

Life Span of the

Printing Plates

For

All the Postage stamps

Of Queen Victoria

By Allan Oliver

COPYRIGHT NOTICE

This document is fully protected by copyright.
No part of this document may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior permission of the author

Requests for such permission should be sent to
allanoliver1937@msn.com

Versions and updates for the line engraved section

Version	Date	Updates / additions
1.00	10 th Jan 2006	Line engraved plate life project started
1.03	2 nd March 2006 To 8 th March 2006	Major date revisions Numbers printed for the 1 ^d plate number series EKU for the plate number series
1.04	15 th May 2006	Dates for black plates amended and re-organised
1.05	19 th Dec 2006	All the dates for Die 1 penny reds revised
2.01	13 th Jan 2007 To 25 th Jan 2007	All the dates for Die 2 reds revised All the dates for penny reds plate numbers revised 2 ^d blue plates 7-15 revised 1½ ^d plates revised
2.02	15 th April 2007	Earliest known dates revised for some entries
3.01	23 rd Jan 2008	Minor revisions to the 1d plate number series
3.03	24 th Feb 2008 To 28 th Feb 2008	Major updates to Mulready section Some early plates (12-40) ECU revised Plate 3 two-pence blues revised Major revisions to the text for the embossed stamps
3.05	2 nd March 2008 To 18 th March 2008	Inverted watermarks table added for the one penny red plate numbers series Minor text revisions
3.06	23 rd April 2008	Text and date revisions – picture added
3.07	May 2008	ECU date revisions – pictures added
3.08	June 2008	Plates 51 & 52 ECU updated Mulready letter sheets updated Black plate 10 in red updated
3.09	21 st July 2008	Plate 147 ECU updated with picture
3.10	27 th Aug 2008	Minor updates to the Mulready section
3.11	6 th Sept 2008	Major date revisions Minor text revisions Illustrations added
3.12	7 th Oct 2008	Revisions to the 1 ^d plate number series
3.13	27 th Jan 2009	Error corrections made throughout ECU revisions and pictures added

Preface

This book originally started life as two separate documents, one covering the stamps printed by the line engraved process by Perkins Bacon and the other covering the surface printed issues produced by De La Rue. As the information expanded, it was decided that the first volume should include details on the Mulready envelopes and letter sheets along with the three values of embossed stamps as these all fell within the same time frame as the line engraved issues.

These two volumes have now been combined into a single book that I hope will provide all the details relating to the production period, (life span), of the various issues of Queen Victoria in one place.

The layout of the information has not been altered from the original files, so those who have had access to and have got used to the format of the original files and where to find details should have no problems with this combined volume.

Colour pictures are included for most of the issues and details can be found in the introduction to the two sections. Also included are pictures of some of the earliest recorded date items for both the line engraved and surface printed issues, which I hope will provide a lasting reference to items that are known to exist.

Illustrations of usages that are referred to in the listings are shown following the table in which the item appears, in order to keep all the details in one place.

I have not attempted to make a list of the illustrations, as when items are updated, these could be subject to change when a revised earliest known usage, (EKU), is reported.

If any reader can supply updated information with a scan of the item for this listing, (in order that the details can be confirmed), I can be contacted at the email address that appears on the front page or via the Mulready Internet group.

Life Span of the Printing Plates

For All the line engraved Postage stamps

Produced by
Perkins, Bacon and Petch, (and after 1852, Perkins, Bacon and Co.).
*Also including the embossed issues produced at Somerset House
And the Mulready envelopes*



By Allan Oliver

Introduction to section one

The following tables give details relating to the life of the various printing plates. Included is the registration and put to press dates, as well as, (where known), the date on which the plate was removed from the press, the date recommended for defacement and eventually defaced. The end column is for recording of the earliest known examples from the various plates, which I hope in time to be able to be able to supplement with illustrations.

On some plates, the entire row of information is presented in *italic text*. This has been done to highlight the entry, where the earliest known date for the given plate, pre-dates the recorded date when the plate was put to press. In the cases where this has occurred, it will be noticed that although pre-dating the put to press date, the date falls after the date of registration. When a new plate was registered, 5 extra sheets were submitted as example impressions. One sheet was then placed in the official records, (becoming the imprimatur copy), and the others returned to the printers. It is likely that these returned sheets would have just been included in with an existing batch awaiting distribution.

The IR practice was to keep a 3-week stock of stamps prior to the 1857 fire at Perkins Bacons works; afterwards the PO kept a larger stock and I imagine the IR maintained their policy, however, this requires confirmation. I would therefore caution the reader to be suspicious of EKV's of significantly less than 3 or 4 weeks after the Put to Press date, except where there are extenuating circumstances.

The recommended dates for defacement are taken from the Inland Revenue records.

In the following tables some symbols have been used. We have tried to keep such use to a minimum, and the following is a list of those used...

??? With a date indicates that this is unconfirmed or dubious.

The author makes no claim as to the completeness of this work, (a claim that would be pointless after even a quick glance at some of the tables), but rather, has decided to present the information, even in its incomplete form, for the benefit of others. The information presented is made freely available, (under the copyright terms on the previous page), and is updated on a regular basis. These updates are made available via the files section of the Mulready Internet group, which is located at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mulready/>. Nothing known to the author has been left out of this work, and in some cases conflicting data is presented so that the reader may make their own judgement on the situation.

If you have received this file from any other source, we would suggest joining this group to obtain the most up to date version as well access to a wealth of other information.

Numbers printed

When Perkins, Bacon and Petch, (and after 1852, Perkins, Bacon and Co.), finally completed their contract for the line engraved series on the 31st December 1879, they had produced the following number of stamps, (excluding wastage), from which we have calculated the number of sheets. These figures were provided by the board of trade to Sir Rowland Hill.¹

½ ^d	1,600,276,320	=	(3,333,909 sheets)
1 ^d	20,699,858,040	=	(86,249,408 ½ sheets)
1½ ^d	42,638,160	=	(177,659 sheets)
2 ^d	338,540,280	=	(1,410,584 ½ sheets)

When these figures are compared to those presented in the tables, (taken from various sources), we find that those presented by Perkins, Bacon & Co. are generally between 10 and 12 percent lower than those presented in this volume.

The discrepancy between these two sets of figures could be due to the fact that Perkins end of contract figures did not include wastage, where as those presented here are all inclusive figures which may need to be adjusted to allow for this event.

The other point to bear in mind, with regard to these figures, is that they were presented at the official end of the contract for printing these values. In reality, the production of these values continued beyond these dates.

¹ Life of Sir Rowland Hill, K.C.B., Volume 1, page 408

Watermark types



Small crown



Large crown
Type 1



Large crown
Type 2



Half penny



Embossed



One Penny. Die I. Alp I. Wmk SC. (Imperforate). **(Black)**

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1a	Between 8 Apr 40 and 11 Apr 40	15 Apr 40 Unhardened		22 Apr 40		See below	2 May 40
1a		27 Apr 40 Hardened		22 May 40		See below	
1b	26 May 40	Never registered		See below	See below	42,000	8 Jun 40
2	22 Apr 40	22 Apr 40 Unhardened				See below	6 May 40
2		27 Apr 40 Hardened		See below	See below	32,000	
3	12 May 40	9 May 1840			Oct 40 9 Jan 41	20,000	16 May 40
4	28 May 1840	19 May 1840			9 Jan 41 Jan 42	28,000	23 May 40
5	28 May 1840	1 June 40 Unhardened				See below	17 Jun 40
5		11 Jun 40 Hardened		See below	See below	See below	
5b	Oct 1840			See below	See below	See below	21 Nov 40
5c	Dec 1840			See below	See below	See below	21 Jan 41
5d	Late Jan 41					36,000	6 Mar 41
6	15 Jun 40	17 Jun 40			9 Jan 41 Jan 42	38,000	29 Jun 40
7	26 Jun 40	8 Jul 40			9 Jan 41 Jan 42	34,000	8 Jul 40
8	3 Jul 40	31 Jul 40		See below	See below	30,000	5 Sep 40
9	6 Nov 40	9 Nov 40		See below	See below	16,000	18 Nov 40
10	8 Dec 40	8 Dec 40		See below	See below	8,000	2 Jan 41
11	1 Feb 41	27 Jan 41 (In red)		2 Feb 1841 Probably not removed, just cleaned ready for use again in red.	See below	700	4 Feb 1841

The total print run for the One Penny stamps in Black is 284,700 sheets.

Plate 8 is recorded as the 11th September 1840 by Statham

Plate 10 is recorded as the 4th January 1841 by Statham

Plate 11 is recorded as the 9th February 1841 by Statham



Plate 5 – Unit EA

Used on cover dated 17th June 1840



One Penny. Die I. Alp I. Wmk SC. (Imperforate).
(Black)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
A		15 Apr 40 Unhardened				3,500	5 June 1845 Stamp FC
A		9 May 40 Hardened		3 Jun 40	6 Mar 50		



The earliest recorded cover with the VR official



One Penny. Die I. Alp I. Wmk SC (Imperforate).
(Red-Brown)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1b		See above		23 Mar 41	19 Nov 41 11 Dec 41	6,000	25 Feb 41
2		See above		23 Mar 41	19 Nov 41	8,000	1 Mar 41
5		See above					12 Feb 41
5b							
5c							
5d							
5e	Apr 1841 ???			23 Mar 41 ???	12 Nov 1841	16,000	4 Sep 41
8		See above		23 March 41	8 Sep 1841	22,000	26 Feb 41
9		See above		23 March 41	7 Oct 1843	35,000	19 Feb 41
10		See above		23 March 41	21 Feb 43	24,000	24 Feb 41
11	29 Jan 41	27 Jan 1841		30 Jan 1841 Probably not removed, just cleaned ready for use in black.	15 Jan 42 15 Jan 43		19 Feb 41
11	3 Feb 41					40,000	

The seven plates listed above, are generally referred to as the black plate. Although all these plates had been used to produce black stamps, plate 11 was in fact the first of the new plates for the production in red.

Plate 1b in red has been reported for the 18th February 1841 but this is unconfirmed

The 'Pichai' sale had a cover dated 26th February, which it claimed to be the earliest known date of use of plate 10 in red. Statham gives 4th March 1841 as the earliest, though states a copy 'has been reported used on 20th February'. The damaged 3 margin 'Pichai' example most recently went under the hammer at Grosvenor in May 2007 with an estimate of £2,500-£3,000. It has also been reported that plate 10 exists used on the 11th February 1841, but again this is unconfirmed.



Unit 'J-I' plate 1b on cover dated the 25th February 1841



Unit 'P-H' plate 10 dated the 24th February 1841 from Dublin

One Penny. Die I. Alp I. Wmk SC (Imperforate). (Continued)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
12		25 Feb 41			15 Jan 42	40,000	2 Apr 41
13		27 Apr 41			15 Jul 41	21,000	12 May 41
14		27 Apr 41			8 Sep 41	28,000	14 Aug 41
15		23 Jul 41			21 Feb 43	48,000	25 May 41
16		23 Jul 41			21 Feb 43	48,000	16 Aug 41
17		10 Sep 41			18 Mar 42	40,000	14 Oct 41
18		21 Sep 41			5 Mar 42	31,600	24 Oct 41
19		3 Nov 41			7 Oct 43	50,000	18 Nov 41
20		15 Nov 41			7 Oct 43	55,000	31 Jan 42
21		11 Dec 41			21 Feb 43		7 Jan 42
22		30 Dec 41			21 Feb 43		12 Mar 42
23		18 Jan 42			21 Feb 43		2 Mar 42
24		4 Mar 42		18 Aug 43			25 Mar 42
25		17 Mar 42		27 Jan 43			11 May 42
26		22 Jun 42		27 Jan 43			21 Aug 42
27		5 Sep 42			7 Oct 43		28 Oct 42
28		14 Sep 42		16 Sep 43	7 Oct 43		12 Oct 42
29		14 Nov 42		18 Aug 43	7 Oct 43		24 Nov 42
30		6 Dec 42		18 Aug 43	7 Oct 43	41,000	16 Jan 43
31		27 Jan 43		16 Sep 43	7 Oct 43		31 Mar 43
32		7 Feb 43		16 Sep 43	7 Oct 43		27 Mar 43
33		20 Feb 43			7 Oct 43		28 Mar 43
34		7 Jun 43			25 Jun 43		14 Jul 43
35		7 Jun 43			27 Feb 45		23 Jun 43
36		7 Jun 43			27 Feb 45		28 Jun 43
37		7 Jul 43		17 Feb 44			17 Jul 43
38		26 Jul 43			25 Jun 44		1 Sep 43
39		2 Oct 43			25 Jun 44		10 Dec 43
40		17 Nov 43			25 Jun 44		16 Dec 43
41		6 Nov 43			27 Feb 45		15 Jan 44
42		23 Jan 44			25 Jun 44		4 Mar 44
43		23 Jan 44			27 Feb 45		15 April 44
44		29 Feb 44			1 Apr 46		16 Apr 44
45		29 Feb 44			27 Feb 45		23 Apr 44
46		4 May 44			22 Feb 45		12 Jun 44
47		24 May 44			27 Feb 45		5 July 44

Statham records the following ...

Plate 15 for the 7th September 1841

Plate 26 for the 25th August 1842

Plate 32 for the 21st April 1843

Plate 34 for the 29th July 1843

Plate 35 for the 20th July 1843

Plate 37 for the 5th August 1843

Plate 42 for the 22nd March 1844

One Penny. Die I. Alp I. Wmk SC (Imperforate).

Plate 23



Unit 'NK' Earliest known use to Wellington, Somerset
Taunton CDS on the reverse in black

Plate 44



Earliest known use from London to Tiverton
Unit SF cancelled by 1 in cross of the London chief office and
dispatch mark on the rear for the 16th April 1844 (Code W)
Tiverton arrival mark in black for the following day

One Penny. Die I. Alp I. Wmk SC (Imperforate). (Continued)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
48		19 Jun 44			1 Apr 46		6 Aug 44
49		12 Sep 44			27 Feb 45		4 Nov 44
50		12 Sep 44			27 Feb 45		7 Oct 44
51		3 Dec 44			1 Apr 46		21 Jan 45
52		17 Dec 44			1 Apr 46		12 Feb 45
53		7 Jan 45			1 Apr 46		6 Feb 45
54		25 Jan 45			1 Apr 46		1 Mar 45
55		7 Feb 45			1 Apr 46		27 Mar 45
56		25 Feb 45			1 Apr 46		10 Apr 45
57		9 May 45			1 Apr 46		23 July 45
58		9 May 45			1 Apr 46		30 July 45
59		25 Jun 45			1 Apr 46		10 Aug 45
60		25 Jun 45			15 May 47		18 Aug 45
61		14 Aug 45			15 May 47		3 Sep 45
62		14 Aug 45			15 May 47		8 Sep 45
63		2 Sep 45			15 May 47		2 Nov 45
64		3 Dec 45			15 May 47		5 Feb 46
65		2 Feb 46			15 May 47		15 Mar 46
66		2 Feb 46			15 May 47		26 Mar 46
67		17 Apr 46			15 May 47		29 Jun 46
68		17 Apr 46			15 May 47		9 Aug 46
69		8 Jun 46			2 Dec 48		7 Sep 46
70		30 June 46 or 30 July 46			2 Dec 48		31 Aug 46
71		21 Oct 46			2 Dec 48		21 Dec 46
72		21 Oct 46			2 Dec 48		3 Nov 46
73		14 Jan 47			2 Dec 48		2 Mar 47
74		14 Jan 47			2 Dec 48		2 May 47
75		19 Apr 47			2 Dec 48		26 May 47
76	Mid-July 47	19 Apr 47			2 Dec 48		15 Dec 47
77	Early Dec 47	19 Apr 47			↓		9 Feb 48
77b		12 Jan 48			2 Dec 48		1848
78		12 Jan 48			2 Dec 48		29 Feb 48
79		12 Jan 48			2 Dec 48		4 Feb 48
80		12 Jan 48			6 Mar 50		18 Feb 48
81	Early Mar 48	12 Jan 48			6 Mar 50		1 May 48
82	Late Apr 48	12 Jan 48			6 Mar 50		29 July 48
83	Mid-Aug 48	12 Jan 48			6 Mar 50		17 Dec 48
84		11 Oct 48			6 Mar 50		23 Dec 48
85	Mid-Nov 48	11 Oct 48			6 Mar 50		18 Dec 48

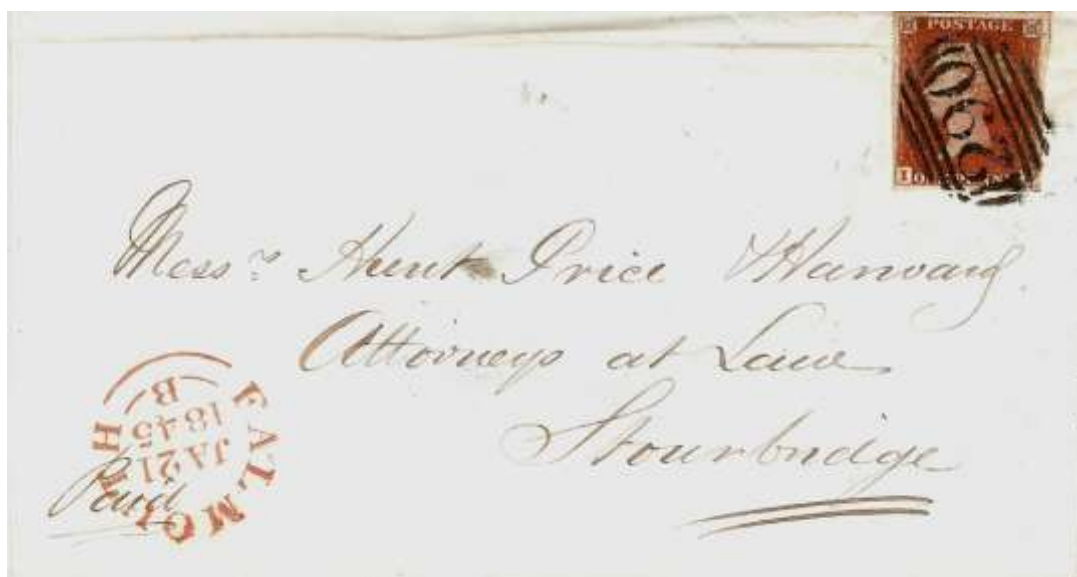
The defaced dates given for plates 12 – 91 are probably the dates withdrawn from the press but further research is required.

Plate 49 has been reported for the 31 October 1844 but this is unconfirmed

Plate 76 is reported for the 4 June 1847 but this is unconfirmed

Plate 77 was registered a second time after the missing check letter 'A' on unit BA was inserted. This is plate 77b

Plate 51



Unit 'IK' plate 51 used on cover
Dated the 21st January 1845

Stourbridge receiving mark on the rear
dated the 23rd January 1845

Plate 84



Unit 'BG' plate 84 used on cover

Dated the 23rd December 1848

The earliest known used example

Plate 88



Unit 'NH' plate 88 used on cover
Dated the 12th May 1849 (6 evening)

One Penny. Die I. Alp I. Wmk SC (Imperforate). (Continued)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
86	Mid-Nov 48	11 Oct 48			6 Mar 50		13 Jan 49
87	Mid-Nov 48	11 Oct 48			6 Mar 50		5 Jan 49
88		20 Mar 49			6 Mar 50		12 May 49
89	??? 28 Apr 49	20 Mar 49			6 Mar 50		16 May 49
90		24 May 49			6 Mar 50		9 July 49
At least one sheet overprinted SPECIMEN							
91		24 May 49			22 Oct 51		23 Jun 49
92		24 May 49					18 Sep 49
93		6 Dec 49					11 Jan 50
94		6 Dec 49					20 Jan 50
95		7 Jan 50					26 Mar 50
96		6 Dec 49					14 Jan 50
97		6 Dec 49					9 Jan 50
98		6 Dec 49					22 Feb 50
99		7 Jan 50					21 Mar 50
100		25 Feb 50					19 Apr 50
101		25 Feb 50					19 Apr 50
102		12 Jun 50					22 Aug 50

Statham records the following ...

Plate 92 EKU for the 28th January 1850

Plate 102 EKU for the 10 November 1850



Left marginal block of eight from plate 90
SPECIMEN overprint

One Penny. Die I. Alp I. Wmk SC (Imperforate). (Continued)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
103	??? July 50	12 Jun 50					3 Sep 50
104	8 Oct 50	12 Jun 50					14 Dec 50
105	6 Dec 50	12 Jun 50					25 Jan 51
106	6 Dec 50	12 Jun 50					14 Jan 51
107	2 Jan 51	1 Jan 51					9 Apr 51
108	2 Jan 51	1 Jan 51					25 Feb 51
109	6 Jan 51	1 Jan 51					22 Feb 51
110	10 Jan 51	1 Jan 51					24 Mar 51
111	27 Jan 51	1 Jan 51					25 Mar 51
112	6 Feb 51	1 Jan 51					4 Apr 51
113	27 Feb 51	26 Feb 51					7 Jul 51
114	27 Feb 51	26 Feb 51					9 May 51
115	5 Mar 51	26 Feb 51					19 Apr 51
116	24 May 51	20 May 51					1 Jul 51
117	24 May 51	20 May 51					25 Jul 51
118	27 May 51	20 May 51					13 Aug 51
119	30 May 51	20 May 51					30 Jun 51
120	14 Jun 51	20 May 51					9 Sep 51
121	28 Jun 51	20 May 51					16 Jul 51
122	25 Jul 51	25 Jul 51					3 Dec 51
123	25 Jul 51	25 Jul 51					31 Oct 51
124	2 Aug 51	25 Jul 51					2 Oct 51
125	3 Sep 51	25 Jul 51					10 Dec 51
126	3 Oct 51	23 Sep 51					9 Nov 51
127	1 Oct 51	23 Sep 51					12 Dec 51
128	3 Oct 51	23 Sep 51					2 Dec 51
129	7 Nov 51	23 Sep 51					Feb 52

One Penny. Die I. Alp II. Wmk SC (Imperforate).

