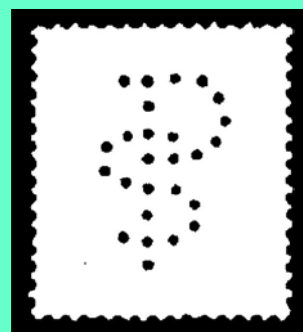


G.B. PERFIN SOCIETY BULLETIN



No. 352 – February 2008



Cover sent from the London buying house of George Wills & Sons Ltd. Australian merchants, to Mr. K. A. Wills at Gawler Place, Adelaide, headquarters of the Australian branch of the company. The cover, sent on December 17th 1931 bears 1d, 2½d & 1/- values perfined GW/A G5420.03.

EDITORIAL

Let me first send a belated Happy New Year to all our members. I trust that all of our members have made a New Year's resolution to write at least one piece for their Bulletin this year. You will notice that there is no Auction with this issue. Our Auctioneer **John Donner** had his gall bladder removed on New Years eve and is currently recuperating from the surgery. He apologises for not being able to get the Auction together in time and hopes to be firing on all cylinders in plenty of time for the April Bulletin.

SECRETARY/TREASURER BIT - DAVE HILL

Could I request that members only use my e-mail address as shown on the front cover of the Bulletin when contacting me. I still check my old one occasionally but it is almost all spam, so I'm thinking of closing it.

As will be seen in the membership changes nearly forty members have still not paid their subs and will be lapsed under the new arrangements where I don't write to them any more. I hope they realise when they don't get this Bulletin.

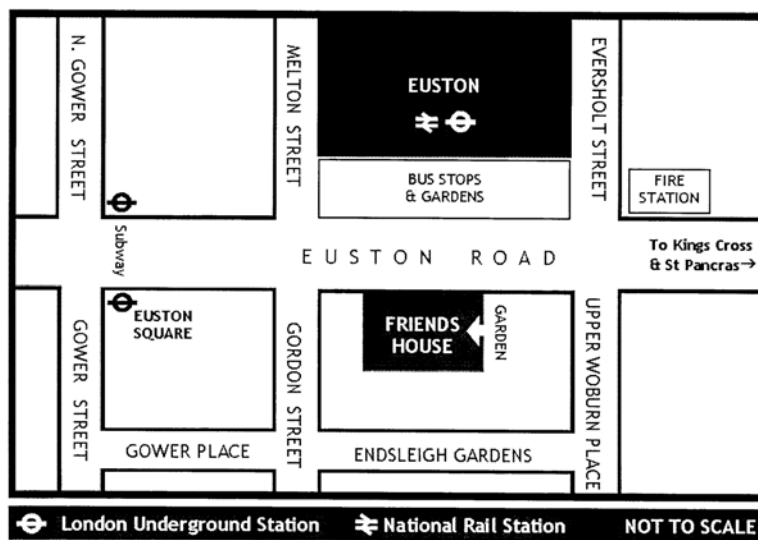
The Post Office Archives (British Postal Museum and Archives now - www.postalheritage.org.uk) now have an online search facility. The only response I got to a search for "Sloper" was a reference I'd not seen before, about payment for stamps in 1931. It might reveal something about how they worked. I will try to research at the Archive when I am up for spring meeting. Neither was there anything on Allchins. The only response to a search for "perfins" was a reference to an interview with philatelist Dr Jean Alexander about her philatelic life. She tried to explain what perfins were as part of her collecting.

There is quite a turnover of staff at BPMA so the people on the counter are often just passing from one job in the Post Office to another. Even though we find some of the stories of Slopers and perfins amusing or important, they don't. There is a lot of research into family history at the BPMA, they were and are big employers.

The main records about perfins and Slopers are under a sub heading to “perforation”.

LONDON SPRING MEETING – MAY 31st

A reminder for the spring meeting which will be on May 31st 2008 from 1:30 to 5:00 in Room 2 at Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ. The Friends House is right next to Euston mainline (where there is parking) and the Euston and Euston Square underground stations.



There is a map above so no excuse for not knowing where to go. 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. I (Ed) am hoping to have completed the electronic searchable Bulletins and hope to be able to give a further demonstration. However there is still a lot of work to be done, so fingers crossed. Hopefully there will be something for everyone!

SVEN KLITGAARD COLLECTION

A number of members have contacted Dave Hill and me (Ed) with requests for a copy of the catalogue for the Sven Klitgaard collection. Details have been passed on to Harmers. At present we still don't have a date for the auction but we will try to keep members up to date as information comes through. Its not too late if you would like to have your copy of the catalogue – just send me your contact details and I will pass them to Harmers.

PENNY LILAC HOARD

John Mathews writes to say that he has just received a message from one of our Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia members who has just acquired a bulk lot of 1649 GB 1d lilac QV (plus some other issues) postmarked between April and July 1898, on paper. It appeared to have been “unpicked”, as there were many full squared circle postmarks, etc.

He thought that members might be interested to know the following perfin statistics derived from this accumulation.

Of the 1d lilac stamps, there were 318 perfins (19%+)

Of 324 ½d vermilion QV, there were 42 perfins (13%).

Of 42 items of postal stationery, cut from small envelopes, produced just three perfins (He has asked for details).

John asks whether these percentage figures are typical? They are certainly much higher than one would expect from an unpicked hoard of Australian stamps of the same period.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE – U, V, X UPDATES

The updated 2nd edition of the U, V and X sections of the Gault Illustrated Catalogue are now available from our publications officer Jeff Turnbull. The prices are the same as before but are shown below as a reminder.

	Home	Europe	Rest of World
Gault (U, V, X) Details	5.00	6.00	7.00
Gault (U, V, X) Silhouettes	3.50	4.50	6.00

WANTED

A non-member is looking for the following Ceylon perfins. He is after CAVE/COLOMBO on either stamps or cover and the CAVE perfin on KEVII cover. If you can help please contact Graham Winters.

Member **Stellan Svenson** wants Perfin Covers from Sweden (Sverige) sent to all foreign countries. If you can help please contact Stellan directly.

MEMBERS COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

Newspaper Parcel Stamp Perfin - Bulletin 351/11

Jeff Turnbull has written to report three additional perfin dies on Newspaper Parcel Stamps.

- 1) 3d Midland Great Western Railway Parcel stamp with perfin M2775.01 M/GWR
- 2) 3d Red Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway with perfin W3890.01 WHS/&S
- 3) 4d North Eastern Railway D5000.01 DUNN

Care of Your Perfin Machine – Bulletin 348/12

Member **Ken Dee** has been catching up with old Bulletins and reading Dave Hill's article on maintenance of perfin machines. He mentions that "pivot steel" used by clock makers or "twist drill blanks" might be used for pins in perfin machines. Dave comments that he still hopes that proper perforating machine pins, with tapered heads, are still available, somewhere! Needle Industries used to supply them to people like Sloper and Grover and they would have carried large stocks and be manufactured in large numbers, they were their "stock in trade", but both Sloper and Grover are no more. I think the standard pins were referred to as "0.035" diameter in Sloper's and Grover's records

PERFIN POSTAGE DUE

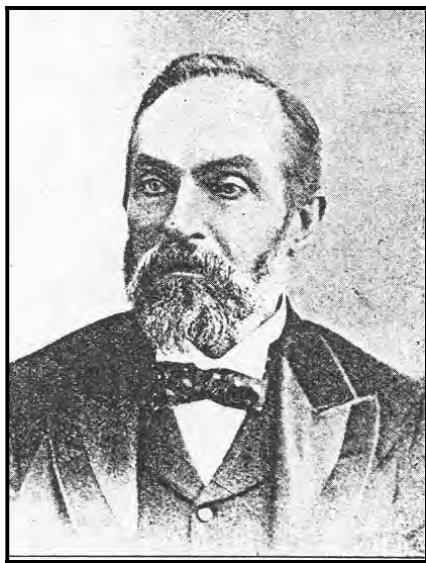
Fred Taylor has sent in information about a "perfin" 5d postage due which was in a lot offered on e-bay. The illustration is not great but as can be seen it is a partial strike of the full design. Can any member give any explanation as to how holes could appear on a postage due?



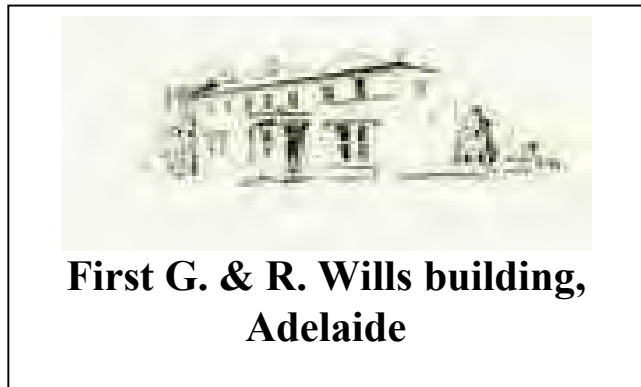
G. & R. WILLS & CO. LTD and
GEORGE WILLS & SONS
John Mathews

These two firms were part of an extensive family of companies, which also included George Wills & Sons Ltd (UK buying agents), George Wills (Inc.) (US buying agents), and George Wills (India) Ltd (buying agents in India). G. & R. Wills and Co. Ltd operated as warehousemen, importers and manufacturers of textiles and soft goods, while George Wills & Sons were ship-owners operating coastal shipping and ships on the Australia – England trade route, and merchants in Australia and New Zealand.

George Wills was born in the small village of Bridford, about 10 km west of Exeter, Devon, England, in 1825 to Thomas and Susanna Wills, and his twin brothers Henry and Richard were born in 1828. George and Henry came to South Australia in 1849, bringing with them a number of packages of drapery and set up in business in Rundle Street, Adelaide. They unpacked their goods in an allotment largely covered with scrub. Henry died in Adelaide on 22 February 1850, and George was subsequently joined by Henry's twin, Richard, who had been apprenticed to a drapery firm in Exeter, England, and the firm became G. & R. Wills.



