

# **BNAPS Fancy Cancel Study Group**

## **Newsletter No. 12.**

**Dave Lacelle.**  
**Dec. 93.**

### **●Group News:**

Time for my "before the end of the year" newsletter. Toronto Convention meeting went well, but only about a dozen people present. The idea of a study group auction was presented, so far the response has been lukewarm. If you are interested in such an auction (especially as a seller), please write me. As mentioned below, the amount of fancy cancel correspondence received lately by me has increased. I am rather pleased with this - this is your study group, it is only as good as you make it- keep those letters coming.

We have eight new members, membership total is now 67. There is a dues notice with the cartoon on the last page. Our membership total will thus drop for the next newsletter. New members are: Mr. J. M. Buckner 2839 NW 21st Ave. Gainesville FL. 32605; Mr. W. G. Burden, 20 Aspen Court Truro NS, B2N 5S1 (of Small Queen S.G. fame); Mr. J. T. Burnett, 757 Parkwood Sidney Ohio 45365; Mr. R. J. Chatfield, 45 Kingsbridge Gdn. Cr. #1807, Mississauga ON L5R 3K4; Mr. A. T. Forde, P.O. Box 179 Nelson B.C., V1L 5P9; Mr. H. Harrison, 2336 Bloor W. Box 84621, Toronto ON, M6S 1T0; Mr. D. H. Huebner, 3321 Leyton Lane, Madison WI, 53713; and Mr. A. McDonald 65 Duke St. Thunder Bay ON P7A 5S8. We also have one address change, Mr. J.A. Duguid now at; 32 Moseley Rd Lake Louisa, Lachute P.Q. J8H 3W8.

The following have all sent in information, and/or photo copies of fancy cancel items. I regret that it is not always possible to personally thank these individuals, I hope this collective "thank you" will suffice. Thanks to; Norm Brassler, Bill Burden, Horace Harrison, Dan Kolfage, J. C. Micheaud, A.A. Mac Donald, Gus Quattrocchi, and Joe Smith.

### **Revisions to Previous Newsletters.**

#### **●NEWSLETTER 1.**

Crown Wax Seals.

1. Addition: Pense Assa. Cover, Oct. '94, (as a seal) Type 2.
2. Note: The Main River Nfld. seal has also been noted as a free strike marking July '03.
3. Addition: Millview PEI, Cover Sept. '93 (as cancel) Type 3.
4. Addition: New Mills N.B., Cover, Apr. '77 (as a seal), Type ?

●NEWSLETTER 2.

Town Names.

1. Addition: St. Remi on 2 cent Numeral (Sc. 75), Type 2, 5mm. high.

●NEWSLETTER 6.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Eugenia Cork insert with the date 2 JY 1890, the "2 JY" is handwritten, not typeset.
2. The Montreal 21 roller cancel (D&S 67) has now been confirmed on Jubilees. Usage up to at least '97 is thus now confirmed.

●NEWSLETTER 12.

Correspondence and Queries.

1. The unusual cancel sent in by Wally Gutzman may be a worn "10 in circle" ratemark similar to D&S 58 (used at Barnston Que. Oct. '85).
2. The Toronto "W" cancel from '97 or '98 has now been confirmed on stamp (Apparently it was used on 3rd class mail).

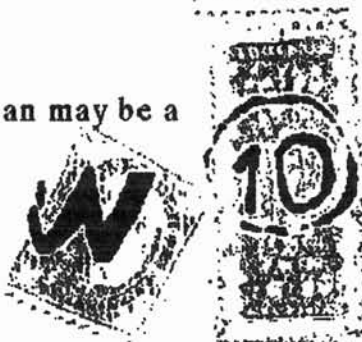
Unidentified Stars and Crosses.

1. Number 114 is unconfirmed New York Foreign Mail on Canada.
  2. Number 165, very similar on cover from Granby Quebec, July '92 (Thanks to Norm Brassler).
  3. Number 200, Wallacetown Ont. Feb. '80 (Thanks to Dan Kolfage).
- "Never Seen" stars and crosses.

1. Number 84 is unconfirmed New York Foreign Mail on Canada.
2. Number 101a has been reported several times on S.Q.'s, the D&S illustration is poor ( see better illustration at side).

Correspondence and Queries.

1. Joe Smith has sent in this example of a screw head as a cancel.
2. I recently purchased this item which was described as a horseshoe. I suspect it is really some kind of button, coin, or monogram. It is on a 3 cent S.Q. from the '80's, a somewhat dirty stamp, but no other cancels. Any ideas as to what this might be?



3. Bill Burden sends in this little cross item as an unusual cancel, it is from Mapleton N.S. Mar. '97.

4. Horace Harrison has sent in this "tomahawk" cancel from Sturgeon Falls Ont. July '91. Both cancel and CDS are in red- brown ink.

5. Gus Quattrocchi sends in this geometric from Perth Ont. used Feb. '78. The 1950's Fancy Cancel S.G. newsletter shows it in use in Aug. '77. Are any other dates known?

