

## MY STAMP FROM BUSHIRE

Richard L Mewhinney

Back in Bulletin 159 of the S.E.P.S. I first learned of this country and its perfinned stamps. Over the years a copy came my way along with a certificate from the British Philatelic Association Ltd, Expert Committee. Little did I know what a rarity I had until I recently learned that it was the only one reported in the foreign perfin survey of our US Perfins Club where there were over 100 members reporting.

I herein present the article written by Michael L. Burrows back in 1975:

*The Persian sea-port of Bushire was occupied by the British on the 8th August 1915. In the autumn, the Viceroy of India addressed the Indian Legislative Council and announced that the occupation would continue until the Persian Government took over control of Bushire on the 16th October 1915, thereby bringing the British occupation to a close.*

*During the occupation, various Persian stamps that were on hand were overprinted, probably by native labour, on a small hand press obtained from the British Residency. However the so-called officials have never been, to my knowledge, given catalogue status.*

*On page 248 of volume 25 of the Philatelist can be found an illustration of a strip of three of the official stamp. Of interest to the perfin collector is the fact that this apparently unused strip is perforated with the letter "F". It is unfortunate that the overprinting does not allow the perfin to reproduce very clearly.*

*This rare item was part of the marvellous 1914-1918 War Stamp collection formed by the Marquess of Bute. The second portion of which was auctioned by Robson Lowe on 20th May 1959.*

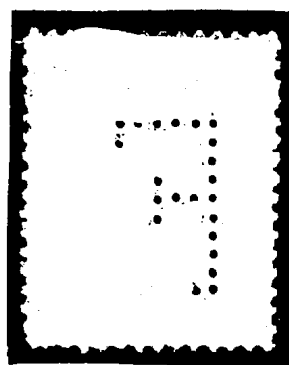
So ends Michael Burrows writing at that time. However, our Editor has provided me with a titbit of information that came later. In Bulletin 164, page 3, is the following update from Michael Burrows.

*Further to my notes on the Bushire "F" perfin published in a recent Bulletin, the following item was recently sold at auction.*

*Robson Lowe Ltd. Overseas Sale No.4025 January 27 1976 Lot 541.*

*Fiscal Stamps: 1915 Portrait type 2kr overprinted "Chancellerie " (15) with Strips on a registration certificate headed "British Administration/Customs Department/Registration of Boats", each stamp is perforated by a large "F". Valuation £150.*

*Although the document was creased, its rarity was obviously appreciated. The bidding finally finished at £210.*



The two illustrations above are of the front and back of my stamp: a copy of the certificate from the expert committee is on the next page. I am sure you can understand my desire of learning more of this stamp and particularly if any in the Perfin Society might have a copy. I would greatly appreciate any information that can be supplied by the membership.

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**EDITOR'S COMMENTS** Rosemary Smith

The Bulletin has less pages than usual this month: the reason is not lack of material but lack of my energy. I began with the mother and father of all colds on New Year's Day and it was the 3rd week of January before I felt up to beginning the Bulletin.

I have to apologise for my three mistakes in the last Bulletin.

1. I missed a number from Harry Skinner's post code.

Cont. bottom of next page.

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**THE BRITISH PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION, LTD.**  
**EXPERT COMMITTEE**

432 STRAND,

LONDON, W.C.2 *Aug 25 1936*

We have examined the attached *Bushni*  
*on 2 1/2 x overprinted "Chancellene"*  
*and perforated "F."*  
and are of the opinion that:— *It is genuine*  
*in all respects.*



*R. P. Robinson*  
*W. H. B. B. B.*  
*W. H. B. B. B.*  
*Frank H. Oliver*

Cont. from bottom of previous page.

2. Page 11 - John Evan's address should have a comma between Warley and West Midlands. (Computers are only as good as the operator!!)
3. On N.I. Pg.78, H6735.01 should have been HS/LLd not HS/SLd