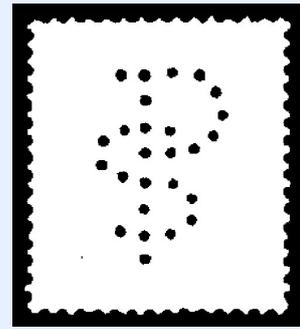


PERFIN SOCIETY BULLETIN

1957 – 2017



No. 409 - August 2017

FRAUD & EMBEZZLEMENT PREVENTED.
Important Notice to Users of
POSTAL & TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

<p>NO CHARGE for DIE, POST OFFICE, TABERNACLE STREET, E.C.</p>		<p>INSURANCE for 1d. and ABSOLUTE SECURITY from THEFT of POSTAGE STAMPS</p>
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F. BRAHAM,
THE
POSTMASTER OF TABERNACLE ST. LONDON, E.C.

Is by his NEW SYSTEM AND IMPROVED MACHINERY enabled to Perforate the initials
of Firms and others on all kinds of

REVENUE AND POSTAGE STAMPS

Of every denomination for ONE PENNY per sheet, (average value £1) as issued
by Somerset House, assuring to all users of Stamps security from misappropriation
(POST OFFICE GUIDE, page)

Stamps so perforated are secured to the owners
They cannot be purchased by Postmasters, or used for Savings Bank forms,
thereby rendering the system of perforation important to every Corporation, Company,
Merchant, or Trader, by its absolute security.

Attention is drawn to the fact that all Stamps are delivered in sheets as issued from
Somerset House, Perforated perfectly one way, not reversed or broken, and the initials
clear and distinct from the separating margins.

Orders must not be for less than £5 worth, which must be
accompanied with Draft, Cash, or Cheque.

For users of small quantities any single initial can be perforated on stamps of the
value of £1 while waiting at Office at same cost, 1d. per sheet.

Stamps perforated for firms receiving them as remittances.

BANKERS:—CITY BANK, OLD STREET, E.C.

	<p>STAMPS OVER-PRINTED FOR RECEIPTS. ALL KINDS OF RUBBER STAMPS. PERFORATING AND DATING PRESSES, &c. F. BRAHAM, BEING AN ACTUAL MAKER.</p>	
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SECRETARY/TREASURER

Subscription time again! Please remember to send in your subscription payments to me this month as they are due by 1st September. Cheques should be made payable to The Perfin Society, UK bank transfers welcome to 09-07-20 06337244. If using PayPal add £1 unless you pay the charges yourself. The amounts are on the back cover of every Bulletin and are unchanged from last year. Those without email will receive a reminder note in this Bulletin and those on email will get a message in August and be told whether they have credit and if it is enough to cover their subscription.

I am pleased to announce that our London meetings can continue to be held at Grosvenor Auctions in the Strand, while Nick Kerridge is waiting to emigrate, he has a colleague willing to take over to look after us.

Auction News

Please send in any material that you have for the auction. As you know we have now decided that auctions will be run directly there is enough material. We didn't have enough material for an auction with the last Bulletin. In the past auctions have been run three times a year which has resulted in vendors often having to wait a considerable time for material to be sold. So please dig into your surplus material – lot it up – and send it to Ron Mills.

London AGM Meeting

The Society AGM will take place on Saturday November 4th 2017 at Grosvenor Auctions, 3rd floor Sale Room, 399/401 Strand, London WC2R 0LT between 12pm and 4pm. As usual we do our best to keep official business short so we can enjoy displays by members, and a room auction to finish. Tea, coffee and biscuits are available throughout the afternoon, and there is a lift. A map will be published in the next edition of the Bulletin.

MEMBERS FEEDBACK

Falk, Stadelmann & Co Ltd - Bulletin 408/23

Richard Husband has written - *"John Marriner's two Falks covers really were a joy to behold. There was no short break in perfin usage between 1941 and 1945 as the company is understood to have used Sloper Wartime Provisional 'FS' (F3680.01p) during this period. Further information on Falk, Stadelmann can be found on pages 7 to 13 of Bulletin 388 (February 2014)."*

"Miss Kendall" Covers – Bulletin 407/6

Mrs Richenda Wakefield has contacted the Society in relation to the "Miss Kendall" covers. She tells us that her grandmother was Maud Hodge who married Arthur Cansdale (Smith)! They both went to live permanently in Durban in the early 1950s & both died there - Arthur in 1957 & Maud in 1963. She also tells us that she has 3 postcards that William A. Smith wrote to his wife from Hanover in 1878/9. **Roy Gault** has been in touch with Richenda and as a result has been able to update and add to the "Miss Kendall" article that can be found on the website.

EXPONET Website - Bulletin 392/14

Vladimir Munzberger has written to let members know that he has posted a new exhibit of Austrian Perfins on the EXPONET website.

"After a long time I managed to create a new exhibit of the oldest Austrian Perfins. The title page is in Czech only, but the rest of the exhibit is bilingual English/Czech. If you want to see it, you will find it at the following web address:

http://www.exponet.info/exhibit.php?exhibit_ID=1343&lng=EN

On the other hand any other exhibit from British collectors would be very welcome on the EXPONET."

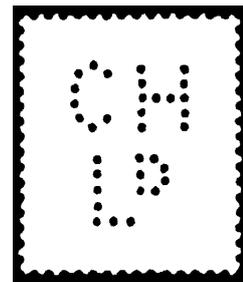
I have had a look at Vladimir's exhibit and can thoroughly recommend it – you will probably never see a better exhibit of Austrian perfins.

A PAIR OF COVERS

John Marriner



1912 - 1939



C3280.03

Sometimes you acquire a pair of covers that are related, although from a perfin point of view are completely unconnected. The two "entires" originated from the Power of Attorney's Office at the Bank of England. These are the reply halves being returned, presumably with the relevant information requested.

The cover was sent back from the Carlton Hotel, London SW on December 21st 1925. Presumably the recipient had been staying at the hotel. The postage, which was provided by the hotel, is perfined CH/Ld – C3280.03. This die is known to have been used by the hotel. The contents of this entire is related to a local loan.

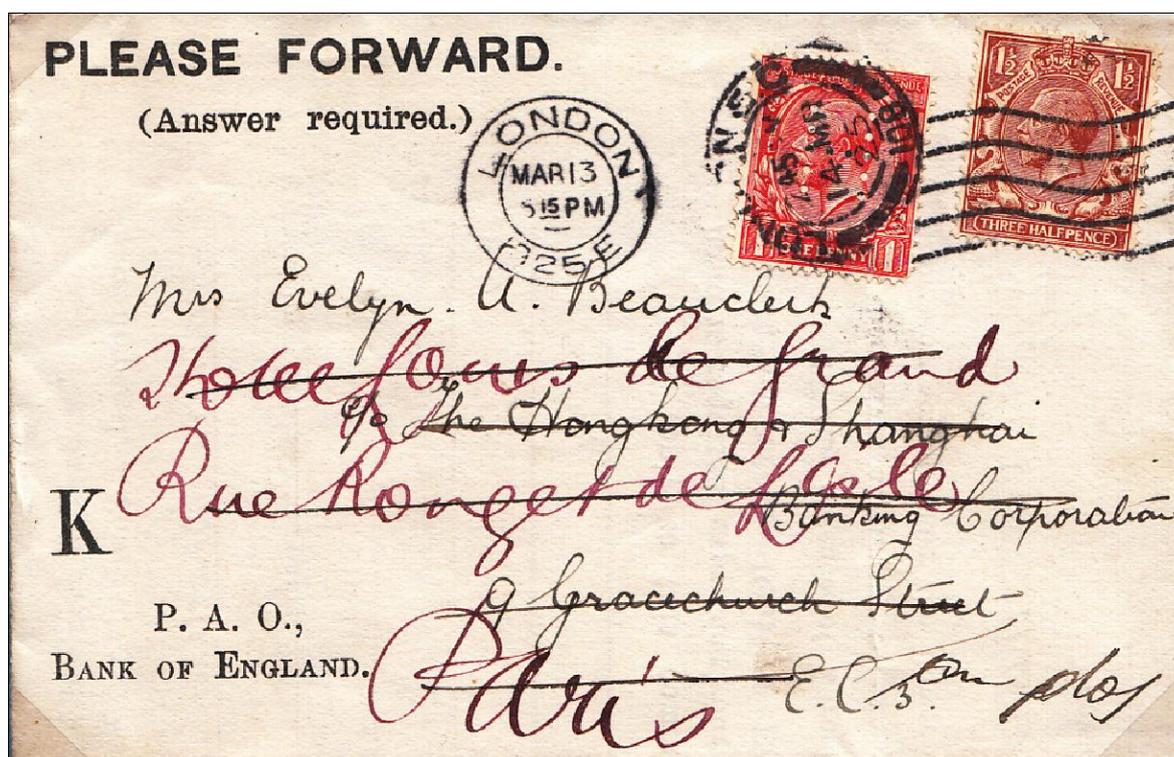
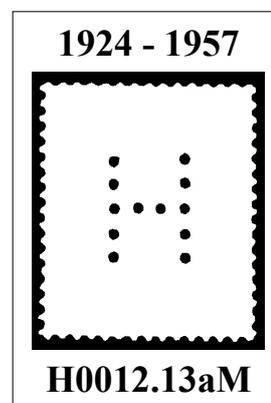


The Carlton Hotel was a luxury hotel that operated between 1899 and 1940. They also used perfin die

CH/Ltd - C3300.01M between 1903 and 1915. So their perfin use basically lasted throughout the operation of the hotel. The Carlton was originally run by the Swiss hotelier César Ritz, with Auguste Escoffier as the head chef. In its early days it was one of London's most fashionable hotels and drew some customers away from the Savoy Hotel, which Ritz and Escoffier had previously managed.

