



PENCE-CENTS ERA STUDY GROUP

Of the British North America Philatelic Society

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Welcome to Vol. V 1st Edition

Dear Study Group Member,

Welcome to the 7th issue of the Pence-Cents Study Group Newsletter. We are always looking for new members so if you have any friends or enemies that you're willing to share this valuable information with then ask them to send us an email and we'll be glad to put them on our mailing list. The only requirement is a BNAPS Membership.

Spring has sprung and Orapex is coming up. This will be the first time I am attending, so if you see me, make sure you say hello and help me find my way. I will be at the Saturday night gathering and your invitation is below.

Jim Jung, Editor Pence Cents Newsletter

ORAPEX 2016 Invitation

This year's ORAPEX will be held April 30-May 1 at the RA Centre in Ottawa. ORAPEX is one of only a few national-level stamp shows held annually in Canada and is part of the American Philatelic Society's "World Series of Philately." Besides various specialty group meetings held at the RA Centre, an off-site meeting organized by Bill Radcliffe that originally started out as a get together of the Small Queen/Large Queen Study Group, has expanded to be an informal meeting pertaining to all aspects of stamps and covers of the classical period. "Show and Tell" items are encouraged, so bring along some of your ORAPEX acquisitions or anything in your specialty area such as re-entries, varieties, postal history, unique items. Leading Canadian philatelists are usually present so it can be a great learning experience and enjoyable evening. As in the past, this year's meeting will be held on Saturday evening April 30 starting at 7:30 PM at the downtown Ottawa apartment of Guillaume Vadeboncoeur. Guillaume's e-mail is guillaume@vadeboncoeur.ca and you can get directions from him. Readers can also get more information from Bill Radcliffe at 609-617-0644 or e-mail bsbvp88@hotmail.com.

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The Finest 10c Consort Stamp Known?

Speaking of Bill Radcliffe, his sharp eye has paid off. Pictured below is a 10 cent Consort, position 81, mint original gum recently found. Bill believes it is the finest one known. If anyone has as nice or nicer copy, please send him a scan. His find goes to prove that there are still major undiscovered finds out there. Happy Hunting!



An Interesting 3d Beaver by Scott Robinson



I am always looking for interesting re-entries and other varieties to add to my collection or to obtain as scans for use on my FlySpecker.com website. The stamp pictured here is an interesting one that I am not sure how to classify. I missed this one when it was sold in the Sparks Auctions September 2015 auction along with another damaged copy of the 3d for \$65. This stamp was described as a #4xi (scarlet vermillion on thin paper) with a "noticeable re-entry". I later acquired it for about the same price on eBay with some other lots from Johns Philatelics, where it was described as a #4iv (orange red on thin oily paper) without any mention of a re-entry.

The stamp shows very clear signs of doubling throughout the left side of the design. Notice extensive doubling of the outer left frame line in the margin, sharp leftward doubling in each of the white ovals, extensive marks in "CANADA" and "THREE", plus marks in both left-side "3" values. The foliage to the left of the beaver is blurred from extensive doubling and there appears to be a rightward doubling of the arc on the left side of the crown plus some distortion of the crown's circular ornaments in the same area.

The right side of the design is sharp without any significant signs of doubling, although there is an ink mark in the top ball of the lower right "3" value that effectively covers half of it.

Initially, this stamp appeared to me as an unreported major re-entry. The consistent sharp doubling, especially the lines visible in the white ovals and many of the marks in the letters, are typical of re-entries. However, the doubling to the arc next to the crown seems to be in the opposite direction. The mark in the right "3" is also inconsistent with the rest of the stamp. My major concern is that the stamp appears lighter on the left side than on the right. This is suggestive of a slip print or other printing anomaly, although these rarely show such sharp doubling and usually have a blurrier appearance to them. So I am left with a stamp that I really cannot explain. Since it is unlikely that such a major re-entry would not be reported until now, I am leaning towards calling this a slip print. I would appreciate any thoughts or feedback from specialists in this era who are familiar with the issue.

