



1. SALES AND WANTS

In this Newsletter, a page is devoted to Sales and Wants at no charge. Providing this does not get out of hand, members will be entitled to free advertising.

2. POSITION DOTS

Quoting Robson Lowes Encyclopaedia of British North America, Vol. V: "In the first Ottawa printings and Montreal plates made prior to 1886 a position dot is usually visible at the lower left corner of all stamps except those in the first vertical row. On plates made after 1886, it seems that the fine horizontal guide lines on the plates marked the centre of the stamp rather than the base. The dot marking the ends of these lines are very faint, but when visible, indicate a late Montreal or Ottawa plate prior to 1892, if appearing to the left of the medallion, and an 1892 or later Ottawa plate if located on the right".

Dated copies of these "position dots" on the 3¢ small queen would be welcomed by the editor and the results of this study will be charted in a future Newsletter. Reports on other small queen denominations are also appreciated.

3. THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1977

Balance 12/31/76	Nil
Income	\$86.35
Dues	\$57.60
Donations	
Expenses	\$40.00
Postage	\$22.66
Newsletter	\$17.34
Balance 12/31/77	\$46.35

4. NEWSLETTER SUMMARY

"The Small Cents Issue" by M. A. Studd  
Section D, Part Two, papers and gum.

"The Small Queens or Small Cents 1870-97"  
by Ray V. Klippstein

Plate varieties on 3¢ Small Queens.

5. NEW MEMBERS TO DATE

We offer a warm welcome to #34 - J. Ross Elliot,  
60 Regal Road,  
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia,  
B2W 4H6.

6. AWARDS

Let's hear from all members showing their stamps. To add variety to our Newsletter, we feel any member who enters a local show and wins an award, should be recognized and therefore be honoured to have their name in print.

7. OVAL CANCELS

A member requests information on the following:

Montreal Large Oval  
Montreal Small Oval  
Toronto Ovals  
Other Town Ovals  
N.B. Grid Ovals

Information to include - item type (single, cover, block,  
pair, strip, etc.)  
- item denomination (1¢, 3¢, etc.)  
- colour of cancel

(continued on Page 3)

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- size of Oval
- numerals, letters, etc. in Oval
- date of use or at least approx. printing period
- any other information regarding use, why they were originally developed, why they were discontinued, etc.

Kindly send all replies to the editor.

8. EDITORIAL

This is your Newsletter and the editorial aim must be to provide what you, our members, want. In order to ensure that members do get what they want, it is important to have feedback from you. You are asked to be strictly honest and to "pull no punches".

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tear off

You are/are not a fully paid up member for the 1978 season. Please send your subscription (\$3.00) as soon as possible; it is not overdue.

SALES AND WANTS

WANTS:

Dates wanted on 3¢ Small Queen's

1894 Ja 28, Fe. 18, Au. 12

1895 Sp. 15

1897 Ap. 18, Ju. 20, Jy. 25, Au. 1, Au. 22, Au. 29,  
Sp. 5, Sp. 26, De. 12

1898 Ja. 23, Mr. 10, 13, 20, 25, 26, 27, 30, Ap. 1,  
Ap. 3, 6, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20,  
Ap. 23, 25, 26.

H. Wilding,  
135 Traill Avenue,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba.  
R3J 2N2.

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WANTS:

Making a study on 1¢ Small Queen.  
Require Large numbers of C.D.S. singles  
and dated covers. Would buy or trade!

George T. Olson, Jr.,  
4141 S, 21st Avenue,  
Minneapolis, Minnesota,  
U.S.A.

# CANADA

## THE SMALL QUEENS OR SMALL CENTS 1870 - 97

By RAY V. KLIPPSTEIN

The purpose of this article on the Small Cents or Small Queens is to give beginners and medium collectors of Canadian stamps a better understanding of the characteristics of which there are many. Advanced collectors might have the rarities or most of the high priced stamps since 1851, but if not familiar with the structure and manufacture of their stamps, miss much of the fun of research, and my treatise will benefit them also. I will start with the Small Cents in the order they were issued 1-2-3-6-5-10, the following stamps were also issued during this time of the Small Queens namely the ½c, 20c and 50c, the Registration and Special Delivery stamps and the 12½c and 15c Large Queens continued also. This article is on the 1c Small Queen orange-yellow, the 8c in 1893.

The paper used is from thick, medium, thin to stout and soft, white and yellowish as can be seen on the chart for the various printings. According to its weight or gauge it is designated A-B-C-D and vary from .0020-.0040.

The examination of varieties and characteristics is best accomplished on the back of the stamp.

On the 1c a color screen of orange or orange-yellow or yellow and the use of a glass are of great assistance. The gauge ranges from .0020-.0026 for thin paper, .0027 to .0034 for medium, and .0035 to .0040+ for thick paper. General description of paper by letter is as follows:

- A—Laid, fine quality.
- B—Thin, almost pelure smooth.
- C—Medium white wove.
- D—Thin, yellowish oily surface.
- E—Medium, thick hard wove.
- F—Thin, soft ribbed.
- G—Ribbed, various weights.
- H—Thick, hairy, rough.

Laid paper has parallel lines showing on the back and is due from uneven shrinkage, and resembles in some instances a ribbed appearance. Wove paper appears as fine woven cloth and its webbing comes horizontal, vertical and diagonally.

As this is not written for the advanced or specialist, who are going over their material to study every minute item for classification, I will simplify the papers used into six varieties as follows:

1. January 1870, Montreal printing of thin fine quality, white wove, smooth surface, opaque, with points of light showing through and when flipped by the fingers has a metallic sound.

2. January 1871, thick to very thick soft opaque white wove, perforations do not cut clean, perfs adhering.
3. February 1871, a hard wove white, usually thin but varying in texture from thin to medium. Design shows through back.
4. Also a 1871 issue of thin to medium white wove with a silky smooth surface and points of light showing through. Montreal print.
5. 1875 of fine quality white wove with pebbly surface, rather stout structure which portrays a ribbed variety, often very similar to laid paper. These papers of 1875 came from both Montreal and Ottawa.
6. 1888 and later usually thin to medium soft white and yellowish wove of poor quality of loose structure, very brittle.

From 1870-1897 all stamps were printed by the British American Bank Note Co., first at Montreal, then at Montreal and Ottawa simultaneously, later at Montreal and subsequently at Ottawa. Until 1892 all stamps were printed in sheets of 100, the four years at Ottawa, 1888-92, were printed the poorest stamps on the poorest of paper.

In 1892 new plates replaced the worn out ones in printed sheets of 200, ten horizontal rows of 20. The paper gradually improved from a poor thin, brittle quality to a slightly heavier weight paper that had a better printing surface.

Now we come to the Dots. Why do we have them and for what purpose? Well the answers also give different explanations. They are called "Guide Dots," as the dots guided the printer in the various operations to locate the sheets on the flat bed presses. They are also called "Identification Dots," but most collectors refer to them as "Position Dots." The position dots have the purpose to place the sheets correctly on the perforation machine to align the dots and the comb for the perforation of the printed sheets to effect a well centered stamp.

These dots when found are located on the lower left corner of the stamp, below and outside the convex scroll, none are ever found on the extreme left vertical row of ten and very few are found after 1885, unless from plates made prior to that year. New plates for the 1c appeared in 1886, a different process of lay-out for the impressions from the transfer-roll to the plate was used and the position dots were to be removed and polished out. With the ever greater demand for stamps and new plates for all denominations, these dots were often left on the plate and appeared in print as late as 1892, when all plates were replaced by the larger 200 plates.

The early plates from Montreal-Ottawa and from Montreal produced all the darker shades of orange and orange-yellow. All the orange shades are printed on better paper than the late printings.

During the years 1876-87 all the better paper prints of yellow, chrome-yellow, yellow-orange, pale ochre, lemon-yellow and pale lemon-yellow appeared. Dots theoretically should not be present after 1885, but as long as any plates from both Montreal and Ottawa are in use these dots are found. On the light and pale shades it is almost impossible to find any dots, and if dots are not discernible, it is by far better to describe stamps "Dots not present," than to make believe dots are there.

The color used in the early printings are recorded in P. O. History as follows:

- 6 parts Lemon Chrome Yellow.
- 3 " Orange Chrome Yellow.
- ½ " Venetian Red.
- 2 " White Lead.
- 2 " Paris White.

This color mixture produced the early darker orange shades, a variation from this formula one way or the other brings out a lighter or darker shade, tints or tinges found in the orange-yellow.

During 1872-75 the 1c stamp appeared on coated white wove paper lithographed. This coated surface paper had an effect on the color and turned to pale yellow or pale lemon-yellow. To off-set this pale color print, ochre was added to the printing ink and a resulting satisfactory color of yellow achieved. Very few of the pale dull yellow or pale lemon yellow are found because of their short duration, these are early printings and should not be confused with the late printings of similar shade, but poor paper, no dots and perfs are wrong or different also, cancellation on piece sometimes helps to identify the issue.

Cancellation used on the Small Queens from 1870-97 are near the 2000 mark. Clear and in color are very desirable cancels and some of the scarcer ones are the crowns, stars, leaves, rings, numerals and paid and many more too numerous to mention.

Perforations used are many, but here let it suffice to use a gauge in ½mm. only and we have 1870-72=12x12, 1873-76=11½x12 and 12x11½, 1876-79=11½x12 and 12x12 and from 1880 on the gauge is consistently 12 by 12. These are the perfs in ½mm. found from the earliest to the last, but when using a ¼mm. gauge the picture is a complicated one, not all of them are shown on my chart, but in my collection.

In 1878 the first imperfs of the 1c appeared, but should be recognized only in pairs.

3 CENT SMALL QUEEN

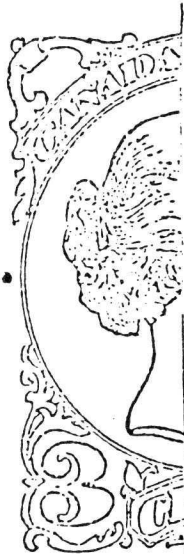
OTTAWA PRINTINGS

PERF. 12 x 12

GUIDE DOTS

Figure 16 C

Single Dot  
Centred Left



Dates Reported  
No. 30/96  
Ju. 15/97

Figure 17 C

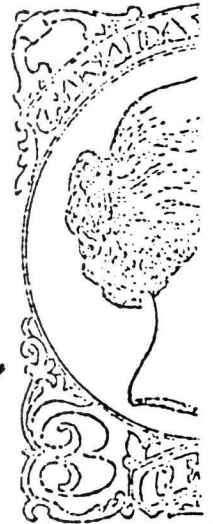
Double Dot  
Centred Left



Dates Reported  
No. 15/92

Figure 18 C

Double Dot  
Lower Left



Dates Reported  
De. 1/94  
Mr. 25/95

Figure 19 C



Dates Reported  
Fe. 26/95

Figure 20 C



Dates Reported  
Au. 3/93  
De. 26/94

Figure 21 C



Dates Reported  
Sp. 14/90  
No. 10/93



EDITORIAL

It is with great pleasure to be able to report that many members responded to the last Editorial, and as a result we now have several excellent articles to include in future Newsletters.

----- Look forward to seeing you at Capex -----

NEW MEMBERS TO DATE:

We extend a warm welcome to #35

Ted Nixon  
255 Cortleigh Blvd.,  
Toronto, Ontario.  
M5N 1P8

NEWSLETTER SUMMARY

"The Small Cents Issue" by M. A. Studd

Section E, Notes on re-entries, True Plate Varieties  
(Page 12 of this article appears to be redundant, so  
please ignore that page).

"Report on Oval Cancels" by Jim Pike

"Plate Varieties on 3¢, 10¢ Small Queens"

"The 3¢ Small Queen, Thick Paper Issue, December 1870"  
by Keith Elliott.

Sales and Wants



Prepared for  
THE BNAPS CANADIAN SMALL QUEEN STUDY GROUP

By Keith Elliott, March, 1978

Gentlemen:

Kindly refer to your March, 1978 issue of the Small Queen Newsletter, Volume 3, No. 1, the inside back page on part two from The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, September, 1962.

Please refer to paragraphs three, four and five.

I quote from the end of the third paragraph, "There is also a variety of this paper which is opaque and is slightly thicker. In this connection, Jarrett describes a paper as follows: "Thick, soft, opaque wove, perforations adhering, January 1871 (rare)".

Dr. E.G. Mason in his article on the 3¢ value published in Stamp Collecting in August and September, 1926, describes a thick soft wove paper which is rare as he only discovered three copies out of several thousands examined. He could not find a dated copy."

The paper referred to in these paragraphs is that from December, 1870 only and not the slightly thicker paper which appeared in April and May of 1872.

