

The Newsletter of the Canadian R.P.O. Study Group (B.N.A.P.S.)

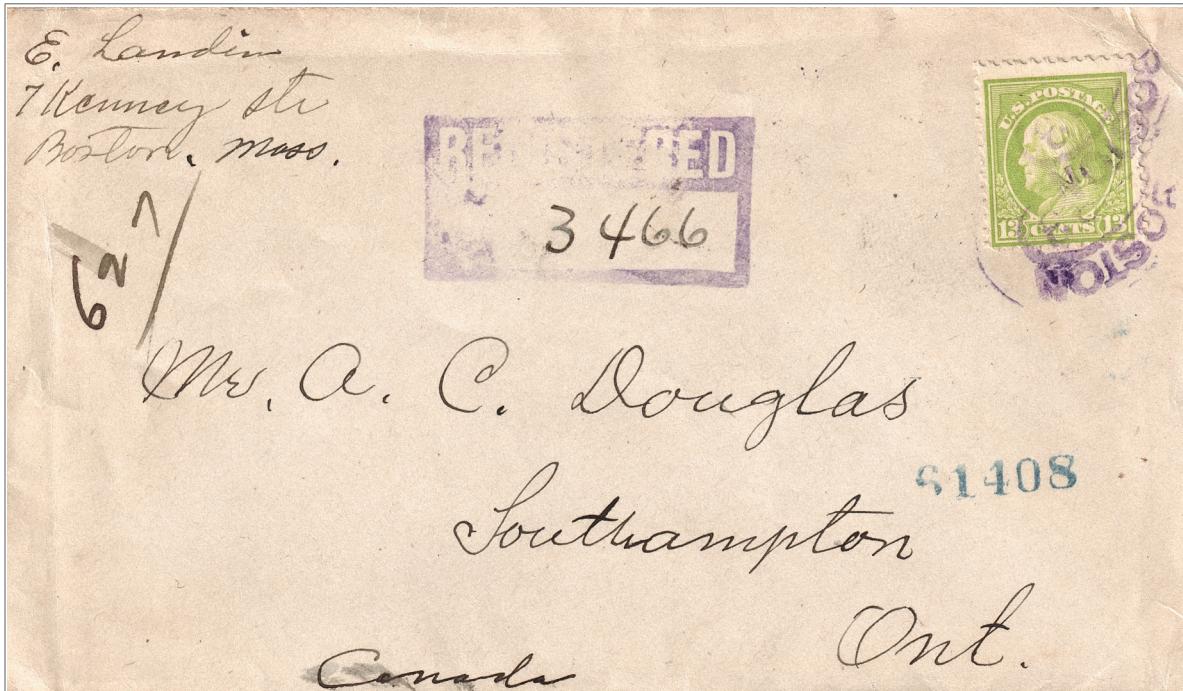
Volume 52 - No. 2

Whole No. 273

April - June, 2024

This issue features a large number of new dates and indicia from **Jack Brandt, Robert Ferguson, Ross Gray, Paul Guilfoyle, Murray Smith and Simon Taylor-Young**.

Also included is an update for the **WT-341** hammer study from 2007.



Ross Gray collection



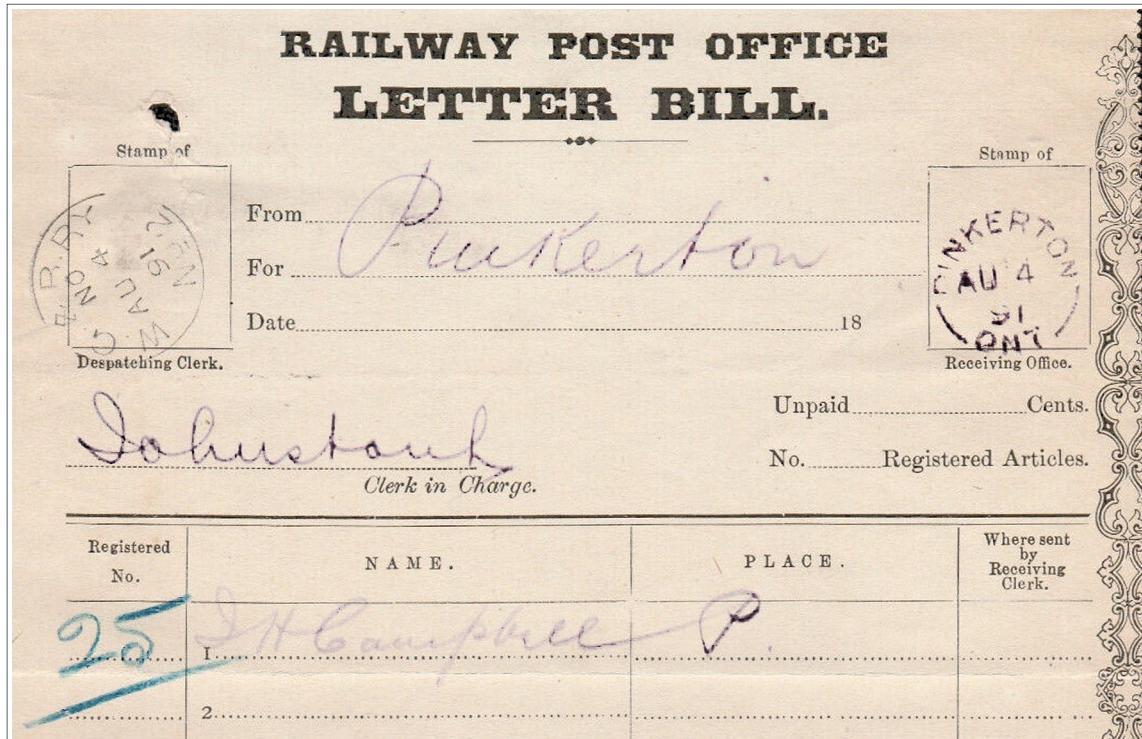
This registered cover addressed to Southampton, Ontario, originated at Boston on May 19, 1919 and entered Canada at Niagara Falls, where it was put on the northbound **ON-607**, TOR. & HAM · R.P.O. / N° 3 , 83, MY 19, 19. This is the **first reported use of ON-607**, which was previously only known from the proof strike.

At Hamilton, it was transferred to **ON-203**, TRAIN N^o / Ham. & S'ampton R.P.O. , PM, MAY 21, 1919. This is only the **second reported use** for this large rubber hammer, now the **ERD** and the first report of the time indicium **PM**.

New Reports from Ross Gray



This registered cover from Yale, Michigan, entered Canada at Sarnia on December 10, 1928 and was transferred to eastbound **ON-259.05**, LONDON & SARNIA R.P.O. / . , 112, DE 10, 28 and travelled to London, where it was transferred to eastbound **ON-613.01**, TOR. HAM. & LON. C.N.R.- R.P.O. / . , 16, DE 10, 28. This is a new late date for hammer **ON-259.05**.



