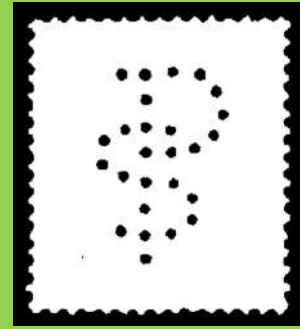


# G.B. PERFIN SOCIETY BULLETIN



No. 379 – August 2012



Letter sheet used May 7th 1875 bearing 1½d red plate 1 with perfin GLYN - G3260.01M. The stamp has the rare error of lettering OP - PC for CP - PC.

Only two copies of the OP - PC error have been recorded with perfins - both with die G3260.01M

**SECRETARY/TREASURER**

Please make all payments to 'The Perfin Society' whatever they are for. A thank you to the anonymous member who sent me the 1986 Christmas set mint and the extra 12p used (?) and to those who have donated perfins to Society stock over the last year. It is greatly appreciated though I now have a good stock for new members. All members on email will hear from me in mid to late August informing them of their credit balances and whether any payment is due for subscriptions, and those not on email will receive a separate notification enclosed with this Bulletin. I am away from home on holiday from 24 July to 14 August though my family will take messages, but I will monitor email. I would thank you all in advance for continuing to support the Society and look forward to hearing from you.

**Subscriptions Due – Electronic Membership Option?**

Subscriptions are due on **1<sup>st</sup> September 2012** and despite postal increases remain at the same rates of Electronic £10, UK £10, Europe £12, World Surface £12 & World Airmail £15. Can I ask that as many of you as possible living outside the UK change to Electronic only to save the Society excessive postal costs that now exceed your subscription. You can print the Bulletin and Auction at home if you really want a paper copy to keep.

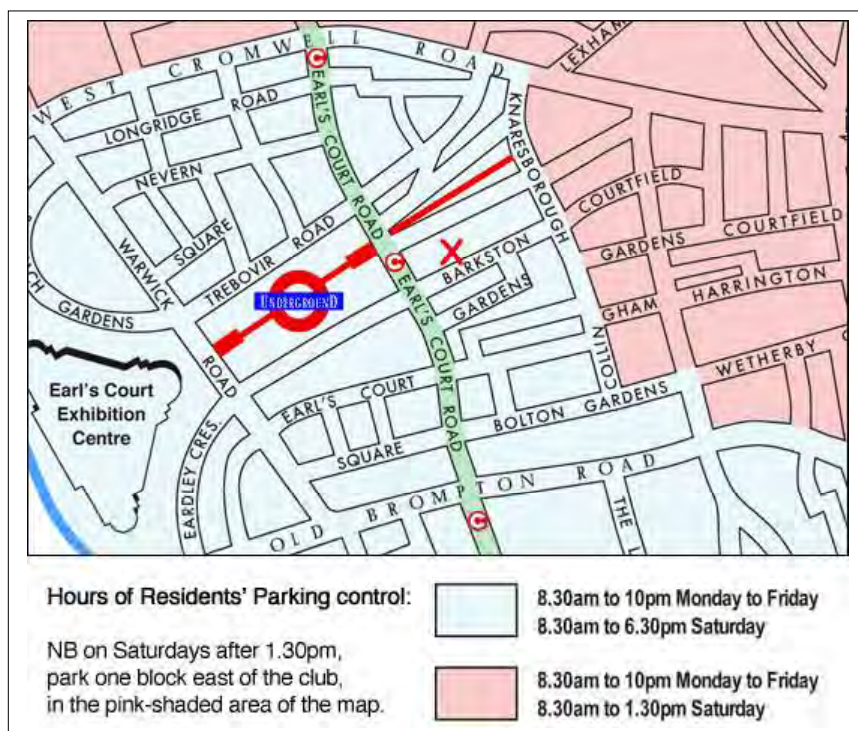
**Do you display your Perfins?**

I had a request from a Kent Philatelic Society asking for a perfin talk & display for one of their future meetings. I do not have a list of those members prepared to give a display, so would appreciate knowing who already does it, or is willing to do it, and how far they would travel.

**Date for the Diary - AGM**

Our booking for the Young Chelsea Bridge Club has been confirmed for Saturday November 3, 2012, usual times. The venue is very close

to Earls Court Underground Station, and parking is free if you are prepared to walk a few hundred yards. The full address is The Young Chelsea Bridge Club, 32 Barkston Gardens, London, SW5 0EN, - tel. 0207 373 1665. The Society will again have the rear ground floor room that has a large skylight providing good natural light. A word of warning, the building being Victorian does have a few steps between the bar/cafeteria and meeting room, but these are signed and marked. A map of the location is shown below. The club has a licensed bar, where soft drinks, tea and coffee, and light snacks are available.



## New Stamp Blog

Non-member Miles Newey has written to let the Society members know about his new blog which members may like to try. "I now have a new website up and running called [www.stampblog.co.uk](http://www.stampblog.co.uk). The purpose of this site is to encourage the collecting of stamps, whilst being on hand to provide support by way of a forum. Although this is primarily launched at collecting GB and Machins, other categories on the forum may be added in the future if proved popular."

## Perfin Exhibition Success

**Michael Millar** has written to tell us about his success with his perfin exhibit. The Society sends its congratulations on this brilliant success. If any other member has had exhibition success with a perfin exhibit please let us know.

"My Perfin Travel Planner exhibit took a Large Silver at the show in Ottawa last month. This is a National Level show so it's a pretty good medal. I also was awarded the American Topical Association medal for Best Topical/Thematic exhibit in the show. However the Jury as well as another chap, who is an Internationally Accredited Judge, strongly suggested that I consider moving the exhibit out of the Topical/Thematic category and into the Display Category. This is a relatively new category over here in North America and I don't know if it has moved across the pond to the UK or not. With this one you can have up to 49% non-philatelic material in an exhibit, so it does give one plenty of room to expand it. I do have some display material in the exhibit as it stands now, but kept it to a minimum using the rule-of-thumb that an exhibit should not have any more than 5% collateral material. But the suggestion was that if I changed the category it might move the medal up to a vermeil. The Jury gave it 73% which is a high Silver, where a vermeil starts at 75%."

### **Perfin Studies on Society Website**

The Perfin Society website has a studies section which hopefully members can help with. At the moment there are six studies - perfin revenue stamps, perfinned Machins, stamps not recorded perfinned, QV 1883 3d & 6d Surcharge Issue, QV 8d, 9d & 10d issues and QV 2/- Blue & Brown issues. The studies are updated on a regular basis so the website reflects the latest information available on these specific issues. Each study has an owner and if any members have additional information then please send it in. Also if anybody wants to add their own study then please feel free to contact the web master or any Society officer.

### **Perfin Society Bulletin CD Cost**

The recent increase in mail rates has affected all our publications, including the Bulletin CD. As a result it has been necessary to increase the cost by £1. For members who bought the earlier edition the CD costs just £4 which covers postage and production costs. For members who are ordering the CD for the first time the cost will be £6. Orders and payments should be sent to **Stephen Steere** and the CD's will be dispatched by the editor.

## WANTED - 1

A non-member Vladimir Kachan from Russia has contacted the Society. He would like to know if there are any country has produced a perfin with a butterfly design. Your editor was unable to help but maybe one of our members knows of one. If you think you can help could you provide details to the editor and he will pass the information on. Better still is you have a spare copy of a stamp with a butterfly perfin maybe we could pass that on to Vladimir.

## WANTED - 2

**Michael Millar** writes from Canada with a request. "I am working on an exhibit of the Stationery Office perfins and wonder if members could help me. If anyone happens to have multiples of H5200.01M especially if they still have either the left or right margin selvedge attached, would they please be kind enough to send me a scan. Also, if anyone has a spare cover/wrapper of the S Crown O - S5630.01M - perfin with a KEVIII stamp that they would be prepared to sell, I'll be happy to buy it from them."

## SLOPER HAND PERFORATING PUNCH

### **S L O P E R** **H A N D P E R F O R A T I N G P U N C H**

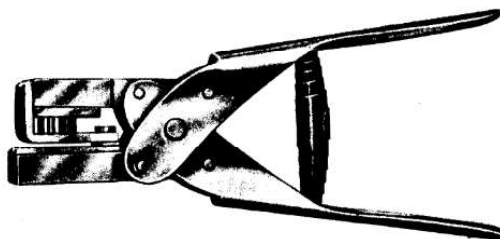
Approx. weight :

14½ ozs.

