

17, 19, 20,

London

Postal History Group

NOTEBOOK

In This Issue.....

London Marks on Mail
Undelivered in Time of War

No. 7
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EDITORIAL.....

It is with considerable pleasure the Editor can announce that the somewhat wordy attempt at defining Postal History considered in the last " Notebook " was not the outcome of deliberations in the United Kingdom, but the end product of activity originating in our erstwhile Colonies in North America, south of the 49th. The absence of " Inc " after the title in the reports caused not a little confusion and concern in this country and it is hoped this brief explanation will serve to correct, in part at least, a quite false impression. It is understood the British P.H.S. are, however, giving much careful thought to the problem of evolving an internationally acceptable definition, this becoming more urgent as the months slip by and Toronto '78 gets the closer.

The change in the size of paper for " Notebook " requires explanation. Due to changes in the printing facilities available and a standardisation on the A4 format, which has, according to those who understand these technical matters, several advantages in machine operation, we too have to change. For those who bind or file their copies the first six conveniently form the first year's issues, so the disadvantages to individuals will, it is hoped, be minimal.

Your attention is drawn to the enclosed notice concerning the London Topographical Society, whose publications and services assist the research efforts of London P.H. students.

The Treasurer, John Grimmer, has changed his address to

48 York Road, New Barnet, Herts

(from 16th. June)

Should you find an envelope inside your copy of " Notebook " bearing this information, please enclose your annual subscription of £2.00 as he is very anxious to pay removal expenses!

LONDON BALLOON POSTS 1870 - 1967, by M.V.D. Champness.

The pioneer balloonists, who preceded the early aviators, have provided us with the earliest recorded airmail items.

The Siege of Paris in 1870/1 prompted the " Balon Monté " covers as the only reliable means of communication with the outside world. A contemporary Balloon post, somewhat less publicized, was organised in London in 1870 in connection with pyrotechnical displays held in October and November at the Crystal Palace.

Four balloon ascents were arranged carrying mail and, surprisingly, only one item of mail has so far been recorded. The first type of post card, introduced on 1st. October, was used, bearing on the reverse a diagonally placed overprint in two lines in black reading:-

DESPATCHED BY BALLOON POST FROM THE/ CRYSTAL PALACE, TUESDAY, OCT 18.1870.

Items of mail were dropped overboard during the flight.

The surviving card was apparently retrieved in Suffolk, for it bears a Bury St. Edmunds cancellation of October 19th., 1870. It was duly returned to the sender, a Miss Hayter of 112 Queens Road, Battersea, and now reposes in the National Postal Museum in London, having been presented recently by its owner, Mr. F. Ricketts.

But balloons, as we all know from our party days, come in all shapes and sizes. In contrast with the manned flight from the Crystal Palace in 1870, a more modern approach using miniature balloons took place in 1967.

Hackney Downs School, in Downs Park Road, London E.5., organised, through their charities committee, a Balloon Race in aid of STAREHE, a school for destitute children in Kenya. Cards, duly stamped with 3d. adhesives, were attached to each balloon requesting the finders to fill in their name and address together with details of where it was found, in order that the adjudicators could assess the balloon which had travelled the greatest distance.

The prevailing wind seems to have carried most of the balloons southward, for a number reached Belgium and France. One example in my collection was posted back from BUDINGEN in Belgium on 16th. March, 1967, having been found at BROIBIANT, whilst another was postmarked ST. OMER in France, having been found in the PAS DE CALAIS area.

The master in charge of charities, Mr. L.J. Marr, has kindly provided certain details of the race. He writes:

" Our Balloon Race took place in March, 1967. As there were 300 entrants, inflation difficulties made it necessary to set the balloons off over a three day period. The only inflation method available to us was to employ coal-gas pumped into the balloons with an old hand-driven air pump!

The fortunes of the balloons varied enormously as regards distance travelled and time aloft. Some came down almost immediately in the road adjoining the school, while others reached France and Belgium.

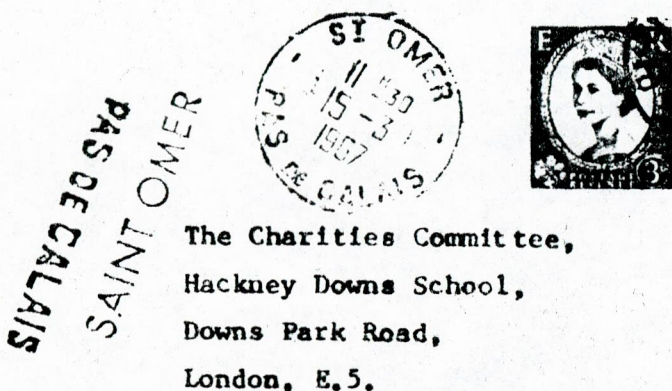
The race was won by ERIC LEWIS (who has now left the school). If I remember correctly, his balloon came down in the Belgium/Dutch frontier area not far from Aachen.

The balloon aloft for the longest period of time went in a different direction. In late September, 1968 we received an envelope from Normandy postmarked 23.9.68 containing the final returned card. This was 18 months after the balloons had been released!

An interesting feature of the race was that although the stamps on the cards attached to the balloons were British, they were never the less honoured by the French and Belgium postal authorities, so we have an unusual collection of cards all with British stamps and foreign postmarks! These obviously had a market value and we were able to sell them to a stamp dealer in the City, the further to swell our charity funds.

As a money-raising venture the race was hardly a success. After allowing for the cost of the balloons and of postage stamps - and also the prize for the winner - the effort only realised £10.12s.1d. It has, therefore, not been repeated. "

Has anyone else any other examples of these balloon posts and who has the card of the winner, Eric Lewis?