The hotel lost some of its prestige after Ritz retired, but continued to trade profitably until it was badly damaged by German bombing in 1940. The British government requisitioned the building in 1942. After the Second World War the shareholders of the hotel sold the lease of the site, and the surviving parts of the building were demolished in 1957–58. The site is now occupied by the 17-storey block of New Zealand High Commission.

The second cover shown was initially sent to the addressee via the Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, and redirected to Paris. It was sent on March 13th 1925 and was sent to HSBC who forwarded it to Paris with the addition of KGV 1d red with perfin H – H0012.013aM. The content of this second cover refers to Southern Rhodesian stocks.

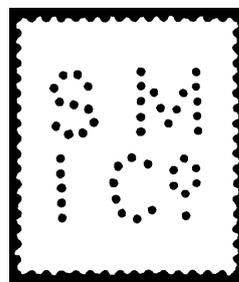


WATKIN'S FOLLY.

Roy Gault

Occasionally a search for a user, based on a hunch, pays off. One such is “SM/IC^o.” (S5055.01) which I thought might be an ‘Iron’ or ‘Insurance’ company based on the initials on the lower line. The die is a rare one, but both *Keith Kimber* and *Steve Netten* have reported stamp details enabling me to allocate an 1881-1885 date range, and just as important, a place-name ‘736’ (Stockton-on)-Tees. Not having ready access to an early enough Trade Directory, I put “Iron Co” and “Stockton-on-Tees” into a Google search, and up popped the ‘*Stockton Malleable Iron Co*’ - a perfect match for the initials!

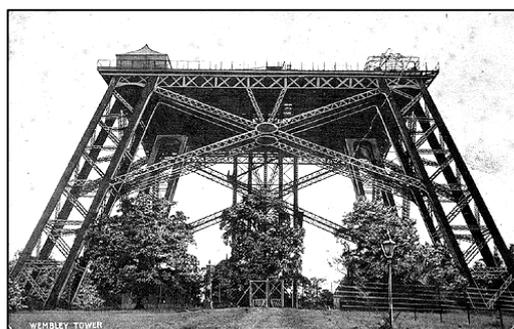
1881-1885



S5055.01

Grace’s Guide tells us that the ironworks were opened in 1860, and that in 1889 work started on a new works sited alongside, specifically to produce steel using the Siemens-Martin process.

The ‘*Stockton Malleable Co*’ provided the steel for an ambitious project, initiated by the railway entrepreneur *Sir Edward William Watkin* (1819-1901), to build a 1,150 ft high lattice tower at Wembley Park, London.



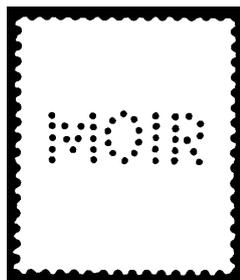
If completed it would have been taller than the ‘Eiffel Tower’ in Paris, but sadly it never got further than the first stage. Work started in 1893, but stopped in 1894, and in 1907 the tower was demolished.

In 1898 the ‘*Stockton Malleable Iron Co*’ merged with two other companies to form the ‘*South Durham Steel & Iron Co Ltd*’.

FULL NAME “MOIR” - IPSWICH.

Roy Gault

It's always comforting to research a 'full name' because the chances of finding a possible user are greatly increased, so imagine my excitement when *Steve Netten* sent in the full name “MOIR”, clearly cancelled Ipswich (Suffolk). This is a *New Die*, allocated M4295.01.



Unfortunately the year is just off the stamp, but c1895 is a good place to start, and as luck would have it I have copies of Kelly's Suffolk directories for both 1896 and 1908.

Although I failed to find a Moir in business in Ipswich, *Maurice Harp* put me on the right track with a 1900 Suffolk directory reference to '*Alston & Moir*', Merchant Tailors & General Outfitters, Butter Market and Thoroughfare, Ipswich. '*Alston & Co*' was started in Ipswich by Stephen Alston but he died on 28th December 1875, aged 69. Stephen's daughter, Emmeline Alston, carried on the business in Butter Market (she's described as an 'Outfitter' in the 1881 census) but the company was transferred in August 1881 to *Lewis Moir*, a business acquaintance, who subsequently traded as '*Alston & Moir*'.

The census returns reveal just one 'Moir' family in Ipswich in 1891, 1901 and 1911. The head of the household was *Lewis Moir*, Tailor & Outfitter, 'Employer', with household servants, so clearly affluent. Prior to that he had been a Commercial Traveller (Woollen Drapery & Clothing) in Hitchin in 1871 and 1881. In 1894 Lewis Moir sought election to the Ipswich School Board, evidently successfully as he's recorded as its vice-chairman in 1896. In 1902 he was president of the 'Ipswich Early Closing Association, Cycling & Recreation Club', and in 1904 a councillor on the Ipswich Town Council.

But there's more! The shape of the letters suggest the Perfin was the product of *Frank Braham*, and if so, almost certainly supplied by *William Day*, Postmaster and Postage Stamp Perforator, Ipswich.

FREEMASONRY and PERFINS.

Roy Gault

While looking ahead at the letter “S” as part of P610, I came across “S&C^o” (S1620.05), which is known used by *Spencer’s Masonic Manufactory*. Inevitably, the next question was how many G.B. Perfins have Masonic connections - answer, **9** from **6** different sources.

Freemasonry is probably the oldest and largest ‘non-religious’, apolitical, fraternal and charitable organisation in the world, whose roots go back to the guild of medieval stonemasons in the late 14th century, and the reign of King Richard II.



There are just two companies who made ‘Masonic’ regalia, and also used Perfins - ‘George Kenning & Son’, and ‘Spencer & Co’.

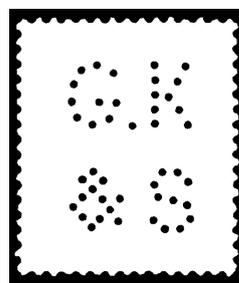
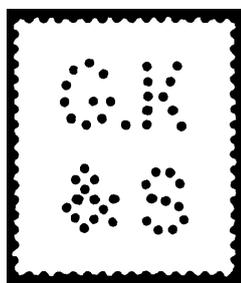
George Kenning, the son of an East End oyster seller, first started making costumes and regalia as early as 1860, but by 1862 he was in partnership as ‘*Kenning & McKiernan*’. However, from 1865 he traded under his own name until 1895 when he was joined by his son, and together they formed ‘*George Kenning & Son*’ - they became ‘limited’ in 1937. George Kenning also set up a mail order business which operated throughout the British Empire. At its height, the company had offices in London, Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester, and Coventry (actually, a Ribbon Factory in nearby Bedworth).

1905-1929



G3000.01

1929-1940



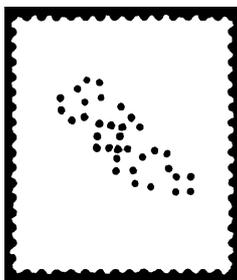
G3000.01a



Just two Perfins are known used by the company from the mid Edwardian era through to the start of WWII, although only London postmarks are encountered.

I can find out very little about '*Spencer & Co*', except that it was founded in 1801. In the London Trade Directories for 1890/1895 they are listed as '*manufacturers of freemasons' jewels, costumes & furniture, embroiderers, gold & silver lacemen, masonic booksellers, stationers & publishers, and regalia manufacturers*', 15 Gt Queen St, London WC'. By 1915 they were at Nos 19, 20, 21 Great Queen St.

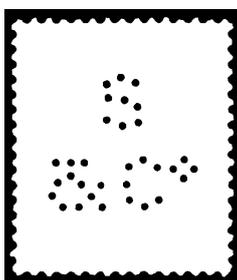
1910-1939



S1620.05

The first Perfin known used by the company covered much the same period, 1910-1939, as their competitors, 'George Kenning & Son'. The earliest known date is 6th April 1912, and as before, only known with London postmarks.

1942-1969



S1670.02M

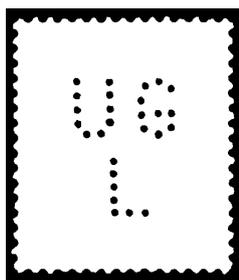
'Spencer & Co' was later acquired by 'George Kenning & Son Ltd', to form '*George Kenning & Spencer Ltd*'. We also know that Sloper's used their 'in house' die "S/&C^o" (S1670.02M) to initial stamps for at least *sixteen different users*, including 'Spencer & Co', later 'George Kenning & Spencer Ltd'. One such cover is known dated 25th March 1958. Note that the dates quoted for S1670.02M are for the overall use of the Perfin, and not just 'Spencer & Co'/'George Kenning & Spencer Ltd'. The stamps are only typical representatives.

In turn 'George Kenning & Spencer Ltd' was acquired by non-Perfin user 'Toye & Co', a long established military & regalia manufacturer, to form '*Toye, Kenning & Spencer*' which still trades today.

By coincidence, the *United Grand Lodge of England* is celebrating its tercentenary this year (1717-2017). With its headquarters in Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen St, London WC2, it's the governing body of Freemasonry in England, Wales, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. Currently there are 200,000 members meeting in over 7,000 Lodges throughout the country - a Lodge is simply an organisational unit of Freemasons. Freemason hierarchy still retains the three grades of the original medieval craft guilds - *Apprentice*, *Journeyman*, Fellow (now called Fellowcraft), and *Master* Mason.



