



THE WHITE AND GREEN SEALS OF SONORA



by
HENRY IRWIN

A PUBLICATION OF
MEXICO —ELMHURST PHILATELIC
SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

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Little has been added to the knowledge of the Sonora Civil War Stamps Scott Nos. 321 to 346 since George Ward Linn's publication "The White and Green Seals of Sonora" in 1916 and Byron Steven's article in Stamps Nov. 17, 1951. Scott listings are rather misleading and the fact that 341 still shows the 1 centavo as type (b) instead of type (a) after all these years indicates a great neglect of an issue with some 650 varieties listed by Linn and containing some of the rarest stamps of Mexico. Only 27 members of MEPSI are listing a special interest in these issues.

We acknowledge, with sincere thanks, the kind permission granted by Marie B. Linn, to reprint portions of her late husband's work with its accompanying plates. Though long out of print, and available to most of our readers only through the MEPSI Library, Mr. Linn's book remains the best basic study of these issues.

I have submitted a revised listing based on information submitted by our members, and have also tied in the Scott numbers as far as available, to the Linn listings.

The paper varieties have been gauged using samples on hand.

Without repeating the historical background and the procedure of producing these stamps and the reasons for classifying the various printings, we are listing the issues chronologically with the errors and the various papers and colors so far classified and reported.

We also show the difference in Types A B C D E throughout the various printings, always keeping in mind that all values are printed in red. Any black printed sheet could be used to make any denomination of stamp by adding the red figures and words of value. We are following the Linn numbering system and tie in the Scott Types and Numbers with the respective printings.

It will be quite apparent that there is little logic in the Scott listing as it is inaccurate as to watermarks, types of figures as in the case of #341 mentioned above, values etc. The new listing will give some indication of scarcity of the printings compared with others.

The early issues were hand embossed with the word "CONSTITUCIONAL" in fancy colorless letters. The later issues were overprinted in green with a specially designed seal. These control marks were for the purpose of preventing the counterfeiting of these stamps.

The first issue shows the embossing quite complete and very distinct. The hand process apparently proved to be too time consuming and for this reason the green seals were prepared. Meanwhile the embossing became hurried and careless - two or more sheets were embossed at the same time and the impression became indistinct. Double embossed stamps are quite scarce - sheets embossed from the wrong side are reported. Varieties without embossing are rare.

It was not intended that sheets #11, 12, 13 and 15 should be embossed, but all sheets of 12 and 15 and a few of 11 and 13 were in the hands of the Post Office authorities at the time the green seals were put into use and had already been embossed and these few sheets were also overprinted with the green seal.

The reproduction of the green seal designs show slight variations in each seal so that they can be readily plated. The transposed position of the seals has been known since Sheet #17 and was used for all re-issues.

SUPPLEMENT
to
THE WHITE AND GREEN SEALS
OF SONORA

THE GEMS OF THE 20th CENTURY

by MAJOR CHAS. S. HAMILTON

Edited by
HENRY IRWIN

An article with the above heading appeared in *Mekeels* on April 16, 1921. Major Hamilton was stationed at various points on the Mexican Border from Texas to California from 1913 to 1916 and used the opportunity to study these issues, following it up by checking the stocks of all big dealers in the United States since 1917.

"The white seals are practically unobtainable except in the one and two ¢ values; occasionally a three ¢ or five ¢ #326 and a ten ¢ will come to light, but the five ¢ ones are always used. It is only at auctions that a few desirable five ¢ denominations 326 and 327 have been offered. This is proof how few of them really exist."

Major Hamilton whom I quoted from the article was an outstanding collector of Mexican stamps. The sale of his collection was a philatelic event and a number of the older EPS members acquired some of his gems.

I would like to supplement my October 1971 edition of Linn's MEXICO- THE WHITE AND GREEN SEALS OF SONORA which appeared in MEXICANA, by stressing some pertinent information about values of these issues Major Hamilton was able to accumulate. While some of this may be repetitive, it is well to keep his facts in mind.

"These stamps were issued for immediate postal necessity, and as the number issued was small, they were rapidly absorbed by postal use and lost to the collecting world due to the unsettled condition reigning in Mexico at the time."

"Today (1921) I can confidently state that the stock of these most desirable stamps in the hands of dealers is nothing at all. In fact, collectors cannot secure the needed specimen, no matter how anxious and how willing to pay for them. Even the cheap ones are hard to find. Another factor in their scarcity is the poor separation, which resulted in one out of three being torn."

"No official records show the number issued of the five ¢ perf., but there were less than 25 sheets or 250 stamps. The unused copies known can be counted on ones fingers and less than a total of 40 used and unused copies are known in the hands of dealers and collectors. This stamp was only used in five small towns: La Cananea, La Mesa, Naco, Chivatería, and Agua Prieta - and probably only during the month of July 1913."

"The one ¢ (322). The Postmaster General Hinojosa gives 9900 as the number issued. One centavo was the mailing rate for circulars and printed matter - not many business houses sent out advertising matter, consequently not as many of these stamps were used as those of other values and so more unused copies can be found. Most of the stamps found on cover are in combination with two or three centavo values and are very rare."

"The two ¢ (323) (324). Hinojosa gives 19170 issued. This means 14536 of 323 and 3634 of 324 showing the latter to be a much rarer stamp than generally supposed. These stamps are equally rare used or unused."

"The three ¢ (325). Hinojosa reports 6400 issued. Unused, this stamp is much rarer than used and far rarer than the five ¢ (326) used. Complete sheets are very rare."

"The five ¢ (326). 19230 stamps issued include 321, 326, 327 and 329. From the used copies known of 326 it is probable that about 12000 were issued. Used, this stamp is the most common of the five ¢ values, but unused is the rarest except 321, as less than 100 unused copies, which include six complete sheets are known."

"The five ¢ (327). Approximately 3000 were issued. Unused this stamp while very rare, is not as rare as 326, but used it is next to 321 in rarity."

"The ten ¢. 4900 issued. The ten ¢ value was not used a great deal, as five ¢ was the normal postal rate; therefore used copies are much rarer than unused. (328)"

"The five ¢ (329) with black roulette. Approximately 4000 issued. Unused very rare, since most of them were used for postage."

