

The Perfin Society Bulletin

THE SOCIETY'S OFFICERS

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SOCIETY INFORMATION

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

This title is more appropriate for my ramblings than 'Editorial'. No one has brought me to book for putting 'Jan' on the February Bulletin pages. Perhaps you were too polite or like myself never noticed until about May.

We have had some major upheavals in our house since the last Bulletin. Everything to do with perfins has been packed in boxes. Now all is back in place, if I have not answered a letter or put your piece in the Bulletin - don't hesitate to write, politely or otherwise, to ask why. It could be that some papers have gone astray in the move.

It is obvious from the many queries posed by various members that much research is being carried out into different aspects of perfin collecting. Even if we do not have the time, energy or inclination to undertake a major task ourselves, we can help those who do. Please help wherever you can and so encourage those who do keep this a healthy and dynamic Society.

* * *

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

New members

DUCORNEZ L.

DOWNHAM B.A.

Resignation

STTEELE J.H.

Change of address

BATTEN J.R.

HILL D.T.

COOPER H.R.

* * *

CATALOGUE OF COMMERCIAL PERFIN OF AUSTRALIA

A year ago the Society bought a number of these catalogues for resale at cost to members. Now we have the first 4 update sheets with new 'A' and 'B' dies. As Michael did not keep a list of who

purchased the catalogues, if you bought a copy and would like these extra sheets, please send 30p, to cover cost of postage and duplicating, to myself (Editor) and I will send them on to you.

* * *

BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION STAMPS PERFINNED

With Bulletin 258 John Nelson sent out a Worksheet about the perfins to be found on the 1924/25 British Empire Exhibition Stamps. The response was tremendous and many more new dies were added to John's original list on the Worksheet.

As promised, John has now produced a booklet, collating all the information which he has garnered from all sources. If you sent back your worksheet to John, you should have received a free copy of this booklet as a means of thanking you for your assistance. However, if you did not send in your worksheet but would like a copy of the booklet, the publications officer, John Donner, has them on sale for £1-20p including postage.

The booklet is A4 size, 16 pages, green card backed. There is a section on the history of the Exhibition, and one on the stamps printed for the Exhibition. All known perfins on these stamps are illustrated and there is a chapter of notes and identities (where known) of all the perfin dies. A final Appendix gives a league" table of scarcity for all the perfins of each year and value and how many in total were reported for each perfin. An excellent small publication.

* * *

NEWS OF MEMBERS

MARGARET HARDING, one of our most regular attendees at Baden Powell House, won a Bronze Medal in the Federation of South Wales Philatelic Societies Competition with an entry of perfins on Victoria stamps. Congratulations to Margaret on her success and for keeping the perfin flag flying in Wales.

BILL COKAYNE, former director of Slopers, suffered a heart attack earlier in the year. He would like to thank all the members who have enquired after his well being. We wish Bill a speedy recovery.

* * *

LIBRARY CORNER

Maurice Harp

The library has a couple of new acquisitions. The first is a small "Catalogue of Turkey & Foreign Offices There" by Dr. T.A. Llewellyn-Edwards. Turkey has only some thirty perfin types recorded, so for those of you frustrated with the prospect of never getting a complete GB collection this could be for you.

The other acquisition is of more historic importance. When some of the Society Officers first visited the Sloper Works each of them was given a sample proof booklet of Sloper dies. These three booklets date from the turn of the century and display examples of all Slopers work of the period, including perfins.

Although the original booklets will be held in the library and will not be available for general loan, copies of the booklets have been made and are available for loan and research.

* * *

A FUTURE LIBRARY ADDITION Rosemary Smith.

PAUL REDMOND, whose collection has formed much of the auctions over the last couple of years, has made a very generous gift to the Society. This is the correspondence of Charles Bein, Hugh Vallencey, Keith Rymer-Young and Charles Jennings. To anyone interested in perfins, the correspondence makes fascinating reading. Exactly how we shall store, or loan, or display these letters has yet to be decided. No doubt I shall be able to use some of the information contained therein as basis for article material. In the meantime, John Nelson has written the following short history on the origins of this correspondence. On behalf of the Society I would like to express our sincere thanks to Paul Redmond for this valuable source of perfin history.

* * *

CHARLES BEIN, BPA, PTS, JPS, PHS, SPA etc.

Charles Bein began 'collecting things' in about 1920. In 1930, after a 25 year career in the City, on the Stock Exchange and in Banking, he turned professional Auction Commission Agent and Philatelic Broker becoming well known to all London auctioneers and most large stamp dealers.

In 1942, 'just for the fun of it and to have something to do during the long blackout evenings' Bein, who was unmarried, began to collect what he called SPIFS, a name he coined from Stamps Perforated with the initials of firms. Starting with about 30 specimens, he had by 1947 built up a collection of almost 30,000 stamps, exclusively of GB and Ireland, including 5,600 1d red plates of which he collected each plate number of each die. At that time he had found 7,000 different dies of which 740 were on 1d reds.

Charles Bein contributed several articles to philatelic journals, the first of these appearing in *The West End Philatelist* of October 1944. As a consequence of the publicity this gave him, he acquired by gift and purchase many more stamps for his SPIF collection and entered into correspondence with other collectors in Great Britain, the USA and Canada. In October 1946, 'PERFINS', the chronicle of The Perfins Club, welcomed Bein as their first overseas member but, writing to Robson Lowe in 1950, he confided that he had never met anyone else who actually collected SPIFS apart from a man in Scotland who had subsequently given up.

Bein himself, whilst continuing to add occasional items to his collection, lost interest in it from July 1947. Writing to an American friend in 1950 he said that it was 'all right when you have one or two albums into which you can put a few items every now and then, but when you have about twenty albums with many hundreds of pages each, and when perfins keep pouring in by the hundred to be sorted and classified and mounted, it can all get a bit too much of a good thing and what should be a pleasure and pastime becomes a burden'.

Much of Bein's correspondence has survived, including replies to letters which he wrote to various companies asking for information concerning the perfin dies used by them. The practice of writing letters of this kind was pursued with even greater enthusiasm by Keith Rymer-Young who was to acquire the collection after Bein's death.

One of Bein's occasional correspondents was the philatelic literature dealer, writer and publisher F. Hugh Vallencey, who in 1933 had published a booklet entitled "British Stamps Perforated with Firms' Initials". Vallencey was not a perfin collector but sold stamps to Bein for his collection at prices which, in 1945, included 1d reds and KEVIII at 2d each and most other low values at 1d.

