

## X. SPECIAL PRODUCTION STUDIES

### Booklets

Booklets were introduced in the Queen Victoria Numeral issue with two panes of six 2c stamps in a 3 x 2 format. These panes and booklets are quite expensive, as are the follow-on booklets of the Edward VII stamps, issued in similar format. With the Admiral stamps, more booklets were created for the public, with many more variations in denominations. Varieties in the cover design created collectible items. Booklets were produced for the Scroll, Arch, and Medallion issues for King George V, Mufti, War, and 1949 issues for King George VI, and



onward into the Queen Elizabeth II issues up to present time. Until 1968 the stamps of these booklets were all definitives with the likeness of the reigning King or Queen, but Canada Post issued Christmas stamps in booklet form in that year, and many different subjects have since appeared in booklet form. As with the early booklets, varieties continue to appear in both stamps and covers, promoting booklet collecting. With very few exceptions, modern booklets are not expensive, yet this collecting area represents a challenge to achieve something close to completion.

### Imprints and Plate Numbers

From the first stamps of all the Canadian colonies and provinces, stamp printers placed assorted marks on the edges of the stamp sheets to identify themselves as the printer and to identify stamps by various production methods. Thus, for the first stamp of Canada, the 3d beaver, the printer placed "Rawdon, Wright, Hatch, and Edson, New York." in eight positions on the sheet of stamps around the edge on



their wove paper printing of 1852. Later printing companies generally did the same thing throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and that procedure continues today with the stamps of Canada. Single stamps and multiples are collected to show the imprints. Single stamps often only show part, so multiples are desirable, and blocks are more costly than strips of stamps with the imprint. An example on a single 3¢ Large Queen is show in section V.

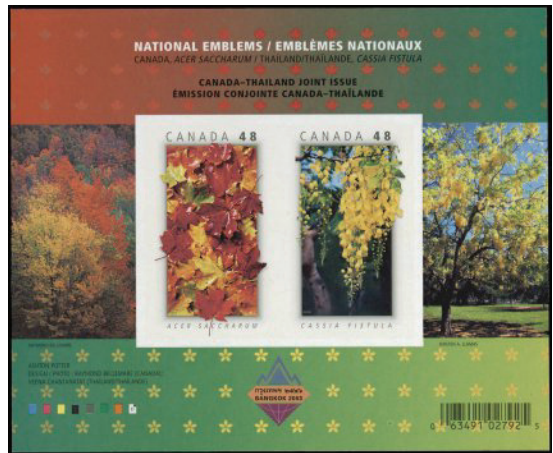
For some 19<sup>th</sup> century issues beginning in 1868, most stamps also have the denomination printed in the margin. For the Large Queens any evidence of them is rare and the 15¢ did not have a counter. For the Small Queens, the counters are found for all values. This procedure was stopped with the Jubilees.

Beginning with the Jubilees, each plate prepared for printing was given a number, usually consecutive but not always, starting with 1. Starting with the Edwards, many plates were used for the low values.

Post-WWII stamps typically were printed in large sheets with four panes, and imprints were placed in each corner, so that matched sets of blocks of stamps from the four corners are collected up to today. These are listed in current catalogues.

### Miniature Sheets

These are stamps printed in smaller sheet format, or even singly, begun in 1961 with the Wilding portrait issue 5¢ stamp in Cello-Paqs (see that listing also). Later, sheets of se-tenant stamps such as blocks of four were issued, and for some issues the format was a small pane of 8, 12, or 16 stamps as the only format for distribution. A variety of this format is the souvenir sheet, issued for a particular event, particularly philatelic exhibitions.



In recent years, an annual souvenir sheet has been issued, as a single and in uncut press sheet form.

### First Day Covers

Collectors have always been interested in the earliest use of a stamp, and some seek the earliest recorded usage of a stamp, either off- or on-cover. Since in the 19<sup>th</sup> century no particular emphasis was placed on introduction of a new stamp, often the date of issue is not known. For some issues it is, and covers with these dates are highly sought and are very expensive. With the issue of the Jubilee stamps, however, the tremendous publicity around them led to collectors seeking to obtain first days of issue, and some prepared covers specifically for that purpose. This was the beginning of the First Day Cover (FDC) collecting area. With less interest in the plain definitives, the topic died until there was increasing use of commemorative



stamps in the late 1920s and into the 1930s. With the great upsurge in collecting in the 1930s, FDC collecting took off. Since that time, with only a few exceptions, the Canadian Post Office

emphasized FDC, collecting. Now, official FDCs are prepared by Canada Post for each issue. Changes in printing methods, however, do not warrant FDC status, so stamp varieties with different perforations, tagging, or other changes are simply put into

production, and collectors still have FDC items to seek that are not as readily available as are most regular FDCs today. Canada stamp catalogues typically list FDCs with their city of issue, or cities in some cases, which leads collectors to seek examples from each city, much as what happened with the Jubilees. FDCs are collected with single stamps on cover, or blocks or plate blocks.

### **Presentation Books**

Presentation books are sets of stamps current at the time given to members of the Universal Postal Union or to delegates to UPU meetings or conferences. They are limited in number and difficult to find. Often they have leather or cardboard covers, and are often bound. Stamps in earlier times were glued down to the pages, but now are sometimes inserted into plastic holders.

### **Souvenir Folders and Articles**

While many privately produced materials have philatelic links, such as the voluminous material for the Royal Train activities, we mention here only officially produced material by Canada Post, which began printing souvenir cards of some stamps in 1959 through 1972. Beginning in 1973, Canada Post produced annual Souvenir Collections of the stamps issued each year. These were followed by many different types of stamp-related materials, such as thematic post cards and issue-oriented materials for particular stamps or stamp sets. Also available are frameable prints of newer stamps and sets, and international philatelic show cards (typically showing early or new stamps in a format related to the stamp show). Prominent among these are cards produced for the Canada International shows CAPEX 78, CAPEX 87, and CAPEX 96.

## Coil Stamps

Beginning in the Edward period stamps were produced, initially experimentally, to fit new automatic vending machines as strips termed coils (since they could be put into coiled rolls for the machines). The Canadian Post Office experimented in 1918 with the coil formats, including labeling the stamps on the back and putting holes between the stamp impressions to aid separation, and these are collected.

Since the printing process limited the number of stamps in a strip, the stamps were pasted together, and these joints are collected as paste-ups. Some companies made various cuts or indentations between imperforate stamps for ease of separation. These are very rare in early Edward 2¢ stamps. Later, special productions of coil stamps by the Canada Post Office led to new varieties such as blanks for the first few inches, called leader strips, collectible also. Also, markers between stamps were included on coil products, and stamps with the line between the stamps are collected as line pairs or as strips.

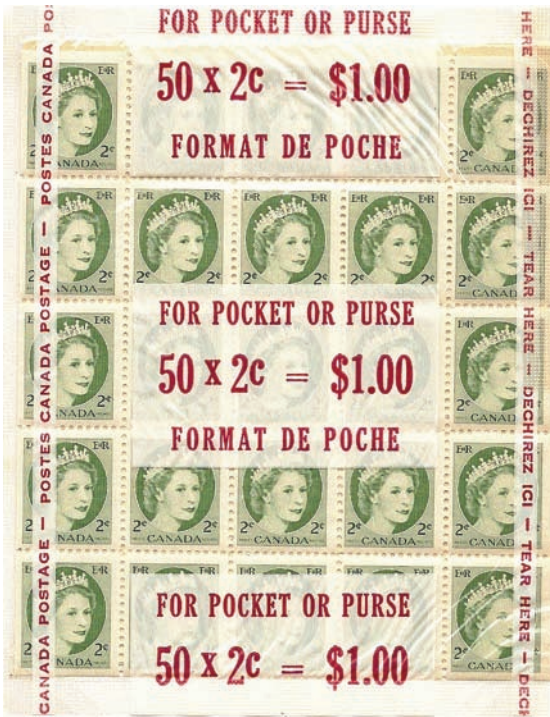


## Cello-Paqs

In 1961 Canada issued two Cello-Paqs of stamps. These were issued without any notification to the collecting public, and so these Cello-Paqs can be difficult to find in an unopened state. These packages were designed so that people would have a convenient amount of stamps in the two popular denominations of 2¢ and 5¢; they used the Wilding definitive stamps of 1954.

