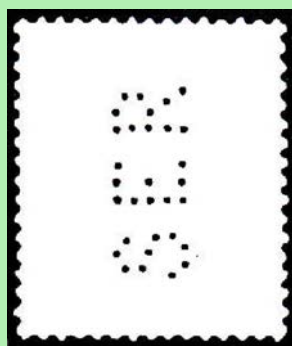


# PERFIN SOCIETY BULLETIN



No. 401 - April 2016



Registered envelope to Paris. The 4 x 1d  
lilac stamps each having perfin die S2640.02  
– SER. The reverse bears the identity of  
The Channel Tunnel Company Ltd

**SECRETARY/TREASURER**

Royal Mail increased postal prices on March 29, fortunately the rates for the Bulletin going abroad remain unchanged, but for UK it goes up by 1p. I do not foresee a need for a subscription rise next year (2016-2017).

**PERFIN SOCIETY CD**

It's been four years since the last edition of the Perfin Society CD. For new members the CD contains all the material that has been issued via the Society Bulletin. I have now updated the CD to include everything until the end of 2015. The update includes the correction of a number of typos and also a revision of the index. It is proposed that for members who have already purchased previous editions of the CD that they can receive the update for £2 for UK members, £3 for Europe and £4 for world members to cover postage and packing. For members who would like their first copy of the CD then the cost is £8. All orders for the CD should be directed to our Secretary indicating whether you have had a copy of the CD in the past.

**PAYPAL**

I do apologise for harping on about PayPal but a few members are still having problems and causing me lots of unnecessary admin work and angst. Society Rules state that for amounts up to and including £20 you will pay a fee of £1.00, and on amounts above you will add 5%. If you do not want to pay the Society fee then on the 'send money' tab select friends and family and elect to pay the fee yourself. It does not matter what the payment is for the rules apply. Unfortunately the Auction software does not yet automatically add the fee, so it is manually adjusted by the Auctioneer on small amounts with the p&p. The author of the auction software is working on an update for us, so PLEASE remember with PayPal you have to pay a fee one way or the other, and to remind you the email addresses you can use are against my name on Page 2 of every Bulletin.

A big thank you to the majority of members who get it right  
and make my job easier.

## LONDON POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

The London Postal History Group was dissolved in 2009. However sufficient funds remained to produce a USB memory stick with over 4GB of really useful information including the 173 issues of their magazine – The Notebook – nearly 4000 pages. It also includes another 4000 pages of their publications.

### A REMINDER OF THE PAST

**Richard Husband** gave a perfin display at the Cambridge Philatelic Society in January which went very well. There were 23 people there and members showed a lot of appreciation. To Richard's surprise they presented him with the membership card shown below.

<p><u>SECURITY ENDORSEMENT &amp; PERFIN SOCIETY OF G.B.</u> (Affiliated to the B.P.A.)</p> <p><u>MEMBERSHIP CARD</u></p> <p>A subscription of <i>ten shillings</i> having been paid</p> <p><u><i>Mr. D. J. Muggleton</i></u></p> <p>Membership Number <u>12</u></p> <p>is a fully enrolled member of the above Society until <i>31<sup>st</sup> August</i> 1971.</p> <p><del>59, Apefield Road,</del> <del>Biggin Hill, Westerham, Kent.</del> <i>Richard Husband.</i> Treasurer. 7.10.70</p> <p>69, GRAND AVENUE, SURBITON, SURREY.</p>
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**Derrick Muggleton** was one of the Society's founding members and a member of the Cambridge Perfin Society and the membership card is signed by our then Treasurer Richard.

Richard's next perfin display will be 180 sheets at Huntingdonshire P.S. on Tuesday 12 April. If other members give exhibitions of their material please let us know how it went.

### Bury St Edmunds PS Stamp Fair Saturday April 23, 2016

A final reminder that we will have a table at the stamp fair to promote the Society and **Richard Husband** has volunteered to man it. The Fair is open between 10am and 4pm at the County Upper School, Beeton's Way, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP32 6RF. Admission and parking is free, and there will be displays and over 20 dealers participating.

## **LIBRARY**

A generous donation to the library has been made by **Brian Birch**.

*Firmenlochungen [Perfins of Bavaria] by Rainer von Scharpen 2010. Introduction is in German, English & French otherwise in German. Fully illustrated in colour, A4, soft cover, 522 pages and net weight 2.2 kilos.*

If you would like to borrow this book please contact the librarian.

## **Last Reminder for the Society's Spring Meeting**

We will be meeting on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at Grosvenor Auctions, 399-401 Strand, London, WC2R 0LT between 12 noon and 5pm in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Sale Room, lift and free refreshments available.

We will again have display boards available in the room. So we are relying on other members to bring something along from their collection to show the meeting and fill the boards. It doesn't matter however basic or advanced and you do not have to give a talk about them if you do not wish to.

## **WANTED**

Non member Bart Berends is wondering if any members have old sections of the Society's catalogue. I (Ed.) have already sent him section "J". If any member can help Bart please contact him directly

## **MEMBERS COMMENTS**

### **A Challenge from Our President – Bulletin 390/12**

**Melvyn Green** has written with an additional twist to the story laid out in the article "A Challenge from Our President". The piece raised the question as to why the letters KE should have been used on the Whitwell and Co die - K0610.04v. Melvyn has sent a loose stamp with perfin KE. It is a 2d King George VI light brown SG506, has Whitwell overprinted on the front, and was probably used as a receipt. However the die is not K0610.04v but K0610.01. And K0610.01 was used by Kent Education Committee!



## ARROW CANCELLATION REPAIR – FOLLOW-UP

**Maurice Harp**

**John Mathews** has written in reference to the article on the repair of the Sloper Experimental Arrow Cancel in Bulletin 400/11. In the piece it was highlighted that the latest recorded use of the London ARROW machine was in August 1873, so if the repair on 17 September 1873 was to the London machine, it would have been a waste of money as the repaired machine was never used.

Then the article pointed out that the Liverpool ARROW machine(s?) is (were?) recorded being used up to January 1875 and it was suggested that from a study of broken pins, the Liverpool office “had at least four perforating machines”. However, the Post Office minute of 5 June 1871 only ordered one of the ARROW machines for the Liverpool office. The Liverpool machines showed breakages “at the end of 1872 ... and during 1873 there were no breaks recorded”. Thus, it was concluded that a repair to a Liverpool machine in September 1873 was unlikely.

The article had no solution to this dilemma but John has come up with an intriguing solution. *“What if the repair in September 1873 was to a London machine, but following the repair the machine was sent to the Liverpool office, along with two others from the London office (which no longer used them??) to make up the four different machines the study of broken pins suggests?”*

I have scans of nearly 100 dated copies of the ARROW cancellation.

	<b>London</b>	<b>Liverpool</b>
1870	3	0
1871	14	7
1872	3	16
1873 (Jan. 73 – Oct. 73)	5	14
1874 (Oct. 73 – Dec. 74)	0	35
1875	0	1
Total	25	73

As can be seen from the table above there seems to have been a surge in use in Liverpool after the date of repair. It would also explain why it appears that based on the broken pin varieties there would appear to have been more than one machine used in Liverpool.



