

THE ONE-CENT FRANKLIN 1861-1868

This set of album pages provides spaces for colors, plate varieties, production varieties and grills of the 1¢ blue Franklin of 1861-1868.

COLORS: I've provided two separate pages for the colors of this interesting issue. In addition to the "pastel" ultramarine, there's also a "metallic" ultramarine shade. This latter is nearly a match for some of the ultramarine shades of the 1869 train stamp and is very sharply printed. It is extremely rare: I've only seen two of them and don't believe any have been certified. So, one page doesn't have a space for this shade. With regard to the dark blue stamps, I've provided a space for the "issued indigo" in addition to the dark blue. The Philatelic Foundation will not certify an issued 1¢ stamp as being indigo unless it exactly matches the indigo die essay of the unissued "August" design. The "issued indigo" is well known to specialists, though. It has a goodly shot of black in the shade, which distinguishes it from dark blue. Finally, there are reports of an uncataloged "greenish blue," but every example I've seen seems to be a color changeling.

VARIETIES: Again, there are two separate pages, one with spaces for both horizontally and vertically laid paper and the other having a space simply for laid paper without specifying the direction. The horizontally laid paper is quite rare. All but a tiny percentage of collectors are content with one example of laid paper. Even so, the vertically laid paper is mighty scarce. With regard to double transfers, there are two varieties. One is extremely rare: I've only seen one example. It's a top row stamp and features a strong horizontal displacement of the top third of the design. There are, in addition, several positions on the various plates which show slight doubling of a few letters.

GRILLS AND GRILL VARIETIES: For the sake of completeness, I've included the 1¢ Z-grill, but with a notation in the space that there are two in existence with one available to collectors. Good luck filling *that* space! The E- and F-grills are both known on normal and very thin paper. In addition, the 1¢ grills have these varieties: vertically split grill, horizontally split grill, double grill, double grill with one split vertically, double grill with one split horizontally, and inverted grill. There are also various "wonder" grills available. Most are foldovers or the result of a sheet being fed diagonally through the grilling machine. I haven't included a page for 1¢ grill varieties. Instead, there's a page for grill varieties on all denominations in the 1861-1868 file. If there's enough demand for a page showing grill varieties of the 1¢, I'll make one.

I designed these album pages to accommodate bottom-sealed mounts; thus, the sizes are more spacious than what one usually finds. Obviously, you will want to adjust your Adobe Acrobat Reader so that it prints the pages full size. To check calibration of your Adobe Acrobat Reader and printer, the line at the bottom of this page is exactly 100 millimeters long. These pages are 8½ x 11 inches. I do not intend to produce free album pages in European or other sizes.

These pages are designed to slip into page protectors, but I provided enough room at the left if you want to punch them for a standard three-ring binder. I encourage you to print these out on card stock, if your printer can handle it. One example is Wausau Papers Bright White Acid-Free 65 pound Card Stock, which is available at most national chain office supply stores and is quite inexpensive.

WHY FREE ALBUM PAGES? I have two reasons for making these pages available for free:

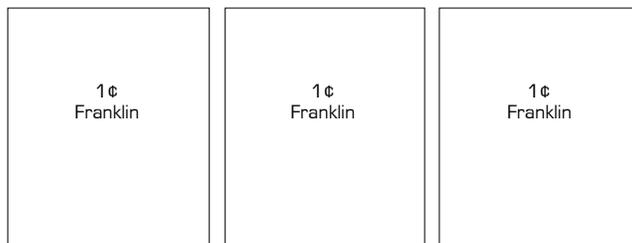
1) I hope you will peruse my listings for stamps to inhabit the spaces. So I've included my domain name at the foot of every page in unobtrusively tiny type.

2) I will typeset album pages to your specifications in this identical format. I charge \$25.00 per hour with a minimum charge of \$15.00 per order. It takes me between 15 minutes and an hour to do a page, less if I have a batch of pages to do all at once. For examples, it took me about 15 minutes to lay out the 1847 page and 30 minutes to lay out the 1894 regular issue page. Pages for covers take 10 to 30 minutes, depending on how many covers you want on the page and the amount of verbiage below the covers.



exactly 100 millimeters (10 centimeters)

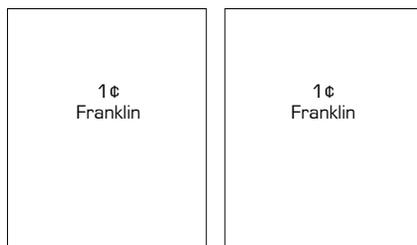
COLORS



pale blue

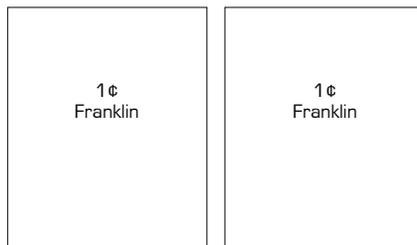
blue

bright blue



dark blue

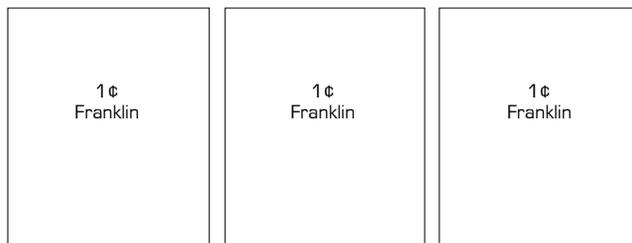
"issued indigo"



