

ISSN 0951-5283

JOURNAL OF THE
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN



Maple Leaves

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Whole No. 218

Vol. 21 No. 2

June 1988



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MAPLE LEAVES

Journal of

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

INCORPORATED 1946

Founder:

A. E. Stephenson, F.C.P.S.

Edited by: David Sessions, FRPSL, FCPS.
36 The Chimes, Nailsea, Bristol, BS19 2NH.

Opinions expressed in the various articles in this journal are those of the writers and are not necessarily endorsed by the Society

Published five times a year by the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain
Annual Subscription £7 – Due 1st October

Vol. 21 No. 2

JUNE 1988

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EDITORIAL

In the January issue we carried a review of a new book, 'Newfoundland T.P.O. Cancellations,' by Messrs Kidd and Cockrill. We have since received from Lew Ludlow, an acknowledged authority on Canadian railway postmarks, a detailed criticism of this book.

The Editor's knowledge of these markings is negligible and refuge is taken behind the disclaimer at the front of every issue of 'Maple Leaves' concerning the opinions expressed therein. In defence of the reviewer it should be said that the book in question was published on behalf of the TPO & Seapost Society, whose interests encompass the whole world and, in the absence of any comparable publication at the present time it must serve as a useful primer. We understand that Lew, in conjunction with members of the RPO Study Group of BNAPS, proposes publication of a definitive work on the Newfoundland TPO's within the next year or so.

Having said this, we are summarizing the points that Lew has made in his letter in order that students may be aware of the position where, otherwise, confusion might reign.

The historical section of the book has apparently been available to Newfoundland specialists for some time and is not under discussion here. In the catalogue section of the book, the numbering system used by Meyerson, who published the research (on which the new book is based) in 'Topics' in 1962, is retained. T.P.G. Shaw, who did sterling

work on RPO's in the 60's and early 70's, devised a new numbering system (with Meyerson's agreement) and this has been utilized by Ludlow who followed in Shaw's footsteps. Reversion to the old system will cause confusion among collectors in this field. A number of items listed by Shaw in 1963 have been 'de-listed' by Ludlow as unverified while others have been added. Some of the 'de-listed' items appear in the new work. Many early/late dates, verified and reported by Ludlow, have not been picked up while a number of new dates are reported; authenticity of these reports has not yet been established.

Two specific points are challenged. The addenda infers that 82A is a very recent discovery whereas it was reported by Meyerson in 1962 and included in Shaw's 1963 catalogue. Number 127A is stated as added only in June 1986, this too was listed by Shaw in 1963 (albeit incorrectly as to type) and Ludlow confirmed the first recorded strike in 1983. It was included in Annex 1 of his own book in the same year.

As an introduction to Newfoundland TPO's the new book remains a most interesting read and provides a useful basis for collecting the material, but anyone venturing into the field should bear in mind the reservation expressed by Lew Ludlow.

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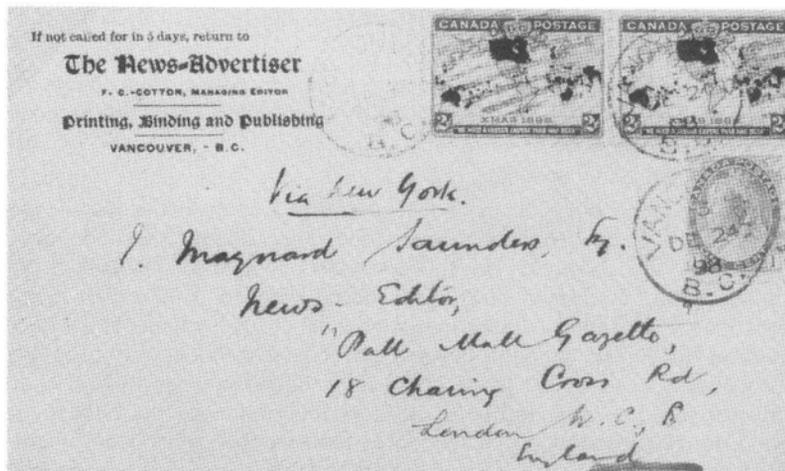
WHY I COLLECT THE MAP STAMP **by Fred Fawn**

Photos courtesy of Canadian Stamp News.

The 1898 Map stamp, a nineteenth-century large format, picturesque stamp, was printed in three colours: black, blue (or lavender) and red. The engraved portion was black; the oceans in blue and the Empire, red. The oceans and the Empire were typograph-printed. Although five plates were prepared, only plates 1, 2, 3 and 5 were used. Plate 4 was defective and was never utilized. The only example of plate 4 is in the Canadian Postal Museum.

Being a single-issue stamp, low catalogue valuation and the abundance of this stamp make it very popular. Twenty million were ordered and 19,927,500 stamps were delivered to the Post Office Department by the American Bank Note Co., Ottawa. Not only is it pursued by collectors of Canadian stamps but is also appeals to the many thematic “map” and “Christmas” stamp collectors as well.

Because of the combination of the printing methods with four plates, there are varieties in abundance. On the black plate, for example, there are the plate markings: plate numbers, imprints, marginal markings and the elusive center crosses. There are also numerous



Dec 24 1898. Last day of the 5¢ Empire rate. Although this rate was in effect for the period Dec 7–24, it is difficult to find map covers with this rate.