6. J. Smith has also sent in two rather questionable items (he agrees), I show them here for the sake of recording them.

7. As a variation on the theme of utilitarian items used as cancels, I would like to point out that some cancels were designed specifically to cancel the stamp, and not the Queen's face. An example is D&S 827. D&S 741 was designed to cancel Jubilee stamps with both of Queen Victoria's portraits uncanceled and with a patriotic "VR" in the middle. An unlisted cancel illustrated below was used at Burlington Ont. on Feb. 2, 1901. (Queen Victoria's funeral day) as a black mourning border.



8. Finally, I have recently been able to purchase a crown wax sealing hammer. The details are as follows. Type 2 hammer, (by Berri of London England) 10.7cm. (4 5/8") high, cherry (?) wood turned handle, diameter 3.0cm. (1 1/8"), unidentified words stamped into handle at front. The head came loose some time in the past, and has been re-packed with a tiny bit of newspaper. (The word "horses" is visible, but the remainder is inside the handle). This P.O. opened in 1855 which effectively dates the hammer.

The head is made of brass, 2.9 cm. (1 1/8" ) diameter, the letters and crown are stamped in, not engraved. There is an outer double ring. I will try to provide a proof strike here - if it is in modern green ink, you have an original, otherwise you are looking at a photocopy with possible loss of scale and resolution.

## **U.S.A. FANCY CANCELS & THEIR INFLUENCE IN CANADA**

It is often difficult to find a primary topic for these newsletters. They can be chatty, show all the bits and pieces you send in (don't get me wrong- please keep that info. coming) etc. but it is nice to have some "meat" or main topic in the newsletter. I was pleased to recently meet Mr. G. Schrier, he is the editor for the U.S.A. fancy cancels newsletter. His address is: P.O. Box 815, Upper Montclair, N.J. 07043 USA. We compared notes, and he expressed interest in what I had learned about U.S.A. cancels on Canada. So... here it is, I hope you can use some of this in your newsletter Gene.

U.S.A. fancy cancels were used earlier, in more abundance, and were often more elaborate than their Canadian counter parts. They were probably used earlier (60's) as the Canadian P.O. was perhaps more tightly regulated, and was locked into the British Empire numeral cancel style until the early '70's. (What better way to administer a vast diverse empire, than to give every major P.O. a unique number?)

There may have been more U.S.A. fancies as even in the 1860's there was (and still is) the fundamental population imbalance of 10 to 1 between the two countries. Several centres in the U.S. were especially prolific and creative, the best known is Waterbury Con. As in Canada many fraternal organizations (Masons, Oddfellows, etc.) created markings as symbols of loyalty to other members. Many cancels relate to specific events or dates such as '76, Valentines day etc. Some elaborate designs were officially created by the New York Foreign Mail Office, and many private rubber stamp companies may have produced simple designs for cancellers. Several Canadian P.O.'s in the 1880's used C.D.S.s' with designs that appear to be of U.S.A. manufacture. Some letter and initial cancels may have been created to follow a U.S. P.O. directive which required the initialing (by P.M.) of registered mail. (Apparently there was no such rule in Canada). Major publications on U.S.A. fancy cancels are: Zareski Obliterations et Marques Postales des Etats-Unis de 19ieme Siecle, 1947; Herst- Zareski Fancy Cancellations on 19th Century United States Postage Stamps, 1951; T.W. Simpson, U.S. Postal Markings 1851-'61, 1959; Skinner and Eno; United States Cancellations 1845-1869, 1980.



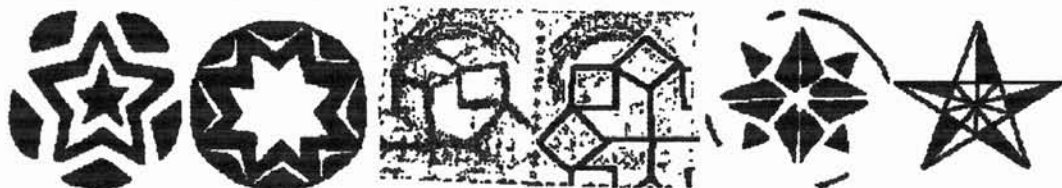
Now, some examples on Canada.

This is one of the two examples of U.S.A. initial cancels on cover on Canada, and hails from from Newport Vermont. There are no Canadian markings. The other initial cancel example on cover is a Boston "B" (poor strike). Off cover, several other examples are known, this "S" is from the New York City "S" depot for registered mail, and is usually found as a backstamp, but is also known as a cancel (no other markings) on a 2 cent S.Q.



This scarifying cancel is believed to be of U.S.A. manufacture, however no other information is known.

The following items are all New York Foreign Mail Office cancels on Canada, the last two are unconfirmed but are included due to similarities of design with other items used by N.Y.F.M. (see Vlissingen and Waud "New York Foreign Mail Cancellations 1870-1876", 1968.)