RY-214.02, W. G. & B. R.Y / NO 2. , NO, AU 4, 91 , is the first report of the use of the "NO" November month slug being used for the north direction for this hammer.

New Reports from Ross Gray

WT-383.091, MOOSE JAW & CALGARY R.P.O. / № 9, JUL 29, 04, is a new **early date** for this hammer, which was proof struck on May 26, 1904.



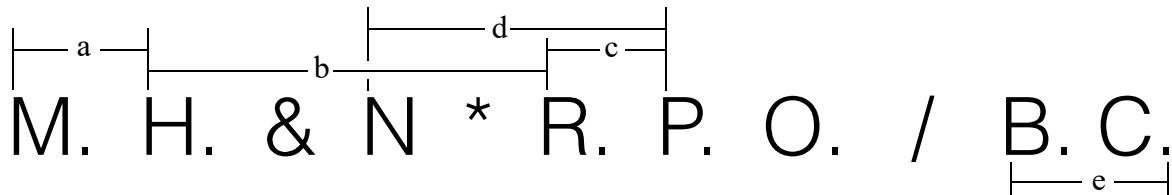
WT-660.01, RIV. & S'TOON / R.P.O. No. 1, 4, 13 VIII, 64, is a new **late date** for the hammer.



WT-691.041, SASK. & DRUM R.P.O. / № 4, 10, MR 12, 36, is a new **early date** for the hammer.

WT-341 Hammer Study Update

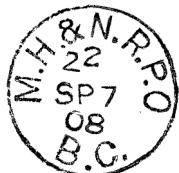
I originally did this hammer study in 2007, using the chordal measurement system of differentiating hammers, with a limited number of examples. After revisiting the study and using the overlay method of identifying hammers, it became apparent that the hammer which I had identified as WT-341.01 from the single proof strike, dated August 3, 1904, was actually hammer WT-341.03. Therefore, hammer WT-341.01 has been removed from the catalogue.



Hammer	*	a	b	c	d	e
WT-341.02	base line period	6 1/2	15	5 1/4	10 3/4	9
WT-341.03	base line period	5 1/2 +	15 1/2	6 -	11 1/2	9
WT-341.04	mid-horizontal dash	6 1/4	13 3/4	5 +	10	9 -

The base line period after the N is not always apparent on later strikes

Hammer	Proof Date	ERD	LRD	Indicia
WT-341.02	unknown	1905/01/23	1909/04/14	E, 21, 22
WT-341.03	1904/08/03	1906/07/18	1910/06/22	E, W
WT-341.04	1909/11/13	1909/12/01	1910/10/16	E, W
WT-341		1905/01/23	1910/10/16	E, W, 21, 22



WT-341.02



WT-341.03



WT-341.04

New Reports from Simon Taylor-Young



MT-5.04, ANNAPOLEIS & YARMOUTH / M.C. ,
E, MR 2, 96 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.



MT-17.0x, CAMPBELLTON & LEVIS LOCAL · R.P.O. / . ,
150, AP 16, 14 , is a new **early date** for the listing.



QC-73.xx, LEVIS & MONTREAL · R.P.O. / . , N, 5 JUL, 6,
is the first report of an **N direction** indicium for the listing.



QC-100, LEVIS & SHERBROOKE . R.P.O. / . ,
5, SP 25, 29, is a new **late date** for the listing.



QC-156.01, MONT. & DUNDEE R.P.O / . ,
N, JUL 9, 93 , is an interesting **year date error**.



QC-171.02, MONT. & IS'D · POND · NIGHT / NO 2 ,
W, SP 22, 98 , is a new **late 1st period date** for the
hammer.



QC-292, MONTREAL & TORONTO C. P. RY / NO 2 ,
W, OC 10, 90 , is a new **late date**.



QC-294.09, MONT. & TOR. G. T. RY / 9 , 4.W, AP 13, 91,
is the first report of train number/direction indicium **4W** for the
hammer.



QC-294.101, MONT. & TOR. G. T. RY / 10 , 7, NO 5, 15,
is a new **late date** for the hammer.



QC-298.13, MONT. & TOR. G.T.R.- R.P.O. / NO 13 ,
10(*inverted*), AU 8, 21 , is the first report of **train 10** for
the hammer.



QC-306, MONT. & TORONTO. R.P.O. / . , E, AP 15, 20 ,
is a new **early date** for the listing.



QC-413, QUEBEC & MONTREAL . C.P.R. / M.C. ,
no indicia set and remarkable spacing of the "P" and "R"
of C.P.R. The editor would be interested in seeing other
examples of this odd hammer.



QC-429, QUE. & RICH'D / M.C. , MR(*inverted*), AU 26, 95,
is the first report of an **inverted MR month slug** being
substituted for a W direction slug.



QC-493, ST GEORGE & BEAUCE JCT. R.P.O. / . ,
73, FE , 13 , is the first report of **train 73** for the listing.

New Reports from Simon Taylor-Young



ON-101.031, FI FRANCES & W'PEG R.P.O. / № 3, 21, NO 17, 15, is the first report of **train 21** for the hammer.



ON-109.04, FT. WM. & WP'G. R.P.O. / № 4, 2, AU 15, 32, is a new **early date** for this hammer which was proof struck on June 3, 1932.



ON-109.06, FT. WM. & WP'G. R.P.O. / № 6, 17, OC 1, 55, is the first report of **train 17** for this hammer.



ON-211.021, HARRISBURG & SOUTHAMPTON · M.C. / № 2, S, OC 18, 97, is a new **late date** for the hammer.



ON-338.02, N. BAY & S. STE. MARIE · M.C. / № 2, E, AU 19, 08, is a new **late date** for the hammer.



ON-345, N. B. & SOO · R.P.O. / ., 28, JUN 22, 50, is a new **early date** for the listing.



ON-475.06, PORT HOPE & TORONTO R.P.O / № 6, 23, FE 22, 07, is a new **early date** for the hammer.



ON-548, SUD. & SAULT - SIE - MARIE - M.C. / № 2, E, MR 2, 96, is a new **late date** for the listing.



ON-603.01, TOR. & HAM. P. O. CAR / № 1, E, MR 16, 92, is the first report of a **E direction** indicium.



ON-659.02, TOR. LON. & WIND. / R.P.O., 16, DE 31, 47, is a new **late date** for the hammer.



ON-787.02, TOR. & OWEN · SOUND / M.C., S, JY 25, 96, is a new **early date** for the hammer.



ON-811.01, TOR & SAR. M.C. / № 1, E, AU 18, 93, is a new **early date** for the listing and for the hammer, which was proof struck on August 12, 1893.



