THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER



OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS

Number 178

January-March 2020

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Henry Holton Conland

Henry was a long-time member of our study group. Our Newsletter Archives show that he joined the Study Group in 1986, the 2nd year of the Group. He frequently made extra donations to support the study group.

Henry Holton Conland, II, 79, of Storrs, beloved husband of Judith (Jones) Conland passed away Tuesday, March 19, 2019. He was born February 6, 1940 in Hartford, the son of the late Henry James and Sarah (Connell) Conland. He completed his apprenticeship at Pratt & Whitney Small Tool. He and his best friend, J. David Paulsen started Manufacturing Service Corporation in 1965. He had a love of dogs, music, golfing, tennis, travel, stamp collecting, Ham Radio, neighborhood car-side chats, Winnie-the-Pooh, and Tigger too. He also enjoyed Wisconsin trips with his family, friends and the "Fat Boys." He was a long-time member of The Hartford Canoe Club. He loved watching his children, grandchildren and great granddaughter grow and thrive. Besides his loving wife Judy, Henry is survived by 3 daughters, 4 grand-children and 1 great granddaughter.

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GEOMETRIC CANCELS RADIAL DESIGNS - Continued Eight Segments Issue current 1880--1887 Issue current 1880--1887 Eight Segments ive Seaments **Eight Segments** Issue current 1880--1887 Issue current 1887--1897 Reprint Issue 1896 Very limited postal use recorded These radial designs below are characterized by many lines radiating from the center, much like a starburst. St. John's 1877 Issue current 1870--1873 Issue current 1870--1887 Issue current 1887-1894 Issue current 1883-1887 5 FIVE CENTS 6 Issue current 1883-1887 Issue current 1894-1897 Issue current 1883-1887 Issue current 1883-1887 Issue current 1880--1887

AN EXHIBIT BY DAVID PIERCEY

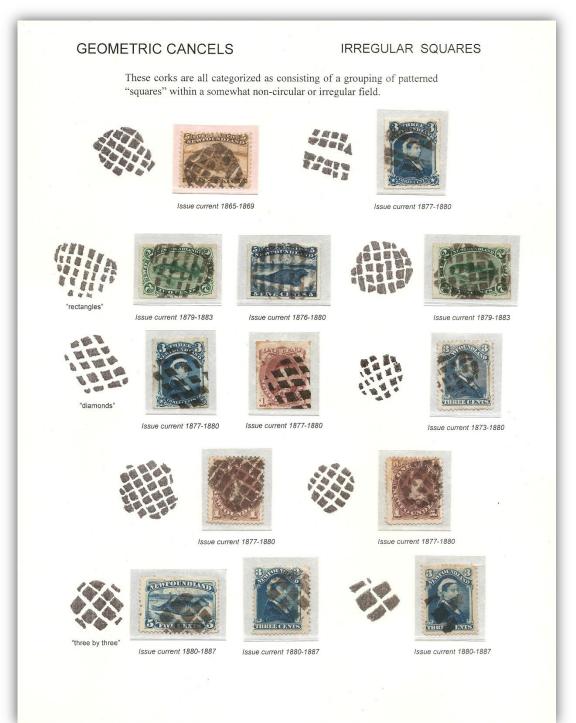
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AN EXHIBIT BY DAVID PIERCEY

-continued



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AN EXHIBIT BY DAVID PIERCEY

- to be continued next issue



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NEWFOUNDLAND STAMP #184C IMPERF PAIR MNG

by Anthony Thompson

This imperf pair, described as "Shown, mint no gum with a toned spot" was sold on eBay recently for C 26.00 from a 99¢ start (Figure 1).

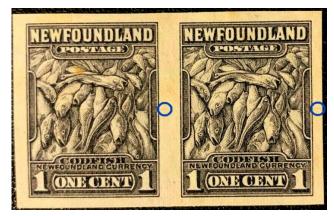


Figure 1. Image of Newfoundland 1¢ imperf pair for sale on Ebay in October 2019, showing guidelines on centre right of design (blue circles).

This item immediately caught my attention, and clearly that of the bidders who were all experienced with between 594 and 5580 purchases (Table 1).

Bidder	Experience ¹	Maximum bid (C\$)	
7	594 - winner	26.00	
6	3525	25.00	
5	2143	17.00	
4	1757	16.00	
3	623	6.00	
2	1094	3.00	
1	5580	2.09	
0	Starting price	0.99	

Table 1. Bid history.