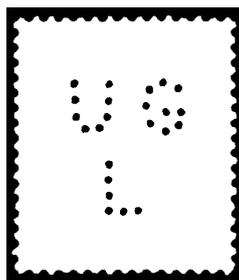
1920-1939



U0870.02



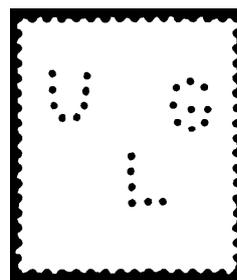
1939-1941



U0870.03



1941-1945



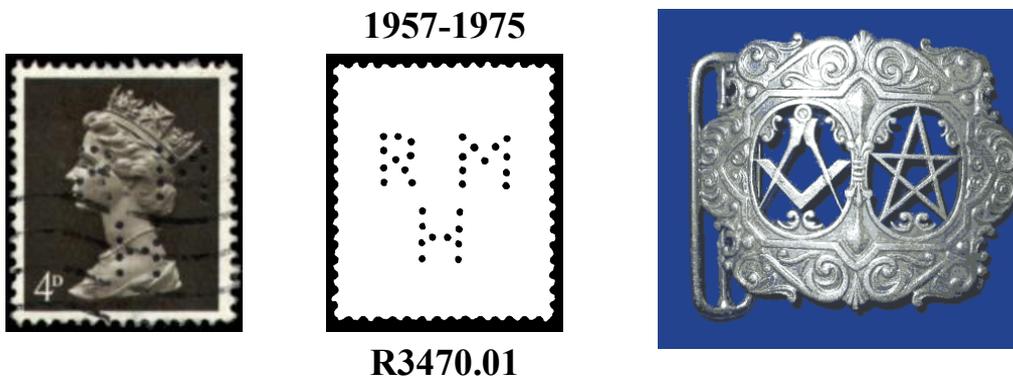
U0870.01p

Three Perfins were used consecutively by the '*United Grand Lodge*', which fall neatly into three categories - an earlier die with 5-pins high lettering, replaced (briefly) by a Sloper pre-WWII Refurbishment die (destroyed in the "Blitz" on Sloper's premises in May 1941), followed by a Sloper Wartime Provisional. Perfins were not used after the war.

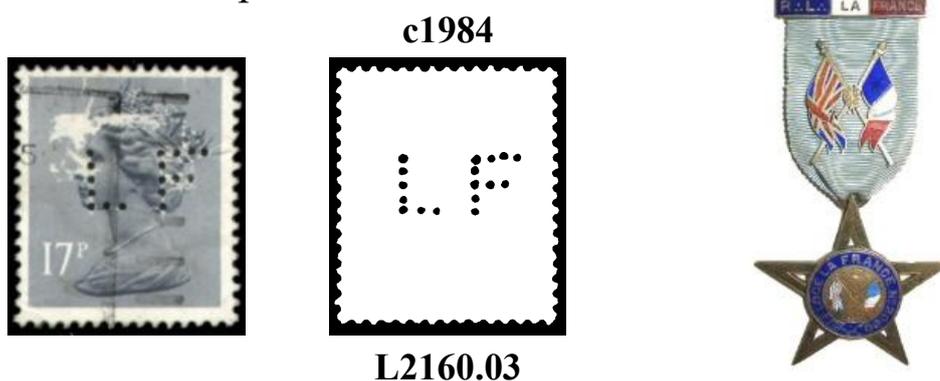
The question is often asked as to what the '**G**' signifies that usually appears between the '*Square & Compass*', but I'm afraid the meaning is now lost in the mists of time. Two possible meanings have been put forward - '**G**' is for **God** (the Great Architect of the Universe), and '**G**' is for **Geometry** upon which Architecture and Masonry is based around.



The Royal Masonic Hospital in Hammersmith (West London) was built in 1933 to replace the Freemason’s War Hospital (originally the Chelsea Hospital for Women, and later the Freemason’s Hospital & Nursing Home) in Fulham Rd, London W6. Non-Masonic patients were accepted after 1977, but it closed in 1992 due to financial pressures.



Just one Perfin die is known used by the Hospital - “RM/H” (R3470.01). The silver belt buckle worn by the nursing staff is a rare memento from the period.



Next we have the scarce Perfin issued on the 19th November 1984 to commemorate the centenary of the *Lodge La France N^o. 2060* (a French-speaking lodge with rituals conducted in French) established in London in 1884. Apologies for the quality of the stamp illustrated, but it’s the only example I have - warts ‘an all, I’m afraid!

And finally, Masonic watches are unusual and beautiful time pieces, but try as I might, I couldn’t find one made by any of the watchmakers we know who used G.B. Perfins. This one is by the Waltham Watch Co, based in the U.S.A.



If you know of any more *Masonic* related Perfins, ***I would be pleased to hear from you!***

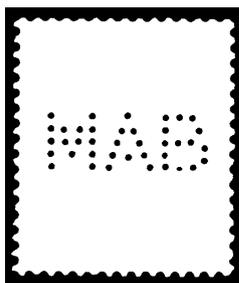
LONDON'S WESTERN FEVER HOSPITAL

Richard Husband

The Fulham Hospital in Seagrave Road, Fulham, London SW6 was built in 1877 and renamed the Western Fever Hospital in 1885.

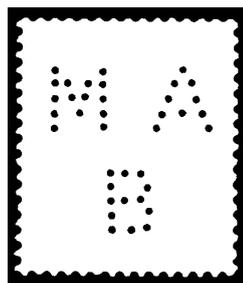
The Metropolitan Asylums Board was formed in 1867 under the Metropolitan Poor Act 1867 to replace workhouse infirmaries and build many new hospitals and schools for Londoners. One of the Board's responsibilities was the care and control of all pauper cases of fever and smallpox in London. The treatment of smallpox in urban areas ceased after a report was published by a Royal Commission set up in 1881. From around 1900 the main purpose of the Western Fever Hospital became the treatment of pauper patients suffering from polio. The MAB used four different perfin dies whose silhouettes are shown below. An asterisk indicates a provisional identity.

1899 - 1912



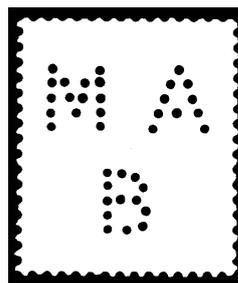
M0090.01M

1912 - 1920



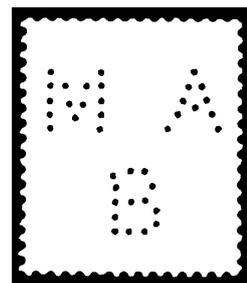
M0100.01M

1912 - 1915



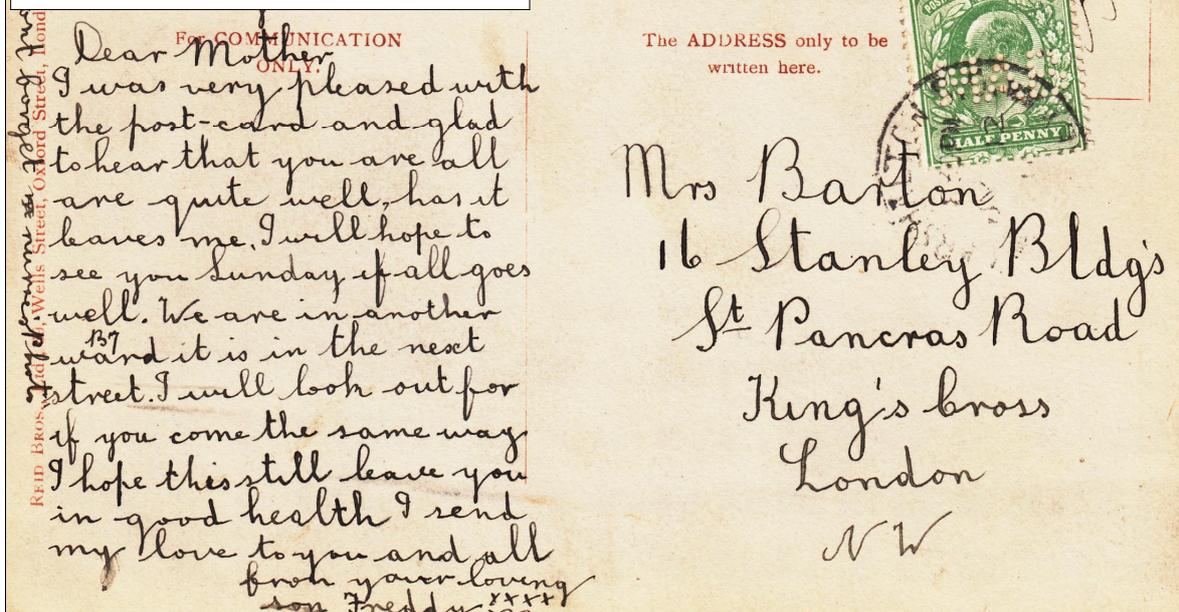
M0100.02*

1920 - 1930



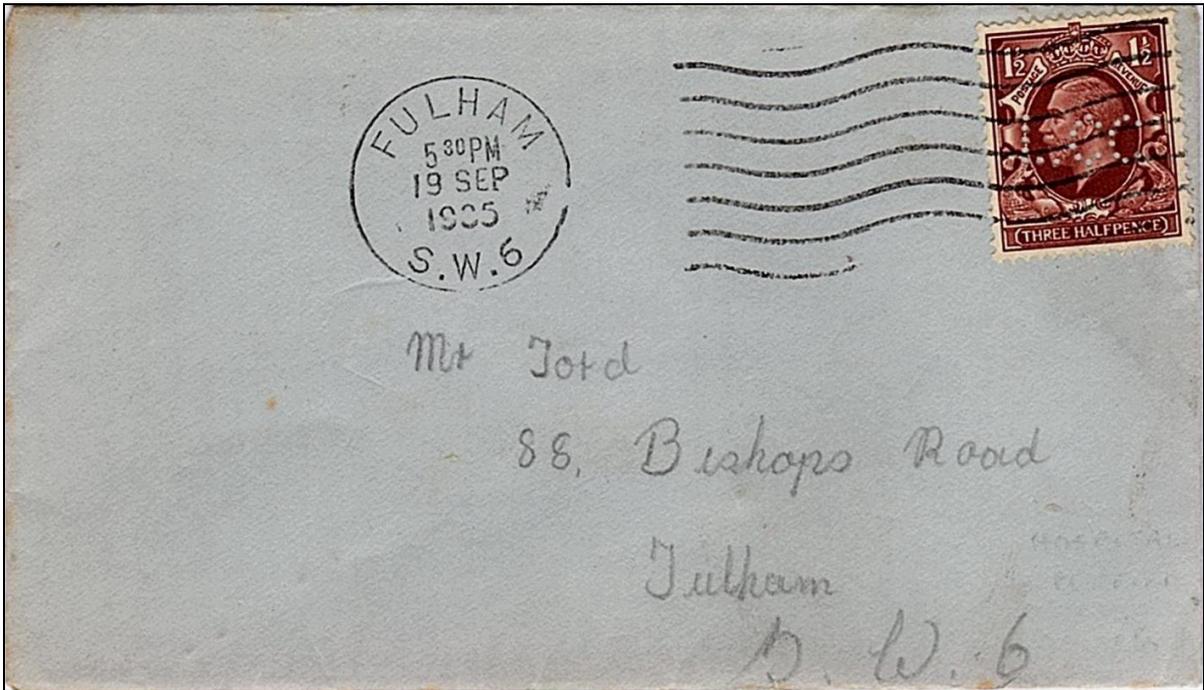
M0100.03M*

MAB perfin die M0090.01M
illustrated on post card



When the MAB was abolished on 31 March 1930, the London County Council took over the hospital's administration. In 1933 the hospital was chosen by the Medical Research Council to be the main stockholder of 'human convalescent serum' used in the early treatment of patients with polio.

