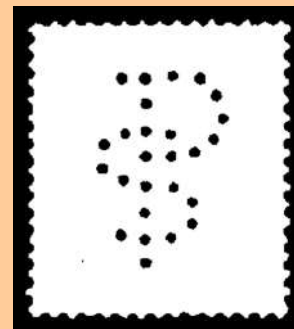
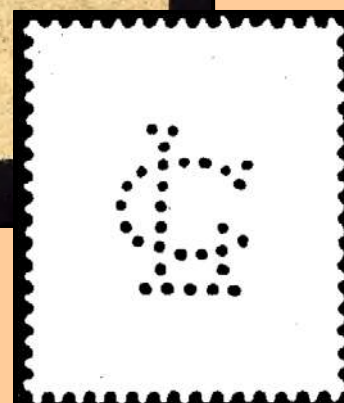


G.B. PERFIN SOCIETY BULLETIN



No. 373 – August 2011



One of a few recorded pieces with un-overprinted GB stamps used in the Levant. The cancel dated 15-2-1920 is of the BPO - Constantinople. All three stamps are perfinned with the Credit Lyonnais monogram C4215.01m

EDITORIAL

Let me first give many thanks to everyone who has sent material in since the last Bulletin. I'm afraid I can't answer all your letters – if I did I would have no time to do the Bulletin. I almost had too much material for this Bulletin. Please keep up the good work.

Since taking over the role of editor I have been contacted by a number of members who are new to perfin collecting who have asked whether we can have a “Beginner’s Column” in the Bulletin. There are two problems with this suggestion – firstly what subjects are of most interest and secondly who’s going to write it. I think a better alternative might be to have a “Questions Answered” column. So if you have been wondering what the difference is between a POKO and a FIXO or what the various suffixes mean on catalogue numbers or what an SPG type is, this is your chance to find out. Please send in any questions or queries you might have and I will get someone (hopefully not me) to answer your question.

Lastly a reminder that all members can receive at no extra cost an email copy of the Bulletin and the auction (as well as your paper copy). For overseas members this means that you can get the auction information that much quicker. If you want to be added to the distribution list please let me have your email address.

SECRETARY/TREASURER

A reminder that subscriptions for our forthcoming year 2011-2012 are due on 1st September, so prompt payment would be appreciated. Those of you not on email will find a slip enclosed with this Bulletin letting you know how much is owed or whether your subscription has been taken from credit held. The subscription remains unchanged at £10 UK, £12 Europe & World Surface, £15 for World Airmail or £10 for electronic paperless membership wherever you live.

The subject of subscriptions will be raised at the next AGM as costs now exceed the amount paid by overseas members, so I would appreciate hearing from all members on this subject.

There is now a new UK based currency sending service where for a wait of five days and a fee of 99p you can send money to various countries. It requires bank details of both recipient and sender and can be done by telephone or internet. The exchange rate given is similar to the normal high street but users need to ensure they use a debit card which does not incur a fee for currency

Joint Auction

In September or October the substantial balance of the GB Perfin collection of the late Joe Dooley, who was a member of both Societies, will be offered at auction. Included in this auction will be Queen Victoria 1d reds in quantity, a huge pattern/issue Ireland collection, collection of Seahorses, many covers by reign, about 4000 Queen Victoria perfins, under-print collections and other desirable material. The auction will be organized by our member and US Perfins Club President Bob Szymanski who will be responsible for all bids and inquiries.

Publications

We have been having problems with packets sent to the USA with delivery taking up to two months due to new security measure in the US that now bans passenger airlines from carrying mail, though there now seems to be some improvement. However now Canadian postal workers have gone on strike (late June) and have been locked out which is causing an enormous back log of mail, plus our Post Office is now refusing to accept Canadian mail until it finishes. Many apologies to any members who have been affected by these problems.

Date for your Diary

The next Society meeting and AGM will take place on November 5th 2011 (12 – 5pm) at our usual venue of the Young Chelsea Bridge Clubs, Earls Court, London. A map with the full details will appear in the October Bulletin. Philatex is also being held on the same day at the Royal Horticultural Halls, Victoria (10am – 4pm) so members can combine visiting Philatex with our meeting.

MEMBERS COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

Stamp Distribution Syndicate (SDS) Theft – Bulletin 372/19

James Norris has written in relation to the Stamp Distribution Syndicate – “I read with great interest the article on the Stamp Distribution Syndicate, and seeing the SDS perfin set me thinking immediately of a puzzle I was unable to solve when writing my book on London Postal History last year. I am not sure if there is a link here, but during my studies of London Post Office locations I found an ‘SDS Post Office’ in two locations, Wandsworth and Paddington. These were both on Stanford’s Library Map of London. However the date on the map of 1863 is way too early to tie in with the article. Can any member suggest what the SDS Post Offices were used for?”



Geoff Bentley has also written in. The article reminded him that he had a number of photos of stamp and stationery vending machine from the 60’s. If any member is interested in having these photos for write-up of their collection please contact the editor and I will pass them on.

Lastly I (Ed.) have uncovered one more tit-bit about the Stamp Distribution Syndicate. As mentioned previously in August 1892 the Stamp Distribution (Parent) Company issued a prospectus for the sale of shares. This apparently included the setting up of the Northern Counties Stamp Distribution Syndicate. This company was being set up for licensing of the machines in the six northern counties and Isle of Man. I have failed to find out what happened to this company although it was still in existence in 1898.

BPO Constantinople Post Card – Bulletin 372/12

Jeff Turnbull writes in relation to the BPO Constantinople Post card shown in the last Bulletin. “I thought that I would just mention that

the **BIO** perfin featured in the last bulletin is an exact match for the BIO perfin found on the Levant overprinted stamps. The perfin BIO was used by the Banque Imperiale Ottomane in Constantinople and is found on the British Levant surcharged and overprinted stamps during the period 1896-1914. The perfins were applied locally.”

“It has become apparent over the years that some British stamps were used in Levant without the any overprint! The perfin BIO has been recorded on an un-overprinted Edward VII 1d red stamp dated 11-11-1902. An even finer piece is shown on the cover of the Bulletin. It consists of a group of three King George V Typo perfins with the CL C4215.01m Perfin of Credit Lyonnais cancelled by British Post Office Constantinople but as can be seen - no overprint. The die is known used from 1902 - 1923”

Singapore Municipal Council Perfin Machine – Bulletin 372/26

Jeff Turnbull – “Amongst other interesting items in Bulletin 372 was one about the locating of a Sloper Perfin machine from Singapore. I think that Perfin S/MC does stand for Singapore Municipal Commissioners, and this stems from the fact that I have a rate receipt from the Municipal Commissioners Penang MC/P (Lavender design M12). This leads one to think that the same title would probably have been used in Singapore. Apparently the Municipal Commissioners dealt with all of the different Council Departments within the city.” Below is a detail from the Penang receipt showing the inscription “Secretary to the Municipal Commissioners”.



M12



POSTAL ORDER CANCELLATIONS

Fred Taylor

I have recently come across a postal order which seems to have been “cancelled” by a punching device which may be of interest to members. The postal order has both an issuing postmark and a receiving office postmark. Normally such a “used” postal order would not have been available to collectors. Most postal orders in collector’s hands are with only the issuing office postmark as they have never been cashed. The holes appear to have been punched after the postal order was folded and their triangular punch has produced diamond shaped holes. This process is similar to the holes punched in telegraph forms across high value stamps. This was supposedly to make them useless to philatelists when in fact of course they became even scarcer items!

Another one later turned up on ebay which I bid for but didn't get. Unlike the first one which was punched after it had been cashed (hence the two date stamps) this new one amazingly was perforated instead of being date stamped by a sending office. This of course means the date of use is unknown other than it was pre-decimal. If any other members have come across similar items I would be pleased to hear about them.



THOMAS COOK & SONS

Dave Hill

I've been reading "British Censorship of Civil Mails during WWI" by Graham Mark and thought members might be interested in how Cook's mail forwarding service worked, at least during WWI.

Firstly there is a difference between the meaning of "Undercover Mail" in the First and Second World Wars. In WWI it meant a letter that was sent inside another envelope, literally "under another cover", for personal or business correspondence. In WWII it also refers to, and is generally taken to mean, a letter that was sent to an undercover post box, typically in neutral Spain, for onward transmission, perhaps to an underground resistance organisation in an enemy occupied country. **Stephen Steere** wrote about this in Bulletin 320.

