

Dots and Scratches

Re-entries and Constant Plate Varieties

Study Group of the BNAPS

Edited by Michael D. Smith



#1P Major Re-entry Pane B, Position 53

Also Known as the “VR” Re-entry

Dots and Scratches

Re-entries and Constant Plate Varieties

Study Group of the BNAPS
Edited by: Michael D. Smith

FROM YOUR EDITOR

New to this issue:

A cover page has been added to dress up the front of each issue. The image used will change and I hope you will enjoy this addition to the newsletter.

An addendum has been added at the back. If there is any correspondence about a previous issue your editor will try and include it there. There were some corrections and additional information concerning several of the articles in the last issue and they are included there. Thanks to all that sent your comments, corrections, and further discussion on the topics in the last issue. I look forward to hearing from you.

Question for readers:

Would the readership be interested in getting a CD of the issues? I might make a CD available starting the end of next year. If there is enough interest I can look into costs that would be incurred.

Another possibility which may be more expensive is a yearly printed copy. Your comments on these possibilities would be welcomed.

Request for articles:

I have been receiving a lot of good correspondence with great images which are greatly appreciated. However, the research and write up of some of these are beyond my knowledge about those stamps. It would be greatly appreciated if the readership could contribute some written articles. They do not have to be perfect but good descriptions and references would be appreciated. If you can send 1200 dpi images I can do a lot more in the way of showing details with these high resolution images.

Dues Reminder:

An annual dues of \$10 US is due for those members that still need to pay. The next issue will be sent only to currently active paid up members. Dues can be paid by check or PayPal. If you wish to pay using PayPal use dotsscratchesnwltr@hotmail.com as my PayPal Account.

Thank you, Michael D. Smith



Dots and Scratches

Re-entries and Constant Plate Varieties



Study Group of the BNAPS

Edited by: Michael D. Smith

Vol. 2, Number 1

Whole Number 3

Table Of Contents

From Your Editor	Page 2
Three Pence Proof “Cracked Plate”	Page 4
Five Cent Beaver Plate Flaw 23b, Pos. 14, St.2A	Page 5
5-cent Beaver Re-entry Position 71, State 9	Page 6
The Spur Varieties on the 1/2 Cent LQ	Page 8
Half Cent large Queen Dot in “E” Variety	Page 9
1 Cent Large Queen Burr to Left of Head	Page 10
8 Cent Small Queen Major Re-entry	Page 11
“Weeping Princess” Variety and Retouched Plate	Page 14
Daedulus in Flight “Moulting Wing” Variety	Page 16
What Is It? 17c Airmail Special Delivery Stamp	Page 17
Newfoundland #62ii John Cabot Major Re-entry	Page 20
Addendum, Corrections and Correspondence	Page 24

Re-entries and Constant Plate Varieties Study Group

Chairman

Bill Radcliffe

Phone: (856) 589-1945

500 Columbia Ave.

Pitman, NJ

Email: bsbvp88@hotmail.com

News Editor

Michael D. Smith

Phone (865)603-0033

100 Paine Lane

Oak Ridge, TN 37830 USA

Email: dotsscratchesnwsltr@hotmail.com

Annual Dues: \$10.00 Payable January 2015 (Newsletter available as .pdf file on line).

Correspondence: Dues and material for and comments about the newsletter should be sent to the Editor, Mike Smith. All other correspondence should be addressed to the Chairman,

Copyright: All articles are copyrighted ©2014 by the author and/or Study Group.

Three Pence Proof “Cracked Plate”

By Michael D. Smith



Picture courtesy of John Jamieson, Saskatoon Stamp Centre

This is another beautiful constant plate variety. This is a plate proof from Plate A, Position 31 called “Cracked Plate” or “Railway Tracks.” The damage shows in “N” of PENCE and below, another area affected is from above “GE” of POSTAGE at a diagonal into the bottom margin. There is also a dot of color that appears to be constant above the “T” of POSTAGE in the outer oval band. A truly beautiful plate position. This is Unitrade 1P ix.

In *Canada's Pence Era The Pence Stamps and the Canadian Mail 1851-1859* this stamp is illustrated on page 37. The description reads as follows: “Position A31 shows plate scratches. Present only on 1857-1859 wove papers, this variety is rarer than the major re-entry.”