¹ number of items previously purchase by bidder

But, I wonder, how many knew this was special? Imperf pairs of Scott 184 appear regularly on eBay, and are with or without watermark, or on bookend paper. There is however another type which is much less common with only one sheet known and showing part of the die proof guideline (Stillions, 1989; Thompson, 2013). The guideline, a short horizontal line, was added to the centre right of the image after approval to make the final state of the die (Figure 2).

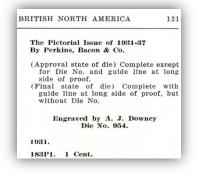


Figure 2. Addition of guideline to die (Minuse and Pratt, 1970)

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NEWFOUNDLAND STAMP #184C IMPERF PAIR MNG

conclusion

The sheet from which this eBay lot originated, showed full lathework along the left-hand sheet margin, plate 5 at the upper right corner, and the partial die proof guidelines at centre right of each stamp (Figures 3 and 4). This represents an original plate proof likely pulled in early 1939 from the plate prior to burnishing the guidelines, and may be the only example from any stamp printed by Perkins Bacon (who were owned by W.W. Sprague & Co. when this plate was printed). The image of the imperf pair sold on eBay was clear enough to show the guidelines.

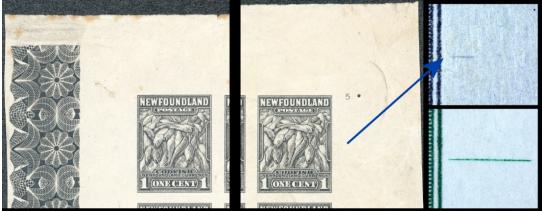


Figure 3. Upper left and right corner blocks from same sheet showing lathework, plate 5, and detail of guideline, along with detail of guideline from die proof (green, lower right).

This variety is not listed in Walsh and Butt (2016), the catalogue with the most detailed Newfoundland listings, though the current catalogue does list the lathework variety as #174x (Walsh, pers. com.). I just wonder if the bidders knew just how uncommon this pair really is? One

thing is for certain, bidding on eBay by experienced buyers must mean the item is interesting! Over the past few years, I have seen three such pairs on eBay, though never described as having a guideline – this variety is essentially unknown!

Another question, and one I am working on, is identifying the purpose of the guideline. If anyone knows, then please submit an article or note to the *Newfoundland Newsletter* (*n.b.* "for plate layout" is not enough! If true, we need to know how the line was useful and used to layout the 100 impressions on the plate.)

- <u>References:</u> Minuse, K. and R.H. Pratt. 1970. *The Essays and Proofs of British North America*. Sissons Publications, Ltd., USA. 198 pp.
- Stillions, C.A. 1989. Lathe work on Scott #184, plate 5. *The Newfoundland Newsletter*, Number 24, July/August 1989: page 1.
- Thompson, A.B. 2013. Intaglio printings of the Newfoundland "Pile of Cod" stamps. *BNA Topics*, 70 (4): 19-30.
- Walsh, J.M. and J.G. Butt. 2016. *Walsh Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue*. 10th edition. Walsh's Philatelic Service, St. John's, Newfoundland Canada. 737 pp.

	No. 223295
THE ROYAL PHILATE	ELIC SOCIETY
2 C	41 Devonshire Place London W1G 6JY
Mee	ing of1 1 MAY 2015
In the OPINION of The EXPERT COMMITTEE described as	the item
Newfound land; 1932-38	
10 Grey-black - imperf p Yren Plate 5 - ne wak -	
lathework in Left mar	
plate before removal of	
side of each impression	n - is Genuine
	Glam
	On behalf of the Committee

Figure 4. Certificate confirming "early state of plate before removal of guide lines"

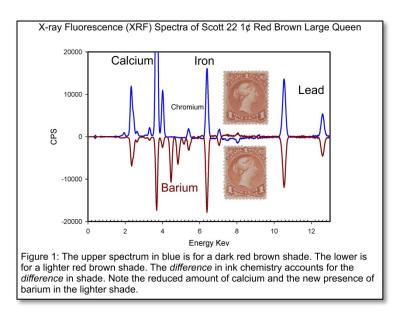
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DOES A "PRUSSIAN BLUE" SHADE VARIETY EXIST FOR THE 15C NEWFOUNDLAND 1919 TRAIL OF THE CARIBOU ISSUE?

by Garfield Portch, FRPSC, John M. Walsh, FRPSC, Richard H. Judge

Getting philatelists to agree on shades is difficult. An even more difficult task is getting philatelists to agree that a shade long thought to be unique is not. This short paper will outline a series of experiments designed to show that three stamps certified as a Prussian Blue shade of the 15c Trail of the Caribou ARE different from the 'run of the mill' blue shade. To belay any suspense, the experiment FAILED. In this study, it is taken that ink chemistry defines the shade, not an unreasonable assumption as the following examples will show.

