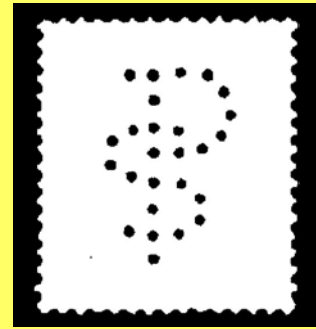


# **G.B. PERFIN SOCIETY BULLETIN**



No. 350 – October 2007



1877 envelope used London to Hamburg with London “L1” (Late Fee) duplex dated Feb 26<sup>th</sup> 1877. The stamps are paying the 2½d, ½oz rate with a 1d late fee charge. All three stamps (1d Plate 170, 2d Plate 15 AK, ½d Plate 5) have the perfin C1525.03 C&Co.. The cover bears the identity of Colley & Co, East India Merchants, 19 Great Winchester St, London EC.

## **EDITORIAL**

I hope that members enjoyed the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Bulletin. Feedback that I have had seems to be generally favourable. A few copies went out with a blank page for which I apologise. If it affected you please let me know and we will try and replace your copy. As you will see we have decided to smarten up the Bulletin a bit with the introduction of a colour cover. If any member has a prize item that would look good if featured on the cover please send me a scan and a little information about it. Otherwise you may be seeing a lot of pieces from my collection – you have been warned!

## **SECRETARY'S/TREASURER**

Subscriptions were due 1<sup>st</sup> September £10 (UK), £12 (Europe/abroad-surface) £15 (abroad- airmail). If you haven't already paid please make an effort to send in your subscription. Because there was no reminder in the August Bulletin a number of members have not yet paid. Please check whether you are one of them as I prefer not to send reminders.

### **International money transfers**

The bank has changed our codes, they should be:

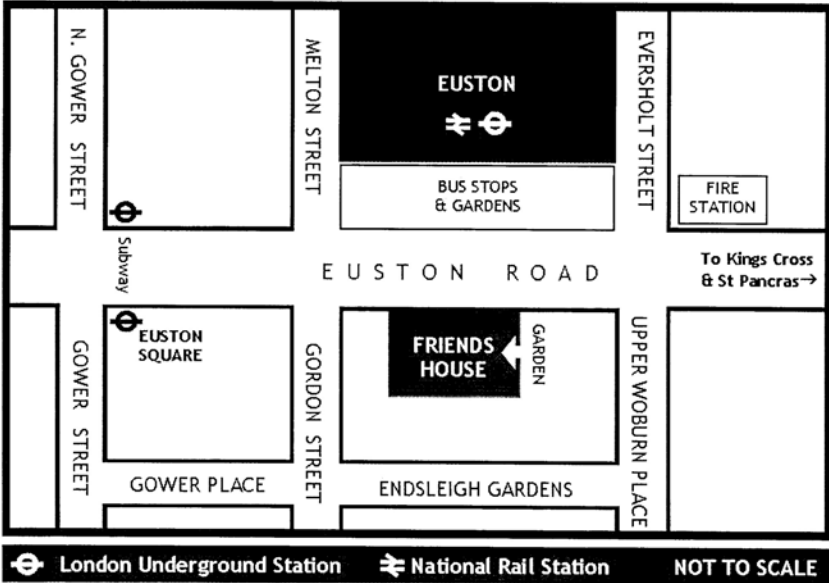
This is not much used as I think it's a little expensive.

On the subject of payment, a few members have asked me about Paypal, it's not a thing I use myself, or trust. I don't buy anything from abroad and am unwilling to take on another task. I will discuss with other officers but do think that it is probably something that should be done from the desk of the Secretary/Treasurer.

You may have noticed above that **John Luft** has died. John was one of the unsung heroes of the Society in that he took care stuffing the envelopes with the Bulletin and Auction for over 17 years. Members are generally not aware of the effort required to get the Bulletin to them. For John to have handled the task for so long was indeed beyond the call of duty. The Society extends its condolences to John's family

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – NOVEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>**

A last reminder that the London AGM meeting of the Society will be held as usual in the Rooms 10 + 11 at Friend House, 173 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ on November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1:30 to 5:00.



There is a map above and as you will see Friends House is right next to the Euston mainline station (where there is parking) and the Euston and Euston Square underground stations.

If you are coming, please bring along a few pages from your collection to share with other members. There will be a little time spent on Society business and as usual there will be the chance to talk with other members and to buy and sell surplus material.

## MEMBERS REQUESTS

**Dave Hill** says he may have asked this before but before he consigns it to the pile headed “natures imponderables” he will ask again. He has part of a receipt bearing a 1d George V typo perfin LS/McD, L5120.01. It bears the identity of John Line & Sons Ltd but Dave is reluctant to claim it as a new identity without further explanation of the McD bit. John Line were part of Wallpaper Manufacturers, a consortium of similar companies formed in the 1900’s to avoid competition and share the available business without over manufacturing. But I can find no associated companies with the initials McD. A “borrowed” perfin was unlikely to be used on something as official as a receipt. I’ve looked up the signature across the stamp but can find no “Haworth” as a director of Lines or a McD. I even thought it might be a stockbroker’s receipt for shares or premium but again can find none with the initials McD. Any thoughts before I file it under “Dunno”!?

**Jeff Turnbull** would like to ask members for any information on perfins on GB Telegraph stamps!! He would like information on the stamp value & plate Number with corner letters, dates & places of use, cancels etc.

Members can either e-mail the information or write to him at my address on the front of the Bulletin.

He already has some information from a past member John Evans which was collated some 10 years ago, but in the ensuing years he has managed to collect other Telegraph stamp perfins and feels it is time to up date the information. Hopefully once the information has been collected a listing can be published in the Bulletin or as a separate publication.

**Robert Rowe** has copies of the last 20 years of the Bulletin, 1984 to 2005 if anyone wants them for the postage, approx £10 UK, please let Dave Hill know and he will pass the information on. *[Ed: - I also have an extensive back run of Bulletins (1990-2005) for disposal on a similar basis – please get in touch if you are interested].*

## MEMBERS COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

### Seen In Auction – Transatlantic Flight Cover - Bulletin 348/6

**Rudy Roy** writes offering a possible correct interpretation of the routing of the airmail cover noted on Bulletin 348 page 6 in the **SEEN IN AUCTION** item by **Michael Miller**.

In March 1941 PANAM was successfully operating trans- Atlantic and trans-Pacific flights. The handwritten notation on the lower left of the cover - "Via North Atlantic and Pan Pacific Service" indicates that this cover was to be transported via the regularly scheduled PANAM flights.

