

The Campbell & Fergusson Contract

The new postal act introduced on the 1st May 1854 greatly increased the use of postage stamps with the compulsory pre-payment of postage with stamps on the 1st January 1855. On the 6th of May 1854, the Postmaster General requested that a further 4,000,000 1d and 2,000,000 3d stamps be prepared immediately. A tender from Messrs. Campbell & Fergusson was accepted on the 11th May 1854.

One "master" intermediate stone of 24 (four rows of six) from which transfers were laid down on new stones to produce a single printing stone of 400 impressions in two panes of 200.

Seventh Printing

June 1854

1d

Stone 2

Campbell & Fergusson

Printed in shades of Brown



[7]
Eight unused
examples recorded



[20-21/2-3] Melbourne 1
Showing the intersection
between two transfer groups
Four blocks recorded



[12]
Ex Perry



[11]



[12]



1d Brown [18] and Stone D 3d Steel Blue [10] cancelled by Barred Numeral 75 on entire from Shelford to Melbourne pre-paying the 4d inland letter rate.

On the reverse are datestamps for Shelford (10th April 1856) and Melbourne (11th April 1856).

Ex Pack

Seventh Printing
June 1854
1d

Stone 2
Campbell & Fergusson

Printed in shades of Brick Red



[17]
Ex Lilly, Boker,
Perry



[17]
Ex Dale Lichtenstein

Ten unused examples
recorded



[15]
Ex Harvey, Perry



[6]



[20]



[19]



[23-24]
Newspaper/Melbourne
Ex Pack

Seventh Printing
June 1854
1d

Stone 2
Campbell & Fergusson

Printed in shades of Dull Red



[8]



[6]
Six unused
examples recorded



[18] Geelong 2



[9-10-11-12] Kilmore **10**
Strips of four are the largest multiple known and three are recorded

