# PHILATELY from AUSTRALIA



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### CONTENTS

NEW BOOK ON MODERN AUSTRALIAN POSTAL HISTORY	1
DAVID HILL MEDAL AWARDED TO MR. H. L. CHISHOLM	2
THE TRAIL OF COMMONWEALTH	3
THE OTHER SIDE OF THE PICTURE	
THE "STAMP" POSTCARDS OF AUSTRALIA	
AN UNRECORDED BRISBANE OBLITERATOR?	9
VICTORIA: THE 1/2d STAMP DUTY 1886-1900	11
QUEENSLAND CANCELLATIONS AND OTHER POSTAL MARKINGS	14
THE FASCINATION OF LITHOGRAPHED ISSUES	18
NOTES ON VICTORIAN RARITIES	20
REPORTS	22
NIDEN TO HOLLING WINNEY (1999)	

INDEX TO VOLUME XXXIV (1982)

# Philately from Australia

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### VICTORIA



1855 Demand for Additional Postage Entire returned from London to the Postmaster General at Melbourne, bearing on reverse London c.d.s. of July 2nd in orange, and unframed oval "SHIP LETTER/Crown/AU 27/1855/MELBOURNE". On front has a most uncommon Butterfly "48" in red (recorded for 1855 only) used as a receiving mark for Official Mail. This was also used on letters sent to the Dead Letter Office which in addition sometimes bear the words "Advertised and Unclaimed". A marvellous item. Ex PURVES.

1855 Registered Entire from Maryborough to England, franked by 1854 Registration 1/- stamp (faults) tied by barred oval and red boxed "PAID AT/MARYBOROUGH" with manuscript "1/6" and "1/rate markings. This exceptional cover shows that the Postage was paid in cash and the Registration Fee was paid by the use of the adhesive. On reverse has oval Melbourne datestamp and green circular "AUSTRALIAN/LIVERPOOL/JU 30/55/PACKET" with London and Brighton transit and receiving marks. An interesting item.

1894 Cover from Heathcote to Bendigo, franked by 1891 ld. orange-brown (2) and 6d. dull blue (the latter for special delivery fee), tied and cancelled by Heathcote duplex of Oct. 23 1894, and with, stuck on face, printed green label "URGENT LETTERS/FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY/BY/TELEGRAPH MESSENGER". On reverse has faint Bendigo c.d.s. of Oct. 24. Very scarce and a most unusual and interesting cover.

1900 Charity Id. and 2d. used on cover to Melbourne, tied by "MELBOURNE/NO 15/01" circular dated postmarks. Fine and unusual.

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# PHILATELY from AUSTRALIA

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# NEW BOOK ON MODERN AUSTRALIAN POSTAL HISTORY

The Postal History of Internees and Prisoners of War in Australia During World War II, by P. Collas, M.B.E., F.R.P.S.L. 82 pp. 18 x 25cm. Published by The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria. Available from The Publications Manager, P.O. Box 2071, G.P.O. Melbourne, Vic., 3001. Price, \$15, including postage.

The latest publication of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, the second in the J. R. W. Purves Memorial Series, represents a departure for the Society. For the first time the subject is Commonwealth postal history, rather than the stamps and postal history of the States period. The only previous venture into Australian Commonwealth has been W. M. Holbeach's *Cumulative Index*.

The author, Phil Collas, is one of Australia's best-known philatelists, and a senior member of the Society. The absence of his name from the list of authors published by the Society is an omission which it has been pleasing to rectify.

Mr Collas is the acknowledged authority on all aspects of the postal history of Australian Forces during World War II. The subject of his new book — the prisoner of war and internee mail — represents only a small portion of his researches in this area.

Internees were first detained in 1939. The first prisoners of war arrived in 1940. All persons from both groups had been repatriated by the end of 1946. German, Italian and Japanese internees and prisoners formed the large majority of the persons involved. The author has dealt with the postal history comprehensively, from three major standpoints: the postal organization provided for the internees and prisoners; details of the camps and the postal markings they used; and the stationery provided for the use of the internees and prisoners.

The accumulation of philatelic evidence from covers has been a slow process. The survival rate of the mail is low, and practically all of it was addressed to overseas

destinations. Nevertheless, Mr Collas has been able to allocate most of the markings, many of them anonymous, to the camps which used them. Internment or P.O.W. Camps were set up in every State, although the biggest were in New South Wales and Victoria. Details are given not only of the markings on internee and prisoner mail, but also of those used on mail from the guard units stationed at the camps.

The chapters on the stationery will be of interest to postal stationery collectors. Most of the stationery was unstamped, consisting of envelopes, postcards and lettersheets, and most of which went through many printings. The story of the rare and little-known Christmas and New Year Greetings cards is practically complete,

through the courtesy of official archives.

Of even greater interest to many, however, will be the chapter on the air mail cards and lettersheets with impressed stamps. These relatively recent discoveries have received catalogue status, but Mr Collas' researches indicate that they are not Post Office issues, but postage paid imprints similar to those used by many commercial firms during the same period. 6d cards and 1/- lettersheets were provided for European destinations, and a 5d lettersheet for Japan. A 4d card for Japanese prisoners may also have been provided, but no example is yet known.

### DAVID HILL MEDAL AWARDED TO MR H. L. CHISHOLM

The Council of The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria has awarded the David H. Hill Medal to Mr H. L. Chisholm, F.R.P.S.L., F.R.P.S.N.Z.

The Medal, the Society's highest award, is given for distinguished service over many years. It has been awarded on only four previous occasions. The earlier recipients were Mr J. R. W. Purves, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L. (1957), Mr H. M. Campbell, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L. (1963), Mr J. Gartner, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L. (1974), and Mr E. G. Creed, F.R.P.S.L. (1980).

Horace Chisholm was editor of *Philately from Australia* for 26 years, between 1955 and 1981, and is largely responsible for the international reputation the journal has gained.

### EDITORIAL NOTES

ANPEX 50 to AUSIPEX 84

People having key positions at AUSIPEX 84 have interesting links with the Australian National Philatelic Exhibition, 1950, in Melbourne.

Mr. A. W. Bunn, F.R.P.S.L., Treasurer of AUSIPEX 84, was Secretary of ANPEX 50.

Miss Myra Farley, with her business partner, Miss Joyce Buchanan, were taken to ANPEX by Mr. John H. Hawker, editor of the Australian Stamp Monthly, and both became keenly interested in philately.

Both Mr. Bunn and Miss Farley have been officers of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria for long periods, hold the Purves Medal, and have

become two of the best-known figures in Victorian philately.

Now, Miss Farley is Executive Officer of AUSIPEX 84.

Early Melbourne Stamp Dealers

Speaking at the 90th anniversary dinner of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, Mr. R. P. T. Chapman, M.B.E., mentioned that in 1890 there were only two stamp dealers in Melbourne. One was the son of a stationer who sold stamps for pocket money; the other combined the craft of tent-maker and water bucket manufacturer with his stamp sales.

# The Trail



of

# Commonwealth

Printed on the Gum Varieties in the Kangaroo Series

The 1982 Australian Commonwealth Specialist's Catalogue lists printed on the gum varieties for four Kangaroo stamps — the ½d, 1d, 2½d and 3d — and prices each of them in unused condition only. This would seem to be at variance with all that is recorded about these very rare errors. Each of them is known only in used, often damaged, condition.

1/2d. This was first noted in the Australian Stamp Monthly, October 1940, p.331, there being a used copy in Mr H. H. Best's collection. This copy was offered for sale shortly afterwards (A.S.M., March 1941, p.76), and is probably the same stamp as that advertised from the "Hartman" collection (A.S.M., April 1950, p.197). A later advertisement (A.S.M., August 1953, p.420) could be the same stamp again.

Id. A used copy, somewhat damaged by immersion in water before its status was realised, was reported by Mr G. Chant in the A.S.M., October 1942, p.295. A used copy, punctured small OS, was in the H. F. McNess collection. It was illustrated in the auction catalogue (H. R. Harmer, Sydney, Sales 251-2, Lot 20), but the postmark is illegible. Two advertisements, also for used examples (A.S.M., April 1950, p.197; December 1954, p.ii), may or may not be for the stamps already considered.

