



# NEWFOUNDLAND NEWSLETTER BNAPS NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP



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**From John Walsh;** We are sorry to report that Colin Lewis' wife Wendy passed away on September 30<sup>th</sup>. No other details are available at this time. Our heartfelt condolences to Colin and family.

**From Elaine Piercey;** Hello David Piercey's philatelic friends and colleagues; A few of you may know that David has not been well of late. Challenges have intensified through August and into September.

David's doctor appointment this past Monday afternoon, confirmed David has extensive cancer in his abdomen. Tuesday he became quite unwell, was admitted to the Grey Nuns hospital in Edmonton and has had major surgery that night for colon obstruction. They identified a very aggressive cancer and metastasis throughout the abdomen and some organs. He is still at Grey Nuns for the time being while we consider palliative support options as his prognosis is poor. Immediate family is coming in through this current week coming to visit while David can more enjoy the visit and I thought I would just update those people that shared David's passion in the philatelic world (at his request).

This news is very sudden and unexpected, and while email is not a very personal way to share such news, given the rapid course of the cancer, I did want to share with those that know, understand, and have such a shared passion of avocational interest with David.

Sincerely and warmly,  
Elaine Piercey

## **BNAPEX 2023 Halifax** **15-17 September 2023**

**BNAPEX 2023** has come and gone and in my mind was a great show. Met some old friends and made new ones. Thank you to John M. Walsh, Robin Moore and Richard H. Judge for their participation as presenters to our study group session. Also want to thank the Halifax crew and all the volunteers for making the show such a success.

The exhibits were especially noteworthy. I won't list the entire Palmars but the following Newfoundland Exhibits won awards. Study group members' names are bolded.

**Gold:** Newfoundland 1897 Royal Family – **Claude Michaud**

**Vermeil:** The Gilbert Issue of 1933 – **Sean Weatherup**

**Silver:** Sir Humphrey Gilbert Issue of 1933 – **Klaus Wehlt**

**Anthony Thompson** and co-author John Wiseman were awarded the Vincent G. Green Award for the Best article or series published in BNAPS Topics in 2022.

I asked some of our members who attended for their thoughts.



**From Richard Judge;** Although a tropical storm came roaring through during the three day meeting, we did not experience a power failure. The Newfoundland Study group meeting was held on Saturday. The meeting was well attended. John Walsh and Robin Moore gave a summary of their latest findings on the movement of the printing presses after the collapse of Perkins Bacon. The stamps produced on this press measure differently and is a diagnostic tool for identifying the different printings. (Richard gave an interesting talk on Newfoundland: An Analysis by X Ray Fluorescence for Metallic Elements Found In The Ink Used For Printing the 1d and 5d Denominations Of The 1857, 1860 and 1861 Pence Issues. Ed.)

It was a pleasure to meet members who I had previously only seen in zoom meetings. Klaus Wehlt came over from Germany and exhibited a one frame on the "Sir Humphrey Gilbert Issue 1933". Klaus was pleased with his silver medal as he designed his exhibit by European standards. The judge's comments were helpful on how to conform to North American preferences. Sean Weatherup exhibit on "The Gilbert Issue of 1933" garnered a vermeil. Claude Michaud's "Newfoundland 1897 Royal Family" received a gold award.

On Friday, after a very bumpy ride to Hubbards NS, members on two full buses were treated to a lobster dinner complete with two lobsters each and with live entertainment. On Saturday the storm increased in intensity but for the most part subsided by Sunday evening. All flights were cancelled on Saturday but by Monday the airport returned to normal.

Nova Scotia Stamp Club and the Atlantic Regional Group of BNAPS are commended for putting on a very fine show.

**From John Walsh;** BNAPEX was and is a great show. I had a ball meeting friends; had delightful mutterings with all of them; even met a longtime friend, Carl Munden, who everyone thought had gone to find Nfld. cancel discoveries up in the clouds, but denying the odds, is still looking for them on terra firma; well done Carl. Other very great friends thought I should be locked up for disturbing the philatelic peace. And from all the dealer holdings delightful items were extracted. Voila!

Oh right, the exhibits were a joy to see. Nice work by dedicated researchers. A new person I met was, Haifa Selo, who is on her way to becoming a strong and dedicated researcher. Wonderful show.

**From Klaus Wehlt;** This year, for the first time ever, I attended a BNAPS annual meeting, BNAPEX 2023 in Halifax. The decision only came last fall and since I didn't want to travel to BNAPEX empty-handed, I quickly put together a One-frame exhibit of the Sir Humphrey Gilbert issue.

The main reason was to finally get to know a lot of collector friends personally who I had previously only known from their publications in the BNA Topics or the Newfoundland Newspaper or the Zoom meetings of the Newfoundland Study Group.

During the exhibition in Halifax there was real collecting weather in Nova Scotia. Ex-Hurricane Lee hit Halifax. Since I was born and grew up in northern Germany, for me it was a normal autumn storm, no reason to panic.

What particularly impressed me was the hospitality I experienced in Nova Scotia; I immediately felt welcomed into the BNAPS family. In general, BNAPEX reminded me less of a normal stamp exhibition and more of a family meeting with lots of nice relatives. A very big thank you to the organizers from the Stamp Collectors Association in Halifax who ensured that the event ran smoothly. I would like to mention Karen and Sean Wetherup on behalf of everyone else, who were always there with their warmth and willingness to help.

There were outstanding exhibits on display at the exhibition, my main interest was of course the other two Newfoundland exhibits by Claude Michaud (Royal Family issue 1897, Gold) and Sean Weatherup (Sir Humphrey Gilbert issue 1933, Vermeil). I received silver for my exhibit, which makes me more than satisfied considering the haste with which I put the exhibit together.

Even if I can't promise that I'll be coming to Kingston for BNAPEX 2024 next year, it certainly won't be my last visit.

**Study Group News;** There are two appeals for help in this issue. See pages 3 & 4. One from Earl Noss, and one from a collector in Sweden, Eric Skoglund. If anyone can help with either request, please email them directly with a copy to me.