Looking at my enlargements of the 3d pane A, your editor believes that the proper description for these marks should be plate scratches as mentioned above. Plate cracks are not normally the straight lines that are seen in the image above.

References:

Canada's Pence Era The Pence Stamps and the Canadian Mail 1851-1859, George B. Arfken, Arthur W. Leggett, Charles G. Firby, Allan L. Stienhart, 1997, Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation. Pg.37.

2015 THE UNITRADE SPECIALIZED CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN STAMPS, D. Robin Harris, The Unitrade Press. Pg.40.

Five Cent Beaver Plate Flaw 23b, Pos. 14, State 2a

By Michael Smith



Your editor received a packet of material from Chet Soule that has descriptions and illustrations of plate varieties on the 5-cent Beaver originally written by Clayton Huff. Included in the packet was the nice stamp illustrated above that Chet thought showed a re-entry in the "O" of POSTAGE. Chet had been unable to plate this variety.

Your editor immediately started researching this stamp. I pulled out my Ken Kershaw's 2 volume set and went all the way through them looking at all the varieties to no avail. Then I pulled out my Geoffrey Whitworth's book and at first attempt did not find it. Then I looked for printing plate flaws and found the line in "O" on page 74 listed as Plate 1 flaw 23b. The large C dot was also helpful and can be associated with position 14. On page 17 a composite diagram is also available with the notation that this flaw occurred in state 2a as printing flaw 23b developing in state 2 during printing. The flaw apparently only lasted in the later printings of state 2 as state 3 is listed as normal. Below is a close-up of the flaw.

Independent verification from Ralph Trimble and Earl Noss support this finding. Thank you Ralph and Earl.



Pf. 23b

Position 14, State 2a, pf. 23b. Curved Line in "O"

References:

THE FIVE CENTS BEAVER STAMP OF CANADA, Geoffrey Whitworth F.R.P.S., L., The Royal Philatelic Society, London. 1985. Pgs. 17, 74.

5-cent Beaver Re-entry Position 71, State 9

By Michael Smith



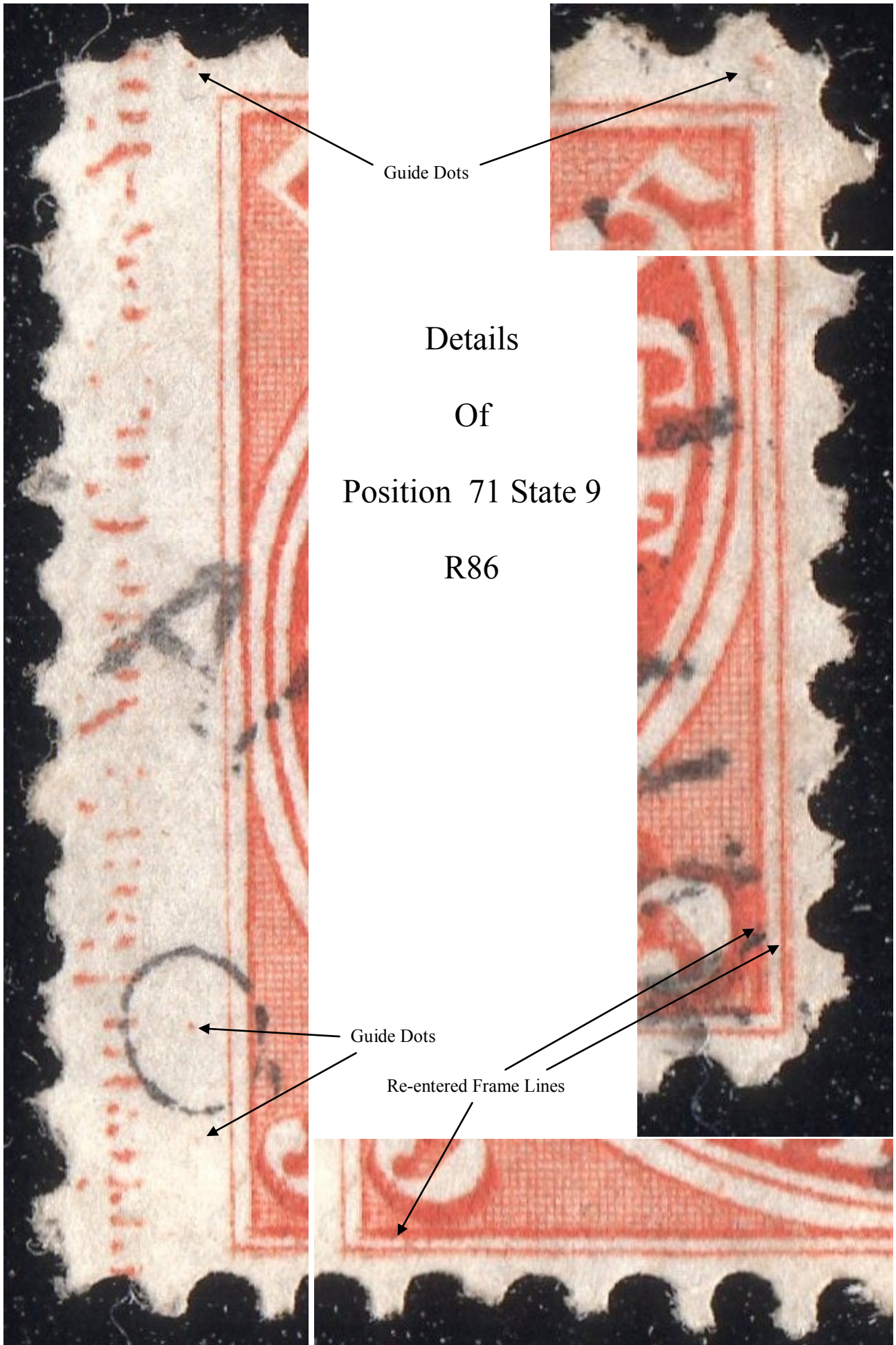
I would like to acknowledge two great works on the Five Cent Beaver Stamp. One is *Five Cents Beaver Stamp of Canada* by Geoffrey Whitworth the other is *The Five Cent Beaver 1 The Plate Proofs of States 10-11* by Kenneth A. Kershaw. These books are a great asset when studying these stamps.