In January 1948, Vallencey asked Bein for his co-operation in the production of a proposed reprint of his 1933 booklet. The Second Edition of the booklet, which was published on 1st June 1948, incorporated many of Bein's suggestions, including the use of the name SPIFS, and information derived from his collection. Furthermore, the Foreword to the Second Edition was largely based on the wording of a letter written to Vallencey by Bein on 21st January 1948.

Some evidence as to the value placed by Bein on his collection is to be found in correspondence in April/July 1954 between him and Ron Bowman who was later to become the moving force behind the setting up of the Perfin Study Group in Great Britain. Knowing that Bein might be prepared to sell the collection. Bowman, on behalf of a named collector in the USA, made an offer of £50 for it. This was unacceptable to Bein who said that a dealer had expressed the opinion that it was worth between £350 and £400 and that an offer of that order for the collection, together with a large quantity of unsorted material that went with it, would be considered. The US collector, however, was not prepared to go to so high a figure and there the negotiations ended.

Between October 1954 and October 1955 there was a regular exchange off correspondence between Bein and Charles Jennings who became the first President of the Perfin Study Group. During the course of this, Bein made available to Jennings a considerable amount of information regarding his collection and much of this was incorporated into the book Jennings later produced, particularly in those sections concerned with the 1d reds.

John Nelson - 15th May 1993.

USEFUL DIRECTORIES FOR RESEARCH INTO PERFIN USERS

BRIAN MERRYWEATHER brought to ray notice the following article in the Postmark Society Journal. Being assured the content would be of interest to our members, Brian wrote to Barry R. Reynolds, editor of the Postmark Society, and received permission for me to print the text in our Bulletin. Thanks to Brian and Mr. Reynolds.

PIGOT and Co.'s NATIONAL COMMERCIAL DIRECTORY (Facsimile Editions)

by Michael Minton; for details of prices see text that follows. MJW's address is as follows:

Pigot's early and mid-19th century directories of the counties of England seem to cry out to be reprinted and made more widely available. It is very nice to own an original copy of an early directory, of course, but these have become increasingly expensive over the years. Here you may obtain a clean and handsome reprint at a fraction of the price. I would just have liked a brief one-page introduction to round things off.

Pigot's directories are not as detailed as many of the publications which followed, such as Slater's, Kelly's and the like. You will not find tiny villages listed here in their own right, although they may be referred to in the lists of tradesmen of a larger village. The directories are very effective for tracing the family tradesmen and give some information about post offices: a useful reference for the postal historian.

I am very pleased with my copy of 'Norfolk and Suffolk' at £6-95. Also available are 'Essex, Herts, Middlesex 1839' at £8-70, 'Bedfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Cambridge, Lincolnshire, Northants 1830' at £7-65, and 'The Norwich Directory' at £4-95. All prices are inclusive, and cheques should be made payable to M.J. Winton. The directory for Kent and Surrey is planned for early this year. (Presumably this was 1993 - Ed.)

Michael Winton would like to publish Pigot's Alphabetical Directory of London and its Suburbs 1839, but with 670 pages and a 16-inch square map, the price would be about £16 plus post and packing, therefore requiring about 400 advance orders.

If you are interested in any of the directories, write to Michael at the above address or give him a call on 0553 631786.

KELLY'S LONDON DIRECTORY

Mike Bavin tells me that Kelly's are not continuing the London directories due to the cost soaring to £150 per edition.

* * *

MEMBERS' QUERIES

A GB PERFIN WITH A FRENCH CONNECTION from Mike Bavin.

In a thematic display I saw a perfin new to me, LF (7,10) 5½ or 6mm., on a cover celebrating the Centenary of the Lodge La France 2060, apparently associated with the Ecole Maconnique at Rickmansworth. The stamp is a GB 17p Machin blue-grey, cancelled London 19-11-84. The displayer could add no other information.

* * *

PERFIN WITH A CRETE CONNECTION from Mike Bavin.

During the administration of Crete by France, Great Britain, Italy and Russia, (1899-1908) stamps were issued for use in the British-controlled Province of Candia (now Heraklion). The first stamp, SG1, was handstruck in shades of violet with a face value of 20 parades. It is uncommon, currently valued by S.G. at £350 mint and £25 used. The second part of the Dr. Maurice R. Friend collection, sold by Robson Lowe in Zurich on 23rd November 1982, contained an extraordinary cover. It was franked with no fewer than six of the above-mentioned stamps, each perforated 28 (10,12) and cancelled by the TEMENOS Union Jack in violet. The cover was addressed to Lewis Hall Esq. and had an unidentified Regimental insignia on the flap. The perfin 28 is mentioned nowhere else in the catalogue. Lot no.370, valuation Swiss francs 4500, makes this one of the most valuable perfin covers in existence. The origin of the perfin, and details of other rare covers would be appreciated.

(Ed:- if anyone has any comments for Mike about these two items I will be pleased to pass them along.)

* * *

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND COVERS

BORIS PRITT would like to have more information about the large receiving perforation used by the Royal Bank of Scotland in the latter half of the last century. Bulletin 229 and 241 show illustrations of the cancel but for newer members the cancellation is in the form of two triangles making the shape of a star of David, with a large letter R in the centre: the whole punched through the stamp and the envelope. The design has 80 holes and is 28mm high.

Bulletin 241 shows the date of 9th July 1868;

Bulletin 229 shows the date of 10th August 1876;

and KEVIN PARKHILL has a cover from Germany with a 20pf stamp dated 27th July 1877. All these covers are addressed to The Royal Bank of Scotland, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

If you have one of these covers, could you please send details to myself and I will pass on all information to Boris. He would like to collate as many facts as possible about this little known item.

* * *

J. SLOPER & Co., - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In Bulletin 264/7 I asked if anyone had the RTF or MMF perfin - personal initials of Mr. & Mrs. Firminger who were Governing Directors of Slopers sometime in the 1930's and 1940's. To date I have no confirmation of these dies being in the possession of any of our readers. Please continue to watch for these two dies.

* * *

SLOPERS' ADVERTISING CARDS

I have now seen evidence of two more pieces of Sloper advertising literature. The first was in a copy of Stamp Collecting of 16th November 1978 in an article entitled 'G.B. Heads and Tails' by Jean and Crawford Alexander. This advertising card would seem to be from 1938 and shows 5 example labels, two perfins on dark blue paper and three overprints on pink paper. This was brought to my notice by DERRICK MUGGLETON.