The original Cello-Paqs were produced with a “DECHIREZ ICI – TEAR HERE” repeated, going down the right vertical side and “CANADA POST – POSTES CANADA” repeated going down the left side of the Cello-Paq. On the front of the paq is printed in red, “FOR POCKET OR PURSE / 50 x 2¢ = \$1.00 (or 20 x 5¢ = \$1) / FORMAT DE POCHE.”

Pictured on the next page is an unopened Cello-Paq of the 2¢ Wilding definitive stamp of 1954, issued in Cello-Paq format in 1961. These miniature panes of stamps were not perforated on the outer edge and so it is possible to have four stamps from each miniature sheet with two straight edges. Many collectors of these miniature panes collect the four corner stamps, used and create a new smaller miniature pane.



A harder way to collect these Cello-Paqs is to collect them still in their packaging. This can be difficult because they were not announced by the Canadian Post Office, and so were used up by the general public and missed by many stamp collectors of the time.

The Christmas stamps first issued by Canada in 1964 are known to be available both tagged and untagged in miniature sheet format. The other definitive stamps were issued in Cello-Paqs as they were introduced, until the Cello-Paqs were discontinued in 1967.

## XI. AIRMAILS

### Pioneer Airmails of Canada and Newfoundland

A few flights took place early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Only a few cards and covers exist, but they have no specific designations. Toward the end of WWI, various flying clubs and groups began printing stamps for demonstration flights. For example, the Aero Club of Canada began printing stamps for their demonstration flights. The flights, which were carrying covers bearing both the special stamps and Canadian stamps needed to pay postage for mail carriage, were supported by the Canadian Post Office. Some of these flights produced rarities.



varieties due to the complex printing process of three colors are sought and collected. There are plate varieties due to re-entry and retouching, including doubling of some areas, as well as imperforate stamps. Design proofs, die proofs, and plate proofs in various states are recorded and collected. Full sheets are still available, although scarce to rare, and blocks can be purchased without great expense. Cancels include squared circles, town cancels, and precancels.

## VI. 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY DECIMAL PERIOD: CANADA, NS, NB, PEI, NF, VI & BC

### Canada

*Stamps* were changed from pence to cents on July 1, 1859, with 1¢ (newspapers, printed circulars, and drop letters), 5¢ (domestic, letter rate), 10¢ (U.S. letter rate), 12½¢ (letter rate to the U.K. via Canadian ship), and 17¢ (letter rate to U.K. via New York) issued. In 1864, a 2¢ stamp was issued for soldier's letters and for circulars to the U.K.

*Preproduction (Proofs and Essays)*. A variety of trial color die proofs for all stamps exist in brown, red, blue, green, and black, as do trial color plate proofs and plate proofs in issued color. Some have SPECIMEN overprinted in red or black. One can build an extensive showing of these, but they are not cheap.

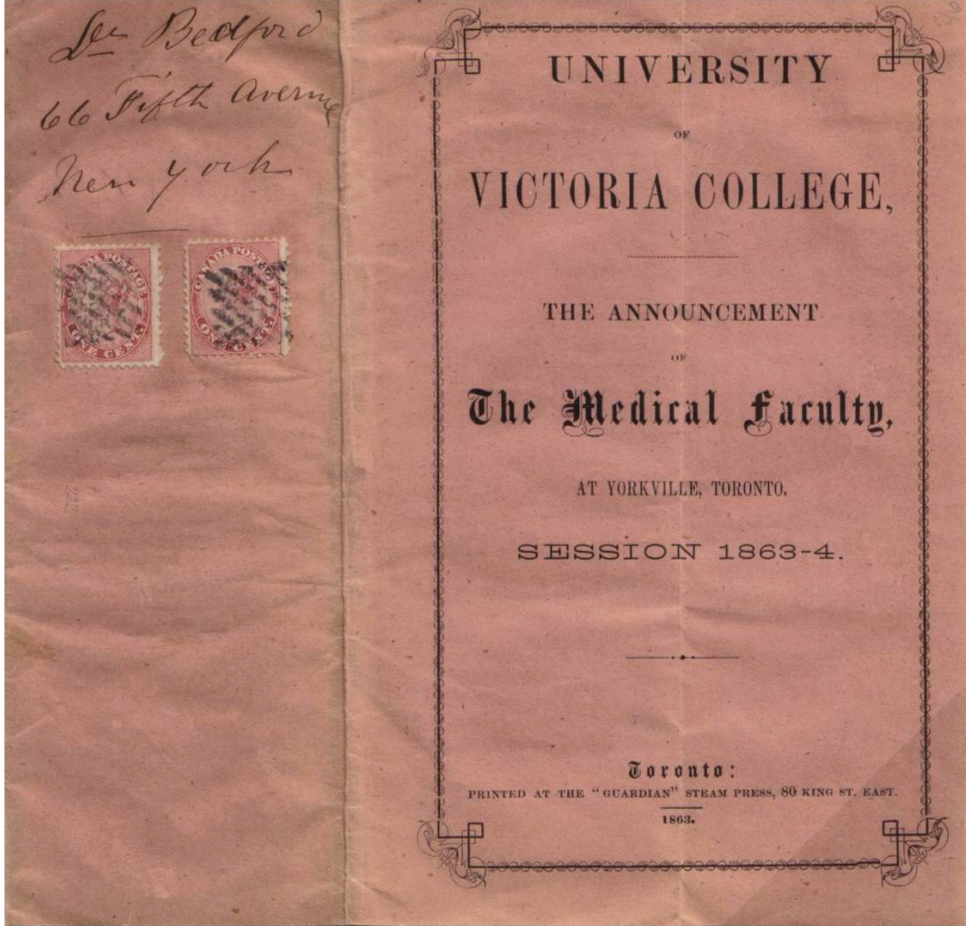
*Production (Plating, Errors, Varieties)*. Several researchers have done extensive plating of these stamps, and they have recorded many plate varieties. These stamps were all perforated about 11¼ to 12 depending on the printing order. Imperforate sheets of all except the 5¢ were issued; the few remaining examples are rare and expensive. The stamps were printed on sheets of 10 x 10 stamps. Mint blocks and multiples are rare and expensive, while used blocks are more common, although scarce. Imprints



of the printer can be found on stamps from all four sides of the sheet. The 2¢ is the most expensive, as about 850,000 were issued, compared to 27.5 million of the 1¢, almost 40 million of the 5¢, 5.7 million of the 10¢, 3.2 million of the 12½¢, and 600,000 of the 17¢. While one might expect the 17¢ to be more costly, apparently many more were saved on mail to England than

the 2¢. Mint copies of the 17¢ are generally tougher to find than any other stamps except the first printing of the 10¢ issued in a black-brown ink. These are often confused with the much more common brown 10¢ stamps, and buying a true 10¢ black-brown should be either accompanied by a certificate or after experience in seeing them.

*Cancels:* The duplex cancels issued late in the Pence period were commonly used, along with 7-ring cancels. The 4-ring cancels of the late Pence period also continued throughout the Decimal period with the exception of 16, apparently lost before the Decimals were issued, and 48, whose reported single strike is questionable. Town date cancels from the 1840s onward can be found on stamp even though they were supposed to be struck on the cover. A few fancy cancels were created and used but



are rare. Railroads began to use cancels on the cars that carried mail, so RPO (Railway Post Office) cancels are keenly sought.

*Rate Studies: Domestic Other BNA Colonies, U.S., U.K., Worldwide Covers.* Firby (1984) tallied unusual usages of the Decimal stamps, excluding common usages, listing the domestic, interprovincial (to NS, NB, PEI, NF, and BC), U.S., U.K., and foreign rates. About 135 covers with all frankings are recorded to the U.K., for example, with perhaps 30 from soldiers in Canada, with only 3 paid using the 2¢ stamp. Fewer than 100 covers to all other foreign destinations are known.

Covers to any destination other than the Maritime colonies, U.S., and the U.K. will be expensive to acquire.

*Auxiliary Services.* Domestic registered letters can be collected. Those to the U.S. are scarce, and to other destinations quite rare.

