THE 1898 CHRISTMAS MAP STAMP NEWSLETTER

 The Journal of the 1999 Map Stamp Study Group - British North America Philatelic Society President: Fred Fawn - 20 Palomino Crescent, Toronto, ON, M2K 1W1 Sec-Tres. & Asst. Editor - Roger Boisclair, 17 Rue de l'Orbite, Hull, Que., J9A 3C7 Editor: Dr. John T. Anders, P.O. Box 122, Stn. Main, Barrie, ON, L4M 4S9

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Whole # 5

Editorial by Dr. John J. Anders

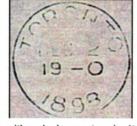
Only two responses were received regarding changing the masthead of the Newsletter (see 'A word from your new Editor, whole number 4) and thus it must be assumed that the present title is acceptable to the majority. So it shall be.

Also, I have not been inundated with material for future issues, and must once again implore the membership to contribute items in ordfer to continue the publication. Our purpose is for members to study the many aspects of the Map stamp and to report and share their findings through the pages of the Newsletter. A wonderful method and a great tool for members to share information and knowledge. Our only mode of communication, as a group, is by way of this newsletter. There are no formal meetings, although informal gatherings take place at National and Regional stamp shows.

I invite you to further explore the possibilities of increasing the enjoyment of our hobby by becoming an active and parcticipating member of the study group.

«MAP: THE EARLIEST REPORTED POSTMARK» by Fred Fawn

In 1998 I reported the existence of a Map cover with a December 2 1898 Toronto Flag cancel (The Canadian Philatelist (T.C.P), Vol.49, No.2) and at that time received a number of favourable comments. Two issues later, one of our members in a letter to the Editor (T.C.P. Vol.49, No.4) was incredulous, writing that « he doubts that that it probably happened ». That contention queries whether delivery time from Ottawa to Toronto and posting the same day was possible. Readers were again asked in Newsletter # 3, Nov 2000, for a train schedule of December 2, 1898. A Dec 2 1898 Post Office Department circular to Postmasters stated: « The new (Map) stamp will be available forthwith ». Also the Dec 2 1898 TORONTO TELEGRAM reported that « Mulock presided over the first printings of the Map stamp ». We all know that the owner of the TORONTO TELEGRAM, John Ross Robertson, was not only a leading member of Canadian society but also a great promoter of the Map stamp in Canada and England as well. The adressee of the DEC 2 cover is Confederation Life of Toronto. Can we imagine the cream of Toronto society standing at Union Station awaiting the arrival of the train carrying crates of Map stamps? It's rather like today's U.S. President lining up at a Delta Airlines tourist class. As reported earlier, the LONDON STAMPSHOW 2000 examination of all material was most stringent. When the judges viewed the Dec 2 cover, the critique was: « since this is a most important piece, it should be alone on the page; remove the other stamps ». Nice endorsement. <u>Note</u>: Opinions of readers are sollicited at any time whoever the author. One must remember that expressing a different regard over things can sometimes raise attention with some new aspects. In the present case, we want to thank our President in reporting such a rarity, especially since it has been exhibited and judged during the reputed London Stampshow 2000. R.B. Asst-Ed.



At the January PHILEX show I found a Map stamp with a December 2 1898 cancel. Just like the cover, it also was cancelled in Toronto,

with a duplex postmark. Its GREENE FOUNDA-TION certificate states: « Canada Scott No. 85, used,

dated December 2, 1898, genuine in all respects ».



By Editor Dr. John T. Anders & Assistant-Editor Roger.Boisclair@sympatico.ca

This is a new column that will be used from now on by your Executive Board Committee.

1.- From the Editor. Good news: our Editor Dr. John T. Anders will have an e-mail address soon. Details to follow in next newsletter. To those who also have an e-mail address not shown in Whole # 3 or for which I am not aware, <u>please let me know</u> as it is a very effective and quick mean of communication. R.B. A-Ed.

2.- From our President (thefawnfamily@yahoo.com)

Our President Fred Fawn wishes to express the following appreciation on behalf of our Group:

a) TO THE VINCENT GRAVES GREENE FOUNDATION. «While browsing at the Vincent Graves Greene Foundation's library the other day, I came across the title «Map Stamp Study Group». It contains our study group's newsletter and is available to visiting members. On behalf of our Study Group, I would like to thank Harry Sutherland for this most welcome contribution.