The second photocopy is from PETER WOOD in Australia. He is fortunate enough to have the letter, card and envelope. The date on the envelope is 1-3-39 and the stamp is a 1½d brown KGV I with perfin JS (J6850.01).

This advert card also shows five example labels but only one perforated on black paper and four overprints on red paper. The perforated signature is W.O. Hawkins, as mentioned in Bulletin 264, but in 1939 Mr. Hawkins was signing as 'Secretary' whereas in 1960 he was signing as 'Managing Director'.

The content of the 1939 letter is very different from the 1968 promotional material and so I make no apology for printing the whole of the text.

"Dear Sir,

As we have had so many enquiries with regard to our service from Municipal Authorities during the past year we are once again bringing to your notice our system of supplying postage stamps perforated with initials and receipt stamps overprinted.

The safeguard that the adoption of this idea ensures is universally recognised and we feel that you may perhaps be interested.

We have specialised in this work for over 80 years and serve some thousands of Authorities and Business Firms throughout Great Britain.

The stamps are supplied in exchange for your cheque, our bankers being The Westminster Bank Ltd., Lombard Street, E.C., of whom you may make enquiries if you wish.

National Insurance Stamps are also supplied by us and these can be ordered weekly in whatever quantities you desire.

If you use a roll machine for affixing Receipt, Postage or Insurance stamps we can print or perforate rolls for use on these machines.

Enclosed herewith are a few specimens and should you be interested, please write us for full particulars, or our representative will be pleased to call at your convenience.

Assuring you of best attention at all times.

We are dear Sir, Yours Faithfully,

J.S. Sloper & Co. Ltd.

"

If any member has any other similar letter which shows any change of text, signature, names of directors, dates etc., I would greatly appreciate a photocopy for our files.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

IL/EA PERFIN Bulletin 261/17

Two members have sent copies of the 2d green Machin stamp with IL/EA perfin. Thanks to Maurice Taunton and Terence Barnes.

R.N.L.I or LBI Bulletin 252/4; 253/5

TERENCE BARNES, in with other business to do with the RNLI, asked if they could let him know, "When did the RNLI become Royal?" The written reply was:-

"We are pleased to advise that we became 'Royal' very soon after the foundation of the Institution in 1824. The circumstances surrounding this was when King George IV agreed to become a patron".

Although it answers the question in Bulletin 252, it does not take Dave Hill's theory in Bulletin 253 any further.

PERFINS ON KGV JUBILEE STAMPS Bulletin 262/5

GEORGE GREENHILL'S original list of 245 different dies on the KGV Jubilee stamps has been greatly increased by information sent to him by members. George makes a further request for any more information from anyone else who holds any of these stamps.

BELL PERFIN Bulletin 258/6; 260/7; 261/16

BERT JOHNSON reports that he has a 2d pale rose 1880 issue (SG55) with perfin Des.0010.01. It is quite clearly postmarked with the number 159 which was for CHARD in SOMERSET.

LEEWARD ISLANDS PERFIN Bulletin 263/4

DAVE HILL thinks this perfin sounds rather like a fiscal cancel of a stamp on cover - not a true perfin at all.

* * *

MEMBERS' WANTS

WANTED:- Perfined QV 2½d mauve and 2½d blue SG 139-142 and 157. I am after all plate numbers and I am willing to swap or buy.

* * *

"CURRIE" PERFIN

Bulletin 215/12; 216/4; 217/2; 257/17

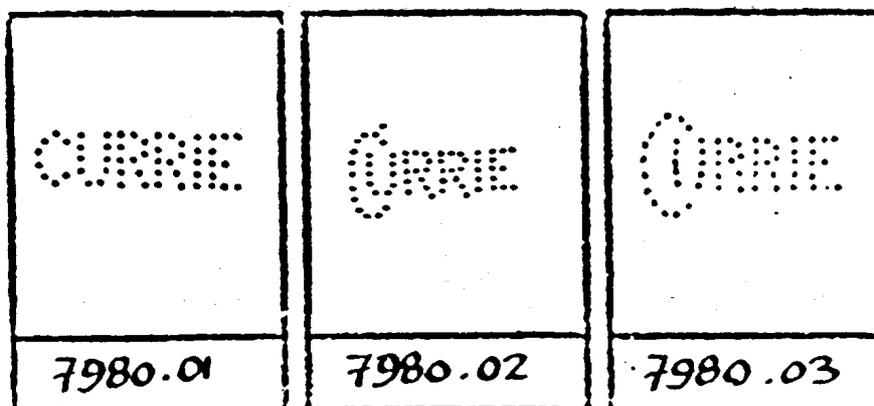
from Rosemary Smith.

In Bulletin 215 Tony Edwards, writing as the editor at that time, gave much information about the three perfin with the full name CURRIE and also posed some questions. Bulletin 216 and 217 gave added information. In April 1992 (Bulletin 257) I myself sent in an identity from a cover I had acquired with perfin C7980.02 with the name and address of James Currie & Co., The Leith, Hull and Hamburg Steam Packet Co., 16 Bernard Street, Leith. C7980.03 had also been reported as identified with this company.

John Coles, in his 1984 Full Name Catalogue, gives the identity for all three dies as D. Currie & Co., London. Tomkins Catalogue in 1985 only lists C7980.02 with an identity - that of D. Currie & Co., London. The present Tomkins Catalogue (IC7 - 1993) lists all three dies as being used by James Currie & Co., Leith and only C7980.02 being used by D. Currie & Co., London E.C.

When I reported to Roy Gault the new identity of C7980.02 (April) I queried the name "D. Currie & Co., London" but no comments have come my way. MARGARET HARDING has now shown me a cover with perfin C7980.03 on a 2½d Jubilee stamp, postmarked London, dated 23-12-92 and identity of DONALD CURRIE & Co., 3 & 4 FENCHURCH ST., LONDON E.C.

Would any members with covers bearing any CURRIE perfin, please check the correct perfin and send me details of the perfin number and the appropriate identity. Also if anyone can link DONALD CURRIE with JAMES CURRIE I will be most grateful.



GB NUMERAL PERFINS BY John Mathews (Australia)

Articles in the Bulletin and elsewhere have highlighted the unanswered question of who used the large numeral perfins created by arranging pins in a "ballot machine".

Recently, I was given a bundle of GB envelopes bearing stamps with perfins. Included in the bundle were several plain envelopes with numeral perfins posted over a short period with Ipswich, Suffolk, postmarks. The following table gives details of the dates of posting and the numeral perfin with catalogue number.

