

# Dots and Scratches

Re-entries and Constant Plate Varieties  
BNAPS Study Group



6c Large Queen -  
Doubling at Right  
Courtesy of Jim  
Jung



# Dots and Scratches

## Re-entries and Constant Plate Varieties BNAPS Study Group

Feb 2026, Volume 12, Number 1, Whole Number 41

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### **BNAPS Re-entries and Constant Plate Varieties Study Group**

This newsletter and previous issues are available as PDF files from the [BNAPS website](#).

Please send submissions and feedback about the newsletter to the Editor – [jimjung8@gmail.com](mailto:jimjung8@gmail.com).  
All other correspondence should be addressed to the Chairman, [bsbvp88@hotmail.com](mailto:bsbvp88@hotmail.com)

Dear Study Group Member,

The winners of the \$50 Gift Certificate Draw held live at the Virtual BNAPEX Pence Cents Study Group Meeting on January 31st were as follows: 1) Chris Fischer, 2) Wayne Smith, 3) John Breukelaar. Congratulations to all members who participated in the draw. Please continue trying as we will have more draws and more winners in the future.

I used to look forward to the February Sales because this was when a lot of good stamps and Postal History was sold. This year there are two General Sales in February and one in March. These will be held by our sponsors Eastern Auctions (Feb 25-28) and Maresch & Son (Mar 11-12). Garden City Philatelics had just completed their sale on Feb 14. I have looked through the sales and found items I liked in all three of them. They are each very complete with a full inventory of philatelic material and some wonderful finds I'm sure. I hope you take a look on Stamp Auction Network and on the Eastern Auctions website for details. The Eastern Sale is hailed as a Mega Auction by Ron Majors.

As many of you may know, BNAPEX 2026 will be held in Valleyfield, Quebec so veuillez pratiquer votre français. Valleyfield is a town about 50 minutes west of Montreal and is located on an island in the middle of the St. Lawrence River.

We have also found out that the next Camellia Collection Sale will be held in June 2026. From what we have heard this will be just as good as the first sale but we will keep you updated.

Jim Jung

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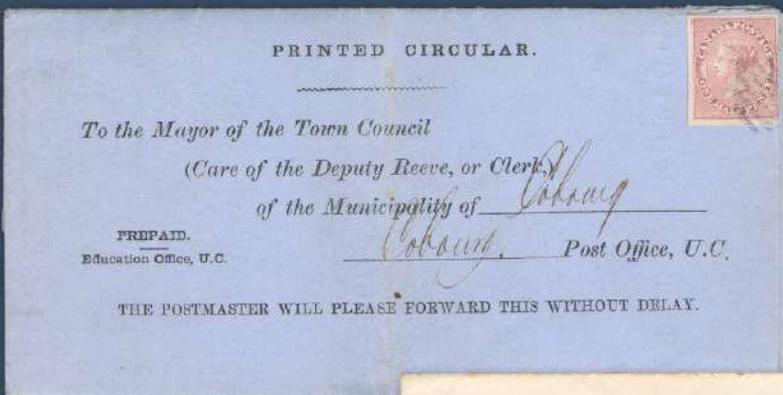
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# Public Auction Announcement

General Sale - February 25-28, 2026

Featuring early Canada stamps and covers with plate varieties & oddities

Visit our website for  
auction catalogue & live bidding



1861 5c mint with  
Plate Scratch variety  
(State 2; Pos. 48)  
– Whitworth PF No. 1



1865-1867 10c red lilac,  
superb used with  
“Double Epaulette” variety.

A very rare usage of the  
Half penny Major Re-entry  
(Pos. 120)



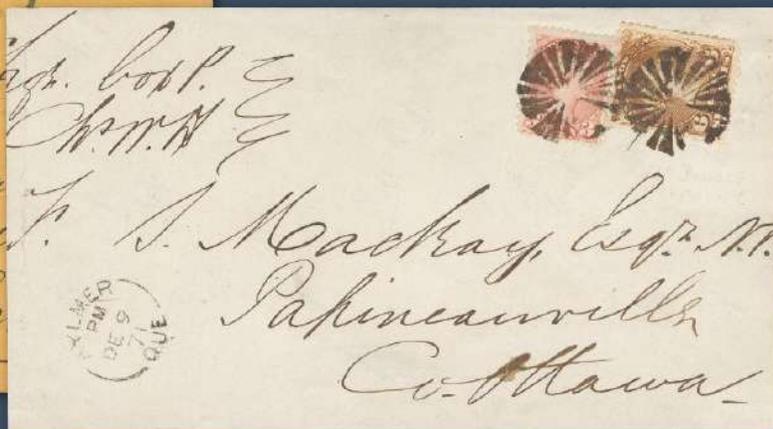
The “Log in Waterfall”  
variety on cover,  
so prominent that  
two parallel lines  
are clearly visible.



