

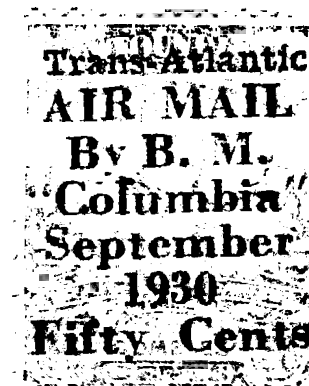
**THE NEWFIE NEWSLETTER
OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS**

Number107

July/August 2004

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

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BNAPEX2004

The convention will be held in Baltimore from September 3-5, 2004. We will have a study group meeting. Wording for the program as submitted to Doug Lingard is:

SINGLE FRAME EXHIBITING – CONCEPTS

Bob Dyer has won four single frame Platinum awards

NEWFOUNDLAND 1865-1879

Sammy Whaley shows completed postal history study

Please attend so Sammy, Don Wilson and I don't get bored talking to each other!

CORRECTION TO NEWFOUNDLAND STATIONERY LIST

On Page 3, of Newfie Newsletter #106 (May/June 2004) we published the ultimate "earliest known use" list of all Newfoundland stationery. *Unfortunately there was an error in one date.* Rob Moore is the owner of the earliest known P2, the 2¢ vermilion card. **Please change the date from July 26, 1879 to July 23, 1879.** Sorry, Rob!

MEMBER AWARD

At ORAPEX2004, Doug Lingard won a vermeil for a single frame exhibit, Canadian Philatelic Disaster Covers. The percentage of single frame exhibits is growing from year to year. This year they represent more than one-third of all awards. Because of that interest, I decided to give the workshop presentation mentioned above at BNAPEX2004.

SAMMY WHALEY'S BOOK

BNAPS is studying Sammy's final draft to determine whether it would be more feasible for the organization to publish his opus on the Cents covers (**NEWFOUNDLAND: 1865-1879**) or for Sammy to self-publish it for some financial backing by our group. Sammy will have a page or two from his book in our next Newfie Newsletter. **SEE THE FINAL VERSION AT BNAPEX2004!**

OUR DEALER MEMBERS

J-Claude Michaud, P.O. Box 31248, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3K 5Y1

R.L. McGillivray, Stanley Stamps, 1096 Richards St. Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3E1

John Jamieson, Saskatoon Stamp Centre, P.O. Box 1870, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 3S2

Bill Longely, Longely Auctions, P.O. Box 620, Waterdown, Ontario L0R 2H0

Chairman/Editor: Norris (Bob) Dyer, 1708 Granada Court, Petaluma, CA 94954 nrdyer@comcast.net

Treasurer: Martin Goebel, 13 O'Mara Place, St. John's, Newfoundland A1A 5B7 goebel@nf.sympatico.ca

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WAYFARER – POSTAL SERVICES St. John's Daily News, October 20, 1977

The cost of sending a letter has just risen by 20 per cent but the cost has actually gone up by 50 per cent within a relatively short time since it was not so long ago that the standard rate was eight cents. Today it is 12 cents which is a far cry from the penny postage that was introduced by Rowland Hill 137 years ago and prevailed well into the first half of this century. It had its inception in Newfoundland in 1857 when our first postage stamps were put on sale. But the origin of the post office in the island goes back to 1809 when Governor Holloway authorized Simon Solomon, a watch-maker and jeweler, to act as Post Master "in order to give encouragement to the bringing and delivery of letters for this island." He was directed "to pay at the rate of one penny per letter to the master or other person of any vessel who may bring letters to this Island and deliver to his care at the Post Office, St. John's, and "I authorize him to demand two pence for every letter he delivers from his office for his own trouble." In 1826 the Post Office was put on a more formal footing and became a wholtime job for Simon Solomon who was succeeded in 1839 by his son William, our first Postmaster General. It was on his insistence that Newfoundland issued its first postage stamps.