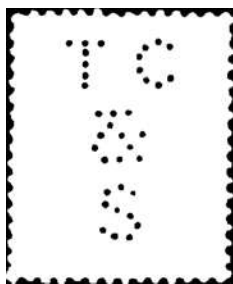
In WWI Cooks offered a service in co-operation with the British Censor for forwarding letters from Britain to neutral countries and thence to enemy countries and occupied territories for a charge of a shilling. The arrangement was that you sent your letter for onward transmission, enclosed, unsealed, with your shilling postal order, inside another cover to Cooks. Your letter was to be fully addressed to the enemy country but unstamped. They would forward it to the British Censor who would censor it and seal it (without a censor tape!) then return it to Cooks inside another envelope that Cooks provided, stamped and addressed to their branch in the neutral country but sealed with censor tape. Cooks would send it to their branch office in a neutral country, who would stamp your letter and send it on to the enemy country. In that way your letter would not have British censor marks or stamps that might delay it. Your shilling also covered the cost of postage of any reply from Cooks branch to Cooks London office and thence to you.

It was done in this way at the request of the Dutch who thought that it would appear to the Germans that they were co-operating with the British if letters to enemy countries had Dutch stamps and British censor tape. So presumably Cooks envelope from London to their

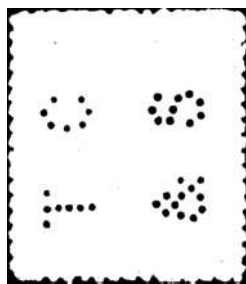
branch would bear a perfin (British) stamp as would any reply you received. Your letter from Cooks branch to the enemy country would bear a (Foreign) perfin stamp if the branch used perfins. Of course the exigencies of wartime account for the rarity of such perfins.

ooooOOOOoooo

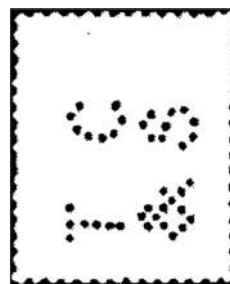
Thomas Cook used perfins in many of the countries in which they operated. Some of these are shown below. A study of Thomas Cook's operation and the perfins that they used is a major challenge but one that was taken up a number of years ago by the late **Boris Pritt**. In Bulletin 215 (February 1985) he presented an article that identified 26 perfins used in eleven countries. Since then further countries have been identified and below I have managed to find illustrations for some of them. The periods of use of many of the dies have yet to be established, so whether these were available during WWI period is still in question.



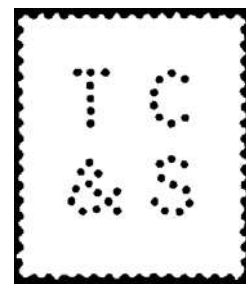
Ceylon



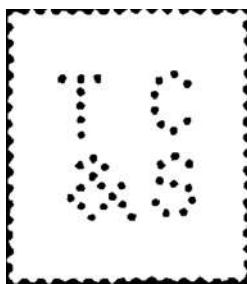
China



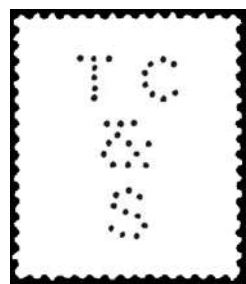
Egypt



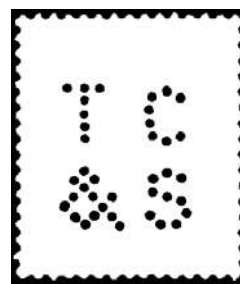
France



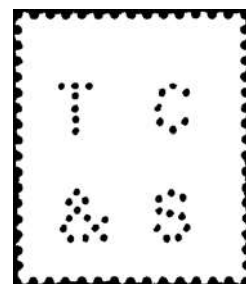
Great Britain



India



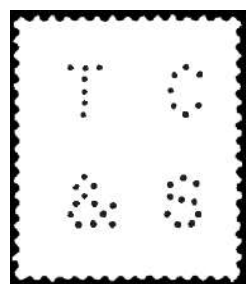
Iraq



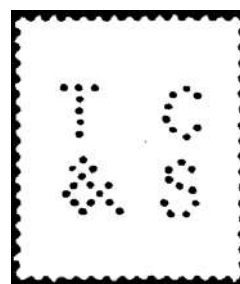
Japan



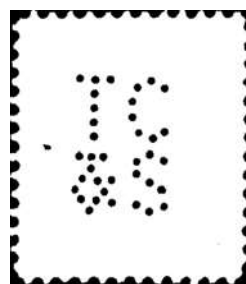
Malaysia



South Africa



Sudan



USA

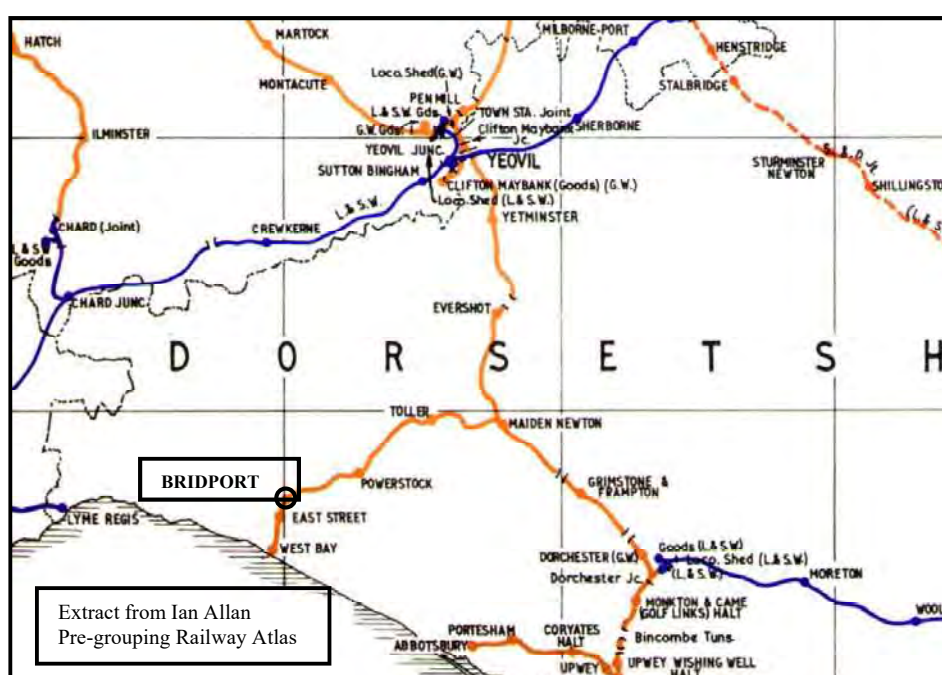
BRIDPORT - FISHING NETS

Roy Gault

As a direct consequence of reading the Salisbury article in the April Bulletin, **John Strange** (who lives in Dorset), set about producing a list of Dorset users gleaned from both the New Illustrated Catalogue, and from his own stock. John's comment that *'Bridport is the one town with several reported postmarks, but no identified users to date'* in effect set me a challenge to try and identify some of them. John lists just four dies that are known with Duplex '127' Bridport postmarks.

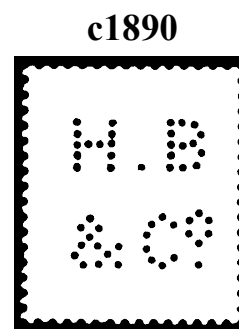
	PS Cat No.	Letters	Die in Use	Postmark Details
1	E4160.04	ESA	1895-1915	(Br)idport, Bury St Edmun(ds), (Moo)rgate, and Leather Lane, London EC.
2	H0545.01	H.B/&C ^o .	c1890	'127' (Bridport, Dorset).
3	W2353.01	W.E/&S	c1905	Bridport, (Dorset).
4	W3540.02	WH/&C ^o	1882-1905	'127' (Bridport, Dorset).

According to Kelly's 1903 Directory of Dorsetshire, Bridport is a Seaport, Municipal Borough, and Market Town, with a Railway Station on a branch of the Great Western Railway.