In the first experiment, the X-Ray fluorescence (XRF) spectrum of the stamp is taken. A thorough understanding of the physics behind XRF is not required. Rather one looks for differences in the XRF patterns of the two test cases. Different patterns mean different ink chemistries. Figure 1 illustrated this point by comparing the XRF pattern of Canada Scott 22, the red brown 1¢ Large Queen issue.

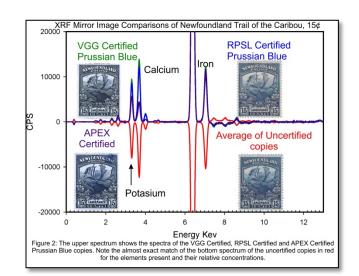


The upper trace is for the darker stamp of the two and is displayed normally. The lower spectrum is for the lighter shade and is displayed with negative intensities giving a mirror like image of the upper. Except that there are significant differences in the two patterns especially in the area labeled 'barium'. Scott does not list a light or dark shade nor does Unitrade but the visible difference in light/dark can be explained by the XRF spectrum. Now consider the XRF spectra shown in Figure 2.

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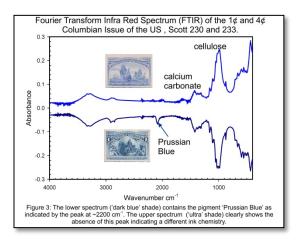
DOES A "PRUSSIAN BLUE" SHADE VARIETY EXIST FOR THE 15C NEWFOUNDLAND 1919 TRAIL OF THE CARIBOU ISSUE?

continued



Here the same experiment is done. The upper spectrum is an overlap of a Greene Foundation (VGG) certified Prussian Blue (in green) overlapped by a Royal Philatelic Society of London (RPSL) certified copy (in blue) overlapped by an American Philatelic Expertizing Service (APEX) copy in magenta.. The bottom trace, again as a mirror image, is an average of 14 uncertified copies (in red). The agreement is striking between the two patterns. There is no difference in the elemental composition of the stamps. The XRF has failed to show a difference.

In the second experiment, the Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectrum of a stamp is recorded. Again, one is looking for differences in the patterns for the two test stamps. To illustrate this effect, the upper part of Figure 3 shows the spectrum of a plate proof of the 4¢ United States

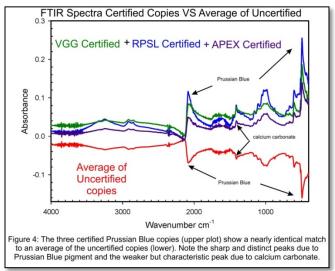


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DOES A "PRUSSIAN BLUE" SHADE VARIETY EXIST FOR THE 15C NEWFOUNDLAND 1919 TRAIL OF THE CARIBOU ISSUE?

continued

Columbian issue of 1893 (Scott 233) which Scott calls 'ultra'. This is compared to the lower spectrum of the 1¢ plate proof (Scott 230) which Scott calls 'deep blue'. Again, the lower spectrum is reversed to give a mirror image effect. Note the appearance of a peak near 2200 cm⁻¹ characteristic of the pigment 'Prussian Blue' that is absent in the 4¢. Indeed it is just this feature that allows Siegel in their June 26, 2019 auction to note the authentication of a block of 4 of the 4¢ error shade (Scott 233a): "*The 4c Columbian color error was caused by the use of a wrong batch of ink, and spectrographic analysis has shown that the blue inks of the 4c error and 1c Columbian have the same components*" (Siegal Auctions:2019:60). The Newfoundland stamps are illustrated in Figure 4.



As before, the upper spectrum is an overlap of the VGG copy (green trace) the RPSL copy (blue trace), the APEX copy (magenta) and the bottom is the average of the 14 uncertified copies (red trace). Note the almost complete agreement amongst ALL copies. The FTIR has failed to show a difference in ink chemistry but has shown that ALL copies contain the pigment 'Prussian Blue'.

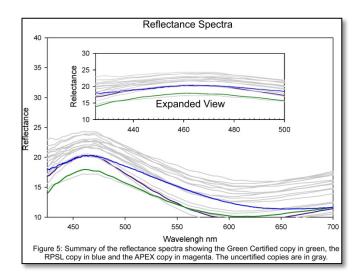
So what does account for the perceived shade difference among the three certified copies and the others? In a single phrase: "particle size of the Prussian Blue pigment". Prussian blue has been well studied by the scientific community because of its importance in art and art history. A pair of finding from the scientific literature is relevant to philately especially to the reflectance spectra: (see below). As quoted here: "The colour of various Prussian blue pigments depends on the procedure used for their synthesis, a procedure that may strongly influence their hue, hiding power and tinting strength" (Grandjean, 2016:18036). The previous statement is a consequence of the particle size of the Prussian blue pigment as shown by Saiman et al: "Two major features appear to be strongly dependent on the preparative method of the pigments, the particle size and the local disorder. Both features strongly influence the color of the pigment." (Saiman, 2013:9710). So,

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- conclusion

shades do exist for the Trail of the Caribou. Reflectance spectroscopy allows for a graphical representation of shades. Furthermore, the spectra from reflectance spectroscopy are very sensitive to the physical state of the sample as well as the overall pigment chemistry. So it is not surprising that the combined traces shown in Figure 5 show a virtual continuum of shades



each trace slightly different from the other. To reiterate, the conclusion reached from the reflectance spectra and the known physical properties of the pigment Prussian Blue allow for shade variations.

In summary then, this research did not show a difference in the pigment chemistry of the Prussian Blue certified copies and the other copies. There are minor differences in shade due to pigment particle size, a physical effect. It is up to philatelists, alone, to make their own decision as to search for and add shades to their collections or not. This research is intended to allow the collector to make an informed decision.

References:

- Grandjean, Fernande, Louise Samain and Gary J. Long, "Characterization and utilization of Prussian blue and its pigments", *Dalton Trans.*, **2016**, 45 pp.18018-18044.
- Samain, Louise, Fernande Grandjean, Gary J. Long, Pauline Martinetto, Pierre Bordet and David Strivay, "Relationship between the Synthesis of Prussian Blue Pigments,
 - Their Color, Physical Properties, and Their Behavior in Paint Layers",
 - J. Phys. Chem. C 117, 2013 pp. 9693-9712.
- Siegal Auction Galleries, "2019 Rarities of the World", June 26, 2019. *New York, NY*. Lot 2060 pp. 60.

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WHILE SALMON ANGLING LOOK WHAT I SAW

Nature is so invigorating. While out angling this salmon jumped to show me who was boss.

Right behind it another one jumped to show who really was boss.

Both were checked for engraving. Both salmon images are readily seen.

But note the overall colour intensity of the black salmon stamp. A most interesting phenomenon!

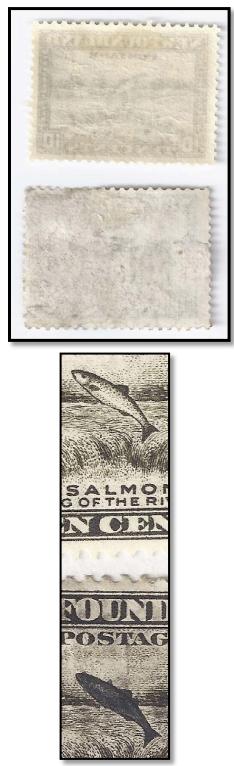
The ink does not run. No penetration onto the back. The black ink is same as the remainder of the ink on the other stamp areas. Look at the open whitish area to the right of the salmon above the falls. This whiteness seems to be lacking in the black salmon stamp. Definitely excess ink on the black salmon stamp.

So how did this salmon get bred black? In fairness there must have been 100 such black salmon in the pool so there are plenty more to be found.

What is your opinion?



by John M Walsh, FRPSC



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THE MISSING LINK

by Andrew Hussey

According to the Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue (NSSC) the 2¢ red Pictorial

Issue stamp depicting South West Arm, Trinity was issued on July 9, 1923. As shown in the right image, this stamp was used to produce one of the few known forerunners of Newfoundland's **perf**orated **ins**ignia (perfin) stamps. In this particular case, the stamp has typed on it the initials "A. & S. L." which have always been considered to represent the long standing St. John's business of Ayre and Sons Limited. This company went on to have a long line of perfins produced on many of Newfoundland's postage stamps. Recently, from a fairly large offering of Newfoundland perfins on EBay, I

managed to pick up a very interesting item as shown in the image below. This stamp has the forerunner style typed initials "A. & S. L." along with the "AYRE" perfin (position 1) in the



NSSC# NP5 style (14.5 mm high by 19 mm wide, listed as the A12 style in the online BNAPS Perfin Handbook). This is what I would consider to be the "MISSING LINK" between the perfin forerunner and the proper "AYRE" perfin and concrete evidence that the "A. & S. L." does indeed stand for Ayre and Sons Limited as long speculated (I have never seen the forerunner used on a piece of Ayre and Sons stationery). The NSSC indicates that the AYRE perforator was ordered on July 10, 1925 and shipped on August 20, 1925. Therefore, time wise, the forerunner stamps could only

have been made and used no earlier than July 9, 1923 and the perfinned stamps could not have

been produced any earlier than August 20, 1925. This leaves a fairly short time frame of just less than 2 years for the forerunners to have been in use. The "MISSING LINK" was likely made very early on in the long history of "AYRE" perfins, apparently in the beginning from leftover "forerunner" stock. Chances are, with the volume of business that Ayre and Sons Limited would have been doing (mail and fiscal use), the perfinned forerunners would have been quickly used up. They would have then just continued on creating "AYRE" perfins on the same 2¢ stamp (image to the right) until the Publicity Issue came out in 1928.





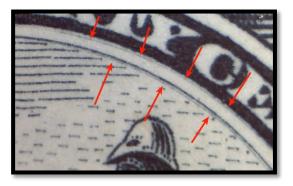
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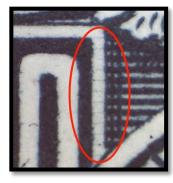
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A RE-ENTRY ON PLATE PROOF SC72P / NSSC63

by Robert Coulson

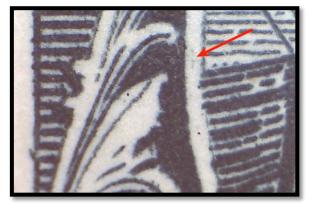












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<u>A LETTER TO THE CHAIRMAN, EDITOR, AND THE</u> <u>NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP OF BNAPS</u>

Hello Mr. Chairman Back and the Newfoundland Study Group,

I am writing to ask that our newsletter, which has a five year wait to become visible to the general public, be made instantly visible on the BNAPS website where it is presently positioned. Make all the past issues visible as well. Take OFF the locked out manner as it is now. I believe by making the newsletter visible to all (the public) may result in greater informational exchanges that would come to you the editor. This enables you to fill your pages without having to depend solely on diminishing membership only individuals. No way does this prevent the Newfoundland Study Group from soliciting people to join. Whether they do or do not is not the question, it is the "making of information on Newfoundland philately" visible and current.

As well I deem to remove the costs associated with this dastardly move by asking that the Newfoundland Study Group refrain from publishing in paper; only as PDFs by the website. As most people do banking (a most challenging manner) by cell phone (not many do not!) then paper is not needed to be sent out. They can get it by website very easily. By doing that the costs are practically removed. No paper; no printing charges; no postage charges. Definitely a win-win-win solution.

If the group deems that a library or two needs a paper version, then ask BNAPS to cover that miniscule cost from its interest earnings from its huge principle. This could apply to all study groups. Maybe they will wake up as well. Yes it is my deliberately stated opinion. Paper is just more wastage to those who do not want the information contained in that specific issue. Often only a small aspect of a paper issue is of interest to a reader.

Open up our newsletter to the present; go paperless. Costs are miniscule. The future is passing us by; let us see if we can keep up.

Thank you, John M. Walsh FRPSC.

REPLY FROM MALCOLM BACK, CHAIRMAN AND EDITOR

I thank you John for your letter. After receiving your letter I did some research into the history of the Study Group, including exchanging e-mails with Charles Livermore, Secretary of BNAPS, and with Martin Goebel, Treasurer, and Circulation Manager for the Study Group. I also went to the BNAPS website to see what other Study Groups were doing with respect to the availability of their newsletters. Some groups opt to not make their newsletters available to non-study group members; other allow access after 5 years as we have been doing; and others make their newsletters available on the BNAPS website with no delay period.

