

CANADA'S POSTMARK
'GOLDEN AGE' ... 1896 – 1902
by
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CANADA'S POSTMARK 'GOLDEN AGE' 1896-1902



28 JUNE 1897: Three-Color 'Queen Victoria Jubilee' Issue on Montreal Hotel Cover to Albany, New York, 6-Cents Double-Weight Letter-Rate to U.S.A. Imperial Machine Jubilee Celebration Postmark.

BACKGROUND

Soon after the introduction of adhesive postage in Canada in 1851, the postal authorities recognized that their method of double-strike postmarking mail was time consuming and inefficient resulting in their introduction of duplex postmarks.

With the increase in business and civilian mail volume by the mid-1890s, still more expeditious mail handling was needed as recognized in the neighboring United States of America with their wide introduction of postmarking machinery.

Such motivated the Canadian Post Office to decide to test and introduce postmarking machinery in their domain.

EXHIBIT

This exhibit shows the evolution of experimental, patriotic and early machine postmarking during Canada's so-called 'Golden Age' 1896-1902:

- I. TITLE PAGE
- II. FORERUNNER POSTMARKING
- III. IMPERIAL MACHINE
(Montreal, Ottawa)
- IV. BICKERDIKE MACHINE
(Montreal, Ottawa, Hamilton, Toronto)
- V. GEARY MACHINE
(Montreal)
- VI. INTERNATIONAL MACHINE
(Toronto, Montreal)
- VII. EPILOGUE

TEXT COLOR-CODING

- Black:** General Information
Blue: Important Notes, Rarity Factors as well as Chapter-Start-Page Headings.
Maroon: Postal Rate Information

II. FORERUNNER POSTMARKING

Double-Strike Hand Cancels

1851- circa 1860

Upon introduction of adhesive postage stamps in Canada in 1851,
**THE POSTAL AUTHORITIES REQUIRED LETTER MAIL TO HAVE SUCH MAIL
DOUBLE-STRUCK POSTMARKED:**

Obliterator (concentric rings with/without city reference number) for the postage
and a separate strike with city & date.

Postmark: 25mm Diameter City & Dater Dial with concentric-ring
obliterator initially with subsequent number reference
dedicated to city of origin.

4 DECEMBER 1854

Folded
'Money Letter',
postmarked
at Hamilton, Ontario,
sent to
Mount Forrest Post Office,
Guelph, Ontario.

Arrival Marks:
(Reverse)
"Guelph, 5 December 1854"
"Mount Forrest,
6 December 1854"

Three Pence..
Single-Sheet
Money-Letter Rate.



22 AUGUST 1859

Cover, postmarked
at Montreal,
sent to
Chambly, Quebec.

Five Cents ..
Domestic
Single-Weight
Letter-Rate.



FORERUNNER POSTMARKING

Duplex Hand Cancels
First Generation Design

1860 – 1890s

Double-strike postmarking was eventually recognized as time consuming and inefficient by the postal authorities.

WHILE VISITING ENGLAND IN 1859/1860, THE CANADIAN POSTMASTER GENERAL PLACED A PURCHASE ORDER FOR FIFTY-SIX HAND-HAMMER STAMPERS with the Berri Company of London for their 'Duplex Postmarking Stampers', which had already been used in England for five years.

Postmark: First Generation Duplex Style:

20 mm Diameter City & Dater Dial with concentric-ring obliterator initially .. with subsequent number reference later inserted & dedicated to city of origin.



Cert. Greene

4 DECEMBER 1860

Folded-letter front,
postmarked
at Quebec, Lower Canada,
sent to
Drummondville (Quebec)
Lower Canada

Ten Cents..
Double-Sheet
Domestic Letter-Rate.

FORERUNNER POSTMARKING

Duplex Hand Cancels Second Generation Design

1870s – 1890s

Eventually the heretofore 'first generation small dater dial' version of the duplex post markers were altered to have a larger dater dial with enlarged obliterator.

Postmark: Second Generation Duplex Style:

25 mm Diameter City & Dater Dial with oval 13-line obliterator with subsequent heavy 9-line obliterator with city designation number

10 JULY (1877)

Up-rated Canadian
Postal Stationery Cover,
commercial mail cover,
postmarked
at Montreal, Canada,
sent locally.

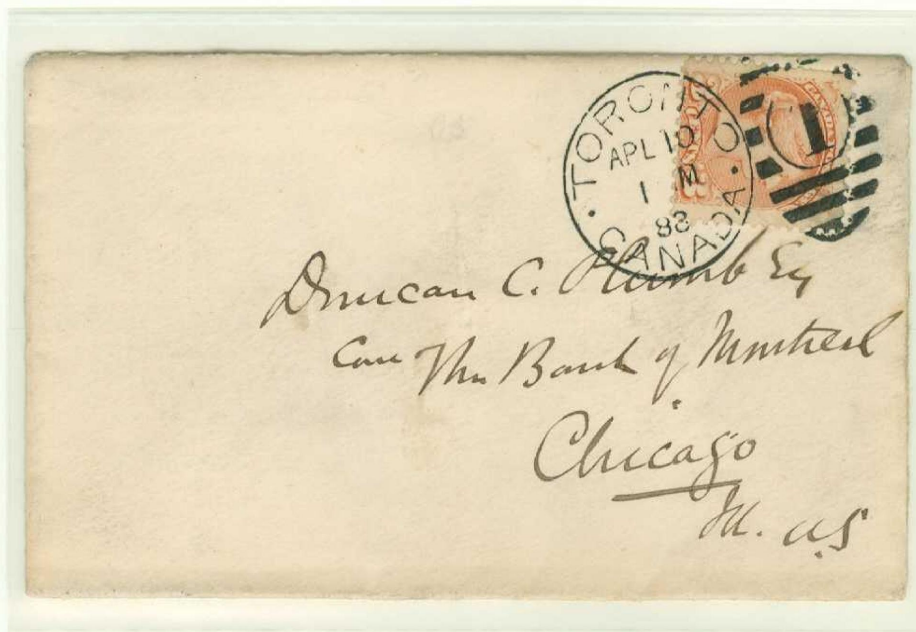
Two Cents..
City Drop-Letter Rate



10 APRIL 1882

Commercial
bank-mail cover,
postmarked at
Toronto, Ontario,
Canada,
sent to
Chicago, Illinois,
U.S.A.

Three Cents..
Single-weight
letter-rate to U.S.A.



FORERUNNER POSTMARKING

Provisional Flag Cancels

1870s - 1902

Occasionally a Canadian post office might not apply an origin or transit postmark on mail to cancel its postage or indicate transit function RESULTING IN THE TORONTO POST OFFICE APPLYING A ROLLER-CANCEL OR ARRIVAL-TRANSIT-MARK IN RED-VIOLET COLOR.

Postmark: 'Union jack' Flag Roller-Cancel in series to cancel postage, or single flag in hand-stamp indicating "Received" for transit mail.

8 AUGUST 1878

Canadian Postal Stationery Card, commercial mail, from Guelph, Ontario, albeit postage uncanceled, sent to Hamilton via Toronto where roller cancel was applied.



CANADA POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



J. S. Johnston Esq.
Amherstburg

6 FEBRUARY 1901

Canadian Postal Stationery Card, commercial mail, from Hamilton, Ontario, albeit postage uncanceled, sent to Amherstburg via Toronto, where roller cancel was applied.

20 JANUARY 1902

Canadian Postal Stationery Card, commercial mail, postmarked at St. John, New Brunswick, sent to Amherstburg via Toronto where 'Received' mark was applied.

One Cent:
Domestic
postcard rate



III. IMPERIAL MACHINE

First Trial
Montreal

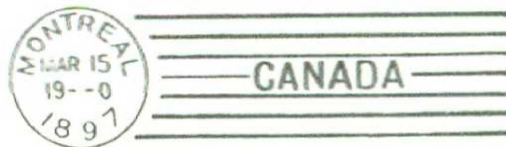
10-20 March 1896

INCORPORATED IN THE STATE OF MAINE IN 1896,
THE 'IMPERIAL MAIL MARKING COMPANY',
ESTABLISHED OFFICES IN BOTH BOSTON, U.S.A., AND MONTREAL,
CANADA, HAVING MACHINES MANUFACTURED BY 'PRATT & WHITNEY'
OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT.

Because of need to expedite the handling of mail,
the Canadian Post Office decided to commence testing the
Imperial Machine at Montreal.

Postmarks applied were patriotic in theme .. initially having line-
obliterators followed with patriotic 'flag' types.

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial with a 7-staggered-line
obliterator with "Canada" as centered text.



CANADA'S FIRST MACHINE POSTMARK



12 MARCH 1896

Commercial-use Canadian Postal Stationery Card, postmarked
at Montreal, Quebec, sent to Newmarket, Ontario

One Cent ..
Domestic Postcard-Rate

Third Day of Postmark Use

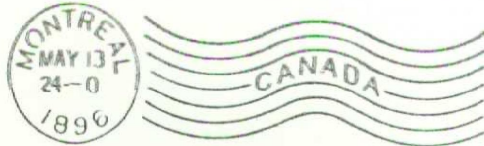
IMPERIAL MACHINE

Second Trial
Montreal

Second Use Period:
23 March – 10 April 1896

THE HERETOFORE 7-STRAIGHT HEAVY LINE BARS OBLITERATOR APPARENTLY REQUIRED TOO MUCH INK ALONG WITH HAVING AN IMPRESSION NOT OFTEN DRYING BY THE TIME THE MAIL REACHED THE SORTERS, THE MACHINE VENDOR ALTERED THE POSTMARK DIE TO A 6-WAVY THIN-LINE OBLITERATOR.

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial with six (61mm) wavy-line obliterator with "Canada" as centered text.

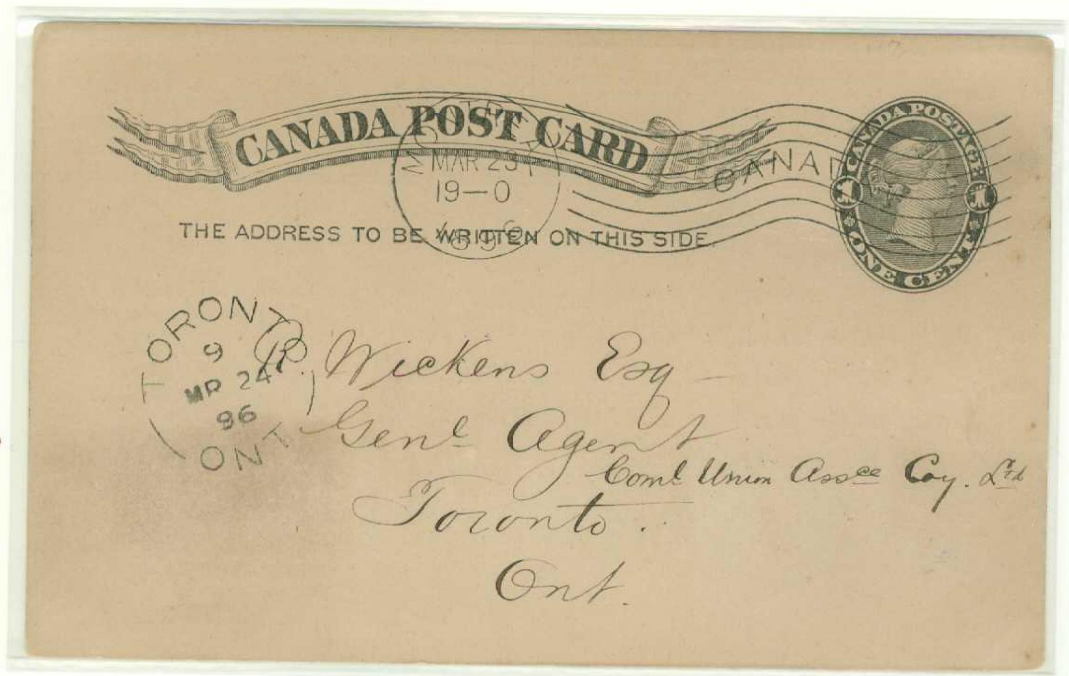


23 MARCH 1896

Commercial-use
Canadian Postal
Stationery Card,
postmarked at
Montreal, Quebec,
sent to
Toronto, Ontario

One Cent ..
Domestic Postcard-Rate

First Day of
Postmark Use



24 MARCH 1896

Commercial mail,
Canadian Postal
Stationery cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent to Milwaukee,
Wisconsin.

Three Cents ..
Domestic Single-
Weight Letter-Rate
To U.S.A.
(Valid until
31 December 1898)

Second Day of
Postmark Use



IMPERIAL MACHINE

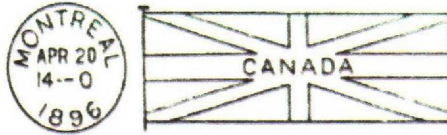
Adjunct To First Trial
Montreal

11 - 22 April 1896

BETWEEN THE FIRST AND SECOND PERIODS OF TRIAL USE OF THE
WAVY-LINE OBLITERATOR POSTMARK,
A PATRIOTIC 'STRAIGHT JACK' FLAG POSTMARK WAS APPLIED BY THE TRIAL MACHINE

In view of its being used only eleven days, it is assumed that the postmark was
unsatisfactory or in the process of being re-designed.

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial with a "straight jack"
flag obliterator with "Canada" as centered text.



11 APRIL 1896

Commercial
cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent to
London, Ontario

Three Cents ..
Domestic
Single-Weight
Letter-Rate

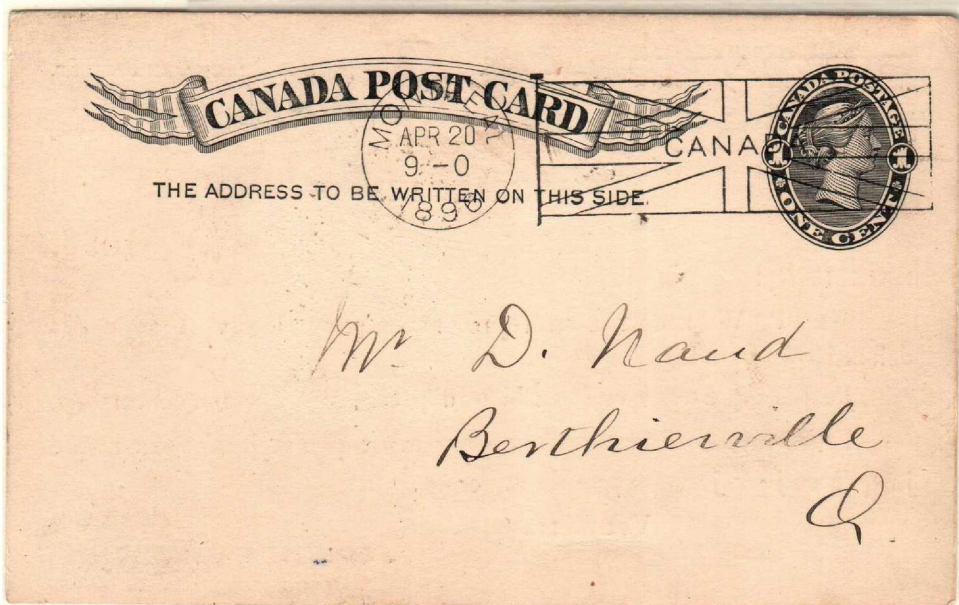
First Day of
Postmark Use



20 APRIL 1896

Commercial-use
Canadian
Postal-Stationery
Card, postmarked
at Montreal,
sent to
Bethiesville,
Quebec.

One Cent ..
Domestic
Postcard-Rate



IMPERIAL MACHINE

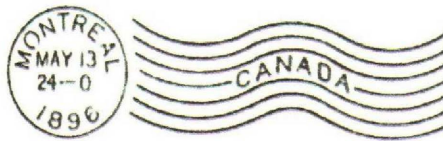
Second Trial Montreal

Fourth Postmark Use Period:
22 April - 5 June 1896

UPON COMPLETION OF AN ADJUNCT TRIAL WITH A 'STRAIGHT JACK' FLAG
OBLITERATOR POSTMARK, THE SECOND PHASE OF THE HERETOFORE TRIAL
(Fourth Postmark Variety)
APPLYING THE 7-WAVY LINE OBLITERATOR CONTINUED.

During the first phase of the trial, the dater-dial "L" of 'Montreal' became damaged,
now resulting in a "short-footed L" in 'Montreal'.

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial (SHORT-FOOTED 'L' in
'MONTREAL') with seven (58mm) wavy-line obliterator
having "Canada" as centered text.



20 MAY 1896

Commercial cover,
postmarked at Montreal,
sent to Coteau Landing, Quebec.

Three Cents ..
Domestic Single-Weight Letter-Rate.

IMPERIAL MACHINE

Introduction of Machine Two Montreal

Postmark Use Period:
29 May - 5 June 1896

APPROXIMATELY 29 MAY 1896, A SECOND IMPERIAL MACHINE
BECAME OPERATIONAL
WHERE THE DATER DIAL NOW AGAIN HAD A
"LONG-FOOTED L" IN 'MONTREAL'

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial having a long-footed 'L' in
'Montreal' with a seven (58mm) wavy-line obliterator
having "Canada" as centered text.

3 JUNE 1896
(Backward "3")

Commercial cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent to
St. Hyacinthe,
Quebec.

Three Cents ..
Domestic
Single-Weight
Letter-Rate.



4 JUNE 1896

Lady's cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent locally.

One Cent ..
Local City/Town
'Drop-Letter' Rate.



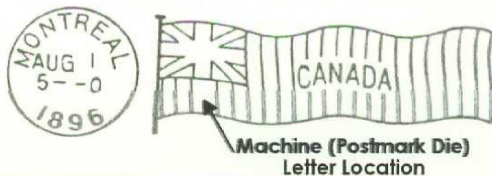
IMPERIAL MACHINE

Machines 1 thru 6
Montreal 'Flag A' (= 1)

Postmark Use Period:
6 June 1896 – 19 June 1897

BY EARLY JUNE 1896, FOUR ADDITIONAL IMPERIAL MACHINES, NOW TOTALING SIX, COMMENCED OPERATION REPLACING ALL PREVIOUS POSTMARKS, NOW HAVING A PATRIOTIC 'UNION JACK' FLAG POSTMARK, WITH EACH MACHINE HAVING A DEDICATED OBLITERATOR DIE INDICATING A LETTER = 'A, B, C, D, E, F'

Postmark: 22mm Diameter dater dial having a long-footed 'L' in 'Montreal' with Union-Jack Flag lettered-oblierator having "Canada" as centered text.



DATER DIAL 2.5mm
LETTERING INITIALLY
USED FROM THE FIRST
TRIAL MACHINE
APPLYING A SEVEN-
LINE OBLITERATOR

30 JULY 1896

Inner-city mail
cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent locally

Two Cents ..
Local-city/town
'Drop Letter' Rate



DATER DIAL 3mm
LETTERING USED
WITH ALL SIX
MACHINES'
POSTMARKS

8 APRIL 1897

Commercial
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Simcoe, Ontario.

Three Cents ..
Domestic
Single-Weight
Letter-Rate.

IMPERIAL MACHINE

Machines 1 thru 6
Montreal 'Flag B' (= 2)

Postmark Use Period:
9 June 1896 - 9 July 1897

Postmark: 22mm Diameter dater dial having a long-footed 'L' in
'Montreal' with Union-Jack Flag obliterator
having "Canada" as centered text.

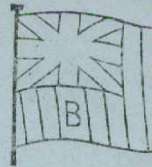
DOMESTIC DESTINATION MAIL

TWO STRIKE COVER
RESULT OF INCORRECT
FACING & MACHINE
INFEEED BY POSTAL
CLERK

10 APRIL 1897

Cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent to
Monte Bello,
Quebec

Three Cents ..
Single-weight
domestic
letter- rate



ADVERTISING
COVER WITH
JUBILEE ISSUE

2 JULY 1897

Commercial
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Yarmouth,
Nova Scotia.

Three Cents ..
Domestic
Single-Weight
Letter-Rate.

IMPERIAL MACHINE

Machines 1 thru 6
Montreal 'Flag B' (= 2)

Postmark Use Period:
9 June 1896 - 9 July 1897

Postmark: 22mm Diameter dater dial having a long-footed 'L' in
'Montreal' with Union-Jack Flag obliterator
having "Canada" as centered text.

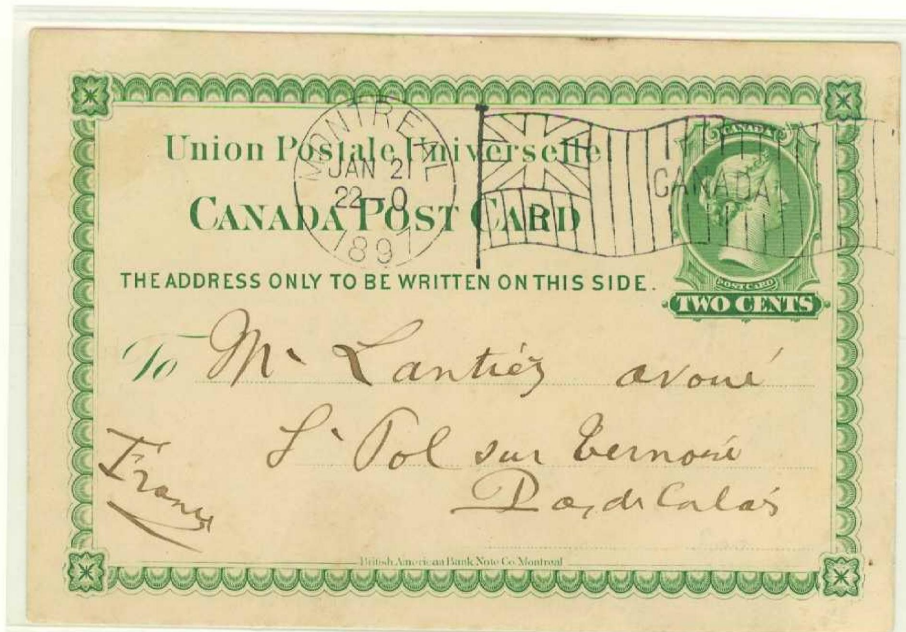
INTERNATIONAL DESTINATION MAIL

DESTINATION:
GERMANY

1 SEPTEMBER 1896

Commercial cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent To
Offenbach/Main.

Five Cents ..
UPU Single-Weight
Letter- Rate



DESTINATION:
FRANCE

21 JANUARY 1897

Canadian UPU
Postal Stationery
Card,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
S. Pol sur Vernoré.

Two Cents ..
UPU Postcard
Rate.

IMPERIAL MACHINE

Machines 1 thru 6
Montreal 'Flag C' (= 3)

Postmark Use Period:
6 June 1896 – 9 July 1897

Postmark: 22mm Diameter dater dial having a long-footed 'L' in
'Montreal' with Union-Jack Flag obliterator
having "Canada" as centered text.

DOMESTIC MAIL

12 SEPTEMBER
1896

Commercial
cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent To
Toronto, Ontario.

Three Cents ..
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate



SHORT-PAID/
POSTAGE DUE
MAIL TO GERMANY

1 MAY 1897

Canadian Postal
Stationery Card,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Aachen, Germany

Two Cents ..
UPU International
Postcard Rate; card
short One Cent
resulting in 5 Cents =
10 Pfennig postage due
covering rate
upcharge + penalty.



IMPERIAL MACHINE

Machines 1 thru 6
Montreal 'Flag D' (= 4)

Postmark Use Period:
6 June 1896 – 8 July 1897

Postmark: 22mm Diameter dater dial having a short-footed 'L' in
'Montreal' with Union-Jack Flag obliterator
having "Canada" as centered text.

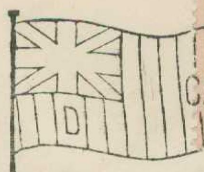
25 MAY 1897

Commercial
cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent To
Coteau Landing,
Quebec.

Three Cents ..
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate



PERRIN FRERES & CIE.
+
7 VICTORIA SQE.
MONTREAL.



8 JULY 1897

Commercial
cover,
Jubilee-Series
franked,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Yarmouth,
Nova Scotia

Three Cents ..
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate.

Messrs. Cook & Stevenson

Yarmouth

N.S.

IMPERIAL MACHINE

Machines 1 thru 6
Montreal 'Flag E' (= 5)

Postmark Use Period:
6 June 1896 - 21 June 1897

Postmark: 22mm Diameter dater dial having a long-footed 'L' in
'Montreal' with Union-Jack Flag obliterator
having "Canada" as centered text.

**NARROW
YEAR DATE
VARIETY**

8 MARCH 1897

cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent To
Monte Bello,
Quebec.

Three Cents ..
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate



**WIDE
YEAR DATE
VARIETY**

17 APRIL 1897

Commercial
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Amherstburg,
Ontario.

Three Cents ..
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate.



IMPERIAL MACHINE

Machines 1 thru 6
Montreal 'Flag E' (= 5)

Postmark Use Period:
6 June 1896 – 21 June 1897

Postmark: 22mm Diameter dater dial having a long-footed 'L' in
'Montreal' with Union-Jack Flag obliterator
having "Canada" as centered text.

INTERNATIONAL DESTINATION MAIL ENGLAND



29 JUNE 1896

Cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
endorsed "via New York"
sent to
Duffield, Derby, England

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse with Offset on Front)
"Derby, 8 July 1896"

Five Cents ..
UPU International
Single-Weight
Letter-Rate

IMPERIAL MACHINE

Machines 1 thru 6
Montreal 'Flag F' (= 6)

Postmark Use Period:
6 June 1896 – 18 June 1897

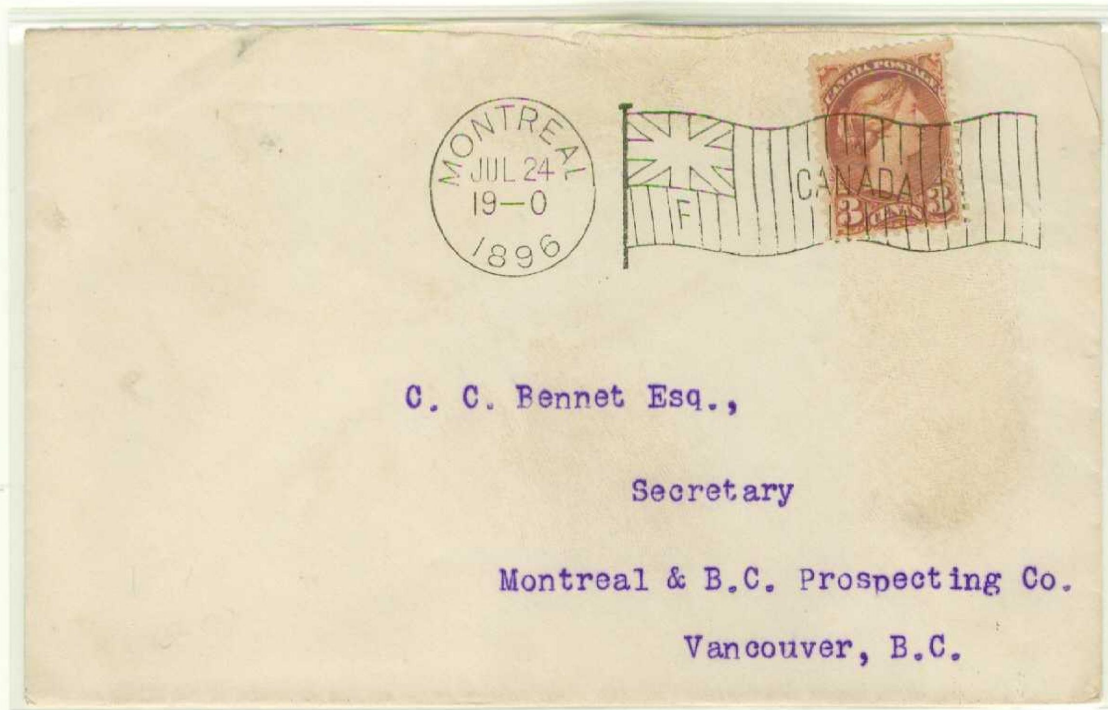
Postmark: 22mm Diameter dater dial having a short-footed 'L' in
'Montreal' with Union-Jack Flag obliterator
having "Canada" as centered text.

DOMESTIC DESTINATION MAIL

18 JUNE 1896

Cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent To
St. Hyacinthe
Quebec.

Three Cents ..
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate



24 JULY 1896

Commercial
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Vancouver,
British Columbia.

Three Cents ..
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate.

IMPERIAL MACHINE

Machines 1 thru 6
Montreal 'Flag F' (= 6)

Postmark Use Period:
6 June 1896 – 18 June 1897

Postmark: 22mm Diameter dater dial having a long-footed 'L' in
'Montreal' with Union-Jack Flag obliterator
having "Canada" as centered text.

INTERNATIONAL DESTINATION MAIL BELGIUM



22 OCTOBER 1896

Canadian UPU Postal Stationery Card,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Anvers (Antwerp), Belgium.

Arrival Postmark:
(Front)
"Anvers (Arrival),
3 November, 1896"

Two Cents ..
UPU International
Postcard Rate

IMPERIAL MACHINE

Machines 1 thru 6
Missing Year-Date Variety

Postmark Use Period:
6 June 1896 – 9 July 1897

Postmark: 22mm Diameter dater dial having a long-footed 'L' in
'Montreal' with Union-Jack Flag obliterator
having "Canada" as centered text.

DOMESTIC DESTINATION MAIL

MACHINE 3 = 'C'

2 JANUARY
(1897)

Commercial
cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent To
Rock Island,
Quebec.

Three Cents ..
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate



MACHINE 7 = 'F'
2 JANUARY (1897)

Mourning cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent locally.

Two Cents ..
(Inner-city) drop
letter-rate

IMPERIAL MACHINE

Machines 1 thru 6
Reserve Postmark 'K'

Postmark Use Period:
3-9 September 1896
(7-Day Usage)

No records or reference materials have been found to explain the purpose of the 'K' Union Jack Postmark!

It is thus assumed by postal historians that it was a reserve die for use when one of the six machine postmarking dies needed replacing.

EXCEPT DURING THE PERIOD OF 3-9 SEPTEMBER 1896, NO OTHER USE IS KNOWN OR HAS BEEN VERIFIED. FOUR EXAMPLES KNOWN

Postmark: 22mm Diameter dater dial having a long-footed 'L' in 'Montreal' with Union-Jack Flag obliterator having "Canada" as centered text.



8 SEPTEMBER 1896

**Cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Toronto, Ontario.**

**Three Cents ..
Domestic single-weight
letter-rate**

IMPERIAL MACHINE

Machine 6
Union Jack Postmark 'F'
Temporary Replacement

Usage Period:
30 January - 30 March 1897

FOR UNKNOWN REASONS, MACHINES 6 & 5, HERETOFORE FITTED WITH UNION JACK DIE POSTMARKS 'F' & 'E', WERE RESPECTIVELY WITHDRAWN A SHORT PERIOD IN 1897 AND REFITTED WITH THE 1896-USED LINE OBLITERATORS.

Postmark: 22mm Diameter dater dial having a long-footed 'L' in 'Montreal' with a staggered seven line obliterator having "Canada" as centered text.

MACHINE '6' ... UNION JACK OBLITERATOR 'F'
TEMPORARILY REPLACED WITH FORMER SEVEN-LINE OBLITERATOR

16 FEBRUARY 1897

Cover,
Postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Alexandria,
Ontario.

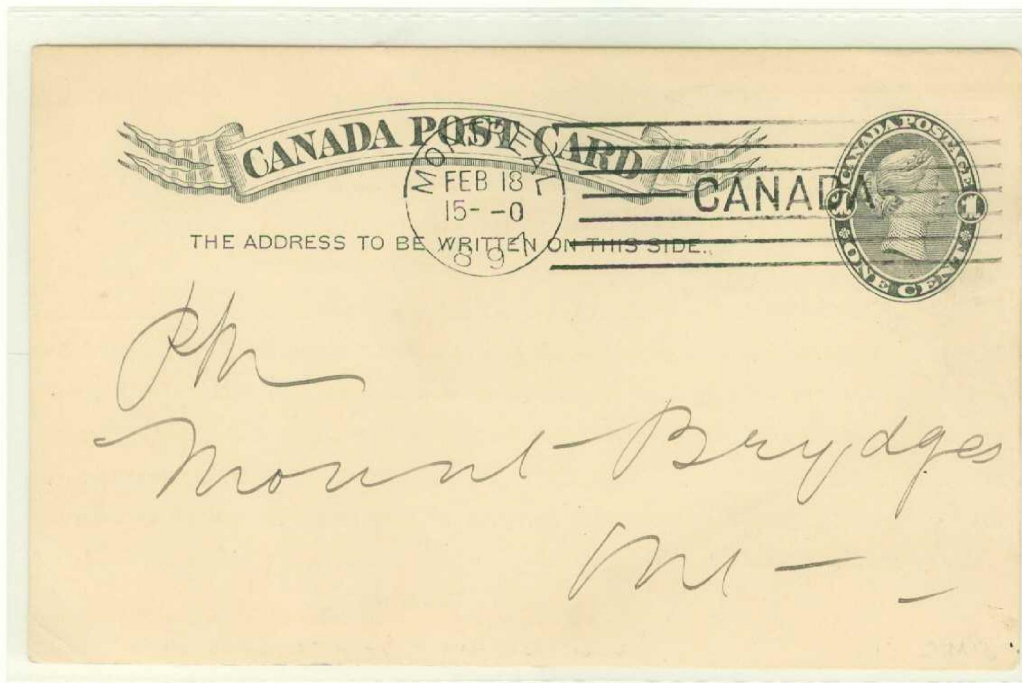
Three Cents..
Domestic
single-eight
letter-rate



18 FEBRUARY 1897

Canadian
Postal Stationery
Card,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Mount Bridges,
Ontario.

One Cent..
Domestic
postcard-rate



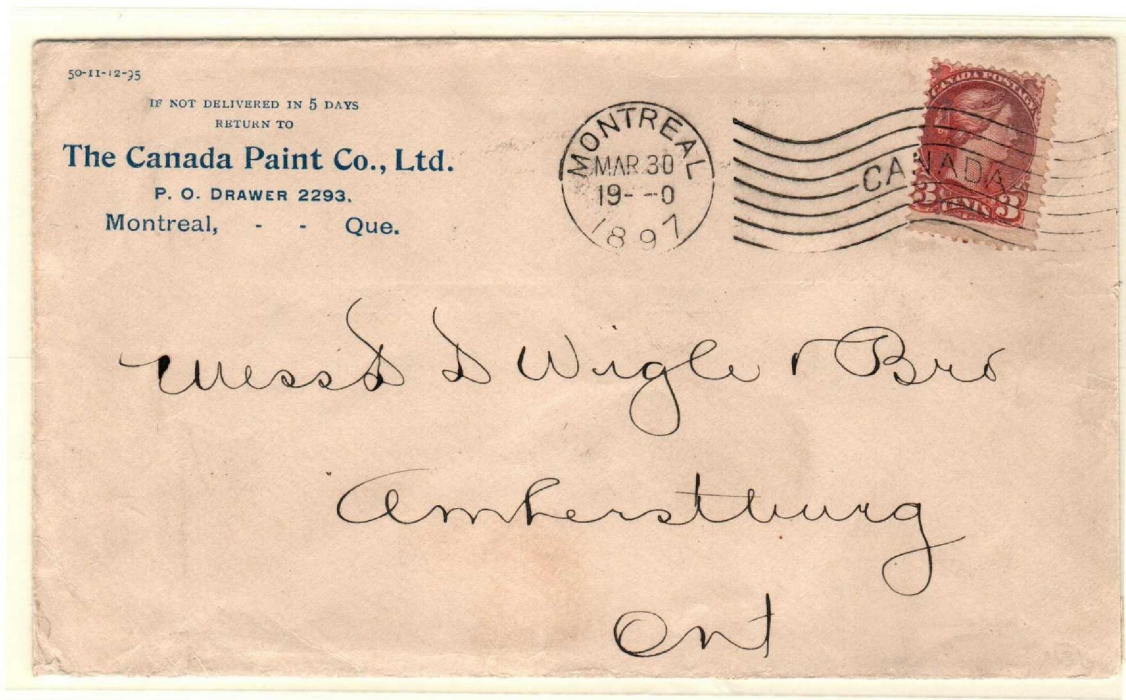
IMPERIAL MACHINE

Machine 5
Union Jack Postmark 'E'
Temporary Replacement
Usage Period:
10 March - 6 April 1897

SIMILARLY, AS INITIALLY MACHINE '6', MACHINE '5' (WITH ITS 'E' POSTMARK) WAS WITHDRAWN FOR A SHORT PERIOD IN EARLY 1897 AND REFITTED WITH THE PREVIOUSLY USED WAVY-LINE OBLITERATOR DIE.

Postmark: 22mm Diameter dater dial having a long-footed 'L' in 'Montreal' with a uniform straight-edge seven wavy-line obliterator having "Canada" as centered text.

MACHINE '5' ... UNION JACK OBLITERATOR 'E'
TEMPORARILY REPLACED WITH SEVEN WAVY-LINE OBLITERATOR



30 MARCH 1897

Commercial mail cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Amherstburg, Ontario.