2½d, First Wmk. First reported in the A.S.M., February 1938, p.41. Mr. C. G. C. Hodgkinson had a pair used on piece, cancelled Late Fee Sydney, 5 MR 13. This pair remains the only reported piece.

3d. Third Wmk. This variety is first reported in the A.S.M., January 1940, p.5. when Mr. W. E. Wakefield discovered two used copies, both of which were damaged when removing them from paper. A copy is advertised for sale in the A.S.M., December 1946, p.752 (the sale of the Wakefield collection?), and another (perhaps the same) was soon after described as being in the Morgan collection (A.S.M., April 1947, p.298). There was an example in the T. E. Field collection (H. R. Harmer, London, Sales 1987-8, Lot 173), where it is described as one of two known copies. The illustration shows the stamp to be centred to top and somewhat damaged with parts of the design missing, and cancelled with an illegible c.d.s. This stamp was acquired with the rest of the Field collection by Mr. J. A. Kilfoyle, and reappeared at auction in 1961 (H. R. Harmer, London, Sales 3068-9, Lot 173). There is not sufficient evidence to suggest that any more than the two original Wakefield copies are yet known.

# The Other Side of the Picture

By G. T. WHITE, F.R.P.S.L.

### NEW SOUTH WALES: 6d AND 1/- CENTENNIAL PROOFS

Mr R. N. Breckon has written giving details of two little-known proofs: Proofs of the 6d and 1/- New South Wales Centennial stamps held in Australia Post's archival collection are of interest as there appears to be no published reference to their existence. Certainly, A. F. Basset Hull does not refer to them in his New South Wales handbook. The 6d and 1/- designs are printed, in their issued colours, on a surfaced paper covered with a fine screen of blue-grey dots. Each of the stamp proofs exists in both imperforate and perforated panes in the Australia Post collection. The perforation of the proofs measures 11 x 12. In the margins of the imperforate 6d and 1/- panes, there is a handwritten notation "three stamps removed for experiments 25/10/97". Both strips of three stamps are also in the collection and they have a pen cancellation "25/10/97" across each stamp. An unsuccessful attempt has been made to remove the cancellation. These experiments were apparently intended to find a more fugitive ink or paper and were carried out two years before the introduction of chalk-surfaced stamp paper in New South Wales. Copies of the proofs are in private collections and recently a pair of perforated singles was offered at a Melbourne auction.

#### TASMANIA: SECOND ALLOCATION NUMERAL 357

Mr W. E. Tinsley of California reports the acquisition of a cover tying second allocation numeral 357 (RRRR) to Ringville, dated SP 7 96. Sent to Germany, backstamps are Dundas Junction SP 7 96, Strahan SP 8 96, Launceston SP 9 96, and an illegible German c.d.s. *Tasmania I* reports Ringville opened 1.5.96; the name changed to Montezuma 15.11.97, to which name 357 was already tied.

### ERROR ON VICTORIAN REPLY POSTCARD

Mr R. N. Breckon reports a fascinating printing error on Victoria's 1893 1d + 1d reply postcard (Higgins & Gage 18). The design of the reply card is printed on both sides — i.e. there is no outward card. This variety seems to be unrecorded and interestingly enough, it would appear that no other error of this nature occurred on a reply postcard in Australia.

### VICTORIA: MELBOURNE MONEY ORDER CANCELLATIONS

Following the publication in the last issue of the check list of Money Order and Belt and Buckle cancellations by Don Davies and the late Tony Rigo de Righi, Mr G. D. Watson has advised of two unrecorded Melbourne Money Order cancellations, in types different from those recorded previously:





1. MONEY ORDER OFFICE/MELBOURNE, framed State-type c.d.s., similar to Type S2A. Dated DE 31 01, and used on an official Money Order Advices enclosure to Suva, Fiji.

2. M.O.O. OFFICE/MELBOURNE VIC, framed Commonwealth-type c.d.s., similar to Type C2. Dated 19 JA 09, and used on an unstamped cover from London to Melbourne, where it appears to have been officially registered.

### EDITORIAL NOTES

New Zealand Treasures

Little-known philatelic treasures were unearthed and publicised by the organisers of PALMPEX 82, the international exhibition at Palmerston North in May.

One was the earliest New Zealand First Day item yet discovered. This is endorsed "This is to certify that the stamp attached is the first 5d (five Penny) sold in Nelson on 12th February 1891.

W. D. Livick Stamp Clerk Nelson N.Z."

An unused stamp is to the left of the signature, and the postmark. Below and to the right of it, not touching the stamp, is the c.d.s. N.Z./NELSON/12 Feb. 91/B.

Another item, from London, was a cover bearing three 1906 Christchurch Exhibition 1d claret, of which, it has been believed, only one sheet of 60 was issued.

Now, however, Mr. Laurie Franks, of Christchurch, has expressed his view that more than one sheet must have been sold because of the number surviving.

The stamps on the coveragre separate but each bears the Exhibition postmark of 20 AP 07. The address is "E. Kighton/Exhibition."

Perhaps a list of dates of other used copies, with photographs, will be compiled, with a view to establishing whether all came from the same sheet.

#### Mauritius Match

One of philately's greatest treasures is the unique cover bearing both 1d and 2d Post Office Mauritius (L. N. and M. Williams, *Stamps of Fame*, p.43, Plate 6).

Now, a cover bearing both 1d and 2d Post Paid Mauritius should be recorded beside it. This is illustrated in the advertisement of G. Loth, of Mainz, in the Dutch magazine *Philatelie*, October 10, 1979, p. 723.

In both covers the 2d is to the left of the 1d.
On the Post Office cover, addressed to
Messieurs Ducan & Lurgie, Bordeaux, via
England, the stamps are tied by a boxed PENNY
POST marking, with the date given by a
MAURITIUS POST OFFICE c.d.s. of Oct 4
1847 on the back.

The Post Paid stamps (or the 2d at least) are cancelled with a circular marking, the details of which are not clear. It is addressed to Monsieur J. Gonnet, Port Louis. The cover has SOUILLAC SP 8 1854 in a rectangle with mitred corners, and a G.P.O. Crown c.d.s., Sept. 8 1854.

# THE "STAMP" POSTCARDS OF AUSTRALIA

### By J. TURNBULL

Quite a number of enquiries have come my way over the years from fellow collectors concerning these postcards. I am now in a position to provide the following information.

The forerunners were printed for the publisher Ottmar Zieher in Bavaria. The publisher's inscription in the left margin was obliterated by a border design, and most of the cards have a squared double-circle impression added on the face of the card

which reads "GREETINGS FROM MELBOURNE".

On the reverse side of the card an insertion has been made — "V.S.M. Series" — in black or blue. The normal printing is in blue. Inside the dotted rectangle for the stamp is "Baviere". The heading on the left-hand half is "For Postage in the United Kingdom/This Space may be used for Correspondence." The heading on the right-hand half is "(For Address Only)". The design on the front shows stamps and shields embossed, surrounding a scene of the main cities or streets of each of the six States; stamp values ½d to £2.

From the evidence I have these forerunners appeared in 1905, the first being the Zieher world issue with the obliterating border design and no imprint on the reverse. I have a No. 1 (Portugal) used from Western Victoria, Up Train M.G.17 AU 1 05 to Box Hill. All three types of these cards — no imprint, and "V.S.M. Series" in black or blue — have a different obliterating border design; there is no "GREETINGS FROM MELBOURNE" until the imprint appears in about December 1905.

The V.S.M. stands for Victorian Stamp Market, Dealers in Post Cards and Art Publications of 226 Flinders Lane and 23 Swanston Street, Melbourne. They were

both wholesale and retail dealers.

The distributors to the retail trade were Valentines, a Scottish firm whose offices were in Queen Street. The cards were distributed in packs of six contained in a thin wallet.