"Subvarieties of #322 to 328. In these stamps exist rarities of highest rank. They were issued with the Green Seal in order to use up a few remaining sheets of 322, 3, 5, 7. There is not a single complete sheet known of any of these stamps and but with two or three exceptions only single copies exist."

"322a. Probably no more than three or four sheets were issued and this stamp is the greatest rarity, especially unused, not more than 15 copies being known."

"323a and 324a both come in the same sheet and of 323a but six copies are known and of 324a three copies are known, therefore there must have been at least two sheets issued. Certainly these stamps, as far as rarity is concerned, can be placed among the greatest known in the stamp world."

"325a. About 25 copies, used and unused are known."

"327a is another great rarity. Less than 15 copies of this stamp are known to exist."

"Compare the above numbers with the two penny P.O. Mauritius, of which 12 copies are known, to realize the actual rarity of these stamps."

"All of these stamps 321 to 329, except 329, appear on watermarked paper showing 'PEERLESS MILLS'. Three sheets out of every ten have the wmk which appears on four stamps of one row of these sheets, making 12 stamps out of every 100 wmkd; showing the wmkd ones to be eight times as rare as the unwmkd. 329 also appears on wmkd paper 'YUKON AURORA'. Four stamps of the sheet show the wmk and it appears on about three sheets out of ten."

"336 to 339. The exact number issued of each variety is not known except for the ten ¢ value, which is 15490. A Hinojosa includes all the Green Seals in his figures, which are 40480 for the one ¢; 31230 for the three ¢; 149630 for the five ¢. The five ¢ and ten ¢ denominations # 345 and 346 being the re-issue of Villa are not reported by Hinojosa as government issue."

"From my experience and observation of these stamps I would place the number of the one ¢ and three ¢ issues at less than those of the ten ¢ issue; the one ¢ being the rarest value. I would estimate 10000 of the one ¢ and 12000 of the three ¢."

"In the five ¢ (338) we have again one of the great rarities; probably less than 25 sheets (250 stamps) were issued, as no more than 75 copies used and unused can be placed. One complete sheet is known. 14 single unused copies are known. This five ¢ value also has the error 'CENTAVO' on every fifth stamp."

"The variety of the one, three and ten ¢ values known as 'Transposed Seals' are great rarities of the one ¢ and Three ¢ value. No complete sheet of the one ¢ known and only two sheets of the three ¢ are known to exist. The ten ¢ variety is not as rare and worth no more than 50% over the normal variety. The 'Transposed Seal' is unknown in the five ¢ value of this issue."

"Five ¢ (340) colored roulette. The real lilac brown is a rare stamp. The black brown variety is quite common. The Transposed Seal is also known and twice as rare as the normal. The Double Seal of this stamp is the greatest rarity."

"(341) to (344). Of the two ¢ Hinojosa reports 30360. Of the one ¢ sage green shade only six complete sheets are known. This shade used or unused is many times rarer

than the normal. Some of the three ¢ contain the 'CENTAVO' error which generally occurs twice on a sheet. Some sheets known with only one error which are rare."

"In the re-issues the 'ERANO' error comes in the one ¢, two ¢ and three ¢ denominations. In the one ¢ it is particularly rare, only two sheets showing the variety are known. The error in the two and three ¢ values is more common. One sheet is known of the 'TRRS' error for 'TRES' of the three ¢ value."

Major Hamilton made a real contribution with his analysis of the comparative value and rarity of these issues which after fifty years still proves to be a reliable guide for the collector of these elusive stamps.

SOME SONORA FAKES

Writing to John Havemeyer on 25 May 1950, A.O. Tittmann stated:

".....The other day a member of our GROUP sent me several auction lots of Sonora which he had received from an auction firm, for expertization. The lot contained #336 turned into a 322a, a 337 turned into a 325a, a concoction supposed to represent 323a 'on cover'; to the uninformed a dangerous fake. The postmark alone gave it away because such stamps were not used at the time indicated by it, but the forgers are in possession of a green seal, possibly the original stone and possibly obtained from another source or made to order. They are also using an 'idealized' cancelling die like the one illustrated by Geo. Linn in his book but which did not exist when these stamps were current because the die had been worn almost smooth. It always is blurred on all stamps of the period and which was afterwards ground down on the order of the then P.M. Don Cosme Hinojosa and re-engraved with the HERMOSILLO at the top instead of bottom. Perhaps the description of the original had better not be published; otherwise the fakers will profit by the information and turn out better 'manufacturers'. They no doubt will try to catch other suckers."

Henry Irwin comments on the above as follows:

".....Referring to Mr. Tittman's letter regarding the Sonora fakes which appeared in bunches as auction lots and obviously without accompanying certificates, only a credulous novice would bite. As I noted in my remarks above on the Hamilton article, we are looking at the world's rarest stamps grossly underpriced at \$200.00 catalogue; I believe that even the fakes are rare. The first appearances listed by Linn for the green seals are July 17, 1913 for the 1¢; September 30, 1913 for the 2¢ stamps and July 18, 1913 for the 3¢. Even if the fakers are in possession of a green seal stone, they still have to forge the embossing unless they are using mint stamps 322, 323, 324 and 325 for this purpose. These stamps are cheap enough for a forger to start in business; therefore it is imperative to authenticate the source of these stamps and have them expertized....."

* * * * *

ILLUSTRATING THE FIVE TYPES OF SONORAS AND THE NORMAL AND TRANSPOSED SEALS.



A

O in Marzo is a cypher.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.
Z in Diez at right is wrong font.

B

1913 is printed thus 1913.
Small speck of color like an apostrophe after last DE in the line reading DECRETO DE 13 DE.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.
Z in Diez at left is wrong font.

C

1913 is printed thus 1913.

D

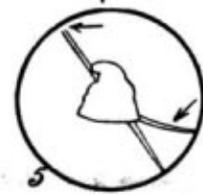
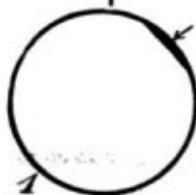
O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.
Z in Diez at right is wrong font.

E

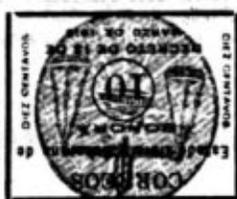
O in Centavos at right has a dot of color in center.
S in Centavos at left is broken.



