

The Letter A

Ruminations on the letter A

It is a common letter in phil<sup>A</sup>tely, cropping up regularly in lettering on stamps, including post<sup>A</sup>ge, <sup>A</sup>ir m<sup>A</sup>il, h<sup>A</sup>lf, etc. As such there is much scope for it to be the subject of 'mistakes' on stamps, leading to many varieties. Here are a few of them.

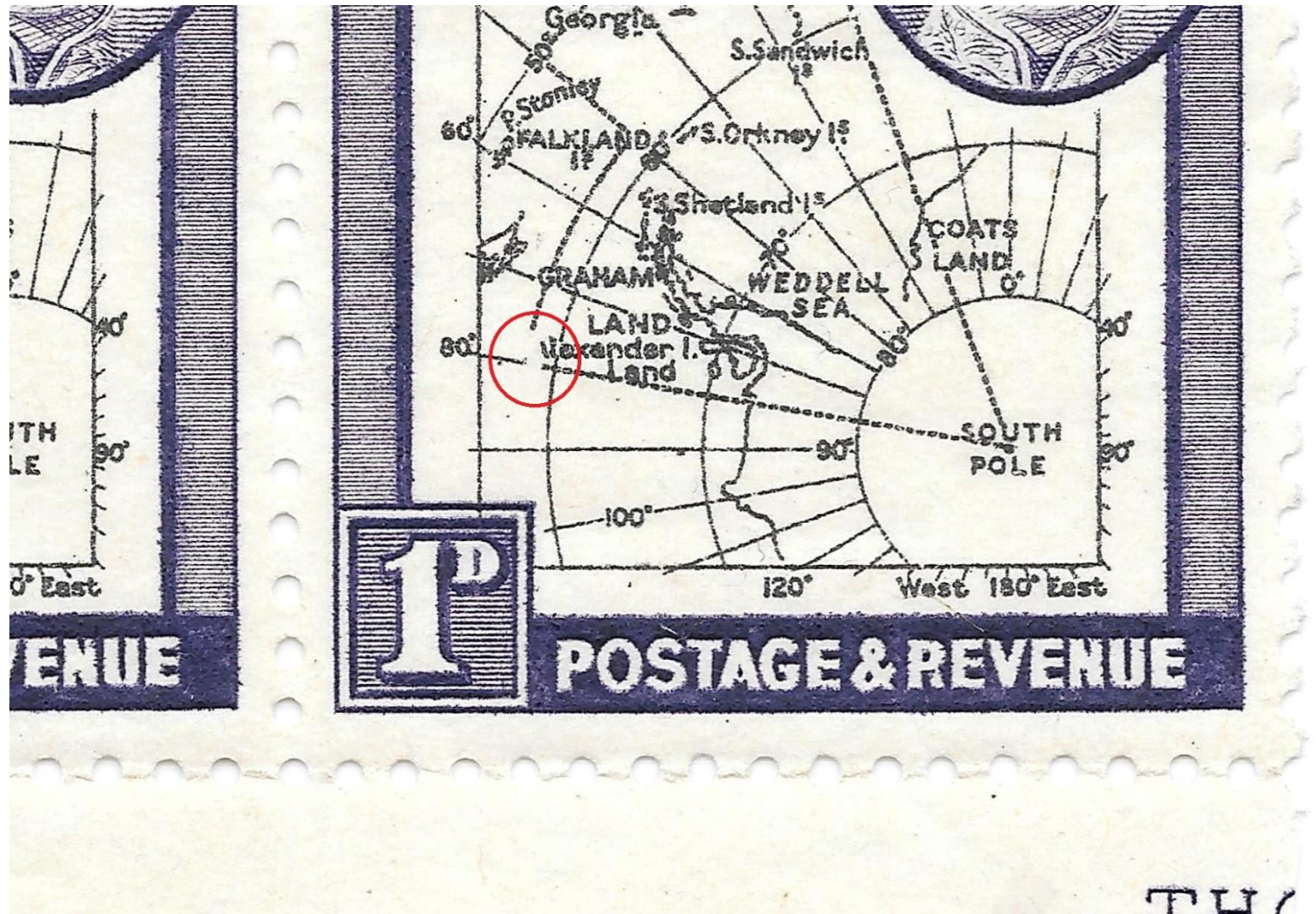
# Omitted A

Falkland Islands  
Dependencies

1946 1d 'thick map'  
definitive.

A in Alexander Land  
completely missing,  
R6/5.

Unlisted in both SG  
and Murray Payne.



# Wrong letter

Indian Convention  
States - Patiala

1885 overprint on  
1882 Indian stamp  
where the P of  
PUTTIALLA was  
printed as an A.

Occurs on R9/12,  
SG 8a.



# Split A variety in GV 'Postage Postage' keytype

Gambia 1912-22 ½ d mint

Occurs at R8/3, SG 86c



Seychelles 1912-16 15c used

R8/3, SG 75a



# Damaged A

Newfoundland

1941 3c

damaged A.

Occurs at R5/9,  
SG 278b



# Damaged A

Leeward Islands

1907-11 2 ½ d bright blue

Occurs on both panes at R6/1, SG 40a.



Australia

1914-20 1d carmine red

Only on plate 4 left pane at R10/6, SG 21cj



# Wrong font or letter

Malaya – Straits Settlements

1922 Malaya Borneo Exhibition overprint

Wrong font for first A in Malaya, SG 253d



Morocco Agencies

1898 overprinted on Gibraltar issue.

V substituted for A of Agencies, SG 3cb.





# Inserted A

Ireland

1922-23 Free  
State overprint.

The last AT of  
SAORSTAT failed  
to print at  
R15/12 and it  
was inserted by  
hand, SG 53d



# Broken type.

Natal 1985

HALF on 1d  
surcharge  
overprint.

The A of HALF  
was broken,  
together with  
the diagnostic  
longer left  
stroke to the H  
(the broken  
bit?), SG 125b.



# Misplaced type

Ceylon

1890 5c on 15c  
surcharge  
overprint.

Occurs at R1/5  
where the gap  
between T and  
A of POSTAGE  
was misplaced,  
SG 233i.



# Forgotten stops after an A

Tripolitania

1948 1L on ½ d emerald

No stop after A in BMA, R1/11 SG TD1a.



St. Lucia

1930 1d Postage Due

No stop after A in LUCIA, R9/2, SG D1d

