

**UNUSUAL AND EXOTIC USAGES OF
The
Postal Stationery
Of Canada**

**Republished from PSNotes
Newsletter of the
Postal Stationery Study Group
Of
BNAPS**

© 201) PSNotes

Note: Table of Contents is interactive. Clicking on an article will take you to it. To return to the Table of Contents, open bookmarks at left, where links also exist to other articles,

Table of Contents

	PDF Page #
#1 Handley Page at Parrsbro	1
#2 Sea Current Drift Bottle Usage	3
#3 Recovered by Divers from the Wreck of the S.S. Empress of Ireland	5
#4 Legal Usage After Postal Usage	7
#5 Submitting articles to a newspaper on postal stationery	8
#6 Artwork on Postal Stationery	10
#7 An Insured Mail Postal Stationery Usage.	11
#8 Labrador & Quebec Dog Team Use of 3¢ Newfoundland PS Envelope	12
#9 Card Used with Added Postage for Bulk Mailing	13
#10 A Well-Travelled Post Card.	14
#11 Mortgage Filed on a Post Card.	16
#12 A Special Delivery Post Card with the Queen Victoria Special Delivery Issue	18
#13 Post card used as an Envelope	20
#14 Post card used to Cambodia in 1897	21

Unusual and Exotic Postal Stationery Usages

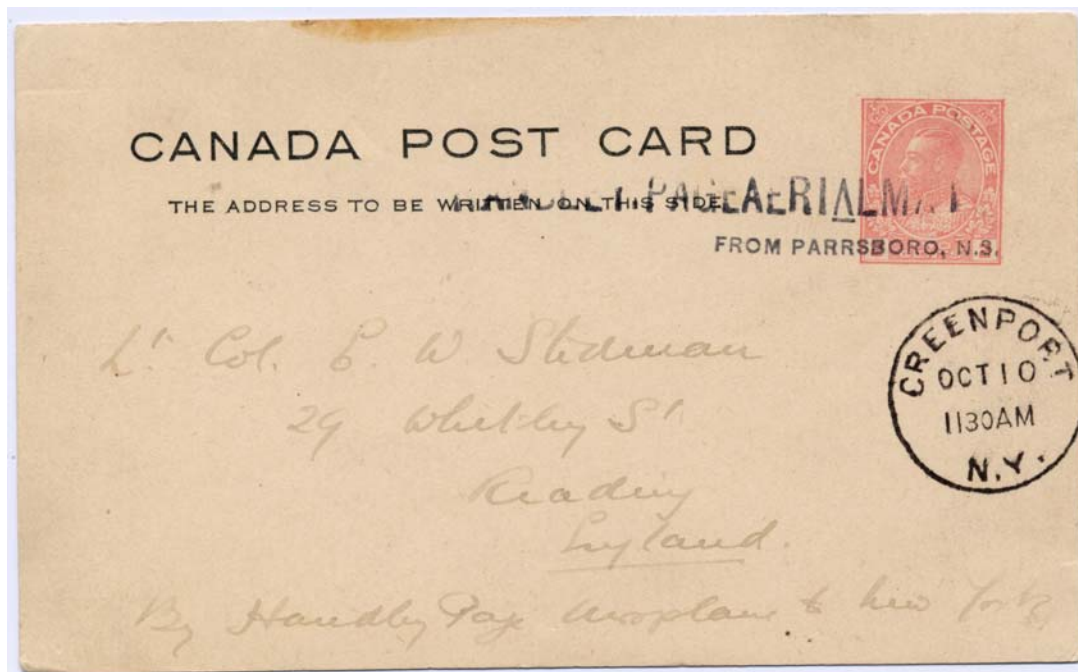
There are many different Canadian stationery items so scarce to rare that they are almost never available. There are also, however, many common postal stationery pieces that are nevertheless eye-catching because of their usage. Beginning with this issue, we will try to devote a little space to an example of offbeat usages or postal misadventures.

1. Handley Page at Parrsboro

On July 4, 1919, Kerr and Brackley left Newfoundland in a Handley Page plane bound for New York. They carried a fairly small amount of mail postmarked either St. John's or Harbour Grace. The plane unfortunately had to make a forced landing at Parrsboro, Nova Scotia, and sustained serious damage in the process. The Newfoundland mail was offloaded, backstamped at Parrsboro on July 7, and forwarded by surface.

The plane was repaired, but this apparently took some time—no doubt in part because of the difficulties in getting parts to Parrsboro. A decision was made to continue to New York once repairs were completed, and the flight left on October 9, arriving in Greenport, New York (near the extreme eastern end of Long Island) on October 10.

The Air Mails of Canada and Newfoundland (1997), from which I have sourced most of this information (p. 29 and pp. 476-7), notes that only “a small amount of mail was taken on at Parrsboro.” These are listed in that catalogue as PF-20 (p. 29). This was of course Canadian mail, and the 1¢ orange Admiral card illustrated (Webb's P29f) is an example. It carries the two-line “Handley Page Aerial Mail/From Parrsboro, N.S.” undated cachet used as a postmark on Oct. 9, and a Greenport, NY Oct. 10 receiver.



The card—endorsed at bottom in manuscript “By Handley Page Aeroplane to New York”—is addressed to a Lt. Col. Stedman in Reading, England (and is thus 1¢ short paid, but no penalty is indicated). Kerr was Admiral Sir Mark Kerr and Brackley was Major Brackley, so my guess is that

one of them (probably Brackley, writing to a fellow officer) prepared the card as a flight souvenir. There was high awareness among pilots of the postal significance of these pioneer flights. The unsigned message is datelined Parrsboro N.S. and reads “Keep this card old chap, it may become famous.” Famous or not, the sender transformed one of the most common pieces of Canadian postal stationery into an unusual and exotic item.

Bill Walton

Unusual and Exotic Postal Stationery Usages

Bill Walton

We continue our series showing common items displaying unconventional usage.

2. Sea Current Drift Bottle Usage



Fig. 1: Webb P29f, used in Mount Vernon, Washington and sent to Nanaimo, B.C. – a “bottle card” used to measure tides and currents. Why the address deficiency cancel was added is unclear – while no marking denotes the fact that there was no U.S. postage on it. It seems to have been returned to Nanaimo as a courtesy.

