

# THE NEWFIE NEWSLETTER



NEWSLETTER OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS

Number 164

July/September, 2016

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## Information Requested

In this issue, Cliff Hurst is looking for information on some items from his collection. If you have anything to contribute please e-mail the editors and we will forward the information on. If relevant it may be shared in the next issue of the Newfie Newsletter. (see pages 3-4)

## The 2015 Robert Pratt Award awarded to two authors: David Piercey and John M. Walsh.

**David Piercey authored:** "Newfoundland's South Coast Mails 1892-1895", July 2015 Maple Leaves "Mail from Her Majesty's navy in Newfoundland: 1893-1898", October 2015 Maple Leaves "The St. John's Central Post Office", Whole number 544 BNA Topics. "The Montreal Steamers and the Newfoundland Mails 1885-1897", May/June 2015 The Canadian Philatelist "Analyze This: Using Archival Research to Determine Postal History Significant of a Newfoundland cover" Sep. / Oct. 2015 The Canadian Philatelist

**John M. Walsh authored:** "1897 Newfoundland Red Overprint Surcharge part II", March/April 2015 The Canadian Philatelist "The Discoveries Abound in Newfoundland", May/June 2015 The Canadian Philatelist "Adventures of the Newfoundland 1898 Queen Victoria First Revenue Issue Document", July/ Aug. 2015 The Canadian Philatelist "Newfoundland 1929 Provisional Surcharge Three Cent on 6¢ Issue of 1923" Nov. /Dec. 2015 The Canadian Philatelist

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**The Perfin Corner**

*by Barry Senior*

The four and five cent values in all recorded positions.  
The ten cent with Discovery Copies in positions 2 & 7.



Position 1



Position 3



Position 4



Position 5



Position 7



Position 2



Position 1



Position 3



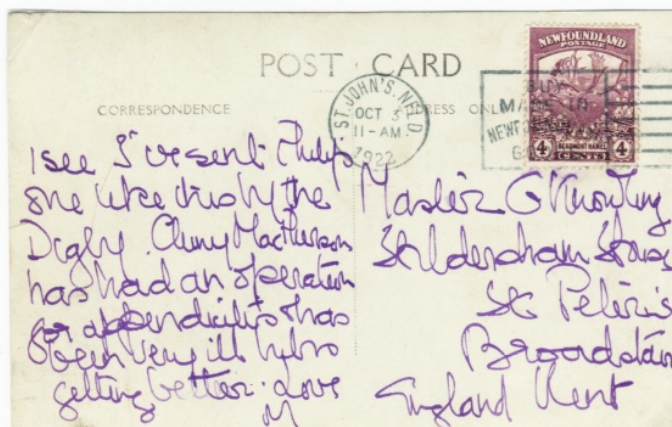
Position 5



Position 7



Position 7



A four cent stamp over paying the 2 cent Postcard Rate to England.  
Another postcard from Mrs Knowing..

Note: this is the last article of this series on the GK perfins. - Editor.

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**Newfoundland Queries**

**by Cliff Hurst**

1. SC 80. 1c Green Queen Victoria

I have found examples with apparently imperf. vertical left or right margins, including a specimen block of four imperf. at right. I also have examples used on cover in 1937 to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the accession of Queen Victoria, all addressed to Miss A Robertson in Maxse St, St John's. It appears that the BABNC printed a small quantity of these stamps on a narrower paper than normal, printing right up to the edge of the sheet with no edge perforations.



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- **conclusion**

2. SC 81a. 2c vermilion imperf. pair.

I have recently obtained a cover with a pair of these stamps on a commercial postcard from Placentia to St John's. It was cancelled at Placentia on November 2, 1903, with a St. John's receiving cancel on the reverse dated the same. I assume that either an imperf. or partly perforate sheet was sent to Placentia and instead of returning the defective sheet, the postmaster cut up the imperforate stamps and sold them as required for normal postage. Are there any other copies of this stamp known on cover or commercially used?



3. King George V, 1c Green Postcard

In my copy of "The Postage Stamps & Postal History of Newfoundland" by Winthrop S Boggs (1947 reprint) the following item is described on page 163:- JUNE 1911 NO FRAME LINE OR IMPRINT PS12. 1c Green on cream. 180 x 79mm. Portrait of King George V to left.