Three Cents ..
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate

IMPERIAL MACHINE

Trial Machine at
Ottawa
Union Jack Postmark
Dater Die 'X'/Unlettered Obliterator
1 April 1896 – 19 June 1897

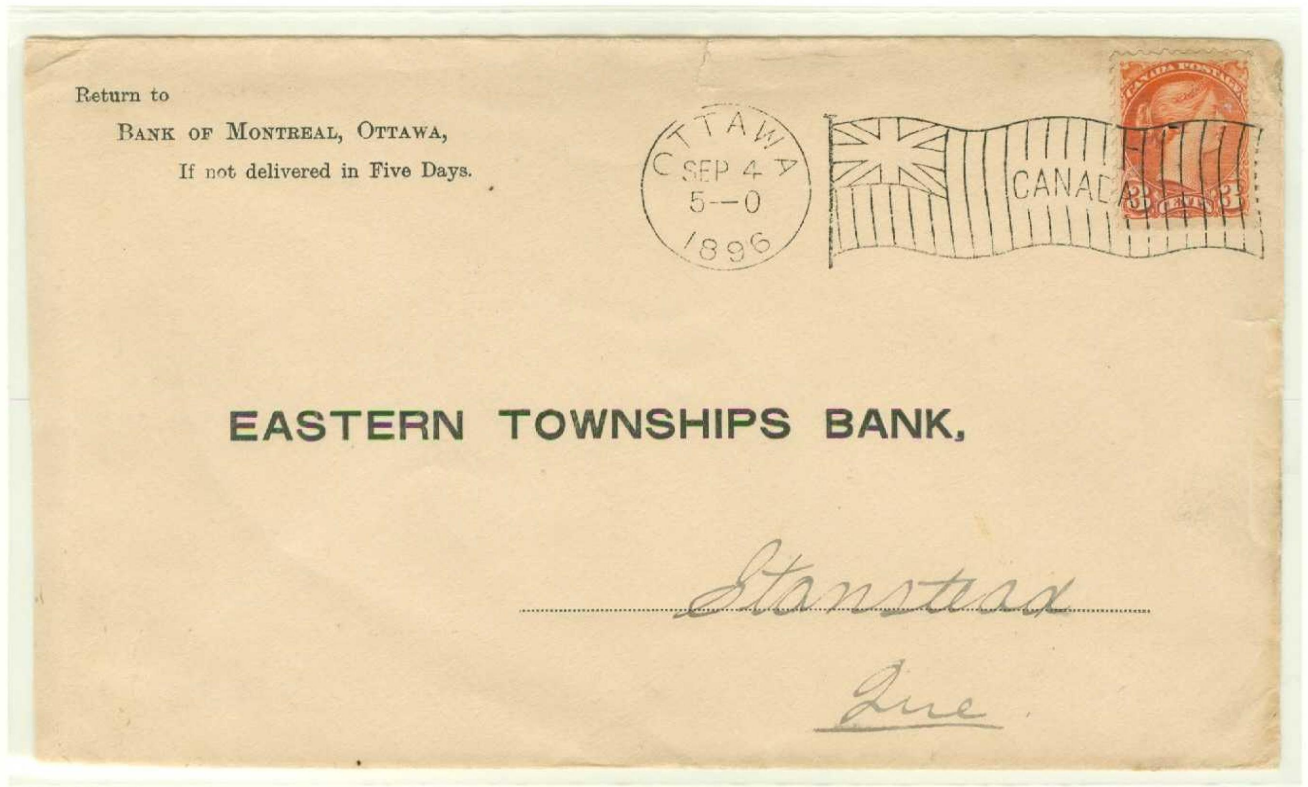
WHILST MACHINE TRIALS WERE BEING CONDUCTED AT MONTREAL,
A TRIAL MACHINE WAS ALSO ALLOCATED TO OTTAWA,
WHERE IT WAS TRIAL-OPERATED UNTIL LATE 1897 APPLYING
TWO DIFFERENT DATER DIALS OVER TIME WITH A SINGLE UNLETTERED
UNION-JACK FLAG OBLITERATOR.



DATER DIAL 'X'

- * Year in lower arc
- * No 'Canada'

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial 'X' with unlettered
Union-Jack Flag Obliterator
having "Canada" as centered text.



4 SEPTEMBER 1896

Commercial mail cover,
postmarked at Ottawa,
sent to Stanstead, Quebec.

Arrival Postmark:

(Reverse)

"Stanstead, Que., September 5, 1897"

Three Cents ..
Domestic single-weight
letter-rate

IMPERIAL MACHINE

Trial Machine Operation
Ottawa

Union Jack Postmark Usages
Dater Die 'X'/Unlettered Obliterator

1 April 1896 - 19 June 1897

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial 'X' with unlettered
Union-Jack Flag Obliterator
having "Canada" as centered text.

5 NOVEMBER 1896

Cover, postmarked
at Ottawa, sent to
Toronto.

Three cents:
Single-weight
domestic
letter-rate



RETURN IN TEN DAYS TO THE BANK OF OTTAWA, OTTAWA.

CANADA
LETTER CARD



Messrs
Mulock & Roberts
Barristers
Winnipeg

10 OCTOBER 1896

Canadian Postal Stationery
Letter, business mail,
postmarked at Ottawa,
sent to
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Three cents:
Single-weight domestic
letter-rate

18 MARCH 1897

Canadian Postal
Stationery Card,
postmarked at
Ottawa,
sent locally

One Cent ..
Domestic
Postal Card Rate



IMPERIAL MACHINE

Trial Machine Operation
Ottawa

Union Jack Postmark Usages
Dater Die 'Z'/Unlettered Obliterator
9 August – 28 October 1897

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial 'Z' with unlettered
Union-Jack Flag Obliterator
having "Canada" as centered text.



DATER DIAL 'Z'

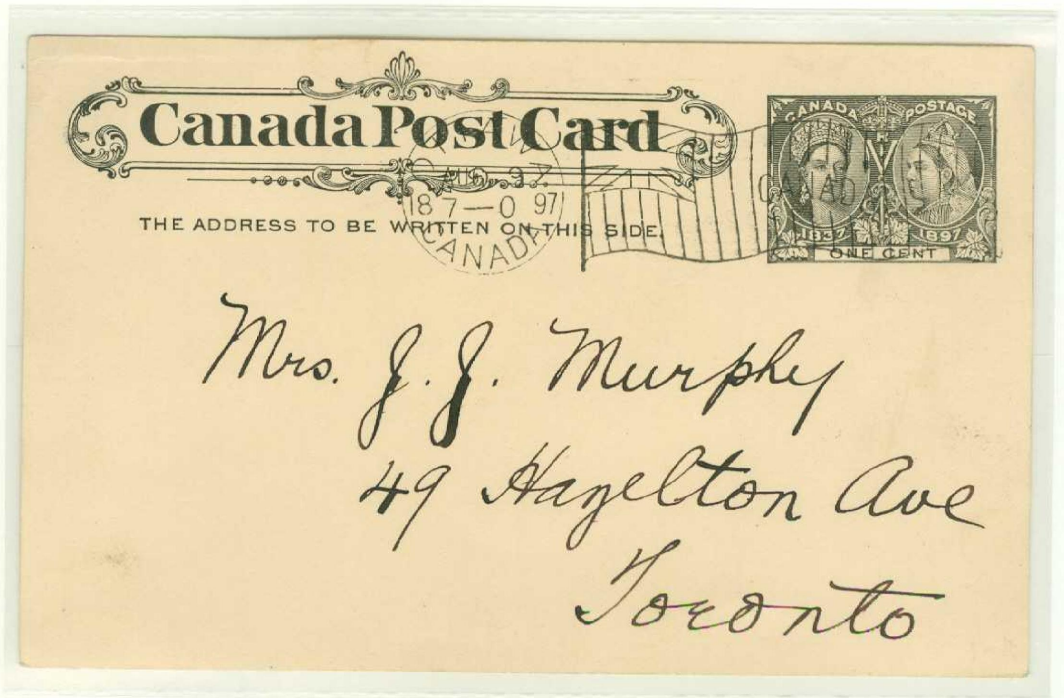
- * Year split
- * '7' of "1897" sanserif
- * 'Canada' in lower arc

9 AUGUST 1897

Canadian Postal
Stationery Card,
postmarked at
Ottawa,
sent to Toronto.

One Cent:
Domestic
Postcard Rate

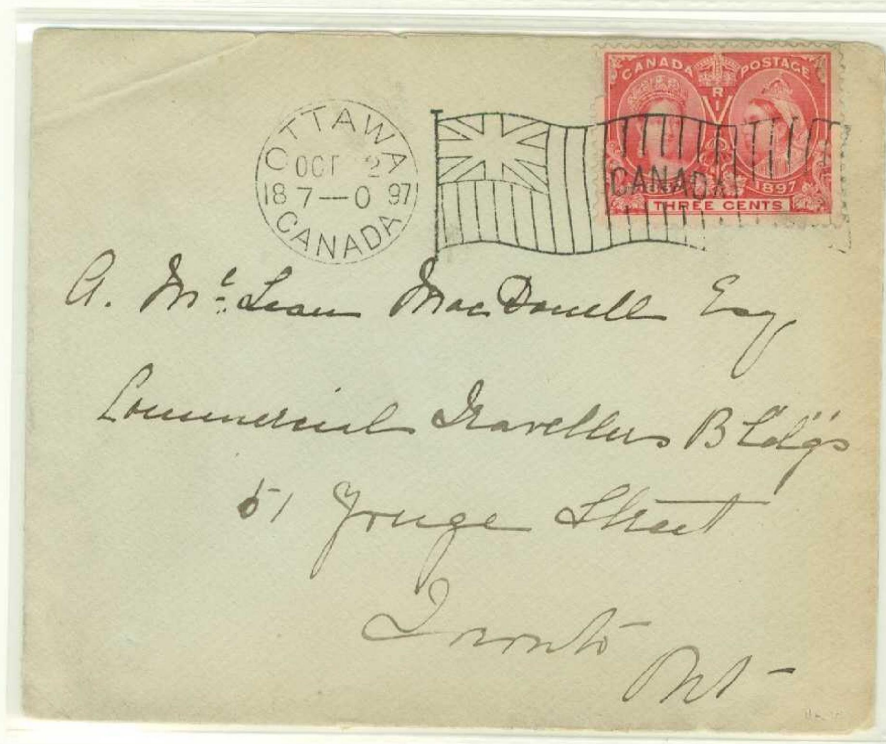
FIRST DAY USAGE



2 OCTOBER 1897

Cover, postmarked
at Ottawa,
sent to Toronto.

Three cents:
Single-weight
domestic
letter-rate



IMPERIAL MACHINE

Trial Machine Operation
Ottawa

Union Jack Postmark Usages
Dater Die 'Z'/Unlettered Obliterator
9 August – 28 October 1897

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial 'Z' with unlettered
Union-Jack Flag Obliterator
having "Canada" as centered text.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL-OFFICE MAIL TO SCOTLAND INTERNATIONAL USAGE



Ex Bowen & George

23 SEPTEMBER 1897

Embossed 'Governor General's Office' Cover,
signature validated "David Erskind" (front), endorsed "via New York",
postmarked at Ottawa, sent to Brouhly Ferry, Scotland.

Arrival Postmark:
(reverse)

"Dundee 51, October 4, 1897"

Ten Cents:
Double-Weight UPU International
Letter-Rate

One of Eleven Ten-Cent-Franked
Patriotic Flag Cancels Known

IMPERIAL MACHINE

Machines 1, 5 & 6
 Queen Victoria's Jubilee Postmark
 5 Strokes = Die 1 / Dater 'X'
 Montreal

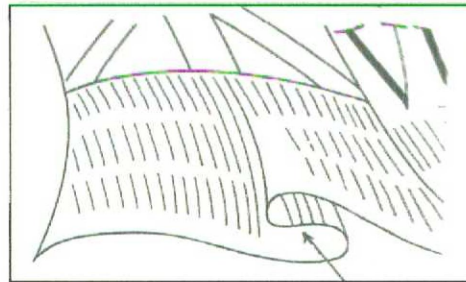
Usage Period:
 June - July 1897

IN JUNE 1897, IMPERIAL MACHINES 1, 5 & 6 HAVING 'UNION JACK POSTMARKS' 'A', 'E' & 'F' WERE WITHDRAWN AND FITTED WITH A NEW FLAG POSTMARK OBLITERATOR HONORING THE 'JUBILEE OF QUEEN VICTORIA 1837-1897'.

Each machine's postmark flag obliterator die (3) could be identified by its number strokes in the flag furl as well as its dater dial referred here to 'X', 'Y' and 'Z'.



Jubilee Postmark Obliterator



Stroke Location

5 Strokes = Die 1
 6 Strokes = Die 2
 7 Strokes = Die 3



DATER DIAL 'X'

- * Year in lower arc
- * No 'Canada'



DATER DIAL 'Y'

- * Year split
- * '7' of "1897" serifed
- * 'Canada' in lower arc



DATER DIAL 'Z'

- * Year split
- * '7' of "1897" sanserif
- * 'Canada' in lower arc



25 JUNE 1897

'Jubilee Flag Postmark' clip having
 Dater Dial 'X' and Die '1' 'Five Stroke'
 Flag Obliterator.

Use Period:
 25-29 June 1897.

Seven examples known

IMPERIAL MACHINE

5 Strokes = Die 1 / Dater 'Y'
Queen Victoria's Jubilee Postmark

Montreal

Usage Period:

21 June – 12 July 1897



DATER DIAL 'Y'

- * Year split
- * '7' of "1897" serifed
- * 'Canada' in lower arc



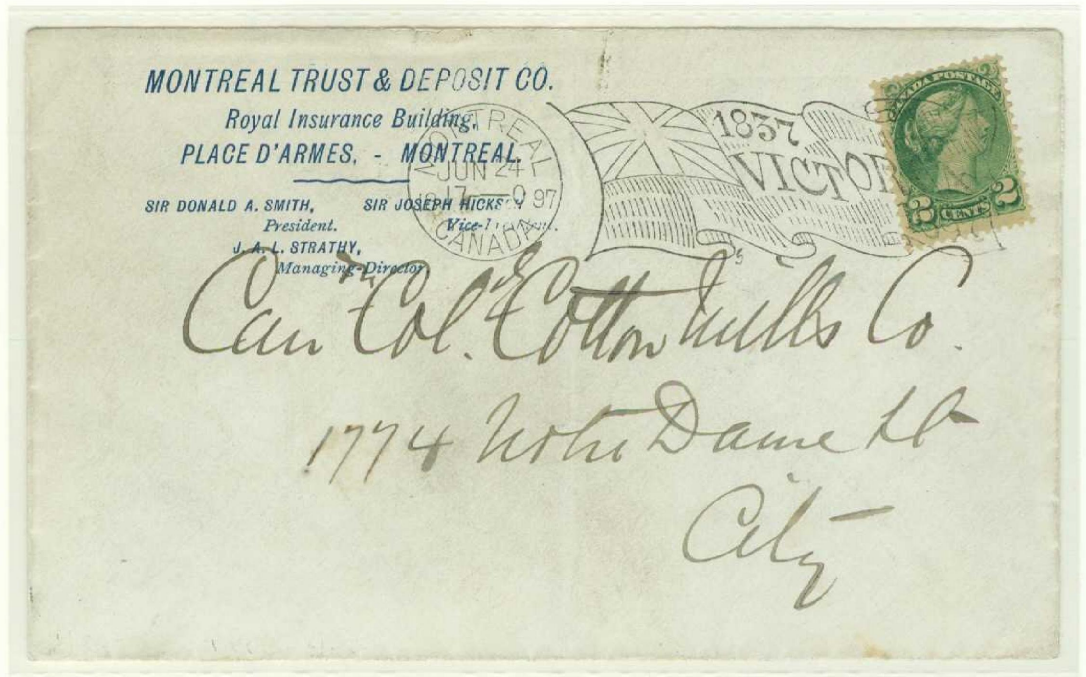
2 JULY 1897

Drop-Letter City-Mail Clip
Jubilee Issue

24 JUNE 1897

Commercial-mail
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent locally.

2 Cents:
Drop-Letter
City Rate



8 JULY 1897

Cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent locally.

2 Cents:
Drop-Letter
City Rate



IMPERIAL MACHINE

6 Strokes = Die 2/ Dater 'X'
Queen Victoria's Jubilee Postmark

Montreal

Usage Date:

22 June 1897

(Tuesday)



DATER DIAL 'X'

- * Year in lower arc
- * No 'Canada'

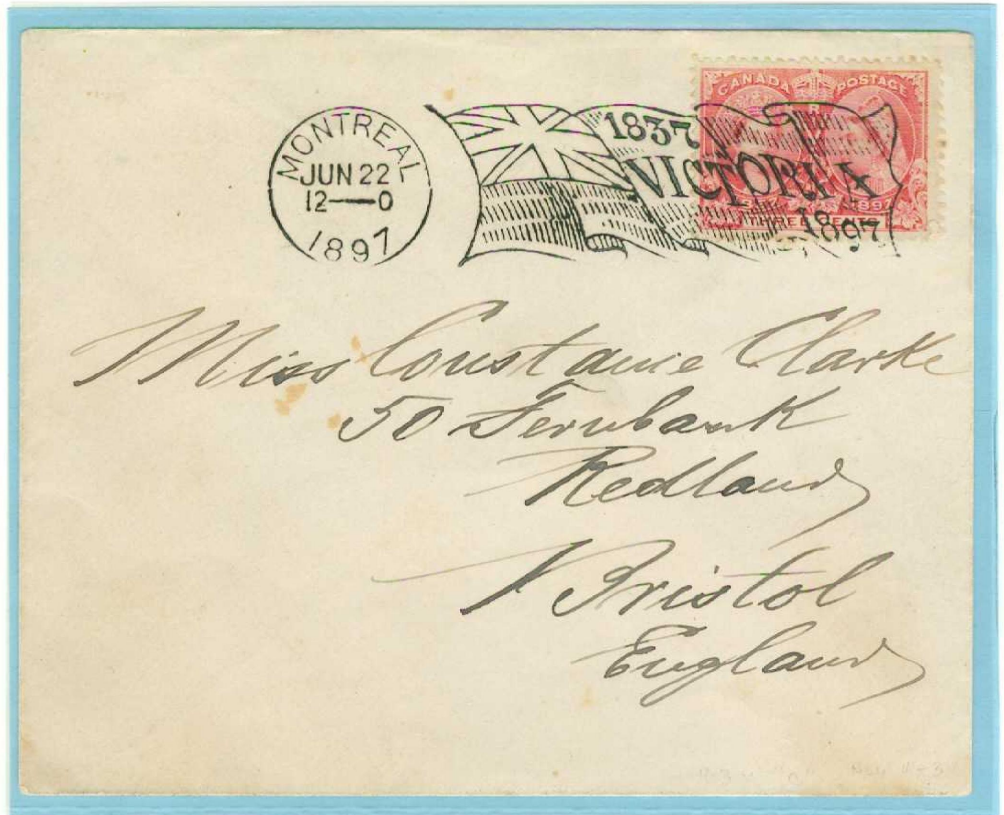
NARROW YEAR VARIETY

22 JUNE 1897

Cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
addressed to
Bristol, England.

3 Cents ..
2 Cents Empire Letter-Rate
+ 1 Cent Convenience
Franking

One of two examples
known.



WIDE YEAR VARIETY

22 JUNE 1897

Philatelic-inspired
cover,
BREAK IN FLAG =
POSTMARKED LATER
THAN 22 JUNE
at Montreal.

2 Cents:
Drop-Letter
City Rate

Less than ten covers
known.

IMPERIAL MACHINE

6 Strokes = Die 2/ Dater 'Z'
Queen Victoria's Jubilee Postmark
Montreal



DATER DIAL 'Z'

- Year split
- '7' of '1897' sans serif
- * Year in lower arc

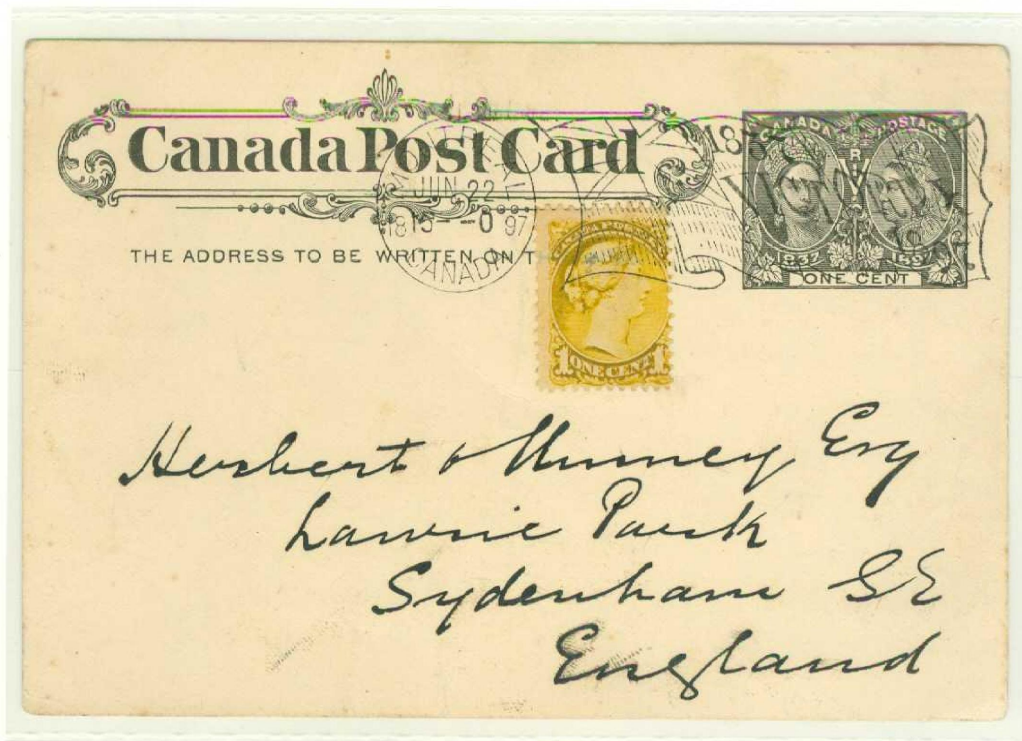
Usage Period:
21 June - 10 July 1897

MAIL TO ENGLAND

22 JUNE 1897

Canadian Postal
Stationery Card,
postmarked
at Montreal,
addressed to
Sydenham, Sussex,
England.

2 Cents ..
United Kingdom
Postcard-Rate



IF NOT DELIVERED IN 10 DAYS,
RETURN TO
ALEX. McARTHUR & CO.,
6 LEMOINE STREET,
MONTREAL.



Messrs Lunnell & Chaudley
Charlottetown
P. E. I.

DOMESTIC
COMMERCIAL
MAIL

3 JULY 1897

Commercial mail
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal sent to
Charlottetown,
Prince Edward
Island

3 Cents:
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate.

IMPERIAL MACHINE

7 Strokes = Die 3/ Dater 'Y' Queen Victoria's Jubilee Postmark Montreal

Usage Period:
20 & 29 June 1897

The **7 STROKES = DIE 3 OBLITERATOR WITH DATER DIAL 'Y'**
type 'Queen Victoria Jubilee Postmark'
is only known on philatelic-inspired mail.



DATER DIAL 'Y'

- Year split
- '7' of '1897' with serif
- * Year in lower arc



20 JUNE 1897

Philatelic-inspired cover,
postmarked at Montreal

1 Cent:
Domestic
Drop-letter (non-carrier office)
letter-rate.

One of nine examples known
either postmarked June 20 or 29.

IMPERIAL MACHINE

7 Strokes = Die 3/ Dater 'X'
Queen Victoria's Jubilee Postmark

Montreal

Usage Period:
21 June - 10 July 1897



DATER DIAL 'X'

- * Year in lower arc
- * No 'Canada'

FIRST DAY USE

21 JUNE 1897

Registered
business mail
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent locally.

7 Cents ..
Registered letter-
rate
(2 Cents + 5 Cents
Registry)

Only registered
drop-letter
business mail
example known.



LAST DAY USE

10 JULY 1897

Cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent locally.

2 Cents:
Drop-Letter
City Rate

IMPERIAL MACHINE

7 Strokes = Die 3/ Dater 'X'
Queen Victoria's Jubilee Postmark
Montreal

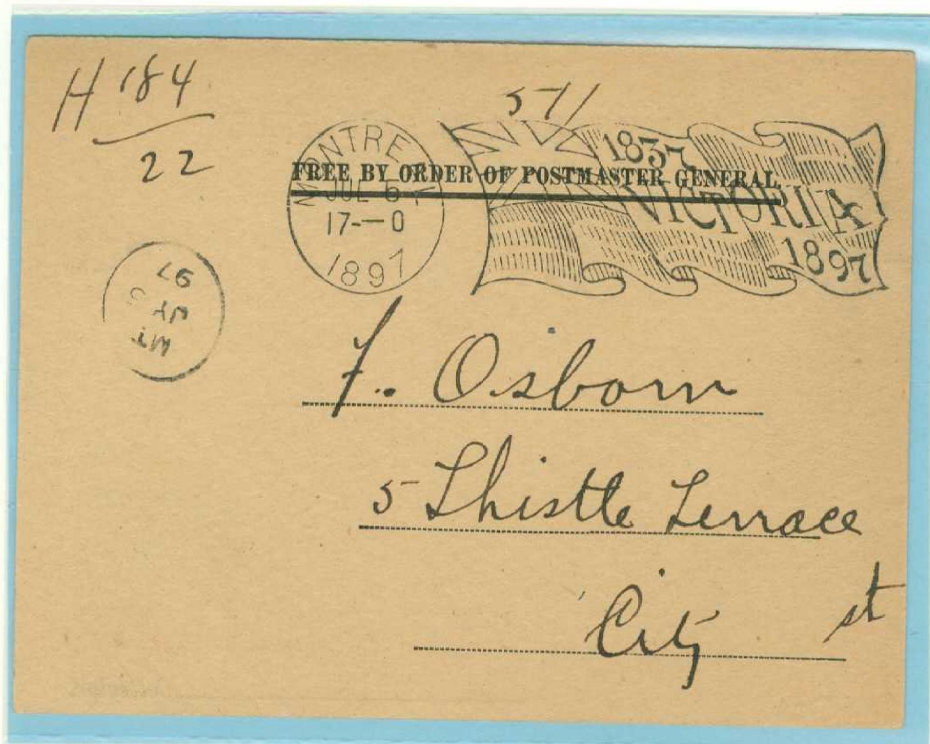
Usage Period:
21 June - 10 July 1897

PRINTED MATTER CIRCULAR

3 JULY 1897
(Double Strike)

Unsealed cover
(circular enclosure),
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Halifax,
Nova Scotia.

1 Cent:
Domestic circular
mail rate.



FREE-FRANK
OFFICIAL CUSTOMS OFFICE
NOTIFICATION

5 JULY 1897

Notification of parcel arrival
with duty applicable.
Postmarked at Montreal,
sent locally.

Arrival Postmark:
(front)
"MT,
5 July 1897"

Only known use example.

IMPERIAL MACHINE

7 Strokes = Die 3/ Dater 'X'
Queen Victoria's Jubilee Postmark
Montreal

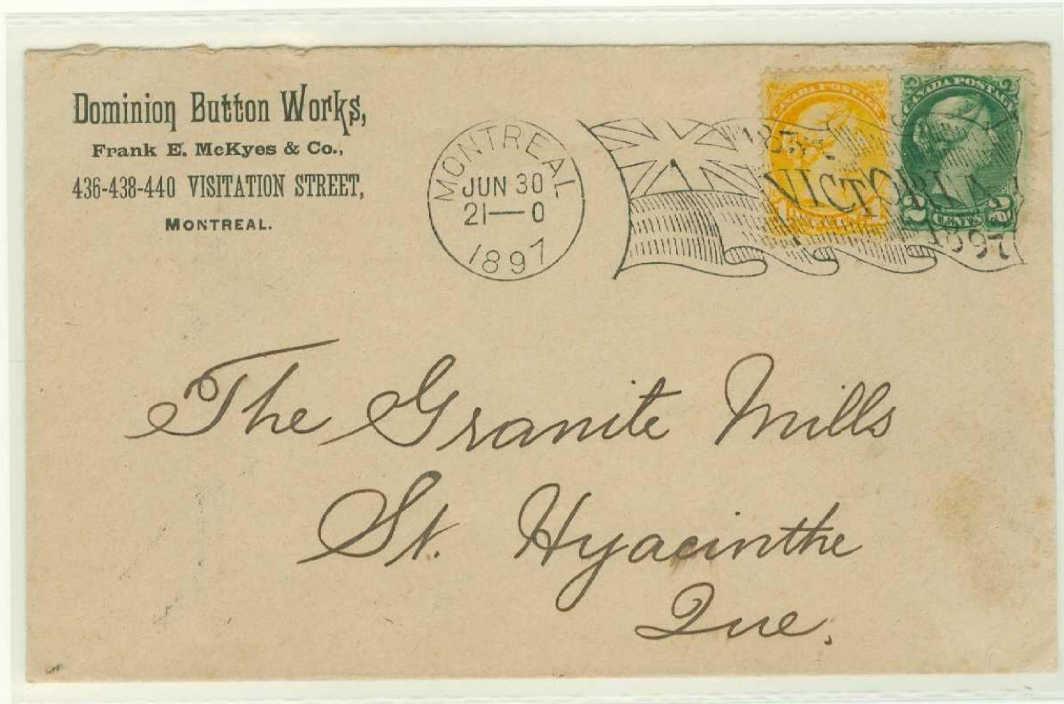
Usage Period:
21 June - 10 July 1897

DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL MAIL USAGE

30 JUNE 1897

Business mail
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
St. Hyacinthe,
Quebec.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"St Hyacinthe,
1 July 1897"



6 JULY 1897

Business mail
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Truro,
Nova Scotia.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Truro,
7 July 1897"

*Messrs
Black & Co
Truro
N.S.*

3 Cents:
Domestic single-weight letter-rate

IMPERIAL MACHINE

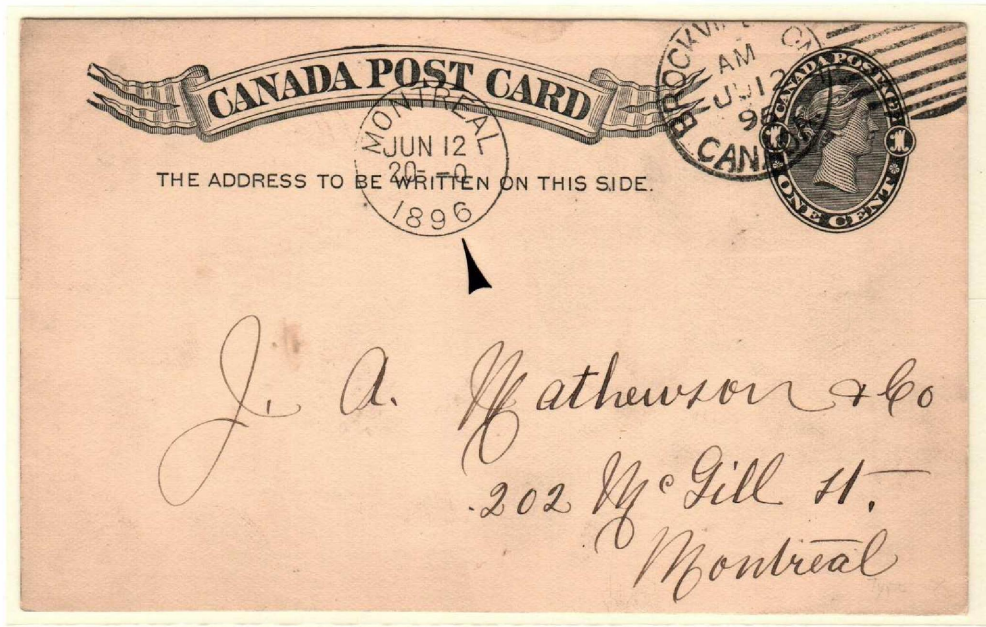
ARRIVAL POSTMARK 'X' Standard Postal Stationery Card Montreal

Usage Period:
29 May 1896 – 7 August 1897

IN ADDITION TO POSTMARKING OUT-GOING MAIL AT MONTREAL,
ONE TO THREE OF THE SIX OPERATIONAL MACHINES ALSO APPLIED THEIR
RESPECTIVE DATER DIAL ('X', 'Y' & 'Z') WITHOUT OBLITERATOR TO ARRIVING
MAIL. AT VARIOUS TIMES DURING THEIR OPERATIONAL FUNCTION
AT MONTREAL.



Postmark:
22mm Dater
Dial without 'Canada' text



TYPE 'X'
ARRIVAL POSTMARK

12 JUNE 1896

Canadian Standard Postal
Stationery Card commercial mail,
postmarked at
Brockville, Ontario,
sent to Montreal.

1 Cent ..
Domestic Postcard-Rate

IMPERIAL MACHINE

ARRIVAL POSTMARK Queen Victoria's Jubilee Postal Card Montreal

Usage Period:
21 June - 10 July 1897



'7 in '1897 with serif

TYPE 'Y'
ARRIVAL POSTMARK

6 JULY 1897

Canadian Postal
Stationery Card
commercial mail,
postmarked
at Leamington,
sent to Montreal.

1 Cent..
Domestic
Postcard-Rate



'7 in '1897' without serif

TYPE 'Z'
ARRIVAL POSTMARK

9 JULY 1897

Canadian Postal
Stationery Card
commercial mail,
postmarked
at Apple Hill,
sent to Montreal.

1 Cent..
Domestic
Postcard-Rate

IMPERIAL MACHINE

Testing of the "Boston" Machine Montreal

Postmark Use Period:
10 March 1899 – 28 June 1900

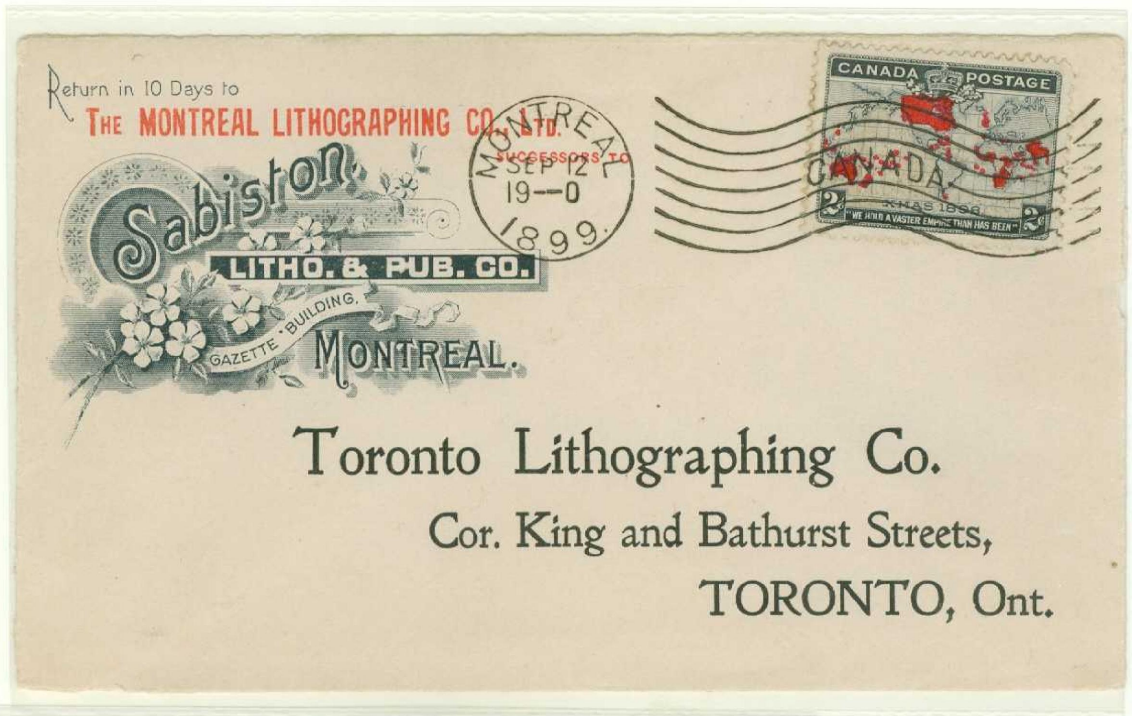
Concurrent with use of Bickerdike Machines at Montreal,
replacing the worn Imperial Machines,
**THE MONTREAL POST OFFICE INDEPENDENTLY EXPERIMENTED MORE THAN YEAR
WITH A UPDATED VERSION OF THE IMPERIAL MACHINE,
REFERENCED IN POSTAL FILES AS THE 'BOSTON' MACHINE**
supplied by the American Postal Machines Company at Boston, Massachusetts,
successor company to the Imperial Mail Marking Company of Montreal & Boston.

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial having a long-footed 'L' in
'Montreal' with a seven (58mm) wavy-line obliterator
having "Canada" as centered text.

12 SEPTEMBER
1899

Commercial
advertising cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Toronto, Ontario

Two Cents:
Domestic single-
weight letter-rate.

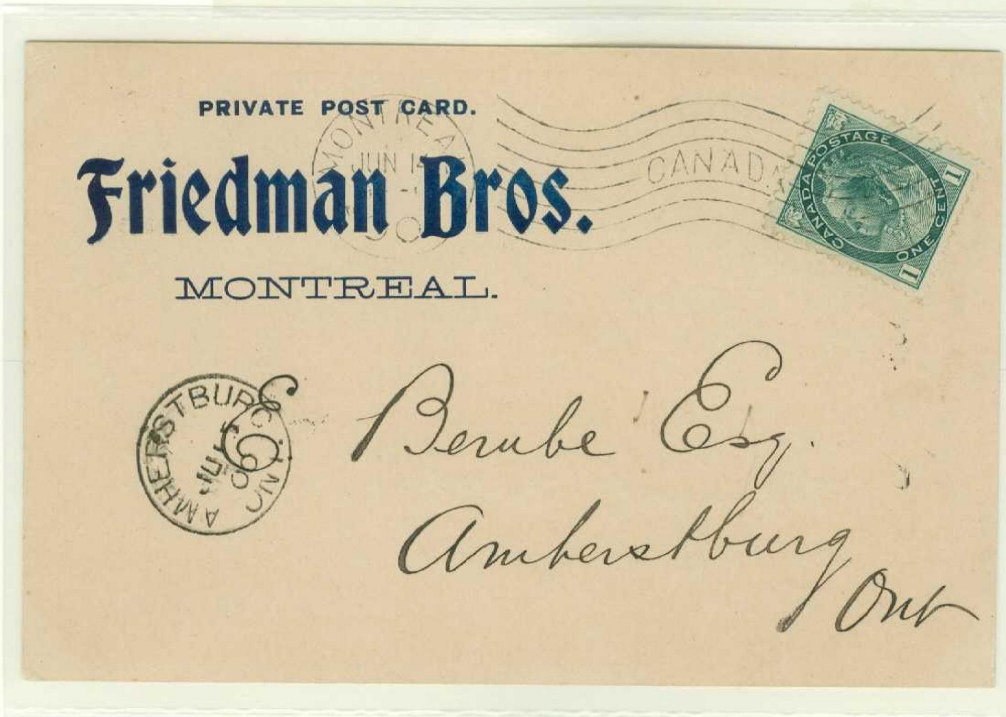


14 JUNE 1900

Commercial mail
postcard,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Amherstburg,
Ontario.