**Next Study Group ZOOM Session, October 21, 2023;** I have booked Oct. 21, 2023 for our next ZOOM session. Klaus Wehlt will present on the "Transatlantic Mail to and from Newfoundland until 1870". We will also have a show and tell, and if anyone else would like to present, please let me know ASAP.

**From Barry Senior:** In response to Earl Noss in Study Group News #10, I went through a few of the 147's I have on hand and have also come across a few of the re-entries that Earl has found but also a couple that he had not seen. Scanned at 1200 dpi. All with perfins of course. Ha Ha.



**Earl Noss ([earln@kwic.com](mailto:earln@kwic.com)) asks if anyone has a full sheet of 147, or large positional part sheets so that we can try to plate these varieties.**

**From Eric Skoglund:** I'm a somewhat new collector based in Sweden and my current main collection is based on stamps featuring Queen Elizabeth II and I'm now working on the "pre-queen" era of that collection.

I saw that the study group that you chair was going to have a discussion about the first resources issue of which the first ever stamp featuring the future queen is part of and was hoping that I could ask a question to the group regarding this stamp (Sc192)?

I gather that it is somewhat unusual to find it on cover or used due to the postal rates at the time. I'm wondering if anyone in the study group would know (or know where to find the information) of the earliest known cover/poststamped example? Myself I've only been able to find one cover dated 28 May 1932 and a late used off cover dated to 1946 (rest of the date is missing). I haven't been able to dig out any first day covers at all.

I'm trying to document the use of this stamp and would be very grateful for any information the study group members might have on this.

Best regards and thanks!

Eric Skoglund <eric@pagefault.se>



**Newfoundland: stamp printing transition sequence from First Resources printer Perkins Bacon & Co to Perkins Bacon Ltd then to selected Second Resources printer Waterlow & Sons who did 1941 "Blitz Printing" pre-contract 2¢, 3¢, 4¢; then to the official 1942 issue subcontract**

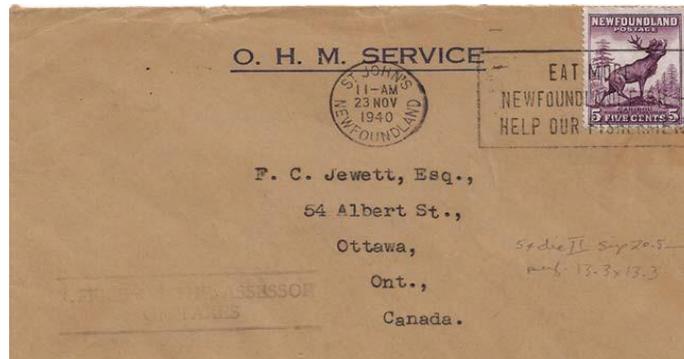
by John M Walsh, FRPSC

*Editor's note: This is a continuation of the article in NN192. I am repeating the first figure because part of it was missing in the previous newsletter. My apologies to John Walsh for the error.*

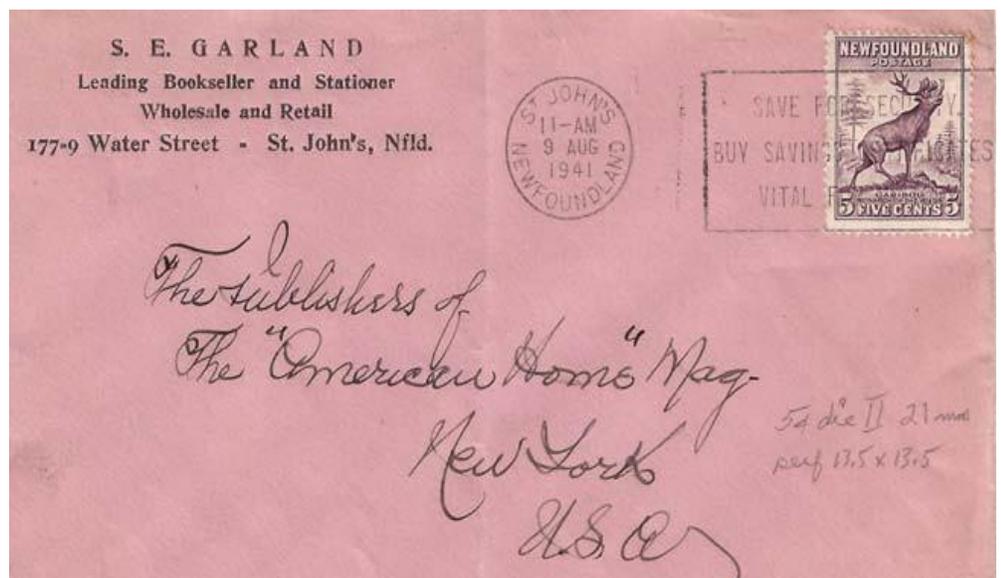
As well this 5¢ Caribou die II size 21 mm perf. 13.5 x 13.5 is presented along with its digital cut compared against the same three different 5¢ Caribous. These different stamped denominations and images in size 21 mm and existing in 1934 and 1936 definitively prove the image size capabilities of Perkins Bacon printing presses prior to May 1941 destruction.



This postally used pre-May 1941 envelope proves this 5¢ Caribou die II size 20.5 mm perf. 13.3 x 13.3 was in use on Nov. 23, 1940. This is definitely in the Perkins Bacon printing presses timeline because the 5¢ Caribou die II was only printed utilizing the Perkins Bacon presses.

