The cover features a decorative border. On the left and right sides, there are stylized palm trees with green fronds and brown trunks. A hummingbird with a long tail and iridescent feathers is depicted in flight on the right side. The border is composed of a series of small, repeating geometric shapes.

THE ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF JAMAICAN PHILATELY

**BWISC Convention 2021
Jamaica Miscellany**

**Paul Farrimond
Collection**

The "Laureated Head" of Queen Victoria

De La Rue and Co. Ltd. employed the gifted engraver Jean Ferdinand Joubert de la Ferté who in the mid-1850s engraved a series of heads of Queen Victoria working from the design of the Wyon Head of the 1837 City Medal. Jamaica, uniquely, selected the Diadem IV design, known as the "Laureated Head" for her stamps. Plates were initially developed for the high value revenue stamps, issued in 1858, and the head was subsequently reworked slightly for the first issue of postage stamps in 1860.

Die proofs of the Laureated Head for postage stamps



Two of three known states

Provenance: both ex
Surtees, Swarbrick & Jarvis



Enlarged
350%



State 1: Protrusion on upper lip and
laurel leaves quite heavily shaded;
similar to the 1858 revenue stamps



State 3: Upper lip smoothed, less
shading to lower lip and front of neck;
laurel leaves lightened

Issued:
1st January 1858



One shilling revenue
stamp, for which the
head was first used

The "Laureated Head" of Queen Victoria

In preparation for the transfer of control of the Post Office to the Jamaican authorities, approval was given in May 1860 by the Board of Inland Revenue for De La Rue to begin preparation of plates for printing the first Jamaican postage stamps. There are essays with a diadem head of the Queen, but the laureated head used on the existing revenue stamps was selected, probably for reasons of economy.

Design die proofs

Dies for the first five values of this issue were developed, evolving through various states for which proofs were struck, leading to the preparation of the plates in September 1860.

All ex
Swarbrick &
Hemmings



State 7 (of 8)



Final state (of 8): with cross hatching in the four triangles



Final state (of 8)



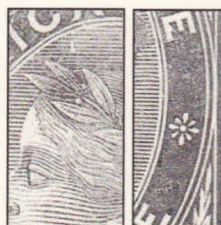
State 5 (of 7): laurel leaves lightened



State 6 (of 7): curl partly redrawn



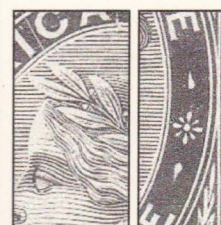
A three pence stamp was required in 1863 when the ship letter rate was reduced from sixpence. The master die was considerably retouched to produce the new die, which was later used for 1/2d, 2s & 5s denominations.



State 3 (of 5): front leaves short and heavily shaded; no dashes above & below ornaments



Final state (of 5): front leaves longer and lightened; dashes above & below ornaments



Ex Swarbrick & Hemmings

The "Laureated Head" of Queen Victoria Pineapple watermark



Imprimaturs

Until early 1862 printing of postage stamps was carried out under control of the Board of the Inland Revenue, and imprimatur sheets for this issue were registered at Somerset House on 3rd October 1860.

Imperforate on gummed and
watermarked paper



The pineapple watermark was
unique to Jamaica

Specimen Overprints

Samuel Type D2 (Nicholson N1) overprints, used by De La Rue & Co. from 1860-1868 on samples of their work for sales activities. Only found on these values; four imperforate and three perforated.

Imperforate



Perforated 14



Samuel Type D5 (Nicholson N5) overprints, used by De La Rue & Co. between 1863 and 1870, and found mainly on file copies in the De La Rue collection and in a specimen booklet prepared in 1866.



Found on all values except the 4d.

The "Laureated Head" of Queen Victoria Pineapple watermark



Manuscript Specimens

Stamps of this issue with "Specimen" written in ink are thought to have been so endorsed in London by the printers De La Rue & Co., for use as file copies. Several different styles of hand writing are found, being classified by Nicholson into three types (N21 to N23) for the Pineapple watermark issue; several different types are seen that are not classified by Nicholson, but still likely to be by De La Rue employees.