**George Wills
(1825 – 1906)**

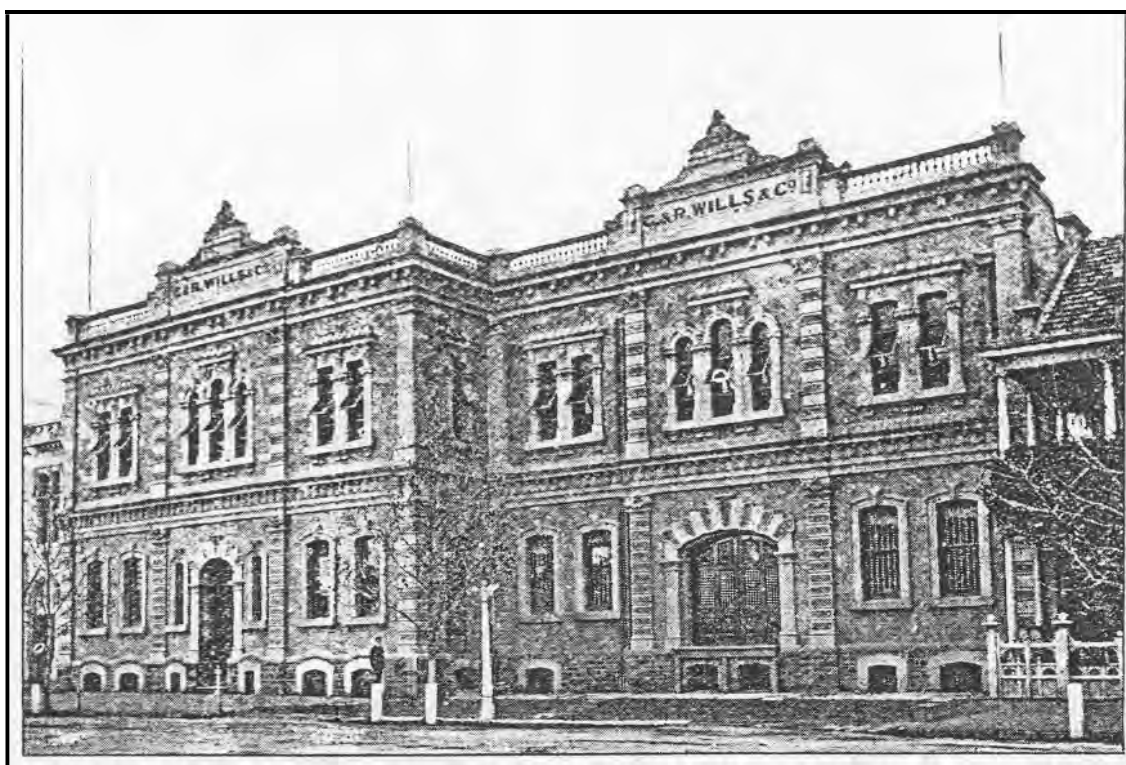


By about 1854, the business had expanded to the point where they needed to set up their own buying house in London. George returned to London at this time, got married there, and returned

to Adelaide with his wife, Lucy, the following year. Their first two children were born in Adelaide before the family again returned to London in 1858 or 1859. In 1862, Richard died in Adelaide at the age of 33 years, shortly after the birth of his only child, a son.

The 1881 Census of England lists George and his wife, Lucy, two daughters, four sons, two Australian-born nieces and five servants living in North London. Three of George's sons, George Tarlton Wills, John Henry Wills and Charles Percy Wills joined the firm and eventually became an integral part of the management team in London. George's fourth son, Arthur, became a barrister in London.

Rapid expansion saw branches in most other Australian States, including at Fremantle (1866), Hay Street, Perth (1896), Kalgoorlie (early 1890s), Broken Hill and Flinders Lane, Melbourne. Abroad they were associated with branches in London, Manchester, Liverpool, Paris, New York, San Francisco and Morocco. In 1881, they formed the shipping department into a separate company as George Wills & Sons. In 1884, G. & R. Wills & Co. joined a syndicate proposed by Anthony Hordern & Sons of Sydney to build the Great Southern Railway from Perth to the port of Albany, West Australia. This was later taken over by the West Australian Government.



**Premises of G. & R. Wills & Co. Ltd.
North Terrace, Adelaide, circa 1910.**

For a while, the company's main premises were in Grenfell Street, but a new six-storey headquarters was built on North Terrace in 1914, extending through to Rundle Street and with a total floor space of 3 acres. At the same time, it was found that the importing was too slow to keep up with demand, and then the Depression meant rapid turnover was needed to maintain profits, so they turned to local manufacture. A clothing factory was established in Pulteney Street, and a factory for boots, shoes and leather goods started in Pirie Street. They specialised in shirts, pyjamas, and industrial gloves, and the branch in India produced sheets, towels, etc. The name had become G. & R. Wills & Co. in 1913.

The shipping company, George Wills & Sons, traded in coke, iron, etc and exported lead, zinc and silver concentrates from Broken Hill to UK and Europe. During World War I, they shipped grain to UK for the British Government, and later also wheat and wool. One of the shipping lines represented by this firm was Lund's, which grew into the Blue Anchor Line, which in turn was later acquired by the Peninsular & Orient Steam Navigation Company.

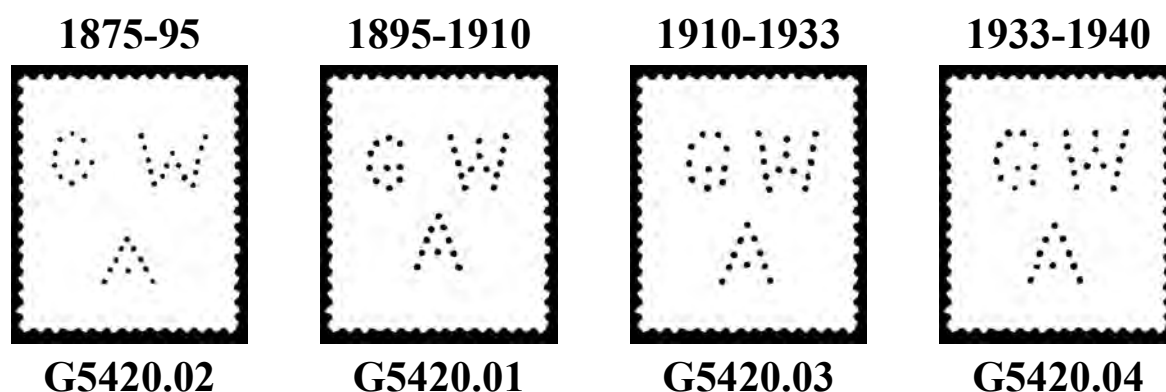
Three sons of Charles Percy Wills served with George Wills & Co. in Australia, Percy Lionel Bethune Wills and Philip Aubrey Wills from 1926 to 1927, and Richard Lloyd Joseph Wills from 1931 to 1935. All returned to England and became directors of the firm George Wills & Sons Limited.

The cover shown on the front of the Bulletin was sent from the London buying house of George Wills & Sons Ltd. in 1931 to Mr. K. A. Wills at the Gawler Place, Adelaide, headquarters of the company, and was subsequently re-directed to him at the Perth branch. Kenneth Agnew Wills, born in 1896 in Adelaide, was a grandson of Richard Wills. After his father died in 1901, his mother returned to England with the four children. In World War I, Ken served in the British Army in Europe and the Middle East, rising to the rank of Captain. After the war, he started work with the family company, George Wills & Sons Limited, canvassing for cargoes between London and Australia. In 1921, the company sent him to Australia and by 1928 he was managing director in Adelaide. In World War II, Ken joined the Australian Imperial Forces and saw service in the Middle East and Greece. Near the end of the war he was promoted to temporary Brigadier. Back in Adelaide after the war, he resumed working with

G. & R. Wills & Co., which he floated as a public company in 1946. He was chairman of the company until 1976. He was also a board member of Advertiser Newspapers Ltd., and sat on the council of the University of Adelaide. He was a benefactor who made possible the new staff club at the university in 1950, and also raised funds for the construction in 1958 of the new University Union buildings. The Wills refectory at the University of Adelaide is named after him (where your Secretary learned to play cards over lunches!!). He was knighted in 1960.

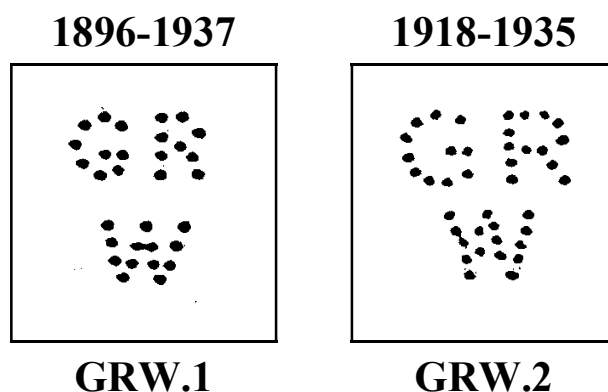
The cover bears three stamps with perfin “GW/A” (G5420.03 – “New Illustrated Catalogue of Great Britain Perfins”, by Roy Gault, in draft). Other GB “GW/A” perfins, and the company’s Australian branch perfins are shown for comparison.

Perfin Dies Used by George Wills & Sons, Ltd., London



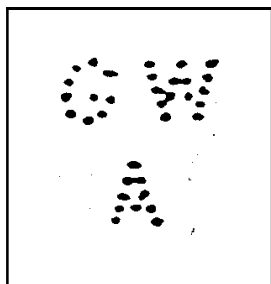
Only G5420.03 has been positively identified as used by George Wills & Sons . The other three dies are only suspected to have been used by the company. Note that George Wills & Co became George Wills & Sons Ltd between 1910 and 1914.

