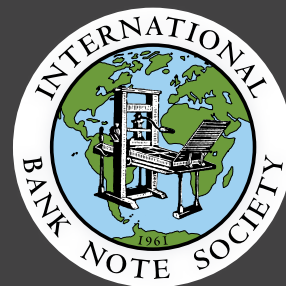


# INTERNATIONAL BANK NOTE SOCIETY JOURNAL

VOLUME 58, Number 3, 2019



## THE INTEGRATION OF NEW SECURITY FEATURES OF BANKNOTES: A SURVEY

2018 BOOK &  
LITERARY AWARDS

THE 1869 1-PESO  
OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF CUBA IN ARMS

PORTRAIT NOTES  
OF QUEEN VICTORIA  
FOR INDIA

PEOPLE ON AUSTRALIAN  
BANKNOTES WITH  
SUBURBS IN CANBERRA  
NAMED AFTER THEM





# INTERNATIONAL BANK NOTE SOCIETY 2018 BOOK & LITERARY AWARDS

Presented by  
Dennis Lutz  
and Joel Shafer

## BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD 2018

1. ***Paper Money of Scotland (Volume I & II)*** – Jonathan Callaway and David Murphy, Pam West, Surrey, United Kingdom (2018)
2. ***From Piastres to Polymer*** – A history of the paper money of Mauritius from 1720 to 2017 – Owen Griffiths, Jean-Marie Huron and Marina Carter, Bioculture Press, Mauritius (2018)
3. ***Kjell William Riibes Norske Seddelsamling 1695-2017*** – Kjell William Riibe, Trondheim Norway (2018)
4. ***Vietnam and French Indo-China Banknotes Catalogue (Section One)*** – Nguyễn Huỳnh Thế Vinh, Ho Chi Minh, Viet Nam (2018)
- French Southeast Asia Coins & Currency (3rd ed.)*** – Howard Daniel III, The Southeast Asian Treasury, Port Saint Lucie, FL, U.S.A. (2018)
- Katalog der Österreichischen [Austrian] Banknoten ab 1759 (3rd ed.)***, Johann Kodnar and Norbert Kunstner, Vienna, Austria (2018)
- Kruger's Bluebacks – Paper Currency Issued by the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek During the Boer War 1899-1902*** – Everhard Vissers, Monaco (2018)
- Mehilba World Replacement (2nd ed.)*** – Dr. Ali Mehilba, Alexandria, Egypt (2018)

### Honorable Mention: (alphabetical order)

***Billets Et Tickets D'Outre-Mer*** [French Colonial Necessity Notes and Tickets] – Georges Bayle, Marseille, France (2018)

***Cuban-Spanish Colonial Paper Money 1857-1902*** – Yigal Arkin, Jerusalem, Israel (2018)

***Die Deutschen [German] Banknoten ab 1871 (21st ed.)***– Hans-Ludwig Grabowski, Battenberg, Regensburg, Germany (2018)

***Nordke Pengesedler med Svalbard og Bjørnøya 1695-2017*** [Norwegian Banknotes with Svalbard (Spitsbergen) and Bear Island and Norwegian Emergency Notes Issued 1940] – Karl Saethre, Bergen, Norway (2018)

***The New Book on World War 2 Italian POW & Internment Camp Notes (1st ed.)*** – David E. Seelye, Prescott, AZ, U.S.A. (2018)

## 2018 IBNS JOURNAL ARTICLES: FRED PHILIPSON AWARD

1. Mark D. Tomasko, "Postwar Bank Note Design I: The Work of John White" (Vol. 57, #3) and "Postwar Bank Note Design II: The Work of Brian J. White" (Vol. 57, #4)
2. Richard Scott Morel, "Research Resources for Perkins Bacon and Company Paper Money at the British Library" (Vol. 57, #1)
3. Rezwan Razack, "Banco Nacional Ultramarino Banknotes of 1906 for Portuguese India in Goa" (Vol. 57, #2)
- Mark Lazarus, "Aviation and the Bank Note, Part 2: Antoine de Saint-Exupéry" (Vol. 57, #1)
- Roland Rollins, "Detecting Moiré Patterns on Bank Notes" (Vol. 57, #2)
- Martien van de Ven, "Sample Notes of Kurz are Worth Collecting" (Vol. 57, #1)

