

The Logbook

Newsletter of the Newfoundland Numismatic Enthusiasts



Modern Replica of HMS Matthew

July 1, 2007
Volume 1, Issue 3

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**NNE Meeting at CNA
Niagara Falls
Friday, July 14th 4-6 p.m.!**
Talk by Geoff Bell!
Auction!
Show & Tell Time!
**Members Exhibit Their
Collections!**

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From the President

By Bill Kamb, President

The CNA Convention and consequently our next meeting in Niagara Falls is only a couple of weeks away. I'm looking forward to it and to meeting many more NNE members. Last year's meeting was overwhelming, with more than three times as many people showing up as I expected. This year, we have a two-hour meeting scheduled for Friday afternoon from 4 - 6 p.m. We'll have to be very efficient managing our time, as I expect we'll have an even bigger turnout than last year. As we had standing room only at our inaugural meeting, we've reserved a bigger room this year. Like last year, we're going to have an auction of donated material. We have another gold coin already donated and the copy of *The Currency and Medals of Newfoundland* that was misplaced last year. We currently have 91 members and many have already indicated they're attending this year.

Geoff Bell, twice past-president of the CNA, has agreed to be our first speaker. I've known Geoff for almost ten years, am on the CNA executive with him, and think you'll find him an interesting speaker. He is going to speak on his two years of experience on the *Canadian Antiques Road Show* as their numismatic guru. For the last hour of the meeting, I'll ask each member to introduce themselves, and if they've brought a numismatic item to describe it briefly. Any member can bring his favourite coin, best purchase, or most unusual piece and talk about it for a minute or so. As members break up into small groups of similar interests at the end of the meeting, keep in mind that our meeting is followed by the Royal Canadian Mint reception.

Several members have agreed to jointly exhibit their collections or parts of their collection in the name of the club. This year the NNE exhibit will feature Breton tokens, twentieth century tokens, and paper money. Next year we're planning to display both decimals and medals. If you're not into exhibiting,

you ought to at least view this display; you may never get the chance to see some of the material again, as there are several rare pieces. I've been exhibiting for fifteen years and find it challenging and fulfilling. Because you're placing information before the public, you are forced to investigate those grey areas in your knowledge, and clearly put them down in black and white. I think exhibiting makes everyone a better numismatist and you can also make many new friends because of it.

Another Goddard Token!

By Bill Kamb

When writing the article on the 10-cent Goddard token from Newfoundland, which was published in the last issue of *The Logbook*, I sent it to Ed Mayhew, a Newfoundland Numismatic Enthusiast (NNE) member to critique. Ed suggested that I look at a particular web site, <http://jb-ms.com/Baron/Find> that featured items found with metal detectors, including the 25-cent token that Scott Douglas had sent me pictures of two years before!

Through the web site I was able to contact the owner of the latter token, Kevin Hansen of Alberta, Canada. Kevin was reluctant to sell the piece as he was not in the treasure-hunting hobby to make money and had never sold any of his finds. I e-mailed him the article I placed in *Canadian Coin News* over a year ago announcing my intentions to form a Newfoundland collector's club. After considering my offer over the Christmas and New Year holidays, he consented to sell me the token, as he realized I would give it a good home. Now I am the proud owner of two different denominations of an unlisted merchant, George M. Goddard, from Epworth, Newfoundland.

The design of the 25-cent token is similar to the 10-cent one. The obverse features GEO. M. GODDARD and EPWORTH, N. F. at the rim with a device resembling a compass in the centre. On the 10-cent token a single dot is opposite the end of each spear point but on the 25-cent token there are two

Characteristics of My Goddard 25

Metal: Brass	Date: Undated	Die Axis: Medal (↑↓)
Weight: 6.4 g	Diameter: 28.6 mm	Edge: Plain
Rim: Strong denticles on the obverse and weak ones on the reverse		
Error!		Error!



