

BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 65

April 2014

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Group News.

This will be a somewhat disorganized newsletter as I am in a hurry to send it before the new postal rates come into effect. I also have a great deal of material, at least 16 (!) of you have sent in 'stuff'. Unfortunately there will be quite a large "Fakes, Bogus and Spurious Items" section. I would also like to thank several of you who sent in 'old' postage stamps to help with my mailing costs. Much appreciated.

We have two new members: Dave Ross, and Randy Evans. Welcome aboard. I have had to drop five members for non payment of dues (for two years or more), our total membership is now at 82. Total dues collected was \$699.00, of which \$ 359.00 was donations or pay ahead subscriptions. Thank you. Is there anyone with a Pay Pal account who could help with the dues collection next year. It is difficult for some of our overseas members to pay otherwise.

I have to make three technical comments. Firstly, it is harder for me to make value judgements on authenticity from emailed scans. There are several tests which can be performed on 'real' stamps. I thank those of you who send in the actual items – I try for a 24 hour turn around time. Secondly, I appreciate all information sent to me, however sometimes it is just a reference to an auction company catalogue. This is of course a further 'distance' removed from actual examination of the item. (An aside, don't worry about me competing with you for an auction item, I'm a pure philatelic researcher and have no philatelic holdings.) Thirdly, there are many covers in this newsletter however due to space limitations I have often 'cheated' and electronically moved the CDS's to beside the cancels. This creates 'sorta cut downs' from covers which do not look as good as what was sent to me. Apologies.

REVISIONS TO PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

Newsletter 64, Fakes etc. section. My inclusion of the car, and airplane pictorial slogan cancels was not meant to imply that they were fake, rather it was to warn that partial strikes of them might be offered to the gullible as "fancy cancels". The one on Ebay for \$9999.99 was obviously (I hope) a joke, but what if it had stated say \$100.00? Thanks to Doug Lingard I am able to present full strikes of a few of these below. Note also, it is likely that some philatelists in the 1920's (or so) would have placed the stamps (or asked the P.M.'s) so as to receive the car, plane etc. part on the stamp. Personally I find a Queen Victoria airplane cancel a real hoot!



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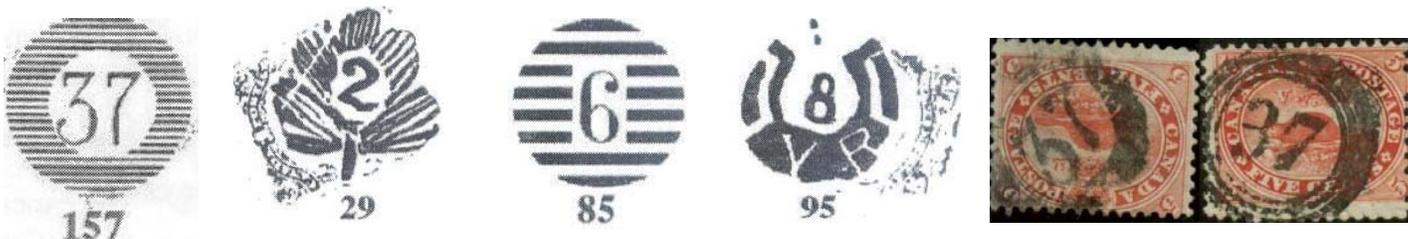
Newsletter 63, pg.4, the Wolfville NS oval (ill. previous page). All examples of this are 1868 only, and are not up to 1872 as reported by Olsen. Thanks to Mark Berner for this info.

Newsletter 64, pg. 3, 10 cent S.Q. with L1546. The stamp is a shade from about 1874, this is thus the Watford CE Sept. 1873 version of this cancel.

Newsletter 61, 62, the enigmatic EEXAT cancel. In a moment of free association during my morning bicycle exercise ride (on Feb. 14 !) it suddenly occurred to me that this might be a romantic gesture. "E.E. & A.T."

