

PRIVATE & UNOFFICIAL UNDER- AND OVERPRINTS ON STAMPS FOR  
SECURITY PURPOSES

Many firms who would not avail themselves of the Perkins Bacon service had their own printers overprint (or underprint) supplies of stamps for them. Overprinting was a breach of the Post Office rules since overprinting on the face was likely to render postmarks indecipherable. Those underprinted, were, of course, often unidentifiable after the gum had been removed since the ink disappeared with the gum.

The following is a Check List of users:-

Firm & Address	Colour of Overprint.	Sideways or Horizontal.	No. of Lines.
Barrowman, Phillips & Co.	Black	H	4
Beddoe, Hulbert & Co.	Black	S	2
J. & C. Boyd, 7 Friday St.	Black	H	3
J & C. Boyd, 7 Friday St.	Red	H	3
Brown Davis & Co., London.	Black	S	3
Cocker Bros., Ltd. Sheffield	Black	H	3
Copestake, Moore, Crampton & Co, London.	Red	H	4 small
" " " " "	Red	H	4 large
" " " " "	Violet	H	4
" " " " "	Black	H	4
" " " " "	Black	S	4
" " " " "	Red	S	4
" " " " "	Red	S	5
" " " " "	Red	H	5
" " " " "	Blue	H	5
Wm. Dawbarn & Co., Liverpool	Black	S on face	2
The Fore Street Warehouse Co., (Limited)	Black	S	3
F.P.W. & Co.	Black	S	1
G.S.S. & Co.	Black	H	1
Harvey & Portway, B. Stortford.	Black	H	4
James Harvey, B. Stortford	Black	H	4
Mr. Mitchell Henry's Committee 68 Market St.	Black	H	4
A. & S. Henry & Co., Portland St, Manchester. Property of:-	Black	S	4
A & S. Henry & Co., Belfast. Property of:-	Black	S	3
A. & S. Henry & Co., Glasgow. Property of:-	Black	S	3
Mr. Mitchell Henry's Committee, 82 Market St.	Black	H	4
Holloway, 244 Strand	Black	H on face	1
J.S & Co., 68 Up. Th. St. Lowfield	Black	H on face	1

Samuel Montague & CO.	Black	S	2
Naylor, Benzon & Co., London.	Black	H	4
Oxford Union Society.	Red	S on face	1
" " "	Brown-red	S	1
" " "	Violet	S	1
" " "	Red	S	1
Pears Soap	Black	H on face	<
J. Taylor & Sons, Newgate St.	Black	S	2
Vickers, Sons & Co., Ltd. Sheffield	Black	H	4
Wattses	Black	S	1
G.H.W. & Co., St. Pauls.	Black	S	2
W.H.E. & S Ltd	Violet	H	3

NOTE: G.H.W. & Co., is George Hitchcock Williams & Co.  
W.H.E. & S, Ltd., is W.H. Everett Ltd., Salisbury Square,  
London, E.C.

All the above underprints and overprints have been found on the 1d red "Stars", the 1d red "Plates", the 2d blue "Plates" or contemporary Surface-printed issues. The exceptions are "Wattses" and "W.H.E. & S Ltd" which appeared when the privilege of underprinting was revived in 1903.

Many names of firms etc., are met with overprinted, generally in black, on 1d lilacs with fiscal or manuscript cancellation. These were mostly stamps used for receipt purposes and not for postage. There are many thousands of these but they do not come within the scope of this work. Many stamps used entirely for Fiscal purposes were overprinted, mainly privately, on the face in black. The following, however, were the work of the Government printers.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Colour</u>
Copestake, Moore, Crampton & Co.	Blue
Evans, Lescher & Evans	Red
Allen & Badger	Blue
Shephard, Neame & Co.	Red
Liverpool United Gas Light Co.	Red
Spencer, Turner & Boldero	Black
Foster, Porter & Co.	Black
Dent & Co.	Black
Hodge & Reed	Black
John Kynaston & Sons	Black
Palmer & Co.	Black
Welsh, Margetson & Co.	Black
Cooper, Box & Co.	Black
Rutter & Coleby	Black
Ward, Sturt & Sharp	Black
J. A. Hofman & Co.	Black
Cook, Son & Co.	Black
W. & T. Devas & Routledge	Black

I. R. Morley	Black
Geo. Brettle & Co.	Black
Jas. Vickers & Co.	Black
H. H. & S. Budgett & Co.	Black
G. Hitchcock Williams & Co.	Black
Crocker, Sons & Turner	Black
Joseph Causton & Sons	Black
Wm. Dawson & Sons	Black
Pfeil & Stedall	Black
Grant, Grant & Co.	Black
Walkden & Sons	Black
Teede & Bishop	Black
Debenham & Freebody	Black
London & County Bank	Black
H. Glover, Son & Co.	Black
Huxley & Co.	Black
Rylands & Sons	Black
F. & B.	Black
John Hutton & Sons	Black
Leaf, Sons & Co.	Black
S. Hanson, Son, Evison & Barter	Black
J. P. Clarke & Co.	Black
Robt. E. Davies	Black

All of these overprints appeared on the 1d Draft or Inland Revenue stamps in 1881 and the introduction of combined Postage & Revenue stamps made little further need to overprint Revenue stamps, except those required for Documentary purposes which were usually of higher denomination.