

Pence-Cents Era Study Group

Of the British North America Philatelic Society

Volume XIV, No. 2, May 2025



7 1/2d Positions 1-2-13-14 - Courtesy of Jim Jung

Dear Study Group Member,

Orapex 2025 is over and done. We hope you had a chance to participate, learn new information and find a new treasure. It's usually a great show and reports are this year was excellent. The number of Stamp Shows is growing in Southern Ontario with local shows occurring almost every week. The Quebec Stamp and Old Paper Show on May 24-25 is very popular. Drive out and support our Dealer friends. Maybe get in touch before you go to make sure they have something for your interest in their massive stocks.

Early Spring brings on a few big Auction Sales. Eastern has a big Sale in June that is always good with each lot being a treasure that has been cherry picked from the best collections. Bill Longley and Sparks also have Sales coming up. Garden City will be in September followed by the popular Maresch.

This year is the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation's 50th Anniversary so they are holding some extra events you may find interesting. Please visit their [website](#) and join their email list for details. They are also on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok.

You can become a part of this exciting 50th Anniversary year. See some pictures from the Afternoon Tea Party held this past March on Page 12 of this newsletter and consider attending the [Day of Philately](#) on July 19th. You can also contribute an article to their 50th Anniversary Anthology. Please email library@greenefoundation.ca for more information.

Jim Jung



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Pence Cents Newsletter #43

Cover Image Close Ups by Jim Jung



Figure 1 - Above: Flaws at position 1 of this 7 1/2d Proof Block of 4 are constant.

Left: Flaws from John Jamieson Proof Sheet at Position 1 showing the same flaws proving their constancy.



Cover Image Close Ups by Jim Jung



Figure 2 - Left: Flaws on position 2 from the Proof Block on the cover are constant. Right: Matching flaws from the John Jamieson Proof Sheet at position 2 proving their constancy.

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3d Position B20 Flaw
Images Courtesy of Michael D. Smith and Earl Noss



Figure 1 - 3d Beaver from position B20 showing a flaw in the upper right 3 and dot in the lower margin. Image courtesy of Earl Noss.

This is one of the beautiful flaws on the popular 3d Beaver that is not readily known. It was first brought to my attention by Mike Smith, who began a detailed study of this stamp using Ken Kershaw's five volume 3d book. The book is certainly the best available resource for the plating of the 3d at this time. Unfortunately, the book is hard to find due to its limited production run and the loss of the original digital copies of the book.

Position B20 has a flaw in the upper right 3 which is a horizontal line across the lower half. There is also an oddly shaped dot in the lower margin below the C of PENCE. Closeups in Figure 2.

3d Position B20 Flaw
Images Courtesy of Michael D. Smith and Earl Noss



Figure 2 - Left: Flaw in the upper right 3 which is a horizontal line across the lower half. Right: Oddly shaped dot in the lower margin below the C of PENCE.



Figure 3 - Here is a second copy of position B20 showing the same flaws in the upper right 3 and dot in the lower right margin. This copy is courtesy of Mike Smith who originally found plate proofs showing the flaw.

3d Position B20 Flaw
Images Courtesy of Michael D. Smith and Earl Noss



Figure 4 - 3d black plate proof block of 4 with red SPECIMEN overprint from positions B19 B20 B29 B30. This clearly shows the flaw in the B20 in the upper right stamp.



Figure 5 -

Left: Flaw in
upper right 3.

Right: Dot in
lower right
margin

3d Position B20 Flaw
Images Courtesy of Michael D. Smith and Earl Noss



Figure 6 - 3d Orange Plate Proof Corner Block of 4 with red SPECIMEN overprint from positions B9 B10 B19 B20. This clearly shows the flaw in the B20 in the lower right stamp. Note that there is no imprint in the lower right margin making this an earlier proof prior to the addition of the imprint to the plate.



Figure 7 -

Left: Flaw in
upper right 3.

Right: Dot in
lower right
margin

3d Position B20 Flaw
Images Courtesy of Michael D. Smith and Earl Noss



Figure 8 - 3d
Orange Plate Proof
without
SPECIMEN
overprint courtesy
of Dr Jim Watt's
proof sheet. This
clearly shows the
flaw in B20 in the
lower right stamp.

