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The Postage Stamps of Canada.

(Continued from last week)

CANADA.

The Act establishing the rates of postage previously enumerated was passed by the Legislature of Canada in 1850. The Act provided for the issue of stamps of three denominations, 3d., 6d. and 12d.



1. 3p RED.



2. 6p PURPLE.



3. 12p BLACK.

12 PENCE 1 SHILLING.

100 CENTS 1 DOLLAR.

1851

Laid Paper.

		Unused.	Used
1	3p red	12.00	1.50
2	6p purple	150.00	6.50
3	12p black	500.00	450.00

1852

Wave paper.

4	3p red	4.00	35
5	6p purple	60.00	5.00
6	12p black	500.00	500.00

They were issued to the public on April 6, 1851. The 3d. is red or red-brown in color, and is popularly spoken of as the "three-penny beaver." This stamp was designed by Sir Sanford Fleming, who, I believe, has the original proof in his possession. The 6d. stamp is purple or black

lilac in color, and bears the picture of the Prince Consort. The 12d. is black in color and bears the picture of the Queen. Only about 1,500 of this last stamp was issued, and it is, consequently, the rarest and most expensive of all the Canadian stamps, a perfect specimen being worth from \$400 to \$500. The manner in which the value is expressed on it is not an error, as might be supposed, from its being officially called a "shilling." There were shillings of different values in circulation in various parts of the colony, and to more definitely describe the value of it "twelve pence" was used instead of "one shilling." This last stamp was withdrawn when the 10d. stamp was issued December 5, 1854.



7. 10p BLUE.

1854

7 10p blue

75.00 10.00

The 10d. was issued to prepay postage to the United Kingdom, the rate per ½ oz. via the United States having been reduced to 8d. sterling or 10d. currency. Although



8. 1 1/2p PINK.



9. 7 1/2p GREEN.

the letter rates per ½ oz. to the United Kingdom were reduced to 10d. via Cunard packet and 7 ½d. via Canadian packet in 1854, the public did not have the convenience of a 7 ½d. stamp until Aug. 1, 1857. On this date a ½d. stamp was also issued.