WT-17.01, BDRY. LINE & WPG · R.P.O. / No. 1, blank, JAN 10, 52, is the first report of a **blank** train number indicium for both the hammer and the listing.

New Reports from Simon Taylor-Young



WT-48.02, BRED & SASK. R.P.O. / No. 2, 52, DE 3, 53, is a new **late date** for both the hammer and the listing.



WT-64.022, CALGARY & EDMONTON R.P.O. / No 2, 04, NO 19, 10, is a previously unreported train number indicium error. The clerk may have substituted an 04 year slug for train 14.



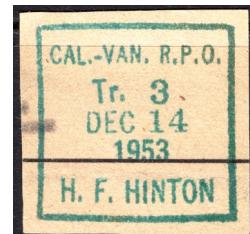
WT-95, C. & V. - R.P.O. / B.C. , 8, VI 8, 65, is a new **late date** for the listing.



WT-163, J. CONWAY. M.C. / CAL. & VAN. , 1, DEC 20, is the first report of **train 1**.



WT-167, CAL. & VAN. R.P.O. / J. J. WILLINGTON , Tr - 3, DEC 22, 1954, is the first report of **train 3**.



WT-187, CAL. & VAN. RPO / TR. 3 / C. W. SABOURIN , DEC 22 , is the first report of **train 3**.



WT-191.02, CORONATION & LACOMBE · R.P.O. / No 2, 29, OC 4, 17 , is a new **early date** for both the hammer and the listing. The hammer was proof struck on June 6, 1917,



WT-195.02, EDM. & DAWSON CREEK · R.P.O. / 2 , 2, OC 16, 59 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.



WT-272.01, KAM. & S'TOON / R.P.O. No. 1 , 9, 5 X, 61 , is a new **early date** for this hammer, which was proof struck on June 29, 1961.

New Reports from Simon Taylor-Young



WT-315 proof



Ross Gray collection

When Simon submitted this example of **WT-315**, LLOYD. & EDM / R.P.O. , 64, JUL 7, 37, as a new ERD, it led me to review the listing data. The Ludlow-Robinson records indicate an ERD of 1937/02/06, which I regarded as an error, since the proof strike is dated 1937/12/30. I have an example in my collection dated 1937/01/29, which I thought probably was erroneously dated, 1937 instead of 1938. With Simon's submission as an additional example of a early 1937 date, I am now inclined to believe that **the proof strike year date is actually 1936/12/30** and that the **correct ERD** for WT-315 is now 1937/01/29.

I considered the possibility of the existence of more than one hammer, but verified that all of the strikes examined were identical using the overlaying method.



WT-315, LLOYD. & EDM / R.P.O. , 64, SP 11, 57, is a new **late date**.



WT-343.01, MED. HAT & NEL. R.P.O. / ., E, JAN 1, 06 , is a new **early date**.



WT-343.02, MED. HAT & NEL - R.P.O. / ., 11, AP 13, 55 , is the first report of **train 11** for the hammer and listing.



WT-344.041, MED. HAT. & NEL. R.P.O. / N^o 4 , E, MR 1, 11 , is a new **early date** for the hammer.



WT-381.042, M. JAW. & CAL R.P.O. / N^o 4 , 6, JUN 28, 57 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.



WT-381.051, M. JAW. & CAL R.P.O. / N^o 5 , W, NO 14, 02 , is the first report of a **W direction** indicium for the hammer.



WT-383.093, MOOSE JAW & CALGARY R.P.O. / - N^o 9 - , 6, MR 3, 56 , is a the first report of **train 6** for the hammer.



WT-390.08, M. J. & CAL. R.P.O. / No. 8 , 1, DE 4, 51 , is the first report of **train 1** for the hammer.

New Reports from Simon Taylor-Young

WT-414, M. JAW & CAL. / H. J. GRIFFITHS , Tr. 8, DEC 22, 1952 , is a new **late date**.



WT-440.021, M. JAW & MACKLIN · R.P.O. / № 2 , W, AP 4, 24 , is the first report of a **W direction** indicium.



WT-805.011, S. C. & EMP - R.P.O. / № . 1 , 66, SP 8, 37, is a new **late date** for the hammer.

WT-896.10, WP'G. & M. JAW · R.P.O. / № 10 , 57, AP 23, 57 , is the first report of **train 57** for the hammer.



WT-1005, YORK. & S.R. R.P.O. / . No. 1 . , 243, MY 30, 39, confirms the use of **train 243**.

WT-1017, CALGARY DIVISION / J. J. SPENCER , Tr. 2, JAN 27, 1955 , is the first report of **train 2**.

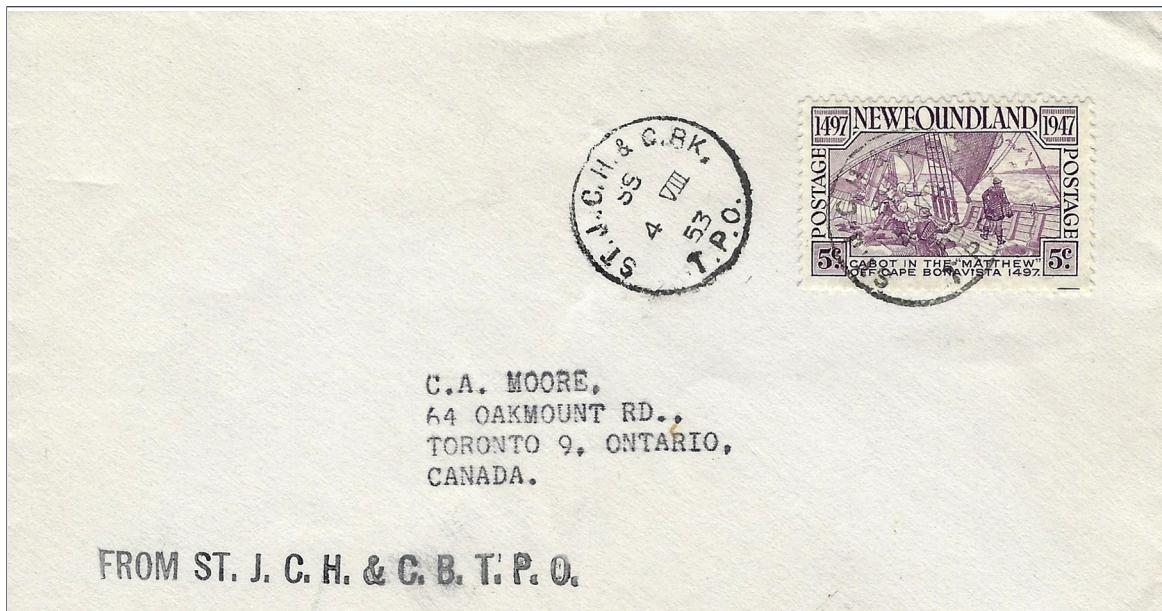


RY-166.02, QUEBEC & LAKE ST JOHN / M. C , N, MR 20, 94 , is a new **early date** and the first report of an **N direction** indicium for the hammer.

