

# NUMISMATICA CANADA

Combining the Transactions of the Canadian Numismatic Research Society and the Cee Tee of the Canadian Association of  
Token Collectors – est'd 2002

A Quarterly Publication for Students of Canadian Numismatics

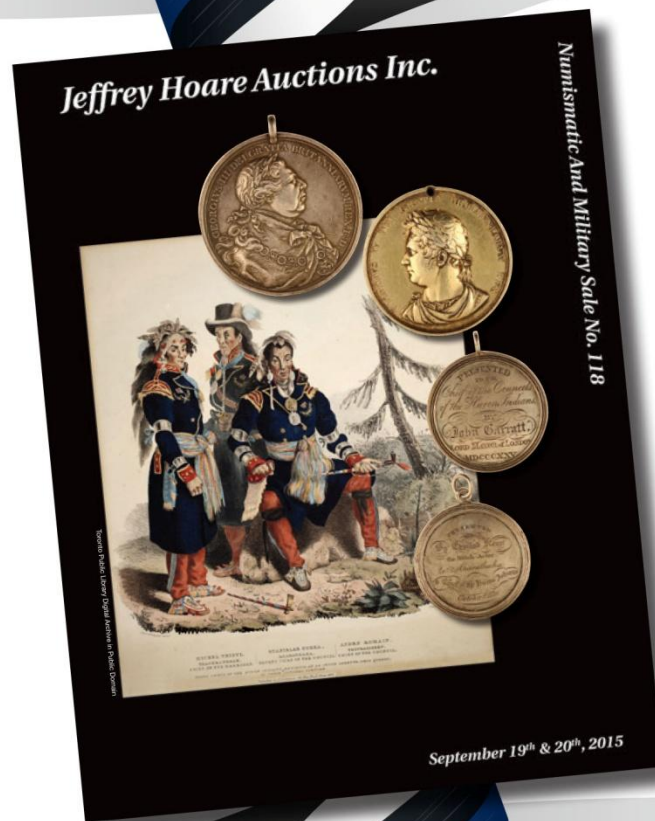
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# NUMISMATICA CANADA

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## **From the editor:**

Welcome to the winter months. The weather gets a little bit rougher; however, we can enjoy our hobby all the more. If you get stuck inside, think of the opportunity to write about your favourite pieces.

Thanks once again go out to our contributors, without whose work we wouldn't have the "NC".

A special thanks goes out to both Lorne Barnes and Len Buth for this issue. For a good length of time we have hoped to digitally send out our copies of "Numismatica Canada" and due to their efforts in retyping and formatting this issue it will be the first received via email. We hope this trial will prove successful. A hard copy of the December issue is also being mailed out to all members, and will always be available to those who wish to receive it that way.

This change has many advantages for us, one being a tremendous savings in cost, and another major change, being able to send out articles in colour. Members can print off the entire issue or just what they want to keep in hard copy. The cost of receiving our publication via email has not yet been determined, but it should be substantially reduced making it more cost-efficient for members outside of Canada.

Please send all future submissions to Lorne Barnes at [1wdin5@gmail.com](mailto:1wdin5@gmail.com).

In the December, 2016 issue of the NC a suggestion to introduce the Kenneth A. Palmer Literary Award was received. At the CATC meeting held in conjunction with the RCNA convention in Boucherville, Quebec, it was decided that 15 Award medals will be struck in nickel silver. The obverse die will have the CATC emblem. The reverse having "The Kenneth A. Palmer Literary Award" with room for the recipient's name to be engraved upon it.

The award committee will consist of two highly respected and knowledgeable individuals:

- Bill Clarke, FCNRS, CNRS, RNS, LNS, RCNA and others.
- Bob Graham, FCNRS, CATC, CNRS, CPMS and others.

The award will be considered/judged for articles submitted to NC for a calendar year.

The award will commence for the 2017 year.

The award will be presented at our annual CATC meeting at the RCNA Convention.

The award will only be available to CATC members in good standing.

If in any calendar year the committee deems that there are no submissions that merit consideration, then the Kenneth A. Palmer Literary Award will not be presented.

The above structure was placed as a motion, which carried.

Please see renewal membership form for the changes to the 2018 membership dues.

Enjoy the winter and Happy Collecting

H N J

## Guide for Contributors

Contributors to Numismatica Canada are encouraged to adhere to the following guidelines;

1. Submissions should be in MS Word, Times New Roman, 12-pt, also please include a copy in PDF.
2. Single-spacing is acceptable, including between paragraphs. The first line of each paragraph should be indented.
3. Quoted material longer than seven or eight lines should be double-indented ½ inch from the left and right margins and separated by a space from the body of the text before and after it. It should not be enclosed by the addition of quotation marks or be italicized. All quoted material should be quoted with absolute fidelity, including any use of quotation marks, italics, capitals, spelling, punctuation, etc., as in the original.
4. For reasons of copyright and research ethics, the source of all quotations, paraphrased material, and borrowed ideas must be acknowledged accurately.
5. The preferred style for acknowledging source material is to embed the reference in the body of the text, preferably at the end of sentences or paragraphs, with the author's surname, the date of publication, and the page number, as follows (Breton 1894: 47). This reduces the proliferation of footnotes.
6. Footnotes should be reserved for expository material of a supplemental or explanatory nature. Avoid endnotes.
7. The bibliography, arranged alphabetically by author, should include all works cited in the text of the article, in the following style: Breton, P.N. 1894. *Illustrated History of Coins and Tokens Relating to Canada*. Montreal: P.N. Breton & Co.
8. Illustrations should be submitted with the article along with the desired captions.
9. All illustrations must be cleared of copyright and, where applicable, permission granted for reproduction.
10. Submissions will be reviewed and returned to the author for response, with corrections, suggestions, and comments in the track changes feature of MS Word.
11. Please do not number the pages of your work.
12. Please submit your images separately from your text in JPEG format. Indicate where you would like them to go and we will include them.

Scott E Douglas



## NEW FINDS

### COOPER COLLECTION OF PREVIOUSLY UNLISTED MANITOBA TOKENS

Submitted by Jim Astwood

#### ALTONA



0080t: ALTONA CO-OP. SERVICE LTD. / GENERAL / MERCHANTS. GOOD FOR / 5¢ / IN MERCHANDISE. B O 20 R 10.

#### BRANDON



0359a: G. BOTTING. GOOD FOR / 1 / SHAVE. B R 21 R 10.  
*George W. Botting ran a barbershop in Brandon from 1889 to 1906.*

#### PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE



3325b: R. C. L. / PORTAGE LA / PRAIRIE / BRANCH # 65. Blank. Plr R 28 R 2.  
*This is likely a drink token*



SOMERSET



3910g: DAVID/ GIROUARD/ SOMERSET/ MAN. GOOD FOR/ 5/ IN/ MERCHANDISE. A R 19 R 10.

WINNIPEG



5000c: PROPERTY/ OF/ D. & D. INST./ WINNIPEG. 25¢. A R 24 R 10.



5355a: FORT GARRY LEGION / (flower) / Branch # 90. HAVE/ ONE/ ON/ US. Plb R 39 R 3.



5585a: (Kinsmen logo) / ST. JAMES / ASSINIBOIA / MAN. Blank. Plb R 42 R 3.



5585b: (Kinsmen logo) / WINNIPEG / MAN. Blank. Plb R 42 R 3.  
*These are drink tokens used at Kinsmen functions.*



6125b: ORIENTAL / HOTEL / J. B. / WINNIPEG. GOOD FOR / 5¢ / IN TRADE. A R 25 R 10.



6620 b: THE STANDARD CLOTHING CO. / 586 & 588 / MAIN ST. / WINNIPEG, / MAN.  
GOOD FOR 25¢ ON \$5.00 CASH PURCHASE / MADE AT / THE STANDARD /  
CLOTHING CO. / WINNIPEG, / MAN. A R 24.5 R 10.



6925a: HOTEL / WOLSELEY / WINNIPEG, / MAN. GOOD FOR / 10¢ / IN TRADE. B O 22  
R 10.

## SASKATCHEWAN TOKEN FINDS

Submitted by Ronald L. Rogal

Regina, Saskatchewan - Sanitary Bakery

The Henderson Directories list the Sanitary Bakery as operating from 1920 to 1927 and its location was 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Scarth Street. Cecil Tannahill mentions it in a 1967 publication where he says that Frederick Kreutzer, a baker with Sanitary Bakery, started Deluxe Bakery in 1922. He does not mention any tokens from the Sanitary Bakery.

This token was in a fairly large collection of material collected by an older Saskatchewan resident who recently passed away.



Obv: SANITARY / BAKERY Rev: GOOD FOR / 1 / LOAF OF BREAD A-O-26

This token has been assigned #4275r and a R10 rating.\*

Biggar, Saskatchewan – Haney & Messer

Haney & Messer purchased the Poolroom and Bowling Alley in Biggar in 1923. The Henderson Directories show it operating until 1917. The token reads *Bigger* but the correct spelling is Biggar. Previously a 25 cents token was found but it was very badly corroded with only about two thirds of the token remaining. This 10c token was purchased from a collector in Oregon.



Obv: HANEY & MESSER / BILLIARD / ROOM / & / BOWLING / ALLEY / BIGGER, SASK.  
Rev: GOOD FOR / 10c / IN / TRADE A-R-29

This token has been assigned #589g, and a R 10 rating.\*

Thanks to Eric Jensen and Jim Astwood for their help in identifying the bakery token.