From June 1940 until 7 Dec 1941 the airmail rate from Great Britain to New Zealand - by air across the Atlantic, by air across the US, and by air to New Zealand was 4/ 6d per half ounce. This cover - with 18/- - weighed up to 2 ounces. The Imperial Airways route across the Mediterranean had been severed in June 1940 with France's collapse and Italy's entrance into the war, and the Horseshoe Route down through Africa was not yet operational.

The route across the Atlantic (North Atlantic) was the US FAM-18 route from Southampton via Foynes, Ireland, Botwood, Newfoundland, Shediac, New Brunswick, to New York. From New York the cover would have flown via US domestic airline to either San Francisco or Los Angeles, California. There it would have been placed on the Pacific (Pan Pacific) US FAM-19 route to Auckland, NZ via Honolulu, Hawaii, Canton Island, and Noumea, New Caledonia.

This cover is what airmail collectors would describe as a "two ocean cover" and that is probably why it realized a high price at auction.

References: *Air Mail Operations During World War II*,  
by Thomas Boyle, 1998,  
published by the American Air Mail Society

*American Air Mail Catalogue, Vol III, 6th edition, 2003*

## SEEN IN AUCTION

A rather unusual piece is currently being sold by Bill Barrell Ltd and is shown below. It is a piece of headed notepaper from Oxford Local Examinations with 6d, 9d, 10d, 1/- green Jubilees each with perfin OL/E O1030.02. Asking price £175.00.



O1030.02

Lastly Colonial Stamps Company of Los Angeles had for sale an "unrecorded 1d Crown & "B. T." perfin Plate 206 Variety - perfin reversed rare.....\$1000.00". If you didn't fancy spending \$1000 for a forgery you could have bought a similar perfin forgery but from plate 162 for just £4.95 on ebay.

A interesting item on e-bay was the sale of a copy of the Tomkins/McKee Catalog Album which was published by Harvey Tilles in the US back in 1977. The copy contained a thousand or so perfins and sold for £92 – was the buyer after the catalogue or the stamps – a good realisation either way.

An unusual cover shown overleaf was sold on e-bay in July. The cover shows a QV 1d Fiscal postally used by the General Life and Fire Assurance Company. This is certainly an unusual combination of a postal fiscal with perfin on an identifying cover. The item realised £33.



## GLASGOW INITIAL PERFORATOR

Maurice Harp

I stumbled across the colour advertisement shown overleaf for the printers and stationers Allan & Ferguson on an excellent website [www.theglasgowstory.com](http://www.theglasgowstory.com). The advertisement is from the back of the *Post Office Glasgow directory* of 1891-1892. The phone number at the top was apparently one of the first ever to appear in an advertisement in a Glasgow directory. The advert states that the company supplies “*initial perforating machines, numbering dating and all kinds of endorsing machines*”. As far I can tell the company didn’t use perfins themselves – indeed there are no recorded “A&F” perfins. I have been unable to find out much about this company or even indeed how long they operated in Glasgow. The company was a renowned lithographer and engraver and I have found them recorded in an 1869 directory. They were associated with the production of a number of classic illustrated books. Can any member provide additional information on this company, in particular their period of operation? Could this be the company that produced the famous “OinCo” perfins?

TELEPHONE N<sup>o</sup> 1197.

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(Over)



## PERFIN SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

Jeff Turnbull

I have produced an updated list of the prices of Society Publications. Members requiring any of these publications should direct their enquiries to me at my address shown on the page 2 of the Bulletin. All prices are in £ sterling and include postage and packing.

PUBLICATION	HOME	EUROPE	WORLD
GB Perfin Society History - Rucklidge	3-50	4-50	5-50
Stamp Show 2000 Colour Book	18-00	19-00	21-50
Tomkin Identities Catalogue 10th Ed 2004	13-50	16-00	19-00
Slopers History	3-50	4-50	5-50
Wartime Provisionals Details	8-50	10-00	11-50
Foreign Bills – Turnbull Details	8-50	10-50	13-50
Railway Perfins – Bowman Details	8-50	10-50	13-50
Hospital Dies Details	3-50	4-50	6-00
GB Official Perfins – Edwards/Lucas	6-50	7-50	9-00
Handbook of GB Perfins - Nelson	4-00	5-00	6-50
Silver Jubilees Details + Updates	5-50	6-50	8-50
British Empire Exhibition – Nelson Details	3-50	4-50	6-50
Graphite Lined Issues Details + Silhouettes	1-50	2-00	3-00
Monograms Details + Silhouettes	3-50	4-50	6-00
Regional Perfins Details + Silhouettes	2-50	3-00	3-50
46 <sup>th</sup> Parliamentary Union Details	1-50	2-00	3-00
Curved Perfins Details	1-50	2-00	3-00
Gault (D) Details	10-50	13-00	15-00
Gault (D) Silhouettes	4-00	5-00	6-00
Gault (E) Details	10-50	13-00	15-00
Gault (E) Silhouettes	4-00	5-00	6-00
Gault (F) Details	10-50	13-00	15-00
Gault (F) Silhouettes	4-00	5-00	6-00
Gault (I) Details	4-50	5-50	7-00
Gault (I) Silhouettes	3-50	4-50	6-00
Gault (J) Part 1 Details	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (J) Part 2 Details	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (J) Part 3 Details	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (J) Silhouettes	5-50	6-50	7-50

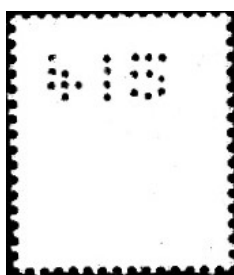
PUBLICATION	HOME	EUROPE	WORLD
Gault (K) Details	4-50	5-50	7-00
Gault (K) Silhouettes	3-50	4-50	6-00
Gault (L) Details	11-00	13-50	15-50
Gault (L) Silhouettes	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (M) Details	11-00	13-50	15-50
Gault (M) Silhouettes	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (N) Details	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (N) Silhouettes	4-00	5-00	6-00
Gault (O & Q) Details	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (O & Q) Silhouettes	3-00	4-00	5-50
Gault (P) Details	10-50	13-00	15-00
Gault (P) Silhouettes	4-00	5-00	6-00
Gault (R) Part 1 Details	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (R) Part 2 Details	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (R) Silhouettes	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (S) Part 1 Details	5-00	6-00	7-00
Gault (S) Part 2 Details	5-00	6-00	7-00
Gault (S) Part 3 Details	5-00	6-00	7-00
Gault (S) Silhouettes	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (T) Part 1 Details	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (T) Part 2 Details	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (T) Silhouettes	4-00	5-00	6-00
Gault (U, V, X) Details	5-00	6-00	7-00
Gault (U, V, X) Silhouettes	3-50	4-50	6-00
Gault (W) Part 1 Details	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (W) Part 2 Details	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (W) Part 3 Details	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (W) Silhouettes	5-00	6-50	8-00
Gault (Y, Z, Des, Nos) Details 2007	5-00	6-00	7-00
Gault (Y, Z, Des, Nos) Silhouettes 2007	3-50	4-50	6-00
Gault QVic Line Engraved (Part one)	11-00	13-50	15-50

