

BNAPS Fancy Cancel Study Group Newsletter No. 13.

**Dave Lacelle.
Sept.'94.**

●**Group News:**

Surprising how fast time goes by. I apologize to our members for my delay in preparing this newsletter. I would like to present some of the considerable number of photocopies of various cancels sent in, and shall also have a section devoted to the fancy shield, crest, and flag cancels. Please keep the information coming - I am sure that all of you have oddities or items of interest which could be presented to the members in the next newsletter.

Work on the book continues, fancy stars and crosses are now finished, I shall now work on the fancy leaf cancels. Please send photocopies of fancy leaf covers. I would like to draw the memberships attention to the article in P.H.S.C. Journal 76 (Mar. 94) by one of our members, Mr. A. J. Quattrocchi, "The Postal History of Perth, Upper Canada/Ontario". Special consideration is given to twenty cork or fancy cancels used in Perth. Finally, I hope to see you at the convention - I shall present a short talk on fancy cancels, and conduct a study group meeting.

We have four new members: Mr. L.T. Connolly, Rt. 9, Box 315, Mountain Home, AR, USA 72653; Mr. R.M. Botte, 7 Lyndra Drive Denver PA USA 17517, Mr. H.W. Hurlbutt, 36 Phelps Road, Marlborough, CT. 06447, USA, and Mr. K.J. Cabbage, P.O. Box 68, Alta Loma, CA, 91701-0068 USA. A long lost member, Mr. R.W. Creighton has returned to the fold, his address; Apt. 105, 10745- 79 Ave., Edmonton, Alta. T6E 1S4. (Old cork collectors have fade away - they keep bouncing back?) Membership total is now 70.

The following have sent information and/or photocopies of fancy cancel items. I regret that is not always possible to personally thank everyone. I hope this collective thank you will suffice. Thanks to; Mike Rixon, Joe Smith, Clint Phillips, Wally Gutzman, Ray Horning, Tracy Cooper, Allen Steinhart, John Hannah, and Jim Hennok. Hugh Rathbun generously sent along photocopies of all the Nova Scotia fancy cancels in his collection. There are several bits of new information in this, however it arrived too late and will have to appear in the next newsletter.

REVISIONS TO PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS:

NEWSLETTER 1:

Crown Wax Seals; New listing; Sapperton B.C., Cover, '92, other details unknown.

NEWSLETTER 4:

Empress of China - now identified as a marking used in the Purser's Office on mail posted on board. Empress of China was a CPR ship launched in Sept. '91, used on the Pacific routes from Vancouver to Asia, and sunk in Tokyo Bay in 1911.

NEWSLETTER 7:

Victoria/Esquimalt Crown Cancels, a new late date "JY '14" from Esquimalt has been reported. This brings the total to 35 covers, Victoria OC '80 - OC '91, and Esquimalt FE '03 - JY '14.

NEWSLETTER 12:

1. My proof strike from the sealing wax hammer, was not always very clear, and I forgot to state the obvious. The town is Halls Harbour N.S.
2. The "never seen" stars and crosses. Number 106 was a poor illustration of D&S 105, and 191 has been confirmed as a "scale problem", the illustration is at 2/3 scale. The correct size cancel has been confirmed as genuine. Number 167 has been confirmed on a S.Q.

CORRESPONDENCE AND QUERIES:

Jim Hennok showed me a nice cover with the "AR" (Acknowledge Receipt) registration mark as a cancel. I had seen this as a cancel once before, but was not aware of the location of use. The originating P.O. is Gueguen N.B. FE. '94, however, this "AR" may have been applied in transit (there are four different pennons in registration numbers on the cover) as the 5 cent stamp was poorly (or not at all) cancelled.



Clint Phillips has sent along a problematical "special notice" from the "North British and Mercantile Insurance Co." with a 1 cent S.Q. with D&S 116 star cancel. The tying (if any) is poor, there is no address, nor any other postal markings. The Company was headquartered in Montreal and the notice refers to 1870.



This (or very similar cancels) may have been commercially produced - it is known used from Durham, Port Hope, Hawkesville, Cookstown, Port Perry, and Fergus, all in Ontario, and all used between '70 and '73. Information on other dates and locations would be appreciated.