CORRESPONDENCE AND QUERIES

Mike Halhead sent in several items below, and also made an interesting suggestion for the next edition of the book. He suggests an appendix containing information on the four and two ring cancels including how they sometimes "morphed into fancy cancels. There is considerable interest in these numeral cancels, I would suggest also including information on the New Brunswick and British Columbia oval numeral types. Bill Longley recently presented an article on the N.B. grids, in "Confederation" the Large & Small Queen S.G. newsletter, and Brian Hargreaves has also expressed interest in these. I would appreciate reader comments on this idea. The cuts below illustrate fancy cancels that evolved from earlier official numeral systems, specifically the 4R37 of Quebec City, the 2R2 of Toronto, 2R6 of London Ont., and 2R8 of Ottawa.



Mike's first item is the Quebec 37 L157 as above, and shows how when heavily struck it can resemble the 4R37.

His item at right from a Crown Lands Registered cover probably explains the origin of L1484, a cancel reported to D&S as Owen Sound Ont. ? 1872, (and never seen by me) is really a variety of the common sectioned cork L1515.



Mike's next item (bottom right locates L1560 as Aurora Ont., Dec. 1881. The odd cancel beside it is a mystery from River John N.B. June 1879. Both CDS and cancel are in blue ink. (This should not be mixed up with the fake items described in Newsletter 60 from River Denys N.S.) His next item is similar to L 1515, and gives a new early date for this use in Parry Sound Ont. May 1875.



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Mike Halhead also sent in a reference to this cover which was for sale by a major auction firm. It appears that it was originally cancelled with a two ring 13 in Belleville Ont. and then (unnecessarily) recancelled in Kingston Ont. a day later with a fancy cross, L 1070 (Nov.-Dec. 1872). Why? There are three “layers” of conjecture here.



Firstly, the PM of Kingston, Mr. C. Deacon, was a rather free thinker it would appear. He carved over 45 different fancy cancels including 20 “Kingston 9’s” (L99 – L120) and a dozen different fancy cross cancels which may reflect on the religious nature of his name. Some of his creations may have had Masonic significance.

Secondly, if the street number is 6 (It is probably “2”, but hard to say, the word “upper” is also out of order) Upper Drumcondra Road it was going to a Post Office, and not just any P.O. wikipedia ...

"The Cat and Cage Pub on the Drumcondra Road was the site of an old postal stop and the point at which rebels, during the [1798 rebellion](#), seized a postal cart in order to signal to others in north County Dublin to revolt. The Cat and Cage is located at the corner of Church Avenue."

Would Mr. Deacon, have known the above, and wanted to send a personal cancel to the Irish PO?

Thirdly, the cover is a second or third stage mourning cover (narrow band), usually not sent to a P.O. Was Sissons the PO? It is possible also that Mr. Deacon thought that unlucky “13” should not have been used on a mourning cover, or to this P.O. We will never know...

Graham Searle sent in a cover with L526 a “K” cancel Feb. 1883. D&S had guessed that this was Kingston.



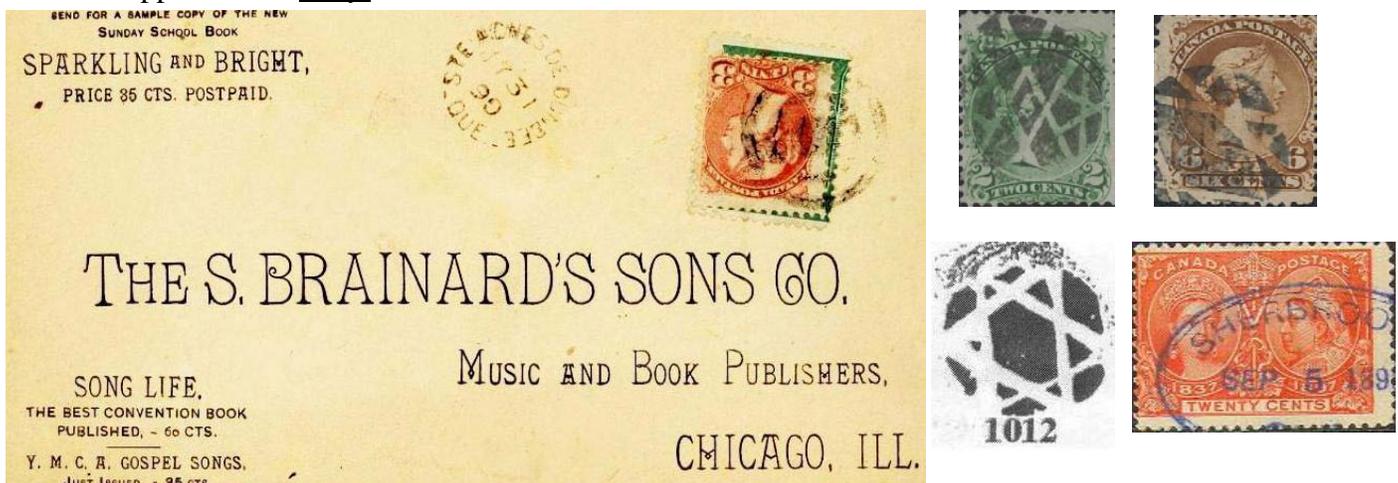
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Brian Hargreaves sent in these three items for identification. The first at top left is a mystery to me it seems to be either a positive “M”, or intaglio “V”. It may be a USA marking. The second item is probably a “Toronto 2”, likely L34 (which morphs into L36), used Nov.-Dec. 1869. The outer “ring” does not detract, the corks were placed in a metal collar of a cancel hammer, often this shows as a ring. His last item (filtered here) is L 906, “WJM” location and date (1890’s ?) unknown.