Date	Perfin	Catalogue Number
10 September 1936	8	0600
23 September 1936	9	0460.01
30 September 1936	9	0460.01
8 October 1936	9	0460.01
29 October 1936	10	0070
5 November 1936	10	0070
6 November 1936	10	0070
12 November 1936	10	0070
19 November 1936	()2	0160.02 (or 0097 ?)
21 January 1937	12	0097

All the perfins are sideways on the stamps. The number '2' on the 19 November envelope is adjacent to the edge of the stamp and may in fact be part of a '12' perfin. The 21 January 1937 envelope has an Edward VIII stamp, while all the others have KGV issues of the 1934 series.

The addressee of these envelopes was the proprietor of a motor garage in Sussex, and this material was among an accumulation of various material related to the motor trade. From the frequency of posting, these envelopes are most probably business related rather than private.

Perhaps one of your Ipswich (or other) members might be able to suggest a list of possible users from the motor trade in Ipswich at that time - maybe a wholesale supplier of parts or accessories for example.

With one exception, the dates of posting suggest that the value of the numeral may have been the month in which the batch perforating job was done. Could it be that some smaller firms did not want to incur the expense of having their own die made, and were happy for their stamps to be supplied with some of these 'generic' perfins?

* * *

PERFIN SNIPPETS From Dave Hill.

Members are asked to help establish the identity of the following users listed in Slopers' first ledger. This has few actual illustrations of the perfins, just a manuscript entry showing the arrangement of the letters.

Where the perfin or its arrangement is unusual and the address of the user is known then confirmation that perfins are known with the relevant town postmark will give a provisional identity.

1 The Acton & Wembley Hospital (Committee?) is shown as the user of AW/HC. Only one perfin exists, A5860 and it is in the usual Sloper alphabet. If members can confirm that postmarks from this area appear on this perfin then we can claim a new identity.

2. ACS (diagonal) is shown for the Additional Curates Society. There is only one candidate, A1460, again in the usual Sloper alphabet. My Whittaker says this Society was in Harpenden in 1949 and in Gt. Smith Street, London SW1 in 1914. But where was it in 1939 when we think this ledger was written: and is the perfin known with these postmarks?

3. J. J. Allen of Bournemouth is known as the user of A0010.02 but Ledger 1 shows their original die as JJA and the only candidate is J4 310.01. Is it known with Bournemouth postmarks?

4. Two dies are shown for Alliance Trading Co., the original ATC/Ld A5375 and a provisional (although we do not list it as such) A/TC A5370. There is only one perfin known for each of these arrangements but where were Alliance Trading situated and are the perfins known with these postmarks?

5. AS/&Co A5050 is shown for Allen Solly & Co., manufacturers of fine knitwear in Brookfield, Arnold, Nottingham. Which of the A5050 perfins are known postmarked Nottingham?

6. AD A1610 is shown for Amalgamated Dairies but it is shown vertically. Are any of the A1610 known thus?

7. A1200.01 AC/L is known used by A.C. Cars Ltd. Could A1200.02 be an earlier die? Are copies known postmarked Thames Ditton where this long established car maker still has an office?

(The A C stood for Auto-Carrier, an early light van.)

8. 2 users of the perfin AB/Ld A074 0 are shown. One is Armand Bloch Ltd., provision importers of Tooley St., SE1 and the other is Allen Bros Ltd., sheet metal workers of Southampton. Are either A0740.01 or .02 known with these postmarks?

9. 2 perfins are shown for Associated Biscuit Manufacturers, ABM A0780 as the original die and AB/M A0790 as the new die: neither are known. The association was formed by the amalgamation of the then ailing Quaker firm of Huntley and Palmer, who introduced machinery to biscuit making, with Peek Frean and Jacobs. They used Huntley and Palmer's Reading address. Have members got either of these perfins with Reading postmarks?

Please try to find time to check your stock for any of these clues and send your findings direct to Dave, whose NEW address is on the front of the Bulletin. There will be more of these queries in the next few Bulletins.

* * *

BOARD OF TRADE OFFICIAL PERFIN

In the book 'GB Official Perfins' by T.A. Edwards and B.C. Lucas it states in the chapter on the Board of Trade that the only use for the B.T/Crown perfin, when it was first introduced in 1881, was on foreign mail and for pre-payment of the registration fee, as ordinary mail would not be required to bear postage stamps. However after 1887 an additional use would be for pre-payment of parcels using the Inland Parcel Post Service. Consequently, all used examples should have London postmarks.

PETER WOOD has sent a photocopy of a proving cover with 1d lilac B.T/Crown perfin dated 1892 postmarked single ring "LONDON E". The addressee is E.W.RASHLEIGH ESQRE, KILMARSH, PAR STATION, CORNWALL and the sender is printed as, STOREKEEPER'S DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF TRADE OFFICES, POPLAR. One would assume that this cover was on some type of parcel to be called for at Par Station, so bearing out the facts in the GB Official Perfins book.

A.G.M. LONDON

It is not too early to put the date in your diary. Saturday 20th November 1993: from 1 pm at Baden Powell House, Queen's Gate, London: almost next door to the Natural History Museum.

* * *

THE NEW £10 STAMP

2nd March 1993 saw the issue of a new £10 postage stamp by the Royal Mail. The stamp shows Britannia but has another unusual feature - namely the impressing of Braille dots into the paper. DAVE HILL, with tongue in cheek, asks if anyone will claim to have a 'partial perfin with blind holes' on this new £10 stamp.

* * *

PROVISIONAL IDENTITY OF EARLY PERFIN USERS By Maurice Harp.

Security endorsement of stamps began long before the introduction of perfins by Sloper in 1868. In 1859 the Oxford Union Society was overprinting their stamps given free to members of the society. In 1867 the postal authorities agreed to print the firm's name on the back of stamps before gumming and a number of firms took up this concession. The privilege was withdrawn in 1882. At the same time many companies were simply printing their names over the gum. Thus for some years both official and unofficial underprinting and perfins were being used to protect stamps from theft. Unofficial underprints are now scarce and rarely found in good condition as the security endorsement is often lost as the stamp was removed from the envelope. All this is well documented elsewhere. What might not be so well known is that many of the companies that used official and unofficial overprints and underprints went on to use perfins once they were introduced by Sloper. This would be an obvious natural progression for a company that was interested in protecting their stamps against theft. Indeed some used both perfins and underprints at the same time.