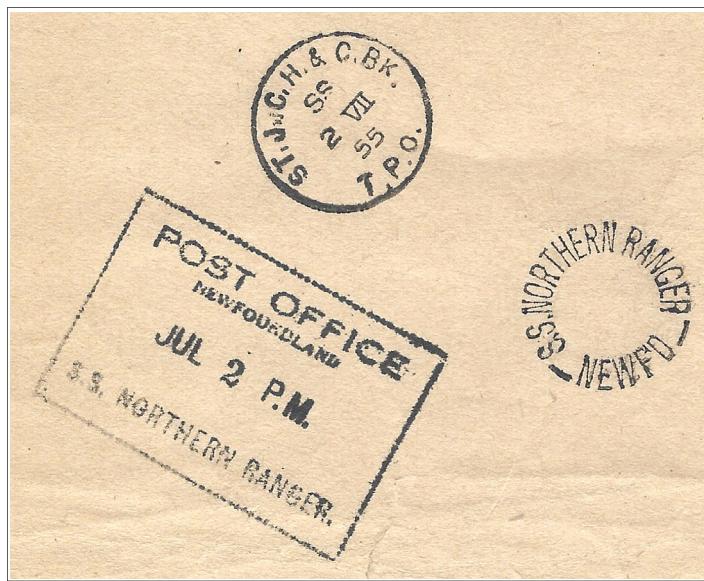
SN-48.01, UNION · STATION / · ST JOHN · N. B. · , 10, OC 10, 99 , is a new **early date** for the hammer and the listing.



New NL Reports from Paul Guilfoyle



Paul Guilfoyle shares this straight line marking, similar to NL-172 but without the K in Brook, which was previously unreported and will now be listed as **NL-172.05**, FROM ST. J. C. H. & C. B. T.P.O., only date 1953/08/04, R.F. - G. It is on a favour cover with **NL-171**, ST. J., C. H. & C. BK. / T.P.O. , SS, 4 VIII, 53.



Paul also sent this favour facing slip with **NL-171**, ST. J., C. H. & C. BK. / T.P.O. , SS, 2 VII, 55 and **NL-115**, S. S. NORTHERN RANGER / _ NEWF'D _ , which was not previously recorded beyond 1949 and now becomes the **LRD** and **NL-115.5**, POST OFFICE / NEWFOUNDLAND / S. S. NORTHERN RANGER , JUL 2, P.M., which was previously only recorded until 1952 and is the first report of a P.M. time mark.

New Reports from Jack Brandt



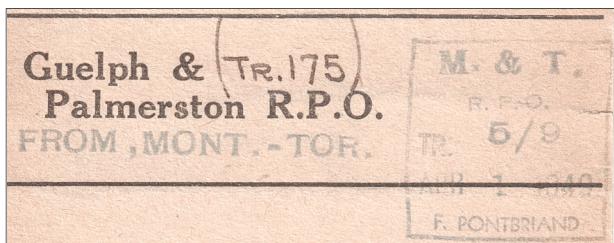
MT-103.01, TRAIN NO / HX. & CAMP · R.P.O. ,
1, NO 14, 39 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.



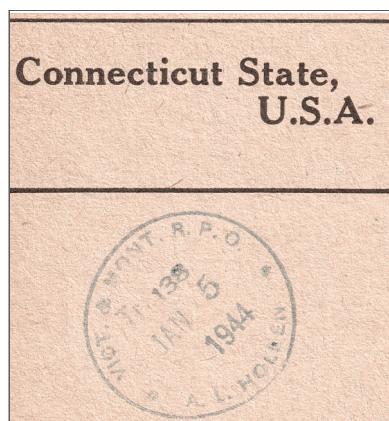
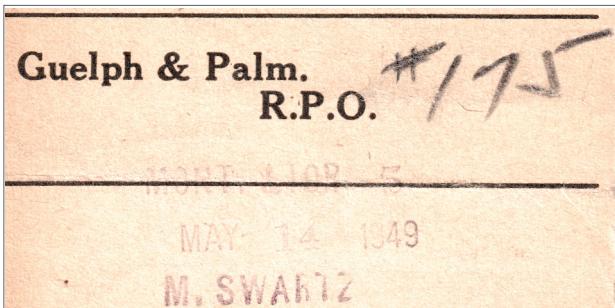
MT-161.03, HALIFAX & MONCTON / C.P.R.Y.,
W, OC 9, 96 , is a new **late date** for the hammer.



MT-272, PICTOU & OXFORD · R.P.O. / . , 34, NO 11, 35 , is a new **late date**.



QC-329, M. & T. / R.P.O. / F. PONTBRIAND,
TR. 5/9 , APR 1, 1949 , is a new **late date** and the
first report of **trains 5/9**.
Apparently the R.P.O. operated from Montreal as
far as Belleville, on train 5 and then was attached
to "CP/CN Pool" train 9 for the remaining trip to
Toronto.



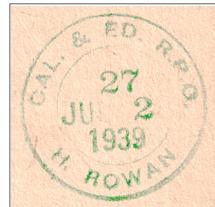
QC-553.55, VICT. & MONT. R.P.O. / * A. L. HOLDEN *,
138, JAN 5, 1944, is the ERD and first report of **train 138**.

New Reports from Jack Brandt



A cut out from a facing slip pasted on this favour postcard addressed to Howard Moulton, a New England R.P.O. clerk, QC-520, SHER.-RICH. & MONT. / R. VALENTINE, 24, FEB 5, 1960, is the first report of **train 24**. The card is cancelled with QC-519, S. R. & M. / R.P.O. , 23, 3 II, 60.

On page 2987 of the previous newsletter, we discussed the altering of hammer ON-211.022 by removal of the "N^o 2" at the base to become ON-212. This is a **new early date** for **ON-212**, HARRISBURG & SOUTHAMPTON M.C. , T2N, DE 28, 97.

