

Confederation

The Newsletter of the BNAPS Large and Small Queens Study Group

Number 31

March 2007

Two-Ring Numeral Cancels on Large Queens – Updated 2006 Census

Wayne Smith

This article includes my current census of 2-ring cancels on Large Queens. I have added additional commentary of my observations in order to help readers to get a better understanding of this part of postal history. The census continues to be updated.

Few collectors contribute what they have in their holdings so such a census can never be definitive. I continue to add quite a few each year and assume this will continue. This list is probably best used as a guide to help compare the relative rarity of covers and of strikes on various values.

Off-Cover Large Queens

Regarding off-cover Large Queens, I try to be as accurate as possible but without a picture of every stamp it is very likely some stamps have been counted twice. I usually don't count dealer stock that I have seen (counted) within the last few years, unless the dealer indicates stock is new. I also avoid counting stock in so-called auctions where dealers offer their retail stock over and over until someone offers to pay a hidden minimum. I only count rare items if I have seen them in person or have seen a good picture of them, as many rare numbers offered are just wishful guessing of poor strikes or misidentified 4-ring numeral cancels.

Additional notes:

- Occasionally 1859 decimal issue stamps are observed with a 2-ring numeral cancel, indicating a late usage. Off-cover stamps have been recorded with 2R1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 18, 21, 27, 29, 40, 45, 48, 53, and 56.
- I have seen off cover a questionable half cent with a 2R13 in blue and a questionable 2R37 on a 12.5 cent. These are not counted.

Large Queens On-Cover

In the column 'Early Date Seen' I have either "yes" or "no". A "yes" indicates that I have seen the cover in person or I have seen a photo of the cover. A "no" indicates a date provided by the Duckworths' reference work "Large Queen Stamps of Canada and

Their Use 1868 – 1872". Assuming the Duckworths' dates are correct, then there will be at least one cover to add to the total known.

Despite the two-ring numeral cancels being issued around late March 1869, some numbers are more common on the later Small Queen issue. This is especially noticeable on the 2R19 and 2R50 which are rare on LQ but relatively common on SQ. There are probably several reasons this happened, possible explanations being:

1. The postmaster in 1869 kept the hammer only for special usage until the main hammer became worn or damaged, or was lost, in the SQ period.
2. A new postmaster started and used the prior seldom-used 2-ring hammer;
3. Some larger correspondences were saved that only had SQ examples and these are now what we see.

All it takes sometimes is one correspondence in the market place to make a major difference, as evidenced by my notes on the 2R60 below.

Some notes on Large Queen covers:

- 2R1 - All but two are one cent yellow circulars. There are many, many more out there. I have over a thousand auction catalogues in my library. Throughout much of the twentieth century, auction firms gave poor descriptions of these covers (e.g. #23 on V.F. circular, est. \$xxx). This has not allowed me to count as many as I would like, conversely other covers generally had a date and/or destination in the description which allowed them to be added to the census.
- 2R9 - Nine of the covers are from the Miss Hartwell correspondence to England. The 2R9 hammer was mutilated to make some of the fancy 9 cancels prior to the SQ being issued so a full set of these cancels is not possible on the SQ issue, despite what I have seen offered a couple of times.
- 2R16 - only 2 of the covers have a readable 2R16. The rest have a partial 2-ring and the correct CDS cancel.
- 2R18 – The earliest date is most of a front only.

Confederation

The Newsletter of the BNAPS Large and Small Queens Study Group

Number 31

March 2007

- 2R32 - The cover listed as green has been sold as blue but it seemed more greenish blue to me so I listed it separately.
- 2R37 - Mostly poor strikes.
- 2R40 - One of the 2 known is only a front.
- 2R42 - Only known cover is an example with a Small Queen stamp.
- 2R48 - All are light strikes.
- 2R52 - All are to the US.
- 2R53 - One of the 2 known is only a front.
- 2R54 - 21 of the covers are to Jesse Hoyt, most with a 2c LQ and a 3c SQ, including five with the rare 12.5 X 12.5 perforation.
- 2R57 - Both are to the US.
- 2R60 - All are 3-cent usage - 9 to Barrie, 1 to Tilsonburg and 1 pair to US.

Some additional notes:

- 2-ring cancels seen on stampless covers used to obliterate a previously applied rating include 2R 1, 3, 26, 28, and 40.
- Only 2-ring cancel seen on 1859 issue cover is a 2R12.
- I have seen a 2R24 cover noted as AP 2/69 but I believe correct date should be AP 24.
- 2R10 in blue exists on cover with a 6c SQ.