No.

60D

HACKNEY DOWNS SCHOOL
CHARITIES COMMITTEE BALLOON
RACE.

Please post this card. This Balloon Race is organised in aid of Starehe, a school for destitute children in Kenya.

Name and address of finder

Thomas Raymond
Baldwin 24

Beuchingen 10.3.1967
Where found *Pelae. Buchan.*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP

LONDON MARKS ON MAIL UNDELIVERED IN TIME OF WAR, by R.I. Johnson

Wars have caused an interruption of normal life at all times. The study of letters from seamen, soldiers and airmen and of the postmarks used by army post offices has gone on for many years in some detail. The study of civilian mails which have not been delivered because of wartime conditions has not been so developed.

London has always been a main centre for the distribution of letters to foreign countries and it follows

- (a) that it has been the place at which mail that could not be delivered to foreign countries because of wartime conditions has been marked with the explanation for non-delivery and from which mail was returned to sender and
- (b) that it has been the place where the censorship imposed by Defence Regulations has been very concentrated.

Let me give an example of each.

- (a) Readers will be aware of the complicated political history of China from the period of Japanese occupation in 1936 until the Communist forces finally defeated the Nationalist forces on mainland China. Great Britain had, for many years, substantial trade interests in China, particularly in Shanghai. I have a cover sent from London on the 8th. August, 1949. It is addressed to Shanghai, was prepaid 1s.3d. for airmail rate. Across the meter stamps is a straight line unframed POSTAGE REFUNDED in violet ink. Inside the envelope is this notice:

" In view of the suspension of postal services to Shanghai and certain other territories of North China it has not been possible to forward the enclosed letter/packet. The postage prepaid is, therefore, being refunded and postage stamps to the value of...1/3 are enclosed.

Foreign Section G.P.O.
London E.C. 1 "

Shanghai was captured by the Communists on 25th. May, 1949. The sender of the letter had it returned on the 25th. August, 1949.

- (b) I have a postcard posted at Highgate on 7th. September, 1916. The postcard shows an innocuous photograph of Trafalgar Square. The postcard is addressed to the United States of America, which had not then entered the war. On the address side is a large handstruck framed mark in violet ink " Picture Post-cards addressed to Neutral countries are returned by the Censor ".

The picture of Trafalgar Square contravened Defence Regulations. There were similar regulations in the Second World War. In the Emergency Powers (Defence) Regulations 1940, No. 1190 it was provided that in relation to about forty neutral countries " no person shall despatch by post any postal packet containing any map, plan, sketch, drawing, print, photograph, or other descriptive or pictorial representation, or literature for the blind. "

Manuscript endorsement showing the explanation for the return of civilian mail because of wartime conditions in the nineteenth century are rarely seen (note 1). The first handstruck marks occur in the time of the Boer War. The first period to be considered in relation to London is the First World War. Then follow minor conflicts (note 2) and the Second World War and further minor conflicts again. I do not propose to deal with the political background as this can be obtained from ordinary reference books. The figure numbers for the illustrations

follow the paragraph numbers below.

THE FIRST WORLD WAR

1. UNDERLIVERABLE/ L.P.S.
1914 in violet ink. Found on letters to Constantinople and Smyrna.
2. UNDELIVERED THROUGH/ CAPITULATION AT KUT.
1915 in violet ink. My example is on a letter addressed to I.E.F. Force
D c/o Postmaster at Bombay. (See also page 131 of Hopkins "Wreck Covers")
3. BLUE LABEL
1915. The label reads OPENED BY CENSOR/RETURN TO SENDER
4. YELLOW LABEL
1915. The label reads "POSTAL CENSORSHIP/Newspapers, Magazines, Books
and other printed publications can only be forwarded to Neutral European
Countries if despatched from the offices of a publisher, newsagent or
bookseller who has received (from the War Office) the official permission
necessary for this purpose. " The words in brackets were inserted in man-
uscript on my copy which was addressed to Aalborg in Denmark.
5. MAIL SERVICE SUSPENDED
1916 in black ink on a letter addressed to Athens.
6. UNDELIVERABLE/RETURNED TO SENDER/BY CENSOR
1916 framed in red ink on letters addressed to the Hague, Holland and to
Copenhagen, Denmark.
7. PICTURE POST-CARDS
1916. As in text.
8. PART OF A MAIL/CAPTURED BY THE/GERMANS AND DELAYED
1916 in black ink in upper and lower case type letters and unframed. My
copy is on a letter to Dublin from Salonika and the letter was registered.
I believe this to be a London mark because of the example quoted by Hopkins
in " Wreck Covers " page 132 which had the same mark but which was addressed
to London.
9. Same text as in 8, but a two line layout in capital letters. I do not have
a copy of this mark but one is illustrated in Hopkins " Wreck Covers " page
132. The covers I have seen bearing this mark have come from Holland or
its colonies. There is another cover recorded in Robson Lowe's Postal
History Auctions 9th. September, 1970, lot 1137 with the same wording dated
1916 and sent from Russia to London.
10. SERVICE SUSPENDED
1918 framed in violet ink on a letter addressed to Moscow Russia.

I have not yet had a chance to go into the Post Office records to see when
notices were issued about the interruptions of services. One conclusion I can
draw is that in the First World War the letters were marked as ' undeliverable '
and then ' service suspended ' whereas in the Second World War it was ' service
suspended ' and then ' no service '.

