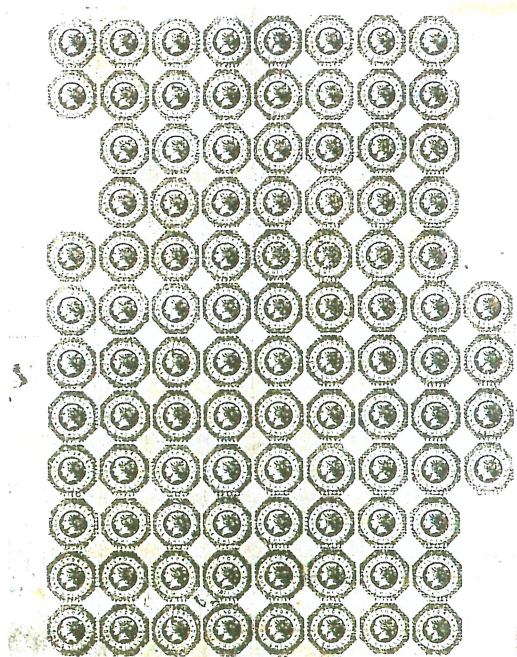


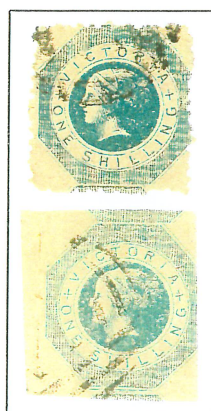
Methods of Study

A complete pane of 100 (less two stamps) in the Royal Collection provides a major insight into the methods used by the printer to lay down the printing stones. The Post Office specified that the stamp was to be in sheets of 100, but the use of an intermediate stone of 40 (5 x 8) did not permit this to be achieved in a simple manner. The types of the "Royal" pane are indicated below.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	23
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	31
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	

It is apparent that four transfers from the intermediate stone were used - two full transfers of 40, one of two horizontal rows (a "16-cut") and a vertical strip of four "tagged" on the right. It is believed that the printing stones comprised four such panes of 100. Study shows that sometimes the "16-cut" was at top rather than base of the pane, and the tagged strips on left side as well as right side.



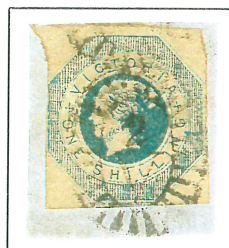
[33/25]

A reconstructed vertical pair (note identical spacing).
Conclusion:
 a "16-cut" [25-32/33-40] from base of sheet.



[28] with base margin

Conclusion:
 a "16-cut" [17-24/25-32] at base of sheet.



[14] with top margin

Conclusion:
 a "16-cut" [9-16/17-24] at top of sheet.



[27] with top margin

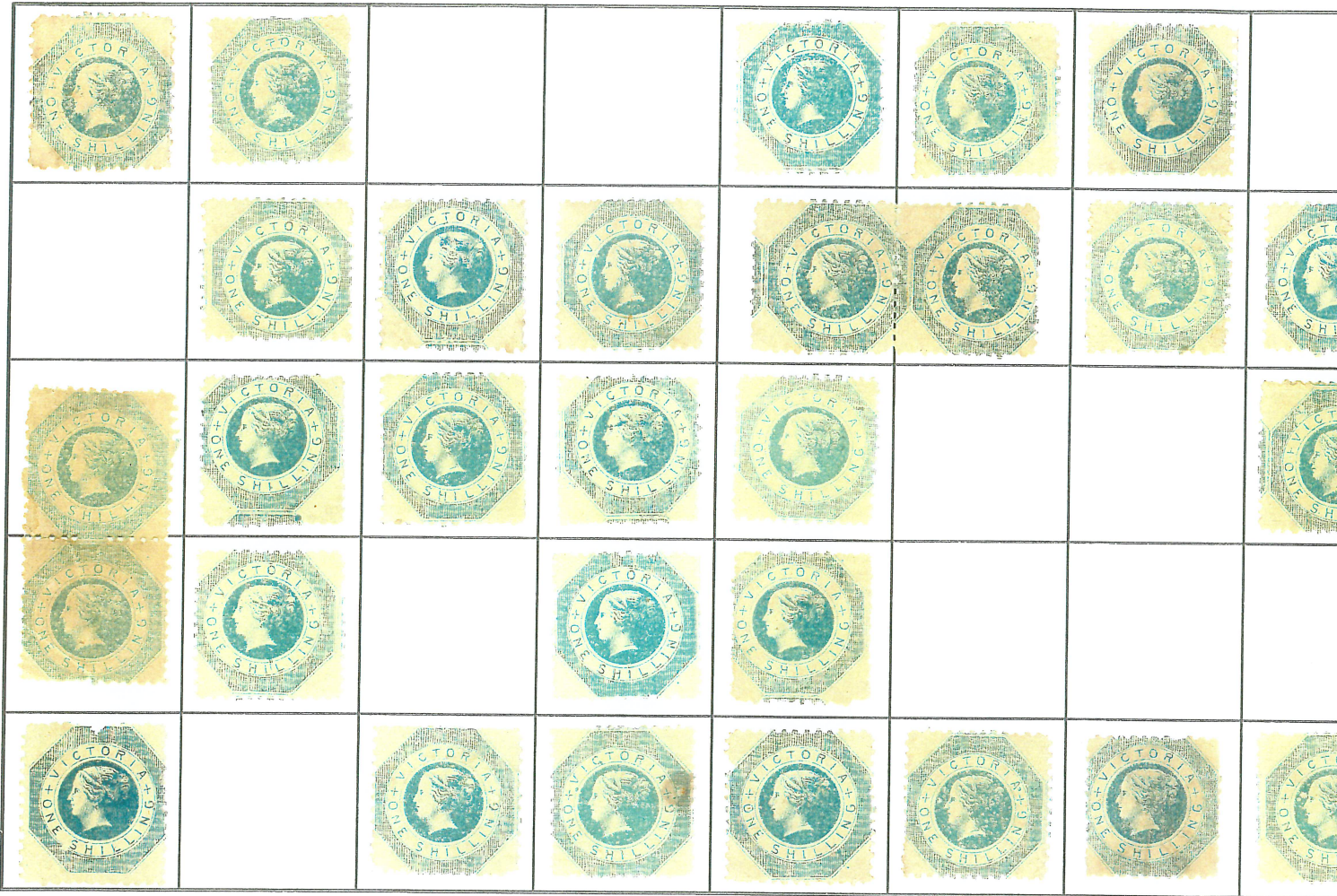
Conclusion:
 a "16-cut" [25-32/33-40] at top of sheet.