Although many listings have been made over the years the Stanley Gibbons Specialised Catalogue (Vol. I) contains the most comprehensive listing of all known overprints and underprints and the reader should refer to that listing for more information. Comparison of that listing with known perfins used on line engraved stamps yields some new information on users of these early perfins.

The table shown on the next pages give the SG type number of the overprint or underprint, known equivalent perfin and the range of plates known for each. Inspection of this table yields some interesting inferential information. As can be seen in many instances the user of both underprint and the perfin is known and inspection of the plate numbers show clearly the phasing out of one form of security endorsement and the introduction of the other. This is well illustrated with the Debenham, Tewson and Farmer underprint which ceased with plate 136 and their perfin being known from plate 124. Plate 124 is known from March 1869 and plate 136 was introduced in January 1870 so it can be assumed that the change occurred in that period.

In other cases the perfin user has not yet been identified and in some of these a provisional identity could be attributed where there is sufficient corroborating evidence. Thus the first entry in the table is the underprint used by W. J. Barron & Sons which is known on plates 117-156. The equivalent perfin WJB/&S is known on plates 148-208 and is known used in London. This would seem a good match - others though are not so clear as there seems to be a large overlap with the company probably using both underprint and perfins. If we again look at the known users we have examples of companies doing exactly this. The best known is the Great Eastern Railway who had official underprints produced by the government in 1873 onwards but at the same time had perfins from Sloper. This may be explained by different departments of the same company using different forms of security endorsement although all my copies of both perfins and underprints are used in London. Vickers' offices in Sheffield though used underprints whereas their offices in London appeared to use perfins.

From the above I would thus propose that provisional identities could be ascribed to the following as yet unidentified early perfin users.

B2020.03	BD/&Co	Brown, Davies & Co., London
B2030.01	B.D/&Co	Brown, Davies & Co., London
D4790.01	D.T & F	Debenham, Tewson and Farmer
F1300.01	F.E.G	F. E. Gaddon, Manchester
J3530.01	J.H/BS	James Harvey, Bishop Stortford
J7930.01	J/TSS	J. Tylor & Sons, 2 Newgate St., London

S2420.01	S.E/ &/ Co.	Smith Elder & Co., London
S4340.05	S&L	Seth & Lister
W1975.01	W.D/ & Co	William Dawburn, Liverpool
W4540.01	WJB/ & S	W.J.Barron & Sons, London
W7920.03	W.W	William Whiteley, London
W7940.01	W.W.	William Whiteley, London

If anyone can provide information on cancellations on any of these early perfin dies I would be delighted to hear about them -in particular - was J.H/BS used in Bishops Stortford?

TABLE 1

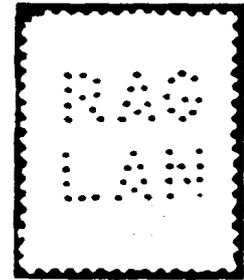
SG/Perfin Cat No.	Description	Plate No.	Identity
1	W.J.Barron & Sons London	117-156	W J Barren & Sons, London
W4540.01	WJB/ & S	148-208	Not known - used in London
6	Brown Davis & Co London	113-195	Brown, Davis & Co., London
B2020.03	BD/ & Co	100-194	Not known - used i n London
B2030.01	B.D/ & Co	109-213	Not known - used in London
19-20	Wm. Dawbarn & Co Liverpool	110-218	William Dawbarn & Co, Liverpool
W1975.01	W.D/ & Co.	124-177	Not known - used ?
21	Debenham, Tewson & Farmer, 80 Cheapside, E.C.	110-136	Debenham, Tewson & Farmer 80 Cheapside, London, EC
D4780.01	DT&F	124-223	Debenham, Tewson & Farmer
D4790.01	D.T&F	111-190	Not known - used in London
?	F.E.Gaddon + embossed F.E.G. in oval (in three lines)	161	F. E. Gaddon, Manchester
F1300.01	F.E.G.	124-221	Not known - used in Manchester
25	G.E.R.	95-189	Great Eastern Railway
G1620.01	G.E.R	121-224	Great Eastern Railway
G4300.01	GR/E	79-179	Great Eastern Railway
28	James Harvey B. Stortford.	113-210	James Harvey, Bishop Stortford
J3530.01	J.H/BS	195-220	Not known - used ?

41	SAMUEL, MONTAGUE & Co.	72-101	Samuel Montague & Co
S4920.01	SM/&Co	78-216	Samuel Montague & Co, London
49	R & S. M	181-182	Ryland and Sons, Manchester
R4870.02	R&S/M	104-223	Rylands and Sons, Manchester
51	J.S.&Co. 68, Up.Th.St.	114-220	James Spicer & Co, 68 Upper Thames St.
J6940.01	J.S&Co.	120-196	Not known - used in Bristol
52	The Property of Schwann Modera & Co., London	138	Schwann Modera & Co, London
S4930.02	S.M/&Co	134-200	Schwann Modera & Co Ltd Manchester
53	SETH & LISTER	120	Seth & Lister
S4340.05	S&L	123-222	Not known - used in London
54	SMITH ELDER & Co, LONDON	84-107	Smith, Elder & Co, 65 Cornhill, London
S2	S.E/&/Co.	217	Not known - used in ?
55	W.H.SMITH AND SON, 186, STRAND.	92-183	W H Smith & Son, 186 Strand London
W3900.01	W.H.S/&S.	134-189	W H Smith & Sons Ltd, 183-187 Strand, London WC
56	JT&S	90	Joseph Travers & Sons
T3790.01	TRAVERS	92-200	Joseph Travers & Sons Ltd, London
T3790.02	TRAVERS	120-215	Joseph Travers & Sons Ltd, London
59	J.TYLOR & SONS 2, NEWGATE ST	119-213	J Tylor & Sons, 2 Newgate St
J7930.01	J/T&S	177-196	Not known - used in ?
60-62	VICKERS SONS & Co. LIMITED, SHEFFIELD	105-198	Vickers Sons & Co Ltd.Sheffield
V1630.01	VS/&Co	74-156	Vickers Sons & Co Ltd,
V1630.03	VS/&Co	78-214	34 Old Broad St, London
65	G.H.W.& CO. ST. PAUL'S	100-177	G Hitchcock Williams & Co
G2400.01	G.H.W	134-201	George Hitchcock Williams Co,
G2410.01	GH/WCo	134-224	St Pauls Churchyard, London
68	WILLIAM WHITELEY LONDON.	205	William Whiteley, London
W7920.03	W.W	138-194	Not known – used London
W7940.01	W.W.	107-181	

