



1. 1979 Dues

One article for this newsletter will pay your 1979 dues! Several members have already responded to this fantastic offer. If unable to submit an article dues will remain at \$3.00.

At this moment, the plan is to issue 4 newsletters. However, if we are flooded with articles this could increase to 6 or 8 issues for 1979.

The articles submitted do not have to be too technical as long as they pertain to some facet of Small Queen collecting, i.e., cancellations on Small Queens, pre-cancels, perfins, etc.

2. Newsletter Summary

- Definitive Classification of 3-cent Small Queens - by Don Ecobichon.
- Plate Varieties on 10¢ Small Queens.
- Some Rare Canadian Postmarks - by E.A. Smythies.
- The "Small Cents" Issue of Canada - by P. Hamilton.

DEFINITIVE CLASSIFICATION OF 3-CENT SMALL QUEENS

From the contributions of members of the Small Queen Group to the Newsletter, I would say that we should have enough expertise to complete the classification of the 3-cent Small Queens using Shoemaker's Classification. Toward that end, I am enclosing the results of my efforts in tabular form, comparing class numbers, perforations, colours (Shoemaker's, Boggs' and Studd's), the earliest dated issue (Shoemaker's dated copies) and the mesh (wove, vertical and horizontal). According to Russell Allison (Group Newsletter - May/77, Vol. 2, #2), there are inconsistencies in the reprint of Shoemaker's article: i.e. Classes 10 and 17 are not described, Class 16 having perf 12x12 or 11.75x12. One of my difficulties has been matching the three commonly used colour guides mentioned above, particularly the early (1872 - 1873) issues. Perhaps as a Group effort, we could fill in the blanks on the accompanying table (and make corrections) to everyone's satisfaction and enlightenment.

A most difficult aspect of 3-cent Small Queen study is the plethora of paper types -- 9 according to Shoemaker, 4 according to Studd. Studd also suggests that some 30 different kinds of paper may have been used. Perish the thought!! There are some days when I would agree with him. Some of the papers are distinctive enough to identify but there are others which are extremely hard to characterize, especially when you have never seen them and are frustratingly trying to match your idea of what is a "medium weight pebbly surface, toned yellowish paper" with the description in one hand and a dated copy of the stamp in the other.

Would it be possible for some experienced member of the Group to put together a sample set of paper types for the 3-cent Small

Queens for circulation to other members for comparison with their own classifications of paper types. This could be of great benefit to those of us struggling somewhat in isolation. I hesitate to initiate this aspect since I have a lot of stamps which I feel just do not fit, date-wise, with what others say should be the paper type for that period. This would be a useful Group effort to eliminate some of the confusion. I would certainly like to collaborate and exchange information concerning paper types with other members (Don Ecobichon, 135 52nd Avenue, Lachine, Que., H8T 2X1, BNAPS #3343)

SHOEMAKER CLA.	PERFO- RATIONS	SHOEMAKER'S COLOUR	BOOTS' CC UR	STUDD'S COLOUR	DATE OF ISSUE (Earliest date)	PAPER FRESH
1	12x12	Copper Red	Copper Red	Indian Red	Jan. 15, 1870	H
2A	12x12	Pale Dull Rose	Rose	Rose Red Pale Red	Aug. 1, 1870	H
2B	12x12	Rose	Rose Red	Pale Rose Red	Dec. 24, 1870	V
3	12x12	Rose Red	Carmine Red	Deep Rose Red	Dec. 29, 1870	V
4	12x12	Carmine Red	Carmine	Brilliant Deep Rose	Jan. 14, 1871	H
5	12x12	Rose Orange	Carmine Red	Carmine Red	Jan. 8, 1872	H
6	12x12	Pale Rose	Carmine Red	Carmine Red	July 15, 1872	H
7	11.75x11.75	Faded Rose Red	Carmine Red	Carmine Red	Dec 1872	H
8	11.75x11.75	Pale Rose	Carmine Red	Carmine Red	1872	H
9	11.25x11.75	Brown Red	Dull Red	Red Orange	Mar. 6, 1873	H
10			Orange	Red Orange	Sept. 1873	V
11	11.25x12	Red Brown	Brown Red	Red Orange	June 25, 1875	H
12	12x12	Orange Red	Orange Red	Orange Red	Sept. 25, 1876	H
13	11.75x12	Red Brown	Brown Red	Orange Red	Dec. 1, 1876	H
14	12x12	Dull Orange	Orange Red	Orange Red	Jan. 9, 1877	H
15	11.75x12	Dull Orange	Orange Red	Orange Red	July 3, 1877	H
16	11.75x12	Dull Orange	Orange Red	Orange Red	Mar. 1878	V
17						
18	12x12	Vermilion	Vermilion		Jan. 20, 1880	H