pastel ultramarine

ultramarine

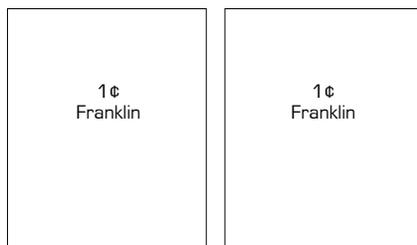
COLORS



pale blue

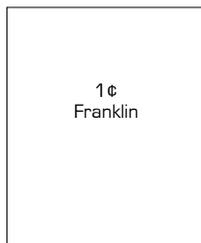
blue

bright blue



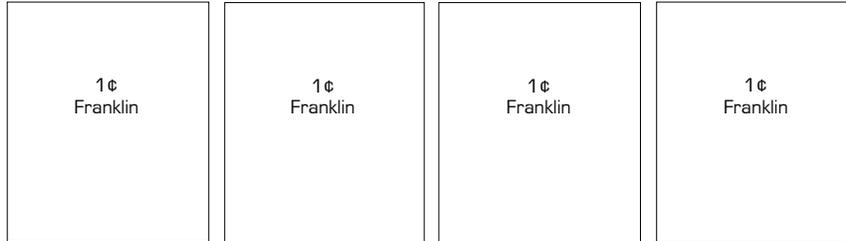
dark blue

"issued indigo"



ultramarine

VARIETIES

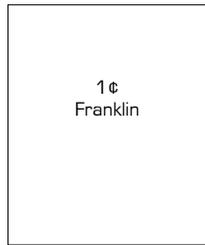


dot in "U" (plate 9)

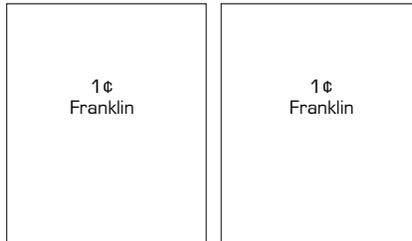
double transfer

cracked plate

worn plate



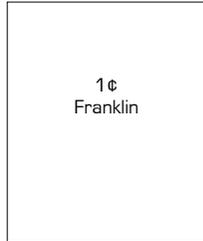
double perforations



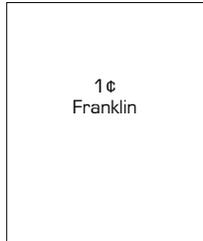
on horizontally laid paper

on vertically laid paper

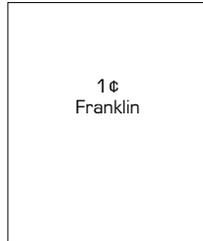
VARIETIES



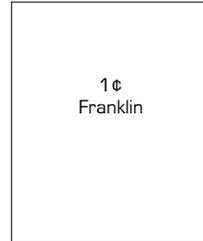
dot in "U" (plate 9)



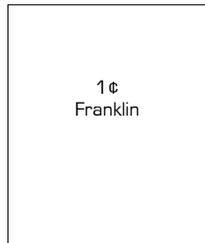
double transfer



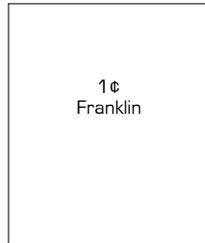
cracked plate



worn plate

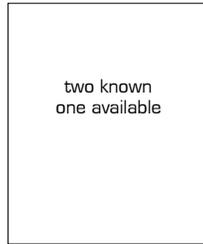


double perforations

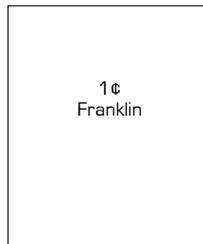


on laid paper

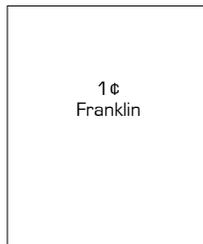
1867-1868 GRILLS



Z-grill

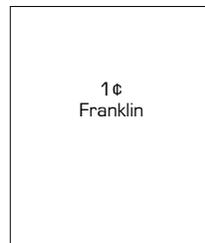


E-grill

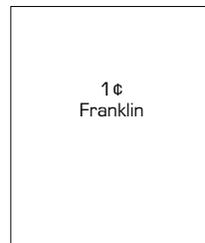


F-grill

GRILL VARIETIES



E-grill
on very thin paper



F-grill
on very thin paper

National Bank Note Company
Engraved
Unwatermarked
Perforated 12

UNITED STATES
1861-1868 ONE CENT