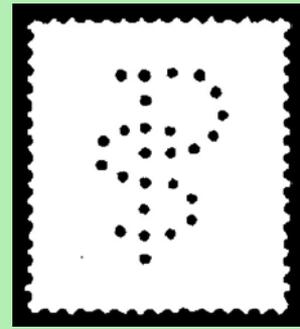
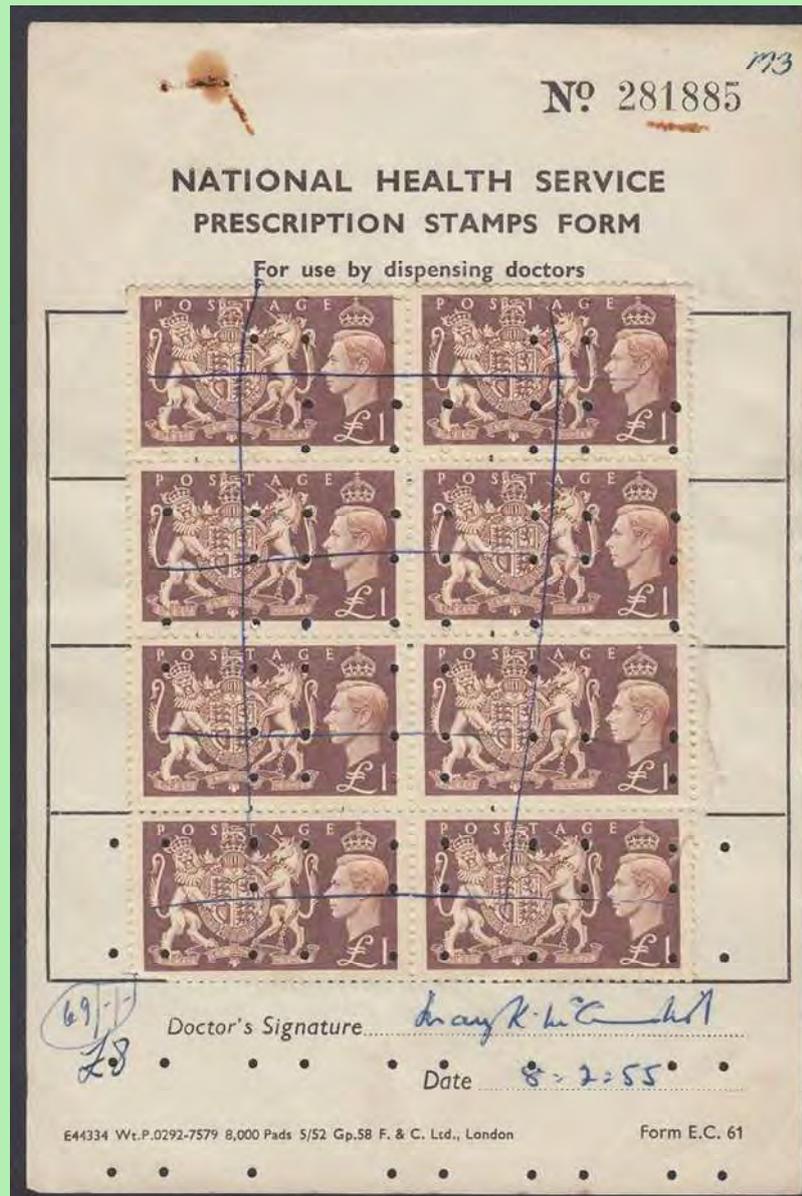


PERFIN SOCIETY BULLETIN



No. 404 - October 2016



National Health prescription stamps form cancelled with multi-headed perforator. Sloper perforated insurance stamp with similar holes made to a registered design for each company.

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Thank you to those who made donations with their subscriptions it is much appreciated. I am happy to say that 200 of you had paid by 3rd September which is very pleasing, so to the 95 remaining make my day and pay promptly.

If you are coming to the AGM please bring along any perfin material you have written up for us to view. There is no need to speak and you can be anonymous if you wish. We keep Society business as brief as possible and there is no danger of being press ganged onto the Committee, we are all happy in our roles! If you are bringing lots to the room auction please draw up a list of lots showing a reference and reserve. We are a friendly lot, no stuffed shirts like many clubs, and with good company and refreshments free on tap you will enjoy your afternoon in London.

Auction News

Auction 104 closed on 31st August, with 71 members, or just under a quarter of the total membership, submitting bids. All but 37 of the 399 lots on offer found new homes with the 55 successful bidders. Realisations totalled £3249.80, with lots of perfins 'in quantity' achieving good prices.

Several bidders submitted their bids as attachments to emails. I had specifically requested that any bids submitted by email should be listed within the email rather than as an attachment. My concern with email attachments is the computer virus risk, which should never be underestimated. For future auctions, please do not attach files to your bid emails. If anyone is unsure about how to send their bids, please contact me.

The catalogue for auction 105 is now being prepared and it is currently expected that this will be distributed with the December Bulletin. The backlog of older material has now been dealt with, with the remaining lots being offered in the near future.

AUCTION - URGENT REQUEST

I urgently need new material now for inclusion in future auctions. If you have been thinking about disposing of your surplus perfins and security overprints, now is the time to send them to me for inclusion in the next available auction. You will find my address listed on the inside front page of this Bulletin. In future there should be no long delays between material being sent in for auction and it being listed in an auction catalogue.

AGM London Meeting

The Society AGM meeting will be held on Saturday October 29th, 2016 at Grosvenor Auctions, 399 - 401 Strand, London WC2R 0LT, in their 3rd Floor Auction & Sale Room between 12 and 4pm. Access is by a door to the left of Stanley Gibbons shop. 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. We will again have display boards available in the room so bring something along to show your fellow members.



MEMBERS FEEDBACK

Perfin Rarity – Bulletin 289/16, 291/18

The question of perfin rarity is one that is rarely raised in relation to British perfins. Other Societies with fewer dies to cope with often give a rarity rating in their catalogue. This has only ever been attempted in relation to the Official Perfins listed by Edwards & Lucas in their handbook. **Peter Maybury** has written in to raise this issue and has made a general estimate on the percentages of dies that fall into quantity categories. His first guess for number of copies would be. i.e. 70% can be attained – anything more is a struggle.

1 - 5	10%	6 - 50	10%
51 - 5000	20%	5001+	60%

In Bulletin 289 & 291 **Dave Hill** wrote two articles addressing perfin rarity. In these articles he concluded that getting 30-40% of dies should be fairly easy and with great effort and expense 70% should be possible and that 90% is unlikely to be exceeded.

In general there seems to no clamour from members to adopt a rarity factor for GB perfin dies. A quick glance at the Society Catalogue gives an immediate idea of how rare any die is by the amount of information available.

Sloper Registration Label (1) - Bulletin 402/14 & 403/28

In Bulletin 402 a registered postal stationery envelope was shown used by Sloper & Co. The envelope had a registration label with No “64” rather than “345” which is known to have been allocated to Slopers. **Roy Gault** writes as follows.

Designation numbers used by firms are higher than those used by a sub-office in the same town. The highest number on the list for London EC post offices is No.47, and the first number allocated to a firm is No.60 to Lloyd's Bank. I reckon that No.64 was originally allocated to Sloper's and was later replaced by No.345. I guess the proof would be sight of another No.64 label with a different sender/address still cancelled Ludgate Circus. Sloper's would still have had to have their registered letters entered onto the GPO tracking system by taking it to a post office, in the case of the 1946 letter, they chose Ludgate Circus.

WANTED

Member **Jim Black** has written to ask for help with his Canadian Pacific collection. If any member can supply any of the following it would be much appreciated.

CP/OS	(C6080.01)	C.P/O.S	(C6095.01)
C.P/O.S/Ltd	(C6097.01)	CPR	(C6100.04)
CPR	(C6100.06)	C.P./R.	(C6125.01)
DEX/Co	(D1650.01)		

If you have duplicates to sell then please contact him

Midland Bank Air Mail Letter – Bulletin 403/17

Karl Winkelmann has written in relation to **John Marriner's** Air Mail letter sent to Iraq during World War II. He writes "This cover (Bulletin 403, page 17) is unlikely to have travelled by the route John assumes. Firstly the GB censorship likely took place in London, at King Edward's Buildings and would not have affected the routing. Secondly, airmail routed through Lisbon usually received a Lisbon backstamp. And thirdly, the usual route, even for airmail was the "Horseshoe Route" which at this time was by ship to South Africa and onwards by air. The British Post Office Circulars dated both 27 May 42 and 2 Dec 42 list Iraq as a destination using "Route A" described as: "By air to South Africa, thence by Empire Air Services". The cover was paid at a triple rate of 1/3d per half ounce per the P.O. circulars. It was most likely offloaded at either Habbaniya Lake near Baghdad or Basra for ground transmission to Teheran. Without any other evidence this is the most likely route."

