

Portraits of Presidents and Vice-Presidents on United States Currency, 1861-1929

By Howard W. Parshall

The portraits of 12 Presidents and one Vice-President of the United States appear on our currency between the first year of its printing in 1861 and the introduction of the new smaller size notes on July 10, 1929. For this study, all types, denominations, and series of currency are examined, with the exception of the Compound Interest Treasury Notes and Fractional Currency.

Portraits of Presidents appear on every type of currency except the Treasury or Coin Notes of 1890 and 1891 and the National Bank Notes of the First Charter Period (1863-1882). They appear on every denomination from \$1 to \$10,000 with the exception of the \$1,000 notes.

The only living President to have his portrait on our currency was *Abraham Lincoln*. It appeared on the \$10 Demand Notes of 1861 and the \$10 Legal Tender Notes of 1862 and 1863.

The portraits of four Presidents and one Vice-President appeared on our currency for the first time the year following their deaths.

James A. Garfield was shot on July 2, 1881, his first year in office, and died on September 19, 1881. His portrait appeared on the \$5 National Bank Notes of 1882 and the \$20 Gold Certificates of 1882.

Ulysses S. Grant died on July 23, 1885. His portrait appeared on the first \$5 Silver Certificates. These were issued the following year as the Series of 1886.

Benjamin Harrison died March 13, 1901. His portrait appeared on the \$5 National Bank Notes of the Third Charter Period which were issued the following year as the Series of 1902.

William McKinley was shot on September 6, 1901, and died on September 14, 1901. His portrait appeared on the \$10 National Bank Notes of the Third Charter Period which were issued the following year as the Series of 1902.

Vice-President *Thomas A. Hendricks* died in 1885 after serving for eight months under Grover Cleveland. His portrait appeared on the \$10 Silver Certificates which were issued the following year as the Series of 1886.

PORTRAITS

GEORGE WASHINGTON

1789—1797

The same portrait is used on each type, denomination, and series of currency on which he appears. However, in 10 series (1869, 1874, 1875, 1878, 1880, 1896, 1905, 1906, 1917, and 1922) he faces left; in four series (1882, 1899, 1918, and 1923) he faces right.

He appears on five types (Legal Tender Notes, Silver Certificates, National Bank Notes (back), Federal Reserve Notes, and Gold Certificates), four denominations (\$1, \$2, \$5, and \$20), and 14 series of currency.

THOMAS JEFFERSON

1801—1809

He appears on two types (Legal Tender Notes and Federal Reserve Bank Notes), one denomination (\$2), and seven series of currency (1869, 1874, 1875, 1878, 1880, 1917, and 1918).

JAMES MADISON

1809—1817

The same portrait is used on each type and series of currency on which he appears.

He appears on three types (Legal Tender Notes, Federal Reserve Notes, and Gold Certificates), one denomination (\$5,000), and four series of currency (1878, 1882, 1888, and 1918).

JAMES MONROE

1817—1825

He appears on one type (Silver Certificates), one denomination (\$100), and three series of currency (1878, 1880 Certificates of Deposit, and 1891).

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS

1825—1829

He appears on one type (Legal Tender Notes), one denomination (\$500), and one series of currency (1869).

ANDREW JACKSON

1829—1837

The same portrait is used on each type, denomination, and series of currency on which he appears.

He appears on four types (Legal Tender Notes, Federal Reserve Bank Notes, Federal Reserve Notes, and Gold Certificates), three denominations (\$5, \$10, and \$10,000), and 12 series of currency (1869, 1875, 1878, 1880, 1882, 1888, 1900, 1907, 1914, 1915, 1918, and 1923).

He is the only President to appear on two denominations (\$5 and \$10,000) of the same type (Legal Tender Notes) of the same series (1878).

No other President appears on three denominations of the same type currency (Legal Tender Notes).



One dollar Silver Certificate, reverse of Educational Note, portraits of George and Martha Washington



Two dollar Federal Reserve Bank Note, Series of 1918, portrait of Jefferson



Five dollar United States Note, Series of 1907, portrait of Jackson

ABRAHAM LINCOLN
1861—1865

Three portraits of Lincoln are used on our currency. The first appears on the Demand Notes of 1861 and Legal Tender Notes of 1862 and 1863. The second appears on all other notes except the Gold Certificates of 1882 and 1922.

He appears on six types (Demand Notes, Legal Tender Notes, Silver Certificates, Federal Reserve Bank Notes, Federal Reserve Notes, and Gold Certificates), five denominations (\$1, \$5, \$10, \$100, and \$500), and 14 series

of currency (1861, 1862, 1863, 1869, 1875, 1878, 1880, 1882, 1899, 1914, 1915, 1918, 1922, and 1923).

His portrait appears on more types of currency than any other President.

ULYSSES S. GRANT
1869—1877

The same portrait is used on each type, denomination, and series of currency on which he appears. In the 1899 Series he faces left, on all others he faces right.



One dollar Silver Certificate, Series of 1899, portraits of Lincoln and Grant



Five dollar National Bank Note, Second Charter Period, portrait of Garfield



Twenty dollar Federal Reserve Note, Series of 1914, portrait of Cleveland

He appears on four types (Silver Certificates, Federal Reserve Bank Notes, Federal Reserve Notes, and Gold Certificates), three denominations (\$1, \$5, and \$50), and eight series of currency (1886, 1891, 1896 (back), 1899, 1913, 1914, 1918, and 1922).

JAMES A. GARFIELD

1881

Different portraits are used on the two types of currency (National Bank Notes and Gold Certificates) on which he appears.

He appears on two denominations (\$5 and \$20), and one series of currency (1882).

