

Confederation

The Newsletter of the Large and Small Queens Study Group

Number 3

May, 1997

More on the Six Cent Small Queen Perf. 12x11 1/2

John Hillson

At the time I wrote my book, mentioned by Len Krucynski in the last newsletter, I had overlooked an old article in "Maple Leaves" written by the late George Searles. He is credited with discovering the variety which he describes on a cover where there are two copies.

Members of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain were reminded of this in my recent article in the Jubilee Issue of the Society's journal and can skip the rest of this, as the following appears there.

About a year after the book was published, I visited Stampex in London and passing the stand of the pipe smoking gentleman who operates from Los Angeles, asked if he had any Small Queens. 'Yes' says he, 'the 6c perf 12x11.5.' 'How much?' I inquired. 'Three thousand pounds' was the reply.

I thought that was just a wee bit steep so muttering that I would probably come across one I left. No doubt the dealer thought he had just escaped from another limey nut.

Here is a photocopy of the cover that I did come across at a CPS convention a year ago - brought over by a North American Dealer who



11.87x11.6

knew I was particularly interested in the 6 Cents.

Neither he nor I realized what it was until I got it home and checked it out on a 45 year old Instanta, which is as accurate as a Kiusalas and a heck of a lot more versatile. As a result, Gibbons does now catalog it (SG 66b). It cost me all of C\$45, or £20, which is the sort of price Mr. Krucynski wants to pay.

While Gibbons doesn't price it, I must confess it is insured for a little more than I paid for it! As far as I know, there are just two covers and two off covers singles known. It is quite worthwhile looking out for.

(Editor's note....

If anyone has one, let me know and I'll share the new info.)

Small Queen Cover Fits More Than One Collection

John Burnett

During the 19th Century in Canada, Louis Riel became a leader in a rebellion in and around Winnipeg (Fort Gary), fighting for aboriginal rights. His first revolt during 1875 was put down by an army made up of some regular soldiers and some armed militia. Riel had his wrist slapped and was told to disappear.

Ten years later, he raised a second ruckus in Assinaboinia (an area in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the Northwest territories). This time only an armed militia was sent out from Ontario. After a number of

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The Three Cent Shade and Printing Problem.

Bill Burden

There has been a lot of information written about the three cent small queen and how to 'classify' it. It is my opinion that reading everything you can find is good, but it cannot replace actual hands on experience (or maybe practise, might be a better word.)

Look at lots of stamps. (You can surely find someone with an accumulation that they have finished with.) I always recommend a calendar collection of dated copies. One copy a year is a good start, one a month is better. By the time you are looking for one a day, you are hooked and will have lots of material to 'study'.

If dated copies of the early shades are beyond your budget, a knowledgeable collector or (knowledgeable) dealer (beware of 37b's with squared circle cancels) should be able to help with a good undated copy for which the printing period is quite certain.

As to printing periods:

The second Ottawa is generally quite easy...lots of dated copies are available and quite inexpensive.

The Montreal is a bit more difficult, but the paper is usually much better than the second Ottawa...and a few dated copies will give you an idea of the usual shade range.

The Montreal and Ottawa (1st Ottawa) period is the most interesting (confusing) and the most expensive. Very good paper is the rule. I wouldn't try to deter-

mining the actual venue...just whether it is 1st Ottawa or not. Since this period contains only the Indian - Copper Reds and the Rose shades, once you have a few paper and shade references, you should be in good shape.

The only real problem will be differentiating some of the rose shades of 1871-2 with the rose carmine shades of late 1888-89. Perforation measurements should help here...generally over 12 is 41a under 12 is 37a (you will have to be accurate to at least the tenth.)

Errors and Corrections

In the last newsletter, we erred in the address for the Canadian Philatelic Expertization Services, giving the wrong suite number. The correct address is 1720 Harrison Street, Suite 1815, Hollywood, FL 33020.

Business Report

Since the reactivation of the study group, we have received dues in the amount of \$210.

Postage for the first mailing was \$43.93

Postage for the second mailing was 47.96.

