



# Canadian Military Mail Study Group

## NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2022

NEWSLETTER NO. 248

Page 1743

34TH ONTARIO REGIMENT 1900-1901 COMPLIMENTS  
OF THE SEASON--By Dean Mario

1900



1901

*Lieut.-Col. Farewell and Officers  
of the  
Thirty-Fourth Regiment  
Wish you the  
Compliments of the Season*

[Cont'd.]

\*\*\*\*\*

- CHAIRMAN: H.M. (MIKE) STREET, OTB, FCPS, UNIT 105, 1136 MARITIME WAY,  
KANATA, ON K2K 0M1 (mikestreet1@gmail.com)
- EDITOR/TREASURER: DEAN MARIO, P.O. BOX 342, STATION MAIN,  
SASKATOON, SK S7K 3L3 (northcote1885@yahoo.ca)

### 1866\* - Officers of the Regiment - 1900

LIEUT-COL.  
J. E. FAREWELL

MAJORS  
J. A. MCGILLIVRAY      A. G. HENDERSON

PAYMASTER      ADJUTANT      QUARTER-MASTER      SURGEON-MAJ  
C. A. PATERSON, Major      T. A. MCGILLIVRAY, Capt.      R. DILLON, Capt.      H. BASCOM, M.D.

SURGEON-LIEUT.  
D. A. CLARK, M.D.

CHAPLAIN  
REV. G. A. RIX

J. F. GRIERSON  
C. F. BICK

CAPTAINS  
S. S. SHARPE  
J. BIRCHARD  
W. SMITH

T. KING  
W. J. H. RICHARDSON

D. MCGILLIVRAY  
J. H. ADDISON  
J. PARKER  
T. A. WILSON

LIEUTENANTS  
A. RUTHERFORD  
J. KIFT  
M. H. ROACH

A. A. COCKBURN  
A. T. ELLIOTT  
F. I. CRYSDALE  
C. E. RAINEY

The 34th Ontario Battalion of Infantry originated in 1866. Its motto "Fidelis et Paratus" translates to "Faithful and Ready". The regiment's early headquarters were in Oshawa, Ontario. Reorganized into the 116th and 182nd Infantry Battalions, C.E.F. during the Great War (the 182nd saw no service in France and was absorbed into the 18th Reserve Bn.-- interestingly Lt. A.A. Cockburn ascended as its C.O. as Lieutenant Colonel), its major battle honours included Vimy Ridge, France and Flanders 1917-1918.

Perpetuated as The Ontario Regiment (R.C.A.C), during the Second World War it was the 11th Army Tank Regiment (The Ontario Regiment-Tanks) to 1943, then the 11th Armoured Regiment (The Ontario Regiment). Battle honours included the Advance to Florence, Italy 1943-1945, Arnhem (1945), and N.W. Europe, 1945.

#### References

Bailey, W.J. and E.R. Toop. The Canadian Military Posts, Vol.II. Ed. E.B. Proud, 1985, p.13.

Morris, D.A. The Canadian Militia From 1855--An Historical Summary. Erin, ON: The Boston Mills Press, 1983, p.55.

\*\*\*\*\*

A GREAT WAR P.O.W. COVER WITH UNUSUAL CENSORSHIP--By J. Michael Powell

I recently acquired a portion of a correspondence from a Prisoner of

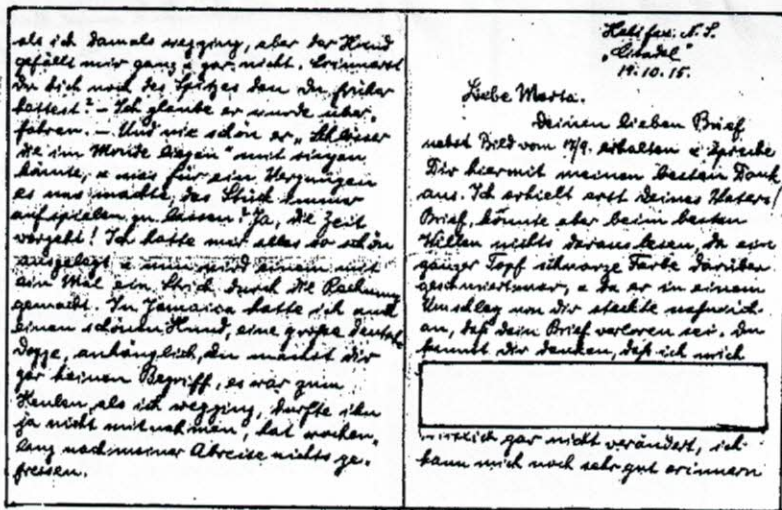
[Cont'd.]

