

PHILL OLDS

Nawanagar

Today im going to show a group of stamps that haven't been written about or even exhibited to my knowledge since Roy Benns mentioned them as a subsection of his 1990 handbook.

Gibbons lists these rarities between Sg1 the very common 1 doc dagger And the multi settings of the 3 valued type set 1880 issue.

Im showing what Gibbons discribed as the 1877 black typeset 1 doc issue on wove paper with thick horizontal and vertical frame lines.

These stamps are extremely rare and Benns had very little to study however he argues that this was infact Nawanagars first issue quoting Major Evans who spoke to the then state postmaster confirming they had appeared 2 years earlier

This would ring true as the plentiful Sg1 was issued in 1877 one would think philatilists of the time would also buy stocks of this type set issue. Instead we are left with numbers as low as 20 known examples all used as far as I have seen.

Gibbons does price mint copies but I can find none illustrated in auction catalogues.

Benns has quoted directly from another eminate philatilst Dawson for his handbook and I will do the same however making reference to Gibbons as well.

Dawson has divided the 1 doc value into three measurement section, as does Gibbons however their sequencing differs.

Dawsons first section he called Z1 measuring between 14 ½ to 15 mm wide (Gibbons Sg3a)

These stamps were printed in two vertical strips of 5

The below copies are all ex Dawson Central scan I have included a similar shaded issue from the later thin bordered issues as a comparison . All these Z1 issues are a fraction under 15mm wide .

It should also be noted they are all apparently cancelled by the oval loucenged shaped obiltorator.



These two are again from the top corners of a sheet and as can be seen they are from a different setting the frame and letter spacings are very different

The third in this row is very different again one point that is worth noting with this print is that most of the dots in the fourth row that indicates the price are hollow . this only accures in some stamps within setting M and the very much later sharper settings of the later stamps.

Setting Z2 this is the medium width setting (Gibbons Sg 3b)

They are said to measure 16mm and unlike Z1 they are believed to be 15 stamps in each sheet 3x5 .



The two copies on the left im certain are from Z2

the third it will be noted the left hand vertical is too thin and yet it doesn't fit any later settings particularly with the wide left margin

The copy below doesn't fit into any of the three early settings it being exactly 18mm in width, two of the later settings did in fact have such a width

Setting I whose width varied from 17 to 18 ½ has very thin vertical and horizontal lines and bears no resemblance to this stamp at all.

Setting L has some similarities in that its mainly 18mm from top to bottom and the vertical lines have more body to them. However this example clearly comes from the foot of the sheet with the horizontal line exiting on both sides. The letter spacings etc are very different



I now move onto the more abundant width, Dawsons Z3 and Gibbons Sg3

This stamp is quoted by Gibbons 19mm width those being wider than any issue that followed,

In my studies I can clearly show that there are at least two settings of this stamp and probably three



These two are from the top right corner and it can be clearly seen there are many differences.

Firstly and most prominent is the left hand stamp is 19 wide yet only 17mm in height whilst the other is a square 19mm, an identical stamp to the left stamp is illustrated by Benns in the handbook

Both have a break in the left hand vertical but the left stamp much lower with a larger gap with top horizontal.

The right hand stamp has much clearer lettering.

This to me clearly show two settings I will now try and prove there were three



These two are from the top left again as can be seen completely different however both are 19mm square it would therefore seem very odd if one of these two was paired next to a 17mm example. The left had stamp has the break in the left vertical whilst the right is almost perfect.

The one unusual in the right stamp is that the dot prior to the value isn't hollow as found with all the others.

Just to confuse things a little further the 3rd stamp above is again top left this time 17mm in depth and the text and lines much heavier than those in the previous example.



Moving to the bottom left on first glance these all appear identical. The text is very similar and the right vertical broken in the two visible. However left hand stamp is 17 1/2 mm in height.

The middle value dot solid. The third stamp I have included for it is the first example that shows the proximity of the adjoining stamp within the sheet



bottom right shows a consistency that other corners haven't all have clear solid lines and the dot solid.



My central examples actually give very little in information they are either to heavily obliterated or cut close.

These three do add a little the left hand is $17 \frac{1}{2}$ mm in height This would seem to confirm the existence of a shorter setting The other two show clearly the existence of a dividing line.

In addition to these Gibbons lists both 2 dot green & 3 dot yellow in this wider setting I have none to examine in fact Dawson only had one example of each calling under joint heading of Z4

In conclusion what can be established from my study Z1 must be two settings. Z2 my lack of example really add nothing to the study

The opposite can be said of Z3 I think I have established there is at least 3 settings two being square 19mm the the other 19mm wide but varying from $17 \frac{1}{2}$ and 18 in height.

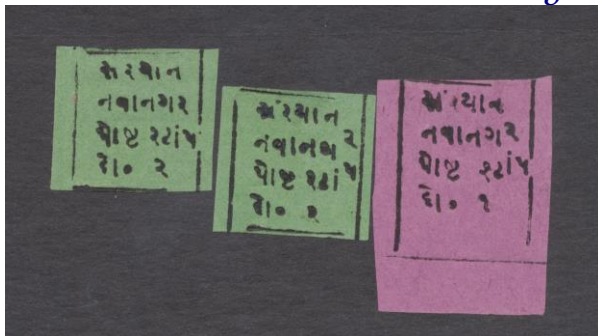
I don't think there will be a definitive answer due to the lack of material but its fun trying,

As a post script from Benns original notes its clear he thought there was at least one setting of the later issues that he hadn't identified.

This being between settings F and I

With the help of Prof Jeffries we think we have a setting G (provisionally)

He has a more conclusive range of these than me.



They are $16 \frac{1}{2}$ to 17 mm in width and have distinctive right hand vertical border with the gap and or raised letters.

Thanks you for your time I hope it has added to your knowledge and enjoyment