Allan Steinhart has sent along several star cancel items, the item illustrated is from Toronto JY '74. This is another cancel reported in several different locations. Montreal, Danville, Waterloo, (all Quebec), Ottawa and Dundas (both Ontario) between '70, and '76. Are any other dates or locations known?



John Hannah sent in twelve pages of cancel photocopies, a select three of which are illustrated here. Details are: a fancy leaf (or flower) used at Cannington Ont., DE '70; a somewhat worn state example of the the Victoria B.C. leaf cancel (D&S 43, used MY-JY '81, five covers are known- the D&S location of Montreal is incorrect) and the Elora Ont. "comb" cancel (D&S 805) used JU-JY '81.



Wally Gutzman has sent in what he suggests is a clover design used in Windsor N.S. in JU '80. It is possible that this is a very late use of the worn two ring 43 cancel. The illustration has been enhanced to show the rings. Does anyone else have any other examples of this?



While on the topic of two ring numeralcancels, Richard Chatfield has mentioned that he is doing some research on the two ring 20 cancel. If anyone has a two ring 20 cover, please inform me of the place of use.

Joe Smith has sent in this late use fancy cancel. It may be a "red herring" and may consist of three different partial bar obliterator strikes.



I would also like to present what may be a similar item. This may be a "sunburst" designed to cancel the stamp, and not royalty (if so, the P.M. missed!), or it may be partial strikes of some other cancel giving that impression.



Mike Rixon has sent in this item. It appears to be a hollow heart, although it is somewhat indistinct. The originating P.O. is Lakefield Ont. FE '92. Has anyone else seen this? Mike also sent along a non-registered cover with the Saint Hyacinthe "R in oval" cancel, D&S 679. It has been suggested that this is a registration mark even though it predates the U.P.U. requirement for "R" registration markings by six years. I have seen other non-registration uses of this cancel, and have concluded that it merely appears to be similar to the later "R" markings by coincidence. Mike's example is a poor strike, the illustration here is from elsewhere.



Tracy Cooper, at # 60 Fairview Drive, Williams Lake B.C. would like information on any fancy cork B.C. covers.

I am still searching for any information on the star and cross cancels shown on page 7. Please provide details if you recognize any of these.

Richard Chatfield has asked what kind of filters I use for cancel studies. There are two answers to this. Firstly, I use a red acetate which is slightly more dense than unexposed colour film. If anyone would like a piece of this acetate, drop me a line and I shall send some. Secondly, the hand held scanner I use for the illustrations operates in the infrared frequencies, and is least sensitive to red frequencies. In other words the scanner in itself is a red filter.

Finally, one of the early precancels can be considered as yet another example of utilitarian devices (bottle tops, screw heads, bolts, etc.) being "pressed into use" as cancels. The precancel (OK, I know it is not really a "fancy cancel.") was probably made by placing elastic bands around a paper roller as in the example below.



FANCY SHIELD, CREST, AND FLAG CORK CANCELS.

This small group of fancies is listed in D&S as numbers 281 to 290, plus 284a and 290a (both Plate J). Page 6 is taken directly from D&S, with a modification to the bottom to show the two items from Plate J.

First the bad news: This group in my opinion contains the greatest number of bogus or dubious items of any group listed in D&S. D&S numbers 284, 285, 286, 287, and 288, all are known as only single strikes, and all came from the same page in one collection. (D&S 286 may be a U.S.A. fancy used on Canada. There are several other examples of this practice, which usually resulted from mis-direction, or forwarding usage.) D&S 290a is a proven fake, and is one of the infamous "S.S. River Denis" fakes from the mid 1970's. See "The Postal History Society of Ontario Journal", number 12, March '77 for further details. D&S 284a may be just a segmented cork, and may not represent a flag. A rather crude "mystery flag" cancel (see cut) was referred to several times in the 1970's, it has been noted on a 3 cent L.Q., 1, and 3 cent S.Q.'s, and Jubilees, as well as on a Montreal cover. This cover was in my opinion an example of an "add on" cancel, the inks did not match. Some strikes of this cancel may be genuine, however it should be collected as one might collect wild mushrooms. The saying that "Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel" is unfortunately very true when it comes to this group of cancels.




