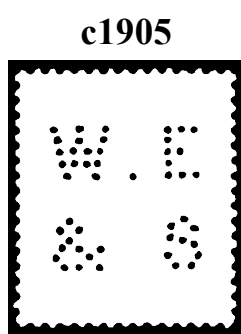
Of the four Perfins listed, the first one, “ESA” is not likely to be local, and has been excluded from the search. Indeed, it need not necessarily have been posted in Bridport, although I can’t think of anywhere else that fits the partial postmark “...idport”.

The second Perfin on the list, “H.B/ & C^o.”, known used c1890, proved a little early for my 1903 Directory, and unfortunately, nothing popped out to match the letters. *Can anyone else help?*

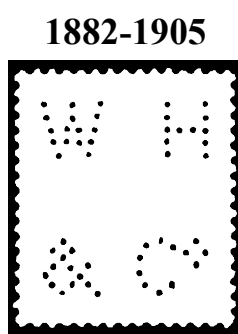


H0545.01

Perseverance, however, paid off for the other two!



W2353.01



W3540.02

- “W.E/ & S” - was probably used by *William Edwards & Son*, Rope, Twine, and Fishing Net Manufacturers, St Michael’s Lane, Bridport.
- “WH/ & C^o” - quite possibly used by *William Hounsell & Co*, Rope, Twine, and Fishing Net & Line Manufacturers, Wykes Court, and North Mill, Bridport.

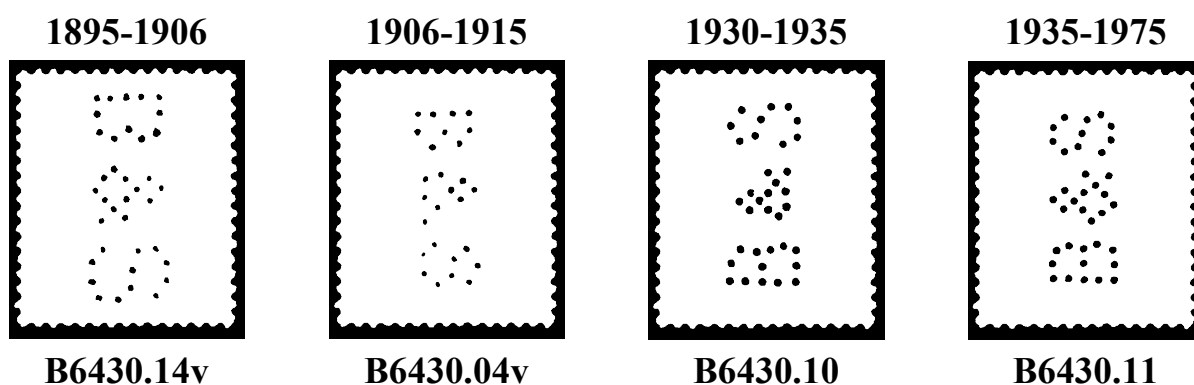
It’s uncanny that both users were in the same ‘unusual’ trade, although there are no less than fifteen concerns making ‘fishing nets’ listed in the 1903 directory, almost outnumbering the public houses and inns.

There are two more connections to make with Bridport.

While preparing the draft for the new Section “B” Catalogue, two more Bridport postmarks have come to light - “B&S” B6340.04v, and “B&S” B6430.11 with a known user of *Bradford & Sons Ltd*. Two of the dies on the following table are ‘SPG’ types (B6340.04v/14v), so considerable variation in letter shapes and pin counts can be expected!

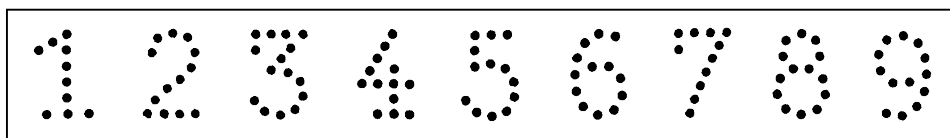
Bradford & Sons (Ltd by 1903) were a well established company involved in supplying Coal, Corn, Salt, Timber, Lime, Bricks, Tiles and Slates. They were based in Yeovil (Somerset), but had numerous depots dotted around Dorset, Devon, and their home county of Somerset, usually in railway station yards.

Six dies are thought to have been used by the company, although only two have been reported so far with Bridport postmarks. *Perhaps you can report others, or help refine the die in use dates?* Not included here is the early die “B&S/Y” (B6915.01) used by Bradford & Sons specifically in Yeovil 1872-1876, and “B&S” (B6430.07a) in 1882.



	PS Cat No.	Letters	Die in Use	Postmark Details
5	B6430.14v	B&S	1895-1906	(Lang)port, ‘484’ Lyme Regis, Martock, Sherborne, and ‘929’ Yeovil.
6	B6340.04v	B&S	1906-1915	Axminster, Bournemouth, <u>Bridport</u> , and Yeovil.
7	B6430.10	B&S	1930-1935	Bournemouth, Poole, and Seat(on).
8	B6430.11	B&S	1935-1975	<u>Bridport</u> , Crewk(erne), Martock, Seaton, Yeovil, and Yetminster.

The final connection with the town is the so-called ‘Bridport’ series of numerals, ‘1’ to ‘9’, found individually on QEII decimal Machins. Only one has been reported with a postmark, that of Bridport, hence the series name. Based on the issues reported, they date to the late 1970’s and/or early 1980’s. *Any suggestions as to their significance?*

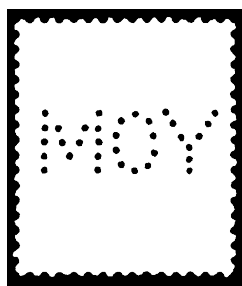


THOMAS MOY - Coal Merchant and Much, Much More!

Roy Gault

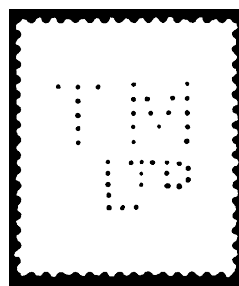
Way back in April 1994 the user of the full-name Perfin “MOY” (M4340.01) was positively identified by **Gary Shayler** as having been used by “*Thomas Moy Ltd*”, Coal, Coke & General Merchants, Lowestoft. The surname Moy is unusual, but a quick look through the ‘*Perfin Society Bulletin - 50 years*’ CD (an invaluable tool) shows the name cropped up as early as 1958. There were also two further brief mentions in 1972 and 1974, so now is probably a good time to pull everything together and make sense of these four isolated references.

1890-1935



M4340.01

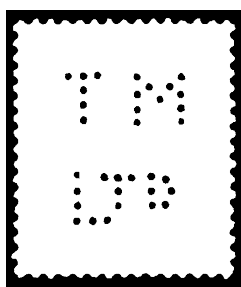
1935-1941



T3310.02

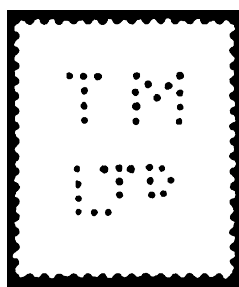
The earliest Bulletin reference was to “TM/L^{td}” (T3310.02), which we now know was in use 1935-1941. This was a Sloper single headed die, believed destroyed in the “Blitz” on Sloper’s premises in May 1941.

1941-1945



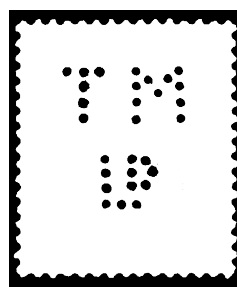
T3310.01a

1945-1955



T3310.01M

1955-1971



T3300.01M

Unusually, it had an immediate ‘regular die’ replacement in the shape of “TM/L^{td}” (T3310.01a), which was itself replaced in the mid 1940’s by a somewhat similar “TM/L^{td}” (T3310.01M), a Sloper multi-headed die, **12x1**. Their final phase of Perfin use was with another Sloper **12x1** multi-headed die “TM/L^{db}” (T3300.01M). The earliest known date on a Thomas Moy Perfin is 20th Sep 1894, and the latest March

1971. But what can we find out about both the company and the man who created it? Of course, the internet is a good place to start - directory references, census returns, etc!

Thomas Moy was born in Colchester, Essex, around 1831, and although I couldn't be sure I had found the right male in the 1841 census, I'm confident I found him in the 1851 census as a Printer's Apprentice in Colchester. By 1861, however, he had become a Coal Merchant, living in Hythe St, Colchester. This was to be the trade with which he would make his fame and fortune! Even in the 1861 census he was wealthy enough to employ two servants to look after him, his wife Jane, and their young son Charles Thomas.



