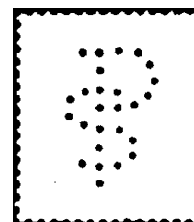


**THE PERFIN SOCIETY
BULLETIN**
Copyright The Perfin Society



THE SOCIETY'S OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Chris Carr
SECRETARY/ TREASURER PACKET SUPT. AUCTIONEER	Dave Hill John Donner
BULLETIN EDITOR	Rosemary Smith
CATALOGUE EDITOR	Roy Gault
LIBRARIAN	Alastair Walter
PUBLICATIONS	Jeff Turnbull

BULLETIN No:- 320 Subscription £5 (UK); £7 (abroad/surface); £10 (abroad-air)

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Editor's Comments: Soc. Info.: Secretary's Notes: London Meeting	2 – 5
British Gas Perfin on Registered Postal Stationery (Dave Hill)	5
Feedback on the "Miss Kendall" Covers (Roy Gault)	6 - 7
A Perfin Glossary (Dave Hill)	8 - 12
Another Query Answered – Another Query Set	13
Thomas Cook's Underground Mail (Rosemary Smith)	14 – 17
Some Added Interest in the PAC (Rosemary Smith)	18 – 19
<u>Members' Comments on Previous Articles:-</u> Perfin With a Crete	19 - 21
Connection: Liverpool Cotton Stamps etc.	
Another "Seen in Auction" Rarity	22
Locations of Early Sloper Premises (John Mathews)	22 – 23
Seen in Auction:- Bavarian Perfin: Postmark Proof of Perfin User	24
New Identities Pages 205 to 208	4 Pages
One Double sided Railway Worksheets Pages 16-17	2 Pages
Auction No. 5 (2002) 12 Pages + Bid Form	

EDITOR'S COMMENTS Rosemary Smith

In July 2001, Floyd A Walker, in the American Perfins Club Bulletin, put out a 4 page alphabetical glossary of 'perfin speak'. In this Bulletin Dave Hill has made an attempt to answer some of the more puzzling terms, which need explaining to some of our new members.

Over the last few years I have had to explain these meanings to quite a number of my new correspondents - or even over the phone. I hope members will remember this article if they should come across an unfamiliar 'perfin term' in the future.

In the secretary's notes he mentions that the rates for subs on the front cover are wrong. This is not strictly true. As the postage rate for Europe is 'All Up' (in other words - airmail) I have joined this to 'surface anywhere abroad'. The 'abroad/air' is anywhere outside Europe. I had assumed that all Europeans knew we were 'All-Up' but I will alter the front of the Bulletin to make it more explicit.

More material is required for the Bulletin. I am making an appeal to all members to write a short (or long!) piece about something in their collection, which has significance for them. These snippets of information are interesting - you have only to attend one of the London meetings to witness this. A member will bring along an item and explain perhaps how they acquired it or what they have found out about it or even ask what it is. It is passed from hand to hand with enthusiasm.

Not many members buy the KGV Silver Jubilee booklet or the Foreign Bills Revenue Book but until I have more articles to fill the Bulletin I shall continue to publish new dies for these publications.

SOCIETY INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES to SEPT' 2002 Total Members 355

New Members

MR E J PULLEN

MR B J AUSTIN

WILFORD OLIVER

WAYNE E HOLLAND

GIANNI SIRONI

BILL MCNIFF

Change of Address

GAILLE ELLIS

REG DURBRIDGE

STAN HERINGTON

ROB CLARK

Resigned

SUSAN MUSTATIA

Died

KEN GIBSON PATRICK FETTA

SECRETARY'S NOTES Dave Hill

If you have paid your sub or have credit, your membership card should be with this Bulletin. If it is not, the chances are you haven't paid and you owe your sub, rates as front cover of the Bulletin. ONE cheque will do for both auction and subs.

Thanks as usual to member **JOHN LUFT** who puts all the Bulletins in envelopes, stamps and affixes the labels and has done this for many years. He provides me with a breakdown of each stamp order, which makes interesting reading, especially since the latest price increase in overseas post. For each Bulletin and Auction list etc (i.e. 6 times per year)

240 home members total	£80
8 officers etc	£5
50 Europe members	£40
55 rest of the world members	£66

Just so you know where some of the money goes. I actually get an 8% discount on the stamps.

Also on the subject of money, from time to time I accumulate dollar bills from overseas members and am willing to sell to members (of good standing with the Society!!) at the current exchange rate less postage. Contact me, Dave Hill, if interested and I will try to help. I ought to look into the same idea with Euros!

I have just noticed the Bulletin cover information re subs is wrong. Subs are: £5 UK; £7 Europe airmail, rest of world surface; £10 airmail rest of the world. I will credit any over payment.

I was contacted by Dan Cosma of Romania. He may have perfins for sale, but he is not known to me so be careful about sending money.