Note that there is a
printer's imprint in
the lower right
margin proving that
the flaw exists in
later printings after
the imprint was
added to the plate,
as well as in earlier
printings without
the imprint.

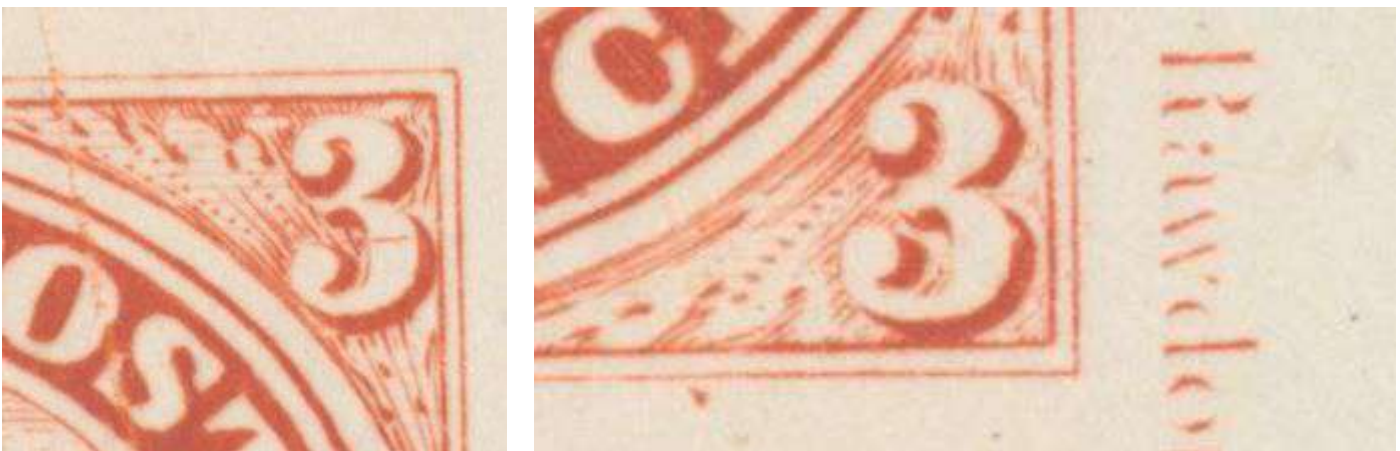
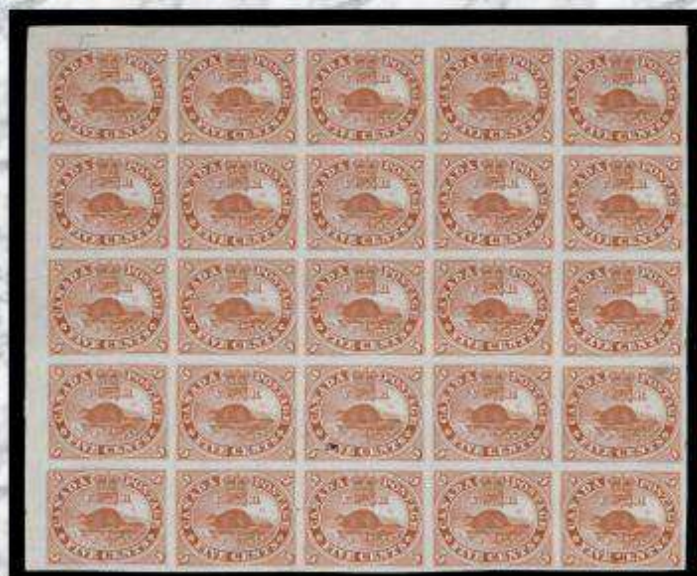


Figure 9 - Left: Flaw in upper right 3. There is a significant scratch through the position to the left of the upper right 3. This has not been confirmed but is certainly noticeable on Dr Watt's proof sheet and the scratch runs through position B10 and B20.