The 1871 census records him as living at Hythe Hill House, having doubled the number of servants to look after him, his wife, and three children, although he is still described as a Coal Merchant. However, grander things are revealed in the 1881 census where we find him living in Stanway Hall (now a Zoo!), and described as a 'Merchant'. The 1891 census records him as a Merchant and Magistrate (a JP).

By the late 1880's he is well established, the company being described in various trade directories as Coal, Coke & Lime Merchants, Coal & Corn Factors and even Ship Owners - his sea going colliers carried coal down the east coast to London.

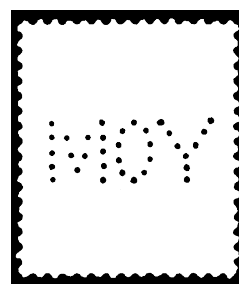
His main business, perhaps even worthy of being called an empire, was as a Coal Merchant, organising the procurement and delivery of coal to households throughout Essex, and neighbouring Norfolk and Suffolk.

There are other references to the man, for example he was Mayor of Colchester in 1878, and even a faded picture of him exists carrying out one of his ceremonial duties.

But perhaps the most unusual reference is the story of his firm's involvement in the transportation of 1,500,000 half-bricks, and later the Lantern itself, for the lighthouse built at Southwold in 1890.



c1900

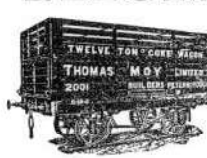


M4340.02

However, there is one final twist that must be told!

There is another full-name “MOY” die (M4340.02) that we know of dating to c1900, in which the “O” is much more pointed, and with a part cancel of ‘...orough’. A little bit of research has established that Thomas Moy set up a Wagon Works in Peterborough sometime before 1890, to build and repair Railway Wagons for his own Coal business, other Railway Companies, and to hire them out for other uses. Thus the postmark must have originally read *Peterborough*. The Railway Works changed ownership in 1926, and again in 1931, but continued to operate under the name of Moy's Wagon Co Ltd until the mid 1960's.

THOMAS MOY, LTD.,
 Railway Works, Peterboro'.
 BUILDERS OF
RAILWAY WAGONS
 Of all descriptions, for Cash, Purchase Lease, or Simple Hire.
**Makers of Wagon Ironwork, Wheels,
 Forgings, Brass Castings.**
 CONTRACTORS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF WAGONS.



Works Manager:
 A. DICKENS, Peterboro'.
 London Agent: Wm. BARNARD,
 21, Colville Square, Haymarket, W.
 Tel. Western 5714.



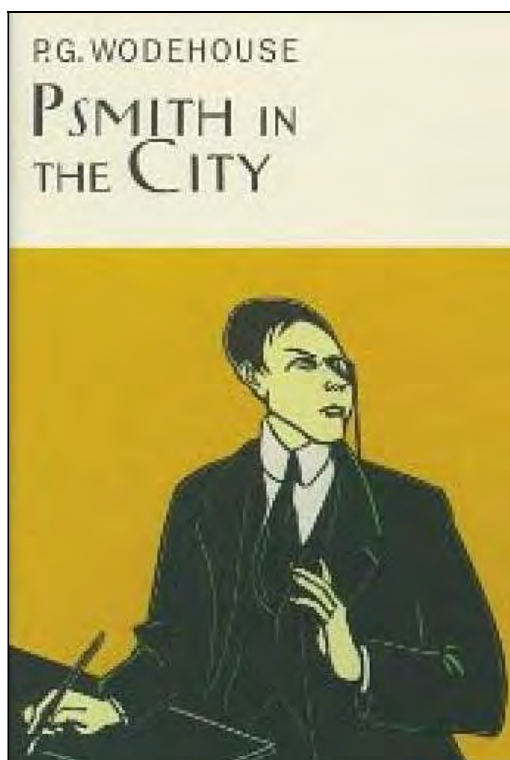
The company took on Limited Liability in July 1891, by which time Thomas was around 60 years old. Thomas Moy died in 1910, aged 78.

P. G. WODEHOUSE AND PERFINS

Maurice Harp

“Psmith in the City” is a novel by P. G. Wodehouse published on September 23rd 1910 by Adam & Charles Black. The story was originally published in serial form in “The Captain” magazine between October 1908 and March 1909. Psmith (the P is silent) worked in the mail department of the New Asiatic Bank in London. The extract below shows that during this period the perfinning of stamps was well known to P. G. Wodehouse.

“The morning dragged slowly on without incident. At twelve o'clock Mike had to go out and buy stamps, which he subsequently punched in the punching-machine in the basement, a not very exhilarating job in which he was assisted by one of the bank messengers, who discoursed learnedly on roses during the séance. Roses were his hobby. Mike began to see that Psmith had reason in his assumption that the way to every man's heart was through his hobby. Mike made a firm friend of William, the messenger, by displaying an interest and a certain knowledge of roses. At the same time the conversation had the bad effect of leading to an acute relapse in the matter of homesickness. The rose-garden at home had been one of Mike's favourite haunts on a summer afternoon. The contrast between it and the basement of the new Asiatic Bank, the atmosphere of which was far from being roselike, was too much for his feelings. He emerged from the depths, with his punched stamps, filled with bitterness against Fate.”



As far as I can see Wodehouse's publisher failed to use perfins which would have been a nice link for this piece.

FRANCIS A. HANCOCK ADVERT

Maurice Harp

This previously unpublished advert of Francis A. Hancock was recently found in the library. Unfortunately there was no record with it as to its date or from which publication it was obtained.

The details of this advert will not reproduce well but of interest is that for customers ordering over £20 of stamps each month there was no charge for either the die or for perforating. But for smaller customers there was a minimum charge of 15/- for the manufacturer of the die and perforating was then free for orders over £5. As with most Hancock adverts it bears a imprint of a penny red with the perfin F.A.H – this die has never been recorded.

Important Notice to Large Consumers of Postage Stamps.



F FRANCIS A. HANCOCK, Printer and Stationer, WOOD STREET POST OFFICE; is supplying Postage and other
**Stamps Perforated with the Initial of any Firm,
FREE OF CHARGE FOR PERFORATING.**

EXTRACT FROM "BRITISH POSTAL GUIDE," PAGES 20 AND 21.

"In consequence of representations made to the Post Office by various firms that there is reason to believe that their postage stamps were purloined by persons in their employ, the Department has recommended either that the name of the Firms, &c., be printed on the back of the stamps, or the initials perforated through the stamps by means of a machine devised for the purpose; so that, the sale of such stamps being thereby rendered difficult (Postmasters having been instructed not to purchase any of them), there may be little or no temptation to steal them.

THE ADVANTAGES OF THE ABOVE SYSTEM ARE, VIZ. 1-7

It Prevents mis-appropriation or purloining.

It prevents the Sale of Stamps so Perforated.

It is recognised and recommended by the G.P.O. authorities.

It is an advertisement.

It can be applied to Receipt Stamps, Foreign Bill Stamps, Telegraph Stamps, Postage Wrappers, Post Cards, Postage Envelopes, &c.

TERMS:—Firms using £20 monthly, no charge whatever is made beyond the value of the Stamps, which can be had, not less than £5 at one time, assorted in any way desired.

All Orders for Stamps must be accompanied by CASH or a Cheque payable in London, crossed "CITY BANK," to the order of FRANCIS A. HANCOCK, or arrangement may be made for payment on delivery.

Should you entertain the above plan, please send Name and Address, and our representative will wait upon you and give you any further information that may be required.

Country Customers ordering Stamps Perforated must send Cheque payable in London, when the Order will be executed ONE CLEAR DAY from Receipt, and forwarded by Post, less amount of postage and registration.

SMALL CONSUMERS can be supplied on the following terms:—A charge is made for the Die on first order, from 15s. according to the number of letters. Stamps can then be supplied not less than £5 at one time, Free of Charge beyond the value of the Stamps, which may be assorted in any way desired.

Sixpence Discount allowed on £5 worth of Postage, Telegraph, and Receipt Stamps unperforated purchased at one time, assorted or otherwise.