19	11.75x12	Dull Vermillion	Vermillion	Sept.	1881	V
20	12x12	Dull Vermillion	Vermillion	Jan. 20,	1882	V
21	12x12.25	Dull Vermillion	Vermillion	Jan. 20,	1883	H
22	12x12	Dull Vermillion	Vermillion	Feb. 1,	1884	H
23	12x12	Vermillion	Vermillion	May 2,	1885	V
24	12x12	Orange	Orange Red	Apr. 20,	1886	H
25	12x12.25	Brown Red	Dull Red	1885-1886		H
26	12x12.25	Brown Red	Dull Red	June 18,	1887	V
27	12x12.25	Dull Orange	Orange Red	Feb.	1888	H
28	12x12.25	Dull Orange	Dull Orange	Sept. 13,	1888	H
29	12x12.25	Rose Carmine	Rose Carmine	Oct. 6,	1888	V
30	12x12.25	Pale Rose Carmine	Rose Carmine	Dec. 17,	1888	H
31	12x12	Vermillion	Bright Vermillion	Sept. 2,	1889	H
32	12x12	Bright Vermillion	Bright Vermillion	Apr. 23,	1890	H
33	12x12.25	Pale Vermillion	Pale Vermillion	Apr. 23,	1891	H
33a	12x12	Pale Pinkish Rose		May 9,	1891	H
34	12x12	Pale Vermillion	Pale Vermillion	Jan. 6,	1892	H
35	12x12.25	Vermillion	Vermillion	Jan. 24,	1893	H
36	12x12.25	Bright Vermillion	Vermillion	Oct. 15,	1895	H
37	12x12	Vermillion	Vermillion	Dec. 18,	1894	V



The "Small Cents" Issue of CANADA

By Patrick Hamilton

One of the greatest difficulties which the would-be specialist has to encounter is that of supply. The number of issues latent with possibilities for philatelic study is legion but, and this is nearly always so with the older stamps of popular countries, when it comes to getting material for research it is usually non-existent or only available to those blessed with particularly long purses. An exception to this is, however, found in the "Small Cents" issue of Canada, which stamps, despite their nineteenth century vintage and the immense popularity of their country of origin, are still to be obtained by the average collector.

"Small Cents" is the name given to the second general issue of postage stamps made for the Dominion of Canada, which were introduced in 1870 and remained in use down to within three years of the present century. They comprised six denominations, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 10 cents, and all featured a profile portrait of Queen Victoria engraved by Charles Henry Jeens placed on a background of horizontal lines contained by a colourless circle; figures of value were placed in the lower corners and over the central vignette came "CANADA POSTAGE" in colourless capitals on a curved label. At the base, between the figures of value the words "CENTS" is found. This varies in size and form: on the 1c. it appears as "ONE CENT", while the ornaments in the spandrels differ with each value.

These stamps were all engraved and recess printed by the British American Bank Note Co., on wove paper of varying texture and thickness, firstly both at Montreal and Ottawa, later at Montreal only, and finally only at Ottawa.

Chronology

The first value to appear was the 3c. to prepay the basic inland letter rate, which was put on sale on January 20th 1870, and this was followed in March by a 1c. denomination to frank newspapers and "drop letters" (these are letters directed to addresses in the town of posting). Two years later, in January 1872, a 6c. for double weight inland letters made its debut and in the following month a 2c. was added to the series. This was originally provided to prepay the registration fee on inland mail, but after 1875, when special registration stamps were issued, its use was mainly confined to making up odd amounts of postage. These four stamps all superseded similar values in the "Large Cents" series of 1868.

In 1871 the basic letter rate from Canada to the United Kingdom was reduced from 12½ to 10 cents, and in the November of that year a stamp of this value was added to the "Small Cents" series.

All of these stamps had been printed both at Montreal and Ottawa, but in 1875 the authorities decided that in future all Canadian stamps should be produced at Montreal and consequently the printing of stamps at Ottawa ceased. In 1875, too, Canada joined the Universal Postal Union and an urgent need arose for a 5 cents stamp to prepay the rate to U.P.U. countries. To meet the emergency, a plate bearing impressions of a 5c. stamp in the "Large Cents" design which had never been used was employed temporarily, pending the preparation of a "Small Cents" stamp of this value which duly appeared in February 1876.