An Interesting 5c Beaver by Michael Smith



Some of the Study Group members trade emails back and forth in an effort to learn more about the stamps that we find in our everyday search for Rarities and Plate varieties. Here's an example of something that Mike Smith found and what was said in our emails when Mike sent me the above image of his find. If anyone has seen this Plate Flaw in the Upper Right corner of the 5c Beaver, please contact Mike Smith at dotsscratchesnsltr@hotmail.com

Hi Jim, Unless I missed it, I cannot find this in my references. I checked Whitworth, Kershaw and my Huff notes and I haven't found it. So if you decide to publish it, ask the readership if they have a copy or know the state and position of the flaw. I still think it is likely a misplaced entry with so many lines being affected. The stamp perforation is 12. It has a nice 4 ring 23 cancelation too. That may help determine usage. I am not a cancel guru.

Hi Mike,

All the later Group III printings are an Orange Red or bright Orange Red. Other than the main marks in the UR corner, the stamp is pretty clean. There is a tiny dot above the right side of the leftmost tree and there is another small dot in the upper left top of the O in POSTAGE.

*Still no match that I can see. Beauty stamp, hope we can find another!
That 4R23 postmark from Niagara is an RF4 which is Very Scarce.
Regards, Jim Jung*

THE FIRST DECIMAL ISSUE OF CANADA 1859 to 1868

The printings of the 12 ½ cents value by Richard Thompson

This is the first of a series of articles to be prepared in response to a request by Charles Black who wanted to see the shades of this value rather than rely on a verbal description. Readers are cautioned that; the images have been scanned on my scanner, sent to Jim Jung by email, sent to you by email and are now being viewed on your monitor or have been printed by your printer. Each or any of these four operations may have altered the appearance of the shades, caveat emptor. The text has been taken from an article published in Maple Leaves by Geoffrey Whitworth, in several instalments starting in Vol. XVIII, June, 1972.

First Printing Order, 1,000 sheets, earliest recorded use 1859/JY/29

Printing 1A deep bluish green has full colour and is well inked. While printing 1B is not quite so dark with a yellowish tint.

1A, perforated 11.7



1B, perforated 11.7



Second Printing Order, 1,000 sheets, earliest recorded use 1860/FE/03

Printing 2A, very deep dark green is similar to 1B but darker in colour and very similar to Gibbon's bronze green. Printing 2B is similar to 2A but darker again in colour, it is not particularly bluer but a little nearer to Gibbon's blackish olive.

2A, perforated 11.7



2B, perforated 11.7



The printings of the 12 ½ cents value by Richard Thompson continued ...

Third Printing Order, 1000 sheets, earliest recorded use, 1860/NO/02

Printing 3A, deep green a deep shade but much lighter in general appearance, does not appear to have been inked as heavily and looks much yellower than 2B. Printing 3B is the same hue but much more heavily inked and appears fuller in tone. With printing 3C a trace of blue has been added when compared to 3A or B.

3A, perforated 11.7



3B, perforated 11.7



3C, perforated 11.7



Fourth Printing Order, 2,000 sheets, earliest recorded use 1861/JY/05

Printing 4A dark bluish green has deep rich colour similar to 2A but showing much more blue. While printing 4B is a similar colour but less well inked and appears lighter. Printing 4C was printed using a deeper coloured ink of the same tone but if anything is a little bluer than 4A.

4A, perforated 11.7



4B, perforated 11.7



4C, perforated 11.7



Fifth Printing Order, 1,000 sheets, earliest recorded use 1862/JA/05

Printing 5A deep dark green there is none of the bluish tone of 4C. Printing 5B is a slightly lighter shade.