AUTUMN MEETTNG IN LONDON

Saturday November 2nd at Duchess House, 18-19 Warren Street, London W1 from 1:00pm onwards. Warren Street Tube Station is just round the corner. There was a good map in the October Bulletin last year showing the location of Duchess Street for anyone who has not been before.

This is a good way to keep in touch with old friends, meet new ones and exchange/sell or buy perfins and covers. Many members bring along something of interest from their collection: why don't you do the same?

* * * * *

BRITISH GAS PERFIN ON REGISTERED POSTAL STATIONERY

Dave Hill

Perfined postal stationery is not uncommon: the Army & Navy come to mind, but I presume they did this themselves, using their own machine in their own office. I recently bought a registered envelope (or at least the flap). It was perfined "BG/C" (B2970.03) through the 53½p duty stamp but not the added 7p and 8½p stamps. It is postmarked Southampton 24 May 1978, correct for the user, British Gas (Southern).

This die is the Sloper single head one I usually associate with large format stamps (high value and commemorative) but not with postal stationery etc. I find it strange to think of Sloper's buying and perforating registered envelopes. Can anyone think what the envelopes were used for?

The article 'Putting Flesh on the Bones!' in Bulletin N°.319, using information from the 1881 census of Great Britain, has brought in three responses. Firstly, Ken Dee points out that *Waltham Cross* is in *Hertfordshire* not Essex as recorded in the census. However, the other two responses, from David Scott and Stephen Steere, both relate to the mysterious Miss Kendall.

David reports a cover 'in the same hand' as all the others, addressed to *Mrs WA Smith* at 388 Brixton Road and posted in London EC on 11th December 1879. Stephen reports a similar cover, again 'in the same hand' and addressed to *Mrs W A Smith*, but c/o Mr Read, The Rockery, Painswick, near Stroud, and postmarked London SW, 27th July 1880. Both covers used stamps perforated with "L&S/66".

[Mr Read was manager of a Hardware Factory - info 1881 census.]

The existence of these two covers means that *Annie Kendall* was the addressee and not Carrie as I had suggested. At the risk of becoming a 'family history' bore, I have reproduced the census entry below.

Dwelling: 398 Brixton Rd. (Lies between entries for 386 & 390!).

Census Place: Lambeth, Surrey, England.

William A SMITH	Married	31 Male	Lambeth, Surrey, England.
Rel: Head		Occupation: Clerk Colonial.	
Annie SMITH	Married	32 Female	Southwark, Surrey, England.
Rel: Wife			
Walter K. SMITH		4 Male	Lambeth, Surrey, England.
Rel: Son			
Arthur C. Smith	Widower	1 Male	Lambeth, Surrey, England
Rel: Son			
Elisha KENDALL	Widower	84 Male	Middlesex, England.
Rel: Father-in-law		Occupation	Retired Lighterman.
Carrie KENDALL	Unmarried	27 Female	Lambeth, Surrey, England.
Rel: Sister-in-law			
Annie M. Wheeler	Unmarried	30 Female	Woburn, Bucks, England.
Rel: Servant		Occupation	General Servant.

* * * * *

As can be seen from the census, Annie was living with her husband William A Smith, a *Colonial Clerk*, along with their two sons Walter (aged 4), and Arthur (aged 1). I think this is good evidence for the writer of the letters being William Smith, a clerk employed in the offices of Luchtenberg & Smidts, Merchants, London EC. This would give him ready access to the company's postage stamps.

Around 20 covers are known with stamps initialled with either "L&S/52" or "L&S/66". David asks if the postmarks are significant. To help answer that question perhaps the owners of the covers (and indeed, any unrecorded ones!) can help fill in the following table.

	Addressee	Address	Postmark	Date		Perfin	Plate No.
1				11-Nov	1872	L&S/52	
2	Miss Kendall	388 Brixton Rd	London SE.	27-Dec	1872	L&S/52	150
3	Miss Kendall	388 Brixton Rd	London EC.	18-Aug	1873	L&S/52	149
4				11-Dec	1873	L&S/52	
5				19-Dec	1873	L&S/52	
6				02-Feb	1874	L&S/52	
7				14-Apr	1874	L&S/52	
8				04-May	1874	L&S/52	
9				21-Jul	1874	L&S/52	
10				14-Nov	1874	L&S/52	
11				08-Mar	1875	L&S/52	
12				17-Mar	1875	L&S/52	
13	Miss Kendall	388 Brixton Rd	London SE.	03-May	1875	L&S/52	177
14	Miss Kendall	388 Brixton Rd	London EC.	06-May	1875	L&S/52	177
15				31-May	1875	L&S/52	
16	Miss Kendall	388 Brixton Rd	London EC.	11-Nov	1875	L&S/66	198
17	Miss Kendall	388 Brixton Rd	London EC.	26-Jan	1876	L&S/66	174
18				09-Dec	1879	L&S/66	
19	Mrs W A Smith	388 Brixton Rd	London EC.	11-Dec	1879	L&S/66	205
20	Mrs W A Smith	Painswick	London SW.	27-Jul	1880	L&S/66	SG166

The birth of Walter c1877 points to a marriage between William Smith and Annie Kendall c1876. This is also when there was a lull in the letter writing. After all, under normal circumstances, there would be no reason to write when they were husband and wife. The last letter, posted in London SW, would have been sent by William 'from home' to his wife, perhaps convalescing with friends or relations in Gloucestershire. Let's hope there was a happy ending!