Length :

6½ ins.

PLATED FINISH



Pressed Steel Handles

Steel jaws with  
parallel action

Capable of perforating  
1, 2 or 3 figures or  
letters

MODEL HPI

**A very handy and useful perforating punch for—**

Truth marking silks, cloth, etc.  
Identity marking skins, hides, etc.  
Initialling papers, tickets, documents, etc.

Manufactured by **J. SLOPER & CO. LTD.** BLACKBURN ROAD, LONDON, N.W.4

*Perforating Machine Specialists since 1858*

**New Identities - Bulletin 378/466**

**John Mathews** writes in relation to Woodhouse & Rawson Ltd. and their absence from the 1895 directory. "In the New Identities with Bulletin 378 (June 2012), page 466. it was noted that Woodhouse & Rawson could not be found in the 1895 London Trade Directory. I have done a bit of searching re this company and have enclosed a file with several excerpts from various Internet sites."

"There were a couple of companies "Woodhouse & Co." up to 1881. These eventually got absorbed into Woodhouse & Rawson. The first directory entry for Woodhouse & Rawson was in the 1882 edition, when they were at 11 Queen Victoria Street, EC. The following year, the additional address Charterhouse Buildings, EC, was added. The last entry was in the 1894 edition when they were at 88 Victoria Street & 30 Cannon Street, EC; W. Hammersmith (works); Manchester; Kidsgrove, Staffs.; and Bradford. Some of these additional sites were locations of the various companies absorbed in 1889. In "The Times" the first mention is in 1884. On November 17, 1893, there is the first mention of the company being wound up. From then until at least 1899, there is a series of listings of legal proceedings against the company in the bankruptcy court. This all explains why you could not find them in the 1896 Trade Directory."

**The HM/SO Stamp Perforating Machine - Bulletin 377/21**

As you will see in the "Wants" section **Michael Millar** is forming a specialised display of HM/SO material. Michael noticed that the perforating machine illustrated in the article in the last Bulletin had a sheet of paper which had been perforated. By enlarging the picture Michael could also see that the machine is still fitted with a twelve impression die. He has got in touch with Glenn Morgan (who took the photograph) and who works as a volunteer at the National Postal Museum's Debden store. Glenn has promised to get a punch from the machine on white card for the Society for our records and to take any more photos that we might require. A strike on plain paper had been made by Tony Edwards in the past but seems to have gone missing from the Society's records.

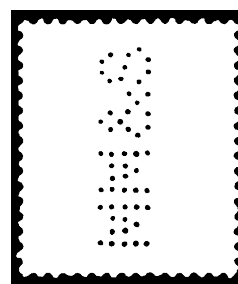
**'PERSEVERANCE IRONWORKS' - PENDLETON**

**Roy Gault & Maurice Harp**

The following advertisement was placed in an 1884 Birmingham Trade Directory, with what appears to be an illustration of a Perfin, along with a potential user '*Maybury, Marston & Sharpe*'. It also looks like they were the inspiration behind Rubik and his Cube!



1890-1900



M4020.01

Unfortunately there are no G.B. Perfins that look like "M.M&C<sup>o</sup>...", but there is an unidentified "MM&S" (M4020.01), known used in Manchester 1890-1900. The earliest/latest actual dates are ... 1891 and 15th December 1896, so perhaps the 1900 terminal date is a little too extended as an 1899 Manchester Directory has no entry for '*Maybury, Marston & Sharpe*'.

The following additional research helps fill in the gaps, starting with this entry from an 1873 Manchester directory explaining the meaning of the "M.M&C<sup>o</sup>..." reference - **Maybury, Matthew & Co.**

Maybury, Matthews & Co. hoop iron manufacturers,  
Perseverance iron works, Pendleton

The precise make-up of the company is given in a notice placed in the London Gazette on 29<sup>th</sup> December 1874, taking effect from 24<sup>th</sup> December 1874, when George Matthews retired.

*Edward Maybury.*  
*George Matthews.*

*Edward Marston.*  
*Lister Sharpe.*

So, from 24<sup>th</sup> December 1874 the company name became '*Maybury, Marston & Sharpe*' as the following 1879 entry shows (with similar entries for 1885/6). The company also advertised abroad as the second illustration shows, taken from the 'Australian & New Zealand Gazette' for 15<sup>th</sup> December 1879.

**Maybury, Marston & Sharpe, pig iron merchants, manufacturers of steel and iron hoops, coopers' plain and splayed hoops, horse shoe iron, and makers of every description of iron washers, Perseverance Iron Works, Pendleton**

**MAYBURY, MARSTON & SHARPE,**  
 Perseverance Ironworks, Pendleton, Manchester,  
 Brand—  
**M. M. & Co** MANUFACTURERS OF  
**HOOP IRON FOR PACKING & BALING PURPOSES, BEST COOPERS' HOOPS, BOTH PLAIN AND SPLAYED.**  
 Also Makers of STEEL HOOPS, for Baling Cotton, &c., and all kinds of IRON WASHERS for Engineers and Bolt Makers.

With no entry found in 1895 & 1898 directories, the suspected identity looked a little less convincing, but this piece from the 'Birmingham Post' for 10<sup>th</sup> July 1893 revived the situation, albeit that the 'Perseverance Ironworks' was in the throes of being dismantled.

**RE MAYBURY & MARSTON, Dismantling**  
 Perseverance Ironworks, Pendleton, Manchester.—For Sale, cheap, for immediate clearance, 3 Steam Hammers, 12cwt., 3 tons, and 4 tons respectively; 23in. Sheet Mill, with Horizontal 32in. Cylinder Engines, new 1889; 2 Puddle Bar Shears, Sheet Shears, by Perry; Billet Shears, 3 large Cameron Pumps, 14 Furnace Boilers, Boiler Fittings, Roll Lathes, Mortar Mill, Wrought and Cast-iron Steam Piping, Valves, 10½in. Screw-cutting Gap Lathe.—To view, apply to Foreman on the Works; or for full particulars and drawing, T. W. Ward, Fitzalan Chambers, Sheffield. c5505

In a Birmingham newspaper dated 28<sup>th</sup> December 1888 the company advertised for a millwright but interestingly they are called *Maybury & Marston*, although this is certainly the same company, and again on June 20<sup>th</sup> 1890 when they placed an advertisement for a 'Roll Turner'. In conclusion, the company probably closed around 1892, a little short of the December 1896 latest date recorded for the Perfin.

A final check in the London Gazette resulted in an announcement made on 11<sup>th</sup> June 1895 that '*Maybury & Marston Ltd*' was to be struck off the companies register. The formal striking off of the company would be three months after the published date, so any stock of stamps are likely to have been used up after this date which takes us into 1896. So, after much going back and forth, (dare we say 'Perseverance' - pun intended), the provisional identity is probably a good one.



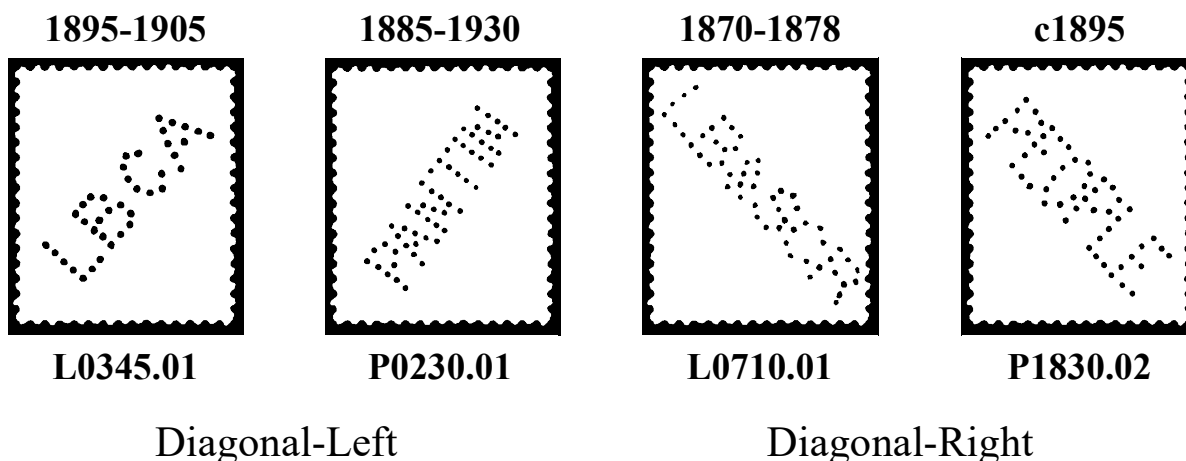
## I'M STAGGERED!

