

# Postal Stationery Notes

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## P15 Census of Destinations

by Vic Willson ([lloydwill@aol.com](mailto:lloydwill@aol.com))

The 2 cent vermilion UPU card of 1896 (Webb P15, ERP Dec. 1) had a fairly short life as the newest card intended for foreign destinations not to the US, being superseded by the orange Maple Leaf card just over a year later, (P20, ERP Dec. 10, 1897.)

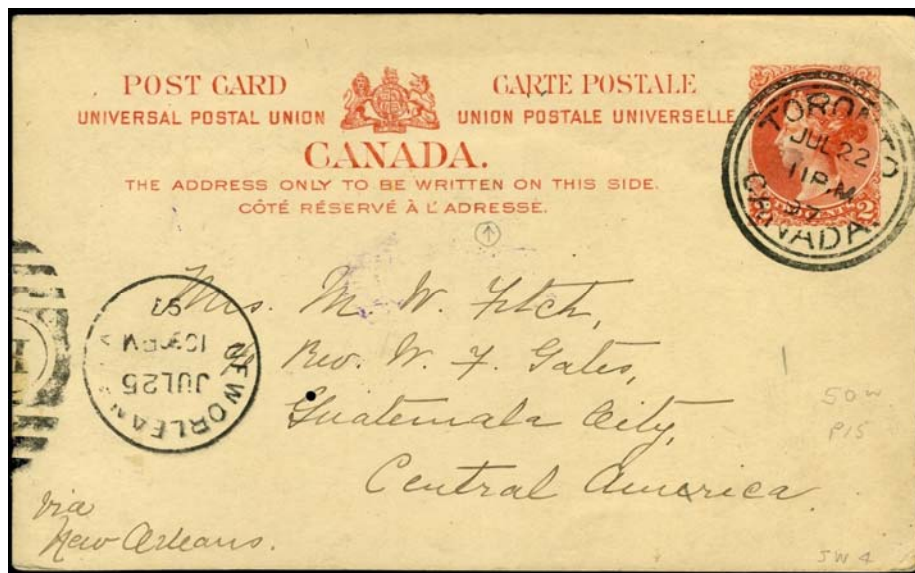


Fig. 1: A P15 UPU card, sent from Toronto on July 22, 1897 to Guatemala City.

The list below is a census I have made of the card's uses. I have ignored cards used over two years later than the potential last date of primary use as not collectible or exhibitable for the intended use.

One of the bones I have to pick with APS judging relates to this. Destinations are viewed as a poor third in postal history exhibiting, behind rates and routes. The problem is that, after Canada's entry to the UPU in 1878, it is virtually impossible to offer any detail about post card routing, and all but a handful of foreign destination Canadian cards were mailed after entry to UPU. So, one can collect a wide range of destinations, but exhibiting them will garner yawns and a low award, even if it has required many years diligent searching and the material is uniformly scarce to rare, as with the P15s. From the point of view of the visual aspect, the judges are probably right, as frames with a uniform color and type can scarcely be called visually interesting. However, philately is also an intellectual pursuit, and for a country such as Canada, showing where Canadians corresponded can give a sense of the country's focus, for commercial correspondence, or interests for the philatelic requests. Besides, who owns philately, the philatelists or the judges? I know some of this was a response to old-fashioned collecting and exhibiting in which comprehensive but catalog-focused classical collections always got the high awards, not recognizing the effort needed to put together new and different aspects of philatelic material. That said, where mail went is a large part of what it was about, and a proper focus for postal history, in my view.

It is hoped members will submit new destinations, earlier dates of use for this census either to me at [lloydwill@aol.com](mailto:lloydwill@aol.com) or to the PS Notes editor to continue to learn about this card. (See p.42)

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## P15 Census of Destinations , cont'd

CENSUS OF 2 CENT CANADA VERMILION UPU POST CARD OF 1896			
	Earliest date		
Country of Destination	Year	Month/day	Source
Algeria	1897	21 AU	Willson
Argentina	1900	26 OC	Willson
Australia (NSW)	1898	18 MY	Steinhart
Austria	1899	20 FE	Maresch FE 2015
Belgium	1897	21 OC	Willson
Brazil	1897	4 FE	Willson
British Honduras	1897	5 FE	Willson
Cyprus	1897	5 FE	Willson
St Thomas DWI	1897	24 NO	Willson
Ecuador	1897	3 DE	Willson
Egypt	1897	7 SE	Maresch FE 2015
Finland	1897	29 JA	Willson
France	1897	14 SE	Maresch FE 2015
Germany	1897	11 DE	Willson
Greece	1898	28 JA	Arfken
Guatemala	1897	22-JL	Walton
Hong Kong	1901	2 AP	Willson
India	?	?	Willson
Italy	1897	19 MY	Arfken
Japan	1897	18 OC	Murphy
Luxemburg (fwded fr Belgium)	1897	15-JL	Maresch FE 2015
Mauritius	1898	JA 12	Willson
Mexico	1897	29 DE	Willson
Newfoundland	1897	11 SE	Arfken
New Zealand	1897	?-MR	Steinhart
Norway	1897	4 MR	Willson
Russia	1897	6 NO	Willson
Salvador	1898	4 FE	Willson
South Africa	1897	9 FE	Willson
Switzerland	1897	3 SE	Willson
Turkey	1897	24 FE	Willson
United Kingdom			
England	1897	10 JU	Willson
Ireland	1897	27 AU	Willson
Scotland	?		

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**Emailed copy of PSNotes:** To receive PSNotes in colour in pdf format by email, send your email to Mike Sagar at [gailandmike@shaw.ca](mailto:gailandmike@shaw.ca). No extra charge. If you prefer this version to the mailed version and ONLY want the online version, let Mike know and we will remove you from the list of mailed copies, which helps keep our costs low and our dues at \$8.00. But you do not need to choose – you can continue to receive both.

# What's New in Postal Stationery:

Since our last issue, not a great deal has appeared, but we expect to have these prepaid post cards:

- **Canadian Photography** –7 cards to be issued April 8, 2015, additions to the continuing series (product #262431), 3rd issue in Canada Post's 5-year series.

Visit <http://home.comcast.net/~psnotes/pdf/NewissuesMar15.pdf> for more information.

## New dates found on "current" postage-prepaid envelopes

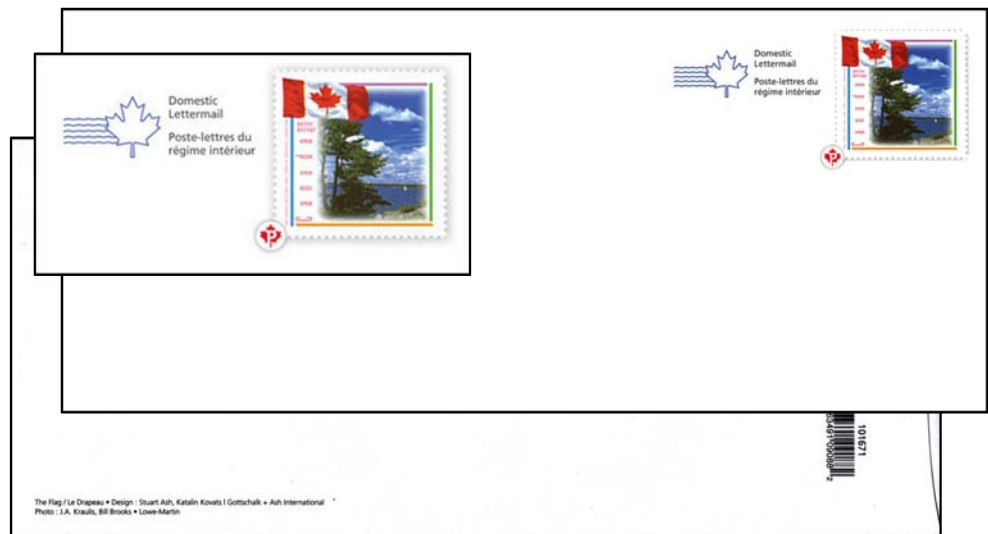
- new animal-envelope date 05.15.14
- new flower-envelope date 05.09.14

## The "Permanent" Flag Envelope – issued for users, not just for collectors *By R. Lemire*

In December 2013 Canada Post announced that, effective March 1, 2014, there would be a substantial increase in the first class letter rate from 63¢ to \$1.00 (85¢ if using stamps purchased from booklets, coils or full panes). Permanent "P" rate stamps were immediately removed from sale to prevent customers from stocking up at the then-current lower price. "Permanent" rate postage-prepaid envelopes, both the sealed packages of ten and loose envelopes for sale at post office counters, also were removed from sale.

In March 2014 the packages of ten envelopes again were made available (\$9.50 for ten), but single envelopes were not. Yet employees in post offices, especially in smaller centres where stationery supplies are not readily available, were on the receiving end of numerous complaints by customers who wished to buy a single envelope. Some postmasters tried an end-run. At their own expense, they personally bought blank #10 envelopes, and gave them to customers who needed to mail a single item (provided the customer also purchased the required single \$1.00 stamp). Post office inspectors chastised such employees and, in at least one case, threatened disciplinary action.

Eventually Canada Post relented, at least in part. A new #10 envelope, at a significantly greater price, \$1.19, was made available in November 2014 (Canada Post product #101671). The envelope has side seams, the usual maple-leaf security printing, and is distributed to post offices in bundles of 25. The form date on the first copies is 09.15.14. Unlike most current Canadian postal stationery, *this envelope was issued to meet a specific postal need, and there is only one design (Canadian flag)* as shown at right. However, except for the packages of ten there still is no way for individuals or organizations to purchase postage-prepaid envelopes in bulk at a price comparable to that for adhesives.



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**PCF Corner**

By Robert Lemire: [rlemire000@sympatico.ca](mailto:rlemire000@sympatico.ca)

February 28, 2015

No new views have been reported, though one card (PEI 066—aka ATC 204) has been re-issued as a borderless view. A concerted effort to check all the cards currently available from Canada Post has led to the discovery of a fair number of borderless cards reprinted using die IIIc. A few cards have been found in new printings with other changes; there also are a couple of bar-code changes in cards available only from stores selling cards directly from Postcard Factory, and one rather impressive error (found in a quantity of 20+ copies).

**PCF-T3H (borderless, die IIIc, all with underlay U1, logo unchanged unless noted otherwise)**

(reported by Raymond Gagné, Dudley Nash and Robert Lemire)

CB 032

CNT 002 minor revision:

The top-centre bar code remains 73418 34384, **but** the bottom-left code of 64392 00443 has been changed to the more commonly used 64392 00409. Also, now no PCF in logo

CY 081      ED 044      HFX 046V      MAN 013

MTL 166 revised:      no caption at the lower left, "SKU: 60101" below the card number

NB 019V      NB 084      NB 087      NB 090      NFLD 054      NS 140

NS 177      PEI 034V      PEI 058      PEI 064

PEI 066 Green Gables (new borderless version of ATC204), SKU# 260056

PEI 073      PEI 102      RGN 016      SKN 016

TOR 141

The picture, die, logo (PCF in logo), and top-centre (vertical) bar code (73418 20857) are identical to those on the borderless card T 141 (PSN Vol. 26, pg. 39). However, the bottom-left bar code is 64392 00409 rather than 64392 60**032**, and the SKU# on TOR 141 is 260**363** (changed from 260032 on T 141). T 141 was received from an order to Canada Post in October 2014; TOR 141 from an order to Canada Post in February 2015. Pierre Gauthier has pointed out that this means we now have seen cards with all SKU numbers between 260351 and 260368. Both the post office order sheet and the SKU number suggest that this card may have been printed as early as 2009, though that doesn't necessarily correspond to the year of distribution, which may have been much later.

T 147      PCF in logo, one bar code, stamp impression at the bottom

TOR 182 minor revision:

The top-centre bar code now is 73418 34**382** (instead of 73418 34384). When this card first appeared it had the same top-centre bar code (73418 34384) as on CNT 002, and a bottom-left code of 64392 00443. So, now we have a corrected version, and the bottom-left code has been changed to the more commonly used 64392 00409. Also, now no PCF in logo

VAN 189      VAN 198      VCT 055

TOR 3708      error: the black box at the bottom left (below the bar code) completely missing



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# **CANADIAN PACIFIC EARNINGS & EXPENSES STATEMENTS ~ Part I**

By Bill Walton ([waltonwmc@aol.com](mailto:waltonwmc@aol.com))

Canadian Pacific Railway items – from railway view cards to freight advice cards to proxy envelopes – inevitably find their way into almost every collection of Canadian postal stationery. One of the many purposes for which the company routinely used postal stationery was their monthly statements of earnings and expenses to stockholders.

The history of these statements is complex, moving from postal stationery cards to unstamped letter sheets, then to private order postal stationery letter sheets, back to unstamped letter sheets, then to unstamped post cards showing the same views as would appear on their railway view cards, and finally to the railway view cards themselves.