The answer to the question of how many printing stones were used has been studied here by attempting to determine how many different "16-cuts" exist.

MAKE-UP OF THE PRINTING STONES

**The Primary Group of 40
in five horizontal rows of eight**

PERFORATED 12



MAKE-UP OF THE PRINTING STONES

**The Primary Group of 40
in five horizontal rows of eight**

PERFORATED 12



States of the Primary Flaws

The intermediate stone may have had as many as 40 transfers taken from it for the preparation of the printing stones. There was inevitably some deterioration of the intermediate stone, so that in some eight positions, there are two distinctive states of the distinguishing primary flaws. These are of use in determining the order of production of the printing stones.

Type 4



1st State: Colour under "E" of "ONE"



2nd State: Additional colour dash in lower part of "E" of "ONE"



Type 5



1st State: Large white flaw in top frame



2nd State: Flaw smaller (extra colour)



Type 6



1st State: Extra colour on "N" of "SHILLING"



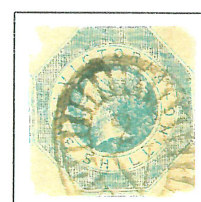
2nd State: Colour on "N" much more extensive



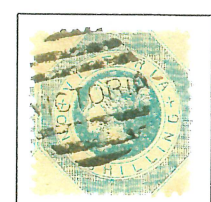
Type 20



1st State: (i) Colour above second "I" of "VICTORIA"
(ii) white spot in circle over "N" of "SHILLING"



2nd State: (i) As before; (ii) absent.



States of the Primary Flaws

Type 22



1st State: Lower right frame broken



2nd State: Additional colour dot over first "I" of "VICTORIA"



Type 30



1st State: Colour flaws right of "A" of "VICTORIA" and right cross



2nd State: Colour flaws more extensive



Type 33



1st State: Colour spot on cheek



2nd State: Additionally has (i) colour spot in angle of first "L" of "SHILLING"; (ii) colour spot in top half of "H" of "SHILLING"



Type 38



1st State: No colour flaw after "A" of "VICTORIA". Only two examples of this state have been seen, both with the same secondary flaws. The inference is that this must be from the first transfer made, i.e. Printing Stone 1.



2nd State: Large colour flaw after "A" of "VICTORIA"



Pane I

Reconstruction of the Top Left Corner



Gutter between [25] and [1]



[1]



[1]

Same as in strip above



[17] with gutter below

Same as lower right stamp of block



[17] with margin at top
same as upper left stamp in block

4th July 1847 lettersheet from Sandhurst to Philadelphia. Carried per E. & A.R.M. *Columbian* and *Columbo* to Southampton arriving 24th September. Thence per British transatlantic packet, arriving at Philadelphia 9th October. 8d credit to British P.O., and 5c incoming packet charge levied on addressee.

Pane I

A number of impressions on the stones show extraneous vertical coloured marks which are probably the remains of a previous transfer incompletely erased from the printing stone.



[14]

Top of pane with margin above



[22]

Gutter above



[10]

[11]

Coloured marks in right side of 10



[3]



[3]



[3]

Coloured marks through right side - almost certainly this unit is the top row of the "40-group", under [10] above.



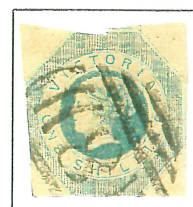
[11] - same as in pair [10-11] above



[19]



[19]



[19]



[27]

Series of vertical flaws through right side of [19] and [27], with "tie" to flaw at base of [11].

Pane II

There are two panes with a "16-cut" [1-8/9-16] at top, the other being Pane V.

Pane III is spectacular in having a very wide (5mm) "gutter" between the "16-cut" and the "40-group".

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

The Third Vertical Column

The diagram illustrates the arrangement of stamps on a printing stone. It features a central vertical column of stamps, with additional stamps placed to the left and right. The stamps are labeled with counts in brackets, indicating the number of each type of stamp. The stamps themselves are circular and feature a profile of a woman's head, with the text "VICTORIA" and "ONE SHILLING" visible. The stamps are arranged in a grid-like pattern, with a central vertical column of stamps, and additional stamps placed to the left and right. The stamps are labeled with counts in brackets, indicating the number of each type of stamp. The stamps themselves are circular and feature a profile of a woman's head, with the text "VICTORIA" and "ONE SHILLING" visible. The stamps are arranged in a grid-like pattern, with a central vertical column of stamps, and additional stamps placed to the left and right. The stamps are labeled with counts in brackets, indicating the number of each type of stamp. The stamps themselves are circular and feature a profile of a woman's head, with the text "VICTORIA" and "ONE SHILLING" visible.

Perforated either side of gutter

MAKE-UP OF THE PRINTING STONES

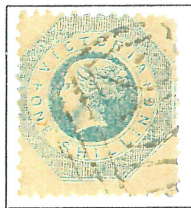
Pane II



[9]



[10]



[12]



[13]

[9]

[10]

[11]

[12]

[13]

[14]

[15]

[16]



see previous page



not seen

not seen

not seen



not seen

not seen

not seen

not seen

not seen

not seen

[1]

[2]

[3]

[4]

[5]

[6]

[7]

[8]

Material from the top row of the "40-group" is difficult to identify since the wide gutter makes most stamps difficult to differentiate from those from the top of panes with "16-cuts" at base.



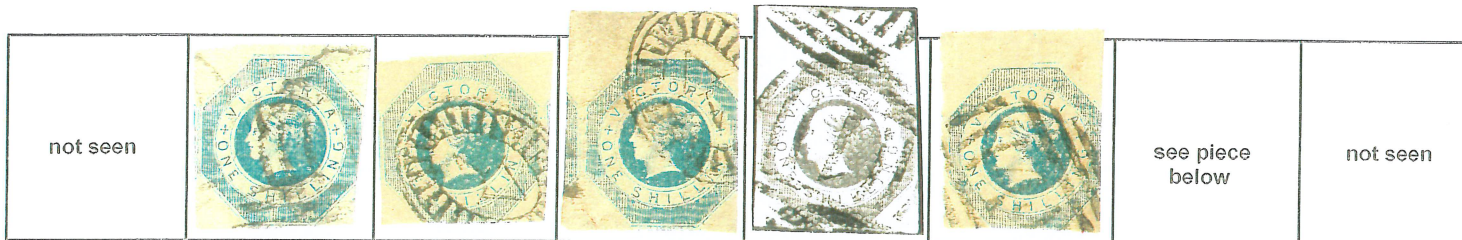
24th August 1860 envelope from Ballarat to New Belford, England. Carried per P. & O. steamers *Salsette*, *Columbian* and *Ripon*, arriving at Southampton 22nd October. Prepaid 1/- for a double-weight letter via Southampton.

Pane III

There are two panes with a "16-cut" [25-32/33-40] at top. Large vertical multiples are required to prove the junction between the "16-cut" and "40-group" since this combination of types occurs on all panes between "40-groups".

On Pane III several units in the top row show portions of the base frames of the units above

25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

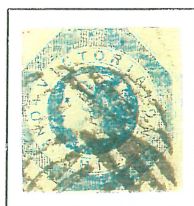


[25] [26] [27] [28] [29] [30] [31] [32]

Royal Collection



[28]



[29]



[30]



[31]

MAKE-UP OF THE PRINTING STONES

Pane IV

The second pane with a "16-cut" [25-32/33-40] at top.

Material from this pane is very scarce and only several stamps have been identified. Each showing different secondary flaws from the corresponding positions on Pane III.

25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8



[29]

Royal Collection



[30]

Pane V

This is the second pane with a "16-cut" [1-8/9-16] at top, the other being Pane II.

Unlike the wide gutter of Pane II, the distance between the "16-cut" and "40-group" on Pane V is only 1.5mm.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8



[11]



[14/6]



[15/7]



[15]



[15]

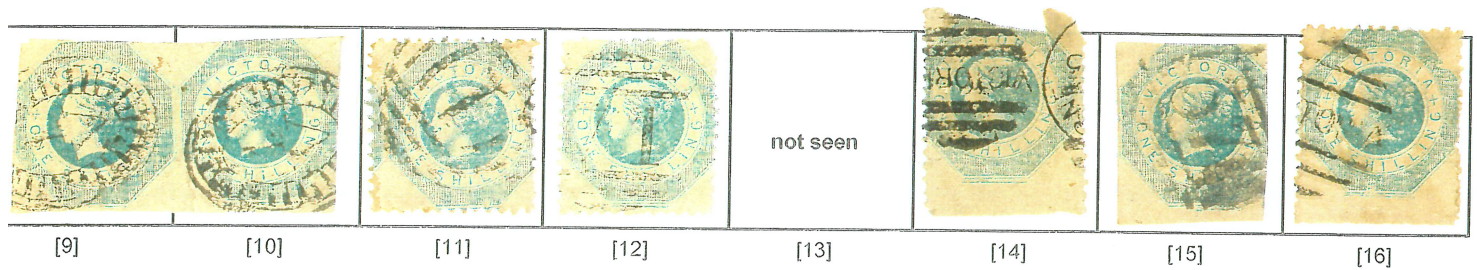
MAKE-UP OF THE PRINTING STONES

Pane VI

There are two panes with a "16-cut" [1-8/9-16] at base. The junction between the "40-group" and "16-cut" cannot be identified with certainty without the aid of large vertical multiples, since the combination of types corresponds to that between any two "40-groups" in all panes.

Pane VI is the pane of 100 in the Royal Collection. It is characterised by the presence of the top portions of the units below [9-16] showing.

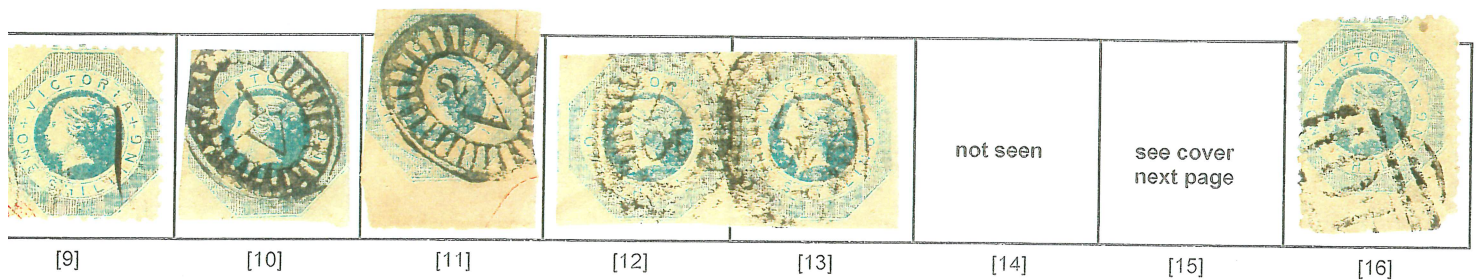
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16



Pane VII

The second pane with a "16-cut" [1-8/9-16] at base is characterised by the absence of any trace of the impressions below [9-16] in the lower margin of the pane.

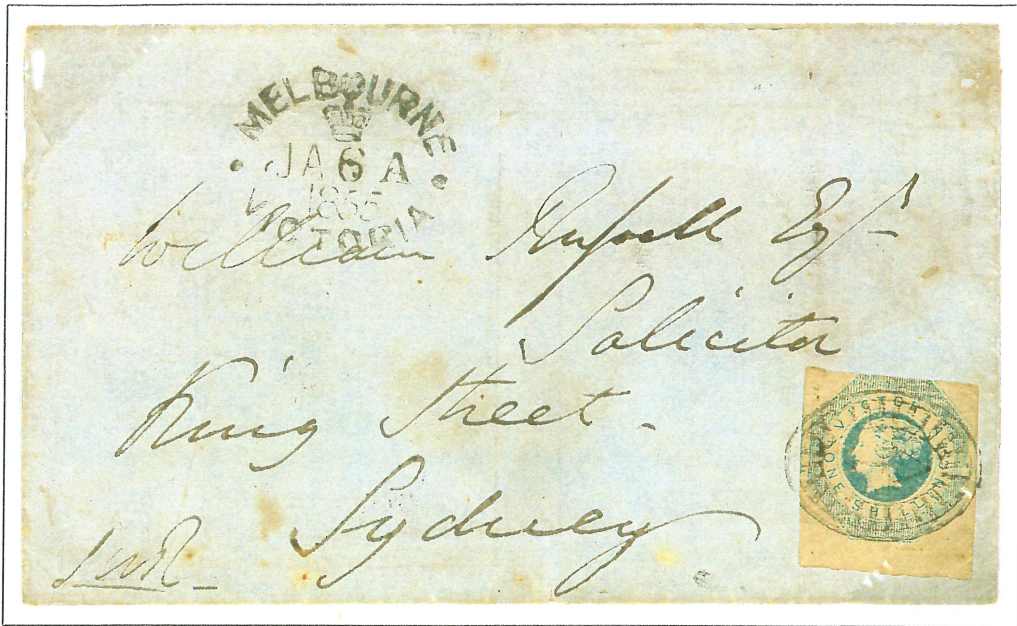
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16



[12]