All Nicholson Type N21, produced by De La Rue for their files

(inverted)

This is the only known
example of this type



Nicholson Type N23

Provenance:
ex Nicholson,
Cameron & Jarvis



Nicholson Type N21, produced by De La Rue for their files

Type N22

unidentified

yellow-brown
shade (1860)



Type N22



Type N21



Type N21 (inverted)



unidentified (red ink)



unidentified

purple-brown
shade (from 1862)

The "Laureated Head" of Queen Victoria Pineapple watermark



De La Rue Archival Records

It is thought that these stamps are from a sheet of stamps that was retained in the De La Rue archives for "specimen" purposes and defaced with the diagonal pen strokes when the issue became obsolete.



Archival copies of the 6d and 1s values are also found with these diagonal lines

Provenance: ex Hemmings

De La Rue Ink Recipes

De La Rue used a dummy stamp design depicting Queen Victoria (designed in 1863) for its ink trials. The dummy stamps were attached, usually in blocks of four, to double-sided pages within an ink ledger containing the recipes for each ink colour. These were used in the print works so that the company could faithfully replicate specific colours when later requisitions were made for additional stamps to be printed.

Date	18	lbs	oz	No. 711	Colour	Red. cochineal
				<p>"Jamaica 2^d Postage and 1^d Revenue."</p> <hr/> <p>Same as 3^d English Postage.</p> <p>Recipe No. 612.</p>		

Provenance: ex Swarbrick & Jarvis

De La Rue dummy stamps printed in "red cochineal" ink as a record of the ink recipe used for the Jamaican two pence postage and one penny revenue stamps (on a copy of the ink ledger page)



Two pence postage and one penny revenue stamps printed using this ink recipe

The "Laureated Head" of Queen Victoria Pineapple watermark



Issued: 23rd November 1860 to 10th September 1863 (3d. value)



pale blue on thin paper



pale greenish blue



blue



deep blue



rose



deep rose



green



light green



brown-orange



*brown-orange
on thin paper*



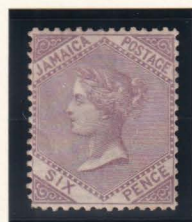
*red-orange on
thin paper*



red-orange



dull lilac



grey-purple



dull purple



purple



deep purple



yellow-brown



dull brown



pale brown



purple-brown

The "Laureated Head" of Queen Victoria Crown CC watermark



Issued: From 1870

The same six denominations began to be printed in the same colours but on new paper with the Crown CC watermark from 1870; no official dates of issue were recorded, and they were introduced as stocks of the pineapple watermark stamps were exhausted.



light blue



blue



deep blue



pale rose



rose



deep rose



green



brown-orange



red-orange



mauve



deep mauve



brown



dull brown

The "Laureated Head" of Queen Victoria Half penny: Crown CC watermark



A halfpenny value was belatedly introduced for the book post rate, in place of the bisects of the one penny stamp that had been used since November 1861.

Die proofs

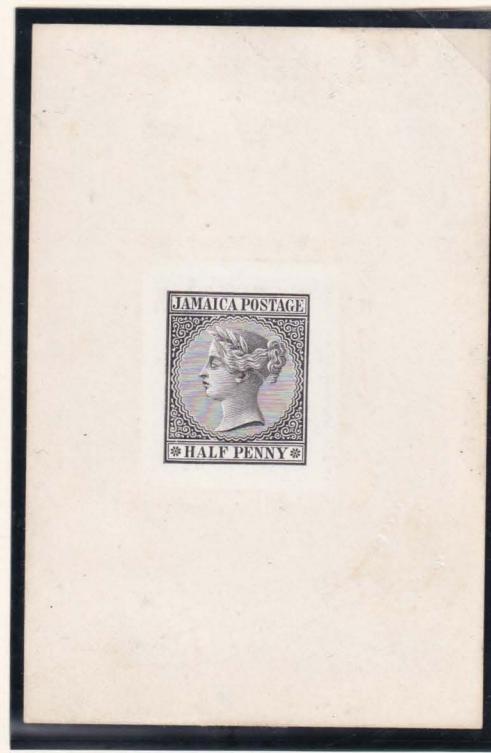
Provenance:
ex Hemmings



Below: a proof of the unfinished die struck in blue-grey with incomplete ornaments either side of the denomination and the head also needing more work to lighten the shading



Provenance: ex Surtees



Provenance: ex Hemmings



pale claret

Issued: 29th October 1872

Six printings, 2,580,000 stamps



claret



deep claret



pale claret



claret



deep claret

The "Laureated Head" of Queen Victoria High values: Crown CC watermark



By 1875 the Post Office recognized the need for higher values and both two shilling and five shilling stamps were ordered from the printers, De La Rue & Co.