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
130	27 Dec 51	23 Sep 51					28 Feb 52
131	10 Jan 52	23 Sep 51					21 Mar 52
132	19 Feb 52	6 Feb 52			3 Nov 52		19 Apr 52
133	21 Feb 52	6 Feb 52			3 Nov 52		8 May 52
134	23 Feb 52	6 Feb 52			3 Nov 52		21 Apr 52
135	28 Feb 52	6 Feb 52			3 Nov 52		7 May 52
136	8 Mar 52	6 Feb 52			3 Nov 52		8 May 52
137	30 Mar 52	6 Feb 52			3 Nov 52		20 May 52
138	17 Apr 52	17 Apr 52			3 Nov 52		5 Jun 52
139	17 Apr 52	17 Apr 52			3 Nov 52		27 June 52
140	19 Apr 52	17 Apr 52			3 Nov 52		8 Aug 52
141	27 Apr 52	17 Apr 52			3 Nov 52		3 Jul 52
142	20 May 52	17 Apr 52			13 Jun 53		13 Jul 52
143	22 May 52	17 Apr 52			3 Nov 52		7 Jul 52
144	11 Jun 52	4 Jun 52			13 Jun 53		2 Sep 52
145	11 Jun 52	4 Jun 52			3 Nov 52		19 Aug 52
146	11 Jun 52	4 Jun 52			13 Jun 53		13 Aug 52
147	15 Jun 52	4 Jun 52			3 Nov 52		10 Aug 52
148	16 Jun 52	4 Jun 52			13 Jun 53		17 Sep 52
149	27 Jul 52	27 July 52			13 Jun 53		10 Sep 52
150	28 Jul 52	27 July 52			13 Jun 53		6 Dec 52
151	28 Jul 52	27 July 52			13 Jun 53		10 Sep 52
152	28 Jul 52	27 July 52			24 Aug 54		1 Nov 52
153	10 Aug 52	27 July 52			13 Jun 53		29 Oct 52
154	14 Aug 52	27 July 52			13 Jun 53		26 Nov 52
155a	30 Aug 1852	16 Sep 1852		24 Aug 1854		See below	1 Jan 53
155b						See below	9 Feb 54
155c						See below	1 July 54
156	17 Sep 1852	16 Sep 1852				See below	29 Dec 52
157	17 Sep 1852	16 Sep 1852				See below	18 Nov 52
158	3 Nov 1852	16 Sep 1852				See below	29 Dec 52
159	30 Nov 1852	16 Sep 1852				See below	4 Feb 53
160	9 Dec 1852	16 Sep 1852				See below	9 Mar 53
161	17 Jan 1853	14 Jan 1853				See below	4 Mar 53
162	27 Jan 1853	14 Jan 1853				See below	22 Feb 53
163	5 Feb 1853	14 Jan 1853				See below	17 Mar 53
164	17 Feb 1853	14 Jan 1853				See below	7 Apr 53
165	12 Mar 1853	14 Jan 1853				See below	20 Apr 53
166	15 Apr 1853	14 Jan 1853				See below	21 Jun 53
167	18 Apr 1853	18 Apr 1853				See below	23 Jun 53

Statham records the following ...

Plate 130 earliest use ... 14 April 1852

Plate 171 earliest use ... 26 August 1853

Plate 155 put to press on the 30 November 1852

Plate 147



Unit 'KC' plate 147 used on cover. Dated the 10th August 1852

Plate 156



Unit 'SB' plate 156 used on cover, Dated 29th December 1852

One Penny. Die I. Alp II. Wmk SC (Imperforate).

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
168	19 Apr 1853	18 Apr 1853				See below	7 Sep 53
169	30 Apr 1853	18 Apr 1853				See below	21 Jun 53
170	4 May 1853	18 Apr 1853				See below	21 July 53
171	24 May 1853	18 Apr 1853				See below	17 Aug 53
172	25 May 1853	18 Apr 1853				See below	26 Nov 53
173	19 Aug 1853	20 Jul 1853				See below	27 Sep 53
174	27 Aug 1853	20 Jul 1853				See below	21 Oct 53
175	15 Dec 1853	20 Jul 1853				See below	20 Jan 54
176	12 Jan 1854	20 Jul 1853		8 Feb 1855		See below	1 Feb 54
177	12 Jan 1854	20 Jul 1853		8 Feb 1855		See below	21 Feb 54

Statham records the following ...

Plate 172 earliest use ... 29 November 1853



Unit 'GE' plate 172 used on cover
Dated the 26th November 1853

Machines constructed by David Napier and Sons for perforating stamps gauge 16, were brought into use on the 27th January 1854. The earliest known use of any stamp from this issue is reported as the 24th February 1854.

One Penny. Die I. Alp II. Wmk SC (Perforated 16).

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
155b					24 Aug 54	62,000	15 Mar 54
156	17 Sep 1852	16 Sep 1852				60,000	
157	17 Sep 1852	16 Sep 1852			8 Feb 1855	84,000	24 Oct 54
158	3 Nov 1852	16 Sep 1852			13 Jun 53	58,800	
159	30 Nov 1852	16 Sep 1852			13 Jun 53	50,600	
160	9 Dec 1852	16 Sep 1852			24 Aug 54	85,000	
161	17 Jan 1853	14 Jan 1853			24 Aug 54	85,000	
162	27 Jan 1853	14 Jan 1853			24 Aug 1854	86,000	15 Mar 54
163	5 Feb 1853	14 Jan 1853			8 Feb 1855	77,000	18 Oct 54
164	17 Feb 1853	14 Jan 1853			24 Aug 1854	84,000	15 Apr 54
165	12 Mar 1853	14 Jan 1853			24 Aug 1854	74,000	22 Mar 54
166	15 Apr 1853	14 Jan 1853			8 Feb 1855	52,000	1 Mar 54
167	18 Apr 1853	18 Apr 1853			24 Aug 1854	65,000	30 Mar 54
168	19 Apr 1853	18 Apr 1853		Probably 12 Jan 1854 or 17 Feb 1854	24 Aug 1854	70,000	
169	30 Apr 1853	18 Apr 1853			24 Aug 1854	68,000	24 Mar 54
170	4 May 1853	18 Apr 1853			24 Aug 1854	79,000	15 Apr 54
171	24 May 1853	18 Apr 1853			24 Aug 1854	63,000	11 Mar 54
172	25 May 1853	18 Apr 1853			24 Aug 1854	58,000	28 Feb 54
173	19 Aug 1853	20 Jul 1853			8 Feb 1855	44,000	28 Apr 54
174	27 Aug 1853	20 Jul 1853			24 Aug 1854	4,000	17 Apr 54
175	15 Dec 1853	20 Jul 1853			24 Aug 1854	8,000	27 Feb 54
176	12 Jan 1854	20 Jul 1853		8 Feb 1855		2,500	7 Mar 54
177	12 Jan 1854	20 Jul 1853		8 Feb 1855		2,500	28 Feb 54
178	17 Feb 1854	13 Feb 1854		4 Aug 1855		42,000	1 May 54
179	17 Feb 1854	13 Feb 1854		8 Feb 1855		50,000	28 Apr 54
180	22 Feb 1854	13 Feb 1854		24 Aug 1854		48,000	16 Mar 54
181	17 Mar 1854	13 Feb 1854		24 Aug 1854		42,000	29 May 54
182	24 Apr 1854	13 Feb 1854		8 Feb 1855		32,000	30 May 54

Statham records the following ...

Plate 166 with an earliest known use of the 26 April 1854

Plate 167 with an earliest known use of the 4 April 1854

Plate 172 with an earliest known use of the 16 March 1854

Plate 177 with an earliest known use of the 12 April 1854

One Penny. Die I. Alp II. Wmk SC (Perforated 16). (Continued)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
183	26 Apr 1854	13 Feb 1854		24 Aug 1854		36,000	20 Jun 54
184	13 Jul 1854	12 Jul 1854		8 Feb 1855		36,000	21 Aug 54
185	18 Jul 1854	12 Jul 1854		8 Feb 1855		28,000	22 Sep 54
186	13 Jul 1854	12 Jul 1854		8 Feb 1855		26,000	9 Sep 54
187	13 Jul 1854	12 Jul 1854		8 Feb 1855		30,000	22 Aug 54
188	18 Jul 1854	12 Jul 1854		8 Feb 1855		43,000	5 Sep 54
189	18 Jul 1854	12 Jul 1854		8 Feb 1855		35,000	19 Aug 54
190	11 Aug 1854	11 Aug 1854		8 Feb 1855		34,000	20 Sep 54
191	12 Aug 1854	11 Aug 1854		8 Aug 1855		37,000	3 Oct 54
192	12 Aug 1854	11 Aug 1854		8 Aug 1855		35,000	11 Sep 54
193	12 Aug 1854	11 Aug 1854		8 Feb 1855		36,000	8 Sep 54
194	23 Sep 1854	21 Sep 1854		8 Aug 1855		43,000	10 Nov 54
195	23 Sep 1854	21 Sep 1854		8 Feb 1855		32,000	15 Nov 54
196	23 Sep 1854	21 Sep 1854		8 Aug 1855		38,000	13 Nov 54
197	29 Sep 1854	21 Sep 1854		8 Aug 1855		27,000	18 Nov 54
198	9 Nov 1854	8 Nov 1854		8 Aug 1855		30,000	20 Dec 54
199	9 Nov 1854	8 Nov 1854		8 Aug 1855		9,000	8 Dec 54
200	9 Nov 1854	8 Nov 1854		8 Aug 1855		28,000	14 Dec 54
201	10 Nov 54	8 Nov 1854		8 Aug 1855		24,000	7 Dec 54
202	2 Dec 1854	30 Nov 54		8 Aug 1855		36,000	24 Dec 54
203	20 Dec 54	30 Nov 54		8 Aug 1855		22,000	21 Jan 55
204	11 Jan 1855	30 Nov 54		8 Aug 1855		13,000	17 Feb 55
R1	22 Nov 54	4 Jun 1852		13 Mar 1855		36,000	13 Feb 55
R2	22 Nov 54	4 Jun 1852		18 Apr 1855		35,000	6 Jan 55
R3	22 Nov 54	4 Jun 1852		10 Apr 1855		35,000	4 Jan 55
R4	22 Nov 54	27 Jul 1852		23 Apr 1854		38,000	12 Jan 55
R5	22 Nov 54	27 Jul 1852		13 Mar 55		36,000	13 Jan 55
R6	22 Nov 54	27 Jul 1852		14 Apr 1855		36,000	13 Dec 54

Statham records the following ...

Plate R1 with an earliest use of the 15 February 1855

Plate R5 with an earliest use of the 20 January 1855

In plating of the Penny by Harold Fisher, the registration dates for reserve plates 1 to 6 are given as 27 July 1852. Thus in the table above, these dates for reserve plates 1 to 3 may be incorrect.

One Penny. Die I. Alp II. Wmk SC (Perforated 14).

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
192	12 Aug 54	11 Aug 54		8 Aug 55			6 Feb 55
193	12 Aug 54	11 Aug 54		8 Feb 55			
194	23 Sep 1854	21 Sep 54		8 Aug 55		5,000	6 Feb 55
195	23 Sep 1854	21 Sep 54		8 Feb 55		500	24 Jan 55
196	23 Sep 1854	21 Sep 54		8 Aug 55		4,500	2 Feb 55
197	29 Sep 1854	21 Sep 54		8 Aug 55		1,500	10 May 55
198	9 Nov 1854	8 Nov 1854		8 Aug 55		4,000	25 Jan 55
200	9 Nov 1854	8 Nov 1854		8 Aug 55		5,000	23 Jan 55
201	10 Nov 54	8 Nov 1854		8 Aug 55		6,000	1 Feb 55
202	2 Dec 1854	30 Nov 54		8 Aug 55		14,000	7 Feb 55
203	20 Dec 54	30 Nov 54		8 Aug 55		8,000	16 Feb 55
204	11 Jan 1855	30 Nov 54		8 Aug 55		8,000	24 Mar 55
R1	22 Nov 54	4 Jun 1852		13 Mar 55		10,000	15 Feb 55
R2	22 Nov 54	4 Jun 1852		18 Apr 55		10,000	17 Jan 55
R3	22 Nov 54	4 Jun 1852		10 Apr 1855		7,000	7 Feb 55
R4	22 Nov 54	27 Jul 1852		23 Apr 54		8,000	27 Jan 55
R5	22 Nov 54	27 Jul 1852		13 Mar 55		10,000	10 Feb 55
R6	22 Nov 54	27 Jul 1852		14 Apr 55		10,000	8 Feb 55

Statham records the following ...

Plate 195 earliest use of the 30 August 1855

Plate 200 earliest use of the 4 March 1855

Plate 202 earliest use of the 9 February 1855

Plate R4 earliest use of the 10 February 1855

One Penny. Die II. Alp II. Wmk SC (Perforated 14).

Statham shows different put to press dates for some plates and these are shown in *italic type* with the earlier dates being for use on the steam press

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced	Destroyed	Earliest Known
1	16 Jan 55	15 Jan 55		8 May 56			26 Feb 55
2	20 Jan 55	15 Jan 1855		8 May 1856			27 Feb 55
3	22 Jan 55	15 Jan 1855		8 May 1855			2 Mar 55
4	20 Jan 55	15 Jan 1855		8 May 1856			3 Mar 55
5	3 Feb 55	1 Feb 1855		8 May 1856			23 Mar 55
6	3 Feb 55	1 Feb 1855		8 May 1856			23 Mar 55
7	7 Feb 55	1 Feb 1855		8 May 1856			31 Mar 55
8	24 Mar 55	19 Mar 55		8 May 1856			11 Jun 55
9	24 Mar 55	19 Mar 55		8 May 1856			5 Jun 55
10	11 Apr 55	19 Mar 55		8 May 1856			20 Jun 55
11	16 Apr 55	19 Mar 55		8 May 1856			25 Aug 55
12	19 Apr 55	19 Mar 55		8 May 1856			4 Jul 55
13	23 Apr 55	19 Mar 55		8 May 1856			27 Jun 55
14	22 May 55	12 May 55		8 May 1856			17 Aug 55
15	26 May 55	12 May 55		8 May 1856			16 May 56
16	15 May 55 <i>11 Dec 55</i>	12 May 55		22 Jun 1857			
17	15 May 55 <i>30 Nov 55</i>	12 May 55		22 Jun 1857			9 Jan 56
18	1 Jun 1855 <i>11 Dec 55</i>	12 May 55		22 Jun 1857			9 Feb 56
19	16 Oct 1855	12 May 55		8 May 1856			8 Jan 56
20	19 Oct 1855	12 May 55		8 May 1856			22 Jan 56
21	19 Oct 1855	8 Jun 1855		8 May 1856			8 Feb 56

Statham records plate 3 for the 12 March 1855

Statham records plate 12 for the 12 July 1855

Plate 9 has been reported for the 4th June 1855 but this is unconfirmed

Plate 11 has been reported for the 16th July 1855 but this is unconfirmed

Plates 15, 16 and 17 were used on the steam press and the following dates are those believed to be the put to press dates ...

Plate 15 15th May 1855

Plate 16 15th May 1855

Plate 17 1st June 1855

One Penny. Die II. Alp II. Wmk SC (Perforated 16).

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced	Destroyed	Earliest Known
1	See above			See above			14 Mar 55
2	See above			See above			22 Feb 55
3	See above			See above			2 Mar 55
4	See above			See above			21 Mar 55
5	See above			See above			10 Mar 55
6	See above			See above			31 Mar 55
7	See above			See above			7 May 55
8	See above			See above			19 Jul 55
9	See above			See above			9 Jun 55
10	See above			See above			21 Jun 55
11	See above			See above			16 May 55
12	See above			See above			10 Aug 55
13	See above			See above			29 Jul 55
14	See above			See above			21 Jul 55
15	See above			See above			30 Jul 55

Plate 1 is reported for the 7th March 1855 but this is unconfirmed

Statham records plate 3 for the 2nd March 1855

Plate 4 is reported for the 13th March 1855 but this is unconfirmed

Plate 6 is reported for the 20th March 1855 but this is unconfirmed

One Penny. Die II. Alp II. Wmk LC1 (Perforated 16).

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced	Destroyed	Earliest Known
1	See above			See above			12 Oct 55
2	See above			See above			8 Jun 55
3	See above			See above			15 Sep 55
4	See above			See above			1 Oct 55
5	See above			See above			4 Aug 55
6	See above			See above			21 Aug 55
7	See above			See above			27 Jun 55
8	See above			See above			3 Sep 55
9	See above			See above			9 Oct 55
10	See above			See above			20 Aug 55
11	See above			See above			29 Aug 55
12	See above			See above			28 Aug 55
13	See above			See above			30 Aug 55
14	See above			See above			28 Sep 55
15	See above			See above			5 Oct 55

Plate 1 is reported for the 6th June 1855 but this is unconfirmed

One Penny. Die II. Alp II. Wmk LC1 (Perforated 14).

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced	Destroyed	Earliest Known
1	See above			See above			21 Jul 55
2	See above			See above			20 Aug 55
3	See above			See above			9 Mar 56
4	See above			See above			2 Jul 55
5	See above			See above			10 Jun 55
6	See above			See above			3 Aug 55
7	See above			See above			29 Aug 55
8	See above			See above			23 Jun 55
9	See above			See above			13 Aug 55
10	See above			See above			15 Sep 55
11	See above			See above			25 Aug 55
12	See above			See above			21 Aug 55
13	See above			See above			19 Jul 55
14	See above			See above			31 Aug 55
15	See above			See above			6 Aug 55
16	See above			See above			20 Feb 56
17	See above			See above			12 Dec 56
18	See above			See above			9 Feb 56
19	See above			See above			29 Dec 55
20	See above			See above			19 Dec 55
21	See above			See above			26 Dec 55

Plate 6 is reported for the 17th July 1855 but this is unconfirmed

One Penny. Die II. Alp III Wmk SC1 (Perforated 14).

The put to press date for plate 22 in *italic type* is that recorded by Statham

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced	Destroyed	Earliest Known
22	1 Aug 1855 <i>Nov / Dec55</i>	8 Jun 55					5 Mar 56
23	17 Nov 1855	12 Nov 55					10 Mar 56
24	24 Nov 1855	12 Nov 55					11 Jan 56
25	12 Nov 1855	12 Nov 55					8 May 56
26	12 Nov 1855	12 Nov 55					13 Feb 56
27	27 Dec 1855	27 Dec 55					

Plate 22 was used on Mr Neale's steam press. It is believed to have been put to press on the 1st August 1855 and 2,000 sheets were printed.

Plate 25 is also reported to have been used on the steam press but we have no details

In the following tables, two sets of figures are given for the number of sheets printed. The first was, (I believe), extracted from Stones book and was supplied by members of the Mulready Internet group. The other set, (*in italic type*), are taken from the Wiggins and Tonna book on the Plating of alphabet III. In cases where both sets of figures match, only one entry has been made.

One Penny. Die II. Alp III Wmk LC1 (Perforated 14).

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
22	1 Aug 1855	8 Jun 55		22 Jun 1857		7,000 8,000	8 Feb 56
23	17 Nov 1855	12 Nov 55		22 Jun 1857		62,000	15 Jan 56
24	24 Nov 1855	12 Nov 55		22 Jun 1857		80,000 89,000	10 Jan 56
25	12 Nov 1855	12 Nov 55		22 Jun 1857		45,000	8 Feb 56
26	12 Nov 1855	12 Nov 55		22 Jun 1857		40,000	5 Feb 56
27	27 Dec 1855	27 Dec 55		22 Mar 1861		1,011,900 1,011,200	23 Feb 56
28	27 Dec 1855	27 Dec 55		22 Jun 1857		70,000+ 76,000	18 Feb 56
29	27 Dec 1855	27 Dec 55		22 Jun 1857		93,000	19 Jan 56
30	27 Dec 1855	27 Dec 55		22 Jun 1857		88,000	16 Feb 56
31	27 Dec 1855	27 Dec 55		22 Jun 1857		160,000+ 169,000	28 Feb 56
32	8 Feb 1856	16 Jan 56		22 Jun 1857		130,000	28 Mar 56
33	Feb 1856	16 Jan 56	29 Oct 1861	29 Oct 1861		138,000	5 Mar 56
34	22 Jan 1856	16 Jan 56	26 Nov 1864	25 Mar 1862		724,100	27 Feb 56
35	23 Jan 1856	16 Jan 56		22 Jun 1857		145,000 148,700+	5 Mar 56
36	20 Feb 1856	16 Jan 56		1 Mar 1864		1,014,900 1,055,000+	10 Apr 56
37	19 Apr 1856	2 Apr 56	29 Oct 1861	29 Oct 1861		263,600 363,600	31 May 56
38	24 May 1856	2 Apr 56	29 Oct 1861	29 Oct 1861		220,000	1 Jul 56
39	7 Apr 1856	2 Apr 56		29 Oct 1861		110,000 337,000	14 Jun 61
40	3 May 1856	2 Apr 56		22 Jun 1857		110,000	27 May 56
41	7 May 1856	2 Apr 56		7 Mar 1864		361,300 361,609	9 Feb 61
42	23 Jun 1856	2 Apr 56	26 Nov 1864	29 Jan 1862		624,700 669,700+	30 Jul 56
43	5 Jul 1856	2 Apr 56		2 Apr 1864		975,700 1,090,800	23 May 56
44	19 Jul 1856	2 Apr 56	29 Oct 1861	20 Apr 1861		601,000 601,500+	7 May 56

Statham records plate 27 for the 27th February 1856

Statham records plate 39 for the 8th November 1860 and other sources state the 13th October 1860.

Michael Williams is researching this issue and gives the date shown in the table above. More details will be given when available.

One Penny. Die II. Alphabet III. (Continued)

The put to press dates in *italic type* are those listed by Stratham

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
45	26 Aug 1856	25 Jun 56	29 Oct 1861			72,000+ <i>111,000</i>	25 Oct 56
46	27 Aug 1856	25 Jun 56	26 Nov 1864	28 Apr 1862		325,900 <i>651,400</i>	17 Oct 56
47	15 Dec 1856	25 Jun 56		30 Mar 1864		953,900	29 Jan 57
48	2 Feb 1857	25 Jun 56		1 Mar 1864		799,000 816,700+	25 Feb 57
49	3 Apr 1857	25 Jun 56	29 Oct 1861	29 Oct 1861		473,200 <i>474,200</i>	29 Apr 57
For plates 50 and 51 see below							
52	7 May 1857	11 Feb 57		29 Oct 1861		820,000 <i>1,002,000</i>	2 Jul 57
53	12 Feb 1857	11 Feb 57	29 Oct 1861			2,000	20 Jul 57
55	21 May 1857	11 Feb 57		1 Mar 1864		857,000 <i>1,000,000</i>	9 Jul 57
56	14 Jul 1857	11 Feb 57		2 Apr 1864		805,000 <i>1,000,000</i>	5 Sep 57
57	14 Jul 1857	11 Feb 57		1 Mar 1864		700,000 742,000	4 Sep 57
58	14 Jul 1857 <i>Early Jan 1858</i>	11 Feb 57	29 Oct 1861	10 Apr 1861		408,000	2 Mar 58
59	14 Jul 1857	11 Feb 57		2 Apr 1864		805,000 <i>805,200</i>	19 Sep 57
60	14 Jul 1857	11 Feb 57		1 Mar 1864		803,000 <i>1,000,000</i>	4 Oct 57
61	8 May 1858	18 Jan 58	29 Oct 1861	30 May 1861		186,100	14 Jul 58
62	5 Dec 1859 <i>12 Dec 1859</i>	18 Jan 58		1 Mar 1864		375,000 508,000	9 Feb 60
63	<i>3 Mar 1860</i> 5 Mar 1860	18 Jan 58	29 Oct 1861	30 May 1861		145,000 <i>145,100</i>	16 May 60
64	5 Nov 1860	18 Jan 58	29 Oct 1861	29 Oct 1861		19,400	11 Jan 61
65	14 Jan 1861	18 Jan 58	29 Oct 1861	29 Oct 1861		10,600	23 Mar 61
66	13 Feb 1861	18 Jan 58		17 Mar 1864		325,000 380,000	17 Apr 61
67	13 Feb 1862	18 Jan 58		1 Mar 1864		250,400	5 Apr 62
68	9 Jan 1862	18 Jan 58		1 Mar 1864		150,000 261,000	24 Mar 62
R17	Apr 1862 <i>4 Aug 1862</i>	18 Jan 58		1 Mar 1864		191,200	4 Oct 62

Statham records plate 52 for the 7th July 1857

Plate 59 is reported for the 23rd July 1857 but this is believed to be an error and the date shown is that recorded by Statham

Statham suggests that although plate 58 is recorded as being put to press on the 14th July 1857, the date may actually be early January 1858

One Penny. Die II. Alp II Wmk LC2 (Perforated 14).

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
R15	Apr 1862			1 Mar 1864		221,700	13 Jun 62
R16	28 Apr 1862			1 Mar 1864		350,000	1 Jul 62

Statham suggests that both these plates were put to press on the same date, the 28th April 1862

One Penny. Die II. Alp IV Wmk LC2 (Perforated 14).

The put to press dates in *italic type* are those listed by Statham

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
50	27 June 1856 <i>May 1861</i>	25 Jun 56		2 Apr 1864		450,000	20 Jul 61
51	26 June 1856 <i>May 1861</i>	25 Jun 56		1 Mar 1864		400,000	28 Aug 61

Both these plates were used on the steam press and the date for putting to this press is generally given as the 27th June 1856 for both plates.

One Penny. Die II. Alp III Wmk LC1 (Perforated 16).
Provisional issue

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
27		See above		See above			30 Dec 57
34		See above		See above			1 Feb 58
36		See above		See above			20 Jan 58
37		See above		See above			22 Feb 58
38		See above		See above			23 Jan 58
42		See above		See above			6 Jan 58
43		See above		See above			10 Jan 58
44		See above		See above			16 Jan 58
45		See above		See above			18 Jan 58
46		See above		See above			29 Dec 57
47		See above		See above			26 Dec 57
48		See above		See above			1 Jan 58
49		See above		See above			7 Jan 58
52		See above		See above			2 Jan 58
55		See above		See above			11 Mar 58
56		See above		See above			23 Jan 58
57		See above		See above			7 Jan 58
58		See above		See above			27 Mar 58
59		See above		See above			8 Jan 58
60		See above		See above			5 Jan 58

Plate 45 has been reported for the 9th January 1858 but this is unconfirmed



One Penny. Die II. Wmk LC2 (Perforated 14). **Plate number series**

The figure presented as the “number of sheets printed” is taken from the Inland Revenue records (IR79/79) and includes spoilt sheets, which were officially destroyed. The spoilage for the entire production of the 1^d plate number series was about 4%, and this should be taken into consideration.

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
70	Preparation of the plate begun on the 29 th July 1858 Placed in the officers safe on the 29 th July 1858 Never registered or put to press Rejected on account of a flaw				15 Feb 1864 1 Dec 1864		
71	1 Mar 1864	14 Mar 61	13 Jun 1868		9 Jun 1868 23 Jun 1868	557,000	6 Apr 64
	Preparation of the plate begun on the 16 th August 1858 Placed in the strong room at Somerset House on the 24 March 1862 Placed in the officers safe on the 26 th February 1864						
72	1 Mar 1864	14 Mar 61	13 Jun 1868		23 Mar 1868 23 Jun 1868	552,800	10 May 64
	Preparation of the plate begun on the 29 th September 1858 Placed in the strong room at Somerset House on the 24 March 1862 Placed in the officers safe on the 26 th February 1864						
73	1 Mar 1864	14 Mar 61	13 Jun 1868	5 Mar 1868	5 May 1868 23 Jun 1868	529,900	3 May 64
	Preparation of the plate begun on the 7 th October 1858 Placed in the strong room at Somerset House on the 24 March 1862 Placed in the officers safe on the 26 th February 1864 Noted that 66 heads were re-entered. I suspect that this was prior to production but this is unconfirmed						
74	1 Mar 1864	14 Mar 61	13 Jun 1868		9 Jun 1868 23 Jun 1868	531,000	30 Apr 64
	Preparation of the plate begun on the 12 th October 1858 Placed in the strong room at Somerset House on the 24 th March 1862 Placed in the officers safe on the 26 th February 1864						
75	Preparation of the plate begun on the 3 rd October 1859 Placed in the officers safe on the 3 rd October 1859 Noted – inaccurately laid down for perforation				4 Feb 1863 1 Dec 1864		
76	1 Mar 1864	7 Feb 63	29 Sep 1869		15 Feb 1869 13 Oct 1869	555,500	3 May 64
	Preparation of the plate begun on the 5 th July 1861 Placed in the officers safe on the 5 th July 1861 Placed in the strong room at Somerset House on the 9 th February 1863 Placed in the officers safe on the 26 th February 1864						

The records (illustrated below) show the partial defacement date for Plate 75 as the 4th February 1862 – This is probably transcription error and the date shown above is believed to be the correct dates when this took place.

Page from the Inland Revenue records
IR 79/79

Current No.	Description	Preparation begun.			Placed in		Signature	Provs approved		Registered	
		Post. Gen.	Duty	Date	Ref.	Officers' Safe		Date	Ref.	Date	Ref.
70	Postage		1	1857 July 19	A 57	1857 July 19	—	A 57	OK	—	Not registered
71	"		3	" Aug 16	A 57	1857 Aug 16	1857 Mar 11	A 57	OK	—	1861 Mar 11
72	"		3	" Sep 29	A 57	1857 Sep 29	1857 Mar 11	A 57	OK	—	1861 Mar 11
73	"		3	" Oct 7	A 57	1857 Oct 7	1857 Mar 11	A 57	OK	—	1861 Mar 11
74	"		3	" Oct 12	A 57	1857 Oct 12	1857 Mar 11	A 57	OK	—	1861 Mar 11
75	"		3	1859 Oct 3	A 57	1859 Oct 3	—	A 57	OK	—	Not registered
76	"		3	1861 July 5	A 57	1861 July 5	1861 July 5	A 57	OK	1863 Feb 7	A 25
77	"		3	" July 3	A 57	1861 July 3	—	A 57	OK	—	Not registered
78	"		3	" Aug 5	A 57	1861 Aug 5	1861 July 5	A 57	OK	1863 Feb 7	A 25
79	"		3	" Sep 2	A 57	1861 Sep 2	1861 July 5	A 57	OK	1863 Feb 7	A 25
80	"		3	" Sep 16	A 57	1861 Sep 16	1861 July 5	A 57	OK	1863 Feb 7	A 25

Put to press	Partially defaced	Defaced	Impressions printed	Signature	Total in stock at and from date.		
					Date	Total	Ref.
70	Not put to press	1861 Dec 1	A 76	OK	—	—	—
71	1861 Mar 1	A 16	1861 Jun 9	A 225	1861 Jun 23	A 225	571000 A 225
72	1861 Mar 1	A 16	1861 Jun 23	A 225	1861 Jun 23	A 225	572800 A 225
73	1861 Mar 1	A 16	1861 Jun 23	A 225	1861 Jun 23	A 225	572900 A 225
74	1861 Mar 1	A 16	1861 Jun 23	A 225	1861 Jun 23	A 225	571000 A 225
75	Not put to press	1861 Dec 1	A 76	OK	—	—	—
76	1861 Mar 1	A 16	1861 Jun 23	A 225	1861 Jun 23	A 225	571000 A 225
77	Not put to press	1861 Dec 1	A 76	OK	—	—	—
78	1861 Mar 1	A 16	1861 Jun 23	A 225	1861 Jun 23	A 225	571000 A 225
79	1861 Mar 1	A 16	1861 Jun 23	A 225	1861 Jun 23	A 225	571000 A 225
80	1861 Mar 1	A 16	1861 Jun 23	A 225	1861 Jun 23	A 225	571000 A 225

Left and right pages of IR 79/79 showing the details for plates 70 to 80

One Penny. Die II Wmk LC2 (Perforated 14).

Plate number series (Continued)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
77	Preparation of the plate begun on the 3 rd July 1861 Placed in the officers safe on the 3 rd July 1861 Noted – inaccurately laid down for perforation				4 Feb 1863 1 Dec 1864		
78	1 Mar 1864	7 Feb 63	29 Sep 1869		16 Jan 1869 13 Oct 1869	615,600	12 May 64
	Preparation of the plate begun on the 5 th August 1861 Placed in the officers safe on the 5 th August 1861 Placed in the strong room at Somerset House on the 9 th February 1863 Placed in the officers safe on the 26 th February 1864						
79	1 Mar 1864	7 Feb 63	29 Sep 1869		3 May 1869 13 Oct 1869	638,600	7 May 64
	Preparation of the plate begun on the 2 nd September 1861 Placed in the officers safe on the 2 nd September 1861 Placed in the strong room at Somerset House on the 9 th February 1863 Placed in the officers safe on the 26 th February 1864						
80	1 Mar 1864	7 Feb 63	29 Sep 1869		12 May 1868 23 Jun 1868	495,200	3 May 64
	Preparation of the plate begun on the 16 th September 1861 Placed in the officers safe on the 16 th September 1861 Placed in the strong room at Somerset House on the 9 th February 1863 Placed in the officers safe on the 26 th February 1864						
81	1 Mar 1864	7 Feb 63	29 Sep 1869	12 May 1868		520,300	20 May 64
82	1 Mar 1864	1 Mar 64	29 Sep 1869	14 Apr 1868		263,400	19 May 64
83	1 Mar 1864	1 Mar 64	29 Sep 1869	11 Apr 1866		199,600	15 May 64
84	1 Mar 1864	1 Mar 64	29 Sep 1869	31 Jan 1868		369,400	14 May 64
85	1 Mar 1864	1 Mar 64	29 Sep 1869	23 Mar 1868		510,300	14 May 64
86	1 Mar 1864	1 Mar 64	29 Sep 1869	29 Feb 1868		460,500	2 May 64
87	7 Mar 1864	7 Mar 64	29 Sep 1869	23 Mar 1868		462,400	28 Apr 64
88	17 Mar 1864	17 Mar 64	29 Sep 1869	6 Jun 1866		199,000	9 May 64
89	22 Mar 1864	22 Mar 64	29 Sep 1869	10 Oct 1868		503,900	4 May 64
90	30 Mar 1864	30 Mar 64	29 Sep 1869	18 Jan 1869		471,700	27 Apr 64
91	5 Apr 1864	5 Apr 64	29 Sep 1869	5 Feb 1868		384,100	25 May 64
92	12 Apr 1864	12 Apr 64	29 Sep 1869	10 May 1869		567,700	19 May 64
93	19 Apr 1864	19 Apr 64	29 Sep 1869	18 Mar 1868		455,100	4 Jun 64
94	26 Apr 1864	26 Apr 64	29 Sep 1869	23 Mar 1868		478,600	21 Jun 64
95	4 Jul 1864	14 Jun 64	29 Sep 1869	17 Dec 1868		533,600	27 Aug 64
96	11 Oct 1864	5 Oct 64	29 Sep 1869	18 Jan 1869		488,300	6 Nov 64
97	7 Mar 1865	5 Oct 64	29 Sep 1869	3 Aug 1869		536,800	20 May 65
98	20 Mar 1865	10 Mar 65	29 Sep 1869	12 May 1868		351,400	23 May 65
99	6 Jan 1866	5 Jan 66	29 Sep 1869	5 June 1869		355,300	19 Feb 66
100	19 Jan 1866	5 Jan 66	13 Jun 1868	12 May 1868		256,700	20 Mar 66
101	12 Apr 1866	5 Jan 66	13 Feb 1871	6 Jan 1870		372,500	18 Jun 66
102	16 Apr 1866	4 Apr 66	13 Feb 1871	9 Apr 1870		495,200	29 Jun 66

The records (illustrated above) show the partial defacement date for Plate 77 as the 4th February 1862 – This is probably transcription error and the date shown above is believed to be the correct dates when this took place.

Examples from plate 77



Unit AB
Royal collection



Unit BA
Tapling collection – British library



Unit PH
Fletcher collection – British library

One Penny. Die II Wmk LC2 (Perforated 14).

Plate number series (Continued)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
103	8 Aug 1866	4 Apr 66	13 Feb 1871	8 Nov 1869		400,600	9 Oct 66
104	22 Jan 1868	4 Apr 66	29 Sep 1869	4 Sep 1869		176,400	7 Mar 68
105	31 Jan 1868	4 Apr 66	13 Feb 1871	13 Dec 1869		202,600	3 Feb 68
106	29 Feb 1868	4 Apr 66	13 Feb 1871	16 Jan 1871		391,300	27 Feb 68
107	18 Mar 1868	4 Apr 66	13 Feb 1871	7 Oct 1870		321,000	6 May 68
108	23 Mar 1868	23 Mar 68	13 Feb 1871	1 Nov 1869		213,500	28 May 68
109	23 Mar 1868	23 Mar 68	13 Feb 1871	5 Mar 1870		236,500	22 May 68
110	23 Mar 1868	23 Mar 68	10 Jan 1873	9 Apr 1871		316,800	27 May 68
111	23 Mar 1868	23 Mar 68	10 Jan 1873	30 May 71		452,700	7 May 68
112	12 May 1868	12 May 68	13 Feb 1871	3 Jan 1871		299,400	17 Jul 68
113	12 May 1868	12 May 68	10 Jan 1873	15 May 71		366,000	29 Jun 68
114	12 May 1868	12 May 68	13 Feb 1871	19 May 70		233,100	10 Jul 68
115	12 May 1868	12 May 68	13 Feb 1871	7 May 70		214,000	5 Jul 68
116	12 May 1868	12 May 68	13 Feb 1871	4 Feb 71		350,500	20 Jun 68
117	9 Jun 1868	9 Jun 68	13 Oct 1874	8 May 73		479,000	31 Jul 68
118	9 June 1868	9 Jun 68	10 Jan 1873	4 May 72		440,800	4 Aug 68
119	15 Aug 1868	15 Aug 68	10 Jan 1873	17 Aug 72		493,800	10 Oct 68
120	8 Sep 1868	15 Aug 68	13 Oct 1874	5 Sep 74		706,800	10 Oct 68
121	17 Dec 1868	15 Aug 68	10 Jan 1873	17 Aug 72		406,200	4 Feb 69
122	16 Jan 1869	15 Aug 68	15 Dec 1875	19 Jun 75		693,400	4 Mar 69
123	18 Jan 1869	15 Aug 68	10 Jan 1873	5 Nov 72		447,800	2 Mar 69
124	18 Jan 1869	15 Aug 68	6 Sep 1876	4 May 76		597,700	4 Mar 69
125	15 Feb 1869	5 Feb 69	13 Oct 1874	15 Mar 73		429,700	17 Apr 69
127	3 May 1869	5 Feb 69	13 Oct 1874	11 Oct 73		395,300	28 Jun 69
128	Not Used	5 Feb 69	29 Sep 1869				
129	10 May 1869	5 Feb 69	13 Oct 1874	8 May 73		434,800	23 Jun 69
130	5 June 1869	5 Feb 69	15 Dec 1875	29 Dec 74		412,000	19 Aug 69
131	3 Aug 1869	5 Feb 69	10 Jan 1873	20 Apr 72		320,700	16 Sep 69
132	4 Sep 1869	5 Feb 69	13 Feb 1871	13 Jul 70		95,300	6 Nov 69
133	1 Oct 1869	31 Mar 69	13 Feb 1871	23 Jan 71		141,400	18 Dec 69
134	8 Oct 1869	31 Mar 69	23 Mar 1880	11 Jan 79		793,200	1 Jan 70
135	13 Dec 1869	31 Mar 69	10 Jan 1873	27 Dec 1871		190,500	15 Feb 70
136	6 Jan 1870	31 Mar 69	13 Oct 1874	18 Jan 1873		299,500	12 Mar 70
137	5 Mar 1870	31 Mar 69	15 Dec 1875	22 May 75		596,200	9 Apr 70
138	10 Mar 1870	31 Mar 69	15 Dec 1875	9 Aug 1875		700,300	15 Apr 70
139	19 Mar 1870	2 Feb 70	10 Jan 1873	26 Oct 1872		194,300	14 May 70
140	9 Apr 1870	2 Feb 70	8 Mar 1878	8 Sep 1877		982,500	7 Jun 70
141	7 May 1870	2 Feb 70	10 Jan 1873	30 Jan 1872		181,300	6 Jun 70
142	13 Jul 1870	2 Feb 70	10 Jan 1873		15 Jan 73	212,300	31 Aug 70
143	7 Oct 1870	2 Feb 70	13 Oct 1874	12 Sep 1874		286,700	14 Nov 70
144	3 Jan 1871	2 Feb 70	10 Jan 1873	30 Nov 1872		206,600	6 Feb 71
145	16 Jan 1871	23 Dec 70	28 May 1877	18 Nov 1876		545,000	8 Mar 71
146	23 Jan 1871	23 Dec 70	8 Mar 1878	24 Nov 1877		460,100	25 Mar 71
147	4 Feb 1871	23 Dec 70	15 Dec 1875	26 May 1875		413,300	11 Apr 71
148	29 Apr 1871	23 Dec 70	15 Dec 1875	20 Nov 1875		507,800	15 Jul 71
149	15 May 1871	23 Dec 70	15 Dec 1875	1 Feb 1875		474,900	7 Jul 71

One Penny. Die II Wmk LC2 (Perforated 14).

Plate number series (Continued)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
150	30 May 1871	24 Apr 71	28 May 1877	15 Jan 1877		682,500	14 Aug 71
151	14 Nov 1871	24 Apr 71	13 Oct 1874	2 Apr 1874		282,800	13 Dec 71
152	14 Nov 1871	24 Apr 71	13 Oct 1874	20 Apr 1874		322,900	30 Dec 71
153	27 Dec 1871	24 Apr 71	13 Oct 1874	21 Jun 1873		128,400	28 Feb 72
154	30 Jan 1872	24 Apr 71	6 Sep 1876	8 Jan 1876		415,100	2 Apr 72
155	20 Jul 1872	24 Apr 71	15 Dec 1875	15 May 1875		385,300	15 Jun 72
156	22 Apr 72	12 Jan 72	6 Sep 1876	2 Sep 1876		496,800	5 Jun 72
157	22 Apr 72	12 Jan 72	6 Sep 1876	19 Feb 1876		450,000	11 Jul 72
158	4 May 72	12 Jan 72	8 Mar 1878	17 Nov 77		531,000	11 Jul 72
159	17 Aug 72	12 Jan 72	28 May 1877	11 Nov 76		489,700	26 Oct 72
160	17 Aug 72	12 Jan 72	28 May 1877	3 Mar 1877		525,000	4 Oct 72
161	17 Sep 72	12 Jan 72	15 Dec 1875	12 Dec 1874		232,300	29 Nov 72
162	26 Oct 72	24 Oct 72	6 Sep 1876	8 Jan 1876		365,200	6 Dec 72
163	5 Nov 1872	24 Oct 72	6 Sep 1876	18 Dec 1875		377,300	9 Jan 73
164	30 Nov 72	24 Oct 72	15 Dec 1875	4 Dec 1875		318,300	27 Jan 73
165	17 Jan 73	24 Oct 72	28 May 1877	19 May 77		483,300	10 Mar 73
166	18 Jan 73	24 Oct 72	6 Sep 1876	3 Jan 1876		384,800	31 Mar 73
167	8 Feb 1873	24 Oct 72	8 Mar 1878	8 Sep 1877		497,400	4 Apr 73
168	8 May 73	9 Apr 73	6 Sep 1876	19 Feb 1876		374,300	27 Jun 73
169	21 Jun 73	9 Apr 73	6 Sep 1876	31 Jan 1876		233,100	8 Sep 73
170	11 Oct 73	9 Apr 73	2 Oct 1878	6 Aug 1878		572,500	25 Nov 73
171	27 Oct 73	9 Apr 73	23 Mar 1880	21 Oct 1879		906,700	30 Dec 73
172	27 Oct 73	9 Apr 73	28 May 1877	21 Apr 1877		458,600	31 Dec 73
173	2 Apr 1874	9 Apr 73	28 May 1877	19 May 77		303,300	30 May 74
174	20 Apr 74	14 Oct 73	23 Mar 1880	8 Apr 1880		450,000	10 Jul 74
175	5 Sep 1874	14 Oct 73	8 Mar 1878	23 Jun 1877		376,900	28 Oct 74
176	12 Dec 74	14 Oct 73	2 Oct 1878	2 Sep 1878		313,100	13 Feb 75
177	29 Dec 74	14 Oct 73	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 80	375,000	13 Feb 75
178	1 Feb 1875	14 Oct 73	28 May 1877	21 Jan 1877		245,600	5 Apr 75
179	15 May 75	14 Oct 73	2 Oct 1878	5 Aug 1878		407,600	28 Jun 75
180	22 May 75	14 Oct 73	28 May 1877	20 Jan 1877		215,500	7 Jul 75
181	26 May 75	14 Oct 73	23 Mar 1880	21 Jun 1879		478,600	22 Jul 75
182	19 Jun 75	13 Apr 74	28 May 1877	5 Feb 1877		215,200	1 Aug 75
183	9 Aug 1875	13 Apr 74	2 Oct 1878	1 Jul 1878		376,600	28 Sep 75
184	20 Oct 75	13 Apr 74	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 80	291,700	14 Jan 76
185	4 Dec 1875	13 Apr 74	8 Mar 1878	12 Nov 77		221,300	1 Feb 76
186	18 Dec 75	13 Apr 74	2 Oct 1878	18 May 78		304,400	12 Feb 76
187	3 Jan 1876	20 Apr 75	23 Mar 1880	11 Mar 1879		427,800	15 Feb 76
188	8 Jan 1876	20 Apr 75	8 Mar 1878	8 Dec 1877		231,600	4 Mar 76
189	8 Jan 1876	20 Apr 75	2 Oct 1878	16 Mar 1878		218,000	2 Mar 76
190	19 Feb 76	20 Apr 75	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 80	333,300	24 Mar 76
191	19 Feb 76	3 Sep 75	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 80	333,300	8 Apr 76
192	19 Feb 76	3 Sep 75	23 Mar 1880	23 Jun 1879		460,000	21 Apr 76
193	2 Sep 1876	3 Sep 75	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 80	333,300	3 Nov 76
194	13 Nov 76	3 Sep 75	23 Mar 1880	23 Nov 78		275,000	12 Jan 77
195	18 Nov 76	9 Sep 76	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 80	300,000	8 Jan 77
196	15 Jan 77	9 Sep 76	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 80	325,000	7 Mar 77