## Nova Scotia

*Stamps* were issued denominated in cents following currency reform in 1860. The values included 1¢ (printed matter after 1861), 2¢ (drop letters, printed matter before 1862), 5¢ (domestic, and British North America letter rate from Halifax), 8½¢ (Halifax to U.S. prior to May 1862, to Newfoundland before May 1862, both rare), 10¢ (letter rate to U.S. as of May 1862 or double domestic letter rate), and 12½¢ (letter rate to U.K.).

*Preproduction.* An essay of the 1¢ is reported to exist. There are die proofs in black and a few other colors for all stamps, and also trial color plate proofs, and plate proofs in black and color of issue. Most plate proofs exist with SPECIMEN overprint in red or black.

*Production* of the stamps by the American Bank Note Company resulted in issue on October 1, 1860 in sheets of 100 (10 x 10) on unwatermarked gummed paper. About 1.1 million 1¢ stamps were issued, 1.5 million of the 2¢, 4 million 5¢, 600,000 8½¢, 1 million 10¢, and 600,000 12½¢ stamps. All were perforated 12 on a white paper, with small printings on toned paper. Since remainders were sold to Stanley Gibbons via Bartlett & King in 1895, unused stamps are more common generally than properly used stamps. The number of remainders is estimated at 94,000 for 1¢, 2¢, and 8½¢, 47,000 for 10¢, and 23,500 for the 12½¢. Note that the 5¢ was not included, and unused copies are many times more expensive than the others. Bisects of the 1¢, 2¢, 5¢, and 10¢ exist paying part of various rates. All are rare. Stitch watermarks are known on all stamps except the 12½¢.



*Cancels.* The primary cancellations used on NS decimal stamps are the same as used for the pence issues: an oval with horizontal lines, town cancels, U.S. Boston circular daters from the Halifax packet, and British receiving markings such as the Liverpool packet marks. Atlantic mail boat markings are similarly highly sought.

*Rate studies: Domestic, Other BNA Colonies, U.S., U.K., Worldwide Covers.* Domestic circulars are scarce to rare, the 2¢ county rate relatively common, 5¢ domestic covers common, the 8½¢ single usage rates very rare and expensive, 10¢ covers to the U.S. relatively common, and 12½¢ covers to England somewhat scarce compared to the others. Multiple rates are generally rare. Other noteworthy covers, all rare, include 15¢ rate covers to California, 17¢ rate covers to the U.K., 23¢ rates to Spain, Malta,



India, Ceylon, and Australia, 25¢ double rate covers to the U.K. (rare), 33¢ to France, and a few higher rates.

The NS stamps could be used after Confederation with Canada until April 1, 1868, so that NS stamps are legitimate Canadian stamps after July 1, 1867. A few can be found on cover along with Canadian Decimal stamps, and these covers command high prices.

*Auxiliary Services.* Registration of letters was available domestically for 10¢, these being scarce to rare. Bisects of the 10¢ paying 5¢ of the fee are known.

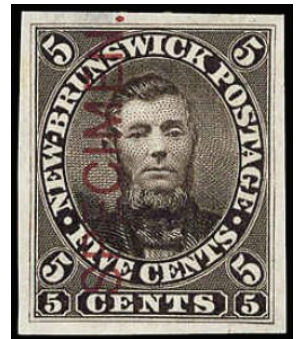
## New Brunswick

*Stamps* were issued denominated in cents following currency reform in 1860. The values included 1¢ (printed matter), 2¢ (drop letters after 1863, books and pamphlets after 1865), 5¢ (domestic, and British North America letter rate), 10¢ (letter rate to U.S., double domestic, letter rate), 12½¢ (letter rate to U.K. via Canadian mail), and 17¢ (letter rate to U.K. via New York).



*Preproduction.* An essay of the 1¢ is reported to exist. Die proofs in black and a few other colors are known for all stamps, as are trial color plate proofs, and plate proofs in black and color of issue. Most plate proofs exist with SPECIMEN overprint in red or black. One of the great controversies in early stamp production resulted from Postmaster Connell producing a 5¢ stamp with his likeness. Along with a die essay, imperforate proofs were prepared to include SPECIMEN overprints, as were 50,000 stamps on perforated, gummed paper. About 100 stamps were apparently saved by the family, but most were lost in a fire. Perhaps 20 remain, none certifiably ever used.

*Production* of the stamps by the American Bank Note Company resulted in issuance in late June or early July 1860, in sheets of 100 (10 x 10) on unwatermarked gummed paper. About 600,000 1¢ stamps were issued, 400,000 of the 2¢, 2 million 5¢, 600,000 8½¢, 600,000 10¢, 400,000 12½¢ stamps, and 100,000 17¢ stamps. All were perforated between 11.6 and 12 on a white paper. Early printings of the low values tend to be rare unused. Used stamps of the 1¢, 2¢, and 5¢ are not scarce, and even the higher values are not difficult to find. Unused blocks of four of the 1¢ to 5¢, are uniformly rare, and few larger multiples exist. Larger mint blocks of the higher values are obtainable. Bisects are known of the 10¢ paying a 5¢ rate. Many fakes exist and are quite good.



*Cancels.* The primary cancellations used on NB decimal stamps are the same as used for the pence issues: an oval with horizontal lines and numbers between 1 and 31, town cancels, U.S. Boston circular daters from the

Halifax packet, and British receiving markings such as the Liverpool packet marks. Atlantic mail boat markings are similarly highly sought.

*Rate Studies: Domestic, Other BNA Colonies, U.S., U.K., Worldwide Covers.* Domestic circulars are scarce to rare, the 2¢ is not known used singly. Domestic covers paid with the 5¢ are common, 10¢ covers to the U.S. relatively common, 12½¢ covers to England scarce, and the 17¢ a great rarity, two or three known. A correspondence to Newfoundland to J & W Boyd & Co. resulted in perhaps a dozen 14¢ rate covers paid either with 10¢ + 2 x 2¢ or 10¢ + 4 x 1¢. Multiple rates to anywhere are generally rare. Other noteworthy covers, all rare, include 13¢ rate covers to Newfoundland (before 1864), 15¢ rates to California, 17¢ rates to the U.K., 22¢ rates to the British West Indies, 25¢ double rate covers to the U.K. (rare), 26¢ and 28¢ rates to Newfoundland, 40¢ domestic rate, and a few higher rates.

The NB stamps could be used after Confederation with Canada until April 1, 1868, so that NB stamps are legitimate Canadian stamps after July 1, 1867. A few can be found on cover with Canadian Decimal stamps, and these command high prices.

*Auxiliary services.* Registration of letters was available domestically at 10¢, such items are scarce to rare. They include bisects of the 10¢ paying 5¢ of the fee.

### Prince Edward Island

*Stamps* were issued in decimal currency January 1, 1872. Denominations included 1¢ (brown) with 300,000 issued, 2¢ (blue) with 100,000, 3¢ (red) with 290,000, 4¢ (yellow) with 200,000, 6¢ (black) with 300,000, and 12¢ (violet) with 200,000 issued. In March 1874 most of these remainders of these stamps were sold after PEI joined Canada in 1873, resulting in relatively inexpensive catalogue values of most mint values. The 2¢ and 3¢ had the fewest remaindered.

*Preproduction.* One essay of the 3¢ exists. The original plates for the decimal stamps were sold by the printer in bankruptcy, and stamps were printed from them for the



London Philatelic Society. They can be considered die and plate proofs; values included 3 and 12¢ (plate proofs), and 1, 3, 4, and 6¢ (die proofs). Imperforate plate proofs in color and paper of use are known for all values.

*Production.* Stamps were printed in a 10 x 10 format on poor quality paper using an electrotype process. The gum was of poor quality, and the stamps were of poor quality overall. For this reason, multiples can be difficult to find or maintain in good condition.

*Cancels.* These include circular town cancels, rate and PAID handstamps, grid stamp cancels, and a barred oval with number 13 (Charlottetown). Since the stamps were in use only about a year and a half, cancels are more difficult to find on decimal stamps than on the pence issues generally.

*Rare Studies: Domestic, Other BNA Colonies, U.S., U.K., Worldwide Covers.* Lehr estimated only about 60 3¢ covers exist, and even fewer of any of the other stamps used singly or in combination due to the short period of usage, a total of under 200 decimal covers of all frankings has been recorded. Only two single uses of the 12¢ and only four of the 2¢ bisected on cover have been recorded, all great rarities. Most of these are domestic, and covers going anywhere else are rare. Covers to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Canada, U.S. (6¢), and Great Britain (8¢, and 9¢, overpaid), and 12¢, and 24¢ to Argentina are recorded.