This is a card that was enclosed in a bottle and dropped in the ocean as part of a scientific investigation of tides and currents. Addressed for return to the Pacific Biological Station in Nanaimo, the back shows a form for the finder to fill in. The key information here is the location (showing where the tides and currents carried the bottle), and secondarily the time of finding (secondary because it does not prove when the bottle arrived there – just when it was discovered). The finder’s name and address were also filled in, so the promised reward of 25¢ could be sent.

The card shows two horizontal creases, no doubt the result of being curled in its container. It also shows water stains, not too surprisingly – the finder’s hands were no doubt wet from picking up the bottle and opening it to read the enclosure.

The bottle with this card was found in the U.S. at Padilla Bay, near Anacortes, Washington. Recovery of some portion of the bottles in the U.S. was do doubt anticipated, but in such cases U.S. postage (1¢) would need to be added. The postmaster in Mount Vernon, Washington, however, accepted it without penalty – no doubt as a courtesy. Found November 4, 1929, it is postmarked November 6. An address deficiency handstamp was added in Seattle (for no apparent reason), but it was again passed without being taxed for deficient postage.

1931 **SEA CURRENT INVESTIGATION**
BIOLOGICAL BOARD OF CANADA

A Reward of 25 cents will be sent to the finder of the bottle provided
this card is posted with the following particulars:

Name and Address of Finder *Antoine B. Fieldt*
Mt Vernon, Wash. R# 1
Box 182

Place where found as near as possible *Padilla Bay about*
7 miles southeast of Maricao

Date and Hour *November 4th 1929 - 7 A.M.*

46

Fig. 2: The form on back indicated the finder, and the location and date of finding. A reward of 25¢ was offered for return reports.

The number in the upper left corner is likely its identifying number in the hydrological study, and the date and location of its drop was no doubt recorded. There is not a large return rate of bottle studies such as these – perhaps 50% if released near shore, falling to 10% if released a hundred miles off-shore.¹ Unfortunately, we have no idea where this item might have begun its journey, or from what ship it might have been dispensed.

Canada was not the only maritime nation to use cards in bottles to assess tides and currents. Imperial Russia apparently did this in the Black Sea as long ago as the 19th Century, and we have a couple of USSR Black Sea bottle cards from the 1930's – again, postal stationery, no doubt because a preprinted stamp would not be floated loose by moisture. We have read that a card was found many years ago in Newfoundland, released by researchers from Wood's Hole in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, but have no details.

It is worth noting that this card was found just 11 days after Black Thursday – the beginning of the Stock Market crash on October 24, with the worst losses the following Monday and Tuesday (Oct. 28 & 29). The 25¢ reward must have already begun to look better.

We found this card almost 40 years ago, thought it was interesting, and decided to keep an eye out for more. To date, we have not seen or heard of another from this or any other Canadian effort. We would be delighted to get a report of even one more bottle card.

Endnotes:

¹ <http://www.islandnet.com/~see/weather/elements/shoes.htm> re: Curtis Ebbesmeyer. Accessed October 21, 2008.

Unusual and Exotic Postal Stationery Usages

Bill Walton

The third in our continuing series. Do you have one to contribute?