The inscription in margin along with the four circled guide dots place this stamp in position 71. The re-entry is listed as re-entry #86 (R86) in both Whitworth and Kershaw. It is a counter clockwise twist showing in the lower left bottom frame line and the vertical frame lines at right (these areas are circled in the above illustration). See detailed images next page.

References:

THE FIVE CENTS BEAVER STAMP OF CANADA, Geoffrey Whitworth F.R.P.S., L., The Royal Philatelic Society, London 1985. Pg. 46.

THE FIVE CENT BEAVER 1 THE PLATE PROOFS OF STATES 10-11, Kenneth A. Kershaw, The British North America Philatelic Society. Pg. 142.



Guide Dots

Details
Of
Position 71 State 9
R86

Guide Dots

Re-entered Frame Lines

The Spur Varieties on the 1/2 cent Large Queen

By Michael D. Smith



Fig. 2
“H” Spur Position 4



Fig. 1
“H” Spur flaw



Fig. 3
More common “Spur” flaw

According to Duckworth the order of entering of the impressions on the plate started at position 91 the lower left corner and progressing up the first column to position 1. The next column started at position 92 and went up the column to position 2. each column was entered this way until all 100 positions on the plate were laid down (10 vertical columns of 10 impressions). There is a common flaw known as the “Spur” on scroll above and left of H (Unitrade 21iv). Fig. 3 above shows one of the stamps with this flaw. According to Duckworth this flaw is presumed to be caused by damage to the transfer roll that became misplaced. The first impression to show the spur variety was position 11, after 8 impressions had been entered, and subsequent positions through position 94 when apparently it broke free at position #4 causing the “H” spur (Unitrade #21v). Figs. 1 and 2 show the “H” spur variety from position 4 on the sheet. After position 4 was laid down all other positions do not show the flaw.

References:

THE LARGE QUEEN STAMPS OF CANADA AND THEIR USE, Second Edition, H. E. & H. W. Duckworth, 2008, pub. The Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation.

2015 UNITRADE SPECIALIZED CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN STAMPS, Editor: D. Robin Harris, pub. The Unitrade Press. Pg. 47.

