BRITANNIA STAMPS OF TRINIDAD 1851- 1883



Nigel Mohammed Montgomery, IL

WHAT WILL BE COVERED

- Where is Trinidad
- Where did the Britannia design originate
- Who designed the stamp and what colonies used it
- Features and Characteristics of the stamp
- When was the local Postal Service inaugurated
- Differences in the stamps over its life
- Paper Types, Perforation, and Watermarks
- Provisionals, including the renowned Local Lithographs and 1d Manuscript
- Bisects



TRINIDAD FACTS

- British Colony from 1797 till 1962
 - (captured from the Spanish)
 - Southernmost island in the Caribbean
 - Population 1797 ~ 17,000
 - Population 2017 ~ 1,369,311
 - 1,841 square miles
 - Cash crops in Colonial days were sugar, cocoa, coffee



1816 MAP

BRITANNIA ORIGIN

- Minerva (Roman), Pallas Athena (Greek) goddess of wisdom, fertility, war, & victory
- Inventress of ship building
- Main attributes include:
- > Helmet
- ▶ Spear
- Shield with gorgons head



"Now Minerva, we are told, was a favorite goddess with Britons before their conversion to Christianity. Whether this to be so or not, what better prototype for Britannia could be found than one who could symbolize Britain's conquest of the sea, Britain's commerce, and Britain's glory?"

Rev. T.C. Walton, M.A.

Postage Stamp Devices, Gibbons Stamp Weekly, 1905, Vol II.

BRITANNIA DESIGN

- Painted by water color artist, Edward Henry Corbould
- Die engraver, Charles Henry Jeens
- Shared design for colonies of:
- >Trinidad (April 11, 1851)
- ➤ Barbados (April 17, 1852)
- > Mauritius (1858)

1848 Master Die Proof in black, blank tablet Perkins Bacon



BRITANNIA DESIGN ARTIST



Water color artist, Edward Henry Corbould

Born	1815
Died	1905
Nationality	British
Occupation	artist

BRITANNIA SHARED DESIGN

Trinidad(April 11, 1851)



Barbados(April 17, 1852)

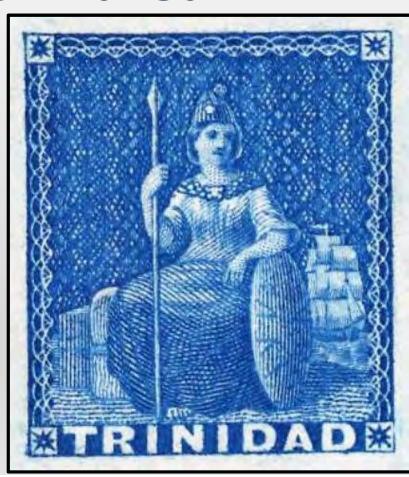


Mauritius(1858)



BRITANNIA FEATURES & CHARACTERISTICS

- Seated figure wearing helmet, 5 point star
- Spear, single tip, held in right hand
- **Shield**, left arm resting, bearing triple cross of St. Andrew, St. George, and St. Patrick
- Sail ship, emblem of a great seafaring nation
- Bale of goods, indicating commerce
- Square with 8 point star in each corner, dot in center
- Lace scrollwork on perimeter



BRITANNIA COMPARISON







FIRST ISSUED

- Lord Harris, 13th Governor of Trinidad (1846 1854), requisitioned an Inland Post to colonial secretary on January 30, 1847
- Negotiations lasted for four years before the Inland Postal Service was inaugurated on August 14, 1851
- On April 11, 1851 stamps were issued, arrived on Mail Steamer SEVERN
- Printed by Perkins Bacon, London
- · On Blue Paper
- Imperforated
- No denomination expressed



FACTS OF THE BRITANNIA SERIES

- ✓ LASTED FOR 32 YEARS
- ✓ IMPERFORATED & PERFORATED STAMPS
- **✓ UNDENOMINATED & DENOMINATED VALUES**
 - **✓ TWO PRINTING COMPANIES**
 - ✓ WATERMARKED & UNWATERMARKED
 - ✓ DIFFERENT TYPES OF PAPER
 - ✓ MANY TYPES OF PERFORATIONS
 - ✓ NUMEROUS COLORS & SHADES
- **✓ PROVISIONALS, LOCALLY MADE & OVERPRINTS**

DISTINCTIONS AND DIFFERENCES

IMPERFORATE

- 1851 to 1859
- Printer Perkins Bacon, Recess Printed
- No value expressed until 1s 1859 issues
- Colors: Blue, Brown, Lilac, Grey, Red, Green, Indigo
- Shades: many of each color
- Blue and white paper
- No watermarks
- Sheet size 110 (11 x 10) and
 240 (10x24) for 1s sheets in 1859
- *** Lithographs