3. Recovered By Divers from the Wreck of S.S. Empress of Ireland

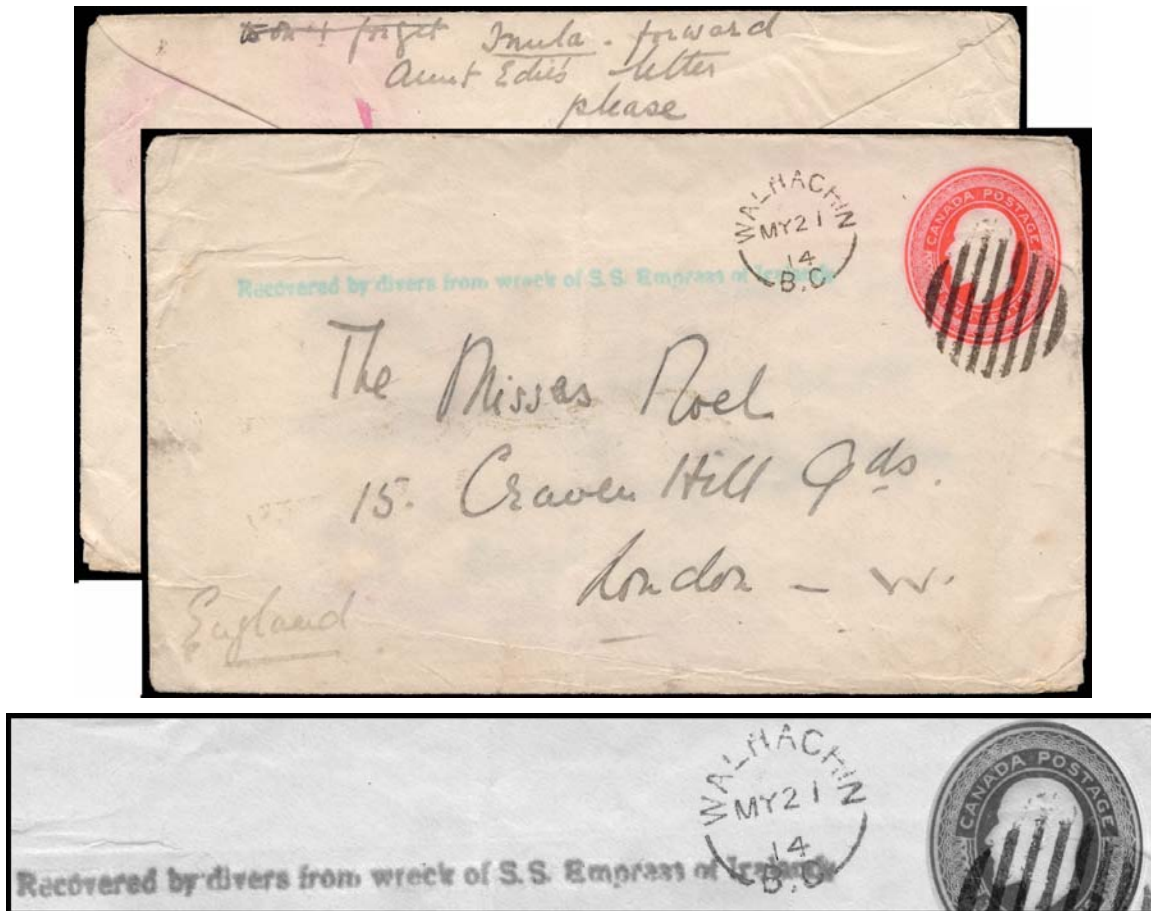


Fig. 1: Webb EN17 (die VI) used with a My 21 [19]14 Walhachin, B.C. cancel, with a "Recovered by divers from wreck of S.S. Empress of Ireland" handstamp in bluegreen. It was recovered from the bottom of the St. Lawrence River after this ship sank. The DLO office in Ottawa subsequently forwarded it under cover to the original addressee. The black and white illustration is shown to highlight the handstamp.

At 4:30 PM on May 28, 1914, *The Empress of Ireland* left Quebec City for another voyage to England. That evening it made the customary stop at Rimouski to take on mail bags for the crossing, and then continued down the St. Lawrence. Around 2:00 AM on the 29th, near Father Point, it was ramméd by the *Storstad*, a Norwegian collier, and in 15 or 20 minutes, sank in 130 feet of water. There were approximately 460 survivors, with over 1000 lives lost.

Divers began recovery work soon after, bringing up bodies, valuables, and mail. These efforts continued for some time. Recovered mail was apparently dried and sorted at Father Point, and those items which still had legible address and were reasonably intact were forwarded to the original addressees by the Dead Letter Office in Ottawa.

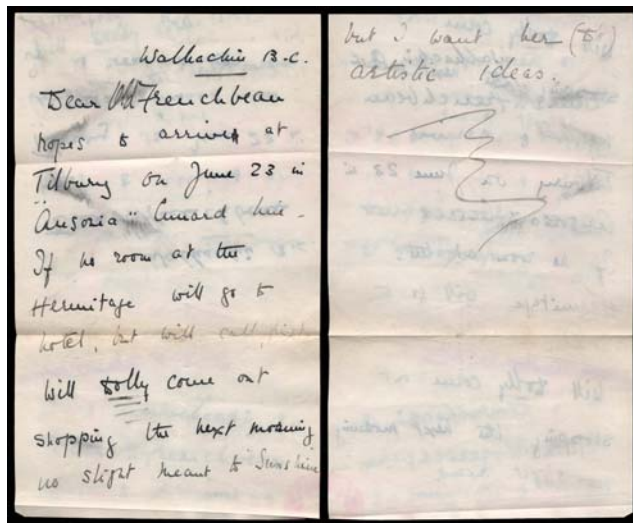


Fig. 2: Enclosed letter shows water damage but is still legible:

Dear old French bean hopes to arrive at Tilburg on June 23 in "Ansonia" Cunard Line. If no room at the Hermitage will go to hotel but will call first. Will Dolly come out shopping the next morning – no slight meant to Sunshine – but I want her (D's) artistic ideas.



Fig. 3: The envelope has of course lost its gum and can be shown opened flat:

The recovered item was typically handstamped with the straightline "Recovered" handstamp seen on the 2¢ Edward envelope in *Figure 1*, then enclosed in a D.L.O. envelope which would have been addressed as the enclosed cover and also struck with the "Recovered" handstamp. These mailings continued as the work progressed, and the outer DLO envelopes are seen with postmarks at least through the end of December, more than 7 months after the sinking.

This cover was originally posted in Walhachin, B.C., on May 21, apparently by one of the upper middle class Englishmen who emigrated to this curious agricultural development (off the subject of this article, but worth Googling for the curious). The letter, to "The Misses Noel," is still enclosed. It was taken on board the *Empress* at either Quebec (more likely) or Rimouski. In ten hours or so, it was at the bottom on the St. Lawrence.

Covers from the wreck may be somewhat scarce but are certainly not rare. I have collected Canadian ship-related mail – coastal and inland as well as high seas – for many years, and have seen a number from the *Empress* disaster. What makes this item notable is that it is the only piece of postal stationery from the sinking that I have ever come upon.

As postal stationery collectors, we are accustomed to plowing through box after box of stationery at shows. Much of it, after all, is quite common, and most of us would not look carefully at used 2¢ Edward envelopes when we got to them. We forget that postal stationery was always a small percentage of the mailstream, but this cover makes the point: if you want a recovered *Empress* cover, you can probably find one in auction or through a dealer within a year, but I have looked over 30 years for another piece of recovered postal stationery.

And that's why they used to call our field a sideline.

Unusual and Exotic Postal Stationery Usages

Bill Walton

The fourth in our continuing series. Do you have one to contribute?

4. Legal Usage After Postal Usage



Fig. 1: the 1¢ green Edward card – Webb P22 – used from Paisley, Ont. (Oct. 2, 1905) to Walkerton (Oct. 3 receiver), and subsequently entered as a court exhibit.

The 1¢ Edward card shown above (and visible when held in front of a strong light) carried a message in October 1905 to a law firm in Walkerton relating to a “Brockie vs Brockie” matter. This notation was carried forward in an endorsement on front at left, and the card was apparently entered in the Ontario provincial courts as an exhibit in the subsequent litigation. A 10¢ Ontario Law Stamp has been attached and punch cancelled.

