B. P. A. Expertising Limited London - England

EXPERT COMMITTEE

No: 84,247

18th June, 2014

The Committee is of the opinion that the

GREAT BRITAIN: 1840 entire letter from St Petersburg,
Russia, to London, with boxed ST PETERSBURG/10 NOV
1840" (Julian calendar) Cyrillic handstamp and "Franco",
rated "61½" and "1/8" on reverse, forwarded to Kearsney
Abbey, Dover, onward postage paid by 1840 1d black, Plate
1b, lettered B-B (SG2, Spec AS5), cancelled by red Maltese
Cross, backstamped red (London) 6.12.40 arrival and black
"H/DE 7/1840" despatch datestamps, is genuine.

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Neither the Company nor the members of the Expert Committee can accept any liability, either collective or individual, for any opinion expressed.

PETER HOLCOMBE

PHILATELIC EXPERT

LUZERN, SWITZERLAND.

Certificate No. 10538/95

October, 30th 1995

RUSSIA/GREAT BRITAIN.

A pre-philatelic lettersheet dateline St.Petersburg, 20. Nov. 1840 (Georgian Calender) bearing a straight line "Franco" and "St.Petersburg, 10?Nov. 1840" (Julian Calender), rated on the reverse "61 1/2" Kop.? and "1/8" the rate to England via Prussia, but without any transit markings, addressed to Cox's Hotel, London, England, where it was rated "N1/8", arriving on Dec. 6. 1840 (Georgian Calender); it was re-addressed by the Hotel to Kearsney-Abbey and an 1840, 1d. black, plate 1b, lettered BB, imperf., S.G. 2, Scott 1, was added and cancelled by a Maltese Cross in red with the London date stamp of Dec. 7. on the reverse. There are no arrival cancellations. As such it is in my opinion genuine. A unusual forwarded lettersheet.