I have never seen or heard of this item being offered either in dealers stocks or by Auction and finally referred this to the Royal Philatelic Society in London. They also have no record of such a postcard but did comment that as such an oversize card would have attracted additional postage, these cards were either destroyed or trimmed down to the normal size of 120x79mm. In 1923 a similar design card of 120x79mm was issued. Do any of your members have examples of this smaller card dated either 1911 or 1912? Do any of the larger cards exist either used or unused and if used, has were they treated by the Post Office? Perhaps Boggs got the dimensions wrong as PS11 is also given as 180x79mm, but it is clearly 120x79mm

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**BRINGS BACK MEMORIES**

*by Robin Moore*



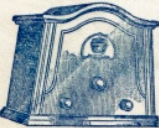
**At last**

**World-Wide Radio Reception.**

This new Stewart-Warner is the set you have been waiting for. Long-wave stations at their best, and look, the simple turn of a dial converts this set into a short wave receiver. The whole world at your finger tips.


**PERCY FEARN**  
VAIL BUILDING  
WATER & SPRINGDALE STREETS  
ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND  
HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS OF QUALITY, MODERATELY PRICED

Mr. C. W. G. Tessier,  
City.



Newfoundland distributor of STEWART-WARNER RADIO, "Champion of the Air." The set with the punch and service behind it.  
Tune in on the world with the new short-wave converter. No plugging in. No coils to change. Makes any set a good short-wave set.

ADDRESS MAIL TO  
ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND



[Editor – was C.W.G. Tessier related to the great philatelist, P.J. Tessier?]

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**ITALO BALBO ARMADA: NOVELTY... AND CONFIRMATION**

*by Jean-Claude Vasseur*

The cover illustrated below (author's collection) is interesting in several respects:



- It is a so-called “Crew Mail” and was obviously franked with a complimentary stamp by Captain Giuseppe Teucci, one of the pilots of the Armada;
- The letter bears the ‘Croceira’ logo (7 known in this ‘small’ format);
- IT RECEIVED A COMPLIMENTARY CANCELLATION AT SHOAL HARBOUR (9 known) ON AUGUST 5<sup>th</sup> (**ONLY KNOWN**);
- The cancellation is interesting as occurring the next day after that it has been announced by Italo Balbo that the Armada will return home thru the Azores Islands (instead of Ireland);
- It was (complimentary) struck on day of arrival in Italy with the ORBETELLO GROSSETO cds while the planes only moved to this destination next day or two days later, after arrival in Italy.

The cover is also interesting as it is the second cover discovered written by Cpt TEUCCI. He has previously sent the below cover (The Mass Flight of Italo Balbo, Robert E. Lana):

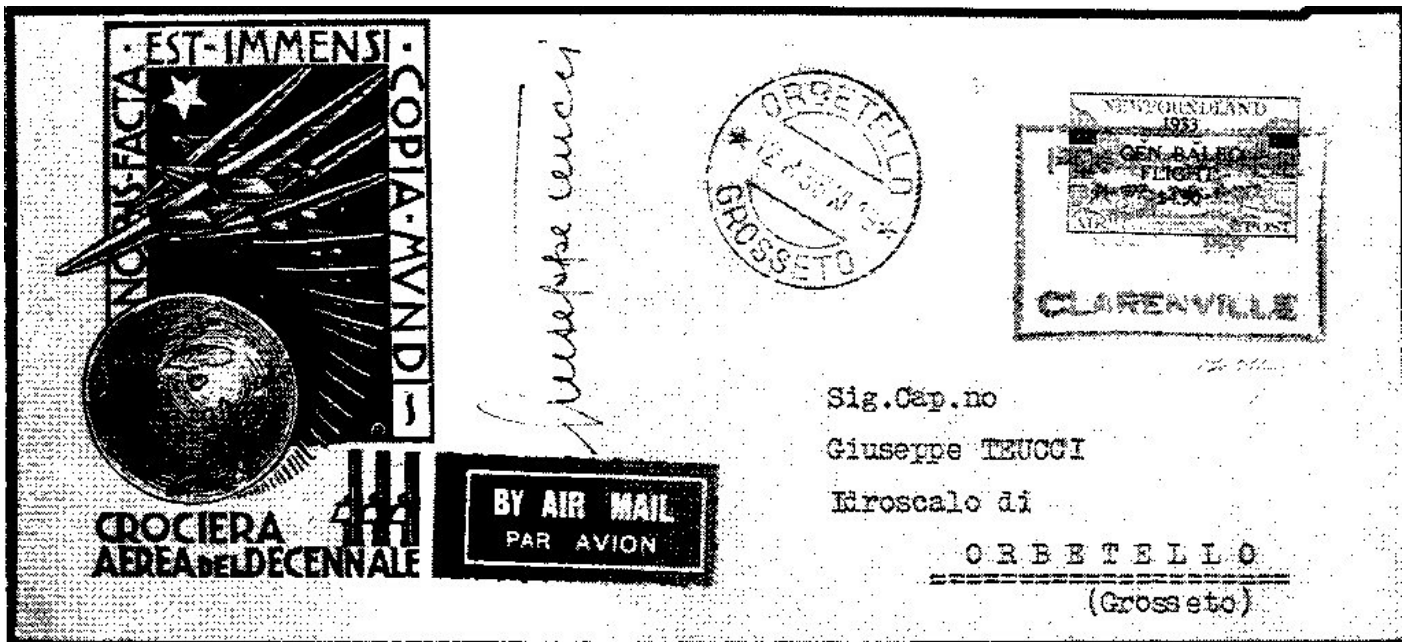
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**ITALO BALBO ARMADA: NOVELTY... AND CONFIRMATION**

