

•THE “FIRST SIDE •FACES” OF NZ •(1874 – 1882)

•[DRAFT]

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• Introduction – aim

- *This exhibit outlines the development and variations of the FSF issue, with philatelically important examples of early use and rare perforation varieties. The exhibit proceeds chronologically from design through subsequent use. The exhibit also illustrates how the FSFs influenced NZ stamps design well into the 20th century.*



- The FSF designs by De La Rue & Co.



1d Lake Brown, "NZ
and Star" WM
Perf 12



2d Bright Blue,
"NZ and Star" WM
Perf 12



3d Bright Lilac,
"NZ and Star" WM
Perf 12



4d Bright Rose,
"NZ and Star" WM
Perf 12



6d Brown
"NZ and Star" WM
Perf 12



1/- Green,
"NZ and Star" WM
Perf 12

•Earliest recorded use

- Perf 12 1/2
- Duplex cancel - Jan 2, 1874 at Christchurch
- This 1/- block is the earliest known use of any FSF stamp. It is also the earliest known example of a New Zealand stamp postally used on the first day of issue.
- RPSNZ Certificate 2023
- **Ex Ken McNaught, Robin Gwynn & Mark Benvie*



•Cancelled in error?



Perf 12 1/2
**Cancelled at Auckland
"AU 73", four months
before official issue**

While the FSF were officially released in January 1874, this stamp has a clear cancel in August, 1873. Is this an error? Most likely. However, government records show that the printing plates for the FSFs arrived in Wellington on the. Lennox Castle from London on August 24, 1873. The government printers were then able to print FSF stamps from August. Could this be an early print sample that was used before the official release date?

•A couple of rare cancels



- Perf 12 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
- Obliterator cancel from Grahamstown,
Thames Postal District.
- This Post Office was in operation
from
1 February to 16 May, 1881.
Rated 10 in Wooders



- Obliterator listed as unidentified in RPSNZ
•vol.3.
- Possibly Kowai Pass in the Christchurch
postal district which had a
P.O. between 1866 and 1879

•Items of interest on covers



- 1878 2d rose p12 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ with gutter at right,
 - cancelled at Christchurch 16/?/78

- This is one of only 10 known examples of this perforation, and is the only known example of compound perf 12 & 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ on cover. It is listed in the census of rare compound perfs in NZSC vol 98, p113-4 (2018). RPSNZ Cert.

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•Items of interest on covers



- - Cover from Wellington to Glasgow with duplex cancel dated 9 April 1877 showing the correct 6d standard letter rate via San Francisco at that date.
 - The cover features a 2d perf 12 $\frac{1}{2}$
 - combined with a 4d perf 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ double perf.
 - Double perf FSFs on cover are
 - exceptionally rare.

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•Perf “nearly 12”



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- 1d FSF Perf “Nearly 12” 1d FSF Perf “Nearly 12”
- Cancelled at Auckland 3 April 1878 Obliterator cancel ‘11’ (worn)
- This stamp was featured in NZSC, March 2023. Ahuriri, Napier**

•Thank you