Adding to the note above for the 2R1 covers, some of the more common numbers are likely quite a bit more common than even the census suggests. Three-cent covers are quite often grouped together in auctions with little in the way of description. These groupings often have 2-ring covers such as 2R5 or 2R7.

"Special" Covers

While two-ring covers are collected mainly for the cancel, in some cases these cancels are found on covers that attract collectors with diverse interests as well. Some of the special covers I have seen include:

- 15c, 2R32, to Ireland via Lloyd Line.
- 12.5c imprint pair, 2R30, to Newfoundland with part back missing.
- 15c pair, 2R20 and 2R29, to India from Cobourg My 26/70. This has been sold with both strikes identified with 2R29. Many people feel the second strike is a 2R20,

although it does not make logical sense; this last sold for \$16,100 US.

- 6c, 2R26, to Victoria.
- 2c+6c+6c as well as 2c+2c+6c+6c, 2R13 (these are from the same correspondence), registered rates to Scotland.
- 15c pair, 2R11, as 10x domestic rate.
- 12.5c to Newfoundland, 2R11 and 2R28, two different covers.
- 6c block of 4, 2R11, as 8x domestic rate.
- 12.5 pair, 2R10, - 2 covers to Malta as well as a 12.5c with 2c pair.
- 6c block of 4 + 2c, 2R9, registered and 8x times domestic rate.
- 6c block of 4, 2R8 (1 of 2 covers known with a 2R8) to Red River (sold \$320 in 1968).
- 2c circular rate, 2R7, to Trinidad.
- 2c+6c+15c, 2R5, to Australia.
- 2c Nova Scotia +1c brown, 2R4.
- 3c(3), 1c yellow(3), 2R3, 4oz book post rate plus 8 cents registration to England.
- 6c(4)+1c SQ, 2R3, parcel post.
- 2c(2)+6c(2)+1c SQ, 2R3, to India.

Personally, my main collection is Large Queens with numeral cancels. These consist of 2-ring and 4-ring, NB and BC grids, unofficial fancies such as the 2, 8 and 9 series and other miscellany. I also collect numbers as well as foreign numerals on Large Queens. I record every cover I see. This is partly because I used to have a general LQ collection but it also helps me see trends in prices, to know types of cancels, rates and destinations available for comparative purposes. I am interested in information on any Large Queen covers so if anyone is willing to send me information on covers they have, I would appreciate very much. waynesmithtor@yahoo.ca

Further reading:

1. H. E. and H.W. Duckworth, "The Large Queen Stamps of Canada and Their Use 1868 - 1872, The Vincent Graves Greene Foundation Philatelic Research Foundation Handbook #3 1986, pp. 207 to 211.
2. Wayne Smith, "2 Ring Cancels On the Large Queen Issue", BNA Topics April-May-June 1994, pp. 26 to 35.