A PERFIN GLOSSARY

Dave Hill

This is not going to be exhaustive (and boring [I hope!]): just some terms that might confuse new members. Many of these discoveries were only made in the last 10 years so should be familiar to most members but for the newer members

What Is A Perfin?

In 1868 the British Post Office agreed not to exchange for cash at Post Office counters stamps that had been perforated with initials, names or trade marks, coats of arms and other devices. Foreign Post Offices followed suit. This was to prevent the theft of stamps by clerks and post boys. Stamps or postal stationery so perforated is a perfin and those on GB postage stamps are catalogued by the GB Perfin Society.

Fiscal and revenue stamps were often CANCELLED on the document by a perforator that may have included initials and dates: these are not perfins but cancellations. That is not to say you shouldn't collect them. Between about 1950 and 1960 the envelopes containing films sent to some processors were perforated to identify them. Sometimes these perforated numbers and letters fell on the stamp: these are not perfins: once seen they are easily identified.

A mint perfin stamp is postally valid and has NOT been cancelled by the perfin.

Sloper - Perfin Machines - Competitors

In 1858 Joseph Sloper of London patented his invention of perforating bills or cheques with the words "CANCELLED" or "PAID" to prevent them being presented for payment a second time. Sometimes initials and dates were added.

In 1868 he got permission to perforate initials on stamps to prevent them being stolen by clerks or post boys (see "What Is A Perfin") Joseph died in 1890, his sons carried on the business and it continued as a private company until 1991 when it was sold to Checkpoint Sloper who continued to perfin stamps until recently. We are trying to discover who produces the few perfins that are still in use. Most firms now use franking machines.

Sloper would either perfin stamps for you or sell you a machine so you could do it yourself. For big users Sloper would use a **MULTI DIE** often 12 dies wide (10 after decimalization in 1971). Sloper used motorised machines. Sloper would also supply you with a hand operated multidie machine for your own use, the biggest was probably 2x3 dies. Because of the way they were made there may be minor differences in multidies. Although some early perfin collectors saw Slopers Works and records before and during World War II, we were denied access until 1991 when we were given some old records and machines.

In the late 1800's Sloper became a sub postmaster so he could get a discount on the stamps he perfinned. Other sub postmasters also perfinned stamps. The discount ended in the early 1900's so most sub postmasters gave up perfins although the last, Sydney Allchin, near neighbours of Slopers in Hampstead, continued until bought out by Slopers in the 1930's. Waterlow Brothers, stamp and bank note printers appear to have perfinned

stamps from about 1900. Gradually it seems that the work was handed to Slopers again in the 1930's although it may have still gone through Waterlows. Another firm who supplied perfin machines was Baddely Bros, but we do not believe they made the machines themselves.

From about 1930 Sloper standardised on a distinctive alphabet of small letters. Larger examples are often seen on other Sloper products such as title pages of library books i.e. "PROPERTY OF SO & SO LIBRARY".

"SPG"/Waterlow Type Dies

When Roy Gault, our Catalogue Editor, was working on the "S" pages of the New Illustrated Catalogue (the "Gault Catalogue") he noted that there were many dies for the perfin "SPG" used by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (in Foreign Parts). Early dies (c1900) used large letters, later, medium sized and finally (c1910-1930), small letters. All the letters were crudely formed and distinctive and sometimes appeared in different combinations of letter size. The same letters appeared in perfins of other users.

Roy came to the conclusion that these perfins were produced by clamping individual letter dies together rather like type in printing. For a subsequent order of perfins this might be done using letters in a different combination. It was subsequently discovered that Waterlow Brothers offered such a service for perfins of up to 3 letters (or 2 letters and an ampersand). Such dies are noted in the Gault Catalogue and given the suffix 'v' to show that the letter arrangement and spacing varies.

Also see "provisional" but there is a small class of 'variable' perfins obviously Slopers later alphabet but produced well after W.W.II. Why and how these were produced we do not know.

Partials, Inverted Dies etc

Sloper was usually careful about the perfins he produced but the users of private machines were not so careful. The work of perfuming for the latter was given to some office boy who might fold a sheet of stamps to speed the work, so producing inverted or reversed perfins on some stamps. He might have produced perfins with impressions overlapping 2 stamps, double strikes or partials. These are of no significance whatsoever as regards price and dealers should be made aware of this. Incomplete impressions, double strikes and partials are defective perfins just like a torn stamp. Inverted or reversed complete perfins are perfectly collectable at a normal price.

Note:- on the whole, perfins were used on commercial mail and will have "commercial" (often heavy) cancellations. You may look a long time for "fine used"!

The following 2 items are taken from Roy Gault's introduction to the Tomkins Catalogue.

Provisionals

Sloper's offices were damaged by enemy action in 1941 and many of their dies must have been destroyed. Sloper continued to perfin stamps using emergency arrangements, which involved perforating single letters or groups of letters in separate operations. This resulted in perfins with similar lettering but not spaced at a constant distance apart. Each variation is not listed individually but grouped together under a single catalogue number suffixed by the letter "p" to indicate it is a Wartime "Provisional". On occasions letters of different heights were used on the same stamp.

Coils

Before the invention of franking machines there were a number of machines which affixed stamps mechanically. These used coils (rolls) of stamps. Both horizontal and vertical delivery types were used. The "POKO" and "Michelius" machines were capable of perforating initials as well as affixing. A POKO perfin is quite distinctive with its seriffed alphabet. "FIXO" and "Multipost" machines were small and could not perfin initials but may have used pre-perfined coils. From watermark or arrangement of perfin it is apparent many perfins were supplied in coils and not necessarily used in affixing machines. It may be that perfins in coils were more convenient or secure.

Different Dies

Remember the Tomkins catalogue only lists the perfins whose users we know or suspect. This is about 1/3rd of known GB perfins. If you have a perfin, which is not listed in Tomkins it is probably in the New Illustrated Catalogue, which illustrates all known perfins. However, new dies (as opposed to new identities) are still being found.

The rules are, for a die to be different it must be ½mm different in dimensions (measuring from the centre of the top hole to the centre of the bottom hole) or have a different pin count (not counting obvious missing pins).

Comments would be welcome. I am trying to keep it simple but it is difficult to explain some of the terms in few words. Please write to ask for an explanation of any other "perfin terms" which are puzzling to you. Many other members could be having the same difficulty.

ANOTHER QUERY ANSWERED Rosemary Smith

(See Bulletin 317/12)

A further cover came my way with perfin J3190.01 (J.G.N) with the name "Jancourt" across the corner of the envelope in the same type of script as "Glencourt" on the illustration in Bulletin 317. I wondered if the two names were linked as the script, window envelopes and decade were the same but the post towns were different.

Once again I asked John Nelson and sure enough, he found an answer. The user was **J G Needham Limited, Coat Manufacturers, 57-67 Great Ancoats Street, Manchester 4** where their Telegraphic address was **JANCOURT**. The only link seems to be textiles.

A second cover has beaten John this time and we are seeking your help. The perfin die is "U.A./R." (a new die which Roy has numbered U0125.01) The stamp is a 2½d QV Jubilee dated 17-8-87 from Newcastle on Tyne. The legend on the back says "**South Pontop Colliery Offices, Newcastle on Tyne**".

I had a guess that it might have something to do with United Alkali as U0110.01 (U.A./C⁰.) is known as the perfin of The United Alkali Co. Ltd, Newcastle on Tyne but John could find no such connection. U0110.01 was in use from 1890-1920 but John says that in the Stock Exchange Year Book, United Alkali were not registered until 1st Nov 1890 which is some three years after this cover.

We are hoping that one of our members in that area may be able to come up with an answer.

THOMAS COOK'S UNDERGROUND MAIL

Rosemary Smith

Just two days after I had typed up my "Editor's Comments" I received a letter from Stephen Steere. This was exactly the kind of letter I meant in my comment about all members have something of interest in their collection.

Stephen had bought a cover in a club auction for 'peanuts'. I quote from his letter:- "*. . . there was a very tatty and discoloured cover with both a foreign stamp and a KG VI 2½d used upon it. A piece of paper was stuck on the front with a typed address and it had an examiners (censor) label. I thought it was a typical re-used envelope that is common to find used during the last war. The perfin was "TC/S" with the identity of Thomas Cook handstamped on the label*"

As no one bid and it had a perfin on it, Stephen reluctantly bought it! "*When I got home I looked at my 'gem' then realised it had been posted in the Netherlands on 15 December 1940 so how could it have got to England? The back of the cover had a whole line of German handstamps so it came out of the occupied area. I carefully peeled back the label and saw that it had been sent to a post box in Lisbon, Portugal, the addressee name being the same as on the stuck on label. The Thomas Cook handstamp is dated the 15th March 1941 and the postmark is London on 17 March 1941.*

I can only assume that the correspondence was deliberately sent to Portugal for onward transmission to England, I assume by hand and then reposted on arrival. A quite ingenious way of sending a letter, just a shame the content is missing, but just what was so important, and were such arrangements made before war started? I suppose we will never know the answer, but the cover now has a good reason to be tatty. "

I could not believe my eyes when I saw the two photocopies of the front and back of this "tatty" cover, which Stephen had enclosed with his letter. It was obvious that Stephen had never heard of Thomas Cook's Underground Mail through **P.O.Box 506**. I could hardly wait to eat my evening meal before I rang Stephen.

