

# PROPOSALS FOR ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMPS.

The undersigned American Banknote Company

doing business as Steelplate Engravers and Printers

in the city of New York

submit to the Post Office Department, in conformity to the terms of an advertisement and specifications dated September 11, 1889, a printed copy of which is hereto attached and made part hereof, the following proposal for furnishing adhesive postage stamps, the work to be done in apartments containing \_\_\_\_\_ square feet of available space in the fire-proof building known and designated as Nos. 78 to 86 on Trinity place street, in the city of New York, and State of New York, to wit:

### CLASSIFICATION OF BIDS.

	Amount for each denomination for which bidder will furnish new designs, dies, rolls, and plates required by change of designs or addition of new denominations, when called for by the Postmaster General.		Price per thousand for stamps printed on hand-roller presses. Marked No. 1 in accompanying specifications.		Price per thousand for stamps printed on steam-power presses, with part hand-work. Marked No. 2 in accompanying specifications.		Price per thousand for stamps printed wholly by steam-power. Marked No. 3 in accompanying specifications.		Price per thousand for stamps printed on steam-power presses with part hand-work, with the right reserved to the Postmaster General to require the work to be done on hand-roller presses. Marked No. 4 in accompanying specifications.		Price per thousand for stamps printed wholly by steam-power presses, with right reserved to the Postmaster General to require the work to be done on hand-roller presses. Marked No. 5 in accompanying specifications.	
	Dolls.	Cents.	Dolls.	Cents.	Dolls.	Cents.	Dolls.	Cents.	Dolls.	Cents.	Dolls.	Cents.
<b>1.—ORDINARY STAMPS FOR USE OF PUBLIC.</b>												
<i>A. For stamps of present size (1 x 3/8 inch), and in colors as per samples marked "Sample."</i>												
<i>a. Price per thousand stamps, with the right reserved to the Postmaster General to change designs and to add new denominations, when and as often as he may desire, without extra compensation for designs, dies, rolls, and plates</i>												
<i>b. Price per thousand stamps, with the right reserved to the Postmaster General to change designs and to add new denominations, when and as often as he may desire, with extra compensation specified in item "c" for furnishing designs, dies, rolls, and plates</i>												
<i>c. Amount for each denomination for which bidder will furnish new designs, dies, rolls, and plates required by a change of design or the addition of new denominations, when called for by the Postmaster General</i>												
<i>1200— for 2 cent stamps 500— " each of other denominations</i>												
<i>B. For stamps of smaller size (1/2 x 3/8 inch), and in colors as per samples marked "Sample A."</i>												
<i>a. Price per thousand stamps, with the right reserved to the Postmaster General to change designs and to add new denominations, when and as often as he may desire, without extra compensation for designs, dies, rolls, and plates</i>												
<i>b. Price per thousand stamps, with the right reserved to the Postmaster General to change designs and to add new denominations, when and as often as he may desire, with extra compensation specified in item "c" for furnishing designs, dies, rolls, and plates</i>												
<i>c. Amount for each denomination for which bidder will furnish new designs, dies, rolls, and plates required by a change of design or the addition of new denominations, when called for by the Postmaster General</i>												
<i>1200— for 2 cent stamps 500— " each of other denominations.</i>												
<b>2.—NEWSPAPER AND PERIODICAL STAMPS.</b>												
<i>a. Price per thousand stamps, with the right reserved to the Postmaster General to change designs and to add new denominations, when and as often as he may desire, without extra compensation for designs, dies, rolls, and plates</i>												
<i>b. Price per thousand stamps, with the right reserved to the Postmaster General to change designs and to add new denominations, when and as often as he may desire, with extra compensation specified in item "c" for furnishing designs, dies, rolls, and plates</i>												
<i>18 on plain paper 19 " watermarked paper</i>												
<i>c. Amount for each denomination for which bidder will furnish new designs, dies, rolls, and plates required by a change of design or the addition of new denominations, when called for by the Postmaster General</i>												
<i>450—</i>												