Roy Gault

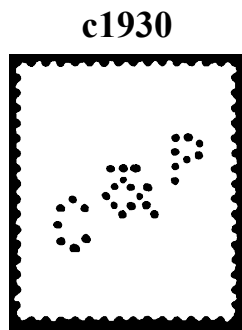
As I write (May 2012) there are **23,947** different G.B. Perfin Dies, the vast majority of which (roughly 90%) are usually found 'upright' (which also includes inverted, reversed, and inverted-reversed) on a standard definitive sized stamp. Seasoned Perfin collectors would instinctively know this, along with the fact that there are far fewer examples normally found 'sideways' (roughly 9%), and even less with 'other' orientations such as 'diagonal', and 'staggered'. A quick analysis of all known G.B. Perfin dies produces the following table.

Orientation	Total	%
Upright (Horizontal)	21,564	90.1%
Sideways (Vertical)	2,142	8.9%
Diagonal-Left	129	0.5%
Diagonal-Right	48	0.2%
Staggered-Up	1	0.0%
Staggered-Down	41	0.2%
Curved	21	0.1%
Miscellaneous	1	0.0%
TOTAL	23,947	100.0%

Although the numbers are relatively small for the bottom six categories, there are still far too many to list here, so instead I will show a few typical examples. First the 'diagonal' category, in which the individual letters lie at an angle but are also in line with each other.

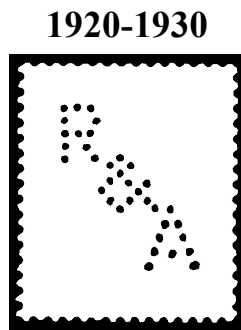


The ‘staggered’ category is also placed diagonally on the stamp, but this time the individual letters remain upright, and consequently do not line up with each other. {Excluded from the count are any Sloper Wartime Provisionals which often have a ‘staggered’ appearance}.



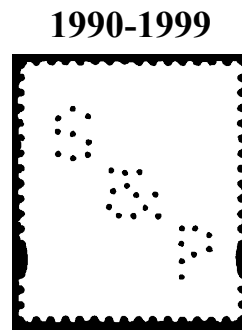
**C5825.01**

Staggered-Up



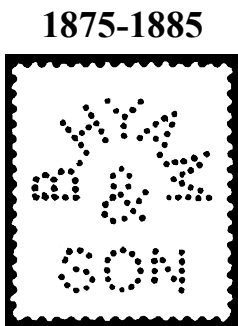
**R0065.01**

Diagonal-Down

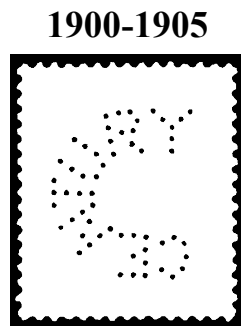


**S5775.01**

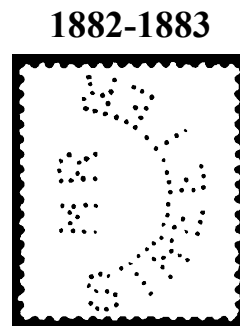
The ‘curved’ category provides some interesting examples, ...



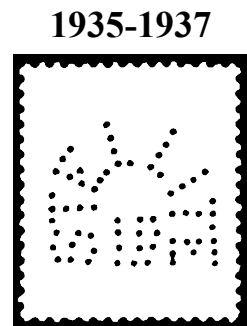
**B3480.01**



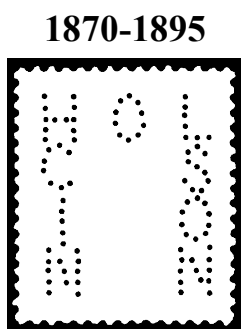
**C2360.01**



**M4900.01**



**S7345.01**



**N1785.01**

And finally, the unique ‘periphery’ format of “NIC-HOL-SON”.

The earliest actual date reported on a non-upright, non-sideways orientated Perfin is 10<sup>th</sup> March 1870 on “TRIVERS” (T3790.01), and the most recent is November 1997 on “S\&P” (S5775.01). Note that “S\C” (S1257.02) is also known on PiP’s, so it must be at least 2006.

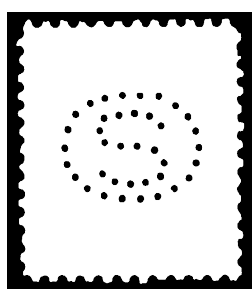
Something for everyone!

## SHAWINIGAN “S in Oval” PERFIN

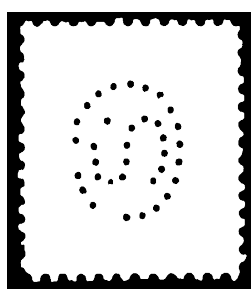
Roy Gault

In looking ahead at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition for Section ‘S’ of the G.B. Perfin Catalogue, I had cause to pause at the “S” in Oval (S0040.01) used by the *Shawinigan Water & Power Co* in Canada. I’m keen to amplify the sparse details in the old G.B. Catalogue (1995) and thought it opportune to widen the net because unusually, this particular Perfin is known used on the postage stamps of *three* different countries: **Canada, U.S.A, and G.B.** Overall use was probably **1923-1935**.

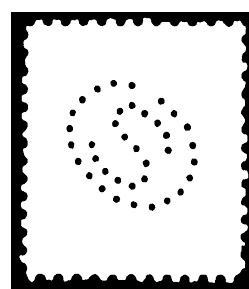
In correspondence with *Kurt Ottenheimer* (U.S.A) and *Jack Brandt* (Canada) it would appear that there are three distinct states - complete, missing three pins, and missing one pin. Also, chronologically, the use in the United States (c1933) and Great Britain (c1935) follows the use in Canada (1911-1928)\*. The pattern is known upright, sideways, and diagonal, and probably comes from a *single headed die*.



A - Complete



B - 3 pins missing



C - 1 pin missing

*Could I ask you* to have a look at your collections and report the details of any stamps you have with this Perfin - Country, Issue, Value, {Scott or SG N<sup>o</sup>.}, Perfin Orientation, State of Missing Pins - along with any Postmark information to help pin-point quite when and where the die was used. For example:

Country	Issue	Value	Orientation	State	Pmks
Canada	KGV - Admiral	2c	Upright	C	---
G.B.	KGV Photogravure	1½d	Sideways	C	---

Here is a chance for Perfin collectors worldwide to contribute detailed information valid in three different Perfin Catalogues.

\* ‘Extreme’ dates listed in ‘Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials’ by J C Johnson & G Tomasson (1985).

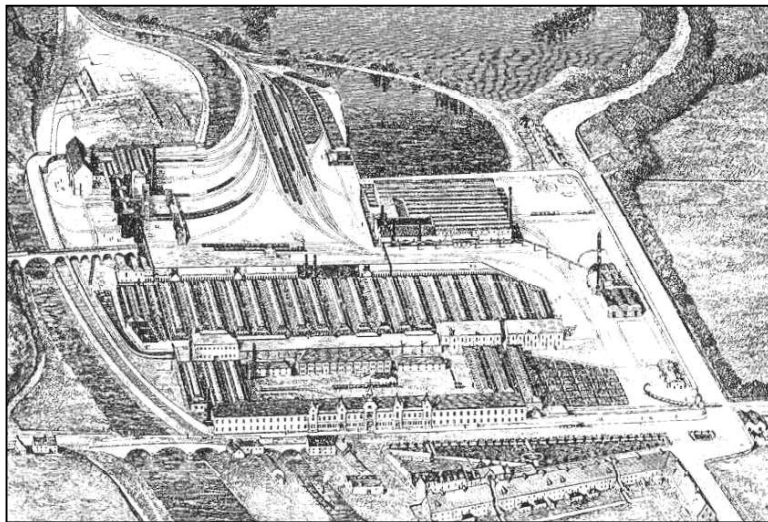
## SCOTTISH 'INDUSTRIAL RAILWAY' ROUND-UP - FEEDBACK

Roy Gault

There was a good response to my article in Bulletin 377 with four collectors - *John Mathews, Michael Millar, John Strange, and Jack Brandt* - supplying update details and various snippets of information.

