

NEWFOUNDLAND POSTAL STATIONERY AND OTHER STAMPED PAPER

by Robert H. Pratt, OTB

Part Ia - The Newfoundland Postcards

(Installment 2 of a Series)

THE 1¢ POST CARD OF 1883

The 1883 1¢ post card, which was also produced by the British American Bank Note Company, left more tangible evidence. Inconclusive data indicates that it was not placed in use until after the 2¢ card, and the remarks by LeMessurier quoted in Installment 1 indicate that this value

was not procured until 1883 or 1884. The earliest use seen by the author is 1886. Several letters from the Postmaster General and the Colonial Secretary give some indication of later use. The investigation of the post office in 1900 showed that 100,000 cards were sent to Newfoundland between 31 December 1894 and 6 June 1895. On 29 April 1902 a quantity of 100,000 cards



#4 used to the United States, underpaid by 1¢ and taxed 2¢ on delivery

#4 - 1883 - 1¢ Post Card

Contractor - British American Bank Note Company, Montreal

Number of Printings - Unknown, probably many

Quantity - Unknown, probably close to a million

Stamp - As 1¢ stamp of 1880 by British American Bank Note Co.

Color - Green on light buff card

- Green on white card

- Green on greyish white card

Size - 118 x 76 mm

Proofs - None known



Message on a #4 card used locally, 1 April 1887



#5 - Broken 'T' in surcharge variety

#5 - 1889 - 2¢ Post Card (Surcharged)

Contractor - Unknown local printer

Number of Printings - One

Quantity - Unknown

Stamp - 1¢ postcard of 1883, surcharged as above to 2¢

Color - Black overprint on green stamp on greyish white card

Size - 118 x 76 mm

Proofs - None known

Subgroup - Broken 'T' in surcharge

were ordered, with a note that stocks were low. A further order of 50,000 cards were requested on 1 November 1902; this may have been the next to last or last order for cards placed with the Bank Note Company.

One of the major accomplishments of the late Daniel Meyerson was the plating of this card. His report on the subject is memorialized in the little blue book published by the British North America Philatelic Society titled *Newfoundland Specialized*. Dan discovered that the cards were printed 10 to a plate, 2 wide by 5 high. He also found that each position on the plate could be identified by a dot placement unique to the card in that position.

**THE 2¢ POST CARD (SURCHARGED)
OF 1889**

It would seem that a shortage of 2¢ post cards developed around June 1889. To resolve this problem until a further supply of the 2¢ cards could be obtained, 1¢ cards were overprinted locally with a surcharge which increased the value to 2¢. The surcharge appeared as two solid parallel lines at the top of the design, below which came the legend *2 cents*

came the legend *2 cents* and below this 2 2 to obliterate the '1's' in the stamp. Two varieties are recorded: (1) normal overprint; (2) left side of top bar of 'T' in 'CENTS' broken. The cards overprinted thus are known used at least until October 1890 and may have been used later. A card dated 12 June 1889 is recorded.

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