

This should settle whose portrait it is, besides, according to Burkes Peerage, Lord Elgin was born in 1811, so that at the time of the issue of these stamps he was 40 years of age, the portrait on the stamps is that of a man of about 22 or 23. If it does not look like Prince Albert it resembles still less the portraits of Lord Elgin, of which, from his great popularity many exist in Canada.

And now as regards the 10 pence, which the *Record* says was issued in 1857, but was really issued from 1st April 1855, as the P. M. General's report for that year will shew.

"To promote the general convenience in prepaying letters to Great Britain at the new rate, postage stamps of the value of 10 pence currency equal to 8 pence sterling were procured and issued for sale." As for the portrait on 10 pence, it is identically the same as that of all the existing portraits of Jacques Cartier, and totally unlike those existing of Sebastian Cabot. The style of head dress, and the way the beard is worn is that of the sixteenth century instead of the fifteenth. There is a very rare and old print of Sebastian Cabot, taken from the original painting, in the possession of Charles Jost Harford Esq., in the Legislative Library in Halifax and anything more dissimilar to the face on the 10 pence stamp of Canada cannot well be imagined. It represents an old man with long forked beard and the round cap or bonnet of his time on the head.

The first North American Government notice of perforating is found in the following, from the Postmaster-General's report for 1857 :

"To facilitate the prepayment of letters passing from Canada to England by the Canadian Steamers, a new stamp bearing value of 6 pence sterling or 7½ pence currency, being the Canadian Packet rate has been secured and put in circulation." This stamp was rendered necessary on account of the contract between the Canadian Government and the Allan Line of Steamers in regard to carrying the mails, and by which contract the postage was reduced.

"A new stamp has also been introduced of the value of ½ penny to serve as the medium for prepaying transient newspapers."

"Moreover the Department has been led by the increasing use of postage stamps, to take measures for obtaining the Canadian Postage Stamps on sheets perforated in the dividing line in the manner adopted in England to facilitate the separation of a single stamp from the others on a sheet when required for use."

The paper used in the 1868 issue of Canadian Stamps is found in various thicknesses and kinds. Apparently no care was used in selecting the paper used. A table is annexed of some of the most notable varieties :

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | cent red brown on laid paper.       |
| 1 | " yellow " "                        |
| 1 | " red brown on very thin paper.     |
| 1 | " " " " medium " with watermark.    |
| 1 | " yellow on very thick heavy paper. |
| 2 | " green " " thin paper.             |
| 3 | " red " " thick heavy paper.        |
| 3 | " " " laid paper.                   |
| 3 | " " " medium paper with watermark.  |
| 6 | " brown " very heavy thick paper.   |