War held at the Citadel in Halifax during the Great War. It consisted of one cover and included the contents as well as the contents from two subsequent writings, but without the covers. Below is the cover bearing a Type 2 6th Division censor marking dated 20 October 1915. The P.O.W. is identified on the back as shown. My book on this subject (Postal History of the Great War Internment Camps in Canada, BNAPS 2016) shows twelve other examples of this marking applied at the Citadel, so it is scarce but not exceptionally rare.



W.R. Schmidt, Citadel - Halifax, N.S.

However it is the contained letter which is unusual:



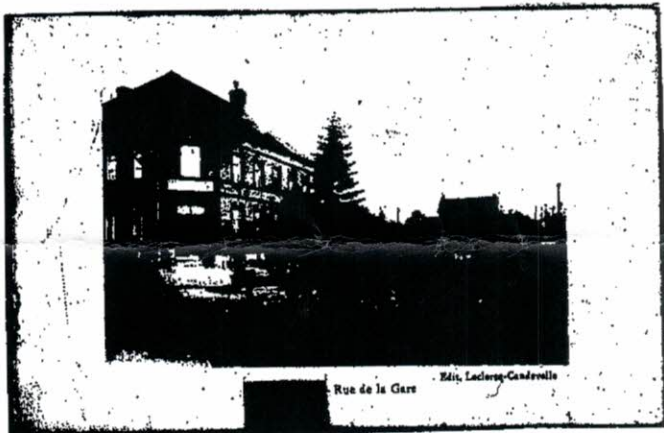
Note that to the right of the fold a section has been removed by knife or scissors. It is also important to note that the other two letters (not shown) have sections similarly extracated. This was described to me as a form of military censorship. However I have never seen this done by censors in Canada (or elsewhere for that matter) in either World War. I believe it is more likely to have been done by whoever released the items to the philatelic market, probably a relative, in order to keep some things private. Family censorship?

[Cont'd.]

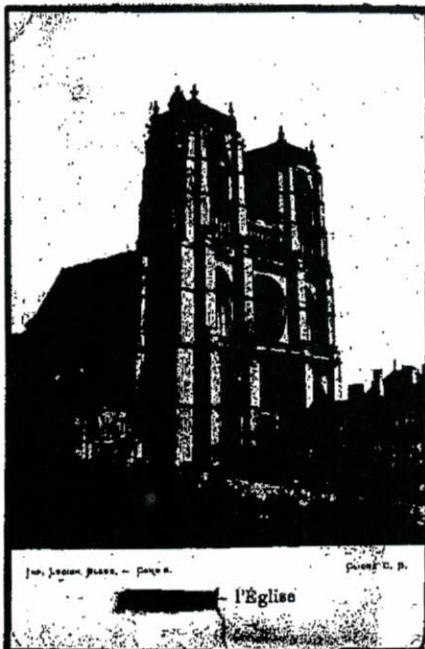
I would be interested to hear if anyone has come across something like this before, or from anyone who may have another suggestion as to why this may have been done.

[Perhaps we will never know the reasoning behind the removal of the "offensive" section. While not as familiar with P.O.W. correspondence as Mike, I presume that most prisoners and internees knew the "rules of censorship" and abided by them for the most part; knowing that censors might delay correspondence if there was anything untoward. While the following may be "apples and oranges" as they are not P.O.W. related, here are a few examples where the censorship "scissors" came into play.

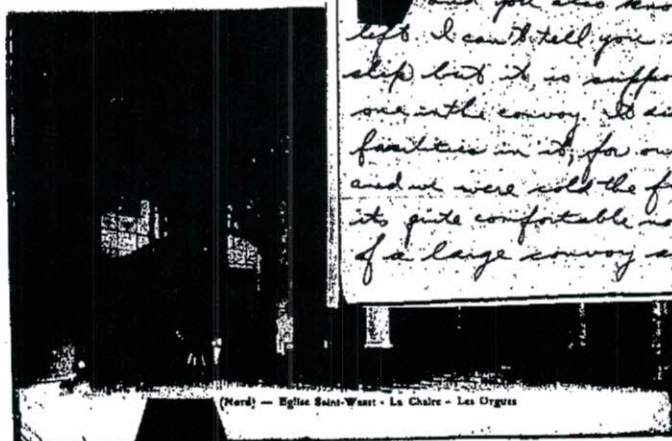
The postcards are all B.E.F. related from the Great War and security is evident. The 1942 "At Sea" example shows the sensitivity of oceanic censorship. Interestingly it was sent by R128135, LAC B.L. Jamieson to his wife in Saskatoon. Bert L. Jamieson was the father of now-retired Saskatoon Stamp Centre's John Jamieson!Ed.]



