

as the others, as to whether they were a genuine misprint or not. In this case the atmosphere of salt water was not the cause as New Ross is in the interior. If the gum was the cause of their changing color, it is peculiar that we do not get more of them. Changes by chemical means were also tried. The only thing which would turn the red of the genuine color to brown, was sulphuric acid mixed with water, and this did not give a good clear color, having a somewhat greyish shade in it. Those experiments have, in my opinion, confirmed their genuineness. And now as if to make assurance in regard to their genuineness more sure, we find a third post office with them. This was Beauville, in Antigonish Co., N. S. There were, however, only 6 received from there, the postmaster had the same story as the others, he had received them from the Dept. at Ottawa in a brown color.

After reading this I do not think that any reasonable minded person will doubt their genuineness.

The Department at Ottawa was written to in regard to them, but as was to be expected, knew nothing of them whatsoever. No doubt if they had been seen they would not have been allowed to be issued to the public.

We do not deny that time does change the color in stamps, but with those we do not think that it had anything to do. A friend of ours informed us that in looking over a lot of old letters which he had taken out of a trunk and which had not been open for several years, he found among them several registered letters, one with the 2c. registration stamp almost a black, all the others having their normal color. With due consideration and deference to better judges than myself, I have no doubt in saying that it is my firm belief that those Canada 2c. brown registration stamps are a genuine misprint.


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NOVA SCOTIA STAMPS.

IN the December No. of this paper I had an article on the proper date of issue of the pence stamps of Nova Scotia. In it I ventured to assert that they were issued in the middle of 1851. Since then on further investigation I have discovered the exact date of issue. The proof is obtained in the following extract from the *Chronicle* of the 30th of August, 1851 :—

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

"Postage stamps having been received from England, notice is hereby given that stamps of 3 pence, 6 pence and 1 shilling can be purchased at this office on and after *Monday, the 1st day of September next.*

 NOTE.—Postage stamps before being used should be examined to ascertain that they will firmly adhere (as in the event of their falling off, the letters become charged with postage), they should then be placed on the front of the letter, *and upon the right hand corner of the upper side.* Should this direction not be attended to, from the rapidity with which the duty must be performed, letters which bear stamps will frequently be taxed, while the parties receiving them will be put to much trouble in obtaining a return of the postage improperly charged.