The release of the 5c. completed the "Small Cents" series; some collectors may urge that the series should include a 4c. issued in 1882 and an 8c. which came along in 1891, but these are really supernumerary to the stamps under discussion and will not be examined in this article, which is confined to the original issue.

Our last chronological notes date from 1888, when the Government again changed the place designated for stamp printing by moving it back to Ottawa, and 1892, when it was decided that the plates of 100 impressions which had been employed since the issue began should be enlarged to produce 200 stamps at each impression.

The "Small Cents" stamps of Canada were superseded temporarily in June 1897 by the Diamond Jubilee series, and finally in December 1897 and January 1898 by the familiar "Maple Leaves" design.

Printings and Imprints

The catalogue listings of these stamps are divided into two parts termed "Montreal" and "Ottawa" printings, but in fact the "Montreal" list includes the stamps which were printed at Montreal and Ottawa during 1870-1875 as well as the real Montreal prints of 1875-1888. There is a very sound reason for this in a general catalogue, because with one or two outstanding exceptions it is impossible to differentiate between Montreal and Ottawa printings except from dated copies, those showing dates before 1875 must be Montreal and Ottawa, and in the case of mint stamps, by a study of the printers' imprints; and as we shall see later, even these are not always a certain guide as to place of printing.

Four different imprints may be seen in the margins of the sheets of "Small Cents" stamps:—

- (A) "BRITISH AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO., MONTREAL & OTTAWA" in colourless Roman capitals on a panel of colour 51 mm. long and 1 mm. high, placed above stamps 4, 5, 6 and 7 in the upper

margins, below stamps 91, 95, 96 and 97 in the lower margin, and also in the side margins reading upwards at left and downwards at right. Additionally, the denomination expressed in shaded Roman capitals 4 mm. high appeared in the upper margin above stamps 2 and 3; un-shaded on the 10 cents.

- (B) "BRITISH AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO., MONTREAL" on a panel 56 mm. long and $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. high with a pearly edge. The position of this imprint varies according to the value.
- (C) "BRITISH AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO., OTTAWA, 40 mm. long and 1 mm. high on sheets of 200 stamps only, in upper margin above stamps 10 and 11, and twice in the lower margin, below stamps 185 and 186, and 195 and 196. Additional marginal inscriptions are noted under the values with which they appear. The reversed figures 2 appear in the upper left corner and 1 in the upper right corner of each sheet.
- (D) Text as (C) but 49 mm. long and 2 mm. high, in upper margin above stamps 4, 5, 6 and 7, and in the lower margin below stamps 91, 95, 96 and 97. Used for the 2 cents value only, sheets of 100.

Imprint (A) was that originally used, and (B) made its first appearance in 1875. Imprint (C), however, was not employed till 1892, when the first 200 set plates were made. It will be seen therefore that the stamps printed from the 100 set plates at Ottawa during the period 1888-1892 actually bore the Montreal imprint, (C). These would be impossible to distinguish, were it not for the paper used, which is the next feature which we have to examine.

Paper

Prior to 1888, when the stamp printing was moved back to Ottawa, a variety of good quality papers was employed; these will be noted under the respective values. The stamps printed at Ottawa were all produced on paper of poor quality, a thinnish wove often tinged greyish or yellowish quite distinct from that used before the move. From this we are able to distinguish the Ottawa printings even when they were made from plates bearing the Montreal imprint.

Perforation.

All of the "Small Cents" stamps were perforated on single line machines, which accounts for those stamps which appear abnormally narrow or wide which are often seen. The standard gauge was 12, but in addition pins gauging 11 $\frac{1}{2}$, 11 $\frac{3}{4}$, 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ and 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ were used. The last two of these are scarce and to the writer's knowledge only exist with the 3c., but all values are found with various combinations of 11 $\frac{1}{2}$, 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ and 12; these are the stamps listed in the catalogue as 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12. The following combinations, etc., are known:—11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 $\frac{3}{4}$, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12, 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 11 $\frac{3}{4}$, 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 12, and 12 x 11 $\frac{3}{4}$.

