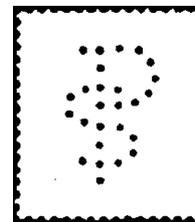


**THE PERFIN SOCIETY
BULLETIN**
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THE SOCIETY'S OFFICERS

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

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EDITOR'S LETTER TO ALL MEMBERS Rosemary Smith

Over the last couple of months or so I have thought long and hard about continuing as Editor of this Bulletin. I took over the position in February 1989 and I can say in all honesty that I have gained far more knowledge of perfins because of being Editor, than ever I would have from simply reading about perfins in another Editor's Bulletin.

Queries which have come from members and requests for information have lead me to read many old Bulletins, search through the many magazine articles I have collected over the years or write to a particular member who could supply the answer. In this way I have stored up many things about our hobby in the recesses of my mind. These things have been invaluable when putting together the pages of the Bulletin.

However, it is a time consuming job and I feel that I have to look for someone else to take on the mantle of Editor. Although I think (!!) my mind is still sharp, my energy levels are decreasing. My MS disabilities have been kept at bay for many years but I am getting around at a much slower pace and getting tired much more quickly. Where I used to sit at the computer after the evening meal and spend the time on the Bulletin I am ashamed to say that it is usually Television time after dinner. I now have to type the Bulletin out in the daytime and I am neglecting my household duties.

I do not want the standard of the Bulletin to be compromised because I am unable to give it the attention it deserves. Up until this last couple of Bulletins I have enjoyed producing each one but I am now having to push myself to even start. I am getting far more pleasure out of completing Roy's worksheets for the New Illustrated Catalogue because it gives me the chance to study my large collection of identified covers: more pleasure going through perfin collections and noting new values, dies and dates which will help Roy produce a more complete catalogue. I know I do not have the energy to do all these things as well as produce the Bulletin so I am asking if there is anyone out there who can take over the Bulletin.

I have tried to explain why I feel I have to make the break and emphasise that you would get far more out of being Editor than you would put in. Please think about it and remember it is not too onerous if you have the time. I wait for volunteers.

SOCIETY INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES TO SEPTEMBER Total Membership 373

New Members

PETER PENIKET

JEAN KIRKLAND

BRIAN COTTON

Change of Address

S CHEAH

ANNE TAYLOR

Resigned

RICHARD HOLMAN DEREK TURNIDGE

Subscriptions

If you have paid or have credit with the Society your membership card should be with this Bulletin: if not, you probably owe your sub.

LONDON MEETING

The Autumn meeting and AGM will be on Saturday 1st November at Duchess House as usual. This is at 18-19 Warren Street, London W1 from 1:00pm onwards. Hopefully we will follow a similar Agenda to that at the May meeting, i.e. (not necessarily in this order) Competition Displays put up, no more than 5 sheets; a short AGM with written reports from officers unable to be present and any Society matters to be discussed; a mini auction, **lots to be notified to John Donner before the meeting** so an auction list can be distributed, lots to be sent to John beforehand if you are not coming to the meeting to hand in lots in person; time to circulate; have

refreshments; look at the competition displays and fill in the marking form; with luck a member/dealer present with stock to sell; result of the competition.

The idea of the competition finally came to fruition in May and was a great success. The idea is to encourage as many people as possible to exhibit something to show that anyone who has not done that sort of thing before can do it if they put their mind to it. It is also good to see how others look upon perfins and the various techniques used in displaying them. Even if we cannot use 'computer generated' sheets or have artistic qualities, the content of the sheets is always of interest.

Gianni Sironi has suggested that the winning entry(ies) could be put into the Bulletin for other members to see. I will see if this can be achieved with the constraints on page size, size of illustrations etc.

Another suggestion from Gianni was, "Publish again the better methods to display collection (helpful to new members who do not have old bulletins)." In his letter concerning auction lots and prices of perfins from dealers (these noted elsewhere), John Marriner sent a break-down of one method of displaying perfins, particularly for display to other societies.

"Most of us belong to a local or national philatelic organisation so the basic methods of arrangement onto standard pages with exhibition covers is "ingrained". You can display stamps by theme, topic or subject, but I always add the catalogue number and user where known when doing this. Always show the stamp 'face down' with a black background. Why not start with the early history of perfins, under-prints, over-prints etc. and if possible show how/where they are still in use today. Include postal history (show the die if you have a spare, if not a copy out of a book).

This can be further sub-divided into sections, foreign mail, postal stationery, internal mail or "borrowing" stamps to use whilst on holiday!! One of the simplest subjects (and cheapest) is advertising, as one can obtain reproduction cards (or originals if one's pocket is deep enough) and along with all the different dies through different reigns make a good display page. Tell a bit of the history of the company, but keep the text to the absolute minimum. Let your voice and material do the "talking". How much do **you** read from the displays at your local club?

The alternatives are almost endless, do what you feel comfortable with. I collect and hold my perfin collection in reigns, and just to be completely contrary, when I do display I start with an introduction as to how we "do it" in the society (classify, identity etc.) and then introduce perfins via Sloper. But then work backwards from QEII to QV, but with several sub-sections within each reign.

You have to keep a balance between being detailed (everyone can conjure up an image of displays showing different key-plate types and minuscule faults etc.) with lots of text, and the other extreme of poorly mounted material with no text or sub-heading. I do not profess to be an expert, and there are members of our society with vastly superior material to mine, but do the best with what you have.

I have only gained a moderate level of medal at national competitions with perfins, but I have given several displays to clubs all over the East Anglia region. Incidentally I am showing G.B. perfins to Kings Lynn Philatelic Society on the 24th October, and at Great Yarmouth on the 15th December, so come along if you live near-by and give me some stick! If you do give a display at a club or society, you are the entertainment for the evening. Do your homework, then impart all the knowledge you can to help to convert the "infidels" who scoff at anyone that collects pieces of paper with holes in it!"

SEEN IN AUCTION

Hong Kong Stamp Society, Ming W Tsang; Hong Kong perfins and "chops" (firms overprints). All single lots, nothing less than \$10 estimate and bidding starts at 50% est!.

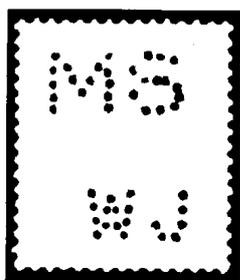
Philangles are still advertising perfin lots which I think are the same Austria, Germany, Denmark etc. lots as previously been noted. Prices averaging from 30p to 45p per stamp.

Of particular note is a lot of **HONG KONG HSBC perfins** some values to \$10, KEVII, KGV & KGVII plus loose stamps of Ceylon, India & Straits Settlements. There appears to be c64 stamps with estimate of £200-£250.

New Railway Die?

Roy Gault

After the request in a recent Bulletin for new "M" dies in preparation for the next section of the 'Illustrated Catalogue, Ian Entwistle duly sent in his batch of dies not in the 'old' catalogue. Amongst them was the following "MS/WJ" perfin, which was indeed a 'New Die' and has now been catalogued as M5410.02v.



The stamp is a QV Jubilee ½d (vermilion), postmarked '766', which is Swindon, and points to the die being used by the *Midland and South Western Junction Railway*. Also of note is the mixture of letter heights.

This would appear to be the first recording of a 4-letter 'SPG' type. Although this is the only example so far reported, should any more turn up I would expect the spacing between rows (and possibly the letters) to be different, hence the suffix 'v' for variable.

MBW" and "M^CI" Update.

Roy Gault.

Following the article in Bulletin N^o.325, Jack Brandt, John Nelson, Maurice Harp and Joe Dooley all responded - many thanks.

Maurice has inspected in fine detail his holdings of "MBW" (M0810.01M) and agrees with the suggestion that the die was *multi-headed, 6x1*. He also highlights very fine differences between the six patterns, including the widely spaced "B" and "W" in columns 'A' and 'G', and a broken pin in the bar of the "B" from columns 'D' and T.

