NOTEBOOK

Number 166 February, 2007

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EDITORIAL.....

Due to the Editorial filing system (piles of paper in various parts of the house) several of the articles in this issue were lacking any accompanying letter or owner identification. Readers who find an item which is theirs, please advise the Editor.

One such was the failure in *Notebook* 165, "Sorting the '5.30' to give a Copyright which is Brian de Villiers and Marion Wasdell.

Having, more or less, reached some understanding with and of various pieces of computer technical equipment, readers are invited to send a scan of any postal markings, covers, letters etc. relating to the article they submit. The result of using a scan generally gets a better result than photocopying a photocopy, though do not let this deter a contributor who does not have a scan facility.

PLEASE NOTE; THE MEETING AT PHILATEX IS A WEEK EARLIER THAN SHOWN IN THE PROGRAMME, NOW SATURDAY 24 FEBRUARY.

MR RJ KROESEN 1916 – 2006

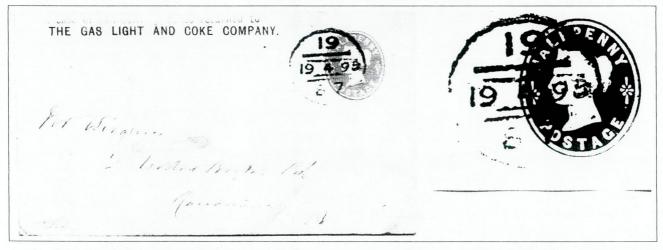
Our Dutch member for more than twenty years RJ (Ralf) Kroesen of Rotterdam passed away on the 29th December 2006 aged 90 years.

Mr Kroesen was an exceptional person, both in his life and in his many collections. He was active in the shipping industry and saw wartime service as a coxswain on many Holland America Line troopship transports to Africa. Later he operated a shipwreck/damage consultancy service and was involved in the process of clearing wrecks from the Suez Canal after the six days war. This background entailed a great deal of travelling world-wide and it is not surprising, therefore, that one of his favourite collecting interests was maritime postal history in its widest sense. Apart from maritime collections Mr Kroesen built up a number of other major collections, including GB postal history and cancellations. He seemed to have detailed collections of many countries, often written up in his characteristic style, sheets illustrated with all sorts of articles gleaned from books and newspapers often with notes added in biro. He was, in my view, one of the first social postal history collectors and was always busy in researching the background history of a cover. The quantity (and quality) of his sideline collections was phenomenal. If you mentioned a country or theme to him he would turn up at a subsequent meeting with a selection of sheets on that subject which always contained rare and unusual items. Even in his eighties he was unable to sit quietly at our Britannia club meetings and very often he departed early to attend a second study group meeting somewhere else, perhaps France & Colonies or Canada. All this running around was achieved using public transport.

Mr Kroesen was married for more than 60 years and looked after his invalid wife with great devotion for many years until her death in 2005. After that Kroesen's own health deteriorated rapidly and he spent much of the last couple of years of his life in and out of hospital. Following his death at the end of last year he was buried in silence alongside his wife in Rotterdam. We have lost a fine man and a great collector – Ralf we will remember you.

JH 22 January 2007

FINSBURY PARK



The Halfpenny Book Post cancellations produce difficulties for the collector, not the least being the seemingly large number of them found in use but for which no trace appears in the Proof Impression Book. The example here is one such and, to make matters more difficult, it appears to differ in at least one significant aspect, the code below the date line.

It comprises two elements, the first looking as if it is the figure '8', the second a clear '7'. The problem is with the '8'. Although the Impression Books yielded codes 'A2', 'B6', and 'BV' for

Finsbury Park, no examples from any office could be found with two number as the code. It should be noted Book Post codes were not dealt with by Stitt Dibden in his book on the subject*.

As the enlarged copy shows, there is the clear shape for an '8' on the left and, feinter, the same on the right. The writer always assumed the codes were fixed on each cancellation and always used as issued. Should this be the case, then only a repaired cancellation might introduce a maverick code: was this the case here?

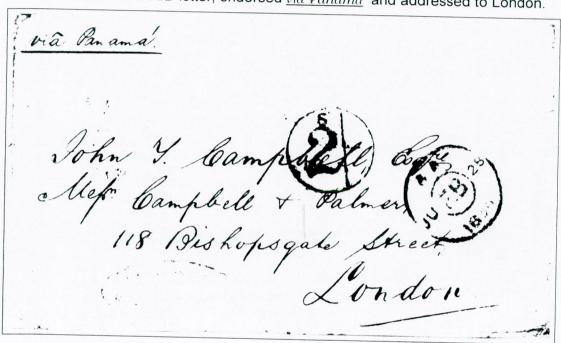
* London date Stamp Codes, by W.G. Stitt Dibden, republished, with additional material, by LPHG January 1979

MAIL FROM ABROAD

Robert I. Johnson

These two covers show charge marks on arrival in the U.K. but created to meet different circumstances.

The first is an UNPAID letter, endorsed $\underline{vi\hat{a}\ Panama}$ and addressed to London.

