

Fakes, Forgeries, and Fantasies

Some call them album weeds.

BNAPEX 2018 – Quebec City, Quebec Canada

23 March 2018

Purpose: This is a short introduction to album weeds. I hope to show basic examples of what they are and how to identify them. I intend to show real and genuine examples to highlight ways to help you identify any “Album Weeds” in your collection. I will also show some fantasies which can be interesting and add color to your collection.

Scope: This is an introduction with some basic examples to show how to tell forgery from genuine. It is not intended to be a complete treatment, just a teaser on what to look (or watch) out for. Choose some easy examples from the provinces and ending with some modern efforts. The use of the images is to show a visual example to match the words in most references. Finally used standard definitions to try and show the various types of Forgeries and Fakes out there.

There are three major pieces in this exhibit.

The first major piece is the forged First Cents Issue Dark Brown Die Proof of 10 cent Consort. This is thought to originate in Montreal, within the last 60 or so years.

The second is the Signed Jean de Sperati cancel proof strike.

The third is the Newfoundland Jean de Sperati 4d Proof in Black.

References

- [1] Staebler, L.M., “The Canadian Philatelic Handbooks, No. 4, The Standard handbook on counterfeits”, 1st Ed., Jan 1895, London, Ontario, Canada.
- [2] Dalton T., Lewis, T., Pemberton, E., “Forged Stamps and How to Detect Them”, 1863, Edinburgh, Colston, and Son.
- [3] 2 CENT 1899 Overprinted Provisional Surcharges, John M. Walsh and Julian J. Goldberg, *BNA Topics*, Volume 74, Number 1, January-March 2017 Whole No. 550.
- [4] Smythies, E.A., “B.N.A. Fakes and Forgeries – A Handbook of the British North America Philatelic Society”, Ontario, JF Webb.
- [5] Atlee, W.D., Pemberton, EL, and Earee, RB, “Spud Papers – An Illustrated Descriptive Catalog of Early Philatelic Forgeries”, Lucerne, E Bertrand.
- [6] Dorn, J., “The Forged Stamps of all Countries”, p.105, London, J Dorn.
- [7] Serrane, F., “The Serrane Guide – Stamp Forgeries of the World to 1926”, p. 257, 1998, American Philatelic Society, Pennsylvania.
- [8] Johnson, A., “Forgeries, Old and New”, 1941, Marks Stamp Company, Toronto.
- [9] Johnson, A., “Forgeries, Old and New, Part II”, 1945, Marks Stamp Company, Toronto.
- [10] Poole, B., “Postage Stamps of New Brunswick”, 2010, J&H Books.
- [11] Earee, R., “Album Weeds, How to Detect Forged Stamps”, 3rd Ed., The Manuka-Ainslie Press, Acton, Canberra.