

PERFIN QUERIES / FORGERIES

Roy Gault

Gustav Hansen (Librarian of the Danish Perfin Society) has sent in the following report of a 'Perfin' clearly dated 1857. Although nothing to do with the Board of Trade Forgeries (see Bulletin 340, page 14), it has been included here under the 'Forgery' banner as a cross-reference to this type of material.



Of course, it could be a blatant fake, (but why use such an awkward orientation and only catch a partial strike), or it could be a chance strike of something. Now, Sloper's patent ran from 1858, so perhaps cheque-cancelling machines were available for a little while before.

Gustav Hansen also reports the perfin "JP/ & C^o" (J6090.03bM), on a Queen Victoria 2½d 'Jubilee', known to have been used 1890-1921 by J. Pollak & Co, 8 Draper's Gardens, London EC2. There is no problem with the perfin, but is the '40 PARAS' overprint genuine?



In the past these combined 'perfin and overprint' have been suspect. The last one reported in the Bulletin was on an 'O.W./OFFICIAL' (see Bulletin 336, page 16), which did not appear to stack up with the illustration shown in Stanley Gibbons.

I would welcome any comments any of you may have on either of these two queries!