

## BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 60

August 2012

Dave Lacelle

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I hope that all of you are having a great summer. Central Vancouver Island finally had some hot weather arrive, although there was some talk about two new months, 'January, and July'! I could come up with a few creative ideas for the commemorative cancel for January, but will leave it to your imagination...

### Group News.

We have one new member, Mr. G. Jeffery, 8 Susan Place, Dartmouth NS, B3A 4M3.

I have received information for this newsletter from only eight of you. It is perhaps a comment on the times that only one item was sent by snailmail. A few of the items sent in have led me a bit astray into "postal history", in that I have researched who the covers were sent to.

I will be at the BNAPS Calgary Convention, however I will have to miss the first day (Friday Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>). We will have a FC&MM Study Group meeting on Sunday Sept. 2, 1:00 pm.

I may have been a bit over sensitive, however it seemed that at least two comments sent to me regarding items in the last newsletter were perhaps a bit too strongly worded. May I please remind our members that this is a hobby, "something we do to relax". One of the problems with Email is that it is too easy to just push "SEND" without stopping to consider if what one has written is perhaps a bit 'strong'. There was an advantage to snailmail, you wrote something, you stopped, folded the page, found an envelope, addressed it, stamped it, sealed it, took it to a post office, and thus had plenty of time to re-consider what you had said...

On a lighter note, the "cats" rubber stamps on the envelopes were found in a junque shop, and were presented as modern replicas of "A Playful Assembly of 7 Victorian Cat Stamps". If anyone wants strikes of the entire set, just let me know. There are no Canadian fancy cat cancels that I know of, however D655 was described as one.



### REVISIONS TO PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

Newsletter 59, pg. 1, my comment regarding the lack of BNAPS stipends (to cover the costs of sending otherwise free newsletters to the BNAPS Directors) may have been a bit "strong". I owe an apology to Peter Macdonald, there was some sort of Email failure to him last year, and I failed to notice the error message. He cannot send out something if he never received the request. Hopefully now corrected. Thanks Peter.

Newsletter 59, page 5, my comment "Greffier roughly 'rural [usually] mayor'" has been corrected. A Greffier is formally an appointed court official, and is not the same as an elected "Mayor". What I was trying to say, was that any administrative "official" in rural Quebec (especially in the 1800's) probably 'wore several hats', and from the viewpoint of the local people probably functioned as an equivalent to an urban "Mayor" when Citizens needed a contact person with a governing agency. See page three for a rural Ontario example (from the 1850's) where the same Gent was 'Crown Land Agent', and 'Reeve', and 'Bank Representative' (and?), was investigated for this, and cleared! 'Nuff said.

Newsletter 59, page 4, Paquebot cancels. Apparently all official Paquebot cancels were applied at land based stations. I stand corrected. Ship mail, packet mail, and other 'posted on board' items are different.

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## CORRESPONDENCE AND QUERIES

Keith MacKay has sent in a query regarding the P.O. for the Toronto oval parcel cancel with a “6” indicator. This is similar to the L 14 number “1” as illustrated. Number “1” was used at Toronto Main PO, and is by far the most common, with “5”, and “6” much less common. These were written up in Canadian Philatelist, March 1971, and “5” was identified as “Riverside PO”, and “6” as “Brockton PO”. This was apparently based on the fact that these two Toronto offices were the only two remaining after numbers “1” to “4” were identified. These cancels were used on parcels, or bulk mailings, CDS’s, or even return addresses were not used, or did not survive. Much of it would have been the junk mail of it’s time, and would be discarded. **Does anyone have any cover, piece, or whatever which could confirm use at Riverside or Brockton?**



New discoveries still happen! A new “Toronto 2” (see L 18 to L 54) cover has been discovered by Labron Harris, an American stamp dealer (PO Box 739, Glen Echo MD 20812 or [labronharr@aol.com](mailto:labronharr@aol.com)). It is L 34, Nov. 29 1869, and is in the correct date range, five days earlier than the closest other L 34 cover (close enough), and overlaps use of L 33 by a few days (also OK). This is the first new “Toronto 2” cover reported to me since the first Edition of our F.C. book was published in 2000. Thanks to Ron Majors for passing this on to me.