Perfin Dies Used by G & R Wills, Adelaide and Perth



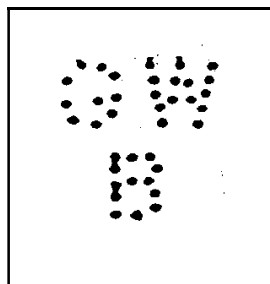
Perfin Dies Used by George Wills & Co.
(A: Adelaide, B: Brisbane, F: Fremantle)

1880-1937



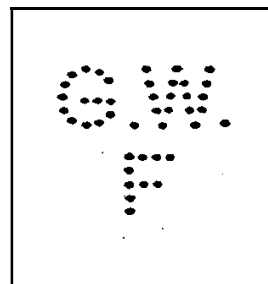
GWA.1

1920



GWB.1

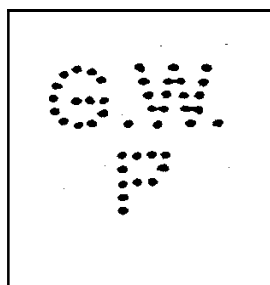
1904-1918



GWF.1

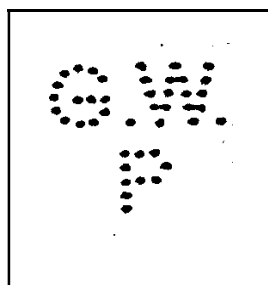
Perfin Dies Used by George Wills & Co. in Perth

1918-1934



GWP.1

1916-1936



GWP.2

Note that perfin die GWP.1 was probably made by the modification of die GWF.1 and that GWP.2 could be a partial of GWP.1 or indeed another head in a multi-head die.

SEEN FOR SALE

Alastair Walter

The November Embassy Auction retail list included this 1d red imperforate tied to a piece with a black wafer and used in Nottingham. These wafers were normally used for sealing the letter sheet but in this case the sender has used it as an additional safeguard to prevent their servant from removing the stamp. A nice early security device but is it worth £95?



PERFINED BRITISH OVERPRINTED STAMPS
BRITISH LEVANT & MOROCCO AGENCIES

Tony Stanford

This article describes perfins that were applied to the stamps overprinted and surcharged for use in the British Postal Agencies in the Levant and Morocco. Perfins for postal usage are not known on the overprinted issues of any of the other British Postal Agencies. Many of the perfins are also known used on the other offices (e.g. French or Spanish in Morocco and French, German & Austrian in Levant). These however are beyond the scope of this article. The information given is based largely on my own collection with some supplemental information from earlier Bulletin reports.

British Post Offices in Levant

The British Levant stamps were locally perfined from 1895 until the last issue of 1921 and all known perfins used on the British Levant issues are covered. The Levant offices were closed at the outbreak of the Great War in September 1914 and the Constantinople office was re-opened in 1919 and finally closed in September 1923. The only other office re-opened after the war was Smyrna, which was closed in September 1922.

Figure 1

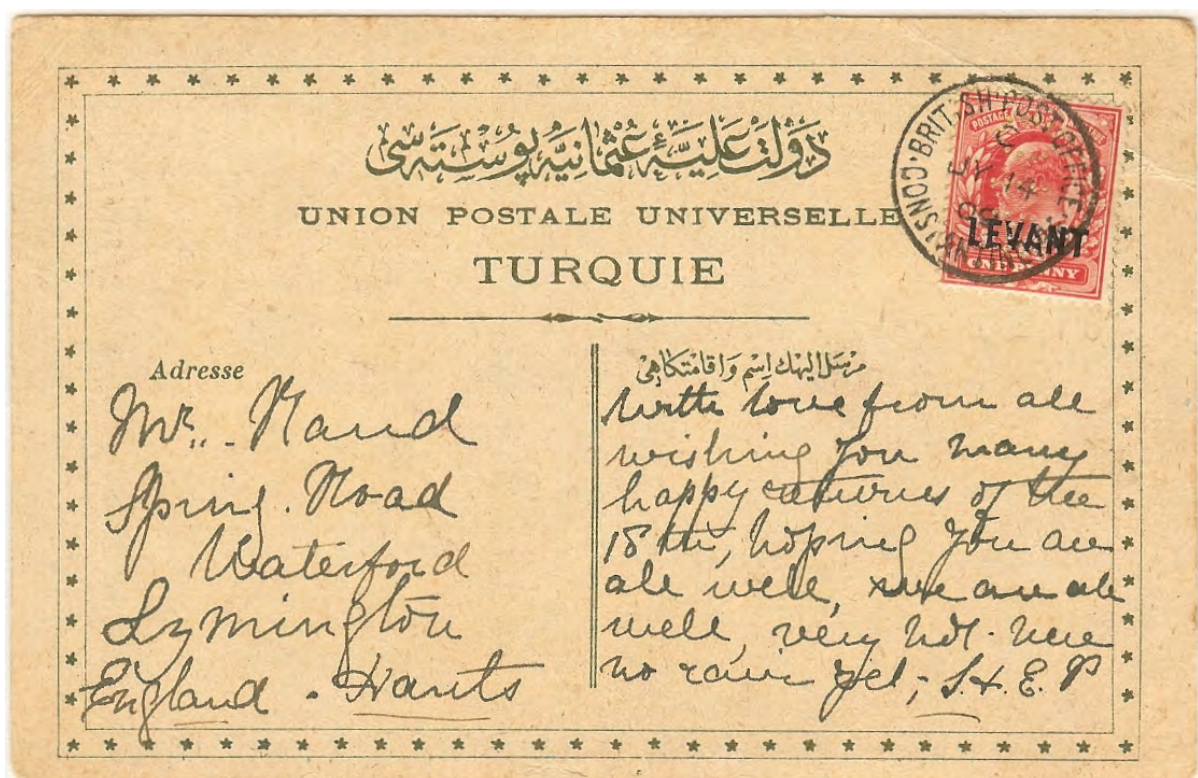


Figure 1 shows a postcard franked with 1d King Edward on stamp overprinted LEVANT and perfined BIO as rate to Britain, cancelled with single ring CONSTANTINOPLE mark dated JY 14 09.



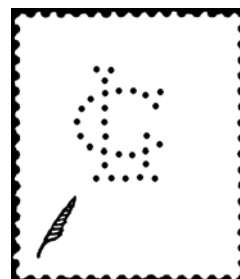
The BIO perfins were used by the Banque Imperiale Ottomane in Constantinople on the British Levant surcharges and overprints during the period 1896 to 1914. The following values are known with the BIO perfin. The die can be found struck horizontally and vertically.

Queen Victoria	1887-96	SG4	40 par on 2½d purple & blue
		SG5*	80 par on 5d purple & blue
		SG6	4 Pi. on 10d purple & carmine

* reported by Philip E Robinson Bulletin 335 April 2005

King Edward VII	1902-05	SG8	40 par. on 2½d blue
		SG9	80 par. on 5d purple & blue
		SG10	4 pi. on 10d purple & carmine
	1906	SG13	1 pi. on 2½d blue
		SG14	2 pi. on 5d purple & blue
1909	SG16	30 par. on 1½d dull pur. & grn	
King George V	1913-14	SG37	1¼ pi. on 3d violet
		SG38	1¾ pi. on 4d grey-green
King Edward VII	1905	SGL1	½d green
		SGL2	1d scarlet
		SGL3	1½d dull purple & yell-green
King George V		SGL16	½d green profile head

By 1910 the quality of the BIO perfins had deteriorated due to blunt and damaged pins, which is particularly evident in a block of four 1¼ PIASTRE surcharges that I have in my collection. Moreover, the irregular positioning suggest that little care was taken in feeding strips of stamps through the perfin machine.



The CL monogram perfins were used by Credit Lyonnais in Constantinople on British Levant surcharges and overprints during the period 1902-1923. The King

George V stamp is a recent find and was used in July 1923, which implies that the CL perfins were being used right up until the BPO in Constantinople closed in September 1923.

King Edward VII	1902-05	SG8	40 par. on 2½d blue
	1906	SG23	1 pi. on 2½d blue
	1911	SG35	1 pi. on 2½d blue
	1905	SGL2	1d Red
King George V	1921	SG41	30 par. on ½d green



OCM perfins were used by the Ottoman Cloth Manufacturers in Smyrna on the British Levant surcharges from 1905 to 1913.

King Edward VII 1911 SG25 1 pi. on 2½d blue

B.C.I perfins were used by the Banca Commerciale Italiana in Constantinople on the British Levant surcharges issued in 1921.



King George V 1921 SG41 30 par. on ½d green
 SG43 3¾ pi. on 2½d blue
 SG46 15 pi. on 10d blue



The perfin die P.M. has been reported by Susan McEwen in The Overprinter used on a King Edward VII 1 piastre on 2½d blue with a Smyrna cancellation. The die is believed to have been used by Paul Milberg, Smyrna.



In Bulletin 208 December 1983 Keith Lloyd reported three additional dies as used on British Levant overprints however the exact details of the values and issues are unknown and the stamps weren't illustrated.

The two CL dies were reported as “probably used” by Credit Lyonnaise and the BACL dies as “probably used” by British Aluminium Cie Ltd.

However great care needs to be taken with these three dies as a number of forgeries of Levant overprints have been found on perfined stamps. None of the dies have been reported elsewhere and the BACL perfin is probably one of these forgeries as the perfin die is known used in Britain. Other Levant forgeries that have been reported include J6090.03bM and F1490.02 on a 40 paras on a 2½d QV Jubilee and J7950.01 on a King Edward VII 1d, which had a London cancellation!

Morocco Agencies

The Morocco Agencies issues were perfined from the early Gibraltar overprints until 1954, when the French Government banned the use of perfins on French stamps, at which time the French banks ceased using perfins altogether. All perfins known on the British Morocco Agencies issues are covered. Perfins were used on the Morocco Agencies stamps from 1907 until 1954, when France declared the use of perfins on French stamps to be illegal.

The C.N. perfins of the Comptoire Nationale d'Escompte were used in Tangier during 1907 and 1908 on the Gibraltar period Morocco Agencies overprints.



King Edward VII	1905-06	SG24	10c dull purple/red
		SG26	20c grey green & carmine

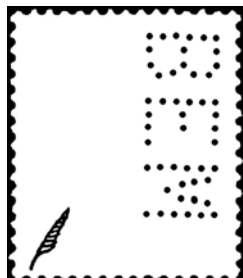
The BEM perfins were used by the Banque d'Etat du Maroc throughout Morocco during the period 1917 to 1954. During that period, a number of different dies were provided for the various regional groups of banks.

