

NOTEBOOK

Number 165 December, 2006

IN THIS ISSUE.....

Page 2	Too Late for Morning Post	
	London More To Pay Stamp	Robert I Johnson
3	Mixed Bag of Covers	Michael C. Goodman
5	A Franking Inspector's Mark ?	David Shaw
	London Local Letters Only	
7	Paddington Station	Robert I Johnson
8	Some Scarce Diamonds	Michael C. Goodman
	Sorting the '5.30'	H. V. Morton
10	Woolwich Common	Peter Bathe
11	On the Privileges and Modes of Franking Letters	J.G.S. Scott
13	Muswell Hill and Banstead	Andrew Ford
14	The Franking System Archbishops and Bishops	John E. Colton

© 2006 L. P. H. G.

EDITOR

Peter A Forrestier Smith, 64 Gordon Road,
CARSHALTON, Surrey. SM5 3RE

Copy Editor : Don. G.T. Franks

E-mail : lphgat64@aol.com

EDITORIAL.....

We always advise potential members 'the journal is produced, somewhat erratically up to five times a year'. For 2006 'erratically' remained and we reached only four issues.

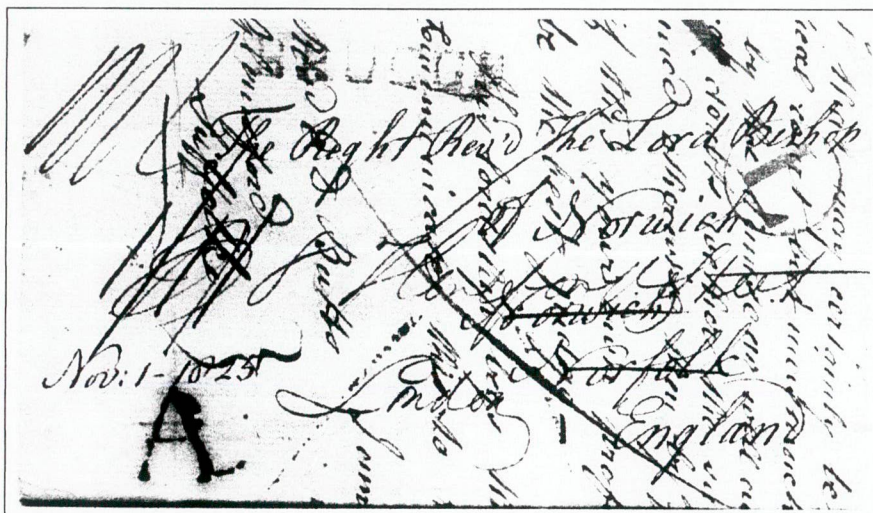
Apart from the growing number of 'senior moments', we can claim some credit in the publication of the revised edition of Barrie Jay's Part 3 - London catalogue and expected to have a number of additional dates, types etc. reported. This has not been the case and we do not believe for one moment there is 'nothing new in London', as we were told back in 1971.

On this score the matter is very firmly with readers, be they members or not. At least one resolution for 2007 which you will, we are hopeful, keep.

TOO LATE FOR MORNING POST

There are three versions of the 'Too Late for Morning Post' stamps listed in Jay (L.703 to 705). All are in red, except when used on redirected letters, then struck in black; this is listed for (L.703) in 1814 only. This is a continuation of the practice of using black ink for date stamps when used on returned and / or redirected mail.

The example of L.705 shown here is from the first year of use and is accompanied by a number of other postal marking and rate changes.



The letter was written from BRUGES, Netherlands, November 1st, 1825 - the obverse shows a straight line BRUGES struck in black. This is accompanied by the 'A' ("may have been used in the Twopenny Post" L.190a); an encircled 'L' ("This may have been used only in the Twopenny Post -?Late (L.195)"

It was datestamped in the Foreign Office on the 9th, cross instead of code (L.14d) and has the Twopenny Post time stamp for 12 noon.

The postage from the Low Countries 1s 4d plus 7d post to Norwich, making 1s 11d total. This was deleted and 1N4 substituted, the Bishop, to whom the letter is addressed, being entitled to free Inland post.

The letter was then redirected to London.



The Post Office Notice of 7th December, 1792 required a charge for redirection but the Bishop's letter again went free.

LONDON MORE TO PAY STAMP

Robert I. Johnson

The cover illustrated on page 3 shows the treatment by the British Post Office, Constantinople, in June 1870.

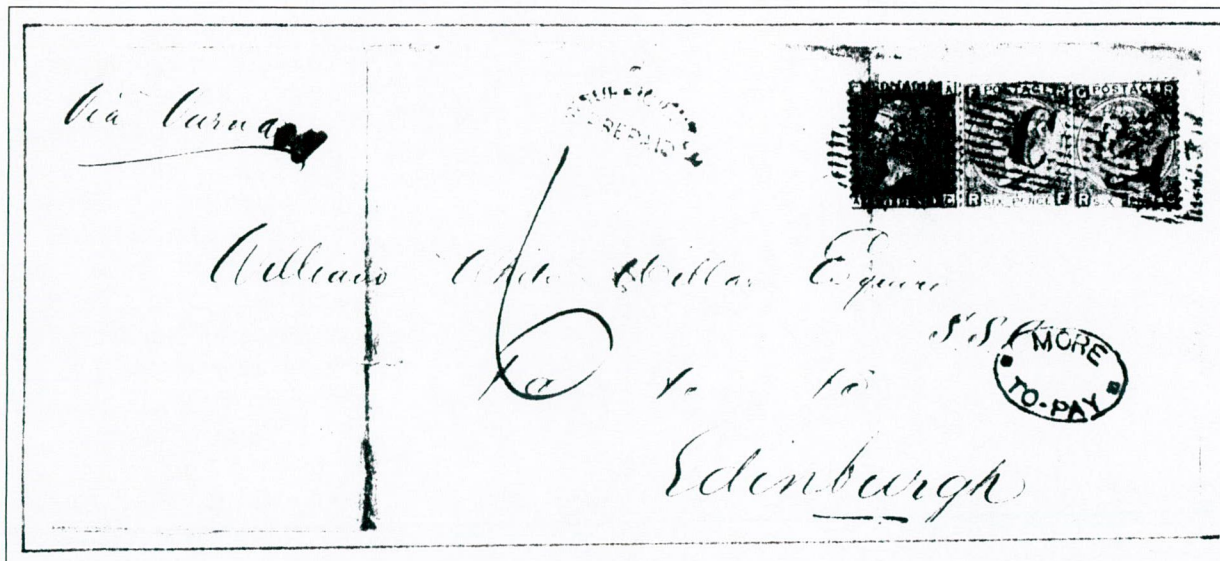
This letter from Constantinople to Edinburgh went on the route via Varna, on the Black Sea coast of Bulgaria, then Vienna and France; the rate for this route was 8^d for each ½ ounce.

From the 1st January, 1864 fixed extra charges were raised on letters not fully prepaid but which carried at least one rate of postage, the details applicable to this letter are:-

The extra charge was 2^d for each ½ ounce.

This letter should have been prepaid two rates, i.e. 1^s4^d.

The calculation of the 6^d is 2^d deficient postage and two extra charges of 2^d each - 4^d.



Reduced to approx. 70% of original

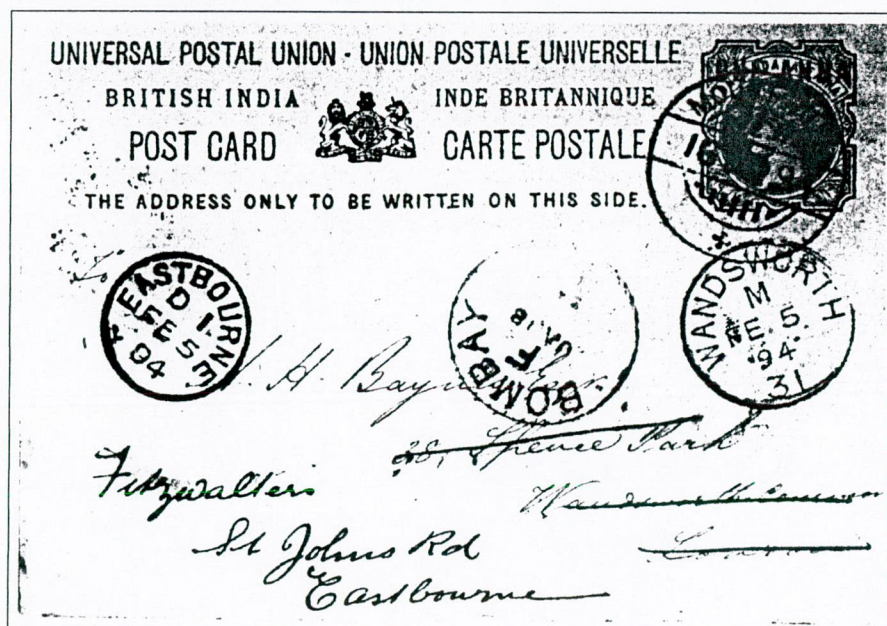
The half oval INSUFFICIENTLY PREPAID was put on in Constantinople and the MORE TO PAY in London.

Editor's Note: For readers wishing to learn more about the British Post Office In Constantinople, see *GB Used Abroad, Cancellations and Postal Markings* by John Parmenter, published by *The Postal History Society*.