Provenance: ex Jarvis

Imprimatur



On Crown CC
watermark paper
(ex Hemmings)



Provenance: ex Wood

Die proofs
on glazed card



Provenance:
ex Hemmings

Issued: 27th August 1875

These values were line perforated 12½ with common rough or blind perforations.

2s: One printing,
28,320 stamps



pale Venetian red



Venetian red



lilac

5s: One printing,
7,680 stamps



Plate number



Current number

The "Laureated Head" of Queen Victoria Overprinted Cancelled

Imperforate plate proofs

In or around 1882 De La Rue prepared one sheet of imperforate proofs of each of six values on thick glazed unwatermarked paper, in close to issued colours, probably for exhibition purposes.

Singles are all
ex Hemmings



The same D7 "CANCELLED" overprint is also rarely found on perforated stamps with the Crown CC watermark. These were probably for a De La Rue specimen collection.



The "Laureated Head" of Queen Victoria Crown CA watermark



Issued: From 1883

Six values were printed in the same colours but on new paper with the Crown CA watermark from 1883.



light blue



blue



deep blue



rose



deep rose



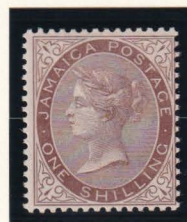
red-orange



dull brown



brown



brown



chocolate



pale Venetian red



Venetian red



deep Venetian red



pale lilac



lilac



deep lilac

Local specimen

Variety: \$ for S in SHILLING

Overprinted specimen by the
Jamaica Post Office for their
archive collection in the 1920s

A unique item

Provenance: ex Hemmings



Provenance:
ex Hemmings

RPSL certificate
(2017)

The "Laureated Head" of Queen Victoria Crown CA watermark



New Colour Scheme

De La Rue prepared a document showing "existing and proposed schemes of colours" for the current Laureated Head issue which was submitted to the Crown Agents on 23rd August 1883. The changes to the halfpenny and one penny brought them in line with the colours defined by the UPU's International Postal Convention.

Specimen
Overprints:



yellow-green



rose



grey



sage green



orange-brown



deep yellow

Specimen overprints (Samuel type D12) were distributed to postal authorities by the Universal Postal Union; 100 of the ½d, 1d, 2d and 4d values and 345 of each of the 3d and 6d values (issued later).

Despite being printed in new colours, no official issue dates are recorded for these stamps



yellow-green



carmine



red-brown



grey

Postal history up to UPU membership Inland mail

After Jamaica took over control of her own Post Office on 1st August 1860, Jamaican postage stamps were made available for prepayment of postage from 23rd November 1860. However, prepayment of inland postage did not become compulsory until 1st January 1872.

Until 1862 the inland letter rate for up to a half ounce remained the same as it had been previously: 4d for distances up to 60 miles, 6d from 60 to 100 miles and 8d for over 100 miles.

Inland letters (up to 60 miles and over 100 miles)

1861 Entire letter from Kingston to Mandeville



An unpaid letter rated 4d for distances of up to 60 miles

*Kingston to
Mandeville is 58 miles*

Kingston: K8 double arc datestamp of 12 September 1861 on the back

Also manuscript "4" in blue crayon indicating the payment due

Mandeville: P8 double arc datestamp of 13 September 1861 (NB: "1" missing) on the back

1861 Cover from Flint River to Spanish Town

An irregular strip of four two pence stamps paid the eight pence half ounce letter rate for distances of over 100 miles

*Flint River to Spanish
Town is 115 miles*



Flint River: A40 numeral obliterations in brownish ink

Also an indistinct P11 circular datestamp of 25 November 1861 in the same brownish ink ("25" added by hand)

Spanish Town: P11a single ring cds of 27 November 1861

Provenance: ex Wood

Postal history up to UPU membership Inland mail



Inland letters (up to 30 miles)

1861 saw the introduction of a one penny rate for delivery within town and two pence for distances of up to 30 miles or within the same parish.