Between the wars the Irish troubles and the Spanish Civil War gave rise to delay in communications. Most of the marks concerning the Irish troubles are in fact Irish. The only London mark I have seen is a tempoary UNDELIVERED/SERVICE SUSPENDED unframed in red ink used on a parcel posted in London on the 15th. September, 1922. There was a postal strike in Dublin from the 10th. to the 29th. September, 1922. I have seen a mark on a letter to Spain in 1936/1937, but I did not keep a record at the time I saw it.

SECOND WORLD WAR

11. NO SERVICE / RETURN TO SENDER

1940, 1941, 1942 and 1948. Framed and all examples I have seen have been in violet ink. I have marks on letters addressed to Holland, Belgium, Italy, Finland, Greece, China, Singapore, Thailand, Hong Kong, Hungary, the Netherlands East Indies and Israel (this is the 1948 use). The letter addressed to Finland also bears the English/French text mark " Received in damaged condition in/ the Returned Letter Office London ".

12. POSTAL SERVICE SUSPENDED / RETURN TO SENDER

1940 in violet ink and unframed on letters addressed to Denmark and Norway.

13. SERVICE SUSPENDED

1941 in violet ink unframed on a letter addressed to Singapore.

14. POSTAGE REFUNDED

1941 and 1948 in black ink on letters addressed to Singapore, the Netherlands East Indies, Portugal, the Argentine and China. All the letters were prepaid for transmission by airmail.

15. TRANS PACIFIC / SERVICE SUSPENDED

1942 in violet ink and unframed. I have this mark on letters addressed to Melbourne, Australia and is to member of the Gordon Highlanders in Malaya.

16. PLEASE INFORM SENDER / AIRMAIL SERVICE NOT AVAILABLE

1943 in black ink and unframed on a letter to Egypt.

17. CONDEMNED

1943 framed in red ink on the censor sealing tape on a letter from Sweden.

18. POSTAGE / REFUNDED

1944 framed in black ink on a letter to the United States of America.

19. DAMAGED AS A RESULT / OF ENEMY ACTION

1944. Unframed in violet ink on a " Returned Postal Packet " official buff envelope endorsed " Returned Letter Section, Mount Pleasant, London EC.1"

20. DELAYED THROUGH / ENEMY ACTION

1941 framed in black and red ink. (Taken from an auction cat. this year.)

DELAYED BY / ENEMY ACTION

with an outline of a bomb in the middle. My inspection of the daily duty books of the London E.C.D.O. shows this mark was issued for use on the 17th. July, 1941 and was returned to stores on the 10th. October 1945. The same duty books show six rubber stamps. Type 19 received in the E.C.D.O. on the

15th. July, 1941. Further comments can be found in Hopkins " Wreck Covers " at pages 140 and 141.

21. NO SERVICE / EXCEPT BY AIR

1945 in violet ink unframed on letters to Sweden, Czechoslovakia and Turkey.

22. DETAINED IN FRANCE / DURING GERMAN / OCCUPATION

1945 framed in violet ink. I have this mark on letters addressed to England from the Argentine and from England to Switzerland. Hopkins mentions a cover to R.A.F. Headquarters in France and I have seen a further cover addressed to Malta. In all cases the year of posting of the letter was 1940.

23. RELEASED

1946 in black ink on the same cover as 17 but used to cancel the CONDEMNED mark.

24. SERVICE SUSPENDED / RETURN TO SENDER

1950 mostly framed but broken as shown in the illustration. The letter was addressed to China at the beginning of 1950. The mark appears to be made up from two old marks.

25. White label with green ink print (standard form P.C. 23)

RETURNED TO SENDER
BY THE CENSOR
FOR REASONS EXPLAINED IN
MEMORANDUM ENCLOSED
IN THIS COVER

What was enclosed? Letters with the official note (originally typeset in the early days of the war but later duplicated) are difficult to find. Where they do exist they provide an account of what people were not allowed to do.

(i)

P.C. 80

POSTAL CENSORSHIP
Photograph

The transmission of these articles by
post to certain destinations is prohibited
under Statutory Rules and Orders
No 1440 of 1939

(typeset)

P.C. 3

POSTAL CENSORSHIP

The communication returned in this
cover constitutes a breach of the
Defence Regulations. The writer is
warned to be more careful in future
N.B. The communication will be
allowed to proceed if the passage or
passages referring to air raid and photograph
are immitted, and it is reported to
the addressee in the normal way.

(typeset)

This letter was addressed to Wicklow, Eire in August, 1940.

(ii)

P.C.80

POSTAL CENSORSHIP

Use of gummed slip on envelope

The transmission of these articles by post to certain destinations is prohibited under Statutory Rules and Orders No 1190 of 1940

(duplicated and altered in manuscript)

This letter was addressed to Dublin in July 1940.

(iii) Long green label in print

P.C. 15

POSTAL CENSORSHIP

As announced in the press all letters addressed to Neutral or Enemy Countries are returned to sender unless the full surname and address of the writer is given.

The letter was addressed to Belgium in November, 1939.

(iv)

P.C.136

POSTAL CENSORSHIP

This letter is returned to sender because:

(a) a gift of rationed goods or of food from overseas received as a result of this letter could not be regarded as "Unsolicited" and would therefore not be permissible.

(b) the sending of money out of the country in respect of parcels of rationed goods or of food is not permissible.

(c) the receipt of gifts of rationed goods or of foods from overseas at frequent intervals is not permissible. (duplicated)

This letter was addressed to Canada in September, 1941.

(v) (a) the letter

" The Germans only seem able to send one V.2 a night & not always that & no one takes any notice of these. I get a certain amount of shooting here which helps the larder."