PERFORATE

- 1859 to 1883
- Printers Perkins Bacon & De La Rue. Recess & Typographed
- 1d, 4d, 6d, 1s (½ d Provisionals)
- Colors: Red, Purple, Brownish Purple, Lilac, Red, Green, Indigo, Bluish Slate, Mauve, Rose, Carmine, Chrome Yellow, Grey
- · Shades: many of each color
- White regular and thick paper
- Watermarks: None, Crown CC, Crown CA
- Pin Perf, Clean Cut, Rough
- Many types: 11½, 12, 12½,13, 13½,14,14x12½, 14x16½
- Sheet size: 110 (11x10) and 240 (10x24)

No value expressed (1d)

- 1851 to 1859
- Printer Perkins Bacon, Recess Printed
- No value expressed until 1859 issues
- Colors: Blue, Brown, Grey, Lilac, Red, Green, Indigo
- Shades: many of each color
- Blue and white paper
- No watermarks
- Sheet size 110 (11 x 10) and
 240 (10x24) for 1s sheets in 1859
- *** Lithographs









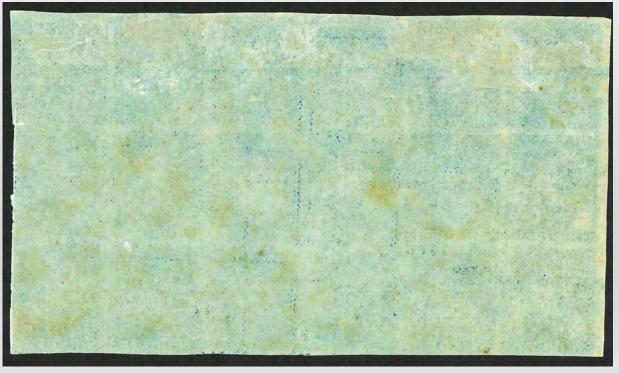




PAPER TYPES

BLUE PAPER, NO WATERMARKS

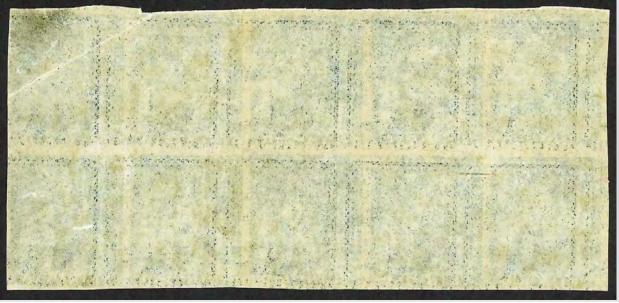




PAPER TYPES

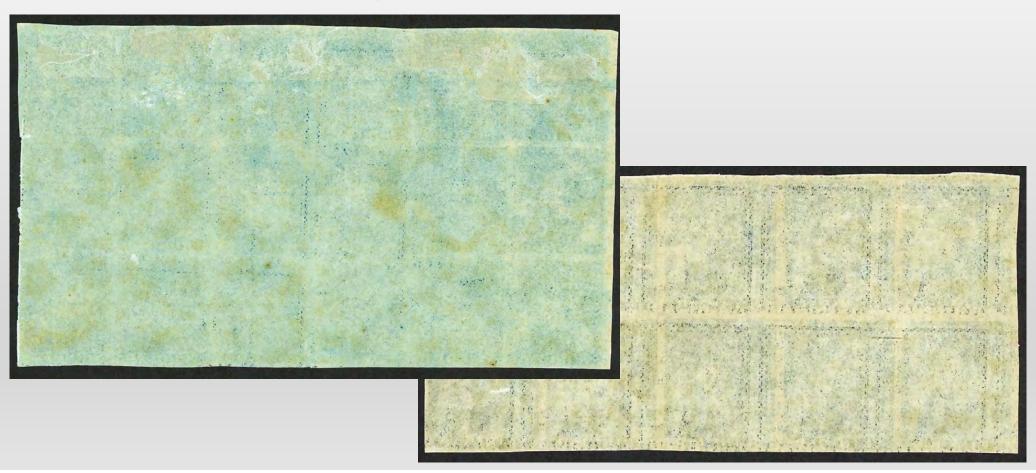
WHITE PAPER, NO WATERMARKS





PAPER TYPES COMPARISON

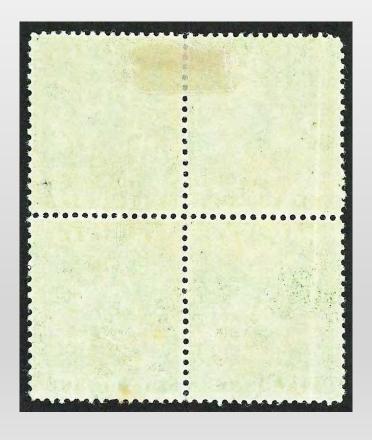
BLUE vs. WHITE PAPER, Imperforate



PAPER TYPES

WHITE PAPER, NO WATERMARKS





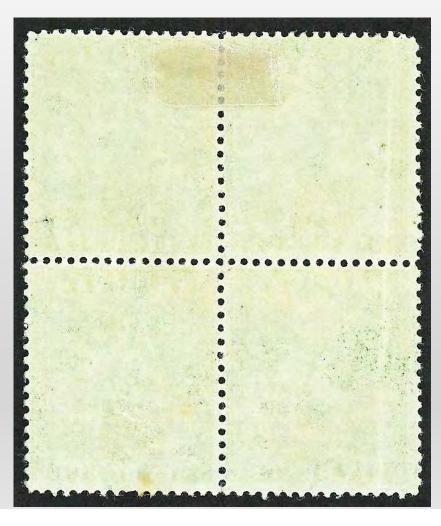
PAPER TYPES

WHITE THICK PAPER, NO WATERMARKS





PAPER TYPES - NORMAL VS. THICK PAPER, PERFORATE





1859 denomination

- Printer Perkins Bacon, Recess Printed
- 4d with Color shades
- 6d and 1shilling
- White paper
- No watermarks
- Sheet size 110 (11 x 10) and
 240 (10x24) for 1s sheets in 1859











Provenance: Ramkissoon

(Perkins Bacon)



Prepaid entire dated January 10, 1852 from Port of Spain to Paris, **France** with landing cancelation at Calais on 10 February 1852. Entire franked with single **1d purple-brown** (SG2) for prepayment local postage. Cancelled by Marriott Type 0.1b, numeral '1'. Entire showing 'PD' in red oval handstamp and rated 2s 1d in manuscript.



(Perkins Bacon)