NORMAL SEALS



TRANSPOSED SEALS



SONORA CANCEL ON No. 342 WITHOUT GREEN SEAL (FAKE) CANCEL TO ORDER



SONORA CANCEL ON RE-ISSUE No. 346 CANCEL TO ORDER



Identification for Plating

In order to assist the collector of the Sonora issues to plate these stamps we are listing the printing varieties of the Black and Red printing.

The First printing of the Black is found on sheets #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16.

B - 1913 is printed 19!3

A small speck of color like an apostrophe after the last De in the line reading Decreto De 13 De '

C 1913 is printed 19!3

D 1913 is printed 19!3

The second Black printing is found on sheets 8, 9, 10.

The rouletting rule was put into the form in order to save press time and work. The five stamps were moved slightly closer together from 1/6" to 5/36". The little apostrophe on B disappears.

A Z in Marzo is omitted, thus MARO
O in MARO is a cypher

B 1913 is printed 19!3
Z in Marzo is omitted, thus MARO

C 1913 is printed 19!3

D O in MarzO is a cypher
1913 is printed 19!3

The third black printing on Sheet #17 shows a Brown color

A O in Marzo is a cypher
Z in Marzo is below the line

B 1913 is printed 19!3

C 1913 is printed 19!3

D O in Marzo is a cypher
1913 is printed 19!3

The Fourth Black printing is shown on sheets #18, 19, 20 and 21 identical with third printing

The Fifth Black printing shows on Sheet #22 identical with above

The Sixth Black printing shows on Sheet #23 differs only in minor details, notably at the corner of the stamps where the rule borders meet

The Seventh Black printing is shown on Sheets 24 and 25, same as above

The Eighth Black printing is shown on Sheet 26, same as above

6.

The Ninth Black printing appears on the Re-issue sheets showing a loss of space between the frame line of the 4th stamp and the vertical rouletting rule at the left. An error appears on the 4th stamp in the 1, 2 and 3 centavo values. The letters "SCB" of SCEERANO are missing on some sheets in one row only. Possibly this error may be found on the 5 and 10 centavo values of this issue.

The RED Printing which was applied after the Black Printing according to the earliest cancels found appears as follows:

First Red printing on sheets # 1, 5, 14.

5 c. Scott a

- A O in Centavos at right is a cypher
- B O in Centavos at left is a cypher
- D C in Centavos at right is the wrong font letter
C in Cinco at right has a dot in center
Second C in Cinco at left is wrong font
- E O in Centavo at right has a dot in center
S in Centavos at left is broken

Note: "E" is not found on sheet # 1, instead

EE same as E except that Centavos at right is spelled "CENTAVCB"
This #1 issue was the only one which received perforations which was abandoned in favor of the much faster rouletting.

Second Red printing on sheets 3 and 12

2 c. Scott a/c

- A O in Centavos at right is a cypher
- B O in Centavos at left is a cypher
- C Figure of value 2 is wrong font
- D C in Centavos at right is wrong font
O in Dos at right has dot in Center
- E O in Centavos at right has dot in Center
S in Centavos at left is broken

THIRD Printing of Red on sheets 4 and 13

3 c. Scott a

- A O in Centavos at right is a cypher
- B O in Centavos at left is a cypher
- D C in Centavos at right is wrong font
- E O in Centavos at right has dot in center
S in Centavos at left is broken

Fourth Red printing on sheets # 6 and 16

10 c. Scott b

- A O in Centavos at right is a cypher
Z in Diez at left is wrong font
- B O in Centavos at left is a cypher
Z in Diez at left is wrong font

D C in Centavos at right is wrong font
Z in Diez at right is wrong font

E O in Centavos at right has dot in Center
S in Centavos at left is broken

Fifth Red printing on sheets # 2 and 11 1 c. Scott b

A O in Centavo at right is a cypher

B O in Centavo at left is a cypher

D C in Centavo at right is a cypher

E O in Centavo at right has a dot in center

Sixth Red printing on sheets #7 and 15 5 c. Scott d

A O in Centavos at right is a cypher

B O in Centavos at left is a cypher
first C in Cinco at right wrong font

D C in Centavos at right wrong font

E O in Centavos at right has dot in center

Seventh Red printing on Sheets # 8, 9 and 10 5 c. Scott d
same as seventh printing, but since the rouletting rule was incorporated in the press form, the distance between the words at the right on the stamp and the words at the left on the next stamp to it has been reduced by 1 mm in each instance on the sheets with black roulette

Eighth Red printing on sheets 17 and 18, same as before 5 c. Scott d
Red on Sheet 18 is a dark cherry red

Ninth, Tenth Eleventh Red printing on sheets 19, 20 and 21 20 1 c. Scott a
same as above

Sheet #19 2 c. Scott d

A Space between O S of DO S at right

Sheet #21 3 c. Scott a

A S in Centavos at right is broken

BB same as B except CENTAVOS at left without S, thus CENTAVO

Twelfth and Thirteenth Red printing sheets #22 and 23 3 and 5 c. Scott d
same as before

A S in Centavos at right broken
first C in Cinco at left wrong font

Fourteenth Red printing sheet #24 5 c. Scott d

A S in centavos at right broken
O in DOS at left is slightly below line

8.

Fifteenth Red printing Sheet #25, same as before except 5 c. Scott d
A C in Cinco at left correct letter
S in Centavos at right still broken

Sixteenth Red printing Sheet # 26 1 c. Scott a
E Dot in O in Centavo disappears.

The last two issues show quite a bit of defective printing such as Centavos for Centavos, imperfectly printed I in Cinco etc due to wear of forms, shows on sheets 28 and 31.