One Penny. Die II Wmk LC2 (Perforated 14).
Plate number series (Continued)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
197	20 Jan 77	9 Sep 76	23 Mar 1880	31 Nov 78		257,200	7 Mar 77
198	27 Jan 77	9 Sep 76	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 80	400,000	19 Mar 77
199	5 Feb 1877	9 Sep 76	23 Mar 1880	3 Apr 1879		314,000	23 Mar 77
200	3 Mar 1877	9 Sep 76	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 80	270,800	26 Apr 77
201	21 Apr 1877	16 Nov 76	23 Mar 1880	6 Sep 1879		347,700	4 Jun 77
202	19 May 1877	16 Nov 76	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	250,000	21 Jul 77
203	19 May 1877	16 Nov 76	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	400,000	19 Jul 77
204	23 Jun 1877	16 Nov 76	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	354,200	13 Aug 77
205	8 Sep 1877	16 Nov 76	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	354,200	27 Oct 77
206	8 Sep 1877	10 May 77	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	383,300	7 Nov 77
207	12 Nov 1877	10 May 77	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	250,000	20 Dec 77
208	17 Nov 1877	10 May 77	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	354,200	25 Jan 78
209	24 Nov 1877	10 May 77	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	354,200	1 Jan 78
210	8 Dec 1877	16 Nov 77	23 Mar 1880	7 May 1879		189,100	6 Feb 78
211	16 Mar 1878	16 Nov 77	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	141,700	16 Mar 78
212	20 May 1878	16 Nov 77	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	250,000	10 Jul 78
213	1 Jul 1878	25 Feb 78	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	250,000	5 Sep 78
214	6 Aug 1878	25 Feb 78	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	229,200	20 Sep 78
215	6 Aug 1878	25 Feb 78	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	229,200	14 Oct 78
216	2 Sep 1878	25 Feb 78	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	200,000	28 Oct 78
217	23 Nov 1878	14 Aug 78	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	150,000	17 Jan 79
218	30 Nov 1878	14 Aug 78	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	154,200	31 Dec 78
219	11 Jan 1879	14 Aug 78	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	50,000	21 Feb 79
220	11 Jan 1879	14 Aug 78	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	154,200	17 Feb 79
221	3 Apr 1879	31 Dec 78	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	129,200	26 May 79
222	6 May 1879	31 Dec 78	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	125,000	26 Jun 79
223	21 Jun 1879	31 Dec 78	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	62,500	22 Aug 79
224	23 June 1879	31 Dec 78	23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880	83,300	7 Sep 79
225	27 Oct 1879	31 Dec 78	23 Mar 1880	Circa 27 Nov 1879	8 Apr 1880	12,500	4 Dec 79
226	Not Used		23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880		
227	Not Used		23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880		
228	Not Used		23 Mar 1880		8 Apr 1880		

In "The Stamps of Great Britain", Part 2 by J B Seymour, (1937), page 91, it is noted that plate 225 was at press for only 4 weeks.

One Penny. Die II Wmk LC2 (Perforated 14).

Plate number series

In the GB journal of the Great Britain Philatelic Society, volume 3, number 9 for October 1962, there was presented a revised list based on figures presented in earlier editions as well as other publications that showed the number of examples of the plate number series that were known with inverted watermarks. This information is presented in the following table ...

Inverted watermarks

Plate	Qty		Plate	Qty		Plate	Qty		Plate	Qty		Plate	Qty
71	56		103	1		136	47		167	12		197	1
72	8		104	14		137	7		168	1		198	6
73	17		105	6		138	14		169	8		199	1
74	29		106	4		139	1		170	5		200	7
76	15		107	21		140	7		171	2		210	13
77			108	3		141	43		172	1		202	9
78	3		109	4		142	12		173	3		203	4
79	17		110	1		143	1		174	5		204	1
80	4		111	8		144	8		175	1		205	3
81	9		112	3		145	1		176	10		206	1
82	3		113	5		146	5		177	3		207	4
83	75		114	8		147	1		178	2		208	16
84	18		115	13		148	1		179	1		209	2
85	14		116	1		149	13		180	2		210	1
86	6		117	60		150	3		181	1		211	2
87	8		118	17		151	1		182	1		212	1
88	7		119	5		152	2		183	1		213	1
89	11		120	15		153	14		184	3		214	1
90	14		121	4		154	15		185	5		215	2
91	7		122	1		155	5		186	4		216	5
92	14		123	2		156	7		187	1		217	1
93			124	1		157	18		188	4		218	1
94	4		125	1		158	25		189	3		219	1
95	6		127	5		159	1		190	10		220	1
96	4		129	1		160	9		191	1		221	1
97	8		130	6		161	1		192	4		222	1
98	5		131	1		162	4		193	1		223	
99	18		132	1		163	1		194	1		224	1
100	4		133	22		164	1		195	1		225	1
101	118		134	2		165	1		196	1			
102	1		135	3		166	1						



Two Pence. Die I. Alp I. Wmk SC. (Imperforate). (Blue)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	1 May 40	2 May 1840		18 July 40		16,962	8 May 40
2	21 July 40			29 Aug 40		10,600	18 Aug 40
3	27 Feb 41	25 Feb 1841		Circa 11 March 41		5,000	17 Mar 41
3	Nov 41 or Nov 42			Dec 1849		186,000	
4	Dec 1849	6 Dec 1849		See below		189,393	Jan 50

PLATE 3 Plate 3 with the Maltese cross cancellation is rarer than with the 1844 cancellation. I estimate that 53,142 sheets were produced that may have been used with the Maltese cross and the remainder would have been used with the 1844 type

Two Pence. Die I. Alp I. Wmk SC. (Perforated 16). (Blue)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
4	See above			See below		49,242	13 Mar 54

Two Pence. Die I. Alp I. Wmk SC. (Perforated 14). (Blue)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
4	See above			8 Jun 1855		11,365	4 Mar 55

PLATE 4 As can be seen from the tables above, the life span for plate 4 was 5 years and 6 months. Dr Osborne, (in his study of the Two Pence plates), refers to Wright and Creek, quoting a total production for the plate of 250,000 sheets. He also gives time frames for the issue as follows... (On page 57)

Imperforate	4 years 2 months
Perforated 16	1 year 1 month
Perforated 14 & 16 issued together	3 months

With these time scales and the total production figure, the number of sheets printed for each of the sub issues has been given in the tables as estimates. It should be noted that the perf 16 total is a low estimate and that for the perf 14 issue, a high estimate, as the later assumes all stamps were perforated 14 during the final 3-month period. Even allowing for these errors, the scarcity of the perforated 14 issues is very striking.

Two Pence. Die I. Alp II. Wmk SC. (Perforated 14). (Blue)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
5	9 Jun 1855	8 Jun 1855	29 Oct 1861	8 May 1857		8,000	5 Jul 55

Two Pence. Die I. Alp II. Wmk SC. (Perforated 16). (Blue)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
5	See table above					4,000	28 Aug 55

Two Pence. Die I. Alp II. Wmk LC1. (Perforated 16). (Blue)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
5	See table above					4,000	
6	9 May 57	11 Feb 1857	29 Oct 1861	Circa July 1858		5,500	20 Jan 58

Two Pence. Die I. Alp II. Wmk LC1. (Perforated 14). (Blue)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
5			See table above			65,000	25 Oct 55
6			See table above			37,000	25 Nov 57

Plate 5



Unit DA – Plate 5 – Large Crown watermark – Perf 14



Two Pence. Die II. Wmk LC1. (Perforated 14).

(Blue)

Plate number series

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
7	19 Jul 1858	11 Jun 1858	29 Oct 1861	1859		40,000	Jul 58
8	21 Sep 59	7 Jul 1859	29 Oct 1861	Circa March 1861		66,000	30 Sep 59
9	14 Mar 1861	14 Mar 1861	See below			63,214	14 May 61

The total production from plate 9 was 383,500 sheets. Dr Osborne in his book “Two Pence plate nine – A study of the plate and its repairs” states on page 13 that the printings on the large crown type 1 watermarked paper were “those produced in the first year or so of the plate’s life”, and we have estimated this to be 15 months, (up to June 1862). From this we have calculated the number of sheets produced on the type 1 watermarked paper, (shown above), and the remainder has been assigned to the later type of paper, (shown below).

Two Pence. Die II. Wmk LC2. (Perforated 14). (Blue)

Plate number series

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
9	See above		29 Sep 1869	28 Oct 1868		320,286	7 Sep 67
12	28 Oct 1868	1 Jan 1868	13 Feb 1871	20 Feb 1871		30,600	22 Dec 68
13	13 Apr 69	31 Mar 69	15 Dec 1875	3 May 1875		125,000	1 Jul 69
14	16 Sep 71	24 Apr 71		1875 or early 1876		87,500	29 Feb 72
15	14 Mar 76	3 Sep 1875		26 Oct 1880 <i>This date is believed to be wrong</i>		87,500	21 Aug 76

The number of sheets printed for plates 14 and 15 is estimated and taken from “Great Britain – Numbers printed” by Rikki C Hyde, and includes wastage



Three Half Pence Die II Wmk LC.

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	22 Mar 60	22 Mar 60		Apr 1860		10,000 8,962 sheets were destroyed in 1867	
1	6 Jun 70			1873-1874	26 Oct 80	66,134	1 Oct 70
3	10 Aug 74	13 Apr 74		End 1879	26 Oct 80	123,500	8 Jan 72

With the first printing of the three-half pence, (in Rosy Mauve), 1,000 sheets were overprinted 'SPECIMEN' and distributed to postmasters. From the remaining 9,000 sheets, 8,963 sheets were officially destroyed in May 1867. The remaining 38 sheets have been split up and are in the hands of collectors. At least one example is recorded used.

The original printing is on the type 1 large crown watermark paper that shows considerable bluing. The issue of 1870 onwards used the type-2 large crown paper.

Plate 3 was laid down at the end of 1871 but was not registered until some 30 months later on the 13th April 1874

The figures for the number of sheets printed, are in some cases estimated, and have been taken from “The Line Engraved Halfpenny” by W. de L. Messenger. All those figures that are estimated only are shown in *italic type*.



Half Pence.

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	20 Jun 70	20 Jun 70		13 May 72	15 Jan 73	121,500	1 Oct 70
2	Plate not completed. See notes below				3 Apr 72 15 Jan 73		
3	28 Jun 70	28 Jun 70		2 Oct 73	2 Oct 73 20 Oct 74	192,500	1 Oct 70
4	4 Jul 70	4 Jul 70		16 Dec 73	16 Dec 73 20 Oct 74	264,600	15 Oct 70
5	12 Jul 70	12 Jul 70					24 Oct 70
5	In March 1875, 29 impressions were re-entered.						
5	On the 29 th May 1876 42 impressions were re-entered			16 Dec 73	16 Dec 76 7 Jun 77	533,200	
6	19 Jul 70	19 Jul 70					19 Oct 70
6	On the 5 th June 1873, 4 impressions were re-entered						
6	On the 19 th May 1875, 47 impressions were re-entered						
6	On the 22 nd December 1875, 11 impressions were re-entered				6 May 76 22 Sep 76	402,100	
7	Plate not completed. See notes below						
8	? 26 July 70 ?	26 Jul 70		28 Dec 70		31,886	31 Oct 70
8	7 Oct 71			4 Apr 72		37,029	
8	20 May 80			? 31 Jul 80 ?	? 31 Jul 80 ? 26 Oct 80	7,200	
9	9 Oct 71	23 Dec 70		4 Apr 72	20 Jun 1904	36,617	5 Dec 71
10	2 Oct 73	24 Oct 72			19 Oct 78	386,100	22 Dec 73
11	21 Jan 74	24 Oct 72			19 May 79 26 Oct 80	411,000	4 Jun 74
12	29 Jun 74	13 Apr 74		? 20 May 80 ?	26 Oct 80	442,556	28 Aug 74
13	6 May 76	20 Apr 75		? 3 Jun 80 ?	26 Oct 80	310,487	27 Jun 76
14	16 Dec 76	20 Apr 75		? 3 Jun 80 ?	26 Oct 80	270,579	9 Mar 77
15	6 May 78	16 Nov 76		? 3 Jun 80 ?	26 Oct 80	160,316	10 Jul 78
16	Plate not completed				6 Jan 77		
17	Plate not completed				? 6 Jan 77 ?		
18	Plate not completed				? 6 Jan 77 ?		
19	18 July 78	16 Nov 77			26 Oct 80	145,299	23 Aug 78
20	27 Jun 79	31 Dec 78			26 Oct 80	74,531	4 Oct 79
21	Completed not used				26 Oct 80		
22	Completed not used				26 Oct 80		

Half Pence. (Additional notes on the plates)

Plate 1. This plate was not hardened

Plate 2. This plate was found to be imperfect after 232 impressions had been transferred to the plate. This plate was hardened on the 2nd July 1870. This plate thus became an experimental plate for the hardening process in the larger furnace. This plate was assigned the current number 172

Plate 3. This plate was not hardened

From this point onwards all the plate were hardened prior to use

Plate 5. The registration sheet is dated the 19th July 1870, but the Inland Revenue document, (IR 79/79 at Kew public records office), shows this date as the 12th July 1870.

Plate 7. It has been stated that either the roller impression was damaged or the figures '7' had been omitted owing to a breakage of the '7' punch. We believe the former to be the case, as in the later it would have been a simple matter to get a replacement punch. This was intended to be the first of two reserve plates.

Plate 8. The put to press date for the initial printing and the withdrawal date from the third and final printing, along with the defacement date following this printing are only estimated. Between printings this plate was stored in the reserve safe at Somerset House.

Plate 9. On the 28th December 1870, this plate was sent to Somerset House and placed in the reserve safe. (IR 79/79). The plate was returned to the printers on the 7th October 1871. After it had completed its print run the plate was again returned to the reserve safe. The defacement date is for the complete defacement of the plate when the reserve safe was cleared of all the old plates.

Plate 12. The withdrawal from press date is estimated based on the date when plate 8 was returned to the press. This plate also had 31 impressions re-entered prior to registration.

Plate 13. The withdrawal from press date is estimated.

- Plate 14.** The registration date shown is 10 days prior to that which generally appears in philatelic reference, and is taken from the official records. (IR 79/79). The put to press date, (generally quoted as the 16th November 1876), is taken from the same records. The withdrawal date is again estimated. In June 1878, two proof sheets were printed in lilac rose, (this is a light purple shade), and these were delivered to Somerset House on the 14th June of that year.
- Plate 15.** 44 impressions were re-entered, probably on the 16th November 1876, but it is uncertain if this was done before or after registration.
- Plate 16.** 198 impressions were made on the plate then the roller spindle broke. This left cracks on the impression for plate 16 which meant that this plate was discarded.
- Plate 17.** The impression for plate 17 was on the same roller, (roller 3), as the impression for plate 16. After repair of the spindle 16 impressions were laid onto the plate and a proof impression taken. This revealed that the cracks from 16 had spread through the plate 17 impression also. Thus Work on this plate stopped and this plate was never completed or used.
- Plate 18.** The impression for plate 18 was on the same roller, (roller 3), as the impression for plates 16 and 17. After the cracks were noticed on the plate 17 impressions transferred to the plate, it was again decided that 16 impressions would be laid onto the plate and a proof impression taken. This revealed that the cracks from 16 had spread through the plate 17 impression and extended into the plate 18 impression also. Thus Work on this plate stopped and this plate was never completed or used.
- Plate 19.** At some time in August 1878, a single proof sheet was printed in pale lilac-rose, (this is a mauve-pink shade). This sheet was delivered to Somerset House on the 7th August 1878.
- Plate 20.** At some time in September 1879, two proof sheets were printed in blue-green. It is known that these had been delivered to Somerset House prior to the 1st October 1879.
- Plate 21.** The complete sheet had been laid in by the 10th September 1879. Following this, on the 21st November 28 impressions were re-entered. By the 10th December, all the engraving was finished, (marginal inscriptions, plate numbers and current number). The plate was never hardened or put to press.
- Plate 22.** The complete sheet had been laid in by the 23rd October 1879 and a proof was approved two days later. This plate was never completed, lacking the marginal inscriptions, plate number and the current number, (272), which was assigned to this plate.



Plate 1 dated 1st October 1870

Embossed Issues

Although not produced by the line engraved method, these stamps were produced during the same period as the other issues covered in this section. They are presented here in order of value, but, as will be noted by the dates, they were issued from the highest denomination first.

The one shilling and the ten pence values were embossed onto Dickensons' silk thread paper and the six pence was on paper watermarked V R.



Six Pence. Wmk VR (Issued in sheets of 40)

Die No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1 WW	30 Jan 54	11 Jan 1854		8 Jan 57		111,000	26 July 54
		Total number of sheets issued to the public				88,957	
		Overprinted "SPECIMEN" for distribution to Post Offices				4,000	
	1856	This printing was never issued – <i>See notes below</i>				55,498	
2 WW		11 Jan 1854					
3 WW		11 Jan 1854	See notes below for dies 1, 2 and 3				
4 WW		11 Jan 1854					

Official records show that 2,941,640 stamps, (73,541 sheets), were officially destroyed when the surface printed stamp of this value was introduced. This total comprised of the entire 1856 production plus 18,043 sheets from the earlier printing. The official total of the number of sheets issued is given as 92,957 but it is known that 4,000 sheets from this were used for distribution on Post Office circulars with the "SPECIMEN" overprint. The figures in the above table have been adjusted to reflect all these events.

Four dies were ordered and constructed and impressions from these were all registered on the 11th January 1854. Although four dies were constructed, only die 1 WW is known, however it is possible that die 2 WW was employed for these stamps for a few days in November 1855.

Creation

The entire printing, (according to Wright & Creeke), amounted to 6,659,920 impressions, or 166,498 sheets. Of these, 60,000 sheets were ordered in 1854, 58,000 in 1855, and 48,498 in 1856; the first creation warrant being on the 27th January, 1854, for 10,000 sheets, and the last on the 3rd October, 1856, for 3,500 sheets. Of this total, only 3,718,280 stamps, or 92,957 sheets, were sent from the warehouse to, and issued by, the Stamp Distributors, who did not receive any supplies after the 29th September, 1855; and of these, 4,000 specimens were distributed amongst various post-offices.

The despatches from the warehouse were: —

From 7 th January to 5 th April 1854 -	15,885 sheets
From 7 th April to 5 th July, 1854 -	10,164
From 6 th July to 10 th October, 1854 -	11,075
From 12 th October 1854 to 4 th January, 1855 -	12,989
From 8 th January 1855 to 30 th March, 1855 -	17,285
From 2 nd April 1855 to 29 th June 1855 -	14,493
From 2 nd July 1855 to 29 th September 1855 -	11,066
Total	92,957 sheets

The balance of 2,941,640 stamps, or 73,541 sheets - of which 2,219,920 stamps, or 55,498 sheets, were printed in 1856 - was presumably destroyed by burning

Note.

This value was created in consequence of the reduction in the rate of postage to Belgium and other countries; and for payment of the registration fee, which had been lowered to sixpence.

Although the stamps were not issued until 1854, a column was provided for this value in the creation-warrant book, as early as the 11th February 1852. All the warrants, with one exception, were addressed to Mr. Edwin Hill; this particular order, dated in August 1855, for 10,000 sheets, was, for some unknown reason directed to Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. - possibly, in error.

The embossed stamp was superseded, in October 1856, by the surface-printed one of the same value, designed and prepared by Messrs De La Rue & Co.



Ten Pence. (Issued in sheets of 24)

Die No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
W.W.1	1847	8 Feb 1853				16,667	1 Oct 49
Wastage from the 1847 printing						3,166	
Overprinted Specimen for distribution to postmasters						167	
2.W.W.	1850	8 Feb 1853			May 1862	8,000	
	1851					16,000	
	1852					14000	
3.W.W.	1853	8 Feb 1853			May 1862	32,000	
	1854					25,614	
4.W.W.	1854	8 Feb 1853			May 1862	8,046	
5.W.W.		8 Feb 1853					

The total printing of the 10^d was 122,000 sheets. This figure included 5,085 sheets, which were damaged and officially destroyed. The initial production in 1847 was 20,000 sheets, thus we are able to show the wastage from die 1. The remaining 1,919 sheets which were destroyed come from the 1850 and later printings. Official records show the number of sheets issued for each die, and these are the numbers given in the table. These records also give a total figure for the stamps issued at 116,915 sheets, (the total for dies 1 to 4), but there is obviously some error here as impressions from die 5 are known for which no records exist. The 10^d was withdrawn on the 15th August 1855 but re-issued in 1862 when 2,012 sheets left at Somerset House were put back into circulation. The registration sheet contains one impression from die 3,4,5,6,7 and 8 in two rows of three. Dies 6, 7 and 8 were never used for the stamps. For transmission with the post office notice, the General Post Office received, on the 26th September, 4,000 "SPECIMEN" stamps; but, for the issue to the public, it was not until the 20th October that any supply was forwarded, when 5,000 sheets of 24 stamps each were delivered at the Chief Office in London. The total number of 'SPECIMEN' stamps has been rounded up to the nearest sheet in the table above.