dots, which resemble a colon (:). The stars at the rim have tiny incuse stars in their centres, whereas on the 10-cent token they were plain. The obverse was struck with rusted dies as evidenced by small bubbles scattered throughout the fields. The reverse is also similar to the 10-cent token with GOOD FOR / IN MERCHANDISE at the rim but with a large 25 in the centre. However, there are stars at the rim at 2:30 and 9:30, where there were none on the 10-cent token. An unusual feature is displayed in the digits of this denomination. The hash marks within the different areas of the digits are at different angles to each other, whereas on the 10-cent token they were at the same angles. The reverse was not struck from rusted dies but shows more environmental damage than the obverse. The token is in good condition for being buried in the ground for years. It has toned to look like a copper piece, but hints of the brass show through on a few high points on each side.

Luck had much to do with my finding these two tokens. In the case of the 10-cent token, I just happened to be in the right place at the right time and a dealer friend offered me the Goddard token first. In the case of the 25-cent token, I happened to send my article for critique by an NNE club member I've never met. He came back with a web site for me, and that brought me the second token. Being involved in the club and networking with members has certainly paid a dividend!

To date, my research on the Goddard tokens has revealed an interesting fact

that has a personal bearing. In McAlpine's Business Directory of Newfoundland for the year 1898 George Goddard is listed as a general merchant, along with my great-grandfather! In an isolated outpost like Epworth / Burin they must have known each other.

If anyone has more information on the Goddard tokens or has one in their collection I'd like to hear from them at: nfld73h@siscom.net.

Newfoundland Government Cash Notes – Department of Public Works Issue 1901-1909

By Douglas B. Shand

It was during the first half of the 19th century that the Newfoundland Government entertained the idea of introducing colonial paper money as a

medium of exchange. In 1834 the House of Assembly established the *Newfoundland Savings Bank*, and beginning in that year they introduced interest bearing treasury notes, (6% per annum) which were issued in denominations of 25, 50, and 100 pounds sterling. Within two years all of these had been redeemed and destroyed. In 1846 (*at the time of the second issue of treasury notes*) The *Bank of British North America*, having established a branch in St John in 1838, came into direct competition with these notes. As a result the colony found that it could not keep their notes in circulation, owing to the fact that the bank's notes could be issued in smaller denominations. The Currency Act was further adjusted to allow the issue of treasury notes in smaller denominations, however for some reason the colonial government decided not to follow through with this, instead they opted to recall all of their notes by the end of 1857, and did not issue paper money again until 1900, however this was certainly not the last paper currency that the colonists would see. Despite the addition of the new circulating decimal currency, locals still often found themselves experiencing a lack of currency on the island. So much so that in 1875 private paper money began to see a greater acceptance. Two of the earliest firms to issue notes were the *Betts Cove Mining Company*, whose payment notes ranged from 10 cents to \$20.00, and the *Reid Contracting Company*, who were primarily responsible for contract work performed on the construction of the Newfoundland railway. Later in 1894 *Browning Brothers* followed suit in a likewise fashion. Regardless, these notes were often only payable for wages



and/or goods at the company stores. Although the notes were successful on a localized level, there were restrictions and limitations.

From the time of inception, the *Bank of British North America* had remained the sole note issuing banking institution in Newfoundland. That is until *The Union Bank of Newfoundland* opened its doors for business in 1854. By 1857 (as a result of their success) they had virtually helped put the local branch of the *Bank of British North America* out of business. The *Commercial Bank of Newfoundland* was formed the following year (1858), mainly by the merchants of St. John's. Both banks over the course of the next three decades successfully issued a series of notes in several denominations, however the currency situation had changed little during this time, for in December of 1894, both banking institutions 'crashed', either as a direct result of a severe shortage of coinage in Newfoundland, or the dangerous banking practices employed by the very merchants who were directing the banks, who often times saw fit (in terms of loans) to over extend themselves.

