

BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 59

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WOW, Twenty (20 !) of you sent in material for this newsletter! This is the best response yet. There are only about 80 members in the Study Group, so to have 25% of them actively responding is GREAT! This will obviously be a long newsletter. I was somewhat delayed in the final stages of this newsletter, during that two weeks another three people sent in material, so we are off to a good start with newsletter 60. Please keep this up.

Group News.

We have one new member, Mr. J. Cortan, Box 295, Ripley Ont., N0G 2R0. I have had to drop three members for not paying dues for three years. Thank you to those of you who sent in dues, and thanks also for the philatelic frankings, some of which included stamps which were up to 48 years old. My used postage is sent to Oxfam Canada, and they sell it in their stamp auction program.

A minor lament, the “cheap” photocopy place I have previously used has closed, and it appears that there will not be any BNAPS stipend (again) this year to cover mailings to BNAPS Directors. (Perhaps I should send ‘em a dues notice?) These two facts will result in a dues increase next year

REVISIONS TO PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

Newsletter 56, (and also the Fancy cancel book, pg 197), The Dead Letter Study Group Newsletter 8 had a new Example of a Crown Wax seal (See text at L 1270, and typical example at L 1271). Details are D. L.O. Toronto Branch, on an Official P.O. envelope, July 1915, type 2 (?). This brings the total of these DLO ‘Crowns’ to almost 30.

Newsletter 58, pg. 4, the Map stamp cover from Black Creek Ont. The CDS date was obviously read wrong by me, it is very faint. It must be March '99, the stamp was issued in December 98, a March '98 date is impossible. Thanks to John Anders for pointing out this error.

Newsletter 58, the ‘fakes’ etc. section, and the “P” cancel. I have now had a chance to examine the original, and it passes all the standard ‘tests’. So... this is not a fake or bogus item. Does anyone else have any other examples? One odd thing about this cancel is that it seems to have an odd “pebbled” effect as if the cancel device had many regular small bumps. Thanks to Bob Turkowski for this information.



REVISIONS TO FANCY CANCEL BOOK

Page 114, L 1255, the book illustration is poor. Peter Geoffroy has sent in this example, which also now locates the cancel, Toronto Ont., Apr. 1871. All strikes of this cancel are indistinct.



Page 136, L 1493, and L 1494 are actually the same cancel, with L 1494 being a worn state, or poor quality strike. George Pond sent in this cover example (right) of L 1493 (Lakefield Ont. Dec. 1884), looking like L1494, and overlapping the use of this cancel. He also sent in a late state (centre). Neither book illustration is particularly good.



BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 59

Page 198, the Victoria Esquimalt crown cancel, L 1291. Another Esquimalt BC cover, Sept. 1907 has been reported. Does anyone have any examples of this cancel used between November 1893 (the last Victoria BC use) and February 1903 (the first Esquimalt use)? Thanks to Ralph Vicero for this addition.

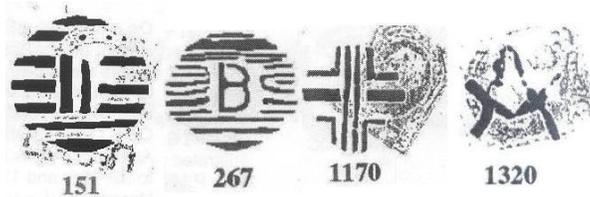


Page 104, See also Peter Geoffroy's item 7, pg. 5, L 1129, and L 1130 are the same cancel.

CORRESPONDENCE AND QUERIES

Several members have sent in examples of cork cancels used in the (relatively) modern era.

Dean Mario sent in this Blenheim Ont. cork used in Dec. 1928. The Blenheim PM was very creative, between Oct. 1928, and Dec. 1937 he used several corks, and also created a fancy "11" (L 151), a "B" (L 267) standing for either Blenheim, or his name W.J. Baird, a crossroad (L 1170), and a Masonic symbol (L 1320). Some of these uses were philatelic, and unfortunately the Masonic one was also used on some very out of period Small Queens as illustrated below at reduced scale. FMI, please see Newsletters 41 & 49.