The first working die, as originally constructed and used, was without the subsequent addition of the engraver's initials and the die-number: afterwards "WW1" was engraved on the base of the bust. In the later "working dies," the numeral preceded the initials

Six working dies were prepared for this issue, and of these the first existed in two states: one without either initials or die-number, and the other, which was necessarily the later, with both. This un-initialled and unnumbered die was registered on the 23rd May 1848; but I have not been able to ascertain the dates of approval of the other dies. The impressions, in the Archives, from the six numbered dies are struck on a sheet of ordinary plain wove paper, with an added note that the date of striking was the 8th February 1853.

Blocks of the Ten pence are known, on which the Die number is apparently absent from some stamps; whilst on other it is plainly visible; presumably, the former are defective impressions.

Die 1 (unnumbered and numbered) was at press from the 3rd January 1848, to the 14th March 1850; Die 2, from the 4th May, 1850, until the 15th December 1852; Die 3, from the 8th February, 1853, to the 8th December, 1854; and Die 4 from the latter date until the 28th April 1855: the last three dies were destroyed in May 1862.

With regard to Die 5, the official records state that it was not put to press until the 18th March 1889, but in 'Wright & Creeke' it states "we have seen undoubted impressions, on Dickinson paper, and with full gum". Both this and Die 6 were subsequently used for stamping telegram forms and envelopes. Die 6 was never used for producing the adhesive stamps.

The warrants were as follows: —

20,000 sheets (ordered with a supply of the One Shilling value) in 1847;
none in 1848 or 1849;
8,000 sheets in 1850;
16,000 in 1851;
14,000 in 1852;
32,000 in 1853; and
32,000 in 1854.

Although supplies were ordered in 1847, it was obviously impossible to furnish them until after the working dies had been struck in the following year.

The issues to the stamp distributors from the warehouse are too lengthy to repeat in detail, but we give the totals for the various years during which this value was in use: —

6,517, sheets in 1848;
1,035 in 1849;
9,282 in 1850;
13,581 in 1851;
20,840 in 1852;
27,247 in 1853;
30,367 in 1854;
6,034 in 1855; and
2,012 sheets—for details see below

The balance of the creation, amounting to 5,085 sheets, is presumably accounted for by spoilage and destruction. In 1862 and 1863 there was a sudden demand for Ten pence stamps, and the following issues took place: —

In 1862: 1st quarter, 56 sheets;
 2nd quarter, 24;
 3rd quarter, 36; and
 4th quarter, 33;
 and in 1863: 1st quarter, 48 sheets;
 2nd quarter, 220;
 3rd quarter, 1,451; and
 4th quarter, 144.

Of the comparatively large supply in the third quarter of 1863, 600 sheets were sent, in July and August, to the Licence Office; and, on the 25th August, 500 sheets to the General Post Office.

This value was "out of stock" at Somerset House towards the end of 1863, and was only restored in 1867, when the surface-printed stamp of the same value, that were prepared by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., were issued; but, as late as September, 1866, the Postmaster-General appears to have had a small stock in hand, and he then expressed a wish for a large supply, which the Inland Revenue were unable to provide.



One shilling. (Issued in sheets of 20)

Die No.	Put to Press	Registered	Rec For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
W.W.1	21 Jun 47	25 Jun 47			May 1862	40,000	
	1850					16,000	
	1851					32,000	
	1852					46,000	15 May 1852
	1853					16,000	
W.W.2	23 Feb 53	8 Feb 53				48,000	
	1854					84,771	22 Jun 1855

The final printing of 84,771 sheets was made prior to the end of October 1856. Most reference sources show die WW2 as being put to press in 1854. I believe this to be incorrect as official records show the years and the quantities produced. These also give a total production figure for each of the dies, (WW1 at 150,000 sheets and WW2 at 132,771 sheets). By comparison of these figures it is clear that 48,000 sheets were printed from die 2 in 1853, as shown in the table above, but it is unlikely that any impressions from this printing were released prior to 1854. In order to enable specimens of the new value to be forwarded to the various postmasters, 4,000 stamps were supplied to the General Post Office early in the month of issue.

The first consignment for sale to the public consisted of 230 sheets, of twenty stamps each, distributed among six post-offices, on the 8th September; but the General Post Office did not receive a stock until the following day, when 3,000 sheets were delivered.

Three working dies were prepared, but only the first two were used for producing the adhesive stamps. No. 1, registered on the 25th June, 1847, was put to press four days previously, and was condemned in May, 1862, as being worn out and unfit for use. Dies 2 and 3 were approved on the 8th February, 1853, but the former alone was put to press, on the 23rd February, for the adhesives: both of these dies were subsequently furnished with dale-plugs, and used for stamping envelopes and telegram forms.

The impressions from the three dies, preserved in the official archives, are on a sheet of plain white wove paper, having been struck, as appears by the endorsement, on the 8th February 1853.

Creation

Of this value, 7,460,000 impressions, or 373,000 sheets, were struck, but only 5,655,420 stamps appear to have been issued, the balance of the creation being spoilage or waste. The first creation warrant, dated the 14th May 1847, was for 8,000 sheets; and the last, for 6,000 sheets, was signed on the 23rd September 1856.

The yearly creations were as follows: —

In 1847, 40,000 sheets;
None in 1848 or 1849;
in 1850, 16,000 sheets;
in 1851, 32,000;
in 1852, 46,000;
in 1853, 64,000;
in 1854, 82,000;
in 1855, 45,000; and
in 1856, 48,000 sheets

The printings, as might be expected from such a tedious process, occupied a considerable time in their execution, for we find that, in 1848 (when there were no creations), only 5,275 sheets were struck off; while, in the last year of issue, no less than 57,000 sheets were produced. No stamps were printed subsequently to October 1856.

This value was created to pay the rate of postage to the United States, and to some of the more distant of the British Colonies; also for the then registration fee of one shilling. The largest quarterly issue to the Distributors was for the three months ending the 10th October 1854, during which period 18,324 sheets were despatched; and the smallest, for 60 sheets only, was for the last quarter in 1847.

This stamp was superseded, in November 1856, by the surface-printed issue of the same value, designed and produced by Messrs De La Rue & Co.

Mulready's

Although not produced by the line engraved method, these envelopes and letter sheets were issued for use at the same time as the Penny Black and Two Pence blue postage stamps, 6th May 1840. In the list, stereos in *italic type* indicate those that were either removed or those that replace the removed impression.

One Penny Letter Sheets.

Stereo No. (Forme)	Put to Press	Registered	Rec For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Stamps Printed	Earliest Latest Known
A1 (1)							6 May 40 17 Jan 43
A2 (1)							6 May 40 9 May 40
<i>A4 (1)</i>							6 May 40 29 Nov 42
A5 (1)							6 May 40 30 Jan 41
A6 (1)							6 May 40
A7 (1)							6 May 40 18 June 41
A8 (1)							6 May 40 10 Jul 40
A9 (1)							6 May 40 16 May 40
A10 (1)							6 May 40 24 Aug 41
<i>A11 (1)</i>							6 May 40 19 May 40
<i>A14 (1)</i>							6 May 40 26 May 41
A15 (1)							6 May 40 21 Jul 41
A16 (2)							6 May 40 8 May 40
A17 (2)							6 May 40 11 Sep 40
A18 (2)							9 May 40 11 Sep 40
A19 (2)							6 May 40 26 Jan 42

A19 used on the 26th January 1842 with an additional 1d red (stars), up-rating to a 2d cover. Used by the Bank of Scotland used locally in Dumfries.

Stereo A7



Mulready letter sheet used from Newport Isle of Wight to Oxford. Dated the 18th December 1804, (error of date-slug), received in London on the 19th December and Oxford receiving mark for the 20th December 1840.

Stereo A10



Back-stamped 24th and 25th August 1841

Stereo A11

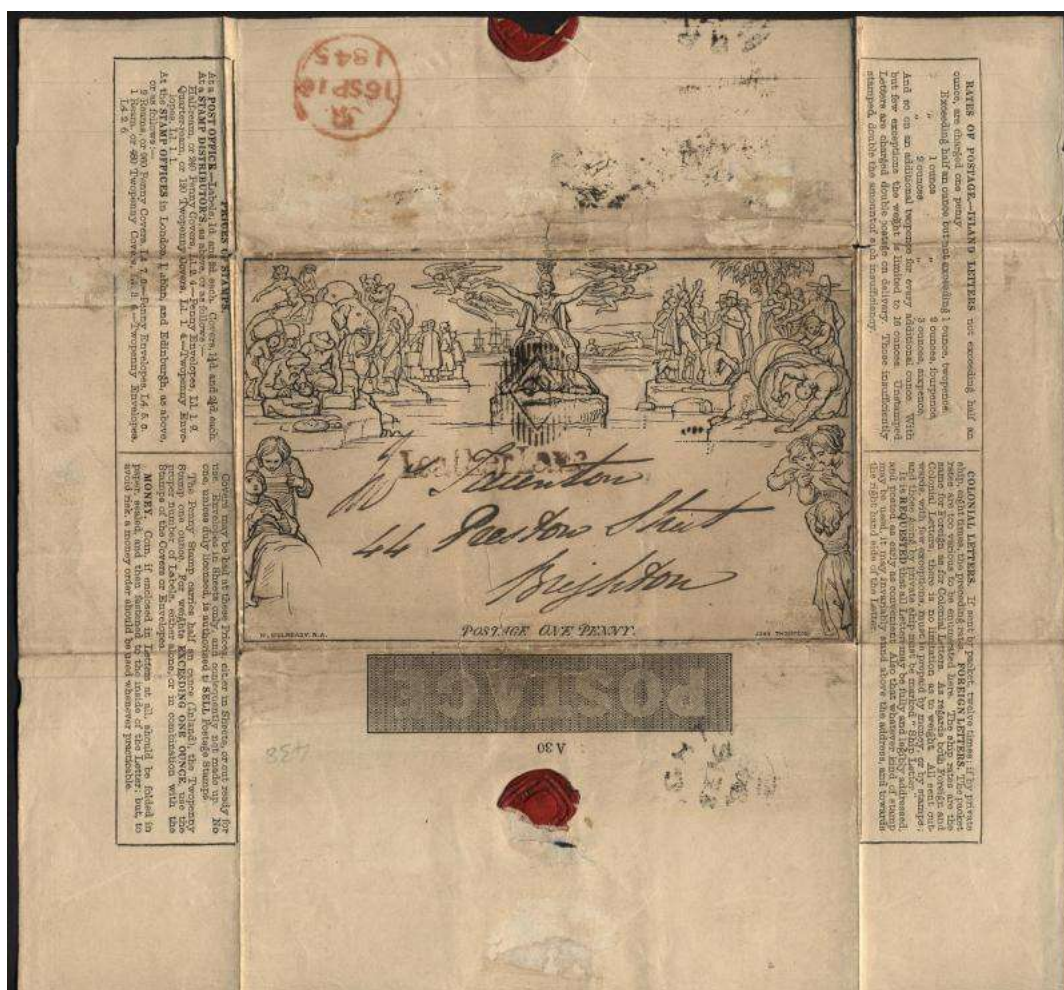


First day of official use

One Penny Letter Sheets.

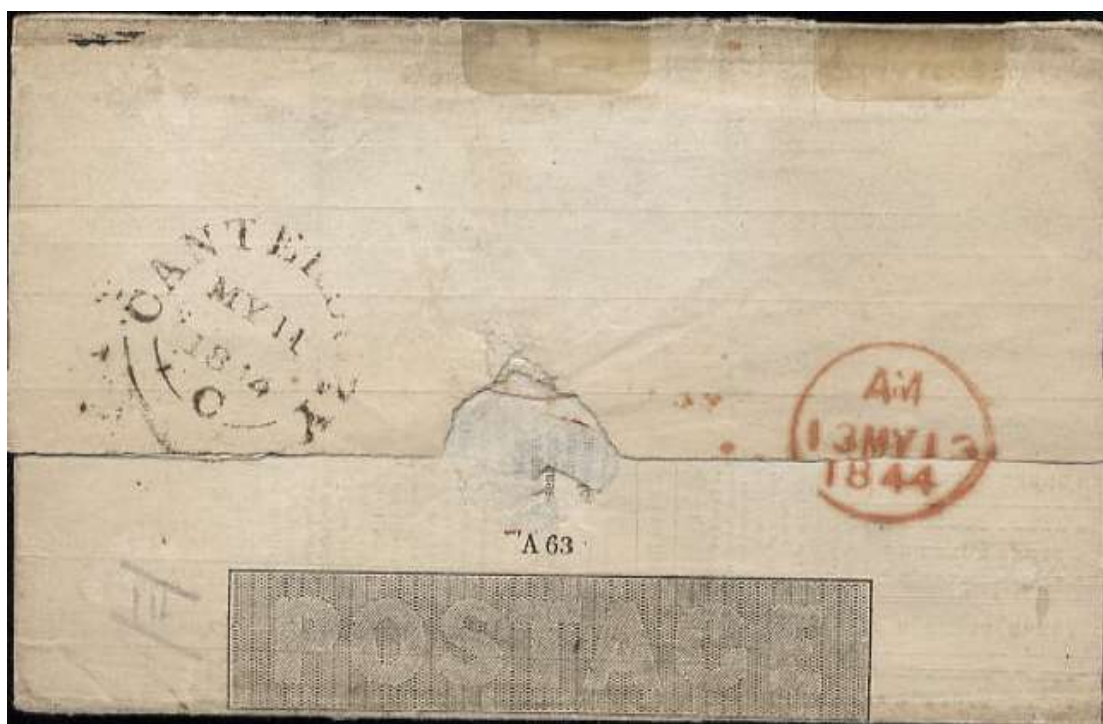
Stereo No. (Forme)	Put to Press	Registered	Rec For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Stamps Printed	Earliest Latest Known
A21 (2)							15 May 40 20 May 40
A22 (2)							6 May 40
A23 (2)							6 May 40
A24 (2)							6 May 40 10 May 40
A25 (2)							6 May 40 26 Nov 41
A26 (2)							6 May 40 27 Jun 41
A27 (2)							6 May 40 2 June 40
A30 (2)							6 May 40 16 Sep 45
A31 (1)							
A34 (3)							6 May 40 8 May 40
A35 (3)							6 May 40 29 Apr 43
A36 (4)							
A37 (4)							
A40 (4)							
A41							6 May 40
A42 (4)							27 Sep 41
A44 (4)							
A47 (1)							1 Jun 40
A50 (3)							
A51 (4)							
A54 (3)							6 May 40
A57 (3)							27 Jun 40 13 Aug 40
A63 (3)							6 May 40 11 May 44
A64 (3)							21 May 40 27 Jun 40
A65 (3)							2 May 40 4 Sep 40
A66 (3)							29 Jun 41 30 Jul 42
A67 (3)							22 May 40

Stereo A30



Mulready letter sheet used from London to Brighton. Dated the 16th September 1845, and cancelled with the London Inland office number 12 in diamond and straight line 'Leather Lane' struck below.

Stereo A63



The Economic Life Assurance Society printed advert cover; from stereo A63; clear 84 numeral used from Canterbury to London dated the 11th May 1844.

One Penny Letter Sheets. (Continued)

Stereo No. (Forme)	Put to Press	Registered	Rec For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Stamps Printed	Earliest Latest Known
A68 (3)							6 May 40 19 May 41
A69 (3)							6 May 40 3 Aug 40
A70 (4)							
A71 (4)							
A76							25 July 42
A77 (4)							28 Sep 43
A78 (4)							
A80 (4)							
A81 (4)							
A219							
A220							
A221							
A223 (6)							
A224 (6)							
A226 (6)							
A228							
A229 (3)							
A230 (6)							
A231 (3)							
A232 (6)							24 Mar 42 7 May 42
A233 (6)							
A234 (6)							2 Apr 41
A235 (6)							Oct 42
A236 (6)							
A237 (6)							
A238 (6)							
A239 (6)							
A240 (5)							
A241 (5)							9 Nov 41
A242 (5)							
A243 (5)							
A244 (5)							
A246 (5)							16 Oct 40
A247 (5)							19 Jan 41
A249 (5)							22 Jun 41
A250 (5)							11 May 42
A251 (5)							
A254 (5)							
A255 (5)							

One Penny Letter Sheets. (Additional notes on the stereos)

Stereo A71 This was used to replace stereo A14 in forme 1 but was originally used in forme 4 as indicated above.

Stereo A76 This was used as a replacement for one of the stereos on forme 3 or 4, but it is unknown which one at this time.

Stereo A219 This was used as a replacement stereo, but at this time has not been allocated to a particular forme. Many reference works allocate these to forme 5 or 6, probably due to the number, however the appearance of A 229 and A231 on forme 3 suggests that these could have been used on any forme.

Stereo A220 See the notes for A219 which apply here also

Stereo A221 See the notes for A219 which apply here also

Stereo A228 See the notes for A219 which apply here also

A letter sheet is known where the stereo number is not visible, but shows late use with an 1844 barred numeral cancellation, number 330, and dated the 19th June 1844 at Halifax, arriving in London the following day.

As with the letter sheets, some stereos are believed to have been substituted, however it is not known on which forme these were used or which of the original stereos they displaced, these are again shown in *italic type* but no forme number is shown. In the case of the stereos shown in normal type, but without a forme number, these are from forme 5 or 6, but have not yet been allocated.

One Penny Envelopes.

Stereo No. (Forme)	Put to Press	Registered	Rec For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Stamps Printed	Earliest Latest Known
A131 (1)							6 May 40 16 May 40
A132 (1)							6 May 40 23 Apr 41
A133 (1)							6 May 40
A134 (1)							6 May 40 20 Aug 40
A135 (1)							25 May 40
A136 (1)							6 May 40
A137 (1)							
A138 (1)							12 May 40 9 Dec 40
A139 (1)							6 May 40
A140 (1)							6 May 40 23 Nov 41
A141 (1)							6 May 40 24 May 40
A142 (1)							6 May 40
A143 (2)							26 Jun 41 28 July 40
A144 (2)							2 May 40 June 44
A145 (2)							6 May 40 11 May 40
A146 (2)							6 May 40
A147 (2)							6 May 40
A148 (2)							6 May 40 8 Jun 40
A149 (2)							6 May 40 20 Jul 40
A150 (2)							6 May 40
A151 (2)							6 May 40 9 Jan 41
A153 (2)							6 May 40
A154 (2)							6 May 40 14 Aug 40
A155 (3)							6 May 40
A156 (2)							10 Jun 40

One Penny Envelopes. (Continued)

Stereo No. (Forme)	Put to Press	Registered	Rec For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Stamps Printed	Earliest Latest Known
A150 (2)							6 May 40 9 Jan 42
A151 (2)							6 May 40 9 Jan 41
A153 (2)							6 May 40
A154 (2)							6 May 40 14 Aug 40
A155 (3)							6 May 40
A156 (2)							10 Jun 40
A157 (3)							6 May 40 28 Jul 40
A158 (3)							6 May 40 22 Oct 40
A159 (3)							6 May 40
A160 (3)							6 May 40 16 Aug 43
A161 (3)							29 Jun 40
A162 (3)							6 May 40 17 June 40

Stereo A153



Envelope A153 dated 6th May 1840

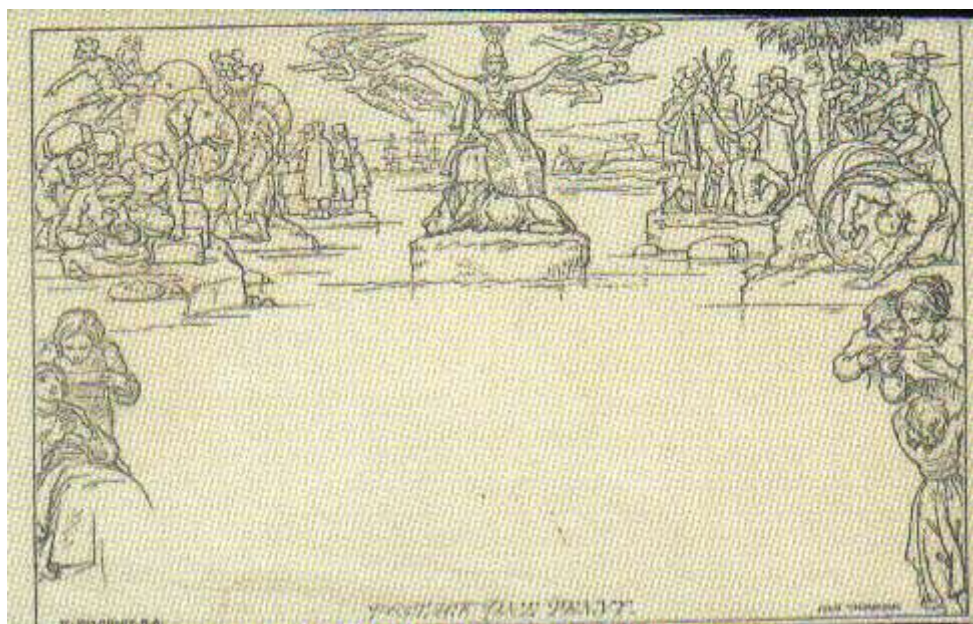
One Penny Envelopes. (Continued)

Stereo No. (Forme)	Put to Press	Registered	Rec For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Stamps Printed	Earliest Latest Known
A163 (3)							6 May 40 2 Jul 40
A164 (4)							6 May 40
A165 (3)							18 May 40 11 Jul 40
A166 (3)							6 May 40
A167 (3)							6 May 40 5 Aug 41
A170 (3)							6 May 40
A172 (4)							6 May 40
A173(1)							6 May 40 17 May 40
A174 (4)							6 May 40
A175 (4)							31 May 40
A176 (4)							6 May 40 22 Jun 40
A177 (4)							6 May 40 7 May 40
A178 (4)							6 May 40
A179 (4)							6 May 40
A180 (4)							19 June 40
A181 (4)							6 May 40
A182 (4)							6 May 40
A183							
A186							
A187							
A189 (4)							6 May 40 11 May 40
A193							
A194							
A276							
A277							
A278							
A279							
A280							
A281							
A282							
A283							
A284							
A285							
A287							18 Feb 41
A288							
A291							
A293							
A294							

Stereo A173 This was used to replace stereo A137 in forme 1

Stereo A178 is known turned and used on the 2nd May 1840

Stereo A178



Unused outside portion of the A178 envelope



Envelope A178, turned inside-out and used on the 2nd May 1840
Dated inside in manuscript 1st May 1840

One Penny Envelopes. (Continued)

Stereo No. (Forme)	Put to Press	Registered	Rec For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Stamps Printed	Earliest Latest Known
A295							
A297							
A298							
A299							
A300							
A302							
A305							
A310							
A320							
A321							
A323							

Two Pence Letter Sheets.