This, combined with the severe shortfall in the export of fish from Newfoundland in the previous four years, saw a total collapse of not only the banks but the economy as well. Due to company failures, thousand of workers were displaced from their jobs. This resulted in a run on the *Newfoundland Government Savings Bank*. Having secured a lien on coinage at the *Union Bank*, and with the assistance of a \$400,000 loan from the *Bank of Montreal*, they remained

solvent enough to meet their interest payments.

Within several months of the double bank crash of 1894, Canadian banks set up branches throughout the island, including, *The Bank of Nova Scotia*, *The Halifax Banking Company*, and the *Bank of Montreal*, with the latter now operating for the Newfoundland government.

In 1895 Robert Bond, an ambitious member of the legislative assembly (who later would become Premier) was instrumental in helping save the Newfoundland economy. He, along with the support of railway promoter Sir Robert Reid, through intelligent and tough-minded negotiations was able to rescue the colony's finances with timely loans arranged in Montreal and London, and as part of a complex deal, bond-backed a short-term loan for the savings bank with a personal guarantee of \$100,000, earning him the reputation as "the man who had been willing to risk his fortune to save his country."



Sir Robert Bond
1857-1927

With much celebration, Bond was elected Premier in 1900. Under his leadership there came a renewed era in commerce and development. It was during this time that the Government of Newfoundland (through its Department of Public Works) issued a series of **Cash Notes**, which were limited each year to the amount of money voted by the Legislature for Public Works. They

were designed to be a secure and prompt means of paying for materials and labour for road construction and maintenance.

These Cash Notes were issued in values of forty-, fifty-, and eighty-cents, as well as one- and five-dollar denominations. (The value placed on the notes was probably directly related to the rate of wages for roadwork, which at the time was reported to be twenty cents an hour.) The *American Bank Note Company* produced these notes. Each note bore a face design consisting of lathe work and counters printed in black, with only the date appearing in red. The backs of these notes remained plain and lacked any design. Each note also bore the engraved signatures of the secretary and the minister of the department. The secretary's signature appears on the left, with the 1901-02 notes bearing that of Geo. W. Mews, followed by the 1903-04 notes with the signature of James Harris. The remaining notes, dating from 1905-09, bear the signature of M.T. Knight. All notes exhibit the same signature on the right, that of Minster, Geo. W. Gushue. These notes were to be hand signed by the various Chairmen of the Local Road Boards in order to allow them to be tendered as negotiable.

There appears to have been only one series for each denomination, as none is denoted on the notes. Each note received a serial number, which appears twice, once on each side of the date. In relation to the number of notes issued for each denomination it can be assumed that it is very likely that no notes were issued with a serial number larger than five digits, with the exception of the 1905 \$1 note, which had a printing of just 100,000 notes. Overall, 1,043,327 Cash Notes were issued between 1901 & 1909, with a total face value of \$1,384,578. All of the notes in this series were redeemable at the *Bank of Montreal* branch office in St. John's, the official bankers for the Newfoundland Government. These notes were charged against a special account held by the bank for the government. Once the notes were presented for payment they were immediately withdrawn from circulation.

Another issue of notes followed in 1910 differing slightly in denominations but

Year	<u>Denomination</u>				
	40¢	50¢	80¢	\$1.00	\$5.00
1901	45,000	54,000	47,000	27,000	6,200
1902	17,500	15,000	65,000	50,000	5,000
1903	5,000	5,000	60,000	50,000	8,200
1904	5,000	5,000	59,896	57,500	8,000
1905	5,000	5,000	13,000	100,000	15,000
1906	1,990	2,000	4,994	49,992	25,000
1907	2,000	2,000	5,000	50,000	25,000
1908	2,000	2,000	5,000	50,000	25,000
1909	200	1,200	400	50,000	5,000
	83,690	91,955	260,790	484,492	122,400
Total number of notes issued for all denominations.... 1,043,327					
Total value of notes issued..... \$1,384,578					

markedly in appearance from the previous series. Their use was extended for payment in other departments, such as Marine Works and Welfare. This issue continued in use up until 1914, after which time they were gradually redeemed and retired.

