



and



## Canadian Perfin Officials

PART I

### Introduction

A perfin is a postage stamp that has been perforated with distinctive marks such as initials (hence the contraction *perfin* from **per**-forated initials) to discourage theft by employees. The practice ceased with the introduction of postal meters.

There are two general types of perfin: *private* and *official*. Private perfins were used by commercial enterprises, with the earliest known Canadian example being that of the W.J. Gage & Company of Toronto, found on a 3-cent Small Queen on a cover postmarked October 2, 1887. Official perfins included those used by government departments and agencies. The aim of this document is to describe the Canadian perforated official stamps, otherwise known as the *perfin officials*.

The source of the statistics (i.e., years of first and last issues for each perfin type) in this document is *Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials*, Fourth Edition, BNAPS Perfin Study Group.

The term *die* used in the context of perfins refers to the unique set of pins used to perforate the stamps.

### Categories of Perfin Officials

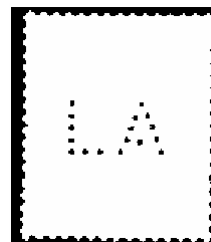
Perfin officials fall into four main categories:

1. **Provincial Official** - perfins used by more than one department or agency of a provincial government;
2. **Provincial Departmental Official** - perfins used by a single provincial department or agency;
3. **Federal Departmental Official** - perfins used by a single federal government department or agency; and

4. **Federal Official** - perfins used throughout the Canadian federal government.

### Provincial Officials

Three provinces used perfins: Ontario, Prince Edward Island, and Saskatchewan.

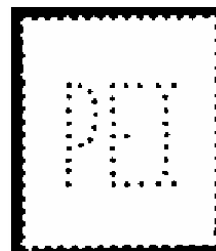


#### Province of Ontario

First Issue: 1922

Last Issue: 1980

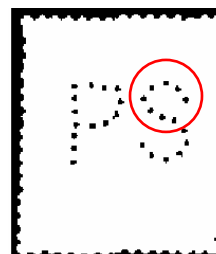
The initials stand for "Legislative Assembly."



#### Province of Prince Edward Island

First Issue: 1911

Last Issue: 1942

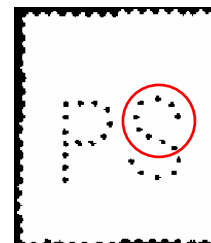


#### Province of Saskatchewan

Die I

First Issue: 1922

Last Issue: 1938



#### Province of Saskatchewan

Die II

First Issue: 1922

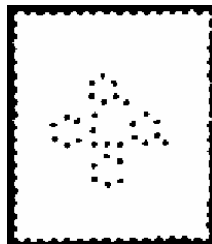
Last Issue: 1976

**Provincial Departmental Officials**

Three perfins were used by departmental agencies: The Québec Liquor Commission, an agency of Québec's Department of the Solicitor General; The Temiskaming & Northern Ontario Railroad, which came under Ontario's Ministry of Transportation; and the Workmen's Compensation Board of British Columbia's Department of Labour.

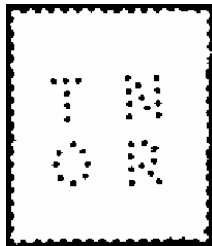
**Québec Liquor Commission**

First Issue: 1918  
Last Issue: 1957



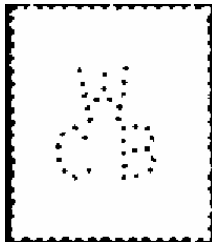
**Temiskaming & Northern Ontario Railroad**

Fist Issue: 1911  
Last Issue: 1922



**Workmen's Compensation Board**

First Issue: 1911  
Last Issue: 1972  
*by Tony Brown*



**Dated Controls:**

A term applied to precancels that have an extra marking in the form of a date and user's initials printed or handstamped upon them. In 1938 the US Post Office Department ruled that when an item of mail required postage of 6¢ or more, then all precancels used for the purpose must have imprinted on them the initials of the user and the month and year of usage. Collectors recognize several different categories in which to subdivide these issues; these are described elsewhere in this Glossary. See Handstamp Dated Controls, Integral Precancels, Printed Dated Controls.

**Diagonal:**

Precancel printed on a stamp at an angle from the normal horizontal or vertical position. Catalogues consider any cancel at an angle of 22° or more to be a diagonal.



**Discontinued Post Office:**

A Post Office that has closed down or no longer exists. Generally referred to as a DPO.