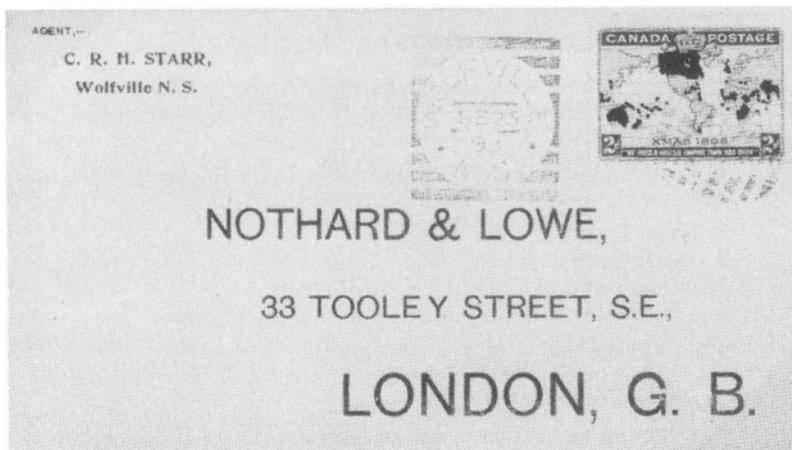
retouches and re-entries, some major. There are colour differences in the oceans: various shades of blue, an oxidized “muddy water” shade, as well as a so-called “true lavender”. Among the red printing varieties are numerous island shifts, missing islands, etc. For the variety enthusiast who has 20–20 vision and a knowledge of geography, the Map stamp is ideal to collect.

Moreover, the Map stamp has probably produced the third most plentiful imperfs. These vary from full colours to black only; black with blue, missing red and black with red but missing blue. In used stamps, the maps offer a tremendous range of postmarks. Some of the more studied cancellation are: fancy corks, numerals, grids, RPO’s, squared circles, flags, military, etc. There are also scarce perfins and pre-cancels of which none are known on cover. There are map-related cinderellas such as the scarce litho forgery with its unmistakably fake MONTREAL 24/12/98 postmark and the S.P.G. stamp. This item bears a close likeness to the Map stamp. It was issued by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, as part of fund raising. Then there is the Pan Am “stamp” issued to promote the Pan American Exposition held in 1901 in Buffalo. Both the S.P.G. and Pan Am stamps have red colour schemes. The former shows the S.P.G. world and the latter indicates the U.S. possessions.

The Map stamp was issued on 7 December, 1898. This is the first day for the stamp and only those covers which are postmarked this date can qualify as first day covers. First days of the many rate changes are NOT ‘first days’.

I have a stamp that is postmarked Kingston 6 Dec 1898. However, on closer examination, this date could be a 9 Dec with “9” inverted, giving the appearance of a “6”. It could also be a December “16” with the “1” of the “16” missing.

Because the purpose of the Map stamp was to bring the Empire closer together by lowering postal rates, Map stamp postal history is fascinating. For example, on 25 December, 1898 the Empire rate was reduced from 5 to 2¢ while the domestic rate was 3¢. This means that on Christmas Day 1898, a letter could be sent from Toronto to London, England for 2¢ but the same letter from Toronto to Hamilton (only 30 miles away) would cost 3¢. It was not until 1 January, 1899 that the domestic rate was reduced to 2¢. Interestingly enough, the 2¢ postcard rate remained unchanged. A challenge for lovers of Map postal history is to find a domestic cover with a single 2¢ map during the period 25–31 Dec, 1898, shortpaid by 1¢ but rated as postage due. These rate changes combined with services such as special delivery, registration, as well as shortpaid letters, multiple rates, etc., offer endless hours of pleasure



Dec 25 1898. First day of the 2¢ rate (a 60% reduction). A comparatively common map stamp rate.

and research. In short, during the Map period two rates were involved for every destination. In Canada it was 3¢ and after 1 Jan, 1899 it was 2¢ and so on. To make matters even more interesting not every colony was a member of the Imperial Penny Postage scheme on 25 December, 1898. For example, Australia did not become a member until 25 May, 1905.

I am grateful to Mr. Frederick Tomlinson for his pioneer work on the Map, his many excellent articles in *Maple Leaves* and his subsequent book.

References:

Maple Leaves

The Canadian Map Stamp of 1898 by Frederick Tomlinson, F.C.P.S. A Handbook of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain, 1960

The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada by Winthrop S. Boggs. Published by Chambers Publishing Co. Kalamazoo, Michigan, U.S.A., 1945

The Evolution of Imperial Penny Postage and The Postal History of the Canadian 1898 Map Stamp by R.B. Winmill. Published by Jim A. Hennok Ltd., Toronto, Canada, 1982

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

In accordance with Rule 19, notice is hereby given of the Society's Annual General Meeting, to be held at the Post House Hotel, Southampton, on Saturday 8th October 1988, commencing at 11.00am.

In accordance with Rule 17, nominations for the following offices are solicited:-

1. Vice President (from Scotland)
2. Secretary
3. Treasurer
4. Three Committee Members, one from each region.

The retiring Committee Members are:-

Miss A.E. Stephenson FCPS (Scotland), Mr. G. Whitworth FRPSL, FCPS (North) and Mr. G.N. Prior (South).

Nominations and any proposed amendments to the Rules should be sent to the Secretary by 8th July 1988.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I regret that I am unable yet to provide full details of the Convention programme. However, for the ladies, I have arranged a talk on 'The Restoration of Paintings' and a walking tour around historic parts of Southampton. The coach tours will be as previously advised, namely to Portsmouth and to Wilton House.