Confederation

The Newsletter of the BNAPS Large and Small Queens Study Group

Number 31

March 2007

Two-ring Numeral	1/2	1b	1y	2c	3c	5c	6c	12.5c	15c	Off Cover Total Seen	RF	Earliest Known Date of Cover	Early Date Seen	Total Covers Seen
1	7	7	372	111	80	1	24	45	40	687	2	AP16/69	no	63
<i>in red</i>					1					1				
2	9	11	158	36	187		31	44	21	497	2	MR27/69	yes	55
<i>in blue</i>					1					1				
3	50	12	183	214	169	11	137	44	90	910	1	AP7/69	yes	43
<i>in red</i>									2	2				
4	6	27	71	36	76		20	51	9	296	3	MR31/69	yes	19
5	15	9	258	58	345	1	57	62	53	858	1	AP5/69	no	62
<i>in red</i>	2			1						3				
<i>in blue</i>						1				1				
6	10	25	213	48	313	3	56	57	33	758	1	MR31/69	no	59
7	16	83	187	132	333	18	203	142	82	1196	1	AP1/69	yes	148
8	6	4	26	22	41	1	20	30	52	202	5	SP21/69	yes	2
9	2	15	45	9	139		12	62	21	305	3	MR24/69	yes	19
10	4	14	11	36	82	1	37	29	41	255	3	AP2/69	no	10
<i>in blue</i>	1							1		2				
11	1	10	82	24	138		58	25	29	367	2	AP3/69	yes	39
12	1	3	53	46	163	1	100	9	34	410	2	AP23/69	yes	28
13	1	7	65	77	187		103	5	15	460	1	MY22/69	no	16
<i>in blue</i>				2	2				1	5		AP19/69	yes	1
<i>in red</i>					1					1				
14		3	24	10	169		32	9	15	262	2	MY17/69	yes	10
15		2	45	31	76		56	6	5	221	2	OC28/69	no	20
16		3	3	1	22		4	7	2	42	8	JY10/69	yes	5
17		1	2		3		3	1		10	10			
18	1	3	4	20	33		60	11	8	140	3	OC31/69	yes	9
19		1		1	8		1	1	2	14	10	MR8/70	no	
20			1	1	8			1	3	14	10			
21		1	13	10	100	1	43	6	7	181	3	NO22/69	yes	6
22		2	14	2	21		1		1	41	9			
23		2	14	9	75		17	7	5	129	5	AP19/69	yes	13
24			3	9	70		13		1	96	4	AP6/69	yes	9
25		4	8	5	70		14	14	2	117	3	MY21/69	yes	12
26		1	2	8	40		12	2	2	67	5	MY29/69	yes	5
27		4	6	5	81	5	24	6	5	136	3	MY14/69	yes	18
28	2	1	21	9	43	1	14	3	4	98	5	AU2/69	yes	5
29	1	4	48	10	104		27	10	4	208	2	AU3/69	yes	9
30	1	3	9	10	44	2	14	4	12	99	7	AP8/69	yes	8
31		4	2		37		1	2	3	49	7	MY7/69	yes	4

Confederation

The Newsletter of the BNAPS Large and Small Queens Study Group

Number 31

March 2007

32		1	7	2	47	1	4	3	3	68	5	NO24/69	yes	5
<i>in blue</i>			4	4	47		1		4	60		AP16/69	no	10
<i>in green</i>					1					1		JY5/69	yes	1
33	1		10	3	29		15	4	3	65	5	AP1/69	yes	8
34		7	7	24	21		6	7	1	73	8	JU10/69	yes	4
35			8	6	95		11	6	5	131	2	MR29/69	yes	19
36	2		17	11	29	5	14	1	3	82	6	JY29/69	yes	2
37		1	3	8	12	4	3		5	36	8	JU16/69	yes	7
38	1		4	7	19	4	10	2		47	6	JU16/69	yes	11
39			14	2	36		6	2		60	6	AP23/69	yes	2
40	3	1	3	1	28	17	10	6	15	84	7	JU18/69	yes	2
41			14	6	77	2	30	11	9	149	3	AP23/69	no	8
42		1	2		8		2	2		15	9	MR26/70	SQ	
43		3	5	13	74	7	13	5		120	4	AP13/69	yes	23
44		1	6	6	58		3	6	1	81	4	AP23/69	yes	3
45	1	3	2	7	54		23	11	1	102	5	MY4/69	yes	6
46			9	8	49	1	8	3	6	84	5	AP23/69	yes	5
47	2		5	9	45		20	2		83	4	MY20/69	yes	9
48			9	6	37		13	3	1	69	6	JY29/69	yes	6
49		1	11	8	35		10	4	2	71	5	JU9/69	yes	8
50		1	2	2	8	1	3		1	18	10	OC 8/70	yes	1
51		3	30	2	75		4		6	120	4	MR29/69	no	1
52	2	3	7	10	110		10	4	3	149	4	AP7/69	yes	7
53	2		43	4	50		4	1	4	108	5	AP12/69	yes	2
54	2	7	13	17	129		14	7	7	196	3	MY15/69	no	34
55			18	5	55		6	6	4	94	5	AP16/69	yes	12
56			4	1	37	4		1	1	48	6	AP13/69	yes	4
57		5	2	2	41	1	5	3	3	62	6	AP16/70	yes	2
58	2		3	6	18	2	12	2	6	51	7	AP30/69	no	12
59		1	11	2	30	2	14	4	3	67	7	AU12/69	yes	3
60		1	5	4	40		4	10	5	69	5	AP5/69	yes	11
Total seen	154	306	2221	1179	4656	98	1472	812	706	11604				925
Diff seen	29	45	60	60	66	26	59	56	57	458				

Editor's Column

Glenn Archer

I am quickly gaining respect for Roy Sass and the fine work he has done in putting together the Confederation newsletter. I hope to continue the excellent standards already set, and perhaps bring some new faces to our study group while welcoming all the old friends of this newsletter to participate. I'll be brief here – space is hard to find for this issue, which I hope to always keep to eight pages.