Pane VII

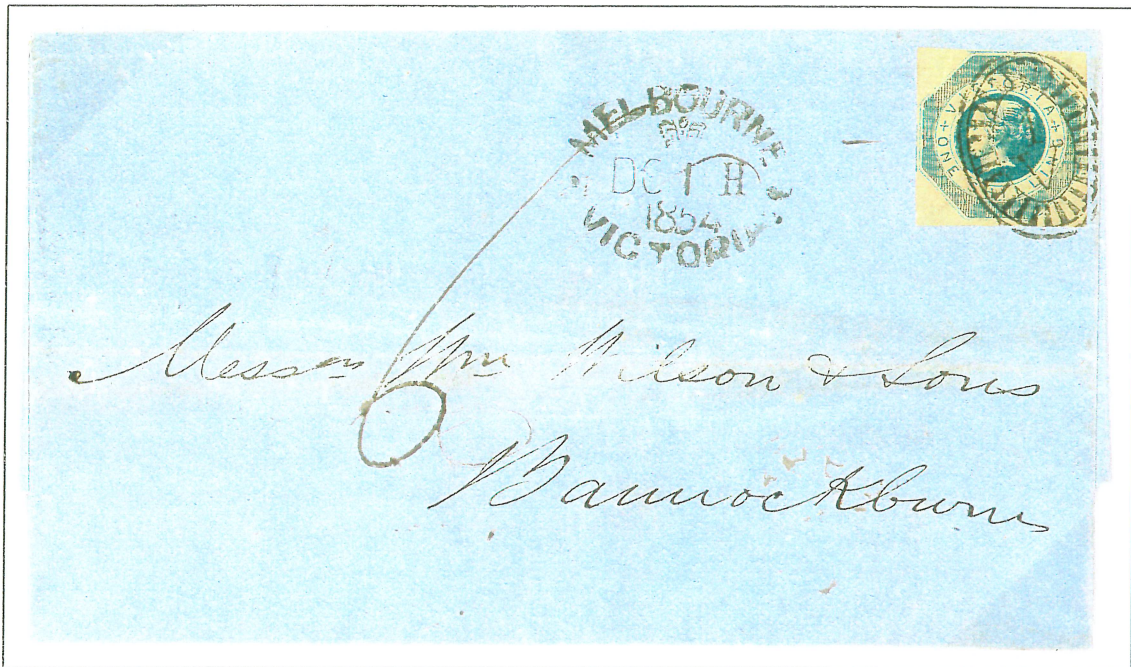
The Bottom Row of the Pane



[26]

[11]

6th January 1855 lettersheet from Melbourne to Sydney carried by private ship. Backstamped on arrival, 9th January. 1/- ship letter rate for a ½ ounce letter.



[15]

1st December 1854 lettersheet from Melbourne to Bannockburn, Scotland. Probably carried by the private ship *Kent*, leaving Melbourne 4th December and arriving at London 27th February 1855. Backstamped Stirling, 1st March 1855. Franked 1/- for the ½ ounce ship letter rate. Incorrectly charged 6d as an incoming packet rather than 8d for a ship letter.






MAKE-UP OF THE PRINTING STONES

Pane VIII

There are two panes with a "16-cut" [9-16/17-24] at base.

Pane VIII has a 1mm gutter between the "40-group" and "16-cut". A number of positions in the bottom row of the pane show traces of the impression below.

33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	22	23

[9]	[10]	[11]	[12]	[13]	[14]	[15]	[16]
not seen		see cover below	not seen	not seen			
	not seen	not seen		not seen	not seen		
[17]	[18]	[19]	[20]	[21]	[22]	[23]	[24]



23rd January 1861 registered envelope from Kyneton to Wath-upon-Deerne, redirected to Worksop, England. Carried per *Behar* and *Pera*, arriving at Southampton 21st March. Prepaid 2/- for a double rate letter via Southampton plus 1/- registration fee. Handstruck "2" for redirection.

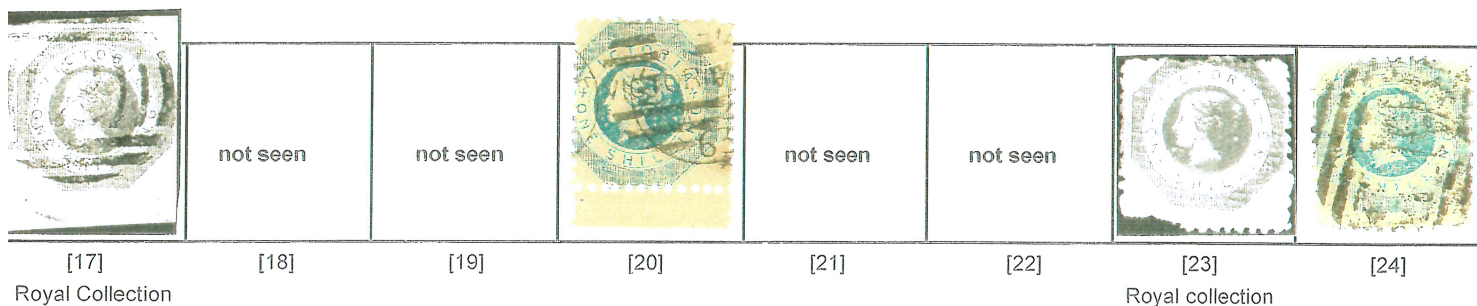
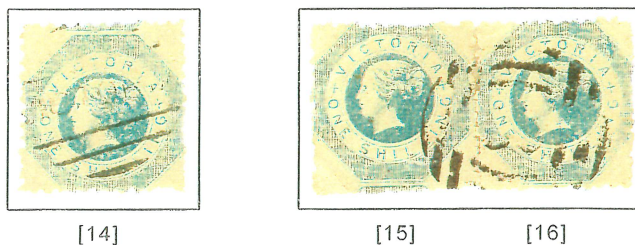
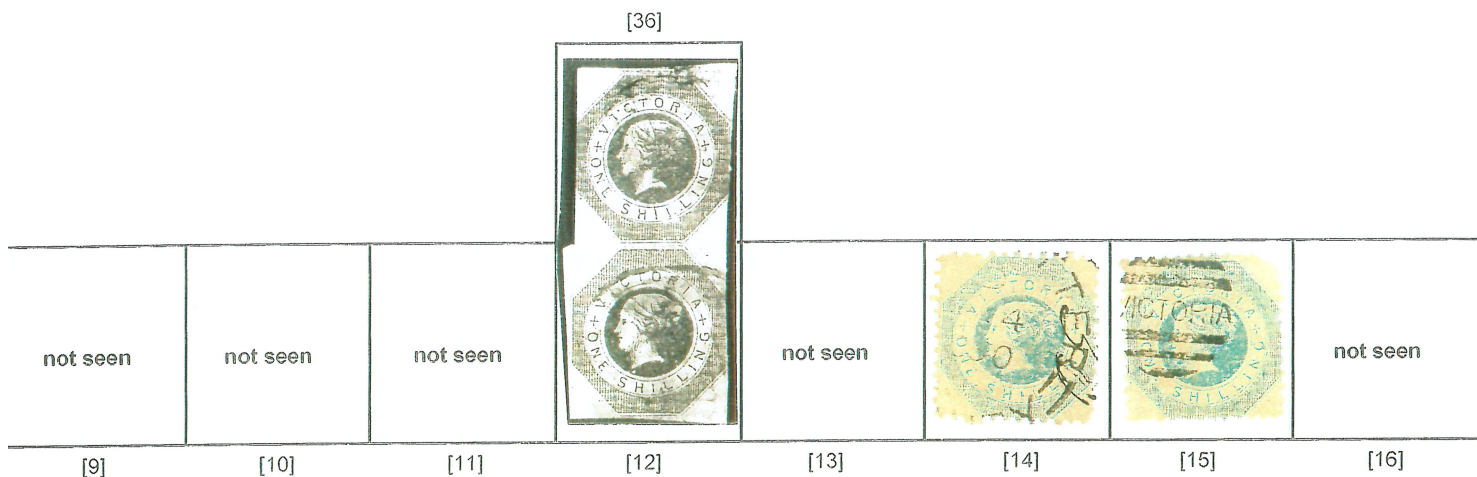
MAKE-UP OF THE PRINTING STONES