Half Cent Large Queen Dot in “E” Variety

By Michael D. Smith



Plate Position 16

This is a very nice constant plate variety on the 1/2 cent Large Queen. This stamp is actually Unitrade 21a. Unitrade does not list this variety. However, it can be found mentioned in H. E. & H. W. Duckworth on page 73. The following is a quote from the Duckworth book:

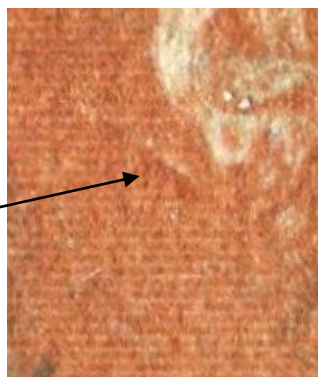
“a constant dot in the lower portion of the main body of the “E” of “CENT”” (Harrison) - Item C in Figure III-7. this variety was also listed in Lees-Jones’ notes and is plate position 16.”

References:

THE LARGE QUEEN STAMPS AND THEIR USE, Second Edition, H. E. & H. W. Duckworth, Published by The Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation, 2008, pg. 73.

1 Cent Large Queen Burr to Left of Head

By Michael D. Smith



Note the burr to the left of the head

Unitrade lists this stamp as #22iii. The burr is a constant plate variety the position is unknown. It appears to be plate damage; however, the cause is unknown. Glenn Archer discovered this variety several years ago and reports that he has never found one on the shades of #23. If anyone has further information on this variety it would be welcomed.

References:

2015 THE UNITRADE SPECIALIZED CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN STAMPS, Editor D. Robin Harris, The Unitrade Press, Page 48.

8 Cent Small Queen Major Re-entry

By Michael D. Smith



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

Here we have shades of the major re-entry on the 8 cent Small Queen. The re-entry is sometimes hard to detect as paper and ink variations affected the printing. The close ups shown may help collectors trying to see this re-entry. The darker shade will be used to try and show the detail. The lighter copies will also be shown for comparison. Top three images courtesy of your editor, bottom three images courtesy of Bill Burden.



Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Fig. 6

The shades on these stamps are quite interesting. The shades of Eight Cents Small Queen are listed in Hillson and Nixon as follows: 1893 pale blue grey, 1894 blue-grey, 1895 deep blue grey, 1895 bluish slate, 1896 dark grey, and 1897 violet black. I am no expert on colors but these six stamps show color variations that can be found with the major re-entry present. Unitrade lists this as #44ii major re-entry, doubling of oval and top of CENTS.

References:

Bill Burden's web page: www.wgburden.com

Ralph Trimble's web page: www.re-entries.com

2015 *THE UNITRADE SPECIALIZED CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN STAMPS*, editor: D. Robin Harris, The Unitrade Press. Pg. 57.

Canada's Postage Stamps of the Small Queen Era, 1870-1897, John Hillson and J. Edward Nixon, 2008, Pub. Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation. Pg. 177.

