

# PHILATELIC OPINION MIKE JACKSON PHILATELIST

No. 0235

June 2014

3 COTTESMORE AVENUE MELTON MOWBRAY LEICESTERSHIRE LE13 0HY ENGLAND mike@mjpublications.com

# ITEM DESCRIPTION

1840 1d Greyish Black RD Plate 11 on entire letter.

# **OBSERVATIONS**

Comparisons with the letter positions and descriptions in Nissen confirm that the stamp is from Plate 11, which was printed from in black on 1 and 2 February 1841. The stamp has the double letter D as described by Nissen. There are blurs in the left margin and generally over the lower portion of the stamp, especially in ONE PENNY, which have also been seen on another stamp from this unit. The sharp edge to the blur in the margin presumably represents the edge of the transfer roller. This all suggests an impression that was slightly deeper in the plate than usual.

The stamp is obliterated by a black Maltese Cross which ties the stamp to the cover. Under a microscope, the character of the ink on the stamp matches that of the ink on the cover.

The letter was sent from London (16 MR 1841 Lombard Street Branch Office d.s. on back) to Astwood, near Feckenham, Worcestershire. The dateline in the letter confirms the date.

# SOURCES

Charles Nissen, The Plating of the Penny Black Postage Stamp of Great Britain 1840, 1922.

Stanley Gibbons, Great Britain Specialised Catalogue, Vol. 1, 16th edn, 2011.

### CONCLUSION

In my opinion, the letter bears an 1840 1d Greyish Black RD Plate 11 with double letter D, and is genuine. SG Spec. AS72b.

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