

MODERNISING WITH PERFINs AND TYPEWRITERS

F.W. Taylor

The humble Penny Lilac stamp, being dual purpose, is one of the commonest stamps to be seen used on receipts and scarcely warrants a second glance. These two commercial letters, illustrated on the next page, appear to be typical examples of fiscally used Penny Lilacs but as a pair they are worth a second look.

My attention was first caught by the rubber stamped '*Telegraphic Address* "TUTILL, LONDON.' in purple at the top of the 1890 letter. This hand-written letter had the signature '*G. Tutill*' across the Penny Lilac. To the left of the signature the number '31' was stamped in purple.

This puzzled me at first until I discovered the second letter also had a purple number next to the signature: this time it was '29'. In both examples the purple number corresponded with the day of the month and presumably was added by Mr Tutill when he added his signature to letters produced by his clerks.

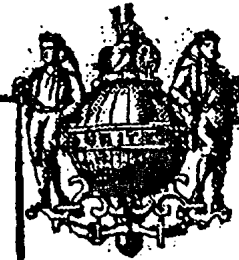
The two letters came from the London firm of Tutill and these were receipts for goods supplied in consecutive years. The purple typewritten letter of 1891 shows how this firm was adopting the 'modern' technology of that time. (The flag and banner making firm of Tutill is still in business and operating from Chesham.)

Closer examination of the typewritten letter revealed the penny lilac stamp had been security perforated with '**TUTILL LONDON**' in two lines. Clearly the firm had adopted two new devices

*Ed:- this is the third article taken from **The Railway Philatelic Group Journal**. F.W. Taylor is the ditor of this journal as well as being the author of this latest article.*



Telegraphic
"TUTILL" LONDON



83, City Road,
London, E. C.

29th. May, 1891.

83 City Rd
London
31 May '91

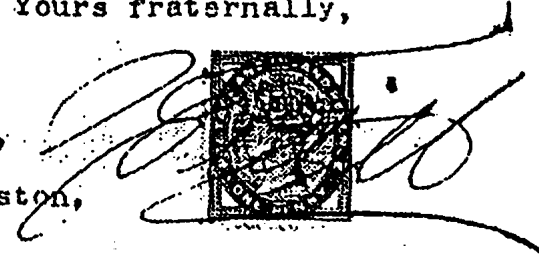
TUTILL
LONDON
4710

Dear Sir,-

I have pleasure in acknowledging the receipt
of Three pounds, & 10d, in settlement of my
account for goods supplied in Mar. 1891.

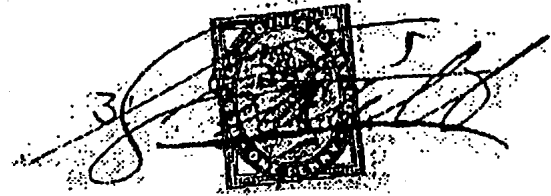
Yours fraternally,

Mr. J. Pilgram,
Canston,



£3 - 0 - 10.

Sir Brother
I act with deep thank
receipt of £3.00 in full settlement
of account for goods supplied.
Yours Fraternally



£4.10.9