John Strange reports a fiscally used 2d issue 'U' (SG573) with "DC<sup>o</sup>/L<sup>d</sup>" (D0960.02) cancelled .... SOCIETY LTD., making it highly likely to be a Co-operative Society based in the Motherwell district.

The article also brought back childhood memories for Michael Millar of steam hauled trains in the early 1950's. The smell of the oil and sulphurous fumes appears to be as intense today as it was some 60 years ago! 'Fired' by Chris Carr's suggestion, Michael has now started a sub-collection of G.B. Perfins used by companies who also operated their own internal railway systems.



Pride of place goes to John Mathews whose Gt-Gt-Gt-Grandfather, James Dawson (1785-1865), was employed at the Carron Iron Works in the early 1800's, before joining the Royal Artillery, and serving in Tehran, Persia (1810). James returned to England in 1815, got married in Falkirk (1817), and returned (along with other 'Carron' workers) to Persia to help establish an artillery foundry for the Persians. The family returned to Falkirk in 1832, where James became a tenant farmer, before emigrating to Australia in 1838. *The illustration is from "Carron, Crucible of Scotland, Exhibition catalogue (1998)" and shows the extent of Carron's internal railway in 1888.*

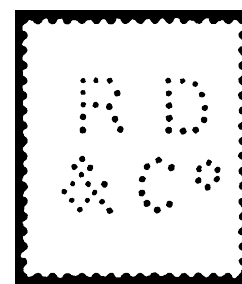
## RAYLTON DIXON & CO, SHIPBUILDERS.

Roy Gault

I know that 'suspected' new identities are not everyone's cup of tea, but in many cases it's probably the only chance to obtain an idea of who might have used a particular Perfin. Small towns, by their very nature, offer the best chance to yield up a 'unique' possibility, whereas larger towns and cities such as London, Manchester, Glasgow etc., make obtaining a unique 'possible' nigh on impossible.

Thumbing through the details catalogue for the letter 'R' I came across "RD/&C<sup>o</sup>" (R1370.02), known used 1875-1915 with Middlesbrough postmarks. Having access to East Yorkshire Post Office Directories for 1872 & 1897, I thought I'd be in with a fighting chance of finding a user.

1875-1915



R1370.02

Unfortunately, I could find nothing appropriate in the earlier directory, but did manage to find *Sir Raylton Dixon & Co*, Shipbuilders, Cleveland Dockyard, The Docks, Middlesbrough in the later edition. Excluding the 'butchers, bakers & candle-stick makers', this was the only fit I could find for the Perfin.

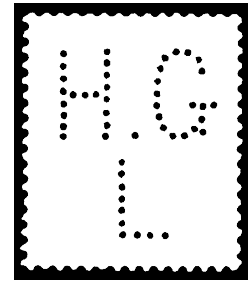
For someone as prominent as a 'knight of the realm', the Internet produced a whole host of details, all of which helped back-up the suspected identity - probably best displayed here as 'bullet points'.

- 1862/3 Shipbuilding partnership established between Thomas Backhouse and Raylton Dixon to acquire the 'Cleveland Yard' owned by Richardson, Duck and Co (previously owned by Rake, Kimber and Co).
- 1873 Raylton Dixon took complete control of the yard when Thomas Backhouse retired. The yard became known as the 'Cleveland Dockyard', matching the entry in the 1897 directory.

This also explains why there was no reference in the 1872 P.O. directory, and ties in well with the start date of c1875 for the Perfin.

- 1887 Dixon took over the yard on the site of the old *Teesside Iron and Engine Works*. In 1875, Hopkins, Gilkes & Co Ltd, of the Teesside Ironworks (and later of Tay Bridge Disaster fame), ceased construction of locomotives and changed the company name to the *Teesside Iron and Engine Works Co*.

1870-1877



H2930.01

- 1889 Raylton Dixon (1838-1901) became Lord Mayor of Middlesbrough, and knighted in 1890 for his services to the shipbuilding industry. By the time of his death, over 500 ships had been built in his yards.



Canadian Pacific  
Steamship Co's  
House Flag

- 1897 Incorporated as a limited liability company - *Sir Raylton Dixon and Co Ltd*. 1897 was also the year in which the SS Montrose was built, the first Teesside ship over 5,000 tons. Originally owned by *Elder, Dempster & Co*, she was purchased by the *Canadian Pacific Steamship Co* after a re-build in 1901, for use on the Liverpool-Quebec/Montreal route. Dr Crippin famously tried to evade justice by boarding the ship in 1904, but was apprehended after a message was sent by radio-telegraphy.
- During the First World War the Yard was taken over by *Lambert Bros Ltd*. This also ties in nicely with the end date of c1915 recorded for the use of the "RD/&C<sup>o</sup>." Perfin.
- 1922 With very few orders, the Yard was sold to the *Cleveland Shipbuilding Co* in 1923, and eventually dismantled in 1931.

## UNUSUAL SLOPER WARTIME PROVISIONALS

Roy Gault

Currently on record are details of **713** Sloper Wartime Provisionals. Such patterns have the suffix 'p' applied to their Catalogue Numbers. These 'variable' patterns came about after Sloper's premises in Budge Row were bombed on the night of the 10<sup>th</sup> May 1941, resulting in the destruction of virtually all of their Perfin dies. In order to keep their stamp initialling business going, new single letter dies were quickly made and used in combination to produce the required set of letters.



Just for reference, the earliest date recorded so far for a Sloper 'Wartime Provisional' is 26<sup>th</sup> June 1941, on "BM" (B4710.01p), probably used by Beach & Marsland, Warehousemen, London EC.



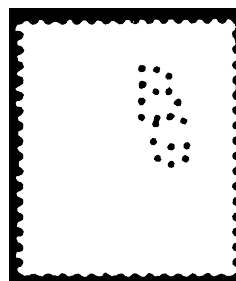
The vast majority of stamps perforated in this way by Slopers are *sheet stamps* from King George VI's reign (mainly dark and light colours). The latest date recorded is 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1952 on "K/CC" (K0300.02p).

But where does the 'unusual' come in? Well, until **Stephen Steere** recently reported two examples on *sideways watermarked* stamps, we only knew of two with 'Wartime Provisionals' - "R/L" (R3190.01p) on 1d & 2½d issue 'Q', and "D/B" (D0262.01p) on 1½d 'Q'.

Stephen has now added "B/G" (B2930.04p) on 1d 'Q', and "B/H" (B3250.05p) on 2½d 'Q' as illustrated alongside.

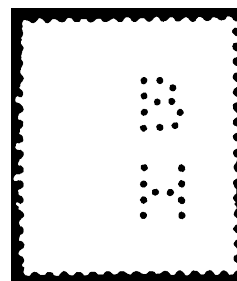
Can anyone match this "B/H"?