French Zone

King George V	Type 1	SG221	50c. on 5d yellow-brown
	Type 1	SG223	1fr. on 10d blue
King George V	Type 2	SG206	40c. on 4d grey-green
King George V	Type 3	SG210	1fr. on 10d blue

International Zone

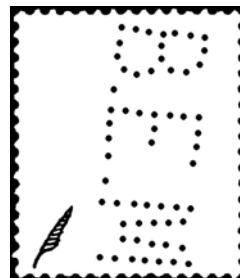
King George V	Type 2	SG235	½d Green
	Type 2	SG234	2d Orange
	Type 2	SG46	3d Violet
King George VI	Type 2	SG249	10c. on 1d scarlet (TANGIER)



Type 1



Type 2



Type 3

- Type 1 The 16mm by 6mm format perfin was used in Saffi, Fez and Casablanca
- Type 2 The 15mm by 6mm format perfin was used in Mazagan, Mogador, Tetuan and Tangier
- Type 3 The 20 mm by 8mm format perfin with full stops between the letters was used in Rabat

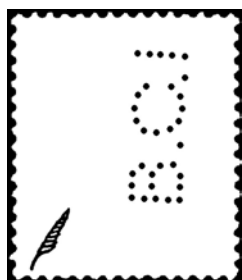
Figure 2



Figure 2 shows a registered cover addressed to Celje in Yugoslavia from the Tangier branch of the Banque d'Etat de Maroc, charged at

5½d for the 2½d overseas rate and 3d registration fee and hand-stamped 'RECOMMANDE' and 'BY OVERLAND ROUTE'. The adhesives are cancelled by the oval 'REGISTERED BRITISH P.O. TANGIER' canceller dated 10 DE 35. On the reverse there is a Celje receiving mark dated 15th December.

The letter has a mixed franking of GV photogravure ½d green and GV Block Cypher 2d orange die II overprinted TANGIER together with GV 3d violet watermark Simple Cypher overprinted MOROCCO AGENCIES. All three stamps are perfined BEM in the 15 mm by 6 mm (Type 2) format used by the Tangier branch.



B.C.I perfins were used by Banca Commerciale Italiana in Casablanca on the French Currency Morocco Agencies overprints from 1919 to 1954.

King George V	SG200	3fr on 2/6d choc (Bradbury Wilkinson)
	SG202	5c on ½d green
	SG203	10c on 1d red
	SG205	25c on 2½d blue
	SG207	50c on 5d yellow-brown
	SG210	1F on 10d turquoise
	SG211	1F 50c on 1/- brown
	SG215	25c on 2½d blue (Silver Jubilee)
	SG219	25c on 2½d blue
	SG221	50c on 5d yellow-brown
	SG225	3fr on 2/6d choc (Waterlow re-engraved)

Lastly the SM perfin is known used by Société Marseillaise de Crédit in Casablanca during the period between 1922 and 1954.

King George V	SG206	40 c on 4d slate-green
	SG208	75 c on 9d olive-green



If any members of the Society have any further information on these two groups of perfins please forward details of the perfin type and issue to the Bulletin editor.

UNPOPULAR ISSUES

John Strange

King George V came to the throne in May 1910, but it was not until June 1911 when stamps for his reign were issued, showing a three-quarter head, known as the Downey design. They were strongly criticised by the public and printers mainly on artistic grounds, and a second major die was utilised from January 1912. But the two face values, of issue 'H', were available for only about 18 months. Fortunately, for perfin collectors, this was still a very prolific period of perfin usage; and from the detailed catalogues, they can be found on a little over 15% of all dies, being reported on ½d/1d in a ratio of 44/56. Many dies are seen to have a 'date of use' range spanning these years but without reports of the Downey head usage, it is expected that more will eventually 'appear'. Indeed, some dies such as E2305.01 and E4660.02, are so far known only on issue 'H', with Sidney Allchin and Sloper's having perfined it. For the DDF collector, issue 'H' probably exhibits more varieties per stamp than any other GB definitive run, considering it's short life – three watermarks, two main dies, two sub-dies, multi-shades, etc – and any collection is well worth checking for differences. There are plenty out there! From August 1912, issue 'H' was gradually replaced by issue 'I', showing "a more pleasing profile head".

Moving on by nearly a century – Royal Mail has done it again! Withdrawn production of a seemingly unpopular issue after about 18 months. This time it is the PiP (Priced in Proportion) issue, which appeared in 2006, although the principal of PiP is probably here to stay (see 2007 Christmas issue). There were 2 speeds (2nd and 1st class), 2 sizes (small and large) and each with two types ('lick & stick' and self adhesive). As basic stamps – there are many more 2nd/1st, small size, self-adhesives than their 'lick & stick' counterparts; the reverse is true of the large size. But when it comes to finding these perfined, most values are going to be (ex-sheet) 'lick & stick', examples of which were shown at the AGM; and far scarcer will be (perfined from a single headed die(?)) the self adhesive varieties. This 'W ellip' issue, whilst similarly suffering a short life, is going to be much more difficult to find than those of the 'H' issues due to the dwindling number of current perfin users. Keep you eyes open! Who ever said that 'moderns' were common, or boring?

ANYONE WHO HAS A HEART

Roy Gault

Yes, it's the title of the song that made Cilla Black famous in the early 1960's, but did she know at the time that these little beauties existed? I suspect not! Well to be honest, I can only find four G.B. perfins using the heart motif, and this is just an excuse to illustrate them all together. Two can be associated to a known user, but the other two are unknown.

Terry Wood has reported an impressive piece with six Queen Victoria postage stamps (2 x SG168, 4 x SG169) perfined "V in a Heart" (V0020.01), clearly cancelled with a '210' (Colchester) duplex postmark. I know **Chris Carr** is on the trail of this one to try and identify the user. Bon chance! Also unknown is the user of "G in a Heart" (G0050.01), but with no postmark clues and only the approximate date to go on, this might be hard to find.

1880-1915



C2880.01

1898-1900



C2895.01

c1890



G0050.01

1880-1882



V0020.01

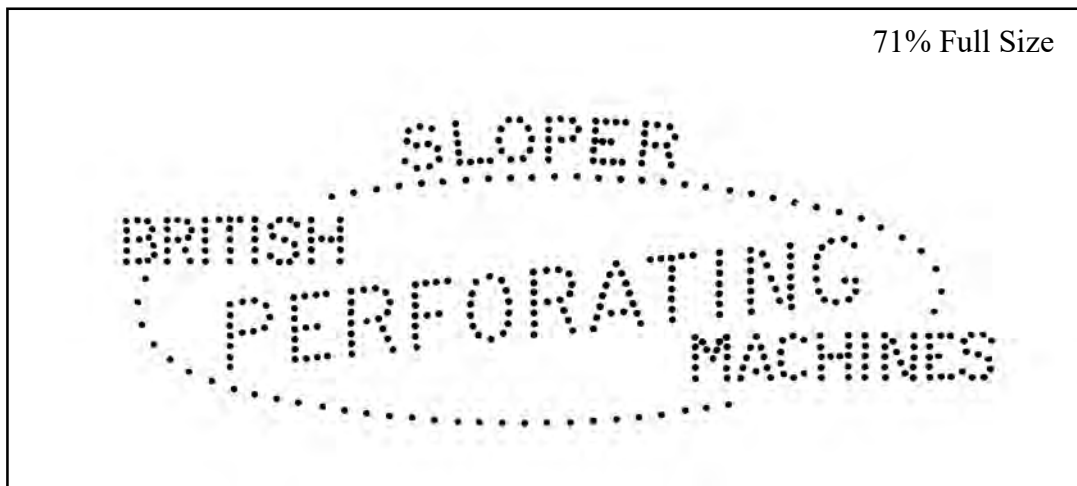
The most common of the four dies is "CG/&S in a Heart" (C2880.01), so it's not surprising that this one has a positive identity, that of Charles Goodall & Son Ltd, Manufacturers of Playing Cards, Printers and Stationers, 24 Great College St, Camden Town, London NW. **John Nelson** tells me they were established in 1820 and took on 'Limited' liability sometime between 1897/8. This helps give a suspected identity to "CG/&SL^d in a Heart" (C2895.01), currently known only on one stamp, a Queen Victoria ½d (vermilion) Jubilee postmarked (Lo)ndon, 20th July 1899. It should be pointed out that because the designs of the Goodall dies are so large, a full strike on a definitive sized stamp is nigh on impossible to find!

Needless to say, I would be interested to know the stamp and postmark details of any of these you may have in your collections.

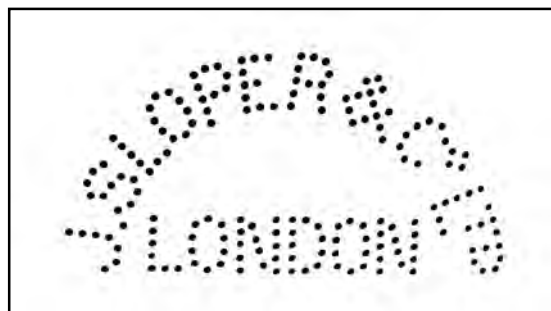
SLOPER TEMPLATES

Terry Comper

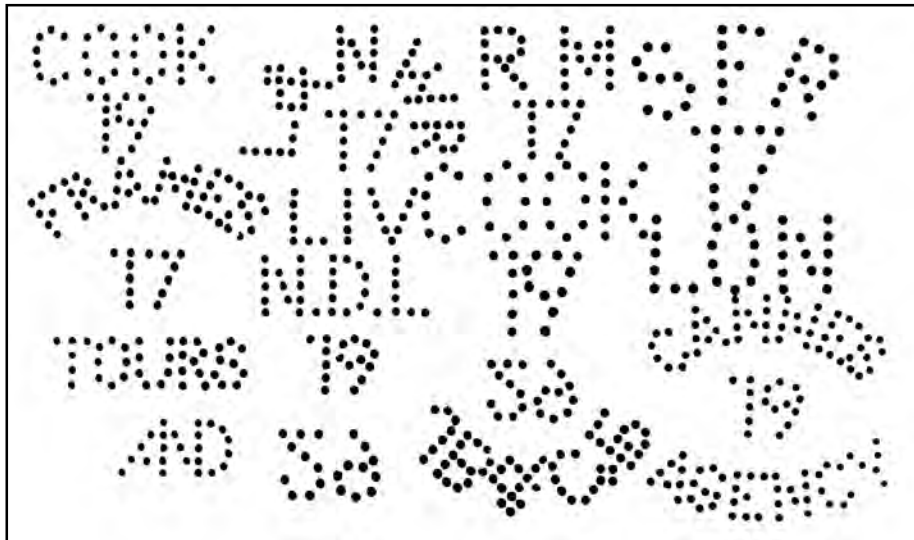
The chance to own a number of brass and steel plates drilled full of holes and reputed to have come from Sloper's premises was too good an opportunity to miss. The provenance is that they came from the estate of an ex director of J Sloper & Co Ltd, Mr John R Hawkins. Displayed here are illustrations of seven of the plates, scanned from black & white contacts prints taken from the plates themselves. It should be noted that some of the plates have rounded corners, and some are not quite rectangular in shape, so for convenience all are shown in a rectangular frame representing their maximum dimensions. Due to size limitations, some are shown at 71% Full Size.