Rue de la Gare Edif. Laclere-Candeville



St. Jean Baptiste - Papez - l'Eglise



(Nord) - Eglise Saint-Waast - La Chaire - Les Orgues

At Sea  
[redacted] 1942

My darling Margaret,  
Yes it's [redacted] evening here  
and so in to 2 at home. Right now we are  
41 hrs ahead of you. Our location is  
somewhere about mid Atlantic.

It is going to be hard to tell you  
much about the trip because so much  
of it comes under the "security order" and  
would be censored. I will endeavor to  
tell you about the trip thus far without  
violating the order.

You know we left Canada  
[redacted]

and you also know from where we  
left. I can't tell you the name of our  
ship but it is supposed to be the fastest  
one in the convoy. It did not have landing  
facilities in it, for our quarters at any rate  
and we were with the first two nights but  
it's quite comfortable now. We are on a ship  
of a large convoy and when we need

\*\*\*\*\*

GREAT WAR F.S.P.C. SEASONAL GREETINGS

Members will recall Jennifer Denman's "Fred Stevenson's F.S.P.C. Seasons' Greetings" article (NL#239, March 2020, pp.1637-1639) with his added "Merry Christmas & Happy New Year" salutations. The card was dated 1916.

I came upon this, dated 1917, from a previous issue of our Newsletter (NL#102, December 1991, p.14) referring back to the Christmas 1989 NL# 91. Presumably other Orders in previous years were issued.

Page No. 14

COMPANY ORDERS ISSUED BY  
CAPTAIN A. H. KENDALL,  
Commanding 58th B.G.O.G.,  
Canadians, R.O.D., R.E.

M E R R I S,  
8th Nov. 1917.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

The following is an extract from General Routine  
Orders of November 4th 1917.:-

"2766- Christmas Greetings.

There is no objection to the following being  
written on Field Service Post Cards:-

'A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year'

Attention is called to the fact that the sending  
of Christmas and New Year Cards, books, photographs, etc.,  
to enemy or neutral countries is forbidden."

*A. H. Kendall*  
Captain,

O/C., 58th B.G.O.G., Canadians, R.O.D., R.E.

FIELD SERVICE POST CARDS IN WW I

If you care to refer back to Page 667 in the Christmas 1989 Newsletter you will note that the reduced in size letter here gives the official permission to add *A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR* to the Field Service Post Cards. No extra writing was allowed and the dispensation given here was unusual. How many of these A.F.A. 2042 cards have you gone through looking for the *MERRY CHRISTMAS...* Thanks to John Frith for pulling this out of RG 9 III C7 Vol.4498 File # 10 at the Archives!

\*\*\*\*\*

Page 1748

Y-FORCE AND CENSOR TYPE A500--By Michael Dobbs

[Michael kindly sent in this informative article related to these censor marks.Ed.]

I received my copy of CMMSG Newsletter 247 (November 2021) today (5th October) and read with interest the article on Type A500 censor 5785. Let me try and explain a few issues. A number of years ago now whilst researching at The National Archives (TNA) I came across a file dealing with censorship matters entitled "Censor Stamps - General" (TNA file reference DEFE1/385; original War Office file reference M.I.12/285/23). Reading through the file it became clear that Army censor stamps were classed as secret "documents" and therefore numbered (by design) within the Army Forms series. The individual censor numbers on each censor stamp represented the "document" serial number. It will be seen that the circular type [FPHS type A500 series] was designated Army Form A 5707 while the shield type censor [FPHS type A600 series] was designated Army Form A 6679. Although John Cranmer refers to the censor stamp as "Daynes Censor Type" we refer to them as "FPHS Censor Type".

As these censor stamps were classed as "secret documents" I have some doubts about a box of censor cachets simply being left behind by the British. I feel that more than likely the British issued a censor cachet to the Canadians for use or else Canadian mail was given over to a British censor for censorship - as per the quotations below.

John quotes "Daynes 1986", this has since been surpassed by "World War Two Censor Marks" (2nd Edition) Edited by Nick Colley and published by the Forces Postal History Society in 2016.

