

THE *Editor's* MAILBAG

Yours, for a bulging Editor's Mailbag!

Ron Kitchen
BNAPS 1049

Dear Mr. Editor:

My attention has recently been drawn to #15 section P of Boggs Vol. II from which I quote. "Alexander Pirie & Sons were a Scottish mill located at Stonewood and from 1856 also at Culter, near Alexander. The firm is still in business under the title of the Culter Mills Paper Co. Ltd."

This is not quite accurate. Perhaps some of your readers might be interested in further details. Culter is about 8 miles up the river Dee & Stonewood the same distance up the Don, both these rivers flowing into the sea at Aberdeen. Paper was made at Culter in 1751. The Stonewood mill started in 1771. By 1811 Alexander Pirie was making paper at the Stonewood Mill.

In 1856 that Mill had become known as Messrs Alex. Pirie & Sons and in that year acquired the mill at Culter which they floated off as a separate company in 1865 and separate they are to this day. "Piries" as it is locally called is now part of a large combine — Wiggin Teape, while Culter Mills Paper Co. Ltd. is still a separate company with their shares quoted on the London Stock Exchange.

Yours truly,

Sir George Williamson

P.S. (I am a director of The Culter Mills Paper Co. Ltd.)

Dear Mr. Young:

The Editor's Mailbag of Feb. '64 with the query on the Newfoundland 3c "broken A" variety interested me very much.

I call it the "dimpled A" variety because the 'A' is not actually broken, but has a color dot or "dimple" at each end of the crossbar. My copies are on #255 and I suspect his are too (unless his in an entirely different variety).

Earliest date I have is Aug. 27 '42 from an unknown CAPO and the latest is Oct 3 '43 from CAPO #5 (Torbay). Worth noting on this variety is that a hairline, which could be a progressive plate crack, runs diagonally across the second 'N' of Newfoundland.

You will probably receive a number of letters from Newfoundland specialists regarding the "dimpled A". Would you give us a summary of them?

Dear Mr. Editor:

Fakes in the Canada Admiral Issue

Philatelists should be on the lookout for manufactured items of the general type described herein. Two such items were recently encountered during 1963 in material sold by prominent New York and Philadelphia dealers, who both were happy to make full and immediate refund.

The 2c green 12-horiz. coil (\$133) can be fabricated from a wide-margined copy of the basic stamp #107 by trimming the vertical edges. The resulting fake (at a catalog value increase of 6500 per cent) does not possess the correct coil width of 21 millimeters.

The 2c green pane of 6 (\$107c) can be fabricated from a sheet margin block of 6 with left-hand selvedge attached, by trimming the three perforated edges. The resulting fake (at an increase in value of over 10000 per cent) does not possess the standard booklet height of 50 millimeters. In addition the example I saw was a dead giveaway because of vestigial perforations in the LR corner, very close margins in the UR corner, and too wide a selvedge (10.3mm to subject frame line — 8mm is more typical). In addition most genuine panes have remnants of gum and tissue at the extreme left selvedge margin.

Moral of this story is use your millimeter gauge on every coil and booklet pane of more than nominal value before you pay.

John S. Gordon, 1030
1275 Bloomfield Ave.,
Fairfield, N.J.

Dear Sir:

I refer you to the January, 1964 issue and the article entitled "The Upper Columbia Company" by Dr. Robert V. C. Carr, No. 1427. The writer has invited comment.

I am interested in his reference and spelling of 'Spillimachine'. The correct present day spelling should read: "Spillimacheen" and I am wondering if his spelling is in error or if that is the way it was spelled originally and then, is in fact, correct.

I would appreciate yours, or the writer's views on this matter.

Yours truly,
B. M. Baker,
No. 1214.