

Bermuda Postal Stationery 1880 - 1952

The purpose of this exhibit is to show Bermuda Postal Stationery from the first issue of formula cards in 1880 through the different types of Stationery ending with those in use at the end of the reign of King George VI.

	Content	Period	Page
The structure of this exhibit is chronological within each of the four types. Essays and proofs are followed by the issued items in varieties.	I: Formula cards	1880 - 85	2 -
	Postal Cards	1885	- 40
	II: Registered Envelopes		
	McQuondale	1890?	
	De la Rue		
	III. Newspaper Wrappers		
	IV. Air Mail Wrappers		

The content of this exhibit . This exhibit includes most of the significant essays, proofs, specimens and varieties

The rarity statements are based on research over a number of years in putting together the Bermuda Stamp Catalog and the exhibitors auction records for the past 50 years.

References:

Higgins & Gage

Ludington, M. H. The Postal History and Stamps of Bermuda

Bermuda Collectors Society, Bermuda Post 1986 - current

David Cordon & Michel Forand: The Bermuda Specialized Stamp Catalogue

Section: I: Cards Queen Victoria

Half Penny

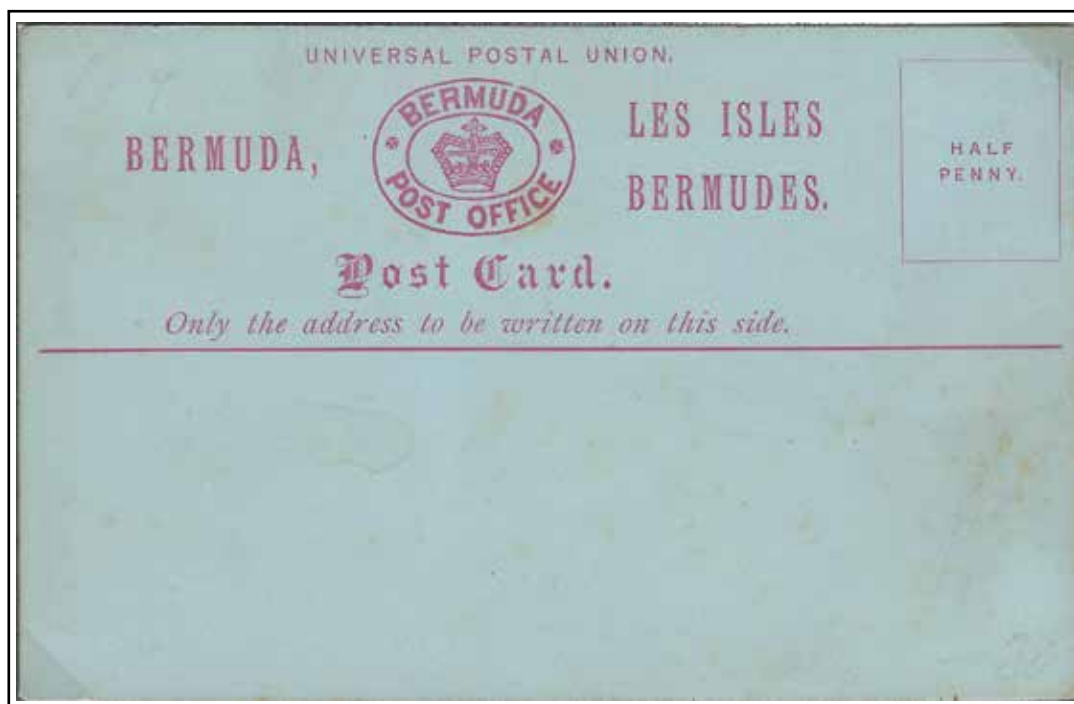
Bermuda joined the Universal Postal Union in April 1877 and membership required postcards to be provided for the public. However, nothing was done until after the reorganization of the post office in 1878-79. The Post Office Regulation Act, Amendment Act of 1879 on July 22nd allowed that postcards would be procured. It was not until a year later that postcards were finally made available for public use.

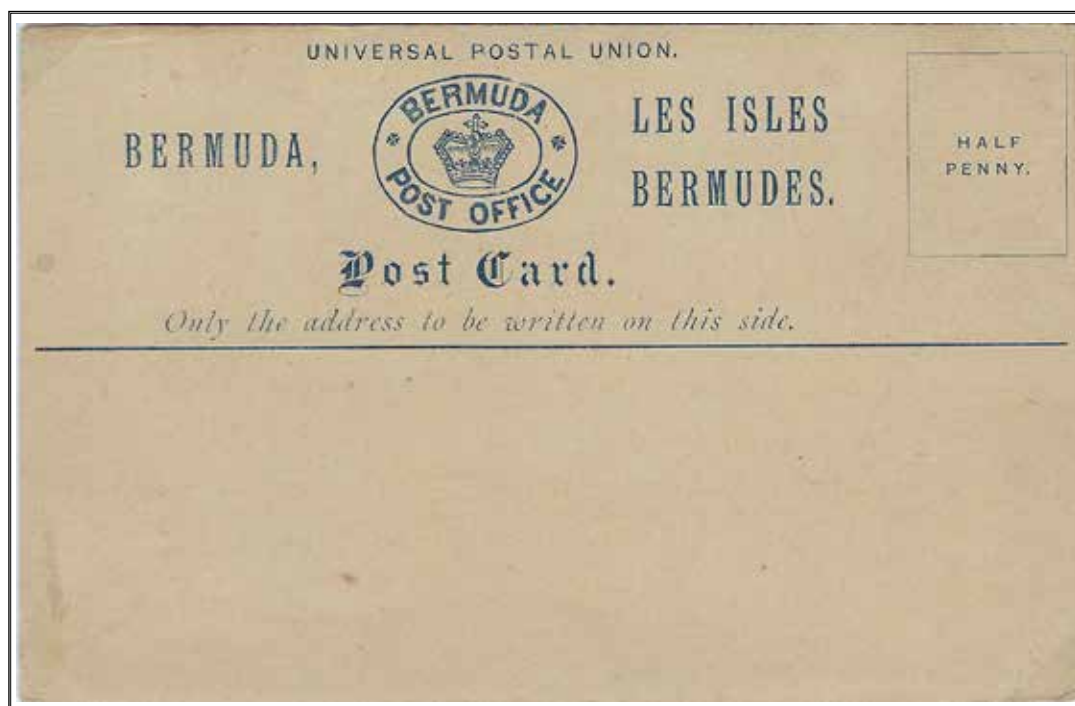
Printing: The first postal cards were printed by Donald McPhee Lee, Queen's Printer and publisher of the Royal Gazette. Postage was paid by affixing stamps to the pre-printed spaces on the card prior to sale. The 1/2d (Inland) and 1 1/2d (Foreign) card were released by the Post Office on July 1, 1880 and August 1, 1880, respectively. Lee also printed surcharges on the Provisionals in 1893. Regular cards with a pre-printed indicum, were ordered from De la Rue in 1884 and were received on 1885. De La Rue continued to produce all cards between that date and about 1960.

The 1/2d cards of 1880

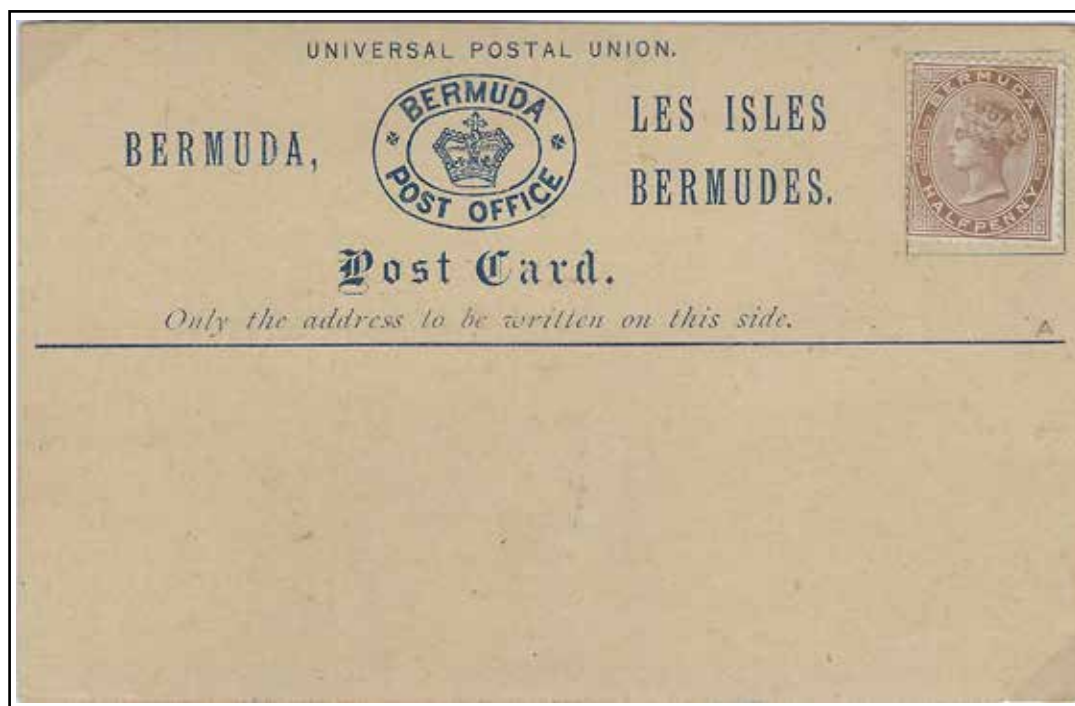
Feature	Setting A	Setting B	Setting C
Break in oval above "UD"	Large	Medium	Small
Hairline flaw through "MUD"	None	Strong	Faint
"BERMUDA" measures	23.5mm	24.5mm	25.0mm
"BERMUDES" measures	25.0mm	26.0mm	27.0mm
"UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION" measures	47.0mm	47.5mm	48.25mm
"U" of "UNIVERAL" IS ABOVE	“, “ (comma)	"A"	Between D & A
Colour	Carmine	Carmine	Rose

2000 cards produced locally and first issued in 1 August 1880.

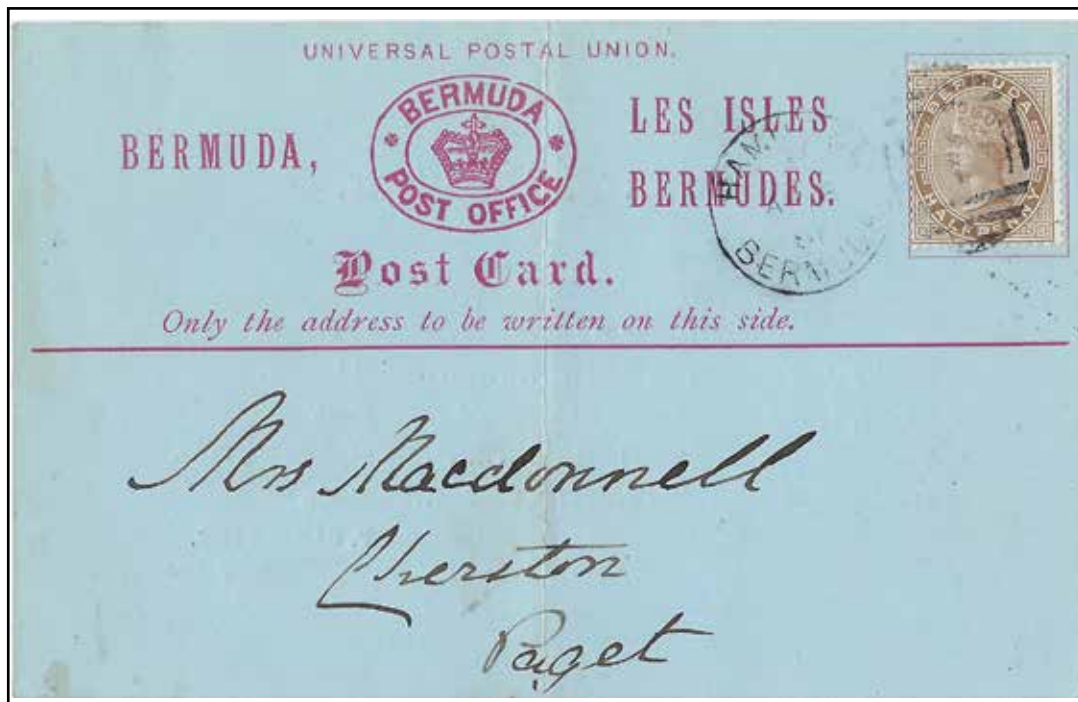
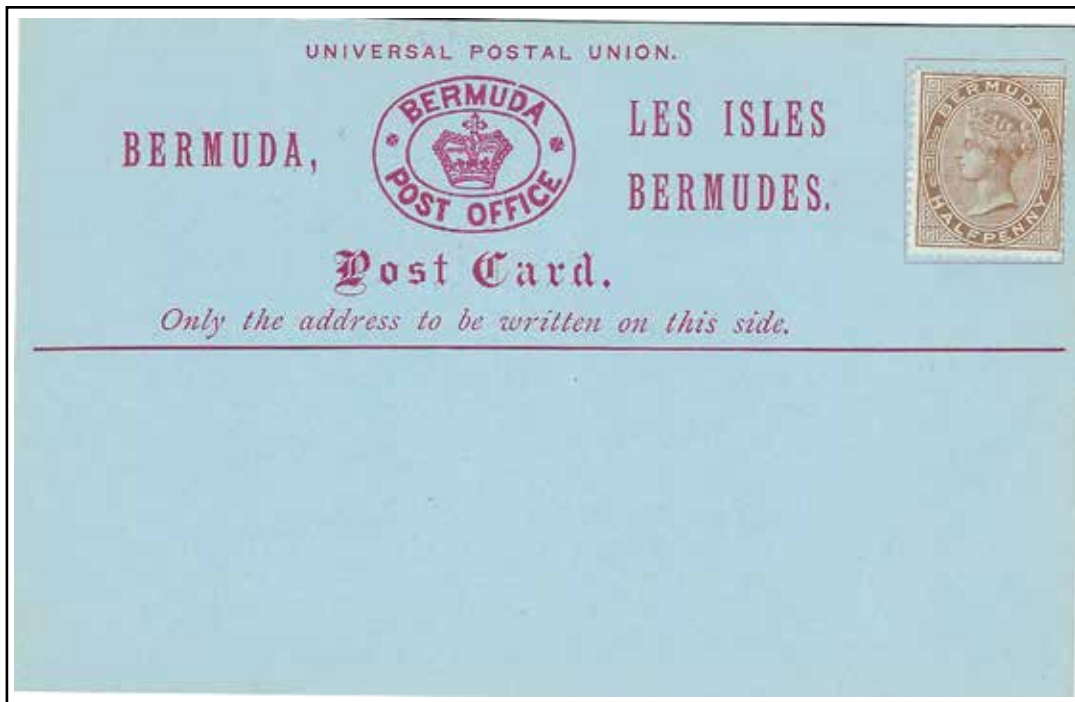


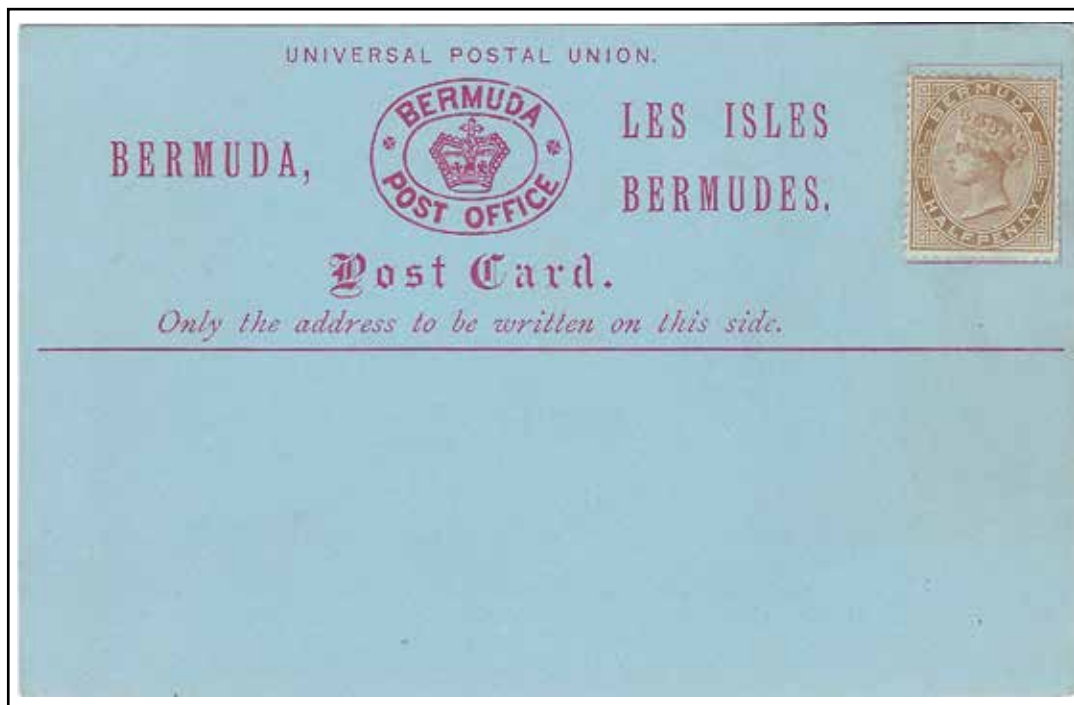


Unissued with divided opinions whether this is a proof or a provisional prepared because of the non-arrival of the ½d postal cards from De La Rue in 1885, but never issued
Ex. Tucker, Ludington



With 1880 stamp attached giving credence to a proof for the 1880 issue
Ex Ulrich

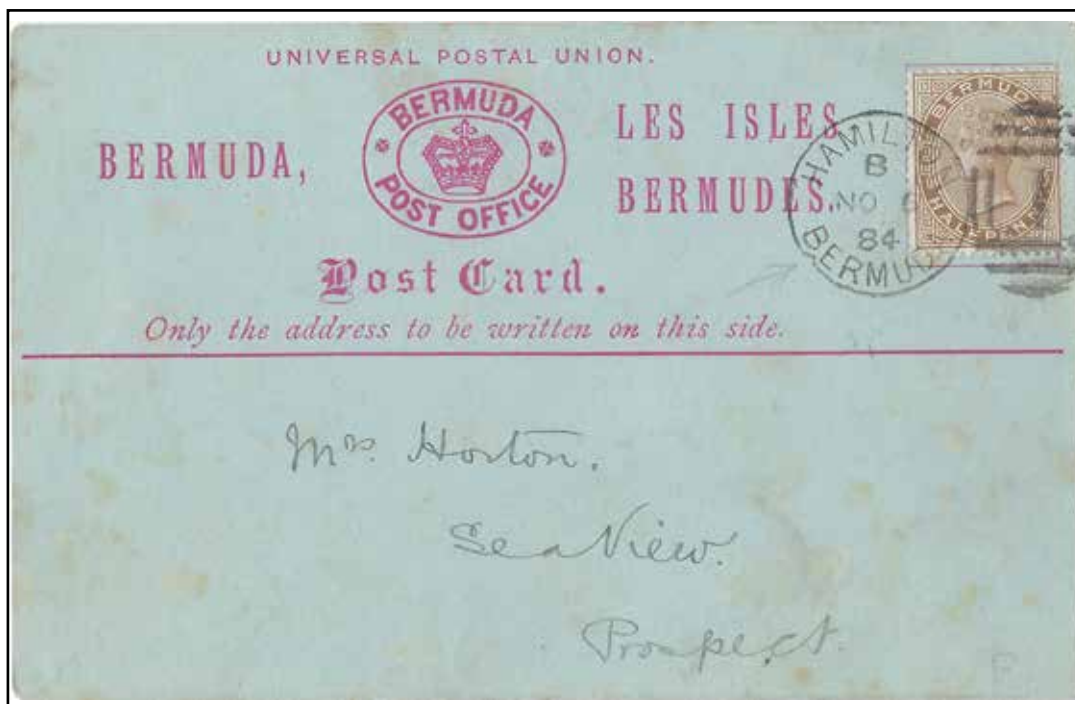




uprated with 1d stamp so paying the 1½d foreign postcard rate



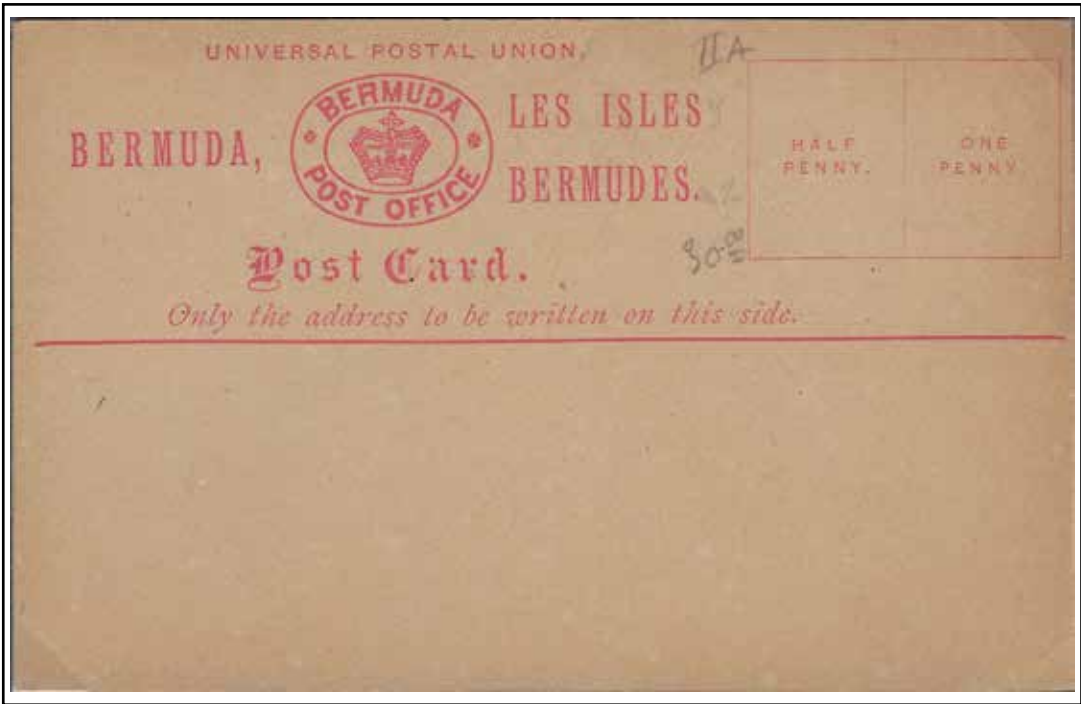
Setting C, the colour of ink is now rose vs carmine for settings A and B.



Printing: The first postal cards were printed by Donald McPhee Lee, Queen’s Printer and publisher of the Royal Gazette. Postage was paid by affixing stamps to the pre-printed spaces on the card prior to sale. The ½d (Inland) and 1½d (Foreign) card were released by the Post Office on July 1, 1880 and August 1, 1880, respectively. Lee also printed surcharges on the Provisionals in 1893. Regular cards with a preprinted indicum, were ordered from De la Rue in 1884 and were received on 1885. De La Rue continued to produce all cards between that date and about 1960.

The 1½d cards of 1880

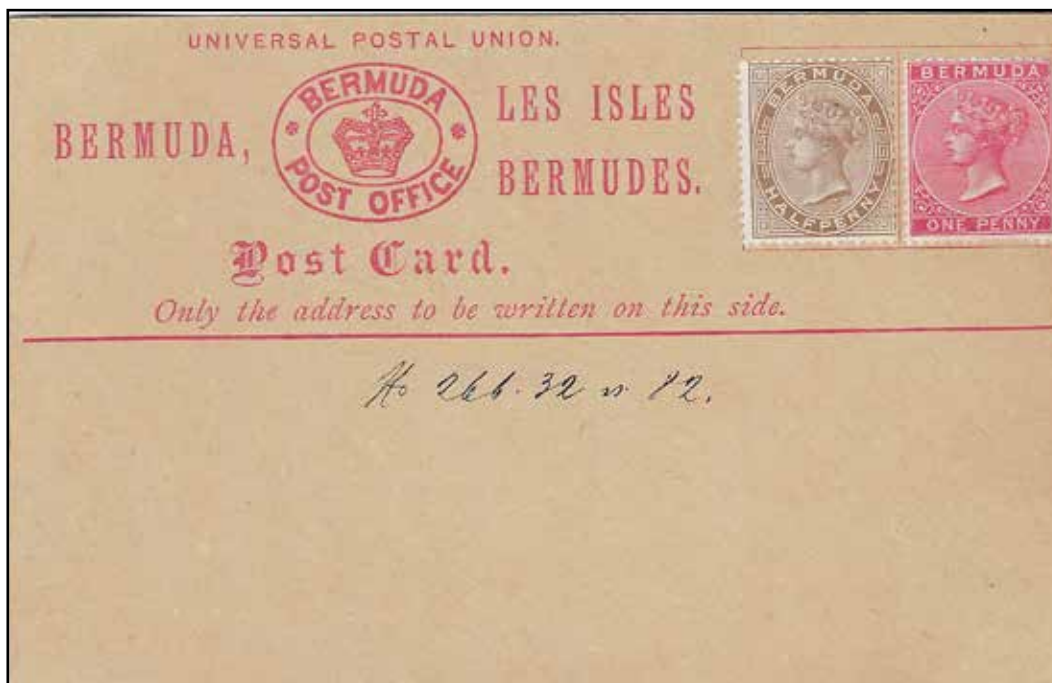
Feature	Setting A	Setting B	Setting C
Break in oval above “UD”	None	Small to Large	Faint to none
Hairline flaw through “MUD”	None	None to Faint	Faint
“BERMUDA” measures	25.0mm	25.0mm	23.5mm
“BERMUDES” measures	25.0mm	26.0mm	27.0mm
“UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION” measures	47.0mm	47.0mm	48.0mm
Vertical of “t” of Post Card above these letters in address	“r “	Second “d”	Between “dr”
Colour	Carmine	Carmine	Rose



Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One printing, received 25 Feb 1885.
20,340

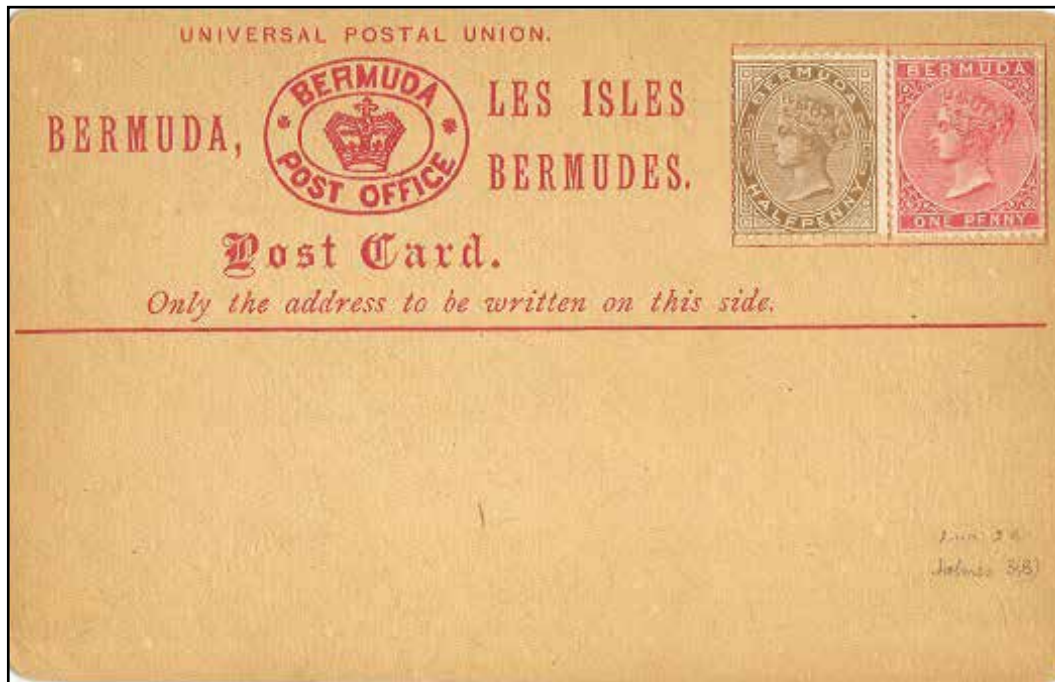
One Penny Half Penny
Setting A



Example ex Bern archives



Card stock ranges from buff to cream

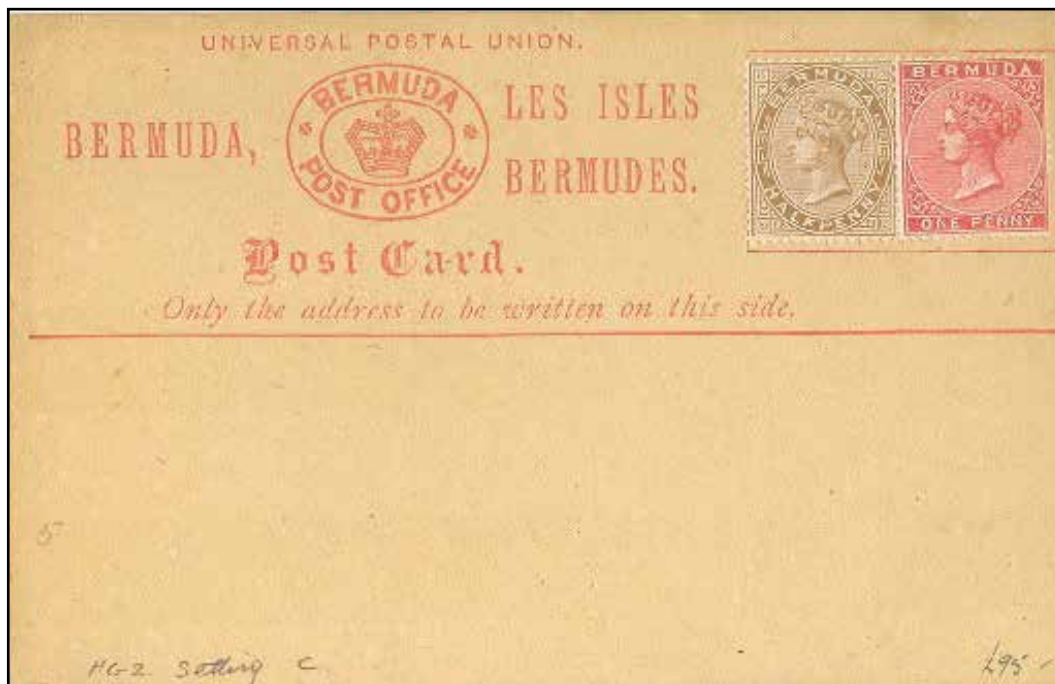


Carmine with 1½d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff



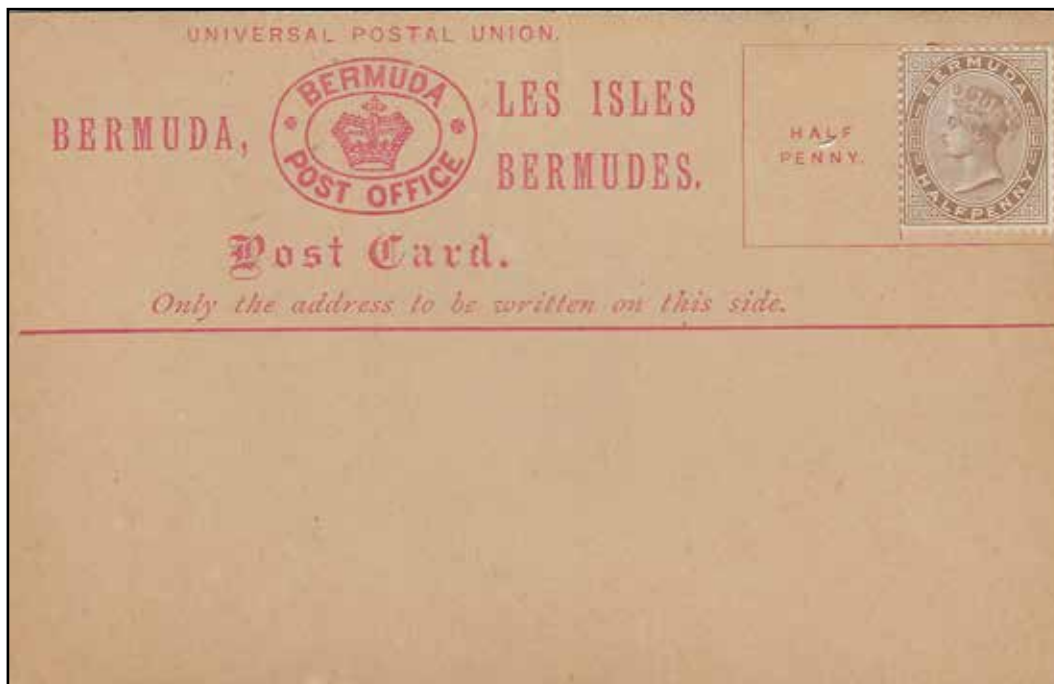
Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One Penny Half Penny
Setting C