\* Editors note: As collectors will know, Mr. Rogal has been diligently updating new token finds for the Province of Saskatchewan since the publication of *Saskatchewan Numismatica* by Cecil Tannahill in 1980. Mr. Rogal's update *Checklist of Saskatchewan Trade Tokens* is available by contacting him at [rogal@sasktel.net](mailto:rogal@sasktel.net)

## SOME INTERESTING FINDS FROM E-BAY

Submitted by Larry Laevens

1911 Odd Fellows IOOF World Championships – Canton Toronto #7, Winnipeg Fob



King Geo. V with “God Save the King”



King Geo. V with shield



1886 Canada Cent with counterstamp – D.M. McKenzie



## NEW TOKEN FINDS:

Submitted by Len Buth, FCNRS

*Note:* While due care has been taken in reporting the following new finds/new denominations, collectors will appreciate it is becoming difficult to ascertain with certainty, given the many items that continue to be reported, if any have been reported previously in the pages of *The Canadian Token* and *Numismatica Canada* (1972 - 2017).

### ONTARIO

**ST. CATHARINES**, Ontario, *Lincoln County*

*Picker Token*

THE / O.G.G. / AND / W.M. Co. / BARNESDALE,

1

A-R-19



The letters on this token stands for The Ontario Grape Growers and Wine Manufacturing Company. In 1873 George Barnes, and seven other investors, applied for and received a charter for this commercial winery. The company started to produce wine circa 1886, which is also the first year the company could be found in business directories. In 1934 the company became Barnes Wines Ltd. which entity was sold in 1988. George Barnes was born in 1853, and died at St. Catharines in 1917. There has been no evidence found that “Barnesdale” was either a village or town, although present day maps for St. Catharines indicate an area by that name. Mr. Barnes’s residence was known as “Barnesdale” and that may explain why the token bears this location name. As the value on the token does not include a monetary symbol, it is the writer’s assumption it was used as a “picker” token. It is not known if tokens for other values were made or used.

As added interest, below is a copy of an invoice sent by the Company. It is dated May 9, 1896 and addressed to W.J. Schwigler in Port Arthur for an amount of \$11.00. It shows Geo. Barnes as Managing Director. The invoice covers 2 cases of G. Diana. G. Diana stands for Golden Diana as noted in the following passage in *The Wines of Canada*, by John Schreiner (Octopus Publishing Group Ltd. 2005, London UK):

One of the longest-lived brands in Canadian wine was Barnes Golden Diana, a sherry-type that was made for about 100 years until it was retired in 1982.



Accounts Payable at Our Office or to Our Order Only.

## The Ontario Grape Growing and Wine Mfg. Co.

Producers of Pure Red and White Grape Wines.

St. Catharines, Ont., *May 9 189-*

Sold to *W. J. Schwegler*  
*Port Arthur*

All Claims Must be Made within Ten Days after Receipt of Goods.  
TERMS: *5/10 30 days*

Empty Casks (of our Brand only) when Returned in Good Order, Freight Prepaid will be Credited at the Price Charged. To avoid Confusion, Empties should be Plainly Addressed on Card, giving Name of Sender.

P. O. Box 72. **GEO. BARNES, Managing Director.**

	1 Case <i>G. D. Wines</i>	6 00	
	1 " " " " <i>paid to</i>	5 00	
	<i>Draft</i>		11 00

**NEW DENOMINATION**

**WINONA, Ontario, Wentworth County**

*Picker Token*

**C.P. CARPENTER & SON LTD. / WINONA / ONT.**

12 ¢

A-R-32

4 ¢

A-R-25



These denominations do not appear to have been recorded by Bowman or James.

\*\*\*\*

## **ROYAL ARMS HOTEL** **TORONTO, ONTARIO**

By Len Buth, FCNRS

The token illustrated below can now be attributed to Toronto, Ontario. Although the token is listed in the *Supplement to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the Canadian Coin Cabinet* by Jos. Leroux, M.D. as 1072o, a locality or place of issue does not appear to have been recorded previously. The token was not listed by Fred Bowman in *Trade Tokens of Ontario* (nor Supplement). Similarly it does not appear in *Canadian Medals and Business Cards* published in 1903 by W.R. McColl.



24 mm - aluminum - uniface

As will be demonstrated below, it is deemed sufficient research has now been conducted to establish the probable issuer, the location and date of issue.

The operators or proprietors of the hotel can be traced through various business directories and other records to a date as early as 1861, when a William Henwood owned the “Provincial Inn” at 318 Yonge Street, Toronto. In 1866 Henwood relocated to 320 Yonge Street. Upon his death in 1868 William Henwood’s widow, Catherine Henwood continued the operation until 1871, at which time the business was purchased by James McFarland who was the first owner to use the name Royal Arms Hotel, at 320 Yonge Street.

In the book *Opportunity Road -Yonge Street 1860-1939*, page 34, there is a sentence which reads as follows:

In the next block at the corner of Edward Street (writers note - south west location) James Mac (sic) Farland had the Royal Arms Hotel that had been Henwood’s old hotel in the sixties.

Additional information concerning McFarland is found in *History of Toronto & County of York* on page 481:



James McFarland, deceased, was a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, and while yet young sought a prospective fortune in Canada. In 1870 he married and subsequently entered the hotel business. He opened the “Royal Arms”, which he ran for twelve years until his death. His widow, Christiana McFarland, still carries on the business; the house being able to accommodate from thirty to forty guests.

Business directories show Mrs. Christiana McFarland as a “widow operator” of the Royal Arms Hotel in 1884 and 1885. In 1886 the Royal Arms Hotel was purchased by John Cuthbert, and he retained ownership until 1891.

Robert J. Charlton became the new owner of the hotel in 1891 and continued to operate it until 1898. Mr. Charlton relocated the hotel from 320 Yonge Street to 338 Yonge Street in 1894.

The date of 1894 becomes a key year in establishing the issuer of the Royal Arms Hotel token. Through a very fortuitous find, courtesy of Ottawa, Ontario researcher, author and collector Christopher Faulkner, we find the Royal Arms Hotel included and shown in the *Illustrated Catalogue & Price List of Medals, Checks & Communion Tokens of Ottawa & District. Issued by F.X. Paquet, Numismatist*. Mr. Paquet issued a periodic series of offerings commencing in January 1893. His August 1894 List offers the Royal Arms Hotel token as No.138. Part of Mr. Paquet’s page listing the token appears below:



As well Mr. Paquet provided the additional important information that the token was made by W.H. Banfield & Co. Mr. Banfield’s listings in business directories began as a sole proprietorship in 1880, and in 1894 the business is listed for the first time as W.H. Banfield & Co., the same description as used by Mr. Paquet in his List. The following is reproduced from the 1894 *Might Directory Co.*:

**BANFIELD, W. H. & CO.**  
Wm. H. Banfield Wilson H. Sherman.  
Machinists and Die Makers  
Presses and other Machinery Made  
Aluminum Dealers and Workers  
Jobbing at Lowest Rates  
78, WELLINGTON STREET WEST  
TELEPHONE NO. 1683

As added interest for the reader and as seen above, Mr. Banfield's directory listing/advertising used the following words "Aluminum Dealers and Workers". These words are found in the Banfield advertisements beginning in 1892, and would indicate he was one of the first die sinkers/manufacturers to be using this metal in the Toronto area, if not in Canada. It was about this time the Hall-Héroult smelting process had allowed aluminum to be produced at a cost-effective price.

Based on the foregoing data, we know from Mr. Paquet's List that the Royal Arms Hotel token had to be struck prior to August 1894. The hotel location changed from 320 to 338 Yonge Street in 1894, and that occasion may possibly have prompted the issuance of the token, but the writer acknowledges that is somewhat speculative. The fact that Mr. Paquet used the words "W.H. Banfield & Co." the same as the directories for that year, adds support the token was struck in 1894. Additionally we know Robert J. Charlton was the owner of the Royal Arms Hotel in 1894. Mr. Paquet was an avid collector and no doubt very aware of new token issues through his many contacts, and would have known of all new token issues as they were struck.

In summation and based on the data at hand, it is suggested by the writer the most probable issuer of the Royal Arms Hotel token was Robert J. Charlton and in the year 1894. For certain the issuer was Toronto-based.

In 1898 the Royal Arms Hotel was purchased by Robert Powell. In 1902 Mr. Powell changed the name of hotel to the Empire Hotel, bringing an end of the Royal Arms Hotel from the Toronto scene.

Students of Canadian coins and tokens may wonder if Robert J. Charlton was in any way related to the late James E. Charlton, the Dean of Canadian Numismatics. The writer was unable to ascertain any connection although, admittedly, the research was limited.

Sources:

Berchem F.R. 1996. *Opportunity Road – Yonge Street 1860-1939*. Toronto: Natural Heritage/Natural History Inc.---  
-----, 1885. *History of Toronto & County of York*. Vol. 1. Toronto: C. Blakett Robinson  
Paquet, F. X. 1893. *Illustrated Catalogue & Price List of Medals, Checks & Communion Tokens of Ottawa & District*. Ottawa. Privately published.  
Toronto Directories: 1861 through 1902. Various including: *W.R. Brown; Mitchell & Co.; A.S. Irving; W.C. Chewett & Co.; Robertson & Cook's; R.L. Polk & Co.; Fisher & Taylor; Might & Taylor; Might & Co.; Might Directory*

\*\*\*\*



Winter's Tillsonburg, Ont.

## UNRECORDED EDGE VARIETY OF BRETON 976 COURTEAU 2

By Lorne Barnes



976.2PE

The description is the same as Courteau 2 listed in *"The Wellington Tokens Relating to Canada by Eugene G. Courteau, ANS, New York, 1915, reprinted from American Journal of Numismatics Vol. XLVIII"*, but with plain edge.

Comparing the specifics of 976.2 and 976.2PE: Composition: Copper. Weight: 6.06 to 6.50grams. Diameter: 28.20 to 28.70mm. Thickness: 1.29 to 1.31mm. Die axis:  $\updownarrow$ . Edge: Oblique milling \\\\. The plain edge example: Composition: Copper. Weight: 6.66grams. Diameter: 28.41mm. Thickness: 1.25mm. Die axis:  $\updownarrow$ . Edge: Plain.

