



# Maple Leaves

**JOURNAL OF THE  
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
OF GREAT BRITAIN**

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# MAPLE LEAVES

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## EDITORIAL

This issue of Maple Leaves contains, as an insert, an updated copy of the Members Handbook Part 1. As usual, we would ask all members to quickly check their own entries and make sure the details such as e mail address etc are correct. Let our Secretary, Jjohn Watson, know promptly if any corrections are required.

This issue also contains the booking form and competition entry form for our 2020 Convention in Eastbourne in late September. Copies of the forms can also be downloaded from our website at [www.canadianpsgb.org.uk](http://www.canadianpsgb.org.uk). Further details of the Convention can be found on page 355 and at the website.

By something of a coincidence, this issue contains three articles which tell of the involvement of Library Archives Canada in assisting with research on stamp varieties. It is a timely reminder for us to extol the many virtues of this organisation which holds a wealth of material and knowledge on BNA stamps and postal history from the first issues to the present day. Although they are based in Ottawa, much of their holdings have been digitised and can be made available as scans. So even if, like me, you live far away from the Archives you can still make full use of the facility. They are always happy to help with philatelic research so don't be shy!

A small warning to those few remaining members who have yet to pay their 2020 subscriptions despite several reminders. These are, of course, now overdue and if no payments are received shortly this will be the last issue of Maple Leaves you will receive. Full details on how to pay etc can be found on page 356.

Our congratulations go to regular *Maple Leaves* contributors, Julian Goldberg and John Walsh who, together with Clarence Stillions, have been awarded the prestigious Pratt Award from the Collectors Club of Chicago for the best judged Newfoundland philatelic article(s) published during 2019.

As usual, our Forthcoming Events slot on page 360 provides details of upcoming stamp shows and events. Please note, however, that in the current Coronavirus situation it is entirely possible that some of the major events scheduled in the next few months may be cancelled or rearranged. Please check with the organisers before making any expensive travel plans. As we go to press, all of the listed events are still 'on' unless otherwise noted, however things seem to change from day to day. The Scottish Congress due to take place in Perth in mid April has definitely been cancelled. Also cancelled is the major International show 'London 2020' planned for May. This is now scheduled for dates in February 2022. There are currently no plans to make any changes to CPSGB events but any such changes would be posted on our website; so check there regularly for any updates. Some specific comments regarding our 2020 Convention in Eastbourne can be found on page 355.

To end on a lighter note, I was amused to read the following recently..... 'It seems that in our digital age there are now three, not just two, things you can be certain of in life; death, taxes and the fact that someone will outbid you on e bay at the last minute!'

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*This tale of collecting a single stamp should, perhaps, serve as a warning to us all!*

## THE MAP STAMP – A TALE OF MILD OBSESSION

Simon Taylor-Young



I have, at last, finished plating the 1898 Map stamp. After about four years, and with a vow to find each position by luck, rather than buying in specific stamps, it is achieved. However, for 400 plate position (Plates 1-3, and 5, as 4 was never used), I have accumulated some 3750 stamps! A statistician would explain why I have 23 copies of plate 2 position 83, but only (at last) one copy of plate 3 position 15! Something to do with normal distributions. (I will use the convention 2A83 from now on, meaning Black Plate 2, Red Plate A, Position 83)

A quick comment on method. I started this through a sheer stroke of luck. I bid on eBay for a lot of 200 Map stamps, paying about \$250. It turned out they had rather miscounted and almost 950 Map stamps arrived! That made me wonder how many plate positions would be included. I had a copy of Tomlinson's 1972 book (ref 1), now I am afraid made redundant. I started with Bradley (1989 – ref 2) and thought I was doing well. Then the superb, unrivalled, doorstop of Kershaw and Boisclair (2006 – ref 3) arrived. It is superb, not only the quality of the photographs, but the way it is set out. I reckon to identify a plate position within about 30 seconds now. It transformed my speed, and accuracy. I was now under way! I want to make a couple of observations. First, I have recorded each stamp on a vast spreadsheet. I have not tried to record the colours. Even after all this time, I find differentiating Lavender and Deep Lavender most tricky. Tomlinson divides the Blue green into Pale, Deep and Very deep. It was too subjective, so I stopped. I am interested though in the difference in plate % which vary from Tomlinson significantly, despite similar sample sizes. He divides them Plate 1 26%; Plate 2 31%; Plate 3 24% and Plate 5 19%. My own findings are Plate 1 32.8%; Plate 2 33.8%; Plate 3 20.3%; and Plate 5 13.2%. While the % for Plates 2 and 3 are similar, in my sample Plate 1 was almost as common as Plate 2, and Plate 5 was much, much scarcer.



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Secondly, I would ask if anyone knows if progress has been made in separating the “impossible to tell apart positions”? There are few positions where even Kershaw/Boisclair struggle. These include 1A16 and 2A16; 1A21 and 2A21; 1A27 and 3A27; 2A45 and 3A45; 2A73 and 3A73; 1A81 and 2A81. From blocks, and sometimes colour, I am sure I have a complete set, but a more definitive way of separating these would be a useful addendum to their book.

Then, what to do with the impossible dates? Using the earliest recorded dates given by Tomlinson, and reproduced by Kershaw/Boisclair, I have a few “wrong-uns”. For example, I have two plate 2 copies, dated 1898, both undoubtedly plate 2, but with readable cds dates of 23 Dec 1898 (2A12) and 30 Dec 1898 (2A29), both before plate 2 is first recorded. Similarly, I have a plate 3 dated 22 Feb 1899 (3A22) and another dated 23 Feb 1899 (3A96); and a Plate 5 dated 15 March 1899 (5B11: second state) and 23 March 1899 (5B52: second state). All of these dates are before the recorded earliest dates for the respective plates. Are these errors made by a postmaster when preparing the date stamp? Or have others got copies that would bring forward all the ERD’s? My earliest Plate 1’s, for the record, are two marked 12 December 1898.

Lastly, it brings me back to statistics. I have often wondered what % of certain issues would have survived after 100+ years? Of 20 million Map stamps produced, how many are still in existence? 10% of the issue? 40% of the issue? And of those how many are mint never hinged? Has anyone ever speculated? In the case of the elusive 1868 laid paper 2 cent Large Queen, assuming that just one sheet of 100 was produced on laid paper, how many of the other 97 still exist, unknown to the (lucky) collector or sitting at the back of a cupboard in Grandad’s collection. Surely more than 3% of all Large Queens generally survive?

So, for the Map stamps, we can speculate on the famous major re-entry 5B91. If 13.2% of 20 million stamps are Plate 5, that makes around 26,000 sheets of 100 stamps. If 10% of these survive, and only 10% of those are unhinged, that means there are about 2,600 copies extant of the Major Re-entry and only 260 that are never hinged (for the record, I have four, only one of which is mint).

Lastly, I have tried to be very disciplined about buying, trying to pay less than \$1 per stamp, often though paying £1. It has taken a while, and strangely enough has been fun. And, if there is anyone out there trying to achieve the same, I almost certainly have a copy of the plate position you are missing (unless it is 3A15 !!!). Get in touch. But what do I do now? Every shade of every plate position? Mint copies of every position? Where does this obsession end?

#### References:-

1. Canadian Map Stamp of 1898; F. Tomlinson 1972
2. Canadian Map Stamp of 1898, A Plating Study; W.L. Bradley 1989
3. The Canadian Christmas Map Stamp of 1898, A Definitive Plating Study (originally published in four volumes); K. Kershaw and R. Boisclair. August 2006.

# POTENTIAL NEW ADMIRAL VARIETY REAPPEARS AFTER 42 YEARS

Ariel Hasid and Graham Searle *FCPS*

Back in October 2017, Julian Goldberg and John Walsh wrote an article in *Maple Leaves* on the 1926 Admiral Provisional Overprints (*ref 1*). Your Editor provided the pictures for this article and amongst these was a picture of a forgery of an inverted overprint of the one line surcharge (Scott type 139) – reproduced below as fig 1.



Fig 1

George was very proud of it and Carl Mangold and Hans Reiche, who were also present in the meeting, were also suitably impressed. George told us the story of how he had come to own the block which Ariel recalls here.....

*Apparently, George was offered the opportunity to purchase a complete sheet of 100 subjects with the inverted overprint, however due to very poor handling of the sheet many of the stamps were creased and some badly torn and out of the full sheet he managed to find a sound and clean block of four. George had been offered the stamps by a Captain Bernier, a retired Montreal Police Department Captain, who having been injured in*



Fig 2

*the line of duty had then turned to stamp dealing. He went on to explain to us, with some pain in his voice, that the Captain had offered him the complete sheet for the enormous sum of \$2 and that the block of four that he had selected would cost him \$1. George was well known for being rather frugal and, living up to this reputation, he only purchased the block of four for the 'whopping sum' of \$1. As he was telling the story and quoting*



*the prices my mouth nearly hit my stamp counter and the others in the office at the time were equally shocked. George, being George, could see nothing unusual in the tale and was quite content with his block of four.*

George passed away some years later and I discovered that the block in question had been sold to his old friend Harry Lussey. Needless to say, we were all heartbroken that the block had departed Canada for the USA.

Well time has passed by and Harry himself is now dead and the block of four has reappeared.

Is it genuine? Well the overprint certainly looks good and is very comparable (albeit upside down!) to those on the plate strip shown in fig 3 below.

The overprints were done on panes of 100 stamps and as the original article indicated there was a huge amount of wastage with many varieties – double overprints, pairs with and without etc – finding their way into the philatelic market. Consequently, the existence of another variety – with the overprint inverted – is certainly not impossible. Of course, if it is genuine there should be another 96 examples – many with creases and some badly torn - out there waiting to be found.

Despite being issued nearly 100 years ago, it is amazing how new varieties on the Admiral stamps keep being discovered – another one was highlighted in the April 2018 issue of our journal (*ref 2*)

Maybe time for your Editor to have another closer look at his forgery!

#### References:

1. Canada 1926 Provisional 2 cents Surcharges on King George V- Admiral Issue; Julian Goldberg and John Walsh, *Maple Leaves* Oct 2017 pp 219 – 228
2. A Major 1 Cent Yellow Admiral Lathework Re-discovery; Leopold Beaudet, *Maple Leaves* Apr 2018 pp 303 - 310



*Fig 3*



## 2020 Convention

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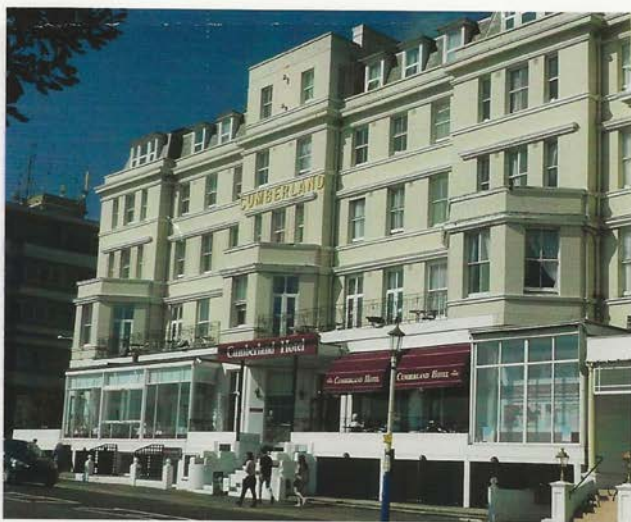
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**Further details and bookings via Brian Stalker**

**[brianstalker63@sky.com](mailto:brianstalker63@sky.com)**

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Frank Henry**

## EARLY MAIL FROM EAST OF QUEBEC

I've just been re-reading your interesting article in the October 2019 issue of *Maple Leaves* and wondering if the postal authorities (in this case the PM at Quebec) felt compelled to resort to a proportional system of rating at a time when it would have been difficult to apply accurately and consistently the distance-based scheme as laid down in 5 Geo 111 cap. 25 (1765). Smith makes a similar point in his 1917 book 'Rates of Postage', where he writes, "*the distances on which the rates were actually based were largely a matter of conjecture*".

In his 'Postal History of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick', Jephcott quotes from a letter dated 4 April 1817 from the Deputy Postmasters General at Halifax to Francis Freeling, GPO, London, as follows:

*".... When you enquire of me the exact Rates of the Internal Postage, and under what authorities these Rates are generally regulated, I am at a loss to answer you. The only Paper I could ever find in the Office on the subject ... is in the handwriting of Mr Peters, who was Post-Master here many years ago. In adjusting any new Route, I have merely proportioned it as near as I could to the postage required from any old office at a similar distance. But I have long been of the opinion that these Rates generally bear no proportion to each other."*

As far as your cover is concerned, I guess that the courier would have received it from the sender, subsequently delivering it directly to the PM at Quebec, who would have stamped it 'Way' and then rated it in local currency as per his usual practice (de Volpi cites Article XIV of Instructions to Postmasters in a 1980 BNAPS article on Way Letters).

The 1/4 marking on your cover has presumably been calculated by reference to the 1765 Regulation, converted to local currency, as follows: 6d for the first 100 miles plus  $4 \times 2d = 1s2d$  Stg = 1s4d Cy. Since we know from Jephcott (Appendix A, Table 1) that a single letter carried from Halifax to Quebec was rated at 1s6d Stg (1s8d Cy), we can readily calculate that the journey as far as Kamouraska represented *four-fifths* of the total journey. Consequently, the journey from Kamouraska to Quebec represented *one-fifth* of the total journey and was rated accordingly @  $1s8d/5 = 4d$  Cy.

The existence of a cover similar to your own suggests that the 4d rating was not an arbitrary one, even though it was at variance with the 1765 Regulations. It also seems unlikely that it was used without the authority of Hugh Finlay, Deputy Postmaster General of Canada in the 1780's and chief architect of the overland route between Quebec and Halifax.

Incidentally, in a talk recorded in a 1968 BNAPS article, Grant Glassco states that "*in Canada these manuscript initials were used not only by postmasters at point of origin but were sometimes applied to covers handed to the couriers between post offices. In such cases the*



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marking was applied by the postmaster at the first office the letter touched. An example of this is seen on a cover with a manuscript "R.O." (Riviere Ouelle, the point of origin) inscribed by the postmaster at Quebec, the destination".

Perhaps this is the very cover which you now own?

**Joe Smith**

## **NOT ALL THAT GLITTERS IS GOLD**

I show below in fig 1 an image of what I believe to be a fake FDC offered to me a while ago. When things look too good to be true my antennae go up. On the face of it this is a very rare first day cover of the Jubilee issue in 1897 with the stamps cancelled by the St Lawrence Street, Montreal split ring cancel. However, this hammer along with the Mile End, Montreal cancel got into the hands of the unscrupulous at one time around WWI.

It seems unlikely that the postal clerk would rotate the hammer 90 degrees to make a second strike. In fact, one strike would cancel both stamps. I believe the absence of a back stamp suggests it never travelled through the mail system.

An interesting example of a cover where both the stamps and the cancels are entirely genuine but the whole thing is most probably a philatelic creation. As they say, buyer beware!



Fig 1

## PERFORATION CHANGES THAT STARTED IN 1962

Messrs Goldberg and Walsh are to be warmly congratulated for their identifying and measuring the changes in the perforation of many Canadian stamps from Standard Gauge (“SG”) 11.94 to 11.85 that occurred in the period 1962 to 1974. As a long-time student of perforations, the reader will appreciate this writer’s view that they are a much understated part of philately. They have amply proved the need for reform in the descriptions of perforations in catalogues of Canadian stamps.

It is sad to note that for all the stamps illustrated in the article, the leading publication *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps*, (2010) simply states “Canadian Bank Note Company Perf 12”. The difference in perforations between 11.94 and 11.85 is at least as worthy of record as, for example, are different papers or widths of tagging!

When the British American Bank Note Company and others were contracted to produce Canadian stamps, that catalogue did, of necessity, change its practice and record, e.g. “10.0, 12.5 x 13.1, 13.1 x 13.3, etc. “necessity” because the entire system of printing and perforating stamps had been turned on its head. Instead of perforations being an afterthought to the production, it was the requirement that the horizontal and vertical perforations meet in a single hole at each intersection that determined the size of stamps from the outset of that process. Further revisions of other perforation descriptions should follow.

So, congratulation to the authors for identifying this catalogue neglect. Would that the catalogues would soon correct these important numbers!

In the article, the combinations of 192 pins and perforation wheel diameters of 4 1/32” and 4 1/16”, give the SGs of 11.94 and 11.85, respectively, which perfs appear on the many stamps of the subject article. These are NOT the only combinations that produce these SGs - as the following analysis will demonstrate.

1. The relation between the total number of pins (P), the wheel diameter (d) and the resulting SG (the number of perforations or pins in two cm or SG/2 per cm) is

$$P = 2.54 \pi d . SG/2$$

where the 2.54 converts the inches of “d” into cms.

2. The particular values of the wheel diameters are probably typical of shop specifications of the period for their manufacture, but the tolerances must have been much finer than the implied +/-1/64. To perforate adequately, the pins had to punch the paper discs out of the paper cleanly enough to prevent “blind perfs” or “hanging chads” but not penetrate the holes so far as to be bent back and forth in each turn of the wheels. Papers are typically 1/6 to 1/10 of the 1/64 of an inch.
3. As a result of this evidence and reasoning, the two wheel diameters cited must have come from two different machines. (This was further confirmed in the subject article

which commented upon “the new sized holes...slightly larger and wider...a cleaner rounded cut... [and] straighter lines”.

Furthermore, because the shafts supporting the pin and hole wheels had to withstand the considerable forces required to perforate sheets of stamps without bending, any adjustment mechanism would also have to be of substantial size. There is no evidence of any such adjustment mechanism in the texts and figures of early rotary perforating machines, e.g. Bemrose (UK 1854) and Howard (Philadelphia 1861) or in the many photographs of machines in use over the years as are found e.g. on p. 246 of the subject paper or Chapter 5 of reference 1.

4. In the equation above, P is a whole number and, by the comments in 2., d would continue to be specified to the nearest  $1/32$  of an inch. Those facts narrow the number of possible (P,d) pairs that could satisfy the equation and produce the 11.94 and 11.85 SGs.
5. For example, if P were varied from, say, 192 to 202, there are three other instances in this range alone in which each of the two values of d ( $4\ 1/32$  and  $4\ 1/16$ , respectively) are increased by 2.03, 4.06 and 4.09 thirty seconds of an inch. (Deviations from a whole number of  $1/32$ nds do not affect the resulting SGs.)

The pairs are

– for SG 11.94: (192,  $4\ 1/32$ ) - of the article - and (195,  $4\ 3/32$ ), (198,  $4\ 5/32$ ) and (202,  $4\ 7/32$ ) and

for SG 11.85 (192,  $4\ 1/16$ ), (195,  $2/16$ ), (198,  $4\ 3/16$ ), and (202,  $4\ 4/16$ ) –and there are more!

Which pairing of pins and wheels would serve best would depend on other aspects of the design and manufacture of the machine itself such as the availability of a difference engine with the desired number of drilling positions around the perimeter of the wheels. (for the use of such in an example machine, see Figure 4.6 in reference 1.). 192 might very well be chosen because development of the dividing engine would then be so simple, viz. trisect the central angle and consecutively bisect each of those three to produce 64 positions and 3 times 64 makes 192. Proof must await the discovery of shop drawings.

Ref 1. Stamp Perforations with Particular Emphasis on Canadian Stamps; R.A. Johnson, BNAPS Publication 2009.

**Brian Stalker**

## **QUERY REGARDING Ax MARK ON COVER**

A colleague in our local stamp group has approached me with a query regarding the cover shown overleaf in fig 2.

Can any of our members explain the significance and/or purpose of the Ax in circle handstamp on the front of this 1943 cover to Switzerland?



Fig 2 September 1943 cover to Switzerland with Ax in circle handstamp on front in purple.



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# NEWFOUNDLAND: ‘blue raindrops’ VARIETY

## 3¢ blue rouletted from the Second Cents Issue

John M. Walsh *FRPSC*

The 1868-79 Second Cents Issue of Newfoundland has two coloured 3¢ denominations. They were issued using the same plate proof to print both vermilion and blue colours. In 1870, the initial vermilion colour was issued and in 1873 the Post Office changed the colour of the 3¢ stamp to blue. Both colours were released in 12 x 12 perforation. In the development of this 3¢ denomination a variety of colour trials were printer tested. Observed colours of violet, green, deep green, brown, deep brown and red are listed in the *Newfoundland Specialised Stamp Catalogue*.

Because the Post Office ran short of the 3¢ denomination, they had the same 3¢ blue colour reissued in 1877. It was sent by the ABNCo printer in a rouletted form; a type of separation that displays slits rather than punched holes. As to why they were produced in this manner, no answer has been found.

In late 2019, a new variety was discovered. It is shown below in fig 1. It has only been found on the 3¢ blue rouletted stamp. To the author it resembles ‘blue raindrops’. A most unusual variety and a name to fit. The author set out to try and locate its position on the plate.

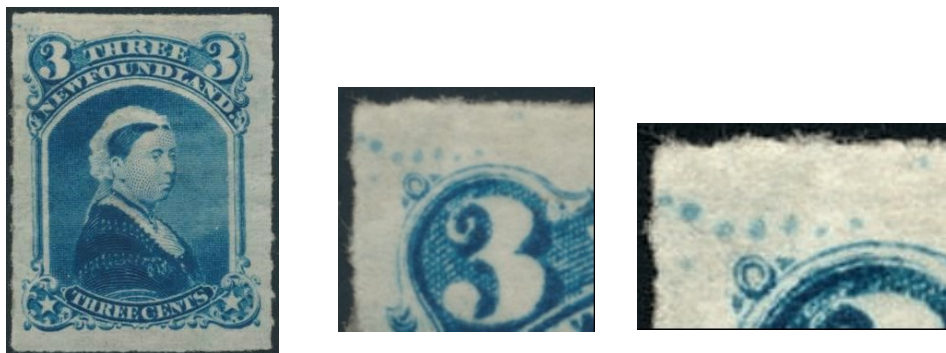


Fig 1 The 3¢ blue stamp rouletted with, at right, detailed scans showing the variety.

Upon request, the archivist at Library Archives Canada found two plate proof sheets of this value. One was in the green colour trial, the other in the vermilion colour of the initially issued stamp. When the author received the 800dpi scans he set about an in depth detailed examination of the sheets to find the variety. Alas it did not appear on either of the sheets.

Most interesting! Now, why did that happen? To the author, it would seem that this variety was the result of an accident that occurred to the printing plate only when it was

being used in 1877 during the 3¢ blue value reprint. It suggests that the printing plate was damaged while on the press during this re-order fulfilment. Where was the stamp positioned on the sheet? This question led to a further detailed plate proof search to find the sheet location where the accident occurred.

Examining the rouletted 3¢ stamp with the ‘blue raindrops’ variety it is observed that an ink spot is positioned on the lower left between the curlicue - see fig 2 below. The author examined both LAC plate proof sheets looking for this telltale identifier. It was found on both sheets but only at sheet position 4 in the top row which is situated beneath the YORK word in the top left plate inscription.



*Fig 2 Detail of the ‘blue raindrops’ stamp showing ink spot highlighted by arrow.*



*Fig 3 Plate proof from plate position 4 with detail at right showing the same ink spot.*

The plate proof from position 4 showing the position relative to the imprint and an enlarged scan showing the ink spot are shown in fig 3 above. The figure below shows the full plate imprint above positions 1 to 5.

The quantity printed having this ‘blue raindrops’ variety is impossible to determine. Even though the re-ordered quantity is 300,000 (see CCC Pratt slides #09-198) which is 3000 sheets, this variety seems not to be prevalent in the marketplace. Because of this, the author concludes that the accidental damage happened within and during the print run. Finding this ‘blue raindrops’ variety will be a treat to the Newfoundland collector!

Happy hunting!



## PETER MOTSON

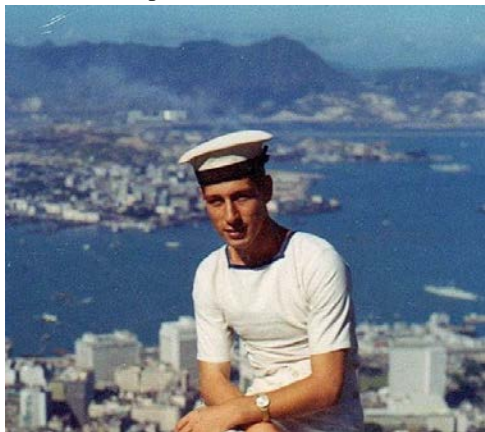
The new year brought with it the sad news of the death of Past President, Peter Motson at the age of 78.

As a boy, Peter had a strong interest in both model aircraft building and stamp collecting but these two early interests did not come together until much later when he formed an award-winning collection of Newfoundland airmail stamps and covers.

He served in the Fleet Air Arm of the Royal Navy for nine years as an aircraft engineer and later worked at the Westland Aircraft manufacturing company so his knowledge of things aeronautic was well grounded. He also had a strong interest in the history of aviation back to the days of the Wright brothers.

His exhibit of *Newfoundland Airmail Stamps and Air Mail Flights 1918 – 1949* won a plethora of awards culminating in a Large Gold medal at the London 2010

International Exhibition where it was also awarded the Best in Class Award for Aerophilately. He later went on to research the work of E.R. Krippner and published a book on the subject in 2019 for which he was awarded the CPSGB Founders Trophy at our Convention in Bakewell.



Peter and his wife, Mavis, were regular attendees at CPSGB Convention and they hosted a very successful event in Plymouth in 2013. Despite a growing struggle with Motor Neuron Disease, Peter was present in Bakewell in October 2019 and played a full part in Convention events, even judging the competition.

Away from things philatelic, Peter was a keen golfer and usually managed to combine a few rounds of golf with his Convention trips. He will be sadly missed by us all for both his good humour and his philatelic knowledge. We send our heartfelt condolences to Mavis and sons, Trevor and Stuart.

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# EARLY CANADIAN POSTAL RATE HANDSTAMPS (PART 4)

Graham Searle *FCPS*

The period from July 1859 to April 1868.

## Underpaid rate handstamps:-

One side effect of introducing different rates for prepaid and unpaid mail was that it became necessary to determine how underpaid mail would be charged. Whilst the Post Office Department Circular of June 1859 was clear on the charges for prepaid and unpaid mail, it was silent on the matter of how postmasters were to charge for underpaid mail. As a result two entirely different practices developed in the following years.

Figs 78 and 79 below and overleaf show two examples of letters franked with a 5 cent stamp to pay the single letter rate but found to be overweight. They neatly illustrate the two practices that developed. In fig 78, the postmaster has given full credit for the single rate prepaid with the stamp and charged the recipient 7 cents for the 'unpaid' part of the postage. The letter in fig 79 shows a different approach. Here the letter has first been assessed as a double rate letter unpaid (thus due 14 cents) and credit then given for the 5 cent paid with the stamp leaving the recipient to pay a further 9 cents. It was not until 1867 that the Post Office Department attempted to clarify the correct way to charge for such underpaid mail (18). Even then, many postmasters



Fig 78 1865 letter from New Carlisle, Gaspe. Franked with a 5 cent stamp it was judged to be overweight and shows the handstamp combination 'MORE TO PAY 7' being the collect charge on the unpaid part of the postage. Full credit was given for the single rate pre-paid.

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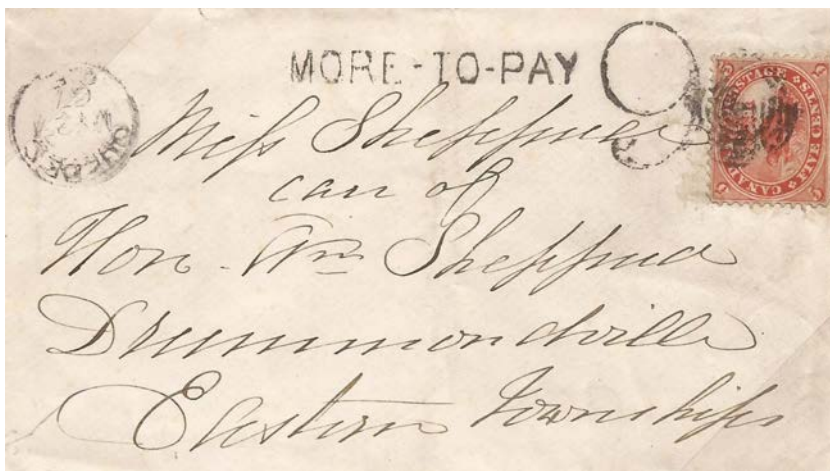


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*Fig 79 1867 letter from Quebec showing a different way of computing the excess postage due on an underpaid letter. In this case, the letter was first assessed as an unpaid letter of more than ½ oz and thus due 14 cents. Credit was then given for the 5 cents prepaid leaving 9 cents to pay on delivery. Despite this being the officially correct way of computing underpaid charges the ‘MORE TO PAY 9’ handstamp is hard to find.*

simply continued with their past practices – some right and some wrong! For the record, fig 79 shows the way the PO Department decreed to be correct in 1867. Needless to say, this ‘MORE TO PAY 9’ handstamp is far scarcer than the ‘MORE to PAY 7’ type shown in fig 78!

A similar type of handstamp can be found on incorrectly franked letters like the one in fig 80 overleaf. Here an 1867 letter from Montreal to Hamilton has been franked with a 1 cent stamp. The letter was assessed as unpaid and thus due 7 cents but credit was given for the 1 cent stamp. The resulting ‘MORE TO PAY 6’ handstamp is quite scarce and it is worth noting that the ‘6’ here is exactly the same as the ‘9’ in fig 79 – just upside down.

### **Rate handstamps used on cross border mail:-**

Following the introduction of decimal currency, the single letter rate to the USA (excluding California and Oregon) became 10 cents (19). This rate applied until 1868. The vast majority of prepaid mail to the USA sent after 1859 was prepaid with postage stamps so prepaid handstamps become quite difficult to find.

Fig 81 overleaf shows one example of such a mark. This two line handstamp struck in red appears to have been specific to Montreal.

Fig 82 overleaf shows an unusual use of a handstamp on a registered letter from Toronto to Boston. This is the same ‘PAID 15’ in circle handstamp we saw earlier used on a triple rate domestic letter. Here it has been used to confirm the payment of postage (10 cents) plus



Fig 80 1867 letter from Montreal to Hamilton incorrectly franked with a 1 cent stamp. The letter was first assessed as unpaid and thus due 7 cents but credit was given for the 1 cent stamp applied. The resulting 'MORE TO PAY 6' handstamp combination is rarely seen.



Fig 81 Two line 'CANADA/PAID 10Cts' handstamp struck in red on an 1861 letter from Montreal. Several similar handstamp types were in use during this period although this particular type appears to have been specific to Montreal.

registration fee (5 cents) on this letter. Both the postage and registration had to be prepaid on registered letters to the USA (20). This scarce handstamp, unique to Toronto, appears to have had many different but rather arcane uses.



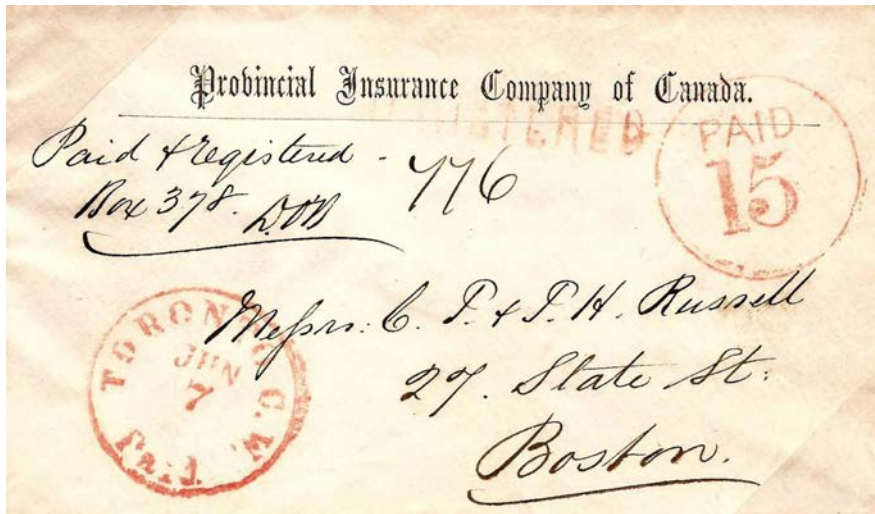


Fig 82 Registered letter sent from Toronto to Boston showing use of the 'PAID 15' in circle handstamp. The registration fee on letters to the USA was 5 cents which had to be prepaid. This handstamp is the same as the one shown in fig 76 in an earlier issue.

I have also seen one 'PAID 10' handstamp that looks suspiciously home-made. This is shown in fig 83. This tombstone style handstamp applied in red was used at the small town of Shannonville, Ontario in 1862. Shannonville was a small town on the Salmon River not far east of Belleville and the local postmaster, Hiram Holden, is credited with this particular creation. The example shown here is the only recorded example of this handstamp on cover.

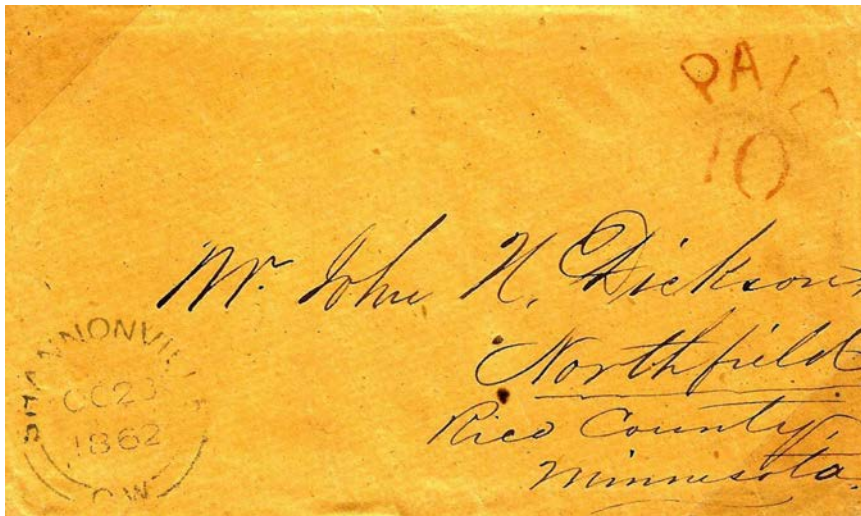


Fig 83 Fancy tombstone style 'PAID 10' handstamp in red applied at the small town of Shannonville, Ontario in 1862 on a letter to Minnesota. This is the only example of this handstamp the author has seen.



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Unlike domestic mail in this period, unpaid mail to the USA was not charged a premium and could also be sent at 10 cents per ½ ounce. Several handstamps were used for such mail and three examples are shown in fig 84. The bold '10' on the top cover from Ottawa is strictly a USA mark but was used at a number of main Canadian post offices on through mail. The offset '10' struck on a diagonal on the centre cover is a Canadian mark; this example was used at Montreal. The bottom cover shows the only handstamp of this type to include the word 'UNPAID'. Reading 'CANADA – UNPAID – 10' it may well have been made up locally from other available handstamps. Only two or three examples have been recorded, all from the small town of Oil Springs.



Fig 84 Three examples of handstamps used on unpaid mail to the USA in the 1859 – 1868 period.

## Rate handstamps used on transatlantic mail:-

Transatlantic rates, as expressed in Sterling, remained unchanged in 1859 although one may have imagined that the switch to decimal currency (giving Canadian rates of 12½ cents for the Allan Line and 17 cents for Cunard) would have necessitated some new rate handstamps. In reality, few were produced as mail from Canada prepaid in cash continued to carry handstamps in use prior to 1859 as they showed the rates in Sterling. Presumably this was done as an assistance to the British post office officials. Many even continued to show the rates in pence Currency. Figs 85 and 86 show two such examples. The upper letter mailed from Quebec to the UK in 1862 makes use of a dual currency handstamp used from Quebec between 1858 and 1865. The lower letter, mailed from Chatham, Ontario to Brentford was also sent in 1862 and shows a style of dual currency handstamp only recorded from Toronto and Hamilton and believed now to be a combination of two different handstamps.



Fig 85 Italic style dual currency handstamp used on prepaid mail from Quebec to the UK between 1858 and 1865. (Type E04)



Fig 86 1862 letter from Chatham, Ontario to England carried on the Allan Line 'Hibernian' out of Quebec. The dual currency handstamp here is believed to be a combination of two separate handstamps and is known used from Toronto and Hamilton. (Type D03)



Fig 87 shows a letter mailed in 1864, some five years after the switch to decimal currency but still showing a rate handstamp denominated only in Sterling. This type reading 'PAID 8dStg' is only recorded used from Hamilton, Ontario.

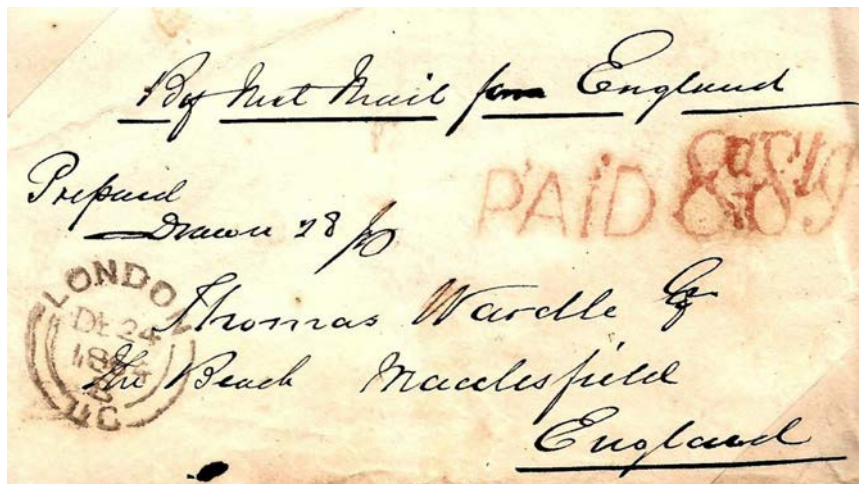


Fig 87 Despite being mailed some five years after decimal currency was introduced this 1864 letter from London, Ontario to the UK still carries a handstamp in pence Sterling to assist the British postal officials. This handstamp type is only known used from Kingston and Hamilton with recorded usages from 1857 to 1865. (Type D02)

The introduction of fines on transatlantic mail in 1859 did require some new rate handstamps for incoming mail to Canada sent unpaid. Fig 88 on page 333 shows one example of these on a letter mailed from Dublin to Quebec in 1860 and sent unpaid. Carried on the Allan Line, the postage was 12½ cents with a further 12½ cents (6d Sterling) fine making a total collect charge of 25 cents. The simple '25' handstamp in black was applied in Quebec.

Unpaid mail sent via the Cunard line should have incurred a charge of 29½ cents on arrival in Canada (17 cents postage plus 12½ cents fine). However, this was normally rounded down to 29 cents. Fig 89 on page 333 shows an example of a '29' handstamp in black applied at Hamilton, Ontario on an unpaid incoming letter. The Quebec post office seems to have been alone in rounding this total charge up to 30 cents. Fig 90 on page 334 shows an example of a letter mailed from Dublin to Quebec in 1865 which was charged 30 cents on arrival. This '30' handstamp is only known used from Quebec.

Just before the end of this time period, in January 1868, the British Post Office reduced the postal charge on letters carried to Canada by the Cunard line from 8d Sterling to 7d Sterling. The equivalent charge in Canadian cents reduced from 17 cents to 15 cents. Examples of mail sent at this lower rate prior to the introduction of the 15 cents Large Queen stamp in March 1868 are very rare but I have seen at least one example which was sent paid in cash with a handstamp. This is shown in fig 91 on page 334 and it features our old friend the PAID 15



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1897 ½c Leaf progressive die proofs  
– unfinished designs in violet



1919 3c Hawker Flight  
Overprint mint LH;  
1980 BPA and 2019 Greene cert.



1861-1862 1p red brown (Scott 16)  
error of colour; 1994 Holcombe cert.



1880 5c pale dull blue mint NH;  
a great rarity in this condition.



1868 3c die essay in green



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☐

Class 1b: Stamps and Postal Stationery post 1902

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Class 2: Postal History, any period

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Fig 88 Letter mailed from Dublin to Quebec in 1860 and sent unpaid. It was carried on the Allan Line vessel 'North Briton'. Subject to a fine of 6d Sterling in addition to the postage, the letter was charged 25 cents on arrival in Canada. The handstamp was applied in Quebec, a similar type being known from Hamilton. (Type G01)



Fig 89 Letter from Dublin to London, Ontario mailed in 1859 and sent unpaid via the Cunard vessel 'Persia'. The '29' handstamp in black (cents due) was applied at Hamilton and is one of a number of similar '29' handstamps. (Type G12)

in circle handstamp of Toronto (shown earlier in figs 76 and 82). Only two examples of this use of this handstamp have been recorded by me.



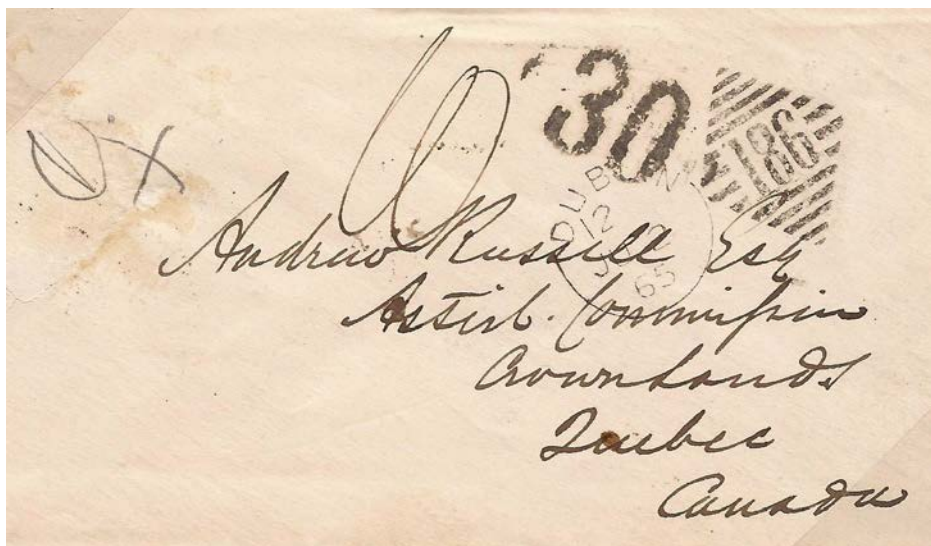


Fig 90 Similar letter from Dublin to Quebec mailed in 1865 and carried on the Cunard 'Scotia' via New York. Quebec seems to have been the only major city in Canada to round up the total postage plus fine charge to 30 cents. (Type G08)

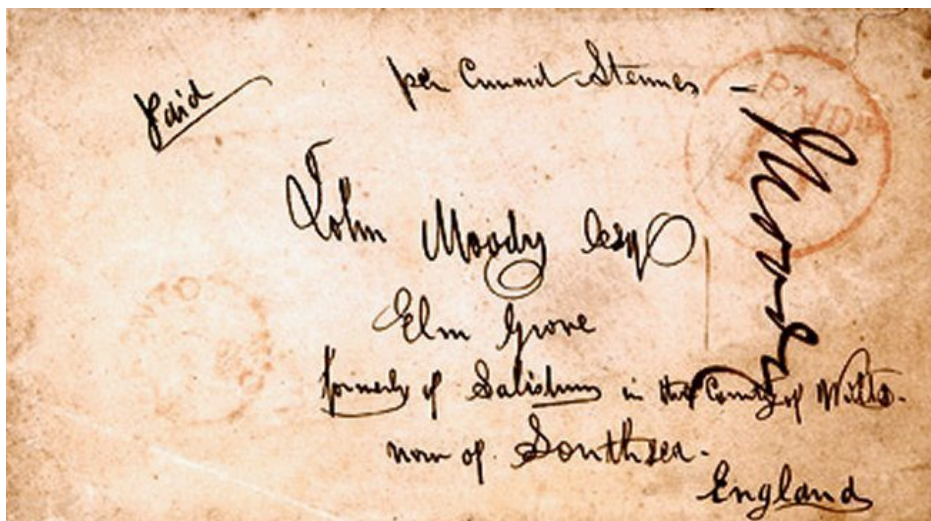


Fig 91 Letter from Toronto to the UK mailed in early 1868 and prepaid in cash at the new 15 cents rate. The letter shows the 'PAID 15' in circle handstamp struck in red. This is the same handstamp shown earlier in figs 76 and 82. One of only two known examples of this handstamp used on transatlantic mail. (Courtesy of Longley Auctions).

**The period from April 1868 to September 1875: Confederation results in more postal rate reductions.**

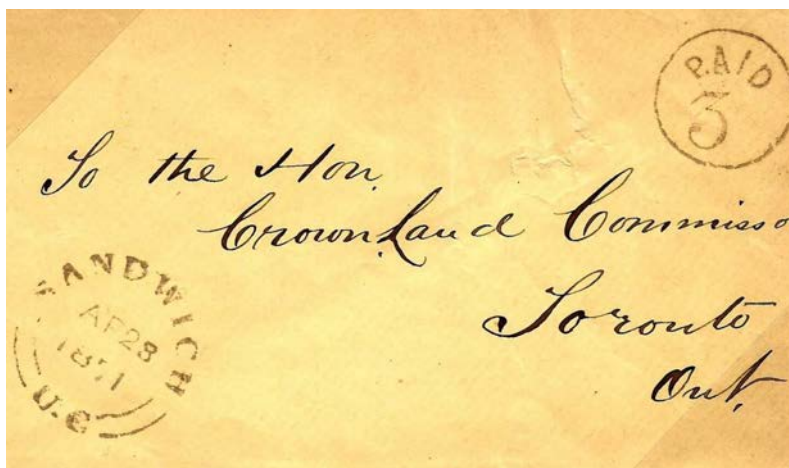
On 1 July 1867, the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia united to form the Dominion of Canada. The Dominion Post Office Act of December 1867 set out reduced postal rates for the new Dominion that would come into effect on 1 April 1868 (21). From this date, the cost of mailing a letter within the Dominion became 3 cents per half ounce if prepaid and 5 cents if unpaid.

The setting of these new rates (and a new 6 cents rate to the USA) had the side effect of allowing postmasters to re-use handstamps (sometimes with minor alterations) that had been procured during the pence era of 1851 – 1859 or the first decimal era of 1859 – 1868. In reality, by 1868 the vast majority of mail was being sent prepaid with stamps and although a wide range of handstamps were used in this period (given the ability to re-use old instruments) their actual use was very small. I have not seen any rate handstamps from this period that I could definitely say were created specifically at the time; all appear to be re-used or modified handstamps from the 1850's and 1860's.

In September 1875, the Post Office Department issued an order making the pre-payment of mail with postage stamps mandatory (22) and the use of rate handstamps became confined to indicating postage due on underpaid mail.

**3 cent handstamps:-**

Fig 92 shows a rather clever adaptation of an earlier handstamp. The 'PAID 3' in circle handstamp on this 1871 letter from Sandwich to Toronto is a modified version of a handstamp in general use in the 1850's (see fig 22). In this case the 'd' (for pence) has been removed.



*Fig 92 1871 letter from Sandwich, Ontario showing a 'PAID 3' in circle handstamp struck in black. The '3' is off-centre as the handstamp has been created by modifying one used in the 1850's by removing the 'd' (for pence).*



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A wide variety of PAID 3 handstamps were in use in this period although all appear identical to types used as 3 pence handstamps in the 1850's. Figs 93 and 94 show six such examples. None of these are common and the majority appear to have been used from small post offices which may well have run out of stamps or never been issued them in the first place. It will be noted that by 1868 there was little or no adherence to the earlier practice of marking paid letters in red and unpaid in black or blue.



Fig 93 Trio of 'PAID 3' handstamps in use in the post Confederation period. All are probably recycled from the 1850's. Used from the small offices of Marmora, Ont., Montmagny, Que. and Georgetown, Ont.



Fig 94 Three more examples of typical 'PAID 3' handstamps used in the 1868 – 1875 period. Used from the small towns of Wroxeter, Nassagaweya and Stayner, Ontario. Note that by this time any semblance of adherence to the 'red for paid, black for unpaid' rule had disappeared.

#### Unpaid handstamps:-

As with the prepaid types, there are a wide variety of unpaid handstamps used in this period though none are common. All appear to be types first used in the 1859 – 1868 period. A trio of unpaid handstamps signifying the 5 cent letter rate are shown in fig 95 overleaf. Many other similar types can be found and unlike their prepaid counterparts,





Fig 95 Trio of unpaid letters mailed in the 1868 – 1875 period showing examples of the many '5' handstamps in use for this purpose. All would appear to have been recycled from the 1859 – 1868 period.

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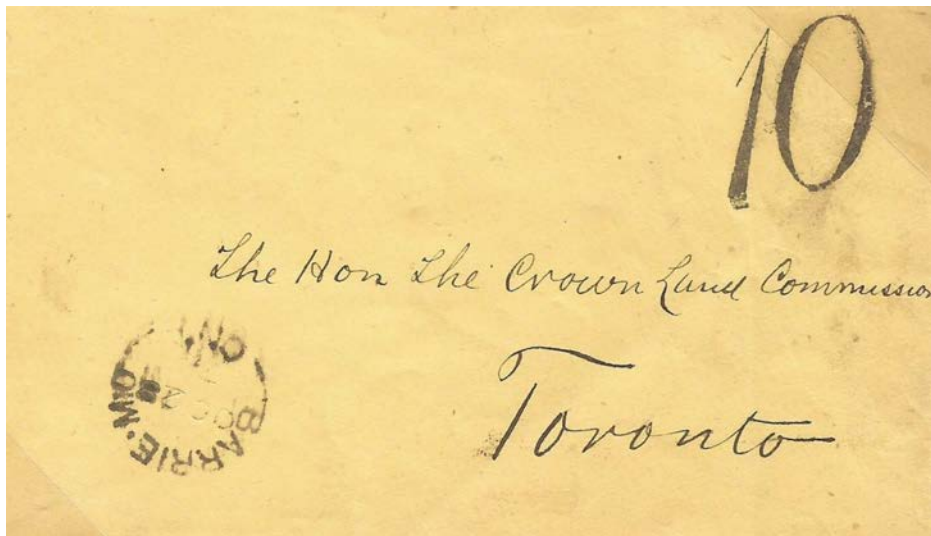
all examples of unpaid handstamps in this period appear to have been struck in black ink.

Fig 96 below shows a scarce example of a double rate unpaid letter from 1871. The fact that unpaid mail now cost some 40% more than prepaid had clearly become a deterrent to sending mail unpaid by this time and few examples are found. The simple black '10' handstamp used here from Barrie, Ontario appears to be one first used on transatlantic mail in the 1850's.

### **Handstamps used on cross border mail:-**

From 1 April 1868, the letter rate to the USA was reduced to 6 cents per ½ ounce for prepaid letters (23). From this date Canada introduced, for the first time, a penalty for sending mail to the USA unpaid and the unpaid rate remained at 10 cents per ½ ounce. By this time, almost all mail to the USA was being sent prepaid with stamps and the use of handstamps on cross border mail from 1868 on was mostly restricted to situations where the post office had run out of stamps. All handstamps on mail to the USA in this period may be regarded as scarce. Particularly scarce are examples of unpaid mail. The big differences in charges resulted in very little mail being sent unpaid. The Post Office did, of course, have a plentiful supply of '6' (pence) and '10' (cents) handstamps left over from use in the 1850's and 1860's so it is doubtful if any new handstamps were produced in this period.

Figs 97 and 98 overleaf show two examples of prepaid mail to the USA paid in cash. The handstamps used here are typical of those available in the period and are both



*Fig 96 Unpaid double weight letter mailed from Barrie, Ontario in 1871. The large '10' handstamp in black is one first used in the 1850's on transatlantic mail.*





Fig 97 Letter mailed from Chatham, Ontario to the USA in 1872 showing a simple 'PAID 6' handstamp struck in red. This same handstamp can be found used on double weight domestic mail in the 1850's.



Fig 98 Letter mailed from Halifax N.S. to Massachusetts in 1870 showing another example of a '6' handstamp first used in the 1850's.



examples of marks previously used in the 1850's. Fig 99 below shows a rather more inventive handstamp which although on paid mail was struck in black. This 'PAID 6c' in circle handstamp has been created by modifying an earlier 6d type by changing the 'd' for a 'c'. Used on a letter from Yorkville, Ontario to Chicago in 1868, it is the only recorded example of this type.



*Fig 99 Interesting letter mailed from Yorkville, Ontario to Chicago in late 1868 and carrying a 'PAID 6c' in circle handstamp struck in black. The handstamp appears to have been created from one used widely in the 1850's by changing the 'd' (for pence) to a 'c' (for cents). This is the only example of this handstamp I have ever seen.*

My final example in fig 100 overleaf shows an unpaid letter from Ottawa to Pennsylvania mailed in 1868. The '10' (cents) handstamp is one first used on transatlantic mail in the 1850's.

### **References:-**

18. Post Office Department Order no 70 of February 1867
19. Post Office Department Circular no 45 of 12 June 1859, clause 5
20. Post Office Department Circular no 45 of 12 June 1859, clause 8
21. Regulations issued under the Dominion Post Office Act, Departmental Order no 2, Ottawa 1 March 1868, clause 5
22. Post Office Department Order no 15, Ottawa 1 September 1875, clauses 1 and 14
23. Regulations issued under the Dominion Post Office Act, Departmental Order no 2, Ottawa 1 March 1868, clause 6

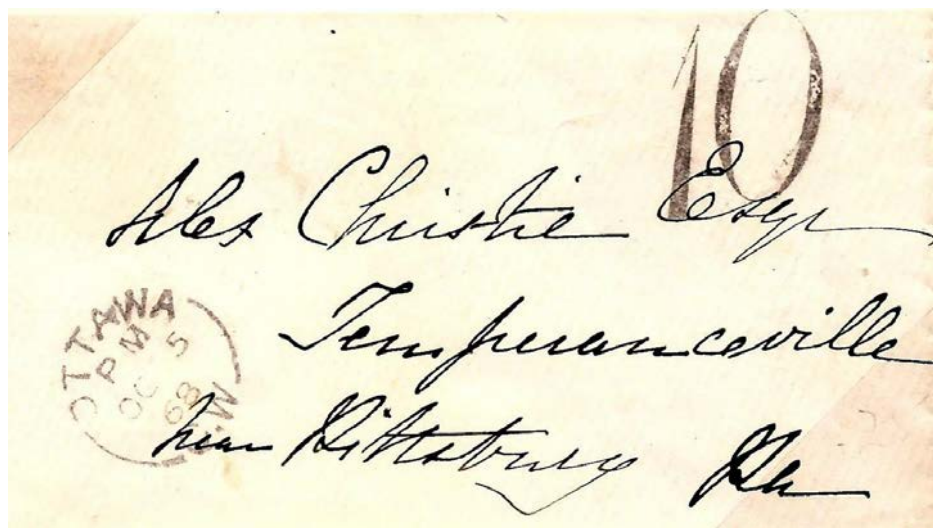


Fig 100 Unpaid letter mailed from Ottawa to Pennsylvania in October 1868 at the new 10 cents unpaid rate. The '10' handstamp is one first used in the 1850's on transatlantic mail.

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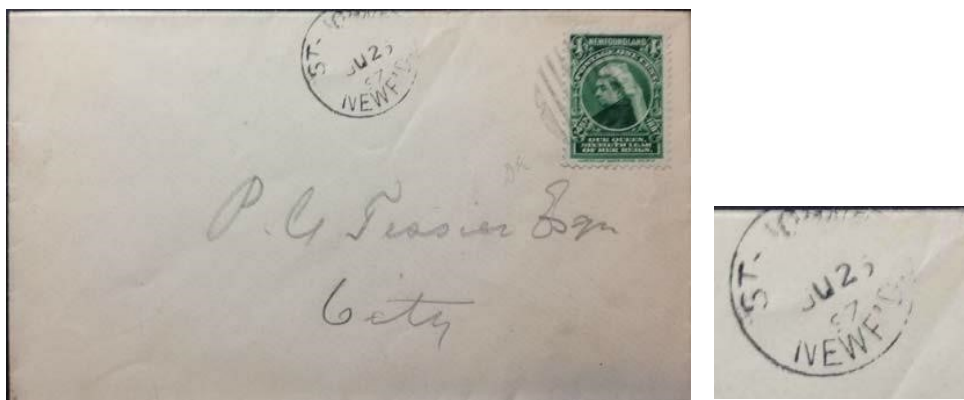
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# NEWFOUNDLAND: “JOHN CABOT ISSUE”

## 30 cent slate denomination

John M Walsh, *FRPSC*

In June 1897 the postage stamp set known to collectors as the *1897 John Cabot & Jubilee* issue was released. To date the earliest known date of use is 25 June 1897 (see fig 1 below). The set is comprised of fourteen denominations ranging from 1¢ to 60¢. It seems that not many varieties have been reported on stamps in this set. In conjunction with this article and to provide information around the article title, information on all the varieties known to date is provided.



*Fig 1 Earliest known use for the Cabot issue, 25 June 1897 (courtesy of Robin Moore)*

The first variety we can illustrate is on the 1 cent value which can be found printed on oily paper (NSSC type 52a) - see fig 2 below



*Fig 2 Front and back of 1¢ value printed on oily paper (NSSC type 52a)*



# SPARKS

## ★ AUCTIONS

Sparks Auctions is pleased to feature Part Two of the Outaouais Collection, featuring high-quality Canada and selected United States stamps to be featured in our May 2020 auction. This spring sale will also include:

- Part Two of the extensive Leon Victor Pont collection of early India First Flight postal history;
- The Brian Plain collection of Canadian Dead Letter Office postal history;
- Extensive Canadian and worldwide postal history and postcards;
- Extensive Canadian and worldwide stamps and collections;
- Extensive worldwide collection in 42 Scott International albums



Canada #11 Unused



Canada #13 Mint o.g.



Toronto (Type 8-23 Barred Involute Flag) Die Letter G  
Realized \$3,042



B.C. #1 Unused  
Realized \$7,020



Newfoundland #C5  
Mint l.h.  
Realized \$4,680

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[www.sparks-auctions.com](http://www.sparks-auctions.com)



The 2¢ value is known with image doubling in the lower half of the stamp (NSSC type 53a) - see fig 3 below.



*Fig 3 2 cent value showing doubling of the image in the lower part of the design - NSSC type 53a.*

The 12¢ value has been found with a re-entry band right across the design from left to right hand frame lines - see fig 4 below. An attempt has been made to find the plate position of this variety but unfortunately no complete proof sheet was available for study. Proofs are known in both blue and pale blue-grey colours. However, the Library Ar-



*Fig 4 Detail of the 12 cent value showing the re-entry band at left of the design. Also shown on the right are the two colours to be found on the plate proofs.*

chives Canada did have a complete sheet of the value with the SPECIMEN overprint which came from the Christies sale of the ABN Archives in 1990. A scan at 1000dpi was provided and study of this pin-pointed the plate position of the re-entry at plate position 69. See fig 5 below.



*Fig 5 Upper right corner of the SPECIMEN overprint sheet and at right detail of plate position 69 showing the re-entry. (Courtesy of Library Archives Canada, ref LAC 1990-241-1391).*

The 35¢ value can be found printed with aniline ink (no illustrated provided).

The main focus of this article is the 30¢ value which has been reported to exist with a minor re-entry under the letters IRTY of the word THIRTY as well as in several other parts of the design Thinking it would be nice to also find the plate position of this variety I once again approached LAC and found that they had a complete sheet of 100 of the plate proofs of this value. I chose a plate position at random and did a digital cut of position 37 (see fig 6 below). This position clearly showed the re-entry.



*Fig 6 Plate proof of the 30 cent value with, at right, detail of plate position 37 showing the re-entry.*

Not sure if I had simply struck lucky or not, I set about checking other plate positions and it seemed they all had the re-entry. This finding suggested that the original die proof must have had the variety. So another search was undertaken. Library Archives Canada were approached once again to see if they had any original die proofs for the this value.

Once again, LAC came to the rescue. They had two die proofs (thank you LAC archivist!)

The first proof, shown on fig 7 below, is on India paper sunk on card and has manuscript writings: black C388; Imprint (word in pencil), and inspector ink notations OK Initials (looks to be JHJ) 4/22/92 and written in pencil is 1¢ Columbian Blue.

Most importantly, the enlargement shows the same re-entry is below IRTY.



*Fig 7 Die proof of the 30¢ value (courtesy of the Library Archives Canada; ref LAC 1990-241-1373) - picture overleaf shows detail of the re-entry.*



*Fig 8 Detail from the first die proof showing the re-entry under IRTY. (Courtesy of Library Archives Canada)*

The second die proof, shown in fig 9 below, shows the die number C-388 printed below the image and the company imprint has been added to the previously designated position below the image. The re-entry is still present under the IRTY of the THIRTY word. This die is considered to be in the hardened form which would mean it is ready to be rocked into the steel printing plate to do the required printing.



*Fig 9 Second die proof with detail of the re-entry shown opposite (Courtesy of Library Archives Canada ref no LAC 1989 - 036 - 100).*





Fig 10 Detail from the second die proof showing the re-entry under IRTY. (Courtesy of the Library Archives Canada).

So from the above we can see that all of the images placed onto the steel plate have this re-entry present as it was present on the original die.

Library Archives Canada also possess a complete sheet of the 30¢ value with the red SPECIMEN overprint. To complete the study, I also took a look at this sheet. Fig 8 below shows a digital cut of position 37 from this sheet along with a detail of the re-entry area. Once again, the re-entry is present.



Fig 8 Example of the 30¢ stamp with SPECIMEN overprint (with detail at right). This also shows the re-entry below IRTY.

*Editors note: John kindly sent me the link to an image of the complete sheet of 100 of the plate proofs of the 30¢ value and I can confirm that the re-entry variety is, indeed, present at every position*

# PALMARES

We extend our congratulations to the following members who have won awards at recent philatelic shows. As usual we apologise to anyone who we have omitted in error.

## **Autumn 2019 Stampex – London:-**

**Stewart Gardiner** – Large Gold in the Open Philately Class for ‘Sealing and Securing the Letter – the Rise and Demise of the Wafer Seal’

## **BNAPEX 2019 – Ottawa:-**

### **Multi Frame Exhibits:-**

**Grégoire Teyssier** – Gold and the Allan Steinhart Reserve Grand Award for ‘Canadian Government Official Postmarks – 1841 to 1939’

**John Walsh** – Gold and the Wilmer Rockett Revenue Award for ‘Newfoundland Early Legal Documental History via Stampless Precursor and 1898 Queen Victoria First Revenue types’

**George Dresser** – Gold and the John D. Arn White Queen Award for ‘The Mammal Definitives 1988 – 1992’

**Earle L. Covert** – Gold and the United States Postal Stationery Society Marcus White Award for ‘King George VI Private Order Envelopes’

**Luc Legault** – Gold for ‘Les premiers compteurs postaux à valeurs multiples distribués par Pitney- Bowes au Canada 1930 – 1955’

**Richard Thompson** – Gold for ‘The First Decimal Issue of Canada’

**Luc Legault** – Vermeil and the Lola Caron Award for ‘Marques postales des bureaux de poste aux Iles de la Madeleine 1885 – jour’

**Charles Livermore** – Vermeil and Canadian Military Mail Study Group Award for ‘Thanks for the Smokes’

**Per-Olof Jansson** – Vermeil and Canadian Aerophilatelic Society Best Aerophilatelic Exhibit Award for ‘Canada Commercial Airmail During 1925 – 1954.’

**Yan Turmine** – Vermeil for ‘14th UPU Congress Ottawa’

**David Bartlet** – Silver-Bronze for ‘Centenary of the First Transatlantic Mail by Alcock and Brown.’

### **Single Frame Exhibits:-**

**David Piercey** – Gold, Daniel Myerson Award and Herb McNaught One Frame Exhibit Award for ‘The Cancellations of Newfoundland 1865 – 1908: Corks, Fancy Cancels & Other Obliterators’

**Bill Burden** – Gold for ‘Small Queen Constant Plate Varieties including Usage’

**Darcy Hickson** – Gold for ‘International Stamp Cancellation Machines at Brandon, Manitoba 1907 – 1919’

**Brian Stalker** – Gold for ‘Labrador Moravian Mission Mail 1885 – 1912’

**Mark Berner** – Silver for ‘Rates and Markings of the Large Queen Era Illustrated on Advertising Covers’

### **Non-Exhibit Awards:-**

**Michael D. Smith** – John S. Siverts Award for best Study Group Newsletter – for ‘*Dots and Scratches*’ the newsletter of the Re-entries and Constant Plate Varieties Study Group.

**Hugo Deshaye** – Jack Levine Fellowship Award for major contributions to a Regional Group

**Vic Willson** – Hall of Fame Award.

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## **NEW BOOKS**

The sight of our postie struggling up the drive with a heavy package earlier this year signalled the arrival of the new edition of the **Webb’s Postal Stationery Catalogue of Canada and Newfoundland**. This 8th Edition, edited once again by Earle Covert and Bill Walton, is the first new edition to appear since 2001 so, no doubt, collectors of Postal Stationery will feel it is long overdue.

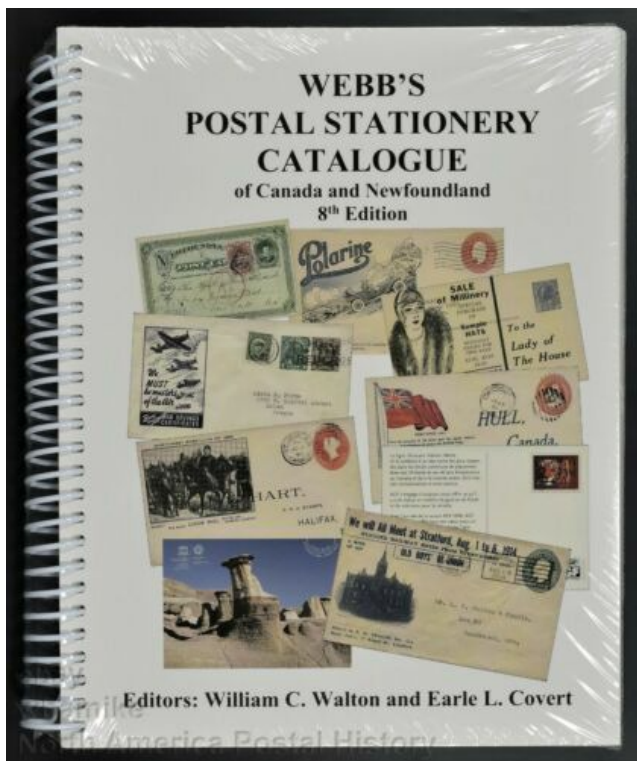
However, a quick look through the new volume reveals quite what a task the editors had to undertake. The new volume runs to over 480 pages (compared to the 320 of the 7th Edition) and includes some significant changes, not least some new numbering throughout the listings to accommodate the many new discoveries that have been made since Jim Webb developed the first edition of the book in 1971. A helpful table in the back of the book compares any new numbers to the old.

Perhaps not surprisingly, given the 19 year gap since the last edition, many prices have gone up, but a few have come down and it is clear that the editors have gone to considerable lengths to match the pricing to the current market.

The listings include all of the normal classes of Postal Stationery, including; envelopes, postcards, post bands and wrappers, letter cards, aerogrammes and a host of miscellaneous items including essays, proofs and specimens. New sections in this edition include the Lowe-Martin Create a Postcard, Santa envelopes and cards, Canada Post promotional cards and the Returned Dead Letter envelopes along with the 1899 Vancouver view cards.

One grouping has been removed from the listings. This is the Premium Products (Priority Post, Special Letters, Xpresspost etc). Listings of these remain

available online at the BNAPS web site under publications and online library for those who collect these items.



Overall, this remains the definitive catalogue for anyone who collects Postal Stationery and those members who do will, no doubt, wish to have a copy to hand.

The catalogue is spiral bound in A4 sizing and is published in full colour. It is available from the Unitrade Press in Toronto at a list price of \$CAN 84.95. (Note that I have seen it offered on ebay for under \$60 but buyers in the UK should beware as the p&p on this book will be substantial!).

**HAVE YOU TRIED TO ENROL  
A NEW MEMBER RECENTLY?**



# SOCIETY NEWS

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sadly, during January we learned of Peter Motson's passing. An obituary appears elsewhere in this issue of our journal but, on behalf of the Society, I have sent our heartfelt condolences to Mavis and her family. We will miss Peter.

Booking forms for this year's Convention in Eastbourne are enclosed with this issue of "Maple Leaves". Please note that bookings must be made through me and received **by 12th August 2020**.

Although we are not seeking any advance deposit for hotel bookings, cancellation within two weeks of arrival may be charged 50% rising to 100% for cancellation within 24 hours.

Recent developments including travel restrictions, social distancing etc are likely to be in place for several months, and possibly much longer. There is therefore a possibility that this year's Convention will have to be cancelled. Hopefully we will be in a better position to make a decision before the July issue of *Maple Leaves* goes to print. We will also use the Society web-site to communicate updates as appropriate.

In the meantime, it would be helpful to receive booking forms on the basis of "expression of interest" rather than firm bookings. We will not pass individual details to the hotel before the booking deadline of 12th August and will contact you by phone or e-mail to confirm your booking before then. We also suggest that you do not commit expenditure on travel arrangements until our way forward becomes clearer.

A detailed programme including details of the partners events will be included in the July issue of "Maple Leaves" but I am pleased to announce that the following members will be giving displays and / or illustrated talks:-

Colin Banfield – McClary Manufacturing Co., London, Ontario

John Cooper – Trials and tribulations of starting a postal system in New Brunswick.

Brian Hargreaves - Numeral and Fancy Cancels on Large Queens.

Colin Lewis – Joseph Davies – a Welshman transported for life.

Charles Livermore – Canadian National Exhibitions.

John Watson – Postal history of QEII to 1967.

John Wright – Money Letters.

In addition to those displays, you are invited to show from 1 to 18 sheets with not more than five minutes talk. Bring along something that may not be up to competition standard but is of particular interest or perhaps a work in progress?

On Tuesday afternoon we will be visiting “**Batemans**” the home of **Rudyard Kipling** in Burwash. It is a National Trust property - the house contains much memorabilia and although the gardens may be past their best at the end of September there is a water mill and the usual NT café and shop!

Wednesday afternoon will see us visiting the **Bluebell Railway** where we will enjoy a **Ploughman’s Lunch** on the 1.15pm departure from Sheffield Park – there will be a choice of cheese, ham or pate accompanied by tea or coffee. In view of those gastronomic delights I have made a provisional booking for 40!

Freda is working on the partners programme and despite the Corona Virus / Covid-19 situation we look forward to receiving your booking forms and to hearing from you in the near future.

Finally, we share an absorbing interest to keep our minds active so now might be the time to sort out, research and write up items from our goody boxes. Our editor would love to receive articles for publication!

**Brian Stalker *FCPS, FRPSL, OTB***

## **FROM THE SUBSCRIPTION MANAGER**

Those few remaining members who have not yet paid subscriptions for 2020 are reminded that these are now overdue at the reduced rate of £15 for UK members and £20 for overseas members. As usual, payments can be made by cheque (in £ mailed to me or in \$US or \$CAN mailed to Mike Street) or via PAYPAL on the Society website. Please note that Mike has recently moved – his new address can be found on the inside back cover.

Note that, as usual, any member who has not paid their subscriptions by mid June will be taken off the Maple Leaves circulation list meaning that this will be the last issue you receive. A number of reminders have been sent out already so please act promptly to maintain your membership.

The Subscription reminder containing all the relevant details was included with the October issue of Maple Leaves but if you have mislaid this you can download a replacement copy from the Society website.

**Ken Flint**

## **FROM THE AUCTION MANAGER**

Many thanks to all those members who participated in the March postal/internet auction either as vendors or buyers (or both!)

Our next sale will be a room auction at our Eastbourne convention and will take place on Thursday 1 October in the afternoon. Members wishing to consign material for sale in

this auction are asked to get it to the Auction Manager **no later than Friday 12th June** to allow ample time for the preparation of the catalogue etc. As noted previously, we will not be able to offer any large or bulky lots in this auction, given the logistics of getting the material to and from Eastbourne from the wilds of Scotland. Any bulky material will, therefore, be held over to the next sale in Q1 2021.

**Graham Searle FCPS**

## **LONDON GROUP**

The London Group programme for the remainder of 2020 is outlined below. All meetings will take place at the offices of the Royal Philatelic Society, 15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BW, commencing at 12 noon and ending at 3pm. Following the meeting, those who wish, may join us for refreshments at a local tavern or restaurant. A charge of £5 per person per meeting will be levied to partially offset the costs of the meeting room.

May 11	Colin Lewis entertains - <b>cancelled</b>
July 5	Members – Directional Markings/ cachets - <b>cancelled</b>
Sept 14	AGM and Beaver Cup
Nov 9	Members – V to Z

For confirmation of meetings, or for any further information, or if in doubt due to weather etc. please contact Colin Banfield on 0770 8269698 or [cbjubilee@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cbjubilee@yahoo.co.uk)

**Colin Banfield FCPS**

## **SCOTLAND AND NORTH OF ENGLAND GROUP**

The next meeting of the Scotland and North of England Group will be held on **Saturday 23rd May 2020 commencing at 1330hrs**. Our 2020 meetings will once again be held in Glasgow at the home of George Henshilwood. We will be meeting ‘chez George’ at ‘Kilmory’, 20 Mirrlees Drive, Kirklee in Glasgow. The postcode is G12 0SH and Mirrlees Drive is located just off the Great Western Road to the west end of the Royal Botanic Gardens. All members (and their guests) are welcome to attend, please bring along a few sheets to display or any items you need help with identifying. Please contact the Editor for any further details or if you would like a map!

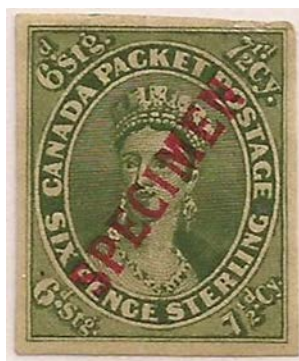
**Graham Searle FCPS**

## AND FINALLY..... A TALE OF A PLATE PROOF THAT WASN'T AND THEN WAS

The picture below, in fig 1, shows a plate proof that your Editor bought many years ago from a postal auction. I have to admit that I only purchased the item for its' novelty value. Why? Well a glance through the catalogue listings will show that this particular plate proof does not exist and strange as it may seem, forgers in the dim and distant past did produce a few proofs of the Pence stamps that the printers never thought to make; fig 2 below shows a nice example of one such 'proof' of the 7½ pence value (you won't find this one in the catalogue either!) Whilst a proof with a diagonal SPECIMEN overprint is to be found on the 1 cent stamp of 1859 and is listed as type 14Pii in the Unitrade catalogue, there is no similar diagonal overprint proof in the listings for the similar but earlier ½ penny stamp of 1857.



*Fig 1 The plate proof that wasn't and then was*



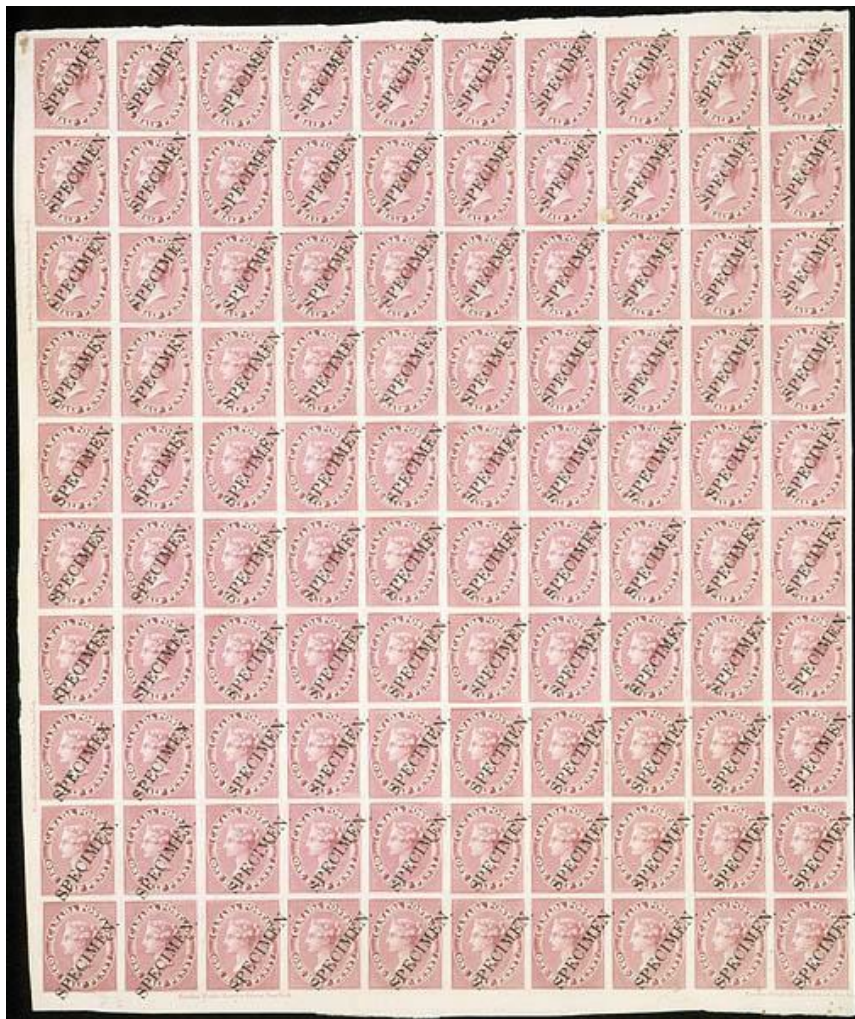
*Fig 2 Forger's creation. A red diagonal SPECIMEN overprint on the 7½ pence green. At least this one has some pedigree - it once resided in the Dale-Lichtenstein collection!*

Many years later, I was looking through a copy of the auction catalogue from the Christies sale of the American Bank Note Company Archives (held in New York in 1990). I can't even recall now why I was consulting the catalogue but imagine my surprise when I saw lot 1548, illustrated opposite in fig 3. The catalogue listing reads....

*1857 1/2p Rose plate proof on India, diagonal black 'Specimen' overprint; block of 100, affixed to card.*

Suitably intrigued, I consulted the prices realised to see how much someone might have paid for this item, only to discover that the lot had been withdrawn prior to the sale. Now several of the lots in this sale were similarly withdrawn prior to the auction after





*Fig 3 Block of 100 of the diagonal SPECIMEN overprint ex the ABNCo Archives.  
(Courtesy of Library Archives Canada - online MIKAN ref 2253481)*

a deal was struck with the Library Archives Canada to place the items into the National Archives.

Hot on the trail, I consulted James Bone at the Archives and he was quick to respond. Yes, the Archives did acquire the lot and it remains in Library Archives Canada. You can view the Archives entry at [collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam\\_Archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec\\_nbr=2253481](https://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam_Archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=2253481)

So, it seems that my plate proof which didn't exist, actually does exist – or at least 101 copies of it do! A nice reminder that you should not always believe everything you read in stamp catalogues.

# AMENDMENTS TO MEMBERSHIP

to 15th MARCH 2020

## New Members:-

- 3077 McFETRIDGE, Chirstopher Allan; 213 Lancaster Street, Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada E2M 1J5; e mail [brixton-chrome@hotmail.com](mailto:brixton-chrome@hotmail.com)  
3078 FISCHER, Chris; Suite 109, 115 3rd Avenue South, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada S7K 1L7; e mail [chrisfischer306@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisfischer306@yahoo.com)  
3079 ALLEN, James; 4608 Oakridge Drive, Midland, MI 48640, USA; e mail [stampmole@charter.net](mailto:stampmole@charter.net); **CL, CS, RPO**  
3080 PISZKO, Peter; PO Box 91075, Etobicoke, Ontario, Canada M9C 5N5; e mail [ppiszko@hotmail.com](mailto:ppiszko@hotmail.com)

## Change of Address and Corrections to Address:-

- 2251 NEWTON, Malcolm; new e mail address [malcolmpetithoumet@outlook.com](mailto:malcolmpetithoumet@outlook.com)  
2374 STREET, Mike; Apt 105, 1136 Maritime Way, Kanata, Ontario, Canada K2K 0M1  
2951 ELY, Bob; new e mail address [bob.ely@outlook.com](mailto:bob.ely@outlook.com)

## Resigned:-

- 2816 AUER, Clive  
3060 PUTNAM, Adrian  
3074 DENHOLM, Sheila

## Deceased:-

- 1322 MALOTT, Dick  
2539 WALLACE, Jack  
2564 HENDERSON, Stuart  
2864 MOTSON, Peter

Revised Total:- 240

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### 2020

- May 2 - 3 Orapex, Ottawa  
**May 11 CPSGB London Group meeting - cancelled**  
**May 23 CPSGB Scotland and North of England meeting - Glasgow**  
Jun 19 - 21 ROYAL 2020 ROYALE, Fredericton N.B.  
**July 5 CPSGB London Group meeting - cancelled**  
July 15 - 19 PHSC Symposium - Hamilton, Ontario  
July 17 - 18 York Stamp & Coin Fair, York Racecourse  
Sept 4 - 6 BNAPEX, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia  
**Sept 14 CPSGB London Group meeting**  
**Sept 28 - Oct 2 CPSGB Convention - Cumberland Hotel, Eastbourne**  
Sept 30 - Oct 3 Autumn Stampex, BDC Islington, London  
Oct 7 - 10 ANKARA 2020 FEPA Exhibition, Turkey  
**Nov 9 CPSGB London Group meeting**  
**Nov 14 CPSGB Scotland and North of England meeting - Glasgow**

### 2021 Provisional Programme

- Feb 17 - 20 Spring Stampex, BDC Islington, London  
Sep 3 - 5 BNAPEX, Winnipeg  
**Sept 22 - 26 CPSGB Convention - Queens Hotel, Dundee**  
Sept 29 - Oct 2 Autumn Stampex, BDC Islington, London

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