5A, perforated 11.7



5B, perforated 11.7



Q-Flaws Sorted by Perforation Groups From the Smith Collection by Michael D. Smith

Whitworth's Group 1, Perforation 11.75
Orders 1-10, March 16, 1859 to May 31, 1862

Flaw 1a



Fig.1



Fig.2

The two copies of the Q-flaw presented here are what I think are the early state of the flaw, Whitworth's 1a. Both stamps are perforated 11.75. Whitworth states this perforation was used from March 16, 1859 to May 31, 1862 for printing orders 1-10. The dated copy above demonstrates that a date can be misleading in identifying printing orders. The stamp has a Kingston, CW CDS that has a partial date ?P 6 ?5 (Fig. 1). This stamp appears to have been used in 1865 but the perforation of the stamp is clearly from the 1859-62 perforation group. It is a shame the cover below does not have a date stamp (Fig. 3). This stamp is also perforated 11.75 (Fig. 2). On the next page one can see slight differences in the Q-flaws on these two stamps. Whitworth's notes state: "Short entry South West corner. Strong Flaws."

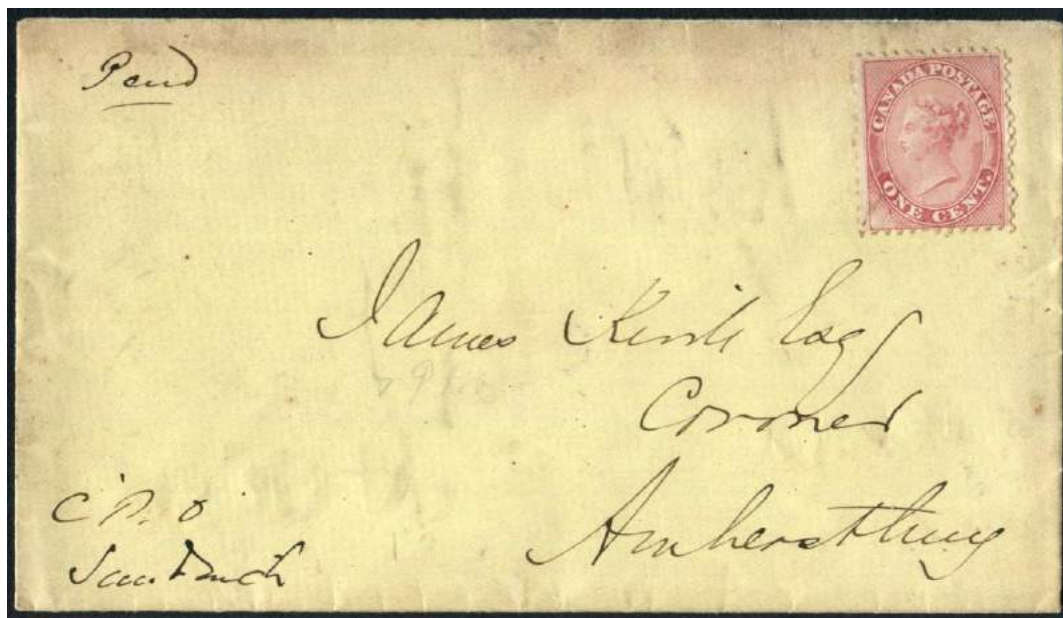




Fig. 4



Fig. 5

Note the marginal dot lower left
corner is a constant plate flaw

The Q-flaw on these two stamps appear similar but a closer look shows there appears to be some plate wear in the flaw in figure 5. Figure 4 shows a strong bulge under the "O" of ONE in the value tablet that looks quite solid. The outer oval band appears to be slightly curved above this bulge. The irregular line in the lower left corner cross hatching is sharp with a clear patch of white to its left. In figure 5 there appears to be some plate wear resulting in the bulge in the value tablet starting to part from the tablet itself. Note the faint white line starting to appear. The irregular line in the lower left corner also seems slightly shorter and the white area to left of it slightly less defined. I believe the figure 4 stamp is an earlier printing than the figure 5 stamp. I do not know what printing the first state of this flaw occurs on.