This San Francisco "sunburst" fancy is often found on B.C. preconfederation trans-border covers. It was supposed to cancel U.S. forwarding postage only, however it sometimes falls onto the B.C. stamps.



The three initial cancels below are all from New York City P.O. Depots, and have been mistakenly listed in D&S as Canadian cancels from unknown P.O.'s.



The other two fancies above are problematical. The first is very similar to a Waterbury Con. fancy, however the stamp (3 cent S.Q.) appears to be much later than 1870, and the item is probably fake. The second item "The kicking mule" has been reported twice on 3 cent S.Q.'s, and once on a 1 cent. I have not had a chance to per-

sonally examine these "mules", so cannot give any opinion as to authenticity.

Other U.S.A. cancels on Canada include many different C.D.S.'s (New York, Philadelphia, Buffalo, Detroit, New Orleans, etc.). Parcel oval cancels (New York, Washington), machine flag cancels, Dead Letter Office, and various Express and/or Packet markings are also known.

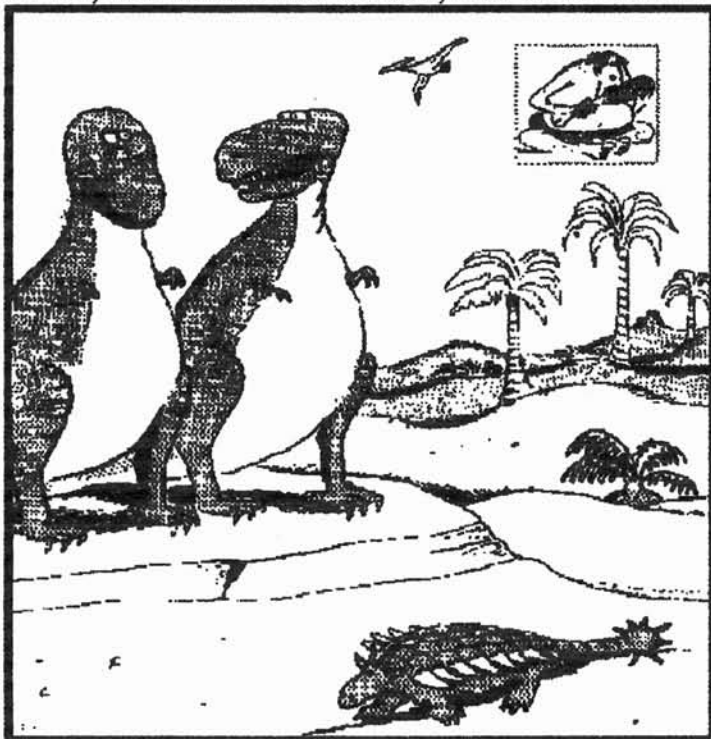
I would be very interested to learn of any other examples of U.S.A. cancels on Canada. (or vice/versa). There are also a few reported Canada cancels on U.S.A. The Ottawa crown (D&S 226) is the most impressive example, however the only known copy is somewhat suspicious. Several "Canada" and other trans-border markings have also been reported.

#### **STAR AND CROSS CANCELS.**

Work on the new book continues, the "star" cancels are now almost complete. Please send me any information you have on star or cross cancels such as locations of use, dates, shade of stamp, etc.

I shall close with another page of the cancel illustrations on gummed paper mentioned in the previous newsletter. If the cartoon below has a red tick in the box then your \$5.00 dues are due. Dues are for the period from convention to convention, address is; Dave Lacelle, 369 Fullerton Ave., Ottawa, ON, K1K 1J9

To all, the best of the season, and Good Collecting.



If the box below has  
a tick in it, then  
your dues are due.



Rare Jurassic fancy cancel recently discovered.

# Nova Scotia



# Newfoundland



From a 1950's auction

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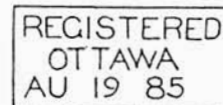
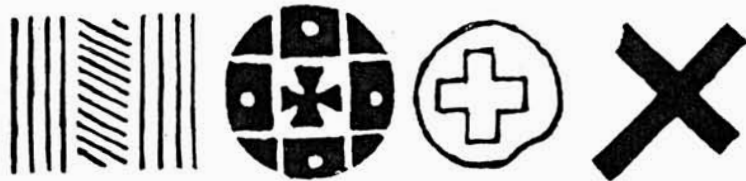
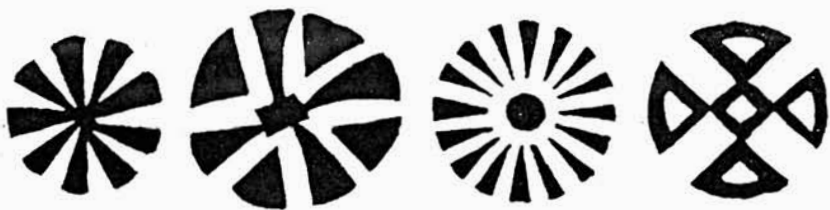


# British Columbia



# New Brunswick





CLASCOW PACKET  
PAID  
OC 23  
1876

SHIP



From a 1950's auction