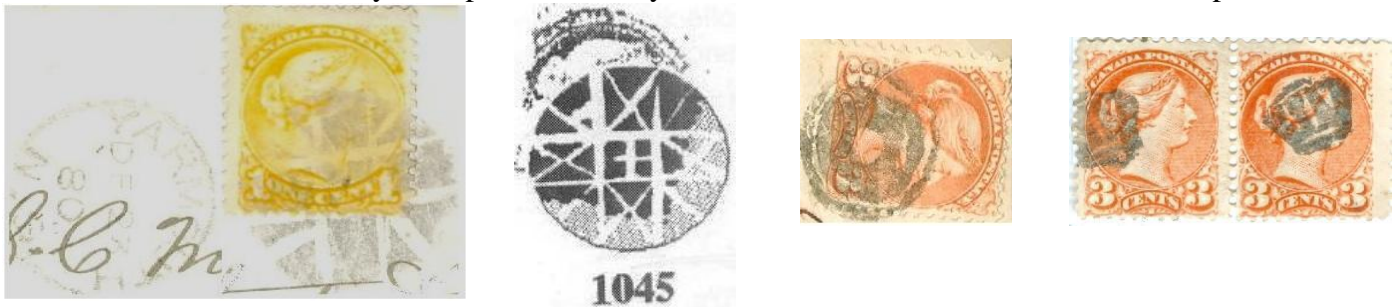
29

Bob Turkowski sent in another “Toronto 2” item, a leaf design at right. So far there seems to be an unintentional “Toronto” theme to this newsletter, bear with me other material follows! This is sufficiently different from the illustration of L 29 that I went back to my original notes (about 80 pages on the Toronto 2’s.) It is a cleaned or recut version of L 29, which was listed as a separate item (D&S 41) in Day and Smythies. There were three examples of it in the primary Toronto Two collection (R. McMurrach) from the 1960’s. There are two covers of D&S 41, (another surfaced from another collection) both of which more closely resemble the L 29, than the recut variety. There are other off cover examples of both. This cancel was also listed in D&S as numbers 15, 19, 41, 42, 58, and 61 due to poor or partial strikes, poor tracings, and/or the desire to own something unique etc. To further confuse the issue there are a few poor fakes (D 14, D15) of this cancel, Bob’s one looks genuine. There is also the possibility that I have lumped together two different cancels, however with only three covers over a two week period of use, and all other ‘examples’ being tracings, or on stamp....

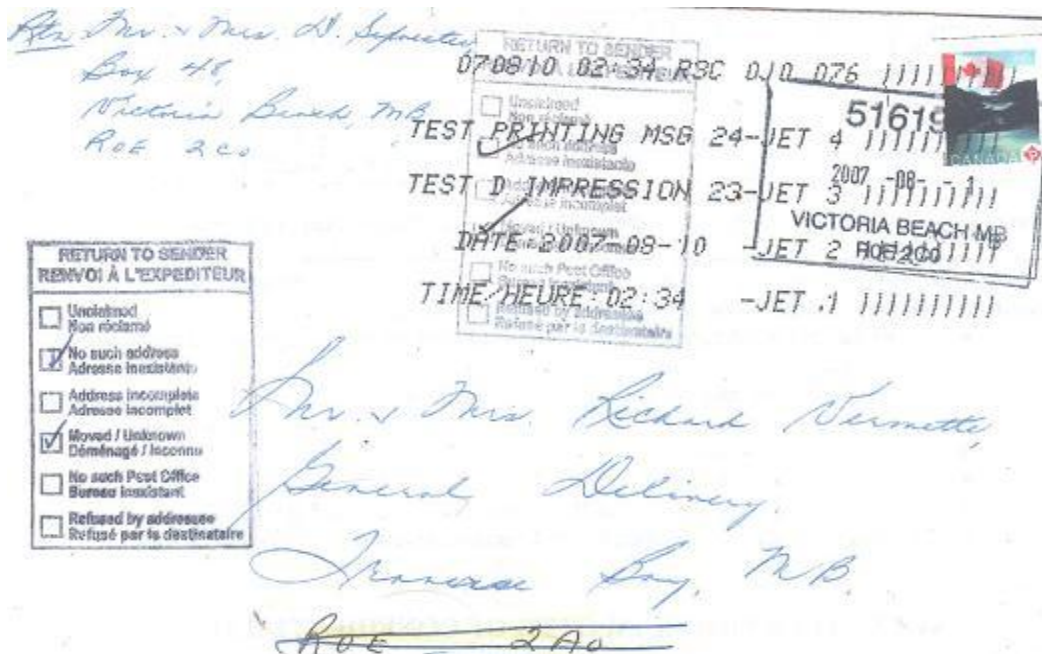
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While researching the preceding, I noted that quite a few Toronto 2 covers were to the same address. This can be a source of concern as some fakers worked from old commercial accumulations of postal stationary or correspondence. The Toronto 2 covers were often (there are other diverse addressee's - which is very reassuring) addressed to "Alex McNabb, Crown Land Agent, Saugeen, Ont.". I was already aware of this 'Crown Land Agent' find of covers (in the late 1950's?), from some old Government files. If anyone can provide more information on this "find" I would be interested. The covers and cancels appear genuine, there are other confirming covers in almost all cases. And so, to Google..., there were 70 other CLAs. He was born in 1836, died 1896, was the Reeve of Saugeen 1854 to 1857, (when the original "land boom" survey and settlement occurred), local Crown Land Agent, and was the local agent for the Bank of Montreal. He and a few other CLA's were investigated in 1859 for possible conflict of interest, and McNabb was cleared. This might explain why this correspondence was retained! One of the "problems" had been that his record keeping was vague, and he had a habit of jotting down calculations, names etc. on whatever paper was handy. This confused people (with varying degrees of literacy), particularly when it was on an official looking piece of paper! Several of his covers have scribbles and calculations all over them!

