

NOTEBOOK

Number 162 March, 2006

IN THIS ISSUE.....

- page 2 Obituary : Tony Thompson
London Maritime Mail : Additional Ship Markings
- page 5 Another Paid Ship Letter ?
- page 6 Overseas Daily Mail : The Coded Cancellations
Newspaper Branch Killers
- page 7 The Kent Post
Paquebot Problem
- page 8 Branch Office Costs
- page 9 Office Initial Stamps of the London District Post
- page 11 Supplementary Handstamps : Via Falmouth
Louise D'Orléans : A Frenchwoman in London 1816 :
by Eunice Shanahan
- page 13 International Money Orders : Robert I. Johnson
- page 14 East Central District Office : Newspapers Branch Cancellation
- page 15 Carshalton Redirection
London Maritime Mail : The Great Liverpool

© 2006 L.P.H.G.

EDITOR

Peter A. Forrestier Smith, 64 Gordon Road,
CARSHALTON, Surrey. SM5 3RE
E-mail : lphgat64@aol.com

EDITORIAL

We have a slightly smaller issue, due in no small part in order to send it to members somewhere near the month stated on the front page. As your Editor advances in years, though not in wisdom, the capacity to spend time wisely seems to decrease and time spent pottering on all sorts of distractions but interesting occupations moves in the opposite direction.

One question we thought asking "What did you find at STAMPEX and / or PHILATEX ?" We managed just two purchases: a rather fine flat top three of Brompton, struck in red, and a redirected item for Carshalton. The great puzzle : where have the boxes of good to fine material, through which one could browse for hours, vanished ? Clubs and Societies, ours included, generally report declining membership but, clearly, the collectors are 'out there' but not joining up with fellow collectors.

Answers to these questions will be much appreciated.

ANTHONY ALAN THOMPSON

The news of Tony's illness came as a shock, compounded by the nature of his illness. Returning from a walking holiday in Spain, he had complained of tiredness: after visiting his doctor, he discovered he had just a short time to live. Being Tony, he spent this time putting his affairs in order to reduce some of the anxiety for his family, wife Barbara, the four children and the grandchildren.

He died on the 17th February and was buried on 2nd March. The London Postal History Group sent a wreath and three members attended the Service and Burial.

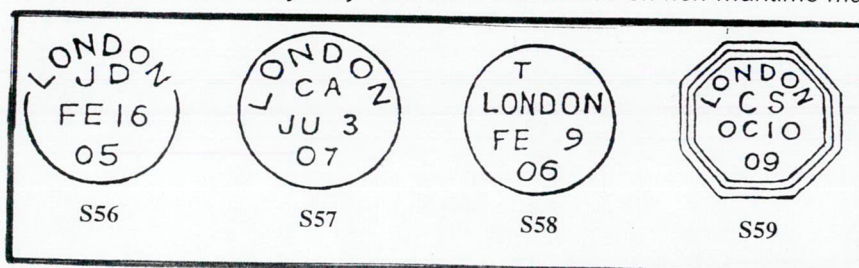
Tony had been much involved with the Kent Postal History Group. With regard to LPHG, he contributed a great deal towards the revision of the 'Branch Offices from 1829', the publication of which this year he was looking forward to seeing. As many of you will know, Tony was often at our meetings where he gave displays as well as contributing to the pages of 'Notebook': he will be missed by us all.

Peter A Forrester Smith

LONDON MARITIME MAIL ADDITIONAL SHIP MARKINGS

In 'Robertson Revisited', the London section recorded the use of four cancellations not included in the original work. The accompanying comment reads:

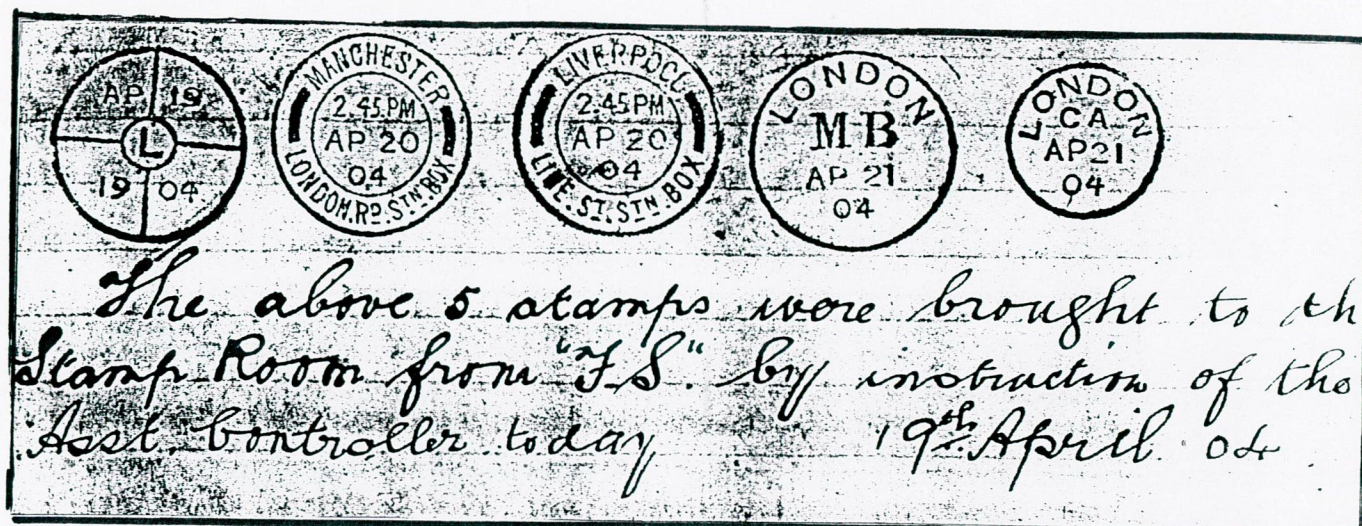
'S56 to S59 were issued to the EC office for use on Ship Letters in Sep 1899. They are often seen on Royal Naval mail, but have also been seen on non-RN correspondence, so are included here rather than in the Naval section. They may also have been used on non-maritime mail.'



A reference to their use was discovered, many years ago, in an E.C. Proof Impression Book held, at that time, in an office at St. Martins le Grand: it is a matter of regret to record the PIB has since 'disappeared'. Fortunately, a photocopy, albeit an imperfect one, was made and is shown below.



The incomplete title to the above page reads " Impressions of handstamps used in Foreign Branch to be set up in this section i.... of Inland Section"



Another page from the PIB, includes a minute dated 19th April 04 reading: *The above 5 stamps were brought to the Stamp Room from "FS" by instruction of the Asst. Controller today*

In the same group in the catalogue is the London Geometric Type 1-B with hammer identification a to d. According to Cohen, these were shown in an "on strength" report of the 18th December, 1907 as "obsolete" and used primarily "at Foreign Office taxing duties, Sundays only".



