

Small Queen Study Circle of BNAPS

Volume 14 Number 2

December 1989

Welcome to the last issue of 1989. From the reports that I have received, all indications are the 1990 will be a most interesting year for Small Queen enthusiasts. With at least 2 new books on the subject we should expect a considerable amount of interest from fellow collectors who have previously not paid much attention to our Small Queens. During the past six months or so I have noticed that quite a good proportion of new BNAPS members have chosen to join our group. I find this most encouraging.

Contents:

- 1) Business arising from BNAPEX '89
- 1a) Old Business
- 2) Bill's notes and photos
- 3) Special Cover # 2 by George Arfkena continuing series.
- 4) Toronto Cork Cancel update by Ron Leith

1) BNAPEX NOTES

The following notes were provided to me by Ron Leith. Thanks to Ron from all of us who could not attend the meeting in Hamilton.

Ron Leith chaired the meeting which was attended by 23 BNAPS members.

Jack Weatherwax proposed Bill Simpson and Ron Leith in addition to Bill Burden as officers. Motion Carried.

George Arfken suggested that we need 4 newsletters per year. (With continued help from George and others, this should be no problem for 1990. WGB)

A number of suggestions regarding the direction the group should take were made:

- a) Newsletter should cover all topic areas of Small Queens. (Should a member see a relevant article in another source it would be appreciated if I could be notified for possible inclusion in our newsletter. We will need to get author's permission, etc. WGB)
- b) We need to get our newly expanded membership to work updating our earliest/latest reported usage listing.
- c) We need a Small Queen color (and paper) chart (desperately!) It has been suggested that master sheets of the color/paper varieties be made available on loan to the membership. Can anyone help here?
- d) Bill Pawluk has offered to make a checklist of all Small Queen rates (1870-1897). (The editor anxiously awaits news from Bill on this.)
- e) Lew Ludlow has offered a listing of all RPO cancels recorded that are possible on Small Queens. This was gratefully accepted and it was suggested that similar lists from the Perfin and Precancel groups be solicited.

The meeting concluded with a presentation by Bill Simpson on the Six Cent Small Queen, where among other things, Bill showed pictures proving that 2 different 5 on 6's exist! (Different horizontal slashes in the 1st 'A' of Canada.)

1a) OLD BUSINESS

A number of important topics came up during the meeting in Hamilton, but most were not for the first time. I have commented on a few but from the letters that I have been receiving from both new and old members, our main concern is the problem with identification of the printings (Montreal or Ottawa). Possibly a

temporary fix, until we have master sheets to lend, would be for me (and others if they wish) to offer my services on a reasonable basis to members of our group. If members wish to send me small queens and a stamped self addressed envelope, I would be willing to separate the Montreal and Ottawa printings. I would likely note major shade varieties. I would assume that you can use a perf. guage and I would not attempt to determine and/or name the minor shade varieties. I can accept no responsibility for loss in the mails and I would suggest that you send material to me @ P. O. Box 152, Truro, N.S., B2N 5C1. There would be no charge for this, but donations to the group for newsletter costs would be accepted.

I would like to remind members that the BNAPS librarian has back issues of all our newsletters as well as those from our sister group in the CPS of GB.

Bill's Notes and Photos:

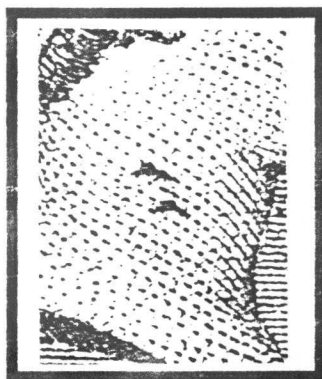
Recently I have been adding new photographic equipment to my philatelic arsenal and I am getting close to the results that I want. I hope to have pictures of at least some of the strand of hair varieties diagrammed in Topics Vol. 46, #3 for the next newsletter.

In this issue I would like to show you close-ups of three different states of the 'Scars on the Neck' which is found on the 3 cent Ottawa printings. (Reiche #52)

In each case the close-up shows no extra black from postmarks. I suspect that most members will agree that the rapid decrease in size of the upper 'scar' strongly indicates that it was a more shallow flaw on the plate.



