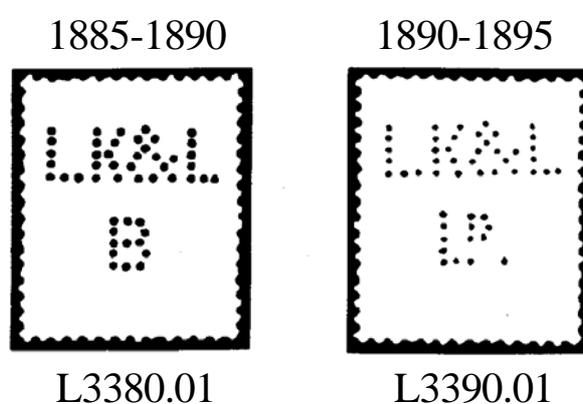


RARE IRISH "LIMITED PAIR"

Roy Gault

The "Irish Study Group" is a small band of just twenty three perfin collectors pooling information from which to prepare a new Irish Catalogue. As a direct result of this study a number of new dies and identities have come to light, amongst them is the new (rare?) perfin "LK&L/L^d." - allocated L3390.01. It was reported on an identified cover dated May 1892, the user being:

Leahy, Kelly & Leahy Ltd,
The Castle Tobacco Warehouse, 2 & 4 Belfast.



The existing perfin "LK&L/B" (L3380.01) is strikingly similar, and may well be equally rare, so much so that I currently have no details to hand! However, of far more importance is the fact that on closer inspection the two patterns were found to completely line up showing that one die must have been modified to produce the other. Some of the pins of the "B" in the original die "LK&L/B" have been used to form a large part of the "d" and a portion of the foot to the "L", with new pins added to complete the "L^d" bit. The final stop has been added (presumably) for balance.

The "B" in the original die would have stood for Belfast, but can anyone provide any stamp details (for either die please!) to help determine accurate periods of use? Another useful line of research would be to establish the precise trade and full address, as well as discovering quite when the company took up "Limited" liability.

For more of these unusual "Limited Pairs" see the article in Bulletin No 285 (December 1996), pages 21-25.