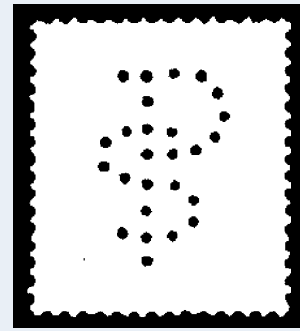


PERFIN SOCIETY BULLETIN



No. 391 - August 2014



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www.angelfire.com/pr/perfinsoc/

SECRETARY/TREASURER

A reminder that subscriptions are due on 1st September 2014. I will email those whose addresses I have in August with a reminder for payment or letting them know their new credit balance. Those members not on email will receive a note in this Bulletin. A suggestion for overseas members as postage costs are so high, change to email only, or switch to surface mail to get the paper copy but also receive the Bulletin by email. At present World Airmail postage costs exceed the subscription charged, so at the AGM we may well have to consider raising them.

Date for the Diary - AGM Meeting

I have arranged the next meeting for Saturday November 1st, 2014 at Grosvenor Auctions in the Strand address as before between 12 and 5pm. Access is by a door to the left of Stanley Gibbons shop, (see picture and under no circumstances go into SG unless as a customer). After entering the first door you will have an entry-phone pad to the right, and there will be a label with Perfin Society next to the bell to press. On entering the second door turn to the right where there is a lift to take you to the 3rd floor saleroom. On exit turn right and the meeting room is in front of you, and as you walk forward a passageway to the left takes you to the kitchen where tea, coffee & biscuits are available as well as the conveniences.

Congratulations to Michael Millar

As members will be aware Michael Millar has been forming a specialist collection of Stationery Office perfins and through the Bulletin has appealed to members for material. Now all of Michael's efforts have born fruit. Michael has now exhibited at ORAPEX in Ottawa and at the RSPC Convention in Halifax and at both exhibitions the display was awarded a silver medal. The Society and I am sure all members send their congratulations to Michael on this splendid achievement.

Eugène Rimmel Perfumer - Bulletin 390/8

Stephen Steere writes in relation to possible links for Eugène Rimmel with Australia. "Looking online I see that Rimmel exhibited eucalyptus and other essential oils at the 1862 International Exhibition in London. The oils had been derived from Australian forests and he then used them in his products. So the company may have had an agent in Australia from whom they purchased the oils from and whose representative may have visited the UK."

A Challenge from Our President - Bulletin 390/12

John Mathews writes from Australia in reference to the use of KE - K0610.04v/05v by Whitwell & Co and Sherran Thomson & Sons. He has found some evidence that Sherran, Thomson & Sons may have acted as buyers from the mills on behalf of carpet suppliers. He also highlights that in the 1899 London Directory, the Street Directory shows at 37 & 38 Warwick Lane there is listed "Whitwell & Co Ltd, carpet manufacturers/Thomson, Sherran & Sons, carpet agents/Crowley, Charles Frederick, carpet factor/Ginzkey, Ignatz, carpet manufacturer. So it may be that in future we find these perfin dies used by these other three companies.

Cheque Crossing Perfins Postally Used - Bulletin 389/9

Jack Brandt has found another instance of a cheque crossing perfin postally used. In this case its on a KEVII 1d red used in Hornsey. He also reports on used on a 5/- Foreign Bill used by G. & A. Worms / London Sept. 12th 1874. G & A Worms used perfin G0240.01 - G&/AW during this period but chose to use their cheque crossing machine for this Foreign Bill stamp.

Perfined Inland Revenue Stamps - Bulletin 389/23

Jeff Turnbull sends news on his revenue catalogues which can be found on the Society's website. "The Revenue Catalogues on the Society website have now been updated, (Foreign Bill & Contract Note Catalogues) they have much new information and many colour images etc."

HARRODS LIMITED

Richard Husband

The business that became the Harrods Department Store we all know today, was founded in 1849 by draper turned grocer and tea dealer, Charles Henry Harrod (1799-1885) when he acquired the small grocery store owned by Philip Burden at 105 Brompton Road, London, SW. Today the store has a sales area of more than 1 million square feet.

Charles Digby Harrod (1841-1905) purchased this shop from his father in 1861 and expanded the business into adjacent premises so that by 1883 there were six departments staffed by 200 assistants. Then on 6 December 1883, the shop caught fire and everything was destroyed. Immediately, the business was relocated to nearby Humphrey's Hall, Knightsbridge which enabled all the Christmas orders to be fulfilled. This will also have helped to retain existing customers until a grand new store was opened in Brompton Road in September 1884. Charles Harrod retired through ill health in 1889 and sold the business to the newly incorporated Harrods Stores Ltd.



Charles Digby Harrod

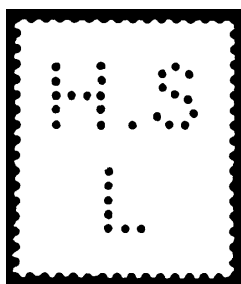
© Harrods Ltd



The next stage in the company's development begins with the appointment of Richard Burbidge (1847-1917) as General Manager in 1891 and Managing Director in 1894. Previously, he had been General Manager of William Whiteley, Universal Provider, already a perfin user. By the time of his death in 1917, he had transformed the store into a national institution. He was created a baronet in 1916. As well as substituting quality for price, he dramatically increased the size of the store through the purchase of the remaining pieces of land on what is now a 5 acre island site. Harrods bought the old soap factory at Barnes, on the River Thames in 1894 and refitted it for use as a warehouse. The distribution facility moved to Osterley in 1989 and again to a replacement facility at Thatcham, Berks in 2012.

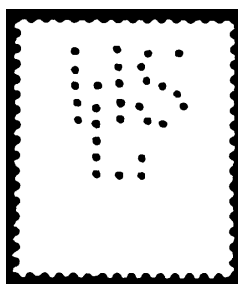
The following perfins were introduced for store use while Sir Richard Burbidge was Managing Director:-

1890-1920 & c1935



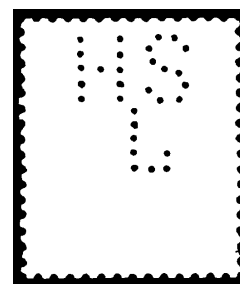
H6690.01M

1910 - 1911



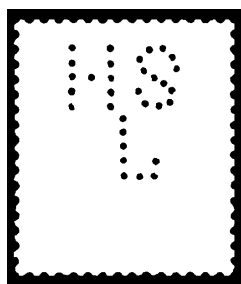
H6680.04*

1910 - 1912



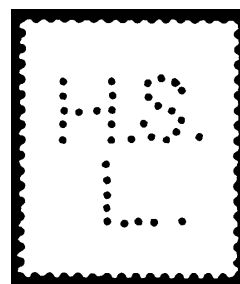
H6680.01*

1910 - 1915



H6680.03*

1910 - 1921

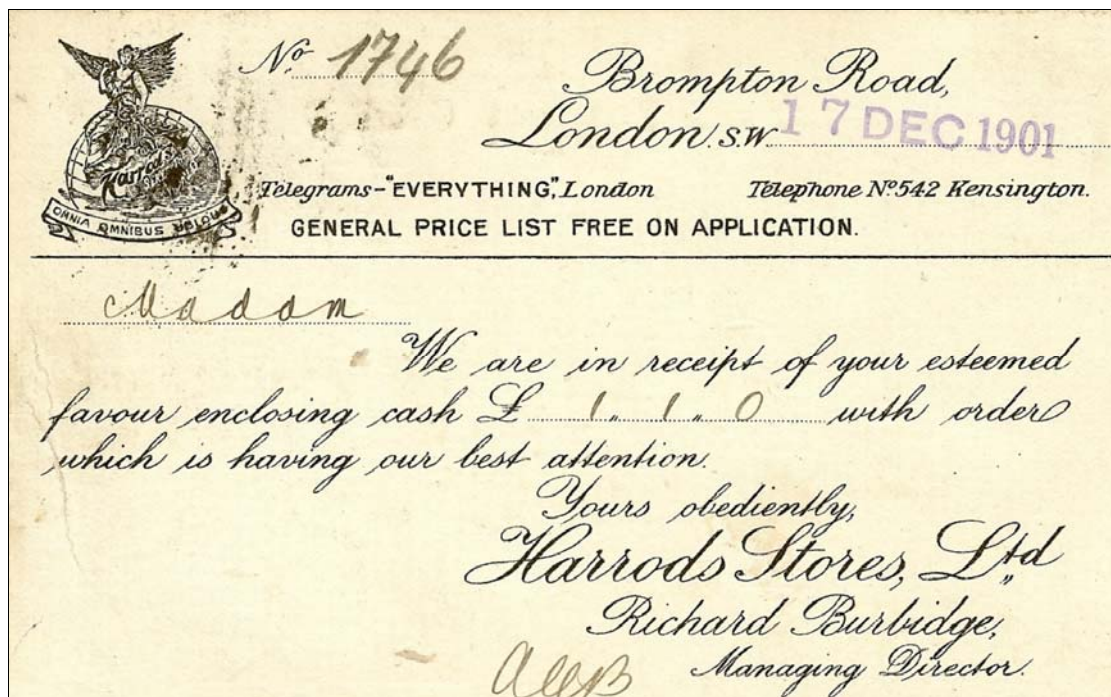


H6710.01M

* = provisional identity

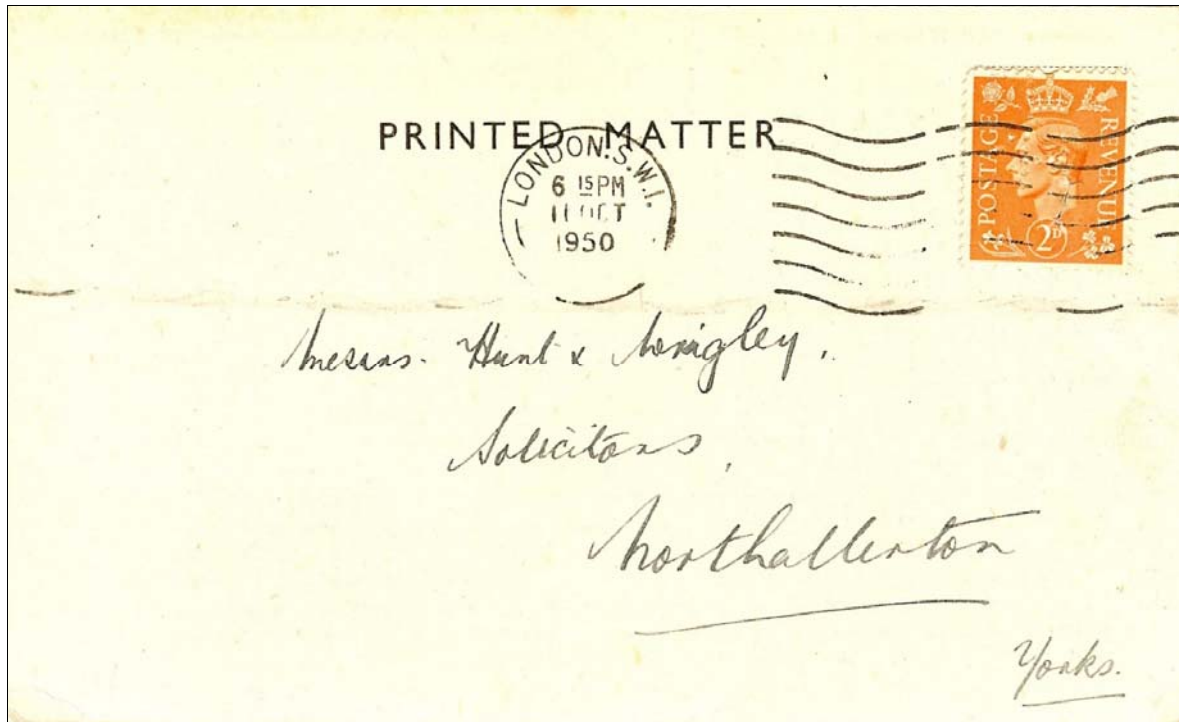
Perfin H6680.01 and .03 were initialled by a very early POKO affixing machine. The following is an illustration of a postal stationery post card sent to Switzerland on 17 December 1901 with an additional 1/2d stamp perforated from die H6690.01M.

By this time the Harrods Catalogue numbered well in excess of 1,000 pages and was very widely distributed. The order from Switzerland appears to have been paid for with the correct remittance.



On 17 September 1913, Harrods (Buenos Aires) Ltd was formed and a store bearing the 'Harrods' name was opened in that city at 877 Florida Street. The store was sold to Gath y Chaves in 1922, a competing local retailer, and has changed hands several times since then. The department store closed at the end of 1998 and there are plans to reopen the premises as a department store again.

This company is still in existence today. The illustration of the next post card shows Harrods Ltd were acting as Registrars to the company in 1950. The die used is H6710.01M but with the pins forming the 'S' removed from 'HS/L' to form 'H/L'. The result of this modification carried out in 1921 was to produce die H4420.01M which was used until the middle of the 1960's.



Telephone : SLOANE 1234

Telegrams : EVERYTHING HARRODS LONDON

HARRODS (BUENOS AIRES) LTD.

Registrar's Office

87 to 135 BROMPTON ROAD S.W.1

(Date as postmark)

A/c to H. Foster dec'd
Your ref. WW/DMW

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your
letter dated *6 Oct.*, enclosing transfer/
balance receipt(s). The certificate(s) will be forwarded
to you on or about *6th Nov. 1950*

Yours faithfully

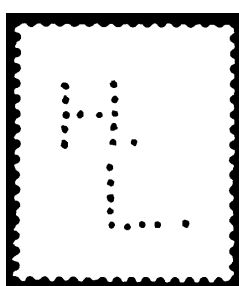
Harrods Limited
(Secretary's Office)
Registrars

2429

Other acquisitions made after 1914 and retained until 1959 when Harrods was acquired by House of Fraser, included Dickins & Jones (1914) and D. H. Evans (1928) in London, Kendal Milne (1919) in Manchester, Rackhams (1955) in Birmingham, Hendersons (1949) in Liverpool, John Walsh (1946) in Sheffield and J. F. Rockhey (1948 by D. H. Evans) in the West Country. The first three of these stores also used perfin, as did Swan & Edgar, in London, which was bought by Harrods in 1920 but sold in 1927 to the Drapery Trust.