Pane IX

The second pane with a "16-cut" [9-16/17-24] at base differs from Pane VIII by having a 0.5mm gutter between the "40-group" and "16-cut", and showing no portions of the impressions of the next row of stamps below the bottom row.

The only multiple so far seen connecting the "40-group" and "16-cut" is a vertical pair in the Royal Collection.

33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	22	23



MAKE-UP OF THE PRINTING STONES

Pane X

There are two panes with a "16-cut" [17-24/25-32] at base. On Pane X the space between the "40-group" and "16-cut" is very narrow, and there is a cut transfer at the base of the "40-group". No connecting piece between the upper and lower rows of the "16-cuts" of Panes X and XI has so far been identified, so the allocation here is arbitrary. The lower row of Pane X is generally clean, with no portions of the stamps below showing. [26] is an exception.

33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32



[35-37]

The cut transfers at the base of these units do not match those on [35] and [37] below. This strip may be from the junction of the two "40-groups" on this pane.

The Junction of the "40-group and "16-cut"

[33]	[34]	[35]	[36]	[37]	[38]	[39]	[40]
	not seen		not seen		not seen		
not seen		not seen	not seen	not seen	not seen		
[17]	[18]	[19]	[20]	[21]	[22]	[23]	[24]

Pane X

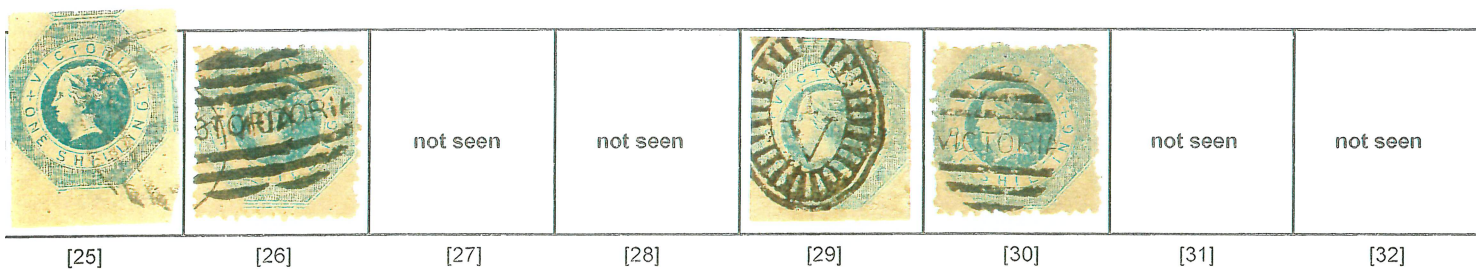
The Bottom Row of the Pane



[25]



[26]



[30]

24th October 1861 envelope from Geelong to Greenock, Scotland. Carried per P. & O. steamers *Northam*, *Bengal* and *Sultan*, arriving at Marseilles 12th December. Backstamped Greenock, 15th December. 1/- rate for a ½ ounce letter via Marseilles. Handstruck "M" (+ "Marseilles") applied at Geelong.