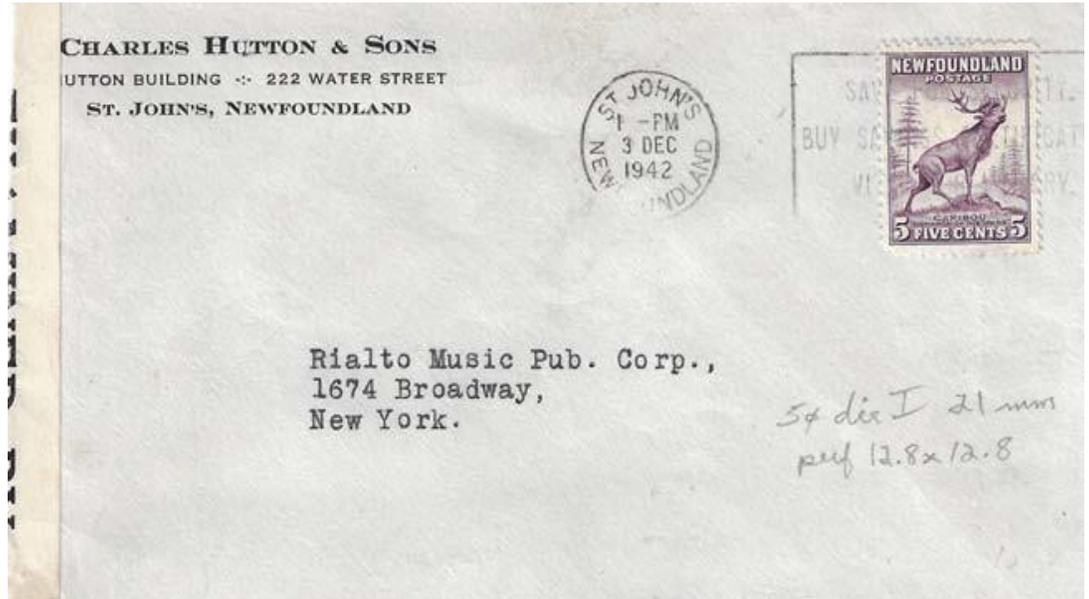


This postally used envelope having a 5¢ Caribou die II size 21 mm perf. 13.5 x 13.5 cancel dated Aug. 9, 1941 provides positive proof that Perkins Bacon printing presses did this printing. This is factual because Waterlow and Sons did not have nor were given the 5¢ Caribou die II image.



**Newfoundland: stamp printing transition** - continued

This recently found cover has a Dec. 3, 1942 date. It has the 5¢ Caribou die I size 21 mm in a much different perforation than was done by the Perkins Bacon presses. Its perf. 12.8 x 12.8 is specific to characteristics of Waterlow & Sons printing press. It offers further proof that the perforations in 13+ range were not produced by Waterlow & Sons.



The Clarence A. Stillions research exhibit, *Blitz Stamps of Newfoundland*, suggests that Resource stamp-imaged denominations of the 2¢, 3¢, 4¢ and 5¢ in size 21 mm had to have been printed prior to John Dickinson & Co. Ltd officially subcontracting their Newfoundland stamp orders to the new Waterlow & Sons printer. Stillions shows post May 1941 to pre February 1942 dated envelopes with line perforation 12.5 x 12.5 for the 21 mm 2¢ King, 3¢ Queen and 4¢ Princess denominations. His dated 5¢ Caribou die I samples are in 13.3 x 13.3 comb perforation. The *Maple Leaves* articles show contrary 5¢ predated printed samples, from die I and die II, in each of the 13.3 x 13.3 and 13.5 x 13.5 perforations. Those samples refute the possibility that this 13.3 x 13.3 comb perforation was being used by Waterlow & Sons post May 1941 or at any time. Thus perfs. 13.3 x 13.3 and 13.5 x 13.5 are from the Perkins Bacon presses. In retrospect, since Waterlow & Sons had presses that utilized line perf. 12.5 x 12.5, then what press could they have used to do both the 13.3 x 13.3 and 13.5 x 13.5 comb perforations during this same production timeline?

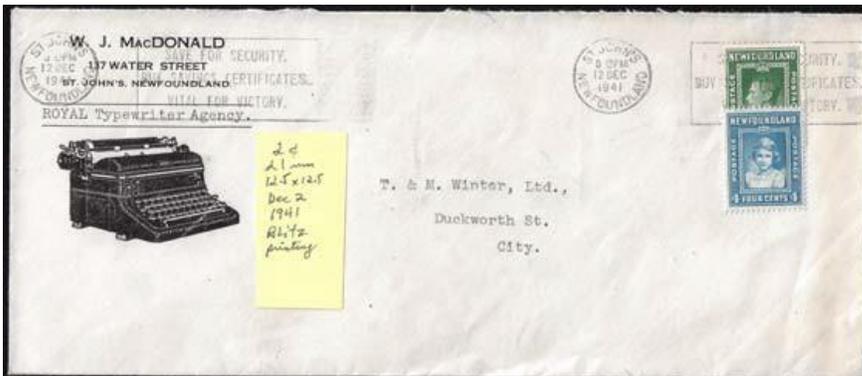
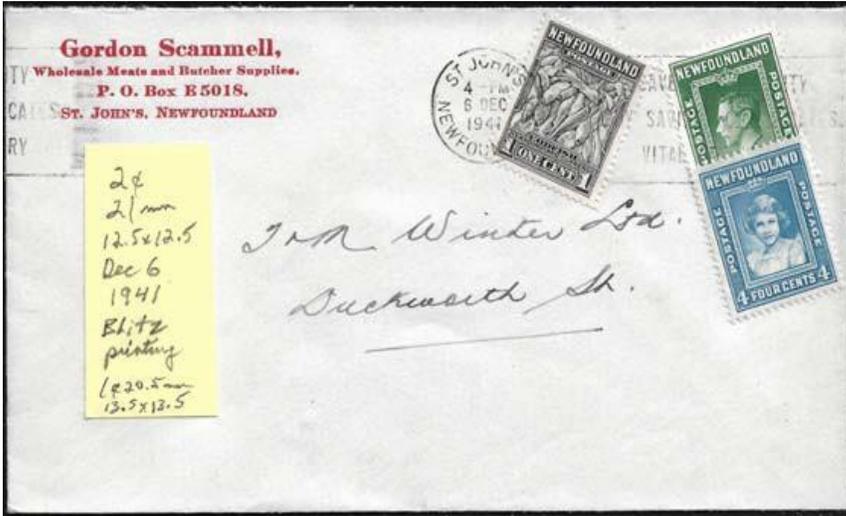
Presently only the 2¢, 3¢ and 4¢ denominations have been found originating in size 21 mm and 12.5 x 12.5 perforation from post May 1941 printings until the official printing sub-contract was awarded in February 1942. Because of these early postally used examples of the new imaged stamps and in the new and different 12.5 x 12.5 line perforation it has become acceptable and proper to call this early printing production a “help - thy - neighbour - project”; or possibly more appropriate is Stillions nomenclature “*Blitz Stamps of Newfoundland*”. From these postally used examples it further confirms and provides proof that this post destruction early printing help was extended to the Perkins Bacon Ltd by Waterlow & Sons as was stated by Hubbard in Pratt’s interview. This pressured printing would satisfy urgent postage need for the 2¢, 3¢ and 4¢ denominations. In the short term it allowed fulfilment of the low denomination mail rates. Both 2¢ and 3¢ show instant differentiation.