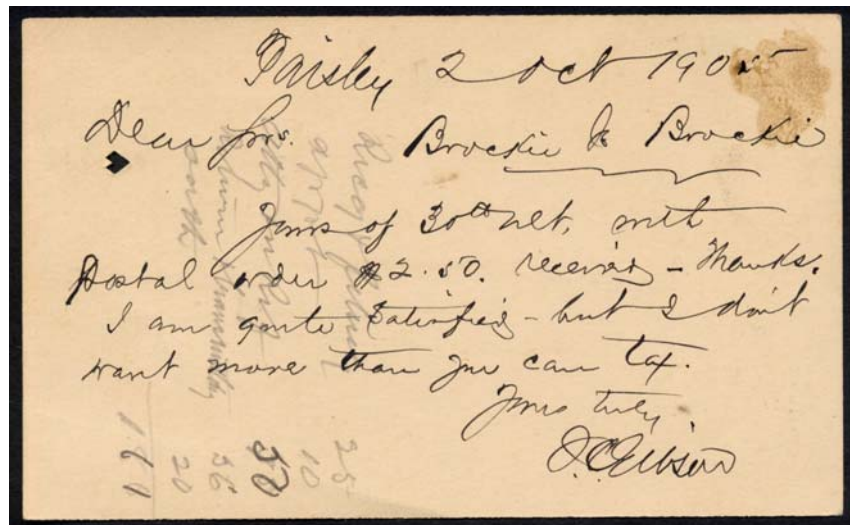


Fig. 2: Reverse of above card. Fees “cross-written” in pencil.

The Law Stamp is from the 1870 issue, which went through many printings and remained in use into the 1920s. By 1905 these stamps on any document were typically punch cancelled – datestamps were no longer in common use.

I have seen a few covers used as exhibits in various Canadian courts, including the Supreme Court, but this is the only postal stationery example I have come across. If any of our members have such an item, it would be interesting to show another example.

Unusual and Exotic Postal Stationery Usages

Bill Walton

The fifth in our continuing series. We would welcome other contributions to this series from other members.

5: Submitting articles to a newspaper on postal stationery.

No doubt many of you have seen old post cards crammed with information, or written in more than one direction, overlapping. This card is one of those – and from what we can learn from the Windsor Public Library in Windsor, Vermont, this was a typical submission from S.M. Unfortunately our efforts to identify the reporter have failed.



Fig. 1: P1 sent from Montreal on Oct. 12, 1874 to a newspaper in Windsor, Vermont. We show the back of the card enlarged to 150%. It must have taken an editor with patience! Definitely 2¢ worth!

This appeared as an article in the Vermont Journal (published in Windsor, Vermont) on Oct 17, 1874, with the headline, "Post Card from Canada" and the byline, S.M. The text is interesting.

Montreal, Oct. 12, 1874

You will find many cities in which a greater number of languages are used than in this, but few where so many persons can speak fluently two. On the streets and in the markets; in all factories, shops and on the public works; in all public offices, hotels and stores, you hear constantly the two languages. But as there are always many in the throng who can speak only one, it is necessary for all public officers, book-keepers, clerks, etc. to be able to speak both. Step any day into the Court house. One witness gives his testimony in French, the next, perhaps, in English, and a sworn interpreter is at hand to translate from one language to the other. A lawyer gets up and makes a plea in English, speaking it so well that you would not think his organs of speech accustomed to any other language; but all at once, he delivers himself as eloquently in French. The judge speaks to this one in French, to that one in English, and addresses the jury in both. In all assemblies where political questions are discussed, or questions of a public interest are examined, the two languages go side by side. This Postal Card could pass along to you almost as readily in French as in English. I have known little children learning the two so equally that they did not know one from the other, and would frequently begin a sentence in one and finish it in the other. As they grow up of course they learn to distinguish between them but will continue to use both as mother tongues. The English predominates in commercial circles, the French in domestic. More Canadians use the former, than English the latter language. And I protest here once more against your up-start Yankee correspondents representing the Canadians in the province of Quebec as using a patois in any

We have another example by the same writer to the same newspaper in 1877, with a similar crowded back, so this apparently was a continuing enterprise:

Fig. 2: A second card 3 years later to the same newspaper.

Our thanks to the Director of the Windsor Public Library, Jen Cary, who took the time to search the microfilmed records to find the article printed from this submission.

*Vol. 23 No. 6
Dec 2010-B*

other sense than that an uneducated community don't speak so correctly as an assembly of learned men.

The Post Office department commenced a free house to house delivery of letters thro' the city on the 1st inst. It is quite an undertaking and will be sometime before all the machinery necessary to accomplish it will get into good running order. Several branch offices will be established to aid in the collection and distribution of mail matter. It will greatly lessen the throng(?) at the general post office. The new post office has been slowly up all summer, and, apparently, is nearly ready for the roofing. It will be a splendid building when completed.

No denomination can equal the Catholics in getting up a demonstration. Yesterday, in sight of my window, a bell for a new church was christened. Flags floated in the winds, bands of music filled the air with stirring strains; city cars and carriages came loaded with an eager throng, and the multitude hastened along on foot. The bishop was there and many priests aided in the ceremony. No Protestant community could have made so much show had a saint come down from heaven. The triumphal arches in that(?) celebration at Quebec the other day cost five thousand dollars, and the illumination, thirty thousand.

No frost during the week. Heavy rain on Friday. Strong Westerly wind yesterday that threw the leaves to earth in millions and a decidedly autumnal day. Pleasant this morning - Wind north. thermometer 38 at 7.

S. M.



Unusual and Exotic Postal Stationery Usages

Bill Walton

The sixth in our continuing series. We would welcome other contributions to this series from other members.

6: Artwork on Postal Stationery.

Not often, but occasionally, we see cards or envelopes decorated with art work – not the printed kind, such as appears on the McClary cards, but done by an individual to send to a correspondent, just as a whim, or to share an event. We saved this one from one of Hugo Deshayé's lists in August of 2009 – perhaps it now rests in the hands of one of our members:



This nice illustration on EN13 was sent from Deer Park, Ontario to Bristol, England on November 27, 1902. It appears to be unsigned.

Other examples have been seen on post cards – perhaps others have some they would like to show. I have only a few examples in my own collection.

~*****~ ☒☒☒ ~*****~

Unusual and Exotic Postal Stationery Usages *Bill Walton*

The seventh in our continuing series. We would welcome other contributions to this series from other members.

7: An Insured Mail Postal Stationery Usage

Registered usages of postal stationery envelopes, including the 2¢ Edward, are often seen, but insured mail usages are seldom come by – in fact, any insured cover can be viewed as scarce.



(EN17)

This envelope was sent from Boulardarie Centre on Cape Breton (Aug. 28, 1905 split rings), via Big Bras D’Or (Aug. 28) and North Sydney (Aug. 28), Halifax & Sydney RPO (Aug. 29), Montreal (Aug. 30), and Toronto (Aug. 31), to Hamilton (Sept. 1 receiver).