Both Jack and John report a QV 1d Red plate 180 (put to press in May 1875) showing "M^CI" with the fine pinned "c". John also reports a QV 2½d plate 2 (put to press June 1875) with the fine pins. Thus my suspected date of 1874 for the 'strengthening' of the "c" is a little early, and probably took place in the *second half of 1875*.

But can anyone report any *higher* plate numbers with the *fine* "c"?

AUSTRALIA PERFIN CATALOGUE

John Mathews has sent details of "**HANDBOOK OF AUSTRALIAN PRIVATE PERFINS**", edited by John Mathews, released in July 2003, 384 pages, perfect bound, soft cover.

This new book contains background information on the history of perfin usage in Australia, and an up-to-date catalogue of over 3,000 Australian private perfin patterns. The catalogue includes details of period of use, and user identities for most of the patterns, plus other useful information.

Cost is AS75 + postage

* * * * *

PERFIN CLUB NEDERLAND

Dave Hill

I had not seen the "official organ of the Perfin Club, Nederland", **PERFINPOST**, before and I thought members might be interested in the similarities/differences to our Bulletin.

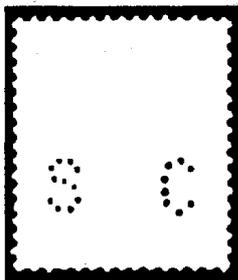
It has card covers and although the same number of pages as our Bulletin, there is a lot of space. Rosemary likes economy and fills every page of our Bulletin. In Perfinpost there are, I think, regularly 2 pages listing publications and 2 of members wants. Otherwise there are articles on Dutch and foreign perfins.

Auctions are held 4 times a year and are room and postal: a motel room is booked and about 40 members attend. Like ours, there are about 350 lots but many more single stamps (if I remember rightly there are about 1,000 different dies on Dutch stamps against our 23,000). What is really surprising is the total realised, about 11,500 euros.

I know it will alienate some members but is that alone grounds for advocating a Perfin Club of Europe? (Not seriously, I have enough trouble coping with the English language and c375 members, so no correspondence, please.)

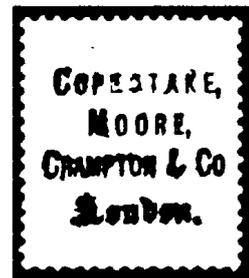
Unbeknown to Dave Hill, during the summer of last year I collected the fine detail in terms of stamp issues and denominations etc., for the various dies that we either know, or strongly suspect, were used by 'Copestakes'. The intention was to produce an illustrated 'write-up' on the company and make it available to members attending the London meeting, and afterwards to anyone who wanted a copy. This back-burner' project will still go ahead, but the following 'die-in-use' information may be useful/interesting to collectors.

1867/8



The unique 'trial' die "SC" and underprint, not known postally used

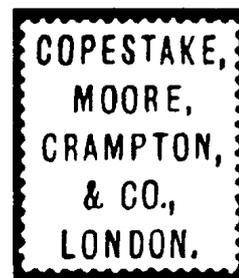
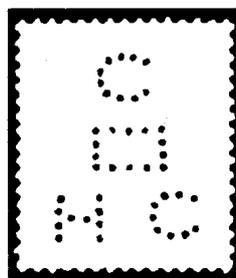
The precursor of all perfin!



S1210.08

Combined Perfin & Underprint - earliest known date 22nd October 1880.

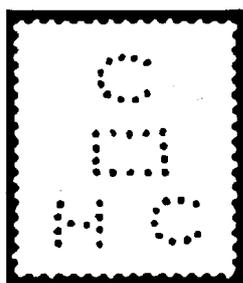
1880-1883



C3400.01

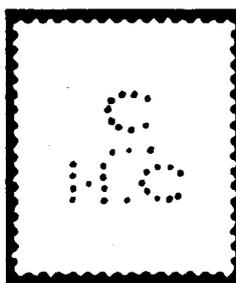
Perfin only - earliest known date 21st August 1881.

1881-1883



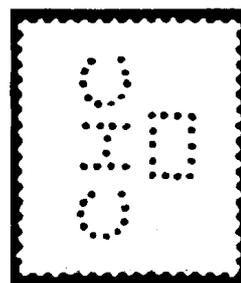
C3400.01

1881-1883

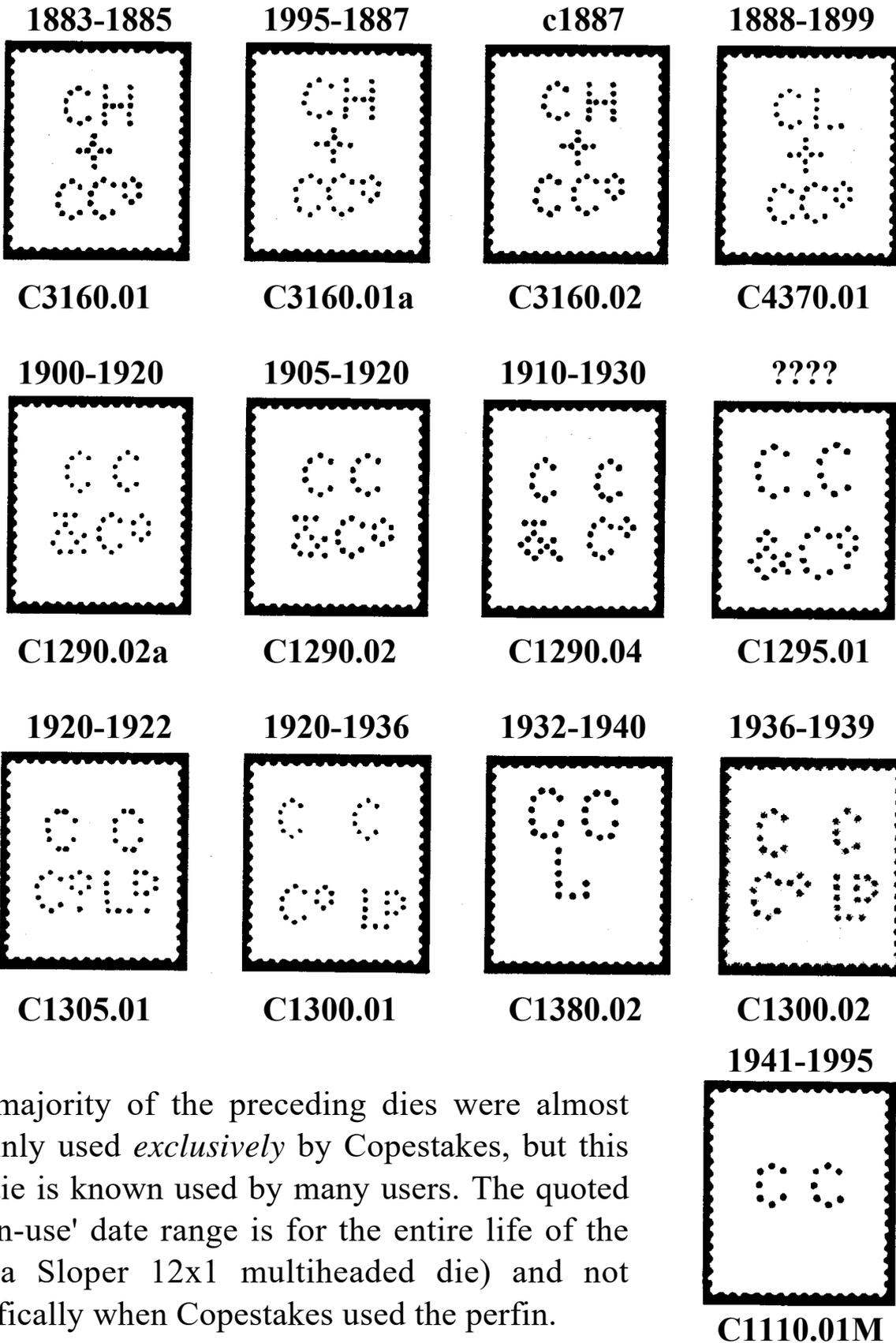


C3130.01

c1883



C3195.01



The majority of the preceding dies were almost certainly used *exclusively* by Copestakes, but this last die is known used by many users. The quoted 'die-in-use' date range is for the entire life of the die (a Sloper 12x1 multiheaded die) and not specifically when Copestakes used the perfin.