The first thing I asked was his buying price: I then asked him to tell me the post box number underneath the label. When he looked and said "P.O. Box 506" I definitely knew what this cover represented. When I told Stephen how much these covers are worth he could hardly believe me.

Many years ago, at Sheffield Philatelic Society, we had a speaker who gave a display of this underground mail. I had never seen any before and I have never seen any since. In 1984, as background to writing up my Thomas Cook covers, I called in at the Sheffield branch of Thomas Cook and asked if they had a history of the company. A very helpful young man took my name and address and said he would have one sent on. A brochure with the history duly arrived but they also sent me the current copy of their internal news magazine. Once again, it almost beggars belief, but there was an article in it entitled **The Thomas Cook Cover Story with sub heading Secret mailboxes, sub post offices, perforated stamps are all part of the Thomas Cook undercover mail story**. Even more strange was the fact that the contents in the article and the illustrations of covers and perfins came from Boris Pritt, one of our older members, now sadly deceased, whose presence at the London meetings will be remembered by many. The relevant part of the article for our purposes is:-

".. . . in World War 1, Thomas Cook were asked by the Government to act as intermediaries in the mailing of private letters to people in enemy territory. This service began in 1917 and people wishing to correspond

with people behind enemy lines were asked to send their letters to Thomas Cook, who sent them to Thomas Cook office in Geneva which then sent them on into enemy territory.

A similar, but unofficial arrangement, also seems to have operated during the Spanish Civil War, when letters from the opposing Republican and Nationalist sides were sent to Gibraltar which then posted them on to the addressee.

In 1939, Thomas Cook were once again asked to take on the mail behind enemy lines service; this time they did so through a post box, first in Amsterdam then in Lisbon. P.O. Box 506 thus became the loophole through which people on both sides of enemy lines could communicate with each other. Between 1940-1945, there were 21 European countries in German hands that could be communicated with by means of the Thomas Cook P.O. Box. The letters were, of course, censored and the information contained was necessarily trivial, but the fate of some of the recipients can be guessed at by letters returned unopened to P.O. Box 506, as in the case of a German, who the sender from Britain discovered later had been sent to Auschwitz.

The service provided by P.O. Box 506 continued for a while after the war, providing during the period of rebuilding of public services, the same means of contact and the messages of hope that it had kept going through the darker days of the war."

So look more carefully at your Thomas Cook covers. You too may find a nice surprise.

Mr. E. V. Putland

11 NOV 1941



ROW
DIG

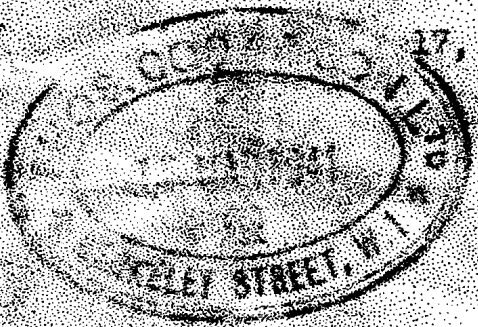


Mr. E. V. Putland,

17, Stanley Gardens,

1st Floor Flat,

W.11



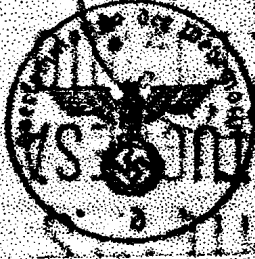
327

*J. Ruchtenberg
Kerkwinklaan 20
Santpoort, Wijk
Holland.*

OPENED BY



Geöffnet



Geöffnet



SOME ADDED INTEREST IN THE PAC

Rosemary Smith

Since producing the August Bulletin I have tried very hard to put all my "P" covers onto sheets and write up where I can. I have mentioned on other occasions that I always save any newspaper or magazine articles which have any bearing on users of perfins. The "PAC" perfins are a nightmare to sort and I left the "PAC" covers until I had everything else on sheets.

Amongst the covers and perfins was an article from a 1996 Daily Mail. It makes interesting reading and lightens the boredom of the "PAC" perfin. In the Daily Mail is a daily column giving answers to readers questions. The question in this article read:- *Why does the Goddess of Prudence, as represented in ancient statues and the logo of a well-known insurance company, hold a mirror in her hand?*.

The answer is:- The figure of Prudence has provided a strong visual association with the Prudential Assurance Company and its philosophy since its beginnings in 1848. Prudence, from the Latin *prudens* - 'acting with foresight', - is one of the four cardinal virtues, along with justice, temperance and fortitude. The cardinal or natural virtues were identified by teachers of philosophy and theology at cathedral schools instituted by the Roman emperor Charlemagne, who distinguished them from the theological virtues faith, hope and charity. Prudence is normally depicted with a snake, representing wisdom, an arrow, the sign of a skilled marksman, and a mirror, signifying the ability to see oneself as one really is.



