SPINK

e-Catalogue

26026 - Classic India – the 1854 Issues

Lot 1



(x) India1852 (1 July) Scinde DawkHalf Anna Blue½a. blue, a superb example with good to large margins. cancelled by diamond of dots, affixed to piece of native letter, fine. A lovely showpiece. B.P.A. Certificates (1964 and 2026). S.G. 2, £12,000provenance:Maurice Burrus, Robson Lowe, November 1963, Lot 271"Koh-I-Nor", Christie's Robson Lowe, February 1986, Lot 47Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£8,000 to £10,000

Lot 2



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesHalf AnnaUnissued "9½" ArchesVermilion, an irregular marginal block of fourteen with part inscription at right, [38-40/48-50/57-60/67-70], very fine. A very rare and impressive multiple. B.P.A. Certificate (2026). Spence 76; S.G. 1, £52,500Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£25,000 to £30,000

Lot 3



India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesHalf AnnaDie I - Stone A½a. blue block of twelve, [77-80/85-88/93-96], mainly good margins, each neatly cancelled "260" in oval of bars, pressed horizontal crease through the centre row not affecting very fine appearance. A scarce multiple. S.G. 2, £720Subject to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium. For more information please view Terms and Conditions for Buyers.

Estimate
£250 to £300

Lot 4



India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesHalf AnnaDie I - Stone A½a. deep blue and ½a. deep blue, both in a block of four with good margins, cancelled "260" in oval of bars and diamond of dots respectively, fine. S.G. 2, 4, £500Subject to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium. For more information please view Terms and Conditions for Buyers.

Estimate
£200 to £250

Lot 5



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesHalf AnnaDie I - Stone A½a. blue, variety doubly printed with inverted impression on reverse showing corner ornament [1], neatly cancelled with diamond of dots, fine. A great rarity. Holcombe (1998) and B.P.A (2026) Certificates. S.G. 2a, £48,000Note: This stamp was discovered in 1931 and offered in the H.R. Harmer 11 January sale when it realised £26. It was offered again in the H.R. Harmer 12 October 1954 sale realising £230.provenance:"Rajah", Harmers, May 1988, Lot 273Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£20,000 to £25,000

Lot 6



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesHalf AnnaDie II - Stone CA complete sheet of ninety-six (8x12) with full marginal inscriptions in a blue shade; pressed crease through vertical row four, light overall toning and small faults in margins. S.G. 6, £26,400+Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£12,000 to £15,000

Lot 7



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesHalf AnnaDie II - Stone C½a. blue unused block of twelve, [53-56/61-64/69-72], in a deep shade with full marginal inscription at right, fine. Scarce. S.G. 6, £1,920Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£800 to £1,000

Lot 8



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesHalf AnnaDie II - Stone C½a. blue, the unique used block of thirty-two [1-32] and adjoining strip of four [33-36] with several showing touch-ups - most prominent being [1], margins virtually intact all round; [27] defective at foot, [30] small tear at foot and [32] defective. A magnificent exhibition showpiece in remarkable condition for such a multiple. B.P.A. Certificate (2026). S.G. 6provenance:C.D. Desai, Robson Lowe, May 1949, Lot 224Christie's Robson Lowe auction, March 1994, Lot 55Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£8,000 to £10,000

Lot 9



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesOne AnnaDie I - Stone A1d. deep red unused irregular block seven, [7-8/15-16/22-24], with part marginal inscription at right; surface fault at lower left of [22]. A block of exceptionally brilliant colour. Holcombe (1998) and B.P.A. (2026) Certificates. S.G. 11, £19,250+provenance:D.C. Gray, Harmers, September 1962, Lot 617Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£4,000 to £5,000

Lot 10



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesOne AnnaDie I - Stone A1a. red unused strip of four, [18-21], very fine. B.P.A. Certificate (2026). S.G. 12, £6,400+provenance:A.E. Stewart, Robson Lowe, March 1956, Lot 254Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£2,500 to £3,000

Lot 11



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesOne AnnaDie II - Stone BA complete unused sheet of ninety-six (8x12) in a red shade dated "Sept 1854" at foot; very light overall toning and pressed vertical crease between fourth and fifth vertical rows resulting in splitting in top two rows. A remarkable exhibition showpiece. S.G. 14, £28,800Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£15,000 to £20,000

Lot 12



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesOne AnnaDie III - Stone E1a. red unused lower right corner block of nine, [78-0/86-88/94-96], very fine. An exceptional multiple and one of the great pieces of Indian philately. B.P.A. Certificate (2026). S.G. 15literature:Illustrated in "The One Anna & Two Annas Postage Stamps of India" by L.E. Dawson, Plate IVprovenance:Sotheby's auction, September 1984, Lot 617Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£30,000 to £40,000