The Forerunner

### Local Printings

The following were printed to the order of the Victorian Stamp Market in

Australia, either by licence or agreement.

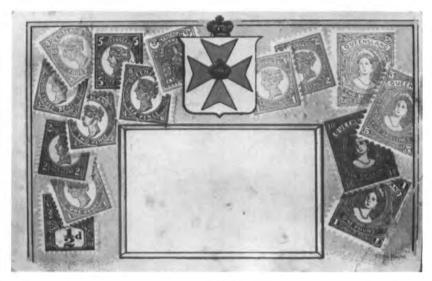
Type 1. Embossed stamps and shield of each State, arranged around an unframed space. Where this space is filled, it shows a building or street scene of the main cities. The reverse side is identical to the forerunner, except the stamp space is blank, and "The V.S.M. Series" in the lower left corner is placed vertically, reading up. Cards are numbered in accordance with the Zieher listing.

Type 2. Flat printing (no embossing). The listed number of this card is very close to the double frame line around the face of the card. Reverse side printing is in blue,

identical to Type 1.



Type 1



Type 4

Type 3. Flat printing (no embossing). The listed number is 1mm from the frame line. The reverse side, printed in black, has no publisher's inscription in the lower left corner.

Type 4. Embossed stamps (½d to £2) and shields of each State arranged around an oblong framed scene of the main cities of that State; otherwise a blank space. In the lower left or right corner "CYRIL DILLON" in various colours. The cards are not numbered. The left half of the reverse side is headed "This Space may be used for Correspondence", and the right half is headed "FOR ADDRESS ONLY" and has three dotted lines for the address. The imprint in the lower left corner in two lines is "O.S. & P.C. Sydney/V.S.M., Melbourne." The reverse side printing is known in black or blue.

The printers were Sands & McDougall, to whom Cyril Dillon was under contract at this time. Cyril Dillon was an artist and etcher whose many works are held in high esteem, and together with others in 1921 he helped form the Australian Artists and Etchers Society.



Type 5

### Type 5. The Charity Postcards.

A. Victoria. Eleven stamps, ½d to 1/- (no embossing). At bottom centre of the face are the first Commonwealth Coat-of-Arms, and beneath this "Sold in aid of the Sanatoria Home for Consumptive Women." There is an embossed cross to the left of the Coat-of-Arms, and between the arms of this cross are the letters "Q", "V" "A" and "S". The same cross, flat-printed in purple, appears in the top left corner of the reverse side. I have this card used from Sydney University, 23.4.07, to Charlton near Toowoomba.

B. Tasmania. Fourteen stamps, ½d to 10d Queen Victoria Heads, 1d to 6d Pictorials. Otherwise identical to A above. I have this card used from Sydney University, 9.2.08, to Surat, Qld.

These Queen Victoria Homes were situated at Wentworth Falls, and at Thirlmere near Camden, in New South Wales.

Assistance is acknowledged from La Trobe Library, Melbourne, and from Mr Peter McDougall. A list of the scenes found on the different types is in progress.

# AN UNRECORDED BRISBANE OBLITERATOR?

By DR. A. E. ORCHARD

It is generally accepted that in the years 1850-1860, when Queensland was still part of the colony of New South Wales, the only obliterators in use in what are now Queensland towns were Barred Numeral types identical with those in use in the rest of New South Wales. The numerals in use in the 15 post offices of the Moreton Bay District are well known (see, for example, Robson Lowe's *Encyclopaedia*) and sought after. A cover which has recently come to my notice, however, suggests that Brisbane, as well as having the known Barred Numeral 95 obliterator, may also have used a type of dumb obliterator similar to those in concurrent use in Sydney and (in the 1860's) in Hobart.

The item in question is an outer cover only (Fig. 1), franked with a 2d Laureate, Plate I, and addressed to "A. Stanger Leathes Esq., Resident Secretary, Liverpool and London Insce Co, Sydney". There is another manuscript endorsement reading "No. 36 p(er) Boomerang". The only two postmarks are the dumb obliterator cancelling the stamp (Fig. 2), and a Sydney, New S. Wales circular datestamp on the back (Fig. 3). The wax seal has an oval impression reading "Brisbane/R. To . . ." (Fig. 4), and on an inner flap is the manuscript notation "1855/Brisbane 17th April/R. Towns and Co/Handling Mr Hinsters/Application/recd. 26th Apr./Ansd." Obviously applied by the recipient.

The seal and the notation show that the letter was sent from Brisbane to Sydney, probably by a ship called *Boomerang*, and the rate of 2d supports this, as this was the charge for a single rate inland letter. The question is, where was the dumb obliterator used? Four possibilities exist: 1, the letter missed cancellation in Brisbane, and was



Fig. 1







Fig. 3

cancelled on arrival at Sydney; 2, it was posted on board ship with the same result; 3, it was carried privately to Sydney and posted there; or 4, the obliterator was used in Brisbane. I believe that the last of these is the most likely explanation.

The first, second and third possibilities cannot be ruled out, but all rely on rather unlikely circumstances, given that this is a business letter. While a private letter might be posted on board or carried privately to reduce postage this is not what might be expected in this case. And examples where a stamp missed out on cancellation at the office of origin are extremely rare (although not unknown). Assuming that one of the possibilities 1-3 is the answer, then how does the obliterator match those known to have been used in Sydney?

A bewildering array of dumb obliterators have been ascribed to Sydney (a recent auction list mentioned ten different types, and I have one or two more), although some writers have questioned whether all of these were in fact used at the G.P.O. (see for example, *The Philatelist* July 1966, p.291). The present obliterator is about the same size overall as known Sydney ones (approx. 26 x 22 mm) and consists of two sets of 4 horizontal bars surrounding 14 vertical bars. These are all shown as solid lines in Fig. 2, but may in fact have been made up of closely spaced dots or dashes (the strike is slightly blurred). What sets it apart from all other similar handstamps known from Sydney is the length of the vertical bars (9.5–10 mm long instead of 6 — 7 mm). This casts some doubt then on possibilities 1–3 (i.e., that it is a Sydney marking), but doesn't rule them out. A further possible argument against alternative 3 is the rate paid. The 2d stamp would have prepaid a single rate letter (up to ½ oz) from Brisbane or a double rate "town letter" posted in Sydney for collection. The flimsy nature of this cover and its existing folds suggest that it is unlikely to have weighed more than ½ oz even with an enclosure.

What then of the fourth possibility, that this is a Brisbane marking? At the time of separation from New South Wales in 1859 Queensland had a population of about 20,000. Much of the mail to and from these people must have originated in or passed through Brisbane, and especially during busy times (as for instance, just before a ship sailed) more than one obliterator must have been required. Campbell (Queensland Cancellations and Other Markings) has shown that at a later date Queensland craftsmen produced rayed numeral obliterators copied, but distinguishable from, New South Wales models. I have already mentioned that this obliterator differs from known Sydney types in the length of its vertical bars. It therefore seems entirely likely that this is another local production of Brisbane, modelled on a Sydney type, and perhaps only pressed into service at busy periods, as for instance, during the rush to meet a ship's sailing deadline.

My evidence is admittedly very circumstantial, and I would be interested to hear of other covers tending to support or refute the hypothesis.

## PHILATELY from AUSTRALIA

### INDEX

Vol. 34, 1982.