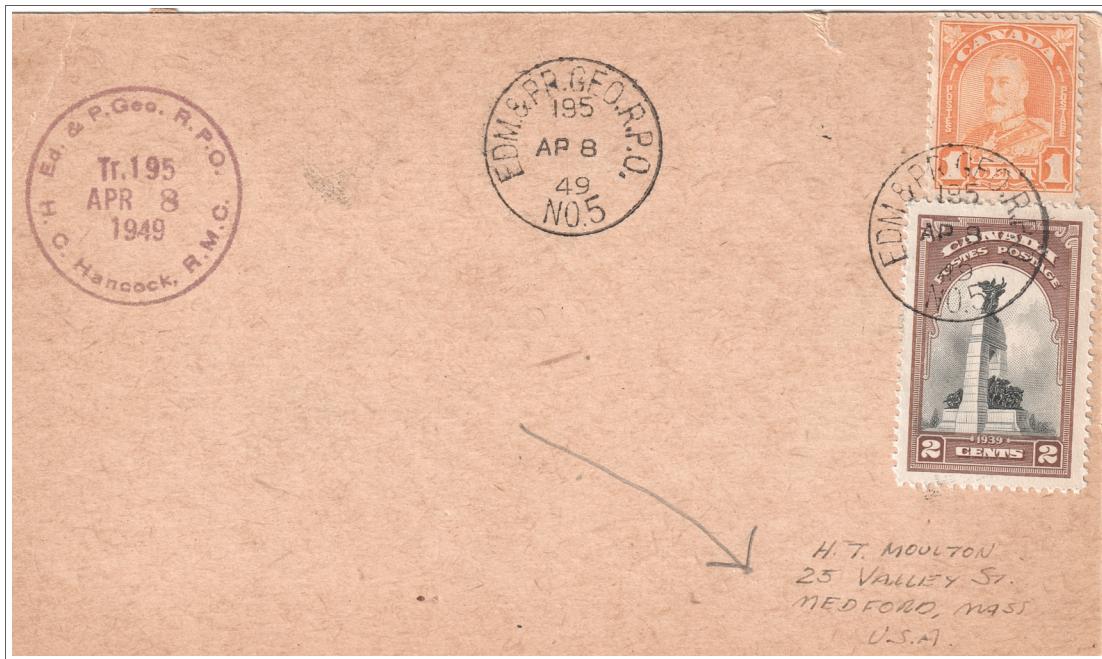


WT-74, CAL. & ED. R.P.O. / H. ROWAN, 27, JUL 2, 1939, is the first report of **train 27**.



This Moulton favour post card, cancelled with **WT-64.052**, CALGARY & EDMONTON · R.P.O. / N^o 5, 25, FEB 23, 39, is backstamped with a **new train number** for **WT-78**, CALGARY & ED. R.P.O. / E. RUTHERFORD , 25, FEB 23, 1939 , and a **new listing**, **WT-78.35**, CAL. & ED. R.P.O. , / E. A. W. RUTHERFORD , Type SL0R.

New Reports from Jack Brandt

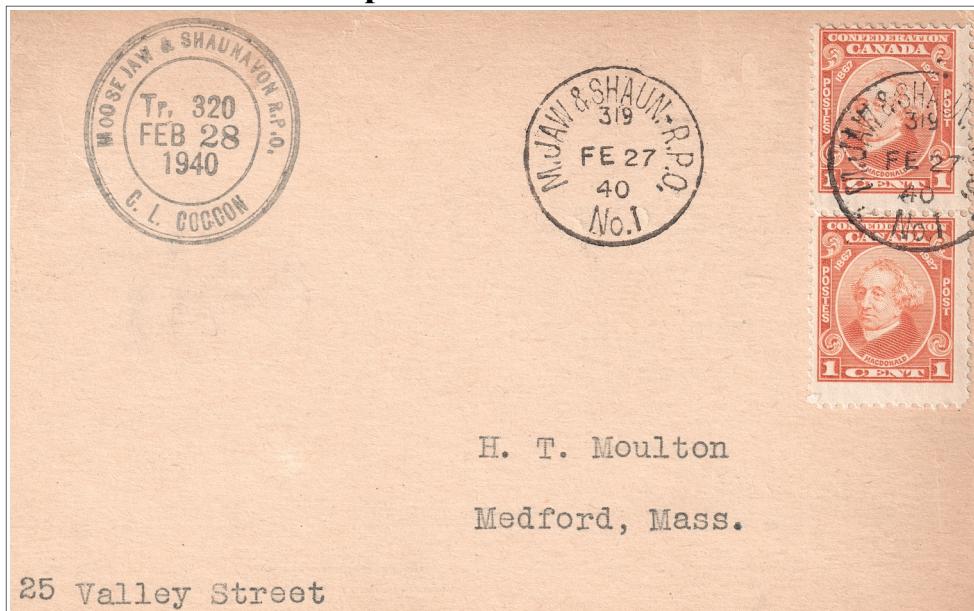


WT-222, Ed. & P. Geo. R.P.O. / H. C. Hancock, R.M.C. , Tr. 195, APR 8, 1949 , is a new **late date** and the first report of **train 195** for this listing, which is type **CC2R** not CC3R. It is accompanied by **WT-213.05**, EDM. & PR. GEO. R.P.O. / NO. 5 , 195, AP 8, 49.

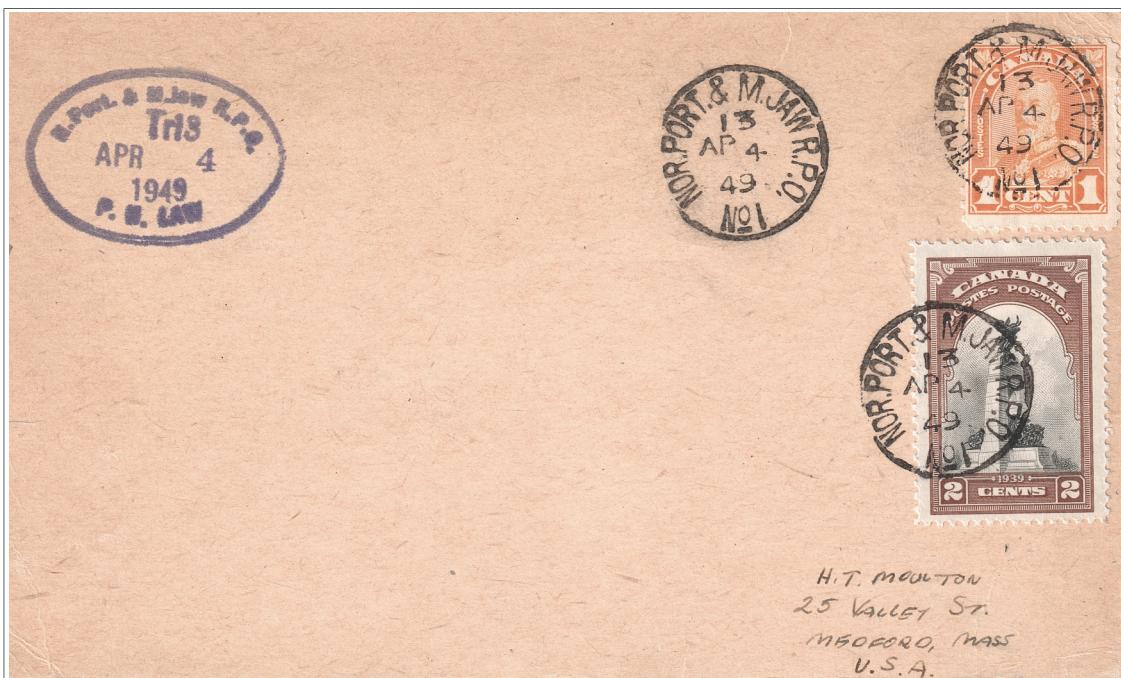


WT-314, LETH. & CAL. / C. G. DUTHIE , 542, MAR 28, 1949 , is the **LRD** and the first report of **train 542**. It is accompanied by **WT-311**, LETH. & CAL. R.P.O. / ., 542, MR 28, 49 .

