

1, 2, 15,

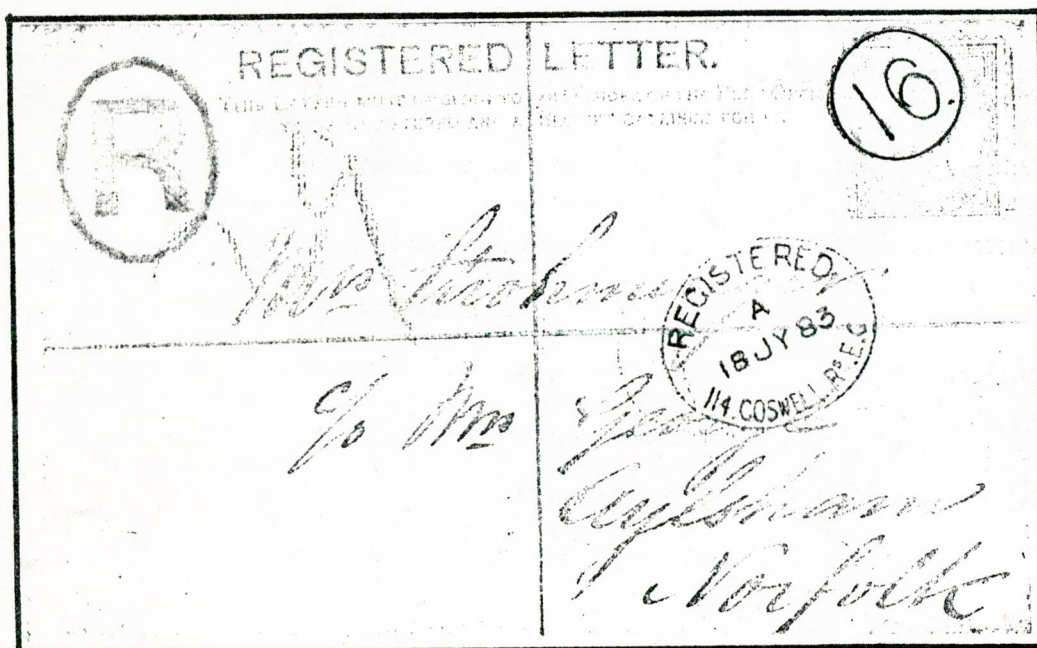
London Postal History Group

NOTEBOOK

No.18 August 1974

EDITORIAL

On the basis of a picture being worth a thousand words, the Editor is taking the opportunity to illustrate a recently acquired registered cover. It bears the oval REGISTERED of 114 Goswell Rd.E.C., but this clear of the adhesive. The twopence registration embossed stamp is uncanceled. The reverse of the envelope carries a single ring AYLISHAM/A/19 JY/83. As can be seen the penny lilac is cancelled by 16. in an 18mm circle.



Is this a telegraphic cancellation stamp; if not, what is it ?

In ' British Post Office Numbers 1844 - 1906 ' Brumell notes against 16 in the list of Offices in the London District ' Victoria St., E.C. '. A footnote adds ... " Victoria E.C. is a mystery, as I can trace no Post Office of that name nor can I find that there was one in Queen Victoria St. An office was opened in Victoria St., S.W. in 1882 ". In the current P.O. London lists, there appears Victoria Embankment (part) and Victoria Wharf with EC codes (neither are offices, just street names).

Suggestions, or better still solutions, welcomed.

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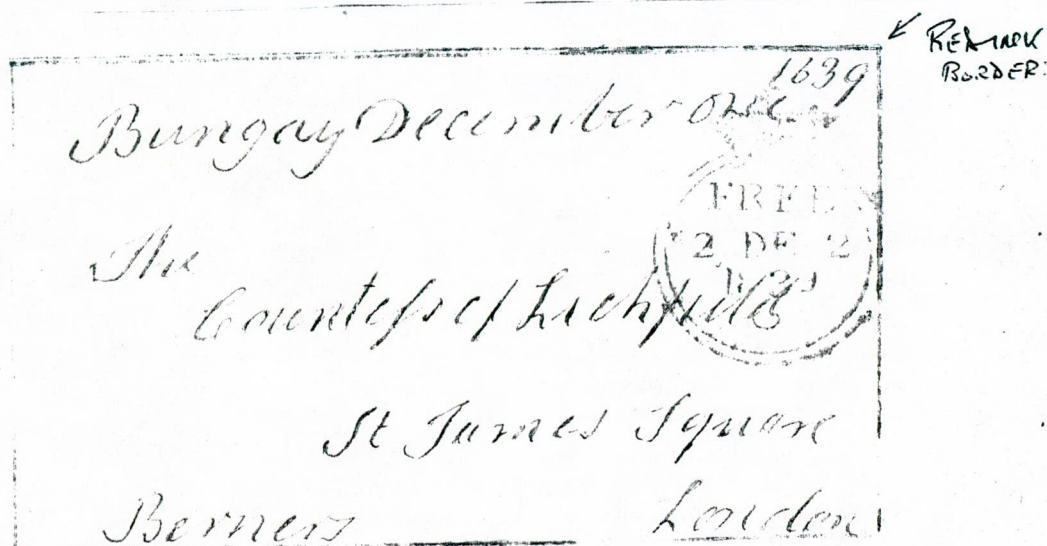
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The Sideways O FREE, by G.H.R. Wooff.

The photostat reprinted below of a Free Front with a sideways " O " may be of interest to readers. I noticed that R.M. Willcocks in his catalogue said he would be interested to see any such material, so I sent it to him.

Mr. Willcocks very kindly wrote his comments and also asked Jim Lovegrove for his views. Their comments were :

1. The Front is on unwatermarked white paper written in a greyish ink and has a Border of Pale Pink Ink. A large number of Frees have this border of Pink Ink. All known examples of the fakes ' O ' have it. It is possible of course a Collector inked them in to give them more substance in his collection.



2. The Signee - Lord Berners. His seat was at Ashwellthorpe Hall in Norwich. Bungay presumably was his Parliamentary Constituency.
3. Previous examples of the Sideways ' O ' have been concerned with the Anson Family. This is no exception as the Countess of Lichfield was the mother of Viscount Anson and wife of the P.M.G.
4. As the Front is TO London, there should be an Ordinary Free on the letter. As it is after midnight and being the wife of the P.M.G., they would just take the mail upstairs to him, thus it probably did not go to the Free Room at all.
5. Hitherto it was possible that Lady Lichfield's use of this irregular stamp occurred after Jan 1840 when the Franking Privilege was withdrawn; but it now appears this process began in Dec 1839. Forewarned perhaps ?

My conclusions....the Front appears genuine and confirms the believe that the Sideways ' O ' was used in an Official capacity by Persons in Authority. Perhaps ' O ' for ' Official ' (of the Post Office ??).

That is the position to date; I am hoping the discovery of further fronts (or better, entires) may help in finally resolving the use of the Sideways ' O ' in Free Franks.

Leman Street Location (and a great many more).

From Joe Henderson comes details from the 1845 Postal Directory which, though not listing a post office in Leman Street, it does identify the street in the Index as " Leman St. Goodm.fi W ". Michael Champness cleared up the problem created by that piece of information with an extract from the 1856 directory which lists the post office at " 29 Leman Street Goodman's Fields ". The " W " recorded above stands for " Whitechapel High St. No.1, Whitechapel Road. "

By way of a bonus, two pages from the 1845 directory are reprinted since they contain much of interest for collectors of the period.

THE GENERAL & LONDON DISTRICT POST RECEIVING HOUSES

are for the receipt of General, Foreign, Ship, and London District Post Letters, both paid and unpaid, with the exception of the Receiving Houses at 21 Cornhill, 21 Charing Cross, and 313 Regent Street, near Langham Place, at which places General Post Letters cannot be received. Unpaid Letters, and Letters bearing adhesive stamps, or enclosed in stamped covers, must be dropped into the box, and Paid Letters taken into the Office. General Post Letters posted after half-past 5 o'clock cannot be forwarded the same evening. Newspapers intended to pass by the General Post THE SAME NIGHT must be put in before 5 o'clock.