GROVER CLEVELAND

1885—1889 and 1893—1897

He appears on two types (Federal Reserve Bank Notes and Federal Reserve Notes), one denomination (\$20), and three series of currency (1914, 1915, and 1918).

BENJAMIN HARRISON

1889—1893

He appears on one type (National Bank Notes), one denomination (\$5), and one series of currency (1902).

WILLIAM MCKINLEY

1897—1901

He appears on one type (National Bank Notes), one denomination (\$10), and one series of currency (1902).

VICE-PRESIDENT THOMAS A. HENDRICKS

1885

He appears on one type (Silver Certificates), one denomination (\$10), and three series of currency (1886, 1891, and 1908).

Type	Denomination	Series	President
Demand Notes	\$10	1861	Lincoln
Legal Tender Notes	\$1	1869	Washington
Legal Tender Notes	\$1	1874	Washington
Legal Tender Notes	\$1	1875	Washington
Legal Tender Notes	\$1	1878	Washington
Legal Tender Notes	\$1	1880	Washington
Legal Tender Notes	\$1	1917	Washington
Legal Tender Notes	\$1	1923	Washington
Legal Tender Notes	\$2	1869	Jefferson
Legal Tender Notes	\$2	1874	Jefferson
Legal Tender Notes	\$2	1875	Jefferson
Legal Tender Notes	\$2	1878	Jefferson
Legal Tender Notes	\$2	1880	Jefferson
Legal Tender Notes	\$2	1917	Jefferson
Legal Tender Notes	\$5	1869	Jackson
Legal Tender Notes	\$5	1875	Jackson
Legal Tender Notes	\$5	1878	Jackson
Legal Tender Notes	\$5	1880	Jackson
Legal Tender Notes	\$10	1862	Lincoln
Legal Tender Notes	\$10	1863	Lincoln
Legal Tender Notes	\$10	1923	Jackson
Legal Tender Notes	\$100	1869	Lincoln
Legal Tender Notes	\$100	1875	Lincoln
Legal Tender Notes	\$100	1878	Lincoln
Legal Tender Notes	\$100	1880	Lincoln
Legal Tender Notes	\$500	1869	Adams
Legal Tender Notes	\$5,000	1878	Madison
Legal Tender Notes	\$10,000	1878	Jackson
Silver Certificates	\$1	1896	Washington (back)
Silver Certificates	\$1	1899	Lincoln
Silver Certificates	\$1	1899	Grant
Silver Certificates	\$1	1923	Washington
Silver Certificates	\$2	1899	Washington
Silver Certificates	\$5	1886	Grant
Silver Certificates	\$5	1891	Grant
Silver Certificates	\$5	1896	Grant (back)
Silver Certificates	\$5	1923	Lincoln
Silver Certificates	\$100	1878	Monroe
Silver Certificates	\$100	1880	Monroe
Silver Certificates	\$100	1891	Monroe
National Bank Notes	\$5	1882	Garfield
National Bank Notes	\$5	1882	Washington (back)
National Bank Notes	\$5	1902	Harrison
National Bank Notes	\$10	1902	McKinley
Federal Reserve Bank Notes	\$1	1918	Washington
Federal Reserve Bank Notes	\$2	1918	Jefferson
Federal Reserve Bank Notes	\$5	1915	Lincoln
Federal Reserve Bank Notes	\$5	1918	Lincoln
Federal Reserve Bank Notes	\$10	1915	Jackson
Federal Reserve Bank Notes	\$10	1918	Jackson
Federal Reserve Bank Notes	\$20	1915	Cleveland
Federal Reserve Bank Notes	\$20	1918	Cleveland
Federal Reserve Bank Notes	\$50	1918	Grant
Federal Reserve Notes	\$5	1914	Lincoln
Federal Reserve Notes	\$10	1914	Jackson
Federal Reserve Notes	\$20	1914	Cleveland
Federal Reserve Notes	\$50	1914	Grant
Federal Reserve Notes	\$5,000	1918	Madison
Gold Certificates	\$20	1882	Garfield
Gold Certificates	\$20	1905	Washington
Gold Certificates	\$20	1906	Washington
Gold Certificates	\$20	1922	Washington
Gold Certificates	\$50	1913	Grant
Gold Certificates	\$50	1922	Grant
Gold Certificates	\$500	1882	Lincoln
Gold Certificates	\$500	1922	Lincoln
Gold Certificates	\$5,000	1882	Madison

Gold Certificates	\$5,000	1888	Madison
Gold Certificates	\$10,000	1882	Jackson
Gold Certificates	\$10,000	1888	Jackson
Gold Certificates	\$10,000	1900	Jackson

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The World Book Encyclopedia, Field Enterprises Educational Corporation, Chicago, 1962.

Looking at Literature

A History of the Regular Banknote Issues of South Africa, by Walter Bergman, 21 mimeographed pages, no illustrations, not priced, 1967. Privately printed and obtainable from Walter Bergman, 5 the Clovers, Culver St. Orangezicht, Cape Town, Republic of South Africa.

Walter Bergman, president of the South African Numismatic Society and one of the world's leading collectors of the bank notes of South Africa, has produced the first booklet listing its lengthy series of banks and their notes from the 1782 issues of the Dutch East India Co. through the present "mini" rand notes of the Republic of South Africa. It is interesting that Mr. Bergman's wife is a direct descendant of the owners of the now liquidated Barry and Nephews Bank of the Cape of Good Hope, which issued a number of colorful notes.

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WANTED

Current Size Error Notes—all denominations. Describe completely with asking price. Will trade errors, silver certificates, or coins.

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