

## SLOPER PERFORATORS SENT TO CANADA

Jon Johnson

In conversation with John Mathews (of Australia) we recently discovered a proof strike of Canada's first perfin "W.J.G" for W.J.Gage Company (W10) in Sloper's proof books. The earliest reported dated W.J.G perfin is October 2, 1887 which matches the time frame in the proof book. Since the 1950's there has been suspicions that the earliest Canadian perforators came from England as the United States did not begin active use of perfins until 1908. However there was no proof or any avenues to obtain proof. Roy Gault has confirmed two more Sloper proofs which are Canadian perfins. WG (W9) was a 1905 single die replacement machine for W.J.G (W10) which was destroyed in the Great Toronto Fire (five city blocks) on April 19, 1904. The other machine which Roy found was a four die "WT/&C° (W14) William Tyrrell & Company made in 1912.

Below is a copy of the W.J.G proof strike. The W.J.G pins were mounted on a No 4 casting. Does anyone have a perforator that looks like the sketch below? If so I would greatly appreciate obtaining a photograph of your machine for the Canadian perfin records.

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From Sloper Proof Book