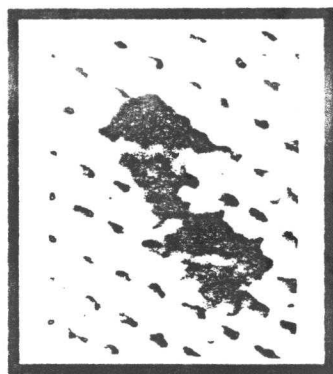
Early



Middle



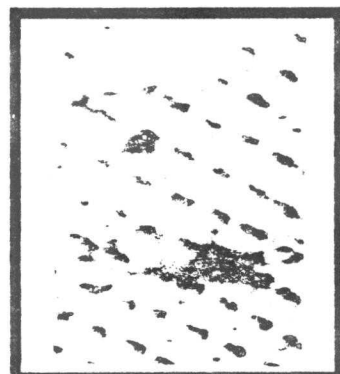
Late



Early '93



Late '93



Late '94

A Special Cover #2

To Scotland - With Difficulty

Figure 1 shows a cover to Edinburgh, Scotland with a 6¢ Small Queen paying the Canadian packet rate. There is also a bold 1d (due). Amid the scribbling on the left is the docketing 1/2/75 for 1 February 1875. There are four backstamps:

PORT HASTINGS, C.B.	JA 8 75
HALIFAX, N.S.	JA 14 75
LIVERPOOL / U.S. PACKET	1 FE 75
EDINBURGH	FE 1 75.

Now, the questions: What happened to this cover? What route did it take? First, the letter was posted in Port Hastings, Cape Breton on the north shore of the Strait of Canso. The letter had to cross the strait by boat and then go by stage or horseback to Halifax or to the Halifax - Pictou Railway. But six days to get to Halifax? Well, it was January. Perhaps there was a real blizzard. The letter was doubtless intended for the Allan packet "Caspian" that sailed from Halifax January 12. The letter was two days late. Arnell's sailing tables [1] show that the next mail ship out of Halifax was the "Nova Scotian," scheduled to sail January 26.

Rail connections along the east coast had been completed from Halifax to the U.S. in November 1872. Rather than wait 12 days for the next Allan packet, this letter was sent by rail to the U.S. So now the questions become: What ship? What date? and What U.S. port? In answering questions like these, the Duckworths' trans Atlantic sailing tables [2] are the easiest to use but they stop with 1872. Happily, a recently published book by Hubbard and Winter [3] gives the trans Atlantic sailing information up through 1875.

The Liverpool date stamp indicates that the cover was unloaded at either Londonderry or Queenstown, Ireland but not at Southampton or Plymouth, England. So we can exclude the German lines that would have left mail at one of the channel ports. We still must consider the Inman Line, the Guion Line and the Cunard Line. (The Allan Line out of Portland, Maine is excluded by the 1d due. Actually, the Allan packet "Hibernian" sailed from Portland January 16 and arrived at Londonderry January 26. Apparently the letter just missed this connection.)

The Inman packet "City of Brooklyn" sailed from New York January 28 but did not arrive in Queenstown until February 7, too late by the Liverpool and Edinburgh postmarks. The Guion packet "Nevada" sailed from New York on January 28 and arrived in Queenstown February 7 - also ruled out. Turning to the Cunard Line, Hubbard and Winter list the steamer "China" sailing from Boston on January 23 and arriving in Queenstown February 1. Mail was moved fast from Queenstown to Dublin to Liverpool to Edinburgh. This February 1 arrival in Queenstown might just be consistent with the February 1 Liverpool and Edinburgh postmarks, maybe.

With no other possibilities coming close, the conclusion is that the cover was carried on the Cunard liner "China." There are two further points of interest. (1) Most Canadian mail going to the U.K. via the U.S. went to New York. This cover shows that some Canadian mail, particularly from the

Maritimes, left from Boston. (2) The Liverpool date stamp specifies U.S. PACKET. If the postmark is not an error, then we must interpret it as "packet from the U.S." The Cunard packet "China" was certainly a British packet.