## APPEAL FOR INFORMATION

Jeff Turnbull

### Building and Civil Engineering Holiday Scheme

I have recently acquired these two Building & Civil Engineering Holiday Scheme stamps (5/- & 10/-) with the “perfin” of 415. These holiday scheme stamps have been recorded before in our Bulletin. In Bulletin 237/6 a 12/- stamp with SA/McA (probably McAlpine) was recorded and in Bulletin 341/19 a 5/6d stamp with perfin SLP (probably used by Sir Lindsay Parkinson & Co Ltd). Can any member make any suggestion as to what the 415 might stand for?



### Foreign Bill Perfin - SBSA

I bought this Foreign Bill perfin stamp the other day, and when I looked in the Foreign Bill Catalogue it turned out to be a new die that has not previously been recorded.

It is **SBSA** and is used by the **Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd London** (cachet on stamp). There is a similar perfin in the catalogue but this is a much shorter version with a distinctive “A”.

SBSA

(New Die)

SBSA

(Old Die – S 05.00)

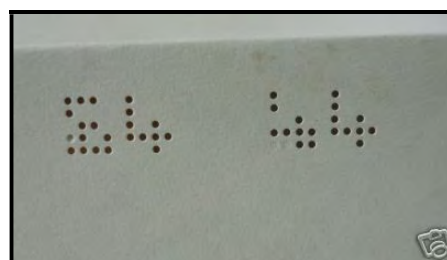


## SLOPER MACHINE “No 49”

Stephen Steere

A Joseph Sloper perforating machine (No. 49) has recently appeared on e-bay with a starting price of £9. The machine was described as being used to stamp numbers into X-ray film and is probably similar to that used by Kodak film processors that resulted in the well-known numeral “perfins”. The machine is fitted with two brass wheels that rotate to select the required number and is operated by a large handle on the right side. The description goes on to say that it is believed to be more than 80 years old and that it weighs 18kg. The machine finally sold for the reserve price.

A similar machine owned by member **Ian Hamill** but fitted with six wheels was illustrated in Bulletin 335. His machine was used as a “PAID/DATE” cancellator.



## **ADDITIONS TO PERFORATED POSTAL STATIONERY**

**Rosemary Smith**

I have received a number of new pieces of information on perfins on Postal Stationery from a number of members and non-members. Some of the information has come via the Postal Stationery Society who are currently reprinting the information from our Bulletin.

### **Postal Stationery Cards**

#### **Queen Victoria ½d Type 2**

In the National Postal Museum, London is a card perforated:-  
G4350.01 GR/W 31-12-81 Great Western Railway

#### **Queen Victoria 1d Brown Type 3**

B6730.03 B&S/Ld 21-01-90 Baches & Strauss Ltd, London  
This is already known on a Queen Victoria 1d Type 4

### **Postal Stationery Envelopes**

#### **King George V 1d Red Type 2**

W5260.02M WM/C<sup>o</sup> 19-01-15 & 01-06-15  
Wolseley Motors Co - later Wolseley Motors Ltd

### **Postal Stationery Wrappers**

#### **Queen Victoria ½d Green Type 2**

H5780.04 HP/C<sup>o</sup>L<sup>d</sup> This is the confirmation from Bulletin 348/21

#### **Queen Victoria ½d Brown Type 2**

B1290.02	BC/ & C <sup>o</sup>	Bouch, Coath & Co, London EC
B6130.05	B&R	Cut-out only

## Queen Victoria 1d Brown Type 3

A1010.04 AC Anglo-Continental Guano Works

This was from a picture on the Internet and the Cat. No. is only suspected because of the distinctive 3 holes in a straight line at the top of the 'C'.

### Postal Stationery Registered Envelopes

#### King Edward VII 3d Brown

B2610.02 BF 03-10-11 Barclay & Fry

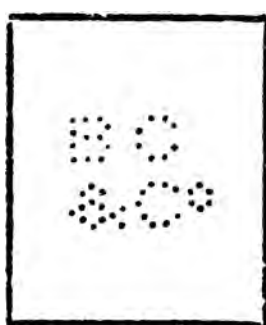
The 'BF' is not perforated through the stamp but at the left hand side, sideways, above the words "FEE PAID". Probably the envelope was put in the perforating machine upside down.

### Perforated Telegraph Forms

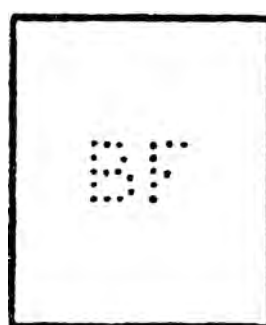
In Bulletin 322/17 was shown a King Edward VII Telegraph Form with perfin GM/&G (G3400.01). Although the form was unused, the date of printing was "5/12" (May 1912) and the printer simply "Wy.& S., Ltd.". **Geoff Bentley** has now sent a photocopy of a similar Telegraph Form, 6d in value, King Edward VII and perfin GM/&G (G3400.01). However, the printer is given as "M<sup>c</sup>Corquodale & Co Ltd" and the date as "1/05" (Jan. 1905). Not a new die but an earlier date.