1938 NSSC 228, 229 note differences in the L in LAND

**Newfoundland: stamp printing transition**

- continued

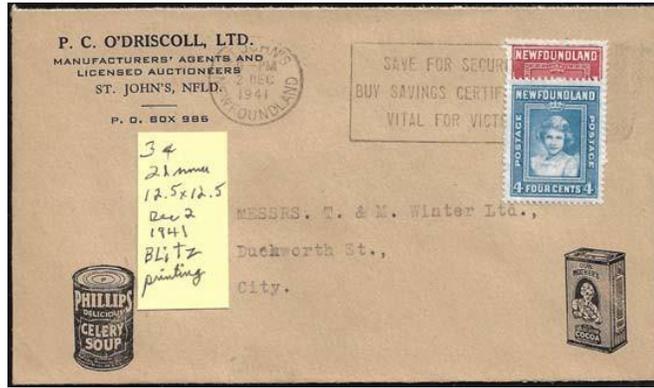


Envelopes with digital cuts provide evidence that both NSSC # 237 which is 2¢ of 1941 dated Dec 6 and Dec 12 exists in size 21 mm and 12.5 x 12.5 perforation. Measurement is against the 1938 4¢ Princess NSSC # 230 which is smaller, at 20.5 mm with 13.5 x 13.5 perforation.

**Newfoundland: stamp printing transition**

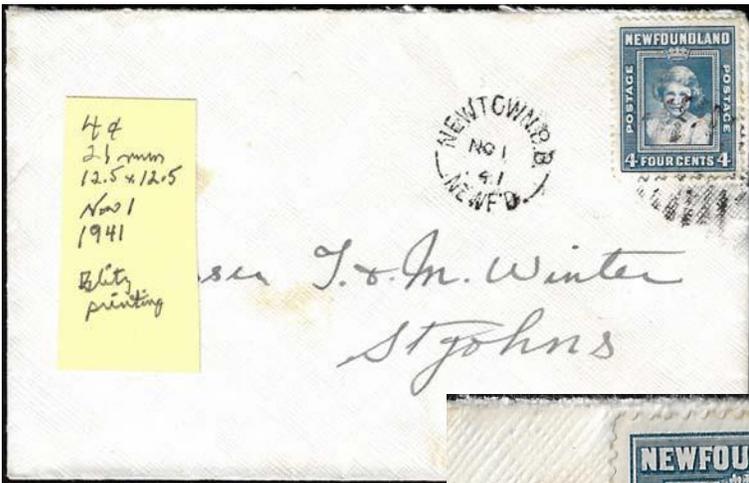
- continued

The 3¢ envelope dated Dec 2, 1941 NSSC # 238 displays the evidence that the image is 21 mm and is 12.5 x 12.5 perf. The comparison is NSSC # 230 the smaller 4¢ of 1938 having 13.5 x 13.5 perf.



The 2¢, 3¢, 4¢ and 7¢ royalty images originating from the Newfoundland 1938 issue were reworked by Waterlow and Sons to make them usable for the 1942 issue requisitioned orders.

These images of 4¢ dated envelopes are shown below to provide ample evidence that the printing presses of Waterlow & Sons were engaged actively post May 1941 for printing Newfoundland stamps. Even though having a later date than the earliest known date, these covers provide clear images that support the 21 mm and 12.5 x 12.5 perf. findings of Stillions.



As the digital cuts show, the 1938 4¢ Princess NSSC # 230 is smaller, at 20.5 mm and with 13.5 x 13.5 perf., when compared to 4¢ Princess NSSC # 239 on a dated 1941 envelope as 21 mm and with 12.5 x 12.5 perf.



**Newfoundland: stamp printing transition**

- continued

As a researcher of postal use just stand back and look at the hunting challenge for these used early dated envelopes that Stillions had, and anyone else has, to isolate in this narrow timeline use of 10 May 1941 to February 1942. Picture what had to occur for these dated envelopes to exist. The event sequences would be: post 10 May retouch damaged printing plates; refit another company's press plate to a different press; get the proper paper and inks; print; perforate and cut the product; bundle and package; ship by boat through war ravaged oceans; reach destination; be added to inventory; receive outside local post office requirement requests; send the required quantities out to fill the local post offices requisitions; local office makes sales; have that sold stamp placed on an envelope; get placed into the delivery system; receive a clear dated postal cancelling mark. Certainly, a challenge to find that early use! May you be well rewarded during your adventure.

**Postscript:**

These two covers courtesy of Brian C. Bursey were seen by author in October 2022 and they have AYRE perfin on them. They display 5¢ Caribou of 1932 issue. They are NSSC 182 c which is die II, size 21 mm, 13.5 x 13.5 perf.; definitely in use well before the 1941 Waterlow & Sons issues. Proves that the printing presses that belonged to Perkins Bacon & Co had the ability to do dry paper printing. Whether these were printed by the PB & Co prior to their bankruptcy or by the new buyer of their printing presses is unknown. But the time line to: print, package, ship, inventory in St. John's, send out to a post office, get acquired, be put on mail, get cancelled, suggests that the production was done PRIOR to bankruptcy.



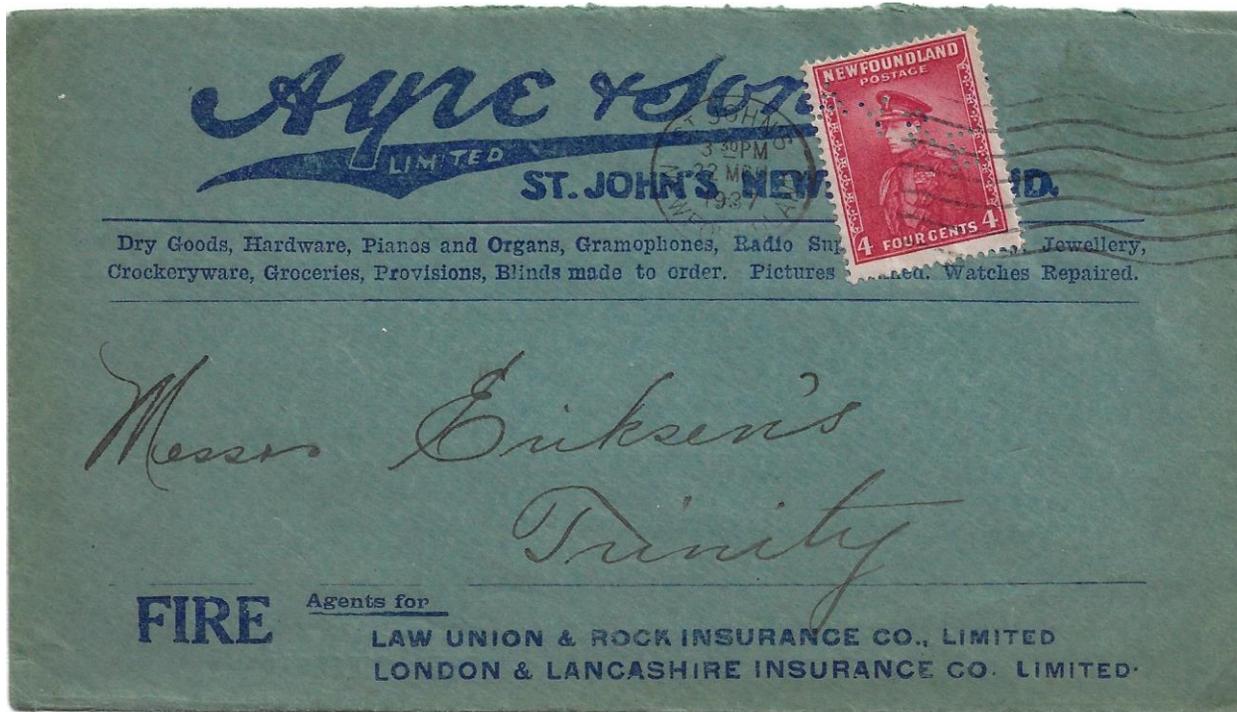
NSSC 182 c; die II, 21 mm, 13.5 x 13.5 perf.; AYRE perfin. MCH 16, 1936



NSSC 182 c; die II, 21 mm, 13.5 x 13.5 perf.; AYRE perfin. MCH 30 1936

**Newfoundland: stamp printing transition**

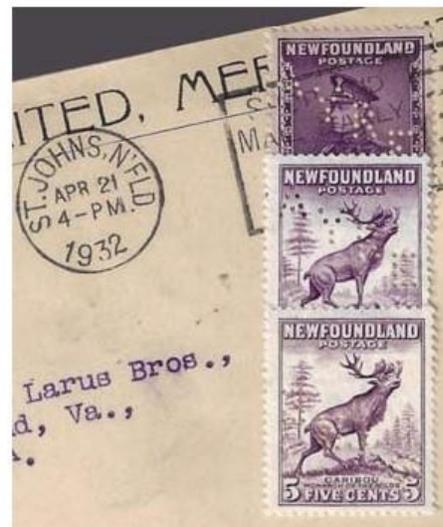
- conclusion



The 4 cent red paying the Inland Letter Rate on March 22, 1937.



1932 4¢ violet NSSC 179; size 21 mm with AYRE perfin; versus the 5¢ Caribou size 20.5 mm and 21 mm; use pre Jan 1936 provides definite proof of dry paper printing by Perkins Bacon & Co pre bankruptcy



1932 NSSC 179 with AYRE perfin; digital cut shows 4¢ size is 21 mm

The 4 cent deep violet paying the Letter Rate to the USA on April 21, 1932. There is only one such usage recorded.

**Transatlantic Mail to and from Newfoundland until 1870**

by Klaus Wehlt

In a broader sense, all mail to and from Newfoundland in the period covered is Transatlantic Mail because all letters to and from Newfoundland were transported on the Atlantic by ship. Usually but not always from St. John's to Halifax, Boston or Europe. In a narrower sense, only letters that have crossed the Atlantic once or twice belong to the Transatlantic Mail. There exist letters to or from South America that first went to Great Britain before forwarded to their final destination.

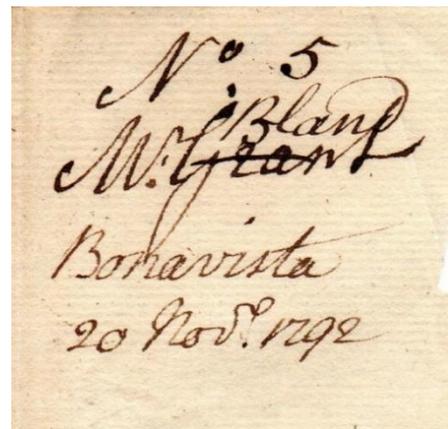
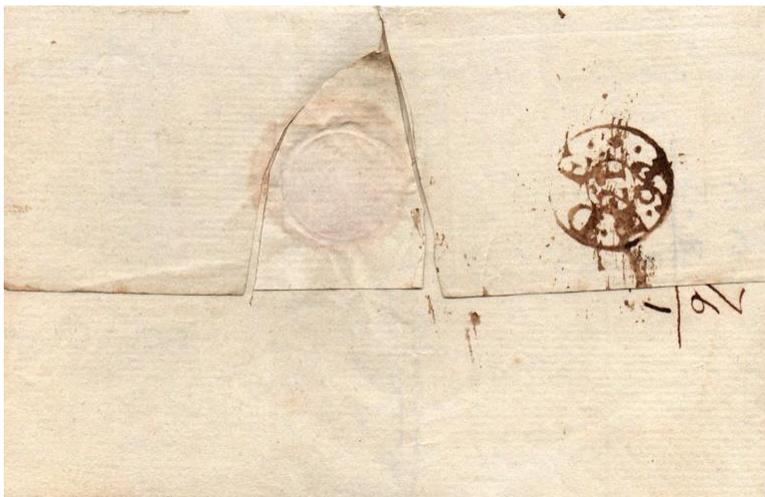
Covers from Newfoundland have been known since the early years of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. These were captain's letters or privately carried letters which can only be identified by the content of the letter. In the Allan Steinhart collection were two letters from Bonavista and St. John's to Liverpool from 1709 and Timothy O'Connor presented a cover from St. John's via Bermuda to Boston from 1703