For philatelists there will be displays, broadly as indicated in the April 'Maple Leaves'. I do not yet have final confirmation of all of these so cannot give a detailed programme. I hope there will be a special display by one of our Canadian members. Do try to come; I look forward to meeting old and new friends in Southampton and will try to make sure everyone has a good time.

Dorothy Sanderson

FELLOWSHIP

Members of the Society are eligible for election as Fellows for:-

- (a) Outstanding research in the Postal History and/or Philately of British North America, or
- (b) Outstanding services in the advancement of the interests of the Society.

Nominations are solicited for submission to the Fellowship sub-committee in accordance with Fellowship Rule No. 2. Such nominations must be on the prescribed form which is available from the Secretary, and must be submitted by 8th August 1988.

**THE S.P.G. "MAP" STAMP
by The Yellow Peril**

Photo by Fearless Fred

This amazing S.P.G. (Society for the Propagation of the Gospel) map stamp is a "spitting" image of the Canada 1898 map stamp! The stamps are about the same size and colour and have parallel red colour schemes; the one for the S.P.G. World and the other for the British Empire. Some of the major differences are:



Fig. 1 The S.P.G. and Canada Map Stamps.

S.P.G. Stamp

Canada Stamp

Wording:

THE S.P.G. WORLD

CANADA POSTAGE. Crown
and Maple Leaves

FOUNDED 1701

XMAS 1898

UPON WHICH THE SUN
NEVER SETS

WE HOLD A VASTER
EMPIRE THAN HAS BEEN

1d

2c

Oceans:

Atlantic - To the left
Indian - Entire ocean at right
Pacific - At left and at right

More to the right
Portions at left and right
Entire ocean at left

Continents:

"Rotated" about 180 degrees
(Australia at right)

As normally seen in Mercator's
Projection
(Australia at left)

Longitude and Latitude lines:

Lines are bold

Lines are fine

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This stamp shows the

S.P.G. WORLD.

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The parts shaded **red over black** show where the S.P.G. maintains Chaplains for British people.

The parts shaded **black with a red line round them** show where the S.P.G. has worked in the past, but has now handed over to another Missionary Society (e.g., U.M.C.A.), or to a self-supporting Church (e.g., in U.S.A.).

The parts shaded **black** show countries, whether Christian or pagan, where the S.P.G. does not work.



Each stamp bought means a penny given to the work of the S.P.G.

The stamps may be bought at 1d. each, or in booklets of thirty (price 2s. 6d.) from the Publications Department, S.P.G. House.

[NOTE.—For teaching a large class, use might be made of a coloured map of the world, 28-in. by 14-in., showing all the dioceses of the Anglican Communion overseas, price 6d. (by post 9d.), published by S.P.G.]

Fig. 3 A brochure (courtesy U.S.P.G.) dated March 1925 publicizing the S.P.G. World and its stamp. Until this brochure's discovery by The Reverend Pearson on 8 August, 1985 it was believed that the stamp was made in 1951 – the 250th Anniversary of the S.P.G. The “H.B. Skinner & Co., S.E.” imprint may well be the printers of this stamp but neither the British Consulate nor the library in Toronto have any listings of this Company.

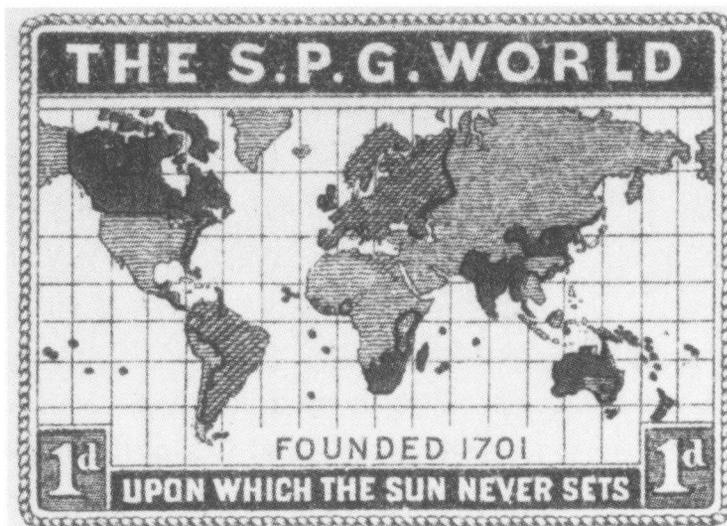


Fig. 4 Enlargement of the stamp in the Brochure. Courtesy U.S.P.G.

The parts printed in red:

Canada	Australia, except New South Wales
India	British Isles
Burma	South Africa and Madagascar
Mongolia	Central America

The parts shaded red over black:

South America except Peru & Chile	Egypt
Europe including Norway, Sweden, Finland and parts of Western Russia	

The parts shaded black with a red line around them:

Eastern United States	New South Wales
Kenya and Tanganyika	New Zealand



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THE QUEBEC CITY FAKES (Part 2)

By Richard Gratton (Académie Québécoise d'Études Philatéliques) with the assistance of Claude Beaulac

The items which were falsified

We reproduce in this second part, several typical items which have been sold as there is not sufficient space in this magazine to illustrate them all. One must understand that all Canadian stamps printed by lithography (offset) can be altered. In all cases it consists of the removal of all or part of the lithographic image.

