

Synopsis: The Large Queens ½¢ to 3¢ 1868 – 1882

STAMP SIZE:

Most of the large Queens were issued in 24 X 20 mm format, but the ½¢ value was issued in a smaller 20 X 17 mm size.

PAPER DESCRIPTIONS: The Duckworth descriptions for papers 1 to 10 have been used, with modifications in some cases to assist collectors in identifying them. In some cases the new descriptions contradict in part the Duckworth description.

Paper 1 has traditionally been described as a thin crisp paper with a vague vertical structure. It is however of **medium** thickness. The crispness or stiffness is at least partly a result of its thickness and the structure although usually vertical, is sometimes **horizontal**.

Paper 2 has traditionally been described as a thin paper, however most examples are in the **thinnish** range.

Paper 5 has been split into 5a, thinner and 5b thicker to facilitate describing their differences.

Paper 6 was described by the Duckworths as giving a blurry image, most copies however, have a **sharp** impression.

Paper 8a was called Duckworth paper 8, and has had its description revised to include the sparkle effect which is due to mineral inclusions.

Paper 8b has been created to describe the thicker paper of the ½¢ large Queen which the Duckworths did not define.

Paper 9b has been redefined as **thinnish** rather than thin.

Paper 10 has been split into two groups to differentiate between the smooth early examples with almost no visible grain and the later examples with faint to pronounced grain.

Shoemaker's paper descriptions have been used and updated to describe papers 11 to 15 and 18 and 19.

PERFORATIONS: The perforation traditionally stated to be 11½ is actually **11.6**, 12 is either **11.9** or **12.1**. Perforations traditionally stated to be 11¾ are correct.

WHEN WERE THE LARGE QUEENS REPLACED BY THE SMALL QUEENS?

In general the large Queens (24 X 20 mm) were replaced by the small Queens (20 X 17 mm) of the same value however the half cent started out in small size already.

THREE CENTS: The three cents LQ was replaced by the three cents SQ in the delivery of 1869/OC/08 earliest recorded use of the 3¢ SQ is 1870 JA/12.

ONE CENT: The one cent LQ was replaced by the one cent SQ in the delivery of 1869/NO/30. Earliest recorded use of the 1¢ SQ is 1870/FE/10.

TWO CENTS: The two cents LQ was replaced by the two cents SQ in the delivery of 1872/JA, (day not recorded). Earliest recorded use of the two cents SQ is 1872/MR/01.

HALF CENT: The half cent which was small already was replaced by the tiny Queen (15 X 18 mm.) in response to the order of 1882/FE/20. Earliest recorded use of the half cent tiny Queen is 1882/OC/23.

NOTWORTHY ITEMS IN EXHIBIT:

HALF CENT:

Discovery copy on paper 1 not reported by the Duckworths. Believed to be unique.

ONE CENT:

Copy of "Burr behind head" variety, recently discovered by Glenn Archer;

Copy in orange on paper 8a (Duckworth paper 8), one of four copies reported;

Discovery copy in orange-yellow on paper 8a, believed to be unique.

NOTE: In the first edition of their monograph on the large Queens the Duckworths stated that they had observed the 1¢ red-brown on paper 8 and did not think paper 8 would occur on the 1¢ orange to yellow as well, despite it being thus reported by Martin. In the second edition they acknowledged paper 8 on the 1¢ orange. Subsequently three more copies have been reported on the 1¢ orange and one on the 1¢ orange-yellow.

TWO CENTS:

Two copies on paper 1 with grain horizontal from delivery 1, not reported by the Duckworths.

THREE CENTS:

Copy on paper 1 with grain horizontal, not reported by the Duckworths;

Copy on paper 2 from delivery 2, not reported by the Duckworths;

Examples on laid paper (paper 5a) from each of printings 1 and 2, only printing 1 reported by the Duckworths;

Copy on paper 7 not reported on the three cents large Queen by the Duckworths;

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Duckworth H. E. & H. W. The Large Queen Stamps of Canada and Their Use 2nd Ed., V. G. Green Philatelic R. Foundation, 2008;
Hillson, J. & Nixon J. E., Canada's Postage Stamps of the Small Queen Era, 1870 – 1897. V. G. Green P. Research Foundation, 2009.
Johnson, R. A., Stamp perforations with Particular Emphasis on Canadian Stamps, BNAPS, 2010.