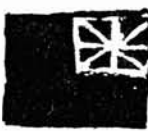








Now, the good news: Of the D&S listings referred to, I have seen numbers 281, and 290 in legitimate, multiple, and consistent period usage. There are also two other "cork" flag cancels, both used in Montreal in '97 which should be listed. One has an interesting "VR" for Victoria Regina, and was obviously designed to specifically cancel the Jubilee issue. Both these cancels were used in a short, consistent time frame, and multiple copies are known. There are several other characteristics which would tend to indicate that these are genuine.



It has not been particularly easy to write the above paragraphs. I have on several occasions been taken to task by well meaning individuals with the mistaken belief that "The field of Canadian Fancy Cancels is riddled with forgeries", or similar expressions of that genre. There are of course some fakes (there are also misinterpretations, imagina-

PLATE XXIII

Plate XXIII

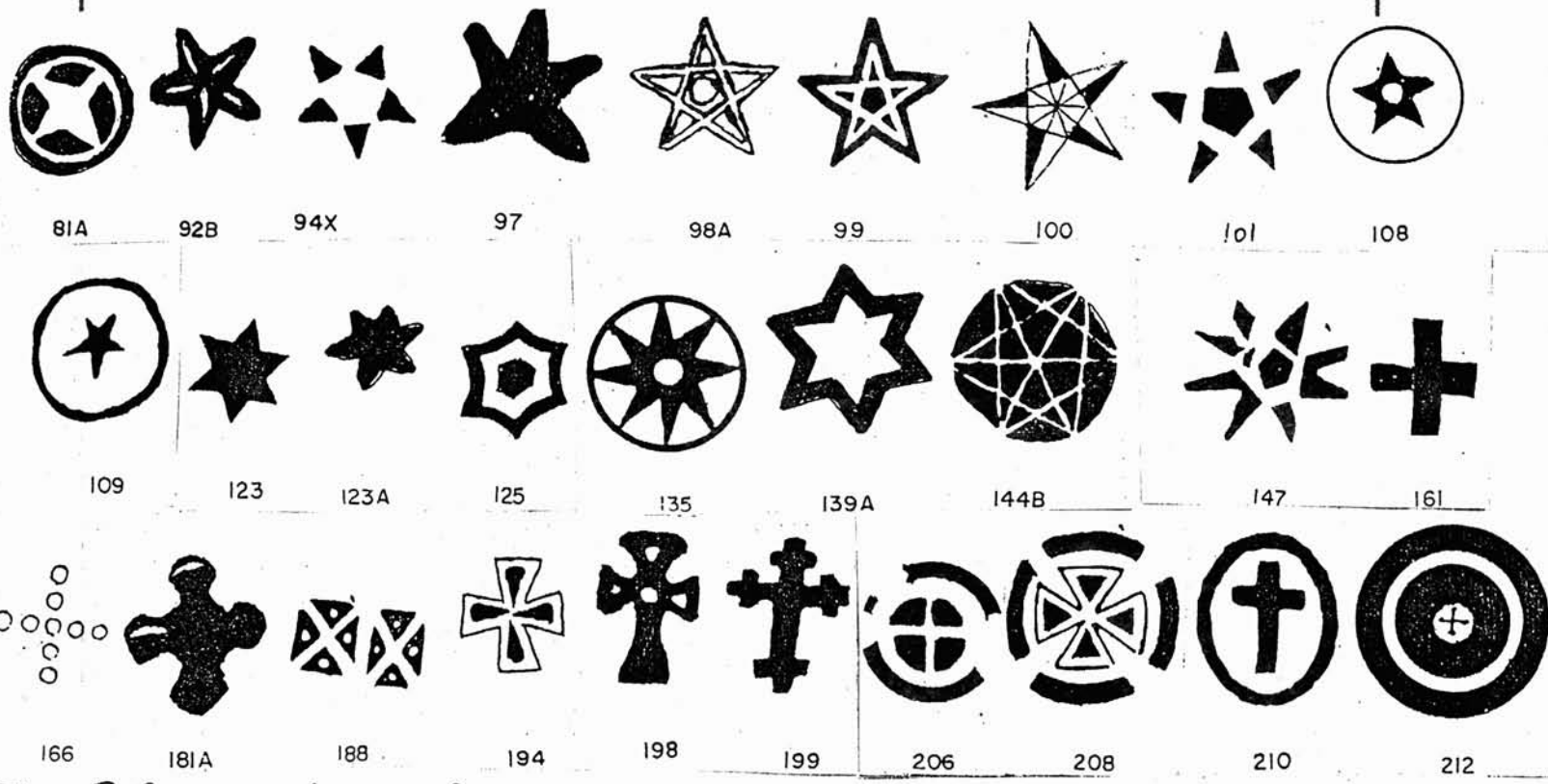
Serial No.	Jarrett No.	Description	P.O. of origin	Date	Remarks				
277	—	Three links inter-locked	?	?					
278	—	Three links in diamond grid	?	?					
279	—	Three links in diamond of dashes	?	?	Insignias of the Oddfellows Society				
280	—	Intaglio three links in circle	?	?		277	278	279	280
281	—	Union Jack type of shield	Glen Sutton, P.Q.	1888	Masonic signs also used from this P.O.				
282	1426	Union Jack type, thinner outline	?	?					
283	—	Union Jack type, no outline	?	?					
284	—	Shield with four quadrants	?	?					
285	—	Shield with intaglio crossed lines	?	?		281	282	283	284
286	—	Shield, one horizontal and six vertical bars	?	?	In purple				
287	—	Shield within a shield	?	?					
288	—	Shield with fleur-de-lys and crossed rifles	?	?	In blue				
289	—	Flag and flagstaff	?	?					
290	—	Flag, red Ensign?	?	?					
291	—	Two hearts entwined	Vallentyne, Ont.	1884	Appropriate for this P.O.	285	286	287	288
292	—	Face in heart	?	?	This is #269				
293	—	Large heart composed of dashes	?	?					
294	—	Small heart inside a medium heart inside a larger heart	?	?					
295	—	Small intaglio heart inside a heart	?	?					
296	—	Solid heart	?	?					
						284A			
							290A		
284a		Simple flag or 8 segment cork	?	?					
290a		Union Jack with flagstaff	Toronto	1900					
						293	294	295	296