Guide Dots

Small dots, placed on the surface of the plate to facilitate accurate laying down are often seen outside the lower left corner of the design, and sometimes to the left of the circle containing the central vignette. These are not seen from 1889 on and therefore the presence of a guide dot on a specimen is an indication that the stamp was printed either at "Montreal & Ottawa" or at "Montreal". The opposite is however of no use in identification, as many dots were obscured by the design, and in the first plates laid down there were no guide dots against the left-hand vertical column of impressions.

So much for general features; we will now look at the six denominations value by value.

One Cent

This stamp was printed in a large variety of shades of orange and yellow. It is impossible to give names to all the shades extant and the following notes merely indicate groups for guidance. Montreal and Ottawa Printings:—March 1870, orange on thick white wove. March 1872, orange-yellow on hard white wove; perf. 12 and combinations of 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ -12. September 1872, pale yellow on thick white wove, and on hard white wove. December 1873, lemon on thick white wove (scarce), perf. 12 and combinations of 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ -12. Montreal Printings:—1875-1888, various shades of yellow on medium hard white wove; perf. 12 and combinations of 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ -12. Ottawa Printings from both Montreal and Ottawa Plates:—Various shades of yellow on thin poor quality wove, often greyish.

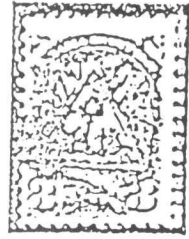
The Montreal imprint, (B), is found in the upper and lower margins only and there is no indication of the value in the selvedge. On the Ottawa plates, imprint (C), the value appears in Egyptian capitals 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. high in the upper margin over stamps 2 and 3, and 18 and 19. Additionally, one of the letters A, B, C or D may be seen above the imprint in the upper margins.

Imperforates exist in yellow from both Montreal and Ottawa printings, and a very rare variety, printed on both sides, is known. A slight re-entry is known from an early printing which shows the outer line of the ornament at lower left partially doubled.

From November 4th to 8th 1897 the 1c. was bisected diagonally and used to send out a newspaper called the *Railway News*, published at New Glasgow, N.S. Plate proofs exist in orange on card, and in blue on india paper; finished proofs, perf. 12 and on gummed wove paper, are known in violet and red-violet.

Two Cents

The first printings were made on thick to medium opaque white wove paper in pale green, green, and deep green; a shade of blue-green is somewhat hard to find. These exist perf. 12 and with combinations of 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ -12. The imprint is always (A) as this stamp was in little demand after 1875 and no plate with the Montreal imprint (B) was laid down. It is therefore impossible to differentiate between the Montreal and Ottawa and



Some of the interesting postmarks to be found on these issues.

the Montreal prints except in the case of used copies bearing dates in the range 1872-1874, which must be the former.

The Ottawa prints, from 1888 may be distinguished from the poor thinnish paper and by the "D" imprint. These are found in shades of green, blue-green and yellowish-green.

Imperforates are found in blue-green on medium white wove and also on the "Ottawa" paper; they also exist in yellow-green from the Ottawa printings. Copies are known bisected and used as 1c. stamps either single or with a 2c. stamp to make up the 3c. inland rate.

Four re-entries are noted:—(a) "2 CENTS" and ornaments at sides strongly doubled; (b) 2 at left doubled and lines of colour in C of CENTS; (c) 2 at right and ornaments in adjacent corner doubled; (d) 2 and lower left corner double. (a, b and c are "Montreal & Ottawa", and d, Ottawa prints).

Copies are known from early printings with the hair on the top of the Queen's head missing, showing as a white patch. Offsets are common in this value but guide dots are not. Proofs are found in green on card, and perforated finished proofs in dull red on gummed wove paper exist.

Three Cents

This is the value which was in the greatest demand and of which there is the largest amount of material for study. There are so many shades that it is impossible to list them all; the best that can be done is to arrange them into groups.

Montreal & Ottawa Printings: January 20th 1870, Indian (copper) red, perf. 12. February 1870, Indian red, perf. 12½ x 12½ (this is a very scarce stamp, only about 100 copies having so far come to light). September 1870, Pale Indian red. November 1870, pale faded rose. December 1870, bright rose. All on thick to medium white wove paper. January 1871, rose on very thick opaque wove. February 1871, rose on medium to thin hard wove, and pale rose on the same paper. June 1872, red (dull red to orange red) on thick to medium white wove and also on thin hard wove—these are found perf. 12 and with various combinations of 11½-12. March 1873, orange-vermilion on thick to medium white wove (not to be confused with later vermilion shades). Perf. 12 and combinations of 11½-12. Montreal Printings: 1875, dull vermilion on medium wove. 1877, pink and in various shades of vermilion on pebbly hard wove. In 1888 this value is known perf. 12½ x 12½ and is scarce thus. The