Right: Dot in lower right margin with the printer's imprint.

r. maresch & son

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Vincent Graves Greene Afternoon Tea Party



The Vincent G. Greene Foundation is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year and is hosting events throughout the year to mark the occasion. Here are some photos from the Afternoon Tea Party held this past March 2. Some very tasty treats along with some fine tea was served.

You can look at the [VGG website](#) for more events if you wish to visit the Library in northern downtown Toronto area at 10 Summerhill Ave.

Vincent Graves Greene Afternoon Tea Party



The Tea Social featured guest speaker John Wilson. John presented a talk titled "Tea: the Tools and the Trade" which provided some detailed information about tea and its use through history along with some statistics on where and how much of it is drank around the world.

During the social, I had a chance to speak with Ted Nixon and Ingo Nessel and was offered a seat on the Vincent G. Greene Expertization Committee. I was honoured to be asked and have my first meeting in April.

A Note on Canada's 7 1/2 and 10 Pence Perforated by Yves Drolet

The following remark is found on Page 15 of *The Postage Stamps, Envelopes, Wrappers and Post Cards of the North American Colonies of Great Britain* published by the Philatelic Society, London in 1889: "The Seven Pence Halfpenny, green, and Ten Pence, blue, perforated, exist in the collection of a well-known Parisian collector. The authenticity, however, of the perforations appears to be doubtful." In his 1911 essay on Canadian postage stamps (pp. 72-73), Clifton Howes commented that the authenticity of these stamps "is more than doubtful, as it is practically certain that neither value was ever issued in this condition;" he subscribed to the view expressed by Charles Corwin and Donald King in the *Metropolitan Philatelist* in 1890: "We agree with the Society in doubting the authenticity of the 7½ d. and 10 pence, perforated, as these stamps, thus treated, have never been seen in America. [...] We have no hesitation in pronouncing them impostors."

Of course, it is now known that these two values were never issued perforated. The only perforated pence stamps are the ½d, 3d and 6d that were issued in December 1858-January 1859, only to be replaced with the *First Cents Issue* a few months later. This leaves us wondering about the provenance of the stamps held by a Parisian collector in 1889. A review of the early philatelic literature may shed some light on this.

A few isolated individuals started collecting stamps in the late 1850s, but in 1860, a wave of "stamp mania" swept through Europe, with children feverishly exchanging stamps in schoolyards, and adults from all backgrounds following suit in public squares. Almost immediately, a flurry of forged and bogus stamps appeared on the market to meet this new demand, prompting the early philatelists to try to distinguish between genuine and fake stamps. One of them was Oscar Berger-Levrault, a printer from Strasburg, France, who drafted and circulated handwritten lists of all the stamps he was aware of in September 1861. Interestingly, these lists included Canada's 7½d and 10d in both imperforate and perforate conditions! These stamps are also listed in the first printed postage stamp catalog published by Alfred Potiquet in Paris in December 1861, in the catalog published in German by Berger-Levrault in 1864, and in the catalog published in Germany by Gustav Bauschke in 1865. However, the ½d, 3d and 6d are the only Canadian pence stamps listed as perforated in the catalog published by Pierre Mahé in Paris in 1865, and the 7½d and 10d perforated were removed from the 1867 edition of Berger-Levrault catalog.

For what it is worth, we may conclude that one or several copies of the 7½d and 10d were privately perforated, probably in Paris, at some point between January 1859, when the perforated Pence Issues were issued by the Canada Post Office, and September 1861, when Oscar Berger-Levrault's first catalog listing was published. They were unmasked as fraudulent in 1865-67. This would probably make them the earliest Canadian stamps tampered with in order to create philatelic rarities. One is left wondering what became of the stamps recorded in Paris in 1889.

Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 2

by Michael D. Smith

15TCiv - Positions 9 and 10 State 1



15TCiv - Position 9 State 1

North margin
guide dots. R37
= fresh entry.
Short entry NW
and E
spandrels.
Details for this
position are on
pages 33 and
34.