Cover franked with **1d purple-grey** (SG 9) paying local postage from Port of Spain to **France**. Dated January 28, 1855 and cancelled by Marriott Type 0.1b, numeral '1' and Trinidad double arc on reverse. Probably charged 2s in manuscript and showing hanstamp VI three bar oval shape obliterator along with red tombstone Paid (code X) and red oval 'P-D.' transit markings.

(Perkins Bacon)



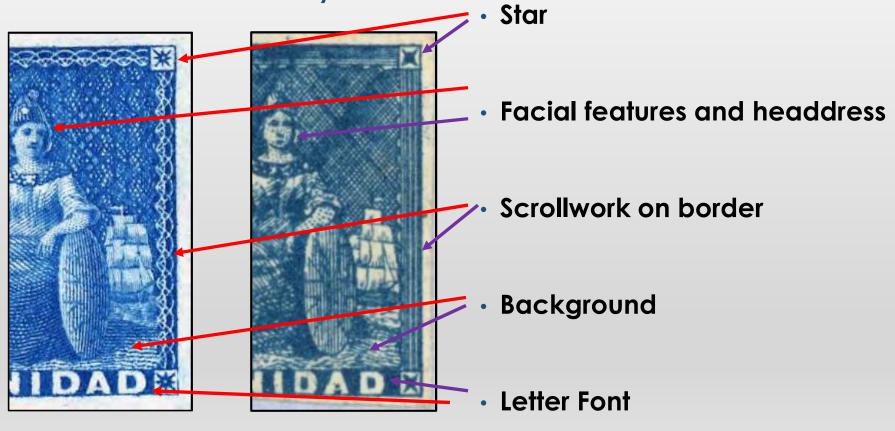
Scarce inter island cover from Port of Spain to **Grenada**, charged 4d in manuscript for the inter-Antillean rate to be paid on delivery. Franked with **1d rose red** (SG 12) for local postage fee and cancelled with Marriott Type 0.2 numeral '1'. On reverse is the Grenada double line cancel dated April 8, 1858. Provenance Gallagher

LITHOGRAPHED PROVISIONALS LOCALLY MADE



- Demand from shortage of stamps over the period 1852 – 1860
- Produced by local French descendent, Charles Petit from a stone plate
- Sheet of 54 (9x6)
- Based on Perkins Bacon design
- Imperforate 1d value only
- 5 issues
- Blue shades, last issue in two colors, blue & red
- Quality fades and color degrades

LITHOGRAPH VS. PERKINS BACON (KEY DIFFERENCES)



LITHOGRAPH – THE FIVE PRINTINGS



LITHOGRAPHS – 1ST ISSUE

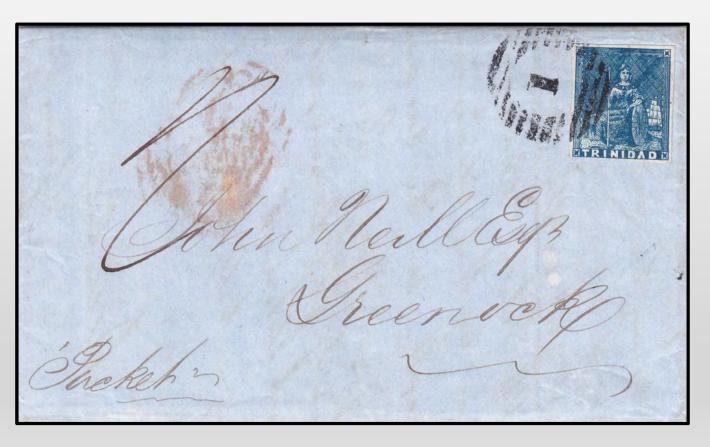
September 1852 to May 1853

(Locally Printed)

- Impression is fine and clear
- thick soft paper
- Yellowish paper
- Color is blue to deep blue, bright blue to greenish blue.
- (SG 13 and SG 14)



LITHOGRAPHS – 1ST ISSUE



An early letter sent by Packet only 45 days after P.M. General, Jas. H. O'Brien requested these stamps. One of the earliest known issues of the first issue lithograph, 1d blue (SG13), dated November 9, 1852. Cover rated 1/ sent by Turnbull Stewart, first owner of the famed Lady McLeodship, from Port of Spain to John Neill in Greenock, **Scotland**. Stamp cancelled by excellent strike of Marriott Type 0.1b, numeral '1'.

