

PENCE-CENTS ERA STUDY GROUP

Of the British North America Philatelic Society
Volume IX, No. 6, December 2020



1868 6c Cross border Lady's cover with Cents/LQ Mixed Franking, Ex Dale-Lichtenstein, Ex Fred Jarrett, Charles de Volpi, John Robertson
Courtesy of Stéphane Cloutier (Sparks Auctions)

Dear Study Group Member,

The pandemic is still quite strong and we urge members to listen to their doctors and try to get the vaccine as soon as possible, now that it has become available. The Pfizer Covid-19 vaccine has been approved by Health Canada and the Moderna vaccine should also be approved in January 2021. Both of these are report as having a 90-95% success rate. Even if you are waiting for a vaccine, my gut tells me that the numbers should be leveling and dropping as people get vaccinated. This leads to a more normal life as Businesses are allowed to do operate once again.

But let's talk stamps and Postal History! The winter is around the corner, and with it comes Christmas, and the big Auction sales. So far, Sparks and Maresch have released their catalogs for the beginning of January 2021, and both Auction houses have a nice selection of rich items to offer. Check these two sales on [Stamp Auction Network](#) for some happy moments of delight.

Sparks has the VF Unused 3d Laid Paper stamp from the Daniel Cantor collection up for grabs, opening at a \$18,000. I also noticed a number of lots that are rarely seen, so just looking thru this sale is exciting!

Merry Christmas to all our members, Happy New Year and stay safe!
Say goodbye and good riddance to 2020.

Use Facetime Video calling on your phone more often or Skype your family and friends!
If you are driving, don't drink and drive! Use Uber, Cab Service or phone a friend.

Jim Jung

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In Memoriam: George B. Arfken OTB, FRPSC (1922-2020)



George Brown Arfken, of Clearwater, FL, passed away on 8 October 2020 at the age of 97. A detailed memorial of George can be found on the BNAPS website <http://www.bnaps.org/memorials.htm>.

Professionally, Dr. Arfken was a well-respected and well-published physicist who taught at Miami University (Ohio) for most of his life. He retired to Florida in 1983. Philately, George was a lifelong collector having joined BNAPS in 1974 and focused on collecting, exhibiting, and writing about nineteenth century Canadian, British and U.S. postal history. His exhibit on Canadian pre-UPU rates was awarded an international Gold medal at CAPEX '96. Then, for the next 40 years of so, George became an author writing over 200 research-oriented articles not only in BNA Topics but in other Canadian, British

and U.S. philatelic journals as well. In addition, important to Pence-Cents collectors, George was a co-author of the popular books Canada's Pence Era, The Pence Stamps, and the Canadian Mail, 1851-1859 and Canada's Decimal Era, 1859-1868. In addition, he wrote 8 more books on Small Queens, Canadian postcards, Canadian Postal History 1897-1911 and U.S. postage due stamps. He was inducted into the Order of the Beaver (1996) and named a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (2001). He received many awards for his philatelic writings and postal history exhibits. We should all celebrate George's philatelic contributions, especially his extensive philatelic writings. George is survived by his three children, six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. We will all miss him.

Ron Majors (extracted from Mike Street's memorial coverage on BNAPS website).

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):

Bad Items in Stanley Gibbons Stock – Wayne Smith

Following the last newsletter the buyer of the 2nd cover contacted me. After a couple emails back and forth in which the buyer noted he had a cover with a 3p with similar cancel, I looked into the period of use of the cancel.

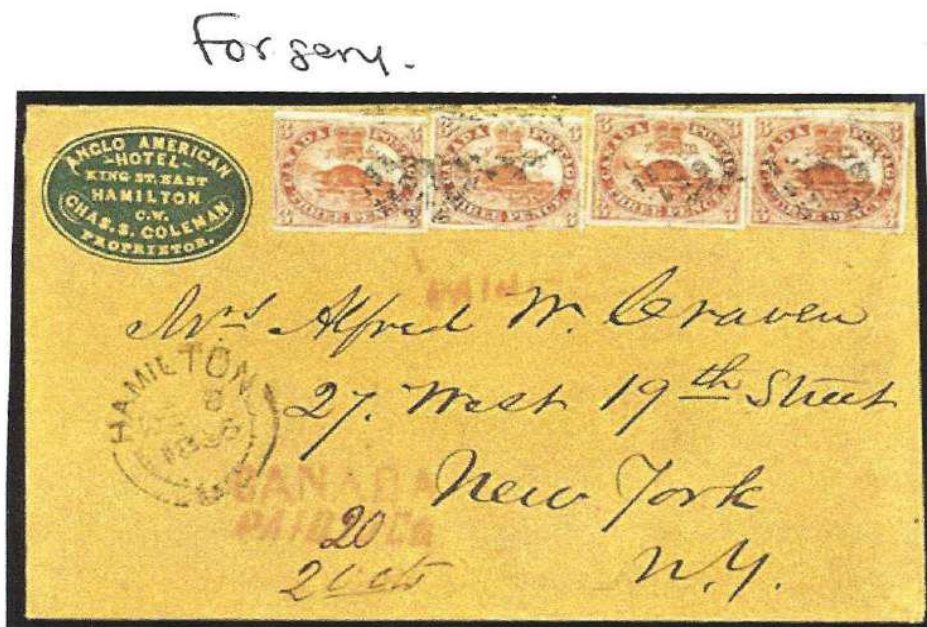
As the cover in question has a late 1856 cancel, I went through my records of covers from Hamilton with 3p, 6p and 10p stamps for 1856 and early 1857.