Arrival Postmark:
(Front)
"Amherstburg,
June 15, 1900"

One Cent:
Domestic
postcard-rate.



IMPERIAL MACHINE

6 Strokes = Die 2/ Dater 'Z'
**Queen Victoria's Jubilee Postmark
 Ottawa**



DATER DIAL 'Z'

- Year split
- '7' of 1897 sanserif
- 'Canada' in lower arc

Usage Period:

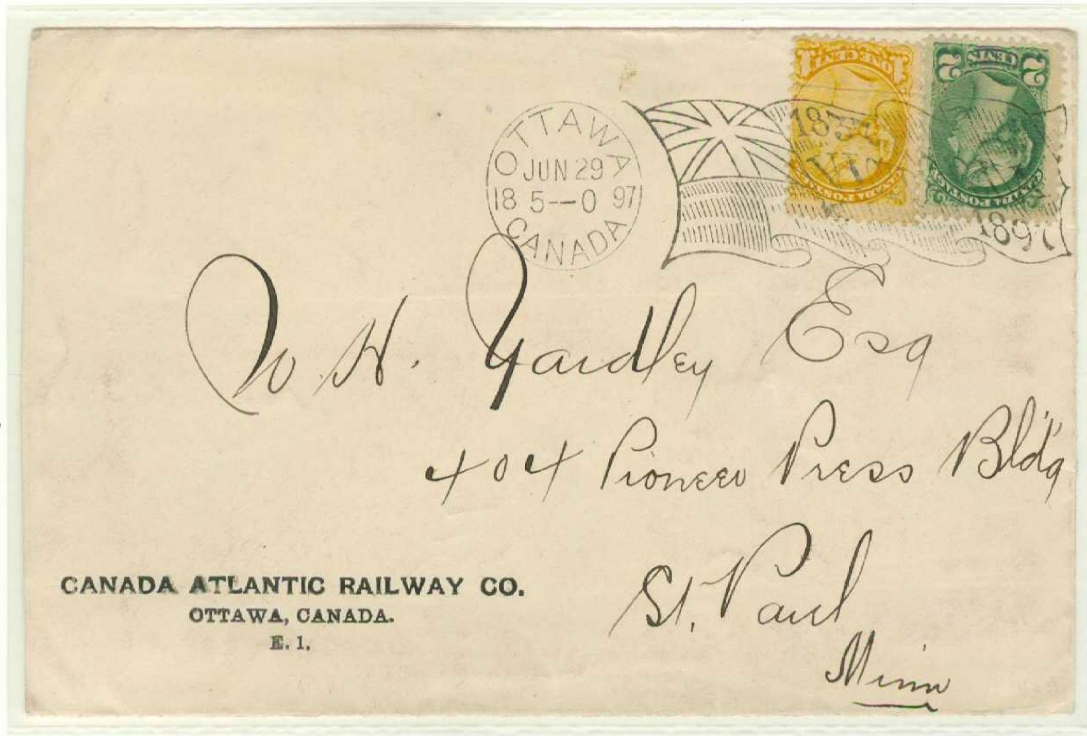
21 June – 7 August 1897

MAIL TO U.S.A.

29 JUNE 1897

Commercial mail
 cover,
 postmarked
 at Ottawa
 sent to
 St. Paul, Minnesota.

**3 Cents ..
 Single-weight
 letter-rate to U.S.A.**
 (valid until
 31. December 1898)



**TRANSIT JUBILEE
 POSTMARK USE**

8 JUNE 1897

Cover, postmarked at
 Moncton, New
 Brunswick, 6 July 1897,
 sent to Ottawa,
 re-directed with transit
 postmark at Ottawa
 to Truro,
 Nova Scotia

**3 Cents:
 Single-weight
 Domestic
 letter-rate**



IMPERIAL MACHINE

6 Strokes = Die 2/ Dater 'Z'
Queen Victoria's Jubilee Postmark
Ottawa

Usage Period:
21 June - 7 August 1897

OFFICIAL MAIL ..
CANADIAN GEOLOGICAL
SURVEY DEPARTMENT

13 JULY 1897

"On Her Majesty's Service"
cover,
validated by
"G.M. Dawson",
postmarked
at Ottawa
sent to
London, England.

Arrival Postmark:
(reverse)
"London,
July 24, 1897"

ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE



GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DEPARTMENT,
OTTAWA.

*G. O. Kinsella, Esq.,
147 Holborn Bars,
London, E.C. 1
England.*

10 Cents:
Double-Weight
UPU International
Letter-Rate

One of Eleven
10-Cent-Franked
Patriotic Flag Cancels
Known.

IMPERIAL MACHINE

6 Strokes = Die 2/Dater 'Z'
Queen Victoria's Jubilee Postal Card
Ottawa

Usage Period:
21 June - 7 August 1897

5 JULY 1897

Canadian Postal
Stationery Card
commercial mail,
postmarked
at Ottawa,
sent locally.

1 Cent..
Domestic
Postcard-Rate



3 AUGUST 1897

Canadian Postal
Stationery Card
commercial mail,
postmarked
at Ottawa,
sent to Montreal.

Bickerdike Trial
Machine Arrival
Postmark

1 Cent..
Domestic
Postcard-Rate

IV. BICKERDIKE MACHINE

First & Second Trials Montreal

Trial I: 2-8 December 1896

Trial II: 28 December 1896 –
3 January 1897

Martin Ethridge, designer of the Imperial Machine, developed a new postmarking machine, superior in function to the Imperial, the 'BICKERDIKE' (named after his financier 'Robert Bickerdike'), which he, along with John Brooks Young, patented in Canada, the United States and Great Britain in 1896. To manufacture the machine, a new company was formed, the *Canadian Postal Supply Company*.

**THE 'BICKERDIKE' WAS OFFERED TO THE CANADIAN POST OFFICE IN 1896
WITH SUCCESSFUL TESTING CONDUCTED BY THEM IN DECEMBER 1896.**



Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute
flag obliterator having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

FIRST TRIAL

2 DECEMBER 1896

Commercial cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Amhurstburg,
Ontario.

First Day Trial Usage

One of Nine
Examples Known

MCKENNA, THOMSON & CO.,
SUCCESSORS TO
(JAMES O'BRIEN & CO.,)
WHOLESALE CLOTHING,
MONTREAL.

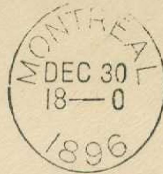


E. Perute Esq

Amhurstburg



IF NOT CALLED FOR
IN FIVE DAYS RETURN TO
MONTREAL.



E. W. Hovey Esq

Rock Island,

I. Que.

SECOND TRIAL

30 DECEMBER 1896

Commercial
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Rock Island,
Quebec

Third Day Trial
Usage

One of Five
Examples
Known

Three Cents ..
Domestic Single-Weight Letter-Rate.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Decommissioning of 'Imperial Machines' Montreal

Jubilee Postmark Type II
Commercial Use Period:
10-15 July & 17 July

ON 10 JULY 1897, THE HERETOFORE OPERATIONAL 'IMPERIAL MACHINES' WERE DECOMMISSIONED AND REPLACED BY SIX NEW 'BICKERDIKE MACHINES', WITH ONE MACHINE AT MONTREAL APPLYING A 'JUBILEE FLAG' AND FIVE OTHERS APPLYING AN INVOLUTE 'STANDARD FLAG' OBLITERATOR.

Postmark: 22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute flag obliterator having 'CANADA', Crown & '1837 - 1897 V.R.', in text.



13 JULY 1897

Commercial cover, postmarked at Montreal, sent to Brampton, Ontario.

Arrival Postmark: (Reverse) "Brampton, July 14, 1897"



15 JULY 1897

Commercial cover, postmarked at Montreal, sent to Brockville, Ontario.

Arrival Postmark: (Reverse) "Rockville, July 15, 1897"



Three Cents ...
Domestic Single-Weight Letter-Rate.

Two of eleven examples known

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Decommissioned 'Imperial Machines'

Ottawa & Montreal

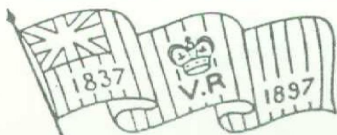
Jubilee Postmark Type III

Use Period:

Montreal: 13 April 1897 - 18 April 1898

Ottawa: 30 October 1897 - 2 March 1898

TWO NEW BICKERDIKE MACHINES BECAME OPERATIONAL AT OTTAWA, ONE OF WHICH APPLIED A 'JUBILEE' OBLITERATOR. ONE MACHINE AT EACH MONTREAL & OTTAWA APPLIED THE NEW THIRD-STYLE 'JUBILEE' POSTMARK.



Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute flag obliterator having '1837 V. R. 1897' text.

OTTAWA

11 NOVEMBER
1897

Cover,
postmarked at
Ottawa,
sent to
Montreal,
Quebec.

Arrival
Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Montreal,
November 11,
1897"

Ex Bomar & Puls



FROM
THE MONTREAL NEWS COMPANY
(LIMITED)
386 & 388 ST. JAMES STREET,
MONTREAL.



Messrs T. C. Allen & Co.,
Halifax,
N. S.

MONTREAL

15 APRIL 1898

Commercial
cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent to
Halifax,
Nova Scotia.

Arrival
Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Halifax,
April 18, 1898"

Only known
example.

Three Cents ..
Domestic Single-Weight Letter-Rate.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Unfinished Flag Postmark Ottawa & Montreal

Use Period:

Ottawa: 30 October 1897 - 19 March 1898

Montreal: 13 - 18 April 1898

THE 'UNFINISHED FLAG' POSTMARK WAS USED ALTERNATELY AT BOTH
OTTAWA AND MONTREAL
in those new Bickerdike Machines
which were applying the Jubilee Postmark at each location,
most probably as a reserve postmarking die
during cleaning or maintenance of the latter die.



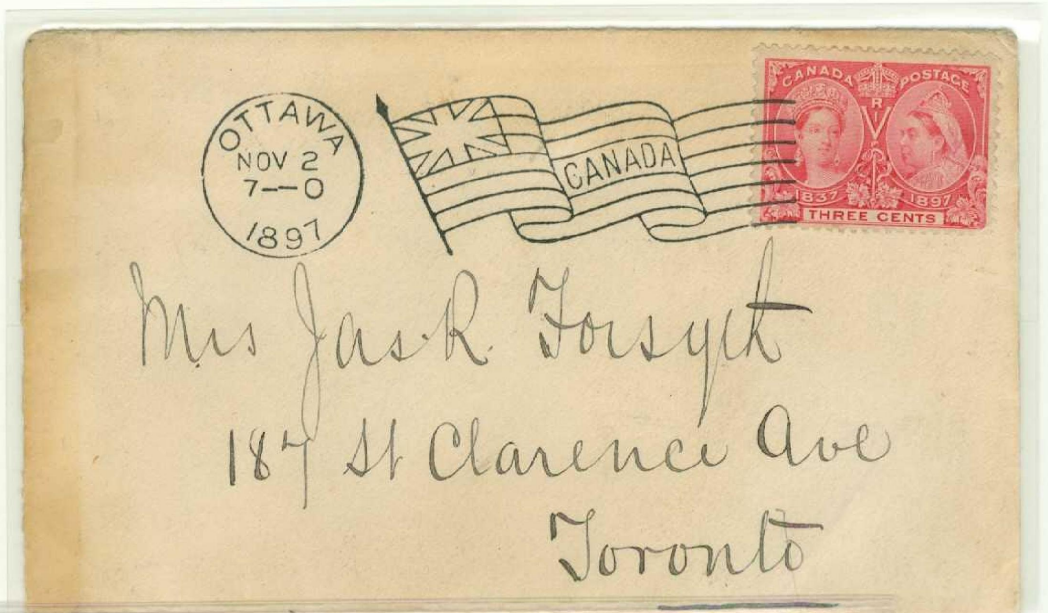
Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
involute unfinished-end flag obliterator
having 'Canada' text.

OTTAWA

2 NOVEMBER
1897

'Supreme Court
of Canada'
embossed
cover,
postmarked at
Ottawa,
sent to
Toronto,
Ontario.

Arrival
Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Toronto,
November 3,
1897"



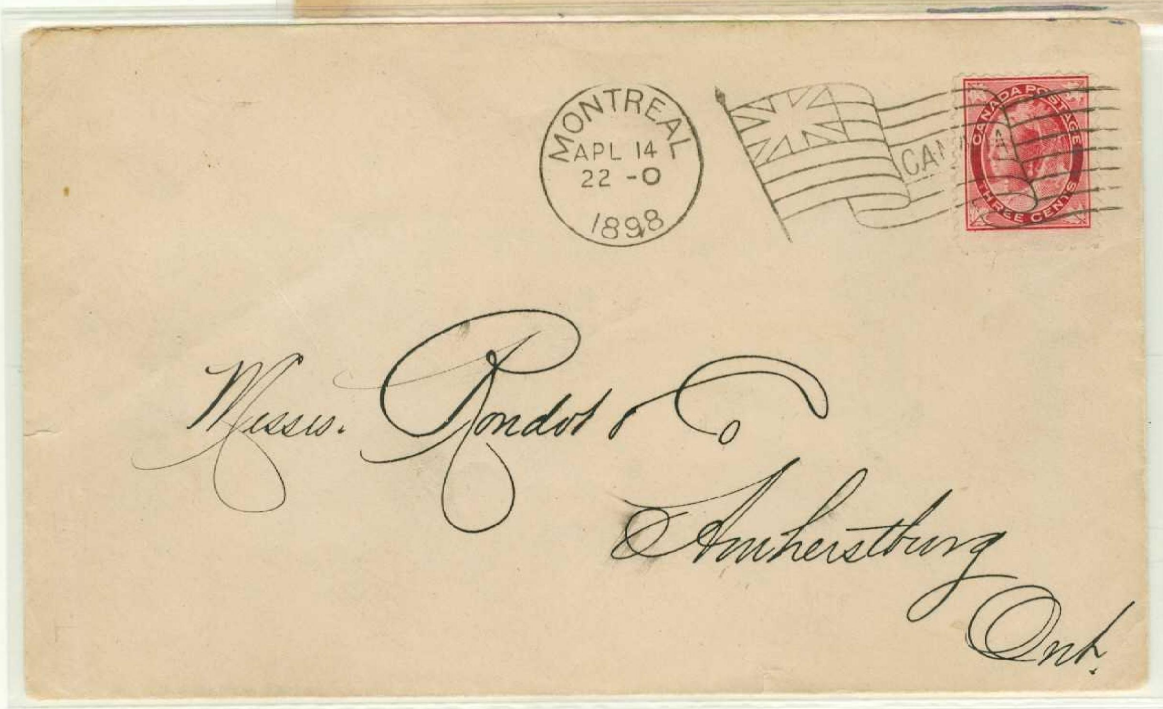
MONTREAL

14 APRIL
1898

Commercial
cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent to
Amhurstburg,
Ontario.

Arrival
Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Amhurstburg,
April 15, 1898"

Only Known
Example



Three Cents ..
Domestic Single-Weight Letter-Rate.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

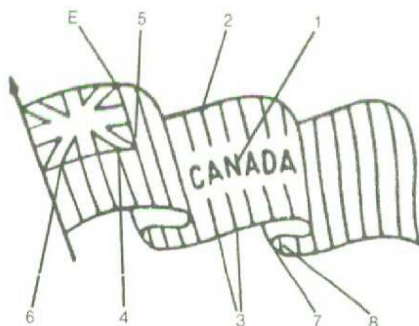
Involute 'Standard' Flag Obliterators Montreal

Six Machine Operation

BY MID-1897, SIX BICKERDIKE MACHINES WERE OPERATIONAL AT MONTREAL WITH THREE DIE STYLES OF FLAG OBLITERATORS IN USE BETWEEN 1897-1902

**Flag Die-Style I:
Involute Flag
Without Indicia /
Machine Number
Distinguishable by
Flag Characteristic**
(© David Sessions)

(July 1897 – April 1898)



Feature	Flag Die Numbers, showing letter where appropriate.					
	1(A)	2	3(C)	4(D)	5(E)	6
1	3mm	3mm	3mm	< 3mm	< 3mm	< 3mm
2	R+	R	R	R	R	C
3	C	L	L	L	L	L
4	No	No	Yes	Almost	No	Yes
5	Almost	No	Almost	Almost	No	No
6	No	Yes	No	Almost	No	No
7	L+	L	Just L of C	C	L	R
8	> 2mm	< 2mm	< 2mm	< 2mm	< 2mm	< 2mm

1. Height of 'N' of 'CANADA'
2. Vertical line centered on "A" or shifted to the right?
3. Two vertical lines centered on 'A' or shifted to the left?
4. Does angular line coincide with vertical line below?
5. Does angular line bisect corner?
6. Does angular line coincide with vertical line below?
7. Relationship of line closing second furl to vertical line above, i.e. central, shifted to the left or to the right?
8. Width of first segment of second furl.

**Flag Die-Style II:
Barred Involute Flag
Without Indicia:**

(April 1898 – March 1902)



**Flag Die-Style III:
Barred Involute Flag
With Indicia:**

(January 1900 – March 1902)



Indicia 'A' thru "E" located here

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style I, Machine I
Montreal

Usage Period:
10 July 1897 – 12 April 1898



Flag Die-Style I

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute
flag obliterator having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

MAIL TO SCOTLAND

13 JULY 1897

Cover,
Postmarked at
Montreal,
Sent to
Dumbarton, Scotland.

Five Cents:
UPU International
Single-Weight
Letter-Rate



MONTREAL
EXHIBITION
ADVERTISING
COVER
(Show Duration:
19-28 August
1897)

3 AUGUST 1897

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
St. John's,
Newfoundland

Three Cents:
Domestic
Single-Weight
Letter-Rate

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style I, Machine 2
Montreal

Usage Period:
12 July 1897 – 14 April 1898

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute
flag obliterator having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

MONTREAL CITY
DROP-LETTER

22 SEPTEMBER 1897

Commercial mail
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent locally.

Two Cents:
Inner-City Drop
Letter-Rate



INTERNATIONAL
MAIL
GERMANY

21 DECEMBER
1897

Up-rated
Canadian Postal
Stationery Card,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Berlin, Germany

Two Cents:
UPU International
Postcard-Rate

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style I, Machine 3
Montreal

Usage Period:
16 July 1897 – 7 April 1898

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute
flag obliterator having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

COMMERCIAL MAIL

DOMESTIC
CANADA

8 OCTOBER
1897

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent to
Owen
Sound,
Ontario

Three Cents:
Domestic
single-
weight
letter-rate



MAIL TO U.S.A.

24 JANUARY 1898

Up-rated
registered
Canadian Postal
Stationery Cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Boston,
Massachusetts

Ten Cents:
3 Cents ..
letter-rate
+ 5 Cents
registration fee
+ 2 Cents
Convenience
franking

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style I, Machine 3
Montreal

Usage Period:

16 July 1897 – 7 April 1898

Postmark:

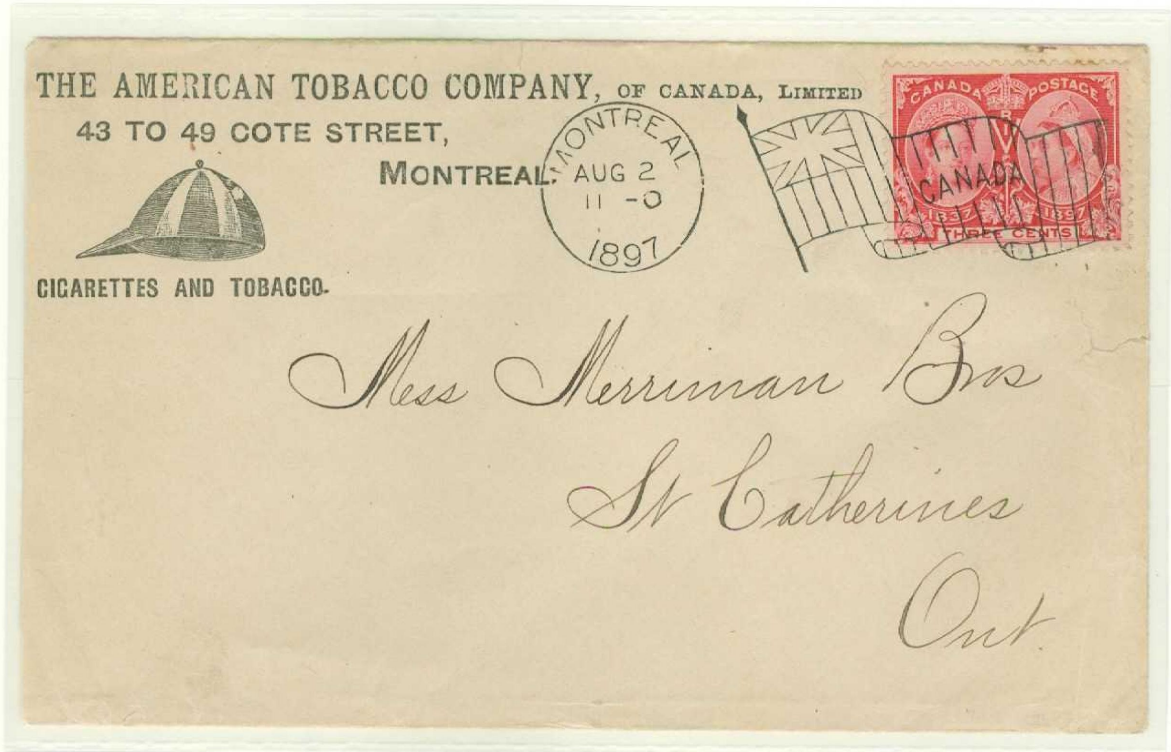
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute
flag obliterator having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL MAIL

2 AUGUST
1897

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent to
St. Catherines,
Ontario

Three Cents:
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate



INNER-CITY
MONTREAL

3 DECEMBER 1897

Canadian Postal
Stationery Card,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent locally

One Cent:
Domestic
postcard rate

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style I, Machine 4
Montreal

Usage Period:
10 July 1897 – 14 April 1898

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute
flag obliterator having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

COMMERCIAL MAIL

STANDARD FLAG POSTMARK

24 SEPTEMBER 1897

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Pittsburgh,
Pennsylvania,
U.S.A.

Three Cents:
USA-Bound
Single-Weight
Letter-Rate



INVERTED FLAG OBLITERATOR

23 DECEMBER 1897

Canadian Postal
Stationery Card,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Vancouver,
British Columbia.

One Cent:
Domestic postcard
rate

Ex Puls & Bomar



BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style I, Machine 5
Montreal

Usage Period:
12 July 1897 – 12 April 1898

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute
flag obliterator having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL MAIL

19 JULY 1897

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Charlottetown,
Prince Edward Island

Three Cents:
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate



LAMPLOUGH & McNAUGHTON,
MONTREAL.

PRIVATE POST CARD.



J. M. Lough Esq
Buckingham
Quebec

27 JULY 1897

Commercial
postcard,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Buckingham,
Quebec.

One Cent:
Domestic
postcard rate

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style I, Machine 5
Montreal

Usage:
25 September 1897

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with inverted involute
flag obliterator having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

INVERTED FLAG OBLITERATOR



Ex Puls & Bomar

25 SEPTEMBER 1897

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked at Montreal,
sent to
Kemfstown, Ontario

Three Cents:
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate

Only Known Example.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style I, Machine 6
Montreal

Usage Period:

12 July 1897 – 15 April 1898

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute
flag obliterator having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

COMMERCIAL
MAIL

31 JULY 1897

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Gaspé,
Quebec.

Three Cents:
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate



HOTEL COVER
TO U.S.A.

16 AUGUST 1897

Hotel advertising
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Hoosick Falls,
New York

Three Cents:
Single-weight
letter-rate
to U.S.A.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style I, Machine 6
Montreal

Usage Period:
12 July 1897 – 15 April 1898

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute
flag obliterator having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

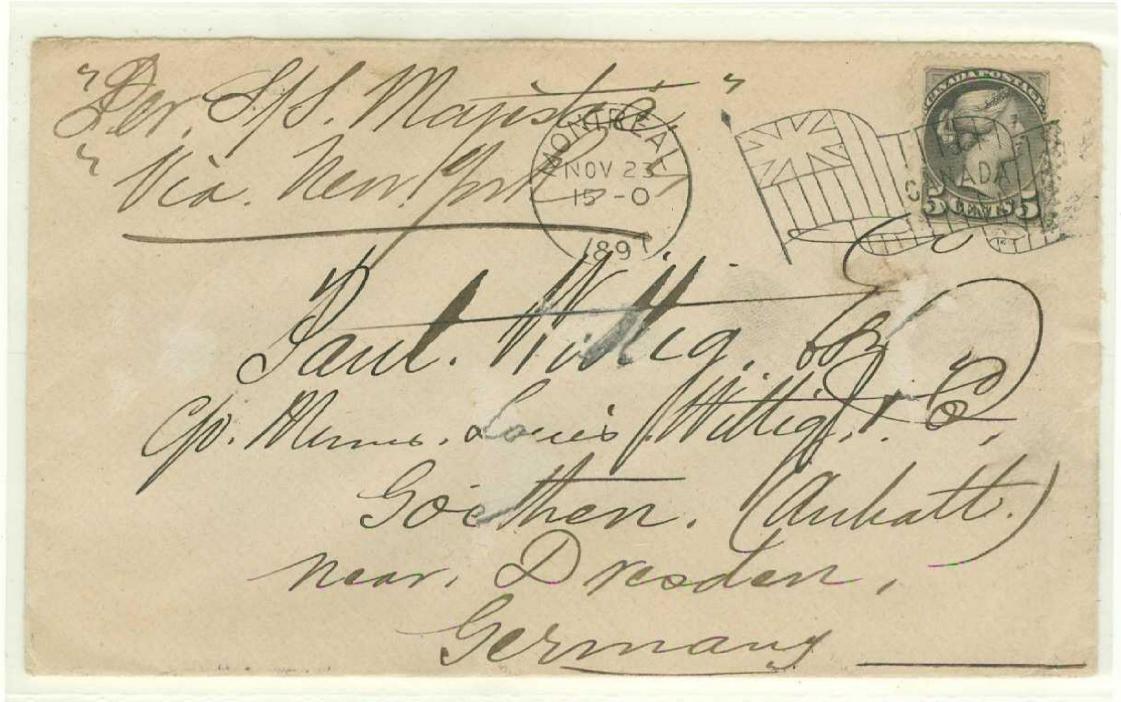
INTERNATIONAL MAIL

MAIL TO
GERMANY

23 NOVEMBER
1897

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Gothen,
Germany.

Five Cents:
UPU
Single-Weight
International
Letter-Rate



MAIL TO
ENGLAND

12 JANUARY
1898

Cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Liverpool,
England

Ten Cents:
UPU
International
Double-Weight
Letter-Rate.

One of Eleven
10-Cent-
Franked Patriotic
Flag Cancels
Known



BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag Without Indicia Flag Die-Style II, Machine 1 Montreal

Usage Period:

15 April 1898 – 14 November 1899

COMMENCING MID-APRIL 1898, THE 'MONTREAL BICKERDIKE MACHINES' POSTMARK CANCELLING DIES WERE MODIFIED TO NOW INCLUDE TWO HEAVY BARS SPANNING THE INVOLUTE FLAG OBLITERATORS, AS REQUESTED BY THE POSTAL AUTHORITIES TO IMPROVE POSTAGE CANCELLATION.



Postmark:

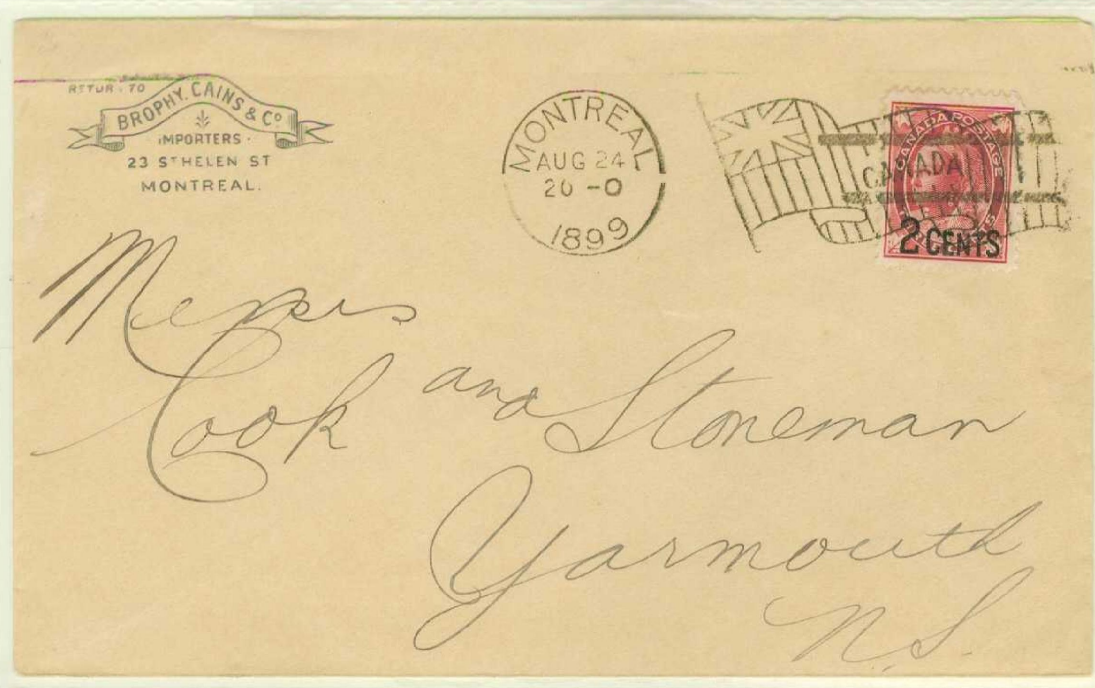
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred involute flag obliterator without indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

MAIL TO U.S.A.

18 JUNE 1898

'Private Postcard',
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Grand Rapids,
Michigan.

One Cent:
Private postcard-
rate to U.S.A.



DOMESTIC
COMMERCIAL
MAIL

24 AUGUST 1899

Cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Yarmouth,
Nova Scotia.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Yarmouth, N.S.,
26 August 1899"

Two Cents:
Domestic
letter-rate,
effective 1
January 1899.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style II, Machine 3
Montreal

Usage Period:

15 April 1898 – 16 January 1900

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterator without indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

MAIL TO FRANCE

8 DECEMBER 1898

Canadian UPU
Postal Stationery
Card,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Paris, France

Two Cents:
UPU International
Postcard-Rate



Have You Tried Them?



MONTREAL
JUN 27
MILD SUGAR
1899
CURED.



THE SPACE BELOW IS RESERVED FOR ADDRESS ONLY.

Messrs
S. J. Carrière
Coteau Landing
Quebec

THE LAING PACKING & PROVISION CO.,
MONTREAL.

DOMESTIC
COMMERCIAL
MAIL

27 JUNE 1899

Privately-printed
Canadian Postal
Stationery Card
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Coteau Landing,
Quebec.

One Cent:
Domestic
postcard-rate.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style II, Machine 3
Montreal

Usage Period:
15 April 1898–16 January 1900

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterator without indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

DOMESTIC BUSINESS/COMMERCIAL MAIL

MAIL TO
NEW BRUNSWICK
PROVINCE

15 JULY 1899

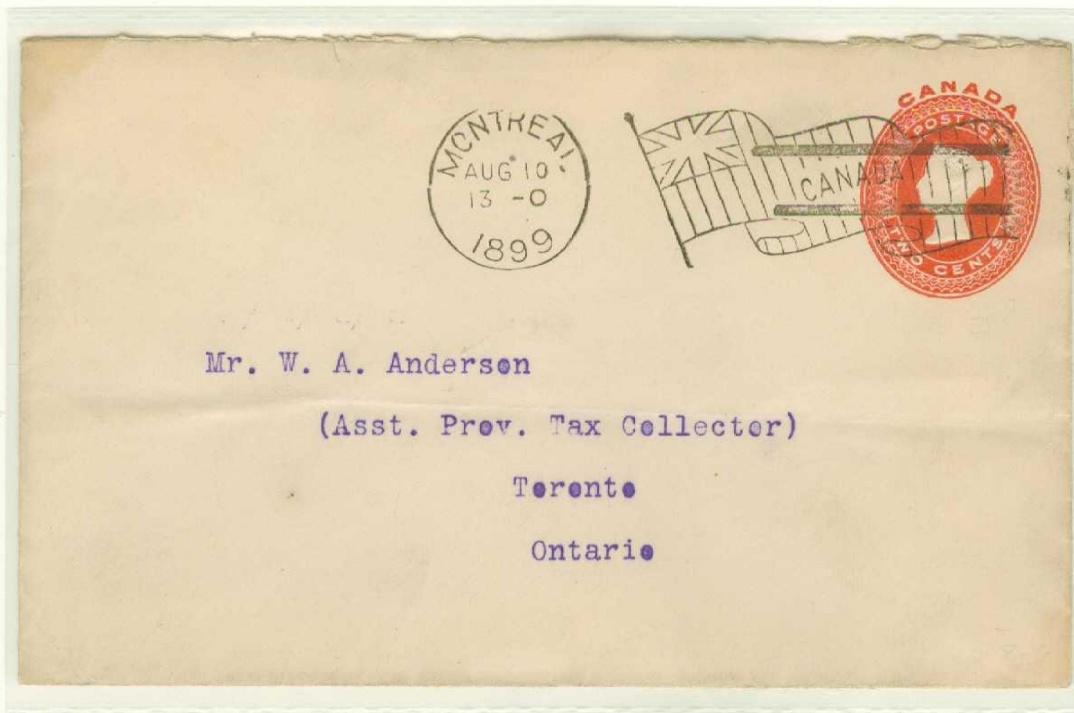
Cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Moncton, New
Brunswick.



MAIL TO
ONTARIO
PROVINCE

10 AUGUST 1899

Canadian Postal
Stationery
Cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Toronto, Ontario.



Two Cents:
Domestic single-weight letter-rate, effective 1 January 1899

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style II, Machine 4
Montreal

Usage Period:

16 April 1898 - 20 February 1900

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterator without indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

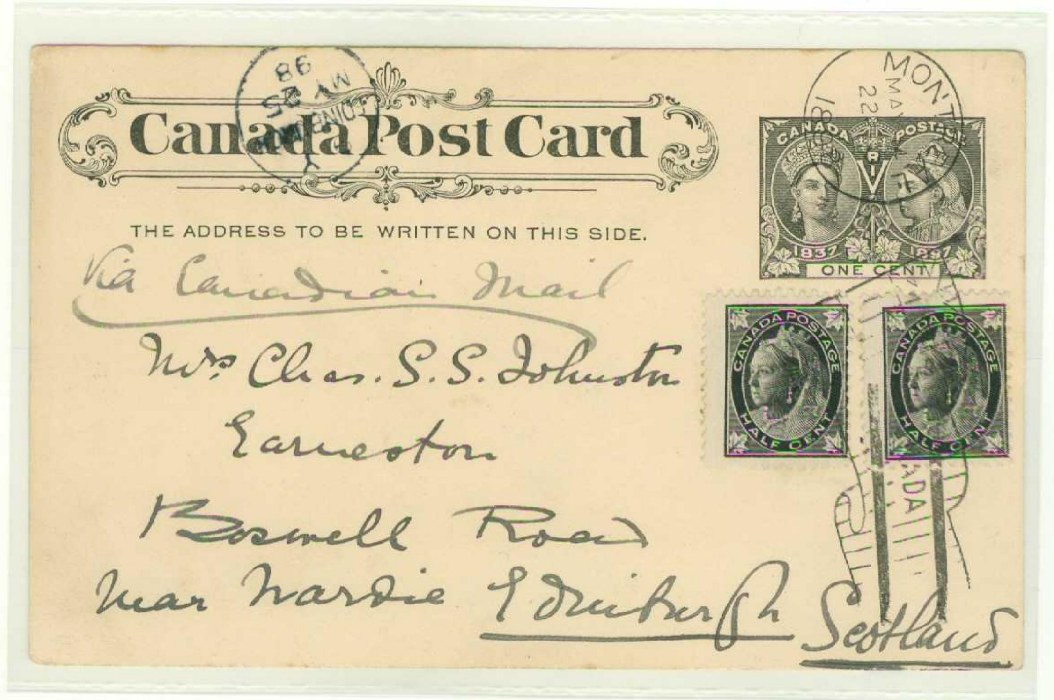
FOREIGN-BOUND MAIL

MAIL TO
SCOTLAND

22 MAY 1898

Up-rated Jubilee
Postal Card,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Edinburgh,
Scotland.