We have classified the items in four major categories:

- I) Complete removal of the lithographic image
 - a) on stamps produced entirely by lithography
 - b) on stamps produced by both steel engraving and lithography.
- II) Partial removal of the lithographic image
 - a) on stamps produced entirely by lithography
 - b) on stamps produced by both steel engraving and lithography.

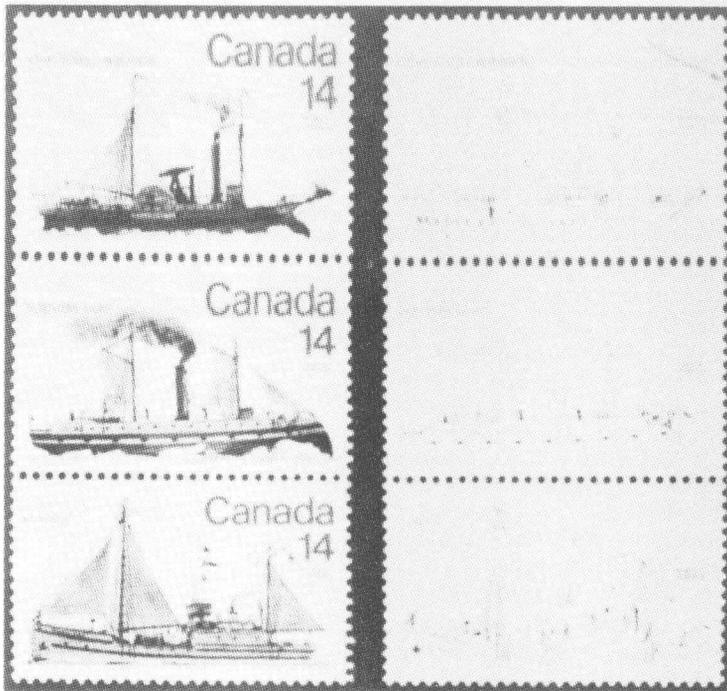
1a. Complete removal of the lithographic (offset) image on stamps printed solely by the lithographic process. The total removal may be only on a part of the stamp.



Marconi (1974)

It is only the stamps which are printed by lithography which fall victim to the forger, the inks used in the other printing processes such as gravure or photogravure are not affected by the chemical products used by the forger.

Ib. Total removal of the lithography on stamps printed by lithography (offset) and by gravure. This type is the most spectacular.



14 cent Boat (1978)

The tests which enabled us to confirm that these items were falsified

Many collectors buy items for their strange attraction without really knowing the nature of what they acquire.

There is an old Latin expression: “caveat emptor” which can be translated “buyer beware”. It is not only nowadays that some purchasers are fooled by wily villains. Sound knowledge will protect us against philatelic fakers of this type.

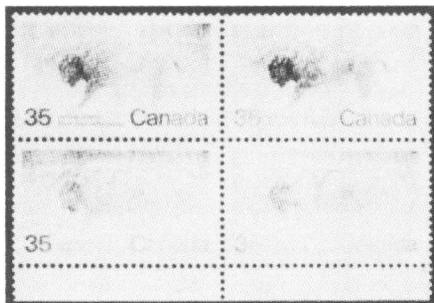
In the cases mentioned here, one must say that one does not often see this kind of item and buyers are very impulsive and snatch them up as they appear unique and rare. It is also true that little information is available regarding this type of falsification. That is why we have decided to give some rudimentary dodges at the end of this article so that the reader may himself test items which are offered to him or may already be in his collection.

The only tools necessary are a good glass (7 to 10 x magnification) aided by a good light and a long wave ultraviolet lamp. One must first have some idea of the basic paper, colours and some idea of the printing of a postage stamp.

These days, the paper whether coated or not, arrives at the printer pre-gummed. This is then printed by lithography and then, if necessary, by gravure. The luminescent bands usually are applied after the printing and then the stamps are perforated and the press sheet is cut into smaller sheets.

When one examines an item such as described here one can see that the luminescent bands are partially affected. That is to say that under the UV lamp these are either fainter than normal and often almost absent. This shows that the falsification has been done after it has come from the printing plant.

When one examines the surface of the paper of a coated paper stamp with the glass one sees that part of the lustre of the paper has gone which confirms that a mechanical action has aided the falsification.



Ila. Partial removal of the lithographic image on stamps printed only by the lithographic process.

Buffalo (1981)

Ilb. Partial removal of the lithographic image on stamps which have been printed by lithography and gravure.



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Note: The photographs were taken by Mr Marcel LaPorte of Le Cercle Philatelique Castor Laurentiem

T.A.STAYNER – Canada’s remarkable Deputy Post Master General from 1827 to 1851

by L.G. Bellack

Over the years, my interest in Canadian postal history has frequently fastened on T.A. Stayner’s quite exceptional influence on the development of the postal system during the crucial growth period in the first half of the 19th century.

Born in Halifax on 16 December 1788, Thomas Stayner became Post Master at Quebec in 1824. In 1827, he succeeded his father-in-law, Daniel Sutherland as Post Master General of Upper and Lower Canada. Under his administration the battle with London over the gaining for Canada of control of all postal services became a constant pre-occupation, to be crowned with success only at the end of his career in 1851.

Among his major achievements are:-

- the dramatic expansion of the post office and postal route network;
- the introduction of letter postage rates based on weight;
- the creation of a standard rate of mail from Canada to any part of the British Isles;
- the successful campaign for a British-subsidised transatlantic mail packet service;
- the application of “Ferriage Postage” between Canadian and U.S. border towns;
- the operation of a “coach-and-steamboat” service between Montreal and Kingston;
- the first orders for steel-die circular mail-cancelling devices; about these, T.A.S. is reported to have written in 1828: “the use of stamps (i.e. c.d.s’s) I find to be one of the utmost advantage as they tend to create in the Post Masters habits of regularity and good order which are essential to the safety of the correspondence and to the character of the Department”.

To be able to add a letter from this remarkable man to my postal history collection had for long been one of my priorities and when the opportunity arose to acquire not just one, but two of the early Stayner letters, I grasped it with both hands!

As it happens, both are of historical and philatelic interest. The first, dated 12 November 1831, (Fig. 1) addressed to the Post Master of Queenston, deals with a claim for American Postage. In this context, it is interesting to note that Queenston’s P.M. acted as agent for both the Canadian and U.S. post offices. The second Stayner letter, dated 18



**T.A. Stayner to A. Hamilton P.M. Queenston MS endorsement: OHMS
G. Post Office 12 Nov. 1831**

Sir, I will thank you to inform me what is the exact amount of your claim against Mr. Cameron of the Hamilton Office for American postage up to the 5th of Oct. the form of this from the office.

I am Sir yours very

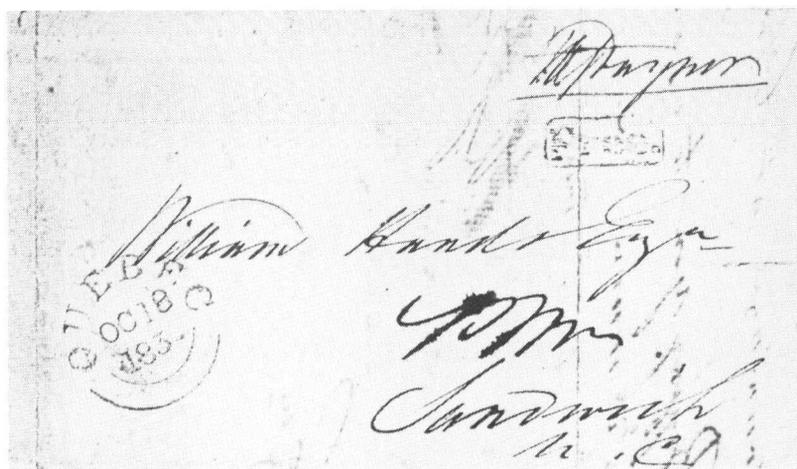
Figure 1

October 1832, (Fig. 2) addressed to the Post Master at Sandwich, makes two historical points. First, it deals with his father-in-law's (his predecessor as D.P.M.G., Daniel Sutherland) death from cholera and comments on that dreadful and fast-spreading disease; then the letter goes on to deal with an obviously private land purchase. In other words, here is a perfect example of the franking privilege granted to Post Masters (until Jan. 1844) extending beyond official Post Office business.

Then there is the philatelic interest of these Stayner letters. Both letters have a c.d.s and "Free" handstamp in common. The former, an early type is identified by Jarrett as No. 249a, with the remark "Quebec Nov. 28, 1831", whereas the example shown here is clearly dated Nov. 12, 1831.

Although no "FREE" handstamps are listed in reference books prior to 1840, two red strikes of a "boxed" type are here in evidence. This brings to mind John Donaldson's article on such marks in the August 1981 issue of *Maple Leaves*, where he refers to having seen "a red straight-line 'Free' mark from Quebec in 1832", one illustrated here is even earlier, i.e. November 1831.

We surely cannot be surprised to see that, as befits Canada's "Master of Posts" from 1827 to 1851, his letters have "early" postmarks!



**T.A. Stayner to William Hands P.M. Sandwich, U.C.
Quebec 18 Oct 1832.**

My dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of 1st inst. conveying expressions of sympathy and condolences on the death of our mutual friend Mr. Sutherland. Contrary to your idea Mr. S. was a victim to cholera in its most frightful form - his illness was of but a few hours duration. His eldest daughter Mrs Halbrook died in about a fortnight after her father of the same malady.

You have cause to be very thankful that your sister of the Rivers has escaped so well - the disease is wonderfully capricious in its action, attacking some places (?) virulently and sparing others in the same neighbourhood. Thus baffling all the theories attempted (?) by medical men and others to trace its laws.

I lament to say it still lingers about this city though it has disappeared in almost every other part of the province and I fancy I should be within

bounds if I were to say that even now the weekly deaths by cholera in Quebec and the suburbs amounts to twenty.

May I take the liberty of enquiring when your next public sale of Lands for ? takes place in your district - and whether the quantity sold will probably be great and as to be worth the attention of speculators?

If you think it would be worth my while to lay out a hundred or two Pounds in this way I would engage someone to attend the sales on my behalf to purchase for me. I am aware that the golden opportunity for doing much to advantage in this way has passed but still it strikes me that in your district Lands may still be bought to advantage at those sales.