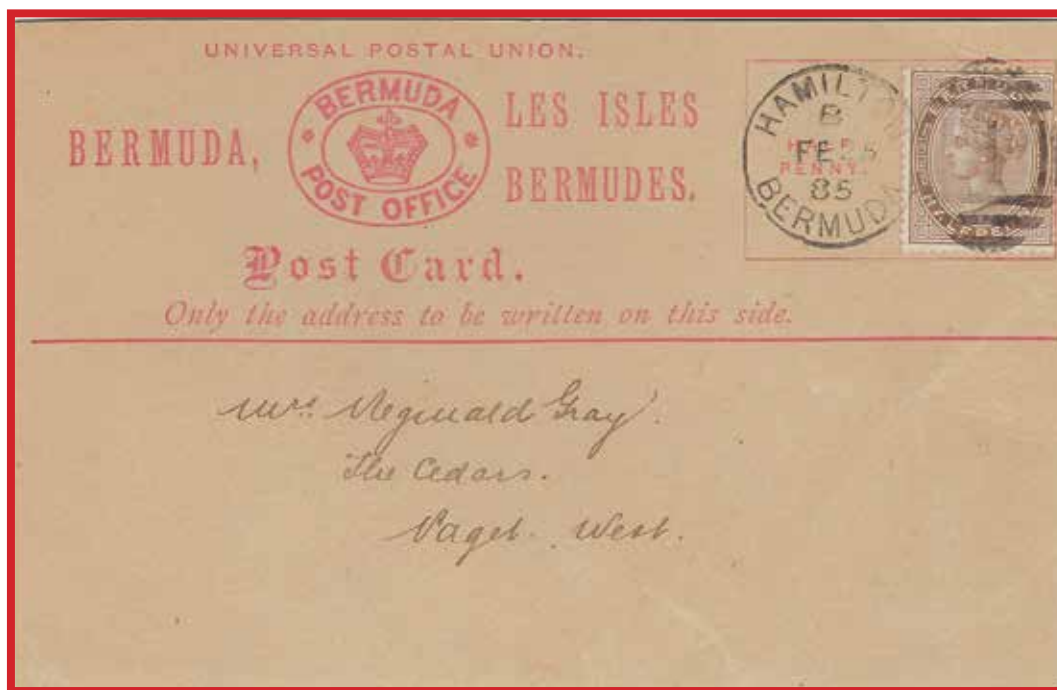


Rose with 1½d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff

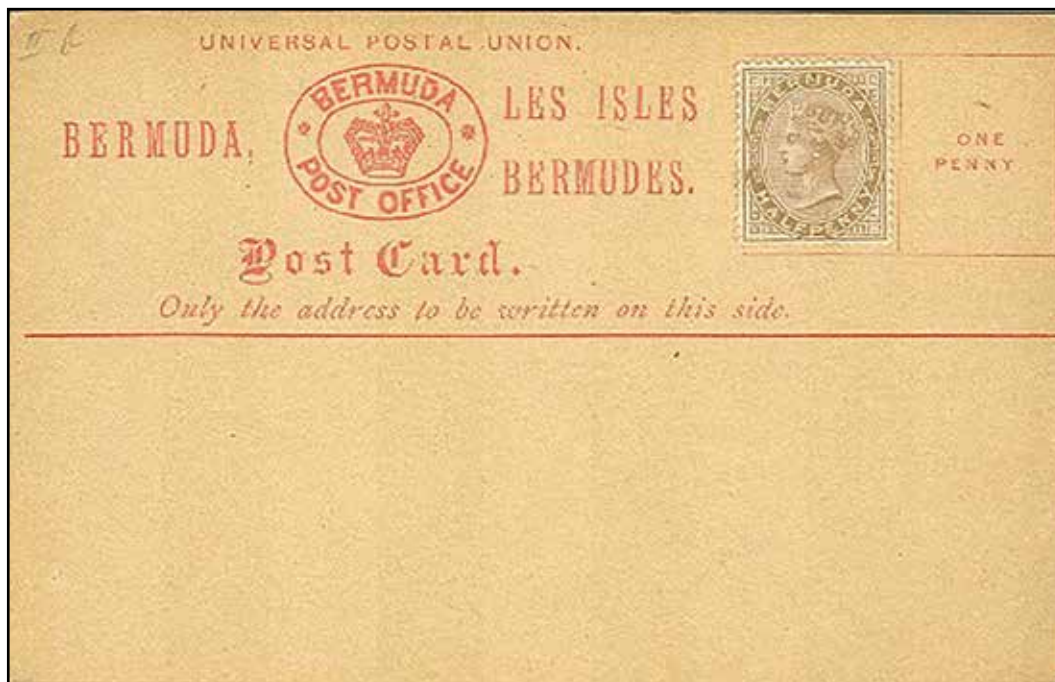




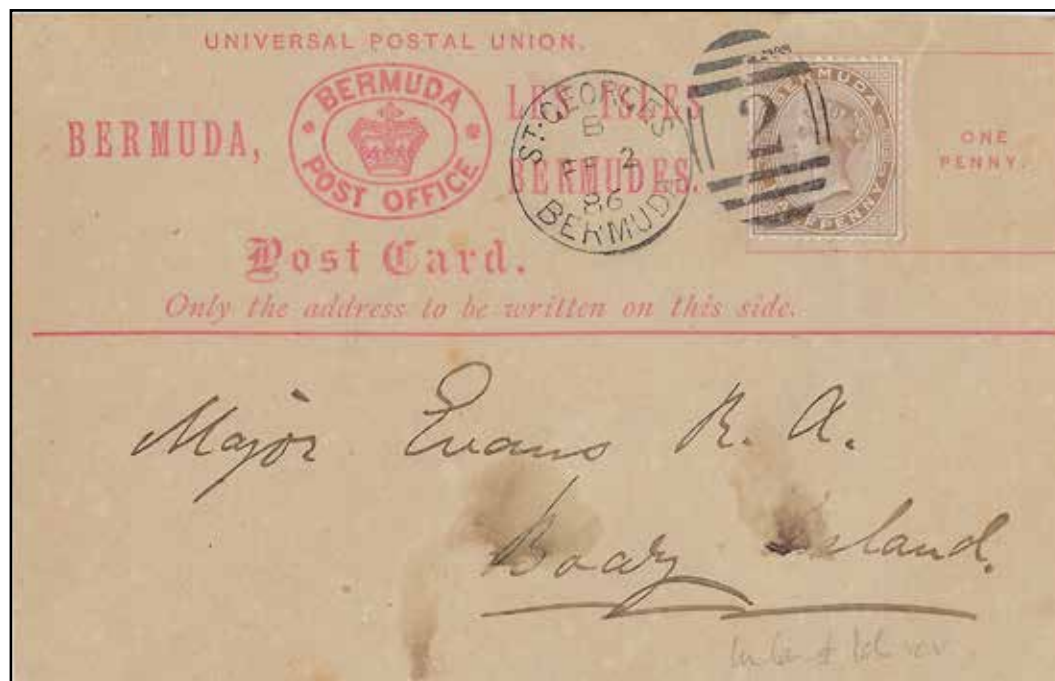
Due to a shortage of the blue card stamp it was necessary to use the 1½d stock but placing the ½d stamp on the right over the space of the 1d. First issued in 25 Feb 1885 and officially used until 25 March 1885.



First Day of Issue



Correct placement is on the left in the place of the 1d stamp and only on the type C card printed in rose. Both of these cards are correct using type C, although the used card is used in 1886 so after the official dates.





1884 Artist's drawing in red ink on tracing paper for an Inland ½d Postal Stationery Postcard endorsed "Specimen No. 2". This drawing, which is ex De La Rue records was prepared locally and sent to them by Bermuda as the suggested design for the 1885 issue of the Postcards to be undertaken by De la Rue to replace the 1880 series of Formula Cards, but omits several mistakes made in the original 1880 issue - namely the wording "Universal Postal Union" and the French inscription "Les Isles Bermudes" both of which are not required for an Inland Card!

The drawing still incorporates the Bermuda Post Office and Crown in a double oval and bears a small sample of the desired blue stock in the lower right hand corner. Neither of these suggestions were adopted by De la Rue in their 1885 issue.



Colonial head sunk in a thick card.
The design used by Bermuda was common to several colonies



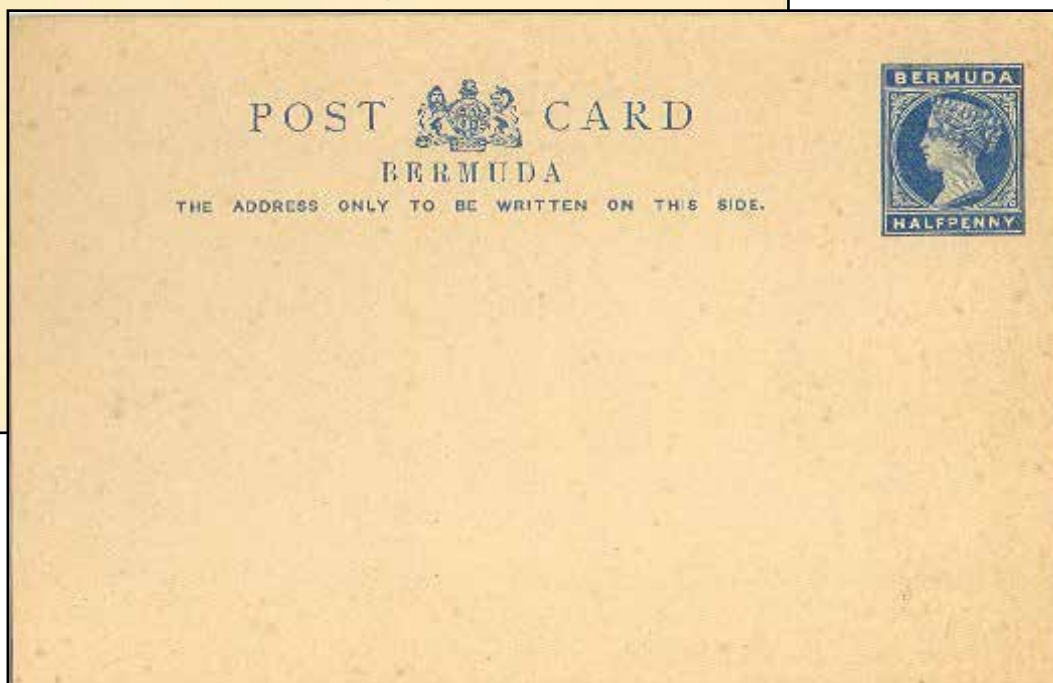
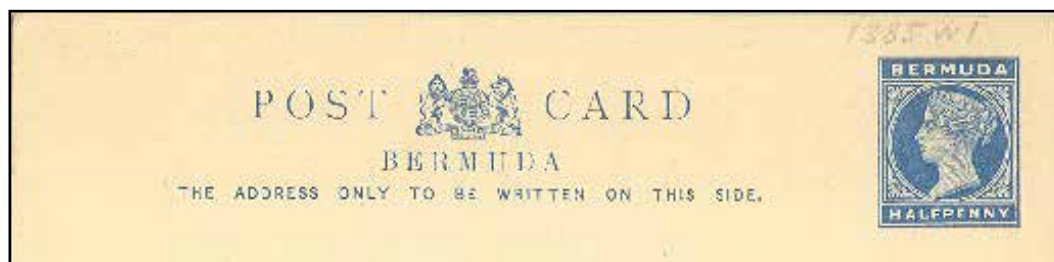
DLR essay for the 1885 QV ½d blue Postal Statopnery Card comprising proof impression of the legend with Artist's pencil drawing of the stamp, dated "8 SEP 84".

Unique

Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received 25 Feb 1885.
20,340



Blue with ½d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff





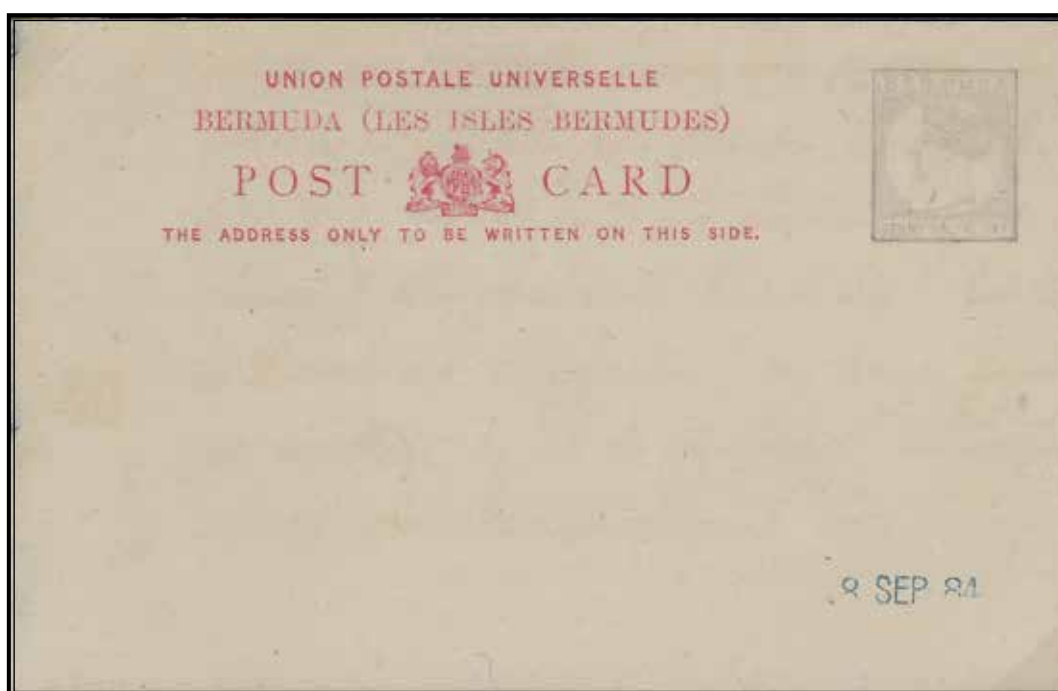
1884 Artist's drawing in red ink on tracing paper for an Inland 1½d Postal Stationery Postcard endorsed "Specimen No. 1" and of No 3 with these words in the left hand corner". This drawing , which is ex De La Rue records was prepared locally and sent to them by Bermuda as the suggested design for the 1885 issue of the Postcards to be undertaken by De la Rue to replace the 1880 series of Formula Cards, but omits several mistakes made in the original 1880 issue - namely the wording "Universal Postal Union" is now replaced by the correct French form "Union Postale Universelle".

The drawing still incorrectly incorporates Bermuda and Crown instead of the Royal coat of arms and bears a small sample of the desired blue red in the lower right hand corner.

Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One printing, received 25 Feb 1885.
20,340

One Penny Half Penny
Essay DLR

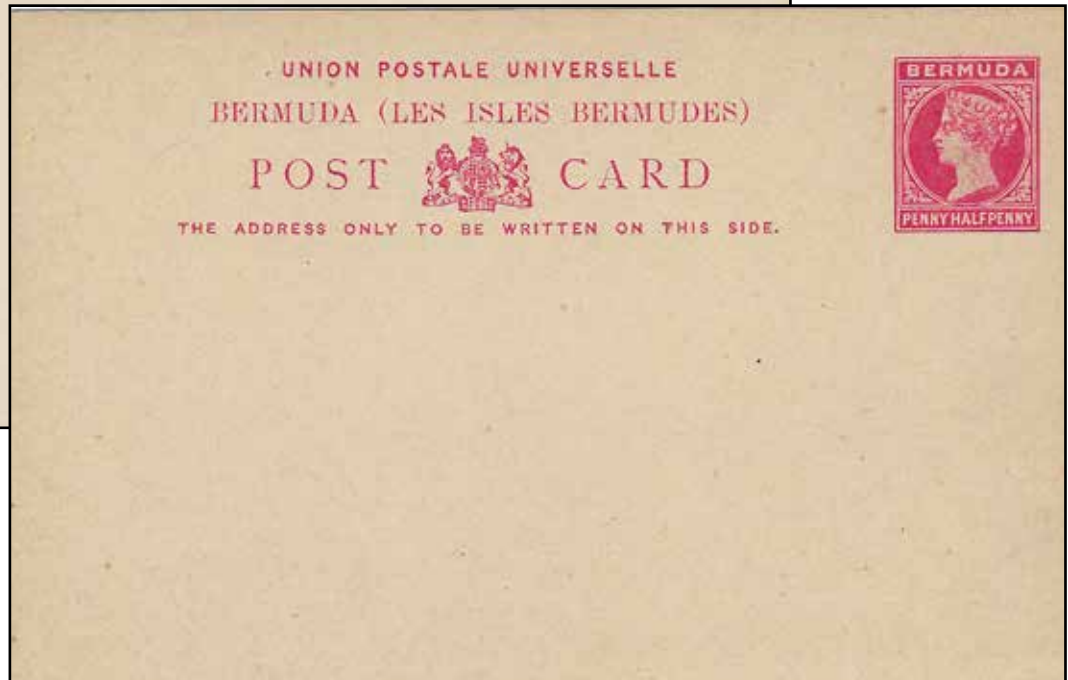


DLR essay for the 1885 QV 1½d carmine Postal Stationery Card comprising proof impression of the legend with Artist's pencil drawing of the stamp, dated "8 SEP 84".

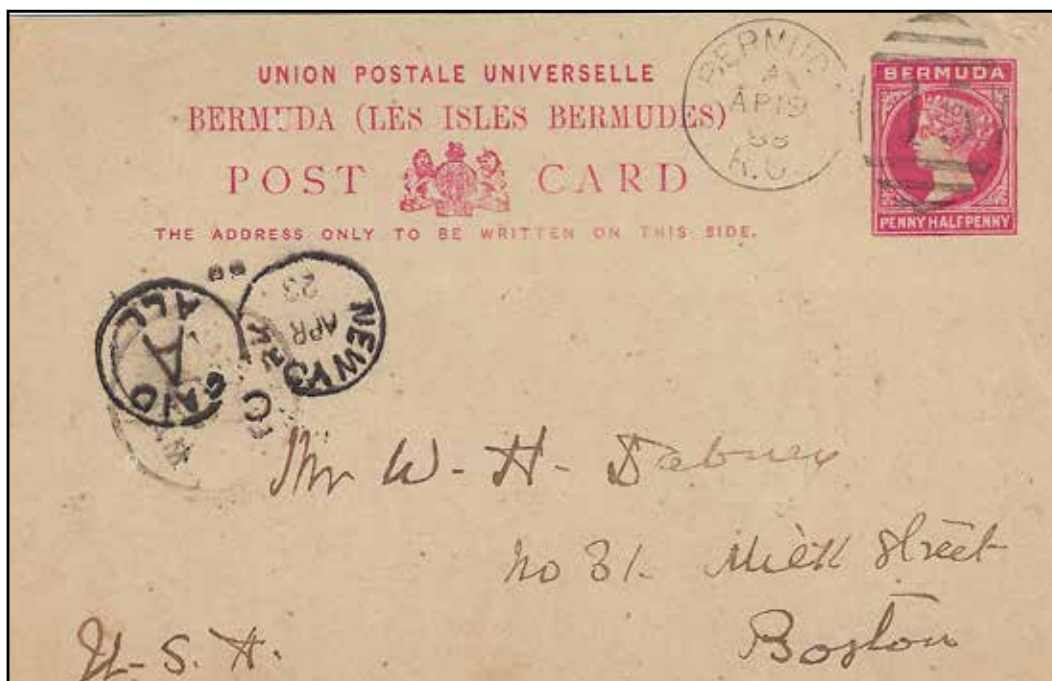
Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One Penny Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received 25 Feb 1885.
20,340

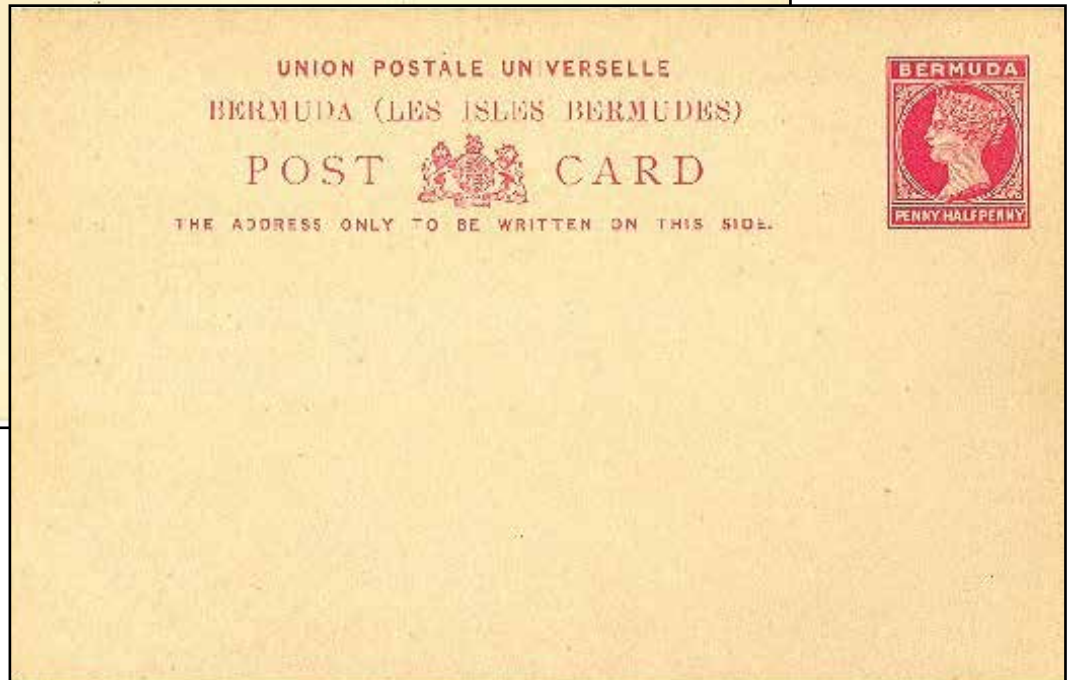
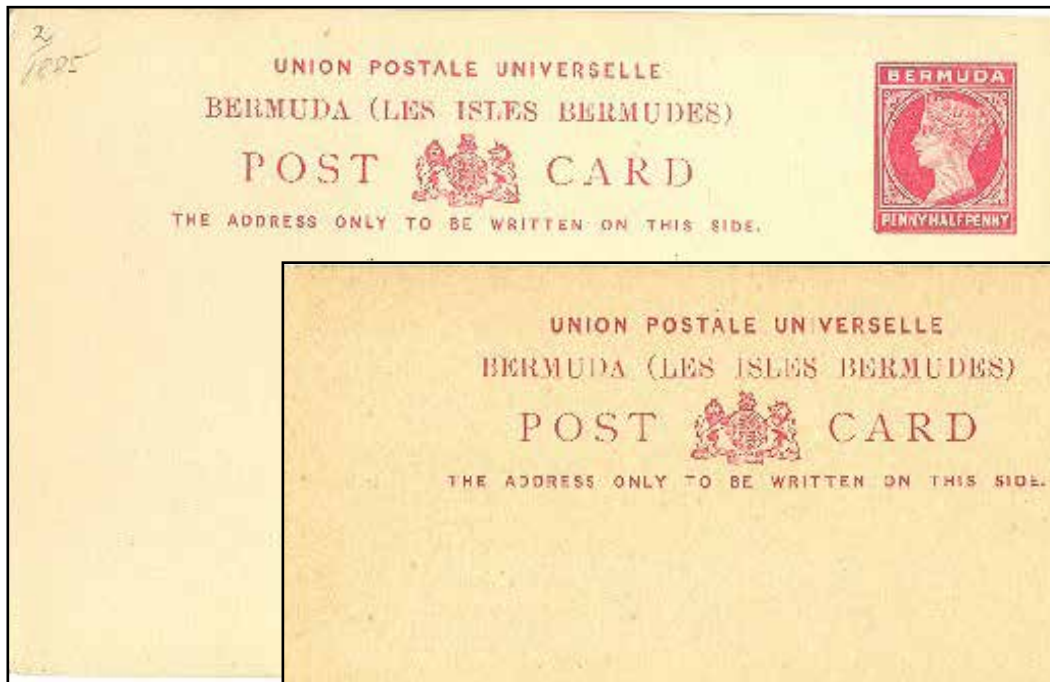


Carmine with 1½d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff

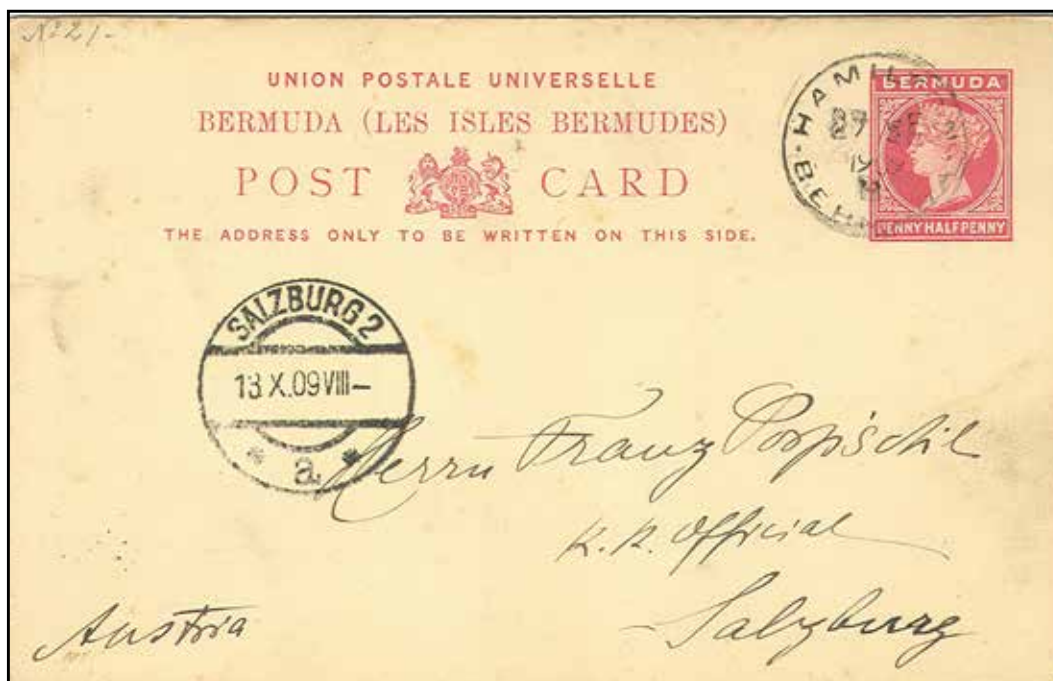


Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One Penny Half Penny
DLR



Carmine with 1½d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff





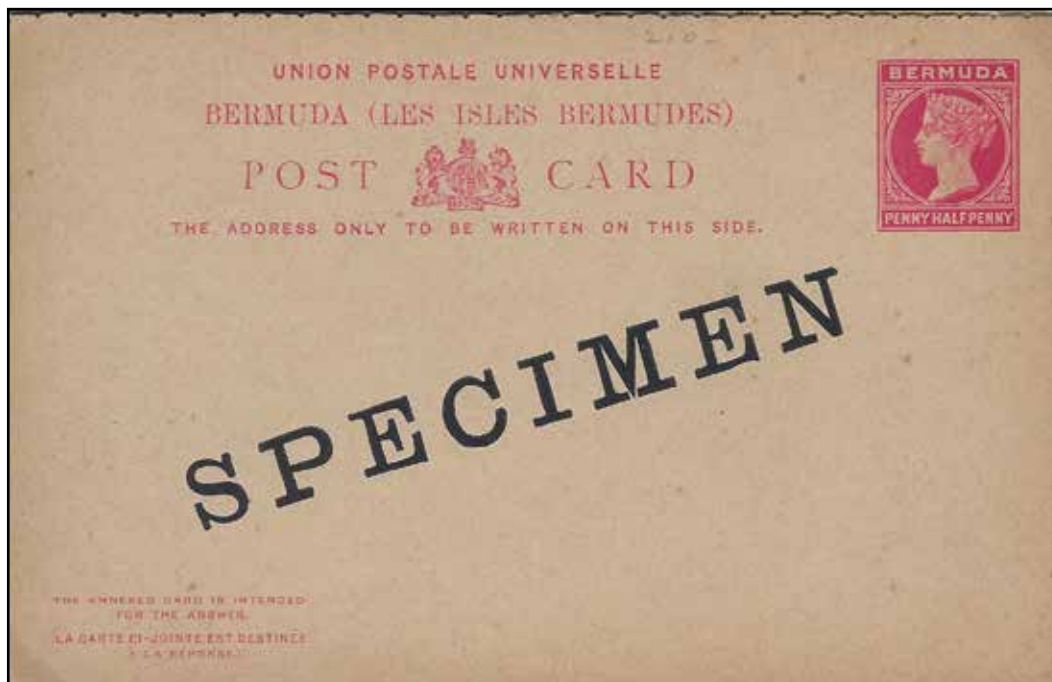
Scan of REPLY card

DLR essay for the 1885 QV 1½d carmine Postal Statopnery Card comprising proof impression of the legend with Artist's pencil drawing of the stamp, dated "8 SEP 84".

