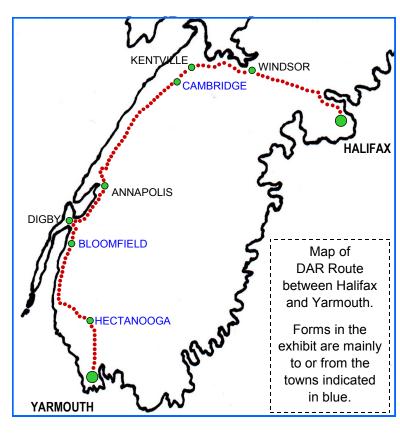
Halifax - Yarmouth Railway Post Office Clerk Cancels and Related Paperwork

This exhibit will show RPO cancels and personalized RPO clerk cancels on various forms used on the mail car of the Dominion Atlantic Railway operating between Halifax and Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

Following the clerk cancels is a study of Acknowledgement Receipts, all from July 1914 and signed or initialized by clerks found in the first part of the exhibit.

Exhibit features include earliest and latest recorded dates, only known copies, and newly discovered unrecorded clerk cancels.





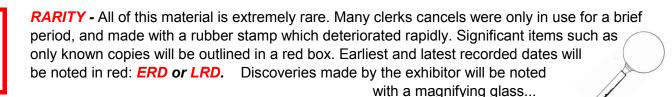
Real Photo Post Card, circa 1905 shows a Canadian railway post office clerk posing in the cramped quarters of a mail car. The padlocked box on the table contains everything needed by the clerk including receipts, forms, various paperwork, hammer, rubber cancel, inkpads, etc.

INDEX

Pages 2 - 16
Clerk Cancels on the
Halifax - Yarmouth Route
early 20th Century

Pages 17 - 23
Clerk Cancels on the
Halifax - Digby & Yarmouth Route
1930's to 1950's

Pages 24 - 32
July 1914 Study
Follow the trail
of RPO Clerks



CLERK CANCELS

Clerk cancels are among the scarcest of all RPO cancels. They are readily identifiable by three features: 1) nearly all of the cancels are somewhat larger rubber hand stamps; 2) the train route terminus and termini appear across the top of the cancel; 3) a name (the clerk's) appears at the bottom of the cancel. Clerk cancels came into being in the early 20th century throughout Canada, with the intention of being able to trace mail, primarily registered mail, with a clerk's cancellation on postal forms such Letter Bills and Registered Letter Bills.

Most clerk cancels are known used over very brief periods of time from a few days to a few months. This is due in the most part to the deterioration of the rubber hand stamp. A few managed to survive a two to six years. Another factor in their rarity is the scarcity of the forms they were used on. Many are know by just a single copy (OKC).

HALIFAX - YARMOUTH ROUTE CLERK CANCELS

On the Halifax - Yarmouth route there are some 25 discovered clerk cancels, all found between 1911 and 1919. The direction line of the indicia may be EAST, WEST, E or W. The clerk cancels on the following pages are all identified in bold text first by the Gray Catalogue number, then the route and the clerk's name as they appear in the cancel.

MT-203

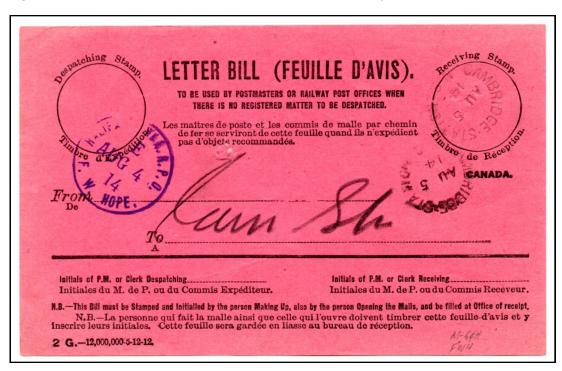
Known usage Jan. 2, 1911 to Sept. 24, 1914. Direction may be E or W HALIFAX & YAR. R.P.O. F. W. HOPE E / AUG 4 / 14

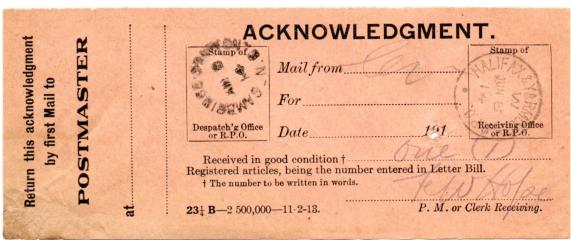
Right - Letter Bill indicating no registered items dispatched from the Halifax - Yarmouth RPO and received at Cambridge Station, N.S..



Above: Piece from a Registered Letter Bill

MT-203 HALIFAX & YAR. R.P.O. F. W. HOPE W / JUN 27 / 14



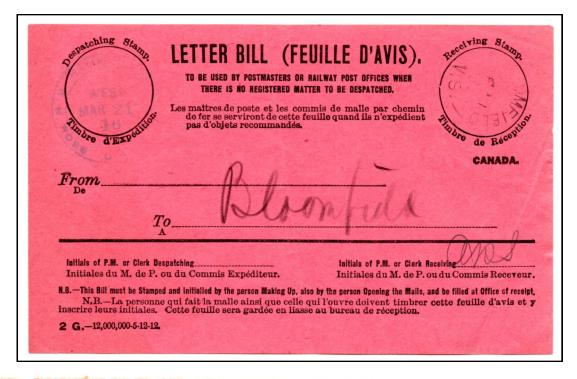


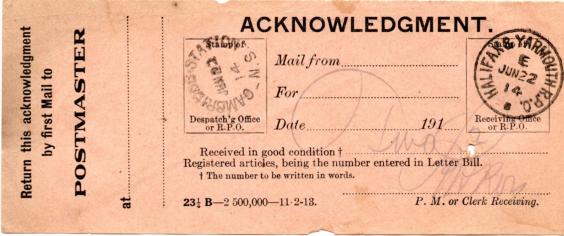
F. W. Hope's signature appears on this Acknowledge Receipt dated June 8, 1914, receiving registered mail from Cambridge Station, N.S., with the Halifax-Yarmouth RPO cancel MT-198.

MT-204 Known usage January 2, 1911 until November 25, 1918. Direction may be EAST or WEST

Right- Letter Bill indicating no registered items dispatched from the Halifax - Yarmouth RPO and received at Bloomfield

MT-204 HALIFAX & YARMOUTH R.P.O. R. H. ROSS WEST / MAR 21 / 16





Left - R.H. Ross's signature appears on acknowledgment receipt dated June 22, 1914 receiving Registered mail from Cambridge Station, N.S. with the eastbound Halifax Yarmouth RPO Cancel MT-198.

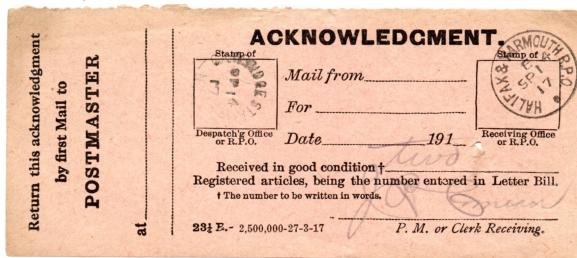
MT-205 Known usage March 15, 1911 until October 28, 1916. Direction may be E or W



Above- Piece of Letter Bill
MT-205
HALIFAX & YAR. R.P.O.
J. R. COMEAU
E / AUG 7 / 14

Below: J.R Comeau's signature appears

on acknowledgment receipt dated Sept 14, 1917 receiving registered mail from Cambridge Station, N.S. with the eastbound Halifax Yarmouth RPO cancel MT-198



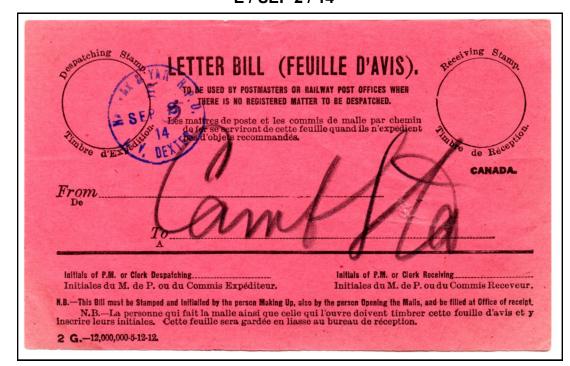
MT-206 Known usage January 17, 1912 until September 2, 1914. Direction may be E or W
HALIFAX & YAR. R.P.O. / I. V. DEXTER
W / FEB 14 / 11

Despatching Stamp From	Date Date Figure 1. Registered Ar P.M. or Clerk Des.	ticles. For further entries see Bill	Receiving Stamp.
No. P. Parcel, M. P. Money Pkt * 1	NAME.	PLACE.	Where Sent.