*Auxiliary Services.* Registration was available at 4¢, but examples are rare.

### Vancouver Island and British Columbia

*Stamps:* Decimal currency stamps replaced the two pence stamps in 1865, although the change to decimal currency took place in 1862. A 5¢ stamp in rose (7,200 issued) and 10¢ in blue (7,200 issued) both with “Vancouver Island” as part of the design



were issued. These were followed by overprinted 3d stamps in various denominations.

*Preproduction.* Trial die color proofs of the 5¢ and 10¢ in black exist, and a die proof in black of the 2¢ on 3d is known.

*Production.* The first issue was imperforate, and the 5¢ is a great rarity on or off cover. The 10¢ is costly but obtainable. The stamps were then perforated 14, with about 100,000 of each. These were soon followed by overprints of pence stamps never regularly issued first perf 14, then perf 12 ½ (no 2¢) with denominations 2¢

on 3d brown, 5¢ on 3d rose, 10¢ on 3d lilac, rose, 25¢ on 3d orange, 50¢ on 3d violet, and \$1 on 3d green. The 10¢ and \$1 were never issued to the public. Only 4,800 each of the perf 12 ½ stamps were printed, so they are all expensive. The 2¢ perf 14 had over 2.1 million printed, with 244,000 of the 5¢ and 10¢, almost 500,000 of the 25¢, 370,000 of the 50¢, and 118,000 of the \$1. Some stocks (about 1,000) of the 10¢ and \$1 were destroyed. Blocks of four of the 5¢ and of six of the 10¢ perforated exist, as well as mint blocks of the perf 14 overprints. A block of 4 of the 25¢ mint perf 12 ½ is known as well as mint pairs of all overprints.

Stamps overprinted SPECIMEN and CANCELLED are known, intended as reference copies for postal authorities of various countries. Typographed forgeries are known.

*Cancels.* An oval with POST OFFICE VICTORIA and coat of arms was commonly used, as well as an oval PAID/Post Office Victoria, Vancouver Island cancel. New Westminster and Nanaimo also each had an oval cancel. A set of barred ovals with numbers between 1 and 35 (not all numbers were used) were issued and they can be found on the decimal stamps. The extensive operations of express companies such as Wells Fargo, Bernard's, Dietz & Nelson, etc. produced cancels for these companies that occur on the stamps. Mails that went through San Francisco in this

period acquired U.S. cancels as well as British cancels if their letters were addressed to the U.K. or overseas via the U.K.

*Rate Studies: Domestic, Other BNA Colonies, U.S., U.K., Worldwide Covers.* Almost all covers are expensive for these stamps. In addition to domestic use, covers to the U.S., Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Great Britain are known. Since U.S. stamps were available at the major post offices to pay the U.S. portion of a rate, combination covers with B.C. and U.S. stamps are highly sought and usually they are very expensive.

*Auxiliary Services.* Registration was available, but registered covers are extremely rare. Express companies forwarded mail to and from gold camps for various fees. Some companies had stamps that were affixed in addition to the colonial postage.

The wonderful collection formed by Gerald Wellburn won many international grand awards showing the stamps and postal history of this area; it is the standard

against which all collections are now judged. A beautiful book showing this material was published in 1987 by Daniel Eaton. While expensive, it can be found in philatelic literature dealers' stock or occasionally in auctions.



## VII. 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY PENCE PERIOD STAMP ISSUES: CANADA, NS, NB, PEI, NF, VI & BC

### Canada

*Stamps:* Stamps were denominated in pence and the 3d was issued May 1, 1851, a 6d on May 6, and 12d on July 19. The letter rate to Great Britain was 7½d by Canadian packet or 10d via the Cunard Ship Line via New York, thus a 10d stamp was issued December 22, 1854, and a 7½ stamp May 23, 1857. Finally, a new law required newspapers sent by someone other than the publisher be paid by the ½d stamp issued July 24, 1857.



*Preproduction (Proofs and Essays).* A variety of essays for the 3d stamp were created for the proposed stamp, and all are rare. Only a 3d die proof is known but additional die proofs were

period acquired U.S. cancels as well as British cancels if their letters were addressed to the U.K. or overseas via the U.K.

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*Preproduction (Proofs and Essays).* A variety of essays for the 3d stamp were created for the proposed stamp, and all are rare. Only a 3d die proof is known but additional die proofs were

created in the 1860s for all stamps up to that time, widely available in various colors, some with SPECIMEN printed over them. Many versions exist and are fairly easy to acquire, if generally expensive.

*Production (Plating, Errors, Varieties).* The first stamps were printed on sheets of two 10 x 10 panes, while the latter three values were printed on a single-pane 12 x 10 stamp layout. The paper initially used in the printing process was *laid paper*, and it was soon replaced by *wove paper*. There were many variations in this paper and these varieties are listed and collected.



The ½d, 3d, and 6d were perforated in 1858, and the 6d is much rarer and more expensive than the other two. Forgeries have been made of the 12d for over 100 years; all of them are easy to detect.

*Cancels:* Stamps were cancelled by ink with a pen, by a hand-held hammer that had a steel head with 7 rings, or other, locally obtained device. In 1860 duplex hammers for many towns were distributed; these had both an obliterating piece and the town name and date on a single hammer to reduce the time needed to cancel the stamp and date the cover. A few homemade specialty cancels, called fancy cancels, are known later in the 1850s. The 4-ring cancels, 54 numbers within 4 rings, were introduced in 1859. See the chapter on cancels for more details. A few railroad cancels were used as mail began to be transported and sorted in mail cars; these are highly sought on cover and stamp.

*Rate Studies: Domestic, Other BNA Colonies, U.S., U.K., Worldwide Covers.* Firby (1984) estimated that there are fewer than 2,500 total Pence covers surviving. Most of these are 3d single weight domestic covers. All other Pence covers can be expected to be expensive. Foreign rate covers are very expensive and difficult to find except those to the U.S.

Domestic mail one can find in the Pence period includes letters, printed matter and circulars, and newspapers, with one domestic parcel post item (begun in 1859) surviving. Fewer than 150 of such items have survived. Newspapers, circulars, and printed matter to foreign destinations are all rare.

*Auxiliary Services (Money Letters, Registration).* Letters with money were noted as such early in the Pence period to improve security in transmission, and registration was begun in 1855 for an additional 1d, which was paid in cash since no stamps could make up the rate until the ½d was issued in 1858. Registered and money letters are collectible. Money and registered letters to the U.S. are rare, to other destinations even more so.

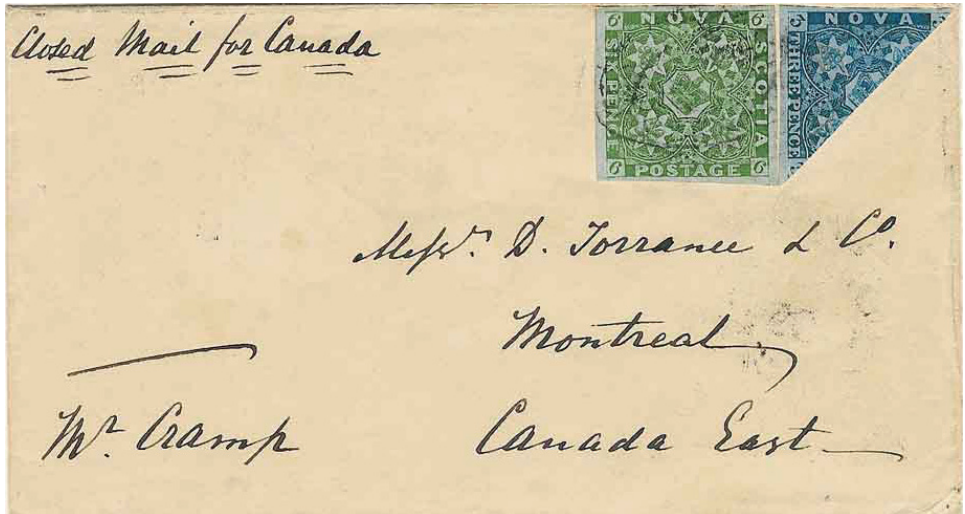
## **Nova Scotia**

*Stamps* were issued initially in 3d (in blue), 6d (in yellow and dark green), and 1/ (in violet, and the first printing is termed cold-violet) denominations on September 1, 1851, with a 1d following in January 1854.