REISSUES

Seventeenth Red printing Sheet # 27, same as # 26 1 c. Scott a
D Rouletting line at right is much closer to frame line of stamp than in all previous printings

DD SOB of SOBERANO missing

Eighteenth Red printing Sheet # 28, same as # 27 5 c. Scott a
A second C in Cinco at right is wrong font
C O in cinco at left is a cypher

No DD

Nineteenth Red Printing Sheet # 29 2 c. Scott d
same as # 28 shows DD ERANO error
C O in Dos at left is a cypher

Twentieth and Twentyfirst Red printing Sheets # 30 and 31 same as before, except Sheet #30 3 c. Scott a

A O in Centavos at right is a cypher
B O in Centavos at left is a cypher
C ok
D C in Centavos at right wrong font rouletting closer

DD ERANO error

Sheet #31 10 c. Scott b
A O in Centavos at right is a cypher
B O in Centavos at left is a cypher
Z in Diez at left wrong font
Z in Diez at right wrong font

- D same as sheet #30
- E Diez at right irregular
I inverted high above the letters
Z looks like an inverted N

"CENTATCS" Error

Member Ron Wood called the writer's attention to the CENTATCS error which appears in position "E", left-hand, on the following plates: I, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, XII, XIII, XIV, XVI, XIX, XXI, and XXII.

This error is not noted on any of these plates, nor is there any reference to it in the text of Linn's or Billig's books. Also, I did not find this error on any sheets.

Until I hear from a collector who has any knowledge of this error, we may have to rule out its existence, and attribute it to a printing error on the plates.

* * * * *

FAKES AND MANIPULATED STAMPS

The basic cause for manipulation aside from greed was the great demand by US and other collectors for stamps used on cover. Today some of the varieties are almost unknown in mint condition. This led to cancelling to order, fake perforations made with sewing machines or pin perforation.

No perforated stamps other than the first 5 centavos Number 1 was ever issued by the Sonora government.

Dangerous also, are the white issues with faked embossing. At the time of Carranza's split with Villa, his Postmaster General Cosme Hinojosa went with Carranza to Mexico City, and at that time the original embossing dies disappeared. There were a number of half finished and spoiled sheets left at this time in the Hermosillo State Printing Office which were looted. These sheets were #2, 4, 5, 6 and 10. In marketing these stamps the fakers applied an imitation embossing as shown in illustration spoiling a lot of good philatelic material. (Illus. on page 16)

On all government issued stamps the embossed word reads from top to bottom of stamp. Many faked embossings show the word reading from the bottom to the top of stamp.

Some imitations of Number 7 appeared applied on cover, but differed in composition and details from the Sonora issue. One copy shows the Maro error but the rest of the black form is different from the Sonoras. Another fake shows a large letter "E" in de after Marzo. This error does not appear on any Sonora issue.

Many of the green seals have been offered perforated on cover. Some 10 centavo split diagonally and placed on cover cancelled to order are unlikely authorized material.

We are showing an illustration of the most popular Sonora cancellation seal used for cancelling to order if applied to other than the re-issues. (Illus. on page 4)

* * * * *

LINN NO.	VALUE	SCOTT TYPE	SCOTT NO.	PERFORATION	PAPER/WATERMARK	EMBOSSED	SHEET SIZE	VARIETY	EARLIEST KNOWN CANCEL
1	5	a	321	12 both sides, bottom	white rag PEERLESS MILLS	CONSTITUCIONAL	7-7/8 x 3½	ABCDEE	July 11, 1913
2	1	b	322	Colorless Roulette both sides, bottom	white rag PEERLESS MILLS	CCONSTITUCIONAL Double	7-7/8 x 3½ .0035	ABCDE WA WB WC WD WE 2Aa, 2Ca 2Da, 2Da 2AWa	June 17, 1913
3	2	a	323	Ditto	white rag PEERLESS MILLS	CONSTITUCIONAL	Ditto	ABCDE AW BW CW DW EW	June 11, 1913
		c	324 "C" variety			ON BACK Double without Both sides		3Aa 3Ba 3Ca 3Da 3Ea 3Ab 3Bb 3Cb 3Db 3Eb 3Ac 3Ad 3Ce split diagonal for one centavo 3Bf 3Cf split vertical	
4	3	a	325	Ditto	white rag PEERLESS MILLS	CONSTITUCIONAL Double	Ditto	ABCDE AW BW CW DW EW 4Aa	June 18, 1913
5	5	a	326 326a "Centavob" error	Ditto	white rag PEERLESS MILLS	CONSTITUCIONAL	7-7/8 x 3½ .004	ABCDEEE AW BW CW DW EW EEW Error on one row Error on both rows both on WM and unwaterm. paper	May 26, 1913
6	10	b	328	Ditto	white rag PEERLESS MILLS	CONSTITUCIONAL Double	Ditto	ABCDE AW BW CW DW EW 6Aa 6Ba 6Ca 6Da 6Ea	June 16, 1913
7	5	d	327	Ditto	white rag PEERLESS MILLS	CONSTITUCIONAL	Ditto	ABCDE AW BW CW DW EW	June 16, 1913
8	5	d	329 329a "Maro" error	Black Roulette all around	white rag YUKON AURCRA	CONSTITUCIONAL	8x3½	unwm black " brown WM black WM brown AB with Maro error all types	June 16, 1913

LINN NO.	VALUE	SCOTT TYPE	SCOTT NO.	PERFCRATION	PAPER/WATERMARK	SEAL	SHEET SIZE	VARIETY	EARLIEST KNOWN CANCEL
9	5	d	unlisted (344 var.)	Black Roulette all around	white rag PEERLESS MILLS	Green	8x3½ .004	unwm black unwm brown unwm 8½ x 3-3/8 WM black WM brown WM 8½ x 3-3/8 ABCDE All Types AB Maro error	June 16, 1913
10	5	d	unlisted 344 var.	Black Roulette all around	cream tinted soft wove	Green	8½x3½ .0035	ABCDE AB Maro error	July 9, 1913
11	1	b	336	Colorless Roulette both sides plus bottom	white rag PEERLESS MILLS	Green	7-7/8 x3½x .004	unwm first 2 seals 10mm apart 11a Embossed 11b unwm 1st 2 seals 12 mm apart 11T unwm Seals transposed 11W wm 1st 2 seals 10 mm apart 11Wa wm. Embossed 11Wb wm 1st 2 seals 12 mm apart 11WT wm seals transposed All values ABCDE No embossed sheet known (Linn)	July 17, 1913
12	2	a	323a (12ABDE) 324a (12C)	Ditto	white rag PEERLESS MILLS	Green	Ditto	A3CDE <u>Embossed</u> 12C one of the rarest stamps WM practically unknown (Linn)	Sept.30, 1913
13	3	a	337 325a (13a)	Ditto	white rag PEERLESS MILLS	Green	Ditto	unwm 1st 2 seals 10mm apart 13a Embossed 13b 1st 2 seals 12 mm apart 13T seals transposed 13W wm. 1st 2 seals 10 mm apart 13Wa Embossed 13Wb wm. 1st 2 seals 12 mm apart 13WT wm. seals transposed All Types ABCDE Note: 11, 12, 13, 15 over- printed with green seal the same time	July 18, 1913