Above - Registered Letter Bill indicating one registered item dispatched by I.V. Dexter from the westbound Halifax - Yarmouth RPO and received at Cambridge Station, N.S.

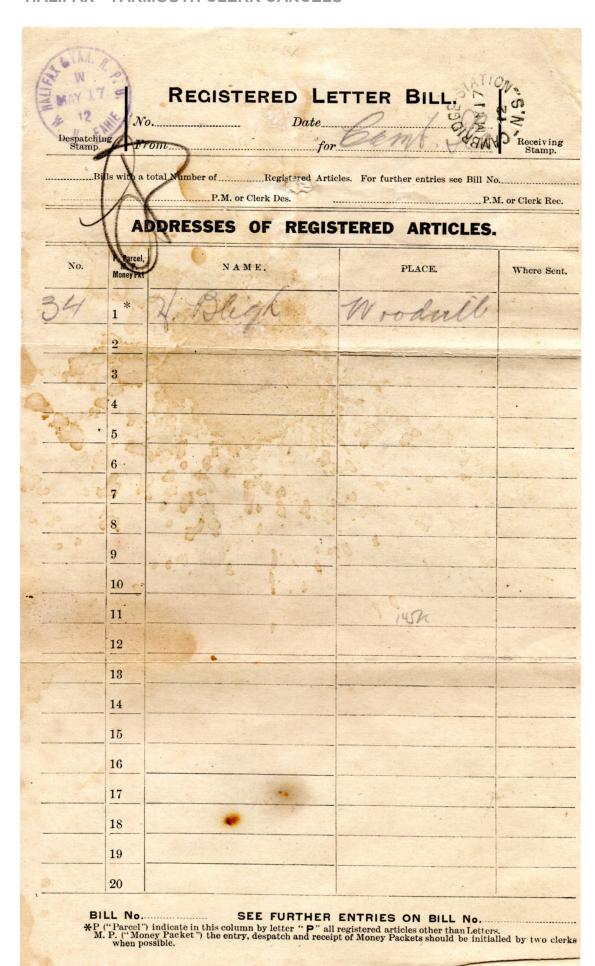
Below - Letter Bill indicating no registered items dispatched from the eastbound Halifax - Yarmouth RPO and received at Bloomfield, N.S.

MT-206 HALIFAX & YAR. R.P.O. / I. V. DEXTER E / SEP 2 / 14



LRD

Latest
recorded date
of use



MT-207
Known usage
LESS THAN
THREE MONTHS
February 28, 1912
until May 17, 1912.
Only W known for
direction.

MT-207 HALIFAX & YAR. R.P.O. W. H. FAHIE W / MAY 17 / 12

LRD

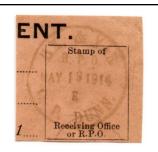
Registered Letter Bill indicating one registered item dispatched by W. H. Fahie from the westbound Halifax - Yarmouth RPO and received at Cambridge Station, N.S.

MT-210 Known usage May 9, 1913 to May 19, 1914. Direction may be E or W. Note that "RPO" is shown

in the indicia and not the top outer ring.

MT-210 HX & YAR. R.P.O. W. H. FAHIE OCT 21 1913 / E

MT-210 HX & YAR. R.P.O. W. H. FAHIE SEP 12 1914 / W

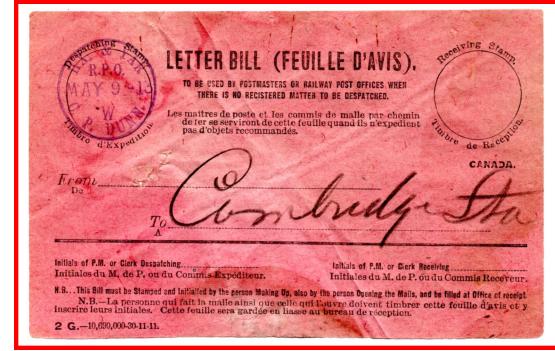


MT-210 HX & YAR. R.P.O. W. H. FAHIE MAY 19 1914 / E

LRD

No.	(Receiving Stamp.
W No.		ETTER BILL.	Receiving Stamp.
	r of Registered Ar	ticles. For further entries see Bill	
ADDRES	SES OF REGI	STERED ARTICLES	5.
No. P. Parcel, Ml. P. Money Pkt *	NAME.	PLACE.	Where Sent.

Two Registered Letter Bill indicating one registered item each, dispatched by C. P. Dunn from the eastbound and westbound Halifax - Yarmouth RPO and both received at Cambridge Station



MT-210 HX & YAR. R.P.O. W. H. FAHIE MAY 9 - 13 / W **ERD**

Letter Bill dispatched by C. P. Dunn from the westbound Halifax - Yarmouth RPO and received at Cambridge Station May 9, 1913.

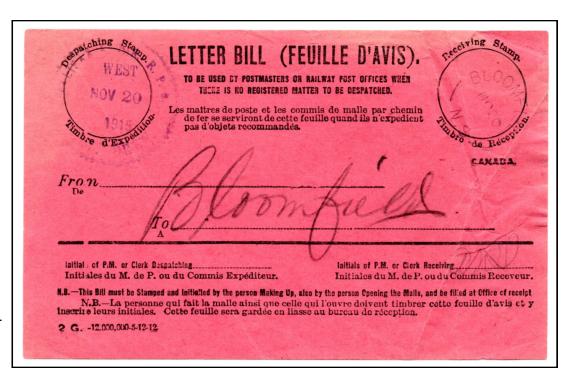
Possible New Hammer

The central indicia is a larger type compared to those above. A scan will be forwarded to the RPO study group for further analysis.

MT-211 Known usage March 21, 1914 until October 1, 1919. Direction may be EAST or WEST

Right
MT-211
HALIFAX & YAR. R.P.O.
R. D. DREW
WEST / NOV 20 / 1915

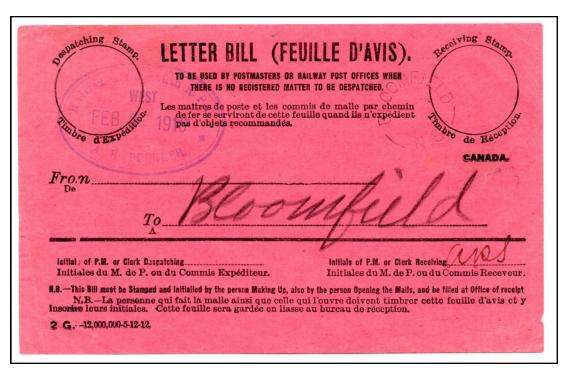
Letter Bill dispatched by R.D. Drew using his clerk's cancel, indicating no registered items from the westbound Halifax -Yarmouth RPO and received at Bloomfield, N.S.





MT-211 HALIFAX & YAR. R.P.O. R. D. DREW WEST / JUL 25 / 1914

Early cancel from July1914 shows much less wear.



MT-213 Known usage June 13, 1914 until October 20, 2016. Direction may be EAST, WEST or left blank.

MT-213

Yarmouth R.P.O.

* A. R. BUCKLER. *

WEST / FEB 9, 1916

Letter Bill dispatched by A.R.

Buckler using his clerk's

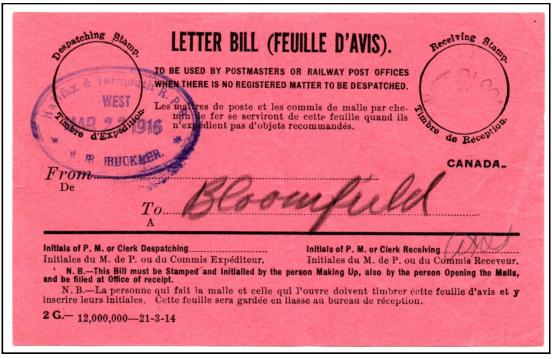
cancel, indicating no registered

items from the westbound

Halifax - Yarmouth RPO and received at Bloomfield, N.S.

MT-213 Halifax & Yarmouth R.P.O. * A. R. BUCKLER. * WEST / MAR 23, 1916

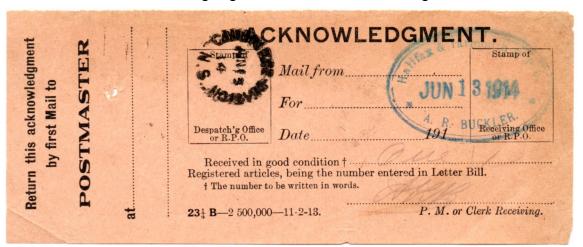
Letter Bill dispatched by A.R. Buckler using his clerk's cancel, indicating no registered items from the westbound Halifax - Yarmouth RPO and received at Bloomfield, N.S.



Return this acknowledgment by first Mail to POSTMASTER	ACKNOWLEDGMENT. Stamp of Mail from For Despatch's Office or R.P.O. Received in good condition † Registered articles, being the number entered in Letter Bill. † The number to be written in words.
at Re	231 E 2,500,000-27-3-17 P. M. or Clerk Receiving.

A.R. Buckler's
Signature appears on
acknowledgment receipt
dated September 13, 1917
receiving registered mail
From Cambridge Station,
N.S. with the eastbound
Halifax Yarmouth
RPO cancel MT-198.

A.R. Buckler's initials appear on this Acknowledgment Slip along with his personal clerk cancel, receiving registered mail from Cambridge Station, N.S.



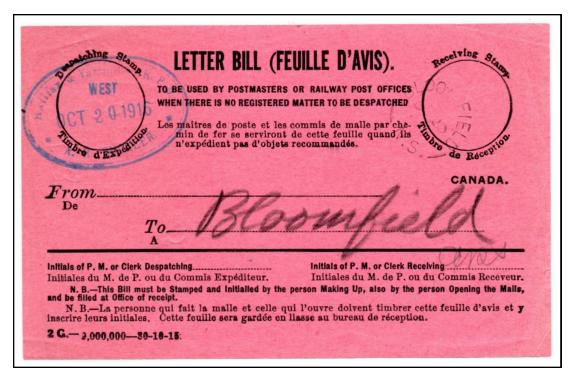


MT-213 **ERD**

Halifax & Yarmouth R.P.O. / * A. R. BUCKLER. * BLANK / JUN 13 1914

This item was discovered in 2017and has been listed in Gray's 2022 RPO catalogue. Along with being the <u>earliest known date of use</u>, this was the first report of the train direction being left blank.

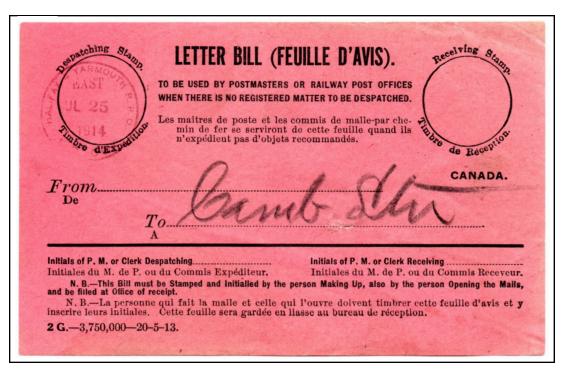
Below: Letter Bill dispatched by A.R. Buckler using his clerk's cancel, indicating no registered Items from the westbound Halifax - Yarmouth RPO and received at Bloomfield, N.S.



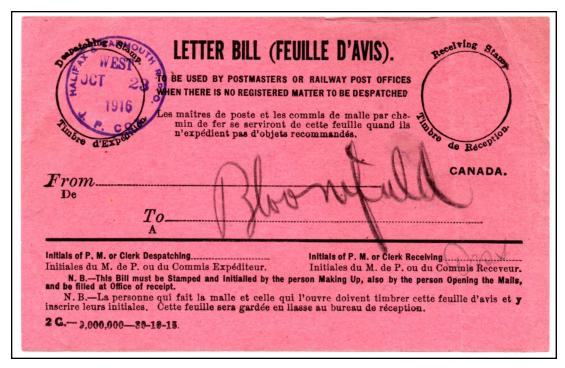
MT-214 Known usage July 25, 1914 until January 29, 1918. Direction may be EAST or WEST.

ERD

MT-214 HALIFAX & YARMOUTH R.P.O. J. P. COX EAST / JUL 25 / 1914



Letter Bill dispatched by J. P. Cox using his clerk's cancel, indicating no registered items from the eastbound Halifax - Yarmouth RPO and received at Cambridge Station, N.S.



MT-214
HALIFAX &
YARMOUTH R.P.O.
J. P. COX
WEST / OCT 23, 1916

Letter Bill dispatched by J. P. Cox using his clerk's cancel, indicating no registered items from the westbound Halifax - Yarmouth RPO and received at Bloomfield, N.S.

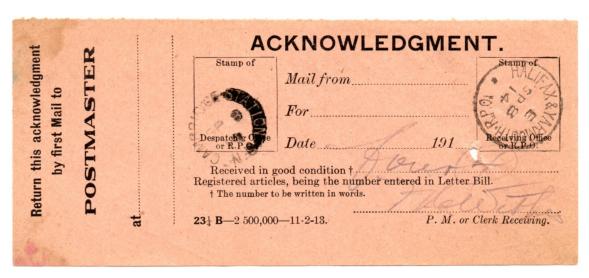
MT-215 Extremely rare, this cancel is only known to be in use for 91 days... from July 1, 1914 until September 29, 1914. Direction may be E or WEST



MT-215
HALIFAX &
YARMOUTH R.P.O.
F. H. WITHERS
E / SEP 29 / 1914

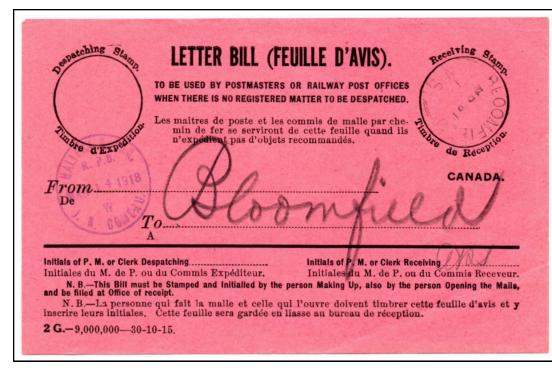
LRD

Note the outer ring is flattened in two spots at the bottom, the direction line is at a 45 degree angle, and the date line is also off kilter. The obvious signs of damage on this rubber hand stamp suggests the reason for it's short period of use...



Above: F.H.Wither's signature appears on Acknowledgment Slip dated Sept 8, 1914, receiving registered mail from Cambridge Station, N.S. with an eastbound Halifax Yarmouth RPO cancel

MT-216 Known usage from September 24, 1914 until April 3, 1918. Direction may be E or W.



MT-216 HALIFAX & YAR. J. R. COMEAU R.P.O. MAR 14 1918 W

Note the difference

from the J.R. Comeau clerk cancel MT205 seen on page 3:
On this cancel "RPO" appears on the first line of the central indicia, where on the former "RPO" is part of the route named in the outer circle.

Letter Bill dispatched by J. R. Comeau using his clerk's cancel, indicating no registered items from the westbound Halifax - Yarmouth RPO and received at Bloomfield. N.S.

MT-217 HX. & YARMOUTH R.P.O. / S. D. BURRILL

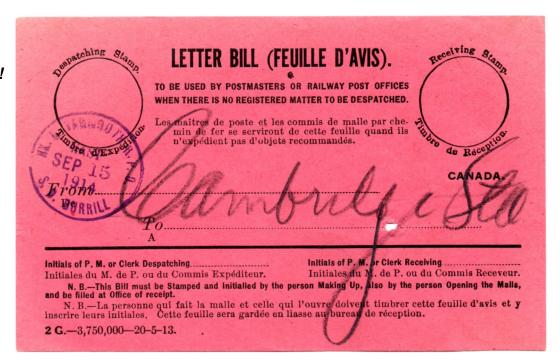
The known use of this extremely rare cancel is just 4 days!

September 12 through 15, 1914

The only direction known is EAST.

EAST SEP 15 1914

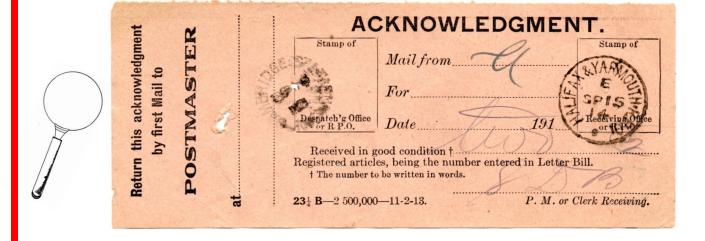
LRD



Above: Letter Bill dispatched by S. D. Burrill using his clerk's cancel indicating no registered items from an eastbound Halifax-Yarmouth RPO *to* Cambridge Station, N.S.

Below: S.D. Burrill's initials appear on Acknowledgment Slip receiving registered mail *from* Cambridge Station with an eastbound Halifax Yarmouth RPO cancel.

Same day, same station!

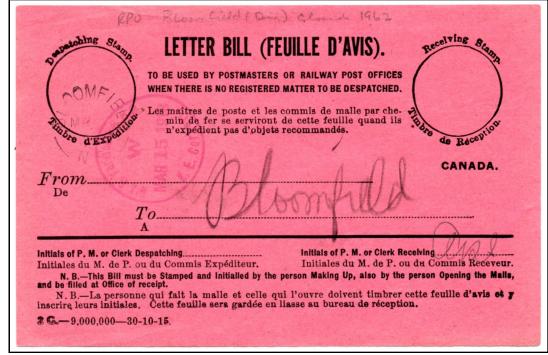


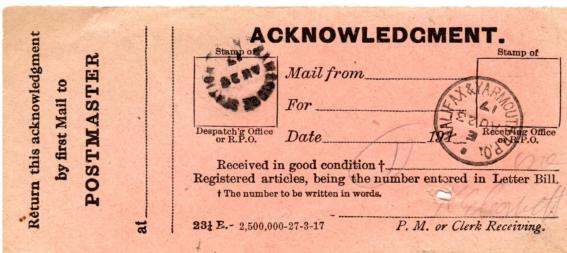
This rare pairing from S.D. Burrill is a perfect insight into the meticulous workings Railway Post Office and it's clerks at and between every stop along a railroad route.

MT-218 Known usage March 25, 1916 until June 1, 1918. Direction may be EAST, WEST or W.

MT-218 H'X & Yarmouth R.P.O. K. E. Corbett. W / MAR 15 1918

Letter Bill dispatched by K.E. Corbett using his clerk's cancel, indicating no registered items from the westbound Halifax - Yarmouth RPO and received at Bloomfield, N.S.





K. E. Corbett's
Signature appears on
acknowledgment receipt
dated August 23, 1917
receiving registered mail
From Cambridge Station,
N.S. with the eastbound
Halifax Yarmouth
RPO cancel MT-198.



MT-218 H'X & Yarmouth R.P.O. K. E. Corbett. WEST / MAR 25 1916

Letter Bill dispatched by K.E. Corbett using his clerk's cancel, indicating no registered items from the westbound Halifax - Yarmouth RPO and received at Bloomfield, N.S.



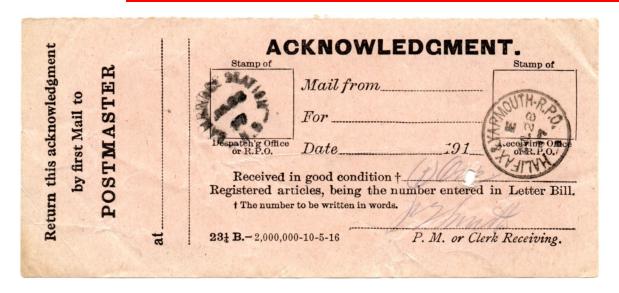
MT-219

Among the rarest of the Halifax-Yarmouth clerks There was previously only one known example of this cancel: EAST / DEC 2 / 1916

MT-219
HALIFAX &
YARMOUTH R.P.O.
P. L. SMITH
WEST / MAY 11 / 1917

Letter Bill dispatched by P.L. Smith using his clerk's Cancel indicating no registered items from the westbound Halifax -Yarmouth RPO and received at Bloomfield, N.S.





P. L. Smith's Signature appears on acknowledgment receipt dated July 28, 1917 receiving registered mail from Cambridge Station, N.S. with the eastbound Halifax Yarmouth RPO cancel MT-198.

Despatchin Stamp.	ls with a t	REGISTERED LET Date om for total Number of Repered Article Clerk Des.	es. For further entries see Bill No	Receiving Stamp.
	Α	DDRESSES OF REGIST	ERED ARTICLES.	
No.	P. Parcel, M. P. Money Pkt.	NAME.	PLACE.	Where Sent.
377	1*	AB Bon Six	Canto Ja	1 2 2 2
	2	The second second		
(\$4.33° a	3	Maria Carelland		
And And	4		The territory	
2007 14	5			
	6			
* <u>* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * </u>	7			
1	8			
or the second	9			
	10	West Comments of the second		
40	11 *			*******
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A 140 CO TO	13	The state of the s		
·	14			
3: 1-	15		THE STATE OF THE S	
1	16	THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF TH		4
	17			
	18	No. of the state o		
	19			3
TOPETS.	20			1980 - CT

MT-221

Another short lived cancel, this one has been recorded over just 75 days from July 5 to September 17, 1918.

The direction may be E or W.

MT-221 HALIFAX & YARMOUTH P. L. SMITH E / JUL 6 / 1918

The key difference between this and the P.L. Smith cancel on the previous page is the omission of the letters "RPO" on this cancel.

Registered Letter Bill dispatched by P.L. Smith using his clerk's cancel indicating one piece of registered mail from the eastbound Halifax - Yarmouth RPO and received at Cambridge Station, N.S. on July 6, 1918...

1 day after the ERD

ONLY KNOWN COPY

Previously unknown clerk cancel
Now listed in Gray 2022 Catalogue as MT-220.55

MT-220.55 HX. & YAR. R.P.O. C. P. DUNN

Note the 'fleur de lis" like ornaments on either side of name

Despatching Stamp. Prom. Bills with a total Number of Registered Article Clerk Des. ADDRESSES OF REGIST	es. For further entries see Bill No. P.M. or Clerk Rec.
No. P. Parcel, M. P. M. P. Money Pkt. NAME.	PLACE. Where Sent.

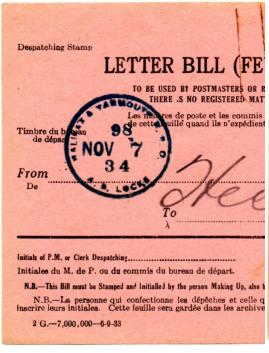


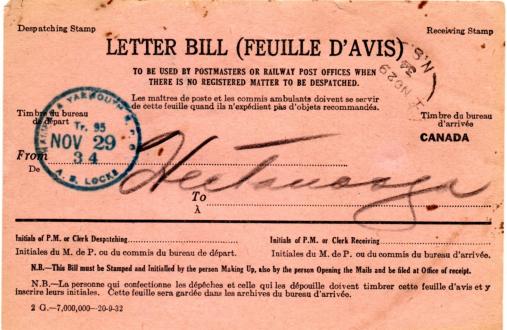
Another New Discovery

Previously unknown clerk cancel - Now listed in Gray 2022 Catalogue as:

MT-224.55 HALIFAX & YARMOUTH R.P.O. A. B. LOCKE

Note: While the outer route states Halifax & Yarmouth this is out of period as noted on page 2. As well Train numbers on cancels did not occur until the route changed to Halifax, Digby & Yarmouth about 1929. **See page 23**





Left: Discovery copy - now ERD

Right: recent discovery as yet unlisted will become the LRD

Halifax - Digby - Yarmouth Route CLERK CANCELS

With only eleven clerk cancels catalogued showing Halifax, Digby, and Yarmouth, they are much scarcer than the Halifax - Yarmouth clerks. As well, the Halifax, Digby, Yarmouth clerks are only known for very brief periods of time. Four are known in use for less than five months and five are known by just one single copy. The first cancels are actually **attachments to HX. DIG. & YAR. steel hammer MT 146.** All others are rubber hand stamps.

MT-147

Only known date: JUNE 28, 1934

Train 98 (eastbound)



MT-147

J. E. MARSHALL

Attachment to MT-146.03

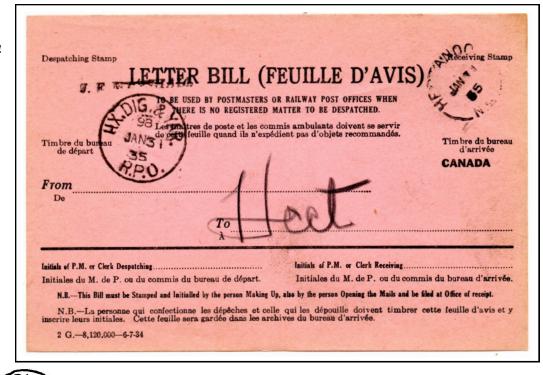
Train 98 (eastbound)

JAN 31 / 35

NEW LRD

At right is a 100% scan of the discovery copy shown in Gray's 2022 catalogue.

Note the position of the attachment is not fixed but variable.





Two Letter Bills, each dispatching bundles of mail with no registered items, from Halifax-Digby-Yarmouth RPO to Hectanooga, N.S.