"I have at least 2 (non-perfin) covers in essentially the opposite direction; Thomas Cook airmail from their Baghdad office to their Dublin office. They were censored (well actually only passed) in Iraq and Ireland but opened only by GB censor and no other postal marking to indicate a Lisbon or trans-Africa routing."

G.W.R Overprint on GR/W Perfin - Bulletin 357/24 & 366/29

Jack Brandt has written in with two new reports of Queen Victoria 1d Inland Revenue stamps with GWR overprint and perfin G4350.02M. **Terry Wood** wrote an article on these stamps that can be found in Bulletin 366 which attributes the use of these fiscal stamps with Debenture Stock Interest Warrants issued by the GWR.



28-02-1877



G4350.02M



31-08-1876

Sloper Registration Label (2) - Bulletin 402/14 & 403/28

Jack Brandt has been able to supply another Sloper office registration label. Unfortunately as this label is not on piece it is not able to say the date of use of this example.



Wilson & Mackinnon – Bulletin 403/12

Firstly there is a correction to be made. **David Coath** has written to point out that the company name should be Wilson & Mackinnon rather than Wilson & Mckinnon. He has also provided an example of a perfin die W&M - W&M.1 used on a Victoria 2d Brown. David has also determined that this stamp is SG31 which dates from 1880 – 84. This is very early use for a perfin in Victoria.



W&M.1

SLOPER REQUISITION FORM FOR FISCALS

Maurice Harp

To **J. SLOPER & CO., LIMITED**,
(ESTABLISHED 1856.)
NEW BRIDGE STREET HOUSE, NEW BRIDGE STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.

Please supply Perforated Stamps as under :—

HEALTH AND PENSION INSURANCE STAMPS			No. of Sheets or Stamps	Value.			
				£	s.	d.	
4d.	at £4	per sheet of 240 ...					4d.
8d.	„ £8	„ „ „ „ „					8d.
9d.	„ £9	„ „ „ „ „					9d.
1s. 0d.	„ £12	„ „ „ „ „					1s. 0d.
1s. 0½d.	„ £12 10s.	„ „ „ „ „					1s. 0½d.
1s. 1d.	„ £13	„ „ „ „ „					1s. 1d.
1s. 3d.	„ £15	„ „ „ „ „					1s. 3d.
1s. 7d.	„ £19	„ „ „ „ „					1s. 7d.
1s. 9d.	„ £21	„ „ „ „ „					1s. 9d.
2s. 0d.	„ £24	„ „ „ „ „					2s. 0d.
Rolls of Stamps { 1s. 7d. at £88 per Roll of 480* { 2s. 0d. „ £48 „ „ „ „ 480*							1s. 7d. } 2s. 0d. } Rolls of Stamps
*Insert "T.E."—Top End or "L.E."—Lower End as desired.							
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STAMPS			£				
4d.	at £4	per sheet of 240 ...					4d.
9d.	„ £9	„ „ „ „ „					9d.
10d.	„ £10	„ „ „ „ „					10d.
1s. 4d.	„ £16	„ „ „ „ „					1s. 4d.
1s. 6d.	„ £18	„ „ „ „ „					1s. 6d.
1s. 8d.	„ £20	„ „ „ „ „					1s. 8d.
Rolls of Stamps { 1s. 6d. at £36 per Roll of 480* { 1s. 8d. „ £40 „ „ „ „ 480*							1s. 6d. } 1s. 8d. } Rolls of Stamps
*Insert "R.S."—Right Side or "L.S."—Left Side as desired							
AGRICULTURAL INSURANCE STAMPS							
3d.	at £3	per sheet of 240 ...					3d.
3½d.	„ £3 10s.	„ „ „ „ „					3½d.
4d.	„ £4	„ „ „ „ „					4d.
5d.	„ £5	„ „ „ „ „					5d.
6d.	„ £6	„ „ „ „ „					6d.
7d.	„ £7	„ „ „ „ „					7d.
Commission							
Cash herewith			£				

Received by Date
 TELEPHONE: CENTRAL 1351/2
 TELEGRAMS: "SLOPER, LUD. LONDON."

Name.....
 Address.....
 Date.....

Cheques to be made payable to J. SLOPER & CO., Limited, and crossed "Westminster Bank Limited."

When **John Marriner** showed me this Sloper requisition form over a year ago I took it to be another copy of the sort of forms that have been shown in the Bulletin over the years. A typical example can be found in Bulletin 356. However now that I take a close look I find that this is not a requisition for perforated stamps but is for perforated fiscals.

As far as I know this is the first time such a form has been recorded. The form is undated but the address at the top of the form is New Bridge Street House, New Bridge St so it must date from after the 1941 Blitz.

The three fiscal stamps that could be supplied perforated are Health & Pension Insurance, Unemployment Insurance and Agricultural Insurance with numerous values being available. The three stamp designs referred to are shown overleaf. I went to **Jeff Turnbull**, our fiscal and revenue expert, for help on these issues and see if I could get a better date for the production of this form.



Health & Pension



Unemployment



Agriculture

However the designs were used over a long period with new values being issued as required and the available catalogues do not list the dates of the various values.

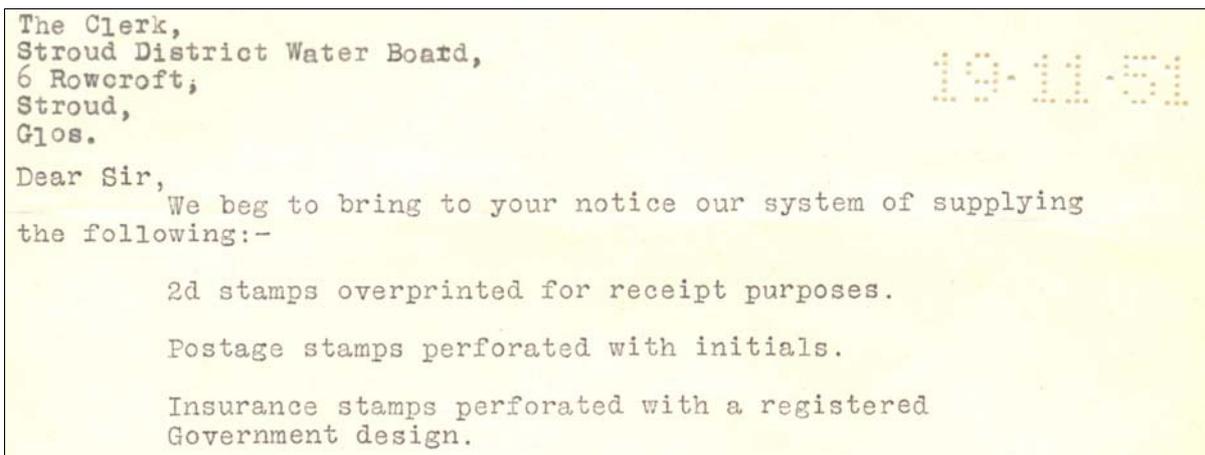
In the latest edition of Jeff's catalogue of GB Official Perfin Cancels he shows some of these stamps with "perfin" designs. In every instance the design is an abstract one. The purpose of such a "perfin" is unclear although the letter that accompanies **Colin Fountain's** Advertising (see page 14) sheet may cast a little light. As you can see below the letter states that Sloper can supply "*Insurance stamps perforated with a registered Government design*".