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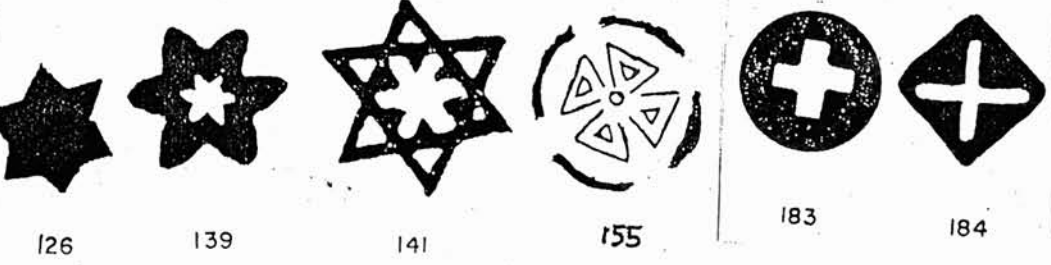
tions, and multiple listings), which I intend to cover as best I can in the new book. I tend to reject the cynical viewpoint that the area of fancy cancel collecting is riddled with fakes, and will no more allow the actions of a few fakers to adversely affect my hobby, than I will allow a few scoundrels in society to affect my life. I hope that I have not provided the cynics with more ammunition by my comments on the cancels above. I also sincerely hope that I am not offending the owners of these items. My apologies if so.

Finally, on a more positive note, I am still seeking the locations of use of the first 28 of the cancels below. Any information on the last six would be appreciated. Page eight is from the original fancy cancel study group tracings of the 1950's. Thanks to Frank Waite for this.

May I wish all of you a pleasant autumn. I will try to get another newsletter out this year, please keep sending me information for it.



The P.O. is unknown for the items above.



I have never seen these six cancels. Does anyone have any info.



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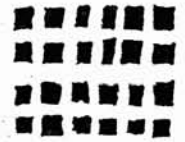
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