

THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER



OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS

Number 173

October - December 2018

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[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cabot_Tower_\(St._John%27s\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cabot_Tower_(St._John%27s))

NSG NEWS

We have had some new members join over the last couple of years. A belated welcome to you all. You are encouraged to participate by submitting something to the newsletter.

2017 William H. Carson, San Clemente, CA, and David Nickson, Hempstead, TX

2018 Terry Rhoades, Edmonton, AB, William Fisher, Whitby, ON and Richard Baxter

QUIZ: Here are five 5 cents Caribou stamps from the 1932 - 1949 definitive series. They may look the same at first glance, but they are all different. Can you identify each without the use of philatelic tools (that is, by just looking) and put them in ascending order of value? That is, place each in its proper order from the least expensive to the most expensive. A few hints: three are from Die 1 and two are from Die 2. Three of them are comb perforated and two are line perforated; and obviously color or shade is not a distinguishing characteristic. Sorry there is no prize other than the satisfaction of knowing your stuff. The answers are located on page 2 of the newsletter. C.A.Stillions



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MORE NSG NEWS

Please remember that JC made the suggestion to dedicate the Apr.-June 2019, Spring edition of the newsletter to the 100th anniversary of the "Challenge" and crossing of the North Atlantic by Alcock & Brown. We are therefore requesting submissions towards this special edition. If you have any ideas for other dedicated issues, we would be happy to consider them.

We are also in need of material for the Jan – Mar 2019 issue. I have very little material in the bank, certainly not enough to put together another newsletter. Hopefully many of you will have new material to share after the BNAPEX in Quebec City.

There is an excellent auction coming up by Eastern Auctions Ltd. on November 8, 2018. It is The Highlands Collection of British North America Part One. There are many Newfoundland Rarities in this auction and well worth the catalogue alone for reference material.

BNAPEX IN QUEBEC CITY

We had a good turnout of 14 people for our Study Group meeting in Quebec City. Chris Hargreaves gave a very interesting presentation at our Study Group Meeting. The title of his talk was "*Air Mail Through Botwood, 1939 - 1945: History, Covers and Censorship*". The presentation covered Botwood's role in the development of Trans-Atlantic Air Mail covers produced in 1939 and 1942, and questions about censorship.

BNAPEX 2018 Palmares

The results of the judging are available on the BNAPS website at:
<http://www.bnaps.org/bnapex/bnapex2018/documents/BNAPEX2018-Palmares.pdf>.

From the NSG awards went to Dave Bartlet, Earl Covert, Charles Livermore, Ron Majors, Robin Moore, Brian Stalker, John Walsh, & Graham Worral.

Kenneth Lemke was elected to the **Order of the Beaver**, Colin Lewis received the **Order of the Beaver Lifetime Achievement Award** and George Dresser and Jean-Claude Michaud both received the **Hall of Fame Award**.
Congratulatlons to all.

ANSWER TO THE QUIZ ON PAGE 1

The correct sequence is C, B, A, E, D.

The least expensive stamp is C. It is Unitrade #257. It is 21.0 mm wide, is Die 1, and is line perf 12.5. It has a 2018 Unitrade catalogue value of \$.70 to \$1.25.

The next least expensive stamp is B. It is #191. It is 20.5 mm wide, is Die 2, and is comb perf 13.5. It has a 2018 Unitrade catalogue value of \$1.00 to \$2.00.

The middle stamp in value is A. It is #191a. It is 20.5 mm wide, is Die 1, and is comb perf 13.5. It has a 2018 Unitrade catalogue value of \$10.00 to \$20.00.

The next highest in value is E. It is #191f. It is 20.5 mm wide, is Die 2, and is perf 14. It has a 2018 Unitrade catalogue value of \$40.00 to \$70.00.

The most expensive stamp is D. It is #257ix. It is 21.0 mm wide, is Die 1, and is perf 13.5. It has a 2018 Unitrade catalogue value of \$100.00 to \$150.00.

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SOME THOUGHTS ON THE FLOWERS COVE COVER; NN172

The question posed was: This Flowers Cove cover is a most interesting to be rated cover. I am asking the collective group, what is the postal analysis of the rate on this cover?