Chronologically, this brings us to the cover illustrated below with the little girl's letter home to her Dad and the rest of the family written in 1935. Kath must be assumed to be suffering from polio and is clearly putting on a brave face. The hospital used London County Council perfin 'LCC' (L1020.02).



Tuesday
I am happy
here wee are
dressing my
doll peggy is

nothing my doll
sum things
I am niting her
sum things as well
love from KATH to
all xxxxxxxx

The letter reads:

Tuesday

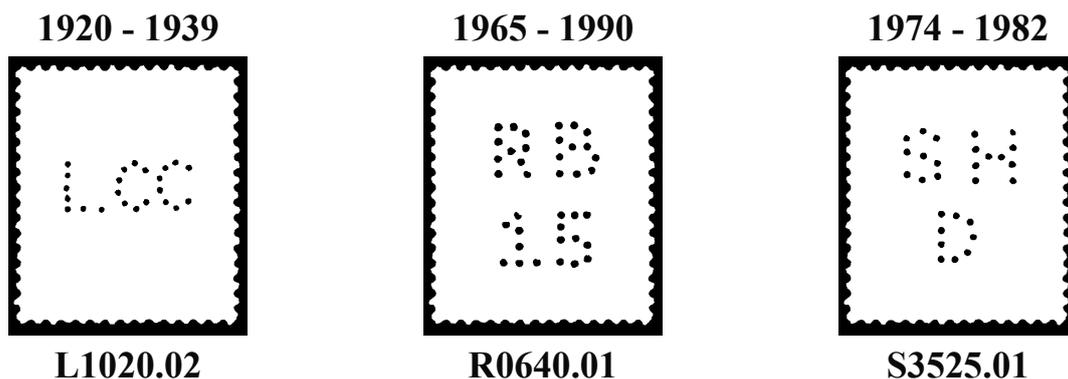
*I am happy here wee are dresing my doll peggy is niting my
doll sum things I am niting her sum things as well
love from Kath to-all*

xxxxxxxxxx

The hospital was renamed the Western Hospital in 1948 when it joined the National Health Service (NHS), coming under the control of the Chelsea and Kensington Hospital Management Committee, part of the South West Metropolitan Regional Health Board. The latter used the perfin 'RB/15' (R0640.01). There were three other users of this Sloper single headed die.

Following a major reorganisation of the NHS in 1974, the Western Hospital came under the control of the South Hammersmith (Teaching) District Health Authority, part of the North West Thames Regional Health Authority. Consequently, the Western Hospital together with the Charing Cross Hospital and the West London Hospital used the perfin 'SH/D' (S3525.01). The perfin initials presumably stand for 'South Hammersmith District'.

The three relevant perfin dies are illustrated below:-



The hospital closed in 1979 and was demolished with the result that its 13 acre site made way for a pleasant public park and a gated residential development known as Brompton Park Crescent.

Reference:-

Lost hospitals of London - Western Hospital - (www.ezitis.myzen.co.uk/western.html)

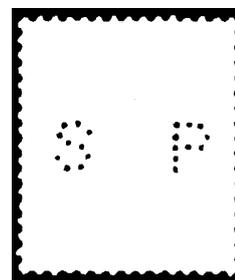
SPIERS AND POND – CATERERS & HOTELIERS

Maurice Harp



This stunning cover belongs to **John Marriner**. It was posted from London EC to France on March 4th 1880. It bears a ½d plate 20 and 2d plate 15. Somewhat disappointingly only the ½d value has the perfin SP - S5710.01. Somewhat surprisingly the 2d blue value has never been recorded with this perfin die. The reverse has the return address of 38 Bridge St, Blackfriars which identifies the sender of the cover as Spiers & Pond.

1870 - 1881



S5710.01



Felix William Spiers (1832 – 1911), the son of a London shipbroker, and Christopher Pond (1828 – 1881), a former printer's apprentice from Camberwell in Surrey had both been



Plate 199

attracted to Melbourne by the booming economy resulting from the discovery of gold. Spiers and Pond formed a partnership in 1858 and acquired the lease of the upmarket restaurant Cafe de Paris, Melbourne.

Impressed by the large numbers of spectators at cricket matches, in 1861-2, Spiers & Pond sponsored the first ever tour of an English national cricket team to Australia. Each player was paid £150 plus first class travel expenses. Apparently Spiers & Pond made a fortune from this venture.

In early 1863 Spiers & Pond sold their Melbourne assets and relocated to Britain. They moved into railway catering and secured a concession in a railway arch at the Metropolitan Railway's newly-opened Farringdon Street Station. Spiers & Pond had established concessions at several Metropolitan Railway stations by 1864. They then went on to win the catering contract for the London, Chatham and Dover Railway in 1865.

SPIERS & POND, LIMITED.

SPIERS & POND'S
HOLBORN VIADUCT HOTEL, LONDON.



FOR FAMILIES AND GENTLEMEN

THE CRITERION.

THE † GLEE † DINNER

Served Daily, from 6 till 8.30,
4/- IN THE GRAND HALL 4/-

OF THE
CRITERION.

"Here will we sit, and let the sounds of Music
Creep in our ears."—*Shakespeare.*

SOUPS, FISH, ENTREES, JOINTS, SWEETS, ICES, DESSERT.

MADRIGALS, PART SONGS, GLEES,
Under the Direction of MR. RICHARD MACKWAY.

THE ENTRANCE IN JERMYN STREET, AS WELL AS THE ENTRANCE IN PICCADILLY,
IS PROVIDED WITH A PASSENGER LIFT.

SPIERS & POND, LIMITED.

By 1867 Spiers & Pond operated 21 refreshment bars, including 18 on railways, and employed around 800 people. They also helped to popularise dining in the West End. In 1869 they took over the Gaiety restaurant, next to the famous theatre on the Strand, which became one of the most popular restaurants in London. In 1873 they built the Criterion restaurant, and also the Criterion Theatre.

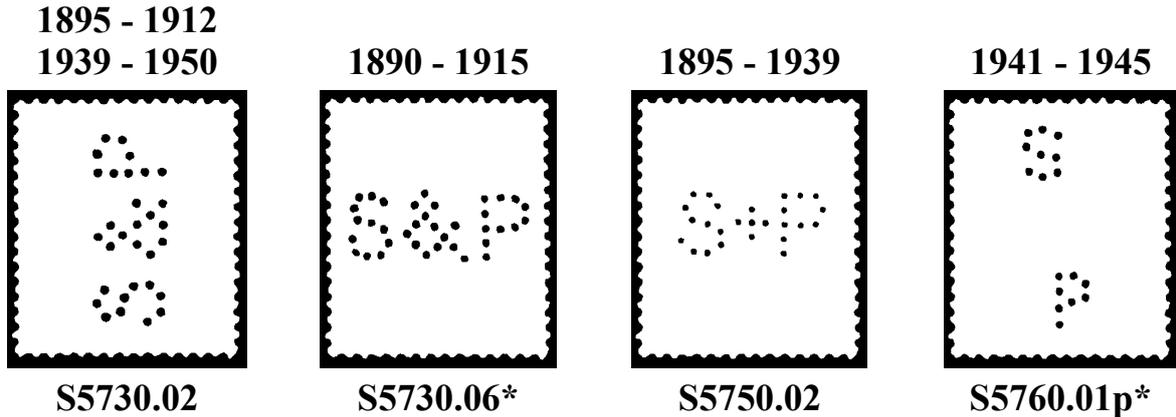
By 1873 Spiers & Pond had refreshment rooms at over 100 railway stations on nine different railway lines. The railway bars sold 8,000

gallons of sherry each week. From 1879 onwards, the company acquired numerous hotels including the Victoria Hotel in Manchester (lease bought for £33,000 in 1891) and Bailey's Hotel on Gloucester Road (1894). When Pond died in 1881 he was regarded even in America as "probably the greatest caterer in the world". It was

estimated that the company could feed 200,000 to 300,000 people every day. Pond's personal estate was valued at over £215,000. Shortly after Pond's death, Spiers & Pond was incorporated with a capital of £500,000. Spiers & Pond had 219 refreshment rooms at railway stations by 1886. There were 6,000 employees by 1891, including 1,000 women. The company had a share capital of £600,000 and catering contracts with 15 railway lines by 1899.

At the turn of the century railway companies started taking over their own catering so Spiers and Ponds started to concentrate on hotels. This accelerated as competition with J. Lyons increased. Spiers retired to Paris in 1905 and died in 1911.

In 1916, due to difficult trading and labour shortages caused by the war, as well as recent licensing legislation, the company entered receivership. Unprofitable properties were divested, and the company re-emerged in a stronger position. In 1928 S&P acquired the Grand Hotel in Scarborough and in 1929 the Grand Hotel in Brighton.