1864 Entire letter from Rodney Hall to Kingston



Prepaid twopence, the letter rate for distances up to 30 miles. Unstamped probably due to a shortage at Rodney Hall Post Office. Shortages were common at Post Towns in the 1860s

*Rodney Hall to
Kingston is 27 miles*

Rodney Hall: P6 double arc datestamp of 15 April 1864

Also manuscript "Pd.2" in red crayon

Kingston: K9 single ring datestamp of 16 April 1864 on the reverse

Also PD5 paid datestamp in red ink of the same date

Up until the introduction of the Post Office Law of 1868 the one penny rate for postage within a town also included mail between Spanish Town (then the seat of Government) and nearby Kingston. A notice issued on 3rd November 1868 specified that this no longer applied and the twopence rate was applied.

1869 Cover from Kingston to Spanish Town

Kingston: A01 numeral obliterator

Also K10 single ring datestamp of 10 February 1869 on the reverse

Spanish Town: P11a single ring cds also of 10 February 1869

*Spanish Town to
Kingston is 13 miles*



Provenance: ex Hemmings



Postal history up to UPU membership Inland mail



Inland letters (over 30 miles and "all island")

Inland postage rates fell progressively in the 1860s and from 1st January 1865 a threepence rate applied to all distances of over 30 miles for letters of up to a half ounce.

1870 Mourning cover from Kingston to Moneague



Early use of the threepence green stamp on Crown CC watermarked paper (issued March 1870)

*Kingston to
Moneague is 42 miles*

Kingston: A01 duplex cancel of 3 July 1870

Moneague: No receiver

On 1st January 1872 the inland letter rate for any distance was reduced to twopence, with the town delivery rate remaining at one penny.

1873 Cover from Kingston to Newport

A double rate letter franked with a pair of Pineapple watermark one penny stamps and a Crown CC two pence stamp



Kingston: A01 numeral obliterations

Also a partial circular datestamp on the back

Newport: P12 single ring cds lacking day & month plugs (1873) on the back

Provenance: ex. Hemmings

Postal history up to UPU membership Inland mail



Inland Book Post: Halfpenny bisects

A halfpenny rate was introduced in 1861 for newspapers, circulars and other printed papers, but as there were no stamps available of this value the Postmaster authorised the diagonal bisecting of one penny stamps to pay for such services. It was not until 1872 that a halfpenny stamp was issued.

1866 Book post wrapper from Falmouth to Spanish Town

Falmouth: A38 numeral obliterator

Spanish Town: P11a single ring cds of 11 July 1866



The recipient, Mr. W. A. Feurtado, is quoted: "When I was Chief Clerk in the Provost Marshal General's Office in Spanish Town, from 1865-1869 I used to receive returns and letters from Deputy Marshals all over the island... The envelopes and covers bearing my name with stamps on them were delivered over to the Supreme Court Office when the Provost Marshal General's Office was abolished in 1872, and these papers I understand have lately been disturbed by Stamp Collectors." (21st April 1902).



1869 Book post wrapper piece from Spanish Town to Lilliput

Spanish Town: A76 numeral obliterator

Lilliput: P9 double arc datestamp of 14 June 1869

A bisected and a whole one penny blue on piece paying a triple book post rate, probably from a wrapper enclosing three newspapers. Both stamps appear to have been taken from the same sheet, partly cut with scissors to facilitate the bisecting.

Postal history up to UPU membership

Packet mail



Packet letters to the United Kingdom

On transference of control of the Post Office to Jamaica, the existing sixpence packet letter rate to the United Kingdom was maintained, this having been in place since 1854, with compulsory prepayment from 1st April 1858.

1861 Wrapper from Kingston to Edinburgh



Carried on RMSP Teviot to St. Thomas and then on RMSP Tasmanian to Southampton

Kingston: Double A01 numeral obliterator (rarely used)

Also K8 double arc datestamp of 10 March 1861

London: Red single ring paid cds of 30 March 1861

Edinburgh: Single ring cds of 31 March 1861 on the back

Provenance: ex Wood

1861 Wrapper from Montego Bay to Liverpool

Wrapper of a single rate packet letter carried on RMSP Trent to St. Thomas where it was transferred to RMSP Seine for Southampton



Montego Bay: A57 numeral obliterator

Also P11a single ring cds of 23 July 1861 on the back

Kingston: K8 double arc datestamp of 24 July 1861

London: Red single ring paid cds of 13 August 1861

Liverpool: Single ring cds of 14 August 1861 on the back

Provenance: ex. Swarbrick



Postal history up to UPU membership

Packet mail



Packet letters to the United Kingdom

At sixpence per half ounce the packet letter rate to the United Kingdom was insufficient to cover the costs of the West Indian packet service. Consequently, on 1st April 1863 the rate was increased from six pence to one shilling.