Total franking is 12¢ (10¢ in added stamps) – 2¢ for postage and 5¢ for registered mail, meaning 5¢ paid for insured mail. I am no authority of these rates, but I believe that 5¢ paid for \$200 insurance. The INSURED label at right is a Post Office label.

An insured label in French (considerably scarcer) also exists, and it would be a gem on a postal stationery envelope.

~*****~ ☒☒☒ ~*****~

Unusual and Exotic Postal Stationery Usages

Bill Walton

The eighth in our continuing series. We would welcome other contributions to this series from other members.

8: Labrador & Quebec Dog Team Use of 3¢ Newfoundland Postal Stationery Envelope.



Fig. 1: Cancels on front: Cartwright Jan 23, 1904), Battle Harbor Feb. 5, Blanc Sablon, Newf'd Ty Feb. 10; on back: Lourdes du Blanc Sablon, Que. Feb. 22, Natashquan Mar 5, Esquimaux Point March 14, Quebec April 19, and then to London, England, arriving April 29 – a long voyage by dog team (cometique) and boat.

This 3¢ Newfoundland envelope (Webb's EN1) tells an interesting postal history story. It originated from Cartwright, Labrador (Jan. 23, 1904), made its way to Battle Harbor (Feb. 5), on to Blanc Sablon/Newf'd Ty (Feb. 10) (prior to the transfer of Blanc Sablon to Quebec), and then entered Canada at Lourdes du Blanc Sablon (Feb. 22). It then continued by dog team (cometique) to Natashquan (March 6) and Esquimaux Point (March 14) (changed in 1924 to Havre-St. Pierre). It no doubt continued along Quebec's North Shore by dog team, probably to the Saguenay, and arrived in Quebec April 19. From there it went to London, with what appears to be an April 29 cancel – three months in transit. A nice Labrador cover – the Blanc Sablon and Esquimaux Point markings in particular – and a nice Quebec cometique cover as well.

I acquired this many years ago from Andy Holtz, still in Toronto at the time. It arrived in the mail one day, and a note from Andy explained how he'd come by the cover. It was in a large lot in an auction he attended in Zürich, but it was the only item in the lot he wanted.

He sat next to the winning bidder, a Turk. Before Andy left, he put a note behind this cover indicating his interest, -- and eventually got a note from Turkey and bought it. I knew nothing about this until it arrived in my mailbox – from somewhere to Switzerland to Turkey to Canada (back again after 80 years) and finally to New Jersey.

~*****~*~*~*~*~*****~

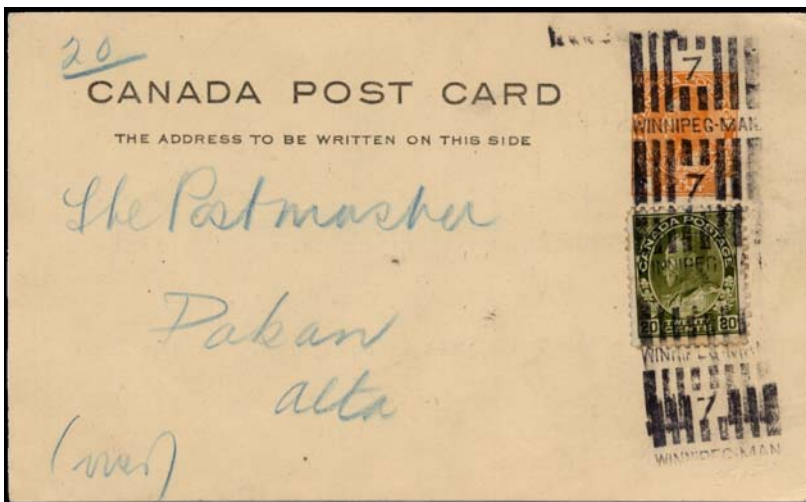
UNUSUAL AND EXOTIC POSTAL STATIONERY USAGES

Bill Walton

The ninth in our continuing series. We would welcome other contributions to this series from other members.

9: Card Used With Added Postage For Bulk Mailing.

This 1¢ Admiral card (Webb’sP29f) was sent with an added 20¢ stamp and a Winnipeg 7 roller to the Postmaster in Pakan, Alberta by the *Nor’-West Farmer*. The printed back explains that it was accompanied by a stack of cards (either more P29f, or the ½¢ P26c if well into 1924) for householder delivery to local farmers, and the 20¢ paid for mailing of the stack to Pakan. The cards to be delivered would typically have been addressed back to the publication in Winnipeg, with the back requesting either a subscription or a trial subscription. The *Nor’-West Farmer* undoubtedly sent similar stacks of cards to rural post offices across the Western provinces.



The text requested distribution of the cards “to farmers at your office who are not now receiving” the publication, and references the 1924 Postal Guide (thus roughly dating the mailing) as allowing this request. This may have been a stretch. Charles Livermore consulted his closest Guide (1925), and found nothing but a regulation for delivery to everyone on the route – nothing about selective delivery.

Fig. 1: P29f to Pakan Alberta, with Winnipeg 7 roller cancel.

Of course, this selective requirement might have been dropped after 1924, but it seems unlikely to me that Ottawa would have ever imposed such a time-consuming chore on postmaster – imagine the problems in Toronto or Montreal with such a request from a major magazine!