A1010.04



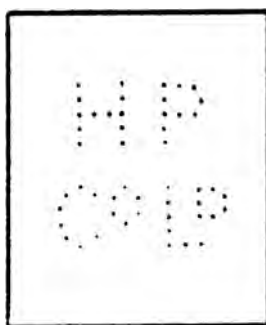
B1290.02



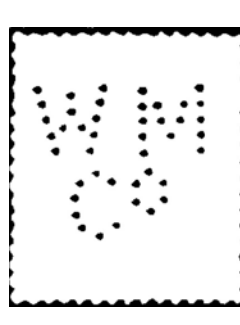
B2610.02



B6130.05



H5780.04

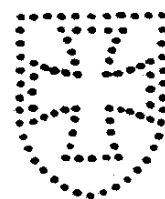


W5260.02M

## PRIVATE USE OF CARLISLE PERFIN ?

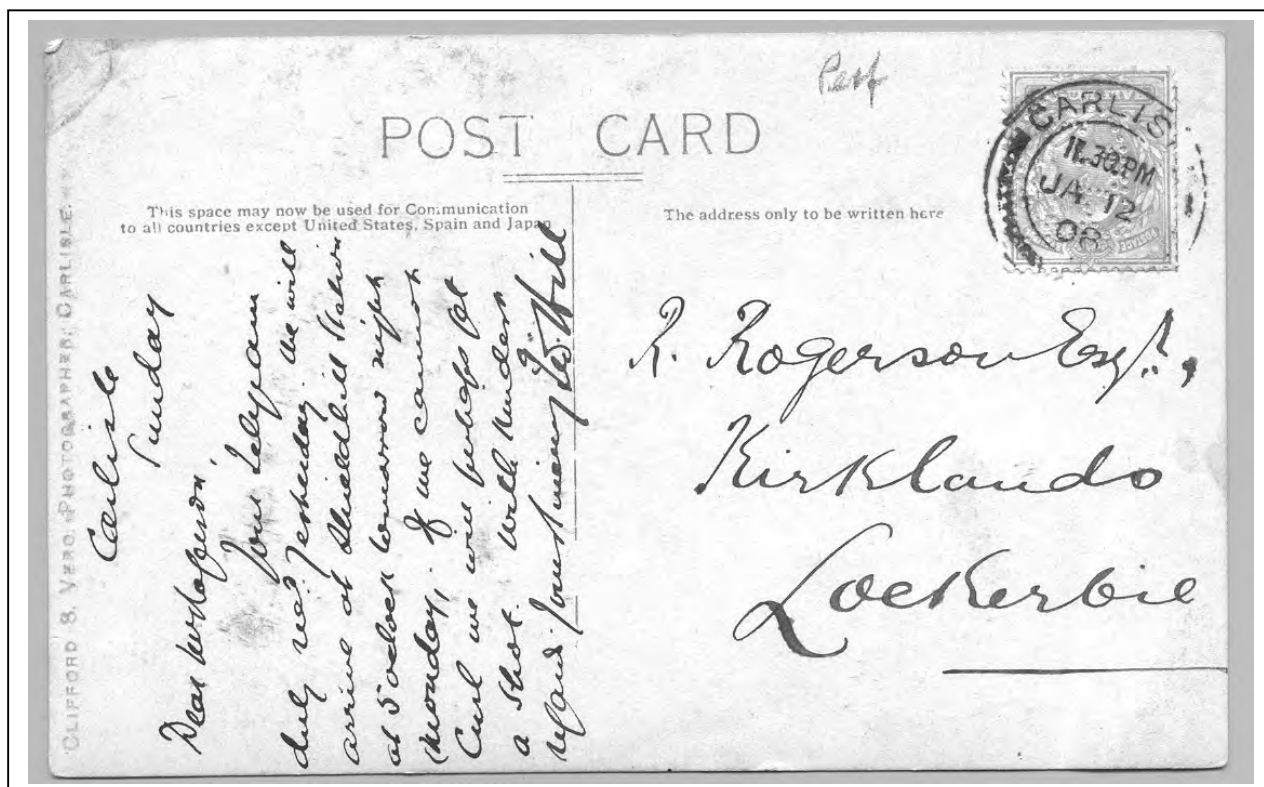
John Mathews

I recently came across a postcard which at first glance, seemed to be an example of “illegal” private use of a perfin. The perfin pattern on the inverted ½d green KEVII stamp is Design 0130.01, known used from 1895 to 1918, and



Des 0130.01

attributed to user “Town Clerk’s Office, Carlisle”. The design of a Maltese Cross within a shield outline is the Coat of Arms of the city of Carlisle.



### Message side of the Carlisle postcard

Out of curiosity, I tried to find “G. W. Hill” of Carlisle on the 1901 Census, but there was no such person in Carlisle. I then turned my attention to Post Office Directories, of which the 1906 and 1910 editions are available online. These Directories show that George Hill was Chief Constable for the City of Carlisle in 1906 and 1910. Was this the writer of the message?

The picture side of the card shows a man in a uniform, which does not appear to be a military uniform, but to me it looked as if it could be the formal uniform of a Chief Constable. The hand-stamped “Clifford S. Vero, Photographer, Carlisle” indicates that this is not a mass-produced commercial picture postcard, but rather a personal portrait in a similar style to the older “calling cards” and produced by a local photographer (as were the “train crash” cards). This also seemed to support the idea that the person in the portrait was a local official of some sort. Clifford S.



Vero appears in the 1910 Directory but not in the 1906 Directory, so the portrait must have been taken in late 1906 or 1907 (the card is postmarked “JA 12 / 08”).

George Hill is not in the County of Cumberland in the 1897 or 1901 Directories, which suggests that he was appointed as Chief Constable from outside the County. This would explain his personal portrait postcard having been made by the Carlisle photographer following his appointment.

George Hill’s appointment as Chief Constable was terminated by the Council on 7 January 1913 after the manager of the Carlisle Motor Company alleged victimization because they refused him use of a free car. George Hill pleaded illness and went on a month’s sick leave, at the end of which he claimed still to be ill, and asked for either another six months’ sick leave or to be retired on pension. [“The Times”, Wednesday 8 January 1913, page 4].



## ROWNTREE & CO. LTD., YORK

### Rosemary Smith

Joseph Rowntree was born on May 24th 1836 at his father's shop in Pavement, in the centre of York. He was the second of five children: his older brother being John and the other siblings, Henry Isaac, Hannah and Sarah Jane. His parents held strong Quaker beliefs, as had several generations of his family.

England at this time was still a place where only one man in six had the vote and two thirds of the population worked in the countryside. Farmers and their families used to come into the market centre of York, known as the Pavement, to sell their animals and produce and to stock up with groceries.

The Rowntree's shop was central to this trade and Joseph was apprenticed to his father at the age of fifteen. This was to provide Joseph with the basic business acumen, which served him well in his career that was to last for the next 71 years.

After a brief period in London when he was 21, to broaden his grocery experience, he returned to the Pavement and became a partner in his father's business. He married but his first wife died due to poor health, leaving one daughter. His second marriage produced five children.



Joseph Rowntree  
1836-1925

In 1868 he joined his brother Henry Isaac who then owned a cocoa, chocolate and chicory works at Tanner's Moat near the river Ouse. The business developed slowly until in 1879 a Frenchman, Claude Gachet, introduced French gums to Joseph and Henry and in 1881 'crystallised gum pastilles' were sold by Rowntree's. In 1883 twice as many people were employed as in 1881, largely due to the introduction and popularity of these gums. Henry Isaac died in 1883 leaving Joseph alone in developing the business. This he did with a move to a larger specially built factory at Haxby

Road. In 1897 Rowntree & Co became Limited, with Joseph Rowntree as Chairman. When Joseph retired in 1923 he had seen his company grow from a staff of 12 to over 7,000 in the space of 55 years.