Lot 13



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesFour AnnasFirst Printing, Head Die I, Frame Die I4a. blue and pale red [6], small to large margins showing part blue wavy lines on two sides and guide crosses at right, unused; usual horizontal pre-printing fold associated with this row and small tear at top. Good colour and appearance. B.P.A. Certificate (1990). S.G. 18, £35,000provenance:Lt. Col. L.T. Rose-Hutchinson, Robson Lowe, October 1949, Lot 218Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£12,000 to £14,000

Lot 14



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesFour AnnasFirst Printing, Head Die I, Frame Die IA magnificent cut square example, Head [1], Frame [3], both head and frame printed with a clear impression and fine rich colour, good margins at top and at foot and almost complete clear margins at sides, light diamond of dots cancellation. A true gem of the utmost rarity. Of the twenty-seven examples recorded, twenty-four are cut-to-shape and of these six are in institutions. P.F. (2001) and B.P.A. (2026) Certificates. S.G. 18a, £500,000 (see footnote after S.G. 18)Note: This is number XXIIIprovenance::Acquired by Miss Mary Lynch, of Levin, New ZealandHarmers auction, October 1954, Lot 271 (sold £725)"Rajah", Harmers, May 1989, Lot 313 (sold £52,800)literature:Encyclopaedia of Rare and Famous Stamps by L.N. Williams, page 123Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£300,000 to £400,000

Lot 15



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesFour AnnasSecond Printing - Head Die II, Frame Die I4a. blue and red, [10], cut-square with very large margins, unused with a couple light tones at top, otherwise fine. R.P.S. Certificate (2026). S.G. 19, £30,000Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer’s Premium.

Estimate
£8,000 to £10,000

Lot 16



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesFour AnnasFourth Printing, Head Die III, Frame Die II4a., a used range of thirty-six selected cut square examples in a range of shades, the vast majority with four clear margins and fine to very fine. A choice lot. S.G. 22/24 group, £27,000 (cheapest)Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer’s Premium.

Estimate
£7,000 to £9,000

Lot 17



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesFour AnnasFourth Printing, Head Die III, Frame Die II4a. blue and red, an unused block of eight, [7-8/13-15/19-21], with watermark reversed and with maximum sheet margin at left and at foot; minor stains in margins, some creases through impressions and in margins. A remarkable multiple and one of the most important four anna pieces in existence. B.P.A. Certificate (1993). S.G. 23provenance:Christie's Robson Lowe auction, March 1994, Lot 97Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer’s Premium.

Estimate
£100,000 to £120,000

Lot 18



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesFour AnnasFourth Printing, Head Die III, Frame Die II4a. blue on red, an unused vertical pair [8/14] with good to large margins, good colour, pressed creased between and in margin at right, neither affecting fine appearance. B.P.A. Certificate (2026). S.G. 23, £40,000Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£15,000 to £20,000

Lot 19



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesFour AnnasFourth Printing, Head Die III, Frame Die II4a. blue on red, [7], unused with good to large margins, very fine. B.P.A. Certificate (1990). S.G. 23, £20,000provenance:Lt. Col. L.T. Rose-Hutchinson, October 1949, Lot 252Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£7,000 to £9,000

Lot 20



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesFour AnnasFourth Printing, Head Die III, Frame Die II4a. blue and red, the unbelievable block of ten, [2-6/8-12], with margins in places, each cancelled "B/1"; additional manuscript rate mark reduced and [3] with thin spot, nevertheless in a remarkable state of preservation and the finer of the two recorded blocks from this printing. B.P.A. Certificate (2026). S.G. 23provenance:Christie's Robson Lowe auction, March 1993, Lot 102Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£8,000 to £10,000

Lot 21



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesFour AnnasFourth Printing, Head Die III, Frame Die II4a. blue and red horizontal pair, [10-11], with the frame in a deep shade, on piece, outer frame-line touched at left and at right, both neatly "54" (Kirkee), showing part framed "(india) paid" and London Paid arrival c.d.s.(12.1.58), fine. S.G. 23provenance:Christie's Robson Lowe auction, December 1988, Lot 2075Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£1,200 to £1,500

Lot 22



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesFour AnnasFifth Printing, Head Die III, Frame Die II4a. blue and rose-red block of four, [17-18/23-24], with watermark reversed, each cancelled "C/36" or "56" (Ventapollem or Secunderabad) and showing small part c.d.s. in orange at left; small nick in margin above [2] and [3] with two small tears at left. A rare multiple. S.G. 25, £13,000provenance:Christie's Robson Lowe, March 1994, Lot 109Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£4,000 to £5,000