If anyone would like a copy of the list of stamp details and earliest/latest dates, please write either to Dave Hill or to me enclosing an SAE.

My thanks to John Nelson, Rosemary Smith and Stephen Steere for providing information for the project last year, and to Terry Wood and Dave Hill for subsequent additions.

COPESTAKE. CRAMPTON ET AL

Andy Donaldson

[Ed:- this came in, in response to Dave Hill's article in Bulletin 325. As Roy Gault has added more about the perfin dies elsewhere in this Bulletin, perhaps all three pieces put together will make a whole.]

I read the article by Dave Hill with interest and although I cannot fully answer any of the queries raised I can add a little more general information which may be of interest to some members.

From the biography of George Moore, [**George Moore Merchant and Philanthropist by Samuel Smiles. Published in 1878 by George Routledge and Sons**] which, although it concentrates on Moore's philanthropic endeavours, it does tie them in with updates on events in his personal and professional life at appropriate points. Here is a potted history of the firm from 1825 to 1876.

The firm **Groucock and Copestake** was founded in **1825** and had offices/warehouse space at **7 Cheapside**. Copestake was the chief clerk and warehouseman and was the main man in the office all his working life. Groucock was the man out and about travelling for orders.

They moved to **62 Friday Street** in **1829**. George Moore joined as a junior partner in the following year when the firm became known as **Groucock, Copestake and Moore**. Moore became a travelling salesman concentrating on the North while Groucock covered the Midlands. After 3 years Moore became a full partner.

In **1834** they moved their head office to **Bow Churchyard**. In **1841** Moore joined Groucock on the warehouse side of the business. At around the same time they bought up houses in **Bread Street** (just round the corner from Bow Churchyard) to increase their warehouse space. Business was obviously booming as they went into manufacturing and built their own **Lace Factory in Nottingham** in **1845**.

By **1852** they had offices in many of the larger towns in the United Kingdom and even one notable one in Paris.

Groucock died in **1852** and his name was dropped from the firm shortly afterwards.

Crampton must have joined the firm before 1865 as there is this entry in a commercial directory for that year:- **Copestake, Moore, Crampton & Co. Wholesale warehousemen for lace and sewed muslins, scotch and Manchester goods, cambrics & lawns, crapes, gossamers, velvets, stays, artificial flowers, millinery, baby linen, mantles, outfitting, shawl & haberdashery, umbrellas & parasols; Bow Churchyard EC; 50 Cheapside EC and Bread Street EC.**

Copestake senior died in **1874** after 44 years of partnership with Moore. His son **Samson Copestake** succeeded him as full partner in the firm. **Mr.Osbourne** (who appeared as a partner somewhere along the way, yet to be established) died in **1876**.

George Moore himself died towards the end of 1876.

As to the assertion that Dave made then queried, that **the Moore underprint was used after he was no longer a partner** - I think we can safely say this was the case. Any underprint on a 1d plate 196 or later would post date the death of George Moore. I have several in this range the latest being from plate 224 which was not put to press until 23rd June 1879 a full 2/4 years after his death. One reason for continuing to use the underprint for some time could be due to the fact that this was an official underprint produced by stamp printers. Perhaps the cost or time involved to produce a new die was not considered worth it at the time? It should be noted that the unofficial underprint stopped at plate 204 (put to press 23rd June 1877). This is still 7 months after the death of Moore but much less than the 2½ years of the official underprint.

Also, if they were happy to continue using the Moore underprint after the partner's death then why not the Hughes perfin after he died/left?

PERFIN SOCIETY PACKET

Colin Fountain

I was interested to read Dave Hill's comments in Bulletin 325 about his difficulty in obtaining different perfins for his collection and the expense of doing this through the auction. My problem is that despite monitoring the prices in the auction and submitting bids based on these, in recent auctions I have been invariably outbid and I get nothing new for my collection. Some newer members of the Society have told me that they are experiencing the same problem.

I believe that one way of enabling members to purchase individual stamps for their collections would be to re-start the Perfin Society circulating sales packet. Dave Hill is still officially the Packet Superintendent, but he had to cease the packet some years ago because of a severe lack of material to circulate. I would be willing to run a packet if it is the members' wish to resume this facility. I had experience of running a packet for a local philatelic society a few years ago. Dave Hill is agreeable to me taking over this role, if I can get sufficient support from members.

This would depend on a steady flow of saleable material to circulate (i.e. not common Machins). So can I ask members who would be willing to supply booklets of individually priced perfins, identified perfin covers etc. to please contact me with an estimate of the amount of material which they would be able to provide, so that we can gauge the viability of this idea. The society would deduct a commission (possibly 10% of amount sold) and vendors would be responsible for postage on their material to and from the packet superintendent.

* * * *

There has been a number of comments from members about Dave Hill's query on increasing our collections without breaking the bank account, or buying in bulk and finding a disappointingly few new additions to our collection. In his letter, Gianni Sironi made a suggestion to help bring in

more replies from members (helping the Editor at the same time!). He suggested that each year we propose a subject and give an award to the best answer or opinion which is sent in about the subject. A good idea and from the comments received about auction lots and value of perfin, this would have been a good subject to choose.

The following are some of the comments.

From John Strange:- "The trouble with stamp collectors/philatelists/ perfin specialists is that by our very nature we tend to be hoarders. I have tried over the years to resist the temptation to accumulate surplus material, and am now reasonably disciplined in offering it to others.

You say that you are a '30%' collector; I reckon that I can only raise '8%'. I am looking for much more than you, for example, and without throwing money optimistically at auction lots, my collection creeps up in volume.

We all work hard to analyse each perfin to the best of our knowledge, collect it, including DDF's if required, and after that it is no problem to put any duplicate in a stock book headed with its relevant details. Should another duplicate appear, I am pleased to send it to the Society as encouragement to a new collector.

The tricky bit is circulating your surplus. I have printed a list of this, asking a 'perfin for a perfin', taking a risk on whether I already have it, or not. So far, the system is working well for me with a small collection, and is not expensive to operate. How many other collectors have a list of stock for exchange or sale?"

* * *

In reply to a different comment in a recent Bulletin, John Marriner has this to say, "If I may comment on a previous article in the Bulletin, closer to our hearts, money, or the cost of items that carry a perfin. During the past 12 years or so since I have seriously collected these items, the stamp dealing fraternity has woken up to the fact that they can now sell that "useless" stock. Not useless to us but fascinating little gems. So the usual laws of supply and demand in our capitalist society takes over and up goes the cost. We all offer opinions on this matter, but by how much has

all the other "costs" in life increased? As the "value" of anything is only what a purchaser will pay, simple economics illustrates that someone out there is willing!

Recently in one of our Society auctions I was successful in obtaining a KEVII 1d red with the perfin "crown/BT, not the best copy I have seen, so when a dealer/auction house offers mint QV stamps with the same perfin at £20-£25 each I think that is not too excessive. No doubt others will have contradictory opinions, but you have to pay for quality, and the "good old days" are gone for ever."