New Reports from Jack Brandt



WT-472, MOOSE JAW & SHAUNAVON R.P.O. / G. L. COGGON , Tr. 320, FEB 28, 1940 , is a new early date. It is accompanied by **WT-459.013**, M. JAW & SHAUN.- R.P.O. / No. 1 , 319, FE 27, 40 .

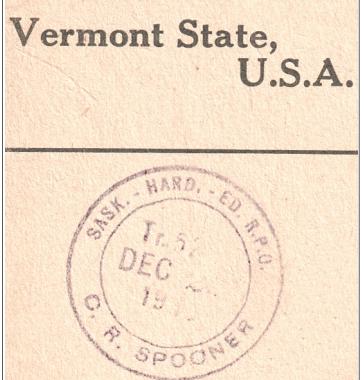


WT-540, N. Port. & M. Jaw R.P.O. , Tr 13, APR 4, 1949 , is the first report of **train 13** . It is accompanied by **WT-523.012**, NOR. PORT. & M. JAW / N° 1 , 13, AP 4, 49.

WT-729, SASK. - HARD. - ED. R.P.O. / C. R. SPOONER , 52, DEC 2?, 1949, is the first report of **train 52**.



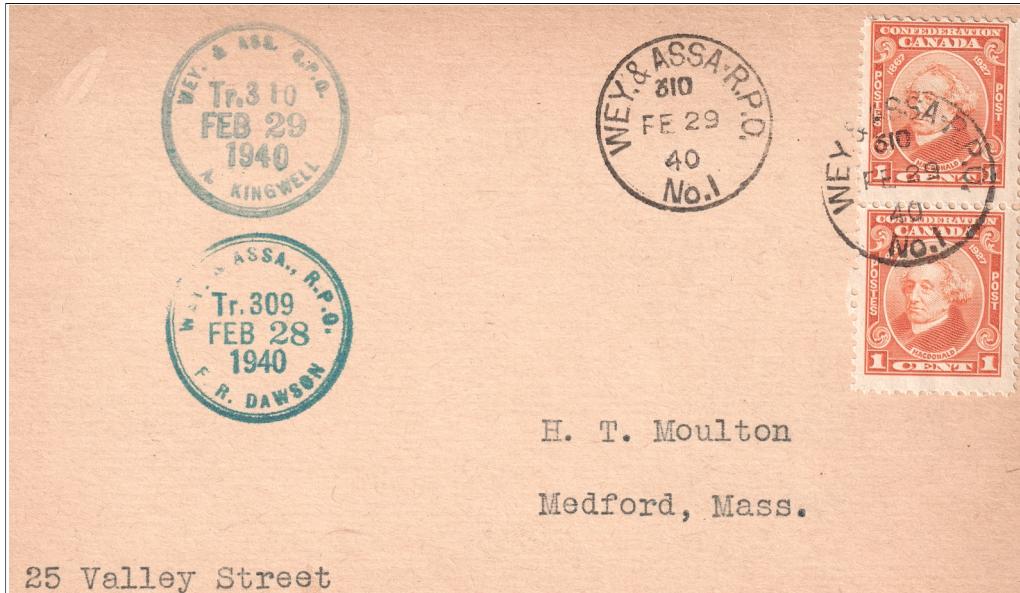
WT-808, S. C. & EMP. R.P.O. / H. N. HURLE , Tr. 66, APR 23, 1928 , is the first report of **train 66**.



New Reports from Jack Brandt

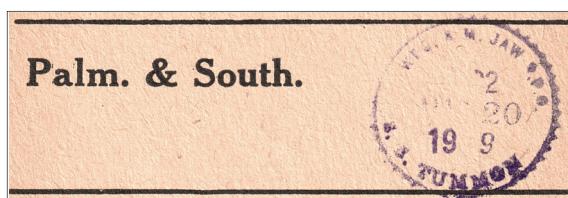
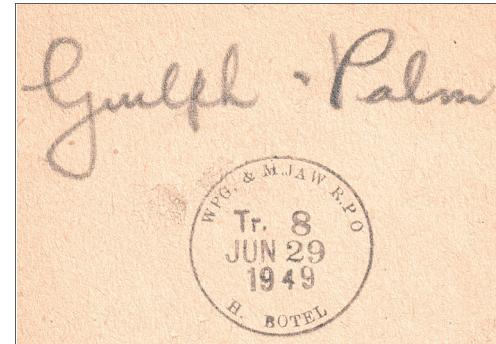


Found as a transit backstamp on a registered cover from Winnipeg to Parksville, **WT-821**, VIC. & COURT. R.P.O. / E. G. KANE , Tr. 1, MAR 16, 1949 , is a new early date.

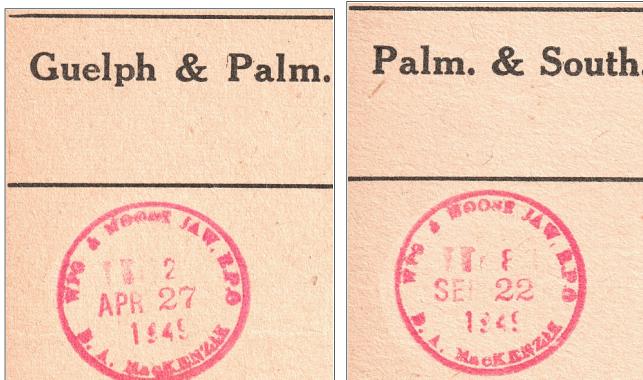


WT-845, WEY. & ASSA., R.P.O. / F. R. DAWSON , Tr. 309, FEB 28, 1940 , is a new **late date**.
WT-846, WEY. & ASSA., R.P.O. / A KINGWELL , Tr. 310, FEB 29, 1940 , is a new **late date** and the first report of **train 310**. They are accompanied by **WT-841.012**, WEY. & ASSA · R.P.O. / No. 1 , 310, FE 29, 40.

