

Lot Type Grading Description

Est \$A

BRITISH EMPIRE SPECIMEN STAMPS

In recent years, 'SPECIMEN' and CTO stamps have become ever more popular. The relatively low numbers produced means that such material is generally very scarce. And a lack of care on the part of the UPU and/or the postal agencies means that defects - especially perforation problems - should be expected. Much of the material released by various receiving authorities is far from pristine: often the stamps have been soaked off ledger pages & in many cases fugitive inks have faded. The collection offered here, with strength in the Reign of KEVII, is by far the most extensive we have handled: note that further extensive selections are included in the 'Eureka' Australian Colonies catalogue. The quality generally is at least as fine as can be expected. Much of this material, from an unknown source, has full unmounted gum but also exhibits some tropicalisation. There is also some material that is truly superb! Such matters have been taken into account in our gradings. References are to the pioneering work by Marcus Samuel (1976), James Bendon's monumental "UPU Specimen Stamps 1878-1961" (2015) & "The De La Rue Collection" edited by Frank Walton.



Ex Lot 1860

1860 * A/A- **TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS:** 1901-11 issues complete as per *Gibbons* plus Salt & Ship 2d with Broken 'M' in 'SPECIMEN', a few minor blemishes, Cat £575. (23)

450



Ex Lot 1861

1861 * A/B - 1909 KEVII ½d to 3/- SG 117-126 complete vertical pairs, some creasing, Cat £500+. (10 pairs)

300