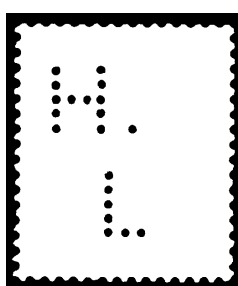
In 1920 the company changed its name to Harrods Ltd which resulted in a new series of perfins, illustrations of which appear below:-

1921 - 1965



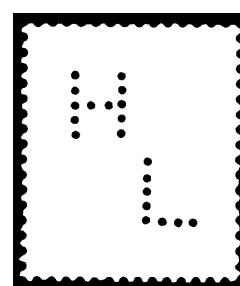
H4420.01M

c1957



H4410.01*

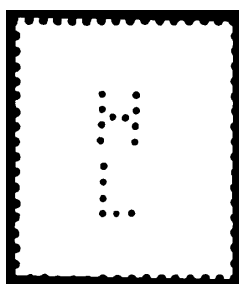
1964 - 1975



H4400.02M

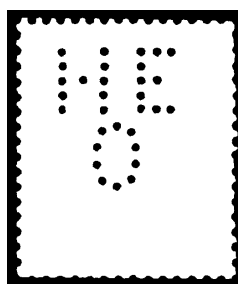
The Harrods Estates Office which began in 1897, used several perfin dies which are illustrated below:-

1920 - 1930



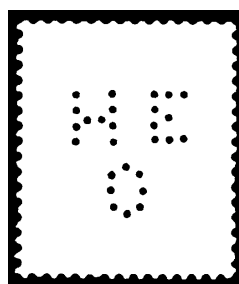
H4400.01

1930 - 1936



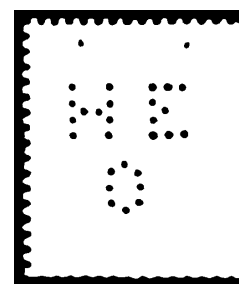
H2330.03

1935- 1939



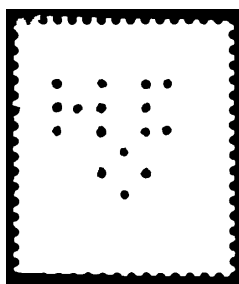
H2330.01*

c1939



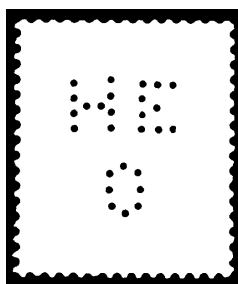
H2330.01b*

1939 - 1945



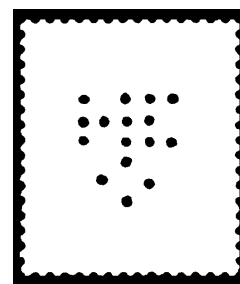
H2330.02

1941 - 1945



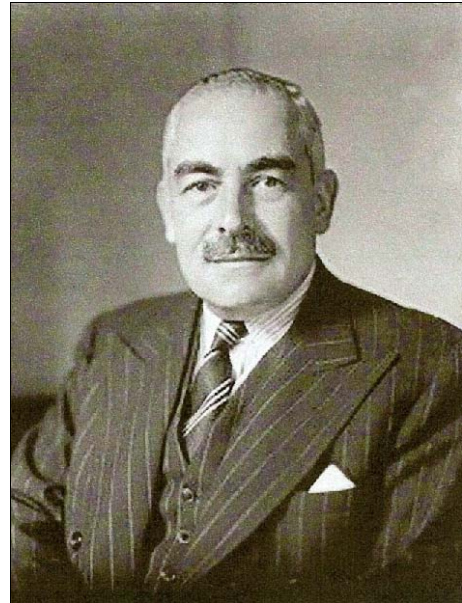
H2330.01a

c1945



H2330.02a

The years following 1891 when Richard Burbidge came to Harrods were truly remarkable. Not only did he dramatically extend the physical size of the store but also considerably expanded the range of goods and services offered. The store's motto was "Omnia, Omnibus, Ubique" (Everything for Everybody Everywhere). In 1919, Harrods started selling aeroplanes, and in the 1920's would come and build or paint your house. A 24 hours a day telephone ordering service was introduced in 1909, the year the rival Selfridges store opened in Oxford Street. He took Harrods upmarket as did his son Sir Woodman (1872-1945) (pictured) and his grandson Sir Richard (1897-1966). The latter ceased his involvement with Harrods shortly after its acquisition by House of Fraser in 1959.



Sir Woodman Burbidge
© National Portrait Gallery

In March 1985 Alfayed Investment and Trust (UK) PLC made a successful cash offer of £615 million for those House of Fraser shares it did not already own. Harrods reverted to being a private company in 1986.

The London store was continuously being refurbished and developed and a number of airport shops were opened. In 2002 Harrods announced an international expansion plan which saw the opening of stores in Malaysia, Japan and a signature shop on board 'Queen Mary II'.

The Harrods business was sold to Qatar Holdings on 8 May 2010 for a reported £1.5 billion.

References:

1. Callery S., *Harrods, The Story of Society's Favourite Store*, Ebury Press, London 1991
2. *The House of Fraser Archive*
3. Wikipedia (*various*)
4. *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*
5. *The History of Harrods*, www.altagamma.it

PERFORATING MACHINE FOR SALE

Stephen Steere

Non member Colin Blakebrough, The President of the Precancel Society of GB, is offering for sale a Sloper Perforator with the die HERTS C.C./OPENED together with a bill of sale from Hertfordshire County Council. The machine has a makers plaque showing "J. Sloper & Co Ltd./ London N.W.6 together with a stamped serial number of "82159" on the front of the machine. He will accept the highest bid starting at £75.00 but the buyer will have to collect from Loughton, Essex as it weighs 10kg and would be very costly to post and likely to get damaged in transit. If you are interested please contact Colin Blakebrough directly at 16 Hilltop Close, Loughton, Essex. IG10 1PY or by email oilycookin@tiscali.co.uk

The bill of sale does not explain the machine's use, so perhaps someone who has worked for a council can explain the perforator's purpose.