### Honorable Mention: (alphabetical order)

Parcídio L. Campos e Matos, "Macau-BNU Banknotes Dated 1981/1984: Replacement and Error Notes" (Vol. 57, #4)

Evangelos Fysikas, "1944, The Emergency Banknotes of Nafplio in Greece" (Vol. 57, #2)

### WARD D. SMITH AWARD (Best article related to Chinese banknotes)

James Contursi, "Serial Number Nuances on Republic of China Banknotes" (Vol. 57, #1)

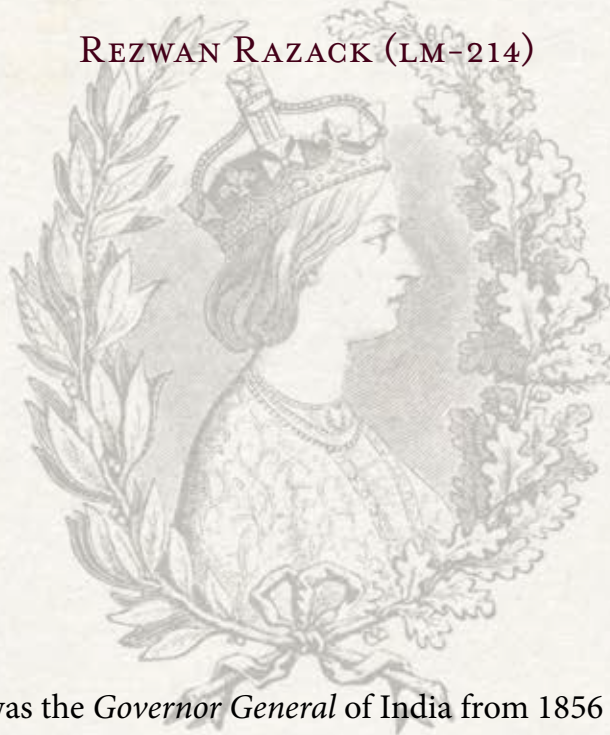
### 2019 AMON G. CARTER, JR. EXHIBIT AWARD

Neil Shafer, "Oops! World Paper Money Errors"



# PORTRAIT NOTES OF QUEEN VICTORIA FOR INDIA

REZWAN RAZACK (LM-214)



Lord Canning was the *Governor General* of India from 1856 to 1862. After the Sepoy Mutiny in India, the British took over India from the East India Company in 1857. In August 1858, less than a month after Lord Canning proclaimed the Victory of the British Arms, the Parliament passed the Government of India Act. This Act of 1858 transferred the East India Company's rule over India to the British. Lord Canning also held office as the First Viceroy of India from 1858 until his death in 1862.

## LORD CANNING



GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA: 1856-1862

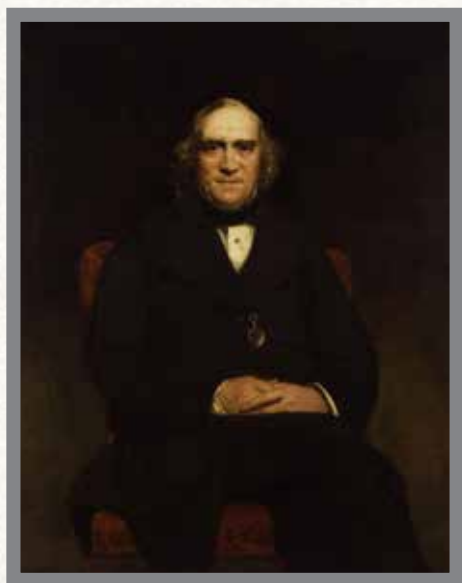
Some of the important events during Lord Canning's tenure include:

- Withdrawal of the 'Doctrine of Lapse' which was the main cause for the Sepoy Mutiny.
- Passing of the Indian Councils Act in 1861 which introduced portfolio system in India.
- Introduction of the Code of Criminal Procedure.
- Enactment of Indian High Courts Act.
- Indian Penal Code Act.
- Bengal Rent Act.
- Introduction of Income Tax on experimental basis.
- Introduction of the Currency Act.



