

Source Artwork for All Other Continental 1868 Manufactured Tobacco Stamps with Black Portrayals

Vignettes for 5 additional tobacco stamps depicting Black tobacco workers were excerpted from another CBNCo stock pictorial engraving, *Tobacco* (F.O.C. Darley, 1867). The full version of *Tobacco* was used as a decorative 'endpiece' for bank checks, although in this example the scene was printed in reverse. When considering *Tobacco* for stamp vignettes, Continental's designers would have viewed it in its original orientation as illustrated below.



Reversed image of the endpiece returns the scene to its original orientation



"The Figurehead"
The Hoeing Man's head was used as the vignette for 3 stamp designs (see next row)

"The Overseer"
Used for the 3 lb. stamp (shown this row)



"The Hoeing Man"
Used for the 5 lb. stamp (shown this row)



This composite of a **3 lb. stamp** (left) and the design of the 5 lb. stamp (right) reconstructs the full original scene of *Tobacco*. The figures of the woman and a boy are common to both denominations.

3 Pounds

Plate Proof



Unused



Circular Cut Cancel



Blue Handstamp Cancel



The circular cut cancel and overall toning indicate that this stamp was attached to a wooden box, barrel, or cask, per 1868 Treasury Dep't regulations:

“...stamps used on any wooden package shall be cancelled by sinking a portion of the stamp into the wood with a steel die...”

The Overseer

Period imagery of plantation labor often depicts the figure of an overseer. The archetype is that of a white man wearing a wide-brimmed hat, portrayed in a commanding position over the workers.



5 Pounds

Vignette Essay
5 Examples Known



Trial Color Die Essay on Card
Dark Dusky Blue, the Only Known Example



This essay omits the Continental imprint at the bottom of the design.
Compare to the stamps on the next page.

5 Pounds

Unused



Circular Rouletted Cut Cancel



Scarlet Lorillard Cancel



As with the 3 lb. stamp shown previously, the circular cut cancel indicates that the stamp was attached to a wooden package of tobacco.

The Hoeing Man’s Hoe

As shown right, the business end of the hoe was carefully detailed in the original version of *Tobacco*, but it fell outside of the portion selected for the stamp’s vignette.