HERTS C.C.
OPENED

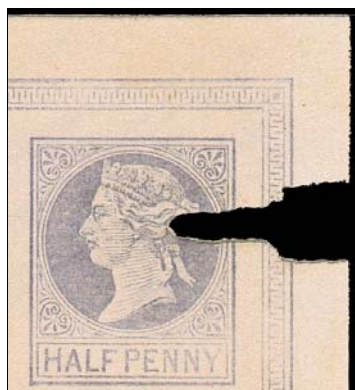


AN UNUSUAL MANCHESTER CLIP CANCELLATION

Stephen Steere



This postcard, belonging to member **John Marriner**, was sent by J & N Phillips & Co, Manchester, on 8 December 1870 to Coventry. The Manchester experimental clip has an elongated extension to it which appears was made at the same time. John wonders if the cutting blade of the machine had a guard that failed causing the extension. As far as I am aware no details are known of the machines used. Has anyone knowledge of the machines, other examples or a different theory?



A second more ragged copy of this clip, also from **John Marriner** and sent by The Great Ancoats Flax Spinning Co., Manchester and is illustrated here. This example was used on the 13th December 1870 and is on a card sent to The Bentham Mills Co., Lancaster.

If you have or know of any other examples of this extended clip please provide scans of the front and back of the card and send the information to myself or the Bulletin editor.

ANDREW SHERRAN THOMSON
Railway Station Master and Carpet Agent
John Mathews

I was intrigued by the story about perfin “KE” (“A Challenge from our President”) by **Maurice Harp** in Bulletin 390, June 2014 (page 12), and wanted to try to find more about the connection between the companies and the letters “KE”. While I could not confirm Maurice’s conclusion about King Edward St, the story I discovered about the life of Andrew Sherran Thomson fascinated me, and I found another possible "KE" connection.

Andrew Sherran Thomson was born in Monquhitter parish, Aberdeenshire, on 29 May 1841, 10 days before the 1841 Census. He was the second youngest of 9 children of Alexander and Elizabeth Thomson. In June 1856, Andrew S. Thomson joined the Great Western Railway as a clerk. The GWR records state he was 17 years old but from birth and Census records, he may have been only 15 years old. He was initially employed as a clerk at Birkenhead, moved to West Bromwich in Feb. 1861, to Wolverhampton in Oct. 1863 and to Kidderminster in Oct. 1866. The 1871 Census states that he was the Station Master at Kidderminster, living in the Station house with 3 children. He resigned from there in 1872. It was probably during his time at Kidderminster that he became acquainted with people in the carpet industry.

He married in the second quarter of 1861, at Liverpool, Phoebe Jane MacNamara. They had children Charles G[eorge] (1866), Phoebe Madaline (1867) and Andrew Henry (1868). Phoebe Jane died at Kidderminster in the fourth quarter of 1870, aged 31 years. He re-married at Kidderminster in the third quarter of 1877 Helen Sophia Ankrett. They had a daughter Winifred E. who was 2 years old at the 1881 Census, when the family were living at 14 Baronet Terrace, Edmonton, London N. Helen died at Edmonton in 1884.

He next married Annie Deborah [Wells?] who had been born in Cape Town, South Africa. At the 1901 Census, Andrew S Thomson and his wife Annie were living at 8 Eton Av., Hampstead, London NW, together with Annie’s unmarried daughters, Florence E. Wells and

Blanche E. Wells and 8 servants. Annie died on May 25, 1907, at Beddington, Surrey. At the 1901 Census, Andrew S., and his sons Charles and Andrew H. were all listed as “Carpet Manufacturers’ agent” or similar. He died at Brentford in 1931 aged 90.

His company’s move from 21 King Edward St. (to nearby Warwick Lane) on 28 August 1896 was forced by the construction of a tube station! The 1895 London Directory shows that 20–22 King Edward St. was on the north-west corner with Newgate St. The 1899 London Directory does not list any occupant on the corner of King Edward St. and Newgate St.

The National Archives web site has an item “Papers re tenancy of premises over the Central London Railway Co.’s Post Office Station (at the corner of Newgate St. and King Edward St.), including leases to John Crossley & Sons Ltd., ...”. John Crossley & Sons were also carpet manufacturers. The 1910 London Directory shows that John Crossley & Sons Ltd were at 20-22 King Edward St, and also shown at that address was “Central London Railway (Post Office exit)”.

In an article in “The Times”, London, Friday May 17, 1901, an engineer for the company which constructed the Post Office tube station stated that

“the sinking of four shafts [for the Post Office Station] commenced in January 1897 and completed in July the same year. Pumping [of water] began January 16, 1897, and was finished in May. The passages of the General Post Office Station were begun in July 1897 and finished in December 1898, and the tunnels were constructed between August 1898 and Feb. 1899.”

One of those shafts is the ventilation shaft now standing on the traffic island at the corner of King Edward St. and Newgate St. The Central London Railway Post Office Station was opened on 30 July 1900. The Post Office Station was re-named “St. Paul’s” when the former “St. Paul’s” was re-named “Blackfriars” in 1937.

And the other possible connection between the company and the perfin letters “KE”? The neighbouring parish to the north of Monquhitter is King Edward parish, with King Edward village about halfway between Banff and Turriff. It may be that Andrew Sherran Thomson used perfin letters “KE” in memory of his time as a young lad.

CATCH - UP.

Roy Gault

I have to admit to being somewhat remiss in recording accurately some of the stamp details I've been collecting since 1989, all of which eventually end up in the New Illustrated Catalogue. A case in point is the King George VI 10/- stamp first introduced in dark blue in Oct 1939, followed by a colour change to bright blue (ultramarine) in Nov 1942. By and large, I've simply recorded these as Issue 'Q', 10/- blue.

Previously I've sought help from collectors to try and reduce the number of Queen Victoria 2½d plate 17's for which the precise colour, rosy-mauve or blue, was unknown. Thanks to a small band of collectors, some were confirmed, but the figure still stands at 20.

With the 'completion' of the New Illustrated Catalogue only two or so years away, now would seem a good time to put some effort into greatly reducing such discrepancies. The stamps I'm seeking information for to help resolve existing anomalies of colour or type are as follows:

QV 2½d plate 17	rosy-mauve/blue	20
QV 4d plate 15	vermilion/green	31
QV 6d plate 12	chestnut/grey	16
QV 1/- plate 13	green/brown	60
QV ½d Jubilee	vermilion/green	8
QV 1/- Jubilee	green/green and red	36
KEVII ½d	blue-green/yellow-green	36
KEVII 4d	green and brown/orange	43
KGV 9d	Typograph black/olive-green	178
KGVI 2/6d	brown/green	16
KGVI 10/-	dark blue/bright blue	92
QEII 2d Machin	Type I/Type II	61
QEII 4d Machin	sepia/vermilion	4
QEII 8d Machin	vermilion/turquoise-blue	3

Clearly, space doesn't permit a list here of all 604 dies involved, but perhaps I can whet your appetite by listing only those which are down to single figures. If you can help with any of these, please let me know the details so I can include them in the Catalogue.

QV ½d Jubilee issue (vermilion/green)	
F0310.01	FB/&C ^o .
L0050.01	LAC
L4360.01A	LP
L5010.01	L.S./C ^o .
M0370.01m	MB. (monogram)
P4920.01	P&V
W2910.07v	WG
W3100.03M	W.G/&C ^o .