The mail service was itself a pretty irregular operation for many years and letters had usually to be brought to the few places that designated as postal centers for dispatch. Those who expected to receive mail had to visit the post office in search of it and for many years it was pretty well a haphazard operation. In time, however, every community of any size at all had its own post office and this was conducted as it is today in many English villages as a sideline by small shopkeepers. The remuneration was small. In very small places it was as low as \$10 in 1910 and worth only \$100 a year in a community as large as Burin. Nevertheless it was a perquisite that was eagerly sought and such was the nature of patronage at the time that an outport postmaster might lose his job with a change of government if he supported the wrong side. There was another form of patronage handed out to newspapers as late as 1920 if they were politically deserving. They were paid to publish the list of all undelivered letters in the Dead Letter Department of the General Post Office in St. John's.

Outport letters traveled by train or coastal boat and in winter the isolated north was served by couriers who brought the local mail to the nearest

railroad station where they picked up the incoming post. This was always an onerous task when travel conditions were difficult but a real burden when... mail order catalogues were being distributed.

GPO,
opened,
1886, &
extended
in 1923.

Scott 154



Of the couriers the Postmaster General said in 1910: "Too much cannot be said of the pluck and endurance of these men who by dog team or on their shoulders carry the mail over long stretches of uninhabited country, across frozen arms of the sea, and wading rivers where there are no bridges....Without doubt the most signal example of bravery was the crossing of the Straits of Belle Isle from East St. Modeste to Flower's Cove, a distance of ten miles, three times each way by courier Ernest Doane last April. He used a canvas boat, so constructed that he could lift it on the ice when it was compact and launch again on reaching open water. By this means the Labrador mails were delivered in 20 days from St. John's, the ordinary winter route via Quebec taking from 90-120 days. The latter service has been discontinued and this spring, with a better equipment and with the experience gained last year, the courier hopes to make a greater number of trips." The courier on this service was rewarded with a seasonal amount of \$180. The mail itself was carried at two cents a letter. Newspapers went for a half-cent and we had a stamp of that denomination. Parcels were carried for 8¢ for the first pound and 3¢ for each additional pound. A few years later two couriers were drowned, and it is a striking commentary on the times that men would undertake the hardship and risk their lives for petty rewards. They were times when the Post Office got a great deal for its money. So did the public.

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YEAR BOOK AND ALMANAC OF NEWFOUNDLAND, 1918 – REGISTRY

Your editor has been accumulating registered covers intending to mount a single frame exhibit on same, 1892-1949, covering rates for inland, to Canada and U.S. Alas, he is short one rate – 9¢ to Canada, 1922-1927. In any case, during the hunt, he has also accumulated some related documents including the above. Herein are extracts relating to REGISTRY, as of 1918..

GENERAL DIRECTIONS TO THE PUBLIC

Registered Letters

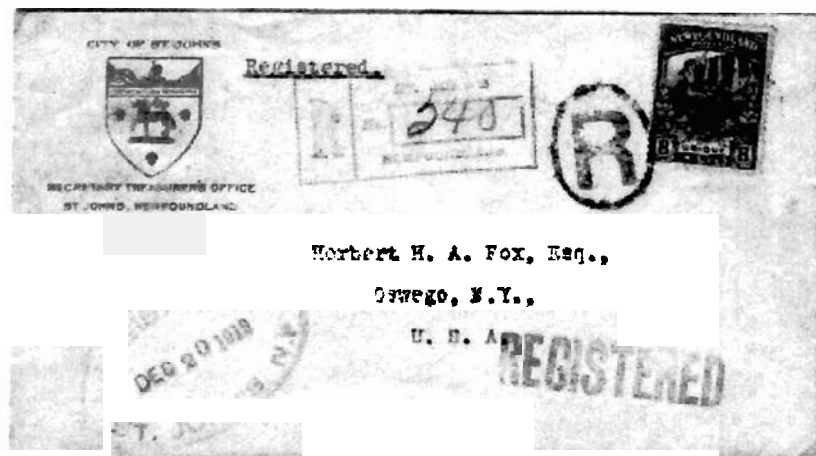
Register all valuable letters....

Letters containing gold or silver money, jewels, or anything liable to Customs' duty, other than by parcel post, *must* be registered. Always seal letters containing anything of value.

Registration

Every letter and packet intended for registration must be handed in at the wicket, and a receipt obtained therefore. On no account should it be dropped into the letter box. The registration fee must be prepaid on registered letters addressed to the Government Departments in St. John's, (except the Postal Department) and also on registers sent by the Government offices to the outports. The registration fee to places in Newfoundland is three cents, including official registration; to Great Britain, four cents; to Canada and the United States, five cents.