LINN NO.	VALUE	SCOTT TYPE	SCOTT NO.	PERFORATION	PAPER/WATERMARK	SEAL	SHEET SIZE	VARIETY	EARLIEST KNOWN CANCEL
14	5	a	338 338a (14EE)	Colorless Roulette both sides plus bottom	white rag PEERLESS MILLS	Green	7-7/8 x3½x .004	14 ABCDE 14 ABCDEE (centavob error) 14W ABCDE 14W EE (error on wm. paper) no full sheets known (Linn)	July 20, 1913
15	5	d	327a	Ditto	white rag PEERLESS MILLS	Green	Ditto	ABCDE <u>Embossed</u> very limited number exist no wm seen (Linn)	Sept. 28, 1913
16	10	b	339	Ditto	white rag PEERLESS MILLS	Green sage bluish green yellow gr.	7-7/8 x3½x .0035	unwm 1st 2 seals 10 mm apart 16a ditto 12 mm apart 16T ditto seals transposed 16W wm 1st 2 seals 10 mm apart 16Wa ditto 12 mm apart 16WT ditto seals transposed 16b (Tittman) 11 mm apart All types ABCDE	Aug. 20, 1913
17	5	d	340 340a (17a) 340b (17b)	Black Roulette all around	white or cream tinted soft porous or close wove	Green	7-7/8 x4-1/8 .004	17 porous or close wove 17a Ditto 17T Ditto seals transp. 17Ta Ditto " " " 17b Seals double in one row All Types ABCDE	BLACK Aug. 24, 1913 BROWN BLACK BROWN
18	5	d	unlisted 344 var	Ditto	creamish or white wove pap. some PEERLESS MILLS	Green	8-1/4 x3-3/4 .004	18 med. wt. cream white 18a Hy. smooth white 18b hy. pulpy creamish 18c Peerless Mills paper 18d WM showing (rare) 18e "CINCO" missing All Types ABCDE cherry red	Nov. 3, 1913
19	2	d	342 342b (19a)	Ditto	white or cream tinted soft wove	Green	8-1/4 x3-3/4 .0035	19 ABCDE 19a no seal	Sept. 7, 1913

<u>LINN NO.</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>SCOTT TYPE</u>	<u>SCOTT NO.</u>	<u>PERFORATION</u>	<u>PAPER/WATERMARK</u>	<u>SEAL</u>	<u>SHEET SIZE</u>	<u>VARIETY</u>	<u>EARLIEST KNOWN CANCEL</u>
20	1	a	341	Black Rculette all around	white or cream tinted soft wove	Green	8-1/4 x3-3/4 .0035	20 cream white .003 20a Ditto seal sage .0035 20b Seals on one row only All Types ABCDE	Sept. 7, 1913
21	3	a	343	Ditto	Ditto PEERLESS MILLS	Green	8-1/4 x3-3/4	21 creamish soft wove .003 21a "Centavo" on one row 21b "Centavo" on both rows 21c Seal Pale Green 21d Ditto error on 1 row 21e Ditto error on both rows 21f lt. wt. white porous 21g hy. enameled paper 21h hy white wove paper .005 Ditto with error on 2 rows 21i Peerless Mills Paper error on both rows 21j WM error in both rows 21k WM no errors 21l Dark brown frame lines	Sept.13,1913
22	5	d	344b (22a)	Black Roulette all around	white or cream tinted soft wove	Green	8-3/4 x 3½ .0035	22ABCDE 22a Seal missing	Sept.10,1913
23	5	d	unlisted 344 var.	Ditto	white soft wove	Green	8-3/8 x 3½ .0035	23ABCDE	Oct. 6,1913
24	2	d	unlisted 342 var.	Ditto	Ditto	dark and light green	Ditto	24ABCDE	Nov. 2,1913
25	5	d	unlisted	Ditto	Ditto	Green	Ditto	25ABCDE	Oct.17, 1913

<u>LINN</u> <u>NO.</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>SCOTT</u> <u>TYPE</u>	<u>SCOTT</u> <u>NO.</u>	<u>PERFORATION</u>	<u>PAPER/WATERMARK</u>	<u>SEAL</u>	<u>SHEET</u> <u>SIZE</u>	<u>VARIETY</u>	<u>EARLIEST</u> <u>KNOWN CANCEL</u>
26	1	a	unlisted 341 var.	Black Roulette all around	white soft wove	Green	10½ x 3-¾ .0035	26ABCDE	Nov. 2, 1913

Dot in center of O of Centavos on
right on E disappears

REISSUES Seals transposed on all sheets

27	1	a	unlisted 341b (27EE)	Ditto	Ditto	dark and light green	Ditto	27ABCDE 27ABCDEE 27 EE "erano" error	Sept. 1914
28	5	a	345	Ditto	Ditto	Green	Ditto	28ABCDE	
29	2	d	unlisted 342a (29DD)	Ditto	Ditto	Green	Ditto	29ABCDE 29ABCDDDE 29 DD "erano" error in one row	
30	3	a	unlisted 343b (30DD) 343c "TRSS" error	Ditto	Ditto	Green	Ditto	30ABCDE 30ABCDDDE 30 DD "erano" error in one row 30 EE "TRSS" error	
31	10	b	346	Ditto	Ditto	Green	Ditto	31ABCDE	

* * * * *

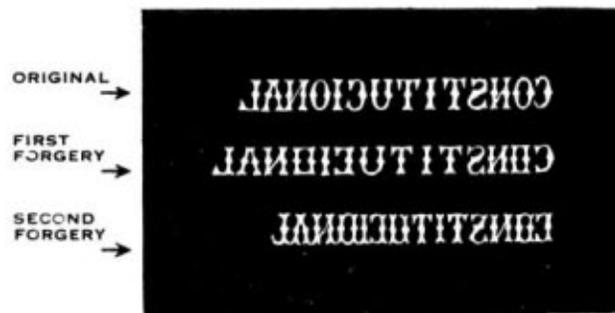
PEERLESS MILLS



AURORA

PLATE XXIV

ILLUSTRATING THE GENUINE AND
THE TWO KNOWN FORGED
EMBOSSINGS



ILLUSTRATIONS ARE FROM BACK OF STAMPS AND AS NEAR
PERFECT AS COULD BE MADE.

