

THE TRIANGULAR STAMPS ISSUED AT THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

The Triangular stamps of the Cape of Good Hope were first issued in September 1853, printed by Perkins Bacon (1d and 4d), and in February 1858 (6d and 1/-) and then in March 1858 a 1d rose. Perkins Bacon continued printing these stamps until 1863 / 1864, when de la Rue assumed responsibility for printing them, from the Perkins Bacon plates. In or around March 1863 Perkins Bacon ended their print responsibility with de la Rue printing the 6d and 1/- until March and January 1864 respectively and 1d and 4d until May and August 1865 respectively.

The provisional Woodblock issue of 1861 was stereotyped and printed by Saul Solomon of Cape Town. These stamps were recalled in 1862. Two dies for each denomination of the Perkins Bacon and de la Rue issues existed as well as two dies for the 4d Woodblock. The Perkins Bacon and de la Rue were printed on anchor watermarked wove paper, whilst the Woodblocks were printed on laid paper. Various proofs and reprints exist.

The triangular stamps were used in the Cape for nearly 10 years with the rectangular stamps being introduced from 1864. The Perkins Bacon triangle plates were defaced on October 27th 1863 (6d and 1/-) and on 7th, 8th and 10th July 1865 (1d and 4d). All triangular stamps were demonetized in 1900.

Structure of the exhibit:

This traditional exhibit works its way through the three issues chronologically with unused, used and examples on cover being shown.

Frame 1 – Die proofs, colour trials and the first Perkins Bacon issued stamps and covers for the 1d and 4d duties

Frame 2 – Stamps and covers for the 6d and duties

Frame 3 – The Woodblocks in the issued 1d and 4d duties

Frame 4 – The 1863 issue engraved by Perkins Bacon and printed by de la Rue, the 1d and 4d duties and usage

Frame 5 – The balance of the 1863 issues, being the 6d and 1/- duties and usage

Significant or special items are highlighted

Bibliography

Triangular stamps of the Cape – Stevenson, Auction Catalogues, Collection Josef Hackmey, - own research; Goldblatt; Own research