1941-1945



B2930.04p

1941-1945



B3250.05p

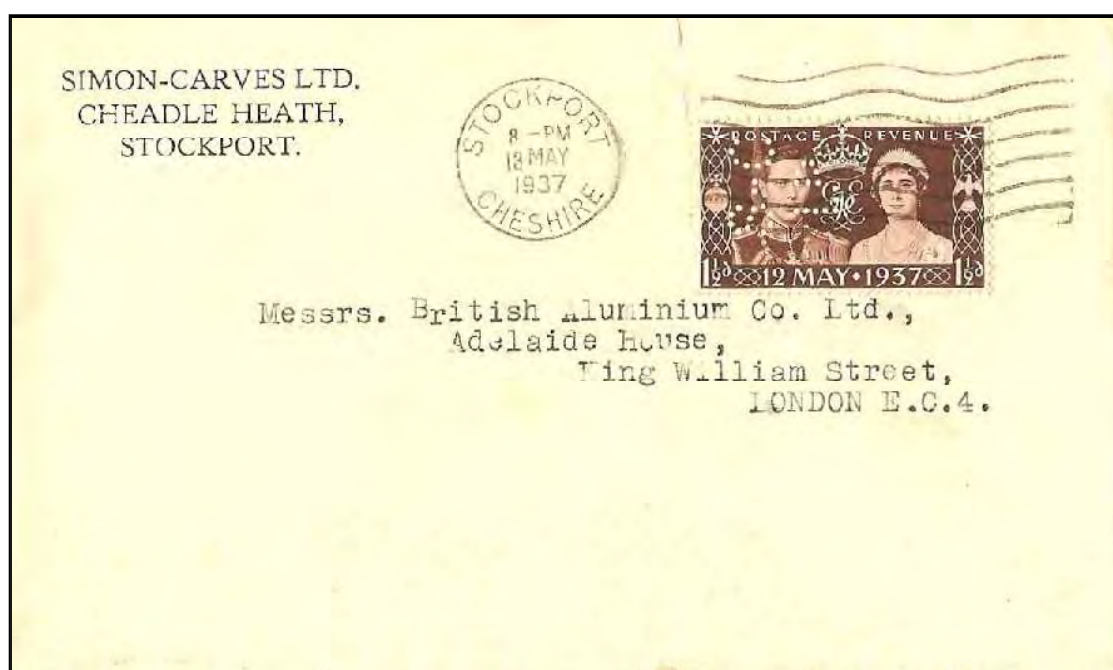
Also 'as rare as hen's teeth' are Sloper Wartime Provisionals on *G.B. Commemoratives*. So far only one is known - "RU/DC" (R5560.01p) on 2½d Victory (SG491), issued 11<sup>th</sup> June 1946.

## PERFIN FIRST DAY COVER

**Richard Husband**

Does any other member have a perfin used on a first day cover? My own first day cover shows a GB KGVI 1½d Coronation stamp used on 13th May 1937. Simon-Carves Ltd was very quick off the mark in having the stamp perforated with S-C/LD (S1580.01) on the same day it was purchased from the GPO. The company must have used their own on-site perforating machine as it is extremely unlikely for there to have been sufficient time for one of the perforating companies such as Sloper, to buy, perforate, and deliver to a customer all within the same day.

Henry Simon was born in Germany in 1836 and having studied engineering, came to Manchester in 1860. In 1880, Simon-Carves Ltd was founded by Henry Simon and Françoise Carves, a French coke oven engineer. From these beginnings, the company's business spread to providing a wide range of heavy engineering products, which included coal and coke handling systems, large boilers and ancillary plant use in power stations, sugar refineries etc, as well as the design and construction of nuclear power stations. This work was carried out at the large Cheadle Heath, Stockport site from which this first day cover originated. The business was sold to a subsidiary of SembCorp Industries Ltd of Singapore in 2001 and marked the completion of Simon Group's planned withdrawal from heavy engineering





## ARTHUR WYATT AND THE PENRHYN COLLIERY

Maurice Harp

At the spring meeting I purchased four covers bearing line engraved 1d reds from **Rosemary Smith**. The covers had come from **Norman Herwerdine's** collection and had four different perfin designs. At the time I simply thought that these would make a nice addition to my collection but when I got home I noticed that all four covers had the same address - Arthur Wyatt, Port Penrhyn, Bangor, North Wales. The four covers were:

T2947.01	T.L/&Co	Used Liverpool	May 19th 1877
S3630.01	S.H.W/B	Used Brentford	June 18th 1873
H1480.04	H&Co	Used Liverpool	Nov. 15th 1876
W3795.01	W.H/R.	Used Runcorn	June 21st 1876

I then decided to look through my collection and found yet another cover addressed to Arthur Wyatt with J6595.01 - J/R.M.

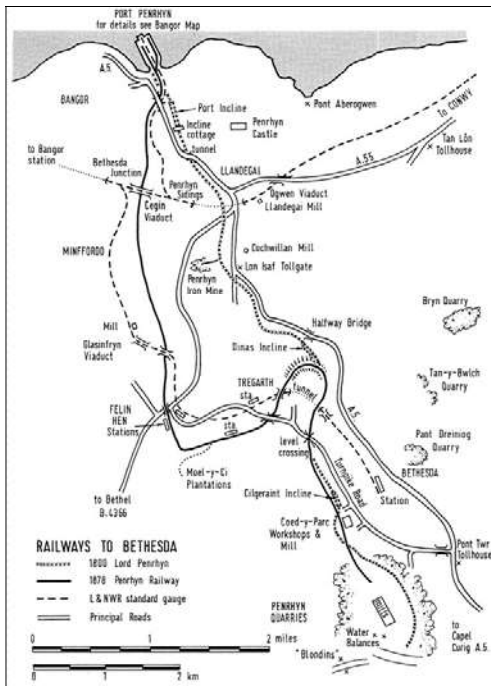
J6595.01	J/R.M	Used Northwich	May 22nd 1878
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Then on the internet I found the beautiful cover below with the embossed advertising circle of Jas. Watkin & Son, Northampton.



So immediately I asked myself - who was this Arthur Wyatt and what did these six covers have in common?

Starting with Jas. Watkins & Co., Northampton I found that they were merchants in timber, lead, glass, oil, slates, tiles and much, much more. Of the five perfin dies only two of them - S.H.W/B and J.R/M have known users. S.H.W/B was used by S. H. Watkins, of Brentford and Uxbridge. Directories of the period describe the company as timber, lime, slate and brick merchants. And J.R/M was used by J.R. Maconochie who were builders and slate merchants based in Northwich. By this time I was seeing a link - "slate".



I then decided to investigate Arthur Wyatt and Port Penrhyn. Anyone familiar with North Wales will be aware of the massive slate industry, which was in full production in the Victorian period producing slates for the thousands of new homes being built in the major cities. I found that Port Penrhyn was the principal port for the shipment of slate from the Penrhyn Quarry. Consulting a North Wales directory I found that Arthur Wyatt was in fact the estate manager for Lord Penrhyn the owner of the

quarry as well as being a local magistrate. I also found that Arthur Wyatt's management of the quarry came to an end in February 3rd 1886 when he seems to have been dismissed.

**PORT PENRHYN AND PENRHYN  
SLATE QUARRY, BANGOR, NORTH WALES**

Mr. Arthur Wyatt's Agency and Management at the above Port and Quarry having ceased, all Orders and Remittances, and all Communications respecting trade both at the Port and the Quarry, are henceforth to be ADDRESSED until further notice to MR. E. A. YOUNG, who has been appointed Agent pro tem. to carry on the business, at Port Penrhyn, Bangor, North Wales; and to whom all cheques are to be made payable, crossed Williams and Co., Old Bank, Bangor.

G. S. DOUGLAS PENNANT.  
Penrhyn Castle, Bangor, Feb. 3. 1886.

So having found the link between Jas. Watkin, S. H. Watkins, Maconochie and Wyatt I set about seeing if I could find provisional identities for the other three dies. I started with T.L/&Co

which has been recorded mainly used in Liverpool but also in Newport and Tipton. Using directories and the London Gazette archive I managed to locate Turner, Lanphier & Co, 5 Fenwick St,

Liverpool who were slate & builders merchants. The company went bankrupt in 1879 and the bankruptcy announcement showed that they also operated from Penrhyn Wharf, Newport, Monmouthshire. In the bankruptcy declaration a Benjamin Wyatt was shown as one of the partners so there may in fact have been a family connection as well as a business one. This tied in great with the Newport cancels found on this die and also linked nicely with Penrhyn Quarry.

Having found this new provisional identity I moved on to W.H/R. There are many of these covers on the market, all addressed to Arthur Wyatt, all cancelled in Runcorn and none of them having any identity of the user. But luckily for us Runcorn was not a large town at this period and on looking at an 1874 Cheshire directory I found William Hayes, Top Locks, Runcorn who were

described as coal, salt and manganese merchant and forwarding agents. I have no direct evidence that they shipped slate but I would think that as forwarding agents dealing in bulk materials they are the most likely user of this die. I can find little information



Top Locks - Runcorn

on William Hayes although I have found that in 1891 he was associated with Brundrit & Co who were described as Stone Merchants in Runcorn. William Hayes became part of Mason, Hayes & Co in November 1876 who traded in nickel ore.