MT-149

Only known date: FEB 6 / 35 Train 95 (westbound)



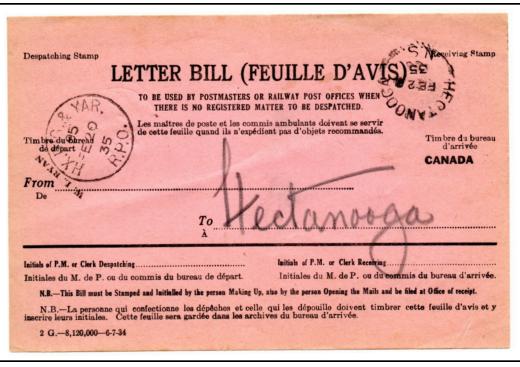
MT-149 W. L. RYAN

Attachment to MT-146.06

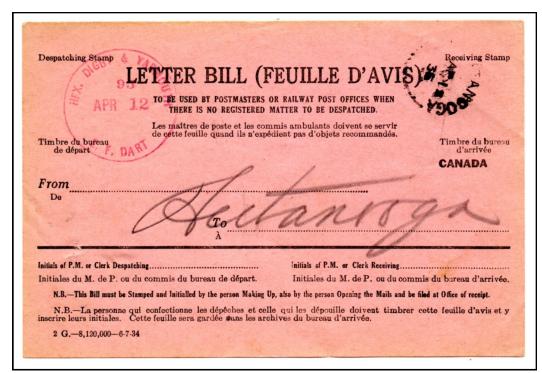
Train 95 (westbound)

FE 20 / 35

NEW LRD



MT-152.55 Known usage April 19, 1935 to June 28, 1935. Only Train 95 (westbound) is known.



NEW ERD

MT-152.55 HX. DIGBY & YARMOUTH E. F. DART

TR 95 / APR 12 / (no year)

The year is **1935** as shown on the Hectanoga receiver cancel

Letter Bill dispatched by E. F. Dart, using his clerk's cancel, indicating no registered items from a westbound Halifax-Digby-Yarmouth RPO to Hectanooga, N.S.

Letter Bill dispatched by E. F. Dart, using his clerk's cancel, indicating no registered items from a westbound Halifax-Digby-Yarmouth RPO to Hectanooga, N.S.

MT-152.55 HX. DIGBY & YARMOUTH E. F. DART

TR 95 / JUN 28 / 1935

Receiving Stamp Despatching Stamp LETTER BILL (FEUILLE D'AVIS TO BE USED BY POSTMASTERS OR RAILWAY POST OFFICES WHEN THERE IS NO REGISTERED MATTER TO BE DESPATCHED. Les maîtres de poste et les commis ambulants doivent se servir de cette feuille quand ils n'expédient pas d'objets recommandés. Timbre du bureau d'arrivée Timbre du bureau de départ CANADA From Initials of P.M. or Clerk Despatching Initiales du M. de P. ou du commis du bureau de départ. Initiales du M. de P. ou du commis du bureau d'arrivée. N.B.—This Bill must be Stamped and Initialled by the person Making Up, also by the person Opening the Mails and be filed at Office of receipt. N.B.—La personne qui confectionne les dépêches et celle qui les dépouille deivent timbrer cette feuille d'avis et y inscrire leurs initiales. Cette feuille sera gardée dans les archives du bureau d'arrivée. 2 G.-8,120,000-6-7-34

Known and Catalogued

LRD

Despatching Stamp LETTER BILL (FEUILLE D'AVIS BE USED BY POSTMASTERS OR RAILWAY POST OFFICES WHEN THERE IS NO REGISTERED MATTER TO BE DESPATCHED. es maîtres de poste et les commis ambulants doivent se servir cette feuille quand ils n'expédient pas d'objets recommandés. CANADA From ls of P.M. or Clerk Receiving.... Initials of P.M. or Clerk Despatching. Initiales du M. de P. ou du commis du bureau de départ. Initiales du M. de P. ou du commis du bureau d'arrivee. -This Bill must be Stamped and Initialled by the person Making Up, also by the person Opening the Mails and be filed at Office of Receipt. N.B.—La personne qui confectionne les dépêches et celle qui les dépouille doivent timbrer cette feuille d'avis et y inscrire leurs initiales. Cette feuille sera gardée dans les archives du bureau d'arrivée. 2 G.-9,000,000-4-7-35 Receiving Stamp Despatching Stamp TO BE USED BY POSTMASTERS OF RAILWAY POST OFFICES WHEN THERE .S NO REGISTERED MATTER TO BE DESPATCHED. Les maîtres de poste et les commis ambulants doivent se servir. de cette feuille quand ils n'expédient pas d'objets recommandés. Timbre du bureau d'arrivée Timbre du bureau CANADA From Initiales du M. de P. ou du commis du bureau de départ. Initiales du M. de P. ou du commis du bureau d'arrivée. N.B.—This Bill must be Stamped and Initialled by the person Making Up, also by the person Opening the Mails and be filed at Office of Receipt. N.B.—La personne qui confectionne les dépêches et celle qui les dépouille doivent timbrer cette feuille d'avis et y inscrire leurs initiales. Cette feuille sera gardée dans les archives du bureau d'arrivée. 2 G.-7,000,000-6-9-33 Despatching Stamp Receiving Stamp THERE .S NO REGISTERED MATTER TO BE DESPATCHED.

HALIFAX, DIGBY - YARMOUTH CLERK CANCELS

MT-153 FROM HAL. DIG. & YAR. DIGBY & YARMOUTH H. R. DALEY

A 3 line rubber hand stamp with a changeable date line

Known usage June 14, 1935 to July 16, 1937. No direction or train number indicated.

Three Letter Bills dispatched by H. R. Daley, using his clerk's cancel, indicating no registered items from the Halifax-Digby-Yarmouth RPO to Hectanooga, and Cambridge Station, N.S.

Details on Cancels

Top: JAN 12 1936

Falls within known dates..

No Train Number - thought to be intended to be written in.



Center: JUN 29, 1934
Unrecorded

NEW ERD

[] following TR also unrecorded

Bottom: NOV 24, 1934
Unrecorded
Train 95



Timbre du bureau de départ

To BE USED BY POSTMASTERS OR RAILWAY POST OFFICES WHEN THERE .S NO REGISTERED MATTER TO BE DESPATCHED.

Les maîtres de poste et les commis ambulants doivent se servir de cette feuille quand ils n'expédient pas d'objets recommandés.

Timbre du bureau d'arrivée CANADA

From

De

Initials of P.M. or Clerk Despatching Initiales du M. de P. ou du commis du bureau d'arrivée.

N.B.—This Bill must be Stamped and Initialled by the person Making Up, also by the person Opening the Mails and be filed at Office of Receipt.

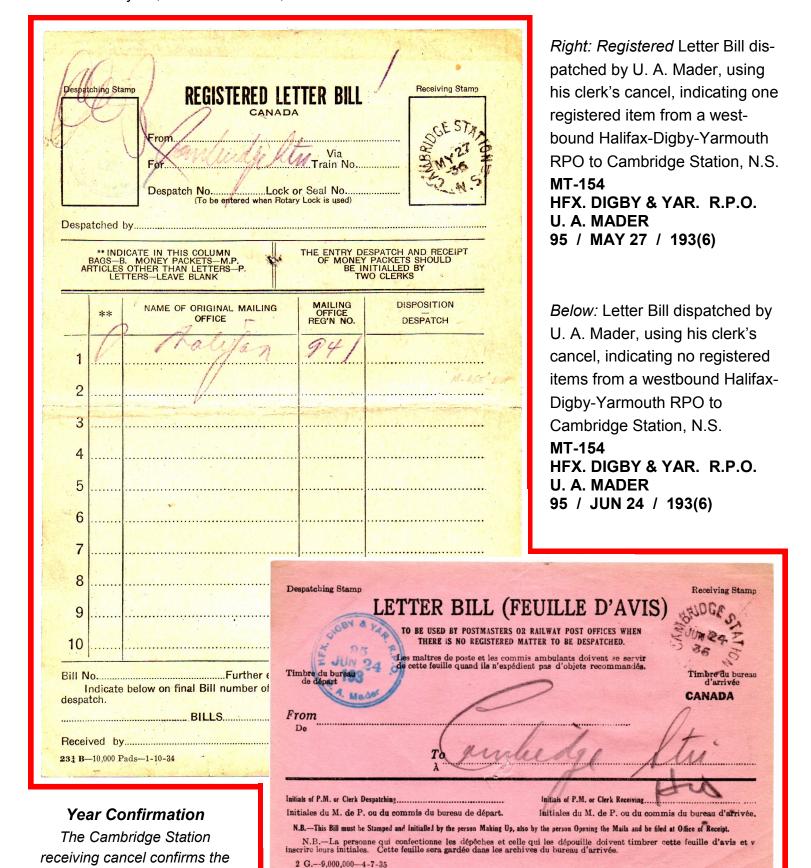
N.B.—La personne qui confectionne les dépêches et celle qui les dépouille doivent timbrer cette feuille d'avis et y inscrire leurs initiales. Cette feuille sera gardée dans les archives du bureau d'arrivée.

2 G.-7,000,000-6-9-33

year as 1926 on both these forms.

MT-154 HFX. DIGBY & YAR. R.P.O. U. A. MADER

A rare two ring rubber cancel known in use for just 42 days from May 13, 1936 to June 25, 1936. Trains 95 and 98 are known.