QEII 4d Machin (sepia/vermilion)	
J0010.02	J
J4930.03a	JL/&C ^o
J7780.01M	J.T./&J.T.
W2300.01M	WE/L

QEII 8d Machin (vermilion/turquoise-blue)	
G0009.01M	G
G3310.01M	GM
N2260.01	NN

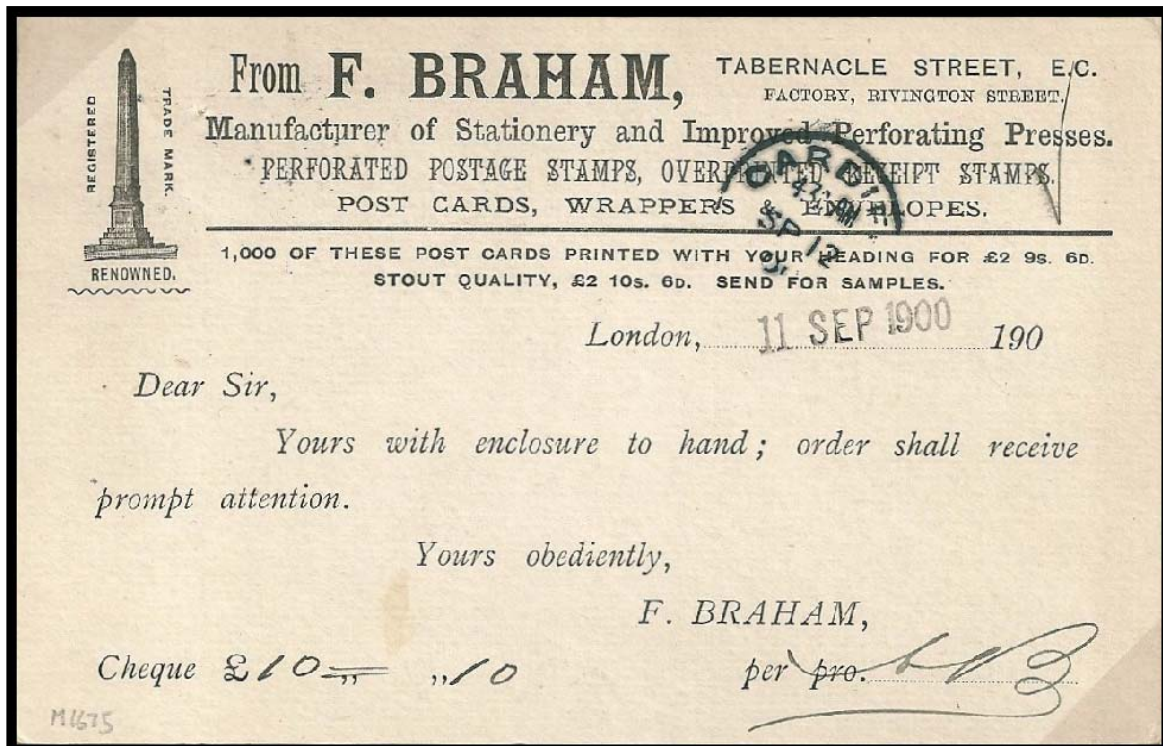
If you would like to help by looking for the other 'ambiguous' stamps, then please write in the first instance and I will send you a list of the specific dies involved for each of the categories. Your reward will be a postage stamp with the "PS" monogram! Ideally you will need access to the Details or Silhouette sections of the New Illustrated Catalogue to be sure of the correct die.

To put everything into perspective, the 600 or so 'ambiguous' stamps compared to a figure in excess of 235,500 for the known DDF on G.B Postage Stamps, works out at a miserly 0.25% - a drop in the ocean!

FRANK BRAHAM POSTCARD

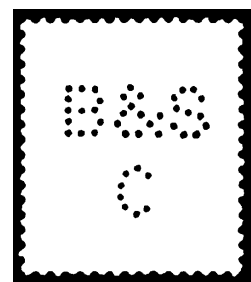
Maurice Harp

Non member Meirion Lewis has shown the Society the postcard illustrated below. The card was sent from Frank Braham at Tabernacle Street, EC to Bird & Sons Ltd, East Moors, Cardiff on 11 Sept. 1900.



As every perfin collector knows Braham was a supplier of Perforating presses and perforated stamps. The header on the card indicates that they were also stationers providing pre printed postcards such as the example above. Interestingly the header shows a trademark, which looks like the Egyptian obelisk on the Thames embankment. I believe this is the first time that this trade mark has been recorded.

1890 - 1905



B6560.01

The postcard acknowledges an order from Bird & Sons of £10-10-00, but what the order was for is unclear. It may well have been for perforated stamps as Bird & Sons are known users of perfins. Robert Bird & Sons were grease, paint & oil manufacturers based in East Moors, Cardiff. They used perfin die B6560.01 - B&S/C which has the characteristic ampersand IIIa used by Braham.

NEWLY DISCOVERED SLOPER PLAQUE

Maurice Harp

In the recent auction of material from the collection of the late Geoff Longbottom was included a Sloper Commemorative Plaque. In Bulletin 349 Rosemary Smith documented five of these Sloper Plaques and in Bulletin 371 a sixth plaque was documented. Now we have plaque number seven. Of these seven plaques only two of them have an identical set of stamps. This new plaque again has a different arrangement which is shown below.

Position	Stamp	Perfin	Die	Identity
1	½d Pl. n/k	PS	P4110.03	Pharmaceutical Soc. of GB
2	1d Black	J.M/Co	J5300.01	Identity of user unknown
3	1d Plate	MJ	M3260.02	M. Jacoby & Co Ltd
4	4½d Jub.	ND/FS	N1030.01	National Deposit Friendly Soc
5	1d Lilac	WM	W5160.01	William F Malcolm & Co
6	2d EVII	M.M.F.	M3996.01	Ø Mrs M. M. Firminger
7	2½d Jub.	ND/FS	N1030.01	National Deposit Friendly Soc
8	3d EVII	M.M.F.	M3996.01	Ø Mrs M. M. Firminger
9	½d GV	H&S	H6350.04	Hampton & Son
10	1d GV	F&M	F2630.02	Fortnum & Mason Ltd.
11	1½d GV	J&/CH	J1470.01	Ø J & C Harrison Ltd
12	½d EVIII	RI/Co/Ld	R2840.01	Royal Insurance Co. Ltd.
13	2½d EVIII	OU/DC	O1910.02	Oldbury/Ø Ormskirk UDC
14	½d GVI	RTF	R5268.02	Ø Mr R T Firminger
15	1d GVI	B/Bk	B0740.02	Barclays Bank Ltd.
16	1½d GVI	SM/BP	S4810.01a	Shell Mex & British Petroleum

It is not known how many of these plaques were ever made but apparently few are still in existence. It also seems that they were made on rather a piece meal basis as there is little consistency on the perfin dies used – although all the penny blacks, 1d plates and bantams have the same perfin die. In Rosemary's article she associated the MMF, M.M.F. and RTF dies as being used by Mr. R. T. Firminger and Marjorie Firminger. Mr Firminger acquired Slopers when Percy Sloper died in the early 1930's and Marjorie Firminger took over the company on the death of her husband.