(b) the official memorandum

P.C. 3 (revised)

BRITISH POSTAL CENSORSHIP

This letter is returned to you because it contains information which could be of use to the enemy and under

the Defence Regulations it is an offence to forward such information overseas.

If you will rewrite your letter omitting the passage(s) referring to
V.2

Page 2 Lines 2 to 5

Page Lines

Page Lines

the letter will be allowed to go forward.
It should be posted in the usual way.

N.B. THIS SLIP MUST NOT BE ENCLOSED IN
LETTERS LEAVING THE UNITED KINGDOM (duplicated)

(c) the envelope

shows type 25

(d) the Post Office credit note

five 2½d George VI adhesives are attached.

Returned Letter Section
Mount Pleasant
London E.C. 1

The enclosed letter is returned on instructions from the censor.

The full postage cannot be refunded as the Post Office has rendered the service for so far as has been possible. Air Mail Service was not however and the difference between the cost of ordinary postage and Air Mail transit is returned herewith.

A postal draft for _____ is enclosed

Postage stamps for _____ 1/0½ _____ are enclosed

This last notice was duplicated and was enclosed with the rest in a letter addressed to the United States of America in December, 1944. It was pre-paid 1s3d. and the adhesives had type 18 struck over them.

I should note in ending this article the following marks on mail to members of the armed forces in the First and Second World Wars; I have recorded the following or they are in my own collection:

26. PRESENT LOCATION / UNCERTAIN / R.L.S. L.P.S. G.P.O.

for 1914 to 1917

RETURNED TO POST OFFICE / BY MILITARY AUTHORITIES / (EXPENDITIONARY FORCE) /
AS UNDELIVERABLE / R.L.S. L.P.S.

for 1914

27. RETURN TO SENDER / ADMIRALTY INSTRUCTIONS

for 1942 9 see Note 3)

Note 1 : Does any member have any information which might tie up the well known mark SENT BACK TO ENGLAND / WITHOUT A REASON / FOR NON DELIVERY with say, the American Civil War ?

Note 2 : Minor conflicts such as the troubles in Ireland in the 1920's and the Spanish Civil War. , see comment in text.

Note 3 : I cannot from my own experience allocate the following marks to London and although the ink used is similar to that used in Army Post Offices and the letters on which the marks appear are addressed to members of the armed forces as prisoners of war, I think it possible these marks were struck in London.

- (i) THIS LETTER FORMED PART OF / UNDELIVERED MAILS WHICH FELL / INTO THE HANDS OF THE ALLIED / FORCES ADVANCING IN ITALY / AND IS UNDELIVERABLE / AND IS THEREFORE RETURNED TO YOU.
- (ii) THIS LETTER FORMED PART OF UNDELIVERED / MAILS WHICH FELL INTO THE HANDS OF / ALLIED FORCES IN GERMANY. IT IS / UNDELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED AND IS / THEREFORE RETURNED TO YOU.
- (iii) THIS LETTER HAD BEEN RETURNED BY THE / SWISS POST OFFICE WHO WERE / UNABLE TO REFORWARD IT TO GERMANY / BECAUSE OF THE INTERRUPTION OF / COMMUNICATIONS.

I would be glad to have any views on this point, especially argument comparing these marks with other known A.P.O. marks.

UNDELIVERABLE

L.P.S.

UNDELIVERED THROUGH
CAPITULATION AT KUT.

No. 1.

No. 2.

MAIL SERVICE SUSPENDED

No. 5.

UNDELIVERABLE
RETURNED TO SENDER
BY CENSOR

No. 6.

Picture Post-cards addressed to
Neutral countries are returned
by the Censor.

No. 7.

Part of a Mail
captured by the
Germans and delayed

SERVICE SUSPENDED

No. 8.

No. 10.

NO SERVICE
RETURN TO SENDER

No. 11.

SERVICE SUSPENDED

No. 13.

TRANS PACIFIC
SERVICE SUSPENDED!

No. 15.

CONDEMNED
No. 17.

DAMAGED AS A RESULT
OF ENEMY ACTION.

No. 19.

DELAYED BY
ENEMY ACTION
No. 20.

DETAINED IN FRANCE
DURING GERMAN
OCCUPATION.

No. 22.

POSTAL SERVICE SUSPENDED
RETURN TO SENDER

No. 12.

POSTAGE REFUNDED

No. 14.

PLEASE INFORM SENDER
AIRMAIL SERVICE NOT AVAILABLE

No. 16.

POSTAGE
REFUNDED

No. 18.

★ NO SERVICE ★
EXCEPT BY AIR
No. 21.

RELEASED
No. 23.

SERVICE SUSPENDED
RETURN TO SENDER

No. 24

PRESENT LOCATION
UNCERTAIN
R.L.G., L.P.S., G.P.O.

RETURN TO SENDER

ADMIRALTY INSTRUCTIONS

No. 26.

No. 27.

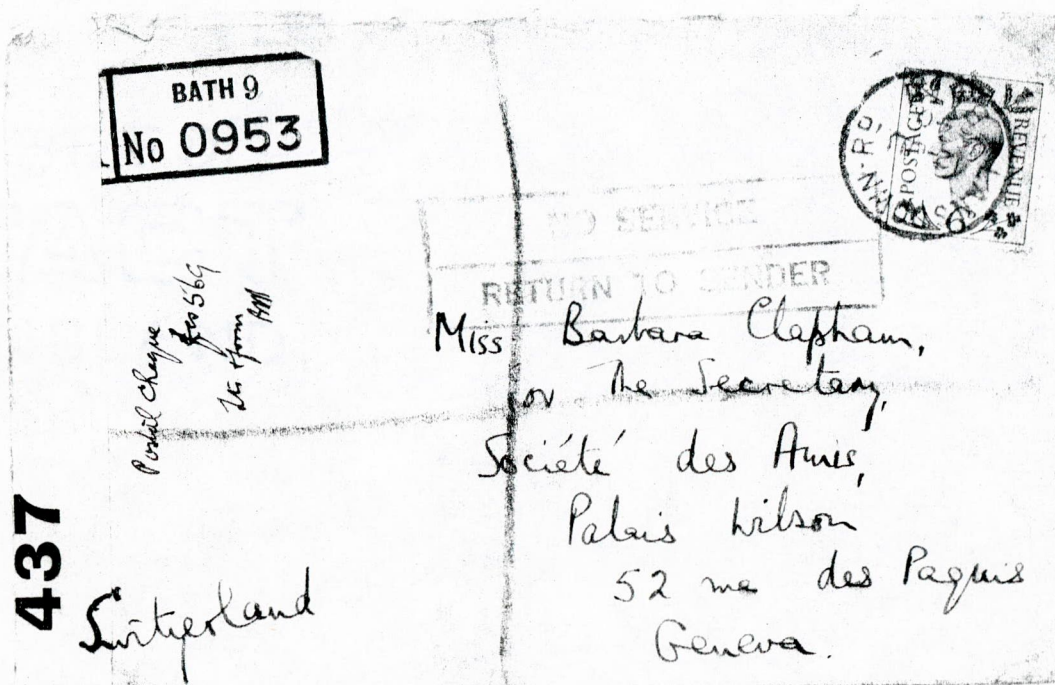


Illustration Fig 11: This example addressed to Switzerland and dated 12.6.1940.

B.E.F. evacuation completed on 1st. June, 1940

Italy declared war on France and Great Britain on 10th. June, 1940.

THE CHAMFERED CORNERED FREE

Members at our meeting on FREE's will no doubt recall the problem posed by the A & H type 852 (R.L. 163, modified), there being several suggestions as to its use including the East India Company, Naval Franks and Foreign Branch. A connection with the operations of Military Intelligence was not ruled out!



Fig. 852

In the April list published by Anthony Wright, the following item appeared:

Lot 069: LONDON FREE FRANKING. A superb entire addressed to Capt.

Needham, 72 nd. Regt. Cape of Good Hope and dated London September 19, 1831 and signed " W.C. Davies ", it has the C.C./FREE/19SE19/1831 with double circle**** and ALSO in red the oblong framed but with chamfered corners corners at the top and a CROWN standing over the middle, underneath is FREE/19SE19/1831 ***. This is a RL 163. It is very rare, and the first time we have been able to offer or indeed seen this mark. Superb. £52.50

Presuming on my few years as a customer, I wrote for more details and received this reply:

..."This letter is a double page one addressed as per list and signed at the bottom left, almost certainly " W.C. Davies " but it could be 'W.L.' and it could be 'Hines'. The letter concludes as follows:- " Believe me my beloved Brother to remain your very aff. sister Emma Crompton ". There is no doubt at all about the Emma Crompton and we only wish we had time to read the letter which is a DOUBLE SHEET with the writing crossed on each page, i.e. each page used twice.

Certainly the signature under the address bears no relation to the signature on the letter. Perhaps one of your Group members will buy it who can spend the necessary time to make a copy "....

My thanks to a very busy professional for the information, which confirms a military connection, provides an example of what appears to be an illegal use of Franking privilege, but apparently no definitive answer to the function of the mark other than the obvious.

Did you acquire this most interesting item?

(It is of interest to note that as long ago as 1948 this item was priced at £8)

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

GENERAL POST RECEIVERS IN THE 17th and 18th CENTURIES, by Michael English

Part Two....

Name	Situation	Source
Richard Earlam	Park Street, Grosvenor Square	P.O. Lists 1788-93
Michael Ellis	Borough	-do-
William Farquhason	Ratcliffe Cross	-do- 1789
William Flexney	Grays Inn, Holborn	-do- 1788-93
Thomas Garthon	Bridge St., Westminster	-do- 1788
Robert Genns	The Rose, King St	P.O. Ad 1652
Samuel Gibs	King Edward's Stairs, Wapping	-do- 1689
Humphrey Greensell	Westminster	P.O. Notice 1664
Matilda Griffin	Round Court, Strand	P.O. Lists 1788-93
William Griffith	Doctors Commons	-do- 1788-93
George Grimmett	Terrace, Oxford St.	-do- 1788-93
Joshua Grocer	Bolsover Street	Hendy's List 1782
Mrs Grone (or Grove)	Temple, Fleet St.	-do- 1677
James Harris	Drury Lane	P.O. Lists 1788-93
Edwards Hawkins	Chancery Lane	-do- 1788-93
Thomas Hindes	Charles Street, Soho	-do- 1789
Edmund Hodgson	Great Marylebone	-do- 1788-93
Mrs Ivy	Wood St.	P.O. Ad 1652
John Jackson	King St., Soho	-do- 1788-93
George Johnson	Mount St., Grosvenor Square	-do- 1788-93
Joseph Jones	Russell St.	-do- 1788-93
Richard Jones	Temple	-do- 1788-93
Eleanor Keepe	St. James Street	-do- 1788-93
John Kirby	Stafford St., Old Bond St.	-do- 1788-93
George Lambert	Tower Hill	-do- 1788-93
William Leeke	Temple Bar	P.O. Ad 1652
Anthony Lissen	Bow St., Covent Garden	P.O. Notice 1664
John Lloyd	Strand	Hendy's List 1677
Daniel Lockhurst	Queen St., Mayfair	P.O. Notice 1789-93
George Luce	King St., Westminster	Hendy's List 1677
John Morgan	Fleet Street	P.O. List 1789
George Mortimer	Wych Street	-do- 1789
William Mott	Pall Mall	Hendy's List 1677
Sarah Moule	King St., Covent Garden	P.O. Lists 1788-93
- Newman	Holborn Hill	-do- 1792-93
William Parker	Whitechapel	-do- 1788-93
- Partington	Holborn or Chancery Lane	Covers c1762-80
John Place	Furnivals Inn, Holborn	Notices 1652-64
William Place	Gray's Inn, Holborn	-do- 1661-64
Edward Powell	St. Martins Lane	P.O. Lists 1788-93
- Pridden	Fleet St.	Hendy's List 1782
William Randall	Pall Mall	P.O. Lists 1789-93
Jane Rappen	Theobald's Road	-do- 1788-93
Edward Roberts	Pall Mall	London Gazette July 1667