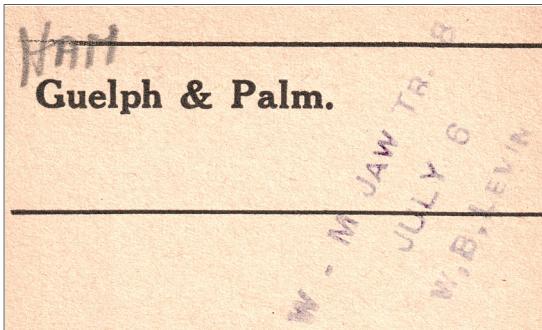
WT-920, WPG. & M. JAW R.P.O. / H. BOTEL , Tr. 8, JUN 29, 1949 , is a new **late date** and the first report of **train 8**.



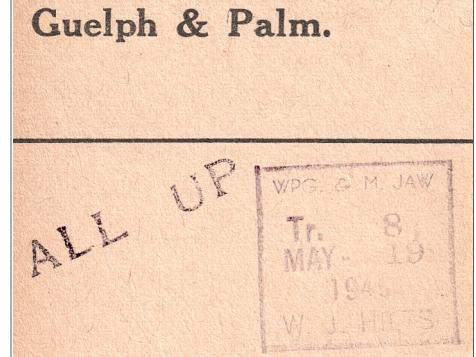
WT-924, WPG. & M. JAW R.P.O. / S. J. TUMMON , 2, APR 20, 1949 , is the first report of **train 2**.



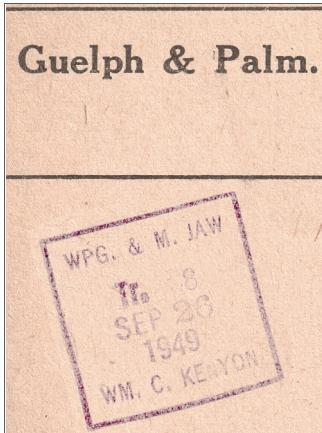
New Reports from Jack Brandt



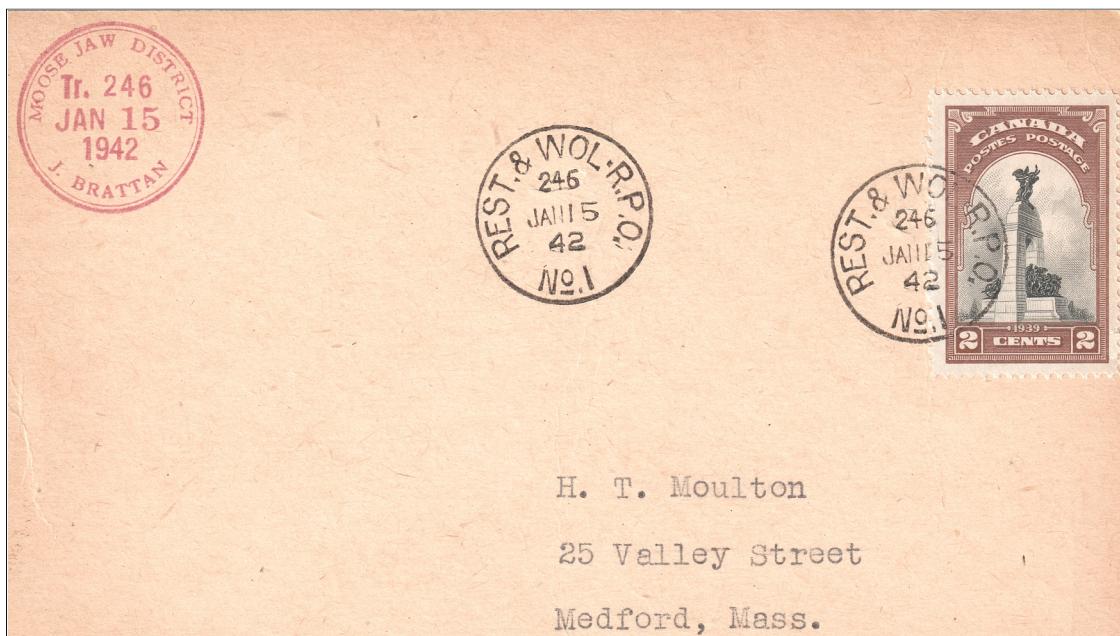
WT-928.55, W - M JAW TR. 8 / W. B. LEVIN ,
JULY 6 corrects the catalogue text.



WT-930, WPG. & M. JAW / W. J. HILTS , Tr. 8,
MAY 19, 1945 , is the first report of **train 8**.

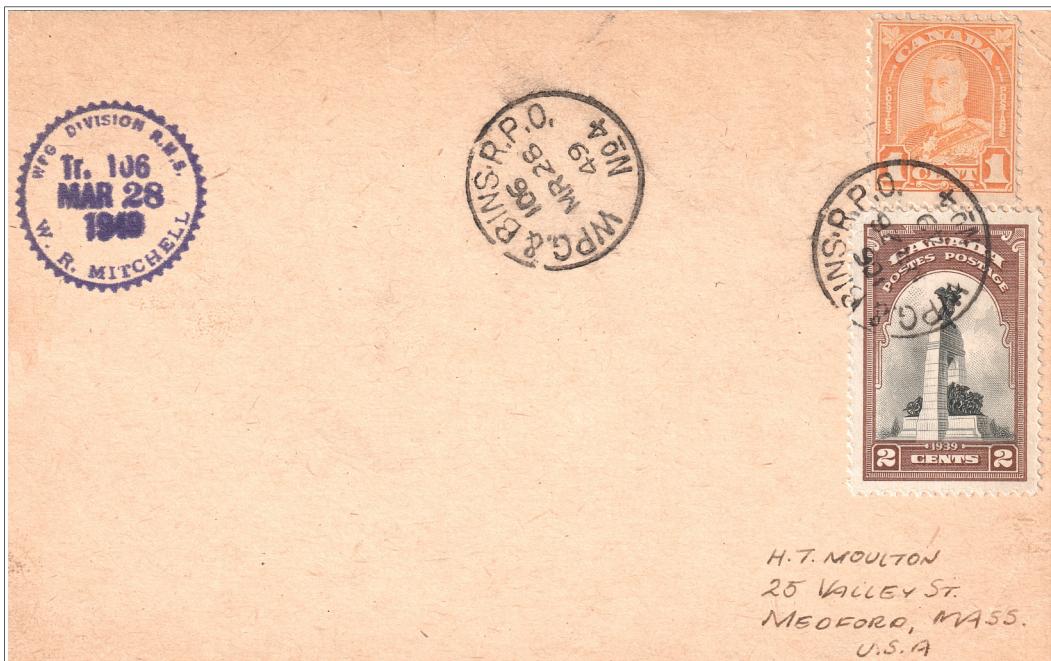


WT-931, WPG. & M. JAW / WM. C. KENYON , Tr. 8, SEP 26, 1949,
is the first report of **train 8**.