Future newsletters will include more Small Queen material as your articles, write-ups etc. surface. This edition is a bit heavy on the Large Queens but we will achieve a good balance in time.

Wayne Smith's updated census runs us to page four already, but the work deserves publishing. One of the great joys of collecting is that there are exciting new discoveries turning up in our area of study all the time even after 140 years! You will see some of these soon here, I hope. Your articles, questions, beefs to the editor etc. are always welcome. (glennarcher@hotmail.com).

Confederation

The Newsletter of the BNAPS Large and Small Queens Study Group

Number 31

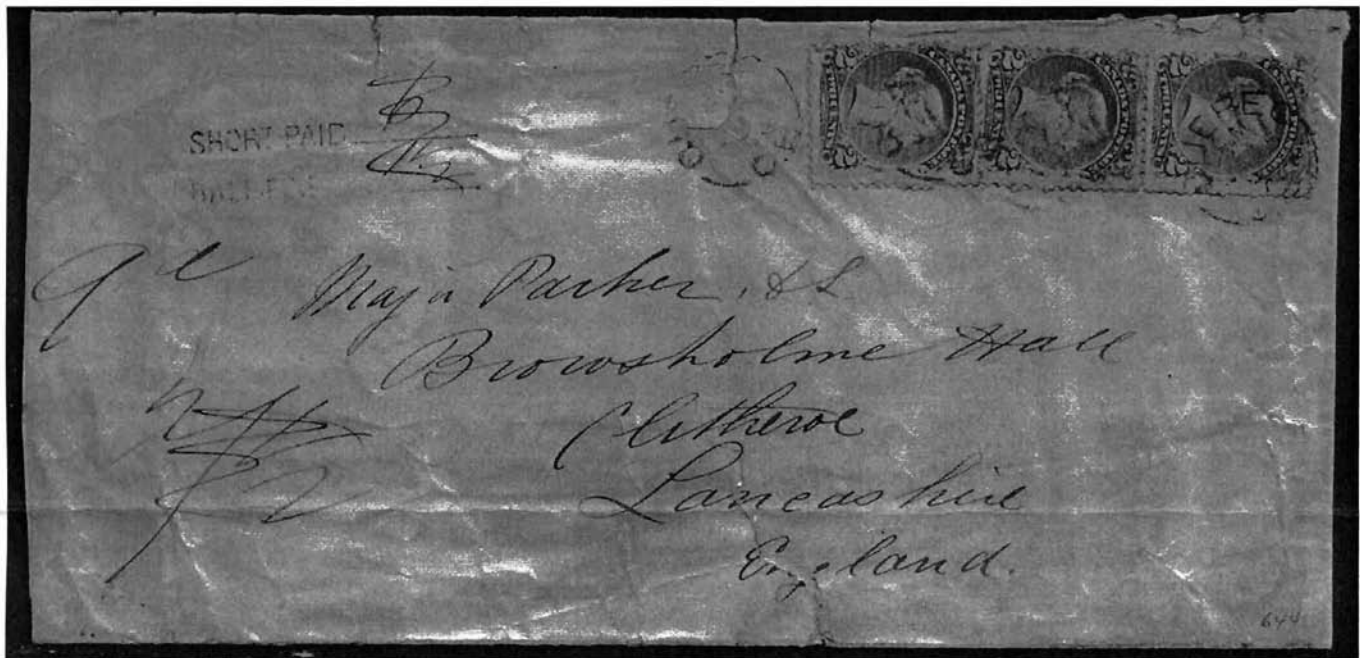
March 2007

A Shortpaid Cover to England, 1872

Vic Willson

The cover shown with this article is interesting in that it was paid with three 2c Large Queens to England in 1872 but was short paid. Strips of three of the 2c paying this rate are rare, and I recall seeing only three other examples, two in the Firby sale of Steve Menich's material and the Duckworth cover with strip of 3 and fourth stamp added to send via New York. The cover shown here was short paid one rate (1/2 oz.) and was rated 6d short paid and 3d half-fine. Now this works out to 15c, but the conversion is not exact, since this would be 5c for each rate and 5c for the half fine. Apparently the conversion was computed on the British transatlantic rate structure. The original computation was 6d short paid and 4 1/2 d half-fine, which was scratched out and a manuscript "9d" written at left. The two line "SHORT-PAID _____ / HALF-FINE _____" has been seen on numerous covers.

