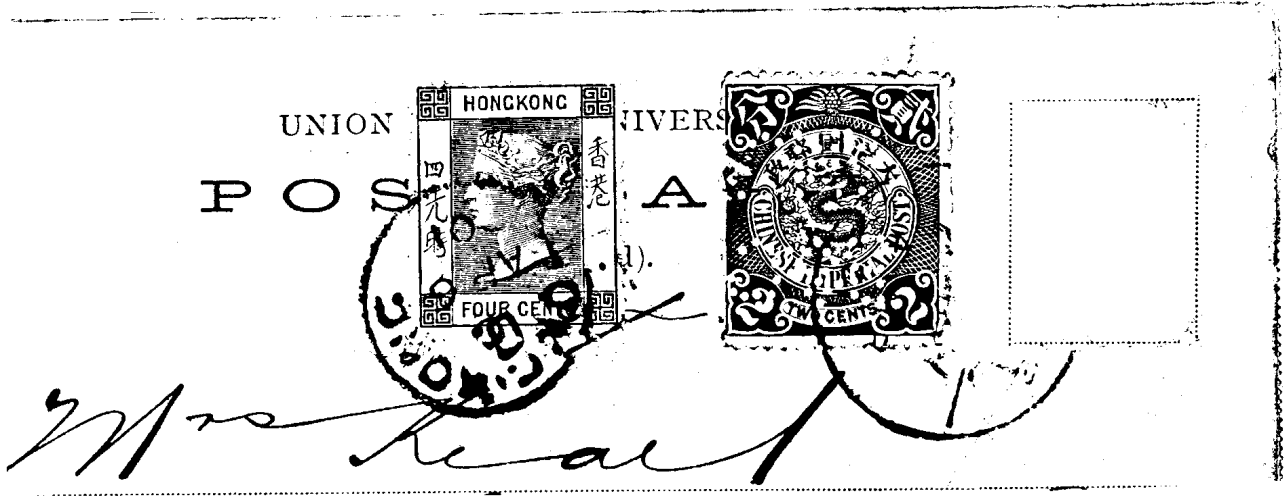


A CHINESE PERFIN

PAUL DAVEY, Editor of the Library's newly acquired Catalogue 'Perfins of China', has sent the following photocopy.



The card shows a China 2c Waterlow dragon with the rare BSC^o/AMOY perfin. The only two covers he has seen with this design are the one partially illustrated plus one other from the same correspondence but neither give any clue as to the identity. Paul would like to know the user of this perfin and if any member can supply the answer, write to him at 4 High Trees Close, Willesborough, Ashford, Kent TN24 OND.

He also supplies the following very interesting details. The Hong Kong 4c (affixed because Chinese stamps were not valid for foreign mail since China did not join the U.P.U. until 1914) is not perfined but is tied with a small rectangular framed mark containing the letters I.P.O. standing for Imperial Post Office. This was an official security endorsement applied by the Amoy Post Office, who affixed the Hong Kong stamp from their stocks. They were not allowed to cancel the 'foreign' stamp and so used the so-called tie print to prevent pilfering on the journey to the exchange office, in this case, Hong Kong.

His next plea is for the return of the 2c stamp which has been removed - reward offered! The other known card has had the 4c Hong Kong stamp removed so if this appears in the same collection he would be pleased to obtain this too. Although neither card is complete they are the only two perfin combination covers of China he has recorded.

The B&C^o/AMOY perfin is known on Hong Kong stamps so maybe one of our specialists in this field can identify the user.