User St Marylebone Borough

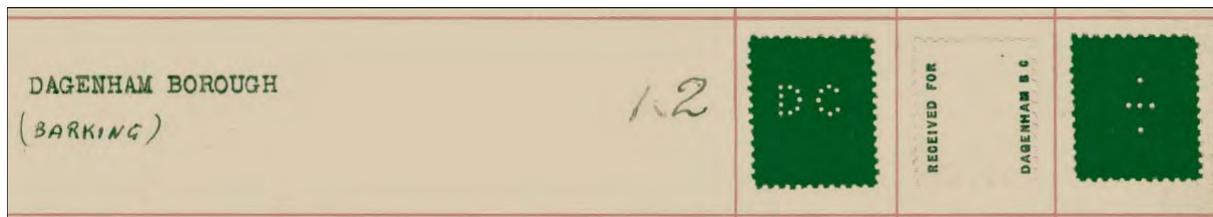


User Harrods

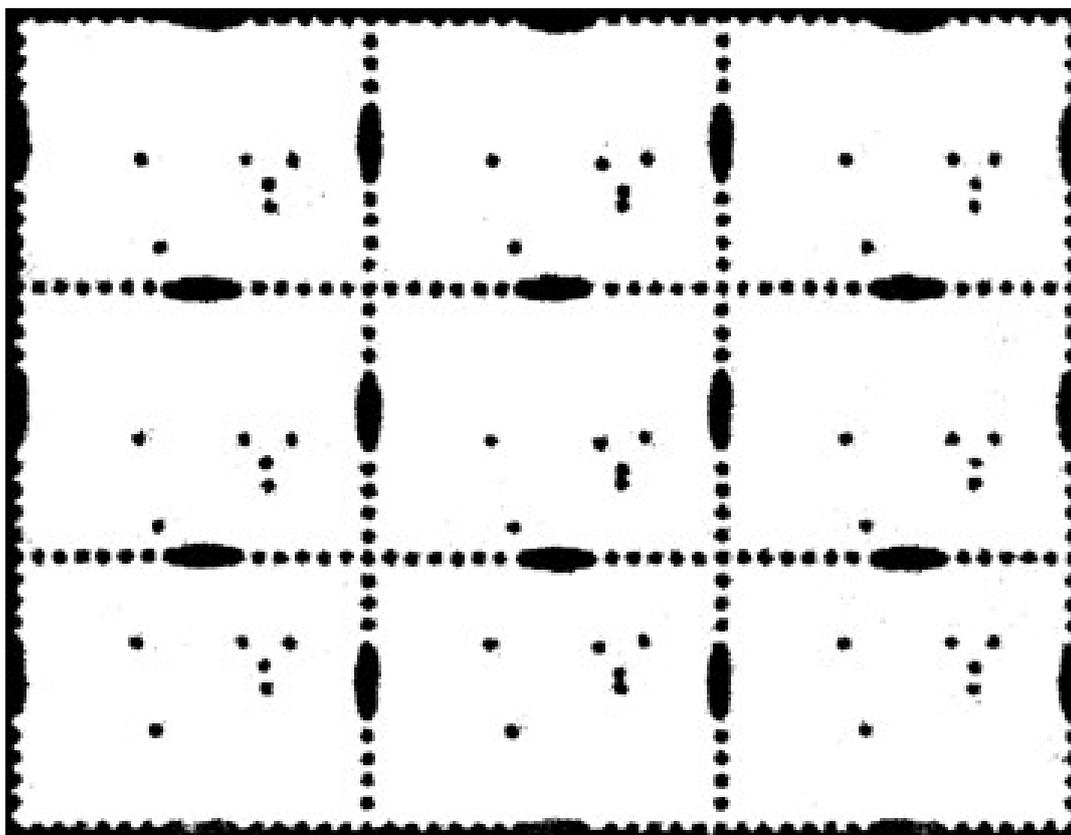


Insurance stamps with various odd holes are often up for sale on ebay but most of these seem to have been produced by cancelling of the insurance cards when they were cashed in. An example of these cancels can be seen on the NHS form shown on the front cover.

The Sloper records show many of these odd designs that were used for perforating insurance stamps. Below is a typical entry for Dagenham Borough, Barking.



In Bulletin 304 a block of insurance stamps were illustrated that clearly show the use of a multi-headed die – probably 12 x 1.



In Bulletin 264 **Dave Hill** recorded that the Sloper records had a remark against the entry for George Wimpey - *"Specimen followed exactly as has been approved by the Ministry of Health. Holes not to be larger than those dividing sheets of Health stamps. Capable of perforating Health and Unemployment Stamps"*. I haven't been able to track down this reference but it seems to confirm that the designs were indeed registered with the government.

It is rather strange how more of these perforated fiscals have not been uncovered but it can be presumed that many were destroyed rather than reaching the philatelic market.

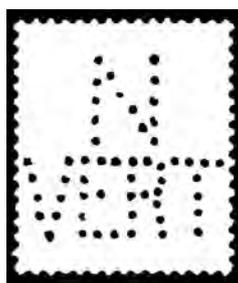
NARCISO VERT.

Roy Gault

The Perfin “N/VERT” was sent to me early in May this year by *Keith Kimber* as a suspected New Die. I allocated it N3507.01, and at the time regarded it as a unique item. However, as the Perfin filled the stamp, there was always the possibility that there were other letters either side of ‘VERT’. All that could be gleaned from the postmark on the QV 16-dot 1d Lilac was (Londo)n W.

Just two months later another example was sent in to me, this time by *Gerry Soutar*. The ½d (verm.) QV Jubilee was clearly postmarked LONDO..., and dated JU 15/96. Now lightning doesn’t strike the same place twice, so we must be looking at a ‘Full Name’ Perfin. A search of an 1895 London Directory quickly yielded *Narciso Vert*, Musical Agent, 6 Cork St, Burlington Gardens, London W.

1895-1900



N3507.01

Further research reveals that, *Narciso Raimundo Domingo Vert* (to give him his full title) was born in 1845 in Marylebone, London, the son of Honorato Vert (born in Spain) & his wife Henrietta (born in Swaffham). Narciso Vert is recorded as a Clerk in the 1861 census, but by 1881 he is described as a ‘Musical Agent’, and by then known to be in partnership with his brothers Honorato, Pedro, and Fernando.

In musical circles Narciso is regarded as an ‘Impresario’ and pioneer in the ‘Musical Agency’ business. He was also described as the man who knew 2,000 musicians - amongst his clientele was the composer Edward Elgar. After Narciso Vert’s death in June 1905, his brother Pedro Vert continued the business, but even after recapitalisation in 1910 as ‘N Vert Ltd’, the company was wound up in November 1912.

RAILWAY ROUND-UP.

Roy Gault

In updating Section 'A' of the Details Catalogue recently, I took the opportunity to carry out a little research into 'AC Cars Ltd' to see what else they made apart from sports cars. As a trainspotter in the 1950's and 1960's (I know, the signs of a miss-spent youth), I knew of the existence of a small number of four-wheel railbuses built by five separate companies in the late 1950's, one of which was AC Cars Ltd. In fact, AC Cars Ltd built 5 of the 22 that eventually saw service.



As well as specialist sports cars (such as the AC Cobra), the company also built four trains for the Southend Pier Railway (in 1949), and five 'Railcars' for British Railways - W79975/6/7/8 and SC79979. As the Thames Ditton works had no rail connection, and the works doors were too small, each 'Railbus' left the factory by road in two parts, then assembled off-site. Introduced in 1958, they were all withdrawn by 1968, no doubt killed off by Dr Beeching's cuts.