Letters containing coins, etc. will be forwarded in the Colony only (charged with double registration fee, if posted without being registered). Coins cannot be sent in letters outside of Newfoundland. Such letters will always be returned from Dead Letter Office to the writer. Always obtain a receipt for registered letter or packet.



Registered to U.S., 1919. 5¢ registry, 2¢ letter rate & 1¢ war tax = 8¢

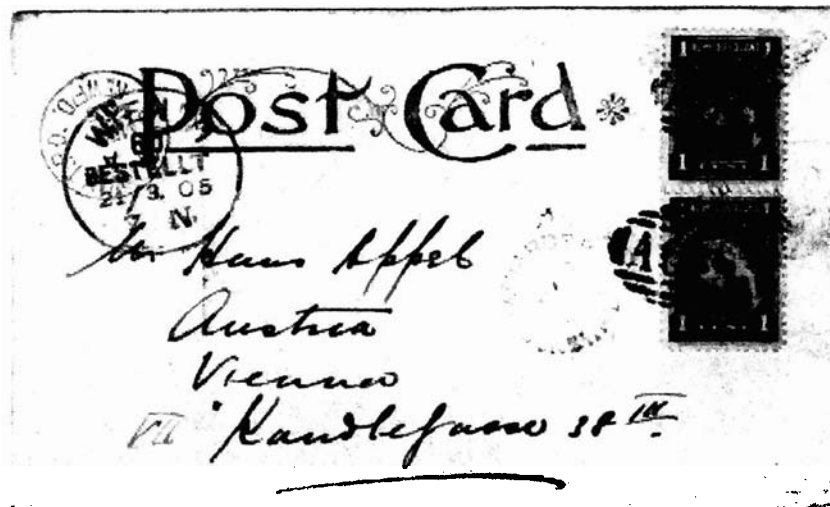
Still looking for cover with the lost rate (with even common stamps!!) – can you help? – *The Editor*

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ROBERT A. LEE AUCTION OF MARCH 13, 2004



Lot #884, 2¢ post card rate to Austria, 1905, with Jamaica A01 killer, applied in London, and Austrian receiver.

COMMENTS

On the next page you will find brief lot descriptions and prices realized for 41 better Newfoundland lots. Prices do not include the 15% buyer's premium. It is probably unwise for me to generalize, but I will anyway!

Better postal history lots continue to go considerably higher than Lee's estimates. This area continues to be hot and the best advice I have is to research before any bidding. The UNITRADE Catalogue is basically useless in the on cover area and since the Scott Classic Specialized appears to have borrowed cover prices from UNITRADE, its is not much better – too low in most cases, except for air mails. NSSC does a better job with cover pricing but there are many factors to consider. Is the rate correct/tough to find? Are contemporary stamps used? Does the cover have unusual characteristics? Finally, what is your competition willing to pay? Take as an example the above post card. It catalogues \$12-20 (U.S.) but went for \$140 (Canadian)! Its pluses – a nice rate, a T.P.O. cancel, and the (rare) use of the A01 Jamaica killer. It also has an Austrian receiver. Per Colin Lewis, "Hammer A01 was used in Kingston Jamaica to cancel GB stamps used there from 1858-60. This series...was withdrawn...by GPO London, as British Colonies issued their own stamps...Speculation is that it was [later] simply used as an obliterator where overseas stamps were uncanceled or, as in this case, only lightly cancelled. During the early 1900's the hammer is found (but only rarely) on mail from overseas arriving at the London Foreign Section." So be prepared to pay a lot for a nice piece!

Prices for Mint and used stamps are more predictable than postal history. Proofs, 19th century multiples and used sets with town cancels were popular. In the mint area, however, UNITRADE is generally *too high*, and Scott and NSSC more accurate. For example, Lot #2913 was a very finely centered margin block of Scott #75, the least expensive of the 1897 provisionals, NH and better looking than most multiples. The lot had a UNITRADE value of \$1500 whereas Scott Classic is only \$600 (NH). Even correcting for the currency difference, UNITRADE is still almost twice Scott's for this block. The block went for \$500, close to its true value. It may be easier to bid in the mint/used area successfully than postal history using the appropriate references.