LITHOGRAPHS – 2ND ISSUE

March 1855 to June 1855

(Locally Printed)

- Impression is clear but not as clear as 1st issue
- Thinner paper
- Yellowish paper
- Color is pale blue to greenish blue
- (SG 15)



LITHOGRAPHS – 3RD ISSUE

July 1856 to February 1857

(Locally Printed)

Impression can be as good as 2nd issue

- Paper has smoother appearance
- Yellowish paper
- Color is clear to deep blue to dark shades verging on Prussian blue
- (SG 16)



LITHOGRAPHS – 4TH ISSUE

October 1858 to May 1859 (Locally Printed)

- Appearance deteriorates quickly
- Overinking, blotchy & lacking clarity
- Paper has smoother appearance
- Yellowish paper
- Color is clear to deep blue to dark shades verging on Prussian blue
- (SG 17 and 18)



LITHOGRAPHS – 5TH ISSUE (BLUE)

March 1860 to June 1860 (Locally Printed)

- Worn impression with flatter appearance
- lacks clarity and detail
- Color is gray and bluish gray
- (SG 19)



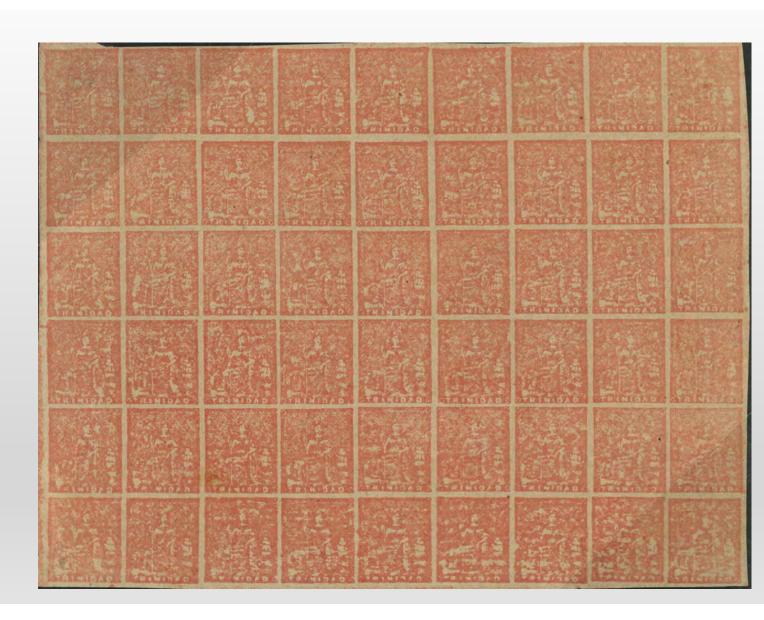
LITHOGRAPHS – 5TH ISSUE (RED)

March 1860 to June 1860 (Locally Printed)

- Worn impression with flatter appearance
- lacks clarity and detail
- Color changed to red to improve the impression
- (SG 20)



LITHOGRAPH 5TH ISSUE (RED)



PERFORATED STAMPS - VARIETIES

Pin Perf



Clean Cut Perf



Rough Perf



Pin Perf



- Recess Printed, Perkins Bacon
- First introduction of Perforated stamps
- ▶ 1859 1861
- Denominated & Undenominated values 1d, 4d, 6d, 1s
- White Paper, Unwatermarked
- ▶ 12 ½, 13 ½, 14,
- difficult to separate

Pin Perf

(Perkins Bacon)



Cover (front) to Pointe-à-Pitre, **Guadeloupe** from Port of Spain. Cover franked with **1d and 4d Pin Perf** stamps obliterated with Marriott Type 0.2, numeral '1'. Crown Circle "Paid at Trinidad" handstamp in red. Manuscript '30 décimes' in black.

- Recess Printed, Perkins Bacon
- > 1860
- Denominated & Undenominated values 1d, 4d, 6d only
- White Paper, Unwatermarked
- $> 14 16 \frac{1}{2}$
- Perforated by Griffiths machine ('A' machine)
- Improvement over Pin Perforation

Clean Cut Perf:



Rough Perf



- > Recess Printed, Perkins Bacon
- > 1861
- Denominated & Undenominated values 1d, 4d, 6d, 1s
- White Paper, Unwatermarked
- > 14 16 ½
- Deterioration of Griffiths machine resulted in rough perforation

Rough Perf

(Perkins Bacon)



Inter island cover addressed to Mrs. Louis from Port of Spain to Roseau, **Dominica**. Trinidad double line datestamp Oc 23 1861 on reverse. Cover franked with **1d and 4d Rough Perf** stamps that is obliterated with Marriott Type 0.2, numeral '1'. Crown Circle "Paid at Trinidad" handstamp in red to show prepayment of 4d (red crayon) inter-Antillean rate. 1d for the prepayment of local postage fee.

