

## A Thanksgiving Mishap By Patrick Crosby

This 1911 postcard calls itself “Hand-embossed,” and it does have a very nice colorless basket-weave border embossed around the edges. This comic card was manufactured in Germany, as were many of our postcards before World War I. The scene depicted is vibrantly hand-colored.



But something bad happened to this card and Chicago Post Office says “Don’t blame us” by using the red auxiliary marking “Received in bad condition at Chicago, Ill. P.O. 1 M.D.” A corner of the card had been nearly detached and was repaired enough by the post office to be mailable by using 1½ Post Office Seals, Scott OX13. Since 1877 Post Office Seals were issued to larger post offices to “seal” the flaps of envelopes which were accidentally mailed unsealed, became unsealed during transit, or for those intentionally opened by the post office, for example censored envelopes or by mistake. Seals were also meant to be used for mail repairs, as in this case. The 2019 Scott U.S. Specialized Catalog values OX13 mint or used at just \$.25. However, on cover it is valued at \$25.00.

Whether you like turkey, or “don’t like no turkey” as the scared little boy exclaims, have a Happy Thanksgiving!

**Patrick Crosby** is a member of the Nevada Stamp Study Society and collects U.S. postal cards, especially used, including first days; the 1886 Grant Letter Card (or Sheet); UC16, the first U.S. aérogram; and postal history on business or picture post cards.