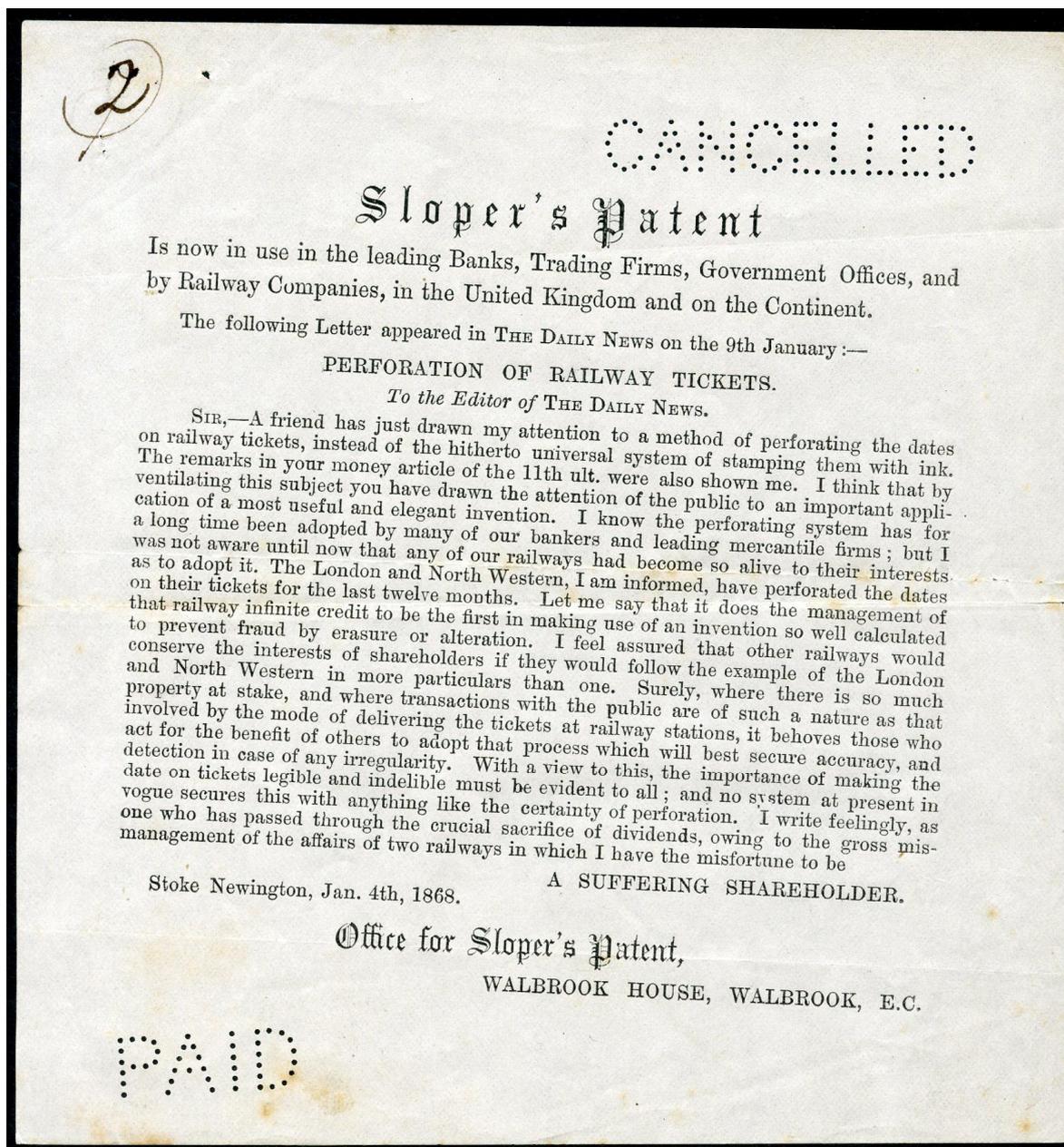


In 1960 Spiers & Pond was acquired by Express Dairy for over £5 million. At this time S&P was a leading hotelier in Britain with 13 hotels, as well as Chicken Inn restaurants in London and 18 restaurants. In 1969 Express Dairy was acquired by Grand Metropolitan, a hotels company and Spiers & Pond was absorbed into the Grand Metropolitan system of hotels.

The company is known to have used three perfin dies dating from their early days into the 1950's. There is also a provisional identity ascribed to S5760.01p. The Gault Catalogue lists numerous "SP" and "S&P" dies which still have no known user and almost certainly some of these will be found to be Spiers & Pond dies.

SLOPER ADVERTING FLYERS FROM 1868

Maurice Harp



The two advertising flyers shown here were produced by Sloper prior to permission being granted for the use of perforation on stamps. The first is dated January 4th 1868 and the second January 9th 1868. Both show letters written to “The Daily News” extolling the various virtues of “Sloper’s Patent” for cancelling and dating railway tickets. The first is written from “A suffering shareholder” on the 9th January and the second from “A solicitor” was in the Daily News on the 10th January. This second flyer was originally published in Bulletin 329.

Immediately this all looked a bit odd to me – but I checked the newspaper archive and sure enough both these letters did actually appear in the Daily News. But why would “A Solicitor” even know about “Sloper Patent” for cancelling railway tickets, let alone be interested enough in the method to take the time to write to the newspaper.

The discussion in the Daily News started back in the December 11th 1867 edition of the paper. At this period the Victorians had gone crazy for building railways and investors were only too happy to give their funds to any aspiring railway company with little regard as to whether the company would ever make a profit. And unfortunately few railway companies ever made profits or paid a company dividend. The share holder never wanted to admit that they had backed a loser so they concluded that the companies must be losing revenue to fraud. Were tickets being used more than once? If so how could the fraud be stopped. The summary from the Daily News tells it all:-

The superiority of the system of marking dates on railway tickets by means of perforation, instead of by ink, has lately been discussed in letters printed in this journal from two or three railway shareholders. The system of perforation is now adopted by the South Eastern, London, Chatham, and Dover, Great Eastern, and Brighton companies, as regards their coupons and for other purposes, but not as yet for dating railway tickets. The London and North Western Company, however, date their tickets by perforation, and a similar plan is adopted, we believe, by the South Eastern Company when excess fares are paid. The use of ink for such purposes is objectionable for many respects, especially because of the facility of erasure; and the recognition of the advantages altogether of perforation where cancelment of documents or a check upon the honesty of employees is desired, has made such progress among mercantile people during the last year or two as to amount to quite a revolution in a not unimportant part of the routine of business. Machines invented and patented by Mr. Sloper are in use by the London and St. Katharine Docks Company, at Doctors' Commons, and by a number of the principal bankers, to whom the process for crossing and cancelling cheques, and for cancelling other

documents, especially commends itself. There can be no doubt that the system is as yet only in its infancy, and that it is calculated to obviate a vast deal of clerical labour, and at the same time to afford an effectual protection against fraudulent dealings.

Someone must have shown Sloper this piece from the Daily News and Sloper quickly realised that he was the man to solve the problem of fraud. Clearly both these anonymous letters were written by Sloper himself as a means of getting a bit of free advertising. Newspapers of the time were only too pleased to get enough copy to fill their pages and didn't question whether the source was credible.

Sloper would have to wait a couple more months before being granted permission to perforate stamps on 13th March 1868. Up until that time his business must have been struggling for revenue as he was only supplying machines to banks and railway companies.

Now the good news. The Braham advert shown on the front cover and the Sloper's flyer shown at the start of this article are both to be sold in the current Society auction – a chance to get an exhibition piece for your collection.

4

Sloper's Patent

Is now in use in the leading Banks, Trading Firms, Government Offices, and by Railway Companies, in the United Kingdom and on the Continent.

The following Letter appeared in THE DAILY NEWS on the 10th January:—

DATING RAILWAY TICKETS.

To the Editor of THE DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Several letters having appeared in your journal in reference to the above subject, my object in writing to you is simply to suggest that the subject should be again brought before the public, more especially that portion of the public who are shareholders in Railways or other companies. The London and North Western Railway have adopted the mode of dating railway tickets by perforation by means of "Sloper's Patent," and no doubt with very great financial benefit. As a preventive of forgery and fraud, the system is in my opinion perfect. Indelibility is secured by perforating the ticket, and thus the possibility of alteration is precluded, and an indefinite amount of loss to the railway company prevented. Many legal documents still bear the blot of ink called upon a parchment document), and I feel certain that the adoption of this perforating mode of stamping would effect a great saving of time, trouble and expense in all law and government as well as railway offices, and I think the directors of the London and North Western Railway Company are worthy of praise for being the first to introduce the system amongst railway companies.—

