

Nothing could demonstrate nonsense overprinting as much as recycled used stamps with known underlying cancels. I wrote to the seller asking about the origin of these stamps, including those of the first issue revenues up to the battleship stamps. He responded that they came from an antique store in Georgia, but had no other information to offer.

My guess is that these stamps had been sitting in an old collection for some time, and then perhaps in the antique store yet again for some time, and that the overprints were made years ago by a philatelist with some printer's gear and an impish mind, who never quite had it in him to try put them in the philatelic marketplace.

Cardinal Match Co. 1¢ Used on U.S. Postal Card

By Charles J. DiComo, PhD



Shown here is an extremely scarce illegal postal use of the U.S. private die proprietary match revenue #R058d, the 1¢ Lake of the Cardinal Match Co., St. Louis, on watermarked paper, on a fragment of a U.S. 1875 1¢ Black Liberty postal card (UX4/5).

The stamp is tied by a black, segmented crossroads handstamp. The 2¢ pays the international rate to Europe, most likely France, as on the reverse, is a partial message in French.

For reference unused examples of the card and stamp are also shown.