Two Cents:
UPU International
Postcard-Rate

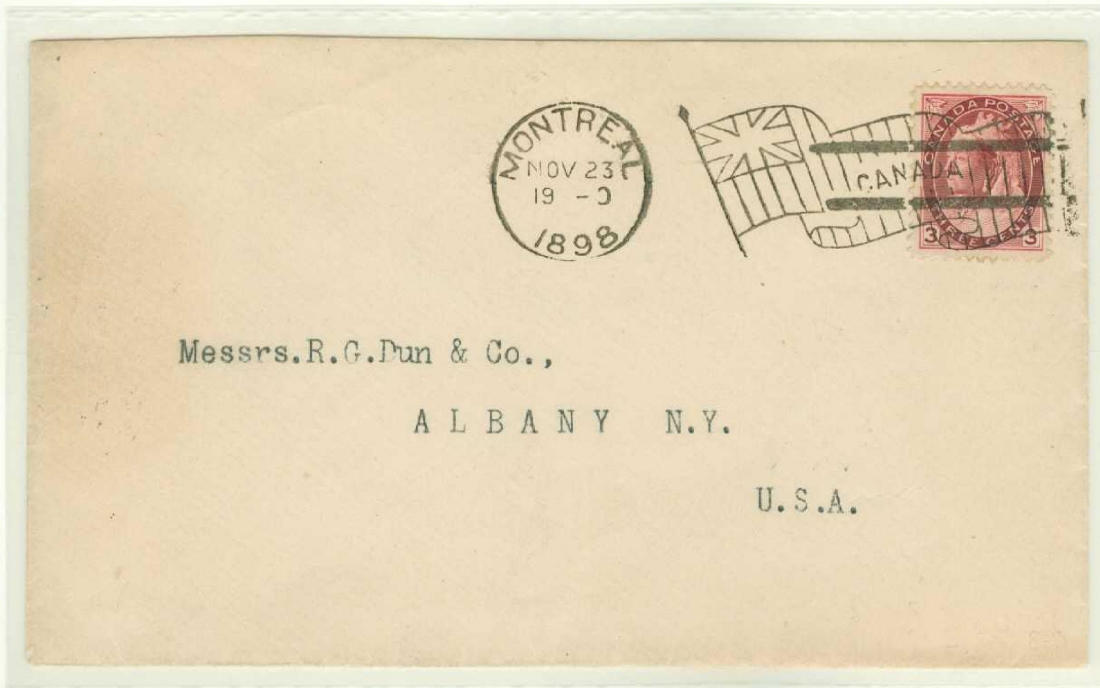


MAIL TO
UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

23 NOVEMBER
1898

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Albany,
New York.

Three Cents:
Single-weight
letter-rate,
valid until
31 December
1898



BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style II, Machine 5
Montreal

Usage Period:
14 April 1898 - 28 March 1900

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterator without indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

DOMESTIC POSTCARD-RATED MAIL

**INVERTED
OBLITERATOR**

4 AUGUST 1898

Commercial
postcard mail,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Hales, Ontario

**One Cent:
Domestic
postcard-rate**

**Earliest Known
Use; Less than five
known.**

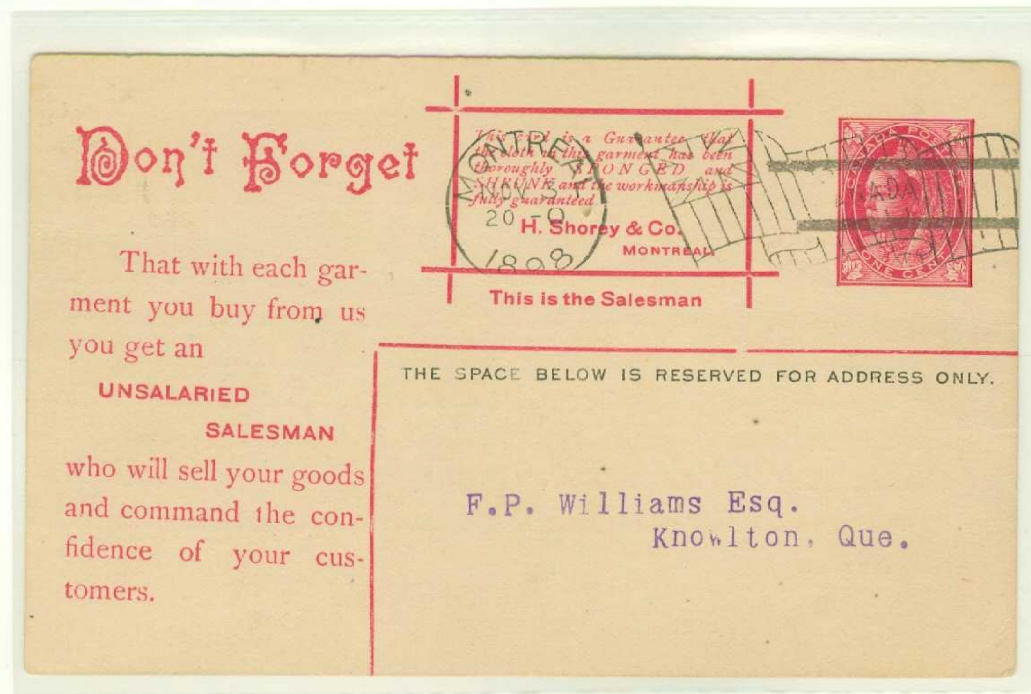


**STANDARD FLAG
OBLITERATOR**

**3 NOVEMBER
1898**

Privately-
produced
advertising mail
card,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Knowlton,
Quebec.

**One Cent:
Domestic
postal card
circular-rate**



BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style II, Machine 5
Montreal

Usage Period:
14 April 1898 - 28 March 1900

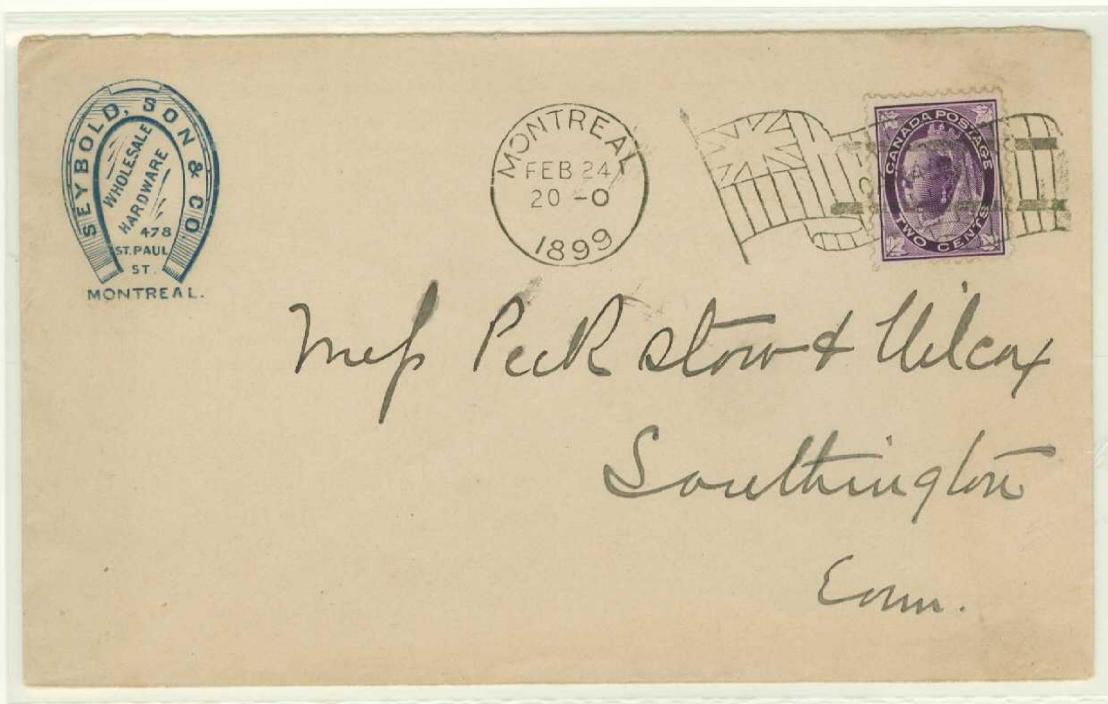
Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterator without indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

UNITED STATES-BOUND MAIL

25 OCTOBER 1898

Double-strike
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Fabius,
New York.

Three Cents:
U.S.A.-Bound
single-weight
letter-rate,
valid until
31 December
1898.



24 FEBRUARY 1899

Commercial mail
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Southampton,
Connecticut.

Two Cents:
Single-weight
letter-rate to
U.S.A.,
effective
1 January 1899.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style II, Machine 6
Montreal

Usage Period:
19 April 1898 - 7 March 1902

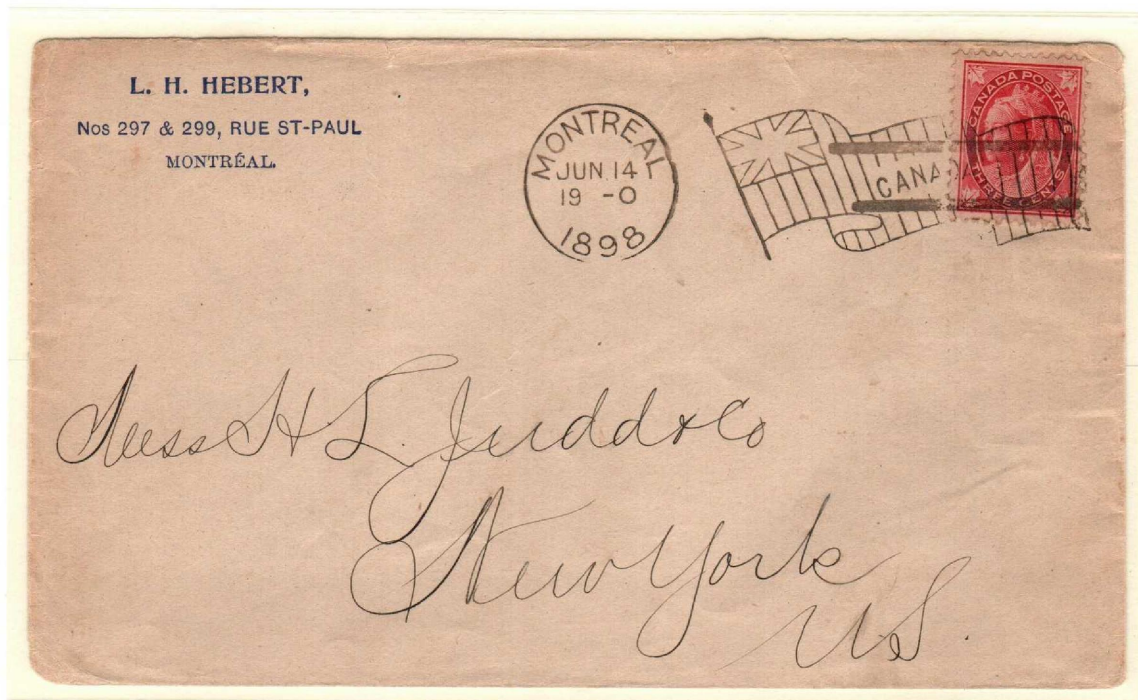
Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterater without indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

COMMERCIAL MAIL
TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

14 JUNE 1898

Commercial
mail
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
New York City.

Three Cents:
Single-weight
letter-rate
to U.S.A.,
Valid until
31 December
1898.

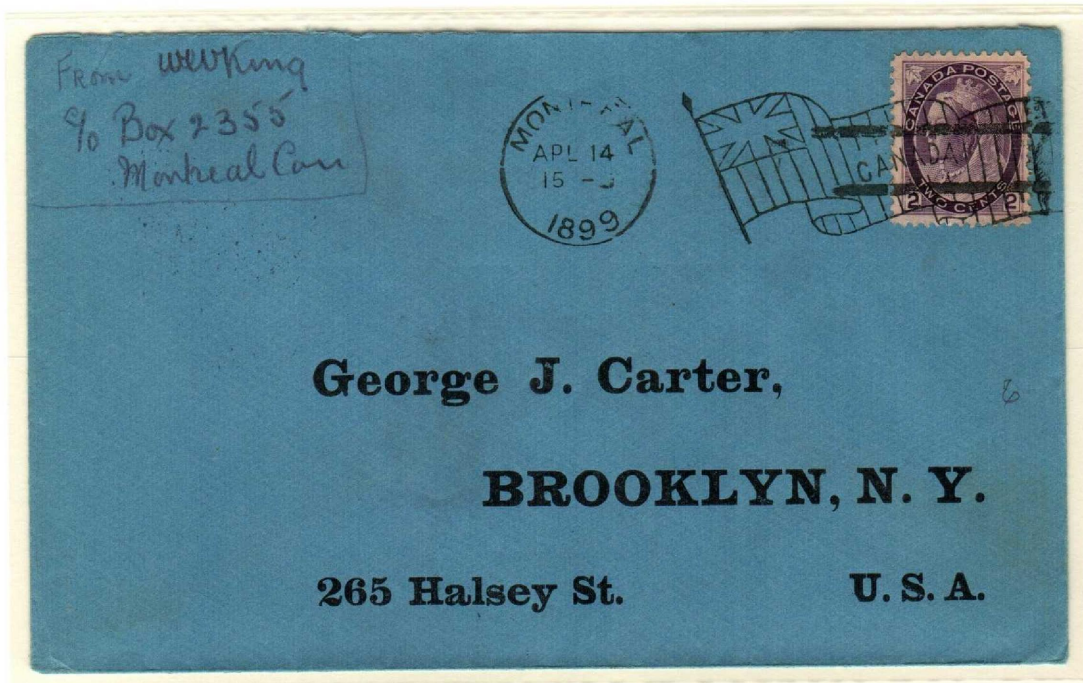


14 AUGUST
1899

Commercial
reply-mail
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Brooklyn,
New York

Reverse:
"Brooklyn, N. Y.
RPO
15 April, 1899"

Two Cents:
Single-weight
letter-rate to
U.S.A.,
effective
1 January 1899.



BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style II, Machine 6
Montreal

Usage Period:
19 April 1898 - 7 March 1902

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterator without indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

SPECIAL DELIVERY DROP-LETTER MAIL



28 DECEMBER 1899

Commercial mail cover,
postmarked at Montreal,
sent special delivery locally

2 + 10 Cents:
Single-weight
drop letter (2 Cents)
+ special delivery (10 Cents),
effective 1 July 1898.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag Without Indicia
Flag Die-Style II, Machines 3,5,6
Montreal
1898 Imperial Penny Postage Issue
Color Varieties

Postmark:

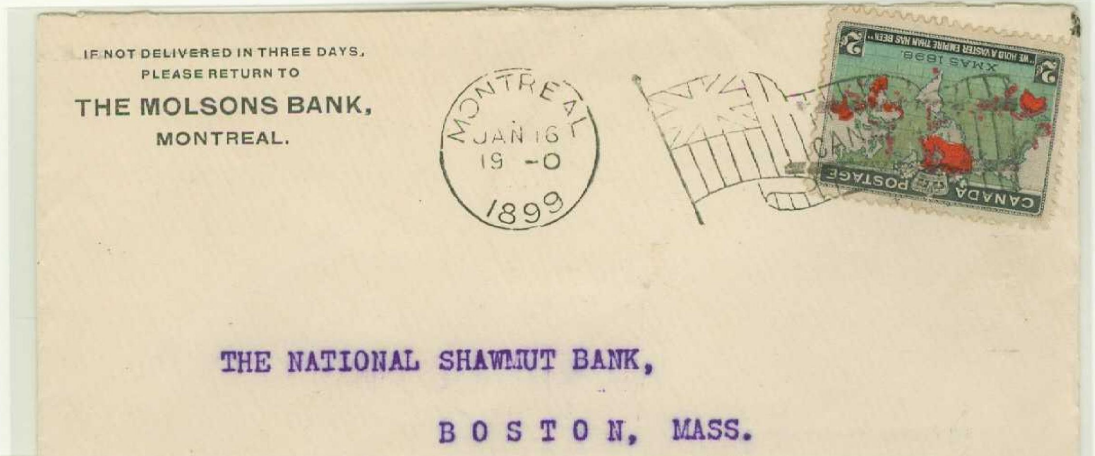
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterater without indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

WORLD'S FIRST CHRISTMAS STAMP

BLUE OCEAN

16 JANUARY
1899

Commercial
mail
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Boston, U.S.A.



H. VINEBERG & CO.
CLOTHING MANUFACTURERS
MONTREAL.

MONTREAL
MAR 28
19 - 0
1899

Massrs. A. & B. Loggins,
Black Bank

CANADA POSTAGE

LAVENDER
OCEAN

28 MARCH
1899

... FROM ...
Clement & Clement
STREET RAILWAY CHAMBERS
MONTREAL

MONTREAL
OCT 6
19 - 0
1899

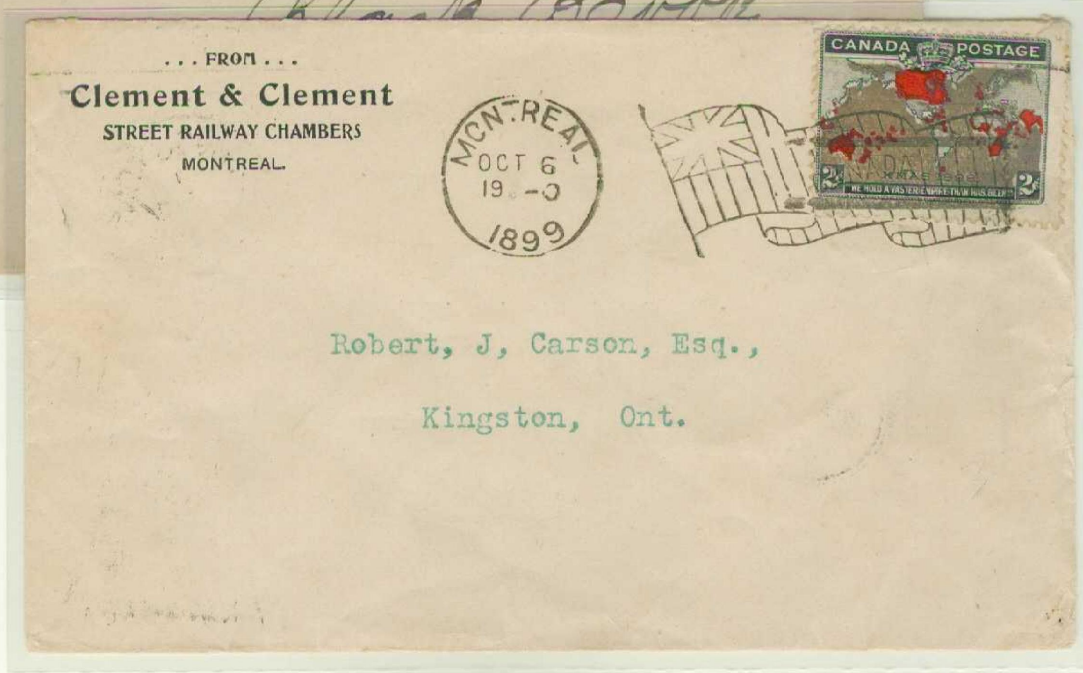
Robert, J, Carson, Esq.,
Kingston, Ont.

CANADA POSTAGE

GRAY OCEAN

6 OCTOBER 1899

Commercial Mail
Cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Kingston, Ontario



Two Cents:

Single-weight letter-rate for Canada and for mail to U.S.A., effective 1 January 1899.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia
Flag Die-Style III, Machine 1 = 'A'
Montreal

Usage Period:

25 January 1900 – 7 March 1902

COMMENCING IN JANUARY 1900, THE ORIGINAL SIX 'MONTREAL BICKERDIKE MACHINES' HAVING HERETOFORE APPLIED 'BARRED FLAG POSTMARK OBLITERATORS' WERE MODIFIED TO INCLUDE INDICIA IN THOSE DIES, ALBEIT ONLY FOUR MACHINES WERE APPLICABLE.. 'A', 'C', 'D' & 'E'.



Indicia located here

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred involute flag obliterator with indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

DOMESTIC MAIL

3 AUGUST 1900

Commercial mail cover, postmarked at Montreal, sent to Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

Two Cents: Domestic single-weight letter-rate, effective 1 January 1899.



MAIL TO GERMANY

23 SEPTEMBER 1900

Up-rated Canada Postal Stationery Card, postmarked at Montreal, sent to Dresden, Blasewitz.

Arrival Postmark: "Dresden-Blasewitz, 3 October 1900"

Two Cents: UPU International Postcard-Rate.



BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia
Flag Die-Style III, Machine 3 = 'C'
Montreal

Usage Period:

8 March 1900 – 7 March 1902

Postmark:

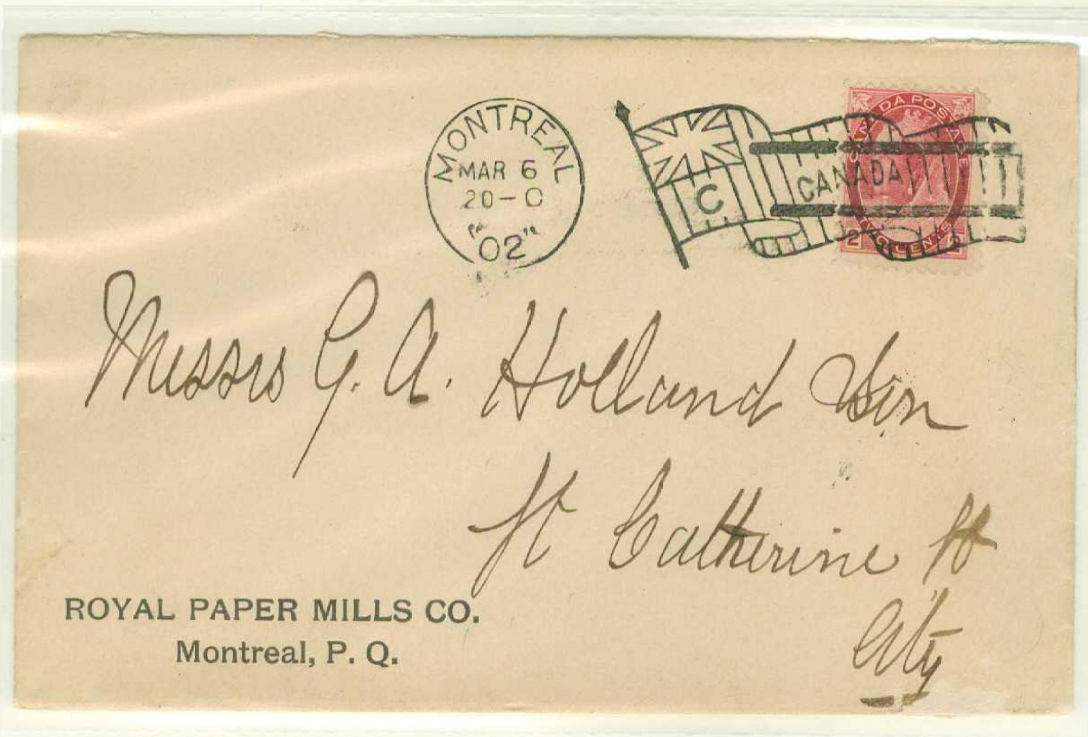
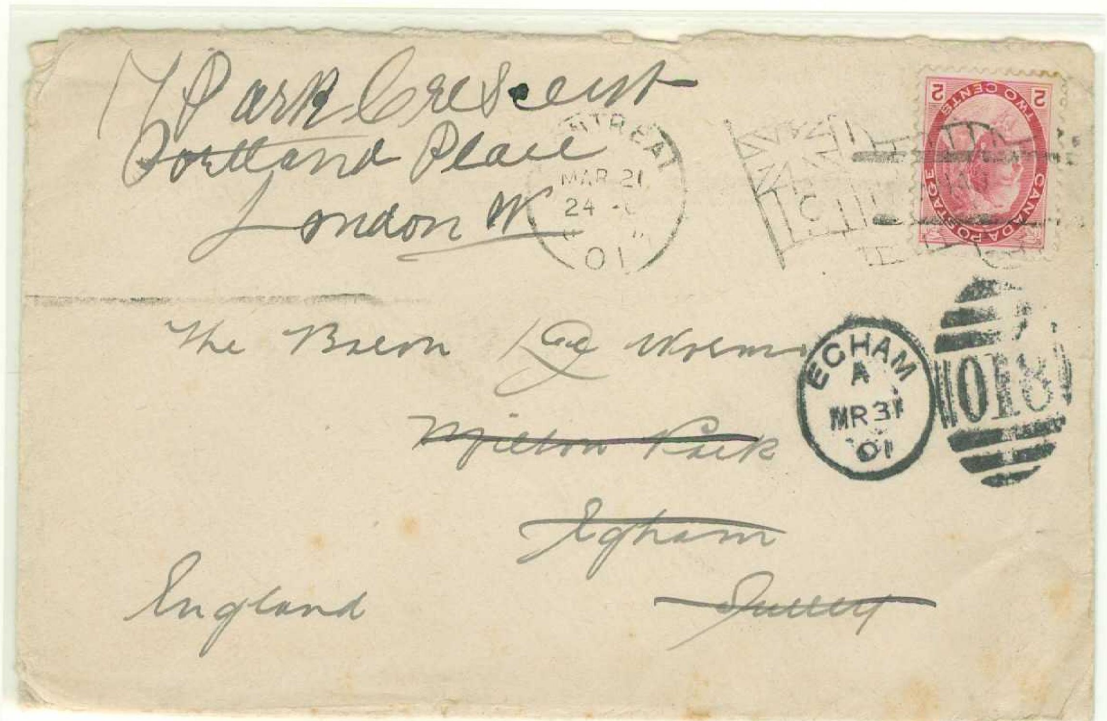
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterator with indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

MAIL TO
ENGLAND
WITH
REDIRECTION

21 MARCH 1901

Cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Egham with
redirection to
London.

Two Cents:
Empire single-
weight letter-rate



INNER-CITY
MONTREAL
MAIL

6 MARCH 1902

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
Sent locally.

Two Cents:
Either Inner-city
drop-letter rate
or national
Single-weight
letter-rate

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia Flag Die-Style III, Machines 3 & 4 = 'D' & 'E' Montreal

Usage Periods:

'D' = 24 April 1900 – 7 March 1902

'E' = 4 April 1900 - 4 March 1902

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterator with indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

INDICIA 'D'

18 DECEMBER
1901

Commercial mail
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Salem,
Massachusetts,
U.S.A.

Two Cents:
Single-weight
letter-rate for mail
to U.S.A., effective
1 January 1899.



INDICIA 'E'

3 JULY 1900

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Halifax,
Nova Scotia.

Two Cents:
National
single-weight
letter-rate.



BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia
Flag Die-Style III, Machine 2 = 'B' ..
Die Replaced with 7-Bar Obliterator
Montreal

Usage Period:
3 April - 1 March 1902

Two of the six 'Montreal Bickerdike Machines' obliterator dies were not initially fitted with indicia .. Machines 2 & 6 ('B' & 'F').. awaiting new obliterator dies to replace the wearing 'flags', albeit **'MACHINE 2' DID BECOME FITTED EARLY WITH A NEW 7-BAR OBLITERATOR, AS A FORERUNNER OF SIMILAR DIES TO BE INSERTED IN MARCH 1902.**



Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
seven-bar obliterator
with indicia 'B' having 'CANADA' midway.

19 JUNE 1900

Cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Newark,
New Jersey,
U.S.A.

Two Cents:
Single-weight
letter-rate
for mail to U.S.A.



JAMES ROBINSON, HEADQUARTERS

184 & 186 MCGILL ST.

COR. ST. MAURICE ST.,

MONTREAL.

BOOTS AND SHOES WHOLESALE.

Canadian Rubber Co's Shoes.

Maple Leaf and Toronto Brands of Rubber Shoes.

PROMPT SHIPMENTS, BEST DISCOUNT



**HUBLESS
POSTMARK**

NO DATE

Commercial
advertising-
enclosure mail,
mailed at
Montreal,
sent to
Moncton,
New Brunswick.

H. H. Ayer & Co.

General Store.

Moncton, N.B.

One Cent:
National
circular
(printed-matter)
rate.

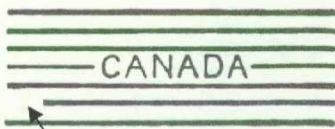
BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Seven-Bar Obliterator Machines 1 & 2 = 'A' & 'B' Montreal

Usage Periods:

'A' = 15 March - 28 October 1902
'B' = 12 March - 25 October 1902

AS A RESULT OF WEAR, THE CANADIAN POST OFFICE DECIDED TO REPLACE THE HERETOFORE FLAG POSTMARK DIES OF THE SIX 'MONTREAL BICKERDIKE MACHINES' WITH SEVEN-BAR OBLITERATORS HAVING INDICIA REFLECTING MACHINE NUMBER, including 'Machine 3' which had a similar forerunner postmark in use between April 1900 - March 1902.



Indicia located here

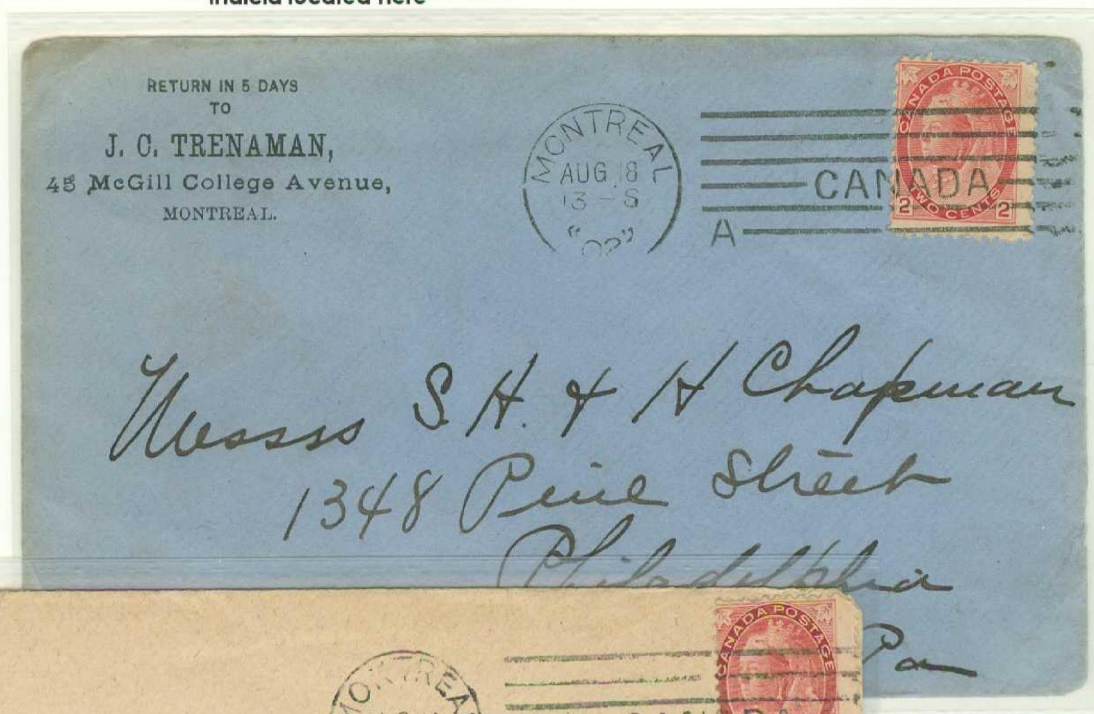
Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with seven-bar obliterator with indicia indicating 'CANADA' midway.

INDICIA 'A'

18 AUGUST 1902

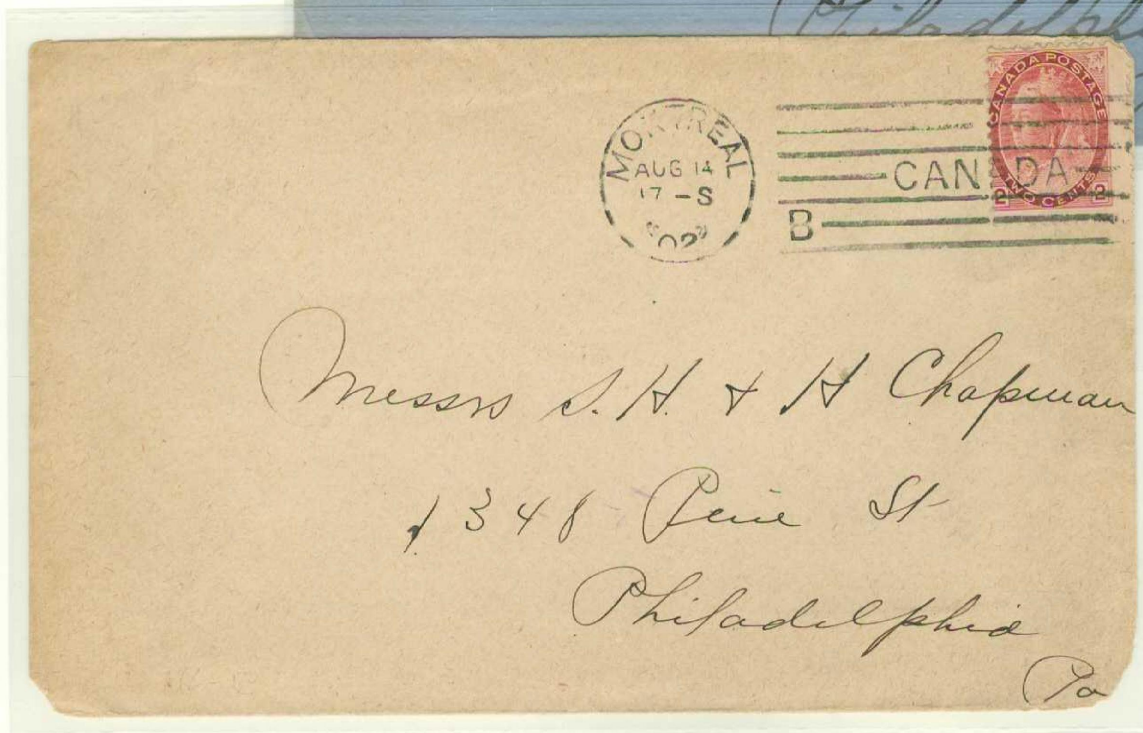
Commercial mail cover, postmarked at Montreal, sent to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.



INDICIA 'B'

14 AUGUST 1902

Commercial mail cover, postmarked at Montreal, sent to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.



Two Cents: Single-weight letter-rate for mail to U.S.A.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Seven-Bar Obliterator
Machine 3 = 'C'
Montreal

Usage Period:
12 March – 24 October 1902

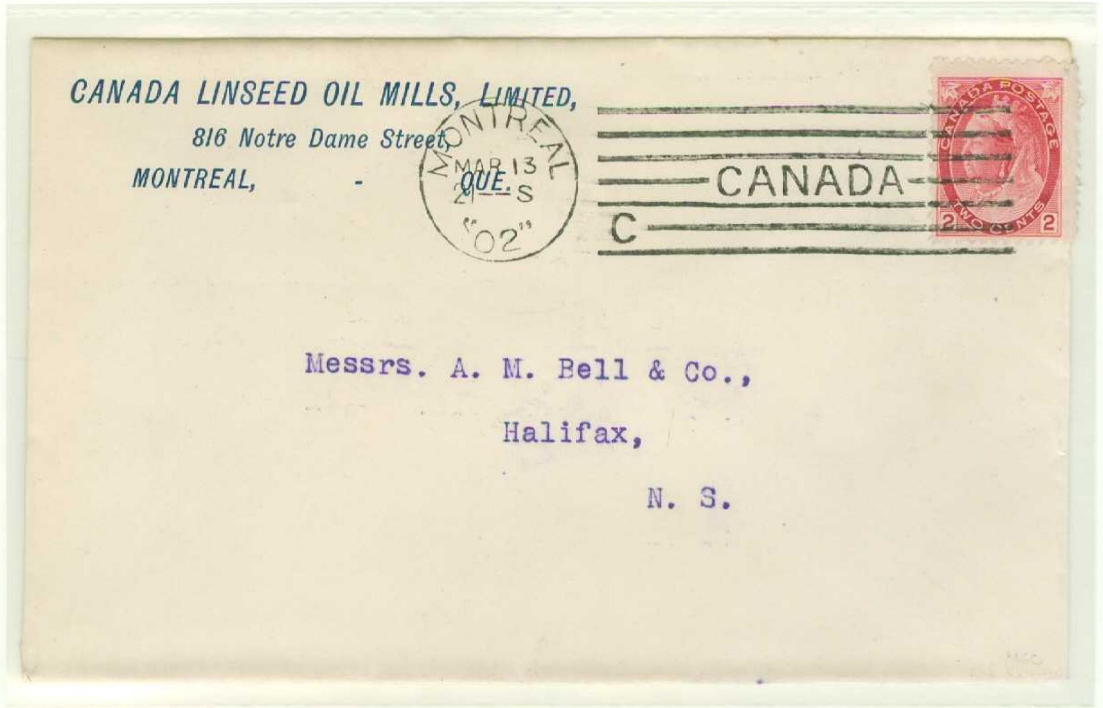
Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
seven-bar obliterator with indicia indicating 'CANADA' midway.

COMMERCIAL MAIL

13 MARCH 1902

Commercial mail
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Halifax,
Nova Scotia.

Second Day
of Use



2 AUGUST 1902

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Bridgetown,
Nova Scotia.

