



# 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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DR. YIANNIS LAZARIDES

1893\_ONE\_PENNY\_SURCH



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## *1893 One Penny Surcharge*

In March 1893 there were placed on sale the last of the provisional stamps issued by the Cape Colony, being the Two Pence value of the Cabled Anchor series overprint locally, "ONE PENNY" the value obliterated by a bar.



Figure 1: 1893 One Penny Surcharge

Delays in new supplies of the 1d stamp forced the authorities to supplement the Treasury stocks of that value by the local conversion of 10,000 sheets of the Two Pence stamps into the lower value.

The surcharging was carried out by Messrs. W. H. Richards & Son in Capetown who in those days were the Government printers, in succession to Messrs. Saul Solomon & Co.

The full sheet of 240 stamps was surcharged at each operation of the printing machine.

Upon two of the stamps on each sheet the stop after the surcharged words is omitted. Namely upon the sixth stamp on the seventh row of the upper left-hand pane, and the sixth stamp on the first row of the lower right-hand pane.<sup>footnote:1</sup>

### *Double Surcharge*

The stamp also exists with the surcharge doubly printed. It is believed that one whole sheet at least was sold at the Port Elizabeth Post Office in this condition, for all known used copies bear the Port Elizabeth postmark.



Figure 2: 1893 One Penny Surcharge

This must be one of the greatest undervalued rarities of the Cape of Good Hope. In my estimation there are probably less than 15 copies that have survived. There were probably about 10 offered in auctions over the last 10-15 years, but I have as yet had to open an auction catalogue and haven't seen a woodblock on offer. Take your pick.

### *Other Varieties*

There are several minor varieties in connection with this surcharge which are described below, and it is necessary to note that the bar of the surcharge cancelling the words "two pence" was set up separately in respect of each stamp upon the sheet, not in a continuous line.



Figure 3: SAC 52 1d on Bistre Brown

Shades of the bistre-brown of the Two Pence stamps are to be found with the "one penny" surcharge.

### *REFERENCE LIST*

Rectangular design of "Hope" sealed, with thin outer line of colour removed. Two pence bistre-brown. Watermarked Cabled Anchor. Surcharged by Messrs. W. A. Richards & Son, of Capetown, with the words "one penny" in black, and with the original value, obliterated by a black bar. "one penny" on 2d. Issued March 1893. (Total number of stamps surcharged, officially recorded as 2,400,000.)