The cover was posted in Quebec, QUE on Jan. 5, 1872, and arrived in Clitheroe on Jan. 17 (receiver on the back). This would be consistent with the departure of the Allan Line's *Scandinavian* on Jan. 6 from Portland and arrival on the 16th in Liverpool. While there are a number of half-fine short paid covers in the 6c per half oz. period, this is the only one I have recorded paid with three 2c Large Queens, even if it is a bit ratty.



Confederation

The Newsletter of the BNAPS Large and Small Queens Study Group

Number 31

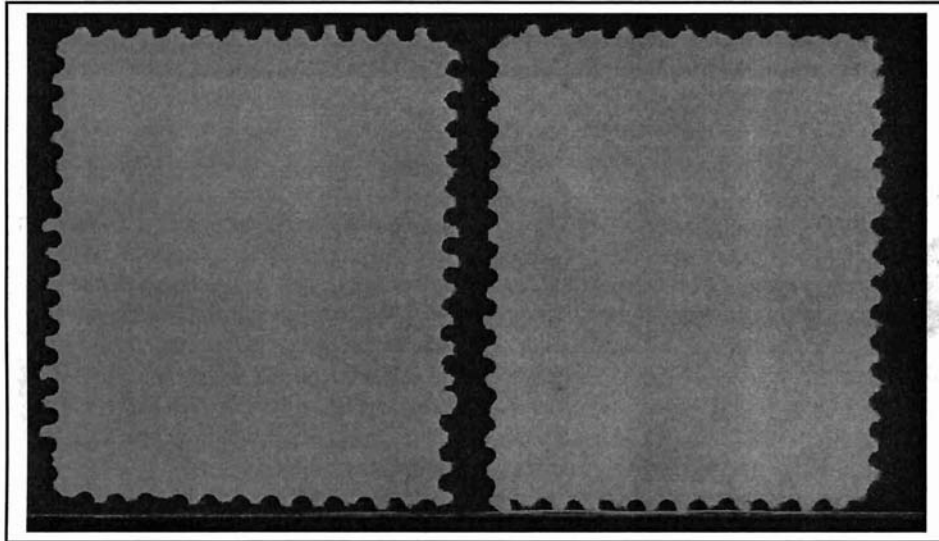
March 2007

Unusual / Interesting Papers on Large Queens

Glenn Archer

Over a century of study, many authors (e.g. Pack, Studd, Boggs and others) have proposed systems for paper classification of the Large Queens. I try to use the Duckworths' system. Their book is authoritative, reasonably current, and describes virtually all examples one will see. Every once in a while, though, one finds an interesting example that challenges what is known or gives one a new insight into paper types. I would welcome any discussion or feedback regarding the examples cited here.

Part 1: The Five-Cent Large Queen – Two Paper Types



The five-cent issue of 1875 comes on two paper types, though the differences are subtle.

The first (shown at left) is a crisp, whiter medium wove that can be found in both the horizontal and vertical orientation. It is similar to the Duckworths' Paper 2, the early thin crisp paper showing a distinct grain and a sharper stamp impression than Paper 1. Horizontal grain is scarcer and, if you find a five-cent Large Queen on a horizontal wove like the stamp shown here, you

may count yourself lucky.

The more common paper (shown at right) is the diamond-mesh vertical wove, which is generally thicker, more fibrous and softer. The "diamond-mesh" vertical wove appears similar to Bothwell paper (Duckworth Paper 6), except it shows no watermark. Bothwell paper is also whiter, while the five-cent paper has a dull gray cast. It is prone to toning, and most examples have an off-white or creamy appearance.

It should also be noted that the stamps contemporary to the five-cent (including the half-cent and fifteen-cent Large Queens, as well as the Small Queens) can be found on both papers.

