

United States of America

Telegraph Stamp Collection

Northern Mutual Telegraph Company

An inclusive Album. Includes how to Identify The Original Issue

AMOS MEDIA was given this way to improve there catalog over 3 year ago
I assume they don't care about keeping up with Telegraph Stamps

Collect the entire series



Northern Mutual Telegraph Company Stamps of 1883

A Comprehensive Study of the 3 Types

Everett W. Ramsey

Historical Reference:

The Company was incorporated in New York State on June 20, 1882, as the "Northern Mutual Telegraph and Telephone Company"

The company held a single wire from Syracuse to Ogdensburg (via Oswego, Watertown, and Clayton) The company produced stamps in early 1883 and were used a few days in April 1883. Issued in panes of 35 at Face Value of \$5.00. 2 Rows at 25c, 1 Row at 20c and 2 Rows each of 5c and 10c. The company was sold to "Bankers and Merchants Telegraph Company" before the middle of 1883 The new owners had no use for these stamps.

They were all sold (along with the means to reprint them) to Mr. Joseph Brown a New York Stamp Dealer. Mr. Brown had several customers who purchased many stamps including full sheets. (A few still exist) When the original stock was disposed of Mr. Brown Reprinted new sheets. Note that the Original Printing and the 1st reprints were both Perforated 14, excepting a change in the rows to 8, at 2 rows of each value. When the 1st Reprints were disposed of Mr. Brown Reprinted the 2nd Issue, but this time perforated 12. Early on Collectors were eager how to tell the difference between the Originals and the 1st Reprints. Over the years Researchers and Authors stated ways to try and distinguish between the two. Including Paper Color, Inking Color, Gum Color, etc. None has any factual use, as these are variable over time.



My Background:

After many years of Collecting US Stamps and reading books written on the subject of US Classic Stamps and finding US Revenues of great interest I became aware of lesser-known categories such as Telegraph Stamps. It didn't take me long before I was deep into collecting US Telegraph Stamps. My many Internet Searches introduced me to a fascinating Web Site that featured Telegraph Stamps of the World. In a short time, I found the WebMaster to be very reachable and was interested in finding new material updating current material and finding answers to questions that have been around for many years. He and I have had many talks and I have aided him in some minor research. I have gravitated to the question: How to positively show the difference between the Originals and 1st Reprints.

My Research and Conclusion:

I was able to collect bits of data over time that I was sure would aid my research. I was correct. The first data point came when I found Full Sheets of the Originals and 1st Reprints existed. By carefully reproducing these sheets to their original size and having the ability to carefully measure each, it was learned that the Original Perforation Diameter is 0.90mm and the 1st Reprint is 0.75mm. At the time I thought this may be enough to make a Perforation Gauge that could accurately show the difference. After several tries, I determined that it showed you what you wanted to see and gave up for a while. I always felt the answer was in the perforations. But I needed a computer program to consistently and accurately measure perforations of all types. I tried the few that are out there with poor results. By chance, I came across a computer app. Named "Stamp Analyzer" that did exactly what I was looking for. It accurately measured consistent results showing the Originals Perforated perfect 14 and the 1st Reprints Perforated 14.2 on average. These two data points together gave enough visual separation to Produce a Perforation Gauge that will let the average collector separate the Originals and the 1st Reprints. Below are several examples showing how to read proper results. Also a Perforation Gauge for your Use. I believe this is the first way to identify Originals from 1st Reprints, but my sample is small and I need help. I am hoping you will download the Perforation Gauge, use it and forward your results. We have no data on the quantity of each denomination by type. This data would aid in rarity and pricing.

1st Reprint
Perf. 14.2 .75 Dia. Holes



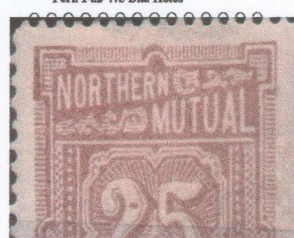
Shows Original over a 1st reprint
Perforation Gauge No Match

Original
Perf. 14 .90 Dia. Holes



Shows Original over a Original
Perforation Gauge Match

1st Reprint
Perf. 14.2 .75 Dia. Holes



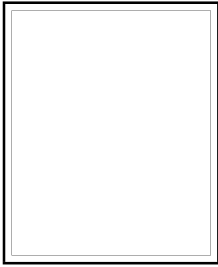
Shows 1st Reprint over 1st Reprint
Perforation Gauge Match

●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●
2nd Reprint Perf. 12

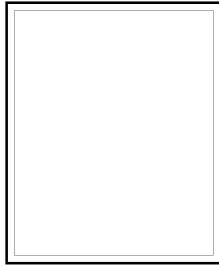
●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●
Original Perf. 14 - 0.90 Dia.

●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●
1st Reprint Perf. 14.2 - 0.75 Dia.

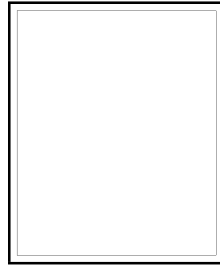
Northern Mutual Telegraph Company



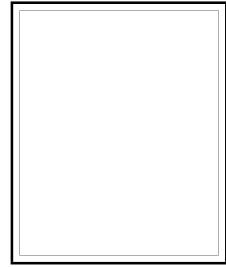
5c Yellow Brown



10c Yellow Brown

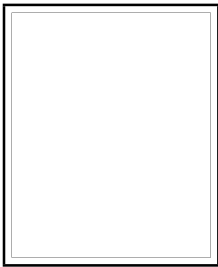


20c Yellow Brown

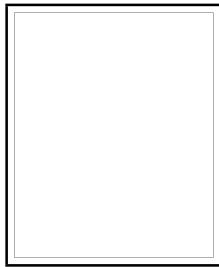


25c Yellow Brown

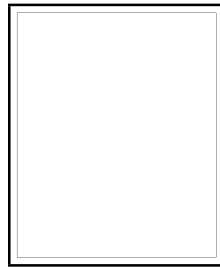
_____ Original Issue Perf. 14 @ .90mm -----



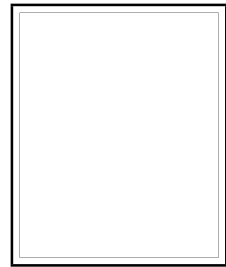
5c Yellow Brown



10c Yellow Brown

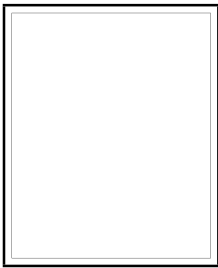


20c Yellow Brown

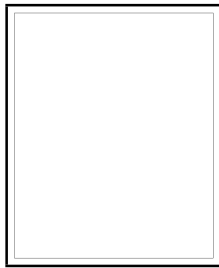


25c Yellow Brown

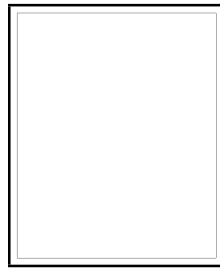
_____ 1st Reprint Perf. 14.2 @ .75 mm -----



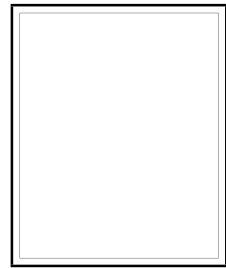
5c Yellow Brown



10c Yellow Brown



20c Yellow Brown



25c Yellow Brown

_____ 2nd Reprint Perf 12 -----