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## Canada's First Postage Stamp Found in Ottawa

Monday, February 24, 1851.

*Breakfasted at Ellans Hotel  
with Mr Rutten & Hon<sup>ble</sup> Jas  
Morris Post Master General  
Designing postage stamp  
for him*



By CENTRAL PRESS CANADIAN

Ottawa, Feb. —The first Canadian postage stamp, in fact, the first proof of the first stamp designed by the late Sir Sandford Fleming, has come into the possession of H. Borden Clarke, well known Ottawa philatelist, after having been lost for many years.

Known as the three-penny Beaver, the stamp was found mounted on a page of Sir Sandford's diary, dated Monday, Feb. 24, 1851, which bore the words, in his handwriting, "Had breakfast at the hotel, with Mr. Rutten and Hon. James Morris, postmaster-general, designing postage stamp for him."

The stamp is an oblong, bearing

the inscription "Canada Postage, V.R. Three Pence," with a beaver surmounted by a crown in the centre.

Valued at \$10,000

Mr. Clarke has placed a value of \$10,000 upon his acquisition, based on the equal value price paid for first stamps of other colonies. In time he intends to lend or give the stamp to the Dominion archives for public examination.

Sir Sandford, after receiving the first proof of his design, attached the stamp to his diary as a souvenir. It was lost for a long time until a prolonged search brought it to light.