1 of 2 KNOWN COPIES

MT-155 HX, DIGBY & YARMOUTH W. B. COOLEN TR 95 JUN 25 / 1947

A second copy of this cancel came to light last year. It is on an unaddressed favour cover and bears the same date as the facing slip piece above suggesting this was also a favour cancel.



1 of 2 KNOWN COPIES

MT-155.55
HALIFAX DIGBY
& YARMOUTH
- W. R. LONG TR 98 / NOV 10
(no year)

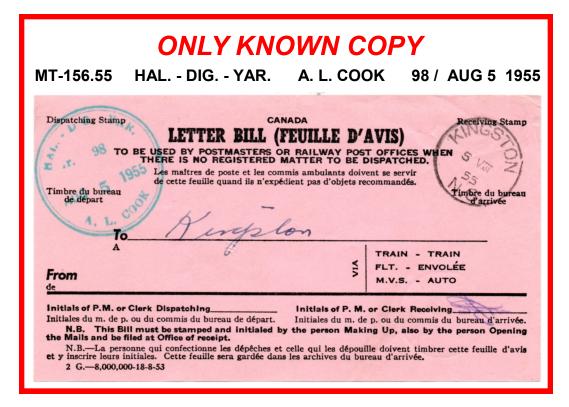


The only other copy of this cancel is dated April 9, 1949



MT-156
HALIFAX, DIGBY &
YARMOUTH, R.P.O.
W. R. LONG
TR 98 / FEB 21
(no year)

Other copies of this cancel are dated between Nov 28, 1954 and April 9, 1955
Train 95 is also known.



Letter Bill dispatched by A. L. Cook, using his clerk's cancel, indicating no registered items from a eastbound Halifax-Digby-Yarmouth RPO to Kingston, N.S.

New Discovery - Unrecorded Clerk Cancels

3 line rubber stamp cancel found on letter bills dispatched from the Halifax, Digby, Yarmouth R.P.O.



HFX. D. YAR. TR. 95 (DATE) L. N. WIER

Westbound, received at Hectanooga, N.S.

HFX. D. YAR. TR. 95 JUN 4 1934 L. N. WEIR

ERD

Timbre du bure
Timbre du bure
d'arrivée
CANADA
mmis du bureau d'arriv
filed at Office of Receipt.

Despatching Stamp	Receiving Star
LETTER BILL (FEUIL)	LE D'AVISIE
TO BE USED BY POSTMASTERS OR RAILWAY IN THERE IS NO REGISTERED MATTER TO BE	TUST UFFICES WHEN
Les maîtres de poste et les commis ambulan de cette feuille quand ils n'expédient pas d'o	ats doivent se servir
Timbre du bureau de départ	Timbre du bure d'arrivée
The transfer of the second	. CANADA
From D. Y. A.	
L. N. WIER To Suite	usoga
Initials of P.M. or Clerk Despatching	f P.M. or Clerk Receiving
	s du M. de P. ou du commis du bureau d'arrivé
N.B.—This Bill must be Stamped and Initialled by the person Making Up, also by the person	
N.B.—La personne qui confectionne les dépêches et celle qui les dépinscrire leurs initiales. Cette feuille sera gardée dans les archives du bure	pouille doivent timbrer cette feuille d'avis et

Westbound, received at Hectanooga, N.S.

HFX. D. YAR. TR. 95 NOV 19 1934 L. N. WEIR

Date on stamp was 12 and overwritten 19 which matches the receiver date



New Discovery - Unrecorded Clerk Cancels

3 line rubber stamp cancel found on letter bills dispatched from the Halifax, Digby, Yarmouth R.P.O.



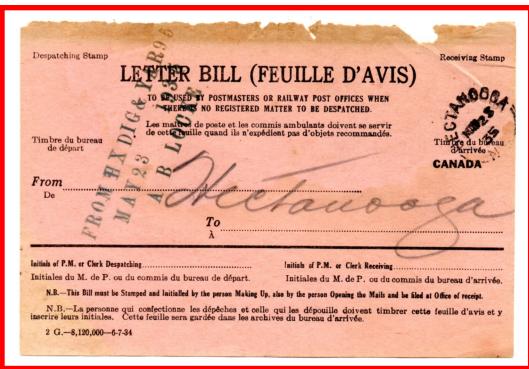
FROM HX DIG & YAR TR. ___ (DATE) A B LOCKE

Changeable text for train number and date.

Westbound, received at Hectanooga, N.S.

FROM HX DIG & YAR TR. 95 MAY 23 1935 A B LOCKE

ERD



Eastbound, received at Hectanooga, N.S.

FROM HX DIG & YAR TR. 98

JUNE 19 1935

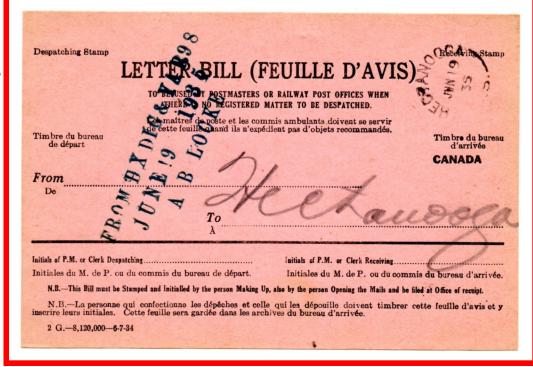
A B LOCKE

Note use of an exclamation mark substituting for the 1 in JUNE 19

I RD

See also page 16

Note Mr. Locke has corrected the route to properly show Halifax, Digby and Yarmouth



The following pages show an extraordinary assembly of Acknowledgement Receipts used to record the movement of registered mail. *ALL* are from July 1914 and *ALL* originate from Cambridge Station, Nova Scotia. *ALL* are received by clerks of the Halifax & Yarmouth Railway Post Office. The AR's are identified and presented in chronological order.



Hammer 1

The first thing determined is the identification of the steel hammer. There are 14 varieties of this particular hammer. Hammers 2, 3 and 4 were all out of use by 1912 while 6 through 14 all came into use after 1918, meaning that the cancel shown on these slips can only be 1 or 5. Hammers 1 and 5 are easily discernible by a raised dot which appears between the H of Yarmouth and the R of R.P.O. on hammer 5. The dot is absent from hammer 1.



Hammer 5

The receiving clerk's initials or signatures, at the lower right, are the most significant items on these receipts. You can easily discern the movements of the clerks in the two directions and the hammer being used. There are a total of eight different clerks represented, the most prominent of which are JRC and RHR. Five of these clerks can be identified and in the years to follow were known to use personalized clerk cancels which can be found on the pages preceding this July study.

JRC is
J. R. COMEAU

RHR is R. H. ROSS CPD is C. P. DUNN FHW is F. H. WITHERS

ARB is
A. R. BUCKLER

JMA Last Name Unknown JPE
Last Name Unknown

DRV
Last Name Unknown

KEY: Above are the initials, along with full last names where known, of the clerks identified on these Acknowledgement Receipts. Each name has a unique colour background which will be used throughout the July study and on the concluding calendar to aid in following movements.

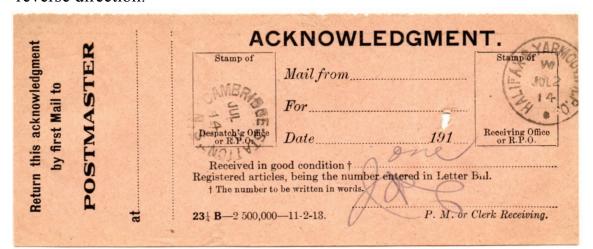
JULY 1 - EAST
Hammer 1

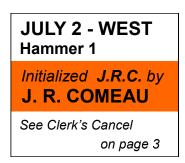
Initialized J.R.C. by
J. R. COMEAU

See Clerk's Cancel
on page 3

# ~	AC AC	KNOWI	EDGMEN	ІТ.
Return this acknowledgmen by first Mail to POSTMASTER at	Despatch's Office or R.P.O. Received in g Registered article	Mail from For Date cood condition † es, being the num be written in words.	191 per entered in Letter I	Receiving Office or R.P.O.

As there was simultaneously an eastbound and a west bound train each day this made necessary the use of two hammers. Study of the receipts show while one hammer travels east from Yarmouth to Halifax and the other is going west from Halifax to Yarmouth. The following day the hammers reverse direction.