A CHRONICLE OF AUSTRALASIAN STAMPS AND THEIR COLLECTORS



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Australia	
Commonwealth Parliament Talks about Stamps (H. L. Chisholm)	28
Trail of Commonwealth, The (O. W. Eustace)	3, 24
Definitives	
20c Bird. Colour shift of azure (B. J. Neilsen)	35
24c Thylacine. Two printings	3
Whales issue. Layout, varieties	24
C	
Commemoratives 24c Australia Day 1982. Layout	3
2 to Mishana Day 1702. Layout	,
Postmarks and Postal Markings	
First Slogan postmark	51
Further Early Australian Machine Cancellations (Dr A. E. Orchard)	56, 74
Australian States Other Side of the Picture, The (G. T. White)	5 25 10 72
"Midas" Collection of Rarities,	5, 25, 49, 73 66
R.P.S.V. Study Circle Proposed, 27; First meeting held	51
Postmarks and Postal Markings	
Further Early Australian Machine Cancellations (Dr A. E. Orchard)	56, 74
Exhibitions Anpex 82. R.P.S.V. Participation	93
AUSIPEX 84. Bulletin 2	94
International Youth Exhibition, Toronto. R.P.S.V. Participation	48
Mauritius	
Classic Mauritius — comments on the "Primitives" (P. Jaffe) New South Wales	64
Cowan Paper in Sydney in the 1850's, A (P. Jaffe)	
1907 Wmk. Crown over double-lined A issue. Printing technique	25, 73, 89
Postal History	
Postal history study undertaken by the Philatelic Association of N.S.W. Two <i>Emeu</i> Covers of April 1860 (P. Jaffe)	48
New Zealand	22
Prime Minister Sir Joseph Ward was a philatelist  Philately from Australia	23
Some Thoughts on Your Journal	1
Scope of articles broadened	22
Queensland	
200745	
Postal Stationery	27
Queensland Government Pictorial Postcards (P. Collas)	37
Postmarks and Postal Markings	
Cancellations and Other Postal Markings (H. M. Campbell)	7, 90
Royal Philatelic Society, London	,, ,,
Two R.P.S.V. members made Fellows	23
Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria	
Meetings J. R. W. Purves Memorial Prize announced	21, 45, 68, 95
First Publication of the J. R. W. Purves Memorial series	71
90th Anniversary Dinner, Arrangements, 23; Report of dinner, speakers (R. P. T.	
Chapman, M. B. Watson)	52

Australian States Study Circle proposed, 27; first meeting held		51	
Centennial history. Appeal for material		55	
Two members made F.R.P.S.L.'s		23	
Expert Committee meetings		23	
Additions to Library Dr R. Jones wins G. W. Collett Trophy		23 51	
Participation in Appex 82		93	
Participation in Internation Youth Exhibition, Toronto		48	
Royal Sydney Philatelic Club Meetings	21 46	70	
South Australia	21, 46,	70	
Long Stamps, Additions to the Handbook (M. Juhl)		36	
10/- Long Stamp. Error of Colour (M. Juhl, Dr D. Pearce)		3	
Postmarks and Postal Markings			
Travelling Post Office markings	5.	51	
Datestamp Without a Post Town, The (T. R. Head Camp) (M. B. Assheton)		62	
Departmentals			
S.M. (Stipendiary Magistrate). Postmarks found		6	
Tasmania			
Postal History			
First Mail for Hobart, The (W. E. Tinsley)		11	
Postal Stationery			
Government Pictorial Postcards for Franco-British Exhibition, London, 1908 (P. Collas)		88	
Postmarks and Postal Markings			
Tasmanian Exhibition Markings (L. C. Viney)		32	
Tresize, J. P. C. Obituary		61	
Victoria		01	
Notes on Victorian Rarities (G. N. Kellow)			
6. £2 King Edward VII, wmk. V over Crown, perf. 11		12	
7. Id Emblems, Calvert printing, perf. 12		33	
6d Too Late stamp. Multiples		26	
4d Emblems, no wmk., Calvert printing, imperf.		49	
1886-9 Id. Early dates 6, comments		50	
Postal History			
1853 parcel rates for which no stamps existed		27	
Postal Stationery			
Frank Stamps of Victoria, 1864-1902, The (G. N. Kellow)	13,	39	
Postmarks and Postal Markings			
T.P.O. 3. Late usage		26	
T.P.O. 14 in bars duplex. Discovery		26	
Emergency Cancellations Updated, The (Belt & Buckle and M.O. & S.B. markings) (D. Davies and A. G. Rigo de Righi)		78	
Western Australia			
Wet Winter in West Solves Sixpence Problem (1861 6d on blued) (M. Juhl)		87	
Postmarks and Postal Markings			
Duplex "R". Allocation (M. Juhl)		33	

#### REVIEWS

Attwood, J. H.: Ascension — The Stamps and Postal History	68
AUSIPEX: AUSIPEX Bulletin 2	94
Davidson, A. S., V. W. Dix and A. W. Rowntree: Commonwealth of Australia. The George	
V Fivepence	20
Dreschel, E.: The Paquebot Marks of Africa, the Mediterranean Countries and their Islands	19
Hornadge, W.: The Local Stamps of Australia	67
Ingles, O. G., A. D. Presgrave and W. D. Craig: The Railway Stamps of Mainland	
Australia. Cumulative Supplement of November 1981	20
Katcher, H. L. (Ed.): Stamp Catalogue of Switzerland 1982	67
Kellow, G. N.: J. R. W. Purves R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L.: A Philatelic Bibliography	71
Lowe, R.: From China and Tibet	67
Lowe, R.: The Oswals Schroeder Forgeries	20
Pope, B. and P. Thomas: Western Australia. The Postal Stationery to 1914	94
Robertson, G. I.: New Zealand Parcel Roller Cancellations	95
Waterfall, A. C.: The Postal History of Tibet	67
West, R.: The Whole World Stamp Catalogue	20

# VICTORIA: THE ½d STAMP DUTY 1886-1900

By J. R. W. PURVES and G. N. KELLOW

[Mr Purves published very little on the Stamp Duty era, 1885-1900, but some notes he has left behind indicate he had undertaken a large amount of research into the stamps. This work on the ½d seems to be the only consolidated piece of work he had committed to paper, but even this was only in the form of rough notes rather than a finished manuscript. What follows has been rewritten from these notes, but all the philately contained in this article is the work of J. R. W. Purves. The Victorian Government Printing Office records have been checked for accuracy against the original extracts, and some supplementary information from these records and from other sources have been added by the present author. This article presents the archival records of the printing of this stamp and Mr Purves' analysis of the plates used for those printings, but there is very little information on the philatelic distinctions between the printings, or on the plate varieties.]

The analysis of the printings of the oblong ½d Stamp Duty 1886-1900 which appears here is dependent on records from the Victorian Government Printing Office (they probably no longer exist), which were extracted by Mr Purves in the early 1930s. The records involved consist of:

1. A book detailing the dates of issue from, and return to, the strongroom of dies, punches, and printing plates. These dates define the periods in which new plates were produced, or when fresh printings were made. The book covers the period 1885-1904 — for this ½d stamp, the entire period of its issue. (Readers will be familiar with these records from their use in *Victoria: The Postage Dues*, and in the Hawthorn Press monographs on the 1901-12 issues).

2. Printing records, covering the dates of printing and the numbers of sheets printed. These appear to cover only the period 1886-1887, and for this ½d only the

first three printings.

3. Gumming and perforating records. These give the number of sheets gummed and perforated, and cover the period 1888-1900. Full-size sheets were gummed, but these were cut into 120's for perforation. The two quantities provide a check on one another. Unfortunately, for the three commonest values (½d, 1d and 2d) the only records available here are perforating records for a period of six months, October 1888-May 1889. Either the other records could not be located or the quantities involved were so immense that Mr Purves decided that no purpose was to be served by undertaking the large task of extracting them. (These three values would in effect represent a day-to-day record of the stamp printing activities of the Government Printing Office). The result is that the printing quantities of the ½d are, with a few exceptions, not known.

There is a slight danger in using the strongroom records as evidence for printings without corroborating evidence of printed stamps supplied by the gumming and perforating records, since there must have been occasions when the printing plates were taken from the strongroom for reasons other than printing stamps, e.g., for repair. However, it has been assumed here that each strongroom book entry indicates a fresh printing. There are entries concerning the removal of dies, punches, and small numbers of electros, additional to those listed here, but these are considered to be related to the production of postal stationery.

### Production of the New 1/2d Design

The correspondence relative to the production of this design was extracted by Mr. W. R. Rundell from Post Office sources, and the same file was also seen by Mr. Purves at the Victorian Government Printing Office.

