



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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CIRCULAR_DATE_STAMPS

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CDS 15 Circular Postmark

This postmark appears to be a little bit of a mystery. This is a circular datestamp used during late December 1881 to early January 1882 and its use was limited to the Cape Town General Post Office.

Goldblatt reports this as being used only for the back-stamping of letters. This was CDS 15 (Goldblatt p. 98). It is distinguished by its serified letters which were 3mm high. The diameter of the circle is 25 mm. Goldblatt noted two copies dated 1 and 6 January 1882.

Putzel in his *Postmarks of South Africa Vol. 2*, Page 78 confirms the existence of four other examples. I have three examples as a backstamp dated Dec 81.

The cover shown below (which appears to be unique) shows the Cape Town temporary Datestamp superbly struck as a despatch datestamp in greyish-black for JA 4 82 on 3d pale claret (SG 39) cover to Kimberley, Diamond Fields. AT the back there is an arrival cds of JA 9 82.

All these datestamps appear to have the time-control letter 'D' or 'L' used between 09.00-09.30 a.m.



Figure 1: CDS 15