I have 17 covers (in my census) with a scan that show the standard target cancel. They are dated from Jan 24 to Oct 22/56. Not including the cover in question, I have 8 covers with the segmented cork cancel dated from Oct 13/56 to Jan 21/57. I have a partial scan of a 3p pair to the US with the cork cancel but the description only says 1856 so it is not counted. The earliest use of the 4 ring 16 cancel is Mar 3/57 and for the rest of 1857 the 4 ring was the only Hamilton hammer used.

It would appear the cancels on the cover are correct for the date on the cover which is often a give-away for fakes. The buyer replied back he had looked at the cover more carefully and his opinion is that the stamps had been lifted and replaced back in position. Based on that and my cancel details he was comfortable that the cover is legitimate and would be keeping it.

Being an example of a very early, local made cork an example of this cancel would be a good addition to a pence collection.

I will be doing an update to my Pence census in January so if any members have any additions please forward them very soon.



Forgery: 1852 3d Red, 4 Singles "On Cover", #4. Used, close to large margins on all, "stamps did not originate on the cover on which they now appear", figured as singles, Fine to VF, Greene (1994) cert. Sc \$800.

Harmer Schau Fe 9/07 \$374

S. Gibbons Stock Jy 2020 £3,500

Recent Theft Alert

URGENT: Walnut Creek CA Theft

Merle E. Spencer reported a theft that occurred on Thursday, November 5 between 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm. from his store at 2678 N. Main St., Suites 1 & 2, Walnut Creek, CA 94597. The items stolen were the three most expensive plastic binders of his material. Each of the three binders was about one inch thick and included 20-23 Hagner pages. The most valuable volume, approximately \$150,000, consisted of United States material. A second volume was of Great Britain material beginning from number 1. The third volume was his second volume of British Commonwealth covering Hong Kong to Z. Mr. Spencer has colored photocopies of most of the U.S. items stolen.

Officer Villa of the Walnut Creek Police Department took the report of the theft. The report number is 2027-743.

Should you come in contact with any of this material,
please contact:

Your local police department
The Walnut Creek Police Department at 925-943-5844
Mr. Spencer at 925-944-9111
The APS Stamp Theft Committee at
stamptheft@stamps.org

American Philatelic
Society
100 Match Factory Place
Bellefonte, PA 16823
Phone: 814.933.3803

Member Expelled

On November 7, 2020, at a Special Meeting of the BNAPS Board of Directors, Member 7071, Matthew G. Rhodes, 1284 Som Center Rd #163, Cleveland OH 44124-2048, was expelled from membership in the British North America Philatelic Society, Ltd. BNAPS had received two complaints of approvals sent and neither returned nor paid for in a timely fashion. Prior to the Board's action, the BNAPS Ethics Committee conducted a thorough investigation of the matter receiving no satisfactory response from Mr. Rhodes. While this situation is regrettable, the Ethics Committee reports that this is the first such action in over 40 years.

Please note, as stated in Article III, Section 2.4 of our bylaws, Membership in the British North America Philatelic Society, Ltd. does not constitute an opinion or certification by the Society as to the moral or financial stability of the member.

Reward Poster 1c Printed Matter Rate – Jim Jung



In pencil: **B Wymore Chief of Police Ontario**, Postmark: SIMCOE CW JY 23 67



This an interesting piece of mail that gives us a lot of information with the names of the Chief of Police, B. Wymore and the addressee, Van ralkenburg, a detective in London, Ontario.

The stamp is a 1c Decimal issue (Scott 14) has a nice clear CDS from SIMCOE dated JY 23 67 and the rarely seen selvedge attached on the left side, paying the 1c Printed Matter rate. The retouch in the upper left corner is from position 91 of the later printing.

But it is the inside that is most interesting.

\$10 REWARD !

Stolen, on the night of the 21st inst., from Lot No. 6, 12th Con. of Windham,

A DARK BAY MARE !

5 years old, about 15¹/₂ hands high, light limbed, large star in forehead, right hind foot white to fetlock, kerbed on same leg, cured, but the hair not yet grown out.

Any person giving such information to Mr. Jas. M. Tisdale, Simcoe, or to the subscriber, as will lead to the recovery of the animal, or conviction of the thief, will receive the above reward.

JAS. KELLUM, Jr.

Windham, 22nd July, 1867.

