

# Dots and Scratches

## Re-entries and Constant Plate Varieties

Study Group of the BNAPS

Edited by Michael D. Smith



Unitrade 208ii  
Plate 2, Right Pane, Position 97  
"Scarface" Variety

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### FROM YOUR EDITOR

Summer has hit full force here with a lot of storms and heat. I don't think we even had a Spring, some of the Spring flowers were in bloom in early January.

Working on outside chores has limited my time for my favorite past time my stamp collection. I did get to attend ORAPEX and made some nice finds some of which grace the pages of this Dots and Scratches.

I will not be attending BNAPEX 2018 as I have some scheduling conflicts at that time.

In this issue I share two 1/2d flaws I do not find in my reference books. Both of these flaws can be found on proofs and actual stamps so they are constant. I also share a pair of 5c Beavers on cover that are from the top row of the sheet, and a 5c Beaver proof pair that exhibits a nice flaw. The last article is a beautiful block of the 3c Victoria Numeral with a nice major re-entry.

I would welcome additional article submissions from the readers. They are always greatly appreciated.

Hope you enjoy this issue.

Mike

## Up Coming Events



2018

**SYMPOSIUM**

Not just another stamp show!

July 19-22, 2018, Hamilton Sheraton Hotel, Hamilton, ON



Speakers, historic tours and social events (July 19-20)  
Speakers, Exhibition & bourse (July 21-22)  
and this year a **bonus day** of *Toronto's living postal history* (July 18)  
Info: [postalhistorycanada.net/php/Symposium/](http://postalhistorycanada.net/php/Symposium/)



**BNAPEX 2018 Ville de Québec - Quebec City**  
**BNAPS convention, exhibition, and bourse**  
**21-23 September 2018**  
Friday (10:00-18:00) Saturday (10:00-17:00) Sunday (10:00-15:00)

***CANPEX 2018***  
**October 13 – 14**  
**Hellenic Community Centre**  
**133 Southdale Road West,**  
**London, Ontario.**  
**Free Admission, Free Parking, Lunch Counter**  
**Youth Table**  
**We qualify as a WSP show**  
**General inquiries [info@canpex.com](mailto:info@canpex.com)**  
**Web site: [www.canpex.ca](http://www.canpex.ca)**



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# AN INTERESTING 1/2 d PLATE FLAW

By: Michael D. Smith



Fig. 1

This stamp is from the early 120 position plate and is position 4 on the plate. Note part of imprint "w York." showing in the upper left corner. This is the end of the top left inscription. Now you may ask how I can easily identify this as position 4. Position 4 has a nice plate flaw in the lower right frame line and margin. You will see a curved line curving up from right to left across the frame line and down toward the stamp below. This is a very nice plate flaw and it is still present on the trimmed plate of 100, but since the left imprints were removed when the plate was trimmed, the imprint is not present on position 2 of the trimmed plate. A proof cropped from an image of a proof sheet of 100 is presented on the next page (Fig. 2). It shows the complete curved line. None of the references I have for this issue mention this flaw. Once seen it is quite easy to see.



Fig. 2

The flaw in bottom margin of 8P, position 2 (sheet of 100) shown above almost reaches the top frame line of the stamp below so it may be helpful in identifying the position below. I don't know if the stamp below could be identified to the specific plate, however. Another fun variety to watch for.

Jarrett also mentions the position dot in the wide upper margin at center, The dot maybe associated with the imprint present on stamps from the sheet of 120 positions and on this proof the only vestige remaining of the imprint.

## References:

*STAMPS OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA*, Fred Jarrett, Quarterman Publications, Inc., Lawrence, Massachusetts, 1975.



# HALF PENNY #11 PLATE FLAW ABOVE “G”

By: Michael D. Smith



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

Figure 1 shows a stamp I purchased from a seller on eBay. I noticed a odd mark between the right frame lines (Fig. 2) and immediately started trying to find it on my proof sheet of 100. Since this is a perforated stamp, if the odd mark was present, it should be on my proof sheet. When I got to position 64 I found it (Figures 3 and 4).



Fig.3

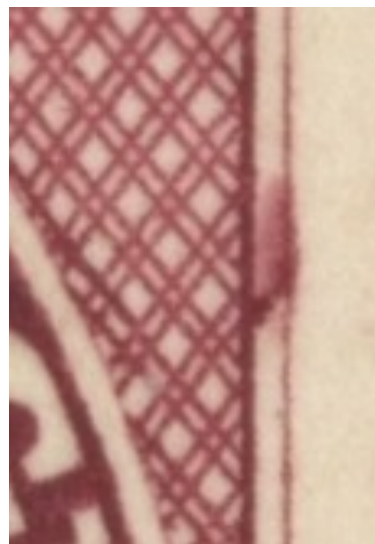


Fig. 4

There is a little extra ink smear on the proof but the diagonal line is in the same position as on the stamp. This variety may only exist on copies from the trimmed plate. I do not see it on the corresponding position on the image I have of the 120 position proof sheet. This is the first copy I have seen of this flaw.