*- conclusion*



Same envelope, same receiver in Orbetello, different cancellation (Clareville at an unknown date) and signed.

This shows the existence of two covers from the same sender. Considering the six well-known covers written by the three journalists accompanying the Armada this confirms the idea that each pilot and personality received two complimentary stamps. Obviously, Italo Balbo received more. As a conclusion, it is likely that more than a hundred stamps were given by postal authorities. This is in line with the 34 covers known by the author, at the beginning of 2016.

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**PACKET LETTERS PRIOR TO INTRODUCTION OF THE**  
**CUNARD SERVICE**

**- Colin Lewis, FRPSL**

Prior to the introduction of a regular packet boat service between Liverpool, England and Halifax, Nova Scotia by “The British and North American Royal Mail Steam Packet Company” (more commonly known as the “Cunard Line” after its founder Samuel Cunard) on 4 July 1840, almost all mail between Newfoundland and Europe was carried by masters of private vessels and landed at their first port of call. Once Cunard started operating, and a regular feeder service was in place between St. John’s and Halifax, the new packet service became a viable option and merchants quickly realized it was a faster and more reliable service than the previously favoured private arrangements. The Cunard contract came into effect on 1 July 1840<sup>1</sup> and the “Britannia” sailed from Liverpool on 4 July arriving at Halifax 17 July before proceeding to Boston. An earlier sailing on 16 May was completed by the “Unicorn” but this was before the regular contract was signed. Initially, the contract was for monthly sailings but this was quickly changed to fortnightly in September 1840.

Before the Cunard packet was introduced the North American packet service operated between Falmouth, Cornwall and Halifax. Initially, the vessels were contracted to Royal Mail but from 1823 the Admiralty took over the service. There was no packet service to Newfoundland and mail carried by the Falmouth packets to the colony via Halifax is rare. Although it was quicker to forward letters by private vessels to and from Newfoundland it did rely on the honesty and integrity of ships’ masters as well as the seaworthiness of their vessels. To ensure that letters got to their destinations they were often written in duplicate and even triplicate and forwarded by different vessels, hoping that at least one letter would arrive at its destination.

The earliest packet letter from Newfoundland that I have recorded is shown at fig 1 and it is the only Newfoundland letter to have been struck with the straight-line PACKET – LETTER handstamp of London. It was written on , 24 December 1813 by Thomas Marshall of St. John’s to The Reverend William Morris who was a member of the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, a Protestant organization. Although the letter is not complete it was most likely a request for money. It would have been forwarded privately to Halifax, Nova Scotia to await



Fig 1: 1813 Packet Letter carried by “Princess Mary”

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**PACKET LETTERS PRIOR TO INTRODUCTION OF THE**  
**CUNARD SERVICE**

**- continued**

the next Falmouth bound packet. The Royal Mail contract packet “Princess Mary” arrived from Falmouth on 31 December 1813 and departed again for England on the 7 January 1814<sup>2</sup>. The date of arrival at Falmouth is not recorded, although voyage time was anything up to a month. The letter was placed before the Gospel committee on the 14 February. The rate charged for the letter was 2s2d Sterling collect that was calculated as 1s3d Packet rate plus 11d inland rate from Falmouth to London (231 to 300 miles<sup>3</sup>).