Lot 23



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesThe Serrated Perforations1a. red, Die II, Stone C, showing perforations on all sides, cancelled "C/1", fine. Extremely rare. R.P.S. Certificate (1946). S.G. 29, £20,000Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£4,000 to £5,000

Lot 24



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesThe Serrated Perforations4a. blue and red, 5th prining Head Die III, Frame Die II, [14], showing separations on three sides, a little heavily cancelled "C/126" (Chittor); marginal crease that at top ending in a closed tear and soiled/toned, nevertheless a major rarity of the 1854 issues. B.P.A. Certificate (2026). S.G. 30, £70,000Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£10,000 to £12,000

Lot 25



India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesTwo Annas2a. green strip of five with good margins, each cancelled with diamond of dots, fine. A scarce multiple. S.G. 31Subject to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium. For more information please view Terms and Conditions for Buyers.

Estimate
£500 to £600

Lot 26



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesCovers1854 (1 Oct.) entire letter from Muree, written on the first day of issue to Cardiff, marked "Via Bombay & Marseilles", bearing ½a. deep blue Die I horizontal pair, [1-2], with clear to large margins, tied by light diamond of dots, rated "1/10", showing oval-framed "india" in red with, on reverse, despatch, Bombay (1.10) and arrival datestamps. The contents include "I have been waiting until the new postage came in, which is today. An overland letter which used to cost to Bombay before 15 annas comes to one anna, so you can fancy how much they have reduced the postages". One of the great covers of Indian philately proving the issue date of India's first generally used stamp. Holcombe (1988) and R.P.S. (2024) Certificates.Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£15,000 to £20,000

Lot 27



India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesCovers1855 (Mar.) envelope to Secunderabad, bearing ½a. Die I tied by diamond of dots; 1855 (22 Apr.) entire (no side flaps) to Calcutta, bearing 1a. Die II cancelled with diamond of dots; 1855 (30 Nov.) native envelope (small faults) from Bombay to Surat, bearing 1a. Die I tied by "1" in diamond of bars; and 1855 (Sept.) native envelope (small faults) bearing, on reverse, 1a. Die I vertical pair both cancelled "111" in diamond of barsSubject to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium. For more information please view Terms and Conditions for Buyers.

Estimate
£200 to £250

Lot 28



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesCovers1855 (17 May) small envelope from Dum Dum to Aberdeen, marked "Via Southampton", bearing ½a. Die I and 4a. blue and red, 3rd printing Head Die III, Frame Die I, cut-to-shape singles (2), each cancelled by diamond of dots with the ½a. and one 4a. tied by red London Paid transit c.d.s., showing manuscript "11" in red, framed "india paid" with despatch datestamp on reverse. A most delightful franking. B.P.A. Certificate (2013). S.G. 2, 21Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£5,000 to £6,000

Lot 29



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesCovers1856 (Mar.) native envelopes (2) with intricate native border from Rawalpindi to Lahore, both bearing ½a. blue Die I with very close margins, both tied by "233" in oval of bars and showing, on reverse, red despatch and arrival datestamps. Most attractiveSubject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£800 to £1,000

Lot 30



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesCovers1856 entire from Calcutta to Bordeaux, marked "p Str Nubia", bearing 4a. blue and rose-red 5th printing Head Die III, Frame Die II horizontal pair [19-20] with close (left) to large margins, both strongly retouched, tied by light obliterator, rate "1/-" in red and "90" (decimes), showing framed "india paid" in red, light French maritime c.d.s. and, on reverse, despatch, Paris, Paris-Bordeaux and arrival datestamps. A lovely clean and most attractive franking. S.G. 25provenance:L.E. Dawson, Robson Lowe, November 1966, Lot 388Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£4,000 to £5,000

Lot 31



(x) India1854-55 Lithographed IssuesCovers1857 (17 Dec.) entire letter from Singapore to Hong Kong, marked "p. Formosa", bearing 2a. green bisected diagonally, well tied by "B/172" obliterator and manuscript "4" and showing, on reverse, "singapore/p.o." double-ring datestamp in red (28.12) and Hong Kong double-arc arrival datestamp (10.1.58). One of the most important covers not only of the Straits Settlements but also of Indian philately. The only known example of a bisected use of the India 1854 lithographed issue. B.P.A. Certificate (2000). S.G. Z64a, £750,000provenance:David Springbett, March 1994, Lot 668 (realised S$135,000 hammer)Dr. Pichai Buranasombati, June 2000, Lot 149 (realised S$240,000 hammer)Spink Singapore, Augut 2019, Lot 44 (realised S$1,000,000 hammer)Subject to 5% tax on Hammer Price in addition to 20% VAT on Buyer's Premium.

Estimate
£500,000 to £700,000