POSTMARK CLUES TO PERFIN IDENTITIES

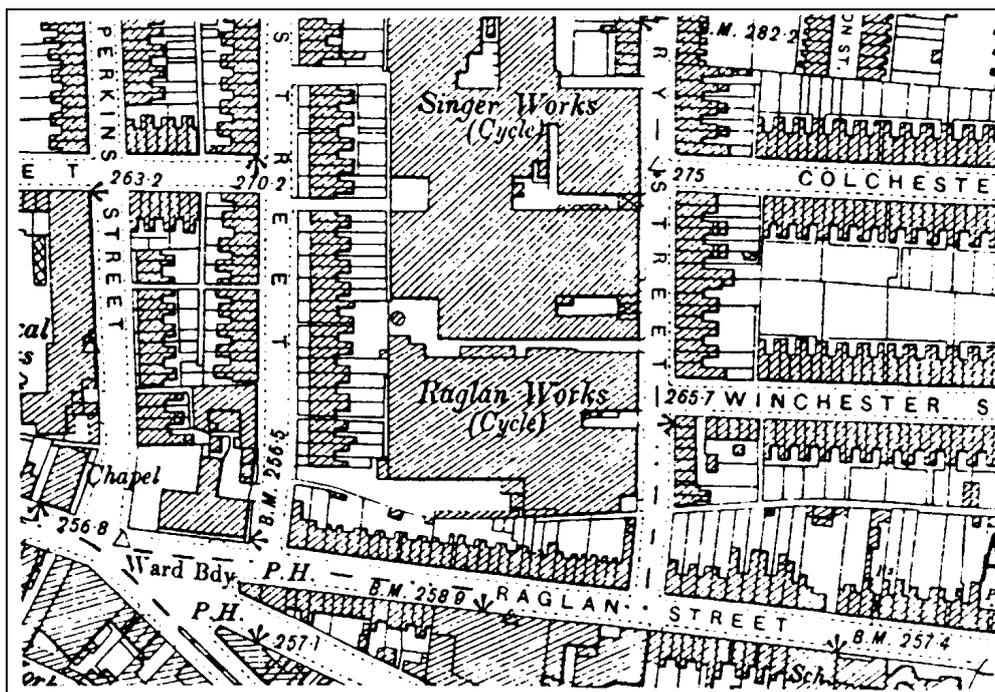
Roy Gault

Recently, while looking closely at examples of the full name perfin RAG/LAN (R0110.01), I noticed that all the visible postmarks were from Coventry. As this is where I was born and misspent much of my childhood I felt a special incentive to try and identify the user. I had just one clear date to go on - 18 March 1904.



R0110.01

A quick search through the Coventry Trade Directories from the turn of the century soon established the existence of 'The Raglan Cycle & Anti-friction Ball Co Ltd'. Their premises were known as the Raglan Works and were situated just off Raglan Street as can be seen from the portion of the O.S. map for Coventry (dated 1905). They were just one of scores of cycle manufacturers at work in the city around this time.



'The Cyclist' magazine for 23rd December 1896 records that 'The Raglan Cycle and Anti-friction Ball Co Ltd' was registered on 4th December 1896 with a share capital of £20,000. The stated aims of the company were to acquire and carry on the business of cycle manufacture formerly carried out by 'Taylor, Cooper & Bednell Ltd', and manufacture balls and other accessories for cycles formerly undertaken by 'The Ant-friction Ball Co.'

The late Victorian and Edwardian eras witnessed a dramatic boom in cycle manufacture, particularly so in Coventry, but by the end of Edward's reign the impact of the motor cycle and motor car had caused a number of the smaller cycle companies to become bankrupt. Sadly, one such casualty was the Raglan Cycle and Anti-friction Ball Company which was formally wound up on 24 September 1909.

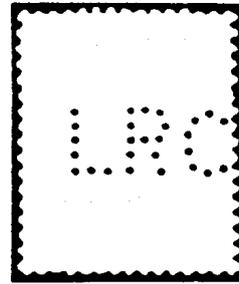
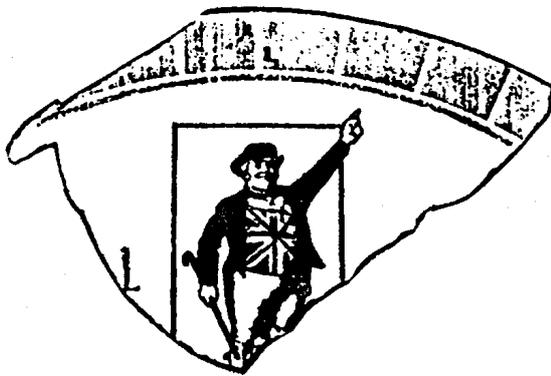
The RAG/LAN perfin is known on QV Jubilees and EVII definitives which ties in perfectly with the 1896-1909 dating of the Raglan Cycle Company. The known postmarks are all Coventry, so I am led to conclude that this was the user. I would be pleased to hear from anyone who can add any additional information regarding issues, dates and postmarks which might help substantiate the suspected identity?

Interestingly, 'Taylor, Cooper & Bednell Ltd' (later to become the Raglan cycle company) used the name RAGLAN to describe their bicycles as this 1892 advertisement bears witness.



I tried hard to find a picture of a typical 'RAGLAN' cycle, but failed. Many of Raglan's competitors embellished their advertisements with cycle illustrations but not so Taylor, Cooper & Bednell, who seemed to put their faith in words alone

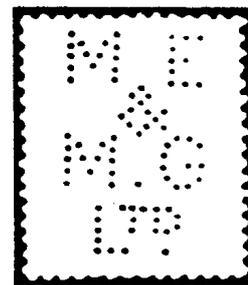
The ink had hardly dried on the preceding two pages when I received in the post the following photocopy from John Mathews in Australia. The stamps which were soaked off the scrap of paper were perfinned LRC (L4740.01) and postmarked Leicester, 16 May 1935. John recognised the figure as 'John Bull' and hoped that this and the postmark evidence would prove enough to identify the user. Although some twenty years too early, I had a look through my 1916 copy of Kelly's Leicestershire Trade Directory (kindly given to me by Dave Hill) for possible LRC users and came up with the following three - The Leicester Rag Company, The Leicester Rowing Club and The Leicester Rubber Co.