1863 Cover from Kingston to London



Mailed in Kingston on 3rd April 1863; the first mail at the new rate

Carried on RMSP Derwent to St. Thomas and then on RMSP Shannon to Southampton

Kingston: A01 numeral obliterator

Also a K9a single ring cds of 3 April 1863

London: Red single arc paid cds of 28 April 1863

1871 Cover from Gordon Town to Portsmouth

Mailed in Gordon Town, the packet rate paid by a pair of watermark Crown CC six pence stamps. This use predates the recorded date of issue (1st March 1871).

Part of the Henry Kent correspondence

Gordon Town: A42 numeral obliterator

Also P5 double arc datestamp of 8 February 1871

Kingston: K10 single ring cds of 8 February 1871 (late use)

Portsmouth: Single ring cds of 27 February 1871 on the back



Carried on RMSP Elbe from Kingston on 9th February to Plymouth, arriving 26th February 1871

Postal history up to UPU membership

Packet mail



Packet letters to the United Kingdom

Until 1st April 1863 both the packet letter and ship letter rates to the United Kingdom had been six pence, but when the packet rate increased to one shilling the ship letter rate was reduced to three pence.

1867 Cover from Kingston to St. Helier, Jersey



Franked with a wing margin copy of the one shilling purple-brown stamp with Pineapple watermark paying the packet letter rate

Carried on RMSP Conway to St. Thomas and then on RMSP Atrato to Southampton

Kingston: A01 duplex cancel of 25 January 1867

London: Large red paid cds of 18 February 1867

Also a red single ring cds of the same date on the back

Jersey: Single ring cds of 19 February 1867 on the back

Ship letters to the United Kingdom

Ship letters were those carried by a vessel that was not a contracted packet ship. The reduction in the ship letter rate from six pence to three pence on 1st April 1863 was the reason for the introduction of a stamp of this denomination.

1867 Entire letter from Kingston to Ashbourne

Entire letter carried by non-contract vessel "Bolivar" (of the West India and Pacific Steamship Co.) from Kingston to Liverpool

Kingston: A01 obliterator

Also K10 single ring cds of 20 February 1867

Two-line Jamaica Ship Letter handstamp (SL5, late use)

1½ accountancy mark in red ink (PD9) denoting the agreed share of the postage due to the British Post Office

Liverpool: Red tombstone paid datestamp of 24 March 1867

Ashbourne: Single ring cds of 25 March 1867 on the back



Provenance: ex Wood

Postal history up to UPU membership

Packet mail



Packet letters to the United Kingdom

Jamaica joined the General Postal Union on 1st April 1877, whereupon the packet letter rate was reduced from one shilling to six pence for a half ounce letter to all countries in the Union.

1878 Wrapper from Annotto Bay to London



A packet letter paid at the six pence rate and carried on RMSP Para to Plymouth

Annotto Bay: A28 numeral obliterations

Also P11 single ring datestamp of 7 October 1878

Kingston: K11 single ring cds of 8 October 1878

London: Large red paid cds of 28 October 1878

Provenance: ex Wood

1878 Wrapper from Annotto Bay to London

Double rate packet letter of the same correspondence with one shilling in stamps, carried on RMSP Medway from Kingston to Plymouth



Annotto Bay: A28 obliterations

Also P11 single ring cds of 8 November 1878

Kingston: Partial K11 single ring cds on the back

London: Large red paid cds of 2 December 1878

Provenance: ex Wood

Postal history up to UPU membership

Packet mail



Steamship letters to the United States of America

Letters to the United States were normally carried by American steamships under contract with the Jamaican Government at a rate of four pence per half ounce. No inland postage was charged on letters mailed in Kingston. On arrival in the United States such letters were further charged 10 cents for inland postage of up to 2,500 miles (and any distance from 1864).