MIXED BAG OF COVERS

From Michael C. Goodman

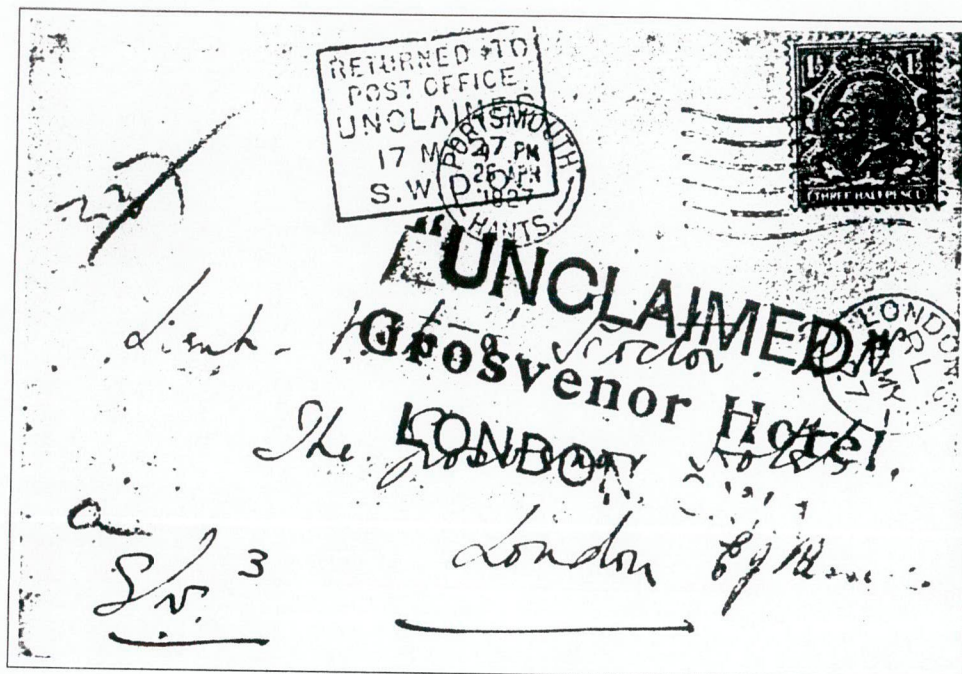
It is a matter of regret the photocopier was producing over dark examples but, despite this, it is hoped readers will find this small selection has something of interest and may be able to offer further examples of the several types of postal markings.



A British India post card, addressed to Wandsworth, from where it was readdressed and posted on. Wandsworth use the missort stamp with 31 at the foot, very early example in 1894. Why this? The letter was readdressed, not missorted by the Post Office, and required the use of the normal handstamp.

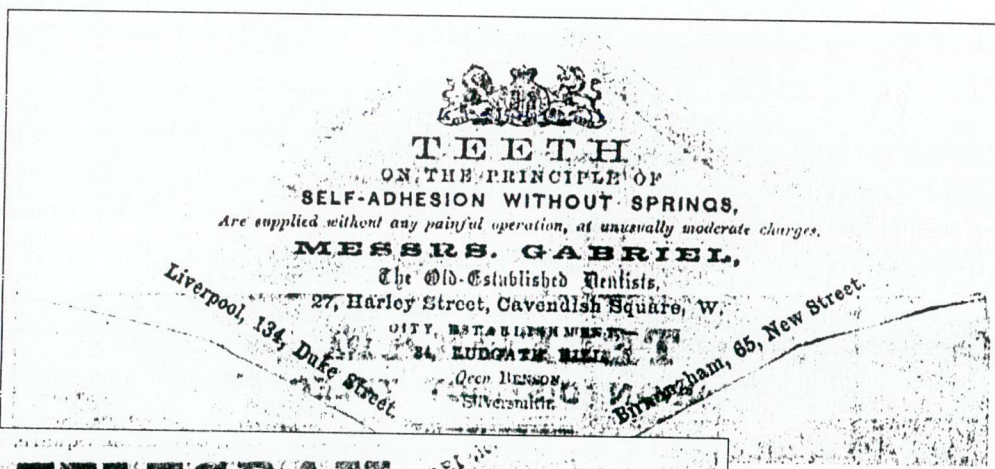
QUEEN'S HOTEL,
SOUTHSEA.

An envelope, with QUEEN'S HOTEL / SOUTHSEA imprint on the reverse, from 1927, posted in Portsmouth on the 26th April. Addressed to a Lieutenant at the



Grosvenor Hotel London. They retained this until the 17th May, at which time the Grosvenor returned it as unclaimed, applying their own handstamp (which indicates the number of letters must have been sufficient to require such a device or the Grosvenor were 'very proper'.) The Post Office provided two date stamps of interest. The c.d.s. RL duty and the framed RETURNED TO / POST OFFICE / UNCLAIMED / DATE / S.W.D.O.

The London District Telegraph envelope, shown next, demonstrates the enterprise of the organization by printing commercial advertising inside, which was opened with sufficient care to retain the whole intact, apart from a



small tear at the gummed section. Although it carries the time there is no date and it would be helpful if a reader knows the period when it might have been used.

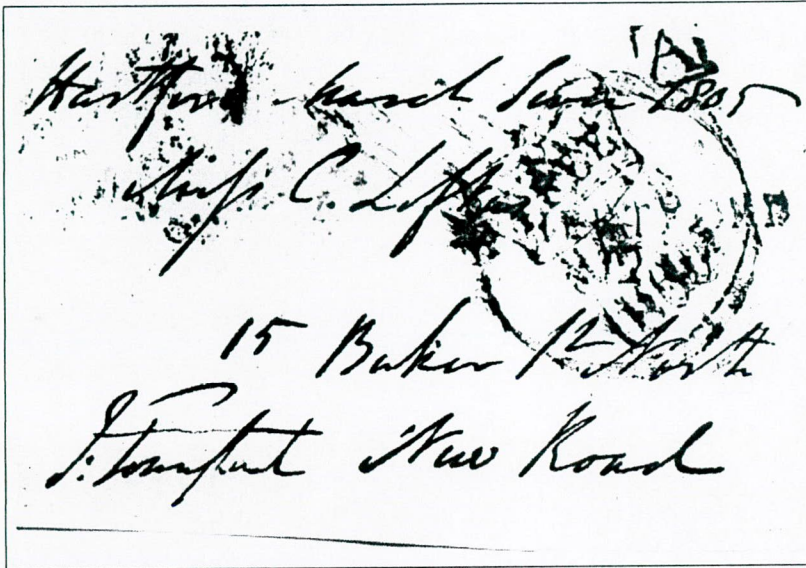


Two unusual cancellations on adhesives. Both Penny Lilacs are on local letters, both dated 1881 with one reading CLAPHAM BRANCH OFFICE S.W., the other CAMBERWELL / SORTING OFFICE. Were these reserved for local letters only? Further examples please.

A FRANKING INSPECTOR'S MARK?

An Item From David Shaw

Some time since David Shaw sent to the Editor a front with, what appears to be, an Inspector's mark, a framed, serif, capital A. This generated some (very) speculative notes.



The address endorsement at the top reads "Hartford - March Seven 1805", whereas the HERTFORD / 23 mileage stamp, as can be seen, was the spelling in general use on handstamps by 1763. It should be noted, however, a stray HARTFORD stamp is recorded for 1791/1792. The FREE stamp is for the following day, no delay in the letter getting to London.

The signature, to one not well versed in notables of Hertford in 1805, is unclear but would be readily identified by the Clerk in the Franking Office. What he most likely

noted was the place from which it was written, Hartford, was not the place at which it was posted, Hertford. There are a number of Hartfords in the country; one near Huntingdon is listed in the gazetteer as having "a seat", which betokens someone with franking rights.

It is suggested the Franking Clerk, deferring to the social position of the writer, referred the query to a more senior member of staff. This official decided, possibly, the writer used the old form of spelling and that the letter was entitled to be stamped with the FREE, in support of which the framed A, in much the same red as the FREE mark, was applied.

This type of Inspector's mark, if that is what it is, was not introduced in London, it is believed, until many years after 1805: this is not to say the Franking Office, given the 'quality' of those who required its attentions did not have a special mark, recognized as such by the patrons of the Franking service.

It would be useful to learn of another example of this mark being used.

LONDON LOCAL LETTERS ONLY

Collectors of London may be aware of the curious limited services offered at some London Receiving Houses. The 1856 Post Office Guide lists the London Receiving Houses within the Town District, arranged in the several London Districts. Three of those listed carry the note "For London Local Letters Only."

A note appeared in the Spring 1974 issue of "The British Mailcoach" (the first of a run of twenty nine quarterly publications edited throughout by Michael Champness).

"The offices at 15 Charing Cross, 25 Cornhill and 152 Oxford Street were so endorsed, and from a study of covers emanating from Cornhill between 1840 and 1850 it is evident that in general only such letters were handled until 1857, by which year greater latitude had been allowed. The exception was a letter addressed to Machyynlleth in Wales, which passed without comment or additional charge."

It should be noted 313 Regent Street carries the annotation *for London local Letters only* in the 1857 Post Office Guide.

This was followed with the appeal "Can anyone contribute any reason why these offices only accepted local letters, and why certain incorrectly posted items were apparently transmitted without comment?"

From a cursory canter through the next twenty eight issues, no-one responded, until now. Examination of a small collection of Cornhill, some thirty six items, yielded five examples. These were - :

<u>Dated</u>	<u>Sent to</u>
30.04.1839	Rochdale
04.09.1839	Dawlish
24.07.1841	Daventry
10.09.1857	France
25.08.1859	Cardiff

Single collections are unlikely to reflect the overall pattern having been put together for, often, a specific purpose and this, no doubt, is the case here. Thirty four years later the invitation to readers is repeated, with the request to include examples from the other three offices.