1920-1936



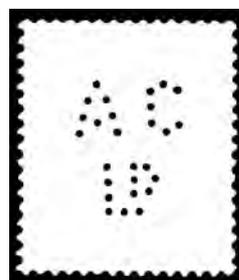
A1200.02

1936-1941



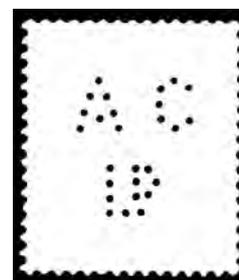
A1200.03

1941-1945



A1200.01a

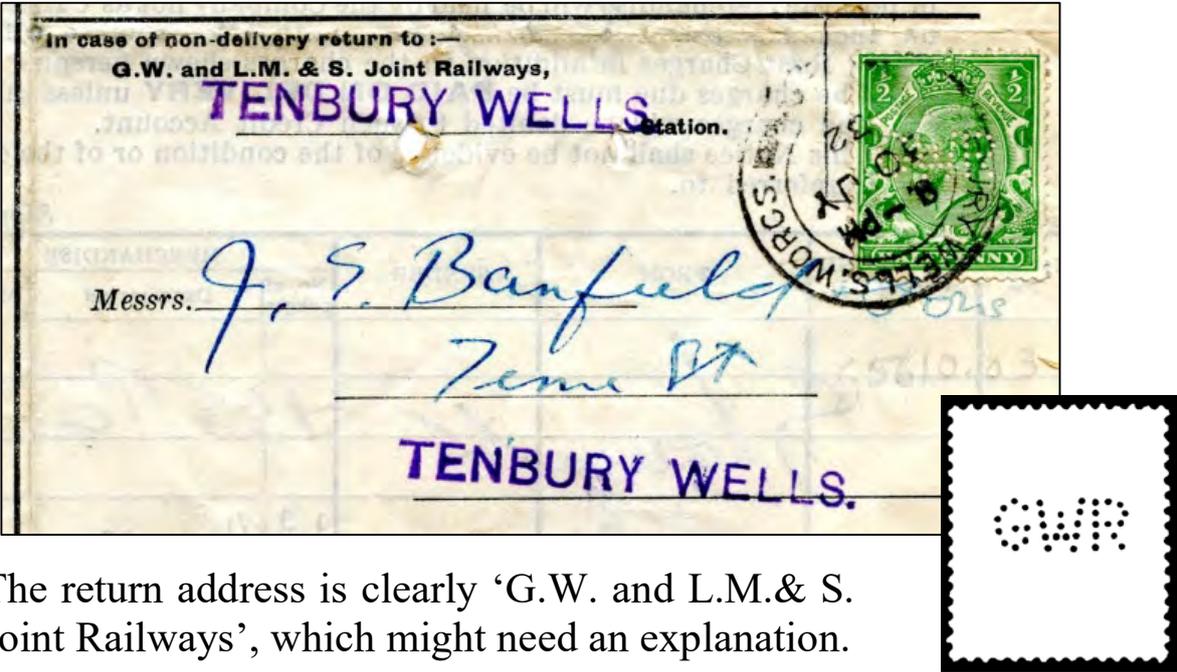
1945-1965



A1200.01

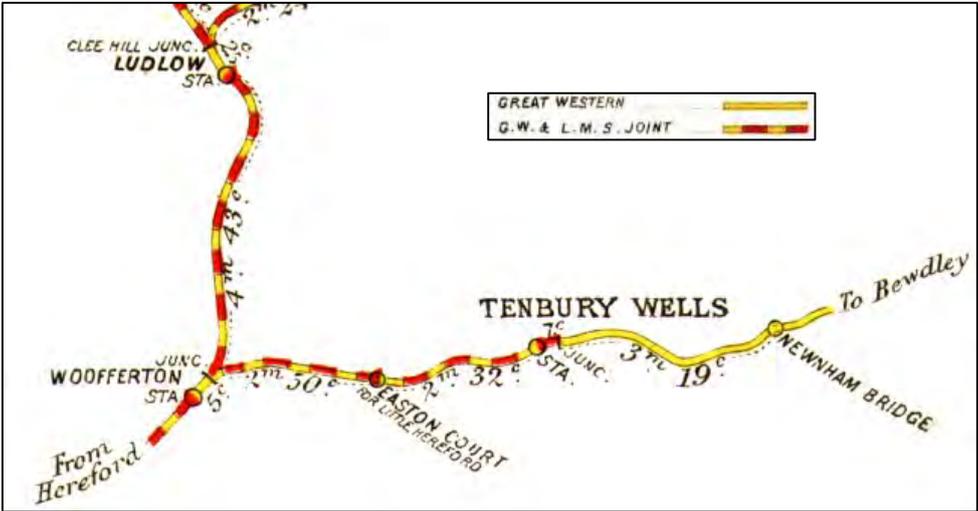
Four Perfins are known used by the company from 1920 through to 1965, but only one would have been in use during the Railbus era.

Continuing the railway theme, the following item has recently been reported to me by *Ron Mills*. The item (due for auction) is a consignment note posted 30th July 1932, Tenbury Wells, Worcs. The die involved is “GWR” (G5610.04).



The return address is clearly ‘G.W. and L.M.& S. Joint Railways’, which might need an explanation.

Many railway companies had written agreements with other railway companies allowing joint running powers over sections of their permanent way, including the use of facilities.



The above diagram (dated 1929) is from a book of Junction Diagrams produced by the Railway Clearing House. It clearly shows the Great Western Railway and the London Midland & Scottish Railway having joint running powers from Tenbury Wells to Woofferton Junction, where it connects to the jointly run Hereford-Shrewsbury main line.

SLOPER ADVERTISING SHEET

Maurice Harp

Having seen the piece on Sloper Advertising Cards in Bulletin 402 **Colin Fountain** remembered that he too had a “card”. Only in his case the card is only paper. He also has the accompanying letter that went with the piece. This set of examples of Sloper’s work was sent to the Stroud District Water Board. So as might be expected Slopers put a range of their work carried out for other water companies. The sheet has overprints for Cranbrook District Water Company, Metropolitan Water Board and the Colne Valley Water Company. There is a fourth overprint with P.R./J.W.B which probably the Pontypridd & Rhondda Joint Water Board as they also used perfin P3907.01 – PR/JWB. Lastly the sheet has one perfin MWB – M5960.01b which was used by the Metropolitan Water Board. This die is known to have been in use between 1942 and 1957.

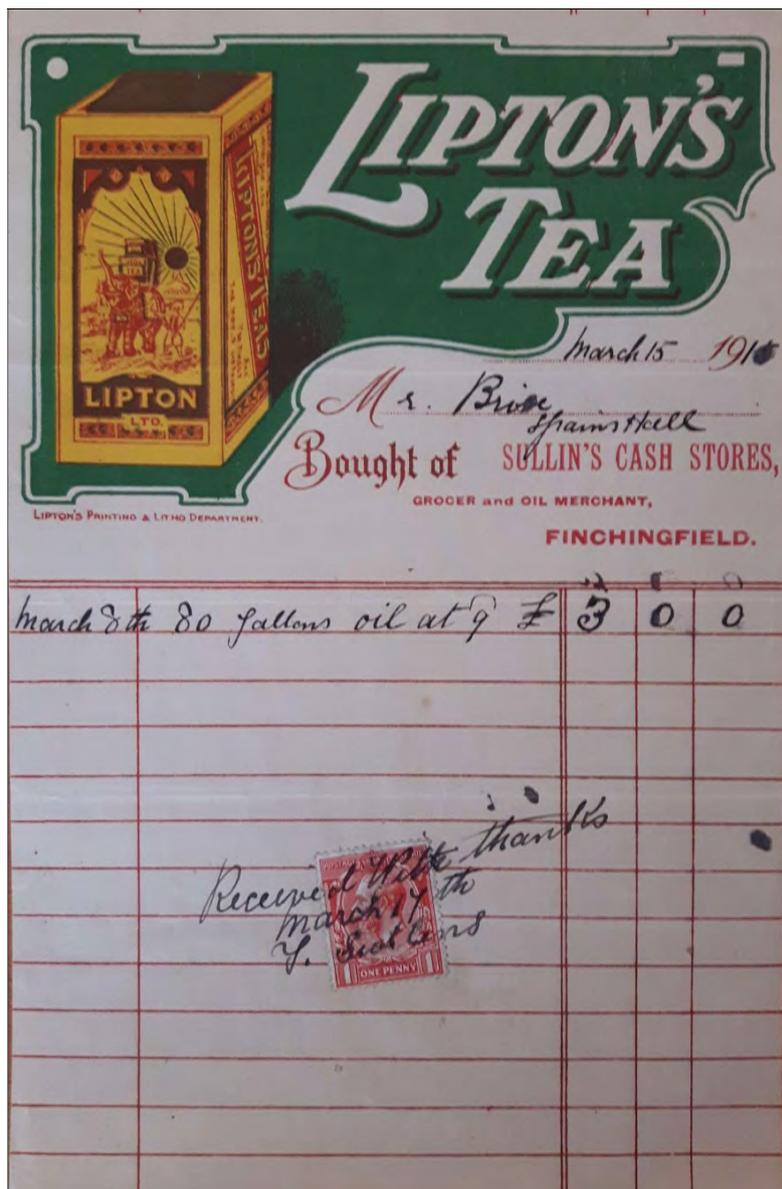


The accompanying letter is dated November 19th 1951. Whether they were successful with getting new business from the Stroud District Water Board I don’t know. This particular item is of interest in that it has five specimens and used regular paper. The use of paper may have been associated with the general shortage of paper following World War II.

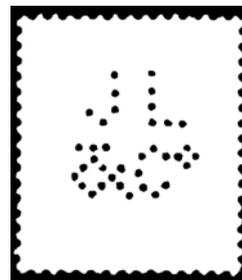
SULLIN'S CASH STORES AND J. LYONS & Co. LTD

Stephen Steere

The receipt shown below was issued by Sullin's Cash Stores of Finchingfield (Essex) on March 15th 1916 and used a King George V 1d red stamp with the perfin JL/&Co - J4930.02A. This die has been provisionally identified as being used by J. Lyons & Co. Ltd.