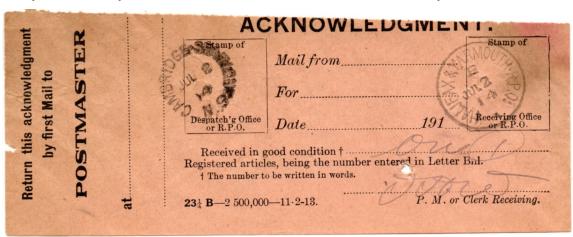


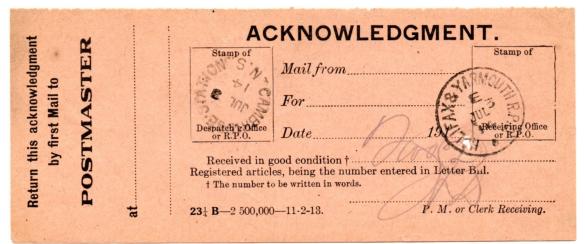


Previous page and above: These receipts show that J. R. Comeau travelled with hammer 1 from Yarmouth to Halifax on July 1st, and returned to Yarmouth the following day.

Below: F.H. Withers, with hammer 5 travelling east. The next page shows J. P. E. travelling west on July 3 with hammer 5 then east on July 4, so it may be reasoned that Withers came west on July 1.





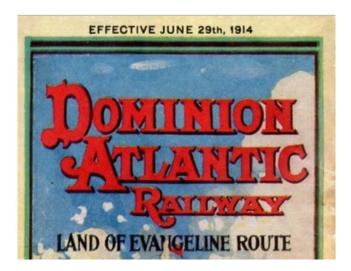


JULY 3 - EAST Hammer 1

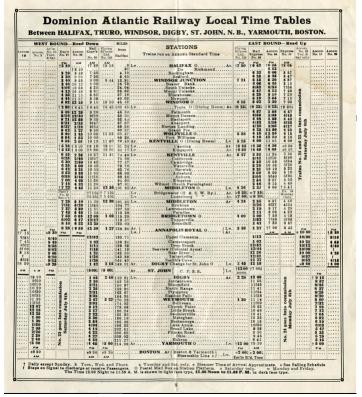
Initialized C.P.D. by
C. P. DUNN

See Clerk's Cancel
on page 16

Above C.P. Dunn travelling east with hammer 1. Since J.R. Comeau travelled west with hammer 1 on July 2, Dunn would have travelled west on July 4 with hammer 1.



Cover of Dominion Atlantic Railway pamphlet, scanned at 90%, states time tables are effective June 29, 1914. (2 days before the receipts shown on the following pages commence).

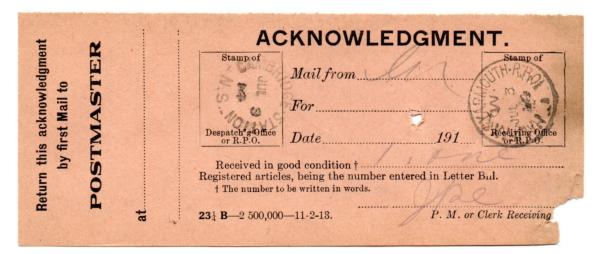


The Railway Post Office operates on the "Mail Express" trains 95 west and 98 east. No mail train on Sundays.

Left timetable on page 8 of the pamphlet scanned at 50%.

See page 31 of exhibit for reprint of station stops.

There are some 30 stations along the 9 hour route.



JULY 3 - WEST Hammer 5

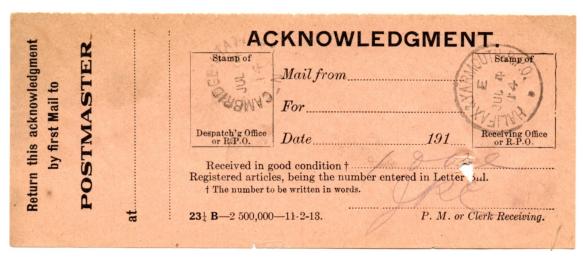
Initialized J.P.E.

Last name unknown

JULY 4 - EAST Hammer 5

Initialized J.P.E.
Last name unknown

Receipts show J.P.E. travelling west then east with hammer 5.



From this point on only the date, direction, hammer and receiver will be shown. When transferred to the calendar on page 32 the movements of the clerks and hammers and some interesting patterns will reveal themselves.

JULY 7 - EAST Hammer 5

Initialized J.M.A. Last name unknown rn this acknowledgment by first Mail to

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.



Mail from _____

Stamp of

Return this acknowledgment POSTMASTER by first Mail to

ACKNOWLEDGMENT



Received in good condition † Registered articles, being the number entered in Letter Bul. † The number to be written in words.

23¹/₄ B—2 500,000—11-2-13.

JULY 8- EAST Hammer 1

Initialized J.R.C. by J. R. COMEAU

See Clerk's Cancel on page 3

P. M. or Clerk Receiving.

JULY 10 - EAST Hammer 1

Initialized D.R.V. Last name unknown Return this acknowledgment POSTMASTER by first Mail to

ACKNOWLEDGMENT



Mail from_____

P. M. or Clerk Receiving.

† The number to be written in words.

231 B-2 500,000-11-2-13.

P. M. or Clerk Receiving.

Return this acknowledgment POSTMASTER by first Mail to

Stamp of

231

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Received in good condition to Registered articles, being the number entered in Letter Bul. **JULY 11 - WEST** Hammer 1

Initialized C.P.D. by C. P. DUNN

See Clerk's Cancel on page 16

JULY 13 - EAST Hammer 1

Initialized R.H.R. by R. H. ROSS

See Clerk's Cancel on page 3

Return this acknowledgment by first Mail to ACKNOWLEDGMENT.



† The number to be written in words.

23½ B-2 500,000-11-2-13.

JULY 14-EAST Hammer 5

Signed by F. H. WITHERS

See Clerk's Cancel on page 11

urn this acknowledgment by first Mail to

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.



Mail from

Stamp of

Received in good condition t Registered articles, being the number entered in Letter Bul.

† The number to be written in words.

P. M. or Clerk Receiving.

Return this acknowledgment by first Mail to

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.



Mail from



Hammer 1 Initialized J.R.C. by

JULY 15 EAST

J. R. COMEAU

See Clerk's Cancel on page 3

† The number to be written in words.

JULY 15- WEST Hammer 5

Initialized A.R.B. by A. R. BUCKLER

See Clerk's Cancel on page 8

eturn this acknowledgment by first Mail to

ACKNOWLEDGMENT



Mail from ____

† The number to be written in words.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.



234

Received in good condition † ... Registered articles, being the number entered in Letter Bul. † The number to be written in words.

P. M. or Clerk Receiving.

JULY 16- EAST Hammer 5

Initialized A.R.B. by A. R. BUCKLER

See Clerk's Cancel on page 8

JULY 17 - EAST Hammer 1

POSTMASTER

Return this acknowledgment

by first Mail to

Initialized C.P.D. by C. P. DUNN

See Clerk's Cancel on page 16

Return this acknowledgment by first Mail to

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.



Mail from

Received in good condition †

Registered articles, being the number entered in Letter Bil. † The number to be written in words.

23¹/₄ **B**—2 500,000—11-2-13.

JULY 20 - EAST Hammer 1

Signed by R. H. ROSS

See Clerk's Cancel on page 3

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.



Stamp of



Received in good condition † Registered articles, being the number entered in Later Ball The number to be written in words.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Return this acknowledgment POSTMASTER by first Mail to

Mail from

† The number to be written in words.

Received in good condition † Registered articles, being the number entered in Letter Bul.

23¹/₄ B-2 500,000-11-2-13.

P. M. or Clerk Receiving.

JULY 21 - WEST Hammer 1

P. M. or Clerk Receiving.

Signed by R. H. ROSS

See Clerk's Cancel on page 3

JULY 21 - EAST Hammer 5

Initialized J.M.A. Last name unknown urn this acknowledgment by first Mail to VACKNOWLEDGMENT.

† The number to be written in words.

P. M. or Clerk Receiving.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Return this acknowledgment POSTMASTER by first Mail to

Mail from

Stamp of

Received in good condition † Registered articles, being the number entered in Letter Bal. † The number to be written in words.

234 B-2 500,000-11-2-13.

P. M. or Clerk Receiving.

JULY 22 - WEST Hammer 5

Initialized F.H.W. by F. H. WITHERS

See Clerk's Cancel on page 11

JULY 22 EAST Hammer 1

Initialized J.R.C. by J. R. COMEAU

See Clerk's Cancel on page 3

3eturn this. acknowledgment by first Mail to ACKNOWLEDGMEN



Received in good condition † Registered articles, being the number entered in Letter Bul.

† The number to be written in words.

23\(\frac{1}{2}\) B-2 500,000-11-2-13.

JULY 23 - WEST Hammer 1

Initialized J.R.C. by J. R. COMEAU

See Clerk's Cancel on page 3

urn this acknowledgment by first Mail to

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.



Mail from

Received in good condition † Registered articles, being the number entered in Letter Bil.

† The number to be written in words.

P. M. or Clerk Receiving.

Return this acknowledgment by first Mail to ACKNOWLEDGMENT.



