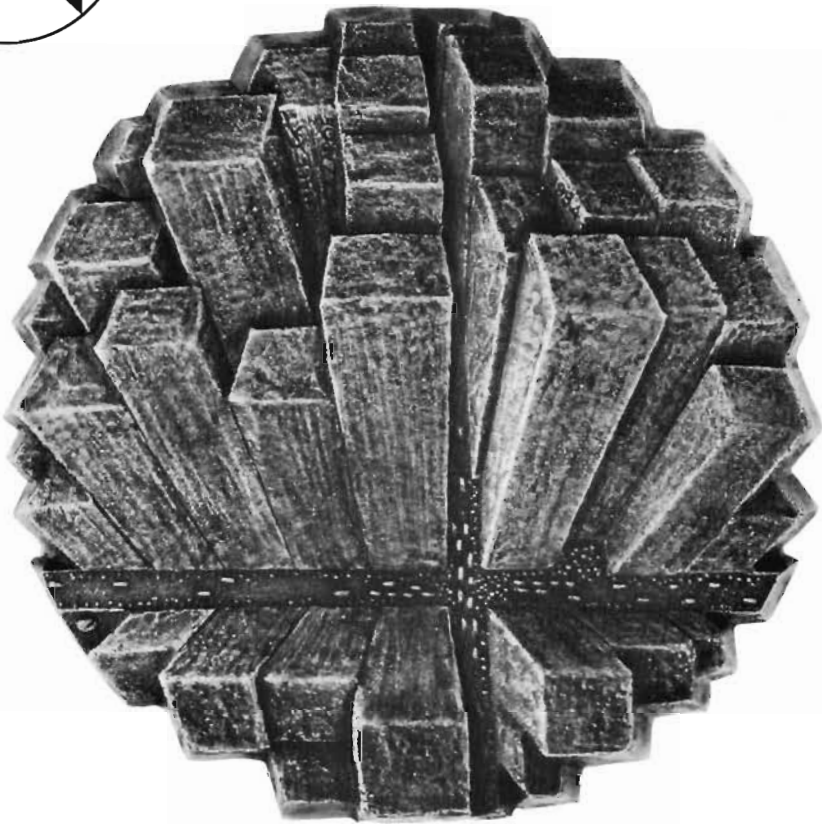




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OF AUSTRALIA.

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possibly received superscribed numbers F003401 to F003950.

Individual spaces in the register indicate the notes outstanding as next listed.

F001096, F001255, F001489, Bank of New South Wales (Sydney)  
F004199, possibly National Bank of Australasia  
F005037, National Bank of Australasia.

References: Superscribed registers in the custody of the Reserve Bank of Australia Archives, Sydney: "Banks of Issue in Australia" written and published in 1982 by Michael P. Vort-Ronald. At page 287 of "Banks of Issue" the following information should be added near the bottom of the page.

VS.30 £50.0.0. 480 notes. Bank serial numbers: D000521-D001000.

Photographs supplied:  
£20.0.0. W02111, superscribed D024809, courtesy of the Reserve Bank of Australia. (National Bank).  
£50.0.0. Bank of Victoria s/s G011862, and unissued £100 London Bank of Australia note, courtesy of the Art Gallery of South Australia.

## **SOME NOTES ON THE EARLY NOTES OF THE UNION BANK OF AUSTRALIA**

BY T. J. HART  
Group Archivist,  
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd.

Vort-Ronald's work on BANKS OF ISSUE IN AUSTRALIA (1982) provides the most authoritative statement yet on the notes of the private banks. However, a volume of letters recently discovered in Sydney, and now in ANZ Bank Archive, reveals a further fragment of information on the Union Bank note issue.

The letters are of the Colonial Inspector, John Cunningham McLaren, to the secretary of the bank in London and date from letter No. 15 of 13 April 1839. (The first fourteen letters have not been transcribed and are presumed lost). There are three brief references to the note issue.

On 15 February 1840 McLaren advised 'The £2 notes are not liked at any of the branches', and recommended that no

more be sent to Australia as it would be difficult to issue those notes already on hand.

Further letters imply that the earliest notes were different from those designated by Vort-Ronald as Type 1. The first on 29 December 1841 recommends that notes 'be signed by the Manager only instead of . . . by two Local Directors as at present'. The final reference on 25 August 1842 mentions that there are legal doubts on where the notes are technically payable and recommends that a point of payment be named in the body of the note after the word 'demand'. The earliest note (1853) in the bank's collection indicates that these changes were made.