**Disputables**

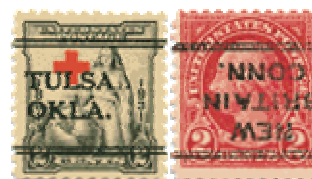


In 1995 the US Postal Service issued three stamps that were forerunners of many more which have caused dispute

among collectors of Bureau issues. One of the originals depicts the front of an "automobile" for Bulk Rate usage while the other shows the rear of another car - "Auto Tail Fin" for First Class Cards. Bureau purists consider these not to be Bureau precancel issues, but this is countered by the fact that the USPS cites them as precancels in its own USPS Stamp Catalogue. The collector is left to decide what they are.

**Double Line Electro:**

A distinctive and attractive type of precancel bearing the town and state name in a variety of styles between two pairs of parallel lines. Most of these are produced from electroplates consisting of 100 subjects supplied by the US Government. In addition, there are towns which have a similar style of precancel produced from locally made plates; these are not usually included in a DLE collection and are excluded from the standard catalogues on the



topic of which the most recent is the 1999 edition of the Catalogue of Double Line Electro Precancels, published by the PSS.

**Illustrated Glossary of Precancels**

*by Colin Philip and Dave Philcox*

**Danzig:**



Until World War II, an enclave of East

Prussia in what is now Poland and called Gdansk. In 1920 an order was issued that all stamps of 1 mark or over to be used for affixing to parcel cards should be cancelled with a rubber or cork cancellation before attaching the stamps. The most common designs of these precancels are stars and crosses.

## CSA Stamps

### Fakes, Counterfeits, Reprints, Facsimiles

There are in existence a great many reprints, counterfeits, facsimiles and outright fake and bogus issues of the Confederate Stamps. To attempt to illustrate and explain them all would take a book in itself. Counterfeit: I will attempt in this section to illustrate and describe some of the more commonly seen fake Confederate issues

#### Springfield Facsimiles

We begin our discussion with the Springfield Facsimiles as these are the fakes that are most commonly seen. Here is the story behind these fakes: Beginning in the mid 1930's a set of 14 counterfeits of the Confederate General Issue stamps was made and sold by a stamp dealer in Springfield, Mass. These facsimiles were also used in the so-called TASCOS Booklets prepared in 1941. TASCOS stands for Tatham Stamp Company of Springfield, Mass. In order to make the counterfeits, a set of original drawings made by August Dietz in 1919 were used. The drawings were copyrighted, and the use of these drawings was done without the permission of August Dietz. These counterfeits were made and sold as singles or as blocks of four in either unused or used condition. Since they originated in Springfield, Mass they have come to be known to collectors as the "Springfield Facsimiles." Protests over these fakes were issued at the time, and the maker then agreed to stop selling the bogus used ones and to put the word "facsimile" (sometimes misspelled as "facsimilie") on the backs of the unused stamps. But a number had already been sold, so these fakes exist both with and without the word "facsimile" on the back. And there are still some "Springfield Facsimiles" floating around with phony postmarks, and some have even been used to create phony covers. These fakes are everywhere and still fool many of the uninformed collectors today. The 14 Springfield Facsimiles are illustrated below.



The Springfield Facsimiles were all printed on paper that was far different from the paper used for the genuine stamps. Many of the facsimiles were printed on a bleached white paper while others were printed on a yellowish newsprint type paper. Being familiar with the papers is the best way to tell the difference between these facsimiles and the genuine stamps. On the fakes that are not marked "Facsimile" on the back, here is how to distinguish them from the real thing --

- The CSA #1 and #4 facsimiles differ from the originals in the paper used and in the overall appearance. The facsimiles have a flat appearance, and the vertical lines under the value are incomplete or missing altogether.
- The CSA #2 and #5 facsimiles differ from the originals in the paper used and in the appearance of the portrait design and the general flat appearance. Some of these facsimiles are termed the "pouting mouth" design because of the appearance of Thomas Jefferson's lower lip. Also, the facsimiles have distinct cross-hatching around the portrait whereas the genuine stamps have only a suggestion of cross-hatching.
- The CSA #3 facsimile is the most dangerous. Again it is the paper that is different. Also, in the facsimiles there are various missing periods after the "C.S.A." and the crossbar of the "T" of "TWO" is usually not connected to the upright bar.
- CSA #6 and #7 facsimiles are 1mm narrower than the originals and the lines of color in the background and the face are the same intensity. In the originals, these lines of color are darker in the background and lighter on the face.
- The facsimiles of CSA #8, #9, #10, #11, #12, #13 should fool no-one. The original stamps are all engraved whereas the facsimiles are not engraved. Therefore, the facsimiles have neither the look nor the feel of an engraved stamp. Instead, the facsimiles have a flat smooth feel and appearance.
- The CSA #14 facsimile is clearer and more detailed than the original but still has a somewhat dull appearance and was printed on very white paper. The facsimile is also 1mm taller than the original.