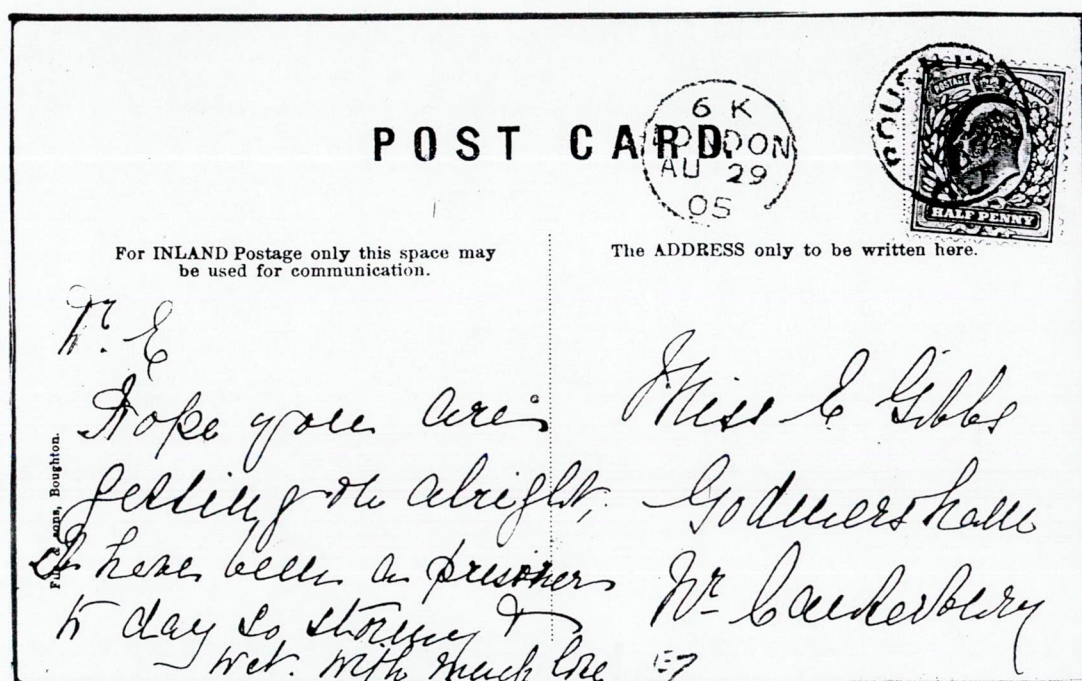
The Las Palmas post card, shown above, to the New Haven, Conn. U.S.A. has the Spanish adhesive cancelled with the dS code stamp FE 25 / 06 (a Sunday).

On arrival, the New Haven office applied a 6. 30 AM timed March 10 Received date stamp and then spoiled the effect with a machine cancellation, this showing a 5 AM timing. As an aside, one might presume the time indicates the order of dating but to time stamp twice, once by hand and once by machine does demonstrate quite unnecessary zeal.

With regard to the time back stamps (S56 and S 57), the use of the two letter code is interesting. The late Stitt Dibden's publication on the subject covered the earlier period of use of these stamps but not as late as the turn of the 19th. Century. Leon Dubus' work did deal with codes towards the end of the 19th. Century but, again, not into the 20th.

An example of the 'non-maritime mail' is shown here.

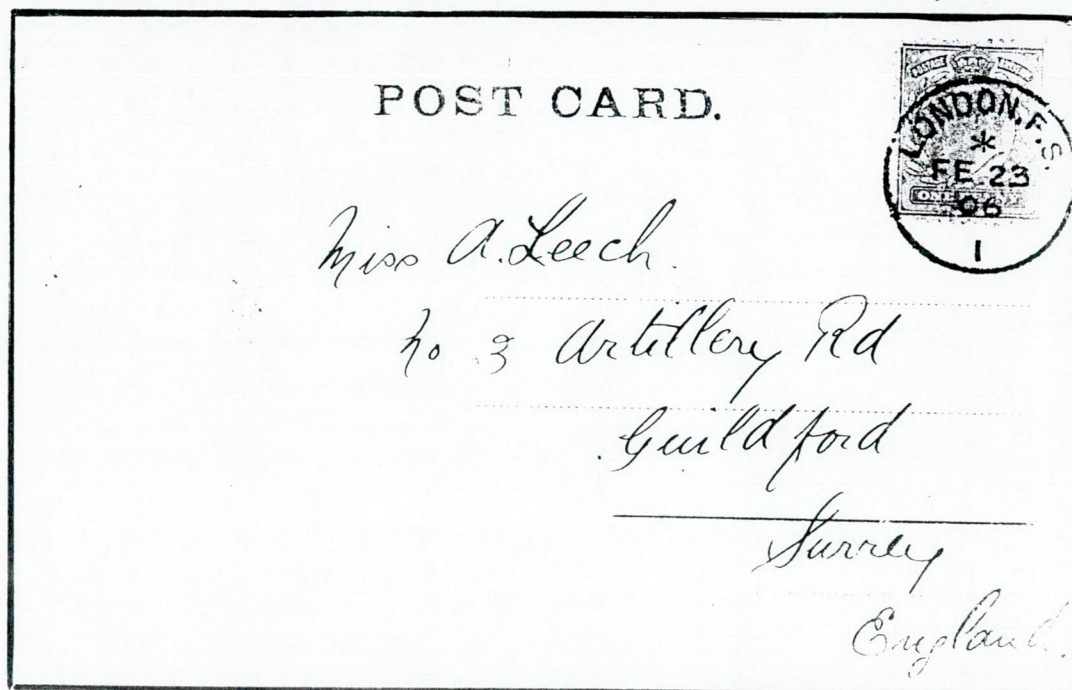
The view is of a property 'Kemsdale', described in Barts Gazetteer as 'seat, N. Kent 2¾ m. E. of Faversham.' The cancellation is Boughton ' vil. N. Kent, 3½ m. SE. of Faversham...' which ties in with the view. The writer employed the style calculated to make most collectors despair but, at least, it was 'N' Canterbury', which raises pointless speculation why it was sent to London, where it acquired an example of an EC office Ship Letter date stamp.



Struck in red, code 6K (not recorded for this stamp), dated AU 29 05.

- 9th Edition 1943, reprinted 1972 with additional information : a must for every collector of postal history

Just to add to the confusion of the collector is the Foreign Section, who also undertook the cancellation of incoming mail, as demonstrated by a very fine strike of the LONDON.F.S. / 1 of the penny adhesive. The view is of Dalhousie Park, Rangoon: no message.



ANOTHER PAID SHIP LETTER ?

A Swedish Post Office post card was sent to London in 1882, the Stockholm cancellation being crisply struck in black ink. On arrival in London it went to the Ship Letter Office, where it received a 24 mm diameter stamp with the lettering almost touching the rim. Next it went to the EC Office, this marked by the double rim 21 mm code B7 stamp, also for 5th. June. The initial puzzle is twofold.



Why did a card, cancelled by the Stockholm Post Office come to London as a ship letter? The use of the ship letter stamp might be explained by a note by Hosking. When defining the Paquebot Period he points out "it was only in 1894 that the word 'Paquebot' came to be used in the (British) post office hand stamps to designate mail posted on board ship. This change followed (probably unofficial) discussion at the Universal Postal Union Convention of 1891." His notes explain the use of the ship letter stamp because, in 1882, the word 'Paquebot' did not appear in the British Post Office vocabulary. He does illustrate two stamps used to cancel mail posted on board ship:-

Hosking Fig 67 illustration measures
24 mm diameter used 1901 - 12

Hosking Fig 68 illustration measures
23 mm diameter used 1897 - 99

Tabcart Fig S54 illustration measures
25 mm diameter used 1872 - 86



Colin Tabcart records S 54 in red and Hosking fig 68 in black. The stamp on this card is similar to Hosking 68 and Tabcart S54 but there are differences.

The lettering on the rim is clearly smaller than either.
There is a short dash between SHIP and LETTER [as S54], not a dot [Fig 68]

It is well known measurements can be misleading given wear and tear and the force the stamper applies but, in this case? What is needed are several examples of both S54 and Hosking 68; meanwhile this is another example (bought at a LPHG auction by the way) of the detail research collectors can enjoy. References.

Paquebot Cancellations of the World (March 1977 edition) Roger Hosking M.A.
Robertson Revisited (1997) Colin Tabcart

OVERSEAS DAILY MAIL

The Coded Cancellations

Until now all the references to this group of cancellations, which do not have the slogan, state there were just four Foreign Section date stamps involved, at least to the extent of the duty codes. These are FS 24, 25, 26 and 27. Imagine the delight when, from a bundle of these covers purchased some time since and left unregarded until now, a solitary FS 56 was discovered.



On a 1½^d printed ODM wrapper, folded in half and somewhat battered, code H, month 10 (October) (19)31.

Any record of FS numbers other than the standard four will be much appreciated.

NEWSPAPER BRANCH KILLERS

The late Stitt Dibden's "Newspaper Branch Cancellations" appeared as a Postal History Society Special Series Publication No. 27 as long ago as 1971. It was a collection of articles which had appeared in various publications. Since then there have, no doubt, been other articles on the subject but no significant compilation publication.

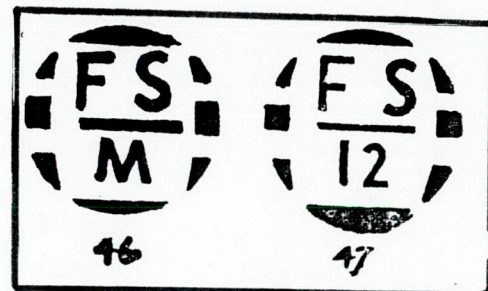
By way of hoping to create some interest, at least in reporting material in readers' collections or accumulations, two cancellations not illustrated by SD. As is so often the case there are no dated stamps to give a clue but one is on an Edward VII wrapper, the other cancels four KE7 one penny and a single halfpenny adhesive, which puts the use no closer than the first decade or so of the 20th century.

There are three designs listed, two illustrated by SD, and the use of the three is detailed as follows.

Fig.46 This replaced an earlier design for use on MORNING DUTY, i.e. On newspapers brought in prior to midday. Use ceased 1911A

Fig.47 As Fig.46, this replaced an earlier design but "D" replaces "M" and used on the MID DAY DUTY. Use ceased 1922

Fig.48 This replaced an earlier design and was used on the MIDNIGHT DUTY. No cease date given
N.B. SD incorrectly numbers the illustration for this as '47'.

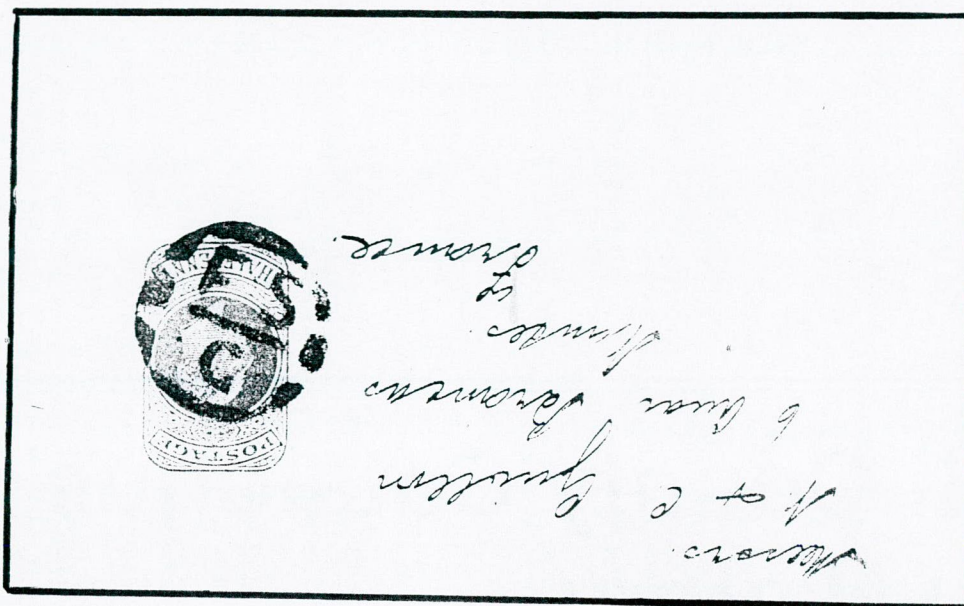


Sitt Dibden used the "A" suffix to indicate "approximate", it being based on the type of wrapper or the adhesive used. He could trace none in the Proof Books.

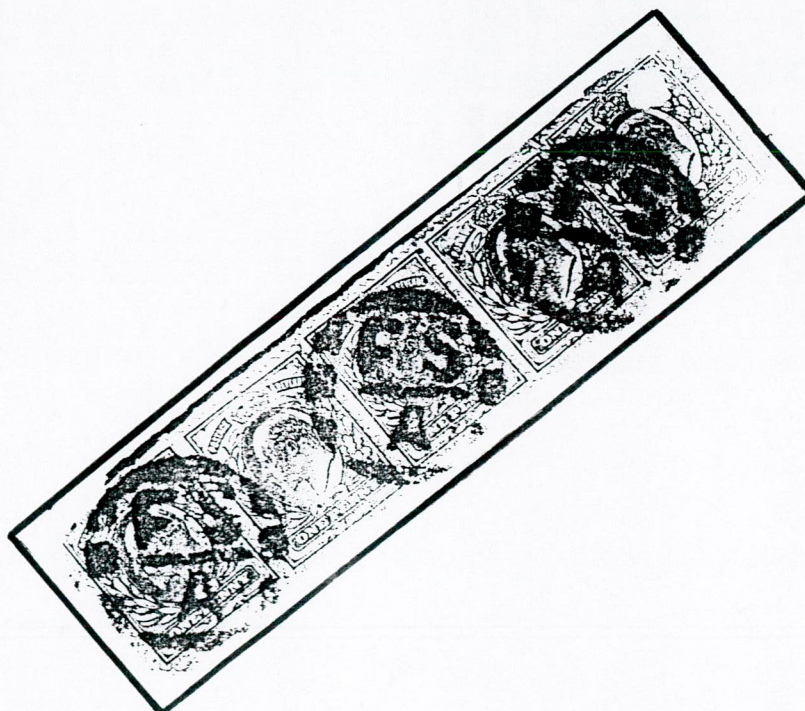
Due to an error with the 'paste illustrations' process the two items are shown on an additional page number 162 - 6a

It would be appreciated if a reader could determine whether the letter is a "C" with an blob or a "G".

NEWSPAPER BRANCH KILLERS



The FS / G is on a halfpenny wrapper, addressed to France.
No arrival stamp.



The KE VII adhesives, four one pennies and one halfpenny,
are stuck on thin brown paper,
with a filing punch hole top right - Petty Cash voucher ?

LONDON POSTAL HISTORY GROUP
are proud to publish

The British County Catalogue of Postal History

Part 3 - LONDON

2nd Edition

Barrie Jay

Price £ 26
(Members £21)
Post and packing £ 2.10

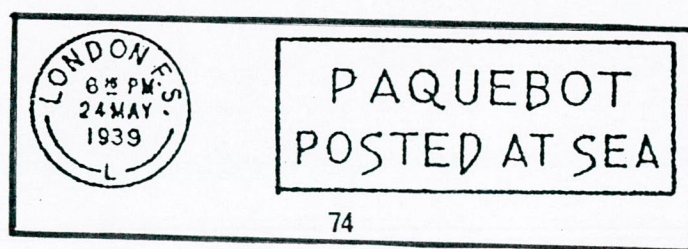
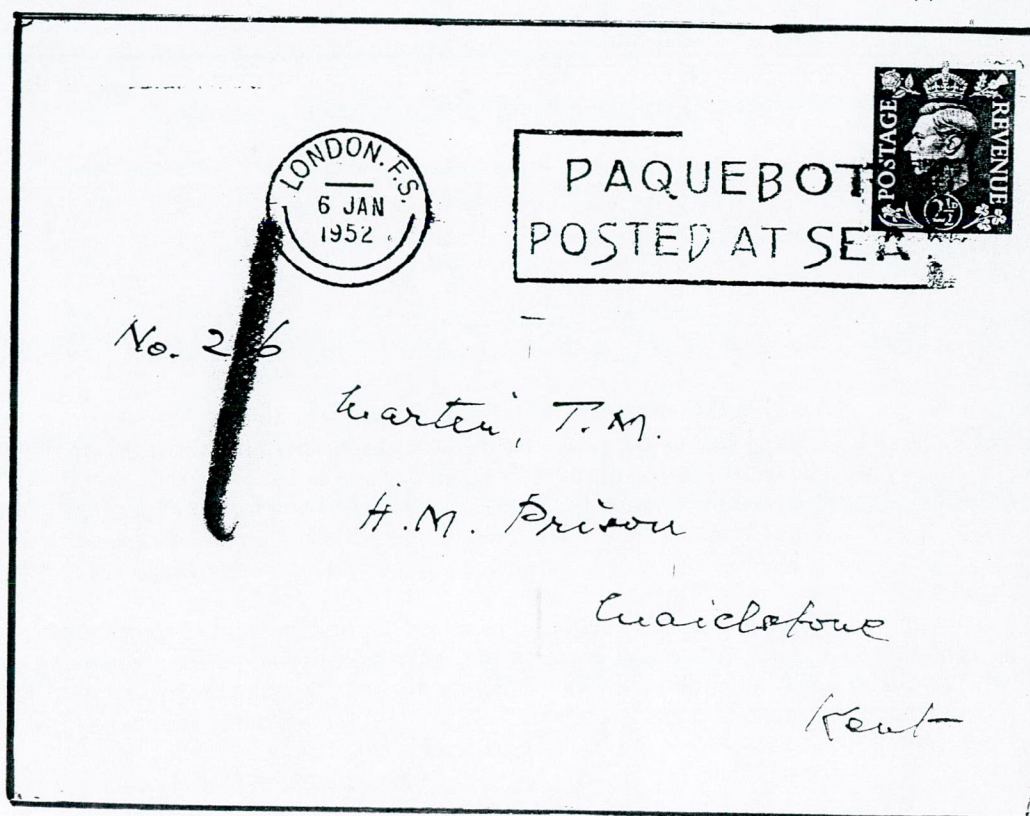
THE KENT POST.....

Back numbers, 1980 to 1994 (condition generally good), available for the price of the post and packing from 1980 to 1994, incomplete. It does include special issues covering 'The Isle of Sheppey Postal Service'.... 'Postal History of Gravesend'.... 'Rubber Datestamps'.... 'The Postal Markings of Woolwich etc....' 'The Postmarks of Rochester'.... 'Kent and East Sussex Crosspost and Bypass Letters'.... 'The Postal History of Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells'.

Please contact the Editor, first come, first served.

PAQUEBOT PROBLEM

The cover here illustrates what appear to be a variety of Hosking's Fig. 74, see below, the differences being in the dater die and, more obviously, in the missing right side of the upper frame line.



The break point in the upper frame line is clean and clear, the right hand side somewhat smudged. Is this a temporary damaged cancellation, long term or a variety not included by Hosking?

Hosking Fig. 74, is recorded from 1934 to 1965 and, it might be noted, appears to be smaller than the one on the cover. Advice from experts, or not, will be appreciated.

BRANCH OFFICE COSTS

Much has been written about the establishment of the Branch Offices in terms of their names, number, dates opened and, of course, the range of postal markings. All this involved cost for the Post Office, or in terms then used, 'The Revenue', that is to say the Treasury.

The abstract from the Post Office Archives (Post 42) covered several pages of fine script, which poor microfilming has made difficult to transcribe. Just one office's detailed accounting is shown: For the benefit of readers not acquainted with 'proper' money, one farthing was one nine hundred and sixtieth of a pound, just over one tenth part of a current one penny.

No. 243 (page 262)

General Post Office
2nd April, 1831

My Lord,

I have the honor to state for Your Grace's Information that when Your Grace's Predecessor obtained the sanction of the Lords of the Treasury for the establishment of Branch Post offices in the (*the next line is unclear*) present Building as the Works of this department had not at the time been placed under of the management of the Surveyor General, Mr Kay (?), the then Architect to the Office was instructed to proceed with the alterations and fittings in the Branch Offices.

I now beg to submit the Report from Mr Kay with the Tradesmen's Bills for the Works done accompanied by abstracts of the amount incurred at each office, which are as follows

Lombard Street	£ 684..19..4½
Strand	553.. 18.. 8
Vere Street	331..19..7¼
Borough	248..10..3¼
General Bill for Gas fittings	339..11..9..

	£ 2158..19..8
	=====

Upon which I beg to observe that although the amount is considerable, there was much to be done to adapt the Premises to our purposes - it was in fact necessary that each of them should be fitted up as a Post Office, on a small scale, with Divisions corresponding with those at the Principal Office.

In Lombard Street there were two distinct Offices to be formed, one for Foreign and the other for General Post Letters, and in addition to the new frontage for the paid Windows and interior fittings it was necessary to construct a Staircase leading to the upper floor of the Old Premises which was reserved for the Branch Offices.

With regard to the House rented of the Duke of Northumberland for the Office in the Strand, Charing Crofs, upon removing the front for the purpose of opening and setting back a receiving Window, the foundation proved to be defective that it was with difficulty the building was preserved from falling:- a new foundation was in consequence obliged to be made on front, at a considerable expense. and this will account in a great degree for the large Amount of the Bills against that Office.

The Postmaster General is only Tenant Will for this House and at the time it was the only one which could be procured, owing to the progrefs of the Improvements in that part of the Strand - the Rent is £200 per. Ann. but as so much money has been laid out in substantial repairs, perhaps Your Grace may think it a proper opportunity of endeavouring on that Ground, to obtain a reduction of that Rent.

The Lease of a House on Vine Street, Cost £280 (£250 Lease 30 Fixtures) [left edge of page not printed out] ...is a Rent of £94..10 per Ann - for a Branch Office.. in that quarter of the Town, and the necessary ..fittings and front Window produced the expence..stated - As a set off to the Rent, the sum of £70 per Annum is secured for the upper part of this house and the Occupier undertakes to clean the Office.

There was considerable difficulty in obtaining an Office in the Borough conveniently situated for the accommodation of the Public; the front of a Warehouse was at length procured at a Rent of 80 Guineas per Ann: and was converted into a Branch Post Office, in doing which the house was divided from the rest of the Premises and the usual Window and fittings were of course required.

With regard to the general Bill for Gas fittings for lighting these Offices , the separate amount of each can easily be distinguished. Mr Kay however, states that he has no reason to doubt the accuracy of the Account of the Works - and in conformity with his suggestion it was referred to the Branch of Works that the charges might be checked, so as to correspond with those for similar works done in this Building by the same Person - Your Grace will see by the red Ink alterations that it has undergone a strict scrutiny and that a reduction of £13.11.9 has been made in the total amount. I beg to explain that the Meter stated at the foot of the Bill, fixed in the Borough Office has been replaced by a new one, which will not be charged against the revenue.

It is satisfactory to be able to state that these Branch offices have fully answered every expectation that was formed of them, and if the expense incurred in making them suitable for the businefs be large as

it certainly is, I submit that it may fairly and fully justified by the additional facilities and convenience afforded to the Public and I presume Your Grace will be pleased to allow the Accounts which have been checked by Mr Kay, and are at the Board of Works prices, to be warranted for payment.

All which is humbly / submitted by/ F. Freeling

(page 268)

Tower Street
December 18.

1830

Sir,

Herewith I request to transmit the Accounts of the several Works in the Repairs Alterations & Fitting up of the Branch Post Offices in Lombard Street, Strand, Vere Street, & Borough.

I am Sir / Your very obed^t Serv^t / Joseph Kay

F.H. Freeling Esq / &c &c

(page 270)

Sir,

The inclosed Account of Mr Thomas Edge for fitting the Gas App(aratus?) for lighting the several Branch Post Offices, having been returned from his Majesty's Office of Works for my inspection. I request to state that the Work having been undertaken by the same Workmen as were employed at New Post Office & the number & arrangement of the lights by a person appointed from the Office for the purpose .I considered that it was proceeding under the same arrangement as had been entered into for the execution of similar Work at the New Building, & the details of it did not therefore come under my particular inspection.

So far as I can judge from general observation of the Work done at the several Offices. I have no reason to doubt the accuracy of the account of the Work, but with respect to the charges for it I submit that they should be examined for the purpose of ascertaining that they compare with prices charged for similar Work at the New Building - presuming that it was undertaken at some fixed rates of charge.

I am Sir / Your very obed Servt / Joseph Kay

Tower Street / Jan'y 12 1831

F. H. Freeling Esq., &c &c

(page 273)

59 Peter Street
.... 16 Feby 1831

Sir /

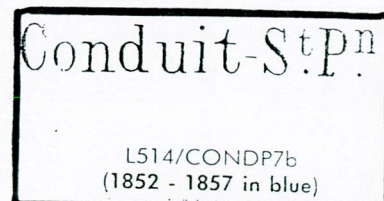
The Meter used at the Branch Post Office Boro, in the first instance was not a New one, as consequently became out of order, which rendered the New one a short time soon necefsary, you will perceive there is only one charged for that place.

I am Sir / your ob servant / W Dalton

An example of the detailed accounts rendered is shown on the following page

OFFICE INITIAL STAMPS OF THE LONDON DISTRICT POST

Michael Goodman has provided the answer to the mysterious S^t Pⁿ shown on page 161 - 5 -. Despite having every appearance of a hitherto unrecorded set of Office Initials it is, in reality, a poorly struck **Conduit - S^t Pⁿ**.



Branch Office. Strand.

Abstract of Workmen's Bills.

1829 x
1830.

Bricklayer - H. Lee & Sons. £ s. d.
to April? 1829 - { 0.16.7 ✓
to Christmas - { 55.2.11 1/4 ✓

Carpenter & Joiner - Thos. Hale.

to April? 1829 - 146.18.10 1/4 ✓
to Lady day 1830 - 20A.18.11 ✓

Mason - R. Wilford. - 11.18.0 1/2 ✓

Plasterer - J. C. Palmer

to April? 1829 - 24.0.4 ✓
to Christmas - 3.12.9 1/4 ✓

Plumber - W. R. H. H. H. H. H.

to April? 1829 - 11.11.3 1/4 ✓
to Christmas - 2.1.0 1/4 ✓

Painter - W. H. H. H. H.

to April? 1829 - 23.0.5 1/2 ✓
to Christmas - 40.16.10 1/4 ✓

Glazier - W. H. H. H. H.

to April? 1829 - 1.5.7 1/4 ✓
to Christmas - 8.4.10 1/2 ✓

Smith - Luffell & Sheppard - 17.1.2 ✓

Ironmonger - Barron & Son - 0.18.8 ✓

Upholsterer - R. H. H. H. H. - 16.11.0 ✓

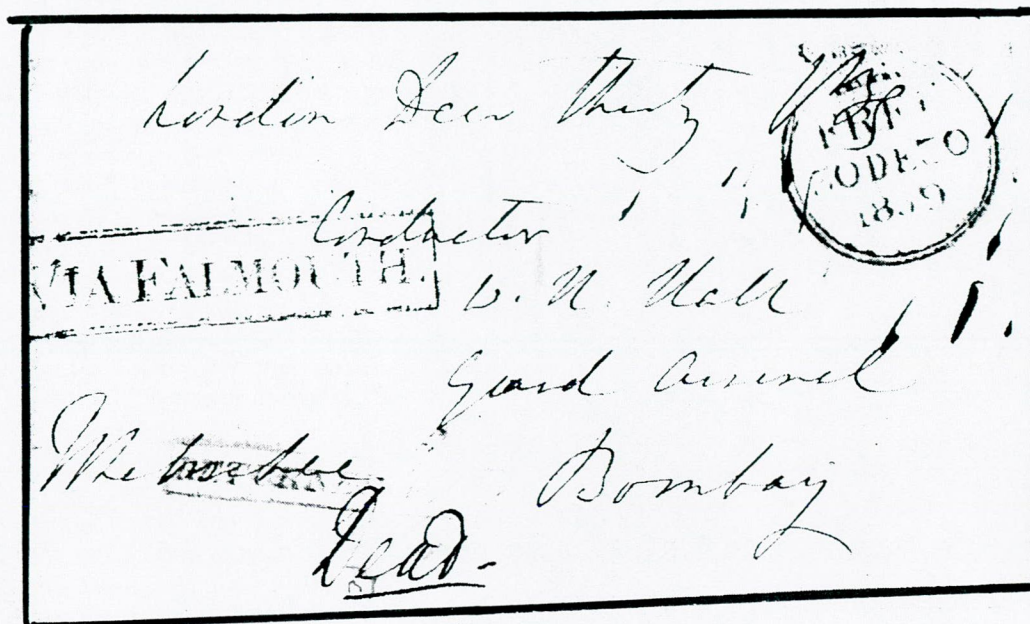
£ 553.10.0

For users of the microfilmed pages of documents held by Post Office Archives there is, nowadays, the problem of what we must describe as 'less than good' copies obtainable. There have been several occasions recently when to transcribe the copy into a readable text has proved quite impossible.

Knowing the Editor's lack of skill in such matters, blame him.

SUPPLEMENTARY HANDSTAMPS : VIA FALMOUTH

Alan Robertson identified the VIA FALMOUTH handstamp as "used by the Foreign Branch Office G.P.O. London on mail bagged at London for the Falmouth Packets. (G.P.O. Despatch Book, 1838.)" The latest edition of Part 3 expresses the function differently "...for mail to Southern Europe or the Mediterranean which was to travel by Falmouth packet rather than overland by France."



The example shown here suggests it was also used otherwise. The franked letter (and that raises another point) is addressed to Bombay. It carries the double ring FREE for the 30th December 1839. Lovegrove (*Herewith My Frank*), discussing what he alluded to as the 'Foreign Branch Free' had this to say "I surmise..... the Free Frank was only applied in the course of travel through the general post and before the other - the Foreign Branch Stamp - was applied. Sections 6 and 7 of the Franking Act 1820 state quite plainly that "Foreign and Ship Letters are excluded from the Privilege" and that use of the Parliamentary Franking stamp was confined to Great Britain and Ireland."

This letter shown above is dated "London Decr thirty 1839" and franked by the Rt. Hon. Henry Labouchere, M.P. for Taunton: it seems curious for Parliament to be in session as late as the 30th of December and, that not being the case, why should be FREE have been applied? Be that as it may, the lack of the Ship Letter Office FREE would have been due to the letter passing through the Foreign rather than the Ship Letter Office. It was, indeed, the Foreign Office who applied the VIA FALMOUTH stamp.

As this is but a front, we have no knowledge on when the letter was RETURNED FROM Bombay, the addressee being noted as *Dead*, other than the stamp is recorded as late as 1842.

We are left with two postal history problems. Should the use of the VIA FALMOUTH stamp be referred to as being applied to all mail going through that port which might have travelled otherwise? Should the FREE stamp have been applied, Parliament not being in session and, secondly, on an item clearly going overseas?

Responses from readers with knowledge on either or both points will be much appreciated.

LOUISE D'ORLÉANS, A FRENCHWOMAN IN LONDON 1816

Eunice Shanahan

When this letter was seen on a stamp dealer's table it could not be passed by. My particular interest in postal history is of London postmarks and this one had London Twopenny and General Post stamps. The one which jumped out was the Twickenham postmark, having been at school there, so naturally it called for a closer look. The letter is dated 11 12 Nbre, 1816 and is addressed to Docteur Boiragon etc., etc., etc, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire and is inscribed 'P.p', the writer signifying post paid.



The markings show it was handed in at the Twickenham Two Penny Post Office, a 'country' receiving house and sorting office. The writer prepaid both the local charge and the General Post charge, giving the Twickenham 2 py P Paid and the oval framed Paid stamp, where the total nine pence charge was entered. On arrival in London, the Chief Office time stamp for noon being applied, in red, to the reverse. To complete the London marks, the General Post Chief Office date stamp was struck and the letter was en route to Cheltenham.

The letter was in French, which required unlocking memory banks and the dictionary No state secrets, much on digestive problems.

When I left Cheltenham, Doctor, you asked me to give you my news at the end of two months. I found myself so well, from your kind care, that I can do so with pleasure and complete trust.

Since then, I have followed exactly the regime and treatment which you prescribed for me and I found myself infinitely better for some months but, for the last fortnight, despite following the same regime and treatment, I have not been nearly as well, and I have returned to the state you saw me in, when I arrived at Cheltenham.

There are a few more sentences, giving detailed descriptions of her tummy troubles, the least graphic of which are:-

When I take no salt or pills, my digestion is not good. I become yellow again, for several days, in particular my balance is not good, I have much trouble in getting to sleep. This morning my head was spinning, and I had a heavy head. I was grubby, uncomfortable and had no appetite, in a word, I was what you would call languid.

She then closes the letter.....

Now that I have given you the details of what I suffer and my observations, I put myself entirely in your hands again, and I will do exactly what you advise. My belief in you is complete, I always think of you with gratitude and appreciation of the interest that you have shown to me, and for the care that you have had for me, for which I am so grateful, believe me, my dear Doctor, that I will never forget it and that I am very pleased to have this occasions to give you my renewed assurances. Please give my regards to your delightful children, I hope that they are well. Mr brother, as well as the Comptesses of Verac and Mountjoy send their compliments.

Your affectionate
Louise A.E. D'Orléans

Not only does this letter have four really clear postal markings but the letter is sealed with the impression of a crest. It is a very clear and detailed impression of an oval shape with a diamond inside it. In the diamond is a crown with five Fleur-de-lys. There is a sign like the letter 'T', which it is understood signifies the cadet branch of the family and then three Fleur-de-lys: this looks like the D'Orléans family crest. Given the letter's signature, this seems correct *

It is difficult to be adamant, given the letter is signed 'Louise A.E.' but it is suggested this is the sister of the Duke of Orléans who became King of the French in 1830 Her name was Adelaide Eugenie Louise, a devoted admirer and supporter of her brother and lived much of her adult life with him and his family. The records show she was certainly living with the family in Orleans House Twickenham during their stay in 1815 - 17, during which period the Duke of Orléans also stayed there. The Twickenham local

history Group have produced a booklet "The Orléans family in Twickenham 1800 - 1932", confirming both his sister and mother visited him there when they stayed at, what is now called, Orleans House, which was a school - but the writer paid no attention to history and failed to register the connection with the French Royal family.

As a matter of interest, if this is Adelaide Eugenie Louise D'Orléans, she lived until 1847, her doctor's regime and pills would seem to have worked.

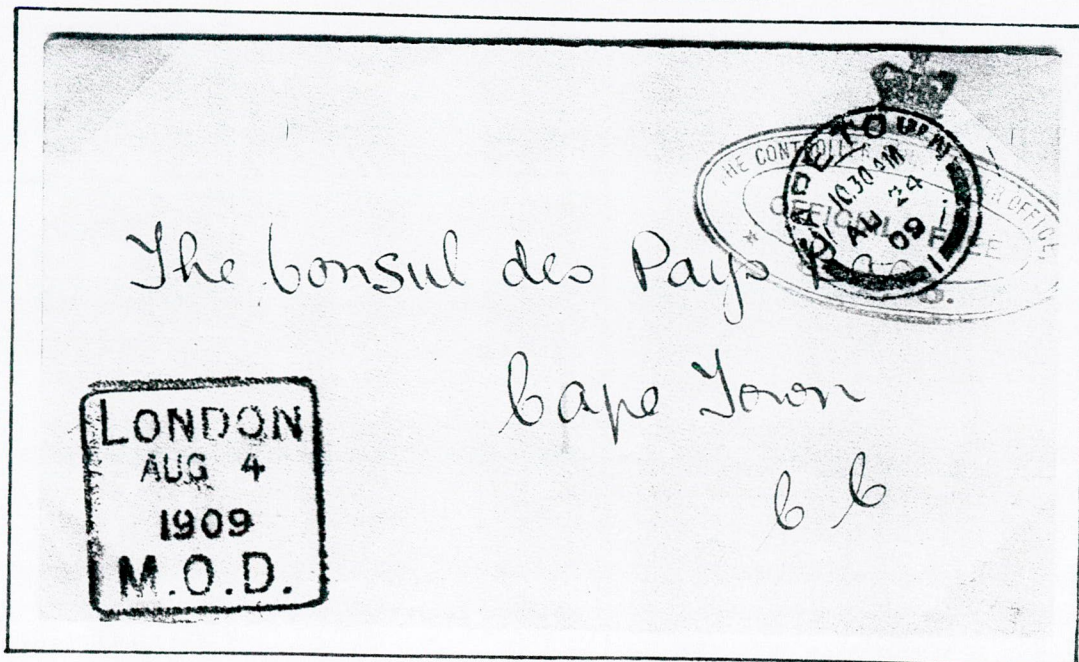
To add a personal note: letters such as this put the reader in touch with life as it was, much more so than an history textbook. It is no surprise to know lifestyles have altered over a period of 180 years but, in fact, things change quicker than that. When at the school (a good few years ago) it was all-girls and when the Rugby Union Internationals were held at Twickenham the girls were given the half day off to avoid contact with those rough male spectators: nowadays a niece plays rugby football !

* Acknowledgement is made to Bob Williams of Western Australia and Dr. Cashmore of the Twickenham Local History Society for advice regarding this lady.

INTERNATIONAL MONEY ORDERS

Robert I. Johnson

London and Cape Colony August 1909



The Money Order Office in London would have sent this envelope, with a credit notification, to the Money Order Office in Cape Town in Cape Town for the amount of the money order or the envelope would have contained a receipt for the payment of a money order in the United Kingdom. The London MOD postmark is rarely seen used like this

On receipt in Cape Town the Money Order Office would have inserted a money order payable to the Dutch Consul in Cape Town and, after franking the envelope with the M.O.D. free frank in blue, would have passed the envelope into the ordinary postal system for delivery.

London to Paris December 1899

An official British envelope containing the notification of the issue of a money order payable at Luneville Post Office in Meurthe et Moselle.

The system operated in such a way as to reduce the risk of fraud. The person paying in Great Britain would send the order direct to the payee in Luneville by post.

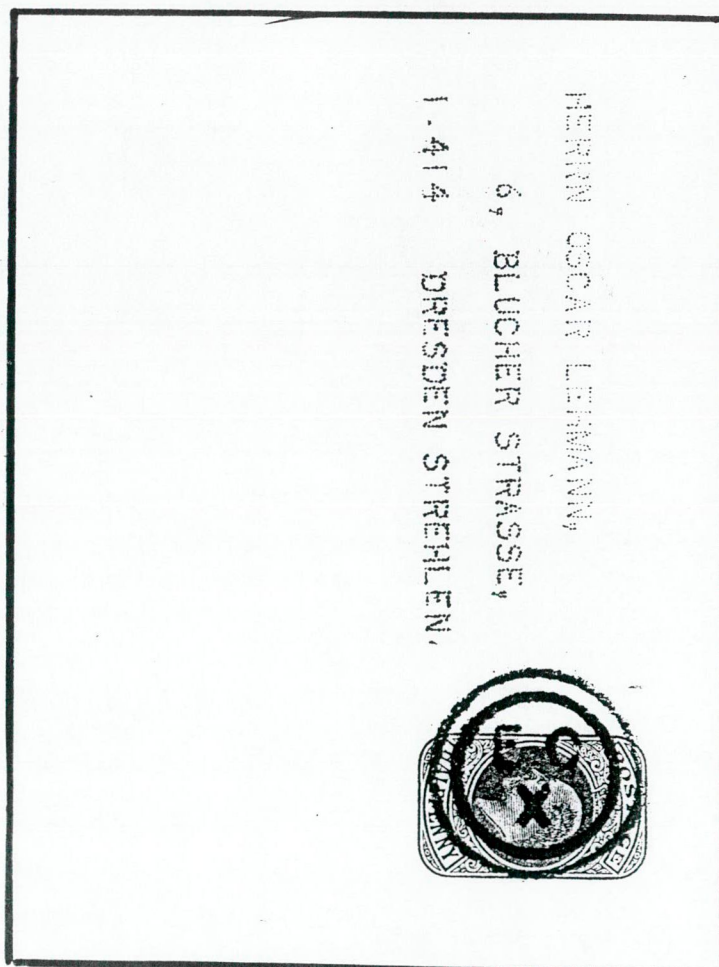
shown on the next page



**EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT
OFFICE
NEWSPAPERS BRANCH
CANCELLATION**

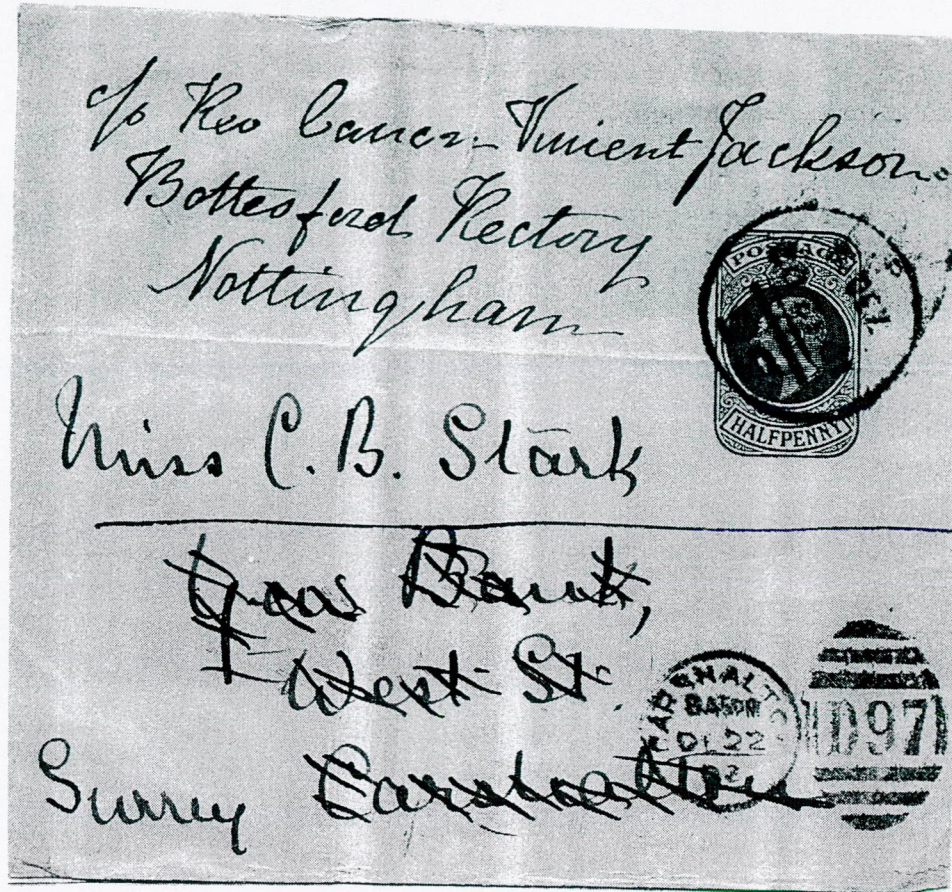
Stitt Dibden noted how the reorganization of 1892 drew into the ½d Book Post a new field of mail and to meet this, dies of the types used in the N.P.B. were introduced (into the ECDO). They approximate and, in some cases, duplicated the designs in current used in the N.P.B.'

His type 74, recorded 1901 to 1910 by him, carried the note 'seen only letters "C" and "N". This fine strike with "X" offers, again, proof there is much yet to record. Unfortunately the wrapper is undated, the Scandinavian countries were much better at providing useful arrival marks!



CARSHALTON REDIRECTION

There were just two purchases at STAMPEX this year, the first of these being well into Sunday afternoon before it was found. Unless interested in building a collection of local material, at first glance this Halfpenny Post wrapper redirected from Carshalton appears to be of slight importance.



To begin with, the wrapper is cancelled by the Halfpenny Book Post stamp for West Kensington (55) on the 19th December, 1902 and delivered to Miss C.B. Stark, Yew Bank, West Street, Carshalton. West Street is one of the 'old' roads in the town and, it has to be said, was not a 'good address' when compared with the road running parallel to it, North Street. By the turn of the 20th. century this was no longer the case and in the 21st. century Yew Bank and the other timber framed houses are in the middle of a conservation area and deemed 'desirable'.

In December 1902 Miss Stark have gone to Bottesford Rectory, Nottingham and the forwarding of the item marked by the application of the Carshalton D97 upright oval duplex some three days after being posted. Arrival at the Rectory was not marked by an arrival stamp, possibly the Christmas rush being in full swing such nicety of treatment was ignored.

Why the interest? This is the first redirected item with the duplex to come to notice after nearly twenty years of collecting hence Interest H, Rarity G, Value A.

LONDON MARITIME MAIL

"The Great Liverpool"

Although recorded in the Post Office Proof Impression Book on 10th March, 1846, it would appear no covers bearing the cachet have, as yet, been recorded. Hoggarth and Gwynn cite no fewer than seven published references confirming this.

220

To what Place	Date when sent	Stamps
<p><i>No Stamp for letters saved from the Wreck of the Liverpool India Mail Steamer</i></p> <p><i>10 Mar</i></p>		
<p>SAVED FROM THE WRECK OF THE GREAT LIVERPOOL</p> <p>SAVED FROM THE WRECK OF THE GREAT LIVERPOOL</p>		

However, a closely related item is the following letter which cites *The Times* as reporting the sinking and some of the consequences.

3 Cambridge Place
Regent's Park March 28 1846

Sir,

In yesterday's Times, I saw a paragraph stating that great difficulty had been experienced at the General Post Office 1 in separating the letters which had been sunk in the Great Liverpool, 2 and in the deciphering the addressees. Allow me to make the following suggestions.

1. To separate the letters without further destroying the ink or paper, expose to the action of steam for a short time. This may be done in a vessel like a cullender (*sic*) used for steaming potatoes. The adhesion of the letters will depend probably either upon the size in the paper or in the crystallization of the salt imbibed by the paper from the sea water. In either case the steam will cause their separation without diluting the ink and thus destroying the manuscript.
2. For deciphering the addressees: Unless the action of the salt in the sea-water has gone very far indeed, there will be some iron left in the paper in the state of oxide, wherever the ink marks exist: the blackness of the ink being removed by the destruction of the vegetable principle tannin. In this case, make a solution of one drachim of ferricyanide of potassium in eight drachims (i.e. one ounce) of distilled water and carefully paint over the surface of the letter with the solution using a fine camel's hair brush and taking care to avoid friction or to leave any of the solution lying on the paper. If the minutest trace of the iron of the ink be left, Prussian blue will be formed, and the letters will be visible. This experiment will at least then (show) whether the ink be entirely destroyed or not. The plan might enable persons to read their letters. I am

Sir, Your obed^t servant

Alfred S Taylor FR

Lecturer on Medical Jurisprudence
and Chemistry in Guy's Hospital

Lieut Col Maberley
&c &c &c

p.s. You are at Liberty to make any use of this communication you please.

Ed : this post script actually appears at the top of the letter