PERFINNED POSTAL STATIONERY CATALOGUE

Maurice Harp

In Bulletin 284 - Oct. 1996 **Rosemary Smith** published the first of her detailed lists of Perfinned Postal Stationery. Over the last 18 years she has published 34 lists covering all types of postal stationery based on her own collection and information sent in by members. I have now volunteered to bring all this information into a Postal Stationery Catalogue for publication next year. So I am looking for a last push from members for any new information and confirmation of items that have been previously reported to the **Roy Gault** our Catalogue Editor and have never made it into Rosemary's lists.

The table below has been gleaned from the New Illustrated Catalogue. In general Roy has not given the detailed information that is included in Rosemary's lists. Normally this is not a problem as the information is available in Rosemary's lists. However in a number of instances new dies and values have been reported to Roy that have not been picked up in Rosemary's surveys. So the table below lists items listed in the New Illustrated for which I am looking for more information.

Die No.	Die	New Illustrated Description
A0610.08	AB/&Co	QV ½d (br) Wrapper
A1100.01	AC/Co	KEVII ½d (gn) Wrapper
A1105.03a	AC/&Co	KEVII ½d (gn) Wrapper
A3570.02	AL/&Co	QV ½d (br) Wrapper
A4205.06	A&N/C.S.L	QV ½d Wrapper
A4210.01c	A&N./C.S.L.	QV ½d (br) Wrapper
B0015.03	B	Also known on Postal Stationery
B0140.02	BACL	KGV (Downey Head) ½d (gn) Postal Stationery
B0140.03	BACL	KEVII ½d Wrapper
B0570.04	BB/CF	QV ½d (br) Newspaper Wrapper
B1297.02	B.C/&Co	Also known on QV 1d Wrapper
B2630.03	B&F	QV ½d (gn & verm) Postal Stationery
B3020.01a	BG/Co	QV ½d (gn) Wrapper & QV ½d (br) Wrapper
D3680.02	DOWN	QV Postal Stationery ½d (br)
E1790.01	EGO	QV Postal Stationery (used 29 Oct 1887)
G1960.01	GG/&Co	QV ½d (br) Newspaper Wrapper
G1975.01	GG/&Co.	QV ½d (br) Postal Stationery

Die No.	Die	New Illustrated Description
G3400.02a	GM/&G	QV ½d (br) Postal Stationery
G5610.04A	GWR	QV Newspaper Wrapper
H0012.02	H	QV Postal Stationery ½d (br)
H0017.02	H	QV 1d pink (Date slugs 25.1.79)
H0530.01	HB/&Co	KEVII ½d (gn) Postal Stationery
H1160.03a	HC	QV ½d (gn) Postal Stationery Wrapper KEVII ½d Postal Stationery Wrapper
H1210.06d	H&C	QV ½d Wrapper
H4970.06	HM/&Co	KEVII ½d (gn) wrapper
L1190.01	L/&Co	QV Postal Stationery ½d
L5820.03	LW/Co	KEVII ½d Postal Stationery
M0015.10	M	Also QV Postal Stationery
M2300.01	M.E/&Co	Also QV ½d Newswrapper
M2680.02	M/G	KEVII ½d Wrapper
N1220.02M	NE/R	Also known on KEVII Postal Stationery
P5030.03	P&W	QV ½d (br) Postal Stationery Wrapper
S0011.19	S	QV ½d (br) Postal Stationery Card
S0013.06	S	QV ½d orange Postal Stationery QV 1d Postal Stationery
S1624.05v	S&Co.	QV ½d Postal Stationery
S2830.01	S&F	QV Postal Stationery ½d (br) Wrapper
S4917.01	S.M/Co	QV Postal Stationery ½d Orange
S5160.01	SM/&S	Postal Stationery KEVII ½d
S6430.02	S.S.	Also known on Postal Stationery
T0815.02	TC/C	KEVII ½d Postal Stationery
T4210.02	TS/MC	QV ½d Postal Stationery
T5030.05	T&/WF	QV ½d Postal Stationery
T5180.01	T.W.S/&Co	QV Postal Stationery Card
U1420.02	UN/Co	QV ½d Postal Stationery
W0140.02d	W&A/G	QV ½d (br) Post Card
W0420.08	W.B	QV ½d & 1d Postal Stationery
W4320.01	WILD	QV ½d (br) Wrapper
W6680.18	W&S	Postal Stationery KGV ½d (gn) (Downey Head)
W7070.01a	W.S.S/Co	KEVII ½d (gn) Wrapper
W7530.04	WT/L	QV Postal Stationery ½d wrapper

If you have any of these items could you please contact me and if possible provide me with a scan or photocopy of the item or a full description, including dates of use. Many thanks for your help in this - it would be a shame to proceed with the publication of a Postal Stationery Catalogue which had these items missing because of a lack of detailed information.

AVON INDIA RUBBER CO. LTD.

Terry Comper

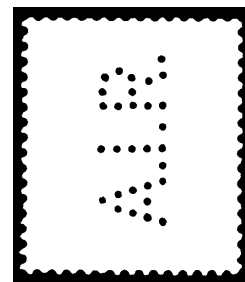
I have recently acquired this rather unusual item for my collection of King George V Seahorse perfin.



The 2/6d and 5/- seahorse are applied to a heavy duty label which is in the shape of a tyre. The front of the label is shown reduced below.



1910 - 1931



A3050.01M

The stamps are postmarked London 31st October 1931 and the two seahorses both have perfin A3050.01M which is known used by the Avon India Rubber Company. I presume that the label would have been tied directly on to the tyres using the eyelets in the label and that the front of the label showed the type and size of the tyre. The tyres were sent to an overseas address which unfortunately cannot be seen as a pink customs label has been stuck over the address. A label in the top left provides a return address of P. & G.A.A. Ltd. 4a Bloomsbury Square, London WC. Inspection of directories of the period show that this was the Parcels & General Assurance Association Ltd

I do not know what the function of the P. & G.A.A. Ltd. was, but I can conjecture that someone was touring in Europe and suffered a major tyre failure which necessitated getting new tyres sent out from Britain and that the Assurance Association provided the service.

The Avon India Rubber Company Limited was formed in 1890 on the banks of the River Avon in England. At the time, Avon had two mills, one known as Avon Mill, on the banks of the River Avon at Limpley, and another at Melksham (also on the banks of the River Avon). Avon's earliest orders for rubber products, were obtained from the War Office, the India Office, railway companies, wagon works and collieries.



The Melksham site became the Company's Corporate Headquarters and remained so for over 100 years. By 1890 the entire business had been moved to Melksham and a decision was taken to form a limited company to be named "The Avon India Rubber Co. Ltd.". The company diverged over the years to produce a full range of rubber products - golf balls, tennis balls, footwear, gas masks, medical products and homeware.