*Preproduction.* Trial color die proofs are known for all four pence issues (all very rare), as are trial color plate proofs (rare), and plate proofs in black on card (scarce except for rare 3d). The 6d and 1/ usually have SPECIMEN stamps in large letters across parts of some of them. Reprints were made in 1890 of all values with 800 of each.

*Production* of the stamps by Perkins Bacon of London was in sheets of 160 (10 x 16) on watermarked wove gummed paper. Only about 12 unused cold-violets are known. All stamps were imperforate. Forgeries have been made of all values, but are all poor imitations. Nevertheless, they are collected.

*Cancels.* The primary cancellations used on NS pence stamps include an oval with horizontal lines, town cancels, U.S. Boston circular daters from the Halifax packet, and British receiving markings such as the Liverpool packet marks. Atlantic mail boat markings are highly collectible.



*Rate Studies: Domestic, Other BNA Colonies, U.S., U.K., Worldwide Covers.* Jephcott, Greene, and Young (1964) and Argenti (1962, 1976) provide a comprehensive coverage of rates for which the pence stamps are known. Other than the 3d used on a domestic cover, almost all pence covers are scarce to rare and generally will be expensive. Since many rates required bisecting stamps to obtain the appropriate rate (approved by the NS post office), covers with such rates are highly sought. Several websites currently available show most of the recorded rates, including the Wilkinson exhibit at the Charles G. Firby Auctions website and the Frederick R. Mayer Foundation website.

*Classes of Mail.* In addition to letter rates, newspapers and printed matter were mailed, but are rare to nonexistent.

*Auxiliary Services.* Registration of letters was available domestically at 6d, but such registered items are scarce to rare.

## New Brunswick



*Stamps* were issued initially in 3d (in red), 6d (in yellow), and 1/ (in violet) denominations on Sept. 6, 1851.

*Preproduction.* Trial color die proofs are known for these pence issues (all very rare), as are trial color plate proofs (rare), and plate proofs in black on card (scarce except for 3d which is rare). The 6d and 1/ usually have SPECIMEN stamps in large letters across parts of some of them. Reprints were made in 1890 of all values with 800 of each.

*Production* of the stamps by Perkins Bacon of London was done in sheets of 160 (10 x 16) on watermarked wove gummed paper. All stamps were imperforate. Forgeries have been made of all values, but all are poor imitations. Nevertheless, they are collected.

*Cancels.* The cancellations used on NB pence stamps included a set of barred ovals with numbers between 1 and 31, town cancels, British receiving markings such as the Liverpool packet marks, and Atlantic mail boat markings.

*Rate Studies: Domestic, Other BNA Colonies, U.S., U.K., Worldwide Covers.* Jephcott, Greene, and Young (1964) and Argenti (1962, 1976) provide a comprehensive coverage of rates for which the pence stamps are known. Many rates required bisecting or even quadrisectioning the 1/ stamp to obtain the appropriate rate, and covers with such rates are highly sought. The lack of a 1d stamp prevented some rates from being constructed, even with bisects. The Wilkinson exhibit at the Charles G. Firby Auctions website shows many examples. Destinations other than to the U.S., New Brunswick, and Great Britain are rare.

*Classes of Mail.* In addition to letter rates, newspapers and printed matter were mailed, but are rare to nonexistent.

*Auxiliary services.* Registration of letters was available domestically at 6d, such items being scarce to rare.

## Prince Edward Island

*Stamps* were issued in PEI January 1, 1861. Initially, 2d (rose), 3d (blue), and 6d (yellow green) values were issued, with 1d (orange brown) and 9d (violet) added late in the year. In late 1862 some values were reprinted and a 4d (gray black) value added. Color shades varied with additional printings, and a 4½d (yellow brown) was added in 1870. All were printed by electrotype by Charles Whiting of London, done cheaply and often with varieties on poor quality papers. The 2d first printing included a rouletted variety that is a great rarity.

*Preproduction.* Die essays of the 3d, 4½d, and 6d are





known, as well as trial color plate proofs of all values except the 9d exist.

*Production.* Stamps were printed in 30-stamp sheets (60 for the 2d), in a 5 x 6 format. The numbers printed range from about 90,000 of the 6d to 690,000 of the 2d. Of these, significant proportions were sold by the PEI government in 1874 to private dealers. This resulted in low prices for mint stamps since then. Forgeries are known, quite poorly reproducing the already poor images.

*Cancel.* These include circular town cancels, rate and paid handstamps, grid stamp cancels, and a barred oval with 13 (Charlottetown).

*Rate Studies: Domestic, Other BNA Colonies, U.S., U.K., Worldwide Covers.* Lehr estimated about 800 pence covers exist. Most of these are domestic, and covers going anywhere else are scarce to rare. Covers to Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Canada, U.S., Great Britain, France, British Guiana, and Burma are recorded.

*Auxiliary services.* Registration was available, but examples are rare.

### Vancouver Island and British Columbia



Stamps were issued for Vancouver Island and British Columbia early in 1860. Initially, a 2½d (rose) was issued for use in both colonies. In 1865 with the joining of the two under the name British Columbia a 3d (blue) was issued. These were the only pence stamps issued.

*Preproduction.* Progressive die proofs in black, die proofs in red, and plate proofs in red of the 2½d exist, and trial and as-issued die proofs in black, red, green, brown, buff, and blue of the 3d are known, as well as a probable plate proof in blue. A reprint of the 2½d was made in 1862 in a single sheet for the International Exhibition in London in bright orange rose.

*Production.* The 2½d was printed in 4-pane sheets of 60 stamps in a 10 x 6 format. About 230,000 were printed. The over 1.1 million of the 3d were printed, but over 850,000 were destroyed, leaving about 250,000 probably issued. The 2½d is known unused with blocks of 18, 26, 12, 6, and a number of blocks of 4. A used block of 8 is recorded. The 3d was almost always cut into strips, and only one block of 4 is recorded used. Mint blocks of the 3d are scarce, and a block of 20 is known. Lithographed forgeries are known.

*Cancels.* An oval with POST OFFICE VICTORIA and coat of arms was commonly used, as well as an oval Post Office Victoria Vancouver Island cancel. New Westminster and



Nanaimo and Nanaimo also had an oval cancel. A set of barred ovals with numbers between 1 and 35 (not all numbers used) were issued and some can be found

on both pence stamps. The extensive operations of express companies such as Wells Fargo, Bernard's, Dietz & Nelson, etc. produced cancels for these companies that occur on the stamps. Since almost all mails went through San Francisco in this period, there can be U.S. cancels as well as British cancels.

*Rate Studies: Domestic, Other BNA Colonies, U.S., U.K., Worldwide Covers.* Almost all covers are expensive for these stamps. In addition to domestic use, covers to the U.S., Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Great Britain are known. Since all foreign destinations required transit through the U.S., arrangements were made to have U.S. postage stamps available in the major post offices to pay the U.S. portions of the fees. This continued until postal agreements with the U.S. no longer required



them. An example is shown above.

*Auxiliary services.* Registration was available but covers are very rare. Express companies forwarded mail to and from gold camps for various fees. Some companies had stamps that were affixed in addition to the colonial postage.

## VIII. FRENCH AND BRITISH PERIOD PHILATELY (1685–1851)

### **British North America (Lower and Upper Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island)**

This period is entirely stampless for both internal and outbound mail (no Canadian stamps were issued until 1851). As such, the focus of collectors is on postmarks, rates, and routes. The collection of stampless covers—also termed ‘folded letters’—was not popular until postal history became a major area of research a few decades ago. Now the scarcer stampless covers are quite expensive, depending on their postmarks, mail routes, contents, and signatures.

#### **French Period Philately, 18th Century**

There are a few available covers between 1685 and 1760 that show delivery between Quebec and Montreal or from either to France. These are expensive and very hard to obtain.