Other interesting italicized notes in the Post Office in the Guide include:-.

East Central District.

Blackwall Railway Station, Fenchurch Street (*Letter-box*)

Fleet Street, near to No. 54 (*Pillar Letter-box*)

Whitecross street (*within the prison*)

West Central District

135 Strand , *Pillar Letter-box* by

180 Strand

Northern District

Great Northern Railway station (*Letter box*)

Eastern District

London Docks (*Letter Box*)

South Eastern District

Queen's Bench (*within the Prison*)

South Eastern and Brighton Railway (*Letter Box*)

Southern District

South Western Railway (*Letter Box*)

South Western District

Houses of Parliament (*issues money orders during the sessions*)

Knightsbridge, St. George's place *Pillar Letter box.*

Pall Mall *Pillar Letter box*

Western District

Piccadilly, *Pillar Letter box* near to No.82

North Western District

North Western Railway Station (*Letter box*)

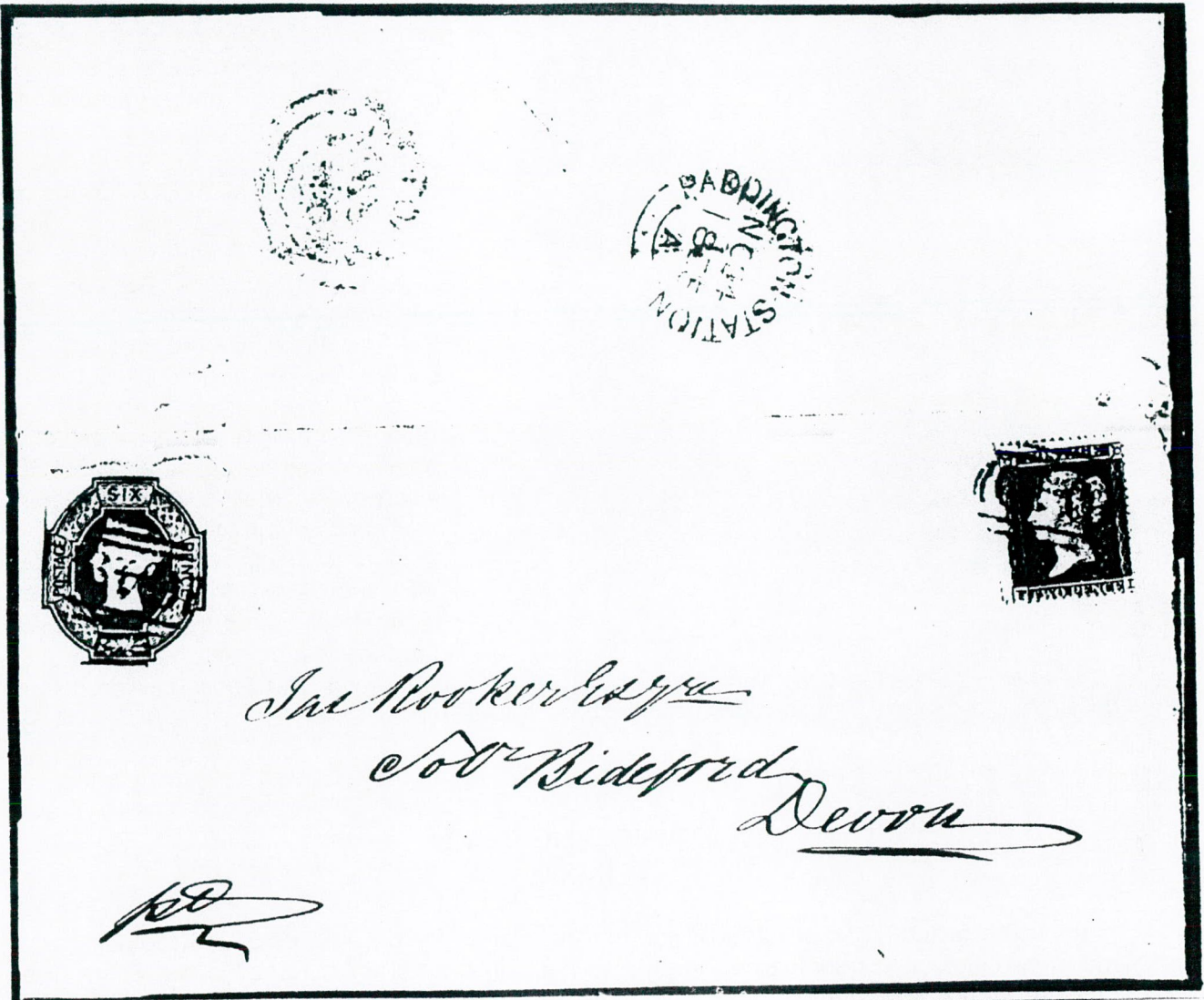
Readers will make the connection the recent article by Peter Bathe on the mis-named 'Mail Guard Stamps'.

The British Postal Guide, facsimile reprint, may be obtained from
Postings Publications, P.O. Box 1, OXTED, Surrey RH8 0FD

PADDINGTON STATION

Robert I. Johnson

This is an early use of the 049 numeral of Paddington Station, being sent from the GPO on the 2nd October, 1855 (it was later allocated to St. Johns Chapel Durham).



The Twopenny blue, small crown, perf. 16, Alphabet II and the Sixpenny Embossed are both cancelled with the 049, a few weeks after issue, the Paddington date stamp on the reverse is for 24th November, 1855.

The Sixpenny represents a Late Fee at stations for mail that night, an extremely rare rate and cancellation.

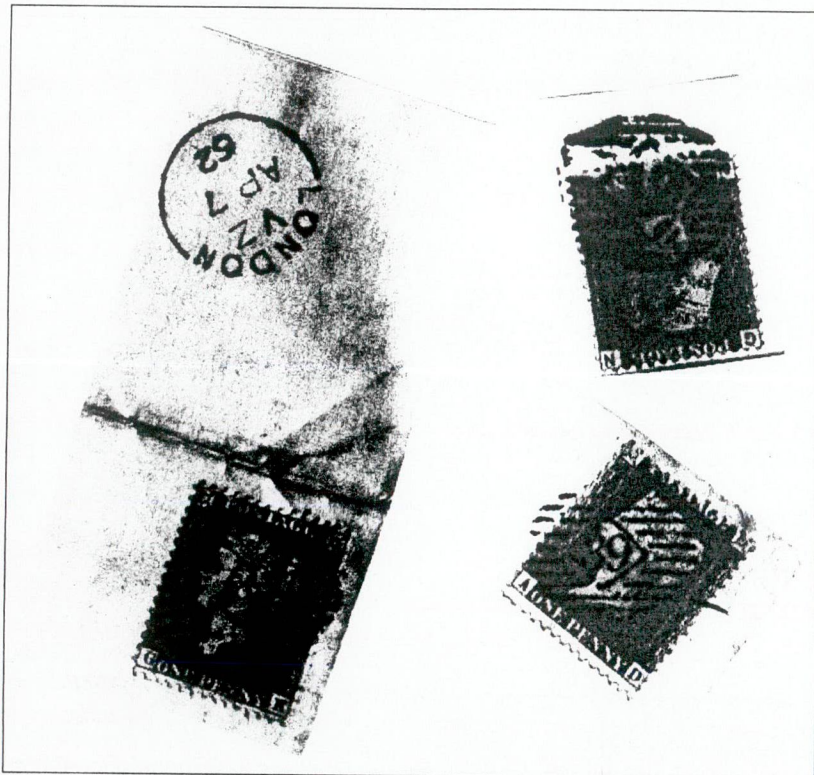
WANTED.....

Readers are invited to contribute a 'Wants List', about the size of this frame. Any subject, need not be London as many readers collect across a range of subject (The Editor dabbles in Roman States and Vatican for example).

Responses are not guaranteed but members often have the 'stray' unneeded item, not enough for the Packet or , because a single item, is not offered through the auction.

SOME SCARCE DIAMONDS

Michael G. Goodman



Inland Office collectors will be interested to see details of three items sent in by Michael, with brief comment, slightly expanded here. They are presented in number order for convenience and are cut outs from the original, over dark, photocopies.

The 6 is the 2/9/9/2 format on page 226, issued 1st March, 1862 and listed as 'Rarity G.P.O.' The date stamp, also shown, on the reverse is AP 7 / 62.

The 12 is, it is suggested, is a 2/9/9/2 format, page 235 but is of worn / over inked appearance making the identification difficult. What is easy is the date JL 5 / 66, which puts it well beyond the latest use recorded thus far.

Finally, 39 in a 3/6/6/3 format is 39B, see page 264 ; the illustration in the book is from a tracing and, apparently, incorrect..

The references are to *Barred Numeral Cancellations of London* by John Parmenter, published 1999 by the British Philatelic Trust - all readers will benefit with a copy on their bookshelf.

SORTING THE '5.30'

H.V. Morton

I think the grandfather of all good journalism, Daniel Defoe, remarked that nothing gave him a more vivid idea of London's size than the daily business at the Customs House. There was, of course, no G.P.O. when Defoe lived. I would give anything to show him round King Edward's Building, E.C., at about 6 p.m. any night of the week, for here the size of London leaps at you till your head goes round....

It is nearly 6 p.m. All over the City of London those little enamelled discs - 'Next collection, 5.30 p.m.' - have been removed from the pillar-boxes. The big evening mail has gone! It is the boast of the Post Office that letters posted before 5.30 p.m. in the E.C. are delivered in the London area the same night. It is the rush mail of the day; a mail that comes in like a white avalanche, is stamped, sorted, broken up and sent out at once to flutter like an evening snowstorm over London.