There can be no mistaking this thick paper, and once you have seen it you will not forget it. The paper is VERY thick, the weave - which is there on all stamp papers at this time - is in most cases invisible. All the copies I have seen, covers included, have several perforations adhering.

Although I only have one single copy, it has been my pleasure to view the collection formed by the late Stuart Johnstone which contains no less than 19 copies, including - are you ready for this - a pair on cover with a lovely Goderich 21 2 ring cancel.

This thick paper stamp is recorded from the following Post Offices: Toronto, Hamilton, Brantford, Quebec, Ayr, Ingersoll, Aylmer, Kincardine, New Carlisle, Frankfort, St. Catherines, Belleville, Goderich, Sherbrooke, London, Kingston and Elora.

It has been suggested that this stamp is as rare, or even rarer than the perf 12½ variety. I think it safe to say that this is not so. The perf 12½ is a much more popular and well known variety than the thick paper one. We have all been looking for it for years and years. How many people go out of their way to search endlessly for thick paper? Very few I'll wager.

The list of post offices from which the thick paper was used includes some very high volume cities. Such places as Toronto, Hamilton, Quebec, Belleville, London and Kingston all had fairly high volumes of mail at this time. Compare this with the relatively small turnover of the Post Offices using the perf 12½. There are 17 P.O.'s using thick paper and only 12 using perf 12½'s.

I think that if everyone becomes aware of what he is looking for in the thick paper, that probably hundreds more will appear out of the woodwork. Look what happened to the 12½. Only 30 years ago we knew of 60. Now we know of nearly five times that many.

I have no figures on the thick paper stamps at all, and would suggest that a tabulation of members holdings should be sent to the editor for tallying.

The colour of this stamp is a very rich Rose red, quite deep in shade. It is a most attractive colour and resembles some of the regular-paper copies I have dated in January and February, 1871. However, the January and February copies appear to have either a little less Rose or a little more Brown in them.

Jarrett noted that the perforations adhered, and to this end my copy has every perf adhering down the right side. All the copies in the Johnstone collection had perms adhering on one or two sides without exception.

The paper is often referred to as Blotting paper or Carton paper. The indication of its present value is reflected by the rapidly rising prices in the current catalogues listing this variety. Canada Specialized quotes a used single at \$50 and a cover at \$100. I still think they are low on the cover.

Regretfully, I have very little cover information of this variety to report, but I look forward to hearing from those of you who have such covers.

There is one final point which should be made with regard to the perforations of the thick paper variety. Experience shows that the stamps are practically always way off centre. In fact, only 1 copy is recorded as being centred, and even that is a little high.

The paper was so thick that it obviously caused great difficulty when being perforated. Many of the stamps show the side of an adjoining stamp they are so far off. In fact, some 65% of the copies viewed are this way.

In other words, if you are offered a thick paper copy by a dealer, and it is far off centre, don't waste your breath trying to knock the price down due to centring! If he knows his stuff, he won't buy your argument!

This article is for B.N.A.P.S. use only and should not be used without the writer's consent.

## REPORT ON OVAL CANCELS

I have 12 partial cancels of Victoria, B.C., on 1¢, 3¢, 5¢, 6¢, 10¢ S.Q.'s, 15¢ L.Q. and 20¢ Widow. 9 are on singles, 2 on pairs and 1 on strip of 4. I have 120 covers in my Victoria collection in which only 1 oval cancel occurs, on a wrapping for a newspaper. This suggests to me that the oval was used for second class mail and probably parcels.

The ovals are approximately 33 x 25 mms. with VICTORIA on the top and B.C. at the bottom. There are no dates and no evidence when used. Some of the ovals contain an inner oval measuring 20 x 11 mms. All cancels are block.

There are three bars on the lower half, about 1 mm apart, 5 mms. long, varying from 1 - 2 mms. wide on each end of the oval.



Will be glad to answer any questions from members.

James A. Pike  
5805 Balsam Street  
Apt. 801  
VANCOUVER, B.C.  
V6M 4B8

3 CENT SMALL QUEEN

OTTAWA PRINTING

PERF. 12 X 12



Figure 22 C

Scratch U.L. Corner

Dates Reported

Creemore, Ontario Oct 29/96

Hawkestone Feb. 13/96

Fort William, Ont. No. 3/95