Two Cents: Domestic single-weight letter-rate

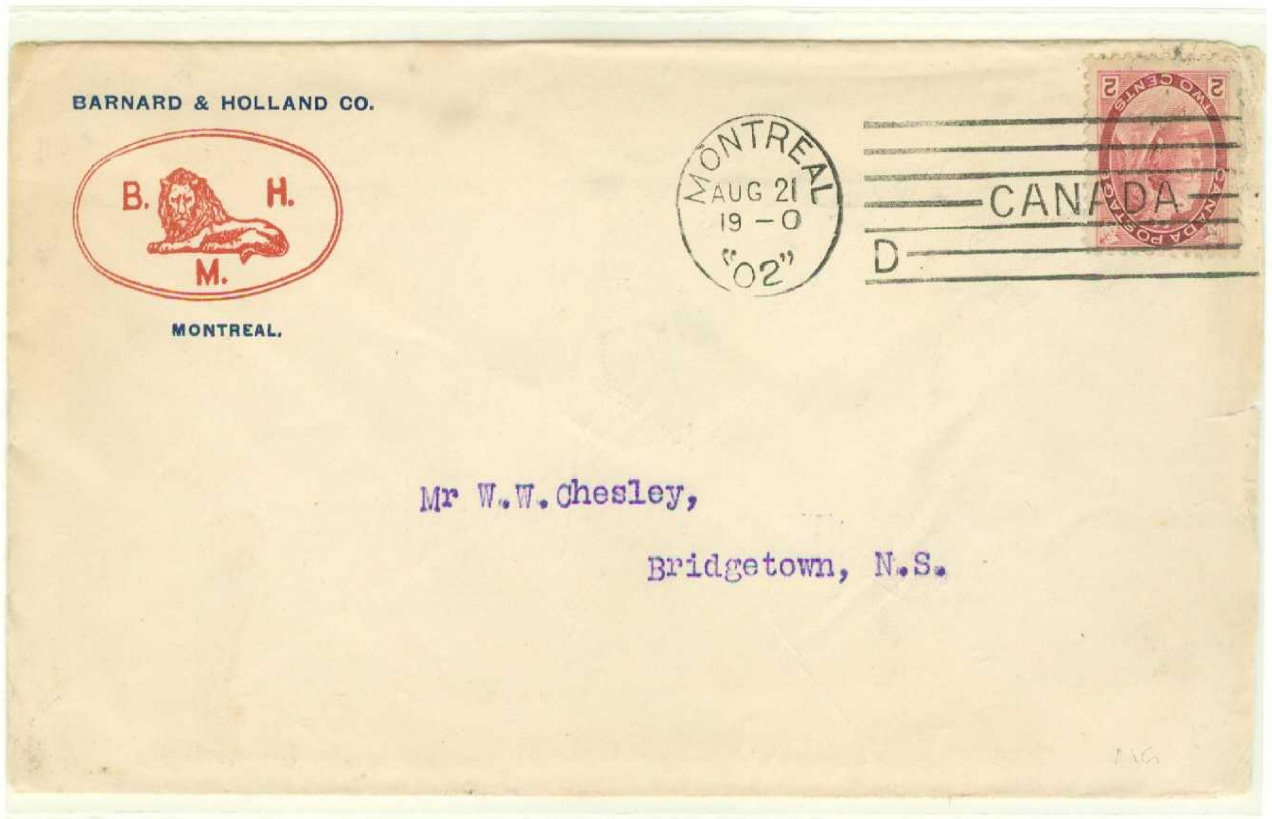
BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Seven-Bar Obliterator
Machine 4 = 'D'
Montreal

Usage Period:
12 March - 29 October 1902

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
seven-bar obliterator with indicia indicating 'CANADA' midway.

COMMERCIAL MAIL



21 AUGUST 1902

Commercial mail cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Bridgetown,
Nova Scotia.

Two Cents:
Domestic single-weight letter-rate

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Seven-Bar Obliterator
Machine 5 = 'E'
Montreal

Usage Period:
10 March - 25 October 1902

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
seven-bar obliterator with indicia indicating 'CANADA' midway.

COMMERCIAL MAIL

12 MARCH
1902

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Halifax,
Nova Scotia.

Third Day
of Use



RETURN IN 10 DAYS TO

THE MONTREAL
Successeurs
THE SABLON LITHO
& PUB. CO.
Lithographing
(LIMITED)
GAZETTE BUILDING.

Messrs G. A. Holland & Son,

St. Catherine St.,

City.



17 APRIL 1902

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent
locally.

Two Cents: Domestic single-weight letter-rate

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Seven-Bar Obliterator
Machine 5 = 'E'
Montreal

Usage Period:
10 March – 25 October 1902

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
seven-bar obliterator with indicia indicating 'CANADA' midway.

HUBLESS UNDATED POSTMARK
PRINTED-MATTER COMMERCIAL MAIL



DATE UNKNOWN

Commercial mail cover
with
circular or printed-matter enclosure,
sent from Montreal,
to
Black Point, New Brunswick.

One Cent:
Domestic single-weight
cover with a
circular/printed-matter
enclosure.

Less Than Five Examples Known

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Seven-Bar Obliterator

Machine 6 = 'F'

Montreal

Usage Period:

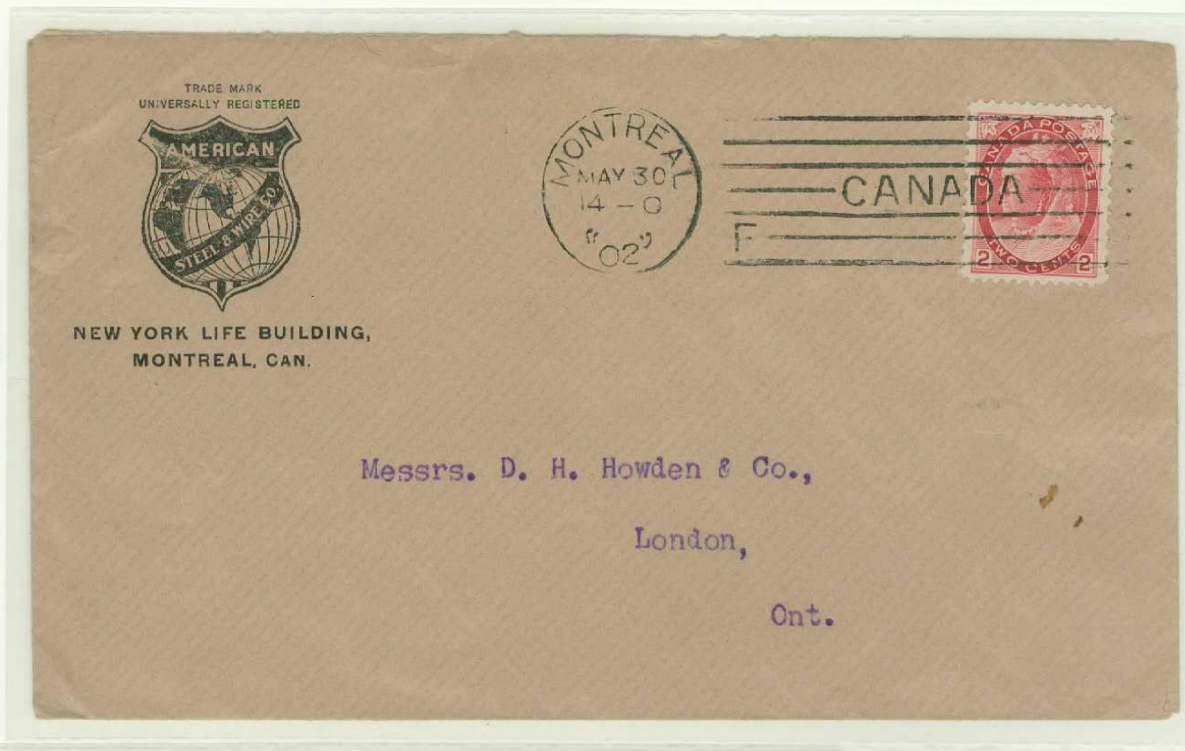
11 March - 30 October 1902

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
seven-bar obliterator with indicia indicating 'CANADA' midway.

30 MAY 1902

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
London,
Ontario.



15 AUGUST 1902

Hotel cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Campton,
New Hampshire,
U.S.A.

Two Cents: Canada-Domestic & U.S.A.-Bound-Mail
single-weight letter-rate

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Arrival Postmarks
Montreal

Usage Period:
1897 - 1902

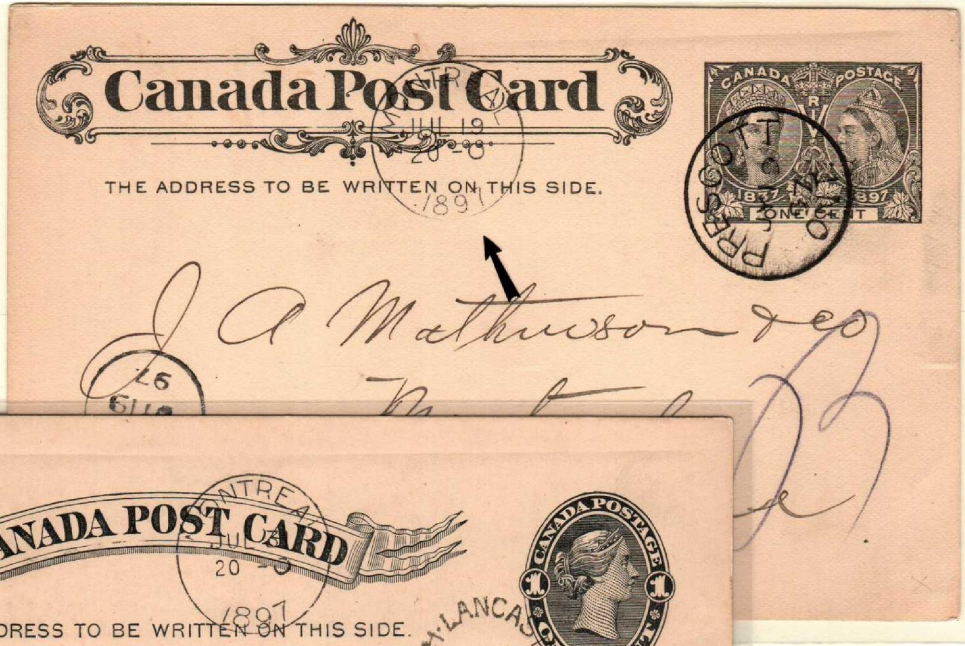
During their operation at the Montreal Post Office,
ONE OR MORE BICKERDIKE MACHINES WERE CONVERTED FROM
APPLYING ORIGIN POSTMARKS TO OUT-BOUND MAIL TO APPLYING
ONLY THE DATER DIAL AS AN ARRIVAL OR SERVICE POSTMARK
TO INBOUND MAIL.

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial

COMMERCIAL POSTAL STATIONERY USE

19 JULY 1897

Canadian Postal
'Jubilee' card,
postmarked at
Prescott, Ontario,
sent to Montreal.



THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

Mr J. Mathurson
P 202 McGill Street
Montreal

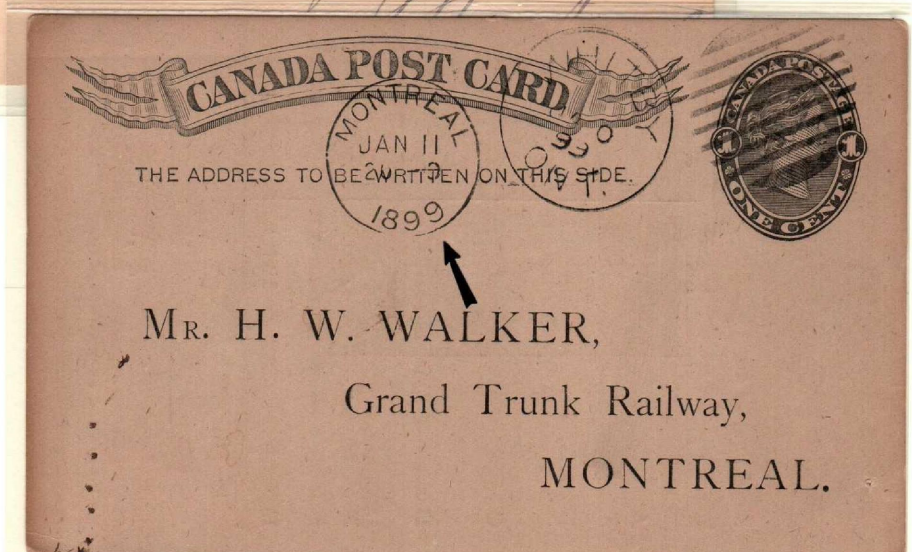
31 JULY 1897

Canadian postal
stationery card,
postmarked at South
Lancaster, Ontario
sent to Montreal.

11 JANUARY 1899

Canadian postal
stationery card,
postmarked at
Whitby, Ontario
sent to Montreal.

One Cent:
Domestic
postcard-rate.



THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

MR. H. W. WALKER,
Grand Trunk Railway,
MONTREAL.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag with Indicia
Machine 1 = 'G'
Ottawa

Usage Period:
29 March 1898 – 4 March 1902

Initially the Ottawa Post Office received one Bickerdike Machine alternately applying 'Jubilee Flag' and 'Unfinished Flag' Postmarks between October 1897 – 19 March 1898.

IN APRIL 1898, THOSE POSTMARKING DIES WERE REPLACED BY A BARRED INVOLUTE FLAG POSTMARK, SIMILAR TO THOSE USED AT MONTREAL, TORONTO & HAMILTON.



Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
barred involute flag obliterator with indicia
'G' indicating 'CANADA' mid-flag.

8 JUNE 1898

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked
at Ottawa,
sent to
Toronto,
Ontario.



7 OCTOBER 1898

Lady's cover,
postmarked at
Ottawa,
sent to
St. Paul, Minnesota,
U.S.A.

Three Cents: Canada-Domestic & U.S.A.-Bound-Mail
single-weight letter-rate

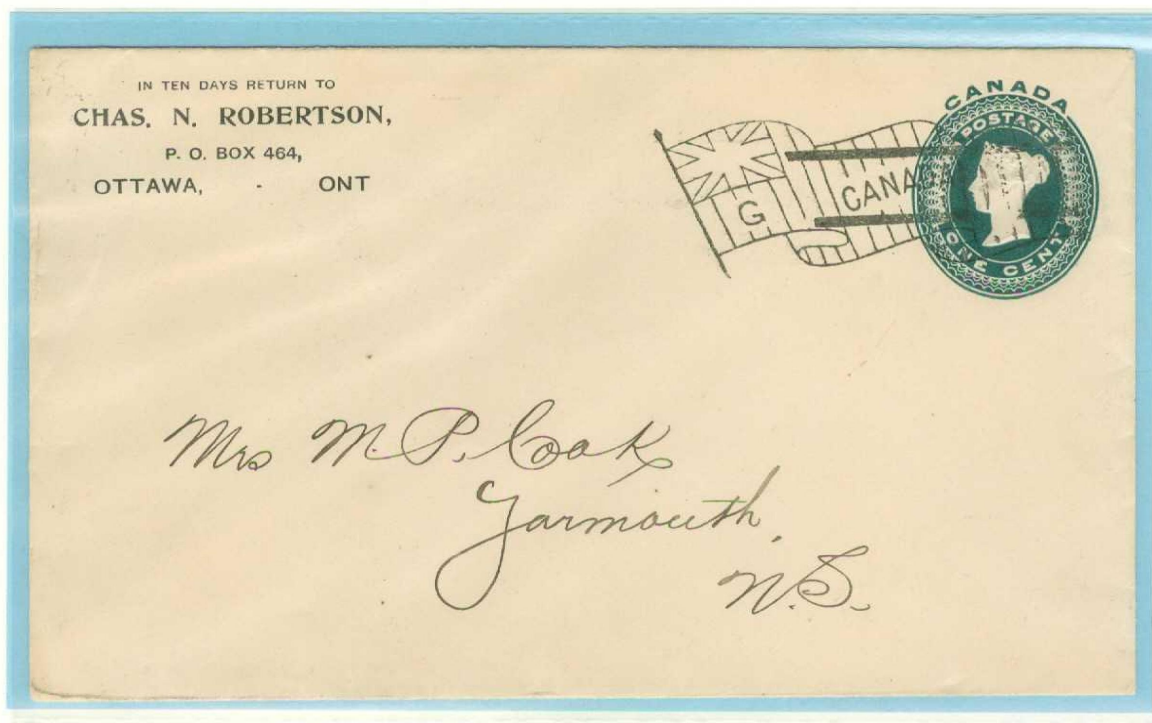
BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag with Indicia
Machine 1 = 'G'
Ottawa

Usage Period:
29 March 1898 – 4 March 1902

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
barred involute flag obliterator with indicia 'G'
indicating 'CANADA' mid-flag.

HUBLESS UNDATED POSTMARK
PRINTED-MATTER COMMERCIAL MAIL



PROBABLE MAILING DATE:
17 MARCH 1900

Canadian Postal Stationery Cover
with circular or printed-matter enclosure,
sent from Ottawa
to
Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Yarmouth, March 20, 1900"

One Cent:
Domestic single-weight cover
with a circular/printed-matter enclosure

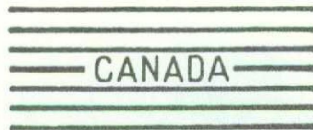
Less Than Five Examples Known

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Seven-Bar Obliterator Without Indicia Machine 2 Ottawa

Usage Period:
4 June 1898 – 26 February 1902

IN EARLY JUNE 1898, THE OTTAWA POST OFFICE RECEIVED A SECOND BICKERDIKE MACHINE, WHOSE OBLITERATOR DIE WAS 'SEVEN-BARS WITHOUT INDICIA'.



Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
seven-bar obliterator without indicia
indicating 'CANADA' midway.

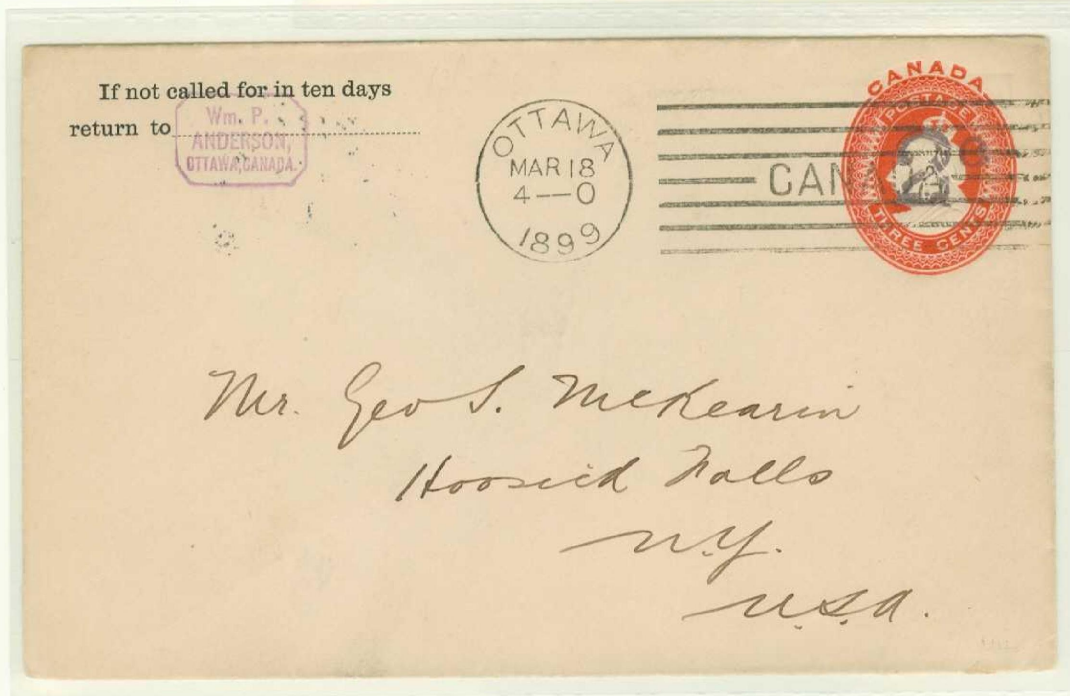
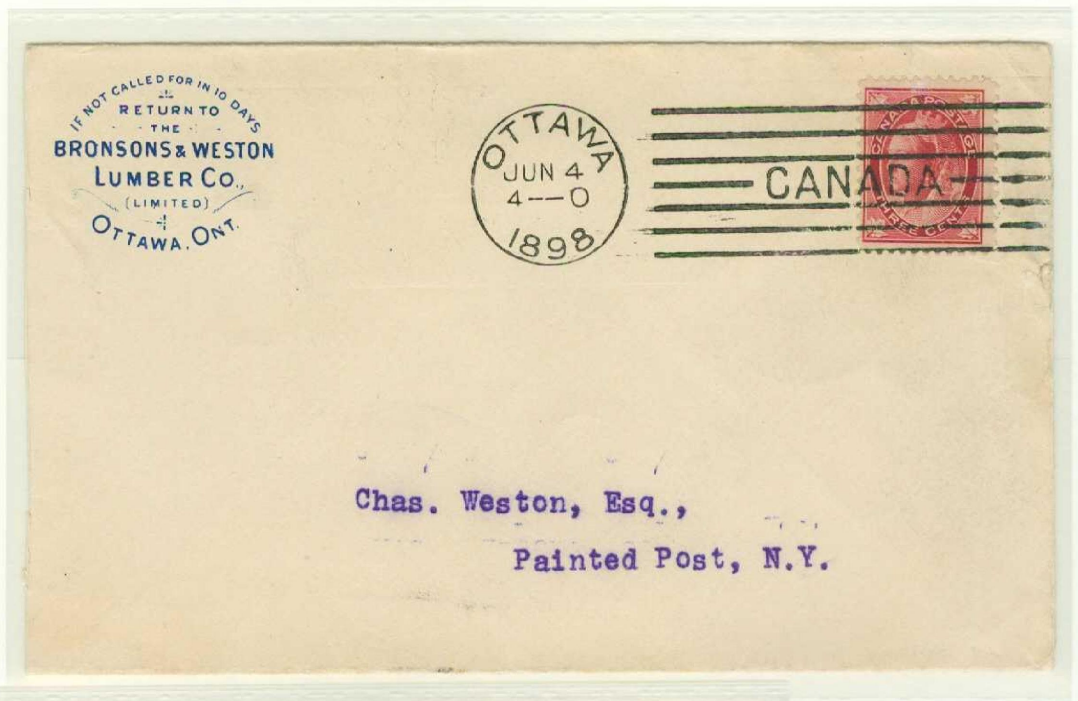
COMMERCIAL MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

EARLIEST KNOWN DATE

4 JUNE 1898

Commercial mail
cover,
postmarked at
Ottawa,
sent to
Painted Post,
New York,
U.S.A.

Three Cents:
Single-weight
letter-rate
to U.S.A.,
valid until
31 December
1898



18 MARCH 1899

Commercial mail,
re-rated Canadian
Postal Stationery
Cover,
postmarked at
Ottawa,
sent to
Hoosick Falls, New
York,
U.S.A.

Two Cents:
Single-weight letter-
rate for mail to
U.S.A., effective
1 January 1899.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Seven-Bar Obliterator Without Indicia

Machine 2

Ottawa

Usage Period:

4 June 1898 – 26 February 1902

Postmark:

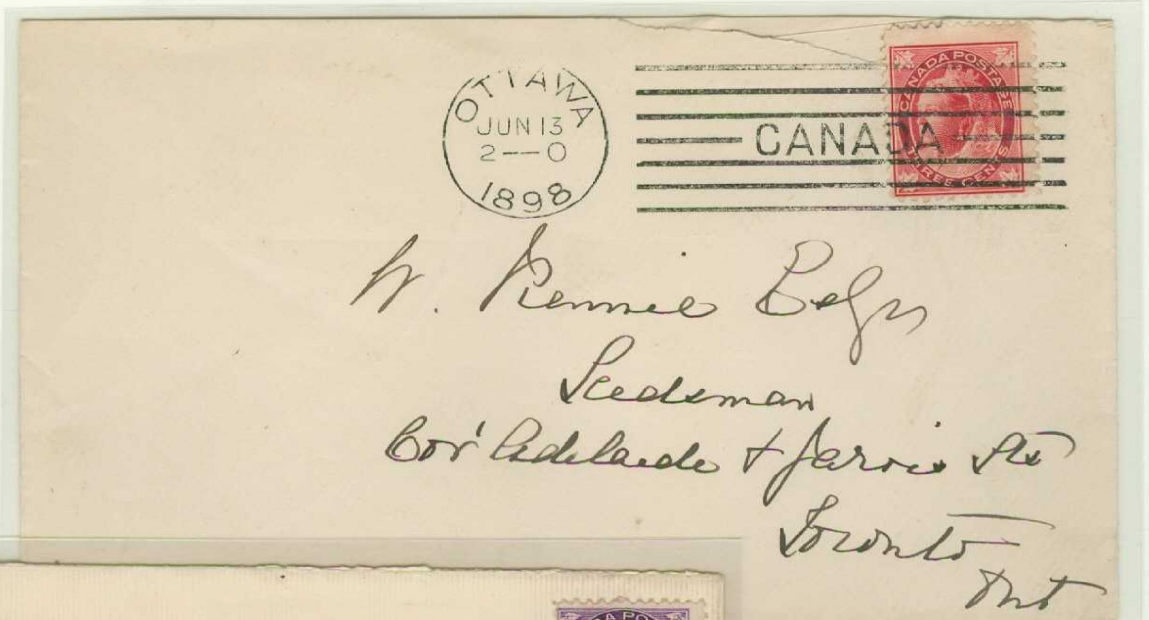
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with seven-bar obliterator without indicia indicating 'CANADA' midway.

DOMESTIC & INNER-CITY 'OTTAWA' MAIL

13 JUNE 1898

Cover, postmarked at Ottawa, sent to Painted Post, New York, U.S.A.

Three Cents: Single-weight letter-rate to U.S.A., valid until 31 December 1898



10 FEBRUARY 1899

Lady's cover, postmarked at Ottawa, sent locally.

Two Cents: Domestic single-weight letter-rate, effective 1 January 1899.

13 OCTOBER 1899

Commercial mail, re-rated Canadian Postal Stationery Cover, postmarked at Ottawa, sent locally.

Two Cents: Domestic single-weight letter-rate, effective 1 January 1899.



BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Seven-Bar Obliterator With Indicia Machines '1' & '2' Ottawa

In replacement of the heretofore 'barred involute flag' and 'seven-bar obliterators without indicia' in Ottawa-

operational 'Bickerdike Machines 1 & 2',
**THE OTTAWA POST OFFICE COMMENCED USE OF
SEVEN-BAR OBLITERATORS WITH INDICIA 'A' & 'B'
FOR NINE MONTHS IN 1902.**

Usage Period:

'A' = 16 March - 1 November 1902
'B' = 6 March - 11 November 1902

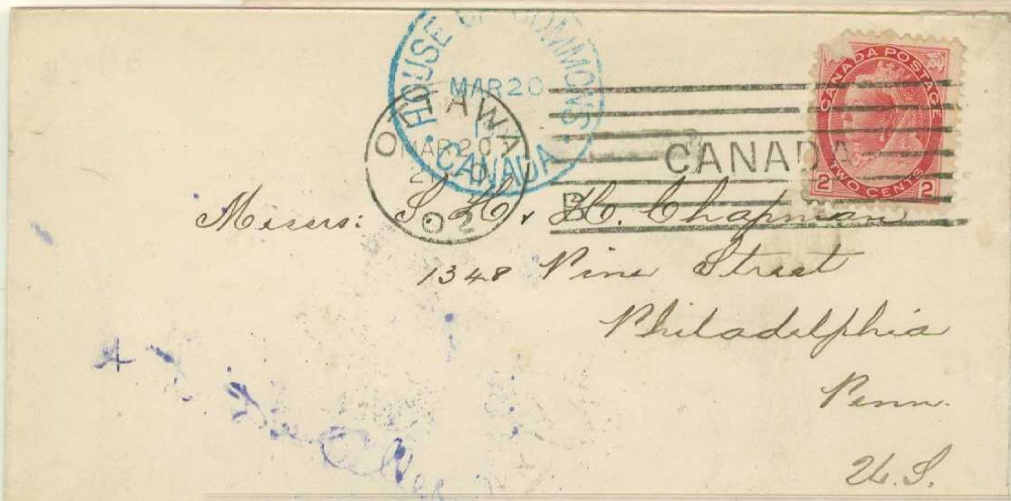
Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
seven-bar obliterator with indicia
indicating 'CANADA' midway.

'A' INDICIA

11 AUGUST 1902

Cover,
postmarked at
Ottawa,
sent to
Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania,
U.S.A.



20 MARCH 1902

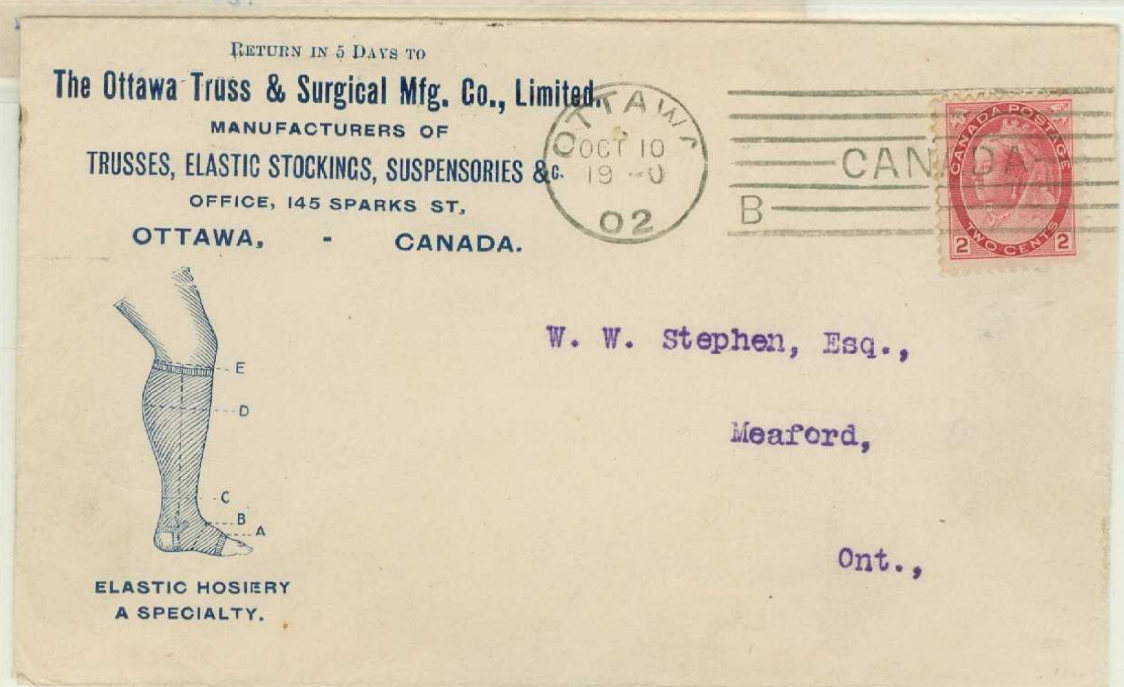
Cover, validated
official 'House of
Commons' Mail,
postmarked at
Ottawa,
sent to Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

'B' INDICIA

10 OCTOBER
1902

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked at
Ottawa,
sent to Meaford,
Ontario.

Two Cents:
Domestic & U.S.A.-
bound single-
weight letter-rate,
effective
1 January 1899.



BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag With Indicia
Flag Die-Style I, Machines 1 & 2
Hamilton

Usage Periods:

'A' = 16 December 1897 – 11 March 1898

'B' = 15 December 1897 – 11 March 1898

IN LATE DECEMBER 1897, THE HAMILTON POST OFFICE IN ONTARIO
RECEIVED TWO BICKERDIKE MACHINES,
remaining operational over four years using three different postmarking dies.



Indicia Located Here

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute
flag obliterator with indicia 'A' or 'B'
having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

'A' INDICIA

3 JANUARY 1898

Commercial mail,
Canadian Postal
Stationery Card,
postmarked
at Hamilton,
sent to
Glencanis, Ontario.

One Cent:
Domestic
postal-card rate

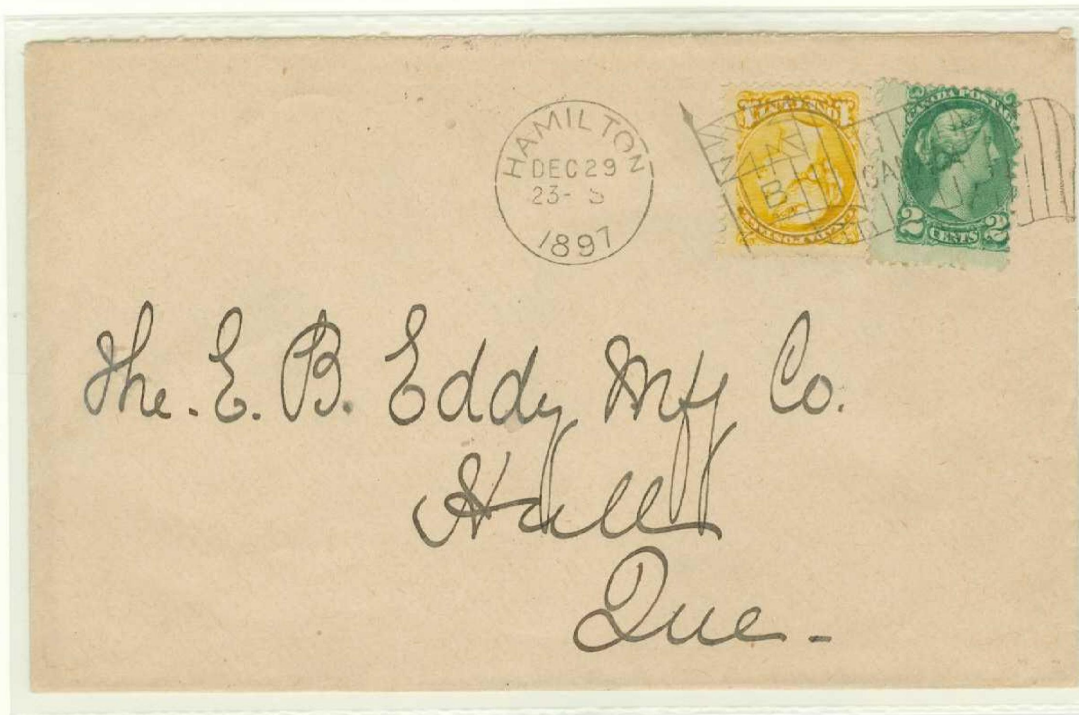


'B' INDICIA

29 DECEMBER
1897

Commercial mail
cover,
postmarked
at Hamilton,
sent to
Hull, Quebec.

Three Cents:
Domestic
Single-Weight
Letter-Rate
valid until
31 December
1898.



BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia Flag Die-Style II, Machines 1 & 2 Hamilton

Usage Period:

'A' & 'B' = 13 March 1898 - 31 January 1902

Less than three months after commencement of applying Postmark 'Flag-Style I', THE HAMILTON POST OFFICE, AS HAD BEEN DONE AT MONTREAL, OTTAWA & TORONTO, ALTERED THE INVOLUTE FLAG OBLITERATOR TO INCLUDE TWO HEAVY HORIZONTAL BARS TO IMPROVE POSTMARKING EFFECTIVENESS.



Indicia Located Here

Postmark:

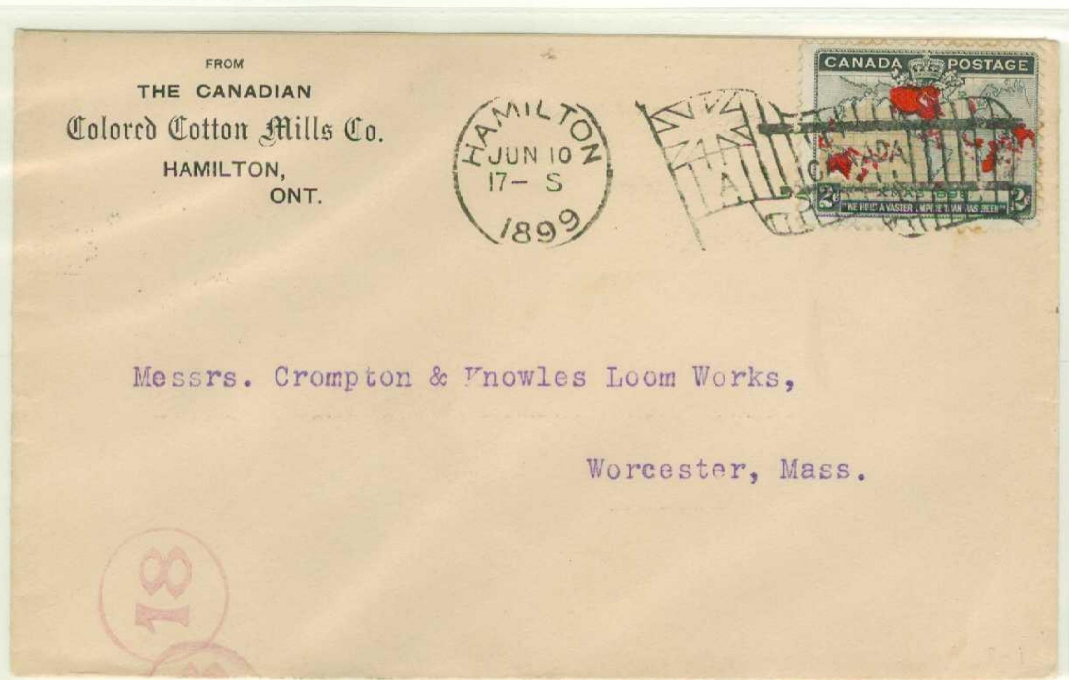
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred involute flag obliterator with indicia 'A' or 'B' having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

'A' INDICIA

10 JUNE 1899

Commercial mail cover, postmarked at Hamilton, sent to Worcester, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

Two Cents: Domestic & U.S.A.-Bound single-weight letter-rate, effective 1 January 1899.



'B' INDICIA

17 MAY 1898

Commercial mail cover, postmarked at Hamilton, sent to Montreal, Quebec.

Three Cents: Domestic Single-Weight Letter-Rate valid until 31 December 1898.



BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia
Flag Die-Style II, Machine 2
Hamilton

Usage Period:

'B' = 13 March 1898 – 31 January 1902

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred involute
flag obliterator with indicia 'B' having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

ADVERTISING COVERS

'B' INDICIA

18 MARCH
1899

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked
at
Hamilton,
sent to
London,
Ontario.