DE LA RUE PRINTERS

(CHANGE OF PRINTERS, END OF PERKINS BACON, 11 YRS.)

- > Perkins Bacon delivered Plate and dies to Crown Agents, Jan 2nd, 1862
- Early stamps: Quality, details, and centering of stamps not very good initially due to worn plates
- > Numerous color shades and many types of Perforations:
- > 11 ½, 12, and 11 ½, 12 with compound 11, 12, 12 ½, 13,14,
- Sheets size was 110 (11 x 10) and 240
- > Denominated values 1d, 4d, 6d, 1s
- > Thick White, Normal White, Unwatermarked and Watermarked Paper
- Papermaker was given as T.H. SAUNDERS

DE LA RUE, EARLY 1862 STAMPS

Lacking Detail
Blotchy
Poor Centering





DE LA RUE, EARLY 1862 STAMPS

Color Shades – 15 Mauve, Perf. 13







DE LA RUE, INTRODUCTION OF CROWN AND CC STAMPS, 1863 - 1875





Color Trial



Cancelled Samuel, D5



Imperforate Crown and CC

Provenance: Ramkissoon

DE LA RUE, CROWN AND CC STAMPS,

PLATING VARIETY



- Last stamp is dropped
- Causing Trinidad to be Perforated
- Top stamp has largest margin

 First and Last stamp is out of out of alignment with middle two stamps



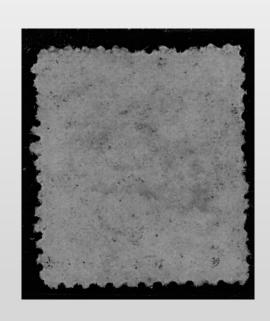


DE LA RUE, CROWN AND CC STAMPS,

WATERMARK TYPES



REVERSED



SIDEWAYS

- · INVERTED
- SIDEWAYS
- REVERESED
- INVERTED & REVERSED

Color Shades – 4d Mauve, Perf. 12 1/2













Color Shades – 6d Green, Perf. 12 1/2













Perf 12 1/2

Cover from Port of Spain to Pointe-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe franked by 1865 1d (lake) and 4d (dull mauve) showing the 5d rate to the West Indian Islands. Trinidad double arc handstamp in black along with red "Paid at Trinidad" Crown Circle applied. Obliterated with Marriott Type 0.3, numeral '1'. Red Manuscript 4 in crayon on front along with a rare usage of '30' décimes due marking in black applied upon receipt.



Perf 12 1/2



Triple Rate Packet Letter with 1d and 1s stamps, from United States Consulate in Trinidad to New York, United States with Red Trinidad Paid double arc handstamp of August 8, 1875. New York 15 cents Due upon arrival and redirected to New Hampshire. Manuscript 1/ red crayon.

Perf 12 1/2

Cover from Port of Spain to **France**, bearing the 1863 1d Perf 12 1/2 **stamp** and tied by Marriott Type 0.2, numeral "1" obliterator. Franked for the local 1d inland postage fee. The rate by British Packet during this period to France was 8d per 1/2 oz. Rated '10' décimes on arrival and handstamped "GB/2F". A watery and most likely indistinguishable red "Paid at Trinidad" Crown Circle on front. Transit marking "Angl./Amb Calais, "London" along with "Paris" and "St. Florent en Corse" arrival marks on reverse. There is also the Forwarding agent cache in boxed blue marking on reverse.



Perf 12 1/2

Mourning cover, with black edging, to Brignalle, France bearing a pair of bright violet stamps from the 1863, 4d (SG 70), Perf 12 1/2, Crown and CC consignment. The British Packet rate was 8d during this period, until it was reduced to 7d in January 1871. Dated January 24 by red "Trinidad Paid" datestamp. Red "7" manuscript crayon rating, along with a red "London Paid" datestamp. Includes the oval "PD" arrival marking, Calais entry and Brignalle datestamps on reverse.



Perf 12 1/2

1875 Envelope to **Panama** in Central America addressed to "The Honourable Admiral A. (Arthur) Cochrane C.B." This is one of several correspondences to the Admiral who was the Commander in Chief at the Pacific Station. Franked by the 5d British Packet rate comprising of a 1d and 4d stamps of the Perf 12 1/2, Crown and CC, consignments. Cancelled by red "Trinidad Paid" double arc datestamp of February 8, 1875 and red "4" crayon. On reverse is the St. Thomas transit marking dated February 13, 1875.



Perf 12 1/2

1875 cover, dated October 26 by Trinidad double arc to Paris, **France**. Franked by **1d and 6d stamps** for the 7d British Packet rate to France. Red "Trinidad Paid" handstamp of the same date applied.