One of our newest members, Ed. Stephens, has sent in this cork used at Fergus Ont. Sept. 1937. Fergus used two other fancy cancels, an "F" (L 412), and a star, (L 990), however both these were from the 1870's. There may be some internal details in this apparent 'blob', does anyone else have any other examples? Ed. collects the 10 cent Mountie stamp, Sc. 223. Do any of you have unusual markings or uses of this stamp?

David Dawes sent in what he thought was an "11" on a 1932 stamp. The cancel is D286a (in the 2nd Edition), (an "M") it is described as "similar to L 604", a military cancel used in (?) 1917 in Barryfield Camp Ont. The 1932 one is described as "probably Revenue use", however I am now having my doubts, and it may have been used at an unknown P.O.

A "V" for Victory carved cork was in Ron Leith's sale Mar. 24, 2012. These "V's" were written up in Newsletter 35, and regrettably this one was not illustrated in the second edition

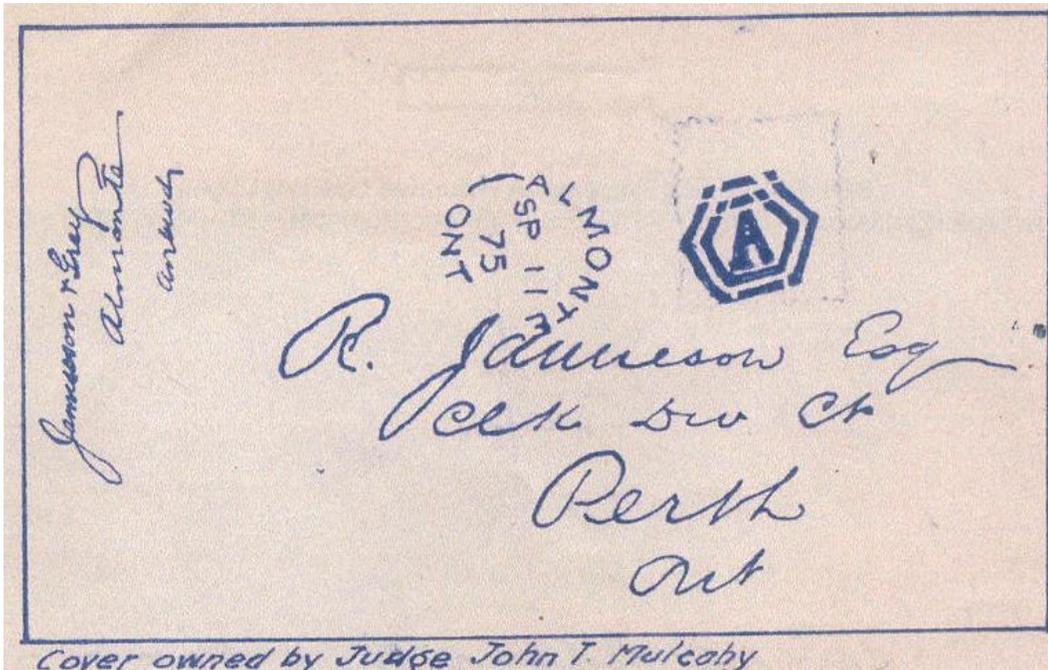
of our cancel book except as D 403a. (Oooops.) I have seen several of these Irvings Landing BC "V's" used between May 19 and Apr. 15 1949. This last date implies philatelic use as Victory had already happened in 1945! Other examples are L 851 (probably St. John's Nfld.), and L. 864, a machine cancel used in about 20 P.O.'s. Homemade examples were also reportedly used at **Nipissing Junction Ont., and Bolney Sask.** in 1943. I have never seen examples of these latter two, does anyone have one?



Cecil Coutts sent in some tracings of fancy cancels made by a "Judge Mulcahy". These were found in a friend's estate. I would guess that these tracings were made in the 1950's, or 1960's. There are neither Fred Jarrett, nor D&S numbers with the sketches.

BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 59

Judge Mulcahy worked in 'County and District Courts, Renfrew Ont.', he was born in 1879, retired in 1967, and died soon after. Most of the tracings are of known cancels used in Renfrew County. The judge was not in the 1950's lists of BNAPS Small Queen (and cancel) collectors, and apparently was not a BNAPS member. The cover below has been copied in some fashion, and the cancel and CDS were ink enhanced. Possibly the cover did not have a stamp, (there appears to be an outline where it should have been), or the copying process filtered out the stamp details. There may be a bit of a hint in that this is L 242, and another unusual use of this cancel was "The (18)76 cover very strange, a two cent Registered stamp (Sc. F1) issued '75, no other stamps, no back stamps and the stamp was not tied, apparently accepted by favour for postage." This cover may be another example of PM J. Wilie of Almonte Ont. making a favour acceptance a bit more official with his "A".



Other new information from these tracings is L 1505 (a pinwheel) used at Almonte Ont. Dec. 1880 (and other P.O's), L 1014 (a star), Almonte Ont. Feb. 1877 a new early date, and an odd geometric design somewhat similar to L1685, used at Almonte Ont. Dec. 1876.

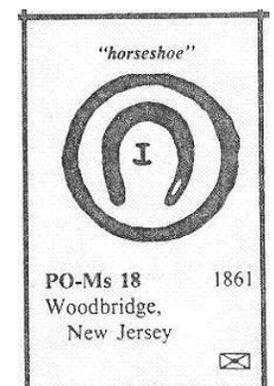


An item in a recent Hugo Deshayé sales list was a new early date for L 1003, Hortons Landing NS, July 1888.

Don Echobicon sent in this miscellany. It is on a Sc. 37 Montreal printing of between 1873 and 1888. There was no requirement for a four cent rate at that time, however if someone needed something making this rate, there were no four cent stamps either. (One or two cent stamps certainly were available.) The stamp has been cancelled by a very indistinct CDS. Why would this overprint have been used? One possible answer, Henry Hechler produced a "5" provisional (D 34), as well as "Service", "Official", "OS" etc. very unofficial over prints, and this may be a previously unreported item. FMI, on Hechler, see the text for our D 90.



Roger Squires sent in this lovely "horseshoe" cancel on a 15 cent L.Q. Sc. 30b, about 1875. It is not a listed "U", and is unlike any other listed cancels in our book. It looks 'good', appears to be a metal hammer, several rather messy multiple strikes, ink accumulation from repeated use, evidence of "right handed" use, a rather pricy stamp, no other cancels etc. Why has this not been reported before?



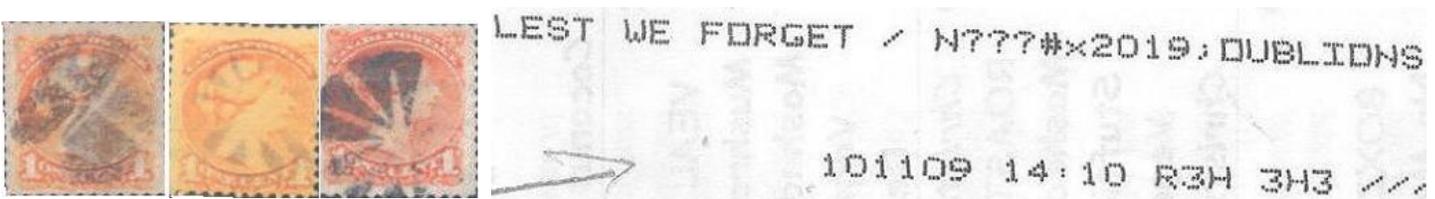
Turns out it has, PO-Ms 18 in "United States Cancels 1845 – 1869, Skinner & Eno, 1980" on the stamps issued 1861 to 1869, used Woodbridge N.J. This book only goes up to 1869, so the cancel could certainly have been used later. Any other Canadian examples out there?

BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 59

John Anders sent in the items below. They are L 1163 (type) used at several P.O.'s between 1876 and 1898, L 1064 (noted used in 1897), and L 1515 used at 14 different P.O.'s from 1870 to 1902. His next item is L 1486, used at seven P.O.'s between 1874 and 1888 (and obviously somewhere around 1898), and L 1606 used at Muncey Ont., Apr. 1899.



David Dawes sent in some corks, including L 1114, Saint John NB, Apr. 1875 to July 1875, L 1482, St. Phillippe de Neri Que., May 1889, and L 1510, Bradford Ont., Aug. 1871. He also sent in this truly weird inkjet cancel with the French message totally messed up.



Ralph Vicero sent in several covers. The first two cuts below are L 1221, Hagersville Ont., Apr. 1880. They show the wear on the cork in the short period between April 15, and April 24. The next item is a new location for L 1128, Hagersville Ont., May 1880. His last item is an unlisted 'heart' from Jarvis Ont., Aug. 1879. (The inks appear to match, and both the CDS and cancel are on the same slant, however I would caution that this is on Postal Stationery, there was no need to cancel the 'stamp' part.) Ralph also sent in a new late date for L1218, another Hagersville 'leaf', Dec. 1879. (This will not illustrate well, so the 'L' illustration is used here.)



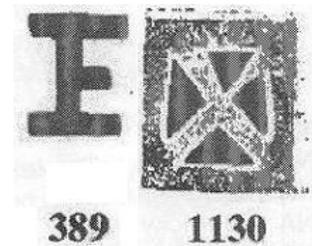
Mike Street sent in a reference to a Capetown S.A. Paquebot cancel on a 3 cent medallion (Sc. 192). I am certainly no expert on, paquebot, mail boat, steamship mail, etc. mailings, however as a broad general class they consist of mail posted on board a ship, and thus may have any country's stamps on them. In the simplest case, the ship marks the letter with a paquebot marking, and the letter is dropped off at the nearest port for onward delivery by a land based post office. This postal system may be in a third country (ie. a letter with Canadian stamp addressed to England, but processed in Capetown South Africa.) and can become very confusing very fast. The example here (and several very similar cancels) were used at a land based office in Capetown, for about 60 years. The cancels are thus found on a wide range of stamps from many different countries, and many different shipping lines, routes etc. A similar situation existed at Sydney Australia with a "Loose Ship Letter" marking, and undoubtedly in other parts of the world.

Guy Vabonecour sent in this cancel which he found in an unpicked bunch of S.Q.'s from the 1890's. It is not listed in our book, unless it is possibly an early version of L 411 which is from 1880, Stellarton N.S. Does anyone have any other examples of this, or of L 411 for comparison?



BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 59

Peter Geoffroy sent in a whole bunch of stuff! His first item is a new location for L 1132 (similar), Wingham Ont., Feb. 1887. The second item is, L 1464, a new late date, Barrie Ont., Dec. 1878. The Barrie P.O. seemed to like to use this bright blue ink quite often. His third is a great strike of L 280, a somewhat late fancy initial, Brookfield Station, Ont., Mar. 1898. Fourth, a cover with a triangle very similar to L 1338. There is no CDS, however there is a backstamp Windsor Ont. ?? 1887. Similar cancels were in use in Kingston Ont., Feb. 1872, and an unknown P.O. in the late 1890's. There may be some Masonic significance to this symbol. Fifth, a fancy purple "E" (which I think I have seen before) from L'Epiphanie Que., ms 'Mar. 1896', and (in same purple ink) the P.M.'s return address, which I have moved in the illustration next to the stamp. Edouard ("E") was PM for a mere 41 years, ending 1898. (PO records say "*" at cause for departure - which then says "information withheld under the privacy act of 1989. What could he possibly have done 90 years ago which would still be 'private' today!) Letter is local rate to "Greffier" roughly 'rural [usually] mayor', but does not appear to be L'Epiphanie. It is also possible that another strike of this was responsible for L 389, a tracing sent into D&S, but unverifiable by me. Any other examples out there? Sixth, is a great strike of a Toronto fancy leaf cancel, L 1185, Toronto (NIGHT) Jan., 1875. Most strikes of this are more blurred.



Peter also sent this lovely cover proving that L 1130, and L 1129 are effectively the same cancel. The book illustration of 1130 must have been from a poor or distorted strike.

Don Fraser sent in examples of three different covers with L 994, the Fort Garry Man. star cancel. Wonderful items. The dates are Feb. 28, Apr. 13, and June 6, 1872. Note also the changes in the cancel over time.



George Pond sent in this unlisted Ottawa geometric dated Nov. 24 1875. I originally thought it was a fake based on some mixed up (printed backwards) tracings accidentally included in D&S. However, I have since located a second cover, also from Nov. 1875.



BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 59

Harley Cohen sent in quite a few 'Ottawa Geometric' cancels. Note how confusing these are in terms of classification when viewed from different angles. They are L 1650, 1661, 1653, 1699, and my eyes are sore from these... There is also a strike I would temporarily call L1698a which shows the recutting from L 1698 to L 1699. This cancel was used from Oct. 1874, to Oct. 1876. I also illustrate another number, L 1658a, which appears to be a late recut.



L1650 L 1661 L1653 L 1699 1698a L1658a

Harley also sent in this blue six point star which is similar to L1029 but larger, as well as an example of L 1490 used at Collingwood Ont., Sept 1882 to March 1884. This cancel shows extreme variation, it must have been made of some very soft or flexible material.

Ron Smith sent in this example of two different fancy "14s" together. They are L 139 and L 140 This pair were written up way back in Newsletter 9, the P.O. is still unknown. A good guess would be Guelph (2 ring numeral 14) which used the 2R14 up to about 1880, and also used several fancy corks at the same time, and second guess, Goderich, (4 ring numeral 14), which also used a fancy "T" in the 1880's.



Karl MacKinnon sent in the items below. The first is an unlisted cork which I have seen several times before on Jubilees, however the P.O. is unknown. Can anyone help? His second item appears to be L 1141, which is also still not located. The third is a part strike of the worn state of L 1193, a fancy "leaf" from Souris East PEI, Aug. 1882. The cover example of this cancel had a weak CDS, the year may have been '92. Does anyone else have a cover example? The fourth item is a fine strike of the 'Kingston 9', L 117 which was used Mar. 1870 to Apr. 1870, and is on an appropriately very early 3 cent S.Q. The fifth item is this odd design, which I cannot really figure out. The last item a "1? 75 in a triangle" is foreign, possibly France.



John Cortan sent in this Napanee Ont. cork used Aug. 1892. It seems to be a disintegrating "blob" type of cancel, but it is in an unusual type of holder. The collar around the cork seems to have a ridged, or roughened end perhaps intended as a scarifying device. One has to admit that the stamp is certainly well cancelled!



BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 59
FAKES, BOGUS AND SPURIOUS ITEMS

Earlier in this newsletter I referred to some authentic corks used in the 1930's. There are also some modern bogus corks which were illustrated in Newsletter 38, and are repeated here. The "ER", presumably meaning "Elisabeth Regina" is listed as D 204a, and is found somewhat inappropriately on King George V stamps!



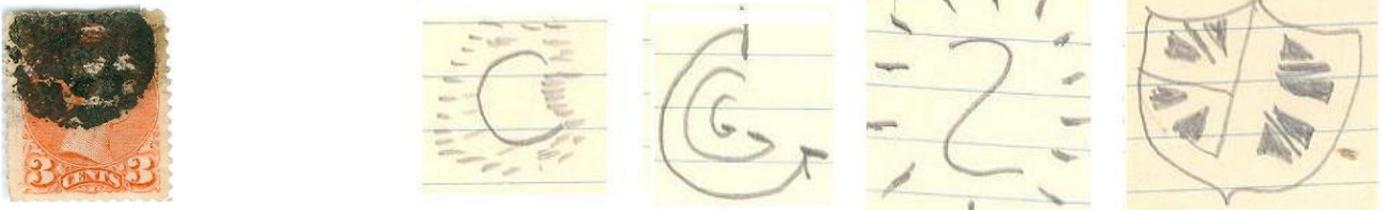
This is D 534, a fake of L 1206, which is also described as 'dubious'. It thus might be a fake of a fake. The example here is also listed in Smythies "Fakes and forgeries", pg. 99.



The Masonic cancel at right was sent in as it is somewhat similar to the old corks I had used in the last newsletter, and was also not otherwise listed. There appear to be significant differences from "my" cork (middle). It is also not the former L 1318, all strikes of which have proven to be bogus. I have examined the stamp, and several features make me believe it is a fake based upon the D&S 246 illustration. (I may be proven wrong on this, are there any other copies out there?)



This "bogeyhead" needs no further comment than 'spurious'.



Finally, the last of the "Bogusman" items, as described in previous newsletters. As usual, the rough sketch from the index card of Bogusmans holdings is on top, and the "L" illustration is below.



Note, there may be genuine strikes of L1379, possibly copied by Bogusman.

'n have run out of space. May I wish a good Spring to all.

& Good collecting,

Dave.Lacelle

BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 59