Oh yes, that 1d postmark. The British Post Office rated the letter due 1 penny to cover the U.S. transit fee. The postage for a letter going via the U.S. (excluding the Allan packets from Portland) was 8¢ per 1/2 oz.

This cover came from Allan Steinhart and Allan had written "Cunard China" on the white label describing the cover. So the identification of the ship as the "China" came as an anticlimax but it's still nice to check on Allan and to find out how he reached his conclusion.

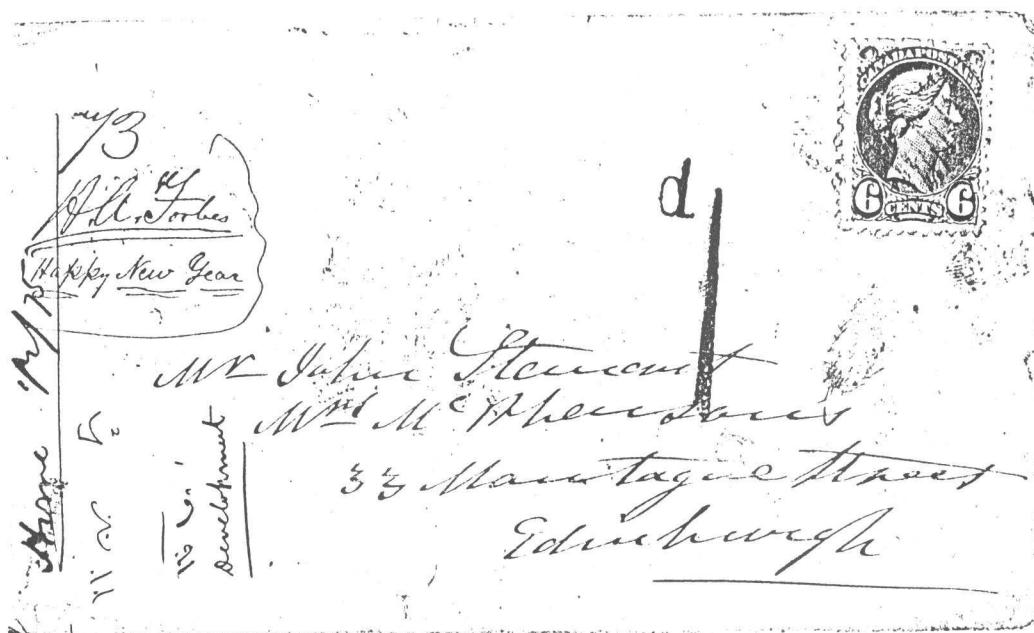


Figure 1. Posted in Port Hastings, C.B., January 8, 1875, a 6¢ Small Queen paid the Canadian packet rate to Scotland. Due 1d.

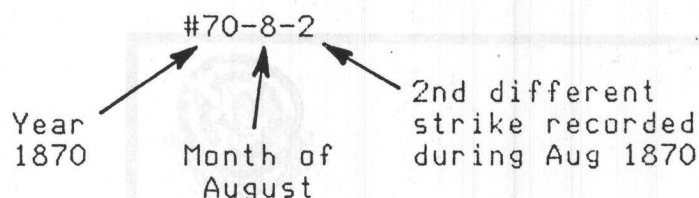
- [1] "Atlantic Mails," J.C. Arnell, National Postal Museum, Ottawa, 1980.
- [2] "The Large Queen Stamps of Canada and Their Use," H.E. and H.W. Duckworth, Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation, Toronto, 1986.
- [3] "North Atlantic Mail Sailings," Walter Hubbard and Richard F. Winter, U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, Inc., Canton, Ohio, 1988.

file: RON\SMQUEEN\TORONTO.2
date: MAY 20,1989
subject: TORONTO CORK CANCELLATIONS 1870-1880

The author wishes to thank those members who responded to the first Toronto cork cancel article. Their input was greatly appreciated and resulted in the final numbering scheme as well as filling in some of the gaping holes in the data base.