On 30.10.1885 William Bond, the Stamp Printer, sent a Memorandum to the Acting Deputy Postmaster-General:

It is respectfully recommended that Messrs. Fergusson & Mitchell be requested to furnish designs and submit a tender for engraving three steel punches for ½d, 1d and 6d Duty Stamps, as the dies from which those stamps are printed are only temporary ones being made from electrotypes of other punches and are consequently not so sharp as those struck from the punch itself.

The above mentioned firm have just completed their contract for seven steel punches for high-priced Duty Stamps and as they have performed the work in a satisfactory manner and at a very reasonable price, their tender being about £30 less than the next lowest as well as considerably lower than the price paid for similar work previously, it is advisable in my opinion to entrust them with the engraving referred to, should their tender for it be considered satisfactory.

I may state that provision has been made in the Estimates of the Govt. Printer for the engraving of the punches referred to, as well as others, and I have consulted that gentleman and he approves of the work being proceeded with at once.

The necessary specification is attached hereto. Submitted (Sgd) Wm Bond.

Bond was in error in the first paragraph in describing the existing ½d plate as having been produced via electrotypes of another value. The 1885 plate was produced directly from a ½d steel die engraved by Charles Naish. The 1d and 6d were prepared in the manner described by Bond.

The specification attached to Bond's Memorandum was as follows:

#### Specification

For Preparing designs and engraving Steel Punches for 1/2d, 1d and 6d Duty Stamp dies.

The design for each denomination to consist of a diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria facing to the left, on a ground of fine horizontal lines enclosed by an ornamental frame, around which is to be arranged the words "Victoria", "Stamp Duty", "One Penny", "Id" (as the case may be) inscribed on tablets, or otherwise. The whole to be enclosed by an exterior frame forming an oblong measuring 5/16 in x 4/4 in disposed horizontally in the case of the 1/2d but vertically for the 1d and 6d. The spaces between the frames and tablets to be filled in with suitable ornaments or microscopic ground.

The steel punches are to be engraved in relief for surface (typographic) printing and must accurately fit a steel collar used in striking the dies, which will be supplied to Contractor. Each punch is to have a shoulder 1/16 in wide outside engraved design, to form a margin for perforation.

The engraving is to be performed in the Stamp Printing Branch under the supervision of the Printer of Stamps. The steel punches when finished in a satisfactory manner, are to be hardened and tempered at Contractor's risk. The work to be completed within three months from the date of acceptance of the tender under a penalty of twenty shillings (20/-) per day for non-fulfilment of engagement.

The Acting Deputy P.M.G., Samuel McGowan, approved Bond's suggestions, and on 6.11.1885 Messrs. Fergusson and Mitchell were invited to submit designs and tender for engraving. That firm replied on 12.11.1885:

Dear Sir,

In reply to your request of the 6th Nov. we have the pleasure of enclosing sketches for Halfpenny, One penny and Six penny stamps for your approval. To engrave punches for same will cost you sixty five pounds sterling.

Your Respectfully, Fergusson & Mitchell.

The designs were referred to William Bond, and he reported back to the Acting Deputy P.M.G. on 16.11.1885:

With reference to the designs herewith for ½d, Id and 6d Duty Stamps submitted by Messrs. Fergusson and Mitchell with tender for engraving steel punches for same, I respectfully recommend that they be accepted, as I consider the designs are suitable, and the price for the engraving is moderate. However, before doing so the papers should be referred to the Government Printer for his opinion thereon.

The Government Printer's report followed on 24.11.1885:

I consider the design of the stamps good and the charge for engraving the punches reasonable; but I would suggest that the ground surrounding the portrait on the halfpenny stamp be lined, so as to give it a lighter appearance and, also, that the "defacing" may be more readily seen.

J. Ferres. Govt. Printer. 24/11/1885.

The file has appended the following minutes:

Recommended. SWMcG 25/11/85.

I dislike the colour of the 6d stamp. Couldn't a better one be found? J. C(ampbell) 30/11/85.

The colours can be modified at discretion. The form of stamp only is the chief point herein. SWMcG 1/12/85.

Form approved. Show me colours. JC 1/12/85.

Give course SWMcG 1/12/85.

Proofs of each stamp in various colours will be submitted for selection before the printing is proceeded with. WB 2/12/85.

On 3.12.1885 Messrs. Fergusson and Mitchell were advised of the acceptance of their tender:

Gentlemen,

I beg to inform you that your offer to supply three punches for Halfpenny, One penny and Six penny Duty stamps according to specification for the sum of sixty five pounds (£65) is accepted and the designs you submitted (herewith returned) are approved with the exception of the design for the Halfpenny stamp, the ground surrounding the portrait which is to be lined.

I beg to forward herewith the Specification in duplicate which you will be good enough to sign and return

to this office, and the other you retain.

(Sgd) J. Smibert Acting D.P.M.G.

There is nothing in the extracts to indicate the designer or engraver of these three values. Purves, in the S.G. catalogue, makes an educated guess at Phillip Astley as the designer and Samuel Reading as the engraver.

There is no further mention of these stamps until just prior to printing when the question of colours was raised. On 23.6.1886 Mr. J. Ferres, the Government Printer, sent the following Memorandum to the Acting Deputy P.M.G. James Smibert:

The enclosed proofs of new stamps are submitted for approval of the colours.

The 1d and 6d are printed in the same colours as the stamps of those denominations at present in use, but the colour of the ½d is changed from vermillion to grey on account of the similarity at present existing between the ½d, 4d and 8d stamps, especially noticeable by gaslight. The obliterating marks would show distinctly on the new colours, which do not clash with those of any other denominations of stamp, and besides which, are free working colours.

This Memorandum was referred to the Controller Of Stamps, Mr J. H. Gibbs, who replied on 28.6.1886:

It is suggested that the proposal of the Govt. Printer to change the colour of the (new) ½d stamp from vermillion to grey, and print the new 1d and 6d in their present colours (green and blue) be carried out. At present the ½d, 4d, 8d and 4/- stamps are nearly all alike in colour.

The following minutes are appended, and complete the record of the production of the ½d Stamp Duty of 1886:

Recommended. JS 28/6/86.

Approved. The improvement in engraving is noted with satisfaction. FTD(erham) (P.M.G.) 29/6/86. Govt Printer advised and proofs returned. 30/6/86.

### Printings in Grey

There is no record in the strongroom book of the preparation of the die and the first two plates (1 and 2) of 120 electros each, nor is there any record of the first printing of this stamp. This is because the die and plates were placed in the strongroom for the first time only after the first printing had been made. The printing records, however, show that between 14.7.1886 and 24.7.1886, 9325 sheets of 240 (2,238,000 stamps) were printed in a colour termed by the printer "grey". These stamps were put into stock on 16.8.1886. Rundell recorded that the Post Office's "Official Album" (still in Australia Post archives) gave the date of issue as 28.8.1886. The catalogue, however, quotes a date of 20.8.1886, but Purves mentions no date at all in his notes. I believe that the catalogue contains a misprint, since the dates quoted for the two values prepared at the same time as the ½d — 1d and 6d — are the "Official Album" dates.

Only one other printing in grey was made. The two plates were issued from the strongroom on 10.12.1886 and returned on 1.2.1887. Printing took place between 13.12.1886 and 23.12.1886, consisting of 5500 sheets of 240 (1,320,000 stamps). Thus, the total quantity printed of the ½d grey was 3,558,000.

Mr Purves has no comments to make on the very scarce catalogued grey-black shade.