Horace Harrison dealt with many of these items in the first two articles in a 1971 BNA Topics series on CPR postal stationery, and in a 1996 BNA Topics article on BNA private order stationery.<sup>1</sup> I will attempt in these PSN articles to provide an overall chronology of these items, supplementing the items Horace noted with subsequent discoveries, and highlighting a number of unanswered questions which other Study Group members may be able to answer.

Part I deals with the earlier postal stationery cards, and the following three phases of letter sheets. Part II, in the next issue, will deal with the railway views on unstamped cards, and finally on postal stationery railway view cards.

## **A: The Early Postal Stationery Card Usages**

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company was incorporated in February 1881, originally consisting of a small syndicate of men, and with substantial credits and land grants from the government. At some point (I do not know when) the company began the public sale of stock, creating the need to mail earnings and expenses (E&E) reports.

The earliest E&E monthly statements I have found are on postal stationery cards, and these are shown in Figures 1 and 2 below.

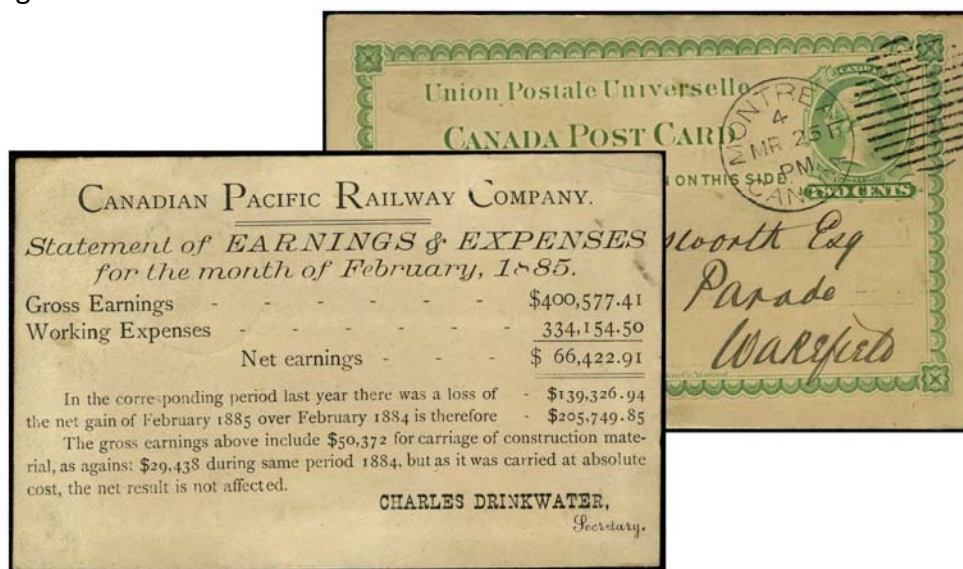


Fig. 1: A 2c UPU card (Webb P4) with a February 1885 statement, mailed on March 25 to England. This was not reported by Harrison.

<sup>1</sup> See the Horace Harrison Library at <http://www.bnaps.org/topics.php>, especially in Vol. 28, No. 1, pp. 30-32, & Vol. 28, No. 2, pp. 64-65 (1971, Whole numbers 297-298), and Vol 53, No. 2, pp. 18-24 (1996, Whole no. 467).



Fig. 2: A 1c 1882 card (Webb P5) with a March 1885 statement, mailed on April 30 to New York. Horace Harrison showed another example of this card in his 1996 article.

These early statements on postal stationery cards are scarce. The two shown are the only dates I have found across many decades.

By the July 1888 statement – and probably considerably earlier – unstamped letter sheets were in use by the CPR.

We can assume that each statement, during the period these were printed on cards, appeared on 1c postal stationery cards for stockholders in Canada and the U.S. The 2c UPU card may have been dropped from statement usage when the company realized these statements could be mailed abroad at 1c as printed matter, but I have not yet seen such a subsequent usage.

**QUESTION:** Did statements prior to the statement for February 1885 appear on cards?

**QUESTION:** What statements on cards after the one for March 1885, prior to the unstamped letter sheet usages, can anyone report?

**B. The Unstamped Letter Sheet Usages – First Period (1888-1893)**

The next version of the E&E statements was the letter sheet, unstamped in this first period, and requiring a 1c Small Queen for mailing.

Beginning with this group, DATING THE STATEMENTS has caused confusion in past reporting. EACH STATEMENT HAS TWO PRINTED MONTHS. A REPORTED MONTH column for any given month is headed above the dollar figures. The PREPARATION date for that monthly statement is at the lower left – always the end of the month following the month reported. For example, the statement reporting earnings and expenses for February, 1895 will show February above the column, and the reporting date for that statement at lower left is MONTREAL, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 1895. ALL DATES IN THESE ARTICLES ARE THE PREPARATION DATES – in this case, March/95. (Dated used examples are typically in the first few days of the next month – in this case, April 5, 1895.)

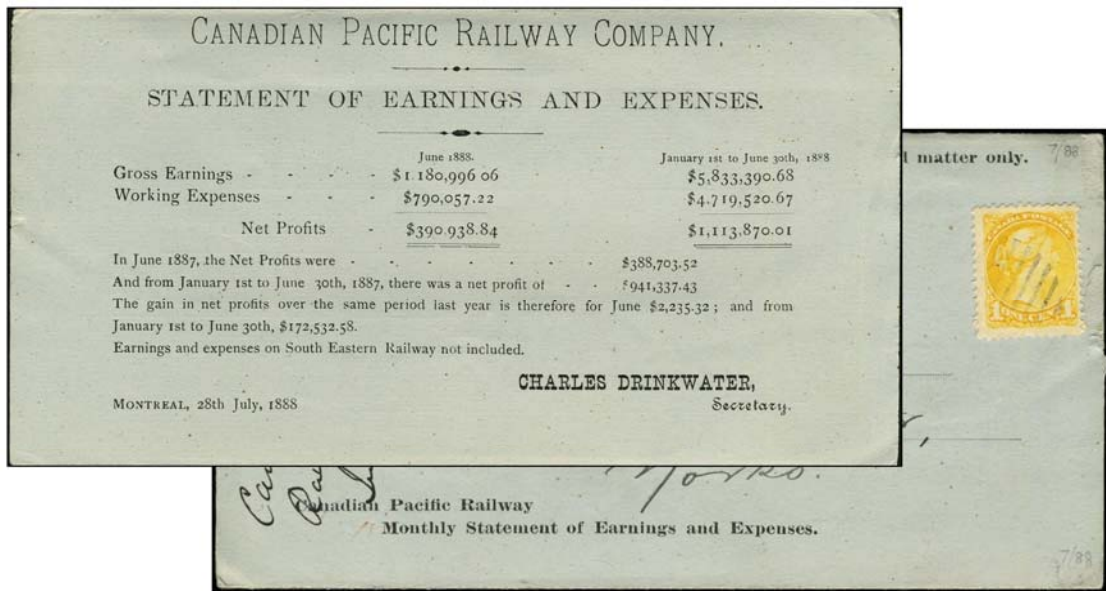


Fig. 3: The July 28, 1888 statement for June, on blue wove paper, mailed as printed matter to England with a 1c Small Queen.

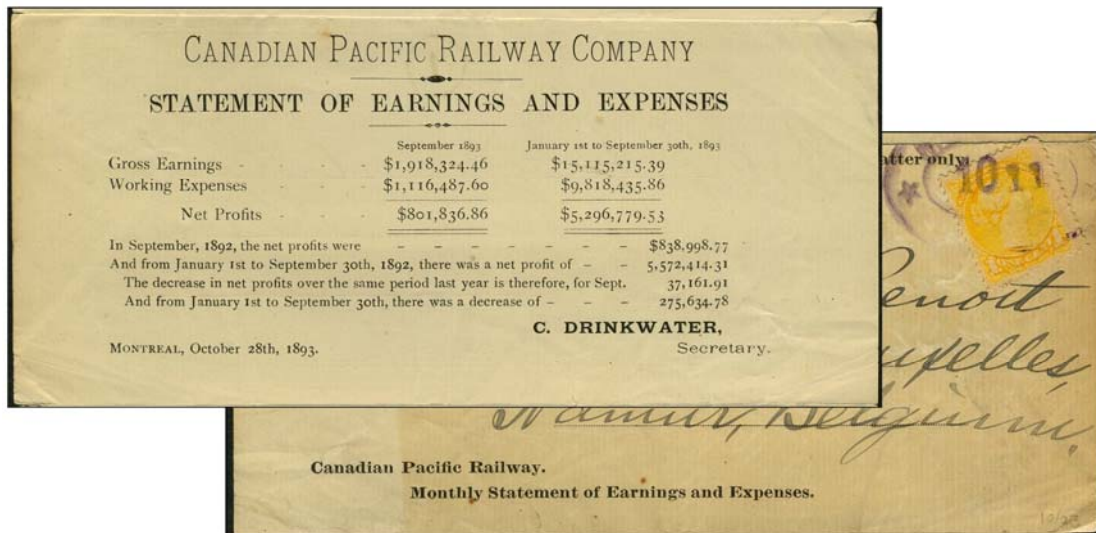


Fig. 4: The Oct. 28, 1893 statement for September, on gray paper vertically laid, mailed as printed matter to Belgium with a 1c Small Queen. This monthly statement overlaps with the first private order postal stationery letter sheet, also carrying the Oct. 28, 1893 statement.

A wide range of papers appears to have been used from 1888 (or earlier?) to the Oct. 1893 statement, based on the 7 examples in my collection:

- July 28, 1888 statement for June gray blue wove paper
- Nov. 28, 1888 " for October " " " "
- March 28, 1892 " for February light gray wove paper
- Jan. 28, 1893 " for December 1892 grayish white paper, horizontally laid
- Aug. 28, 1893 " for July cream paper, vertically laid
- Sept. 28, 1893 " for August " " " "
- Oct. 28, 1893 " for September gray paper, vertically laid

Bill Radcliffe has sent me scans of the Aug. 28, 1889 statement for July, on white wove paper.

**QUESTION:** Can anyone fill in the many blanks here – and in particular, are there any sheets predating the July 1888 statement for June?

**C: The Private Order Postal Stationery Letter Sheets (1893-1898)**

The next iteration of E&E statements appeared, beginning in 1893, on postal stationery private order letter sheets, with, as noted above, the first (Oct. 28, 1893) statement, printed on both unstamped and stamped letter sheets.

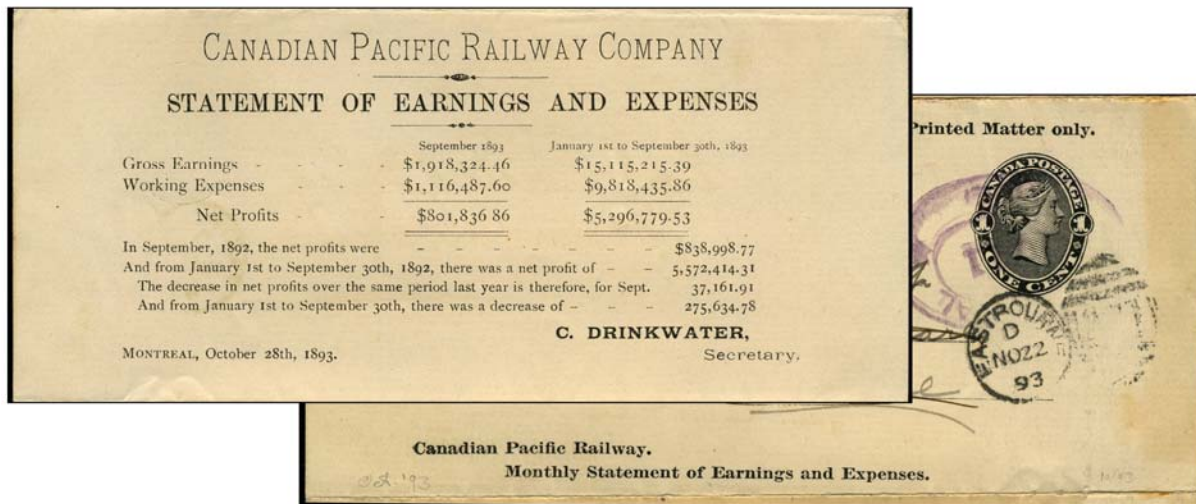


Fig. 5: The Oct. 28, 1893 statement for September, used to England. Note that this is the same statement found on the (apparently) final unstamped letter sheet – compare with Fig. 4.