I remember as a child having a 'John Bull Printing Outfit' and could also vaguely recollect having repaired punctures in my cycle tyres with a 'John Bull' puncture repair outfit. To my astonishment, a search through the accumulation of years in my garage produced a battered old tin clearly labelled 'JOHN BULL Tyre Repair Kit' complete with the trade mark picture of John Bull identical to the one on John's photocopy. On the edge of the tin was printed 'John Bull Rubber Co Ltd, Leicester'. Clearly the perfin letters did not match this name but they pointed strongly to The Leicester Rubber Company as being the user. A Saturday morning at the Leicestershire Record Office established that The Leicester Rubber Company had indeed become the John Bull Rubber Company sometime before 1936, so John's dated piece must be from the changeover period. The earliest reference I can find to The Leicester Rubber Company is in 1906 when they were described as wholesale rubber factors just off Granby Street, Leicester. They moved away from the city centre to Evington Valley Road before becoming the John Bull Rubber Company Ltd circa 1935 and were still operating as such in 1973.

While investigating the Leicester Rubber Company perfin, I took the opportunity to search for the possible user of the four line perfin ME/&M.G/L^{td}. (M2360.01).

My only copy is on a KEVII ½d postmarked Leicester, 20 July 1904, but with so many letters involved in the perfin I felt confident I could find a match. Sure enough there was just one company with those particular letters, Moore, Eady & Murcott-Goode Ltd. Even the stop between the M and G is accounted for!

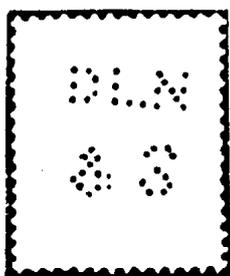


The hosiery manufacturers Moore, Eady & Co were well established at 89 Granby St, Leicester before the turn of the century, but sometime between 1901 and 1903 they were joined by Murcott-Goode to become Moore, Eady & Murcott-Goode Ltd. Although Leicester appeared to be their 'head office', they also had workshops in Broughton Astley, Burbage, Countesthorpe, Derby, Hinckley, Leamington, Market Harborough, Mountsorrel, and Thurmaston, although not necessarily all at the same time. They were still trading in 1957, but seem to have disappeared by 1960. I would be pleased to hear from anyone who has copies of this perfin so that an accurate period of use for the die can be established by recording the issues and values involved, and also to discover if any of the other workshops used the perfin or whether it's use was confined to the 'head office'.

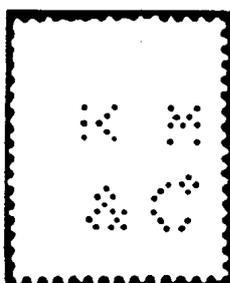
MORE DIES USING THE BUTTERFLY ALPHABET.

Roy Gault

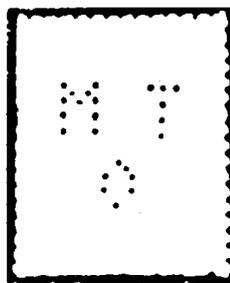
Since the article on this alphabet was published in the June Bulletin (No.264) I have found the following additional dies



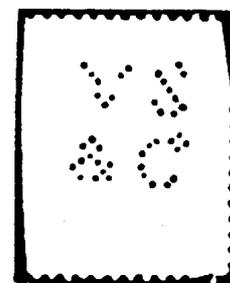
D2880.01



K1360.01



M5660.02



V1630.02

NEW IDENTITIES submitted to the CATALOGUE EDITOR

Roy Gault

From John Donner

A0010.08	A	10	5	W H Allen, Sons & Co Ltd, Bedford. Cover dated 30/4/40.	Q
B5620.03	B.P.	13,10	5½	Borough Engineer's Dept, Town Hall, Portsmouth. PC dated 20/3/1925.	I
<u>B5834.01</u>	BP/&M	9,6/7,11	5½ III	Birmingham Post, Birmingham Mail, Birmingham Weekly Post. Note: many missing pins like B5820.03. Receipt dated 12/12/1935.	H
B7175.01	BT/H	13,7/11	5½	Parish of Borough of Hartlepool, (Rates). Receipt dated 28/6/29.	I
C5030.01a	C/MP	7/11,8	4½	Condensed Milk Pool Ltd, Prince's Sq, Buchanan St, Glasgow Cl. Receipt dated 1/10/1945.	K
C6800.01	C&S	8,13,11	5½ III	Correction - Should read Churchill & SIM. London Pmk.	B
C7080.01	C&/SL	8,14/10,7	5 III	Catsbys Ltd, Patentees and Mfrs of Linola and Catsbys' Cork Lino, 64-67 Tottenham Court Rd, (also Goodge St & Whitfield St), London W. Receipt dated 16/5/12.	H
D2120.01	D.G.H	11,10,11	5½	Dymock, Howden & Co, 135 George St, Edinburgh. (Est 1830). Receipt dated 24/11/1910.	F
F1900.01	FH/&V	7,10/12,7	4½ Ia	Already identified with Fleuret. Haxell & Vine but the envelope is embossed F.H.M & B, 22 Bloomsbury Sq, London. Probably relates to Fleuret, Haxell, Marks & Barley, successors? Dated 16/12/1932.	I
G4070.01	G&P/Ltd	10,12,9/7,5,7	4½ IIIa	Confirm - Gale & Polden Ltd, Wellington Works, Aldershot. Printers, Publishers & Stationers to the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force. Also at London, Portsmouth and Chatham. Entire dated 5/9/1929.	L