The
Goddess of
Prudence
and (right)
the
Prudential's
modern-day
version



MEMBERS' COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

Perfin With a Crete Connection Bulletin 318 Pg.14-15.

From DEREK RANSOM 1 received copies of relevant articles in the Forces Postal History Newsletters from Summer and Autumn 2001. These were by James P Macaskie, Keith Tranmer and Gerald Sattin.

Via the usual philatelic grapevine, the article in our Bulletin came to the notice of Messrs Tranmer and Macaskie. Jim Macaskie wrote to me saying that of all the various army units and their locations in Crete at the time, the only district which used the "28" perfin was TEMENOS and the only value is the 20 parades. As far as is known, there was no '28' Brigade or Regiment serving in Crete at the time. I think I am correct in saying, looking through all articles and correspondence to hand, only used copies of the 20 parades with the "28" perfin are known. He asks for any new information from our members to help solve this long-standing problem.

Jeff Turnbull, as part of his Revenues collection had done some research on these stamps and users. He has written with more details of the various establishments and rather than pick out the bits which did not appear in the last Bulletin I will publish the whole.

Tea Clearing House Stamps.

The Tea Clearing House was established in London during the 1890's, although stamps did not appear until 1924 when the stamp scheme was inaugurated.

The idea of the scheme was to provide brokers and dealers with a means of pre-payment for the small services rendered by tea warehouse keepers. These services would have included the providing of samples of tea and labelling and addressing of tea chests.

Stamps were purchased from the Clearing House in various denominations for affixing to the order forms, which were to be sent to the warehouses. Each month the warehouses would submit the stamped forms to the Clearing House for reimbursement and, after checking the stamp values against the claims, payment was made and the stamps cancelled and returned to the warehouses.

The advantages of the scheme were many, the warehouses avoided the need to raise invoices, and the brokers and dealers were saved the trouble of checking the invoices and drawing cheques etc.

The scheme continued to operate until 1970 although, as charges increased and mechanical accounting extended, the use of stamps declined considerably: in 1931-32 660,000 were issued but by 1968-69 this had fallen to 44,000. Moreover, the cost of printing stamps had risen and the introduction of decimalization would have involved much additional expense in having new plates made. The scheme ended in December 1970.

The Liverpool Corn trade Association.

The first Corn Exchange in Liverpool was built at the beginning of the 19th century by the "Corn Exchange Company". In 1853 the Association of the Liverpool Corn Trade was formed. One of its main duties was to act as agents for parties contracting for the importing of grain and the Clearing House (established in 1883) received and held payments from importers against deliveries. It was at this point, on the formation of the Clearing House, that stamps were made available to pay the fees of registration of contracts with the association.

Three perfins have been recorded on these Revenue stamps and all three on postage stamps.

HB/&C°	H0530.07	Possible id. of Harris Bros. & Co (Grain) Ltd
R.P/&S	R4140.02	Name 'Procter' in violet across a 6/-stamp. Recorded in use on postage stamps 1881-1890. Liverpool and Dublin cancels.
R.C/&C°	R0965.04	Recorded in use on postage stamps 1885-1890. Liverpool and Bristol cancels

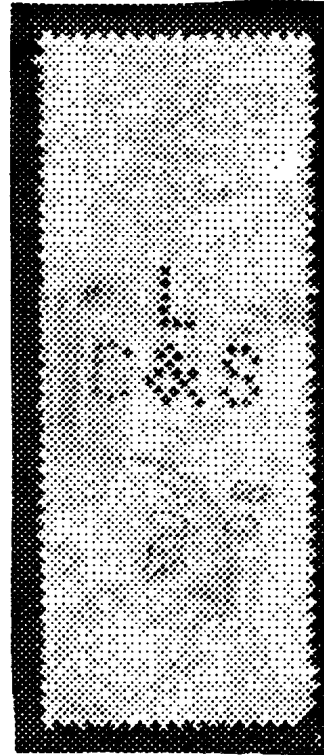
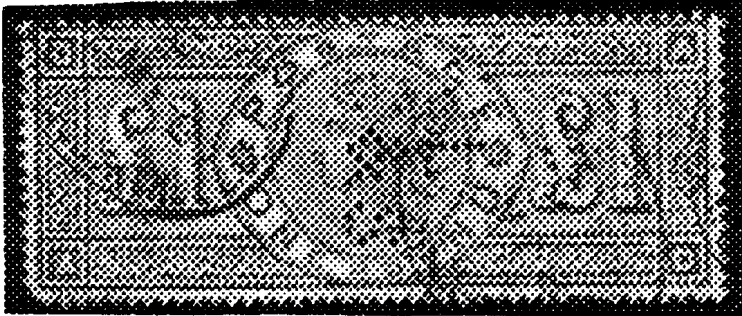
The Liverpool Cotton Association

Liverpool was the home of the Cotton Trade in the 19th century; the Liverpool Cotton Association operated similarly to the Corn Association in the issuing of adhesive stamps for the prepayment of fees for recording contacts and fines.