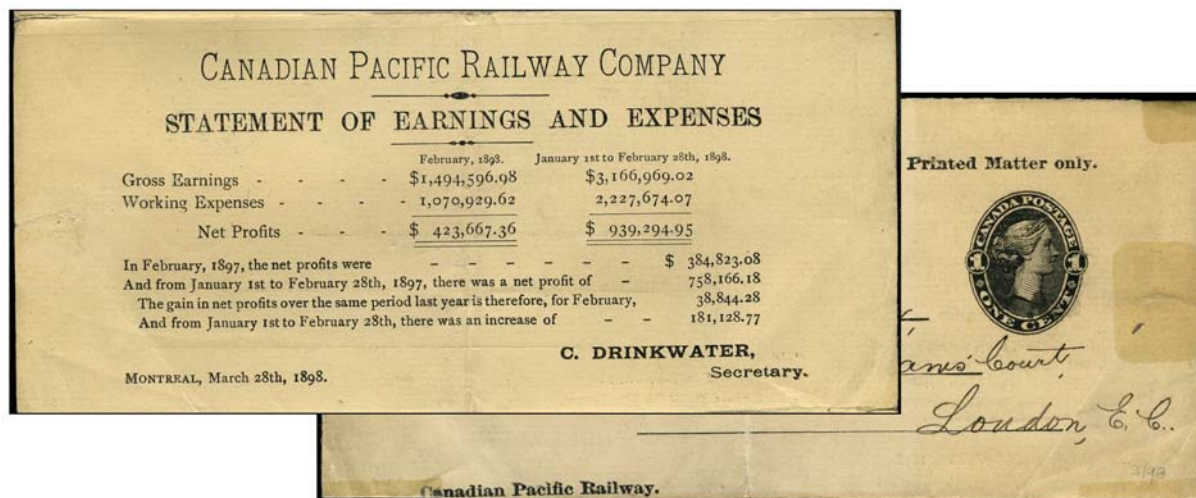


Fig. 6: The March 28, 1898 statement for February, used to England. This may have been the last private order sheet.



The paper change on these private order sheets occurred in 1895. All sheets I have seen through the September 28, 1895 statement for August are grayish white laid paper with 15 laid lines per 20 mm (Webb KLS1), and those from the October 28, 1895 statement for September are on bluish gray laid paper with 16 laid lines per 20 mm (Webb KLS2).

**QUESTION:** Can anyone report an earlier private order letter sheet than the October 28, 1893 statement for September?

**QUESTION:** Can anyone report these statements I have not found: August 1894 for July, October 1897 for September, or February 1898 for January?

**QUESTION:** Can anyone report an April 1898 statement for March, or later?

#### D. The Unstamped Letter Sheet Usages – Second Period

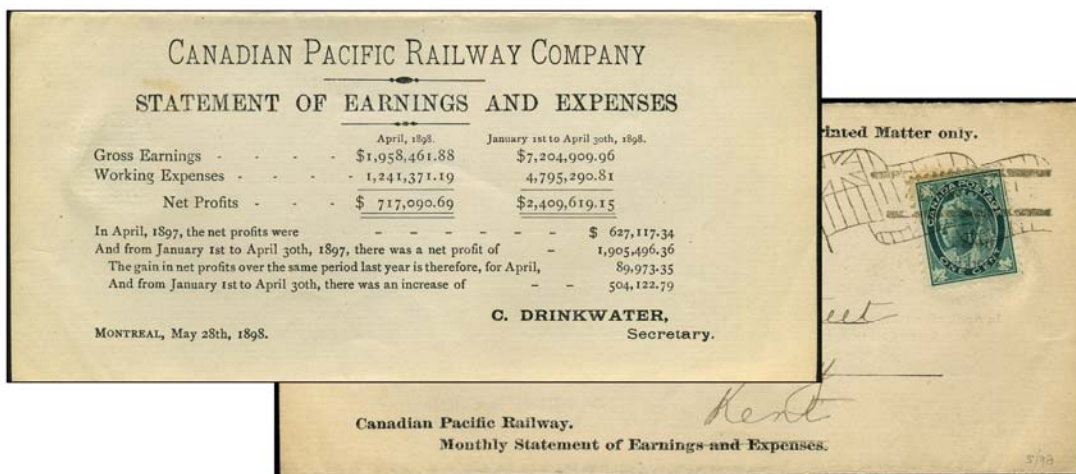


Fig. 7: An unstamped May 28, 1898 statement for April, sent with a 1¢ Maple Leaf to England (June 1 cancel) – the earliest I have seen.

