

***Alexr Pirie & Sons* SCRIPT WATERMARKS**

Using Samples of Fred Fawn's copies

The Pirie watermark occurs in Group VI of Firth's listing. It is a Montreal Printing on the 15c Large Queen only. It perforates 11.5x12 on horizontal mesh paper with good visible mesh. The shade is mostly greenish grey. Its use was in 1876-77 only.

The Greene Foundation has a letter on a company letterhead paper dated Jan.12, 1877 with the Pirie watermark running vertical and the paper mesh vertical. The paper is thinner than the issued stamp paper and the mesh is less distinct.

The Pirie watermark seems to be face-up on the stamps which means when the stamp is viewed from the back to see the watermark, the watermark is in reverse.

Front Side of Watermark



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Watermark in Reverse



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It is possible to get a good picture of the watermark on an issued stamp using the VSC6000 at the Greene Foundation and then to position the portion on the stamp against the full watermark. The watermark will be seen in reverse

Both upright and inverted images of the watermark exist.



Item #1



Mr. J. & J. R. Smith

This shows that the watermark on item #1 is horizontal and upright across the sheet of 100 stamps. It can be positioned on the reverse image. On Item #2 the watermark is inverted across the sheet of stamps as indicated by its positioning on the upright stamp.



Item #2



Mr. J. & J. R. Smith

Thus, it is important to have the various images of the full watermark.

Expert Committee, Greene Foundation. Chairman -J.Edward Nixon, October 2021