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REPLY FROM MALCOLM BACK, CHAIRMAN AND EDITOR - continued

I was informed by Charles Livermore that a decision on the release of newsletters on the BNAPS website was the purview of the study group and not the BNAPS.

Regarding the question of not publishing a paper copy of the newsletter; Martin informs me that we currently have 93 members in the study group (includes 18 receiving complimentary copies for various approved reasons, only 2 of which are paper copies). 60 members receive e-mail only copies, and we mail out 33 paper copies. Of the 33, all but 4 have registered e-mail addresses. Our paper newsletter costs each are as follows; \$12.48 annual cost to print and mail to 14 Canadian members, \$14.22 to 15 US members and \$21.82 to 4 Over-seas members. We currently have a membership fee of \$5.00 CDN. postal or e-mail, \$5.00 USD. postal or e-mail, £5.00 (postal) or £3.00 (e-mail only). As one can readily see, the hard copy issues of the newsletter are heavily subsidized. Please look at the attached Financial Statement on page 16. Would the 29 members currently receiving hard copy although having e-mail access, be willing to switch to e-copy only to reduce our costs? Do the 4 who have not registered an e-mail address with us, actually have e-mail access?

So where do we go from here? I agree with John that making the newsletter available immediately on the website could certainly lead to greater informational exchange due to the increased exposure. It would also likely stimulate more interest in the Study Group with a possible increase in membership. I have always been concerned about the delay between publication and response to questions posed and answered. As part of this proposed change I am prepared to answer questions and send responses by e-mail to the membership immediately between newsletters.

- 1) The question is, do we make the newsletter available at time of publication?
- 2) Would you still be willing to maintain your membership at the current rates?
- 3) What can we offer you as a Study Group member that we do not offer now?

I would like as many responses and ideas from the members as possible. This is your study group. Please send me your thoughts and concerns to <u>mback1217@rogers.com</u> or to mail to 97 Stuart Street, Stouffville, ON, Canada L4A 4S4. I will publish responses in the next newsletter and if warranted will e-mail to the members before publication as promised. Until we have decided what to do and where to go with this, **please do not remit membership dues at this time.**

AN INDEX OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTERS

Would anyone be willing to compile an index of the Newfoundland Newsletters. This would be a big challenge as we now have 178 issues. Please let me know if you would be willing to help.

CARL MUNDEN'S "POST OFFICES OF PRE-CONFEDERATION <u>NEWFOUNDLAND"</u>

Carl Munden has been working on a comprehensive study on Pre-Confederation Newfoundland Post Offices for years which he released years ago in a CD format. He has agreed to make this updated work available on the BNAPS website in PDF format. John Walsh and I have been working with Carl to make this happen. We also have agreement in principal from Leo Beaudet, our BNAPS webmaster, to host this important work on the BNAPS website. More information will be forthcoming on this exciting initiative.

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Response to NN177 Page 7

I send the attached image in response to Bruce Robertson's article in the Oct-Dec issue of The Newfoundland Newsletter about rectangular postal cancels for St. George's (NN177, Page 7). This image shows a 1931 cover with such a cancel on a letter mailed by Reverend Butler. There is no back stamp on this cover. I would be remiss in not congratulating you on a fine newsletter. I am very impressed with the quality of its content and layout.

Cheers, Jim Stedman, member #7048



Thank you Jim, for your response to Bruce and for your kind words. It is easier to do with great contributions from our members. We have some very interesting articles in this issue. Hope you enjoy it as much as I did putting this one together. Malcolm, Editor

Financial Statement as of December 51, 2019					
31-Dec-2018	Balance Forward from Previous Year		\$1,674.96		
	BNAPS Stipend for 2017 and 2018		200.00		
	BNAPS Membership Voucher redemption		5.00		
	49 Membership dues (23 memberships were paid in advance in 2018)		202.20		
			283.36		
	18 Membership dues paid in advance		104.73		
	Donations		18.00		
	Service Charges (Cheques, etc.)	5.00			
	Newsletter Postage (4 issues)	248.84			
	Paper and Copying	338.00			
	Misc. Stationary and Postage	3.57			
	Totals	\$595.41	\$611.09		
31-Dec-2019	Balance on hand		\$1,690.64		

Financial Statement as of December 31, 2019