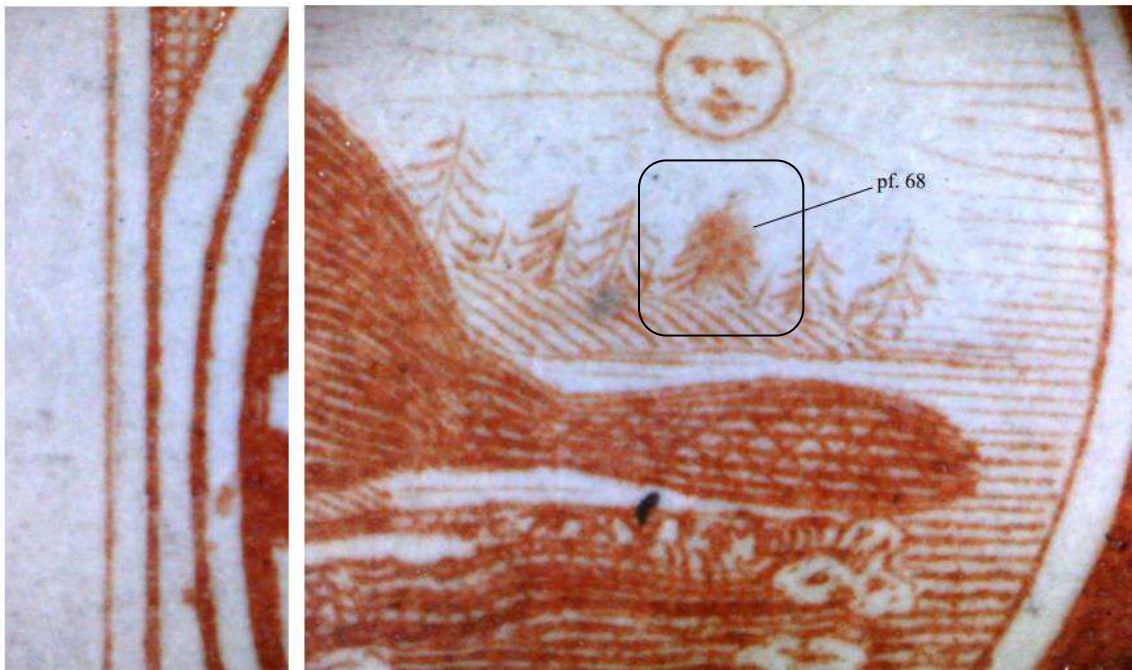
Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 2

by Michael D. Smith

15TCiv - Position 10 State 1



North margin guide dots. Only one dot at NE. R. 11 = fresh entry. Pf. 68 = 'The burning Bush'



North margin
guide dots. Only
one dot at NE.
R11 = fresh entry
(blurriness to
outer frame line).
Pf. 68 = 'The
burning Bush'

Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 2
by Michael D. Smith

15TCvii - Position 9 and 19 State 1



Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 2

by Michael D. Smith

15TCvii - Position 9 State 1



North margin guide dots. R.
37 = fresh entry. Short entry
NW and E spandrels.

