

# Confederation

The Newsletter of the Large and Small Queens Study Group

Number 2

March 1997

The Chairman's Column

Ron Ribler

Your response to the first of the new series of Newsletter is heartening. Several of you have contributed more fodder for sharing with others - and that is what the study group is all about - sharing our knowledge and extending it. Even though the issues we are interested in are more than 100 years old, new information is continually coming to light.

Some of you have asked for help in discriminating the shades of the three cent Small Queen. That happens to be my area of greatest knowledge and I have made amazingly good color copies of key shades off all the printings, which I would be pleased to send anyone who will pay the US\$3 copying cost and the postage. While the copies are not perfect, they will show a usable distinction among the shades in each printing.

By good fortune I have made arrangements with the Canadian Philatelic Expertization Services to expertise any Canadian stamp or cover for US\$15. This fee is for BNAPS members only and reflects a substantial discount. Certificates with color photos are issued. Include your BNAPS number when sending in your material. For more information, contact

*Continued Page 2 Column 1*

## The 6 cent Small Queen Die Proof



By John Hillson

On the front cover of the general catalog for the Firby Feb. 6 auction there is an illustration of a SQ 6c essay die proof. Bill Simpson wrote about this some time back in Topics. I cannot see any good reason why the BABNCo should go to the expense of engraving a new die from scratch just to look

at an alternative decorative border. There are plenty of instances to show their normal practice was to use the existing vignette master die, both with the Large and Small Queens, including an unadopted 1c SQ essay.

Apart from the grim portrait, the lettering is totally different from the printer's norm, and is more like the 1851 Pence issue. I doubt very much that the item is a product of the BABNCo which leaves the question, where did it come from? Possibly another printer angling for the contract? Equally possible, the item could be bogus. Can anyone shed more light on this oddity? Is its provenance known, and how far back?

## Cross-Border "Mystery Cover" Our Members Answer

From David Whiteley

Reference the double rate cover in the lead article. As a long time collector of trans-Atlantic material, I would suggest that the first thing to do is to establish the date the letter left Boston from the Boston Exchange office hand stamp, if possible, and the date of its arrival in London. Both would be better, but if only the London date is legible, locating a sailing ex Boston that docked Liverpool within a day or so would go a long way to suggesting the most probable routing (probably Cunard). Sailing dates were regularly reported in the local press.

The second thing that comes to mind regardless of  
*Continued Page 2 Column 2*

## Chairman's Column

them at 1720 Harrison Street, Suite 185, Hollywood, FL 33020 (phone 1-800-663-8364).

We read in the literature that a certain number of copies of scarce material exists. For example, how many Large and Small Queens exist on thick, no mesh carton paper? Some say one or two exist. The Unitrade Specialized Catalogue says only one copy of the three cents Small Queen exists with a "kiss." I personally have three, How many collectors would recognize a kiss print if they saw one? If more people knew what to look for, many more would be found. That is what happened when the perf 12 1/2 three cent SQ was discovered and made known to the collecting masses. It is much easier to find something when we know what it is and where to look. If you have items you believe to be unique or rare, let's see if any others may have the same or similar items. We still have much to learn. Let us hear from you.

## How To Reach Us

Chairman:  
Ron Ribler  
PO Box 22911  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33335  
fax (954)760-7795  
e-mail at  
laudron@aol.com

Editor:  
Roy Sass  
PO Box 31054  
Walnut Creek, CA 94598,  
e-mail at  
roywcca@ccnet.com

## Cross Border Cover

the franking the rate either direct from Canada or from Canada via closed mail through either New York or Boston was the same. Closed mails can be excluded due to the presence of the Boston Exchange office red h/s. As there are no Canadian cancellations or transit marks I would be prepared to say that is very unlikely to have gone near a Canadian Post Office.

This leaves to my mind two alternatives: (1) the writer went to Boston himself and upon presenting the letter at the Post Office was informed that U.S. stamps would be required, or (2) the letter was carried by favour to Boston to expedite its delivery having missed a Quebec or Montreal sailing. Again when presented at the U.S. Post Office, U.S. stamps were requested before acceptance. I agree that Christie's description and rationale for double rate are totally wrong.

