

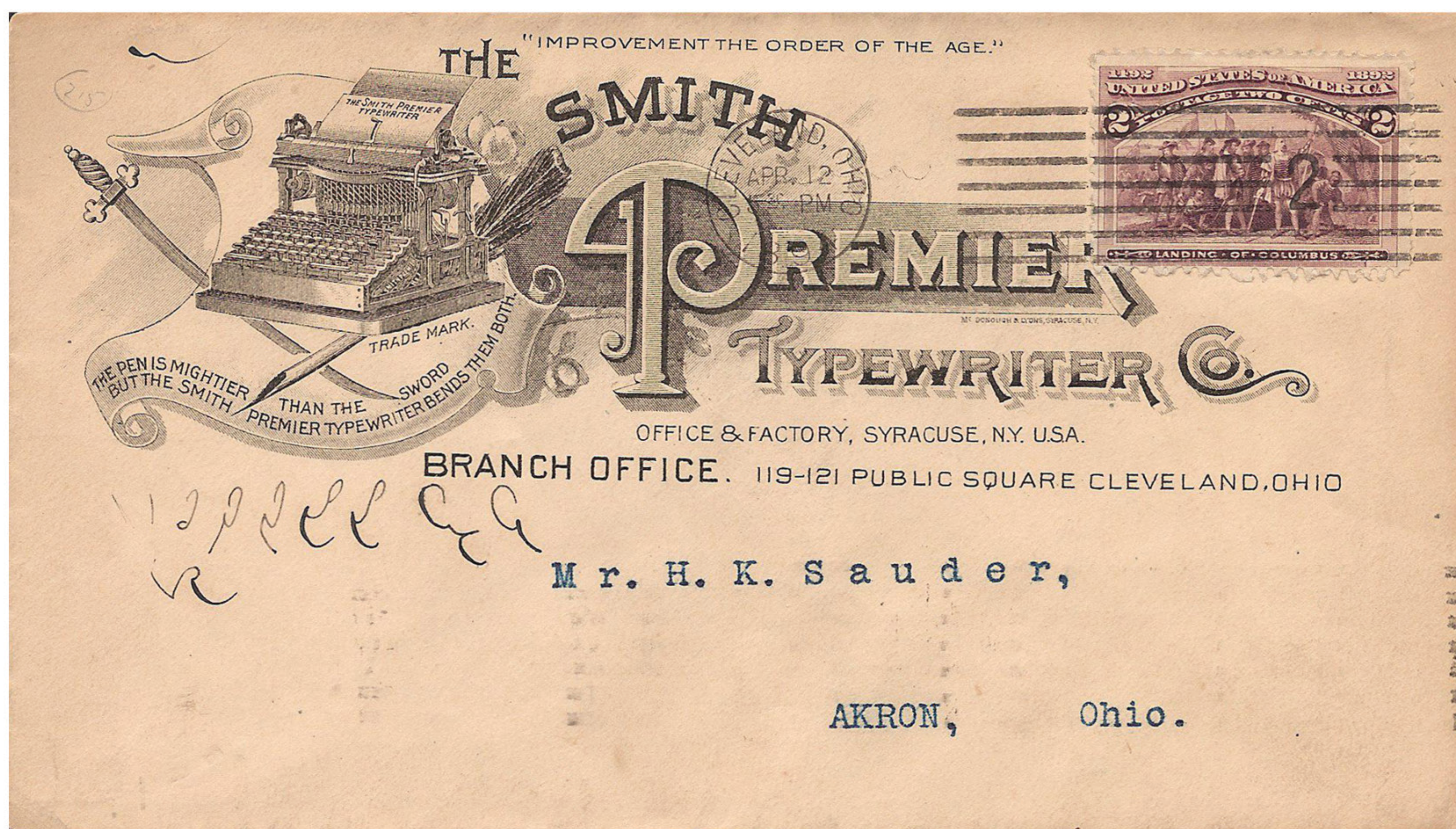
TYPEWRITERS

There are hundreds of poster stamps depicting typewriters or accessories, particularly from Germany. These all U.S. stamps and an illustrated cover depict typewriters under the names of Remington, Smith Premier and Monarch. All three of these brands were part of the Union Typewriter Company, a huge trust that resulted from the mergers of these and several other brands.



E. Remington and Sons, makers of the eponymous rifle, marketed the first commercial typewriter in 1873. Due to money problems, Remington sold the typewriter division in 1888, although the name was kept. Remington Typewriter was the principal investor of the Union Typewriter trust formed in 1893. Here are two versions of a seal distributed c. 1902.