I read NN172 and saw your question regarding the Flowers Cove cover. The common answer would be 2¢ paid by stamp and 1¢ cash due to the shortage of 1¢ but why didn't they use the 3¢??? Where they out of 3¢ as well?? There seems to be a m/s marking under the 1¢ stamp (possibly indicating the cash payment). The killer bars on the 1¢ are similar to those used at the St John's post office on philatelic covers of this period. I am suspicious that the 1¢ o/p stamp may have been added a bit later because the rarer o/p was used. **J-Claude Michaud**

Thanks JC. It certainly looks like the 1cent overprint (and a desirable one at that) was added after leaving Flowers Cove. Something is beneath it. The cancel on the right side does tie it to the cover. And to get the third over print type has to be a spectacular happenstance. If the marking reads paid then there is no reason to add a stamp. And if no info was visible to the Post Office then the cover was short paid by 1 cent, which leads to the requirement of double taxing of the envelope to 2 cents.

Further thinking (or over thinking) is that the cover, being addressed to the Ayres Company, was sent deliberately without postage. The reason is that several St. John's companies had a business practice of allowing their clients to do return company mail without the necessity of postage because the company paid the required postage on their end upon receiving these "not paid letters". If this was so then 6 cents would have been due. As you suggest suspicion, I concur with your same thought. **John M. Walsh, FRPSC**

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NEWFOUNDLAND'S ANILINE STAMPS

by Anthony Thompson

Similarities in the appearance of the 3c Queen Elizabeth “no cross hatch background” stamp variety (Sc 255v) and the 5c aniline “Cabot on the Matthew” stamp (Sc 270var) were discussed and illustrated in the April-June 2018 *Newfoundland Newsletter* (Thompson, 2018). The ink bleeding/feathering on the image of both varieties looked similar and markedly different to the normal stamps, both had a slightly brighter appearance than the normal stamp, both showed slightly more bleed-through to the back, and neither fluoresced under UV light. *So why is one described as aniline and the other not?*

Aniline is a colourless liquid originally distilled from coal tar. In 1856, William Perkins accidentally made an intensely coloured dye when reacting aniline with other chemicals whilst attempting to make synthetic quinine to cure malaria (Garfield, 2000). The dye, called mauvine, was the first synthetically produced dye and revolutionised the garment industry. It was also used for certain postage stamps including some six pence Victorian stamps of Great Britain (SG106-109; Oliveira *et al.*, 2014). Other aniline colours were soon synthesised, though they had a reputation for lacking colour fastness and being somewhat soluble in water (Reinhardt and Travis, 1997; Neyhart, 2010). In spite of some advanced techniques to analyse the properties of inks used on postage stamps (e.g. Judge, 2016), there are relatively few occasions where the actual pigments used have been identified. This is in part due to the security surrounding the printing of postage stamps to prevent forgeries.

SG (2007) states “*An aniline colour meant originally one derived from coal-tar; it now refers more widely to colour of a particular brightness suffused on the surface of a stamp and showing through clearly on the back.*”. SG also notes that aniline reactions [fluorescence] commonly occur under a quartz [UV] lamp, but it is unclear if this refers just to Great Britain SG 333 and 334. or to aniline colours more generally.

Unitrade (2008) and SG (2007) list only one Newfoundland stamp described as “aniline”, namely the 8c Prince George in the 1911 Royal Family Issue (“blue (aniline blue paper)”, Sc 110; “aniline blue”, SG 123), that can be found in mint and used condition. However, the SG catalogue cast doubts on the aniline nature of 8c stamp, stating “*Although No. 123 has a typical aniline appearance it is believed that the shade results from the thinning of non-aniline ink*”. Walsh and Butt (2016) also lists the 4c (NSSC 99a) and 15c (NSSC 106b) from this 1911 series as aniline and having been circulated for postal use. The only other listed aniline stamps are also by Walsh and Butt (2016) (NSSC 129a, 232a, 233b, 234b, 245b, 246c, 247c, 253a), though these were not circulated and do not occur in used condition.

This paper further examines the 1911 8c normal and aniline stamp (Sc 110a, 110; Figure 1) and the 1941 15c baby seal normal and aniline stamp (Sc 262, 262var; Figure 2). The “aniline” stamps are brighter in both cases, though the colour shows clearly through to the back only in the 1911 stamp. The image could be seen on the back of both 1941 stamps, though

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slightly more on the aniline stamp. None of the stamps showed any noticeable fluorescence under longwave UV light.