# A PAIR OF 5-CENTS BEAVERS ON COVER WITH A SMALL PRINTING FLAW PRESENT

By: Michael D. Smith



Fig. 1: Cover mailed NO 21, 1864 from Goderich, CW to L. Heyden, Esq., Clerk of Crown, Toronto. Receiver cancellation on back Toronto, NO 22, 1864, CW.

The cover in figure 1 is a fairly large cover and may have contained documents. A beautiful well centered pair of 5-cents beaver stamps was used for franking. The November, 1864 date corresponds with these stamps probably being Whitworth's State 5 order 20 of this issue.



Fig. 2

At first glance I realized the pair of stamps (Fig. 2) were from the top row on the sheet as there are guide dots present in the upper corners of the stamps. There are also mild re-entries in the right upper frame lines on both stamps see figures 3, 4 and 5. Knowing the state of the plate as probably state 5 because the date, also eliminates some potential plate states.





Fig. 3 UL corner Position 5.



Fig. 4 Right and Left upper corners Positions 5 and 6. (Note position 5 is lower than position 6)





Fig. 5 UR corner Position 6

The guide dots and re-entries in the frame lines occur on several positions on the upper row stamps. Now one must look for something that maybe be present to distinguish one of the stamp positions from the others. There is a small plate flaw that occurs in the stamp design of position 5. Whitworth calls this printing flaw 120. It is a small mark to the left of the Sun (Fig. 6) and is listed as Plate position 5, First State 5, Earliest observed date: Aug. 2, 1864.



Fig. 6 Printing flaw 120.



I then looked this stamp position up in Kershaw's book and found pictures of one he calls a state 6. I believe this identification is made on a small dot over the upper left 5 that Whitworth shows as state 6 as "pf. 100 H5029 = dot over NW 5." Whitworth does not list the flaw for state 5. Whitworth list pf. 100 as present on plate positions 3 to 10, first state 6, Transfer flaw, Earliest observed date June 28, 1865. That would be from printing order 23. My state 5 copy presented here has the same mark above the NW 5 as shown in Kershaw. I can't tell if it is present at my position 6. I also see an ink pull or vertical inner frame line extension on my copy that is not presented in Kershaw or Whitworth. Is the mark above the 5 on my copy an ink pull that just happened in the same identical place as pf. 100? We need to see some more dated copies of this flaw. See figure 6 below.



Fig. 6

## References:

*THE FIVE CENTS BEAVER STAMP OF CANADA*, Geoffrey Whitworth, Published by Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1966.

*THE FIVE CENT BEAVER II PLATING THE MORE NOTABLE VARIETIES AND RE-ENTRIES*, Kenneth Kershaw, Published by The British North America Philatelic Society, 2007.

# A BEAUTIFUL FLAW HIDDEN IN THE LIGHT COLOR OF A PAIR OF 15TC viii

By: Michael D. Smith



Fig. 1

This pair was on sale for some time at Gary Lyon's web site: <http://www.garylyon.com>. I never gave it much notice as I could not distinguish any varieties on the proof pair. At ORAPEX I was able to get a first hand look at this pair with a magnifying glass and was very pleasantly surprised to find the left proof has very nice plate flaw (Figs. 2 and 3).



Fig. 2

Note the three parallel lines running from the bottom of the R to the A of POSTAGE.





Fig. 3

The three lines seem to drop down in the letter tablet and then exit through the oval bands toward the right margin.

This is a flaw described by Whitworth as pf. 7. The flaw is found on position 75, state 4 printings. Fig. 4 shows a nice example on the actual stamp.



Fig. 4

After finding the flaw on this proof pair by seeing it up close, I wonder how many I have missed because of poor images presented on internet offerings. I still feel the best way to find plate flaws and re-entries is to actually examine the stamps. Even the older reference books with enhanced drawings can be misleading. Newer references with high resolution images are a great improvement for referencing purposes.

## **References:**

*THE FIVE CENTS BEAVER STAMP OF CANADA*, Geoffrey Whitworth, Published by Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1966.

*THE FIVE CENT BEAVER II PLATING THE MORE NOTABLE VARIETIES AND RE-ENTRIES*, Kenneth Kershaw, Published by The British North America Philatelic Society, 2007.



# QUEEN VICTORIA NUMERAL #78

## MAJOR RE-ENTRY

By: Michael D, Smith



Fig. 1

This pretty lower right corner block of 4 has one of the major re-entries found on these stamps at position 99 (not certain which plate or pane). Ralph Trimble has this re-entry listed as his #5 on re-entries.com as #88 with overprint. Below in figure 2 is the stamp.



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

Figure three shows the strong doubling of both 3's with some small marks in THREE CENTS.

These stamps were actually printed in sheets of 200 and then cut into two panes of 100. There were six different plates made. Each had a left and right pane with a gutter between the panes. No imperforate edged stamps came from these panes.

## References:

Ralph Trimble's [www.rentries.com](http://www.rentries.com).

*THE CANADA QUEEN VICTORIA 1898 NUMERAL ISSUE*, Hans Reiche and Michael Sendbuehler, Ed. Bill MacDonald, Saskatoon Stamp Centre.

*THE UNITRADE SPECIALIZED CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN STAMPS*, Ed. D. Robin Harris, The Unitrade Press, 2018.