In August 1859, Queen Victoria sent Sir James Wilson to India as the Finance Member of the Council of India. Sir James Wilson resigned from the Offices he held in England and also his seat in Parliament and then assumed Office in India as the Finance Member.

### SIR JAMES WILSON



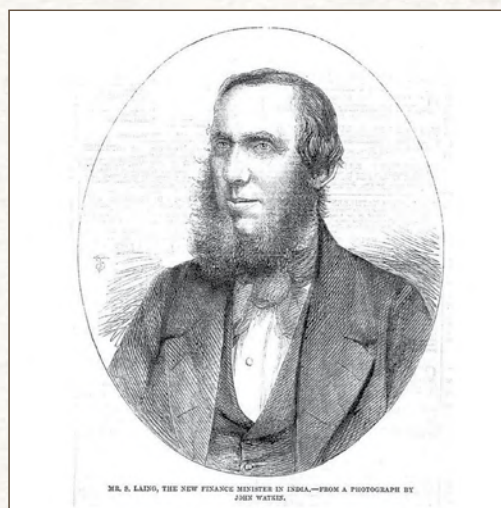
FINANCE MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF INDIA

Sir James Wilson was to establish the tax structure in India, initiate introduction of the Paper Currency in India, and he was to remodel the Finance System in India. The original proposal was to be backed by reserves of coins valued at least one-third of the paper currency issued for circulation. This reserve was to be managed by an independent Commission. The members of this Commission could only be removed by the Secretary of State for India. Paper Currency in India owed much to the intellectual stimulus and personal dynamism initiatives of Sir James Wilson.

Sir James Wilson's financial plan was designed to permit temporary expansion or contraction of currency in order to accommodate variations without change in coin reserves. The system that was put in place was rigid. Issued paper currency was to be backed entirely by coin reserves with restricted fiduciary issues of Rupees Four Crores against Government Securities. He wanted to have the Paper Currency Notes printed in India. However, Sir James Wilson was in office only for a year and he died in 1860.

Sir Samuel Laing succeeded Sir James Wilson as the Finance Member of Council. With the untimely death of Sir James Wilson, the responsibility of issuing Paper Money in India was transferred to Samuel Laing. He substantially modified Sir James Wilson's original proposals before implementing it. Sir Samuel Laing believed that India did not have the necessary expertise and facilities to print Paper Currency Notes in India. Hence the print order to produce Paper Currency Notes for India was given to the Bank of England.

### SIR SAMUEL LAING



FINANCE MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF INDIA

The Bank of England contacted Sir Wyndham Spencer Portal, the owner of Laverstoke Paper Mill. They were the manufacturers of watermark paper for the notes of Bank of England and also for some of the Presidency Banks in India that were issuing notes. In 1860, M/s. Portals won the contract to produce the watermark paper for printing the Indian notes. M/s. Portals immediately re-organised their Paper Mill, erected a new building and added more machinery to cope with the increased production of watermark paper.

### SIR WYNDHAM SPENCER PORTAL



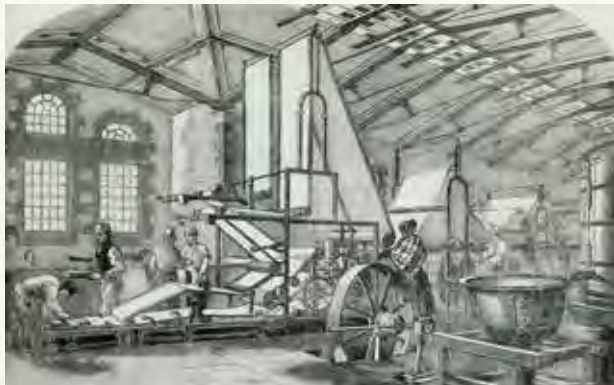
OWNER OF PAPER MILL AT LAVERSTOKE

The Paper Mill of Portal at Laverstoke produced hand-made and moulded paper in the mould-making department established at the Mill. The Bank of England introduced moulded paper for their own notes, also made by M/s. Portal's. This paper was produced at the Portal's Laverstoke Mill by the Smith & Brewer's process of creating an opaque moulded watermark. Later the Bank of England acquired the exclusive right to use the process. The Bank of England established a mould office of its own in



1850. Subsequently the moulds were prepared in its premises and the paper was manufactured at Portal's Mill, situated at Laverstock. Since the travel time between the Bank of England and the Portal's Mill was time consuming, the mould-making department of the Bank of England was transferred to Laverstock under an agreement. The paper with shadow watermark began to be produced from there. The first banknotes of the Bank of England on this new watermark paper were issued in 1855. The same type of moulded watermark paper was used for printing notes for India.

### PORTALS PAPER MILL



SITUATED IN LAVERSTOKE

The trials and patterns for the Government of India notes commenced in 1859 itself in denominations of Five Rupees and Ten Rupees. The trial notes and pattern notes of Five Rupees with the Portrait of Queen Victoria were printed. However, notes of this denomination was never issued for circulation.

The patterns for the Government of India notes were very much similar in the overall design to the notes of Bank of England. They were uniface, printed in black coloured ink on moulded watermark paper. The most interesting part of the Portrait Notes of Queen Victoria is the facsimile signatures in the watermark. The signatures of both Sir James Wilson, the Finance Member and Lord Canning, the Governor General of India appear in the watermark of the first issue of Queen Victoria Portrait notes. Even though Sir James Wilson died in 1860, his facsimile signature remained in the watermark when the notes were issued in 1861.

### BANK OF ENGLAND – FIVE POUNDS



PRINTED ON WATERMARK PAPER OF  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FIVE RUPEES

### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA – FIVE RUPEES – TRIAL



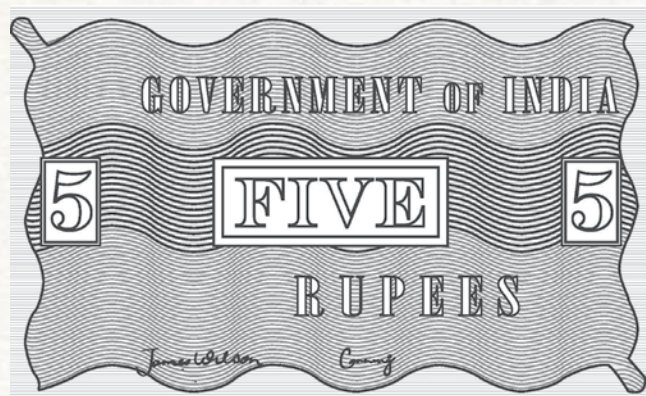
DT. 26 MARCH 1858, CIRCLE OF ISSUE 'HULL' OR  
'CALCUTTA', SIGNED AS 'SPECIMEN', MANUSCRIPT  
READS '8TH OCTOBER 1860', 'W. S. PORTAL'\*

### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA – FIVE RUPEES – PATTERN\*\*



DT. '26 MARCH 1858', 'CALCUTTA'  
CIRCLE, MANUSCRIPT 'SIGNATURE'

### WATERMARK OF FIVE RUPEES

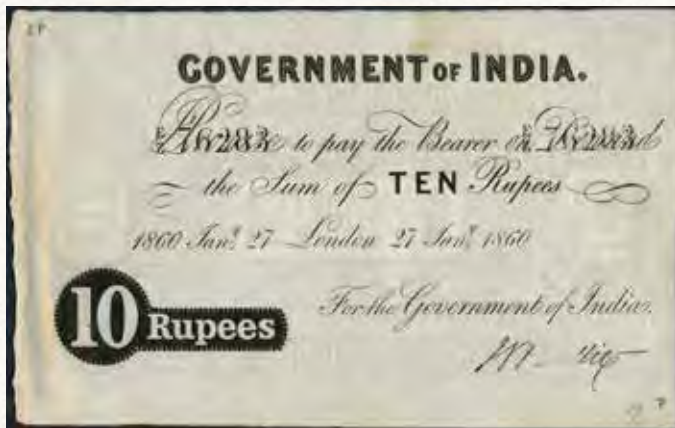


FACSIMILE SIGNATURE –  
'JAMES WILSON' AND 'CANNING'

\* It was envisaged that the notes with Portrait of Queen Victoria would be encashable within each of the various circles of issue as well as the Office of Issue. Hence promise text reads 'here or in Calcutta' Sub-Circle "Hull" as an example, signed as 'Specimen' on '8th October 1860' by 'W. S. Portal'.  
\*\* Trial notes and Pattern notes of Rupees Five with Portrait of Queen Victoria were printed. However, notes of this denomination was never issued for circulation.



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA –  
TEN RUPEES – TRIAL



DT. 27 JANUARY 1860, CIRCLE OF ISSUE 'LONDON',

SIGNED BY W. P. GATTIE, CHIEF  
CASHIER, BANK OF ENGLAND

The first prototype of Paper Money made for India was presented by Sir James Wilson during his historical speech on 25<sup>th</sup> December 1859 at the Governor General's Camp, Meerut. It was a Ten Rupees prototype, developed by the Bank of England, containing a watermark similar to the notes of the Bank of England. The text on the banknote was however changed for India. This specimen had in its watermark, 'GOVERNMENT OF INDIA' written along the top edge, the word 'TEN' in the centre and the word 'RUPEES' below it.

The numbering of each note was first proposed to have 2 alphabets as a prefix to the serial number thus making each note unique and identifiable by its number. The denomination of each note was to be printed in 2 local languages along with English, so as to have it's reach among the masses. A lot of changes were incorporated to this first design in the coming years before the first notes were introduced in India.

The speech of Sir James Wilson, the originator of paper currency in India, dated March 3, 1860, where he says: *"In short, to abstract so much coin from the mere mechanical purpose of the circulation, supplying its place with convertible paper, would be exactly the same in effect as if suddenly, in the centre of the Maidan, a rich silver mine had been discovered which produced silver at little or no cost."* Supreme Legislative Council Proceedings, Vol. VI, p. 250.

The Paper Currency Bill was passed in 1861 as Act XIX which came into effect in July 1861. This Act bestowed the Government of India the monopoly of Note Issue in India, thereby bringing to an end the Note Issues of the Private Banks and Presidency Banks. It prohibited the issue of all negotiable instruments - bank cheques and drafts excepted, by every other corporate body, person or persons. The Private Banks and the Presidency Banks ceased to issue their own currency notes henceforth.

QUEEN VICTORIA



20 JUNE 1837 - 22 JANUARY 1901

The first set of Indian banknotes issued by the Government of India featured Queen Victoria's portrait. These unsigned notes were delivered in India towards the end of 1861 by ship. These notes were issued in denominations of 10, 20, 50, 100, 500 and 1000 Rupees. The minimum denomination of bank notes to be issued were Ten Rupees. Bearing in mind the value and purchasing power of Indian currency in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, these notes were fairly high denominations. Paper Currency in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century was rarely used by the general public. They were mostly used for collecting revenue and remitting funds for commercial and official purposes.

One of the biggest challenges the introduction of Paper Money in India faced was the geographical diversity of the country. In order to successfully implement the circulation of Paper Money, India was divided into 'Circles of Issue' for the Paper Currency and notes were 'Legal Tender' and payable only within the Circle of Issue. The initial notes were issued from the Circles of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay representing the three Presidencies. The prefix used in the serial numbers of notes of each of these Circles were 'A' for Calcutta circle, 'B' for Madras circle and 'C' for Bombay circle. The issued notes have varying dates in the months of May, June, July and August of different years between 1861 to 1865.

Initially the Presidency Banks were appointed as agents to promote the circulation of these notes in view of their existing infrastructure. The Act of 1861 authorised the Presidency Banks to enter into agreements with the Secretary of State for becoming agents for the issue, payment and exchange of promissory notes of the Government of India. The Presidency Banks were given a fee of 0.75% as agents. The Currency Office first established its office in the Bank of Bengal building in Calcutta on January 3, 1862. The Comptroller-General of Accounts at Accounts Department, Calcutta was the Head Commissioner of Issue and the Accountant Generals of Madras & Bombay were Commissioners. The Agency Agreements with the Presidency Banks were terminated in 1867. The Currency Department stood as an extension of the Mint till 1870 when the Paper Currency Department



was separated from the Department of Mint. The management of paper currency was subsequently entrusted to the Mint Masters, the Accountant Generals and the Controller of Currency.

The initial set of British India notes facilitated inter-spatial transfer of funds. As a security precaution, notes were cut in half. One half of the note was sent by post. On confirmation of receipt of the first half of the note by the recipient, the other half was then despatched by post for encashment.

The challenge in circulating and redeeming these notes over vast expanses of the Indian sub-continent led to the concept of 'Currency Sub-Circles', where these notes were legal tender. In order to enhance the reach of paper money, various 'Sub-Circles' were established under the 3 primary circles:

- 1864: Allahabad, Nagpore\*\* and Lahore were sub-circles of Calcutta.
- 1865: Kurrachee was a sub-circle of Bombay.
- 1865: Calicut, Trichinopoly, Vizagapatam were sub-circles of Madras.
- 1868: Akola was a sub-circle of Bombay.
- 1879: Coconada was a sub-circle of Madras.
- 1882: Rangoon.
- 1901: Cawnpore was a sub-circle of Calcutta.

The name of sub-circle was super-inscribed by an overprint or a stamp on the note, its placement varied from circle to circle.

In 1910 after universalization, there remained only seven main circles of issue—Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Rangoon, Cawnpore, Kurrachee, and Lahore. All sub-circles were abolished.

### QUEEN VICTORIA – VIGNETTE USED IN THE NOTES



MANUSCRIPT READS 'BANK OF  
ENGLAND NOTE FOR INDIA'

\* Nagpore was first a sub-circle of Calcutta and later in 1868 it was a sub-circle of Bombay.

### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA – TEN RUPEES – TRIAL



DT. 23 JULY 1858, CIRCLE OF ISSUE 'DELHI' OR 'CALCUTTA', SL. NO.E/E 00001 PRINTED ON AN UNADOPTED WATERMARK PAPER DT. '1 MARCH 1860' WITH A SINGLE FACSIMILE SIGNATURE OF SIR JAMES WILSON

### TEN RUPEES NOTE WITH PORTRAIT OF QUEEN VICTORIA



TEN RUPEES NOTE WITH PORTRAIT OF QUEEN VICTORIA 'CALCUTTA' CIRCLE, DT. '9 MAY 1862', SIGNED BY 'H. HYDES' WATERMARK OF TEN RUPEES

In the top left corner was a profile Portrait of Queen Victoria in between floral wreath. The words 'GOVERNMENT OF INDIA' was centered in one line on top. The Serial Numbers with a Prefix of one alphabet and two numerals were on either side of the Promise Text. The denomination is in words in panel below the Promise Text on either side with Bangla on the left and Persian on the right. Below that the Circle of Issue is centered between mirrored dates printed on either side. Below that is the Denomination in numerals in a panel, Persian on left panel and Bangla on right panel.

The name of the Sub-Circle is by a superinscription or an overprint and its placement may vary in individual instances. The Sub-Circle is printed on the right side of the note in addition to the main circle below the central denomination panel. The signature was hand stamped at the time of issue below 'For the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA'. The notes were signed by two signatories in case of Sub Circles. The denomination panel is on lower left in numeral and words. These notes were printed



in England. The first notes were dated '8 July 1861'. The note measures 21.5 cm x 13 cm.

The watermark has wavy lines in the central promise text panel extending towards the margins. Within the wavy lines the words 'GOVERNMENT OF INDIA' in bold letters was centered in one line on top, below it is the denomination in words and in numerals in a rectangle on either sides and the word 'RUPEES' below it.

On the lower two ends were two facsimile signatures - on the right was the signature of Lord Canning, the Governor-General, and on the left was the signature of Sir James Wilson, the Finance Member of the Council. Sir James Wilson died in 1860, and his facsimile signature was retained in the watermark in the notes issued in 1861. In notes issued in subsequent years, the facsimile signature of Sir James Wilson was replaced with that of Samuel Laing in the watermark.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA –  
WATERMARK OF TEN RUPEES



FACSIMILE SIGNATURE –  
'JAMES WILSON' AND 'CANNING'