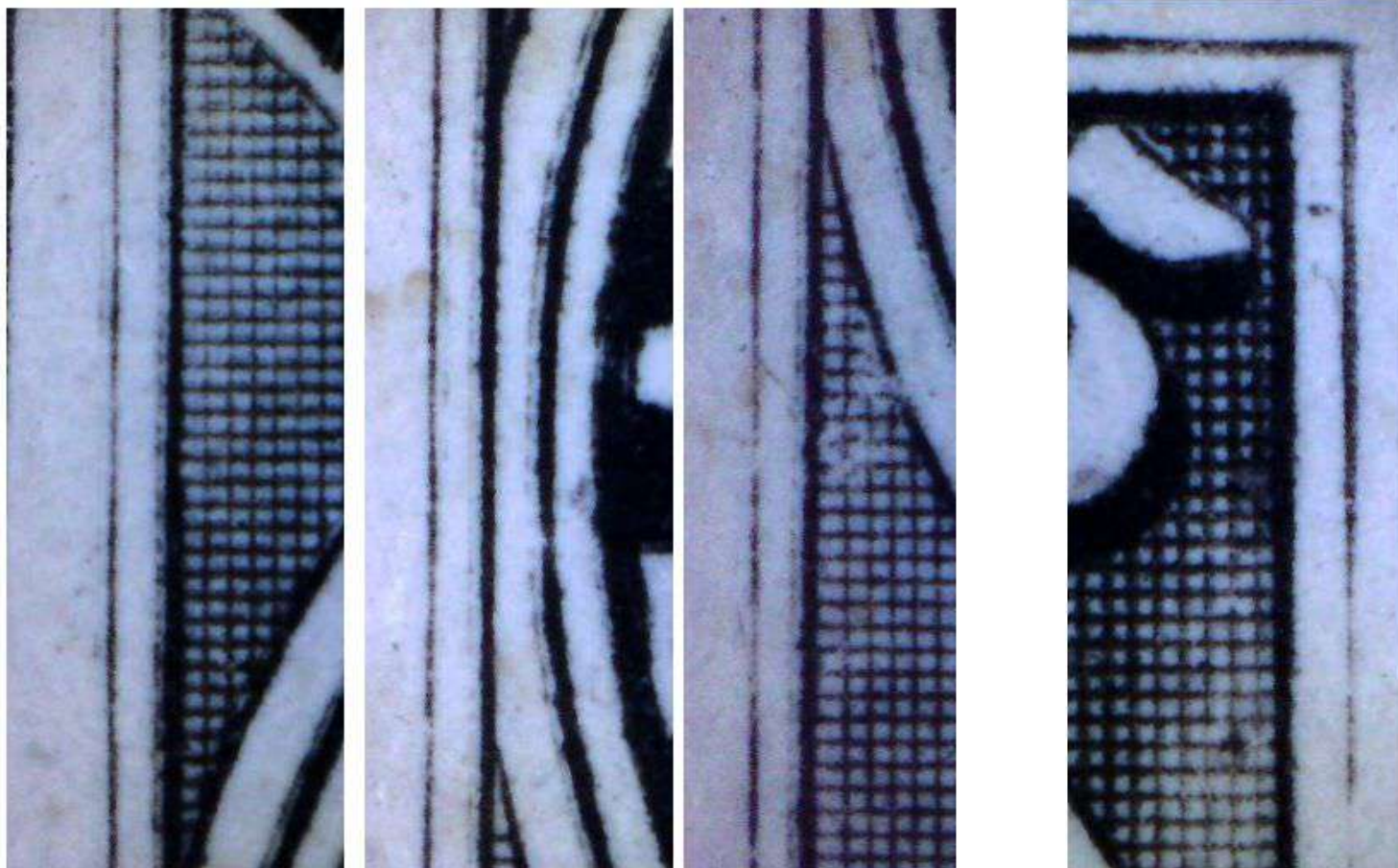
North margin guide dots. R. 37 =
fresh entry. Left vertical frame
lines doubled and hachuring
behind and to right of 5 doubled.



Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 2

by Michael D. Smith

15TCiv - Position 9 State 1



North margin guide dots. R. 37 = fresh entry. W frame lines doubled and some of the oval. Single dot NE. Short entry NW spandrel.



15TCiv - Position 19 State 1

Short entries W & NE spandrels.

Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 2

by Michael D. Smith

15TCiv Positions 11, 21 State 1



Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 2

by Michael D. Smith

15TCiv - Position 11 State 1



West margin
guide dots. R.
44a - fresh entry.

Check previous
newsletter (Part
One) for more
closeup images
of R44a.



Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 2 by Michael D. Smith

15TCiv - Position 21 State 1



The best key features of R47 = the left crown ornaments doubled upward to right and horizontal lines to LL of crown. Kershaw shows a used copy that does not show this detail. It may be a state 2 copy.