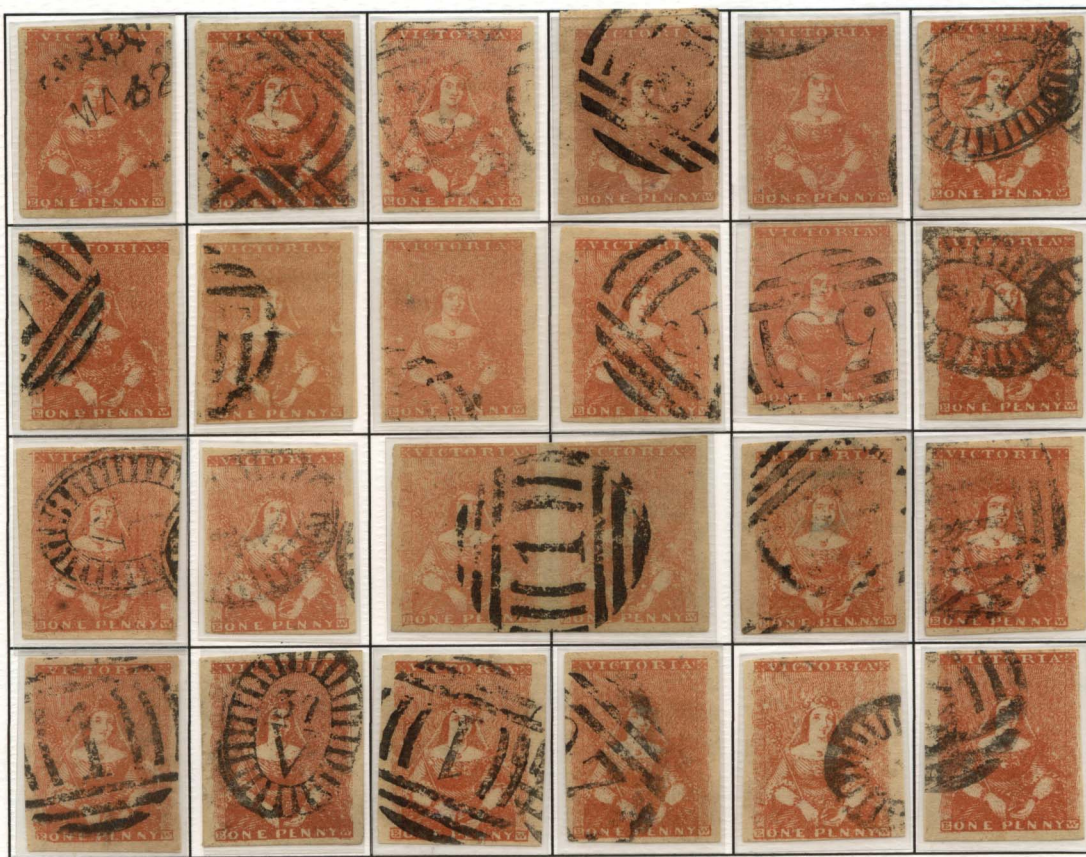


1d Dull Red [14] and Stone D 3d Blue [20] cancelled by Barred Numeral 1 on entire pre-paying the 4d inland latter rate from Melbourne to Geelong.

On the reverse are datestamps for Melbourne 5th March 1856) and Geelong (5th March 1856)

Seventh Printing
June 1854
1d

Stone 2
Campbell & Fergusson



Reconstruction of the intermediate stone of 24 subjects used to create a printing stone of 400 impressions in two panes of 200 (ten rows of twenty).

The Eighth Printing 1d

An estimated 800,000 stamps were printed from Stone 3. The earliest known date of use is 20th August 1855 and practically all of this printing was used within four months.

Eighth Printing
August 1855
1d

Stone 3
Campbell & Fergusson

Printed in shades of Orange Brown



[16]



[21]
 Ex Pack



[11]



[1] Ovoca 94
 Ex Pack



[5-6/11-12]
 Two blocks of four
 are recorded
 Ex Caspary



[22]



[9-15-21]
 Ex Harvey

Eighth Printing
August 1855
1d

Stone 3
Campbell & Fergusson

Printed in shades of Orange Brown



1d Orange Brown [15] and Stone D 3d Blue [17] cancelled by Barred Numeral 3 on entire pre-paying the 4d inland letter rate from Castlemaine to Melbourne.

On the reverse are datestamps for Castlemaine (3rd April 1856) and Melbourne (3rd April 1856)

Ex Pack

Printed in Bright Rose Pink



[18]
Three unused
examples recorded
Ex Perry

Eighth Printing
August 1855
1d

Stone 3
Campbell & Fergusson

Printed in shades of Dull Rose Red



[19-20]

Four unused examples are known and
this is the only multiple recorded



[13-14/19-20]
Ex Caspary



[20-21/2-3] Spring Creek 55

Blocks of four are the largest multiple known and four are recorded



1d Dull Rose Red [6] and Stone D 3d Blue [23] cancelled by Barred Numeral 5 on entire pre-paying the 4d inland letter rate from Ballarat to Geelong.

On the reverse are datestamps for Ballarat and Geelong.

Eighth Printing
August 1855
1d

Stone 3
Campbell & Fergusson

Retouches to the Printing Stone

There are five retouches found from Stone 3. It is believed that they all come from one part of the sheet associated with one of the transfer group "cuts". These retouches are rare, with less than six examples of each recorded.



[1]
Bottom left corner
The only unused
example recorded of
this retouch



[1] Melbourne 1
Bottom left corner
Ex Caspary, Fraser



[13] Melbourne 1
Bottom left corner



[21]
Top left corner



1d Dull Rose Red [19] showing retouched bottom left corner and Stone D 3d Indigo [21] cancelled by Barred Oval 1 on cover front pre-paying the 4d inland letter rate from Melbourne to Bendigo.

The only recorded example of this retouch on cover

The 1d Ninth Printing

Two printing stones, 4 and 5, were used for the ninth printing of the 1d.. They are indistinguishable from each other. An estimated 2,200,000 stamps were printed from these two stones. The stamps were first used in January 1855.