Whilst on the subject of the Society Auction, John Marriner says, "I would like to express an opinion on a matter that Dave Hill brought up in a previous Bulletin on the matter of lot description in the auctions. I was successful in auction 3/2003 to obtain a lot described, "KG V ADD "all damage slight" 100(5)." But on closer inspection 16 not 5 of the stamps were damaged, the worst being trimmed on almost four sides, my perception of "damage slight" being at odds with the vendor. There was duplication x 5, and my mathematics is obviously different as well as the lot only containing 97 items. At least my "usage" rate was better than Dave Hill, cost £17, and resulting in 19 new dies and 31 new face. But, referring back to Dave's initial comment, we are only deceiving fellow collectors when we do not describe a lot correctly."

Dave Hill has added another comment on the subject this month too:- "In our own auction, I have noticed how few lots there are of over 100ADD, and those are QEII. Most QV and Edward VII are 50ADD or less, which means there is more chance you will already have those 50 dies. But then I have found it difficult to make up even medium sized lots myself. Looking back there were certainly more big lots years ago but even Harry started with just 150 lot auctions. He really began getting more/bigger/better lots in the late 80's early 90's. Which begs the question, are there fewer perfins in circulation? Membership numbers are much the same, but is members' interest greater, are there more people chasing a finite number of perfins?"

I only joined in 1989, but I got the impression from older members that perfin collecting was cheap, not so much in money terms but the value was inconsequential and was not a consideration. Hence the low estimates

many of us set in the auction. When other collectors still thought of perfins as damaged stamps, you could hardly have a "rare" damaged stamp! In the same way I have a (dormant) early GB collection, formed before I took up perfins, mostly from "spacefillers" and I resolutely refuse to set any value by it.

Is it part of the price we pay for perfins becoming respectable? Then again many of us are still willing to swap on a one-to-one basis, irrespective of "rarity". Incidentally, I had no takers for my wants list a few months back and have disposed of most of my swaps."

As Editor, I would like to put in my two penny-worth here. "A couple of years ago I had the privilege of being asked to sort out the perfins of two members who were wanting to sell their collections. One collection was on behalf of the wife of a deceased member, the other from a member who, although still very much concerned with the well-being of the Society, had changed his collecting interests. It has been a long job because I have gone through the letters one at a time, starting with the letters published by Roy Gault in the New Illustrated Catalogue. I have checked all the dies and values against the catalogue and over the last two years have sent many hundreds of new details to Roy to add to future catalogues.

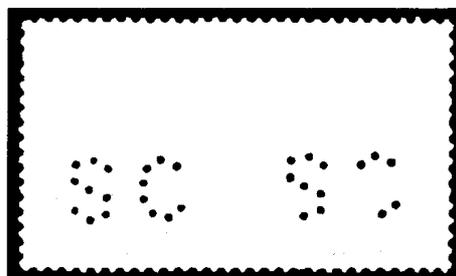
I have been allowed to buy any perfins, which I needed for my collection but the remainder have been put into the auction. I have put these together in 'letter lots', 2/3/4 letters in one lot. These have been DDF with, in one collection, very few damaged but I hope my estimate of damage has been accurate to 3 or 4 out of the 300 or 400 perfins in the lot.

As to price, I have continued with my own belief that all lots, if accurately described, will find their true level of value in the bidding. Members know what they want, how much items are worth to them, and how much they are prepared to pay. I therefore put an estimate on the lots at which I would not be prepared to sell for less. The vendors and buyers of these lots have all been very happy with the outcome. However, these were collections, not duplicates from a collection, (the duplicates were sold as such), and it behoves sellers to describe duplicates/ common/ QEII etc in more detail."

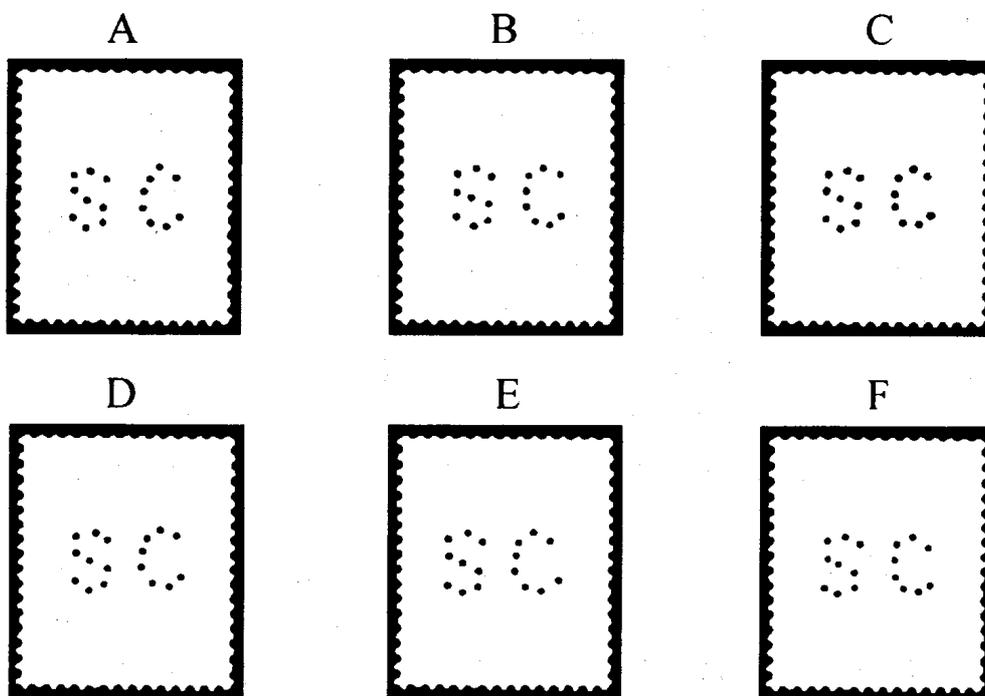
Salford Corporation's "SC"

In **Bulletin** No.323 I recorded Salford Corporation's perfin "SC" (S1210.04M) as the longest lived die with at least 101 years usage. This has now increased to *at least 107 years* by Jack Brandt's reporting of a Id Lilac dated 15 June 1888!

Early examples of "SC" (S1210.04M) appear with 'regular' letters. Note that the die is thought to have been multiheaded based on impressions on large format stamps with missing pins.



However, it would appear that the heads became progressively choked, and sometime in the early 1960's they were either refurbished or replaced. The resulting letters are distinctively 'irregular' and can be easily differentiated. *Six different patterns* can be recognised (A to F below) so the thought is that the original die would have been six patterns probably arranged 6x1.



Does anyone have any strips or blocks to help place the 'refurbished' patterns in their correct position in the die, or perhaps dated examples to help pinpoint when the refurbishment took place?

A Question of Rarity

Dave Hill

I was looking at the article by Roy Gault, "**Earliest Perfin Cover**" in Bulletin 317 page 7 and Sloper's earliest records, Bulletin 289 page 10.

I now realise that the records are **for machines supplied to clients for their own use**; we have no records so early of clients **for whom Sloper perfined stamps**. You can see that only the last "earliest cover", perfin "F.S/L" is a machine made for clients' use and is actually the 11th one made. None of the other "earliest cover" perfins appear on the list of the first 32 machines made, up to August 1870. Even the 2 "gaps" where the records are missing are later than these "earliest covers".

So, assuming the records are complete, I deduce that the perfins on the "earliest covers" were done by Slopers themselves. Although perfins exist from these early machines that Sloper made for clients, few have been positively identified with the user. A few dies were used for a long time but most were short lived, 10 years or less, only known on 1d reds.

Of course, period of use is not the same as how many stamps were perfined, which method produced the most perfins? One machine, the 4th made was used until 1940, an economy I can admire, but yet it is still not identified. The dies that Sloper used on the "earliest covers" fared little better, lasting 10 years or less, when other dies were made for these clients.

Back to rarity. We have yet to discover an 1868 cover (Sloper was given permission to perforate on 3/3/1868). Compare that with the number of 1d black first day covers known (1/4/1840). I suppose a 1d black FDC was more likely to be kept than a perfin cover from 1868. No member of the general public would know that stamps perforated with initials were as much a part of postal history as the advent of the 1d black. I have no doubt the 1d black came out in a blaze of glory, the perfin had not so much as a whimper.