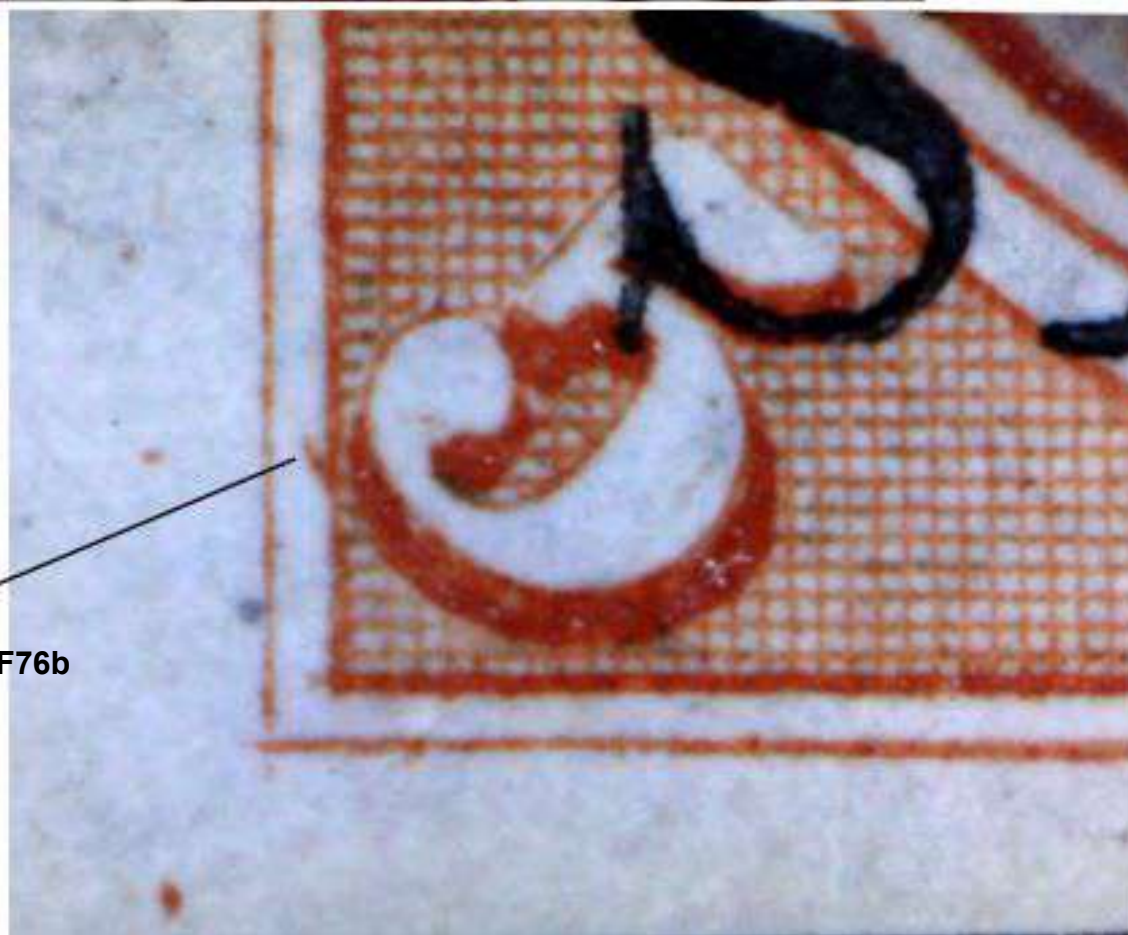


Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 2 by Michael D. Smith

15TCiv - Position 21 State 1



W. margin guide dots. R. 47 = fresh entry. pf. 76b (part of R. 47) no 'C' dot. Pf. 76b = Small mark at base of LL 5 between the LL vertical frame lines.



PF76b

Canada's Five Cents Beaver Ink Errors by Jim Jung

Figure 1: Double image appearing at the lower left margin and over the lower left of the design.



Image courtesy of Jim McCormick

The stamps in this article are not constant. Therefore some collectors may not collect these. But they are always fascinating to look at because collectors are taught that stamp errors are what we should be hunting for. Whenever the subject of EFO's comes up, I like to point out that some of the most famous and richest stamps fall into this category.

Canada's Five Cents Beaver Ink Errors by Jim Jung

Figure 2: Large irregular white dot after S of CENTS. Maybe foreign paper tuft fell on the plate when the stamp was printed, creating a white space on the stamp.