The second Packet letter fig 2 is incoming from Ballina, Co. Mayo, Southern Ireland to St. John’s and was written on 3 August 1832. The letter is addressed to the Clerk of the Superior Court at St John’s from a Notary Public at Ballina and requests the release of estate funds of the late Martin Oats, to his two surviving sisters. Oats had died aboard the vessel “Nelson” voyaging to Quebec from Ireland and the master had put into St. John’s probably to off-load the body and deposit personal effects at the court.



Fig 2 1832 Packet Letter carried by “Reynard”.

This letter was carried by the Admiralty vessel “Reynard” that sailed from Falmouth on 8 September 1832 and arrived at Halifax 9 October<sup>2</sup>, and was eventually forwarded to St. John’s where it was received on 14 November. The letter has been paid 2s8d Sterling that was made up as follows: 3d Irish inland rate Ballina to Dublin, Kingston to Holyhead Packet and Menai Bridge toll 3d, inland rate to Falmouth 11d and Falmouth Packet rate 1s3d<sup>3</sup>. It received the boxed paid handstamp at Dublin.

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The third Packet letter fig 3 is also incoming to St. John's and is a two part communication written by different merchants. The first part was written at Greenock on 27 July 1839 by Alexander Angus and delivered privately to Beerbohm, Slaughter & Co of London a company that was acting as an agent for Angus. They penned their own letter on 7 August 1839 to merchants Warren & Wheatley at St. John's and this was mailed on the same day. This is a merchant's letter requesting payment of £1,000 for goods supplied by Angus. The letter was forwarded to Falmouth to be carried by the Admiralty packet "Reindeer" that sailed on the 10 August 1839 and arrived at Halifax on 11 September<sup>2</sup>. It was then forwarded privately to St. John's where it was received on 18 September.



Fig 3 1839 Packet Letter carried by "Reindeer".

The letter has been fully paid the new reduced packet rate of 1s Sterling<sup>3</sup> at London.

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> North Atlantic Mail Sailings 1840-75 Hubbard and Winter.

<sup>2</sup> Atlantic Mails A History of the Mail Service Between Great Britain and Canada to 1889 J C Arnell.

<sup>3</sup> For the Port and Carriage of Letters 1570 to 1840 David Robinson.

If anyone knows of other Packet letters prior to the introduction of the Cunard service I would be pleased to hear from them via the editors or direct to me at [colin.d.lewis@btinternet.com](mailto:colin.d.lewis@btinternet.com)

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**NEWFOUNDLAND LOBSTER STAMPS**

**- submitted by Bob Dyer (from E-Bay)**



FILE NOTES

August 1968

Newfoundland "Lobster Stamps" purchased on above date from Mike Knight who had a small store in Topsail. Visited him many times but only once saw these stamps and agreed on a price to purchase them. Only three (one a pair) ever seen - rouletted perfs and mint, no gum.

According to Knight, these were issued in the 1930's and were used on a card approximately 5½ x 3½ inches. There were spaces for 10 stamps, text above stamps stated to the effect "each stamp was worth or accounted for X number of lobsters caught, which was then, when filled out, sent to a department of the Government of the day, and was used to compile number of lobsters caught and apparently some sort of compensation to the fisherman similar to the UIC stamps issued in Canada from 1941 - 1968 (i.e. 1957, 1960 and 1968 Fisherman issues as listed in Van Dam's Revenue Catalogue).

Researched these stamps over the next couple years with the Newfoundland Government. In searching old records it was learned that lobsters were caught as far back as the 1870's and a canning industry was established, exported mainly to the United States. There were numerous canneries in many communities especially along the west coast of Newfoundland.. The lobster fishery was closed for three years 1925-27 so as to increase stocks. After this, live lobsters had a market in the U.S. It was then that regulations came into effect and various controls were introduced. (This is when, for a very short period of time, "Lobster stamps" were introduced, but quickly discontinued because of time-consuming and logistical problems.)

Spoke with Mr. J.R. Smallwood, who only lived 4 miles from me, at his home on Roaches Line, a few years later and asked him about the "Lobster Stamps". He related what he knew and showed me one in his personal stamp collection (he had a sizeable Nfld stamp collection of his own). He confirmed most of what I had researched above. It was a very short-lived program and he suspected very few of these stamps survived. He considered this stamp one of the very rarest of Newfoundland items and when this program didn't survive, everything associated with it was scrapped. He said that a lot of changes in the fisheries took place in 1934 when Responsible Government in Newfoundland was replaced by Commission of Government.