In a long, high room 1,300 men grapple with the '5.30.' As you enter you push through an army of postmen who have just emptied the pillar-boxes and are handling in their enamelled discs and the keys which unlock the boxes on their 'walks'. (A policeman calls his patrol a 'beat'; a postman calls the same patrol a 'walk'.)

You go on into the most quietly efficient scene in London.

Wide, travelling bands covered with letters and postcards empty a stream of correspondence into baskets. They travel from the post-boxes outside the G.P.O. As soon as a letter is posted it moves on and falls into the stamping-room.

Men carry the baskets and pour them into the general mail that lies like a miniature Switzerland on a series of long tables. It has come from pillar-boxes in office and street. The letters are arranged with the stamps all facing one way, and are passed through a machine that

goes click-click-click, stamping 1,000 items a minute, writing 'British Goods Are Best' on the stamp, and adding a circle containing: 'London, E.C. (the date, the year) 6.15 p.m.'

'But this is a 5.30 mail! Why do you stamp it 6.15?'

'Collections are stamped three-quarters of an hour later than the pillar-box time because we discovered that some people got up to all kinds of trickery. At one time it was quite common for people to hear the result of a race sharp on posting time, write out a bet and rush to the pillar-box, and afterwards produce the postmark as a proof that they had made their bet before the race was run! Things like that!'

One stamping machine deals exclusively with official matter. Is there a more melancholy sight in the G.P.O. than 1,000 long buff income tax letters being rushed out with indecent haste to the, as yet, unsuspecting public?

The mail, stamped, passes on down the room in a steady stream, where it is joined by another stream of letters from dozens of provincial mails that happen to arrive at the same time. It is 'broken up'. It is sorted. Hampstead's letters go into one department. Norwood's into another. Park Lane's into a third; and so on. Postmen in the E.C. 'walks' come along, take up their bags, and go apart to sort the mail in the order in which they will deliver it. They make little piles, each pile a different street, arranged numerically. No two postmen sort their letters alike. They know their 'walks' and they know the peculiarities of them

'Why do you put letters for No. 32 crossways on those for 46?'

'Well, you see No. 32 has moved to 46, and the housekeeper at 46 takes them in for him. No.3 in C---- Street has a brother at No. 104. He's ill and has transferred his business to his brother, who takes in his mail. Now see this! That is what makes a lot of trouble to us postmen. "Mr. Jones, Splendiferous House, E.C. 1." Now Mr. Jones has a little office in the rook, but he won't put "Room 510" on his notepaper, because he wants people to think he owns the whole blinkin' show. Till you get to know these people with large addresses and small offices you spend hours finding them. But yo soon get to know them!

* * *

Past the crowd of sorting postmen (who seem to be playing some obscure card game by themselves), you go into the last scene of all. Outside in a great yard the Royal Mail vans await the first bags for the district offices. They are flung in, checked, the doors bang:

'Right away, Bill'

And off the red van goes with its income tax notes, letters beginning, 'Sir, - We are surprised to learn that the enclosed account...', letters beginning, 'Dearest, - It seems a century since I saw you...'; letters beginning, 'With reference to yours of the 18th ultimo...' (millions of those!)

'Have you any statistics about the 5.30 mail?'

'We have,' says the official, bringing out a book.

'An average posting every day for the 5.30 at this office is 146,395 letters, 3,983 postcards, 5,715 registered letters, which with newspapers, packets, etc., makes up a daily total of one collection of 260,280. But that is not the heaviest mail. Every week, the 7.15 a.m. delivery in the City of London totals 6,642,700, and in addition...'

'No more figures, please! They cease to mean anything!'

'And remember that this is only one office.'

* * *

Upstairs you enter the region of foreign mails. Men are sending a few hundred thousand letters to Cuba, to Egypt, to small republics in South America whose names remind you of geography primers. In one corner of this room the whole British Fleet is mapped out in little boxes, each box the name of a battleship.

'Admiral's Letters' is a big sign over this department.

'The admiral', it is explained 'being a big pot, has his letters delivered in a special bag.'

Downstairs again.

The clock strikes 7 p.m. A change has come over the big room. The white flood has ebbed. You have to walk two hundred years to catch sight of its tail disappearing into the sorting boxes. Outside is a roar of motor engines and a slamming of doors. Postmen are shouldering bags and

marching off into the night. The great room in the G.P.O. has digested the '5.30' prompt to the minute!

Then... click-click-click...

The stamping machines all sing together. The busy 1,300 form up again behind the tables. The revolving bands again shower their burdens into the baskets, hundreds of bags are again emptied on tables.

"That's the 6.30 just beginning!"

The tables are suddenly white once more! In a secluded corner a man who combines the eye of a hand-writing expert with the mind of a detective shuffles the casualties of the night mail:

'Mr. Jones, London.'

He flings it wearily into a box marked 'Blind'.

* * *

And the white avalanche of the 6.30 moves on through the machine....

Contributed by Brian Smith -

The first chapter of *THE NIGHTS OF LONDON* by H.V. Morton, sixth edition, published by Methuen & Co. Ltd and reprinted here by kind permission.

WOOLWICH COMMON

Peter Bathe

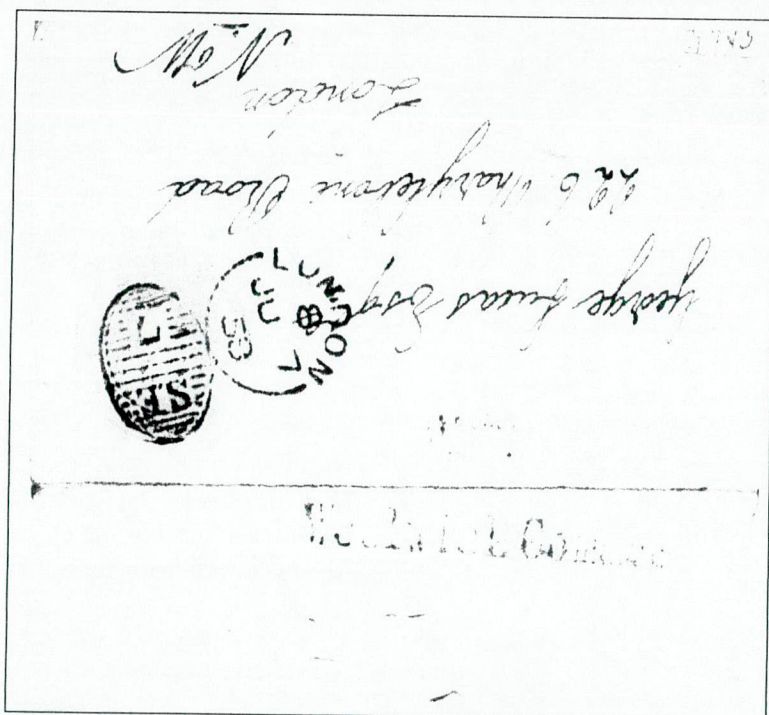
Plans for a revision of part of the article on Woolwich Common (*Notebook 153, p.9*) have been brought forward by the report from Ray Barton of two examples of the Woolwich Common straight line namestamp used in 1858.

Woolwich Common, the high ground to the south of the town of Woolwich, was developed by the army from the end of the 18th. century, with the building of the Royal Artillery Barracks (completed 1802) and the Royal Military Academy (1808). A number of imposing terraced houses were then put up on the eastern boundary of Woolwich Common between the Barracks and the Academy - along the line of the road from Woolwich to Eltham and these houses were occupied by Army officers and their families (General Gordon was born into a military family at No. 29 in 1833) as well as successful tradesmen and professional people from Woolwich.

During the expansion of the postal services after the introduction of the Uniform Penny Post in 1840, the inhabitants of such a prosperous area would doubtless have called for their own post office, rather than have to venture into the less salubrious parts of the town - or to have to send their servants so far - in order to post their correspondence.

Although there was some discussion about a fourth receiving house in

Woolwich in 1854, the location of the proposed new office was never mentioned and it would seem that no additional receiving house was ever opened at this time.



However, in the early 1850s, an alternative to a local post office receiving house was becoming available - the pillar letter box. Roadside letter boxes away from post offices were first introduced in the Channel Islands in 1851 and the scheme extended to the mainland in 1853, with the first six pillar boxes in central London set up in April 1855. In December of that year, authority was given for the establishment of roadside pillar letter boxes throughout London. The January edition of the British Post Office Guide lists four pillar boxes in suburban London, including one at Woolwich Common.

At this time it was mandatory for all letters to be impressed with the namestamp of the office of posting; there is evidence that, in the early days of letter boxes, special stamps were issued to be used on letters collected from at least some of the boxes, such as those at various London railway termini (Notebook 161 p11). Another example of this practice appears to have been at Woolwich Common.

A straight line "receiving office namestamp" (Champness F1, Jay L514) was issued to Woolwich Common on the 14th February, 1856 and examples of this stamp are known in use for four dates in 1856 (earliest 11th June) and - now - three in July 1858 (latest 7th July).

PO Guides refer to the pillar box on Woolwich Common from at least 1857 until an office was established there in 1871, so the Woolwich Common namestamp would have been held at an office at some distance away (probably the office in the High Street, Woolwich, then the main office for the area) and impressed on letters collected from this pillar box. The practice of stamping letters with undated namestamps was phased out between 14th September, 1859 and 17th March, 1860.

Readers with other examples of this handstamp are invited to report dates of use.

The later dated of the two examples sent in by Ray Barton illustrated.