Ron Smith sent in the items below. The first although a weak strike, appears to be L 1045, now located, Yarmouth N.S. Dec. 1880. Both the cancel and CDS are in a weak blue/black ink, and I 'cheated' and moved the CDS. His second item is similar in design to L 1564, and I suspect that it is the broken off bottom of some sort of tool handle (or cancel hammer?) which has been literally pressed into service. Kensington PEI, Sept. 1888. The last item is a lovely example of the fancy crown L 1277, and is better than the example in our book.



David Dawes has sent in another modern inkjet oddity. This cover has a Victoria Beach MB originating cancel, a "Return to Sender" marking, which was obliterated by a Winnipeg "TEST" inkjet (10 days later), then had another "Return to Sender" (in different hand) applied. A fine mixed up modern cover, here at about half scale.



Ron McGuire is seeking any information on Small Queens overprinted "SPECIMEN" which were apparently presented by the P.O. in some circumstances. FMI, see "Confederation", the newsletter of the Large and Small Queens S.G. If you can provide any information, he can be reached at [crm\\_cpmh5@sympatico.ca](mailto:crm_cpmh5@sympatico.ca)



## BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 60

Our newest member, Guy Jeffery has prepared a personal philatelic “calling” card based on a particularly impressive cover of L 176, a fancy “236” as illustrated below. This cancel has intrigued me for quite some time. Why would a small suburban Ottawa P.O. have an official hammer made by the cancel manufacturer (Pritchard & Andrews) which was somewhat similar to a Great Britain numeral oval grid cancel, was unlike any others in Canada at that time (Preconfederation Nfld., N.B. and B.C. used ‘oval numeral’ grids.), and why the number 236? The first listed cover example of this cancel (slightly cut down) is below. The cover has a Petrolia Ont. Apr. 1881 CDS which is a bit of a ‘red herring’ as later covers indicated New Edinburgh Ontario as the originating PO. To Google again... The addressee, J.D. Noble worked for the P.C.O. & T. Co. of Petrolia founded 1869, the CDS was a receiving mark on what would basically have otherwise been a local letter. My grandparents lived in New Edinburgh, I went so far as to check some of the main streets to see if a street number “236” looked like a former P.O. Answer, No. The mystery remains...

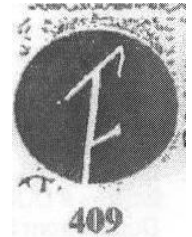


Mike Street sent in an example of L 1453 (at right above) for sale at an auction house. This too is a strange cancel. Why would a small rural Quebec PO, Ste. Genevieve, use the official crest of Nicaragua as a cancel? There was one suggestion that a local religious order which operated out of Ste. Genevieve also had operations in Nicaragua. There is no proof of this however. It was likely from a children’s toy stamp set. Another “toy” cancel was the Palmer Cox (a soap company) “Brownie” a cartoon character in the 1890’s. This character even had a name, “Officer Moveon”. (Get it?) !

I noticed the nice Ottawa precursor “squared circle” cancel and Legislative use of this cover (1/2 scale) in a WIP Stamps listing. Despite having the FREE, and signature stamp (I cannot read the name) of an MP or Senator, the stamp had to be added as it was an overseas mailing to Llandilo Wales. To Google again... Lady Drummond “... for her part, she devoted much time and energy to relieving poverty and suffering in those less comfortable days.” Please also see the advertisement on page eight regarding an upcoming Eastern Auctions sale (October 26) with a large “Government Official Mailings” collection.



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The lovely Fraternal cover here was sent to me by Ron Smith who had recently purchased it from Hugo Deshay stamps. The fancy cancel is L 671, Napanee Ont., Feb. 1877 which is within the use range of this cancel June 1876 to July 1880. As well as having had a rather long usage, this cancel was very soft, almost all strikes are deformed and the cancel was accidentally also listed as a “Geometric” design. This was the former L1582, sorry My Bad.

As well as being very well embossed with “Independant Order of Good Templars”, the sender was also the Mayor of Napanee. I also note that it was sent to a “Strickler” in “Ellensboro”. All five Grand Matrons of the local “Eastern Star” (Women’s Masonic Soc.) # 20, founded in Ellensborough (alt. spelling) about 1900 were Stricklers. The “Ellen” of Ellensboro was the first P.M.’s daughter. Fancy, Templar, Eastern Star, Mayor, and P.M.’s daughter, what a cover!

I am having some second thoughts about L 409, an “F” from Fredericton NB illustrated above right. This cancel is apparently known only from one cover, Apr. 1885. In several ways it appears genuine, however it also shares some of the characteristics of a “Bogusman” fake cancel, although it was not in the original 1960’s card file of his material. If any of you have **any other examples of L 409 on or off cover**, please advise.

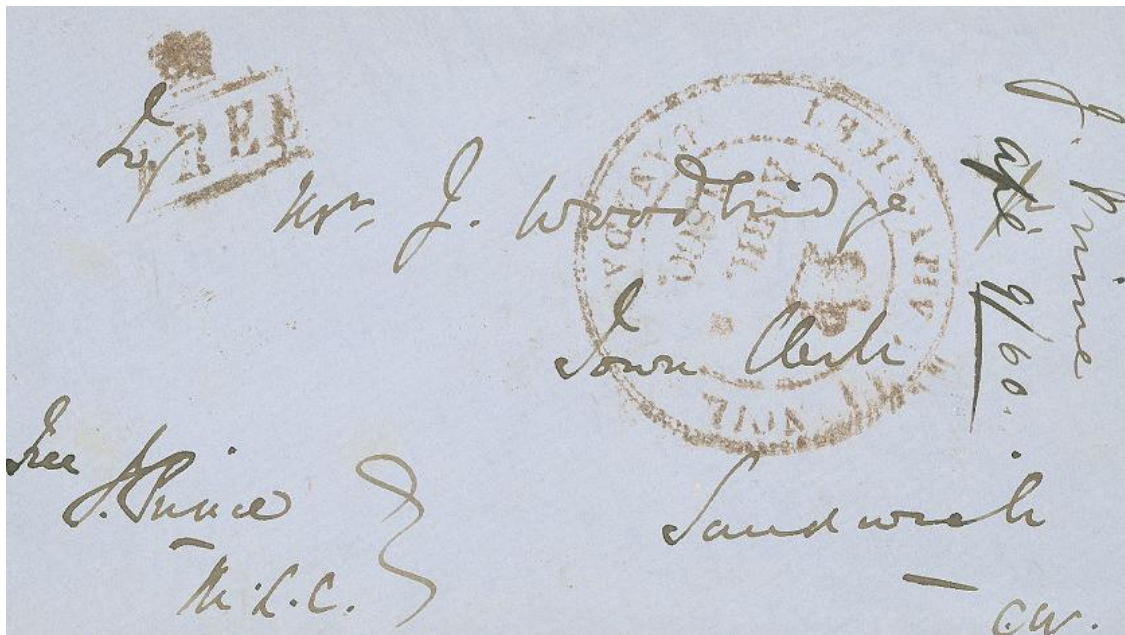
Harley Cohen sent in the items below. I think the first one is a partial of some sort of “PAID” marking, however it is a bit bigger than most of the listed (see Jarrett 567 to 595) examples. Jarrett 595, “PAID ALL” used in New Brunswick from 1866 to 1876 is a likely candidate. The stamp is later than this, however any metal handstamp already noted as used in several locations over 10 years might have longer use than reported in Jarrett. The second item is a “W”, possibly L 882 as a better strike than the one used in our book. The stamp also appears to be about 10 years later than the reported date of L 882, Gravenhurst Ont., Feb. 1877 (see also the “notes for this cancel.) I had quite a bit of ‘trouble with the “M’s” and “W’s”, many were similar. For example the new listing at L 601 in the second edition of our book was previously listed as a “W” (former L 880) until the P.O. was known. It is highly unlikely that the Clandeboye Manitoba P.M. Mrs. M.M. Muckle would use a “W” as an initial! The third item may best be described as a puzzle design, I welcome any comments.