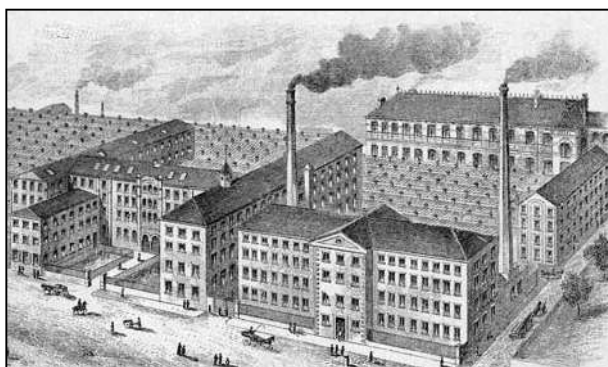
RECEIPT STAMPS printed free of charge, £5 or more being ordered at one time, in accordance with the special instructions of the Board of Inland Revenue.

SEWING SILKS FROM LEEK

Roy Gault

It's always interesting to find a sequence of Perfins used by a firm through all six reigns, so there is generally something for everyone interested in G.B. Perfins. One such is *Brough, Nicholson & Hall Ltd* who produced Silk Sewing Threads in Leek, Staffordshire. The user was identified early on by the Perfin Study Group in 1958, but what of the company history and their Perfin dies?

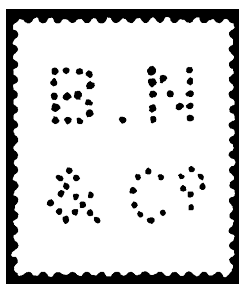
The company was founded c1812 in Leek by the Silk Manufacturer John Brough. By the 1840's three of his sons, Joshua, James, and John, had become involved in the business, which exhibited (and were prize winners) in the Great Exhibition of 1851.



Hope Mill* and Warehouse c1890.

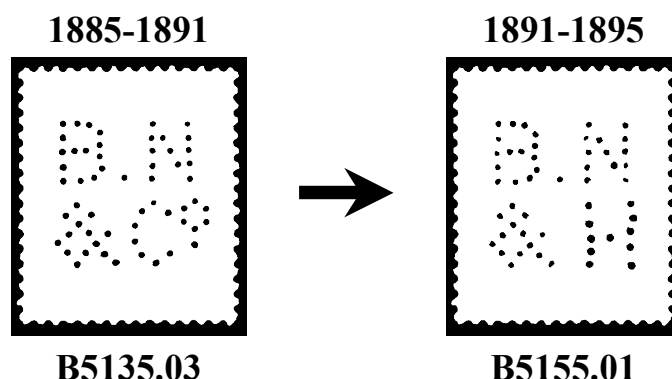
In 1863 the remaining brothers took on two partners, Joshua Nicholson and B B Nixon, and formed "*J & J Brough, Nicholson & Co*". The company went from strength to strength, building New Mills and acquiring others*. Although this period of growth coincides with the early years of Perfins, it's not until the 1880's that we see them adopted by the Company. {Suspected identity, '448' Leek postmarks}.

1880-1885

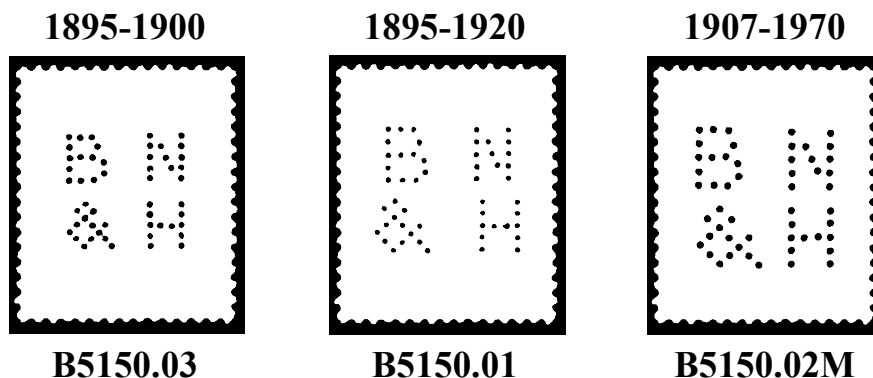


B5135.02

This early die probably proved troublesome as clean full strikes are hard to come by. The replacement die “B.N/ & C^o.” (B5135.03), which is also only a suspected identity, appears also to have been unreliable as the stop(s) are often missing.



The next landmark in the development of the company is the change in partnerships in 1891 to form “*Brough, Nicholson & Hall*”. No doubt to save money, the current die was modified to replace “C^o.” with “H”. Slightly larger pins were used, along with some of the existing holes, all of which resulted in an unusually shaped “H”. Clumsy it may have been but none-the-less interesting for us!



This ‘macked up’ die was short lived, being replaced c1895 by two other dies, B5150.03 and B5150.01. The company took on Limited Liability status in 1907, which may well coincide with the introduction of their 6th and final Perfin, B5150.02M. The company went into Voluntary Liquidation in December 1930, with the undertakings & assets being acquired by “*Brough, Nicholson & Hall (1930) Ltd*”.

Most of their buildings were demolished in 1968, which ties in nicely with the terminal date for B5150.02M, although one building did survive until the 1980’s, when it was sold to Beresford’s of Congleton.

PERFORATED POSTAL STATIONERY - UPDATE

Rosemary Smith

The following new information on perforated postal stationery has been reported by **John Mathews**, **Barrie Williamson** and from the collection of the late **Norman Hewerdine**. If any members can add to this research I will be delighted to hear from you.

Perforated Postal Stationery Registered Letters

Queen Victoria 2d Blue Imprint

C0270.03 C/AN/S Army & Navy Co-op Soc. 1-12-99 Later date
2 strikes on flap – one only partial

King George V 4½d Red

C0270.01 C/AN/S Army & Navy Co-op Soc. 30-10-25 Earlier
2 full strikes on flap

Perforated Postal Stationery Envelopes

King Edward 1d Red

A4205.05 A&N/C.S.L Army & Navy Co-op Soc. 27-11-08/1-9-11
New Die to Research

Perforated Postal Stationery Postal Cards

Queen Victoria ½d Brown

W0140.02 W&A/G W & A Gilbey 11-1-81 Earlier
W0140.02b W&A/G W & A Gilbey 31-3-96/21-5-00
New Die to Research
W0140.02c W&A/G W & A Gilbey 19-1-99
New Die to Research
W0140.03b W&A/G W & A Gilbey 19-9-00
New Die to Research

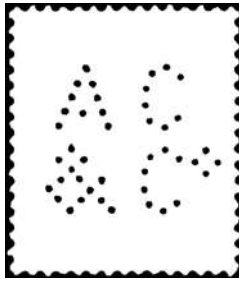
Queen Victoria 1d Red

G1730.01 G&F Gallatly & Ferry 9-1-00 Later date

Perforated Postal Stationery Wrappers

King Edward VII ½d Green

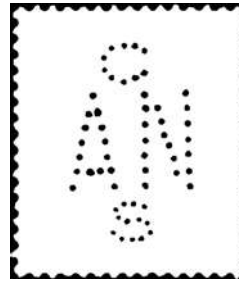
A1105.09 AC/&Co 13-2-07 Bow wmk. Later date. Cut-out.
Replaced illustration to previous illustration for A1105.09



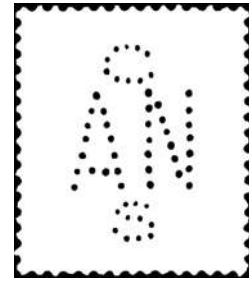
A1105.09



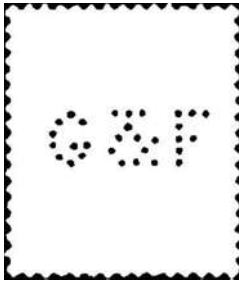
A4205.05



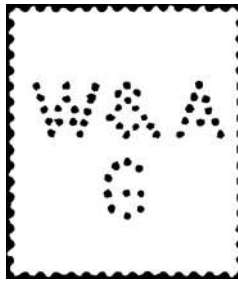
C0270.01



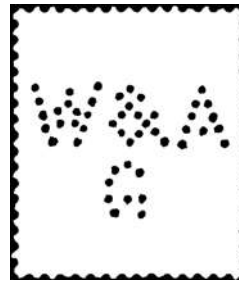
C0270.03



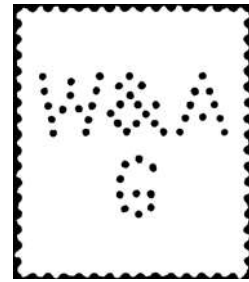
G1730.01



W0140.02b



W0140.02c



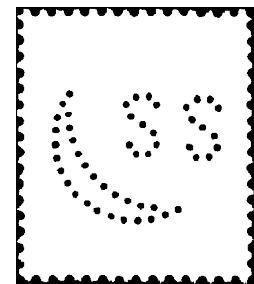
W0140.03b

A JAPANESE MOON DESIGN

Non member **Jan Simons** has contacted the Society with a question about a Japanese perfin that he has on a strip of three 4 sen and an 8 sen stamp (one copy shown here).

