

PENCE-CENTS ERA STUDY GROUP

Of the British North America Philatelic Society
Volume VIII, No. 3, Sept 2019



Unitrade 20vi Scratches on Neck variety at Position 97

Ron Leith Cover – Additional Info

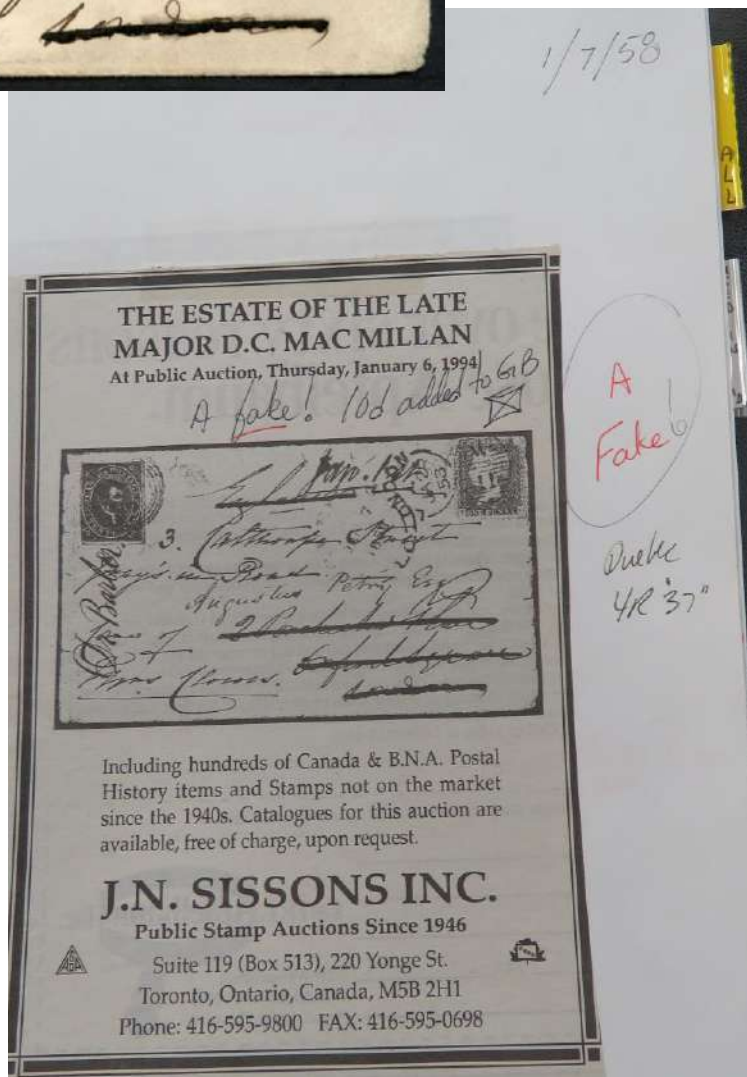


In our last issue, this cover above appeared on our front page and we received an email from reader Wayne Smith, who is a researcher known to frequent the VGG Library. Wayne sent us this page he found in some Charles Firby notes down at the library at the VGG Offices on Summerhill Avenue in Toronto. The page is dated 1/7/58 and shows a newspaper advertisement from a J. N. Sissons Auction featuring this exact cover. There is a note: "A fake ! 10d added to GB (cover)", apparently written by Charles Firby. Then at right, written in Red: A Fake ! /Quebec 4R 37".

In response to this, Ron Leith said that he expected to have it certified by the Vincent Greene Foundation prior to sale of the cover.

The newspaper clipping shown at right does provide part of the provenance for this cover with the date of sale as Jan 6, 1994. That sale is not too old and it would be interesting to find the outcome of this sale. If you have information, please send us an email.

Thank you!