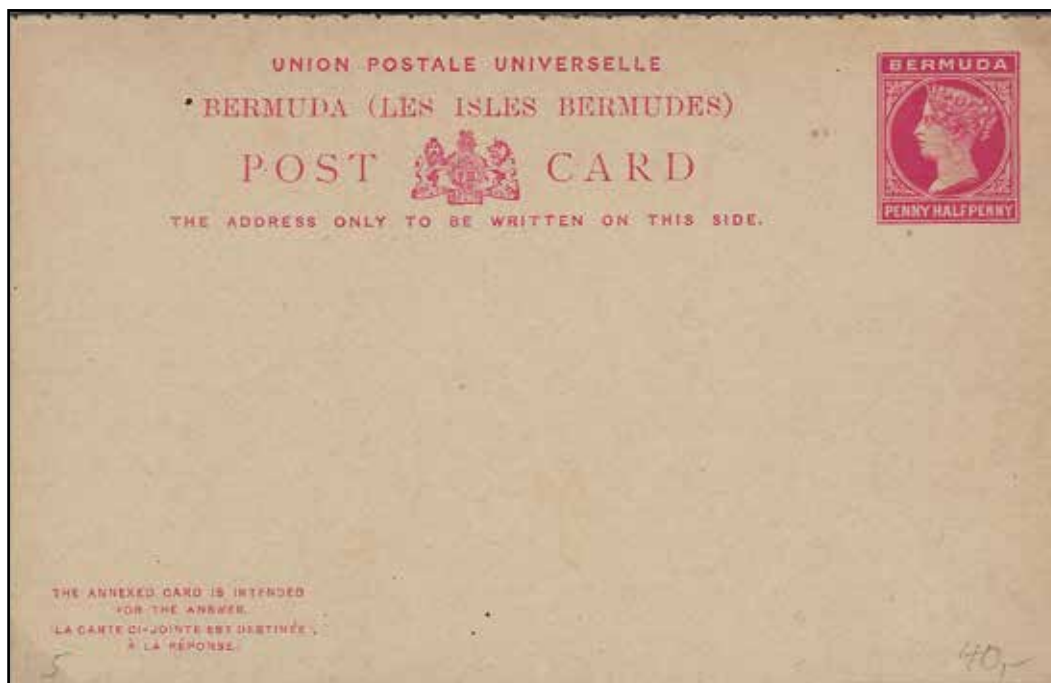
Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

Penny Half Penny + Penny Half Penny
Reply Card - DLR

One printing, received 25 Feb 1885.
20,340

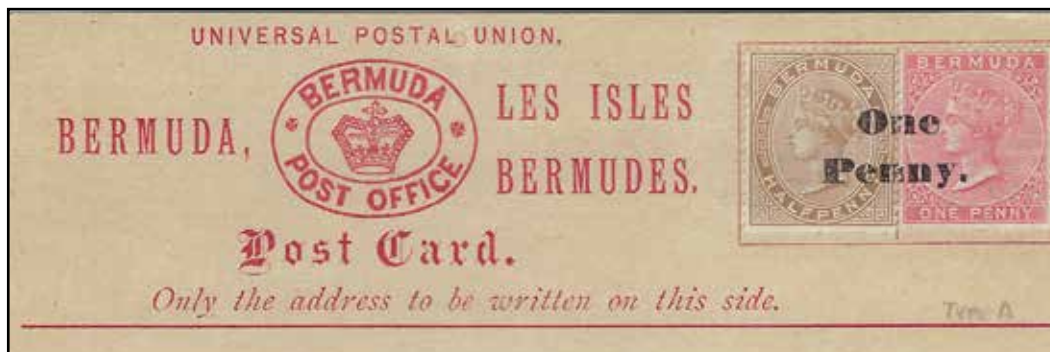


Carmine with 1½d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff

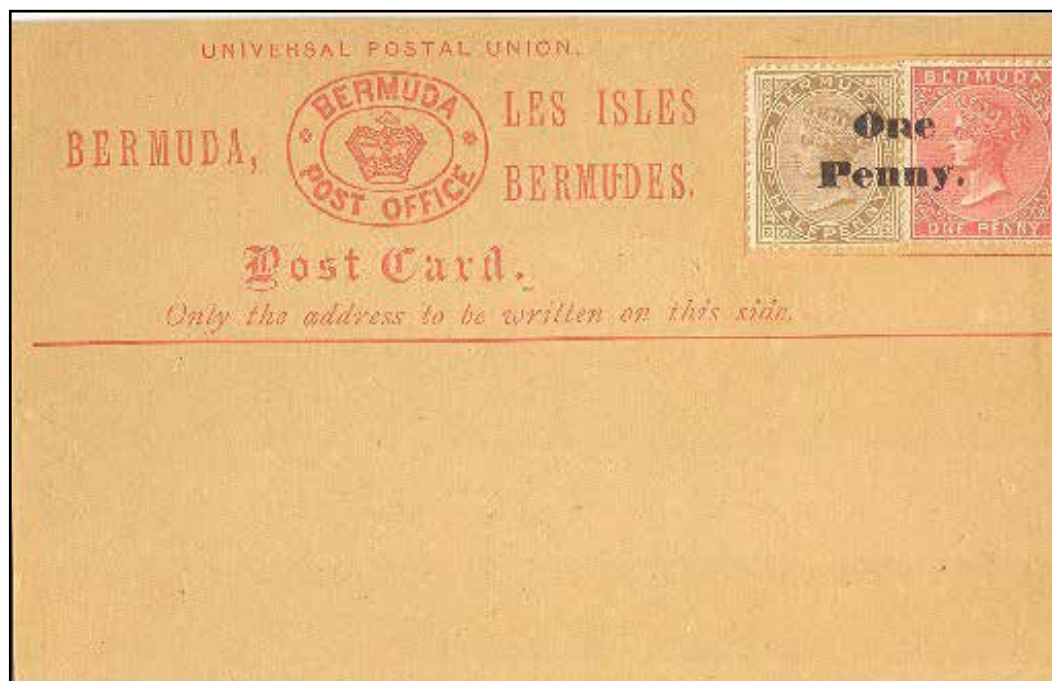


1893

87 cards were surcharged



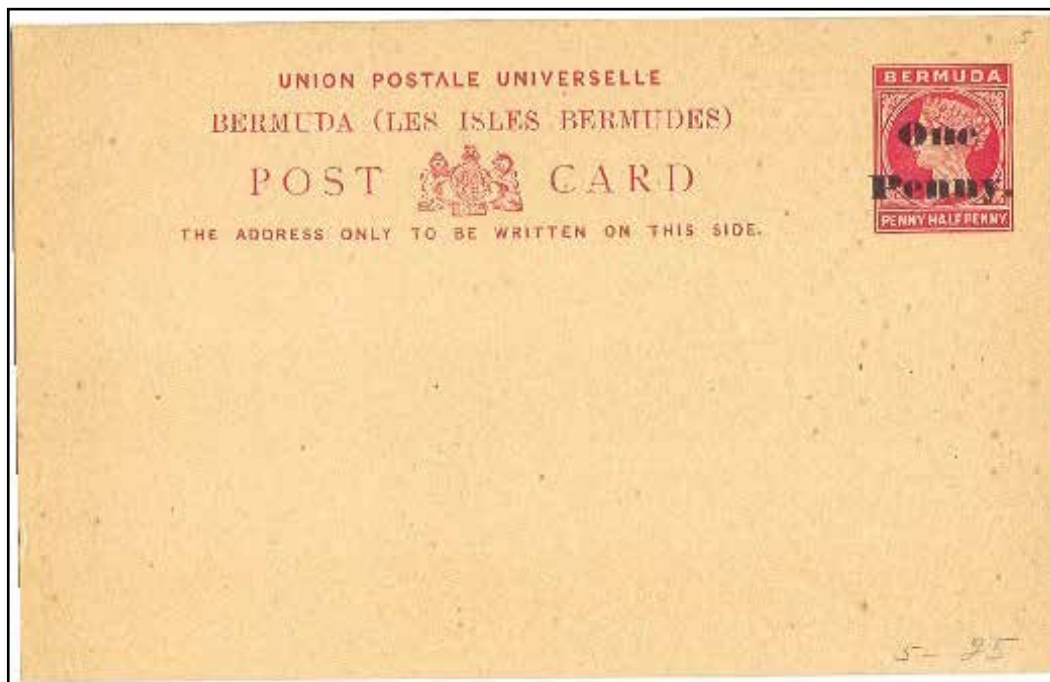
All of the surcharged cards were purchased by a Arthur Cleveland Cox Jones, clerk at the Hamilton Post Office. Approximately a dozen used examples are recorded of which about 3 are known of type A.



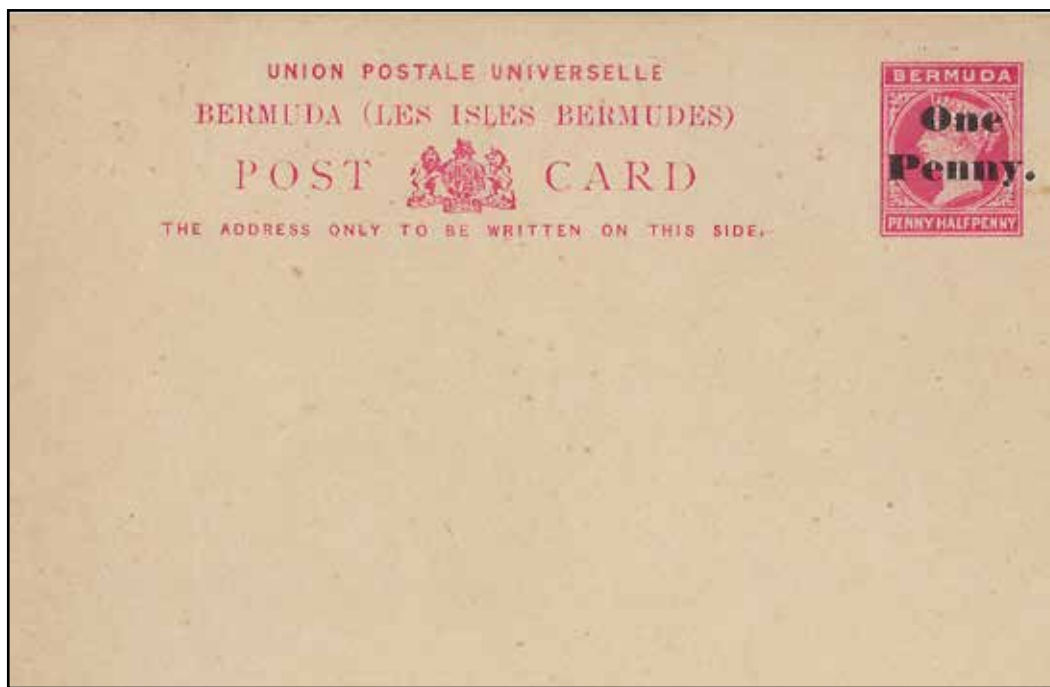
Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

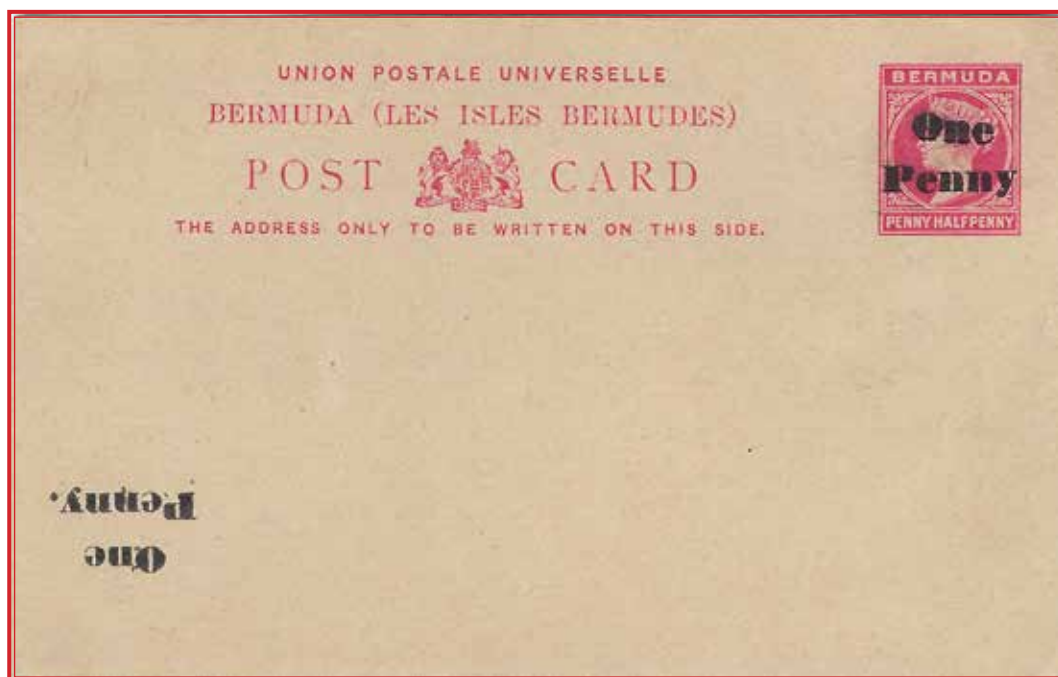
One Penny
DLR

1893
6,116 cards overprinted



Two main settings are recorded with the spacing between “One” and “Penny” of either 4mm (which appears to be more uncommon) or 4.5mm





Double overprinted the surcharge one the indicum measures 4mm and has no stop, one inverted surcharge measures 4.5mm
Only recorded example

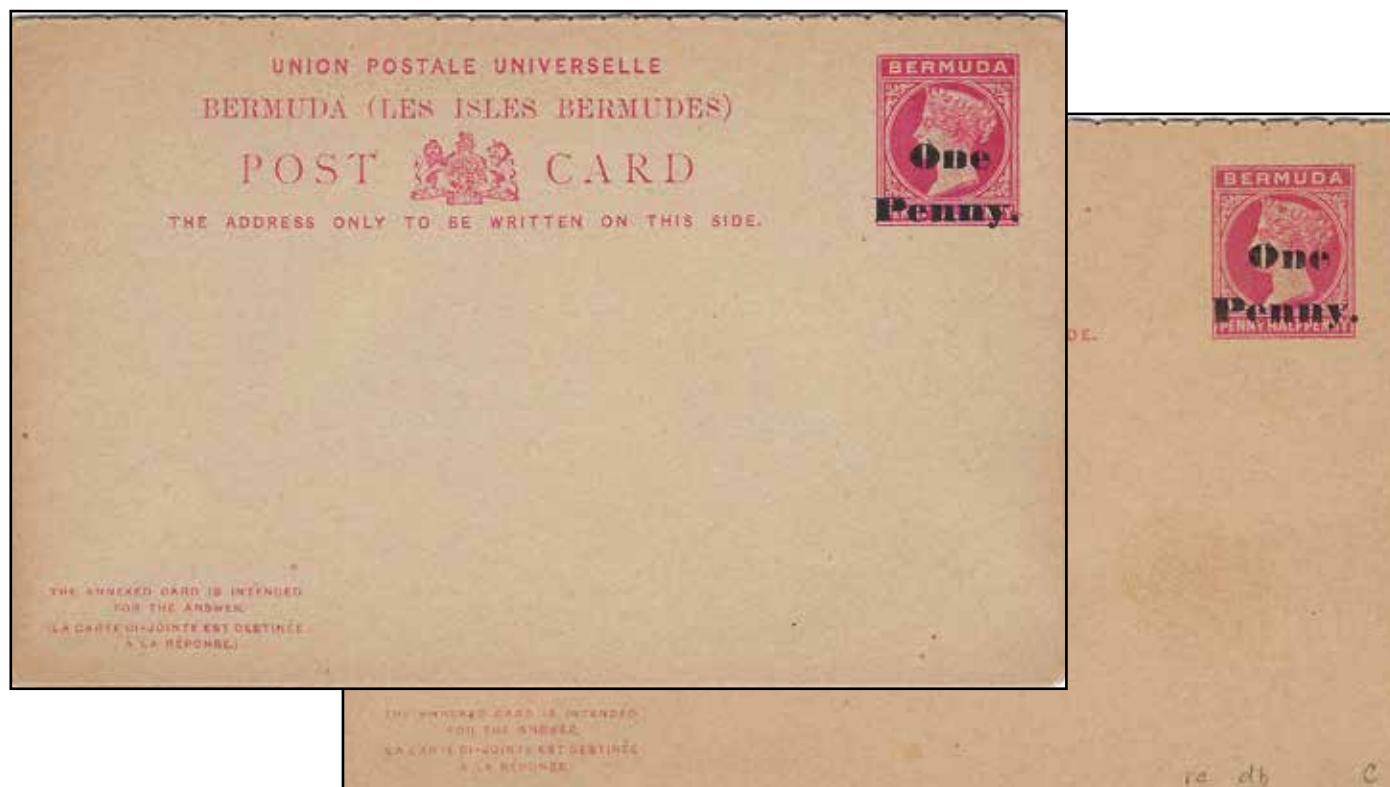


Surcharge measuring 3mm and has no stop. Only recorded used.
Less than 10 recorded examples

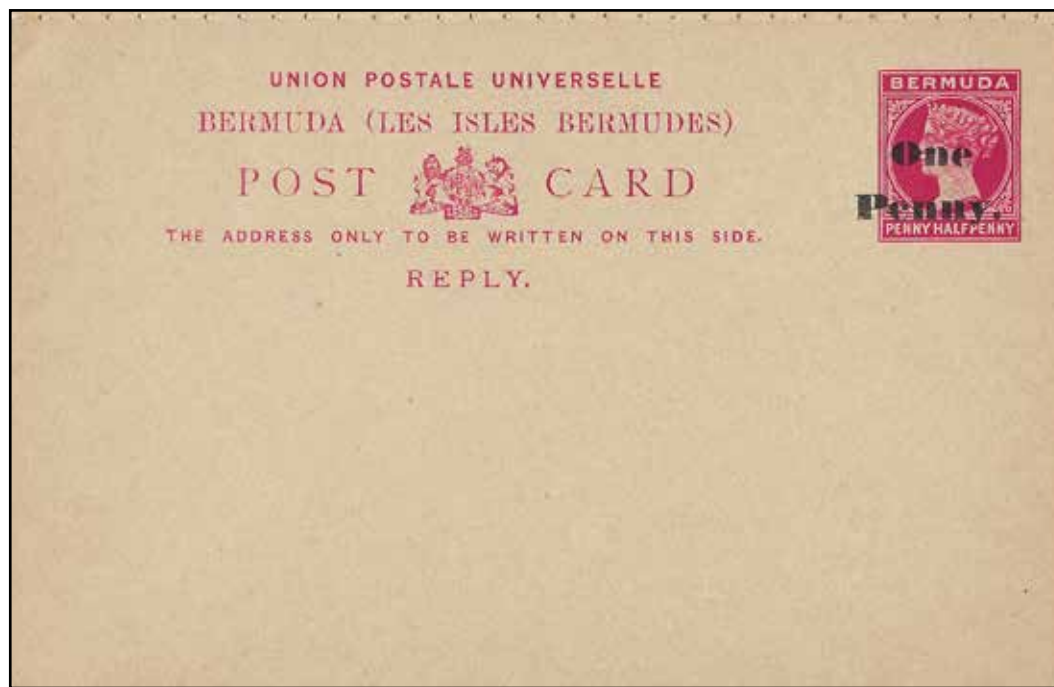
Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One Penny + One Penny
DLR

