

The PhilateliKid

The newsletter for Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids (SCCFK)

Collect Stamps (The Most Educational Hobby)

www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org

June 1, 2024

CORRECTION: In the May 2024 issue of *The PhilateliKid* the statement was made that the membership of the Boston Athenaeum, a private library, was limited to faculty, students, or alumni of Caltech, or one of its affiliates. Several readers have informed us that the membership of the Boston Athenaeum is NOT limited to faculty, students, or alumni of Caltech, or one of its affiliates. We regret the error. In fact, a quick visit to the library's website www.bostonathenaeum.org shows that a one-day membership may be purchased for \$40, and "All are welcome."

In the May 2022 issue of *The PhilateliKid*, we began brief descriptions of various "Back of the Book" ("BOB") listings in the Scott Catalogues. In subsequent issues we looked at stamps which begin with the letter "B," "C," "CE," "CL," "CM," "CB," "CO," "E," "D," "F," "FA," "J," "K," "L," "LO," "O," "PR," "PN," "PS," "WS," "BK," "Q," "JQ," "QE," "CVP," "WX," "QI," "#X," "REA," "RV," "RY," "-P," "UX," "SPCVP," "U," "UY," "UC," and "R" (Part 1). This month we will look at "R" (Part 2) and also "RN-D."

Stamps Beginning with the prefix "R" (Part 2).

The subject of Revenue stamps is so huge that many entire books have been written on the subject, so by necessity, here we can only give a very, very brief piece of the whole picture.

First, let us look at three of the most attractive stamps ever printed, which are identified by Scott at number R102, R132, and R133. Below is an **enlarged** picture of R102a. It is horizontal and

has a face value of \$200. It was issued in 1864. At that time \$200 was a huge amount of money. Note the intricate engraving. Also, note that this particular stamp is issued in two colors, green and red, which is uncommon for Revenue stamps.

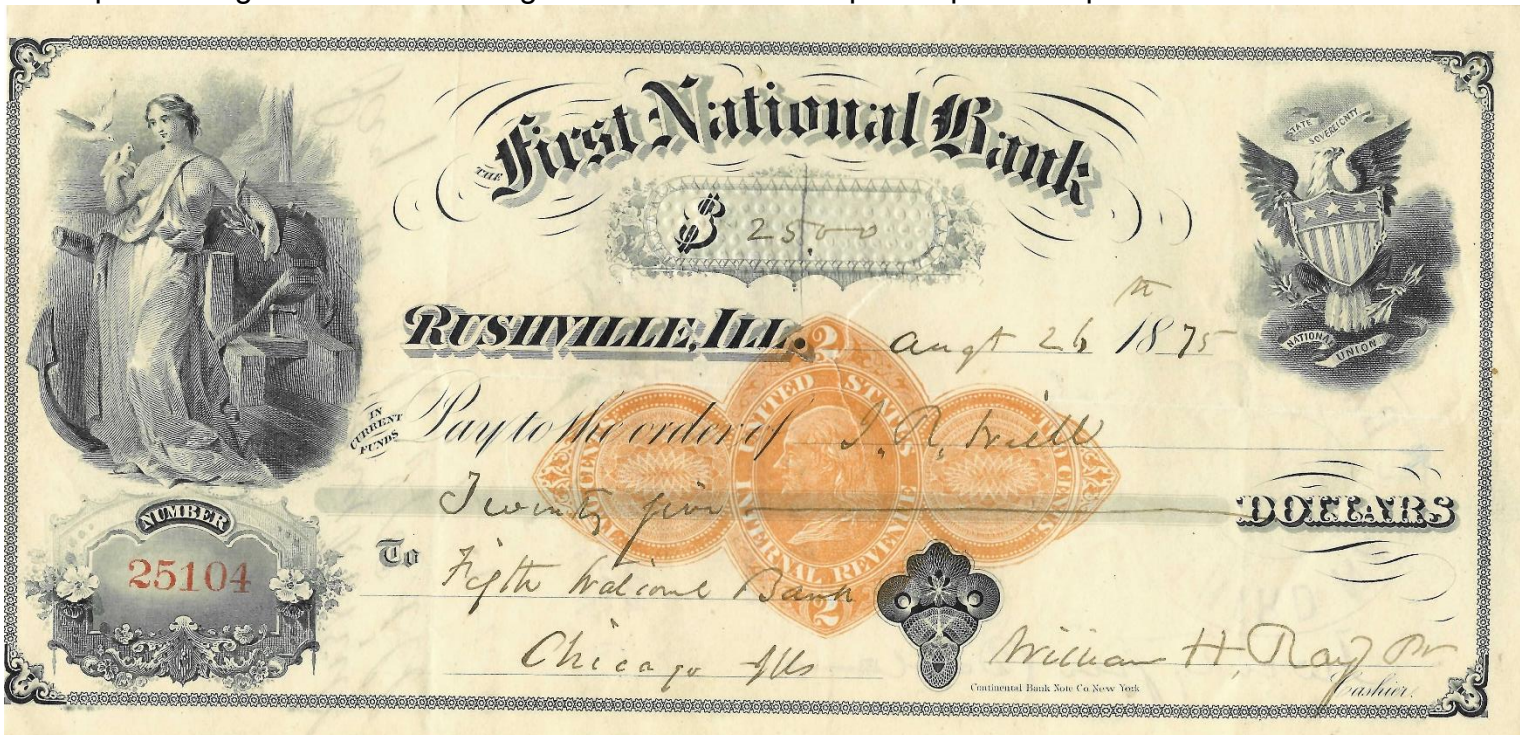


Pictures of R132 and R133 are not available because neither stamp is in my personal collection. R132 in used condition carries a catalog value of \$8,500 *in italics*. R133 in used condition carries a catalog value of \$17,500 *in italics*. Neither stamp is listed in **unused** condition, which leads me to believe that no examples exist of either of these stamps in unused condition. When Scott puts a value in *italics*, it indicates that the stamp is so seldomly sold that it is difficult to determine the value. If I ever get a spare \$26,000, well, even then I don't think I will be buying either of these stamps! (Like many a stamp collector, I have a spouse who is very understanding, but in my case that would be pushing the limits of her understanding!)

I encourage all of you who have never seen one of these stamps to at least look at the examples in the Scott Catalogue. Use a magnifying glass to see the incredible lathework engraving.

Stamps Beginning with the prefix "RN-D."

Stamps that begin with "R" are designated "Revenue Stamped Paper" stamps.



Note that the "stamp" is actually a part of the printed check. These "stamps" actually were pre-printed on various forms including stock certificates, bonds, checks, and receipts, which eliminated the need to actually affix a stamp to those documents.

As you can see from the cashier's check above, not only is this revenue stamp quite elaborately engraved, but some checks themselves were quite attractive. Collecting these revenue stamps can be a lot of fun because of the story they provide. For example, the check above was drawn on the First National Bank of Rushville, Illinois. As of 2022, the population of Rushville was 2,928. Rushville is located about 57 miles northwest of Springfield, Illinois, which is located approximately in the center of the state. At the present, there are three (!) banks in Rushville, which is one bank for every 976 people.

Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are greatly appreciated and if \$10 or more you will be sent a written receipt. You also can donate via PayPal on our website: www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org or www.yummystampcollecting.org which redirects you to the same website. © Robert W. Martin, 2024

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