From the outset of his career he had always adopted a democratic attitude with his workforce and was always aware of their welfare. He introduced pensions, clubs, as well as profit sharing, which helped to develop a warm and close relationship with his employees. In 1918 he introduced an annual week's holiday with full pay. At the time of his death in 1925 the company was established as one of the major manufacturing forces in England and the foundation for greater success was set.

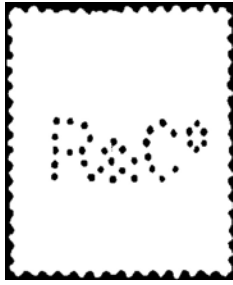
Rowntrees was synonymous with Jelly and many of the ten flavours used in 1923 are still in use today. The popularity of Rowntree's jelly has not waned but increased and in 1983 thirteen times the amount manufactured in 1923 was produced.

In 1969 Rowntree & Co Ltd and John Mackintosh & Sons Ltd (user of perfin J.M./HX J5360.01) became Rowntree Mackintosh Ltd. In 1987 the company changed its name to Rowntree plc and the following year, 1988, Nestle SA bought the company.

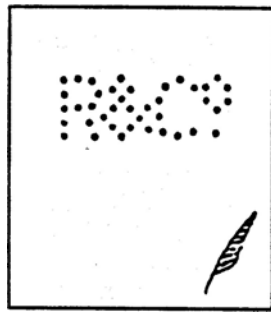
In the Gault Illustrated Catalogue with Details, there are three R&C<sup>o</sup> dies which have not been identified. All are known with York postmarks. R1037.03 "R&C<sup>o</sup>." is known from 1895-1901: R1037.02 "R&C<sup>o</sup>." and R1030.09 "R&C<sup>o</sup>" both from 1903-1905. The die R1090.01 "R&C<sup>o</sup>/Ltd" (1905-1970), die R1080.03 "R&C<sup>o</sup>/Ld" (1905-1936) and die R1110.01M "RC<sup>o</sup>/Y" (1935-1985) are all identified used by Rowntree & Co Ltd. RC<sup>o</sup>/Y is known with the 'o' of C<sup>o</sup> missing on values 'R' and 'Q'.

I would therefore suggest that the three "R&C<sup>o</sup>" dies above are very possibly earlier Rowntree & Company perfins.

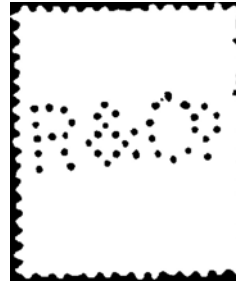
It is worth noting that die R1090.01 "R&C<sup>o</sup>/Ltd" is only seen on KEVII and KGV Perforated Postal Stationery Envelopes and on KGV & QEII P.P.S. Registered Envelopes. I have had one report of a KEVII ½d green P.P.S. Envelope for R1080.03.



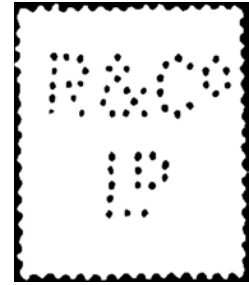
R1030.09



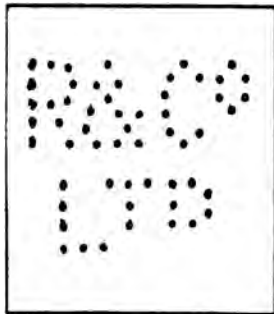
R1037.02



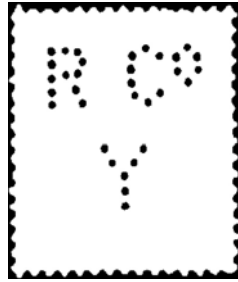
R1037.03



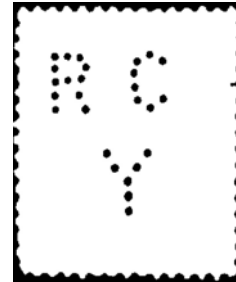
R1080.03



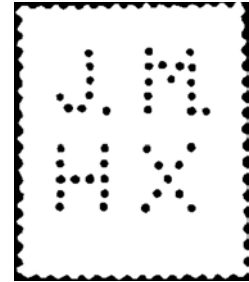
R1090.01



R1110.01M



R110.01M  
(missing "o")



J5360.01

**MANCHESTER PARCEL DELIVERY Co. PERFIN**

**Jeff Turnbull**

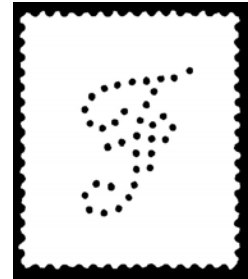
I have recently bought an unusual item, and thought that other members might be interested in it. It is a Private Company Frank Stamp for parcel delivery, used by the **Manchester Parcel Delivery Co.**, Chief Office 38 Fountain St, Manchester. The perfin is **G3490.01 "GM/&S"** user unknown. If anyone can provide any information on this item or the perfin die please write in and let me know (address on page 2). I would presume that the user of GM/&S was a Manchester firm.



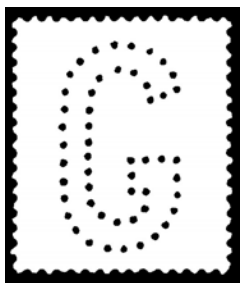
*[Ed: All I can add is that from an 1873 Kelly's directory the Manchester Parcel Delivery Co., (Thomas Wood, proprietor) was based at Barlows Court, Market St, Manchester.]*

**NEW ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE**  
**SECTIONS “F” AND “G”**  
**Roy Gault**

Section “F” of the ‘New Illustrated Catalogue’ has been completed and is now available from Jeff Turnbull. In total there are 905 different “F” dies, which is a huge increase of 13% on the 801 known after the April 1993 update. The number of suspected and positively identified F’s has also risen to 461, which is just over 50%.



In passing, 2<sup>nd</sup> Editions for the low-volume letters “U” and “V” are now at the proof reading stage. Inevitably, these have also increased in the intervening years since first published in 1993 to 227 U’s and 186 V’s. The last two remaining low-volume letters requiring an update, “I” and “K”, will be tackled next year. I expect these two letters to involve over 350 dies each. The ‘deadline’ for submission of details of new dies and additional information to that published for the letter “I” is January 31<sup>st</sup> 2008, and 31<sup>st</sup> July 2008 for the letter “K”.