This is the most recent looking of the plates as the brass is still shiny and untarnished. Up to now I've referred to them simply as plates, but in all probability they are templates prepared for use in the manufacturing process of the actual dies used in various perforating presses. Some of the pieces show straight lines scribed on the metal to act as guidelines.



Here we have a steel template for use by Joseph Sloper & Co Ltd.

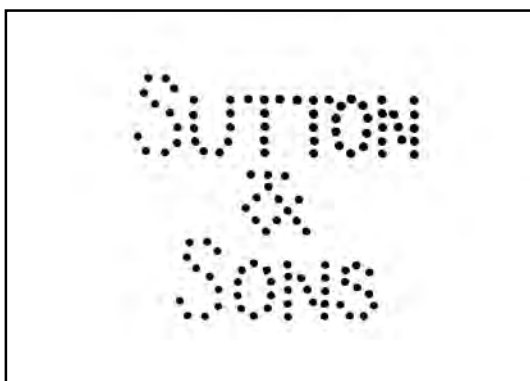


Most of the patterns are not known used on postage stamps, and were probably never intended to be. Here is a jumble of at least eleven patterns, on occasions seen from behind. The figures probably represent years, so we have 1917, 1919, and 1929. The large COOK in the centre of the piece has a combination of both 17 and 19! Interestingly, one of the patterns is now known on a postage stamp, the monogram “AND”, although it was reported just after the recent issue of the Monograms Catalogue. It was ever thus!

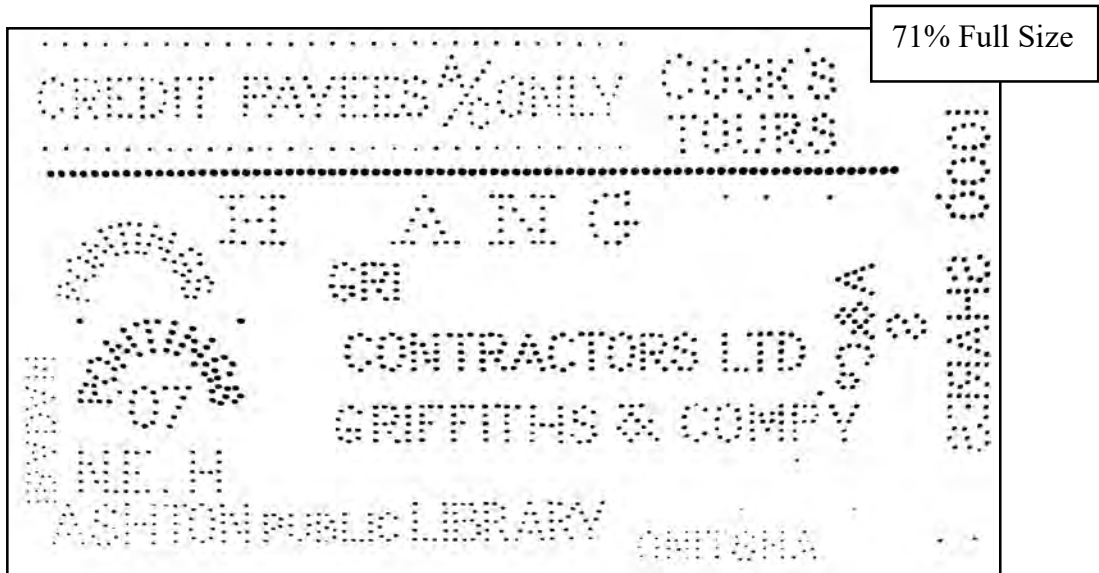
The “AND” perfin has been allocated **A4215.01m** and was reported on a ½d I(RC), postmarked London, 1916. This date ties in well with the earlier dates suggested above.



The minor differences that can be seen between the perfin and the template could have been produced by slightly inaccurate drilling after marking out using the template, or quite simply a multiheaded die.

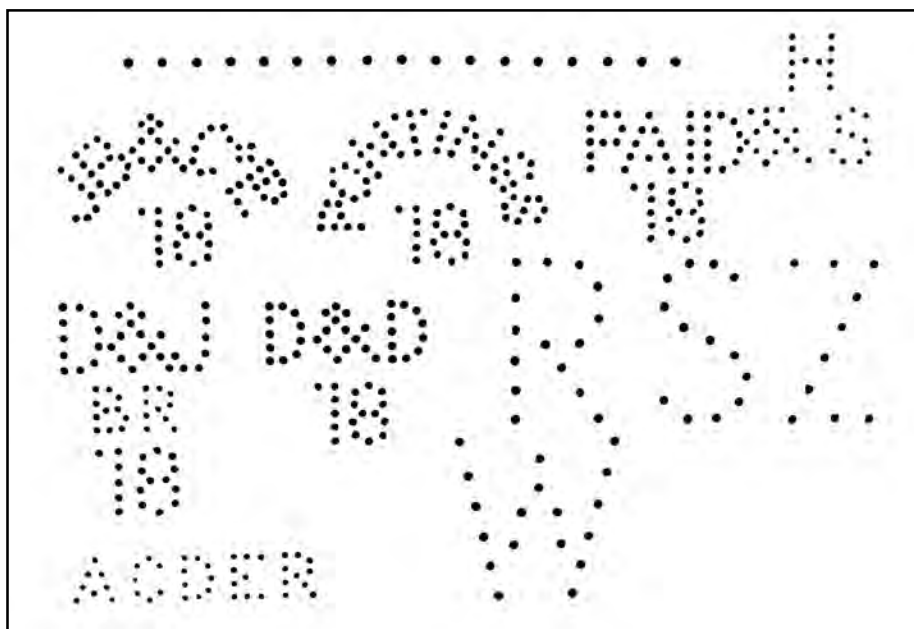


Another template in the ‘cache’ known used on postage stamps is the large “SUTTON/&/SONS” we have down as **S7890.02**. This is known used on King Edward VII 2/6d and 5/- stamps, one of which has a date of 11th November 1912.



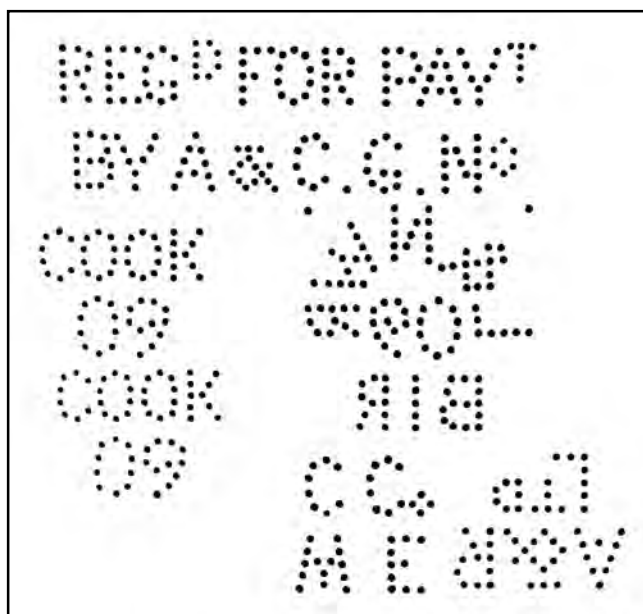
This large plate shows a wide variety of patterns, and even a couple of false starts! The implied date of 1907 from the PONTINGS pattern is in stark contrast to the very early date suggested by the pattern below.

Although seen from the back in the main illustration, the “A&C^o/S” pattern is recognisable as **A1390.01**. It is known used 1871-1912 by (probably) Thomas Ashby & Co, Bankers, Staines, Middlesex.

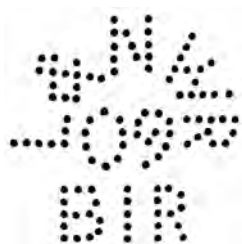


The above illustration of the 6th template shows a consistent ‘18’, suggesting a date of 1918 for many of the patterns. One in particular stands out as being ‘stamp shape’, that of “H/&S”, but close examination shows that it does not match our H6390.03.

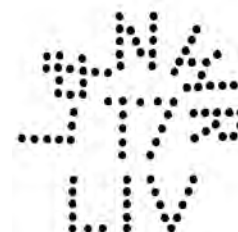
The 7th plate in this batch shows a consistent ‘09’, suggesting an intended use in 1909, so (like all the others with dates) was probably made the year before.



This time two look to be of a size suitable for use on postage stamps. “WE/CC^o” matches **W2240.01M**, and is known to have been a 2x2 multiheaded die fitted to Sloper m/c No.60988. The machine was dispatched to the West End Clothing Company on 9th October 1908. Unfortunately, no match can be found on G.B. perfins for “A&R/L^{td}”.



Two railway related patterns can be seen on the plates, both for the London & North Western Railway, presumably for use at Birmingham and Liverpool.



Can anyone from the Railway fraternity suggest a possible use?

Another twenty or so similar templates are known to exist. These will be featured in a future edition of the Bulletin once the all important black & white contact prints have been made.

Watch this space!

“BOY SCOUT ASSOCIATION” PERFINS

Roy Gault

A Google search for “W. O. Hawkins” on another matter led me to the website of ‘Scouts on Stamps Society International’ (www.sossi.org), and their title page ‘British Scout Perfins’. The brief, but interesting, details recorded there can now be amplified with what we currently know, and hopefully even further with your collective input.

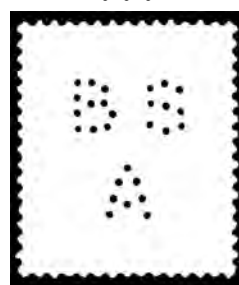
Most people are aware that the ‘Boy Scouts’ movement was started by Robert Baden-Powell (in 1907). In fact, the ‘Boy Scout Association’, with their headquarters at 114-116 Victoria St, London SW, was reformed soon after in 1910. However, in June 1917 they moved to new headquarters at 25 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW, which is an appropriate point to introduce the topic of Perfins.