In 1920, the colony continued to suffer a shortage of coinage. Coupled with the fallout that precipitated from the withdrawal of the cash notes several years prior, the Newfoundland Government chose once again to issue treasury notes. This time in the form of one and two dollar notes with a total amount of \$1,200,000. These notes enjoyed a lengthy period of circulation right up to 1939. At that time nearly 98% of these notes were either withdrawn or retired, ending the Newfoundland Government's issue of paper money as a British colony.

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- Rowe, Francis, et. al.. *The Currencies and Medals Of Newfoundland*, p.42
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How to Speak

Newfoundland

By Terry Hine

If you are a "come-from-away" (non-Newfoundlander), it may take a little while to tune your ear to the lyrical lilt and colourful vocabulary that you will encounter on "the Rock", as the colourful natives call it. The language of Newfoundland is shaped by historical influences lost in the foggy mists of time (Don't forget that this land is named for King Arthur's paradise

"Avalon"). A sense of place is important to Newfoundlanders who are either "townies" (from St. John's) or "bay-men" (from outside St. John's). By the by, St. John's is possessive (short for St. John's Harbour) not plural. Newfoundlanders celebrate Discovery Day on June 24, the saint's day when Giovanni Caboto sailed the *Matthew* to the rock in 1497. However, locals reflect their European heritage back to 1,000 C. E., when Vikings settled L'Anse Aux Meadows. They are proud of the history more than the place ("nothin' there, don't bother wasting your time"). Little Viking influence remains in the language, other than a sense of wonder at novelty ("Buddy said what?") and a preoccupation with weather and sea conditions. Linguists say Newfoundland English reflects migration patterns incorporating sixteenth century Irish and Yorkshire vocabulary and cadence preserved as in a time capsule on "the Rock." Time, of course reflects Newfoundland's sense of independence. Newfoundland and Labrador, the official name of the tenth province, asserts dominion over the eastern edge of Quebec's landmass, nursing a decades long feud over the Churchill Falls Dam hydroelectric power project (a 1960s deal sold the power in a long-term deal that is viewed as either theft or a better bargain for Quebec Hydro, depending on who is remembering). A strong maritime streak in remains in the Newfoundland vocabulary, although fresh seafood was unfashionable as recently as this writer's lifetime. This came from the prejudice that wealthy people purchased fish that was battered fried and frozen, while only destitute people bothered with freshly caught fish.

However, the revival of Newfoundland culture puts a premium on fresh ingredients and traditional preparation. Flipper pie, containing seal flippers in gravy with onions and spices under a baked puff pastry crust, is spiced in an attempt to minimize the pungent oiliness inherent in seal meat. Fish and brewis is served with salt pork. Pronounced "brews" as the I is silent, ordering the marine vertebrate is indistinguishable from a request for multiple lagers.

In talking Newfoundland "some" is used as an adverb meaning "very", as in: "That wind is some cold."

Historical suspicion in Newfoundland is that politics is a cruel joke played on the island by CFAs (come-from-aways), so the sport is to elect representatives who can play the prank the other way. The result is the great popularity of John Crosbie, an articulate Rhodes scholar, who routinely dropped his ending Gs to sound more local, but still spoke the truth defiantly. He had a running rivalry with Liberals including Sheila Copps. His famous: "Pass the tequila, Sheila," comment is still remembered, while she named her biography: *Nobody's Baby* to show her rejection of his familiar endearment. Once, Crosbie famously apologized for Copps's lateness by saying that she could not get her broom started.

Talking Newfoundland requires an easy-going sense of humour and an appreciation of good food and good times. Like Ireland, drinking a beer is called "raising a jar," while drinking hard liquor is "having a dram."

CFAs viewing the watery expanse of the rock may be surprised to be told there are neither lakes nor rivers. Any body of water bigger than a silver dollar is called a "pond." If it has a current, it is called a "brook." The rock has no forest; the treed areas are called "in the bush."

Political correctness has limited some Newfoundland humour. A mainland brewery held a contest offering a first prize of a four-week summer job, and a second prize of a job for the entire summer. The premier objected that the prize poked fun at unemployment, so the contest was modified. Indeed the Hiking Trails in the Newfoundland and Labrador website's comment on Gander warns: "Please, never confuse Newfoundlanders' friendliness, hospitality, openness, naiveté, with anything other than what it is. Let him be anathema who takes advantage of this." The same site explains: "Newfoundlanders have their own dialect, and indeed almost an entire language unique to this province. *The Dictionary of Newfoundland English* is a scholarly work in which you will find detailed etymology and definitions for many of the colourful words and expressions you will hear while visiting. **NO** dictionary will help you understand."

We've Come a Long Way!

By Steve Woodland

As I sit here by the lake at the family cottage on Canada Day, July 1st, putting together this issue of *The Logbook*, I can't help but feel proud of how far our

club has come since our first meeting nearly a year ago:

- We now have 91 registered members
- We have a super website
- Our newsletter is now in its third issue and has more than doubled in size since the first one.

- Seven members have contributed articles for the newsletter so far and others are waiting in the wings.

Keep up the great work everyone! See you in Niagara Falls!

FLOREAT TERRA NOVA

Below is a new feature we're trying, and we would like your feedback on it. Phil Carrigan has put together a list of the prices realized for Newfoundland items from a recent auction. Please let us know if you like the feature and Phil will continue to track the prices and provide us with the latest information on the sales of Newfoundland items. This takes a lot of work, however, so if you would like to give Phil a hand with this feature, please drop me a line at swoodland@storm.ca and I will forward your name.

HERITAGE World Coin Auction, January 7—8, 2007, New York City Auction #425 Prices Realized for Newfoundland Material

Lot Number	Lot Descriptions	Price Realized (USD, incl 15% Buyer's Fee)
50720	5c 1873 F—VF (raw coin) nicely toned	\$ 299
50721	5c 1903 MS62 NGC deep blue-grey tone, sharp detail	\$ 747
50722	10c 1903 AU (raw coin) lustrous, dipped?	\$ 184
50723	20c 1912 MS63 PCGS nicely toned	\$ 299
50724	20c 1912 MS66 PCGS superb toning	\$2070
50725	20c 1912 MS66 PCGS gorgeous example	\$4600
50726	50c 1870 MS61 PCGS ex Eliasberg	\$7475
50727	50c 1872H EF40 ANACS grey & gold patina	\$ 161
50728	50c 1872H MS63 NGC choice, attractive toning	\$3450
50729	50c 1873 aEF few marks, Rev. faint scratch	\$ 431
50730	\$2 1865 Choice AU mint lustre, very attractive	\$ 632
50731	\$2 1870 3dots AU58 PCGS lustrous, some small marks	\$ 977
50732	\$2 1870 3dots AU58 PCGS typical small surface marks	\$ 977
50733	\$2 1872 AU58 ANACS attractive, bold details	\$ 862
50734	\$2 1880 AU58 PCGS sharp, choice example	\$2990
50735	\$2 1881 AU-UNC lightly cleaned w hairlines	\$ 299
50736	\$2 1882H AU lustrous, small surface marks	\$ 253
50737	\$2 1882H MS64 PCGS impressive, eye appeal	\$3766
50738	\$2 1885 MS62 PCGS tiny contact marks	\$ 632
50739	\$2 1885 MS63 NGC intense brilliance, razor sharp	\$2070
50740	\$2 1888 EF-AU attractive, mint lustre	\$ 276
50741	\$2 1888 AU58 PCGS full mint brilliance, select	\$ 374
50742	\$2 1888 MS62 PCGS brilliant, attractive	\$ 632

(NB – Descriptions from catalogue)