Sarah Roberts	Strand	Hendy's List 1677
Joseph Robinson	Stepney	P.O.Lists 1788-93
James Robson	New Bond St.	-do- 1788-93
William Rouse	Wigmore St.	-do- 1788-93
George Sanders	Hermitage, Wapping	-do- 1788-93
Francis Searle	Oxford St.	-do- 1788-93
Alex Shepherd	Tottenham Court Road	-do- 1788-93
Thomas Simmes	Reddriff(Rotherhithe)	P.O.Ad 1652
Isaac Smith	Bolsover St.	P.O.Lists 1788-89
J. Smith	Margaret St.	-do- 1792-93
J. Smith	South Audley St.	-do- 1792-93
J. Smith	Covent Garden	"Fire Insurance Coys"
		-Relton
Thomas Stephenson	Charing Cross	P.O.Lists 1789-93
G. Streeting	Charles St., Soho	-do- 1792-93
Nic Thatcher	Grays Inn, Holborn	Hendy's List 1677
Eliza Vaughan	Vigo Lane, Golden Square	P.O.List 1789
Alice Venables	Doctors Commons	-do- 1789
William Venables	Knightrider St.	Hendy's List 1782
John Ward	East Smithfield	P.O.Notice 1689
Mrs Warwick	Pall Mall	London Gazette
		July 1667
Daniel Wilkinson	Radcliff Cross	P.O.Notice 1689

The source quoted as " Hendy's List " is Hendy's book - " Postmarks of the British Isles ".

It is hoped to publish a further list of additions and amendments to this basic schedule of General Post Receivers and the writer invites you to forward any information you may have on the subject.

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

AUCTION.....

Members are reminded that material for the first Group auction should be sent to the Secretary by *15th. June. At the time of going to press very little material had been received and there must be at least one item which you do not require and have, thus far, not bothered to dispose of, so why not use this opportunity. You may be reluctant to send in a single item, please don't be!

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

* To assist members this date has been extended to 26th June.

compiled by Michael English.

CHARLOTTE/STREET not CHARLOTTLE/STREET

Commercial/Road East not Commercial/Road East

VOLUME II (1832-39)

Those marked ** are unframed, all others are single framed rectangular.
All are upper case lettering.

BERMONDSEY S ^T	17. 1.35
BERMONDSEY S ^T (smaller)	10. 3.37
BRIDGE S ^T	8.11.34
BROADWAY/WESTMINSTER	10. 1.33
** BROADWAY/WESTMINSTER	19.12.38
CAREY S ^T	28. 1.36
CHANCERY LANE	8. 1.36
CURZON S ^T	8. 7.36
DEVONSHIRE S ^T	4. 6.33
DEVONSHIRE S ^T (similar)	2. 4.34
** DUKE S ^T	12. 5.38
5 FINSBURY/PLACE	25. 3.33
FINSBURY/PLACE (smaller)	- 36
FLEET S ^T	10. 7.33
FLEET - S ^T	17. 1.38
GEORGE S ^T /PORTMAN SQ ^E	27. 3.33
GEORGE S ^T	19.11.35
GEORGE -- S ^T	26.10.37
GOODGE S ^T	11. 5.33
GOODGE S ^T	22. 9.34
GOODGE S ^T	13. 8.37
** 33 GOODGE S ^T	10.12.32
8 GOSWELL S ^T .	10.12.32
GOSWELL S ^T	16. 4.36
** 8 GOSWELL S ^T	20. 9.38
GREAT SURRY S ^T	30. 8.34
GRENVILLE S ^T .	3. 9.34
GRENVILLE S ^T	23. 5.36
** GRENVILLE.S ^T	30. 4.38
JERMYN S ^T	31. 5.36
KING S ^T /COVENT GARDEN	18. 1.34
** KING S ^T /COVENT GARDEN (smaller)	3. 4.38
KING S ^T /TOWER HILL	29. 7.34
KNIGHTSBRIDGE	4. 6.35
LAMBS CONDUIT S ^T .	13. 2.38
** LAMBS CONDUIT S ^T	10.11.38
** LUDGATE-HILL	11. 6.38
MARGARET S ^T	30. 7.36
HIGH S ^T /MARY LE BONE	15.12.34
** NEW.BOND.S ^T	26. 7.38
NEWINGTON/CAUSEWAY	25. 3.33
NEWINGTON CAUSEWAY (smaller)	27. 8.36
NORTON FOLGATE	18. 4.34
189 OXFORD S ^T .	30. 6.32
189 OXFORD S ^T	20.11.37
438 OXFORD/STREET (STREET in italics)	26. 3.32

438 OXFORD ST.	9. 2.33
438 OXFORD ST	22. 3.34
438 OXFORD ST (smaller)	23. 2.35
438 OXFORD ST (very small)	15.12.35
PICCADILLY	16. 6.37
PRINCES ST	4. 9.37
ROSAMOND ST	9. 6.35
ROSAMOND -- ST	15. 2.38
SKINNER ST	12.11.36
** 10 SMITHFIELD/BARS	26. 7.38
STEPNEY	25. 2.34
104 STRAND	16. 1.32
** 104 STRAND	25. 4.38
180 STRAND	4. 8.33
** 180 STRAND	21. 3.38
TEMPLE	8. 4.37
THEOBALDS ROAD	28. 9.33
TORRINGTON/PLACE	28. 4.37
TOTTENHAM CT RD	30. 9.36
YORK ST.	4. 6.33
YORK ST (smaller)	23. 7.36

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LONDON TOPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

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The London Topographical Society, founded as the Topographical Society of London in 1880, is mainly a publishing Society, and is registered as a charity. Its purpose is to make available facsimiles of maps, plans and views illustrating the history and topography of London, and to publish papers relating to them.

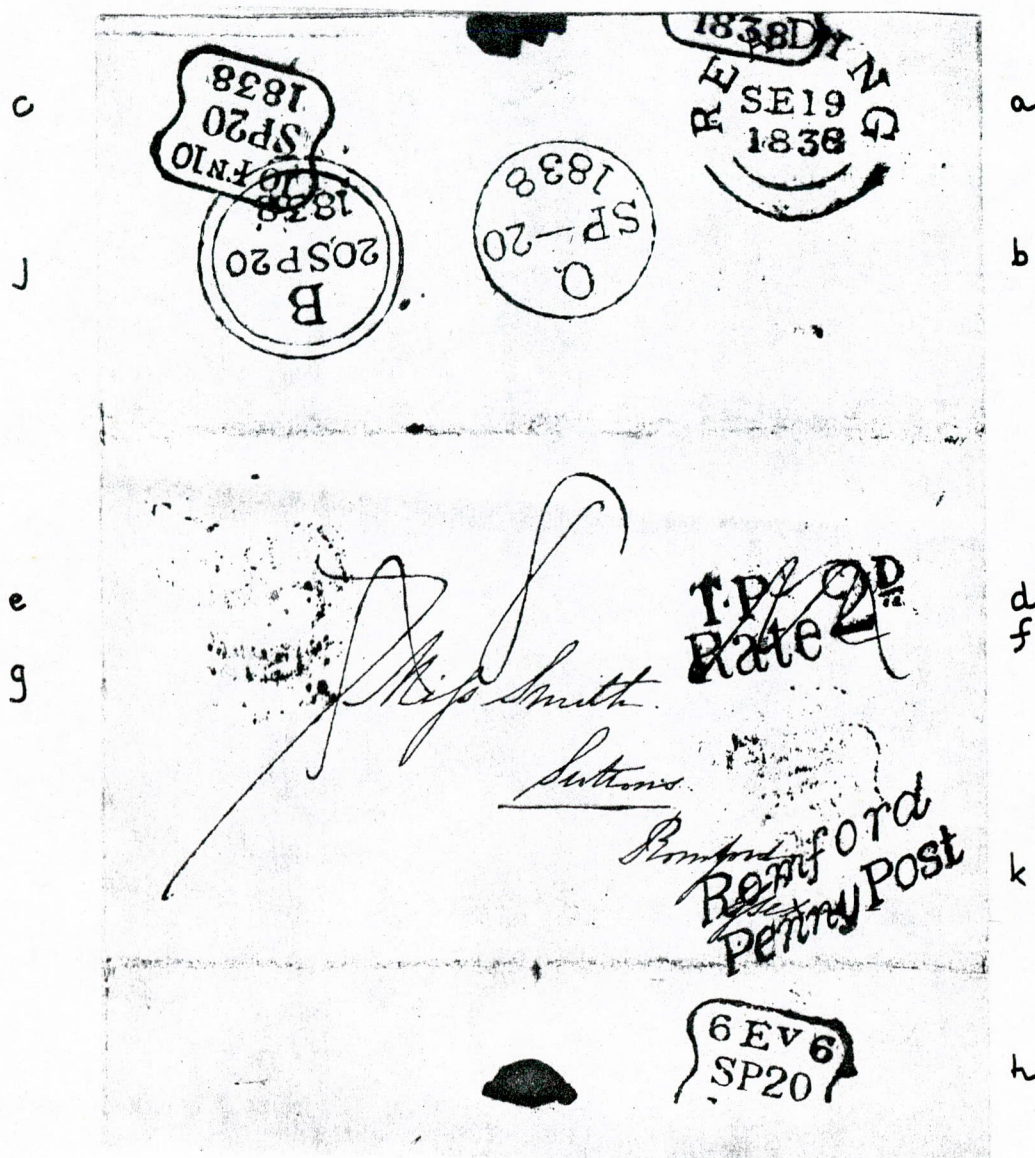
Most of the publications are maps, plans and views, but there are also twenty-two volumes of the Society's journal, the London Topographical Record, which contains articles relating to these maps and plans, and to London topography in general. Several other books have been published, including a facsimile of Mills and Oliver's Survey of the Building Sites in the City of London after the Great Fire of 1666 (5 volumes, with full indexes).

The annual subscription has always been ^{£ 1.10} (a guinea) for which members receive free the publication for the year. From time to time additional items are published, and members can obtain these and earlier publications at a preferential rate.

The Society's official address is 50, Grove Lane, London, S.E.5 (Telephone: 01-703 2719); but the Hon. Treasurer (16, Highlands Road, Barnet, Hertfordshire) handles subscriptions and publications. The latter can be seen, by appointment, at Bishopsgate Institute, 230, Bishopsgate, E.C.2.

A BATTERY OF POSTMARKS...submitted by Michael Southall

The item illustrated below presents quite a puzzle and members are invited to present their reading of the meaning of the marks.



- (a) It clearly left READING on 19th. September and was apparently received in
 - (b) LONDON during the morning of the 20th., see single rim with code O. From the General Post it was transferred to the Twopenny Post, receiving the
 - (c) 10 Forenoon stamp for the 20th.
 - (d) At this point the T.P. Rate 2d. was applied and then it appears matters started to go astray, or be put right, depending on one's viewpoint.
 - (e) A very faint, but discernable, Inspector's Crown appears to the left of
 - (f) the front, this confirming (?) the deletion of the TP Rate 2d; possibly
 - (g) the 7 was deleted and 8 substituted at this point.
- Since the item was passing through the 2d. Post, it then received the
- (h) unpaid 6 evening, followed by the double rim evening duty code B General
 - (j) Post mark.
 - (k) Routed through the GP it went to Romford, where it received the PP mark.
- This MAY be the sequence of events, but the WHY needs some explanation.

THIRD REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL ON THE POST OFFICE FOR 1856

.....extracts relating to London

London Delivery....The measures described in the last Annual Report as in course of adoption for accelerating the delivery of letters in London have, to a considerable extent, been carried into effect. One of the most important, viz., the first sorting of the country letters before they reach town, has proved highly successful; about 110,000 each day, or considerably more than one half of the whole number, being now sorted for the London Districts in provincial offices.

In consequence of the London office being thus relieved of a portion of its work, and enabled to dispose of the remainder with increased facility, the letter carriers are dispatched for the morning delivery much earlier than formerly; whilst, owing to other and additional improvements, a still larger gain is obtained in the time of completing the delivery.

In the Appendix, page 35, is a Table, from which it will be seen than, comparing the first six weeks of the present year with the first six weeks of 1856, the morning delivery on the average is now 33 minutes earlier in its commencement, and 45 minutes earlier in its completion.

Either in the provincial or travelling Offices the remainder of the first sorting for the morning delivery will, I expect, soon be made in the same way; to the further relief of the office in London.

Postmasters and their assistants have been instructed in this duty by London sorters, and in general all parties have shown zeal and diligence in carrying out the arrangement.

Postal Districts....Public co-operation in adding district initials to the letters has been readily accorded. Already about 55,000 letters daily, or one-third of those posted within the London Districts, are so addressed; as are also a large number of letters from the country, though not in so great a proportion.

A cheap book, giving information as to the principal streets and places included in the several districts, has been published, and a superior edition with maps is in preparation.

Owing to the great difficulty of finding suitable places for District Offices, the arrangements for expediting the transmission and delivery of district letters have not made equal progress with those affecting General Post letters. In most of the Districts, however, buildings, or sites for buildings, have now been obtained.

Suburban Delivery....The advantage of an earlier morning delivery has not been confined to London proper, but has extended to the immediate suburbs, and in a still greater degree to several places in the country parts of the District. Thus, the General Post letters are now received an hour earlier than formerly at Beckenham, Bromley, Croydon, Enfield, Holloway, Norwood, Peckham, and Woolwich; and half an hour earlier at Brixton, Putney, South End, Twickenham, and Walthamstow.

In striking contrast with the present quick transmission of letters, it may be mentioned that, as late as the year 1842, a letter posted at any London receiving house after two in the afternoon was not delivered at Islington till the next morning.

Street Nomenclature....No improvement has yet been made in the street nomenclature of London; but I hope that the Metropolitan Board of Works, with whom the matter rests, will soon be able to decide the measures to be adopted. So long as the present endless repetition of names continues, it will be impossible to prevent

delays and mistakes in postal delivery.

It is thought by some persons that no alteration is necessary; since at present every street, even where there are several of the same name, can be fully designated; as, for example, King Street, Cheapside, and King Street, Covent Garden. But the necessity for such distinction is frequently unknown, especially by persons living at a distance, and, in fact, it is in numerous instances disregarded.

Not only should the names of no two streets be identical, but the distinction between them should be broad and clear. Repeated complaints have been made in the neighbourhood of Westborne Terrace on account of delays in delivery arising from the great similarity in several of the names thereabouts, such as Westbourne Park Cottages, Westbourne Park Crescent, Westbourne Park Place, Westborne Park Road, Westborne Park Terrace and Park Villas.

General Conduct of Officers, London Office....Mr. Parkhurst, Chief Clerk of the Secretarial Department of the Head Office in London, states as follows:-

" I am happy to be enabled to say that the general conduct of the Officers is commendable, and that the discipline and working order of the Office are in a very satisfactory state.

Reading and willing attention to the duties, and a desire to afford useful and active assistance in the performance of them, are evinced by the Officers; and there is reason to congratulate the Department that their zeal has been generally stimulated and increased by the prospect of reward held out to those whose meritorious conduct and proved good service now given them a claim to advancement. "

Similar reports follow from the Circulation Department, Receiver and Accountant General of Mails and Money Order Department.

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NOTEBOOK NO. 6....CORRECTIONS

page 7. Addition to list of Country Sorting Offices. WOODFORD 31.3.1820

page 11. London Cross Posts: delete BRIXHAM insert BRIXTON.

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