imprint, (B), is seen in the upper and lower margins; additionally "THREE" in shaded 6 mm. capitals is found in the top margin over stamps 1 and 2. Ottawa printings from Montreal plates: February 1888, vermilion. October 1888, rose carmine, dull rose carmine. April 1889, bright vermilion. All on poor quality wove. Ottawa printings from the Ottawa Plates: Numerous shades of vermilion ranging from pale to bright, all on the poor quality wove paper. In many cases the colour of the ink shows through to the back of the stamp. The value in 3¼ mm. capitals is featured in the upper margin twice, over stamps 1, 2, 3 and 4, and 17, 18, 19 and 20; additionally the letters "E", "G", or "H" are found above the upper imprint.

A number of plate varieties are known, of which the following are the chief:—Re-entering: (a) Lower left corner doubled; (b) base line doubled; (c) "CENT" and ornaments in lower left corner partially doubled (all Montreal & Ottawa prints); (d) "TS" of "CENTS" and figure 3 at right doubled (Montreal print). Retouches: (e) Top of 3 at right recut; (f) Queen's nose recut making it appear hooked.

There are also numerous worn plate varieties, shifts and varieties due to plate damage. A good example of this last dates from 1880 and takes the form of a diagonal line of colour running across the 3 at left to the lower corner. Guide dots are frequently seen, and offsets are fairly common. A scarce variety, so far only seen on the 3c. Indian red, perf. 12, shows a "stitch" watermark. Die proofs are known in red-brown, pale brown and green, and a plate proof in the issued colour exists on card. Finished proofs in green exist on gummed wove paper perforated 14 all round. The 3c. was also issued twice in imperforate state, in 1875 in dull vermilion and in 1889 in bright vermilion.

Five Cents

Montreal & Ottawa Plates: February 1876, pale olive-green, olive-green on thick white wove; perf. 12 and combinations of 11½-12. Montreal Plates: 1876, olive-green, many shades on thick and medium white wove; perf. 12 and combinations of 11½-12. The Montreal imprint, (B), is found on all four sides of the sheet, and "FIVE CENTS" is placed in the upper margin above stamps 1, 2 and 3. Ottawa Printings from both Montreal and Ottawa Plates: 1888, et seq., pale grey-green, grey-green, olive-grey, brownish-grey, grey, and grey-black; many shades. A pearl-grey is noted in July 1889

SOME RARE CANADIAN POSTMARKS



By E. A. SMYTHIES

THE postal history of Canada is rich in rare postmarks, some of which had their hammers made and recorded in the manufacturer's proof books, but, for some unknown reason, were never used. Others were used only to a very limited extent and only one or two impressions have survived. I propose to describe about a score of these rarities, all "pearls of great price" and well worth picking up if the opportunity arises. I will give some indication of relative values—one star represents £5; two stars, £10; three stars, £20 and up. These are for good clear strikes on cover.

Two-ring Numerals

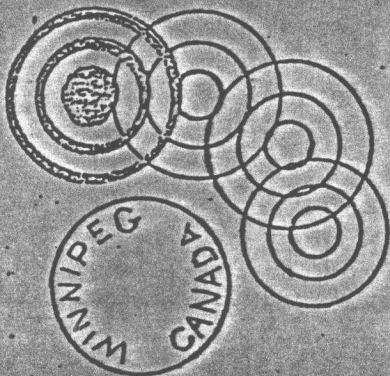
Let us start with a simple example. Everyone knows the series of two-ring numeral postmarks which were first introduced about 1868 and continued in use, off and on, for the next 30 years. They were arranged in order of importance: No. 1 was Montreal; No. 2, Toronto; No. 3, Quebec; and so on up to No. 60 for Newmarket, Ontario.

There is, however, one number—20—which is rare on single stamps, and has never been recorded on cover, so no one knows for certain at which post office it was used. There are very many collectors (myself included) of these numeral postmarks who have never completed the set for want of this No. 20, and many who never will, as the demand is much greater than the supply. A two-star item off cover and much higher on cover, it is illustrated in the heading.

Two other rarities are: No. 19, which a solitary postcard identifies as Peterborough Ont.; and No. 22, which a solitary cover identifies as Galt, Ont.

