

A PRIVATE PERFIN - A/OF/H By David Scott.

On a visit to London three years ago, I purchased a cover with QV 1d lilac and 1½d Jubilee, both perfined A/OF/H, but no identity, or so I thought. When I examined the cover in the train on the journey home, I realised to whom it was addressed - Lady Amherst of Hackney - A of H! Presumably, a letter sent to her by her husband. The postmark was Duplex 934 Mundford (Norfolk).

First thing the next day I hurried to the Reference Library to look in Burkes Peerage, and there it was, "Baron Amherst of Hackney, Didlington Hall, Nr. Brandon, Norfolk (3 miles from Mundford). The address of his villa in France given as Valescure, Var, France; the address to which the letter was sent.

All this gave confirmation of the identity, and was duly given in Bulletin 251 as a new identity.

I don't know why the Baron should use this mourning cover. Using up old stationery perhaps, or informing Lady Amherst of the death of a friend or relative?