In 1805 the clockmaker Simon Solomon from St. John's was appointed postmaster of Newfoundland. From 1810 you can find covers with the (very rare) seal of the Newfoundland Post Office. From 1821 a (also very rare) line-postmark St. John's and 1841 the first data-postmarks appear.

Robert H. Pratt wrote in his book "The Nineteenth Century Postal History of Newfoundland" that in the early years many letters were transported privately from Newfoundland to Great Britain (no captain's letters). Jack Arnell wrote in Newsletter No. 26 (Transatlantic Mail Study Group) "*In the days of the high Postage rates, the number of letters sent illicitly was large, as merchants would send bundles of letters privately to forwarding agents at ports such as New York or Liverpool, who would in turn give them to a sailing packet captain to carry across the Atlantic.*"

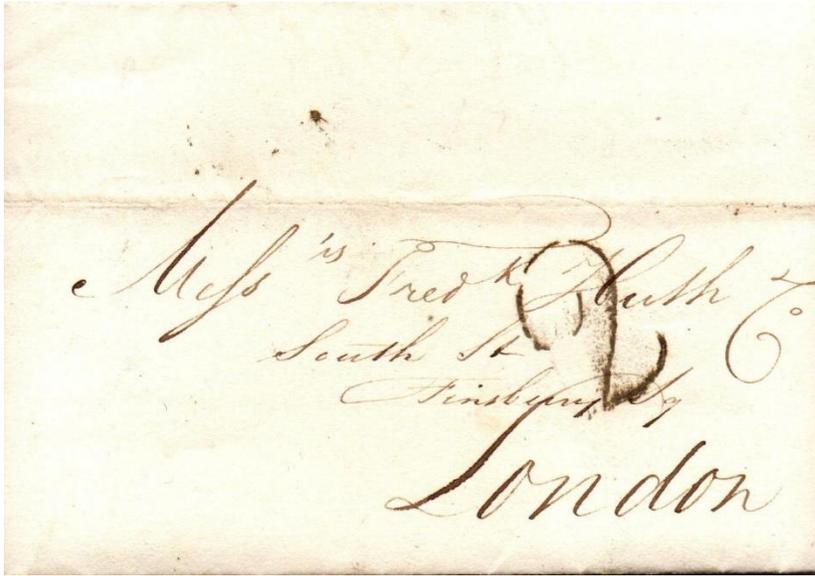


Cover from Bonavista to London from 1792 via Poole in Dorset. Privately carried to Poole and posted there as a triple weight letter to London (3 x 5d per ounce = 1sh/3d). No captain's gratuity. Line-postmark "108 Pool. D." (A rare postmark according to Colin Lewis) On the backside receiver postmark DE 21 92 from London.



Transatlantic Mail to and from Newfoundland until 1870

- continued



Duplicate letter from St. John's, Newfoundland, to Frederic Huth & Co. In London, from 1823. Dated internally: *St. John's 10. June, 1823* plus handwritten note "*Duplicate. Original pr. Caroline via Bristol*". Again, a privately carried letter to England. Mailed in London at a Two-Penny-Post office, unfortunately the mark is not completely readable: "2A Noon S? JY 14 1823." Step cancel "To Pay / London Pose," postage 2d (to collect)

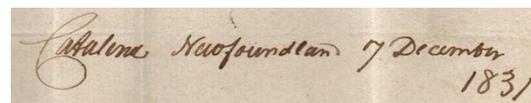
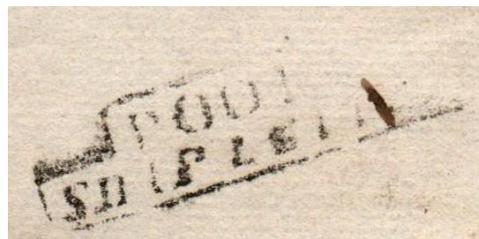
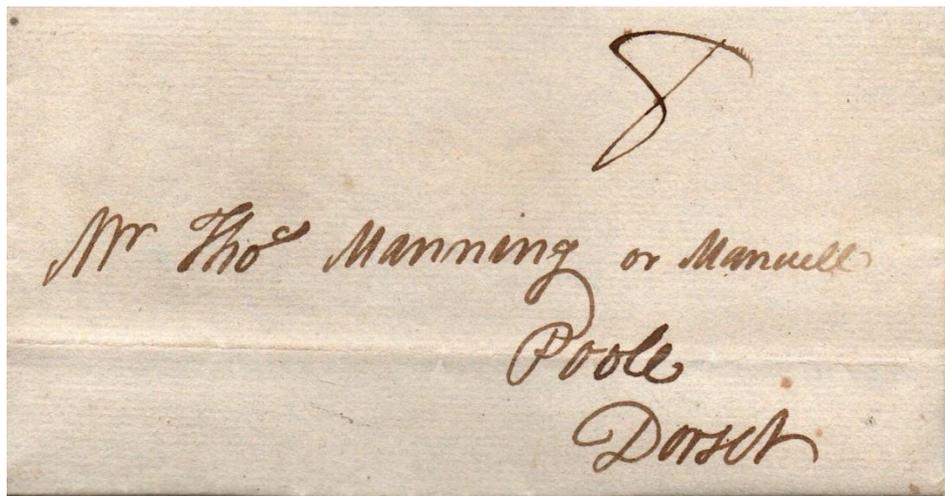


Letter from St. John's, Newfoundland, to Oporto, Portugal from June 1<sup>st</sup> 1830. The letter came from the Hunt, Roope, Newman & Co correspondence. The company traded with cod from Newfoundland and port from Portugal.