The library was initially formed in 1955 by the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada. The Vinvent Graves Green Foundation also developed an extensive philatelic library. It was felt that philately would be better served by amalgamating the two libraries. Consequently, the Society's library was donated to the Foundation in April 1988. Since that time, the combined library is housed in the Foundation's premises.»

b) TO THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN (CPS). «Upon my request, David F. Sessions, Editor of Maple Leaves, the journal of the CPS, passed an open invitation to their members through an editorial of their April 2001 Journal to join our Study Group. I wish to thank Mr. Sessions for this very kind help.»

3.- From the Secretary-Treasurer

- **Membership renewal** is slow again this year. Up to now, as many as 10 members did not forward their annual dues yet. If you receive a notice along with this newsletter, please take action now.
- Address change. Member # 18, Stuart D. Reddington: RR2, Brampton, ON L6V 1A1
- New members. Our membership list is now amended with the following additions:
 # 26, Peter Spencer, S-2030, Brock Fourth line, Rural Route 4, Sunderland, ON. L0C 1H0
 # 27, John P. Wynns, P.O. Box 1995, Dayton, Nevada 89403-1995 USA
 # 28, Dr. John E. Milks, 2411 Charing Cross Rd, NW, Canton, Ohio 44708, USA
- 5.- From BNAPS. A change occurred recently with the venue of Herbert Trenchard who accepted to take the relief of David H. Whiteley as BNAPS Study Group Reporter. We know that Herbert will read our newsletter, so welcome aboard Herbert! We think that a strong reporting about our newsletter will help us with the recruitment of new members in our Study Group. Your good work will be much appreciated!

6.- About BNAPEX-2001

- After several insisting invitations by Doug Lingard, President of BNAPEX-2001, Roger Boisclair finally decided to enter his collection in the exhibition even if it is mounted in french.
- <u>CONVENTION INVITATION</u>. Information on BNAPEX-2001 can be obtained through BNAPEX-2001 Organising Committee. Contacts are as follows : Doug Lingard, Chair BNAPEX-2001, 2425 Blackstone Crescent, Ottawa, ON K1B 4H3 (613) 737-4863, e-mail : lingardd@istar.ca . Registration form and payment made payable to BNAPEX-2001 must be sent to Dr. Robert C. Smith, Box 9383, Alta Vista Terminal, Ottawa, ON Canada, K1G 3V1.
- WEB SITE: More information at the following URL: http://www.bnaps.org/
- <u>AUCTION</u>. We have received the following invitation from Andy Ellwood, Convention Auction Coordinator: « BNAPS 2001 annual Convention will be held in Ottawa next Aug 31 to Sept. 1 & 2, 2001. It will include an auction featuring specialized BNA material. This is an excellent opportunity to dispose of specialzed stamps and covers which are difficult to sell in normal ways. » Andy can be reached at the following e-mail: Andy_Ellwood@msn.com or through the organising committee contacts - see above.

STUDY GROUP MEETING?

I hereby sollicit all members to let me know if there is an interest to call for our very first Study Group Meeting during BNAPEX-2001 in Ottawa. To date, only 3 of our members have confirmed officially their attendance: Joseph Smith, John P. Wynns and myself. I am willing to organise this meeting provided that we have at least 5 other members who commit to attend. A guick response is needed as we must inform the organising committee no later than the end of June, beginning July at the latest, in order to be included in the Program and to book a timeframe in a boardroom. We need also to develop an agenda. For the moment, I am considering to prepare a slide show on the flag cancellations on Maps. A Study Group Meeting during a BNAPEX convention is a unique opportunity for recruitment. If we agree to this meeting, I suggest to vote a special budget envelope to cover the reproduction cost of this whole No. 5 for distribution in hope to recruit a few additional new members. Please let me know your interest by the end of June / beginning July at the latest! R.B. Asst-Ed.

WHAT

MEMBERS HAVE

SAY?

TO

This is OUR members ramblings' column, i.e., an open invitation for feedback, questions & suggestions, projects proposals, reports on philatelic events where you attended or that you plan to attend, etc. Please let us know about you as often as possible!