Today, well over a hundred years after its formation, Avon Rubber is an international polymer engineering group with modern, well-invested global facilities. It is a significant supplier to the world's automotive, engineering, dairy and defence markets and employs approximately 4,500 employees.

ERRATICS!

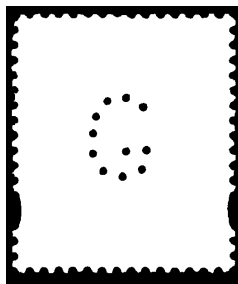
Roy Gault

I've taken the title from the dictionary definition - 'a piece of rock that has been transported from its place of origin, especially by glaciation'. Admittedly we're not dealing with rocks or glaciation, but it does conjure up the sense of something being in the 'wrong' place, in this case Regional stamps being used in the 'wrong' region!

The Regionals handbook (2006) listed two which I will repeat here.

Glasgow Corporation is known to have used both Wilding Regionals (issue 'Y') and Machin Regionals (issue 'Z' - sorry, no stamp to hand to illustrate) which were originally intended for use in *Wales & Monmouthshire*. Known dated copies have Glasgow postmarks showing use between October and November 1968.

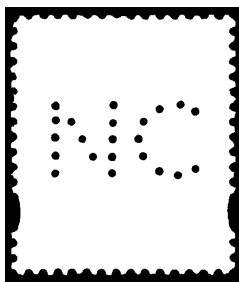
c1876



G0011.10M

Nottingham Corporation is known to have used a variety of Machin Regionals (issue 'Z'), including *Northern Ireland, Scotland,* and *Wales & Monmouthshire*.

1883-1895

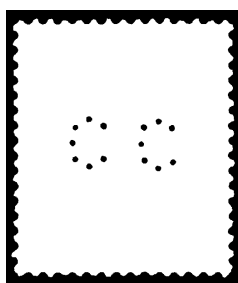


N0510.08M

Under normal circumstances “CC” (C1110.01M) can be found in abundance on both sterling and decimal Welsh Regionals known used by *Cardiff Corporation*, but here we have two unusual items. The first was sent in recently by **Gerry Soutar** and clearly shows a 4d (verm) Welsh Regional postmarked Dover, Kent, 4th November 1969. Quite who may have used this stamp is as yet unknown.

The second is a 17p Scottish Regional which may well have been used by Cardiff Corporation, but without a proving ‘Cardiff’ postmark it’s not possible to say for sure. Does anyone have a postmarked example?

1941-1998



C1110.01M



Since publication of the Regionals handbook a few more values have been reported, along with a third die, “CC” (C1110.01M), all of which appear in the updated table below - 20 different stamps in all.

			Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales & Mon.
1	CC	C1110.01M		17p	4d Verm
2	G	G0011.10M			3d, 4d Blue 13p
3	NC	N0510.08M	13p, 14p, 17p, 18p, 22p, 24p	13p, 17p, 19p	12p, 13p, 14p, 17p, 19p, 22p

If you can add to this small list I would be pleased to hear from you!

H0009.01 AND ITS CONNECTION TO H5200.01M
“THE REST OF THE STORY”

Michael Millar, FRPSC

Page four of Bulletin 216 of April 1985, contained an article by Mr. Tony Edwards¹ entitled “The Story Behind the Perfin / No. 1 / Hungerford Associates Perfin Pays Homage and Avoids the Dragon.” The article is reproduced in full below:

Hungerford Associates use a small “H” as a perfin and on normal English stamps this is placed diagonally in the top left hand corner [Fig. 1]. It was placed in that unusual position to avoid defacing the profile of the Queen. Collectors will recall that when Sloper was first given permission to perforate stamps, one of the conditions was that the holes should not fall on the head of the Queen. This led to designs containing small letters being widely spaced into the corners, thus avoiding the profile of Victoria. This condition was soon ignored, but has been revived by Hungerford Associates. When Hungerford Associates Welsh Office opened and began to use Welsh Regionals, it was considered equally improper to deface “Y Driag Goch”, the Welsh Dragon, so the perfin was moved from top left to top right, thus preserving both sovereign and dragon from defacement.



Fig. 1.

Mr. Edwards’ has told us that Hungerford Associates wrote teaching texts for postal education.

His comments that Hungerford Associates used a diagonal “H” so as not to deface either Her Majesty or the Welsh Dragon are not—in my opinion anyway—completely correct. In fact they are somewhat

¹ A draft of this article was sent to Mr. Edwards for his comments. He has provided some additional information, that has been incorporated into the article, but he takes no serious issue with my comments or conclusions.

misleading, especially since it is my surmise that he was directly involved in the production of H0009.01 for the “Associates.” So, in the best “who dunnit” tradition here is my conjecture of “The Rest of the Story.”

In connection with my current study of the perfins of H. M. Stationery Office, Mr. Julian Stray, Curator of the British Postal Museum & Archives (BPMA) Store in Debden, very kindly provided Roy Gault and me with some die proofs of H5200.01M. Arbitrarily numbering the perforating dies left to right as 1 to 12, it was noted that die 2 has the two upper pins of the right side of the “M” missing (Fig.2).

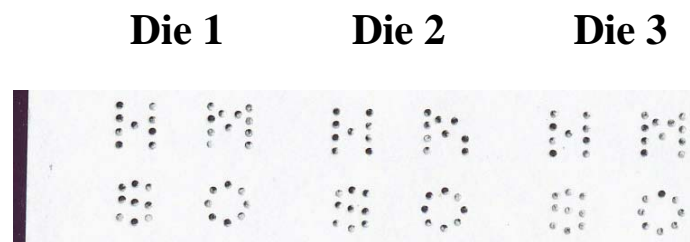


Fig. 2.

From information received from the BPMA it seems likely that these two pins went missing after the Hurlin/Sloper machine ceased to be used by the Stationery Office but before the machine was turned over to the BPMA.² Certainly my study and examination of several thousand HM/SO perfins has not turned up a single example of die 2 with the missing pins.

We now fast forward to the 19th October 2013 and the Annual Exhibition and Bourse of the Barrie District Stamp Club, Ontario, Canada; the author’s home club. From one of the dealers present I obtained a group of G. B. perfin covers. Included in this group was one addressed to “Ms. Wendy Bispham” at an address in Devonshire. It was postmarked with a London WC machine dated 28 May / 1985,

² *Bulletin* 332 (Oct. 2004): 13 – 18 reproduced, with permission, an article by Tony Edwards and Betty Lucas that appeared in the October 1983 issue of *The Stamp Magazine* entitled “Great Britain HMSO Official Stamps.” The final sentence of the article, on page 18, reads “The ‘M’ on the second die has two pins missing, but this has never been seen on a stamp.” Mr. Edwards has commented that the pins were damaged when he received the machine from the “Post Office” – I think he meant the Stationery Office.

and franked with issue W 4p and 13p – the 4p is initialled with H0009.01 (Fig 3).



Fig. 3.