Ninth Printing
January 1855
1d

Stones 4 & 5
Campbell & Fergusson

Printed in shades of Pink



[21]



[12]
 Ex Caspary



[12]



[8] Melbourne 1



[3]



[22] Creswick 7



[3]



[7-8-9-10]



[21-22-23-24] Lexton 58

Ninth Printing
January 1855
1d

Stones 4 & 5
Campbell & Fergusson

Printed in shades of Pink



[16-17/22-23] Ovoca **94**
Ex Pack, Harris



[1-2/7-8] Heathcote **64**



1d Pink [3] and Stone D 3d Deep Blue [3] cancelled by Barred Numeral 1 on entire pre-paying the 4d inland letter rate from Melbourne to Mount Korong.

On the reverse are datestamps for Melbourne (7th June 1856); Castlemain (10th June 1856); Maryborough (12th June 1856); and Mt. Moriagul (14th June 1856).

Ex Perry

Ninth Printing
January 1855
1d

Stones 4 & 5
Campbell & Fergusson

Printed in shades of Rose



[21]



[14-15]

Pairs are the largest unused
multiple and three are recorded
Ex Pack, Harris



[3]



[15-16] Geelong 2



[18]



[21-22-23-24] Ballarat 24
Ex Boucher, Wawn,

Ninth Printing
January 1855
1d

Stones 4 & 5
Campbell & Fergusson

Printed in shades of Rose

Abnormal Combination



1d Rose strip of four [5-6-3-4] cancelled by indistinct Barred Oval 101 on entire pre-paying the 4d inland letter rate from Maryborough to Melbourne.

On the reverse are datestamps for Maryborough (8th January 1856) and Melbourne (10th January 1856).

The Campbell & Fergusson printings were printed in two panes of 200. The panes of 200 were constructed from complete transfer groups of 24 and parts of transfers ("cuts") cut out and pasted up to form the pane of 200. This cover illustrates units 3 and 4 being one of the two vertical "cuts" of 8 (four rows of two) added to the right-hand side of Pane A to form the pane of 200.

The largest recorded multiple of this shade used on cover.

Ex Harvey

Ninth Printing
January 1855
1d

Stones 4 & 5
Campbell & Fergusson

Printed in shades of Lilac Rose



[19]
Ex Ferrari



[9]
Secondary flaw in
left border
Ex Perry



[23]



[3] Coloraine 99



[12-18-24]
Sandhurst 4



[8] Avoca 94



[4] Portland 8



[5]



[9-10-11-12] The Grange 19

Ninth Printing
January 1855
1d

Stones 4 & 5
Campbell & Fergusson

Printed in shades of Lilac Rose

perm do. ... do. (91 0 0) 95 0 0 ... doz 1 8 10 0 1 8 16 0

Import and Shipping List.

JY 24, 1856. [NEW SERIES.]

IMPORTS.		FROM	TO	IMPORTS.		FROM	TO
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
HEESE—N. Wilts Loaf	do.	0 1 5		Soda, carbonate	cwt	0 16 0	0 18 0
Dunlop	do.	0 1 2	0 1 3	Do., crystals	do.	0 9 0	0 10 0
Swiss Gruyere	do.	0 1 6		Soda Ash		15 10 0	18 0 0

1d Lilac Rose [2] cancelled by the NEWSPAPER/MELBOURNE handstamp on newspaper pre-paying the 1d newspaper rate.

Wm. J. G. Reeves Esq
Geelong

1d Lilac Rose [7-8-9] and [1] cancelled by Barred Numeral 5 on entire pre-paying the 4d inland letter rate from Ballarat to Geelong.

On the reverse are datestamps for Ballarat (17th July 1856) and Geelong (18th July 1856)

Ninth Printing
January 1855
1d

Stones 4 & 5
Campbell & Fergusson

Printed in Shades of Dull Brown Red



[5]
Two unused
singles recorded



[5-6/11-12]
The only recorded unused multiple



[11] Prahran **69**



[8] Prahran **59**
Ex Slade Slade



[4] Geelong **2**



[22] Avoca **94**



[2/8]



[15-16/20-21]
The only recorded used block
Ex AP, Perry

Ninth Printing
January 1855
1d

Stones 4 & 5
Campbell & Fergusson

Printed in shades of Dull Brown Red



1d Dull Brown Red [7] and Stone D 3d Blue [18] cancelled by Barred Oval 2 on entire pre-paying the 4d inland letter rate from Geelong to Melbourne.

On the reverse are datestamps for Geelong (5th October 1855) and Melbourne (6th October 1855).