It looks like our message got out there as both Fred, John and I have received a few letters and notes from different members. Hopefully that it will keep on going like that in the months to come!

Donald Krause (#21) sent two letters, one to the Editor and one to the Assistant-Editor:

« ... I very much appreciate the invitation in the Newsletter to other members of the Study Group asking if anyone else could help me with the mint plate 5 material I want to add to my collection. I sincerely hope the request will bring results. I'll be looking forward to mail from Canada! Regarding Mr. Pekonen's request for Orb cancels, I was unable to find any in the handful of used copies in my collection. I also want to say how much I appreciate the blow-ups and the illustrations of some of the more elusive plate varieties found on this stamp. I was especially delighted when I examined my two copies of position 1A12 and found the faint diagonal line through China reported by Mr. Au and illustrated on page 35 of the Newsletter. Unfortunately, I have no copy of position 1A54 to check for the variety illustrated by Dr. Jim Watt. Finally, I need some help. Being somewhat new to collecting the Map stamp and only having limited pratice, I find myself unable to successfully use the Tonkin Gulf Details (Bradley p.14) when trying to plate a stamp in question. I simply have no confidence in my judgement regarding the location (direction and distance) of the « Dot » and/or placement of the Arc. Does anyone have some helpful suggestions on how to reliably use the Tonkin Gulf Details? Or, is it only to be used when all other means for positive identification have first been used to the fullest? »

Note: Anyone can help Donald with his demands? R.B. Asst-Ed.

- David Spencer (#26) receiving the newsletters for the first time...: « Your very welcome large package of Map Stamp Newsletters arrived last week. Thank you for the large amount of extra work you did to prepare these for me. The level of illustration in these newsletters must surely place them as one of the best series I have ever seen. Congratulations! »
- Manfred Eichele (# 24) said in a 'Direct from Switzerland' letter to The Editor:

« Dear Dr. J.T. Anders. I was very pleased to receive No 4 of Map Newsletter. This is the only source of knowledge about this I can obtain here. I well remember my late friend W. Bradley who supported me with knowledge about the 'Map' and gave me very useful advice. Also he provided me with re-entries and other material in exchange with Swiss stamps. Maybe that I will hear from one or another member who want some Swiss Stamps in exchange?

Note: This is just another proof that W. Bradley was a very nice person. Anybody having an interest in Swiss stamps and who would be willing to correspond with Manfred will certainly be welcome! R.B. Asst-Ed.

David Nicol (#15) said within an e-mail to Roger:

«... I am now in receipt of your last e-mail, and the recent newsletter. I have checked my maps for the orb cancels for Bill Pekonen's request, but have found only two, both London 3 rings, and both with indicia 21. I also checked my plate 5 material, and do have several of the positions that Donald is seeking, but all are in used condition.

I have thought about how to contribute to the newsletter myself. In this regards I thought I would start with a suggestion as follows. In order to encourage input from each individual might it not be best to get everyone to submit an introductory paragraph or two. Something that explains how they became a

map enthusiast, what area of the map that they collect, such as covers, etc. Maybe a story of how they got into stamp collecting itself. We could do a profile on one or two individuals each newsletter, and hopefully this will let each of us know more of the others. (<u>Note</u>: What a fantastic proposal! We certainly welcome it. <u>Who will be the next</u>? R.B., Asst-Ed.)

For myself, I have been collecting stamps for about 35 years. I started with, and still maintain a general collection of Canada. I have several specialized collections, including varieties, railway cancels, Admiral precancels, small queens, large queens. +++My interest in the map stamps came out of my collecting varieties. Over the years I built up a large collection of re-entries as part of my variety collection. There were of course several copies of the map stamp. As I discovered the intriguing variety that is displayed by the map stamp I started to build up a more dedicated map collection. I currently possess about 600 copies, and am constantly growing. My interest is specific to the plate positions. My goal is to complete a collection of every position from all plates, and in all shades. I am also trying to sort by state.

This is why I was asking your advice on how to collect and display. I have tried several times to create an album in which to display a collection of map 'varieties', but keep coming up with something that turns out too gaudy. Maybe simplicity is the key? In the meantime I am resorting to good old Hagner pages. (Note: David welcomes any pertinent suggestions. Who will have the courage to send him a letter? R.B. Asst-Ed.)