Begging you to excuse this frank ,

Figure 2

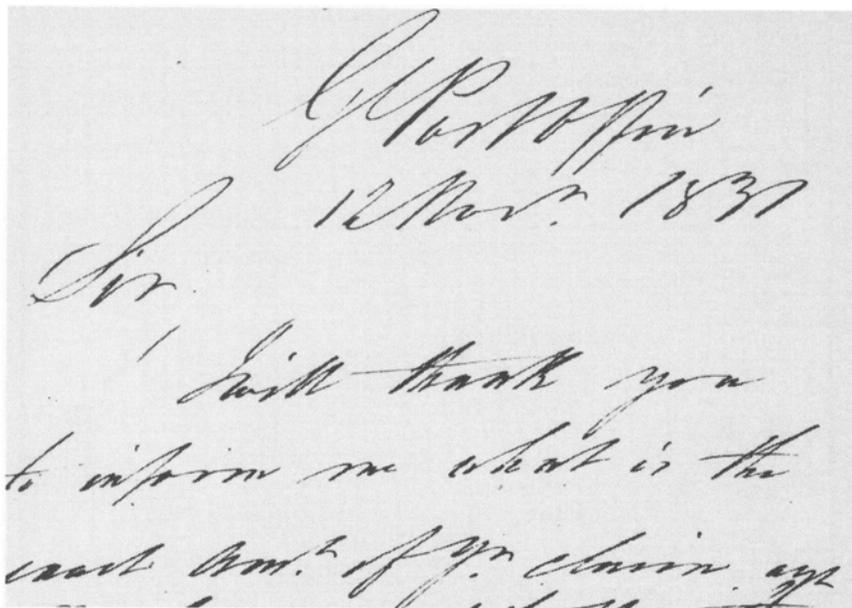


Figure 3 Fragment of letter at Figure 1

References.

- Encyclopedia Canadiana Vol. 9
- B.N.A. Topics March-April 1983
- J. Donaldson Maple Leaves Vol. 18, No. 4
- F. Jarrett Stamps of British North America.



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LATE MONTREAL 10 CENTS SMALL QUEEN ON COVER

By John Hillson

During the course of a conversation with one of the Society's Fellows, Sandy Mackie, on the subject of the 10c Small Queen and its scarcity on commercial cover, Sandy mentioned that he had recently acquired two covers from the same correspondence, one of which was franked by a Montreal 10c to a destination in France; the other a 5c paying the normal letter rate to U.K. On both, the legend 'Free Melgund' had been handstamped in red. His interest was aroused by this and the following article is largely based on that research.

By chance the writer was subsequently offered two 10c covers with the same handstamp, both double rated letters to the U.K. and one of which was purchased – at great expense as seems inevitable these days. It is shown here as figure 1.



Figure 1

As can be seen it is dated at Ottawa, NO 10 1985, is addressed to The Hon. Mrs Grey, as are the other covers, and has the 'Free Melgund' handstamp clearly visible.

As the destination of all the correspondence involved was abroad from Canada, clearly the Free handstamp was invalid; one presumes that 'Melgund' had simply stamped all his supply of envelopes in this way in readiness for their eventual use. But who was he?

It turns out that he was, at that time, Lord Melgund, then military secretary to the Governor General, Lord Lansdowne, who had acted as Chief of Staff to General Middleton during the second Riel Rebellion in 1885, that is between the dates of the two covers illustrated.

Gilbert John Elliott, Lord Melgund, was born in 1845 in London, England, although the Elliots are an ancient Scottish Borders family, was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge, and then served in the Scots Guards from 1867-1870. He went to Canada in 1883 as military secretary, returning to Scotland in 1886.

In 1891 he succeeded his father to become the fourth Earl Minto. Seven years later he was back in Canada, this time as Governor General himself, a post he held until 1904, thus covering the second Boer War period, when Sir Wilfred Laurier was Prime Minister of Canada.

He was a keen sportsman; he and his wife, Mary Caroline Grey (her maiden name), introduced lessons in figure skating in Canada, and instituted the Minto Cup for Lacrosse.

A year after his stint as Governor General of Canada had ended, he was appointed Viceroy of India, in which capacity he served until 1910. He died in 1914.

The 'Hon. Mrs. Grey' to whom the correspondence is addressed is undoubtedly his mother-in-law. His father-in-law was the Honourable Charles Grey, the younger brother of Earl Grey who was the first British statesman to pursue a policy of self government for the Colonies as far as was possible in the 19th Century.

Members of the Small Queens study circle will have already seen much of the above text in the Newsletter. Members of the Society interested in the 1870 issue, who have not already joined, are cordially invited to do so. The only cost to them is that of posting out the Newsletter.

**CONVENTION 88 – Southampton, 5 – 8 October.
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MAILBOAT NUMERAL CANCELS ON BNA MATERIAL

by Dave Lacelle

British type numeral cancels with numerals A90 to A98, B17 to B31, as well as a few others, are occasionally found on BNA material. Most of these numbers were assigned to British ocean mail clerks serving on mailboats, or Naval Stations. The cancels are thus usually found on letters posted on board such as sailors' letters, or other correspondence of a maritime nature. The cancels are most commonly found on the pre-confederation stamps of Nova Scotia, although usage on Canadian, British Columbia, Newfoundland, and on Prince Edward Island issues is known.

The cancels were used from 1859 to approximately 1870. On the Allen Line, the British ocean mail clerks were replaced by Canadians between 1861 and 1864. The "Canadian Packet" stamp was used soon after. On the Cunard line, the replacement of the British clerks did not take place until 1869. The old hammers may have continued in sporadic use. After March of 1871, mails were no longer sorted on board either line. Most of these cancels are still listed "unofficially" in the British postal list of 1874 as presented by Brumell, however the list from 1887 indicates that almost all of these numerals were by then reassigned to British post offices in England. Any usage associated with Canadian material after late 1870 would appear very unlikely.