Two-Ring Target Duplex

These postmarks are rather similar to the two-ring numerals but with a blob in the middle instead of a number.



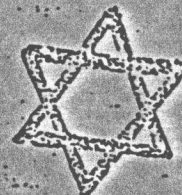
They were used very extensively in Canada 70 to 80 years ago. About a dozen postmasters had the brainy idea of fastening together a two-ring target hammer and a circular date-stamp to make a duplex. These duplex marks are rare especially on cover. Say one or two stars.

The two parts were screwed together and the target killer often changed its position relative to the circular date-stamp. The accompanying illustration shows in solid colour a strike of the Winnipeg duplex and, in skeleton outline, more strikes of this duplex with the relative position changed.

STAMP COLLECTING, October 15th, 1970

Toronto Star-of-David Duplex

Toronto frequently seemed to be short of duplex hammers and the Postmaster (or his staff) must have spent a good deal of time making them locally. Another example is a cancel of

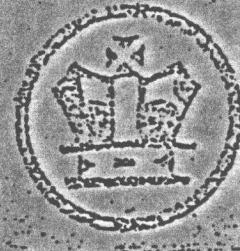


the "Star-of-David" design fastened to a c.d.s., in this case apparently with a bayonet joint, since the dater and killer do not seem to move about but remain in the same relative position. The "Star-of-David" is also found as a killer by itself, i.e., not a duplex. Its attractive design makes it a popular postmark which is always worth picking up.

The First Ottawa Crown

In February 1880 Pritchard and Andrews made a Crown cancel for the Senate Post Office, Ottawa; a solid-looking crown inside a thick-lined circle. Two months later they made another and more open-work Crown, and recorded both in their Proof Book, which is now in the archives of the Philatelic Foundation, New York. The Curator kindly sent me photographs of each, and I illustrate the early Crown.

During the past twelve years I have also acquired three forgeries of the first Crown, and about a dozen of the second! Jarrett illustrated both Crowns in his 1929 catalogue. I have failed to acquire, or even to see, a genuine strike of the first Crown for over 10 years: definitely another three star item. I have no proof, but from its rarity I think it possible—even probable—that the first solid Crown was abandoned after two months when the second Crown hammer became available. Incidentally, this second Crown was in constant use for over 40 years, having been recorded (in a very worn state) on stamps of the late Admiral issue.



The first Ottawa Crown (Slightly enlarged)

Rollers

The history of the study of Roller cancellations is the exact opposite to that of Squared Circles. First introduced in 1894, they were neglected, and even actively disliked by most collectors, who usually threw them on sight into the waste-paper basket. As there was no demand for them, dealers did not stock or sell them.

Then in 1964 Dr. Hollingsworth published an article on Rollers, which showed they were a very interesting study. With the help of the Director, Public Relations, Ottawa, and

(Continued on page 441)

(Montreal plate). All on the poor quality thin wove paper. The Ottawa plates show the denomination twice in the upper margin, over stamps 2 and 3, 18 and 19. The letter "A" is seen above the imprint in the upper margin.

Four re-entries have been recorded:— (a) Three lines instead of two in border of left frame opposite numeral of value (Montreal and Ottawa); (b) 3 at right and all corner lines doubled (Ottawa); (c) upper corners and top frame doubled (Ottawa); (d) partial doubling of lower left corner (printing unknown). An interesting variety seen on stamps in olive-grey takes the form of coloured flaw extending like a plume from the Queen's head behind the tiara to the D in Canada. Another, of recent discovery, has the line delineating the Queen's profile missing from the end of the nose down to the throat; this is found on late Ottawa prints.

Guide dots and offsets may be observed, while imperforates printed in grey-black at Ottawa are hard to find. Die proofs in ultramarine and plate proofs in olive or grey on card are known. The 3c. surcharged 2 Cents is a fake.

Six Cents

This stamp was first issued in January 1872 in yellow-brown on thick white wove paper; soon afterwards a thinner white wove was introduced. The shade varies but little during the "Montreal & Ottawa" and "Montreal" printings; from 1876 stamps perforated in combinations of 11½-12 were released. The Montreal imprint, (B), is found in all four margins and in addition the value is placed at the top over stamp No. 9.