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ROBERT A. LEE AUCTION OF MARCH 13, 2004 – SOME PRICES REALIZED

POSTAL HISTORY

#852	Three Tessier bisect covers from OC/2/97, Scott 48 and 64 (2)	\$400
#862	Oct 10/1860 with Scott 8a bisected, Green certificate	5500
#863	SP 30/1868, Scott 28, St. John's to Sowerby Bridge, England	425
#864	JU 18/1870 Scott 26 (2) , St. John's to Harbour Grace, crease right stamp	825
#866	May/7/1873, Scott 35, St. John's to Manchester, England	240
#867	AU 20/1873 Scott #35 (2) Twillingate to Romsey, England	425
#878	MY 7/98, Scott 79, 81 (2) on "lovely clean cover" to Switzerland	500
#868	JU 4/79, Scott 39, 3¢ roulette , St. John's to Tilt Cove	260
#873	NO 7/93, Scott 44 (strip of 5), 48 & 60, paying 10¢ rate St. John's to Plymouth, England	230
#975	27 JY 1896 EN1a 3¢ envelope with Scott 36, 44, 48, 54, 59 & 60, 30¢ rate [?] to Ontario	500
#981	27 JA 98, Scott 68, 79, 81 (2) paying 15¢ double rate reg., St. John's to Boston	280
#983	19 FE 98, Scott 61, 63, 65, 75, paying 10¢ reg. rate from St. John's to Boston	350
#987	3 DEC 00, EN1 3¢ env., & Scott 69 paying 15¢ [dbl.] reg. rate St. John's to Berlin [nice!!]	425
#992	11 JU/01 Scott 64, 66, 85 paying 15¢ reg. rate [dbl.] St. John's to Germany	375
#1488	21 APR 1947, reg'd formula envelope RE4 Scott 269 (10) paying 40¢ rate to U.S. [rare]	250

TRADE SAMPLES, PROOFS & ESSAYS

#2711	1TS, 3-5TS, 7TS, 1d, 3d (pair), 4d, 5d & 61/2 (pair) trade samples – "Stunning!"	1500
#2712	2P 2d carmine lake heraldic flowers 'Reprint Proof' from plate 1, VF	450
#2714	4P 4d rose lake heraldic flowers, 'Reprint Proof' from plate 1, VF	475
#2715	4P 4d orange vermilion heraldic flowers 'Reprinted Proof' from plate 1, VF	375
#2739	'Essay' for 3¢ on 6¢ Scott 66, spot of gum missing, HR VF [only 25 produced]	550
#2753	Scott 87-95TC, 1¢-10¢ Guy 'Trial Color Plate Proofs' in pairs. "Showpiece set!"	1700
#2754	Scott 87-95, 97P, 1¢-10¢ & 15¢, pairs, a bit of toning on some, NH VF centered	1400
#2762	Scott 104P 1¢ black Queen Mary 'Plate Proof' gutter block of 8, "possibly unique"	825
#2765	Scott 113DP, 12¢ Duke of Connaught 'Die Proof' , a bit of ink smear	775
#2770	Scott 142E, 15¢ Little Rapids, '2 large progressive proofs in black' Different. Wrinkles o/w VF	1300
#2797	Scott 212-4DP, 216DP (2), 217DP, 219-222DP, 224DP, 11 die proofs in colour of issue	3750

STAMPS

#2822	Scott 2i with corner crease but with Green cert., variety with 'line through bottom 2's' VG	1700
#2828	Scott 8, mint lower selvedge block of four. 2NH and 2 HR. "Superb!"	1300
#2839	Scott 12A, lower left corner block of 9, 4NH and 5LH. VF	1100
#2845	Scott 15A, mint block of four, 2NH and 2H, VF. "Pretty item!"	1400
#2883	Scott 30 13¢ orange ship, imprint block of six, some perf, sep. in selvedge. 5NH & 1HR VF	625
#2905	Scott 56a, ½¢ deep rose red dog, block of 8 with imprint. NH VF	350
#2913	Scott 75, left selvedge block of 8 of 1¢ surcharge, NH. Gum flaw one stamp. VF	500
#2914	Scott 78-97, Royal Family and Guy issue used, fair number with dated town cancels. VF	525
#2926	Scott 98-103 used. Several with town cancels. VF	450
#2928	Scott 99a, 8¢ mint 'imperf horiz. pair' NH. VF	425
#2940	Scott 115-126, Trail of the Caribou in blocks of 4, with shades of 1¢, 3¢ & 4¢ Most NH, VG-VF	350
#2980	Scott 212-225, Gilbert issue in NH corner blocks of four. F-VF+	475
#2993	Scott C2, C2a (2) and C2b, \$1 on 15¢ block of four, 2NH, 2H, Fine	375
#3011	Scott C12, \$1.50 on \$1, Dornier issue in mint vertical pair, NH & VF	450
#3028	Scott 1932 complete booklet (BK4), VF	525