After examining the edge of the above pictured token several times over a couple of years, I have not found evidence of any edge reeding. The obverse die is in a very late stage of deterioration while the reverse die also shows signs of a late stage of deterioration and the token exhibits little signs of wear due to circulation; in addition, it is heavier and the diameter is wider than all of my examples, but one of the reeded edge type. This information adds to my confidence it is a true plain edge.

This plain edge variety was not described by Courteau and I have not found this type listed in any publication.

### Sources:

Breton, P.N. 1894. *Illustrated History of Coins and Tokens Relating to Canada*. Montreal: P.N. Breton & Co.  
Courteau, Eugene G. 1915. *The Wellington Tokens Relating to Canada*, New York: American Journal of Numismatics Vol. XLVIII.

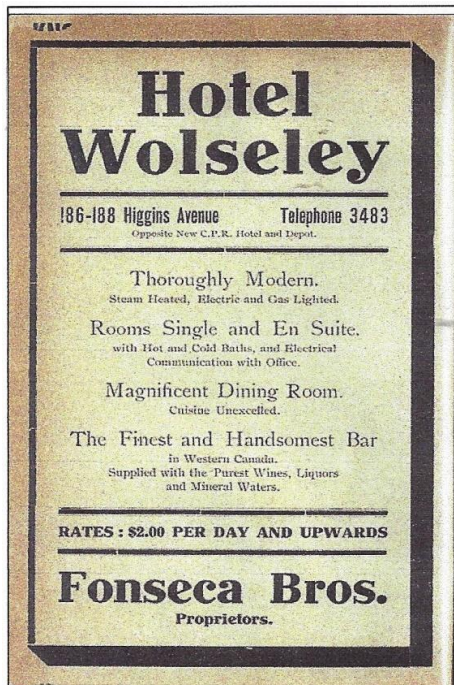
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## HOTEL WOLSELEY

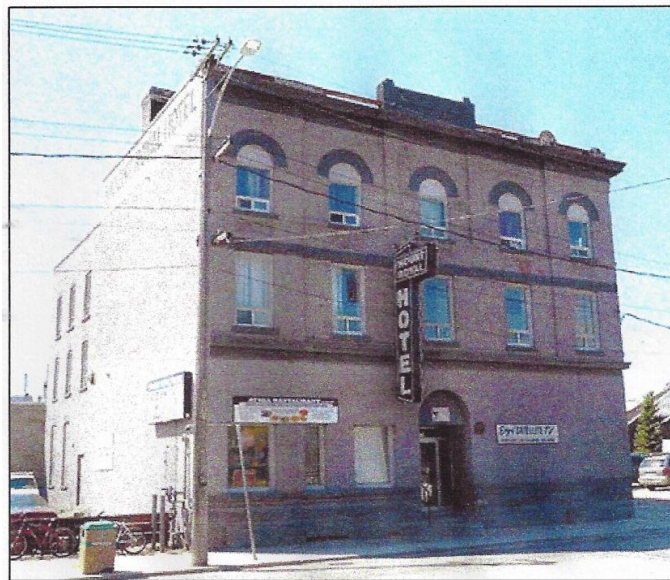
### AKA the MENARD HOTEL, AKA the MOUNT ROYAL HOTEL

By James W. Astwood, FCNRS

The Hotel Wolseley was built in 1904 by the Fonseca Brothers, Benjamin Gomez Fonseca and Alfonso Gomez Fonseca. It is located at 186-188 Higgins Avenue in Winnipeg opposite the now-closed CPR station. Alfonso and Benjamin were sons of William Gomez da Fonseca, who emigrated to New York from Santa Cruz in the Danish West Indies. (His full name was Don Derigo Nojada Gomez da Silva Fonseca.) He became a U. S. citizen and moved to Wisconsin, then Minnesota and finally to Winnipeg in 1860. He was arrested in 1869 by Louis Riel but was released when he surrendered his U.S. citizenship papers. He was in the real estate business and owned a large portion of the Point Douglas area, including a stretch of Higgins Avenue. He was also agent for a roofing company and his business was located on Higgins Avenue. It was on that property that his sons built the Hotel Wolseley. Unfortunately, he died on April 22, 1905, shortly after the hotel opened



1905 ADVERTISEMENT



THE WOLSELEY (MOUNT ROYAL) HOTEL AS IT APPEARS IN 2017

It appears that the running of the hotel was left to Benjamin, who ran it until his untimely death at the age of 48 on March 22, 1915. Alfonso, who had served in the 13<sup>th</sup> Heavy Artillery, Brooklyn, NY for two years was an active member of the 90<sup>th</sup> Regiment, the Royal Winnipeg Rifles and in 1916 as Lieutenant Colonel formed the 197<sup>th</sup> "Vikings of Canada" battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force. He was badly injured in a motor accident and after the war moved to Los Angeles.



Benjamin's son, Benjamin Jr. enlisted in the army on July 18, 1917. He listed his date of birth as July 2, 1897, but the census records of 1906 indicate he was only four at that time so he obviously lied about his age. His army records show him as a deserter so he must have had a change of heart. He could not have been prosecuted as he was underage. Another brother, Arthur, who was seven years older than Benjamin Jr. was drafted on January 22, 1918 but obtained a medical discharge on July 18 as he appeared to be suffering from "fainting spells".

Following Benjamin's death the Hotel was sold to one Barney Aaron who only ran it for three years and then sold to Peter Moyer. He also only kept it for three years. It went through many changes of ownership from then on, a few of which are listed below:

1920 - Robert T. McKeen,  
1921 to 1924 - Joshua B. Gray,  
1925 - William Robertson,  
1926 to 1931 - John J. McCarroll,  
1932 - William McCord,  
1933 to 1940 – Unknown,  
1941 to 1947 - Richard Lindholm,  
1948 to 1952 - Henry Dougloski & Sons (Julian & Walter),  
1952 to 1955 - Joseph and Leopold Menard,  
1956 to date - various owners.

In 1952, the Menards (who had previously owned the Winnipeg Hotel which they sold to Stephen Baran) changed the name to the Menard Hotel. It remained the Menard Hotel until 1956 when it was again re-named, this time to the Mount Royal Hotel. The Mount Royal Hotel is still in business, primarily as a residential hotel (2017).

There is only one known token from the Hotel Wolseley which is pictured below:



This token is brass, octagonal and 23 mm in diameter. It is listed as number 6925a in "An Illustrated Guide to Manitoba Trade Tokens" by James W. Astwood.

\*\*\*\*

## BARRY & CO. - RICHARD WATSON BARRY

By James W. Astwood, FCNRS

Sometimes you get lucky when trying to track down a “maverick”. It is amazing how much information you can glean from the internet by looking at directories, census records, births, deaths and marriages! The following was all found on the internet with about three hours of searching:

Richard Watson Barry was born in Carleton County, July 20, 1882. The registration records for Carleton County list him as the son of Lestre W. Barrey and Abigail White, farmers. (The 1891 census spells his father’s name as Lester and the last name as Barry – the Registrar in 1882 apparently was in error.) His father was a farmer and Richard was part of a large family. He was the middle child with two older brothers, Lester and Samuel and an older sister, Victoria with four younger siblings- Carry, Washington, James and Eunice.

Richard is listed in the 1901 census as still living with his parents but apparently he moved west soon after as he appears in the 1905 Henderson directory as operating a barbershop in Abernethy, Saskatchewan under the name “Barry & James”. Who “James” was is a mystery as this same directory also lists “Wallace & James”, barbers, also at Abernethy. Subsequent directories do not list either James or Wallace. Richard is listed in the 1911 Canada Census as operating a barbershop in Semans, Saskatchewan and was still single at the time. He was a lodger with the Pettit family. The 1916 census finds him living in Kindersley. He is now married with two children. His wife’s name is Evalina (Eveline. Evelyne) and his children are Clifford R. and Frederick Orville Watson. His wife was born in Hastings, Ontario on July 2, 1896, the daughter of Matthew Hart and Mary Catherine Schamehorn. Richard has apparently given up barbering and is now a farmer. However, farming did not seem to last long as the 1921 census finds him living in Saskatoon, with his occupation listed as “drayman”. This may have been an error as the Henderson directory for Saskatoon for the same year lists him as a barber at the Victoria Barbershop, 231 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue South, R. J. Sanderson, proprietor. His home address was 1129 Avenue F North. The following year he has his own shop and the 1922 directory lists him as the proprietor of the Ontario Barbershop at 234 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South. This is likely a listing error as subsequent directories list the address as 529 20<sup>th</sup> Street West. His wife is listed as operating a dry goods business out of the same address. The 1923 directory lists his shop at the same address but in 1924 his shop is listed at 212 20<sup>th</sup> Street East and his house as 126 9<sup>th</sup> Street. In 1925 his shop is shown as 232 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South and his house the same. The 212 20<sup>th</sup> Street East location is now occupied by Arthur McLeod, barber. 1926 finds the “Barry Barber Shop” at 213 20<sup>th</sup> Street West and lists John Kaminsky as the manager. Richard W. Barry is no longer listed in either the alphabetical or classified directory for Saskatoon.

While it is impossible to say what happened after Saskatoon, it appears Richard took off for the Yukon and died in Dawson on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1937. He is buried in the Hillside Cemetery in Dawson.



The token is Brass, 21mm and is now listed by Ron Rogal as Saskatchewan 151S.

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## BRETON 987 COURTEAU 11 STRUCK ON COPPER FLAN

By Lorne Barnes



987.11Cu

Composition: Copper. Weight: 5.48 to 6.11 grams. Diameter: 26.51 to 26.91mm. Thickness: 1.37 to 1.46mm. Die axis: ↑↑. Edge: Plain. Ten leaves.

Same as 987.11, but struck in copper.

This token was purchased at Jeffrey Hoare Auction Sale number 51 on Oct. 28, 1995, lot number 1908. The cataloguer stated, “*Appears to be copper although Courteau says this piece comes in brass.*” After an XRF test, the results of this piece were 92.5% copper and 7.5% zinc, without a doubt this issue was struck on copper flans as stated by Hoare Auctions.

### Sources:

Breton, P.N. 1894. *Illustrated History of Coins and Tokens Relating to Canada*. Montreal: P.N. Breton & Co.

Courteau, Eugene G. 1915. *The Wellington Tokens Relating to Canada*, New York: American Journal of Numismatics Vol. XLVIII.

Jeffrey Hoare Auctions Inc. 1995. *Numismatic & Military Sale No 51*. London, Ont.

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## BRETON 985 WITH PLAIN EDGE

By Lorne Barnes



985.24PE

The description is the same as Courteau 24 listed in *“The Wellington Tokens Relating to Canada by Eugene G. Courteau, ANS, New York, 1915, reprinted from American Journal of Numismatics Vol. XLVIII”*, but with plain edge.

Comparing the specifics of 985.24 and 985.24PE: Composition: Copper. Weight: 18.28 to 18.72grams. Diameter: 33.97 to 34.07mm. Thickness: 2.55 to 2.85mm. Die axis: ↑↑. Edge: Engrailed ||||| |||||. The plain edge example: Composition: Copper. Weight: 18.63 grams. Diameter: 34.07mm. Thickness: 2.91mm. Die axis: ↑↑. Edge: Plain.

After examining the edge of the above pictured-token several times over a couple of years, I have not found evidence of any edge reeding. This plain edge example is heavier and the diameter is wider than most of my engrailed examples. This information adds to my confidence it is a true plain edge.

This plain edge variety was not described by Courteau and I have not found this edge type listed in any publication.

Sources:

Breton, P.N. 1894. *Illustrated History of Coins and Tokens Relating to Canada*. Montreal: P.N. Breton & Co.

Courteau, Eugene G. 1915. *The Wellington Tokens Relating to Canada*, New York: American Journal of Numismatics Vol. XLVIII.

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## COURTEAU'S MISLEADING ATTRIBUTION

By Lorne Barnes



986.19

Composition: Copper. Weight: 7.11 to 8.09 grams. Diameter: 26.93 to 27.22mm. Thickness: 1.51 to 1.73mm. Die axis: 190°. Edge: Straight milling ||||| |||||. Nine leaves.

This issue is found struck with late to extreme stages of die deterioration.

Courteau's description of his number 19 is puzzling. He used the wording, "*The wreath has practically but eight leaves.*" The meaning of practically in this case is, almost, thus was "*eight leaves*" a typing error and he was describing nine leaves, due to the fact the upper right leaf is barely noticeable. However, Courteau affirms eight leaves at the end of his number 19 description.

Even on my examples with very late stages of die deterioration, the upper right laurel leaf may blend into the hair; nevertheless, a triangle shape is still seen above the hair.

In my opinion this triangle shape resembles the end of the top laurel leaf on the right side of Wellington's head and therefore this piece is a nine leaves variety. I feel this error in description has misinformed numismatists for almost a century. In addition, Robert Willey also cataloged Courteau 19; he assigned number 516 to this variety and stated it had eight leaves, and then the Charlton Press followed assigning catalogue number WE-11B8 with eight leaves. I feel Willey and then the Charlton Press took Courteau's description as accurate and copied what Courteau wrote as being correct.

In any case, the wreath plays only a minor part in attributing this variety.

OBVERSE: Similar to 986.12, but:



1. Nine leaves variety, a small laurel leaf end is seen above hair and to right of end of left leaf.
2. The ribbon ends are the longest of the series with the left ribbon extending below collar of coat.
3. The button is the largest of the series.

REVERSE: Same as 986.12.

Sources:

Breton, P.N. 1894. *Illustrated History of Coins and Tokens Relating to Canada*. Montreal: P.N. Breton & Co.

Cross, W.K. *Canadian Colonial Tokens, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition*. Toronto: The Charlton Press

Courteau, Eugene G. 1915. *The Wellington Tokens Relating to Canada*, New York: American Journal of Numismatics Vol. XLVIII.

Willey, R.C. *Colonial Coinage of Canada, The Wellington Tokens*, Canadian Numismatic Journal Oct. 1980 and Nov. 1980.

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## A LITTLE HISTORY

By M.H. Kyle FCNRS



ON WAR SERVICE EXPLOSIVES/ CANADIAN EXPLOSIVES LIMITED/  
TRADE/ CXL/ MARK  
(Rev.) BIRKS GILT

Round-22mm-bronze appearance over brass planchet

### Canadian Explosives Company

In 1910 Hamilton Powder and Dominion Cartridge merged with the Acadia Powder Company, Ontario Powder Company, Standard Explosive Company, Western Explosive Company and Victoria Chemical Company to form the Canadian Explosive Company (CXL). CXL was a major supplier to the Canadian Expeditionary Forces during WW I, which led to the building of a new factory in the newly christened Nobel, Ontario in 1914. CXL also operated another plant across the highway on behalf of British Cordite Limited. All of the Nobel plants closed after the war in 1922, when secondary markets were not forthcoming. Then all was lost in a huge fire in 1923.

Source:

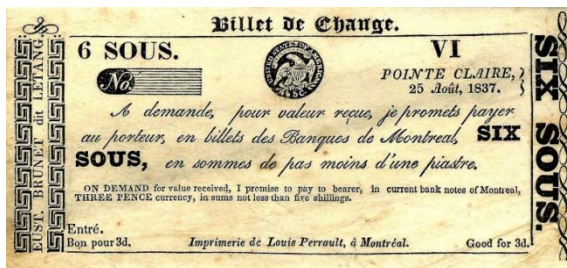
Canadian Industries Limited – Wikipedia

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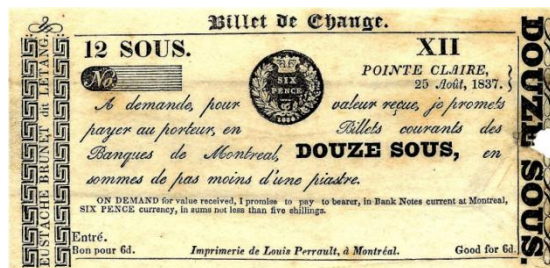
# SCRIPT OF EUSTACHE BRUNET DIT LETANG 1837

By Barry Uman FCNRS/FRCNA

These paper notes are a real mystery. This script was issued in 1837 in five different denominations in 6, 12, 15, 20 and 30 sous that was equivalent to 3 pence English or 5 cents American; 6 pence English; 7 ½ pence English or 4 reales Spanish; 10 pence English or 10 reales Spanish; and 1 shilling English or 20 reales Spanish. Because most people could not read, the value of the script was indicated by a foreign coin since there were no official Canadian coins till 1858. The coins shown on the script were those that often circulated at the time and they were English, American or Spanish.



6 Sous



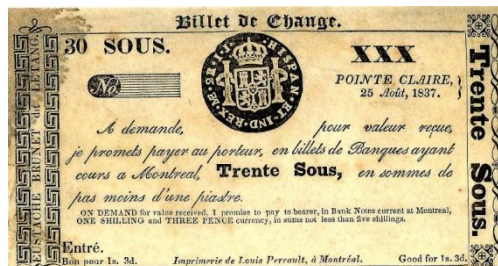
12 Sous



15 Sous



20 Sous



30 Sous

These paper notes are made on thin paper stock which makes them fragile and flimsy. Their size vary because they are hand cut and they are approximately 135mm by 75mm but the lower valued notes are narrower. They are printed in black ink on cream-coloured paper. The reverses are blank. The notes are dated August 25, 1837. They are unsigned although there have been unsubstantiated reports that signed notes exist.



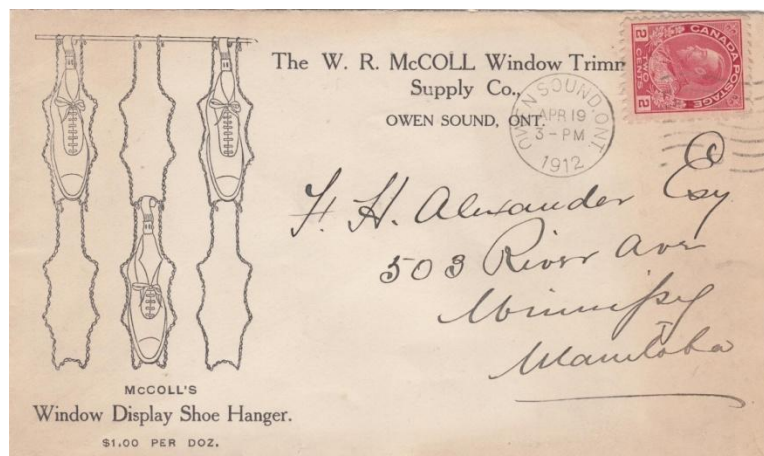
They are all printed by Louis Perrault of Montreal who was a bookseller, publisher and printer from 1828-1837. He was also a known sympathizer of the Patriote party and was forced to flee to the United States when a mob ransacked and burnt his establishment in 1837.

Who was Eustache Brunet? Evidently there was more than one person with this name so he added an additional surname, "dit Letang". No one seems to know the identity of this person and Brian R. Matthews, who wrote a book on the history of Pointe Claire, described these notes as separatist currency. Was Eustache Brunet a farmer or a merchant? Why did he need so many different notes and why were they not signed? Did he own a store or farm the land? Did these notes circulate? They seem to be worn and not from use, but from the poor quality and mishandling after surviving 178 years.