1918-1941



B6500.02

???



B6500.01

Two perfins are known to have been made for use by the ‘Boy Scout Association’. Both were produced by J Sloper & Co Ltd. The earlier die is relatively easy to come by and appears to date from the time of the move to their new headquarters in 1917. The earliest date I have on record from a loose stamp is the 10th September 1918. Sadly, this single headed die was almost certainly destroyed by the Luftwaffe in the “Blitz” on Sloper’s premises in May 1941. The replacement die (B6500.01) was also single headed, but used the now standard 4-pin high alphabet. This die would appear to be quite rare as I have no stamp details recorded for it!

Please help by looking through your collections for both of these dies and let me know of anything that is additional to what we currently know - dates, postmarks, issues, values. See next page for details.

1918-1941**B6500.02**

Dates: 10 Sep 1918 - 1 July 1938.

Issues: I(RC) 1½d, 2d, 6d, 9d (bk) I(BC) ½d
M 1½d, 3d, 1/- Q ½d, 1½d, 2½d, 3d

Note: Sloper single headed die, destroyed in 1941.

Ident: Boy Scout Association,

25 Buckingham Palace Rd, London SW1.

Pmks: Lo(ndon).

???

**B6500.01**

Dates:

Issues:

Note: Sloper single headed die.

Ident: Boy Scout Association,

25 Buckingham Palace Rd, London SW1.

Pmks:

The second part to this piece involves the ‘World Scout Jubilee Jamboree’ G.B. stamps issued on the 1st August 1957. The ‘SOSSI’ website lists twenty-one perfin dies that can be found on this issue, seven of which were new to the list I’ve been keeping for years. The combined total is now **49**. Apologies for publishing such a long list, *but again could I ask you to look at your collection for these dies and report any new values?* Even better if you can report any new dies!

	PS Cat No.	Letters	Die in Use	2½d	4d	1/3d
1	A0830.01M	A/BROS	1930-1965	*		
2	A2720.02	A.H	1895-1960		*	
3	A5800.02M	AWG	1945-1972	*		
4	B0520.01	BBC	1939-1960		*	
5	B3300.01	BH/C	1953-1975	*		
6	B3310.01	B/HC	1945-1953	*		
7	B4860.01	BME	1954-1965	*		
8	B5616.01	BP/Curve	1957-1957	—	*	—
9	B5617.01	B.P/Curve	1957-1957	*	—	—
10	B5617.02	B.P/Curve	1957-1957	—	—	*
11	B7180.02M	B/TH	1923-1959	*		
12	C0530.02	C.B/B	1905-1965			*

	PS Cat No.	Letters	Die in Use	2½d	4d	1/3d
13	C6900.01	CS/C ^o	1939-1966			
14	C7280.01M	CSS/C ^o L ^a	1952-1965			
15	C8280.01M	C.W.	1954-1966	*		
16	D3310.01	DMS	1900-1957	*		
17	D4710.01M	DT	1945-1995			*
18	E4110.03M	ES	1920-1970	*	*	
19	F2460.01M	FL ^a	1930-1968	*		
20	F3160.01M	FP	1945-1985			*
21	G1540.01M	GE/C	1908-1993		*	
22	H0010.08	H	1940-1965	*		
23	H0730.02	H&B/L ^a	1930-1965			
24	I1510.01M	IL	1935-1985	*		
25	J4720.01	JK/&S	1920-1958	*		
26	J5360.01	J.M./HX	1930-1970			
27	J6420.01M	J.R.	1912-1975	*		
28	J7640.02	JT/&C ^o	1952-1969			*
29	K0110.01M	K.B/B	1905-1965	*	*	*
30	L0280.02	L&B	1954-1958		*	
31	L1330.01	LCT	1905-1964			
32	L3410.01M	LL	1950-1980			*
33	M1060.02M	M/C	1882-1975	*		
34	M3620.01	M.L	1915-1957	*		
35	M5860.01M	M.V/C ^o .	1920-1975		*	
36	N0360.01	NB/L	1945-1975			*
37	P3620.01M	P.P.	1920-1980	*		
38	R0010.09M	R	1938-1969	*		
39	S0590.01c	SB/C	1939-1980	*		
40	S1210.01M	SC	1944-1996	*		
41	S5740.01	S&P.	1930-1975	*		
42	S6490.01M	S.S/C	1926-1990			
43	T0370.01M	T.B.B.	1890-1968	*		
44	T1110.01	T.C.S./L ^{td} ..	1950-1957	*		
45	T1880.01	TG/C ^o	1935-1966			
46	W3450.02M	W/H	1920-1975		*	
47	W4370.01M	WILLS	1952-1985	*		
48	W5320.01	W.M/G.B	1949-1965	*		
49	W7490.01	W.T.G/M	1908-1954	*		

In the table you will note that seven dies are shown as known used on the Scouts issue, but the precise stamp details are not known. Perhaps you are lucky enough to have some of them. A point worthy of note is that one die, “K.B/B” (K0110.01M) used by Keep Bros Ltd, Export Merchants, Birmingham, is known on *all three values*. All bar two (B3310.01, and T1110.01) of the 49 have known or suspected users.

Of course the catalyst for this piece is **W O Hawkins**, and it is he who provides the link between:

- The two “BS/A” Scouting dies
- ‘J Sloper & Co Ltd’ who made the dies
- The 1957 Scouting issue
- The three ‘commemorative’ perfins



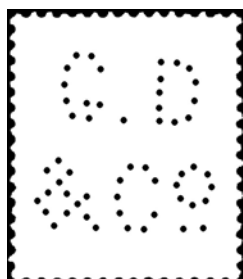
He is recorded as being the Company Secretary of J Sloper & Co Ltd for 25 years, from 1939 until 1964, and was almost certainly the prime mover behind the three ‘commemorative’ dies B5616.01, B5617.01, and B5617.02. *But, does anyone know of his scouting connections?*

One final comment is that a ‘Boy Scouts Imperial Jamboree’ was held in 1924 in conjunction with the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley. Could it be that some commemorative stamps were perfined “BS/A” and are waiting to be discovered? If you have such a beast or know of one, I’m sure **John Nelson** would be pleased to hear from you!

GRAY, DUNN & Co

Jeff Turnbull

I have recently bought an unusual and I think quite unique perfin collection of "G.D/&Co.. - G1375.01 - Gray, Dunn & Co". The

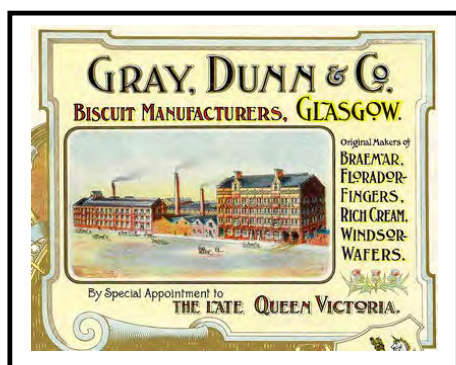


collection comprises of perfins with 262 different postmarks from all around the United Kingdom! There are 71 from offices in Scotland including 7 from different Western Isles, 1 from the Isle of Man, 14 from Ireland, 20 from Wales, & 156 from



England. The stamps are mostly 1d red King Edward VII with some ½d as well, and one 1½d. There are only two Victorian, a used one and one mint copy.

The origin of the collection is unknown, but I think it was collected between 1904-1907 possibly by a Company employee (maybe for his son). All of the visible dates are between 1904-1907, and at that time Gray, Dunn and similar companies would have employed sales personnel based in various regions of the country. They would have been supplied with the perfin stamps and order cards to send back orders to the Company in Glasgow. It can be seen from the cancels that various sales personnel were involved with the sales, as postmarks of the same day are recorded from Scotland and from the South of England.



Gray, Dunn & Co. were bakers and biscuit manufacturers. The company was founded in 1853 and received a Royal Warrant from Queen Victoria. The firm's factory was built in Stanley Street in Kinning Park, Glasgow in 1862 but destroyed by fire thirteen years later and it had to be rebuilt. In addition to biscuits,

Gray, Dunn & Co baked cakes and bread at Kinning Park. Bilstrand Brothers acquired the firm in 1912. They became a limited Company in 1924 and are now a member of the Rowntree Macintosh Group. The company are also known to have used perfin die G1360.01.

GUEST, KEEN & NETTLEFOLDS LIMITED

Roy Gault

At the London AGM in November 2007, **Derek Ransom** handed me a 1918 cover addressed to the Taff Vale Railway, embossed with '**Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds Ltd, Birmingham**'. The perfin was a large, somewhat worn, "N" with barely 10 pins showing. The best fit was the unidentified N0010.17, known used 1870-1915 with '75' Birmingham and '493' Maidstone postmarks. The Birmingham postmarks would be expected, but why Maidstone?

Closer inspection revealed that there are **two** dies represented in the Catalogue, published over 10 years ago now. *Could I ask you to inspect your holdings of these large N's and help me recompile accurate details for the two dies from scratch?*

1878-1920



N0010.17

Dates: 27 Sep 1899 - ... 1918.

Issues: QV 1d (SG43) - plate 204 (s/w)

B 1d (16 dots)

E 2½d

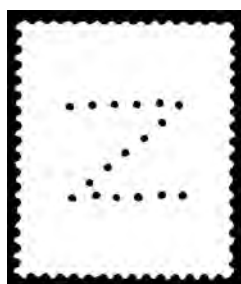
F 2d, 3d, 4d (gr/br), 6d

I(RC) ½d

Note: Narrow "N", 8.0mm wide. Usually upright.

Pmks: '75' Birmingham.

1870-1875



N0010.17a

Dates: 22 Aug 1874.

Issues: QV 1d (SG43) - plates 120, 138, 140, 150, 155, 157

Note: Wider "N", 8.5mm wide. Usually sideways.

Pmks: '493' Maidstone.

We can now assign "N" (N0010.17) as having been used by '**Nettlefold & Co**' (Ltd from 1880), who continued to use the die after they became part of '**Guest, Keen, & Nettlefolds Ltd**' in 1902 - see also "GK/N" (G2990.01M). But who was the Maidstone user?