*7 95/100 on plain paper  
8 95/100 on watermarked paper*

*7 52/100 on plain paper  
8 52/100 on watermarked paper*

*\* If metallic red were substituted for 2 ct. stamp we would offer  
7 35/100 on plain paper  
8 35/100 " watermarked paper*

CLASSIFICATION OF BIDS.	Amount for each denomination for which bidder will furnish new designs, dies, rolls, and plates required by change of designs or addition of new denominations, when called for by the Postmaster General.		Price per thousand for stamps printed on hand-roller presses. Marked No. 1 in accompanying specifications.		Price per thousand for stamps printed on steam-power presses, with part hand-work. Marked No. 2 in accompanying specifications.		Price per thousand for stamps printed wholly by steam-power. Marked No. 3 in accompanying specifications.		Price per thousand for stamps printed on steam-power presses with part hand-work, with the right reserved to the Postmaster General to require the work to be done on hand-roller presses. Marked No. 4 in accompanying specifications.		Price per thousand for stamps printed wholly by steam-power presses, with right reserved to the Postmaster General to require the work to be done on hand-roller presses. Marked No. 5 in accompanying specifications.	
	Dolls.	Cents.	Dolls.	Cents.	Dolls.	Cents.	Dolls.	Cents.	Dolls.	Cents.	Dolls.	Cents.
3.—POSTAGE-DUE STAMPS.												
a. Price per thousand stamps, with the right reserved to the Postmaster General to change designs and to add new denominations, when and as often as he may desire, without extra compensation for designs, dies, rolls, and plates.....												
b. Price per thousand stamps, with the right reserved to the Postmaster General to change designs and to add new denominations, when and as often as he may desire, with extra compensation specified in item "c" for furnishing designs, dies, rolls, and plates.....					8 <sup>49</sup> / <sub>100</sub>	on plain paper						
					9 <sup>49</sup> / <sub>100</sub>	on watermarked paper						
c. Amount for each denomination for which bidder will furnish new designs, dies, rolls, and plates required by a change of design or the addition of new denominations, when called for by the Postmaster General.....												
4.—SPECIAL-DELIVERY STAMPS.												
a. Price per thousand stamps, with the right reserved to the Postmaster General to change designs and to add new denominations, when and as often as he may desire, without extra compensation for designs, dies, rolls, and plates.....												
b. Price per thousand stamps, with the right reserved to the Postmaster General to change designs and to add new denominations, when and as often as he may desire, with extra compensation specified in item "c" for furnishing designs, dies, rolls, and plates.....					18	on plain paper						
					19	" watermarked paper						
c. Amount for each denomination for which bidder will furnish new designs, dies, rolls, and plates required by a change of design or the addition of new denominations, when called for by the Postmaster General.....												

In the event of the acceptance of the foregoing bid, or any item or items thereof, the said American Banknote Company agrees, within ten days from the date of such acceptance, to enter into contract according to the terms, conditions, and requirements of the advertisement and specifications aforesaid; in which contract the contractor and its sureties shall covenant and agree that in case the said contractor shall fail to do or perform all or any of the covenants, stipulations, and agreements of said contract on the part of the said contractor to be performed, as therein set forth, the said contractor and its sureties shall forfeit and pay to the United States of America the sum of two hundred thousand dollars, for which said forfeiture the said contractor and its sureties shall be jointly and severally liable as fixed and settled damages, and not as a penalty to be reduced or diminished, to be sued for in the name of the United States.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature of the bidder.) American Banknote Company  
by J. Macdonough President

\* When the bidder is a partnership or firm, the names of all the persons composing it must be signed to the proposal, or embodied therein.

GUARANTY.

We, *James B. Ford* and *James Robertson*

guarantee and bind ourselves and each of us, our heirs, executors, and administrators, in the event that a contract for furnishing adhesive postage stamps, or any of them, according to the advertisement and specifications of September 11, 1889, shall be awarded to *The American Banknote Company* and in case of failure of the said *American Banknote Company* to enter into contract as above, that we will forfeit and pay to the United States the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, for which forfeiture we will be jointly and severally liable as liquidated damages.

Dated: *23 September 1889*

(Signatures of guarantors): *James B. Ford* and *James Robertson*

CERTIFICATE.

The undersigned, *James Mitchell, us atty*, in the State of *New York* certifies, UNDER HIS OATH OF OFFICE, that he is acquainted with the above guarantors, and knows them to be men of property, and able to make good their guaranty. *as appears from their annual justifications on file*

Dated at *New York*, *Sept 23rd*, 1889.

(Signed) *John H. Mitchell* \*  
*John H. Mitchell*  
*John H. Mitchell*

\* To be signed by a District or Circuit Judge of the United States, or by a United States District Attorney

# PROPOSALS FOR FURNISHING ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMPS.

## ADVERTISEMENT.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., September 11, 1889.

JOHN WANAMAKER,  
Postmaster General.

## SPECIFICATIONS.—FURNISHING ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMPS.

Sealed proposals are invited from parties carrying on the business of steel-plate engraving and plate printing, or who have had experience in conducting that business, and will be received at this Department until 12 o'clock noon on Thursday, the 26th of September, 1889, for furnishing adhesive postage stamps in such quantities as may be called for by the Department during a period of four years commencing on the first day of December, 1889, viz:

1. Ordinary postage stamps for the use of the public.
2. Newspaper and periodical stamps.
3. Postage-due stamps.
4. Special-delivery stamps.

Proposals must be made on the blank forms provided by the Department, securely enveloped and sealed, indorsed "Proposals for furnishing adhesive postage stamps," and addressed to the Third Assistant Postmaster General, Washington, D. C. Bids delivered in person must be handed in at or before the hour above specified for the receipt thereof; otherwise they will not be considered. Blank forms of proposal, with full specifications, will be furnished upon application to the Third Assistant Postmaster General.

### KINDS OF STAMPS.

Bids are invited for each of the several kinds of stamps, as follows:

1. Ordinary stamps for use of the public.
2. Newspaper and periodical stamps.
3. Postage-due stamps.
4. Special-delivery stamps.

### TWO SIZES OF ORDINARY STAMPS.

For the purpose of giving the Postmaster General the opportunity, if he shall think it desirable, to change the size of the stamps for use of the public, separate bids are invited for two different sizes of stamps of that kind, viz:

A (present size), one inch by twenty-five thirty-seconds ( $1 \times \frac{25}{32}$ ) of an inch for the engraving of each stamp, exclusive of necessary margin or border.

B (reduced size), three-fourths by seven-eighths ( $\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{7}{8}$ ) of an inch for the engraving of each stamp, exclusive of necessary margin or border.

Bids for the newspaper and periodical, the postage-due, and the special-delivery stamps, will be for the sizes, respectively, in which such stamps are now furnished.

To admit of proper perforation, the blank space or margin between the different stamps on a sheet shall be of equal width to that on the corresponding kinds now issued.

### NEW DESIGNS.

If the Postmaster General shall award the contract for the ordinary stamps of the smaller size specified in the foregoing, the contractor shall prepare and furnish the necessary new designs, dies, rolls, and plates with which to properly do the work—the cost of preparing and furnishing such new designs, dies, rolls, and plates to be included in the price for furnishing the stamps.

Since it may be found expedient by the Postmaster General to change the designs of any or all of the several kinds of stamps, or to add new denominations, at any time during the existence of the contract, separate bids are invited as follows:

("a")—For furnishing the stamps at a specified price per thousand, "with the right reserved to the Postmaster General to change designs and to add new denominations when and as often as he may desire, without extra compensation for designs, dies, rolls, and plates."

("b")—For furnishing the stamps at a specified price per thousand, "with the right reserved to the Postmaster General to change designs and to add new denominations when and as often as he may desire, with extra compensation therefor, as indicated in the succeeding item, except, however, as to the smaller size of ordinary stamps, the cost of preparing the first or original series of designs, dies, rolls, and plates for which shall, as above stated, be included in the price for furnishing the stamps."