Incoming letters were usually transferred to the Portuguese postoffice at the mouth of the river Duoro because of the sandbanks. They were postmarked with the oval *Barra do Porto*". Earliest known usage 1829, furthermore the postmark „160“ (Reis) was used. At the time the portugese postage rate for ship letters. Moreover manuscript: *Per* (probably name of the ship) *Capt. Hornby*.

Transatlantic Mail to and from Newfoundland until 1870

-continued



Letter from Catalina; Newfoundland, to Poole, in Dorset, England. Dated inside: *Catalina, 7<sup>th</sup> December 1831*. Captain's letter, 2d captain's fee and 6d English postage. Total postage 8d (Robson Lowe). Step postmark, "Poole / Ship letter" on the reverse.



Letter from St. John's, Newfoundland to London, in Great Britain franked with a 1d stamp 1841 issue. Postmarked with London District number mark "19" (Halfway Street). On the backside London receiver "8 XT 8 FEB 16 / 1848 B". Obviously carried privately to London.

**Transatlantic Mail to and from Newfoundland until 1870**

-continued



Forwarded letter by Brooking S. & Co. St. John's and T.H. Brooking, London, from St. John's, Newfoundland, to London East Central from 1859, inside dated St. John's *December 31<sup>st</sup> 1858*. Manuscript: *Pr. Pacific via Galway*. The steamer Pacific was operated by the Galway Line (real: Atlantic Steam Navigation Company) from Galway at the Atlantic shore of Ireland.

In London an 1d stamp, 1857 issue, was added to pay the inland letter rate, and postmarked with District Duplex "74 / London EC JA 25, 59"



Envelope franked with a 6d stamp (1856 issue, wing margin stamp) from London East Central to St. John's, Newfoundland, 1861. Stamp cancelled with the District Duplex postmark "71 / London EC DE 14, 61". Manuscript "Paid". Cross in circle inspector's mark from Liverpool. On the backside split ring "St. John's Newfoundland JN 1, 62"

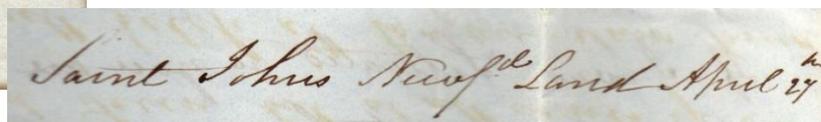
**Transatlantic Mail to and from Newfoundland until 1870**

-continued



Cover from St. John's, Newfoundland to Edinburgh, Scotland, 1862. Split ring "St. John's Newfoundland MY 8, 1862". On the backside receiver (blue) "EDIN<sup>B</sup> M2 Z MY 27, 62" Colonial postage rate 6 Pence.

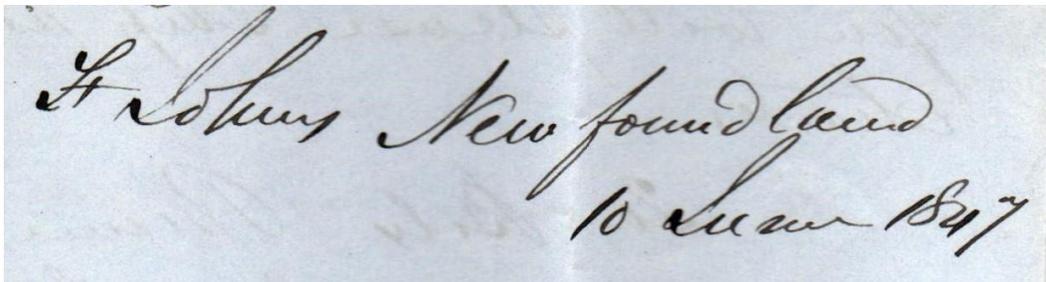
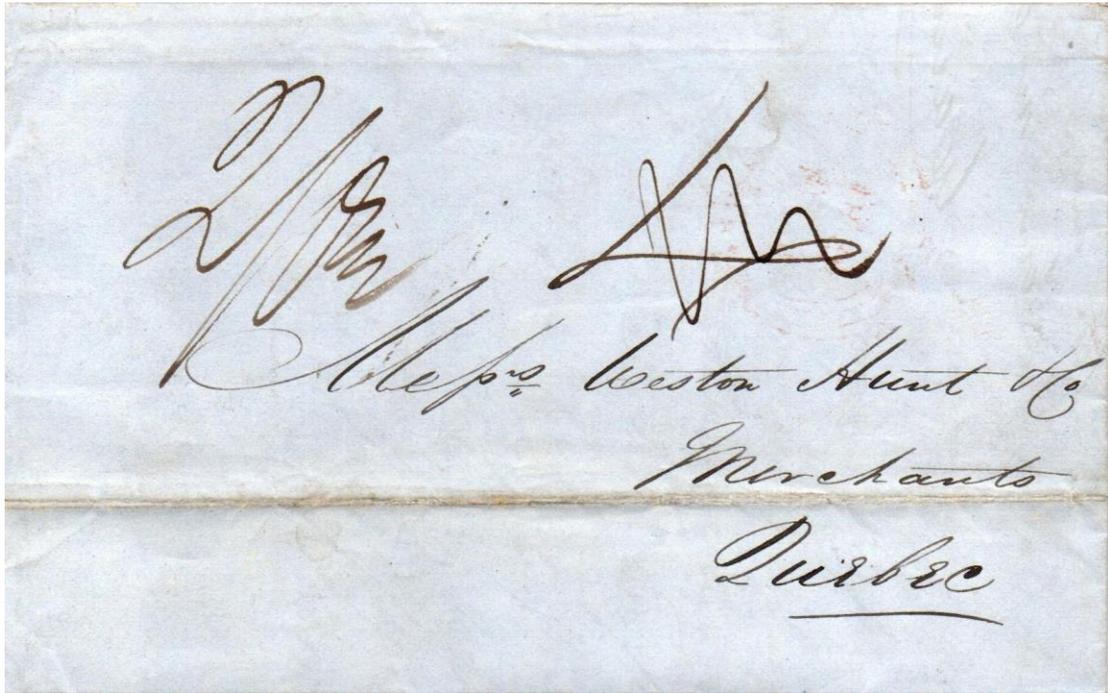
**Covers from Newfoundland to North America (USA and Canada)**



