



CAPE-OF-GOOD-HOPE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY

Yiannis Lazarides

Published by Camel Press



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.

Copyright ©2012 Dr Yiannis Lazarides

Permission is granted to copy, distribute and/or modify this document under the terms of the GNU Free Documentation License, version 1.2, with no invariant sections, no front-cover texts, and no back-cover texts.

A copy of the license is included in the appendix.

This document is distributed in the hope that it will be useful, but without any warranty; without even the implied warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.

DR. YIANNIS LAZARIDES

PERKINS_BACON_INTROD

Contents

<i>Cape of Good Hope - Postal History</i>	7
<i>Cape - Stamps Perkins Bacon Issue 1853</i>	9
<i>Watermark of the Cape Triangle Stamps</i>	9

Cape of Good Hope - Postal History

Cape - Stamps Perkins Bacon Issue 1853

The first issue of the triangular stamps of the Cape of Good Hope were engraved and printed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon Co.

The stamps were despatched to the Cape on the 11th May, 1853. They arrived a month later and the consignment was lodged at the Treasury Offices of the Cape. The Perkins Bacon issue was the first time that the Cape of Good Hope issued stamps.

The stamps were designed by Bell the Cape of Good Hope surveyor. The choice of the triangular shape is alleged to have been chosen so that the illiterate could distinguish the Cape of Good Hope stamps from those of other countries.

The stamps were advertized in the Cape Government Gazette of the 18th August 1853. In the same issue of the Cape Government Gazette the Postmaster General published, a long list of persons, holding retail licenses in the Cape of Good Hope Colony, with whom arrangements were made for the sale of postage stamps.

Thus the first stamps of the Cape of Good Hope were put on Sale on 1st September 1853. The Design of the Cape Stamps

The design of the stamps as can be seen from the above illustrations represents a female figure of Hope sitting upon an anchor, which rests upon a rock. The background consists of fine engine-turned lines. Paper Used in the Production of the Cape Stamps

The paper used for the printing of the Cape triangular stamps was especially manufactured to meet the particular requirements of the triangular stamps of the Cape of Good Hope. This paper was exclusively used for all the printings.

The paper is white wove varying considerably in texture. The gum is a pale brown. the gum was applied after the printing was done.

A particular aspect of this issue was the 'blueing of the paper'. This was caused entirely by the type of inks used for the printing. This effect was notable in most issues printed by Perkins, Bacon Co. at the time for Great Britain and its colonies.

This problem was later fixed during the printing of the Second Triangular Issue

Watermark of the Cape Triangle Stamps

The watermark used in the production of the Cape stamps was the familiar anchor in double outline. The watermark designs (techni-



cally known as 'bits') were arranged so that each stamp had one anchor standing upright, with the 'ring' underneath the apex of the triangle.

Most of the Cape triangular stamps are known with the watermark sideways. These stamps are the result of the paper being fed into the printing machine reversed, i.e. turned over so that the printing was done on the wrong side of the sheet.