

ART. 22. The holes or perforations in the edges of the case must in no instance be burned, but should be made with an awl or bit of suitable size; and the wire to be used should be of a size of not less than No. 16 (wire gauge), and where wire cord is used the same should be of at least equal strength.

When adjusted in the manner indicated, the wire or cord will then be tightly drawn, and the two ends will be brought together at a point within the space to be covered by the case stamp. The ends will then be securely knotted or twisted together and countersunk in the wood at the point indicated and below the surface to which the stamp is to be affixed, and will be secured in place by a small wire staple or nail.

ART. 23. After the cases have been so wired or corded and inspected by the officer, the case stamp will then be affixed so that the fastened ends of the wire or cord will be under the central portion of the stamp.

Stamps to be affixed to cases.

At the time of canceling the stamps so affixed, and before the same are varnished, the officer will require the corners of each such stamp (for a distance of about three-fourths of an inch on either side) to be impressed or sunk into the wood with a steel die in order to prevent any tampering with the fastenings below the stamp. The face of the die should be either crosscut or so marked as to leave an uneven surface on that portion of the stamp so impressed into the wood; and the tacks to be driven into the corners of the stamps will, in such cases, be driven in the central portion of the stamp covered by the die. To hold the wire in place, and thus prevent injury to the case stamp, the sides and ends of the cases should be grooved on a line between the perforated edges and sufficiently deep to allow the wire to sink below the surface of the case. The wire may also be secured in place within an inch of each side of the stamp by small wire staples; and where large cases are used the wire in like manner will be secured at different points. But not more than one staple will be allowed for each side of the case (except the stamp side, as above indicated), and the staples must be so driven as to permit the wire being readily drawn through the same sufficiently far to enable the customs officer to make the required inspection of the cases on their arrival at the port of export.

ART. 24. The labor and expense attending the fastening of the cases will in every instance be borne by the distiller, and the storekeeper in charge of the bottling warehouse will see that all cases containing spirits for export are wired or corded strictly in accordance with the foregoing instructions.

TEMPORARY STORAGE OF DISTILLED SPIRITS BOTTLED IN BOND FOR EXPORT.

ART. 25. To enable distillers and owners of distilled spirits bottled in bond for export to keep on hand a

Int. Rev. Circular 745.