

Queen Victoria 1½d + 1½d Reply-Paid Postal Cards 1883 Die Proofs

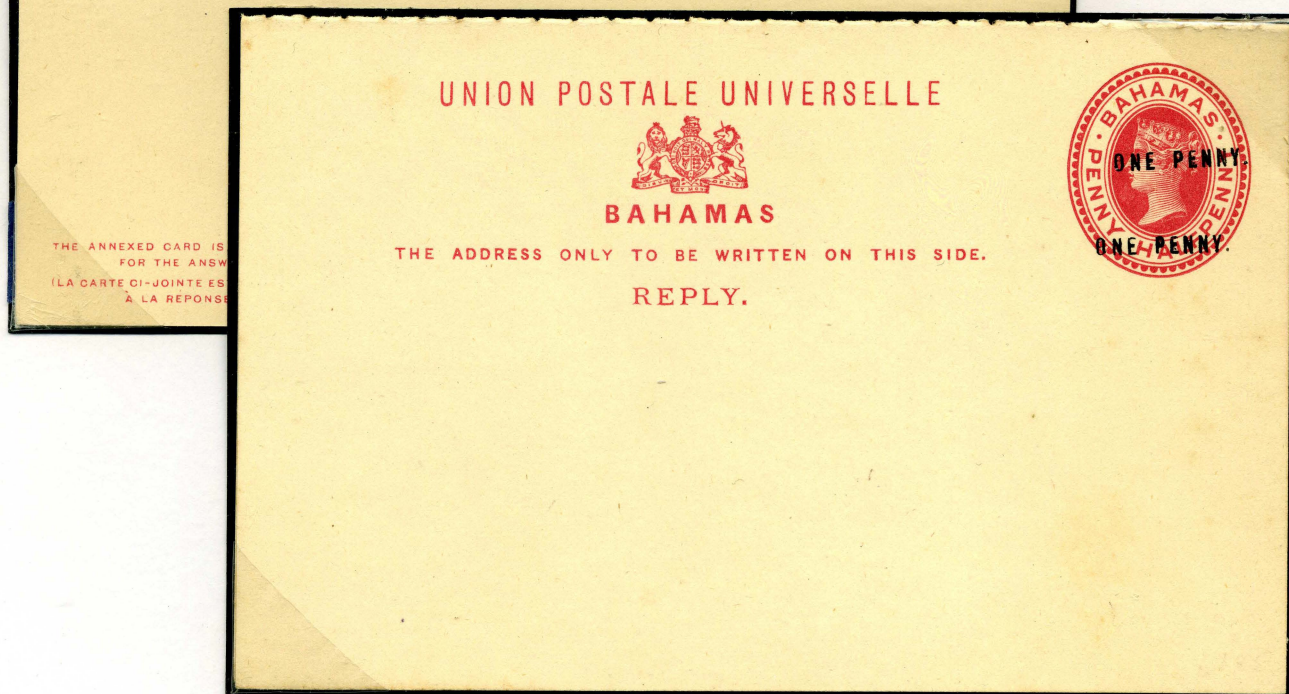
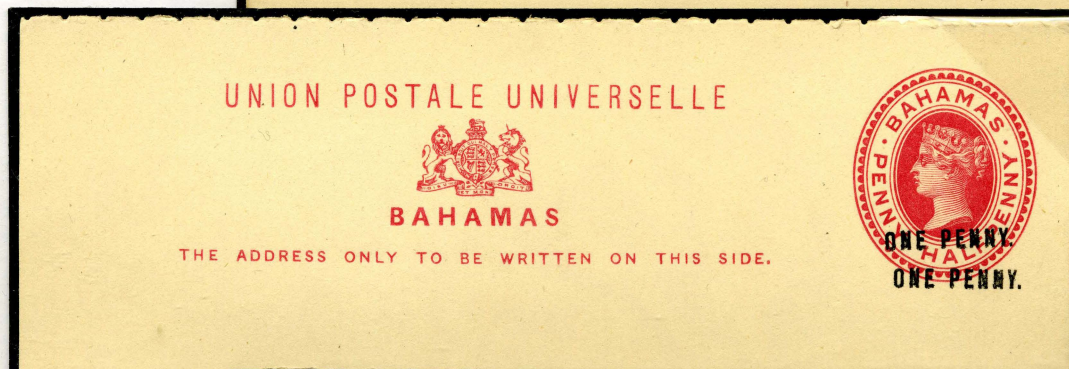
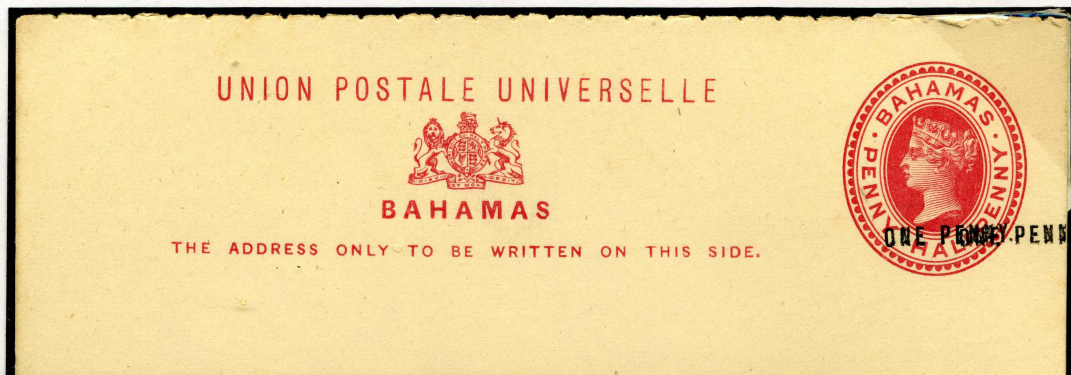
Shown are the two examples of the De La Rue Head and Frame Dies – one being the Die Proof. Black on white card.