Dear Study Group Member,

[BNAPEX2019](#) is over for another year. Thank you for all those who turned out for the Pence Cents Study Group meeting. We were happy to announce the new 5c Beaver website along with presentations of some nice finds. The new website is a collaboration between Mike Smith, Earl Noss and myself as we combine our 5c Beaver collections together and provide a searchable database of these images together with information on Plate Position, State, Flaws/Reentries and more. We are including the information from the Pence Cents Annual Meeting in this issue of the newsletter along with some photos from the BNAPEX and the PHSC symposium.

There is also an article on the Half Penny, Six Penny, Twelve Penny and Paper Restoration for Postal History collectors. There were a number of contributors in this issue and we are quite happy about that. We'd like to see more contributions to the newsletter so that all of our members can learn something new or see something different to arouse their collecting interests.

The BNAPEX 2020 will be held in Dartmouth/Halifax and there was a promise of a two pound lobster for every person attending made at the Awards dinner this year. BNAPEX 2021 will be held in Winnipeg. So keep this mind as you schedule your vacations.

Jim Jung



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PHSC Symposium – Hamilton Sheraton



Our Pence Cents Study Group Chairman was busy at the PHSC Symposium in Hamilton this year providing a Presentation and an Exhibit. Here is John McEntyre from Montreal, Chief Judge at the PHSC Symposium, presenting Ron with a GOLD medal for his PHSC exhibit.



PHSC Symposium – Hamilton Sheraton



Left to Right: Ingo Nessel, Dr Jim Watt, Dr. Ron Majors and Michael Croy.



Half Penny – Position 54 Reentry and Plate Scratches by Earl Noss

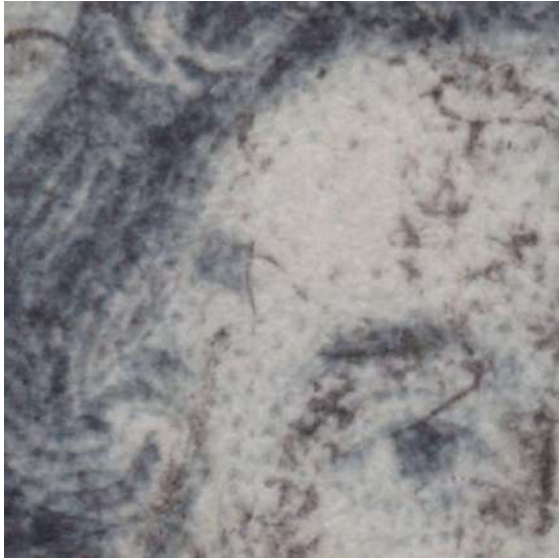


Collector Earl Noss sent us this Half Penny showing reentry marks in the upper half of the stamp design and very faint plate scratches in the left and right margins. These faint plate scratches show up so nicely on the black Proof.

This was verified by looking at the Proof Sheet provided by Michael D. Smith showing the Plate Scratches marked in left and right squares and the reentry marks circled in black. Dr Jim Watt also told me once that the faint scratches in the margins are constant and can be used to verify plate positions. I've always enjoyed the Half Penny with its' interesting Plate Flaws and Reentries.



Six Penny Prince Consort – Burr on Forehead by Jim McCormick

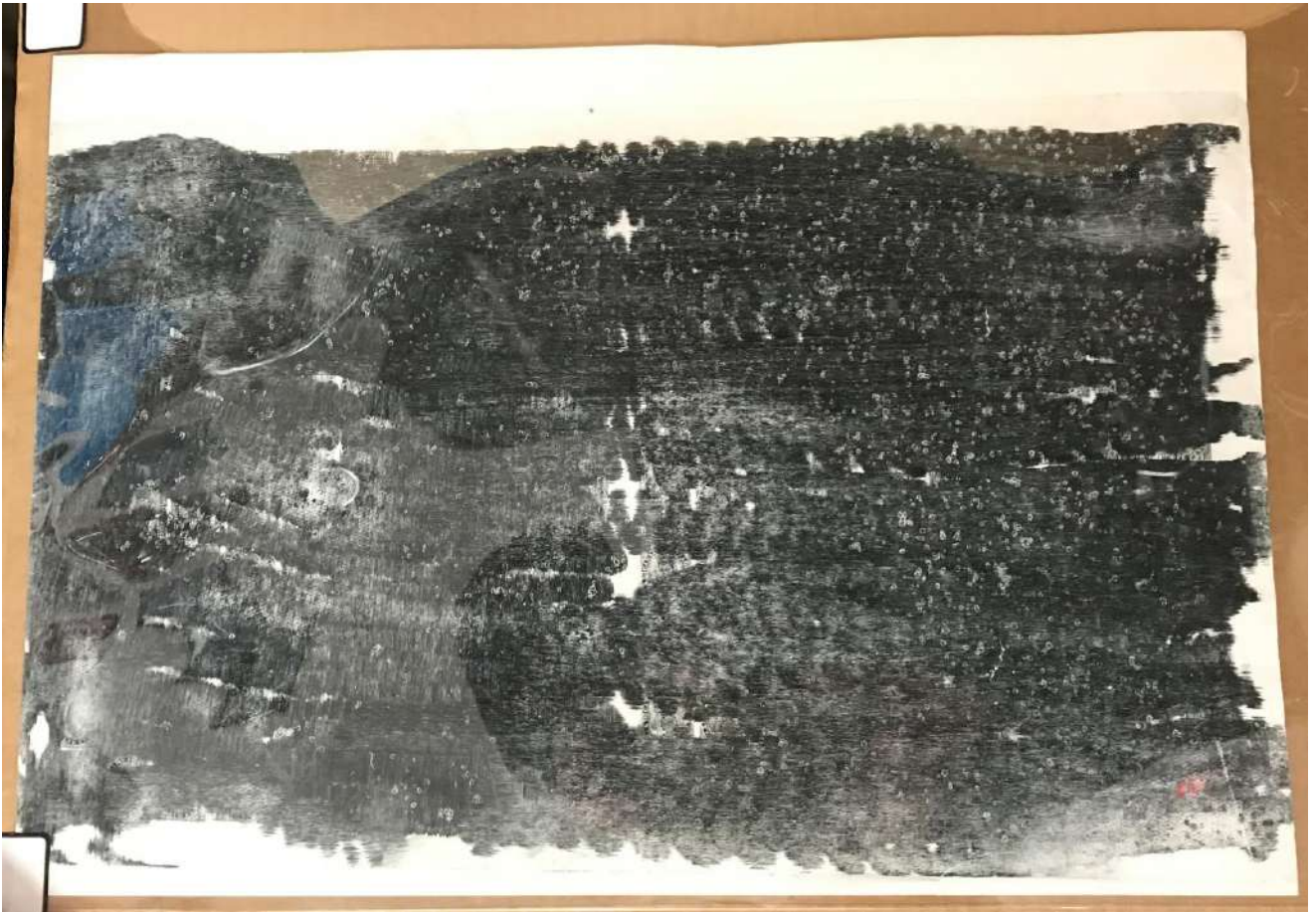


We were sharing images of the 6d, and one of my contributions was a #5 used pair. Scott Robinson casually asks: "I assume you are aware that the left stamp of your pair is left pane position 43 with the "burr on forehead" flaw as listed in Unitrade." Of course, I had not noticed it before. What's interesting is that the mole has been identified only in the late printing perforated stamp #13ii. This leads to the obvious question of when the flaw was introduced? The unidentified 4 ring numerical cancel puts the pair's use in 1857 at the earliest. I have seen a low resolution preview scan of another proof sheet in the colour of issue with SPECIMEN overprint, also showing the flaw in position 43. Saskatoon Stamps kindly provided a high quality scan of a late printing proof sheet. The attached image showing plate positions 43-44 comparing the used pair to the proof sheet (courtesy of Saskatoon Stamps) for comparison.

We kindly request that you check your collection and report any new finds.



Twelve Penny Defaced Proof Sheet – by Dr James H. Watt



The plate for Canada's famous 12d Black had been lost until someone opened a box in 1963 and there it was! It is heavily defaced and was on view at Capex '78. In 1974, the Canadian Postal Museum took this original 12d plate and made three impressions. In their opinion, they took the best of the three impressions to keep in the National Archives. The other two were "lost". The plate is in "storage" and no other copies will be produced.



This is the one of the two Defaced 12d Proof Sheets that was printed in 1974 from the original plates. There are only two in existence in Private hands. One is owned by Dr Jim Watt, the other is up for sale by Hank Greenwood. The Sale price is \$15,000 but I have heard that you can get a discount off this price. If you are interested, please contact Hank at 800-247-5619.




This is the only one available. Now that's RARE.

It doesn't look like much until you take a closer look. Between the blobs of black ink, you can see parts of the stamps. Since it is a proof, the images are actually very clear. My cell phone pics do not do this sheet justice as it does look much better in real life.

If you want to be one of two people who could possibly plate a 12d stamp then please give Hank a call and try to buy this Rarity from him. This Proof contains both Panes of 100 of this iconic 12d Black from Canada's First Issue.

A new BNAPS website is coming to help collectors identify the Position and State of 5c Beaver stamps using marks found on the stamp design

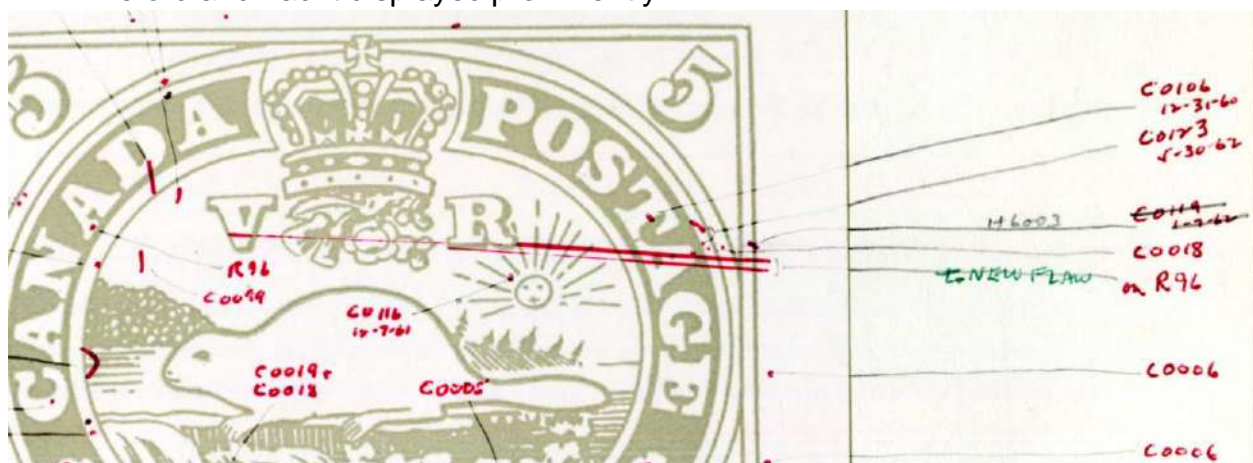


-  Images of actual stamps
-  Stamps with Flaws/Reentries listed and not listed in Whitworth or Kershaw
-  Progression of flaws and reentries thru States

Position 61 – State 5



This error was not in Whitworth and not in the Ken Kershaw books. So it was a question when I found it as to whether it was a Constant Plate Variety. Some collectors thought that maybe it was an inking error or a kiss print. I knew that somehow this was important because the collection I found it in had it marked as Ex Reford and had it displayed prominently.



It was Mike Smith that found the document showing this error in the Huff Study Notes.



And afterwards, Mike had also found the error documented in an old issue of BNA Topics in an article written by Clayton Huff and Arthur Groten.

Ident No. H-9015

Probably the most interesting new flaw I have confirmed

Two nearly horizontal lines about 1 ½ flg (frameline gap) apart, running from R gutter through A of Postage. Top line--- heavier one--- continues to RB end of R of VR and reappears across lower part of V of VR

Other: Fr lines in all four comers show doubling

T.P.: B3-C3 on across to C6, 7, 8

P.P.: 61 St. 5 (?)

Perf.: 2 4 cc-8aw faint on 11/7/64

C-dot: Medium size, almost touching at R, Height 4

Position 64 – State 4



Position 65 – State 4



Position 34 – State 10



The site will allow you to search for Plate Flaws and Reentries by location within the stamp design. For example, use R for Right and UR for Upper Right. A list of Plate Flaws OR a list of Reentries will be displayed in your selected area.

Here are three Plate Flaws on the R (right) of the stamp. Position 64 State 4 has faint plate scratches thru the trees under the sun. Position 65 State 4 has similar faint scratches thru the trees and thru the G of POSTAGE. Position 34 State 10 has a large blob to the right of the sun.

Position 22 – State 6



This stamp has a major reentry but the image is obscured by a postmark and there is some damage at the top. You can see something going on in the right side of the design.



Sometimes marks can be difficult to see until they are pointed out and compared with another stamp image. The website will feature marked and unmarked images of all stamps so you can see the flaws/reentries more easily.

Position 22 – State 6 vs State 7



As the stamps were printed and 1000's of sheets passed thru the presses, the plates wore down and so did the Flaws and Reentries. After awhile they began to look slightly different.

There were 11 States of the plate defined by Geoffrey Whitworth. In different states, the Flaws and Reentries were described in Whitworth's book. This website will show stamps in different states. This will help identify the stamp since some flaws appear or disappear while others remain in different states.

We will also show the flaws and reentries marked by circles or squares on each stamp design.

State 6

State 7

Over the next few pages, you can compare the States of Position 22 to see how the stamp design flaws and reentries change from State to State. If your stamp matches some areas but not all, you may just have a different State of the Flaw. You can compare different States of the same flaws to identify your stamp.

Plate Positions of the 1859 5c Beaver by Jim Jung
Position 22 – State 7 vs State 8



State 7



State 8

Plate Positions of the 1859 5c Beaver by Jim Jung
 Position 22 – State 8 vs State 9



State 8



State 9

Upcoming Shows – Fall 2019



October 19 – 20, 2019 London, Ontario
CANPEX 2019 National Philatelic Exhibition
The Hellenic Centre,
133 Southdale Road West,
London, Ontario
Show hours; Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM
Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM
Free admission, Free parking, Lunch counter
Information; info@canpex.ca
Web site; www.canpex.ca



ATTENTION
nouvelle adresse
de l'exposition /
new exhibit address

Nouvelle Résidence Mc Gill
3625, Avenue du Parc
Montréal, QC H2X 3P8

November, 15-16-17, 2019

Friday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. [Admission \$5.00]
Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. [Admission \$5.00]
Sunday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. [**FREE** Admission]

NOVA PEX 2019

A Regional level stamp exhibition and bourse
sponsored by the Nova Scotia Stamp Club.

September 20-21, 2019
East Dartmouth Community Centre
50 Caledonia Road
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

BNAPEX 2019



Above: Past BNAPS Presidents are lined up during the Awards Dinner on Sunday evening.

Right: A fabulous dinner was served while the Annual Awards were presented to the winners. This nice piece of beef was at least two inches thick!

The Delta Hotel was luxurious with a beautiful pool, sauna and exercise room. The rooms were very comfortable, spacious and upscale. The Dealers must have brought new stock to this Show because I found some nice stamps and covers which I was happy to purchase.

The Study Group Sessions were well attended and great for learning more useful information. I attended several on Saturday and Sunday.

It was announced that everyone will receive a two pound Lobster dinner next year in Halifax for BNAPEX 2020. So get your thinking caps on. If that's too far away, BNAPEX 2021 will be hosted in Winnipeg.



Future (potential) Presidents gather at a local Ottawa Restaurant for a nice meal and a local brew.

