

BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 70

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Group News.

As usual, I am hurrying to get this newsletter out before the end of the year. It has been a rather difficult one as 17 of you sent in material. This is great as it gives me much to work with, but is also at times a bit confusing as to who sent what, and where it should go. Hopefully no one has been left out. Please keep this up an active participation rate of 17 from a group of about 80 is very impressive.

I recently snailmailed a request for information on 55 (or so) cancels which I have listed in the previous editions of our book. Five of you have already returned some information on these. Thank you. If appropriate, i also included a "Dues Notice", and would wish to also thank those who have sent in their dues. There are about three members whom I do not have snailmail addresses, and I will have to separately email them. There are only three members I will have to drop for (more than two years) non-payment of dues (OK J.C., D.L., D.W. ?), which will give us a membership of about 79. I must also thank those who have sent in donations, including unused stamps – about 36 of you still want snailmailed copies.

I must advise these 36 people that I do not mind sending both paper **and** email copies. The colour illustrations in the email version are much better than in the printed, if you would like both, just ask. (I suspect that most people with e-versions of the newsletter are less likely to respond with feedback information as it becomes "just another thing in the inbox". Feel free to prove me wrong by sending something in however...)

I must also advise our members not to use Pay Pal for their dues payment. Apparently someone has set up a bogus Pay Pal account based on the fancy cancel email address. The address was also used once in the past to attempt to sell fake Viagra, (dinna mention this in the Fakes and Bogus newsletter section) to a general world audience, and I have also received bank scam information notices. Such is the risk of going public. Email copies of the newsletter are sent out "bcc", and (other than the Pay Pal thing above) I have never received any negative email feedback from our group. (Not responsible for the Viagara, nor do I want to know!)

I forgot to mention we have a new member, Alexander Globe of White Rock BC. He is interested in the fancy Toronto 2 series of cancels.

I am "back on track" with the preparation of a third edition of our book. This is a HUGE job however and will take time. Bear with me please.

Wayne Smith is well into another HUGE job. He is attempting to list all Large Queen numeral cancel information. Due to the length of use of the 15 center (to about 1897) this would cover most of the fancy cancel era. Please send any information you have to him. (I can forward or provide his address upon request.)

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a happy 2016, and a warm and relaxing winter.

REVISIONS TO PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

Newsletter 63,pg.5, Bob Turkowski's items. Covers have now been discovered which indicate that the untitled cancel illustrated between L 1698 and L 1699 actually was the first in this series, with the other two being recut versions of it. See page two for more detail.

L 1295, (Halifax "REGISTERED & Crown") page 118, 119 of our book, and several previous newsletters. There is a considerable revision regarding the second period of use, and the design of this hammer. See following pages.

BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 70 CORRESPONDENCE AND QUERRIES

Ron Smith (collaborating sometimes with Guy Jeffery) has sent in a great many items. His first item below was referred to on page 1 as a revision. These two strikes (the second one is from Guy) of an unlisted Ottawa geometric are the "parent" cancel for two later recut versions, L 1698 (OC 1874 – SE 1876) and L 1699 SE 1876 – OC 1876. It would take just a few minutes to recut these, and the practice is probably more common than we realize. Ron also points out that these Ottawa geometrics were sometimes used as recieval cancels, and thus may not even have Ottawa CDS strikes on the front! (I cheated and moved the CDS strikes, the first one is actually a backstamp)



Ron's other items include this example of L 1044 with wider intaglio lines than the other 12 varieties of this cancel, Used Kentville N.S. SE 1882. The next is somewhat similar to L1365, but with seven triangles, used Port Perry ON, AU 1881. This should be listed as a new cancel.. he also sent in a new late date for the Manitoba "M", L581, Fort Garry AP 1874. The item at right could be a reversed intaglio "L", from Beaverton ON, Apr. 1886?. (PM was j. Cameron)



Ron also sent in this radial cancel (left below) which is somewhat similar to L1548 but with 12 wedges, used H&PR R.P.O. NS, Dec. 1871. Railway P.O. fancy cancels can be somewhat problematic as the cancel was not applied where the letter originated as would usually be the case, and were also not rplied at the destination. His last item is described in our book as "similar" to L 1106. It is sufficiently different (perhaps the other strike(s) were poor?0 that it should be a separate listing. Used Sherbrooke Que., Apr. 1876 in blue ink.