- ❖ **Liverpool Cotton Brokers Association** These stamps 1872 to 1882, the 6d and 1/- values differ in background shading. The perfin "C.H" is found on many values and stands for **C**learing **H**ouse.
- ❖ **Liverpool Cotton Association Ltd** The Liverpool Cotton Association Ltd was an amalgamation of the Liverpool Cotton Brokers Association and the rival Cotton Exchange. The stamps were in use from 1882 until 1971 but the "C.H" perfin is only found on issues up to 1954.

Another "Seen In Auction" Rarity

John Mathews saw the £1 brown QV (SG 185) with perfin "L/C&S" (L1320.01) on an internet sale. It fetched US \$135-50.

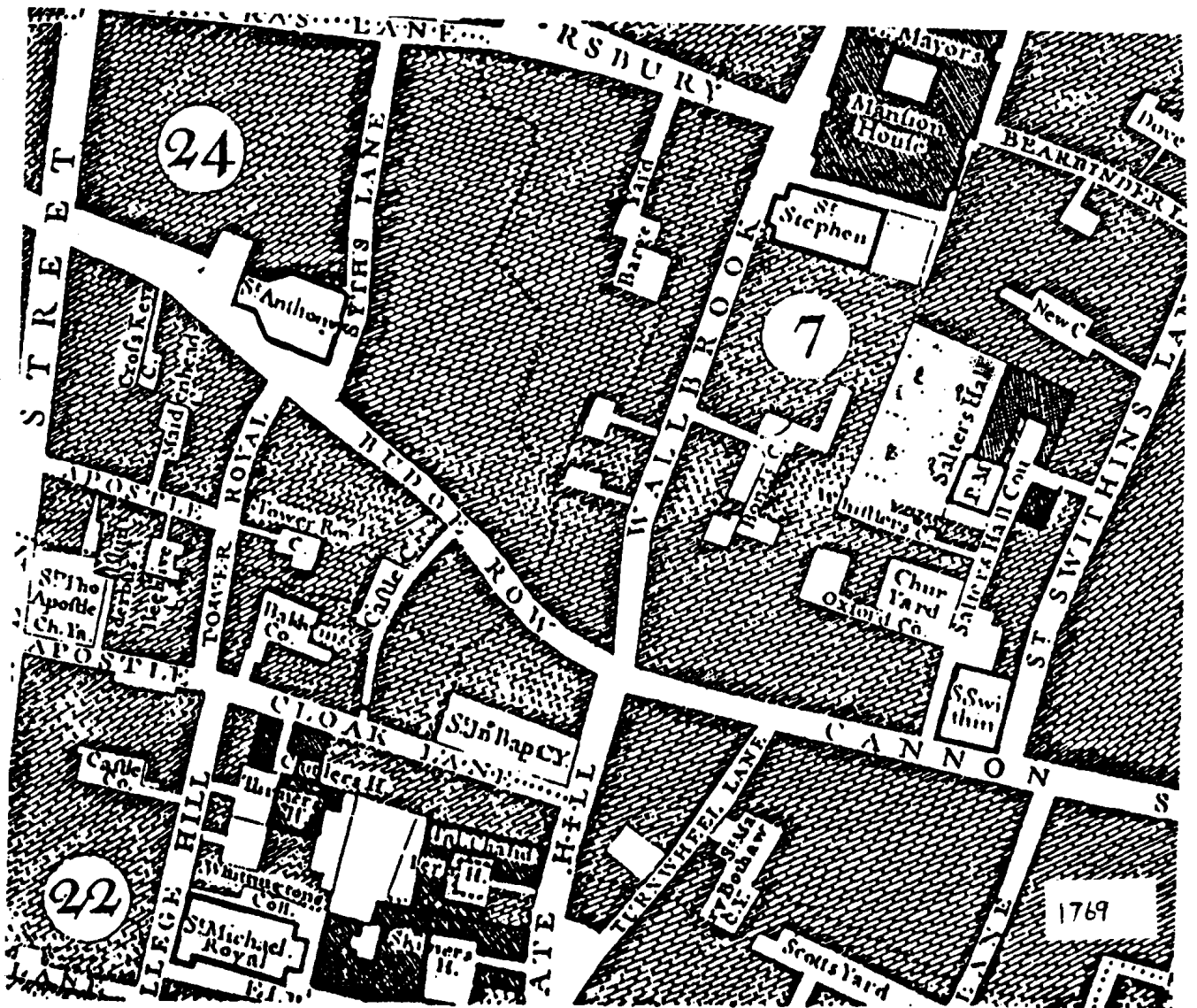
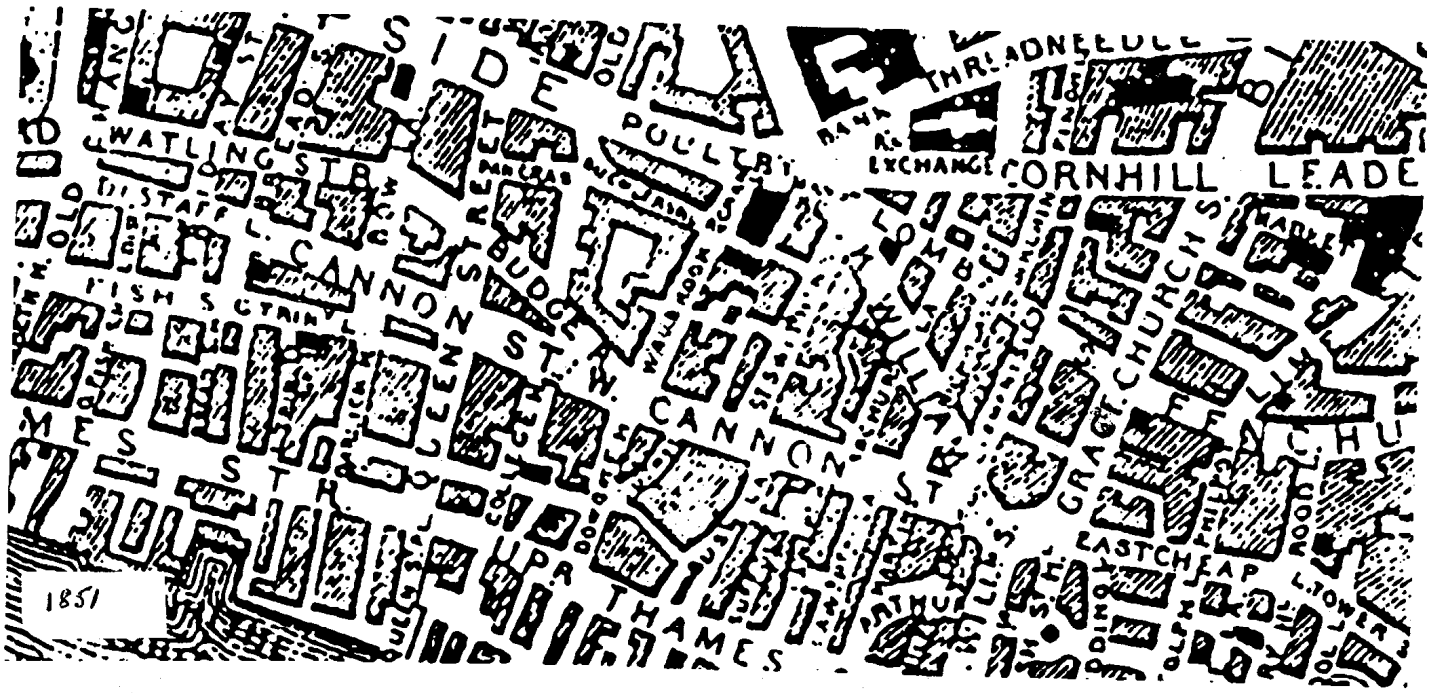