For those with an interest in forces mail in Jamaica I would recommend "The Encyclopaedia of Jamaican Philately - Volume 9 - Military Mails" published by The British West Indies Study Circle, Revised Edition 2015. I quote from Chapter 7 (The Canadian Forces in Jamaica) of that book as follows:

"Y Force did not have a Canadian Field Post Office unit allocated to it and the facilities of such a unit were provided by the British Army at Up Park Camp and elsewhere as British Army supporting units, such as Engineers, had remained in Jamaica. However, most mail from Canadian forces required Jamaican stamps and was sent through the Jamaican Post Office."

"All Canadian forces mail in Jamaica was subject to censorship at unit source, and Canadian unit censorship handstamps were issued to the first battalion to arrive in Jamaica. It was intended that as Canadian battalions were replaced their censorship handstamps were to be handed to their successors, ...". Why then is British Army (FPHS Type 500) censor 5785 recorded used on Canadian military mail? Further in the Chapter there is a section headed "British Army Censor handstamps on Canadian military mail" which states "Although most mail from Canadian troops serving in Jamaica during World War II was censored by the Canadians themselves, some covers were censored by the British Army, who also had various support units stationed at Up Park Camp. Four covers have been recorded sent from the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders during October - December 1942, two of which bear the British AC3 censor (FPHS Type A500) handstamp (number 5785) and two bear the

[Cont'd.]

British AC5 censor (*FPHS Type A600*) handstamp (number 1)." Note: there appears to be an error here as the numbers quoted in Chapter 2 (The British Army in Jamaica) are all 15xxx numbers. There is no specific reference to Canadian use under Chapter 2.

Chapter 7 illustrates one cover with the 5785 censor handstamp and this is also addressed to Mrs J M McLean and postmarked machine cancellation KINGSTON / JAMAICA on NOV 14 1942.

Chapter 2 (The British Army in Jamaica) lists the following under British AC3 censor (*FPHS Type A500*) handstamps:

5667 23 March 1944      Seen on mail from the Irish Fusiliers of Canada  
5785 14 November 1942 but with no reference to Canadian use but refer to the Chapter 7 entry as noted above.

It also lists the following under British AC4 (*FPHS Type JA100*) Military Censor handstamps:

16 29 June 1942 (Earliest known date) and 19 October 1944 (latest known date) "On mail from 1st Battalion, Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders of Canada" but as the Argyll's left in May 1943 the dates of use cannot be associated with that battalion and this was clarified in an online "Additions and Revisions 2017 - Update 1 (February 2017)" listing which included the following additional information: "Canadian mail is also known with British Army censor mark AC4 (*FPHS Type JA100*) Military Censor No.16 on 24 August 1942 cover from 1 Bn. Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders of Canada to Toronto."

I hope I haven't confused you too much with these references and going to and fro between Chapters 2 and 7!

#### References:

- (1) "World War Two Censor Marks" (2nd Edition) Edited by Nick Colley and published by the Forces Postal History Society in 2016
- (2) "The Encyclopaedia of Jamaican Philately - Volume 9 - Military Mails" published by The British West Indies Study Circle, Revised Edition 2015
- (3) "Additions and Revisions 2017 - Update 1 (February 2017)" to the above Encyclopaedia - <https://bwisc.org/publications>

\*\*\*\*\*

#### RARE 2¢ SOLDIER/SEAMAN CONCESSION LETTER RATE COVERS SOLD

Perhaps one of our members was fortunate to acquire the following rare covers sold by Eastern Auctions Ltd., P.O. Box 250, Bathurst, NB, E2A 3Z2; 1(800) 667-8267; [www.easternauctions.com](http://www.easternauctions.com) on 19 November 2021 (Sale 18-20 November). Lot 541 realized \$4,750 + 18.5% buyer's fee and lot 583 sold for an amazing \$11,000 + 18.5% buyer's fee. Obviously rare military postal history is still very popular among collectors.

[Cont'd.]

AN EXCEEDINGLY RARE TWO CENT COVER  
TO A SOLDIER STATIONED OVERSEAS



- 541  **India, 1878 (October 2)** Cover addressed to Sergeant Anderson, Detachment 72nd Highlanders at Amritsar, British East Indies (India), bearing a 2c deep green Montreal printing perf 11½x12 tied by cork cancel for the Soldier's letter rate to anywhere in the British Empire; faint Conestogo, Ont. split ring dispatch at left, London Paid 15 OC 78 transit; on reverse several transit markings - Berlin, Ont. OC 2, Toronto, Brindisi and Indian receivers are shown, redirected to Rawalpindi and Rohat. Apart from small portion of backflap missing and minor edge wear at right, this is, according to George Arfken, THE ONLY KNOWN SMALL QUEEN CONCESSIONARY RATE COVER MAILED OVERSEAS TO A SOLDIER. Ideal for exhibition, Fine (Unitrade 36e) **Est. 2,500.00+**