Mail from

Received in good condition † Registered articles, being the number entered in Letter Bul. † The number to be written in words.

eturn this acknowledgment

by first Mail to

Hammer 5

Initialized F.H.W. by F. H. WITHERS

JULY 23 - EAST

See Clerk's Cancel on page 11

JULY 24 - EAST Hammer 1

Initialized C.P.D. by C. P. DUNN

See Clerk's Cancel on page 16

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

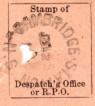
P M or Clerk Receiving

Received in good condition t... Registered articles, being the number entered in Letter Bul.

† The number to be written in words.

P. M. or Clerk Receiving.

Return this acknowledgment by first Mail to ACKNOWLEDGMENT.



231



Received in good condition †

Registered articles, being the number entered in Letter Bal.

† The number to be written in words.

JULY 25 - WEST Hammer 1

Initialized C.P.D. by C. P. DUNN

See Clerk's Cancel on page 16

JULY 27 - EAST Hammer 1

Signed by R. H. ROSS

See Clerk's Cancel on page 3

Return this acknowledgment by first Mail to ACKNOWLEDGMENT.



Mail from



Received in good condition † ... Registered articles, being the number entered in Letter Bul. † The number to be written in words.

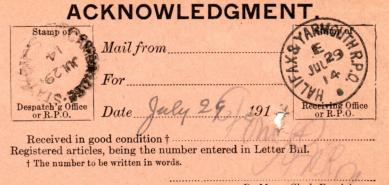
23¹ **B**—2 500,000—11-2-13.

JULY 28 - EAST Hammer 5

Initialized J.M.A. Last name unknown

ACKNOWLEDGMENT. eturn this acknowledgment by first Mail to Received in good condition † Registered articles, being the number entered in Letter Bull † The number to be written in words. P. M. or Clerk Receiving.

Return this acknowledgment POSTMASTER by first Mail to



JULY 29 - EAST Hammer 1

Signed by R. H. ROSS

See Clerk's Cancel on page 3

JULY 31 - WEST Hammer 1

Initialized J.R.C. by J. R. COMEAU

See Clerk's Cancel on page 3

Return this acknowledgment by first Mail to ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Mail from

Received in good condition † Registered articles, being the number entered in † The number to be written

231 B-2 500,000-11-2-13.

P. M. or Clerk Receiving.



Brochure scan at 40%

Timetable for the Mail Express, train 95 westbound from Halifax to Yarmouth.

Reprinted from scan shown on page 4.

Towns in bold face are scheduled stops. Signal lights at all other towns are used when there are passengers, freight or mail to pick up. Stops would also be made for disembarking passengers. Mail bags at some unscheduled stops would be collected from catch posts (or mail bag tossed from moving train).

The towns in red (all unscheduled stops) are the three towns found on items in this exhibit.

Departing	
Halifax	7:30 am
Rockingham	7:40 am
Bedford	7:50 am
Windsor Junction	8:00 am
Beaver Bank	8:08 am
South Uniacke	8:25 am
Mount Uniacke	8:31 am
Ellershouse	8:52 am
Newport	8:58 am
Windsor	9:15 am
Falmouth	9:20 am
Mt. Denson	9:29 am
Hantsport	9:35 am
Avonport	9:47 am
Horton Landing	9:53 am
Grand Pre	9:56 am

Wolfville	10:03 am
Port Williams	10:08 am
Kentville	10:27 am
Coldbrook	10:37 am
Cambridge	10:42 am
Waterville	10:48 am
Berwick	10:55 am
Aylesford	11:05 am
Auburn	11:10 am
Kingston	11:20 am
Wilmot	11:26 am
Middleton	11:39 am
Brickton	11:45 am
Lawrencetown	11:51 am
Paradise	11:58 am
Bridgetown	12:09 pm
Tupperville	12:17 pm

Round Hill	12:25 pm
Annapolis Royal	12:39 pm
Upper Clements	12:52 pm
Clementsport	1:02 pm
Deep Brook	1:11 pm
Seaview	1:15 pm
Bear River	1:21 pm
Imbertville	1:24 pm
Smith's Cove	1:28 pm
Digby	1:55 pm
Jordantown	2:10 pm
Bloomfield	2:21 pm
Plympton	2:25 pm
Sissiboo Falls	2:35 pm
Weymouth	2:47 pm
Belliveau	3:01 pm
Church Point	3:12 pm

Little Brook	3:17 pm	Train 95 eastbound
Saulnierville	3:22 pm	from Yarmouth to
Meteghan	3:30 pm	Halifax departs
Hectanooga	3:54 pm	daily at 9:30 am
Lake Annis	4:04 pm	and arrives in
Brazil Lake	4:14 pm	Halifax at 6:42 pm
Pitman Road	4:22 pm	
Ohio	4:27 pm	Times between
Hebron	4:34 pm	stops are virtually
Yarmouth	(arr) 4:45 pm	the same.

A quick look at the schedule reveals just how little time there is between stops and or catch posts - often as little as five minutes. This shows the hectic conditions the RPO clerks worked under.

Information from the preceding receipts has been entered on the calendar below. Hammer 1 is entered on the top half of the day and Hammer 5 on the bottom half. Background colour indicates information has come from a receipt as per the key on page 2.

You can readily see on the calendar simultaneous use of the two hammers constantly travelling every day between Halifax and Yarmouth, and reversing the direction the following day. The information from the slips has been transposed in **bold face** to its coordinating date. By extrapolating the known information the routes of the two hammers may be determined, shown in *light face italic*. As well, movements of clerks *may* often be determined - *light face italic*.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
IIII V 4044			DOMINION DAY 1	2	3	4
The colour key shows most clerks worked a regular schedule, (eg. JRC worked Mondays and Tuesdays) thus for most days the clerk on duty may be determined		Hammer 1 East East JRC	Hammer 1 West West JRC	Hammer 1 East East CPD	Hammer 1 West West CPD	
		Hammer 5 West West FHW	Hammer 5 East East FHW	Hammer 5 West West JPE	Hammer 5 East East JPE	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
No Mail Train On Sundays	Hammer 1 East	Hammer 1 West	Hammer 1 East East JRC	Hammer 1 West West JRC	Hammer 1 East East DRV	Hammer 1 West West CPD
	Hammer 5 West West JMA	Hammer 5 East East JMA	Hammer 5 West FHW or ARB	Hammer 5 East FHW or ARB	Hammer 5 West	Hammer 5 East
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Emerging Patterns: JRC,	Hammer 1 East East RHR	Hammer 1 West West RHR	Hammer 1 East East JRC	Hammer 1 West West JRC	Hammer 1 East East CPD	Hammer 1 West West CPD
CPD, and RHR always work with Hammer 1	Hammer 5 West West FHW	Hammer 5 East East FHW	Hammer 5 West West ARB	Hammer 5 East East ARB	Hammer 5 West	Hammer 5 East
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Emerging Patterns: JPE,	Hammer 1 East East RHR	Hammer 1 West West RHR	Hammer 1 East East JRC	Hammer 1 West West JRC	Hammer 1 East East CPD	Hammer 1 West West CPD
JMA, FHW and ARB all work with Hammer 5	Hammer 5 West West JMA	Hammer 5 East East JMA	Hammer 5 West West FHW	Hammer 5 East East FHW	Hammer 5 West	Hammer 5 East
26	27	28	29	30	31	Gaps occur Mostly because
Provenance suggests this	Hammer 1 East East RHR	Hammer 1 West West RHR	Hammer 1 East East RHR	Hammer 1 West West RHR	Hammer 1 East East JRC	there was no registered mail
collection is 90-99% complete.	Hammer 5 West West JMA	Hammer 5 East East JMA	Hammer 5 West FHW or ARB	Hammer 5 East FHW or ARB	Hammer 5 West	Leaving Cambridge Station that day.

A typical run would go something like this: ● At Halifax mail is loaded into the RPO car. This includes presorted mail from local post offices. These bags are lined up according to their order of distribution and the crew drops them off along the route. ● Unsorted mail and registered mail is handled by the crew. ● Bags are emptied onto a sorting table. Bags may include locked bags of registered mail. ● Crew supervisor handles registered mail bags and checks the paperwork, making sure everything is in order, cancels each piece across sealed flaps of envelope with RPO cancel; completes a registered letter bill to record the mail, and relocks the bags. ● Regular mail is sorted by the crew, looking first for mail destined for drop off along the train route. All mail is cancelled with the RPO cancel, bundled with twine along with a "facing slip" which also bears the cancel and placed into pre-tagged bags. ● At the next station or catch post mail is dropped off and collected. ● and so went the daily duties of an RPO clerk. a continuous cycle of picking up, dropping off, sorting and cancelling, and filling out the proper paperwork. Bear in mind the speed and accuracy these folk were held to. On a fast moving train, stations and catch-posts were often less than ten minutes apart! The following pages show more of the official paperwork clerks were required to fill out.