Additional markings include "London Paid" datestamp together with circular "PD" arrival marking on front and "Paris A Lyon" along with other entry date stamps on reverse.



DE LA RUE, 1872 STAMPS COLOR CHANGED (PERF. 12 ½)

4d violet changed to

4d grey

1S mauve color changed to chrome-yellow



Perf 12 1/2

1879.

Italy from Port of Spain,
Trinidad. Cover bearing
a 4d perforation 12 1/2
Crown and CC stamp
and cancelled with
Trinidad double arc
dated July 9. Red crayon
manuscript 3 (Paid) front
marking.
London Paid transit arrival
mark of July 28, 1879.
On reverse is a Vicenza
arrival datestamp July 30,





Perf 12 1/2

Weston correspondence letter, October 26, 1874 tied by red Trinidad Paid double arc handstamp from Trinidad to Surrey, England. Cover showing the 1s rate to the UK and franked with Perforation 12 1/2 stamp 15 that is cancelled by Trinidad double arc handstamp. Goldaming arrival cancel, November 14, 1874

Perf. 14 Crown and CC stamps issued

1d red with various shades and watermarks

4d gray with various shades and watermarks

6d green with various shades and watermarks

1S chrome-yellow with various shades and watermarks

1d red Perf. 14 Crown and CC





4d gray and 6d Perf. 14 Crown and CC







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Specimen, Samuel Type D3

Specimen, Samuel Type TRI I

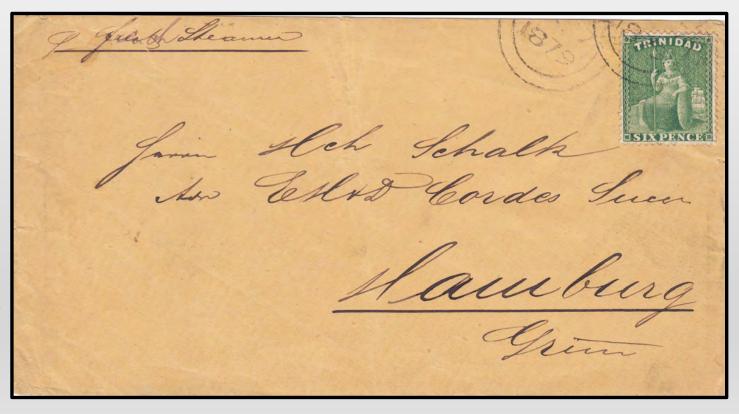
1S chrome-yellow Perf. 14 Crown and CC



Strip of 8, One of the largest known

Perf 14

Cover from Ciudad Bolivar, Venezuela to Hamburg, Germany sent via Trinidad. The cover was carried privately to Trinidad where the 6d bright yellow green stamp was applied and cancelled by the Trinidad double arc, dated February 7, 1879. On reverse shows Sprick Luis & Co. Ciudad Bolivar merchant cachet marking. In addition there is the J.N. Harriman & Co., Trinidad B.W.I. purple cachet along with the Hamburg arrival datestamp of March 30, 1879.

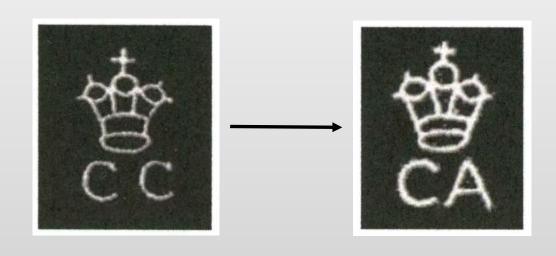


Perf 14

Registered Cover, No. 223, from Port of Spain to Godalming, Surrey, **England**, bearing the 4d and 6d Perf 14 stamps tied by Trinidad double arc datestamp of May 27, 1877. On front are two red strikes of the **REGISTERED** marks and the oval Registered London datestamp of June 12, 1877. On reverse is the Godalming arrival datestamp of June 13, 1877 and red wax seal "Master Colonial, Trinidad".



DE LA RUE CROWN AND CA STAMPS, 1882



4d bluish grey



PROVISIONALS OF 1879 - 1882 WHY WERE THEY NEEDED?

HALF and ONE PENNY - Rate change for letters, postal cards, and wrappers

1d Manuscript – worn out Perkins Bacon plates, delay in printing and high demand for 1d stamps







PROVISIONALS OF 1879 - 1882, TYPES & COLOR

DENOMINATIONS: HALF PENNY, ONE PENNY, MANUSCRIPT

> **HALF PENNY** (1879):

on 1d lilac, Crown and CC

on 1d mauve, Crown and CC

on **1d deep brown** variety, Crown and CC ONE PENNY (1882): on 1d rosy-carmine, Crown and CA

> HALF PENNY (1882): on 1d lilac, Crown and CA Manuscript 1d (1882): on 6d green issue of 1876, locally made