The Eadie Mfg Co and the Enfield Cycle Co.

Frank Brown

In New Identities (Bulletin 325 August 2003 Pg. 226) Gerry Soutar asked about the tie-up between "Eadie Mfg Co" and the "Enfield Cycle Co". The short answer is a change of name but the background may be of interest to readers, told in the book, *"Royal Enfield 1851-1969 "* by Anne Bradford 1996.

In 1851, a George Townsend built a needle-making factory at Hunt End, about 4 miles from Redditch town centre. When he died in 1879, his son (also named George) took over and made bicycles - the 'Penny Farthing' but went bankrupt in 1891. The bankers appointed Albert Eadie (salesman) and Robert Walker-Smith (engineer) to run the company **"Eadie Manufacturing Co.Ltd."**

In 1892/3, the company had large contracts to supply the Royal Small Arms Company at Enfield, Middlesex with rifle parts and went public as the **Enfield Cycle Company** with 125,000 shares at £1 each. In 1897, the departments involved in complete bikes were brought together and called **"The New Enfield Cycle Company Limited"** leaving the parent company, the Eadie Manufacturing Company to deal with the rifle parts. There were 600 workers producing 300-400 cycles weekly as well as spare parts for other manufacturers. Sewing machines were also manufactured and the first car went on the road in 1902 to be followed by 30hp limousines in 1904. In 1907, a £19,000 loss occurred largely due to the motor department and Albert Eadie said that if the shareholders provided £8000, he would match it. They refused whereupon he sold out to the Birmingham Small Arms Group (BSA) [Another perfin user] where he was appointed manager and later managing director.

In April 1908 the company plant and stock was put up for auction in one lot and failing to reach the reserve was shortly sold to the directors of Alldays and Onions Pneumatic Engineering Co. Ltd. of Birmingham [another perfin user]. W.H.Smith, and later his son Major Smith, ran the company until it closed in 1969

In 1920, the company had built a large new factory in Redditch suitable for mass production and by 1962, the site covered about 30 acres. The collapse of the motor cycle industry is largely attributed to the Japanese with sensible prices, relatively trouble free machines and attractive style to the young buyers. In 1964, Redditch was designated as a 'New Town'. The Development Corporation purchased the whole site, demolished the entire factory and converted the site to a trading estate of small firms.

0 0 0 0

In with his letter, Frank sent two share transfers, both for the Enfield Cycle Company. The 1912 share transfer gives the name of "The New Enfield Cycle Company Limited, now The Enfield Cycle Company Limited" and the 1917 share transfer is under the name "Enfield Cycle Company, Limited".

Of historical interest is the 1917 share transfer which has the following two declarations on the reverse, duly signed by the buyer and the vendor.

Form of Declaration by Transferor

I/We hereby declare that I am not (no one of us is) a person resident or carrying on business in any country at war with Great Britain, or treated as an enemy under any Proclamation relating to trading with the enemy, or mentioned, or a member of a body of persons mentioned, in the Statutory List under the Trading with the Enemy (Statutory List) Proclamation, 1916, NO. 3, and that the within written transfer (enclosed herewith) is not made by me/us on behalf of any such person as aforesaid.

Form of Declaration by Transferee

I/We hereby declare that I am not (no one of us is) a person resident or carrying on business in any country at war with Great Britain, or treated as an enemy under any Proclamation relating to trading with the enemy, or mentioned, or a member of a body of persons mentioned, in the Statutory List under the Trading with the Enemy (Statutory List) Proclamation, 1916, No. 3, or an enemy subject within the meaning of the Trading with the Enemy Amemdment Act, 1916, and that the within written transfer (enclosed herewith) is not made to me/us for the benefit of any such person aforesaid.

LEEWARD ISLANDS PERFINED FEES STAMPS

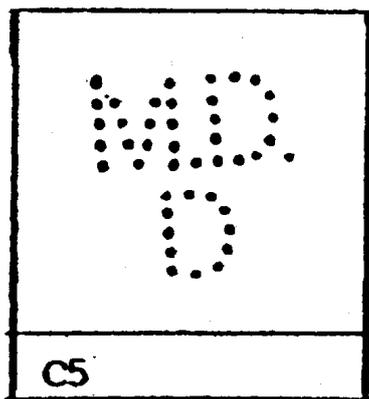
In consequence of the article in Bulletin 324 Pages 14-15 about the above subject, Jeff Turnbull sent me a photocopy of two stamps from his collection. One the Leeward Islands QV **1d dull** mauve & rose postage and revenue stamp mentioned in the original article, and a 1/- value, both perfined "M.C./A. The latter also previously known to have been perfined.

Jeff also sent me a copy of the relevant pages from "The World Perfins Catalogue" (which I am assuming was published by The Perfins Club of America) showing the known perfin dies on Leeward Islands stamps, and the 'MC standing for "Municipal Commisioners?" Note the question mark after the user.

I forwarded the sheets to Ian Jakes, who passed them onto Victor Toeg, who wrote the recognised reference books on these stamps. He in turn wrote to the person who, when Toeg was researching his book, suggested that the "MC" stood for Magistrates Court.

His reply was, "*'Magistrates Court' is in my experience the commonest cancellation in one form or another on fiscally used stamps of the Leeward Islands, and elsewhere in the BWI, but it is a pure guess on my part. You and I discussed the possibilities when you were writing your definitive handbook. 'Municipal Commisioners' is not a title I recognise and it certainly figures in no BWI handstamp I have seen*".

To muddy the waters still further, in the World Perfins Catalogue pages for the Leeward Islands there is an illustration of a further perfin "M.D./D" known used 1938 to ? The suggestion in the catalogue is that this stands for "Municipal Directors?" Any more comments or proof?



PERFINS ON EGYPTIAN TAX STAMPS

Vahe Varjabedian

Our knowledge of Egyptian Tax stamps comes from the stamps themselves, documents bearing them and about them, unpublished notes and correspondence, and occasionally from books and philatelic articles.

During the last couple of years, whilst studying Egyptian perfins, I have any part of documents, invoices, receipts and insurance policies franked with punctured stamps. Recently during my summer vacation I found time to study and arrange them **in** order, trying to make a small reference collection.

Most of the punctured tax stamps franked on invoices, receipts and documents are on the first, second and third Egyptian Tax issues (1939-49; 1957-58; 1959-61) inscribed in Arabic "DAMGHA MASRIYA" (Egyptian Tax) in the centre of the small values and at the top of large values. The first issue was printed by the Survey Dept. of Egypt, 13 x 13/4. The second and third issues are with different watermarks. The used stamps are 5 mills violet, 10 mills brown, 30 mills deep green and 50 mills ultramarine. I also found a couple of punctured stamps on the 1938 "Minister de Finances" issue - 50 mills deep blue.

The earliest user of punctured tax stamps on their receipts and bank statements was **Credit Lyonnais Cairo Branch.(Fig.1)**. Until now the recorded dates are 1947-1958. Values are 5 mills, 10 mills, 50mills + 50 mills (1938)

The second company to use their perfined stamps on their invoices was **Societe Anonyme du Behera (Fig.2)**. After checking 6 invoices all dates are around 1950-52 with used values 30 mills.

The third company is **The Shell Company of Egypt Ltd (Fig 3)**. Most of the used stamps are on receipts bearing 5 mills and 10 mills used during the period of 14 years, 1947-61.

The fourth is lately discovered **Al Chark Assurance (Fig.4)** famous Egyptian Insurance Company (Est. 1931).Most of the used values are 50 mills stamps and used during 1957 only on Insurance Policies.