The following is a summary of the known information:

1859 List¹ unless otherwise stated.

Number	Ship (or Country)	Line	Cancel Detail
A90 ²	(Mailboat, "probably Atlantic")		
A91	SS Canada	Cunard ³	ON N.S. & CANADA
A91	(Virgin Isles - List of 1874) ⁴		
A92	SS Asia	Cunard	ON N.S.
A92	SS Arabia	Cunard ⁵	ON N.S. & NFLD
A92	(Nova Scotia, Halifax - List of 1874) ⁶		ON N.S. & NFLD
A93	SS Java	Cunard	ON N.S.
A94	Mailboat, Name Unknown		ON N.S.
A95	SS Africa	Cunard	ON N.S. & NFLD
A96	SS Persia	Cunard	
A97	SS Europa	Cunard	ON N.S.
A98	SS Arabia	Cunard ⁵	ON N.S.

B17 ⁷	SS North American	Allen	
B18	SS North Britain	Allen	
B19 to B26,	British Post Offices, not Mailboats.		
B27	SS Hungarian	Allen ⁵	
B27	(Gold Coast, Quitta – List of 1887)		
B28	SS Hungarian	Allen	
B29	SS Anglo-Saxon	Allen	
B30	Mailboat, Name Unknown	Allen	
B31	Mailboat, Name Unknown	Allen ⁸	ON PEI ⁹
B31	(Freetown, Sierra Leone – List of 1874) ⁴		
B61	SS China	Cunard	ON N.S.
A01	(Jamaica, Kingston – List of 1874)		ON B.C. ¹⁰
A12	(St. Kitts, B.W.I. – List of 1874)		ON CANADA ¹¹

If anyone has dated material with A90, A94, B30 or B31, please report them as it may be possible to determine the ‘missing’ mailboat names by comparing these dates to the recorded sailing and arrival dates in Arnell’s publication.

References

1. From D. Marshall.
2. A 79 to A89 are Pacific Naval Stations (mainly in China), and are not known as cancels on BNA items.
3. A91, not used as a mailboat cancel, used only in the Virgin Islands (Marshall).
4. A91, the Virgin Islands, this designation occurred before most of the other numbers were reassigned. B31, Sierra Leone, appears to be the same situation.
5. A92, A98, were both assigned to the SS Arabia, this assignment is probably to two different clerks. B27, B28, the SS Hungarian, appears to be the same situation.
6. A92, Halifax was a major British navy base at that time, and as such rated a separate cancel numeral. According to Jarrett, this number was assigned in 1863.
7. B17 etc., these “B” cancels were issued sometime after 1859.
8. B31, not a mailboat (Marshall, Vallency).
9. B31, a fake cancel applied to PEI remainders, possibly re-using the old hammer. (Murray in Topics May ’76). Smythies in “Fakes and Forgeries . . .” Agrees.
10. A01, Jamaica, this is probably a receiving or accidental cancel.
11. A12, St. Kitts, this is on a “U.P.U. Reply Card”, and may thus be an example of Canada “Used Abroad”.

Sources:

Jarrett (p. 384), Brumell (pp. 53, 93), Vallency (p. 54), Arnell (p. 169), Duckworth (pp. 333, 346), Smythies (p. 99), and others.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Yellow Peril

Re: Homer Hilton Jr's letter in the October 1987 (No 215) *Maple Leaves*.

My recollection of the sale of the Firth Large Queen collection is that it took place at the King Edward Hotel's Hampton Court room, Toronto at 1400 hours on November 17, 1971. At that Sissons sale there were only five lots (261-265) of the 15¢ LQs sold. Immediately following the catalogue description of lot 265 there was a note to the effect that Mr. Firth has decided to continue collecting the 15¢ LQ.

According to informed sources the Firth 15¢ LQ collection was sold intact to Stanley Gibbons at a later date. Gibbons sold it but around 1981 this world-renowned firm had the chore of selling this 15¢ LQ collection again. When the Gibbons team made a stopover in Toronto during their North American tour on March 24, 1982, a friend and I viewed the stock of the Firth 15¢ LQs. At that time there was just the one gorgeous 15¢ script watermark in their stock. A few months later I re-examined this stamp in the Gibbons London office. This time I capitulated for its quality was truly one of those stamps that I simply couldn't live without.

As to the reconstructing of the script watermark, I am sure that Mr. Mark Harvey, the big wheel of Stanley Gibbons' BNA department, is in a position to set the record straight.

Re: Dr. Gordon's inquiry in the January 1988 (No 216) *Maple Leaves*.

I regret to say that I do not know the quantity of ½¢ Large Queen covers that exist. I dare guess that there could be as many genuine in-period ½¢ LQ covers paying the rate as outlined in the Dominion Post Office Act of 1867 (and 1875) as there are 12d covers. Questionable wrappers with single ½¢ LQs affixed are comparatively plentiful, however. Perhaps a dealer or auctioneer can shed further light on this subject.

Dean Mario

I have often seen advertisements in *Maple Leaves* offering ties with the Society's logo for sale but I have not seen any offers of lapel pins to the membership. Are lapel pins available at a nominal cost? If not, do you think members would be interested in obtaining pins?



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Following our successful seminar last year we are running another, on similar lines, on Sunday 21 August at the same venue – Somerset Hall, Portishead. This is only a mile or so off the M5 at Junction 19.

The event is being run, as before, in conjunction with the Bristol & District Federation's Annual Convention, thus members attending the seminar in the afternoon, from 2pm to 5.45pm, will have the opportunity to visit dealers' stands beforehand as well as to inspect the Federation's competition entries. The Convention itself is a two-day event and will be open on both Saturday (20th) and Sunday (21st) from 10am to 6pm. Light refreshments will be available and we understand 40 dealers will be in attendance.

Members are asked to bring along a short display (maximum 40 sheets) though failure to do so will not disbar anyone! Further details from your Editor who would welcome an advance note from members who are likely to bring material.

I feel pins would be very beneficial and the sale of them would (a) increase the Society's visibility (they do act as a great form of advertising); (b) inspire pride of members in the Society; and (c) provide the Society with added revenue. Other philatelic societies have lapel pins, why not ours? I am sure cost would only be £2 or £3.

Perhaps it is not financially viable but I believe with member support we could make it work. What do other members think of this idea?

EXCHANGE PACKET

Contributors to the Exchange Packet have dwindled to a regular handful during the last three or more years and repeated appeals for more contributors appear to have gone unheard. In view of this situation, Roger Grigson has indicated that he wishes to relinquish the Office of Exchange Packet Secretary with effect from October this year. Roger has been Packet Secretary since 1972 and his decision to stand down has not been taken lightly.

In order to achieve an orderly termination of his responsibility no new packets will be sent out after the end of April 1988. Packets already in circulation should be forwarded as usual and the remittances should be sent to Roger in the usual way.

Further information on the Exchange Packet will be published in the January 1989 issue of "Maple Leaves" and potential contributors are asked to retain their material pending that announcement.

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BOOK REVIEWS

CANADIAN MILITARY POST OFFICES TO 1896 by W.J. Bailey and E.R. Toop

This latest handbook from Unitrade Press up-dates Bill Bailey's 1978 publication, 'Canadian Military Postmarks'. Even so it is regarded as a staging post to a further authoritative publication. Bill Bailey and Ritch Toop are already responsible for volume 1 of 'Canadian Military Posts' in a series being published by Edward Proud; volumes 2 and 3 are in preparation. Collectors of Military Postal History are indeed fortunate to have such dedicated students prepared to marshal and edit the available information, not least of which is that discovered via the BNAPS Military Mail Study Group.

The book runs to around 100 pages and the first 60 or so show the various camps with, in most cases, the opening and closing dates. The sequence is roughly chronological, by campaign where applicable, and the detailed listings are accompanied by 70 very clear illustrations of the various postmarks.

As well as a bibliography and list of abbreviations, the book contains a 25-page checklist of all the postmarks (except varieties) which will enable serious students to appraise their collections most readily and should prove invaluable when taken to a stamp show.

Collectors of military mail will need no encouragement but general postmark/postal history collectors will find the handbook very clearly laid out in such a manner as to make collecting easy. All you have to do is find the material!

The book is soft covered, perfect bound and retails at \$14.95 CAN. Copies can be obtained from the Handbooks Manager at £6, including inland postage.

OLYMPEX 88

In conjunction with the Winter Olympics at Calgary this year, an international thematic stamp exhibition was held; all entries related to the Olympic theme.

The catalogue for this event contains 50 pages and includes articles on winter sports and olympics as represented on stamps; designing the winter olympics stamps and Calgary postal history. It is a nicely produced, saddle-stitched publication on good quality paper and can be obtained direct from the Calgary Philatelic Society, Box 1478, Stn. M, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2L6. The price is \$6 CAN which includes postage within Canada.

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FOR SALE: The Canadian Philatelist Volume one complete (eleven issues) September 1928 to December 1929. Offers to: G. Frost, 6 Hildesley Road, Douglas, Isle of Man.

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WANTED

WANTED: Presentation booklets and information pertaining to them. Jerome C. Jarnick, 108 Duncan Drive, Troy, Michigan 48098-4613. U.S.A.

WANTED: For study purposes; dated Small Queens, first Ottawa or Montreal. Damaged material welcome. Will purchase or trade. David Hobden, #204-504 Glenelm Crescent, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, N2L 5C8

WANTED: Canadian Arctic (N.W.T.) postal history - Mackenzie River, Eastern Arctic Patrol, Dewline, Military, town cancels. Offers with photocopies please to David Piercey, 96 Brown Close, Red Deer, Alberta, Canada T4R 1K4.

WANTED: WWII security 'dumb' cancels on cover, also KGV1 slogans. Buy, trade, correspond. Photocopies or details first, please, to Kim Dodwell, Middle Ho., Cruckmeole, Hanwood, Shrewsbury, SY5 8JN England.

HELP WANTED

Jacques Nolet is preparing an article on the postal history of Three Rivers, Quebec, and is seeking access to straight line postmarks (Canada Specialised Type Nos. II, III, IV & VII). If anyone is able to help, please send photocopies to Jacques at; Case Postale 558, Succursale Postale 'A', Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H3C 2T6.

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I have many other titles in stock, see back covers of earlier *Maple Leaves* for details. If you need any other BNA Literature, in or out of print, please contact me.

If you have out of print titles for sale please contact me with details.

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