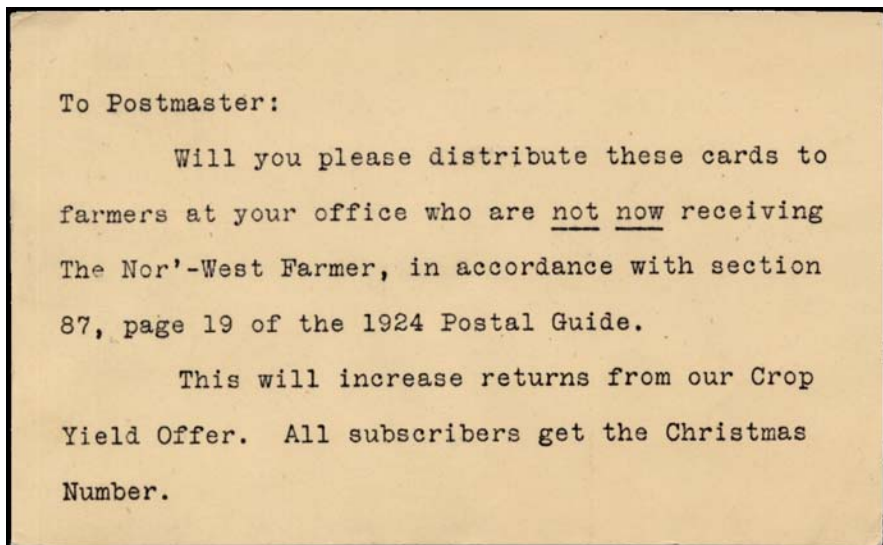


Fig. 2: Back of same card indicates that this card carried a stack of cards, for selective householder delivery.

*****~ ☒☒☒ ~*****

UNUSUAL AND EXOTIC POSTAL STATIONERY USAGES

The tenth in our continuing series. We would welcome more contributions to this series from other members.

10: A well-travelled post card.

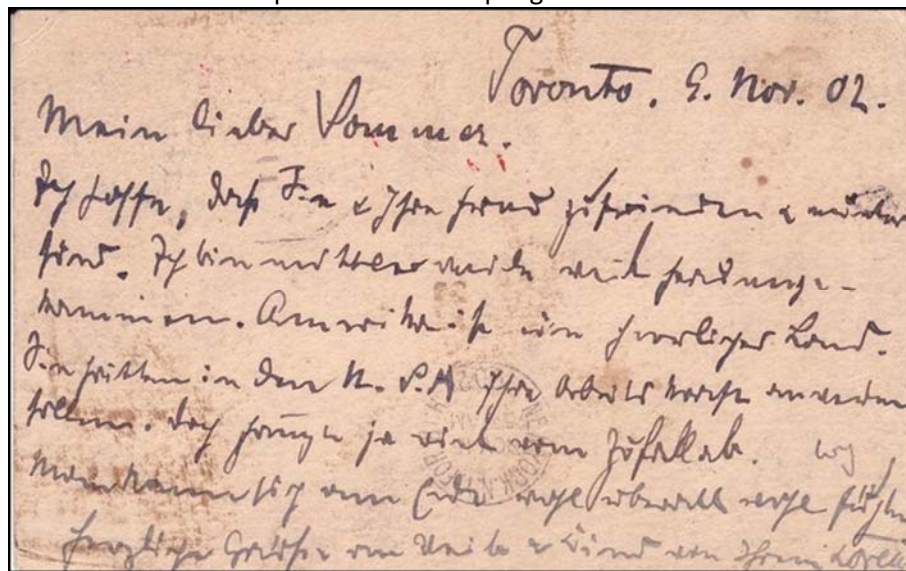
By Hans van Dooremalen

I recently acquired a 2 cents Maple Leaf postcard (Webb P21), which went on a long and unusual journey.



Fig. 1a: P21, sent November 9, 1902, to Sumatra. It received no less than ten cancels in its journey, as well as one manuscript “missent to Taipeng” notation.

Fig. 1b: A New York transit mark is shown on the back of the card, dated November 15, 1902.



It was written in Toronto on November 9th, 1902 and addressed to Tandjoeng Poera on the east coast of Sumatra in the Dutch East Indies (see map below).

The numbers below correspond with the numbers on the map:



1. It was postmarked in Toronto on November 9th, 1902. It was sent via New York and has a transit marking, dated November 15th.

From there it was sent on its way, first across the Atlantic and from England on the P&O line, through the Suez Canal. It arrived in Penang in the Straits Settlements on December 17th. There the mistake was made.

Instead of forwarding it to the Dutch East Indies (to Tandjoeng Poera) it was sent to Taiping in the Federated Malay States, not far from Penang, where it arrived on the same day.

2. The postmaster in Taiping discovered the mistake and forwarded the card to the exchange office in Singapore, where it arrived on December 23rd.
3. Since 1878 the Dutch East Indies post office had 2 postal agencies in the Straits Settlements (Singapore and Penang). The purpose of the agencies was to expedite the mail packets arriving from Europe and Australia by sending them straight to the right island of the Dutch East Indies instead of sending them to Batavia (Jakarta) first. In most cases several weeks could be gained in this way. These postal agencies were located in the building of the Straits Settlements post office itself. As this card was addressed to the Dutch East Indies, the postmaster in Singapore handed it to the DEI agency there. It was received by him on the same day. Being a card addressed to East Sumatra, the agent in Singapore forwarded it to his colleague in Penang, where it was received on December 26th.
4. From there it was forwarded to Medan, a larger city on Sumatra, where it received an indistinct receiving mark.
5. The last stage was that to Tandjoeng Poera, where it was received on December 28th.

This card again shows, that when collecting postal stationery, postal history is just as important. A simple card can become a real gem.

~*****~ ☒☒☒ ~*****~

Unusual and Exotic Postal Stationery Usages

The eleventh in our continuing series. We would welcome other contributions to this series from other members.

11: Mortgage filed on a post card.

Earle Covert

On May 27, 1921 Wesley Snell sold A. N. Owen a 1920 model McLaughlin Roadster for \$1200. with a mortgage of \$750. The card was apparently sent from the Registrar to a Lawyer stating that the mortgage had been filed on May 28, 1921. The court document was filed March 4, 1922 in London, Ontario. I know nothing about the court other than the filing of the postcard and a copy of the agreement.



Fig. 1: P33f to a lawyer in Exeter, Ontario

P33f

Fig. 2: Back of same card, dated May 28, /21 at Goderich, and reads:

Dear Sir;

Today I received Bill of Sale Wesley Snell v. A. N. Owens and I have filed the same this 28 day of May 1921 at 10 o'clock am as no. 8619_____

Yours etc.