When you open this folded newsprint, there is a beautiful reward poster with some more information describing a theft of a DARK BAY MARE from Jas Kellum, Jr. at Lot No. 6, 12th Concession of Windham and a \$10 reward dated at Windham 22nd July, 1867. The theft took place the night before on the 21st.

| | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|---|----|----|
| Kauffman Wellington | Nixon | t | 12 | 16 |
| Keliam George | Lynnville | f | 12 | 6 |
| Kelley N W | Bookton | f | 3 | 24 |

From the [Farmers' Directories – 1891 Norfolk County Windham Township](#), there is a listing for George Kellam in Lynnville at Lot 6 of the 12th Concession.

Jones, reari, b. 1893, death date not cut, w/o J. George Jones
Kellam, Charity Ann, b. 1852, d. 1910, w/o George Kellam
Kellam, Clara M., b. 1876, d. 1953
Kellam, Elizabeth M., d. 20 Dec 1906, 64 y, 8 m, 12 d, w/o James F. Kellam
Kellam, Emily L. (Wood), b. 1851, d. 1912, w/o Isaac Kellam
Kellam, George, b. 1845, d. 1919
Kellam, Isaac, b. 1848, d. 1905, h/o Emily L. Kellam (Wood)
Kellam, James F., d. 21 May 1900, 60 y, 1 m, 1 day
Kellam, James, b. 3 Apr 1808, d. 30 Apr 1875, born at Leicestershire, England
Kellam, John, b. 6 Jul 1838, d. 18 Aug 1890
Kellam, Lorne R., b. 1884, d. 1941
Kellam, Mary, b. 7 Jun 1812, d. 27 Apr 1895, w/o J. Kellam
Kellum, James Christopher, d. 24 Jun 1879, 3 y, 6 m, 6 d, son/o George & Charity Kellum
Keervna John b 1922 d 1998 married 18 Jul 1954

The Lynnville Community Cemetery at Lynnville, Norfolk County, Ontario Lot 6, Con 10, Windham Township, 1268 Windham East Line Road, Lynnville, Ontario shows a list of family members from the 19th century so this must have been an important family in this community.

12 1/2c Plate Flaw Collection – Earl Noss

The flaws on this stamp are quite nice but fairly scarce to find. Most of the 12 1/2c stamps are nicely printed without flaws. But Earl Noss has found quite a few of these scarce wonders and I have found a few. Here are scans and descriptions of these to see if you have any luck searching for them.



Position 56 State 2 (above) shows a few dots at the upper left frame line, two marks to the left of POSTAGE and a dot in the 1 of 12 1/2c at the lower left.

Position 26 State 1 (below) shows a large mark to the right of IX of SIX at the lower left. There is also a smaller mark below PO of POSTAGE.



12 1/2c Plate Flaw Collection – Earl Noss



Position 38 State 1 shows a faint dot at the Upper left frameline. (left)



Position 63 State 1, there is a dash above the E of PACKET. Here are two copies in two different shades. (above and left)



Position 22 has an extra dot below the C of CANADA (above)

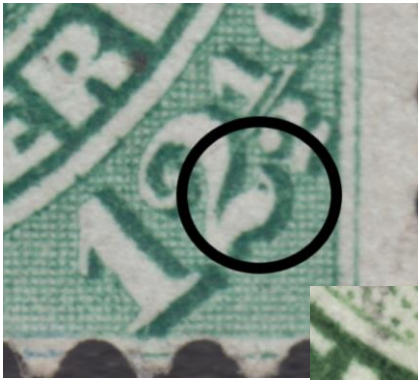
Position 58 State 1 has a group of dots below P of POSTAGE (below)



Position 66 State 1 has a tiny dot in the LR 2 of 12 1/2c (right)



12 1/2c Plate Flaw Collection – Earl Noss



Position 70 State 2 has a strong dot in the LR 2 of 12 1/2c but in a different position compared with position 61. (left)

Position 100 has a guide dot in lower right corner margin. (right)



Position 38 State 2 has a string of dots in and below the E of PENCE. (left)

Decimal Covers to Unusual Destinations – Ronald E. Majors

Introduction

When looking at foreign destinations of decimal covers you most often find many sent to the British Isles and France but beyond that examples are few and far between. In Charles Firby's census of franked decimal era covers (1), after Britain and France, out of the 16 remaining countries of foreign destinations, only 5 have more than 4 covers of any type (e.g. single and multiple rate letters, printed matter, registered letters, etc.). No recent censuses updates of decimal covers sent to foreign destinations have been conducted. The purpose of this article is to show examples of covers to some of the more unusual destinations including some new undocumented "finds". As is prevalent during the decimal period, about half of the foreign destination covers are franked and the rest are stampless. Sometimes alternate routes were used.