## **BUILDING & CIVIL ENGINEERING HOLIDAY SCHEME**

**Maurice Harp**

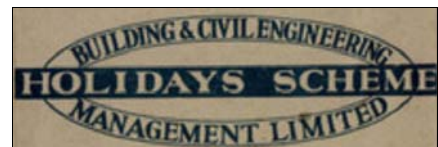
From time to time perfinned copies of the Building & Civil Engineering Holiday Scheme appear on the market. When I spotted one recently I decided to see if I could find out anything more about them. To date only two perfin designs have been reported. In Bulletin 237 an SA/McA die was reported on a 12/- value. This die is thought to have been used by McAlpine. Then Jeff Turnbull reported in Bulletin 341 an SLP die similar to the one illustrated here on a 5/6d



value and this die is now thought to have been used by Sir Lindsay Parkinson & Co Ltd who were responsible for the Building & Engineering of the Euxton Royal Ordnance Factory at Chorley, Lancashire. Lastly Jeff reported in Bulletin 350 a numeral perfin 415 on 5/- and 10/- values. It should be noted that all three dies have never been found on stamps.

There are at least six values (5/-, 5/6, 7/3, 9/-, 10/- & 12/-) to be found with this design and there is an earlier design that hasn't yet been found with perfins. I have found no explanation as to why these odd values were used. I also found to my surprise that the organisation is still in operation.

In 1938 a Committee on Holidays with Pay, chaired by Baron Amulree looked into the provision of holidays in the construction industry. They found that very few construction workers received paid holidays because they moved jobs too frequently or they were laid off before the holiday period. The industry's solution was to set up a company to provide a centralised "holidays with pay" arrangement. The company was set up in 1942 by trades unions and the employers' organisations with equal board representation from both groups and an independent chairman, a structure that exists to this day. However the range of services that they supply has been extended to include insurance services, health care and pensions.



## **SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY & THE CHANNEL TUNNEL**

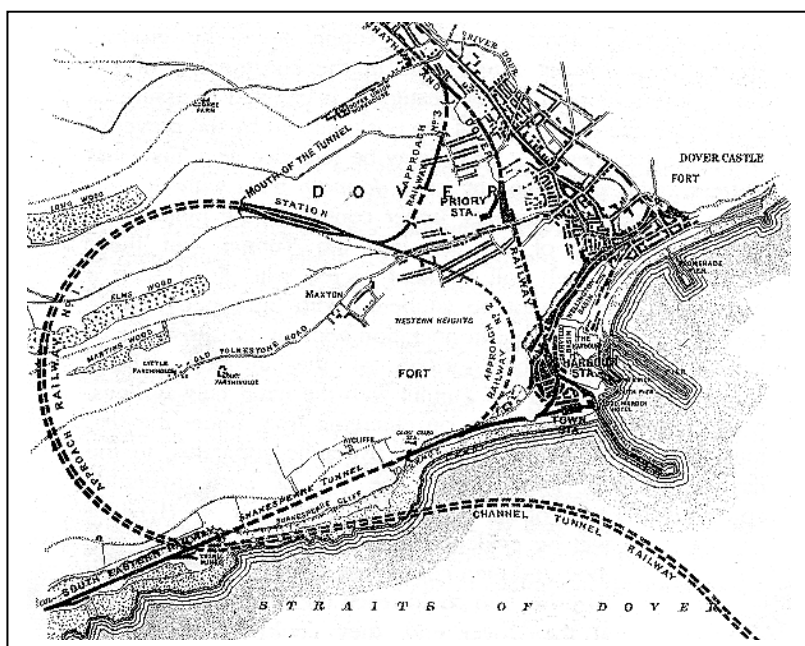
**Maurice Harp**

The registered cover on the front of the Bulletin looks great from the front with a nice selection of 1d lilacs with perfin die SER – S2640.02. But the rear holds a surprise – the identity of the user is not South Eastern Railway – but The Channel Tunnel Company Ltd. The cancellations show that the cover was used June 30<sup>th</sup> 1898 and appears to have been posted at the Borough High St B.O. Looking in 1895 & 1899 directories I found the following entries which confirmed the reason for the mailing at the Borough High St. B.O.

**Channel Tunnel Co. Lim. (Charles Sheath, sec. pro tem.), South-Eastern railway station, London bridge SE**

**Channel Tunnel Co. Lim. (Charles Sheath, sec. pro tem.), 22 Abingdon street, Westminster SW**

There had been numerous proposals for a tunnel under the channel throughout the 19th Century including one by Napoleon, but the first serious attempt to build a tunnel came with an Act of Parliament in 1875 authorising the Channel Tunnel Company Ltd. to start preliminary trials.



This was an Anglo French project with a simultaneous Act of Parliament in France. By 1877 several shafts had been sunk to a depth of 330 feet at Sangatte in France but initial work carried out at St. Margaret's Bay, to the east of Dover had to be abandoned due

to flooding. In 1880 under the direction of Sir Edward Watkin, Chairman of the South Eastern Railway, a new shaft (No. 1 shaft) was

sunk at Abbot's Cliff, between Dover and Folkestone with a horizontal gallery being driven along the cliff, 10 feet above the high water mark. This seven foot diameter pilot tunnel was eventually to be enlarged to standard gauge with a connection to the South Eastern Railway.

**T**HE CHANNEL TUNNEL  
COMPANY (LIMITED).

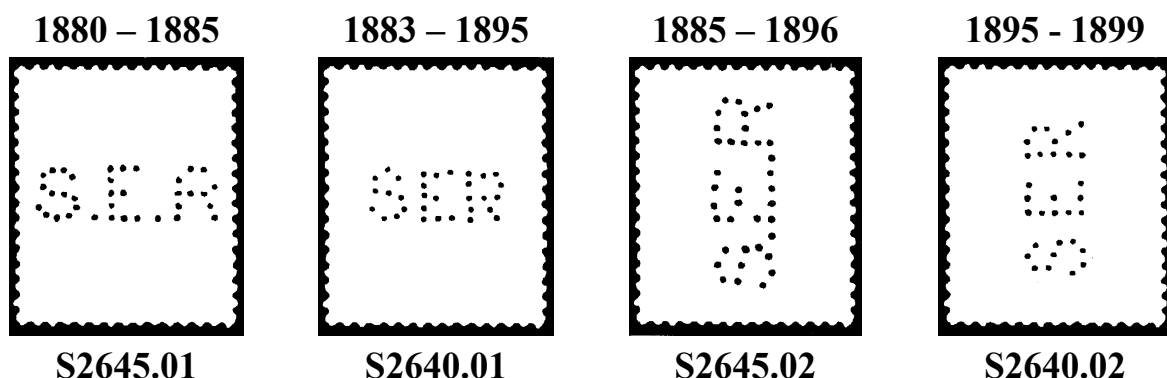
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that persons claiming to be CREDITORS of the above-named Company are required, on or before the 17th day of July, 1886, to send their NAMES and ADDRESSES and full particulars of their CLAIMS to WILLIAM BELLINGHAM, Esq., of 3 and 4, Palace-chambers, 9, Bridge-street, Westminster, London, S.W., the Liquidator of the Company, or in default thereof they will be excluded from any benefit in the distribution of the Company's assets which may be made before such claims are sent in.

