

CD & ROYAL SCROLL CANCEL

From the prolific pen of Mike Burrows comes the following in response to the "Royal" cover recorded by Peter Burrows in our last issue,

The term 'Royal' must be attributed to G.V. Eltringham an eminent student of the cancellation.

At a meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society in London on 5th December 1957, he presented a 'five-minute' paper in which he stated

"Of the covers or pieces that I have seen bearing these cancellations, most carry the Royal Arms or other clear evidence on the envelope flap, thus denoting a Royal source of origin. The remaining covers noted have in each case consisted of a House of Commons envelope and it is suggested that these contained letters written during visits to one or more of the Royal residences. No covers have been seen without such evidence....."

The postmark which was brought into use on 6th November 1882 was not recorded until May 1949, and is reasonably rare. G.V. Eltringham had, by 1957, recorded thirty six copies giving a date range of 10th November 1882 to 7th March 1900, with codes A, B, C, and D. Where the canceller was kept does not seem to be recorded in the Philatelic press. The answer can no doubt be found in the G.P.O. records. A probability is the South Western D.O.

The cover recorded by Peter Burrovis appears to raise some doubt on the restricted use of the cancellation unless the usage was as a stamped addressed envelope for a reply.