WT-1026, MOOSE JAW DISTRICT / J. BRATTON , Tr. 246, JAN 15, 1942 , is a new **early date**. It
is accompanied by WT-646.013, REST. & WOL. R.P.O. / NO 1, 246, JAN 15, 42 .

New Reports from Jack Brandt

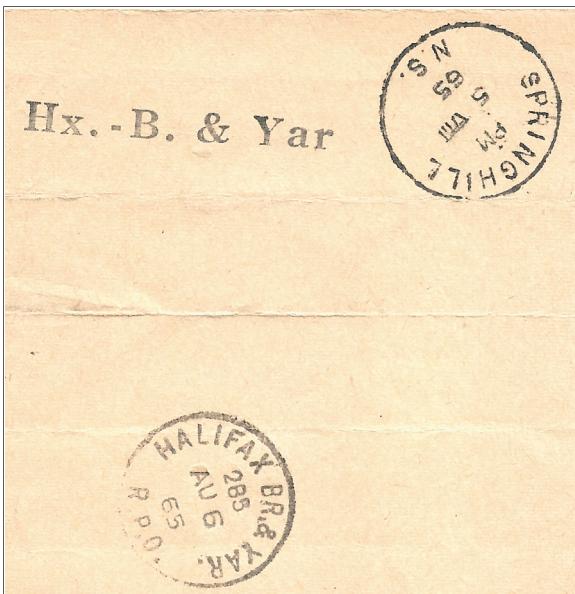


WT-1090, WPG DIVISION R.P.O. / W. R. MITCHELL , Tr. 106, MAR 28, 1949 , is a new **late date** and the first report of **train 106**. It is accompanied by **WT-852.04**, WPG. & BINS · R.P.O. / N^o 4 , 106, MR 25, 49.



WT-1095, WINNIPEG DIST. / J. H. LONGSTAFFE , Tr. 51, APR 2, 1949 , is the **ERD** and the first report of **train 51**. It is accompanied by **WT-854.03**, WPG. & BRED. R.P.O. / No. 3 , 51, AP 2, 49 . The message on the reverse to Moulton, his fellow railway mail clerk, is, “*I sincerely hope this is O.K. If you want any more stamps of this division, let us know. Lots of luck and our very best wishes.*” , signed J. H. Longstaffe, 156 St. Anthony Ave, Winnipeg, Man., Can.

New Reports from Robert Ferguson



Found on a facing slip, accompanied by MT-91.02, HALIFAX BR. & YAR. / R.P.O. , 285, AU 6, 65 , is a new type SL0R handstamp, now listed as MT-94.55, Hx. - B. & YAR .



A new, previously unknown clerk stamp, which has now been catalogued as QC-344.65, MONTREAL & TORONTO / A. MacPHEE , TR - 14, OCT 16, 1959, is on an otherwise blank facing slip. It is from the R.P.O. collection of Robert's late father, Col. M.S.M. Ferguson.

1869 Pass to Travel on R.P.O. Cars between Ottawa and Kingston



This is a Post Office Department pass, dated August 10, 1869, for a Post Office Inspector, C. L. Stephens, to travel in the railway post office cars operating between Kingston and Ottawa, over the Grand Trunk Railway and the Ottawa & St. Lawrence Railway.

New Reports from Murray Smith



QC-95, LEVIS & RICHMOND R.P.O. / DAY , 21, MY 24, 20 , is the first report of **train 21**.



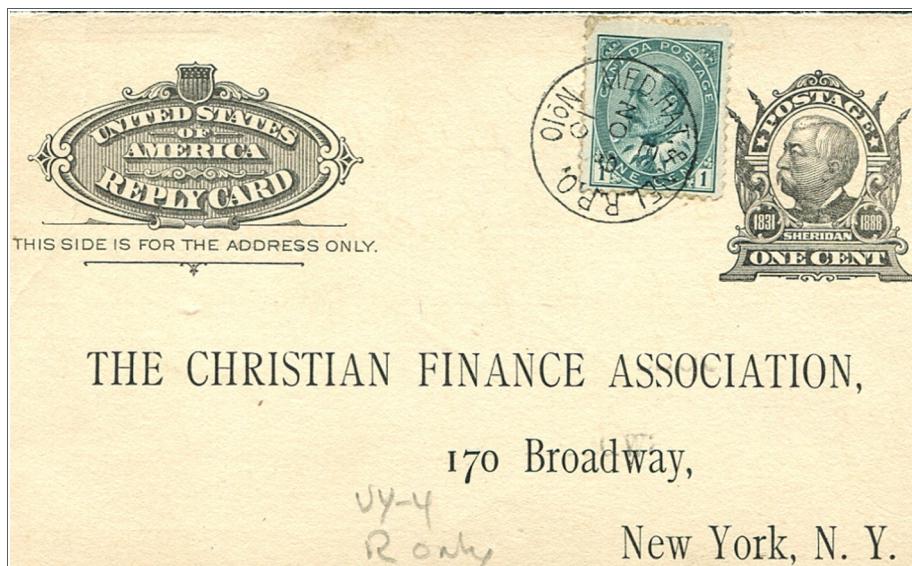
QC-202, MONT. & MANS. R.P.O. / . , 213, OC 18, 29 , is a new **late date**.



ON-106.08, FORT WILLIAM & WINNIPEG . R.P.O. / № 8 , W, SP 9, 04 , is a new **early date** for both the listing and the hammer, which was proof struck on May 26, 1904.

New Reports

Observed on Ebay and used as a transit backstamp on a registered cover from Pennfield Ridge, N.B. to Hamilton, Ontario, is the first report of **train 9** for hammer **QC-298.15**, MONT. & TOR. G.T.R.- R.P.O. / № 15, 9, JY 2, 20.



Observed in a recent auction, **WT-344.101**, MED. HAT. & NEL. R.P.O. / № 10 , E, NO 9, 10 , is the first report of an **E direction** indicium and a new **early date** for the hammer, which was proof struck on October 20, 1910.

THANK YOU

The treasurer, on behalf of the RPO Study Group, extends a most heartfelt thank you to BNAPS member and study group follower **Terry Sitch**. Terry has made an extremely generous donation of postage to the RPO study group that is most welcome and will be put to use immediately. As well as the postage there is a donation to the Bill Robinson Fund. This is not the first time Terry has helped out the club with postage, and his efforts towards the group are duly recognized and gratefully acknowledged. **Thank you Terry**.

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