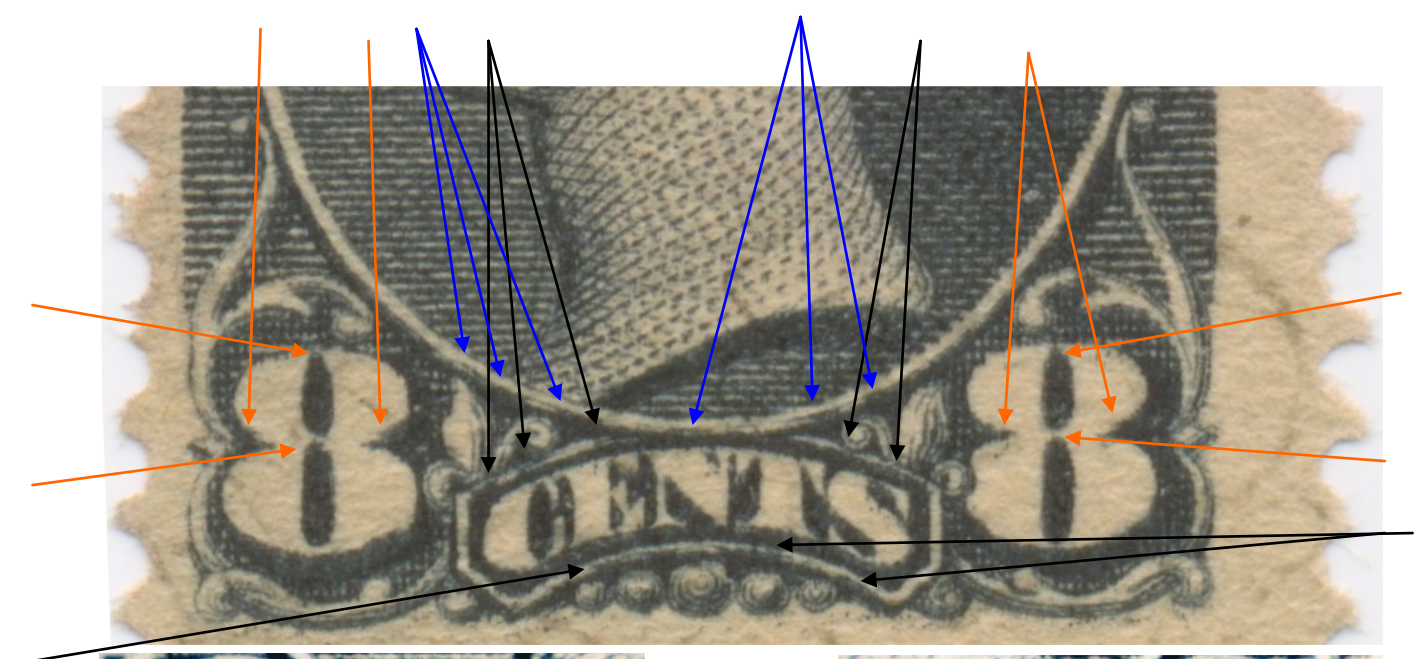


According to Hillson and Nixon there is only one good re-entry on this denomination. "There is one good re-entry, which shows doubling of the design, particularly above and below "CANADA POSTAGE", with some further evidence visible in the "CENTS" area, and the left "8". Its plate position is unknown."



Image courtesy of Bill Burden





The bottom of the stamp has the most pronounced areas of re-entry. The red arrows point to the areas in the 8's. The left 8 is more pronounced. The blue arrows show where the re-entry is in the bottom of the portrait oval. The black arrows indicate doubling in the tablet around "CENTS". There may be minor doubling in other parts of the design. The black and white diagrams barrowed from Ralph Trimble's www.re-entries.com help illustrate the re-entry. Note the way the re-entry shows better on the darker stamp above than the lighter stamp below. This is probably due to both paper texture and the ink used.



King George V Silver Jubilee “Weeping Princess” Variety and Retouched Plate

By Michael Smith

Earl Noss sent an interesting email to me with images of the “weeping princess” variety and the retouched state of plate which created yet another collectable variety. The images used in this article were furnished by Earl as 1200 dpi scans which have further been edited by your editor.

Boggs mentions this flaw and retouch in the following quote:

“This issue achieved wide publicity owing to a small damage to the 1c just below the right eye (left on the stamp) of Princess Elizabeth, popularly known as the “weeping princess” variety. It was later touched out, but traces can still be seen.”

Earl’s email states the following:

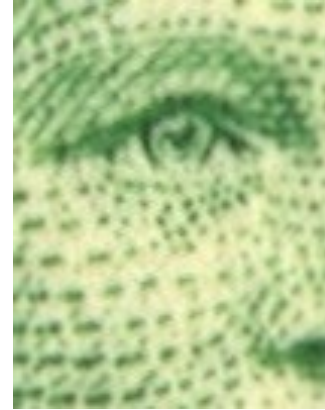
“I sent this to Ralph [Trimble] and he told me, very nice find. And that the sideographer punched out the back of the plate to take out the dint that caused the flaw. And added the extra dots that made the circle, and left a white spot where the large dot was. And thus making another variety.”

Unitrade lists the “weeping princess” (Pl. 1 UR, pos. 21) as #211i. No mention is made of the repaired state.

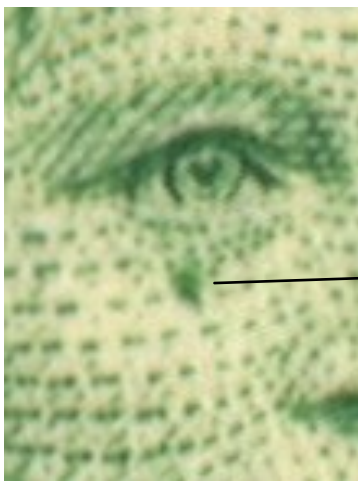


Here we have the “weeping princess” variety. The heavy dot under the eye appearing as if she is weeping. The next page will illustrate the repaired state of this stamp position.

