



CAPE-OF-GOOD-HOPE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY

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Cover image: The cover image shows Jo Bodeon, a back-roper in the mule room at Chace Cotton Mill. Burlington, Vermont. This and other similar images in this book were taken by Lewis W. Hine, in the period between 1908-1912. These images as well as social campaigns by many including Hine, helped to formulate America's anti-child labour laws.

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PORT_ELIZABETH_SEAL_

Contents

Port Elizabeth Seal Cancellation

This cancellation was first mentioned by D. Alan Stevenson in his book *The Triangular Stamps of Cape of Good Hope*



Figure 1: 1031 South Africa: Cape of Good Hope: 1863-64 4d. blue used with Port Elizabeth 'seal' cancellation. The words "Port Elizabeth" are clearly discernible. Estimate: AAA£AAAA80–AAA£AAAA100, Grosvenor June 2013.

Stevenson noted: Seal Defacer - several specimens are known of Triangular stamps defaced in black by what appears to be the reverse of a seal of a mail bag. Details are not clear. Inside two circles of 25 and 15mm diameter, appear the words POST OFFICE OR OFFICIAL. The inked centre is divided by two straight lines 3.5mm apart. It is not certain whether there are other words between the two circles in the inked half circles or between the two lines. The mark is seen cancelling a Perkins Bacon 4d stamp on letter from Port Elizabeth dated 28 January 1859 and addressed to Cradock. Possibly it might have been used on letters handed in as the post bag was being sealed or thereafter.'

Later Goldblatt, published a note in the London Philatelist² in which he described, how he used elements of the handstamp visible from several specimens that came up for auction in major collections to reconstruct the wording and the design of the handstamp. He later included this information in his book³.



Figure 1



Figure 2

Figure 2: The handstamp as reconstructed by Goldblatt, Figure 1 represents the combination of the visible elements from the illustrations of the auction catalogues, whereas Figure 2 illustrates a projected impression of this Strike.

Probably about ten copies of the seal have survived.

References

2 Goldblatt R., *Cape of Good Hope, The Port Elizabeth 'Seal Defacer' 1859*, July-August 1983, 92:1087-88, p.96 (LP1087.pdf).

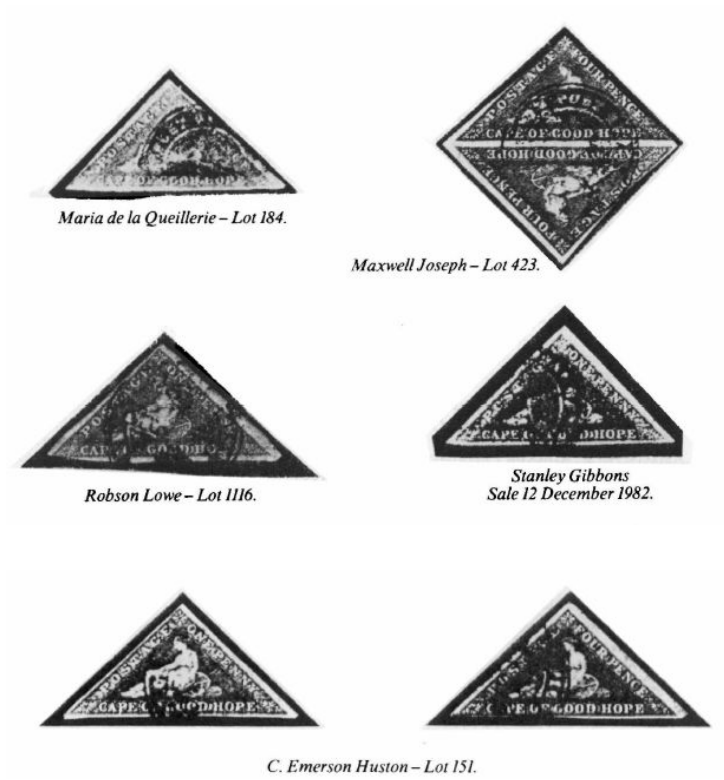


Figure 3:

Figure 4: From 'The C. Emerson Huston Sale'.