Lower dated 'April 24th' in blue ink and then in red '1883'.

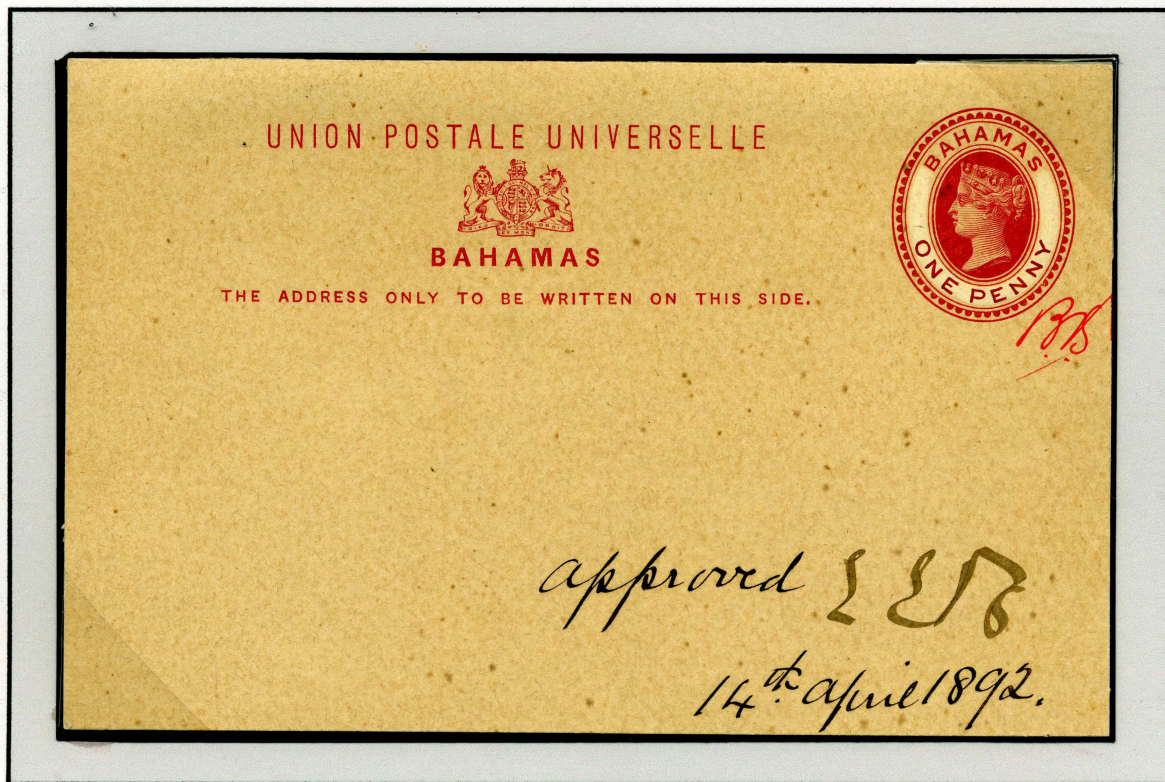
Errors of the 16.7mms black overprint on the provisional 1892 postal card. Shown is a previously unrecorded overlapping double overprint. Also seen, middle and lower, are double overprints on both the message and the reply side cards. The weak accents resemble small red dots.

Rated as very rare and to date used examples have not been found.