1912 - 1939

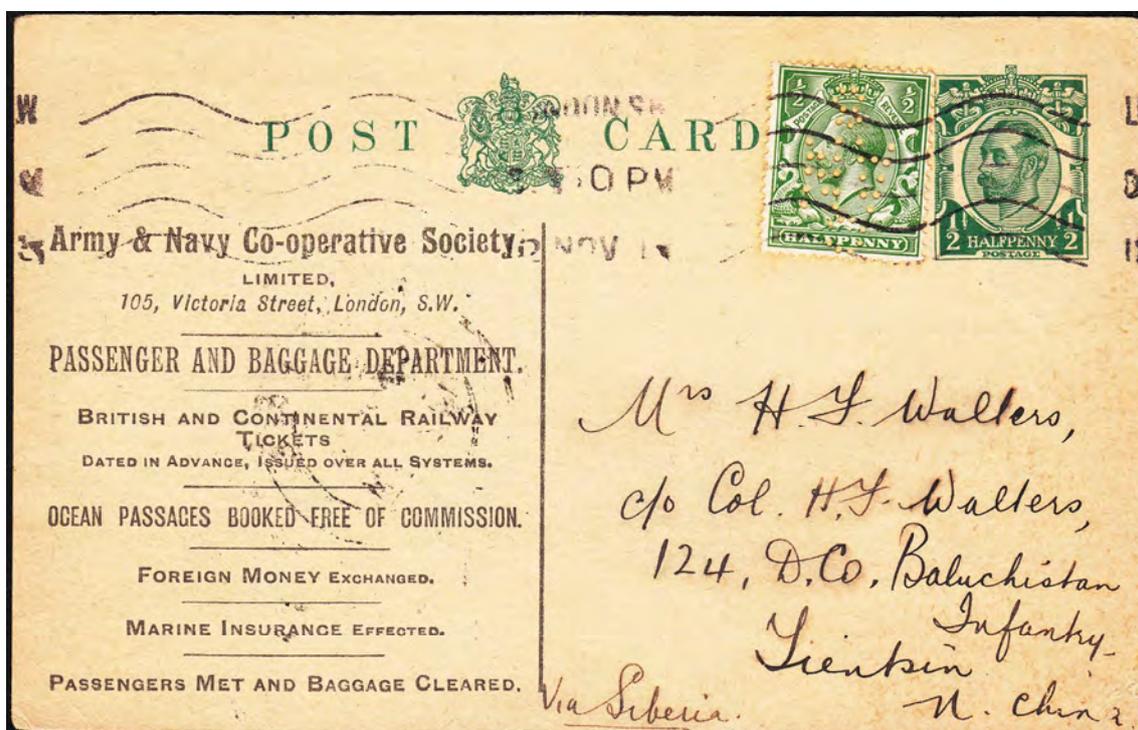


J4930.02A

I have looked online for any connection between the two companies but nothing comes up. In addition there is no mention of Sullin's Cash Stores in the 1902 or 1914 Essex Directories. Can anyone provide any information on Sullin's and answer the question as to why Sullin's used a JL/&Co perfin on this receipt?

ARMY & NAVY CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY TO CHINA

John Marriner



Above is a KGV postal stationery card used by the Army and Navy Co-operative Society (who were a civilian organisation who dealt mainly with military, diplomatic, colonial and civil servants especially throughout the empire). In this instance the postcard informs the wife of Colonel Walters that the gold chains that she ordered were being made and would be sent out shortly. The uprating additional postage is perfined C/AN/S and is identified to the sender of the card. The post card had a journey via Europe and the Trans Siberian Railway to its destination of Tientsin in North China, where Colonel and Mrs Walters were stationed with the Baluchistan Infantry.



J. SLOPER & Co REMINISCENCES

Peter Lewin

Any member who has been researching the background on companies using perfins will have turned from time to time to Grace's Guide. This internet resource gives historical information on industry and manufacturing. For a long time they have included a page on J. Sloper & Co and now **David Andersen** has pointed out that there is a 10 page article written by Peter Lewin covering his memories of working at Slopers during the 1960's and 1970's. Mr Lewin worked at the Sloper works at Blackburn Road, West Hampstead as an engineer. The whole article is too long to reproduce here but I give an extract here and urge members to check out the Grace's Guide website. Although the article contains much technical information on the various machines that Sloper made it also gives personal reminiscences and sheds light on the size of Sloper's operation.

The main fitting workshop had space for fifteen workbenches, a side workshop had a further four. The side workshop also accommodated the aforementioned LV machines and the works canteen and kitchen which turned out very good daily fresh cooked lunches for those that ordered them. The cook though was on a very short fuse, very few days passed without finding her in floods of tears over some minor criticism of her cooking. I believe she threatened to leave at least once a week, but in fact never did.

Around the workshops were many very old drilling machines, fly-presses and a power saw, also a bench mounted lathe chuck that was used for polishing ring assemblies for those machines that had them.

On a higher level was a small forge and gas oven used for heating tool-steel parts that needed hardening or case hardening any parts that needed it. All of the fitters would make most of their own hand tools (screwdrivers, scrapers etc.) hardening and tempering them in the forge. Most of the fitters were quite adept as blacksmiths; alongside the forge

was a large anvil and quenching oil drum. It was always a time of some humour when a part was accidentally dropped into the four foot deep quenching oil drum, I have many times gone fishing up to my armpit feeling for an often small part in the sludge in the bottom of the drum.

Alongside the forge was the steel and brass store, and the general store looked after by Mr Bownford (nickname Colonel) who treated every last screw and nut as his own personal property relinquishing any item only with a countersigned requisition form. A replacement broken drill or worn file would only be issued if the broken drill was returned, if in his opinion the file was not worn enough he would refuse to replace it without a senior staff members counter signature, and then it would only be dispensed grudgingly. I had been with the company for ten years before I was allowed to sign for my own requisitions.

A flight of worn wooden stairs led up to Mac's drawing office, and the adjacent paint shop dominated by a paint turntable and a large oven.

Also upstairs, was probably the most important workshop in the company, the drilling room where half a dozen elderly women carried out the delicate task of drilling all the parts for dies, die blocks and brass rings. Most of these operations were carried out with great precision with a lightness of touch using drills as small as .025" in diameter, most of the men could do this for a short time, but not for the concentrated length of time these highly trained ladies could do.

The drilling room was over-seen by Alf Gilder, who checked (and rejected many) every single part submitted for drilling. His skill at removing tiny broken drills from difficult to drill tool-steel parts was second to none. Alf was the bane of the life of many lesser skilled fitters, resubmitting parts many times before he would allow "his" ladies to begin their work on them.

IRAN AIR LETTER

John Marriner



1941 - 1950

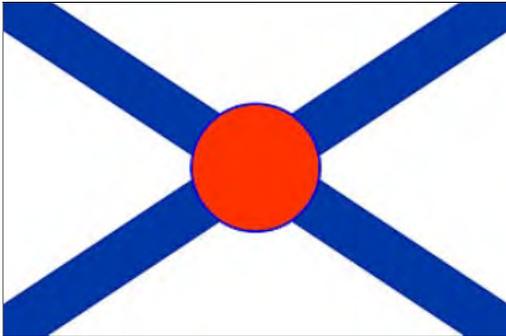


A5170.01p

This air letter, which originated in Iran and was sent to the Anglo Saxon Petroleum Co in England is a rare item of postal history. Out of Iran in 1949, complete with censor cachet and censor tape sent this missive on its way to the U.K. via airmail. But, on reaching England the chap who was the recipient had moved on. So the Anglo Saxon Petroleum Co as confirmed by the additional postage having the perfin AS/P sent the letter on to Mr J O'Donnell in Port Tewfik in Suez in Egypt. I assume he was an "oil worker" for the Anglo Saxon Petroleum Co, but how long did he stay there when the Suez crisis broke out??