Figure 1. Cover to Lt. Col. Bethume was mailed from Kingston, U.C., sent to England, forwarded to Corfu and eventually followed the Lt. Col. back to his English Base at Aldershot Camp

Corfu

A recent find, Figure 1 shows a cover that was sent from Kingston, U.C. on AP 25 1860 to Lt. Colonel Bethume, a member of the 9th Foot Regiment, who was initially assigned to the Aldershot Camp. The cover was franked with a blue-green 12 1/2¢ Queen Victoria stamp paying the Canadian route to England. It was transported on the Allan Line's North American departing Portland on AP 28 1860. A Liverpool arrival handstamp in red was dated 10 MY 1860, an Aldershot Camp receiver on 11 MY 60 and a London transit on the reverse dated MY 12 60. At the time, the Lt. Colonel was serving at the military base on the Ionian Island of Corfu, off the coast of Greece. Then, Corfu was part of the British Commonwealth but was ceded to Greece in 1864. The original destination of Aldershot Camp was crossed out and the letter was redirected to Corfu; there was no Corfu receiver. However, there is a red, diagonal slash to the left of the stamp over the address. This type of slash indicates that a 1d forwarding fee was assessed but officers in the British military had free forwarding privileges so it should not have been paid. Unfortunately, Lt. Col. Bethume returned to England so Corfu was crossed out and his new address added diagonally on the left to Farnham, Surrey (receiver AU 10 60 on reverse). Farnham was close to the Aldershot Camp. On the way back there was a stop in Malta and a transit handstamp dated JY 10 60 was applied. Overall, the cover had a long and slow journey.

Decimal Covers to Unusual Destinations – Ronald E. Majors

Italy and Papal States

In July 1859, when Canada's Decimal Era began, Italy was not yet a nation but a collection of independent states. The postage rates were different in the various states (2). The Firby recording lists six franked covers to Italy; stampless covers were not reported. Figure 2 shows an early stampless cover sent from St. Agatha, U.C. on Nov 19 1859 (postmark in green) to the Rector Most Rev. Jerome Kajsiewicz of the Church of St. Cloud, Rome. The postage on this cover was prepaid as shown with a handstamp "2/4" (2 shillings and 4 pence) in manuscript in RED on the front of the cover which would be equivalent to 28¢. There are no published rate tables for the period 1859-1862 (Leggett and Arfken) for the Canada to Italy route. There is a Petersburg transit handstamp (in green) on the reverse dated Nov. 18, 1859. The front handstamps PD and a faint PAID both in red and London Dec, 7 1859 showed that the postage was apparently correct for the long trip to Rome. The cover was transported by rail and then put on a ship across the English Channel to Calais, France where it was hand stamped on the front Dec 7 59 in black. The next transit postmarks on the reverse were applied in Paris on Dec. 8 and then in Marseille, France on Dec. 9, 1859. The cover was put on a boat and arrived at Civita Vecchia (Port of Rome) as depicted on the large handstamp on the front and a smaller CDS on the back dated Dec 12 1859. Rounding out the back of the cover is a nice wax seal with the impression F†R which stands for Fratres Resurrections.

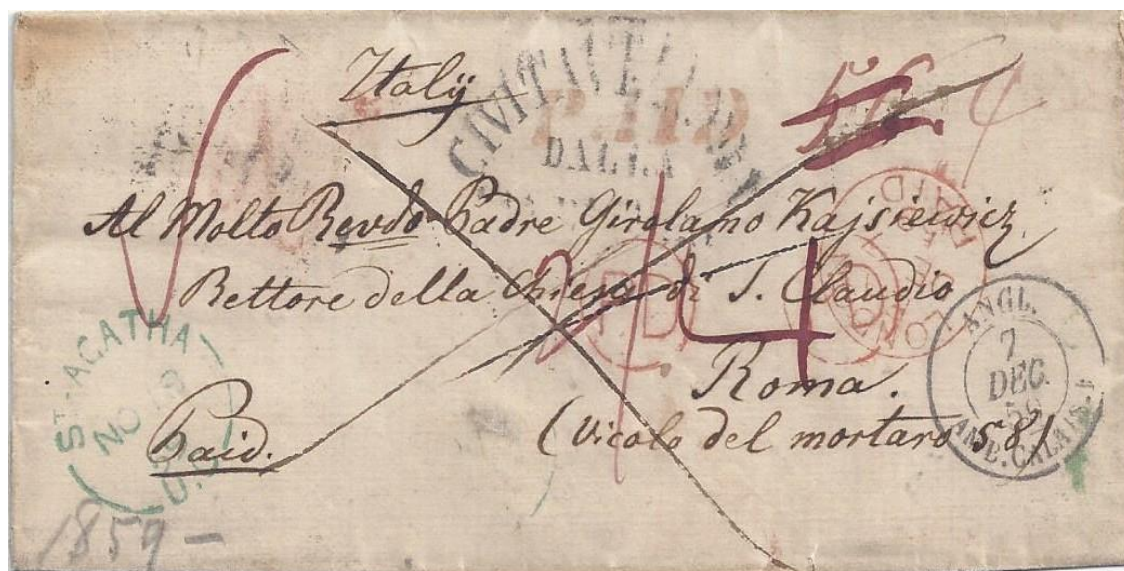


Figure 2. Cover sent in 1859 to Catholic Church in Rome, Italy (cover slightly reduced in size)

Figure 3 shows cover sent from Montreal in 1863 and franked with three 10¢ brown (Unitrade 17b) Consorts with a 1¢ overpayment, probably by convenience. On the front is a blurry Montreal, C.E., FE 12 63 duplex, a red London CDS transit handstamp PAID in red dated FE 26 63 and an oval "PD" also in red, a light black strike of a Calais, France transit and a poor strike of the Port of Rome (Civita Vecchia) receiver. Based on the sailing tables, this cover was carried to England by Allan Line's Bohemian out of Portland on FE 14 63 with arrival in Liverpool on FE 26 1863. Further, backstamps were noted for Marseille, France dated FE 28 63 and an indistinct postmark of 2 MR 63, perhaps of Italian arrival. This cover is one of the six franked covers (#2) in the Arfken/Leggett listing (2).

Decimal Covers to Unusual Destinations – Ronald E. Majors



Figure 3. A 1863 cover from Montreal to Rome Italy showing a 1c overpayment

Mauritius

Mauritius is a 716 square mile extremely remote island about 500 miles east of Madagascar and midway between Sri Lanka and Cape of Good Hope in the Indian Ocean. There are no franked covers known to Mauritius and only 3 stampless covers have been reported, one of which is shown in Figure 4. All three of these covers were from the same correspondence to Mrs. Higginson. Various rate and transit markings appear on the front. The most important is the 28¢ in red manuscript, the Cunard rate, with an extra 5¢ paid via New York. PAID in red indicates payment. The other two covers paid 23¢ since they were transported on Canadian ship to England.



Figure 4. Cover sent from Toronto to Mauritius via England in 1864 (cover slightly enlarged). To the left, the receiving postmark MR 29 64 from the reverse of the envelope)

Decimal Covers to Unusual Destinations – Ronald E. Majors

The letter left Toronto on JA 18 1864 sent to New York to meet the Cunard liner then via London transit (FE 1 64) to Southampton. Several accountancy marks are shown on the front of the cover. To the left, a red “4”. This was the credit to the UK for forwarding the cover to Mauritius and the same debit to Canada. On the right-hand side, the transfer of “4 ½ d” from the UK to Mauritius to pay for getting the cover from Aden to Mauritius. According to Leggett and Firby (3), the trip from England to Mauritius went in 4 stages:

- 1) Britain's Peninsular and Oriental Line (P. & O.) carried the cover from Southampton to Alexandria, Egypt.
- 2) Since there was no Suez Canal, the cover went overland across Egypt to Suez at the north end of the Red Sea
- 3) On a different P. & O. steamer, the cover was carried south to Aden.
- 4) Mauritius had contracted with the P. & O. for a ship to carry mail between Aden and Mauritius. As indicated on the above backstamp (Figure 4, left), the cover arrived in Mauritius on MR 29 64.

Note that this stampless cover was featured in Firby's "Gems of Canadian Philately" exhibited at CAPEX 96 (4).



Figure 5. Cover from Toronto to Leipzig, Saxony Paying 28¢ Rate with Overpayment of 1¢

Prussia and Saxony

Like Italy, during the decimal period, pre-unification Germany was a collection of independent states and free cities. Although some steps for postal and custom unification had begun, for the most part postal documents were written by the individual states. Thus, postal rates and even postal entry points to each state were different. Even so, there have only been six franked covers to German States. Also, a couple of stampless covers are illustrated here. Figure 5 depicts a decimal cover sent from Toronto postmarked DE 13 1862 and sent via England to Leipzig, Saxony. Unfortunately, with the small envelope, long address and many stamps, the sender had to apply stamps over the sides and backs distracting from the lovely presentation it could have made. Anyway, it is what it is and I was happy to win this little cover on eBay many years ago. Based on the markings, most likely the cover was sent to New York where it met the Cunard Liner China which sailed on DE 17 1862. Based on the franking, the 29¢ worth of stamps overpaid by 1¢ for the Cunard rate to Saxony.

Decimal Covers to Unusual Destinations – Ronald E. Majors

The PAID in red just to the left of the pair of 12 1/2¢ Queen Victoria stamps and the oval “PD” also in red indicate that the cover was paid all the way through to Leipzig, Saxony. The “9” in red crayon probably represents a 9p credit to the English postal system for handling the cover and a 9p debit for Canada. A red London transit of JA 1863 is obscured by the rather large Aachen transit handstamp. The Aachen transit stamp meant that the cover went through Belgium. This letter was sent to a castle Schloss Puchain which today can be rented for weddings and other events.

Another pre-unification German state was Prussia. One of the largest and most powerful of the old German states, the largest city in old Prussia was Berlin. Figure 6 shows a 1867 cover paying the 23¢ rate from Montreal to Coblenz, Prussia. The Montreal tombstone handstamp was dated AP 18 and most likely was transported by rail to Portland and loaded onto the Allan line Peruvian which sailed on April 20 1867 arriving in Liverpool on MY 2. The date on the red London transit PAID handstamp can barely be read but the date appears to be 2 MY 67 can be seen. The London transit is partially covered up by a small red oval “PD” showing the cover was paid to its final destination. A special notation via L’Pool and Antwerp directed cover to come into Germany via Belgium and Aachen, which is shown in the large blue circular handstamp. The red “6” and “3” manuscripts represent how the postage money was divided up between British and Prussian posts



Figure 6. Cover sent from Montreal to Coblenz (now spelled Koblenz), Prussia via England and Belgium in 1867

Decimal Covers to Unusual Destinations – Ronald E. Majors

The cover shown in Figure 7 was also sent from Montreal to Prussia but to the city of Berlin, 605 km away from Coblenz. Obviously, Prussia was a large state. The cover was posted DE 24 1866 and since the next ocean liner leaving North America was the Cunard liner Cuba which departed New York on DE 26, as shown twice by manuscript on the front of the envelope, the higher rate of 28¢ postage via NY was required. The Cuba reached Queenstown Ireland on JA 6 1867 and the London PAID transit handstamp applied JA 7 67 along with a straightline "PAID" and oval handstamp "PD" both in red. There is no indication of where the cover crossed the border except on the reverse there is circled AUSG. along with some Arabic and Roman numerals like in Figure 5. However, I have little knowledge of these transit markings. Can somebody help?



Figure 7. Cover from Montreal to Berlin, Prussia in 1866 Paying Cunard Rate.

Cuba

According to Arfken/Leggett book (5), there are only two franked covers to Cuba during the decimal period. One of the two is depicted in Figure 8 from Montreal to Havana sent at the 30¢ rate in 1861. The information in the Canadian Regulations (6) specified the rate for ½ oz was 15¢ so the letter was double weight. The other cover sent in 1867 showed a payment of 22 ½¢ paid with a 10¢ Consort and a 12 ½ ¢ Queen Victoria. The rate in 1867 to Cuba was reduced to 10¢ for ½ oz. so the sender may have overpaid, perhaps at the double rate. The absence of good rate data and only few covers sent to Cuba in the early decimal time period, especially 1859 to 1862 makes it difficult in checking out decimal rates and routes with accuracy to the British West Indies. The "steamer" designation on the lower left-hand side of the envelope could have been meant for it to be carried by a British steamer from NY directly to Cuba.

Decimal Covers to Unusual Destinations – Ronald E. Majors



Figure 8. Double Weight Cover from Montreal to Havana, Cuba in 1861

Tobago

The cover shown in Figure 9 had an interesting history. Sent from Hamilton, U.C. (MR 19 1864 double circular handstamp) the letter was directed to the Captain of the ship HMS Bacchante in Tobago in the Bay of Panama. Apparently, the Bacchante got held up due to bad weather (around early May, 1864) while crossing Cape Horn but this letter arrived in Tobago well before the Bacchante. A transit stamp on the reverse side shows that this letter was postmarked AP 7 in Panama.

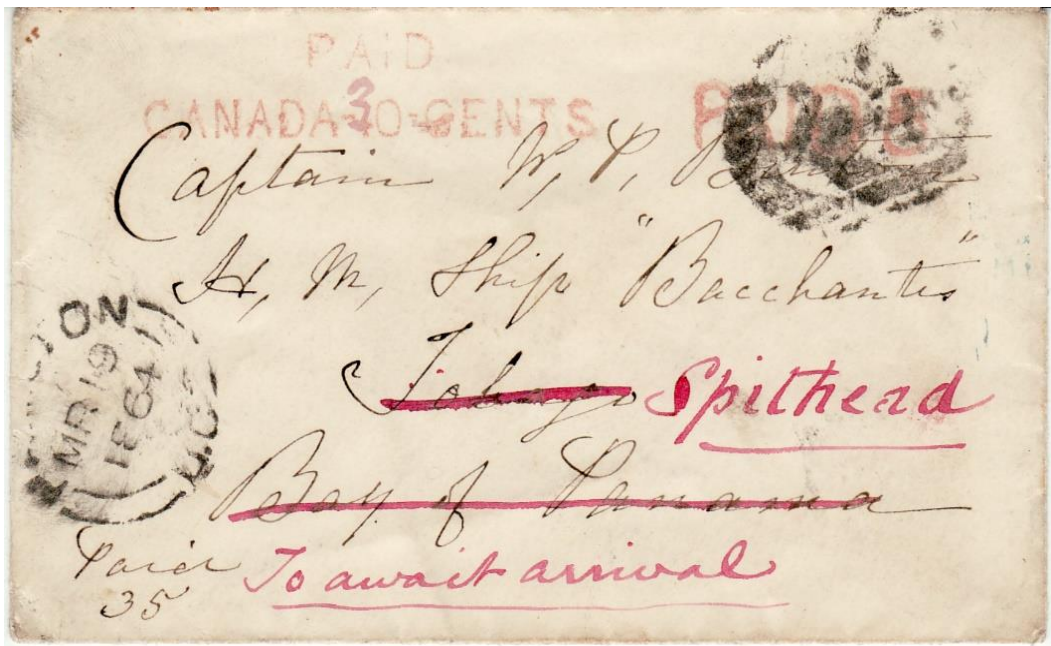


Figure 9. A Well-Traveled Letter from Montreal to the British West Indies to England