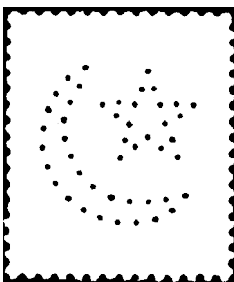


He is interested in knowing who might have used this perfin die and whether any member can provide any further information.



W32

The design shown above is W32 in the Adachi catalogue (3rd Edition 1980) but no identity is shown there. A similar design of a moon and star W33 is known to have been used by The Kao Soap Company who is still a major industrial company in Japan and uses the trade mark shown below.



W33

This die may well be linked to W32. If any members can provide any



information on this design or have access to a newer catalogue please contact the editor who will pass the information on to Jan Simons.

MISSING “T” and “P” DIES.

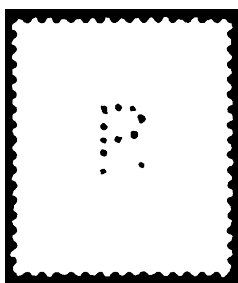
Roy Gault

Now that the first Edition of Section ‘B’ of the New Illustrated Catalogue is well underway, I would like to prepare the ground for 2nd Editions for the letters “T” and “P”. With any luck letter “T” will be ready towards the end of this year, and Letter “P” in 2012.

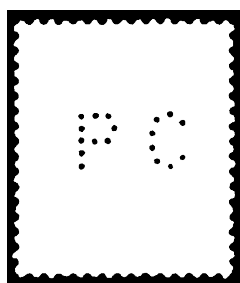
Alan Sandy, Jack Brandt, Kurt Ottenheimer, Gerry Soutar, Terry Wood, and Keith Kimber have already helped me reduce the number of dies for which I have no stamp details to **14 T’s** out of 902DD, and **7 P’s** out of 1,038DD, which works out at a shade over 1%.

This will also be the ‘*last call*’ for any potentially New “T” and “P” Dies which you may have filed in your stock-books awaiting the opportunity to report.

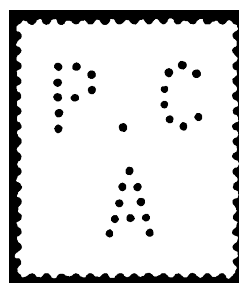
Could I ask you all to spare a little of your time and go through your G.B. Perfin Collections looking specifically for any of the following?



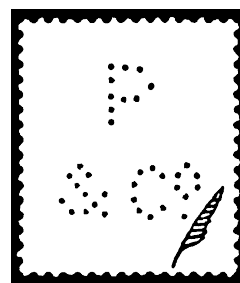
P0030.01



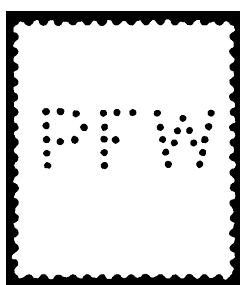
P0910.03A



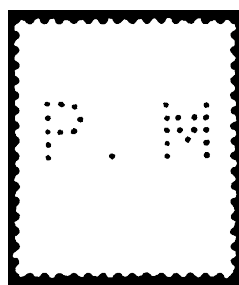
P0945.01



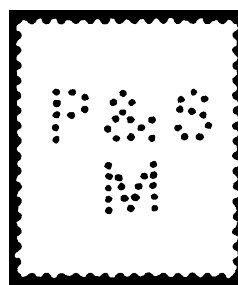
P1135.02a



P2040.01



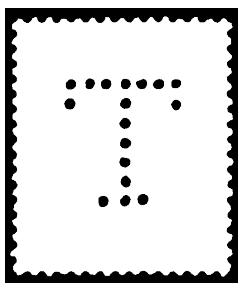
P3070.01a



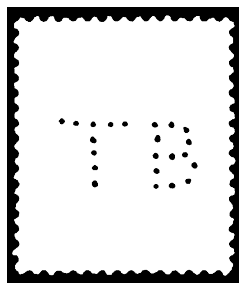
P4240.01

If you are lucky enough to find any that match, I would be please to receive details of the stamps involved, postmarks, dates etc.

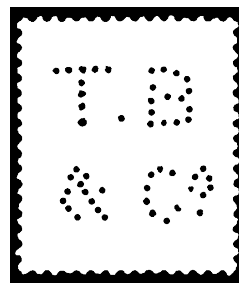
The following 14 dies are the T's for which I currently have no stamp details. The 15th die (T2870.01a), which I already have details for, has been included here to show the subtle difference between it and the 'No Details' die T2870.01, where the "M" is a bit closer to the "K".



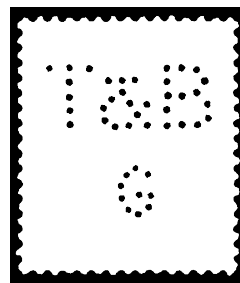
T0010.29



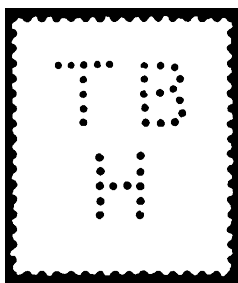
T0310.07



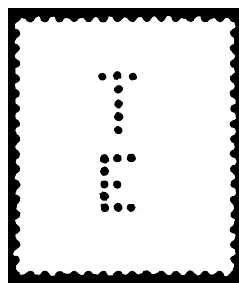
T0475.03



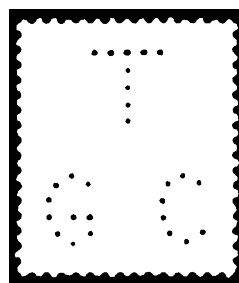
T0525.01



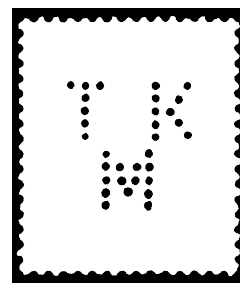
T0530.02



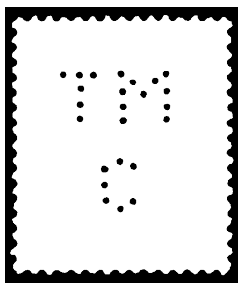
T1415.01



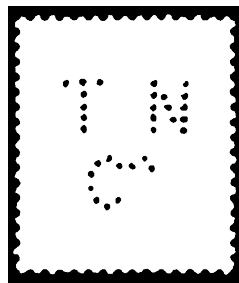
T1875.01



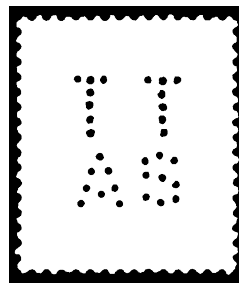
T2870.01



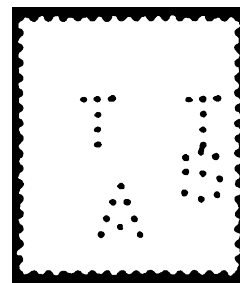
T3180.03



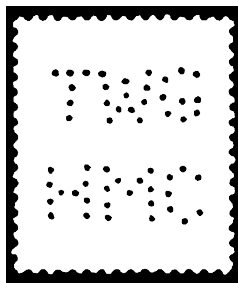
T3430.01



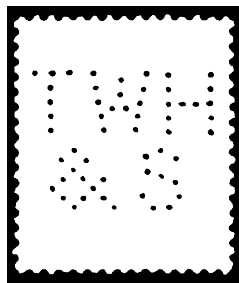
T4450.02p



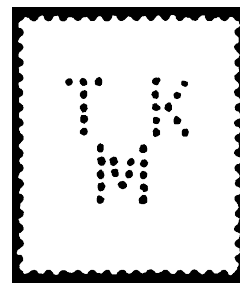
T4450.03p



T5060.01



T5070.01



T2870.01a

These are all 'rare' dies, so imagine the elation should you find you have a copy!