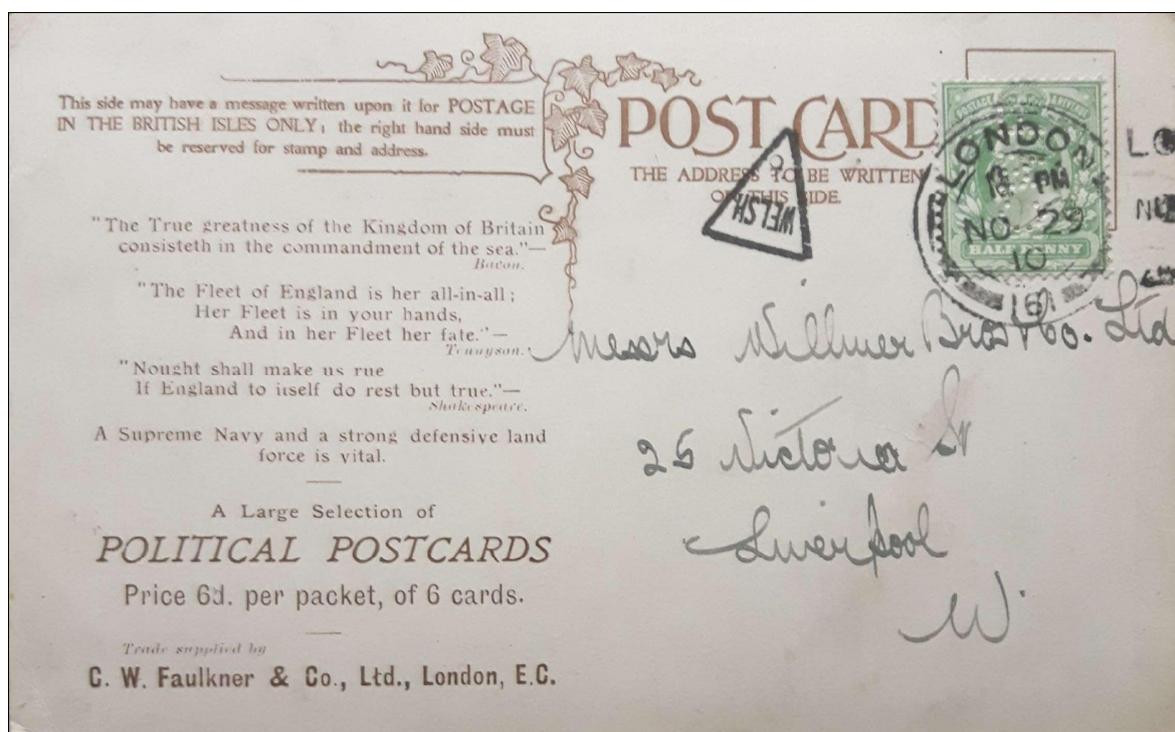
I am, &c.,
Jan. 9th, 1868.

A SOLICITOR.

Office for Sloper's Patent,
WALBROOK HOUSE, WALBROOK, E.C.

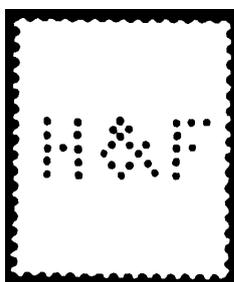
HILDESHEIMER & FAULKNER

Stephen Steere



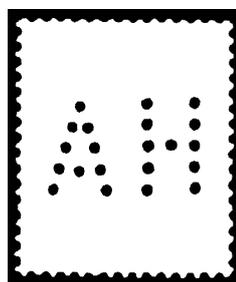
Shown above is one of series of political postcards produced by C. W. Faulkner & Co. The postcard bears a KEVII ½d pale green with perfin CWF - C8410.01. The magnificent front of this card is shown overleaf and in this time of political turmoil seems somewhat appropriate. The cartoon shows Free Trade negotiations between Britain, USA, Germany and France – some things never change.

1882 - 1885



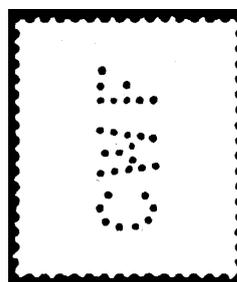
H2580.01

1902 - 1905



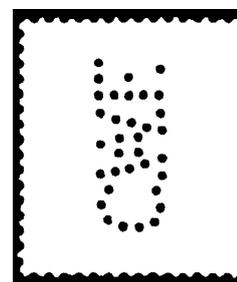
A2710.05M

1905 - 1930



C8410.01

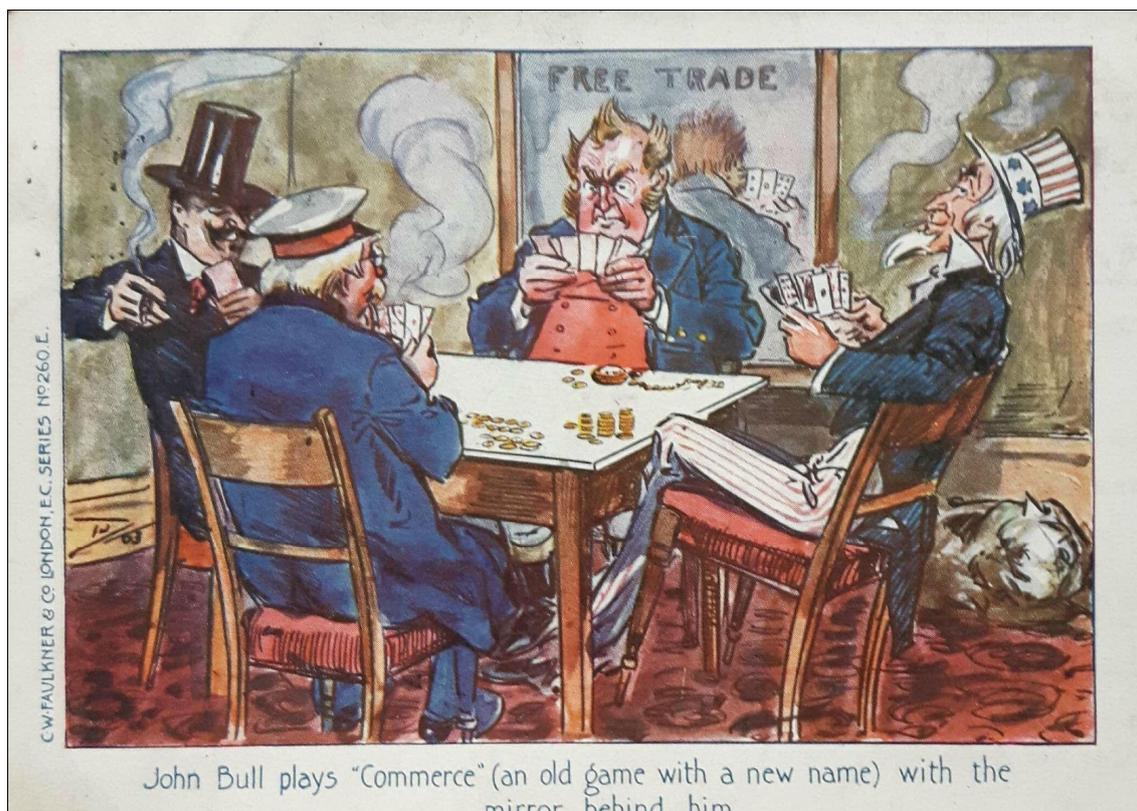
1930 - 1940



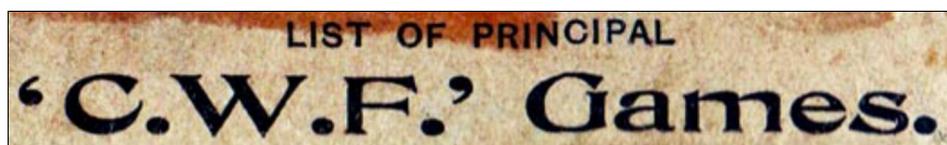
C8420.01M

C. W. Faulkner & Co. had a long and illustrious story in the history of postcards but began as Christmas card makers. A partnership was formed around 1882 with Albert Hildesheimer. Hildesheimer was a colour printer and lithographer and so was well placed to produce

Christmas cards. Hildesheimer & Faulkner were based at 41 Jewin St, London EC. The partnership with Hildesheimer was finally formally dissolved in December 1892 although it had effectively come to an end in 1885. C. W. Faulkner & Co was set up to continue the business which now included production of postcards. C. W. Faulkner and Co also produced all types of Calendars, New Year Cards, Birthday Cards, Painting Books and Boxes, Motto Cards, Diaries and Story Books.



Faulkner used two perfin dies – CWF (C8410.01) and C.W.F. (C8420.01M) which combined spanned the years 1905 to 1940. Interestingly they used the C.W.F. lettering on some of their products. Their use of perfins seems to have ended during the war.



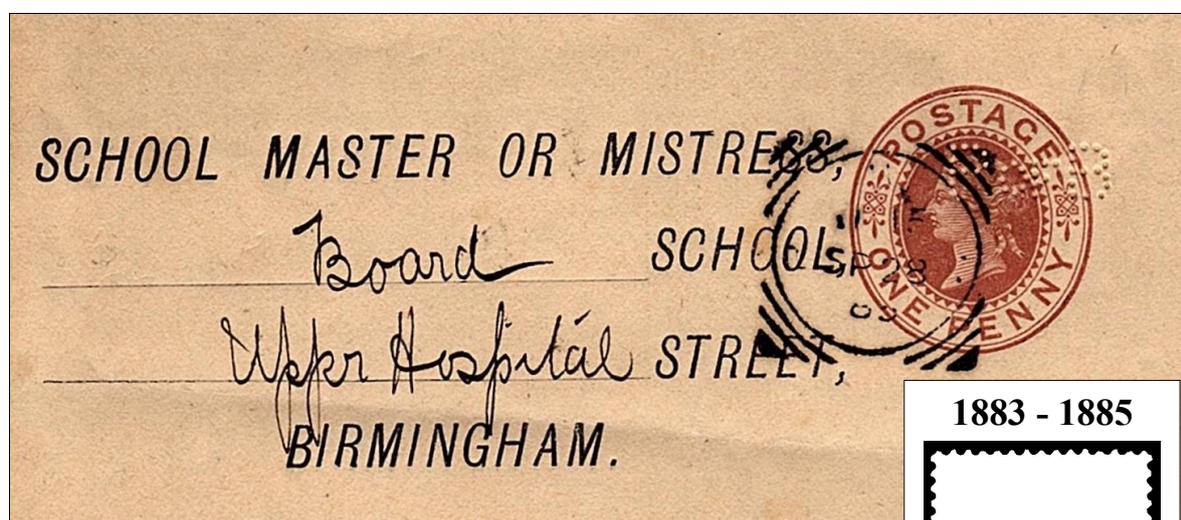
Albert Hildesheimer used perfin AH (A2710.05M) for a short period of 1902 to 1905. These three perfin dies all have confirmed users. However to date we don't have any evidence that Hildesheimer & Faulkner used perfins although die H&F (H2580.01) could well have been used by them as the dates of use fit the dates of operation of the company very well.

PARISH OF BIRMINGHAM

Richard Husband

The perforated 'P of B' (P3515.01) has been given the suspected identity of having been used by the Parish of Birmingham, a forerunner of Birmingham City Council.

Birmingham's Act of Incorporation in 1783 largely dictated the type of poor relief measures which the civil Parish of Birmingham was carrying out in the 1880s. In 1884 the Parish of Birmingham extended to 2,660 acres containing well over 20 churches and had its offices in Paradise Street. Their work included workhouse administration.

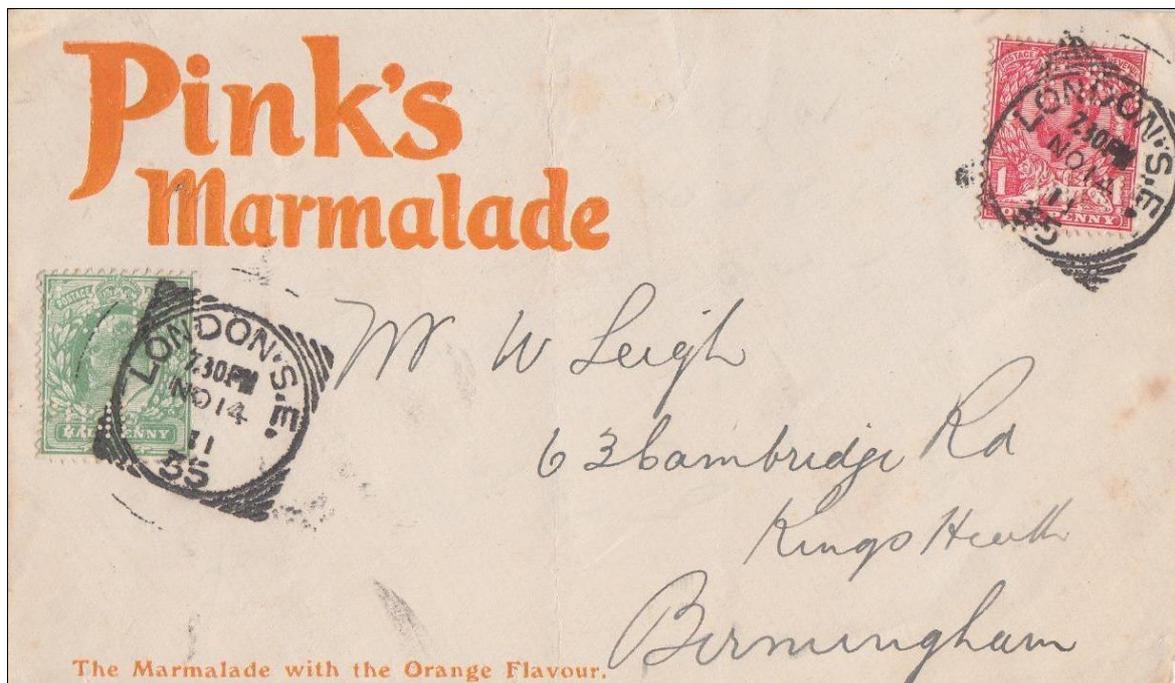


Workhouses also housed children as well as adults and it is possible that the contents of the wrapper addressed to the Master or Mistress at the Board School in Upper Hospital Street, Birmingham related to pupils between the ages of 5 and 13 who lived in a workhouse, presumably because their parents were inmates. The wrapper was sent on 28 September 1885 and the contents would probably have been replied to by Mr John Taylor who had a staff of at least three. Board schools were set up nationally under Forster's Elementary Education Act of 1870 and over 40 such schools were built in Birmingham. Every board school was abolished under Balfour's Education Act of 1902 which resulted in them being taken over by local education authorities.

*Reference:- Kelly's 1884 Birmingham, Staffs, Warks & Worcs Post Office Directory
Wikipedia - Birmingham board schools*

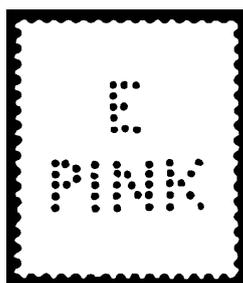
EDWARD & THOMAS PINK – JAM & PICKLE MAKERS

Maurice Harp



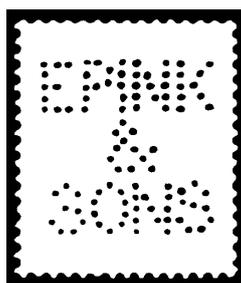
The advertising cover shown above was used November 14th 1911 by Edward & Thomas Pink – famous for their marmalade. The postage has perfin die E&T/PINK – E4800.01. Pinks covers are well worth looking out for as they always have colorful banners advertising their wares.

1870 - 1890



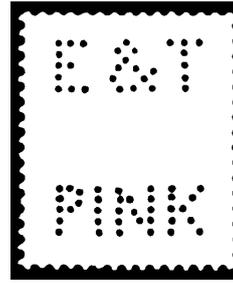
E3510.01

c1883



E3515.01

1890 - 1923



E4800.01

The company went through a number of name changes over the years and its history can be followed in the perfins it used. The three dies that the company used are shown above.

Edward Pink was born in Durley, Hampshire 27 November 1827, and died 19 July 1910 in Kent, England. He married Caroline Childs in 1851 who was born in Essex, and died in 1880. In the late 1800's

Edward bought land in Kent & Maldon, the land was mainly orchards. This area would later become his family home - Kingsdown.

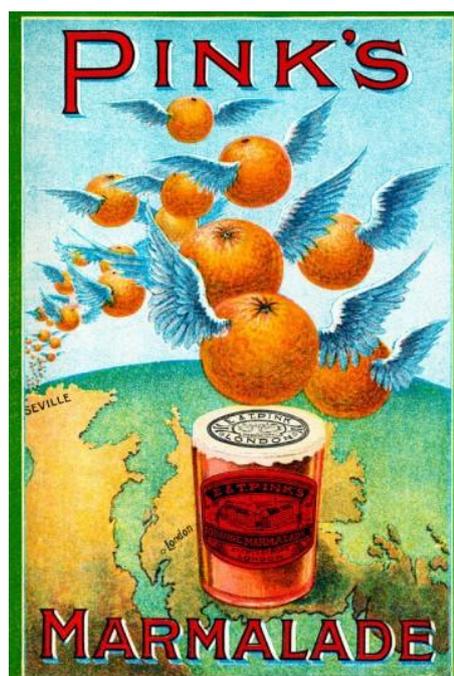
He moved to London and served an apprenticeship to a grocer before founding his own preserves business in 1860 - although at this stage he still described himself as an oilman & confectioner. Edward Pink's first premises were in High Holborn and he was an early user of perfins with die E/PINK – E3510.01. This may have even been a Sloper produced die.

The Pink's factory situated in Staple Street, which is adjacent to West St., in Bermondsey, London, was set up in the early 1870s. By this time the firm described themselves as wholesale confectioners, pickle, marmalade and jam makers, dry-salters and producers of canned fish.

His two sons Edward junior and Thomas soon joined him in the company which by 1882 was known as Edward Pink and Sons. A scarce perfin die E PINK/&SONS – E3515.01 is known but doesn't seem to have been used very much on stamps as the company continued to use E3510.01. With the death of Edward Pink senior the company again changed its name to E. & T. Pink. This name was retained until 1914 when they became a limited company. From 1890 until the company was taken over by Cross and Blackwell in 1924 the company used perfin E&T/PINK – E4800.01.

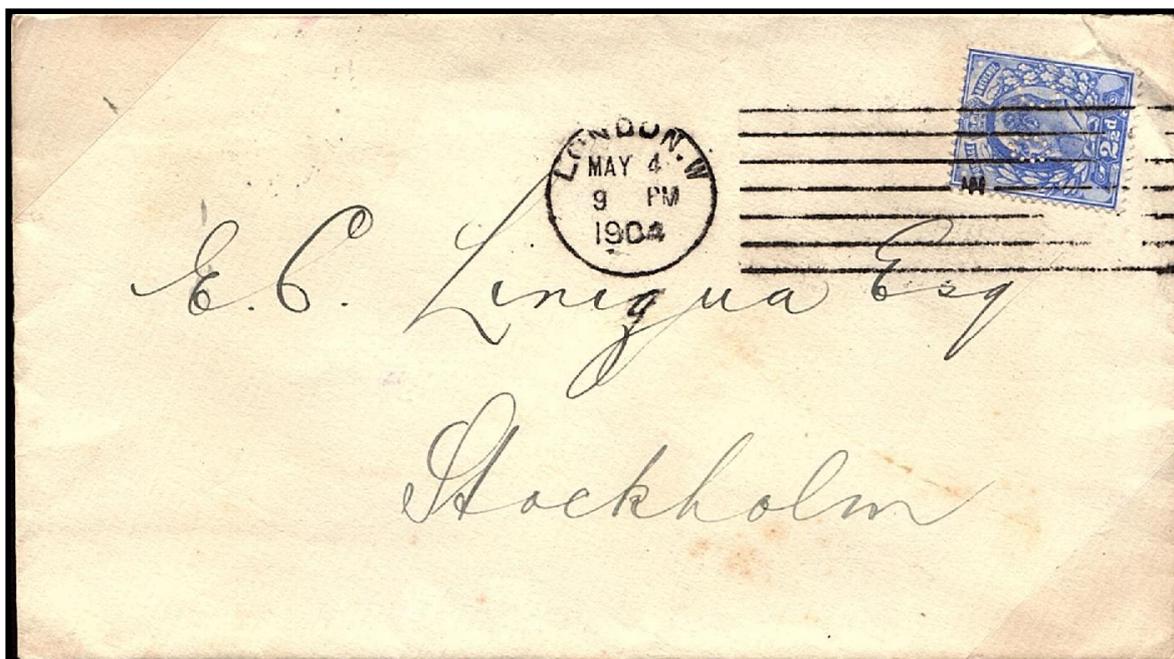
By the end of the 19th Century, Edward and Thomas Pink was said to be the largest manufacturer of marmalade in the world. Records show that during 1897 the company produced 3,400 tons of marmalade which required 1,950 tons of oranges and 1,800 tons of sugar. During The First World War, the firm had a contract to supply Pinks' Plum Jam to the British troops.