Dated the ninth day of June, 1886.

COPE and Co.,  
3, Great George-street, Westminster,  
Solicitors for the Liquidator of the said Company.

But May 1882 saw the government call a halt, worried about the military implications of a land-link to Europe. Both shafts were later backfilled. Following this the project led by the Channel Tunnel Co Ltd never got off the ground again and by 1902 the company seems to have disappeared.

The South Eastern Railway appears to have used four dies during the period of the existence of the Channel Tunnel Company Ltd and as they operated up to 1899 from the South Eastern Railway station at London Bridge it may well be that all four dies could have been used by the company.





## ALBERT HILDESHEIMER (1844 - 1924)

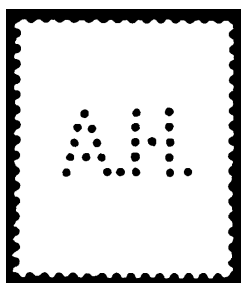
Roy Gault

An interesting registered cover spotted on e-Bay by both *Jeff Turnbull* and *Maurice Harp* prompted a little more research into the man behind the unusual name of *Albert Hildesheimer*. The 1902 cover is addressed to Herren Hildesheimer in Berlin with 'Mama' written in pencil by another hand, so perhaps it was sent by Albert to his mother.



The identity for the "A.H." (A2730.01) Perfins used on the cover comes from an 'advertising stamp' affixed to the back.

1895-1905



A2730.01

Although the wording on the artist's palette is difficult to read, in part because of the postmark, it can be easily read on his trade mark shown on the next page.



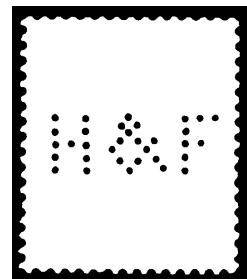


Albert Hildesheimer  
Fine Art Publishers and  
Calendar Printer  
2 New Zealand Avenue, Barbican,  
London E.C.

Albert Hildesheimer was born in Halberstadt (Prussia) in c1844, and probably came to England in the late spring/early summer of 1871 - he doesn't appear in the 1871 census (taken on the night of 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1871), but first appears in the Manchester Poor Rate Books in June 1871 and then through to 1877. A trade directory of the period records him as an '*importer of fancy and transfer prints*'.

By 1880 he had moved to London, where in 1881 he joins forces with Charles William Faulkner and together they establish '*Hildesheimer & Faulkner*', Printers and Publishers, 41 Jewin St, London E.C. The partnership is known to have used the Perfin "H&F" (H2580.01) from 1881-1885.

1881-1885



H2580.01

The partnership was dissolved by mutual consent in December 1893, with Albert Hildesheimer continuing in business on his own account at 2 New Zealand Avenue, London E.C., using the "A.H." (A2730.01) Perfin. By 1915 the company had become Albert Hildesheimer & Son, Artistic Colour Printers, High-class Show Cards, Posters etc., at 50 Moor Lane, London E.C. By then Albert would have been 72 years old, so may well not have played much of a part in running the business. Albert Hildesheimer died in 1924, aged 80.

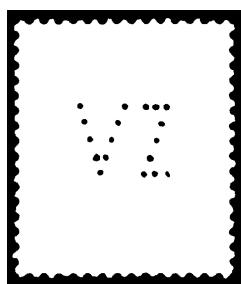
Unfortunately, there is a niggling 10 year gap between the two Perfins, so can anyone help bridge the 1885-1895 period by reporting any dated examples? If so, I would be pleased to hear from you!

## LONDON & QUEENBOROUGH SORTING TENDER.

Roy Gault

A number of Perfin collectors are currently sorting through their accumulations and recent purchases, on the look-out for additional information for the G.B. Perfins Catalogue, and of course, New Dies. One such collector is *Peter Maybury* who sent in this hitherto unseen “VZ” die, which has been allocated V1990.01.

The stamp is a 2½d definitive of King Edward VII, conveniently dated **FE 11/10**. The postmark was upside down, but I thought I could see ‘S.T’ to the right of the date slug, preceded by ‘...BORO.’. Stamp shown enlarged and rotated in the hope you can make out some of the letters present. My first thought was that it was a partial of a ‘Grimsby & Peterboro’ Sorting Tender cancel, but I needed a second opinion!



I contacted *Ron Mills*, and within no time at all he'd found the answer, it was unquestionably the ‘London & Queenborough Sorting Tender’!

This particular mail sorting service began in *January 1891* running between London (Holborn) and Queenborough (Isle of Sheppey) where it connected to the Night Mail boat to Flushing (Netherlands). The Sorting Tender ceased on the *18<sup>th</sup> April 1911* when the Flushing Night Mail boat sailed to/from Folkestone instead of Queenborough.



Having access to both 1895 and 1915 London directories, I thought it would be a simple matter to fish out a company beginning with “Z”, large enough to warrant the use of Perfins. Sadly, nothing even came close, and never would because of my schoolboy error. With a Dutch connection, the place to look was under the V’s not the Z’s!

**Maurice Harp** came to the rescue with a 1914 London directory reference to **J van Zwet & Sons (Rotterdam)**, Cheese, Butter & Margarine Merchants, 37 Gracechurch St, London EC. To me this is as certain as certain can be, but even so it can only be regarded officially as a ‘suspected’ identity.

**Stephen Steere** has also confirmed that J van Zwet & Sons were not listed in his 1902 London directory, so the London branch probably came into being during the mid-Edwardian era. Also, there is no mention in a 1928 London directory, so the UK branch must have been short lived. The advertisement below from the Dundee Evening News (31<sup>st</sup> May 1938) for J van Zwet & Sons shows that by then the company simply relied on Agents.



To complete the research I contacted **Steve Netten** in Holland to see what light he could throw onto the subject, especially in connection with any Dutch Perfins. He told me there are only two Dutch Perfins with the letters “VZ”, one of which is:

“v.Z.” (7, 18) used 1924-1940 by **J van Zwet & Zonen** (Cheese), Rotterdam. The die and a typical stamp are shown below.



Now that’s what I call Team Work!

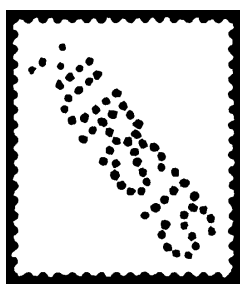
## A NEW IRISH DIE - USER IDENTIFIED.

Roy Gault

**Robert Dedecker**, author of the Catalogue of French Perfins, is currently turning his attention to his collection of G.B. Perfins, throwing up a number of New Dies in the process. One such is the new die “HURSTS” which Robert reports on a pair of QV 16-dot 1d Lilacs, and a QV 3d Jubilee with a heavy parcel cancel.