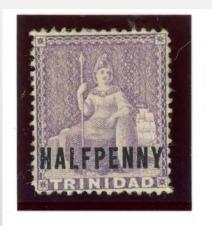
PROVISIONALS OF 1879 - 1882

> **HALF PENNY** (1879):

on 1d mauve,

Crown and CC

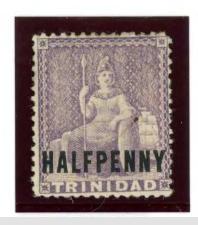
Note color changeling on upper right stamp









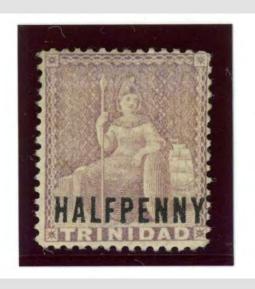


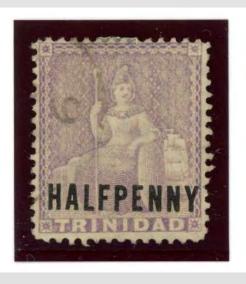
PROVISIONALS OF 1879 - 1882

> **HALF PENNY** (1879):

on 1d lilac,

Crown and CC



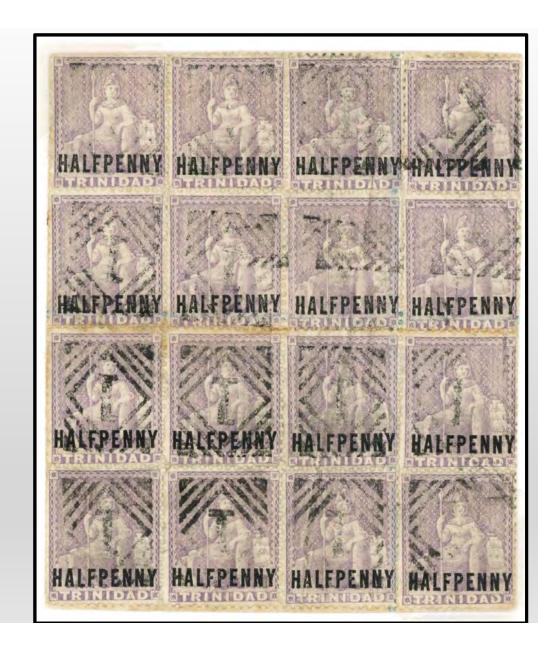




PROVISIONALS OF 1879 -1882

Gorgeous block of 16 (SG 98) and cancelled by Marriott Type 0.5, roller numeral '1'.

This is one of the largest known used blocks of the **HALF PENNY** surcharge.



Registered cover (front) with 12 HALF PENNY surcharged stamps in a strip of 7 combined with a strip of 3, and two singles, along with a pair of 1876, Perf 14, 1d stamps to A. Churchill, Essex, England. Black straight line 'REGISTERED' handstamp applied in Trinidad with receiving red oval Registered London markings on front. Dated March 9 1882 by Trinidad double arc datestamp.



> **HALF PENNY** (1879):

on 1d deep brown variety

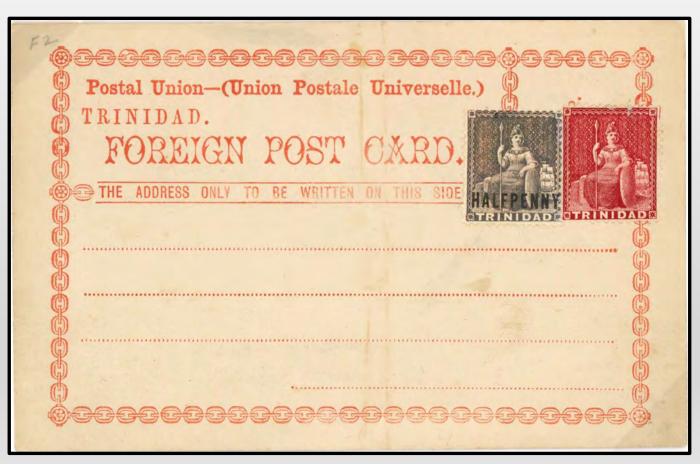
Crown and CC

The brown is believed caused by color changeling of the mauve variety stamp.





PENNY surcharge stamp in combination with a single 1876, Perf 14, 1d stamp making the 1 1/2 d rate for on the locally produced Foreign Postal Card.



> ONE PENNY (1882): on 1d rosy-carmine, with color shades













> **ONE PENNY** (1882)

on 1d rosy-carmine

Cover to Livourne,

Italy, having the ONE

PENNY surcharge on
1d rosy-carmine
cancelled by circular
datestamp
September 7, 1882.