Paul Varty sent in the odd item (above) from Brompton Falls Que., Jan. 1898. This may be an “XX”, some sort of “stick figure”, or just a blob. It is a fairly late use of a fancy cancel, however B.F. used another fancy, L947 (a star) in 1875. This would have been the same PM, Matthew McDonnell held the post for a mere 47 years.

Garfield Porch sent in a cover with this rather poor (but identifiable) strike of L1061, a cross used at Collingwood Ont., Oct. 1872. This strike indicates that the note in our book is incorrect, the ‘notched’ ends of the cross appear in the early state.



Jack forbes sent in the cover above (3/4 scale) with a Canadian stamp put over USA, and cancelled in Canada. The USA stamp was either a pre-stamp or mistake. I’ve seen a similar item with U.K. placed over (and cancelled there) Canadian stamps as a forwarding charge.

Frank Henry sent in the 2 cent LQ above which has an unlisted geometric cancel which is similar to the Ottawa geometric series, compare L1653, L1654, or L1667. His next item on the 6 cent LQ appears to be L 1012, a star used in Lennoxville Quebec, June 1874 to Oct. 1876. Frank would also like more information on the Sherbrooke Que. oval cancel on 20 cent Jubilee. Was this a parcel cancel, commercial use, or from a receipt for bulk mailing book, or?

Guillaume Vadeboncoeur sent in an example of L187 an Eugenia Ont. CDS with a hand carved 1883 year indicator. PM Mclean Purdy later used a hand carved 1890 (L189), as well as a straight line Eugenia (L405) for over 25 years.



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Dufferin Sloley sent in a whole bunch of stamps – the real thing, not scans. As already mentioned, this is much easier to work with. I’ve run the best item first. There are 12 “Toronto 2” cancels which have never been confirmed on cover. They are so similar to the listed ones that they have been described by me (and others) as part of this group. The total is now 11 as L43 is now confirmed on cover as Toronto, Oct. 21, 1869. This is the first find in this dozen since 2000.

Dufferin’s other covers include Nov. 1869 strike of L803, a signet ring “T” used at Wellington Ont., July 1868 - Apr. 1870, and two Toronto geometrics, L1466, and an unlisted one (Jan. 1870) somewhat similar to L 1628.



Dufferin's stamp items include this “strange” leaf cancel. The back of the stamp has a note “See purple (?) 1 above I put there in 1885.” This cancel seems to have similarities to L1180 and L 1191. Comments are appreciated. The next item is L1450, described as a ‘honeycomb’ used New Liverpool Que., May 1872. Next is a ‘clover’ cancel, L1222 (location unknown) which is hard to see, but looks OK. Next, a star L988 used at Collingwood Ont., Aug. to Oct. 1871.