ORIGINAL EMBOSSING

THIS APPEARS SLIGHTLY TALLER THAN EITHER OF THE FORGERIES. BOTH OF THE LETTERS C ARE OF THE SAME STYLE AND SHAPE, WITH ROUNDED CORNERS. THE LETTERS O ARE UPRIGHT OVALS. THIS WORD MEASURES 44MM. IN LENGTH AND IS ABOUT 4MM. HIGH.

FIRST FORGERY

THIS IS THE COMMONER OF THE FORGERIES. THE WORD MEASURES 48MM. IN LENGTH AND 3½MM. IN HEIGHT. THE SECOND LETTER C AND BOTH OF THE LETTERS O ARE SQUARE SHAPED WITH FANCY POINTED CORNERS.

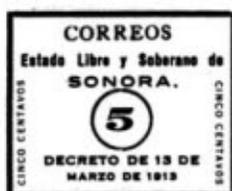
SECOND FORGERY

BOTH OF THE LETTERS C AND BOTH OF THE LETTERS O ARE SQUARE SHAPED WITH FANCY POINTED CORNERS. THE WORD MEASURES 40MM. IN LENGTH AND ABOUT 4MM. IN HEIGHT.

PLATE XXV

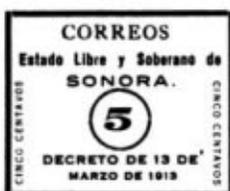
ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEETS NUMBER
1, 5 AND 14

SIZE OF SHEET 7½x3¾ INCHES



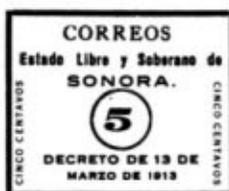
A

O in Marzo is a cypher.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.



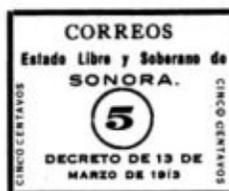
B

1913 is printed thus 1913.
Small speck of color like an apostrophe after last DE in the line reading DECRETO DE 13 DE.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.



C

1913 is printed thus 1913.



D

O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.
O in Cinco at right has dot of color in center.
Second C in Cinco at left is wrong font.



E

O in Centavos at right has a dot of color in center.
S in Centavos at left is broken.

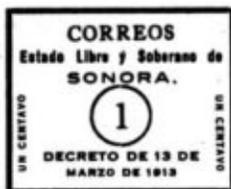
EE

Same as variety E except that Centavos at right is spelled CENTAVOB.

PLATE I

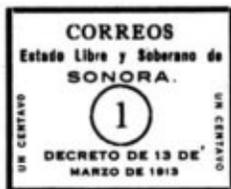
ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEETS NUMBER
2 AND 11

SIZE OF SHEET 7½x3¾ INCHES



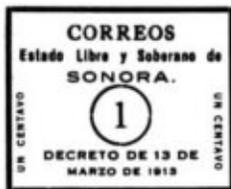
A

O in Marzo is a cypher.
O in Centavo at right is a cypher.



B

1913 is printed thus 1913.
Small speck of color like an apostrophe after last DE in the line reading DECRETO DE 13 DE.
O in Centavo at left is a cypher.



C

1913 is printed thus 1913.



D

O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavo at right is a wrong font letter.



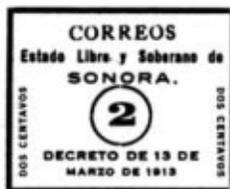
E

O in Centavo at right has a dot of color in center.

PLATE II

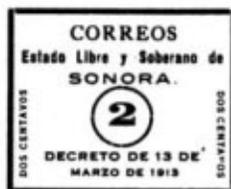
ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEETS NUMBER
3 AND 12

SIZE OF SHEET 7½x3¾ INCHES



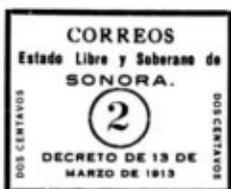
A

O in Marzo is a cypher.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.



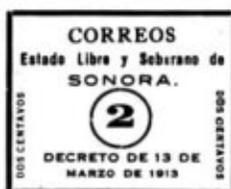
B

1913 is printed thus 1913.
Small speck of color like an apostrophe after last DE in the line reading DECRETO DE 13 DE.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.



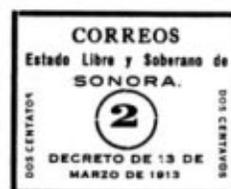
C

1913 is printed thus 1913.
Figure of value is wrong font.



D

O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.
O in Dos at right has dot of color in center.



E

O in Centavos at right has a dot of color in center.
S in Centavos at left is broken.

PLATE III

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEETS NUMBER
4 AND 13

SIZE OF SHEET 7½x3½ INCHES



A

O in Marzo is a cypher.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.



B

1913 is printed thus 1913.
Small speck of color like an apostrophe after last DE in the line reading DECRETO DE 13 DE.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.



C

1913 is printed thus 1913.



D

O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.



E

O in Centavos at right has a dot of color in center.
S in Centavos at left is broken.

PLATE IV

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEETS NUMBER
6 AND 16

SIZE OF SHEET 7½x3½ INCHES



A

O in Marzo is a cypher.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.
Z in Diez at right is wrong font.



B

1913 is printed thus 1913.
Small speck of color like an apostrophe after last DE in the line reading DECRETO DE 13 DE.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.
Z in Diez at left is wrong font.



C

1913 is printed thus 1913.



D

O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.
Z in Diez at right is wrong font.



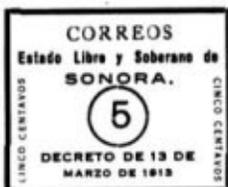
E

O in Centavos at right has a dot of color in center.
S in Centavos at left is broken.