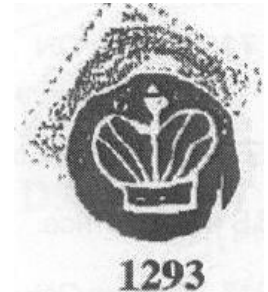
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The covers below are from the Eastern Auctions "Libra" sale Oct. 26, 2012. In both cases I have 'trimmed' the covers to save space. The first one is a riot of Legislative markings including Jarrett 1508a (type) Free, and Jar. 1528 Senate, both in red. These two were probably applied at the Parliament buildings, then the other FREE, and Ottawa CDS (in black) would be 'confirming' strikes in the Ottawa Main P.O. across the street. These markings are not listed in the F.C. book as they are very rarely (or never) used as cancels. If stamps were required, they were applied at the P.O., the other markings were already on the covers. (The cover is probably so precise as Senator J.C. Aikins [JCA initials B.L.] was also Secretary of state for Canada, soon to be Minister of Inland Revenue, and in 1882 the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba. Note the cover is to Winnipeg.) The second item is a very rare Legislative Council Canada 'crown' date stamp (Davis LC-2, Jar. 1510xx type). One other example is known.



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Ron Leith's auction on March 24 and 25 had several previously not recorded cancel dates, as well as a range of other interesting material. Firstly, a cover with L 271, a "B" from Bridgewater CW (Ont.), a new late date of July 1879. Note also, the CW designation in the CDS a mere 17 years after Confederation! Next, L 485, an "H" from Charlottetown PEI, also a new late date, Oct. 1879. This cancel was previously dated as Oct. 1878 to Dec. 1878, this 1879 date may be in error, the CDS is weak and might have been "78". Thirdly, L 765, an "RJ" from River John N.S., Oct. 1880 in purple. PM Gauld must have been a rather 'colourful' type (so to speak), he made two different "RJ's", and usually cancelled in purple, red, and rarely in black. Next is L 1049, a "cross" from Komoka Ont., again a new late date, Aug. 1882. Lastly, the intaglio "crown" L 1293 on printed post card, Sorel Que., Feb 1881. This cover has been noted before, and although it "looks good" seems to be earlier than most strikes of this cancel which appear on stamps from around 1890. There are also fakes of this cancel, in the fake the bottom of the crown is much more rounded.



### FAKES, BOGUS AND SPURIOUS ITEMS

This is an example of a 'Spurious' fancy cancel. ("Spurious", someone sees something which may be similar to other fancy cancels, however it is not really there, or is just an accidental ink blob that resembles something else. There is no intent to defraud.) This was seen as an intaglio "BHJ" initial cancel, presumably related to the "BHJ" (Benjamin Hardcastle Johnston) covers of Port Carling Ontario ( L 303, 304, 609 – 611). These covers were used in the mid to late 1870's, the stamp appears to be an early rose shade, say 1872, and BHJ was PM from 1869. I would change my mind if I saw a cover, or even another example of this cancel.



Another "spurious" item. This is what an oval parcel hammer (see L 14, pg.2) looks like in the extreme worn out state. Compare with another example, D 328 a (former) oval parcel from Fredericton NB, which has in the past been described as a fancy "O", "D" "B" etc. fancy cancel.



D328

Bogus, this "MID" is D 292, which has been noted on several different issues of stamps, and on two covers which were 30 years apart. It was listed in D&S as number 589a.



D292

Good collecting,

Dave.Lacelle



## Coming Fall 2012

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