#### **British Period Philately, 1763–1851**

There is little available material to collect prior to 1800. The first part of the period was devoted to consolidation of British mails, with Benjamin Franklin as the first postmaster of all BNA colonies. The American Revolution severely restricted mails between the BNA colonies and Great Britain. The latter part of the 18th century was devoted to consolidation and development of the BNA colonies. Again, relatively little material is available. By 1800, things settled down a bit, and more mail flowed as commerce was developed, but the 1812–1815 war between the United States and Great Britain again interrupted shipping and communication. Some interesting rates are found, and collectors and authors such as Allan Steinhart and Jack Arnell have documented this period through to the years when Canada and the other Maritime colonies took over their own postal systems in the early 1850s. Also, several collectors, notably Dorothy Sanderson and Dr. John Robertson, have studied the postal history between Canada and the U.S. Collecting in this period, given the absence of stamps, tends to focus on postal history. Domestic, cross-border to the U.S., interprovincial mails among the BNA colonies, and mail to other countries prior to 1851 (and even well into the Pence issue) is so limited that it is difficult to do anything other than find an example or two. Steinhart had the most extensive showing of such material; his collection was sold in Europe a few years ago. Some collectors focus on only mail from or to one of the colonies. New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island all have their own separate histories around which there have been notable collections. Shown below is a stampless cover from Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, to Edinburgh, Scotland, sent in 1803 and believed by Steinhart to be the earliest cover from PEI to

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another country. This cover illustrates several features that collectors of this period focus on: the rate due in Scotland of 3/9 (3 shillings ninepence), a London (UK) receiver, manuscript inside from “St. John’s Island” (the earlier name for PEI), and a docketed receiving date of June 28. This cover was sent via a private ship, and the captain received 1d as a carriage fee.

*Postmarks.* Each colony began to use various postmarks. Some are *straight-line cancels*, with the name and colony abbreviation in a single line. Some have a date below. Also, *circular cancels* began to be used with the date in the middle of circular town and colony names. Quebec used so-called *Bishop’s marks*, which emulated English postmarks. These are circular, with Quebec forming the circle, some with circular lines outside and inside, at least one with no lines, and a date in the middle. Mail traveling by ship to and from England was often marked with *ship letter postmarks*. These are found as ovals, straight-lines, and various multi-line configurations. Legislatures in both Upper and Lower Canada began using postmarks in 1849, and these can be found on covers, including postage-free, called free-franked, material



sent from the legislatures when they were sitting. After 1800, more towns began to use straight-line marks and double-line circular cancels with the town name between two concentric circles. These are much easier to obtain and collect, many

found in the 1830s and 1840s into the 1850s, until the colonies began to use new canceling devices and daters. As commerce increased, the need to send valuables led to *Money Letter postmarks* that indicated enclosed currency.

*Rates and Routes.* The study of rates in the 1800–1851 period is complex, with distance and number of sheets determining the rates. Domestic mail in each colony is certainly collectible, with money letters providing additional variations. Cross-border mail with the U.S. is a popular focus for both collectors of Canada and U.S. material. Various towns were designated as customs and mail exchange points and have associated cancels that are collected as routes. Foreign mail is uniformly rare from all the BNA colonies except to England or Scotland. Covers to France and Portugal are next most likely to be found, followed by various European countries. Mail to any other continent is so rare that only single examples to many countries are recorded. The North American war of 1812–1815 and somewhat after provides an interesting challenge to find various special rates due to blockading and

currency inflation. With the introduction of steamships in the late 1830s, a collector can find trans-Atlantic mail carried by early steamships. River steamboats also had mail clerks for Canada, and steamboat mail is very collectible in the late 1840s into the 1850s.

## IX. 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY NEWFOUNDLAND

“Newfoundland was a self-governing Dominion of the British Empire from 1855–1933, when it became a Crown Colony. In 1949 it united with Canada.” – *Scott Classic Stamp Catalogue, 2007*.

Newfoundland issued almost 300 postage stamps while a Dominion and Crown Colony, 30 pieces of postal stationery, and almost 75 revenue stamps. Because of that, it provides collecting opportunities for general collectors as well as material for specialists or topical collectors. It attracts those who collect definitive or commemorative stamps, airmail stamps, postal stationery, revenues, varieties, postal history/rates, as well as those just fond of stamps from the earlier years of philately. There are no “wallet-busters” in Newfoundland’s 20<sup>th</sup> century issues except for several very rare airmails.

### The Pence Issues (1857–1865)

“In 1856 the British Government authorized the issue of Newfoundland postage stamps, which were placed on sale from 1 January 1857. Stamps were slow to become popular and many continued to send letters unpaid, the recipient paying upon delivery...” – Colin Lewis, BNAPS Exhibit Series #42.

The 1857 emanations were imperforate in nine values from 1d to 1s, in various shades of brownish claret and scarlet vermillion. The 3d issue was a triangle—the only 19<sup>th</sup> century BNA triangle—in yellow green. A second printing in 1860 was of just five of the values, from the 2d to 1s in orange or Venetian red. The last printing in 1861 had all the values again, in violet brown, rose lake, and green for the 3d triangle. Common rates were 3d for local and inland (colonial) letters, and 6d for mail to Great Britain.



The stamps were recess-printed by Perkins, Bacon & Co. (London) in various sheet formats, from as few as 20 stamps (5 x 4) to as many as 120 (12 x 10). Some of the stamps in the last two sets are watermarked STACEY WISE 1858 and copies showing the watermark sell for a premium. Essays of the 3d, 6d, and 1s were produced followed by plate proofs of all stamps. These were in black. Proofs in bright colors are Perkins Bacon trade sample sheets from 1902 onward. These are also fervently collected by specialists.

Quantities issued of some of the pence issue are quite low, especially the 1s stamps of the first two printings (only 1,000 of Scott #15, for example), making

currency inflation. With the introduction of steamships in the late 1830s, a collector can find trans-Atlantic mail carried by early steamships. River steamboats also had mail clerks for Canada, and steamboat mail is very collectible in the late 1840s into the 1850s.

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Quantities issued of some of the pence issue are quite low, especially the 1s stamps of the first two printings (only 1,000 of Scott #15, for example), making

them among the most costly of Newfoundland stamps. Covers of all of these stamps are exceedingly rare. Pence forgeries are common, many created by Spiro or Sperati, but distinctions are well documented in a number of standard Newfoundland references.

We recommend that collectors of modest means who desire examples of the pence stamps seek out the 1861 set. Sound examples of mint stamps can often be bought from online auctions for just a few dollars. The first issue, pictured above, is another pence issue that is easily obtained in nice condition at a modest cost. There



were a large number of remainders of the 1861 set, with some on sale at the General Post Office in St. John's as late as 1917.

### The Cents Issue (1865–1898)

At the beginning of 1865 Newfoundland introduced a decimal system of currency. This required the issuance of a new series of postage stamps, replacing the pence stamps in place since 1857. The new stamps are commonly called the “Cents Issues.” No longer would the country’s stamps be printed in Great Britain, as it was decided the new cents stamps should be printed in New York. The contract was awarded to the American Bank Note Company (ABNC) of New York. Except for the 1¢ first printing, the ABNC printed all Newfoundland stamps from 1865 to 1879. At that point, printing was transferred to the British American Bank Note Company in Montreal or Ottawa.

The first six issues were printed in sheets of 100 (10 x 10) on yellowish or stout white paper in quantities of 100,000 (both papers). The designs provided homage to Queen Victoria (12¢ and 24¢), 10¢ for the Prince Consort, a 2¢ codfish (an important Newfoundland export), a 5¢ Harp Seal, and a 12¢ schooner. Many of us can still recall our introduction to the beautiful animal stamps from Newfoundland that could be bought for pennies—the green or orange codfish, or the Newfoundland dogs, seals, etc. The animal designs started with the 1865 issue and would become a philatelic tradition until unification with Canada. The rates intended were: 2¢ green for drop covers; 5¢ brown for inland; 10¢ black for double rate inland; 12¢ red-brown for Great Britain; 13¢ orange yellow for U.S. and Canada, and 24¢ blue for the double rate to Great Britain. A 1¢ dull purple Prince of Wales stamp was issued in 1868 for circulars. Subsequent stamps were released, including Queen Victoria designs—a 3¢ vermilion and 6¢ dull rose in 1870 due to a reduced



Stamp



inland rate. Different shades of several of the stamps were subsequently issued, and rouletted versions of the 1¢ to 5¢ values came out in the late 1870s.