Around 1898 the company became responsible for the ships of Shell Transport and Trading. In 1907 they continued to be responsible for the trade in oil by-products when the Dutch Petroleum Company was

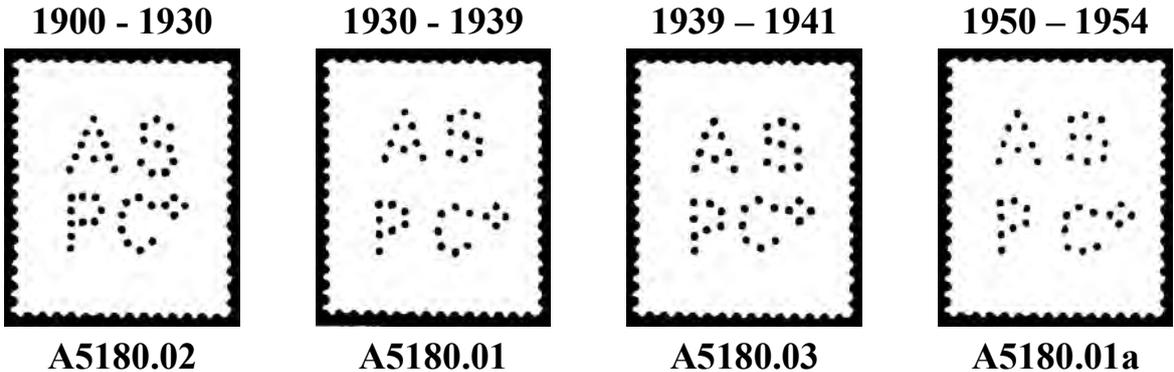
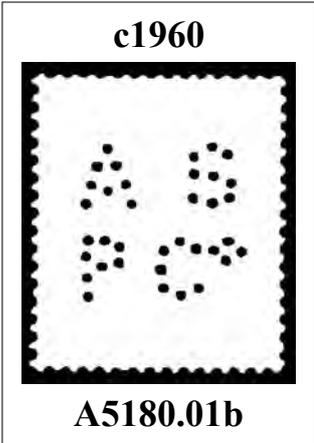
established to take over the petroleum business of the Dutch state authorities and the Shell company. The same year it was incorporated into Royal Dutch Shell. In 1908 Shell Transport and Trading had placed all of its assets in Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Co and Bataafsche Petroleum Maatschappij which also held all of the assets of Royal Dutch Shell. Since then the company owned and ran the oil transport and storage activities of the Shell group of companies. During the following two decades Anglo-Saxon became the most progressive, innovative and forward-looking of all the oil carriers. In order to match transport demand, they commissioned new buildings based on their own design or, indeed, bought and re-designed existing ships with an amazing degree of innovative thinking and fantasy. Liner ships, general cargo vessels, sailing ships and even train ferries were re-built and made into oil carriers.



Anglo Saxon Petroleum Shipping Flag

In November 1955 The Shell Petroleum Company Ltd. took over the assets of Anglo-Saxon, which ceased to function as a separate company.

The Anglo Saxon Petroleum Company used perfins on a continuous basis for over 50 years, using at least six dies. The use of a provisional die by the company extends to June 1950 which is a relatively late use of a provisional die.

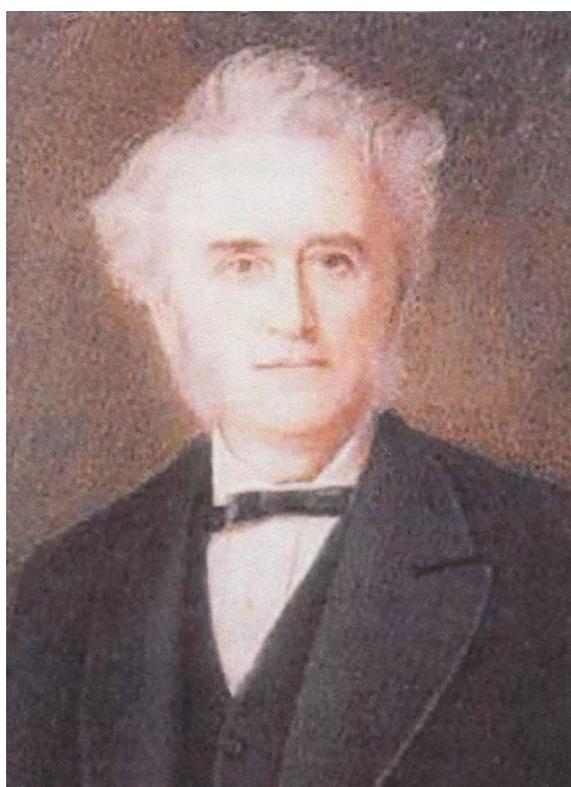


THE LANGDON DOWNS AND NORMANSFIELD

Richard Husband

Dr John Langdon Down (1828-1896) was born the youngest of six children in Torpoint, Devon. His father was in business as a druggist, grocer and linen draper and the family lived over the shop. In 1847 John passed the Pharmaceutical Society's examinations and in 1853 entered the London Hospital Medical School. He qualified as a doctor and became Medical Superintendent at the Royal Earlswood Asylum for Idiots in 1856, a post he held until 1868. In 1859 he was elected Assistant Physician at the Royal London Hospital and then upon his resignation in 1868 commenced in practice at 38 Welbeck Street, London W. In 1881, he moved to larger premises nearby at 81 Harley Street.

He bought the White House, soon to be renamed Normansfield on the borders of Hampton Wick and Teddington in 1868 which, following his experiences at Earlswood, became a Private Home for the "care, education and treatment of those of good social position who present any degree of mental deficiency". The White



Dr John Langdon Down

House came with five acres of grounds and soon after purchase, adjoining properties were added so that the establishment eventually extended to 43 acres. In 1879 the Normansfield theatre was opened which served both as an entertainment centre and a church. From an initial 19 patients in 1868, Normansfield had 145 patients by the time Dr John Langdon Down died suddenly in 1896. Throughout this period, he remained Medical Superintendent and his wife Mary, whom he had married in 1860, acted as Administrator. Mary continued in this position until her own death in 1901.

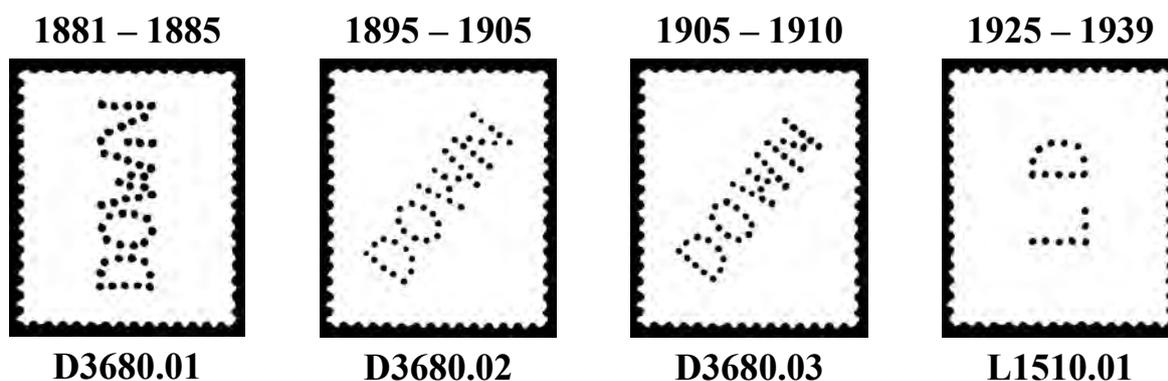


The first post card illustrated was indeed addressed to Mary from Margate postmarked 10th July 1899 with the word "DOWN" (D3680.02) perforated through the printed stamp. My guess from reading the card is that the sender might have been paid to give a group of patients a seaside holiday. This perfin die, also used to perforate adhesive stamps, is reported to have been used between 1895 and 1905. Perforated Queen Victoria ½d brown post cards have only been reported used between 3rd and 21st July 1899.



The second post card illustrated was postmarked at nearby Kingston upon Thames on 17 May 1907 and the printed stamp has again been perforated "DOWN" but this time using perfin die D3680.03 which is also reported to have been used to perforate adhesive stamps between 1905 and 1910. This postal stationery post card is the only one reported to have been perforated "DOWN" with this particular die. It was signed by Dr Reginald Langdon Down (1864-1955) who, with his wife Jane, succeeded his mother as Administrator after the latter's death in 1901. Reginald, together with his brother Percival (1868-1925), had become Medical Superintendents at Normansfield after their father's death in 1896. Both brothers, who had qualified as doctors in the first half of the 1890's, also set up in practice at 41 Welbeck Street, London W1 in 1915. Percival died in 1925 and Reginald continued the practice until 1931.

The four reported perfin dies are shown below:-



Following Percival Langdon-Down's death, the activities of Normansfield Hospital were transferred to a limited liability company with Reginald and Percival's widow Helen becoming directors. Perfin die 'LD' was in use between then and the outbreak of World War II. From now on, Normansfield's fortunes began to fade. The outbreak of hostilities caused a drop in investment incomes needed to pay for patients' fees and several bombs fell in the grounds. Stella Brain returned to Normansfield with her family to help her father, in managing Normansfield.

On 22nd June 1951, the family sold Normansfield to the government as it was no longer possible to run it at a profit. The hospital was transferred to the North West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board and immediately came under the control of Staines Group Hospital Management Committee. Normansfield subsequently became a certified institution under the 1959 Mental Health Act

Also in 1951, Percival's son, Norman was made Medical Superintendent, a post he held until his retirement in 1970. This was the same year Reginald's son John, born in 1905, died having been a patient suffering from Downs Syndrome. Lady Brain was appointed to the management committee in 1952. In 1957, Lady Brain formed an active League of Friends of Normansfield Hospital which raised money to provide additional facilities which included a school, a shop and club room for patients, a hydrotherapy pool and a holiday home, Bill House at Selsey, Sussex.

Dr Terence Lawlor succeeded Dr Norman Langdon-Down in 1970 and was suspended by the Kingston and Richmond Regional Health Authority in 1976 following a nurses' strike on 5 May 1976. By 1993, Normansfield Hospital had become part of the Richmond Twickenham and Roehampton Healthcare NHS Trust and in 1997 it closed. The main Grade II listed building was eventually renovated and converted into 61 apartments (see picture below) and further new homes are being planned for the site.



In the nineteenth century, Dr John Langdon Down specialized in treating patients who would these days be described as having Down's Syndrome, but then was referred to as mongolism. The World Health Organisation adopted the term "Down's Syndrome" in 1966.

Principal References:

1. John Langdon Down, 1828-1896, a caring pioneer, by O'Connor Ward, published by Royal Society of Medicine Press 1998
2. <http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk>
3. <http://miriam-may.com>
4. www.hainesphillips.co.uk

THE POOR CLERGY RELIEF CORPORATION

Dave Hill

The Poor Clergy Relief Corporation was formed in 1856 and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1867. They used perfin PC/RC – P1190.01 between 1899 and 1934 and ceased to exist as a separate charity in 1989. They were one of nine charities which supported clergy and their families which amalgamated to form the Corporation of the Sons and Friends of the Clergy in 2013 but is the only one I can find to have used a perfin.

1899 - 1931



P1190.01

The main bodies in the amalgamation were the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy and the Friends of the Clergy Corporation. The Sons of the Clergy was formed as long ago as 1655 in response to Oliver Cromwell's sacking of many clergymen. The Friends of the Clergy were formed in 1820.

THE
POOR CLERGY RELIEF CORPORATION.
ESTABLISHED 1856. INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1867.
38 TAVISTOCK PLACE, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.

Patrons—THE ARCHBISHOPS OF CANTERBURY AND YORK.
President—THE BISHOP OF LONDON.
Secretary—MANDEVILLE B. PHILLIPS.

THE Committee earnestly **APPEAL FOR LIBERAL HELP**, both in the way of Offerories, Donations, Subscriptions, and Clothing. They assist the Clergy, their widows and orphan daughters, in times of sickness, bereavement, or other temporary distress. **The Committee are making earnest efforts to meet the present great distress among the Clergy.**

The Corporation has aided more than 26,000 cases of clerical distress, with sums varying in amount from £5 to £75, besides clothing, blankets, sheeting, boots, shoes, etc.

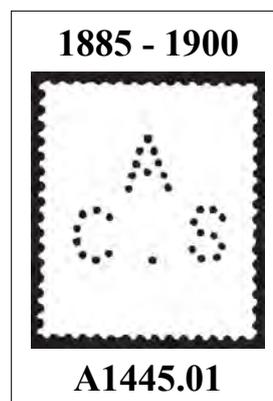
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS

may be paid to the account of THE POOR CLERGY RELIEF CORPORATION, London and Westminster Bank, No.1 St. James's Square, S.W.; and daily at the Office, 38 Tavistock Place, Tavistock Square, W.C., to MANDEVILLE B. PHILLIPS, Secretary, to whom Cheques and Post Office Orders should be made payable.

I am reminded of another religious charity which still exists, but for different ends. The Additional Curates Society was founded in 1837 by rich businessman Joshua Watson initially to provide additional curates in the new industrial towns that were growing up. It still

operates today but between 1885 and 1900 it is known to have used perfin A/C.S A1445.01. It is thought they may have used other similar perfins at other times.

A significant display could be formed around the theme of Church related perfins. The list below gives some but not all of the dies used or thought to have been used by various church organisations.



Die	Letters	Organisation
A1445.01	A/C.S	Additional Curates Society
B6360.02/04/05	BS	Bible Society
B7410.01	BV	Vestry of St. Mary Battersea
C1180.01	C.C.A	Christian Colportage Association
C5040.01M/01a	CMS	Church Missionary Society
C5050.01	C.M.S	“ “ “
C8115.01	C.V	St Giles, Camberwell Vestry
C8120.01	C.V.	“ “ “ “
F4300.01	F.V	Fulham Vestry, Waltham Green
L4010.01	LMS	London Missionary Society
P1190.01	PC/RC	Poor Clergy Relief Corporation
S0080.01/01a/01b	S.A.	Salvation Army
S0080.02/02a/02b	S.A.	“ “
S3150.01	S.G/C.M	St Giles Christian Mission
S3200.01	S.G.H.S	St Georges Hanover Square
S5050.01	S./M.I.	Metropolitan Vestry of St Mary
S5910.01/02/03	S.P.G	Society for the Propagation of the Gospel
S7385.01	StG/MS	St George the Martyr, Southwark
S7435.01	StJ/W	St James Vestry, Westminster
S7450.01	StL/S	St Leonard Vestry, Shoreditch
S7453.01	St/M.B	St Mary Battersea Vestry
U1750.01	USCL	United Society for Christian Literature
U1760.01	US/CL	“ “ “ “ “
Y0710.01/01a/01b	YMCA	Young Men's Christian Society
Y0720.01/02/03	YM/CA	“ “ “ “

“MACLEANS” – MANUFACTURING CHEMISTS

Melvyn Green

Macleans was founded in Paddington by Sir Alexander Maclean in 1919 to manufacture pharmaceuticals and toiletries for retail chemists. By 1926 they were producing a tooth paste which was sold under the "Macleans" brand name and the company moved to a larger factory in Park Royal. During the late 1920's an antacid powder for the relief of indigestion also proved very successful so in August 1932 the company opened its own much larger factory on the Great West Road, designed by F. E. Simpkins, at the junction with Boston Manor Road. The main entrance of the factory and offices is shown in the photo below.



Macleans Corner, Great West Road, Brentford

Macleans became a public company in 1935 and expanded by adding further famous brands such as "Mac" throat lozenges, Fynnon's salts and Lucozade to their range by purchasing them from other pharmaceutical companies. They also set up a tin plate works at Isleworth to provide tins for the packaging and sale of their products. In 1938 they were taken over by the Beecham Group. The Macleans brands continued to prosper after World War II as part of the Beecham Group and with a major reorganisation during 1959-60, production

was transferred to St. Helens, Lancashire. Beechams, later merged with SmithKline Beckman to become SmithKline Beecham who in turn merged with Glaxo Wellcome to become GlaxoSmithKline (GSK). However through all these changes the Macleans toothpaste brand and Lucozade lives on.

The company used two different perfin dies both with "ML" between 1932 and 1952. Die M3610.04 is a standard alphabet POKO.

1932 - 1946



M3610.04

1939 - 1952



M3610.05

Below is a Macleans invoice dating from Sept. 1942 for 3 dozen Lucozade at just 1s/5½d a bottle. The King George VI 1d red stamp has perfin M3610.05.

INVOICE

TELEGRAMS: MACLEANS, BRENTFORD
CABLES: MACLEANS, BRENTFORD MIDD.

MACLEANS LIMITED
MANUFACTURING CHEMISTS

Mr. J. Douthwaite, Chemist,
Puddle-on-Tyne,
Northampton.

GREAT WEST ROAD, BRENTFORD
MIDDLESEX

INVOICE DATE: 4. SEP 1942
INVOICE NO: 55200

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

LEDGER	Number	CODE No.	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY IN UNITS	PRICE PER DOZEN	VALUE
	22574835024		LUCOZADE	36	17.6	2.12.6
	22574895028		BOTTLE CHARGE	36	3.0	9.0
	22574999925		PURCHASE TAX			9.0
						* 3.10.6

GOODS LOST OR DAMAGED

No Claims for Loss or Damage can be entertained unless the conditions specified at the foot of this invoice are strictly complied with. The greatest care should be taken in checking goods received against invoices as Railway Companies and Carriers are complaining of needless requests being made for "Proofs of Delivery."

Please grant us your closest co-operation in this important matter during these difficult times.

MACLEANS LTD.

IMPORTANT. All tubes manufactured under British Patents 420873 and 442088 are sold with the contents subject to the express conditions that they be not (a) Sold wholesale on terms or at prices other than those shown in the current wholesale price list from time to time issued to the Trade by Macleans Ltd. (b) Exported directly or indirectly from Great Britain without the consent of Macleans Ltd. in writing. (c) Retailed or offered for sale retail at less price than that shown by Macleans Ltd. in the current retail price list or on the carton, and that no gift, allowance, bonus, rebate or other consideration or benefit of any kind be given or offered in connection with such sales.

Any sale in breach of these provisions will be treated as an infringement of the Patents.

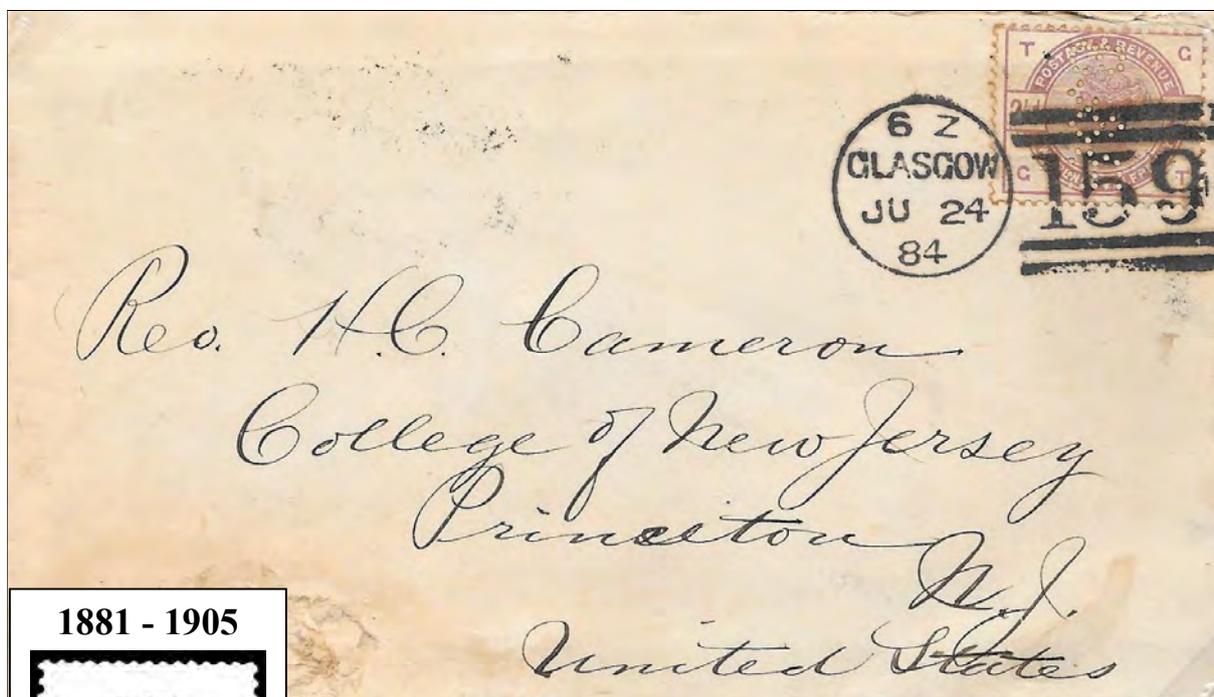
TERMS: STRICTLY NETT. ALL ACCOUNTS DUE AND PAYABLE AT THE COMPANY'S OFFICES AT GREAT WEST ROAD, BRENTFORD, MIDDLESEX.

THESE GOODS HAVE BEEN DESPATCHED IN PERFECT CONDITION AND SHOULD BE SIGNED FOR "NOT EXAMINED."

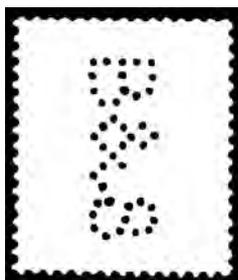
ANY LOSS OR DAMAGE SHOULD BE REPORTED WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS TO BOTH THE LOCAL RAILWAY AGENT OR CARRIER AND TO US, OTHERWISE WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO MAKE GOOD SUCH LOSS.

“BLACKIE & SONS” – PUBLISHERS

Melvyn Green



1881 - 1905



B6430.13A

Illustrated above is a Queen Victoria cover with 2½d lilac SG190 perfined B&S - B6430.13A. The reverse bears the embossed identity of Blackie & Son, Publishers, 17 Stanhope Street, Glasgow. Their works were based at 82 St. James Road, Glasgow.

They also had a London office at 49 & 50 Old Bailey and a Manchester office at 25 Lever St.

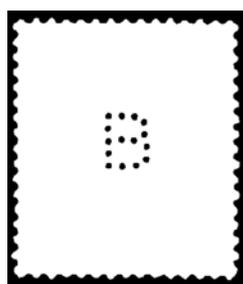
This cover was sent 24th June 1884 with a Glasgow 159 duplex cancel, to Rev. Henry C. Cameron, Princeton, New Jersey, USA. The cover is back stamped New York July 6th and Princeton July 7th. The enclosed letter thanks the recipient for revising and correcting an article entitled "Princeton" for the new "Popular Encyclopaedia".

The company was founded in 1809 by John Blackie and during the 19th century, the company developed along two main lines. Bookselling and publishing in the subscriptions business and also book printing and production for many different publishers. As the work increased, it was limited to the company's own publications.



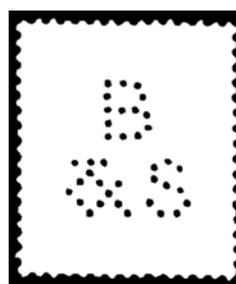
The earliest books sold by subscription were often religious, but during the middle years of the century, the company moved into the production of a series of extensive illustrated reference works and educational texts and books for children, following the introduction of compulsory education from 1870. Blackie and Son Ltd, eventually ceased publishing in 1991.

1890 – 1912 & 1930 – 1939



B0015.02

1920 - 1941



B6460.01

Blackie & Sons are thought to have used three perfin dies over the years. Following the early use of B6430.13A in the Glasgow office they are thought to have adopted a simple “B” die which is known used in London and Manchester. B6460.01, known used at the London office, was used up until the London Blitz after which the company seems to have abandoned the use of perfins.

WORKS PUBLISHED BY BLACKIE AND SON.
RAILWAY LOCOMOTIVES,
Their Progress, Mechanical Construc-
TION, and Performance, with the recent Practice in England and
America. Illustrated by an extensive Series of Plates, and numerous En-
gravings on Wood. By DANIEL KINNEAR CLARK, C.E. To be com-
pleted in about 22 parts, imperial 4to, 2s. 6d. each.
 This work will combine the Locomotive Section of the Author's Treatise
 Railway Machinery, with extensive additions illustrating the practice of
 English Locomotive Engineers of the present day, and presenting the most
 recent attainments in American practice. It will also include the considera-
 tion of a variety of questions bearing upon the improvement and economi-
 cal working of the Locomotive. Parts 1 to 12 now ready.

POSTAL STATIONERY CATALOGUE - UPDATE

Maurice Harp

Since taking over the Editorship of the Postal Stationery Catalogue I have had concerns that a number of the reported dies used are known to be multi-headed dies. The use of a multi-headed die to perfin an item of stationery would have been difficult at best but would have been easy with a single-headed die. Because of these concerns I am revisiting known multi-headed die items and seeing if there is any evidence that the die used on stationery was in fact a single headed die.

Below are illustrated two perfinned postcards. As will be seen in both cases the strike of the perfin is well away from the border of the card. In both cases the dies are known to be multi-headed but in both cases there is no sign of a second impression of the die. In both instances our catalogue editor has now allocated separate die numbers to both of these single headed dies. Both of these dies have only been reported on postcards but may have been occasionally used on stamps.



1870 - 1885



S7490.01M

1874 - 1878



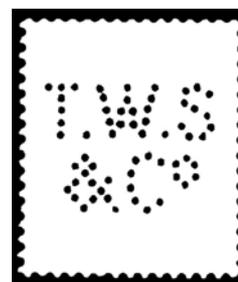
S7490.01a

1870 - 1882



T5180.01M

1873 - 1883



T5180.01a

There are other dies which are currently being investigated which I hope to be able to report on in due course.

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The Bulletin of the Perfin Society is a bi-monthly journal.
Subscription is £12 (UK); £15 (Europe/abroad-surface); £18 (abroad-air);
£10 (electronic). For further details of the Perfin Society and
membership application please contact:
Stephen Steere

e-mail: perfin.society@virginmedia.com