From John Hillson:

I suggest we look at Robson Lowe's Encyclopedia Volume V. "On page 401 you will see two covers that used to belong to the late Matthew Carstairs. Both posted from Yarmouth NS in the '90's, they bear a 3c SQ and a 5c US stamp. The Canadian stamp is post-marked Yarmouth and the US at a slightly later date in Boston, both for onward transmission to Liverpool, England. Lowe comments, 'The writer knew that letters franked with US stamps could catch a packet that the Canadian mail would miss and he was clever enough to acquire US 5 cent stamps.'"

Mr. Hillson continues, "From the franking I assume the illustrated cover is pre-1875 and the Canadian left hand stamp has been canceled by the Boston (?) hand stamp. If so, the fact that there are no Canadian postmarks would indicate the cover did not go through the Canadian mail system and the probable explanation is that originally intended to be posted in Canada, it wasn't mailed until the sender, having already stuck the Canadian stamps on the envelope, sent it off in the States and had to put US stamps on it to avoid postage due."

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How can the 3 cent Small queen be separated and identified by shade and by location of printing?

Where is the position dot located?

Is there any information on fluorescence in the small queens?

No answers to the half-cent perf varieties were submitted. Please share your knowledge

## THE WANT ADS

WANTED:

Covers postmarked with a broken circle cancellation in PORT SEVERN (SUB) ONT, 1877-1900. Please send photocopy with asking price. Photocopies appreciated for reference if not for sale. Sue Sheffield, CPC 67039, Edmonton, AB T5R 5Y3 Canada

**So What's a Half-Cent Stamp Good For, Anyway?**

Guenter Jansen sends us a rather interesting Large Queen item. This is a folded advertising card/ unaddressed circular, franked with a half-cent Large Queen, perf 12, and mailed to all householders in Ingersoll, Ontario in 1881. The half-cent rate paid for delivery to all householders of cards weighing less than one ounce.

From the "Golden Fleece Clothing House", this flyer (early junk mail?) contains a list of merchandise available at the store.

The back of the card has a timetable for both the Great Western Railroad and the Credit Valley Railroad.

The card also has the hours of post office operation, from 8:00 am to 6:15 pm and on Saturday night from 8:00 to 9:00 o'clock.

**KNITTING DEPARTMENT,**

Ordered, and Custom Work done with Neatness and Despatch.

SOCKS and HOSIERY, an Immense Variety, all Colors, Styles and Prices. From Five pairs for 25 Cents up.

Silk Handkerchiefs, Ties, Collars, Cuffs, &c.

WATERHOUSE & BRADBURY.

---

**GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.**

TIME TABLE.

GOING WEST.		GOING EAST.	
Chicago Ex.	4.54 a.m.	Mall	6.30 a.m.
Accommodation	11.30 a.m.	Atlantic Ex.	9.19 p.m.
Morning Ex.	1.18 p.m.	Day Ex.	4.26 p.m.
Pacific Ex.	6.05 p.m.	Detroit Ex.	6.23 p.m.
Mall	7.39 p.m.	New York Ex.	11.56 p.m.
Steamboat Ex.	2.04 a.m.		

---

**CREDIT VALLEY RAILWAY.**

TIME TABLE.

DEPART.		ARRIVE.	
Ingersoll Express	6.70 a.m.		
Mixed, for Galt and Intermediate Stations	7.40 p.m.		
	8.00 p.m.		
Ingersoll Express	1.05 p.m.		
	8.35 p.m.		

Trains daily, Sundays excepted.

---

**POST OFFICE HOURS.**

From 8.00 a. m. to 6.15 p. m., and on Saturday night, from 8.00 to 9.00 o'clock.

1881



THE  
**GOLDEN FLEECE**  
NEW

**CLOTHING HOUSE**

INGERSOLL, ONT.

West Side Thames Street.

---

**ORDERED CLOTHING A SPECIALTY.**

Got up to fit and wear, combined with elegance of style and finish.

**CUTTER, - MR. J. A. GLASS,**  
*(Late of Toronto)*

---

None but **FIRST-CLASS WORKHANDS** EMPLOYED.

**A SURE FIT GUARANTEED.**

BACK OF CARD.

FOLD

FACE OF CARD

**Ready-Made Clothing**

A LEADING FEATURE OF THE HOUSE.

IMMENSE ASSORTMENT OF

**Overalls & Smocks,**

Well-Made, in All Sizes and Prices.

A SPLENDID RANGE OF

**WHITE SHIRTS**

Also, Colored Oxford and Regatta Shirts, with Collars attached and separate.

*Some Great Drives in Underclothing*

The above lines are kept constantly well-assorted and are also **MADE UP TO ORDER,** to Fit, or they need not be taken.

**HATS**

In Felt, Fur and Plain and Fancy Colored Straws. Also, Caps.

**A NEW DEPARTURE.**

AN OCCASION FOR

**HEADS OF FAMILIES**

TO REJOICE AND WELCOME.

WHERE

**COTTON STAPLES**

Are made a Specialty, and Sold at **BOTTOM PRICES.**

GREY COTTONS.	PRINTS.
BLEACHED COTTONS.	DENIMS.
TICKINGS.	DUCKS.
SHEETINGS.	COTTONADES.
HESSIANS.	BROWN HOLLANDS
SHIRTINGS.	TOWELLINGS.

A BEAUTIFUL LINE IN

Fancy Oxford and Regatta Shirts.

FOLD.

INSIDE OF FOLDED CARD

## Editor's Column

Roy Sass

I want to echo Ron's appreciation for the responses we have received on the reactivation of the Study Group. Several members have sent in articles and photocopies of stamps and covers for inclusion in the Newsletter.

We have received several answers to the Mystery Cover and all agree that the cover was not mailed in Canada. Guenter Jansen believes that the envelope, if mailed in Canada, would not have needed US postage, even if it had gone to New York and then on to England.

Is there anyone out there who believes it was mailed in Canada and is a true Cross-Border cover?

In the responses to our questions on what we should try to do with the Study Group and the Newsletter, several members pointed out the problems we would have with Canadian GST if we tried to organize a trading circuit. This idea may have to be put on hold. Also not getting much support was the idea for expertization. As one pointed out, how valuable would a Study Group Certificate be? For expertizing, check out the company in Florida that Ron mentions.

Most responses were favorable to the idea of Want Ads. For the time being, let's

put these in for FREE (such a deal for your \$5 membership).

This newsletter again is being mailed to some 80+ collectors of Large and Small Queens. It will be the last general mailing. If you want to be a part of the Study Group and to continue to receive the newsletters, please send in your Membership responses and dues. For simplicity, and since I have to buy all the postage, all questionnaire responses to Newsletter #1 and all membership dues of US\$5 (or C\$7 cash) should be sent to my attention at PO Box 31054, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.

### 6 Cent perf variety

John Hillson on page 65 in his book "The Small Queens of Canada" (2nd Revised Ed.) mentions the item pictured here. In discussing the perfs of the 1872 Six Cent value he states, "The stamp exists perf 12x11 1/2, which is supposed to be the first use of the 11 1/2 gauge perforating head. It is exceedingly scarce and, as far as the writer is aware, is not known on any other value in the series."

My question is; Why is this item not in the catalogue? Does anybody else have a copy? I would be happy to buy it for, say, \$50.00

L. Krucynski  
19 Petersfield Place  
Winnipeg, MB R3T 3V5





## Why Exhibit?

- Do you like to meet with other collectors to discuss collecting and other common interests?
- Will your collection add to the body of philatelic knowledge?
- Have you exhibited before and found it personally rewarding?
- Have you built a collection over the years that you find interesting?
- Would you like to share your pleasure with other collectors?
- Are you interested in learning more about your area of interest and expertise?
- Do you consider yourself a philatelist?

If you answer *yes* to even one of these questions, you should consider sharing your knowledge and your collection with other philatelists by preparing an exhibit of your material. Whatever your motivation, the experience of preparing an exhibit of your material can be exhilarating and personally rewarding.

As you design the exhibit, you will:

1. Discuss exhibiting with other exhibitors and judges and read articles on preparing exhibits. Take a course if one is available. Standards are changing continually.
2. Decide what story you want to tell and what should be included in your title page. A good exhibit tells a story, from beginning to end and lets the viewer know on the first page what to expect. The title page is *very* important.
3. Select only the top quality material that fits the story. A good exhibit excludes material you have, but does not contribute to the story. In other words, do *not* include it simply because you have it.
4. Establish the organization of your material. Viewers and judges will give the exhibit short shrift if the structure appears confused or non-existent.
5. Determine how many 16 page frames you will prepare. Exhibits can be one frame or many frames.
6. Design your basic page layout, including headings, borders, page color, mounting method, etc.
7. Review your design with several experienced exhibitors and judges after you decide what you wish to exhibit and how. Consider their constructive suggestions and revise your concept.

-- Ron Ribler