ON THE PRIVILEGES AND MODES OF FRANKING LETTERS

By J.G.S. Scott

This article was originally published by the Postal History Society in
POSTAL HISTORY, No. 240 1986, 4th. Quarter and reprinted here with their permission.

There can be few aspects of the franked letters that have not been studied and collected exhaustively, whether concerning the free postmarks themselves or the franking privileges of the senders. Rather less has been said about the method of endorsement and this article has been stimulated both by a number of Free Letters which appear in this year's 50th anniversary auction and by a lengthy article in *The Gentleman's Magazine and Historical Chronicle* of 1784, from which the title is drawn. The author of 200 years ago is identified by the letter N and the town of East Dereham and the public interest in the matter presumably arose from the inauguration of the new mail coach service between London and Bristol, news of which is also contained within the same volume.

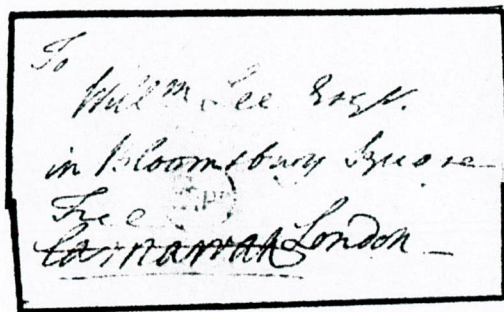


Fig. 1

Fig. 1 - Letter of 1764 from the Marquess of Carnarvon franked with a horizontal line through the signature.

In the mid-17th century it was initially the practice to use the word 'Frank', placed either above, before or after the name or title of the sender. Shortly thereafter the word 'Free' entirely superseded its predecessor and it is notable that in these early days of the system nearly all the superscriptions were written in the same hand as the letter itself. Our anonymous author of the 18th century examined a substantial collection of letters dating between 1660 and 1700 and records only one which did not correspond, this being a letter of 5 August 1691 written and addressed by Joseph Usher, agent to the Earl of Clare, on business relating to the late Duke of Newcastle's funeral, which was franked at the lower right 'Clare Frank'.

By the reign of George II it appears that the growing number of frauds, forgeries and other abuses had made many peers and commoners much more cautious in their franking. Particularly when blank franked covers were being given away it was even known for the word 'Free' to be erased and a promissory note to be written above the signature. Even the clergy were not above temptation and it is recorded that a Suffolk clergyman obtained a considerable sum of money in this way by adapting franks sent to him by Dr. Hoadley, Bishop of Winchester. A number of devices were employed to overcome such impositions, sometimes connecting the word 'Free' to the name, by drawing a line through the signature, or by placing the endorsement between two horizontal lines. Customers took the precaution either of writing the word 'Free'

between their christian and surname or of so writing the two elements that erasure became more of a problem. The example franked by Robert Wilmot is typical of this form.

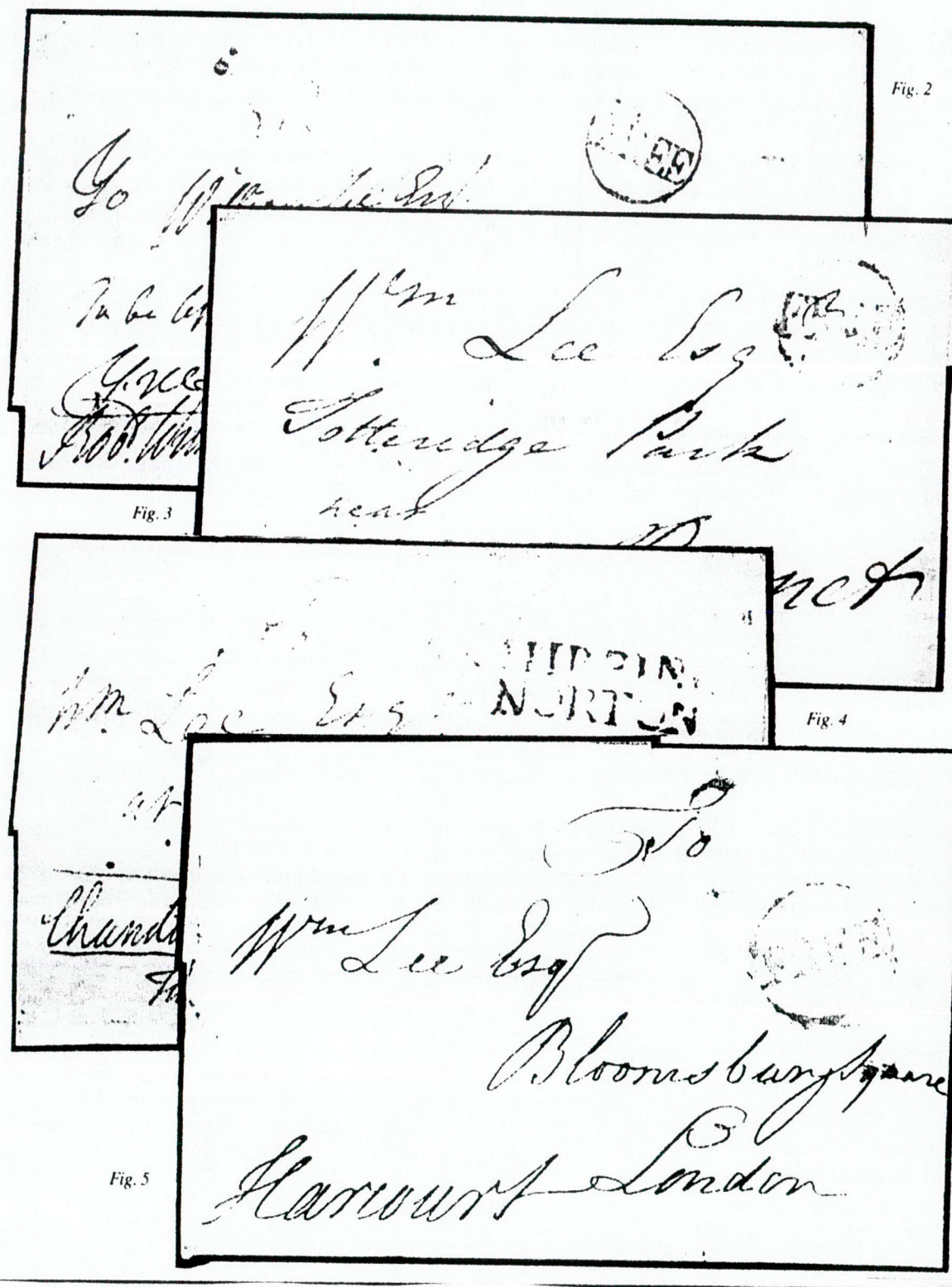


Fig. 2 - Letter of 1764 from Robert Wilmot showing the characteristic intertwining of the word Free with his signature.

Fig. 3 - A form of frank commoner twenty years earlier with Free joined to the name Purling on a letter of 1777, from John Purling, M.P. for Weymouth.

Fig. 4 - Letter from Earl Harcourt in 1775 with unembellished signature.

Fig. 5 - Letter sent by the Duke of Chandos from Chipping Norton in 1773 with lines above and below his signature

By Act of Parliament in 1764, it became the rule that the whole superscription had to be written in the hand of the person franking and since this also made the writing of a promissory note more difficult, the inscriptions used seem to have become simpler. In general the 'Free' began to be omitted and peers wrote only their title,

sometimes still with lines through or above and below, but more often without such embellishments. The examples illustrated which emanate from Lord Harcourt and Lord Chandos are typical of the new format. Our author of days past records one nobleman who continued to write his name between the post town and the county. He also observed that it was a common occurrence for franked signatures to contain far more "flourishes and other devises as marks of distinction" than the sender might use in his private letters. 1784 was also notable in the franking calendar as the year in which the Act was passed requiring the date and post-town to be written by the franker. This reform removed many of the lingering problems associated with fraud. In passing, our East Dereham correspondent makes an interesting observation on the early use of the oily bright red ink noted by Jim Lovegrove and other scholars on this subject. The intention when such marks were introduced in 1764 was apparently to use an ink which was sufficiently greasy to penetrate the paper and thus make it more difficult to erase the impression and use the frank a second time.