("c")—For furnishing at a specified amount for each single denomination, "new designs, dies, rolls, and plates required by a change of design or the addition of new denominations of stamps, when called for by the Postmaster General."

The amount named for furnishing new designs, dies, rolls, and plates shall include all the dies, rolls, and plates that may be required so long as that particular design shall remain in use during the contract term. All new designs, dies, rolls, and plates required under the contract shall be prepared to the satisfaction of the Postmaster General, and shall be subject to his approval.

### DIES, ROLLS, AND PLATES.

The dies and rolls now in use for furnishing postage stamps being the property of the Government, will be turned over to the contractor as soon after the execution and approval of the contract as he may require them; and from such dies and rolls he must produce the necessary working plates with which to provide a sufficient supply of stamps of the several kinds and denominations to make deliveries promptly as called for from the beginning of the contract term. The working plates from which stamps are now being furnished will be turned over to the new contractor just as soon as their use can be dispensed with under the present contract, either before or after the beginning of the new contract term.

Should the contract be awarded for ordinary stamps of the smaller size, the contractor shall begin the preparation of the new designs, dies, and rolls therefor immediately upon the execution and approval of his contract, in order that he may be ready to deliver the stamps of that size in the quantities required promptly at the commencement of the contract term.

The contractor will be required to keep in repair all dies, rolls, and plates from which stamps may be produced, and to renew them whenever required.

All the work in connection with the preparation, renewal, and repair of the dies, rolls, and plates shall be done under the immediate supervision of the contractor and of the Government agent, and in accordance with such regulations as the Postmaster General may prescribe.

The contractor shall not manufacture or permit to be manufactured by any person in his employ, any dies, rolls, or plates for producing postage stamps, except such as may be required for his use in carrying out the contract, and he shall be liable in damages for the unauthorized manufacture of such dies, rolls, and plates, and for the production of stamps therefrom. He shall be responsible for the safe-keeping of the dies, rolls, and plates while in his use or custody; when not in use they shall be safely stored and kept in such manner and under such regulations as the Postmaster General may prescribe.

All dies, rolls, and plates made or used at any time in filling the contract shall immediately become the absolute property of the United States, and, together with those that may be turned over to the contractor, shall be delivered in good working order to the Postmaster General or his authorized agent whenever demanded.

Worn-out or discontinued plates may be required to be cancelled or destroyed at the discretion of the Postmaster General, under such regulations as he may prescribe.

### COLORS.

The colors selected for the several denominations of the two sizes of ordinary stamps for which proposals are invited, are respectively as follows:

For ordinary stamps of the larger size (A):

- 1-cent, dark red.
- 2-cent, metallic red.
- 3-cent, vermilion.
- 4-cent, light brown.
- 5-cent, orange.
- 6-cent, carmine.
- 7-cent, black.
- 8-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 9-cent, light green.
- 10-cent, green.
- 11-cent, blue.
- 12-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 13-cent, vermilion.
- 14-cent, light green.
- 15-cent, orange.
- 16-cent, carmine.
- 17-cent, black.
- 18-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 19-cent, light green.
- 20-cent, green.
- 21-cent, blue.
- 22-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 23-cent, vermilion.
- 24-cent, light green.
- 25-cent, orange.
- 26-cent, carmine.
- 27-cent, black.
- 28-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 29-cent, light green.
- 30-cent, green.
- 31-cent, blue.
- 32-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 33-cent, vermilion.
- 34-cent, light green.
- 35-cent, orange.
- 36-cent, carmine.
- 37-cent, black.
- 38-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 39-cent, light green.
- 40-cent, green.
- 41-cent, blue.
- 42-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 43-cent, vermilion.
- 44-cent, light green.
- 45-cent, orange.
- 46-cent, carmine.
- 47-cent, black.
- 48-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 49-cent, light green.
- 50-cent, green.
- 51-cent, blue.
- 52-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 53-cent, vermilion.
- 54-cent, light green.
- 55-cent, orange.
- 56-cent, carmine.
- 57-cent, black.
- 58-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 59-cent, light green.
- 60-cent, green.
- 61-cent, blue.
- 62-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 63-cent, vermilion.
- 64-cent, light green.
- 65-cent, orange.
- 66-cent, carmine.
- 67-cent, black.
- 68-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 69-cent, light green.
- 70-cent, green.
- 71-cent, blue.
- 72-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 73-cent, vermilion.
- 74-cent, light green.
- 75-cent, orange.
- 76-cent, carmine.
- 77-cent, black.
- 78-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 79-cent, light green.
- 80-cent, green.
- 81-cent, blue.
- 82-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 83-cent, vermilion.
- 84-cent, light green.
- 85-cent, orange.
- 86-cent, carmine.
- 87-cent, black.
- 88-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 89-cent, light green.
- 90-cent, green.
- 91-cent, blue.
- 92-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 93-cent, vermilion.
- 94-cent, light green.
- 95-cent, orange.
- 96-cent, carmine.
- 97-cent, black.
- 98-cent, ultramarine blue.
- 99-cent, light green.
- 100-cent, green.