Decimal Covers to Unusual Destinations – Ronald E. Majors

From this data, the markings indicated that the ship on which this cover was carried on was probably the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. ship La Plata. There is no postmark indicating that the letter was ever in Tobago. Perhaps knowing that the HMS Bacchante was running well behind schedule, Postmaster in Panama City crossed out Tobago and Bay of Panama in red pen and forward it to the ultimate destination of the Bacchante which was Spithead or more specially Portsmouth, England where the letter would wait on arrival of the Bacchante. On the reverse is a Portsmouth arrival handstamp indicating MY 14 1864. Some interesting postal markings on the front and back give additional information on the fate of this cover. In Canada, on the upper left is the regular handstamp used on cross-border mail to the U.S. CANADA 10 CENTS in red with the "10" crossed out and "30" added in manuscript indicated the postage to Tobago. On the upper right, a PAID 5 handstamp which is the regular domestic postage for a letter was obliterated by two cork smudges since the cover was to be sent to the British West Indies. At the very bottom left in black pen manuscript is a "Paid 35" notation. Not quite sure where this note was applied and what it means.



Figure 10. One of Two Known Covers to Jamaica during Decimal Period

Jamaica

Jamaica is the largest of the British West Indies islands. The Firby recording shows only two covers to Jamaica during the decimal period both sent from Montreal to John Small, a druggist in Port Maria and both franked with a 17¢, 5¢ and a 1¢ stamps for a total of 23¢. The cover shown here was the later sent cover and was posted JU 11 1866. There are several transit handstamps on the reverse of the cover: St. Thomas (Ju 30 1866), Kingston, Jamaica and a Port Maria JY 6 66 receiver. A Leggett/Arfken analysis of the route concluded that it probably came via New York or Portland where it met a British packet carrier but there are no markings to indicate which route was used or preferred.

Decimal Covers to Unusual Destinations – Ronald E. Majors

Peru

Last but not least, there have been only two decimal franked covers sent to the entire continent of South America. One to British Guiana (now Guyana) was documented in the Firby study. That cover (not shown here) was posted in Embro, C.W. in 1866, the cover was franked with 2 X 10¢, a 2¢ and a 1¢ stamps for a total of 23¢. The second cover, a relatively new discovery, was mailed to Peru in the post-decimal timeframe. It was posted from Montreal on DE 1 1870 and has a NY transit dated Dec 12. The cover was sent to Callao, Peru from a man to his sister, judging from the letter contained within. The cover is franked with two 10¢ Consorts and a 5¢ Beaver paying a total of 25¢. Unfortunately, someone cut some of the perforations from the stamp before application. The 1870 usage is out of the decimal period but it is a legitimate use of decimal stamps since Canadian stamps were never demonetized, Early Canadian stamps could be used as postage even today. The 25¢ rate may be an overpayment as there is a “22” in manuscript in red applied in the upper left-hand side of the envelope. The letter is sent to an office of Grace Bryce Chemical Company the predecessor of the Grace Chemical Co. one of the largest chemical companies in United States.