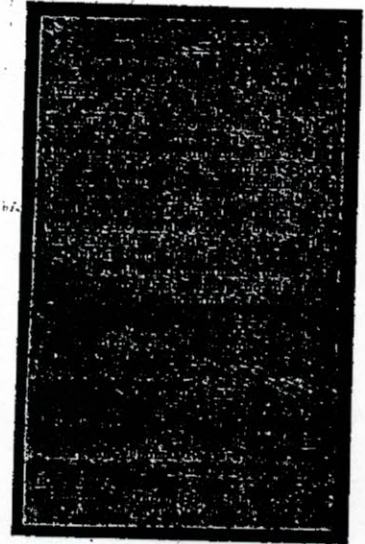
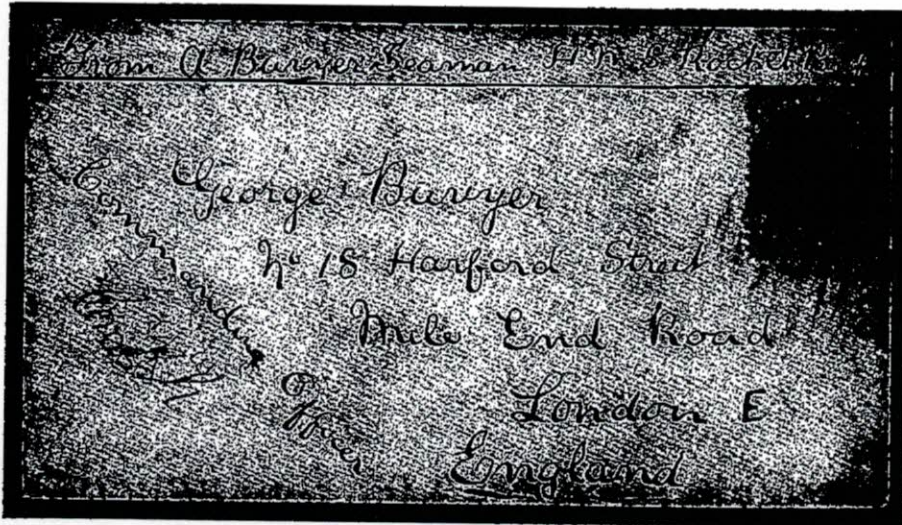
Provenance: George Arfken, May 1997; Lot 1129

Literature: Illustrated and discussed in Arfken "Canada's Small Queen Era 1870-1897" handbook on page 93 (Figure 6). Census Cover No. 1 on Table 2 List of Small Queen Soldier's Letter Rate Covers.

- 583  **United Kingdom, 1876 (May 15)** Small envelope in an excellent state of preservation bearing a 2c green Montreal printing perf 11½x12, small tear at foot, tied by light mute grid, mostly clear Esquimalt, Brit. Columbia split ring CDS at left, addressed to a family member in London, England. Endorsed by sailor "From A. Bureyer Seaman, H.M.S. Rocket Pacific" and initialed "C.R.H." (Chas R. Harris) Commanding Officer at lower left; an original newspaper clipping enclosed describes the arrival of the Rocket at Esquimalt along with background information and a list of officers. Backstamped in transit Victoria, BC MY 15 76 and Hamilton MY 30 split rings, two different London receivers in red. An exceptional Seaman Concession Letter Rate; according to the Arfken census only two have been reported (see Table 2 census in "Canada's Small Queen Era 1870-1897" pages 88-90; cover no. 23 & 24 from a seaman were both mailed in 1895). The cover here is unreported in the census; exceptionally rare and highly desirable for its very early date and exhibition quality, VF (Unitrade 36e) **Est. 3,000.00+**

THE EARLIEST DATED BY FAR TWO CENT SEAMAN'S CONCESSION LETTER RATE COVER - THE OTHER TWO REPORTED COVERS ARE DATED 1895.

AN EXTREMELY RARE SEAMAN'S CONCESSION LETTER RATE



\*\*\*\*\*

C.O.E.F. RE-VISITED--By Alan Spencer

[Recent discussions about these postmarks had Alan kindly sending in a few of his wonderful examples. He writes:

"For your interest I am illustrating a strike of 9 February 1915 which as indicated was the date of embarkation and probably the last day of use. Unfortunately it is only on a piece and not a full cover.

This second example is dated 7 March 1915 on an unaddressed Field Service Post Card which I have always assumed was produced as part of a tidying up operation but perhaps it was done 'by favour'.

A. F. A. 2042  
144/Gen. No./5248

FIELD SERVICE  
POST CARD



The address only to be written on this side. If anything else is added, the post card will be destroyed.

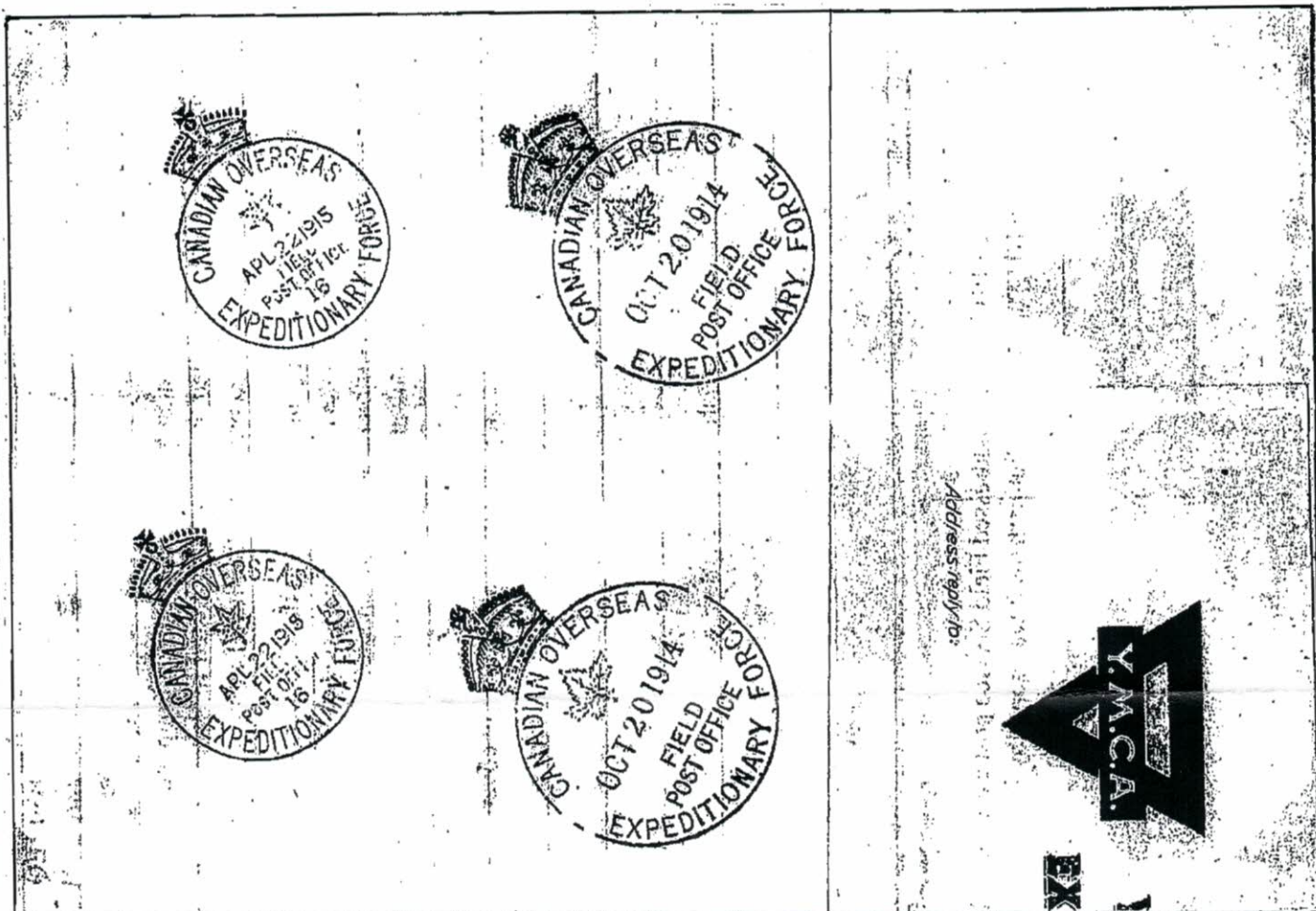


[Cont'd.]

[Cont'd.]

Page 1752

This shows the two sizes of hammers on YMCA headed paper. I'm not sure of status in view of the 22 April 1915 date but interesting."Ed.]



\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Study Group Members: Mike and I wish all a very Happy New Year! Ideas and submissions are flowing in for our CMMSG Anthology II so please contact Mike with your articles—it is never too early! We regret to inform the members of the sad passing of Maj. G.H. Sawatzki (Ret'd.) and extend our sincere condolences to his family and friends. A warm welcome is extended to well-known BNAPSers **Andy Ellwood** and **Peter McCarthy**. We appreciated Peter's many years as Study Group Reporter and extend our welcome to the Interim Study Group Reporter Robert Lemire. Thanks to all members who renewed their memberships. As of 31 December 2021 our bank balance is \$806.42. I've once again found some below-face postage which will help with our mailings. Membership: Canada (33); U.S. (4); International (8); Exchange/Ex-Officio/Archives (11). As seen by the incredible results for concession rate letter mail, military postal history seems to be "holding its own". Material on the market seems popular which is always a good sign. Good luck to those attending or exhibiting at CAPEX 2022 in Toronto (June) and LONDON 2022 (February)! Once again may all of our members have a healthy, safe, and prosperous New Year and 2022! Until next time....

\*\*\*\*\*

LT.COL. WILLIAM PATRICK ANDERSON, C.M.G.--By Bill Pekonen

[Bill sent along this interesting cover. William Patrick Anderson (1851-1927) was born on 4 September 1851 at Lévis, QC and was educated at what is now Bishop's University. His early career included work as a railway and township surveyor.

He joined the Canadian Militia in 1864 when he was only fourteen years old, and saw active service during the First and Second Fenian Raids. He would later command the Ottawa and Carleton Rifles.

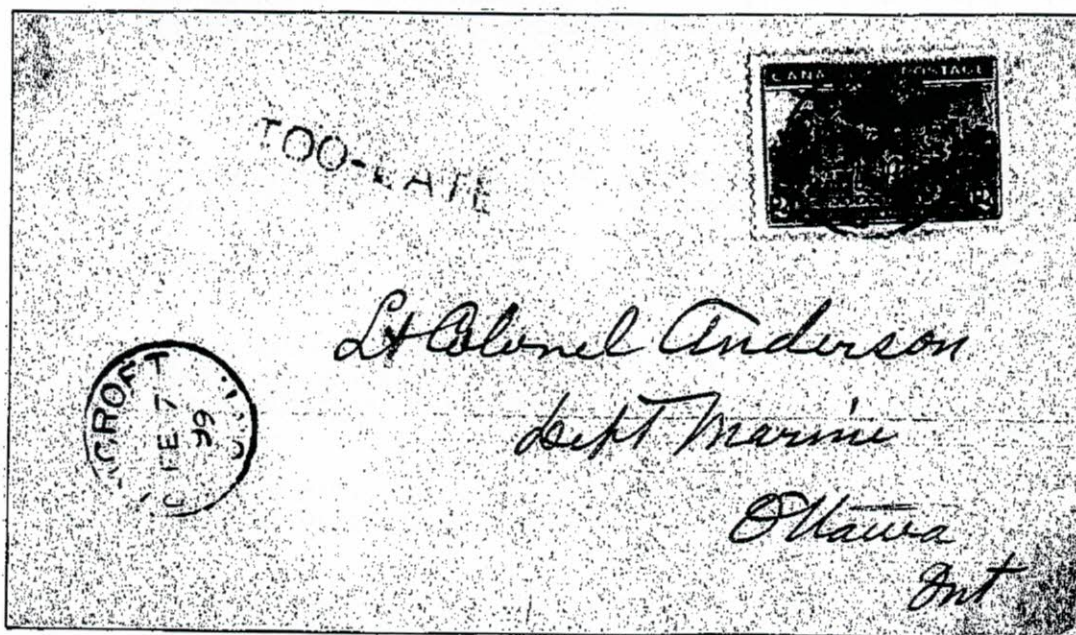
In 1874 he worked as a draftsman at the Department of Marine and Fisheries in Ottawa designing lighthouses. In 1876 he married Dorothea Susannah Small. He became Chief Engineer of the department in 1880, and served until his retirement in 1919. During his career he designed and built over five hundred lighthouses and fifty fog-alarm stations across Canada, along with the fog siren station on Belle Isle, Dominion of Newfoundland in 1898.

This auto-pen cover was sent from Bancroft, ON dated 7 February 1899 and was received on the morning of 9 February. It was marked "TOO LATE" which refers to it missing the train schedule for delivery in Ottawa on 8 February.

For his lengthy civil and military service, Anderson was made a companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George in 1913.

Reference

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William\\_P.\\_Anderson](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_P._Anderson)]

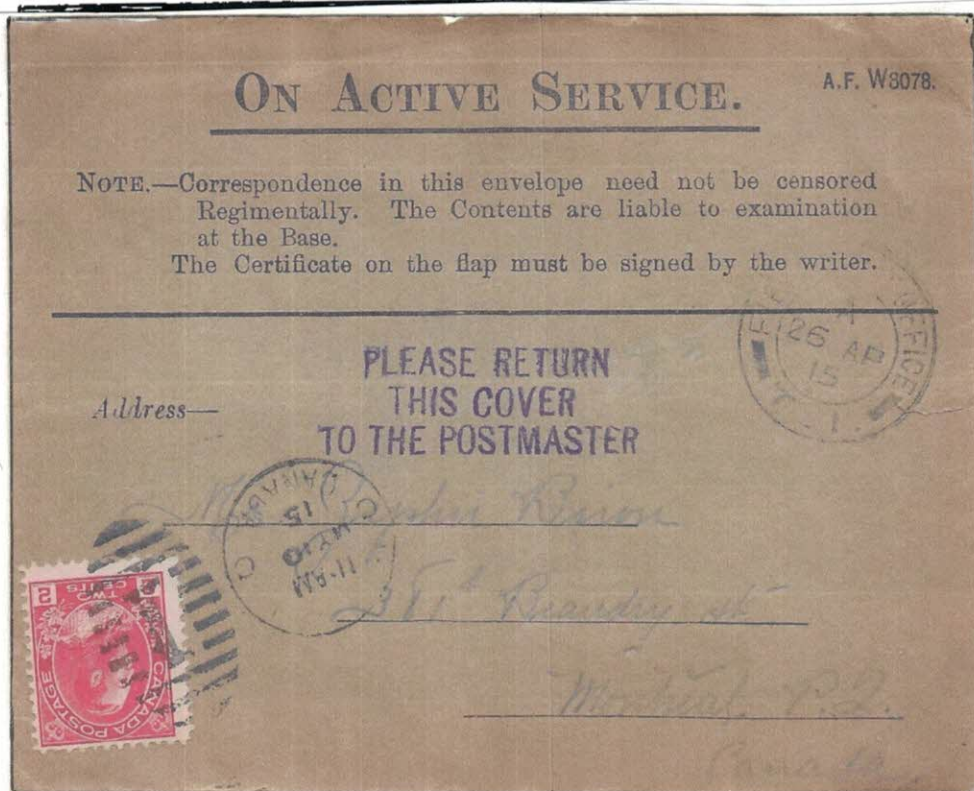


\*\*\*\*\*

Page 1754

"PLEASE RETURN/THIS COVER/TO THE POSTMASTER"--By Alan Spencer

In NL#245, p.1711 there is a reference to a cover with the above hand-stamp. I have recently acquired a similar item, this time dated 26 April 1915. As in the article this cover is also addressed to Montreal. The date stamp is unclear but presumably also Montreal. It is dated MY 10 15. [Members will recall the previous cover may have had War Tax implications effective 15 April 1915. This FPO T.1 First Division Train, according to E.B. Proud's History of British Army Postal Service Vol.II, p. 282, was at Cuichy area, France.Ed.]



\*\*\*\*\*

Looking for something? Have something for sale? Why not try our small ads? Buy/Sell/Trade. Still only \$1 per issue (Canadian stamps @ face ok). Copy and payment to the Editor please.

WANTED: Canadian WWII P.O.W. camp mail to 16 Duerstein Street, Buffalo, New York. Contact: krischefamily@shaw.ca (1/3)

WILL TRADE: Non-Ontario military for Ontario. References: I handled the estates of Toop, Ellison (partial), Sayles, Burgers, Pomfret, Frith. Visit me at CAPEX 22 (Toronto, 9-12 June) Hank Narbonne, OTB, FRPSC, FPHSC, 136 Morphy St., Carleton Place, ON K7C 2B4; (613) 257-5453; (1-800) 247-5619 (2/20)

WANTED: Great War covers/cards/Xmas cards etc. connected with Saskatchewan regiments; the P.P.C.L.I.; and R.N.W.M.P. Cavalry Drafts. Contact the Editor at northcote1885@yahoo.ca (2/5)

WANTED: Seeking WWII covers/cards from/to Bermuda "B" Force and Bahamas "N" Force. Particulars/scans/photocopies/price to the Editor at northcote1885@yahoo.ca (5/5)

\*\*\*\*\*