

came here. He said: "I doubt if the plates were ever sent out to Halifax, I never saw them." To make this positive, we find in the letter to Provincial Secretary above referred, indisputable evidence that the plates were in England in 1857. The letter is as follows:

"GENERAL POST OFFICE, HALIFAX,

"July 2nd, 1857.

"SIR,—The stock of postage stamps procured from England some time ago being nearly exhausted, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to issue the necessary directions to Mr. Stanford, No. 6 Charing Cross, London, for a further demand, viz:—

"10,000 sheets of 3d. postage stamps, value £20,000	
2,500 " " 6d. " " " " 10,000	
1,250 " " 1/- " " " " 10,000	

"Each sheet to contain 160 labels of 3d., 6d. and 1/- stamps, making each sheet of the value of £2, £4 and £8 respectively, and to be the color of those affixed on the margin.

"The last supply of stamps were furnished by Mr. Trelawney Saunders, who has transferred his business to Mr. Stanford. In applying for these postage labels, therefore, it will be necessary you should furnish Mr. Stanford with your authority to produce the key for opening the box containing the dies, which are now in the possession of the engravers, Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Petch, who also are in possession of a key for the safe custody of the dies.

"It is particularly requested that the stamps may be forwarded at as early a period as possible, those remaining on hand being not only nearly expended, but much injured. When making the requisition it would be as well to caution the engravers not to pack the parcels too close, for when they are strictly confined they adhere and become useless, as was the case with some of the packages in the last supply furnished.

"I have, &c., &c.,

"(Sgd.) A. WOODGATE.

"The Hon.

"C. H. TUPPER, M. D.,
M. P. P., Halifax.

Only two requisitions for stamps (those of July 8th, 1851, and July 2nd, 1857,) for Nova Scotia can be found, although, no doubt, more than two supplies were sent.

Of those the 3d. dark blue, 6d. yellow-green, and the light shade of the 1/- are the earlier issue. After examination of a large number of specimens of the two lower values on the original cover, a dark blue 3d. or yellow-green 6d. is seldom found after Nov., 1857; from that date the light blue 3d. and dark green 6d. is the rule. At the time the last supplies were sent out in 1857, some sheets of the 3d. and 6d. were printed on an intensely blue paper, as I have in my collection a 6d. on this blue paper split and used as 3d. on original cover postmarked "Lunenburg, Dec. 7, 1859," and an entire one on envelope from same place Feb. (date indistinct) 1860. The 3 pence is on