Paper Restoration by Jim Jung



I purchased this cover because of its' scarcity. It is part of a well-known correspondence from Preston to a Watchmaker named Willis Coates in Victoria, Vancouver Island and is dated MY 25 1862. This is very early in the Postal History of Vancouver Island, and is indeed, the first rate that is known to have stamped covers to Vancouver Island or British Columbia. In the Pence period, the rate was 9d to the Western Colonies. There are very few known stampless covers with this rate. In July 1859, this rate changed to 15c with the release of the First Decimal Issue. There are only stamped six covers listed in Arfken Leggett with this rate and even though the rate changed to 25c in January 1862, it is uncertain when the rate changes were applied. The based-on rate to California was 15c well into 1863, and with the US Civil War peaking in battle, the overland route was replaced by routing to New York via Panama to San Francisco in a letter dated August 1, 1863.

Table 1. Decimal Covers to Vancouver Island and British Columbia - 15¢ Rate, July 1859 - December 1861

	Date	Franking	From	To	Reference
1.	? ? 59	10,5		Vic., VI	[5]
2.	DE 31 60	5,5,5	Arkona	Vic., VI	F-584, 11/13/91, Fig. 1
3.	JA 24 61	5,5,5	Arkona	Vic., VI	[5]
4.	NO 22 61	5,5,5	Guelph	VI	[5]
5.	NO 22 61	8x12 ¹ / ₂ ,5	Guelph	VI	Topics vol 14, [6]
6.	?	5,5,5	Arkona	Vic., VI	[5]

The F-584 in the Reference column means a Firby auction, lot 584. Cover No. 5, NO 22 61, is a remarkable 7-fold 15¢ rate paid with a 5¢ Beaver and a block of eight of the 12¹/₂¢ Decimals. The cover was illustrated by Bainbridge [6].

Paper Restoration by Jim Jung

So this cover is nice with the 3 x 5c Beavers and the Four Ring 35 hammer from Prestcott, the OGDENSBURGH NY postmark and the US PAID oval in red. It was forwarded to Victoria, V. I. in pen and has a "Received Sept 19th 1862" manuscript in pencil at left. Since this took almost 4 months to make the journey, it's a guess as to the routing it took. If anyone has any information to add, please let me know.

The big issue is condition of the cover at the right, top and bottom edges. I showed this cover to Ron Majors and he said that a good Paper Restorer could fix the cover and not touch the stamps or the markings. He also noted that this could be fairly expensive. I went looking and found a good Paper Restorer named Jane Dosman. She is very professional and has an excellent resume with a Master's of Art Conservation from Queens and training at the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts (CCAHA) in Philadelphia. She worked in the Paper Lab in the Centre de conservation du Québec (CCQ) from 2009 – 2016, and is now located in Toronto. She provided me with a condition report and explained what could be done very clearly. The cost was \$225 for the cover to fix the edges without touching the stamps or markings.

I was really happy with the results. The after picture of the cover is below. I think it looks much better.



References

Canada's Decimal Era (1996) – George B. Arfken and Arthur W. Leggett
Toronto, Canada: Vincent Greene Foundation (Publisher)

Jane Dosman - <https://www.paperrestoration.org/>

Application for Membership in the BNAPS Pence/Cents Study Group

If you have an interest in early Canadian and BNA stamps, covers and postal history including stampless, please fill out and e-mail the following information to: jimjung8@gmail.com (We really just need your info in an email and you're in for free, as a BNAPS member)

Name: _____

Street

Address: _____ City: _____

Province/State: _____ Postal/Zip Code _____

E-mail _____

FAX: _____ Telephone: _____

Describe your interest area(s):

Articles or Ideas for the Next Newsletter ...

Dear Readers, if you have something interesting in your collection that you would like to share with others interested in the classical period of Canadian philately, please send us an e-mail (jimjung8@gmail.com) with a description of something you are collecting. **We would be interested in researching and writing an article about your area of interest. We will do some legwork for you !!**

Articles or ideas about stamps, covers, revenues, errors, fakes, and just about anything in early Canadian philately qualifies. Whatever you are currently doing to your stamp collection is probably very interesting.

Write a few words about it, take a few pics and share your story with us. We would love to hear from you.