The colors adopted for this size are shown on the specimens herewith, each designated as "Sample A."

The inks to be used in printing the stamps must be of the colors shown on the samples for the corresponding kinds and denominations, and be fully equal in quality thereto. The use of aniline inks will not be allowed. The colors to be used for printing the newspaper and periodical, the postage-due, and the special-delivery stamps, will be the same as those in the corresponding kinds and denominations now furnished. Samples of these stamps will not accompany the specifications, but they may be inspected at any time at the Post Office Department.

The Postmaster General reserves the right to change the colors of any or all of the several kinds or denominations of stamps at any time during the existence of the contract, provided that in any such changes the contractor shall be compensated for any extra expenses thereby involved; and also provided that if less expensive colors be selected, the Department shall be credited with the reduction in cost, the amount of such increase or reduction to be determined by the Postmaster General.

Proposals should comprehend the furnishing of stamps printed on both hand-roller and steam-power presses, as follows:

No. 1. For stamps printed on hand-roller presses.

No. 2. For stamps printed by steam-power presses which require a portion of the work, such as wiping and polishing, to be done by hand.

No. 3. For stamps printed by presses upon which all the work is done by steam-power.

No. 4. For stamps furnished by steam-power presses which require a portion of the work to be done on hand-roller presses.

No. 5. For stamps furnished by presses upon which all the work is done by steam-power, with the right reserved to the Postmaster General to require the work to be done on hand-roller presses in case he shall not be satisfied with the work done by steam printing.

The printing shall be done from hardened steel plates engraved in the highest style of the art of steel engraving, and shall be equal to that on the samples accompanying these specifications, and be subject in every respect to the approval of the Postmaster General or his duly authorized agent.

## PAPER, GUMMING, PERFORATIONS, ETC.

The paper from which the stamps are to be printed must be run and calendered to a uniform thickness, each sheet to be fair, perfect, and free from creases and folds, and it shall be equal in quality, sizing, finish, and tensile strength to that of the samples attached to these specifications. The paper may be required to be water-marked in the discretion of the Postmaster General, with such design of water-mark as he shall approve. The paper shall be subject to the inspection of the Postmaster General or his duly authorized agent, before and after being printed on. The stamps shall be well gummed with the best quality of adhesive gum, uniformly laid on, the gumming to be equal in all respects to that on the samples herewith. The stamps shall be perforated in the best manner, so that every stamp may be readily detached for use. The sheets shall be well pressed and suitably packed or put up, so as to prevent them from adhering together—each sheet of the finished work to contain not more than 100 stamps. The stamps shall be subject in every respect to the approval of the Postmaster General or his duly authorized agent, and his right of rejection shall be absolute and final. The contractor will be required to have on hand at the beginning of the contract term a sufficient stock of the several kinds and denominations of stamps with which to meet the requirements of the Department, and the stamps shall thereafter be furnished in such quantities as may be ordered by the Department daily or otherwise to fill requisitions from postmasters; each lot to be put up separately for mailing. All spoiled and rejected stamps shall be effectually canceled by and at the expense of the contractor, in such manner as the Postmaster General may direct, and shall then be turned over to the Postmaster General or his duly authorized agent for destruction.