Five covers are recorded with this shade, all paying the 4d inland letter rate.

Ninth Printing
January 1855
1d

Stones 4 & 5
Campbell & Fergusson

Retouches to the Printing Stone

There are at least eight retouches on Stones 4 and 5 (these two stones cannot be differentiated) and are all associated with one of the “cuts” down the right side of the pane. They are so rare that the repairs may have been effected some time after the start of printing, but the pre-retouch states of the units have not been identified.



[1]
Retouched left frame
The only unused example recorded



[11]
Retouched ONE PENNY
Four examples recorded
Ex Purves, Perry



[21]
Retouched top right
Four examples recorded
Ex Perry



[6]
Retouched left frame



[6]
Retouched left frame

The Squeezed Transfer varieties

The squeezed transfer varieties occur only on Stone 4 and 5 printings and signify a different technique used in the manufacture of these stones. These stones were probably prepared by making up the 400 units, then laying them down in one piece on the printing stone, whereas the other stones were laid down transfer by transfer. The differential rates of contraction of such a large unit caused the squeezed transfer varieties, which show up as distortions of the design. At least 60 prominent squeezed transfers, and many less conspicuous ones occur.



[22]
Top label "RIA"
Ex Perry



[1]
Top label "VICT"



[6]
Top label "CT"



[6]
Top label "TO"



[6]
Top Label "TOR"



[9]
Top label "TORIA"



[10]
Bottom label "PEN"



[14]
Top label "VICTOR"



[15]
Convex top label



[16]
Top label "VICTOR"



[16]
Top label "VIC"

Ninth Printing
January 1855
1d

Stones 4 & 5
Campbell & Fergusson

Constant Secondary Varieties - "White Lines"

This secondary variety consists of prominent white lines and scratches crossing the stamps. These varieties were caused by scratches present on the printing stone prior to the transfers being laid down.



[10]
The only unused "White
Line" variety recorded
Ex Perry



[6]

Other Constant Secondary Varieties



[5]
White flaw to the left of
the Queens head
Ex Perry



[18]
White flaw at the base
of "E" of PENNY



[5]
White flaw to the left of
the Queens head



[8]
Coloured spots on
the Queens face



[22]
Coloured flaws below
the value tablet

Ninth Printing
January 1855
1d

Stones 4 & 5
Campbell & Fergusson



Reconstruction of the intermediate stone of 24 subjects used to create a printing stone of 200 impressions (ten rows of twenty).

Ninth Printing
January 1855
1d

Stones 4 & 5
Campbell & Fergusson

The Make-up of the Printing Stones

The Campbell & Fergusson printings were printed in two panes of 200. The panes of 200 were constructed from complete transfer groups of 24 and parts of transfers (“cuts”) cut out and pasted up to form the pane of 200. A standard procedure was adopted comprising four steps:

- (i) Six complete transfer groups were laid down in two rows of three
- (ii) Three horizontal “cuts” of half the transfer group (two rows of six) were added at the base below these. The horizontal cuts were always either the upper (Types 1-12) or lower (Types 13-24) half of the transfer group.
- (iii) Two vertical “cuts” of 8 (four rows of two) were added to the right.
- (iv) A block of 4 was added to the lower right corner to complete the pane of 200.

From the make-up of the panes, intersections between transfer groups and “abnormal” combinations are encountered.

Intersections between transfer groups



[16/22/4/10] Geelong 2
Ex Pack, Perry

Ninth Printing
January 1855
1d

Stones 4 & 5
Campbell & Fergusson

Abnormal Combinations

Pane B of 200 subjects has been reconstructed in the following format:

1					6	1					6	1					6	5	6
																	12	11	12
																	18	17	18
19					24	19					24	19					24	23	24

1					6	1					6	1					6	1	2
																	12	7	8
																	18	13	14
19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20

						13	14	15	16	17	18	1	2	3	4	5	6	15	16
						19	20	21	22	23	24	7	8	9	10	11	12	21	22



[6-5-6] Lexton 58
Ex Pack, Wawn



[18-13-14]



[23-24-19-20] Portland 8



[7]
The only recorded
unused abnormal
Ex Caspary