Which brings me to another input suggestion. How about a 'position of the month' article. Try to get every one to submit a little something about a specific position from their own collection. A nice copy, state information, a nice cancel or cover, etc. (Note: We certainly warmly welcome this suggestion. Francis Au and I have contributed several times with such material. <u>Who is next</u>? R.B. Asst-Ed.)

- John P. Wynns (# 27) said: « ... I will visit BNAPEX-2001 next August-September. I have just started to collect the Map stamp as a side line to my main interest in the Québec Tercentenary issue. I am looking for combo covers/picture postcards with the Map & Québec Issue. I hope Canada Post will issue a stamp on stamp issue in 2008 for the 400th. anniversary of Québec, maybe a sheet of 8 with all values. I do like very much the new 3 pence Beaver 47c stamp. Will you be using them on your mail to fellow collectors? I have ordered 10 booklets from Canada Post and will be using them on my visits to Canada this year. »
 <u>Note</u>: Be sure that I will do my best to use the new 3 pence beaver stamps. Anybody can help John in his research for covers franked with both a Map stamp and one of the Québec Tercentenary issue stamps? R.B. Asst-Ed.
- Joseph Smith (# 20) wrote: « ... I am writing you to let you know that I have been enjoying the newsletter. I wrote to Bill Pekonen and added my list of known dates mostly for the London Orb but also had 1 for Hamilton. I notice you are looking for a Time Mark (TM) 23 from London and as it turns out, I have one that I will bring you to BNAPEX-2001 in Ottawa later this summer if interested. »
 <u>Note</u>: Of course that I am interested! Very happy about that! I have been corresponding with Joe since a while. We will then meet for the first time! Bravo! Hope I will also meet with many other members too! R.B. Asst-Ed.
- Dr. J.E. Milks (# 28) receiving the newsletter for the first time... « Many thanks for the newsletter. I am looking forward to receiving other copies in the future to see where interest lie. I hope to contribute items myself when I have definitive information which would add to our knowledge on the printing operation of the map stamp.» Note: Great idea, I'm sure there is interest from all of us. We look forward reading you! R.B. A-Ed.
- Question. We are solliciting help with the following question: "How old-time Map Stamp Collectors can be of some help to the other 1898 Christmas Map Stamp newcomers?" This Sudy Group needs suggestions from the knowledgeable ones. Come on! ... Let us know your suggestions, advice, recommendations, etc.!

Challenge on recruitment: YOUR HELP WANTED!

Our President has made serious efforts to recruit probably the majority of our membership since the beginning of our study group. Now, we need an effort from each members in taking whatever action necessary to recruit new members. In order to ensure the viability of our Study Group, we need to reach a membership of 50 at least. Please take the time to pass the invitation to your friends, at your philatelic Club, or wherever to bring a new member to our Study Group! A copy of our aplication form is attached.

____- -- 0 0 0 - - _____

The re-entered Plate 5: comparison between State 1 & State 2

by Roger.Boisclair@sympatico.ca

The existence of two states on Plate 5 has been an open issue for years as almost nothing visual has ever been shown on this. This area is especially and particularly challenging given that it requires at first to certify the plating of the material to be from Plate 5. But as one will see, it is certainly as rewarding to the map student as any other type of Canadian stamp variety for which the philatelic markets have recognised a high interest for many years. State 1 defines before re-entry and state 2 after re-entry.

As mentioned by Tomlinson¹ on page 6, the existence of both states has been questioned by several students of the Map stamp while he recalls the existence of a private correspondence written by Mr. Lees-Jones as early as 1930. A few years later, an official report on this issue came in 1945 with Boggs² mentioning on page 341 ... « *The numerous re-entries on plate 5 indicate that the plate was probably entirely re-entered* ». A year later in 1946, Col. Adams³ also raised indirectly the question through an article in the London Philatelist: «*The transfers from the die for the engraved part of the stamps seem to have been made rather hurriedly as a blurred <u>or double transfer</u> is often evident». Of special interest, he also adds on page 34... « <i>Stamps 17, 18, 19, 45 show double guide lines, one of which was evidently drawn incorrectly in the first instance* ».

Practically speaking, what does this central guide line looks like? Even if faint, the author confirms that the double central guide lines are visible on some copies. *Figure 1* below shows an enlargement of position 19, which, in my opinion, is the easiest one to see the double central guide line phenomenon. Copies clearly showing evidence of the feature do not appear to be easy to locate, probably because of the worn state that quickly appeared in the life of the plate. Nevertheless, copies probably printed in the earliest stage during the printing process as well as those graced with a decent amount of black ink are still truly possible to spot. The enlargement herein originates from a used copy with bright blue green ocean. Even if very faint, hopefully the vestige of both central guide lines distant about 1 millimetre from each other can still be seen by the reader as I confirm without any doubt that they both clearly show on the stamp.



Figure 1: Pos. 5-B-19, state 2 with double central guide line.

Question

The question that can be raised is: «would the phenomenon raised by Col. Adams mean that it could represent a candidate feature to demonstrate the difference between the two states?» Of the four positions suggested by Adams, Bradley ⁴ confirms the existence of the double central guide line only on three of them, i.e. Pos. 17-19. After close examination, the author has also ruled out Pos. 45 too. As mentionned above, several previous reputed students inferred that the complete plate 5 was 'probably' totally re-entered. On the other hand, a thorough examination of Bradley's book reveals the existence of 47 re-entries qualified as 'minor' and a total of 7 qualified as 'major', thus making the striking demonstration that at least 54 Plate 5 positions have been re-entered ⁵. The shift by nature is not constant but a number are about 0,5 mm. to the left and about 0,5 mm. lower than the original entry. Assuming the re-entry operation as being effectively true, my opinion is that the double central guide line cannot be retained as a feature to demonstrate a visual difference between the two states because it would show on a much larger number of subjects in the plate. Indeed, the fact that it can be found only on three positions tends to support this opinion. Also, Bradley reports no re-entry for position 19 in his book.

 ¹ Tomlinson, Frederick, <u>The Canadian Map Stamp of 1898</u>, a handbook of CPSGB, Regency Press, Brighton England, 1960, reprint 1972, 47 pages.
 ² Winthrop S. Boggs, <u>The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada</u>, Chambers Publishing Company, Kalamazoo, Michigan, U.S.A., 1945, 2 volumes. Reprinted in only one volume by Quarterman Publications Inc., Lawrence, Massachusetts, U.S.A., December 1975, 870 pages.

³ Colonel C.C. Adams, <u>The 1898 Map Stamp of Canada</u>, The London Philatelist, March 1946, pp 28-34.

⁴ Whitney L. Bradley, <u>The Canadian Map Stamp of 1898 - A Plating Study</u>, a handbook of BNAPS, 1988, 188 pages.

⁵ The total number of plated Plate 5 position re-entries as identified by Bradley is 54. There are 7 that he consideres as 'major' re-entries, see his book on page 15: Pos. 29, 32, 42, 43, 44, 91 and 92. The terminoly used to qualify a re-entry as 'minor' generally talks about 'doubling' or 'fuzziness'. Hennok Auction # 103, lot 208, held in September 1995 came from Bradley's collection and contained a list of 47 (not 44 as mentionned in the auction catalogue) 'minor' re-entries on Plate 5 as follows: Pos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 23, 24, 28, 31, 33, 24, 36, 45, 52, 53, 54, 55, 62, 63, 64, 66, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 81, 82, 83, 87, 88, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

inventory of what can be reported

In the paragraph pertaining to the Black plate of Plate 5 on page 1 of his book, Bradley mentions that ... « This (black) colour is quite apparent when copies from Plate 1 are compared with copies from Plate 5. On Plate 5 the lines of latitude and longitude are more readily seen because they appear blacker and thicker. » In my opinion, the blacker and thicker appearance of the shaded areas also confirm the whole plate 5 re-entry theory as shown within the series of images included at the end of this article. Bradley also reports (see page 16) having identified 7 positions of state 1, i.e. Pos. 23, 35, 42, 54, 56, 63 & 92. All of them being now in possession of the author, I note for the record that position 23 is mint. A futher addition of a positive identification of a single Pos. 53 state 1 now makes a total of 8 positions being now reported. Indeed, Plate 5 state 1 specimens are fairly scarce!

A complete bright blue green mint left half sheet of 50 subjects has also been identified and reported by Bradley, at first in his Map Stamp Study Group Newsletter in 1990⁶ and secondly in BNA-TOPICS in 1992⁷. The undersigned conducted a persistent investigation since the mid-nineties through several letters exchanged between himself and Dr. Hollingsworth, the owner of this material. A copy of a letter by Bradley and another one received last year from Sandie MacKie from England would both also confirm that the material was returned and even later seen into Dr. Hollingsworth's hands. The bad new however is it appears the half sheet would have been lost because Dr. Hollingsworth certifies conclusively in a few letters to me that he has lost trace of it in the last few years. The disappearance of such a unique piece of material for our 'Map stamp lover world' is sad, especially since it was the culminating discovery of about 40 years of persistent research and efforts deployed by Bradley. It is only a weak consolation to report that I have a colour photograph of this piece as originally made by Mr. Bradley. Maybe it will eventually surface again in the future, who knows! But for the moment, this now leaves us with only the 8 positions on stamps as reported above.

An open challenge

The only Plate Proof State 1 that the author has seen until now is a vertical B&W pair for positions 85 & 95 that I have positively identified recently to help Bill Pekonen. The main confirming identification feature is located within the sentence « WE HOLD ... » which shows striking evidence of fuzziness on State 1 while it looks more crisp and sharp on the re-entered State 2 shown on stamps. It is mentioned for the record that the material was originally purchased from Saskatoon Stamp. The good new is that we can reasonably conclude that at least one sheet of B&W Plate Proof of Plate 5 State 1 would be in existence on the market. This is particularly challenging for all to discover some other plate proofs eventually. Anyhow, the ultimate ideal challenge for the Map stamp collector community is certainly to build a complete inventory of all Plate 5 State 1 positions in existence.

Given that the difference between both states are best described visually, I am attaching a collection of selected features in view to demonstrate the most striking ones, side by side, on some of the positions held in my collection. Even if the representation of these features is somehow technically difficult to be seen, hopefully that the reader will self-educate his eye through carefull observation to locate the difference. As one can see, the primary outstanding feature is the shaded area surrounding 'Canada Postage' and 'We Hold...', which both generally appear to be darker on State 2 than on State 1. In my opinion, as soon as plate position has been confirmed while undertaking a systematic search aimed at spotting some specimens of State 1, it would indeed be the most striking feature to start looking at when trying to sort them. Comments and finds are welcome.



re-entry about 0,5 mm. lower and about 0,5 mm. left of original entry
Position 5-B-35
State 1 is on the L, both state 2 are to the R
Both extreme specimens are from stamps, the middle one is from a B&W plate proof

Position 5-B-23 State 1 is on the Left and state 2 is on the Right

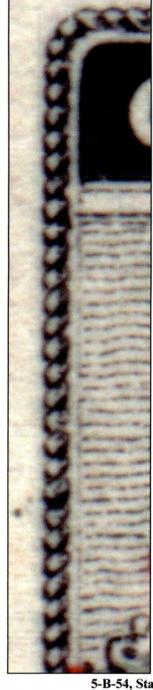
both specimens originate from stamps

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⁶ Whitney L. Bradley, <u>Map Stamp Study Group Newsletter</u>, Whole # 21, November-December 1990, page 15.

⁷ Whitney L. Bradley, <u>The Canadian Map Stamp of 1898, the Two Most Desirable Plate Positions</u>, BNA TOPICS, Vol. 49, No. 6, Whole No. 452, Nov-Dec 1992, pp 10-14.





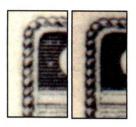


5-B-54, States 1 & 2

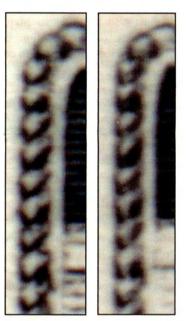
5-B-92: comparison between State 1 (Left) and State 2 (Right) for the whole Left cable and for Left Numeral Box







5-B-56, States 1 & 2



5-B-92, States 1 & 2 UL cable

Map engraved Die Proof - Die No 189 1/2 by Fred.Fawn (thefawnfamily@yahoo.com)

The Die Proofs of the Map stamp are an often-discussed subject; however, there has been little published on this very important aspect.

Tomlinson¹ has a paragraph headed DIE PROOFS (p.45) in his book claiming ... *« These (die proofs) are stated to exist but no examples have been seen by me.»* Winmill² did own a copy of the Die Proof but neither discussed nor illustrated it in his book. Bradley³ did not broach this subject, possibly due to their remoteness from his great study of plating. We all know that Map collectors enjoy a great variety of challenges: plating, postmarks, rates, postal history and so on.

It must also be said that Map Die Proofs do not disappoint philatelists. Pre-production varieties are present in greater abundance than on most 19th century BNA proofs.

The following observations are noted:

- Diagonal line at UL of the left value tablet;
- Group of 3 dots in a horizontal line outside the cable, UR corner;
- Dot above and below the 'group of 3', thus forming a cross;
- Large dot in South Africa;
- Several dots in Australia;
- The die impression of the dots forming the Tropics of Capricorn and Cancer are much more pronounced than on plate proofs or on stamps;
- Guide dot LR corner;
- A preliminary circle can be seen at Mauritius Island.

The above pre-production varieties were examined mostly from the following provenance: Bain, Blair, Dale-Lichtenstein, Wellburn and Winmill. It is noteworthy that both large and small proofs showed identical varieties.

What's in a name ?

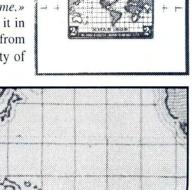
by Fred.Fawn (thefawnfamily@yahoo.com)

Follow-up on the subject of our favourite stamp's name (see Newsletter # 1-p2 & # 2-p.1), let us see what the Post Office officials had to say when the Map stamp became available.

The following is an excerpt from the Department Circular of the Post Office Department, Canada, 2nd. December, 1898, signed by R.M. Coulter, Deputy Postmaster General: See figure attached to the right.

Thus, the expression $\ll 2\alpha$ Imperial Stamp » was the term to be used by Postmasters making requisitions for the stamp.

Not to denigrate other stamps of the period, nevertheless we all should be delighted that Deputy Postmaster General Coulter make the fine distinction between available 2α stamps as « Imperial » or « ordinary »



5-- 188 4



DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR.

Dost Office Department, Canada,

Ottawa, and December, 1898.

Introduction of New 2c. Posinge Stamp.

Fostmasters are informed thal, in connection with the reduction of the poslage on leiters passing between Canada, Great Britain, and rertain Britain Posesasions, of which they were notified in the Norenket Supplement to the Postal Goide, a new 3c, postage stamp has been prepared, which will be supplied direct from the Department to all accounting offices, and which son-accounting offices can obtain on requisition in the usal manner.

The stamp in question may be applied for as the "zć. Imperial Stamp," this term being used simply to enable Fostmasters in their requisitions to make known to the Department which of the zc. stamps in use...the Imperial of the ordinary...they require. The new stamp will be available, intuitivity, to the extent of its walk, to the pertupment of postage on all clauses of mail matter to all desinations, whether Dömestic,

Postnosters are also informed that, in this case, the new stamp may be sold to the public as soon as supplies of it are received.

The countries which, in addition in Canada, have given their adhesion to the science to reduced micr-imperial resuge up to the present dets, and to which, consequently, letters may be seen from Canada prepaid at the rate of a c-per half counce, are

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, British India, Newloandland, Hritish East Abica, Uganda, British Central Africa, The Niger Const Frotectorate, The Niger Conspay's Territory, Jamaica, Bahama Islanda,

ulonther Deputy Postmaster Gen

Please don't forget to let me know if you will attend BNAPS-2001!

³ Whitney L. Bradley, <u>The Canadian Map Stamp of 1898 - A Plating Study</u>, a handbook of BNAPS, 1988, 188 pages

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¹ Frederick Tomlinson, <u>The Canadian Map Stamp of 1898</u>, Handbook of CPS of GB, Regency Press, Brighton England, 1960, reprint 1972, 47 pages.

² R.B. Winmill, <u>The Evolution of Imperial Penny Postage and the Postal History of the Canadian 1898 Map Stamp</u>, Published by Jim A. Hennok Ltd, Toronto and Printed by Mission Press, Toronto, 1982, 110 pages.