1867 5c used block (State 8a) with  
Whitworth Re-entries No. 2 & 13;  
ex. Hinde, Whitworth



An impressive 5c Beaver franking, shortpaid six-fold  
domestic letter rate – only one recorded in Firby census.  
Illustrated in Whitworth “The Five Cents Beaver Stamp  
of Canada” handbook, shows five flaws  
(State 4; PF 18, 80, 91e, 291 and Re-entry No. 23a)



The extraordinary “Firth” Double Print variety of the 6c Large  
Queen alongside 3c Small Queen on cover front. Among the  
four recorded examples showing the dramatic doubling,  
this is the only one on “cover”.



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## Large Queen Varieties - Readers Emails

Images courtesy of Earl Noss



This 12 1/2c Large Queen comes from plate position 98 and has a partial missing left frame and three obvious vertical string of dots at the bottom centre margin. These two copies were sent in by Steve Hellsten. Having two copies confirms the variety is constant.



Images courtesy of Steve Hellsten

## Large Queen Varieties - Readers Emails

Images courtesy of Jim Jung



This 12 1/2c Large Queen flaw was confirmed by me within my small email group and was plated by Denis lecompte when he sent in his copy (See next page). He has plated the flaw at position 85 based on a block owned by Confederation editor Vic Willson.

Pictured here is my first copy showing the marks in the lower right margin. There is also a constant mark in the last A of CANADA.



## Large Queen Varieties - Readers Emails

Images courtesy of Denis lecompte



Here is a copy from Denis lecompte clearly showing the same constant flaw in the LR Margin. Dr Jim Watt came up with a nice name for this variety. He called this the Glass Shards Flaw.

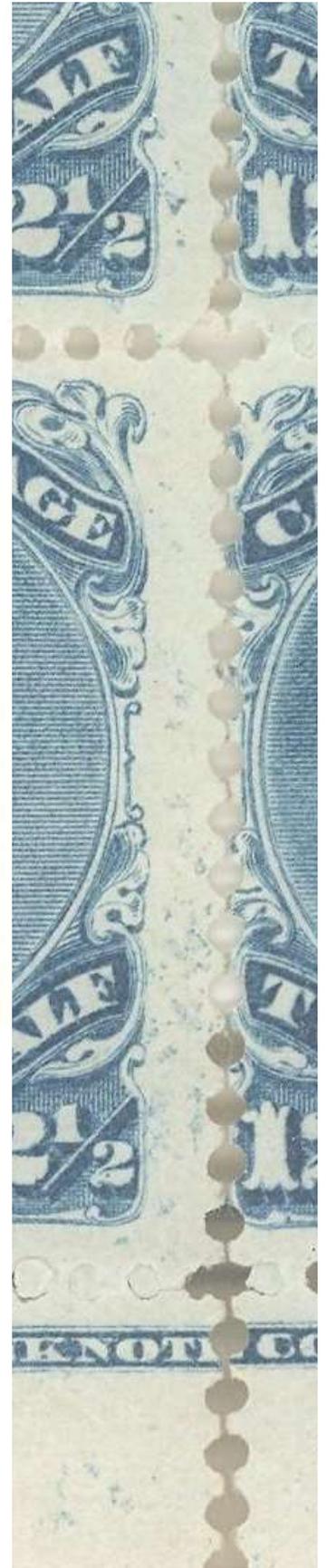
## Large Queen Varieties - Readers Emails