Cover from St. John's, Newfoundland, to Hamilton, Massachusetts, 1846. Inside dated, St. John's April 27<sup>th</sup>. Nearly unreadable split ring "Newfoundland AP 27" and transit postmark from Halifax "H MY 6, 1846 NS" on the backside, transit postmark "Boston MY 21" on the frontside. 8d (British Packet rate) paid (manuscript: 8), "7" c (red) to pay: 5c US-Porto (Boston – Hamilton < 300 miles) plus 2¢ captain's fee. The cover was transported with the Cunard-schooner *Ranger* to Halifax, where it arrived on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 1846 and awaited the arrival of the Cunard packet (RMS *Britannia*) on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 1846. The letter arrived in Boston on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

Transatlantic Mail to and from Newfoundland until 1870

-continued



Cover from St. John's to Quebec via Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1847. Inside dated: St. John's, June 10<sup>th</sup> 1847. Split ring "St. John's-Newfoundland JU 25 1847" and transit postmark from Halifax "HJU 29 1847 NS". Arrival postmark "Quebec LC Jul 7, 1847". Porto: St. John's to Halifax 4d Sterling (crossed out = 4 1/2c Canada currency), Postage altogether St. John's to Quebec: 2 / 0 ½, that's 2 Shilling ½ penny Canada currency to collect. (According to Robson Lowe)

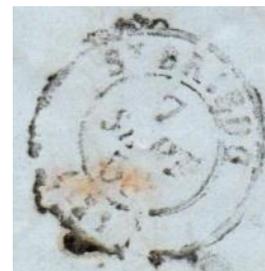
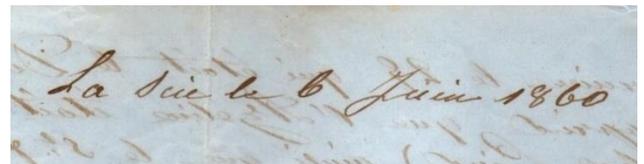
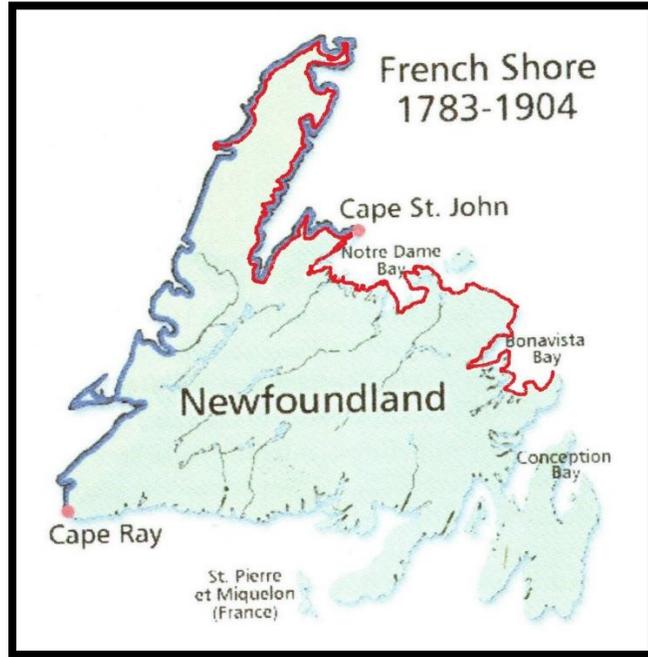
**Transatlantic Mail to and from Newfoundland until 1870**

-continued

**The French Shore**

The French Shore was a result of several treaties between Great Britain and France (p. e. the Treaty of Utrecht 1713, Cape Bonavista to Point Riche, red line and the treaty of Versailles 1763, Cape St. John to Cape Ray. Blue line). French fishermen were allowed to resume fishing on the French Shore

In 1904 France abandoned all claims to Newfoundland territory in favour of Great Britain as a part of the *Entente Cordiale*.



Cover from La Scie, French Shore, to Légué near St. Brieuc, Britany via Marseille from 1858. Inside dated: La Scie, 19. July 1858. Postage 6 décimes by the tariff *Pays d'Outremer sans distinction de paragues* from 8. January 1849. Manuscript "Côtes du Nord" Postmarked with double circle "Outre-Mer 4. AOUT. 58 Marseille". On the backside two unreadable postmarks and the double circle receiver "St. Brieuc 7. Sep. 58".

**Transatlantic Mail to and from Newfoundland until 1870**

-conclusion



Letter from La Scie, French Shore, to Légué near St. Brieuc, Brittany via St. John's, London, Calais and Paris from 1860, inside dated: "La Scie 6. June 1860". Manuscript "Côtes du Nord" Transit postmarks "St. John's Newfoundland JU 26, 1860", "60, JY 3 London," "Calais 3 Jul 60," "Paris 4 Jul 60" and receiver postmark "St. Brieuc 5 Jul 60". Postage rate "8" the tariff for letters from Newfoundland to Great Britain, exchanged in Great Britain to "GB/2F" and additional 10 décimes in France to pay.

The "GB / 2F" is an accounting mark and 2 francs was the amount the French Post office was required to pay Britain for each 30g of bulk mail it received.

**Letter from Brazil to Newfoundland via Liverpool and Halifax**



Letter written in Bahia, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1858 and sent via Liverpool, Halifax and St. John's to Harbor Grace, Newfoundland, crossing the Atlantic twice. Probably carried privately from Brazil to Liverpool, an unusual long transit. Liverpool transit postmark "Liverpool JU 19, 1858" Manuscript "pr. Steamer via Halifax" Probably carried on the

Cunard steamer "Arabia" No Halifax transit mark but on the backside a nearly unreadable transit postmark probably from St. John's "...undlan... JL 5, 1858" and on the front receiver "Harbor Grace JY 6 1858" Manuscript postage rate 1s.

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My special thanks go to Colin Lewis who always helpfully answers my questions.