WESTERN AUSTRALIA CONVICT STAMPS

Brian J. Birch

It is comforting to imagine that the majority of what is known about perfins was established by those who have specialised in the subject, mostly since the 1950s, but with occasional interested parties since the 1930s. However, this is not so and the early dealers in particular, were more knowledgeable than we give them credit for.

My researches into the origin and development of philatelic literature and the history of the hobby, necessitate my reading very many old philatelic magazines. In this connection, I was drawn to read some reminiscences written in 1900 by Theodor Buhl⁽¹⁾ (1864/65-1922), a well-known London-based stamp dealer from the late 1870s to 90s, who is probably best known for having been given first refusal to purchase the business of Stanley Gibbons for £20,000, turning it down as too expensive and then seeing it sold to Charles Phillips (1863-1940) for £25,000!

On page 152 of his reminiscences, he recalls that *The lettered South Australia, O.S., P.S., &c., are now worth something separately, but in the old days I used to buy these and the Western Australia, including "convict" stamps, with holes, from the late Alfred Smith, at 5s. [£0.25] and 10s. [£0.50] per thousand respectively.* (figure 1)



Figure 1

Alfred Smith (1837-1880) was one of the pioneer English stamp dealers who started dealing in Bath, with his brother [Henry] Stafford Smith (1843-1903) as partner. Some years later, the partnership was dissolved and Alfred moved to London and Stafford to Brighton, each to deal on his own account.

This partnership published the earliest quality English philatelic magazine, *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* (Bath, 1863-1874). Perusal of the first volume of their pioneer magazine shows that the editor, Charles W. Viner (1812-1906), noted, following some remarks on a French proposal to cancel stamps by tearing them, that: *With a like disregard to the feelings of stamp collectors, the curious stamps of Western Australia are disfigured, if not totally spoiled, by the abstraction of a round piece;*⁽²⁾ The explanation of the mutilation was quickly forthcoming from S. Welfare⁽³⁾ in the following issue, where he noted that ... *they are first pierced and then supplied to the convict establishment. By this means a convict's letter may, if necessary, be traced.* (Figure 2) This information caused Viner to execute a remarkable about-face for in the next issue⁽⁴⁾ he proclaims that far from the stamps being disfigured or spoiled: *The stamps pierced with a round hole, explained by a correspondent in the last number of this magazine as being supplied to the convict establishment of the colony for the purpose of identification, may be with propriety included in collections as varieties, under the designation of 'convict mail'.*

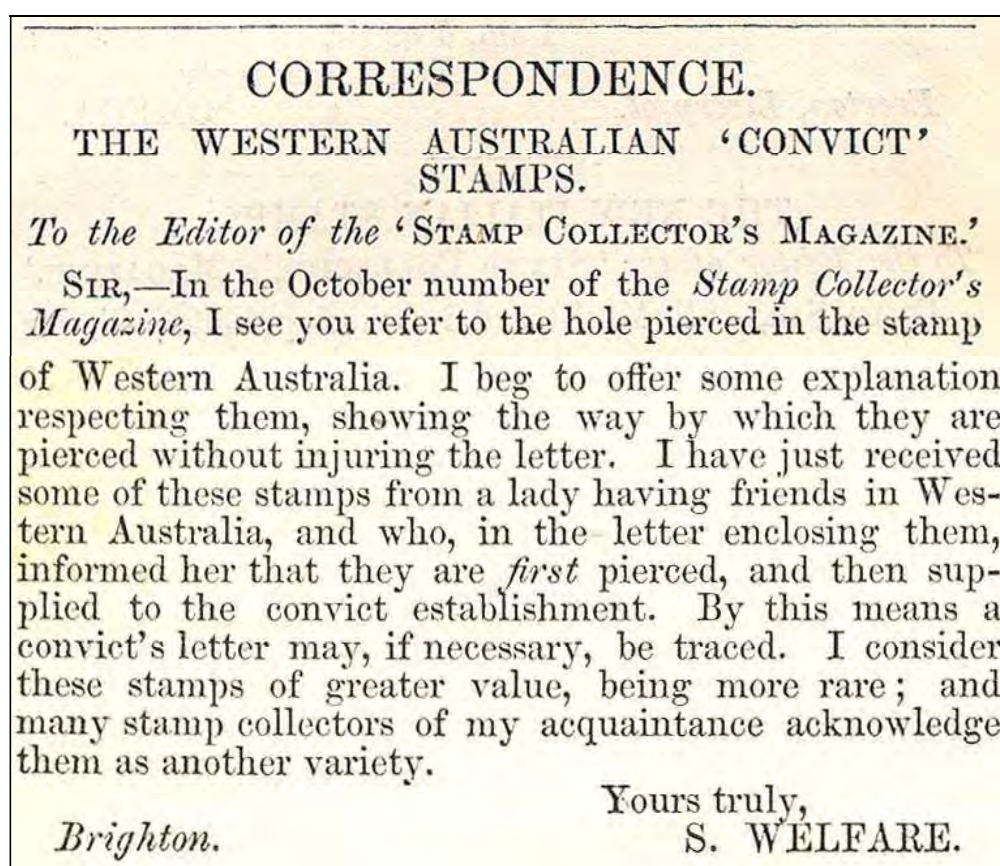


Figure 2

All of this goes to show that not only did the early dealers and stamp collectors (for at his early date, the word *philately* had not yet been coined) understand the purpose of these “perfins” at the very outset of the hobby but that they were importing them in bulk in subsequent years. It begs the question – Where have all of these holey stamps gone?

Note

Figure 1 was taken from a posting on www.stampboards.net by Glen Stephens a well-known Australian dealer.

References

1. **Theodor Buhl:** *Recollections of 20 years' stamp dealing.*, The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, May 1900, Volume 10, Issue 5, pp.80-81; June, Issue 6, pp.100-102; July, Issue 7, pp.114-115; August, Issue 8, pp.130-131; September, Issue 9, pp.151-153; October, Issue 10, pp.172-173 & November, Issue 11, pp.188-190.
2. **[Charles W. Viner]:** *Stamps newly issued, or first described.*, The Stamp Collector's Magazine, October 1863, Volume 1, Issue 9, pp.140-141.
3. **S. Welfare:** *The Western Australia 'convict' stamps.*, The Stamp Collector's Magazine, November 1863, Volume 1, Issue 10, pp.157-158.
4. **Charles W. Viner:** *Addenda to Mount Brown's Catalogue of Postage Stamps, comprising notes, additions and emendations.*, The Stamp Collector's Magazine, December 1863, Volume 1, Issue 11, pp.175-176.

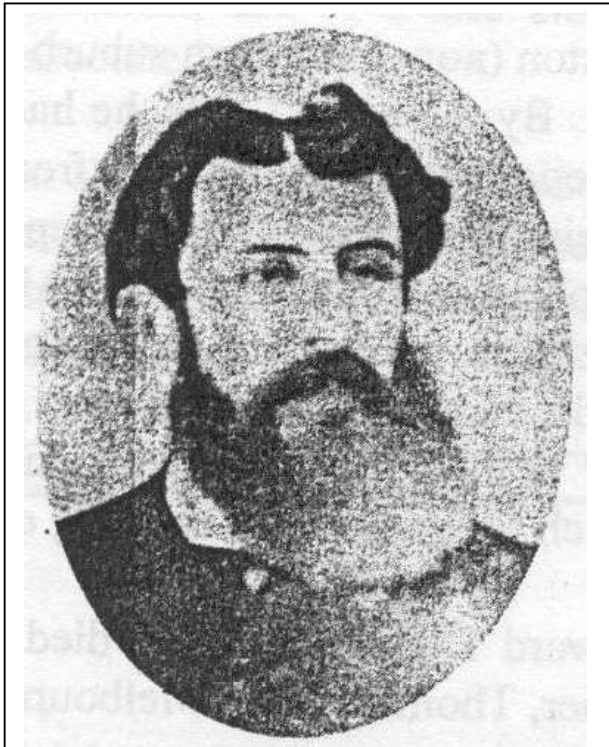
[Ed:- It is interesting how these stamps date from the 1850's and thus predate Sloper perfins by many years. They were supplied to the colony Commissariat that controlled most of operation of the penal colony. Although certainly used on convict mail they are also known used by the various departments of the Commissariat. The Comptroller of Convicts who took over from the Commissariat stopped the use of these punctures in 1874.]