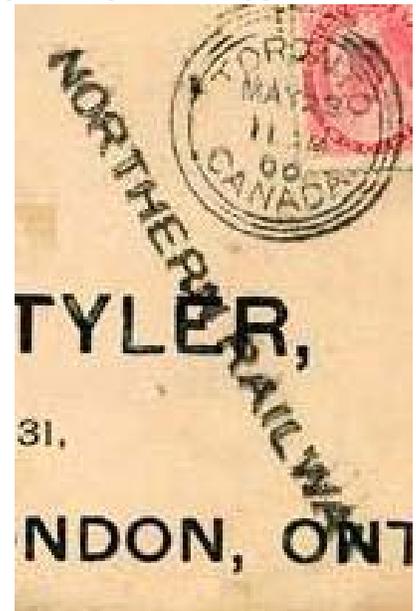


The remaining items are all geometrics, firstly L1529 used Kincardine Ont., Aug. 1870 to ? 1871. Now noted in blue ink. Next, L1601, used Ottawa, Dec., 1872. The next two items appear to be the same, the one on the left is from Dufferin, t’other is from Frank Henry. This is unlisted, but now that I have seen two strikes... Anyone know where this was used? The next item is an unlisted crossroad cancel, a variant of L1161. Finally, an unlisted ? cross ? somewhat similar to L1143.

Longley Auctions, Sale # 22, Jan 25 2014 had several fancy and miscellaneous cancel items. This “C” L334 was used at the Ottawa Main P.O. just across from the Parliament Buildings on items which could not be Government free franked. This example (from a Senator) was both registered and going to the USA, so stamps were added, and the special cancel was used.



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Other items from the Longley auction included two strikes of a British mis-sorted marking (see our D126) at top, Northern Railway straightline, our L660 in correct period at right, a British Foreign Branch “FB”, (see our D203), and a ? Scotland ? numeral “56” cancel on Canadian.



Ron Smith sent in the items above. The first is L999, now located, Parkdale Ont., Jan. 1887? The second one, a blue star from Cowansville Que. 1887 may be L973 (not located), unfortunately the strike is too weak to confirm it. The third item is a variant of L976, Steinbach Man, Jan 1896 a month earlier than previously known

FAKES, BOGUS AND SPURIOUS ITEMS.



The four ring numerals above are all fake. It appears that the faker used weak strikes of genuine four ring numerals and “improved” them with his own numerals. They were part of a bulk auction lot, so our member could not return them. The cancel at the end is a “made up” item and has similarities to both L203 an “A”, and L844 a “V”.

There was a fellow in the late 1970's from Montreal who produced pages of S.Q. cancels, with many real (but ordinary corks), and some of his own manufacture which were often somewhat similar to listed items. These were of course from "a new unsorted find". He tried to pitch these to one of the SQ S.G members who caught on, strung him along (& photocopied his offerings - I have copies), then went to the police. The fellow was charged, not much came of it, however his "fancies" were seized, and presumably destroyed by the police in about 1980. There is a possibility he "pitched" to others, which might be the original source of the “A” above. This is not the same person I refer to as "Bogusman" this fellow went for 'quick 'n dirty' quantity fakes, Bogusman produced single very dramatic fakes.

FAKES, BOGUS AND SPURIOUS ITEMS.



The item at left is probably from some highly dramatic fake material which appeared for sale in Ottawa in the mid 1960's. These items looked more like some 'kids playing with a drafting set' than anything intended to really fool anyone. Some were even bi-colour! Unfortunately some did get into the 'Supplementary Plates' in the Second Edition of Day & Smythies. Some are referred to in our numbers D440, D446, D450 etc. I have only poor quality photocopies of this material, see below. It is probable that some of it was sold elsewhere.



The 6 cent L.Q. above has a spurious (not trying to fool anyone) fancy cancel. It is either a pen cancel, or an ink doodle which happened to fall on the stamp. The 15 cent has a fake of L1291. This was recently sold as a fake – nice to see such responsibility on the part of the seller. The L1291 illustration is from a scan of the Pritchard & Andrews proof book. The Port Hood bisect is fake, there are problems with both the stamp and the CDS. I've also shown our L488, in this case the bisecting was probably philatelic, but the cancel is genuine, see D234.



The Hagersville cover above has been "played with", the "H" cancel may (?) be genuine, but it does not fit in the CDS time frame. Note also, no tying and glue trace. The Coleville "Fancies" are a complete fabrication, Several of the stamps are from six years before the PM arrived in 1950.

& Good collecting,

Dave.Lacelle