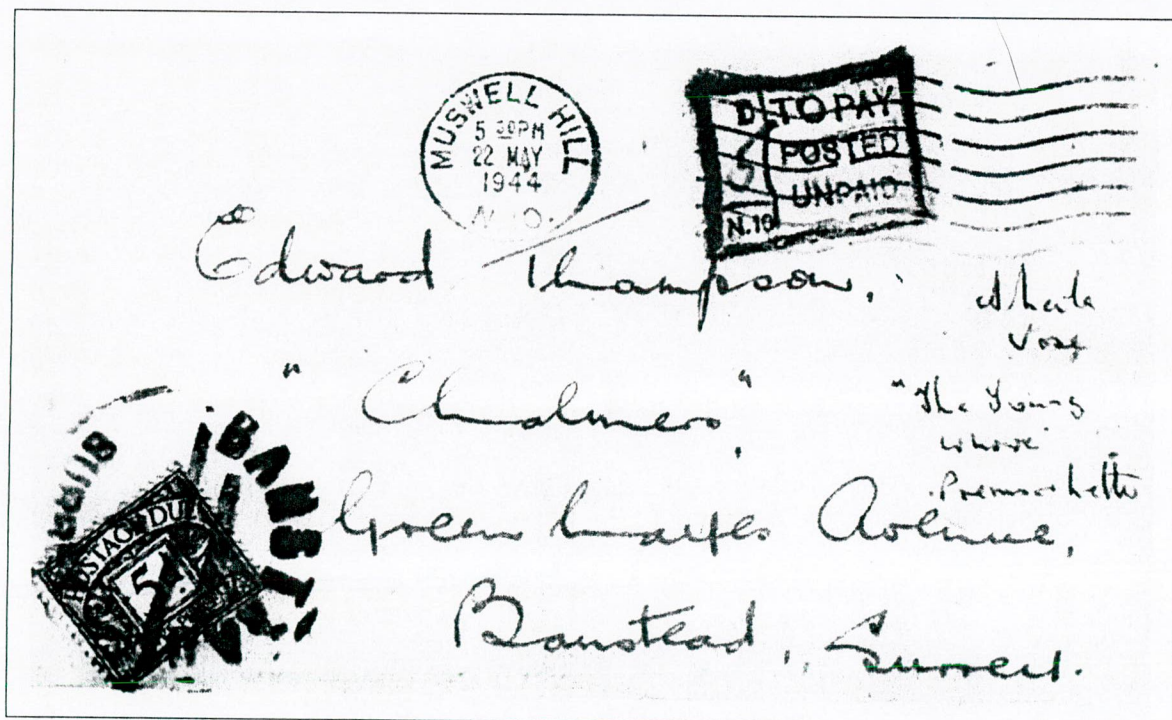
I can do no more than thank 'N' for thus stimulating my interest and end this contribution with his own words. It seems to be the province of the antiquary to endeavour, that those who live after him may have the knowledge of such variations continued to them by his pen...I much now close this essay...hoping the readers of this paper will excuse me for having taken up a few minutes of their time on a subject which, although some of them perhaps will think a trifling one, yet others, I hope, will esteem neither useless nor unentertaining".

Source; The Gentleman's Magazine and Historical Chronicle,
Vol. LIV, 1784.

MUSWELL HILL AND BANSTEAD

Andrew Ford

There is not a great deal to say here but the two stamps of interest are, firstly, the N.10 'TO PAY / POSTED / UNPAID' with '5' entered as the amount payable. Secondly, on arrival, the 5d postage due was affixed and this cancelled with the soft packet / parcel rubber undated handstamp. This is surely unusual but possibly a 'Fred' or, maybe, some influence of the war.



Nothing to do with postal history but the endorsement, by Edward Thompson presumably, looks like something one ought to research !

THE FRANKING SYSTEM ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS

John E. Colton

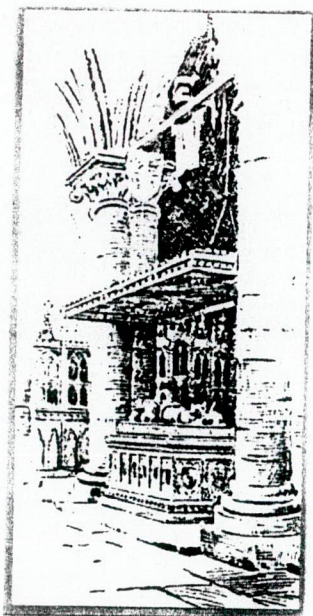
The following (layout has been adapted for *Notebook* layout - Ed.) is from the display to members of L.P.H.G. at their meeting earlier this year and offered in the hope readers find them of interest, not the least in explaining some of the signatures used.

All the Archbishops and Bishops of England and Wales as "Lords Spiritual" sat in the House of Lords and were entitled to the Franking Privilege whilst this was in force. The Bishop of Sodor and Man was not entitled to sit in the House of Lords at Westminster as he already had a seat in the Parliament of the Isle of Man.

Bishops, including Archbishops, frank in the following form:

Forename (s) or initial(s) followed by the name of the Diocese, e.g.

James Yorke (Bishop of Ely 1781 - 1808) franks:
J Ely or *J free Ely*



Where the Diocese is known by its "traditional" name e.g.

Dunelm for Durham, the Bishop franks as follows:

William Van Mildert (1826-1836) franks *W Dunelm*

The Dioceses with "traditional" names are as follows:

Canterbury	-	<i>Cantuar</i>	Norwich	-	<i>Norvic</i>
Carlisle	-	<i>Carloli</i>	Oxford	-	<i>Oxon</i>
Chester	-	<i>Cestre</i>	Peterborough	-	<i>Petriburg</i>
Chichester	-	<i>Cicestre</i>	Rochester	-	<i>Roffen</i>
Durham	-	<i>Dunelm</i>	Salisbury	-	<i>Sarum</i>
Exeter	-	<i>Exon</i>	Winchester	-	<i>Winton</i>
London	-	<i>Londin</i>	York	-	<i>Ebor</i>

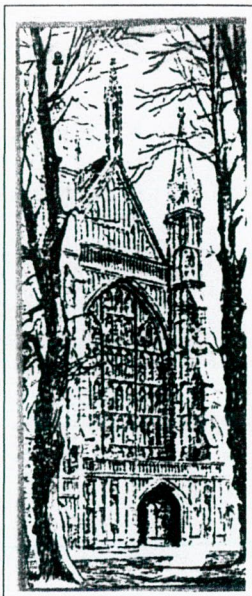
When a Bishop was nominated / appointed it appeared usual for him to Frank without waiting for his consecration but added the word *Elect* after his frank e.g.:

Joseph Allen - Bishop of Bristol (1834-1836) franked *J Bristol Elect* prior to his consecration on the 7th December, 1834 and *J Bristol* post consecration.

The process of "making" a Bishop started with a nomination by the Crown (which could be a lengthy process if the Monarch and the Prime Minister each had a preferred candidate). The followed a "conge d'elire" (permission to elect) with an accompanying letter giving the Monarch's nomination.

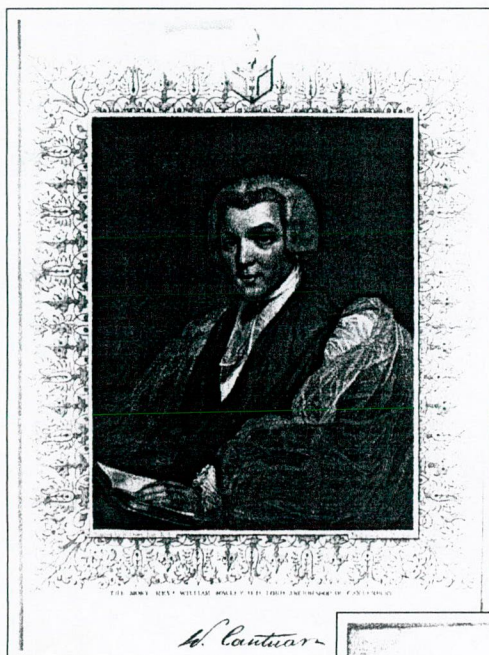
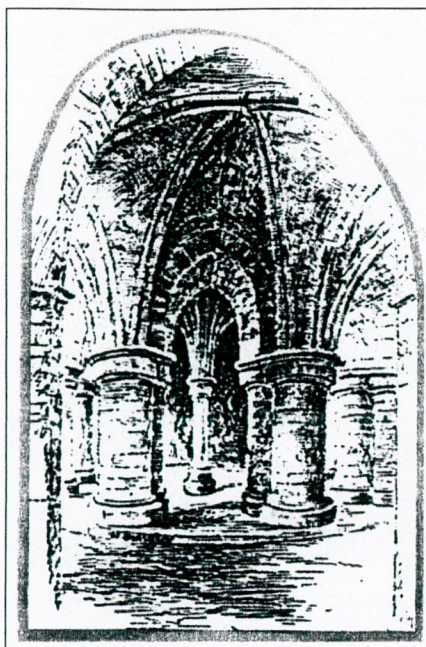
This "name" was then "Elected" and Consecration usually followed within a week. This took place on a Sunday or an important festival.

If a Bishop was moved to another Diocese he was not re-consecrated but "Confirmed" or "Translated". When a Bishop was consecrated it was for life and he could not be dismissed except



in extreme cases of misconduct, certain misdemeanours or for political reasons. If a Bishop was incapacitated by age or illness he remained in office and the work of the Cathedral would be carried out by the Dean and Chapter. He could delegate his Franking Powers to a third party in case of need.

Arising from the Revolution of 1768, the Church of Scotland formally adopted the Presbyterian form of government where Bishops had no place. Therefore, there were no Scottish Bishops to sit in the House of Lords.

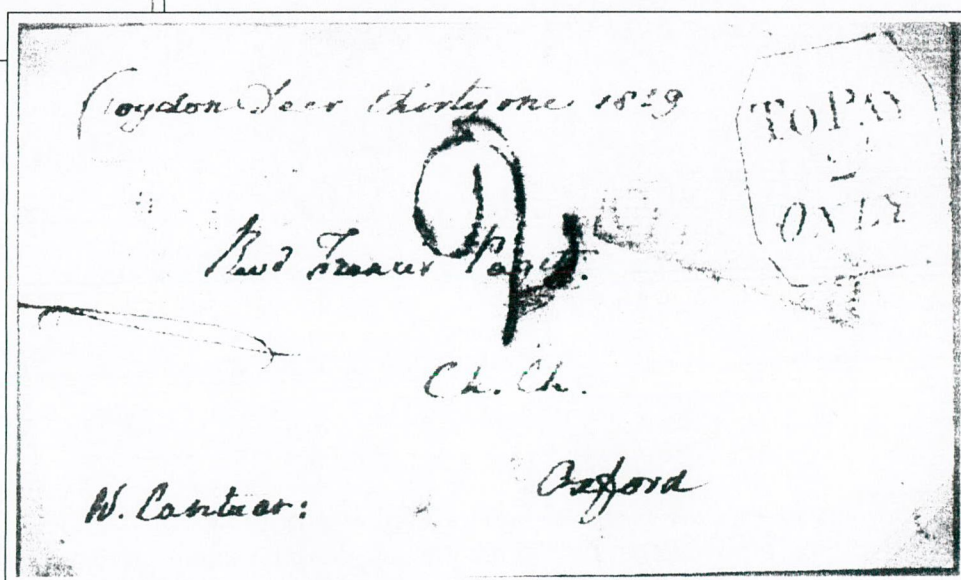


The Archdiocese of Canterbury
(Traditionally known as "Cantuar")

William Howley.
Confirmed Archbishop of Canterbury on the 15th August,
1828.
Died on the 11th April, 1848.