EDWARD THOMAS MOULDEN –
AUSTRALIAN PERFIN ENTREPRENEUR

John Mathews

It is widely accepted that Joseph Sloper was inventive, imaginative and entrepreneurial when it came to perfin (and other fields). In Australia, there was a man who also had similar traits, although perhaps not as much a pioneer as Joseph Sloper, nor with such a degree of engineering sophistication. His name was Edward Thomas Moulden.

Edward Thomas Moulden was born in Adelaide, South Australia, on 27 September 1852, the second child and elder son of Thomas and Caroline Moulden. His father had emigrated in 1839 from Southwark, London, as a single man aged 29 years when the infant colony of South Australia had been settled for less than 3 years. Thomas initially established himself as a brewer and publican in Adelaide, but during the gold-rush era moved to the gold-fields area near Bendigo, Victoria, and eventually became the brewer for the Castlemaine Brewery. It was here that Edward Thomas Moulden spent his early teenage years. By 1868, the family had moved to Melbourne, with Thomas still associated with the Castlemaine Brewery.



Edward Thomas Moulden,
son of Thomas Moulden,
of Adelaide and Melbourne.
From a painting.

As was often the custom, Edward Thomas Moulden followed his father's trade and became a brewer too. The 1875 Melbourne

Directory lists Thomas Moulden as “consultant brewer” and Edward Thomas Moulden as “brewer” sharing offices at 111 William Street in the city. By 1881, Edward Thomas Moulden had become head brewer at the Castlemaine Brewery in South Melbourne. The following year, his father died, aged 72 years.

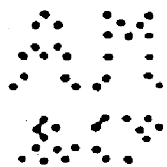
In 1884 or 1885, Edward Thomas Moulden and his wife and infant son moved north to Mooroopna, near Shepparton, where he bought the local brewery. Tragedy struck not long afterwards when the brewery burned to the ground, leaving Edward Thomas Moulden a heavy loser. He and his family had moved to Geelong (his wife’s birthplace) by 1886 for a short period then back to Melbourne where, on 4 April 1888, he applied to the Victorian Postmaster-General’s Department for a licence to sell stamps. This was similar to, but not as extensive as, the role that Joseph Sloper would have had as a “sub-postmaster”.

The year 1893 brought a disastrous financial crash, particularly in Victoria, where land speculators had built up huge debts in the endeavour to “get-rich-quick”. Their defaulting on loans brought the demise of many financial institutions, with dire consequences for their directors and shareholders, both private and corporate. Businesses therefore became aware of the increased temptation for the pilfering of postage stamps. Until then, use of stamp perforators among Australian businesses was restricted mainly to large firms and especially to importers who had buying offices in London, through which they acquired perforators. Now, smaller local firms saw the advantage in having their stamps perforated, but the cost of a perforator was a considerable one for them.

Edward Thomas Moulden decided to set up a perforating service, and in August 1893 applied to the Victorian Postmaster-General’s Department for permission to perforate postage stamps for 14 client firms whom he listed on his application. His application was approved, and perfin patterns he produced for some of these clients are illustrated on the next page.

No perfin examples have been found for some of those for which application had been made. Edward Thomas Moulden made further

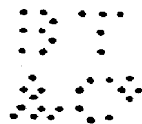
applications in 1894, but appears not to have bothered to continue applying for permission after that. He appears to have had a flourishing business as a vendor and perforator of stamps, as perfins of his style continued to be used into the 1920s.



AM&CO.1



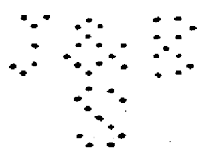
B&N.3



BT&CO.1



ET.5



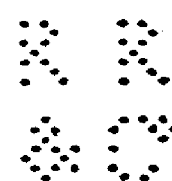
J&BS.7



MCB.1



RR&C.2



RR&CO.5

The distinctive style of these perfins shows pin holes in diagonal lines, resulting in letters which look similar to what **Roy Gault** has termed “butterfly alphabet” among GB perfins. There is variety in the size of the letters, most early ones being 5 rows high, but later 7-row heights seem to be most frequently used. Patterns with letters 9 rows high are known but are rare.

From a study of many dated examples, it is considered that Edward Thomas Moulden perforated batches of stamps to order for his clients, probably as often as on a weekly basis for some of them. For each batch for his various clients, he would reset pins into the grid of holes in his perforating device. This meant that a given firm would have a range of perfin patterns if he did not arrange the pins exactly the same way for each of their batches, including letters of different row heights, different separation of letters (both horizontally and vertically) and different letter combinations. For example, one of his 1893 listed clients was Robert Reid & Co. Over a 20-year period they are known to have had over 100 varieties of pattern of the Moulden style, some 5 rows high, others 7 rows high. Their letter combinations include RR, RR/C, RR/&C and RR/&Co.

“Missing pin” varieties are common among Moulden perfins as the pins were not held in the grid as firmly as would have been the case for a customised perforator. The range and nature of possible varieties presents a dilemma for a catalogue editor!

By the early 1900s, Edward Thomas Moulden had gone blind, and many patterns show severe distortion of letter shapes from this time. Extreme cases include a pattern which has a letter reversed, and one in which two letters are transposed.

He also seems to have arranged for some “permanent” perforators of this same style, as some such varieties of patterns are known used over a long period. One such device has been sighted and there are bits of paper in the holes in the base plate in positions other than those corresponding to current pin positions, which was the last known pattern for the particular company from whom the perforator was obtained.

The last listing of Edward Thomas Moulden as a stamp vendor in the Melbourne Directory was in the 1903 edition. After that, he is listed as a farmer or grazier, and he built up a business as “E. T. Moulden & Son Pty. Ltd. (ABC Fodder Stores)”. Edward Thomas Moulden died on 13 June 1927, aged 72 years, and was buried with his father, Thomas, in the Melbourne General Cemetery.

It appears that someone in Melbourne may have continued his perforating business after 1903, perhaps his wife or son. In addition, others appear to have copied his idea, and there are many patterns with similar characteristics but using a grid with horizontal and vertical rows of holes rather than diagonal, but these give very restricted representations of letters with curves.

[Note: Some of the biographical material, and the photo of Edward Thomas Moulden, are from the book “The Moulden Family”, by Barbara Brummitt (pub. Adelaide 1986), by kind permission of the author. Other material was sourced from shipping records, BD&M records, Directories and Postmaster-General’s Department archives.]

TWO MORE SLOPER ADVERTS

Maurice Harp

I have found a couple more Sloper adverts which I don't believe have been published before. The first is from the Daily News, published in London. The illustration below is from the August 12th 1893 edition but Sloper ran this advert for several years

PERFORATED POSTAGE STAMPS (SLOPER'S SYSTEM).

STAMPS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION PERFORATED WITH THE INITIALS OF FIRMS.
NO CHARGE FOR DIE.

IT EFFECTUALLY PREVENTS THE SALE OF STAMPS SO MARKED.

All Postmasters in the United Kingdom are instructed NOT to PURCHASE
PERFORATED STAMPS.

J. SLOPER & CO., 20, KING WILLIAM-ST., LONDON, E.C.

The second advert was found in the Illustrated Police News – a somewhat surprising choice of publication. Again it was run over several issues with the copy shown below being taken from the August 3rd 1872 edition. Why Sloper chose the Illustrated Police News as a vehicle for his advertising is unclear. Maybe the advertising rates were lower than other more mainstream publications or maybe the link with stamp theft and the police was the main attraction.

NOTICE.—THE POSTMASTER GENERAL has specially licensed Mr. SLOPER, of Walbrook House, London, to PERFORATE POSTAGE STAMPS, &c., with the Initials of Firms, as proposed by him to the Government, for protection of the public, and prevent the removal of stamps from letters, or purloining and sale of stamps so marked.—Address Manager, Office for Sloper's Patent, Walbrook House, London, E.C.

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No Auction with this Bulletin

The Bulletin of the G.B. Perfin Society is a bi-monthly journal.
Subscription is £10 (UK); £12 (Europe/abroad-surface); £15 (abroad-air).
For further details of the G.B. Perfin Society and membership application
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