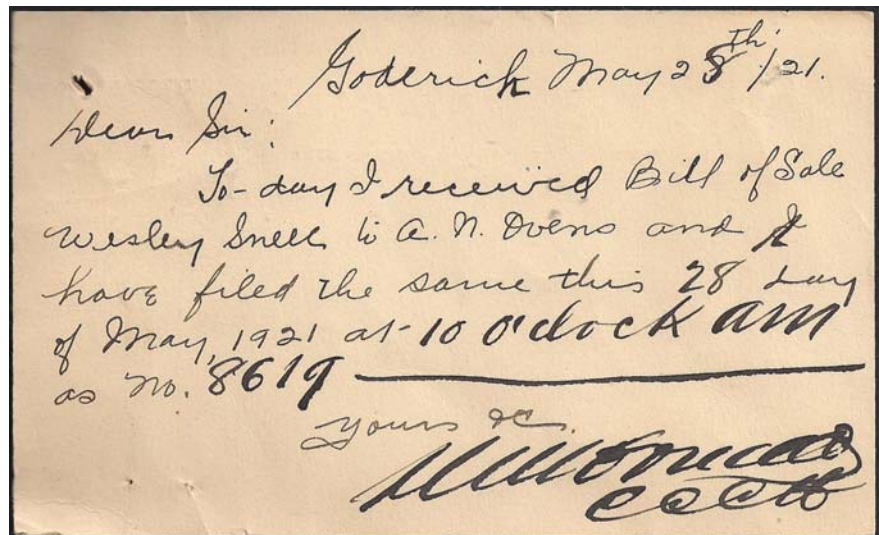




Fig. 3: Showing the front and back of the legal agreement, with attached post card.

~*****~ ☒☒☒ ~*****~

Unusual and Exotic Postal Stationery Usages

The twelfth in our continuing series. We welcome contributions to this series from other members.

12: A Special Delivery Post Card with the Queen Victoria Special Delivery Issue:

By George B. Dresser

Special delivery post cards are scarce. I have only two examples during the King Edward VII period, the one shown here and one on a private post card concerning a passenger arriving on a late train.

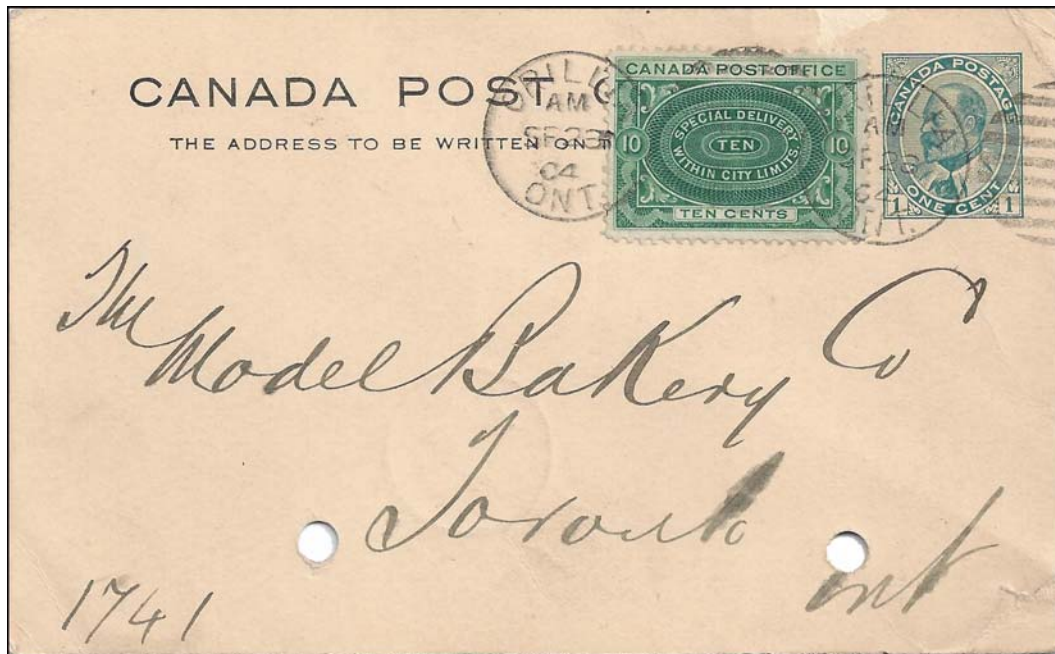


Fig. 1: Posted: Orillia, Ont. SP 28, 1904, Received: Toronto, SP 28 04 on reverse
1-cent domestic rate plus 10-cents special delivery fee, log-in number 1741. Webb P22.

The message reads: "Orillia, Sept. 28/04, Gentlemen: Yesterdays bread did not come to hand nor is it here today. It will be too late to be sent out by tomorrow. Yours, Fred Haywood"

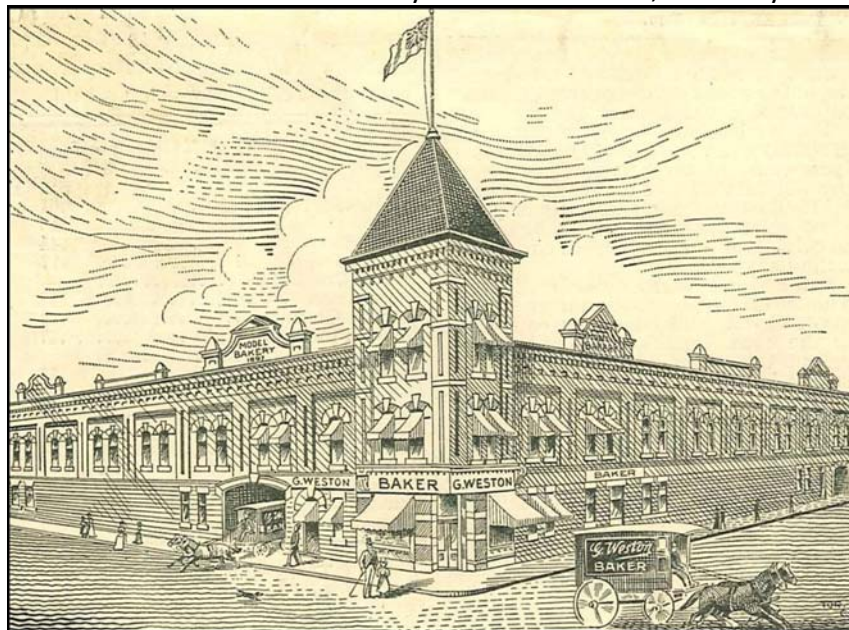


Fig. 2: G. Weston Model Bakery Toronto, 1899

The following Wikipedia article gives an interesting look into the Weston bakery business:

“In October 1897, George Weston unveiled his ‘Model Bakery,’ Canada’s largest and most modern bread factory, at the corner of Soho and Phoebe streets in Toronto. Newspaper reports told of how Weston had travelled to other countries to inspect the latest in baking technology and that his new establishment represented the best of what he had seen. Not only was the factory hailed for its efficiency and cleanliness, but also its capacity to turn out thousands of loaves of bread:

“Remember that bread alone is made in this immense factory, and such bread it is that has made the name of its maker famous. Over 3200 large loaves are turned out on an average daily, but the factory has a capacity of 6,500 loaves. One may judge the largeness of the business done weekly when it takes nearly three hundreds barrels of flour to supply the weekly demand. Two teams are kept busy all day Friday and Saturday hauling flour to supply the week’s needs.



Fig. 3: Model Bakery Bread Wagon Toronto, 1908

“Although the Model Bakery was well received by the Toronto press, its appearance resulted in a price war, apparently initiated by the city’s other bakers. On hearing that competitors were offering cut-rate bread – contrary to a local bakers’ agreement that set a standard price for a loaf of bread – George Weston left the bakers’

association and lowered his prices. In retaliation, the competition dropped what they charged at the wholesale level in an apparent attempt to fill store shelves with their bread. In spite of the price war, the Model Bakery continued to expand production such that a year later business had increased by 78 percent. Less than two years later George Weston was selling his bread to 38 cities and towns beyond Toronto’s borders. By 1901, the factory’s output had reached 10,000 large loaves a day and its bread was shipped to over 100 communities throughout Ontario. By 1899, Weston had also established in the town of Oshawa, northeast of Toronto, a branch bakeshop, which he described as a ‘miniature Model Bakery,’ for the production of bread.”

Source: Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Weston_Limited (Sept 25, 2013) The post card is my own; the other two pictures shown appear in the Wikipedia article. A great deal more history of Weston’s bakery business is available on the mentioned web site. This company still operates today and is traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

~*****~ ☒☒☒ ~*****~

We will shortly begin a listing of water level cards. If you have any to contribute, please send information and scans to Earle Covert, ecovert6@gmail.com, or Box 1190. Raymond AB T0K 2S0.

Unusual and Exotic Postal Stationery Usages

The thirteenth in our continuing series. We would welcome other contributions to this series from other members.

1 : Post card used as an envelope

Bill Walton



A P22 Edward VII post card used as an envelope, someone actually taking the trouble to cut the envelope to paste the edges on the front of the post card. This item passed through the mail from Montreal (April 12, 1905 to Kemptville, with a Kemptville receiver of the same date. Two ½ penny Small Queens have been added to meet the 2¢ first class letter rate.

~*****~ ☒☒☒ ~*****~

Unusual and Exotic Postal Stationery Usages

The fourteenth in our continuing series. We welcome contributions from other members.

14: Post card used to Cambodia in 1897

Vic Willson

Courtesy of the "Beaver Chatter"—the Prairie Beaver's newsletter (Volume 39, No. 1, Whole Number 141, March 2014), we have this nice item supplied by its editor, Vic Willson:

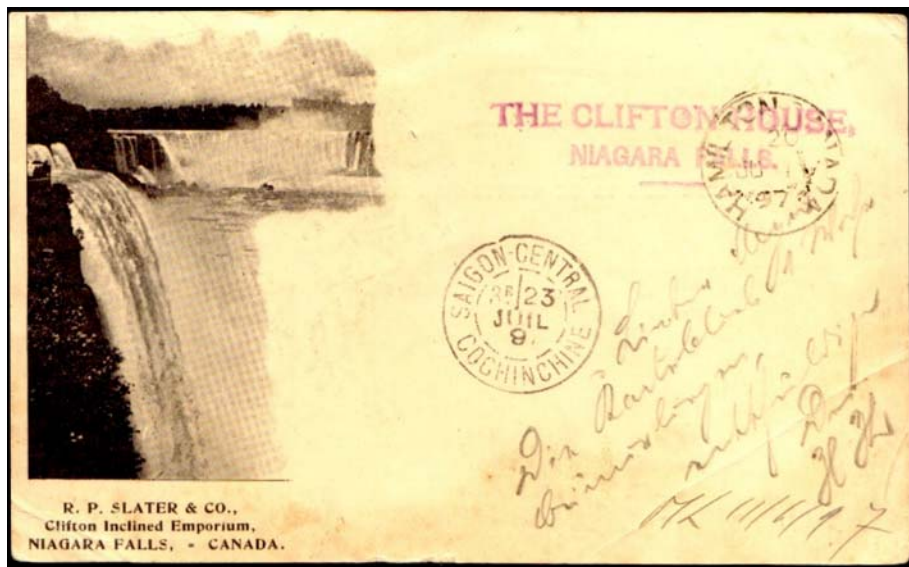


Fig 1A & B: P14, with a Niagara Falls view (NF14-10) on the reverse, and a Clifton House stamp handstamp in red, sent from Niagara Falls, ONT on June 11, 1897. The June 11 Hamilton cancel shows it did not go across the border, but instead to London (UK, June 23) and on to Saigon (July 23), and finally to Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

The post card above was acquired by myself at the recent Eastern Auctions sale. It is the first item I have recorded to Cambodia in the Victorian era. Sent to Phnom Penh from Niagara Falls, Ont. on June 11, it went to Hamilton rather than across the border to the U.S., presumably then to Toronto and Montreal. With a London UK transit of June 23, a slow time for that period, it would have gone across to France for entry into the French mail system in order to connect with French colonial mail service via Saigon, as the transit on the back attests. My other cards to French Indochina are to Vietnam in the Edward period and went west for Pacific ships that would have put into Hong Kong as the transit point. The message is in German, a souvenir from Niagara Falls.

~*****~ ☒☒☒ ~*****~