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THE STAMPS OF NOVA SCOTIA NEW BRUNSWICK, AND P. E. ISLAND.

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The Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island now known as the Maritime Provinces of the Dominion of Canada, had previous to their confederation with the other provinces forming the Dominion in 1867, each a separate issue of stamps.

The earlier issues of the stamps of these countries have now become very rare, some of them almost unobtainable, and are only known to a great many collectors by what they see of them in Albums or Catalogues, therefore for the benefit of those Collectors we will try to give a description of them.

We will first consider the stamps of Nova Scotia; The first stamps used in this province were issued in 1857 and were of four values, viz.

1 Penny	Red-Brown.
3 Pence	Blue.
6 Pence	Green
1 Shilling	Violet.

The design of the 31, 61 and 1sh, are the same. Large square stamps, unperforated printed in colour on coloured paper, having a crown enclosed in a small octangular frame, the top of which points towards the angles of the stamp are around the crown and octagon, eight pointed stars forming a circle. The outside points of four of the stars are cut off by the marginal frame containing the name. These four stars have coloured lines running through them while the other four contain each a

flower viz. The one at the top of the crown a rose at the bottom a mayflower (the emblem of Nova Scotia), at the right hand side a thistle, at the left a clover: plain disks containing the numerals of value at the angles, from each of which two curved lines extend, one each side of the stars containing the flowers and meeting a little above the centre of the other stars; on the four sides is the inscription *Nova Scotia (value in letters) Postage.*

The one penny is of much the same design the main difference being that instead of a crown in the centre as in the case of the others it has a portrait of Queen Victoria crowned with necklace and earrings, enclosed in a square with engine-turned ground set diagonally with the sides of the stamp the square being larger than the octagon it cuts into the circle of stars. The marginal frame containing the name is also smaller. This stamp was used mostly for local postage in the City of Halifax N.S.

Of the 31 there are two varieties, one dark blue on blue paper, the other light blue on light blue paper with dark blue border.

Of the 61 we have as many as three distinct shades (1) yellow-green on light green paper (2) Dark green on light green paper. (3) Dark green on blue tinted paper.

There are also two varieties of the one shilling mauve, and violet, while of the 1l. we do not know of any but the one.

A slight difference from the 31, shilling occurs in the 61, each of the letters in the words *Six pence Postage* have a fine line in color running through them.