We do know in history that 1837 was a year of political turmoil and rebellion in Quebec and other parts of Canada. There was also a financial panic in 1837 to 1839 and specie payments were suspended in 1837. Many spurious banks were established at this time and they issued worthless banknotes. The government had to pass legislation in 1837 prohibiting any note issues without proper legislative authority. Despite this government degree, Louis Perreault printed about 34 separate script for individuals, merchants and companies all dated 1837. Was this due to the financial crisis or the political situation?

The script issued by Eustache Brunet was available but with difficulty, at one time for \$60-\$100 each in the 1970s-1980s. Today they would be very difficult to find and I have not seen any offered in auctions after 1990s. They can be considered very scarce with a value 4-5 times from the previous prices. A complete set of notes would be difficult to acquire and it would command a premium price. Now that there is a book on private, provincial and municipal script and paper money, it is expected that the value of these notes will increase in value considerably.

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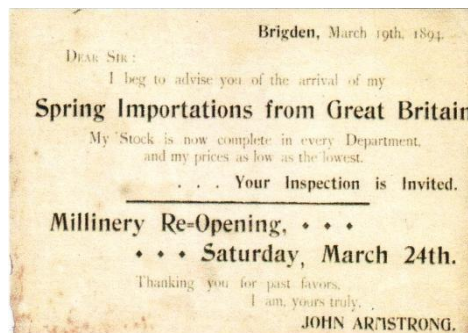
NON-NUMISMATIC W.R. McColl advertising cover, 1912

# THE JOHN ARMSTRONG CO. BRIGDEN, ONT.

By M.H. Kyle FCNRS



The John Armstrong./ Importers/ and/ General/ Merchants/ Brigden/ Ont.  
Good For/ 25¢/ In Merchandise  
A-Oc-25



This token was reported earlier, however, it was not listed due to its poor quality. This example found by Ryan Lawson is in much better condition although it spent some time in the ground. (This variety is the only example reported to date.)

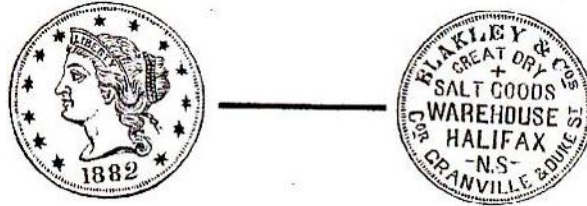
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## The Great Dry Salt Goods Puzzle

By Eric Leighton, FCNRS

An advertising token was issued dated 1882 by the Halifax, N. S. firm of Blakley & Co. It has been the cause of much interest – even controversy – over the decades since. The issuer is known, the location is given, and yet it remains to this day a puzzle waiting to be solved. Not only is the inscription a source of debate, but also the use of Liberty’s head on a shiny brass planchet, surrounded by thirteen stars in mimic design of gold coins of the United States.

The first numismatic notice of the token was in January 1885, three years from the date on the obverse. Writing in *The Canadian Antiquarian*, R. W. McLachlan stated the token was brought to his attention by a Nova Scotian collector, who told him the pieces were found circulating to a limited extent in some of the outports a little more than a year earlier. This would mean the collector found them in use about mid to late 1883.



THE BLAKELY TOKEN.

Fig.1. McLachlan’s illustration, 1885

He illustrated his paper with an accurate depiction of both sides (Fig. 1), but transposed the L and E of BLAKLEY in both the caption and the written description. In his commentary, he said the firm of “Blakely & Co.” was a retail branch of Davidson & Craighton (*sic*, probably Creighton) but to where he looked for that information escapes me. Perhaps his Nova Scotian correspondent had suggested it. His suspicion that the piece was struck in New York, in imitation of the US 10 dollar gold piece and smuggled into the province was also unqualified with any proof.

His explanation of the inclusion of “Salt” in relation to the other words on the token, was that it was a mistaken interpretation of the term “Dry Goods,” meaning one thing to the person ordering the tokens, but another to the person cutting the dies. “Dry *Salt* Goods” was an entirely new term to him.

He did make one particularly sage remark: “This coin may prove a fruitful subject for discussion to ... Numismatists of the future.” And so it is, 132 years into that future, that it comes up again, and it all has to do with “SALT.”

In *The Annals of the Nova Scotian Currency* by the same author in 1892, spelling errors were corrected, and the country of manufacture changed to England, where “the name drapers is applied to what are called dry goods merchants in this country [but] the die makers, believing it had something to do with dried codfish, added the word salt.” It is obvious that McLachlan knew that Dry Goods were cloths and clothes, as can be seen in the following illustration.



**Halifax Cheap Dry Goods Store**

---

PLUSH, OHENILLE, AND FANCY WOOL SQUARES AND SCARVES,  
Birds' Plumes, Flowers and Feathers,—Plaid Dress Material,  
SPLENDID GOODS FOR CHILDREN'S WEAR.

**A Few Selled Quilts and Counterpanes, VERY CHEAP.**

HEAVY LARGE TOWELS, ONLY 18 CENTS PER-PAIR.

Ladies' and Children's ULSTERS made to order at same low prices as those in Stock.

**Our Hosiery is Warranted for Quality, Style and Cheapness.**

More Double Width ULSTER CLOTH, at 50 cents per yard.

Having improved our facilities for making ULSTERS, we will now guarantee  
to make them to order in two days, without fail.

**HALIFAX CHEAP DRY GOODS STORE, 237 BARRINGTON STREET, HALIFAX**

Fig. 2. From The Halifax Morning Herald. Feb. 22, 1882. (A different store)

In 1894 P. N. Breton published *The Illustrated History of Coins and Tokens Relating to Canada*. He listed the token as number (Br.) 901, and added an erroneous “c” to Blakley’s name, but said nothing new: “Blackley for some years did a retail business at Halifax. The word ‘salt’ seems to be an error of the Birmingham engraver, who seems to have confounded dry goods with something relating to dried codfish.” He had simply reworded McLachlan, but how he came to the conclusion of the Birmingham engraver is unknown, though he was likely following popular thought.

Much later, (1968) in the *Transactions* of the Canadian Numismatic Research Society, Vol. 4, the Nova Scotia numismatist A. Mitchell McDonald resurrected the question. He used Breton’s same illustration under the emblematic title “The Great Salt Controversy.” And such it was, is, and may well continue to be.

McDonald, being local, was able to use locally available sources. He used primarily McAlpine’s Halifax City Directories, and a local newspaper, the *Acadian Recorder*. Finally, someone was going to the roots. His detective work uncovered important details, and though some of his conclusions were not correct, the main thrust of his paper made very good points.

To summarize McDonald, the firm of Blakley & Co. followed the partnership of Blakley & Brine, being Robert F. Brine, and John “Blakeney”. These men had previously been listed in Directories as clerk (Brine) and salesman (Blakley) and he assumed both were working for the partnership of Irish and Brine. (The Brine in this partnership was Robert Brine’s elder brother.) In 1882, they were listed for the first time as partners in the firm of Blakley & Brine, occupying the premises of M. Kearney, former dry goods dealer, at 148 Granville Street on the corner of Duke. This new firm advertised a great deal. They used wordy ads. As other numismatists before him, McDonald suggested the die sinker was confused, but he believed the die sinker mistook – not fish – but Brine’s name for something to do with salt.

Such a coincidence needed little else to convince the thinkers of the day to see the logic behind this conclusion. Brine, as a noun, is water very heavily laced with dissolved salt and was used to pickle fish.

**A LOCAL EVENT.**

AT this season of the year it is refreshing to receive an item in our advertising columns which will make the issue acceptable to our many thousands of readers. Messrs. Blakley & Brine, who, for the past few months, have been selling a stock of merchandise purchased from the estate of the late M. Kearney, decided to continue his business at the corner of Granville and Duke Streets upon a principle which should meet with the approval of every reader of this paper. They claim that by selling Goods for ready money over the counter, they can under-sell houses who give long credits—which seems reasonable. They also inform us of their intention to follow as closely as possible the co-operative, or mutual benefit, system; or, in other words, divide the old-fashioned long profits between their customers and themselves. Should this course be adhered to, it will result in a large business for

**BLAKLEY & BRINE,**  
Cor. Granville & Duke Streets

Fig. 3. *The Halifax Morning Herald*, Jan. 10, 1882.

Blakley & Brine's first advertisement (left) was written in the third person, in a style that mimicked a regular news item. In it, we find that Mr. Kearney has died, and the two men, (possibly former employees), been for some months selling off the stock of goods, and have decided to carry on the same type of business in the same location.

DIRECTORY.] HALIFAX. 199



**BRITISH WAREHOUSE,**  
(CORNER OF DUKE AND GRANVILLE STREETS.)  
**M. KEARNEY, JR.,**  
IMPORTER OF EVERY DESCRIPTION OF  
British and Foreign  
**DRY GOODS,**  
Keeps constantly on hand a large Stock of  
Gents' Furnishings and Ready-Made Clothing,  
AT PRICES TO DEFY COMPETITION.  
FOR CASH.  
PRINCE OF WALES' BUILDINGS,  
HALIFAX, N. S.

Fig. 4. From *Hutchinson's Nova Scotia Directory*, 1866-67.

A summary of Directory entries as relates to these companies seems to be in order. These are all from McAlpine's Halifax City Directories. Though two years are noted in the title, it should be understood that the information was recorded in the summer of the first year, to be "good" until the summer of the following year, and not for the full two year period (h. stands for "house at"; bds. for "boards at").

1875-76 to 1779-1880: Blakley, John H., was listed as a salesman. Various addresses, the last: h. 94 Cornwallis

1880-81: Blakeney, John H., listed without any occupation given. h. 94 Cornwallis

:Brine, Henry K., of Irish & Brine, h. 17 Morris

:Brine, Robert F., clerk, bds. 17 Morris (Henry was his older brother as per the census of 1881)

:Kearney, Michael, dry goods, 148 Granville

1881-82: Blakley, John, of Blakley & Brine. h.12 Cunard (Robert F. Brine not listed)

1882-83: Blakley, John, of Blakley & Brine. h. 157 Lockman

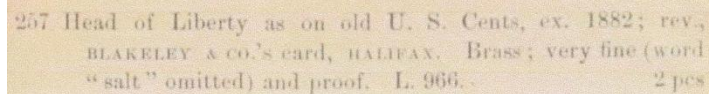
: Brine, Robt. F., of Blakley & Brine. h. 157 Lockman (same as Blakley)

: Blakley & Brine, dry goods, 148 Granville

1883-84: Blakley, John H., of Blakley & Co., h. 157 Lockman

: Robert F. Brine is not listed, nor ever again.

This was the only year in which “Blakley & Co.” was listed. Clearly a separation of their ways had occurred, and the firm of Blakley & Brine ended, with Blakley trying to carry on by himself. This too was short lived, and the directories of 1884 to 1893 show him as clerk, salesman and finally commercial traveller. He eventually formed other partnerships: the first as junior partner in Hubley & Co. at 102 Gottingen Street, grocers and victuallers. In 1893-96 he became sole owner and in 1897 re-branded the concern as J. H. Blakley & Co. In 1899 he had partnered with James Ross so the firm was then Blakley & Ross. This did not last, and the following year the premises at 102 Gottingen were occupied by others.



257 Head of Liberty as on old U. S. Cents, ex. 1882; rev.,  
BLAKELEY & CO.'S card, HALIFAX. Brass; very fine (word  
"salt" omitted) and proof. L. 966. 2 pcs

Fig. 5. Excerpt from the 1892 Joseph Hooper sale.

From Fig. 5, comes the interesting fact that a different version of the token without “Salt” existed. That it was the more worn of the two being merely very fine, while the one with “Salt” included was shiny and “Proof” points to a different explanation than previously thought. All the pieces we come across are usually in high grade, shiny brass, but regardless of shiny or worn they all have Salt in the legend. This single “saltless” token is more apt to be a sample offered for approval. If the sample without Salt was rejected, then the word must have been added deliberately, and not likely to have been in error.

What seems to be at odds in Mitch McDonald’s paper are the two names of the firm: he suggests that Blakley & Brine ordered the token, yet it reads Blakley & Co. If a sample token had come to them while still known as Blakley & Brine and was rejected because Brine was not named, one should expect the subsequent attempt at cutting the die to be absolutely accurate. On the other hand, if the name of the firm ordering the tokens was Blakley & Co., what reason would there be to include Brine at all? And, further, if Brine was out of the picture, the word salt



could not have been a misinterpretation of his surname, leaving us with the probability that the word “salt” was intended. Since the name of the firm changed at the time of Brine’s leaving it, there seems scant reason for his name to have ever been a factor in this Salt Controversy.

In the next issue of *The Transactions* Robert Willey commented on McDonald’s work, adding information he had recently received from an English collector, who suggested the possibility of the “Drysaltery” business (today called a Pharmacy) as a reason for the two words Dry and Salt in the reverse legend. Willey rejected the suggestion, based solely on McDonald’s brine theory. It will be seen by the following figure of an actual Drysaltery advertisement by another Halifax firm that there was nothing in the nature of the type of goods to suggest Blakley & Brine were involved in that trade. McLachlan was aware in 1892 that their business was in fabrics and clothing rather than drugs and chemicals, a detail ignored by Willey, but happily coincident with his new opinion of Brine equals salt.

**HALIFAX MORNING HERALD, MONDAY, JULY 3, 1882.**

**Drysalteries, Drugs, &c., &c.**

30 CASKS Epsom Salts,	20 BLS. Bicarbonate,
30 CASKS Green Copperas,	15 CASKS Pure Olive Oil,
25 CASKS Lump Alum,	50 CARBOYS Sulphuric Acid,
KEGS Baking Soda,	5 GROSS Muriatic Acid,
Gaskell, Deacon & Co., }	5 GROSS Putner's Emulsion,
28 BLS. Flour Sulphur,	5 GROSS Hop Bitters,
15 BLS. Roll Sulphur,	5 GROSS St. Jacobs Oil,
10 CASKS Cream Tartar,	5 GROSS Forsyth's Quinine Wine,
100 CASKS London Whiting,	5 GROSS Grant's Bitters,
100 CASKS Paris Whiting,	5 GROSS Archibald's Balsam.
100 CASKS Washing Soda,	

**LOW, WHOLESALE.**

**FORSYTH, SUTCLIFFE & CO.,**

**WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS.**

**FLOCC**  
**NE**  
**NOTTINGHA**  
**FROM 8**  
**TO 12**  
**POLES,**

Fig.6. The Halifax Morning Herald, July 3, 1882

One of the more salient points in the above listings from the Directories is that the firm “Blakley & Co.” was only listed in a single Directory: the one for 1883-84.

The first time an advertisement appeared in the *Herald* under the name Blakley & Co., was on August 22, 1882. The last was January 6, 1883. It was simply: “Watch Blakley And Co’s Space For Future Events” in big, bold letters. At that time at least Blakley obviously had hopes – if not plans – to rebuild the company. It is probable that he coasted downhill for a few months selling off what he could to recoup some of his investment. He saw enough light at the tunnel’s end to place a big ad (Fig. 7) in the Directory for the ensuing year, so it is safe to say he was trying to cope.

148—GRANVILLE ST.—148  
CORNER DUKE STREET.

**BLAKLEY & CO.**

IMPORTERS OF

**DRY GOODS.**

Prints, Grey Cottons, White Cottons, Table Linen, Towels,  
Napkins, Counterpanes, Quills, Hosiery, Gloves,  
Umbrellas, Mantles, Velvets, Cashmeres,  
Frillings, Fringes, Silks, Satins,  
&c., &c., &c.

**BLAKLEY & CO.'S**

Millinery Department

IS SECOND TO NONE.

148 GRANVILLE STREET.

Figure 7 shows Blakley's half page ad in McAlpine's Halifax City Directory for 1883-1884.

From the preceding history of the company, it will be understood that the token at the heart of the "Salt Controversy" must have been ordered after the partnership of Blakley & Brine was either wrecked or nearing the rocks. By August of 1882 Blakley was on his own, and whether Brine and he parted at the expiration of the original agreement or for other reasons is not readily seen. There is a possibility that Brine fell victim to a massive Land Scheme in Manitoba. There was a regular advertising blitz in the papers during the spring of that same year. In one of the later ads still in the name of Blakley & Brine, is a reference that can be interpreted as a rush to the west to take up huge tracts of land for minimal amounts. It reads: "How many of the exodus do you think will be singing "Home, Sweet Home" by next spring?" Perhaps Mr. Brine was one of them.

We do know the company name did not change prior to August and also what legend the token carried. The issuer's name was Blakley & Co. which was only in existence from July or August 1882 to sometime in 1883. During that time an order for tokens was placed, a sample received, rejected, reordered, and received by mid to late 1883 when they were found in the outports.

The phrase "Great Dry Salt Goods" made no sense to McLachlan, nor those who followed him. While contemplating this issue, I noticed that no one had even mentioned the little + sign between the first two words and the last two. This should be read as "Great Dry *and* Salt Goods". The whole phrase is even more telling as "Great Dry and Salt Goods Warehouse" puts this into perspective. "Great" is a degree of magnitude, suggestive of more than one meaning, and all of them positive, so typical of the subtleties used by Blakley and Brine: Great Selection or Quality or Quantity of the Goods; or the Warehouse is huge.

Why was Salt included, if not a mistake for Brine, and if not in relation to chemicals? McLachlan considered salt fish. I believe he was very close to correct, but not for the right reason. Instead of the die cutter mistaking "Dry Goods" with "Dried Salt Cod" as McLachlan thought probable, there is every chance that Salt was included because Blakley & Co. was trying

to break into the salt fish market. He may have been looking for suppliers of salt fish, or he might have been looking for users of salt that his warehouse was able to supply...or both. Due to the impending and eventual dissolution of that company, little exists to corroborate this theory, except the very notice that McLachlan received of the token's existence.

These tokens first emerged in mid to late 1883 in the outports of Nova Scotia. These were and still are communities' dependant on the fishing industry. There were no factory trawlers then, and no freezing facilities. Fish were saved by two methods: pickling them, or drying them. Both processes used salt. Blakley would have visited the communities in an effort to secure suppliers of salt fish, or customers for salt.....and what salesman doesn't leave a business card?

The token/card was shiny yellow and imitated an American gold coin, which was sure to gain attention. As a business card the token was intended to bring attention to both sides of Blakley's enterprise: Dry Goods *and* Salt Goods.

The Obverse: 1882 and "Liberty"

Aside from the almost too obvious date of the founding of Blakley & Co., the year 1882 has another somewhat subtle message. This same year, the people of Ireland were agitating for more autonomy from Britain. It was a movement that evolved from a desire to self govern much like Canada and other parts of the Empire were enjoying, to a revolution bent on independence. In 1882, Irish Home Rule was a hot topic.

An advertisement of 27 April 1882, while the concern was still known as Blakley & Brine overflowed with civic duty. In a departure from the usual format, this insertion looked every bit like local news. It started with a headline similar to a news column, and the first item was clearly not business related: "Did your vaccination take?" Liberally mixing commercialism and politics with public interest snippets, it is entertaining, and keeps the reader's attention. They ask about the election results...the progress of the Dry Dock... is the reader on the electoral list...have you begun house cleaning... and other issues, all leading up to the main point.

In the dramatic position of "the bottom line" was an exceptionally broad clue to the use of Liberty on the token.

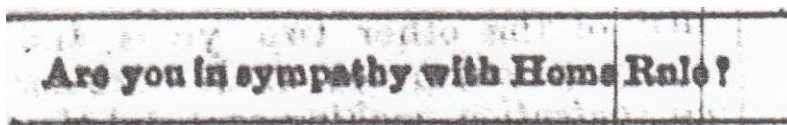


Fig. 8. Home Rule was a hot political topic at this time. It refers to the desire by the Irish to make Ireland a self governing Dominion within the British Empire.

The historian will likely recognize the close similarity to the movement in Ireland to achieve greater independence to the struggle of the American Revolution. One had already broken from the Empire; the other would eventually. The symbolic use of "Liberty" with 13 stars on American coins was a direct reference to the same number of colonies that successfully revolted

and won their liberty. Was it a symbolic warning that the Irish desire for self government – in 1882 – might end in the same result?

Both men were of English origin. Brine's father was a priest in the Anglican Church. Doubt exists that they were promoting Irish separation. They did not want their Empire to lose another part.

In any case, their ad of July 4, 1882 was downright patriotic.

The advertisement in Fig. 9 (right) reads like a campaign for a flag. Instead, it refers to the recent Federal election of June 20<sup>th</sup> in which Sir John A. MacDonald was returned to power on a platform of high tariffs on imported manufactures.

The rest of Blakley & Brine's ad that day included nothing that was not Canadian made, a small sample of which is shown at the bottom. Cut off to save space here, were a dozen other "Canadian makes".

They had not only waved the flag; they had verbally saluted it.

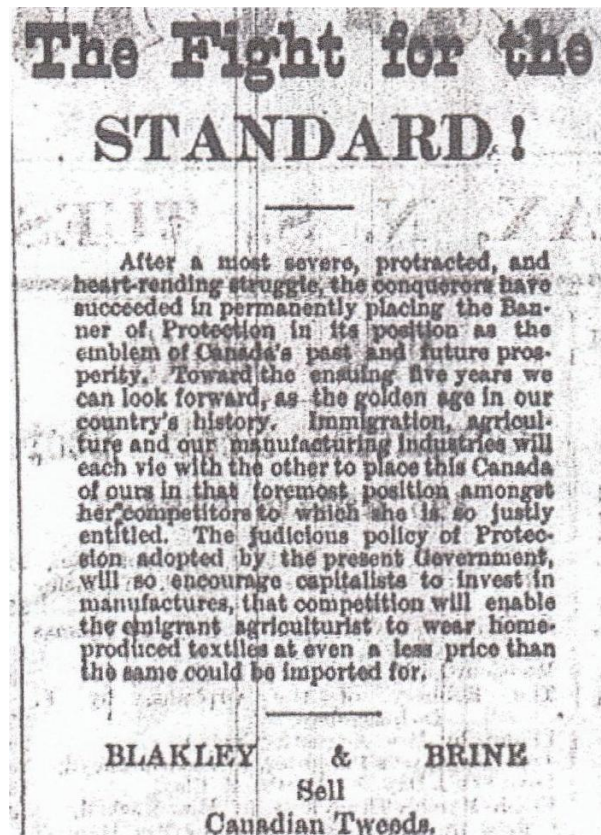


Fig. 9. July 4, 1882, The Halifax Morning Herald

In conclusion, this scenario makes much more sense to me than laying the blame on the die maker.

It just seems too unlikely for a die cutter, whose livelihood depended on precision, to make such a gross error. There is every chance that the first sample (in Hooper's collection) was rejected not for a mistake on the die cutter's part, but more likely as an afterthought on the part of Blakley.

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McColl 2



## Addendum to “Canada’s First Aluminum 25c Coin”

By Barry Uman FCNRS/FRCNA

Since my first report about Canada’s first aluminum coins in the Canadian Numismatic Journal in volume 61, number 7, October/November 2016 issue, I have not received any reports of any other similar pieces made for the R.C.M.

There is now some additional information that should be added to my original report. I now know exactly how many trial coins exist since I was allowed to count them in person. Those listed as, “tested”, show abrasion from having being tested in a tumbler machine. There are 32 coins in the hoard. The owner of this hoard has permitted only one complete set to be released for public knowledge but has no intention of selling any of the remaining pieces.

COLOUR	QUANTITY	TESTED
Light red	11	1
Light blue	8	1
Light green	6	1
Light grey	5	2
Light silver	2	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>5</b>

These aluminum pieces were made in Kingston, Ontario by Alcan Canada in its research laboratories in the 1980s, despite the 1969 date on the coins. Alcan was founded in 1902 as the, “Northern Aluminum Company” and in 1925, it was renamed, “Aluminum Company of Canada”, then, “Alcan”, in 1945. Recently it was sold to “Rio Tinto”, and then to “Amcors”, and “Novelis”.

The original plant, which included both the manufacturing and research labs, was built in 1940. It employed 4,200 people at its peak of operations. Presently, there are no production or research facilities and only 275 employees on the premises. Most of the manufacturing equipment has been dispersed or disposed of.



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## **W.G. Carruthers. Avening, Ontario General Merchant**

By Harry N. James, FCNRS

William Garrick Carruthers was born in 1848 on board the sailing vessel *Garrick* on the Atlantic Ocean, while his family was immigrating to the United States from Scotland. He was given his middle name after the ship they sailed on. His parents were George Carruthers, 1811-1865, and Allison (Jardine) Carruthers, 1810-1891. The family started life on this side of the Atlantic in New York, eventually moving to Avening, Ontario where they cleared a farm.

“Avening is a post office in the Township of Nottawasaga, County of Simcoe, 26 miles west of Barrie, the county seat, also a station on the Collingwood branch of the GTR. The nearest bank is at Creemore, 2 ½ miles. It contains a church and a public school. Wm. L Coulter postmaster.” (From the Western Ontario Gazateer and Directory 1898-99 containing the portion of the Province west of and including the City of Toronto and South Georgian Bay.)

In William’s early years he worked in mills and also clerked in Banda, Creemore and Dunedin, Ontario. In 1871 he was a miller in Nottawasaga Township. He married Ellen Tweed, born in 1856 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September, 1873 when he was 25 and she, 17.

In 1877 he moved his family to Emerson, Manitoba, where he built bridges and operated saw mills. About 1883 he had a serious accident while on a business trip and was confined to a wheelchair for the rest of his life.

The family returned to Avening, and with the help of his brother, he converted the Odd Fellows Hall into a general store where he sold groceries and dry goods along with his wife Ellen. For many years the Carruthers also operated the post office.

William and Ellen Carruthers had five children; Annie May, born in 1875; George Lewis, born in 1876; Allison, born in 1878; William Walter, born in 1880 and John Jardine in 1883.

Allison was working as a clerk in the store by 1901. It is likely that the other children helped in the business over the years as well.

Both William and his wife, Ellen died in 1913.

William Carruthers made use of trade due bill tokens in the general store. A set of six denominations from 1 cent to a dollar are known. They were of aluminum, round and ranged in size from 18mm in diameter for the cent to 35mm for the dollar.

The tokens:

### W.G. CARRUTHERS / GENERAL . MERCHANT / AVENING, ONT

GOOD FOR / 1.00 / IN MERCHANDISE	A-R-35
GOOD FOR / 50 / IN MERCHANSISE	A-R-31
GOOD FOR / 25 / IN MERCHANDISE	A-R-28
GOOD FOR / 10 / IN MERCHANDISE	A-R-25
GOOD FOR / 5 / IN MERCHANDISE	A-R-20



Avening General Store with W.G. Carruthers and wife Ellen in the doorway and various family members on the porch. The gentleman to the left is Duncan Carruthers who lived across the street and to the right are Mrs. Bob Carruthers, Ellen and George Carruthers.

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# KNOWN VARIETY OF BRETON 987 NOT DESCRIBED BY COURTEAU

By Lorne Barnes



987

Composition: Copper. Weight: 8.70 grams. Diameter: 27.89mm. Thickness: 1.94mm. Die axis: ↑↑. Edge: oblique milling ///////////////. Ten leaves.

The above-pictured token was not described by Courteau, but he would have known of the existence of this copper variety, as he made reference to W.J. Davis's publication *Nineteenth Century Token Coinage* and Davis listed it as number 102.

Perhaps the reason Courteau did not list it was because he did not have an example of the token and did not copy Davis; in addition, I have found this variety extremely difficult to obtain. In the publication *British Copper Tokens 1811-1820*, by Paul and Bente R. Withers, they list it as 1520 and mention it is difficult to obtain as well.

OBVERSE:



1. Under the ear on the neck there are three locks of hair, middle one longest and does not touch ear, lowest one curves up at end and ends just above collar line. Collar line does not extend to hair lock.
2. The button on the coat is closer to lapel.



REVERSE:

The reverse is the same as Courteau 4, with last 'A' in TALAVERA not plugged with a small die crack at bottom right foot of same letter to inner circle.

Sources:

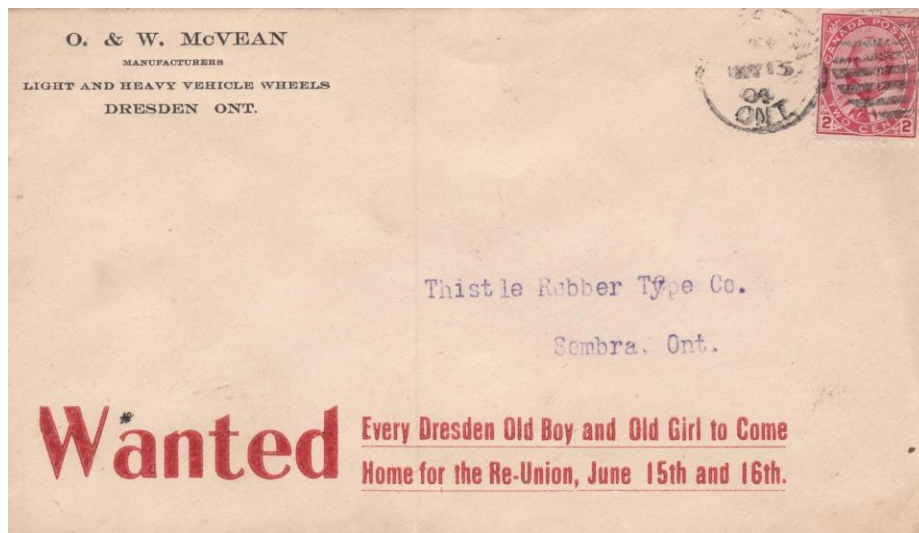
Breton, P.N. 1894. *Illustrated History of Coins and Tokens Relating to Canada*. Montreal: P.N. Breton & Co.

Courteau, Eugene G. 1915. *The Wellington Tokens Relating to Canada*, New York: American Journal of Numismatics Vol. XLVIII.

Davis, W.J. *The Nineteenth Century Token Coinage of Great Britain Ireland The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man*, London, UK: B.A. Seaby Ltd., 1969.

Withers, Paul and Bente R. 1999. *British Cooper Tokens 1811-1820*. Llanfyllin, UK: Galata Print Ltd.

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Advertising cover from the McVean firm related to McColl numbers 540-543 and mailed to Thistle Rubber Type, a known token manufacturer.





## The 1897 Pointe Claire Victoria Jubilee School Medal

By Barry Uman FCNRS/FRCNA

1897 was a year of great celebration in England and throughout the British dominions and colonies. The celebration was for the 60th year of Queen Victoria's reign. Many commemorative medals were struck for her diamond jubilee across the British Empire. Canada contributed to this celebration by issuing many souvenir medals, both official and private, which were made by the well known medal manufacturers such as Ellis, Pritchard & Andrews, Ryrie, the Wyon Family, Elkington, Banfield, Schwaab, Whitehead & Hoag, Dingwall, Gaunt, Birks and others, besides the Royal Mint.

In Montreal, a well known retailer and medal manufacturer, Birks, struck nine commemorative school medals for Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee. The common obverse of the medals shows a crowned portrait of Queen Victoria with her name above and, "Queen and Empress", below and the dates, "1837" and "1897" on each side of the portrait. Below the portrait is the manufacturer's name, "Birks".

Each of the nine different medals has a different reverse and they range from a very detailed design to one that is very simple. They are all listed in Leroux's 1897 supplement to his 1888, *Canadian Coin Cabinet*. They are made in different metals and vary from pewter or white metal to bronze, brass and silver. Not all the pieces were struck in all the different metals. The most common metal is pewter then bronze and brass. Silver is the scarcest. There are also trial pieces struck in lead or aluminum with both complete and incomplete designs. Rare mules do exist especially for the Pointe Claire school medal. They all vary in diameter from (30.2-30.3 mm), as does their weight and thickness, with silver been the heaviest followed by bronze or brass.

Leroux no.

1875	Protestant Board of School Commissioners Montreal
1875a	McGill Model School Montreal
1875b	Protestant School Commissioners Quebec
1875c	High School of Quebec
1875d	High School for Girls Quebec
1875f	Pointe Claire School
1875g	Presented by Jos. B. Benson, Mayor, Chatham, NB
1875h	School of New Glasgow, NS
1875i	[5 dots for Huntington or Longueuil as per J. Leroux]

Notes:

1875g	It is not known to whom these medals were presented. A school, school board or students.
1875d	I have not seen this medal.
1875i	I have not seen this medal.

The Pointe Claire school medal is an anomaly for a number of reasons. A school with this name cannot be located exactly in the city but it was probably in the old village near the waterfront and the nearby main road. There was an old French school near the church, which is located adjacent to the windmill, but could this English language medal refer to this French school?

The medal has a very simple reverse design of a twig with three small maple leaves surrounded by a circle of eight large dots. It seems that it was designed for a single small school, which had no formal logo or emblem, so the engraver used a generic symbol on the reverse. It is also a mystery why there are both coin and medal axis varieties, while all the other school medals have only a medal axis.

There are a number of varieties of this medal as follows:

Variety	Obverse	Reverse	Metal	Axis
1	Queen Victoria	Pte. Claire School	Pewter	Coin
2	Queen Victoria	Pte. Claire School	Bronze	Medal or coin
3	Rev. of #1875	Pte. Claire School	Pewter	Medal or coin
4	Rev. of #1875	Pte. Claire School	Bronze	Medal or coin

The Pointe Claire school medal seldom appears for sale or auction and is very scarce. The medals would be considered rare. Because the population of Pointe Claire village was so small in 1897, it can be safely assumed that very few of these school medals were struck.



Queen Victoria 1897 Birks School Medals - obverses



Queen Victoria 1897 Birks School medals – reverses



Pewter Pointe Claire medal



Queen Victoria 1897 Birks School medals for Pointe Claire

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Classified ad page: This is a free service for members.

*Supplement for December 2017 issue of Numismatica Canada*

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**Wanted** for my personal collection. The tokens of A.D. Porcheron. I can be reached at –  
[lenkuenzig@sympatico.ca](mailto:lenkuenzig@sympatico.ca)

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**Masonic Medals Wanted:** including Canadian Craft lodges, York Rite, Scottish Rite and Shrine. Please send descriptions, condition and prices asked. Doug Franklin, 202 – 4535 Viewmount Avenue, Victoria, BC V8Z 5L3. E-mail [frankli2@telus.net](mailto:frankli2@telus.net)

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**For sale or trade:** Medals and tokens of collectors, dealers and manufacturers available plus miscellaneous items. Send want list or request my listing. Contact Barry Uman, 242 Sedgefield, Pointe Claire, QC H9R 1P2 or email at [clarinets@videotron.ca](mailto:clarinets@videotron.ca)

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**Wanted for my personal collection:** Tokens and scrip of Ottawa and surrounding area (including milk, bread, merchants' due bills, etc. etc.). Also medals of all types (agricultural, school, athletic, exhibition, religious, etc.). Will purchase or trade. Contact: Chris Faulkner, 1460 Merrivale Road, Box 78085, Ottawa, ON, Canada K2E 1B1

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**Trade Dollars For Sale:** scarce and common. Please check out my list of trade dollars from Canada. Check out my website at <http://www.gilbertweb.com/Tradesale.mht> or send for a listing. Included in this list are the following items: Barrhead AB 1971, Labrador City NF 1974, St. Andrews NB 1984 (\$1 error), Stewiacke Valley PEI 1980 (bz), Chatham Pioneer Days NB 1979 (plain edge), and Mahone Bay NS 1979. Bob Gilbert, P.O. Box 299, Liberty Corner, NJ USA 07938, [bob@gilbertweb.com](mailto:bob@gilbertweb.com)

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**W.R. McColl 1903 Sales List - an alphabetical listing** of the McColl offering, by: 1) name 2) location 3) Province - by location, name and cross-referenced to Bowman, Hill, Stewart and Tannahill as applicable. The Ontario listing includes a separate section by County 4) original numerical McColl list. Will facilitate locating names/attribution appearing in McColl which previously could be a time consuming task to find in his original list. Soft cover, spiral bound, 90 pages, 8 ½ x 11 inches. Copies C\$20.00 **each** plus postage. A private publication by Len Buth, P.O. Box 28012, Oakridge Postal Outlet, 1201 Oxford St. W., London ON, Canada N6H 5E1. [lbuth@webmanager.on.ca](mailto:lbuth@webmanager.on.ca)

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**Paying Top Prices** for Newfoundland scrip, Maritime medals before 1920, Maritime local tokens and better Canadian chartered banknotes. Geoff Bell, P.O. Box 5079, Shediac, NB, E4P 8T8

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**The 2014 Checklist** of Saskatchewan Trade Tokens is available. This combines the 1996 Checklist with all new finds up to January, 2014, plus list updates since. A column has been added to show which tokens are in the Tannahill-Harding collection at the Western Development Museum in Saskatoon. The price for the spiral bound book is C\$25.00 including postage. Send payment to: Ron L. Rogal, 1007 Kingsmere Blvd., Saskatoon, SK S7J 5A7

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**Announcement** – Larry Walker and Bill Cousins of Gad’s Hill, Ontario have sold their business CANADA WIDE WOODS as of August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015 to Mr. James Williston, of Calgary, AB. and wish their many customers to continue their patronage with Mr. Williston in the future.

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**Wanted** for my personal collection: tokens from Knapman Beach, or later called the Burlington Beach, or Canal Amusement Park (1903-1978). Other related items would also be considered. Contact me at [wsobcoins@hotmail.com](mailto:wsobcoins@hotmail.com)

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**Wanted for my personal collection:** medals relating to the 1860 royal visit to North America.

I am still looking for Hoffnung medals in bronze (Leroux 643) and silver (Leroux 643 & 644), the Lower Canada Board of Arts & Manufactures medal in bronze (Leroux 612), academic medals, Leroux 636 (Bishop’s), Leroux 671 (McGill), and “Blondin the Hero of Niagara” medal (44 mm variety), the “NY Firemans Torchlight Parade” medal in brass and white metal, and the Merriam U.S.A. Souvenir medal in brass.

Ron Cheek - [rpmejilla@yahoo.ca](mailto:rpmejilla@yahoo.ca)

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**Wanted for my personal collection** – Breton 735 and 736 (Illiffe tokens) all varieties. Jim Astwood - [jastwood@mymts.net](mailto:jastwood@mymts.net)

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**Information Wanted** – For Population Survey or Census of the Communion Token Bowman 204 (MacLachlan 166, Charlton NS-306). “ST:P” raised, within rectangular cartouche sunk into worn British half pence usually. Any information welcome. Discretion is guaranteed. Eric Leighton - [egleighton@outlook.com](mailto:egleighton@outlook.com) Put Bo204 in subject line, please.

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