PLATE V

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEETS NUMBER
7 AND 15

SIZE OF SHEET 7½x3½ INCHES



A

O in Marzo is a cypher.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.



B

1913 is printed thus 1913.
Small speck of color like an apostrophe after last DE in the line reading DECRETO DE 13 DE.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.
First C in Cinco at right is wrong font.



C

1913 is printed thus 1913.



D

O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.



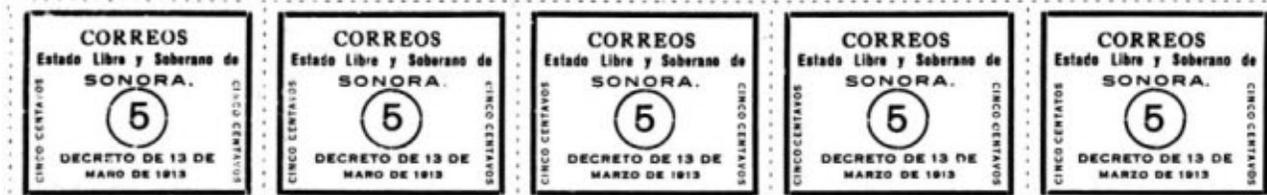
E

O in Centavos at right has a dot of color in center.

PLATE VI

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEETS NUMBER
8, 9 AND 10

SIZE OF SHEET: No. 8,—8x3½ INCHES. No. 9,—8x3¼ AND 8½x3¼ INCHES. No. 10,—8½x3¼ INCHES.



- A**
Z in Marzo is omitted, thus MARO.
O in Maro is a cypher.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.
- B**
1913 is printed thus 1913.
Z in Marzo is Omitted, thus MARO.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.
First C in Cinco at right is wrong font.
- C**
1913 is printed thus 1913.
- D**
O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.
- E**
O in Centavos at right has a dot of color in center.

PLATE VII

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEET NUMBER
17

SIZE OF SHEET, 7¾x4¼ INCHES.



- A**
O in Marzo is a cypher.
Z in Marzo is below line.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.
- B**
1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.
First C in Cinco at right is wrong font.
- C**
1913 is printed thus 1913.
- D**
O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.
- E**
O in Centavos at right has a dot of color in center.

PLATE VIII

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEET NUMBER
18

SIZE OF SHEET, 8¼x3¼ INCHES.



- A**
O in Marzo is a cypher.
Z in Marzo is below line.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.
- B**
1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.
First C in Cinco at right is wrong font.
- C**
1913 is printed thus 1913.
- D**
O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.
- E**
O in Centavos at right has a dot of color in center.

PLATE IX

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEET NUMBER
19

SIZE OF SHEET, 8 1/4 x 3 1/4 INCHES.



A

O in Marzo is a cypher.
Z in Marzo is below line.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.
Space between OS of Dos at right.

B

1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.

C

1913 is printed thus 1913.

D

O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.

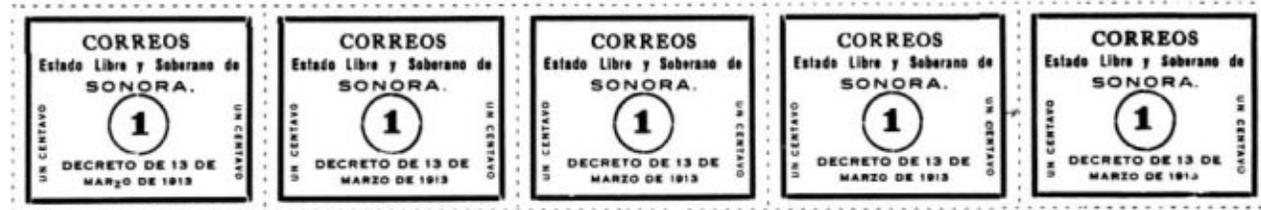
E

O in Centavos at right has a dot of color in center.

PLATE X

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEET NUMBER
20

SIZE OF SHEET, 8 1/4 x 3 1/4 INCHES.



A

O in Marzo is a cypher.
Z in Marzo is below line.
O in Centavo at right is a cypher.

B

1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Centavo at left is a cypher.

C

1913 is printed thus 1913.

D

O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.

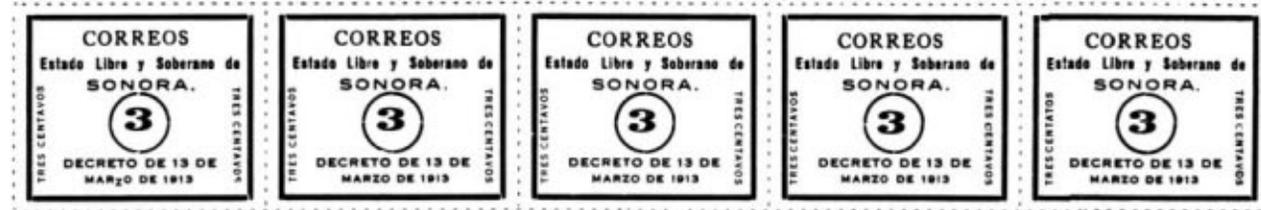
E

O in Centavo at right has a dot of color in center.

PLATE XI

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEET NUMBER
21

SIZE OF SHEET, 8 1/4 x 3 1/4 INCHES.



A

O in Marzo is a cypher.
Z in Marzo is below line.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.
S in Centavos at right is broken.

B

1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.

C

1913 is printed thus 1913.

D

O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.

E

O in Centavos at right has a dot of color in center.

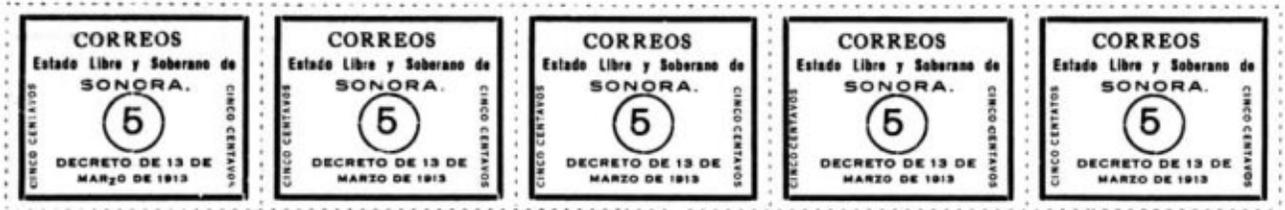
BB

Same as variety B except that Centavos at left is without the final S, thus CENTAVO.