The draft for the letter “G” has also been started, and as I write, is approaching the half-way mark. The final figure for the G’s is expected to be over 1,050 different dies on some 125 pages. There’s still time to let me know of any new “G” dies you may have as it won’t be ready for publication until early next year.

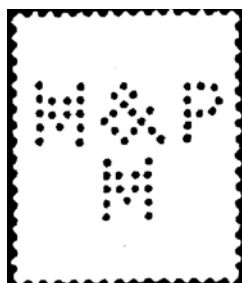
Although I can’t give a precise time table for the completion of the remaining four ‘unpublished’ letters H (1,600), A (1,200), B (2,000), and C (2,000), I can say that they will be dealt with in that order. I’m so looking forward to “CZAR” (C8770.02)! The figures in brackets are an estimate of how many dies are likely to be involved. The final figure for all letters will probably be 24,000 different dies.

Finally, when I embarked on this project way back in 1993, tests with the letter “O” pointed to a completion date of 2000. How wrong I was! The reality is that it’s likely to be 2010 for the completion of all letters, and 2012 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> editions of the early large letters such as “S”, “J”, and “W”. Then we have the London Olympics to look forward to!

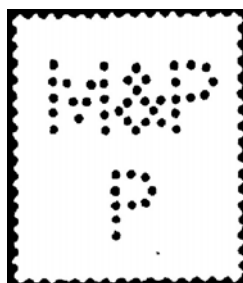
## MATHER & PLATT LTD

Alan Randall Jones

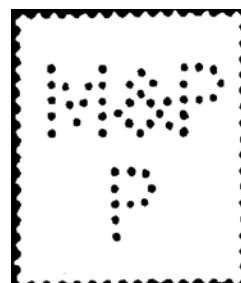
I used to work for the engineering firm of Mather & Platt Ltd. Fire Protection, Pump and Textile Engineers. Manchester, and for the majority of the post, Pitney Bowes or Roneo meters were used. The Post Room however used to keep a small quantity of the most used low value postage stamps on hand for late mail that had missed the afternoon collection. To prevent misuse, the stamps were perforated with M&P/M, M&P/P and M&P/R.



M4540.01



M4560.01



M4560.01a

The best information that I have of the use of these dies is as follows:

1. The 'M&P/M' die was originally intended for use at (a) Salford Ironworks, Manchester and (b) at Gorton Tank, Manchester. It was generally thought that the 'M' indicated 'Manchester' but not so; it was for 'Miles Platting', the district in which the Head Office and Main Works were situated.
2. It was used until stamp stocks ran out and then the 'M&P/P' was introduced for Park Works, Newton Heath, Miles Platting, Manchester. Salford Ironworks had closed about the time of WWI. Gorton Tank was still operative in 1990 when I retired but "winding down" as the need for large pressure vessels decreased.
3. 'M&P/R' was, I believe, used at Radcliffe until the closure of the works in the early 90's. They had their own Post Room but whether the stamps were purchased centrally and perforated at Park Works or purchased locally I do not know. The two works were about 12/14 miles apart. I am sure that this die did exist.  
*[Ed: Alan reports the use of this die but it has not been reported in our catalogue. Could I ask members to have a look at their collection and check whether they might have a copy of this die.]*

4. The correct addresses for each firm was:
  - a. Salford Ironworks. (Mather & Platt Ltd.), Salford, Manchester.
  - b. Gorton Tank Ltd. (Mather & Platt Ltd.), Gorton, Manchester
  - c. Mather & Platt Ltd. Park Works, Newton Heath, Miles Plating, Manchester.
  - d. Mather & Platt Ltd, Radcliffe Works, Radcliffe New Road, Radcliffe, Manchester.



Sir William Mather  
1838-1920 head of  
Mather & Platt

During a conversation one day with the Tool Room Foreman and the Works Director, it transpired that to save time and reduce costs, many years previously, some time in the 1930s, the Tool Room had made a perforating machine for the Post Room. The machine was kept in the office of the Works Director until required to perforate a new consignment of stamps. The sheets of stamps were folded into quarters and then perforated, this meant that some perforations were upside down, some back to front and some the correct way. The Tool Room Foreman said that it had been no

big deal to make the perforator, one Saturday morning had sufficed because it was a straightforward task that could have been left to a senior apprentice. When I asked the present whereabouts of the machine in the late 1990s, I was told that it had recently been kept in the firm's strong room for safety. Now that the works and the old offices have been demolished and I have retired, I have no idea what eventually happened to it. Most of the people concerned have long since passed away.

Die 4560.01a is listed in the catalogue with postmarks of Rochdale, Hyde and Droylsden. These postmarks could well be because late post may have been taken by someone and posted locally on their way home from work. In the normal course of events, the Newton Street Sorting Office in central Manchester collected and handled the firm's mail and this would have Manchester postmark. Between the wars, it is possible that it would have had an 'Openshaw' Manchester postmark, as that office handled a lot of the East Manchester postings.

## FRANCIS FALKNER

Paddy Murphy

In 1780 the company of Francis Falkner was established to produce and sell Falkner's Dublin Whiskey, a fine Malt Whiskey. Like any other well-known company of the time, Falkners decided that the place to be was Grafton Street, then the hub of the commercial centre of Dublin and in 1854 they opened three shops one at 78 Grafton Street, Grocer, the second at 21 Grafton Street, Grocer, Tea Wine and Spirit Merchant and the third at 31 Richmond Street South, Tea and Wine Merchant. By 1884 the company business had expanded so much that they had to move to a larger premises at 83 Grafton Street and a second shop at 36 Dawson Street, also a very busy street, adjacent to Grafton Street. Their branded stores were at Adelaide Road. Due to overseas demand for the whiskey they also opened a

shop in London, at 2 Charing Cross, opposite the Grand Hotel. As can be seen from the advertisement in the 1894 Thoms Directory, Falkner's Dublin Whiskey did very well at the various shows throughout the world, picking up gold medals and diplomas. In 1914 the Grafton Street shop was closed with the Dawson Street shop becoming the only shop remaining in Ireland. In the 1936 Thoms Directory, the entry for 36 Dawson Street, reads John Morgan & Sons Ltd., Tea, Wine & Cigar Merchants, which would suggest that the company of Francis Falkner was either taken over or bought out.

