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CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN

Maple Leaves

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Whole No. 215
Vol. 20 No. 11
October 1987



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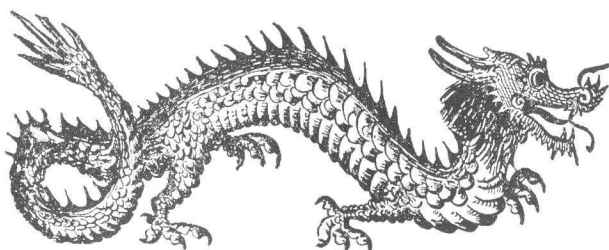
EDITORIAL

As most journal editors will attest, they are haunted by the twin spectres of 'feast' and 'famine'; usually the latter.

Since taking over the editorship of 'Maple Leaves', it has been my good fortune to receive sufficient material to enable me to make some choices within each issue in an effort to produce a balanced journal. In this situation it is inevitable that some articles are a long time between acceptance and publication. I should therefore like to stress that articles are not published (a) in order of quality or (b) in order of receipt; the article that arrived last week might be just the length required to fill the last page and a half of the current journal – expediency rules, O.K?

Having said all this, no one should be deluded into thinking that there is a huge pile of articles in the Editor's in-tray just waiting for the scissors and paste. Fresh articles are always welcome and by giving your Editor a little leeway in the matter of choice it is to be hoped that a better journal will be the result.

Finally, if you feel your pet subject is being ignored, please write and let me know. No guarantees of course but there may be someone, somewhere who can produce the very article. Meanwhile we are continuing the series of 'primer' articles, aimed at newer members, which we hope will build into a useful reference series for future new members as well.



WANTED! CANADA FIRST DAY COVERS

Up till now I have done very little advertising. The results from previous attempts were just too discouraging. Either the covers I want are non-existent or collectors would not part with them. The response to an unplanned advertisement for cinderellas in the April 1987 Maple Leaves, however, was such a surprise that it has encouraged me to launch this all-out effort!

Twenty-two years ago I began a reference collection of first day covers. This project is now 75% complete and I am anxious to put the finishing touches to it. FDC's of the following issues – especially higher values – are urgently needed:

Queen Victoria *Jubilees*, Leaves and Numerals
1898 Maps
Edwards
Quebecs
Admirals

Covers should be in good condition but not necessarily with cachets just as long as the postmarks are clear and authentic.

If any lucky readers have any of the above and will swap them for money, please do not hesitate to take advantage of me. Even if your treasures are not for sale, you can still contribute to the project by letting me record them. If, in the unlikely event, someone has a substantial holding to sell, please provide me with the ablibi to travel (stopping over in gaie Paree)!

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POSTAGE DUE 1 CENT RATE by Gib Wallace

Inspired by an enclosure in a letter from Ken Barlow of a 1 cent Postage Due photostat, I started to think 'Whatever happened to the 1 cent rate'. Its use has diminished to the extent that it is almost extinct. Extracting everything from my collection to do with this rate, spreading them out in date order, I found that between 1910 and 1941 there was a considerable amount, but after this I had nothing. Looking through a file of photostats, Maple Leaves, Topics, The Admiral Rate Study by Steinhart and the new publication of Canadian Postage Due Stamps by Chung and Reiche I came up with the grand total of three, two re-directed drop letters in 1956 and a similar item dated 1963.



Figure 1

The two main reasons for a 1 cent rate have been clearly and concisely stated by Dr. Hollingworth in Maple Leaves Vol. 12 page 40 and by Trelle Morrow in Topics Vol. 39 No. 6; but in a nutshell, they are:-

1. Re-directed drop letters upgraded to domestic rate.
2. Returned 3rd class or printed matter.

The re-directed mail is straightforward and exists throughout the span of the drop letter charge. Returning 3rd class mail to sender is a little more complex as there are various forms of 3rd class mail. There are the unsealed envelopes, permit stamped mail, invitation post cards and postal wrappers used on periodicals and magazines. The charge of 1 cent for the returned item was practical for deleting names for mailing lists; thereby saving money.

There are then, as always, a few differences. The first to catch my eye was a post card, see fig. 1, mailed in Winnipeg 1914 with a 1 cent American stamp. It was handstamped HELD FOR POSTAGE and sent to the Winnipeg Dead Letter Office. From there it was received at the Kingston D.L.O. to be forwarded to Bloomfield for collection with the payment of 1 cent postage due. Should this have been taxed double?

The next oddment was a card handstamped RETURNED FOR WAR TAX and dated June 13 1916, but it only reached Kingston D.L.O., July 1, see fig. 2. There is no receiving mark at Wolfe Island but 1 cent tax has been charged. Again should this have been double taxed?

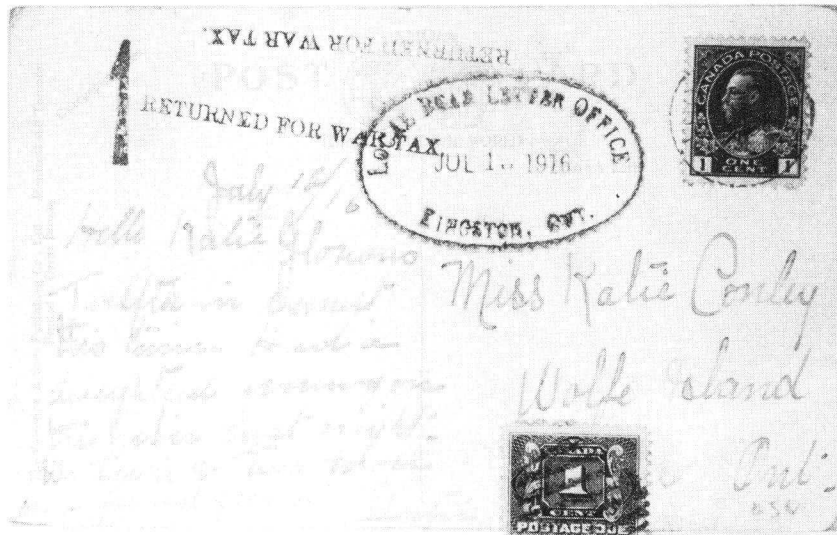


Figure 2

A recently acquired item is a 1910 post card with a 1 cent Edward affixed to the front or picture side, lightly machine cancelled and slightly tied. As this practice was acceptable with no ruling against the frontal

side being used, it can merely be classed as a postmaster's error, postage due having been levied, see fig. 3. It would appear to be intended for a French speaking gentleman with a box number, probably in St. Boniface, but was carried across the river for posting. It went to the Winnipeg D.L.O. Sept. 23 and was handstamped RETURNED FOR POSTAGE. The 1 cent due stamp was cancelled by a D.L.O. circular date stamp. To my reckoning this should not have been taxed if the 1 cent Edward is for real; if unnoticed, should it have been double taxed? The answer seems to be that HELD and RETURNED items were singly taxed.



Figure 3

In the collection of Spethro Pefhany of Toronto there is a splendid China to Canada cover underpaid the equivalent of ½ cent, with a double levy it creates a 1 cent rate, see fig. 4. He also has a U.S. to Canada cover meter stamped twice to make a 2 cent rate, but the rate should be 3 cents. This was singly taxed 1 cent. 75 percent of cross border mail after 1923 was misrated by American postmasters.

From time to time we all get covers that bother us, something is wrong but unsolved. One such item is shown in fig. 5, wherein a re-directed 3rd class item has been taxed 1 cent. This surely is wrong. Fig. 6 is a contrived cover by Mr. Cole of Granville Ferry. He was a stamp dealer of repute during the thirties and forties. He obviously posted a few of these to himself across the river knowing them to be sent back and the Granville Ferry postmaster, by agreement, would use bi-sected 2 cent stamps.



Figure 4



Figure 5

I would be very pleased to hear from anyone with such items, preferably with photostats. There must be some scope!!

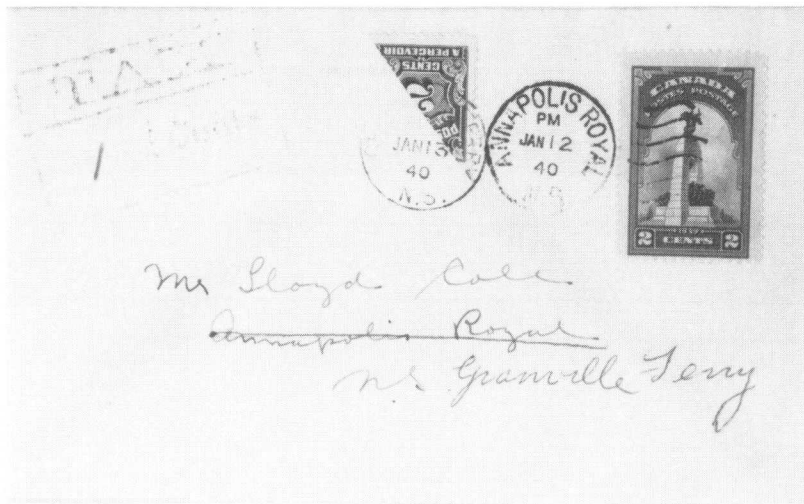


Figure 6

SOUTH-WEST SEMINAR

Following the excellent lead given by the London Group, the South-West Group held an afternoon seminar as part of the Bristol and District Federation's Annual Convention at Portishead on Sunday 9 August.

The superstitious may have jibbed at the number (13) in attendance but the delegates considered themselves lucky to see no less than eight varied displays in the space of four hours.

Ernest Dickenson from Cheltenham proved to be the anchor man with no less than three displays, on Revenue Stamps, Booklet Panes and B.C. Law Stamps. Brian Stalker chugged up from Tonbridge with some RPO's while Reg Lyon and Neil Prior crossed the Severn Bridge to show Meter Marks and Yukon Postmarks respectively. Lew Warren came over from Worthing with a classical touch, the 17c Value of the 1859 Issue, whilst your Editor showed the flag with an exhibit of 1941 'Enlist Now' slogans.

Apart from the 'locals' we were pleased to welcome members who had travelled from Woodford Green, Brixham, Sutton Courtenay and Reading. Whilst the room ventilation left something to be desired, the opportunity to see so much in so short a space of time was a valuable one.

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CANADIAN LETTER RATES TO THE U.K., THE U.S. TRANSIT FEE AND THE CUNARD SURTAX (Part 2) by George B. Arfken

Figure 5. shows a mourning cover dated NO 18 71 with the 6c Canadian packet rate paid with two 3c Small Queens.

As a reminder that the primary factor behind the Cunard surtax was the U.S. transit fee and not a matter of Canadian packet vs. British packet, consider the cover shown in Figure 6. The cover was posted in Halifax MR 25 70. A red postmark PAID LIVERPOOL BR. PACKET 6 AP 70 shows that it was carried on a British packet (but at the Canadian packet rate). Picked up in Halifax, the cover did not traverse the U.S. and was not subject to the U.S. transit fee or the Cunard surtax. From p.382 of Arnell's tables⁷ and the Duckworths' tables (p.454 of reference 3) the cover went on the Inman steamer 'Etna' which sailed from Halifax March 25, 1870 and arrived in Queenstown April 5.



Fig. 5. 6c Canadian packet rate to England, NO 18 71.

A note of caution about this BR. PACKET postmark. The Inman Line (British) held the contract for the Halifax – Queenstown route through June 1871. In July 1871 the route was taken over by the Allan Line (Canadian). Nevertheless the Liverpool post office continued to apply the same BR. PACKET postmark even though the packets were Canadian. This writer has a cover carried on the Allan packet 'Austrian' from Halifax, NO 4 73. The Liverpool post office stamped the cover PAID LIVERPOOL BR. PACKET 14 NO 73.



Fig. 6. 6c British packet rate from Halifax, N.S., MR 25 70.

A most unusual example of the Cunard surtax is shown in Figure 7. Mailed from Ottawa, JY 23 74 (backstamp), the cover was addressed simply "London". As this was official business the Canadian postage was waived. But the Cunard surtax to cover the U.S. transit fee still had to be paid. The Ottawa civil servant carefully placed a 2c Small Queen in the upper left corner of the cover to pay the Cunard surtax and mailed the cover off to London. The Ottawa postal clerk cancelled the 2c Small Queen, stamped the cover 'MORE-TO-PAY 3' and then sent the cover on to London, Ontario. (The 3 was calculated as 5c for an unpaid or underpaid domestic letter less the 2c paid.) In London, Ontario the postal clerk scratched out the 3, wrote "Try England" and sent the cover on to Hamilton, Ont. (backstamp) to be made up for the mail to England. Regrettably there is no backstamp to confirm that the cover ever got to London, England.

On September 1, 1875 the Canadian Post Office issued Department Order No. 15.⁸ At the end of a long series of numbered paragraphs, almost as an afterthought, there appeared the announcements

It has been arranged that the postage rate on letters passing between Canada and the United Kingdom shall from and after 1st

October, 1875, be an uniform rate of 2 pence halfpenny sterling, equal to five cents Canada currency, per half ounce, by whatever route sent or received, whether by Canada Packet direct, or by closed mails via the United States.

A five cent postage stamp for the convenience of the public in prepaying the five cent rate on letters addressed to the United Kingdom after 1st October, is being prepared and will be issued as soon as ready.

Because of questions over sea transit reimbursement and voting rights, France and Spain had blocked Canada from immediate entry into the newly formed General Postal Union. This new 5c rate was a preferred rate matching the 5c rate of the General Postal Union (later renamed the Universal Postal Union).

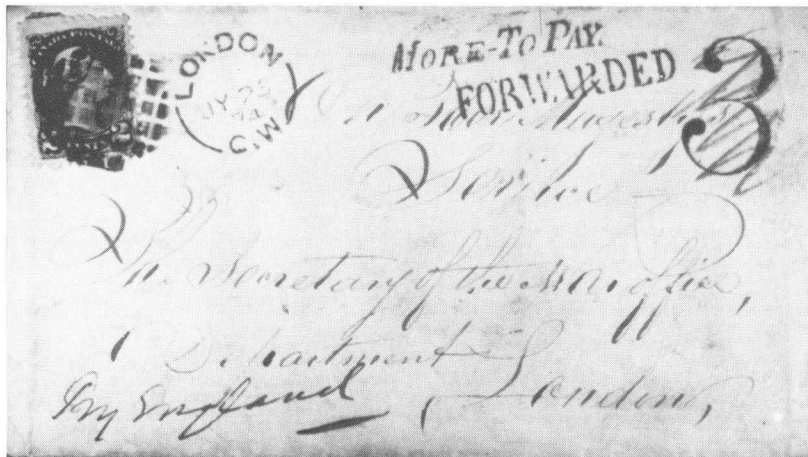


Fig. 7. 2c Cunard surtax. From Ottawa, JY 23 74.

Figure 8. shows an example of the new preferred rate. The cover was mailed at Halifax DE 8 75 with the 5c preferred rate paid with a 5c Large Queen. This was the stamp promised by Department Order No. 15. The die for the 5c Large Queen had been engraved at the time the other Large Queen dies were made. It was expected then that the 5c Large Queen would pay the pre-Confederation 5c domestic rate. Because the domestic rate was reduced from 5c to 3c per half oz., the 5c rate and the need for 5c stamps disappeared. No 5c Large Queens had been produced. With the introduction of the 5c preferred rate there was a sudden need for 5c stamps and the 5c Large Queens were rushed into production.