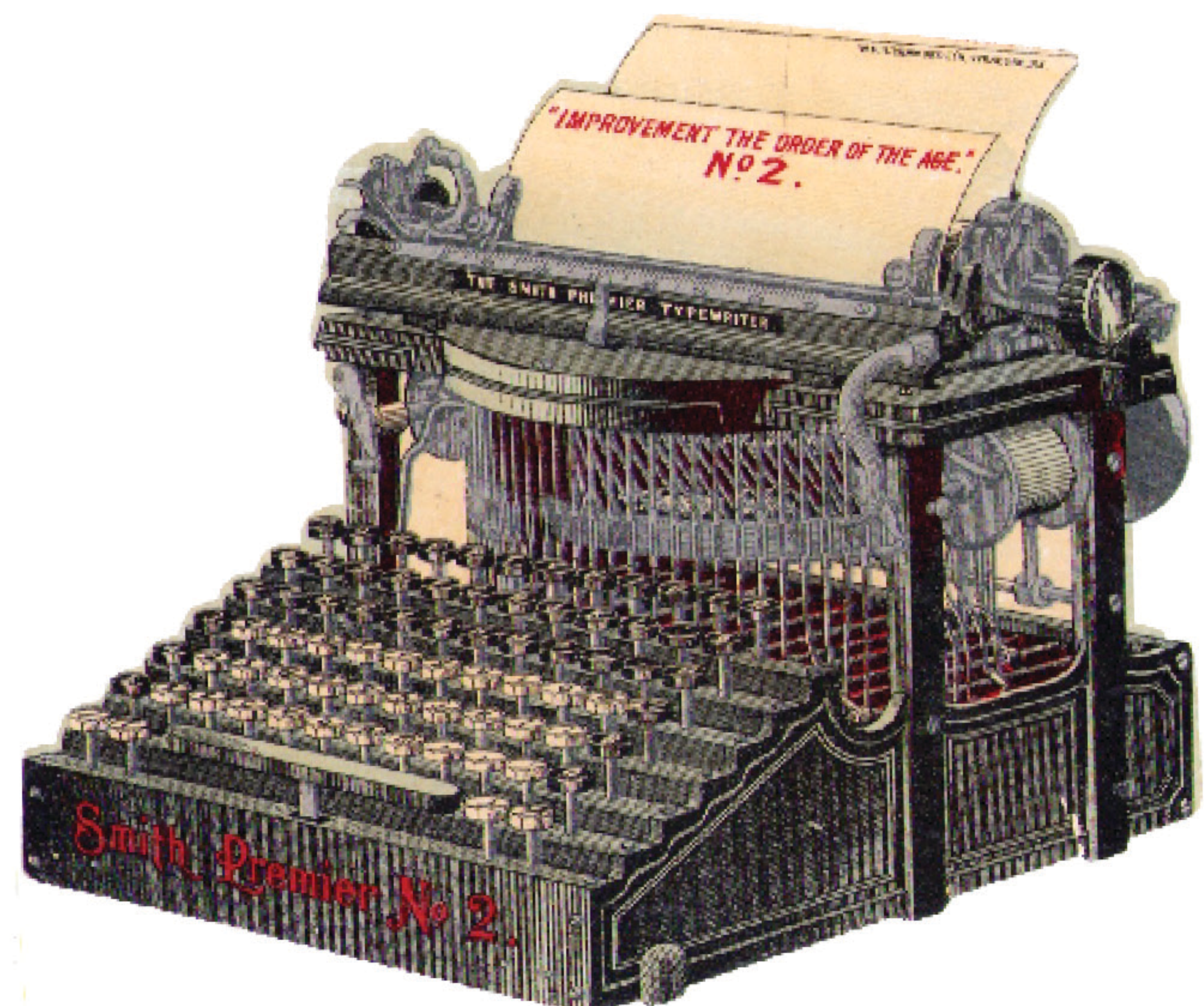
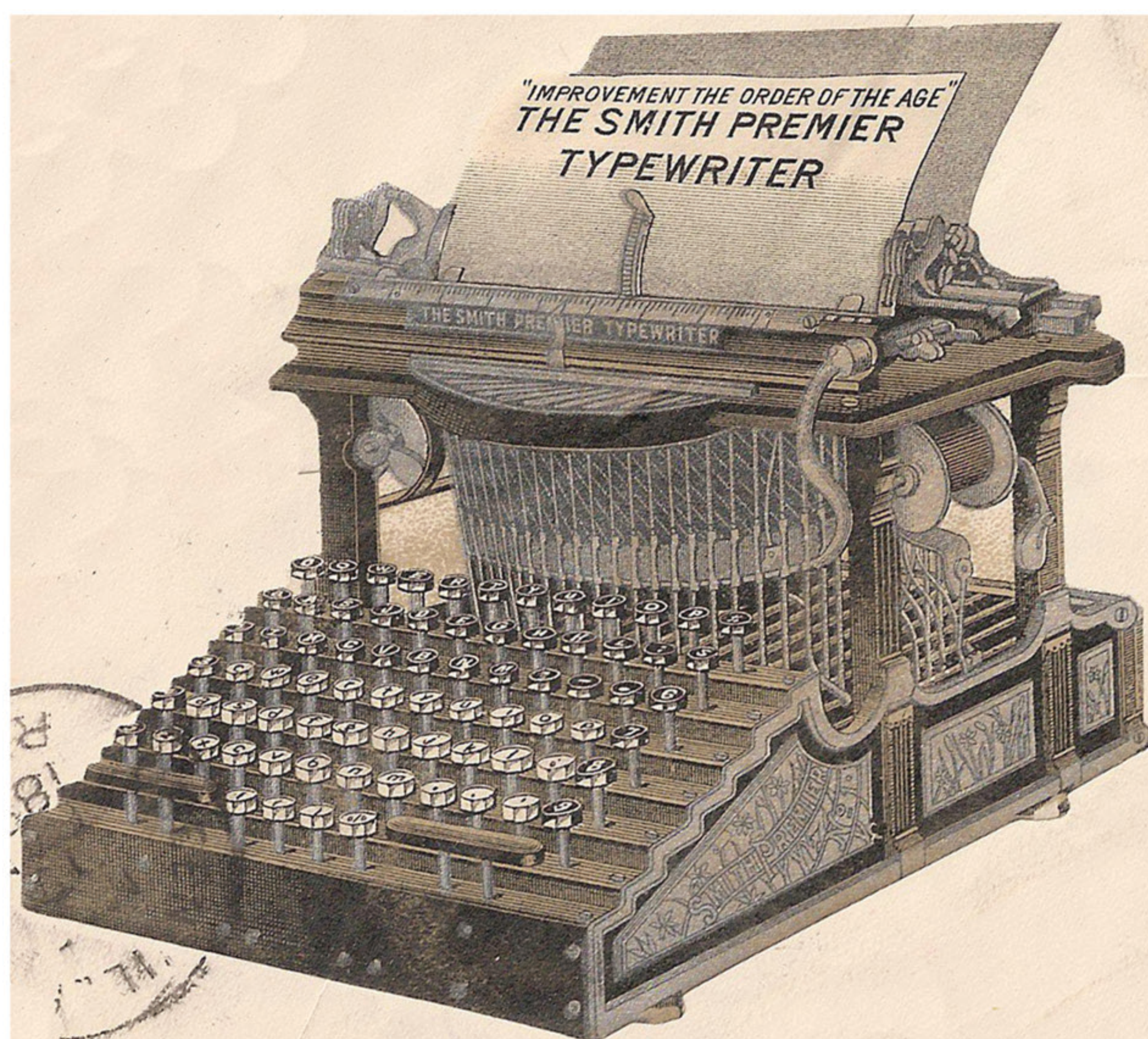
SEALS ARE BOTH DIE-CUT, 2" DIAM.



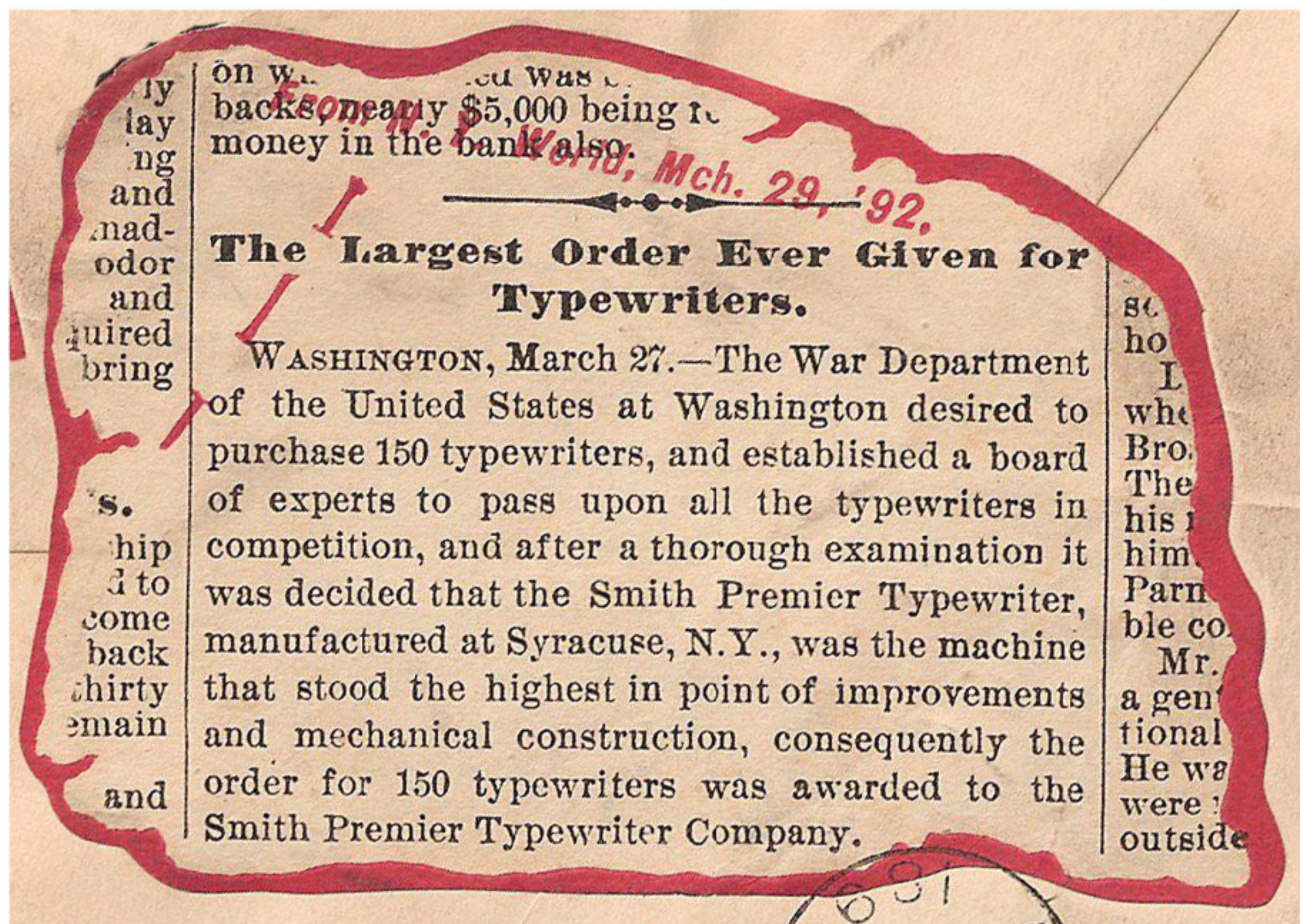
The Smith Premier Typewriter Company joined the Trust when it was created in 1893 as well.

The labels shown below may occasionally be found on cards or covers, usually as a letter seal on the reverse. These are seen 1896-04 for Smith Premier Model No.2. In 1903 the founders, the Smith Brothers, left to start a new company, which eventually became Smith-Corona. The Union trust kept selling models under the Smith Premier name.

ILLUSTRATED COMMERCIAL COVER MAILED APRIL 12, 1894 FROM CLEVELAND BRANCH OFFICE. SHOWN AT 90%.



AT LEFT: ENGRAVED, BLACK, NOT DIE-CUT [CUT-OUT?]. ON THE RIGHT, DIE-CUT, MULTI-COLOR WITH GLOSSY CLEAR COAT. AT THE UPPER RIGHT CORNER: W.H.H. CHAMBERLIN, SYRACUSE, NY. SHOWN AT 90%.



SEAL FROM A COVER BACK, LATE 1890'S

At left, a letter seal was printed to look like an article torn from a newspaper, with red edge and overprint "From N.Y. World, Mch. 29, '92." It is bragging that Smith Premier Typewriter was chosen for an order of 150 by the War Department.

The Monarch "Visible" was arranged so that the person typing could watch the result happening on the paper, something that we take for granted which was not common for the earliest typewriters. Monarch was a brand name made up by the Union company for the sake of having a visible model to sell and compete.



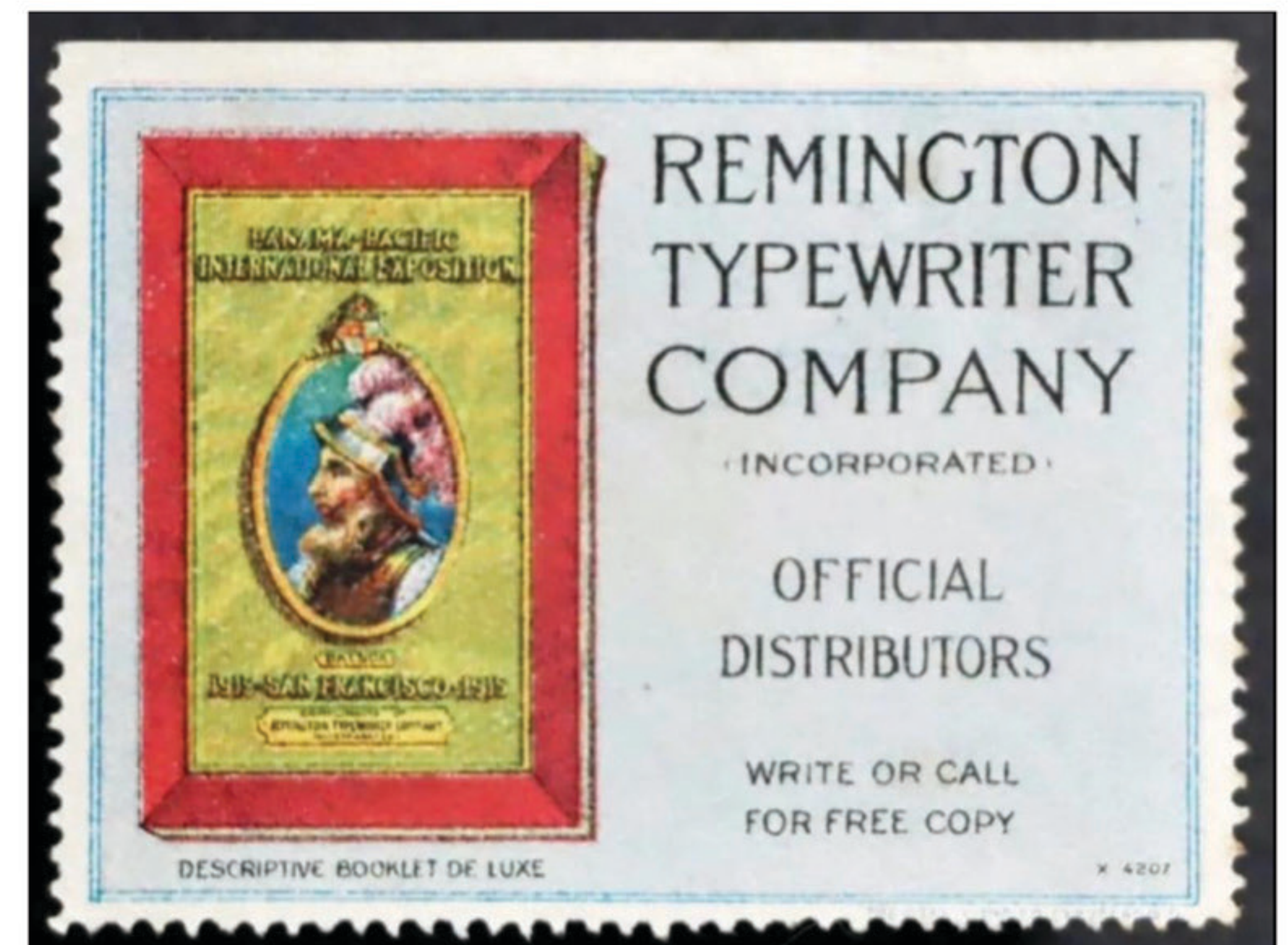
The poster stamp for the Monarch Visible No. 1 is replicated on the carriage's paper support at top left of the picture. This model came out in 1904.

Note the poster stamp seal is on the carriage cover at very top left in the photo.

PHOTO OF A MODEL 1 MONARCH.

By 1913, the Trust was in the first stages of dissolution and re-organizing and eventually became, once again, the Remington Typewriter Company. The full story of the Trust is rather complex but it is interesting to see the Cinderella evidence of its existence.

See the Poster Stamp Bulletin #324 of February 2024 for another cover (dated 1904) which shows a Smith Premier Model #2 stamp on the front.



REMINGTON STAMP FROM 1915, PRINTED FOR THE PAN PACIFIC WORLD'S FAIR, ONE OF TWO SIZES.

-- Art Groten, Tom Minor