As the Perfin is a full name, there’s a good chance of finding a potential user once the postmark is known. However, I couldn’t see the postmark clearly enough from the scan originally sent, so I asked if the pair could be sent for inspection, which Robert kindly did.

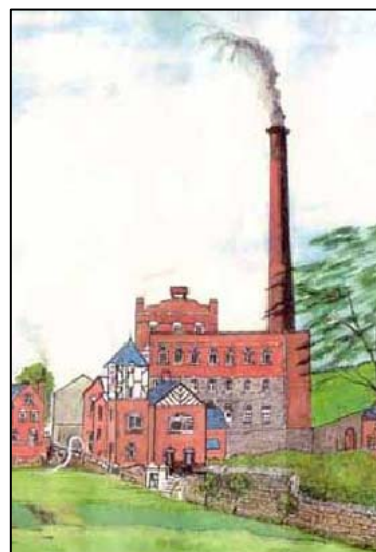
c1895



H7485.01

The first observation is that it’s an Irish ‘diamond’ duplex, with a two digit number, possibly ‘52’. The place-name has ‘...LL...HINC..’, which ties in with ‘52’ Ballynahinch, Co Down. Ballynahinch is a small market town in County Down, 13 miles south of Belfast.

Although there’s not a vast amount on the Internet, it can be quickly discovered that Hursts (later Hursts Ltd) was established at Ballynahinch in 1850 by James Hurst of Manchester, when he built a new flax spinning mill there. Although the mill buildings still exist today, we can catch a glimpse of what it was like when it was active from a painting produced in 1930 by James J McKinney (1921-2013), part of which is shown alongside. © Rosalind Davies 2001.





**UPDATE TO THE DELISTING OF CERTAIN**  
**NEWFOUNDLAND PERFINS**

**Barry Senior**

In June 2013 a short article was published in the four major Perfin publications, including Bulletin 384/16, requesting feedback to verify the existence of certain Newfoundland perfins based on the results of a survey published in 1995. At the time I received no responses so a request was made to the editors of Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials to delist the stamps in question. This was done and should have been the end of this saga, but not so. Forward to 2016 where I purchased a small collection of Newfoundland perfins and lo and behold what should appear but one of the stamps in question. It is a Scott #226 with an A11, Ayre and Sons Limited, perfin in position 2.

This stamp was issued on May 6, 1935 and has a clear “Buy Goods Made in Newfoundland” slogan cancel. This slogan is listed as NFS-13 in the handbook “Slogan Postmarks of Canada” by Cecil Coutts and as PS-12 in the “Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalog”, 7<sup>th</sup> edition, by Walsh and Butt. There are 2 versions of this slogan with Die 1 being used from May 1934 – December 1935 and Die II used from May 1935 – November 1937.

The previous Latest Known Date of Usage of the A11 perforator was April 16, 1932 and in the absence of a readable date on this stamp the LKU now has to be the date of issue of this stamp or May 6, 1935, over 3 years later.

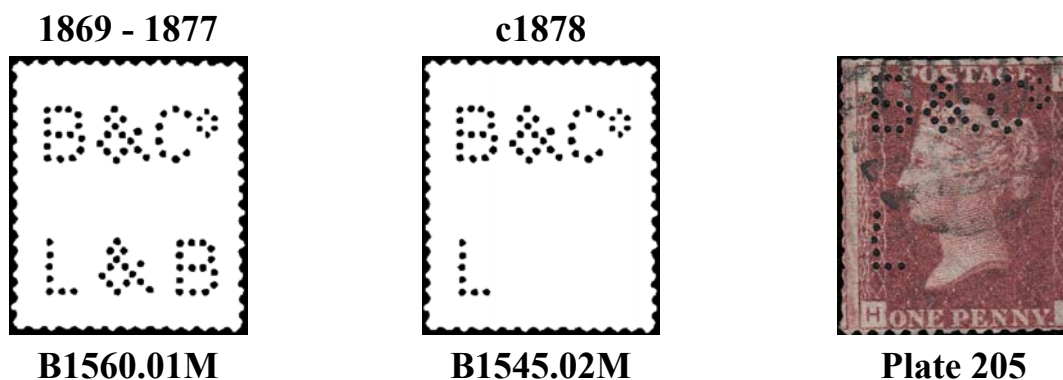
This little exercise just proves that no matter how much information is known and confirmed in the perfin world things are always subject to change with the next auction purchase or trader lot that you receive. We have just added a new issue and a new LKU to the A11 perforator.



**“NEW” BUDGETT & Co DIE – B1545.02M**

**Maurice Harp**

I recently purchased this 1d red plate 205 with a B&Co/L perfin die, cancelled used in London. It is clearly B1560.01 – B&Co/L&B with the “&B” missing or removed. B1560.01 is known to have been used by H. H. & S. Budgett & Co who were wholesale grocers based in London and Bristol – hence the “L & B”. The die is found used cancelled with both London and Bristol cancellations and is well known on 1d reds with recorded plates 106 to 199 – so plate 205 is after the general use of the die. The company also used two other dies B&Co/B&L - (B1540.01M/02) which are only recorded used in Bristol.



So the question is raised as to whether this is intentional removal of the last two letters to produce a die for use exclusively in the London office. I sent scans of the stamp to our catalogue editor and received the following reply.

*In view of the fact that there is no evidence of the “&B” portion striking the stamp, and all the other holes are clean-cut, I would think the modification was deliberate, and as such warrants its own catalogue number - allocated B1545.02M. I’ve included the suffix ‘M’ as “B&C<sup>o</sup>/L&B” is a 6 x 1 multi-headed die.*

Clearly if this was an experiment to produce a London die, it was not considered a success as this is the only example recorded. Can any member report a second copy if so your catalogue editor would be pleased to hear from you.

## A STORY OF TWO VICTORIAN PERFIN COVERS

Larry Rausch

I purchased from a Canadian collector, Ronald Whyte, the two Penny Red covers with perfin stamps shown below in Figures 1 and 2. Both covers have a pair of 1d plate 189 and a ½d bantam plate 11, all stamps having perfin die H..B – H0380.02.

It is always interesting for me to do research on the internet for information about Postal History covers. They were mailed to Natick, Massachusetts USA from Liverpool, UK to Grandmother, Marinda Brown, and to her Granddaughter, Winifred Parlin, on the same day, April 24, 1878, in the care of Winifred's father and Marinda's son-in-law, William D. Parlin (see photo Figure 3). They were probably mailed to arrive around Winifred's 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday on May 11th.

Fig. 1



Fig. 2

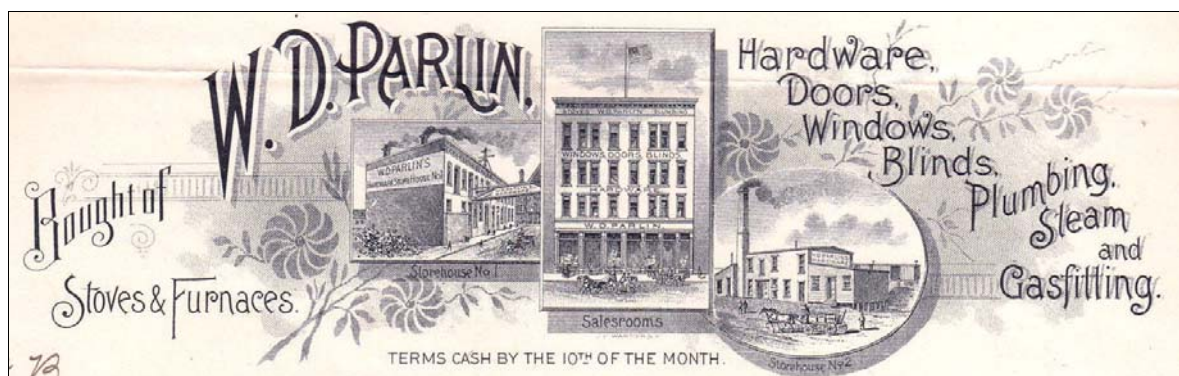


My research further indicated that William Parlin mustered in the "I" company Massachusetts 39<sup>th</sup> in the Civil War on July 22nd, 1862 as a Sergeant and was promoted to Captain of the United States Colored Troops (USCT) in 1863. He was wounded in two engagements, the Battle of Petersburg and in the Second Battle of Fair Oaks, and received a disability discharge on March 17th, 1865. William married Mary Marinda Brown on Feb. 9th, 1865 and they settled in Natick Mass. where Winifred was born on May 11th, 1875.



**Figure 3**  
William D. Parlin

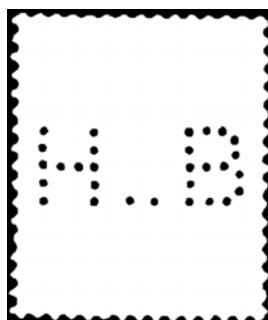
In future years, Winifred would marry U.S. Congressman, Charles Aubrey Eaton, on June 26, 1895. Congressman Eaton would participate in the creation of the United Nations.



**Figure 4**

The letterhead shown in Figure 4 describes the business he developed as manufacturer and sales of hardware, plumbing, windows, and other supplies. Google search also found his involvement with the state of Massachusetts Hardware Association.

1872 - 1890



H0380.02

But back to the philatelic covers with those wonderful perfins. Both covers contain two Penny Red stamps (SG 43) and one ½d stamp (SG 48) and all stamps have the perfin H..B – H0380.02.

This perfin was made for the Henderson Brothers and their company Anchor Lines of London and Glasgow. The cover's reverse flap has the company's embossed logo as shown in Figure 5.

The company name was adopted in 1856 when a steam service between Glasgow and New York was inaugurated. The original owners were Nicol and Baird Handyside, a third partner Thomas Henderson joining in 1852. The Anchor Line moved into the Mediterranean trade on their own behalf after a period managing the ships of the Glasgow & Lisbon Steam Packet Company. In 1875 the company started a service to Bombay and in 1882 another to Calcutta. The latter route became solely concerned with cargo and was sold to the Brocklebank Line in 1912.



Figure 5



Figure 6

In 1899 the firm of Henderson Brothers was dissolved and a limited liability company formed with the title of Anchor Line (Henderson Brothers). The company was bought by Cunard in 1911. The company went into liquidation in 1935 the assets being transferred to a new company - Anchor Line (1935) Ltd. After 1953, Anchor Line became a fully-owned subsidiary of the United Molasses Company. It was sold to Walter Runciman & Co in 1965 and restructured in 1976.

The advertisement in Figure 6 details trips from Glasgow to New York which also provided a weekly US mail service.



## ANOTHER SLOPER DIE WITH A TYPE II “&”.

Roy Gault

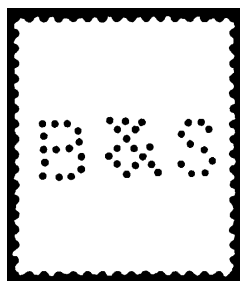
After reading the ‘Hong Kong - Early Sloper Die’ article in the February Bulletin, **Jeff Turnbull**, {often the first person to respond to such a piece}, has asked if this Straits Settlements postage stamp with a Type II ampersand could also be an early Sloper die. The simple answer is ‘Yes, it is’.



Jeff tells me the stamp is a 4c Rose with ‘CC’ watermark (SG12), in use from 1867-1872, and that the Perfin has been catalogued as ‘S1’ with a user of ‘*Sandilands, Buttery & Co, General Merchants, Cecil St, Singapore*’. Interestingly, the 1872 date puts it on the cusp of Sloper’s monopoly period that ended during that year.

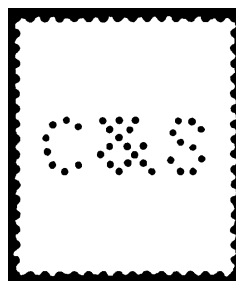
Certainly there are G.B. Perfin dies with Type II ampersands that also match the characteristic letters shown in the Straits Settlements stamp. For example:

1872-1885



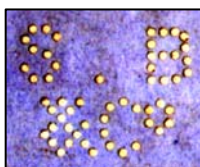
B6430.20

1890-1900



C6800.06

More importantly, a search through the early Sloper Ledgers produced Press N<sup>o</sup>. 5099, a ‘N<sup>o</sup>. 4 Initialing Machine for Postage Stamps’.



Although there is no completion date stated for the die, nearby Press N<sup>o</sup>. 5093 has the 4<sup>th</sup> July 1876, and N<sup>o</sup>. 5108 has the 15<sup>th</sup> September 1876, so we can state with some confidence that N<sup>o</sup>. 5099 was completed in the summer of 1876 (perhaps late July, early August).

And that would have been that, except for a similar request I received from **Nigel Gooding** (via Stephen Steere) way back in May 2013!

Nigel's stamp is a Spanish-Philippines 10c Green first issued in 1871. The (suspected) user is recorded as **Smith, Bell & Co**, Shipping and Insurance Agents, Manila, originally founded in Liverpool in 1846. For more details please access Nigel's website ....



[www.nigelgooding.co.uk/Spanish/Perfins/Perfin.htm](http://www.nigelgooding.co.uk/Spanish/Perfins/Perfin.htm)

So now we have a problem in that we appear to have two different users using the same Perfin which would have been produced by a machine made by Slopers and sold to a customer!

Knowing that **Smith, Bell & Co** had an office in Manila, with branches in Cebu and Iloilo (Philippines), they would naturally have had access to Spanish-Philippines postage stamps. Also, **Smith, Bell & Co** are mentioned many times in the Jardine Matheson Archive under the heading 'Letters to India and the Straits', from 1881 to 1905, which is a direct link to the Straits Settlements.

Furthermore, on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1863, the North British & Mercantile Insurance Company, later part of Commercial Union, established an agency in Singapore. The Commercial Union appointed **Smith, Bell & Co** as their agents. As the Straits Settlements consisted of the four individual settlements of Malacca, Dinding, Penang, and Singapore, **Smith, Bell & Co**, who were based in Singapore, would naturally have had access to Straits Settlements postage stamps.

In conclusion, I would think that the user listed for S1 "S.B/&C<sup>o</sup>" of **Sandilands, Buttery & Co** may well be in error, and that a much more likely contender would be **Smith, Bell & Co** based on the fact that they had offices in both Manila (in the Philippines) and Singapore (which was part of the Straits Settlements) and so accounts for both stamps.

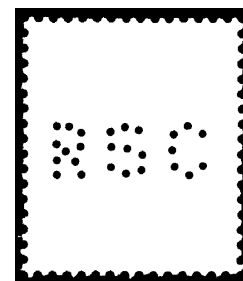
If anyone has any information to either support or dispel this scenario, I would be more than pleased to hear from you!

## NEW SLOPER PRE-WWII REFURBISHMENT DIE

Roy Gault

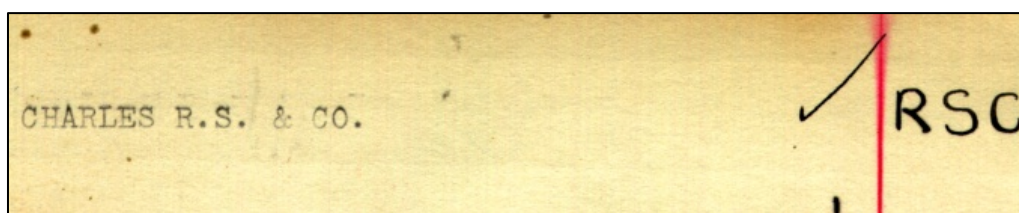
The report of a new “RSC” die by *Ron Mills* on a 2½d KGVI Dark blue (issue ‘Q’) [allocated R4590.06] immediately prompted the thought that it could be one of the growing band of Sloper ‘pre-WWII’ refurbishment dies. These are only known on issue ‘Q’, which in recent years I’ve suggested are part of a concerted effort by *J. Sloper & Co* to refurbish their stock of ‘in-house’ dies using their standard 4-pin high letters, 4½ mm in height.

1939 - 1941



R4590.06

There is an entry in the Sloper pre-WWII m/s ledger showing a single headed “RSC” die (shown in m/s) assigned to perforate postage stamps for *R S Charles & Co*. Note that there are no markings to the left of the m/s “RSC” to suggest the use of a Sloper Wartime Provisional, so this die was presumably ‘the end of the road’.



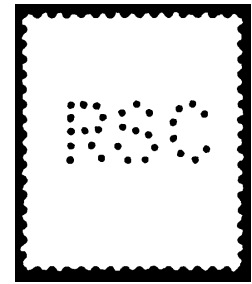
Currently **376** ‘pre-WWII’ refurbishment dies have been identified, a ‘full’ series for which would ideally consist of *four* different dies.

1. A pre-1939 die in an ‘old’ alphabet, usually 5 pins high, which has often been in use for some considerable time.
2. A ‘pre-WWII’ refurbishment die using 4-pin high letters, known only on issue ‘Q’, and believed destroyed in May 1941.
3. A Sloper ‘Wartime Provisional’, with each set of lettering produced by separate strikes from more than one die.
4. A replacement ‘regular’ die, usually using Sloper’s standard 4 pin high letters (4½ mm high).

In this particular case, dies 3 & 4 do not exist, but what could the new die have replaced because ‘*R S Charles & Co*’ is not a known user of any other Perfin die?

Inspection of Section 'R' of the 'New Illustrated Catalogue of G.B. Perfins' yields a potential candidate in the shape of "RSC" (R4590.02) which was in use 1903\*-1939 in *London EC*. [\*Stamp now known dated 6<sup>th</sup> May 1904]. There is no address in the Sloper m/s ledger for '*R. S. Charles & Co*', but a search through the 1915, 1928, 1933, and 1949 London Trade Directories produced the following entries:

1903 - 1939



R4590.02

- 1915 - Richard Stafford Charles, Surveyor, Auctioner, and Land Agent, Pinners Hall, 54½ Old Broad St, *London EC*.
- 1928 - Richard Stafford Charles, Surveyor, Auctioner, and Land Agent, Pinners Hall, 106 Old Broad St, *London EC*.
- 1933 - Exactly the same as in 1928.
- 1949 - R Stafford Charles & Son, Chartered Surveyors, Valuers & Land Agents, Pinners Hall, 106 Old Broad St, *London EC2*.

The London Gazette for 10<sup>th</sup> March 1899 shows Richard Stafford Charles was already in business in the late Victorian period when his partnership with Walter Burnell Tubbs was dissolved.

**N**OTICE is hereby given, that the Partnership heretofore subsisting between us the undersigned, Richard Stafford Charles and Walter Burnell Tubbs, carrying on business as Auctioneers, Surveyors, and Land Agents, at No. 1, Gresham-street, in the city of London, and at Littlestone-on-Sea, in the county of Kent, under the style or firm of Charles and Tubbs, has been dissolved by mutual consent as and from the 22nd day of February, 1899.—Dated this 8th day of March, 1899.  
R. STAFFORD CHARLES.  
W. BURNELL TUBBS.

Entries in the London Gazette for late 1899 and 1920 show Richard Stafford Charles working on his own account.

From a genealogical point of view, Edith Annie Knight (born c1868) married Richard Stafford Charles (born 1862) at Marylebone 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr 1889. The 1911 census records *Richard Stafford Charles*, aged 49, as a Surveyor - Land & Estate Agent (Employer) living with his wife, Edith Annie, and four of their five children. Also with them were two nephews, two visitors and *six servants*, so clearly a well-to do family! Richard Stafford Charles died on 30<sup>th</sup> May 1938, aged 76.

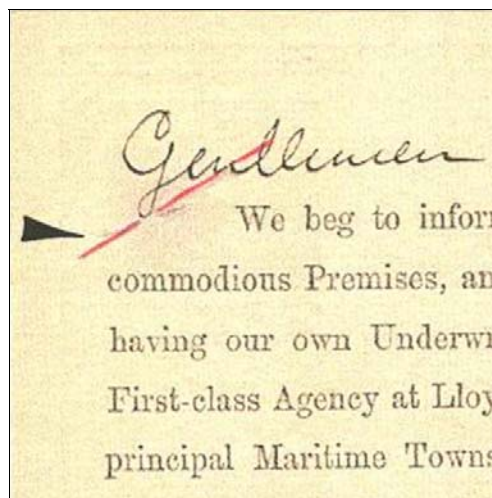
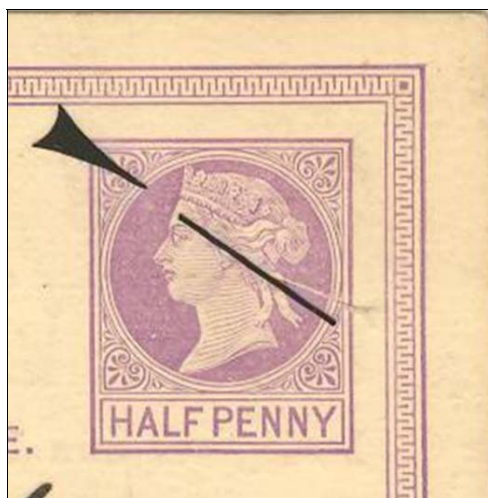


## NEW EXPERIMENTAL POSTCARD CANCELLATION?

Maurice Harp

Under the Society News section of this Bulletin you will have seen that the London Postal History Group has prepared a USB drive stick containing a compilation of their publications over nearly 30 years. Included on this stick is a copy of a Gold Medal award winning exhibit from Jerry Miller – “From Hill to Wilkinson” ... The Experimental & Early Machine Postmarks of England ... 1857 – 1912. This display includes ten pages showing the Sloper Arrow cancellation, Manchester clips and other postcard punches.