LOCATIONS OF EARLY SLOPER PREMISES

Information from John Mathews

I, Ed, am not too sure if the accompanying maps will clearly show the streets mentioned in John's text. The highlighting he mentioned does not show up on the photocopy, and if I used a darker pen it would cover the street names. However, here is John's letter:-

"I found reproductions of some old London maps in the University of Canberra Library: one of 1769 and one of 1851. On one copy, I have highlighted Wallbrook, King William Street and Budge Row. *[All streets associated with Sloper shops or works.]* Between the two dates, much was altered to make way for King William Street. Budge Row is also in a much different place to what my modern map shows. Does anyone in the Society know when it changed? Was it as the 1851 map shows up to the 1941 Blitz?"



SEEN IN AUCTION – BAVARIA PERFIN

In the MAT auction catalogue for 18th September, KEN DEE spotted this rather pricey Bavarian item.

Bavaria: 1912 Officials "E" puncture on 1911 50pf type 1 (instead of type II), RARE. Michel (Dienstmarken) III.

£600



POSTMARK PROOF OF PERFIN USER

In Bulletin 300 Page 25 and 301 Page 17, T illustrated the private cancellations for pre-stamped wrappers for bulk posting of newspapers and magazines. In both these articles it was stated that the cancellation for **W.H.SMITH & SON** had never been found (reported) on a perfin.



JEFF TURNBULL has seen the illustrated item on e-bay. I doubt if the quality of the reproduction will be very good but it shows a QV 1/- orange Plate 13 (SG151) with perfin W.H.S/&S. (W3900.01). The cancellation is the SS/F in barred oval. The cancel is known to belong to W.H. Smith & Son but the perfin has not been identified before. So, once again, a private cancel has identified a previously unidentified perfin.