

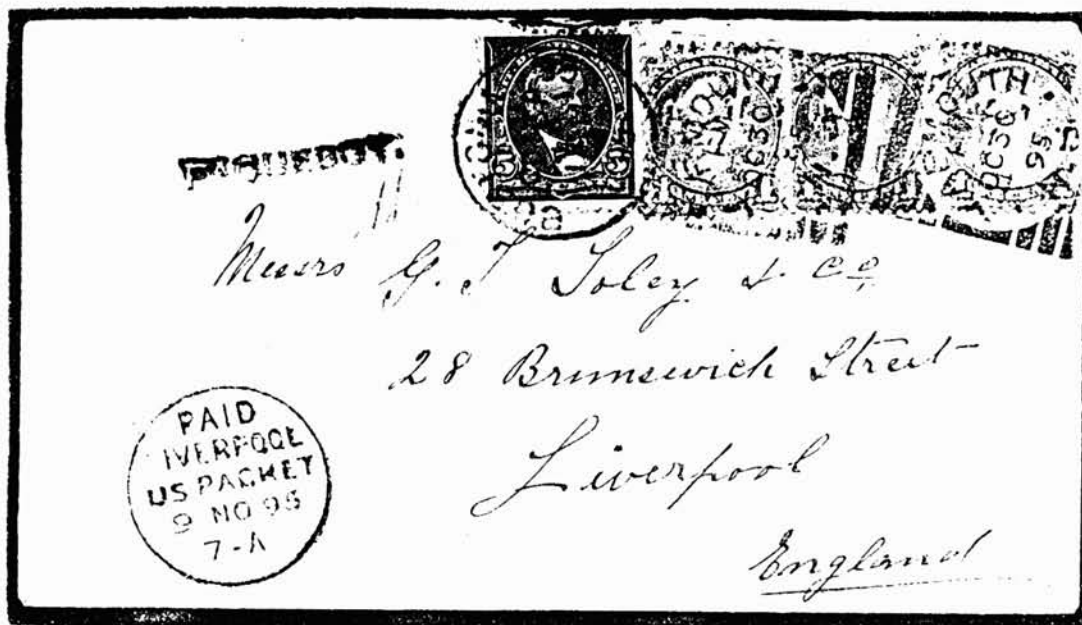
Confederation

The Newsletter of the Large and Small Queens Study Group

Number 5

November 1997

Mixed Franking on Overseas Covers



The Six-cent Column

from John Hillson

SO CONTROVERSY IS created by Mr. Hasid of the Canadian Philatelic Expertization Service, having presumably seen the copy condemned by John Jamieson as a fake, by opining that a genuine copy probably does not exist as he has never seen one. Well, it is scarce.

First, John Jamieson is absolutely right, though I confess when it was illustrated in the March issue, I just thought to myself "that's funny" and went back to sleep. What struck me as odd was the top and bottom perf measurements. They are not right for the period when the
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More on the Mesh Papers

Ron Ribler

I received two letters in response to last issue's column about vertical mesh papers. John Hillson agreed that there are definite differences, but was not sure whether they qualified as printing or paper varieties, since it is possible the paper was rotated 90 degrees when inserted into the press. Both letters agreed that perhaps too little attention has been paid to the fact that vertical mesh stamps exist in significant numbers.

The second letter was from member Bob Turkowski who has spent years studying the mesh
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Mixed Franking Covers

This month we look at two covers from Canada sent to England, via the United States, with postage paid with stamps from both countries. Illustrated above is a cover from 1895 from Yarmouth, N.S., via Boston, to Liverpool.

The three 1c SQ's have Yarmouth squared circle cancels, dated OC 30 95, which pay the postage from Canada to the United States. The U.S. to England transatlantic postage is paid by the 5c Grant which is dated Boston OC 31 11 AM 95. The Boston postmark also touches the left side of the left-most 1c SQ. It also has a Liverpool US Packet Paid marking of 9 NO 95 and a PAQUEBOT handstamp.
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Mixed Franking Covers

This brings up some interesting questions. If the letter was posted at sea, as evidenced by the PAQUEBOT marking, how did it get the Yarmouth and Boston postmarks? If it entered the postal system in Nova Scotia, and went via Boston, why was the PAQUEBOT marking added?

The US stamp does not appear to be touched by the Nova Scotia postmark. Was it affixed to the letter in Yarmouth, in Boston, or at sea?

Posted twenty-three years earlier is an 1872 Wells, Fargo and Co. cover. The oval mark shows the letter originated in Canada, which means the US stamp was applied in Canada to pay the postage all the way to England, which was the usual practice at the time.

This cover would look nice in an SQ exhibit, or a transatlantic exhibit, or a Wells Fargo exhibit.

Chairman's Column: It's Time to Exhibit!

Ron Ribler

We have been to two more shows since last time, where I had a booth and also exhibited my three cent Small Queens. At Stamp Show in Milwaukee, I got my usual vermeil but after obtaining the budget-busting complete left pane from Maresch's recent auction, the tide turned and I received my first gold in a National APS show in Athens, GA.