MAKE-UP OF THE PRINTING STONES

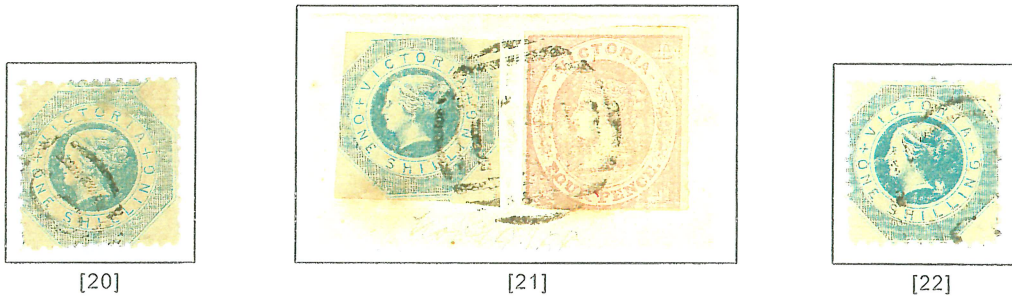
Pane XI

The second pane with a "16-cut" [17-24/25-32] at base shows the "40-group" and "16-cut" touching, with the "16-cut" misplaced 2mm to the left. The top of the "16-cut" shows a cut transfer. As already noted, no connecting piece between the upper and lower rows of the "16-cuts" of Panes X and XI has so far been identified, so the allocation here is arbitrary. The lower row of Pane XI generally shows portions of the top of the impressions of the units below at base.

33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32



[17] [18] [19] [20] [21] [22] [23] [24]



[20] [21] [22]



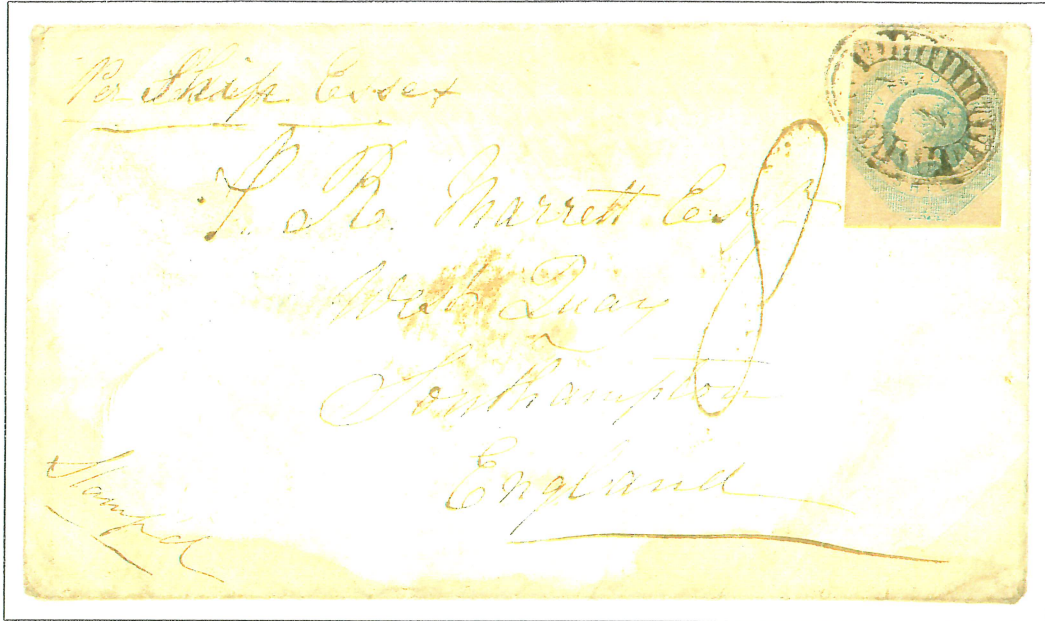
[25] [26] [27] [28] [29] [30] [31] [32]

Pane XI

Two covers showing the same unit [26] from the bottom row of Pane XI

Constant secondary flaws:

(i) white patch under "LI" of "SHILLING"; (ii) top frame of [34] below stamp.



[26]

25th May 1855 envelope from Melbourne to Southampton, carried per private ship *Essex*. 1/- ship letter rate for a ½ ounce letter. 8d inwards ship letter charge.



[26]

24th February 1865 envelope from Melbourne to Carnarvon, Wales. Carried per P. & O. steamers *Madras*, *Candia* and *Ceylon*, arriving at Marseilles 10th April. Backstamped Carnarvon, 12th April. 1/- rate for a ½ ounce letter via Marseilles.

Stamps from the same pane used almost ten years apart.

MAKE-UP OF THE PRINTING STONES

Pane XII

Four panes have been identified showing a "16-cut" [25-32/33-40] at base.

On the first of these panes the "16-cut" was laid down so close to the "40-group" that it actually overlaps its slightly at top, and is misplaced 2mm to the right.

33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
33	34	34	36	37	38	39	40

[33]	[34]	[35]	[36]	[37]	[38]	[39]	[40]
not seen	not seen	not seen	not seen				
not seen	not seen	not seen	not seen				
[25]	[26]	[27]	[28]	[29]	[30]	[31]	[32]



[31]

Note secondary flaw - colour spot between "I" and "C" of "VICTORIA"

16th July 1859 envelope from Castlemaine to Württemberg via London. Carried per P. & O. Northam and Ceylon, arriving at Southampton 18th September. Franked 1/- Octagonal and 2d Emblems rouletted on horizontal laid paper represents for the ½ ounce rate to Germany via the United Kingdom.

The late arrival of the mail at Southampton was due to the Northam being stuck fast on a reef near Jeddah for five days.

Pane XII

A prominent white scratch flaw passes through the right side of [37] opposite "A" of "VICTORIA", through [38] and [39], and into the left side of [40] on the 16-cut of this pane



[37]



[38]



[39]

[10]

[38]



22nd March 1862 registered front from Hepburn to Locarno, Switzerland. Carried per P. & O. steamers *Northam* and *Ripon*, arriving at Southampton 18th May. Franked with two 1/- Octagonals and three 6d black Beaded Ovals, prepaying the 3/6d rate for a ½ ounce registered letter to Switzerland via the United Kingdom.