Proofs and color trials were issued for all of the ABNC stamps except for the rouletted issues. Plate inscription blocks are very popular, while margin singles can be found with full inscriptions. Actually, multiples of *all* the cents issue are in great demand. Sammy Whaley has documented almost 1,000 covers franked by the first cents issues. The 6¢ first printing is the one seen most often, while examples of the 1¢ and 2¢ rouletted issues are quite rare. The rarest, paying the proper rate, is the 24¢ (two known). Whaley's study is *Newfoundland: 1865-1879, the New York Printings*. The most expensive of these stamps is the 5¢ brown seal. Centering is a challenge on many of these issues; it greatly influences price.

New cents designs were issued by the British American Bank Note Co. (Ottawa) in 1880, starting with a 1¢ brown Edward, 2¢ green codfish, 3¢ blue Victoria, and 5¢ seal. In 1887 colors were changed and a ½¢ rose Newfoundland dog and 10¢ black schooner were added. A final new design in 1890, in black, was of Queen Victoria. All sheets were 10 x 10, except the 10¢ schooner, which was 5 x 10. In 1894, four Montreal printings resulted in a new color for the ½¢ dog and 5¢ seal and use of ABNC plates with new colors for its 6¢ Victoria and 12¢ Prince Consort. A special limited printing in 1896 (probably philatelically inspired) of 10,000 each was issued of the ½¢ orange dog, 1¢ brown Edward, 2¢ green codfish, and the 3¢ Victoria in both blue and brown. In November 1897, during a stamp shortage, Colonial Secretary J. Alexander Robinson ordered the last printings of cents stamps; they were the ½¢ orange dog, the 1¢ Edward in yellow-green, and the 2¢ orange codfish.

The second cents issues, unlike the first cents issues, have fewer proofs of the BABC stamps. Plate proofs of the ½¢ are known as well as color trials. Die proofs and plate proofs of other values have been reported but are seldom seen. The 2¢ orange cod is known imperforate. Some but not all of the BABC sheets have plate inscriptions. The good news is that most mint copies of the latter cents issues are not expensive. Covers are less expensive for most of the 1880–1898 issues than the first cents issues, and are in greater supply.

### The 1897 Cabot Issue

At the beginning of 1897, Colonial Secretary Robert Bond decided to issue a long set of stamps to commemorate the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the discovery of



Newfoundland by John Cabot. One stamp would be dedicated to Queen Victoria and others promoted Newfoundland. Bond sensed a potential for increased revenue for the post office, with the U.S. Columbians and Canadian Silver Jubilee sets as models. There would be 14 stamps from the 1¢ Victoria to a 60¢ Cabot. Die and plate proofs were made in various colors. The stamps were recess-printed by the American Bank Note Company in 10

x 10 formats. One hundred sets of the stamps overprinted SPECIMEN were also issued. In order to maximize sales, existing Newfoundland issues were recalled. As a further fillip the plates were destroyed after printing, barring further printings. Given all this, a complete set of this important issue can still be obtained for a modest amount. Lower values are commonly seen on covers but values from 24¢ to 60¢ often overpay required rates and are less desirable to postal historians.

What seemed like a good plan became a disaster. The public ate up the 1¢ and 2¢ low values but eschewed the higher values. One could still buy the 60¢ at the post office in St. John's as late as 1936. By September, the two low values were almost exhausted. The 1¢ was needed for drop mail, circulars, and other 3<sup>rd</sup> class use. With the plates gone, and few older 1¢ stamps to be found, Newfoundland had its first postal crisis. New 1¢ and 2¢ values were ordered but they would not arrive until early December and a fix was needed by mid-October.

### Newfoundland's 1897 Surcharged Stamps

In early October 1897 a metal handstamp with PAID ALL was used in place of 1¢ stamps. Then on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 40,000 of the 1890 Queen Victoria were released, surcharged ONE CENT in three different fonts locally. The settings were in 50, and only 2 of the stamps have a gothic font (sans serif). Blocks showing all three fonts are highly desirable but catalogue for more than \$1,000. Trials (190 of them) were also made with red surcharges, red & black surcharges, or double red surcharges. These are also very valuable. The 1897 surcharges were the first 3 of 15 stamps to be surcharged. There was also a surcharged postal card. The new 1¢ red Victoria arrived in early December, and the postal crisis was over.



### The Royal Family Issue (1897–1901 and 1908)



This is one of the most famous BNA sets because of the images portrayed. It shows the reigning monarch and three future kings: Edward VII, George V, and Edward VIII (his first image ever on a postage stamp). Both the queens of Edward VII and George V are also depicted. An additional 2¢ stamp with a map of Newfoundland is closely linked to the set as it was issued when the 2¢ Edward stamp's final 1908 printing was lost at sea with the sinking of the *S.S. Sylvia*. These stamps were produced by the American Bank Note Company in sheets of

100 or 200. There are die proofs and plate proofs of all issues. Forty-seven different SPECIMENS are known, including three of the map stamp. The stamps mint or used can be purchased for very modest amounts. Imperforate values of the set also exist, initiating a practice that continued for a number of future sets. These are described by some writers as “postmaster perquisites.” They are still widely sought, and covers are easily obtained. The most difficult value to find is the 1¢ red Victoria since it was only in use from December 1897 to June 1898, when the color was changed to green to reflect Newfoundland’s compliance with U.P.U. regulations.

### **The Guy Issue of 1910**

The year 1910 marked the 300th anniversary of the first attempt to settle the island, by John Guy. Eleven values from 1¢ to 15¢ were lithographed by Whitehead, Morris & Co. Ltd. of London, which would become printer of Newfoundland issues until 1929. They portrayed King James I, Guy, Francis Bacon, King Edward VII, King George V, as well as Newfoundland scenes. They were issued in either sheets of 100 or 200. The first 6¢ Bacon had the Z in COLONIZATION reversed (Scott #92) and this was corrected with another printing. This issue has an amazing number of varieties, including different perforations, imperforate copies, and various proofs in black and trials in different colors. In 1911, the six high values in the set were issued engraved, again with numerous varieties. There are no marginal inscriptions or plate numbers on either set. The higher values (6¢ and above) are scarce on cover, especially paying correct rates, as is the case with the next two sets.



### **The 1911 King George V Coronation Issue**

The set returned to the use of portraits of the Royal Family. Values were from 1¢ to 12¢, featuring King George V and Queen Mary, and other members of the Royal Family. The set was engraved in sheets of 100. As in the previous set, copies are known imperforate and there are black proofs and color trials.

### **The 1919 Caribou Issue**

“We lost more sailors in the War than all the rest of the Colonies and Dominions put together!... I have a parish of about 300 families, and from these 75 young men took part in the fighting on land and sea. Of those, 22 laid down their lives.... Our Caribou Issue of stamps shows to the world something of what our Newfoundland boys did.” – Rev. E.A. Butler, 1928.

This set was issued in 12 values, from the 1¢ to 36¢. The animal pictured is a composite of a caribou and moose. The phrase “Trail of the Caribou” was originated by a Royal Newfoundland Regiment chaplain. Four values bear the word UBIQUE, which stands for “everywhere,” in honor of the Naval Forces. The other stamps commemorate special engagements. The 1¢, 2¢, and 3¢



values were printed in sheets of 200. The higher values are in sheets of 100. The lower values have marginal plate numbers. All the values are known as imperforate proofs. Several stamps were issued in more than one shade, the most famous involving the 15¢ value. Its primary color is dark blue but it also exists in Prussian blue. Other varieties include partial double printings.

### The 1920 Provisionals

Low values of the caribou set were popular and had high usage. This combined with irregular steamers from London led to a shortage in 1920. A handstamp POSTAGE PAID was utilized and four surcharged issues released, after several (rare) trial surcharges. Surplus high values of the Cabot set were used, in blocks of 25. The 30¢ Cabot was surcharged TWO CENTS and the 15¢ and 35¢ Cabots THREE CENTS, with bars above and below to obliterate the Cabot value tablets. The initial 3¢ surcharge lower bar did not cover the 15¢ values. Three thousand were surcharged before this was noticed. This is Type I. This was corrected in Type II. The scarce Type I is the most costly of Newfoundland's 20<sup>th</sup> century issues, outside of some airmails and rare sub-varieties. It and the TWO CENTS values are known with inverted surcharges. Covers are fairly common except for the 3¢ on 15¢.

