



2d scarlet-vermilion, strip of three on cover

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SEES A PREVIEW

OF THE

Caspary

NEWFOUNDLAND

THROUGH the kind co-operation of the auctioneers, H. R. Harmer Inc., we are able to bring you a preview of the Newfoundland lots that will be offered for sale when the B.N.A. portion of the famed Caspary collection is sold at auction in New York on October 9 and 10. I think it best to say at the beginning that all of the stamps that will be written up have four comfortable margins; however, they were not examined to see if they have creases or thin spots, nor were the unused copies examined to see if they had original gum. In all cases when particular stamps are described as superb, we are merely describing the face appearance.

From the reputation that the late Alfred H. Caspary had as a fastidious collector, we doubt that any of the stamps offered for sale will be anything less than perfect. As can well be understood, we will only stress the highlights and when the more ordinary stamps are not mentioned, it is not because they are missing from the collection but rather that in the interest of saving time and space, we pass them by.

Scarlet Vermilions

The scarlet vermilions in unused condition are represented by copies of the 4d and 6d. There are two mint copies of the 6½d, one with full bottom sheet margin. The 8d is represented by several singles as well as two complete sheets of 20 (5x4). There is also a very fine copy of the 1/- (Scott No. 9). The used copies are more fully represented. While there wasn't an unused copy of the 2d (Scott No. 2) in the collection, there are five very fine used copies. One of the copies is the variety with the line through the right "2" in the value tablet. The collection has two used copies of the 4d and four used copies of the 6d. The 6½d's in our estimation are not up to the standard of the rest of the collection; while there are three copies represented, none of them is outstanding. However, all is forgiven when one sees the five used copies of the 1/- (Scott No. 9). All of them are very fine with at least two copies being absolutely superb—a truly magnificent representation of the scarlet vermilions.

The scarlets are also represented by covers that start off with a strip of three of the 2d (Scott No. 2) used on cover to England. What does it matter if the strip is slightly cut into—it is undoubtedly unique and was pictured in the prospectus of the sale sent out by the auctioneers several months ago. A cut-into copy of the 3d (Scott No. 3) was shown on a cover that has historical significance. It was addressed to Andrew Drysdale, the owner of the "Express" during packet days. There were two separate covers of the 4d scarlet (Scott No. 4), one addressed to Tucker in Baltimore and the second addressed to Boston. Unfortunately, the second one is not tied to the cover. The bisects of the 8d (Scott No. 8a) are well represented, as there are three examples. The first is a left vertical bisect addressed to Tucker and the second is

a right vertical bisect addressed to the same party. The third example, also addressed to Tucker in Baltimore, is a lower right diagonal bisect. All but the first example are well tied; the first is but barely tied to the cover. There is a fourth bisect of the 8d, but it belongs in a different category as it is used in combination with a 3d to make up an approximation of the 6½d rate. This is a very rare combination, and the fact that the cover is creased hardly detracts from its value. The bisect of the 8d is a lower right diagonal bisect.

Orange Vermilions

The orange vermilions are not quite as well represented as are the scarlets. Among other mint copies of the 2d (Scott No. 11) is a mint pair with the variety line through the lower right "2." The 4d (Scott No. 12) is represented by a magnificent unused upper right corner copy with full corner sheet margins. It is certainly strange to look at the 6d (Scott No. 13) and see a copy exactly the same except that in this case it is a lower right margin copy in unused condition.

As is true throughout the collection, there is a greater representation of used copies than unused copies. There is a used 2d with the line through the lower right "2." We have mentioned this variety quite often and it may seem common, but the truth of the matter is that it is only found four times in the sheet of 20, in positions 7, 8, 9 and 10. While there was only an unused copy of the 4d orange, there are six used copies, and in the case of the 6d, there are five used copies and a pair. To close out the scarlets and oranges are two magnificent used copies of the 1/- orange (Scott No. 15).

All in all, we don't know when we have spent a more pleasant afternoon, and all Newfoundland collectors have a treat coming when they see the collection. ★