1893
414 cards overprinted

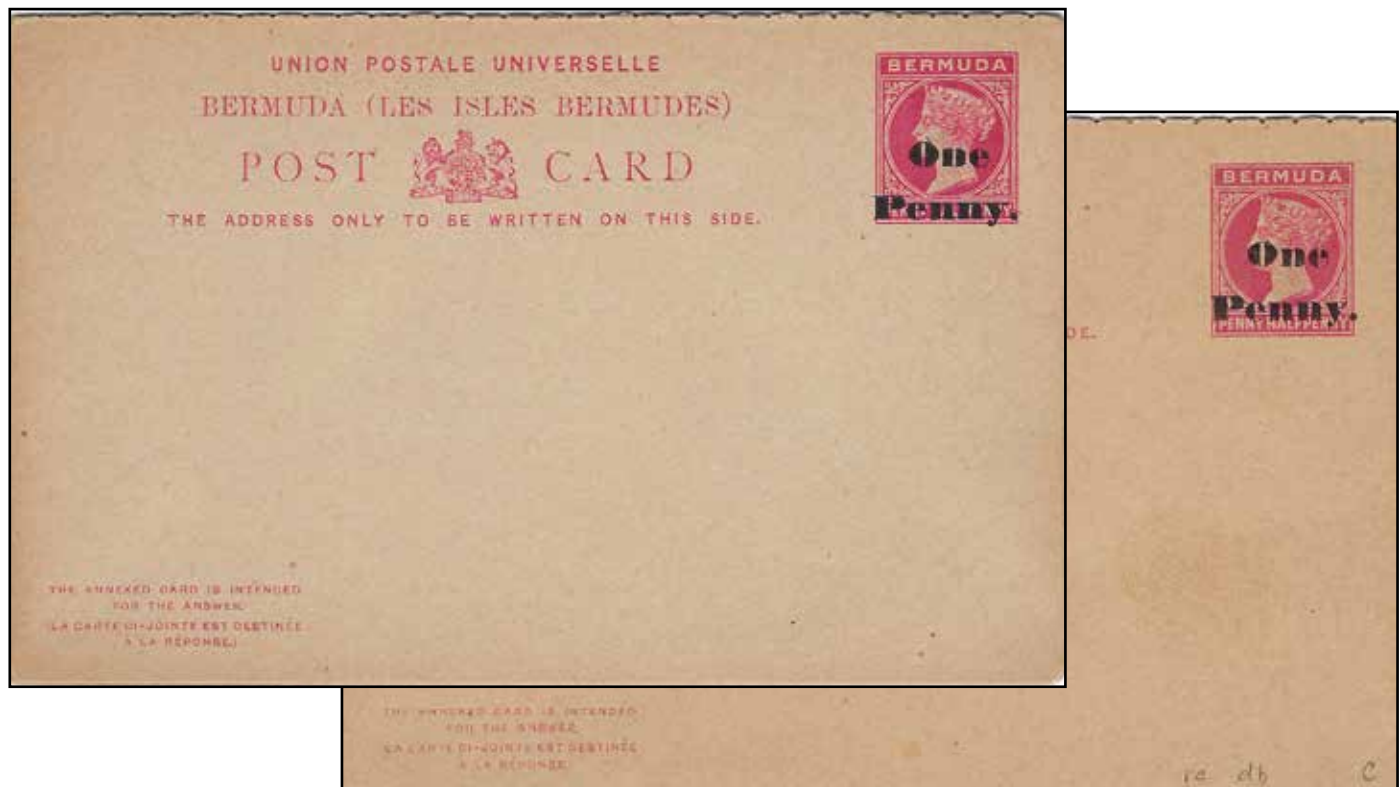


Shades

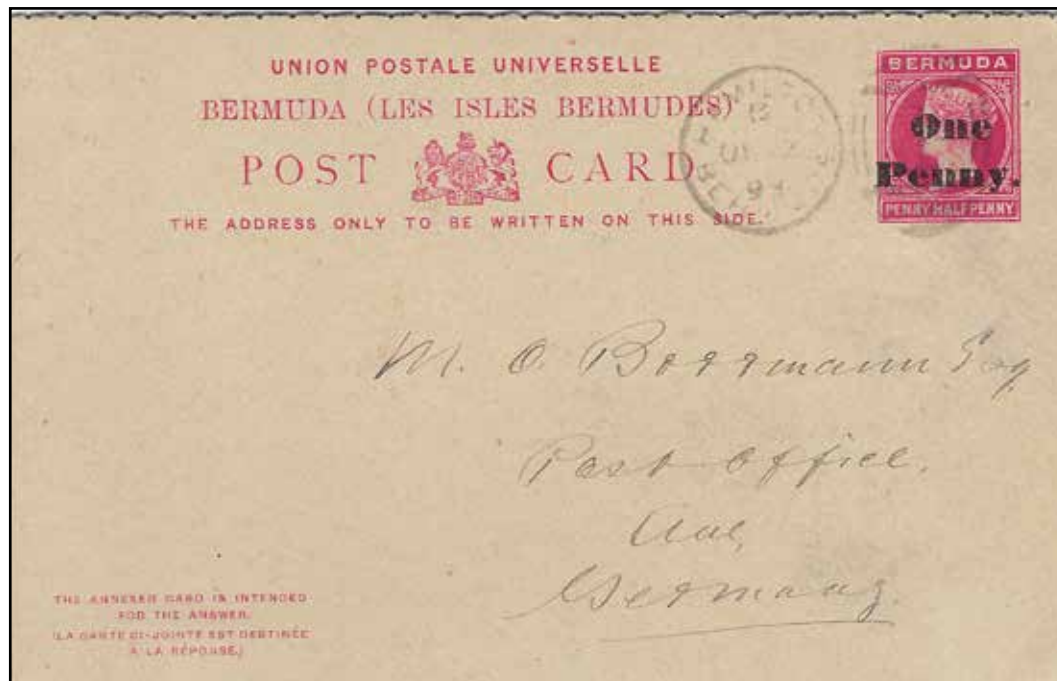


Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One Penny + One Penny
DLR

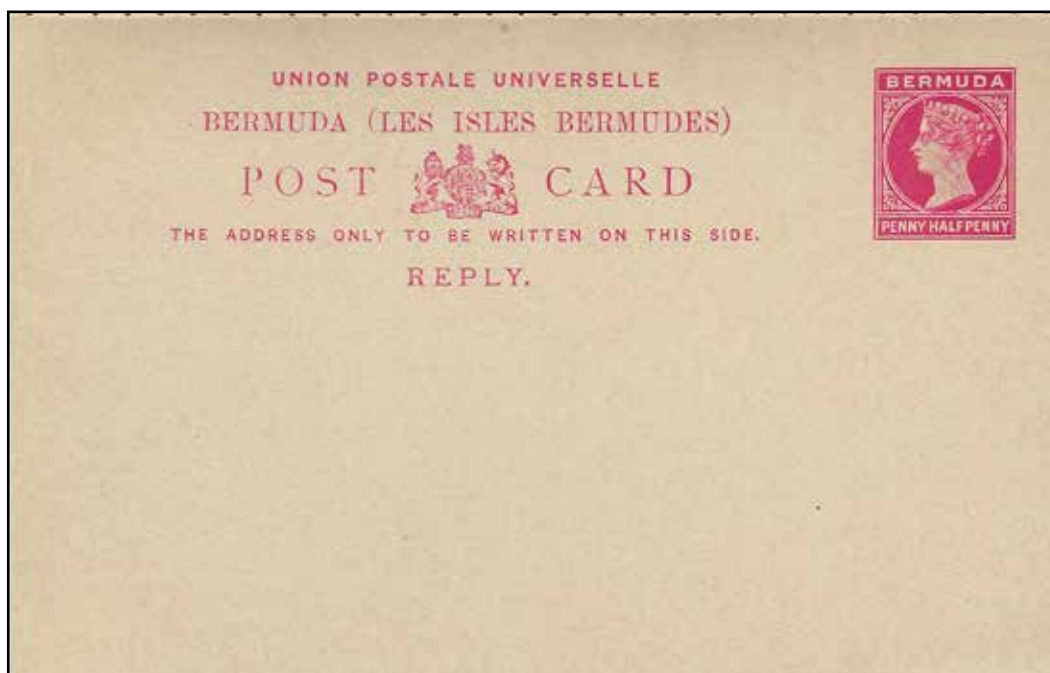


Shades

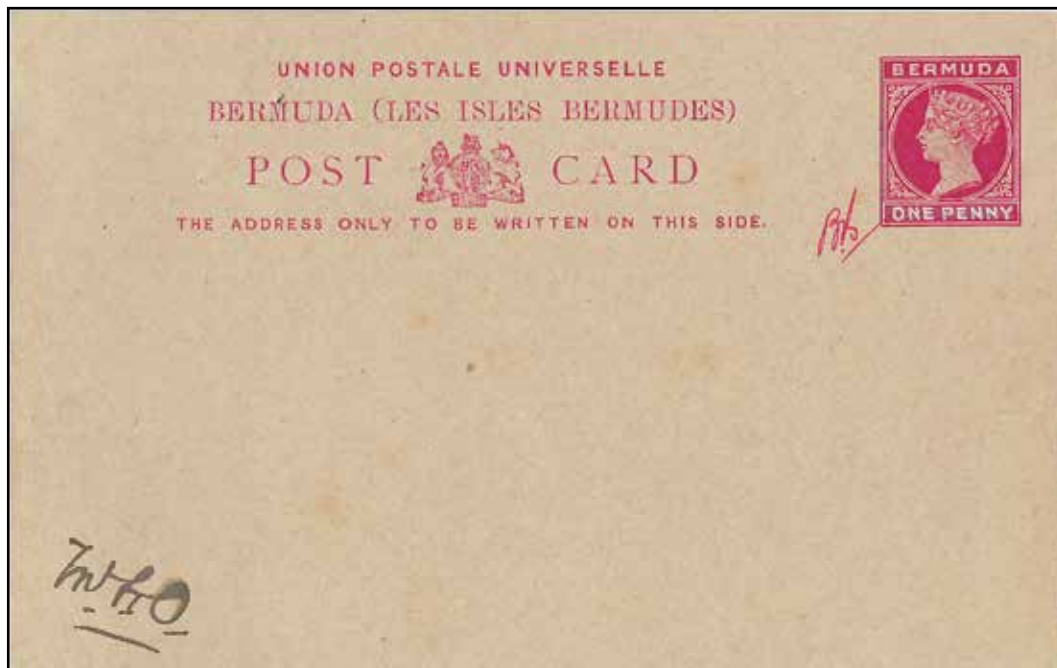


Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

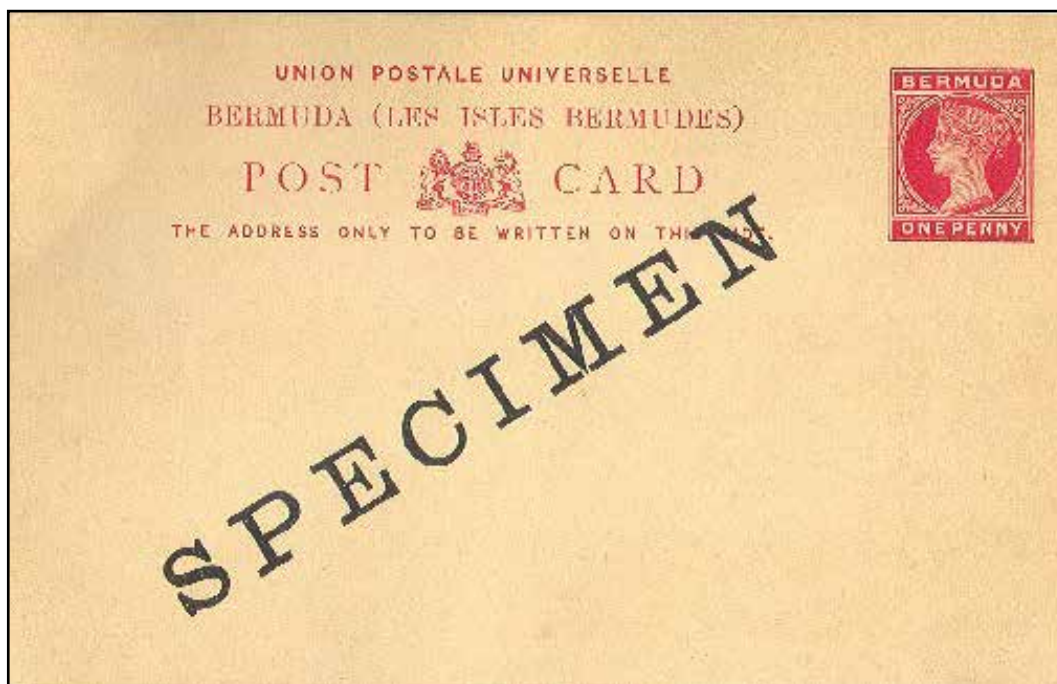
One Penny + One Penny
DLR



Surcharge omitted on the "REPLY" portion of the card
Three examples recorded



Essay with hand painting showing the new value of ONE PENNY in chinese white



SPECIMEN

One Penny DLR

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE
BERMUDA (LES ISLES BERMUDES)
POST  CARD
THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.



UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE
BERMUDA (LES ISLES BERMUDES)
POST  CARD
THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.



Henry ~~Winfrey~~ Esq
Ljickon
near Zurich
Switzerland

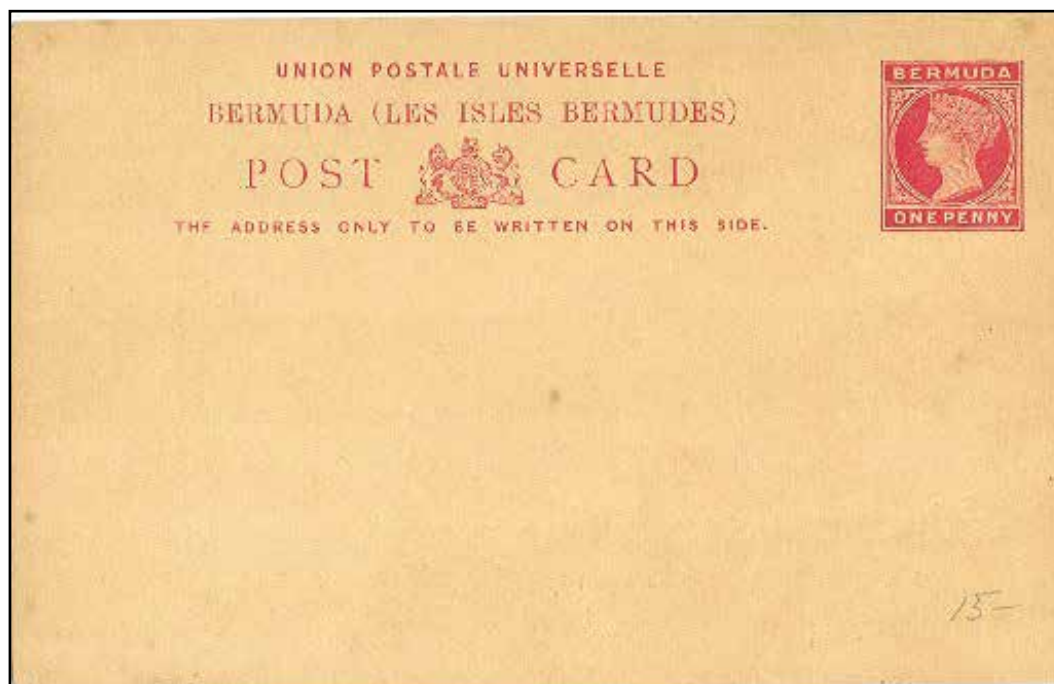


30

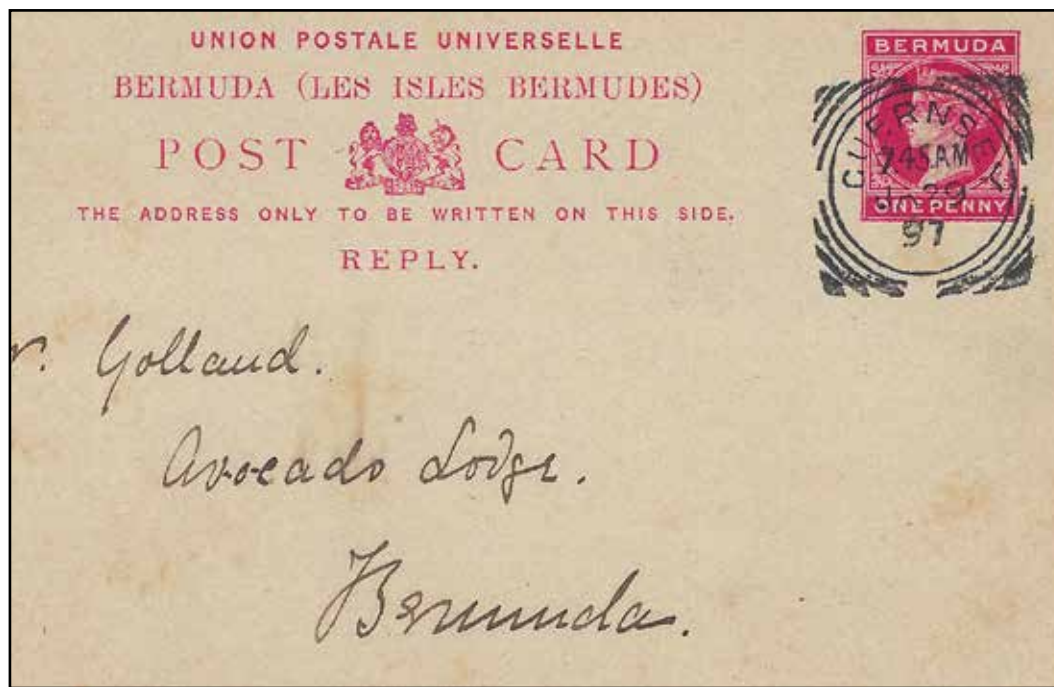
Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One Penny + One Penny
DLR

One printing, received Sep? 1893.
quantity unknown



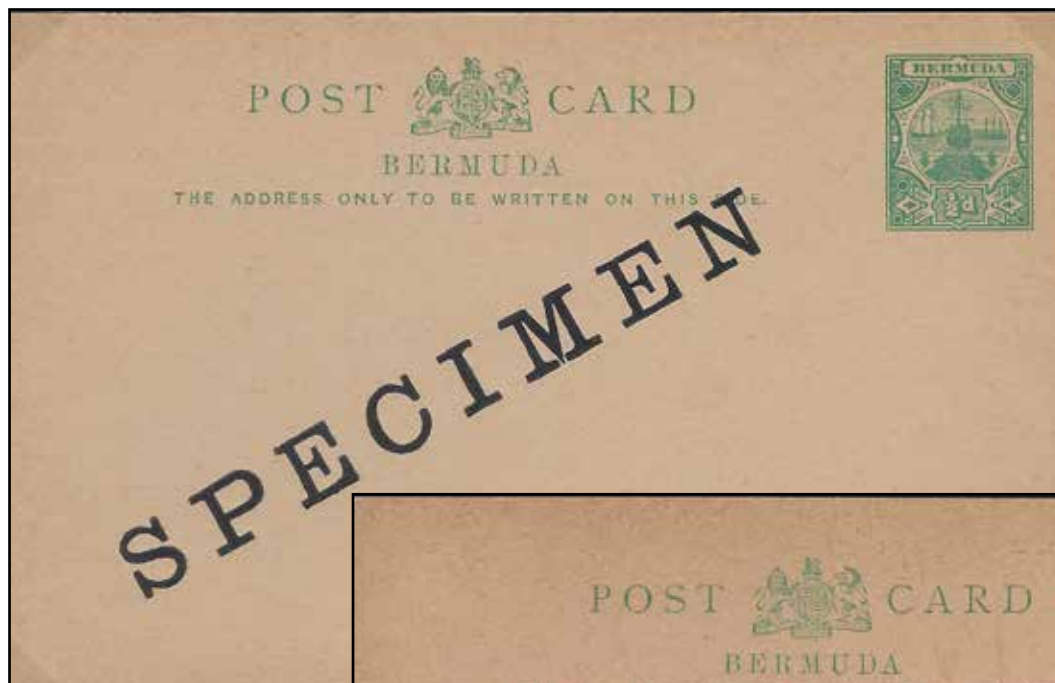
Blue with 1/2d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff



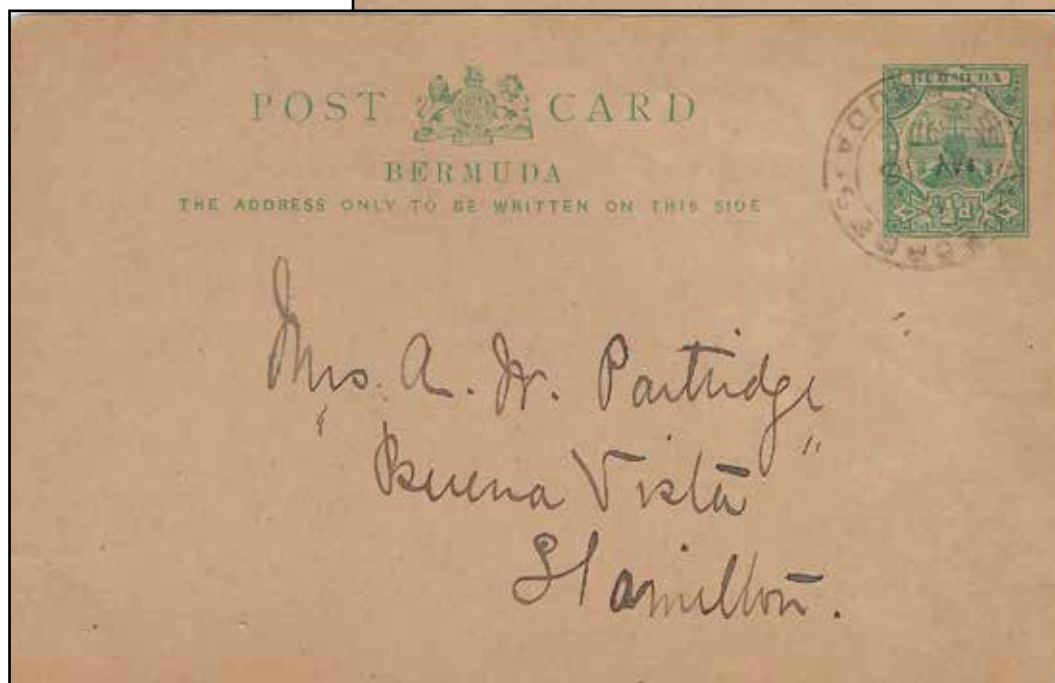
Section: I: Cards
King Edward VII

Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received Feb 1903.
Unknown quantity



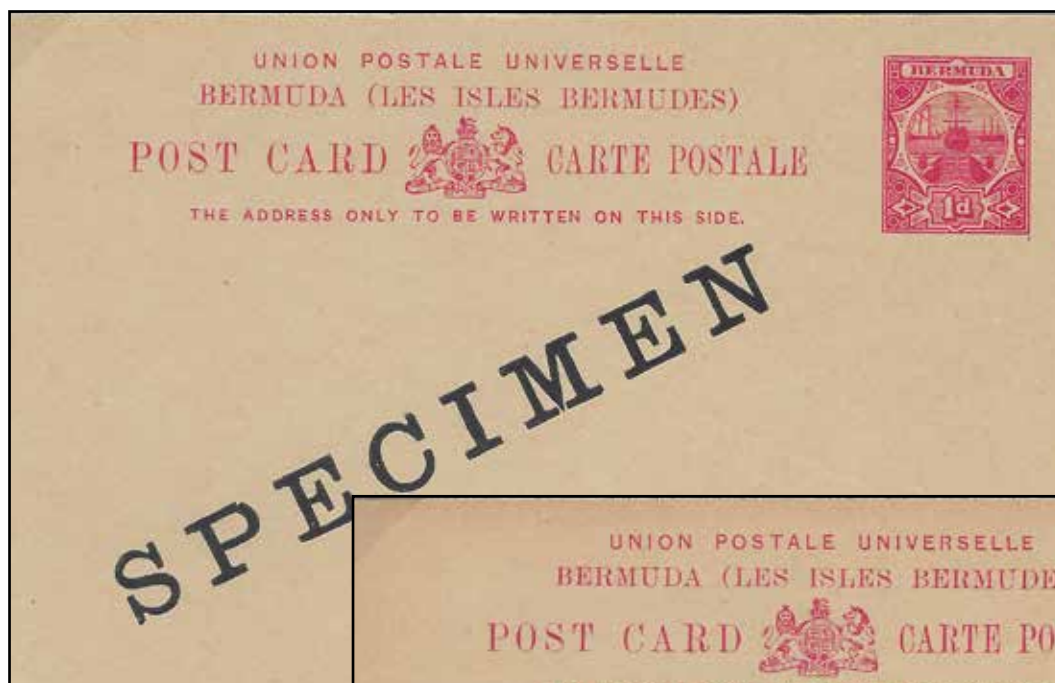
½d green



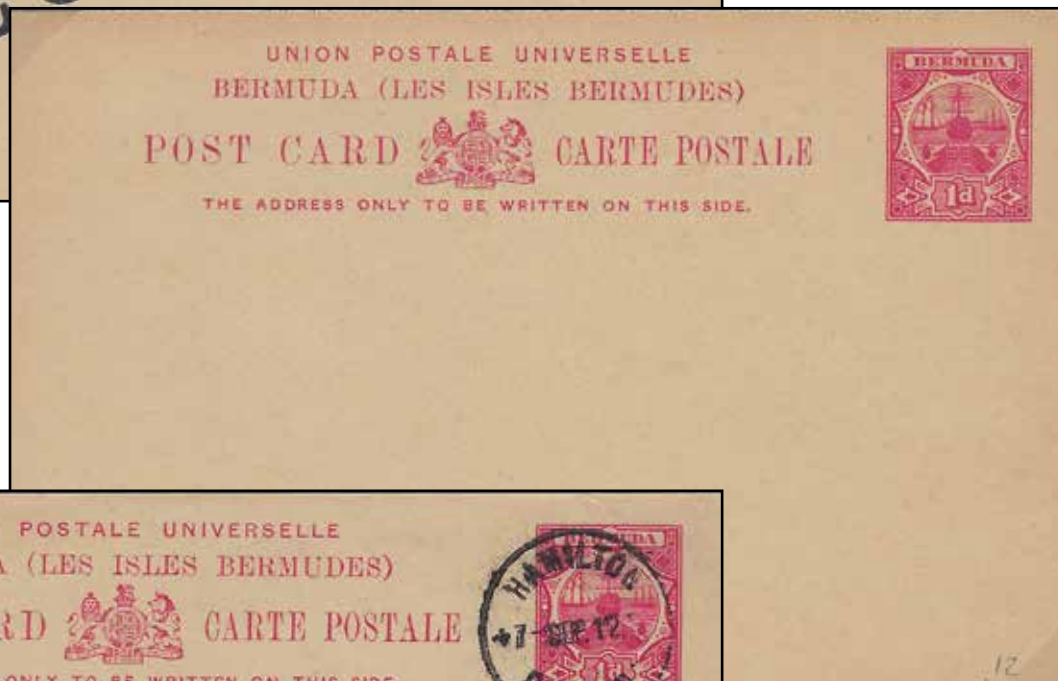
Section: I: Cards
King Edward VII

One printing, received Jul 1909.
12,168

One Penny
DLR



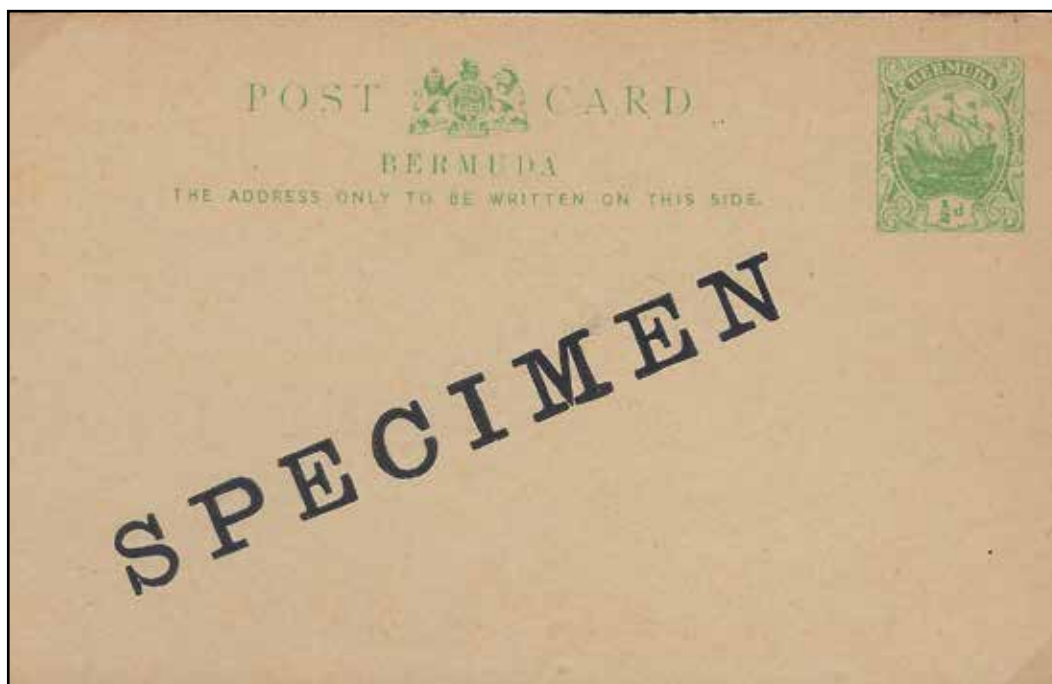
½d green



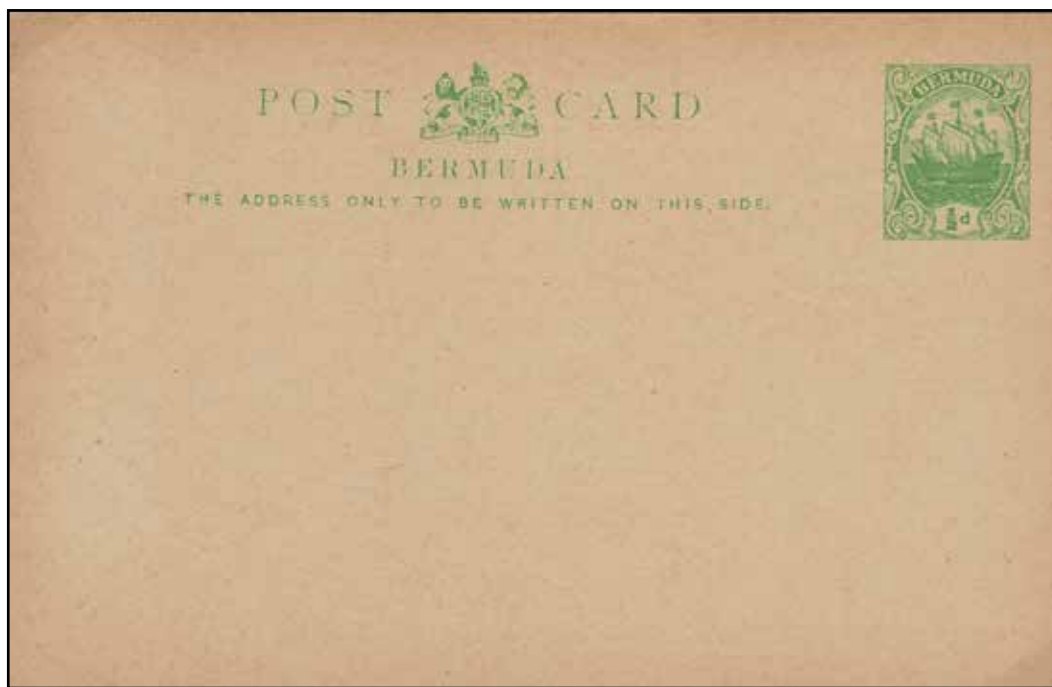
Section: I: Cards
King George V

Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received 1912
quantity unknown



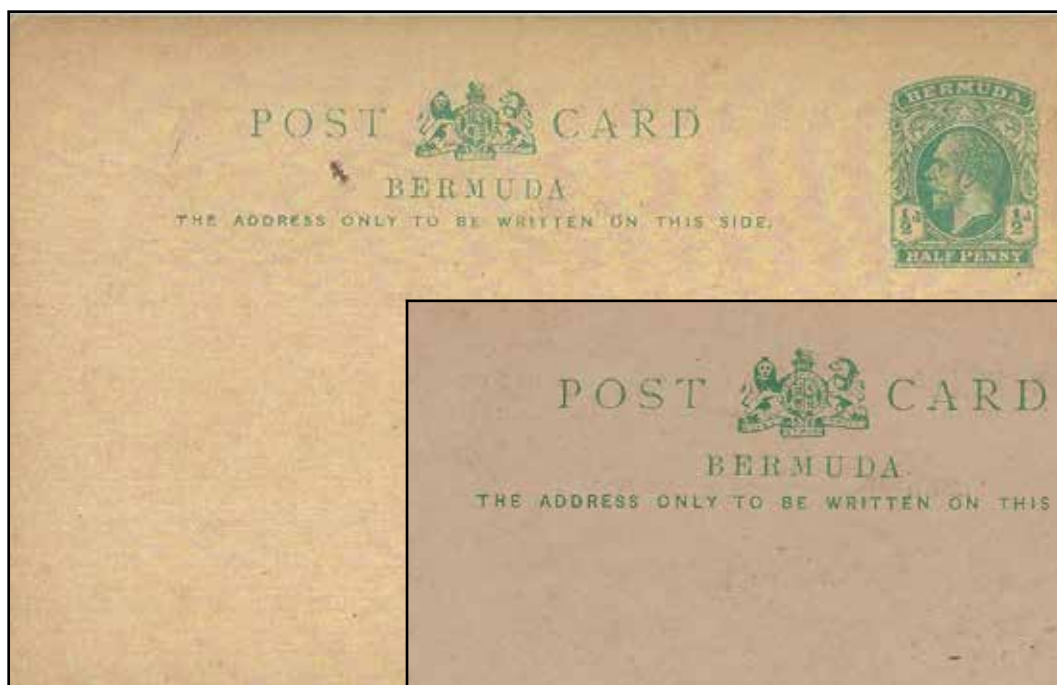
Blue with ½d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff



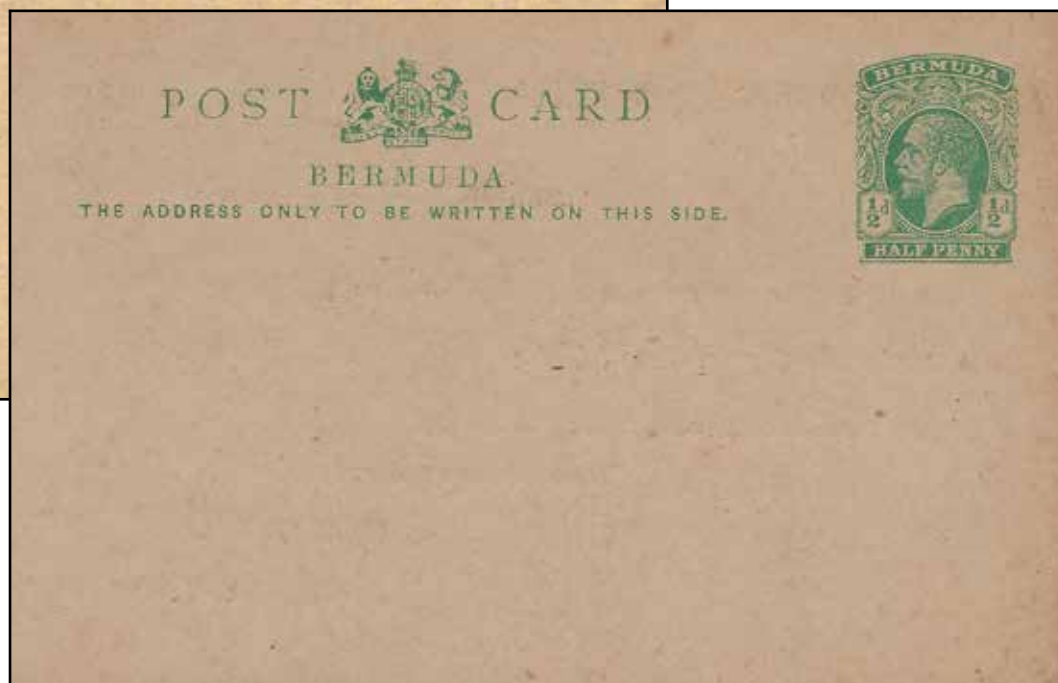
Section: I: Cards
King George V

Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received 1913
quantity unknown



Yellow-green



Green



Yellow-green
Purple cancel

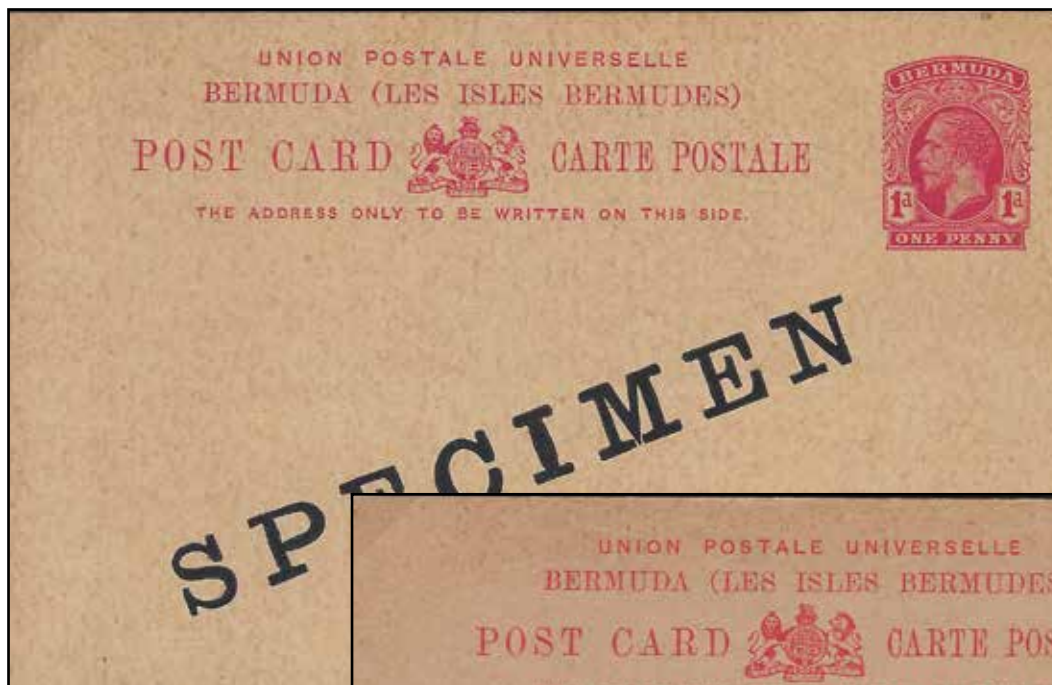


Green

Section: I: Cards
King George V

One Penny
DLR

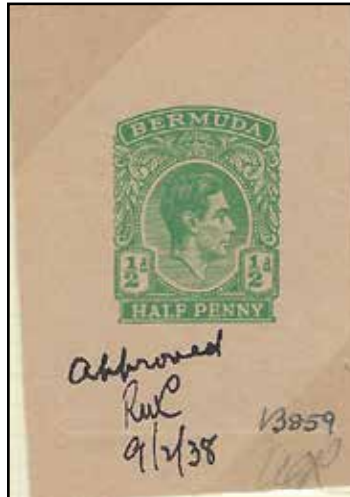
One printing, received 8 Nov.1912
quantity unknown



Section: I: Cards
King George VI

Half Penny
DLR

Seven printings, Jun 1938 - Apr 1940
76,836



1938 die proof in green of post card on buff (issued colour) showing albino impression of die surround.



SPECIMEN

392 printed

“THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE” measures 83mm

Section: I: Cards
King George VI

Half Penny
DLR

Seven printings, Jun 1938 - Apr 1940
76,836



1/2

“THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE” measures 75.5mm

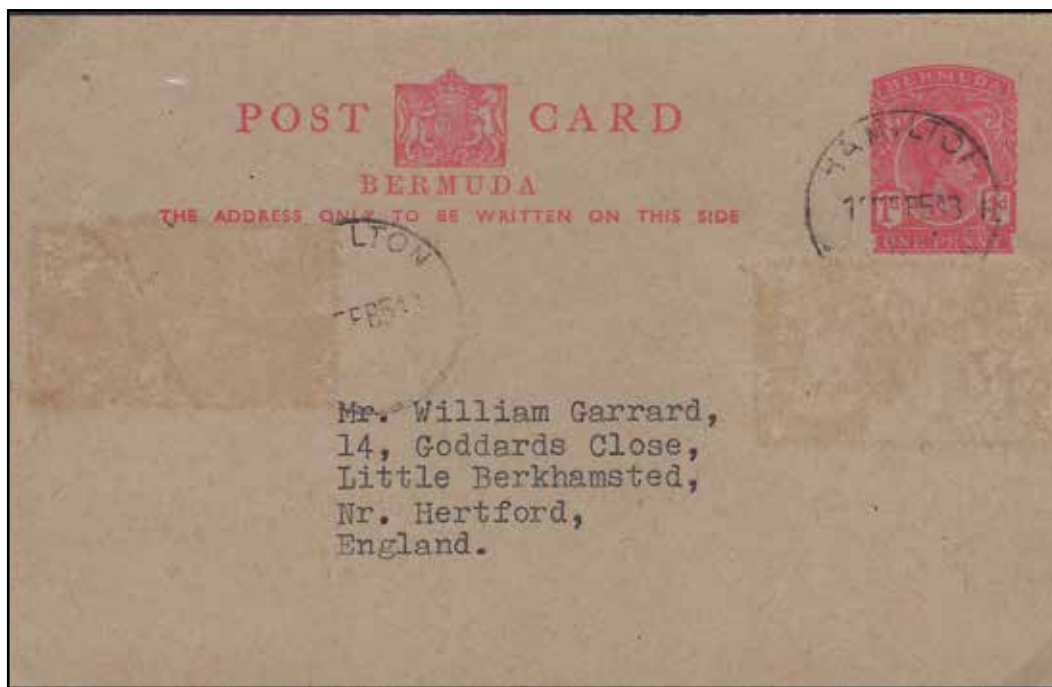
Section: I: Cards
King George VI

Thirteen? printings, Nov 1940 - Aug 1959
459,032

One Penny
DLR



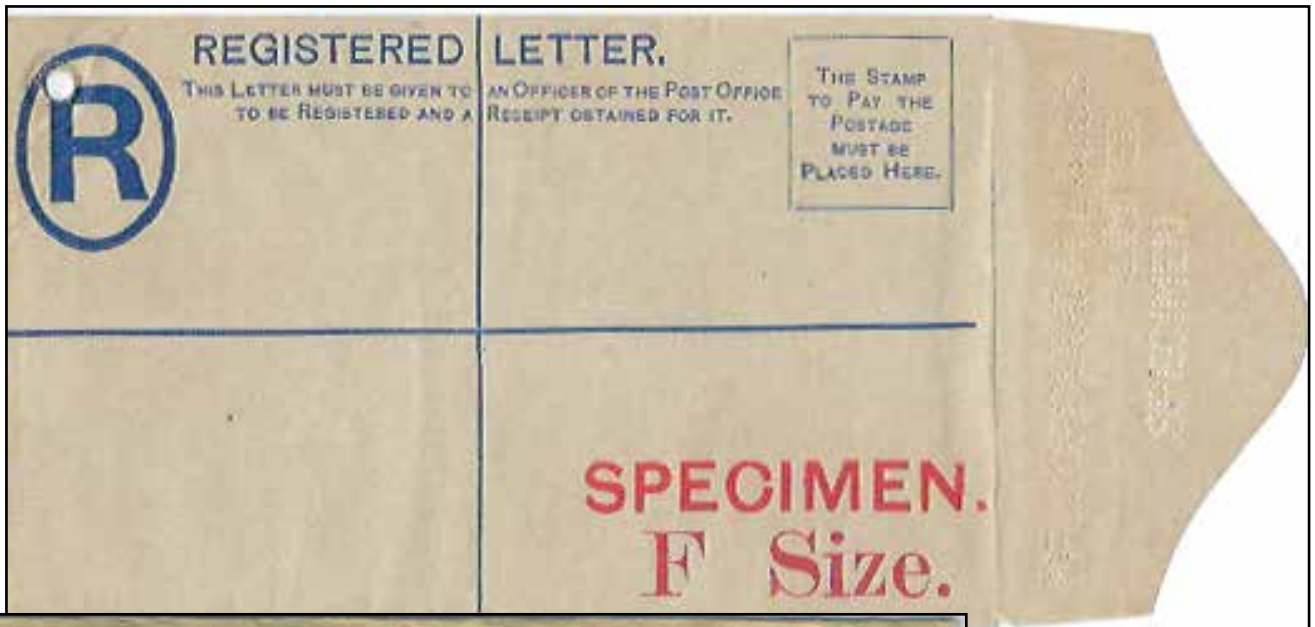
SPECIMEN
392 printed



**Section: II: Registered Envelope
Queen Victoria**

McCorquodale

The four specimens on this and the following page were sent to Bermuda by McCorquodale and Co., Limited Contractors. They were attempting to compete with De la Rue for producing registered envelopes. The used example is the only recorded use of a McCorquodale envelope in Bermuda.



Section: II: Registered Envelope
Queen Victoria

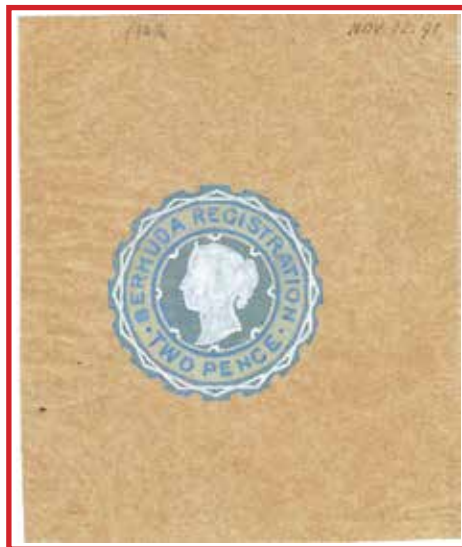
McCorcondale



Section: II: Registered Envelope Queen Victoria

Die Proof

Registration dates to 1556 during the reign of Queen Mary the current system from 1841 where the letter was enclosed in a green sheet that was used as a receipt and returned to the sender. This developed into the use of a ribbon followed by tape and string. The introduction of registered envelopes in 1878 the string was replaced by printed blue crossed lines that survived into the modern era.



Hand painted essay for the registered envelopes
with 2d indicium.



Die proof with 2d indicium in vermillion.
Ex Ludington

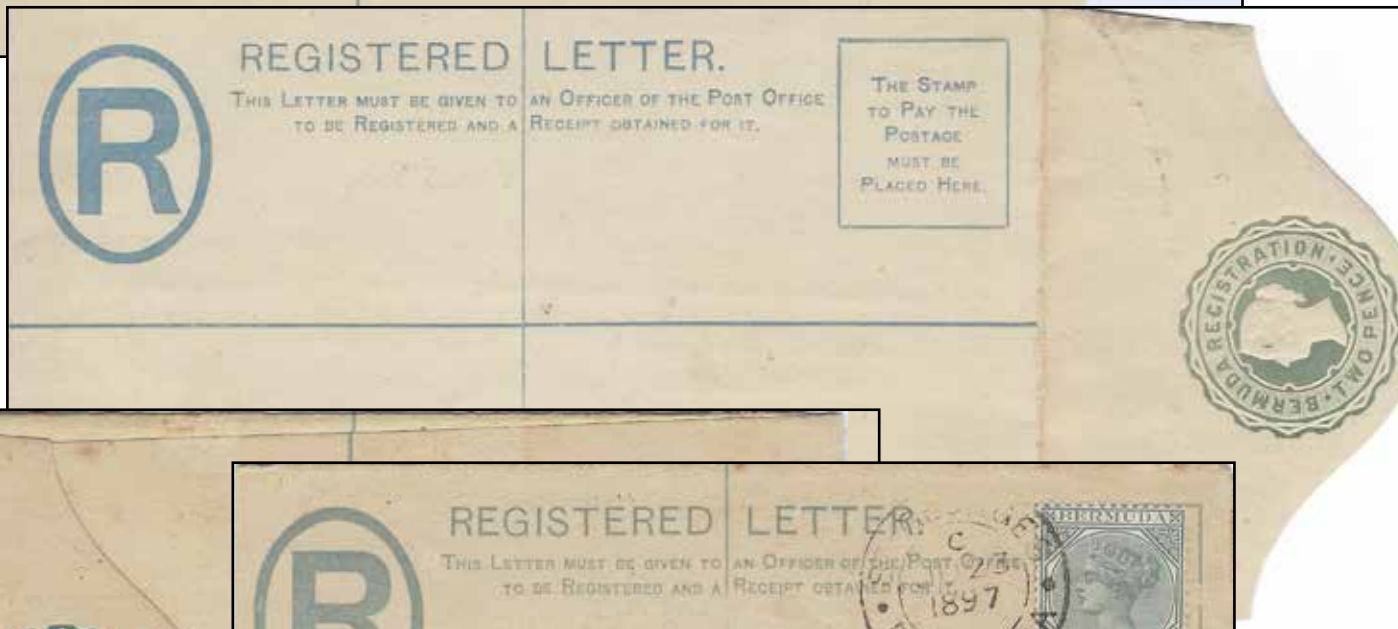
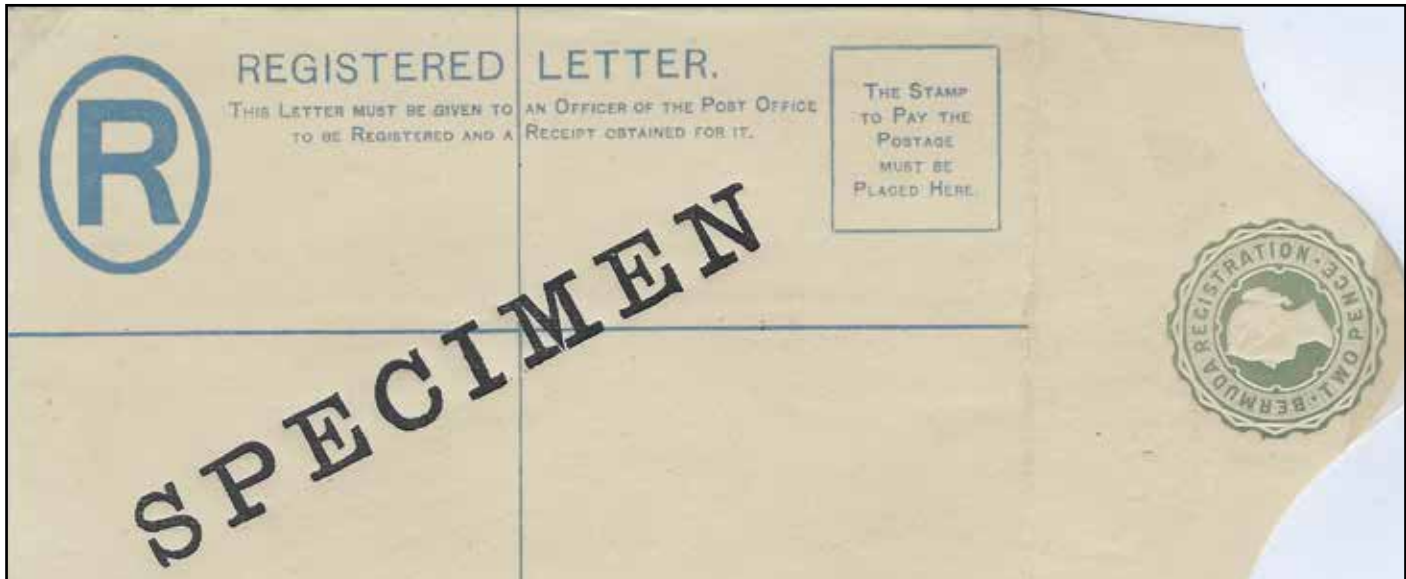
Registered envelopes were produced with a printed indicium showing the prepaid cost of registration and in four standard sizes with letter codes as follows:

F	5"	x	3"
G	6"	x	3 1/2"
H	7"	x	5"
H2	9"	x	4"

Section: II: Registered Envelope
Queen Victoria

One printing, received May 1892.
1,000

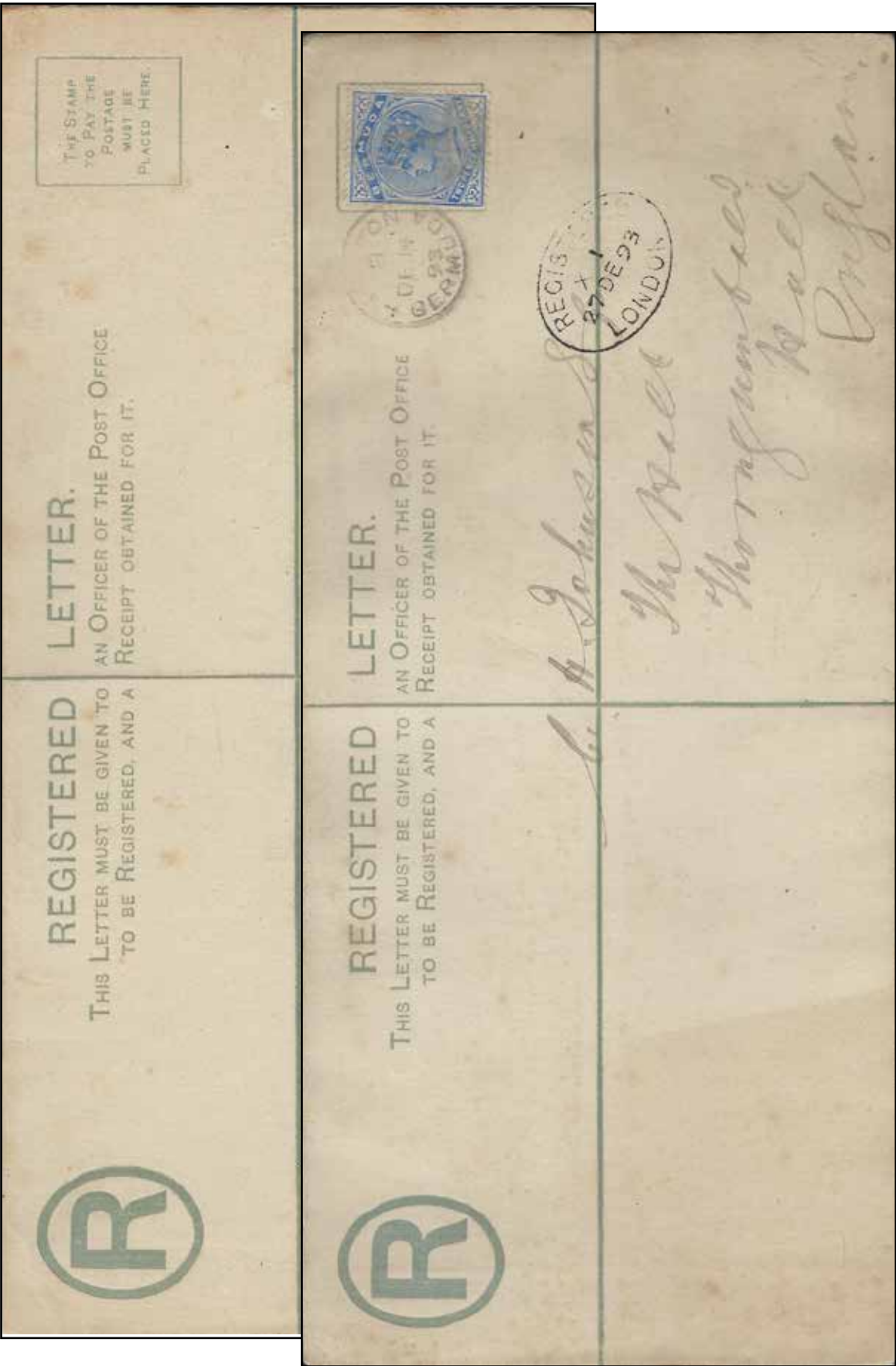
Two Pence
Size F



The Queen Victoria registered envelopes were only produced in two sizes F and H2

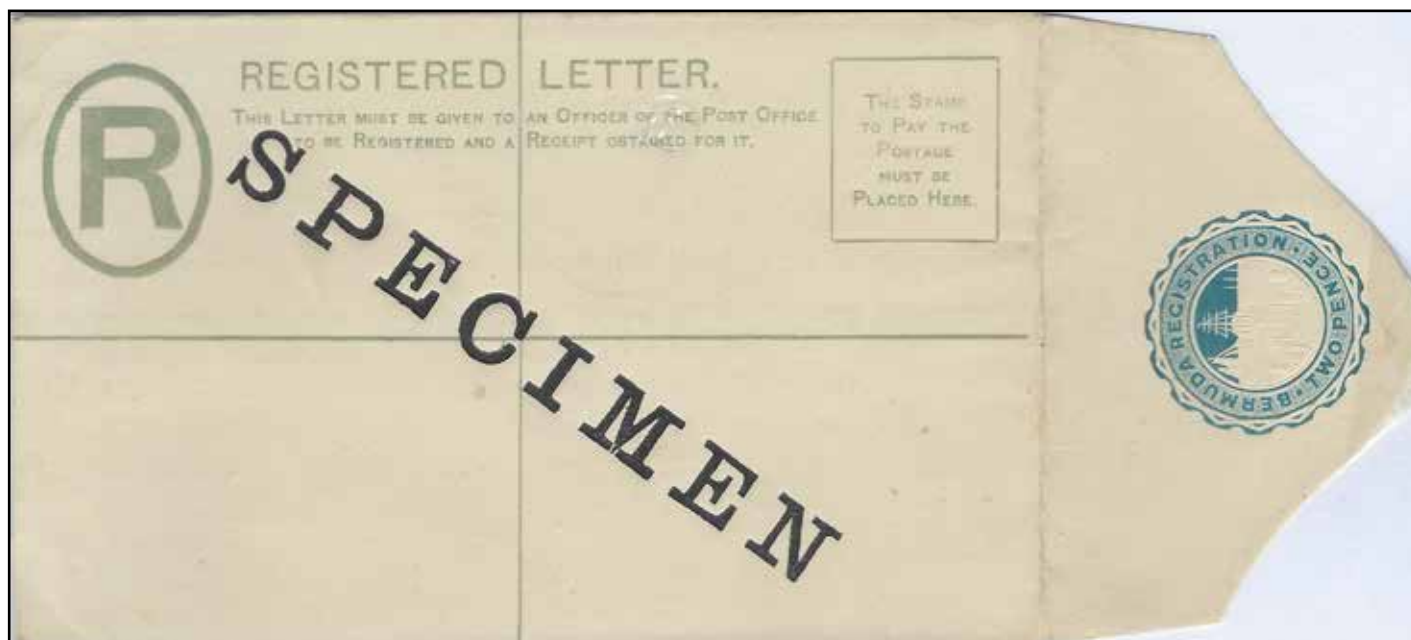
Section: II: Registered Envelope One printing, received May 1892.
Queen Victoria 1,000

Two Pence
Size H2





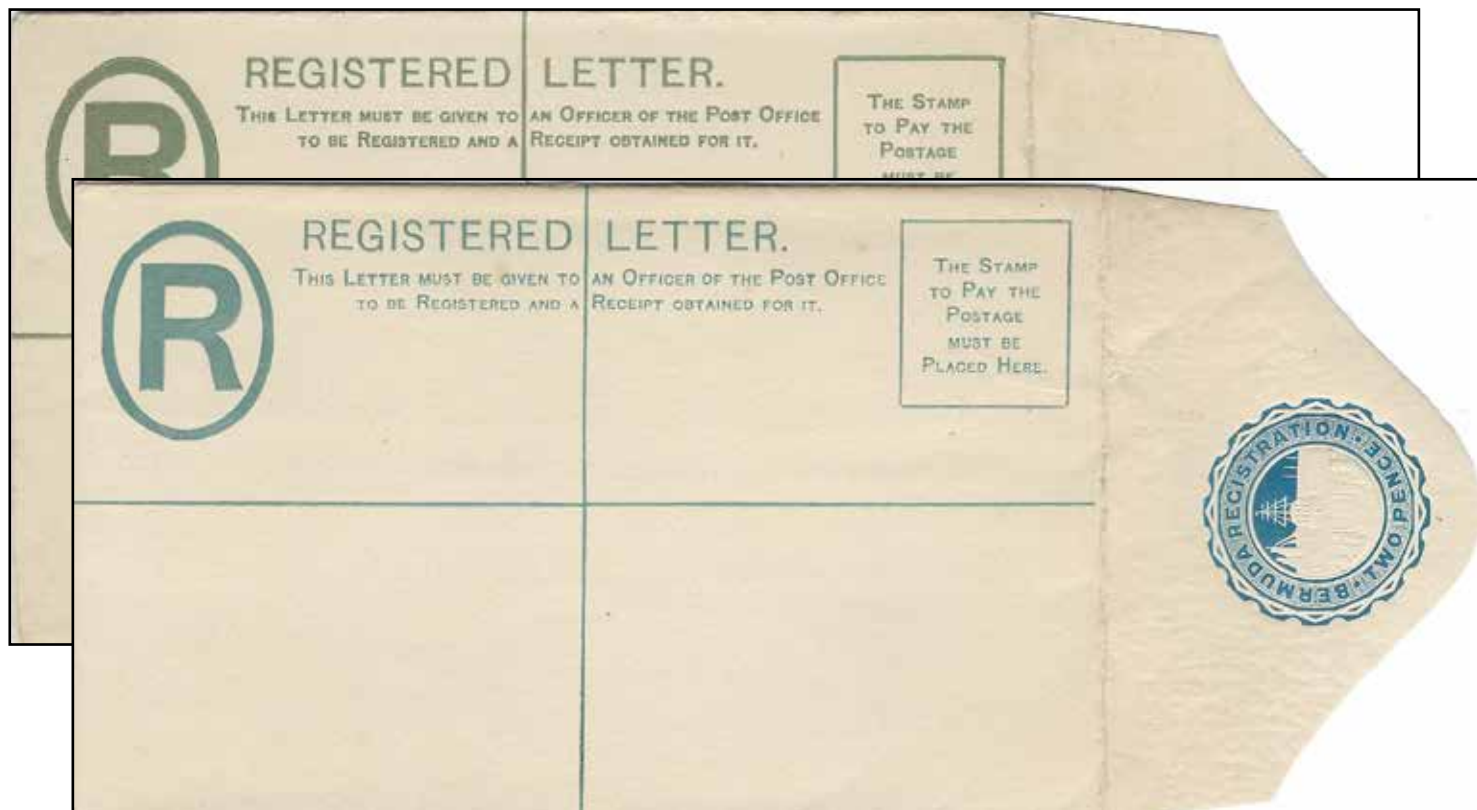
Uncleared embossed die proof with Docks indicium in vermillion.
Ex Ulrich, Leuhusen



Section: II: Registered Envelope
Queen Victoria

Two Pence
DLR

One printing, received February 1903.
less than 5,000



Type is known in grey and blue-grey



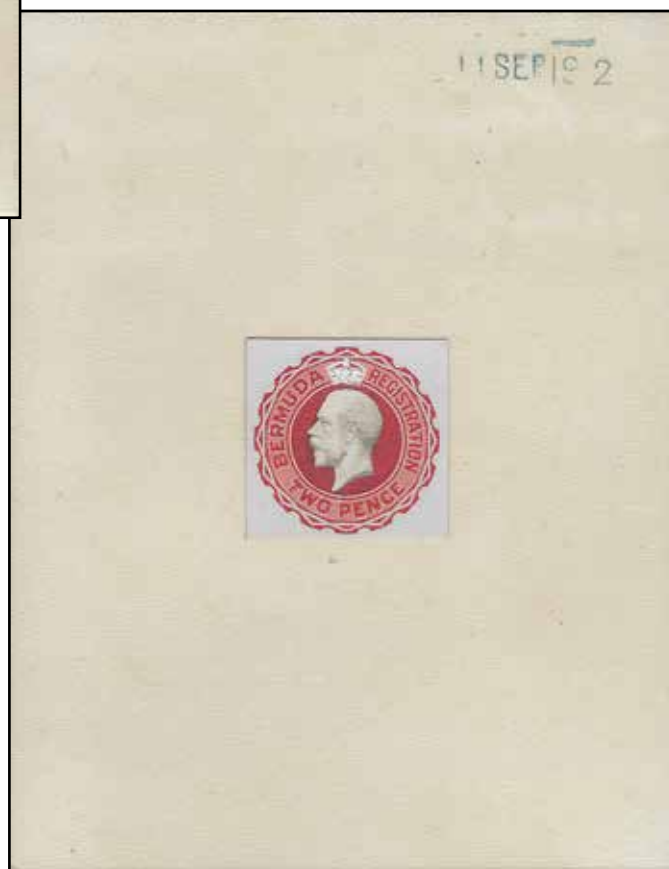
Only the one size envelope was prepared

**Section: II: Registered Envelope
King George V**

**Two Pence
Essay**



Hand painted essay
The unadopted design dated July 27 12 has stops at the sides and the word "registration" in the same size as the rest of the lettering, unlike the design adopted for the issued envelopes.

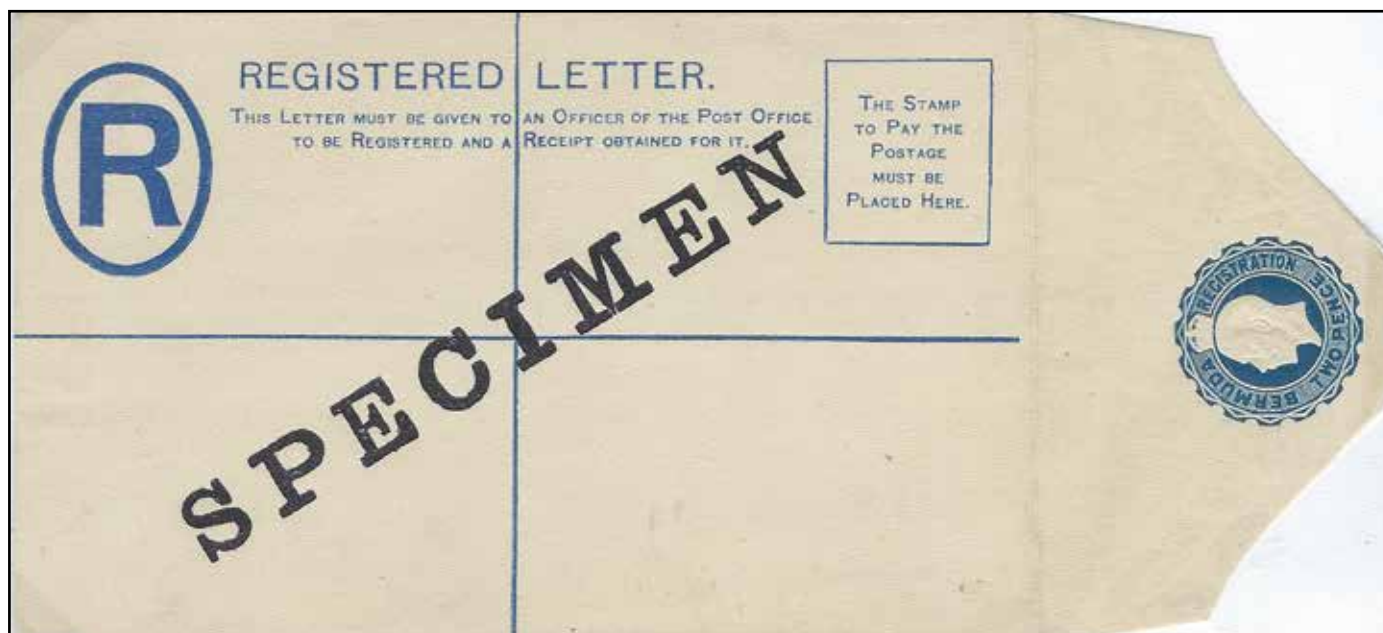


Hand painted essay
The stops are no longer present and "registration" is in thinner letters. This design dated 11 Sep 12 was adopted for the issued envelopes.

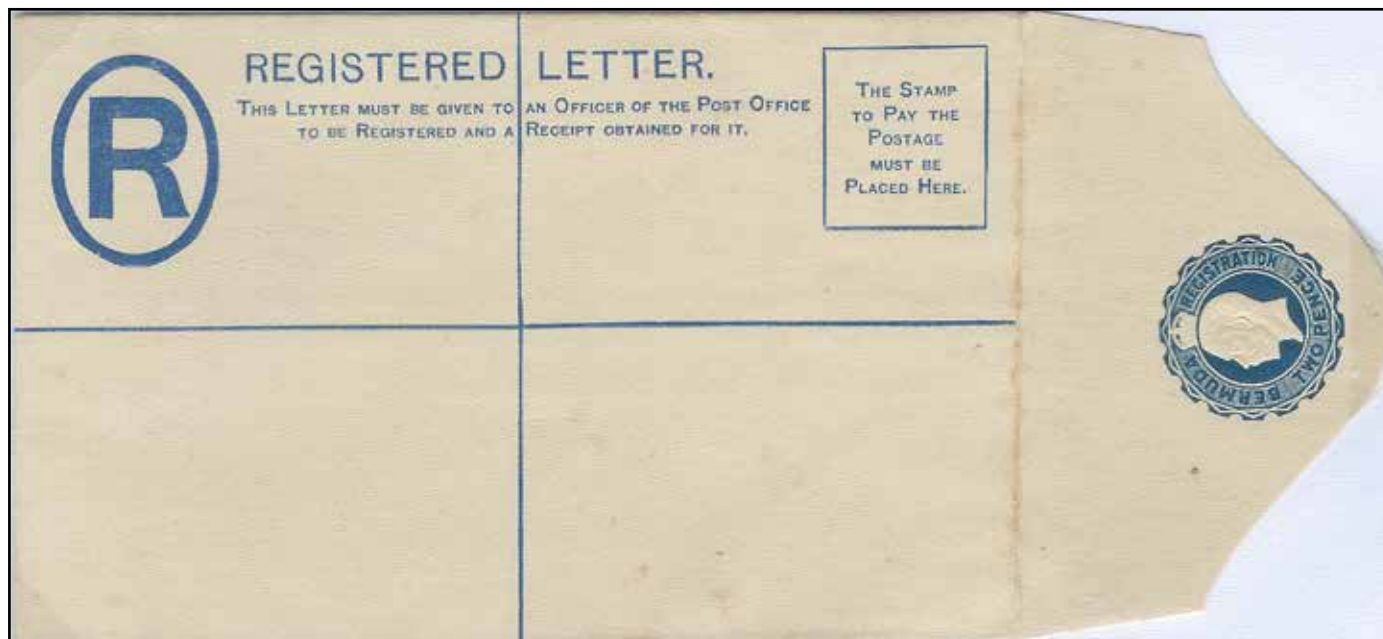
Section: II: Registered Envelope
King George V

One printing, received 1912
quantity unknown

Two Pence
DLR



Blue with 1/2d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff



Section: II: Registered Envelope
King George V

Two Pence
DLR



Blue with 1/2d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff



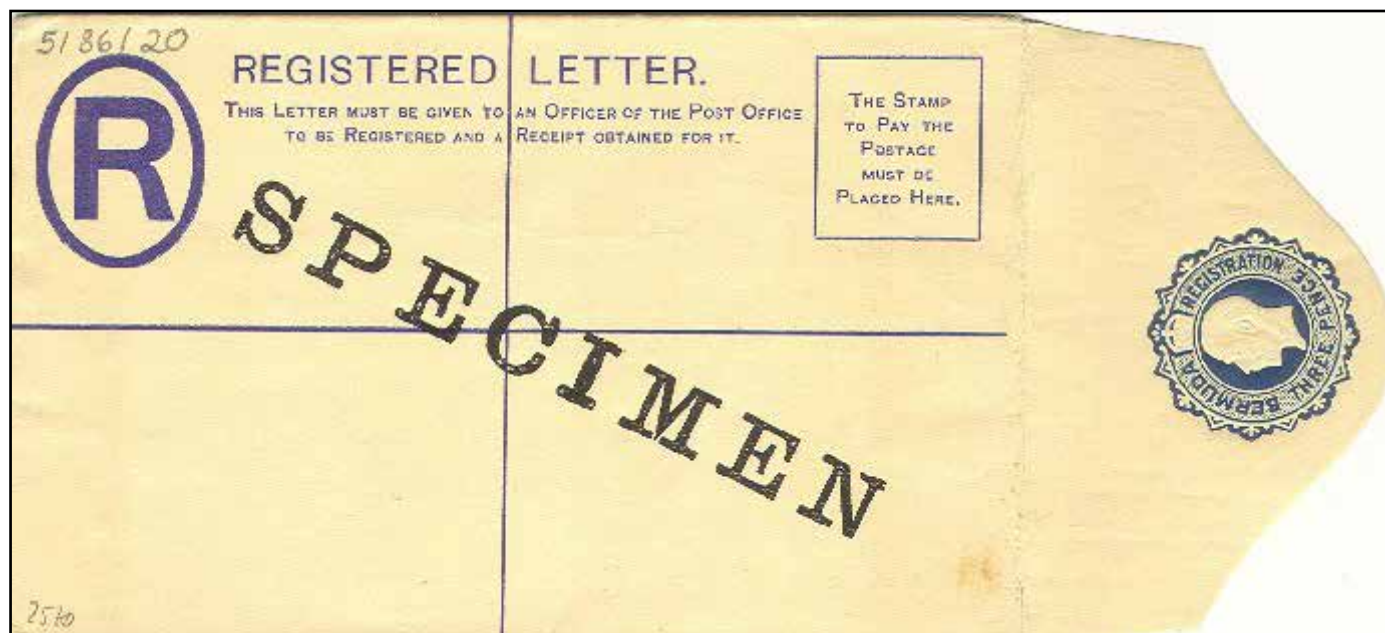
Section: II: Registered Envelope
King George V

Three Pence
DLR

One printing, received 1922.
quantity unknown

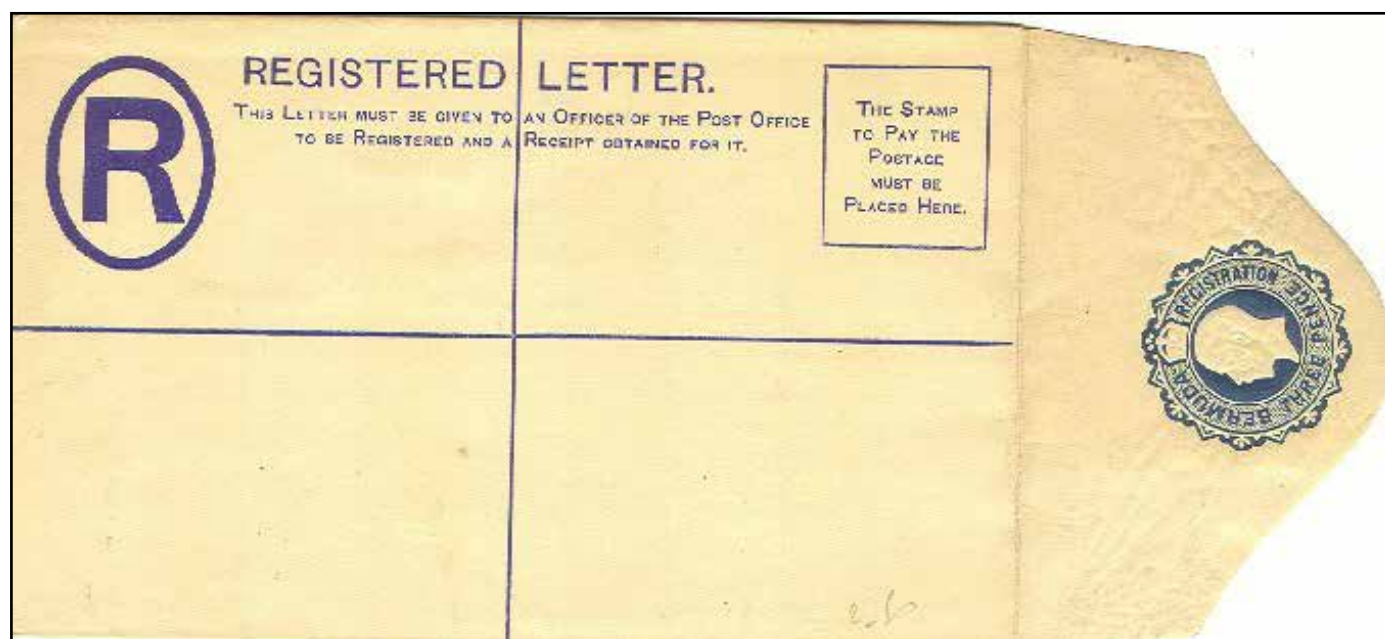


Blue with 1/2d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff



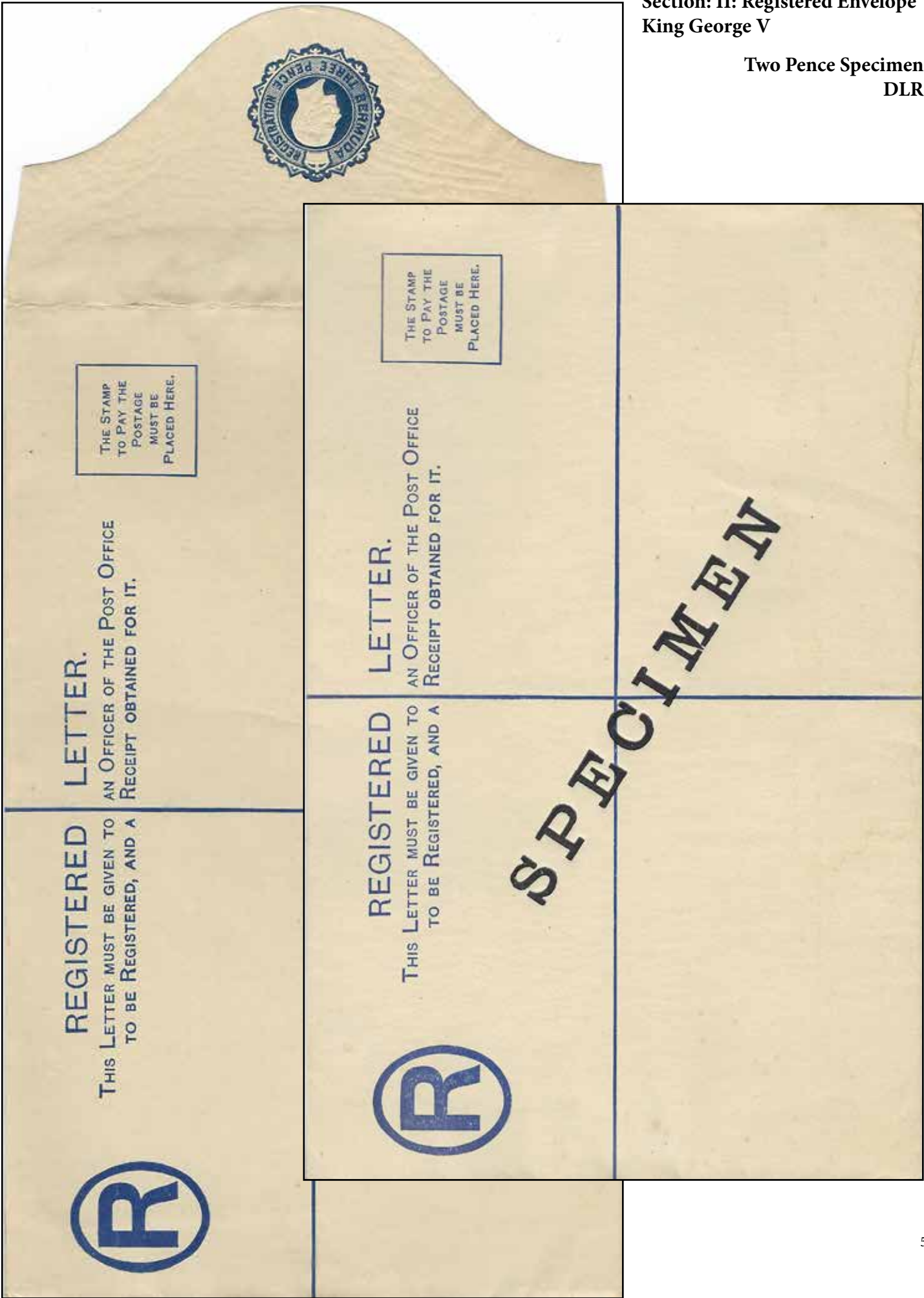
**Section: II: Registered Envelope
King George V**

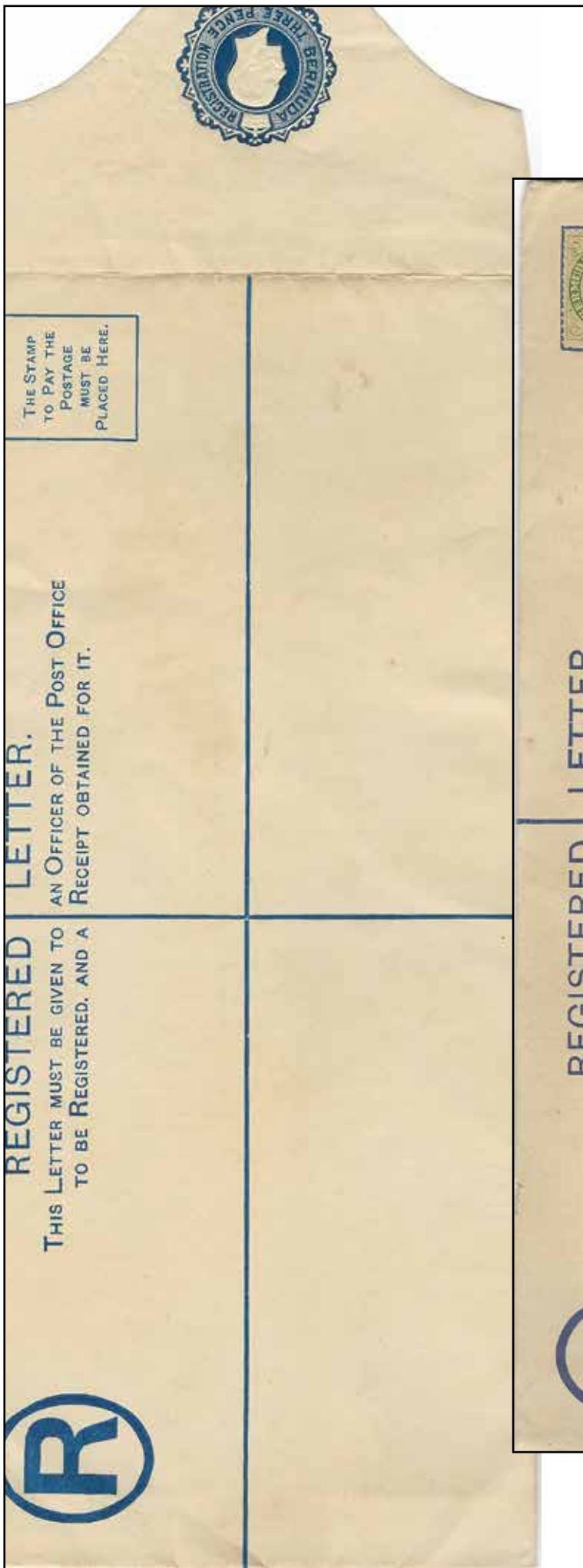
**Three Pence
DLR**



Blue with 1/2d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff

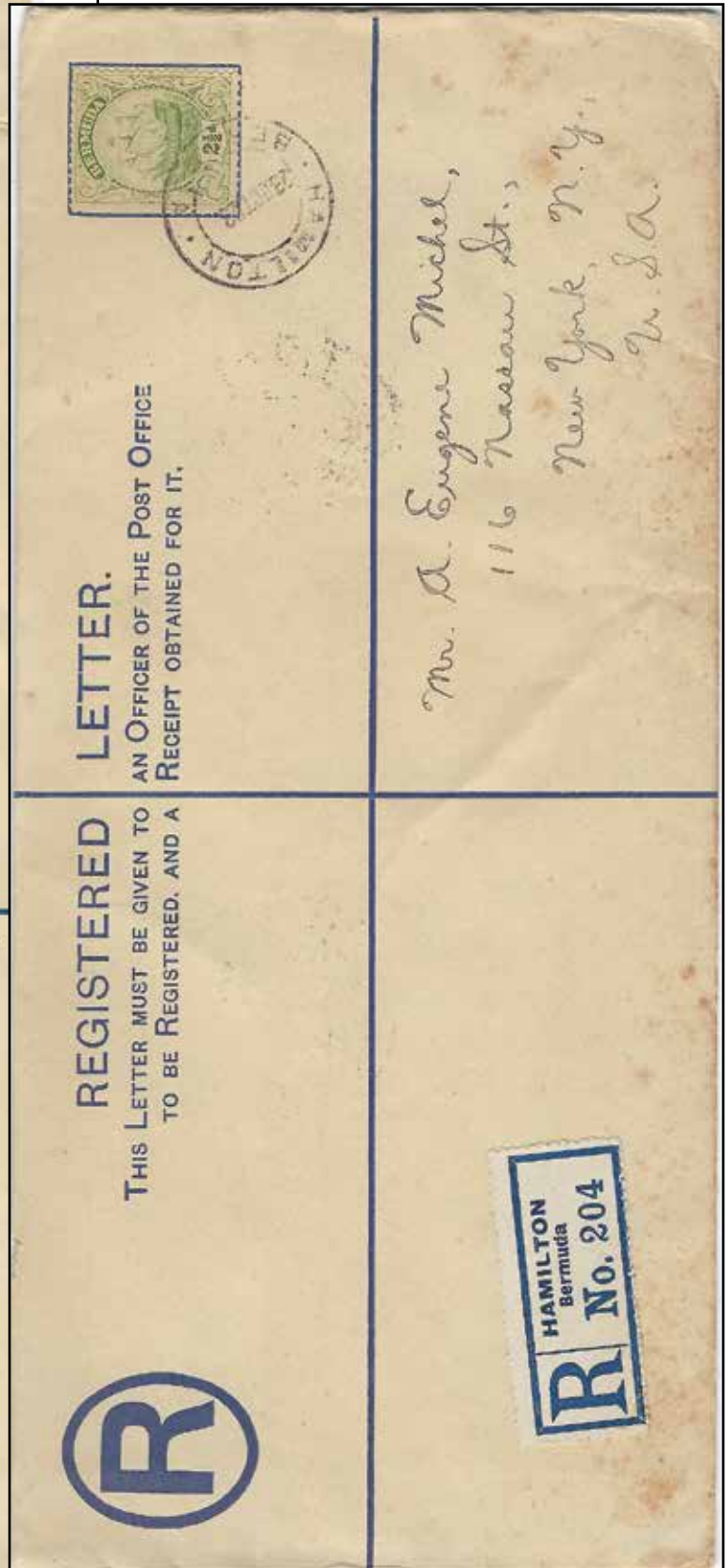






Section: II: Registered Envelope
King George V

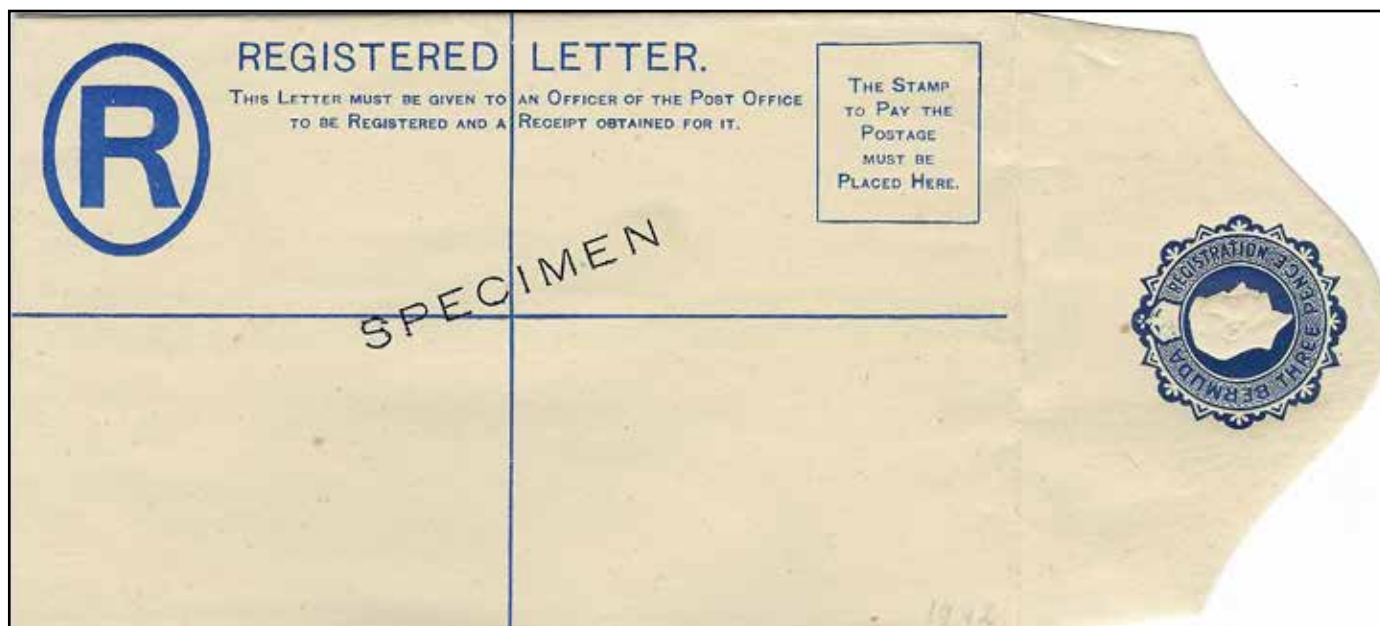
Three Penny
DLR



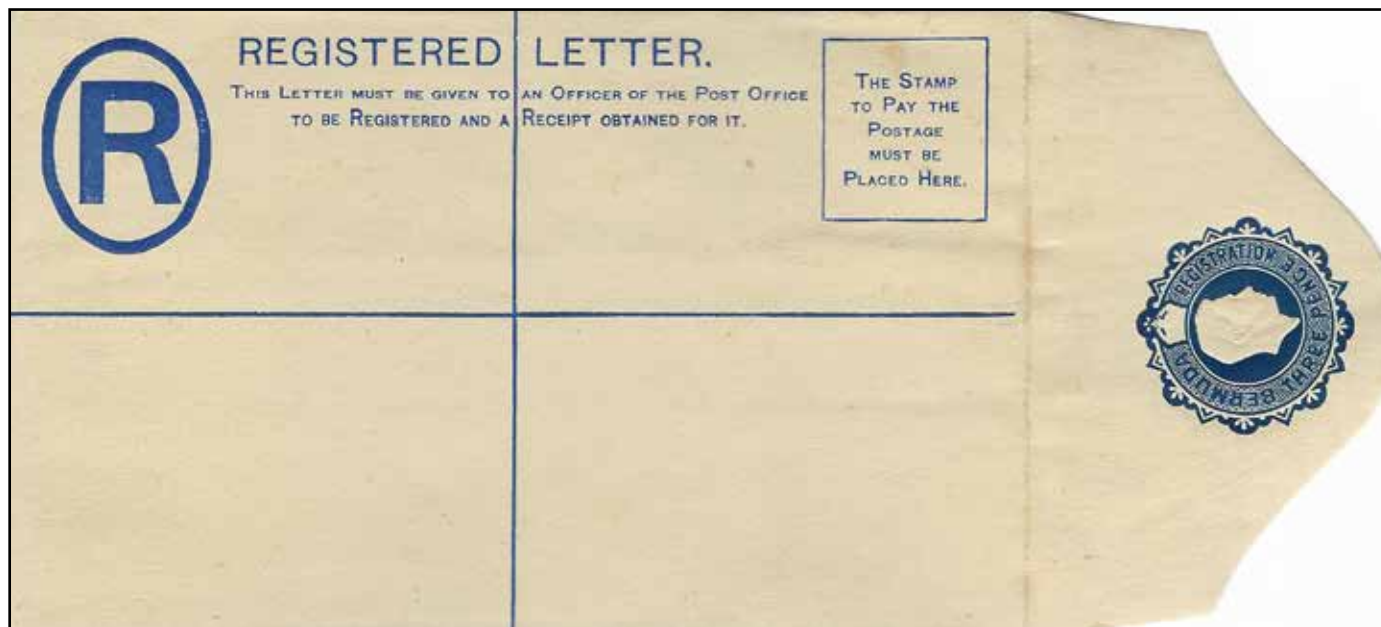
Section: II: Registered Envelope
King George VI

Three Pence
DLR

One printing, received May 1942.
29,950



SPECIMEN
348 produced



SPECIMEN
348 produced

Section: II: Registered Envelope
King George VI

Two printings, received Jun 1946 & Apr 49.
55,650

Three Pence
DLR



REGISTERED

THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO
TO BE REGISTERED, AND A

LETTER.

AN OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE
RECEIPT OBTAINED FOR IT.

THE STAMP
TO PAY THE
POSTAGE
MUST BE
PLACED HERE.

SP.



REGISTERED

THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO
TO BE REGISTERED, AND A

LETTER.

AN OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE
RECEIPT OBTAINED FOR IT.

THE STAMP
TO PAY THE
POSTAGE
MUST BE
PLACED HERE.



REGISTERED

THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO
TO BE REGISTERED, AND A

LETTER.

AN OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE
RECEIPT OBTAINED FOR IT.

AIRMAIL

AIRMAIL



Mrs. S. Bloomfield.

1, ALBERT ROAD

Bromley.

KENT

ENGLAND

AIRMAIL



NYLON STOCKINGS.
VALUE 10/-.



REGISTERED

THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO
TO BE REGISTERED, AND A

LETTER.

AN OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE
RECEIPT OBTAINED FOR IT.

THE STAMP
TO PAY THE
POSTAGE
MUST BE
PLACED HERE.



REGISTERED

THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO
TO BE REGISTERED, AND A

LETTER

AN OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE
RECEIPT OBTAINED FOR IT.

THE STAMP
TO PAY THE
POSTAGE
MUST BE
PLACED HERE.

SPECIMEN

Registered Envelope

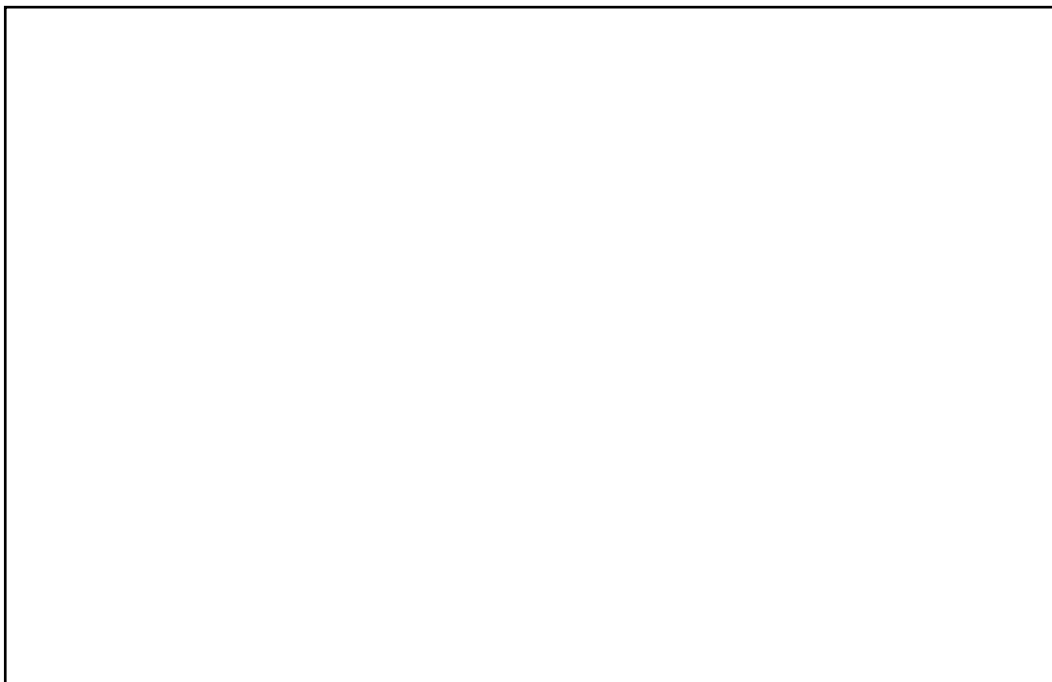
SPECIMEN
348 produced
Three Pence
DLR

One printing, received Oct 1941.
5,000

Section: II: Registered Envelope
King George VI

Three Pence
DLR

One printing, received May 1942.
10,400



Imprint T3

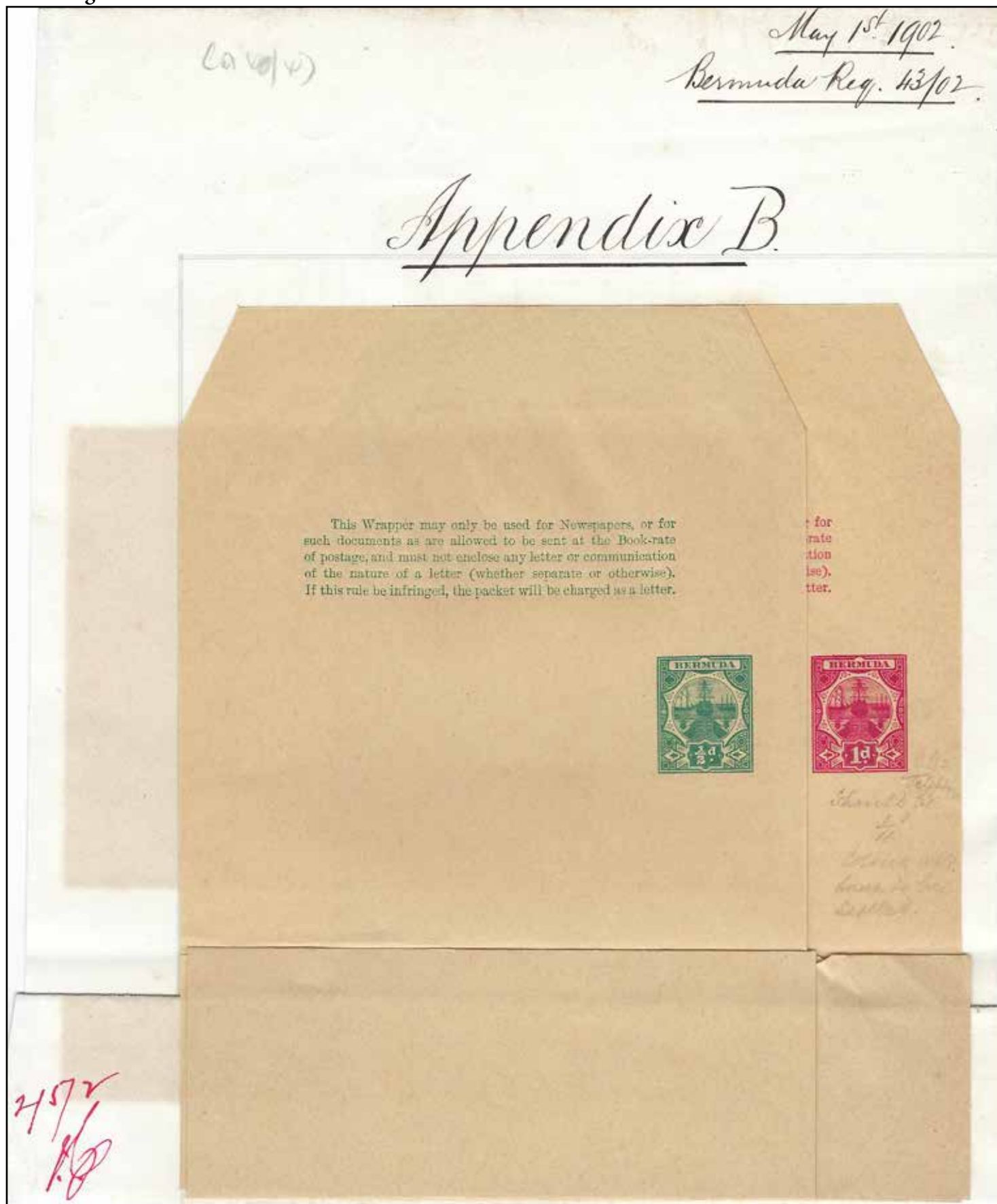




Reduced die proof on piece from
DLR archieve sheet. Marked "For
news Paper"



The 1/4d sheet for printing the stamp was not prepared until 1905 and the stamps only printed in 1906. It is therefore likely that this die was prepared solely for preparation of the News Paper or Postal Stationary cards.

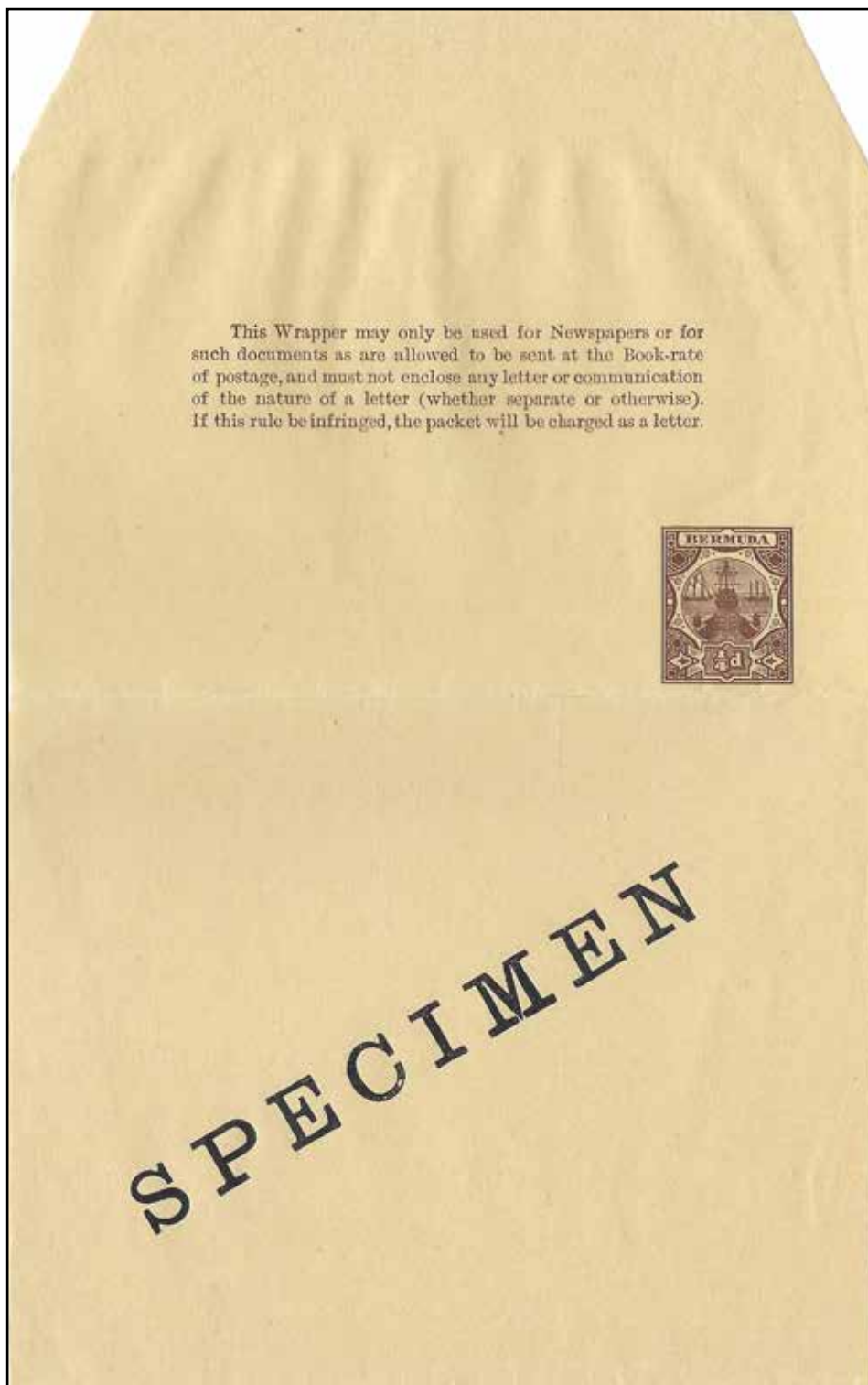


Appendix sheet with values hand painted. Notation under the 1d is "value should be ¼d"

Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King Edward VII

One printing, Feb 1903

One Farthing
DLR



SPECIMEN

Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King Edward VII

Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received Feb 1903.
201,510



Printed on cream to buff paper with varying shades of brown

Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King Edward VII

One printing, received Feb 1903.

Half Penny
DLR

This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.



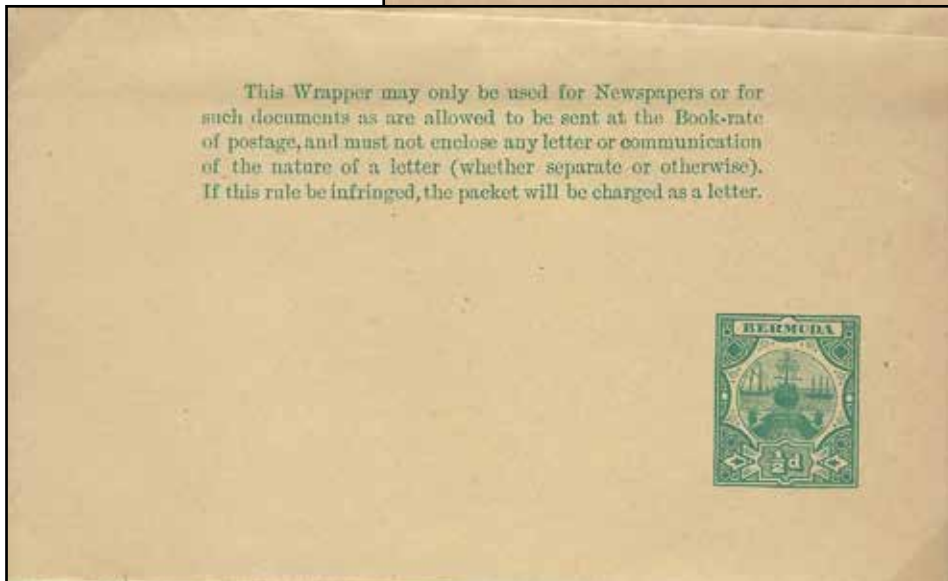
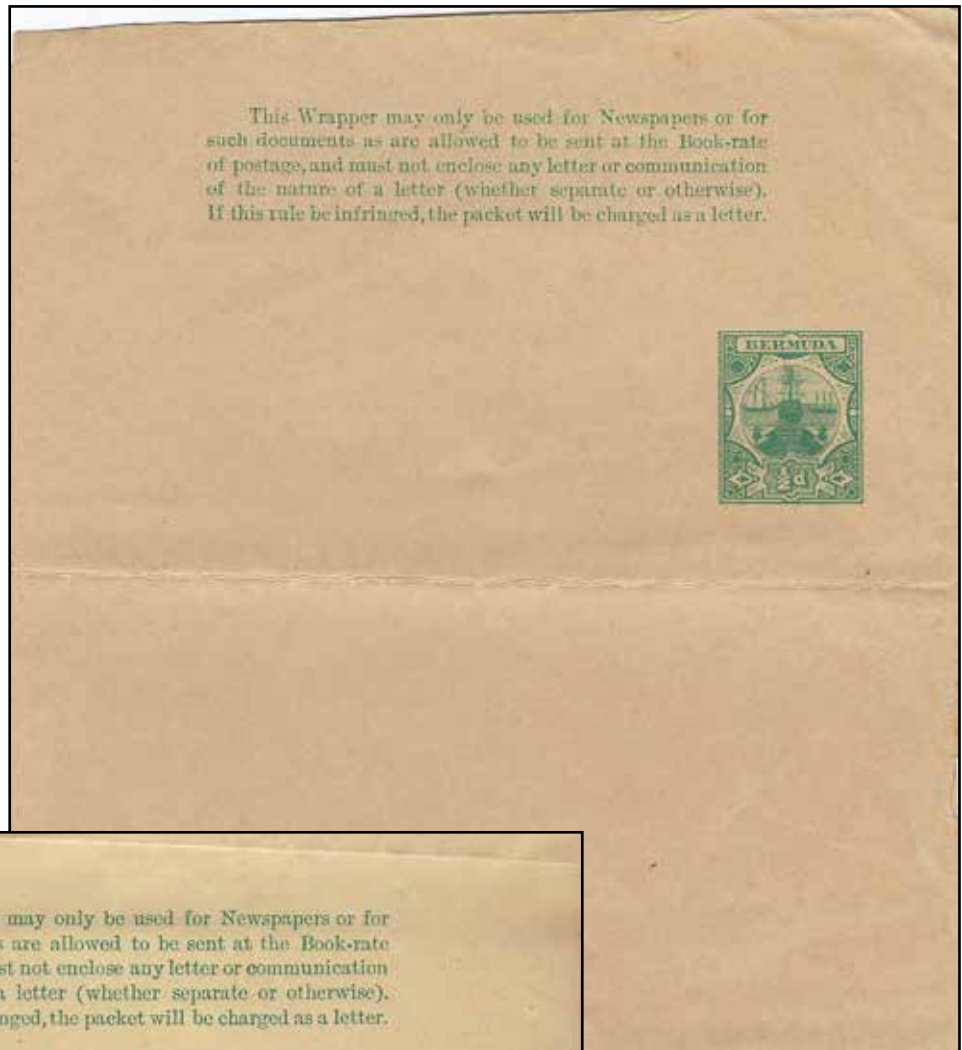
SPECIMEN

Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King Edward VII

Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received Feb 1903.
99,730

Distance from information to
top of indicium is 14.5mm

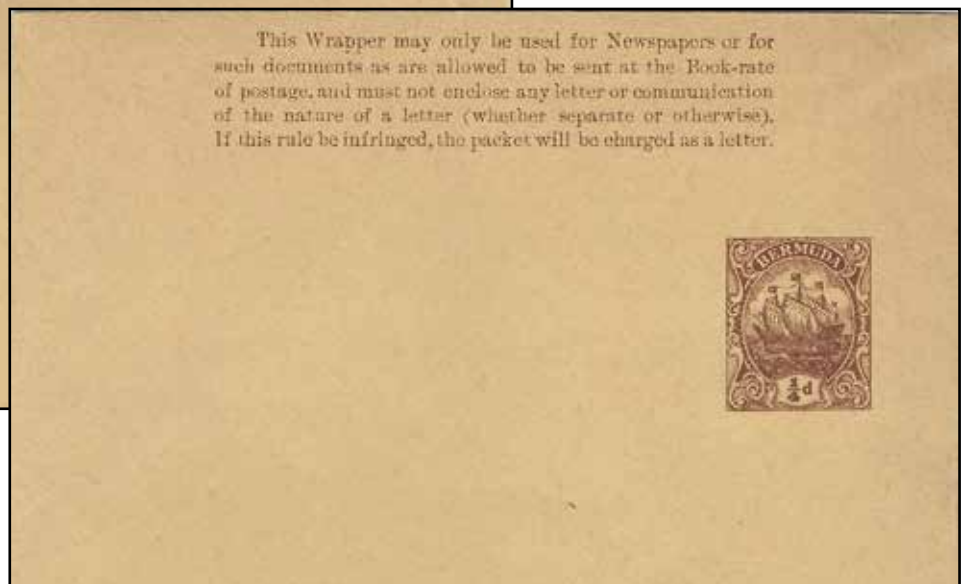
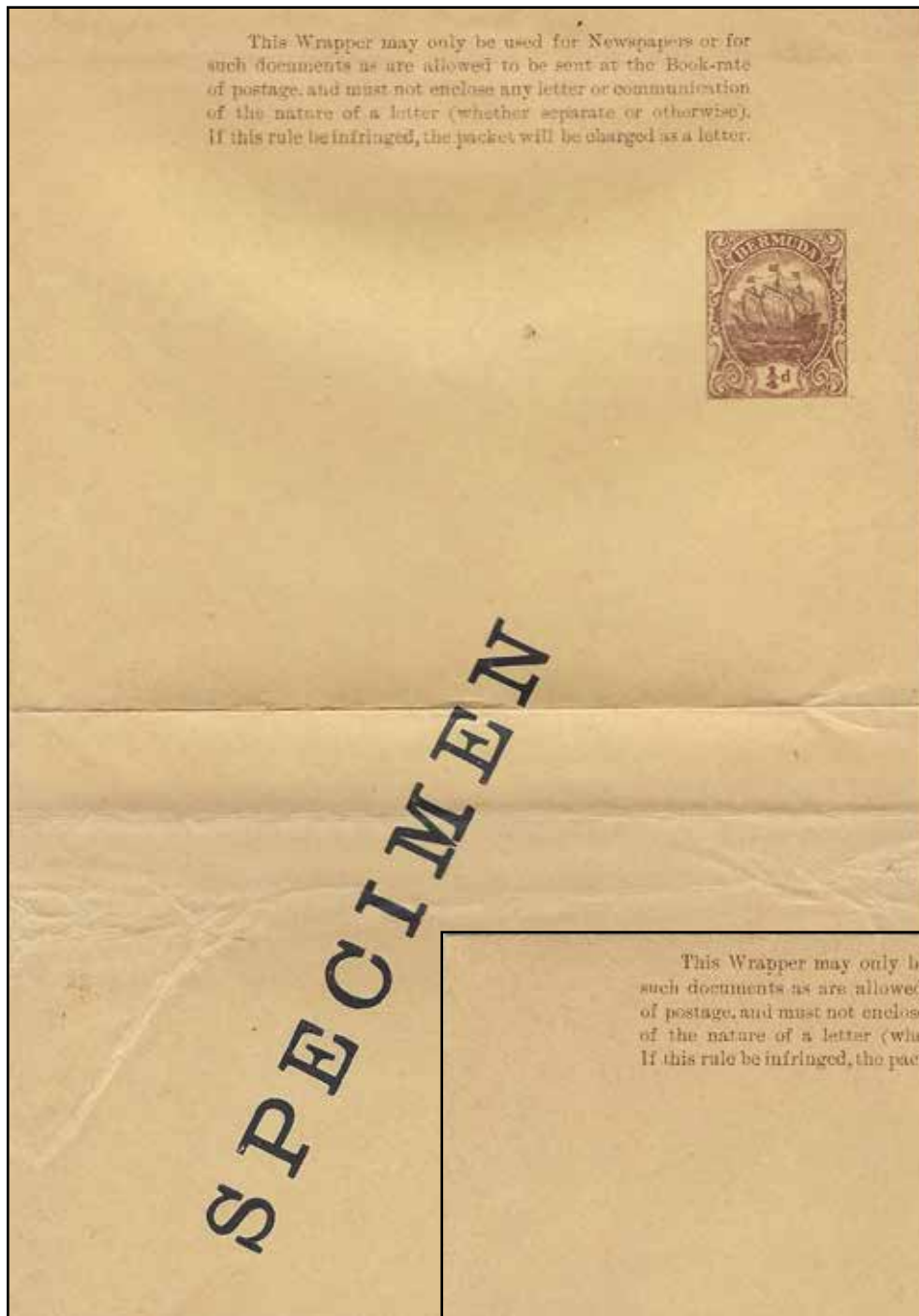


Distance from information to
top of indicium is 15.5mm

Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King Edward VII

Caravel - One farthing
DLR

One printing, received 1912.
quantity unknown



Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George V

Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received 1913
quantity unknown

This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.



SPECIMEN

This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.

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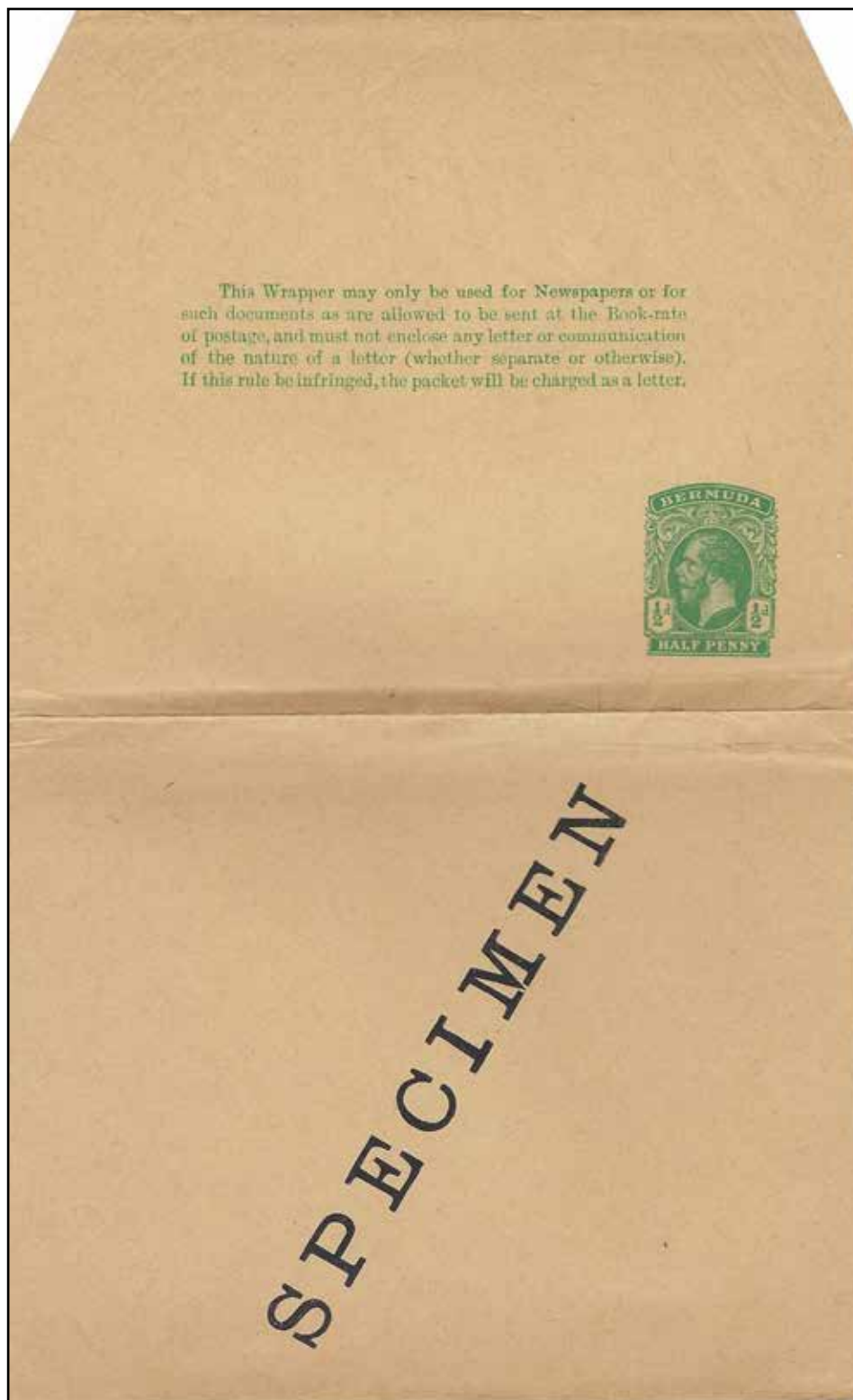


MRS O T MIDDLETON
UPLAND
HAMILTON

Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George V

Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received 1913
quantity unknown



Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George V

KGV - Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received 1913.
quantity unknown

This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.

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R. P. Matthews, Esq.
Assistant Circulation Manager
Tulsa Daily World
Tulsa, Okla. U.S.A.



Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George VI

Half Penny
DLR

19 printings,

This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.



SPE

This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.



This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.

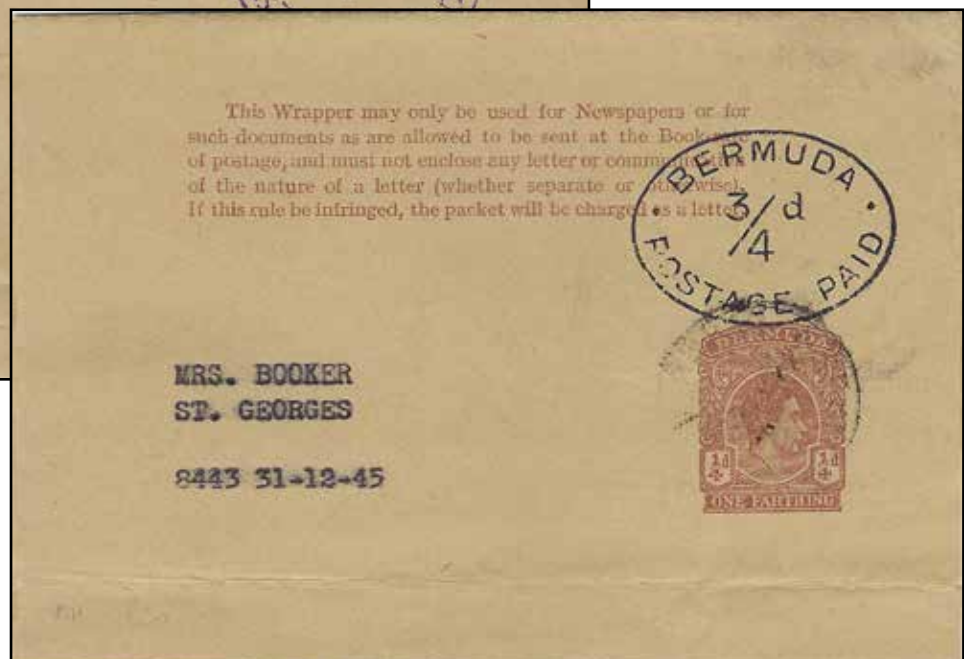
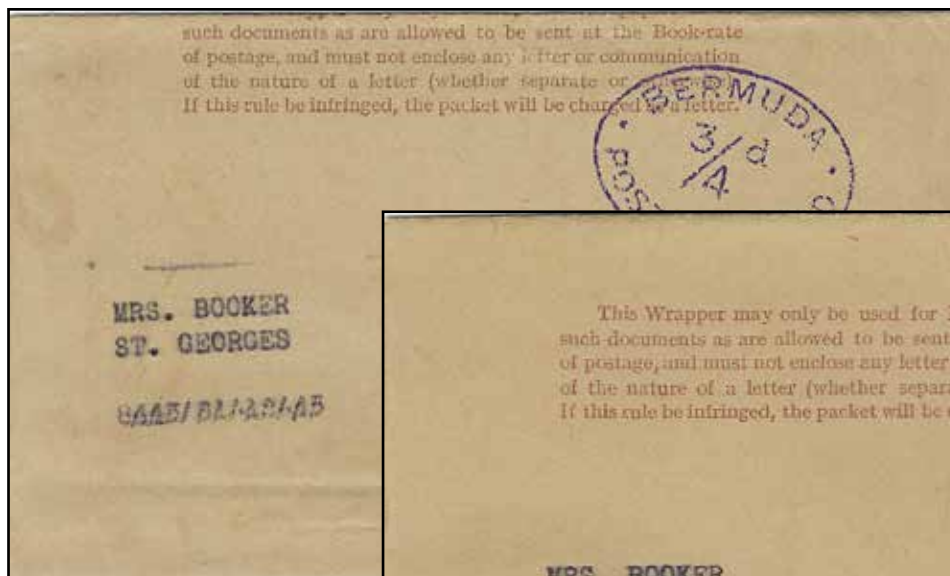


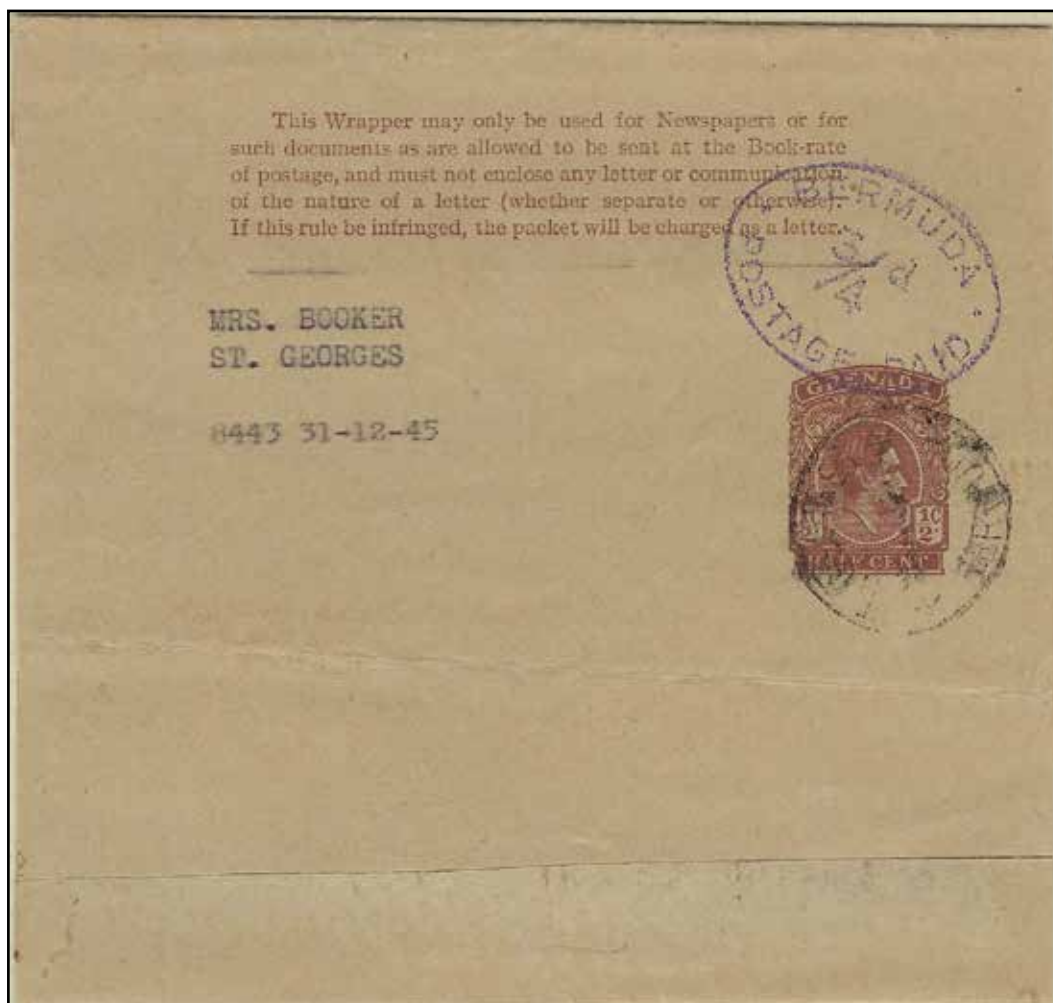
Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George VI

Half Penny
DLR



Blue with 1/2d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff





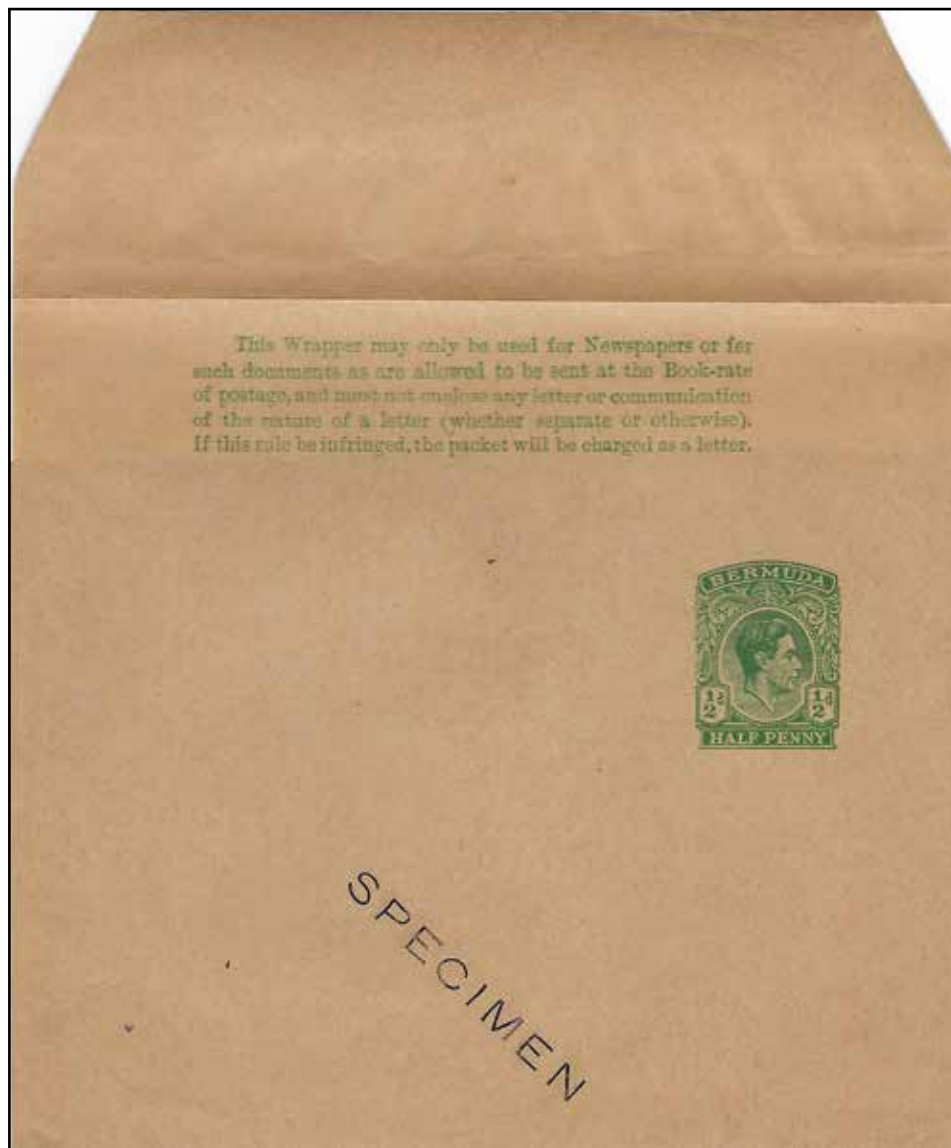
Grenada wrapper overprinted stamped with Bermuda provisional handstamp

One of three recorded

Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George VI

22 printings,

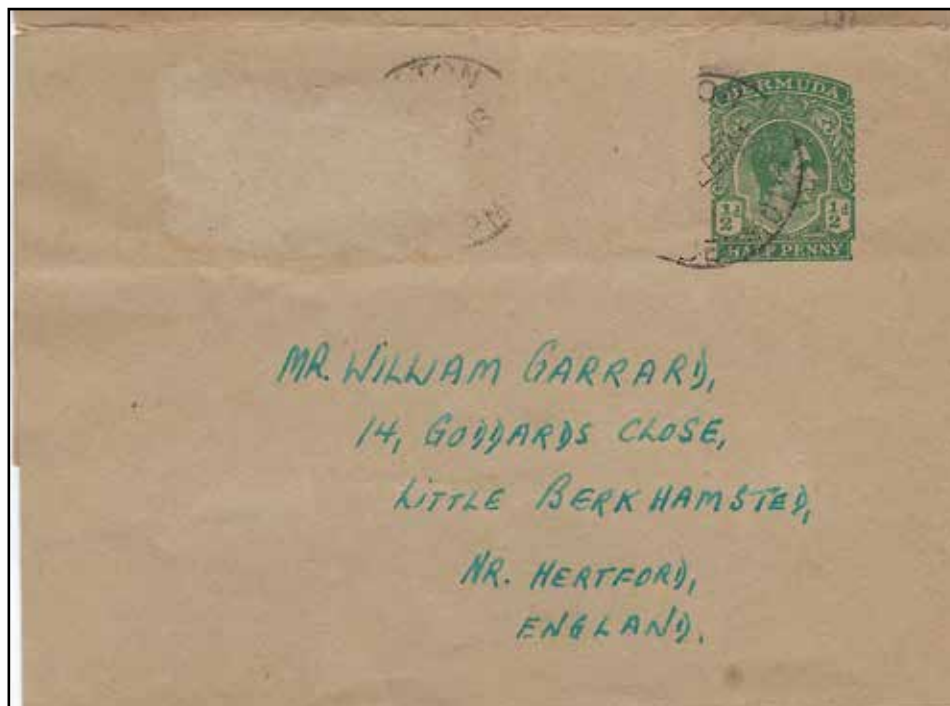
Half Penny
DLR



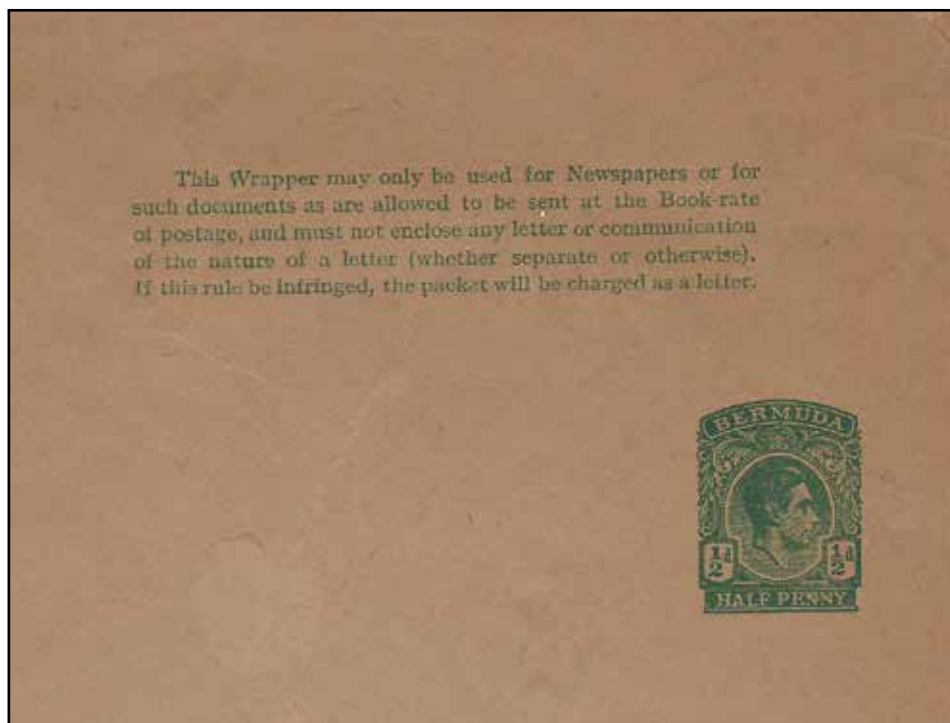
Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George VI

Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received 25 Feb 1885.
20,340



37mm

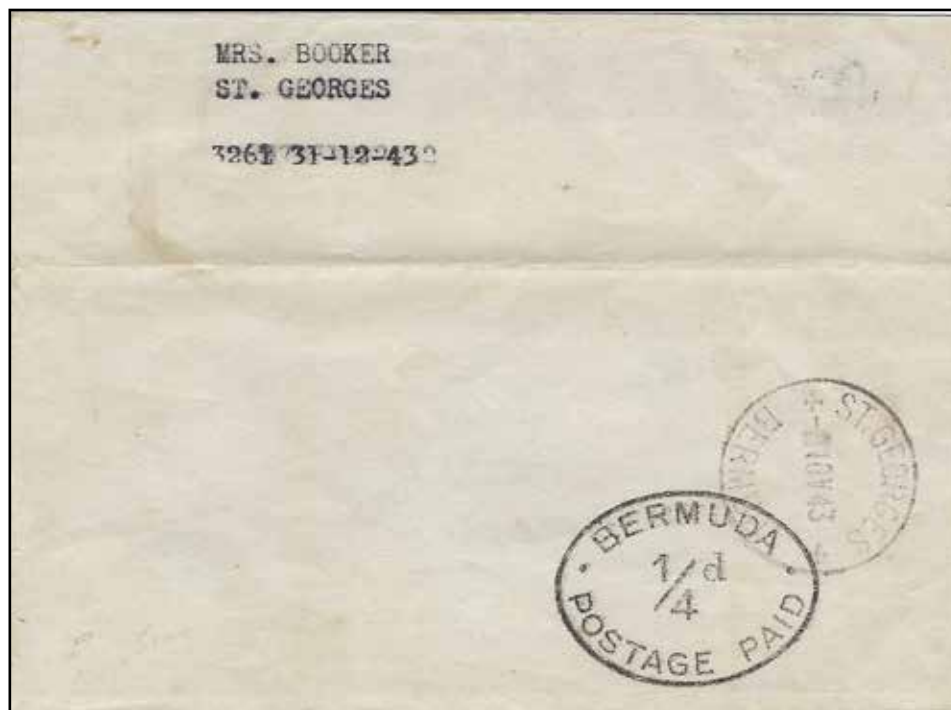


38mm

Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George VI

Half Penny
DLR

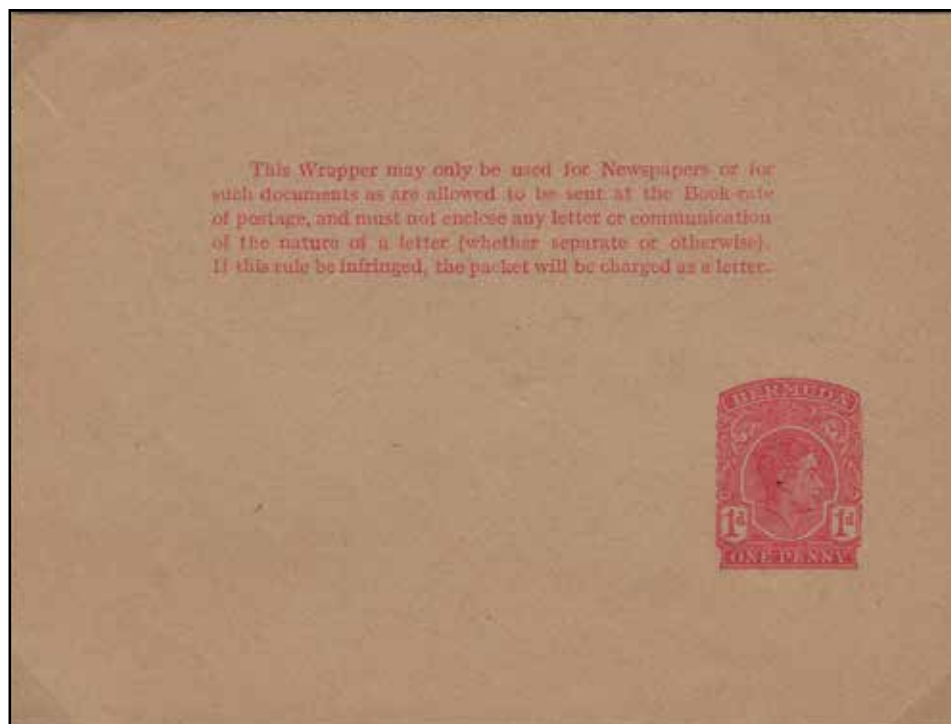
One printing, received 25 Feb 1885.
20,340



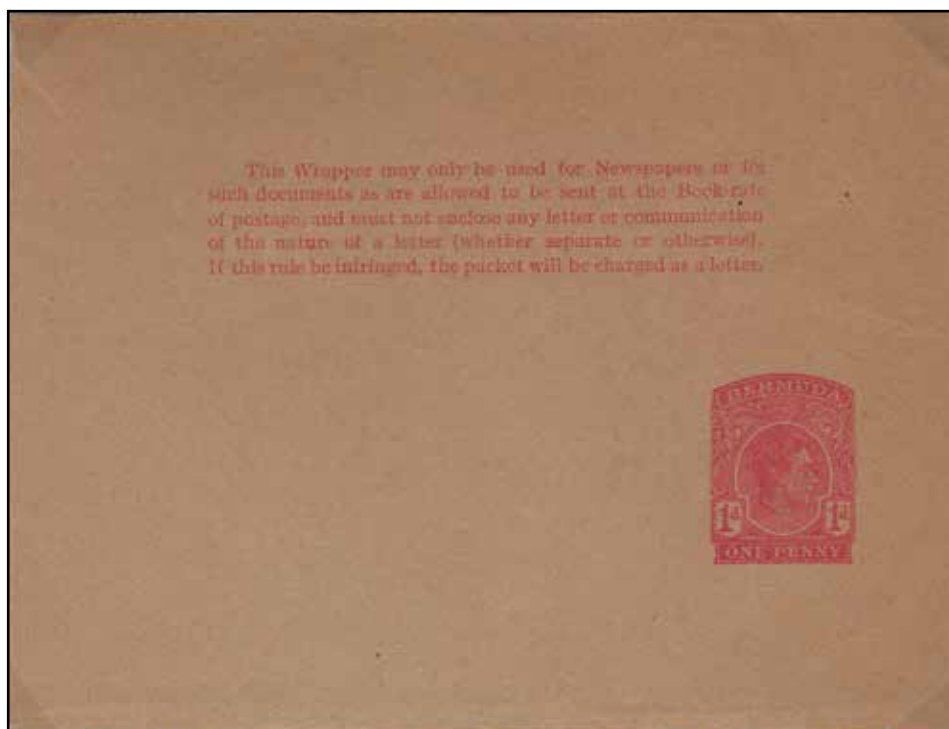
Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George VI

Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received 25 Feb 1885.
20,340



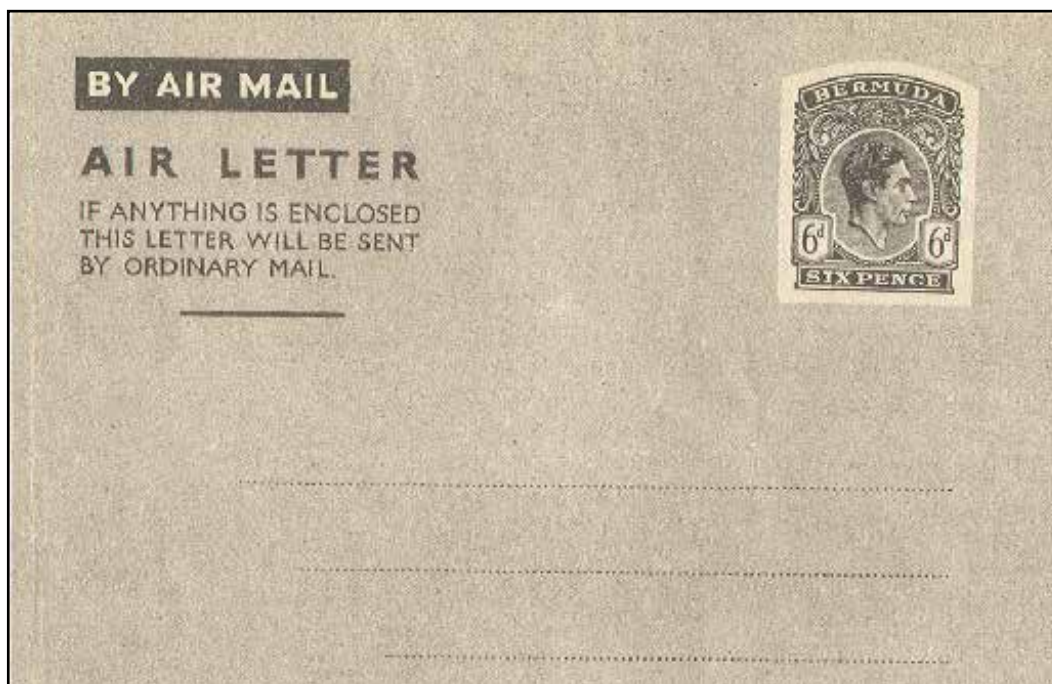
Blue with 1d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff



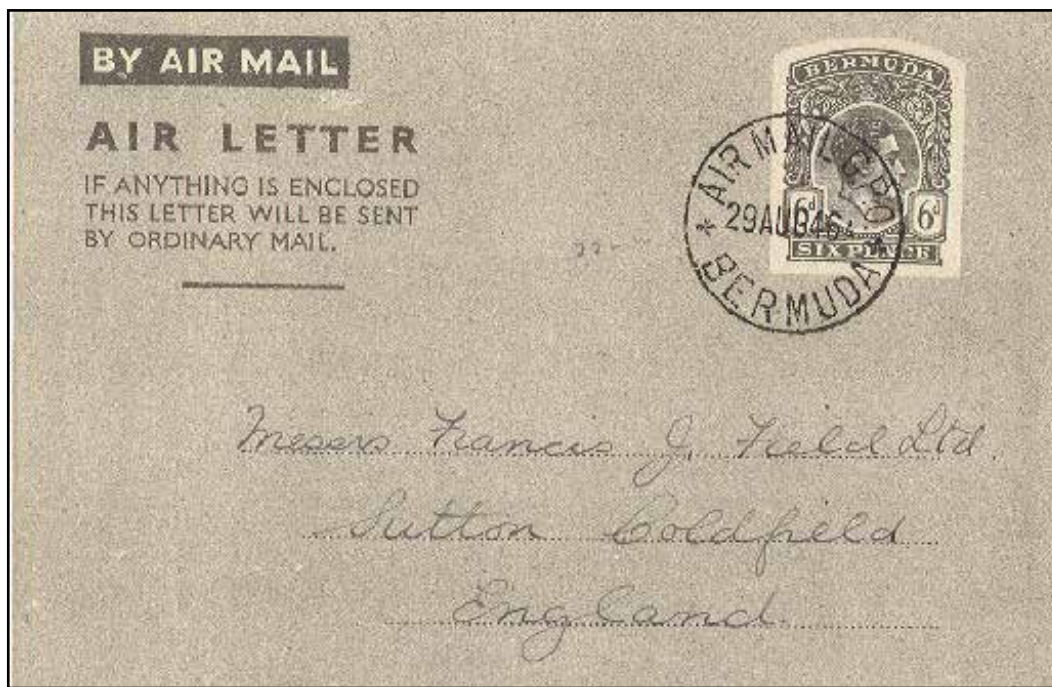
Section: IV: Air Mail Wrapper
King George VI

Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received 25 Feb 1885.
20,340



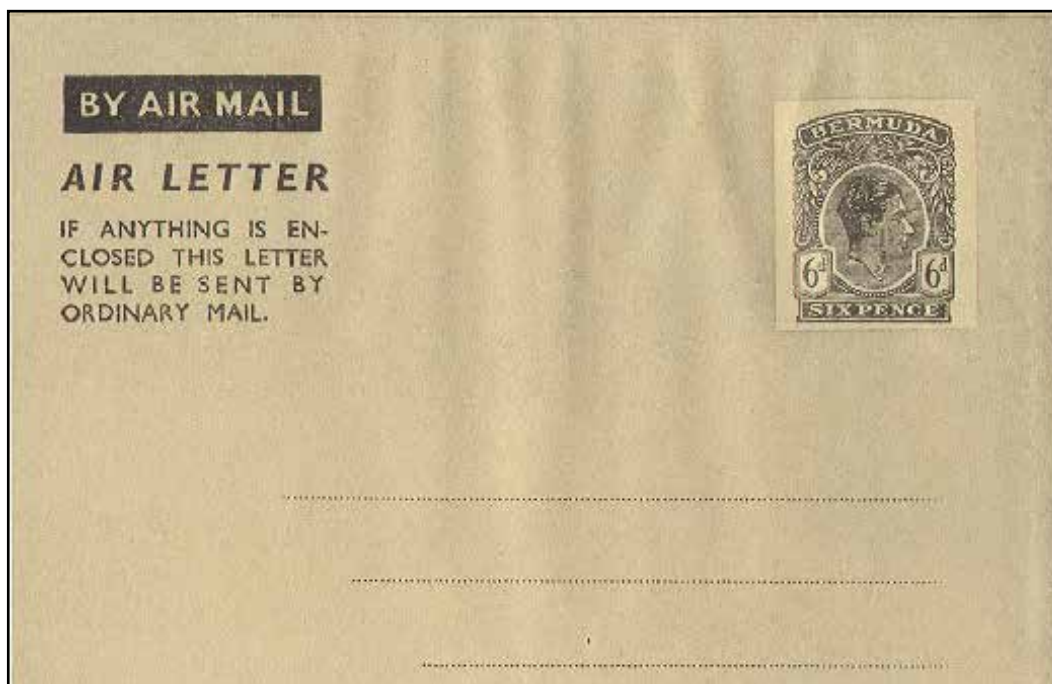
Blue with 1/2d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff



Section: IV: Air Mail Wrapper
King George VI

Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received 25 Feb 1885.
20,340



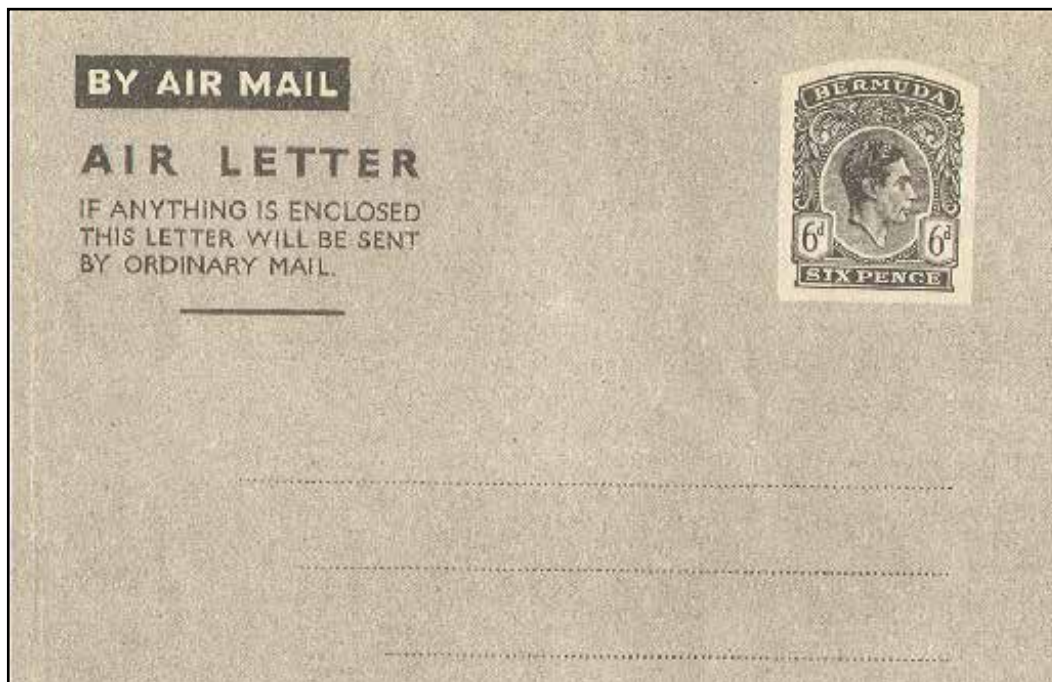
Blue with 1/2d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff



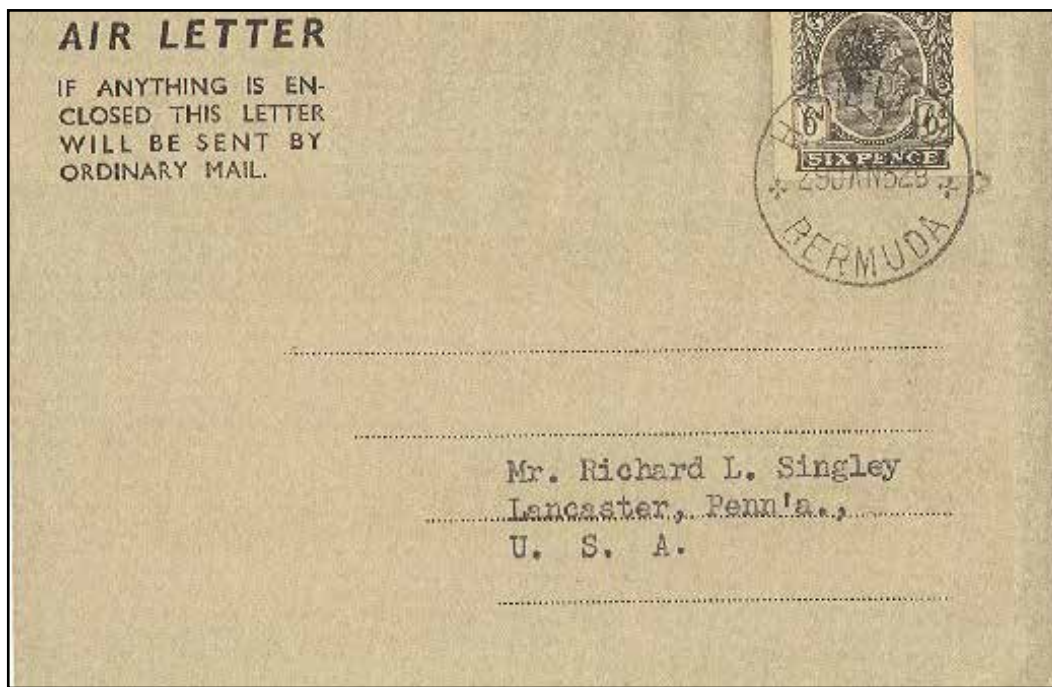
Section: IV: Air Mail Wrapper
King George VI

Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received 25 Feb 1885.
20,340



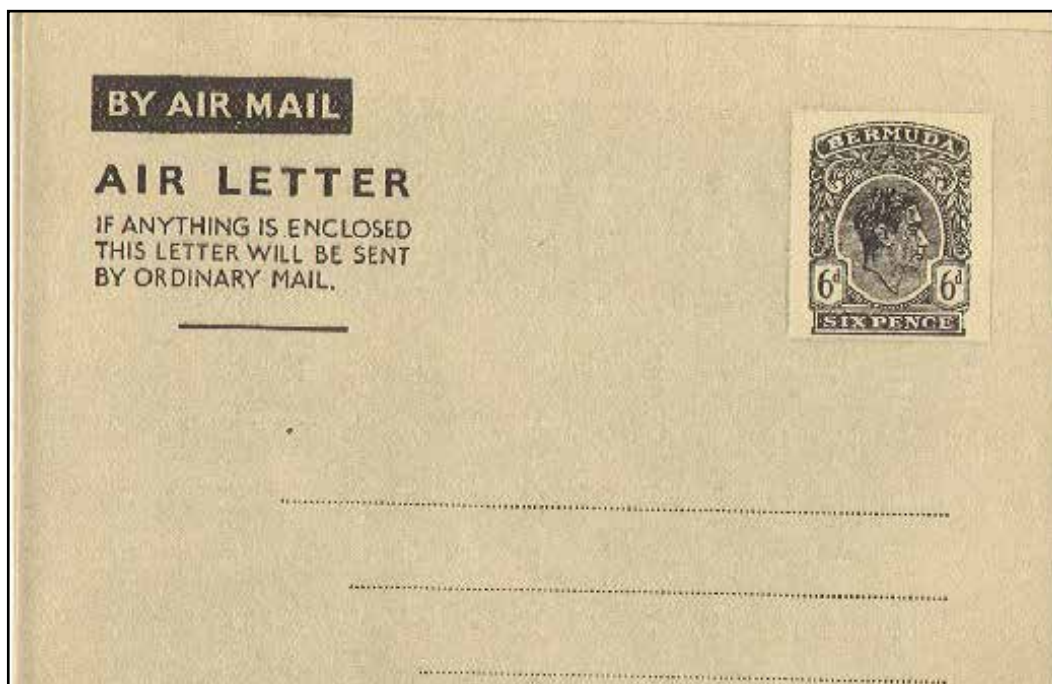
Blue with 1/2d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff



Section: IV: Air Mail Wrapper
King George VI

Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received 25 Feb 1885.
20,340



Blue with 1/2d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff