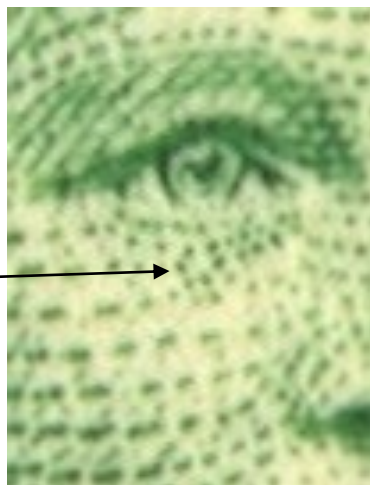
Repaired State #211i Showing the Tear Removed



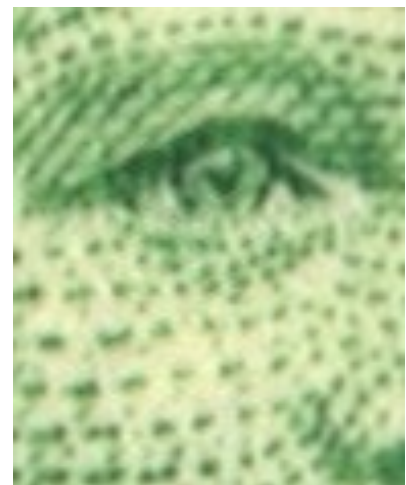
Here can be seen the circle of dots and white area where the tear was removed. This is constant and would make a nice addition to a plate variety collection.



"Weeping Princess"



Retouched Plate



Normal

References:

The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada, Winthrop S. Boggs, 1974, Quarterman Publications, Inc. pg. 437*.

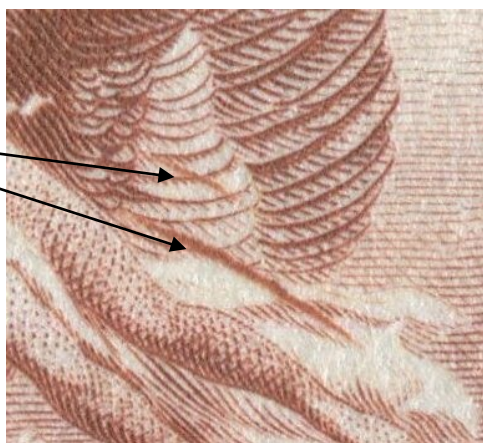
2015, *THE UNITRADE SPECIALIZED CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN STAMPS*, ed. D. Robin Harris, pg. 109.

Daedulus in Flight “Moulting Wing” Variety

By Michael Smith



This is a beautiful plate flaw. There are two extra lines in Daedulus' left wing. This is known as the “Moulting Wing” variety. Unitrade lists this stamp as #C5ii, plate 1, LR, pos. 14. See detail of wing in image below.



“Moulting Wing”



Normal Wing

References:

2015 *THE UNITRADE SPECIALIZED CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN STAMPS*, Ed. D. Robin Harris, The Unitrade Press. Pg. 547.

What Is It?

17c Airmail Special Delivery Stamp

By Michael D. Smith



Image courtesy of Earl Noss

Earl Noss sent this along for comments. I would like to share this with the group as it is a constant plate variety from plate one lower left block position 27 (1LL pos.27). This is unlisted in Unitrade Catalogue.

There is a strange anomaly starting at about the roof top of the building above the right wing of the plane and extends down to the right engine and forward fuselage of the plane. In Earl's email he says the following:

“This is not an old one, Sc CE2 but I sent it to Ralph [Trimble] many years ago. He said he thought the lines coming from the house over the wing and motor was a re-entry, as it being so straight and sharp. But he said where do they come from???”

Your editor has made a strong enlargement of the area in question shown below and it appears that the “straight” lines are fanned out as they approach the plane. This appears to be some kind of abrasion on the plate to your editor rather than a re-entry. Any other opinions or comments are welcome on this one. What is it and what caused it???



Enlargement from Earl's Picture above.



Plate 1 LL block of 10. Position 27 with flaw outlined in green. The red arrow indicates a dot which is constant in the salvage at this position. Plate numbers and inscription clearly visible. Note what might be a cutting guide line above plate numbers at edge of salvage. This position piece is in possession of your editor.



