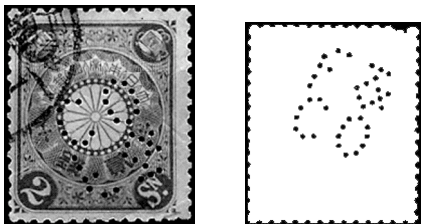


A Japanese Whatizzit

Bob Szymanski (LM#145)

Pictured here are the two sides of a Japanese perfin. If you collect US and or Japanese perfins you may see the problem. The pattern is unlisted in the Japanese perfin catalog but is listed in the US perfin catalog.



The pattern is a perfect match with US pattern F223 (D+) used in the 1902 through 1918 issues by Fleitman & Company. The Japanese stamp is a Scott #96, a green 2 sen in use from 1899 through about 1913. The time periods of usage are similar so this

could be a good and previously unknown Japanese perfin. However, maybe somebody with access to the US perforator was "playing around"!

Could it be that this stamp was perforated in the US for use in Japan just as several Canadian perfins were made by US perforators for use in Canada?

If you have any thoughts about this perfin please call me at (508) 478-7303 (or) e-mail @ perfinman@comcast.net (or) snail mail @ 10 Clarridge Circle Milford, MA 01757. I will write a follow up article if any additional thoughts are received. Thanks for your thoughts.

If you have anything similar to this, maybe one of our members can solve your conundrum. Just send a picture with a note to our editor.