Queen Victoria 1d Postal Card 1892 Hand-Painted Essay

In style very similar to the 1883 reply-paid postal card except this De La Rue essay in carmine on buff card has the value tablet *hand-painted in Chinese White*. Endorsed 'Approved' and dated *14th April 1892* and initialled *E E B* (E.E. Blake, Chief Crown Agent). There is also a red manuscript initial to the right side of the value tablet. Size is 141 x 90mms. The printing plate was invoiced on 2nd July 1892.




Three printings are known: 7th July 1892, 10,200 including 400PSD1 Specimens; 3rd June 1896, 10,320 and 8th June 1900, 3,132.


Edward VII
De La Rue
Archive

UNION POSTALE U NIVERSELLE
BAHAMAS
POST CARD  CARTE POSTALE
THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE




UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE
BAHAMAS
POST CARD  CARTE POSTALE
THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE
BAHAMAS
POST CARD  CARTE POSTALE
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UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE
BAHAMAS
POST CARD  CARTE POSTALE
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SPECIMEN



Released from the Archives of the Madagascar Post Office these seven postal stationery cards/envelope have each been cancelled by a large red double circle 'POSTES ET TELEGRAPHES * MADAGASCAR * COLLECTION DE BERNE' and have been affixed to a part ledger page. Originally sent from the UPU in Berne to Paris where the postal authorities then sent these Specimen items to their Colonies.

George VI 1½d Postal Card Proofs 1938

These two proofs, black lettering on thin white paper backed by white card, are from the De La Rue Archives. The upper proof in spite of being marked 'Approved 2/5', the word BAHAMAS is set too far to the right. On the lower proof this has now been corrected to a central position.



Queen Victoria Postal Envelope Original Artist's Drawing 1880

This was the original design for a 4d envelope produced and approved in 1881 and from this De La Rue prepared an embossing die and from that a working die in December 1880 (see next display sheet).

The design is hand-painted on creamy-brown tracing paper in Violet and Chinese White and then affixed to a rough brown card measuring overall 78 x 107mms.



The artist is unknown but probably was a member on De La Rue's staff.

Queen Victoria Postal Envelope Die Proofs 1880

The top item shows a die proof of the head and frame die with uncleared surround. Embossed in black on a creamy card and dated 13 OCT 80 top left corner in a blue handstamp. Value shown is FOUR PENCE. Size 85 x 48mms.



Below, completed die proof with cleared surround in black on thick creamy card. Value shown is FOUR PENCE. Size 35 x 48mms.



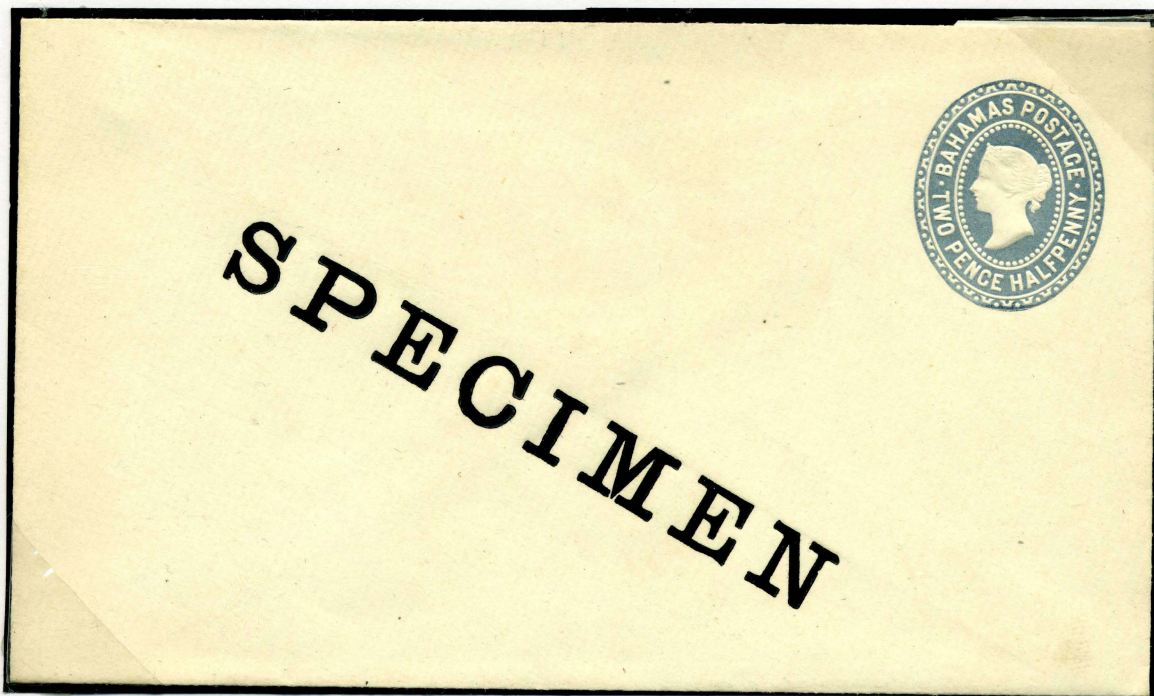
Both prepared by De La Rue.