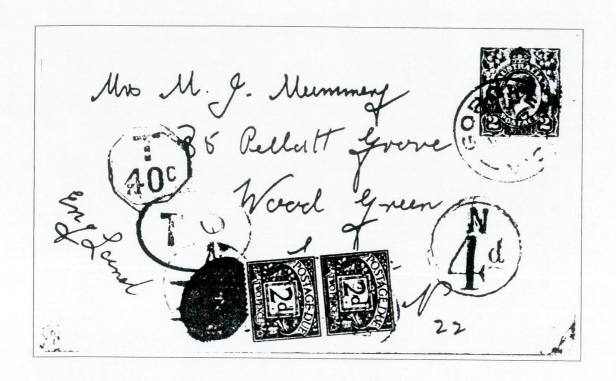


The rates for letters from Chile, in 1880, were as follows; via Southampton 1s.6d.; via Liverpool 1s.0d. and by French Packet 1s.6d. These are all $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce rates. The letter is, therefore, a double weight letter coming into Liverpool.

This type of 2s.0d. mark was issued to Plymouth and Devonport but in the proof books there does not appear to be any record of the issue of this type to Liverpool. The London Foreign Branch date stamp is for June 28, 1880.

Valparaiso Unpaid (black) and quartered circle c.d.s. code N (red), appear on the reverse.

The second - shown on the next page -, dated July 1923, is an UNDERPAID, posted in Australia, underpaid by 2d. It was marked T 40c and T 4d in Australia. In London North District it was first marked with a charge of 2d; this was deleted and replaced with the N / 4d charge mark. The rate from the United Kingdom to Australia was 11/2d for the first ounce and 1d. for subsequent ounces.



GEORGE BRUMELL

Brian Smith

The card shown here was sent in by Brian Smith with the following note: 'The postcard is written by G. Brumell to a collector who had asked about the disposal of Free Franks. Brumell's book on the subject* has been followed by others but it is interesting to read comments by Brumell some twelve years after publication.

Bruneamore he 19 lly 498

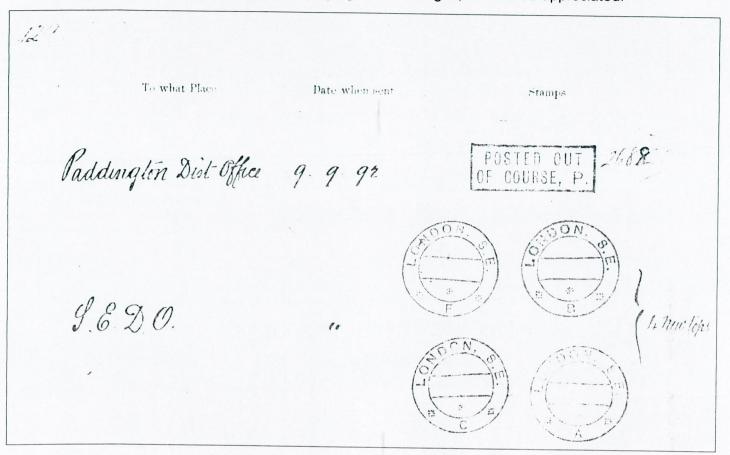
Dear Mus Mark

There are in excellence large members of these prouts, the remain of the allections made to autoposed collections previously them are very small to far an I know of the special property and the demand of the special property of their son percentage and the second and I cannot advise you had be deposed of them. I have here large books of heem and have taken and all there that I want for my performance collection and have held the remainder for the form on the scaling following a facility of the second property and the second property of the control of the second of the second property of the control of the second of the seco

^{* &}quot;A short account of the franking system in the Post Office 1652-1840" Brumell, 1936.

LONDON SE- CANCELLATIONS?

The copies shown here were sent to the Editor many years ago. The page number is shown but not the volume of Proof Impressions. What is curious is the design of the cancellations and here it is assumed that is what they are, but is this so? The design is unlike others in general use in 1892 and if a reader is able to produce an example on cover or, perhaps, on a Post Office document or offer some other offices employing similar designs, it would be appreciated.



Reproduced by kind permission of Post Office Archives

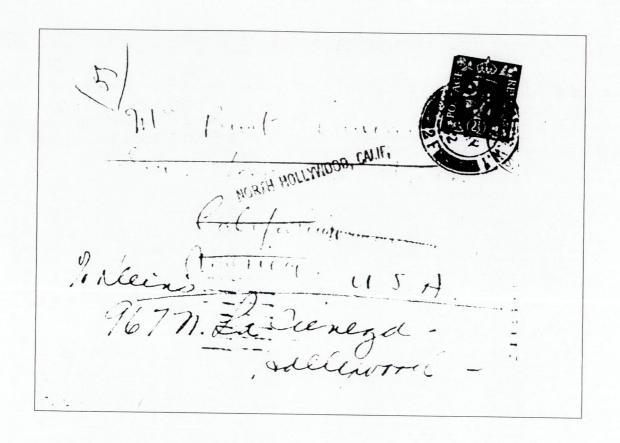
LONDON W 1

Mike Bavin

The letter, shown on the next page, was posted on the 14th. May, 1952, prepaid 2½d to Mr Burt Lancaster in San Francisco Valley California, redirected the with the NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CALIF. straight line presumable being applied at that time.

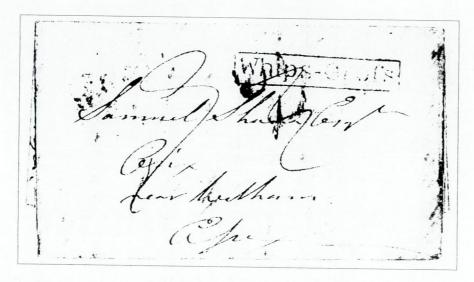
What is curious is the '2F' code in the London W1 date stamp, not seen before by the author. Since these cancellations with codes are, often, for specific purposes perhaps a reader can identify the duty?

.....



WHIPS CROSS RECEIVING HOUSE

An earlier date recorded.

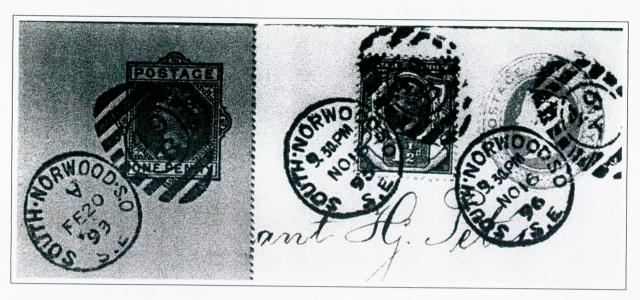


A small extension of date of use with the discovery of this letter, written by the addressee's brother, so no need for him to put an address. Posted at the Whips Cross, the letter received the framed Whips - Crofs stamp on the obverse. The reverse carries a feint transfer stamp in black and the double rim General Post stamp for MY 23 819. The handstruck '2' for the charge to London was deleted and added to the seven pence due for the journey to Witham (50-70 miles), giving the manuscript '9' total.

NORWOOD DUPLEX - TWO DIES

Andrew Ford

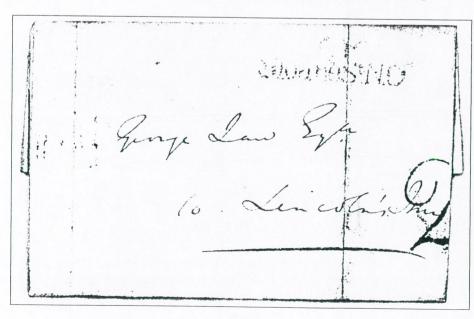
It may be the writer has identified a previously missed point with the 2.5.5.2. 49B.E duplex listed as sub type c, for time in code, then type t, for time in clear. On examining several examples it seems the 49B.Ec and 49B.Et are two different stamps, as can be illustrated by the enlarged copies of the two shown here.



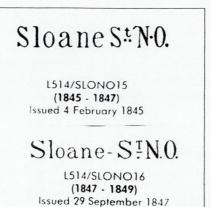
Attention is drawn to the following:

- 1. the width and the shape of the B
- 2. In the earlier stamp the top of the 4 is truncated, in the later example it is pointed.
- 3. the shape and the angle of the 9 is different.
- 4. on the dater there are many obvious differences in the shape of the letters, particularly the first O in Norwood
- 5. the placement of the dot between SOUTH and NORWOOD

SLOANE STREET NO



According to the latest edition of the London catalogue and in 'Letter Receivers of London'. Sloane Street N O in this format is not recorded before 1845. This example. has a pencil note alongside with a date for 15th. March, 1839. Moreover, if one compares the illustrations in Feldman, on page 8, this is clearly not one of those recorded, in particular the shape of the letter 'N'.



Sloane St N.O.

L514/SLONO17
(Unrecorded Used)

(Unrecorded Used) Issued 2 March 1852

Sloane-St-N.O

L514/SLONO18 (Unrecorded Used) Issued 18 June 1853

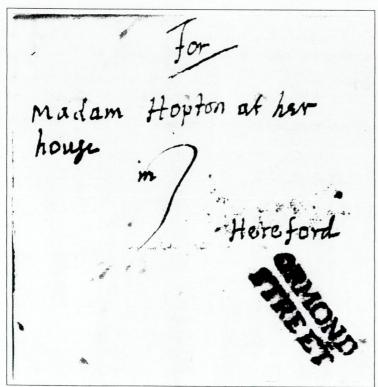
n.b. illustrations differ slightly from actual size

If a reader would kindly send a colour copy or scan of both front and back to the Editor it will be much appreciated.

ORMOND STREET

Gavin Littaur

In Notebook 158 four of the Ormond Street marks were known and now a fifth, dated 7th. October, 1708, has been discovered. The address is quite different, "Madam Hopton at her house in Hereford". It carries a charge mark which may be interpreted as a '3', this being the rate for over 80 miles until 1711.



It is written by George Hicks (1647 - 1715), Chaplain to the king (1681) and Dean of Worcester (1685).

LOMBARD STREET: NEW DISCOVERY

Rooting through an old file, the Editor came across a photocopy sent by Tony Potter. There is just the obverse, no date given in the accompanying note. The adhesive was issued on 14th. October, 1880 being replaced by the halfpenny vermilion on the 1st. January, 1887, part of the "Jubilee" issue: this gives a slight indication of dating for the cancellation.



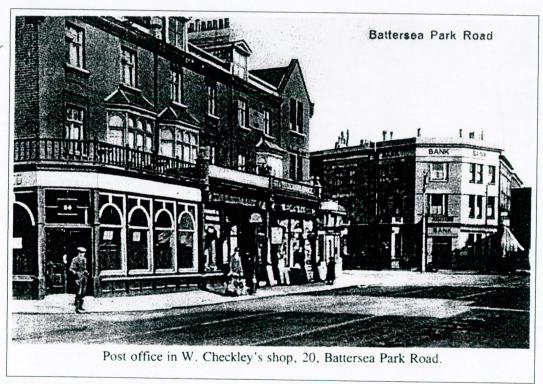
To quote John Parmenter "Have not seen anything like it before i.e. a killer for the undated cancelling of soft packages.

It is certainly completely new for Lombard Street, if, that is, LS means Lombard Street."

BATTERSEA POST OFFICES

Arthur Moyles

Two Battersea post office post cards, undated but probably from the first two decades of the twentieth century: pity they were not posted and preserved as well as the unused copied shown here.



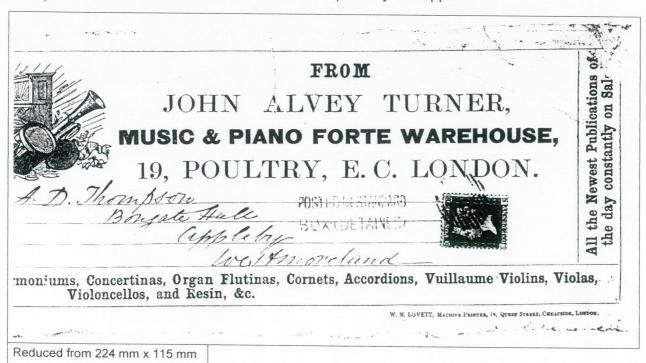
Checkley's shop would be the one with the lady outside, conveniently posed as are the other two figures, which can be deduced from the clearly numbered shop on the corner (24).

Apart from advertising the effectiveness of Daisy for headaches - there are at least five across the frontage - the card (on the following page) is particularly attractive with the VR letter box below one Post Office sign, with another detailing services below the window and a street sign facing those on the pavement. In this case, the picture gives the name and occupation, leaving just the address to go below the picture.



DETAINED MAIL

Unfortunately trimmed at the left, this penny posting piece of mail would be a treasure for any collector with an eye for seldom seen handstamps, especially when applied to an example of Victorian business illustrated material, in this case possibly a wrapper.



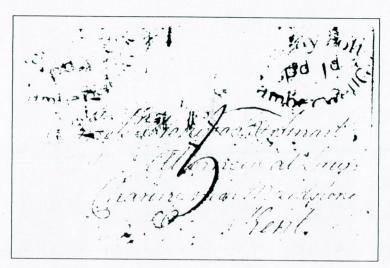
The "POSTED IN STANDARD / BOX (DETAINED)" cachet (Alcock and Holland* figure 1797) of which they say....... "delay occurs in the delivery of mail not only because it is accidentally missorted or misdirected, but also because the regulations governing its posting are sometimes not obeyed. Newspapers, for example, were at first subject to delay if posted in

pillar-boxes, and special stamps shown in Figs. 1796 and 1797 were used."

^{*}The Postmarks of Great Britain and Ireland - R.C. Alcock and F.C. Holland (1940)

CAMBERWELL TO CHARING & BACK

The photocopy of the front of the letter to Charing is shown, albeit not a very good one, copy not cover that is. Camberwell Green used both the 1d. and 2d. Penny Post paid stamp into 1801, remember the 2d rate came into effect on the 5th. April, 1801, but excelled itself by using the unpaid stamp into 1829. The office's record for Twopenny Post marks is interesting, the first not being noted until 1807.



Charing, at 48 miles from London, incurred a General Post charge of 5d, this not being paid at the time of posting and, therefore, entered as a payable cost to the addressee.

The letter, or rather, letters comes in two parts. There is the letter to Charing, the second is a much scribbled, crossed out draft for the reply: these we give, hopefully with some accuracy, below.

Gentlemen.

I am desired to inform you that there is to be a meeting of the Creditors of M' Humphrys of Charing on Tuesday Evening at 5 a Clock at the Baptist head Coffee House Aldermanbury which the Creditors hope one of you will attend.

M^r Humphrys has given me a state of his Affairs by which it appears that he can make an offer of at least ?*/6^d in the Pound & which he I find means to doo - and he inform me that the two following Names which you knew will be his Security for the due paym^t at 4 (there follows two small signs which obviously can be read by someone in 1801 but not in 2007) 12 months - If it should not suit either of you to attend - I have to request you will be so good as to give me your opinion whether you think that will be a fair offer & whether you will accept it - and can advise the rest of the Creditors to doo the same - & your answer by return of post (if you doo not come up) will greatly oblige the Creditors among whom is

Your Hble Sev^t / W^m Portal & (° 37 Cateaton Street

London Feb / 13 1801 NB

Now for the scribbled draft response.....

Gent

We duly received your Letter informing us of an intended meeting of the C^* of M' Humphory of Charing on Tuesday Evening next at the Baptist Head Coffee House Aldermanbury & requiring our

Attendance - but as it will be impossible for either of us to attend you at that time \mathfrak{E} indeed we do not see we co^a be of any Service with respect to M^r Humphory's Affairs the C^r who will no doubt be present at the meeting are in full possession of every information * respecting them.

We have seen Mefsr* John Rachell & W** Holmes the proposed Sureties and they are willing to sign Dra** to the several C** for payment of ?*&6* in the pound at 4 (those two signs again - might be abbreviation for 'per cent') 12 months - how far this may be considered as fair I cannot say & indeed is impfsible but as the mode you adopt may avoid very considerable expense the offer made of ?*/6* in the pound in case it shall be agreed on at the Meeting & no farther or better terms for the C** can be obtained.

I am Gentⁿ for M^{srs} Nowood & Smart & / y. very hble Serv^t / W.S. Charing 15th Feby 1800

Mefsrs Chaplin Portal & Co 37 Cateaton Street / London

Assuming there was a clerk to write this in a fair hand, one can only hope years of reading the scribble required no queries or produced no errors.

Readers will no doubt observe Charing was still in 1800.

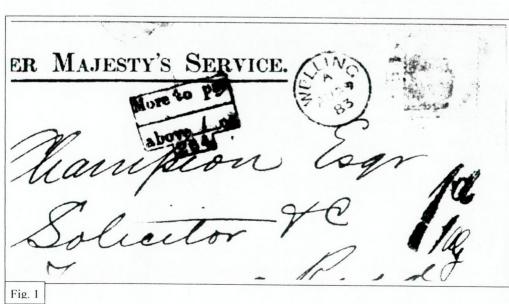
SUBURBAN CHARGE AND EXPLANATORY MARKS

Peter Bathe

In Notebook 155 Andrew Ford comments on the difficulty in determining if a full set of charge marks had been issued to each office. Sometimes, however, at least some of the marks appear in the proof books. Alf Kirk reported proof book entries for "sets" (not necessarily *full* sets) of such stamps issued to Camberwell (April 1844) and Rotherhithe (October 1884) in his excellent series of "village" postal histories published in Notebook over the years. His searches through the proof books also turned up issues of one or two stamps for these places and for others such as Walworth, Peckham and Dulwich.

A trawl through back issues of *Notebook* revealed, however, apart from Alf's work, there have been few reports of suburban charge and explanatory marks. The following notes are intended to add to the record of known charges used at one suburban office, Woolwich.

In 1875 Woolwich was taken out of London control and became a provincial head office in its own right; it was then allocated the office number 264. Several charge and explanatory marks were later issued to Woolwich, most using the 264 office number.



In 1878, a T-boxed "More to pay / above oz" was issued and is known used in 1883 (Fig.1). This is on a cover posted at Welling (one of the dependent offices in the Woolwich District) and. although the adhesive was cancelled with the 386 barred oval of Welling, the surcharging tamps were applied at Woolwich.

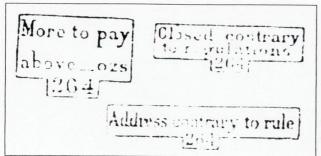
^{*} there is an insertion here which cannot easily be read

To what Place. Date when sent. Contains a communication. of the nature of a Letter 1264 Of the nature of a Letter Closed contrary to regulations [264] Found open and resealed at Woolwich loch wich Found at Woolwich 6 3 52 without contents Found at Woolwich without a cover Prohibited enclosure 26.4 Firm not known [264] Not called for Contrary to regulations 1264 Address contrary to rule! 126-1 Gone No address Not to be found

Fig. 2 - slightly reduced

In 1882 Woolwich received a large number of stamps, including 10 T-boxed marks, all with the office number 264. The proof book entry is shown in Fig.2. No examples of any of these stamps have so far been recorded, although there appears to have been a call for them as, in 1918, there was a new issue of the "Address contrary to rule" and the "Closed contrary/to regulation" stamps (presumably the originals had either become lost or damaged - it is unlikely demand for these particular stamps was such that two were needed simultaneously).

At the same time a replacement for the "More to pay..." stamps was also issued, this time without the horizontal dividing line and a more regular spacing between the words on the first line (Fig.3).



Interestingly, these 1918 replacements continued to include Woolwich's old provincial series number, 264, even though the office had been returned to the control of the SEDO in 1913. A "4" TO PAY" stamps was also issued in 1918, again with the 264 number (Fig.4).



Fig. 4

One stamp not so far found in the proof books is a "Liable to Letter Rate/264" mark (Fig.5) although at least four examples of this are known in and around 1906. The example illustrated is on a postcard with a newspaper cutting pasted to the picture; a postcard with glitter on the front attracted the same treatment.



The large 1^D stamp seen in Fig. 1 and Fig. 5 (and with the other known uses of the Liable to Letter Rate stamp) was applied at Woolwich and is clearly identified by the score across the 1, visible in both the 1883 and 1906 examples. This is probably an old stamp issued in the 1860s.

Fig. 6

Prior to then such stamps rarely had the denarius symbol and, during the 1870s, were issued with the office number included.

Woolwich was eventually allocated 16 in the London series and at least one new charge stamp had been issued to the office with that number by 1925 (Fig.6 'improved').

Later examples (1968), shown on the following page, include a boxed "To pay posted unpaid" with the Woolwich sub district number SE18 (Fig.7) and an TOFAY anonymous "More to pay...rate/above...oz" used ten years later (Fig. 8). Although there is no indication of the office of use incorporated in this stamps, as it appears on a cover posted in SE18 to an address in SE18, it can be safely assumed to have been used in SE18. The postage dues have been cancelled with a Woolwich steel double circle in red.

(continued on page 15)

MEETING CHANGE OF DATE

PLEASE NOTE:

THE MEETING AT PHILATEX IS NOW ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 24, 12.35 TO 2.45 PM

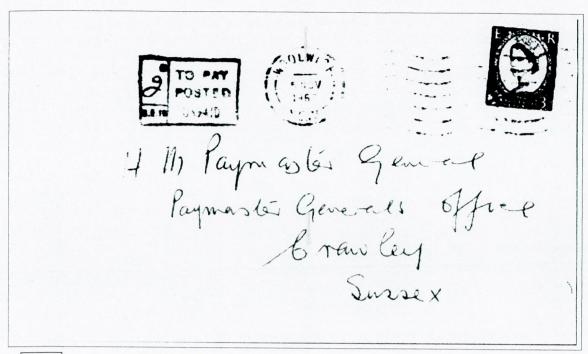


Fig.7

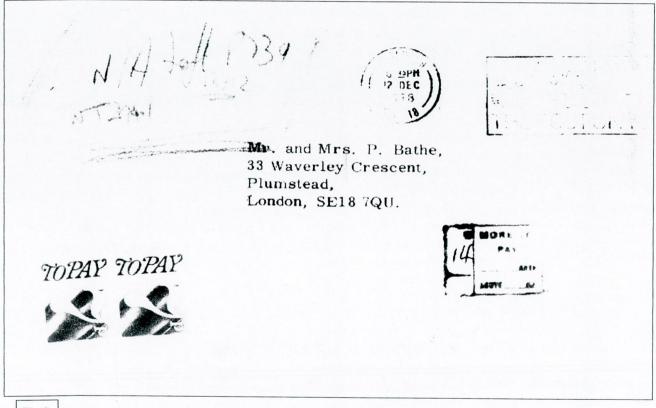
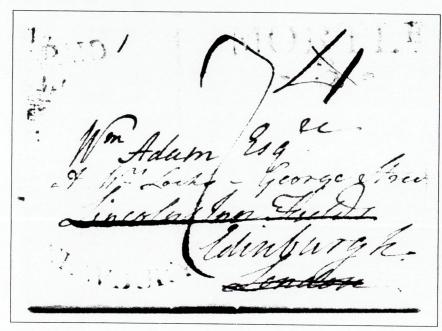


Fig.8

MORTLAKE PAID

The letter was written from $Woodhay\ 23^d\ Aug^{**}\ 95$, which is some 4½ miles south west of Newbury. It went through the Newbury office where it received the concave NEWBURY in black en route to

Lincolns Inn Fields London. A charge of four pence was made for the journey to London and, presumably, collected when delivered.



However it was re-adressed to a Wm Adam in Edinburgh and reposted at one of the Mortlake designated offices. Hugh Feldman: " Within the Penny Post. Mortlake the designation was given to at least three receiving houses, possibly these were assigned to Mortlake, East Sheen and Barnes." How it came to be reposted at an office so far from Lincoln Inns Field is a matter for speculation. The letter received the -3- mark and the PAID. struck in red (as is the Mortlake office stamp) with a manuscript 1 in black ink. The new edition of the London catalogue shows only 1794 for the stamp and there must be other examples for 1795. The London General Post date stamps on the

reverse are Jay L6 and L7, both for the 25th; the letter arrived in Edinburgh three days later, where the General Post charge of seven pence would have been collected.

Dear Sir.

The sad & unexpected accounts which yesterdays post brought from Buxton occasion my troubling you with a letter. The friends M^{**} Clarke had with her may not have known that you was the person she consulted upon Businefs, or it may not have occurred to them to write to you.

You probably know whether she had made any will & where it was deposited. I should suppose than Gen¹ Clarke would be much obliged to you for any information you could give him relative to her affairs, as he seems to be the only person who can properly act, Unlefs Gen¹ Alund Clarke ha d appointed some Attorney. A letter which I hear the Dean of S¹ Asaph had written to me is not come to hand, which might pofsibly contain some little additional information; but all we can make out as yet is that Mⁿ Clarke was seized with a Numbnefs on one side on Monday last, which was only sifficient to prevent her going to the Rooms; but that on the following evening at 4 o'clock, a violent Cramp came upon that leg which was soon follow'd by Convulsions, after which she never spoke & expired at eleven o'clock that Tuesday night. The Concern I feel for the lofs of my amiable friend, the Grief of her death occasions to my Mother, & and the multiplicity of letters I have written must plead my excuse for any impropriety in this.

I am Dear Sir / Your most Obed Ser! / W Sloper

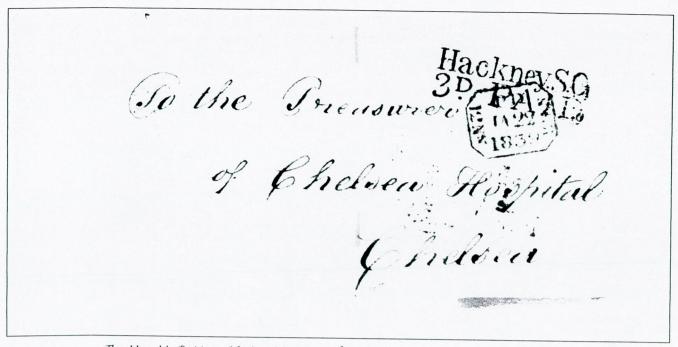
THE ROUND TOP 3 PAID STAMP

In the Twopenny Post there were Receiving Houses which had handstamps peculiar to themselves, one example being the **N-O Sloane St**,a type which did not come into general use until 1836.

A quite different, uncommon type is the round top $\bf 3$ in the $\bf 3^D$ PAID marks. The offices using these were not listed in the revised catalogue but those recorded thus far are:

Charing Cross	High Holborn EO	King William Street	Princes Street LS	Stockwell Green
Hackney SO	King Street CG	Newgate Street	St. Mary at Hill	Strand D

The example, on the next page, of the Hackney SO, in black, is time stamped for 12 Noon on the 22nd January, 1839 and is a petition to the Chelsea Hospital.



The Humble Petition of Richard Smith of \mathcal{N} .3 Caroline Court, Princess Street, Mile End.

Sheweth

That you Petitioner did take Thomas Rhodes with him to Lodge upon an Agreement that your Petitioner was to furnish him with all necessarys and lodging for one Shilling per day the same being the total Sum of his Pension the said Thomas Rhodes had been out pentioner of Chelsea Hospital from the 2nd Royal Veterian Battalion - about 9 Months ago the said William Rhodes was ceased with a Appoloxey fit which took away the use of all his limbs and from that time was bed riden until the day of his death which was on the 29th day of December last so that your Petitioner was obliged to lift him in and out of Bed and feed him - your Petitioner begs leave to state that when his Wife went on the last day of his Pension was due she was told to her much disappointment that she could not have his Money this time unless that he had lived to the 31th of the same Month your Petitioner begs leave to state that he has had a great deal of trouble with him this Quarter and expences having been obliged to borrow two Pounds from some of his Neighbours besides shop scores in expectation of receiving his Pension which would have enabled him to pay it off in consequence of not receiving the same your Petitioner has been obliged to pledge most every article that they have got to supply him with nourishment and from the disappointment my Wife met with not receiving the Pension she was taken very ill and has been confined to her Bed ever since and your Petitioner has got seven Children in the most deplorable condition, your Petitioner further begs your kind consideration if you could allow him part so to partly relieve his present condition having a sick Wife and a large family.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever Pray &c

Richard Smith

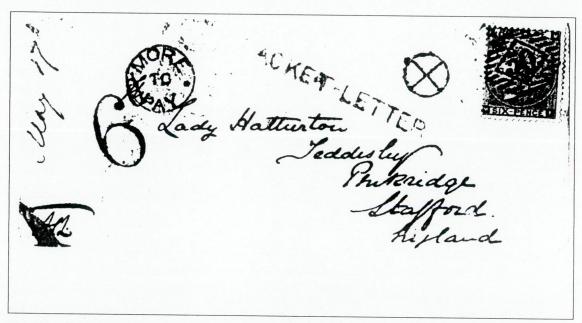
	WANTED
	Looking for postal history and ephemera of Carshalton, any period. In particular Registered items, labels, covers whatever.
	Please contact the Editor.
or seed that of the seed of	WHERE TO FIND SOMETHING
	STAMPEX and PHILATEX later this month; a range of dealers at both covering most aspects of postal history, including many from overseas with stock you can see only twice a year,

UNDERPAID OFFICER'S LETTER

The envelope has every indication of being an Officer's Letter, not the least being the embossed seal on the flap reading **H.M.S. LEANDER**.

H.M.S .Leander was the third of a series of Royal Navy ships with this name, built in 1848. The embossed seal on the reverse is on the right.

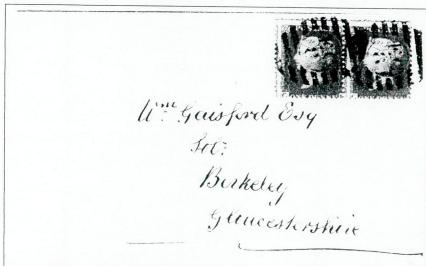




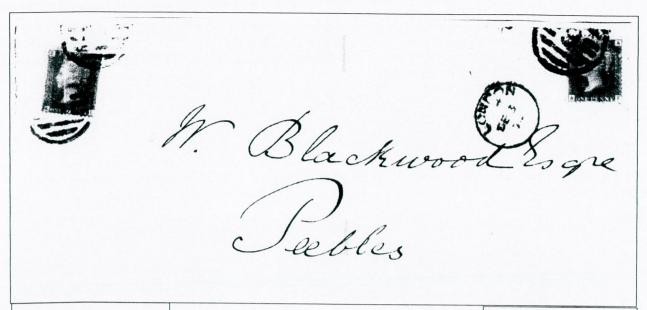
On the obverse, lower left, initials with a date May 17th, this not in the addresser's hand. The sixpence adhesive is cancelled with the 50 in diamond (see also Notebook 164, page 6). The **PACKET-LETTER**, thought by the late Martin Willcocks to have been applied in the Foreign Office - only a black & white photocopy, colour not known. The neat 'hot cross bun' mark, presumably to signal the attention of an Inspector and the authority for the extra charge of sixpence.

RARITY GPO Russell Taylor

There are two items here, listed as rated scarcity 'GPO' and which can now amend the information with recorded dates.



The first is a cover to Berkely with a pair of Penny Stars, each cancelled 'EC/8', Dubus Type 9a. The reverse carries a red ink c.d.s. "POSTED SINCE / DE 16 / 62 / 7 LAST NIGHT" with a Berkeley arrival date stamp for the following day.



Reduced to 71% of original

The second is addressed to Peebles, the two penny adhesives being cancelled with the '6' with thick horizontal bars, inside an oval frame. happily the London date stamp. 3rd. December, 1874, is on the obverse.

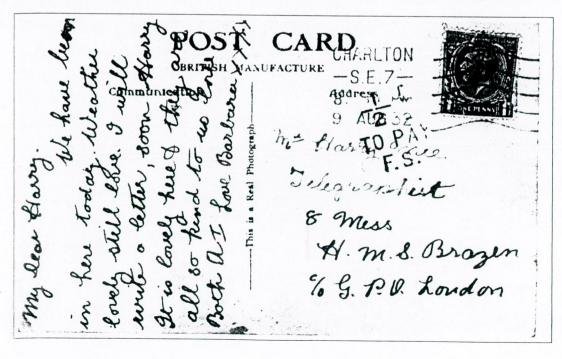
Newspaper Branch Dubus Type 1 Rarity G.P.O.*

Please amend your copy of 'Barred Numeral Cancellations of London'

FOREIGN SECTION HALFPENNY CHARGE

Michael Goodman

The question is "Why a Foreign Section Halfpenny charge?". The card, from Barbara to Harry, a Telegraphist, 8 Mess, H.M.S. Brazen, c/o/ G.P.O. London seems straightforward.



In 1932 the Inland post card rate was one penny and, since the delivery address is G.P.O. London, the sender would expect to pay just one penny. However, the Post Office appeared to consider mail to this address was destined for overseas delivery and was, therefore, liable to pay threehalfpence. However, as a concession to the Navy (?), it the Post Office decided to seek merely the deficiency and impose no penalty.

H.M.S. *Brazen* was a destroyer of 1360 tons, built in 1928. She was engaged in convoy work in the North Sea when attacked by German bombers on July 21^{sr}, 1940. She shot down three aircraft before being hit and badly damaged. An attempt was made to tow her but this proved impossible and she was abandoned and sunk some hours after the attack.

The *Brazen* was commanded by Lt. Cdr. Sir Michael Culme-Seymour and carried a complement of 138, of whom one stoker petty-officer dies of wounds and four stokers were wounded.

Information on Brazen based on detail in Dictionary of Disasters at Sea... by Charles Hocking, FLA.

MULREADY 1844

Matthew Toomey

This Mulready letter sheet is dated 18^t May, 1844 and was posted at the Lombard Street Branch Office - the feint impression of the office stamp can be seen on the reverse, part over struck by the Leith arrival stamp for the 20th. The Inland Office horizontal diamond 10 was used to cancel the letter sheet, some ten days before the earliest date shown in the LPHG Handbook No.12.