Thus, these "Lobster Stamps", I suspect not many survived, are indeed very scarce and will be missing from most Newfoundland collections.

<http://www.ebay.com/itm/Rare-1930s-Newfoundland-Lobster-Stamp-With-file-notes-/351731086570?hash=item51e4ce74ea:g:9egAAOSwiYFXKT83>

**image copyright East Coast Coins on E-Bay  
Used with the kind permission of Mel Boone**

See also : <http://bnatopics.org/hhlibrary/newsletters/nfie/nfl-2004-03-w105.pdf>; NN105 - 2004

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## **MORE ON THE FOLKARD LETTERCARD/POSTCARD PART 2**

**- by C.R. McGuire**

As is normal when I finally finish an article on a topic I intended to do for years, something new turns up which should have been included. That happened the day the last newsletter #163 arrived with the Folkard article, and I had just found I had three! - Folkard 'souvenir' folders I had forgotten.

These folders are usually not collected by postcard collectors even though the views they contain were often also done as individual postcards. I collected folders for various reasons---one being they are a wonderful overview of a city/town, province/state or country in 10 to 22 views. If you have several folders during different periods they are a record of how the place has changed over time. Another reason I liked them is they include street scenes and major buildings like the post office, fire hall and railway station[s] which particularly interest me. Folders required the letter rate of postage, but more often than not they are found unused. My Newfoundland folders have the same cover featuring the Newfoundland dog on different colour combination backgrounds, see figures 1, [ca 1950], 2 [ca 1955] and 3 [ca 1959]. The backs, see figure 4, have the same format with the edge surrounded with small red outlines of a caribou. The backs of figures 2 and 3 have the same view, number [973]. Figure 1, postally used on 19 Feb. 1951 from Bunyan's Cove, [Bonavista Bay - population 308, with only one postmark, a split ring in use since 1905][1], has view number [968]. It is fortunate that figure 3 is also used with 14 cents in U.S. air mail postage postmarked with 'U.S. Navy / 109571' duplex in September 1959. Sent no doubt by someone serving with the U.S. Navy in Newfoundland entitled to the concession to use American stamps. [2]

Each folder has the Folkard address as 1117 St. Catherine Street West, correcting the '1111' address in the original article. Three printings in less than a decade confirm they must have been popular sellers. I am sure other printings exist; please report them if you have any.

Figure 1 has 19 views while the others have 18 and, a brief history of Newfoundland replacing the 19th view. Each folder duplicates several views and has a number not in the other folders, making each folder worth having. While I initially expected they would, none of the folders have new views not already recorded in the last edition's list.

I do not recall seeing Canadian or American Folkard folders. However, it makes sense that they probably exist.

### References

1---Walsh and Butt, *Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue*, 8th edition, 2012, p.157.

2---George Cosentini and Norman Gruenzner, editors, *UNITED STATES NUMBERED MILITARY POST OFFICES, ASSIGNMENTS AND LOCATIONS, 1941-1994*, The Military Postal History Society, 1994, p.352.

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**MORE ON THE FOLKARD LETTERCARD/POSTCARD PART 2**  
**- continued**