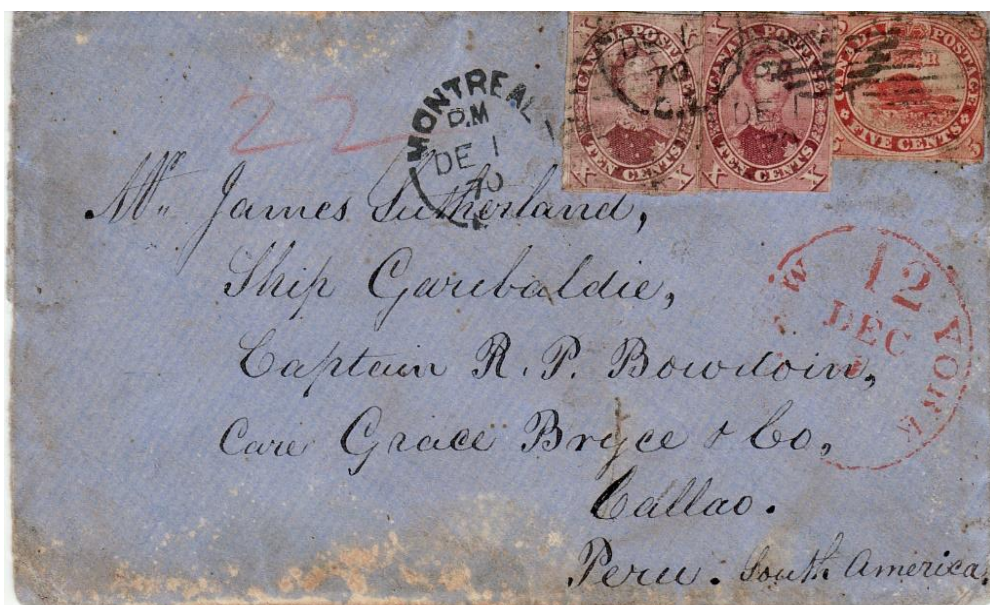


Figure 11. The Only Cover to Peru Franked with Decimal Stamps

Epilogue

Although many of the franked classic covers have been described and documented and are well known to decimal postal history collectors, new finds still show up. Stampless covers are still especially useful to describe the rates, destinations, and markings but some collectors shy away from them. Postal historians like Allen Steinhart, Ed Richardson and David Handelman are among a great many past and current Canadian collectors who put a lot of credibility in finding new examples of stampless covers. In fact, for a great many countries, only stampless examples are available during the decimal periods. Philatelic judges often know of the difficulty of obtaining franked examples to rare destinations and reward exhibitors who show examples of hard-to-find places. If you happen to find any decimal covers, franked or stampless, to unusual destinations, let me know. I am a willing buyer or trader!

Decimal Covers to Unusual Destinations – Ronald E. Majors

References

1. The Postal Rates of Canada 1851-1868, The Provincial Period-A Recording Charles G. Firby, 1984
2. Canada's Decimal Period, 1859-1868, George B. Arfken and Arthur W. Leggett pp. 214-218.
3. Ibid, p. 264
4. CAPEX '96 Gems of Canadian Philately, Charles G. Firby, p.175.
5. Canada's Decimal Period, 1859-1868, George B. Arfken and Arthur W. Leggett, 255-258
6. Regulations and Instructions for the Government of the Post Office Department in Canada, 1852. Republished by BNAPS 1993.

Three States of #15 Position 8 – Michael D. Smith

Here are my observations on what I believe to be position eight stamps from different states of the plate or plates.



State 1 or 2

Three States of #15 Position 8 – Michael D. Smith

State 4



State 8



State 9a



Three States of #15 Position 8 – Michael D. Smith



States 1/2, 2a, 4, and 9a

The UL guide dot on from top stamp to bottom stamp were measured as distance from inner frame line. In order of images they measured 0.75 mm, 0.7, and 0.5 Last stamp has surface scuff dot is not visible. The UR guide dot is only visible on the top and bottom stamps. The dot is between the frame lines on the top stamp and on the outer frame line on the bottom stamp.



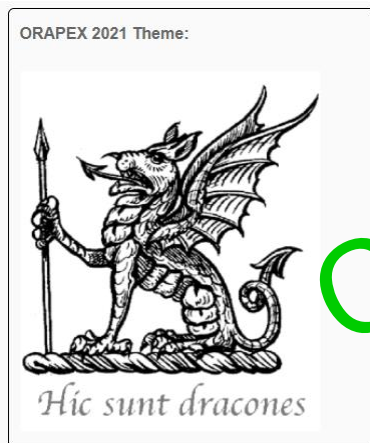
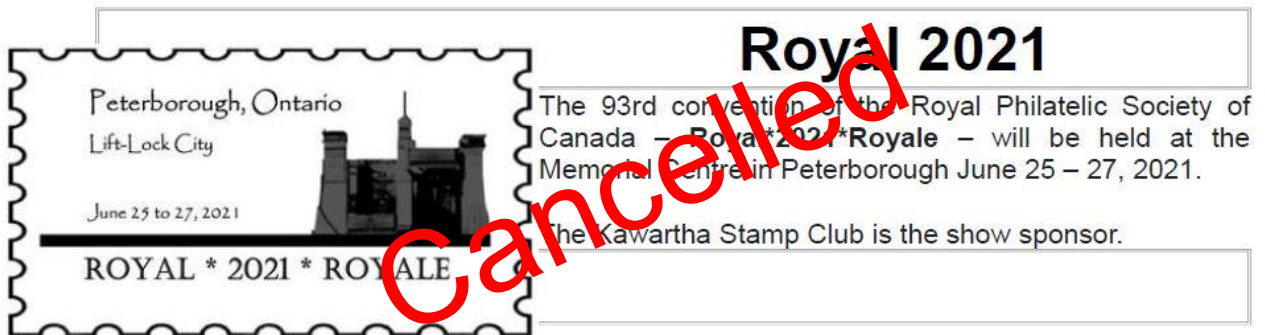
Here are the bottoms of the four stamps. Note how the 'C' dot changes shape and position on the four stamps. I believe this maybe more evidence of multiple plates.

Upcoming Shows

Now that there are Covid-19 vaccines, it may be worthwhile talking about these shows and finding out if there will be a physical show to attend. Wouldn't that be nice !



For those of you on Facebook, there is a Facebook Page for this event. [Click here](#)



Unfortunately, word just came out that the Royal and Orapex have been cancelled for 2021

Upcoming Shows



CAPEX 22 Opening Ceremonies – June 9, 2022. Plan to attend CAPEX 22, the first International One Frame Stamp Championship Exhibition June 9-12, 2022 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, Canada. Press the Ctrl key and Click on the Capex 22 logo to see the Capex 22 Facebook page. There is information about exhibits and photos on this event.