A nice cover I thought, with a perfin of which I didn't have an example, but what really gives the game away and ties H0009.01 to H5200.01M was a note inside the envelope. The note, in what I assume is Ms. Bispham's handwriting reads:

Diagonal H perfin:

Hungerford Associates of Trevor, Wales and is made by the perfin machine originally used to perforate HM/SO on stamps of HM Stationery Office.

The machine is no longer used by Hungerford but has been saved by the perfin Society and will eventually be placed on show at the National Postal Museum in London.

[On the back of the piece of paper]

Sent to me on cover by Tony Edwards – 28.5.85

So let's indulge in a little conspiracy theory. We know that the perforating machine was in the possession of Mr. Edwards following its rescue by him before it could be sent away for scrap.³ To me it seems logical that he also perforated the Hungerford Associates stamps for them using the "H" of die 3. But statements about not wanting to deface either Her Majesty or the Welsh Dragon

³ Article in *SEPS Bulletin* 206 (August 1983): 9.

notwithstanding, the real reason for the diagonal “H” was so that none of the other letters would be punched through the stamps. I am, of course, willing to stand corrected on the foregoing set of assumptions. **Roy Gault** reports that one of the examples in the reference collection has an additional single hole in it (Figs. 4 and 5).



Fig. 4.

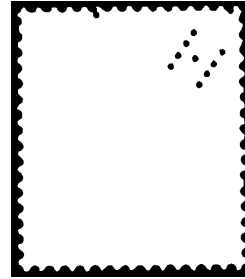


Fig. 5.

I am certainly prepared to accept Mr. Edwards’ comment that the pins were damaged when he received the machine. But that still begs the question as to whether the damaged pins were removed so as to make the machine operative again. It is my opinion that these pins were deliberately removed from the “M” of die 2 so that no additional holes would appear through the stamps. To initial the stamps must have been a very time-consuming exercise. It would have had to have been done with single stamps, possibly two or three at a time, by carefully placing them diagonally under the “H” of die 3 and then operating the treadle to punch the letter through the stamps. Perhaps Hungerford, and Mr. Edwards, decided the work wasn’t worth the effort and the project was abandoned shortly after it was begun.

By doing some careful experimentation with a reversed die proof on fig. 5 I’m fairly sure that the initialling on this particular stamp was done with an “H” of one of the dies and the extra hole is from the top pin of the right side of the “M” of the adjacent die. I tested this theory by using the “H” of die 4 and the top pin of the “M” of die 3 blackened out the extra hole. Keep in mind that the stamps would have had to have been placed very carefully in the machine upside down so that no other letters or parts thereof would be punched through them.

We do not have an exact period of use in which this die was produced. **Roy Gault** has “c1983” in the catalogue and we have my cover of

28 May 1985. Was the latter the end date? And was Mr. Edwards providing a “favour” cover to a friend? We may possibly never know the answer. Certainly there do not appear to be many examples around of this perfin. Roy reports use only on issue W 12½p and 16p and we have my 4p, and these may well be the only three known at the present time.

Despite the comments regarding the Welsh Dragon, so far we do not appear to have any reported usage on Welsh Regionals. However Mr. Edwards commented in his note to **Rosemary Smith**, in his response to the draft of this article, “I think most of the examples perforated were on Welsh Regionals.” Barrie Williamson in his current Machin perfin study has no reported examples of this perfin, either in the main Machin database or the Regionals database.⁴ Roy has expressed the view that this is a very scarce perfin, and it may be that I have the only example on cover. Perhaps additional details will come to light in the future.

How this cover ended up in Central Ontario twenty-eight years later is one of life’s enduring mysteries, but I’m glad it did. And without it containing Ms. Bispham’s note we would never have been able to piece together “The Rest of the Story.”

Ed:- This article raises a number of questions which I hope our members can help answer. My first thought is that the two copies of the die which are illustrated here would have placed the "H" well and truly through the Welsh Dragon if a regional stamp had been used. Secondly the die seems to be very rare with only three values reported and none of them being on the regional issue. I hope members can report further use of the die, maybe a dated copy and hopefully a regional value. Lastly I can find nothing about Hungerford Associates. Tony Edward's original article refers to the company setting up it's Welsh office. So presumably they must have had an office elsewhere. It is understood from Tony that the company was involved in postal correspondence courses but maybe one of our Welsh members can do some research and find out more about the company.



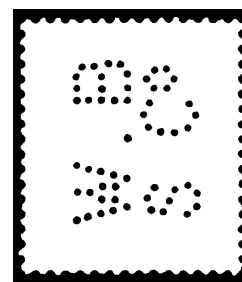
⁴ Confirmed by e-mail exchange, Williamson – Millar, 30 January 2014.

POSTALLY USED PERFINNED TELEGRAPH STAMPS

Richard Husband/Jeff Turnbull



1876 - 1915



W0790.02

Non member Martien Blank has shown the Society this wonderful entire. It was sent by Wm. Brandt's Sons & Co, Merchant Bankers from London to St. Petersburg, Russia on 29 June 1883. The particular thing that makes this item very special is the four halfpenny telegraph stamps stuck on the back in part payment of the postal charges. These four stamps received the postmark and the postage stamps to the value of 3½d placed on the front will have been 'pen cancelled' later on. The perfin die used on all the stamps is W0790.02

which in itself is distinctive because of the wide spacing between the 'W' and the 'B' making sideways use virtually obligatory so as to get the complete die onto each individual stamp. It is understood that a second item, again postmarked 29 June 1883, also exists bearing ½d telegraph stamps dated 'W.B/SCo'.

The contents must have been very urgent as the cost of the late fee was greater than the cost of sending the letter. The charges were:-

- Foreign letter rate not over ½ oz 2½d
- Third-step foreign late fee at the G.P.O.'s London Chief Office (between 7.15 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.) evidenced by 'L3' appearing in the postmark 3d
- Total 5½d

Until telegraph stamps were first placed on sale on 1 February 1876, postage stamps had been used to pay for telegram charges. The change was made to ensure reliable accounting for income from telegrams. The use of telegraph stamps to prepay telegrams lasted until late 1881, when it was decided that reliable telegram income figures could be produced despite reverting to the pre-1876 position of using postage stamps.

No further telegraph stamps were sent to postmasters after 31 October 1881 but considerable stocks remained resulting in large quantities being destroyed. Those held by the public, including commercial firms such as Wm. Brandt's, could not be sold back to the G P O with the result that some telegraph stamps were used as postage stamps, although this practice was never officially authorised.

Perhaps their junior clerks were given a small number of perfined telegraph stamps in case there was a need to incur late fee charges when handing mail cross the post office counter. The risk of fraud should have been minimal because who would want to buy perfined telegraph stamps whose use had been abolished two years previously?

To date there are fourteen recorded instances of the postal use of perfin Telegraph stamps recorded after August 1881 when they were abolished. These are certainly from companies who previously used them as Telegraph stamps. The majority (5) are ½d Telegraph stamps, plus an assortment of other values.

Ref:- Martien Blanks image of this item was taken from Steve Planting's GB Precancel website <http://www.gb-precancels.org/Telegraphs/PO.php>

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