**FRANCIS FALKNER'S  
OLD IRISH WHISKEY**  
(Favourably known in Ireland for over a Century).  
*Has recently obtained the following Distinctions for Excellence of Quality, viz.:-*

**FRANCIS FALKNER  
PROVINCIAL  
OLD IRISH WHISKEY**

**Medals Awarded - viz. -**

New Zealand (Christchurch), 1882—Gold Medal and Diploma (Highest Award).  
Amsterdam, 1883—Silver Medal and Diploma (Highest Award).  
Calcutta, 1883-84—Gold Medal and Diploma (Highest Award).  
Boston, U.S.A., 1883-84—Gold Medal and Diploma (Highest Award).  
London, 1884—Prize Medal.  
Antwerp, 1885—Silver Medal and Diploma (Highest Award).  
Paris (Academie Nationale), 1885—Gold Medal (Highest Award).  
London—(Food and Cookery Exhibition), 1889—Gold Medal (Highest Award). 1892.

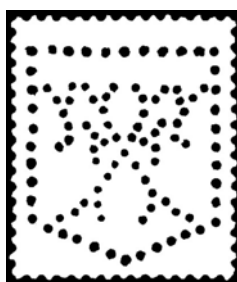
**83, Grafton Street -**  
**36, Dawson Street - } DUBLIN.**  
BONDED STORES:  
**Adelaide Road - -**  
LONDON BRANCH—2, Charing Cross, S.W.

Falkner used three perfin dies between 1895 and 1925. The first of these dies F1406.01m consisted of fancy letters FF set in a shield. This design was simplified maybe because the shield design was resulting in broken pins and F1405.02m was introduced around 1904.

An even simpler die F1405.02 was introduced in 1912. All three perfin dies were based on the Trade Mark of the company, which consisted of the two crossed “F”s surmounted by an eagle and motto. The original intricate die of 1895 may in fact be trying to represent the eagle rather than the “F”s – I leave it to your imagination. From the directories we know that the firm went out of business between 1914 and 1936. As the perfins seem to cease around 1925 this probably marks the end of the company operation.



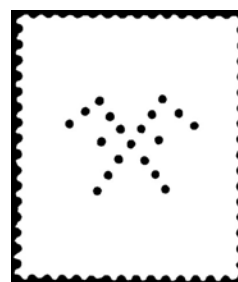
Trade Mark



F1406.01m



F1405.01m



F1405.02m

Die	In Use	Issues
F1406.01m	1895 – 1904	B 1d (16 dots), E ½d gn, F ½d bl-gn, 1d
F1405.01m	1904 – 1912	F ½d (ye-gn), 1d H ½d, 1d
F1405.02m	1912 – 1925	H 1d, I(RC) ½d, 1d 1922 Overprint – 2d (T2) Also known on Eire definitives.

**CARLOWITZ.**

---

**IGNAZ FLANDORFFER, CEDENBURGH, WINE GROWER.**

SOLE AGENT FOR IRELAND:

**FRANCIS FALKNER,**

EUROPEAN WINE DEPOT,  
36, DAWSON-STREET, 83, GRAFTON-STREET,  
**DUBLIN.**

London Branch: 40, CHARING CROSS.




## UNKNOWN "Y" DIE

Stephen Steere

The following entry in the Sloper Ledger caught my eye, unfortunately after the revised Catalogue letter Y had been published. The first die "AY" (A6060.01) used by Alexander Young (London) Ltd. 60 Fenchurch Street, London EC3 is well known. The second die with the letter Y has not been recorded.

NAME <u>Young, Alexander (London) Ltd.,</u>				
ADDRESS <u>60? Fenchurch Street,</u>				
<u>E.C.3.</u>				
		<b>CHARGES</b>	<b>ORIGINAL</b>	<b>REVISED</b>
<b>DELIVERY</b>	Post Deduct	POSTAGE S	10/- <sup>0</sup>	15/- <sup>0</sup>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		do. R	10/- <sup>0</sup>	15/- <sup>0</sup>
<b>COMMISSION</b>	With Order	PRINT S		
<b>CHEQUES</b>	With Order	do. R		
		INS. S & R		
REMARKS:				



To me it would appear that a letter "T" similar to T0010.02M has been modified to make a "Y". The "Y" is indicated as a roll die on the record so may be on a coil stamp, and probably found on King George VI light colours to Queen Elizabeth II Wildings. Can anyone find a copy of this die? If so please send it to **Roy Gault** so the catalogue can be updated.



*[Ed: As the scan of the Sloper page is reduced and not too clear I have created a clearer illustration of the die.]*

**PERFORATED INITIALS AND SLOPER'S PATENT, 1869**

*(Reprinted from The British Philatelist April 1928, 21, (2), 12-14)*

**Dr A. E. Whitehead**

An interesting group of letters, dealing with the early use of perforated initials on British stamps, may be found in "The Times" under various dates in January 1869.

An exhaustive article by Mr Bertram McGowan appeared in recent numbers of the British Philatelist on the "O.U.S" and other overprints, used by certain firms in order to so mark their stamps that they could easily be identified in case of theft. In that article (XIX, 28) Mr McGowan mentions that the perforation of initials, done under a patent of Messrs. J. Sloper & Co., gradually superseded the overprinting of stamps.

The first letter appears in a column of City gossip, and follows a word or two of introduction supplied by the column-writer.

*January 22, 1869*

*The following relates to a method which is gradually coming into use for the prevention of robberies of postage stamps:*

Walbrook House, E.C., Jan. 18.

Sir, - Several letters appeared in "The Times" of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> inst., complaining of irregularities of the Post Office in the delivery of letters. As the subject is one of vital importance to the trading community, I hope to be allowed to show that the fault in most instances lies in another direction than with the Post Office, and how it may be remedied. "M.B." one of the correspondents of The Times, suggests possibly the stamps may prove the temptation. I am very certain that stamps do prove the temptation, and that large firms and companies are great losers thereby. In this respect a case may be cited that came before the Manchester magistrates last year, when a person was convicted of receiving 7,000 postage and receipt stamps amounting to £35 19s 2d., from office boys and junior

clerks who had stolen them. Some of these stamps had been removed from letters, etc., afterwards destroyed, and others were quite new, not having been used. Many firms who have suffered from depredations of this sort have written to the Post Office on the subject and a plan which gives the public every security has been devised and submitted to, and received the entire approval of, the authorities who have recommended its general use.

This plan, the machines for which are my own invention, is to perforate the postage stamps with the initials of the person using them, which renders the stamps with the initials of the person using them, which renders the stamp useless except to the owners, and prevents the sale of them to stamp vendors and others. In their printed instructions issued to newsagents and receiving houses throughout the Kingdom, the Post-Office have strongly recommended its adoption as the most effectual means of preventing the fraudulent removal of stamps.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

Joseph Sloper

There must have been a real necessity for some sort of deterrent to theft of postage stamps, for a few days later Joseph Sloper writes again, as follows:-

Sir, - As several firms have applied at the branch post offices for the purpose of having their postage stamps perforated on my system with their initials, as authorised by the Post Office, will you kindly allow me to state that all applications for postage stamps to be so perforated should be made to the manager's offices, and not at the Post Office Branches?