Flaw 1b



Fig. 6

Fig. 7

These two stamps (Figs. 6 and 7) are very similar. The right stamp shows a slightly weaker mark below the “O” of ONE. The cross hatching in the lower left corner has been strengthened making the irregular line harder to see. After seeing the type 1a stamps mentioned earlier, the proof pair (Fig. 8) cropped from an image of the proof sheet appears to be an early type 1b. You can see the similarity in the flaw with the two stamps above.



Fig. 8

This pair of proofs Shows Whitworth's Flaw 15 as well as Flaw 1b. I included Flaw 15 here because the two flaws share a marginal mark depending on where the stamps were perforated.

Whitworth notes on 1b state: “Strong entry. Weaker flaws. Stamp West has P.F. 15.”

Note that in Figure 5 (previous page) the marginal marking lower left corner is a shared marginal marking with Flaw 15 which indicates that these two flaws are present in all states of the plate after they appeared on the plate.

¹ Editors note: Seven of the Printing Orders from 11 to 19 are perforated 12 X 11¼ but Printing Orders 16 and 19 are perforated 11¼ X 12.

Q-Flaws by Michael D. Smith continued ...

These are detail images of the Q-flaw 1b (Figs. 9-11). Note the white area behind the irregular line in the cross hatching in lower left corner is gone and the damage below the "O" of ONE is reduced. There appears to be some slight differences in these stamps and they probably represent different printings. Plate wear and inking could also affect the appearance.



Fig. 9



Fig. 10



Fig. 11

Whitworth's Group 3, Perforation 12 with Imprint Orders 20-26 ,
Nov. 28, 1864 to Feb. 27, 1867

Flaw 1c



Fig. 12

Fig. 13



Fig. 14

Here we have three examples (Figs. 12-14) of the final state of the Q-Flaw, Whitworth's Flaw 1c. It is described as follows: "1c Perf. Group 3 Strong entry, only flaw by O of ONE." If one looks very closely one may be able to discern a small trace of the irregular line on some copies.

Figures 15-17 give you a close up views of the Q-flaw state 1c. Figure 16 also shows the lower left corner plate flaw which is also reduced from earlier examples. There are slight variations in the mark below the "O" of ONE. Plate wear, inking and paper texture might contribute to the variations.

On the next page are scans of positional blocks of eight from early and late plate proofs.



Fig. 15



Fig. 16



Fig. 17

These are two plate proof blocks of eight positions 27-30 and 37-40. The upper block (Fig. 18) shows a type 1b Q-flaw so it is a proof made from the plate during one of the 9 orders which were placed from 1862-1864. The lower block (Fig. 19) shows a type 1c Q-flaw, and above it is Whitworth's re-entry #1. According to Whitworth this re-entry appeared in 1866 and was on the plate until end of use in 1868. That probably puts this proof block coming from order numbers 24, July 27, 1866, to order 26 (the last order), Feb. 27, 1867. The imprints were added to the plate about order number 20. Order 20 was placed Nov. 28, 1864.



Fig. 18

Two stamps bottom left show position 37, Flaw 15, and position 38, Flaw 1b, the Q-flaw.



Fig. 19

In addition to positions 37 and 38 one can find the major misplaced entry, Whitworth's re-entry #1, at position 28.

Conclusion:

Several people have wondered why I collect multiple copies of the re-entries and plate flaws on the engraved steel plate printed stamps. This variety illustrates the reason quite well. Subtle changes through the course of printing and plate repair can result in changes in appearance of the stamp design and alter the appearance of a flaw. The Q-flaw is an excellent example of this occurring.

State 1a occurs early in the life of the plate as a very strong flaw. It is present on perforation 11.75 stamps putting it in the first 10 orders from Mar. 16, 1859 to May 31, 1862. Whitworth reports first dates recorded for new deep impression of the plate for July, 1859 (state 1) and Aug., 1862 (state 2). The deep impressions are believed to be caused by a plate repair so a change in appearance of the flaw may have occurred at that time. The plate wear necessitating the repair may have also affected the flaws appearance.