Brian Hargreaves sent in the two partial cancels at right, with the query as to whether they are "Toronto 2's", specifically L 24, a Roman numeral II. The details in the surround are so similar that I am sure they are L 24 however the small intaglio space in the "I"s is ("I"s is, now there is a bit of odd typing!) wider, possibly as these are early (?) strikes. I am retaining this as a "Toronto 2" as the period of use (Sept. 1870) is the same as five other Toronto 2's, and doubt that it was intended to be a "II II" design.

Garfield Porch sent in this lovely example (right center) of L 1470, a new late date, now Notre Dame St. West (Montreal) Oct. to Dec. 1895. It is also easy to see how this was erroneously reported as a duplex due to the close placement of the CDS. Jarrett reports use of this cancel in 1890, and D&S states 1892. These dates are unlikely, as all dated copies fall within the (now) three month period. Any other dated copies out there? Garfield also sent in this great strike of L 1615 on cover used Toronto ON Sept. 1871.



BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 70

Guy Jeffery sent in a reference to L 1295 (“L” illustration at right) which caused me to do quite a bit of research. (I could easily fill this page, but here is the simple version.) The Lacelle notes refer to UK use, as well as use on mailboats (which is correct), and then goes on to refer to two different periods of use (which is incorrect). In the 1860’s to about 1870 there were at least five different (but similar design) hammers which could have been used in the Halifax area, or on covers from Halifax. Halifax was a major British naval port at the time, and exact use of a cancel on ship, on shore, or overseas can be hard (impossible?) to determine. The L 1295 illustration is based on one of the uses in this period, and may be a Mailboat (or?) use. It is actually quite scarce, while the later hammer (as below) is more common. A similar situation happened with a Mailboat “A91” cancel (L 260) which is known on at least one local domestic cover from Halifax.



The strike in the photo below is the hammer used at Halifax PO from Sept. 1876 to Feb. 1886. It is considerably different from L 1295, and the book will have to be revised to correct this. I have used this illustration for a second reason, it is a scan of one of the basic source photographic pictures from 1959 for the D&S fancy cancel book. There were 500 (!) similar photos in this set (I have one set, another is known, but five other sets are probably lost.) On the back is the date taken, a unique number, and the collector’s name (in this case “Day”). I have included this so that there is some documentation of this research material. Picture 500 was taken May 31, 1960. (An aside, there are no items identified as “Littlefield” collection in the 500.) The scale in the example is the “standard” size of all the photos, and the handwritten “D&S 234” and “91” (the picture number from back) is mine.



Gary Steele has sent along another unusual multiple use Nova Scotia hammer, in this case the official St. John PO Crown Wax seal. See also L 1271. It is odd that a PO would need two of these, was there perhaps a PO fire? The second hammer seems slightly “rougher” in design than the first which is standard Berri of London design.



Graham Searle has found what appear to be several different varieties

BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 70

of the two ring numeral cancel number 57 issued to Paris Ont. I unfortunately do not have enough room to run his entire article, but here they are, and you can make your own judgements. The numeral portion of some of these hammers were in a few cases inserted into some later fancy cancels such as L 38, or L 105. These Two Ring numerals were issued in 1869, a few were still around in the 1960's. **If anyone has one, I would really like to see the hammer design.**



The strikes are, left two, the long and short "7" reported by Cohen, the third is our D 89 "...worn two ring ... one strike known ... smeared ... stamp was on an irregular surface..." The next two may be either similar cases to D 89, or may be different hammers. Paris may also have used two fancy "57" cancels, L 160 and L 161, these latter two cork 57's are only known as single strikes on L.Q.'s, any other examples of them would be appreciated..

