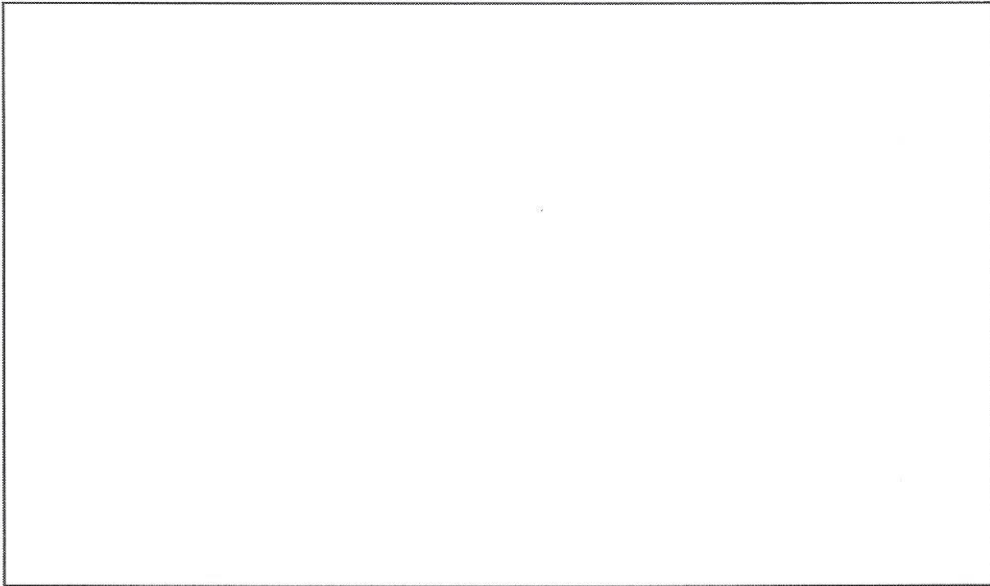


The Montreal Transcript Covers The First Use of a Reply Envelope?



This is a typical return envelope that was used by The Montreal Transcript newspaper between about 1861 to 1865. The one seen here was mailed back from Danville (C.E.) on April 20, 1864. It has a single split ring postmark and was registered. The envelope probably contained the cash for the payment of an extension of a yearly or half-yearly subscription of the newspaper. As was typical at the time, the 2-cent extra fee for registration was paid in cash. It has a penned notation at the side with the name of the subscriber (C. McNallie) and the town and date it was received.

Purpose of this Exhibit:

To describe these special envelopes that were used from around 1861 to at least 1865 as return-reply vehicles for the payment of a subscription to this Newspaper. A description of the newspaper itself is followed by details of the envelopes that were used. There is very little information that can be found about them, so a number of assumptions have been made in regard to their production and their use. There were no other similar covers in use in Canada until 1871.