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NEWFOUNDLAND POSTAL HISTORY JANUARY 1857- JUNE 1893 - COLIN LEWIS

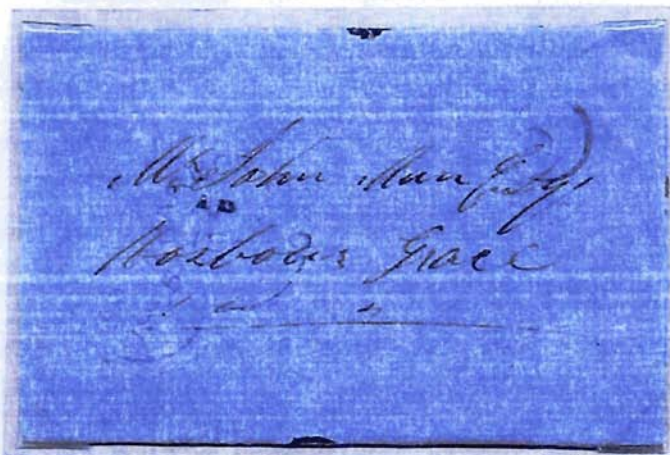
Act 28 Victoria Cap. II April 7th 1865

Rates Applicable After Cents Currency Introduced

April 7th 1865 to May 8th 1870

Colonial

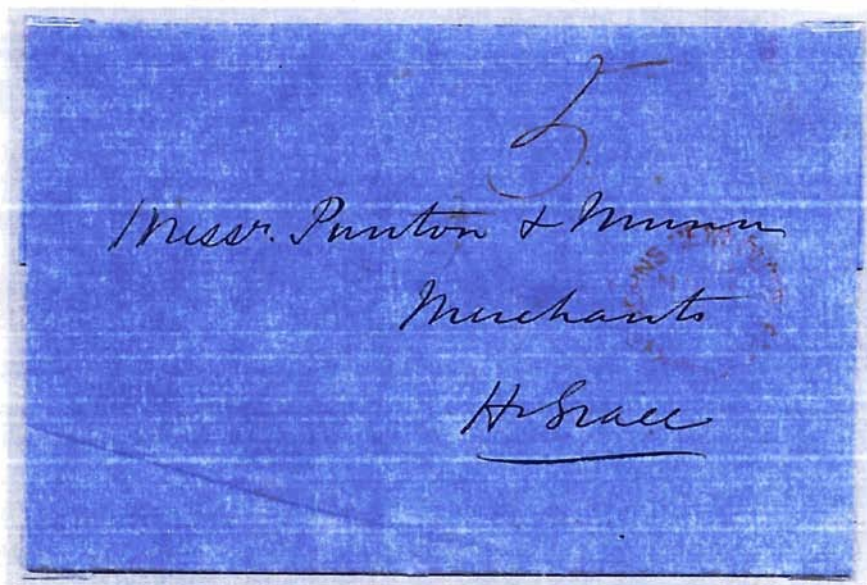
Single Letter Rate 5 Cents Collect Fee Per ½ Ounce



Carbonear April 7th 1865

Note: First day of Cents use. There were no Cents stamps available until November 15th 1865.