1862 Wrapper from Kingston to Boston, Massachusetts



A single rate packet letter by the American steamship service from Kingston

Kingston: A01 numeral obliterator

Also K9a single ring datestamp of 6 January 1862 on the back

New York: Circular Steamship 10 cents postage due marking

Provenance: ex Wood

1864 Cover from Kingston to Mecklenburg, New York

Single rate American packet letter franked with a pair of two pence stamps



Kingston: A01 numeral obliterator

Also K9 single ring cds of 5 April 1864

New York: Circular Steamship 10 cents postage due marking

Postal history up to UPU membership

Packet mail



Steamship letters to the United States of America

1866 Cover from Kingston to Gorham, New York



A single rate packet letter sent at the four pence American steamship rate from Kingston

Kingston: A01 numeral duplex cancel of 7 July 1866

New York: Circular Steamship 10 cents postage due marking

Provenance: ex Wood

From 1866 the four pence steamship rate was paid to the operator of the packet, and indicated by a "4" manuscript accountancy mark. In May 1868 the Jamaica Post Office Law authorized a charge for inland postage on packet mail posted or delivered in Kingston which up until that date had enjoyed an exceptional exemption from such charges.

1870 Cover from Kingston to Marblehead, Massachusetts

Packet letter carried on the RMSP Neva to Colon (Canal Zone, Panama), from where it was carried to New York by an American steamer, probably of the Aspinwall Line



Kingston: A01 numeral duplex cancel of 21 November 1870

Also accountancy "4" in red crayon

Colon: Single ring cds of 23 November 1870

New York: N.Y. Steamship "10" single ring cds of 11 December (1870) for the 10 cents postage due for US inland postage

Postal history up to UPU membership

Packet mail



Letters to Europe

Letters to Europe were routed via London and charged the UK packet letter rate plus the letter rate from the UK to the country in question (set by individual postal agreements), minus one penny.

1863 Cover from Kingston to Le Pont, Switzerland

Provenance: ex Wood



Single rate letter carried on RMSP Conway & RMSP Atrato via St. Thomas. On to Switzerland via Dover and France

Kingston: A01 obliterations

Also K9a single ring cds of 23 May 1863

London: Single ring paid cds of 13 June 1863

Also circular "PD" (paid to destination) mark

Calais: French entry mark of 13 June 1863

Neuchâtel: Single ring cds of (unclear) June 1863

Le Pont: Single ring cds of 15 "Juillet" (?) 1863 (month in manuscript)

The above letter is underpaid since the packet letter rate to the UK increased from sixpence to a shilling on 1st April 1863, but no postage due was charged. Crayon "1/2" accountancy mark shows UK claim.

Provenance: ex Wood

1867 Cover from Montego Bay to Brussels, Belgium

Single rate letter franked 1s3d for Belgium via Dover & Ostend. Carried by RMSP to the UK



Montego Bay: A56 obliterations

Also P11a single ring cds of 23 January 1867

Kingston: K10 single ring cds of 24 January 1867

Ostend: Belgian entry mark of 18 February 1867 (Angleterre Amb. Ouest 2)

Brussels: Arrival on 18 February 1867

Postal history up to UPU membership

Packet mail



Letters to India

This letter is from a well-known correspondence to Major Henry Kent who served in India with the 77th (East Middlesex) Regiment of Foot from 1859 to 1870. Henry Kent was born in the UK in 1825, the family moving to Jamaica in 1834 where he later joined the Regiment in 1845 whilst it was posted there for three years. He took over command of the Regiment as Lieutenant-Colonel on 13th June 1868 whilst in India.

Prior to the Universal Postal Union, letters from Jamaica to India were charged the current packet letter rate to the UK plus the rate from there to India, minus one penny.

1865 Cover from Gordon Town to Bareilly, India



Provenance: ex Wood

A letter from Gordon Town carried by RMSP Ruahine to St. Thomas and from there to Southampton by RMSP Atrato. It was carried to Alexandria by P&O packet, moved overland to Suez and from there to Bombay by P&O.

Franked at 1s5d corresponding to the one shilling UK packet letter rate plus the six pence rate to India, minus one penny. Red crayon "1/4" denoting the share to the Imperial Post Office and "1" being 1d due to Jamaica.

Gordon Town: A42 numeral obliterations

Also P5 double arc datestamp of 24 November 1865

Kingston: K10 single ring cds of 24 November 1865

London: Red paid cds of 14 December 1865

Bombay: Small red single ring cds of 28 January 1866

Agra: Hexagonal datestamp of 31 January 1866

Bareilly: Single ring cds of 2 February 1866 in red ink