State 1b occurs in perforation 12 X 11.75¹ stamps in my collection. This perforation was used for orders 11 through 19 from Sept, 2, 1862 to July 9, 1864. I don't know if this type occurred during the plate repair of Aug., 1862 or repairs made about June, 1863 (state 3) or June, 1864 (state 4). Any of those repairs and plate wear would have probably altered the flaw again.

State 1c occurs in perforation 12 stamps in my collection. This was the last perforation group used on orders 20 through 26 from Nov. 28, 1864 to the final order Feb 27, 1867. There appear to be four dated deep impressions recorded by Whitworth in this group. Observed dates: Jan., 1865, March, 1866, Feb., 1867, and Dec. 1867. Again these would probably affect the flaw.

I believe the stamps I present here are a good guide on the progression of the flaw. The stamps are only grouped by perforation and type and are not necessarily arranged by printing order. This is a rough guide on what the various Q-flaw states look like and it might be possible for a state to exist in a perforation combination of an adjacent type.

References:

THE FIRST DECIMAL ISSUE OF CANADA 1859-1868, Geoffrey Whitworth, The Royal Philatelic Society, London, White Crescent Press Ltd, Luton, Bedfordshire, 1966.

¹ Editors note: Seven of the Printing Orders from 11 to 19 are perforated 12 X 11¼ but Printing Orders 16 and 19 are perforated 11¾ X 12.

Hunting for Constant Plate Varieties on Covers

Part 1 – “Big Ones” by Jim Jung

Most stamp collectors collect stamps. Postal History or Stamps on cover seem to be more of a specialty area within philately. There are more and more collectors entering this area and good Postal History is becoming harder and harder to find. Only a few years ago, collectors would bid less on covers compared to the same off-cover stamps, but that time has now gone.

Good stamps on cover sell for much more than off-cover stamps, especially if there is some special history, rate or destination that is associated with the cover. The knowledge on Postal History has now spread and collectors are hunting through covers and searching for that special cover that fits their collecting theme.

My theme is varieties and Plate Flaws. At first, I didn't think that anyone collected these Plate Variety stamps on cover but I won a 3d Cover with the Major Re-entry A47 at auction that was described as Ex Huff. To me, this means that Clayton Huff collected these.

When you have a variety on cover, it gives you the date and originating Post Office location of that stamp. This helps a lot when trying to determine the authenticity of the cover and provides some extra information about the variety beyond just having the stamp.

Here are some of the covers that I have managed to find in my search for covers with variety stamps.



Figure 1 – 3d Wove Paper with Major Re-entry position A47 tied to cover by target cancel and postmarked with a double-arc QUEBEC DEC 27 1856 on Very Fine condition Mourning Cover with 4 full to large margins on stamp. Cover was addressed to Henry Lyman, a Druggist Merchant in Montreal who passed away in 1857, the following year after this cover was sent. His Druggist Trade was succeeded by his son who was also named Henry.





Figure 2 – Scott 15.vi: Three copies tied by targets to double weight REGISTERED cover from Newcastle 26 NO 62 to Meaford, received next day, the left stamp strongly showing the **LOG IN WATERFALL** variety, very fine and scarce on cover. Note the receiver shown is ST. VINCENT NO 27 62.

In 1845 William Gibbard subdivided the town reserve and named the area Meaford, after Meaford Hall in Staffordshire England, the seat of the Earl of St. Vincent, for whom the township was named. St. Vincent was the name used for the post office until 1867.

The variety at position 50 only appeared on stamps printed in Printing Order 12 (late 1862 to early 1863 State 3a) and is a Reddish Orange Red Shade. This was the first Printing Order of Perforation Group II – 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 12.