* * General Post Letters for the Day Mails can be put into the Receiving Houses till eight o'clock in the morning of the day on which the Mails are despatched.

LIST OF RECEIVING HOUSES.

WITHIN THE TOWN DISTRICTS OF THE LONDON DISTRICT (LATE TWOPENNY) POST.

At these offices Letters are despatched for the London Delivery, Ten times daily; viz., 8, 10, and 12 in the morning and 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, in the afternoon; and for the Country, at 8 and 12 morning, and 3, 5, and 6 o'clock, afternoon.—For names of Receivers, see 'Street Directory,' in 'POST OFFICE LONDON DIRECTORY.'

* * Those in CAPITALS are Money Order Offices.

No.	NORTH.	No.	EAST.	No.	WEST.
54	Amwell street, Clerkenwell		Ditto, 50 Lower Queen street	61	Albany st. Regent's park
	Bagnigge wells, 9 Acton place	196	Tooley street	87	Berwick street, Soho
43	Barbican	48	Union street, Southwark	7	Blackmoor st. Clare market
	BATTLE BRIDGE, 1 PLEASANT ROW			5	Blandford st. Manchester sq
81	Bunhill row			25	Bridge street, Westminster
	City road, Anderson's buildings, opposite the Orphan School	27	Aldgate	1	BROAD STREET, BLOOMSBURY
36	CITY RD. NEAR OLD STREET RD	141	Bethnal green road*	8	Broadway, Westminster
	City road, 31 Ashley crescent	72	Bishopsgate within	61	Brook street, Hanover square
41	Clerkenwell green	160	Bishopsgate without	9	Brunton street
39	Cleveland street, Fitzroy square		Blackwall, opposite the Plough*	38	Castle st. Leicester sq
7	Exmouth street, Clerkenwell	59	Brick lane, Spitalfields	93	Chancery lane
8	Goswell street	77	Cable street	8	Chapel st. Grosvenor place
40	Goswell road	1	Cannon street road, St. George east	15	Charing Cross, for Twopenny Post Letters only
109	Goswell street	102	Cheapside	3	Charles st. (Upper), Westminster
43	UP. NORTH PL. GRAY'S INN RD	37	Clifton street, Finsbury market	6	Commaught terrace, Edgware road
	Hampstead road, 37 Frederick place, corner of Edward street		Commercial road, E. 8 Prince's place	25	Crawford street
13	High st. Islington, corner of White Lion st	24	Cornhill, for Twopenny post Letters only	27	Cromer street
54	Leather lane	12	East Smithfield (Upper)	48	Curzon street, Mayfair
103	Old street	136	Fenchurch street	37	Devonshire st. Portland place
	Pancras, 27 Judd pl. west, New rd	5	Finsbury place, north	83	Drummond st. Euston sq
6	St. John street, Clerkenwell	99	Fore street, Cripplegate	148	Drury lane
10	Smithfield bars	36	Great Tower street	12	Duke street, Manchester square
10	Tabernacle square, 48 Old st. road	86	Hackney road	5	Eccleston street
	Whitecross street, in the prison		Hackney road, 13 Gwynn's place*	63	Edgware road
		139	Hoxton Old town, High street*	66	Farringdon street
			Hoxton Newtown, 2 Haberdasher's pl	117	Fetter lane
		65	King William street, City	31	Fleet street
		26	Leadenhall street	84	Fleet street
			LIMEHOUSE, 5 THREE COLT ST	32	Gray's Inn lane
			Limehouse bridge, opposite the church	57	Great Coram street, Russell square
203	Bernmondsey street	8	Mansell street, Goodman's fields	7	Great Mary-le-bone street
111	Blackfriars road		Mile end road, 4 Freeman's place	51	Great Portland street
231	Blackfriars road		Mile end, 6 Ireland row	24	Great Russell st. Covent garden
106	Blackman street, Borough		Mile end (New) 2 doors west of Grove road*	43	Great Russell st. Bloomsbury
53	Borough			47	Greek street, Soho
	Dover road, 5 Alsop buildings	104	Minorities	16	Grenville st. Brunswick sq
	Kent street road, 7 York place	60	Moorgate street	55	High street, St. Giles's
	Kent rd. (New), 5 Providence bldgs	27	Norton folgate	44	High Holborn
5	Knight rider street (Little)	9	Old Broad street	116	High Holborn
	Lambeth, 93 Bridge road	234	Poplar High street*	14	Holborn bars
	Lambeth, 60 Commercial road	70	Queen street, Cheapside	107	Holborn hill, corner of Hatton Grdn
	Lambeth, 38 High street		RATCLIFF CROSS, 77 BROAD ST	30	Jermyn street
	Lambeth, 66 Lower Marsh	237	Shadwell High street	132	Jermyn street
	LAMBETH, 33 MOUNT STREET	211	Shoreditch	2	King street, Covent Garden
	Lambeth, 2 Saville place	2	Stepney High street		Knight-bridge, 32 St. George's pl
12	London road, Southwark	83	Thames street (Lower)	52	Laub's Conduit street
	Newington Causeway, 36 Bridge house ace	9	Wapping wall	3	Leigh street, Burton crescent
4	New Park street, Southwark	340	Wapping	33	Little Newport street
27	Pembroke place, Vauxhall br road		1 WHITECHAPEL ROAD	41	Long Acre
12	Rotherhithe wall		133 Whitechapel road	35	Ludgate street
				4	Lvall place, Eaton square
				19	Maddox st. Hanover square
				23	Mary-le-bone st. Golden sq

* There is no 8 o'clock night collection from these offices.

65

POSTAL DIRECTORY.

[1845.

No.	No.	No.
2 Millbank street, Westminster	17 Portugal street	49 Strand
5 Mount street, Grosvenor sq	61 Princes st. Leicester sq	104 Strand
49 Newman street	52 Red Lion street	180 Strand
24 Osunburgh st. Regent's park	189 Regent street, St. James's	338 Strand
21 Oxford street	11 Regent pl. Horseferry rd. Westmin	7 Sussex pl. (Little) Hyde pk. gardens
98 Oxford street	313 Regent st., near Langham place,	Temple, 2 Devereux court
100 Oxford street	for Theopomp Post Letters only	29 Thayer st. Manchester sq
210 OXFORD STREET	8 St. James's street	1 Torrington place
119 Pall Mall	27 Skianer street, Snowhill	57 Tottenham court road
35 Park street, Grosvenor square	161 Sloane street*	103 TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD
18 Park terrace, Regent's park road	179 Sloane street	132 Tottenham court road
PIMLICO, 28 QUEEN'S ROW	27 Southampton row, Russell sq	54 UPPER BAKER ST. NEW ROAD
Pinico, 1 Ranelagh terrace	16 South Audley street	70 Upper Berkeley st. Portman sq
65 PICCADILLY	34 South Audley street	19 Upper Berkeley street west
119 Piccadilly, corner of Down st	38 Store street, Bedford square	2 Vigo street