Sloper's Patents, Walbrook House, E.C.,

Your most obedient servant,

Joseph Sloper

I have seen an interesting variety which showed both preventatives – the overprinting on the back (that of the Fore Street Warehouse Co., Ltd.) and the perforated initials. This was a copy of the One Shilling, plate 5, and the variety would doubtless be brought into being when that firm changed their system of stamps perforation.

*[Ed:- Can anyone provide information as to what this perfin might have been? Fore Street Warehouse was a major user of perfins with F3970.02 being recorded used from 1880-1895. Two underprint types are listed by Gibbons as shown below. The period of use of the underprints certainly appears to overlap the use of perfins.]*

**THE  
FORE STREET  
WAREHOUSE COY.  
(Limited.)**

Type 24 (Small Limited)

**THE  
FORE STREET  
WAREHOUSE COY.  
(Limited.)**

Type 24A (Large Limited)

It is not surprising that Sloper's useful idea rapidly "caught on" for the protective purpose must have been almost realised; and too, it must be admitted that the earliest examples of perforated initials are strikingly neat and of good appearance. The obliquely placed "Travers" (quite common) is a case in point. I am reminded that in a friend's collection there is a pair of One Penny 1864 with this same perforation, "Travers". Both are obliterated with the London type oval of bars, the letter "H" in a diamond. This I believe, is one of the yet unidentified British cancellations, but generally thought to have been used on mail of foreign origin, and probably impressed by a packet-boat postal clerk. If this is so, how can the perforated initials be accounted for?

The last letter of the present series, though probably written by an economically-minded Aberdonian, is interesting enough to be given here. It is from "The Times" of January 30, 1869:

Sir,- If the Post Office authorities have sanctioned the perforation of postage stamps by firms as a check on stealing for re-sale, perhaps they would allow private individuals to pass a simple stroke of the pen across the stamp and on to the envelope. No one would buy a stamp so marked as a matter of taste. On suggesting this to a friend, I am informed that this is allowed in India, and not objected to on the delivery of letter here. We are ordered to obliterate receipt stamps.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J.C.

Stock Exchange, Montreal

## MODERN PERFINS

Derek Ransom

### Additions and Corrections

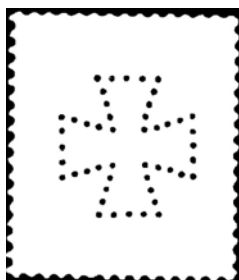
Continuing on the theme of even more Modern Perfins, thanks to **Barrie Williamson, Steve Netten, Melvyn Green and Peter Peniket** I have a massive list of new material:

AC/C	A1070.02	1
CB/B	C0775.03	2 <sup>nd</sup>
CB/H	C0775.01	1r
CB/H	C0775.03M	5r, 43
C/CC	C1260.01M	25b
CLE/C	C4470.01M	1r, amend 50 to read 50r
CS	C6760.02?	25a (exact catalogue number awaited)
C/WC	C8335.01	2, 4, 1 <sup>st</sup>
D/DC	D1270.02	2
DT	D4710.01M	1 <sup>st</sup> M
EH/MC	E2020.01b	4, 1 <sup>st</sup> s
GC	G0760.01	25b
HB/C	H0470.02a	1, 25a
HC	H1160.02M	4
HC/S	H1710.01	10, 20a
HH/MC	H3410.01M	25b, 1 <sup>st</sup> s
LB/B	L0315.02M	25a
LB/C	L0340.06	20b amend to 20r
LB/G	L0390.01M	25b
LB/H	L0430.02M	1 <sup>st</sup> p
L.B./H	L0440.01M	1 <sup>st</sup> s
LB/I	L0460.01M	1 <sup>st</sup> G
LB/R	L0630.01M	amend 25r to read 25b
LC	L0960.02M	amend 20b to read 20a, add 1 <sup>st</sup> s and 2 <sup>nd</sup> s
MB/W	M0820.03	25a
MB/W	M0820.05M	1r, 25b
MGN	M2755.01	1 <sup>st</sup> G
MS	M4960.01	26, amend 20a to read 20
NC	N0510.06	26G, 50
N/HA	N1625.01	1

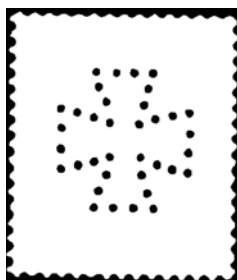
NH/HD	N1674.02	2 <sup>nd</sup>
NR	N2710.06	19
PI/O	P2565.01M	1, 20, 25b, 38 red
RBC	R0410.01M	20
SC	S1210.01M	1r, 2r, 10r, 20a
SC	S1210.04M	19
S/Ltd	S4630.01M	25b, 2 <sup>nd</sup>
SW/S	S8210.02	25a
TM/BC	T3160.01a	19
U.L	U1170.01	amend 26a to read 26

## HOULDER STEAMSHIP LINES

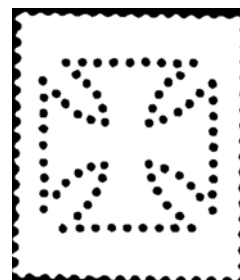
Dave Hill



Des 0305.01

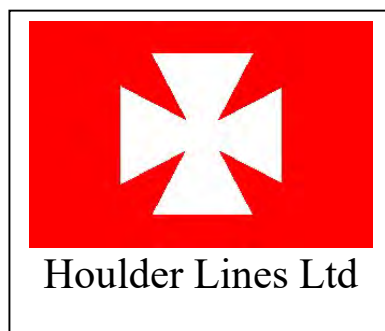


Des 0310.01



Des0320.01

I have noticed in an old directory that the flag of the Houlder Steamship Line has a Maltese cross on it, similar to our design perfins Des 0305.01, Des 0310.01 and Des 0320.01. No postmark information is recorded for the first two of these dies that might tie them with Houlder. Des 0320.01 is known used with Gorton, Manchester postmarks, is there any link between Gorton and Houlder Steamship Line?



Can any members provide postmark information on the other two dies that might tie them in with Houlder Lines?

Houlder Brothers & Co. was formed in 1856 in London and operated with chartered tonnage until 1861. The Houlder Line company went through many changes until the Houlder name disappeared in the 1980's. Throughout the period of the company they used the Maltese cross symbol on their ships funnels and flags.

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The Bulletin of the G.B. Perfin Society is a bi-monthly journal.  
Subscription is £10 (UK); £12 (Europe/abroad-surface); £15 (abroad-air).  
For further details of the G.B. Perfin Society and membership application  
please contact: