

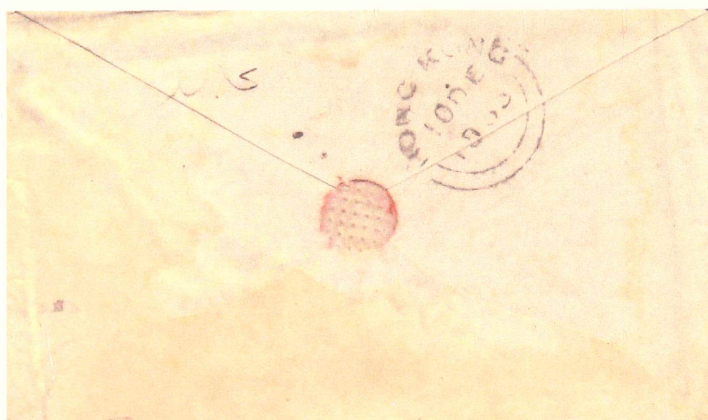
## Hong Kong

From 1843 to 1860 the Hong Kong Post office was under the control of the GPO in London. In 1880 the Colonial authorities took over and Hong Kong stamps were issued under the GPO's control. Until then paid mail was sent with one of three different Crowned Circles with the amount indicated in red manuscript. The Crowned Circles were used for all destinations, including London.



CC3

### 1853 Crowned Circle to Bombay



1853 wrapper from Hong Kong to Bombay with Type CC3 Crown Circle "Paid at Hong Kong", "1/2" in red manuscript and "Pr Malta" in black manuscript. The reverse has an Hong Kong double arc c.d.s. for 10<sup>th</sup> December 1853.

**Sources:**

Parmenter J (1993) GB Used Abroad: Cancellations and Postal Markings Postal History Society, Beckenham  
Stanley Gibbons (published annually) Commonwealth and British Empire Stamps 1840-1970 Stanley Gibbons, London and Ringwood

## NEW ZEALAND

### Auckland

New Zealand became a separate colony from New South Wales in 1841. The Crown Circle cancels were sent by the British GPO on 31<sup>st</sup> October 1846. The local post office took control in 1848 and issued the first New Zealand stamps in 1855, but nevertheless the Crown Circle cancels continued to be used until 1862.

### 1857 envelope from Auckland to Great Britain



Crown circle hand stamp



Liverpool Australian packet hand stamp



Envelope sent from Auckland New Zealand, to Leicester England. The address has been torn off, but it has on the front a Crown Circle Paid (Parmenter CC1) at Auckland New Zealand, an Australia / Liverpool / Packet / Paid double ring CDS (Whitney 14/66) dated 1 AU 1857, both in red and "6" in manuscript i.e. sixpence paid postage charge. On the reverse there is an Auckland New Zealand double ring CDS dated 23 AP 1857 and a Leicester CDS dated 2 AU 1857.

**Rate:** 6d was the rate for 1/2 oz letters to Great Britain from 1851

**Route:** The Australia / Liverpool / Packet / Paid cancel was used only from 1855 to 1857, mostly on the Black Ball Line and the White Star Line

#### **Bibliography:**

Parmenter J (1993) *GB Used Abroad: Cancellations and Postal Markings* Postal History Society, Beckenham

Whitney, JT, 7<sup>th</sup> ed (1997) *Collect British Postmarks – The Handbook to British Postal Markings and their Values* British Postmark Society, Hemel Hempstead

Scarce Liverpool marks – TPO and Seapost society - <http://www.tpo-seapost.org.uk/tpo2/spliverpool.html>



PAID  
Edward L. Jarvis  
James Dyer  
St. John  
New Brunswick

NEW ZEALAND

Wellington

Official post offices opened in New Zealand in 1840 and New South Wales relinquished control of the offices when New Zealand became a separate colony on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1941. The British Post Office controlled New Zealand's overseas mail from 11<sup>th</sup> October 1841 until 18<sup>th</sup> November 1848 when the local post office took control.

The crowned-circle (crown paid) hand-stamp was supplied to offices abroad from 1842, following pressure from postmasters in dependent territories to be provided with adhesive stamps, introduced in Great Britain in 1840.

Under regulations circulated in December 1841, letters and packets to United Kingdom or its territories were to be unpaid, with the postage collected on delivery. Postage between foreign ports was to be paid in advance, the amount indicated in manuscript on the cover and a *crowned-paid hand-stamp* applied.

On 31<sup>st</sup> October 1846 Crown Circles (with a curved "PAID") were issued to Auckland, Nelson, New Plymouth, Petre, Wellington and Russell. The Crown Circle for Russell is particularly rare with only a few examples known. Crown Circles, with a straight "PAID" also exist for Christchurch, Otago and Port Victoria. Although local postage stamps were introduced in 1855, Crown Circles continued to be used until 1862 and the Wellington example here dates from 1859.



CC1

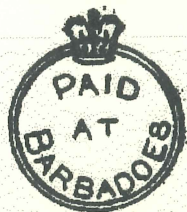


1859 (May 5<sup>th</sup>) envelope Wellington to London via Marseilles. Front has red British Post Office Wellington CC1 Crown Circle paid and red manuscript 9, 9d being the rate for that route to United Kingdom. Reverse has clear Wellington double ring CDS and two red London cancels.

### British Post Office in Barbados

Barbados was supplied with crowned-paid hand-stamps from October 1849. From 1<sup>st</sup> August 1851 the Barbados authorities were responsible for the internal post system, introducing Barbados stamps in 1852. The British GPO maintained control of the overseas post until 1858, using the Crowned Circle for paid mail.

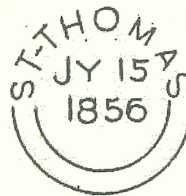
#### 1852 paid cover from Barbados to Philadelphia



Barbados CC1 cancel



Barbados CDS



St Thomas CDS2



1852 cover to Philadelphia. Front has Crown Circle Barbadoes hand stamp in red, overstruck by "Steamship 10" hand stamp, and "1/-" in red and "per steamer" in black manuscript. The back has Barbadoes double ring cds dated SP 11 1852 and St Thomas double ring CDS2 dated SP 14 1852

**Rate:** This cover was paid to St Thomas, and the recipient had to pay 10 cents on collection..

**Route:** RMS Trent from Barbados (11<sup>th</sup> September) to St Thomas (14<sup>th</sup> September, then by US steamship.

**Sources:**

Kenton PJ and Parsons HG (1999) *Early routings of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company 1842- 1879*. Postal History Society  
Lowe, R, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed (1938-9) *Handstruck Postage Stamps of the Empire 1680 - 1900* Robson Lowe, London  
Parmenter J (1993) *GB Used Abroad: Cancellations and Postal Markings* Postal History Society, Beckenham

CANADA

Quebec



The first British Post offices in the colony of Canada were opened in Quebec and two other places in 1763 and remained part of the British GPO system until 1851. The Quebec Crowned Circle above was sent on 13<sup>th</sup> January 1842. Unusually Crowned Circle (Crowned Paid) hand-stamps in Canada were used for postage within Canada as well as for postage to foreign destinations.



1850 pre-stamp cover to Montreal. Front has red Crown Circle Paid at Quebec LC, "9" i.e. 9d in manuscript and Quebec LC (Lower Canada) double ring CDS DE 3 1850. Reverse has red Montreal CDS for Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> 1850.



1851 pre-stamp cover to Montreal (late usage). Front has two red Crown Circles Paid at Quebec LC, "9" in manuscript and Quebec LC CDS for JY 10 1851. Reverse has red Montreal CDS for Jan 12<sup>th</sup> 1851.