Queen Victoria Postal Envelopes New Head and Frame Die of 1892

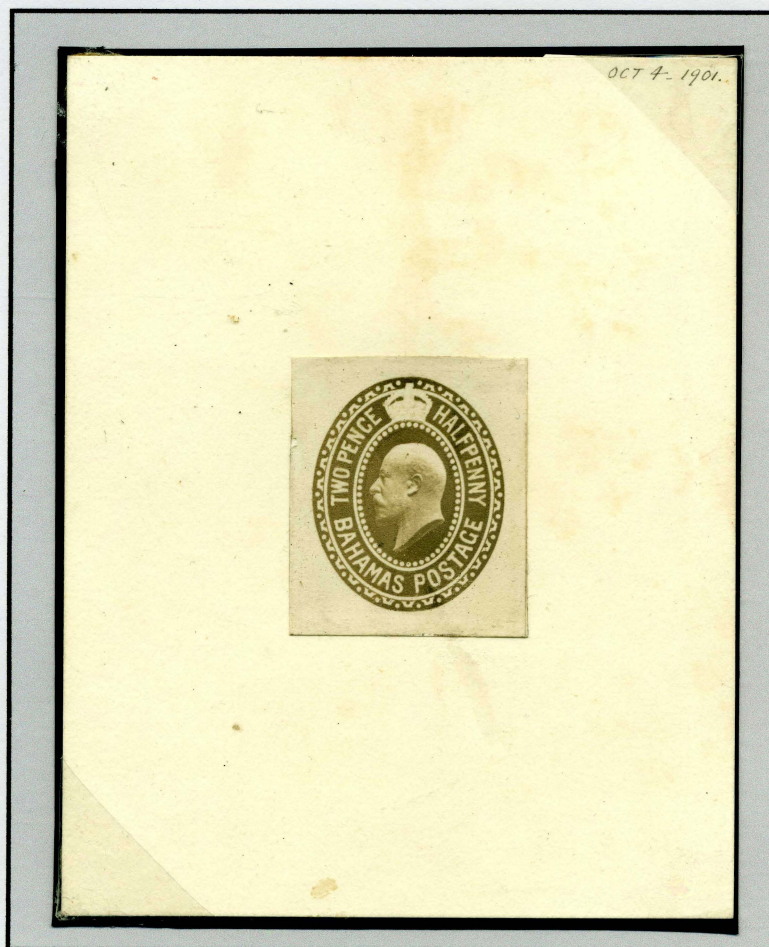
Below, left, is a progressive De La Rue Die Proof with the outer frame line uncleared. Embossed in red on light buff card. Right is the completed die proof with cleared outer frame.



Below, PSD1 Specimen – one of 400 – but value tablet printed in pale blue.



**Edward VII Postal Envelope
of 1902 Photographic Essay**



*De La Rue Essay in grey and mounted on thick white card, dated OCT 4. 1901. in top right-hand corner.
It is believed that either one, two or three were so produced but certainly no more.*

Queen Victoria Registered Envelope Original Artist's Drawing and Die Proof of 1893

Below left is shown the original artist's drawing for the first of the Queen Victoria registered envelopes. Hand-painted using Chinese White, ultramarine and a shade of grey on thin brown tracing paper. Added in black ink in small print at the top right-hand edge 'July 27th.93.'

The artist is unknown but was probably a member of the De La Rue staff.



This design was used by De La Rue to prepare the embossing and working dies for the 1893 registered envelope '2d registration fee value' on the blue flap. Designed and produced on a light-weight buff card and strengthened inside with a cotton mat.

Above right, research indicates that there is just this one die proof embossed in red on a whitish card with no markings, but must have been produced prior to the first printing although no positive date can be allocated to it so far.

George V Registered Envelope Photographic Essay and Die Proof of 1930

De La Rue introduced a new style of letterpress registered envelope into the country on 6th January 1930 which now combines both the registered and postage fee of 3d and has a different flap that folds over the face of the envelope showing the value tablet. The colour is changed to an orange-vermilion and the inscription now appears in three lines in blue. The imprint under the flap is 'Thos. De La Rue & Co.'

Below are two significant items to illustrate this change:



Left is a De La Rue Photographic Essay in grey on thin buff card of this new style of registered envelope. No more than three copies were made. Undated.



Seen right is the Die Proof embossed in orange-vermilion on a light buff laid card. Undated.

This example of the Queen Elizabeth 11 1963 air letter shows the very rare variety of missing vignette.



Vignette misplaced upwards.