(to be continued)

### QUEENSLAND CANCELLATIONS AND OTHER POSTAL MARKINGS: FURTHER ADDENDA

By H. M. CAMPBELL, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L. (Continued from Dec. 1982, p.90)

No.	Post Office	Opened	Remarks
80 81	MITCHELL DOWNS later MITCHELL	1/1/65 1878	
82	MARANOA later FOREST VALE	1/1/64 1865 Reduced to R.O. 1/1/72	
83	COPPERFIELD	1/10/66	Re-opening of COPPERMINES (see next Section). Reduced to R.O. 1/1/15.
84 85 86	SPRINGSURE NEBO	1/1/64 1/1/64	Moved from RAINWORTH (see next Section). Moved from FORT COOPER (see No. 27).
87			Later re-allocated to EAGLE JUNCTION, 1/12/88 (q.v.).
88	SPRING CREEK	10/1/67	Reduced to R.O. in 1913.
(89)	RIDGELANDS	28/11/67	Closed 30/6/71. No. 89 later used at WESTWOOD (see 1/4/61).
90			Later re-allocated to STONY POINT, 8/1/80 (q.v.), and later still to TANNYMOREL, Dec. 06 (q.v.).
91	TINGALPA later CAPALABA reverted to TINGALPA	20/5/67 1/3/74 8/6/75	Reduced to R.O., Sept. 09.
92	FASSIFERN ENGELSBURG	1/4/67 27/7/97	Reduced to R.O., 10/7/97, and P.O. moved to — Became KALBAR in July 1916.
93	JONDARYAN	1/3/67	
94			Later re-allocated to ROSEVALE, Sept./06 (q.v.).

### PHILATELY FROM AUSTRALIA

### MARCH 1983

No.	Post Office	Opened	Remarks
95 96	BEENLEIGH GYMPIE CREEK later GYMPIE	1/8/67 1/12/67 9/7/68	Later used Nos. 159, 450 and 547. No. 96 later used at DALBY (see No. 133, N.S.W. List) in Type 2a.
97	BARCOO (Carrangarra) later TAMBO	1/1/66 1868	at DALBT (see No. 133, 14.3, W. List) in Type 2d.
98	NERANG CREEK later NARANG CREEK rev. to NERANG CREEK later NERANG	1/1/66 1866 1869 1877	Moved to TOWNSHIP 17/8/74. The c.d.s. was not altered until after 1904.

### P. 26. D. OTHER POST OFFICES OPENED 1863 TO 1867

RAINWORTH	1/1/63	Closed 31/12/63. Replaced by SPRINGSURE (see No. 84).
THERESA CREEK	1863	Closed 31/12/63. Replaced by PEAK DOWNS (COPPERMINES) (q.v. infra).
SEVEN MILE CREEK	1/11/63	Closed 31/3/77.
PEAK DOWNS (COPPER-	1/1/64	Replaced THERESA CREEK, Closed June 64.
MINES)	1,1,0.	Replaced by CLERMONT (see No. 63).
RETREAT	1/1/64	Closed 1/1/68.
FORTITUDE VALLEY	1/2/64	Closed 1865; re-opened 20/8/77 (q.v.).
WESTERN CREEK	1/10/64	Closed 31/5/68.
WESTERN CREEK	1/10/04	Closed 51/5/06.
TEN MILE RUSH	1865	Opened and closed between February and December. Probably replaced by CANAL CREEK (see No. 49).
AVON DOWNS	1/7/65	Closed 1867.
VALLEY OF LAGOONS	1/7/65	Closed 30/4/76.
BEAUFORT	1/1/66	Closed 18/5/74; re-opened 1/4/78 (q.v.).
LOGAN DOWNS	1/1/66	Closed July 68.
NATAL DOWNS	1/1/66	The state of the s
CAPE RIVER DIGGINGS	1/1/68	
later CAPE RIVER	1869	Closed and moved to — Sometimes called CAPE RIVER GOLDFIELDS. Closed 31/12/76.
RICHMOND DOWNS MARATHON	1/1/66 27/12/67	Closed 26/12/67 and moved to — Closed 31/3/69. RICHMOND DOWNS re-opened 1/8/71 (q.v.), and MARATHON Feb./11 (q.v.). Closed 1/1/68.
TALGAI REEF later TALGAI	1/1/66	Closed 1/1/08.
HIGHFIELDS	Jan. or Feb. 66	Closed June 66; re-opened at new site 1/1/68. Removed to site of HIGHFIELDS SCHOOLHOUSE R.O., 18/9/76, and GEHAM P.O. established on original site (see No. 221).
later KOOJAREWON	30/9/77	Later used No. 200.
reverted to HIGHFIELDS	15/3/07	Closed by June 66.
RUTHERFORD'S	Jan or Feb 6	6
BULLY CREEK	1866	Closed 1/1/68.
STRATHMORE	1866	Closed 1866.
BURKETOWN	1/7/66	Closed 30/6/71; re-opened 1/1/83 (q.v.).
BREAKFAST CREEK	9/7/66	Reduced to R.O. 1/3/93; became P.O. again 1/7/94
		(q.v.).
UPPER MARY	1/8/66	Closed 1907.
LYND	1/9/66	Closed 30/6/69 and moved to -
CARPENTARIA DOWNS		Closed 31/12/69 and moved to -
LYNDHURST	1/1/70	Closed 31/7/73; re-opened 14/12/79 (q.v.).
-,0,0,0,0,0,0	7 -1.	a summaria de la caracteria de contra 1957.

Post Office	Opened	Remarks
CROCODILE CREEK	24/9/66	Closed 1/1/80.
MOUNT McCONNELL	1/10/66	Closed 1/6/68.
SWEERS ISLAND	13/6/67	Closed 13/12/80.
later CARNARVON	1868	
MORINISH	1/7/67	Closed 4/11/72.

P. 40. At top, delete '466 Replacement canceller used at GOODNA.' Near the foot, after '(488) KYNUNA', alter the last sentence under *Remarks* to: 'No. 488 later used as a replacement at GOODNA (see WOOGAROO, 1/10/62).'

P. 41. Near the top, before 'DONORS HILL, 1/4/91', delete 'R.488'.

P. 47. Before 'MOUNT USHER July/09', add: '698'.

### Chapter V

P. 61. After '466', delete 'GOODNA' and add '?'.

After '488', delete 'DONORS HILL' and add 'GOODNA'.

P. 64. At the foot, after '692 ETON VALE', the following entries should read: '693-697?

698 MOUNT USHER

699 ?

700 ?

701 MT. LARCOM

702-711 ?'

### Chapter XII

(a) Southern and Western Railway

P. 99. Type 1, No. 2(a). Add at the end: "An example has been seen dated in December 1880 with code letter 'C' and the direction indication line apparently reading '10 DOWN' (an error?)."

P. 101. Type 6, No. 1: Late date March 1932 (with 'DN').

No. 5: Gavin appears to be wrong here, as the top line reads: 'T.P.O. 5 S & W'. Dates from April 1927 to May 1931.

(b) Central Railway

Pp. 102-3. Type 6, No. 6: Further examples with 'UP' have been seen, one with a late date, May 1930.

(d) North Coast Railway

Pp. 103-4. Type 2, No. 6: One example, in October 1920, has no direction indication.

### Chapter XVI

- P. 120. Type 1. I have a cover with the date MY 4, 1860 (Type 1a). This is a very early date, if, as supposed, these date stamps were issued on 30 April.
- P. 121. Type 2. I now have No. 10 the right way up, dated JA 11, 78.

### Chapter XVII

P. 131. There is a previously unrecorded single obliterator type similar to Type 2a of the numeral obliterators, but with the letters 'QL' instead of a numeral between the bars. This must be rare, as I have heard of only two examples. It was probably in use between Types 4 and 5, so now becomes Type 5, while the original Types 5 to 9 become 6 to 10.

### Chapter XX

### (E) 'PAID' Markings

- Pp. 141-2 (and December 1978). This section was re-written in the latter issue, but Type I needs further revision, as follows: "Type I. An unframed circle with 'PAID' round the top, 'BRISBANE' round the foot, and the date in two lines in the centre (month and day, and year in two figures). There are three sub-types:
  - (a) 24 mm. in diameter. The letters of 'PAID' are shorter than those of 'BRISBANE', and there are dots at each side, closer to the latter word than to 'PAID'. Known correctly used on cover of December 1894.
  - (b) 25 mm. in diameter. The letters of 'PAID' are taller and more widely spaced than in (a), and the dots are equidistant between the words. Known correctly used on cover of April 1895.
  - (c) Approximately 23 mm. in diameter, and apparently without dots. Known struck on a stamp dated JY 19 00.

#### (G) Postage Due

Pp. 143-4 (also June 1981 and March 1982). A further example of a marking showing a number over 'CTMS' over 'T' has been reported. This is on a cover of July 1900, and shows '25' (5 mm. high) over 'CTMS' (4 x 15) over 'T' (5 mm. high).

In the last follow-up article I mentioned a marking 'INSUFFICIENTLY PAID — VIA BRINDISI' in a frame 51 x 12 mm., on a cover of 1875 from Pimpama. I have since been shown another example of this on a cover from Kynnumboon, N.S.W. (later Murwillumbah) to London routed via Brisbane, dated in 1872. There seems no doubt that this marking was applied in Brisbane. I have been shown another cover, however, from Rockhampton to Edinburgh in 1875, on which the mark, though with the same wording, is slightly different. The frame measures 47 x 12 mm., so the lettering is more closely set; also the 'B' of 'BRINDISI' which is the same height as the other letters of the name, and set under the second 'F' of 'INSUFFICIENTLY' in the Brisbane mark, is taller than the other letters in the Rockhampton one, and set under 'FIC'. I should not be surprised if the post offices at all the main ports had similar markings.

#### (K) Unclaimed

P. 148 (also September 1979 and March 1982). I have been shown two covers which put back the introduction of the oval 'ADVERTISED' mark (Type A) to a date much earlier than previously known. In these the 'ADVERTISED' mark is dated March 1867 and February 1869 respectively. The earlier date is probably getting back towards the date of introduction of the mark, as the cover in question was sent from Brisbane on 23 June 1865 to Bowen, and re-addressed to Balgownie via Nebo. In later times unclaimed letters were advertised much sooner. Further, I have an earlier letter sent from England in October 1863 to Bungeworgerai, which was unclaimed, and bears a 'D-L-O' backstamp of February 1864; it has on the front a framed one-line marking 'NOT CALLED FOR', but no 'ADVERTISED' marking. Of the various markings showing either 'ADVERTISED', 'ADVERTISED — UNCLAIMED', or 'UNCLAIMED — BRISBANE', we now have the following spread of dates:

Type A: March 1867 — April 1873. In black.

Type 1: September 1875 — March 1878. In red.

Type 2: November 1887 — May 1889. In red.

Type 3: December 1891 — May 1905. In black.

I have already mentioned my indebtedness to Joan Frew, for information contained in her book, but in the preparation of this article I am also indebted to the late Capt. H. S. Porter, and Messrs. A. R. Butler (England), Francis Kiddle (England), L. G. Shepard (U.S.A.) and E. A. Williams (U.S.A.).

# THE FASCINATION OF LITHOGRAPHED ISSUES

By P. JAFFE, F.R.P.S.L.

After some century and a quarter of serious collecting of postage stamps, it may seem presumptuous to suggest that lithography still lags behind line engraving and surface printing as a field of study. No student or collector can hope to explore more than a limited section of the immense field of classic stamps printed from stones.

The major fields on which much work has been concentrated are India, Victoria, the Bordeaux issues of France, the Waterlow issues of British Guiana and the classic Swiss issues. Western Australia and Trinidad offer some scope for more study. Chile has unanswered questions, but not so many as those touching on Mauritius Dardennes or the New South Wales and Queensland derivatives from Perkins, Bacon plates.

In Chile, more attention seems to have been paid to the discovery of the printer's name and invoice dates than to the methods of production. Was there a single printing stone, or two? Was the process a transfer of strips from the plate, or by means of an intermediate stone from a selected portion of the plate. However tempting a change from 240 units to say 100 or 200 might have been, this would have introduced accounting problems.

How many collectors know that Colombia can show a fingerprint variety from a greasy digit as spectacular as that on Victoria's 3d Half-Length and 2d Queen-on-Throne?

How many have noticed a dot close to the centre of the left margin of Trinidad's Lady McLeod? This may be a step to establishing that this stamp was produced in four panes of 25, 5 x 5, since no interpanneau pair is likely to appear.

Collectors of Nevis have been rather poorly served by pioneers who could identify the twelve characteristics on the four engraved plates, but failed to study the subsequent lithographs. Once lithography was introduced, seemingly always on a four "pane" basis, it was possible to produce a series of secondary varieties, some of which involved touching out plating characteristics. A reasonable showing of the 1d lithograph would require 2,400 odd specimens, even if no damage to or retouching of the printing stone took place during a run. It might be necessary to extend the list to accommodate Revenue overprints and proofs. While the rarity of the 6d lithograph may reduce scope for study, extrapolation from the 4d and 1/- values may provide pointers.

A short step from Nevis are the lithographs of the British Virgin Islands. Far more interesting to philatelists than the origin of the name of the island group is the varied make-up of the sheets and the cause of changes. The big "V" and the long-tailed "S" varieties suggest that the method used was more like the local engraved stamps of Mauritius and New South Wales of 1848 and 1850 than that expected in Great Britain in the 1860s; hand-drawing rather than transfers from a die?

Like the marginal dot of the Lady McLeod, it seems more attention must be directed by philatelists to marks outside the design, to the equivalent of short transfers, and to irregular spaces and line-ups. The triplets of Malayan local type-sets, and the double triplets of De La Rue value tablets for letterpress, are as significant as the five of the 4r and 6r Zurich, and the recurrent two and five of the Waterlow British Guiana.

Sometimes the relationship of unit to sheet seems remote. The triplet is the basis of the Western Australian "originated" 2d and 6d, in both instances via an intermediate

stone, the process used from the "derived" 4d and 1/-.

How did the N.S.W. printer transfer from the already retouched 2d Diadem Plate I — surely it was too big for a one-piece job? And similarly for the huge Chile 5 centavos plate, and the Victoria 2d Queen-on-Throne. In N.S.W. were the substitutions made necessary by a crease?

What is there in common between the two retouch items in N.S.W. and the conversion of the British Guiana 1853 Ic into a 4c by removal of labels and an acid

brush retouch?

What is the real nature of Oldenburg types? Do such exist in Mauritius Dardennes? While Hungary obtained its kingly lithographs more quickly than line engraved or

typographed impressions, was speed the reason for Holstein lithographs?

How many collectors can explain the background to Queensland lithographs and Montserrat lithographic fiscals? But most collectors, seeing the list below can grasp the size of the field of stones and the variety of attractions that would lie in the first general study of methods, merits and weaknesses in a fascinating production method.

Lithography in classic issues (probably incomplete):

Europe: Switzerland, France 1870, Oldenburg, Hungary, Spain.

Africa: Mauritius, Egypt, Liberia.

Asia: India, Sarawak, Shanghai, Afghanistan.

North America: Confederate States.

Central America: Guatemala, Mexico.

South America: Colombia, Venezuela, Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, Bolivia, Ecuador.

British West Indies: Trinidad, British Virgin Islands, Nevis, Montserrat (fiscals), British Guiana.

Australasia: New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, Western Australia, Tonga, Samoa, British Solomon Islands.

### THE J. R. W. PURVES MEMORIAL PRIZE

Interested students are reminded that the closing date for entries in the J. R. W. Purves Memorial Prize is September 30th, 1983. The prize is \$500, for an essay detailing an original piece of research into a lithographed stamp issued before 1890. The interest and depth of the field is indicated by Mr Jaffe's article presented here.

The rules of the competition were published in the September 1982 P, From A., or

are available on application to the Secretary of the Society.

### NOTES ON VICTORIAN RARITIES

By G. N. KELLOW

### 8-2D. QUEEN-ON-THRONE CAMPBELL PRINTING SUBSTITUTED TRANSFERS

Mr J. R. W. Purves knew of about seven pieces showing the Campbell substituted transfers (*P. from A.*, December 1968, p. 85). I have also been able to trace seven pieces. This makes the Campbell variety about five times rarer than the Campbell and Fergusson substituted transfers, and they must rank amongst the most desirable pieces in Victorian philately.