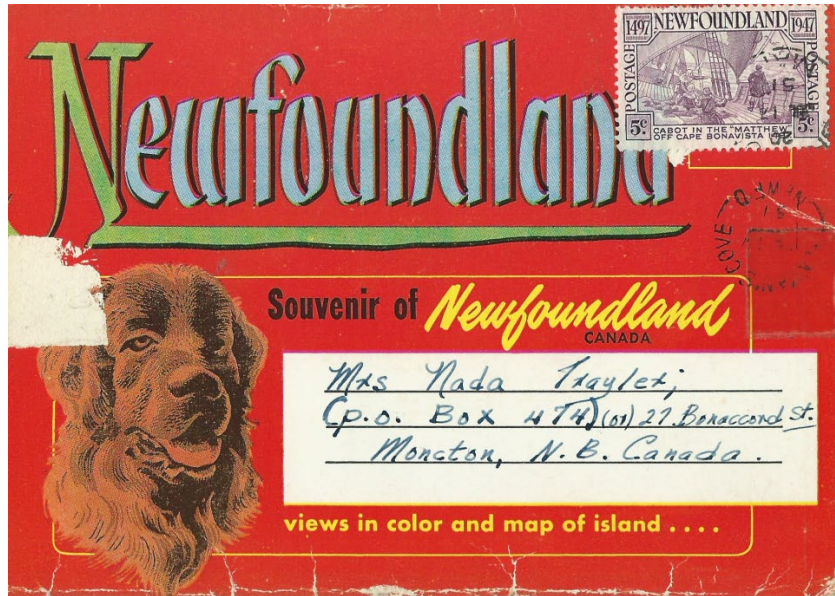


Figure 1



Figure 2

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**MORE ON THE FOLKARD LETTERCARD/POSTCARD PART 2  
- conclusion**

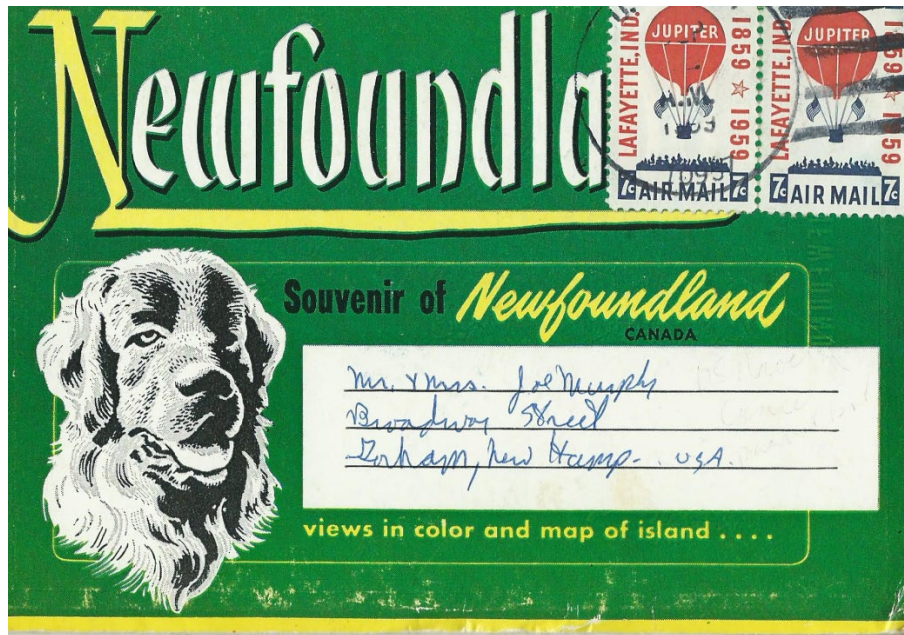


Figure 3



Figure 4

***THE NEWFIE NEWSLETTER  
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***July/September, 2016***

**Welcome**



**Fredericton**



**BNAPEX 2016 FREDERICTON**

**BNAPS annual convention exhibition and bourse**

**Friday, Saturday, & Sunday  
30 September 2016 - 2 October 2016**

**Fredericton, NB**

**Hosted by the Fredericton District Stamp Club**

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Come to BNAPEX 2016, visit Fredericton, and spend several days touring the beautiful Saint John River valley. We hope to see you in Fredericton!

***SHENANIGANS AT THE NEWFOUNDLAND GENERAL  
POST OFFICE, 1889-1900***

- **THEFT**
- **MISMANAGEMENT**
- **NEPOTISM**
- **CLERKS ALSO DEALING IN STAMPS**
- **DEALER FAVORATISM**

**CAST OF CHARACTERS**

**NILS OHMAN** – Major stamp dealer. He had “friends” within the G.P.O.

**GEORGE LEMESSURIER, SR.** –Lived rent-free in G.P.O.

**GEORGE LEMESSURIER, JR.** – Appointed by Dad, deal-maker

**MR. DUTOT** – Clerk, worked for Ohman on the side

**ROBERT BOND** – Colonial Sec. Mismanaged 1897 Cabot set

**J. ALEX ROBINSON** - Replaced Bond, ordered unneeded stamps

**J.O. FRASER** – PMG, liked collectors but had failing memory

**ERNEST PAYN** – Auditor, faked reports and stole stamps

**NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP POWERPOINT**

**By Norris (Bob) Dyer**

**OPEN TO ALL**

**TIME: Saturday, October 1, 11:00 A.M.**