PLATE XII

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEET NUMBER
22

SIZE OF SHEET, 8½x3¼ INCHES.



A

O in Marzo is a cypher.
Z in Marzo is below line.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.
S in Centavos at right is broken.
First C in Cinco at left is wrong font.

B

1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.

C

1913 is printed thus 1913.

D

O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.

E

O in Centavos at right has a dot of color in center.

PLATE XIII

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEET NUMBER
23

SIZE OF SHEET, 8½x3¼ INCHES.



A

O in Marzo is a cypher.
Z in Marzo is below line.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.
S in Centavos at right is broken.
First C in Cinco at left is wrong font.

B

1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.

C

1913 is printed thus 1913.

D

O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.

E

O in Centavos at right has a dot of color in center.

PLATE XIV

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEET NUMBER
24

SIZE OF SHEET, 8½x3¼ INCHES.



A

O in Marzo is a cypher.
Z in Marzo is below line.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.
S in Centavos at right is broken.
O in Dos at left is slightly below line.

B

1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.

C

1913 is printed thus 1913.

D

O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.

E

O in Centavos at right has a dot of color in center.

PLATE XV

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEET NUMBER
25
SIZE OF SHEET, 8½x3¼ INCHES.



A

O in Marzo is a cypher.
Z in Marzo is below line.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.
S in Centavos at right is broken.

B

1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.

C

1913 is printed thus 1913.

D

O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.

E

O in Centavos at right has a dot of color in center.

PLATE XVI

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEET NUMBER
26
SIZE OF SHEET, 10½x3¼ INCHES.



A

O in Marzo is a cypher.
Z in Marzo is below line.
O in Centavo at right is a cypher.

B

1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Centavo at left is a cypher.

C

1913 is printed thus 1913.

D

O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavo at right is a wrong font letter.

E

No typographical errors in this stamp.

PLATE XVII

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEET NUMBER
27
SIZE OF SHEET, 8½x3¼ INCHES.



A

O in Marzo is a cypher.
Z in Marzo is below line.
O in Centavo at right is a cypher.

B

1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Centavo at left is a cypher.

C

1913 is printed thus 1913.

D

O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavo at right is a wrong font letter.
The rouletting line at right is much closer to frame line of stamp, than in all previous printings.

E

No typographical errors in this stamp.

PLATE XVIII

DD
Same as variety D except that SOB of Soberano is missing.

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEET NUMBER
28

SIZE OF SHEET, 8½x3¾ INCHES.



A
O in Marzo is a cypher.
Z in Marzo is below line.
O in Centavo at right is a cypher.
Second C in Cinco at right is wrong font.

B
1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Centavo at left is a cypher.

C
1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Cinco at left is cypher.

D
O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavo at right is a wrong font letter.
The rouletting line at right is much closer to frame line of stamp, than in all previous printings.

E
No typographical errors in this stamp.

PLATE XIX

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEET NUMBER
29

SIZE OF SHEET, 8½x3¾ INCHES.



A
O in Marzo is a cypher.
Z in Marzo is below line.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.

B
1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.

C
1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Dos at left is a cypher.

D
O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.
The rouletting line at right is much closer to frame line of stamp, than in all previous printings.

E
No typographical errors in this stamp.

DD
Same as variety D except that SOB of Soberano is missing.

PLATE XX

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEET NUMBER
30

SIZE OF SHEET, 8½x3¾ INCHES.



A
O in Marzo is a cypher.
Z in Marzo is below line.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.

B
1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.

C
1913 is printed thus 1913.

D
O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.
The rouletting line at right is much closer to frame line of stamp, than in all previous printings.

E
No typographical errors in this stamp.

DD
Same as variety D except that SOB of Soberano is missing.

PLATE XXI

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES
IN SHEET NUMBER
31
SIZE OF SHEET, 8½x3¾ INCHES.



- A**
O in Marzo is a cypher.
Z in Marzo is below line.
O in Centavos at right is a cypher.
- B**
1913 is printed thus 1913.
O in Centavos at left is a cypher.
Z in Diez at left is wrong font.
Z in Diez at right is wrong font.
- C**
1913 is printed thus 1913.
- D**
O in Marzo is a cypher.
1913 is printed thus 1913.
C in Centavos at right is a wrong font letter.
The rouletting line at right is much closer to frame line of stamp, than in all previous printings.
- E**
Diez at right is very irregular, the 1 appears to be inverted, making it high above other letters. The Z looks like an N turned sideways.

PLATE XXII

ILLUSTRATING THE VARIETIES IN THE
GREEN SEALS



SEALS IN NORMAL POSITION—SPACED ABOUT 10MM. APART.
SOME SHEETS SHOW FIRST TWO SEALS SPACED 12MM. APART.

KEY TO DIFFERENCES AS INDICATED BY →

- 1 → Inner edge of outer circle shows flat place.
- 2 → Scratch across chains supporting basin, at left.
- 3 → Dent in edge of seal. Two lines of background run together and lines show scratches.
- 4 → Dent in seal and lines of background scratched. Lower mountain in cap larger than in any other. Speck on chain where ray from cap crosses.
- 5 → Ray from cap at right appears slightly concave. Ray at top is unfinished and does not touch edge of circle.

SEALS TRANSPOSED

TAKING THE ABOVE ARRANGEMENT AS THE NORMAL POSITION OF THE SEALS, AND CALLING THEM No. 1, 2, 3, 4 AND 5, WE FIND THEM IN A TRANSPOSED POSITION AS INDICATED BY THE NUMBERS BELOW. THE FOLLOWING SHEETS ARE KNOWN AT PRESENT, SOME SHEETS OF THE 1c, 3c AND 10c GREEN SEAL, COLORLESS ROULETTE, Nos. 11, 13 AND 16. SOME SHEETS OF THE 5c, No. 17, AND ALL SHEETS OF THE LATE 1914, GREEN SEAL REISSUE.

2 3 4 5 1

PLATE XXIII