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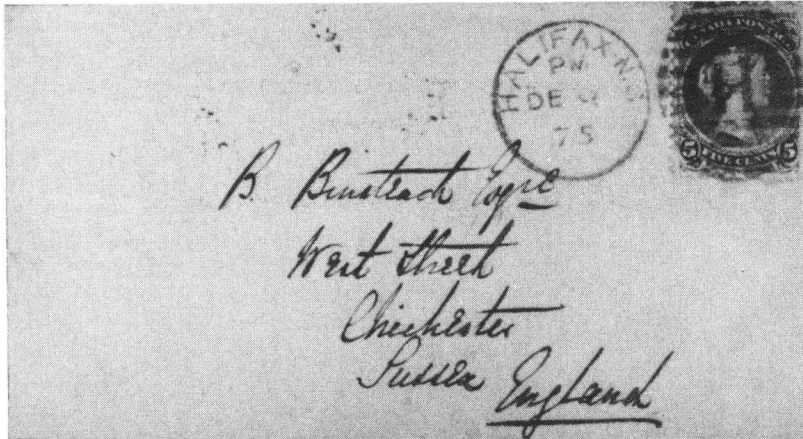


Fig. 8. 5c preferred rate to England. From Halifax, N.S., DE 8 75.

This 5c preferred rate was extended to Newfoundland, January 1, 1877 and to Germany, April 1, 1877.

After announcing the 5c preferred rate Department Order No. 15. added

This reduction will not for the present affect the charges sent or received by way of England to or from foreign countries or places beyond sea.

The Cunard surtax ended October 1, 1875 for Canadian letters to the U.K. However, the above statement from Department Order No. 15. meant that the Cunard surtax continued to be levied on letters from Canada going via New York and England to destinations beyond England. Figure 9 shows a cover from Montreal dated FE 19 78 to Belgium with the 2c Cunard surtax paid. (At this time the Canadian packet rate to Belgium was 10c per half oz.) Could this have been a 2c overpayment for convenience? That payment for the New York route was deliberate is clear from the endorsement on the bottom left: "Via N. York and England". The probable reason for specifying the more expensive New York route is found in Arnell's tables.⁷ Reference to p.360 shows that the next Canadian packet was the Peruvian sailing from Halifax February 24, a long five days later. This 2c per half oz. Cunard surtax on letters going via New York and England to destinations beyond England continued until Canada adhered to the Universal Postal Union rate schedule.

On August 1, 1878 with French and Spanish objections withdrawn, Canada adhered to the Universal Postal Union rate schedule.^{9,10} The 5c preferred rate became the 5c UPU rate. Transit fees were not abolished but, by the GPU and the UPU treaties,¹¹ the land transit rate was set at a relatively low 2 francs per kilogram or 1.2c per oz.

To provide an overall view, and for convenient reference, the U.S. transit fees, the Canada – U.K. postal rates and the Cunard surtax for the years 1868 – 1878 are summarized below.

Effective date	U.S. transit charge	Cunard rate (via New York) per ½ oz.	Canadian packet rate per ½ oz.	Cunard surtax per ½ oz.
1 Jan 1868 ¹	1½c per single letter	(17c)	(12½c)	(4½c)
16 Jan 1868 ²		15c	12½c	2½c
1 Jan 1869 ⁴	3¾c per oz.			
1 Jan 1870 ⁵		8c ⁶	6c	2c
1 Oct 1875 ⁸		5c	5c	zero
1 Aug 1878 ^{9, 10, 11}	1.2c per oz.	5c	5c	zero

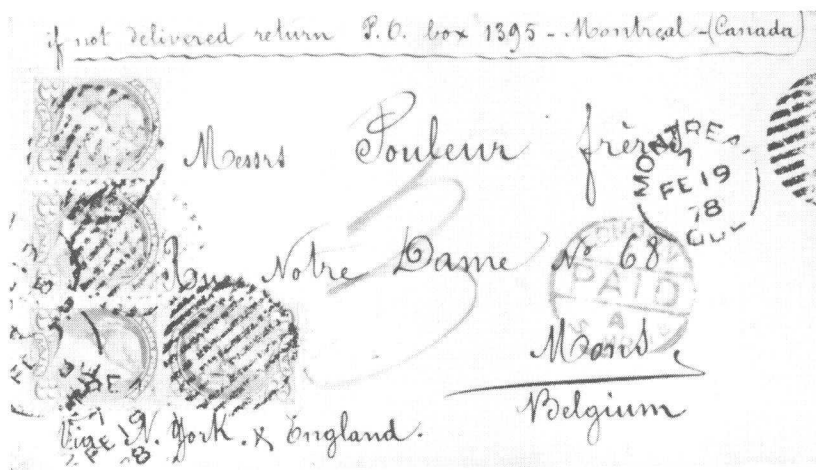


Fig. 9. To Belgium, 2c Cunard surtax levied. From Montreal, Que., FE 19 78.

References

1. Postal Convention between the U.K. and the U.S. Signed in London 18 June 1867 and in Washington 8 July 1867. Effective 1 January 1868. U.S. National Archives. Reprinted in Report of the (U.S.) Postmaster General, 1867, p. 97-100.

2. (Canadian) Department Circular No. 1., 16 January 1868. National Postal Museum Library, Ottawa.
3. "The Large Queen Stamps of Canada and Their Use, 1868 – 1872", H.E. and H.W. Duckworth (1986).
4. Postal Convention between the U.K. and the U.S. Signed in London 7 Nov 1868 and in Washington 24 Nov 1868. Effective 1 January 1869. U.S. National Archives. Reprinted in Report of the (U.S.) Postmaster General, 1868, p. 240–245.
5. Additional postal convention between the U.K. and the U.S. Signed in Wasington 3 Dec 1869 and in London 14 Dec 1869. Effective 1 January 1870. U.S. National Archives. Reprinted in Report of the (U.S.) Postmaster General, 1870, p. 97–98.
6. (Canadian) NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC 30 Dec 1869. National Postal Museum Library, Ottawa. The reprinted version by Boggs omits the 8c Cunard rate.
7. "Atlantic Mails. A history of the mail service between Great Britain and Canada to 1889", J.C. Arnell (1980).
8. (Canadian) Department Order No. 15., 1 September 1875. National Postal Museum Library, Ottawa.
9. "Canada Adheres to the Universal Postal Union", George B. Arfken. BNA Topics vol. 40. p. 35–38, Mar–Apr 1983.
10. (Canadian) Department Order No. 23., 15 July 1878. Also, Official Canadian Postal Guide, August 1878. National Postal Museum Library, Ottawa.
11. U.P.U. Convention of Paris, Article 4. Reprinted and translated in Report of the (U.S.) Postmaster General, 1878, p. 301. The territorial transit rate was maintained at 2 francs per kilogram, 1.2c per oz.

If you have not already done so, please forward your subscriptions as soon as possible, preferably with the dues notice that accompanied the August issue. The \$ equivalents have been adjusted in the light of current average exchange rates.

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Canadian members may settle in \$CAN(15) via Wayne Curtis and US members in \$US(11.50) via John Siverts. North American members requiring airmail service should add \$CAN4.50 or \$US3.50. Please make your cheques payable to Wayne or John respectively.

Members who have not paid the current year's subscription by 31 December will be removed from the *Maple Leaves* circulation list and reinstatement will incur an additional fee of £1 or its \$ equivalent.

A FASCINATING COVER

by Horace W. Harrison, F.C.P.S.

A resident of the U.S.A., wishing to subscribe to a Quebec publication, purchased a 3c stamped envelope and a 2c Registered Letter Stamp at the Welland, Ontario¹ Post Office while the ship he or she was on was in one of the locks transiting the canal around Niagara Falls. He mailed his subscription in cash to the publisher at Montreal. Not knowing the street address, he simply indicated the occupation of the addressee in the hope that the Post Office would be able to identify him and deliver his letter.

This Registered Letter went westward the same day on the Great Western Railway Accomodation (local)² to Hamilton. Here it was placed on the Hamilton & Toronto Railway Post Office car and handled by Clerk No. 2.³ The letter was received at the Montreal Post Office on February 13,⁴ where it was advertised but “not called for”.⁵ Held for 30 days plus, it was then sent to the Dead Letter Office and received there on March 24.⁶

In a four day period, the letter was processed, found to be from a resident of the United States, officially resealed by a strip of 3 of the 1879 issue of “Officially Sealed” stamps and sent on March 28⁷ to the U.S.A. Dead Letter Office where it was received on April 6, 1887.⁸

Originally assigned Registered Letter No. 629⁹ at the Welland Post Office, (covered by the Officially Sealed stamps), it was re-assigned #5819¹⁰ in Montreal, and re-assigned #22371 and noted “Request” at the Dead Letter Office in the U.S.A.

What happened after that is unknown, with little or no basis for speculation, until the cover appeared for sale in a New York City auction in November of 1985, nearly 99 years later.

Cancellation references:

(2) Ludlow RR-68; (3) Ludlow RR-86; (6) Jarrett 842; (7) Jarrett 840.

Notes:-

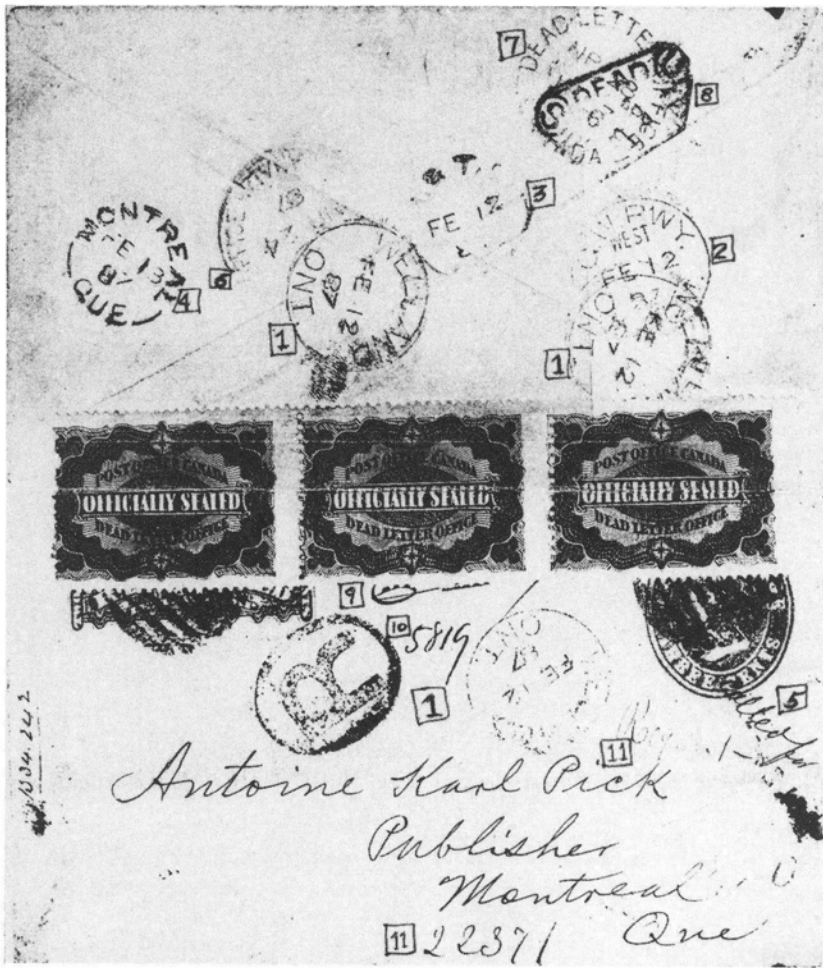
February 12, 1887 was a Saturday
February 13, 1887 was a Sunday
March 24, 1887 was a Thursday
March 28, 1887 was a Monday
April 6, 1887 was a Wednesday



(FIG. 2)



(FIG. 3)



(FIG. 4)



(FIG. 6)



(FIG. 7)



(FIG. 8)



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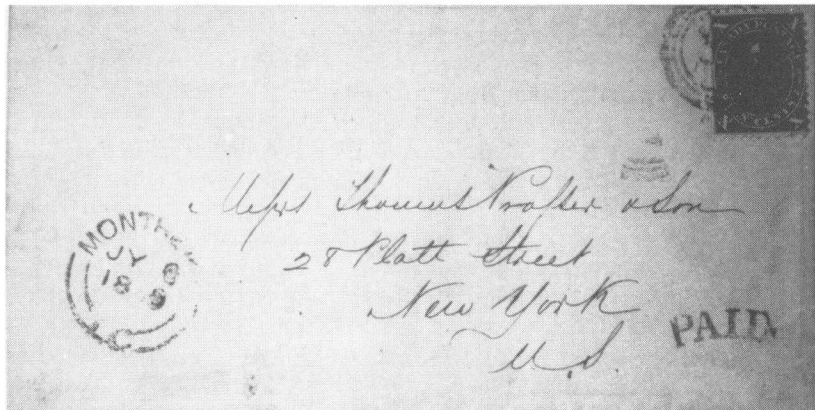
Continuing our series of articles for newer members . . .

THE FIRST DECIMAL ISSUE OF CANADA 1859 to 1868 (Part 2)

by Geoffrey Whitworth FRPSL, FCPS

Varieties:- The plate required ten repairs to keep it in suitable condition and as a result many re-entries are to be found on the stamps and many plate flaws appear and disappear. These have been recorded and the most prominent are very collectable. The major re-entry has most of the design doubled and flaws have been given names such as:- 'The Burning Bush'; 'The Rock in Falls'; 'The Log in Falls'; 'The Gouge Flaw'; etc.

Uses:- The prepaid letter rate per ½ oz. to British North America except British Columbia and the Red River area. The registration fee for letters to America. Multiples used for higher rates. In combination with other stamps to make up other rates.



A ten cents stamp used on a letter from Montreal to New York dated Jy 6 1859. Stamp cancelled by the 4-ring 21 of Montreal.

Ten cents. Issued 1 July 1859

Design:- The head of Prince Albert reproduced from the 6d. stamp.

Colours:- The colour matching was very bad for this stamp. The instructions were to maintain the purple colour of the 6d. stamp still being printed. The results were very different.

So different that dated material has enabled a list to be drawn up naming the colour of every different printing order for the stamps. A simplified list follows giving the main colours to be found in each perforation group.

Group I

- 1859 Brownish black.
1860-61 Deep purples from those with a brownish, to those that show a bluish, tinge.
1862-63 Cold sepia browns - some with a redder appearance.

Group II

- 1863-64 Browns - from red brown to sepia - deep and light shades.
1864 Purple browns to plum shades.

Group III with imprint.

- 1856-66 Violet colours - from slate to reddish. Deep to pale shades.
1867-68 Claret or red purple shades. From reddish (1867) to brownish tints (1868).

Varieties:- There are only two clear re-entries on this stamp and they run through every printing.

There are a number of plate flaws and again they are constant throughout the period.

A splash of colour developed in columns 9 and 10 and is found in the 'C' of Canada. This is constant in all the violet and claret colours. It is very prominent and well worth looking for.

An unusual plate making flaw is found on position 61: around the epaulettes are clear colour marks coming from an early touch down of the transfer roll leaving on the plate part of the words 'ADA POST'.

Uses:- The letter rate per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. to U.S.A. except west coast.
to all U.S.A. after July 1864.

Multiples used for higher rates.

In combination with other values to make up other rates.

Twelve and a Half cents. Issued 1 July 1859

Design:- Head and shoulders of Queen Victoria reproduced from the $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp.

Colours:- Group I

- 1859 Deep olive green.
1860-62 Deep bluish green.
1863 Yellowish green.



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London, SW1Y 6QT
Telephone: 01 839 4034
Telex: 916429
Facsimile: 01 839 1611.

The letter rate per ½ oz. to Newfoundland via Canadian Packet.

The registration fee on letters to the U.K. until 31 January 1866.

(From 1 February 1866 the registration fee was 8 cents).

Multiples to make up higher rates.

In combination with other values to make up other rates.

Seventeen cents. Issued 1 July 1859

Design:- Head of Jacques Cartier reproduced from the 10d. stamp.

Colours:- Group I

1859 Bright light blue.

1860-62 Slate blue - pale to deep shades.

Group II

1863 Bright dark blue.

1864-65 Greyish blue - shades.

Group III

1865-66 Dull deep dark blue.

1867 Bright clear blue - light and dark shades.

1868 Weak greyish blue.



A seventeen cents stamp used on a letter from Kingston to Somerset dated DE 12 1864. Carried by a Cunard ship, arrived Liverpool JA 1 1865.

Varieties:- Eight columns of this plate also carried two guide dots, one of which gives immediate indication to the vertical column from which the stamp came. Complete replating is thereby possible. There are three re-entered positions and a number of regular plate flaws showing either a splash of colour

or an absence of colour. Position seven carries the famous 'Balloon flaw' during the last few months of use.

Uses:- The letter rate to U.K. via New York or Boston and the Royal Mail Packet. Scale as for Canadian Packets up to 31 January 1866. After 1 February 1866 the scale was per ½ oz.

The letter rate to France and Algeria per ¼ oz.

The registration fee to France and Algeria.

Multiples used for higher rates.

In combination with other values to make up other rates.

The demand for stamps of this issue was much greater than for the Pence issue. Consequently more stamps were printed in a year and the variations from the original makes the collecting of this issue most interesting. This soon leads to the possibility of putting together a small collection that can be used for display to your local Society. When examining stamps for colour I use a 3½X watchmaker's eyeglass as this keeps out unwanted side lights. For looking for varieties I find a 6X illuminated magnifier the most convenient. A more powerful 10X lens has such a small field of view that it is best only for the careful checking of a re-entry doubling against a line drawing.

Do not forget that the plates were never hardened and a constant inking and wiping clean wore down the depth of the design. Your stamp may not quite correspond to a drawing as these are all copied from the newest repaired impression available and show the deepest state of the plate.

For information beyond the normal catalogue listings our library has a number of useful books including the two specialized handbooks on this issue.

The First Decimal Issue of Canada 1859 – 1868 } by this Author
The Five Cents Beaver Stamp of Canada }
For the perforations see Maple Leaves Vol. 7 pages 31 and 67.

SOCIETY TIES

The ties feature the Society's logo on a plain ground and can be obtained from Brian Stalker, the Secretary, at £5 each. Overseas members should add 30p postage (sea mail) or 80p (Airmail). A choice of green or navy blue background is available.

STRATHROY – An Interesting Letter by R.B. Winmill

In two previous articles, the various Strathroy handstamps were discussed. Of particular note were the two double broken circle handstamps, the first bearing manuscript indicia, the second typeset indicia.¹

Recently, while conducting research on an unrelated matter, some most enlightening material surfaced. This relates directly to the two hammers. A letter in the Post Office Inspectors' letter book reads:

W.H. GRIFFIN ESQ.

8th May, 1856

495

Sir,

The Office at Strathroy is much in want of a Date Stamp with moveable Type and I especially request you will be so good as to furnish one as soon as possible.

*I am etc.,
G. G.²*

This letter from the Post Office Inspector for the London District to the Post Office Secretary (later named to the Deputy Postmaster General position when that position was re-established in 1857) seems to have brought the desired results. Two examples are now recorded of the first hammer (November 20, 1854 and May 15, 1855).

The letter reproduced above was penned on May 8, 1856 and some seven months later, on December 19, 1856, the earliest example of the new hammer is noted. This tends to confirm observations from strikes known and would lead one to speculate that the new hammer may have been in use from the summer of 1856 onward.

References

1. See R.B. Winmill, 'Some Preliminary Notes on the Various Handstamps of Strathroy Upper Canada (Ontario) 1851-1910.' 'Maple Leaves' vol. 18, No. 5; Oct 1981 p. 126. Also 'Strathroy Revisited' - 'Maple Leaves' vol. 19, No. 2, Aug 1983, p. 46.
2. Gilbert Griffin, Letter 495 in Letter Book, Regional Collection UWO London. This unique letter book, now in possession of UWO, was made available to the author by Mr. Edward Phelps, Chief of the Regional Collection at UWO (University of Western Ontario).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR . . .

Homer Hilton Jr.,

As one of the newest members of the Society, I have just received four back issues of "Maples Leaves", which I found most interesting.

In the Jan., 1987, issue I read with interest the article by Mr. Cohen. In commenting on the 15c Large Queen, and the difficulty of reconstructing the script watermark, he states ". . . I do not think (it) has been completed by anyone." Not so . . . it was done by Mr. Gerald Firth, of Pittsburgh. When his magnificent collection of the 15c Large Queen was sold at auction several years ago by J.M. Sissons, there was one large complete reconstruction offered. I think there was also a partial reconstruction offered. I do not have a record of the price realized, but as a participant at the sale, I do not recall the price as being excessive. I am sure Mr. Cohen could get the details from Mr. Lex DeMent, President of Sissons.

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Foto by Favourite

The Yellow Peril

The above is a photograph of a right-margined vertical pair of the 10 blue Admiral stamp from a left pane. Unlike the true imperf-between which was made without any horizontal (or vertical) perforations, this imperf-between was caused by faulty perforating – the perforating pins failing to penetrate the paper thus creating this delightful variety.

Does any member have the other pieces from this sheet?

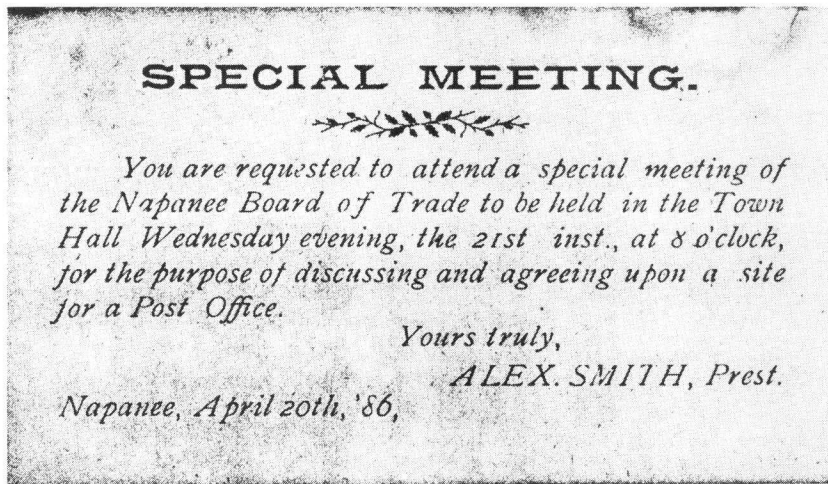
Wilbur Jonsson

I would like to report to 'Maple Leaves' the roller cancel on the enclosed picture postcard.* My copy of Smythies' handbook (second edition) does not list 'LACHINE LOCKS'.

The roller is apparently of the style of illustration 6, type 1VA, without the province but with indicia '1'.

* *Editor's note. Regrettably the cancellation in question would not reproduce satisfactorily for inclusion in 'Maple Leaves'. I have retained a photocopy if any student of these markings wishes to see it.*

THE POST IS COMING!



Notice on the reverse of an 1882 1c postal stationery card, postmarked NAPANEE ONT., AP 21 86. It is addressed to C.E. Bartlett Esq., but evidently it arrived too late because the front bears a rubber stamp impression dated AP 22 1886.

D. Avery

THE FIVE CENT BLUE ADMIRAL OVERPRINTED 'WAR TAX'

by Hans Reiche, FCPS

The 5c, 20c and 50c Admirals were overprinted 'War Tax' as directed by the Minister of Internal Revenue to cover a tax on medicine, perfume and wine. The Canada Plate Block Catalogue by K. Bileski lists three plates which were used to overprint the 5c blue. These plates are 6, 9 and 10. In 1958 the War Tax Study Group published a book which lists four plates as being used for the overprint, namely Plates 5, 6, 9 and 10. The War Tax Study Group based their information on actual stamps in various collections. In 1982 G.C. Marler's information was published by the American Philatelic Society in the form of a most outstanding handbook with the title "The Admiral Issue of Canada". In this handbook he writes: "The use of plates 5 and 6, which were approved on March 2nd, 1914, is easy to understand, for they were the last plates to be engraved before the War Tax stamps were issued. But the same cannot be said of plates 9 and 10. The purpose of overprinting sheets from plates 9 and 10 with the word War Tax only is beyond comprehension."

Recently in addition to the reported War Tax Study Group findings, a single mint stamp was found which shows the clear retouch listed by Marler as plate 9 UR 27, with a line from the first horizontal right shading line down to opposite the 'G' of 'Postage'. Horizontal line number six projects into the right crown. This clearly shows the use of plate 9 for this 'War Tax' overprint.

Paquebot Cancellations of the World

Collectors of these marks may be interested to know that the above publication has been substantially revised and enlarged and that a second edition is now available. The new edition can be obtained from the author, Roger Hosking, at Greyfriars, Ice House Wood, Oxted, Surrey, England, RH8 9DW. Price is £18 (\$27US) plus £2 parcel post within the UK and £3 (\$4.50) for surface mail overseas. Remittances in Sterling or US dollars is acceptable, any other payment involving bank commission should include the equivalent of a further £5 to cover such imposition.

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- 2541 PUTMAN, A.R.B., 15 Northfleet Close, Vinters Park, Maidstone, Kent
ME14 5QD C
- 2542 LINDSAY, C.A., 306-13507 96th Ave., Surrey, B.C. Canada V3V 1YB B,CS,Jub
- 2543 EISENBERG, M., 6620 N Trumbull, Lincolnwood, Illinois 60645,
USA PD,Nascopic
- 2544 SHORT, R., 29 Pringle Ave., Markham, ON, Canada, L3P 2P3 C,1934NB Stamp
- 2545 BOWEN, D., Box 1737, Station 'M', Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 2L7 CS

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586 GRAY, W.B.C.
- 2310 FLEMMING, W.B.

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- 1876 McGUIRE, C.R., Box 15881, Station F, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada H2C 3S8
- 2450 MACHUM, H.W.E., Box 123, Little Current, ON, Canada POP 1HO

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WANTED: Great Western Railway of Canada postmarks and any other ephemera. Offers with photocopies if possible to Brian Stalker, 3 Rutherford Way, Tonbridge, Kent TN10 4RH.

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