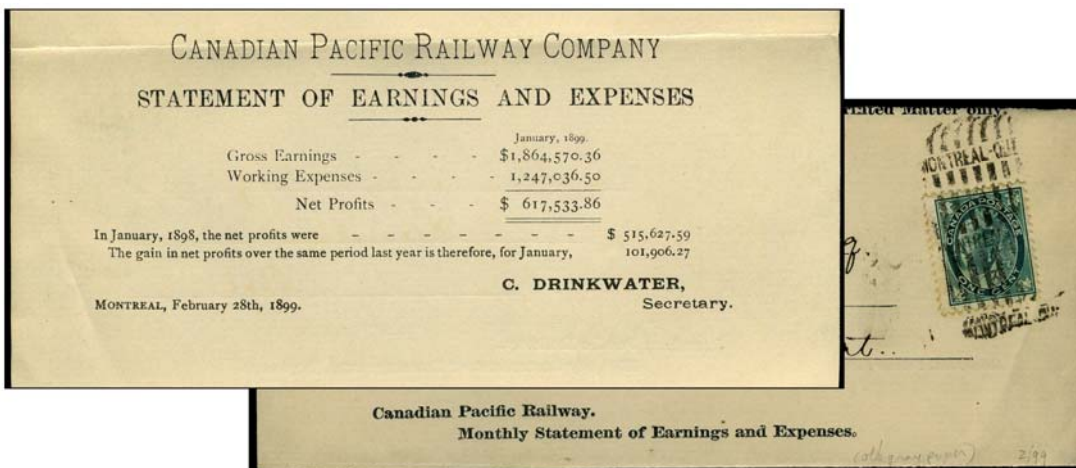


Fig. 8: An unstamped Feb. 28, 1899 statement for January, sent with a 1¢ Maple Leaf to Hamilton – the latest I have found. .

Early in 1898 the private order letter sheets were discontinued and unstamped letter sheets were resumed, now using an added 1¢ Maple Leaf stamp. Horace Harrison may well have been correct in his 1996 article when he suggested the new printer, American Bank Note Co., could not or would not supply them with stamp impressions.

**QUESTION:** Can anyone report any unstamped letter sheets for the April 1898 statement for March, or the March 1898 statement for February?

**QUESTION:** Can anyone report unstamped letter sheets for the June 1898 statement for May, the August 1898 statement for July, or the November 1898 statement for October?

**QUESTION:** Can anyone report a March 1899 statement for February, or later?

By the April 1899 statement for March, unstamped post cards with railway views were in use – discussed and pictured in Part II (next issue).

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**A Book Review : Canada Postal Stationery Letter Cards of the Victorian Period, 1893 – 1899, by Colin G. Banfield.**

Colour, spiral, 74 pp. ISBN: 978-1-927119-45-7, 2014. Stock # B4h923-80-1. CAN\$47.00, available from: Sparks Auctions, 1550 Carling Avenue, Suite 202, Ottawa, ON K1Z 8S8, Canada. Email: [BNAPS@sparks-auctions.com](mailto:BNAPS@sparks-auctions.com). Phone: (613) 567-3336. Internet orders can be placed at <http://sparks-auctions.com/bnapsbooks/>. BNAPS members receive a 40% discount from retail prices.

In Canadian postal stationery, the small series of Victorian letter cards has been somewhat neglected. This book is a colour reproduction of an exhibit prepared by Colin Banfield, an exhibit that was awarded both BNAPEX and BALPEX Gold at BNAPEX 2014 BALPEX in August 2014.

The cards produced by the British American Bank Note Company and by the American Bank Note Company are shown, as are the different printing settings and perforation varieties. However, the main focus of the exhibit is on the rates for which letter cards were issued, and how the cards were actually used.

In addition to cards used for their intended purpose without any added adhesives, copies of the 1¢ and 2¢ cards uprated with stamps for proper domestic use are shown, as well as a copy of a 3¢ card that was registered and one sent by special delivery. A good selection of cards revalued from 3¢ to 2¢ in 1899 is presented. However, the particular beauty of the exhibit lies in the cards uprated for mailing to overseas addresses. Among these are letter cards sent to destinations outside North America, the United Kingdom and Europe—Guatemala, Argentina, Turkey, South Africa, Hong Kong and Grand Turk (Island).

There is no discussion of the several papers used for the American Bank Note cards, and the order of presentation is a bit awkward in places. For example, the page showing copies of British American Bank Note Company 2¢ cards with the *first* heading setting follows several pages devoted to 2¢ cards with the *second* heading setting. Also, because it is an “exhibit book”, there are few references. Nevertheless, this is a useful handbook for the collector of Victorian letter cards. Overall, the colour reproduction in the book is very good, something that is hard to achieve with such items.

***Reviewed by Robert Lemire***

Disclosure: The reviewer is chairperson of the BNAPS Publication Committee. However, he was not personally involved in the selection of this exhibit for publication by the BNAPS Book Department as part of the BNAPS exhibit book series.

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