Confederation

The Newsletter of the BNAPS Large and Small Queens Study Group

Number 31

March 2007

Chairman's Notes

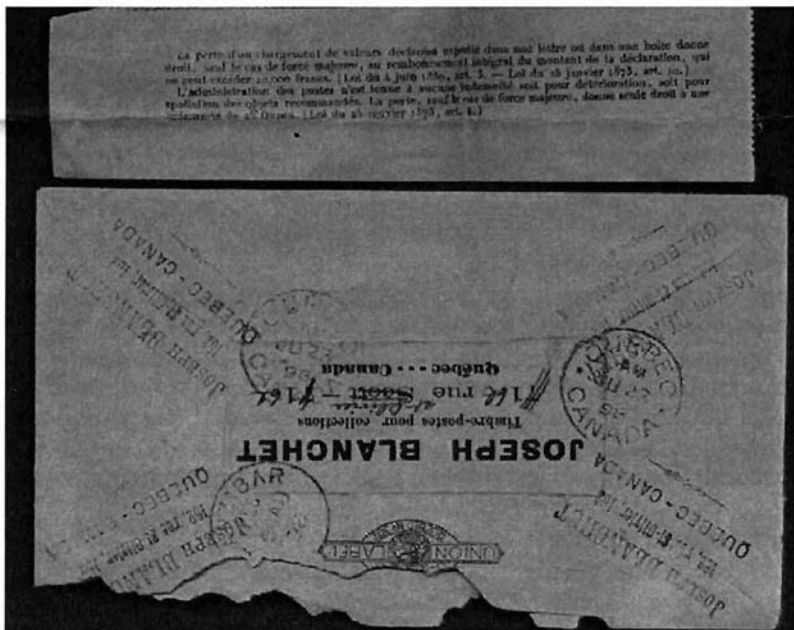
Bill Radcliffe

First I would like to start by thanking Ron Ribler and Roy Sass for their years of fine work on *Confederation*. I look forward to keeping the newsletter up to their excellent standards. As chairman, the first thing I would like to let everyone know is that there will be two group meetings a year. One meeting will be at ORAPEX in Ottawa and the other at the yearly BNAPS convention.



There will be four newsletters a year, more if I can persuade enough of our members to provide us with articles and inquiries on Large and Small Queens. I have collected early Canada for 22 years and am a member of BNAPS since 1996. My primary collections are the numeral cancels and squared circle cancels, both actively used during the life of the Large and Small Queens. These led me to expand into other areas such as foreign usages as well as fancy cancels and postal history of the era. Below is one of my more interesting covers, an eight-cent Small Queen and a two-cent leaf paying registration to Zanzibar, the five-cent UPU rate plus five cents registration. Mailed at Quebec June 23rd, 1898, it arrived in Zanzibar on August 6th, 1898. I do believe it to be unique as a registered cover to Zanzibar.

If anyone has any inquires about the newsletter I can be contacted by phone (856-589-1945) or email bsbvp88@hotmail.com. I look forward to serving as your chairman.



Confederation

The Newsletter of the BNAPS Large and Small Queens Study Group

Number 31

March 2007

Cancels on Small Queens

John Burnett

In a previous issue of our newsletter Ron Ribler asked a question about the origin of the Nicaraguan coat of arms on small queens. Attached is a copy of the cancel I have and my best explanation.



1895

St. Genevieve Batiscan, Quebec

Fancy cancels came about because of an unprecedented growth in demand for postal services during the era of the Small Queens. The Canadian Post Office could not keep up with the demand for canceling devices so many smaller post offices (and some big ones) had to become creative in what was used to kill the stamps on an envelope.

Many postmasters created cancels from corks, gutta-percha, or even children's rubber stamp sets. I believe the Nicaraguan cancel falls into this latter group. It was part of a child's kit that contained not only coats of arms but also flags of many countries. In fact, I remember having such a set some sixty years ago when growing up in Canada.

I also attach a scan of a 3 cent Small Queen that appears to have been cancelled through cloth, dated May 26, 1897. Cancels struck through cloth are mentioned on Admiral cancels by Hans Reiche, but I have never seen them mentioned any place else. In my opinion these are not special cancels but cancels that were struck through a cloth or from a cloth covered ink pad. All of them show indistinct lettering, fuzzy and dotted from the weave of the cloth. Do the members have other examples of such cancellations?

Please feel free to visit the education section of the BNAPS website (<http://www.bnaps.org/education/default.asp>) where you will find some additional articles on Small Queens that I have written.



Confederation – misc. News, Dues, Future Plans.

We would like to put as much quality into this publication as possible (including increasing the frequency of this newsletter, providing color scans and expanding content, also perhaps recruiting new members with complimentary issues) but mailing / printing costs will always limit what is feasible. (The printing and mailing costs alone for this issue, due to the small volume we produce, will probably run close to \$3 per copy). There seems to be support for the idea of raising Confederation study group fees to \$10 per year, so that is what we ask for 2007. Fees are due and payable to Glenn Archer (if you have a Canada address) or Bill Radcliffe (US or international address). Any "extra revenue" generated will go right back into improving this newsletter.

If you would prefer to receive an electronic copy in Word 2003 format, please send either of us your email address so we can accommodate the request. It will save on printing and mailing costs, and you will get it sooner.