H. WALDENMAIER
 BRONZE- UND EISENGIESSEREI

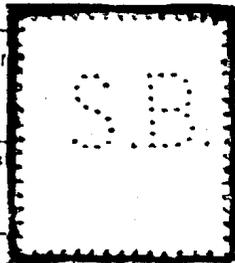


Postfach 47
 P.B.-Nr. 0/0789/0601
 Drahtwort: Erhard Heidenheimbrenz
 Fernsprecher Nr. 881-884
 Fernschreiber: KZ 069 Rufn. 776
 Bank-Konten:
 Bankverein Stuttgart 4259
 Landeszentralbank Heidenheim 567-818
 Volksbank Heidenheim
 Südpfostbank Heidenheim 1509
 Postcheck-Konto Stuttgart Nr. 1597

Heidenheim-Brenz
 Unsere Auftrags-Nr. und Zeichen

Hg/Jo. 29th Nov. 1950

Bedarfsgruppe	Ihre Bestellung Nr. (Tag)		
---------------	---------------------------	--	--

1 action	=	✓ 80
5 actions	=	✓ 25
0 >	=	✓ 20
5 >	=	

Total..... 125..... actions à raison de P.T. 23,73

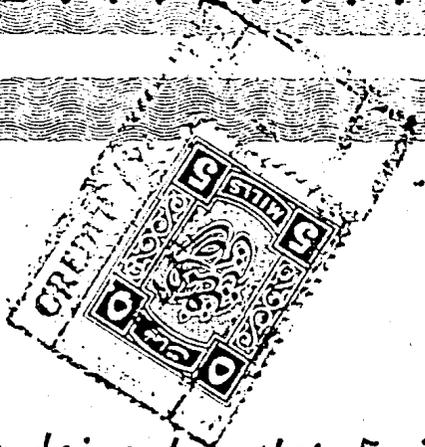
de la Société Foncière du Dom...

NEUF & 668 m/ms

nés.

R 1951

Les Coupons doivent rester 5 jours

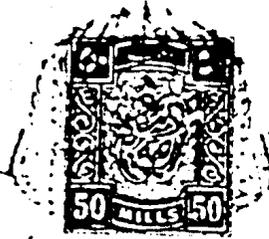


رقم ٢٥



شركة الشرق للبريد والتلغراف

مكتب مصر - محطة مصر - رقم ١٥١
رقم ١٤١ - شارع - ١٤١ - محطة

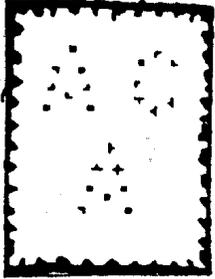


الشرق للبريد والتلغراف

الحريتي

ملحق رقم ١/٦٠٠٤
للبوليصة رقم ٤٢٢٨١

المؤمن: البنت، الصقارى المصرى بجفته الدائن انوتبين
إقامته: ١٣ شارع محمود بسونى بالقاهرة -
بده مفعول هذا الملحق : ١٨ / ٣ / ١٩٥٧




CAIRO

لنا من السيد ...
مع وقدره ...
جيب شيك رقم ...
تقدرا

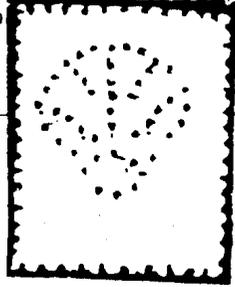
رأياً للائتمانات المذكورة - فإياه .
Detailed in the margin.

عن شركة شرق
COMPANY OF EGYPT LTD.
المسئول
COLLECTOR



بال الرسمى
لمم بالتصديق يحملون خطاباً يخول
لب .

Send official receipt
and Collectors carry a printed letter



CURRENT PERFINS

from Derek Ransom

A few more "Modern" perfins from Messrs Fortey, Donner and Gault.

B1110.03M	BC	IP	
C8260.02M	CW	25a	
G0010.16	G	25b	
N0810.08	NC	5p	
UI 170.01	U.L	19p	
F0669.01	FinC/CL	E	Private perfin

* * * * *

Members' Wants and Queries

New member, PETER PENIKET, is interested in perfins of canals, as a narrow boat owner, or anything on shipping. [Has anyone done a check list on this theme?] For Peter's address see 'New Members' on page 2.

Another fairly new member, GIANNI SIRONI is looking for Bulletins 249, 273, 292, 293, 294, 306, 308 & 309. Can anyone help? Dave no longer has extra copies of these.

J.H.H.BRINKMAN

would like to know if anyone knows of any firms/companies in the past, who used perfins, and had any connection with 'whale hunting'. The cat. nos. of any such perfins would be a start. He is obviously looking for the actual perfins.

He also wants to exchange perfins with other members: wanting Holland, France, G.B. He can offer GB and world wide perfins, one to one basis of exchange.

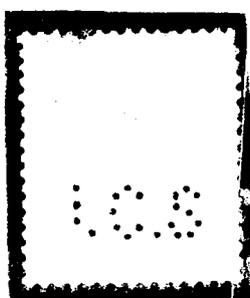
ANDY DONALDSON, who has written elsewhere in this Bulletin about Copestake, Crampton etc, has built up quite a fair amount of information on the **Protective Overprints and Underprints** on the QV stamps and the

firms using these security devices. As time permits he uploads the information onto his web site at www.stamp.demon.co.uk and constructive comments on the information presented there will be gratefully received.

* * * * *

DAVE HILL sends another query for "Puzzle Corner".

The illustration is of a perfin which we have had no luck in identifying the die. It is not a known I.C.S; the first letter is not a J, M, N or U; perhaps it is the bottom half of a partial. On the theory that two heads are better than one, can anyone else come up with the answer?



* * * * *

For Sale

Some time ago I mentioned that I had a new computer ink cartridge for sale, money to go to the Society but I had no takers. Now John Marriner has a black ink cartridge for a compatible printer. It fits a Hewlett Packard Deskjet 400/500 or a Deskwriter 500 series machine. If anyone wants it, could they send £7-50 to Dave Hill for Society funds and he will send them the cartridge.

Shropshire Perfins

Since the article on these perfins appeared in Bulletin 325 Roy Gault has been able to furnish Brian Atkins with much more information. Stephen Steere has also been able to add details of Shropshire Council perfins. This information has gone to Brian Atkins and hopefully it will be published in *Shropshire Post*, after which it can be copied into our own Bulletin.

Commercial Overprints

The Perfin Society wish to make it clear that they are not in agreement with any use being made of the original catalogues of Commercial Overprints. These are the catalogues of Banks, Insurance Companies, Local Government and Utilities whose copyright rests with the compilers of these works, John Bonney and David Lane.

We were lead to believe that a new catalogue of Private Overprints is being produced via the website mentioned in the last Bulletin.

Whilst on the subject, Jon Evans has a change to his e-mail address in the last Bulletin

* * * * *

Perfin Users and Distinctive Postmarks

John Nelson

On page 28 of Bulletin 324 Dave Hill made some interesting observations under the heading "Perfin Users and Distinctive Postmarks" which reminded me of an unusual item in my collection.

The stamp is an 1887 QV ½d vermilion Jubilee which was replaced by the ½d blue-green early in 1900. The die is **SER** (sideways) S2640.02 of the **South** Eastern Railway Company the use of which is only reported between 30th Nov 1895 and 9th Feb 1899.

What is unusual is that the postmark is a double circle type **Field Post Office T46** with the clear date **15th June 1915**. At that time the Post Office was no doubt located somewhere on the Western Front in France.

There may be other examples of serving soldiers having their firm's perfins on letters home but the mystery in this case is how a stamp, which had been the property of the South Eastern Railway Company at least fifteen years earlier, might have come to be so used.

PERFINED TELEGRAPH STAMPS

In Bulletins 289 Page 24; 290 Page 6-7; 291 Page 10-11 there were articles about Perforated Telegraph Stamps. **JON EVANS** offered to be 'anchor-man' for these and he collated all the information at that time.