The collection has been building for more than 20 years and, even though I had not achieved gold before at this level, it has been the most personally rewarding philatelic experience ever.

I am reporting this not only to brag a little about achieving a long sought-after goal, but to encourage you to look into your own collections to find things to share with other collectors through exhibiting. Awards are nice, but the true joy of exhibiting is defining your collection and then finding and select-

ing the material to complete it - and learning.

Build your exhibit to satisfy yourself and become expert in the material. Study the rules for exhibiting and articles and books that are available to help you design and build your presentation. Over the years, I have remounted and reorganized my exhibit countless times, while constantly adding and upgrading material. Even after 20 years, I can identify items that I do not have and want to add to the collection.

Given enough time, the collection will include those elusive overprints and trail color proofs in green and brown and black and a few other pieces still not found. In our area of Large and Small Queens, collection is never complete, but showing what we have can be very rewarding, even if it is completely different the next time we show it.

We need more BNAPSers to exhibit. At most shows, mine is the only

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The Six Cent Column

stamp was produced.

The variety was first reported in the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain's magazine *Maple Leaves* in the issue of June, 1965, in an article by the late George Searles on compulsory registration. He illustrated his article with the front and reverse of a cover in his possession graced by two single 6c, which he points out are unusual in that the perfs measure 12 x 11.5. The cover is dated June 26, 1873.

He goes on to say that in the 1930's when Small Queens were easy to obtain in bulk, and after going through many thousands he found only one copy with the freak perforation, then subsequently "many years later" another. I think this was the second one that Sir George Williamson acquired for his collection and which was subsequently sold by Cavendish in the 15th May, 1971 sale, Lot 341 described "6c The extremely rare perf variety perf 12 x 11.5, fine used. Relevant correspondence included." I think it sold for about £50.

A couple of years ago at a CPS convention, I was lucky enough to acquire the cover illustrated in the May issue, dated April 23, 1873. As you can see from the illustration in that issue the stamp is well tied, it is also centered. In fact, all four examples I have seen have at least clear margins all around. I very much doubt that a faker was at work early in 1873. (Anybody is welcome to come over to Scotland and examine this cover themselves.)

The other thing they all have in common is the perforations - not 12 x 11.5, but the reverse of what was the norm early in 1873 printings, and as Small Queens enthusiasts you will all know what that was; I have no intention of passing on that information to those gentlemen who seem to be so handy with spare perforators these days.

from Richard P. Thompson

I think that the stamp is probably genuine. It could well have been that after horizontally perforating (that is the top and bottom) all the sheets of an order 11.9, and the perforating vertically most of that printing order, the 11.9 machine became unusable and the 11.6 machine was used to vertically perforate the remaining sheets. This would account for the scarcity of the 11.9x11.6 variety. The stamp in question has decent margins all around and Jamieson's observations on the alignment of the perforation holes on the left side do not automatically mean "Reperf." The perforating machines used by the BABN Co. at the time were rotary machines and some misalignment is to be expected.

Mesh Papers

alignment on the Small Queens. Here are Mr. Turkowski's findings:

- The earliest printings (through mid-1871) may be exclusively horizontal wove.
- From early to mid-1871 into 1872, vertical wove seems to predominate. The deepest and most unusual variants of rose shades appear to be always vertical wove.
- After the rose shades, until the perf. 11 1/2 x 12, horizontal wove predominates.
- One-third or more of the perf. 11 1/2 x 12s are vertical wove.
- After the perf. 11 1/2 x 12s, for the remainder of the Montreal printing about ten per cent are vertical wove.
- The rose carmine shades (Scott 41a) are almost all vertical wove, with 5-10 per cent horizontal wove.

Mr. Turkowski suggests also that there may be differences in the meshes, per se. Some appear to have longer segments than others. The input from Mr. Turkowski is the most definitive analysis of the mesh orientation I have seen. I plan to pursue this issue and try to get more information from you members before asking the catalogers to add the variety to their lists. If anyone has information, data, or opinions that will help shed more light on this subject, please let me know. This could be a wonderful winter project for you northerners who might be snowed in. Happy hunting!

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Roy Sass

The discussion of the 6c perf variety continues to be very active. Since I am a novice on the LQ's and SQ's, I am learning something as the cards and letters come in. In one letter, Dr. J. Frank of Johannesburg, South Africa mentions that he saw the cover but could not agree on a price with the dealer. Dr. Frank said that the stamp does not appear to be reperfed.

In a prior issue we looked at the 2c soldier's rate cover from the Riel Rebellion. Dr. Frank mentions that he saw a cover in Bill Simpson's 1980 London Exhibition with a 3c rate from an officer (a chaplain). He also has a cover from "Lt. Col. Forrest/ Paymaster to the Forces" with a 3c SQ and a 2c registration stamp. Two cents for the enlisted man and three cents for the officers seems fair to me.

The two mixed franking covers illustrated in this issue also were submitted by Dr. Frank.

QUESTIONS From Members

1) Dr. Frank asks about the 6c SQ major re-entry in "Canada Postage". He has this both in perf 12 and also perf 11 1/2 x 12, for which he has found no reference to the latter anywhere. Is there a record of this variety?

2) John Burnett asks: Illustrated below is a parcel post wrapper to France. This is the only international parcel post wrapper I have seen to date. Does any member have any others? I would like to do a census of these wrappers as I believe they may be quite scarce.

This wrapper contains 28 cents in postage, an 8c SQ and a 20c Widow Weeds. Any information on other material going overseas will be appreciated. I will let the membership know the results when I have them compiled.

John Burnett, 757 E Parkwood St., Sidney, Ohio 45365.

3) Steven Perch of Allentown PA has asked about "Hicks Plate Varieties of the 3-cent Small Queen"

He has acquired a group of plate varieties of the 3-cent Small Queen (Montreal printings, Scott #37), many of which are annotated "Hicks - A, B, C, etc."

He is unfamiliar with the Hicks classification scheme, but it appears to have originated from George Hicks of Lisowell, Ontario (See BNA Topics, March, 1965). Any comments or information on this matter from our readers would be greatly appreciated.

Correction

In the last newsletter, in the article on the Kiusalas perf gauge, the bottom number in the third column of the chart should read "11.58" and not 12.58.

*POP Montaubans
me des augustes*

W. P.C.

*M. Charles Janson
rec - d ambassade
Matede Choua
la neapelise
tam et arone France*



Treaty Rate to the USA

John Burnett

In 1868, there was a very specific postal order which set the rates from Canada to the USA. If the postage was prepaid, it was set at the sum of the rates for both countries, or 6 cents per half ounce.

Since there was no requirement that postage be prepaid, a rate of 10 cents per half ounce was set for non-prepaid mail. Letters sent short paid were treated as if there were no postage

and no credit was given for any postage applied.

Illustrated is a cover mailed at Brantford, Ontario on August 27, 1873 which is franked with a 3 cent SQ. The cover also carries the marking "CANADA 10 cts" stamped in black, meaning 10 cents postage due. The 3 cent SQ had been ignored and the cover forwarded as if it were an unpaid letter.

On a domestic letter in Canada, credit would have been given for the postage attached. However, in an attempt to force people to use stamps on mail to the USA, this credit was not given.

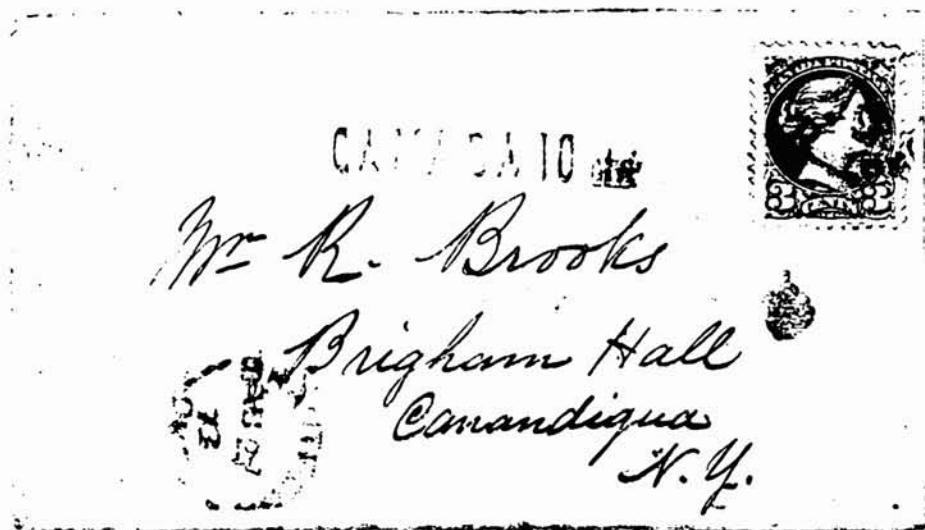
Chairman's Column

exhibit of Canadian material. At Milwaukee, the spectacular Brigham exhibit of the Pence Issues won the Grand award, and the Cameo issue won a silver at the Athens show. Most of you collect other than the Queens. Please consider exhibiting!

I am a certified APS judge and offer any assistance I might be able to render to anyone wanting help. The new one page exhibits offer one way to enter into exhibiting and you might want to look into that. Contact Ken Martin at APS for the latest rules regarding those exhibits. I will continue to beg, cajole, and otherwise try to get our membership to consider exhibiting so please make my task easier by picking up the ball and scoring. If you will let us know when you exhibit, even in local shows, we will publish the item. You will be surprised to learn how your exhibiting affects others who share your interests.

Until next time,

THINK EXHIBIT!



Letter Rates to the United States

Effective Date	Rate
1864	10 cents per half ounce
April 1, 1868	6 cents per half ounce if prepaid 10 cents per half ounce if not prepaid
February 1, 1875	3 cents per half ounce prepayment mandatory
May 8, 1889	3 cents per ounce
January 1, 1899	2 cents per ounce

Business Report

Our prior balance was US\$114.90.
We have received dues of \$60.00
Postage for the third newsletter was \$25.80
Postage for the fourth newsletter was \$34.07
Postage to prospective members was \$3.09
Envelopes cost \$3.24

Our balance prior to this newsletter is \$108.60.

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