## BUILDING, PLACE OF MANUFACTURE, ETC.

The stamps will be required to be manufactured in a fire-proof building, and in separate apartments, distinct from those in which any other work is done, and the premises shall be fitted up with a fire and burglar-proof safe or vault, to be specially provided for storing the finished stamps; the said building, apartments, and safe or vault to be subject to the approval of the Postmaster General. Suitable provision will also be made by the contractor for the safe-keeping on the premises of the stamps while in course of preparation, under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Postmaster General, or his duly authorized agent, and subject to his approval. The bidder will be required to designate in his proposal the building in which he proposes to manufacture the stamps, and the quantity of space to be devoted to the purpose. The building must at all hours of the day and night be policed or guarded in such manner as the Postmaster General shall require; and the contractor, his employés and agents, shall conform to such regulations as the Department may from time to time adopt for the security of the Government.

## AGENT—OFFICE ROOMS—INSPECTION.

A resident agent and inspector of the Department will have supervision of the manufacture, storage, and issue of the stamps, and he shall at all times have full and free access to the apartments, safes, and vaults where the stamps are manufactured and stored, for the purpose of inspecting the same. The Postmaster General shall also have the right at any time to cause an inspection to be made, by any agent or agents whom he may specially designate for the purpose, of the apartments, safes, and vaults used for the manufacture and storage of stamps, and of the stamps in course of manufacture or in stock.

The contractor shall furnish the resident agent of the Department and his clerks suitable and properly-furnished office rooms, connected with the premises on which the stamps are made, for the transaction of the business of the agency, without cost to the Government.

## STOCK ON HAND.

The contractor shall at all times keep on hand a stock of the several kinds and denominations of finished stamps sufficient to promptly meet all orders of the Department, and to provide against any and all contingencies that may be likely to occur during the existence of the contract; and said stamps shall be held subject to the control of the Postmaster General, or his duly authorized agent or agents; and the Postmaster General shall have the right to require the contractor, at any time or times during the existence of the contract, to provide an extra quantity of stamps, not exceeding a supply for six months. The contractor may be required to continue the issue after the close of the contract term, of all stamps ordered by the Department during the existence of the contract.

The contractor shall faithfully account to the Postmaster General, or his duly authorized agent, for all stamps printed or produced by him, and he shall be liable in damages for the theft or misappropriation of any stamps that may be manufactured by him or come into his custody as contractor.

The Postmaster General reserves the right to impose a fine upon the contractor, in such sum as he may deem proper, to be deducted in the settlement of accounts, for the failure to have on hand at any time a sufficient supply of stamps with which to promptly meet all just requirements of the Department.

The Postmaster General also reserves the right to impose a fine, in such sum as he may see proper, for errors made by the contractor in the count of stamps when issued to postmasters, whereby either a greater or less number or a greater or less value of stamps is issued than called for on the orders of the Department.

In the event that the exigencies of the public service shall require the acceptance by the Department of any stamps which, in the opinion of the Postmaster General or of his duly authorized agent, are inferior in any respect to such as are required by the contract, the right is reserved to the Postmaster General absolutely to fix the price thereof, and to pay for such inferior stamps any compensation less than the regular price fixed by the contract that may seem to him just and reasonable under all the circumstances, which shall be a complete discharge of all liability on the part of the Government for such stamps.

On failure to promptly furnish, when called for, any article or articles specified in the contract, the Postmaster General reserves the right to cause the same to be manufactured and furnished by such parties as he may select; and if a greater price

be paid than that fixed by the contract for like articles, the difference shall be charged to the contractor in the settlement of accounts. Failure to furnish any article promptly after the same shall have been ordered may be regarded by the Postmaster General as a sufficient cause for the annulment of the contract.