So that leaves just H&Co - the hardest of the four dies as there were no clues. In the Tomkins catalogue they were listed as Hall, Lloyd & Bevan but with no other information. However apparently Hall, Lloyd & Bevan were bankers in Brighton. This seems to have no relation to my cover which was used in Liverpool. The new illustrated catalogue shows this die used in Liverpool, London, Manchester and Stockwell. Searching Liverpool directories of the time there is no obvious contender for a provisional identity. Roy has now decided to delete the Tomkins identity as there is no supporting information for it. He also wonders whether that with the diverse cancellations reported there might be more than one die represented.

I would urge members to have a look at their perfin covers and see whether there are any more out there, addressed to Arthur Wyatt.

## PERFIN THEFT

**Maurice Harp**

The extract below is taken from the Birmingham Daily Post of November 5th 1887.

*THE CLEVER CAPTURE OF AN OFFICE THIEF. - John Davis (32), labourer, lodging-house, Cambridge Street, was charged with stealing a bag containing £322, from the office of Messrs. Sadler & Eddowes, solicitors, 13 Temple Street. - It may be remembered that the cheques and money of the amount mentioned were put in the bag by the clerk, named Colman, prior to its removal to the bank, on the afternoon of the 27th ult. The clerk left the office and went into an adjoining room, and in the meantime the prisoner crept into the vacated apartment, seized the bag and was making off, when Colman overtook him on the stairs and took him back. The prisoner rushed upstairs onto the third landing, and after he had been given over to the custody of Police constable Malet, the missing property was found there. The result of Detective Inspector Ore's enquiries within the past week lead to the supposition that the prisoner is a notorious office thief. He declined to give any account of himself when captured, but Ore first of all ascertained that he had been residing in the town lodging at the British Workman's lodging house in Cambridge Street. Upon opening a small black bag belonging to the prisoner, Ore came across a bunch of keys suitable for opening cash boxes and a number of stamps perforated with the initials "W. and F.H." Besides these was a letter referring to the cheque for £4. 10s. which was found upon the prisoner at Moor Street. There were two or three tobacco pouches and pipes, and a number of new books, which no doubt, have been stolen. Prisoner was committed to the sessions.*

c1875



W2673.01

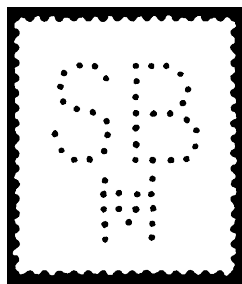
Following a trial Davis was sentenced to 8 months hard labour. The piece seems to refer to perfin die W&/FH - W2673.01 which is a scarce die known used c1885 and has only been reported on a ½d blue issue D (1883-1884). No cancellation information has been recorded. On the assumption that the theft of the stamps had occurred in Birmingham, directories of the period were trawled to see if a provisional identity could be established but none was forthcoming. Could I ask all members to have a look at their collections and see if they can report other values and cancellations on this die. With such an unusual letter pattern and knowing where the perfin was used we should be able to establish a provisional identity.

## BUDENBERG GAUGE CO LTD

Roy Gault

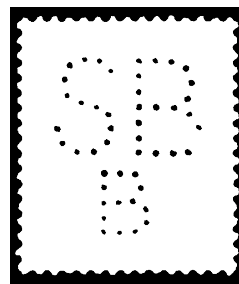
The following research was stimulated by the similarity of two Perfins, one of which already had a known user, which hopefully would point to a suspected user for the other - and so it did! The two perfins under the spotlight are “SB/M” (S0865.01) and “SB/B” (S0550.02).

1910-1914



S0865.01

1914-1918



S0550.02

As early as 1850 a certain Bernard Schaeffer and a Mr C F Budenberg began manufacturing Steam Pressure Gauges at Magdeburg-Backau in Germany. By the late 1850's enough demand had been generated to warrant setting up a sales office in Manchester run by C F Budenberg's brother, Arnold Budenberg. In effect, Manchester became the gateway for sales of such gauges to both the British Empire and America. The manufacture of Steam Gauges by the company didn't begin in Britain until the mid 1870's, but eventually this resulted in a new, much larger factory being built in Whitworth St, Manchester, in 1896.

The known positive identity for “SB/M” (S0865.01) implies ‘*Schaeffer & Budenberg Ltd*’ came to use Perfins relatively late on. The records show that the company moved premises from Manchester (Lancs.), to Broadheath, Altrincham (Cheshire) in 1914. Inevitably, during the First World War the factory at Broadheath was commandeered by the British Government, but continued to be run by Fred Budenberg, Arnold Budenberg's son. In March 1918, Fred Budenberg purchased the company from the British Government, and the name changed to the ‘*Budenberg Gauge Co Ltd*’. Although no postmarks have yet been reported for “SB/B” (S0550.02), it's more than a racing certainty that the die was used by the company after the move to Broadheath. It may even be that the original die was modified to change the “M” to a “B”.

Although not restricted by any means to the production of Steam Pressure Gauges, this example is typical of their output.



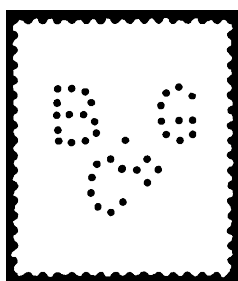
<<<<Note the spelling of *Schaffer* on the gauge dial.



**Company Trade Mark**  
from a 1930's Trade Card.

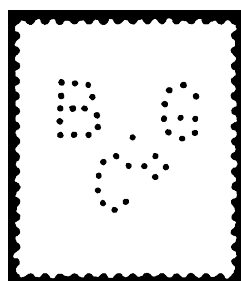
Four other dies are known to have been used by the '*Budenberg Gauge Co Ltd*', one of which continued in use until the mid 1980's, keeping some 'modernist' interest going.

1930-1965



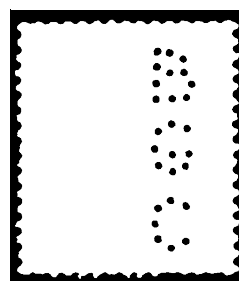
**B3030.01M**

1905-1939



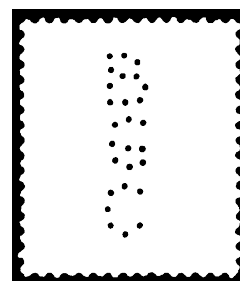
**B3030.02**

1952-1975



**B2980.01M**

1971-1985



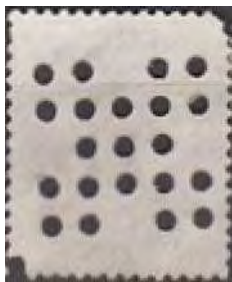
**B2980.02**

- “B.G/C<sup>o</sup>” (B3030.01M) is known used 1930-1965 at the Broadheath works. The die was multiheaded, probably 3 x 2, and hence minute variations can be seen in some examples.
- “B.G/C<sup>o</sup>” (B3030.02), in use 1905-1939, and known used in both Manchester and Broadheath (Altrincham).
- “B/G/C” (B2980.01M) used 1952-1975 specifically on Coils, at the company's London Offices in London EC1 and WC1.
- And finally, “B/G/C” (B2980.02), in use 1971-1985 at the company's London Offices in London EC1 and W1.

## SEEN IN AUCTION

**Maurice Harp**

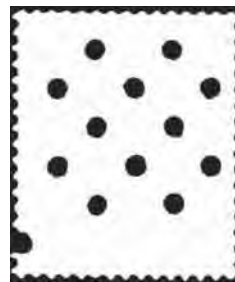
The two QV 1d fiscals shown in Design 1 and 4 below were sold on ebay last month. Design 2 & 3 are reported in the New Illustrated as also being recorded on QV Inland Revenue 1d stamps. Design 2 has been recorded being punched through the stamp and piece so apparently they were applied after affixing to the document and Design 4 may well be the same as Design 2.



Design 1



Design 2



Design 3



Design 4

In Bulletin 296 (Oct. 98) **Dr Tony Llewellyn-Edwards** recorded the discovery of a machine made by Shaw & Sons, London that produced similar patterns. Tony described the machine as follows. *The body of the machine is a casting painted in black lacquer, and by its design would appear to date from the early post-war period. The platform of the machine holds a steel plate with a 5 x 5 matrix of drilled holes about 1/16" in diameter and above it is a brass plate drilled to hold the steel pins. It also has a 5 x 5 matrix. The pins are fitted from the top of the upper plate and held in place by a brass holder into which the upper plate is driven.*

**Margaret Harding** also has a similar machine with a 5 x 5 matrix but like Tony's machine seems to be have been produced much later than these fiscal stamps. These particular machines were thought to have been used for cancelling voting papers, and although the 5 x 5 matrix fits well with the main part of the design all four designs shown above also have an outlying pin hole in the bottom left corner.

If members have other patterns or can supply a theory as to what the strike was used for and why the pattern was changed please get in touch.

## OETZMANN & CO. LETTER

Maurice Harp

The letter shown below was published in the Morning Post (London) August 28th 1882.

### **POSTAGE STAMPS PERFORATED WITH INITIALS.**

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING POST.

SIR,—Using the above ourselves largely in business, we would like to point out the difficulty existing in obtaining information respecting this useful system. Although strongly recommended by the General Post-office authorities in their Quarterly Guide (page 14) to all firms, we find they do not undertake the initialling themselves, nor can any particulars be obtained from the officials upon inquiring at the leading City or provincial post-offices. Circulars have been sent to us which cannot of course reach all would-be consumers, and we think for the guidance of those who wish to adopt the plan, that it should be more universally known that these stamps are supplied by only two or three tradesmen (whose names could be found in the trade portion of the "Post-office London Directory," under title, "Perforators (initial) of Postage Stamps"), who are not Government servants, but carry on other businesses, and by furnishing the necessary security, have been entrusted with what is termed a receiving post-office. The advantages of this system are now so well recognised that we think most of your readers will be glad to know where the perforated stamps can be obtained. Yours faithfully,

OETZMANN and CO.

Oetzmann & Co were house furnishers based in Hampstead Road, London NW who used perfins extensively from 1877 right up to 1945. The company was founded in 1848 and went into liquidation in 1956.



## YENCKEN DEVICE USED IN LONDON

**Ron Whyte and David Coath**

*[Reprinted from South Pacific Perfin Bulletin - April 2012]*

Ron Whyte contacted me in January regarding an interesting post card he had found in a group of Victorian GB covers and postcards that he had purchased at Auction. (see pictures below) Ron is not a member of the PCNZA but he is a member of the BNAPS Perfin Study Group and the Perfin Club (US). He was quick to see the significance of the cover and the information that it contained.

As you can see the card is from 1900 and it carries a perfin pattern that would be familiar to both Australian as well as GB collectors.



To Australian collectors it is Y&CO.6 and to GB collectors it is Y0200.02.

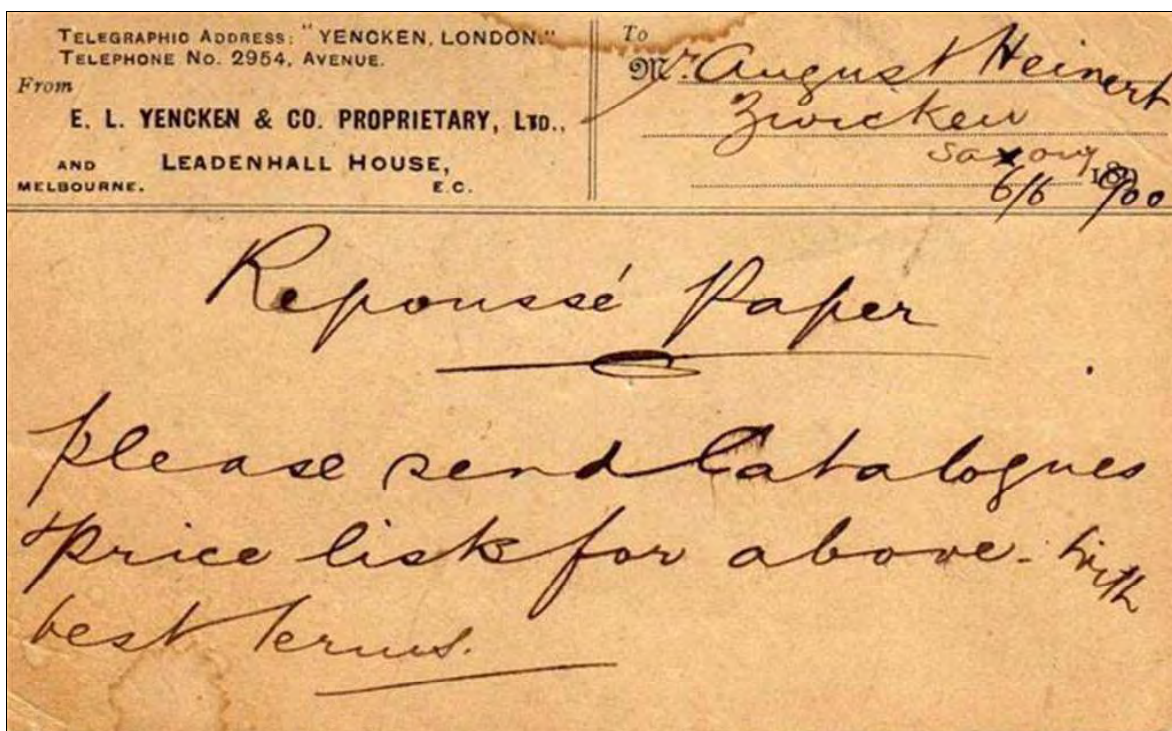
I have overlaid an example of the GB pattern (Y0200.02) on the HAPP image of Y&CO.6 and vice versa and I find them a near to exact match. The HAPP image is a little “woolly” but it is a better match than the earlier image from Commercial Perfins of Australia (CPA) which although sharper, it is slightly more elongated than the true pattern. I believe from the pattern evidence that the strikes of

patterns Y0200.02 (GB) and Y&CO.6 (Australia) are made from the same device.



This cover is a proving cover for Y0200.02 and gives the user as - " E.L. YENCKEN & Company Proprietary, Ltd., of Leadenhall House, E.C." What is most interesting to Australian collectors is that on the reverse of the card it gives the Yencken address in London, but adds "and Melbourne" so as to confirm that it is the same company as the

known user of Y&CO.6.



Many companies operating in Australia in the late 1800's established buying, trading or shipping offices in the UK and it seems that Yenckens were no different. (see related article on the History of Yenckens in this Bulletin) Yenckens in fact established a London office in 1882 before launching E. L. Yencken & Co. in Melbourne in 1883. Yenckens were large perfin users in Australia and all of the Y's, Y&C's, Y&CL's and Y&CO's (about 100 patterns in all) can

reasonably be assigned to them. The reason that there are so many patterns for this user is that they almost always used service punctures. These were temporary dies created for a batch of stamps purchased from a stamp vendor. The Y&CO.6 device is different as it is a customised device and would have produced a reasonably consistent strike throughout its life. This Y0200.02/Y&CO.6 device was most likely the company's first device.

So the question is, was this Y&CO pattern a GB or Australian one? The answer is, it was most likely both.

Ron's proving cover for Yencken's in the UK is at odds with the Tomkins Catalogue of Identified GB Perfins (10th edition) which attributes number Y0200.02 to "Charles L. Young & Co Ltd, Sewing Machine Dealers, 21 High St Kingsland, Hackney, London. With the note that it was "Sloper's m/c No. 6964 made c1889" & used by the Company 1889 to 1936. Interestingly in HAPP, John Mathews also lists Y&CO.6 as being a Sloper device (see Appendix 3 – Stamp Perforators known to have been made by Joseph Sloper and Company Limited of London for Australian Companies”, page 33) and further he records the same device number, 6964 and states the same manufactured date of 1889.

However from discussions with **Steve Steere** (GB Perfin Society Secretary) and his own investigations and discussions with the GB catalogue editor, **Roy Gault** has indicated that the identity of E L Yencken was reported as a new identity in Bulletin 358 (February 2009) by GB Perfin Society member Gerry Soutar. This led to the reference to Charles L Young as the user of Y0200.02 being deleted. Steve went on to say that the last Edition of Tomkins was in 2004 and since then several hundred new identities have been reported. It needs to be remembered that the scale of GB perfin collecting is huge with over 25,000 known patterns.

This gives us a confirmation of the existence of the pattern in both countries and both proved to Yencken. But as **Roy Gault** says “This still leaves the question to be resolved – did the perforating machine go across to Australia initially, and then returned to England before 1900? Now we may never know the answer Roy's question but we

can look at the evidence and see what it tells us.

Steve reports that the earliest GB stamps found perforated with Y0200.02 are KEVII issues and the earliest date in the Catalogue was 28th October 1901, it is now 6 June 1900 courtesy of Ron's post card. This shows that usage on QV issues is rare. Given that I cannot find usage of the Y&CO.6 pattern in Melbourne past 1899, it seems most likely that the device was made in England in 1889, as reported, travelled to Melbourne and was used up until 1899 and then returned to England in late 1899 or early 1900 and was used there until 1936.

If you have anything to add to this story then please feel free to contact me and let me know what you have found. GB use of Y0200.02 pre 1899 or Melbourne use of Y&CO.6 post 1900 would clearly disprove the theory that I have offered.

### **References:**

*Commercial Perfins of Australia (CPA) - John Grant and John Mathews (1998)*

*Handbook of Australian Private Perfins (HAPP) – John Mathews (2003)*

*The Tomkins Catalogue of Identified GB Perfins – Edited by Roy Gault (Editions 7 and 10)*

*A Catalogue of Great Britain Perfins – T A Edwards and B C Lucas*

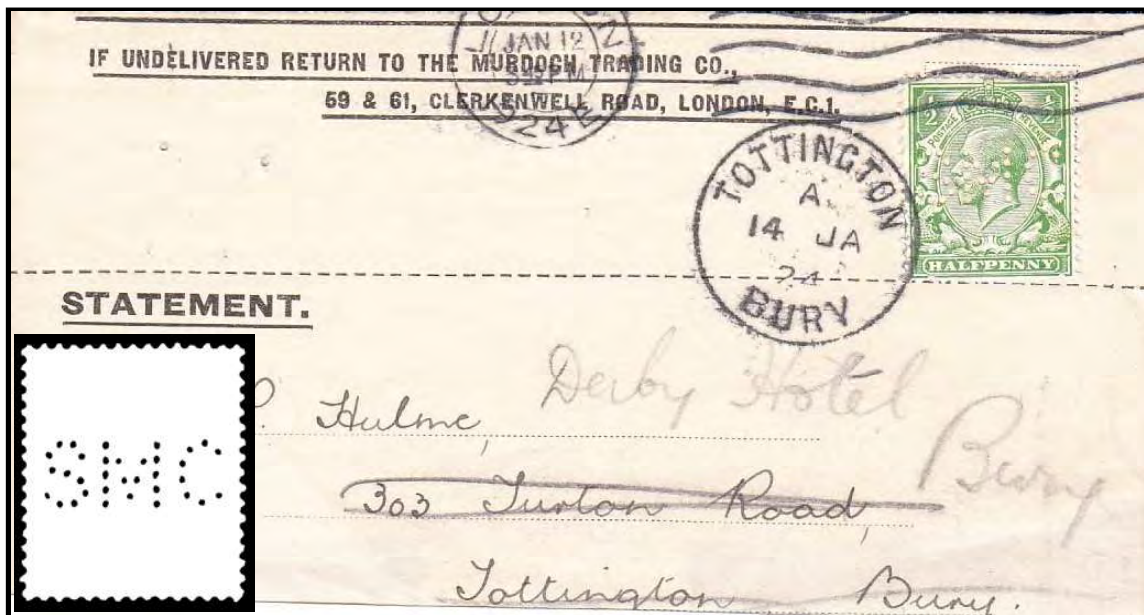
[Notes by John Mathews:

1. HAPP (2003) records this user and a latest usage date of 1900 for Y&CO.6.
2. I found only one serial number for this pattern in the Sloper Workshop Impression Books in 1993, so the strikes on GB and Australian stamps no doubt were made by the same device.
3. Patterns Y, Y&C, Y&CL and Y&CO, whose users have not yet been proven, could have been used by Younghusband & Co (Ltd), as noted in HAPP in the notes for section "Y".]

**THE MURDOCH TRADING CO.**

**Rosemary Smith**

Amongst **Norman Hewerdine's** covers, I came across part of a posted statement with a ½d KGV perfin "SMC", S4820.03, dated 14-1-24. The statement was from "The Murdoch Trading Co, 58-59 Clerkenwell Road, London EC1" but the perfin is known used by "The Sterling Manufacturing Co., London" and by "Simpson, Fawcett & Co. Ltd".



Knowing how Maurice loves researching things on the Internet, I gave him the cover to seek further into the link between these companies. The following is what he found out.

John G Murdoch started a publishers and family Bible warehouse in 1863. Over the years, they acquired many other companies which operated in a vast array of businesses. In March 1927 the company went public and Maurice found a copy of the share offering, listed in The Times for March 1927. Luckily, there is a list of the various companies that were incorporated into John G. Murdoch & Co. Ltd.. The list includes the two names in which I was interested.

The list included both wholesale and retail companies producing and selling everything from pianos, washing machines, toys and invalid carriages:- Murdoch, Murdoch & Co; Robert Nelson & Co; Nelson Murdoch & Co; **Murdoch Trading Co.** (owners of the "Beltona"

Gramophone Records); John Spencer & Co; Star Manufacturing Co; John Malcolm & Co; **Sterling Manufacturing Co.**; A & F Holroyd Limited (Trading as The Sterling Manufacturing Co); plus a half share capital in Murdoch, McKillop & Co. Ltd.; John Ward Ltd; Simpson, Fawcett & Co of Leeds. **The Murdoch Trading Co's** main claim to fame was that they produced Jimmy Shand records and the only over the counter recording of *The Red Flag* and *The International*.

The Subscription List will close on or before the 17th day of March, 1927.  
Application will be made to the Committee of the Stock Exchange for permission to deal in and  
for an official quotation for the Shares now offered.

## JOHN G. MURDOCH & CO.

**LIMITED.**  
(Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862-1883.)

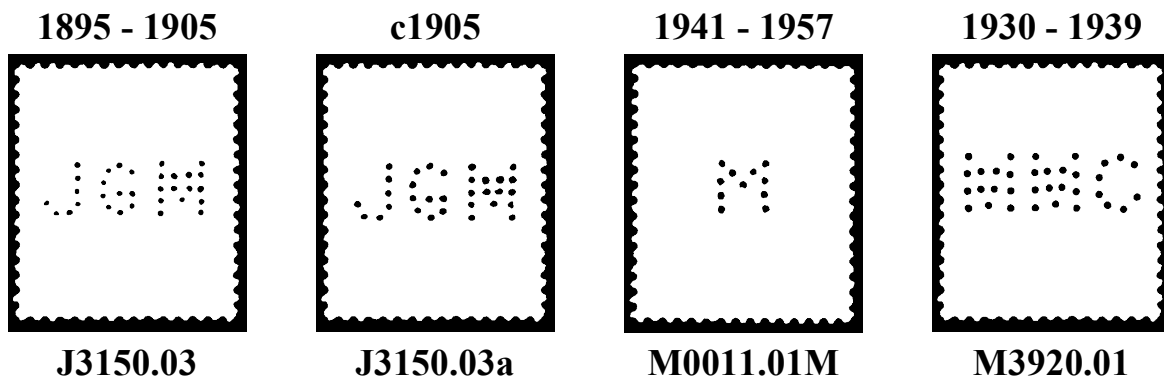
SHARE CAPITAL:	<small>Authorized.</small>	<small>Issued and Fully Paid.</small>
6% Cumulative Preference Shares of £5 each -	£150,000	£110,000
Ordinary Shares of £1 each - - - -	£450,000	£417,500
<b>LOAN CAPITAL:</b>		
5% Perpetual Debenture Stock - - - -	£150,000	£129,523
5½% Perpetual Consolidated Loan Stock - -	£150,000	£97,318

**OFFER FOR SALE OF**  
**150,000 Ordinary Shares of**  
**£1 each at 24/-**

(The balance of 267,500 Shares being retained by the Vendors).

I have listed these companies (addresses were included in The Times) in case anyone has a cover for any of these companies using the "SMC" perfin which did not seem to fit the user. If so, please let Roy have the details.

Interestingly a few of the companies listed also used perfins with their own dies. J3150.03/03a was used by John G. Murdoch & Co in the early days of the company and they also went on to use M0011.01M. The large gap in use of perfins points to other dies still to be found. The die MMC - M3920.01 was used by Murdoch, Murdoch & Co.



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The Bulletin of the G.B. Perfin Society is a bi-monthly journal.  
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£10 (electronic). For further details of the G.B. Perfin Society and  
membership application please contact: