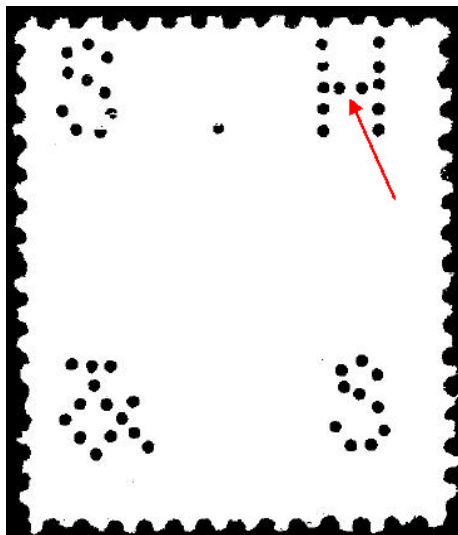


S.H/&S – S3610.01M
ANOTHER 1 x 2 DIE CONFIGURATION

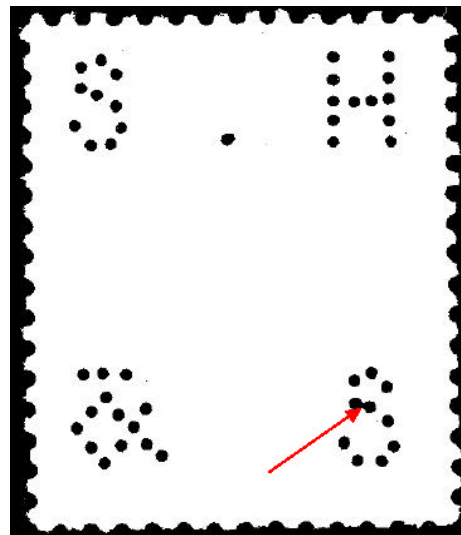
Maurice Harp

In my previous series of articles on broken pin varieties being used to establish the die configuration of the perfin die I may have given the impression that this is the only way that the configuration may be determined. To redress the balance I thought I would show that careful study of the pin layout of the die can also be used.

A well-known die of the early Victorian period is S.H/&S - S3610.01M. The die was used by Samuel Hanson & Son Ltd – Provision Merchants of 20 & 47 Botolph Lane, London. The die was in use from 1869 to 1875 and is a typical production of the early Sloper period – well made, fine pinned and widely spaced to avoid the Queen’s head. Careful examination reveals slight differences in pin layout between impressions as examination of the cross bar of the “H” and the slope of the second “S” reveal. The enlarged illustrations shown below highlight these differences. The wider gap in the central bar of the “H” always occurs on all impressions in the odd rows – A, C, E and the closely spaced pins in the “S” occur on all strikes in the even rows – B, D, F. Thus a 1 x 2 die configuration can be established.



Odd Rows – A, C, E etc.



Even Rows – B, D, F etc.

It’s worth noting that the style of this die is very similar to G2410.01M – GH/WCo - Sloper die 2607. This also had a 1 x 2 configuration and was completed in 3rd April 1868, the first die made by Sloper for a customer after receiving official sanction from the Post Office.