A good example is the Treskilling Yellow from Sweden, a stamp issued in 1885, that is supposed to be green. Philatelists claim that only one example exists today of this rare stamp. This one example sold in 1996 for \$2.3M USD thru David Feldman in Switzerland, and again thru Feldman for \$2.6M USD in 2010. The current owner is Count Gustaf Douglas, who acquired it in a private sale. The amount was undisclosed.

Canada's Five Cents Beaver Ink Errors by Jim Jung

Figure 3: Large ink streak thru letters in POSTAGE and right side of design.



The Sicilian Error of Color is an 1859 stamp similar to the Swedish Treskilling Yellow. The Sicilian stamp was originally printed in yellow but there are two copies that exist in a blue color. One of these two stamps was sold at auction in 2011 for \$2.6M USD.

Another famous error stamp is the Inverted Jenny, a United States Airmail stamp printed in 1918, that has an inverted center. One sheet of 100 copies exists. One single copy sold recently at auction for over \$2M

Canada's Five Cents Beaver Ink Errors by Jim Jung

Figure 4: Large ink blobs above N of CANADA that look like "Rabbit Ears".



The next Error stamp is the 1851 Baden 9 Kreuzer Error that was printed in green instead of pink. There are 5 known copies of this rarity, one recently found in a Worldwide collection in the midwestern USA. One of the copies sold for \$1.5M USD. I'm seeing a pattern in the type of error in some of these valuable stamps. The color error seems to be quite popular.



Canada's Five Cents Beaver Ink Errors by Jim Jung

Figure 5: Single Rabbit Ear above the upper left 5



The stamps shown here are not as valuable as those mentioned above but I think this is an area to consider when hunting for stamps to put in our collections. Could these rival the Rock in Waterfall or the Log in Waterfall? There are certainly a lot of varieties to collect on this 5c Beaver stamp.

Canada's Five Cents Beaver Ink Errors by Jim Jung

Figure 6: Large dot of color below C of CANADA, the stamp bearing a bold strike of the four ring 46 from Stratford (RF8).