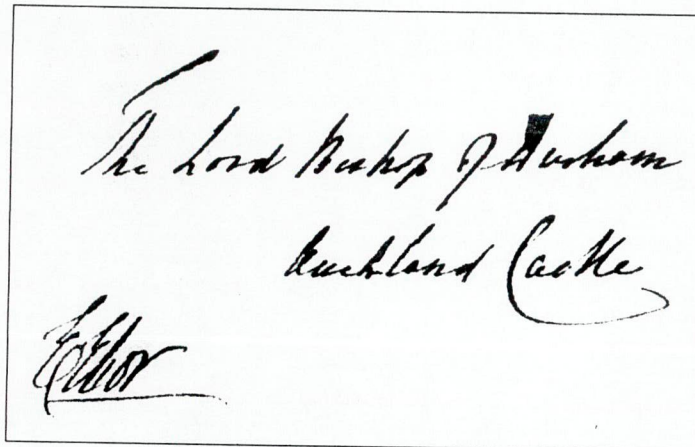
Stamped with
framed TP / Croydon
with To Pay 2^d ONLY
and hand struck '2'

Franked by W. Cantuar



Front endorsed : Croydon Decr thirty one 1829

The Archdiocese of York
(Traditionally known as "Ebor")



Edward Venables Vernon
Letter from the Archbishop of York to the
Bishop of Durham
(Just the address panel shown.)
Privately carried by William Senior Salman
who was to be ordained Deacon by the
Bishop of Durham.
Letter dated the 16th October, 1837.
Franked E Ebor

Printed circular letter dated the
17th June, 1731.

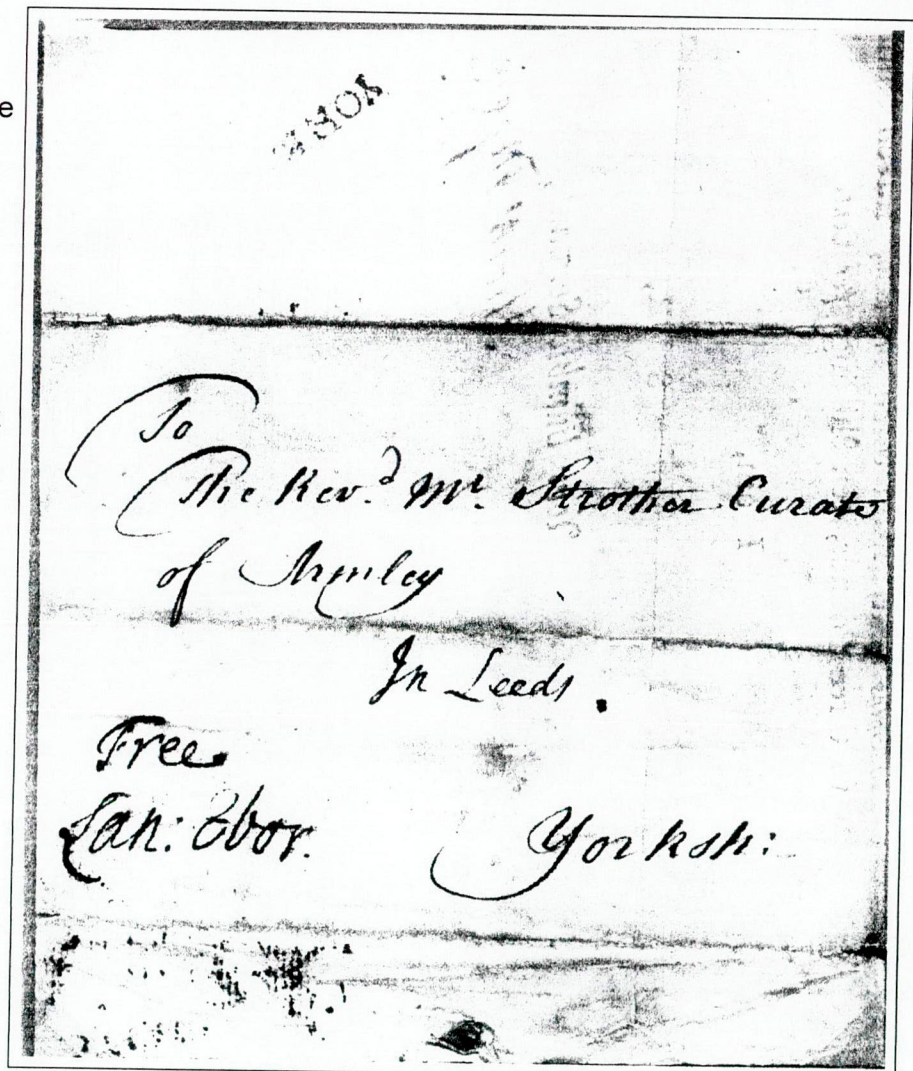
Handstruck YORK

Lancelot Blackburne -
confirmed Archbishop of York
on the 28th November, 1724
and died on the 23rd March,
1743.

Franked

Free

Lan: Ebor.



The Archbishop is said to have had a very dubious reputation. He supposedly served as a chaplain aboard a pirate ship during his career. When he came to York there were many rumours surrounding his private life. The village people of Bishopthorpe even thought Dick Turpin, the well known highwayman, was his butler at the palace.

The printed circular, dated and signed by hand, is shown below,
with details of 'the Bounty of Queen Anne' appended.

New-Court, Middle-Temple.

June 17th 1731

S I R,



NOTICE having been given You in January last, by Order of the Governors of the Bounty of Queen ANNE, &c. that if you did not find out a Purchase before Michaelmas next, wherein to vest the Monies appropriated for the Augmentation of your Living, from and after that Time, a further Reduction of Interest must be expected. I am now Ordered to acquaint You, that the Governors have lately come to a Resolution, that the Interest to be paid to the several Incumbents, who have not found Purchases, shall be reduced at Michaelmas next, from three Pounds, fifteen Shillings, to three Pounds, ten Shillings per Cent.

I am,

S I R,

Your humble Servant,

*Thos^r Mordaunt
Sec^y*

QUEEN ANNE'S BOUNTY : On the queen's birthday in 1704 the government introduced in the House of Commons plans for the Crown to surrender its traditional income from tenths of benefices and first fruits (a tax, usually the first year's income, paid to a feudal or ecclesiastical superior) to the Church of England, for the relief of poorer clergy. These moneys had been appropriated from the Catholic Church after the Reformation, to become a source of royal revenue. During the Commonwealth they had been used to support preachers and schoolmasters but Charles II put them to non-ecclesiastical ends, such as the maintenance of his illegitimate children. Bishop Burnet had already suggested to William III the bounty should be directed towards the more needy and Anne's move was immediately popular and beneficial since some livings were worth barely £10 a year.

The Legend of Dick Turpin and his connection with York.



Dick Turpin : 1705 - 1739

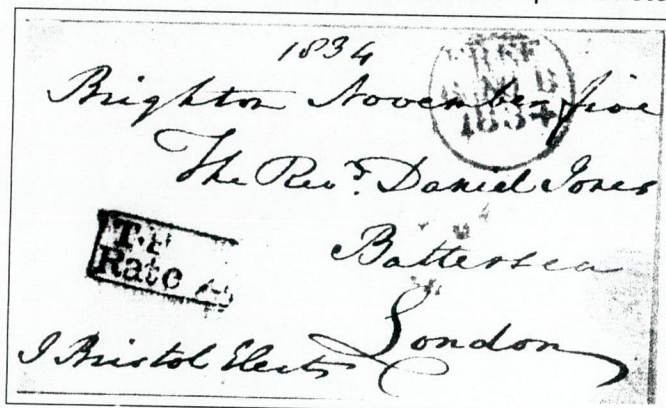
He was born in Hempstead, Essex, the son of an innkeeper. Successively, or simultaneously, he was a butcher's apprentice, smuggler, cattle thief, housebreaker, highwayman and horse-thief. The romances about him are legendary. He entered into partnership, in 1735, with a Tom King, on the Cambridge Road. Later he shot King, by accident. He joined the notorious Gregory Gang, noted robbers and murders. He escaped to Brough in Yorkshire but was arrested in October, 1738 for horse stealing and placed in York Gaol. Recognized in 1739 as Dick Turpin. Found guilty of horse stealing and

hanged in York on the 7th April, 1739.

The famous ride to York on the mare "Black Bess" can be attributed to one "Swift Nick", a William Nevison, who robbed a sailor at Gadshill at 4 a.m. and established an alibi by reaching York at 7.45 p.m. on the same day.

The Diocese of Bristol

Joseph Allen - Elected October/November 1834.
Consecrated Bishop of Bristol on the 7th December, 1834.



Front dated the 5th November, 1834 from Brighton.