Stereo No. (Forme)	Put to Press	Registered	Rec For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Stamps Printed	Earliest Latest Known
a90 (1)							11 Sep 44
a91 (1)							19 May 69
a92 (1)							9 May 40 19 Apr 41
a94 (1)							
a95 (1)							4 Feb 48
a96 (1)							8 May 40
a97 (1)							
a98 (1)							1 Oct 59
a99 (1)							15 Mar 48
a103 (1)							
a104 (1)							
a105 (1)							15 May 40 26 May 40

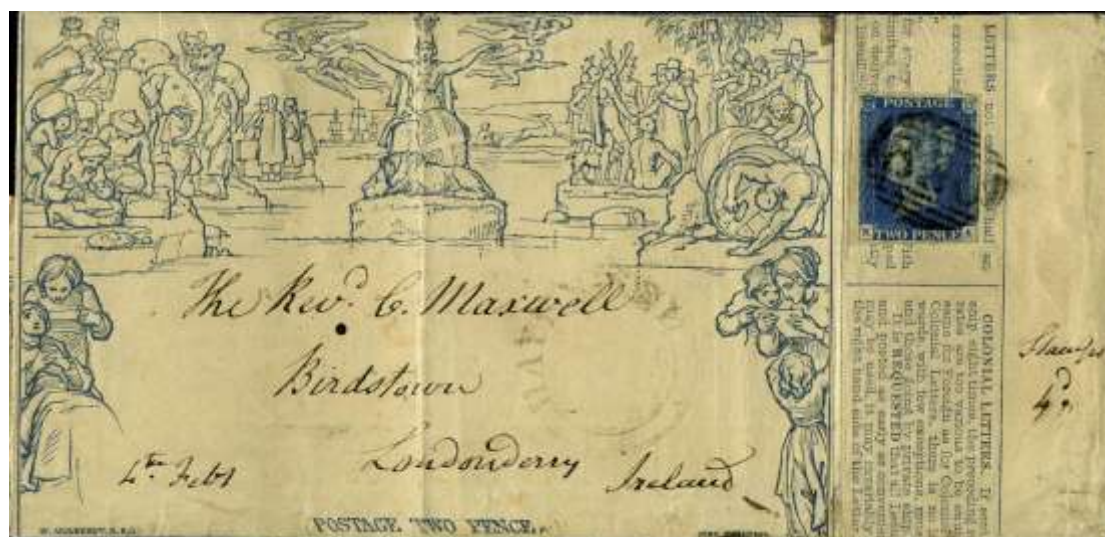
Two Pence Envelopes.

Stereo No. (Forme)	Put to Press	Registered	Rec For Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Stamps Printed	Earliest Latest Known
a195 (1)							22 Feb 41
a196 (1)							3 Jun 40
a197 (1)							6 Nov 41
a198 (1)							1841
a199 (1)							
a200 (1)							24 May 40 7 Aug 40
a201 (1)							
a202 (1)							1 Oct 40
a203 (1)							5 Jun 40
a208 (1)							
a209 (1)							30 Sep 40
a211 (1)							

a196 is known dated the 11th March 1886 cancelled with a London WC squared circle cancellation of Charing cross. This has not been included in the list as the earliest and latest known dates are to try and establish a time frame when the stereos were substituted.



2^d letter sheet a90 up-rated to the 1/- rate by the addition of five 2^d blues from plate 3



2^d letter sheet a95 up-rated by the addition of a 2^d blues from plate 1



2^d envelope a197 dated 6th November 1841
 with an additional 1^d red (Plate 15)

Current numbers

Current No.	Value Plate	Current No.	Value Plate	Current No.	Value Plate	Current No.	Value Plate
106	(1 ^d) 98	151	(1 ^d) 136	196	(1 ^d) 165	241	(1 ^d) 204
107	(1 ^d) 99	152	(2 ^d) 13	197	(½ ^d) 10	242	(½ ^d) 15
108		153	(1 ^d) 137	198	(½ ^d) 11	243	
109		154	(1 ^d) 138	199	(1 ^d) 166	244	(1 ^d) 205
110	(1 ^d) 100	155	(1 ^d) 139	200	(1 ^d) 167	245	(1 ^d) 206
111	(1 ^d) 101	156	(1 ^d) 140	201	(1 ^d) 168	246	(1 ^d) 207
112	(1 ^d) 102	157	(1 ^d) 141	202	(1 ^d) 169	247	(½ ^d) 16
113	(1 ^d) 103	158	(1 ^d) 142	203	(1 ^d) 170	248	(½ ^d) 19
114	(1 ^d) 104	159		204	(1 ^d) 171	249	(½ ^d) 20
115	(1 ^d) 105	160	(1 ^d) 143	205	(1 ^d) 172	250	(1 ^d) 208
116	(1 ^d) 106	161	(1 ^d) 144	206	(1 ^d) 173	251	(1 ^d) 209
117	(1 ^d) 107	162	(1 ^d) 145	207	(1 ^d) 174	252	(1 ^d) 210
118	(1 ^d) 108	163	(1 ^d) 146	208	(1 ^d) 175	253	(1 ^d) 211
119		164	(1 ^d) 147	209	(1 ^d) 176	254	(1 ^d) 212
120		165	(1 ^d) 148	210	(1 ^d) 177	255	(1 ^d) 213
121		166	(1 ^d) 149	211	(1 ^d) 178	256	(1 ^d) 214
122		167		212	(1 ^d) 179	257	(1 ^d) 215
123	(2 ^d) 12	168	(1 ^d) 151	213	(1 ^d) 180	258	(1 ^d) 216
124	(1 ^d) 109	169	(1 ^d) 152	214	(1 ^d) 181	259	(1 ^d) 217
125	(1 ^d) 110	170	(2 ^d) 14	215	(1 ^d) 182	260	(1 ^d) 218
126	(1 ^d) 111	171	(½ ^d) 1	216	(1 ^d) 183	261	(1 ^d) 219
127	(1 ^d) 112	172	(½ ^d) 2	217	(1 ^d) 184	262	(1 ^d) 220
128	(1 ^d) 113	173	(½ ^d) 3	218	(1 ^d) 185	263	(1 ^d) 221
129	(1 ^d) 114	174	(½ ^d) 4	219	(1 ^d) 186	264	(1 ^d) 222
130	(1 ^d) 115	175	(½ ^d) 5	220	(½ ^d) 12	265	(1 ^d) 223
131	(1 ^d) 116	176	(½ ^d) 6	221	(½ ^d) 13	266	
132	(1 ^d) 117	177	(½ ^d) 8	222	(1 ^d) 187	267	(1 ^d) 224
133	(1 ^d) 118	178	(½ ^d) 9	223	(1 ^d) 188	268	(1 ^d) 225
134	(1 ^d) 119	179		224	(½ ^d) 14	269	
135	(1 ^d) 120	180	(1 ^d) 153	225	(1 ^d) 189	270	
136	(1 ^d) 121	181	(1 ^d) 154	226	(1 ^d) 190	271	(½ ^d) 21
137	(1 ^d) 122	182	(1 ^d) 155	227	(2 ^d) 15	272	(½ ^d) 22
138	(1 ^d) 123	183	(1 ^d) 156	228	(1 ^d) 191		
139	(1 ^d) 124	184	(1 ^d) 157	229	(1 ^d) 192		
140	(1 ^d) 125	185	(1 ^d) 158	230	(1 ^d) 193		
141		186	(1 ^d) 159	231	(1 ^d) 194		
142	(1 ^d) 127	187	(1 ^d) 160	232	(1 ^d) 195		
143		188		233	(1 ^d) 196		
144	(1 ^d) 129	189		234	(1 ^d) 197		
145	(1 ^d) 130	190		235	(1 ^d) 198		
146	(1 ^d) 131	191	(1 ^d) 161	236	(1 ^d) 199		
147	(1 ^d) 132	192	(1 ^d) 162	237	(1 ^d) 200		
148	(1 ^d) 133	193	(1½ ^d) 3	238	(1 ^d) 201		
149	(1 ^d) 134	194	(1 ^d) 163	239	(1 ^d) 202		
150	(1 ^d) 135	195	(1 ^d) 164	240	(1 ^d) 203		

Life Span of the Printing Plates

For

The Surface Printed Postage stamps

Produced by **De La Rue and Co. Ltd.**



By Allan Oliver

COPYRIGHT NOTICE

This document is fully protected by copyright.
No part of this document may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior permission of the author

Requests for such permission should be sent to
allanoliver1937@msn.com

Versions and updates for the surface printed section

Version	Date	Updates / additions
1.01	12 th March 2006	First draft
2.01	26 th February 2008	Major revision of EKV
2.02	27 th February 2008	Watermarks illustrated High values added
2.03	29 th February 2008	EVK and picture revisions
2.04	13 th May 2008	Registration dates added Current numbers added Some text revisions
2.05	27 th August 2008	1/- plate 8 revised
2.06	6 th September 2008	Major date revisions Minor text revisions Illustrations added

Introduction

The following tables give details relating to the life of the various printings. Included is the registration and put to press dates, as well as, (where known), the date on which the plate was removed from the press, recommended for defacement and eventually defaced. The end column is for recording the earliest known examples from the various plates, which I hope in time to be able to supplement with illustrations.

In the tables some symbols have been used. We have tried to keep such use to a minimum, and the following is a list of those used...

??? With a date indicates that this is unconfirmed or dubious.

The author makes no claim as to the completeness of this work, (a claim that would be pointless after even a quick glance at some of the tables), but rather, has decided to present the information, even in its incomplete form, for the benefit of others. The information presented is made freely available, (under the copyright terms on the previous page), and is updated on a regular basis. These updates are made available via the files section of the Mulready Internet group, which is located at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mulready/>

If you have received this file from any other source, we would suggest joining this group to obtain the most up to date version as well access to a wealth of other information.

Illustrations

Illustrations of the stamps have been included in the headings for each value of the various types to aid identification. Whilst this will make this document much larger in size, we feel that this is necessary, (and easier to follow), given the wide range of values and designs employed in these issues. Where tables for an issue have been broken down according to paper type, watermark or a colour variation, the illustration only appears in the heading for the first table.

Colours of the stamps

In general, I have not attempted to give shade or colour variations for the stamps, some of which may be very rare. The exceptions to this are where a distinct variation occurs when a different paper or watermark is used. If it should become possible to tie down a particular shade to a specific production date with the quantity printed, then these will be added. This will be very much an "if and when" situation rather than a general rule for all issues.

The tables

The tables used in this section follow the same layout used in the section covering the Line Engraved printing plates. Most of the columns are self-explanatory, but a few notes on the others may be of assistance.

The “Recommended for defacement” column will give the date when the Board of Inland Revenue recommended that a particular plate be defaced. These records are held in the Public Archives at Kew, (London), in records IR 79/79. As time permits I will try to fill in the dates for the various plates.

The column headed “Defaced / Destroyed” will, it is hoped have two dates. The first, the defacement date, was when the plate was rendered unusable for any further production of labels; and this was usually done by scoring the surface with a file. The destruction date is when the plate was total destroyed.

Watermark types



Small Garter



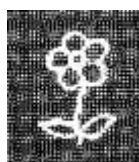
Medium Garter



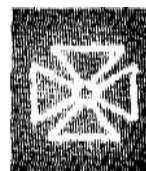
Large Garter



Emblems



Spray



Maltese Cross



Large Anchor



Small Anchor



Orb



Crown

First series

The first series consisted of three values, (4^d, 6^d and 1/-), which were issued in 1855 and 1856. These impressions did not show the plate number in the design, nor did they include corner letters to indicate their position in the sheet.



Four Pence Carmine. **Small Garter. P. 14** **Thick blued safety paper**

Printed in sheets of 240 impressions arranged in four panes of 60 impressions each.

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	13 Jul 55	13 Jul 55				7,500	1 Dec 55
	Overprinted "SPECIMEN" for distribution to Post Offices					4,000	
2	1855	29 Oct 55				45	

The total given for plate 1 includes the two printings that were made in November 1856 and January 1857 using a remainder of stock of the small garter watermarked paper. These impressions lacked the bluing, giving the appearance of white paper. It is estimated that the production from these two later printings amounted to about 1,000 sheets. Official records show the total production for plate 1 as 11,500 sheets, which included those overprinted "SPECIMEN".

The figure of 45 sheets given for plate 2 includes the imprimatur sheet. The put to press date for this sheet is recorded as being the same as for plate 1, (13th July 1855), however considering the number of sheets printed, we are uncertain if this was the case, in which it was only at press for part of the day, or if the printing was actually made late in the use of this watermarked paper, namely January 1857.



Cover from the “R.C.Alcock Ltd” reference collection of GB postage stamps, offered for sale on the 1st April 1993 by Phillips of London

Paper slightly blued. Fine used on 1855-registered envelope from Lancaster to Macclesfield, additionally franked 1855 1d and 1855 plate 5 SC16, cancelled “Lancaster” duplexes, fine, BPA certificate (1969). Est. £120-£180

Four Pence Carmine.

Medium Garter. P. 14

Thick blued safety paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	1855 - 56	13 Jul 55				5,500	

Four Pence Carmine.
Medium Garter. P. 14
Thin ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	1856	13 Jul 55				2,000	

Four Pence Rose.
Medium Garter. P. 14
Ordinary white wove paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	25 Feb 56	13 Jul 55				7,500	26 Jul 58

This production used specially prepared ink.

Four Pence Rose.
Large Garter. Perf 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	Jan 57	13 Jul 55				96,449	6 Nov 57
2	7 Jun 57	29 Oct 55				23,455	

Plates 1 and 2 were registered on small garter watermarked paper



Six Pence Lilac.
Emblems. P. 14
Thick highly glazed blue paper

Printed in sheets of 240 impressions in twelve panes of 20 impressions each.

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	29 Mar 56	29 Mar 56				5	

These were the sheets that were sent to Somerset House for registration, one of which was retained as the imprimatur sheet.

Six Pence Lilac.
Emblems. P. 14
Azure paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1		29 Mar 56				2,000	

Six Pence Lilac.
Emblems. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1		29 Mar 56				131,495	25 Aug 60

The total production for this issue is given as 133,500 sheets, which have been broken down in the tables above.



One shilling green.

Emblems. P. 14

Azure paper

These stamps were printed in sheets of 240 impressions, consisting of twelve panes of twenty impressions each.

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	June 1856	22 Jun 56				500	

This production was experimental and was made in June 1856.

One shilling green.

Emblems. P. 14

Thick highly surfaced deeply blued paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	12 Oct 56					5	

These were the registration sheets of which the remainder were evidently perforated and put into circulation. Used examples are known.

One-shilling green.

Emblems. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1						49,995	9 July 59

Second series

The second series consisted of five values, (3^d, 4^d, 6^d, 9^d and 1/-), which were issued between 1862 and 1864. These impressions did include the familiar corner letters to indicate their position in the sheet and these were in small white letters.



Three pence carmine-rose.

Emblems. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

(Original) State 1 of the plate – shaded spandrels

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	This plate was defective and was never registered						
2	18 Oct 61	17 Oct 61				1,500	

In state 1 of the plate, the impressions had a network background in the lower spandrels. These impressions were thought to resemble, too closely, the 4^d value and were never issued. Most of this printing was destroyed. Examples are known with the “SPECIMEN” overprint, (two different types), and examples without the overprint may have been issued in the normal way, as both used and unused copies are known.

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
1			2	208

Three pence carmine-rose.

Emblems. P. 14

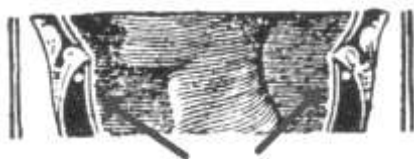
Ordinary white paper

(Re-touched) State 2 of the plate – un-shaded spandrels

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
2	19 Mar 62 or 1 May 62	19 Mar 62				21,529	20 Sep 62
	Overprinted "SPECIMEN" for distribution to Post Offices					21	

Official records show that from the 5,040 stamps with the "SPECIMEN" overprint, (21 sheets), 5,000 are known to have been used on circulars distributed to Post Offices. The remaining 40 impressions are believed to have been destroyed.

The plate was re-registered after the spandrels were cleared. The current number remained the same as for state 1, listed above.



Three pence carmine-rose.

Emblems. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate 3 – (with dot)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
3		25 Aug 62	Imprimatur sheet			1	
			Perforated at Somerset House			1	
			Overprinted "SPECIMEN" at Somerset House			1	
			Returned to the printers and issued in error			2	
	Current number 218						

The five sheets printed from this plate, (probably on the same day as it was registered), were all sent to Somerset House for registration. One sheet was retained as the imprimatur copy, (of which 24 impressions have been removed). With the remaining four sheets, at least two others were retained at Somerset House, as examples are known with the unofficial line perf. 14 that was applied at this location. The other sheet retained here was overprinted with a "SPECIMEN" hand-stamp applied by the board of Inland Revenue. The remaining sheet was returned to the printers, where it is believed that they were included in with the existing plate 2 impressions, perforated and issued in the normal manner.

The imperforate examples which are known, I believe come from the Somerset House sheet that was overprinted "SPECIMEN". It may be that only some of the panes, (The sheet consisted of twelve panes each of twenty impressions), were overprinted.

With the 'issued in error' examples, two unused examples have been confirmed and two used, both from Yarmouth.



Four pence pale-red.
Large Garter. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
3	30 Nov 61	29 Nov 61				57,500	3 Nov 62
4	7 Sep 63	27 Jun 62				67,500	29 March 65
5	Not registered or put to press						
6	Not registered or put to press						

Although the stamps do not have the plate number incorporated into the design, the plates can be distinguished by a diagonal line across the corner of the corner letter blocks, known as hair-lines. These hairlines are absent from all the plate 3 impressions.

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
3	206		4	216



4^d with hairline (plate 4), used on the 23rd March 1865



Six pence lilac.
Emblems. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
3	9 Sep 62	17 Oct 61				46,000	29 Nov 63
4	11 Apr 64	15 Apr 62				18,000	17 Sep 64

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
3	207		4	212

As with the 4^d red there were no plate numbers in the design, but again hairlines appear across the corner letter blocks on plate 4 impressions.

Both plates were printed on thick paper, which may just be variations in the thickness of the paper supplied to the printer. Plate 3 is also known on azure (blued) paper. This could be use of remaining supplies of this type of paper left over from the experimental printings made with the earlier 6^d and 1/- plates, circa June 1856; or it may be a continuation of the experimental printings. The likely-hood is that it is the former, given that the earlier experiments are noted in the official records.



Plate 4, (with hairlines)
Dated the 17th September 1864



Nine pence bistre.
Emblems. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	Never registered or put to press						
2	14 Nov 61	14 Nov 61				6,550	7 Mar 65
3		8 May 62				5	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
1			2	205		3	214

The different plates can be distinguished by the hairlines across the corner letter blocks that appear on plate 3.

Examples from plate 2 on azure paper have been reported, and it possible that these are the use of remaining paper stocks from the experimental printing made circa June 1856, (see note below the 6^d value above). However no authenticated examples are know to me at this time, and I would therefore be sceptical of any impressions offered as such.

Examples from plate 3 are known both in used and unused condition. The five sheets noted above were the usual run off and sent to Somerset House for registration. It would appear that one was retained as the imprimatur sheet and the other four returned to the printers where they were perforated and issued in with the normal supply from plate 2. The total known at this time is 30 used and 3 unused copies.



One shilling green.
Emblems. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
2	8 Oct 62	8 May 62				25,979 <i>39,011</i>	9 May 63
		Overprinted "SPECIMEN" for distribution to Post Offices				21	
3		16 Jun 62				5	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
2	213		3	215

Stamps from plate 2 show a numeral 1 on each side of the oval and those from plate 3 show the numeral 2.

The figure for the total number of sheets from plate 2, (in italic type), is the generally published total, however, the official records show a total production from these plates as 26,005 sheets. Allowing for the five sheets from plate 3, (which would seem logical with such an odd number), we have the remaining 26,000 sheets as shown above.

With the 21 sheets, (5,040 stamps), which were used for circulation to postmasters, only 5,000 stamps are recorded as being used in this manner. We suspect that the odd 40 impressions were officially destroyed.

The five registration sheets sent to Somerset House were, it would appear, all retained there and the odd four sheets never returned to the printers. Of these, one sheet was retained as the imprimatur and at least one other had the "SPECIMEN" overprint applied. The remaining three sheets, we suspect, were unofficially perforated with the gauge 14-line perforator at that location. From these, three unused copies have been confirmed. It is worth noting that, as well as the distinctive plate number in the design, examples from plate 3 also show the hairlines across the corner letter blocks.

According to the paper warrants, 1 sheet of paper was supplied for printing plate 3, so the total for plate 2 may be increased by one.

Third series

The third series consisted of six values, (3^d, 4^d, 6^d, 9^d 10^d and 1/-), which were issued between 1865 and 1867. These impressions had large white corner letters to indicate their position in the sheet and the plate numbers incorporated into the design.

From about December 1864, machine made paper started to replace the hand made variety. The thick paper variations that occur on the earlier issues of some values may still be due to variations in the hand made paper that was supplied.



Three pence rose.
Emblems. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
4	19 Dec 64	28 Nov 64				42,499	15 Dec 65
5		Oct 65				1	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
4	237		5	254

Plate 5 was registered on emblems watermarked paper but was not put to press until December 1867, at which time the spray watermark was being used. (See the section on the forth series below). If the usual 5 sheets had been printed and returned to the printers, as was the normal practice we would expect to find at least one example, but none have been recorded. If these sheets had remained imperforate, then examples with the same letterings as on the imprimatur sheet would possibly exist, again none have been recorded. The evidence supports the theory that only one sheet was printed and submitted as the imprimatur.



Four pence vermillion.
Large Garter. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
7	5 Jun 65	3 Jun 65				34,500	16 Sep 70
8	23 Jan 66	15 Aug 65				45,000	13 Aug 66
9	16 May 67	2 Nov 66				42,000	3 Mar 68
10	17 Mar 68	22 Dec 66				11,500	26 Oct 68
11	Late 1868	10 Sep 68				55,000	
12	21 Mar 70	28 Nov 68				66,000	13 Feb 71
12			On Dr. Perkins blued paper			12	
13	11 Oct 72	1 Jan 69				50,000	
14	8 May 73	1 Apr 69				35,000	23 Aug 73

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
7	247		8	248		9	275
10	276		11	315		12	321
13	322		14	327			

Variation in watermark type. In 1872 whilst plate 12 was at press, a new paper was introduced in which the lines to the garter watermark were thicker. This new paper was used from this point onwards and printings made on it are generally paler than those from plates 7 to 12, (earlier printings).

Inverted watermarks. Between 1867 and 1871 all the printings from plates 10 and 11 were made on paper with the watermark inverted, (buckle at the top). With plates 9 and 12, about half the sheets were used in this manner along with a small quantity from plate 8, during this period.

Specimen overprints. The following plates are known to have had the "SPECIMEN" overprint applied. Plate 11, (possibly only 1 pane from an imperforate sheet supplied with the registration copies), plate 12, (again, possibly only one or more panes from an imperforate sheet), and plate 14, (possibly more than one sheet). Those from plate 14 are perforated and may have been used for post office circulars. In addition, examples from plate 13 are known overprinted "CANCELLED". These are perforated and gummed in the normal way and may be printers colour matching samples.

Dr. Perkins paper. The small printing on Dr. Perkins blued paper was evidently sent to Somerset House gummed but imperforate. Some sheets, (we estimate about half those supplied), were perforated with the unofficial p.14 machine at use there, after which a "SPECIMEN" overprint was applied.



Plate 14 – Used Torquay – 23rd August 1873



Six pence lilac.
Emblems. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
5	4 Jan 65	30 Dec 64				62,000	15 Dec 65
6	22 Nov 66	5 Dec 65				12,000	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
5	238		6	253



Nine pence straw.
Emblems. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
4	24 May 65 or 30 Oct 65	27 Feb 65				3,005	
5		24 Apr 66				5	

There is no evidence that the four spare sheets after the imprimatur had been selected for plate 5 were put into circulation. It seems likely that these were destroyed, probably at the printers, in December 1876 along with printings from plate 4 on spray watermarked paper. However, in 1887, about 36 impressions were removed from the imprimatur sheet, (horizontal rows K, L, M and N), and perforated by De La Rue in the normal way. These perforated examples were inserted into souvenir albums, which were intended for presentation to members of the stamp committee. About twenty of the impressions were later returned to the archives and replaced in the imprimatur sheet. As such no used examples are known to exist.

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
4	239		5	255



Ten pence red-brown.
Emblems. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	22 Mar 67	22 Mar 67				1 to 5	

The 10^d plate 1 was printed in error on the emblems watermark paper whilst preparing the 1867 issue that was to use the spray watermark paper. The number of sheets printed at this time is not recorded and the figure shown above is an estimate. So far only eleven examples, (all used), have been recorded, seven of which are used in Constantinople.



One-shilling green.
Emblems. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
4	8 Dec 64	28 Nov 64				39,011 42,495	31 Jan 67
5		28 Mar 66				5	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
4	236		5	256

From the printings of plate 5, one sheet was retained as the imprimatur and the others are believed to have been officially destroyed.

The two set of figures are those from the official records, (shown in black), and those quoted by Robson Lowe in “The encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps” volume 1.

Forth series

The forth series consisted of six values, (3^d, 6^d, 9^d 10^d 1/- and 2/-), which were issued between 1867 and 1880. These impressions had large white corner letters to indicate their position in the sheet and the plate numbers incorporated into the design as with the previous group, but were all printed on spray watermarked paper.



Three pence rose.
Spray. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
4	26 Nov 66	Oct 65		17 Dec 67		11,005	
5	On Dr. Perkins paper. (Blued).						
5	18 Dec 67	Oct 65				96,495	25 Feb 68
6	22 Jun 69	8 Jun 68				74,500	
7	19 Oct 71	20 Feb 69				35,000	18 May 72
8	29 Feb 72	22 Feb 72				35,000	18 May 72
9	31 Jul 72	22 Apr 72				35,000	11 Oct 72
10	1 Jan 73	6 Dec 72				35,000	27 May 73

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
4	237		5	254
6	307		7	328
8	376		9	382
10	407			

The 3^d value was put to press on the 19th December 1864 and was printed at that time on the Emblems watermarked paper. The date given, above, indicates the probable date when the paper used for the production from this plate was changed to the spray of rose. At any rate, the change must have taken place late in 1866.



Block of eight from plate 7
Dated the 18th May 1872



A block of four showing the earliest known use of plate 8



Plate 9 – dated the 11th October 1872



3^d plate 10 on cover dated 27th May 1873



Six pence lilac.
Spray. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

With hyphen between ‘SIX’ and ‘PENCE’

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
6	1867	5 Dec 65				38,000	24 Feb 69
	1868	Special printing in Bright Violet				22,000	
		Later printing in Lilac					
7	Not registered or put to press						

The put to press date, indicated above, represents the time when the paper used in the production of impressions from this plate was changed from Emblems to Spray of Rose.

On the 24th March 1868, the Board of Inland Revenue decided that this stamp should be issued in a brighter colour. At some time between the end March and July of that year, 22,000 sheets were printed in Bright Violet, and these were issued, (according to the records), on the 22nd July 1868. We are uncertain if this date represents supply to the Inland Revenue or supply by them to Post Offices for sale. The total number of sheet printed, (60,000), from the records includes this printing in Bright Violet. It is probable that after this special printing, production continued, reverting back to the ‘normal’ Lilac colour.



Six pence lilac.
Spray. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Without hyphen between 'SIX' and 'PENCE'

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
8	18 Dec 68	23 Jan 68				60,500	8 Mar 69
9	3 May 70	20 Feb 69				55,495	27 Sep 70
10		1 Apr 69				5	17 Sep 69

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
8	301		9	329		10	331

The five sheets for plate 10 are those sent for registration. One was retained as the imprimatur and it appears that the other four were returned to the printers where they were perforated and included in the 'normal' stock. Ten examples have so far been recorded, one of which is used on cover from Weymouth. Examples are recorded used from Weymouth, London and Aberystwyth.

The paper warrant shows that only one sheet was ordered for the printing from plate 10, and the figure from plate 9 has been reduced to account for the 5 extra sheets



Plate 8 dated the 8th March 1869



The only example known of plate 10 on original cover



Six pence chestnut.
Spray. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
11	25 Jan 72	5 Jan 72				20,000	2 Aug 72
12		22 Apr 72				5	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
11	375		12	381

The extra 4 registration sheets were evidently returned to the printers, perforated and issued with the normal supplies from plate 11. Any examples dated before the 30th October 1872, when the plate was officially put to press must be in the chestnut shade.



Block from plate 11 showing the earliest known use



Six pence buff.
Spray. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
11	Oct 72					15,000	
12	30 Oct 72	22 Apr 72				5,000	11 Jan 73

The issue of these stamps from plate 11 began in November 1872
Plate 12 was registered in chestnut, as detailed in the previous table.

Six pence grey.
Spray. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
12	Apr 73	22 Apr 72		10 Oct 73		29,995	19 Nov 73

Plate 12 was registered in chestnut, as detailed in the previous table.



Plate 12 dated the 19 November 1873



Nine pence straw.
Spray. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
4	1867					23,500	4 Sep 72
		Officially destroyed in December 1876				961	
		Spoilage during production				391	

Official records show that the total number of sheets issued from this printing was 22,148. It is unclear, but they also seem to indicate that in with those officially destroyed, were at least one and possibly all four of the extra registration sheets from plate 5 on Emblems watermarked paper.

The 9^d stamp was withdrawn in 1877.



Ten pence red-brown.
Spray. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	22 Mar 67	22 Mar 67				14,000	18 Mar 72
Officially destroyed in December 1876						815 ¼	
2		30 Aug 67				5	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
1	286		2	293

Official records show the number of stamps produced, and in the case of some values, officially destroyed. It is from these figures that the figures in the tables are calculated, and in the case of plate 1 this gives 13,189¾ sheets put into circulation.

In the case of plate 2, the five sheets were the registration copies, and it appears that the extra four sheets were returned to the printers, perforated and put into circulation. 30 used copies and 1 unused example are known. There is also reported to be an unused example in the Royal Collection but all reports seem to indicate that this is probably a used example that has been cleaned.



One-shilling green.
Spray. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
4	Early 1867	28 Nov 64				77,000	10 Nov 69
On Dr Perkins blued safety paper							
5	20 Feb 71	28 Mar 66		30 Sep 72		55,495	4 Oct 71
6	20 Mar 72	20 Feb 69		15 Oct 72		35,000	29 Mar 69 24 May 72
7	11 Nov 72	30 Sep 72				35,000	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
4	236		5	256
6	330		7	383

The printings on Dr Perkins paper are known both imperforate and perforated with the addition of a “SPECIMEN” overprint. We are uncertain as to the number of sheets printed at this time but suspect the number to be quite low.

All plates are known with various types of “SPECIMEN” overprint

The earliest recorded use for plate 6 pre-dates the put to press date, proving that it was from one of the four spare registration sheets, perforated and issued prior to the main production. The earliest known date, (after the official putting to press), is the 24th May 1872.



Two-shilling blue.
Spray. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	10 Apr 67	5 Apr 67		??? June 1867		1,953	1 Jul 67
			Destroyed prior to July 1867			52	
	The plate as originally laid down was out of alignment in relation to the perforating machine. It was re-aligned and re-registered						
1	??? 5 Jul 67	5 Jul 67				22,000	
1		Overprinted “SPECIMEN” for distribution to Post Offices				4,000	
2	Never registered or put to press						
3		23 Jan 67				5	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
1	285		3	298

Plate 1 was not aligned correctly, and this led to difficulties in perforating the sheets. As such the quantity supplied for distribution were all supplied as part sheets, (Post office sheets of 20 – panes from the original sheet), and the remaining part sheets, (panes), amounting to the quantity shown were officially destroyed. It is believed that this initial printing was made in the Cobalt colour.

Although the official release date and thus the earliest known was the 1st July 1867, it is known that some stamps were issued at Hull on the 17th June, and possibly earlier.

The 4 extra sheets from plate 3 were perforated with the unofficial gauge 14-perforator at Somerset House and put into circulation. A few used copies exist and a single mint example is known in the Royal collection.



Two-shilling brown.
Spray. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1		5 Apr 67				333½ -	27 Feb 1880
		Spoilt during printing or perforating and destroyed at the printers				19	
		Officially destroyed in 1880				657½ +	

Official records show that 1,000 sheets were originally printed of which 967 full sheets and 28 half sheets were delivered, the remainder being destroyed due to spoilage by the printers. These records also show that 157,820 stamps were officially destroyed, (slightly over 657½ sheets), leaving the remainder 77,620 stamps, (slightly less than 333½ sheets), which went into circulation. In addition, at least one sheet was overprinted with the “SPECIMEN” hand-stamp.

The registration date is for the plate when it was originally printed from in blue, as detailed in the preceding table.

The colour of this stamp was changed to Brown in February 1880

Fifth series

The fifth series consisted of six values, ($2\frac{1}{2}^d$, 3^d , 4^d , 6^d , 8^d and $1/-$), which were issued between 1873 and 1880. These impressions had large coloured corner letters to indicate their position in the sheet and the plate numbers incorporated into the design as with the previous group. The corner blocks, which contain the check letters, are plain white whereas in the previous group they were solid blocks of colour.



Two and a half pence rosy-mauve.

Anchor. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Sheets of 192 impressions in two panes of 96, (one above the other)

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	30 Mar 75	30 Mar 75				35,000	30 Aug 76
2	18 Jun 75	30 Mar 75				35,000	5 Apr 76
3	12 Jun 75	10 Jun 75				20,000	
4		13 July 75				1	
5		13 July 75				1	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
1	465		2	466
3	473		4	474
5	475			

The paper warrants indicate that the usual 5 extra sheets were not printed from plates 4 and 5 and no examples have been discovered either perforated or imperforate.

Two and a half pence rosy-mauve.

Orb. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
3	1876	30 Mar 75				15,000	19 Feb 77
4	21 Apr 76	13 July 75				34,999	
5	3 Jul 76	13 July 75				34,999	
6	7 Sep 76	3 Mar 76				35,000	9 Jan 77
7	16 Feb 77	11 Sep 76				35,000	13 July 77
8	4 Jun 77	5 Apr 77				35,000	23 Oct 77
9	14 Sep 77	11 July 77				35,000	5 Dec 77
10	7 Dec 77	20 Sep 77				35,000	
11	19 Mar 78	13 Dec 77				35,000	
12	25 Jul 78	30 Apr 78				35,000	
13	30 Sep 78	22 Aug 78				35,000	
14	11 Feb 79	15 Nov 78				35,000	21 Jun 79
15	8 May 79	19 Mar 79				35,000	19 Nov 79
16	15 Aug 79	26 Jun 79				35,000	
17	23 Dec 79	19 Sep 79				5,000	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
3	473		4	474		5	475
6	501		7	513		8	531
9	535		10	543		11	547
12	555		13	565		14	568
15	575		16	576		17	581



Two and a half pence blue.

Orb. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
17	1880	19 Sep 79				30,000	12 June 80
18	11 Feb 80	22 Jan 80				35,000	
19	6 Apr 80	6 Apr 80				60,000	11 Sep 80
20	11 Oct 80	28 May 80				35,000	

There is no official record of the number of sheets printed from plate 20, however the records do indicate that it was the usual quota.

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
17	581		18	583
19	588		20	592



Plate 17 dated 12th June 1880



Three pence rose.
Spray. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
11	17 Apr 73	21 Dec 72				35,000	17 Nov 73
12	4 Sep 73	21 Jun 73				35,000	
13	This plate was defective. It was never registered or put to press						
14	12 Jan 74	27 Aug 73				35,000	16 Apr 74
15	9 Jun 74	25 Nov 73				35,000	24 Aug 74
16	29 Oct 74	10 Jun 74				35,000	
17	20 Feb 75	30 Sep 74				35,000	
18	13 Jul 75	26 Jan 75				35,000	3 Dec 76
19	8 Mar 76	7 May 75				35,000	14 Jan 79
20	29 Nov 78	29 Nov 78				30,000	
21		15 July 80				5	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
11	414		12	424		13	
14	433		15	435		16	447
17	455		18	459		19	468
20	570		21	594			

An imprimatur sheet for plate 21 exists, and it is therefore generally assumed that the usual five sheets were printed and submitted to the authorities. No perforated examples have been discovered and the evidence indicates that only one sheet, (the imprimatur), was actually printed.



Four pence vermillion.
Large Garter. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
15	17 Nov 75	10 Jun 74				15,000	17 Feb 76
16		4 Aug 74				5	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
15	428		16	449

The four extra registration sheets from plate 16 were returned to the printers, where they were perforated and issued with the normal supplies. Eight examples, (all used), have been recorded.



Plate 15 – dated 17 February 1876



Four pence sage-green.
Large Garter. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
15	27 Feb 77	1 Nov 76				20,000	
16	23 Oct 77					29,995	25 Oct 78
17		30 Jul 77				5	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
15	428		16	449		17	540

Plate 15 was re-registered in the new colour. When the five registration sheets were submitted to Somerset House, one was selected as the imprimatur and at least one other was retained and overprinted "SPECIMEN".

The five sheets from plate 17 were the registration copies sent to Somerset House. The additional four sheets, (after selection of the imprimatur), were returned to the printers where they were perforated and issued with the normal supplies. Seventeen used examples have been recorded of which twelve are used at Bradford.



Plate 16 dated 25th October 1878



Four pence grey-brown.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
17	10 Jun 80					9,795	22 Jan 81
18	15 Aug 82	15 Aug 82					25 Aug 84

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
17	540		18	688



Plate 17 dated 22nd January 1881



Plate 18 dated 25th August 1884

Six pence buff.
Spray. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
13	11 Dec 73	21 Dec 72				5	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
13	413			

It would appear that after selection of the imprimatur sheet, the remaining four sheets were returned to the printers where they were perforated and issued with the normal supplies. Eighteen used copies are known, (most of these used at LEEDS). No mint examples are known.



Six pence grey.
Spray. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
13	11 Dec 73	21 Dec 72				34,995	
14	16 Oct 74					35,000	21 May 75
15	26 Nov 75	15 Jul 74				35,000	
16	2 Nov 77	10 Sep 75				35,000	
17	21 Apr 80	13 Dec 77				15,000	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
13	413		14			15	442
16	488		17	546			



6^d plate 14 dated 21st May 1875

Eight pence purple-brown.

Large Garter. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1		7 Jul 76				10,000	

This stamp was prepared for use in July 1876 but was never issued. The imprimatur sheet for this plate is in this colour, and it is therefore assumed that the usual five sheets were submitted. As the official records state that most of these impressions were officially destroyed, we have assumed that the additional four registration sheets submitted to Somerset House were retained there. A few mint examples are known, as are examples with the “SPECIMEN” overprint, (two different types recorded). All these examples are perforated, and we would suspect that these were done on a machine at this location rather than at the printers, as was the norm.

The current number was 503

The imprimatur sheet has the watermark inverted.



Eight pence orange.
Large Garter. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1		7 Jul 76				20,000	7 Mar 79
2		11 Sep 76				5	

The five sheets from plate 2 were the registration copies of which one was retained as the imprimatur. What happened to the remaining four sheets, if they were ever printed, is uncertain, but no perforated examples are known. Plate 1 was registered in purple-brown.

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
1	503		2	510



One-shilling green.
Spray. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
8	10 Jun 73	30 Sep 72				35,000	17 Jan 74
9	21 Nov 73	10 Jul 73				35,000	
10	14 Jul 74	25 Nov 73				35,000	
11	14 Dec 74	23 Apr 74				35,000	
12	24 Jun 75	30 Sep 74				35,000	20 May 76
13	17 Jan 76	22 Apr 75				25,000	
14		20 Dec 75				5	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
8	405		9	425		10	436
11	441		12	456		13	467
14	493						

The five sheets from plate 14 are the registration copies of which one was retained as the imprimatur. At least one of the spare sheets was perforated and put into circulation with the normal supply and five used examples have been recorded.



1/- green plate 8 – used London EC (84) dated the 17th January 1874



One-shilling orange-brown.

Spray. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
13	??? Sep 1880					5,000	1880

There is no official record of the number printed from plate 13 in orange-brown, but as there was now a reduced need for this value owing to the introduction of the telegraph stamp, (of the same duty), it has been assumed that only one creation warrant for 5,000 sheets was made out. The date given for this warrant and thus the date when this plate went to press in the revised colour is also estimated. Believed to have been issued on the 14th October 1880.

Sixth series

The sixth series consisted of seven values, ($2\frac{1}{2}^d$, 3^d , 4^d , 6^d , and 1/- along with the 3^d and 6^d which were surcharged with their own face value), which were issued between 1880 and 1883. These impressions had large coloured corner letters to indicate their position in the sheet and the plate numbers incorporated into the design as with the previous group and were all issued on Crown watermarked paper.

It should be noted that there are no official records of the numbers produced for each plate in this series. There is however figures for the amount of stamps sold, and using this it is possible to calculate a figure for the total number of sheets, which has then been estimated in the breakdown within the tables for each plate.



Two and a half pence blue.

Crown. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
21	3 Feb 81	3 Feb 81				126,000	14 July 81
22	9 Jun 81	11 Jun 81				130,000	5 Aug 81
23	9 Jun 81	11 Jun 81				130,000	17 Dec 83

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
21	625		22	626
23	627			



Three pence rose.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
20	1880	19 Feb 81				66,250	29 Jan 81
21	15 Jul 80	18 Jul 81				125,000	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
20	570		21	594

Both these plates had been previously used in a different layout for the Spray watermark paper. The plates were altered to fit the Crown watermark, (two panes of 120, one above the other), and both were re-registered in this form.

At least 25% of these stamps were used in the telegraph offices.



Plate 20 dated 29 January 1881

BPA (2006) certificate



Six pence grey-brown.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
17	??? Nov – Dec 80	25 Feb 81				17,909	
			Used on telegraph forms			7,291	
18	11 Jan 81	15 Jul 80				10,792 to 14,792	5 Sep 82
			Used on telegraph forms			5,208	
			Overprinted. I. R. OFFICIAL in 1883			10,000 to 14,000	

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
17	546		18	593

Plate 17 was re-registered on crown-watermarked paper

When the 6^d surcharged on 6^d was introduced in 1883, the remaining stocks from plate 18 were overprinted “I R OFFICIAL”. The exact quantity is unknown and the figures presented above are our high and low estimates.

In addition it has been estimated by others that about 1,750,000 stamps from plate 17 and 1,250,000 stamps from plate 18 were used on telegraph forms. These figures have been rounded down to the nearest complete sheet in the table above.



One-shilling orange-brown.

Crown. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
13	??? Early 1881	21 Jun 81				133,000	20 Mar 83
14	1881	21 Oct 81				115,000	28 Aug 82

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
13	467		14	493

Both these plates were re-registered for printing on the Crown watermark paper. At least half the printings from both these plates were used on telegraph forms.



Plate 14 dated 28th August 1882



Three pence on three pence carmine.

Crown. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
21	Late 1882 or early 1883	23 Nov 82				60,000	6 Feb 83

At least 25% of this production was used at the telegraph offices.

Plate No.	Current number		Plate No.	Current number
21	594			



Plate 21 – dated 6th February 1883



Six pence on six pence purple.

Crown. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
18	??? 1882	23 Nov 82				40,000	8 Mar 83

At least 25% of this production was used at the telegraph offices.

Some were also used for revenue purposes, but this is not common and may be only a very small number.

At least one sheet had the overprint applied twice, (doubled).

Seventh series

The seventh series consisted of five values, ($\frac{1}{2}^d$, 1^d , $1\frac{1}{2}^d$, 2^d and 5^d), which were issued between 1880 and 1881. These impressions had no corner letters to indicate their position in the sheet, (with the exception of the first 1^d value), and no plate numbers incorporated into the design as with the previous group. All the values were issued on Crown watermarked paper.

It should be noted that the official records show the numbers produced for each type in this series. These figures show the amount of stamps, and using this it is possible to calculate a figure for the total number of sheets, which has then been shown in the tables for each value.



Half pence green.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		3,760,500	
1		23 Aug 80					10 Feb 81
2		18 Aug 80					
3		18 Aug 80					
6							
7							
8							

Plates 4 and 5 were spoilt during production and were never used.

Plate 8 was registered twice.

Plates 7 and 8, although registered at this time were probably not used for this production. These were later re-registered in the slate blue colour.



One pence Venetian red.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		6.094,100	2 Jun 80
1		28 Oct 79					
2							
4							
5							
6			Registered but never put to press				
7							
8							
9							
10							
12							
13							
14							
15							
16			Registered but never put to press				
17							
18							
19							
20							
21			Registered but never put to press				
22			Registered but never put to press				
23							
24							
25			Registered but never put to press				
26			Registered but never put to press				
27			Registered but never put to press				
28			Registered but never put to press				
29			Registered but never put to press				
30			Registered but never put to press				
31			Registered but never put to press				
32			Registered but never put to press				
33			Registered but never put to press				



One and a half pence Venetian red.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		205,200	5 Dec 81
1							
2							



Two pence rose.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		114,150	
1							
2							



Five pence indigo.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		40,850	
1		26 Feb 81					
2							
3						5	

Plate 3 was never put to press, but as it was registered we have assumed that the usual five sheets were submitted at this time.

The penny lilac stamp was produced from two different groups of plates. The first, (plates 1 to 8), were constructed from die 1 and the later plates, (from 9 onwards), from die 2. The number of dots in each corner can make identification of the different dies, (14 on die 1 and 16 on the more common die 2), a simple task.

It has been estimated that 1% of the total production of this stamp was used fiscally, for revenue purposes.



One pence lilac.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper
Die 1 – 14 dots in each corner

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		2,066,600	Aug 81
1		23 May 81					
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							



One pence lilac.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper
Die 2 – 16 dots in each corner

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		140,000,000	22 Dec 81
9		14 Oct 81					

A total of 112 plates were produced, numbered from 9 to 120. One of the plates was spoilt and therefore discarded, twelve were never registered and the last three, (118,119 and 120), were never used.

Eighth series

Lilac and Green issue

The eighth series consisted of ten values, ($\frac{1}{2}^d$, $1\frac{1}{2}^d$, 2^d , $2\frac{1}{2}^d$, 3^d , 4^d , 5^d , 6^d , 9^d and $1/-$), which were mainly issued on the 1st April 1884, (the exception being the 9^d which was issued earlier on the 1st August 1883). These impressions reverted back to the use of corner letters to indicate their position in the sheet, (with the exception of the $\frac{1}{2}^d$ value which was in the same design as employed for the previous series), and again, no plate numbers were incorporated into the design. All the values were issued on Crown watermarked paper.

It should be noted that the official records show the numbers produced for each type in this series. These figures show the amount of stamps, and using this it is possible to calculate a figure for the total number of sheets, which has then been shown in the tables for each value.



Half pence slate-blue.

Crown. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		3,958,000	27 Apr 85
7		20 Feb 84					
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							

Plates 7 and 8 had already been used and registered in green, but were re-registered in the new slate-blue colour.



One and a half pence lilac.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		238,500	
1							
2							



Two pence lilac.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		113,500	7 Jul 86
1							
2							



Two and a half pence lilac.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		466,500	17 Dec 83
1							
2							



Three pence lilac.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		177,000	
1							
2							

From this total production, at least 50,000 sheets, (Possibly over 60,000 sheets), were sent to telegraph offices.



Four pence dull-green.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		66,500	23 Oct 86
1							
2							



Used at London E C
Dated 23rd October 1886



Five pence dull-green.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper
Die 1 – Line below d of value

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		2,500	
1							
2							

The total production for this issue is believed to have been made from plate 1. After about 2,500 sheets had been printed, the plate cracked and had to be discarded. We believe that plate 2 was further examined at this time and it was decided that this was also defective, and so was never used. Most of the stamps printed from this plate were officially destroyed.

Five pence dull-green.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper
Die 1 – Dot below d of value

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		50,000	27 Nov 85
3							
4							



Used in London
Dated 27th November 1885



Six pence dull-green.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		88,500	9 May 84
1							
2							

At least 30,000 sheets are believed to have been issued to the telegraph offices



Nine pence dull-green.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		27,000	12 Mar 84
1	Never used						
2	Never used						
3							
4							



One shilling dull-green.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		225,000	19 July 84
1							
2							

It is believed that about 180,000 sheets, (80% of the total production), were issued to telegraph offices.



Dated 19th July 1884

Ninth series

Jubilee issue

The ninth series consisted of twelve values, ($\frac{1}{2}^d$ to 1/-), which were mainly issued from the 1st January 1887. These impressions had no corner letters, and as had become standard practice, no plate numbers in the design. All the values were issued on Crown watermarked paper.

It should be noted that the official records show the numbers produced for each type in this series. These figures show the amount of stamps, and using this it is possible to calculate a figure for the total number of sheets, which has then been shown in the tables for each value.



Half pence vermillion.

Crown. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		56,225,903	11 Feb 87
1		9 Apr 86					
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							

The first six plates had no marginal rule, (jubilee line).



Half pence blue-green.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		10,854,777	9 May 1900
11		8 Jan 1900					
12							
13 to 41							

Thirty-one plates were available for the production in this colour, as well as plates 1 to 10 which had been used earlier. Only two plates were registered in this colour, one being plate 11 and the other thought to be plate 12, but this is unconfirmed.



One and a half pence purple & green.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		2,054,000	2 Mar 87
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							

The plate were made from a combination of head plate, (also referred to as key plates), and duty plates. Details regarding which plates were used differ and both are presented below...

Stanley Gibbons specialised catalogue lists Head plates 3 to 11 with duty plates 1 to 4

Robson Lowe lists Head plate 3 to 7 with duty plates 1 to 4



Two pence green & red.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		1,272,700	13 May 92
1							
2							
3							

The plate were made from a combination of head plate, (also referred to as key plates), and duty plates. Details regarding which plates were used differ and both are presented below...

Stanley Gibbons specialised catalogue

Head plates 4 to 6 with duty plates 1, 3, 4 and 5

Robson Lowe

Head plate 3 to 5 with duty plates 1 to 3

In the SG catalogue it states that head plates 3 and 7 along with duty plate 2, were not used



Two and a half pence purple on blue paper.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		1,958,000	14 Dec 87
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							

Only two registration sheets exist.



Three pence purple on yellow paper.

Crown. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		2,196,000	
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							

About 185,000 sheets, (possibly more with the highest estimate being 187,500 sheets), were supplied to the telegraph offices.

Plates 4 and 5 imprimatur sheets exist, but in the case of the later, this is perforated and removed examples cannot be distinguished from the issued stamps.

SG list the plates used as 4 to 13 whilst those in the table above are those referred to by Robson Lowe.



Four pence green & brown.

Crown. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		2,775,000	27 May 87
1 to 8							

Four sets of head and duty plates were used for each plate.

At least one plate was registered.



Four and a half pence green & carmine.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		1,025,000	2 May 95
4							
5							
6							

This value was introduced in 1892 for parcels weighing 2lb. In June 1897 this rate became obsolete and a large stock of this value remained unused. For this reason this stamp is more common mint and a large number of the used examples which exist have parcels cancellations.



Registered use – dated 2nd May 1895



Five pence purple & blue.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
					Die 1 production	100,000	
					Die 2 production	495,000	3 Sep 92
				Total production for all plates		595,000	
5		2 Nov 86					
6		2 Feb 87					
7		10 Aug 88					
8							
9							

Four duty plates and five head plates were used in the construction of the plates. The first two duty plates differed from the later two by having a square dot to the right of the d in the value. The later two plates had vertical lines. The early type, (with dots), are known as die 1 and the later as die 2.



Die 1
Dots to the right of the d



Die 2
Vertical lines to the right of the d

The duty plates employed were 1 to 4 and the head plates 5 to 9 inclusive. The evidence seems to support the following usage.

Plate 5	Head plate 5 and Duty plate 1
Plate 6	Head plate 6 and Duty plate 2
Plate 7	Head plate 9 and Duty plate 3
Plate 8	Head plate 7
Plate 9	Head plate 8

The duty plates used on plates 8 and 9 is uncertain, but it would seem reasonable to assume that one used number 4 and the other used number 3 after plate 7 was withdrawn from press.



Six pence purple on rose-red paper.

Crown. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		3,270,000	8 Dec 98
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							

SG lists the plates used as 3 to 11 but we can find no evidence in any other publications to support the additional four plates above those listed.

It is estimated that 310,000 sheets, (possibly as many as 315,000 sheets), were sent to the telegraph offices.



Nine pence purple & blue.

Crown. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		974,000	

Robson Lowe states that 31 pairs of head and duty plates were made of which, 27 combinations, (plates), were put to press. SG give the duty plates as numbers 1 to 31 and the head plates as 5 to 36, the later being one extra compared to the earlier figures.

87,000 sheets, (with 80 impressions per sheet), we sent to the telegraph office.



Ten pence purple & carmine.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		348,600	
1							
2							
3							
4							

Four head and four duty plates were used, (number 1 to 4 for each).



One shilling green.
Crown. P. 14
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		577,500	1898
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							

It is estimated that between 410,000 and 420,000 sheets were issued to telegraph offices.

We believe plate 8 was prepared but never put to press.



One shilling green & carmine.

Crown. P. 14

Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates		116,650	

Head plates 9 to 12 were used with duty plates 1 to 5. The combinations used for the plates and the number of plates constructed is not known.

High Values

The first series of high values consisted of four values, (5/-, 10/-, £1 and £5)



Five shilling Rose.
Maltese Cross. P. 15½ x 15
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production for all plates			
1	18 Apr 67						1 July 67
2	25 Mar 74						3 May 82

Plate 1 imprimatur is in the archives.

Both plates were printed in sheet of 80 consisting of four panes of 20



Plate 2 dated the 3rd May 1882

Five shilling Rose.
Large Anchor. P. 14
Blued paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
3	Not registered or put to press						
4	???					5037	25 Nov 82
	Nov 82						

The total number of stamps printed from plate 4 is given as 537,374 by various sources. This has been used to calculate the number of sheets in the table above.

Plate 4 was first registered in the same layout as for the earlier plates, (80 in four panes), but was later altered so that the plate consisted of 56 stamps in a single pane. This new layout was re-registered on the same paper, slightly blued. This new layout also had no plate or current numbers on the sheet.

In the estimate of the number of sheets given above I have assumed that all the production was in sheets of 80 in order to obtain a figure. Later sheets were in the smaller format. The plate in the 56 stamps format was constructed for use with the Anchor watermark paper.

Five shilling Rose.
Large Anchor. P. 14
White paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
4						2,399	

The total production figure for this issue is included in the notes below the previous issue. The production was in sheets of 56 stamps and the estimated total number of sheets is shown above.



Ten shilling Greenish Grey.
Maltese Cross. P. 15½ x 15
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	6 Aug 78					3,025	26 Sept 78

This production was in sheets of 80, (four panes of 20).

Ten shilling Grey-Green.
Large Anchor. P. 14
Blued paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1						2,000	Feb 83

This production was in sheets of 56, (in a single pane).
The sheet was re-registered in this new format

Ten shilling Greenish-Grey.
Large Anchor. P. 14
White paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1						2,000	

This production was in sheets of 56, (in a single pane).
The production runs on the white and blued paper were about the same and the estimated figures shown above split the accepted total of 224,000 stamps.



One Pound Brown Lilac.
Maltese Cross. P. 15½ x 15
Ordinary white paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	6 Aug 78					3,025	26 Sep 78

This production was in sheets of 80, (four panes of 20).

One Pound Brown Lilac.
Maltese Cross. P. 14
Blued paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1						1,000	Dec 82

This production was in sheets of 56, (arranged in a single pane).
 After the alteration to the plate size it was re-registered.

One Pound Brown Lilac.
Maltese Cross. P. 14
White paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1						1,000	

This production was in sheets of 56, (arranged in a single pane).
 The production runs on the white and blued paper were about the same and the estimated figures shown above split the accepted total of 112,000 stamps.



One Pound Dark Blue.

This essay is printed in dark blue and the design is surrounded by simulated perforations. Nothing is known of the origins but the late Edward Granger found this essay in an official collection of imprimaturs and proofs, which also included a number of hitherto, unknown essays and proofs, which were undoubtedly the work of De La Rue. This item is in the Phillips collection in the national postal museum, volume 36 page 10



Five Pound Orange.
Large Anchor. P. 14
Blued paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	Jan 82 or Feb 82					1,763	21 Mar 82

This production was in sheets of 56, (two panes of 28).

The number of sheets printed is based on the number of stamps issued, generally believed to be 246,826, and has been rounded down to the nearest whole sheet.

Five Pound Orange.
Large Anchor. P. 14
White paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1						2,645	

The number of sheets printed is based on the number of stamps issued, generally believed to be 246,826, and has been rounded up to the nearest whole sheet. The actual total production, (blue and white paper combined), was probably higher.

High Values

The second series of high values consisted of four values, (2/6d, 5/-, 10/- and £1), with the three lower values in the square format and the £1 in horizontal format.



Two shilling and sixpence Lilac.

Anchor. P. 14

Blued paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
	??? June 83					23,047	2 July 83

This production was in sheets of 56, (two panes of 28).

Two plates were used, but as there is no plate number incorporated in the design and the plate number and current number did not appear on the margins of the printed sheets, the printings can not be distinguished.

Two shilling and sixpence Lilac.

Anchor. P. 14

White paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
	??? 1884					161,335	

This production was in sheets of 56, (two panes of 28).

It is probable that the same two plates were used as for the blue paper printing.

The total production for this value was 184,382 sheets, and the split between the blue and white paper printings as shown above has been estimated.



Five shilling Rose.

Anchor. P. 14

Blued paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
						10,330	1 Apr 84

This production was in sheets of 56, (two panes of 28).

Two plates were used, but as there is no plate number incorporated in the design and the plate number and current number did not appear on the margins of the printed sheets, the printings can not be distinguished. Plate 2 came into use at a later date and thus we suspect that all the printings on blued paper were made from plate 1

Five shilling Rose.

Anchor. P. 14

White paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1						123,970	
2	1890						

This production was in sheets of 56, (two panes of 28).

It is probable that the same two plates were used as for the blue paper printing.

The total production for this value was 134,300 sheets, and the split between the blue and white paper printings as shown above has been estimated.



Ten shilling Blue.

Anchor. P. 14

Blued paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
1	??? Mar 84						1 Apr 84
2	??? Apr 84						

This production was in sheets of 56, (two panes of 28).

The cobalt shade is suspected of coming from plate 2 in May 1884, this being the earliest recorded use in this shade

Two plates were used, but as there is no plate number incorporated in the design and the plate number and current number did not appear on the margins of the printed sheets, the printings can not be distinguished.

Ten shilling Blue.

Anchor. P. 14

White paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production from both plates		34,460	
1							
2							

This production was in sheets of 56, (two panes of 28).

It is probable that the same two plates were used as for the blue paper printing.

The total production for this value was 1,929,800 stamps, and this has been rounded down to the nearest full sheet. The cobalt shade probably comes from early printings from plate 2 on the white paper. The pale ultramarine shade came into use about 1887



One Pound Brown Lilac.
Crowns. P. 14
White paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production from all plates		3,752	1 Apr 84
1							
2							

This value was printed in sheets of 80 stamps, (two panes of 40).

Two plates were used, but as there is no plate number incorporated in the design and the plate number and current number did not appear on the margins of the printed sheets, the printings can not be distinguished.

One Pound Brown Lilac.
Orbs. P. 14
White paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production from all plates		1,010	1 Feb 88
1							
2							

This value was printed in sheets of 80 stamps, (two panes of 40).

Two plates were used, but as there is no plate number incorporated in the design and the plate number and current number did not appear on the margins of the printed sheets, the printings can not be distinguished.



One Pound Green.
Crowns. P. 14
White paper

Plate No.	Put to Press	Registered	Recommended for Defacement	Withdrawn From Press	Defaced Destroyed	Sheets Printed	Earliest Known
				Total production from all plates		8,772	28 Jan 91
2							
3							

This value was printed in sheets of 80 stamps, (two panes of 40).

Two plates were used, but as there is no plate number incorporated in the design and the plate number and current number did not appear on the margins of the printed sheets, the printings can not be distinguished.

Plate 2 was re-registered in Green

Plate 3 was registered for the first time in this colour.

Bibliography

The following is a list of books, which I have consulted during the compilation of the data tables. In addition, a great deal of information has been provided by members of the Mulready group, (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mulready/>), which we would recommend joining.

Rowland Brown

The Plating of the Penny 1840-64. Vol 1, Die I, Plates 1-45

The Plating of the Penny 1840-64. Vol 2, Die I, Plates 46-91

Roland Brown and Harold W. Fisher

The Plating of the Penny 1840-64, Vol. III Plates 92-131

The Plating of the Penny 1840-64, Vol. IV Plates 132-175

The Plating of the Penny 1840-64, Vol. V Plates 176-204

Rikki C Hyde

Great Britain – Numbers issued 1840 – 1910 published 1975

P C Litchfield

Guide Lines to the Penny Black - First edition, September 1949

Robson Lowe

The encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps, Volume 1, Great Britain
Second Edition 1952

Dr H Osborne

Two Pence Blue Studies of plates 1 to 15 - 1946 edition

Two Pence plate 9. A study of the plate and its repairs - March 1939 edition

Stanley Gibbons

Specialised stamp catalogue, Volume 1, Queen Victoria - Various editions

I T Pickering

Collection on Maltese cross Postmarks (The entire 128-page collection)
PDF version

Wiggins & Tonna

The Plating of Alphabet III, (in 5 parts) – published 1973

Bibliography

The following books may also be of interest as they cover, (at least in part), information about the line engraved issues.

A.C. Alcock

Reserve Plate 15. One Penny Rose-Red on White Paper. Alphabet II

R.C. Alcock

The Alphabets of the British Line-Engraved Stamps - 2nd Edition, 1937

R.C. Alcock

Reserve Plate 16. One Penny Rose-Red on White Paper. Alphabet II

R.C. Alcock and F.C. Holland

Hand-engraved Plates 50 and 51 Alphabet IV, published 1948

Edward D. Bacon

The Line-Engraved Postage Stamps of Great Britain Printed by Perkins, Bacon & Co. 1920

Supplement to The Line-Engraved Postage Stamps of Great Britain Printed by Perkins, Bacon & Co. 1929

The Essays, Proofs, Colour Trials and Reprints of the Line-Engraved Postage Stamps of Great Britain Printed by Perkins, Bacon & Co., Ltd., London 1936

Tom Current

Handbook of British Philately, Part 1, section 1 -
Identification of line engraved stamps 1840-79
Lord Byron Stamps, Portland, Oregon, 1980

H. Dagnall

John Dickinson and his Silk-Thread Paper - The Author, Leicester, 1975

H.W. Eddison

Penny Red-Brown Die II - Alphabet III. On Blued Paper. Plates 22-26, 28-30, 32 and 40

Bibliography

Clive Gardner-Hill

The Stamps of Great Britain. The Line-Engraved Issues.
Archer Plates, 1841 Penny Red 1950

The Stamps of Great Britain. The Line-Engraved Issues.
1841 Penny Red. Die I. Plates 102-131. Constant Varieties - 2nd edition.1950

The Stamps of Great Britain. The Line-Engraved Issues.
1841 Penny Red. Die I. Alphabet I. Plates 92-101 - 2nd edition 1950

The Stamps of Great Britain. The Line-Engraved Issues.
1841 Penny Red. Die I. Plates 102-131 - 1951

F.C. Holland

Reserve Plate 17. Die II. Alphabet III - 1949

Robson Lowe

The British Postage Stamp of the nineteenth century - 1968

C.F. Dendy Marshall

A Study of the Line-Engraved Two pence Postage Stamps of Great Britain

W. de L. M. Messenger

The Line-Engraved Halfpenny (2005)

Fred J. Melville

The Stamps of Great Britain: Line-Engraved Stamps
Chas. Nissen & Co., Ltd., London, 1926

Fred J Melville

The mystery of the shilling green – published 1926

Charles Nissen and Bertram McGowen

The Plating of the Penny Black Stamps of Great Britain, 1840,
Chas. Nissen & Co., London, 1922
Reprint by Stanley Gibbons 1998

Bibliography

H. Osborne

British Line-Engraved Stamps - Repaired Impressions
H. F. Johnson, London, 1950

The Ray-Flaws of the Plates 1 and 2 of the Penny Black Postage Stamps of
Great Britain - Chas. Nissen & Co., London, 1932

A.G. Rigo de Righi

The Story of the Penny Black and its Contemporaries
National Postal Museum, 1980

Seymour, J.B.

The Penny Black of Great Britain.
American Philatelic Society, 1938.

Seymour & Gardiner-Hill

The Postage stamps of Great Britain Part 1
The Line-Engraved Issues, 1840-1853 - 1967 edition with the index

The Postage stamps of Great Britain Part 2 with Addenda and Corrigenda to
Part I. The Remainder of the Line-Engraved Issues and Embossed Adhesives
and Surface Printed Issues up to 1865
1st edition., The Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1937
1962 Edited by W R D Wiggins

STAFF F.

The Penny Post 1680 -1918. London. 1964

Stanley Gibbons

Queen Victoria Specialised stamp catalogue – Volume 1

J.B.M. Stanton

The Varieties and Characteristics of the 1d. Red Line-Engraved Stamps,
1841-1864 - Chas. Nissen & Co. Ltd., London, 1958

J.W.W. Stone

The Repairs of the 1841 One Penny Plates 1-40 - 1974

Bibliography

W.R.D. Wiggins

The Postage Stamps of Great Britain, Part. II.
The Perforated Line-Engraved Issues
2nd edition., The Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1962

The Plating of Alphabet II, Plates 1 to 24
Robson Lowe Ltd., London, 1974

W.R.D. Wiggins and G.C. Tonna

The Plating of Alphabet III Plates 22 to 68 and R17,
together with Alphabet IV (Plates 50 and 51) and Alphabet II (R15 and R16).
5 volumes - R.A. Potter, 12 Middle Row, Maidstone, Kent, 1973-74

Percy De Worms

Perkins, Bacon Records, 2 volumes
The Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1953

Hastings E. Wright and A.B. Creeke Jr

The History of the Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles available for Postal
and Telegraph Purposes.
Philatelic Society, London, 1899
Supplement published in 1903