The rate paid is a scarcer triple weight domestic rate of 15c and the Registered rate of 2c was paid in cash. There is a small letter inside speaking of family finances.



Scott 15,15vii: - 5c vertical PAIR with top stamp showing the **ROCK IN THE WATERFALL** variety (Plate Position 53), pen cancelled on cross-border cover with New Liverpool L.C., 17 SP **1867** manuscript dated double split ring cancel to Reading, Pennsylvania USA. Ex Clayton Huff. with clean 2004 Greene certificate.

The Rock in Waterfall variety only appeared on stamps from Printing Orders 27 – 30 on State 9 – 10 of the plate after Mar 1867. They are always Perforated 12.



Unitrade #14xi and 20, 1867 cover with 1c + 2c PAIR Queen Victoria Decimal Issue, paying the 5c Domestic Rate with a Rare franking from TORONTO SP 11 67 to HAMILTON and tied to cover with large matching Toronto circular Grids with nice double arc HAMILTON SP 12 1867 receiver on reverse. **Nice scarce solid multiple of the 2c and Fine example of this very scarce franking to pay the 5c domestic rate.**

The 1c stamp is the spectacular **plate position 28 Major Misplaced Entry** with marks in **ONE** and re-entry in the lower right frameline. This is **EXTREMELY RARE** to find on cover and this is one of few known examples.



Scott #15 1865 5c Beaver, pre-paying the 5c Domestic Rate from MONTREAL to RICHMOND C.E., tied to cover with a Montreal duplex on a pastel cover. There is a MONTREAL PM MR 21 68 despatch and very faint RICHMOND MR 23 1868 double arc receiver on reverse. The cover has an advertisement from the **Granby Red Slate Company** across the full top portion of the envelope. The Large Queen issue was due to be released only 10 days afterwards on April 1, 1868 when the postage rates would change to from 5c to only 3c for a domestic letter.

The stamp is a strong and clear example of the **Plate Position 23 Gouge Flaw** (Whitworth's Plate Flaw 123), a large mark in the upper right above OS in POSTAGE.



Unitrade 17vi, 1864 10c Reddish Lake, Late Printing Order 23 Group III printing that is perforated 12 tied by MONTREAL duplex dated DE 18 66 on a crossborder cover to New York paying the 10c single rate.

The stamp is from plate position 80 and displays part of the printer's imprint on the right side. There is a light example of the C Flaw to the left of the C in CANADA as most stamps from the 9th and 10th column of the sheet.

Ken Kershaw's book *Plating the 10c Prince Consort* shows that all the stamps in Column 10 and the top 6 stamps from Column 9 all have the C Flaw so this stamp may be easier to find on cover. I have at least two examples from different positions that I have mounted in my Decimal Issue Cover collection.

Hunting for Constant Plate Varieties on Covers by Jim Jung continued ...

Hunting for covers can be great fun, especially if you are finding re-entries, plate flaws, rates, handstamps, destinations or whatever you enjoy collecting. One thing I love to do is go to maps.google.com and type in the address from an old cover and see what the building looks like today. This can be done for both foreign and domestic destinations just about anywhere in the world. Here is a screenshot from Google Maps from the streetview for 39 Park Row from the last cover above. All I could find was a Business Directory entry for Wm. H. Morrell of Albion, Young and Morrell so this will have to do.

References

The First Decimal Issue of Canada 1859-68 by Geoffrey Whitworth

Re-entries.com by Ralph Trimble F.R.S.C.

Plating the 10c Prince Consort Scott 17 by Kenneth A. Kershaw Ph. D. D. Sc. F.R.S.C.

Downtown Meaford Heritage Conservation District Study (<http://www.meaford.ca/forms/planning/heritage-conservation-district-study-and-plan/3000-meaford-hcds-preliminary-draft-for-public-review-and-comment-report/file.html>) by The Corporation of the Municipality of Meaford