Below is an up-to-date chart showing all known dies used on Telegraph Stamps. New data to Jon

TELEGRAPH STAMP			DIE			
SG	Value	Plate				
L201	½d Orange	PI.5	C7260.01a	C/S.S.CO	W0790.02?	W.B/&CO
L204	1d Brown	PI.3	B4510.01	B&L/N	H3270.03	H.H/&CO
			H6150.02	H.R/&CO	W3775.01	WHP/Jr/&Co.
L205	3d Carmine	PI.1	C7980.02	CURRIE	G0480.01	G.B/&CO
L206	3d Carmine	PI.2	A3580.01	A.L/&CO	B4390.02	B&L/H
			C7760.01	C.T.S/&CO	F0320.02	F.B/&CO.
			G0970.02	G&CO	H6150.02	H.R/&CO
			J6860.04	J&S	M1280.01	Mcl
			W3573.01	W.H/CO/S.N		
L207	3d Carmine	PI.3	B6430.13A	B&S	K1070.01	K.J/&CO
L211	4d Sage-Green	PI.1	D439005	D&S		
L212	6d Grey	PI.1	B0650.01	BB/&CO	B4390.02	B&L/H
			C5620.01	CORY/C	G0970.02	G&CO
			J6477.01	J/R&CO	J8200.01	J.V.F/Co
L214	6d Grey	PI.2	G0970.02	G&CO	J0553.01	J.B/&B
L218	1/- Green	PI.4	A0860.01	A&BS	C1220.01	CCB/xCo
			C5620.01	CORY/C	G0970.02	G&CO
			H6150.02	H.R/&CO	11220.01	I.H.S/&CO
L219	1/-Green	PI.5	A0860.01	A&BS	B0650.01	BB/&CO
			B1540.01	B&CO/B&L	B4390.02	B&L/H
			F0320.02	F.B/&CO.	N2520.01	N&P
			S2050.02	SDB/&S/M		
L220	1/- Green	PI.6	L1600.01	LDM/C		
L223	1/- Green	PI.9	H2830.02	H&G		
L224	1/-Green	PI.10	D4390.05	D&S		
L227	1/- Orange-Brown	PI.11	A3580.01	A.L/&CO	J0553.01	J.B/&B
L229	3/- Blue	PI.1	B0650.01	BB/&CO	D4390.05	D&S
			H6150.02	H.R/&CO	W3573.01	W.H/CO/S.N
L231	5/- Rose	PI.1	A0860.01	AB&S	B0640.01	BB&CO
			B0900.01	B/BRS	C5620.01	CORY/C
			C6910.01	CS&CO	C7980.02	CURRIE
			F0320.01	F.B/&CO.	F1300.01	F.E.G.
			F2645.01	F.M.A/CO	G0970.02	G&CO
			J8200.01	J.V.F/Co		
L235	10/-Grey-Green	PI.1	B0640.01	BB&CO	B7720.04	B/W&Co
			G0970.02	G&CO		

ALLCHINS -Again!

Dave Hill

In the past a few of us have tried to reconstruct the alphabet that Allchin used for their perfin dies. After all we have 2 long, slightly different, lists of their clients c1905 and by comparing with identified dies for that time we should be able to pin-point their alphabet. But we have failed. Or at least we have found too many alphabets, although we are almost sure letters with "cut corners", ie 'OV that look like octagons, could belong to Allchin, the evidence is not conclusive.

Why is this, when Sloper's later alphabet is so obvious?

Let us consider the "big 3" of perfins in the early 1900's. Waterlow and Allchin each only did about 15% of Sloper's output, "the rest" also together did 15%. Waterlow used their "SPG" variable dies for clients who did not want to pay for their own, special die. I am unsure if the alphabet they used for their special dies can be determined. We only have a short, late, list of Waterlow clients at the time they gave the work to Sloper. But the "SPG" alphabet is quite common and easily recognised, for 3 or 2 letter perfins. I think this is because they had few clients but many repeat orders. On the other hand, I think Allchins had many clients but few repeat orders so date of use and postmark evidence is scant. Hence the perfins of many known Allchin clients have not been identified.

Despite Slopers apparent fear of competition, he did about 70% of the total output of perfins, according to a Post Office survey in 1906, amounting to stamps to the value of over £500,000. Many of these stamps would have been the ½d value, a few £1. If we take 1d as an average that is about 130 million stamps per year.

Also consider their business. Slopers did perfins, perfin machines, ticket, cheque and dating machines as well as other prototype engineering. They also, later, printed overprints for receipt stamps. Waterlows were security printers of stamps, banknotes and cheques, but not necessarily engineers. Such well-known names as Perkins Bacon and Harrisons came unstuck when they first got stamp printing contracts! Allchins had a sub post office in a chemists (it still exists) and were the

biggest producers of stamp coils before they were printed continuously on the web (and after, not all stamps were always printed on the web). Simple machinery was available to do this so I think their workforce would have been mainly unskilled and female. (Note did Allchins produce coils for Sloper to perfin for the clients who had affixing machines that did not perfin stamps?)

Where I have succeeded in identifying at least one Allchin alphabet, I think it was by concentrating on clients whose titles ended "& Co.Ld." (they invariably abbreviated this to just Co.Ld.) Reasoning that repetition of this would have encouraged the person making the die to copy. In all I found 17 users with very similar perfin endings, 4 of which I put forward as possible new identities.

These lower letters were often differently spaced or irregular, the upright of 'L' of 'Ld' often leans one way or the other. The stops were also sometimes missing. Of the upper letters of all the above perfins, a few were well formed if sometimes irregular, the errors may have come about in marking out or drilling. But often they had the characteristic cut corners, but never the bottom letters. Also the upper letters of different perfins sometimes coincided, rather uncannily, as though a common grid (but not necessarily a straight grid) had been used. Or the letters aligned just one grid across. Sometimes the letters are seriffed and look very different but are not.

Known or Suspected '/Co.Ld' Dies

A2540.01	AG/Co.Ld	Alfred Goslett & Co Ltd, Lon. WC] these two very
A3590.01	AL/Co.Ld.	Alfred Leney & Co Ltd, Dover] similar
B7470.01	B.V/Co.Ld.	Bolckow, Vaughan & Co Ltd, Middlesborough
C5950.01	CP/Co.Ld.	Consolidated Petroleum Co Ltd, Lon. EC -seriffed "P"
F0370.01	F.B/Co.Ld.	Faire Bros. & Co Ltd, Leicester
F4407.01	F.W/Co.Ld.	Furness Withy & Co Ltd, West Hartlepool
H3300.O1	H.H/Co.Ld.	Hick, Hargreaves & Co Ltd, Bolton
H6160.01	H.R/Co.Ld.	Henry Rossel & Co Ltd, Sheffield
P0630.01a	P.B/Co.Ld.	Pyman Bell & Co Ltd, Newcastle-seriffed "F" & "B"
V0380.01	V/Co.Ld.	Vinolia Co Ltd, London NW
W3110.01	WG/Co.Ld.	William Gray & Co Ltd, Hartlepool
Y0225.01	Y/Co.Ld.	Yarrow & Co Ltd, Poplar E, Lon. - seriffed "Y"

Have you the following perfins with these postmarks dated c1905 so we can assume suspected identities?

- C1305.01 CC/Co.Ld. ? Copestake Crampton & Co Ltd, Bow Churchyard, EC
[See earlier article on Copestake Crampton perfins, "Cs with "cut corners", name added on 2nd Allchin list in typescript]
- C7029.01 CSE/Co. Ld. ? Clydesdale Shipbuilding & Engineering Co Ltd,
Port Glasgow
- D5095.01 D.V/Co.Ld ? Davenport Vernon & Co Ltd, High Wycombe
- J2515.O1 JE/Co.Ld. ? Jesse Ellis & Co Ltd, Maidstone

To be continued, but in conclusion to this first part I do not think one die was altered to make another. There are not enough examples of slightly different perfins to make me think that, as there is with Waterlow 'SPG' dies.