Images courtesy of Vic Willson



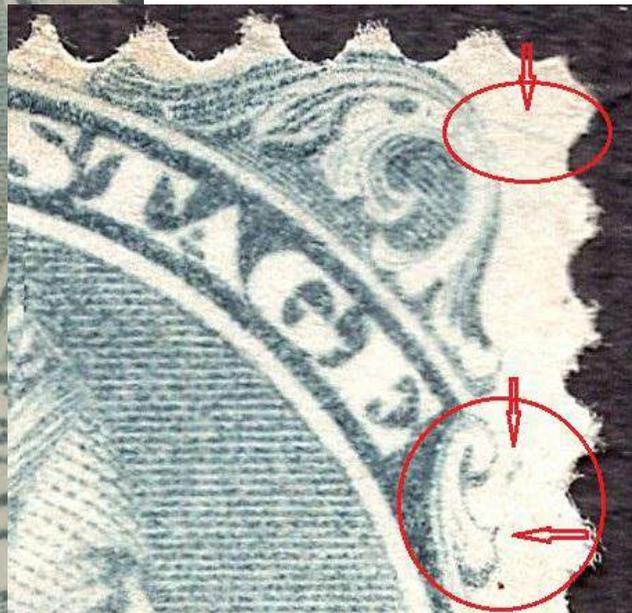
Here is an amazing irregular block of 10 from Vic Willson's collection showing the Glass Shards variety in position 85 based on the imprint that is placed at the bottom centre of Large Queen sheets that bear an imprint. The variety seems to continue down the margin into position 95 as well. I believe that it may show up at positions 86 and 96 depending on the way the sheet has been perforated.



## Large Queen Varieties - Readers Emails



Images courtesy of Denis lecompte



Denis lecompte sent in this 15c Large Queen from pp16 with a plate scratch in the upper right margin along with dots to the right of the E in POSTAGE. There are a number of plate scratches in different positions of the plate on the 15c and they are all quite interesting to collect.

Dr. Jim Watt had this to say about this variety when Denis sent this scan to him:

*“Congratulations on describing pp16, a new constant variety that I partly missed. I focused on the scratch in 1996 because I knew that it was reproducible and we can plate it ... after seeing multiple examples and the sheet now owned by Sebastian Crete, it’s there. Snake bite is two marks at pp66 and I’m trying to not give two names to two positions 87 and 16 - they do have marginal dots that are constant.”*

**3c Large Queen - Varieties in the Lower Left**  
**by Jim Jung**



Here are some 3c Large Queens that I have found. I believe these are plate faults and the ones I have chosen have the variety in the lower left area of the design. Since the 3c was the domestic rate, there were many millions printed, and there are many varieties on this stamp.

3c Large Queen - Varieties in the Lower Left  
by Jim Jung



This 3c has another Plate scratch or crack through the left 3.

### 3c Large Queen - Varieties in the Lower Left by Jim Jung

This thicker line appears stronger and could almost be an ink error but it looks like the 2c error that shows incorrectly drawn multiple guidelines.



## BNAPS Honorary Award - Michael D. Smith



Mike Smith said he was very excited and elated when he received this Honorary award from BNAPS. He said it came as a complete surprise and he wasn't expecting this at all. He wanted to mention that he is not an official member of the order, and that it is an honorary fellowship only, but he is pleased and very thankful to have been given this recognition.

An honorary award is a gesture of respect given to an individual to recognize their outstanding achievements, contributions, and value to an organization, field, or society. These awards are often symbolic and presented through formal ceremonies, rather than being a monetary prize.

# 5c Edward - Simon Taylor-Young



3L90 is such an extensive re-entry position. There is doubling throughout the stamp as you can see.



### 3c Labrador Publicity Issue - Earl Noss



Unitrade 147 - This is an unlisted Re-entry that shows a clear doubling of the upper left 3 and surrounding numeral box.

### 3c Labrador Publicity Issue - Earl Noss



Unitrade 147i  
This is the listed re-entry that shows a clear doubling of the upper right 3 and surrounding numeral box. Although many of the thin lines are part of the design, there is also some doubling in the LL.