SLOPER TESTIMONIAL - 1894

Maurice Harp

Amongst the documents that the Society obtained at Sloper's closure was a testimonial signed by a number of Sloper's customers. The testimonial is dated 18th July 1894 and consisted of a simple open letter addressed to Joseph Sloper & Co as shown below.

*London,
18th July 1894*

*To Messrs J. Sloper & Co.
20 King William Street,
E.C.*

Gentlemen,

In reply to your enquiry as to whether we have found your system of perforating stamps satisfactory – we beg to state having been supplied with perforated stamps for some time past we are able to say the work done by you has given us perfect satisfaction, and we have found it a great protection against purloining or misappropriation.

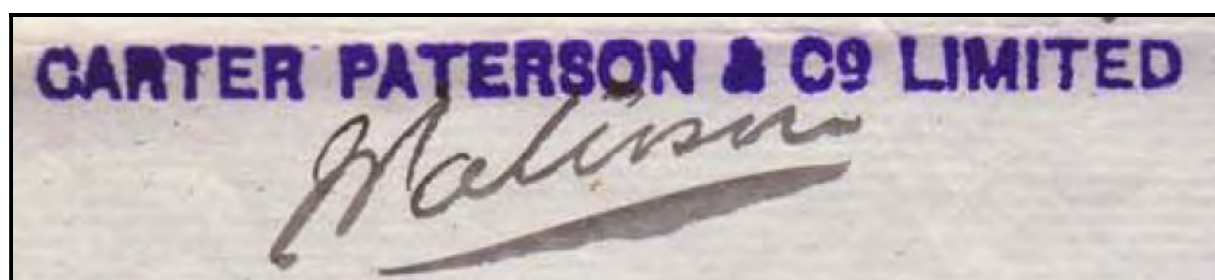
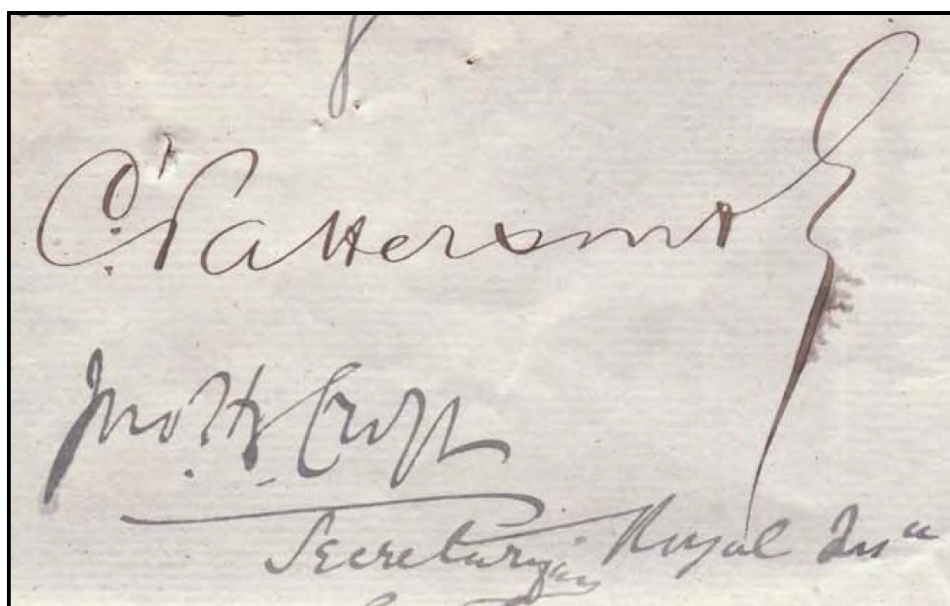
We are, Gentlemen

Yours faithfully

Below this simple declaration are the signatures of fifty-six of his then current customers, all of which were based or had offices in London. Luckily for us, the Sloper papers also included a typed list of these customers with a simple address. I say luckily as many of the signatures and customer's names are very hard to decipher. A full list of these customers is included in Table 1.

Of the fifty-six names on the list we have confirmed identified dies for thirty-two of them and provisional dies for a further thirteen. That leaves just eleven users for which dies used around 1894 have not yet been identified. Table 2 lists those eleven customers to which I have added additional information as to their address and business taken from a Kelly's 1895 Trade Directory. Five of the customers are well known users of perfins however no die in the 1894 period has yet been

associated with them. Another five are known perfin users and for one C. Paterson & Co I cannot find any record.



I wondered if Slopers had made a mistake in drawing up their list from the testimonial and had counted Carter Paterson twice so I went back to the original testimonial and certainly there are two entries as can be seen above.

So the challenge now is to find out whether C. Patterson & Co of Fenchurch Street, London EC really existed and to find the ten dies that were being used by the other customers at this period. This task may not be so easy as for instance there are six WT/&S dies used in this period that may have been used by Ward, Sturt & Sharp.

One question though remains – why was the testimonial produced. It seems clear that it was initiated by Sloper rather than being a spontaneous event from grateful customers. Maybe Slopers felt that they could use such a testimonial in trying to drum up additional business at a time when more and more rival perforators were springing up in London.

Table 1
TESTIMONIAL SIGNATURES

Alliance Assurance Co, Bartholomew Lane	A0150.01	AA/Co..	C
A Biedermann & Co, Warnford Court, EC	A0630.01	A/B&Co	C
Barrow, Lane & Ballard, Monument Yard EC	-	-	-
Bolling & Lowe, Laurence Poutney Hill, EC	B3690.02	BIRD	C
Brough Nicholson & Hall, Cheapside, EC	B5150.01	BN/&H	C
The British Trade Journal, Canon St, EC	B7210.01	BTJ	C
C. Paterson & Co, Fenchurch Av, EC	-	-	-
Church Missionary Society, Salisbury Sq EC	C5050.01	C.M.S	C
Clements, Newling & Co, Wood St, London EC	C5320.01	C.N/&Co.	C
Carter Patterson & Co Ltd, Goswell Road	-	-	-
Cory Brother & Co Ltd, Fenchurch Av, EC	C5620.01	CORY/C	C
C.S. Cox & Co, Fenchurch Av, London EC	-	-	-
Crowden & Garrod, 62 Southwark St, SE	C2690.01	C&G	P
Curteis Whitworth & Co, Eastcheap, EC	-	-	-
Dennistoun Cross & Co, Princes St, EC	D0700.01	D/C&Co	C
Estates Gazette, Fleet St, St Brides St, EC	E1720.02	E.G	P
E Mansfield (Graphic Newspaper) Strand WC	G4210.01	GRAPHIC	C
Fred Braby & Co Ltd, Euston Road, NW	F0320.02	F.B/&Co.	P
Glyn, Mills Currie & Co, Lombard St, EC	G3260.01	GLYN	C
Ginner, Morton & Goddard, Eastcheap, EC	G3400.01	GM/&G	C
Gow Wilson & Stanton, Rood Lane, EC	-	-	-
George W Wheatley & Co, Cheapside, EC	W1300.04	W&Co	C
H Clarkson & Co, Fenchurch St, London EC	H1310.01	H/C&Co	C
Holland & Sherry, Warwick St, London W	H6350.07	H&S	P
Hampton & Sons, Cockspur St, London SW	H6350.04	H&S	C
H. Schwartze & Co, Moorgate St Buildings	-	-	-
J & C Boyd & Co, Friday St, London EC	J1355.01	J&C/B&Co	P
James Mason & Son, Old Broad St, London EC	J5470.02	JM/&S	C
John Moir & Sons Ltd, Leadenhall St, EC	J5480.01	J/M&S	C
James Pearsall & Co, Cheapside, London EC	J6070.01	JP/Co	C
James Russell & Sons Ltd, Southwark St, EC	J6625.02	(Crown)/ JR&S	P
J.W. Vickers, 5 Nicholas Lane, London EC	J8720.01	JWV	C
Merchant Banking Co Ltd, Cannon St, EC	M0515.01	M.B/Co.	C
Moser & Sons, Borough High St, London SE	M5270.02	M&S/L	C
Provident Clerks & General Guarantee Association Ltd, Coleman St, London EC	P0990.01	PC/GG	P
Robinson Fleming & Co, Billiter Square, EC	R1810.02	R/F&Co	C
R. Hornsby & Sons, Queen Victoria St, EC	R2510.03	RH/&S	P
Royal Insurance Co, Lombard St, London EC	R2770.03	RIC	C
R. Pottle & Sons, Royal Exchange, London EC	-	-	-

Table 1 (contd)

Rogers, Rock & Co, Friday St, London EC	R4350.01	R.R/&Co	P
Religious Tract Soc, Paternoster Row, EC	R5340.01	RTS	C
Samuel Brothers, Ludgate Hill, London EC	S0890.01	S/Bros	P
Smith Greenwood & Co, Ludgate Hill, EC	S3140.01	SG/C	C
Spratts Patent, Henry St, Tooley St, EC	S5710.01	SP	P
Stubbs Limited, Gresham St, London EC	S5310.01	S.M.O	P
Thomas Cook & Son, Ludgate Circus, EC	T1105.01	T.C/&S	P
Thomas Hubbock & Son Ltd, Lime St, EC	-	-	-
Treloar & Sons, Ludgate Hill, London EC	T4040.01	T&S	C
Trower & Sons, St Mary at Hill, London EC	-	-	-
United Kingdom Tea Co, Mincing Lane, EC	U1070.01	UK/TCo	C
Ward, Sturt & Sharp, Wood St, London EC	-	-	-
W.E. & H. Le May, 67 Boro' High St, SE	W3650.01	WH/&HL	C
Welch Margetson & Co, Cheapside, EC	W5280.01a	W.M/&Co	C
Wm. F Malcolm & Co, Leadenhall St, EC	W5160.01	WM	C
W.R. Perry, Bush Lane, London EC	P0010.23	P	C
Williams, Torrey & Field Ltd, Fenchurch St, EC	W7470.01	WTF/Ld	C