'B' INDICIA

29 APRIL 1900

Commercial mail
cover,
postmarked
at
Hamilton,
sent to
Amherstburg,
Ontario.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Amherstburg,
1 May 1899"

Two Cents:
Domestic single-weight letter-rate,
effective 1 January 1899.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia
Flag Die-Style II, Machine 2
Hamilton

Usage Period:
'B' = 13 March 1898 - 31 January 1902

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred involute
flag obliterator with indicia 'B' having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

COMMERCIAL & BUSINESS MAIL

'B' INDICIA

30 APRIL 1898

Commercial mail,
Canadian Postal
Stationery Card,
postmarked
at
Hamilton,
sent to
Glencairn, Ontario.

One Cent:
Domestic
Postal Card Rate



'B' INDICIA

24 FEBRUARY
1899

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked
at
Hamilton,
sent to
Toronto,
Ontario.

Two Cents:
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate,
effective
1 January 1899.



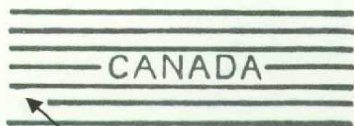
BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Seven-Bar Obliterator With Indicia Machine 1 = 'A' Hamilton

Usage Period:

'A' = 3 February - 18 October 1902

In replacement of the heretofore 'involute flag .. unbarred & barred' .. obliterators in operational 'Bickerdike Machines 1 & 2',
**THE HAMILTON POST OFFICE COMMENCED USE OF
SEVEN-BAR OBLITERATORS WITH INDICIA 'A' & 'B' FOR NINE MONTHS IN 1902.**



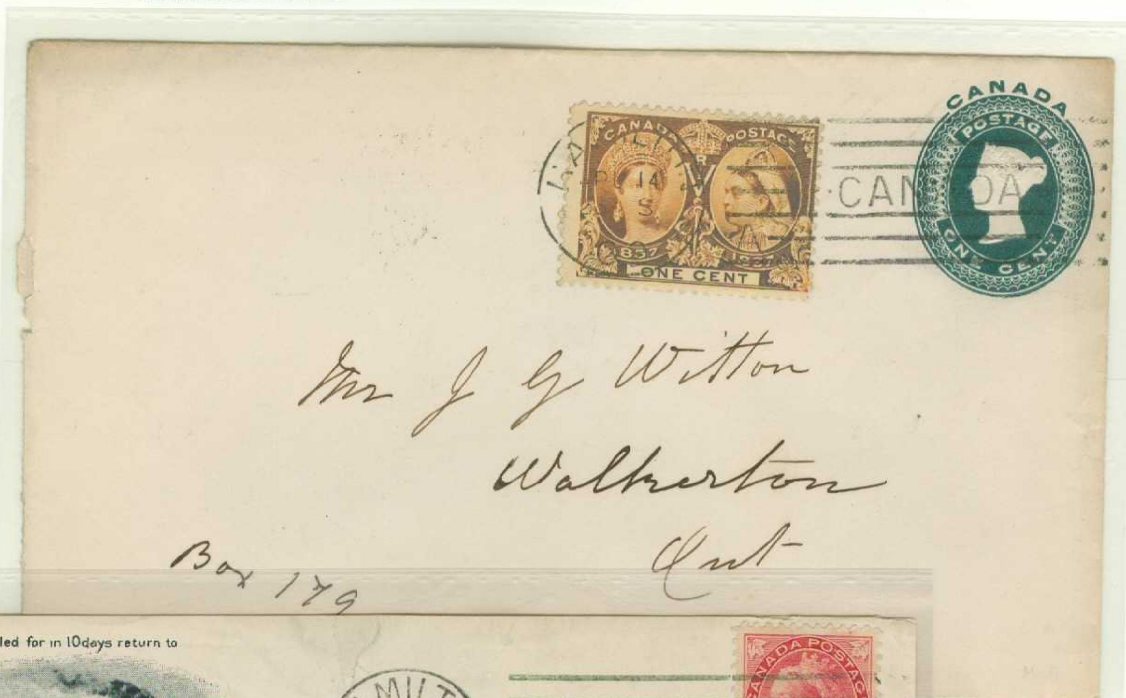
Indicia Located Here

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
seven-bar obliterator with 'A' or 'B' indicia
indicating 'CANADA' midway.

'A' INDICIA

14 APRIL 1902

Up-rated
Canadian
Postal
Stationery
Cover,
postmarked at
Hamilton,
sent to
Walkerton,
Ontario.



'A' INDICIA

9 AUGUST
1902

Advertising
cover,
postmarked
at
Hamilton,
sent to
London,
Ontario.

Two Cents:
Domestic single-weight letter-rate,
effective 1 January 1899.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Seven-Bar Obliterator With Indicia Machine 2 = 'B' Hamilton

Usage Period:

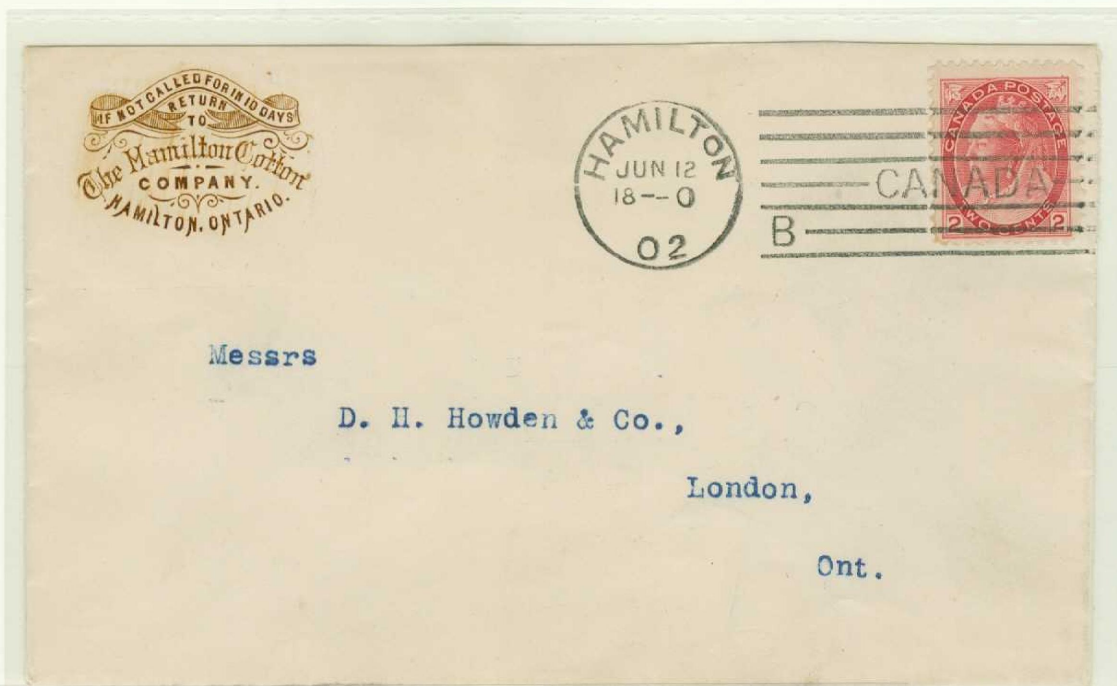
'B' = 18 February – 16 October 1902

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
seven-bar obliterator with indicia
indicating 'CANADA' midway.

ADVERTISING COVERS

'B' INDICIA
12 JUNE 1902
Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked
at
Hamilton,
sent to
London,
Ontario.



'B' INDICIA
23 JULY 1902
Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked
at
Hamilton,
sent to
London,
Ontario.

Two Cents:
Domestic single-weight letter-rate,
effective 1 January 1899.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag with Indicia
Machine 1 = 'A'
Toronto

Usage Period:
12 August 1897 – 23 February 1898

THE TORONTO POST OFFICE'S INTRODUCTION TO RAPID POSTMARKING COMMENCED WITH THE DELIVERY OF SIX BICKERDIKE MACHINES IN AUGUST 1897.

Six indicia ('A' thru 'F') were applicable, albeit anticipating the need for two additional machines, two dies 'G' and 'H' were supplied, the latter most probably held as back-up dies.



Indicia Located Here

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute flag obliterator with indicia, indicating 'CANADA' mid-flag.



HUBLESS POSTMARK INDICIA 'A'

(Estimated Mailing Date)
"13 DECEMBER 1897"

Commercial cover
with circular or printed-matter enclosure,
sent from Toronto
to
Stroud, Ontario.

Arrival Postmark
(Reverse)
"Stroud,
December 14, 1897"

One Cent:
Domestic circular or printed-matter rate
(unsealed cover)

Less Than Five Examples Known.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag with Indicia

Machine 1 = 'A'

Toronto

Usage Period:

12 August 1897 – 23 February 1898

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute flag obliterator with indicia, indicating 'CANADA' mid-flag.

DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL MAIL

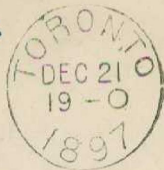
15 OCTOBER 1897

Commercial mail cover, postmarked at Toronto, sent to Hamilton, Ontario.

Arrival Postmark (Reverse) "Hamilton October 16, 1897"



PLEASE RETURN TO
M. & L. SAMUEL, BENJAMIN & CO.
WHOLESALE HARDWARE
TORONTO
IF NOT DELIVERED IN FIVE DAYS



Mrs D. D. Wagle
Amherstburg

ONTARIO,

21 DECEMBER 1897"

Advertising cover, postmarked at Toronto, sent to Amherstburg, Ontario.

Arrival Postmark (Reverse) "Amherstburg, December 22, 1897"

Three Cents:
Domestic single-weight letter-rate,
valid until 31 December 1898.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag with Indicia
Machine 2 = 'B'
Toronto

Usage Period:
10 August 1897 – 23 February 1898

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
involute flag obliterater with indicia,
indicating 'CANADA' mid-flag.

DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL MAIL

17 AUGUST 1897"

Advertising cover,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
London, Ontario.

Arrival Postmark
(Reverse)
"London,
August 17, 1897"

Postman's Mark:
(Front)
"S..
AM August 18"



15 OCTOBER 1897

Commercial mail
cover,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Hamilton, Ontario.

Arrival Postmark
(Reverse)
"Hamilton
October 16, 1897"

Three Cents:
Domestic single-weight letter-rate,
valid until 31 December 1898.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag with Indicia
Machine 2 = 'B'
Toronto

Usage Period:

10 August 1897 – 23 February 1898

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
involute flag obliterator with indicia,
indicating 'CANADA' mid-flag.

POSTAL STATIONERY

COMMERCIAL
MAIL TO THE UNITED
STATES

2 SEPTEMBER 1897

Canadian Postal
'Jubilee' card,
postmarked at Toronto,
sent to
New York City.

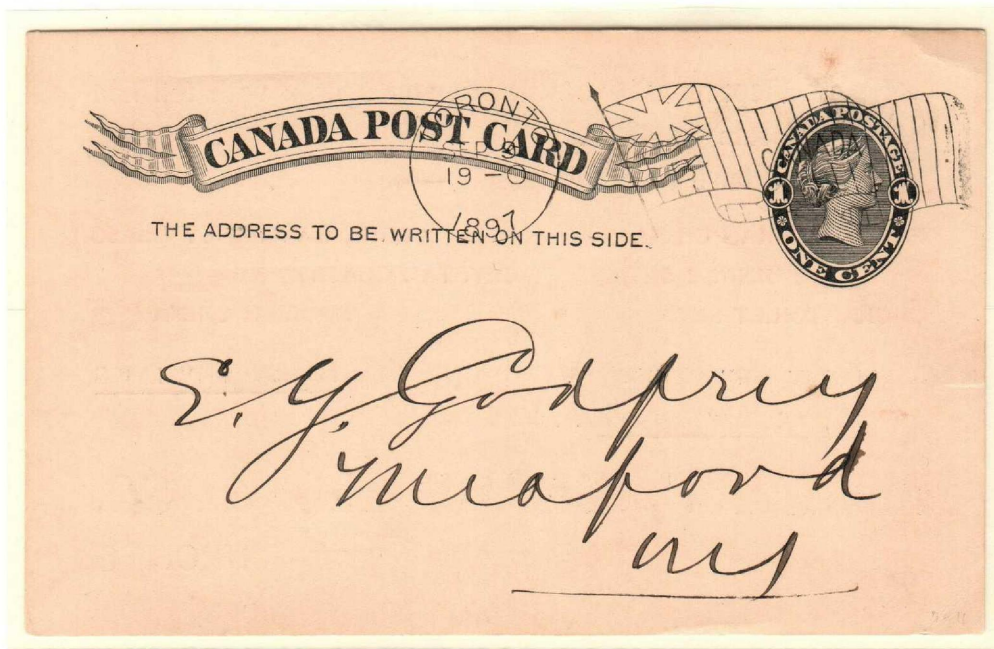
Arrival Postmark
(Front)
"New York,
September 6, 1897"



DOMESTIC
COMMERCIAL
ADVERTISING

9 SEPTEMBER 1897

Canadian postal
stationery card,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Miaford, Ontario.



One Cent:
Domestic & USA-Bound postcard-rate.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag with Indicia
Machine 2 = 'B'
Toronto

Usage Period:

10 August 1897 – 23 February 1898

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
involute flag obliterator with indicia,
indicating 'CANADA' mid-flag.

MAIL TO THE UNITED STATES

CIVILIAN MAIL

7 SEPTEMBER 1897

Cover,
postmarked at Toronto,
sent to
New York City.

Arrival Postmark
(Reverse)
"New York,
September 8, 1897"



RETURNED
SHORT-PAID
COMMERCIAL MAIL

17 SEPTEMBER 1897

Short-paid & returned for added
postage commercial mail cover,
endorsed

"Returned for Postage 1"
postmarked at Toronto,
sent to
New York City.

Transit Postmarks
(Reverse)

"Toronto
September 18, 1897"

"Satisfied
(Front & Reverse after 1 Cent postage
added)

20 September 1897"



Three Cents:

USA-bound single-weight letter-rate, valid until 31 December 1898.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag with Indicia
Machine 3 = 'C'
Toronto

Usage Period:
10 August 1897 – 22 February 1898

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
involute flag obliterator with indicia
and indicating 'CANADA' mid-flag.

10 SEPTEMBER 1897

Lady's cover,
postmarked at Toronto,
sent to
Parkdale, Ontario.

Two Cents:
Drop-letter
local-rate

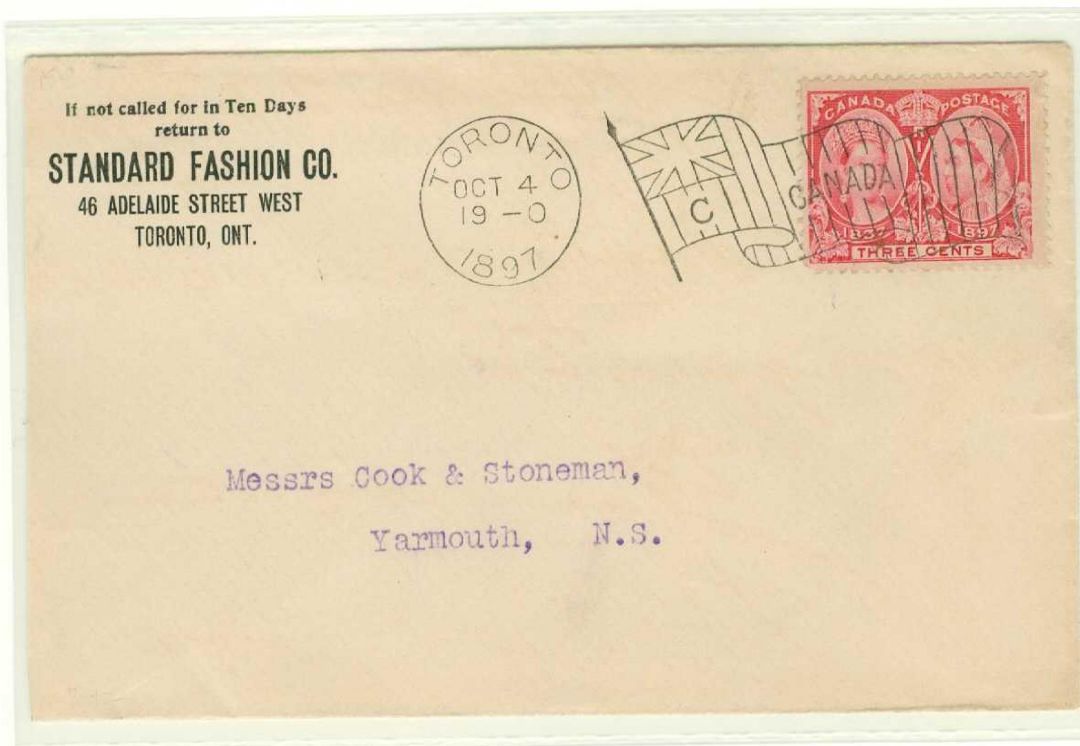


4 OCTOBER 1897

Commercial mail
cover,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Yarmouth,
Nova Scotia.

Arrival Postmark
(Reverse)
"Yarmouth
October 7, 1897"

Three Cents:
Domestic single-
weight letter-rate,
valid until
31 December 1898.



BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag with Indicia

Machine 4 = 'D'

Toronto

Usage Period:

10 August 1897 – 23 February 1898

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute flag obliterater with indicia and indicating 'CANADA' mid-flag.

27 AUGUST 1897

Commercial mail
Postcard,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Harriston, Ontario.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Harriston.
29 August 1897"

One Cent:
Domestic
Postcard-rate.



6 SEPTEMBER 1897

Cover,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Milwaukee,
Wisconsin, U.S.A.

Arrival Postmark
(Reverse)
"Milwaukee,
September 7,
1897"

Five Cents:
UPU International
Single-Weight
Letter-Rate,
valid until
24 December 1898.



BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute flag obliterator with indicia and indicating 'CANADA' mid-flag.

Involute Flag with Indicia
Machine 5 = 'E'
Toronto

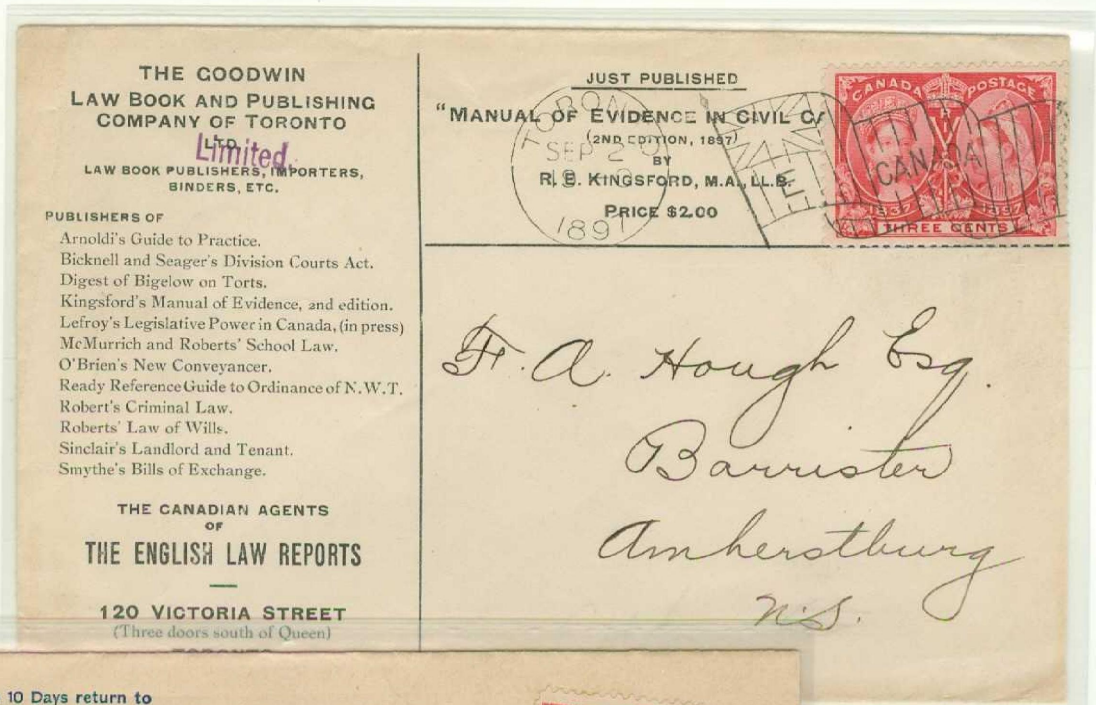
Usage Period:

11 August 1897 – 22 February 1898

DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL & ADVERTISING COVERS

2 SEPTEMBER 1897

Advertising cover,
sent to
Amherstburg,
Nova Scotia



If not called for in 10 Days return to
S. F. MCKINNON & CO.,
WHOLESALE MILLINERY
61 BAY STREET,
TORONTO.



6 SEPTEMBER 1897

Commercial mail
cover,
sent to
Yarmouth,
Nova Scotia

8 NOVEMBER
1897

Advertising
cover,
sent to
Goderich,
Ontario.



Three Cents:
Domestic single-weight letter-rate valid until 31 December 1898

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag with Indicia
Machine 5 = 'E'
Toronto

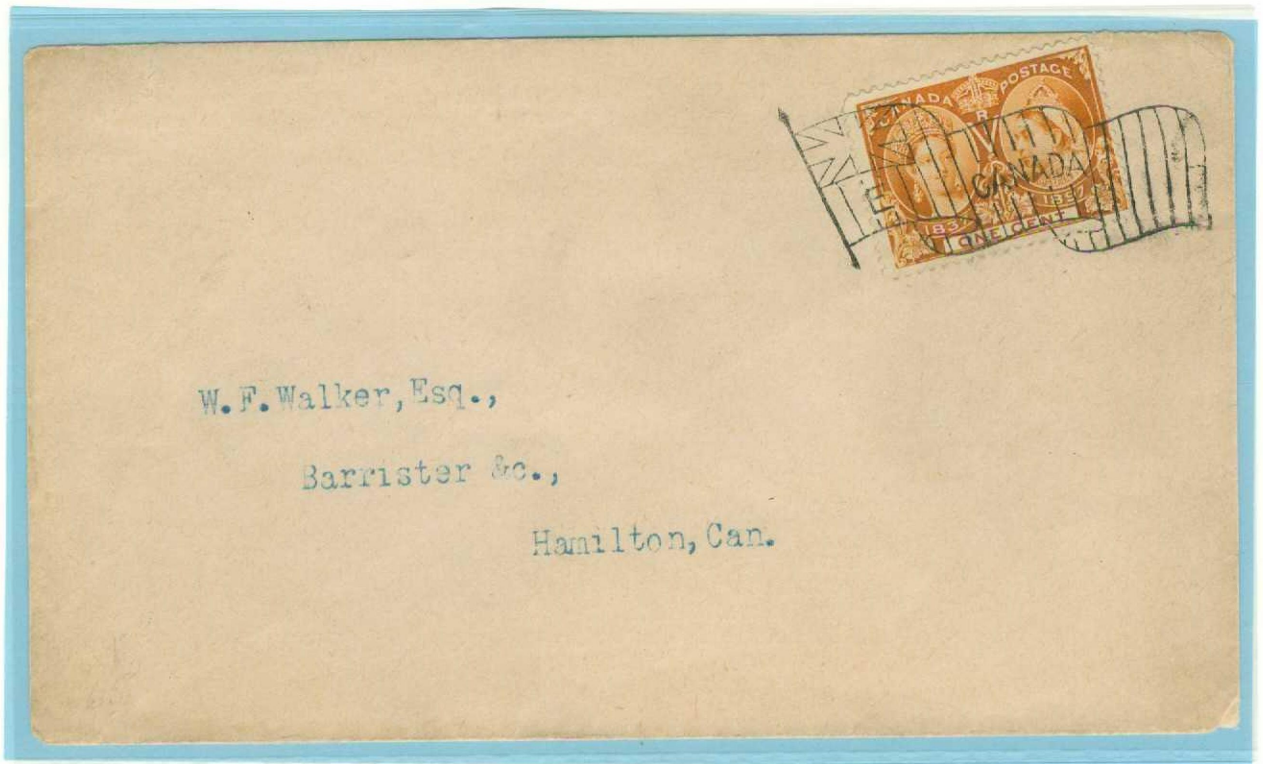
Usage Period:

11 August 1897 – 22 February 1898

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
involute flag obliterator with indicia
and indicating 'CANADA' mid-flag.

**HUBLESS POSTMARK
ADVERTISING-ENCLOSURE COVER**



23 NOVEMBER 1897

**Advertising-enclosure cover,
hubless postmark at Toronto,
sent to
Hamilton, Ontario.**

**Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Hamilton,
24 November 1897"**

**One Cent:
Circular or printed-matter enclosed in an unsealed cover.**

One of less than five known.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag with Indicia
Machine 6 = 'F'
Toronto

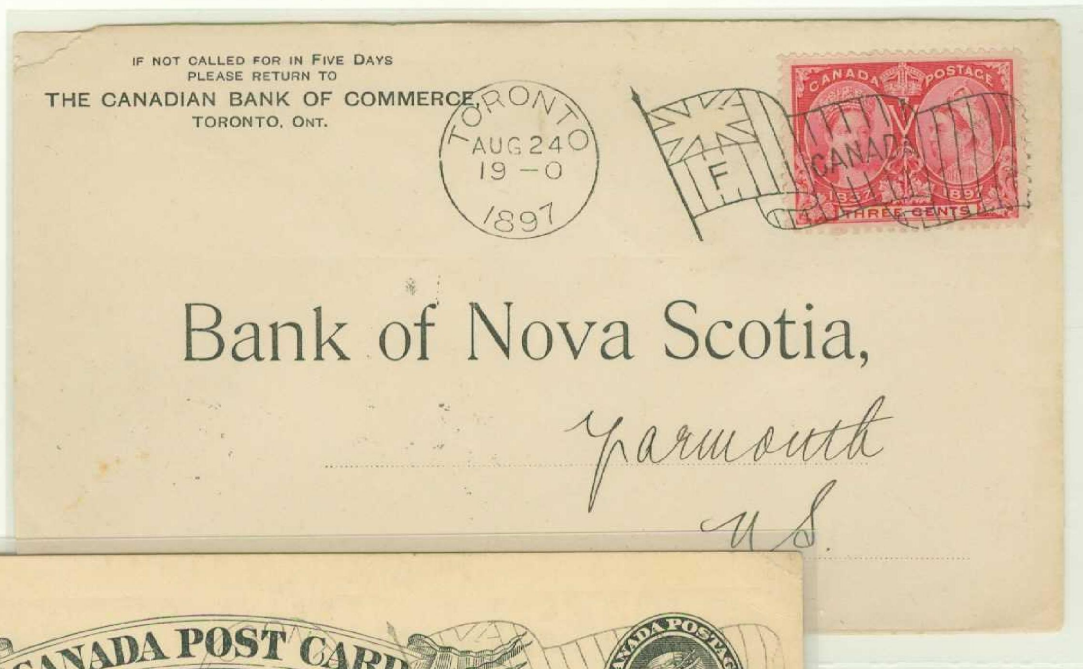
Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
involute flag obliterator with indicia
and indicating 'CANADA' mid-flag.

Usage Period:
10 August 1897 - 23 February 1898

24 AUGUST 1897

Commercial
bank cover,
sent to
Yarmouth,
Nova Scotia

Three cents:
Domestic
Single-weight
letter-rate



Bank of Nova Scotia,

*Yarmouth
U.S.*



8 SEPTEMBER 1897

Commercial mail
Canadian Postal
Stationery Card,
sent to
Hamilton, Ontario,

One Cent:
Domestic
postcard rate.

17 SEPTEMBER 1897

Cover,
sent to
"Hebrew Orphan Asylum",
Brooklyn, New York, U.S.A.

Three cents:
Single-weight Letter-rate
to U.S.A.



*Miss Helen Birkenthal
Hebrew Orphan Asylum
Brooklyn
N.Y.
Ralph Ave + Pacific St.*

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Involute Flag with Indicia
Reserve Postmark Die = 'G'
Toronto

Usage Period:
10 - 11 August 1897

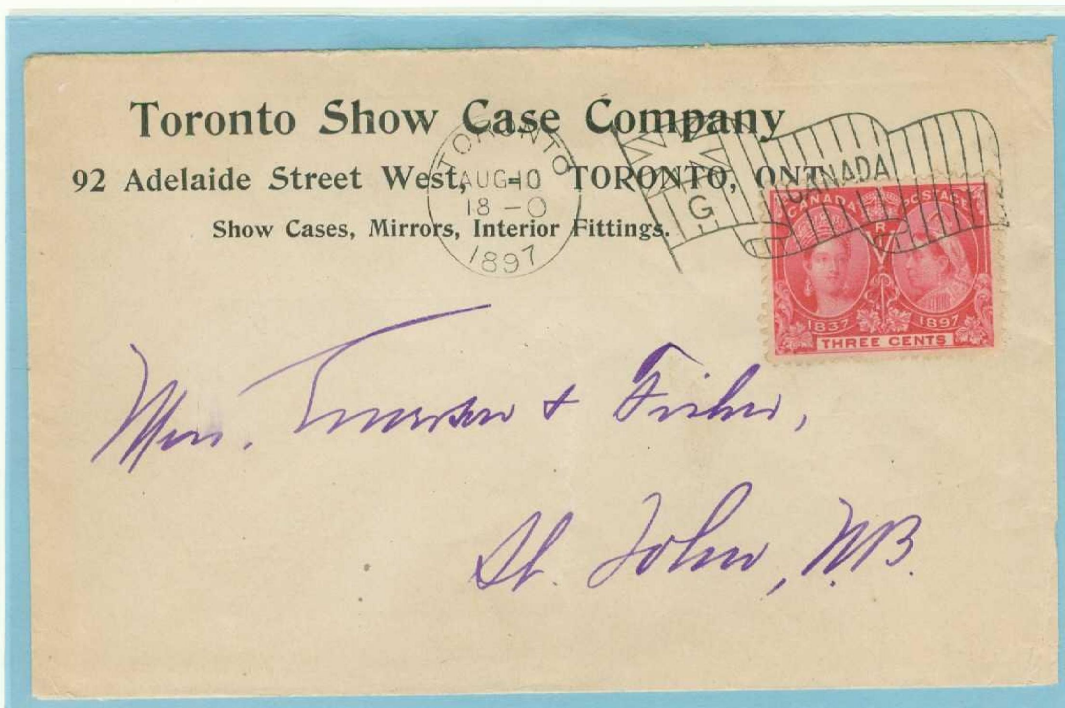
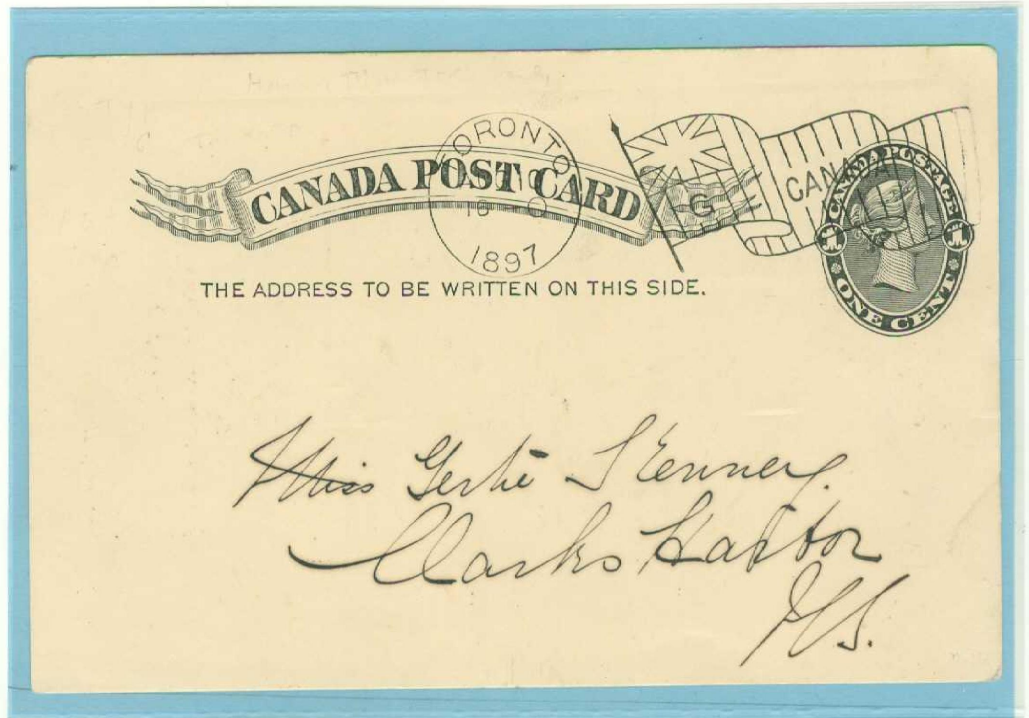
Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
involute flag obliterator with indicia
and indicating 'CANADA' mid-flag.

COMMERCIAL MAIL TWO-DAY USE OF RESERVE POSTMARK 'G'

10 AUGUST 1897
(16 Hrs. = 4 PM)

Commercial mail
Canadian Postal
Stationery Card,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Clarks Harbor,
Nova Scotia.

One Cent:
Domestic
postcard rate.



10 AUGUST 1897
(18 Hrs. = 6 PM)

Commercial mail
cover,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
St. John,
New Brunswick.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"St. John, N.B.,
12 August 1897"

Three cents:
Domestic
Single-weight
letter-rate

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia
Machine 1 = 'A'
Toronto

Usage Period:
24 February 1898 – 3 February 1902

COMMENCING IN FEBRUARY 1898, THE ORIGINAL SIX 'TORONTO BICKERDIKE MACHINES' HAVING HERETOFORE APPLIED 'NON-BARRED FLAG POSTMARK OBLITERATORS WITH INDICIA' WERE MODIFIED TO INCLUDE TWO BARS, APPLICABLE FOR ALL SIX MACHINES .. 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E', 'F' ALONG WITH RESERVE DIES 'G' & 'H'.



Indicia located here

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred involute flag obliterator with indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

INNER-CITY
MAIL

27 NOVEMBER 1898

Cover,
postmarked at Toronto,
sent locally.

Two Cents:
City Drop-Letter Rate



MAIL TO
NOVA SCOTIA
PROVINCE

15 FEBRUARY 1899

Commercial mail
cover,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Yarmouth,
Nova Scotia.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Yarmouth,
18 February 1899"

Two Cents:
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate,
effective
1 January 1899.



Mrs. Cook & Storeman
Yarmouth
Y.S.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia
Machine 1 = 'A'
Toronto

Usage Period:

24 February 1898 – 3 February 1902

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterator with indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

CANADIAN POSTAL STATIONERY

MAIL TO THE
UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA

28 MAY 1898

Postal Stationery
Card,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Pottsville,
Pennsylvania.

One Cent:
Postcard rate for mail
to U.S.A.



DOMESTIC
LETTER MAIL

19 JUNE 1899

Postal stationery
commercial mail
cover,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Montreal.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Montreal,
June 20, 1899"

Two Cents:
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate,
effective
1 January 1899.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

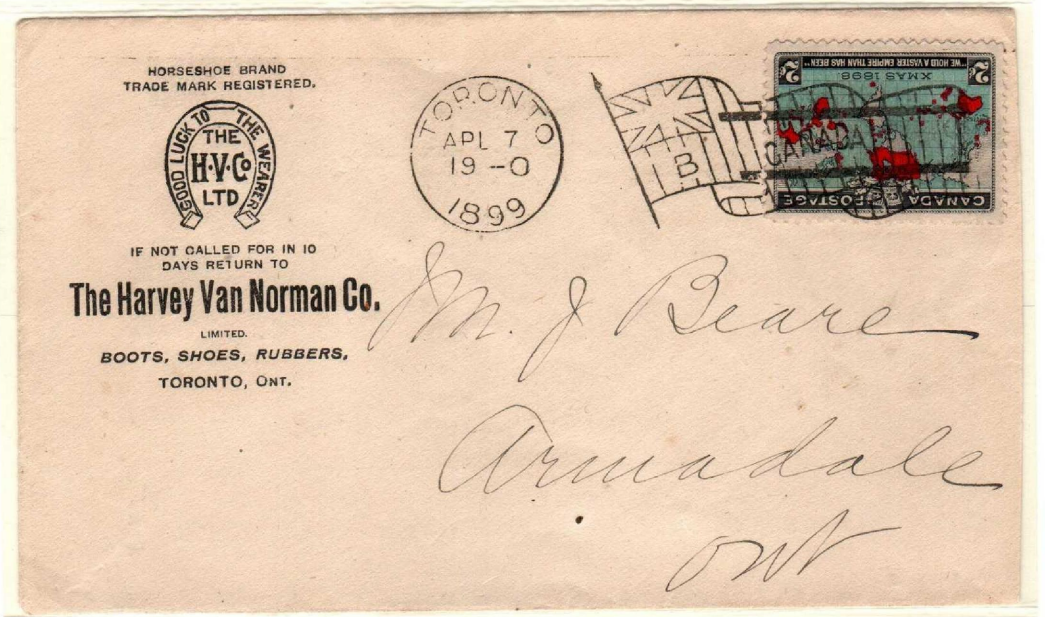
Barred Involute Flag With Indicia
Machine 2 = 'B'
Toronto

Usage Period:
24 February 1898 - 1 February 1902

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterator with indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

COMMERCIAL MAIL

7 APRIL 1899
Commercial mail
cover,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Armadale,
Ontario.



R. Laidlaw Lumber Co.
WHOLESALE LUMBER
700 King Street West
Toronto



Gould, Shapley & Muir Co.,

Brantford,

Ont.

12 MAY 1899

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Brantford,
Ontario.

Arrival
Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Brantford,
May 12, 1899"

Two Cents:
Domestic single-weight letter-rate,
effective 1 January 1899.

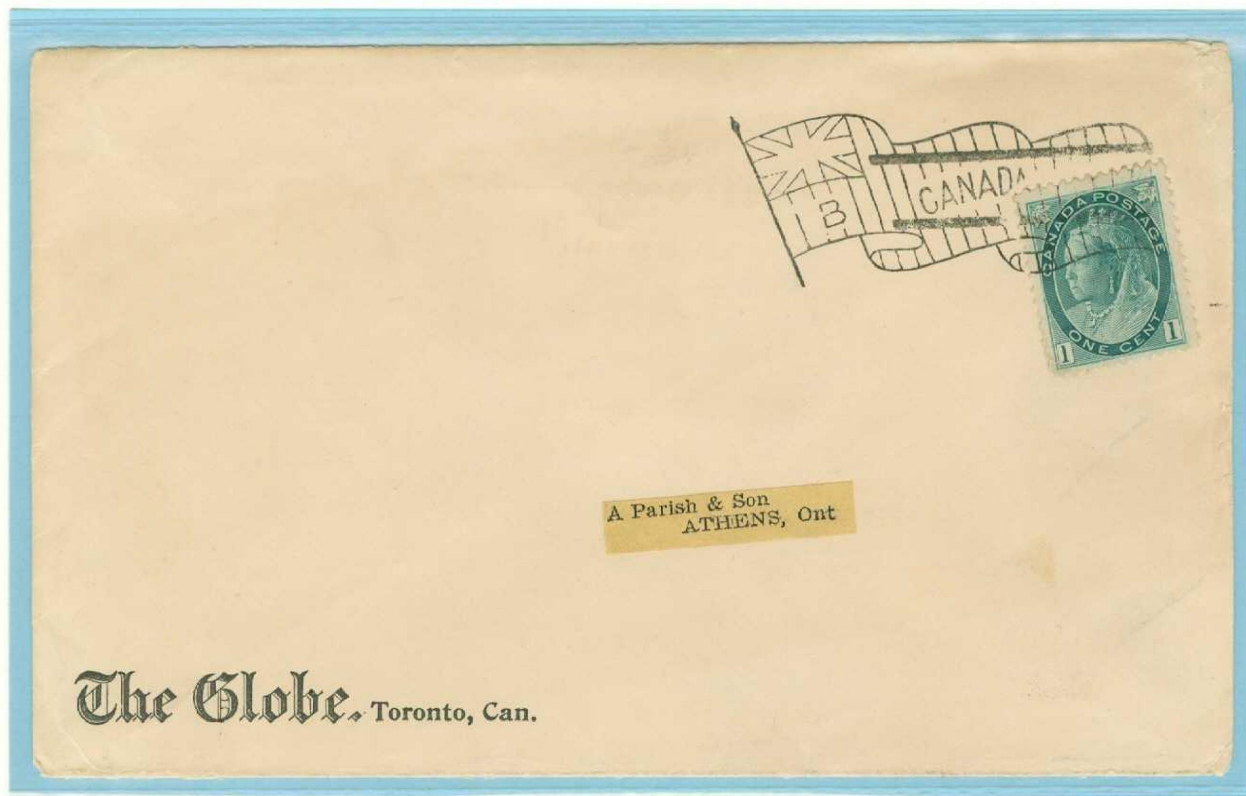
BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia
Machine 2 = 'B'
Toronto

Usage Period:
24 February 1898 – 1 February 1902

Postmark:
Missing 22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterator with indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

HUBLESS POSTMARKED MAIL



"28 OCTOBER 1898"

Unsealed commercial mail cover
with circular or printed-matter enclosure,
hubless-postmarked at Toronto,
sent to
Athens, Ontario.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Athens, Ont.,
October 29, 1898"

One Cent:
Domestic single-weight unsealed mail cover with
circular or printed-matter enclosure.

Only Known Example.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia
Machine 3 = 'C'
Toronto

Usage Period:

24 February 1898 - 29 January 1902

Postmark:

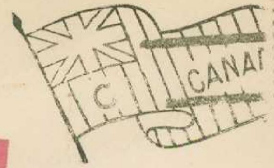
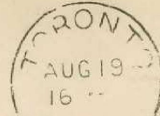
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterater with indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

19 AUGUST 1899

Commercial
mail cover,
sent to
Montreal,
Quebec.

Two Cents:
Domestic
letter-rate,
effective
1 January 1899

THE AMERICAN WATCH CASE CO.,
OF TORONTO, LIMITED,
511 KING STREET WEST,
TORONTO, - - - ONT.



N. Scott & Co.
196 McGill St.
Montreal, Que.

IF NOT CALLED FOR IN 10 DAYS
RETURN TO

THE EMPIRE CLOAK CO.
20 FRONT ST. EAST
TORONTO

TELEPHONE No. 446



Messrs Cook & Stoneman,

Yarmouth,

N. S.

23 MAY 1898

Commercial mail
cover, sent to
Yarmouth,
Nova Scotia.

Three Cents:
Domestic
letter-rate
valid until 31
December 1898.

If not Called for in Five Days
Return to

BUNTIN, REID & COMPANY

WHOLESALE
STATIONERS AND PAPER
MANUFACTURERS

TORONTO, - - - ONT.



12 MAY 1898

Local Toronto
commercial mail
cover.

Two Cents:
City drop-letter
rate.

The Toronto Little Cup
Care of King & Bathurst Sts
City

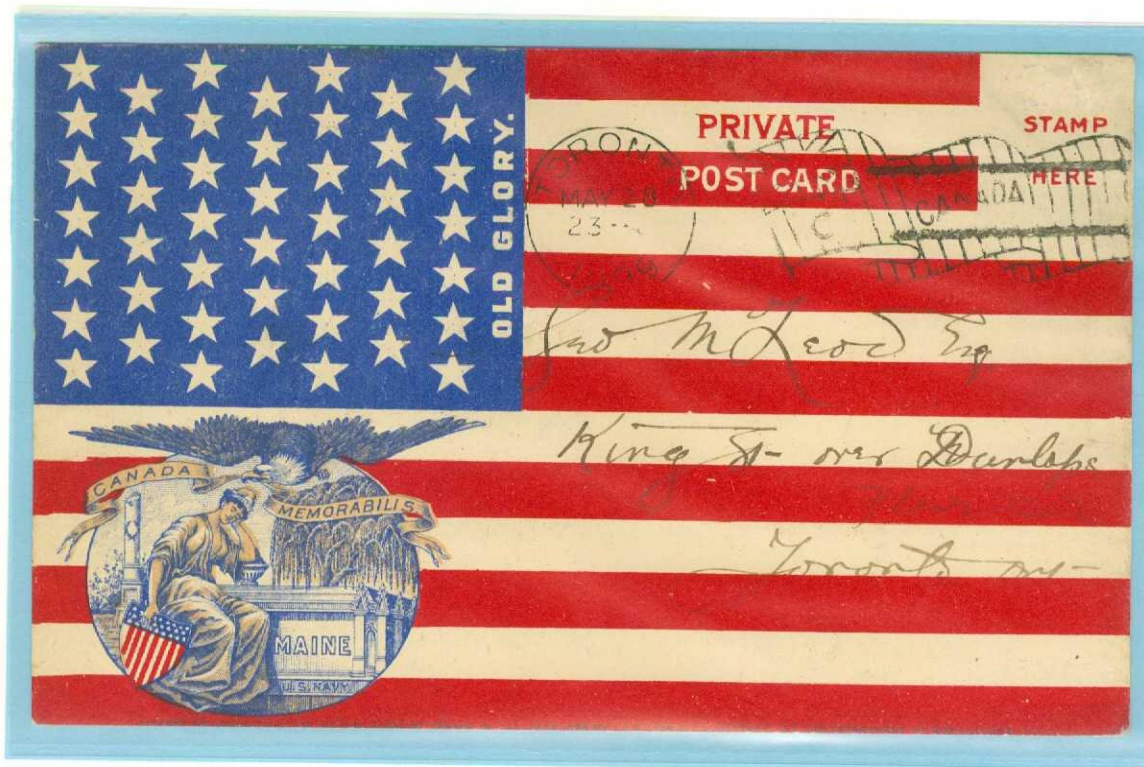
BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia
Machine 3 = 'C'
Toronto

Usage Period:
24 February 1898 – 29 January 1902

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterater with indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

CANADIAN-AMERICAN "REMEMBER THE MAINE" PRIVATE POSTCARD



28 MAY 1899

Unfranked/Short paid
Canadian-American 'Remember the Maine'
Memorial Private Postcard,
commercial message on reverse,
postmarked at Toronto,
sent locally.

Four Cents:
Postage Due
(Indicated on Reverse)

Only Known Example

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia
Machine 4 = 'D'
Toronto

Usage Period:
23 February 1898 – 3 February 1902

Postmark:

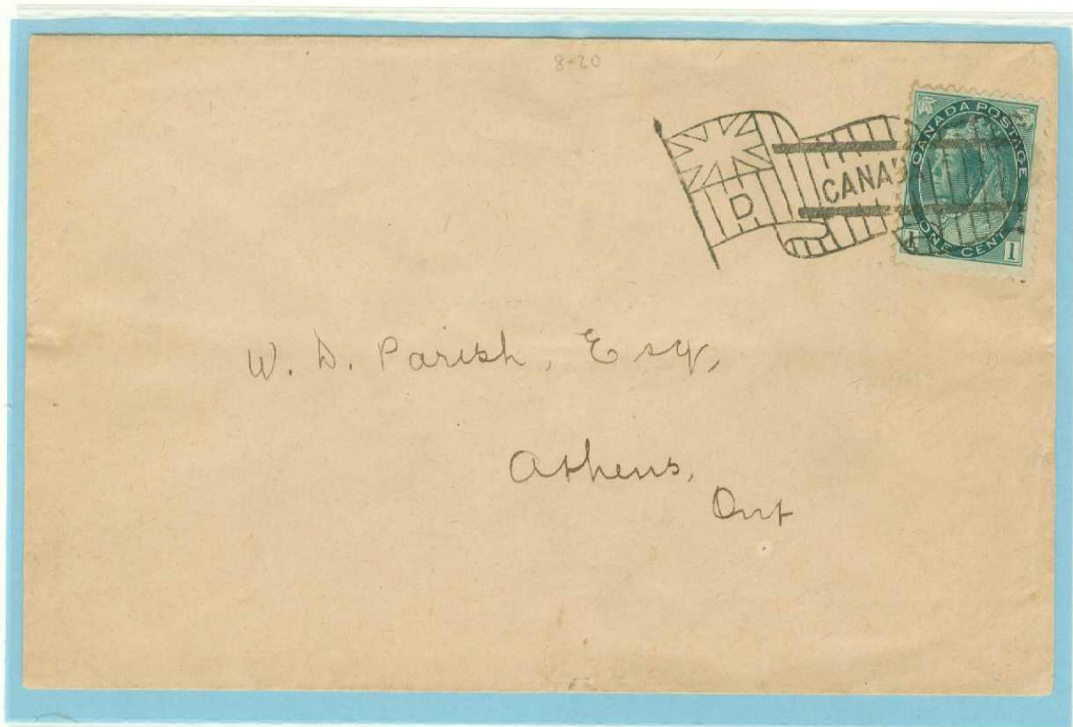
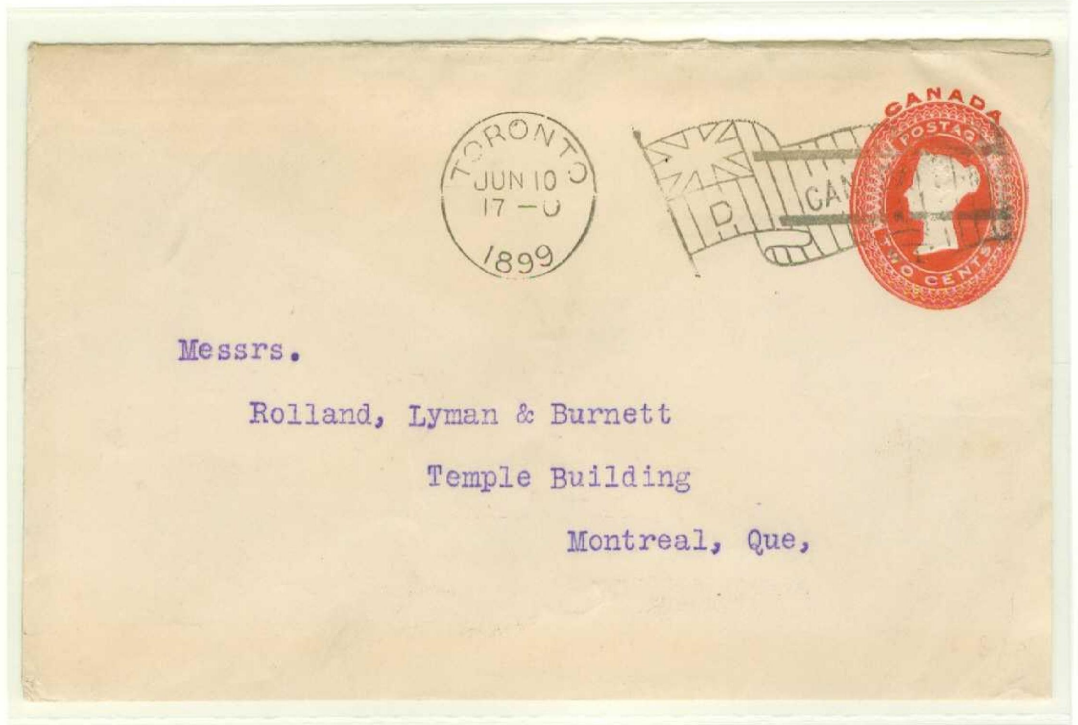
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterator with indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

POSTMARK
WITH HUB

10 JUNE 1899

Canadian Postal
Stationery Cover,
commercial mail,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Montreal, Quebec.

Two Cents:
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate,
effective
1 January 1899



HUBLESS POSTMARK

24 SEPTEMBER 1899

Commercial mail
cover,
sent from Toronto
to
Athens, Ontario.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Athens, Ontario,
September 25,
1899"

One Cent:
Circular or printed-
matter enclosure in
unsealed cover.

Less than five
known.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia
Machine 5 = 'E'
Toronto

Usage Period:

23 February 1898 - 31 January 1902

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterater with indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

After ten days return to

KILGOUR BROS.
TORONTO

3 MAY 1898

Commercial
mail cover,
sent to
locally

Two Cents:
City drop-letter
rate.



Mr W Rennie

city

RETURN IN 6 DAYS TO

THE BANK OF TORONTO,
TORONTO, CANADA.



Cashier,
TRADERS NATIONAL BANK,
ROCHESTER, N. Y.,
U. S.

18 AUGUST 1899

Commercial mail
cover, sent to
Rochester,
New York.

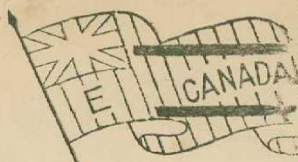
Two Cents:
Domestic &
U.S.A.-Bound
letter-rate
Effective
1 January 1899

DATELESS HUB

4 FEBRUARY
1899

Commercial
mail cover, sent
to Hamilton,
Ontario

One Cent:
Circular or
printed matter
enclosed in
unsealed cover,



Messrs. Carscallen & Cahill,

Barristers &c.,

Hamilton, Ont.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia

Machine 6 = 'F'

Toronto

Usage Period:

23 February 1898 - 3 February 1902

Postmark:

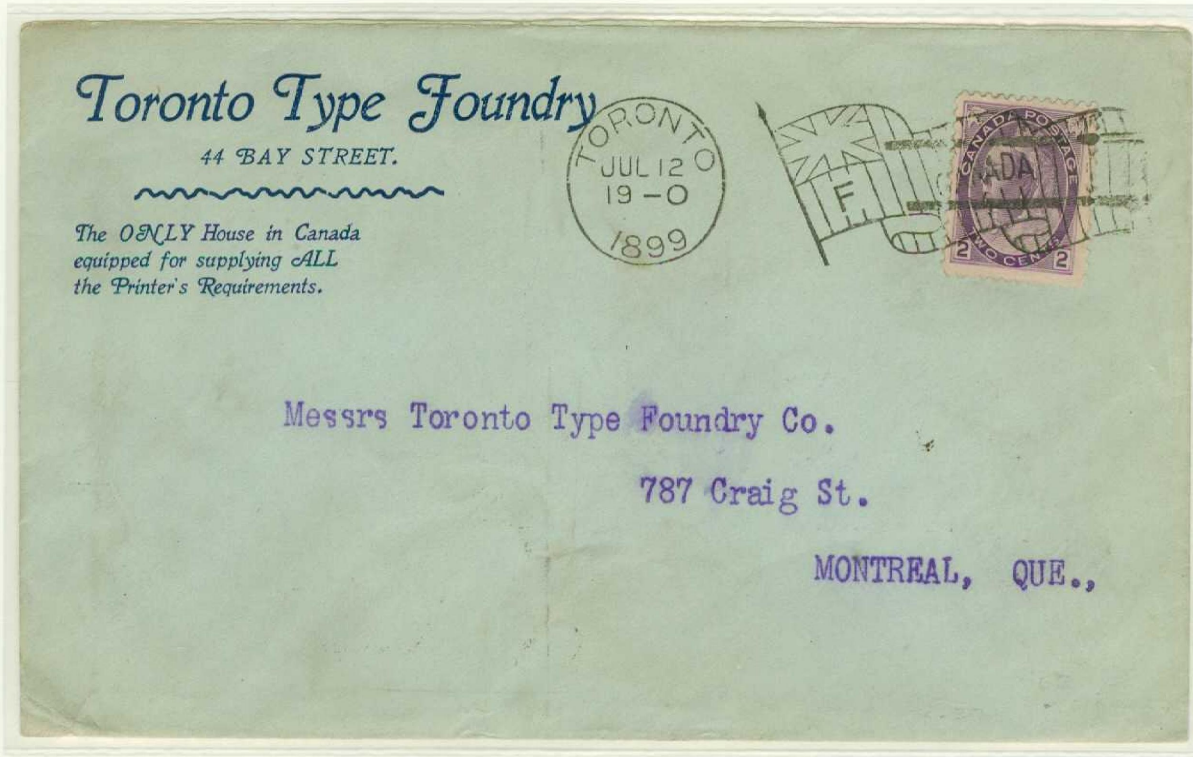
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred involute flag obliterator with indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

COMMERCIAL MAIL

12 JULY 1899

Commercial mail cover, postmarked at Toronto, sent to Montreal, Quebec.

Two Cents: Domestic single-weight letter-rate, effective 1 January 1899.



18 AUGUST 1899

Commercial bank-mail cover, postmarked at Toronto, sent to Rochester, Michigan, U.S.A.

Two Cents: U.S.A. Bound-Mail, single-weight letter-rate, effective 1 January 1899



BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia Machine 6 = 'F' Toronto

Usage Period:

23 February 1898 – 3 February 1902

Postmark:

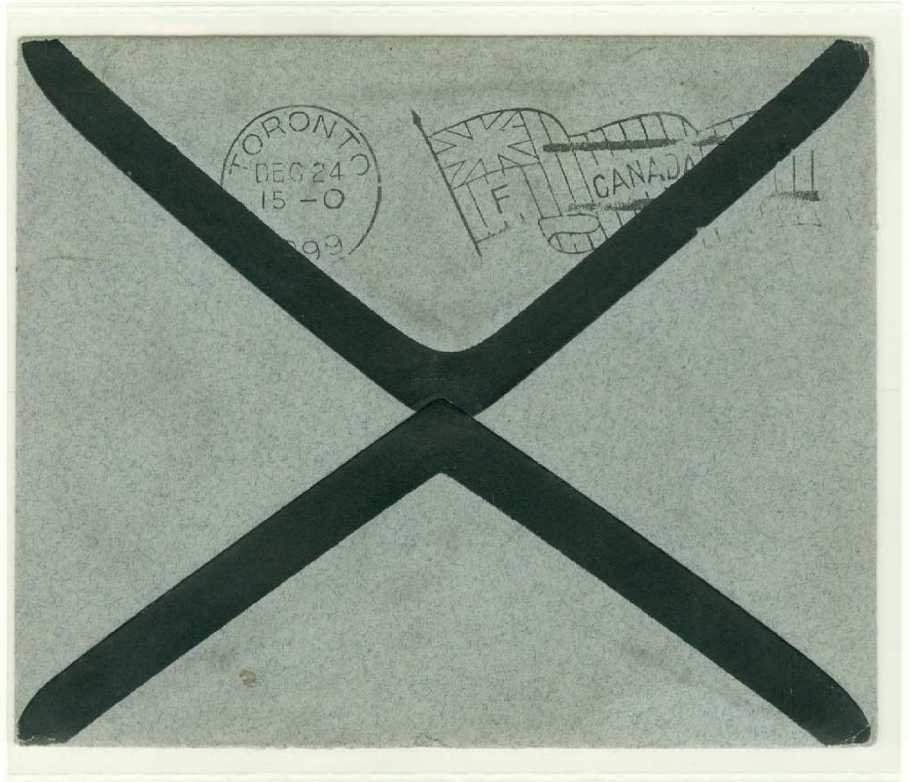
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred involute flag obliterator with indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.

'INVOLUTE FLAG'.. ARRIVAL-POSTMARK USAGE

24 DECEMBER 1899

Mourning cover,
postmarked
at Toronto (23 Dec),
sent locally.

Two Cents:
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate,
effective
1 January 1899.



WM. B. HAMILTON, SON & CO.

RELIABLE
BOOTS, SHOES AND RUBBERS
WHOLESALE
TORONTO, ONT.



Mr. E. Berube

Amherstburg

Ont.



HUBLESS
POSTMARK

22 JANUARY
1900

Commercial
mail cover,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Amherstburg,
Ontario.

One Cent:
Unsealed cover
with circular or
printed-matter
enclosure.

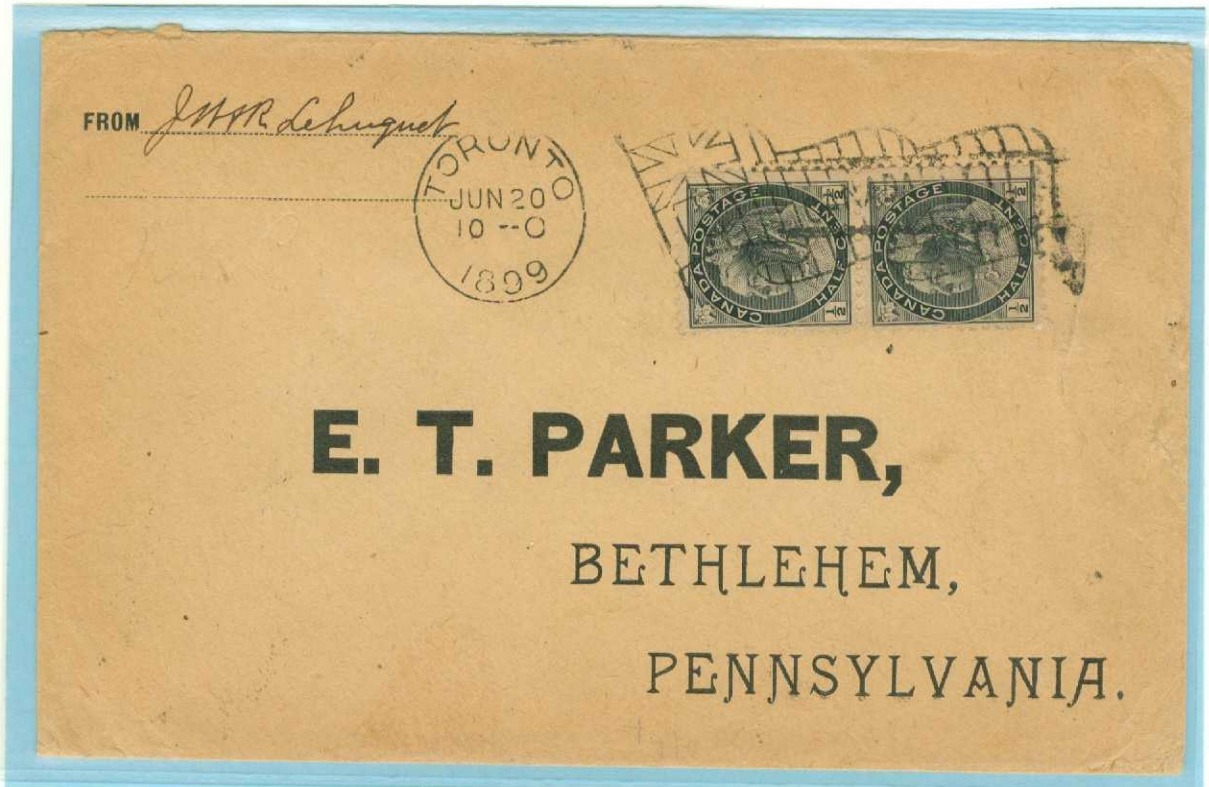
Less Than Five
Known

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Barred Involute Flag With Indicia
Reserve Postmark Die = 'H'
Toronto

Usage:
20 June 1899

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with barred
involute flag obliterator with indicia having 'CANADA' mid-flag.



RESERVE POSTMARK 'H'

20 JUNE 1899

Commercial mail cover with circular or printed-matter enclosure,
postmarked at Toronto,
sent to
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

One Cent:
Unsealed cover with circular or printed-matter enclosure.

Only Known Example.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

1901 Exhibition Postmark With Indicia

Machine 1 = 'A'

Toronto

Usage Period:

3 May – 7 September 1901

APPLICATION OF THE HERETOFORE 'INVOLUTE FLAG POSTMARKS' AT TORONTO WAS SUSPENDED FOR FOUR MONTHS WITH TEMPORARILY REPLACEMENT BY A SPECIAL PROMOTIONAL EXHIBITION POSTMARK ON ALL SIX BICKERDIKE MACHINES..

'A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E', 'F'

The three postmarking were involved and are regarded as the first Canadian advertising slogan postmarks.



Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute flag having integrated exhibition shield indicating show dates and including indicia. Shield does not overlap Union Jack with vertical bars flanking indicia 'A'.



ADVERTISING COVER SENT TO U.S.A.

8 JULY 1901

Commercial mail cover, postmarked at Toronto,
sent to
Westfield, Massachusetts,
U.S.A.

Arrival Postmark:

(Reverse)

"Westfield, 10 July 1901"

Two Cents:

Single-weight letter-rate for mail to the United States,
effective 1 January 1899.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

1901 Exhibition Postmark With Indicia Machine 2 = 'B' Toronto

Usage Period:
1 May – 7 September 1901

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
involute flag having integrated exhibition
shield indicating show dates and
including indicia.

Shield overlaps Union Jack with no vertical
bars flanking indicia on Dies 'B' & 'C' only.



Indicia Located Here



COMMERCIAL COVER SENT TO U.S.A.

25 AUGUST 1901

Commercial mail cover, postmarked at Toronto,
sent to
New York, New York,
U.S.A.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)

"New York, 26 August 1901"

Two Cents:

Single-weight letter-rate for mail to the United States,
effective 1 January 1899.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

1901 Exhibition Postmark With Indicia

Machine 3 = 'C'

Toronto

Usage Period:

8 May - 7 September 1901

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute flag having integrated exhibition shield indicating show dates and including indicia.

Shield overlaps Union Jack with no vertical bars flanking indicia on Dies 'B' & 'C' only.



Indicia Located Here

MAIL TO AUSTRIA
REDIRECTED TO GERMANY

8 JULY 1901

Cover,
postmarked at Toronto,
endorsed
"via New York" sent to
Innsbruck, Austria
with redirection to
Munich, Germany.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Munich,
25 July 1901"

Five Cents:
UPU Single-Weight
International
Letter-Rate.



TURN-OF-THE-
CENTURY
COMMEMORATIVE
POSTCARD TO U.S.A.

27 AUGUST 1901

So-called
'Souvenir Card',
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Richland Station,
Pennsylvania.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Richland Station,
27 August 1901"

One Cent:
Postcard-rate to
U.S.A.



BICKERDIKE MACHINE

1901 Exhibition Postmark With Indicia
Machine 3 = 'C'
Toronto

Usage Period:
8 May – 7 September 1901

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
involute flag having integrated exhibition shield indicating show dates and including indicia.
Shield overlaps Union Jack with no vertical bars flanking indicia on Dies 'B' & 'C' only.

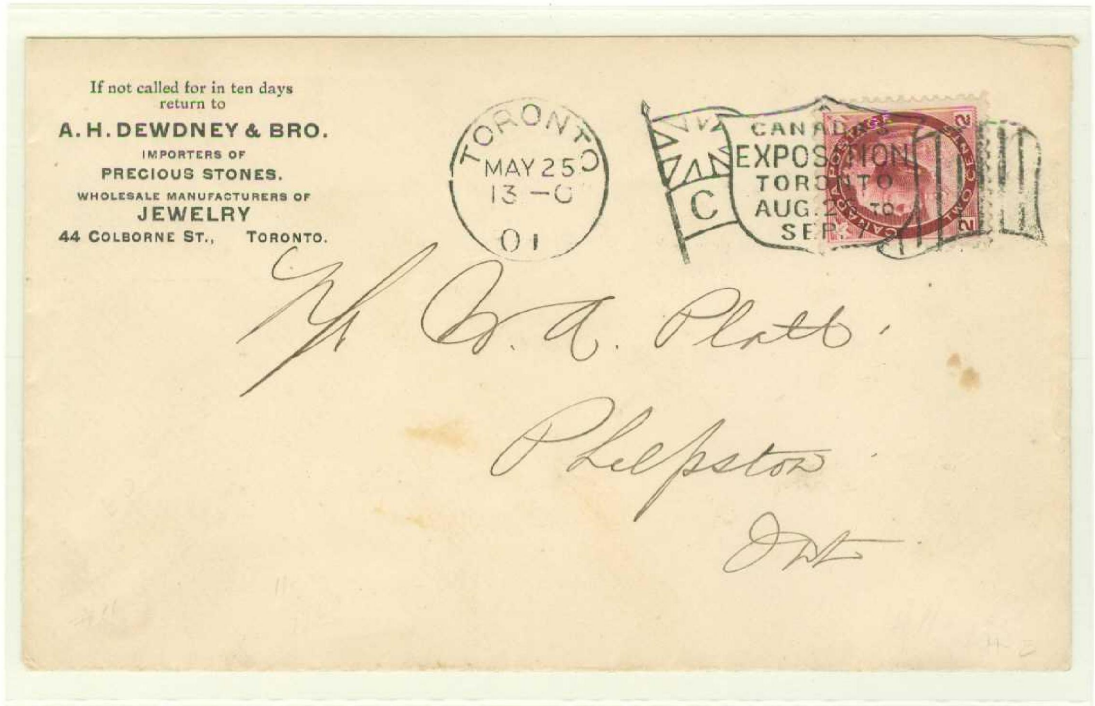
FRANKING-POSTAGE COLOR-VARIETIES

RED-PURPLE
QUEEN VICTORIA
'NUMERIAL' ISSUE

25 MAY 1901

Commercial over,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Phepston, Ontario.

Ex Puls & Bomar



CARMINE
QUEEN VICTORIA
'NUMERICAL ISSUE'
(Die 1)

29 JULY 1901

Cover,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
South Corners,
Ontario.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Kingston,
30 JULY 1901"



Two Cents:
Domestic single-weight letter rate, effective 1 January 1899

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

1901 Exhibition Postmark With Indicia
Machine 4 = 'D'
Toronto

Usage Period:

14 May – 7 September 1901

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
involute flag having integrated exhibition oval shield
indicating show dates and including indicia.
Shield overlaps Union Jack with no vertical bars
flanking indicia on Dies 'D', 'E' & 'F' only.



Indicia Located Here

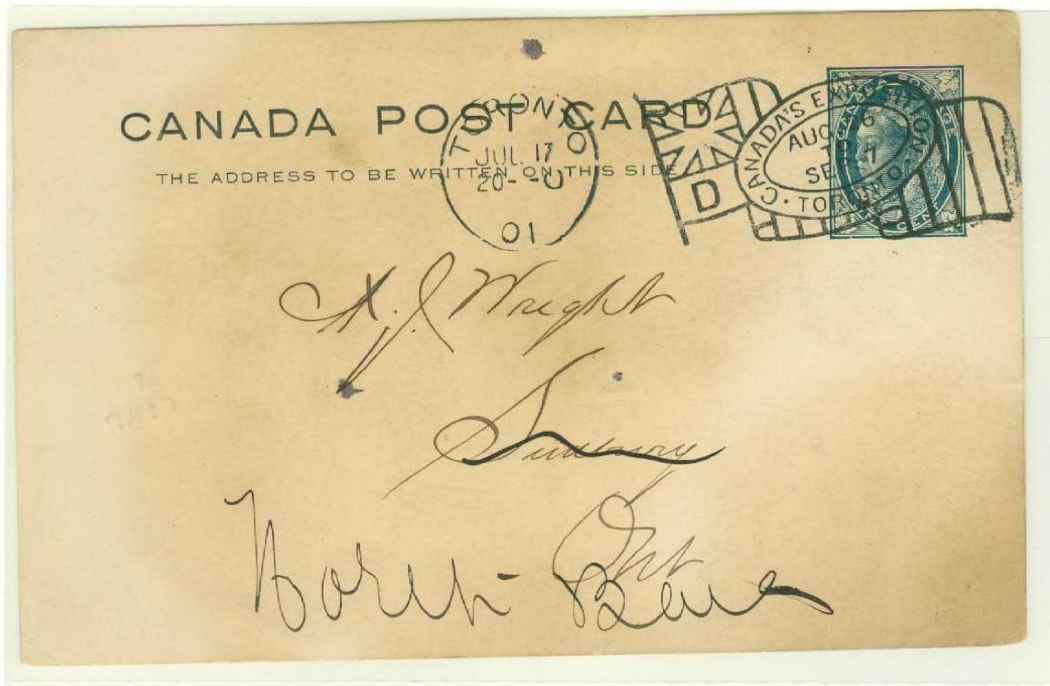
STANDARD POSTMARK

17 JULY 1901

Canadian
Postal-Stationery Card,
commercial mail,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to Sudbury with
re-direction to
North Bend, Ontario.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Sudbury,
19 July 1901"

One Cent:
Domestic
postcard-rate.



POSTMARK WITH
INVERTED
OBLITERATOR

11 AUGUST 1901

Canadian Postal
Stationery Card,
Sent to
Laketon, Indiana,
U.S.A

One Cent:
Postcard-rate to
U.S.A.

Only Known
Example.

Ex Puls & Bomar

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

1901 Exhibition Postmark With Indicia

Machines 5 & 6 = 'E' & 'F'

Toronto

Usage Period:

14 May – 6 September 1901

Postmark:

22mm Diameter Dater Dial with involute flag having integrated exhibition oval shield indicating show dates and including indicia.

Shield overlaps Union Jack with no vertical bars flanking indicia on Dies 'D', 'E' & 'F' only.

**MACHINE 5 ..
INDICIA 'E'**

1 SEPTEMBER 1901

Lady's cover,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Muskoka (Minett),
Ontario.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Minett,
2 September 1901"



The D. H. HOGG CO.

Photographic
Goods

COR. BAY AND RICHMOND STS.
TORONTO



Geo. Holmes, Esqr.,

Owen Sound, Ontario.

**MACHINE '6' ..
INDICIA 'F'**

15 JUNE 1901

Commercial
cover,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Owen Sound,
Ontario.

Arrival Postmark:
(Reverse)
"Owen Sound,
15 June 1901"



Two Cents:

Domestic single-weight letter-rate, effective 1 January 1899

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Seven-Bar Obliterator With Indicia
Machine 1 = 'A'
Toronto

Usage:
'A' = 4 February 1902

After four years operation at Toronto, the 'Bickerdike Machines' were replaced with newer machines of a different vendor commencing on 4 February 1902. **DURING SETUP & CONVERSION, THE BICKERDIKE MACHINES WERE FITTED WITH EXISTING/RESERVE SEVEN-BAR OBLITERATOR POSTMARKING DIES WITH USE ONLY 1-2 DAYS DEPENDING UPON MACHINE.**



Indicia Located Here

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with seven-bar obliterator with indicia and indicating 'CANADA' midway.



MACHINE 1 .. 'A' INDICIA

3 FEBRUARY 1902

Canadian Postal Stationery Card,
commercial mail,
sent to
Schomberg, Ontario.

One Cent:
Domestic Postcard-Rate

Less Than Five Examples Known.

BICKERDIKE MACHINE

Seven-Bar Obliterator With Indicia

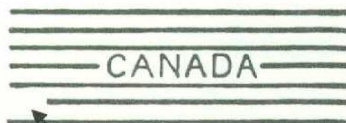
Machines 5 & 6

Toronto

Usage:

Machine 5 = 'E' 3 - 4 February 1902

Machine 6 = 'F' 4 February 1902



Indicia Located Here

Postmark:

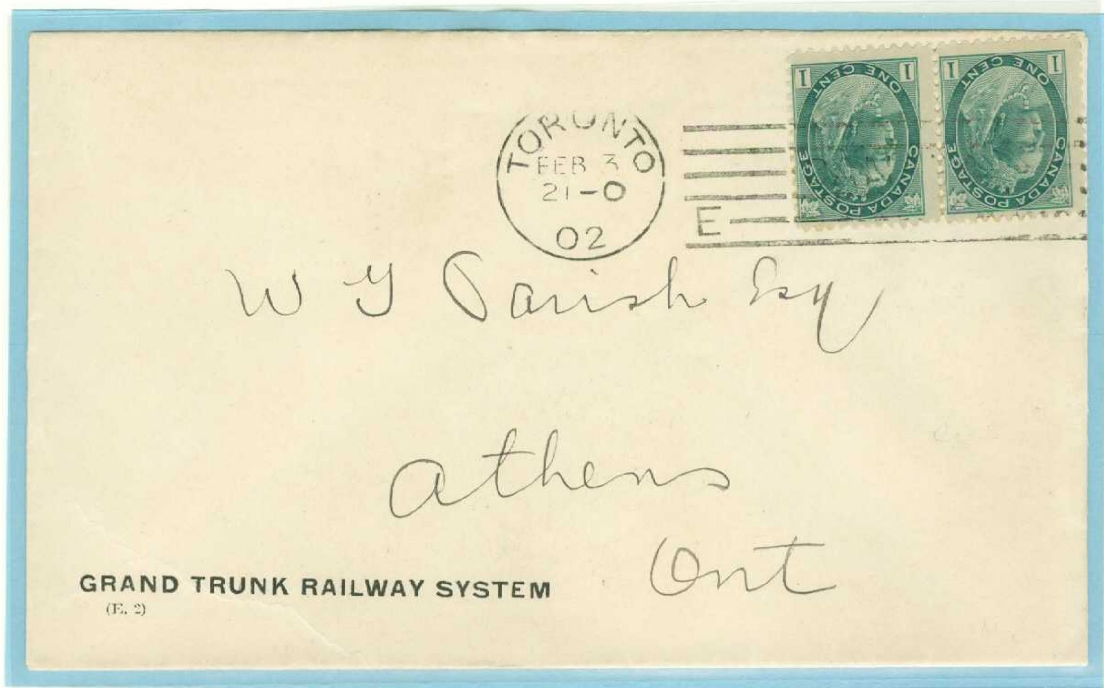
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with seven-bar obliterator with indicia and indicating 'CANADA' midway.

