

Part III.—Local and Telegraph.

CORBELL'S PRIVATE POSTAL SERVICE.

IN 1889 the Canadian Government issued an Order-in-Council raising the rate of postage on city letters from one to two cents. This order was received with a great deal of dissatisfaction, especially among merchants in the larger cities. It was this that led to the issue of the Corbell Local, of Montreal. The following is a copy of the circular sent out to the leading merchants by the proprietor of the post:

BELL TELEPHONE, No. 2463.
PRIVATE POSTAL SERVICE.

Sir,

In order to reduce the *extra* charges by the Postal authorities for the CITY DELIVERY, we have concluded to open an Office for the delivery of letters at ONE CENT EACH, for which we will issue our private stamp so as to facilitate settlements. Every one will have to sign forms of reception as proofs of good and efficient delivery.

Hoping to be favoured, we will call on you in a few days for your signature.

Truly yours,

J. A. CORBELL,

Manager of the Private Postal Service

OFFICE:

At the Montreal Indian Store,
1638 Notre Dame Street.

The stamp consisted of the signature of the initials of the proprietor, "J. A. C.," written across the centre of the stamp in black ink. The stamp was about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch square, and consisted of thick blue wove paper, *Perforated*. As the initials of each stamp were written separately *no two stamps* are exactly the same. This post had but a short existence, as the Postmaster at Montreal made complaint to Ottawa, and the authorities stopped its operation.

REFERENCE LIST.

No.	Date.	Value.	Color.	New.	Used.
689	1888	1 cent	black on blue		.25

BANCROFT'S MONTREAL CITY EXPRESS.

This stamp I found for the first time, the month of issue of this catalogue, and my information regarding it is limited. The stamp is finely engraved, and printed in blue on white paper. In design it consists of the head of, I suppose, Mr. Bancroft; a white space above and below this head. In the space above, the word "Bancroft's," below the head the words "City Express." In each upper and lower corners of the stamp was the figure "5"; across the top, in a straight line, the words "five cents." Down the left hand side were the words "43 St. James St." On the right hand side two small stars and the word "Montreal"; across the bottom the words "five cents."

REFERENCE LIST.

No.	Date.	Value.	Color.	New.	Used.
690	(?)	5 cent	blue		

THE G. N. W. TELEGRAPH CO. FRANKS.

There has been but little known of these stamps which, as far as beauty goes, are quite equal to those in use by the Telegraph Companies of the United States. They are all the same in design, the only difference in the varieties is that they are printed in a different color each year, and the date on the stamp is changed. In design they consist of "Great North Western Telegraph Company," in a half circle; inside this, a little lower, the words "of Canada"; below this, in two straight lines, "Frank," "No"; and below this again a blank space, in which is printed the registered number. In a curved line across the bottom, "Complimentary"; above this a facsimile signature of H. P. Dwight, the Vice-President and General Manager; at the top in each corner, the date; between the two dates the word "the." The groundwork of the stamp is composed of fine engraved lines.

REFERENCE LIST.

No.	Date.	Color.	New.	Used.
691	1890	blue		.25
692	1891	carmine		.35
693	1892	olive green		

C. P. R. TELEGRAPH FRANKS.

The design of the C. P. R. Franks is an unique one. It consists of a *map* of North America in a circle, around which are the words "Canadian Pacific Railway" above, and "Telegraph" below; half of the date at each side of the map. Below the circle was the signature of the manager, and below this, in one straight line, the word "Complimentary"; at the top of the stamp the word "Frank," and below this the registered No. in red.

My list of these stamps, I am aware, is not complete, and should feel grateful to any readers of this catalogue who can furnish me with correct information of the whole set.

REFERENCE LIST.

No.	Date.	Color.	New.	Used.
694	1887	black		
695	1888	black		
696	1889	black		
697	1890	black		