#### Altered Plates

The private printing reprints (proofs) from the 2c and 10c Altered Plates of the CSA #6 and CSA #14 stamps are also extremely common. These Altered Plate printings are not genuine CSA stamps but were instead printed privately over the years from the plates and portions of the plates which are still in existence. The story of the Altered Plates is somewhat complex. **These stamps are NOT unissued true Confederate Stamps.** To be considered an "unissued" CSA stamp implies that the stamp was printed on the authority of the CSA government but never used. Scott CSA #14 (the 1c John C. Calhoun yellow-orange) is the only true unissued CSA stamp.

Since there was no need for a 1c stamp as there was no 1c rate, the CSA government also asked De La Rue for a 2c plate. De La Rue did the same thing with the 1c John C. Calhoun stamp and changed the value tablet on the original die to 2c and constructed a second altered plate of 400 subjects in 4 panes of 100.

These two altered plates were shipped through the blockade to Richmond. De La Rue did not print any stamps from these plates. When the plates arrived in the Confederacy, they were shelved and never used by the CSA government. **The CSA government never printed any stamps from these altered plates.** There is no known specific reason why these plates were never used, but it is known that Postmaster General Reagan was committed to the use of engraved stamps. Since these plates were typographed and not engraved, that is most likely the reason that they were never used. These plates were thought to have been stored at the Archer & Daly printing facility in Atlanta, Ga and were captured by the North with the fall of Atlanta. Or they may have been in Richmond and captured with the fall of Richmond. It is not really known for sure.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2013 (\$12.00) CAN BE MAILED TO :**

**DALLAS-PARK CITIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

**ATTN: GEOFF OWENS, SECRETARY**

**P.O. BOX 865045**

**PLANO, TX 75086**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

March 13, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m., Perry Denton presiding  
17 Members were present and one guest

### Officer Reports

- Secretary's report – minutes of previous meeting accepted without being read.
- Treasurer's report – was presented, will be distributed separately.
- Program VP's report – tonight, Spring Cleaning Bourse; Mar 27, mini-auction; Apr 10, Fernando Torres, "Plate Number Singles;" Apr 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> TSDA Stamp Show at Richardson Civic Center; Apr 24th, Quarterly Auction.
- Editor's report – none.

### Announcements

- Tom Siegel has a strip of six pre-sorted coils for face value; Jack Urish has Scott Specialized pages for French India and French Polynesia for free; George Kempston has souvenir sheet covers and mounts for 2/3 cost, Stuart Barzune has some Showgard mounts for 1/3 cost, some screw-in posts, some blank albums, and odds and ends.

### Old Business

- None.

### New Business

- None.

### Trivia / Show & Tell

- None.

### Door Prizes/Album Drawing

- Tom Crichton donated a door prize. The album drawing was held.

The formal portion of the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

### Program

- The Spring Cleaning Bourse was conducted.

## **Treasurer's Report**

March 13, 2013 (As of March 1, 2013)

Beginning Balance (checking account)	\$ 3,998.09
Deposits:	187.00
Expenses:	.00
Balance (checking account)	\$ 4,185.09
Beginning balance (money market )	\$ 6,517.76
Interest earned	.05
Balance (money market fund)	\$ 6,517.81

**Total (checking & money market) \$10,702.90**

## **DPCPS UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Mar 27 DPCPS Regular Meeting 7:30pm**

The trading begins at 7:00 and stamp swap & trade will follow the meeting. Albums will also be available. PROGRAM: TO BE ARRANGED followed by a mini auction.

### **Apr 10 DPCPS Regular Meeting 7:30pm**

The trading begins at 7:00 and stamp swap & trade will follow the meeting. Albums will also be available. PROGRAM: Fernando Torres—"Plate Number Singles;"

### **Apr 19 & 20 TSDA Dallas Stamp Fair & Bourse** at the Richardson Civic Center, 411 West Arapaho Road. (Next to Richardson City Hall), Richardson, TX 75080-4551. Hours: Friday 1 PM to 8 PM, Saturday 9 AM to 4 PM.

### **Apr 24 DPCPS Regular Meeting 7:30pm**

The trading begins at 7:00 and stamp swap & trade will follow the meeting. Albums will also be available. PROGRAM: Quarterly Club Auction.

## **Stamp & Tongs**

### **APS GOLD AWARD**

Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society Newsletter

Rick Houghland, Editor

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