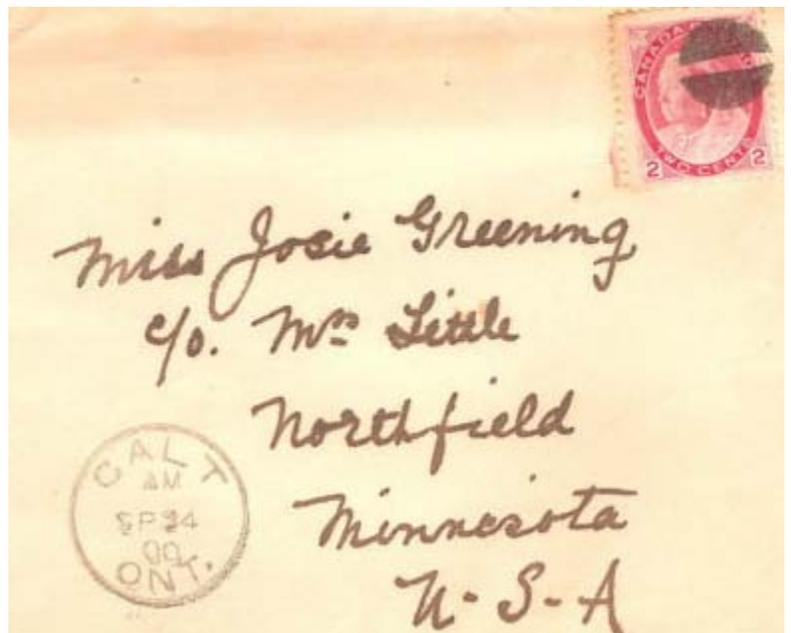
Graham (and at least two others) also sent in a reference to the recent sale of this cover with L 225 from Amulree Ont., Sept., 1898. This is the second cover and it improves on the first as the previous CDS date was poor.



Doug Murray sent in an example of this PEI cork from Summerside PE July 1, 1873. (Canada day #6). While a common type of cork, there are not many corks listed for PEI.



Joe Smith sent in this "screwhead" cancel which has been noted on this issue before, but not located. Galt Ont., Sept. 1900. You have to agree, "it works" as a cancel. This should be in the next edition of our book. (2 cent rair to USA Jan. 1 1899.)

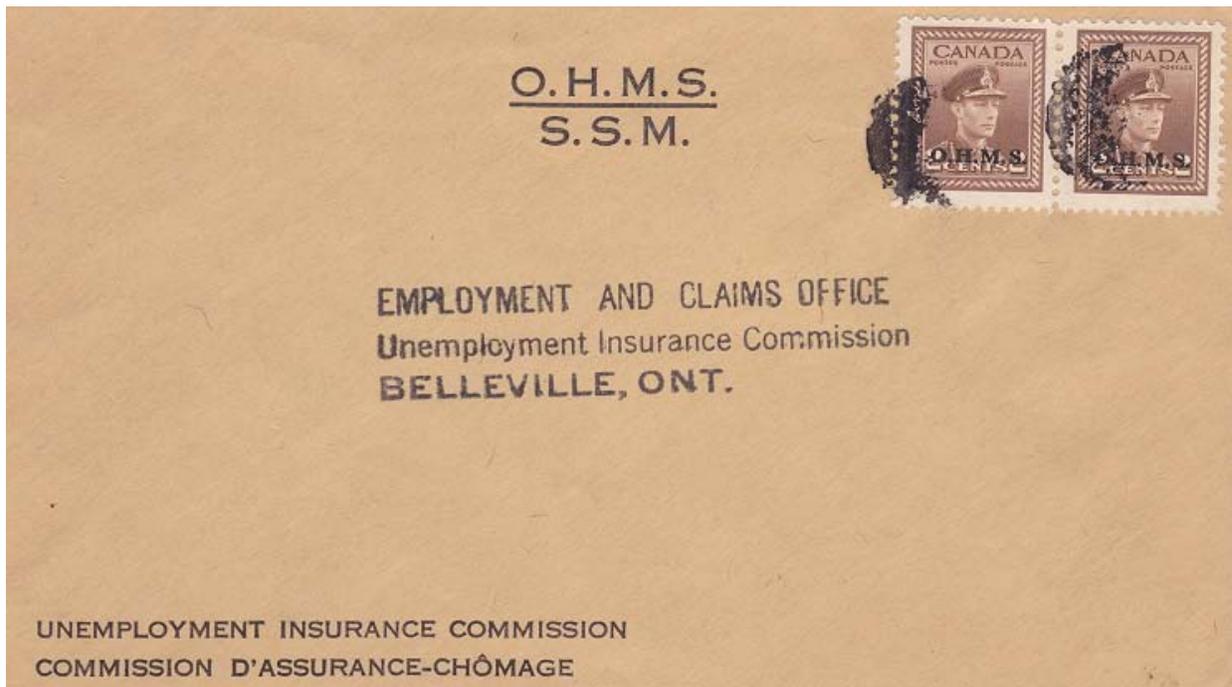


Room enough below to squeeze in one other item from Guy Jeffery. It is probably the L 1530 "similar" item used Toronto ON, Nov. . 1871.



BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 70

James Wardell sent in this modern (compared to most) “cork” cancel (a moon?). At first I thought it was a WWII ‘blackout’ example. CDS hammers were not to be used due to wartime security (at military sites) so that if the envelope fell into ‘the wrong hands’ it could not be traced. For a short while blobs or blank CDS hammers (Just a circle) were used. This is not the case the OHMS overprints were only started in 1949. As everything except the address is printed on and the address is stamped, we can probably assume this is a sorta form answer from Ottawa. The “G” overprints came out in 1950. The cover should, be (and looks like!) very official business, private citizens were not supposed to have access to the overprinted stamps. So, big question, why use the stamps in the first place, and is it a fancy half moon, the edge of something, an old blackout cancel or...? Presumably cancelled at Belleville?



Mike Street sent in this “miscellaneous” marking from a French Navy Vessel addressd to Paris cancelled by “CROISSEUR ECOLE JEANNE D’ARC” , but with Canadian stamps. I was able to find another example as in the cut. Mike did some research, there were seven training ships of this name, since 1912, for ‘officer’ training. Perhaps

these were sent by Canadian s in training? I also note that in both cases there are stamps which are somewhat older than the CDS would imply – what you might expect if stored on a foreign ship . But, why not stamps from France?



BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 70

Bill Pekonen sent in some S.Q.'s with a (sorta) random selection of cancels. These are mostly common items, yet show some of the range of fancy cancels. I included many general items in our book so that an outside viewer could see what was actually in use at the time. Included in this selection are L1539, 1074, 1624, 81, 488 etc. We will never be able to list all types of corks used over the 30+ years, however the book tries to present the basic types, then concentrates on corks which either have specific meanings, or are known by place and date. Thanks Bill for getting me back to basics.



Mike Halhed sent in the items below. The first is a lovely strike of one of the fancy Kingston crosses (Prepared by a PM with a fine religious name, Mr. "Deacon".) L936 in correct period of use. More than you want to know, but the ms "Dead" does not refer to the Dead Letter Office. His next item is L 1493 from Lakefield Ont., Dec. 1884, and confirms that L1493 and L1494 are the same cancel, L 1494 is the worn state, up to Feb. 1892. The next item is an unlisted fancy on printed circular, probably from Toronto 1870. Mike also sent along this tidy little square from Chatham NB, Dec. 1877.



FAKES, BOGUS AND SPURIOUS ITEMS

The item at right is the same as the item at the bottom of page 4, a geometric cancel from Toronto. It was put in the "Deletions and miscellaneous" part of page 40 of our book, as this poor strike was mistakenly being identified as a "fancy CC". Not everything in the "Deletions" is 'bad', some are just "spurious" or misinterpreted items.

The otherwise unlisted "Toronto 2" at right appears under high magnification to be a "painted on bogus item. Most lines are not sharp, and the intaglio lines appear to be from a thin mask (? An elastic band?) as there is some 'bleeding under it. A "3" at best on my 1 to 10 scale.

BNAPS FANCY CANCEL & MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS NEWSLETTER 70

The item at right (L 796) was recently sold by a Canadian auction house. Five of our members have mailed me about it as it was in our presentation of "Littlefield" bogus items in our newsletter 68. The auction firm was apparently unaware of this. It had previously been sold as part of a larger group all described as fakes by another firm.

One of the side effects of this sale has been the discovery of a second strike of this cancel. The second strike is on stamp, but only the top half shows. It is the same hammer, but a different ink. The original (1960) D&S

drawing of this cancel only showed the top portion and was obviously derived from this stamp. The item was sold by auction in 2010, it's location between 1960 and 2010 is unknown. Littlefield fakes first appeared in 1960, and he did produce four other bogus cancels as one cover, one stamp offerings.



Sigh, this blob was recently offered on e bay as a "running fox" from Fox Island. It is a blob.

This may also be a play on the name of the most valuable USA fancy cancel, the "Running Chicken" sold for \$275,000 in the 1980's.