### 3c Labrador Publicity Issue - Earl Noss

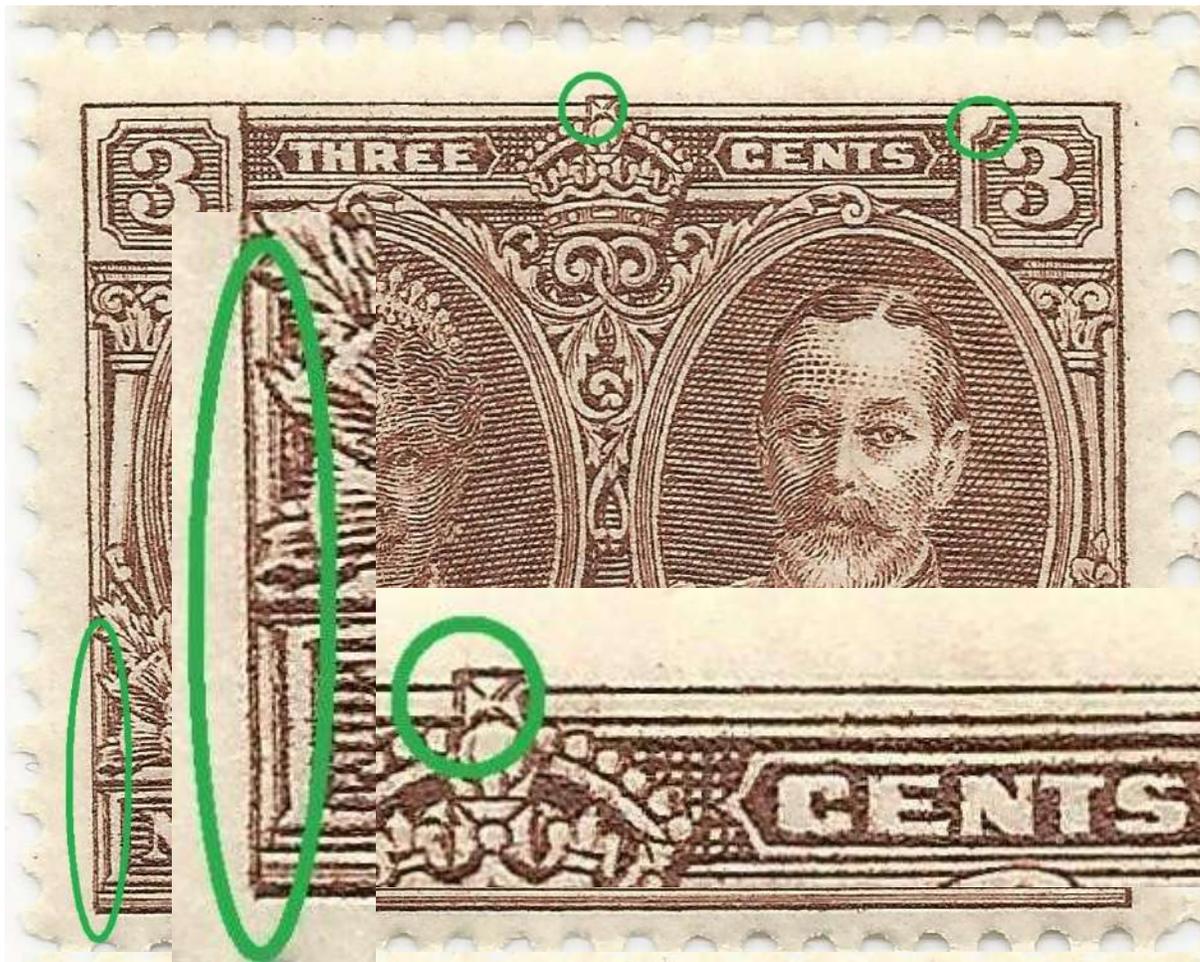
Unitrade  
147i

This lovely  
block of 8  
gives us the  
plate  
position of the  
Major  
Reentry at  
position 80.

Earl has also  
marked two  
other  
re-entries at  
position 79  
and position  
90 on this  
block  
ownser by  
Andrew  
Hussey.

Image courtesy of Andrew Hussey

### 3c Labrador Publicity Issue - Earl Noss



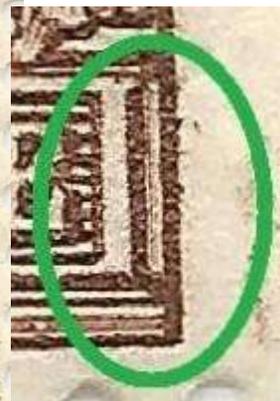
Unitrade 147

Here is position 79 from the block of 8 with minor re-entries at the top of the crown and a corner of the numeral box.



Unitrade 147

Here is position 90 from the block of 8 with minor re-entries at the LL and LR.



### 3c Labrador Publicity Issue - Earl Noss



Unitrade 147 - This is an unlisted flaw that is a plate scratch through the right side of the upper left numeral box. The scratch is long and extends through the hair of the Queen on the left side of her head.



# Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 6 by Michael D. Smith

15P Position 20, 30 and 40 State 11



Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 6  
by Michael D. Smith

15P Position 20, State 11



Imprint lower right.