Figure 1. Normal and aniline varieties of the 8c Prince George in the 1911 Royal Family issue.

Upon closer examination, the images on the 1911 8c normal and aniline stamps are both clear and sharp with no noticeable difference in the impression. However, the aniline stamp had a blueing hue surrounding the pigmented lines in all areas excepting where there was a larger white space. For example, the blue ink can be seen to have diffused towards the centre of the white area in the “8”. This would result if the colour had partially dissolved in the ink carrier rather than fully precipitating to an insoluble solid, and is more-or-less consistent with the note provided by SG above for this stamp.

The image comparison between the 1941 15c normal and aniline stamps is very different, both to each other and to the 1911 8c stamps. The normal stamp shows clearly defined detail,

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with some feathering of the ink in areas of darker colour, for example, at the edges of the white "15". The aniline stamp has a very blurred appearance by comparison, and the head of the seal is difficult to discern. This is because the pigmented ink has been displaced beyond the edges of the recessed engraved lines and in to the "white" areas which have now become much narrower. This is clearly seen by a comparison of the two "15"s where the aniline stamp has less white space. This phenomenon was seen in the 1941 3c "no cross hatch" variety and in the 1947 5c "Cabot on the Mathew" postage stamp (Thompson, 2018).

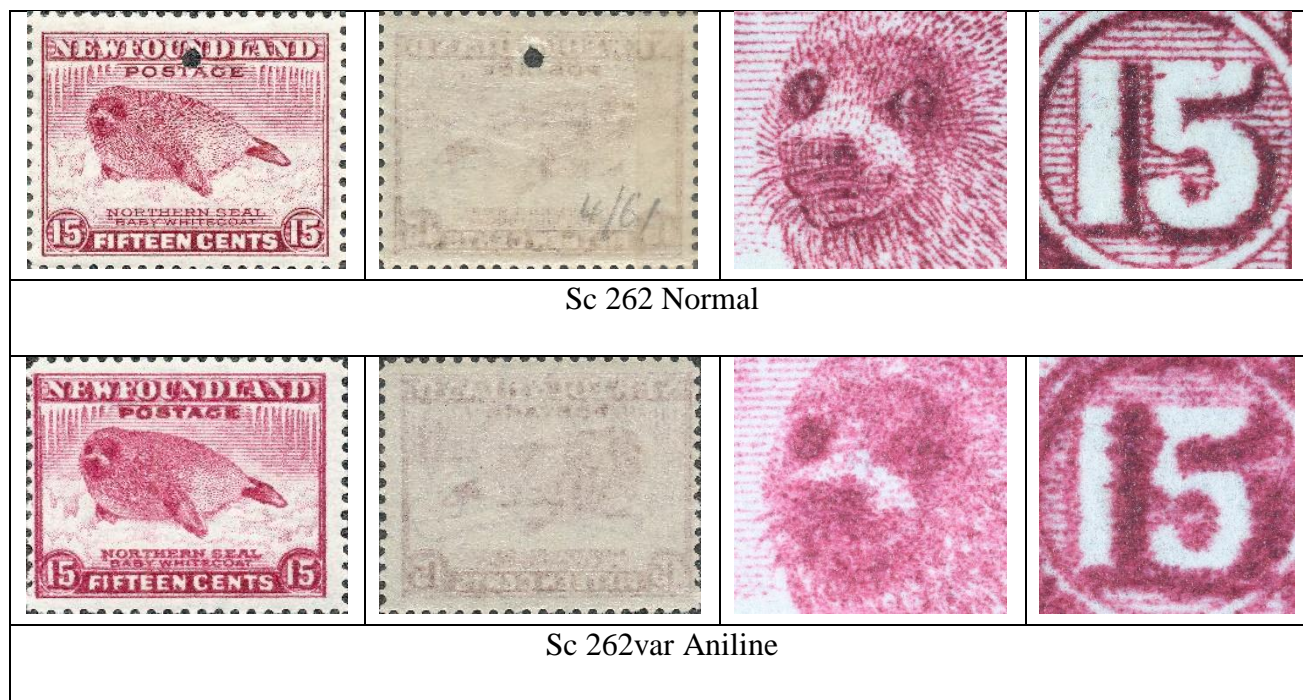


Figure 2. Normal and aniline varieties of the 15c baby seal stamp in the 1941 second resources issue.

The 1941 3c "no cross hatch", and the 1941 15c "aniline" and 1947 5c "aniline" all suffered the same fate and have very similar appearances. These varieties were never issued for postage and originated from Kasimir Bileski stock (at least all exist with his characteristic typed descriptions). It is believed that there were only 2 sheets of the 3c and single sheets of the 15c and 5c stamps, and with 100 stamps per sheet these are rare items. What is confusing is why the 15c and 5c have been classified as "aniline" stamps, as they do not fit the characteristics of

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aniline colours provided by Stanley Gibbons. Yet several of these aniline varieties have been given certificates of genuineness, but as has been noted elsewhere, the certificate simply matches the stamp to the identified catalogue number and description; it does not comment on whether the catalogued stamp is correctly described as “aniline”.

A further question remains. What caused these few sheets to acquire this unusual appearance? It is not plate wear as was originally proposed by Thompson and Stillions (2018). It could be a faulty batch of ink, and this seems likely for the 1911 8c variety. My own unsubstantiated thought is that it could be a sheet produced after the end of a print run when the printing machine was being cleaned or when the doctor blade that wipes the plate malfunctioned. Perhaps readers have a better idea?

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EVIDENCE OF ST JOHN'S NEWFOUNDLAND'S OWN CASTLE

by Bruce Robertson

Cabot Tower – looking a little like a Gothic castle, was begun in 1898, to commemorate both Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee and the 400th anniversary of John Cabot's (Giovanni Cabot) voyage to the New World. It featured on the 14c postage stamp issued in 1928 (figure 1). Today, the Tower is a recognizable St John's landmark.



Fig. 1 Newfoundland Stamp #155 - Cabot Tower (1928) 14¢
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cabot_Tower_\(St._John%27s\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cabot_Tower_(St._John%27s))

But St John's did have a castle – and an eccentric 'mad' professor, Professor Danielle, to go with it.

Professor Daniel's background is sketchy (figure 2). Originally hailing from Baltimore MD, he seems to have arrived in St John's sometime around the 1860s. A consummate showman, he first styled himself as a dancing master, but soon developed a program of entertainments, fetes and fancy-dress galas, for which he rented out the costumes. Based on Victoria skating-rink, situated near Government House and the Newfoundland legislature on Military Road, these events could attract upwards of 2000 enthusiastic participants.

Danielle's next venture was a restaurant named the Royal on Water Street. It was a popular dining and drinking spot until it was destroyed in the great fire of July 1892. Undaunted, Danielle for a short time ran a smaller establishment, nicknamed the Little Royal. Then he shifted his operations to Quidi Vidi Lake, a small body of water in the eastern environs of the city, where a regatta had been held since the 1820s. There he built the sumptuous Royal Lake Pavilion, the first suburban roadhouse in the colony.

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Fig. 2 Professor Danielle seated with his assistant Frederick A. Brazill.
(http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/danielle_charles_henry_13E.html)

In 1895, however, he decided to move once again. He was being persecuted, he claimed, by a neighbour who envied his success. He dismantled the pavilion and transported it by rail to a picturesque site on the Topsail road near Irvine station. There he erected the Octagon Castle, a building that was to make him famous and whose name still survives in the nearby Octagon Pond. The castle was formally opened on 18 June 1896 by Sir William Vallance Whiteway, who paid tribute to the “genial professor” for “placing such a lovely resort at the service of the public.”

Professor Danielle and his Octagon Castle were so well known that mail so addressed had no trouble in finding him (figure 3).

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Fig 3 1897 Cover addressed to Professor Daniel, Octagon Castle.
Author's collection.

The cancel on the QV 3 cent is unclear, although there is a circular St John's hand-stamp for 1 Sep, '97 and a badly struck Railway TPO hand-stamp for Sep 2, '97 on the back.

The Octagon Castle soon became a popular resort for the pleasure-loving public of St John's. Societies and clubs held their picnics there, and on holidays hundreds of excursionists flocked to the castle to enjoy the boating and other amenities. Once a year Danielle provided a day's outing for orphans from the city.

He died in 1902. His sole heir was Frederick A. Brazill, his ward and assistant, about whom little is known. An immense crowd turned out for the arrival of the famous coffin at the railway station in west end St John's. His pallbearers included three former premiers, Sir Wm. Whiteway, Sir James Spearman Winter, and Daniel Joseph Greene, and prominent lawyer and politician Alfred Bishop Morine.

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Professor Danielle had his own corner card stationery, the back featuring a picture of the Octagon Castle (figure 4).

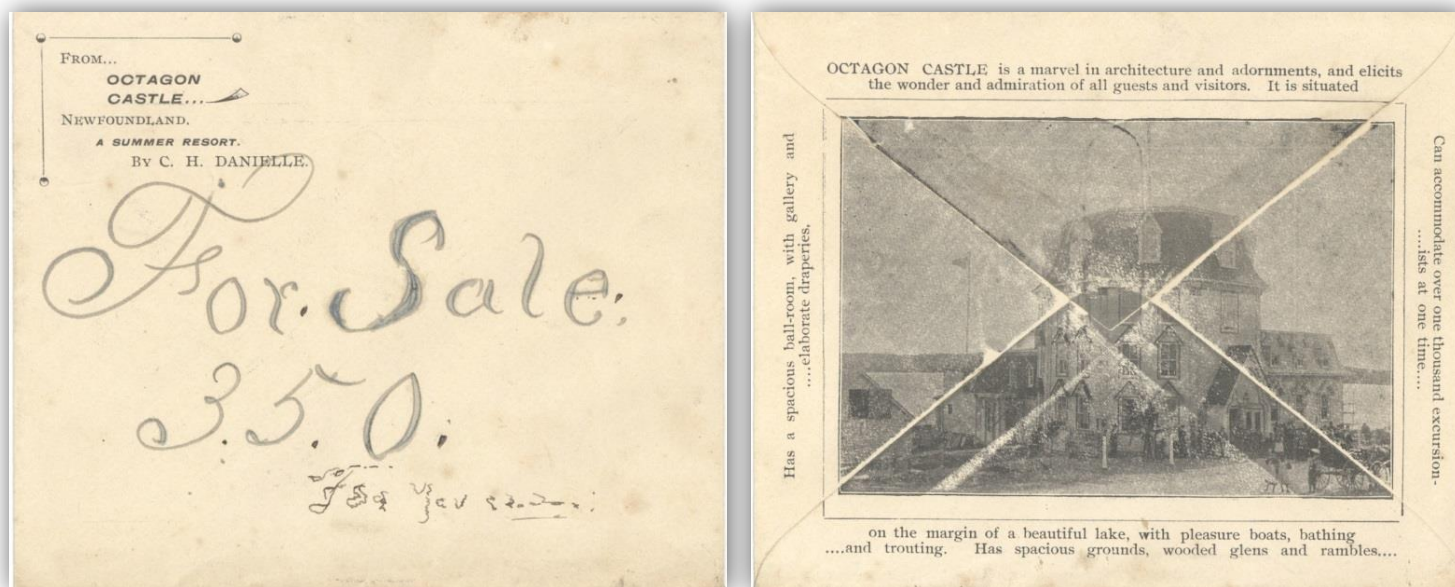


Fig 4. Professor Danielle's "corner card" cover with picture of the Octagon castle on the back.

(http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/danielle_charles_henry_13E.html)

Alas, the timber-built Castle has not proved as durable as the stone-built Cabot Tower. The Castle caught fire and was destroyed in 1915.

Information for this article has been sourced from the excellent Dictionary of Canadian History (http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/danielle_charles_henry_13E.html).

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Comments and Notations Found on the Waterlow Archival Sheets

by Anthony Thompson

The security printers, Waterlow & Sons, kept imperforate and perforated reference sheets of stamps they printed (Figures 1 and 2). These were released to collectors around 1975 and carried various had written annotations, notations and printers' instructions.

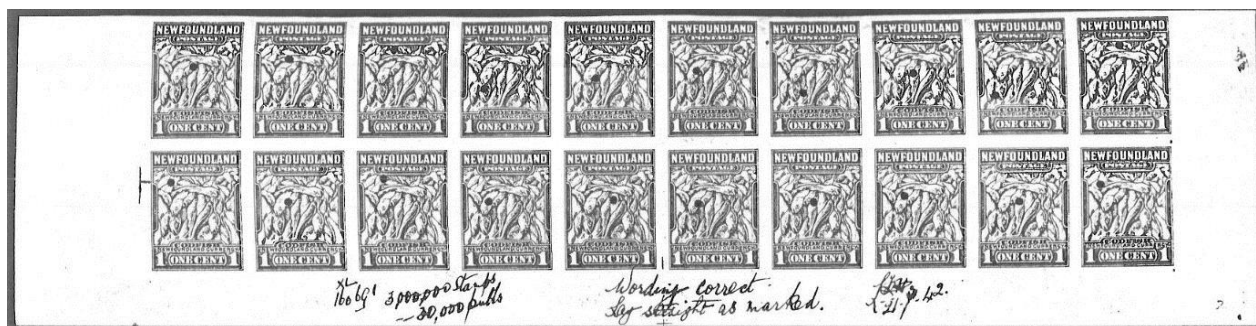


Figure 1. Photocopy of the lower two rows of the 1c imperforate sheet from order number 160691 dated 21 July 1942 for 3,000,000 stamps. The photocopies of the lower two rows of the Newfoundland imperforate sheets were originally made by John Jamieson of Saskatoon Stamp Centre in the early 1980s.



Figure 2. Scan of the top two rows of the perforated sheet from order 125556 dated April 1946 for 1,000,000 stamps. This sheet was a later find and does not appear in Ayshford (1978) monograph.

The Newfoundland sheets were acquired by Robson Lowe of Christie's and were cut up by David Fortnum, Robson Lowe's son in law, in the late 1970s to allow more collectors to acquire copies (Figure 3). John Jamieson, Saskatoon Stamp Centre, purchased the lower two rows of the imperforate sheets whilst on a trip to England in 1980 and Kasimir Bileski purchased the remainder not sold by Robson Lowe. Jamieson subsequently sold the bottom two rows to

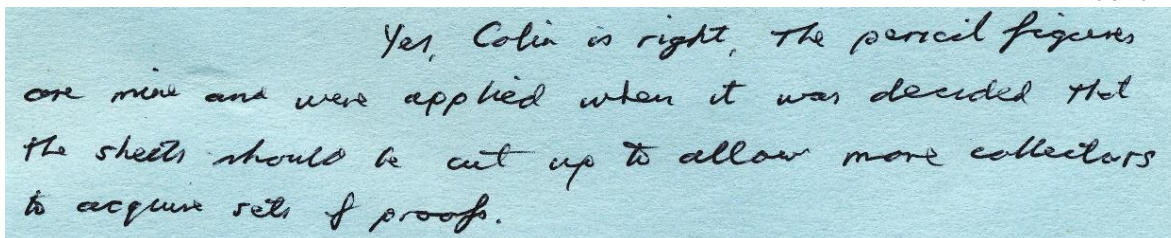
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Yes, Colin is right. The pencil figures on mine and were applied when it was decided that the sheets should be cut up to allow more collectors to acquire sets of proofs.

Figure 3. Extract of letter from David Fortnum dated 9 February 2009 to author.



Figure 4. Pencil marking “5/9” made by David Fortnum indicating that the block is from sheet 5 (November 1944 Requisition order 52366 Plate 42430; Thompson and de Groot, 2010), with the stamp being at position 9 in the sheet.

Bileski in the late 1980's, who cut them into blocks of four. Many of the plate blocks appeared in John Walsh's award-winning exhibit (Walsh, 2018). The reverse side often bears a pencil notation written by David Fortnum indicating the sheet and position of the block (Figure 4). The punched holes were to demonetise the stamps.

Further written instructions and notations are also present in the selvage. The number of stamps produced in the order and the number of pulls required is usually recorded (Figure 5).

