, the 1892 stamps are set further apart on the sheet than those of the earlier issue. The distance is usually about  $4\frac{1}{2}$ mm., but sometimes the horizontal distance between stamps is slightly less. The 1885 stamps are spaced about 2mm. apart.

#### The Redrawn 8c of 1891.

While the large numeral "8" stamps of 1889 and 1891 are not part of the 1892 numerals, and the design is different from the 8c of that issue already described, this article would be incomplete without some reference to the 1891 stamps, although why the old 1882 8c was re-engraved involves a good deal of mystery.

The Scott catalog lists the 1889 stamp, with a note to the effect that the openings in the (large) figure "8" are filled with network, and refers to the 1882 stamp of similar design, where it is noted that the openings in the figure "8" enclose a pattern of slanting lines.<sup>10</sup> The fact that in the later stamp the large numeral is a different shape and the small numerals in the corners and the lettering are larger is not mentioned, nor is the 1891 setting listed. But Gibbons gives these facts, as well as the difference in spacing. The 1889 stamps are closely spaced, only 2mm. apart and are usually perf. 14, whereas the 1891 stamps are spaced from 4 to  $4\frac{1}{2}$ mm. apart, and are found perf. 12 and also imperforate. Both issues were printed by lithography.



Fig. 11. Block of four of the 8c, 1889, perf. 14.

The colors of the two stamps are usually given as bright blue for the 1889 issue, and blue for that of 1891. This is a good description for most copies, although some very minor differences of shade can be found, especially with the later issue.

The 8c, 1891, came from a new stone of the re-engraved stamp, and the pane consisted of 30 impressions (6x5). Like the 1892 8c, the full pane can be found with an additional vertical row of six to the left.

As in the case of several of the 1892 stamps, the sheet was made up of vertical strips of six transfer types, so that each horizontal row has the same transfer identification. These types, numbering from the top of the strip down, may be described as follows:

Type 1. There is a colored dot in the upper left corner above the small numeral near the outer frame line.

10. Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalog, 1958, Vol. II, page 682.





Fig. 12. Full pane of the 8c, 1891, with additional vertical row of six as part of the piece.

- Type 2. In the upper right corner there is a small colored mark below the small numeral on the white frame below the solid color; two small dots on top outer frameline of upper left corner, one near each end; small break in top frame-line above the "O" of "POSTAGE".
- Type 3. Small colored dot on middle apex of outer frameline to left of small numeral in upper left corner; and a short line or scratch extending from it.
- Type 4. Minute white flaw on top stroke of "R" of "LIBERIA."
- Type 5. Small white flaw above "8" of "8 CENTS"; minute break in outer frame line to right of "B" of "LIBERIA"; minute white flaw on colored ground near tail of "L" of that word.
- Type 6. Minute break in outer frame line below small numeral in lower left corner; minute flaw on edge of colored ground above (to left of) "R" of "REPUBLIC."

(Continued on Page 259)

*At the Board of Governors Meeting held in June, 1959 the following new members were elected:*

- 4646 Morrison Waud, Lake Forest, Ill. Collects 19th Century United States, 1869 Issue, N. Y. Foreign Mail Cancels, U. S. Departments, Revenues, Postage Dues.
- 4647 George A. Medawar, New York, N. Y. Collects Near East.
- 4648 Nat H. Aronsohn, New York, N. Y. Collects United States.
- 4649 Herman D. Raabin, New York, N. Y. Collects Europe, Israel, United Nations, United States.
- 4650 G. Barton Barlow, M. D., Englewood, N. J. Collects A. M. G. Issues.
- 4651 Gordon Waldie, Toronto, Canada. Collects Canada Plate Blocks, Canada First Flight Covers.
- 4652 Alec Kaplan, M. D., Germiston, South Africa. Collects Great Britain, Europe, South Africa, Israel.
- 4653 Alfred Muencheberg, Berlin-Steglitz, Germany. Collects United States, British Colonies, Scandinavia, Switzerland.

**LIBERIA** (Continued From Page 247)

**Summary**

We may sum up the transfer methods for the 1891 and 1892 issues as follows:

All sheets of the lower denominations (1c to 8c) were made up of vertical strips of six transfer types repeated, except the 6c and one setting of the 1c; and except that in the 3c, the three bottom stamps in the vertical rows have not been identified. The upper part of the sheet was made up of vertical strips of five transfers as already stated.

With these exceptions Poole's surmise was correct. But his statement that it was likely that, as the 1c and 2c were in sheets of 60 (6x10), the sheets of the other 1892 values were of similar size is not correct. As we have seen, the 3c sheet was made up of 80 impressions (8x10) there were only four horizontal rows of the 6c, and the full pane of the 8c contained 30 impressions (6x5), as did the 1891 stamp of that denomination.

As to the 16c and the 32c (not a numeral stamp), we do not know the size of the sheets nor the arrangement nor identification of the transfers.

These Liberia numeral stamps have been overshadowed in philately generally by the popular first type "Liberty Seated" stamps that came before them, and the picturesque engraved pictorial 1892 and 1896 stamps that followed them. The Numerals have been somewhat neglected by students accordingly. But they are interesting, nevertheless, and it is hoped that this article will correct earlier statements and bring for the Numeral stamps a better understanding. Color, production, arrangement and separation are all involved, as well as better knowledge of these early issues.

**PRINTING** (Continued From Page 230)

the first magnitude," this student based his entire reasoning upon stamps which showed "bite" or "indentation"—and which he rightly identified as having been typographed—and others of the same issue which showed no "indentation" and which he called lithographed. Until this "discovery" it had been believed and reported by such philatelists as Moens, Melville, Sefi and others that all stamps had been made only by typography.

Less than a year ago, long-forgotten records of the printing firm were uncovered and clearly proved that the plant never had any lithographic equipment. The error was committed by the scholar solely because he reasoned that if some stamps were printed with an "indentation" and others were not, that the latter had to have been produced by another printing method.

This article has been presented solely with a view of impressing readers with the fact that there is much more to the serious—and accurate—study of stamps than the reliance upon instruments and observation, and that final verdicts about the genuineness of a stamp must be based upon more than meets the eye or simply circumstantial evidence.