Pf. 76c. Line in top of 5

# Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 6 by Michael D. Smith

15P Position 30 State 11

Very weak doubled imprint



R. 39 Strongest doubling at UL in frame lines and ovals above ANA

# Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 6

by Michael D. Smith

15P Position 30 State 11



R. 39 Left outer frame line shows mild doubling LL

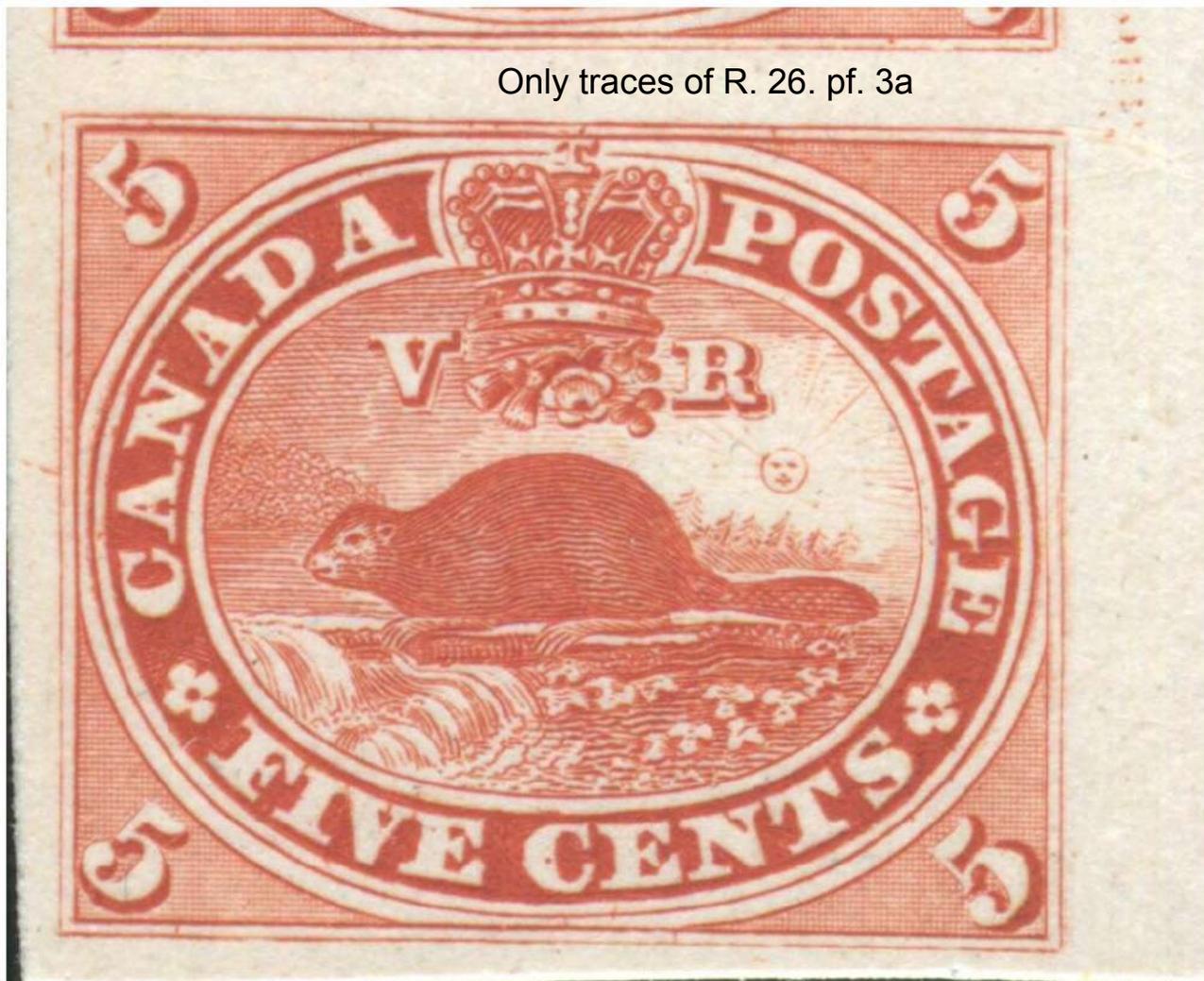


Traces of dot in 'O' of POSTAGE

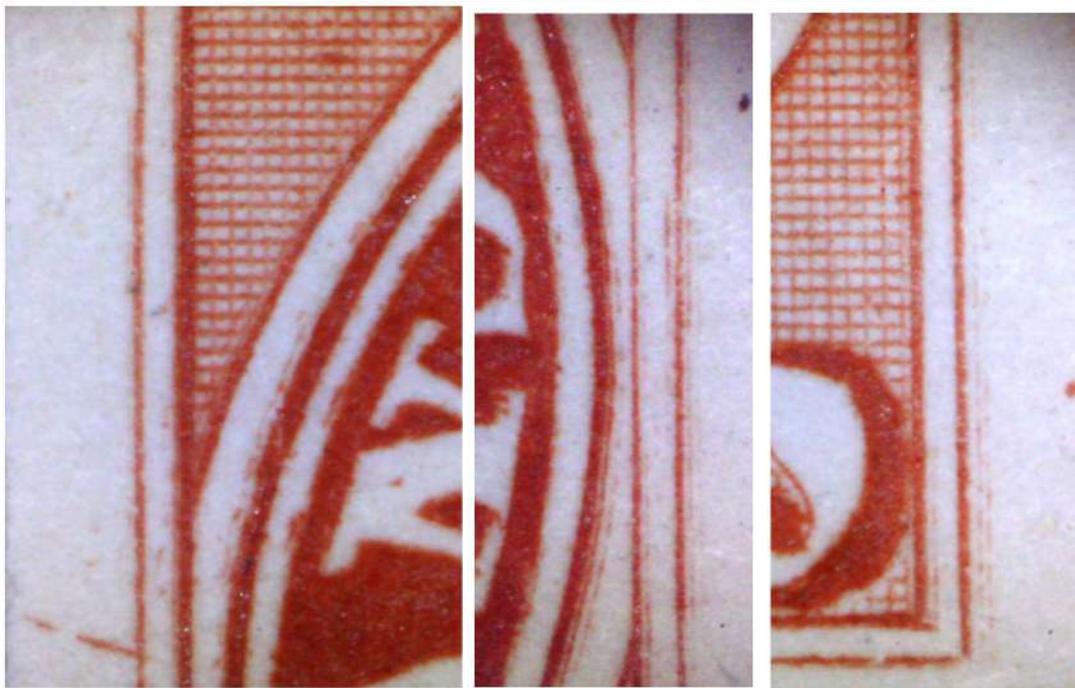
# Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 6 by Michael D. Smith

15P Position 40 State 11

Only traces of R. 26. pf. 3a



The most pronounced parts of R. 26. pf. 3a = slanted marginal line above 'AN' (only mentioned for state 11).



Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 6  
by Michael D. Smith

15P Position 28 State 10-11



R. 1 The major re-entry

# Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 6 by Michael D. Smith

15P Position 38 State 10-11

R. 25a. No 'C' dot



Small marks in bottom of 'D' and right side of 'A'. Marks at end of letter tablet and in 'P'.

# Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 6

by Michael D. Smith

15P Position 38 State 10-11



Upper Left: R25a  
Marks in 'I' and 'E' of  
'FIVE'. Marks in  
'CENT'. Oblique line  
lower margin below  
'VE'.

Left: Left bottom  
frame line doubled

Above: Bottom of  
right frame line  
doubled.

# Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 6 by Michael D. Smith

15P Position 77 and 78 State 11



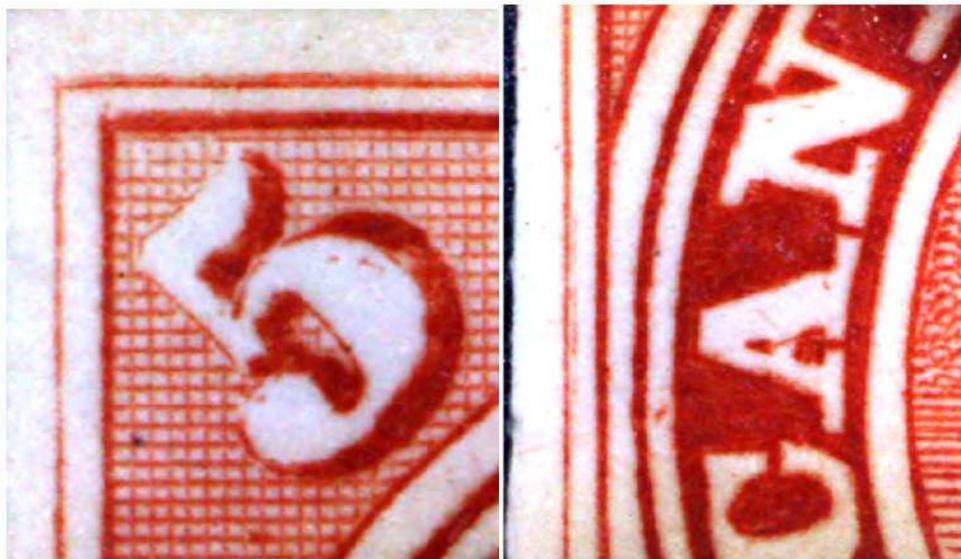
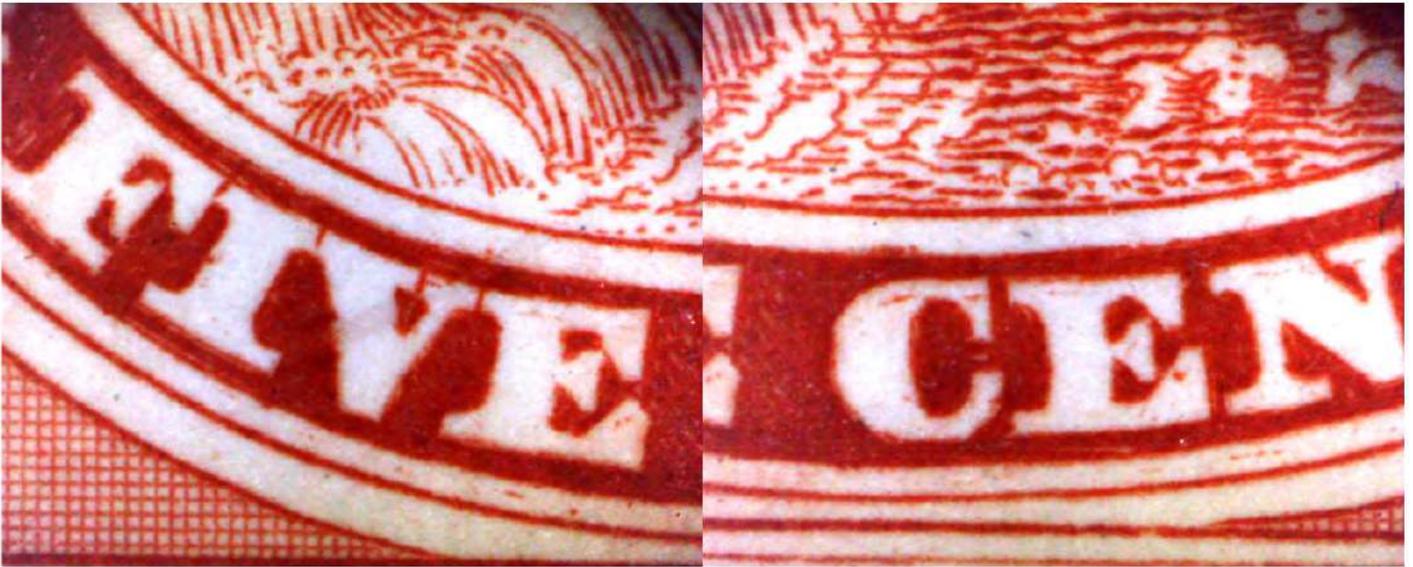
15P Position 77 State 11



R9a = reduced R. 9

# Canada's Five Cents Beaver Proofs with Various Plate Flaws Part 6 by Michael D. Smith

15P Position 77 State 11



Top: R9a = reduced R. 9  
Re-entry marks in and  
around 'FIVE CEN'

Middle: Re-entry marks  
in and around 'NTS GE'

Left: Re-entry marks in  
and around '5 and CAN'

**Update on the 1864 Two Cent Decimal "scratch on neck"  
by Jim McCormick**

In the January 2023 edition of the Pence-Cents newsletter I wrote about the Two Cent Decimal Issue with focus on Unitrade #20vi "scratches on neck (pos. 77, 97)". I noted that after 20 years of searching for the variety, it could only be found on late printing plate proofs.

Fast forward almost three years, and a bottom imprint pair (position 97-98) turned up in the Eastern Auctions Camellia sale with the "scratch on neck" variety. The collection page indicated "ex Laycock". I later discovered that this pair was lot 421 in the November 1968 Louise Boyd Dale & Alfred F. Lichtenstein sale where it sold for \$40. The lot description had no mention of the variety.



Figure 1 - Positions 97-98 with imprint showing the scratch in neck variety, left stamp

Now that we have one, the question is when was the flaw introduced? Let's start with figure 2, which shows position 97 without the neck scratch (identified by the location of the imprint, different from position 92). The stamp has a Montreal "JA 5 66" CDS. The imprints appeared on sheets delivered from the second printing order. Assuming it is unlikely that the scratch was introduced during printing for the second order, this places the variety at earliest with the third printing order.