From the Harvey collection.

Pane XII would seem to be somewhat more common perforated than imperforate.

MAKE-UP OF THE PRINTING STONES

Pane XIII

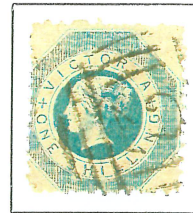
This is the second pane with a "16-cut" [25-32/33-40] at base.

Material from this pane is relatively scarce, and fewer stamps have been identified than for Pane XII. The pane is characterised by having a 1.5mm "gutter" between the lower group of 40 and the "16-cut".

33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
33	34	34	36	37	38	39	40



[25]



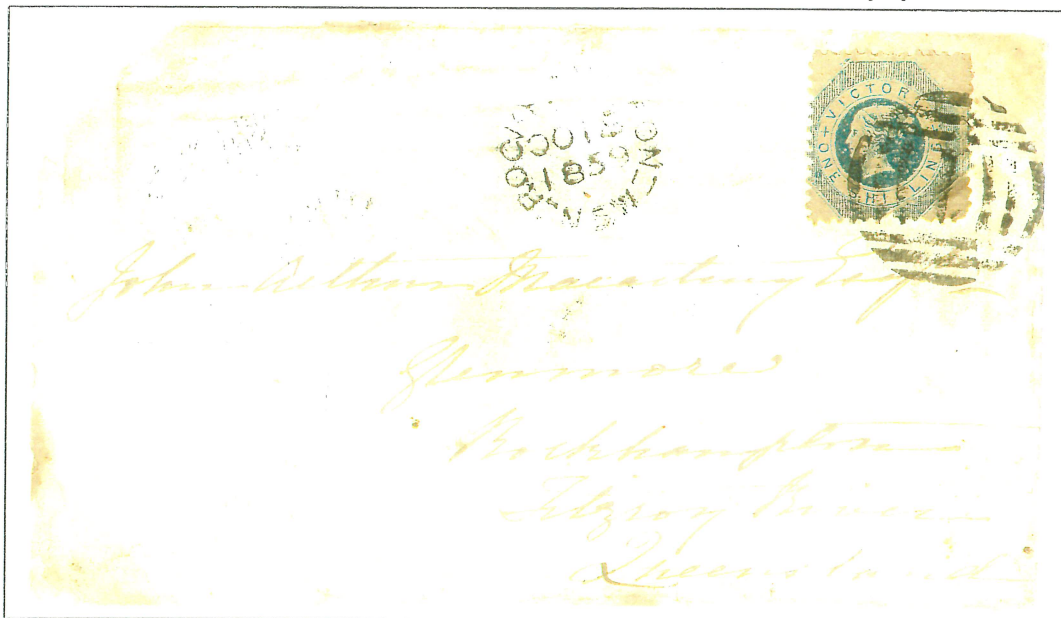
[28]



[27]

[28]

[30]



16th September 1859 envelope from Melbourne to Rockhampton, Queensland. Franked 1/- for a double rate ship letter.

Material from the bottom row of Panes XII and XIII cannot be identified with certainty unless in vertical multiples, since single stamps cannot be distinguished from similar stamps from the bottom rows of Panes I to V.

MAKE-UP OF THE PRINTING STONES

Pane XIV

The third pane with a "16-cut" [25-32/33-40] at base is tentatively identified by the pieces below.

These indicate that the "16-cut" was so-placed as to touch the "40-group" at left, but sloping away to leave a 1mm gutter at right.

33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
33	34	34	36	37	38	39	40



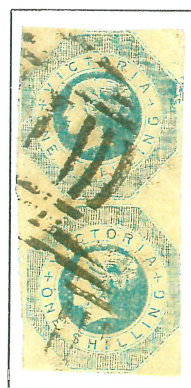
[26/34]
[34] same as in [34/26]
Colour spot between "T"
and "O" of "VICTORIA"



[34/26]



[38/30]



[39/31]



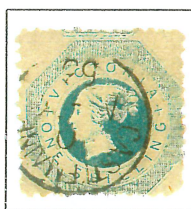
[32]

Pane XV

The fourth pane with a "16-cut" [25-32/33-40] at base is poorly represented. Only a single stamp has been seen at present, and material from this pane may be scarce.

The "16-cut" is close to the "40-group", and displaced 1.5mm to the left.

33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
33	34	34	36	37	38	39	40



[31]

The unit above is [39], so this stamp is unlikely to be part of a tagged strip.
The gutter spacing and displacement between the "16-cut" and "40-group" differs from that for Panes XII, XIII and XIV.

MAKE-UP OF THE PRINTING STONES

Substitution of the Top Row of a Pane

In laying down one printing stone, the upper row of the top transfer of 40 was damaged, either during its creation, or while laying down the transfer on the printing stone. This strip of eight units [1-8] was removed and substituted by a fresh strip cut from a new transfer. This new strip was [17-24], thus creating abnormal vertical pairs [17/9] to [24/16]. In cutting [17-24] to replace the damaged stamps, a considerable portion of the units below was left on the transfer. When laid down in position, these upper portions of [25-32] overlapped the tops of the stamps of the second row of the printing stone. This resulted in a curious doubling in the area of overlap, visible mostly as excess colour.