Envelopes cost \$3.21

The balance in our treasury is US\$114.90.

Chairman's Column

Ron Ribler

KEEP THOSE CARDS AND LETTERS COMING! Your reactions to the first two newsletters are gratifying. Let's all keep encouraging Roy to keep up the good work.

In response to the questionnaires, most of you want to have advertising, trading and sales, but not expertization by the study group. For now, Roy is accepting ads from members as space permits at no charge. Trading and sales may be difficult because of Canadian customs restrictions and taxes.

One effective way to effect trades as well as sales might be to have a column where buyers and sellers can list their material briefly and follow up individually. That approach keeps the administration simple and members can get to know each other better by dealing directly with each other.

As far as expertization goes, we have many very knowledgeable members and I am sure many if not all of them will be happy to answer questions and give informal opinions - not to be considered as official or definitive. That is what the V. Greene, Canadian Philatelic Expertizing Service and other formal expertizing groups are for. They will issue certificates. Our members will not.

Several members have submitted articles for publication in our newsletter. We welcome, and indeed, seek more input. Keep them coming. If necessary, we will enlarge the newsletter to

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My Favorite Cover

Jack Forbes, Jr.

On April 1, 1868, Canada established a Parcel Post rate of 12 1/2 cents per 8 ounces, with a limit of 3 pounds per parcel. This rate was in effect until September, 1879, when it was changed to 6 cents per 4 ounces.

This cover shows a block of 4 of the 3 cent light rose Small Queen (Montreal 1871 perf 12) and one 1/2 cent Large Queen to pay the Parcel Post rate for up to 8 ounces.

The front is from mail sent from Toronto, Ont. December 3, 1872 to Coburg, Ont. This might appear as a classic case of mixed franking, combining SQ and LQ usage, however it should be noted that the LQ 1/2 cent was the only one currently available at the time. The SQ 1/2 cent did not appear until 1882. To locate this rate usage in combination with a block is most unusual.

WANT ADS

THREE CENT SMALL QUEEN ITEMS WANTED:

- Combination 15¢ Large Queen and 3¢ Small Queen cover.
- Margin Inscription multiples.
- Precancels on and off cover except types R, S, & T off cover.
- Perfins on and off cover except WJG off cover.
- Covers to and from Newfoundland paying 5 cent rate.
- Covers to Asia (except India) and South/Central America.
- Paquebot covers.
- Cover from St. Pierre & Miquelon.
- Trial color proofs.
- Combination items with 20¢ and 50¢ Widow Weeds.
- Overprints - on and off cover.
- Any unusual postal history items.

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By Parcel Post.



*John C. Field, Esq.,
Merchant,
Cobourg.*

*Richard Duce
& Volney Smith
James White*



Editors Column

Roy Sass

When I read the article on the Cross-border cover that was discussed in the first newsletter, (a cover addressed to England with 6c Canadian postage and 6c US postage, cancelled only in Boston, and supposedly an example of early mixed franking, which Christies auctioned for \$5980) the trouble-maker in me wanted to see if the same thing were possible today. I notified a pen-pal in Australia what I was doing and then I mailed the illustrated envelope to him. I put 90 cents Canadian postage and 60 cents US postage on the envelope and dropped it in the local mailbox.

You can see that it received an Oakland postmark and it was delivered in Australia a few days later.

This envelope has certain similarities to the

Cross-border cover. It has the correct postage from both countries. It was canceled only in the United States. It has no return address to indicate whether it actually began in Canada or in California.

One could say it was mailed in Vancouver, B.C., came to the Oakland airport mail facility without a cancellation, an Oakland postmark was added, and it went on its way on a jet to Oz. One would be wrong, of course.

One could also say a Vancouver resident was writing to a friend in Australia. He intended to post the letter in Vancouver before flying down to Oakland for a business trip. Seeing the letter in his briefcase upon arrival in Oakland, he purchased a US stamp, affixed it, and sent the envelope on its way. Again, one would be wrong.

The fallacy here is that the highly mechanized modern postal system paid

no attention to the Canadian stamps on the envelope. The US stamp triggered the automatic canceling machine and a clerk routed the envelope to the Australia-bound plane.

It proves nothing, but I now have a cover with dual postage and one cancellation, similar to the old one. My friend tried mailing a cover to me with Australian and New Zealand postage. Australia Post returned it to him as unmailable.

Changing subjects, I am mailing this newsletter just prior to Pacific '97. I am planning to attend for several days to see what damage I can do to my wallet while filling spaces in my Large Queen collection. BNAPS will share a table at the show and I will have copies of all three newsletters for prospective members to pick up. With a little luck, perhaps we can entice some more to join us.



Keith Little

NSW 2528

.....Australia

Chairman's Column

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accommodate them. Roy and I thank you in advance for sending us material. In an effort to keep costs down (and dues), if you want acknowledgment of receipt or a proof of the edited copy, please enclose a SASE with your input.

We welcome input via e-mail and will acknowledge receipt immediately at no additional cost. Above all, we want the study group to belong to the members and we want to be responsive to your needs and desires.

I am still offering color copies of the three cents Small Queen printings for US\$4.00 - my cost.

The next newsletter may be after Pacific 97 in San Francisco. Roy and I will both be there for at least part of the time and we look forward to meeting other members who may be there. We will look for you at the BNAPS table. Bring your problems, questions, and answers to share.

For those of you using e-mail - congratulations and keep it up. To those not on the Net, maybe the time has come. It can open doors you didn't even know existed - around the world.

Until next time, stay in touch.

How To Reach Us

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An Unusual Example

For those who did not see the Firby catalog of the S. J. Menich Large Queen collection, I thought this 6c stamp was quite interesting.

Quoting from the catalog description, "6c Yellow Brown PARTIAL DOUBLE PRINT, perf 11.9x11.9, Plate I, Paper 10, Plate Posn 95. The magnificent example tied by Aylmer starburst fancy cork to piece with Aylmer, Que split ring hs. The double print is created when a second or partial & totally accidental entry is made over the top of an existing entry (also called a *Dropped Entry*.) Of the entire LQ issue this is the only reported Dropped Entry.

"There are only 4 recorded copies, this easily being the finest. The first (DP1) is recorded on cover from Aylmer (Dec 9, 1871) & was offered as part of the Firth sale (J.N.. Sissons, Nov 17, 1971 Lot #196). The second example (DP2) is a single stamp Ex: Ferrari & sold in the Dale-Lichtenstein sale #7 (Harmer, Jan. 1970 Lot #1295). The third example (DP3) a faulty copy, sold in the Dale-Lichtenstein sale (Harmer, Oct 1950 Lot #829).

"This double print is the most dramatic of the 4 showing clear doubling of virtually the entire R side including the Queen's face, postage, the R scroll work, the R 6 & ENTS. A remarkable, eye appealing gem worthy of placement in the finest Large Queen collection."



Shown at 155% magnification

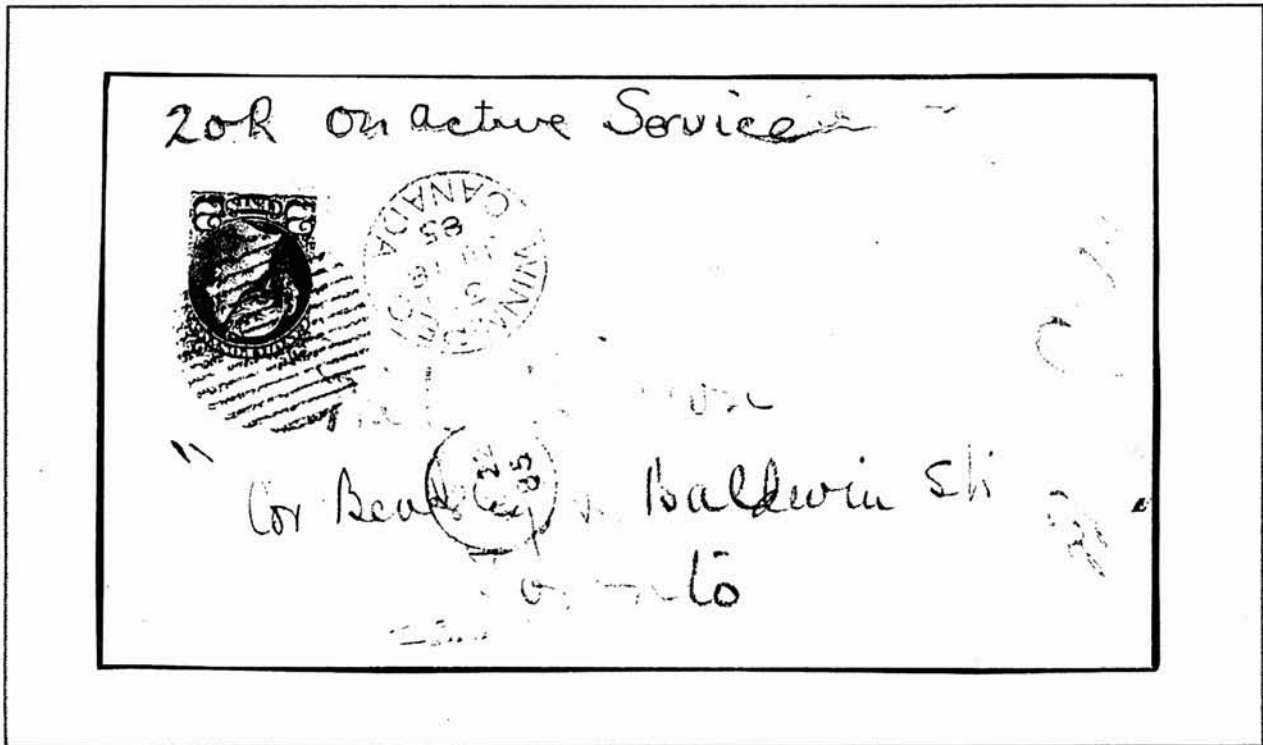
WANT ADS

Wanted: an 8 cent Small Queen in **grey**. What I seek can best be described as very light black, with no blue, violet or green overtones. Please let me know if you have one to sell or trade.

Roy Sass

Wanted: Used blocks of 8c Small Queens and mint and used blocks of the 10c SQ, early printings. Kindly forwards photocopies with asking price. Jack Forbes Jr., PO Box 2010, Dartmouth NS Canada B2W 3X8.





SQ Cover in Many Collections

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embarrassing hostage situations, Riel was captured and executed.

The illustrated 2 cent SQ cover is a little ratty and torn at the top. It was sent from Winnipeg on June 18, 1885. A 2 cent cover in this condition would normally command a price of about \$5. I paid significantly more than that. Let me tell you why.

To understand the importance of this cover, we have to look back in postal history to 1795 when a special postal rate for soldiers and sailors was set up by an act of the British Parliament, granting all enlisted personnel a 1d

postage rate. This act was rewritten in Canada's postal regulations in 1865, granting enlisted men on active service a 2 cents per ounce postage rate.

The restrictions included 2 cents postage per ounce prepaid, and certification by the commanding officer or his designated representative that the sender was an enlisted man and was on active duty.

This cover was mailed by a member of the Ontario militia during the second Louis Riel led rebellion. The cover has written across the top "QOR On Active Service." The "QOR" means Queen's Own Rifles or Queen's Own regiment. On the right written vertically is the signature of A.A. Mallor., Lt. Col., the Commanding Officer of the militia. This is the certifica-

tion of the sender being on active service. There are only 24 soldier's rate covers from the Small Queens era known to exist, making this a very important piece of Small Queen postal history.

This cover can be a very nice addition to a Small Queen collection, or be a very important part of Canadian military postal history. Further, it is canceled at Winnipeg with a very nice duplex cancellation and thus will also fit very nicely into a duplex cancel collection.

I find it very gratifying that one cover or stamp can be used to supplement my many collections. This is especially true to those of us who enjoy exhibiting. It's kind of neat to show a really important piece of military postal history in a cancellation collection.