After the move to Ottawa the colour was changed to chestnut, which varies from pale to deep; these stamps were first printed from the Montreal plates, and later from the 20 set Ottawa plates, all on the poor quality thin wove paper. The last printing of this value, made in July 1883, was in deep chocolate-brown on the same paper. Stamps with the Ottawa imprint (C) also have the value in the upper margin over stamps 2 and 3, and 18 and 19, while the letter R is featured above the upper imprint.

Stamps in yellow-brown are known bisected, diagonally in 1874 and vertically in 1886, to make up the 3c. rate. Imperforates are only seen in chestnut, but these may be had with either imprint (B) or (C).

Quite a number of varieties have been found in this value, of which the more prominent follow:— (a) Re-entry—line through CANADA POST and traces of doubling at base, on stamps in yellow-brown; (b) re-entry, doubling downwards at lower corners, stamps in yellow-brown; (c) re-entry, doubling at lower left; (d) re-entry, 6 CENTS doubled to right and doubling at left side of design (c) and (d) are found in a horizontal pair, chestnut shade); (e) re-entry, left part of design doubled under and around CANADA and 6; (f) plate flaw, dot of colour in P of POSTAGE, stamp No. 2, MONTREAL, plate, found in yellow-brown and chestnut;

(g) rectangular coloured flaw extending from base of bust to second foliate ornament above C of CENTS, yellow-brown, perf. 11½ x 12 (only about 10 of these have been found); (h) diagonal stroke of colour across 6 at right.

Guide dots are frequently found on stamps from the Montreal and Ottawa and the Montreal Plates, in some cases two and even three dots being seen on a single stamp. Offsets also exist. Die proofs are known in black and plate proofs in yellow-brown.

Ten Cents

Montreal & Ottawa Plates: November 1874, pale faded magenta, magenta, and deep magenta, on thick to medium white wove paper perforated 12 or combinations of 11½-12. Montreal Plates: 1875, et seq. Various shades of magenta on medium white wove paper perforated 12 or combinations of 11½-12. The Montreal imprint shows in the upper margin, the figures "10" above stamp No. 2 and "TEN" above stamp No. 9. Ottawa printings from both Montreal and Ottawa Plates, March 1888, lilac-rose (shades), 1891, carmine-pink, 1896, salmon-red, dullish brownish-red and pale faded salmon, 1897, pale brownish-red, brownish-red. All on thin wove paper of poor quality. The Ottawa plates carry the denomination placed above stamps 2 and 3, 18 and 19.

The ten cents is a stamp well worth studying, although it is by no means in such good supply as the other values. No important varieties have so far been discovered, although guide dots and offsets may be found. Stamps in lilac-rose, brick-red, and dullish red, Ottawa printings, all exist imperforate. Plate proofs have been seen in deep magenta and in pale lilac.

The "Small Cents" issue of Canada offer an unrivalled field to the specialist. Not only are there the many variations of the kinds mentioned in these notes but a most interesting and valuable display can be got together by studying the many different cancellations and precancels which appear on these stamps. Mint or used, straightforward or with varieties, the writer can think of no other issue which has the same appeal, to student and investor alike.

CROWN AGENTS NEWS

The September number of the Crown Agents Bulletin gives us details that a new definitive issue for Malta has been ordered. The designs are to include the portrait of Her Majesty, together with the Crown, Maltese Cross, the George Cross and will be pictorial. They will all be recess printed.

Sierra Leone new definitives have also been ordered. These are to be two-coloured stamps. Vignettes on all values will be in black; these also will be pictorials and will include portraits of Her Majesty, together with the Crown.

From a complete list of other impressions recorded in the Proof Book kept by the Post Office, Ottawa, from 1908 to 1935. From this list of 2,400 different Rollers was compiled (including about 350 which were issued before 1903). This showed very clearly the disastrous effect of 70 years of neglect and dislike of Roller cancellations. In the popular Squared Circles I have noted above that, out of over 300, only one occurs in the Proof Book which is not known used. With Rollers, however, out of 2,400 more than 1,000 are not known used! What a holocaust there has been! There are now a huge number of Roller rarities to choose from. But I shall leave these alone (as I have never seen them) and deal with a rarity, of a new sort for official cancellations, i.e. errors in engraving the Rollers. There were usually three impressions of the design engraved on a Roller, but latterly with larger designs there were two. If an error in engraving one of these designs was made, the error would repeat every third (or latterly, second) time. I illustrate one of the larger and later type with the mistaken spelling MONTRAEI which repeats every second time. Others show the error MONONTREAL, the name missing completely and the numeral inverted, all on the smaller, three-impression rollers.