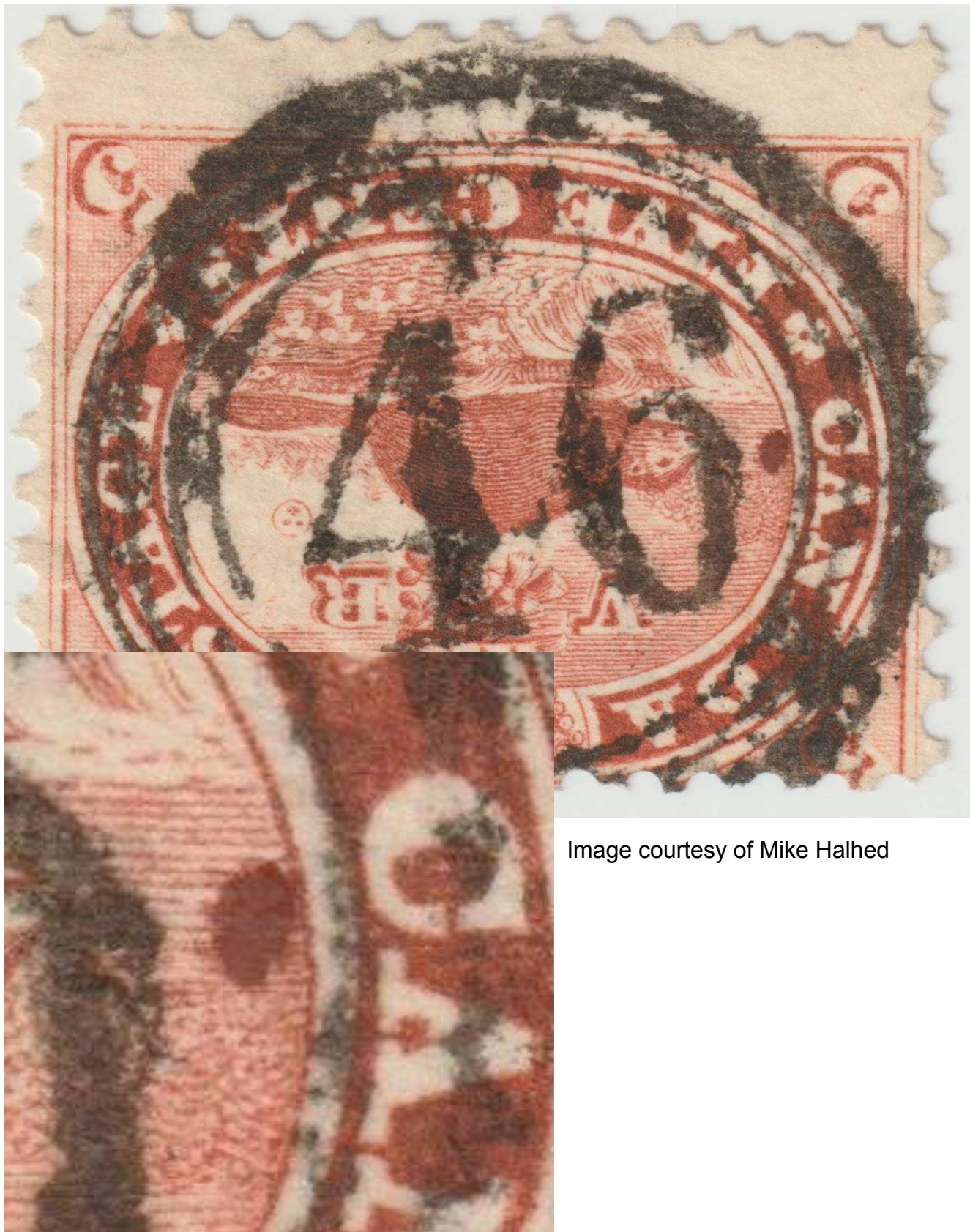


Image courtesy of Mike Halhed

3d Beaver - Position A60 Flaw under PO
by Jim Jung



Although the Major Re-entries are catalogued and getting to be well known, not much emphasis has been placed on the many flaws on the 3d Beaver stamp. We try to feature these as they are found. Only Ken Kershaw has done significant work in cataloguing these in his 5 volume Limited Edition set of books on the 3d Beaver stamp.

Earl Noss sent this find to me recently. Mike Smith had found it in a pair previously on the 3d Beaver. The flaw is constant and features an oddly shaped mark in the inner oval below PO of POSTAGE. A nice little flaw to find and collect.

Images courtesy of Earl Noss

3d Beaver - Position A60 Flaw under PO by Jim Jung

Images courtesy of Mike Smith

Here is a vertical pair of the 3d from positions 50 and 60 showing the Flaw under PO, on the bottom stamp, as a fairly strong mark. Although it looks just like extra ink, we now know that it is constant. That allows us to plate this pair.



Far Left: Unfortunately, the cancel just covers the sun in the place where the Weeping Sun flaw should appear on position A50.

Left: Example of the Weeping Sun from another of Mike Smith's stamps.

3d Beaver - Position A60 Flaw under PO
by Jim Jung



This is an image of position A60 from a Block of 25 cut from a Proof Sheet of Pane A sold at Eastern Auctions in 2024. It shows the mark in the same place as the mark on Earl's stamp. The shape of the mark looks like a diagonal line that is slightly wider near the upper portion of the mark.

Images courtesy of Eastern Auctions

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The National Postage Stamp & Coin Show is held each April and September at the Hilton Mississauga. This weekend's show runs Saturday and Sunday, opening daily at 10 a.m. and closing at 5 p.m. on Saturday and 3 p.m. on Sunday.



19th June - 22nd June 2025



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- **Exhibition scope:** at least 400 exhibition spaces
- **Invited countries:** Czech Republic, Poland, Slovak Republic, Federal Republic of Germany, Slovenia and Great Britain.

Upcoming Shows (Ctrl + Click on image for website)

BNAPEX Convention



BNAPEX, the annual stamp show and convention of BNAPS, is held in different locations from year to year. BNAPEX 2025 will be held in mid-September in the beautiful Okanagan Valley of British Columbia.

BNAPEX 2025 Vernon
19-21 September 2025