Their factory was demolished in 1935 and the land is now the Brands Hatch racing circuit.

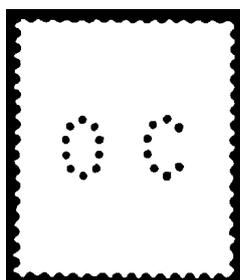


THE ORCHESTRELLE Co. AND THE PIANOLA

Melvyn Green



1900 - 1920



O0360.01

The cover shown above is owned by **Richard Husband**. It was sent by the Orchestrelle Company to Stockholm on May 4th 1904 and bears a KEVII 2½d blue, perfined OC – O0360.01. The stamp paid the single rate foreign letter below ½oz. The Orchestrelle Co, Aeolian Hall, London W1, was the manufacturer of the Pianola, the mechanical piano-player. This die was in use 1901 to 1918.

A player piano (also known as Pianola) is a self-playing piano, containing a pneumatic or electro-mechanical mechanism that operates the piano action via pre-programmed music recorded on perforated paper. The Aeolian Hall located at 135-137 New Bond Street, began life as the Grosvenor Gallery, being built by Sir Coutts Lindsay in 1876 but by 1903 the whole building was taken over by the Orchestrelle Company of New



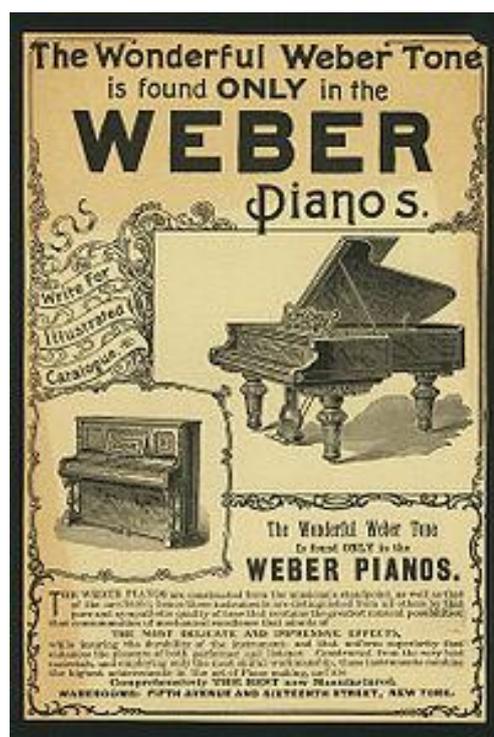
York (the Aeolian Company). As manufacturers of musical instruments, and especially the Pianola, they converted the space into offices, a showroom, and a concert hall.



The Aeolian Company designed and built player pianos in the late 1890s which were marketed as the Aeriol Piano (later called the Aeriola). However they failed to make great inroads into the music market because they were not initially available in the best known makes of piano, and because most music lovers already had their own

instruments, and did not want to buy completely new pianos for the simple purpose of playing music rolls.

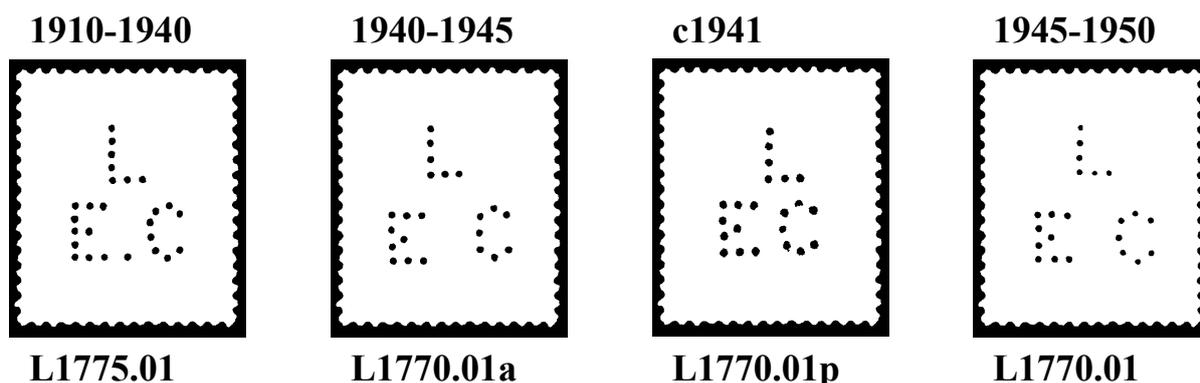
However, in August 1903, the well-known Weber Piano Company was purchased by the Aeolian Company, which at the same time reconstituted itself as the Aeolian, Weber Piano and Pianola Company, taking its names from the three main areas of its subsequent business, the Aeolian, the Weber Piano, and the Pianola. It acquired Weber at a very advantageous price, in view of an imminent mortgage on the large Weber factory in lower Manhattan. The name of Weber was very well respected, and Aeolian suddenly found itself in a position where it could manufacture both the Pianola and first-rate pianos, all within its own organisation. Consequently it introduced the new Pianola Piano in 1904, based on a substantial Weber design, which looked remarkably like the Aeriol Piano from 1897. The main visible difference was the siting of the control levers at the front of the keyboard, just where they would be most easy to use.



A “BLITZ” SURVIVOR?

Roy Gault

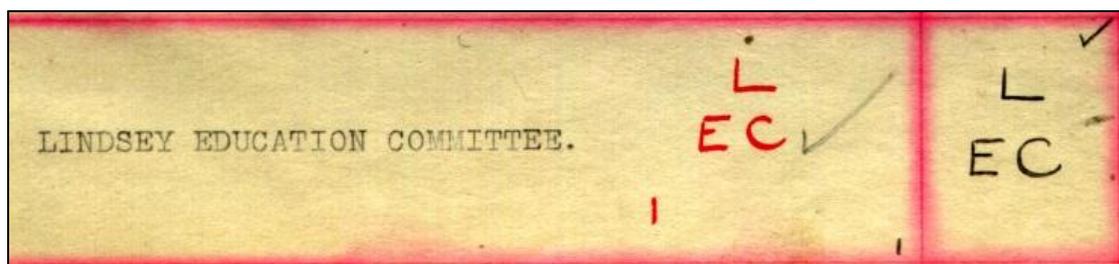
This piece explores a group of Perfins used by the Lindsey Education Committee, with offices in Lincoln. However, the Perfins themselves are the focus, not the organisation, and fundamental to the debate is a partial, barely visible, wartime slogan cancel, but more of that later.



With regard to pre-WWII and post-WWII Sloper dies, the sequence of events is often:

1. An earlier die - in this case two dies, “L/E.C” (L1775.02) in use 1902-1910, followed by “L/E.C” (L1775.01) in use 1910-1940, with a latest known date of ... Aug 1940.
2. A Pre-WWII refurbishment die which, under normal circumstances, would have been destroyed in the “Blitz” on Sloper’s premises on the night of 10th May 1941 - here it could be “L/EC” (L1770.01a), except for the fact that it is known used 27th July 1942 and 4th November 1943.
3. A Sloper Wartime Provisional - this would be “L/EC” (L1770.01p), in use from 1941 to whenever it was replaced by a ‘Regular’ die.
4. A ‘Regular’ die, which in this case would have been “L/EC” (L1770.01), in use 1945-1950. This die was later re-used from 1960-1975 by the London Executive Council (NHS). Unfortunately, no postmark dates are recorded for either user.

The Lindsey Education Committee are known customers of Sloper's who supplied them with perforated stamps, so it's unlikely that any of the dies mentioned would have been held in their offices in Lincoln.



This is the entry in the m/s ledger for Lindsey Education Committee, and the first thing to notice is that there is no indication of a Sloper Wartime Provisional. The single headed die "L/EC" (which I suspect is L1770.01a) is simply replaced with another single headed "L/EC" die, almost certainly L1770.01. However, the absence of a Sloper Wartime Provisional entry in the ledger doesn't mean the technique wasn't used, but if it was, it was likely to have been short-lived.

"L/EC" (L1770.01p) is only known on a 1d 'Q' and 1d & 2½d issue 'R' stamps. Shown below are 3 examples - on 1d 'R', and 2x2½d 'R'.

Can anyone supply a scan of an issue 'Q' stamp?



We know from postmark evidence that "L/EC" (L1770.01a) was used on stamps issued *after* the "Blitz" on Sloper's premises as the scan below, supplied by *Ron Mills*, of a 2½d issue 'R' stamp (issued 21st July 1941) shows, clearly postmarked Lincoln, 4th November 1943.



We also know that “L/EC” (L1770.01a) is recorded on the earlier KGVI dark colours stamps (issue ‘Q’), as my two 2½d examples below show. The postmarks are indistinct, and I’ve always regarded them as dating to c1941, but on closer inspection I can just make out part of a large-lettered slogan cancel - "KITC..." on one and "O.../KITCH..." on the other, presumably "O.../KITCHEN ...". The black postmarks blend in with the dark blue colour of the stamp making it difficult to see, but clearly visible under a magnifying glass.



A search of the internet reveals the full 3-line slogan to be:
“**HELP TO WIN / ON THE / KITCHEN FRONT**”.



I could only place the use of the cancel to the Summer of 1940 and early 1941, but **Ron Mills** was able to supply precise dates. Some fifty G.P.O. receiving offices used the slogan between the 20th June and the 18th July 1940, and again in January 1941 (but only in Cambridge). I suspect that the two stamps were cancelled during June/July of 1940 as Cambridge is a bit off the beaten track from Lincoln.

This is proof that L1770.01a was used from 1940 [replacing “L/E.C” (L1775.01)], through to at least late 1943, making it a *survivor* of the “Blitz” on Sloper’s Works in May 1941.

But what do you think?

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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