Up to date, only a single copy of each of these four errors has been recorded, and they are undoubtedly very rare. It should be noted yet again that three out of the four come from Montreal! Why this high output of rare cancellations from one city, I do not know.

MONTRAEI PD

MONTRAEI PD

MONTRAEI PD

MONTRAEI PD

MONTRAEI PD



22-0
1898



And there is a story connected with it. Somehow it came into the possession of a novice who did not know its value, was not interested in flags, and put it into a club packet at a nominal price. The packet first went to two more novices, who also were not interested in this unique cover. Then it came to a specialist, who lived happily ever after! (Again we find Montreal supplying a three-star item.)

Another flag postmark variety is that with a flag but no flagstaff, without the support of which it could never have flown! It is a beautiful and elaborate design of Victoria, B.C., and popular for that reason, but not rare.

The Barred Circle of 1892

A new pattern of postmark was introduced in 1892 on a limited scale, and issued to eight large towns—Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton, London, Ont., Winnipeg, St. John, N.B., Halifax, N.S. and, for some unknown reason, one small one—Seaforth Ont., which is at least a one star item. It differs from the other eight in having the year in the middle, ONT in the base and NO CANADA (see illustration).



I must also mention and illustrate the barred circle of Montreal, which is at the same time quite rare and quite common! It is definitely rare used as an ordinary postmark cancelling a stamp in 1892; it is common used as a transit cancel on the front or back of registered letters passing through Montreal for many years after 1892. My latest date is 1898.

The illustrations show the difference between the rare Seaforth and the more common other towns.

The Squared Circle

There are very few postmarks, from anywhere in the world, which have been so intensively studied and collected as the Canadian Squared Circles of 1894-1910, thanks largely to the exhaustive research and masterful propaganda of Dr. A. Whitehead. There are several collections in existence occupying a large number of large albums closely packed with this type of postmark!

As most collectors know, there are two types of Squared Circles, the early type I with thin lines, the later type II with thick lines. The rarest Squared Circle of all amongst those from over 300 different post offices is not, as one might expect, a small obscure office, but is Montreal type I, of which no used copy has ever been found, and its existence is known only in the Proof Book in the Philatelic Foundation, New York.

There were two Montreal hammers of type II; one of these is very common, the other is another major rarity with only one complete and one partial strike known. (It is curious how often the name of Montreal recurs in this list of rare Canadian postmarks!) Other Squared Circle rarities, with only one or two examples known, are Coleman, Fonthill, Mission City.

I have never seen any of these, so cannot illustrate them!

But I cannot refrain from illustrating one which I have seen, and which is really very sunny. It is "HIGH STREET TORONTO, OCT. 11 97", a Squared Circle which never existed, and is bogus! I know of three impressions, two on counterfeit engraved Jubilee dollar values, the third—believe it or not—on a 1/2 cent Quebec Tercentenary stamp of 1908, the postmark thus dating the stamp 10 years before it was designed, printed, and issued! How foolish can forgers

The Lost Montreal/Toronto Duplex of 1881

I must mention two more duplex cancellations which are a mystery. In 1881, Pritchard and Andrews made two duplex hammers with a numeral ("1" for Toronto, "2" for Montreal) in a diamond, and took impressions in their Proof Book. Years later, Jarrett evidently found some strikes and recorded them in his 1929 catalogue, on a number of different stamps up to the 3 cents rose-carmine of 1888. Since then, they seem to have disappeared! I have spent 15 years hunting for even a glimpse of either, but with no success. I would rank them as two-star items on cover.

Jubilee Flags of 1897-98

Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee was celebrated by the Canadian Post Office first with a very fine set of stamps (1/2 cent to \$5), and secondly by a very fine set of flag postmarks, of different designs, limited to the larger post offices. One of these designs is called "The Unfinished flag" from the fact that there was no border line on the right (see illustration), and was issued to two post offices only, Ottawa and Montreal. The Ottawa variety is rare, only about six copies being known, but the Montreal variety is unique, only one cover with this postmark having turned up in all these 70 years!

STAMP COLLECTING, October 15th, 1970



10 CENT SMALL QUEEN

OTTAWA PRINTINGS

PERF 12 X 12



Dots

Figure 1G.

Undated York Street
Toronto Roller Cancel

(Note: delete page 8,
Vol. 3, No. 2)



Hook

Figure 2G.