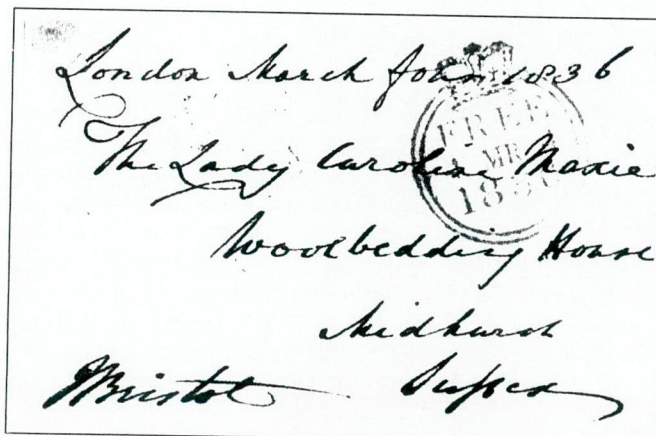
Signed J Bristol Elect

Carries the FREE date stamp for the 6th and the Twopenny Post charge mark for the local delivery in London.

Front dated the 4th March, 1836
from London to Midhurst.

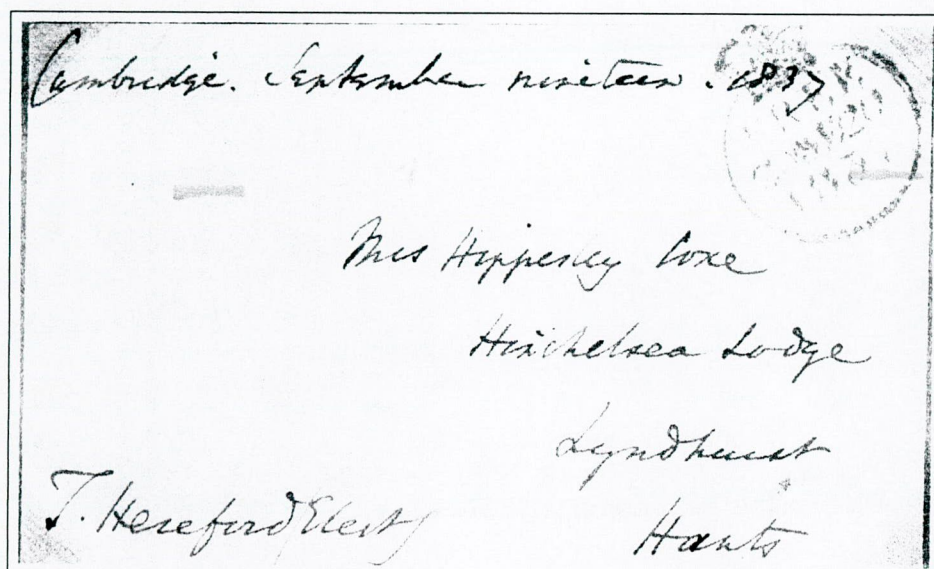
Double rim FREE date stamp for the same day

Signed J Bristol



The Diocese of Hereford

Thomas Musgrave - Elected in September 1837
Consecrated Bishop of Hereford on the 1st October, 1837
Translated to York on the 10th December, 1847

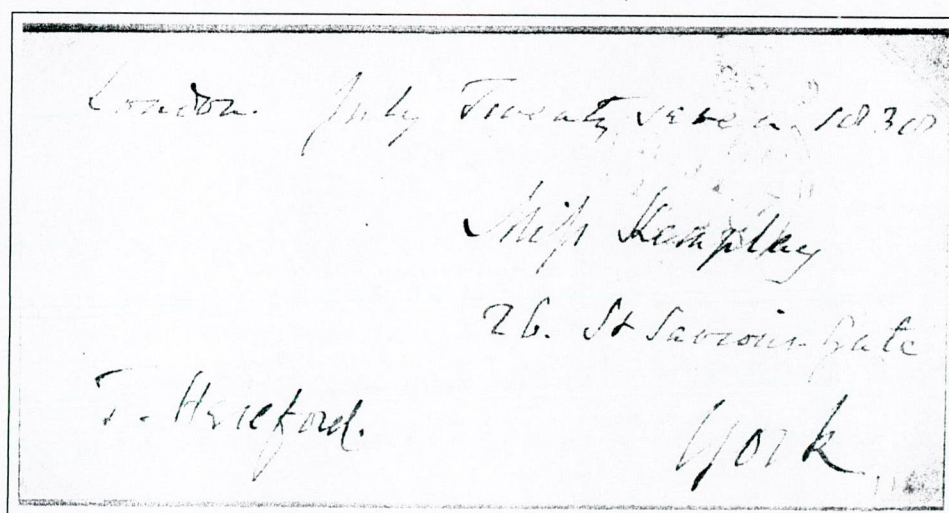


Front dated the
 19th September, 1837
 From Cambridge
 to Lyndhurst.
 Single rim FREE of the
 20th struck in London

Franked T Hereford / Elect

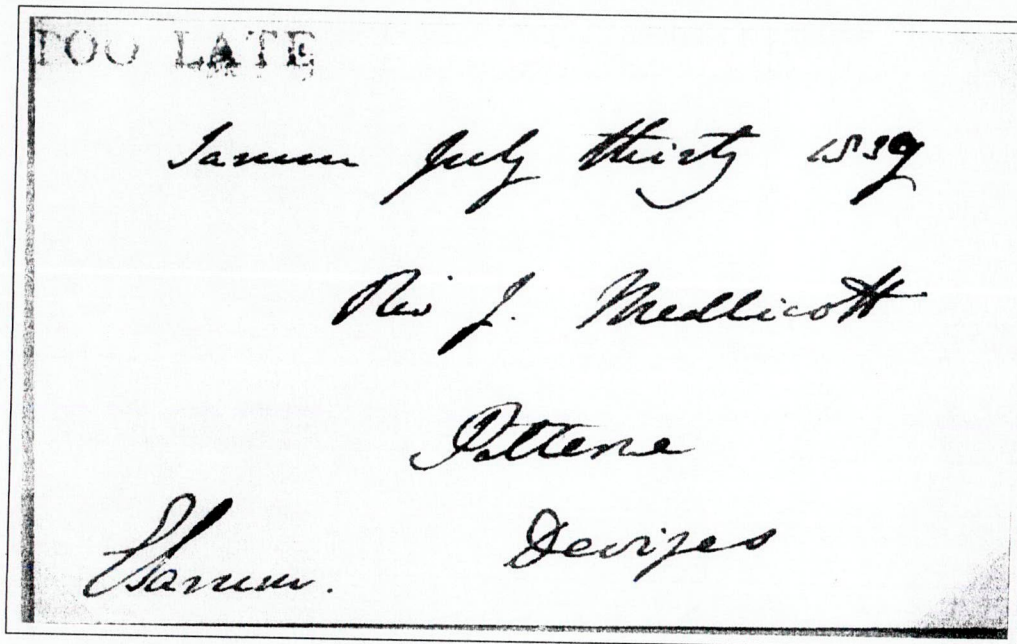
Front dated the
 27th July, 1838
 From London to York
 Double rim FREE
 for same date.

Franked T Hereford
 (post Consecration)



The Diocese of Salisbury
(Traditionally known as "SARUM")

Edward Denison
Consecrated of Salisbury on the 6th April, 1837.
Died the 6th March, 1854.



Front dated the
30th July, 1839,
endorsed as from
Sarum

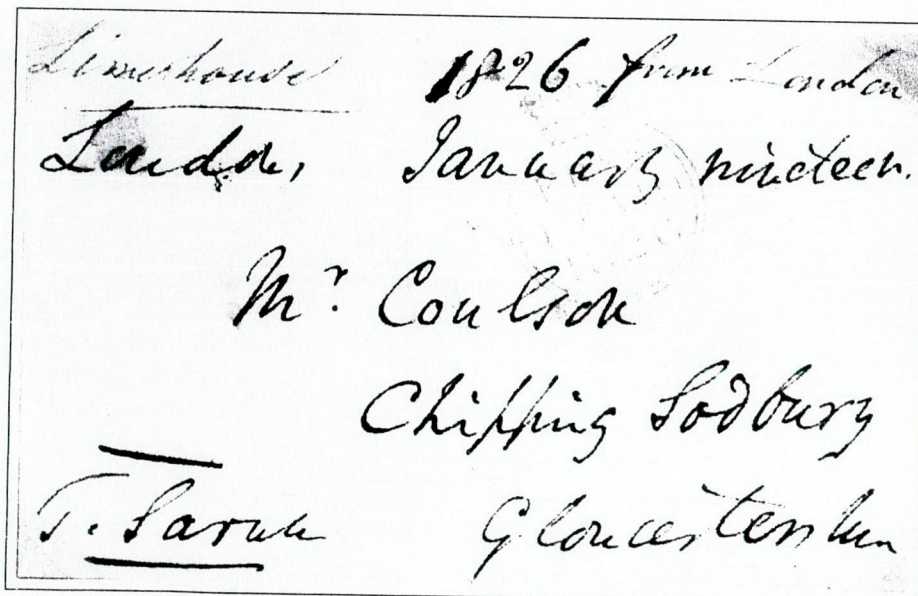
Carries
TOO LATE
Not routed through
London
to Devizes, hence no

FREE
date stamp.

Franked

E Sarum

Thomas Burgess
Confirmed Bishop of Salisbury on the 17th June, 1825.
Died on the 19th February, 1837.



Front dated the
19th January, 1826.

Double rim
FREE
for the same date.

Endorsed as from London

Limehouse from London
in a different hand.

Franked

T Sarum