10 RUPEES			
RR Type No.	Signature	Circle of Issue	Prefix
RR-2.1.1	H. Hydes	Calcutta	A
RR-2.1.2	H. Hydes + C. W. Clerdin	Calcutta or Allahabad	A
RR-2.1.3	H. Hydes + L. Berkeley	Calcutta or Lahore	A
RR-2.1.4	J.A. Ballard as Commissioner	Bombay	C

TEN RUPEES NOTE WITH PORTRAIT  
OF QUEEN VICTORIA



'BOMBAY' CIRCLE, DT. '9 JUNE 1862', SIGNED  
BY 'J. A. BALLARD' AS 'COMMISSIONER'

RED SEAL READS 'BANK OF BOMBAY'

20 RUPEES			
RR Type No.	Signature	Circle of Issue	Prefix
RR-2.2.1	H. Hydes	Calcutta	A
RR-2.2.2	H. Hydes + C. W. Clerdin	Calcutta or Allahabad	A
RR-2.2.3	H. Hydes + L. Berkeley	Calcutta or Lahore	A
RR-2.2.4	J.A. Ballard + S. K. Lambert	Bombay or Kurrachee	C
RR-2.2.5	C. Wilson (Acting Commissioner)	Madras	B

TWENTY RUPEES NOTE WITH  
PORTRAIT OF QUEEN VICTORIA



'CALCUTTA' CIRCLE, DT. '11 JULY 1861',  
SIGNED BY 'H. HYDES'



# TWENTY RUPEES NOTE WITH PORTRAIT OF QUEEN VICTORIA



'CALCUTTA' CIRCLE, 'LAHORE' SUB-CIRCLE, DT. '15 MAY 1862', SIGNED BY 'L. BERKLEY' AND 'H. HYDES'

# TWENTY RUPEES NOTE WITH PORTRAIT OF QUEEN VICTORIA



'CALCUTTA' CIRCLE, 'ALLAHABAD' SUB-CIRCLE, DT. '13 MAY 1865', SIGNED BY 'C. W. CLERDIN' AND 'H. HYDES'

# TWENTY RUPEES NOTE WITH PORTRAIT OF QUEEN VICTORIA



'BOMBAY' CIRCLE, 'KURRACHEE' SUB-CIRCLE, 'SIND CIRCLE OF ISSUE' IN OVAL SEAL ACROSS KURRACHEE, DT. '10 JUNE 1864', SIGNED BY 'S. K. LAMBERT' AND 'J. A. BALLARD'

## 50 RUPEES

RR Type No.	Signature	Circle of Issue	Prefix
RR-2.3.1	H. Hydes	Calcutta	A

# FIFTY RUPEES NOTE WITH PORTRAIT OF QUEEN VICTORIA



'CALCUTTA' CIRCLE, DT. '13 JULY 1861', SIGNED BY 'H. HYDES'

## 100 RUPEES

RR Type No.	Signature	Circle of Issue	Prefix
RR-2.4.1	H. Hydes	Calcutta	A
RR-2.4.2	H. Hydes + R.A. Sterndale	Calcutta or Nagpore	A
RR-2.4.3	H. Hydes + G. W. Cline	Calcutta or Nagpore	A
RR-2.4.4	H. Hydes + L. Berkeley	Calcutta or Lahore	A
RR-2.4.5	J.A. Ballard – Commissioner	Bombay	C
RR-2.4.6	Signature not read (Signed as Commissioner of Issue)	Madras	B
RR-2.4.7	J. L. Shaw (Signed as Officiating Commissioner of Issue)	Madras	B
RR-2.4.8	C. Wilson (Signed as Acting Commissioner)	Madras	B



# ONE HUNDRED RUPEES NOTE WITH PORTRAIT OF QUEEN VICTORIA



HALF NOTE : 'MADRAS' CIRCLE, DT. '29  
JULY 1861',SIGNED BY 'J. L. SHAW' AS  
OFFICIATING COMMISSIONER OF ISSUE

# ONE HUNDRED RUPEES NOTE WITH PORTRAIT OF QUEEN VICTORIA



TWO HALF NOTES DT. '20 MAY 1865 AND '17 JULY  
1861','CALCUTTA' CIRCLE, SIGNED BY 'H. HYDES'

# ONE HUNDRED RUPEES NOTE WITH PORTRAIT OF QUEEN VICTORIA



'CALCUTTA' CIRCLE, 'NAGPORE' SUB-CIRCLE, DT. '5  
MAY 1864',SIGNED BY 'G. W. CLINE' AND 'H. HYDES'

## 500 RUPEES

RR Type No.	Signature	Circle of Issue	Prefix
RR-2.5.1	Half note, sign cut	Calcutta	A

# FIVE HUNDRED RUPEES NOTE WITH PORTRAIT OF QUEEN VICTORIA



TWO HALF NOTES DT. '18 JULY 1861'  
AND '-----', 'CALCUTTA' CIRCLE,  
SIGNED BY '-----'

## 1000 RUPEES

RR Type No.	Signature	Circle of Issue	Prefix
RR-2.6.1	H. Hydes	Calcutta	A
RR-2.6.2	Signature cut	Madras	B

# ONE THOUSAND RUPEES NOTE WITH PORTRAIT OF QUEEN VICTORIA



'CALCUTTA' CIRCLE, DT. '25 MAY  
1863', SIGNED BY 'H. HYDES'



## ONE THOUSAND RUPEES NOTE WITH PORTRAIT OF QUEEN VICTORIA



'MADRAS' CIRCLE, DT. '31 JULY 1861',  
SIGNATURE CUT, SEAL 'BANK OF MADRAS'

The notes issued at the Currency Offices remained in circulation till they were encashed. These notes could be redeemed only at the place of issue or within the circle of issue. To make the issue more secure, the notes were registered at the time of issue and recorded at the time of redemption. This method enabled the issue office to account for each and every note that was in circulation. These notes could be redeemed only at the place of issue or the headquarters of that circle in silver coins.

Anyone could apply to obtain the notes on demand against the exchange of Indian silver Rupees, silver bullion, or foreign silver coins evaluated at its bullion value, provided they were of a minimum value of Rupees Two Thousand. The currency notes constitute a liability of the Government. The issuing offices were needed to redeem the notes in silver coins. On receipt for redemption, they were NOT reissued and were cancelled by either perforating them with the word 'PAID' or 'CANCELLED' or defacing them with similar stamps. The signature and a portion of the top left hand serial number were often cut or punched out. These cancelled notes were audited, preserved for seven years and then destroyed in incinerators. The notes were destroyed only at the Office of Issue where they were originally registered after verification and after accounting for them in the note registers. This practice was discontinued in favour of re-issuing notes in a serviceable condition after 1915.

Instances of forgeries of the Portrait Notes of Queen Victoria were brought to the notice of the Government of India after the notes were issued and in circulation. There were also concerns expressed about the quality of paper as it was noticed that the paper was prone to get damaged easily with repeated handling, re-issuing and in the weather conditions in India. Hence, it was necessary to change the design of the notes and improve the quality of paper.

The Bank of England took up these concerns with M/s. Portal's. Thereafter, the paper was made more sturdy and the watermark changed to prevent further forgeries. The watermark was made more intricate and distinctive for notes of different denominations. It now had wavy lines towards the borders and the value of the note was placed in the centre with the word 'INDIA'. The

watermark also included a manufacturer's own code towards the lower side. This kind of watermark closely followed that of the notes of the Bank of England. This was the beginning of the Uniface note with underprints from 1867. The underprints were initially in green and subsequently in red.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Archives from the Bank of England.
- Archives from the British Library.
- Nasik Press, India.
- *The Revised Standard Reference Guide to Indian Paper Money*
- *Paper Currency of India* – P. L. Gupta.
- Mr. Bazil Shaikh, India.
- Mr. Alkesh Arora, India.

Rezwan Razack is Chairman, IBNS India Banknote Collectors' Chapter, Author *One Rupee One Hundred Years 1917-2017*, co-Author *The Revised Standard Reference Guide to Indian Paper Money*.

Rezwan Razack's Museum of Indian Paper Money  
19, Brunton Road, Bangalore 560025, India: +91-80-25591080  
[info@indianbanknotes.com](mailto:info@indianbanknotes.com), [www.indianbanknotes.com](http://www.indianbanknotes.com)