

color. The sheet was first run through the press to receive the impression of not only the frame, as would be supposed, but also a small circular piece of red color, about one-sixteenth of an inch wide composed of fine vertical lines, running out side of, and inside of the usually seen red color, the white space left for the medallion. In the second run through the press the medallion in black was printed. The sheet was run through the first time and received the red color but when the sheet was fed to the press the second time it was fed upside down and in consequence the queen is standing on her head—a very ludicrous position for her Majesty.

This inverting of the medallion is not an unusual occurrence in a large printing house but the fact that such a sheet was allowed to get into circulation is indeed strange as they are usually promptly destroyed. For some reason, no doubt carelessness on the part of the printers the sheets was allowed to get beyond the walls of the printing house, where every stamp was worth two dollars. Here it could not be so easily recalled and the sheet was broken and some specimens sold and undoubtedly used. The date on which this sheet was issued is not known, and will probably never be but is thought to be some time after the stamps were first issued, 1869.

One writer has alleged that the sheet was the last one, used to fill a requisition from headquarters in the way. A demand was received and no other sheets being available several "cull" sheets were "run in" to help fill the order. Several sheets of poor impression etc., were used and this sheet with the inverted medallion was among those so utilized. Perhaps they thought it would make no difference—

and in truth, little difference it seems to have made. Another variety for the collector, then almost undreamed of, was the only result.

Only one sheet could possibly have been used at the most, and the stamp is very rare especially in unused condition and is possessed by but few collectors. It is rarer than its catalogue price—\$20 in used condition would indicate.

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United States Minutes.

BY USONA.

The collectors of the world have come to the assistance of war-burdened Uncle Sam to such an extent that the issue of stamps sent by Captain Leary for use in Guam has been exhausted. The following U.S. stamps are now being over printed to supply the demand.

1 cent green	\$150	worth
2 " red	\$1500	"
3 " purple	\$150	"
4 " brown	\$200	"
5 " blue	\$750	"
6 " magenta	\$300	"
8 " puce	\$300	"
10 " brown	\$1000	"
15 " green	\$750	"
50 " orange	\$2000	"
10 " special Del.	\$500	"
\$1 black	\$3000	"

a total of \$10,700, which, added to the \$900 already sent there makes a total of 11,600 worth of stamps to be used by a population of 15,000 colored and illiterate (with the assistance of collectors). Rather an undignified way for a first class government to raise money: but then collectors are such "soft marks."

Money orders, the postoffice department has issued a circular announcing, cannot