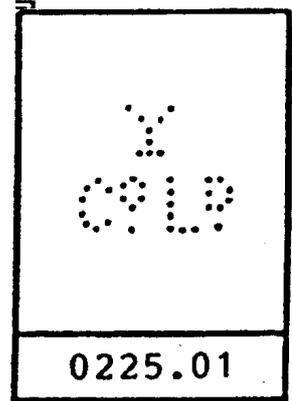
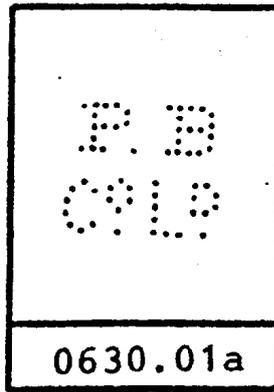
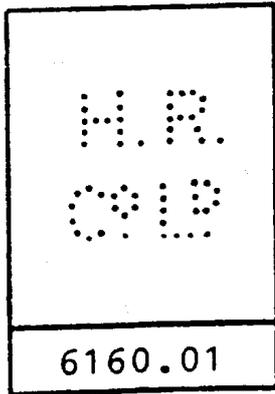
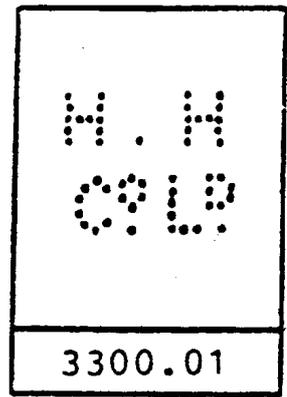
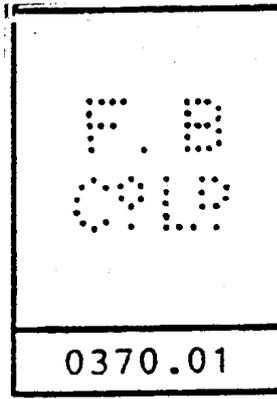
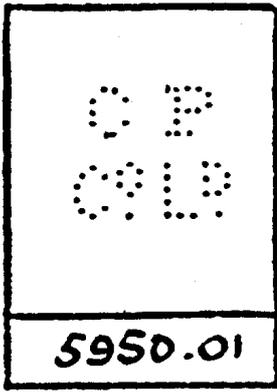
POSTSCRIPT

I maintained in the first part of this article that Allchin dies were not altered to make another die.

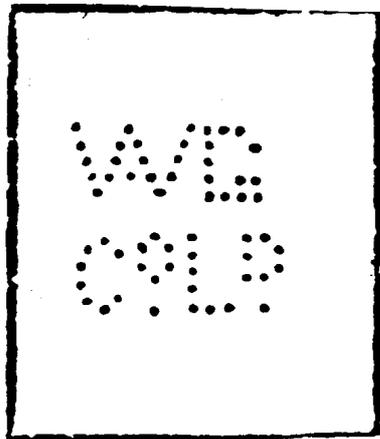
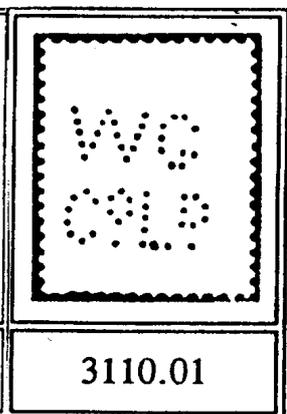
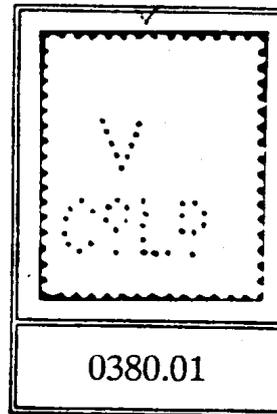
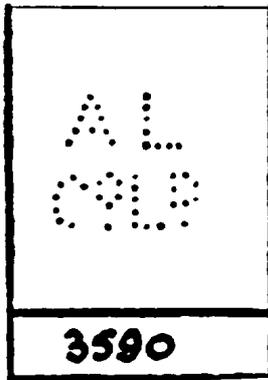
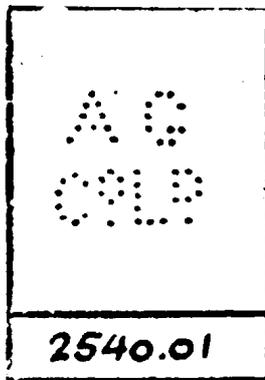
There is only one exception where Roy has allocated variable status to an Allchin die, that is for the dies of Kelly's Directories Ltd.

Although coming close are the 4 dies, J5293.01, a, b & c, all of which I think belong to Allchin client J Mailing & Co of Newcastle and Wolverhampton and the 4 (or more) dies J8600.03, a, b & c which I think belong to Allchin client Josiah Wedgwood & Sons of Stoke on Trent, although this is not listed in Tomkins. These last dies have badly formed "S's" which it shares with other perfins which could also be for Allchin clients.

Both the above groups of perfins have a "J" with cut corners to the lower loop. This is also shared with 2 other perfins but of a larger alphabet. J0660.03b is known used by Allchin client, Jones Bros & Co of Wolverhampton. I think the same die, but with the 'o' of 'Co' removed, J0580.01, belongs to Allchin client Jackson Bros & Cory, London EC. Has anyone got this last perfin with EC postmarks, dated c1905? If so, Roy may accept for another suspected identity.

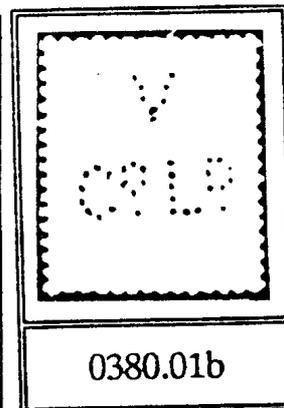
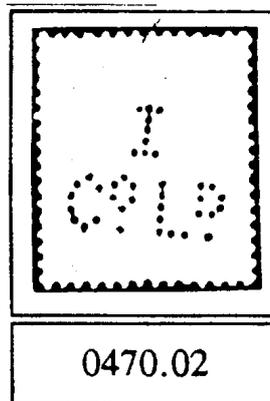
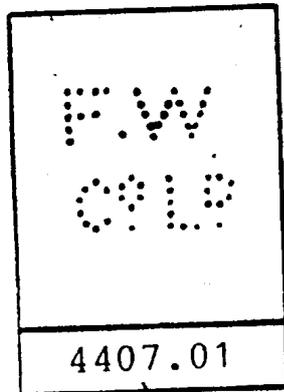
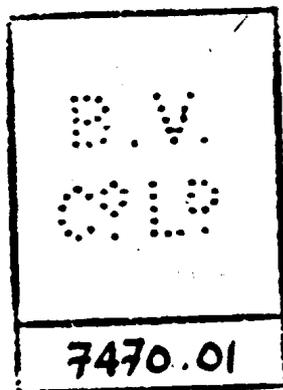


Smaller alphabet families

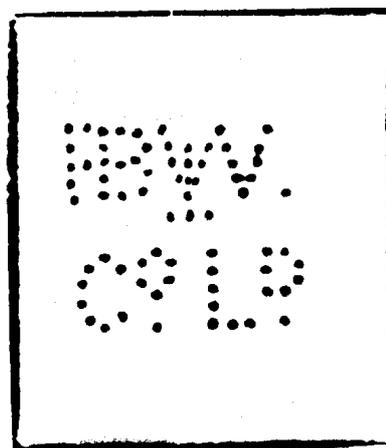


These could have been made from one pattern as illustrated on the enlarged photocopy alongside

The following perfins use a slightly wider spaced "Co.Ld."



These could all have been made from the pattern illustrated alongside.



If you have these dies dated c1905 please let me know