Also included is the postcard shown below. The card was used in Liverpool January 1<sup>st</sup> 1871 and the cancellation appears to be a diagonal cut through the stamp (sorry this probably doesn't reproduce too well). This predates the ordering of the Arrow machine for Liverpool in June 1871.



The exhibit also states that this card is one of two such postcards known. The postcard shows no other postal markings. If this was an early experiment by the Liverpool office to cope with the surge of postcards it was clearly not considered to be a success and must have been abandoned almost as soon as it was tried.

If any member can add any information on this or similar items or provide me with contact details for Jerry Miller I would be delighted to hear from you.



**EVEN EARLIER REFERENCES TO COLLECTING  
ADVERTISING RINGS.**

**Brian Birch**

In 2012, I published a short note about a reference to Advertising Rings that I had noticed in Routledge's *Every Boy's Annual* of 1864<sup>(1)</sup>. I have recently been looking through the four earliest philatelic periodicals for references to early German dealers:

- The Monthly Intelligencer* (1862-1863) Only partly philatelic
- The Monthly Advertiser* (1862-1864) First ever periodical devoted to philately
- Later *The Stamp Collectors' Monthly Advertiser* (1863)
- Even later *The Stamp Collectors' Review and Monthly Advertiser* (1863-1864)
- The Stamp Collector's Magazine* (1863-1874) Second periodical devoted to philately
- Le Timbre-Poste* (1863-1900) Third periodical devoted to philately
  - First Belgian periodical devoted to philately
  - First French language periodical devoted to philately

Although I checked the complete run of the first two periodicals, I only checked the volumes for 1863 and 1864 of *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* and *Le Timbre-Poste*. Even in those early days of stamp collecting there was some notice taken of Advertising Rings as shown by a reader's evident query and the answer in the third number of the first volume of *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, dated April 1863<sup>(2)</sup>. (Figure 1)



**Figure 1 The Stamp Collector's Magazine, April 1863**

In the number for November of the following year<sup>(3)</sup>, this information was elaborated upon and expanded in a section titled *Postal Chit-Chat*. (Figure 2)

THE NUMBER OF ENGLISH FIRMS who now issue, or have issued, stamped envelopes with their names, or the names of their publications, in a band around the stamp is increased to nine, viz.—Messrs. Smith, Elder, & Co., W. H. Smith & Son, Grindlay & Co. (*The Home News*), *British Workman*, George Prior, Stevens & Norton, J. F. Pawson, all of London; S. Allsopp & Sons, of Burton-on-Trent; and Stafford Smith & Smith, Bath.

Figure 2 The Stamp Collector's Magazine, November 1864

It should be noted that the last named, Stafford Smith & Smith of Bath, were the publishers of *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*.

It is interesting to reflect on the quality of information provided. Since this was the only worthwhile British philatelic periodical at this time the information had to have been collected first hand and not simply culled from other periodicals. One can suppose that **Henry Stafford Smith** (Figure 3), the principal partner in **Stafford Smith & Smith** with his older brother **Alfred William Smith** (Figure 4), must have seen other Advertising Rings and thus been lead to have their own produced. Since the partnership was founded in 1863 and dissolved in 1866, when the brothers went their separate ways, one can see that their Advertising Ring had a relatively short life.

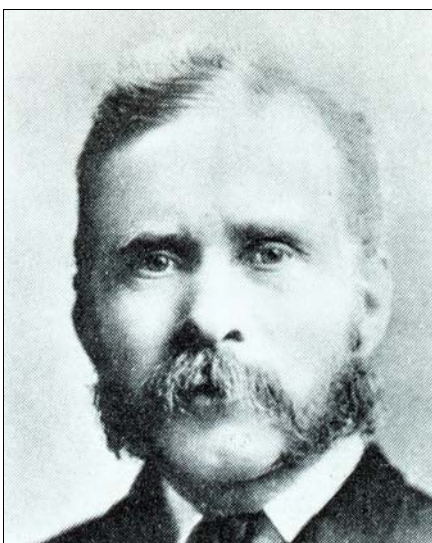


Figure 3  
Henry Stafford Smith  
(1843 - 1903)



Figure 4  
Alfred William Smith  
(1837-1880)



Figure 5 below shows a few of the advertising rings mentioned in *The Stamp Collectors Magazine*.



**Figure 5 Advertising Rings**

However, interesting as these short notes are, the most intriguing item on the subject was actually published a year earlier in *The Stamp Collectors' Review and Monthly Advertiser* for November 1863<sup>(4)</sup>, in answer to a correspondent. (Figure 6)

S. A. TAYLOR (Montreal).—There are about half-a-dozen firms in this country who use embossed stamps, with address printed round their edges. Collectors, however, do not generally look upon them as separate varieties.

**Figure 6 The Stamp Collectors' Review and Monthly Advertiser, November 1863**

The real interest here is the name of the enquirer: **Samuel Allan Taylor**. He is well known as an early North American stamp dealer and the publisher of the first philatelic journal in North America: *The Stamp Collector's Record* of February/March 1864 in Montreal, Canada. Very shortly after publishing this single number, he moved to Albany in the United States and published a second series of his journal from December 1864 to October 1876, this being the first philatelic journal published in the United States of America. Since he was obviously able to obtain a copy of the first ever journal published in the world devoted to philately, it is easy to see where he got the inspiration to produce his own journal.

**Samuel Allan Taylor** (Figure 7) was born in Edinburgh in 1838 and immigrated to Canada. He was initially employed as a pharmacist but by the early 1860s he was dealing in postage stamps. In those early days there were fewer than 1,500 different stamps in existence and it is possible that the difficulty in obtaining new stamps lead **Taylor** to produce facsimiles and even phantom stamps that never existed but looked real enough to fool collectors. **Taylor** was unrepentant about his business methods and continued to produce his fakes until the late 1890s, dying in 1913.