Should the contractor, in the performance of work under the contract, make unauthorized use of any machinery, or material, or other thing on which a patent has been granted by the United States, the Government is to be made free of all liability for such infringement.

## PACKING—BLANKS.

When fifty or more sheets of stamps are required to be sent to any address, they must be packed in strong binder's-board boxes, bound on the edges and corners with muslin, and enveloped in two thicknesses of strong manila paper; but when less than that number are required to fill an order, they shall be inclosed in strong manila envelopes equal to those now in use for the same purpose; such envelopes, as well as blank labels of direction for the wrapped packages, to be furnished by the contractor and addressed by the agent. All the wrapped packages and the envelopes inclosing stamps shall be securely sealed with wax and impressed with a stamp of special device, or securely fastened with a paper seal of special design, subject to the approval of the Postmaster General or his duly authorized agent. The contractor shall also furnish all blanks required to be inclosed with the stamps.

## DELIVERY.

The stamps may be required to be delivered by the contractor in separate packages, as above provided for, at the post office in the place where the same are manufactured, or at such other post office in the immediate vicinity of the place of manufacture as the Postmaster General may direct, and under such regulations as he may prescribe.

## STOCK ON HAND AT EXPIRATION OF CONTRACT.

The Department will, after satisfactory inspection, accept and pay for, at the regular contract prices, the stock of stamps that may remain on hand at the close of the contract term; and the contractor may be required, at the discretion of the Postmaster General, to continue the issue of such stamps until they shall be exhausted, subject to all conditions of the contract; but provided that such stock shall not exceed in quantity the average requirements of the Department for a period of one-half of one-quarter of a year. Any surplus over that quantity may be destroyed, at the discretion of the Postmaster General, without any compensation therefor. The right is also reserved to the Postmaster General to authorize the issue by the present contractors of such stamps as may remain in their hands at the close of their contract, and the new contractor shall not be entitled to damages on account of such issue.

## REPORTS.

The contractor will be required to report weekly or otherwise, under oath, and in such manner and form as may be prescribed by the Postmaster General, the number, denomination, and kind of stamps manufactured (finished, unfinished, and spoiled), the number issued, and the number available for issue.

## AWARD—FORM OF BIDS.

The contract will be awarded on the basis of the number of the several kinds of stamps issued during the year ending March 31, 1889, as follows:

1. Ordinary stamps for use of the public .....	1,959,679,445
2. Newspaper and periodical stamps .....	3,381,556
3. Postage-due stamps .....	11,478,048
4. Special-delivery stamps .....	1,468,080

The contract will be awarded as a whole to the lowest responsible bidder, the total amount of a bid to be ascertained by multiplying the foregoing issues by the prices bid respectively for the several items upon which the Postmaster General shall decide to make the award, and then aggregating the results. It must be understood, however, that the above-stated issues are given merely as a basis for making the award, and that the contractor will be required to furnish all the stamps of the several kinds and denominations that may be called for by the Department during the contract term. Should the use of any kind or denomination be discontinued during the contract term, the contractor will not be entitled to compensation on account of such discontinuance.

Each bidder should submit a proposal for furnishing stamps of all the above kinds, including the two different sizes of ordinary stamps. Each proposal should comprehend also the furnishing of stamps printed by one or more of the several modes of printing herebefore set forth, and described in the form of proposal. Bids should be made also for furnishing stamps with and without the reservation of the right to the Postmaster General to change the design and to add new denominations at the expense of the contractor; also for furnishing the necessary designs, dies, rolls, and plates (the price named to cover a single denomination) involved by a change of style or the addition of new denominations, the object in calling for the latter proposal being to enable the Postmaster General to make desired changes in the event that he should award the contract without the reservation of the right to do so at the expense of the contractor. The prices named in the proposal shall include everything required to be done and furnished as set forth in these specifications. In determining upon the award, the Postmaster General reserves the right to make a selection from among the several classes of bids specified. Preliminary to an award, the bidder will be required to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Postmaster General, within ten days from the date of notice given him to do so, that he either has in his possession, or is able to procure within a reasonable period, all suitable and necessary facilities with which to properly commence and carry on the contract. If the Postmaster General shall be satisfied of the inability of a bidder to perform the contract in accordance with the requirements set forth in the specifications, he may in his discretion decline to accept the bid, without notice.

In case it should be decided by the Secretary of the Treasury to submit bids or estimates for doing the work and furnishing

Proposed colors for stamps of large size



The contract will also provide that if at any time during its continuance the sureties, or either of them, shall die, or become irresponsible, the Postmaster General shall have the right to require additional and sufficient sureties, which the contractor shall furnish to the acceptance of the Postmaster General within ten days after notice; and in default thereof, the contract may be annulled.

#### RESERVATIONS.

The Postmaster General reserves the right to reject any and all bids if, in his judgment, the interest of the Government shall require it; also the right to annul the contract if, in his opinion, there shall be a failure at any time to perform faithfully any of its stipulations, or in case of a willful attempt to impose upon the Department stamps inferior to those required by the contract. The contract cannot in any case be lawfully transferred or assigned.

#### PAYMENTS.

Payments for stamps actually issued and delivered will be made monthly, after proper examination and verification of accounts. Payments may be withheld by the Postmaster General, if it shall appear to his satisfaction that the contract has not been complied with in any particular.

#### EXTENSION.

Should the interest of the Government require, the contract may be extended for any period or periods beyond the Postmaster General, not exceeding six months in all, by order of the Postmaster General, and the contract prices and all conditions herein set forth shall govern in such extended contract.\*

#### ADDRESS OF PROPOSALS.

Proposals must be made on the blank form hereto annexed, securely enveloped and sealed, indorsed "Proposals for Furnishing Adhesive Postage Stamps," and addressed to the Third Assistant Postmaster General, Washington, D. C.

JOHN WANAMAKER,

Postmaster General.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, D. C., Sept. 11, 1889.



#### PROPOSALS—AGREEMENT—BOND.

Each proposal must be signed by the individual or partnership making it, and when made by a partnership, the name of each partner thereof must be disclosed; and it must be accompanied with a guaranty, signed by at least two responsible guarantors, that the bidder shall, within ten days after being called upon to do so, execute a contract, with at least two good and sufficient sureties of the character and to be certified as hereinafter required, to furnish promptly, and in quantities as ordered, the article or articles to be furnished by him, and faithfully and diligently to keep, perform, and abide by each and every of the requirements, provisions, and terms of such contract, and these specifications to be thereto annexed, the responsibility and sufficiency of the signers to such guaranty to be certified to by a district or circuit judge, or a district attorney of the United States; and by such contract the contractor and his sureties shall govern and agree that in case the said contractor shall fail to do or perform all or any of the covenants, stipulations, and agreements of said contract on the part of the said contractor to be performed, as therein set forth, the United States of America the sum of two hundred thousand dollars, for which said forfeiture the said contractor and his sureties shall be jointly and severally liable, as fixed, settled, and liquidated damages; and not as a penalty to be sued for in the name of the United States. Such sureties shall justify their responsibility by affidavit, showing that they severally own and possess property of the clear value in the aggregate of \$100,000 over and above all debts and liabilities and all property by law exempt from execution, to be sworn to before a district or circuit judge of the United States, and to be approved by him or by a district attorney of the United States.

If the bidder to whom the first award may be made should fail to enter into a contract, as herein provided, then the award may be annulled, and the contract let to the next lowest responsible bidder, if not deemed too high by the Postmaster General, and so on until the required contract is executed; and such next lowest bidder shall be required to fulfill every stipulation embraced herein as if he were the original party to whom the contract was awarded.

PROPOSAL

FOR

Adhesive Postage Stamps.

SEPT 25, 1889.



Red wax ribbon used to seal the envelope, running diagonally across the center.

Faint, mirrored text from the reverse side of the paper, appearing as bleed-through.

Faint, mirrored text from the reverse side of the paper, appearing as bleed-through.