Nine printing stones were used for the Campbell contract. The first eight were 100-on, consisting of one transfer of the engraved plate of 50 over another, and the ninth was 300-on, comprising six transfers. The substitution affected the lower left block of four stamps on one of the transfers of Stone 5. It has not been possible to determine whether it was the upper or lower transfer which was affected.

The lower left block of four stamps, normally lettered FL, GM over QV, RW (positions 31, 32 over 41, 42) was apparently damaged during preparation of the printing stone, and another block, cut from a fresh transfer, was substituted. This substituted block was taken from positions 21, 22 over 31, 32 (VZ, WA over FL, GM). The result was as follows:

21	22	23
v z	W A	х в
31	32	33
v z	W A	H N
41	42	43
F L	G M	s x

The substituted transfers are recognisable in pairs showing abnormal letter combinations:

21 over 31	VZ over VZ
22 over 32	WA over WA
32-33	WA-HN
42-43	GM-SX

The substitutions were almost certainly there from the start of printing. Purves estimates that 100,000 stamps were printed from Stone 5. Thus, approximately 1,000 of each of the substituted units was printed. They are, in fact, no rarer than any other

unit on the stone, but of course they are not identifiable (except by minor lithographic

flaws) unless occurring in an "abnormal" pair.

The earliest mention of a Campbell substituted transfer is of a pair, WA over WA, in Mr D. H. Hill's collection (*Vindin's Philatelic Monthly*, January 1893, pp. 89-90). Shortly afterwards Hill acquired a horizontal strip of four, VZ-WA-HN-IO (*Australian Philatelist*, December 1894, p. 74), and concluded that a pair, FL-GM, had been substituted by VZ-WA on one stone. This explanation fitted the known pieces, and was repeated later by Mr C. L. Pack (*London Philatelist*, January 1917, pp. 4-6).

Subsequently a pair, GM-SX, was discovered by Dr W. P. Heslop, and he was able to reconstruct the entire substitution (*Australian Philatelic Record*, April 1922, pp. 123-131). Independently, and almost simultaneously, based on a similar pair in the Royal collection, Mr (later Sir) E. D. Bacon achieved the same reconstruction

(London Philatelist, July 1922, pp. 162-164).

Mr J. R. W. Purves has since been able to isolate the characteristic lithographic flaws for each of the substituted units, enabling even single stamps to be identified, and this confirms the plating achieved by Heslop and Bacon. Pairs, VZ-WA and FL-GM, of the substitutions are known, based on Purves' plating, but these are not, of course, "abnormal" pairs.

The seven substituted transfer pieces (all used) which I have been able to trace

follow.

There are only two vertical pairs:

(1) VZ over VZ. This pair was in Ferrary's collection. It was included in Lot 103 of the Eighth Sale, November 7th-9th, 1923. Since then it seems to have disappeared

from sight.

(2) WA over WA. This pair is used on a small piece, cancelled with a Barred Oval 2 (Geelong). This was the first pair discovered, and was reported to be in Mr. D. H. Hill's collection in *Vindin's Philatelic Monthly*, January 1893, pp. 89-90. Hill's used collection was acquired intact by Mr. C. L. Pack (*London Philatelist*, January 1917, p. 5). The pair was included in Lot 1196 in Part V of the Pack auction sales (Harmer, Rooke & Co., New York, March 11-13, 1947) and was acquired by J. R. W. Purves.

The five horizontal multiples are:

(3) VZ-WA-HN-IO. This strip is cancelled with a Butterfly 2 (Kilmore), a relatively late use for this type of obliterator. It was acquired by Mr. D. H. Hill from Sydney dealer Fred Hagen (Australian Philatelist, December 1894, p. 74). Like (2) above, the piece was acquired by C. L. Pack, and was included in Lot 1196 in Part V of the Pack auction sales. It is now in the Purves collection.

(4) WA-HN-IO. This strip is cancelled with a Barred Oval obliterator. The first numeral is indistinct, but the second is a "2". The strip was in Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg's collection (*Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, June 1906, p. 106). Hausburg's collection of Victoria was acquired by King George V in 1917, and the piece is now in the Royal collection (Sir John Wilson, *The Royal Philatelic* 

Collection, p. B. Aus. 64).

(5) VZ-WA-HN. This strip, cancelled with a Barred Oval obliterator, numeral indistinct, was discovered in Tasmania in 1950. It is now in the Purves collection.

(6) GM-SX. Despite Dr Heslop's "discovery" of a pair with this lettering in 1922, Mr. L. R. Hausburg also had such a pair and recognised its importance, although he never put anything into print (*Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, June 1906, p. 106). This pair is cancelled with the Barred Numeral 1 (Melbourne) obliterator, and its position at the base of the transfer is confirmed by a 4½mm lower margin. Like (4) above, the pair is now in the Royal collection.

(7) GM-SX. A pair cancelled with Barred Numeral 1 (Melbourne). This is the pair found by Dr Heslop (*Australian Philatelic Record*, April 1922, pp. 123-131). The pair was in Stanley Gibbons Auction Sale No. 5380, Lot 240 (April 28th, 1976), and was re-offered in Stanley Gibbons First International Auction in Australia, Lot 735 (March 25th, 1977).

Additionally, the Purves collection contains a single lettered GM with wide base margin (*P. from A.*, December 1968, p. 85) which is also an abnormal piece, since GM is normally an internal unit.

I thank Mr. Robson Lowe for providing photographs of the pieces in the Purves collection.

# THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

Grenada

The display by Dr Russell Jones on November 18th was on the stamps and postal history of Grenada.

Amongst the early letters shown was one of 1784 with staight-line "Grenada", and another two years later with the Grenada Crown marking. Two covers to England of 1842 and 1848 had Carriacou markings.

British stamps used in Grenada were represented by a 1/- on piece, and the 6d on 1858 cover.

Included with the stamps of the first issue was a copy of the 6d perf. 11½-12. The 1875 1/- was represented by SPECIMEN copies, and used examples of the "O" omitted, "S" inverted and "SHLLIING" errors.

The 1881 surcharges included a mint copy of the ½d with "H" omitted, and mint and used copies of the "P" omitted error. Unsevered pairs of each type of the 1883 "POSTAGE" overprints were shown. Many of the errors on the surcharges of the 1880s and 1890s were displayed, including 1d/1½d double surcharge, ½d/2/- inverted surcharge, and the 2½d/8d treble surcharge; treble surcharge, two inverted; and double surcharge, one inverted.

Amongst the King George V issues were a number of unusual SPECIMEN overprints from D.L.R. archives, and the 1918 Red Cross label in a sheet of 10.

The display was completed with a selection of the first postage dues, including the 1d/6d double surcharge, and the 1d/8d and 2d/8d used on cover.

Christmas Meeting

The December meeting, now traditionally the President's Night, was held on the 16th.

The President, Mr T. C. Lester, and his wife, welcomed members and guests, who were then treated to a talk, supported by slides and a film, on the roadside tree-planting activities of the Country Roads Board of Victoria. The speaker was Mr Harold Grey, Roadside Development Officer for the C.R.B.

#### Northern Territory

The postal history of the Northern Territory was the subject of the January 20th meeting, presented by Mr P. Collas, M.B.E.

The earliest known letter from the area dates from 1840 during the third military settlement. This letter is now in the Mitchell Library, Sydney, and Mr Collas showed a photograph of it.

Then followed a comprehensive display of all the early postmarks, mostly on loose South Australian stamps, but including a number of rare covers. Rarest of all was the only known South Australian "N.T." Departmental used on cover. It is a 6d used to New Zealand.

Following the Port Darwin and Darwin markings was a study of a number of the smaller post offices. Amongst the items shown were many scarce covers from the early period, later flight covers, registration markings and labels, and World War II military censor and concessional markings.

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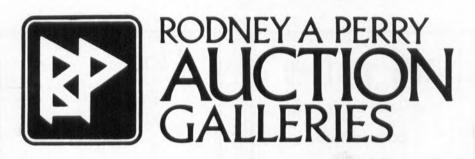
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