Flaw



Earl Noss also has a copy of the flaw on the perforated OHMS stamp OCE2. Images courtesy of Earl Noss.

References:

Earl Noss: Personal correspondence. 2014.

Newfoundland #62ii John Cabot Major Re-entry

By Michael Smith



The following is quoted from Ralph Trimble's www.re-entries.com:

"This surprising find shows sharp doubling of the entire lower portion of the design, including the lower left and lower right frame lines, all of the lower lettering, both 2's and their surrounding ornaments, and the bottom of the portrait...virtually everything below the level of Cabot's eyes.

This is the first re-entry to be reported on this stamp (Sept. 2005) and creates hope that many more re-entries on this and other Newfoundland issues are still waiting to be found.

Please notify me of others you may know of for inclusion here.

March 2008 - Purchased and examined a full sheet of 100. Only this single re-entry was found on the entire sheet (Rats!) in pp76.

August 2010 - Purchased a Plate Proof block of 4 with the major re-entry in the lower right corner. I added this at the beginning here, as the proof details are SO crisp and clear!

If you look at its position in the block of four, you will see the impression of this stamp was entered lower than pp75 to its left; even when re-entered a little further upwards, the entire impression is still too low!"

There is also doubling in the portrait most notably is the line of Cabot's mouth which is doubled down into his beard below his lower lip.

On the next few pages there are close-up images of the detail on this beautiful re-entry.



Proof Block with Major Re-entry at Lower Right
Image courtesy of Ralph Trimble

Here we can see the displacement of the lower right image as described by Ralph.



Close-up of the plate proof showing the beautiful doubling of the Major Re-entry.
Image courtesy of Ralph Trimble



Here is an enlargement of the used copy so one can see the re-entry on an actual stamp to see the difference in clarity from that of the proof. All of the characteristics are present but not quite as clear as those on the proof on the previous page.

References:

Ralph Trimble's web page: www.re-entries.com

2015 UNITRADE SPECIALIZED CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN STAMPS, ed. D. Robin Harris, The Unitrade Press, Pg. 656.

Addendum

Corrections and Correspondence

The first article in whole #2 “Possible Re-entry on the One Cent Large Queen” generated two replies one from Brian Hargreaves and one from Leo Beudet giving information on how to view past issues of Maple Leaves on either the BNAPS web site or the CPS of GB web site. The following image shows the possible re-entry submitted by S. F. Cohen in Maple Leaves, Vol. 16, No.4, Whole no. 160, (Oct., 1976), Page 99.



Image from Maple Leaves, Vol. 16, No. 4, Whole no. 160, pg. 99

As can be seen above the possible re-entry reported in Maple Leaves is described by S. F. Cohen as “The last five letters of “ONE CENT” at base have a curved line running through the tops of each letter and extend into the figure “1” at right. The curve of the circle containing the Queen’s head shows signs of Re-entering immediately above and to the right of the affected lettering.” This is the one mentioned in Duckworth on page 80 so it is a different possible re-entry than the one I showed in Dots and Scratches, Whole no.2. Brian and Leo thank you for the information about Maple Leaves. Neither of the possible re-entries mentioned here are confirmed as constant.

The second article “Small Queen Six Cent Major Re-entry” by Jim McCormick also brought some interesting comments. John A. Hillson wrote the following comments:

“No one really knows what position the major re-entry on the 1871 6c Small Queen comes from as no positional pieces with the re-entry from that plate have apparently survived. Ted Nixon has the largest extant block –18 used from which I worked out it could have come from any one of 43 positions. The notion that it could be identified by reference to the A plate is utter nonsense - for some reason the 6c plates have ‘jumps’ all over the place. I remember mentioning that to Jack Webb once: he then examined his blocks and inundated me with examples!! I have a used block of 15 from the Montreal plate with the same phenomenon.”

John is the author of *Canada’s Postage Stamps of the Small Queen Era, 1870-1897*. More information on the subject can be found in his book.

Leo Beudet brought my attention to an error in “Major Re-entry on the 1 cent Admiral” where I misstated the number of re-entries found on postcards. The correct number of known postcards is five. I said four in the article so we need to change the comment on finding the next one to be the sixth.

My thanks to Ralph Trimble for pointing out that the major re-entry on the 5c Beaver was from the final two states 10 and 11 in Jim Jung’s fine article.

Jim Watt also speculated that it might be on the final three states .