**Update on the 1864 Two Cent Decimal "scratch on neck"  
by Jim McCormick**

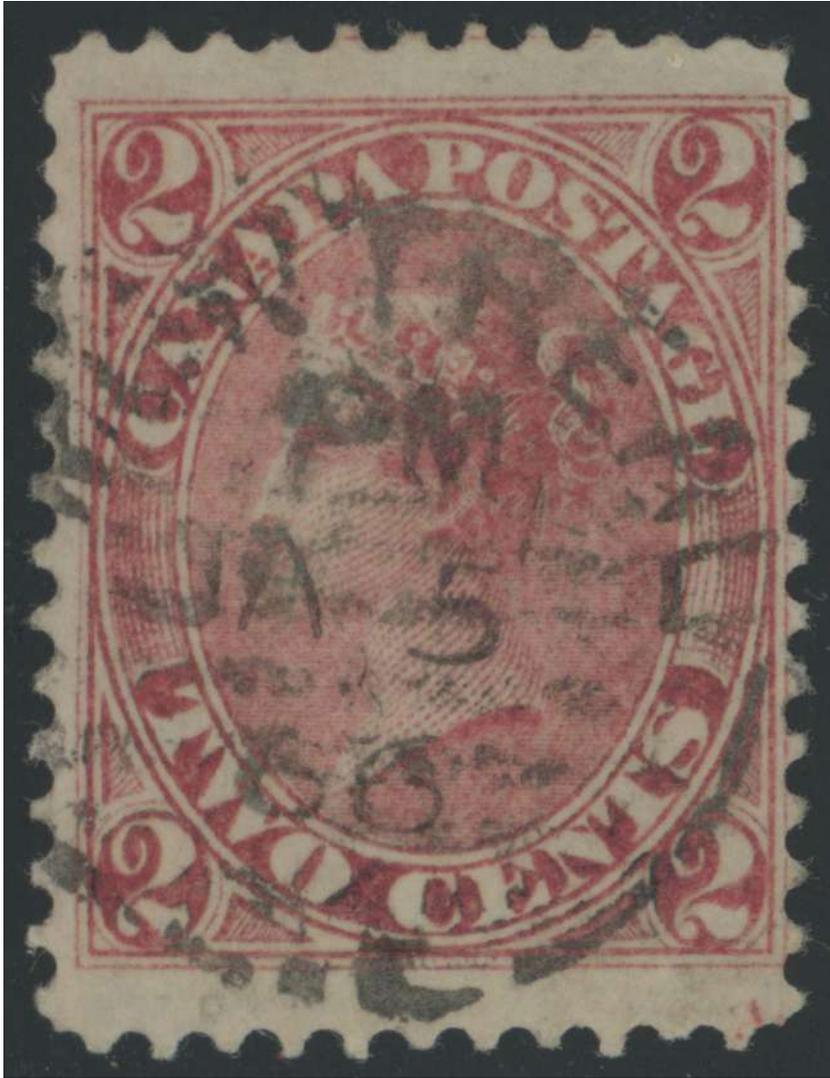


Figure 2 - Position 97 with imprint, and no scratch in the neck

I collect dated stamps, knowing that someday they may be useful for identifying stamp characteristics (colour, paper, perfs) and how they varied over time. I am lucky to have roughly 75 dated copies of this stamp, so I got to work sorting them by date and shade. I found too little variation in the perforations to be of help, and the same for the paper. In the end I was able to produce an electronic colour chart which shows a clear trend which likely maps to printing orders (and sub-printings within each order). I will not claim perfection, but the colour chart is useful for comparing the

shades from figures 1 and 2. I blow up the colour chart on my large monitor, and then compare a scan of the stamp of interest. I am happy to share the full colour chart, if of interest, but for now Figure 3 shows a small sample.

Update on the 1864 Two Cent Decimal "scratch on neck"  
by Jim McCormick



Figure 3 - A sample part of the colour chart

The result? I believe that the imprint stamp with no scratch is a match for the 4th printing order, and the imprint pair with the scratch to be a match for the 5th printing order. But my confidence level is mediocre. Should someone have another position 97 stamp, then my wish would be to make a fresh scan (with my scanner for accurate comparison) so we can make a new colour comparison. A dated example would also be useful for ruling out printings after the date.

Why is the neck scratch so rare that only this single example is known in our collecting circles? I suppose that the stamp is under-appreciated, and lacks the appeal of cool varieties like "low moon", "leaping fish", "log in waterfall" and "burr on shoulder". Perhaps we can give this one some attention. Please check your collections for a position 97 imprint stamp. With, or without the neck scratch variety, it will help solve the puzzle..

# BNAPEX 2026 Convention in Valleyfield



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