You will find the current listings for 1870-1875 at the end of this article. Included is the Earliest recorded Date for the strike (ERD) and the Latest Recorded Date (LRD). The record source is shown by reporter initials. A visual plot was chosen to give a "feel" for the period of use as well as the number of strikes reported for relative scarcity determination at a glance. It also helps to identify gaps where we can expect to find additional hammers. Finally, each cancel is traced chronologically for ease of reference. Simply check the date on your cover and refer to the appropriate year and month for classification.

Let us elaborate on the numbering system. Since the majority of corks survived only a few weeks, we have decided to assign a unique number to each example depending on the year and month it was used. The code simply consists of the last two digits of the year combined with the month number. The final digit is the cork number. These will run from 1 to as many different corks as we record during the given month. Typically we do not expect more than 4, however, there are bound to be exceptions. Consider the case where one has a Toronto cover dated August 10, 1870 with a 7x8 cut grid cork. The cork number would be #70-8-? with the final number representing how many other corks were found in the same month. In this case, there was a different cork recorded on August 3rd. Consequently, this cork was coded #2. The final number is as follows ...



Using this technique, even weak or partial strikes can be easily identified against known strikes. Eventually, a cross reference of strikes by geometric design will be compiled to help identify cork cancels on stamps that are not on cover. This should also define the period of use to within a few weeks ... a potential breakthrough for classifying the Small Queen stamps without requiring dated copies.

Norm Brassler sent in reams of Toronto cork photocopies. He is the fortunate owner of a scarce #70-10-3. This particular cancel has a steel "2" insert that stood up to the use much better than the surrounding cork. Note that the "2" shows damage with a flattened top (figure 1). The October number date is undecipherable on the photocopy and Norm will try and update us from the original cover. Norm also supplied us with a beautiful and scarce #72-10-3 double segmented ring "2" cancel on an October 22, 1872 cover (figure 2). Two Ring collectors can update their listings with this latest recorded date of use. Norm also sent us a #74-5-1 "star" previously recorded by Jarrett as 1870 but now dated in May 1874 (figure 3). It is highly unlikely that this cork survived 4 years of service and was most likely originally listed in error. Jarrett also lists #72-5-3 in July 1872. By mid June this cork had deteriorated dramatically and could not have possibly produced the perfect strike as shown by Jarrett. We suspect this was a case of JU/JY confusion. In any case, we are strongly recommending visual confirmation on all Jarrett and Day/Smythies data.



FIGURE 1: SCARCE EXAMPLE OF #70-10-3 (BRASSLER COLLECTION)

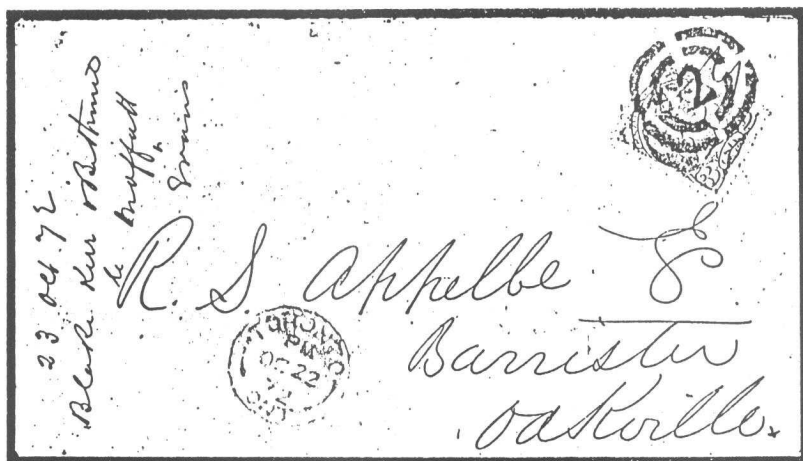


FIGURE 2: FINE EXAMPLE OF LRD #72-10-3 (BRASSLER COLLECTION)

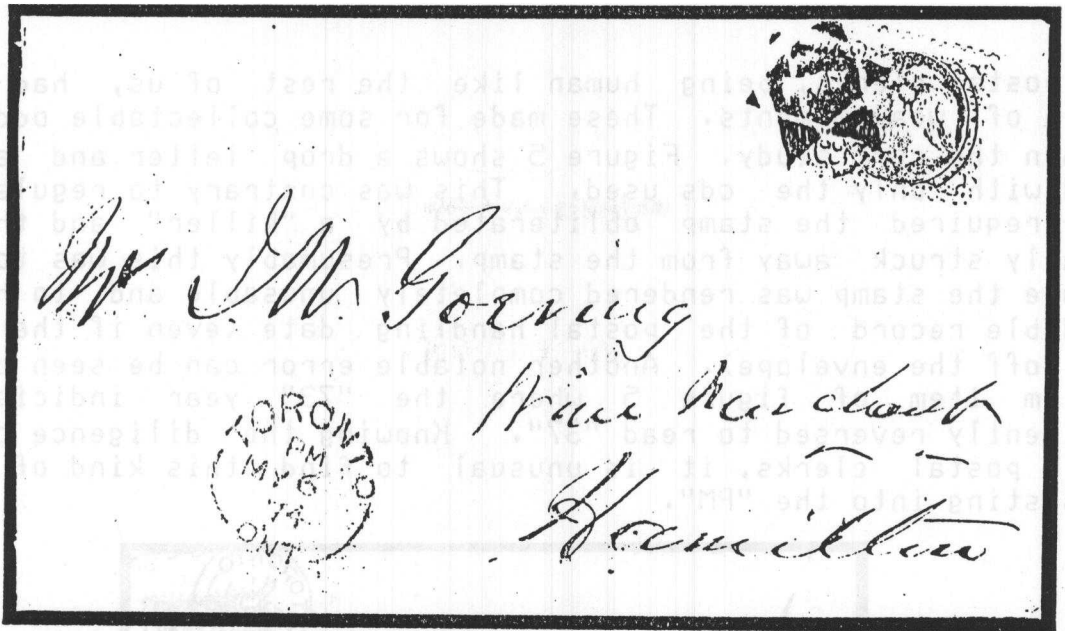


FIGURE 3: #74-5-1 PREVIOUSLY REPORTED BY JARRETT IN 1870
(BRASSLER COLLECTION)

Many thanks to George Olson who shared a number of his fine Toronto corks including an outstanding #75-5-1. This has to be one of the prettiest covers seen with three clear strikes against the orange 1c strip of three (figure 4). George also supplied #71-9-3 with the date now confirmed on Sept 29, 1871. This is distinctly different from the Sept 11th strike of #71-9-2.



FIGURE 4: AN OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE OF #75-5-1 ON A STRIP OF THREE
ORANGE YELLOW PERF 11 1/2 x 12

The postal clerks, being human like the rest of us, had their share of weak moments. These made for some collectable oddities within the cork study. Figure 5 shows a drop letter and a post card with only the cds used. This was contrary to regulations that required the stamp obliterated by a "killer" and the cds clearly struck away from the stamp. Presumably this was to both ensure the stamp was rendered completely unusable and to have a readable record of the postal handling date (even if the stamp fell off the envelope). Another notable error can be seen on the bottom item of figure 5 where the "73" year indicia was accidentally reversed to read "37". Knowing the diligence of the early postal clerks, it is unusual to find this kind of error persisting into the "PM".



FIGURE 5: SOME COLLECTABLE VARIATIONS OF TORONTO CORK CANCELS. EXAMPLES OF CORKS NOT USED ON A DROP LETTER AND A POST CARD CONTRARY TO REGULATIONS. ALSO A REVERSE YEAR INDICIA THAT WENT UNDETECTED INTO THE PM.

Although this study is in the early stages, there are some noteworthy observations that are worth mentioning. First, not unexpectedly, the period of cork cancel use was found to overlap with #72-4-1 and #72-4-2. This implies that either more than one hammer was in use at a particular office or different cork hammers were in use at different offices at the same time. Both scenarios may be true and a clearer picture should evolve as more data is entered. Secondly, there is evidence of additional cuts made by postal clerks or cracks evolving from wear during the life of a number of corks. Good examples are #71-7-3 and #72-5-3. Third, the period of January 1870 to June 1870 is curiously void of cork cancels. It should be interesting to see if this is simply a function of the scarcity of the copper red stamps on cover that do not often surface for sale or is it a legitimate void?

The final page of this article is the current compilation of Toronto cork cancels that have "unknown" periods of use. Should you possess any of these items on cover, please send a photocopy to the author. The same applies for any previously unrecorded cancels. We will be able to establish scarcity if you send in a record of all dated Toronto corks (photocopies are not required for items already listed).

The author wishes to again thank Norman Brassler and George Olson for their input.

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Box 430
Abbotsford, BC V2S-5Z5
Tel: 604-850-1137

ERD(REC) LRD(REC) J F M A M J J A S O N D

ERD(REC)	LRD(REC)	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
70-01-1	JA ?(J)*	o											
70-01-2	JA ?(C)*	o											
70-01-3	JA ?(C)*	o											
70-02-1													
70-02-2													
70-02-3													
70-03-1													
70-03-2													
70-03-3													
70-04-1													
70-04-2													
70-04-3													
70-05-1													
70-05-2													
70-05-3													
70-06-1													
70-06-2													
70-06-3													
70-07-1	JY22(NB)							•					
70-07-2	JY27(RL)							•					
70-07-3													
70-08-1	AU 3(RL)												
70-08-2	AU10(NB)												
70-08-3													
70-09-1	SP 2(RL)												
70-09-2	SP ?(C)*												
70-09-3													
70-10-1	OC ?(C)*												
70-10-2	OC24(RL)												
70-10-3	OC2-(NB)												
70-11-1	NO 5(NB)												
70-11-2													
70-11-3													
70-12-1	DE 6(RL)												
70-12-2	DE 7(NB)												
70-12-3	DE29(RL)												

MONTH	1	2	3	4
JAN				
FEB				
MAR				
APR				
MAY				
JUN				
JUL				
AUG				
SEP				
OCT				
NOV				
DEC				

RECORD INPUTS:

C COHEN ET AL
D&S DAY & SMYTHIES
GO GEORGE OLSON
J JARRETT
NB NORM BRASSIER
RL RON LEITH

* DATE UNCONFIRMED BY AUTHOR
? DATE UNAVAILABLE
• CONFIRMED ENTRY
o UNCONFIRMED ENTRY

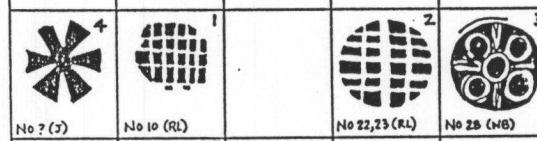
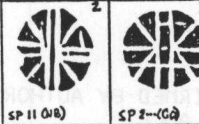
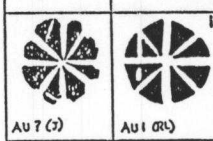
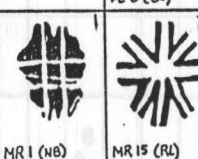
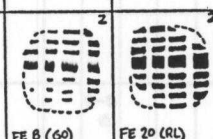
NOTE: ORIGINAL TRACINGS REDUCED 50%

TORONTO CORK CANCELLATIONS - 1870 TO 1880

1871
MONTH

ERD(REC) LRD(REC) J F H A M J J A S O N D

ERD(REC) LRD(REC)	J	F	H	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	MONTH
71-01-1 71-01-2 71-01-3													JAN
71-02-1 71-02-2 71-02-3	FE 8(GO)	FE20(RL)	••										FEB
71-03-1 71-03-2 71-03-3	MR 1(NB)	MR15(RL)		•	•								MAR
71-04-1 71-04-2 71-04-3	AP26(RL)				•								APR
71-05-1 71-05-2 71-05-3	MY22(RL)					•							MAY
71-06-1 71-06-2 71-06-3													JUN
71-07-1 71-07-2 71-07-3	JY20(RL)	JV27(NB)	AU 1(RL)			•	•						JUL
71-08-1 71-08-2 71-08-3	AU ?(J)*							○					AUG
71-09-1 71-09-2 71-09-3	SP11(NB)	SP2-(GO)							•	○			SEP
71-10-1 71-10-2 71-10-3													OCT
71-11-1 71-11-2 71-11-3 71-11-4	NO10(RL)	NO22(RL)	NO23(RL)								•	•	NOV
71-12-1 71-12-2 71-12-3	DE15(NB)											•	DEC



ERD(REC)	LRD(REC)	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
72-01-1	JA 2(RL)	•											
72-01-2	JA 3(RL)	•											
72-01-3	JA17(NB)	•											
72-01-4	JA22(RL)	•											
72-02-1													
72-02-2	FE24(RL)		•										
72-02-3													
72-03-1													
72-03-2													
72-03-3													
72-04-1	AP 6(RL) AP26(NB)			•	•								
72-04-2	AP 8(RL)												
72-04-3													
72-05-1													
72-05-2													
72-05-3	MY31(RL) JU15(RL)					•	•						
72-06-1													
72-06-2	JU14(NB)												
72-06-3	JU20(NB)												
72-07-1													
72-07-2													
72-07-3													
72-08-1													
72-08-2													
72-08-3	AU22(RL) AU28(NB)												
72-09-1	SP 6(RL)												
72-09-2	SP10(RL)												
72-09-3													
72-10-1	OC 4(RL)												
72-10-2													
72-10-3	OC22(NB)												
72-11-1													
72-11-2													
72-11-3													
72-12-1													
72-12-2													
72-12-3													

MONTH	1	2	3	4
JAN	JA 2 (RL)	JA 3 (RL)	JA 17 (NB)	JA 22 (RL)
FEB			FE 24 (RL)	
MAR				
APR	AP 9 (NB)	AP 26 (NB)	AP 6 (RL)	AP 8 (RL)
MAY	MY 7 (J)			MY 31 (RL)
JUN	JU 5 (RL)	JU 11 (NB)	JU 15 (RL)	JU 20 (NB)
JUL				
AUG			AU 21, 28 (RL)	
SEP	SP 6 (RL)	SP 10 (RL)		
OCT	OC 4 (RL)		OC 22 (NB)	
NOV				
DEC				

RECORD INPUTS:
=====

- C COHEN ET AL
- D&S DAY & SMYTHIES
- GO GEORGE OLSON
- J JARRETT
- NB NORM BRASSIER
- RL RON LEITH

* DATE UNCONFIRMED BY AUTHOR
? DATE UNAVAILABLE

ERD(REC) LRD(REC) J F M A M J J A S O N D

ERD(REC) LRD(REC)	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	MONTH
73-01-1 73-01-2 73-01-3													JAN
73-02-1 73-02-2 73-02-3		•	•										FEB
73-03-1 73-03-2 73-03-3			•										FEB
73-04-1 73-04-2 73-04-3													FEB
73-05-1 73-05-2 73-05-3						•							MAR
73-06-1 73-06-2 73-06-3							•						MAR
73-07-1 73-07-2 73-07-3													APR
73-08-1 73-08-2 73-08-3							•						APR
73-09-1 73-09-2 73-09-3								•					MAY
73-10-1 73-10-2 73-10-3													MAY
73-11-1 73-11-2 73-11-3													JUN
73-12-1 73-12-2 73-12-3											•	•	JUN
													JUL
													AUG
													SEP
													OCT
													NOV
													DEC

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Diagrammatic symbols for cancellations:

- FE 15 (RL)**: Circle with 'X' and '2'
- FE 26 (RL)**: Circle with star and '3'
- MR 13 (RL)**: Grid with '1'
- MY 21 (RL)**: Grid with '2'
- AU 13 (NB)**: Circle with star and '2'
- SP 12 (60)**: Three horizontal bars with '2'
- DE 10 (NB)**: Circle with 'O' and '2'
- DE 20 (RL)**: Grid with '3'
- DE 27 (60)**: Grid with '3'

TORONTO CORK CANCELLATIONS - 1870 TO 1880

1874

MONTH

ERO(REC) LRO(REC) J F M A M J J A S O N D

ERO(REC) LRO(REC)	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
74-01-1 74-01-2 74-01-3												
74-02-1 74-02-2 74-02-3												
74-03-1 MR 6(RL) 74-03-2 74-03-3			●									
74-04-1 74-04-2 74-04-3												
74-05-1 MY 6(NB) 74-05-2 MY14(RL) 74-05-3					●	●						
74-06-1 JU 2(RL) 74-06-2 74-06-3						●						
74-07-1 74-07-2 74-07-3												
74-08-1 74-08-2 74-08-3												
74-09-1 74-09-2 74-09-3												
74-10-1 74-10-2 74-10-3												
74-11-1 74-11-2 74-11-3												
74-12-1 74-12-2 74-12-3												

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
JAN												
FEB												
MAR												
APR												
MAY												
JUN												
JUL												
AUG												
SEP												
OCT												
NOV												
DEC												








RECORD INPUTS:
=====

- C COHEN ET AL
- D&S DAY & SMYTHIES
- GO GEORGE OLSON
- J JARRETT
- NB NORM BRASSLER
- RL RON LEITH

- * DATE UNCONFIRMED BY AUTHOR
- ? DATE UNAVAILABLE

ERD(REC) LRD(REC) J F M A M J J A S O N D

75-01-1	75-01-2	75-01-3	75-02-1	75-02-2	75-02-3	75-03-1	75-03-2	75-03-3	75-04-1	75-04-2	75-04-3	75-05-1	75-05-2	75-05-3	75-06-1	75-06-2	75-06-3	75-07-1	75-07-2	75-07-3	75-08-1	75-08-2	75-08-3	75-09-1	75-09-2	75-09-3	75-10-1	75-10-2	75-10-3	75-11-1	75-11-2	75-11-3	75-12-1	75-12-2	75-12-3									
JA22(NB)																																												
FE13(RL)																																												
MY 6(RL)																																												
JY-6(NB)																																												
AU 2(RL)																																												

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
 JA 22 (NB)	 FE 13 (RL)			 MY 6 (RL)		 JY --6 (NB)	 Au 2 (RL)				

RECORD INPUTS:

=====

- C COHEN ET AL
- D&S DAY & SMYTHIES
- GO GEORGE OLSON
- J JARRETT
- NB NORM BRASSIER
- RL RON LEITH

* DATE UNCONFIRMED BY AUTHOR
 ? DATE UNAVAILABLE

TORONTO CANCELS - UNKNOWN DATES



D&S-144
? / 170



D&S-145
? / ?



J-895
? / 170



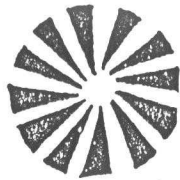
D&S-830
? / 171



D&S-112a
? / 171



D&S-43a
? / 171



D&S-855
? / 170



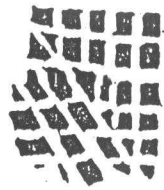
D&S-624
? / 171



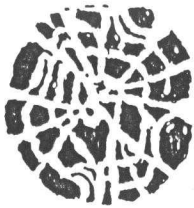
D&S-841
? / 171



D&S-43b
? / 174



D&S-858a
? / 174



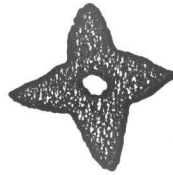
D&S-829a
? / 174



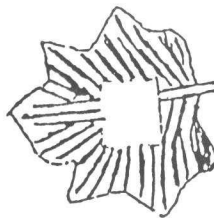
D&S-830a
? / 174



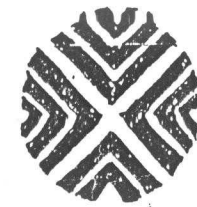
FE 13/7?
5x5 cut



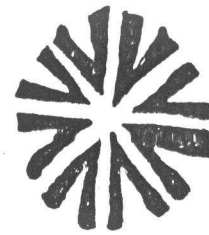
D&S-78
? / 170-80



D&S-74
? / 170



D&S-839
? / ?



MY
or JY 20/74



date?? (MS)



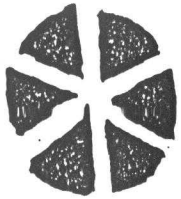
D&S-6
? / 175



D&S-811
? / 176



D&S-568
? / 179



D&S-851
? / 180



D&S-711
? / 180



D&S-312
? / 190



D&S-181
? / 187

what does "LA" represent??