MACHINE 5..
'E' INDICIA

3 FEBRUARY 1902

Commercial cover,
sent to Athens,
Ontario.

Two Cents:
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate



CANADA POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE CANADA



Misses W. W. Ayer & Co.
Moncton
N. B.

MACHINE 6..
'F' INDICIA

4 FEBRUARY 1902

Canadian Postal
Stationery Card,
commercial
mail, sent to
Moncton,
New Brunswick.

One Cent:
Domestic
postcard-rate.

Less Than Five Examples Known For Each Machine

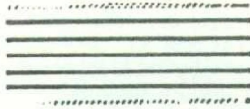
V. GEARY MACHINE

**Trials
Montreal**

Trial I: 6 January – 24 February 1902

JAMES GEARY OF BRADFORD, PENNSYLVANIA, MACHINIST BY TRADE, DESIGNED AND PATENTED A MANUALLY-OPERATED PNEUMATIC-FEED POSTMARKING MACHINE IN 1895 WITH AN IMPROVED VERSION SUBMITTED TO THE MONTREAL POST OFFICE FOR EVALUATION AND TESTING IN EARLY 1902,

as authorized by the Canadian Postal Administration at no cost to them. Known was that the operational Bickerdike Machines were to be replaced in each of the four cities where those machines operated.



**Postmark:
Rimless 22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
seven horizontal bars**

**ORIGIN POSTMARK
ON OUT-GOING
MAIL**

27 JANUARY 1902

**Commercial
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Coteau Landing,
Quebec.**

**Two Cents:
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate.**

**Less Than Five
Examples Known.**

IF NOT CALLED FOR IN 5 DAYS
RETURN TO
THE IMPERIAL OIL CO. LIMITED
C.P.R. TELEGRAPH CHAMBERS
MONTREAL.



Mr. Stephen Carrière,

Coteau Landing,

P.Q.

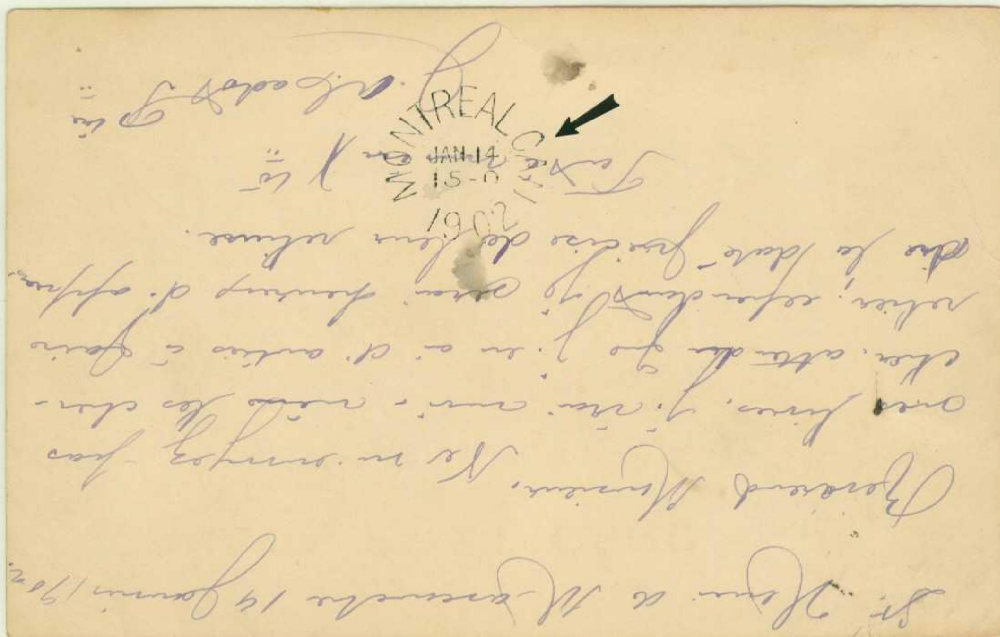
**ARRIVAL POSTMARK
ON
IN-BOUND MAIL**

14 JANUARY 1902

**Canadian Postal
Stationery Card,
postmarked at
Mascouche,
Quebec,
sent to
Montreal.**

**One Cent:
Domestic
Postcard-rate.**

**Less Than Five
Examples Known**

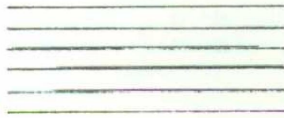


GEARY MACHINE

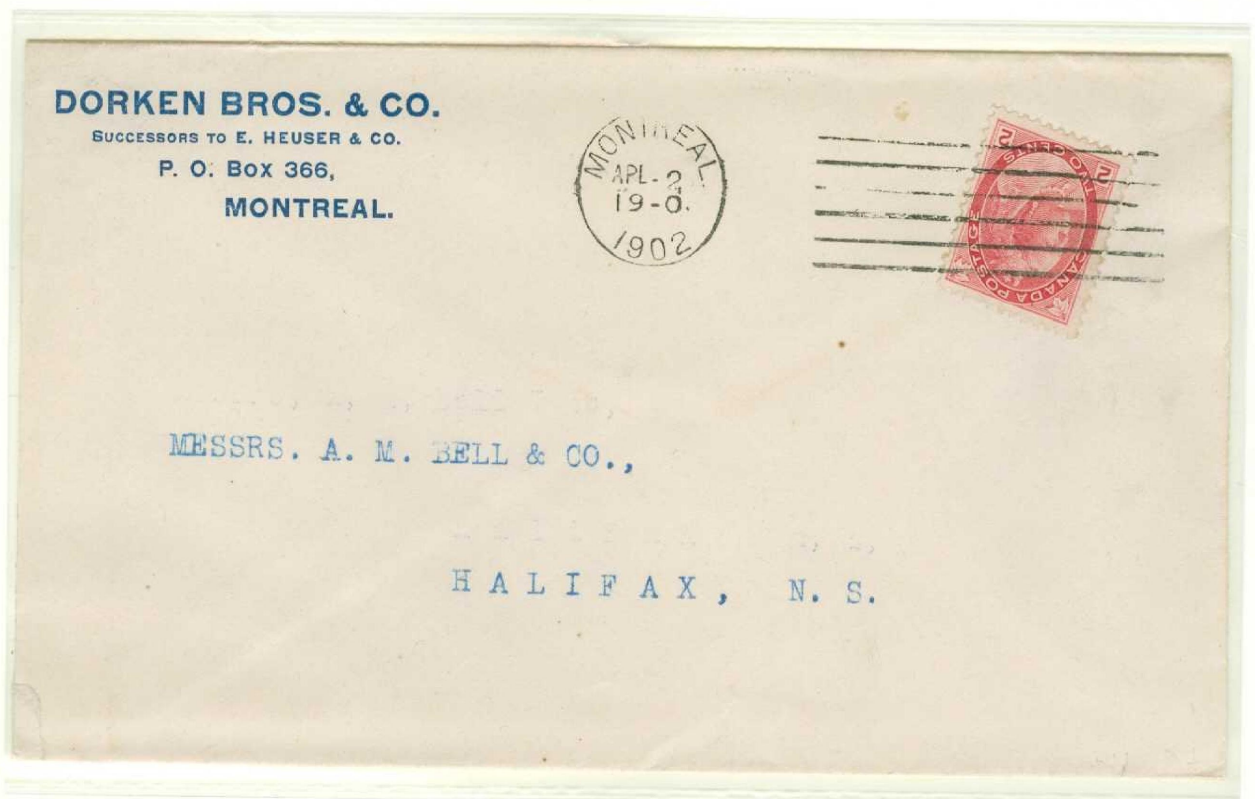
Trial II
Montreal

Trial II: 18 February – 25 April 1902

Upon request of the Post Office, subsequent Geary Machine trials applied a postmark having a smaller diameter dater dial with an obliterator having six or seven horizontal bars.



Postmark:
Circular 20mm Diameter Dater Dial with
six evenly-spaced horizontal bars



2 APRIL 1902

Commercial cover,
postmarked at Montreal,
sent to
Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Two Cents:
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate.

Less Than Five Examples Known.

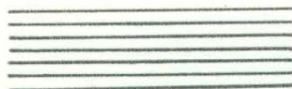
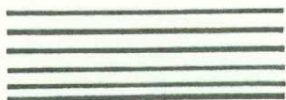
GEARY MACHINE

Trials III & IV Montreal

Trial III: 3 May – 29 July 1902

Trial IV: 9 June – 16 August 1902

Subsequent trials utilized different horizontal bar styles
and numbers.



TRIAL III POSTMARK:

Circular 20mm Diameter Dater Dial with
six unevenly-spaced (heavy) horizontal bars

TRIAL IV POSTMARK:

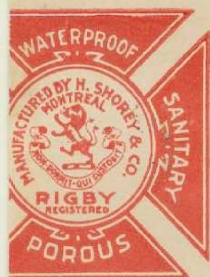
Circular 20mm Diameter Dater Dial with
seven evenly-spaced (thin) horizontal bars

TRIAL III

30 MAY 1902

Commercial
cover,
postmarked at
Montreal,
sent to
Coteau Landing,
Quebec.

Less Than Five
Examples Known.



Messrs L. J. Carriere

Coteau Landing

Que

CONSUMERS CORDAGE CO., LTD.
MONTREAL, CAN.



Messrs. A.M. Bell & Co.

Halifax, N.S.

TRIAL IV

3 JULY 1902

Commercial
cover,
postmarked
at Montreal,
sent to
Halifax,
Nova Scotia.

Less Than Five
Examples
Known.

Two Cents:
Domestic single-weight letter-rate.

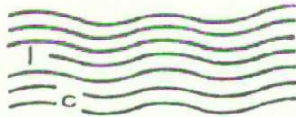
VI. INTERNATIONAL MACHINE

First Die (I) Use
Toronto

Usage:
2-12 February 1902

Based on experience and wide-spread use of the 'Flier Model' of the International Postal Supply Company of New York in the United States, **THE CANADIAN POSTAL OFFICE DECIDED TO LEASE AND TRY ONE ELECTRICALLY-OPERATED 'FLIER' MACHINE, CAPABLE OF POSTMARKING 600 UNITS OF MAIL/MINUTE, AT TORONTO COMMENCING IN FEBRUARY 1902.**

Within several years, five machines were operational at Toronto with many others becoming operational in other Canadian cities with successful performance.



Postmark:

20mm Diameter Dater Dial with "Toronto" (by city name only) and a seven wavy-line bar obliterator having "1" & "C" integrated.

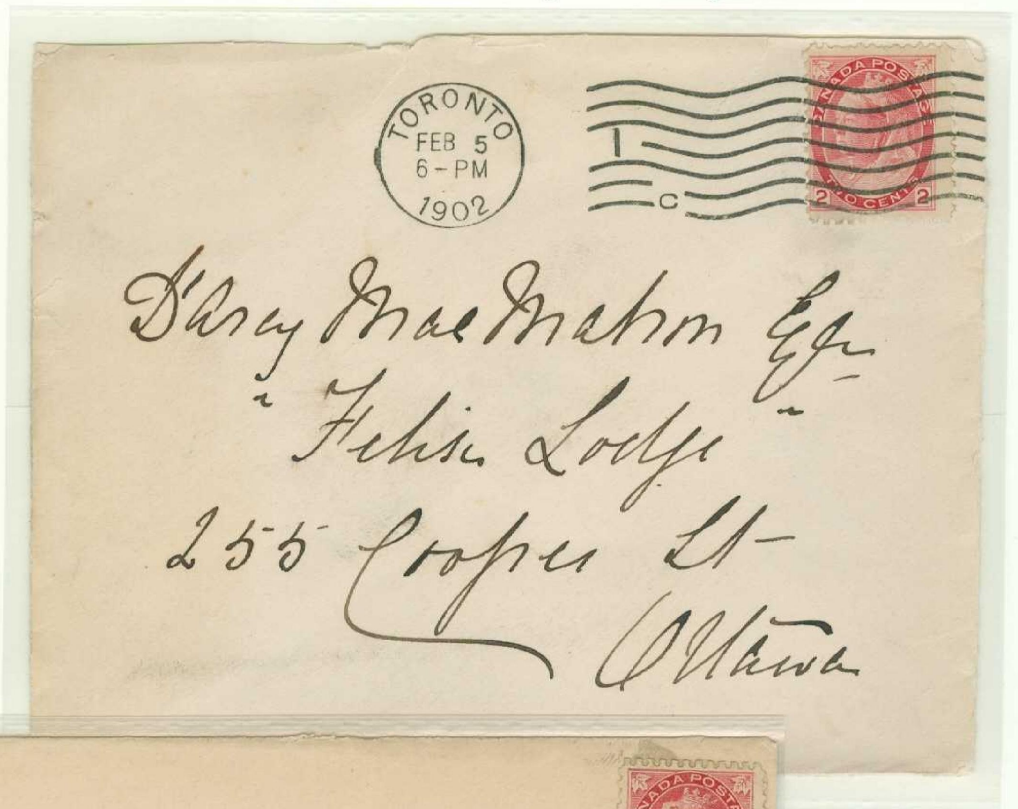
EARLY USE DATE

5 FEBRUARY 1902

Cover,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Ottawa, Ontario.

Two Cents:
Domestic
single-weight
letter-rate.

Only Known
Example



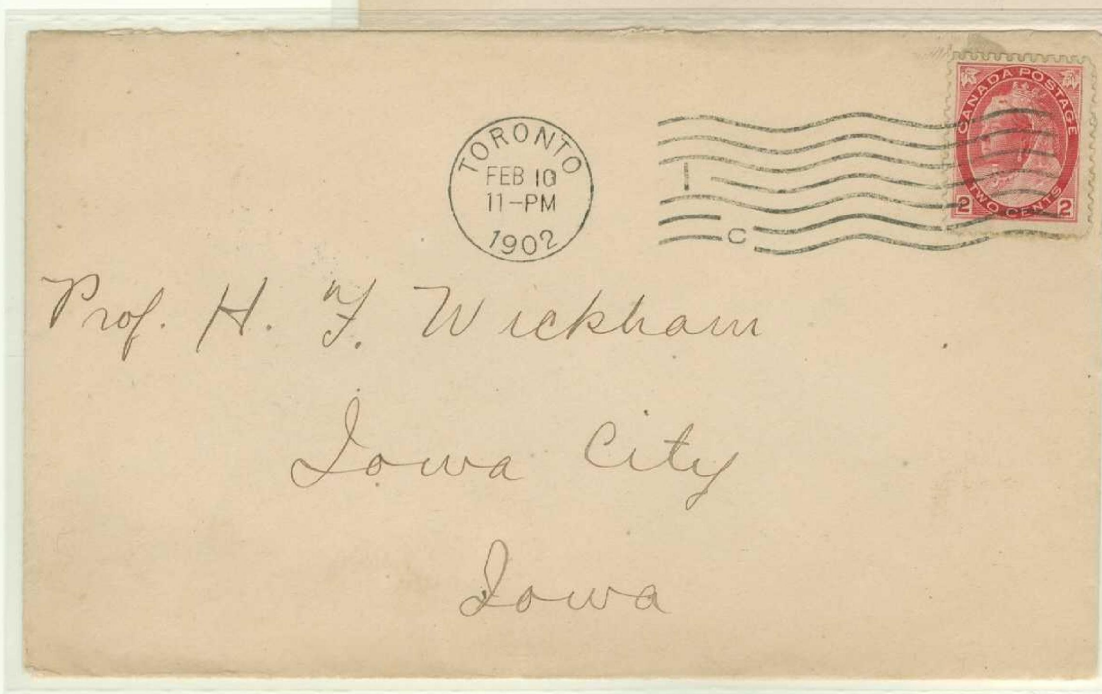
LATE USE DATE

10 FEBRUARY 1902

Cover,
postmarked at
Toronto,
sent to
Iowa City, Iowa,
U.S.A.

Two Cents:
Single-weight letter-
rate for mail to
U.S.A.

Less Than Five
Examples Known

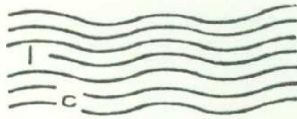


INTERNATIONAL MACHINE

Dater Dial Type II
(Machine 'I')
Toronto

Usage:
13 February 1902 – 27 February 1907

Less than two weeks of use of the initial 'Die I / 'Machine I' on the 'International Flier Machine' operational at Toronto, **THE DATER DIAL HUB WAS REPLACED WITH ONE NOW INDICATING THE CITY AND COUNTRY.**



Postmark:
20mm Diameter Dater Dial with "Toronto, Canada" Text and a seven wavy-lime bar obliterator having "I" along with either indicia "C", "D", "R" or "T" integrated.

26 FEBRUARY 1902

Cover, postmarked at Toronto, sent to Worcester, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

Two Cents: Single-weight letter-rate for mail to U.S.A.



EBEN JAMES

.....Canadian Agent for

WOODALL & CO., LIVERPOOL.
BOYD, BARROW & CO., GLASGOW.
M. ISAACS & SONS, LTD., LONDON.
and Firms in BRISTOL, HAMBURG and other Ports.

APPLE RECEIVERS

Board of Trade Building,
TORONTO.

BRANCHES DURING EXPORT SEASON
MONTREAL, HALIFAX, N.S., AND PORTLAND, ME.



*G E Taylor Esq
Paris Sta
out*

TIME & DAY DATE OMITTED
1902

Unsealed commercial cover with circular or printed-matter enclosure, postmarked at Toronto, sent to Paris Station, Ontario.

One Cent: Domestic commercial unsealed cover with circular or printed matter enclosure.

INTERNATIONAL MACHINE

Dater Dial Type III
(Machine 'I')
Toronto

Usage:
31 December 1902 - 31 December 1907

As an alternate dater dial to the 'Type II Dial',
THE TORONTO POST OFFICE UTILIZED AN ALTERED TEXT INDICATING MAIL WAS
DEDICATED-POSTMARKED AT "STATION B".

Such dater hub was used concurrently with the heretofore Type II.

Postmark:

20mm Diameter Dater Dial with
"Toronto, Can. Stat. B" Text
and a
seven wavy-lime bar obliterator
having "I" along with indicia
"C", "D", "R" or "T" integrated.



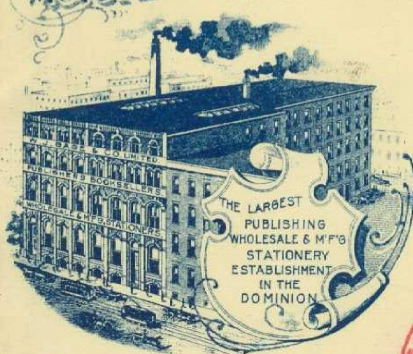
27 JANUARY
1904

Advertising
cover,
postmarked
at 'Toronto
Station B',
sent to
Sombra,
Ontario.



AFTER 10 DAYS RETURN TO

W. GAGE & CO. LIMITED.



THE LARGEST
PUBLISHING
WHOLESALE & MFG.
STATIONERY
ESTABLISHMENT
IN THE
DOMINION

54, 56 & 58 FRONT ST. WEST
1, 3 & 5 PIPER ST.

TORONTO, CAN.

The Thistle Rubber Type Co'y,

Sombra, Ont.

The Crossing

IF NOT CALLED FOR IN TEN DAYS
RETURN TO

THE COPP, CLARK CO., LIMITED
TORONTO

Second Edition Ready

Mr. Winston Churchill's
NEW NOVEL

598 Pages.
Seven Colored
Illustrations.

CLOTH ONLY, - \$1.50

Mr. Geo A. Holland
91 Fairmount

Montreal Annex,
Montreal,

P. Q.

12 SEPTEMBER
1902

Advertising cover,
postmarked at
'Toronto Station B'
sent to
Montreal, Quebec.

International
Machine
Arrival Postmark:

(Front)
'Montreal, Canada,
Received
13 September 1904'

Two Cents:
Domestic single-weight letter-rate.

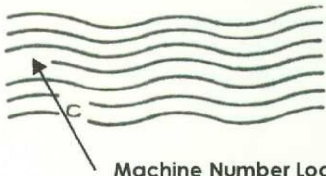
INTERNATIONAL MACHINE

Machine Evolution (Machines 1 thru 5) Toronto

Usage:
1902 - 1919

Satisfaction with operation and efficiency of the 'International Machine', the Toronto Post Office ultimately obtained five machines, more than any other Canadian city: one machine each year .. 1902, 1903, 1906, 1912 & 1915.

EACH HAD A POSTMARKING DIE CONSISTING OF A DATER DIAL AND OBLITERATOR HAVING SEVEN WAVY-LINES INDICATING THE MACHINE NUMBER ('1' THRU '5') ALONG WITH MAIL-ORIGIN CODING INDICIA. Beginning in 1912, postmarks also included slogan inserts.



Postmark:
20mm Diameter Dater Dial with seven wavy-line bar obliterator indicating machine number along with integrated indicia "C", "D", "R" or "T".

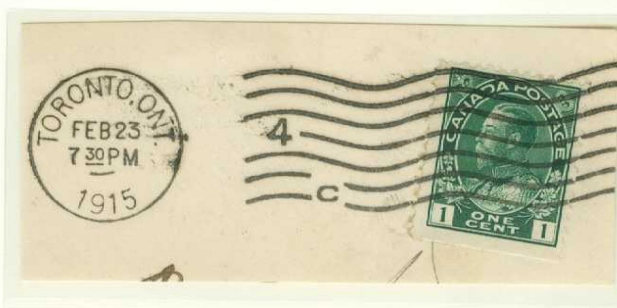
MACHINE '1'



MACHINE '2'



MACHINE '3'



MACHINE '4'



MACHINE '5'

INTERNATIONAL MACHINE

Mail Origin Indicia Coding

(Machines 1 thru 5)

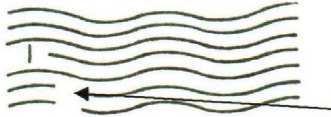
Toronto

Usage:

1902 - 1919

MAIL ORIGIN CODING INDICIA INTEGRATED INTO THE STANDARD, NON-SLOGAN, POSTMARK OBLITERATORS WAS THE FOLLOWING:

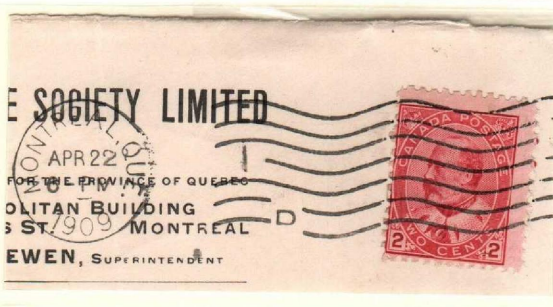
- 'C' = COLLECT (Mail collected from public mail boxes)
- 'D' = DROP (Mail dropped off at a post office)
- 'R' = RECEIVED (Miscellaneous collected mail)
- 'T' = TRANSIT (Mail from another origin post office to be forwarded to another destination)



Postmark:

20mm Diameter Dater Dial with seven wavy-line bar obliterator indicating machine number along with integrated indicia "C", "D", "R" or "T".

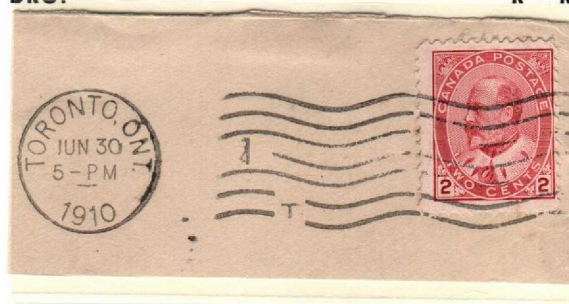
'C' = COLLECT



'D' = DROP



'R' = RECEIVED



'T' = TRANSIT

INTERNATIONAL MACHINE

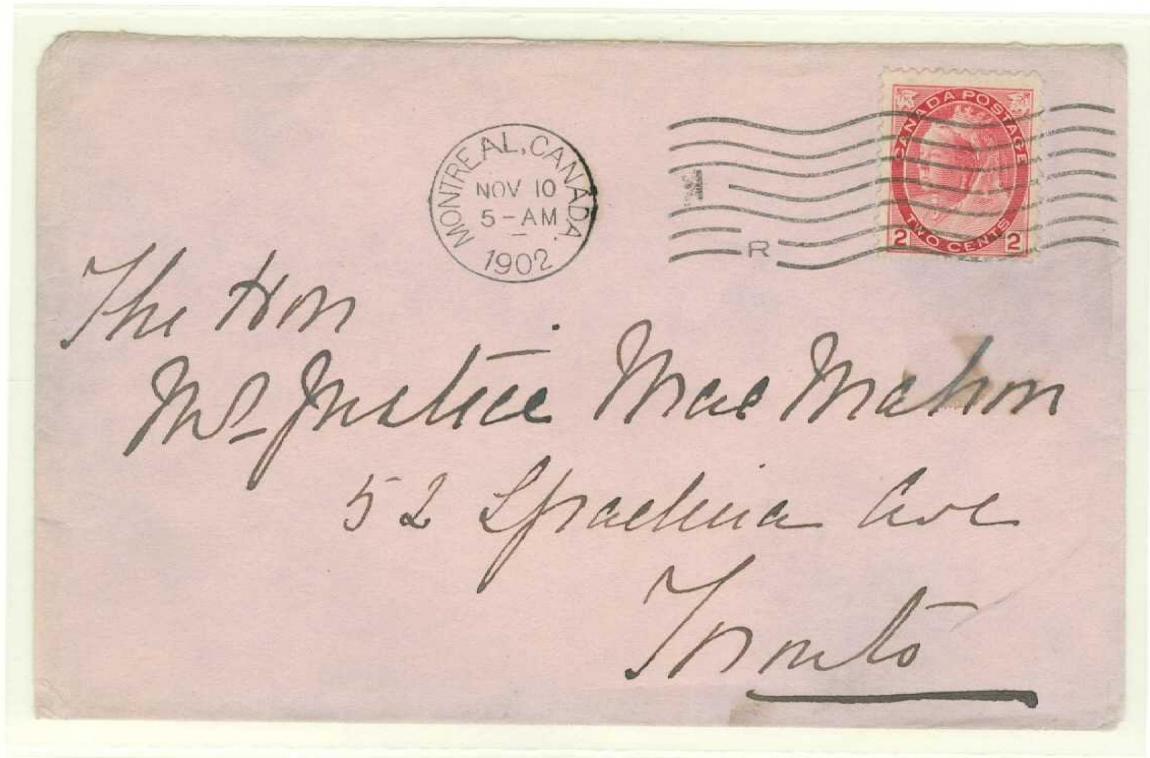
Dater Dial Type II
(Machine 'I')
Montreal

Usage:
31 October 1902 – October 1906

WHILE TORONTO ALREADY COMMENCED USING AN INTERNATIONAL-BRAND MACHINE IN FEBRUARY 1902, THE MONTREAL POST OFFICE INDEPENDENTLY EXPERIMENTED BETWEEN FEBRUARY-AUGUST 1902 WITH ONE OR TWO GEARY MACHINES before deciding upon use of International Machines to replace the worn Bickerdikes commencing in late October 1902.



Postmark:
20mm Diameter Dater Dial with
"Montreal, Canada" Text
and a
seven wavy-lime bar obliterator
having "I" along with either indicia
"C", "D", "R" or "T" integrated.



10 NOVEMBER 1902

Cover,
postmarked at Montreal,
sent to
Toronto, Ontario.

Two Cents:
Domestic single-weight
letter-rate.

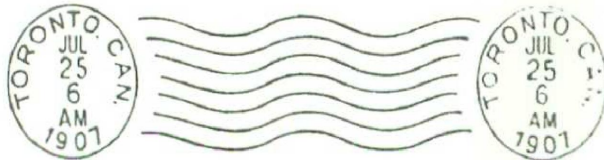
VII. EPILOGUE

Krag Machine Trial Toronto

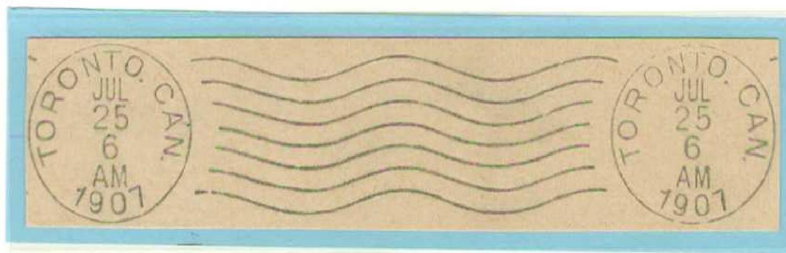
Proof Date:
25 July 1907

Although the Canadian Post Office basically standardized on use of 'International Postmarking Machines' between 1902-1919, it did continue to evaluate or experimentally-trialed other machines during that period.

THE KRAG MACHINE, MANUFACTURED IN NORWAY, APPLIED A CONTINUOUS-POSTMARK, SUITABLE FOR LETTER MAIL, BUT WAS NOT ADVANTAGEOUS FOR POSTCARDS, SINCE THE POSTMARK WOULD PARTIALLY COVER THE TEXT OF SUCH CARDS; THE KRAG MACHINE WAS NOT ACCEPTED FOR FURTHER EVALUATION.



Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dual Dater Dials with
"Toronto, Ont." as text
flanking a (58mm) staggered
seven wavy-line bar obliterator



INTENDED AS AN ORIGIN POSTMARK ON OUT-GOING MAIL

25 JULY 1907

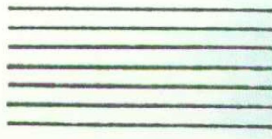
Only Known Proof Example.

EPILOGUE

Universal Machine Trial Toronto

Usage:
4 August 1910 – 28 May 1912

The Toronto Post Office independently evaluated and experimentally-trialed a "Universal Machine", manufactured by the Universal Stamping Machine Company of New Jersey, U.S.A., between 1910-1912.



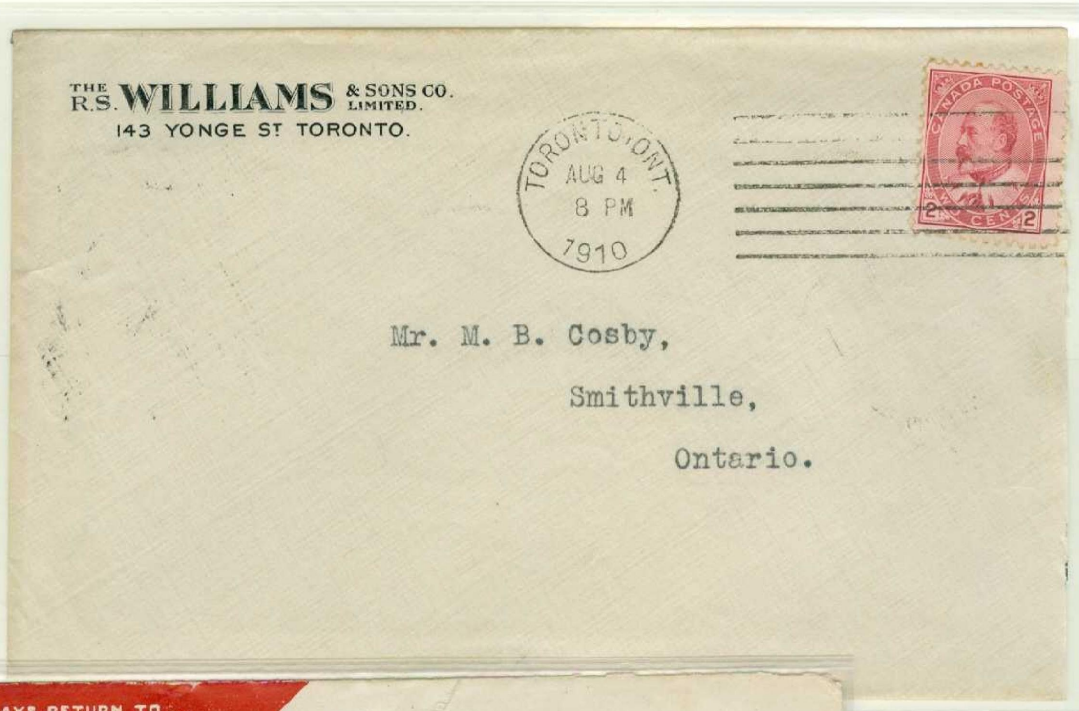
Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
"Toronto, Ont." as text
along with a
seven-horizontal-line obliterator

4 AUGUST 1910

Commercial
cover,
Postmarked at
Toronto,
Sent to Smithville,
Ontario.

Arrival Date:
(Reverse)
"Smithville,
August 5, 1910"

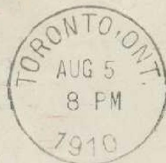
First Day of Use
Example.



IF NOT CALLED FOR IN FIVE DAYS RETURN TO

**METALLIC
ROOFING CO.**
LIMITED
TORONTO, CANADA.

MANUFACTURERS OF
**INTERIOR &
EXTERIOR
ART
METAL
WORK**



Thos. Coates, Esq.,

UP TO THE TIME THIS WAS MAILED YOU,

Prescott,

NO ONE HAD PRODUCED THE EQUAL OF

Ont.

"EASTLAKE" METALLIC SHINGLES.

5 AUGUST 1910

Advertising
cover,
postmarked
at Toronto,
sent to
Prescott,
Ontario.

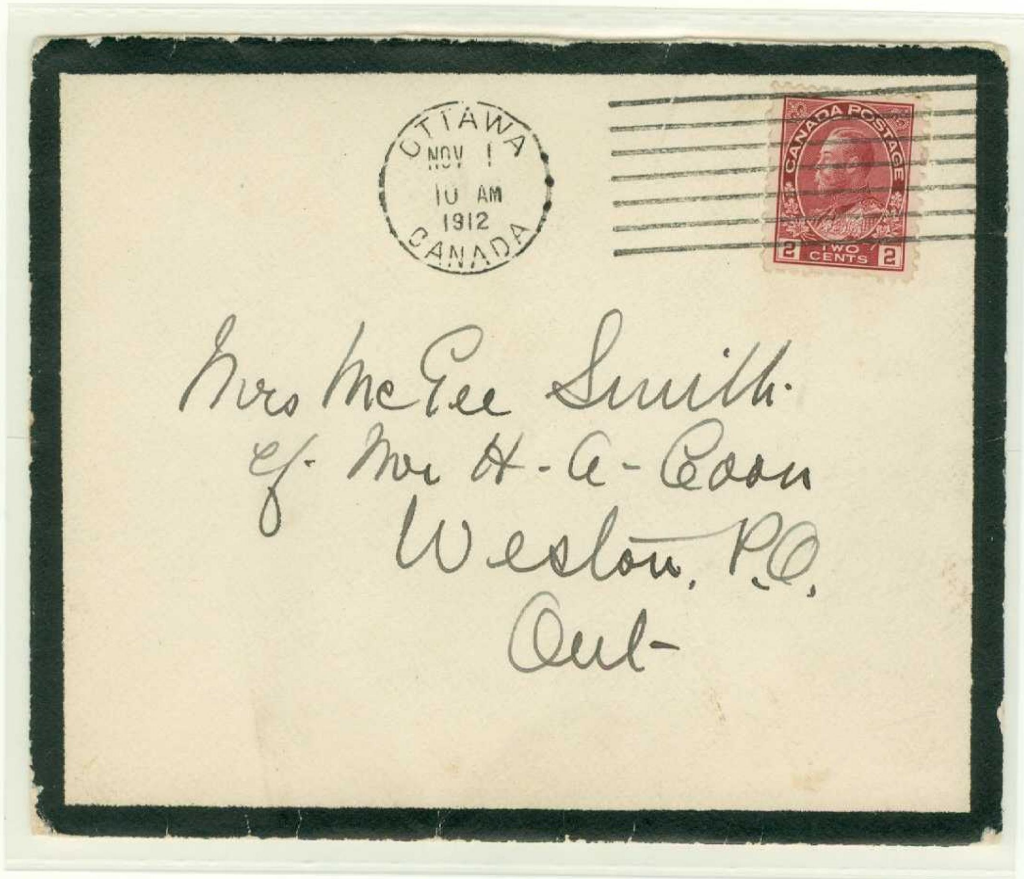
Arrival Date:
(Reverse)
"Prescott,
August 6, 1910"

Second Day of
Use Example.

Two Cents:
Domestic single-weight letter-rate

Similar to an earlier trial at Toronto, the Ottawa Post Office evaluated and trialed a 'Universal Machine' between 1912-1913.

Postmark:
22mm Diameter Dater Dial with
"Ottawa, Canada." as text
along with a
seven-horizontal-bar obliterator



1 NOVEMBER 1912

Mourning cover,
postmarked at Ottawa,
sent to Weston, Ontario.

Arrival Date:
(Reverse)
"Weston,
November 2, 1912"

Two Cents:
Domestic single-weight letter-rate.