**Figure 7**  
**Samuel Allan Taylor**  
**(1838-1913)**

### **Footnote**

Following my previous article, it was reported that **Roy Gault** questioned whether the rings were used for advertising or security purposes. **Maurice Harp** checked the list of known users against the perfin catalogue and found that 7 out of the 51 companies using Advertising Rings also used perfins. To my mind it seems likely that Advertising Rings served both advertising and security purposes. Maurice's final comment that the stamp dealers and stamp magazines used Advertising Rings deliberately to provide something for collectors is not supported by the last report above which finished with – *Collectors however, do not generally look upon them as separate varieties.*

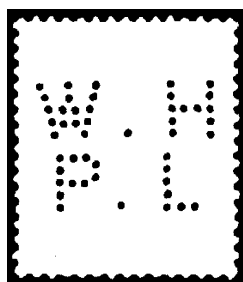
### **REFERENCES**

1. **Brian Birch:** *An early reference to collecting Advertising Rings.*, G.B. Perfin Society Bulletin, June 2012, Whole number 378, pp.19-20.
2. *Answers to correspondents.*, The Stamp Collector's Magazine, April 1863, Volume 1, Issue 3, pp.45-46.
3. *Postal Chit-Chat.*, The Stamp Collector's Magazine, November 1864, Volume 2, Issue 11, p.173.
4. *To correspondents.*, The Stamp-Collectors' Review and Monthly Advertiser, 15<sup>th</sup> November 1863, Volume 1, Issue 12, p.134.

## UNRAVELLING PROVISIONAL IDENTITIES

Maurice Harp

1874 - 1881



W3780.01

Perfin die W3780.01 – W.H/P.L is a relatively common die found mainly on the line engraved issues and exclusively used in London. However we have no identity for the user of the die, despite the letter combination being unusual. For a long time I have been searching the London directories for a possible user. Surely with four different letters it shouldn't be that hard. Recently it struck me that the "P.L" might stand for a street name rather than the company. Once that leap was made it proved to be only a five minute job to find William Harrison, 10 Philpot Lane, London EC, who were fruit and sugar dealers.

I then went looking in the archive newspapers and the London Gazette to see if I could find anything else about William Harrison and stumbled over this entry. As you will see it talks of William Harrison & Son going into partnership with a number of companies to form Game, Harrison & Larnar.

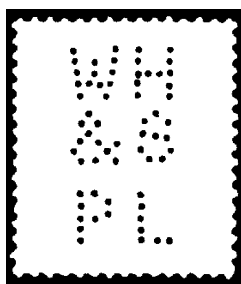
At the beginning of the new year a partnership will be effected between three leading London firms in the whole-sale grocery trade, Messrs. William Harrison and Son, Philpot-lane, E.C. ; Messrs. James Rendell and Sons, 3, Eastcheap, E.C. ; and Messrs. Evison, Larnar, and Co., 15, Eastcheap, E.C. Mr. Evison retires from the last-named firm, which then amalgamates with the two former, the combined businesses being transferred to the premises recently erected at the corner of Eastcheap and Pudding-lane. The title of the new firm will be Game, Harrison, and Larnar.

*The Times - December 18th 1886*

This was a great find as turning to the New Illustrated Catalogue I discovered a whole sequence of perfin dies used by these companies. It transpired that there was a continuous use of perfins from 1874 to 1900 – and that there was another hidden user. The dies are shown overleaf.

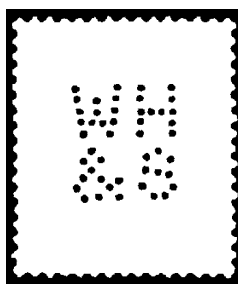


1881 - 1886



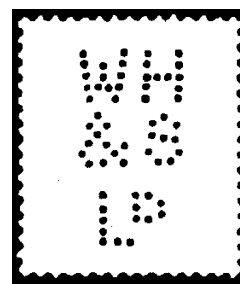
W3885.01

c1890



W3835.02

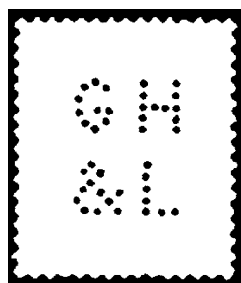
c1895



W3875.01

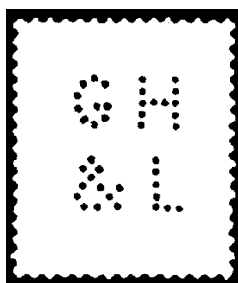
<p><b>Game, Harrison &amp; Larner, Lim. wholesale dealers &amp; exporters in tea, coffee, spices, 2 &amp; 4 Eastcheap E C ; warehouses &amp; waterside premises, Game's wharf, Bull lane, Upper Thames street E C ; spice warehouse, 14 Philpot lane E C—T A "Character"; T N 2379</b></p>
--

1887 - 1890



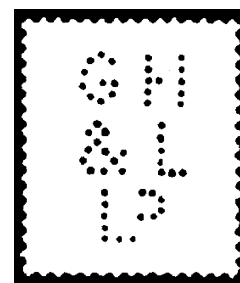
G2250.01

1890 - 1892



G2250.02

1892 - 1900



G2260.01

The dates for all these dies have been updated from those in the published catalogue with the help of our Catalogue Editor. Dies W3835.02 and W3875.01 were included here as in Section W of the New Illustrated Roy had linked these two dies with W3885.01, as it was believed that all three had been produced from the same machine. But having done this research these last two dies clearly didn't fit into the sequence as William Harrison & Son no longer existed after 1886.

So the next challenge was to find the user of these two dies. W3835.02 is known used in London EC and a copy of W3875.01 is known used 12<sup>th</sup> July 1895. Consultation of an 1885 directory found William Hutton & Sons Ltd (of Sheffield), Farringdon Road, London EC – cutlers. Going back to an 1882 directory showed the company as simply William Hutton & Son.

Now clearly there is a link between the three WH/&S dies and Roy believes that they may have been “over the counter” productions from by Frank Braham. So with a bit of digging I have managed to uncover seven new provisional dies.

## "REVO" DUAL REIGN COVER

Melvyn Green



Above is shown a mixed use cover with King George V 2d SG442 and King Edward VIII, 1d SG458 & 1½d SG459, all perfined R.E. and catalogued as R1580.01 with identity of Revo Electric Co Ltd, Tipton, Staffordshire. Cover is dated 1st January 1937, cancelled Dudley, Worcs and sent to New Zealand. The Company was originally formed in 1907 as a private company called Cable Accessories Co. which adopted the name 'Revo' as a trademark in 1924. In 1927 the company was renamed Revo Electric Co. Limited and in 1936 became a public limited company. By 1939 it was the biggest manufacturer of electric irons and the second largest manufacturer of electric fires. It also manufactured industrial and street lighting equipment, control gear, electric fans, switchgear, domestic electric cookers and appliances, electronic equipment. Revo were also vitreous enamellers to the trade and brass founders. By 1961 it had 2,000 employees.



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membership application please contact:  
Stephen Steere

e-mail: [perfin.society@virginmedia.com](mailto:perfin.society@virginmedia.com)