PROVISIONALS OF

1879 - 1882

> **ONE PENNY** (1882)

on 1d rosy-carmine

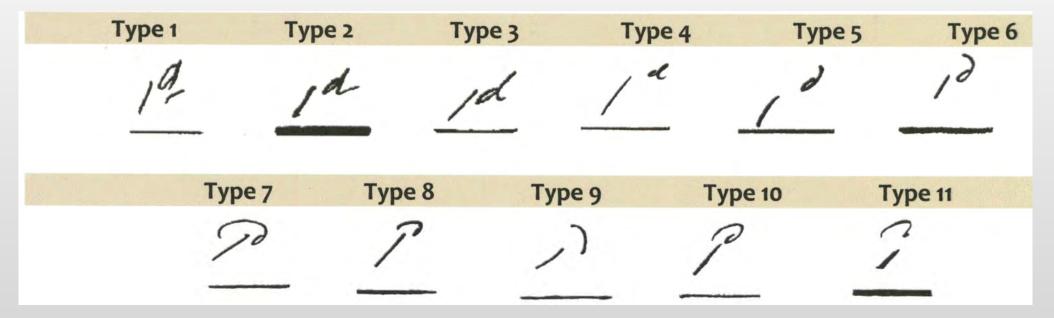
ONE PENNY surcharge for the 1d rate on a UPU (Universal Postale Universelle) Formula Card for countries within 300 miles served by British Packets.



1d manuscript (1882):

- on 6d green issue of 1876
- Numerous styles of handwriting types
- Made locally by Post Office Clerks
- Black ink rare with T.16 Chaguanas Duplex
- > Red ink common





> 1d manuscript (1882):

on 6d green issue of 1876

Numerous styles of handwriting types, Made locally by Post Office Clerks

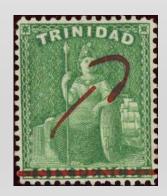








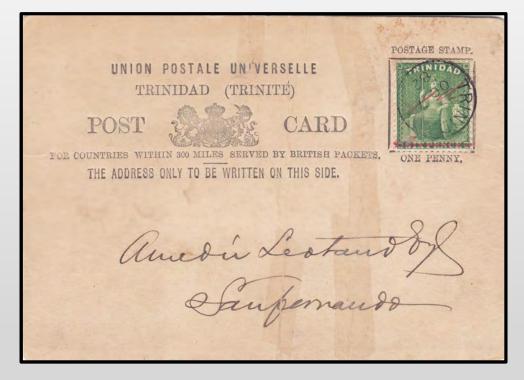


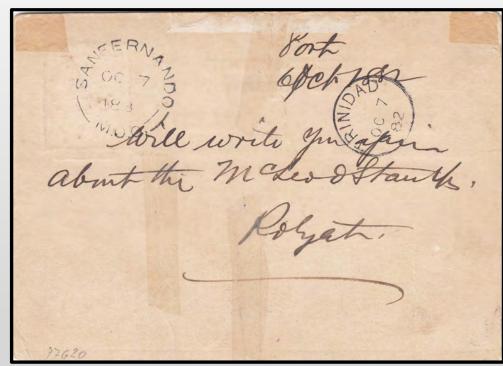






Registered General Post Office cover with strip of ten manuscript **1d on 6d** (one of the largest recorded on cover) to London, **England**. Cover shows two types of the manuscript, **Type 8 and Type 2** cancelled by Marriott Type 0.5, roller numeral '1'.





Intriguing message about famed Lady McLeod on a UPU Formula Card reads: "Will write you again about the Lady McLeod Stamps". Scarce San Fernando M.O.O. cancel on back.

BISECTED STAMPS 1879 - 1883 WHY WERE THEY NEEDED?

1879 USAGE: Rate reduction from 3d to 1 and 1/2d of the Postal Union Card Foreign Post Card (UPU).

1882 – 1883 USAGE: Rate reduction to 2 and 1/2d for letters to Tobago, Grenada, St. Vincent and Barbados. Wrappers rate reduced to 1/2d.



BISECTED STAMPS 1879 - 1883 THREE TYPES (BRITANNIA) & DATES USED

- > 1d lake, Perf 14 of 1876 (Period: April, June, July 1879)
- vertical bisect
- diagonal bisect
- > 1d rosy-carmine, Perf 14 of 1882 "ONE PENNY" Provisional

(Period April to December 1882, up to March 1883)

- vertical bisect
- diagonal bisect

- ➤ 1d manuscript on 6d (Period: January to March 1883)
- vertical bisect
- diagonal bisect

- > 1d lake, Perf 14 of 1876 (Period: April, June, July 1879)
- diagonal bisect

Rare to very rare early use, dated **April 27, 1879** showing the 1876 1d with bisected 1d for the **1 1/2d** rate to countries of the UPU. Scare San Fernando M.O.O. strike cancelling stamps.





> 1d lake, Perf 14 of 1876 (Period: April, June, July 1879)

vertical bisect

New cards were sold with a **1d and 1/2d** stamp already fixed to the Foreign Post Card. Provenance: Ascher

> 1d rosy-carmine, Perf 14 of 1882 "ONE PENNY" Provisional

(Period April to December 1882, up to March 1883)



Cover to St. Vincent dated November 27, 1882 with the bisect of 1d rosy-carmine 'ONE PENNY' and two manuscript 1d on 6d Provisionals for the 2 1/2d rate.

> 1d manuscript on 6d

(Period: January to March 1883)

Cover to **England**, franked with a strip of three 1d manuscript surcharge over 6d and single "HALF PENNY". **A** diagonally bisected 1d manuscript over 6d makes the 4d. Provenance: Burrus













THANK YOU