### Pictorial Issues, 1923–1924.

The designs on this series of 14 stamps were scenic or historical landmarks. Values were from 1¢ to 24¢. This engraved set was issued in sheets of 100. The stamps are comb-perforated at 13.8 x 14 perforations, or line perforated at 14.2 x 14.2 and a variety of other gauges. There are imperforate proofs and color trials.

Newfoundland's first booklet was created from the 1¢ and 2¢ values. There are plate numbers on the 3¢ only. This set and subsequent (non airmail) sets can be obtained for modest prices. As is the custom with most Newfoundland issues, covers bearing the high values are somewhat scarce.

### Publicity Issues, 1928–1931

Three sets of the publicity stamps were issued. They contained royal portraits, land-sea transport, buildings, scenic, views, and a map. The goal was to attract business and tourists. The first set had 15 values, in sheets of 100 either comb or line-perforated in seven different gauges. The initial values were from 1¢ to 30¢. There are die proofs of all values, and SPECIMEN copies are reported for the 3¢, 6¢, and 20¢. Small crosses exist in the margins to aid in quartering panes into blocks but there are no marginal inscriptions.



In 1929 a new firm was awarded the printing contract, John Dickinson & Co. When Whitehead, Morris, Ltd. refused to turn over the plates, new dies and plates had to be produced. This led to discernible differences in the re-engraved issues. The

second issue had only nine stamps, comb- or line-perforated as in the previous issue. The original 8¢, 9¢, 12¢, 14¢, 28¢, and 30¢ values were not produced. The portrait for the Prince of Wales on the 4¢ value was changed. The differences between the same values in the first and second issues are published in all the main philatelic catalogues. Discovering the differences is entertaining. Plate numbers exist on the 2¢ and 3¢ values, and there are proof color trials and imperforate or partially perforated examples of the 1¢ to 4¢ values. The 6¢ can be found with a SPECIMEN overprint, as well. The new printer was unable to timely deliver a sufficient quantity of the new 3¢ stamp (used for inland mail) so the 6¢ value of the pictorial issues was surcharged THREE CENTS (Scott #160) and used for several days until a new supply arrived. There are trial surcharges, and the final stamp is known printed with an inverted surcharge.

The third publicity set came out in 1931 and was watermarked. There are 11 values in this set, the 9 from the second set and the 8¢ and 30¢ stamps newly re-engraved. The stamps were in place for only a year, and are scarcer than the first two sets. Die proofs exist for all the watermarked stamps. There are plate numbers on the 1¢ and 2¢. The 1¢ is known partially perforated and the 2¢ and 3¢ can be found with inverted watermarks.

### **Resources Issues, 1932–1938**

The new set included animals, views, and royal portraits. It was watermarked and released in sheets of 100, line- or comb-perforated. Ultimately there would be 20 values in the set, although most catalogues distinguish the 1932 values (7¢, 8¢, and 24¢) from the initial set. The 48¢ high value in the set was released in 1937. There are plate numbers for the 1¢ to 3¢ values. The 1¢, 5¢, 25¢, and 30¢ stamps are known with SPECIMEN overprints. Gummed imperforate copies exist for all stamps and those for the lower values exist in large numbers. Most values are known with inverted watermarks. Six different booklets were issued using the 1¢ to 3¢ stamps. There are also many proofs.

### **1933 Land and Sea Provisionals**

A rate change led to a shortage of 15¢ stamps for registry to Canada, the U.S., and Great Britain. A watermarked 15¢ airmail was overprinted “L & S Post” for “Land & Sea” and side bars covered the words “Air Mail.” Speculators bought the 70,000 issued on the first day. Inverted overprints exist, as do vertical strips with and without the overprint. They are exceedingly rare.

### **1933 Sir Humphrey Gilbert Issue**

Once again, Newfoundland honored Sir Humphrey Gilbert, who annexed the island for the United Kingdom in 1583. The 14 values, from 1¢ to 32¢, were engraved in sheets of 100, comb-perforated 13.5 x 13.5 or line-perforated 14 x 14. There were no marginal inscriptions. The images were of Gilbert, Queen Elizabeth, or related history. Fewer than 30,000 were issued of the higher values. SPECIMEN examples exist of all the values, and there also are imperforate proofs.

### Issues Honoring the Monarchy

The 1935 Silver Jubilee and 1937 Coronation Issue used common designs shared by other British Empire countries. They are all known with SPECIMEN overprints.

The Long Coronation set of 1937 is the last of the many interesting issues of Newfoundland. The 11 values from 1¢ to 48¢ were printed in sheets of 100, line- or comb-perforated and watermarked, although some of the stamps are known without watermarks. Each value has a cameo of King George VI and Newfoundland animals, or scenic, views. Some of the values have re-entries. They are also known imperforate (gummed) and in black proofs. This set has so much philately going for it, one could specialize in it alone and develop a great collection.

In 1938 four royal portraits were issued of King George VI, Queen Elizabeth, Princess Elizabeth, and Queen Mary. They are known imperforate and have marginal plate numbers.



The 1939 Royal Visit to Newfoundland was honored by a 5¢ stamp. A subsequent shortage of 2¢ and 4¢ stamps led to it being surcharged. All three stamps are very common.

### Second Resources Issue, 1942–1949

Ten values from the 1932 Resources set and the four values of the 1938 royal portrait set were reissued in perforation 12.5 x 12.5 between 1942 and 1949. The values were from 1¢ to 48¢. There are many different marginal plate numbers for each of the 14. All values are known imperforate. All are also known with “security hole punches.”

### Miscellaneous Late Issues, 1941–1947

A 5¢ commemorative was issued in 1941 for Sir Wilfred Grenfell. In 1943 a 30¢ value featured the Memorial University in St. John’s. This was surcharged to 2¢ in 1946 during a shortage of the regular 2¢ value. In 1947, Princess Elizabeth was honored by a 4¢ stamp and Newfoundland’s last commemorative was for John Cabot shown on the deck of his ship *Matthew*.

### Airmail Stamps and Postal History

Newfoundland airmails are world-famous. They include three of the rarest Commonwealth issues: the 1919 Hawker, 1927 De Pinedo, and 1930 Columbia, with fewer than 300 copies of each issued. The second stamp issued was used to frank mail on the first non-stop crossing of the Atlantic by air in the Vickers-Vimy aircraft in 1919, flown by Alcock and Brown. The third was issued for a flight to Halifax. A permanent set was issued in 1931 unwatermarked. Soon a watermarked set of the same values was issued. Eight thousand of the \$1 value were surcharged \$1.50 to carry mail to Europe on the 1932 Dornier DO-X flight. The Labrador airmail set of 1933 is one of the most beautiful sets of the 1930s from any country. Eight thousand of the



75¢ value were surcharged to \$4.50 for mail to Europe on the 1933 Balbo flight. Both the Dornier and Balbo are known with inverted surcharges. A 7¢ stamp was issued in 1943 for normal usage. Although some of these stamps are very expensive, a number of the airs can still be obtained reasonably.

*See also the section on BNA airmails.*

### Postage Dues

The first postage due stamps were issued in 1939 in seven values. Their low usage makes them difficult to find on cover. Four additional varieties were issued in 1949 with perforation changes, so collectors try to get all eleven.



### Postal Stationery

Newfoundland issued 17 post cards, three post bands, six stamped envelopes, four registered envelopes with printed registration markings, and four business reply envelopes. The highlight of this group is a surcharged post card issued in 1889 during a shortage of 2¢ cards. Only six copies are known to have been used during the provisional period.

### Revenue Stamps

There are almost 75 issues for revenue, transportation taxes, custom duties, money orders, liquor taxes, and war savings stamps. Although Newfoundland stopped issuing regular stamps in 1947, some revenue stamps were still issued as late as 1964.

Tobacco taxpaid stamps also are collected, although there are not very many of them. They tend to be scarce to rare.

### Slogan Cancels and Other Areas

Slogan cancels exist from the 1920s until Confederation with Canada and are collected on cover, on 2" x 4" pieces, or on stamp. This is a fairly limited area.

Collectors specialize in many Newfoundland topics not discussed above but also worthy of philatelic exploration.