Single Letter Rate 5 Cents Per ½ Ounce Paid in Cash



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NEWFOUNDLAND POSTAL HISTORY JANUARY 1857 – JUNE 1893 – COLIN LEWIS

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Colonial

Single Letter Rate 5 Cents Per ½ Ounce



Trinity March 7th 1868

**Double Letter Rate 10 Cents Per Ounce
Paid by use of the 5 Pence Sterling Stamp**



Carbonear September 6th 1867

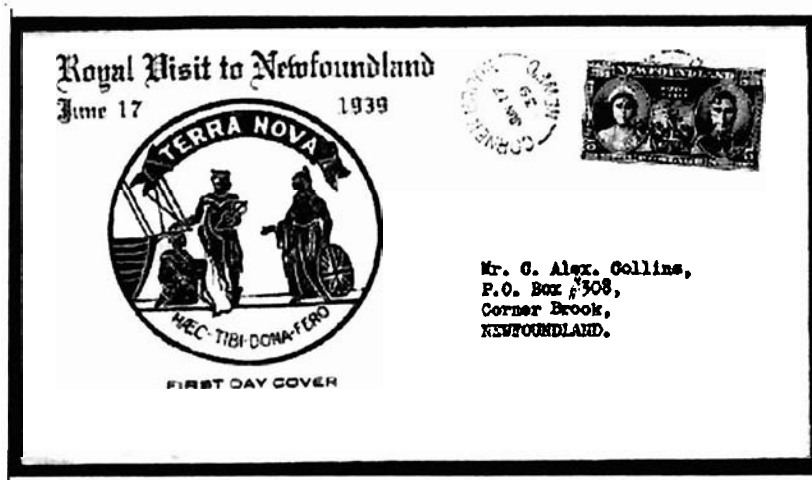
Note: Due to a shortage of stamps in 1867, Pence stamps were used to pay Cents rates.
There are no previously recorded covers of this franking in the Cents period.

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RARE 1939 ROYAL VISIT COVER



This Royal Visit cover went for \$26 (U.S.) on eBay several months ago – perhaps a record as often they go for under \$5. I sent a picture of it to Dean Mario. As you may recall, Dean has shown a number of the Royal Visit covers in previous issues of the Newsletter. See #81, Nov/Dec 1999, #82, Jan/Feb 2000 & #90, Sept/Oct 2001. Dean had never seen this one before. He has called it “C.4” He mentions: “The illustration, of course, is that of the ‘badge of the colony’ as noted by Boggs, with the motto ‘These Gifts I bring Thee’ from the device granted by the Admiralty for usage on the Union Flag (and depicted on the 1897 Cabot 30¢ issue).”

WAYZATA SALE, 1977

Dean Mario also sent this ad along for the 1932 private air mail. They sell for considerable more now, of course.

**NEWFOUNDLAND
AIR MAIL
1932 \$1.00**

**WAYZATA MINT N.H. SUPERB
PRICE \$4.00**

Block of 4 – \$16.00
Complete Sheet of 20 – \$75.00

CONTACT: HARRY MARTIN
EMPIRE STAMP CORPORATION LTD.
1150 YONGE STREET, TORONTO, ONTARIO
M4N 2M2
TELEPHONE (416) 921-8967

Canadian Stamp News, October 3, 1977

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SELDOM SEEM STAMP



This sensational stamp sold on eBay as item #4169813248 on May 30, 2004. There were 17 bids and the final price was **U.S. \$270!** UNITRADE lists it as #270ii "reverse offset" with a catalogue value of \$200 (Cdn). Walsh lists it as #256b "complete offset (aniline)" in NSSC, at \$220 (U.S.). He shows a production of 100, or one sheet.

What is it? I am not an expert in "freak" stamps. I believe one sheet was placed gum side down on top of a recently inked sheet to create this reverse image on the gummed side. This item certainly resulted in a lot of attention and high stakes bidding. Anyone who can provide an alternative explanation should contact The Editor.

DON'T FORGET BNAPEX2004 & THE NEWFIE WORKSHOP

**BNAPLEX is September 3-5, 2004, Baltimore.
Date and time of workshop pending**

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NEWFOUNDLAND'S POSTAL STATIONERY 1873-1941 – Horace Harrison

Page 38

1889 ENVELOPES

PRODUCED BY DE LA RUE & CO.

WHITE LAID PAPER, 24-27mm BETWEEN BATONNE LINES

WATERMARKED "ORIGINAL/TURKEY MILL/KENT"

IN DOUBLE-LINED CAPITALS

TWO DENOMINATIONS FOR EACH SIZE



SPECIMEN



SPECIMEN