John Donner continued

J4930.10	JL/&C°	7,7/14,8,4	4½ III	John Loveys & Co Ltd, 64, 65. 67a, 68a & 69 Cow Cross St. London EC. Receipt dated 13/12/1898.	B
J7730.01	JT/&G	8,9/12,9	5 IIIa	James Townsend & Sons, Engravers & Lithographers, Little Queen St & Gandy St, Exeter. Also at London. Receipt dated 15/12/1910.	F
J7920.04	J.T/&S	7,7/13,11	5½ III	John Taylor & Son (Edin ^r) Ltd, Cabinet Makers & Upholsterers, 110 Princess St, Edinburgh. Receipt dated 7/3/1900.	B
L4890.01	L&S	7,12,10	4½ IIIa	Lilley & Skinner Ltd, Boot & Shoe Mfrs, Paddington Green, London W. Receipt dated 13/10/1898.	B
<u>M4725.03</u>	M.R/&Co.	13,13/12,8,6	5/4½ IIIa	May, Roberts & Co, 9 & 11 Clerkenwell Rd, London EC. Receipt dated 1/11/1898.	B
P0010.17	P	10	9	Oliver Pragnell & Co Ltd, Broadmead, Bristol.	I
P0470.01	P&B	11,14,15	4½ III	Perkins & Bellamy, Agricultural Engineers, Broad St Iron Works. Receipt dated 28/2/1891.	B
S7230.01a	S/T/C	9/6/7	4½	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd, Connaught House, Aldwych, London WC2. Cover dated 1/5/40.	Q
U0865.01	U.G./B.M.	10,10/13,15	6	The United Glass Bottle Mfrs Ltd. 40-43 Norfolk St, Strand, WC2. Receipt dated 30/5/1920.	I
W0010.15	W	20	15	S J Wright, Upper Culm Valley Creameries, Taunton. (Est 1850). Receipt dated 11/7/1901.	B
W0510.01	W/BC	12/11,7	4½	3. Metropolitan Borough of Woolwich, Rating Dept, Town Hall, Woolwich, London SE18. PC dated 28/1/1932.	I
W3090.04	WG/&C°	16,10/14,8,4	5 III	The Western Gazette & Co Ltd, Sherborne Rd, Yeovil. Receipt dated 5/11/1912.	I

Proprietors of The Western Gazette, Pulman's Weekly News, Taunton Courier, and the Somerset County Herald.

John Donner continued

W8040.01 W.W/&Co. 15,15/13,8,6 5½ III Woods, Webb & Co Ltd, 20 Temple Ln, 7-9 Crow St, 18 Cecelia St, Dublin. Receipt dated 13/2/94. B

From Rosemary Smith

A4550.03 A.P/C.M 10,10/8,15 5½ The Cement Marketing Co Ltd, 8 Lloyds Ave, London EC3. Trade card postmarked London 24/1/22. I

Note: A4470.02 A.P may now be deleted - partial of above perfin.

H4490.01 H/Ld 12/7,7 5 3. Harrisons (London) Ltd, Mark Lane, London EC. I

H4500.01a H/Ld. 12/8,7 5½ Ø Harrison & Co Ltd, Bradford. E-F

From Stephen Steere

C4210.01bM CL 7,6 4½ Cargills Ltd. Identity from Sloper ledger [S12xl], R

C5220.02aM C/N 7/11 4½ Conde Nast Publications Ltd. Ident from Sloper ledger [S12xl]. R

C7950.01cM CU/DC 7,8/9,7 4½ Carshalton UDC, Cheshunt UDC, Cowes UDC, Crayford UDC and Cuckfield UDC. Identities from Sloper ledger [S12xl]. R

From Dave Hill

J0310.02 JWB(Diag) 7,14,14 5½ Ø J W Baird & Co, Timber Importers, West Hartlepool. Postmark evidence. F-Q

S0490.01 SB/Crown 11,14/37 5/9 Ø Stringer Bros, Iron & Steel Stockholders, West Bromwich. Postmark evidence. B

From John Mathews

L4740.01 LRC 7,12,8 5½ The Leicester Rubber Co Ltd, India rubber mfrs, Leicester.

Note: Identified from 'John Bull' trade mark on piece dated 16 May 1935. I&M

S8360.01m S on X 33 11 Ø Andrew & James Stewart Ltd, Clyde Tube Works, Glasgow and Coatbridge.

Note: Identity suspected from the company trade mark - see Bulletin No.263.

Merged with Lloyd & Lloyd of Birmingham in 1903 to form Stewarts & Lloyds.

From Roy Gault

M2360.01 ME/S/M.G/L^{td}

15,10/13/15/12/7,5,7 4½ III

Ø Moore, Eady & Murcott-Goode Ltd, Hosiery manufacturers, 89 Granby St. Leicester.

Note: Identity suspected from stamp postmarked Leicester, 29 July 1904. F

R0110.01 RAG/LAN 10,8,9/6,8,10 4

Ø The Raglan Cycle and Anti-friction Ball Co Ltd, Raglan Works, Raglan St, Coventry.

Note: Identity suspected from stamps postmarked Coventry. E&F

C7980.03 CURRIE 13,11,11,11,5,10 9, 4½

2. Donald Currie & Co, 3 & 4 Fenchurch St, London EC. Letter received Port Elizabeth, Cape Colony, 28 Dec 1892. E

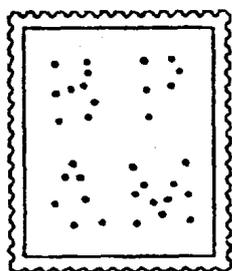
C5550.01a COL 7,8,6

4½ Columbia Ribbon & Carbon Manufacturing Co Ltd. R Identity from Sloper ledger [S1].

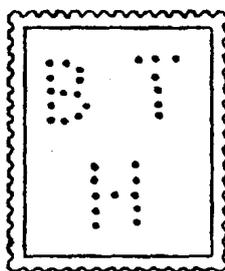
Correction to Bulletin No.264

C4846.01 C.&M. 9,14,15

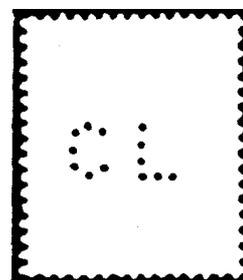
5½ III Should read Clarke & M^cMullen.



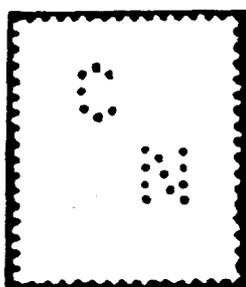
B5834.01



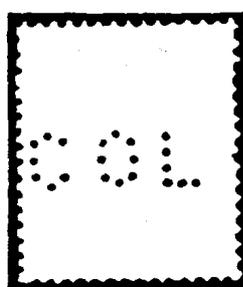
B7175.01



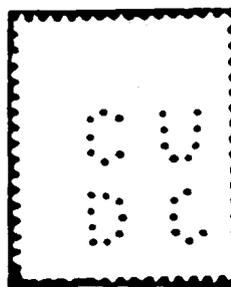
C4210.01bM



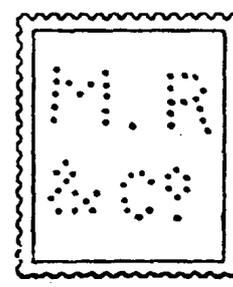
C5220.02aM



C5550.01a



C7950.01cM



M4725.03