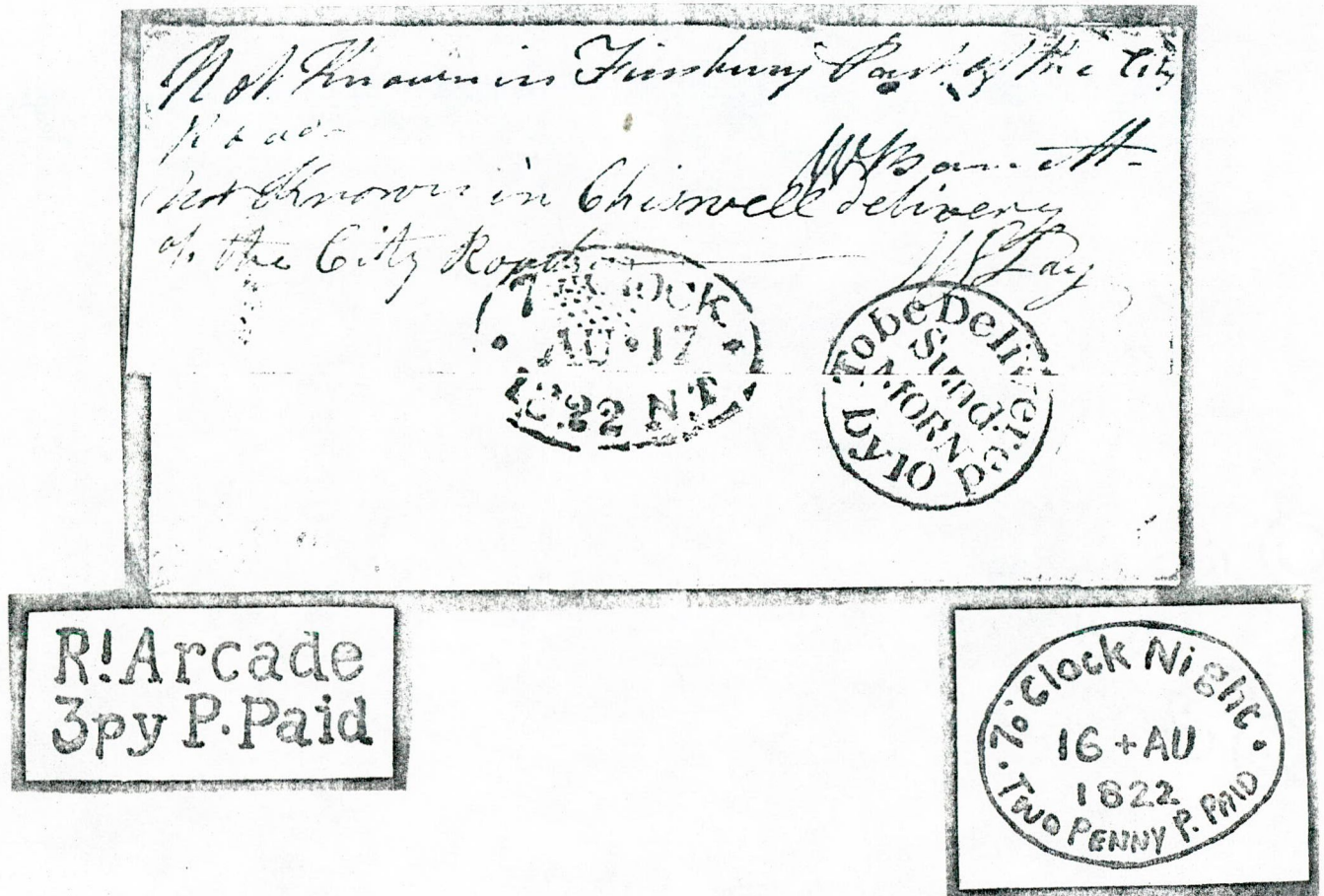
* There is no 8 o'clock night collection from this office.

AT THE FOLLOWING RECEIVING HOUSES (WITHIN THE THREE-MILE CIRCLE) LETTERS ARE
DESPATCHED AT THE HOURS STATED IN EACH COLUMN.

	MORNING.			AFTERNOON.			
	h.	m.		h.	m.	h.	m.
Albany road, Kent road	7	45	9 45	11	30	1	45
Balls Pond road, No. 4 North place	7	45	9 45	11	15	3	30
Brixton road, 18 Commerce place	7	45	9 30	11	15	3	15
Camberwell green, 1 New terrace	8	0	10 0	11	15	3	15
Camberwell grove, 22 Church street	7	45	9 45	11	0	4	45
Camberwell New road, 5 Leicester place	7	30	9 15	11	15	3	15
Camberwell road, 3 Clarence place	7	45	9 45	11	20	4	45
Camberwell, 3 Edward place, Southampton street	7	45	9 45	11	10	4	45
Camden Town, 89 High street	8	0	10 0	11	30	5	0
Camden New Town, 2 Great Randolph street	7	45	9 45	11	30	4	45
Clarendon square (7), Somers town	8	0	10 0	11	45	5	0
Clapham road, 2 Holland place	7	30	9 30	11	15	3	15
Dalston, 1 Victoria place	7	45	9 45	11	30	3	15
Highbury, No. 1 Park terrace	7	15	9 45	11	15	4	45
Holloway, 6 Pleasant place	7	15	9 45	11	15	4	45
Holloway road, 17 Wells row	7	30	10 0	11	15	5	0
Hackney, Church street	7	45	9 45	11	15	4	45
Hackney, Mare street	7	45	9 30	11	30	4	45
Islington, 9 Lower road	7	45	9 45	11	30	4	45
Islington, Liverpool road, 10 Felix terrace	7	45	9 45	11	15	4	15
Islington, 13 High street	8	0	10 0	11	30	5	0
Islington, 3 Brunswick terrace, Barnsbury road	8	0	9 45	11	30	3	30
Islington, 86 Upper street	7	45	9 45	11	30	4	45
Kentish town, 10 Providence place	7	45	9 45	11	15	3	15
Kennington, 3 Octagon place	7	45	9 30	11	30	5	0
Kennington cross (2)	7	45	9 30	11	30	5	0
Kent road, 9 Northampton place	8	0	10 0	11	45	3	45
Kent road, 18 Sussex place	7	45	9 45	11	15	4	45
Kingsland green, No. 1	8	0	10 0	11	15	5	0
Lambeth, 5 East place	7	45	9 30	11	15	4	45
Newington Butts, 22 High street	8	0	10 0	11	30	5	0
Pancras road, 7 Church row	7	50	9 40	11	45	3	15
Penton street (44), Pentonville	7	45	9 45	11	30	4	45
Shacklewell, 7 High street	7	45	9 45	11	0	5	0
Vauxhall	8	0	10 0	11	30	4	45
Walworth road, 10 Staverton row	7	45	9 45	11	45	4	45
Walworth road, 13 Bolingbroke row	7	45	9 45	11	30	4	45
Walworth, 23 Crosby row	8	0	10 0	11	30	5	0
South Lambeth	7	45	9 45	11	15	4	30

London's Local Posts.

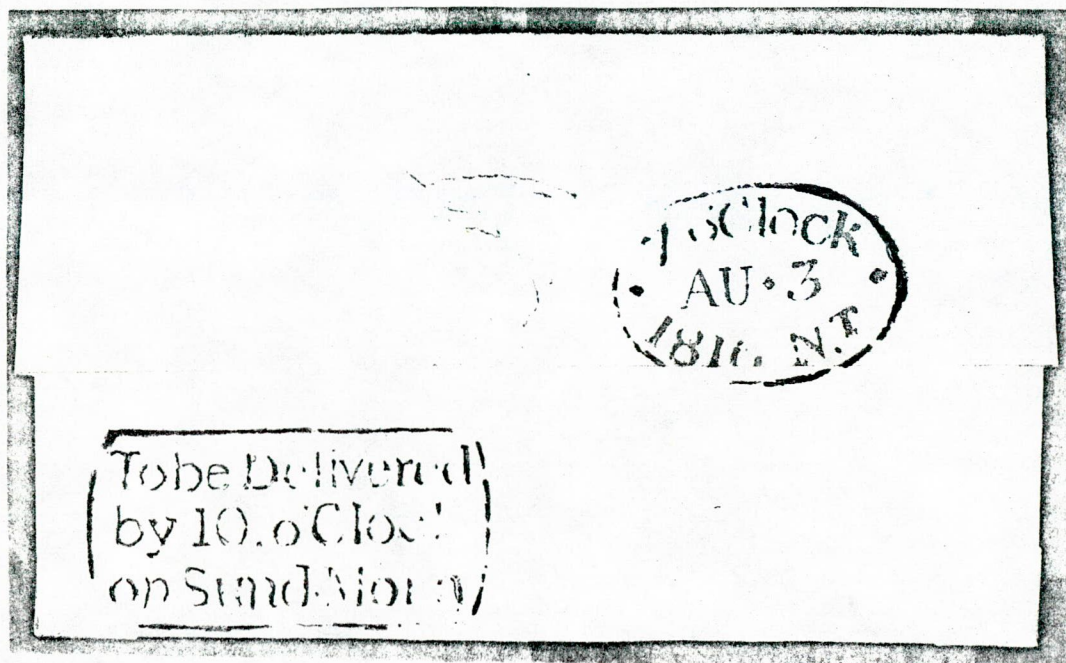
The meeting held last April as part of the experiment in weekday evening sessions was, alas, not well attended with the result that those absent missed an opportunity to see some excellent material. A star 'turn' was the material shown by John Harrison. This was first class in quality of strikes and range and number of items, with particular interest in the Twopenny Post. By way of indicating just a glimpse of what readers may have missed, three are illustrated below.



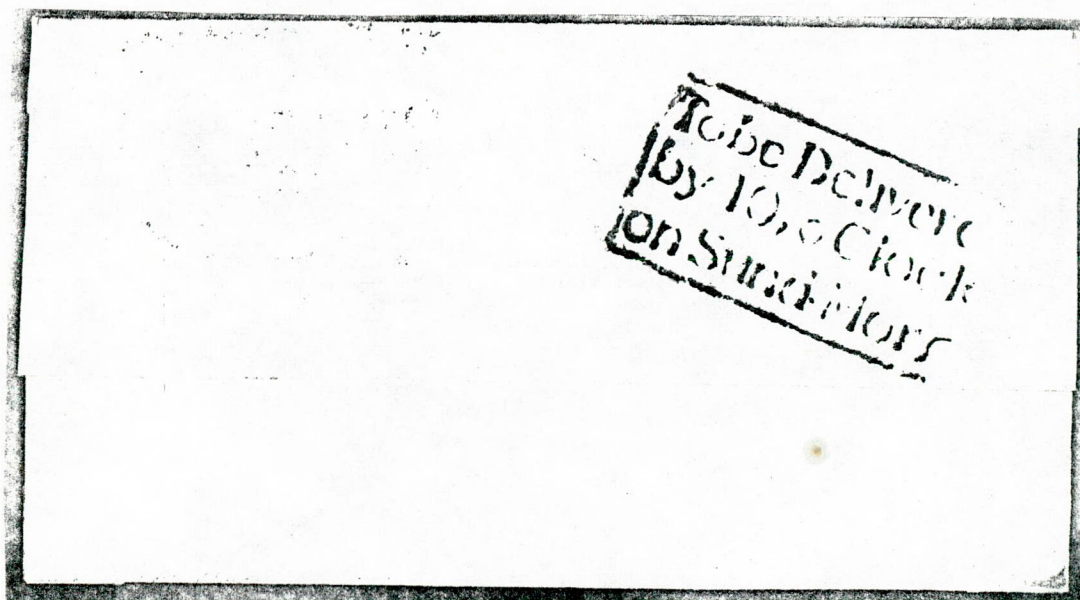
This letter, addressed to " Mr Wilkins, City Road ", was posted prepaid early Friday evening and stamped " R! Arcade / 3 py P. Paid ". It was forwarded to the Westminster Office who added their paid stamp. The Letter Carrier was unable to find Mr Wilkin's house. He endorsed the front " T.Over " and wrote on the back " Not known in Finsbury Part of the City Road " signing this with his name " W.Barrett ". Late on Saturday the letter was sent to the Chief Office who added their time/date stamp and, because it was Saturday evening and delivery was to be made in the country area, also added their circular Sunday Delivery Stamp. A second attempt was made to deliver this letter on Sunday morning by Postman N.S. Lay who also failed to find Mr Wilkin's house. He added his signed comment " Not known in Ciswell delivery of the City Road ".

The Sunday Delivery Stamps, mentioned on the previous page, have several types with variations within types. The Willcocks fig 140, cat no. 376 is a case in point with the two examples below showing (a) full stop after 10 and (b) comma after 10. The frame also appears to differ.

(a) with stop after 10



(b) with comma after 10



Redirection of Mail, from M.R. Hewlett

42
 Wm. Lazenby Esq. Esq.
 27 March 1893

delivered at 10
 Great Lane
 (Shed Windows)
 Address to
 for the General
 Post. (Ship)
 28th March 1893

M. J. S. 5. 6. 5
 Regd. 27 March 1893

~~Mr~~ Mr Bakenham

Mr Lazenby

27 March 1893
 The letters have been
 here

Addressed to.
 for London
 District Letter
 M. Lazenby
 28 March 1893

My dear Sir
 I shall, possibly
 undertake to you if
 you give direct orders
 that my letters be
 sent to
 Mr Stafford Row
 Bockingham Gate
 I have the honor to be
 very dear Sir
 Yours faithfully
 William Lazenby
 Colonel Lazenby - 27 March 1893

PEARSON HILL EXPERIMENTAL, a letter from M.R. Hewlett

re Alcock & Holland fig. 1055: This cancellation is reproduced on page 260 of 'Postmarks of Great Britain and Ireland' by Messrs. Alcock & Holland. On that page, apart from fig. 1057, are figs. 1055 and 1056 (repeated on page 78 of the 1960 abridged edition - Ed.). What is not generally known is that a later amendment interchanges the two numbers such that fig. 1055 should have been fig. 1056 and similarly that shown as 1056 should be 1055. I wish to comment upon the corrected cancellation fig. 1055, which according to the late W.G. Stitt Dibden in his book 'Early Stamp Machines' published in 1964, has been reported only twice. By co-incidence Stanley Gibbons, in their sale of the 27th. June, had one on cover and the writer was able to purchase one on loose stamp (quite clearly recognisable). There would now appear to be FOUR known copies. I wonder if anyone else has reported any.

In response to this letter, the Editor drew attention to the two examples recorded in the PJGB of September 1971 by the late Dr. J. Woodhead and that one was offered in the Robson Lowe auction of 30th. January 1973, realising £160.

With a piece of prompt research Mr. Hewlett established the item he spoke of was from the collection of Doctor Woodhead and had been found by Garnet Langton in a mixed lot some eight years ago.



fig. 1055



fig. 1056

It seems, therefore, there are at least three of these recorded and the question remains, how many others?

For the record the corrected numbers have been given to the illustrations above which have taken, with acknowledgement, from the 1960 'British Postmarks' by Messrs. Alcock and Holland.

—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—

redirection of mail, continued from previous page

The item shown on page 7 was a recent acquisition having several points of interest as it illustrates the dual postal system operating in London at the time. "Attended to for the General Post" and "Attended to for London District Letters". This separate note from each service added to the finely produced date and register no. stamp make this a doubly delightful addition to the collection.

—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—O—

The New Post-Office, London

The Mirror

OF

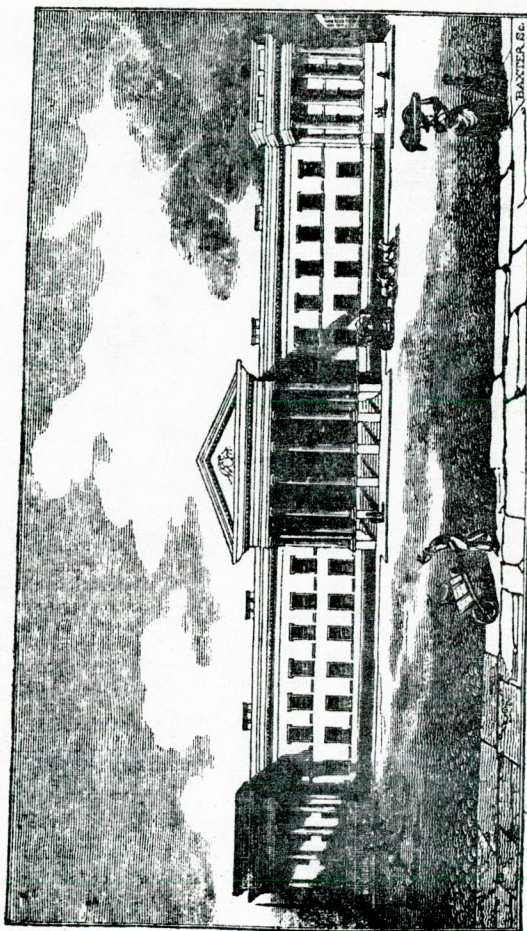
LITERATURE, AMUSEMENT, AND INSTRUCTION.

No. 293.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1828.

[PRICE 2d.

Architectural Illustrations.



NEW POST-OFFICE, LONDON.

VOL. XI.

C

293

The New Post-Office, London

On the reverse of the picture on the previous page, 'The Mirror' gives a contemporary view of the postal service in the early days of 1828.

18

THE MIRROR.

THE post-office system is justly considered the proudest triumph of this commercial country; and perhaps nothing is better calculated to convey an idea of her importance than a single glance at its well-arranged details—for the most part perfected from the suggestions of the late Mr. Palmer. Its progress to perfection has, however, been gradual, as will be seen by a few references to its documents.

In 1635, the king is stated to have ordered his "postmaster of England for foreign parts," to open a regular communication, by running posts between the metropolis and Edinburgh, West Chester, Holyhead, Ireland, Plymouth, Exeter, &c. In 1653-4, the post-office-revenues were farmed by the council of state and the protector at 10,000*l.* per annum.

In 1685 they were computed at £65,000
 1688..... 76,318
 1764..... 281,535
 1775..... 345,321
 1785..... 463,753
 1793..... 607,268

and according to recent finance accounts, for England, the East and West Indies and America, Scotland, and Ireland, the gross produce for 1816 was 2,067,940*l.*

—The Irish post-office returned 221,416*l.* which, added to the revenue of the English post-office, makes a gross total of nearly TWO AND A QUARTER MILLIONS ANNUALLY! In 1825 the post-office produced 2,268,619*l.*

The principal office, as all our readers are aware, is in Lombard-street; but this establishment has long been found too small, and altogether inadequate to so vast an extension of business. Accordingly, the erection of a *new post-office* was decided on, the chosen site being St. Martin's-le-grand, considered more central, and easier of approach than the old office in Lombard-street.

The architect of the new building is Robert Smirke, Esq., and being now almost completed, it may be pronounced as one of the "most imposing public buildings of the city." Its exterior is characterized by solidity, not unmixed with simplicity and elegance, which accord with the importance of its appropriation, and the opulence of the city which it embellishes. The basement is of granite, but the superstructure is of brick, faced with Portland stone.

"The principal façade is extremely elegant; the outline is noble and simple; the proportion and distribution of the parts are good, and in harmony with each other; and the general composition is chaste and grand. The portico is beautiful in itself, and has a bold and noble projection, the effect of which is skillfully

heightened by the recessing of the back wall within the general line of the building. The door-way is magnificent. The order generally, and its members separately, are classical and elegant, and closely follow the antique in character as well as in proportions. The principal defect in the façade is the puerile employment of columns at the wings.

"The termination of the attic over the wings is extremely faulty, and has a most disagreeable effect when viewed in perspective. The boarding almost precludes our judging of the steps of the portico and of the plinth to the building. With regard to the former, it is to be regretted that they do not project before the portico, and allow the columns to have posed firmly and grandly on the landing, that the appearance of pedestals might have been avoided.

"The front towards Cheapside is well designed and grand. The introduction of windows in the frieze is to be regretted; but their necessity powerfully pleads their excuse. The fronts in Foster-lane and St. Ann's-lane have no architectural pretensions. The arrangement and plan of the building are excellent. The grand entrance from the portico is magnificent. It consists of a colonnade on each side, of the same order and dimensions as the columns of the portico, carried up the whole height of the building, and running directly through to Foster-lane."

It will be seen that in our anticipatory anxiety to add the *new post-office* to our *London illustrations*, we are confined to an outline of the exterior of this noble structure; but it is now fast approaching to completion, so that we hope shortly to be enabled to introduce our readers to the interior. In the meantime the annexed view will prove interesting to our country friends, and to many of our London readers, who, from various circumstances, may not be aware of the present forward state of the building. The plans for suitable approaches to the new establishment are already matured, and will doubtless contribute to the embellishment of its neighbourhood.

TWELFTH DAY.

(For the *Mirror*.)

TWELFTH-DAY, or rather *Twelfth-Night* may be considered the merriest of the whole year, not even excepting Christmas Day. It may perhaps be meet to advert to the different ways in which it is observed; but I am afraid that I must confine myself to the North of

* From the *Athenæum*, No. II.

The Additional Halfpenny Mail Tax 1813 - 1839

Most collectors are aware of the " $\frac{1}{2}$ " struck on mail but may have been under the misapprehension these were all Scottish marks and therefore of no direct interest to those who research London. However, the advent of the "Postal History of Great Britain and Ireland" by R.M. Willcocks corrected the notion in short order.

The background to these marks starts over a quarter of a century before they were introduced with an Act of Parliament which decreed that from 15th. July, 1785 all mail carrying vehicles, even horses, were to be exempt from paying tolls for.. "their passage through any Turnpike, Tollgate or Bar". Whilst this was no doubt a great relief to the Post Office and the various contracted carriers of postal mails, the Turnpike operators viewed the matter in a rather different light. As with most pressure groups the Government of the day required several years of concentrated attack before they consented to amend matters. By Act of Parliament dated 3rd. June, 1813 the repeal, in part, of exemption of Scottish mails was achieved, under the following title.....






"An Act to repeal the exemption from Toll granted for, and in respect of, Carriages with more than two wheels, carrying mails in Scotland; and for granting a Rate of Postage, as an indemnity for the Loss which arises to the Revenue of the Post Office from the Payment of such Tolls".

The outcome was that the various turnpike trusts received reasonably regular payments from the Post Office in Edinburgh with the Office making some recovery by the additional halfpenny on every letter carried by a four wheeled coach over a toll road in Scotland. Two wheelers, horses and foot postmen were still exempt, although a "no passenger" rule was applied to mail carts with two wheels.

London, along with other English towns, applied these additional " $\frac{1}{2}$ " marks and the following illustrations and details give the main London items.

Of the four main groups, London used three only, the absentee being the unframed " $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Those recorded are:

<u>Main Type</u>	<u>SubType</u>	<u>Colour</u>	<u>Rarity</u>
"Addl. $\frac{1}{2}$ ", enclosed in a frame	1	Black	B
	2	Black	A
" $\frac{1}{2}$ " enclosed in a frame	3	Black	A
	4	Black Brown	C
	5	Black Brown	C
(with reverse fraction line)	6	Black Brown	B
" $\frac{1}{2}$ " without frame			

				
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(6)

There are but three attributed to London in the Willcocks Catalogue and it will be of great interest to establish if readers can confirm the other types shown above. (source: Stamp Collecting Weekly 7.5.70 Article by Mr. K. Hodgson.)

Inland Branch, An Interim Report from K. Martin-Jones.

A number of further recordings of the upright ovals without date stamps have been made and the current position, in summary form, is given below. When more data is available a fuller listing with dates and varieties will be compiled.

The numbers recorded by Leon Dubus are shown against the letter D.
The numbers recorded by the LPHG in addition to those are shown with an L.
The numbers as yet unrecorded but which may exist are shown against U.

Series 4: Numbers 1 to 10 (nine omitted) In service 1864 to 1882 for use on
' Too Late ' letters and with ' Late Fee ' charges. 2525 format.

All recorded by Dubus.

Series 5: Numbers 11 to 51 - this extends the Dubus listing - the dates given
by him are 13 to 27, from 1864 to 1869
40, 42 and 43, from 1871 to 1875
44 from 1861 to 1900 2525 format

D: 13, 15, 16, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 40, 42, 43, 44

L: 11(1862), 12(1865), 17, 18, 28, 33, 34, 35, 41(1870/71), 46, 49, 51

U: 14, 21, 22, 29, 31, 32, 36, 37, 38, 39, 45, 47, 48, 50

Series 9: Numbers 26 to 39. In service 1866 (not all) through into 1883
2525 format.

D: all except 27

U: 27

Series 16: 34 to 51. In use 1870-1872. 1313 format.

D: 34, 35, 37, 38, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 48, 50, 51

L: 36, 39, 47, 49

Series 24: 1 to 17 - this extends the Dubus listing. In use 1870 to 1882.
1515 format.

D: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 11, 14

L: 7, 10, 12, 17

U: 6, 8, 13, 15, 16

There are two other series not included in this report. Series 25 is a group of four unrelated marks in varying format; series 26 are the capital letters A to D in a 2525 format. Further information on both these groups is sought.



4



5



9



16



24

Foreign Branch Mails

Our May meeting was, due to a clash of dates, reduced in numbers, but the quality and variety of material shown was ample compensation. Nearly all present had a contribution to make and the following is a brief resume of some highlights.

The early Bishops were represented with a number of fine examples, suitably dated and routed to verify use. Willcocks fig.335 and 336, each with a range of numbers, still not identified as to function, including a FOREIGN OFFICE with the date in centre and 1802 in full. Though not listed in Willcocks it is recorded by Alcock and Holland, Philatelic Adviser Nov. 1951, p.2, theirs being dated 8.10.1804. A timely reminder of the note in Willcocks that it does not attempt to record and illustrate everything. Willcocks fig.339, the dotted circle, provided a surprise for several members when it was pointed out that the number of dots varied. A quick count of a few examples provided the theory that the number of dots advances with the advancing years.



335



336



339

Transfer stamps included a nice example of fig.345 dated 19.12.1796; charge and allied stamps included the rare FRANCK, fig.351, at which the Editor ruefully recalled being offered a selection at £3 each - not long since - and not believing they could be genuine, declined. Subsequent conversation with the dealer showed the reason - he was unaware of what he was offering: there is a moral there somewhere! A selection of FOREIGN PAID and BRITISH/FOREIGN were noted, together with a range of Willcocks fig.353 showing various rates. The Inspector's Crown as fig. 355 appeared in very fine condition.



345



351



355

Following the period covered by the catalogue, a wide range of explanatory and charge marks were seen. A delightful INSUFFY STAMPED/VIA-BRINDISI of 21.3.1871 was a jewel in a fine setting of other stamps.

Due to the calculation of postage due in GOLDEN CENTIMES, the odd $\frac{1}{2}$ d charge was levied. Where a specific $\frac{1}{2}$ d value was not available, two charge marks would be applied, the full penny plus the half, side by side - more or less! A number of these combination strikes were shown.

An intriguing aside occurred with a LONDON PAID mark on a Boer War cover where it was suggested an SL coding stood for "Soldiers Letters", at least for a few months. Any such items are well worth checking and reporting.

The FB killers applied to printed matter shown by Dubus no.51, dated 17.6.1875 which cannot be too common, was seen. The large initial in diamond, on cover also made appearances. An 'H' of 2.10.1865 and 'B' of 8.12.1870 and October 1867. As evidence of the fallacy of the B(ristol);F(almouth);H(ull) and P(lymouth), a superb 'B' on cover was offered routed to Sweden, via HULL.

acknowledgement: illustrations taken from the R.M.W. Postal History Catalogue

A few of the "ART" stamps were shown, but it was the items not there in this range which caused some concern. For many years there were but five types in the Editorial wants list, namely

Colonies & Art 12; Art 13; Art 18; Canada & Art 12 and Foreign Counties Art 20.

However, from the Post Office Proof Impression Books came the alarming news that on 22nd. December 1855 when Colonies Art 18 and Foreign Countries 20 were issued they were in company with Canada Art-19 and Foreign Countries Art-21, plus single line ART-24 and ART-25. To add to the range Robert Johnson has forwarded further pulls from the P.I.B. All of these are reproduced below with appreciation to the Post Office for supplying the information.

Foreign Division ——— *8 May* ——— ART changed for

1845

Select of
for Division

6 Mar { TABLE-3
ART-19
TABLE-3
ART-19
TABLE-3
ART-19

6th, March, 1852

Feb - 5 { COLONIES
ART-18 CANADA
ART-19
FOREIGN COUNTRIES
ART-20 FOREIGN COUNTRIES
ART-21
" " { ART-24 ART-25
ART-24 ART-25
ART-24 ART-25
ART-24 ART-25
ART-24 ART-25
ART-24 ART-25

22nd. December, 1855

Postmarks of the London EC District, by Jeremy Greenwood

In September 1905 a very large number of new stamps (mostly hand) were issued for use in the London E.C. office itself i.e. St. Martins-le-Grand, and to the various sub-offices under it. These were mostly replacements of existing types although a number of completely new ones were also issued.



The type illustrated above had, of course, been in use for some considerable length of time and was employed at the Head Office on mail from single aperture collections, unless otherwise described, i.e. letters posted at offices where there was no sub division of the posting apertures into " Town ", "Country", "Printed Matter", etc.

The code number in the right hand half denoted the different duties as follows:

53	6 p.m. collection
68	5.30 p.m. collection
70	newspapers
84	5.30 p.m. collection and newspapers out of 8 p.m. collection
86	11 p.m. collection
87	7 p.m. collection
90	8.45 a.m. to 4.45 p.m. collections
91	11.15 a.m. to 5.15 p.m. collections
92	5 to 5.30 p.m. collections
93	1.15 and 3.15 p.m. collections

These were all issued on the 15th. September and it should be noted that the time code shown on the stamp differs, by a $\frac{3}{4}$ hour usually, from the actual collection time.

Acknowledgement.

The above information was obtained from the **London E.C. Proof Impression Books**, by kind permission of the Curator of the National Postal Museum, Mr. A.R. de Righi, prior to their being sent away for repair.

-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-

Postmark Notes, Notebook No.17, page 8

Due to a printing error the illustration and note relating to fig. 4 was missed out and the former is corrected on the right, with the information that it was issued on 30th. April 1889 for use in machine dies at Mount Pleasant.



Michael Champness has raised the point as to the meaning of " forward " and " stop " letters mentioned in the article. At present we can find no official explanation. Can a reader assist ?

-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-

Explanatory Marks, by R.I. Johnson

I have come across several unusual marks in the Records Office in the Impression Books while looking for information about underpaid mail and thought it might be a bit of fun to record some of these as it seems to me that they are unlikely to appear on collectable items.

I have chosen only those I have not seen before whether at exhibitions or for sale or in private collections.

Types similar to fig. 8 do appear on parcel post labels from time to time and obviously fig.4 is a special example of a general need.

If sufficient members write to the Editor I might be tempted to try and write up some of these marks and others. I would be particularly interested in the background to fig. 5.

As a final word in this short note I would point out that fig.2 is similar in principle to the two marks illustrated in Notebook aa, page 6.

**FINE COVERED BY
EXCESS POSTAGE**

fig.1

16.1.1894

Prepayment of foreign
correspondence can only
be effected by means of
Postage Stamps.

fig.6

7.12.1892

Circulation
prohibited.

fig.2 27.6.1894

**EXAMINED
R.L.B.**

fig.7

2.5.1883

**NOT
TRANSMISSIBLE
TO**

fig.3 26.3.1892

**POSTED OUT OF COURSE
DEFICIENT POSTAGE....
FINE.....**

TOTAL TO PAY....

fig.8

27.8.1885

EXCEEDS $\frac{1}{2}$ Oz.

fig.4

26.3.1892

Seized by the Metropolitan Police and
sent to the Post Office for return to
the Sender.

*Saisie par la Police et livrée au Bureau
Central des Postes pour être renvoyée
à l'expéditeur.*

fig.5

27.8.1892

ENCLOSED IN A PARCEL
CONTRARY TO REGULATIONS
AND TAKEN OUT AT GENERAL
POST OFFICE, LONDON.
SENDER'S ADDRESS

CHARGE FOR
POSTAGE

fig.9

30.1.1886

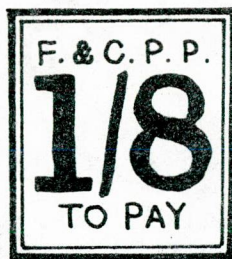


fig.10 12.2.1886

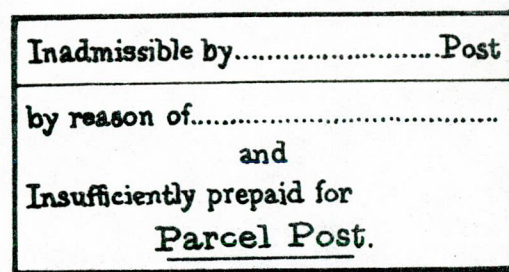


fig.11 20.2.1886

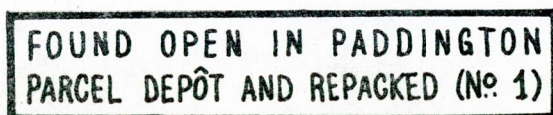


fig.12 16.12.1889

The Stamps must not be cancelled.

fig.13 3.3.1887

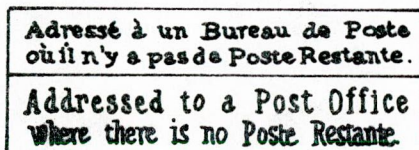


fig.14 12.8.1887

**ADDRESS, INCOMPLETE
WHEN FOUND, IN N. P. B**

fig.15 13.1.1885

-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-

RJ 51 ???? - NO!

Michael Goodman and Jeremy Greenwood write to say the mark shown in the previous edition was a well worn and smudged impression of the EC markings of printed matter and EC 31 would probably be a better reading.

-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-

OUR NEXT MEETING on September 21st is on the subject of the paid stamps of the general post. These are the marks dealt with in Section A13 of the Alcock & Holland 1940 edition of "The Postmarks of Great Britain and Northern Ireland".

As a supplement to this issue of Notebook, the Editor has prepared some working papers based on that book and the Willcocks catalogue. Would all those able to attend bring along whatever material they have and the working papers amended whilst those not able to attend are urged to send their amended working papers to the Editor as soon as possible.

Rarely Seen.....

is a description with which most collectors are familiar. Kenneth Sargeant, in producing the item shown below could fairly attribute the remark to the handstamp



CONTROLLERS OFFICE L.P.S. DEPT, applied twice to the reverse of an envelope addressed to Mr. Wm. Herbert Threlfall, The Controller's Office, London EC and originating from Russia.

Can some well informed reader give any information on the handstamp. If it is a departmental receiving mark, they certainly worked quite horrific hours in the office, 8.30 PM being the time shown.

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

Apex Down.

Having picked up the odd example, usually on post cards, it seemed about time to attempt to establish the facts and range of use. Alcock & Holland, Section K(3) on "Examiners & Inspectors Marks" have this to say.....

Finally there are two special groups of small triangular stamps that require to be included in this section. The first has the apex downwards and was used in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. There are many variations in shape and impressions occur in black and violet. Inside the triangle at the top, some specimens have a word such as "Sub?", "Welsh", "Irish", "Scotch", while others have railway initials or London District initials. Beneath these words or initials is generally a number, though sometimes it is replaced by a letter. These triangular stamps were apparently used on letters found in the different divisions of the London GPO to be out of course owing to missorting."



With the so-called cheap end of the market which at one time provided this material joining the ranks of "I remember.." would readers are invited to let the Editor know if they have such items or are interested in setting up a study of these marks. It would be very useful if such a limited project could be undertaken for study.

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

Paid Stamps of the General Post

Section A13 of the Alcock and Holland 1940 'The Postmarks of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.'

This is an attempt to summarise the contents of the original publication, the additional data given in the various supplements and to encourage readers to forward information to enable to Group to produce a reasonably comprehensive report on these marks. It is the intention to give now the bare bones of dates, colors and usage. The information this stimulates, together with data from the Group meeting in September may be sufficient for a Group monograph on the subject.

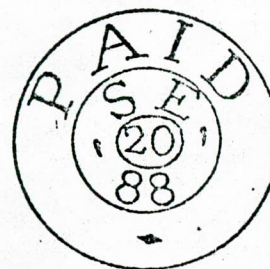
- fig.1 Letters to the Continent 1715 - 1740, then also inland to at least 1765. Size varies 13mm to 19mm. Blackish-purple. Willcocks Cat. 40, type 18.
- fig.2 Inland letters 1766 to 1791, also foreign letters. Normally dull maroon with later specimens in black (??are these Glasgow). Known occasionally in red; last few years in a purple grey. Willcocks type 19; cat 41/42.
- fig.3 1787 or 1788; rings and lettering vary in size. Dull maroon. Willcocks type 20: 34mm, cat.43:29mm.cat44. (1789 - 1791) 31mm; cat 45; Feb - Sept. 1791.



1

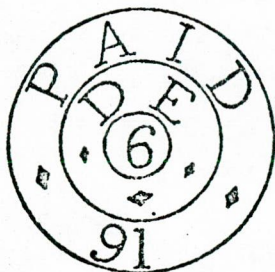


2



3

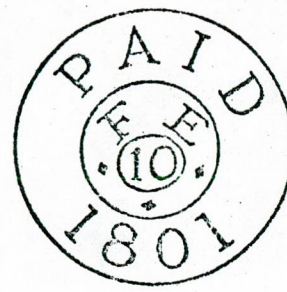
- fig.4 1791 - 1794. Red ink introduced. Not used during experimental period March to December 1794. W.type 24, but with year in 2 figs. cat 46.
- fig.5 Late 1794 or 1795. Year in full. Morning and evening duty till 1797. Confined to evening duty until April 1801. W.type 24, cat 50. Sizes from 32mm to 35mm, with varieties.
- fig.6 Late type of fig.5 with much wider outer ring. Evening duty, replaced in May 1801 by fig.15. W.type 24, cat.56



4



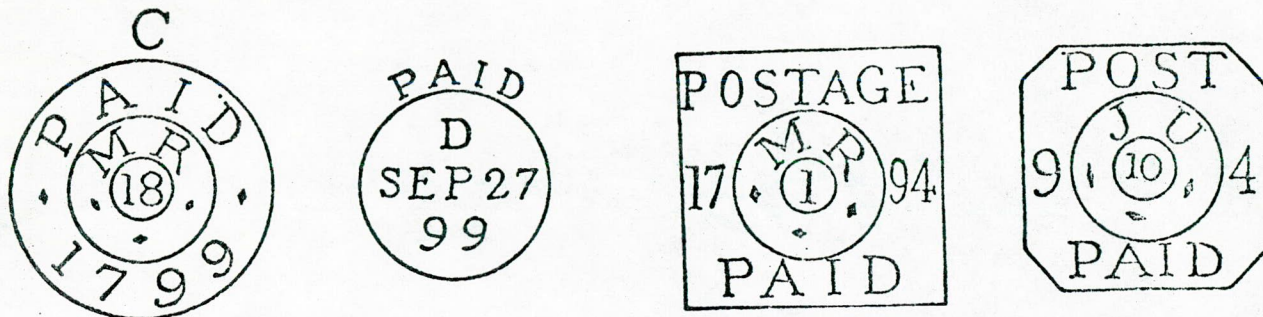
5



6

fig.7 1798. A - F letters added to distinguish the various stamps used on morning duty. W. type 24 + letter. cat 51 (2 sizes)

fig.8 Introduced early in the second half of 1799. W.type 25;cat.52



Experimental Period 1794

fig.9 March dates only. The outer frame is separate from the inner thus allowing the latter to be changed daily. Red only. W.type 21; cat 47.

fig.10 Early April - end July. Later examples have the three small diamonds more elongated - the frame around the day of the month is more circular than the early issues (two parts as with fig.9). Red only. W. type 22;cat.48.

fig.11 August to mid December. Red only. W.type 23;cat.49

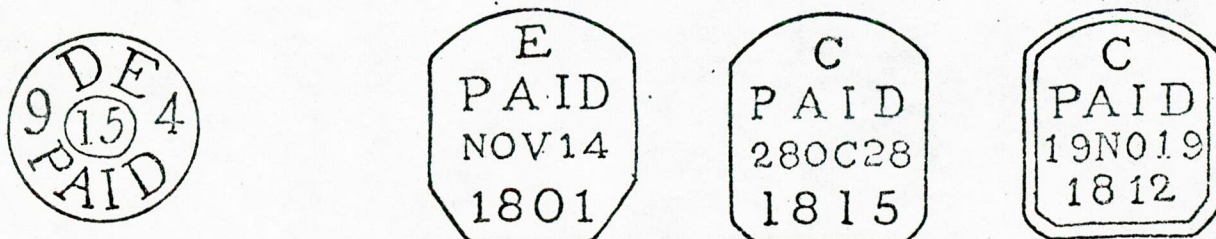


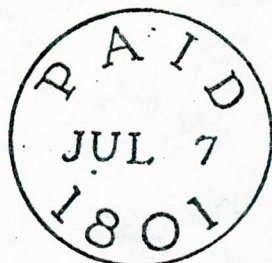
fig.12 The " Tombstone ". Introduced in January 1800 for morning duty. Index letters A to G. Renewed every six months, with slight differences. W.type 23;cat 53(this covers a number of the tombstone types.)

fig.13 Modification to fig.12 with day of month repeated. From 1810 to 10.1.1840 (with modifiactions). Late 1839 year appeared in smaller figures.

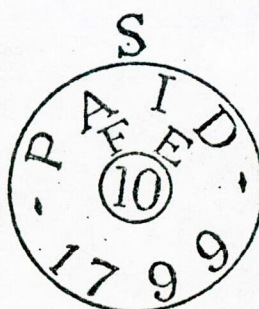
fig.14 Double frame introduced in 1810, with letters A to G. In general use till 10.1.1840. Late 1839 the year is found in smaller figures. From 10.1.1840 fig.13 was retained for morning duty and fig.14 transferred to evening duty. Sans serif lettering, see figs. 22 and 23 replaced these in 1841. In 1843 serif were reintroduced, returning to sans serif in 1844.

fig.15 In May 1801 this replaced fig. 6 for evening duty. Second half of 1805 specimens appear with small stars before and after the year. Amended in 1810 to have the day of the month before and after month. Replaced 10.1.1840 by fig. 14.

fig.16 Month in two instead of three letters. The circle varies from 33mm to 26mm dia. There are other minor varieties with small circles or arcs before and after the year. Replaced 10.1.1840 by fig.14. From that date used on afternoon or evening extra duty - Brumell's suggestion. Used up to 1841, sans serif introduced in 1841.



15



17



16

SUNDAY STAMPS

fig.17 Special Sunday stamps were in use at the Chief Office in London on General Post paid letters.

fig.18 } Later types of Sunday stamps. After 1842 the letter 3 in paid stamps
fig.19 } no longer denoted Sunday.

fig.18 continued in use till 1841, with PAID in sans serif letters.



18



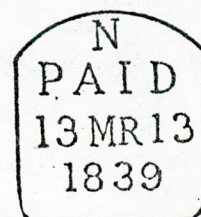
19



20



21



22

fig.20 This replaced fig.13, sans serif lettering, 1841. In 1843 there was a reversion to serif lettering and the index lettering extended to "Z". 1844 saw the re-introduction of sans serif lettering A - Z. Recorded in use till 1850 on letters from IRELAND; also with index letters omitted in 1846 up to 1857. Noted with PAID in serifs and the other lettering sans serif.

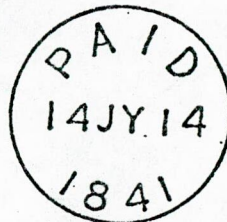
fig.21 Double letters in use in 1851. Brumell suggested use confined to letters arriving after the main morning mails.

fig.22 1838 - 1842, code N. Probably used on letters arriving by rail during the day. Slight variations in the single outline stamps noted with either the N or no index letter.

- fig.23 1841 and 1842 usage. A to E only. There was a return to serifs in 1843, back to sans serif in 1844 until 1846 when double rims were discarded. Index letters sometimes omitted. Latest date of use 14.9.1854 (?)
- fig.24 Sans serif replacing fig.16 in 1841, used to 1844, serif lettering recorded on incoming foreign letters and some letters from London. Replaced in 1846 by fig.25
- fig.25 The 1st. index letter denoted table; recorded in 6.10.1851 with - instead of index letters. In use till 1858
- fig.26 Evening duty, introduced 1846. 1st. index letter to distinguish which handstamp was used. 2nd. letter advanced from day to day. In use till 1858.
- fig.27 Introduced about 1851. Intermediate duty between morning and evening. Index letters corresponded with those on morning stamps. In use till 1858. It has been suggested that from 1855 figs. 25 to 27 were used on Official letters.



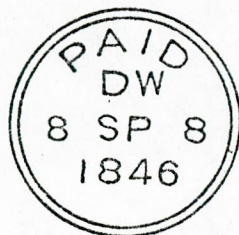
23



24



25



26

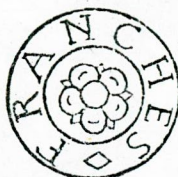


27

FOREIGN MAILS

- fig.28 July 1667 till 1680. A & H suggest used to denote the whole of the postage paid by sender.

- fig.28a Late 1670's till early 1890's: same function as fig.28



28



28a

- fig. 29 Hamburg to UK 1795 - 1801. Ink same as that of the London F.O. which accompanies it.
 Transfer stamp (RMW) cat no.666; W. type 345 (black)
 1803 667 -do- but TP/1803(black)
 1804-6 668(red) -do- but T/PP/1806(year changes)
 669(black)
- fig.30 1836 - 1855 in red (RMW 352,cat 677)
 By 1844 an unframed FOREIGN PAID in s-s capitals in straight line used.
- fig.31 Occurs in 1840's on incoming foreign letters. Red. Later specimens, as illustrated, have s-s lettering. In 1846 PAID in serif,date in s-s.
- fig.32 Outgoing letters in 1840's. Red. Through to 1850, later examples being in s-s. Date in two lines or 3 as fig.32. There is a 2 line of 5.7.1851 recorded.



29



30



31



32

figs.33 - 37 These are illustrated as there appears to be room for some dispute as to the point of application.

from pre 1840 to 1870's. Mainly red but known in blue and black.

1. unframed PD are French, but noted on a Danzig letter of 1867 in same ink as the London oval dated registered stamp.
2. rectangular/octagonal frame are French, although Hendy states the square framed PD sloping s-s to be from Hull. Noted on letters of 1860's from Prussia with PD framed rectangle in the same(?) ink as the London Crown or other registered stamps.
3. All PFFP - French; PPPP - French (Petite Poste Port Paye)
 PP in circle - London and Southampton.
4. P in oval or circle are London or Southampton.
5. P-D; PD in sloping s-s, oval frame; PD s-s circle or oval frame, London or Southampton.



33



34



35



36

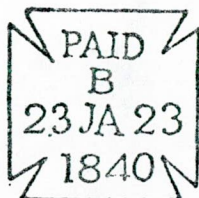


37

BRANCH OFFICES

figs.38 - 44. In red. Issued in 1829. Slight modifications during the 30's.

45 - 48. Red. s-s after serif. In use up to 1857. Fig. 46 occurs with a double frame.



38



39



40



41



42



43



44



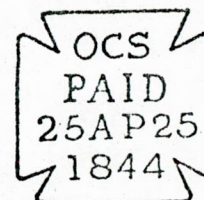
45



46



47



48

It must be stressed this is not a definitive listing, rather an invitation to all readers to examine their collections for such marks, not forgetting junk boxes and whatever, and to forward information as to dates of use (day,month, year) color and any other relevant information (code letter(s),style of lettering etc.)

Sources:

Alcock and Holland: 1940 edition on British Postmarks & the supplements thereto
R.M.Willcocks: 1972 edition of his P.H. Catalogue

with apologies for using the ' popular ' titles.