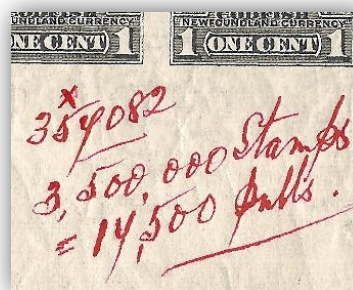


Figure 5. Requisition order number 354082 and the number of stamps produced and pulls required.

“Pulls” is likely a hang-over from earlier days when hand operated presses were used, though Waterlow probably used sheet-fed presses that would have been mechanically fed. This example is unusual as it is from the last printing plate that had 200 stamps in two panes on each sheet with a central selvage; the other sheets all contained 100 stamps in a single pane and so the number of stamps is 100 times the number of pulls. Also examined are the plate quality and colour reproduction (Figure 6) and the wording and lay (Figure 7). The lay refers to the registration of the paper and the plate and is particularly importance for bi-coloured stamps. The perforated sheets also record that they are a “file copy” for the archival records and these also

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have the punched holes (Figure 8). In most cases, the initials of the examiner and date are included beside the notations.



Figure 6. "Plate & colour O.K." seen on a Uruguay imperforate sheet (Yvert 586).



Figure 7. "Wording & lay correct" seen on a Bolivia imperforate sheet (Yvert 270)

The imperforate sheets also contain notations and corrections of various kinds. Changes required to the laying of the paper on the press is shown by a "shift" mark (Figure 9). This is usually accompanied to a modification of the text shown in Figure 7 to that seen in Figure 1, "Lay straight as marked" in this case. The stamps are also checked for printing flaws and these are marked by a red circle, though "repair" is not normally written (Figure 10). Interestingly, this flaw cannot be found on the printed stamps, so perhaps it was indeed repaired.



Figure 8. "File copy" notation found on perforated sheets



Figure 9. Notation mark indicating that an adjustment to the lay of the paper is required.



Figure 10. Printing flaw at position 60 plate 43965 marked with red circle and "repair", described by Ayshford (1978) as broken shading left of C of CURRENCY.

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Usually the marked flaw is not repaired and it is reproduced on the circulated stamps (Figure 11). This example of the 3c “broken A” variety is the only Newfoundland flaw identified by the Waterlow checkers that appears as a catalogue listing. The flaws are commonly frame line thickening or weaknesses, spots or dots, and scratches, and they are listed in full by Ayshford (1978).



Figure 11. Printing flaw on the 3c stamp at position 49 on plate 41418 known as the “broken A” (Sc 255i) or “damaged A” (SG 156a) variety. Left from Ayshford (1978); right from SG (2007).

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Some Interesting Covers in a Recent Cherrystone Sale

- submitted by George B. Dresser

September 5-6, 2018

**U.S. & Worldwide
Stamps & Covers**

CANADIAN TERRITORY - Newfoundland



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Air Post. 1927 60c black overprinted in red "Air Mail De Pinedo 1927", well centered, used on small cover from St. John's (May 20) to Rome, Italy, Trepassey May 21 departure pmk below, with "Roma Centro 22.VI.1927 Le Piu Belle Terme del Mondo Salsomaggiore Periodo Di Cura Marzo-Novembre" advertising slogan arrival pmk on reverse, few cover stains away from the stamp, addressee's name obliterated, signed Longhi and Colla, with his 2012 certificate. A splendid De-Pinedo cover (one of about 225 covers with an overprinted Newfoundland 60c stamp flown on the transatlantic flight attempted by Marquis Francesco de Pinedo between Trepassey, Newfoundland, and Rome, Italy, via the Azores. De Pinedo left Newfoundland on May 23, 1927, but a shortage of fuel caused his plane to land in the ocean, 200 miles from the Azores. The plane was towed to the islands by a schooner, and Pinedo reached Rome about three weeks later) cat. \$25,000.....(C4)

9,000.00



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Flight Covers. 1927 De Pinedo supplementary mail, cover to Italy, franked with ordinary 60c black, tied by Rome cancel with Trepassey May 21 departure pmk alongside, addressed to Roessler c/o the American Consul in Rome, with Roma Centro (22 May) arrival postmark on back. This mail was taken in both St. John's and Trepassey, with most of the covers canceled on departure, v.f., signed Bolaffi, with his 1962 certificate, cat. \$14,000(AAMC 14c)

4,000.00