C = Confirmed identity P = Provisional Identity

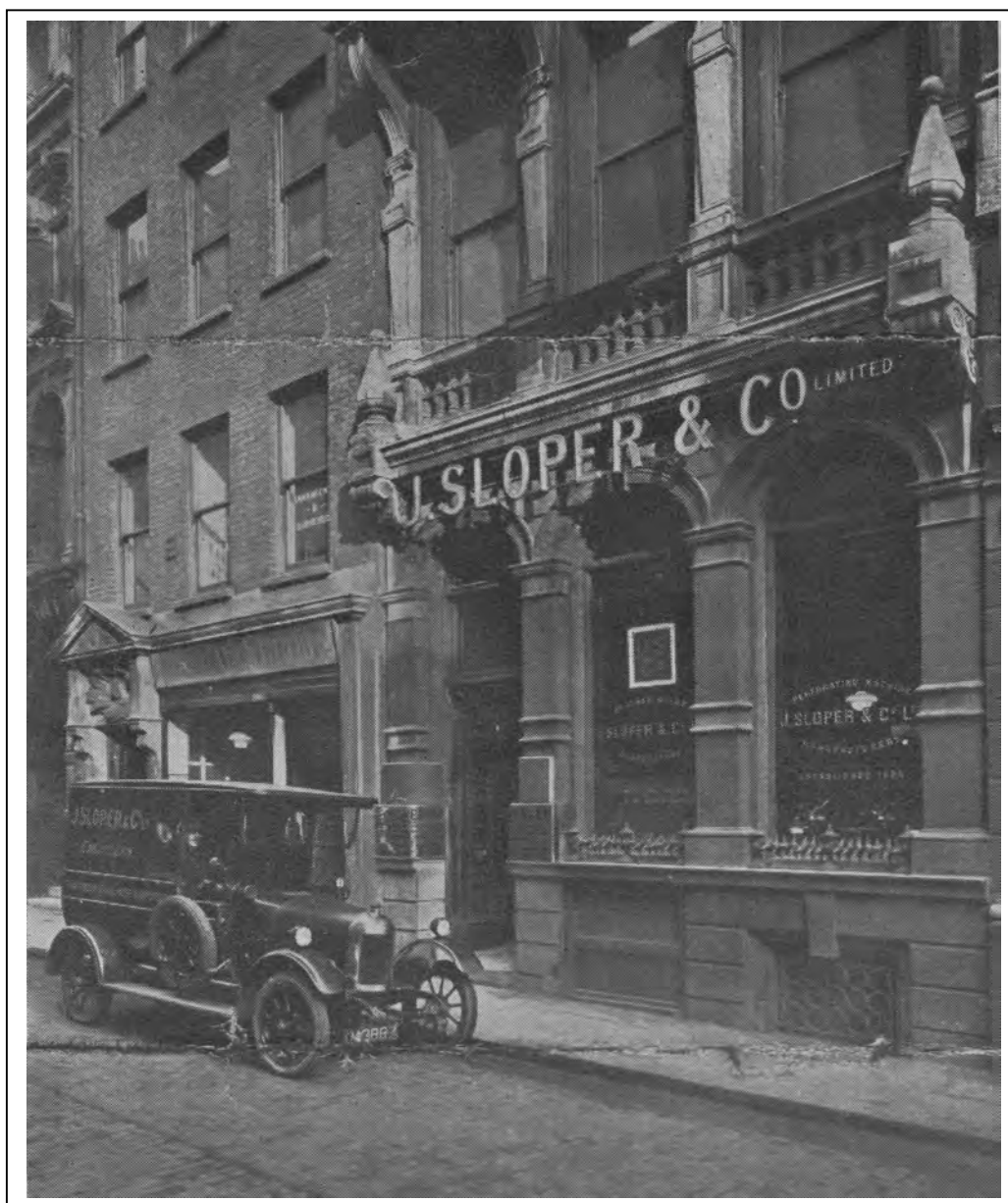
Table 2

Barrow, Lane & Ballard, Monument Square Chambers, EC & 30 Pudding Lane EC	Fruit Merchants	*
<i>C. Paterson & Co, Fenchurch Av, London EC</i>	?	
Carter Patterson & Co Ltd, 122-130 Goswell Road EC, 80 Wood St EC, 76-77 Great Tower St, EC, 20 Peel St, Notting Hill Gate W, 32 Chalk Farm Road, NW, 182 High St, Deptford SE, 151 Bermondsey St, SE, 8 Milner St, W, 8 Smith Square, SW, Birkbeck St, E	Carriers & Railway Agents	*
C.S. Cox & Co, 4 Fenchurch Av, London EC	Colonial Brokers	
Curteis Whitworth & Co, 41 Eastcheap, London EC & 18 Rood Lane, London EC	Wholesale dried fruit, canned goods dealer	
Gow Wilson & Stanton, 13 Rood Lane, EC	Tea Brokers	*
Helmuth Schwartze & Co, 3/4 Moorgate St Buildings, EC	Wool Brokers	
Robert Pottle & Sons, 14/15 Royal Exchange, EC	Newsvendors	
Thomas Hubbock & Son Ltd, 24 Lime St, EC & 44-48 Broad St, Ratcliff, E	Paint & varnish manufacturers	*
Trower & Sons, 39 St Mary at Hill, London EC	Wine & Spirit Merchants	
Ward, Sturt & Sharp, 89-91 Wood St, EC & 22-23 Silver St, EC. Manufactory Belper, Derbyshire	Haberdashers & hosiers	*

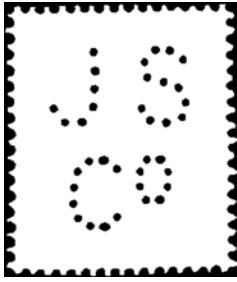
* = Known to have used dies post 1894

J. SLOPER & CO – BUDGE ROW PHOTOS
Maurice Harp

When the Society acquired the Sloper records included in the papers was a cut out page from an unidentified publication that had been stuck onto a piece of card. The page is simply entitled J. Sloper & Co. Ltd. *Offices:* 22 Budge Row, E.C.4. Below are two photographs one above the other. The first photo shows the outside of Slopers office in Budge Row and the second shows an internal shot.



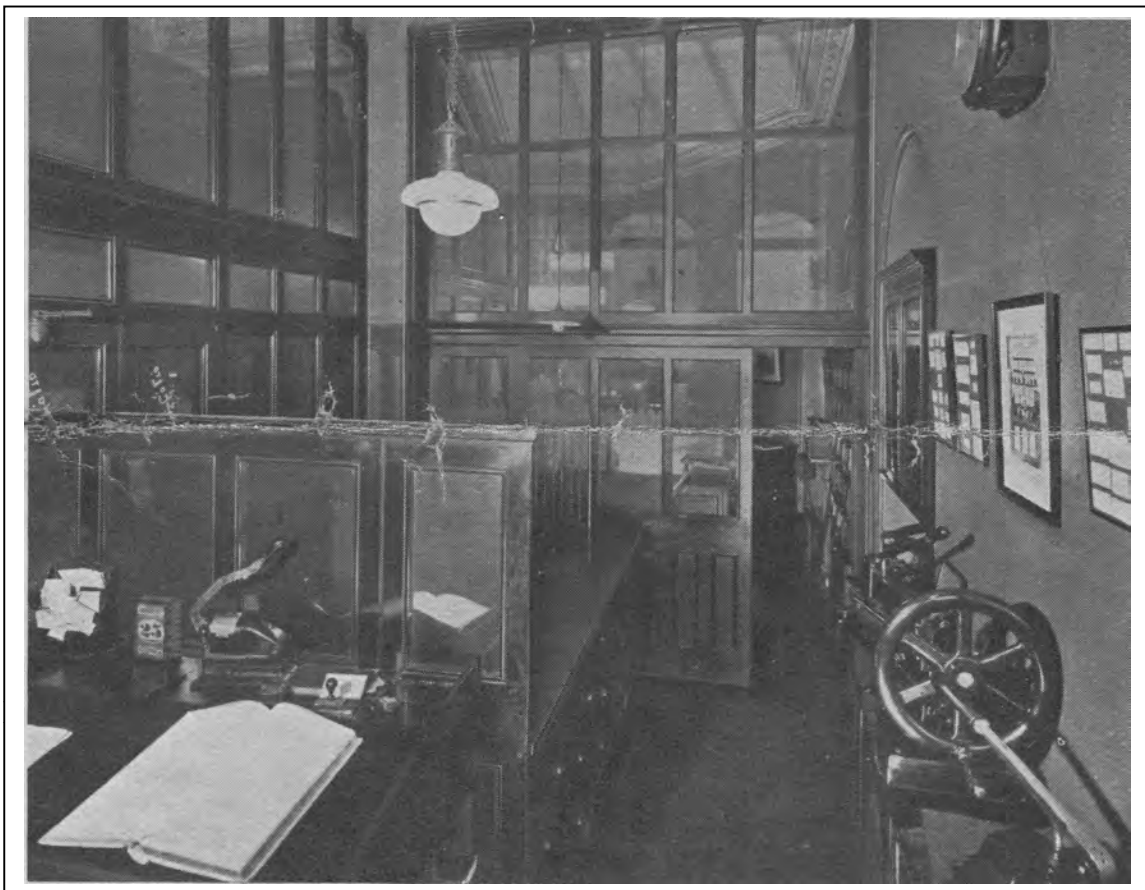
Slopers moved to Budge Row in 1914 and maybe these pictures were taken to mark the move to the new premises. The van parked outside has the inscription J. Sloper & Co – Engineers. I guess that the van



was used for delivery of perfins to London customers. The square shape that can be seen in the left window is actually a giant dummy postage stamp with a perfin JS/Co presumably used to advertise the business. Our Illustrated Catalogue illustrates a similar strike of a die, which was used by Slopers for advertising but has never been reported used on stamps.

The inscriptions on the windows are harder to read. The one in the right window reads "*Perforating Machine / J. Sloper & Co. / Manufacturers*" and the one in the left probably reads "*Postage Stamps / J. Sloper & Co. / Perforators*".

The second photo shows the inside of part of the office. It seems to be a day off for the workers. In fact the desk calendar shows the 25th so maybe it was Christmas Day.



It is a typical Edwardian office but with a single headed perfin machine on the high clerks desk above the ledger. There is another larger machine against the right hand wall. Altogether an interesting insight to the business at that period.

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For further details of the G.B. Perfin Society and membership application
please contact: